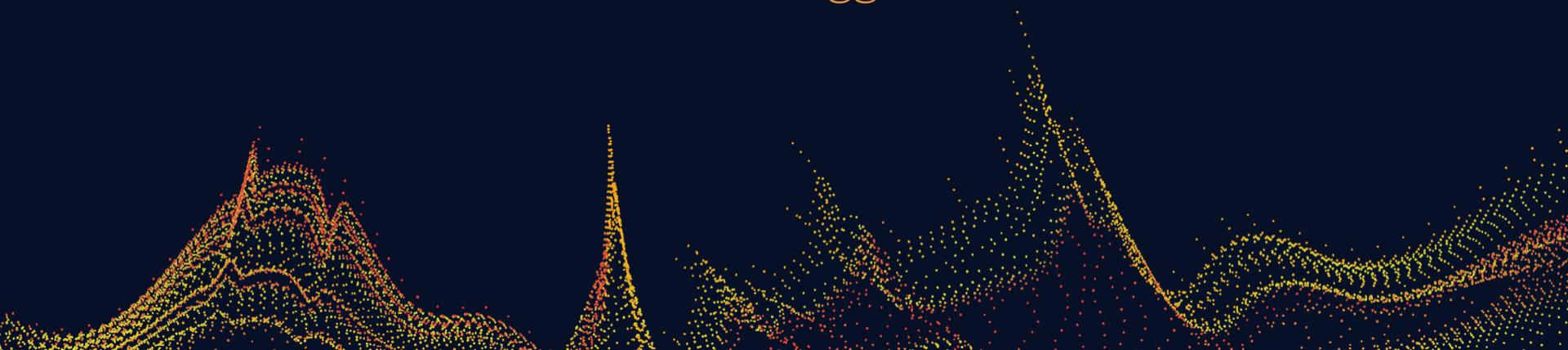


Post-Quantum TLS

Thom Wiggers





Thom Wiggers

- Cryptography researcher at PQShield
 - Oxford University spin-off
 - We develop and license PQC hardware and software IP
 - Side-channel protected hardware designs
 - FIPS 140-3 validated software
 - We also do fundamental research
- Research interest: applying PQC to real-world systems
 - Post-Quantum TLS
 - Secure messaging
- Ph.D from Radboud University (2024)
 - Dissertation: [Post-Quantum TLS](#)



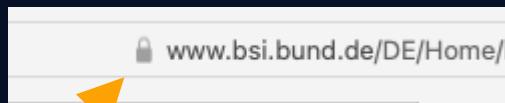


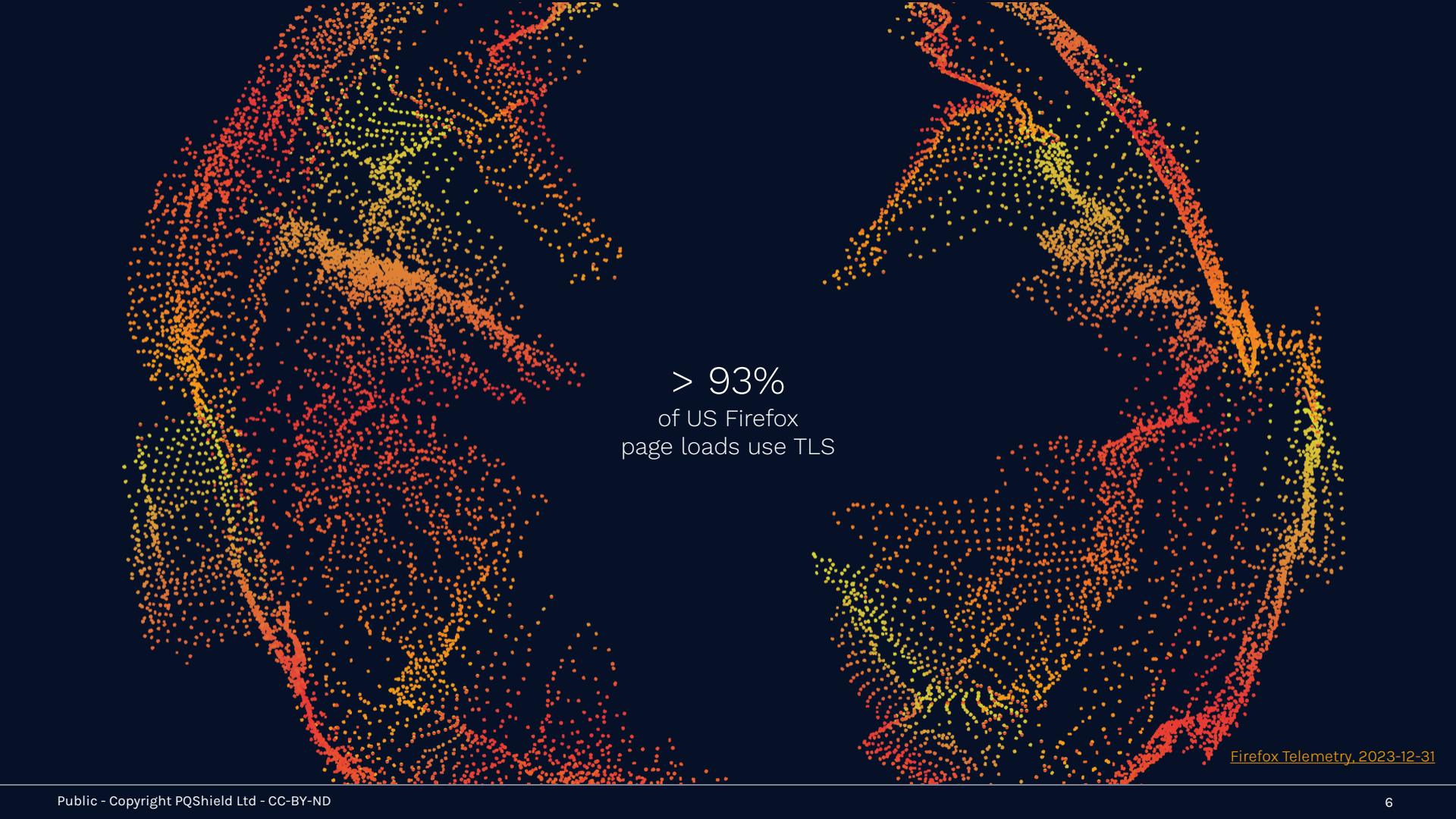
Outline

1. Transport Layer Security
 - a. Old TLS
 - b. Version 1.3
2. Key Exchange in TLS
 - a. Current design
 - b. draft-ietf-tls-hybrid-design
 - c. Fitting KEMs
3. Public Key Infrastructure
 - a. Certificates
 - b. OCSP
 - c. Too many signatures
 - d. Impact of PQC
4. Attempting to fix the WebPKI
 - a. Compressing certificates
 - b. Merkle Tree Certificates
5. Authentication without signatures
 - a. AuthKEM
 - b. AuthKEM-PSK

The background of the slide features a dark blue gradient with a large, semi-transparent triangular shape composed of numerous small, glowing orange and yellow dots. This creates a sense of depth and motion.

