

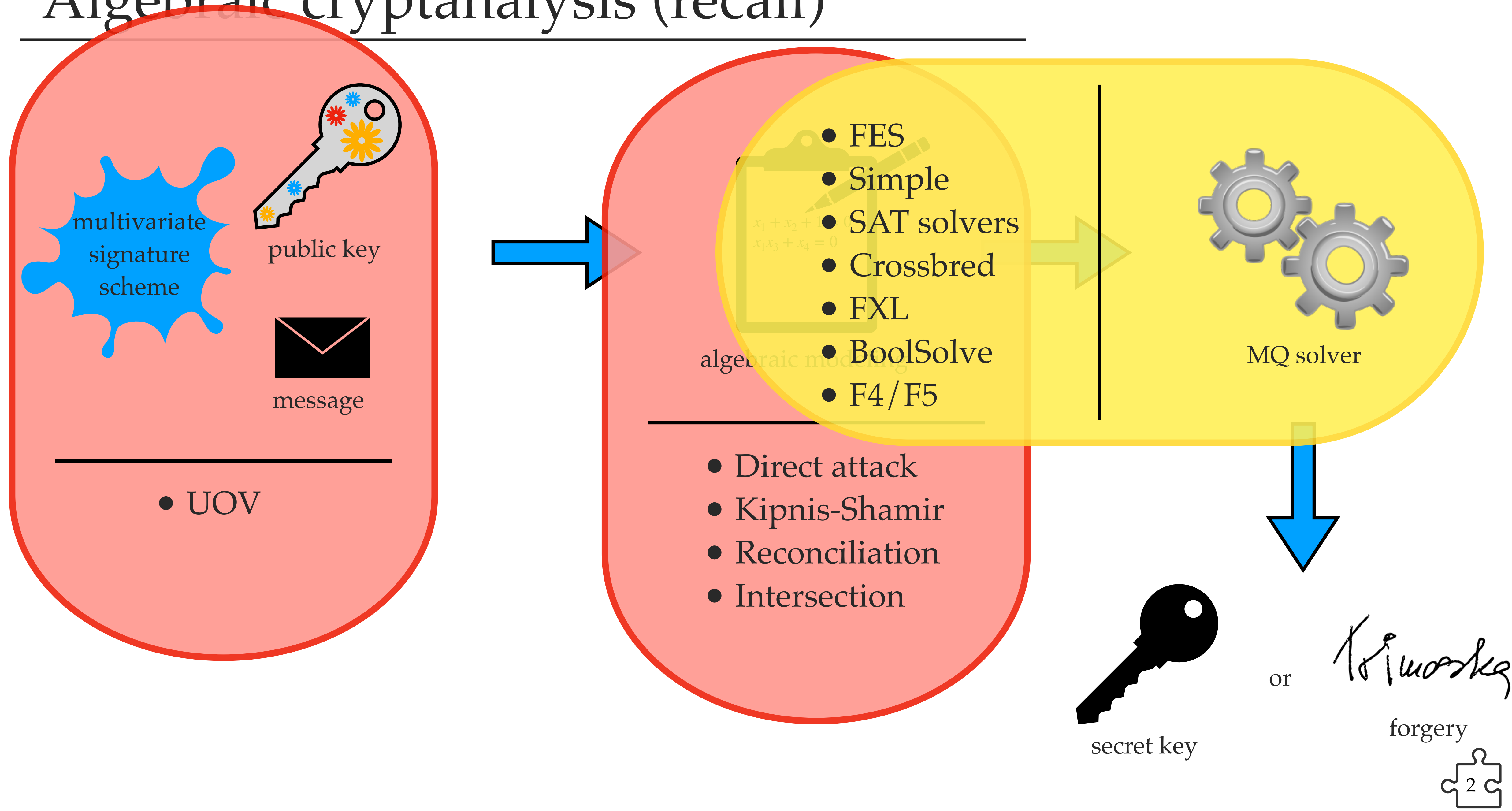
Multivariate cryptography

Monika Trimoska

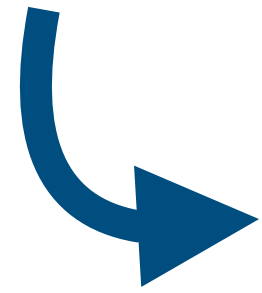
Selected Areas in Cryptology - Part 1
Spring, 2024

TU/e

Algebraic cryptanalysis (recall)



Modelisation



A motivating example.

