

Anonymous, Robust Post-Quantum Public Key Encryption

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Applied Cryptography Group
ETH Zurich



Joint work with Paul Grubbs and Kenneth G. Paterson
[Full version of paper: <https://eprint.iacr.org/2021/708.pdf>]

NIST PQC Round-3 KEMs

PQC Standardization Process: Third Round Candidate Announcement

NIST is announcing the third round finalists of the NIST Post-Quantum Cryptography Standardization Process. More details are included in NISTIR 8309.

July 22, 2020

It has been almost a year and a half since the second round of the NIST PQC Standardization Process began. After careful consideration, NIST would like to announce the candidates that will be moving on to the third round.

Third Round Finalists

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece
CRYSTALS-KYBER
NTRU
SABER

Alternate Candidates

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

BIKE
FrodoKEM
HQC
NTRU Prime
SIKE



ORGANIZATIONS

Information Technology Laboratory

Computer Security Division

Cryptographic Technology Group

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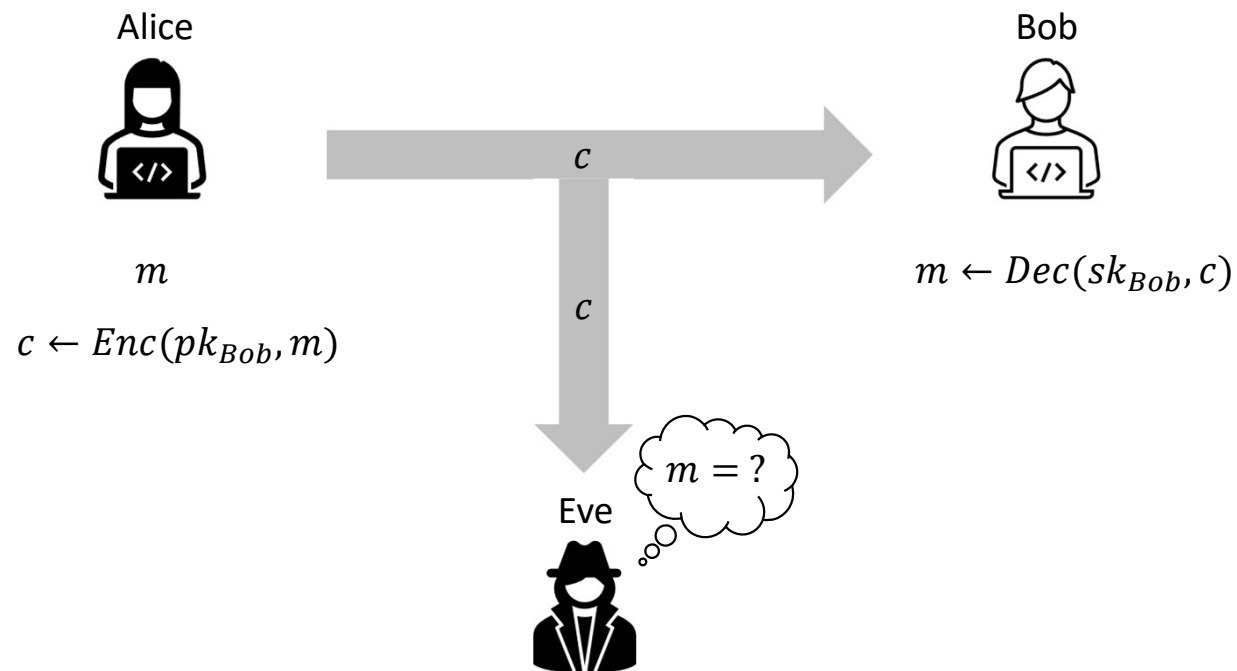
Information Technology Laboratory
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4.A.2 Security Definition for Encryption/Key-Establishment

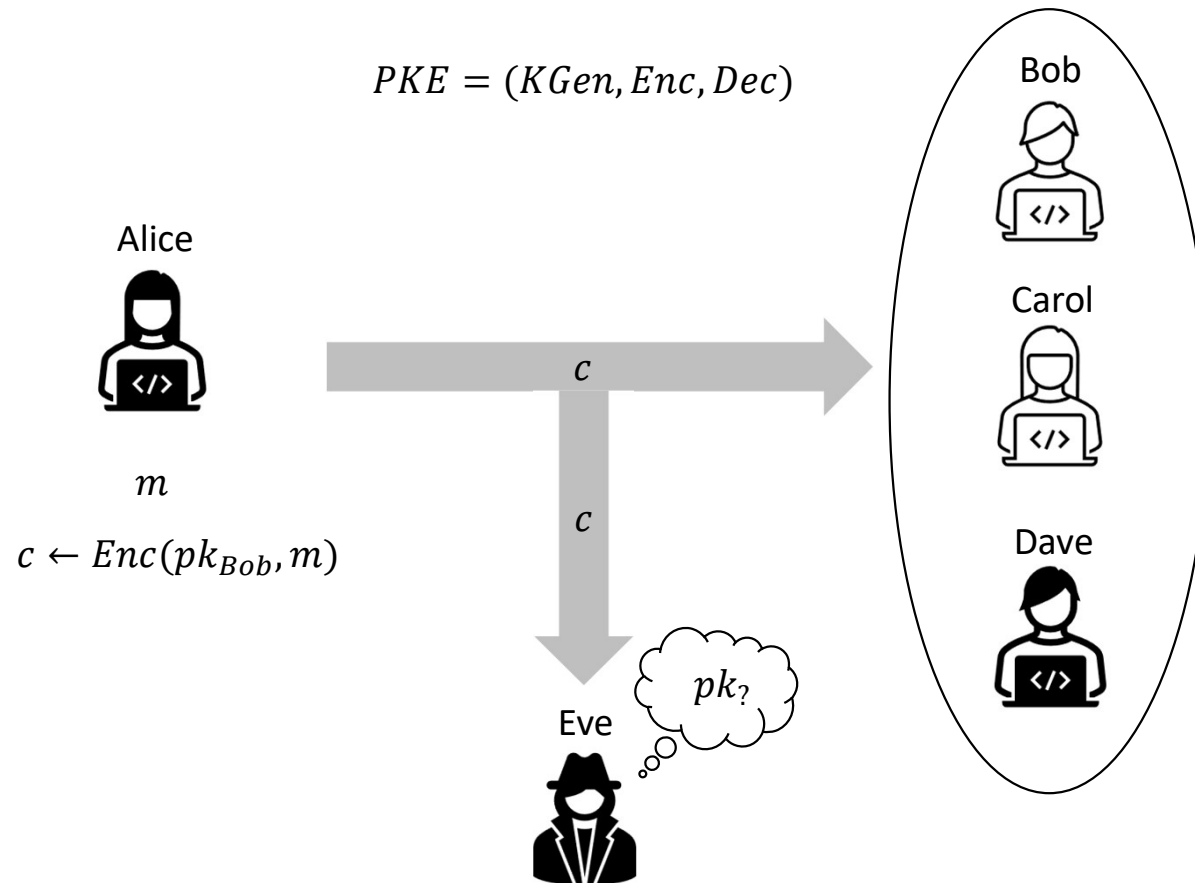
NIST intends to standardize one or more schemes that enable “semantically secure” encryption or key encapsulation with respect to adaptive chosen ciphertext attack, for general use. This property is generally denoted *IND-CCA2 security* in academic literature.

IND-CCA Security

$$PKE = (KGen, Enc, Dec)$$



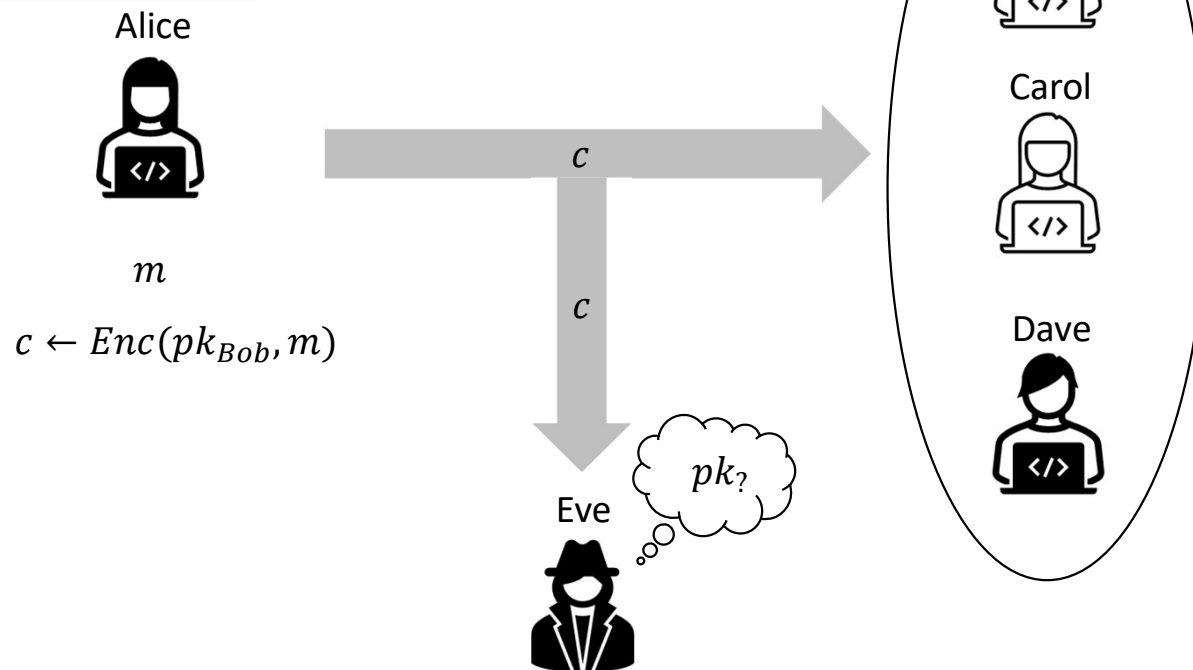
Anonymity (ANO-CCA security)



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Formalized in a public-key setting by
[Bellare-Boldyreva-Desai-Pointcheval
@Asiacrypt'01].

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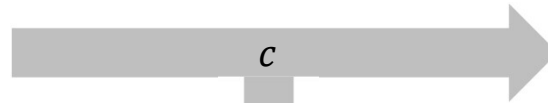
$$PKE = (KGen, Enc, Dec)$$

Alice



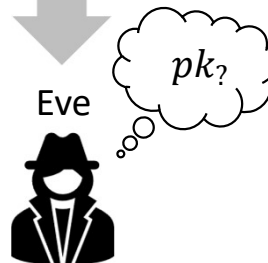
m

$$c \leftarrow Enc(pk_{Bob}, m)$$



c

c



Eve

$pk?$

Bob



Carol



Dave



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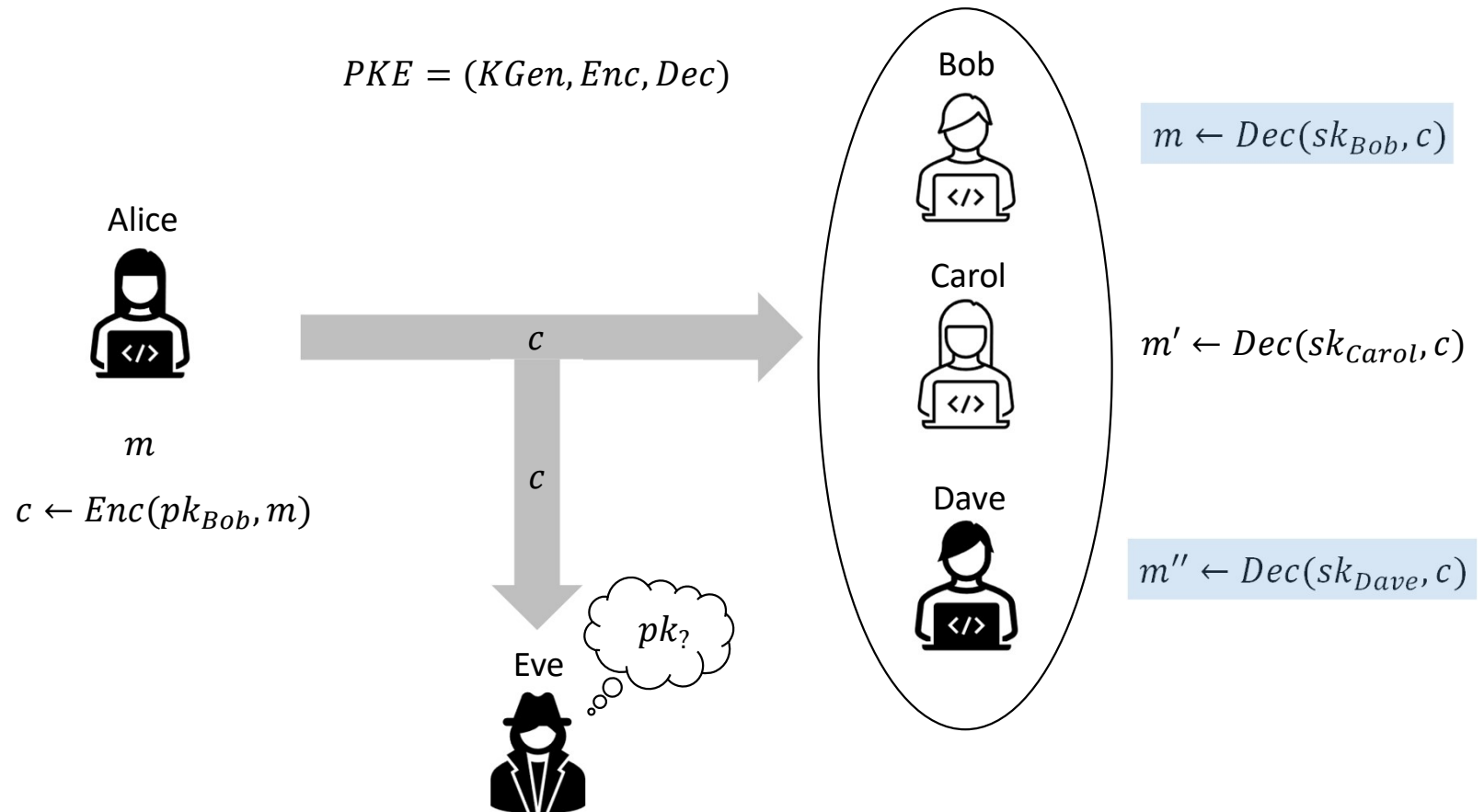
Carol