Transport Layer Security





> 93%
of US Firefox
page loads use TLS

[Firefox Telemetry, 2023-12-31](#)



Transport Layer Security



Transport Layer Security

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- Often equated with **https://**, but TLS is much more
 - OpenVPN, Cisco AnyConnect, Citrix NetScaler, and more VPNs are based on (D)TLS
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 - Encrypted email transport (SMTPS),
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- TLS 1.3 ([RFC 8446](#)) (2018)



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- TLS 1.3 ([RFC 8446](#)) (2018)
- See also: DTLS (Datagram TLS), QUIC ([RFC 9000](#))



Strengths of TLS

- Client-to-Server model
- Client **does not need the server's keys** prior to starting connection
 - Trust is usually from pre-installed PKI plus the server's hostname
- **Optional client authentication** through certificates
 - Extension: raw public keys are also supported ([RFC 7250](#))
- Security well-studied



Drawbacks of TLS



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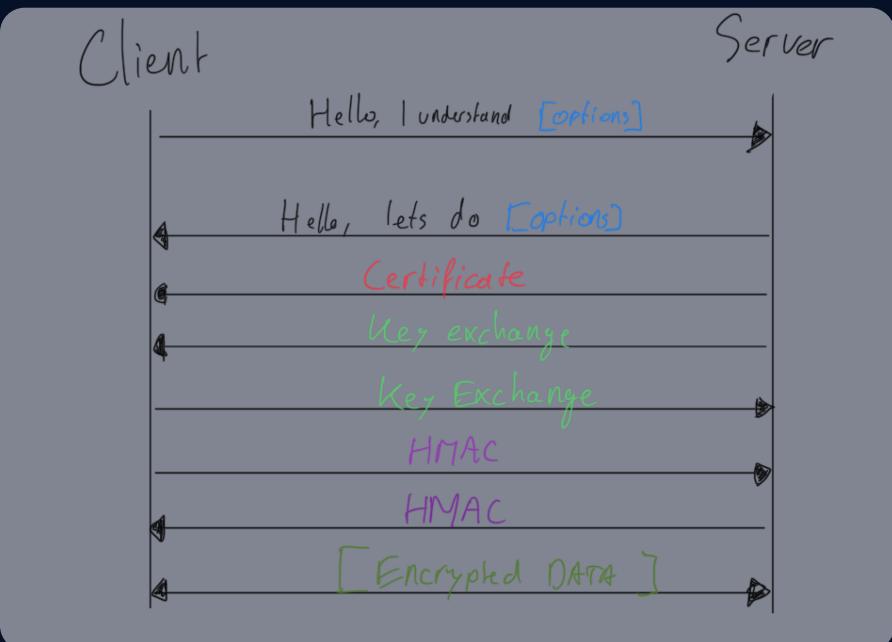
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[MWV23]: [TLS → Post-Quantum TLS: Inspecting the TLS landscape for PQC adoption on Android](#): E.g. Android apps fail to set this up, and sometimes end up doing hundreds of requests to the same hostnames in five minutes



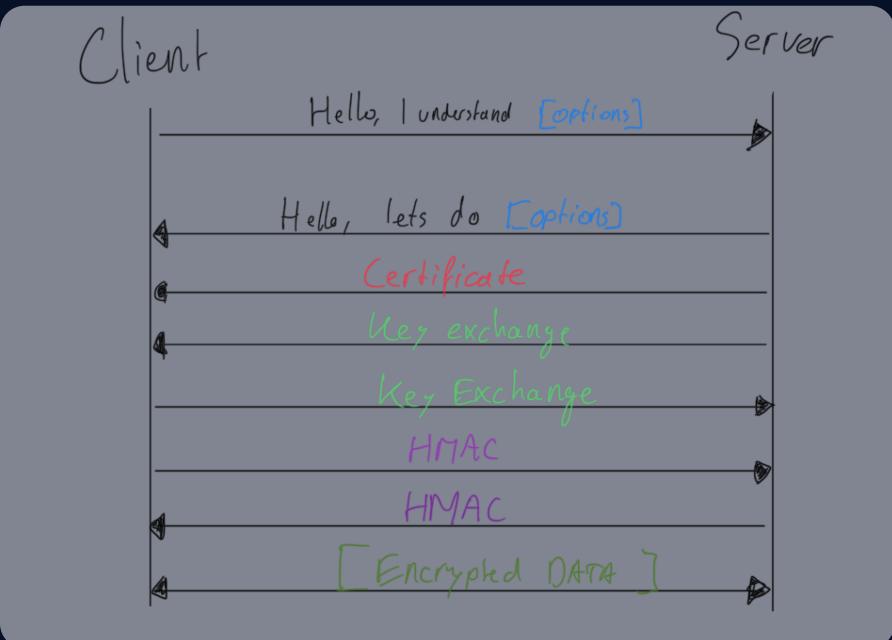
TLS 1.2 and before





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 - Especially problematic for client authentication
- A lot of legacy cryptography and patches against attacks





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(incomplete list)



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- Setting up TLS servers is a massive headache
 - So many ciphersuites, key exchange groups, ...

This isn't even all
of them!

Japanese cipher:
National mandates
have external
costs!

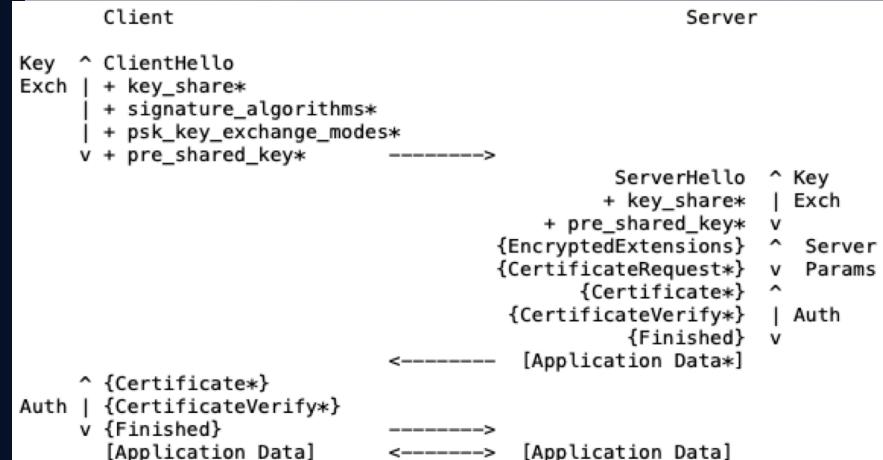


TLS 1.3 wish list

- Secure handshake
 - More privacy
 - Only forward secret key exchanges
 - Get rid of MD5, SHA1, 3DES, CAMELLIA, EXPORT, NULL, ...
- Simplify parameters
- More robust cryptography
- Faster, **1-RTT** protocol
- 0-RTT resumption



