

The background features a vibrant, abstract illustration of quantum physics. Two stylized atoms are depicted, each with a central nucleus of yellow and orange spheres and a surrounding cloud of blue and green particles. A bright, multi-colored energy beam, transitioning from purple to yellow, connects the two atoms. The overall color palette is dominated by deep blues, purples, and greens, with bright highlights from the atoms and energy beam.

The Quantum World

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Smals Research

www.smalsresearch.be

June 2017

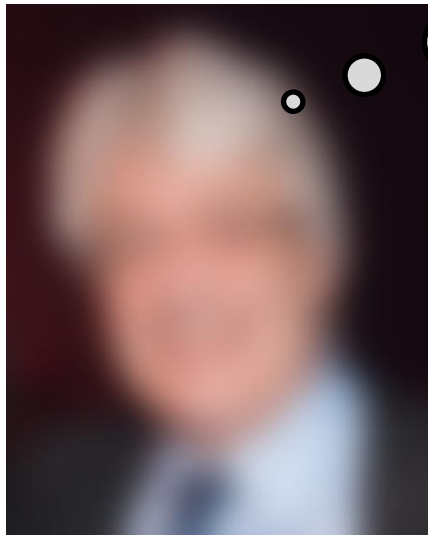
Hypothetical scenario

How is your company responding to the announcement of the new commercially available quantum computer that can “break” RSA and ECC?

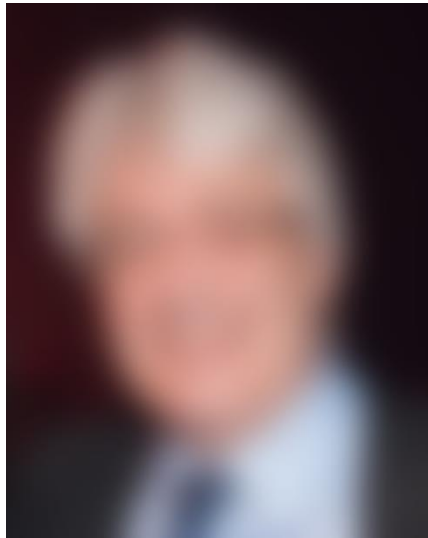


What the hell???
I don't have any
plan for that !!!

I have no comment on that...

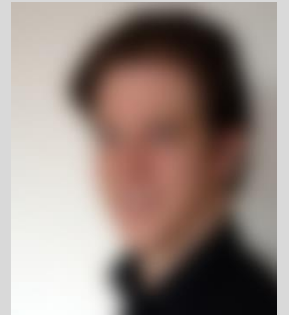
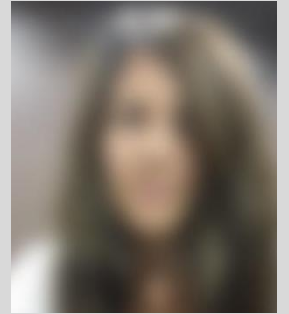
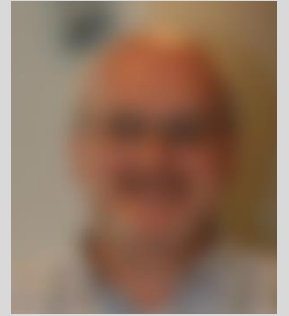


Hypothetical scenario



What the hell!!!
I hope for you (my dear Research team) that you have anticipated this HUGE problem that can threaten much of our business (eID, communication protocols, etc.)!!!

Euh, sorry but no, we decided that it was not urgent...



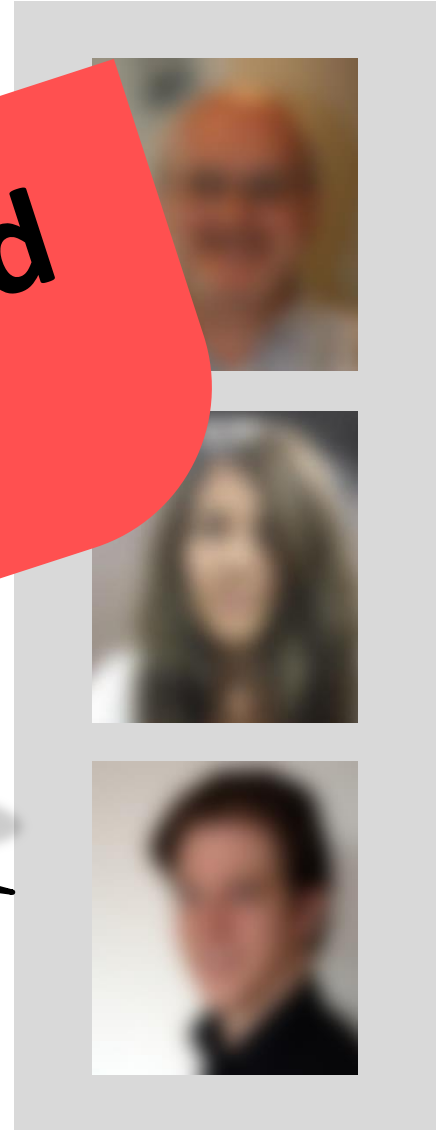
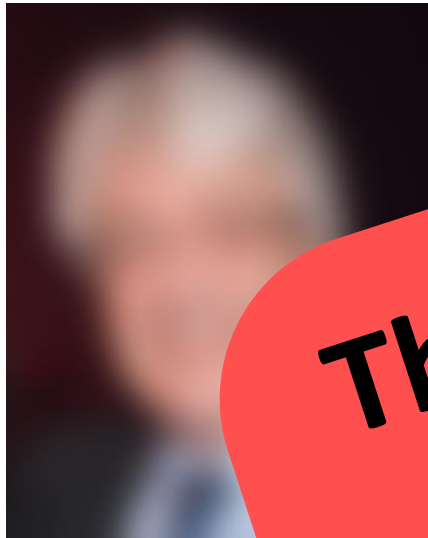
Hypothetical scenario

What the hell!!!

I hope for you (my dear Research team) that you have anticipated this HUGE... that can threaten our business...

This scenario should never happen!!!

...but no, we decided it was not urgent...



It's too important to be set aside!!!

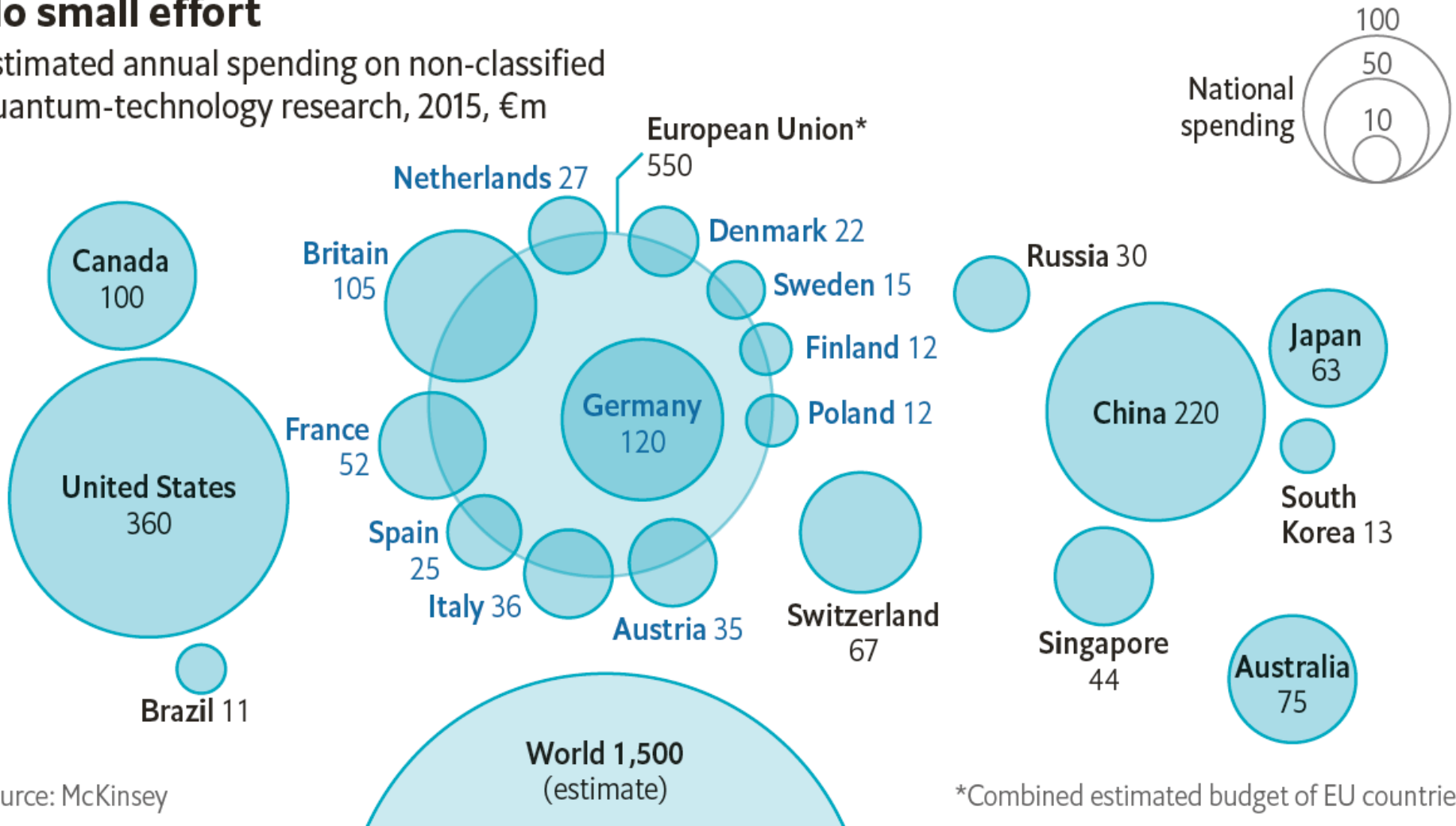
House Homeland Security Committee
Chairman Michael McCall is calling on
Congress to **increase spending on quantum
computing research** to ensure that the U.S. is
the first nation to employ quantum
computing as a tool to decrypt data.

— September 2016

It's too important to be set aside!!!

No small effort

Estimated annual spending on non-classified quantum-technology research, 2015, €m



Source: McKinsey

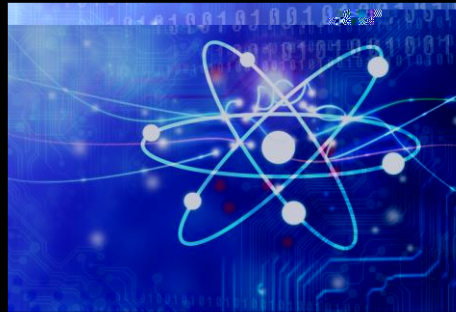
A certain future



AGENDA



Quantum computer technology
[Know the enemy]



Quantum cryptography
[Enhance cryptography]



Quantum attacks
[Break actual cryptography]

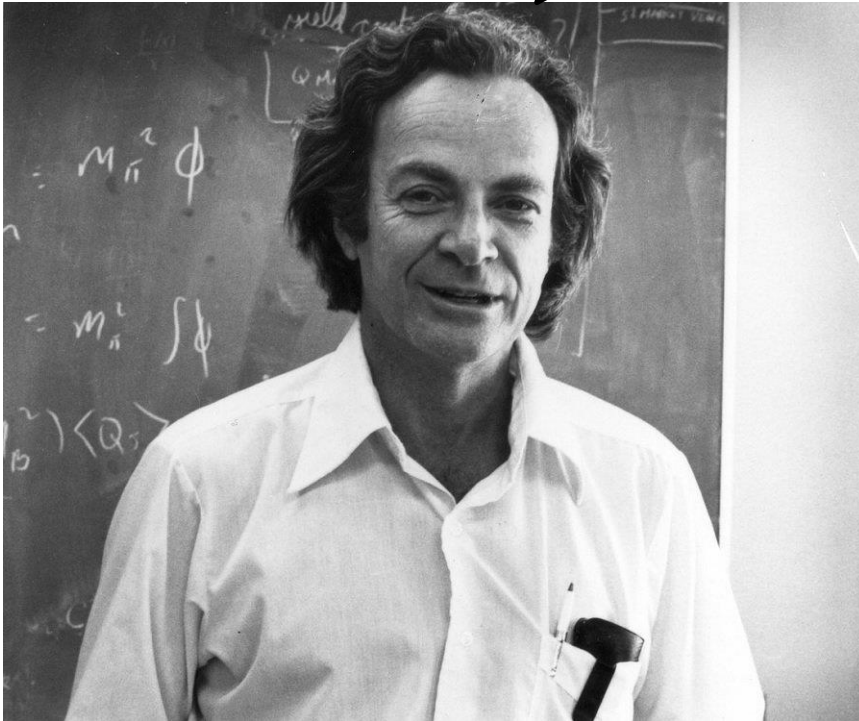


Post quantum cryptography
[Counter quantum attacks]



Quantum computer technology

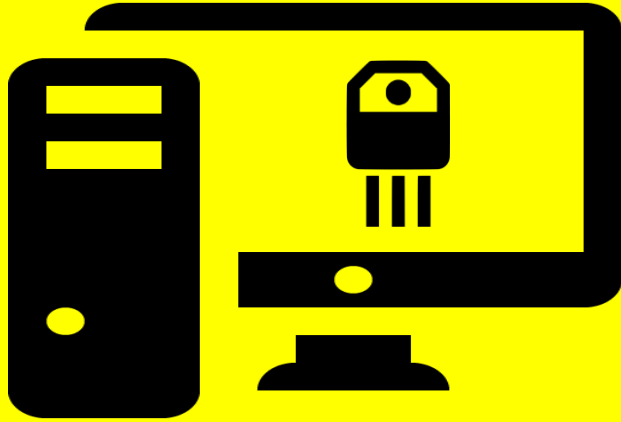
I can safely say that no one understands quantum mechanics



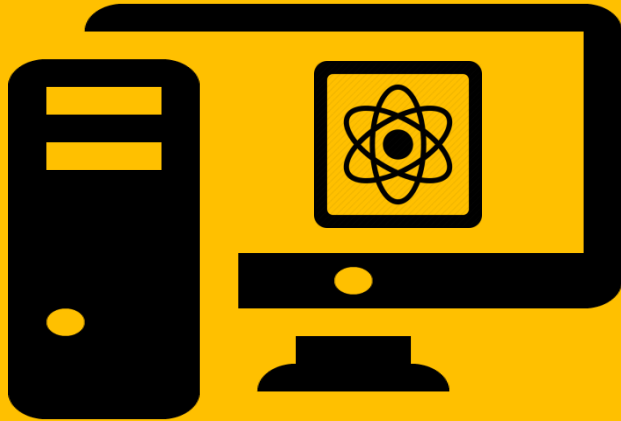
Richard Feynman
(1918-1988)

Father of the new way to
conceive quantum mechanics

What is a quantum computer?