Given matrices $\mathbf{C}_1, \mathbf{C}_2, \mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2 \in \mathcal{M}_{n,n}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ (the space of matrices over \mathbb{F}_q of size $n \times n$), find $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ (the space of invertible matrices over \mathbb{F}_q of size $n \times n$), such that

$$\mathbf{D}_1 = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}_1 \mathbf{B}$$

$$\mathbf{D}_2 = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}_2 \mathbf{B}$$

→ Demo

- In the assignment:
- Write down the equations;
 - Find a better modelisation for this problem;

Modelisation



A motivating example: a better idea for modelisation.

Given matrices $\mathbf{C}_1, \mathbf{C}_2, \mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2 \in \mathcal{M}_{n,n}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ (the space of matrices over \mathbb{F}_q of size $n \times n$), find $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ (the space of invertible matrices over \mathbb{F}_q of size $n \times n$), such that

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{D}_1 &= \mathbf{C}_1\mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{D}_2 &= \mathbf{C}_2\mathbf{B}\end{aligned}$$

→ Demo

→ Results in a **linear** system with the same number of variables and equations.

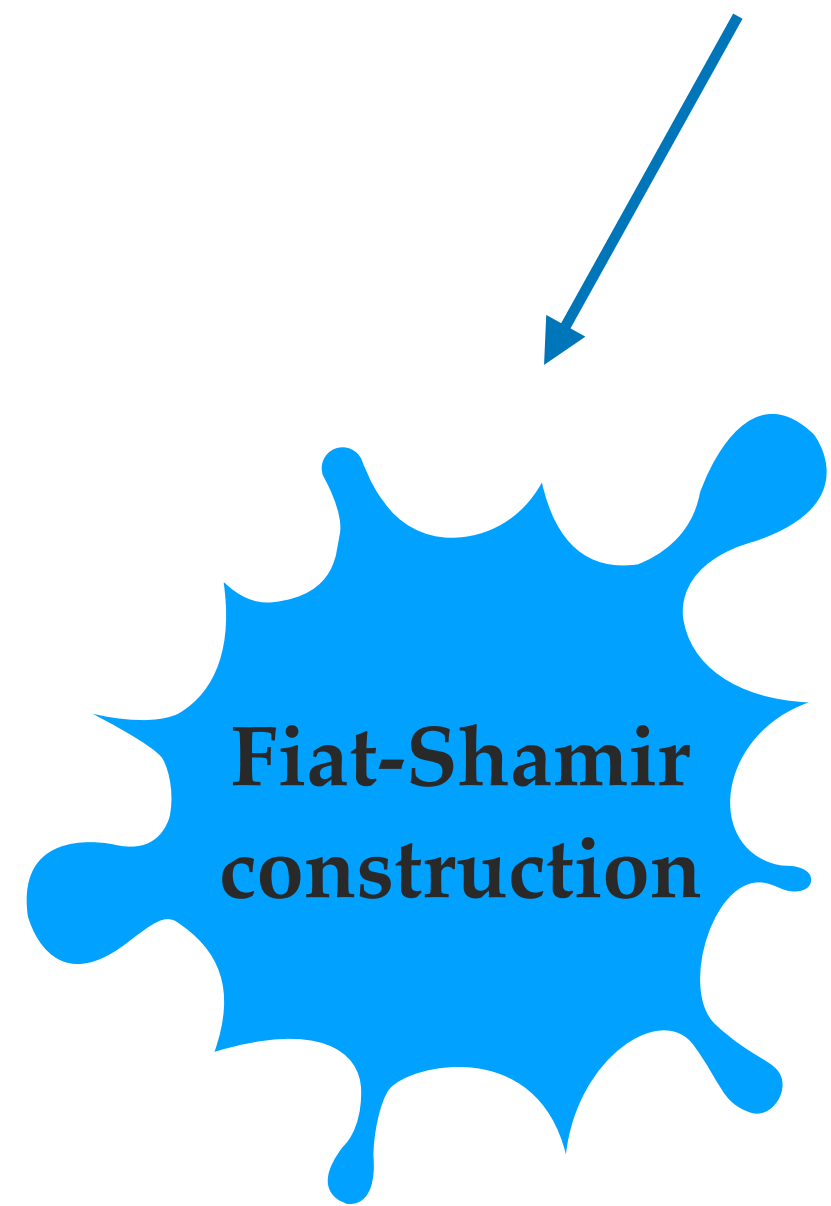
→ If $\mathbf{C}_1, \mathbf{C}_2, \mathbf{D}_1, \mathbf{D}_2$ are all full rank, we should have a unique solution.