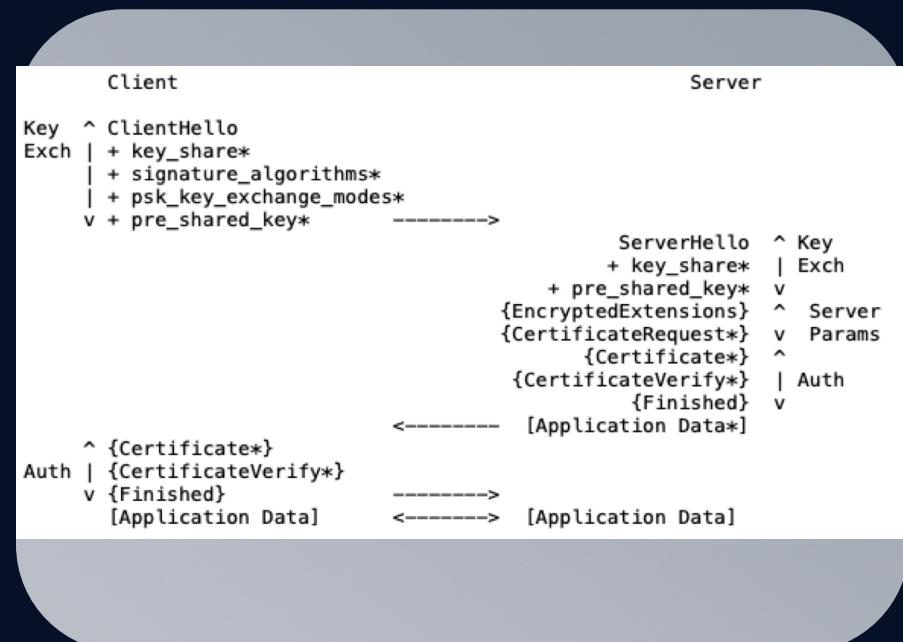
TLS 1.3





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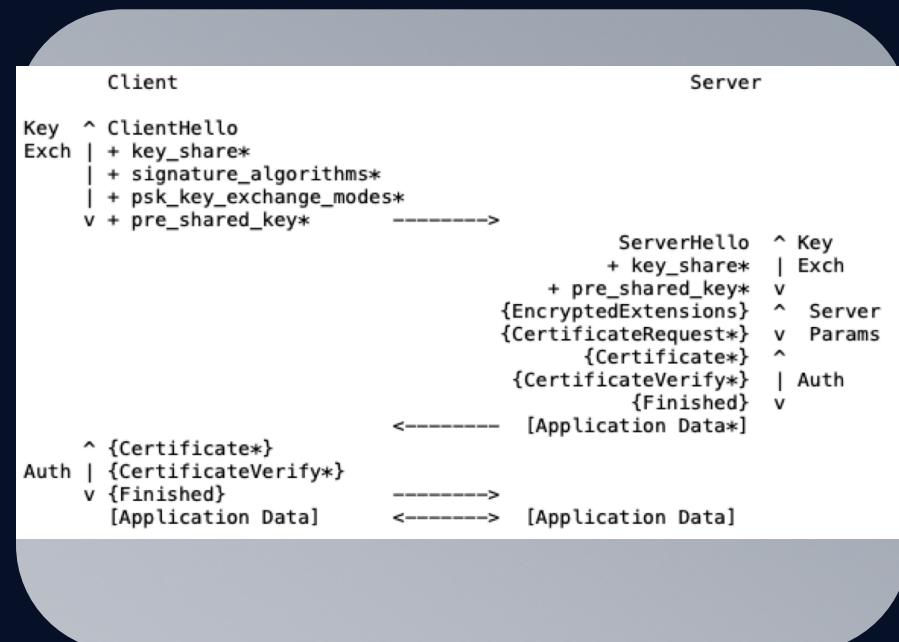
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TLS 1.3