A digital computer uses **transistors** to perform computation of data

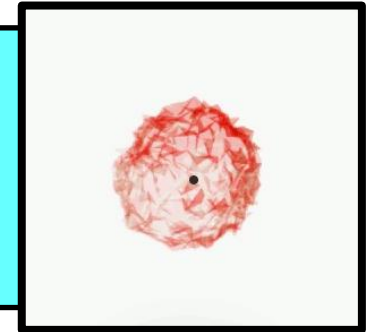


A quantum computer uses quantum properties of the **matter** to perform computation of data

Examples of used *matter*

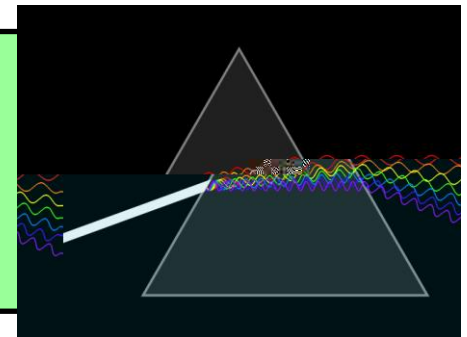
An **atom** can be

- not excited
- excited
- both



The polarization of a **photon** can be

- horizontal
- vertical
- both

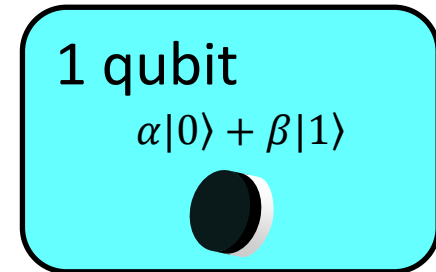
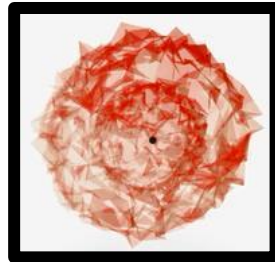
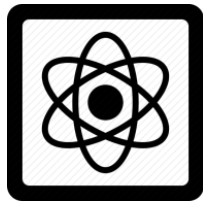
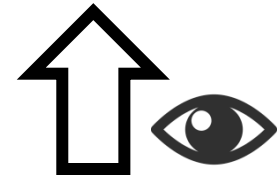
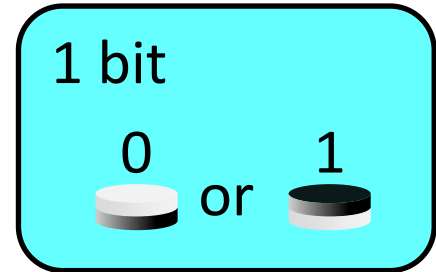


Formally, any matter used in quantum mechanics can be in a **superposition** of 2 states

Understand the superposition



Recap

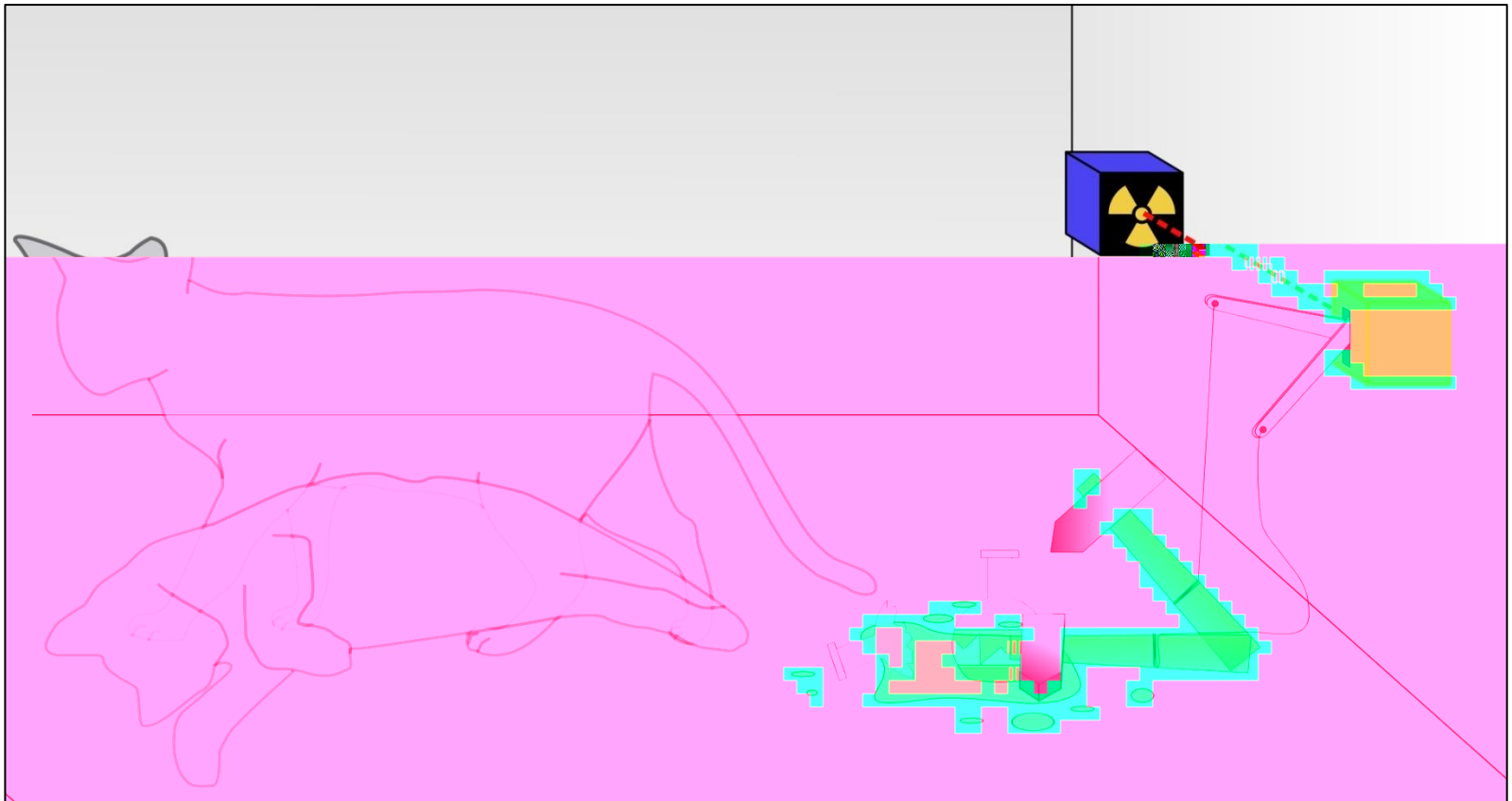


$|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle$ are pronounced "ket 0" and "ket 1"

What does $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{cat}\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{dead}\rangle$ mean?

1

Reference to Schrödinger's cat



What does $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{cat alive}\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{cat dead}\rangle$ mean?

1

Reference to Schrödinger's cat

2

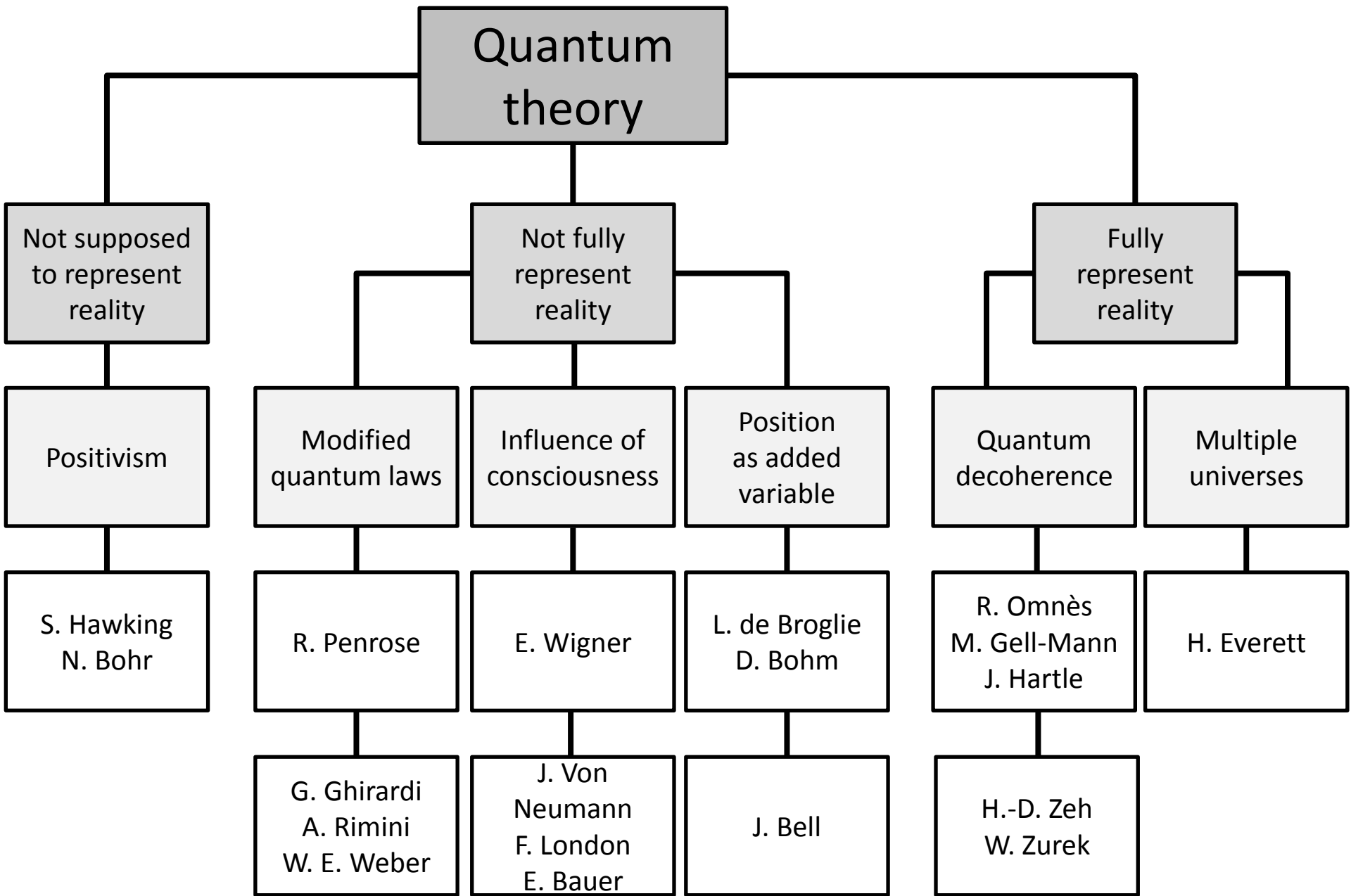
2 states:

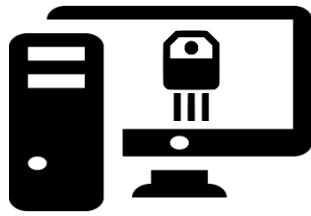
- Cat alive $|\text{cat alive}\rangle$
- Cat dead $|\text{cat dead}\rangle$

3

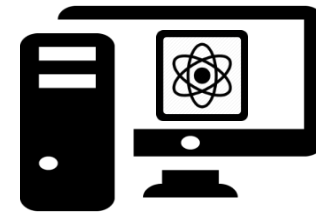
Equal probability that cat is alive or dead:

$$\alpha = \beta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

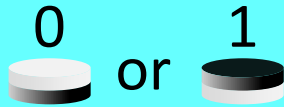




VS.



1 bit



Either 0 or 1

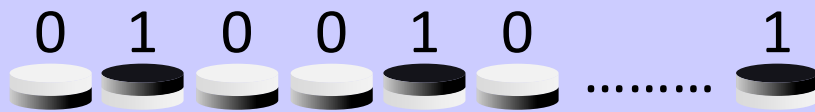
1 qubit

$$\alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$$



Both 0 and 1 

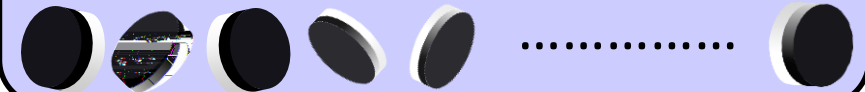
N bits




1 out of 2^N possible states

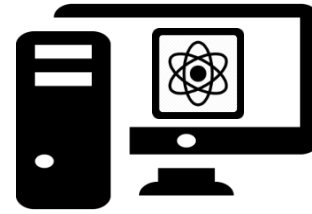
N qubits

$$\alpha_1|00 \dots 0\rangle + \alpha_2|00 \dots 1\rangle + \dots + \alpha_{2^N}|11 \dots 1\rangle$$