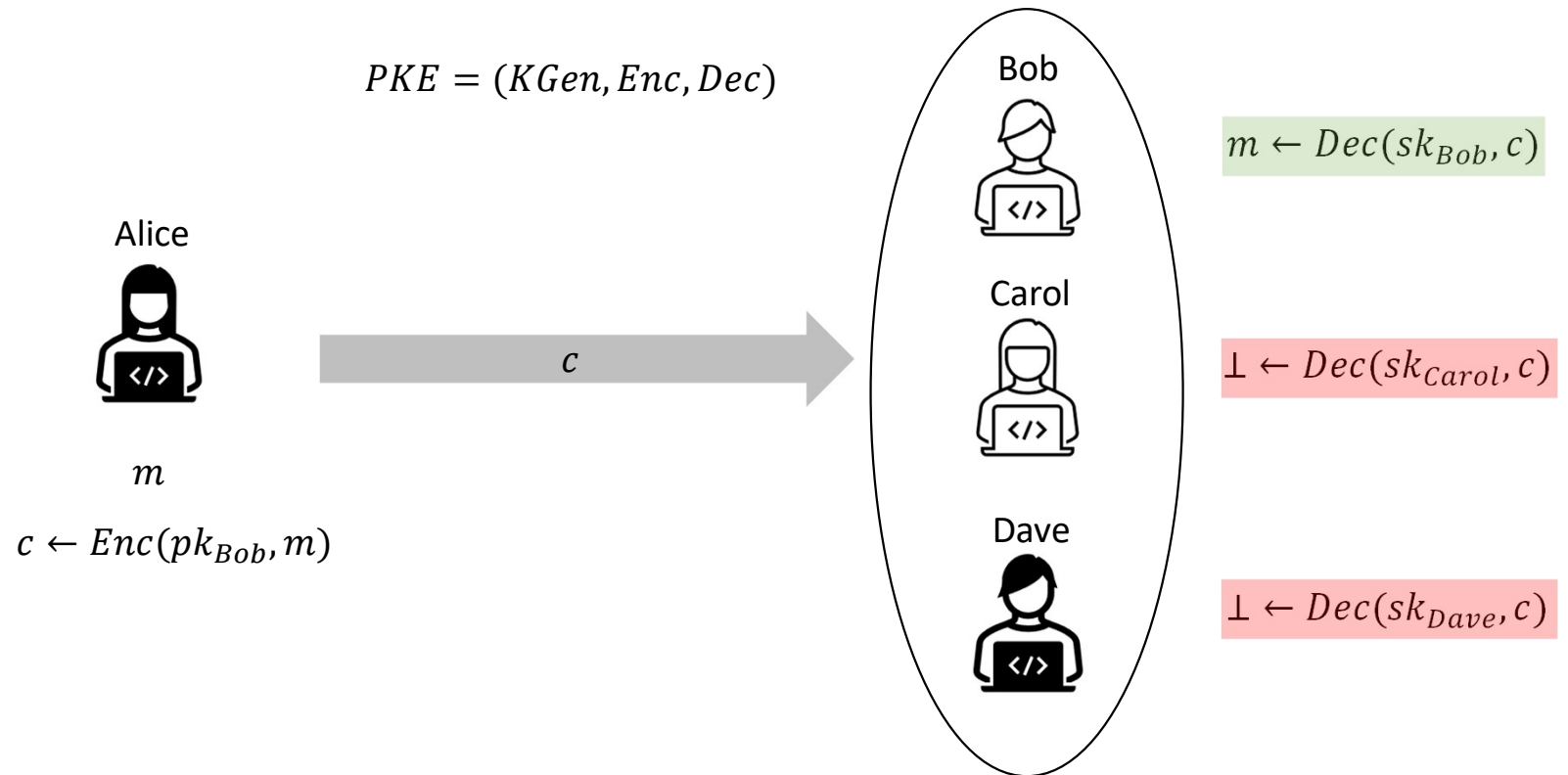
Dave



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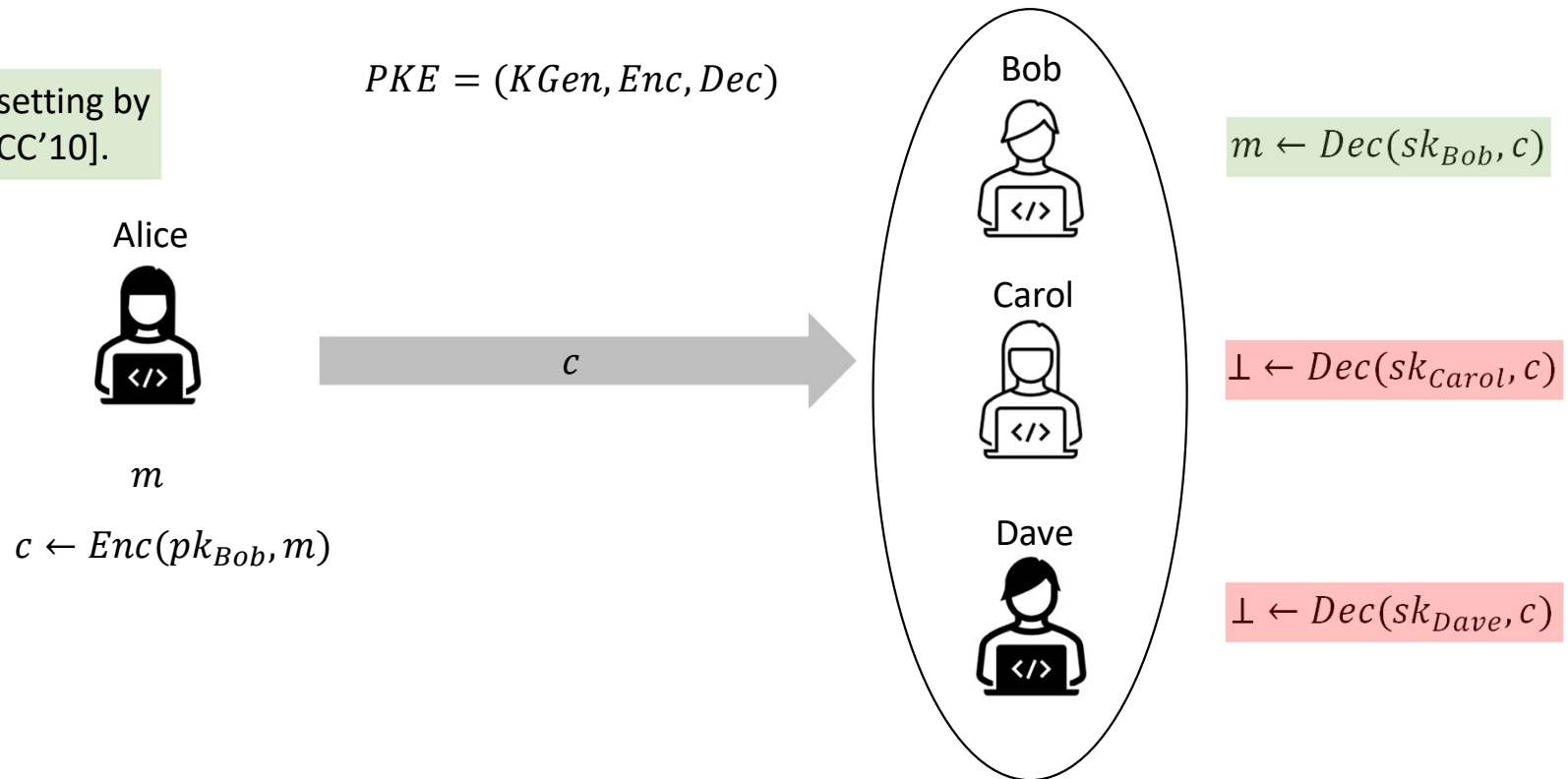


Robustness (SROB-CCA security)



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Formalized in a public-key setting by [Abdalla-Bellare-Neven@TCC'10].



KEM-DEM Paradigm

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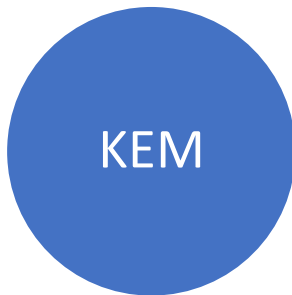
IND-CCA secure

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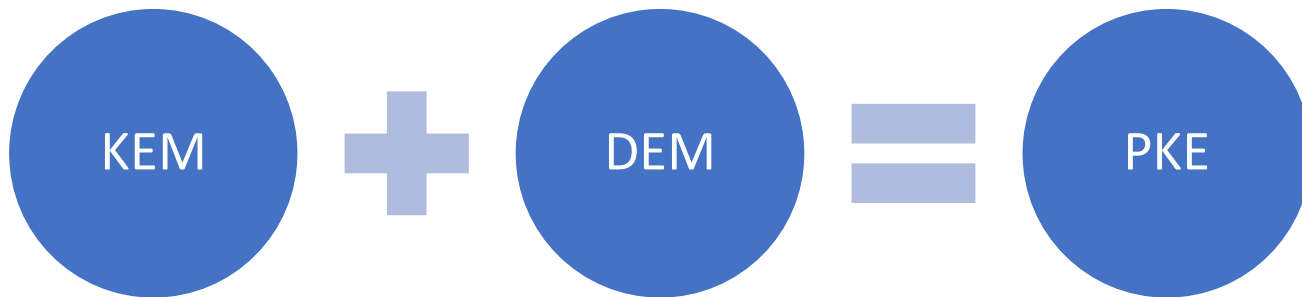
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IND-CCA secure

(one-time) authenticated
encryption

IND-CCA secure

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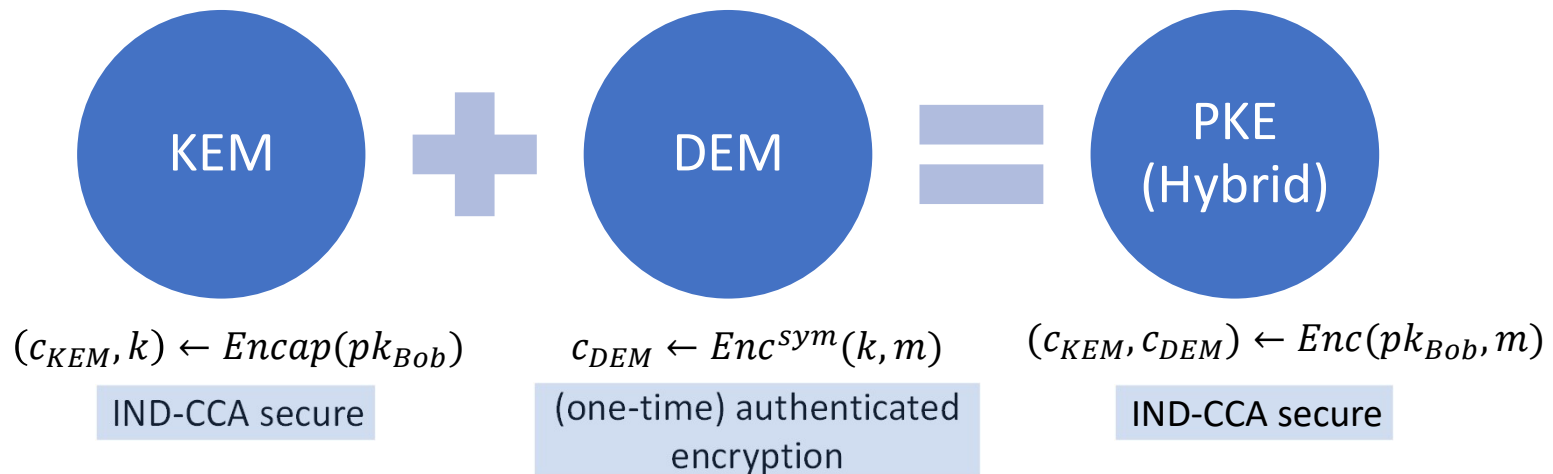
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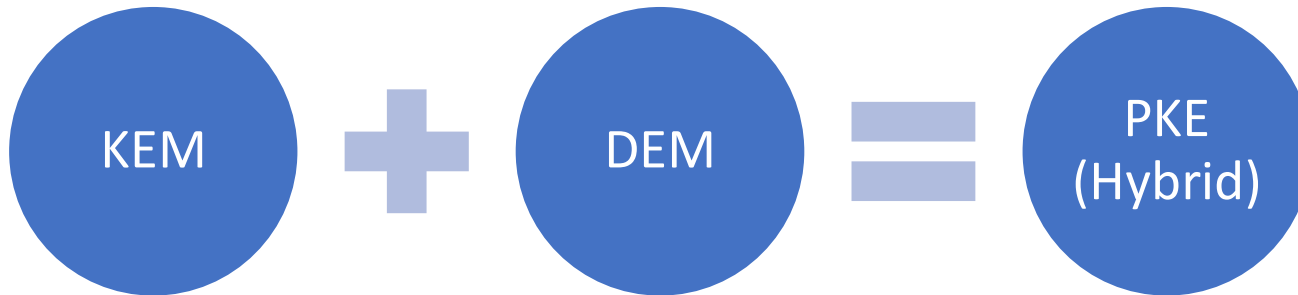
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$$(c_{KEM}, k) \leftarrow Encap(pk_{Bob})$$

$$c_{DEM} \leftarrow Enc^{sym}(k, m)$$

$$(c_{KEM}, c_{DEM}) \leftarrow Enc(pk_{Bob}, m)$$

IND-CCA secure +
ANO-CCA secure

KEM-DEM Paradigm

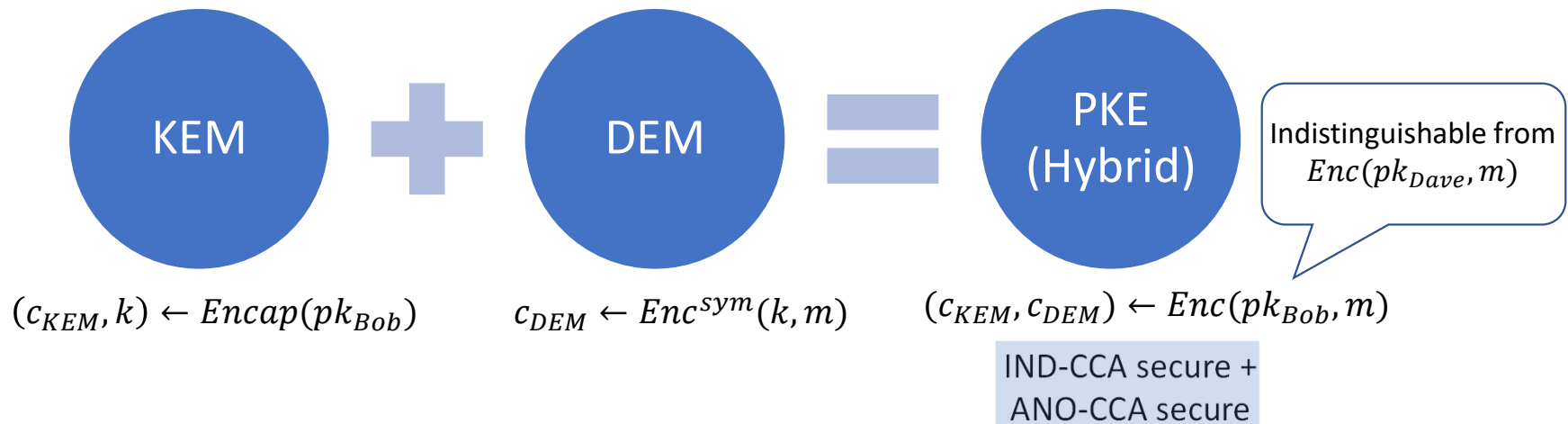
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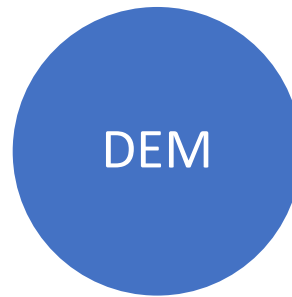
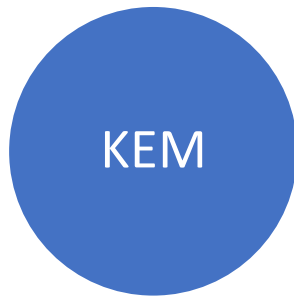
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KEM-DEM Paradigm