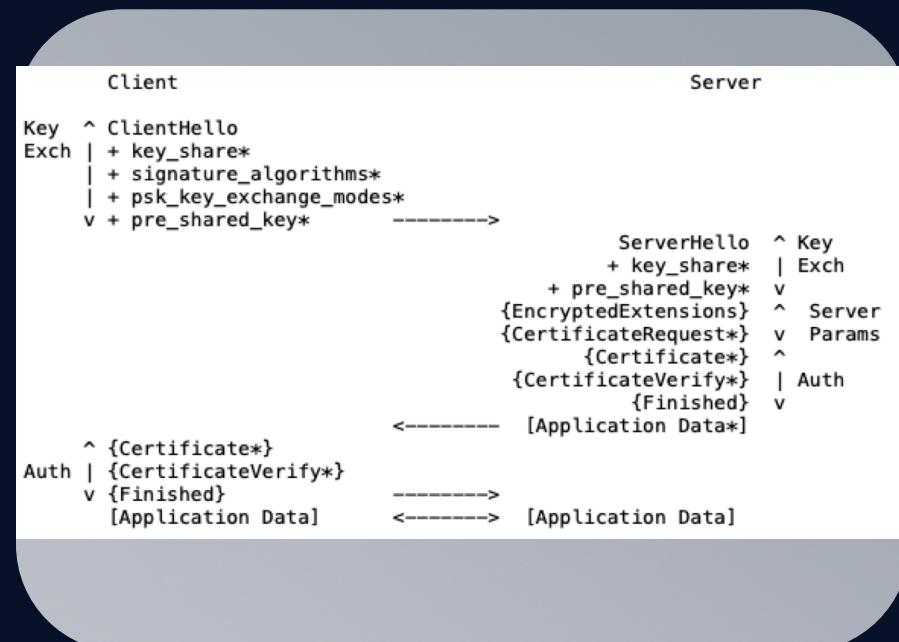
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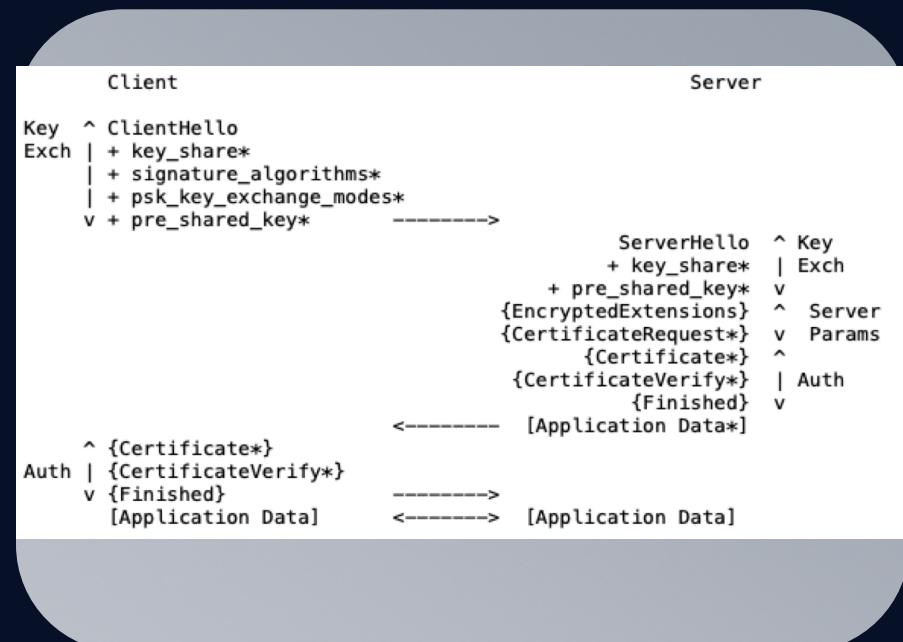
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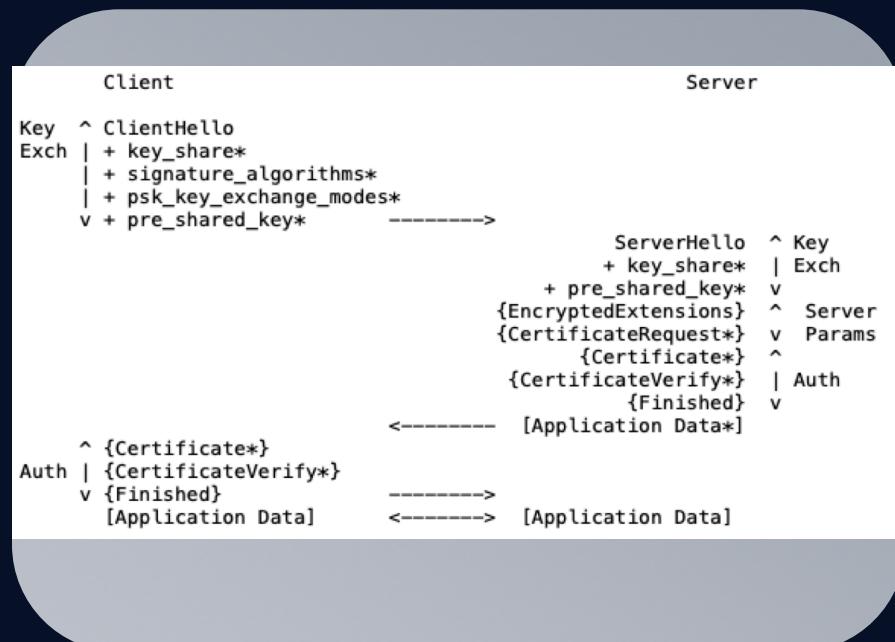
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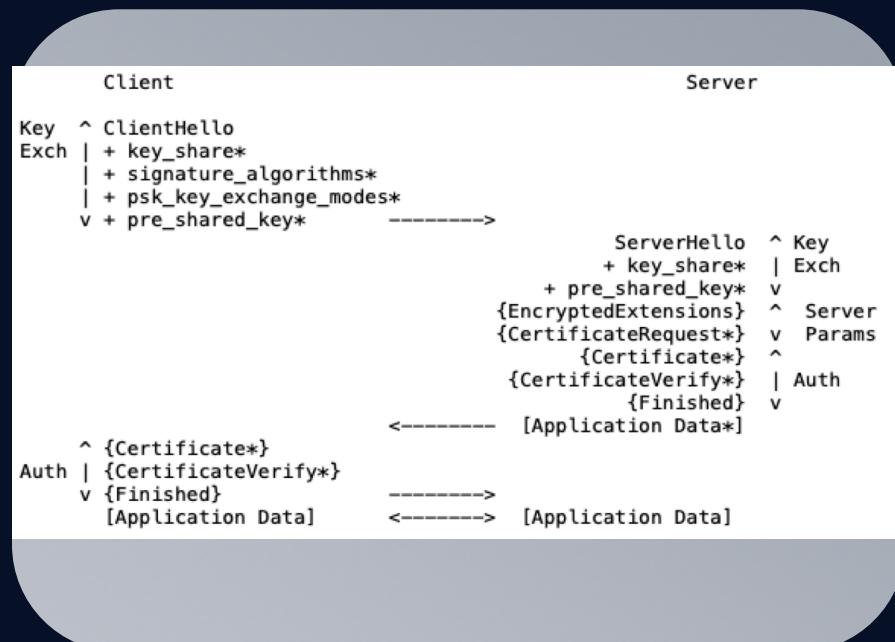
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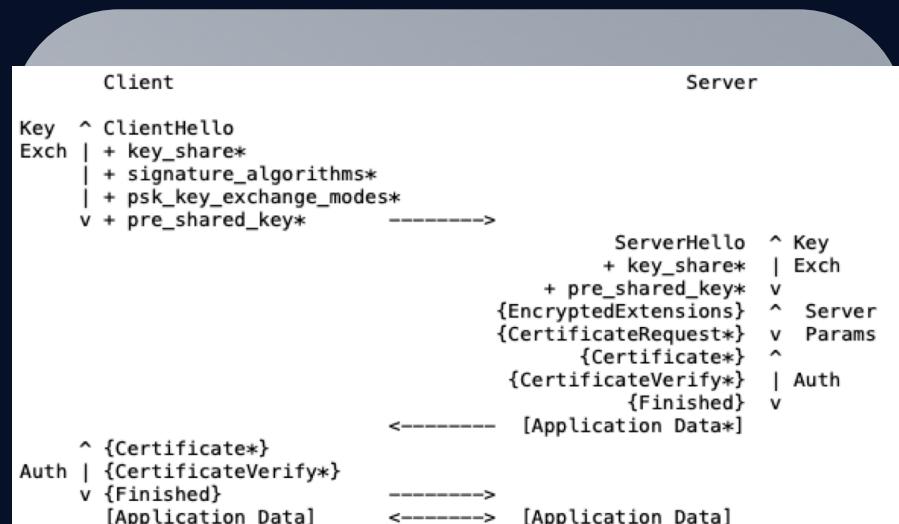
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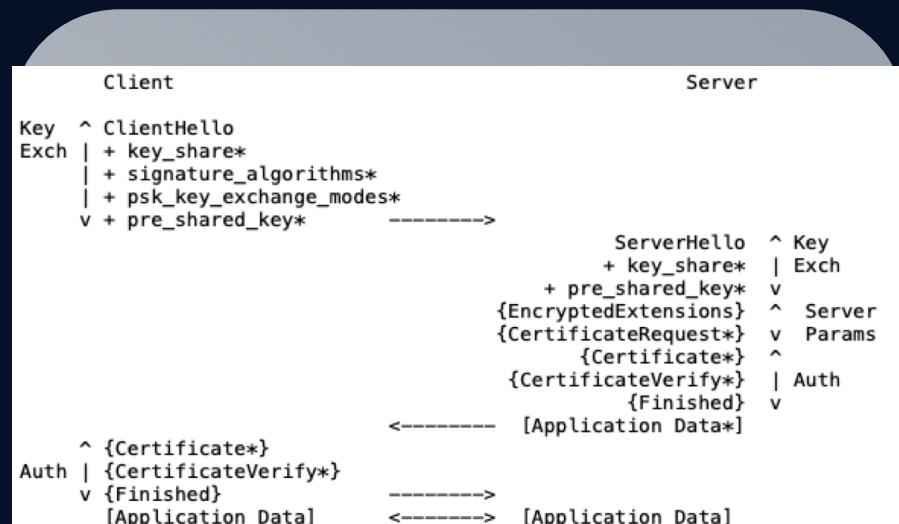
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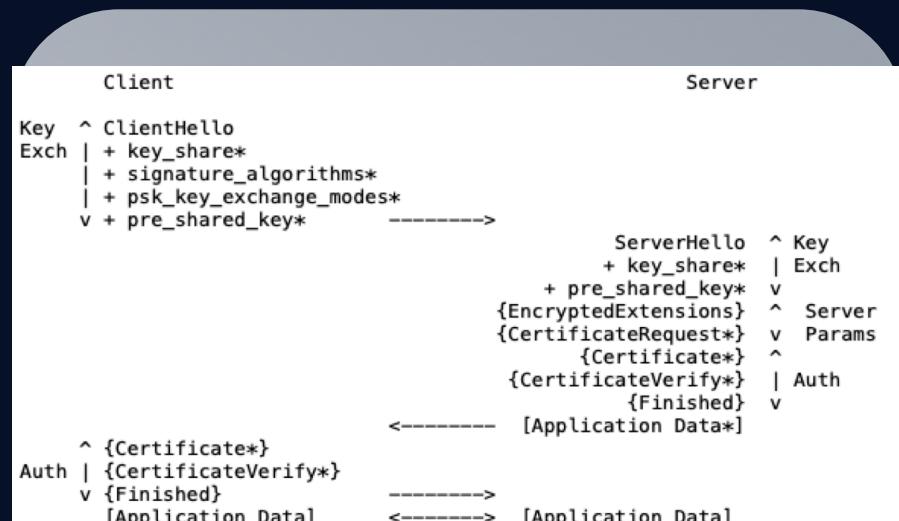
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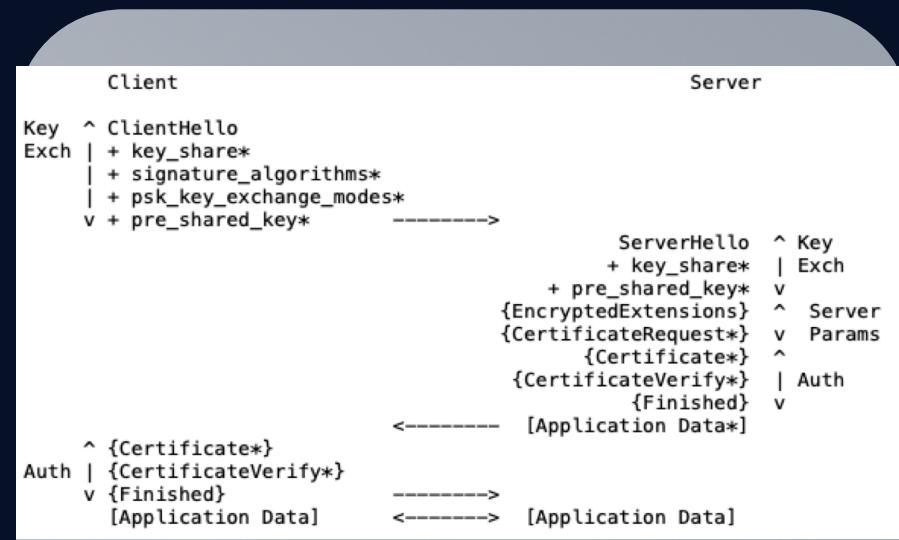
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 - Almost nobody implements finite-field DH
 - Symmetric: AES-GCM, ChaCha20-Poly1305, and HMAC-SHA2





TLS 1.3 Resumption and 0-RTT

- If you have a pre-shared key, you can do a bunch of stuff faster!
- Use PSK to compute traffic secret
- Ephemeral key exchange *optional*
- Use PSK to encrypt “Early Data”





0-RTT caveat

IMPORTANT NOTE: The security properties for 0-RTT data are weaker than those for other kinds of TLS data. Specifically:

1. This data is **not forward secret**, as it is encrypted solely under keys derived using the offered PSK.

2. There are **no guarantees of non-replay** between connections.

Protection against replay for ordinary TLS 1.3 1-RTT data is provided via the server's Random value, but 0-RTT data does not depend on the ServerHello and therefore has weaker guarantees.