All out of 2^N possible states 

Consequences of



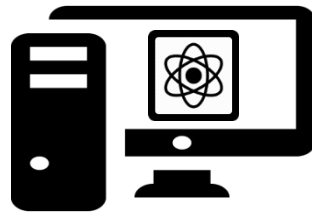
Mathematical operation on N 



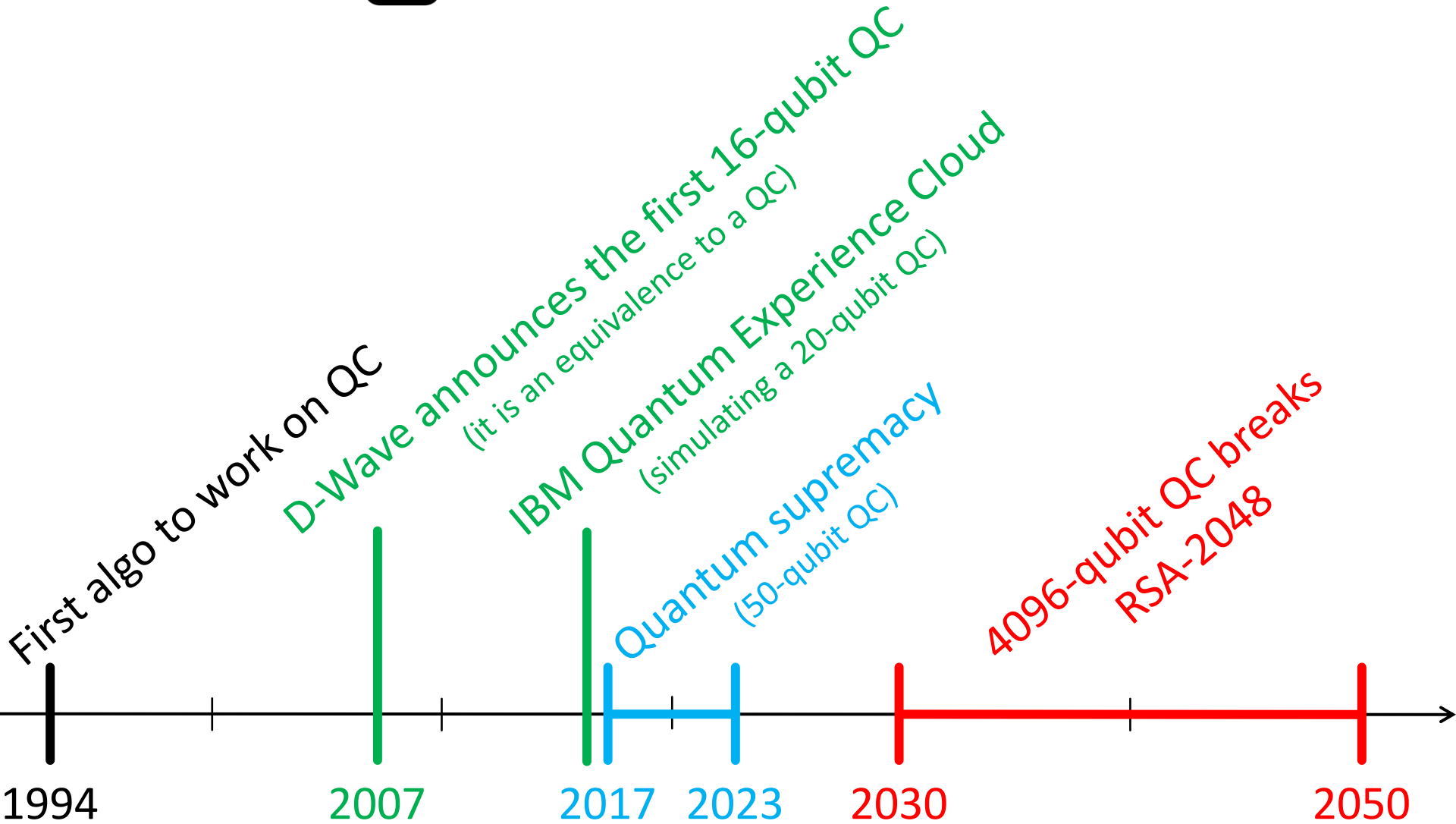
Parallel computation on 2^N data

Computation power of a 

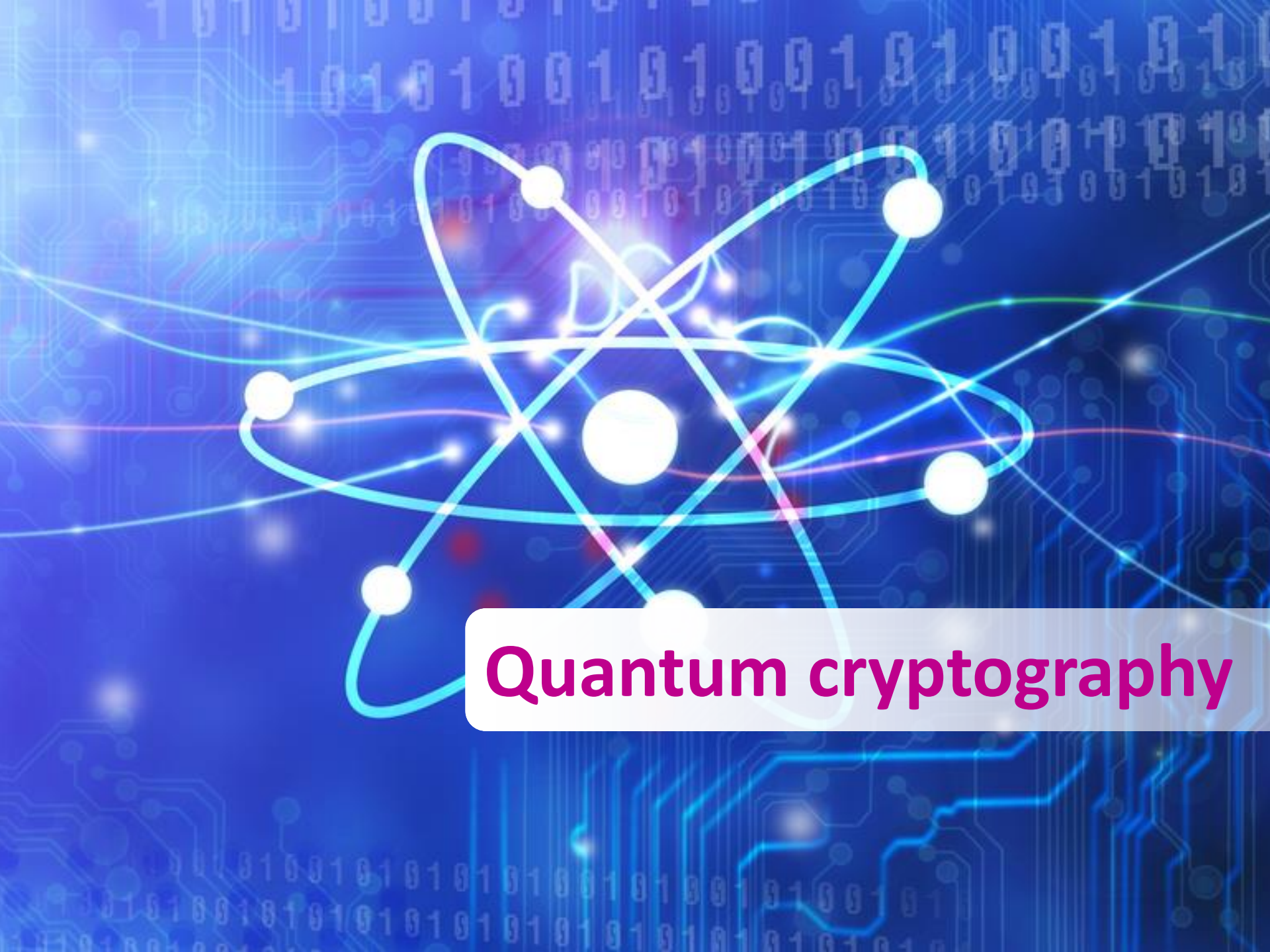
x2 each time a  is added



in real life



QC = Quantum Computer



Quantum cryptography

Goal

Exploit the  mechanical properties to
perform crypto tasks

Quantum Random
Number Generator

Quantum Key
Distribution

Quantum
Commitment

Oblivious Transfer

Secure Multi-Party
Computation

Quantum Random Number Generator

Generate better **high-quality** random numbers



quTOOLS



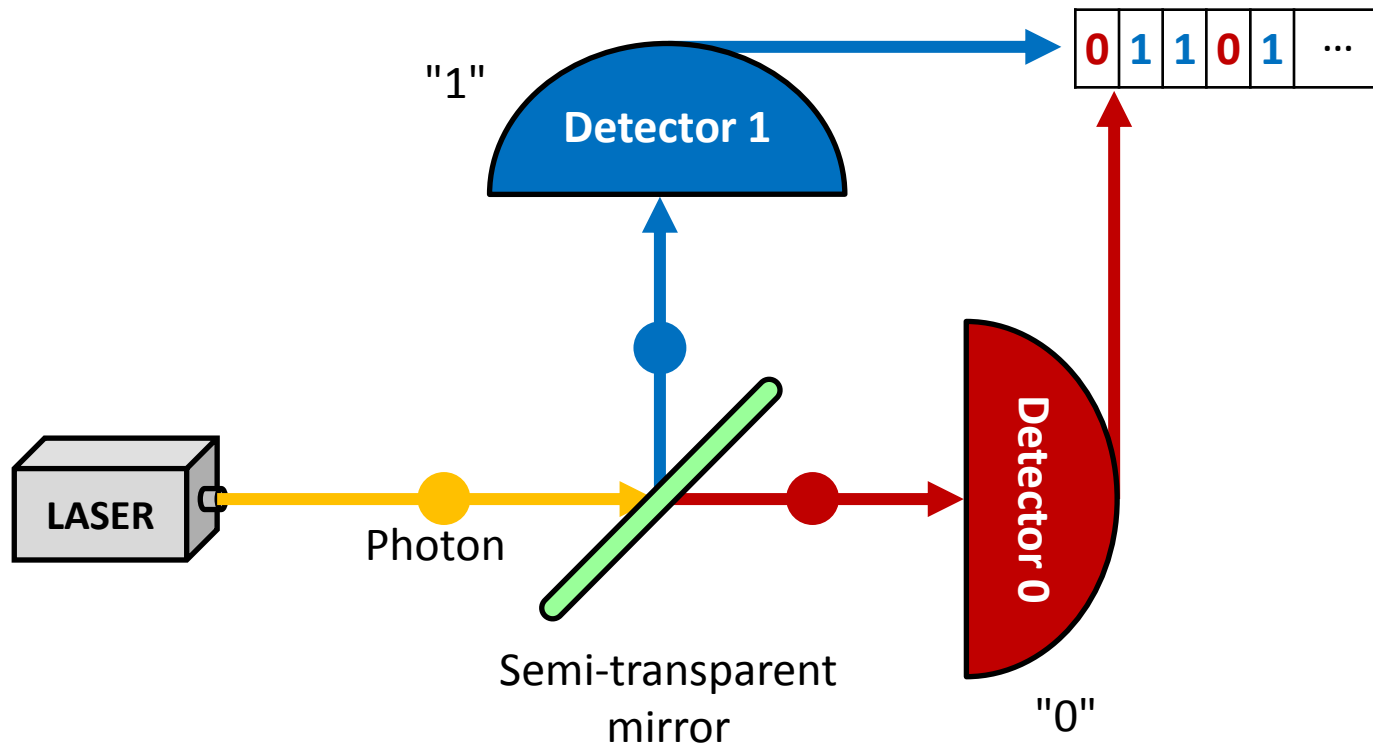
Based on:

- Radioactive decay
- Noise
- Quantum optics

most used

Quantum Random Number Generator

Single-photon splitting



Example based on quantum optics

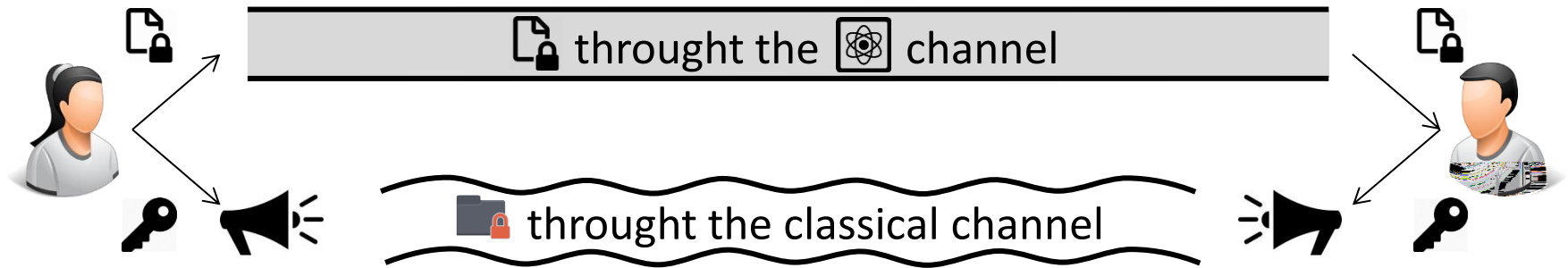
The beam splitter deviates the photon to a 0/1 detector

The photon's choice at beam splitting is **totally random**

Quantum Key Distribution

Transfer  securely
from Alice to Bob

From , produce a
random shared
secret key 



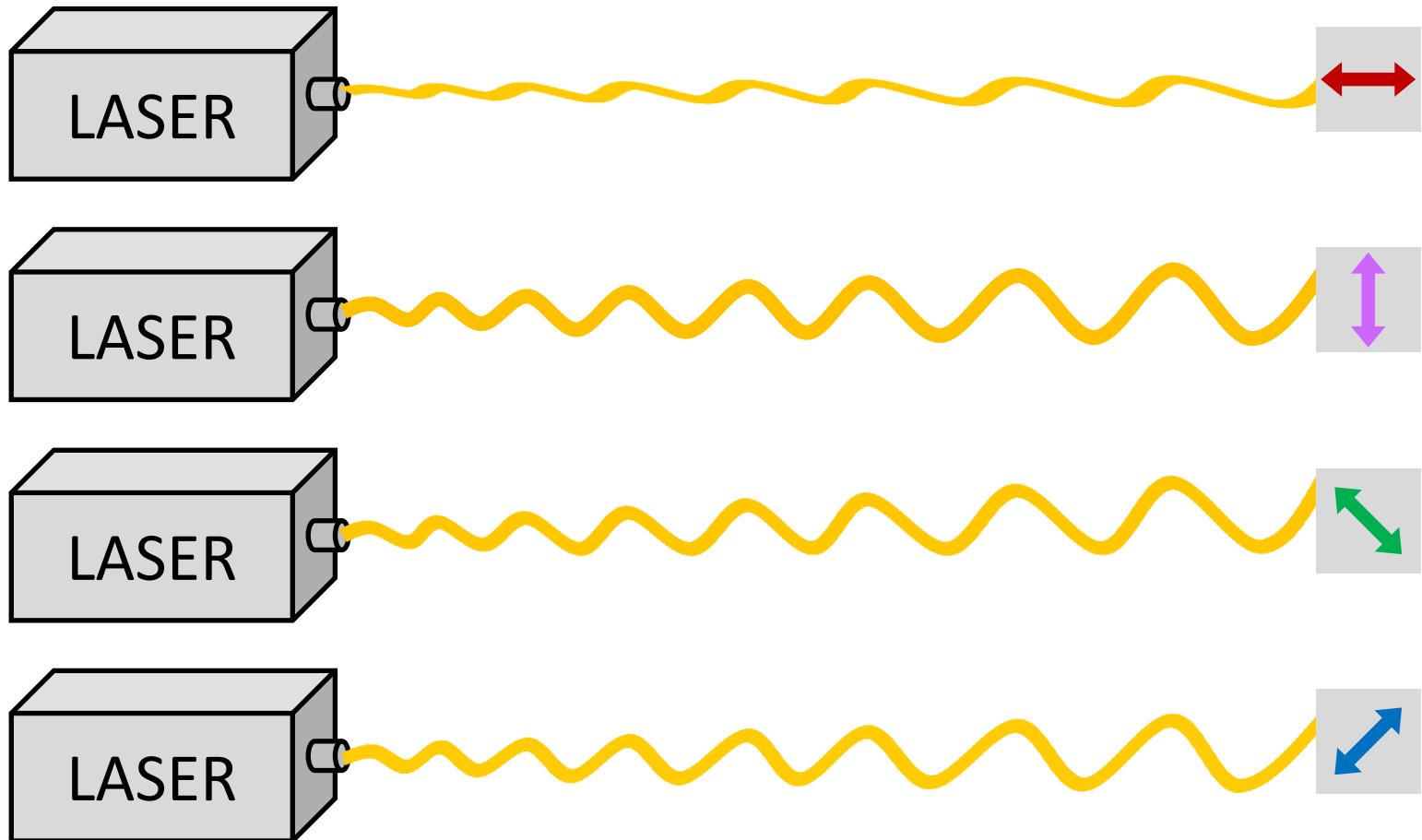
qkdsimulator.com

SEQUIRENET
A QUANTUM KEY TO NETWORK SECURITY



Quantum Key Distribution

Polarization of a photon



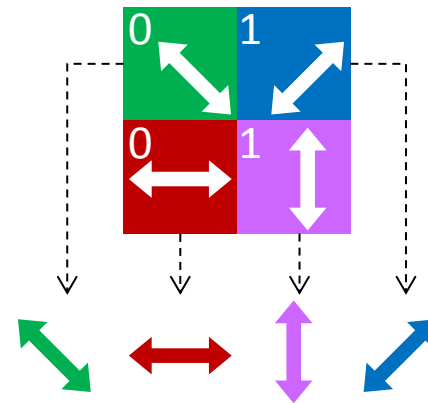
Quantum Key Distribution

Polarization of a photon

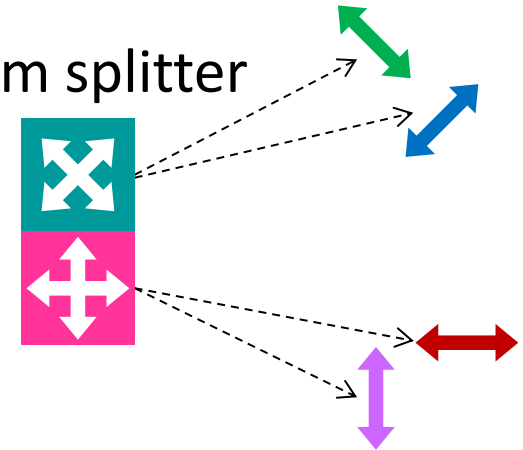
Unpolarized photon



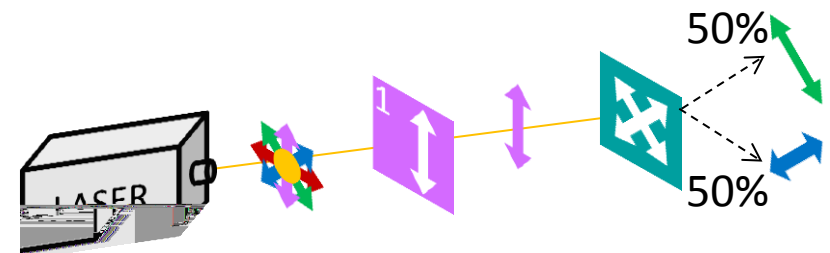
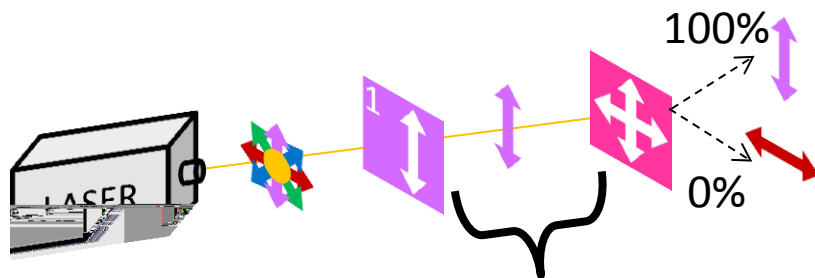
Polarization filter



