


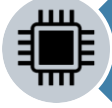





# Post-Quantum Cryptography

**Andy Regenscheid, Manager  
Cryptographic Technology Group, NIST**

Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

# PQC– Much Work Remains

-  Operations
-  Infrastructure Modernization
-  PQC Adoption in Software/Systems
-  Hardware Acceleration/Support
-  Implementation in Cryptographic Libraries
-  Protocol/Application Standards
-   $\mathbb{Z}_q[X]$  Algorithm Standards

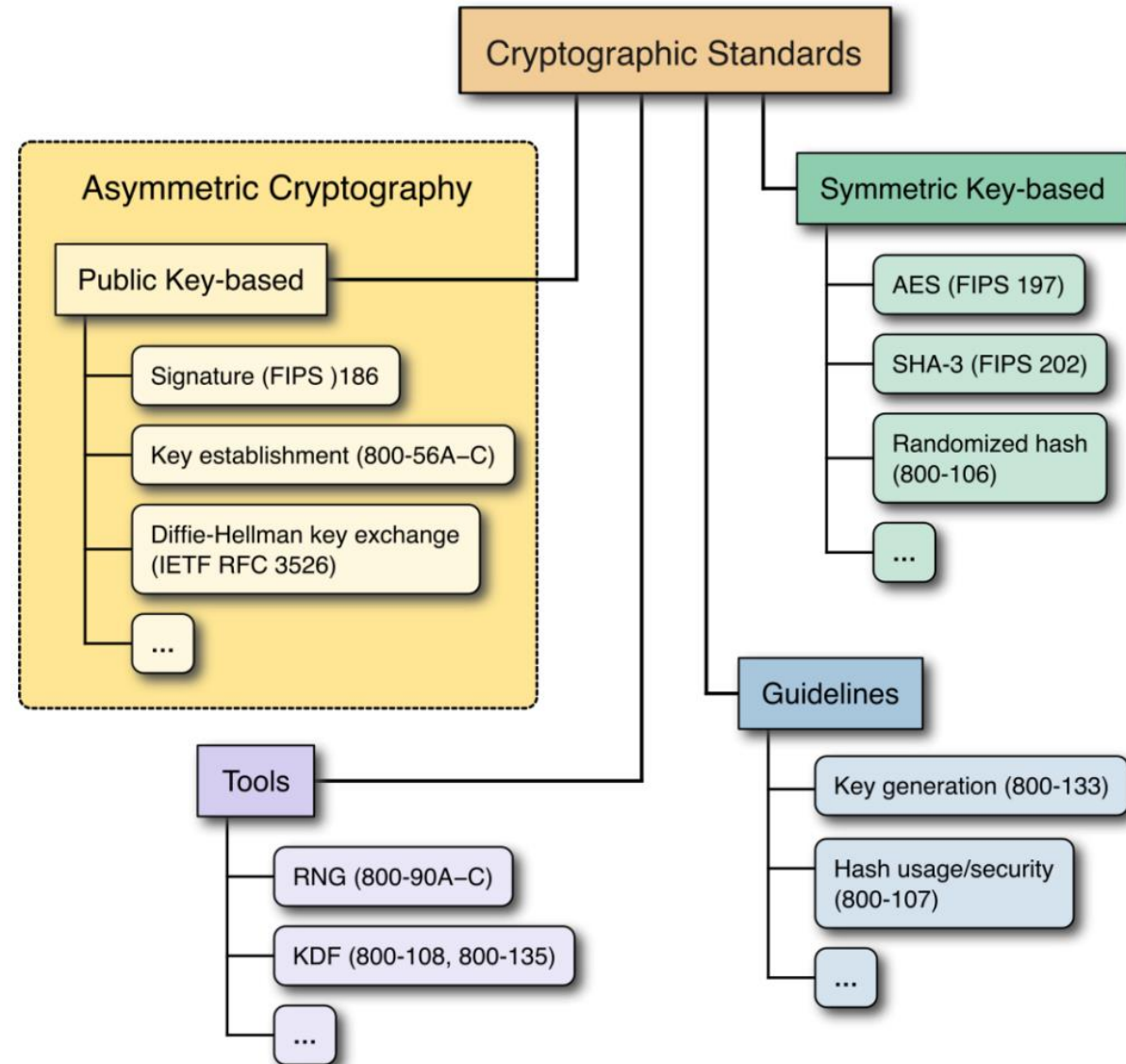


# PQC Algorithms



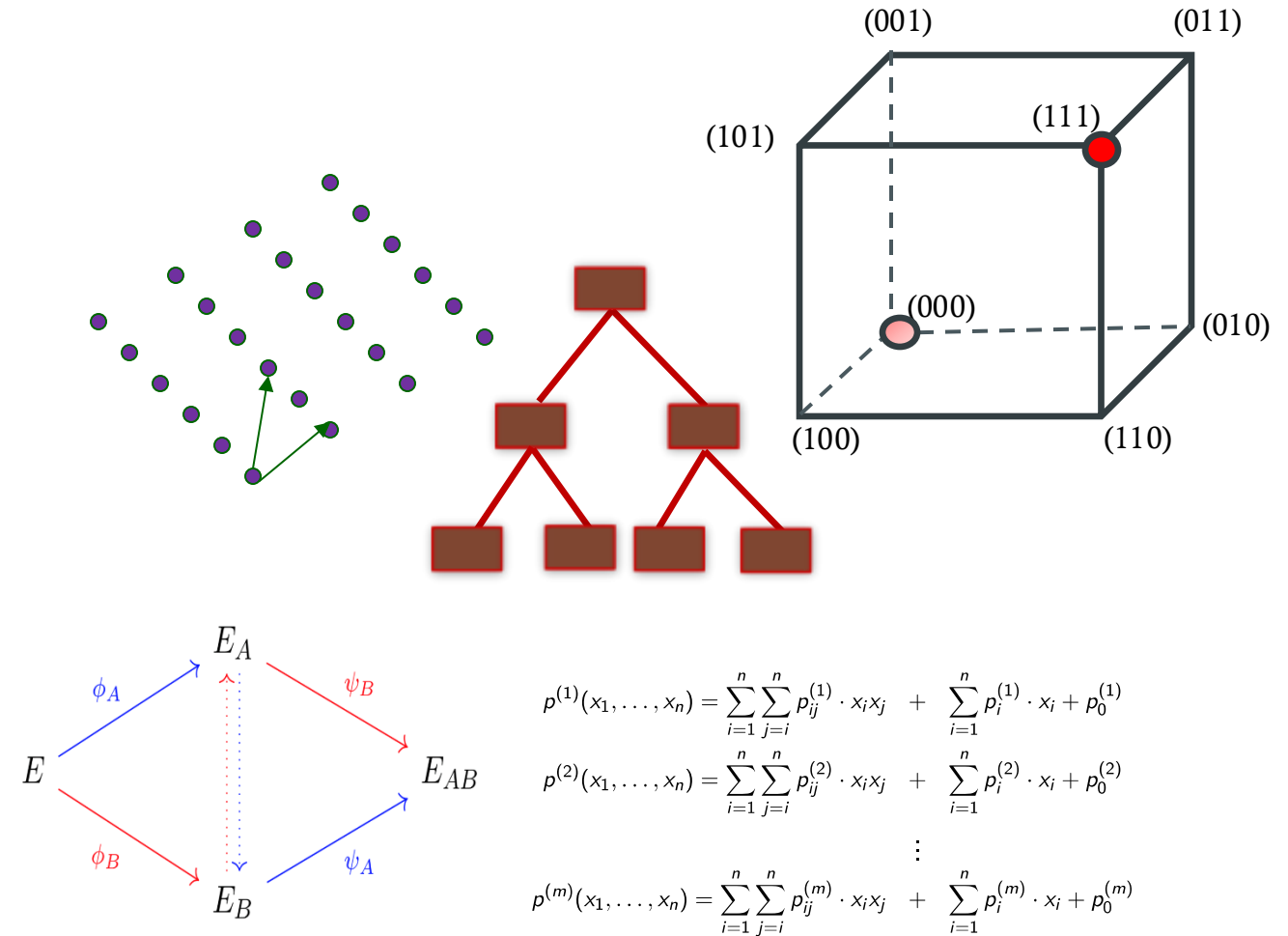
# PQC Selection Process

- **Quantum computers threaten the security of current, widely-deployed public key cryptosystems**
  - *Signatures*– ECDSA, RSA
  - *Key Establishment*–Diffie-Hellman, RSA
- Quantum computers changed what we have believed about the hardness
  - By Shor’s algorithm, factorization and discrete logarithm problems can be solved by quantum computers in polynomial time
- Quantum computing also impacts security strength of symmetric key based cryptography algorithms – manageable by increasing key size
  - Grover’s algorithm provides quadratic speedup



# Post Quantum Cryptography (PQC)

- PQC has been a very active research area in the past two decades
- Some actively researched PQC categories include
  - Lattice-based
  - Code-based
  - Multivariate
  - Hash/Symmetric key-based signatures
  - Elliptic curve isogeny-based



# NIST PQC Standards – Milestones and Timeline



**2010-2015**– NIST PQC project team builds & First PQC Conference

**2016**– Determined criteria and requirements, Call for proposals

**2017**– Received 82 submissions, **69 First Round candidates**

**2018**– 1<sup>st</sup> NIST PQC Standardization Conference

**2019** – Announced **26 Second Round candidates**  
Released NISTIR 8240  
Held the 2<sup>nd</sup> NIST PQC Standardization Conference