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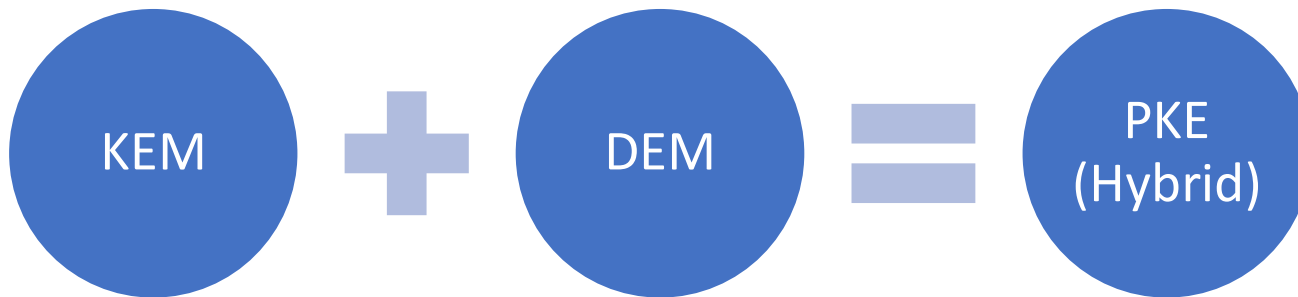
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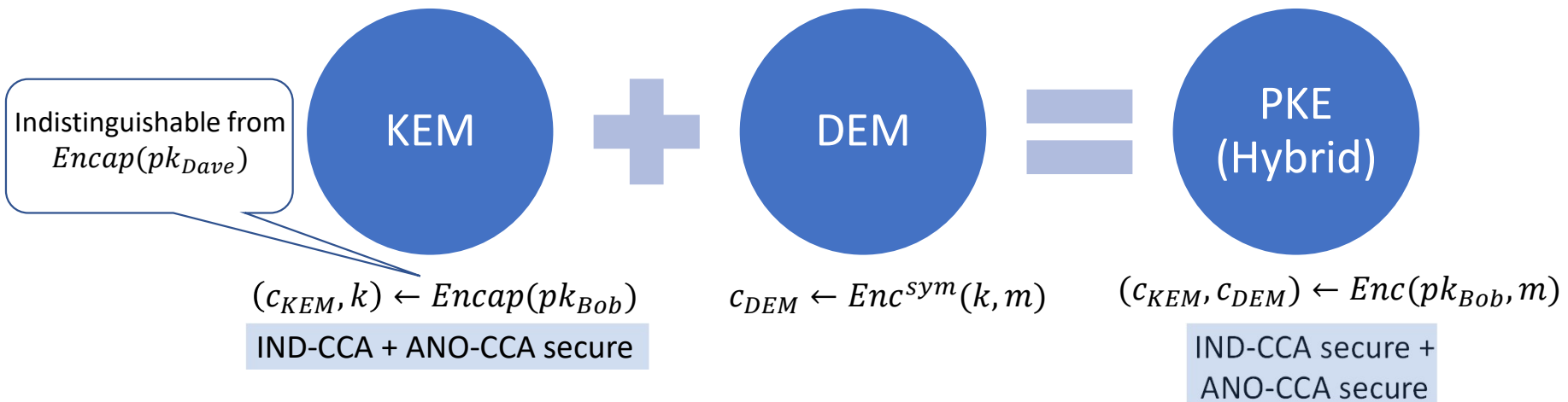
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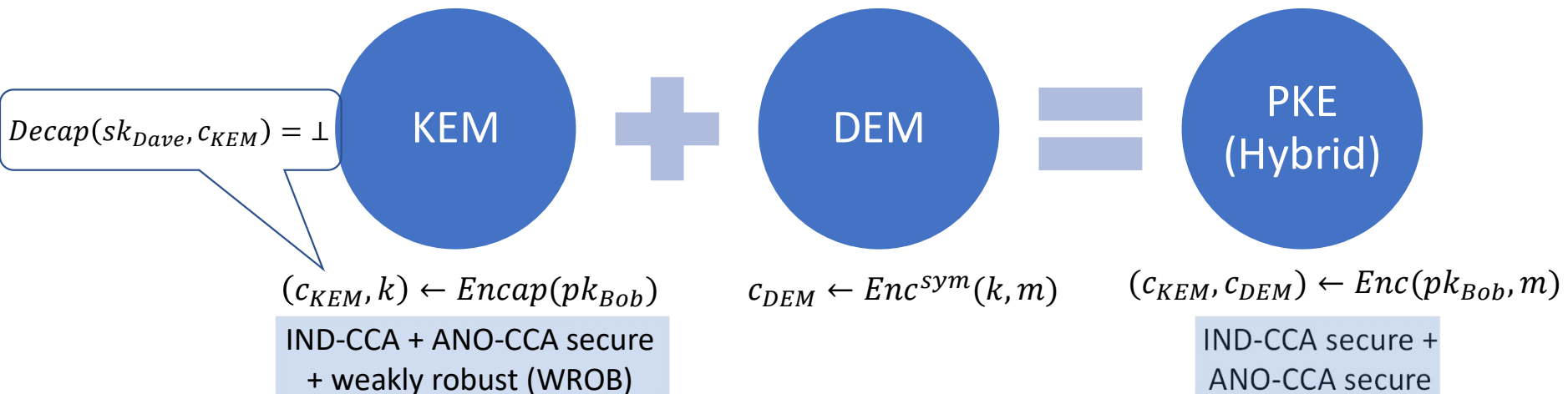
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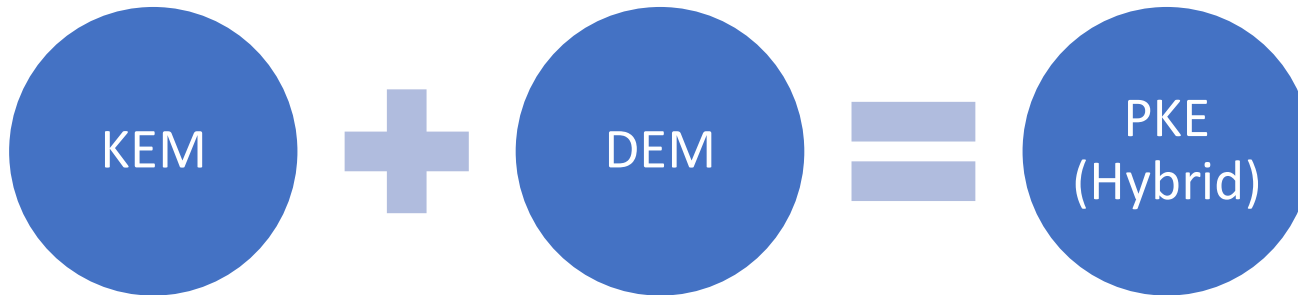
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IND-CCA + ANO-CCA secure
+ weakly robust (WROB)

$$c_{DEM} \leftarrow Enc^{sym}(k, m)$$

(one-time) authenticated
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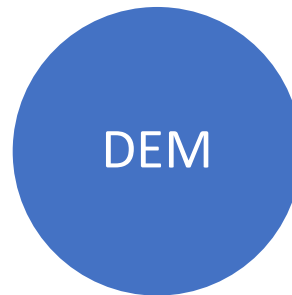
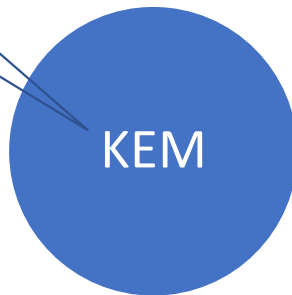
Mohassel only considered KEMs constructed directly from PKE schemes.

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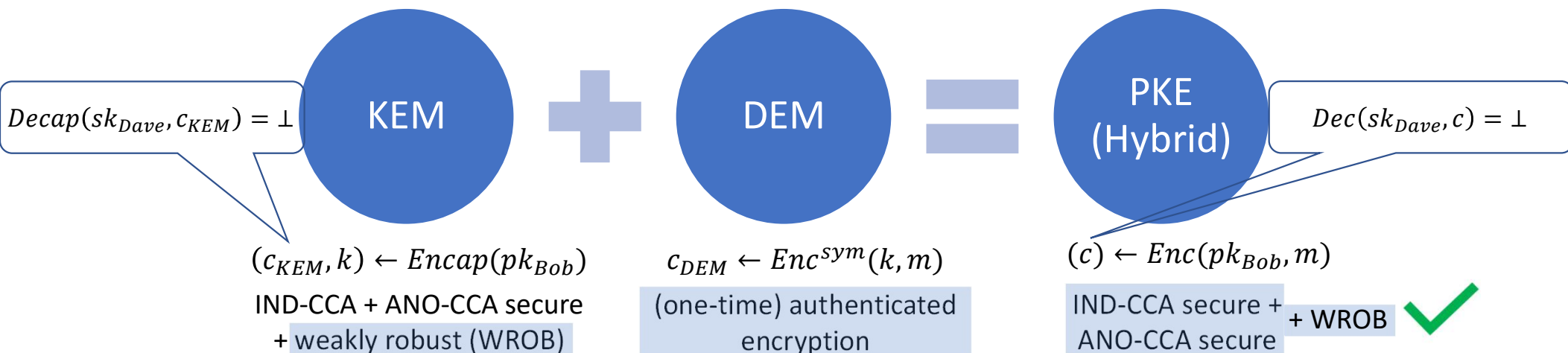
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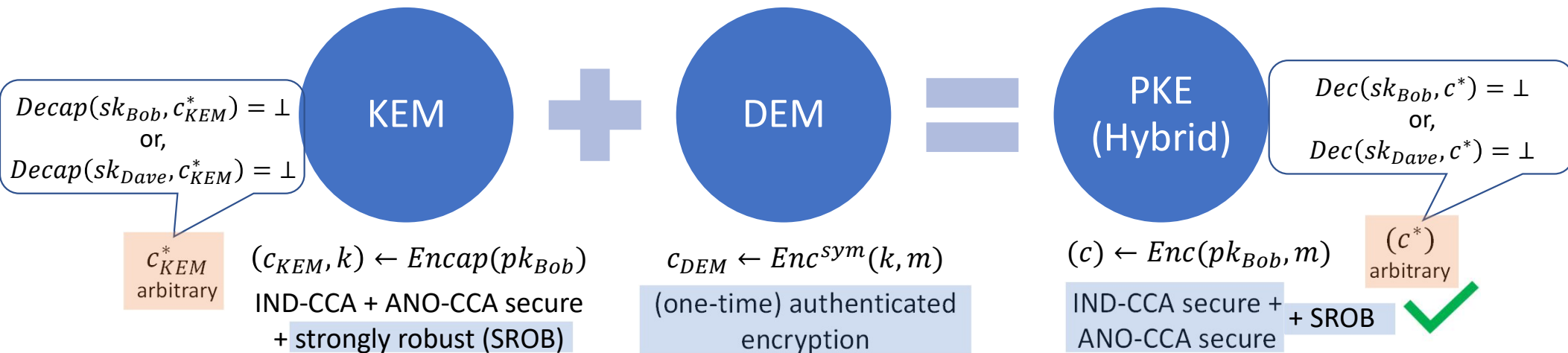
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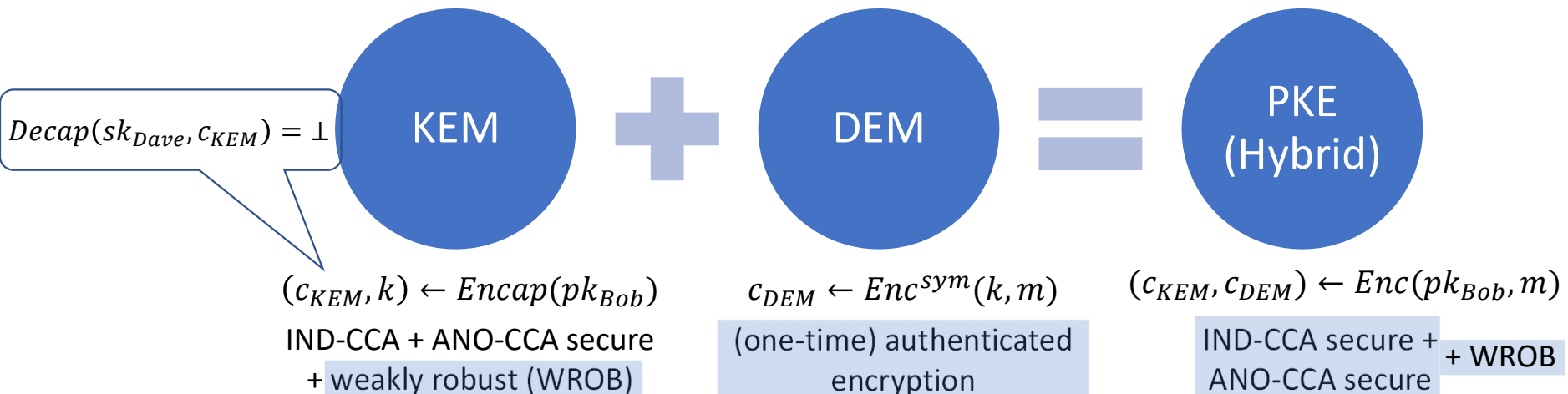
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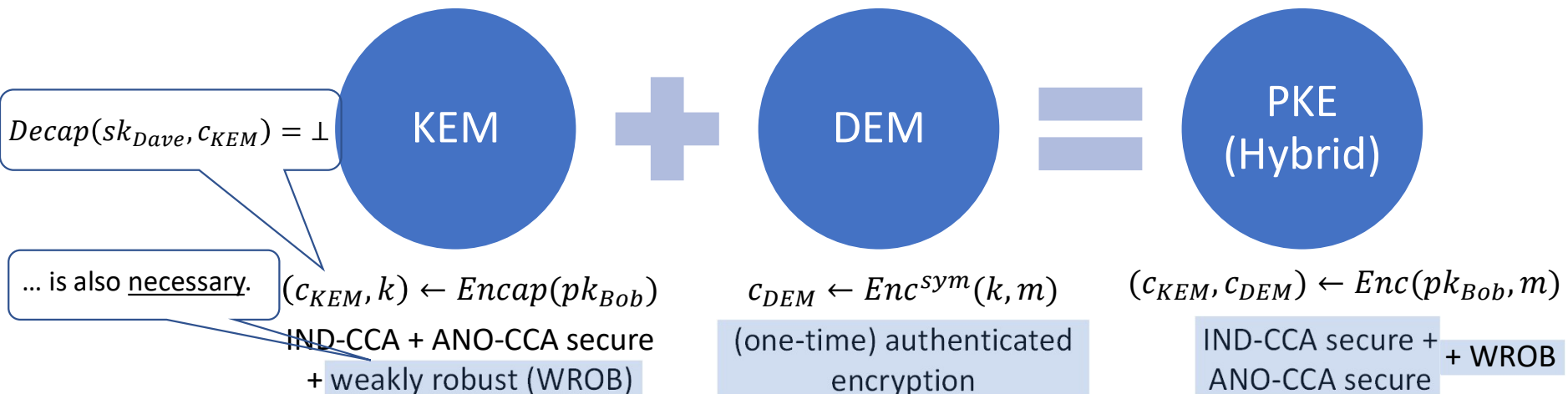
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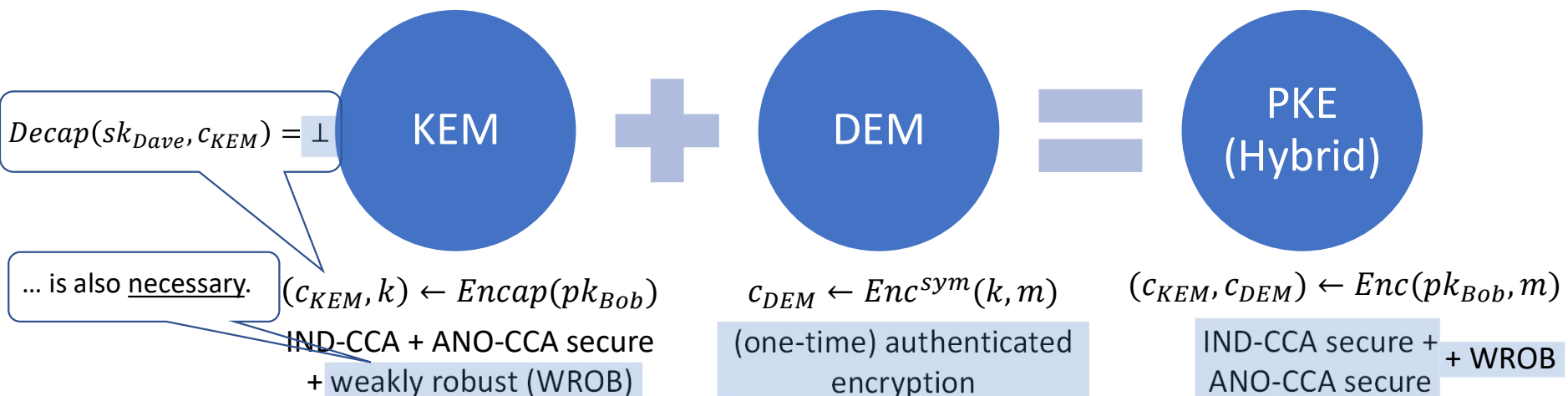
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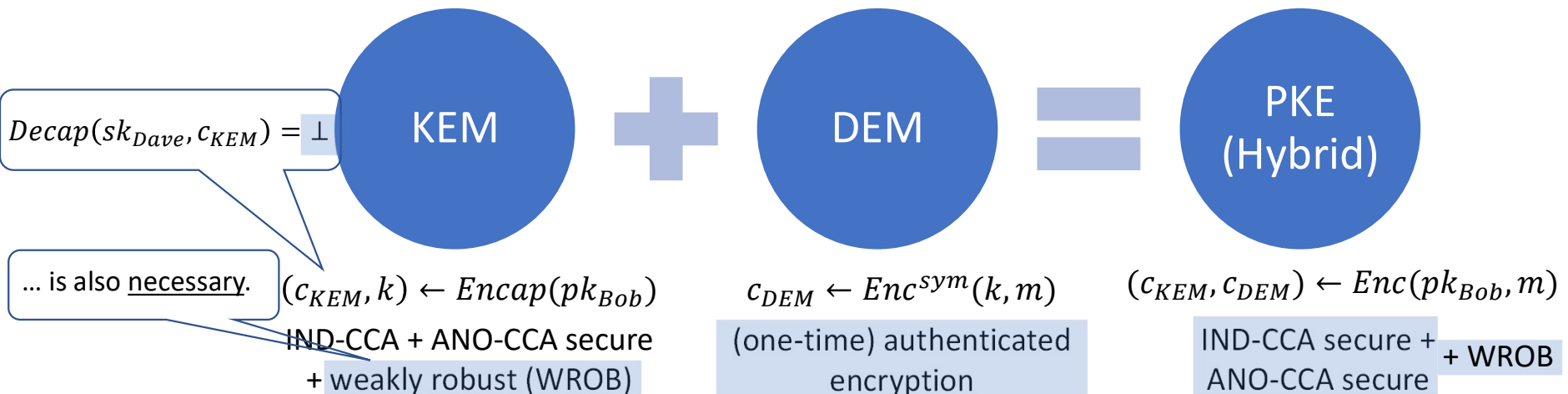
"Implicit-rejection" KEMs!

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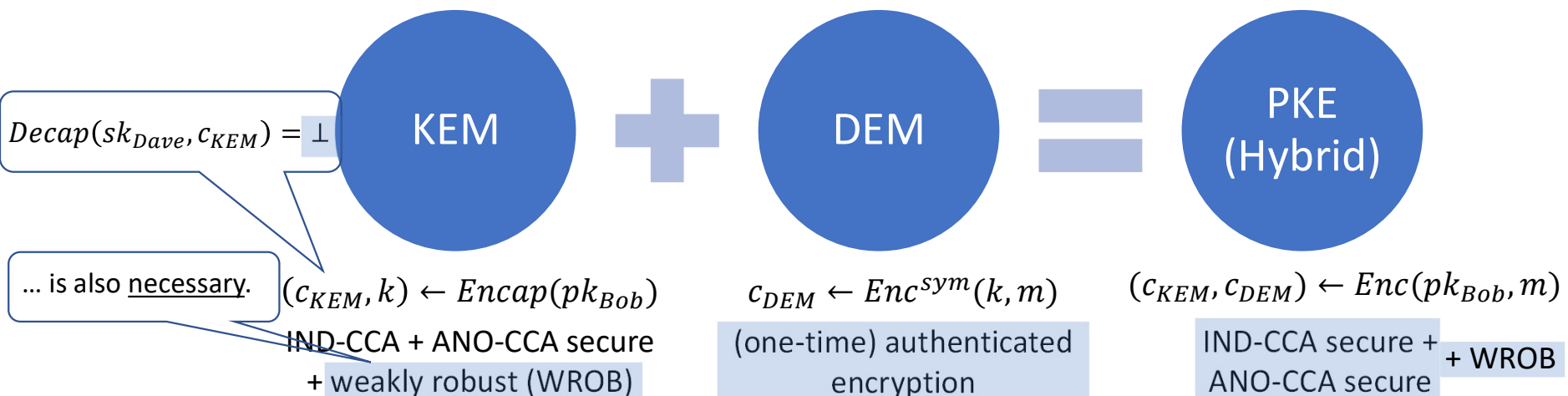
Cannot be even weakly robust.