Beam splitter



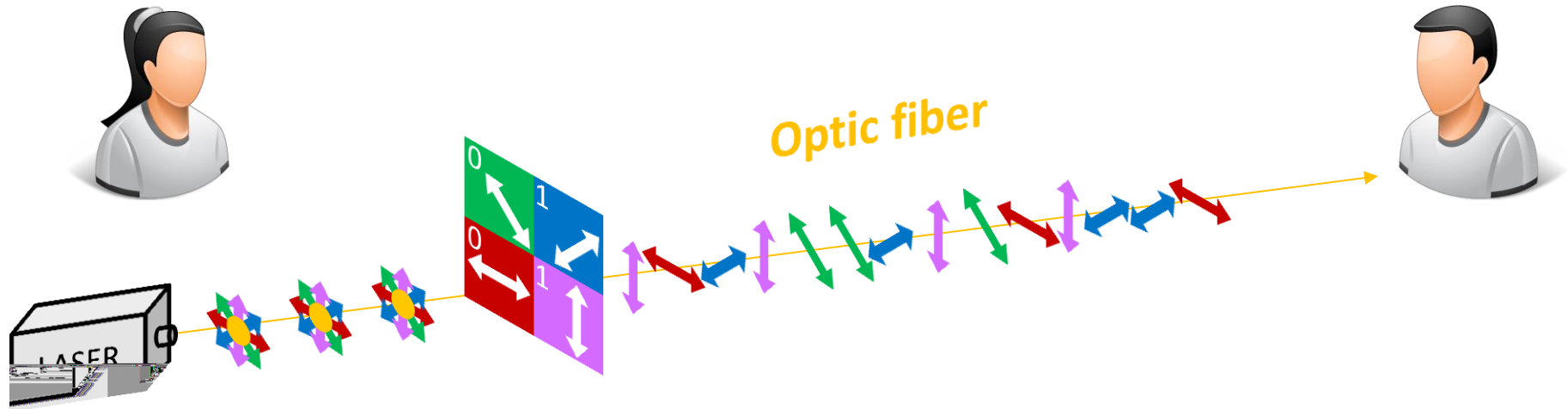
4 polarized photons



Not readable during transfer
otherwise **qubits are disturb**

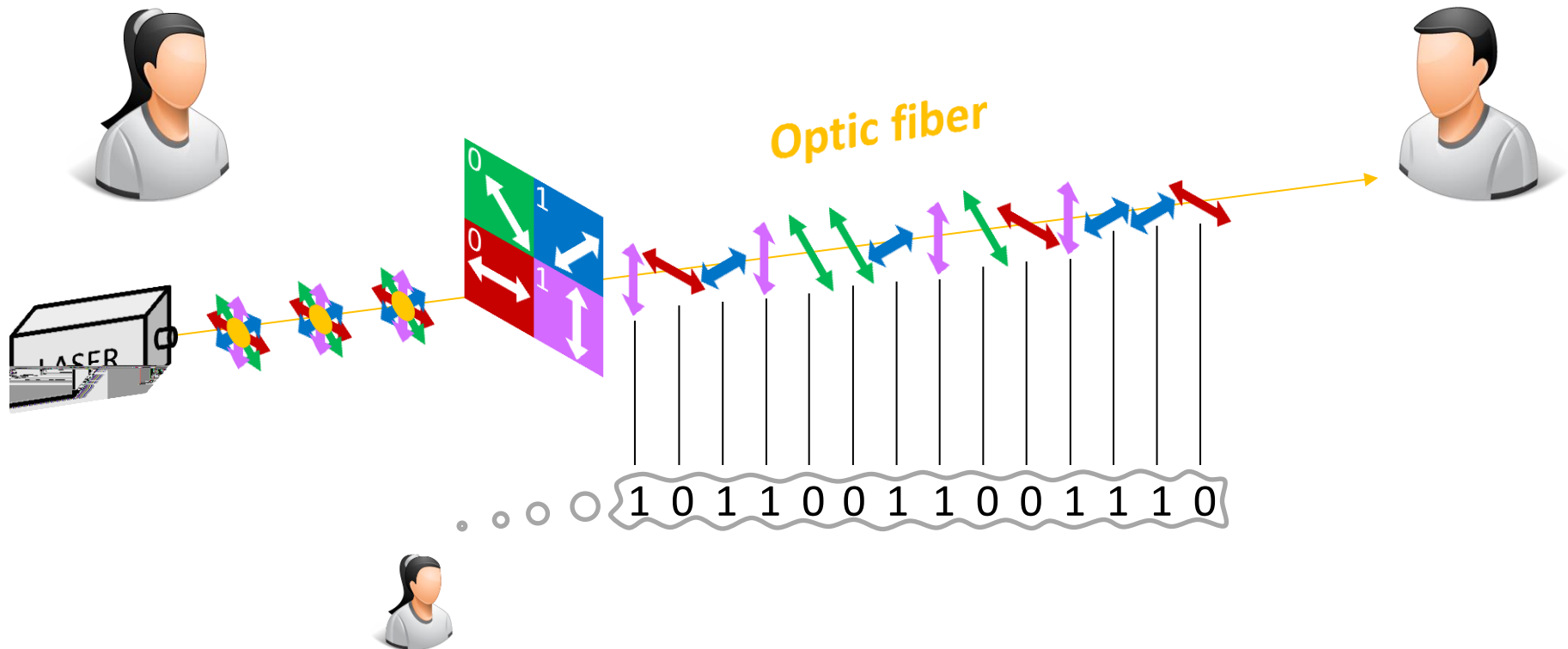
Quantum Key Distribution

The BB84 protocol



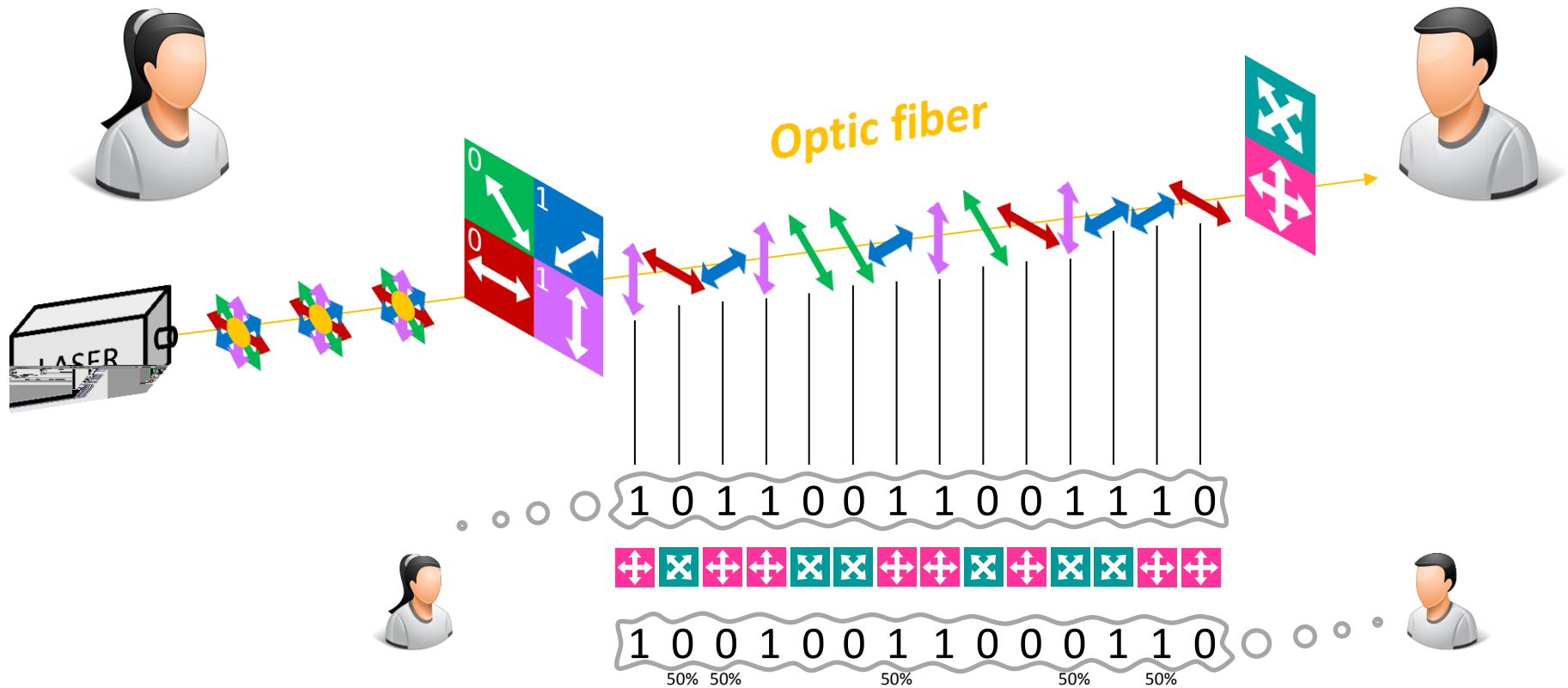
Quantum Key Distribution

The BB84 protocol



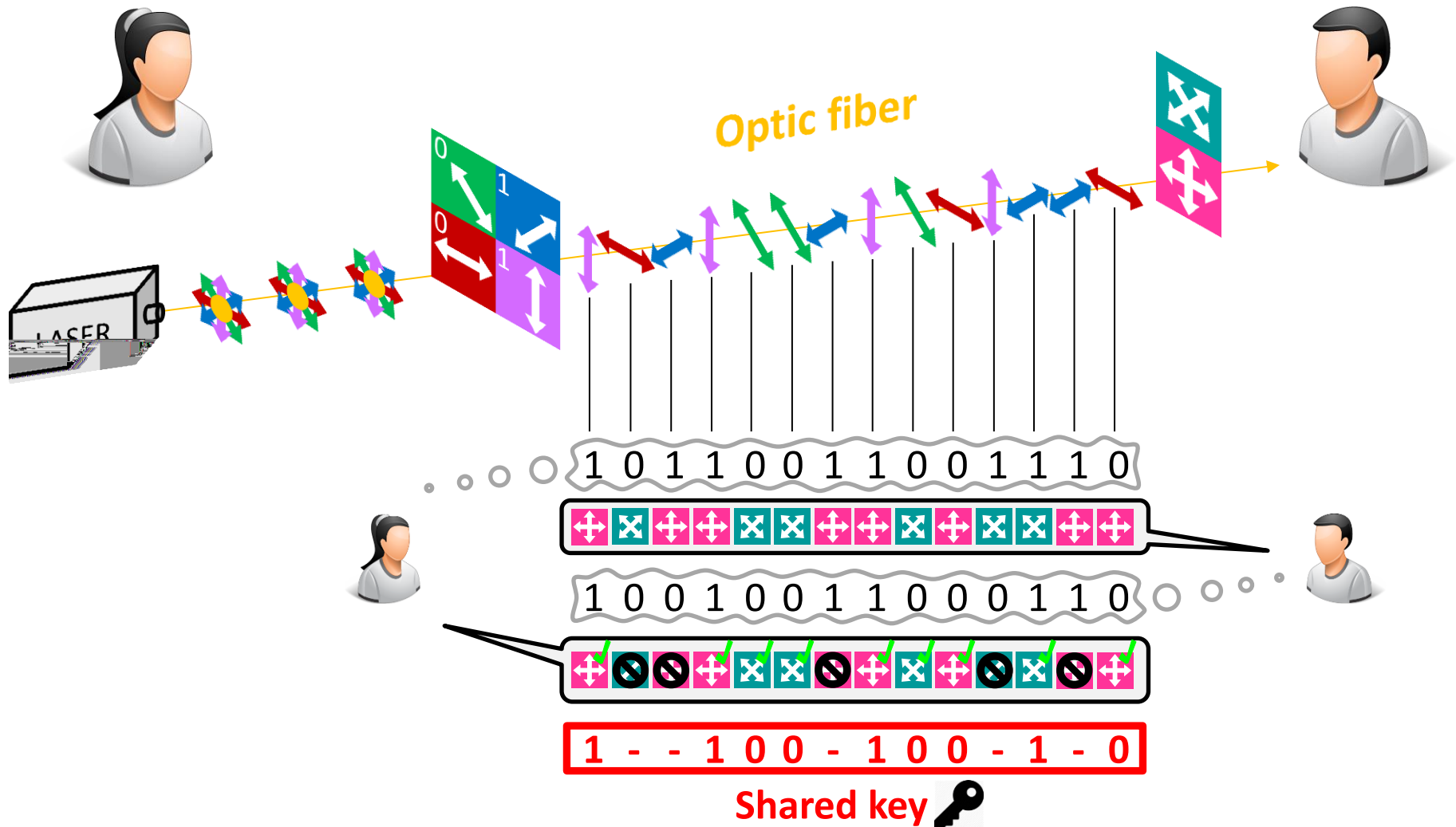
Quantum Key Distribution

The BB84 protocol



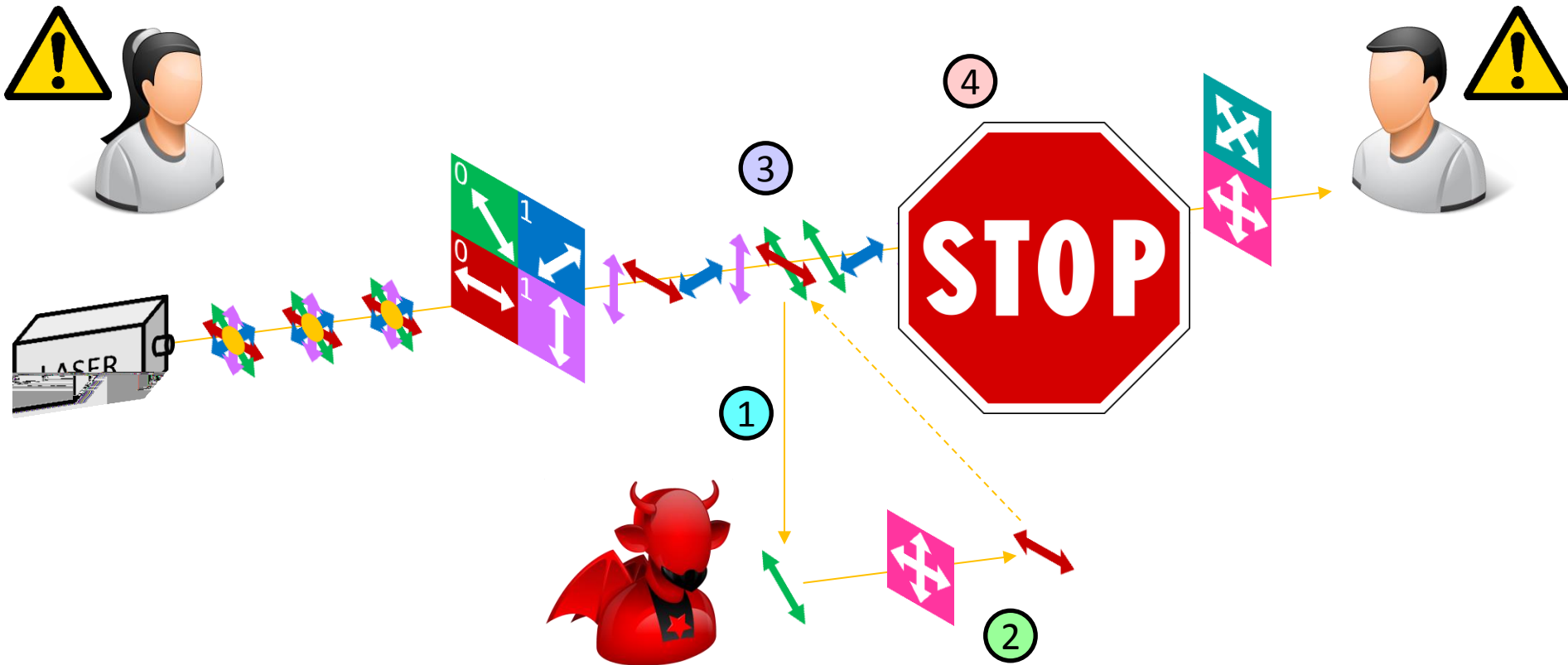
Quantum Key Distribution

The BB84 protocol




Quantum Key Distribution

Eavesdropping the BB84 protocol



1 Lecture of the qubit state

2  splitter \Rightarrow disturbance

3 Qubit modification in the channel

4 Detection (error rate) & abortion

Quantum Key Distribution

In practice

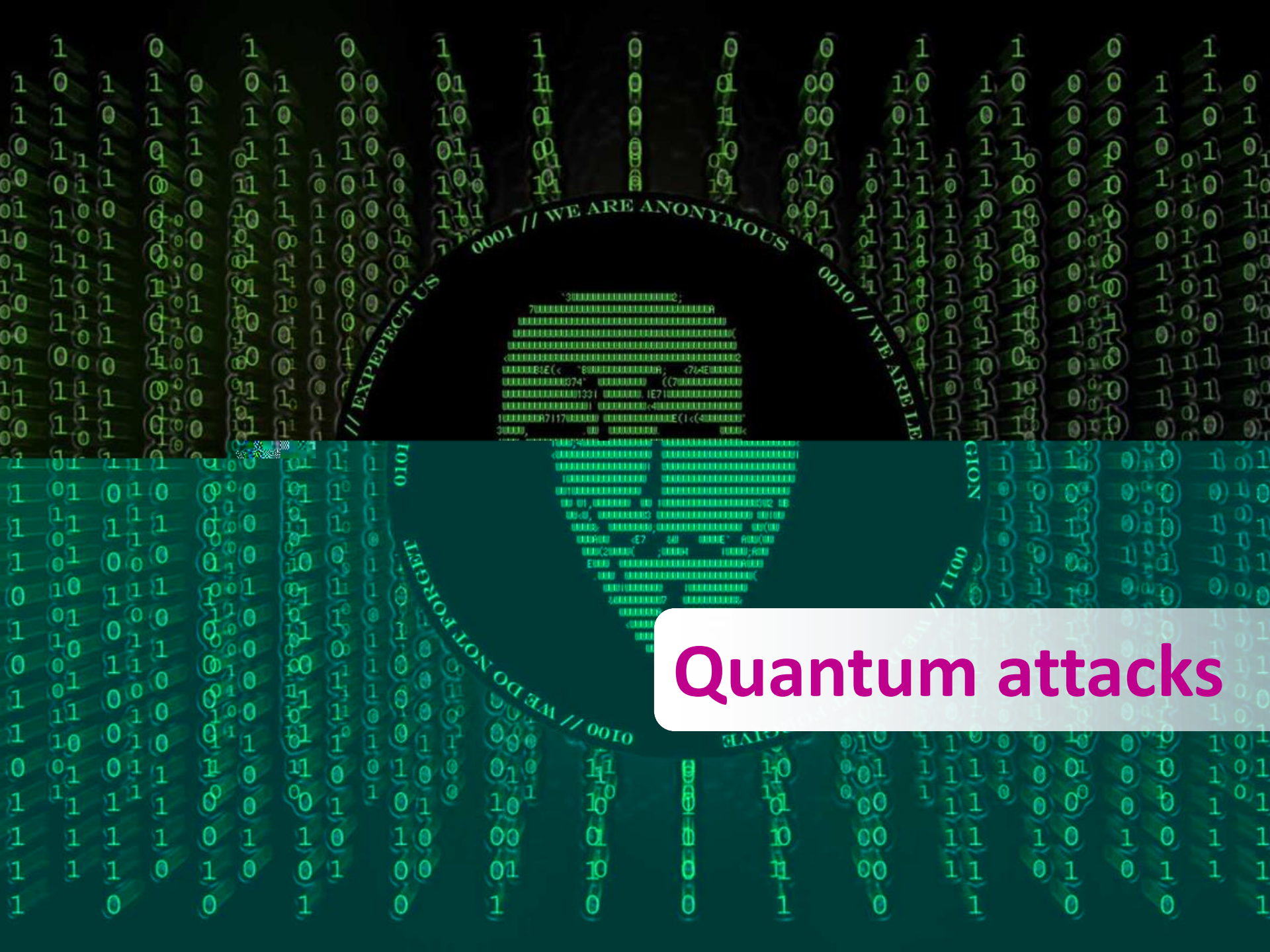
Currently

The highest bit rate for QKD with optical fiber
is held by Toshiba with

1 Mbit/s over 50 km


[up to our knowledge]

Limitation on the distance of key exchange



Quantum attacks

Goal

Exploit the  mechanical properties to **crack/solve hard problems**

Shor's algorithm

Grover's algorithm

HHL's algorithm

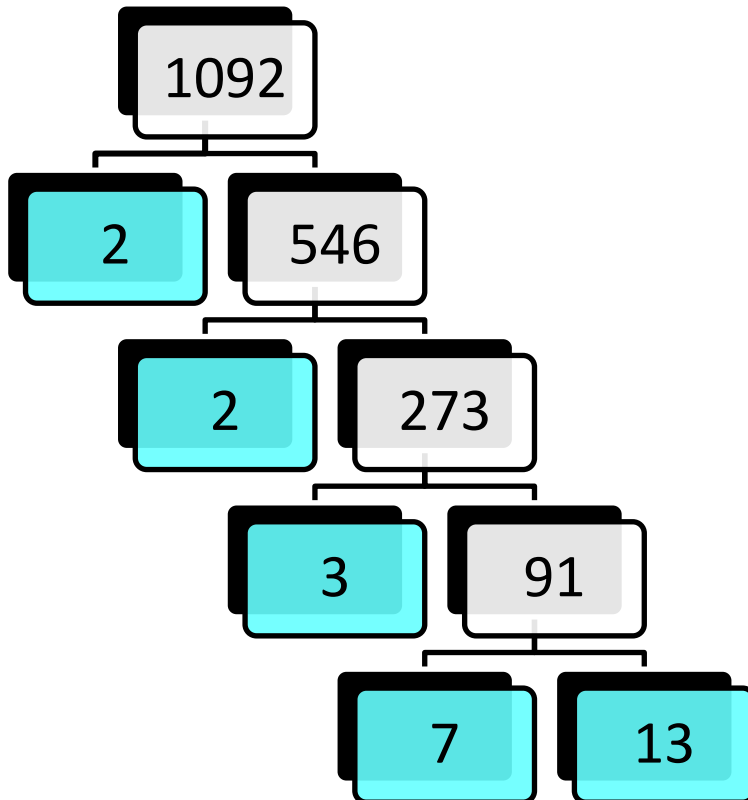
Quantum simulator

Etc...

Shor's algorithm

Created by
Peter Shor (1994)

Solve
prime factorization
in polynomial time



Prime factors:

2, 2, 3, 7, 13

$$1092 = 2^2 * 3 * 7 * 13$$

This is a very simple example

Shor's algorithm

Breaking public-key cryptography

E.g. an RSA number:

$N = p * q$, where (p, q) are prime numbers

Easy to compute N from (p, q)

Hard to recover (p, q) from N
with standard methods

RSA-1024 =

```
135066410865995223349603216278805969
938881475605667027524485143851526510