This is especially relevant if the data is authenticated either with TLS client authentication or inside the application protocol. The same warnings apply to any use of the `early_exporter_master_secret`.

0-RTT data cannot be duplicated within a connection (i.e., the server will not process the same data twice for the same connection), and an attacker will not be able to make 0-RTT data appear to be 1-RTT data (because it is protected with different keys). Appendix E.5 contains a description of potential attacks, and Section 8 describes mechanisms which the server can use to limit the impact of replay.

RFC 8446, page 18



Why 0-RTT?

- Siri requests
- GET requests on websites*
- Other stateless stuff

But are you sure that your application is completely robust against replays?

```
GET /?query=INSERT into payments (to, amount)  
    VALUES (“thom”, 1000);
```

The background of the slide features a dark blue gradient with a subtle texture. Overlaid on this are two stylized, jagged mountain peaks composed of numerous small, semi-transparent colored dots. The dots are primarily orange and yellow, with some red and green highlights, giving them a pixelated or digital appearance.

Post-Quantum

A large, dark dragon is breathing a powerful stream of bright orange and yellow fire from its nostrils. The fire is directed towards a city in the foreground, which is engulfed in smoke and flames. In the bottom left corner, a white arrow points downwards from the text "Server operator" to a small red icon of a person with a circular head. The background shows a vast landscape with more smoke and fire.

Peter Shor

Server operator



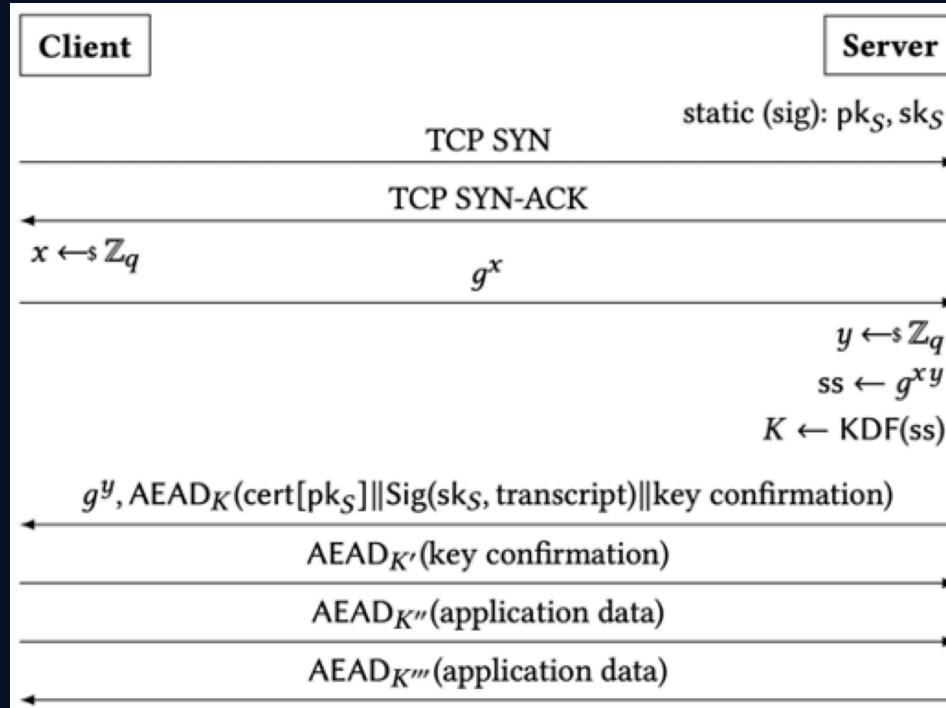
RSA

g^x

ECC

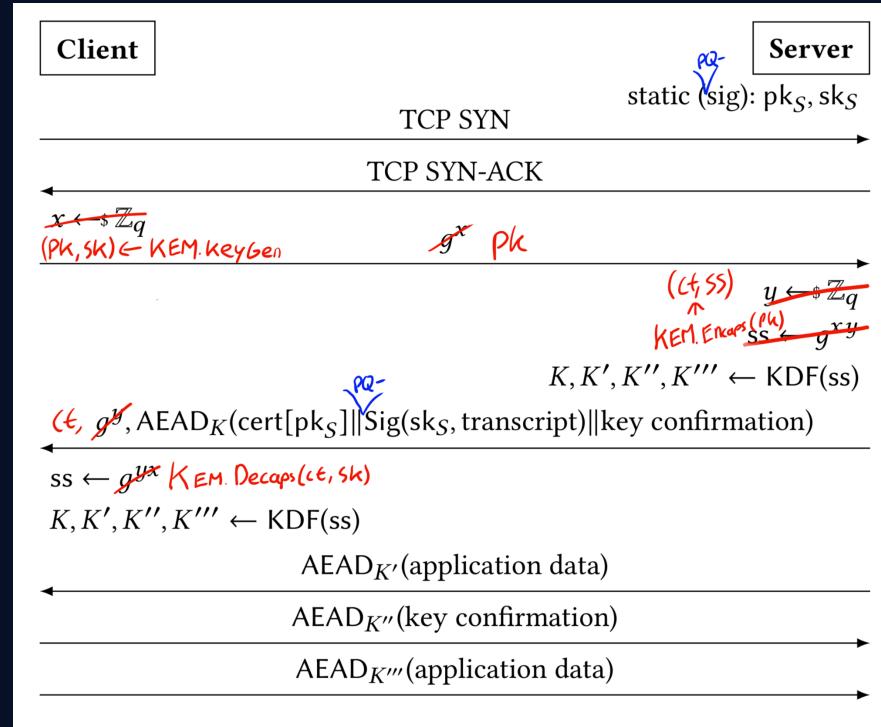


Pre-quantum TLS





Post-quantum TLS





Crossing out g^x

- [draft-ietf-tls-hybrid-design](#)
Hybrid: ECDH + KEM key exchange
- [draft-tls-westerbaan-xyber768d00](#)
Instantiates the above with
X25519 + Kyber768
- [draft-kwiatkowski-tls-ecdhe-kyber](#)
P256 + Kyber768

Main question not how, but how will clients react?

Cloudflare is reporting on its ongoing experiments

Workgroup: Network Working Group
Internet-Draft:
[draft-ietf-tls-hybrid-design-09](#)
Published: 7 September 2023
Intended Status: Informational
Expires: 10 March 2024

D. Stebila
University of Waterloo
S. Fluhrer
Cisco Systems
S. Gueron
U. Haifa

Hybrid key exchange in TLS 1.3

Abstract

Hybrid key exchange refers to using multiple key exchange algorithms simultaneously and combining the result with the goal of providing security even if all but one of the component algorithms is broken. It is motivated by transition to post-quantum cryptography. This



What about BSI's conservative KEMs?