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

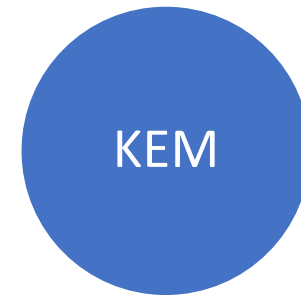
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Fujisaki-Okamoto Transformation

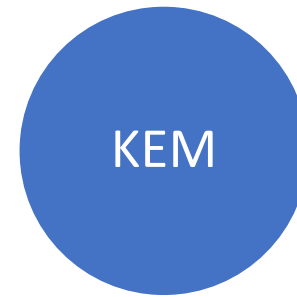


IND-CCA secure

Fujisaki-Okamoto Transformation

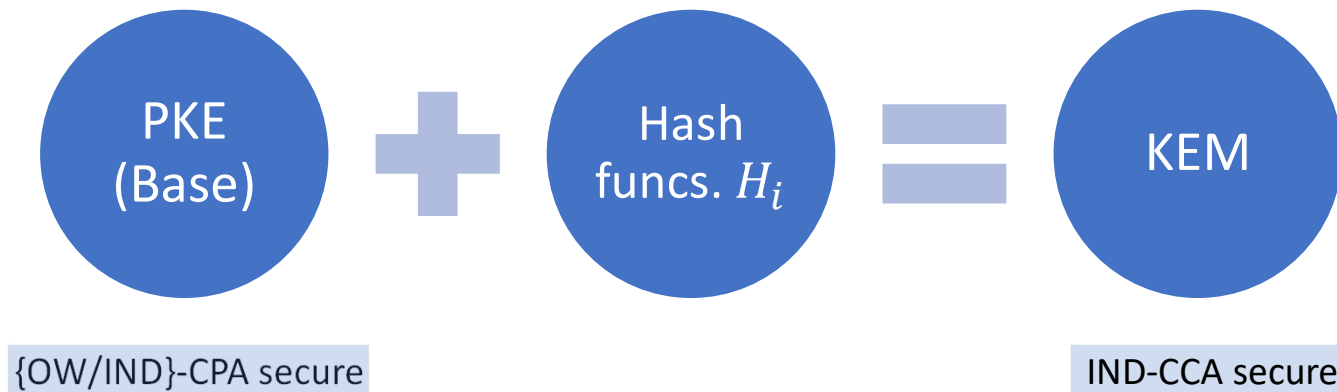


{OW/IND}-CPA secure

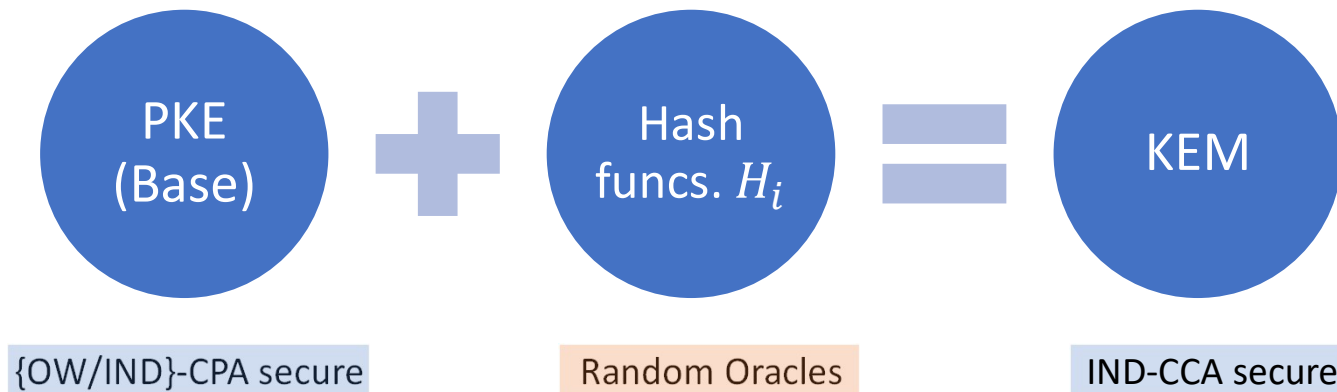


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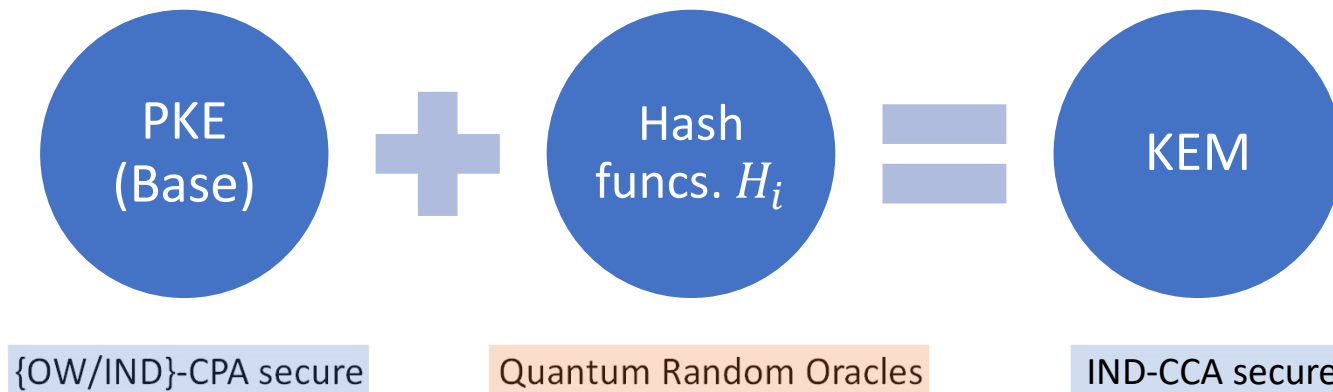
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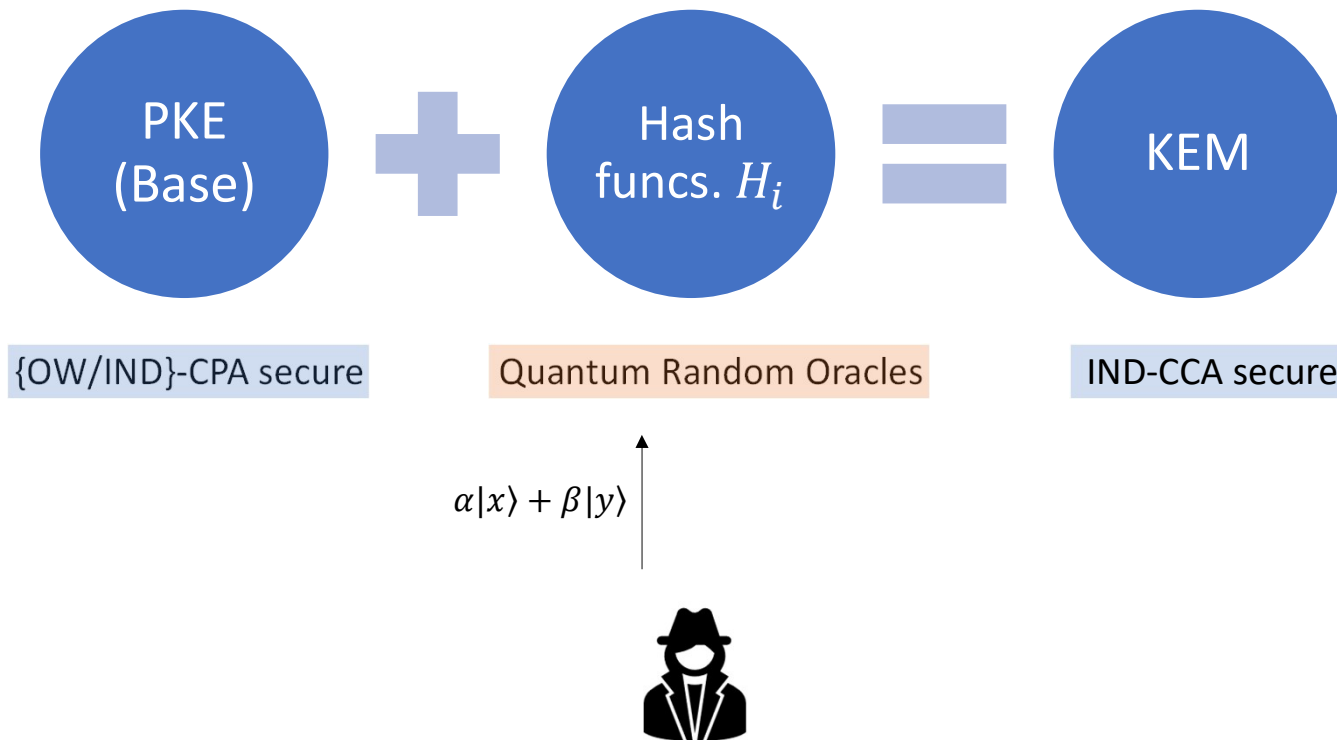
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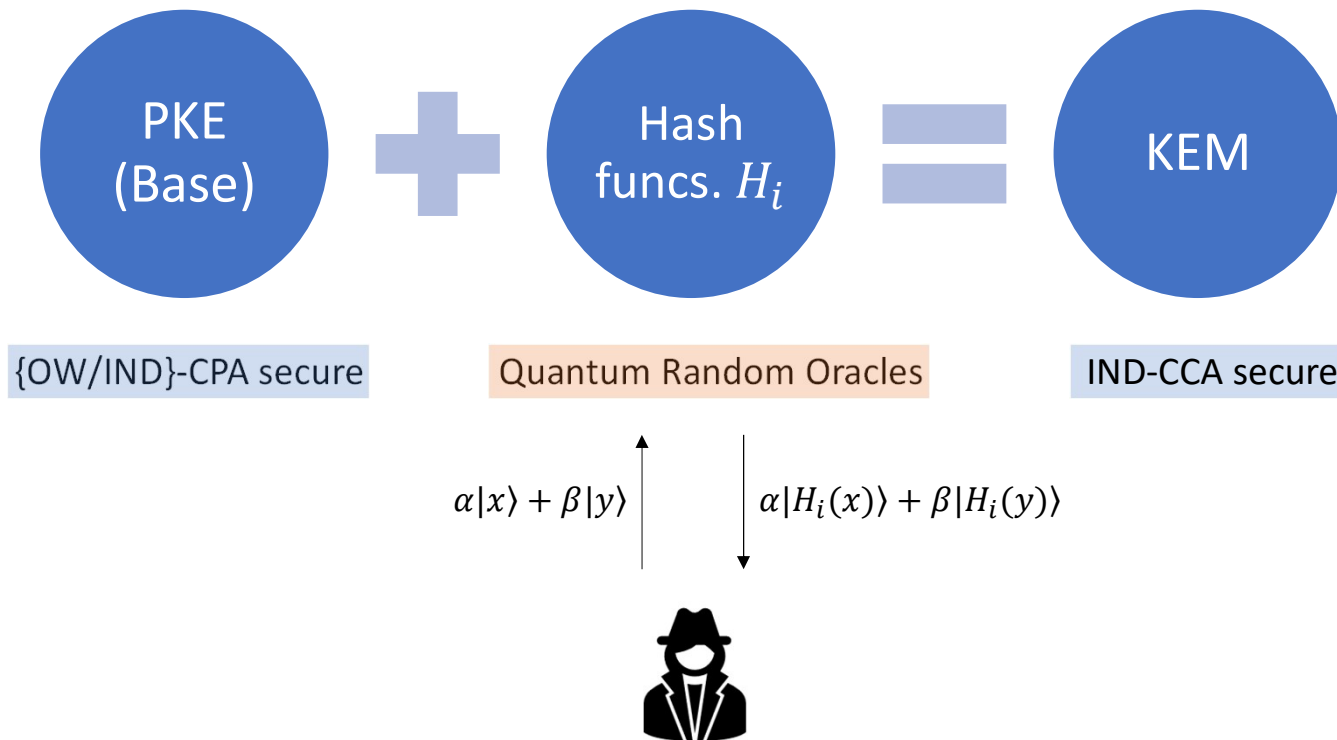
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KGen'	Encap(pk)	Decap(sk', c)
1 : (pk, sk) \leftarrow KGen	1 : $m \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	1 : Parse sk' = (sk, s)
2 : $s \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	2 : $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m; G(m))$	2 : $m' \leftarrow \text{Dec}(\text{sk}, c)$
3 : sk' = (sk, s)	3 : $k \leftarrow H(m, c)$	3 : $c' \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m'; G(m'))$
4 : return (pk, sk')	4 : return (c, k)	4 : if c' = c then
		5 : return H(m', c)
		6 : else return H(s, c)

FO⁺ [Hofheinz-Hövelmanns-Kiltz
@TCC'17]

Fujisaki-Okamoto Transformation

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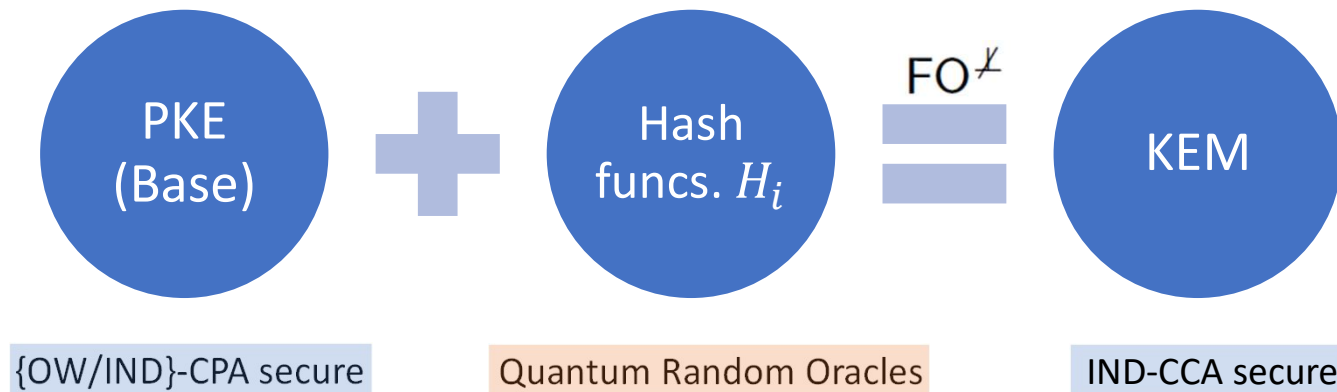
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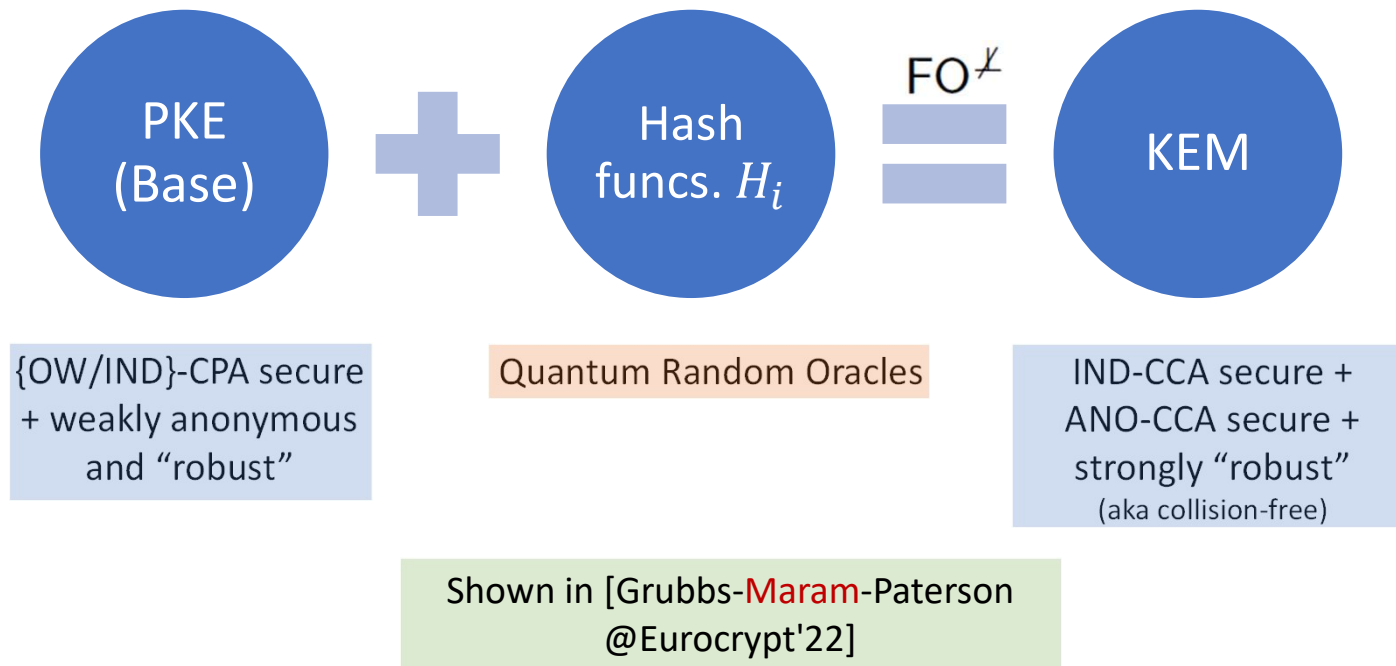
FO⁺ [Hofheinz-Hövelmanns-Kiltz
@TCC'17]