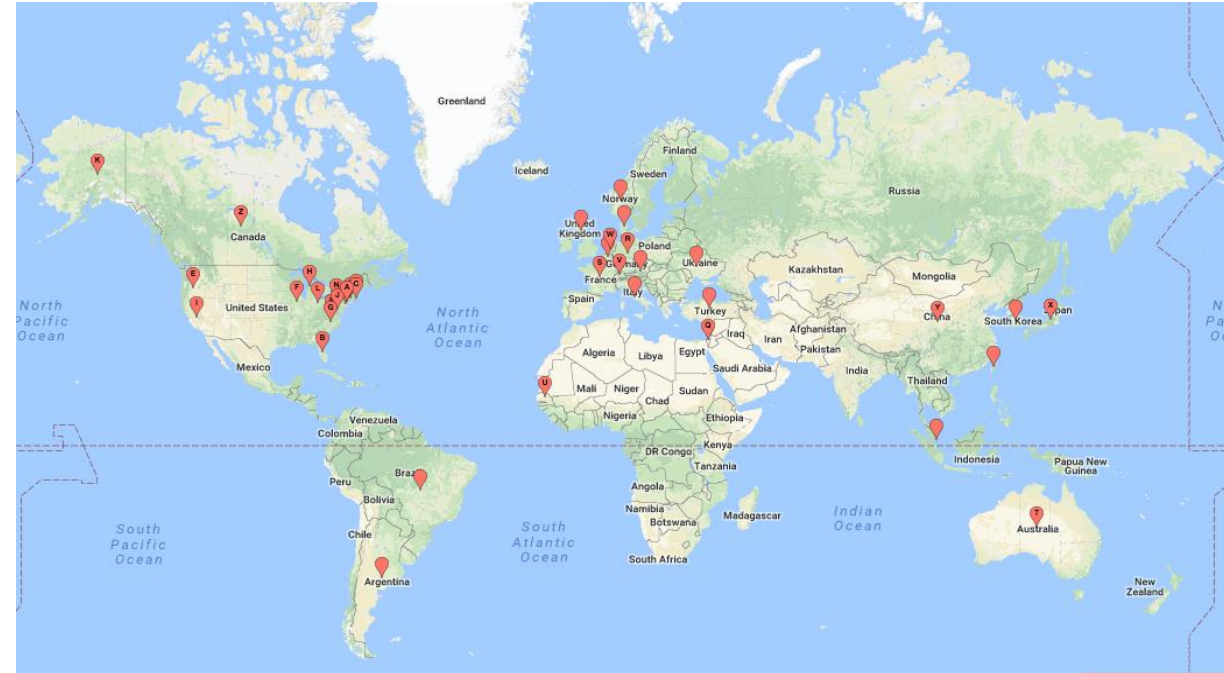
**2020**– Announced **7 finalists & 8 alternate candidates**  
Released NISTIR 8309

**2021**– Hold 3<sup>rd</sup> NIST PQC Standardization Conference

**2022**– **Announced Initial Selections for Standardization & 4<sup>th</sup> Round Candidates**  
Held 4<sup>th</sup> NIST PQC Standardization Conference

**2023** Release draft standards and call for public comments

**2024**– Release Initial Final Standards



Key Encapsulation	Digital Signatures
<p><b><i>Lattice-Based:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>CRYSTALS-Kyber</b> → ML-KEM (FIPS 203)</li></ul>	<p><b><i>Lattice-Based</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>CRYSTALS-Dilithium</b> → ML-DSA (FIPS 204)</li><li>• <b>FALCON</b> → FN-DSA (<i>Standard forthcoming</i>)</li></ul> <p><b><i>Hash-Based</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>SPHINCS+</b> → SLH-DSA (FIPS 205)</li></ul>

## 4<sup>th</sup> round KEMs

- Classic McEliece
- BIKE
- HQC
- ~~SIKE~~

## Onramp signatures

40 new signature algorithm candidates received in response to a call for algorithms based on different hardness assumptions.

- Both ML-DSA (*Dilithium*) and FN-DSA (*Falcon*) are based on lattices
  - ML-DSA is based on module-LWE, FN-DSA is based on SIS over NTRU lattices
  - Best known attacks amount to applying generic algorithms for finding short vectors in lattices
  - During the third round, some results improving the dual attack
- ML-DSA offers parameter sets for security categories 2, 3, and 5
- FN-DSA offers parameter sets for security categories 1 and 5
- Both ML-DSA and FN-DSA have similar levels of core SVP hardness
  
- The complex FN-DSA implementation may make side-channel attack protection difficult