604859533833940287150571909441798207
282164471551373680419703964191743046
496589274256239341020864383202110372
958725762358509643110564073501508187
510676594629205563685529475213500852
879416377328533906109750544334999811
150056977236890927563
```

web security classics

lgo
key c

re (p)

q)

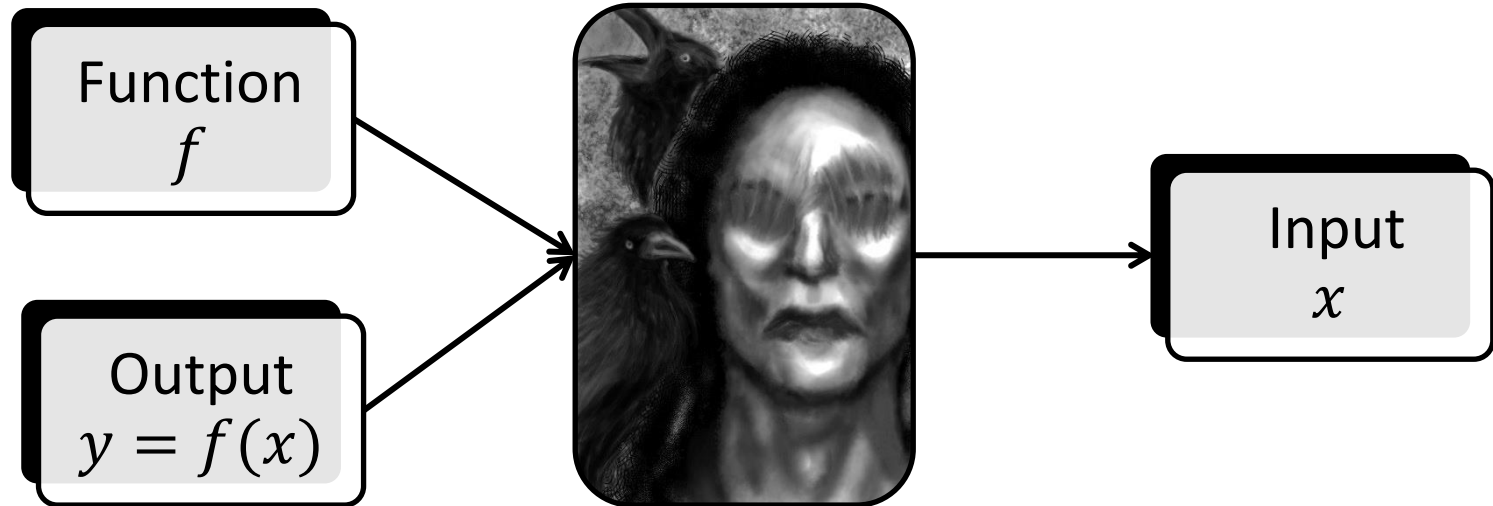
Easy to recover (p, q) from
with Shor's algorithm

web security

Grover's algorithm

Created by
Lov Grover (1996)

Solve
inversion of function
in sub-linear time



Grover's algorithm

Searching an unstructured DB / an unsorted list

E.g. searching a phonebook where:

- x is a name
- $y = f(x)$ is a phone number

Easy to find y from (f, x)

Hard to find x from (f, y)
with standard methods

Phonebook of
10,000 entries



Need 5,000 guesses



Grover's algorithm

Searching an unstructured DB / an unsorted list

E.g. searching a phonebook where:

- x is a name
- $y = f(x)$ is a phone number

Easy to find y from (f, x)

Easy to find x from (f, y)
with Grover's algorithm

Phonebook of
10,000 entries



Need 100 guesses



Grover's algorithm

Searching an unstructured DB / an unsorted list

E.g. searching a phonebook where:

- x is a name
- $y = f(x)$ is a phone number

Easy to find y from (f, x)

Easy to find x from (f, y)
with Grover's algorithm

Phonebook of
25 million entries



Need 5,000 guesses



Grover's algorithm

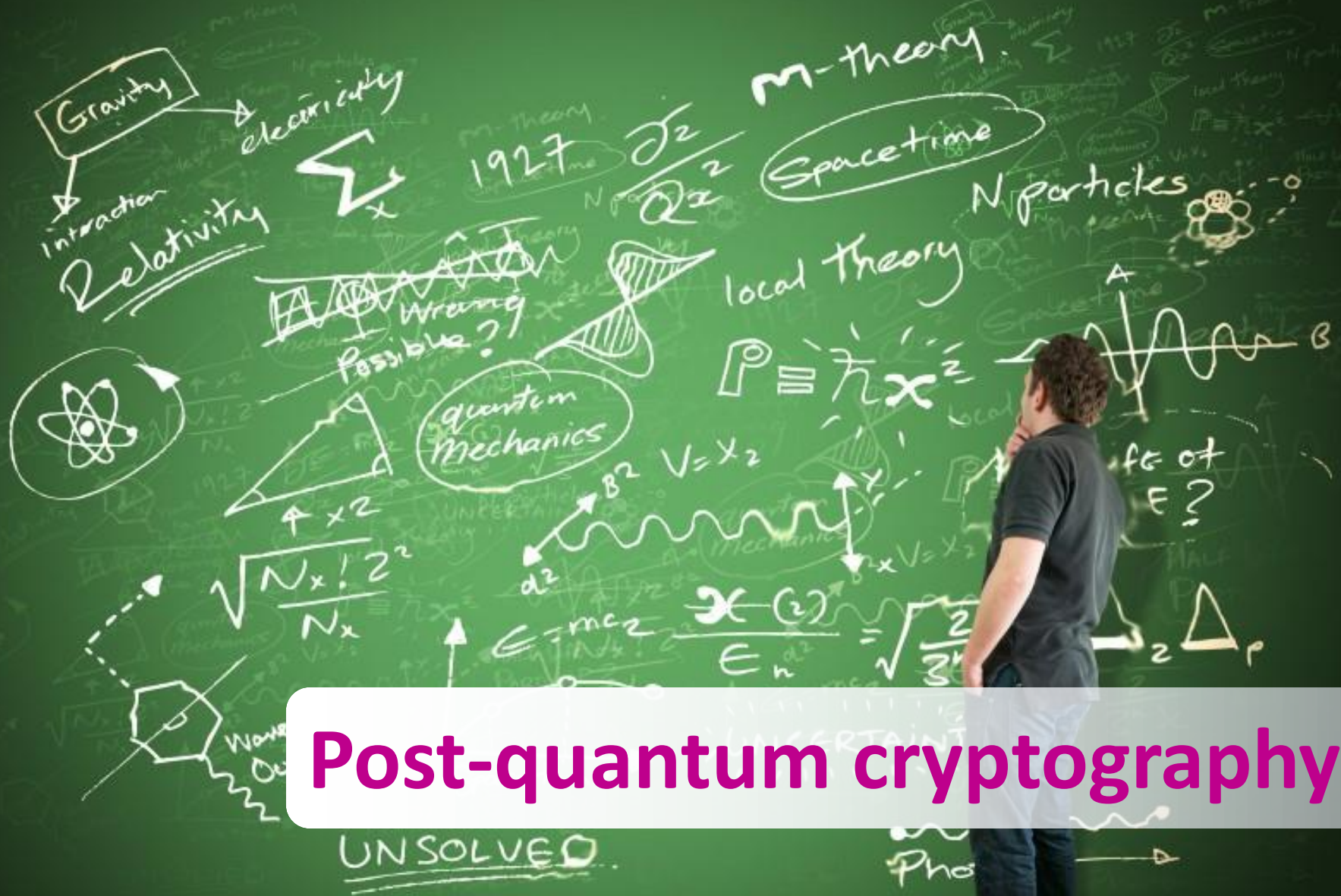
Breaking symmetric-key cryptography

Brute-forcing
a 128-bit key
in $\approx 2^{64}$ iterations

Brute-forcing
a 256-bit key
in $\approx 2^{128}$ iterations

Simple solution

Use loooooooooooooooooonger keys!