Anonymity from FO transforms

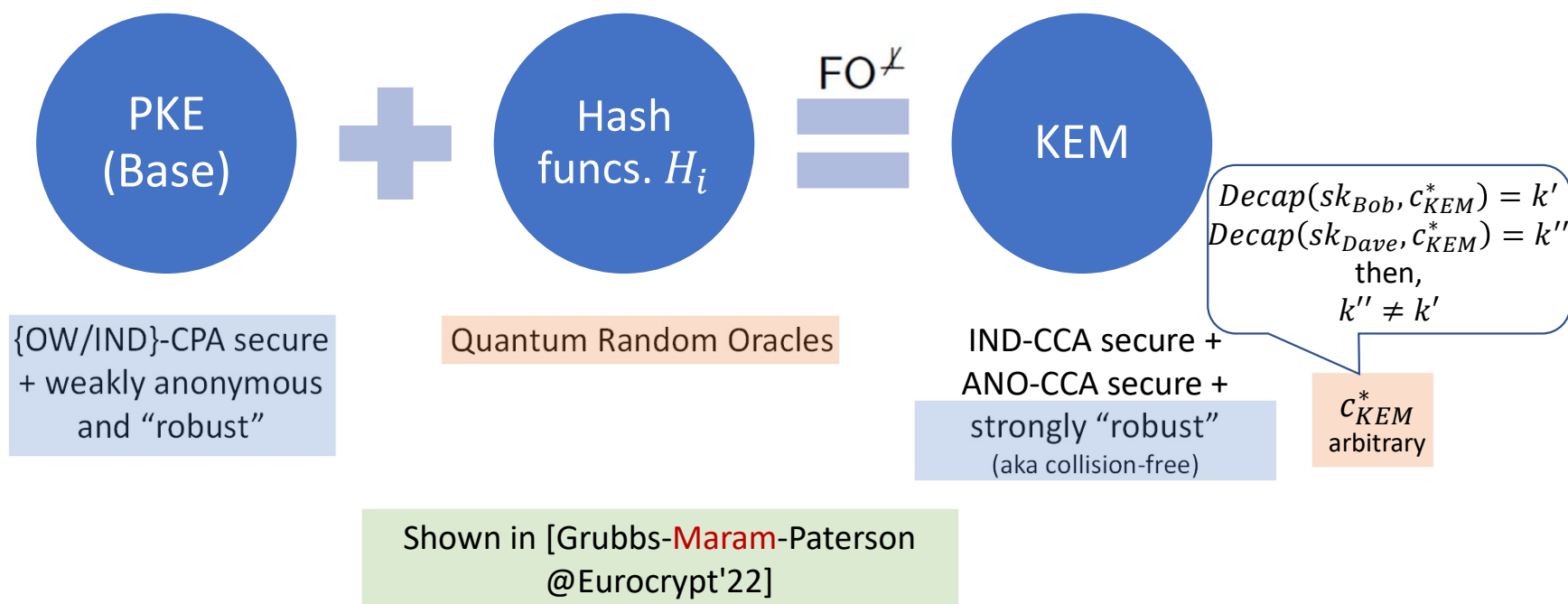


Shown in [Jiang-Zhang-Chen-Wang-Ma
@Crypto'18]

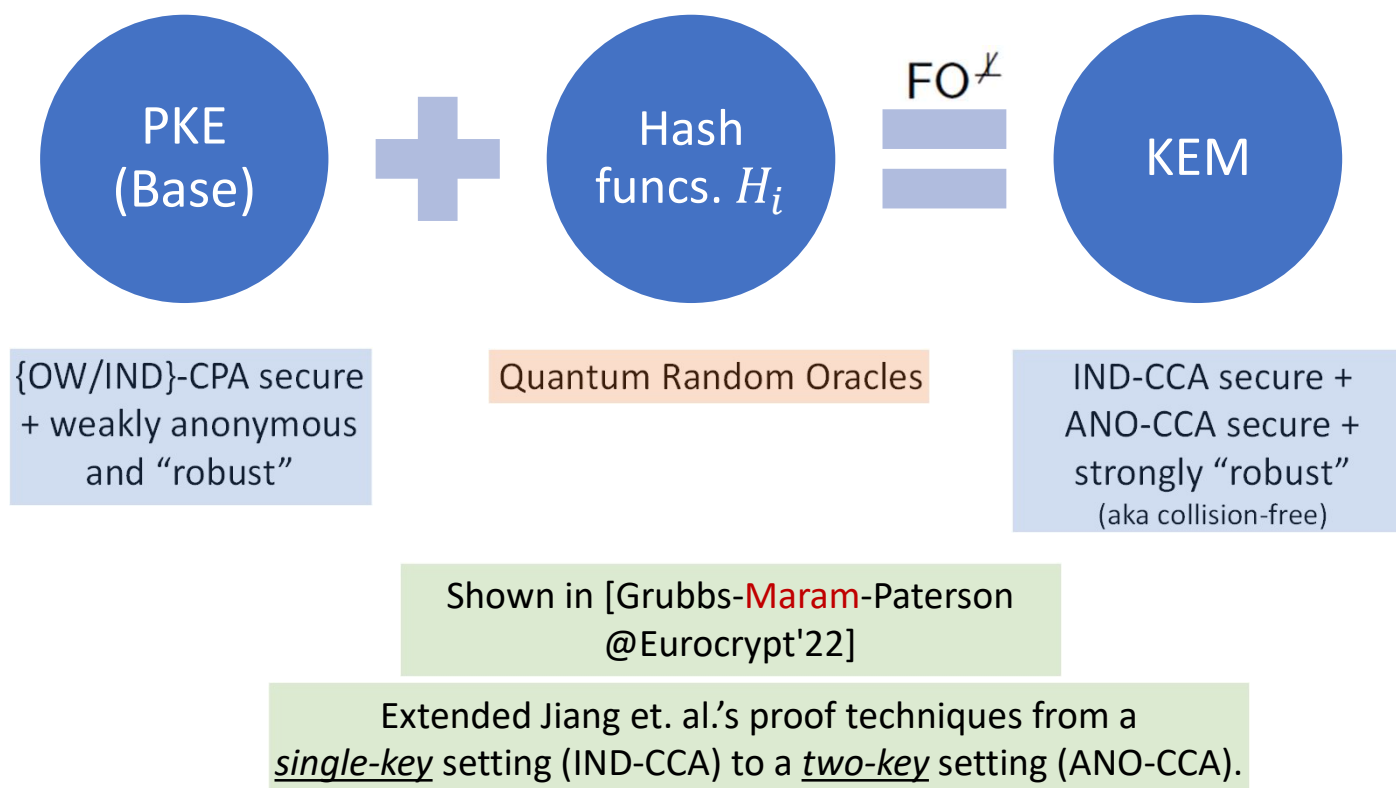
Anonymity from FO transforms



Anonymity from FO transforms



Anonymity from FO transforms



KEM-DEM Paradigm

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece
CRYSTALS-KYBER
NTRU
SABER

“Implicit-rejection” KEMs!

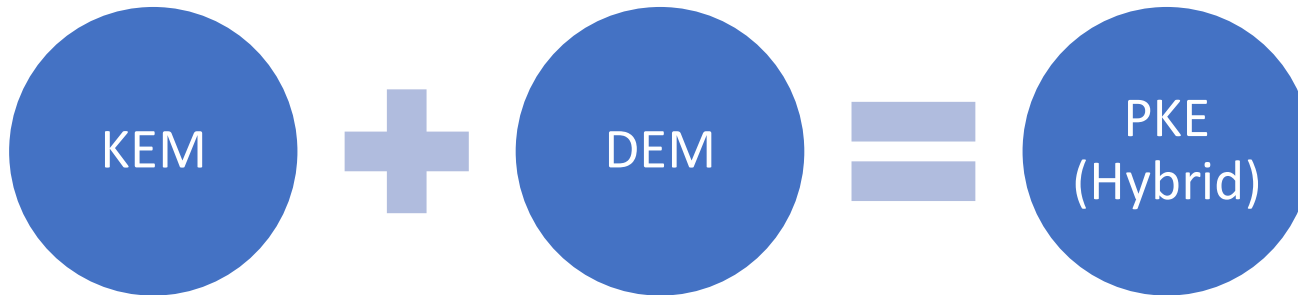
Cannot be even weakly robust.

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

BIKE
FrodoKEM
HQC
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SIKE

Shown in [Grubbs-Maram-Paterson @Eurocrypt'22];
generalization of [Mohassel@Asiacrypt'10].

$$KEM = (KGen, Encap, Decap) \quad DEM = (Enc^{sym}, Dec^{sym}) \quad PKE = (KGen, Enc, Dec)$$



... is also necessary.

$(c_{KEM}, k) \leftarrow Encap(pk_{Bob})$
IND-CCA + ANO-CCA secure
+ weakly robust

$c_{DEM} \leftarrow Enc^{sym}(k, m)$
(one-time) authenticated
encryption

$(c_{KEM}, c_{DEM}) \leftarrow Enc(pk_{Bob}, m)$
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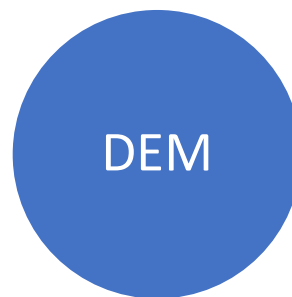
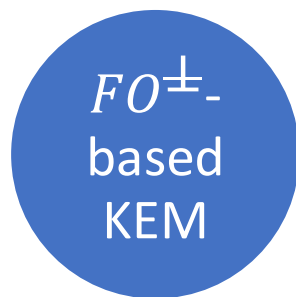
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FO^{\pm} -
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KEM



DEM



PKE
(Hybrid)

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should have large
enough entropy.

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Classic McEliece (CM)

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece

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Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

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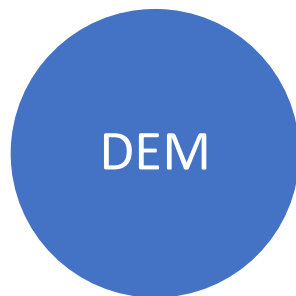
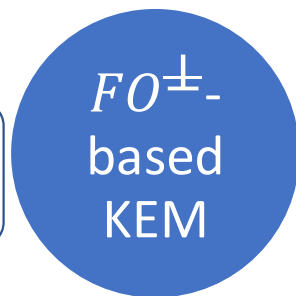
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CM uses a *deterministic* base PKE scheme.

CM
KEM



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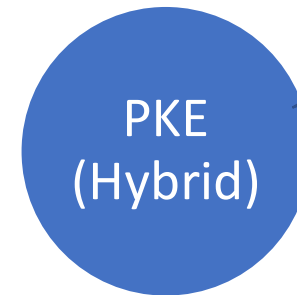
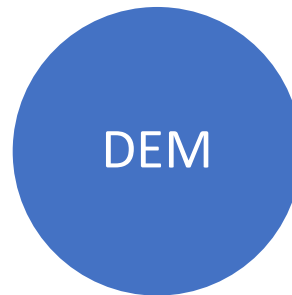
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Robustness?

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Classic McEliece (CM)

2.2.3 Encoding subroutine

The following algorithm ENCODE takes two inputs: a weight- t column vector $e \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$; and a public key T , i.e., an $(n - k) \times k$ matrix over \mathbb{F}_2 . The algorithm output $\text{ENCODE}(e, T)$ is a vector $C_0 \in \mathbb{F}_2^{n-k}$. Here is the algorithm:

1. Define $H = (I_{n-k} \mid T)$.
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Fix any “message” $e = \begin{pmatrix} e_{n-k} \\ 0^k \end{pmatrix}$:

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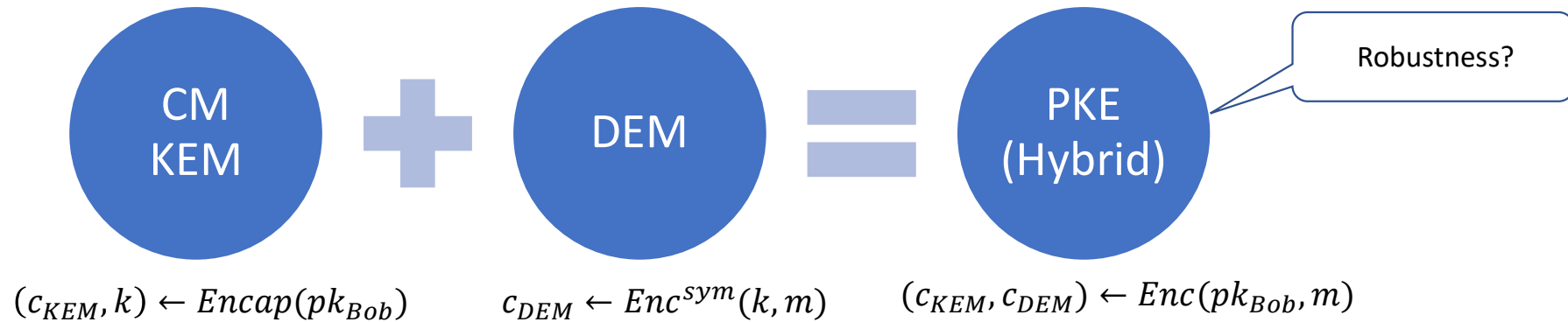
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- $C_0 = (I_{n-k} \mid T) \begin{pmatrix} e_{n-k} \\ 0^k \end{pmatrix} = e_{n-k}$ – i.e., independent of public-key T .
- Because of perfect correctness, C_0 must decrypt to fixed e under *any private key* of CM’s base PKE scheme.

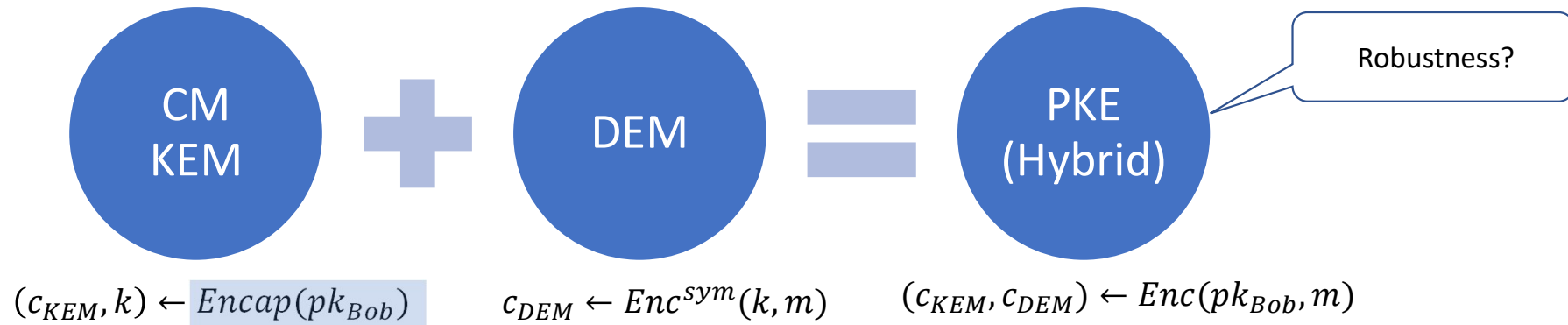
Classic McEliece (CM)

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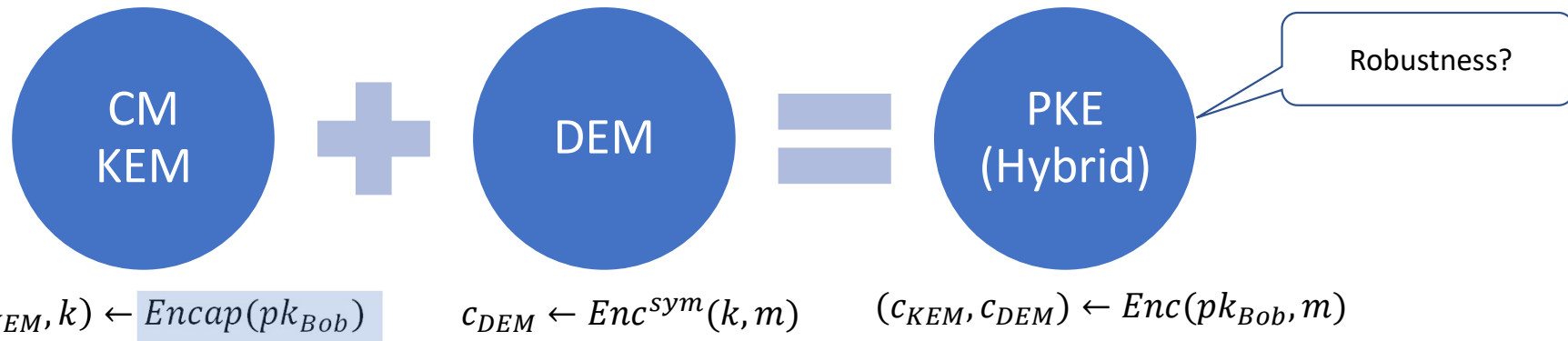
2.4.5 Encapsulation

The following randomized algorithm ENCAP takes as input a public key T . It outputs a ciphertext C and a session key K . Here is the algorithm:

1. Use FIXEDWEIGHT to generate a vector $e \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ of weight t .
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3. Compute $C_1 = H(2, e)$; see Section 2.5.2 for H input encodings. Put $C = (C_0, C_1)$.
4. Compute $K = H(1, e, C)$; see Section 2.5.2 for H input encodings.
5. Output ciphertext C and session key K .