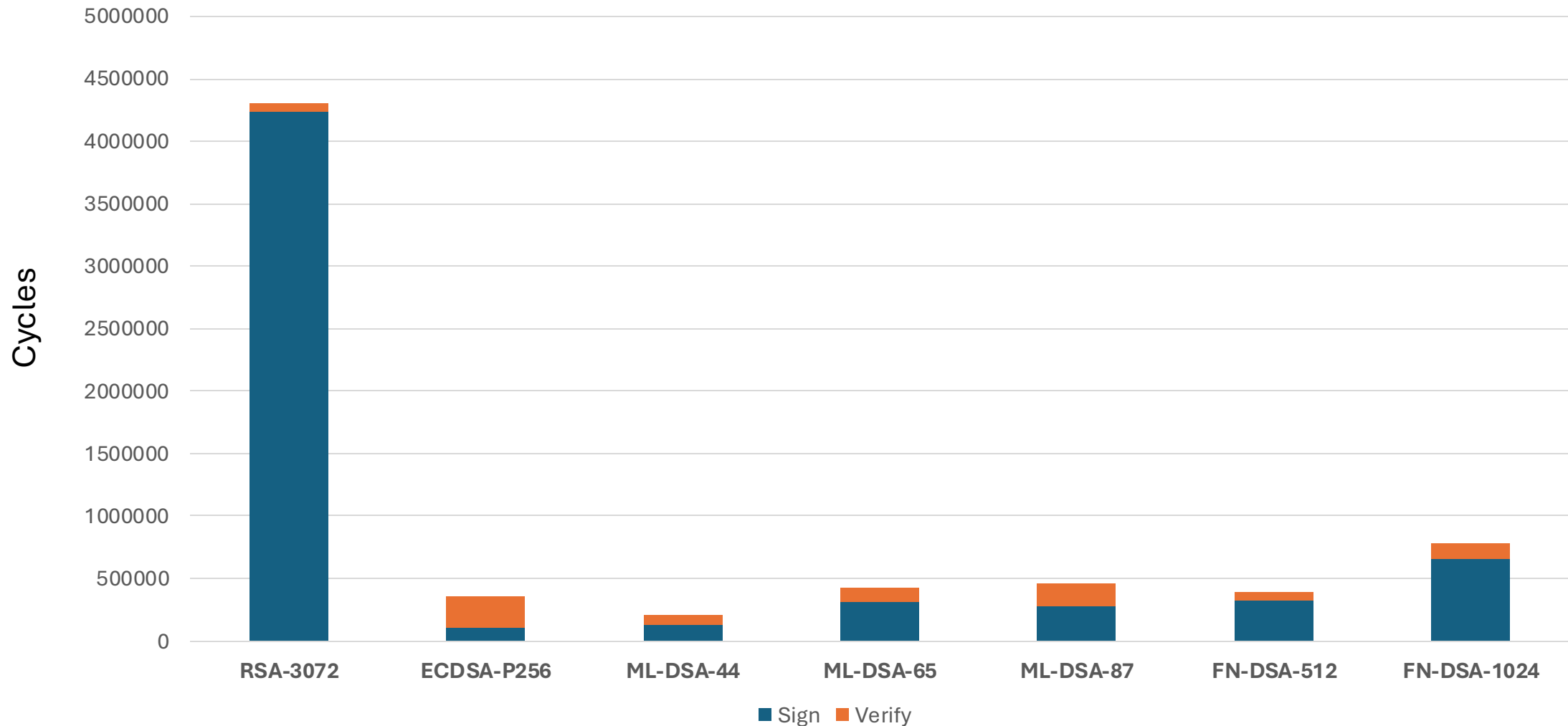




# Standards



# PQC Signatures— Performance

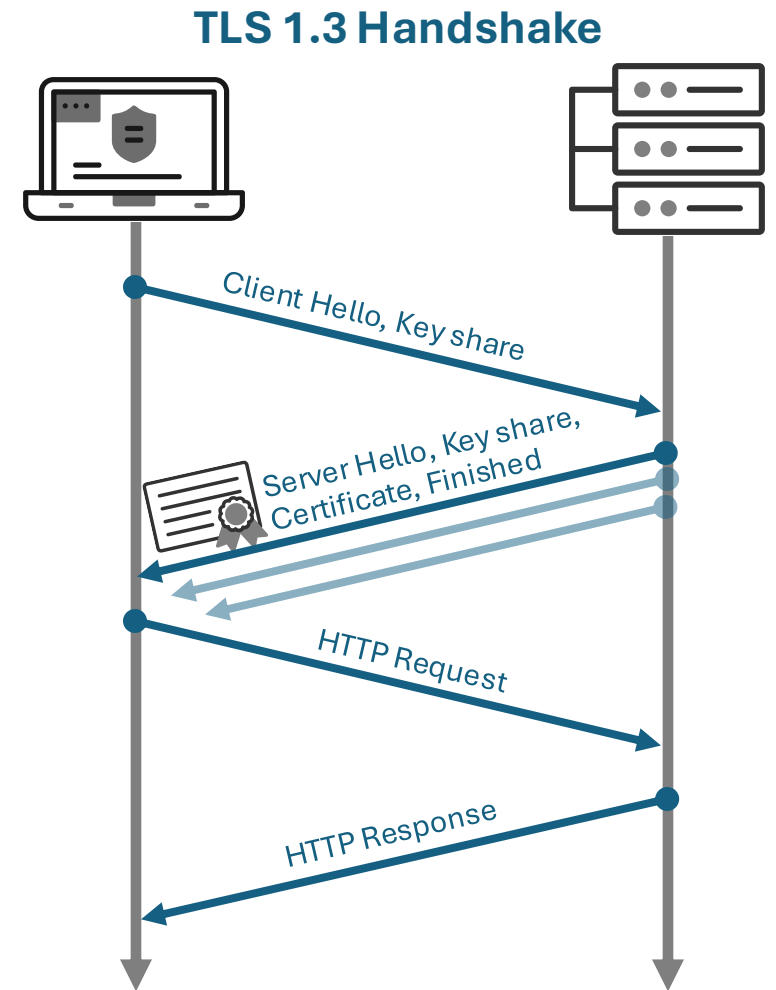


# PQC Key and Signature Sizes

Scheme	Public Key (bytes)	Private Key (bytes)	Signature (bytes)	Security Level
<b>RSA-3072</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>Classical-128</b>
<b>ECDSA-P256</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>Classical-128</b>
<b>ML-DSA-44</b> (Dilithium2)	<b>1312</b>	<b>2528</b>	<b>2420</b>	<b>PQC Category 2</b> (SHA3-256)
<b>ML-DSA-65</b> (Dilithium3)	<b>1952</b>	<b>4000</b>	<b>3293</b>	<b>PQC Category 3</b> (AES-192)
<b>ML-DSA-87</b> (Dilithium5)	<b>2592</b>	<b>4864</b>	<b>4595</b>	<b>PQC Category 5</b> (AES-256)
<b>FN-DSA-512</b> (Falcon512)	<b>897</b>	<b>7553</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>PQC Category 1</b> (AES-128)
<b>FN-DSA-1024</b> (Falcon1024)	<b>1793</b>	<b>13953</b>	<b>1280</b>	<b>PQC Category 5</b> (AES-256)

# A bit much to chew?

- TLS & WebPKI Certificate Signatures
  - *Server Certificate*: 1 public key and signature, 2 SCT signatures
  - *Intermediate CA Certificate*: 1 public key and signature
  - *TLS Handshake*: 1 signature
  - ML-DSA-44 → **14,724 bytes**
  - Current Quantum-Vulnerable → **1,248 bytes**
- ML-KEM-768 key shares
  - Client → Server: 1,184 bytes