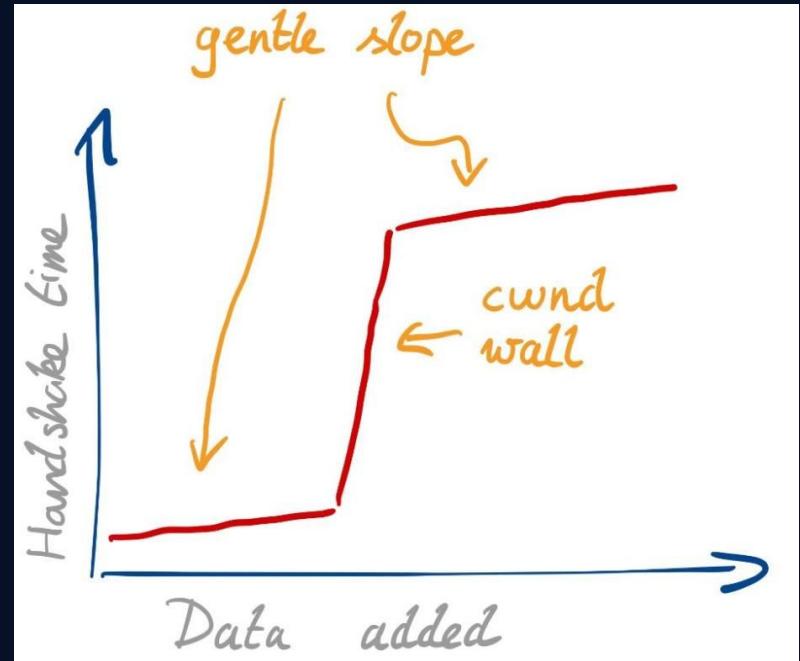
- TLS restricts size of ephemeral **key_share** to 65535 bytes
- McEliece public key: doesn't fit
- FrodoKEM: does fit, but is still quite chunky (~15kb for FrodoKEM-976 pk)

But TLS runs over the internet!



TCP congestion control

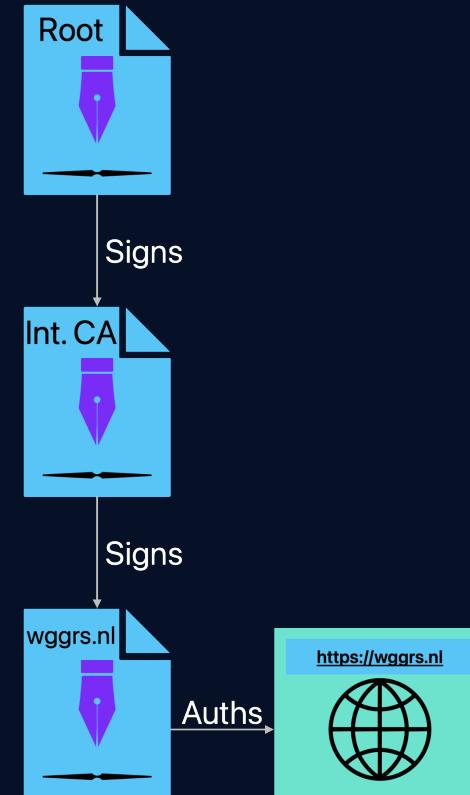
- TCP gives us a reliable transport
- Initial congestion window of 10 MSS \approx 15 KB
- After sending this amount of data, TCP will just wait until it receives confirmation: additional round-trips
- FrodoKEM hits this wall



Picture by Bas Westerbaan: [Sizing up post-quantum signatures](#) (Cloudflare blog)



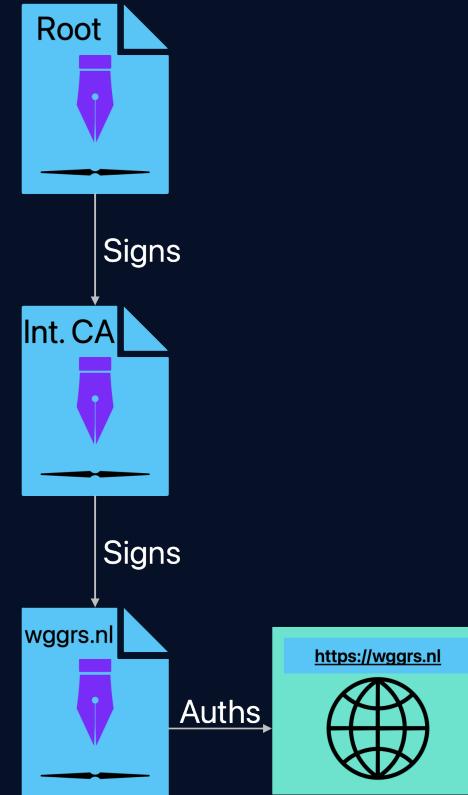
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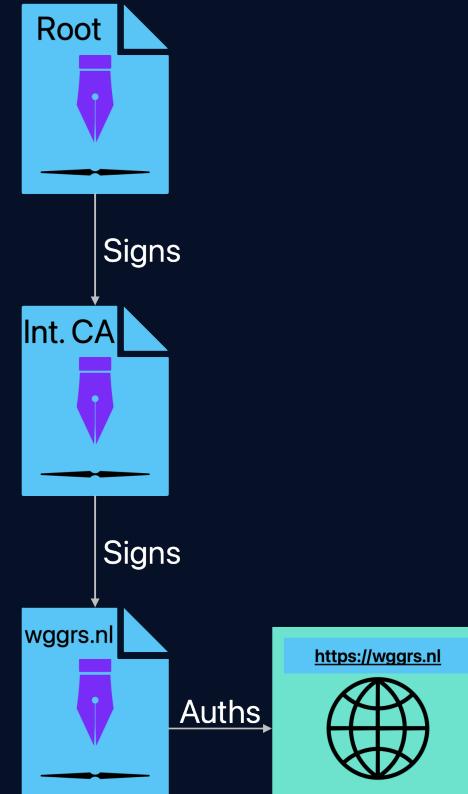
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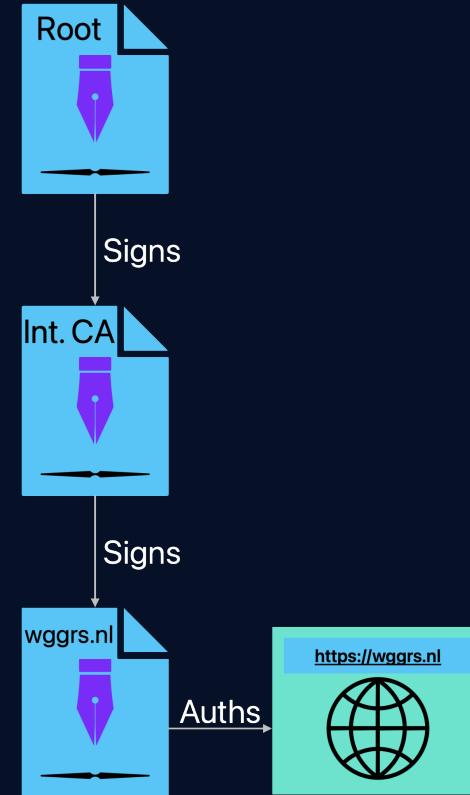
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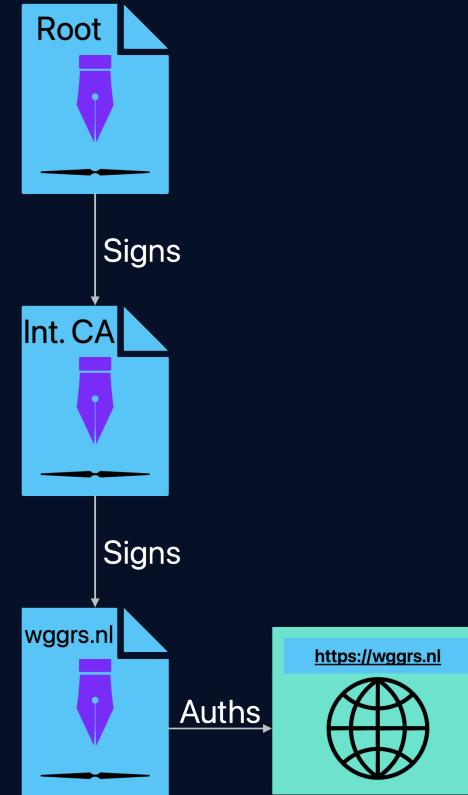
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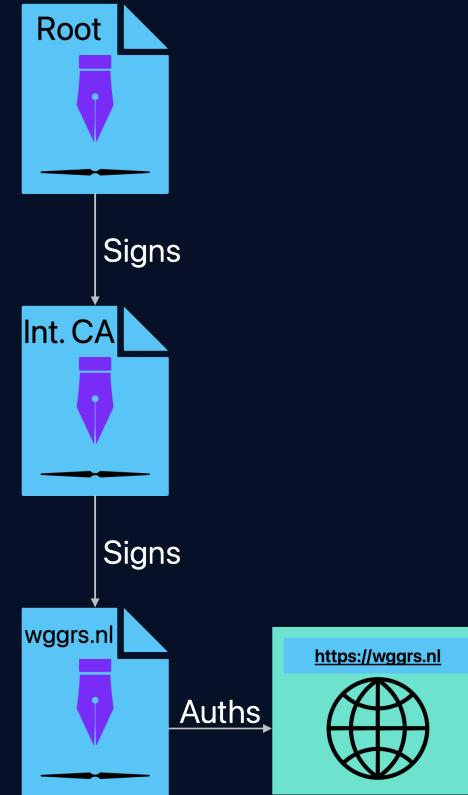
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 - 2 public keys