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2.4.5 Encapsulation

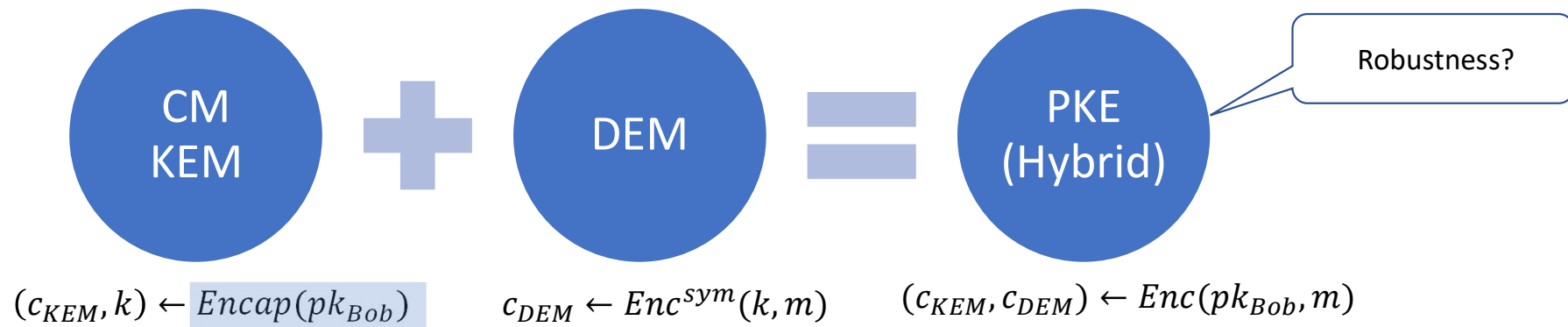
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For *any* message m :

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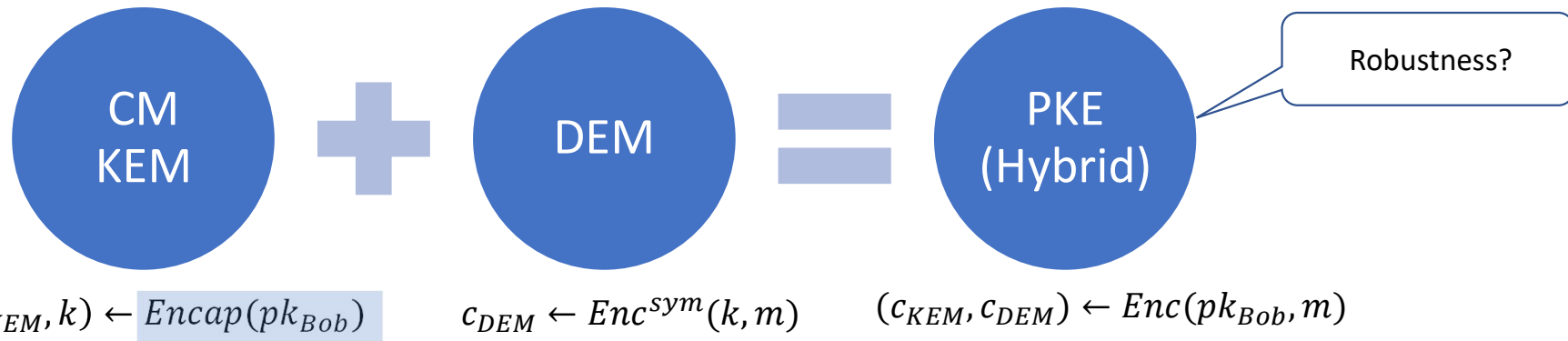
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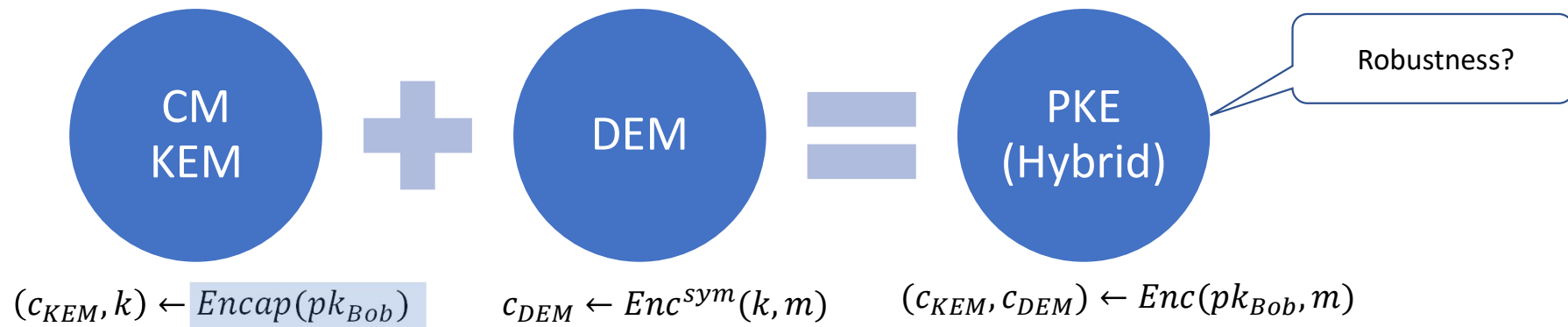
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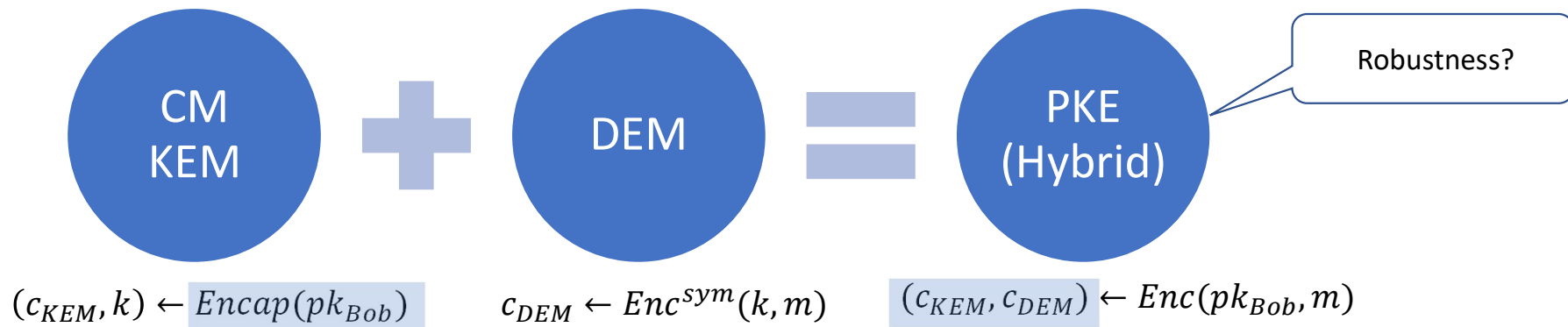
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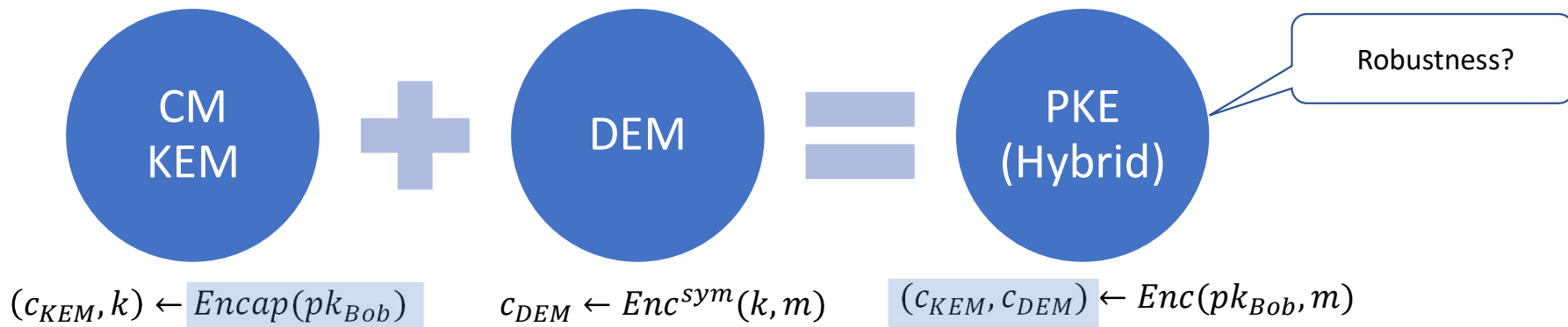
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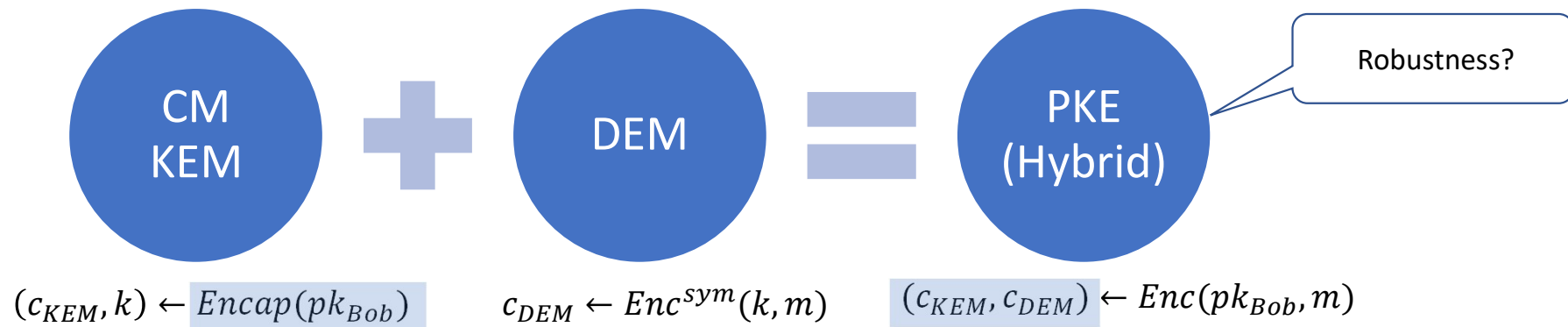
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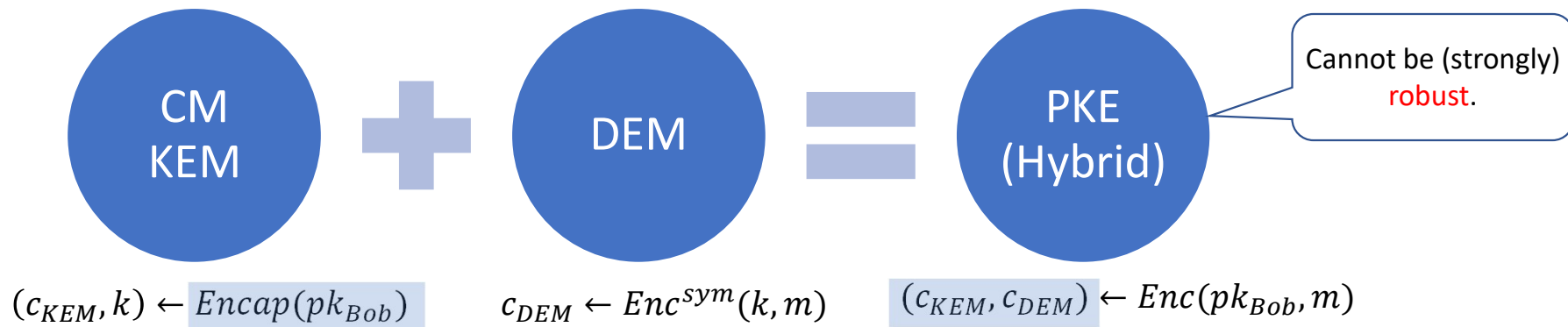
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$$Dec(sk_*, c) = m (\neq \perp).$$

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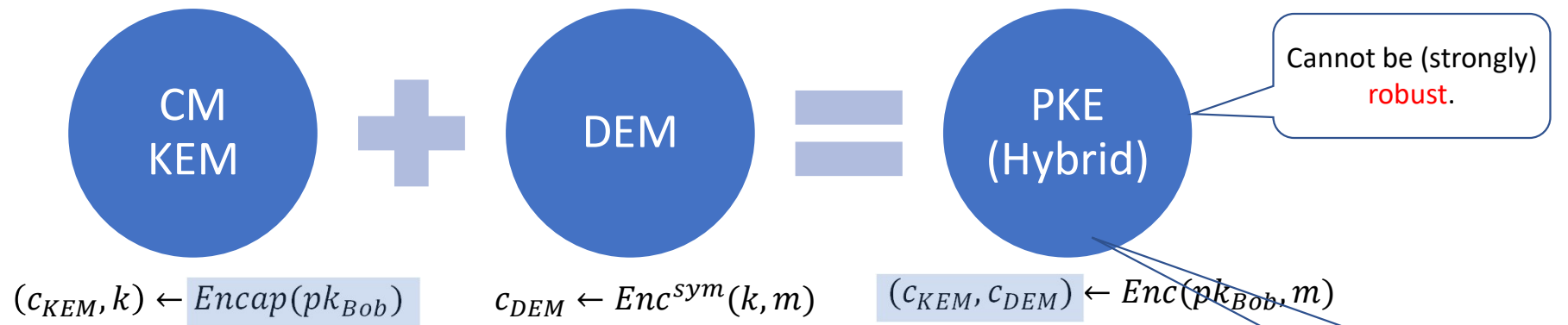
- Fix vector $e = \begin{pmatrix} e_{n-k} \\ 0^k \end{pmatrix}$.
- Set $C_0 = e_{n-k}$, $C_1 = H(2, e)$ and $c_{KEM} \leftarrow (C_0, C_1)$.
- Compute $k = H(1, e, c_{KEM})$ and $c_{DE} \leftarrow Enc^{sym}(k, m)$.
- Return $c \leftarrow (c_{KEM}, c_{DEM})$.

For **any** CM private key sk_* ,

$$Dec(sk_*, c) = m (\neq \perp).$$

Classic McEliece (CM)

$$KEM = (KGen, Encap, Decap) \quad DEM = (Enc^{sym}, Dec^{sym}) \quad PKE = (KGen, Enc, Dec)$$



2.4.5 Encapsulation

The following randomized algorithm ENCAP takes as input a public key T . It outputs a ciphertext C and a session key K . Here is the algorithm:

1. Use FIXEDWEIGHT to generate a vector $e \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ of weight t .
2. Compute $C_0 = \text{ENCODE}(e, T)$.
3. Compute $C_1 = H(2, e)$; see Section 2.5.2 for H input encodings. Put $C = (C_0, C_1)$.
4. Compute $K = H(1, e, C)$; see Section 2.5.2 for H input encodings.
5. Output ciphertext C and session key K .