Post-quantum cryptography

Goal

Cryptographic schemes/algorithms
resistant to  attacks

Hash-based crypto

Code-based crypto

Lattice-based
crypto

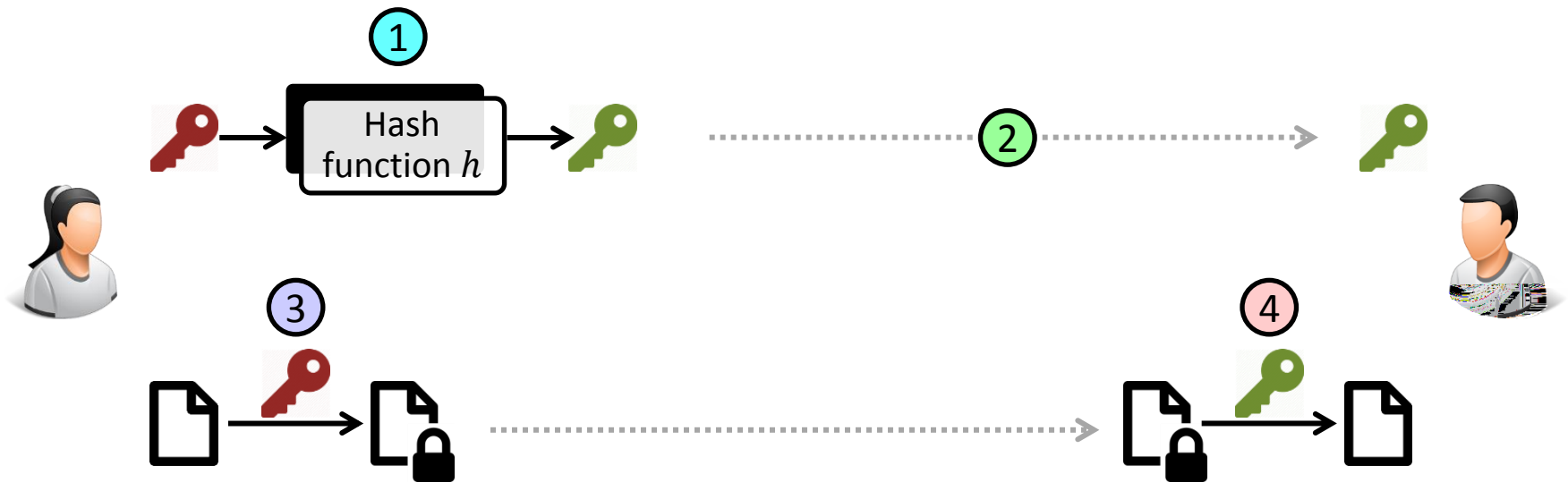
Multivariate crypto



Etc...


Hash-based crypto


Created by
Ralph Merkle (1970)


Alternative to
signature schemes
like RSA/DSA/ECDSA



1 Create private key 
and public key 

2 Distribute 

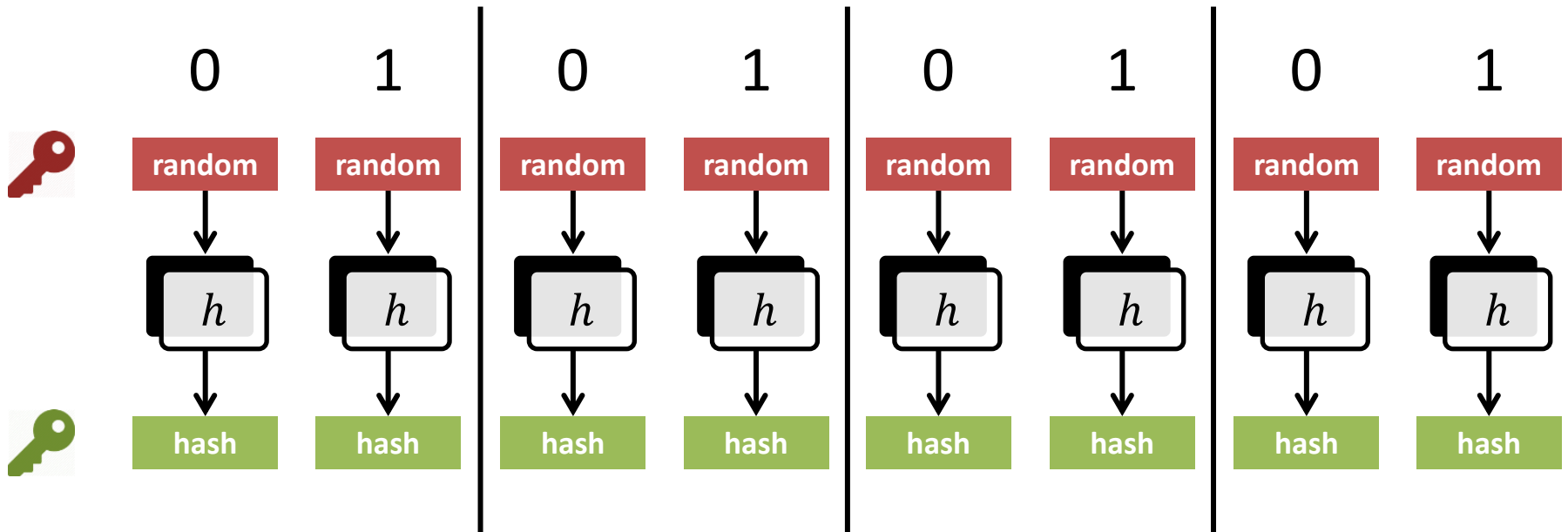
3 Sign data with 



4 Verify signature with 

Hash-based crypto

The Lamport signature scheme

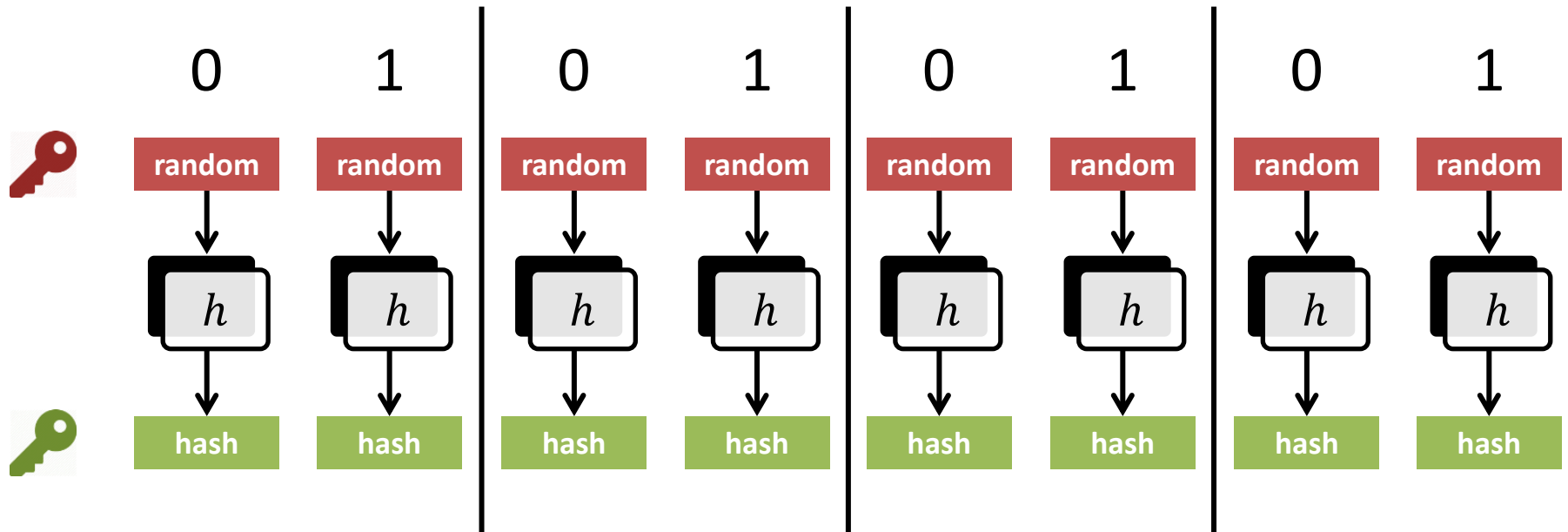
 and  must be used only **once**






1 Create private key 
and public key 

Hash-based crypto

The Lamport signature scheme




1 Create private key  and public key 

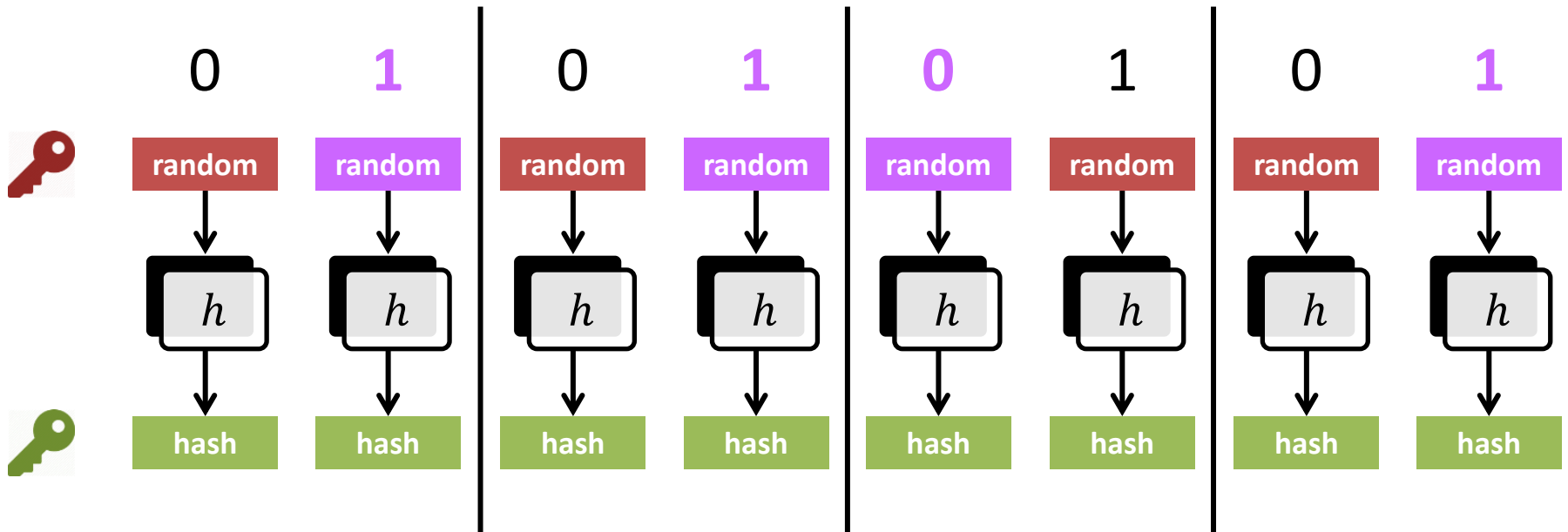
2 Distribute 



Hash-based crypto


The Lamport signature scheme


 = 1 1 0 1

 = random random random random



1 Create private key  and public key 

2 Distribute 

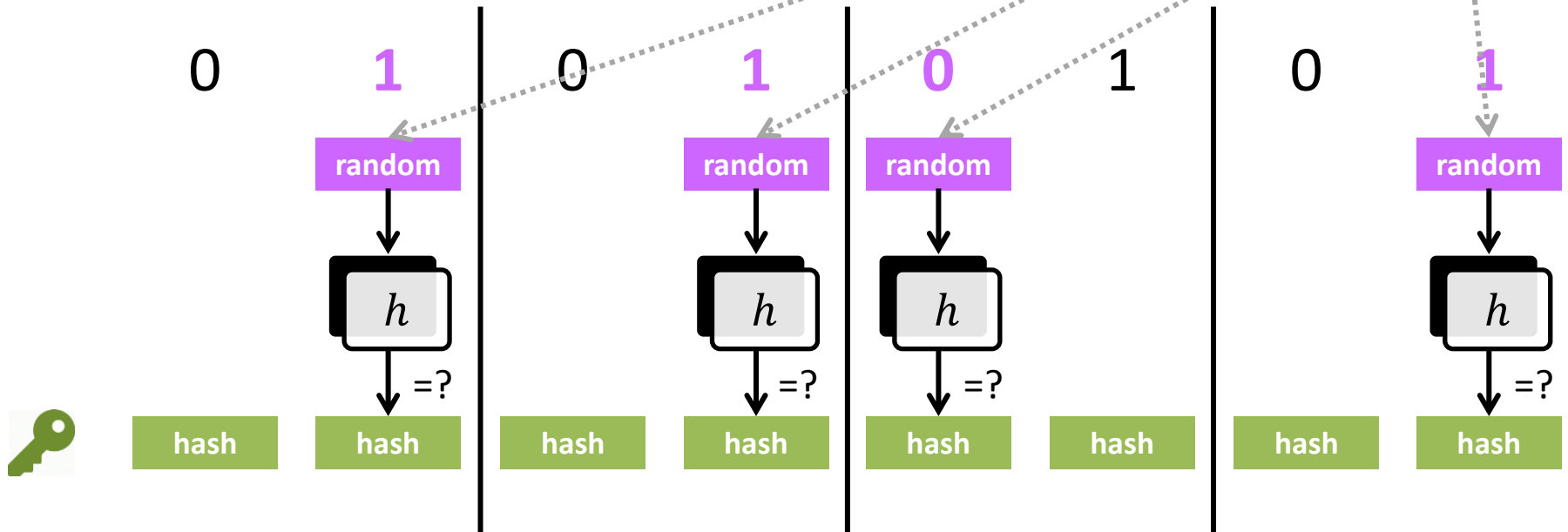
3 Sign data with 

Hash-based crypto

The Lamport signature scheme

📄 = 1 1 0 1

📄🔒 = random random random random



1 Create private key 🔑 and public key 🔑

2 Distribute 🔑

3 Sign data with 🔑

4 Verify signature with 🔑

Hash-based crypto

The Lamport signature scheme

To be quantum-resistant

The lengths of **random** , **hash** and **random** must be **> x2 larger** than the security parameter