Authentication

- TLS authenticates servers (and clients) through certificates
- Root public key is preinstalled
- TLS traffic requirement:
 - 2 public keys
 - 3 signatures





Authentication transmission requirements

Signature alg	Public key traffic	Signature traffic	Sum
ML-DSA 44 (Dil2)	2.624	7.260	9.884
ML-DSA 65 (Dil3)	3.904	9.927	13.831
ML-DSA 87 (Dil5)	5.184	13.881	19.065
Falcon-512	1.794	1.998	3.792
Falcon-1024	3.586	3.840	7.426



Evaluating Dilithium and Falcon



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- Even Dilithium2 already pushes us very close to additional round-trips



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 - Signing uses floating-point arithmetic
 - Implementing Falcon without timing side-channels is extremely difficult
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But there are many more signatures in web TLS!



Additional signatures



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- Certificate revocation:
 - Online Certificate Status Protocol
 - Staple OCSP status to certificate: another signature



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Typical TLS handshake: 2 public keys and 7 signatures!



Two kinds of signature



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 - Complicates PKI management a bit
- Hash-based signatures for CAs?
 - Few-times, not-level-5 XMSS?
 - Specially tuned SPHINCS+ with additional compression tricks?



Part 2

- Reducing the impact of authentication
- KEMTLS

Break time...



[Public 4.0 Wikimedia Commons](#)



Dealing with signatures



Signatures in TLS

- OCSP / Certificate revocation
- Certificate signatures
- Certificate transparency
- Handshake signature



Certificate revocation



Certificate revocation

- Certificate Revocation Lists were annoying to download: huge, slow



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- OCSP Stapling: have server include a recent proof of non-revocation along certificate
- What do you do if an attacker blocks the OCSP query?



Returning to CRLs



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- Centrally process *all* CRLs, compress them, and **push** to users daily



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- Similarly, Chrome implements **CRLSets**
- Since October 2022, Apple and Mozilla require CAs to publish CRLs
- Only feasible for large browser vendors and the like



Certificates

- Use Falcon?
- Use MAYO?
- SQL-sign?



Abridged certificate chains



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- Browsers already ship intermediate certificates
 - We've been transmitting them mostly for out-of-date clients
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- Leaving out intermediate certificates saves us 1 signature and 1 public key



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- Probably only suitable for WebPKI



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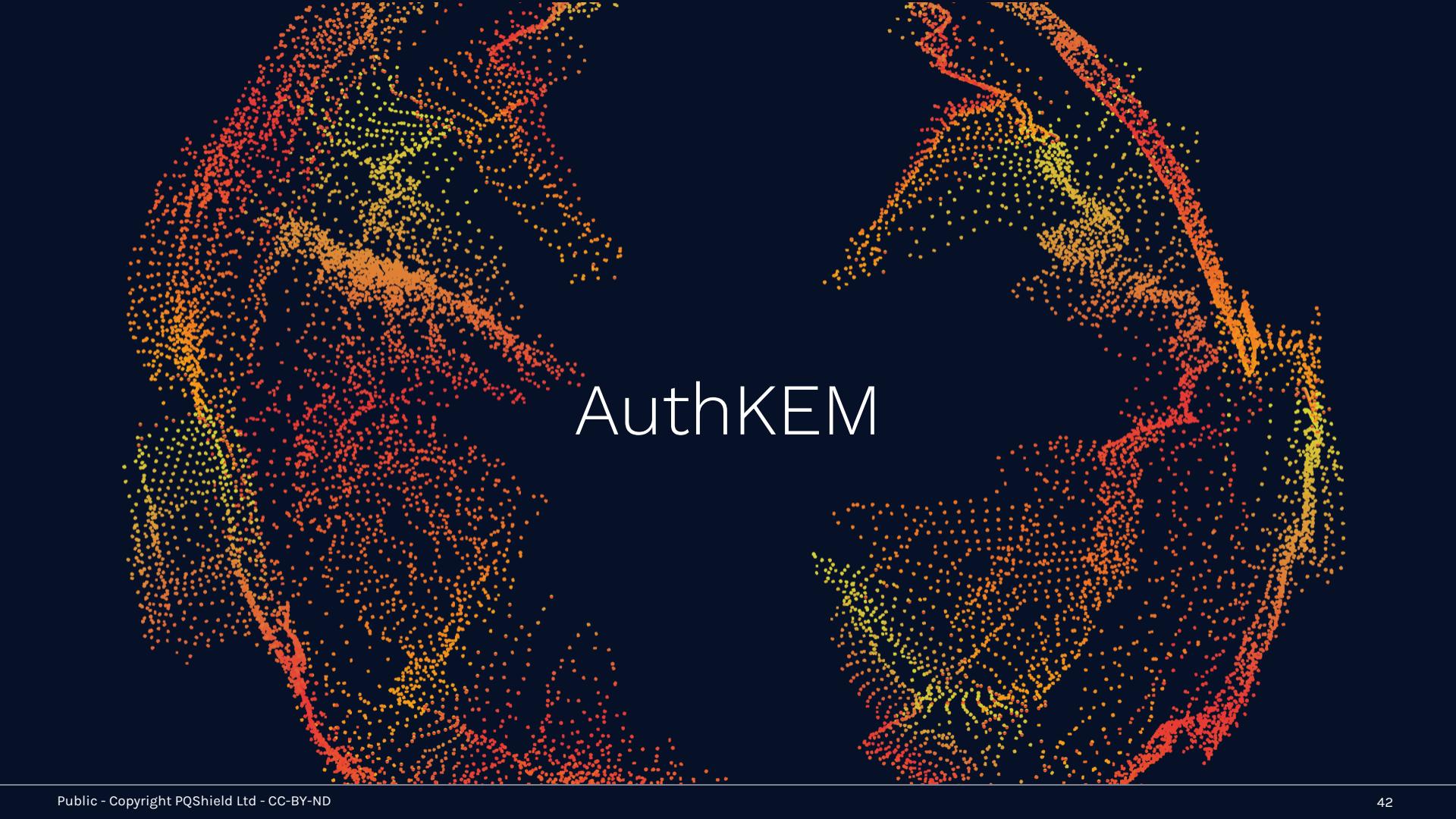
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- What is the function of the signature in the TLS handshake?
 - Proves access to the private key that corresponds to the certificate's public key



AuthKEM



Authentication via key exchange

- The signature in TLS proves that the server has access to the private signing key
- If I send you $\text{Enc}(k, m)$, and you can show me m , you must know k
 - You have access to the secret key



Authenticated Key Exchange with KEM

Peter

Douglas

$$(\text{ss}, \text{ct}) \leftarrow \text{KEM.Encapsulate}(\text{pk}_{\text{Douglas}})$$

ct

$$\text{ss} \leftarrow \text{KEM.Decapsulate}(\text{ct}, \text{sk}_{\text{Douglas}})$$
$$K \leftarrow \text{KDF}(\text{ss})$$
$$K \leftarrow \text{KDF}(\text{ss})$$
$$\text{MAC}_K(\dots)$$




TLS authentication via KEM (naively)