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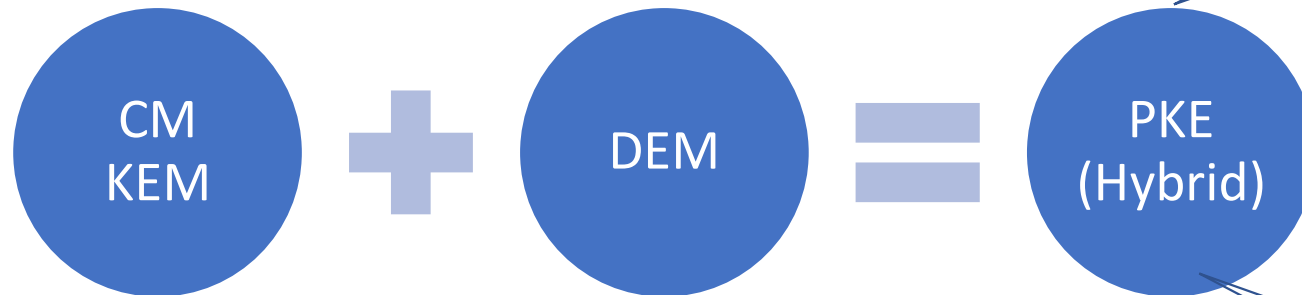
For **any** CM private key sk_* ,

$$\text{Dec}(sk_*, c) = m (\neq \perp).$$

But can be **ANO-CCA secure**.
[Xagawa@Eurocrypt'22]

Classic McEliece (CM)

$$KEM = (KGen, Encap, Decap) \quad DEM = (Enc^{sym}, Dec^{sym}) \quad PKE = (KGen, Enc, Dec)$$



$$(c_{KEM}, k) \leftarrow Encap(pk_{Bob})$$

$$c_{DEM} \leftarrow Enc^{sym}(k, m)$$

$$(c_{KEM}, c_{DEM}) \leftarrow Enc(pk_{Bob}, m)$$

Xagawa relied on a stronger single-key notion, i.e., **strong pseudo-randomness**.

Cannot be (strongly) **robust**.

But can be **ANO-CCA secure**.
[Xagawa@Eurocrypt'22]

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CRYSTALS-KYBER and SABER

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece

CRYSTALS-KYBER

NTRU

SABER

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

BIKE

FrodoKEM

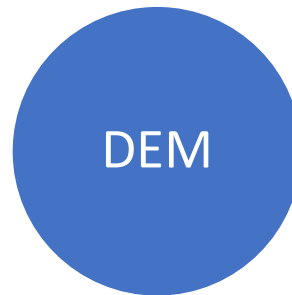
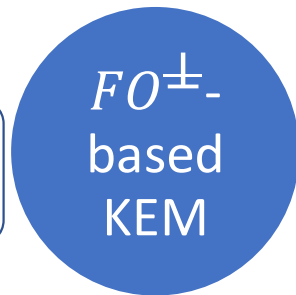
HQC

NTRU Prime

SIKE

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should have large
enough entropy.



$(c_{KEM}, k) \leftarrow Encap(pk_{Bob})$
IND-CCA + ANO-CCA secure
+ γ -spread base PKE

$c_{DEM} \leftarrow Enc^{sym}(k, m)$
(one-time) authenticated
encryption

$(c_{KEM}, c_{DEM}) \leftarrow Enc(pk_{Bob}, m)$
IND-CCA secure +
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Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece

CRYSTALS-KYBER

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Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

BIKE

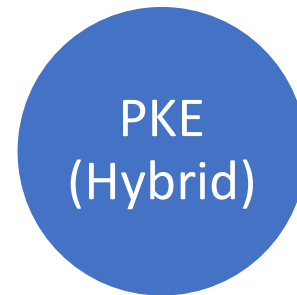
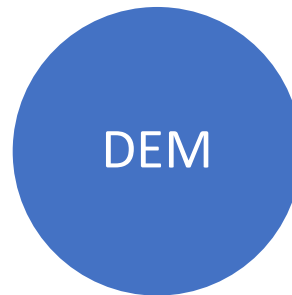
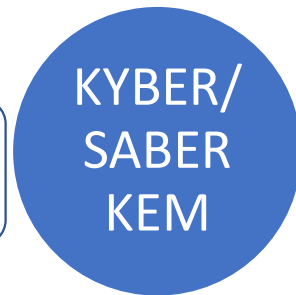
FrodoKEM

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Classic McEliece

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Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

BIKE

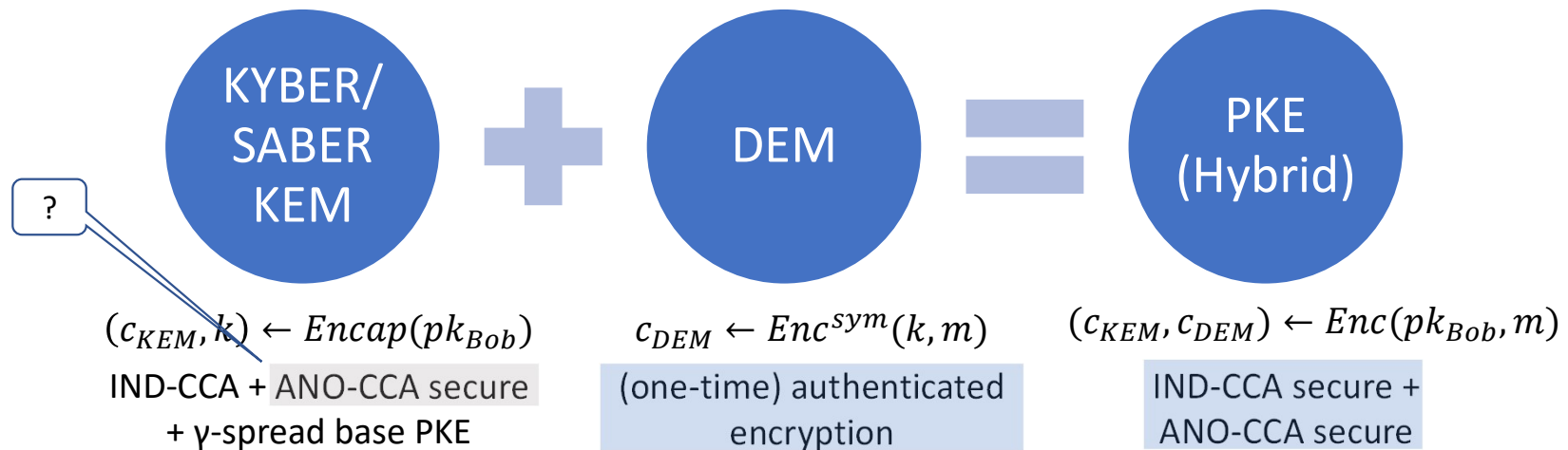
FrodoKEM

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NTRU Prime

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Classic McEliece

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Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

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SIKE

KGen'	Encap(pk)	Decap(sk', c)
1 : (pk, sk) \leftarrow KGen	1 : $m \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	1 : Parse $sk' = (sk, s)$
2 : $s \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	2 : $r \leftarrow G(m)$	2 : $m' \leftarrow \text{Dec}(sk, c)$
3 : $sk' = (sk, s)$	3 : $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(pk, m; r)$	3 : $r' \leftarrow G(m')$
4 : return (pk, sk')	4 : $k \leftarrow H(m, c)$	4 : $c' \leftarrow \text{Enc}(pk, m'; r')$
	5 : return (c, k)	5 : if $c' = c$ then
		6 : return $H(m', c)$
		7 : else return $H(s, c)$

FO^ℳ

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Classic McEliece

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	5: return (c, k)	5: if c' = c then
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FO^ℳ

KGen'	Encap(pk)	Decap(sk', c)
1: (pk, sk) \leftarrow KGen	1: $m \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	1: Parse sk' = (sk, pk, F(pk), s)
2: $s \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	2: $m \leftarrow F(m)$	2: $m' \leftarrow \text{Dec}(\text{sk}, c)$
3: sk' \leftarrow (sk, pk, F(pk), s)	3: $(\hat{k}, r) \leftarrow G(F(\text{pk}), m)$	3: $(\hat{k}', r') \leftarrow G(F(\text{pk}), m')$
4: return (pk, sk')	4: $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m; r)$	4: $c' \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m'; r')$
	5: $k \leftarrow \text{KDF}(\hat{k}, F(c))$	5: if c' = c then
	6: return (c, k)	6: return KDF(\hat{k}' , F(c))
		7: else return KDF(s, F(c))

CRYSTALS-KYBER, Saber

CRYSTALS-KYBER and SABER

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece

CRYSTALS-KYBER

NTRU

SABER

" $k \leftarrow H(m, c)$ "

KGen'	Encap(pk)	Decap(sk', c)
1: (pk, sk) \leftarrow KGen	1: $m \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	1: Parse sk' = (sk, s)
2: $s \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	2: $r \leftarrow G(m)$	2: $m' \leftarrow \text{Dec}(\text{sk}, c)$
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FO^ℳ

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

BIKE

FrodoKEM

HQC

NTRU Prime

SIKE

" $k \leftarrow H(G(m), F(c))$ "

KGen'	Encap(pk)	Decap(sk', c)
1: (pk, sk) \leftarrow KGen	1: $m \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	1: Parse sk' = (sk, pk, F(pk), s)
2: $s \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	2: $m \leftarrow F(m)$	2: $m' \leftarrow \text{Dec}(\text{sk}, c)$
3: sk' \leftarrow (sk, pk, F(pk), s)	3: $(\hat{k}, r) \leftarrow G(F(pk), m)$	3: $(\hat{k}', r') \leftarrow G(F(pk), m')$
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CRYSTALS-KYBER, Saber

CRYSTALS-KYBER and SABER

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece

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SIKE

$$KEM = (KGen, Encap, Decap) \quad DEM = (Enc^{sym}, Dec^{sym}) \quad PKE = (KGen, Enc, Dec)$$

Faced **barriers** towards proving anonymity.

KYBER/
SABER
KEM



DEM



PKE
(Hybrid)

$$(c_{KEM}, k) \leftarrow Encap(pk_{Bob})$$

IND-CCA + ANO-CCA secure
+ γ -spread base PKE

$$c_{DEM} \leftarrow Enc^{sym}(k, m)$$

(one-time) authenticated
encryption

$$(c_{KEM}, c_{DEM}) \leftarrow Enc(pk_{Bob}, m)$$

IND-CCA secure +
ANO-CCA secure

CRYSTALS-KYBER and SABER

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece

CRYSTALS-KYBER

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KYBER/
SABER
KEM



DEM



PKE
(Hybrid)

Security analysis of FO^x
(e.g., by Jiang et. al.)
should not directly apply!

$$(c_{KEM}, k) \leftarrow Encap(pk_{Bob})$$

IND-CCA + ANO-CCA secure
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IND-CCA secure +
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CRYSTALS-KYBER and SABER

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece

CRYSTALS-KYBER

NTRU

SABER

Is strongly “robust”.

[Grubbs-Maram-Paterson
@Eurocrypt’22]

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

BIKE

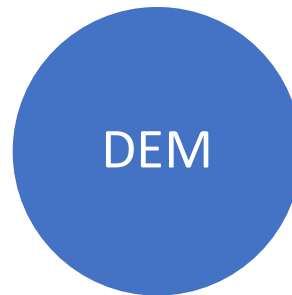
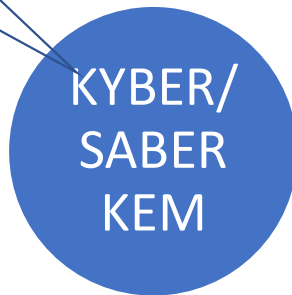
FrodoKEM

HQC

NTRU Prime

SIKE

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IND-CCA secure +
ANO-CCA secure

CRYSTALS-KYBER and SABER

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece

CRYSTALS-KYBER

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SABER

Is **strongly** “robust”.

[Grubbs-Maram-Paterson
@Eurocrypt’22]

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

BIKE

FrodoKEM

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SIKE

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KYBER/
SABER
KEM



DEM



PKE
(Hybrid)

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encryption

$$(c_{KEM}, c_{DEM}) \leftarrow Enc(pk_{Bob}, m)$$

IND-CCA secure +
ANO-CCA secure

$$Decap(sk_{Bob}, c) \neq Decap(sk_{Dave}, c)$$

CRYSTALS-KYBER and SABER

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece

CRYSTALS-KYBER

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SABER

Is **strongly "robust"**.

[Grubbs-Maram-Paterson
@Eurocrypt'22]

$KEM = (KGen, Encap, Decap)$

KYBER/
SABER
KEM

$Decap(sk_{Bob}, c)$
 $\neq Decap(sk_{Dave}, c)$

$(c_{KEM}, k) \leftarrow Encap(pk_{Bob})$
IND-CCA + ANO-CCA secure
+ γ -spread base PKE



$DEM = (Enc^{sym}, Dec^{sym})$

DEM

$c_{DEM} \leftarrow Enc^{sym}(k, m)$
(one-time) authenticated
encryption

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

BIKE

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NTRU Prime

SIKE

$PKE = (KGen, Enc, Dec)$

PKE
(Hybrid)

$(c_{KEM}, c_{DEM}) \leftarrow Enc(pk_{Bob}, m)$
IND-CCA secure +
ANO-CCA secure

Can be made
strongly robust.

FrodoKEM

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

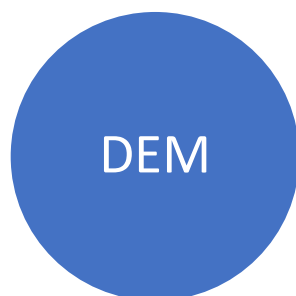
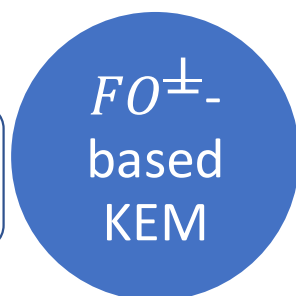
Classic McEliece
CRYSTALS-KYBER
NTRU
SABER

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

BIKE
FrodoKEM
HQC
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FrodoKEM

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

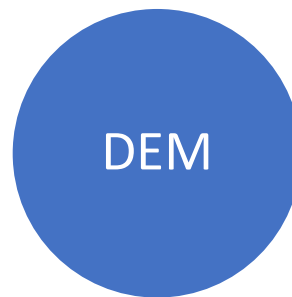
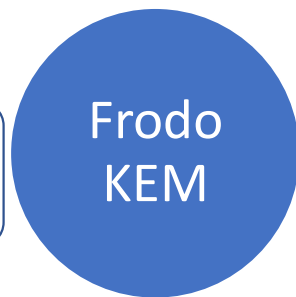
Classic McEliece
CRYSTALS-KYBER
NTRU
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Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

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HQC
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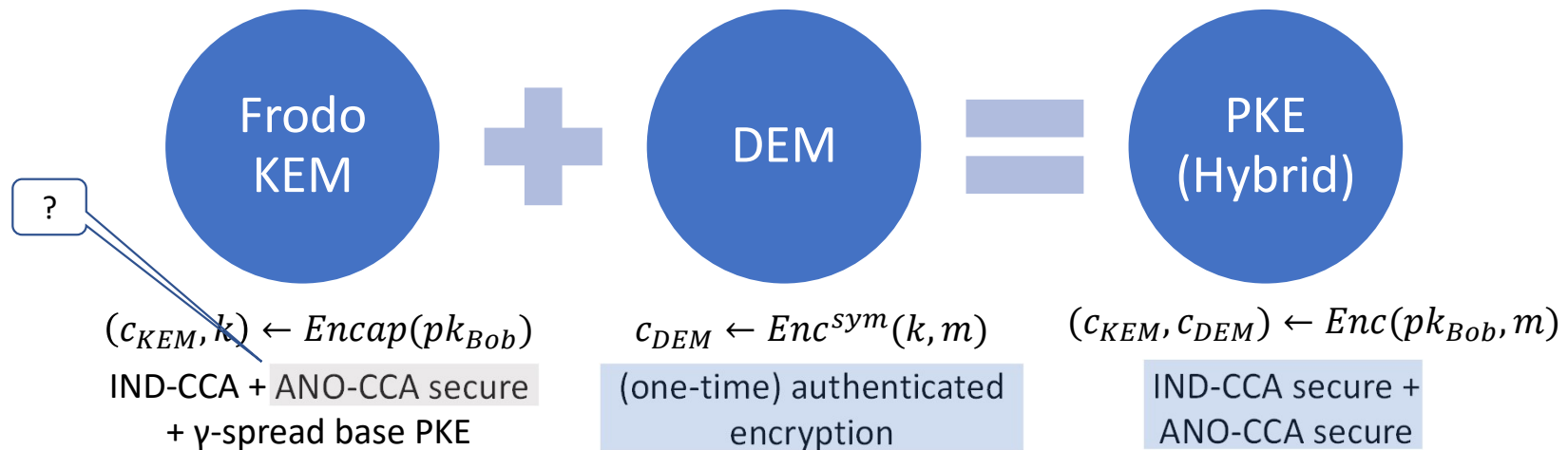
Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece
CRYSTALS-KYBER
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Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

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FrodoKEM

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

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NTRU Prime

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KGen'	Encap(pk)	Decap(sk', c)
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3: sk' = (sk, s)	3: $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m; r)$	3: $r' \leftarrow G(m')$
4: return (pk, sk')	4: $k \leftarrow H(m, c)$	4: $c' \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m'; r')$
	5: return (c, k)	5: if $c' = c$ then
		6: return $H(m', c)$
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FO^ℳ

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2: $s \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	2: $(\hat{k}, r) \leftarrow G(F(pk), m)$	2: $m' \leftarrow \text{Dec}(\text{sk}, c)$
3: sk' \leftarrow (sk, pk, F(pk), s)	3: $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m; r)$	3: $(\hat{k}', r') \leftarrow G(F(pk), m')$
4: return (pk, sk')	4: $k \leftarrow H(\hat{k}, c)$	4: $c' \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m'; r')$
	5: return (c, k)	5: if $c' = c$ then
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		7: else return $H(s, c)$

FrodoKEM

FrodoKEM

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece

CRYSTALS-KYBER

NTRU

SABER

$"k \leftarrow H(m, c)"$

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Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

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	5: return (c, k)	5: if c' = c then
		6: return H(\hat{k}' , c)
		7: else return H(s, c)

FrodoKEM

FrodoKEM

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece

CRYSTALS-KYBER

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SABER

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2: $s \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	2: $r \leftarrow G(m)$	2: $m' \leftarrow \text{Dec}(\text{sk}, c)$
3: sk' = (sk, s)	3: $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m; r)$	3: $r' \leftarrow G(m')$
4: return (pk, sk')	4: $k \leftarrow H(m, c)$	4: $c' \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m'; r')$
	5: return (c, k)	5: if $c' = c$ then
		6: return $H(m', c)$
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FO^ℳ

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

BIKE

FrodoKEM

HQC

NTRU Prime

SIKE

" $k \leftarrow H(G(m), c)$ "

KGen'	Encap(pk)	Decap(sk', c)
1: (pk, sk) \leftarrow KGen	1: $m \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	1: Parse sk' = (sk, pk, F(pk), s)
2: $s \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{M}$	2: $(\hat{k}, r) \leftarrow G(F(\text{pk}), m)$	2: $m' \leftarrow \text{Dec}(\text{sk}, c)$
3: sk' \leftarrow (sk, pk, F(pk), s)	3: $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m; r)$	3: $(\hat{k}', r') \leftarrow G(F(\text{pk}), m')$
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FrodoKEM

Only nested hashing of m and not c .