  - Server → Client: **1,088 bytes**
- Why does this matter?
  - *TCP initial congestion window* limits the first wave of messages
  - Typical default: **~14,600 bytes**
- Without protocol/implementation changes, this could slow web connection establishment



# Standards Efforts

- **Internet Engineering Task Force**
  - *Algorithms*: Crypto Forum Research Group (CFRG)
  - *Protocol WGs*: e.g., TLS, IPSec
  - *Mechanisms*: LAMPS, COSE, etc.
  - *PQUIP WG*: PQC transition support
- **ISO/IEC**
  - ML-KEM being incorporated into ISO/IEC 18033-2 with Classic McEliece and Fodo
  - ML-DSA, SLH-DSA expected to follow
  - Will serve as references for future system/protocol standards
- **ETSI/SAGE**
  - TC Cyber Working Group for Quantum-Safe Cryptography
  - Recommendations on PQC algorithms and hybrid protocols
  - Will support PQC migration of 3GPP/5G standards

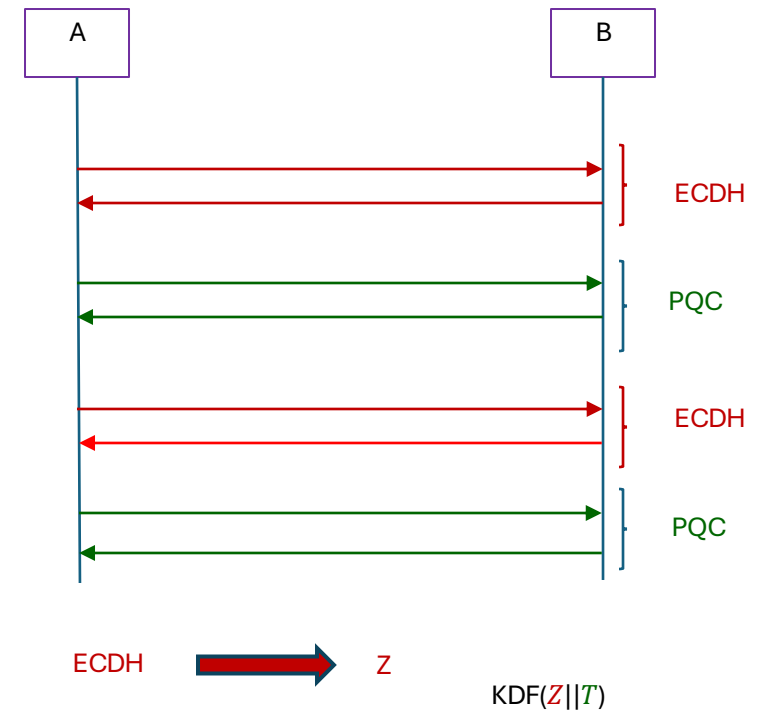
The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for 'state-of-protocols-and-pqc'. The repository is public and has 18 watchers. The current branch is 'main', with 3 other branches and 0 tags. A commit by 'paulehoffman' is visible, titled 'Removed specific draft versions', dated 2 months ago. The README file is also shown, containing a table of draft specifications.