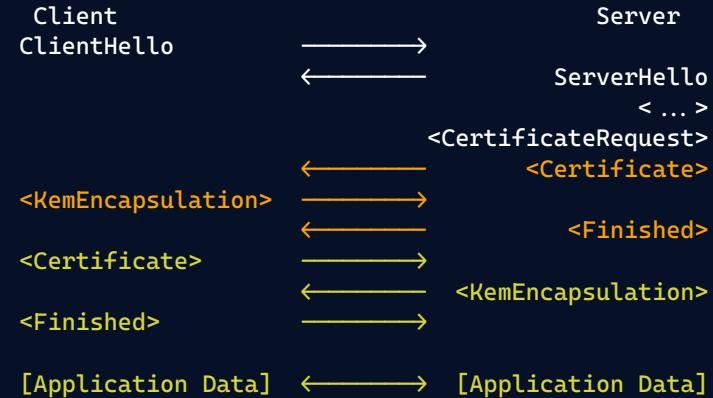


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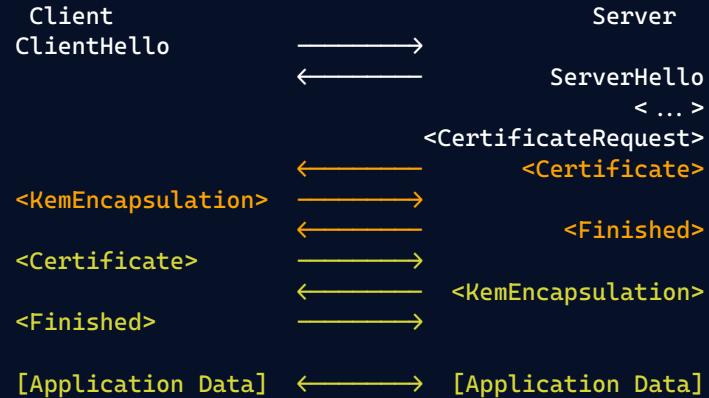


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Exercise for at home: see how doing this with Diffie-Hellman's non-interactive key exchange property is possible in a single round-trip (see: Krawczyk & Wee's OPTLS)



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Implicit authentication



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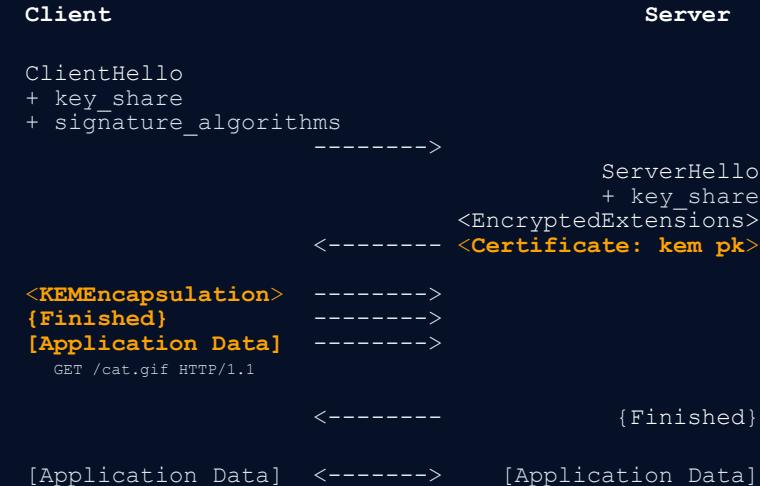
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 - But they will not be able to read $message$
- E.g. appears in Signal, Wireguard, Noise Protocols
- If we make the owner of sk use ss , we get explicit authentication



AuthKEM

- Use authentication key to send implicitly authenticated request immediately
- Avoids additional round-trip
- Does require non-trivial implementation changes

draft-celi-wiggers-tls-authkem:
KEM-based Authentication for TLS 1.3





Why AuthKEM?

Table 13.5: Comparison of handshake size and time until the client receives a response from the server (30.9 ms, 1000 Mbps), between unilaterally authenticated post-quantum TLS 1.3 and KEMTLS instances at NIST level I.

Experiment		Handshake size (bytes)				Time until response (ms)			
		No int.	Δ%	With int.	Δ%	No int.	Δ%	With int.	Δ%
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KEMTLS	KFFF	3797	+0.1 %	5360	+0.1 %	95.8	-1.3 %	96.1	-1.2 %
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TLS	KDFF	5966	-36.3 %	7529	-28.7 %	94.8	-0.3 %	95.2	-0.3 %
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KEMTLS	KSsSsSs	17 312	-36.5 %	25 200	-25.1 %	197.7	-52.0 %	198.0	-36.2 %
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- Combining AuthKEM with Falcon for offline signatures is possible
 - Using AuthKEM can reuse the KEM implementation from key exchange
 - don't need Kyber AND Dilithium AND Falcon implementations → reduces code size/complexity

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	KKFF	3802		5365		94.5		94.9
KEMTLS	KSsSsSs	17 312	-36.5 %	25 200	-25.1 %	197.7	-52.0 %	198.0
	KKsSsSs	10 992		18 880		94.9		126.4

Level V

Table 13.25: Comparison of handshake size and time until the client receives a response from the server (30.9 ms, 1000 Mbps), between unilaterally authenticated post-quantum TLS 1.3 and KEMTLS instances at NIST level V.

Experiment		Handshake size (bytes)				Time until response (ms)			
		No int.	Δ%	With int.	Δ%	No int.	Δ%	With int.	Δ%
TLS	KDDD	14 918	-27.2 %	22 105	-18.3 %	95.6	-0.7 %	127.0	-0.6 %
	KKDD	10 867		18 054		94.9		126.3	
KEMTLS	KFFF	7489	+0.8 %	10 562	+0.6 %	97.5	-2.6 %	98.2	-2.6 %
	KKFF	7552		10 625		95.0		95.7	
TLS	Kdff	11 603	-34.9 %	14 676	-27.6 %	95.7	-0.7 %	96.4	-0.7 %
	KKff	7552		10 625		95.0		95.7	
KEMTLS	KSfSfSf	102 912	-45.5 %	152 832	-30.6 %	200.9	-20.5 %	229.4	-15.2 %
	KKfSfSf	56 128		106 048		159.8		194.6	
TLS	KSsSsSs	62 784	-42.6 %	92 640	-28.8 %	270.0	-52.8 %	278.1	-42.3 %
	KKsSsSs	36 064		65 920		127.4		160.5	



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 - Using AuthKEM further pushes down the communication costs
- SCT/OCSP signatures are **very “web”** problems
 - The proposed solutions only work in WebPKI context
- AuthKEM is especially effective in **constrained environments** (i.e. not using phone or laptop CPUs)



Extensions

Client Authentication

Requires additional round-trip: We need to encrypt the certificate and can't do it earlier.

Pre-shared KEM keys

- E.g. cache or pre-install server KEM key
- Send ciphertext in first client message
- Abbreviate handshake further
- Easy fall-back to AuthKEM

=> “AuthKEM-PSK”



Post-Quantum TLS



Post-Quantum TLS

TLS confidentiality





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- Transitioning TLS kex to PQ is in progress



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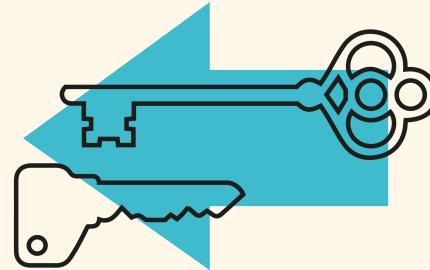
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- Impact of Dilithium is very large
- Several proposals in development for reducing impact of authentication
 - Abridged Certificates uses clever compression
 - Merkle Tree Certificates fundamentally changes the trust model
- AuthKEM swaps signature auth for KEMs



More on Post-Quantum TLS

- Discussion of how to make post-quantum TLS, OPTLS (with CSIDH) and KEMTLS
- Proofs of KEMTLS by pen-and-paper and using Tamarin
- Loads of benchmark measurements for TLS/KEMTLS instances at NIST level I, III, V
- wggrs.nl/p/thesis

POST- QUANTUM TLS



THOM WIGGERS