FrodoKEM

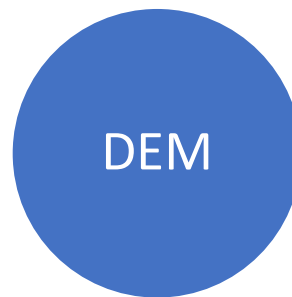
Public-Key Encryption/KEMs

Classic McEliece
CRYSTALS-KYBER
NTRU
SABER

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$$KEM = (KGen, Encap, Decap) \quad DEM = (Enc^{sym}, Dec^{sym}) \quad PKE = (KGen, Enc, Dec)$$



$$(c_{KEM}, k) \leftarrow Encap(pk_{Bob})$$

IND-CCA + ANO-CCA secure
+ γ -spread base PKE

$$c_{DEM} \leftarrow Enc^{sym}(k, m)$$

(one-time) authenticated
encryption

$$(c_{KEM}, c_{DEM}) \leftarrow Enc(pk_{Bob}, m)$$

IND-CCA secure +
ANO-CCA secure

Security analysis of FO^x
(e.g., by Jiang et. al.)
should not directly apply!

FrodoKEM

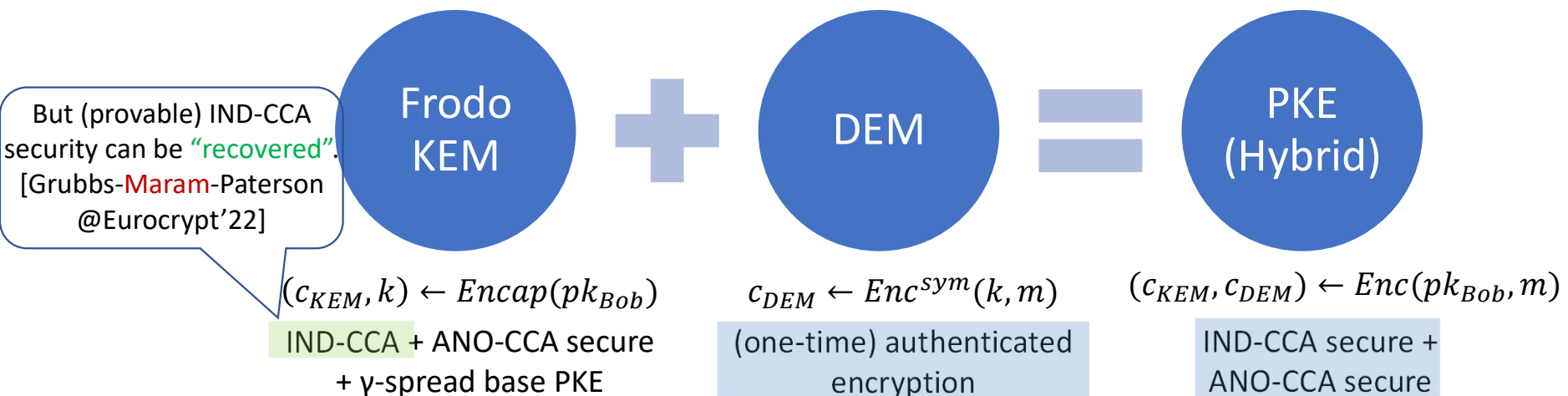
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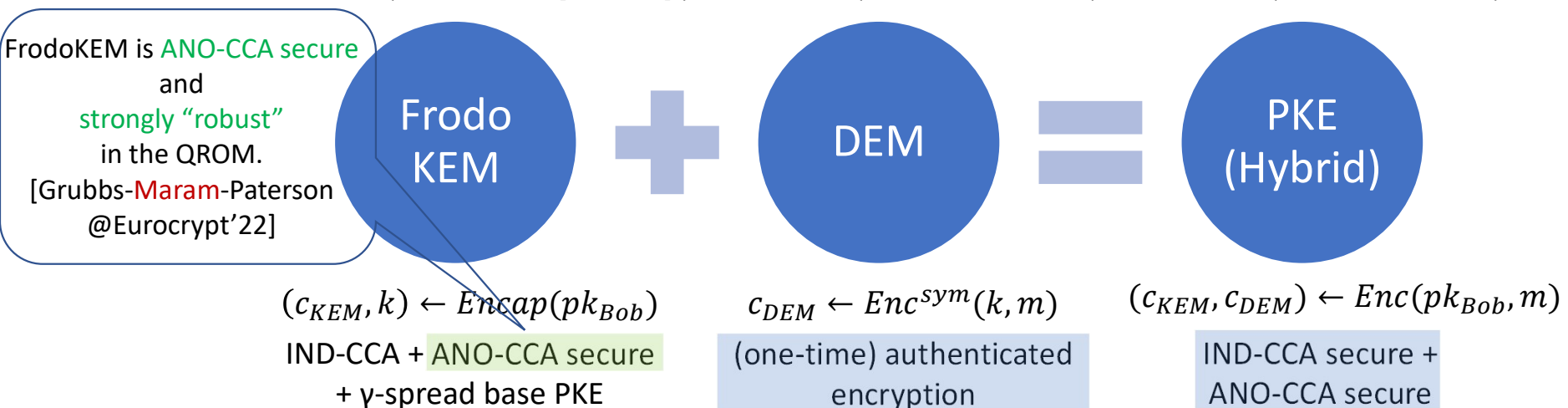
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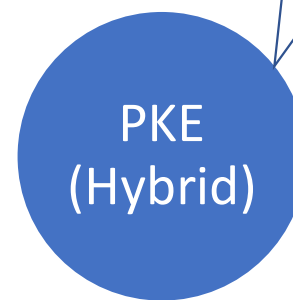
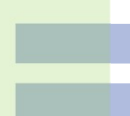
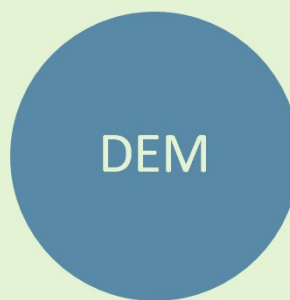
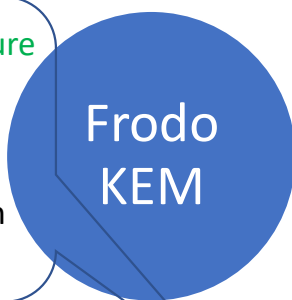
BIKE
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$KEM = (KGen, Encap, Decap)$

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FrodoKEM is ANO-CCA secure and strongly "robust" in the QROM.
[Grubbs-Maram-Paterson @Eurocrypt'22]



FrodoKEM does result in anonymous and robust PKE in a PQ setting.

$(c_{KEM}, k) \leftarrow Encap(pk_{Bob})$
IND-CCA + ANO-CCA secure
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$c_{DEM} \leftarrow Enc^{sym}(k, m)$
(one-time) authenticated encryption

$(c_{KEM}, c_{DEM}) \leftarrow Enc(pk_{Bob}, m)$
IND-CCA secure + ANO-CCA secure

FrodoKEM



BSI – Technical Guideline

Designation:	Cryptographic Mechanisms: Recommendations and Key Lengths
Abbreviation:	BSI TR-02102-1
Version:	2023-01
As of:	January 9, 2023

Technical Guideline – Cryptographic Algorithms and Key Lengths

mceliece6688128f and mceliece8192128f [3, Section 7] are assessed to be cryptographically suitable to protect confidential information on a long-term basis at the security level aimed at in this Technical Guideline. This is a very conservative assessment that includes a significant margin of security with respect to future cryptanalytic advances. It is possible that in future revisions of this guideline other parameter choices and PQC mechanisms may also be deemed technically suitable.

FrodoKEM will not be standardised as part of NIST's PQC project. This is mainly due to considerations of the efficiency of the mechanism, there are currently no doubts about its security [2]. Classic McEliece was included in the fourth round of the NIST project and could possibly be standardised at the end of the project. The BSI therefore maintains the recommendation of FrodoKEM and Classic McEliece as PQC mechanisms with a high security margin against future attacks. More details can be found in the BSI-guide "Quantum-safe cryptography" [37].

FrodoKEM



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HFO[⊥]

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HFO $^\perp$ HFO $^{\perp'}$

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HFO $^{\perp}$ HFO $^{\perp'}$

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[Jiang-Zhang-Ma@PKC'19]

Results in IND-CCA, ANO-CCA and SROB
secure KEMs in the QROM.
[Grubbs-Maram-Paterson
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- We identified **barriers** towards proving IND-CCA and ANO-CCA security of CRYSTALS-KYBER and SABER in the QROM.
 - At the same time, we showed they do result in **strongly robust** hybrid PKE schemes.
- Finally, we showed that FrodoKEM does result in **ANO-CCA secure** and **strongly robust** hybrid PKE schemes in the QROM.

Recent Developments

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NIST Announces First Four Quantum-Resistant Cryptographic Algorithms

Federal agency reveals the first group of winners from its six-year competition.

July 05, 2022

For general encryption, used when we access secure websites, NIST has selected the [CRYSTALS-Kyber](#) algorithm. Among its advantages are comparatively small encryption keys that two parties can exchange easily, as well as its speed of operation.

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Name	KEM					Hybrid PKE		
	IND	SPR	ANO	CF	ROB	ANO	ROB	
Classic McEliece [ABC ⁺ 20]	Y	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	N	N	<u>Y</u>	N	Section K
Kyber [SAB ⁺ 20]	?	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	N	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	Section L
NTRU [CDH ⁺ 20]	Y	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	N	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>	Section 5
Saber [DKR ⁺ 20]	?	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	N	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	Section M

[Xagawa@Eurocrypt'22]

Recent Developments

Discussion about Kyber's tweaked FO transform 148 views



Peter Schwabe

to pqc-forum

Dear all,

At the fourth NIST PQC Standardization Workshop we sketched a few possible changes to Kyber that could be considered in the standardization phase; we followed up on those in two e-mails with subjects "Kyber decisions, part 1: symmetric crypto" and "Kyber decisions, part 2: FO transform". The points we brought up for discussion in the first e-mail received quite some feedback and eventually NIST decided to not integrate any of the changes. The second mail received way fewer replies, but Markku asked us for a more concrete description of the proposed change. Apologies that this request remained unanswered for so long! In this mail we would like to follow up and make the suggested change more concrete.

Currently, Kyber's tweaked FO transform looks as follows:

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Encaps(pk):
(K,r) <- G(m,H(pk))
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Decaps(SK=(sk,pk,z),c):
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Note that this is the standard FO transform with implicit rejection, except that the hash of the public key is fed as an additional argument into G to derive (K, r). As a reminder, this provides some protection against multi-target decryption-failure attacks and makes Kyber "contributory", i.e., ensures that the shared key depends on high-entropy input from both parties.

The advantages of this change would be the following:

* Encaps avoids hashing over the ciphertext. In our AVX2 optimized implementation this translates to a speedup of ~17%. Note that the speedup on most other platforms and for masked implementations is going to be smaller than that.

* More importantly, this change simplifies proofs and leads to better bounds without requiring a new failure-bound analysis. More specifically, the only direct proofs of the FO originally used by Kyber that we could come up with produces a bound with an additive $C(q + q_{\text{dec}} + 1)^{3/2} \{256\}$ term where C is some constant, q is the number of the adversary queries to the random oracle, and q_{dec} is the number of the adversaries decryption queries. This is caused by having to deal with collisions in H (when computing H(c)). Alternative proofs via explicit rejection either lead to a worse bound or require to analyze the failure bound in the extractable QROM, which has not been done so far.

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Essentially the same as $\text{FO}_{\frac{K}{m}}$
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```

```
Decaps(SK=(sk,pk,z),c):
m' <- Decrypt(sk,c)
(K,r) <- G(m',H(pk))
c' <- Encrypt(m',pk,r)
(K',-) <- G(z,c)
if(c' != c)
  K <- K'
return K
```

Note that this is the standard FO transform with implicit rejection, except that the hash of the public key is fed as an additional argument into G to derive (K, r). As a reminder, this provides some protection against multi-target decryption-failure attacks and makes Kyber "contributory", i.e., ensures that the shared key depends on high-entropy input from both parties.

The advantages of this change would be the following:

* Encaps avoids hashing over the ciphertext. In our AVX2 optimized implementation this translates to a speedup of ~17%. Note that the speedup on most other platforms and for masked implementations is going to be smaller than that.

* More importantly, this change simplifies proofs and leads to better bounds without requiring a new failure-bound analysis. More specifically, the only direct proofs of the FO originally used by Kyber that we could come up with produces a bound with an additive $C(q + q_{\text{dec}} + 1)^{3/2} \{256\}$ term where C is some constant, q is the number of the adversary queries to the random oracle, and q_{dec} is the number of the adversaries decryption queries. This is caused by having to deal with collisions in H (when computing H(c)). Alternative proofs via explicit rejection either lead to a worse bound or require to analyze the failure bound in the extractable QROM, which has not been done so far.

Recent Developments

Post-Quantum Anonymity of Kyber

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- Provided **concrete proof of IND-CCA security** for Kyber (with tweaked FO) in the QROM.

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{Kyber}}^{\text{IND-C}} \leq \text{Adv}_{\text{FO}_m^\perp}^{\text{IND-CCA}} + \text{Adv}_F^{\text{CR}}$$

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KGen'	Encap(pk)	Decap(sk', c)
1: (pk, sk) \leftarrow KGen	1: $m \leftarrow_s \mathcal{M}$	1: Parse sk' = (sk, s)
2: $s \leftarrow_s \mathcal{M}$	2: $r \leftarrow G(m)$	2: $m' \leftarrow \text{Dec}(\text{sk}, c)$
3: $\text{sk}' = (\text{sk}, s)$	3: $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m; r)$	3: $r' \leftarrow G(m')$
4: return (pk, sk')	4: $k \leftarrow H(m, c)$	4: $c' \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m'; r')$
	5: return (c, k)	5: if $c' = c$ then
		6: return $H(m', c)$
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2: $s \leftarrow_s \mathcal{M}$	2: $m \leftarrow F(m)$	2: $m' \leftarrow \text{Dec}(\text{sk}, c)$
3: $\text{sk}' \leftarrow (\text{sk}, \text{pk}, F(\text{pk}), s)$	3: $(\hat{k}, r) \leftarrow G(F(\text{pk}), m)$	3: $(\hat{k}', r') \leftarrow G(F(\text{pk}), m')$
4: return (pk, sk')	4: $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m; r)$	4: $c' \leftarrow \text{Enc}(\text{pk}, m'; r')$
	5: $k \leftarrow \text{KDF}(\hat{k}, F(c))$	5: if $c' = c$ then
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CRYSTALS-KYBER

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Collision-resistance
of nested hash F .

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- Work to appear at [PKC'23] (co-winner of the “Best Paper Award”).

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NIST intends to standardize one or more schemes that enable “semantically secure” encryption or key encapsulation with respect to adaptive chosen ciphertext attack, for general use. This property is generally denoted *IND-CCA2 security* in academic literature.

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Secret key “shared” across multiple parties

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Secure against adversaries making a single decryption query.