Draft title	Link	Working Group and/or protocol	Topic	Comments
Additional Parameter sets for LMS Hash-Based Signatures	<a href="https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-fluhrer-lms-more-parm-sets/">https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-fluhrer-lms-more-parm-sets/</a>	CFRG	Parameter sets for the LMS signature primitive	
Combiner function for hybrid key encapsulation mechanisms (Hybrid KEMs)	<a href="https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-ounsworth-cfrg-kem-combiners/">https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-ounsworth-cfrg-kem-combiners/</a>	CFRG		
Hybrid Streamlined NTRU Prime sntrup761 and X25519 with SHA-512	<a href="https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-josefsson-ntruprime-hybrid/">https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-josefsson-ntruprime-hybrid/</a>	Independent / CFRG	Hybrids of Streamlined NTRU Prime with X25519	
Kyber Post-Quantum KEM	<a href="https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-cfrg-schwabe-kyber/">https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-cfrg-schwabe-kyber/</a>	CFRG	Description of the Kyber algorithm	

## IETF PQUIP WG

<https://github.com/ietf-wg-pquip/state-of-protocols-and-pqc>

- **Hybrid:** using classical and PQC algorithms together
  - A hybrid mode combines a classical algorithm with a PQC algorithm
  - Reduces risks from uncertainty if either is broken
  - More complexity / slower performance
  - Can get FIPS 140 validation
  - More guidance to come in SP 800-227
- Several approaches to hybrid KEMs and certificates
  - Composite approaches
  - Non-composite hybrid approaches
  - Chameleon certificates
- Use of hybrid will depend on community and application-specific needs
  - NIST does not intend to recommend for/against hybrid schemes
  - Implementers should consider complexity and migration issues
- Architectures /applications may support multiple algorithms





# Migration





MAY 04, 2022

## National Security Memorandum on Promoting United States Leadership in Quantum Computing While Mitigating Risks to Vulnerable Cryptographic Systems



► BRIEFING ROOM

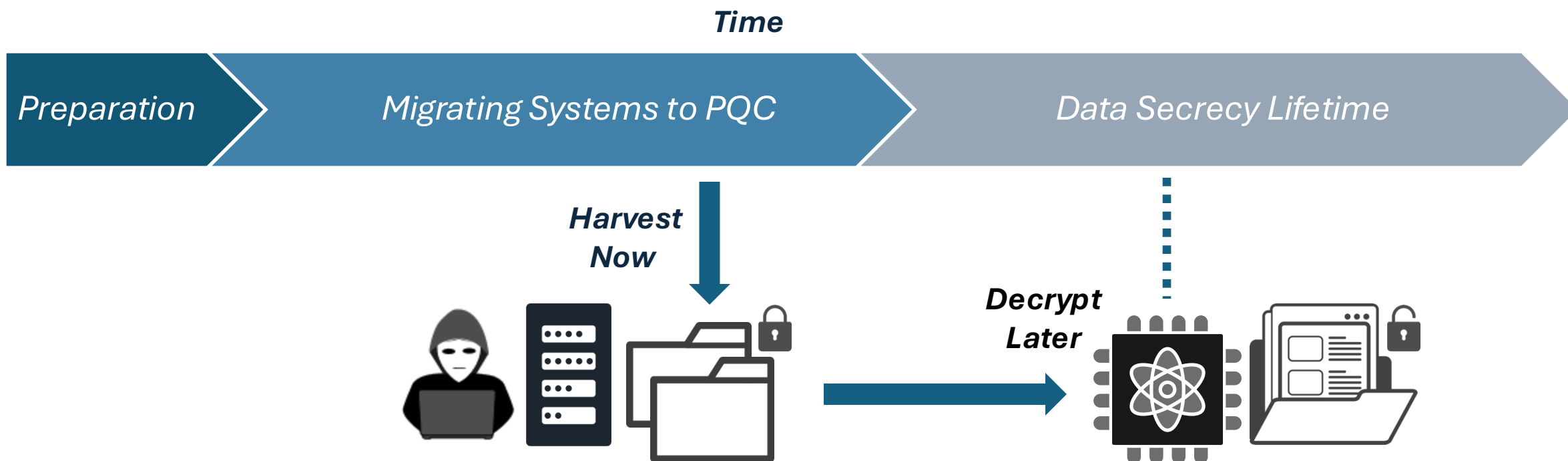
► STATEMENTS AND RELEASES

### Excerpt from NSM-10:

*“Mitigating the Risks to Encryption. ... To mitigate this risk, the United States must prioritize the timely and equitable transition of cryptographic systems to quantum-resistant cryptography, **with the goal of mitigating as much of the quantum risk as is feasible by 2035.**”*



## Mosca's Theorem



# Migration— What can you do

- **Establish a Quantum-Readiness Roadmap**
  - Project management team to plan and scope the migration to PQC
- **Prepare an Inventory of Cryptography and Assets**
  - Identity protocols/applications/devices that use vulnerable cryptography
  - Identify high-value data requiring long-term secrecy
- **Discuss PQC Roadmaps with Vendors**
- **Develop a Migration Strategy**
  - Prioritize high-impact systems, ICSs, and those requiring long-term secrecy
  - Integrate with technology modernization/refresh efforts
  - Prepare to rearchitect, rebuild, or replace legacy applications/systems
- **Validate and Test Systems**
- **Educate and Train Staff**