→ We can easily recover \mathbf{A} from \mathbf{A}^{-1} .



Multivariate digital signature
schemes

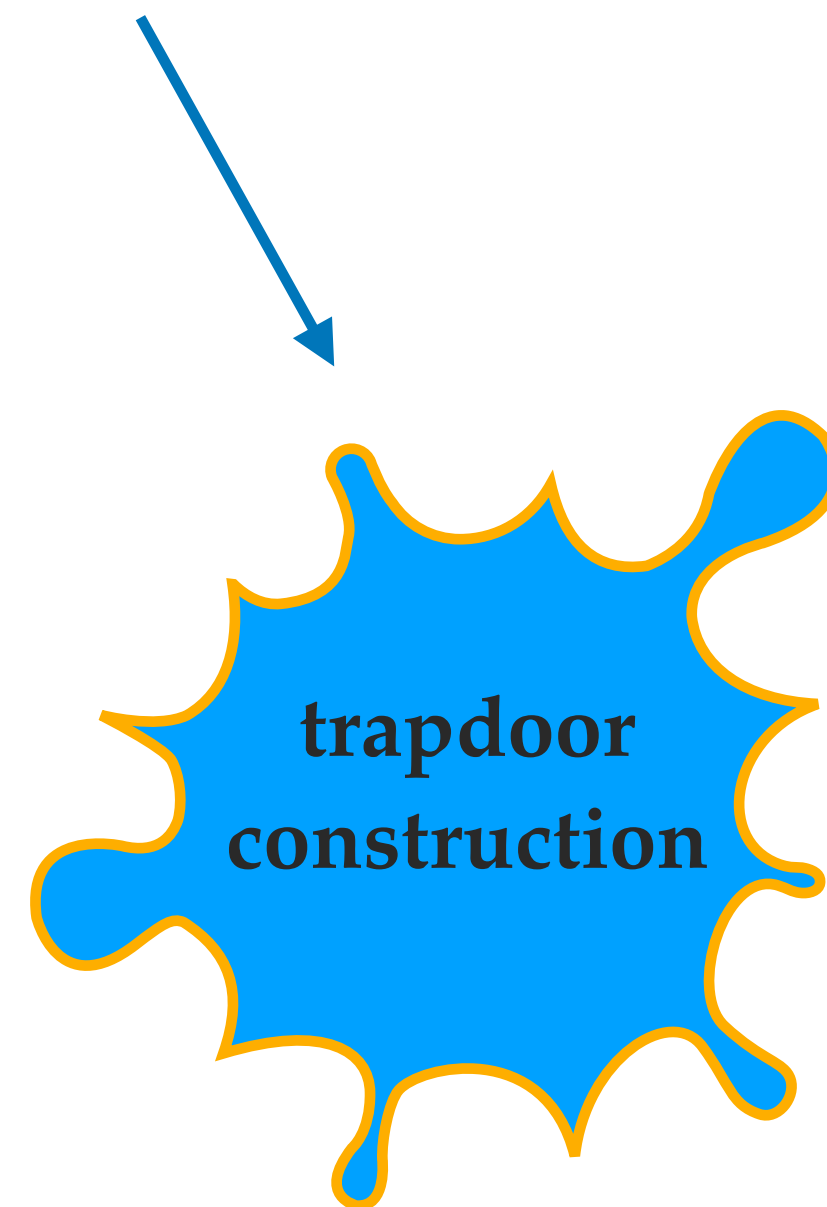
Multivariate signatures



Examples.