EX

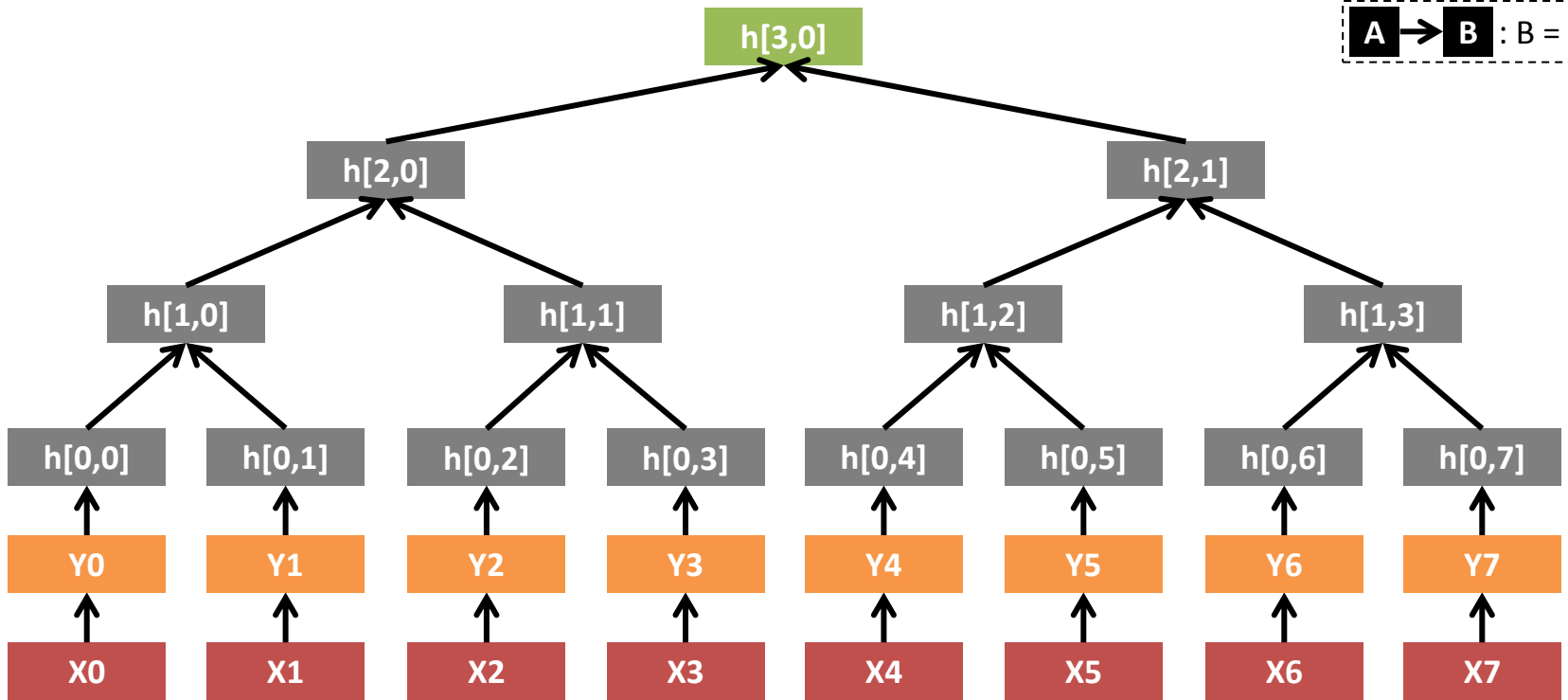
A 128-bit security requires lengths **> 256 bits**

Hash-based crypto

The Merkle signature scheme



$$A \rightarrow B : B = h(A)$$



(X_i , Y_i) must be used only **once**

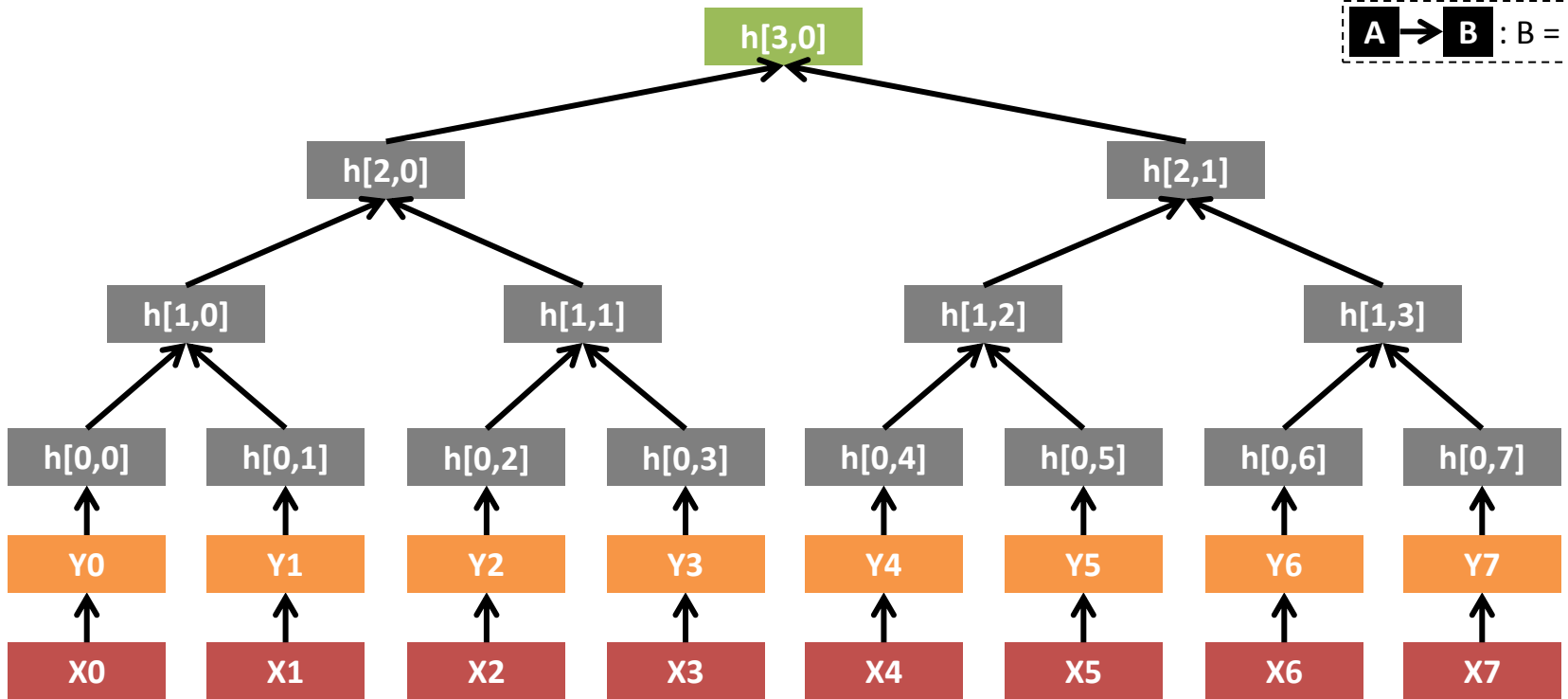
1 Create private key and public key

Hash-based crypto

The Merkle signature scheme



$$A \rightarrow B : B = h(A)$$



1 Create private key and public key

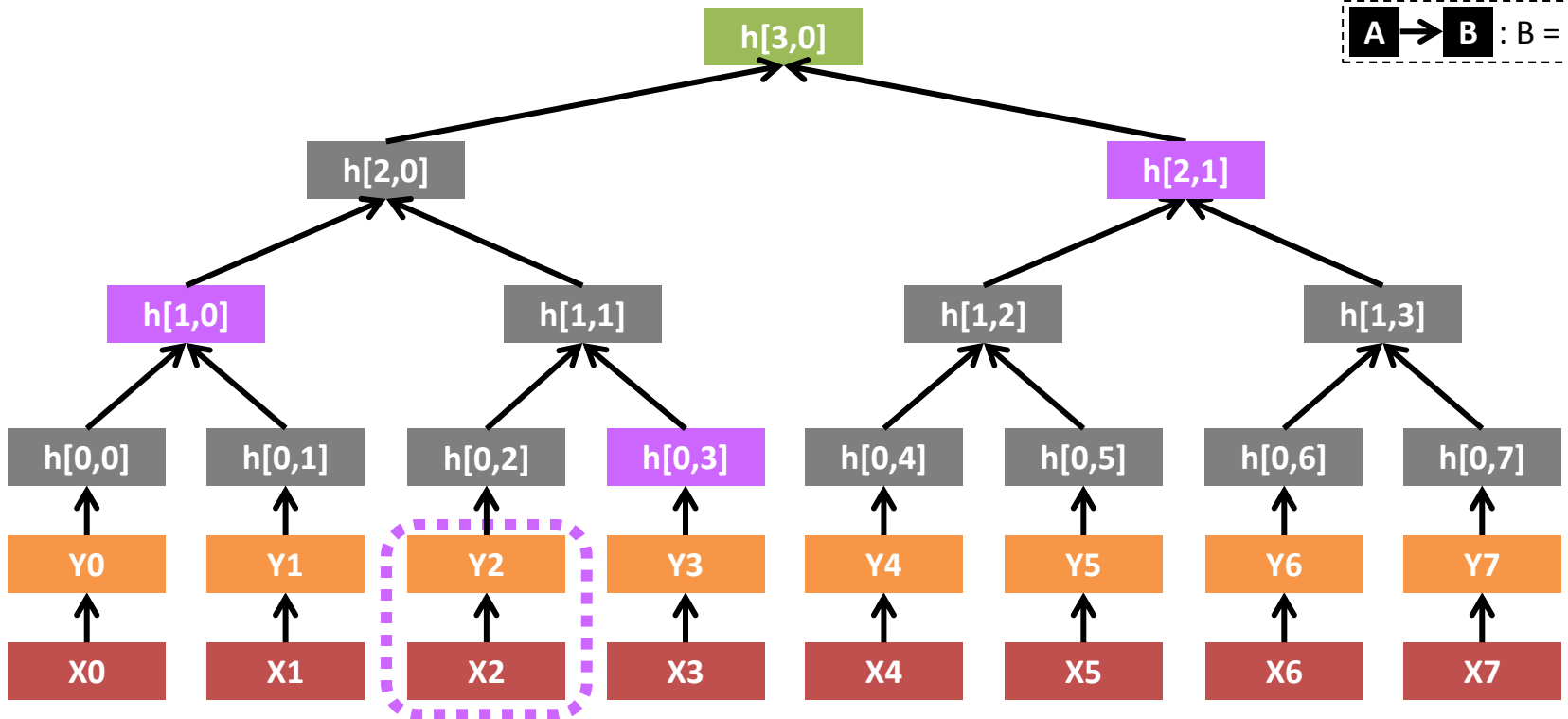
2 Distribute

Hash-based crypto

The Merkle signature scheme



$$A \rightarrow B : B = h(A)$$



$$\text{Sig} = \text{Document} \parallel Y_2 \parallel h[0,3] \parallel h[1,0] \parallel h[2,1]$$

1 Create private key and public key

2 Distribute

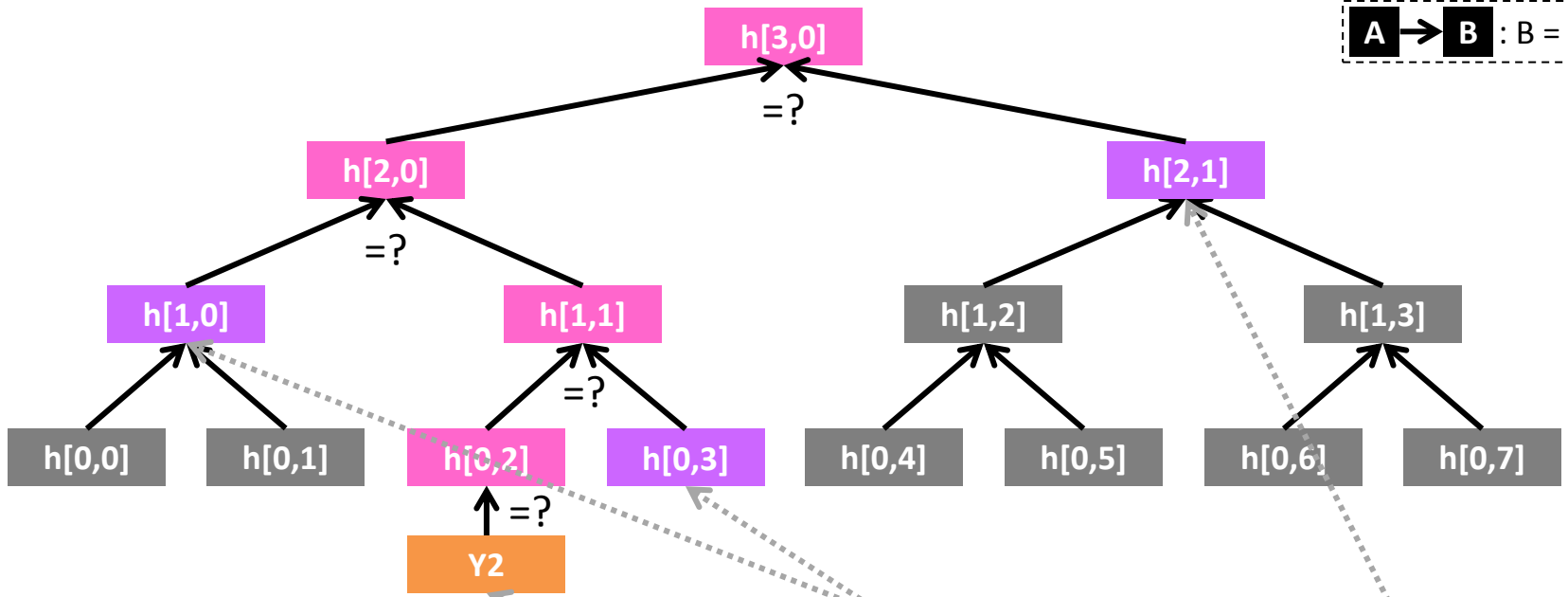
3 Sign data with

Hash-based crypto

The Merkle signature scheme



$$A \rightarrow B : B = h(A)$$



1 Create private key and public key

2 Distribute

3 Sign data with

4 Verify signature with

Code-based crypto

Created by
Robert McEliece(1978)