**QUANTUM-READINESS: MIGRATION TO POST-QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY** TLP:CLEAR

**BACKGROUND**

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), the National Security Agency (NSA), and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) created this factsheet to inform organizations – especially those that support **Critical Infrastructure** – about the impacts of quantum capabilities, and to encourage the early planning for migration to post-quantum cryptographic standards by developing a Quantum-Readiness Roadmap. NIST is working to publish the first set of post-quantum cryptographic (PQC) standards, to be released in 2024, to protect against future, potentially adversarial, cryptanalytically-relevant quantum computer (CRQC) capabilities. A CRQC would have the potential to break public-key systems (sometimes referred to as asymmetric cryptography) that are used to protect information systems today.

**WHY PREPARE NOW?**

A successful post-quantum cryptography migration will take time to plan and conduct. CISA, NSA, and NIST urge organizations to begin preparing now by creating quantum-readiness roadmaps, conducting inventories, applying risk assessments and analysis, and engaging vendors. Early planning is necessary as cyber threat actors could be targeting data today that would still require protection in the future (or in other words, has a long secrecy lifetime), using a catch now, break later or harvest now, decrypt later operation. Many of the cryptographic products, protocols, and services used today that rely on public key algorithms (e.g., Rivest-Shamir-Adleman [RSA], Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman [ECDH], and Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm [ECDSA]) will need to be updated, replaced, or significantly altered to employ quantum-resistant PQC algorithms, to protect against this future threat. Organizations are encouraged to proactively prepare for future migration to products implementing the post-quantum cryptographic standards. This includes engaging with vendors around their quantum-readiness roadmap and actively implementing thoughtful, deliberate measures within their organizations to reduce the risks posed by a CRQC.

**ESTABLISH A QUANTUM-READINESS ROADMAP**

While the PQC standards are currently in development, the authoring agencies encourage organizations to create a quantum-readiness roadmap by first establishing a project management team to plan and scope the organization's migration to PQC. Quantum-readiness project teams should initiate proactive cryptographic discovery activities that identify the organization's current reliance on quantum-vulnerable cryptography. Systems and assets with quantum-vulnerable cryptography include those involved in creating and validating digital signatures, which also incorporates software and firmware updates. Having an inventory of quantum-

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cisa.gov central@cisa.gov @CSAGov |@CSACyber @cisa.gov As of August 21, 2023



# Migration to Post-Quantum Cryptography Project

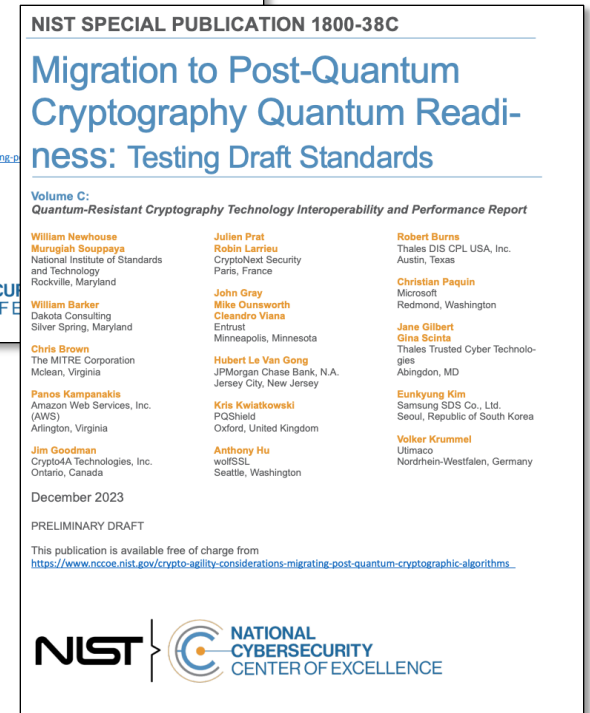


**Accelerate adoption of secure technologies:** collaborate with innovators to provide real-world, standards-based cybersecurity capabilities that address business needs



# Migration to PQC Project– Goals

- Tackle challenges with **adoption, implementation, and deployment** of PQC
- Engage with **industry and government** to raise awareness of the issues involved in migrating to post-quantum algorithms
- Coordinate with **standards developing organizations** and **government/industry** to develop guidance to accelerate the migration
- Support **US Government PQC initiatives**
  - NSM-10
  - Quantum Computing Cybersecurity Preparedness Act
  - NSA CNSA 2.0