Alternative to
PK encryption
like RSA/ECC


Based on error-correcting code

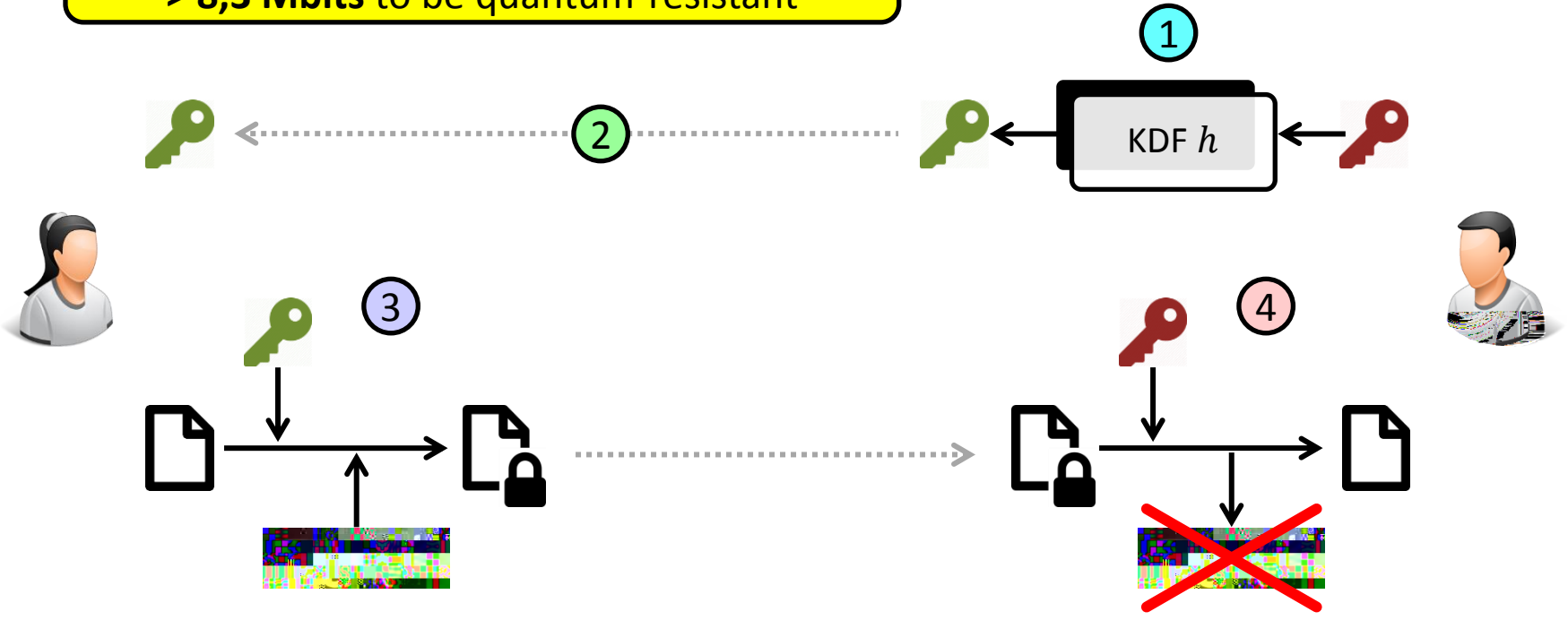
Most well-known



- the McEliece cryptosystem
- the Niederreiter cryptosystem
- the Courtois-Finiasz-Sendrier signature scheme


Code-based crypto

The principles

The size of  is extremely large:
> **8,3 Mbits** to be quantum-resistant



1 Create private key  and public key 

2 Distribute 

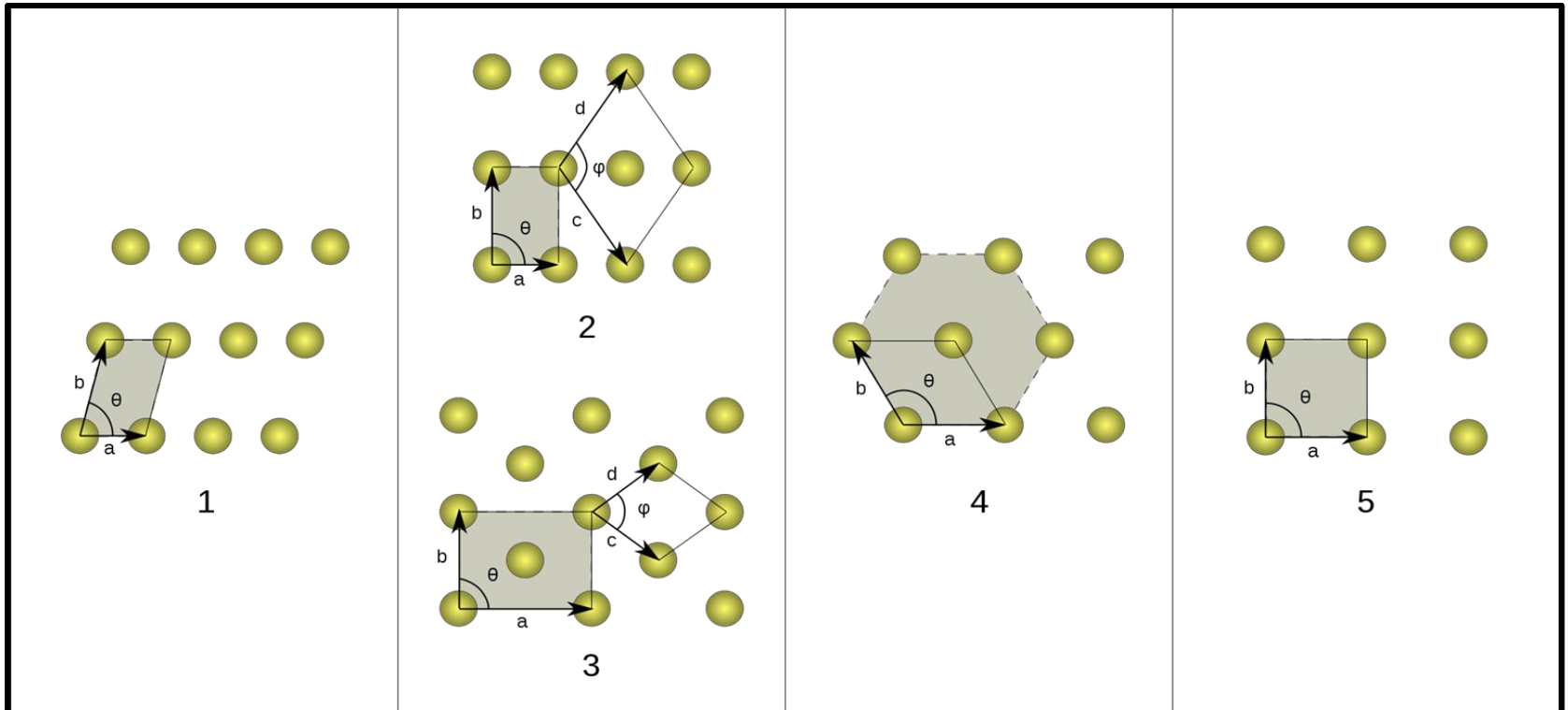
3 Encrypt data with  and add **ERROR**

4 Decrypt with 

Lattice-based crypto

Lattices first studied by
Lagrange & Gauss
(18th century)

Alternative to
PK encryption
like RSA/ECC



Lattice-based crypto

The most well-known schemes

Encryption

- the Peikert ring-LWE key exchange
- the Goldreich-Goldwasser-Halevi encryption scheme
- NTRUEncrypt

Signature

- the Gunesyu-Lyubashevsky-Poppleman ring-LWE scheme
- the Goldreich-Goldwasser-Halevi signature scheme
- NTRUSign

Hash

- SWIFFT (based on Fast Fourier Transform)
- LASH (LAttice based haSH function)

Lattice-based crypto

Security assumptions

Learning With Errors (LWE)

Find x from (f, y) when y contains errors

Shortest Vector Problem (SVP)

Find the shortest vector in a lattice

[and its sub-problem]

Short Integer Solution (SIS)

Find the shortest vector in specific lattices

Post-quantum actors

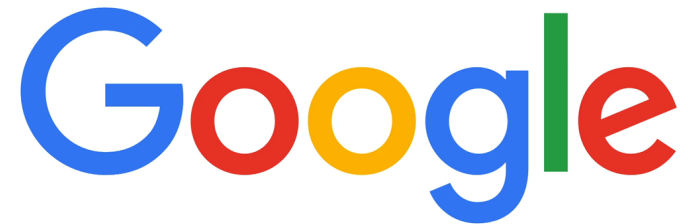
PQCRYPTO
ICT-645622



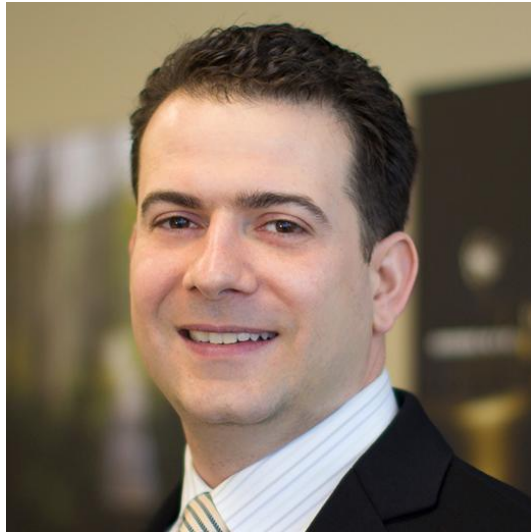
NIST
National Institute of
Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce



I E T F[®]



The helper: evolution



Michele Mosca

Co-Founder, President and CEO of **evolution** 

Co-founder of **IQC** Institute for Quantum Computing at  **UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO**

Project leader of **OPEN QUANTUM SAFE**

Quantum risk assessment

Quantum safe hardware & software

Roadmap design & implementation

Education service

The integrator: **OPEN QUANTUM SAFE**

1

Open source C library
liboqs
for quantum-resistant
cryptographic algorithms



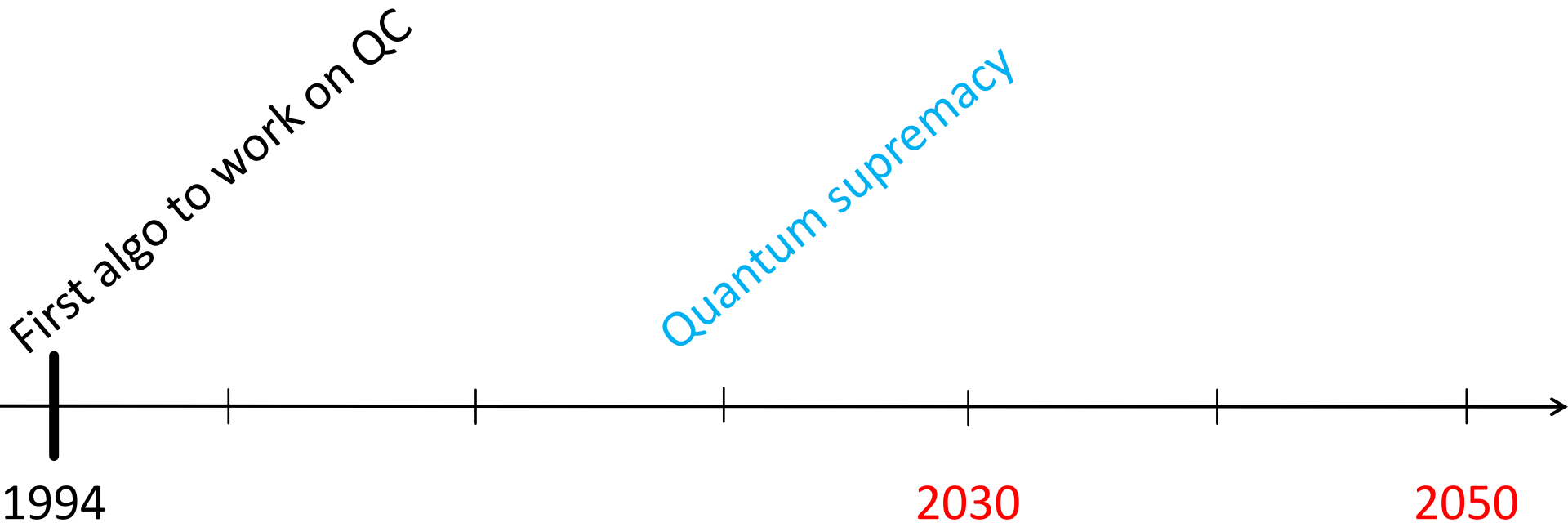
2

Prototype integrations into
protocols/applications such as
OpenSSL

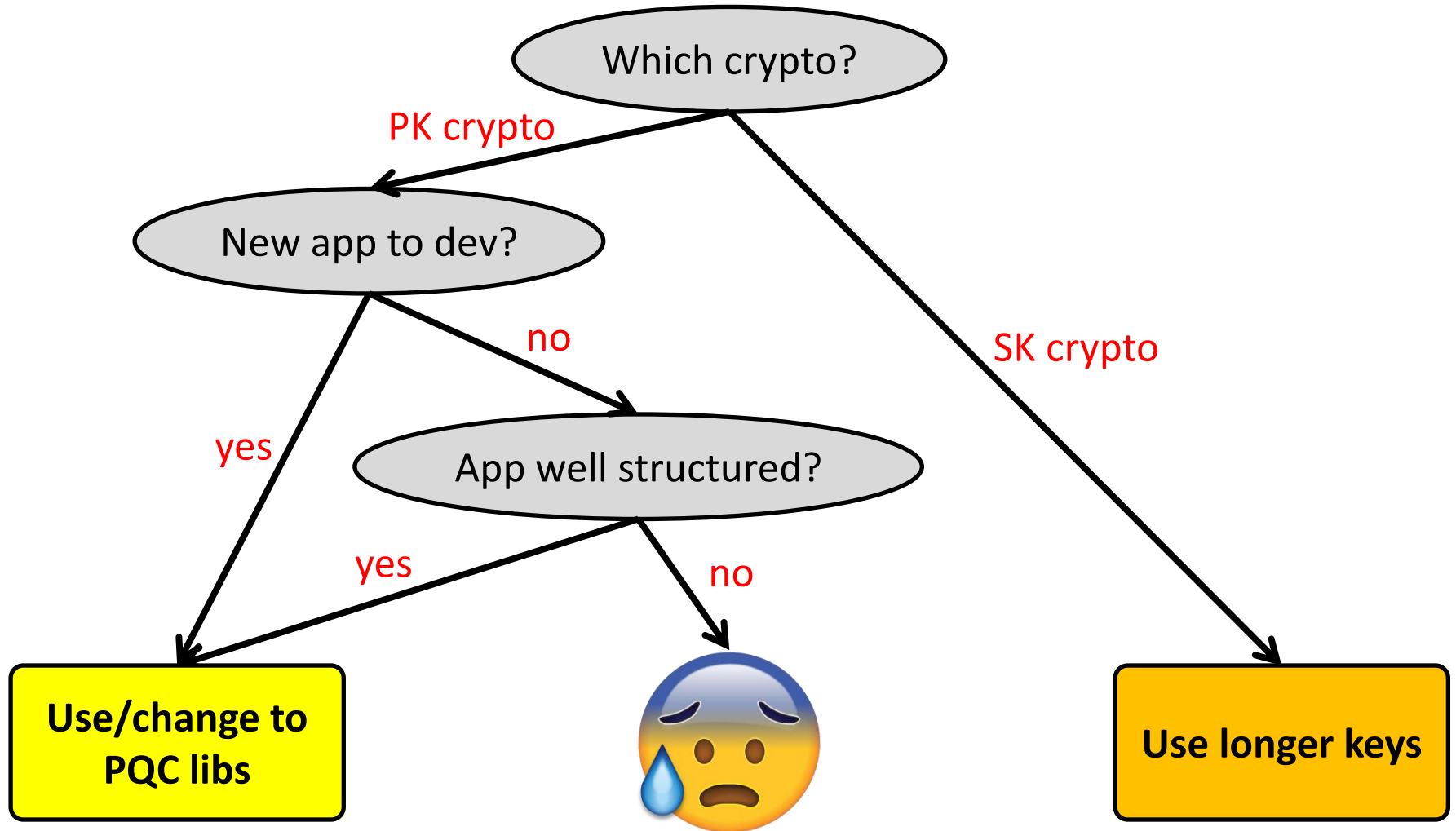


Recommmandations

Quantum tech is not a dream



How to be quantum-resistant





Be careful with PQC

Hash-based crypto

- Keys must be **used once**
- Lengths of variables and keys must be **long enough** ($> \times 2$) to be quantum-resistant

Code-based crypto

- Size of public key is **extremely large** ($> 8,3$ Mbits) to be quantum-resistant

Lattice-based crypto

- **Not mature yet**

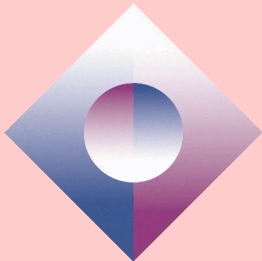


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