# Next Steps



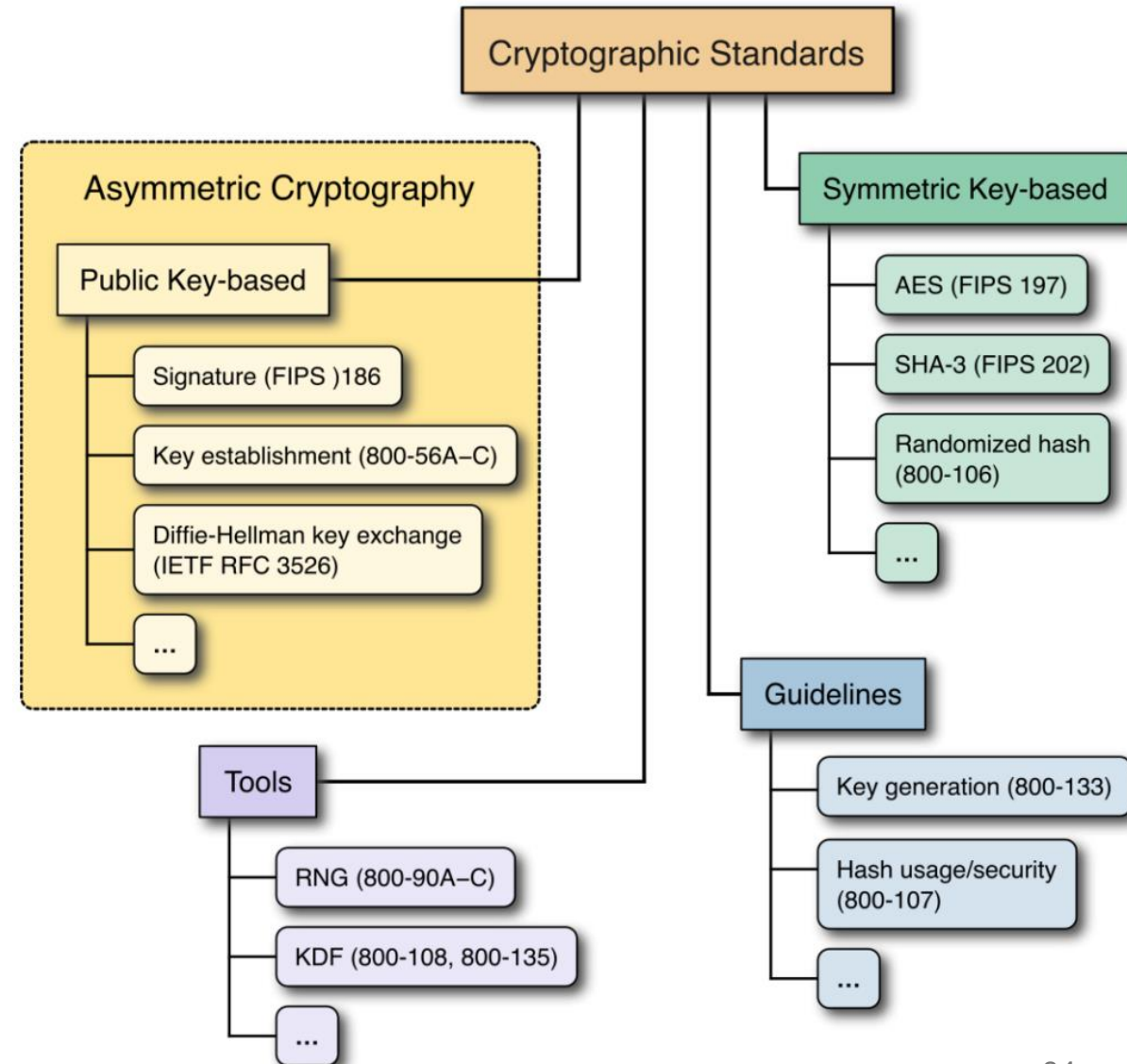
# PQC Standards- Next Steps

- **ML-KEM, ML-DSA, & SL-DSA** finalized on August 13
- Draft **FN-DSA** (Falcon) standard under development
- NIST plans to make 4<sup>th</sup> round KEM selection in 2024
  - Classic McEliece
  - BIKE
  - HQC
  - ~~SIKE~~
- NIST called for additional signatures in 2022 to evaluate general-purpose signatures based on diversified math problems
  - Currently, 40 candidates are under consideration
  - Some candidates were presented at the 5<sup>th</sup> NIST PQC Standardization Conference



# Recommendations & FIPS 140 Testing

- NIST is actively working on Special Publications to provide recommendations for the usage of PQC standards in applications, For example
  - *SP 800-227 Recommendations for key-encapsulation mechanisms to use KEM in key establishment protocols*
- NIST provided guidance for transition in the past (SP 800-131A) and will provide PQC transition guidance
- NIST CAVP is already testing new PQC algorithms for FIPS 140 validation







## Contact Information

Andrew Regenscheid, Cryptographic Technology Group

**Email:** [Andrew.Regenscheid@nist.gov](mailto:Andrew.Regenscheid@nist.gov)

## NIST PQC standardization

[www.nist.gov/pqcrypto](http://www.nist.gov/pqcrypto)

Sign up for *pqc-forum* mailing list

**Email:** [pqc-comments@nist.gov](mailto:pqc-comments@nist.gov)

## NCCoE PQC Migration Project

[www.nccoe.nist.gov/applied-cryptography](http://www.nccoe.nist.gov/applied-cryptography)

Request to join Community of Interest

**Email:** [applied-crypto-pqc@nist.gov](mailto:applied-crypto-pqc@nist.gov)