MQDSS

SOFIA



Examples.

HFE_v-

UOV

The MQ problem (recall)

A quadratic system of m equations in n variables over a finite field \mathbb{F}_q :

$$f^{(k)}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \gamma_{ij}^{(k)} x_i x_j + \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} \beta_i^{(k)} x_i + \alpha^{(k)}$$

The MQ problem

Given m multivariate quadratic polynomials $f^{(1)}, \dots, f^{(m)}$ of n variables over a finite field \mathbb{F}_q , find a tuple $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ in \mathbb{F}_q^n such that $f^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}) = \dots = f^{(m)}(\mathbf{x}) = 0$.

- Hard in general (should be hard for randomly generated instances).
- Can become easy if we have some structure (a trapdoor).

The trapdoor construction

- Central map:

$$f : (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{F}_q^n \rightarrow (f^{(1)}(x_1, \dots, x_n), \dots, f^{(m)}(x_1, \dots, x_n)) \in \mathbb{F}_q^m$$

- Two bijective linear (or affine) transformations:

$$\mathbf{S} \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q) \text{ and } \mathbf{T} \in \text{GL}_m(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

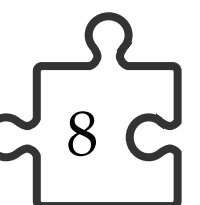
- Public map:

$$p = \mathbf{T} \circ f \circ \mathbf{S}$$

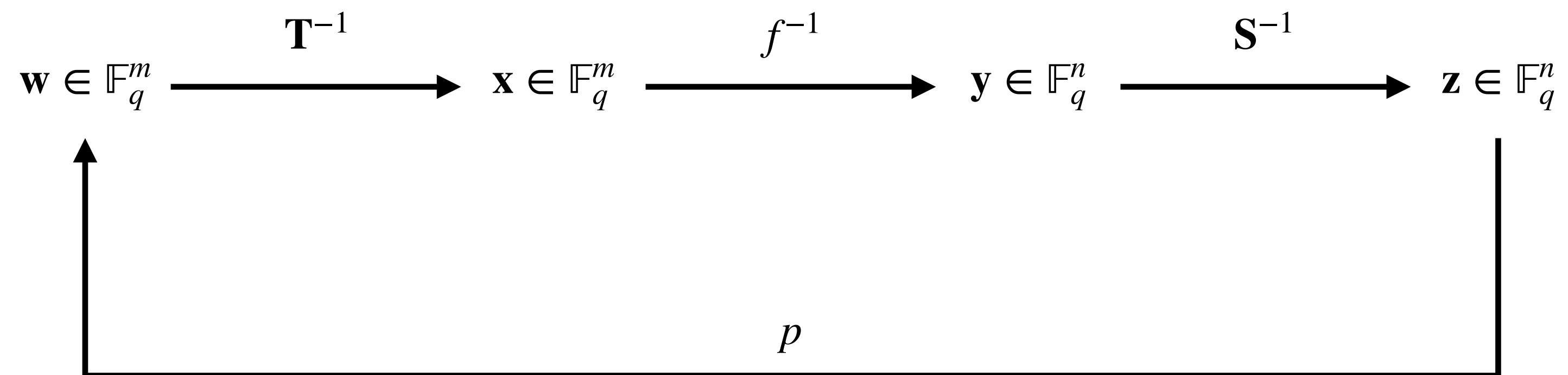


Main idea:

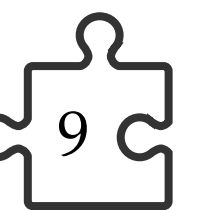
- The central map has a structure such that it is easy to find preimages: it is easy (polynomial time) to compute $f^{-1}(\mathbf{x})$ for a target vector \mathbf{x} .
- The linear transformations hide the structure of the central map.



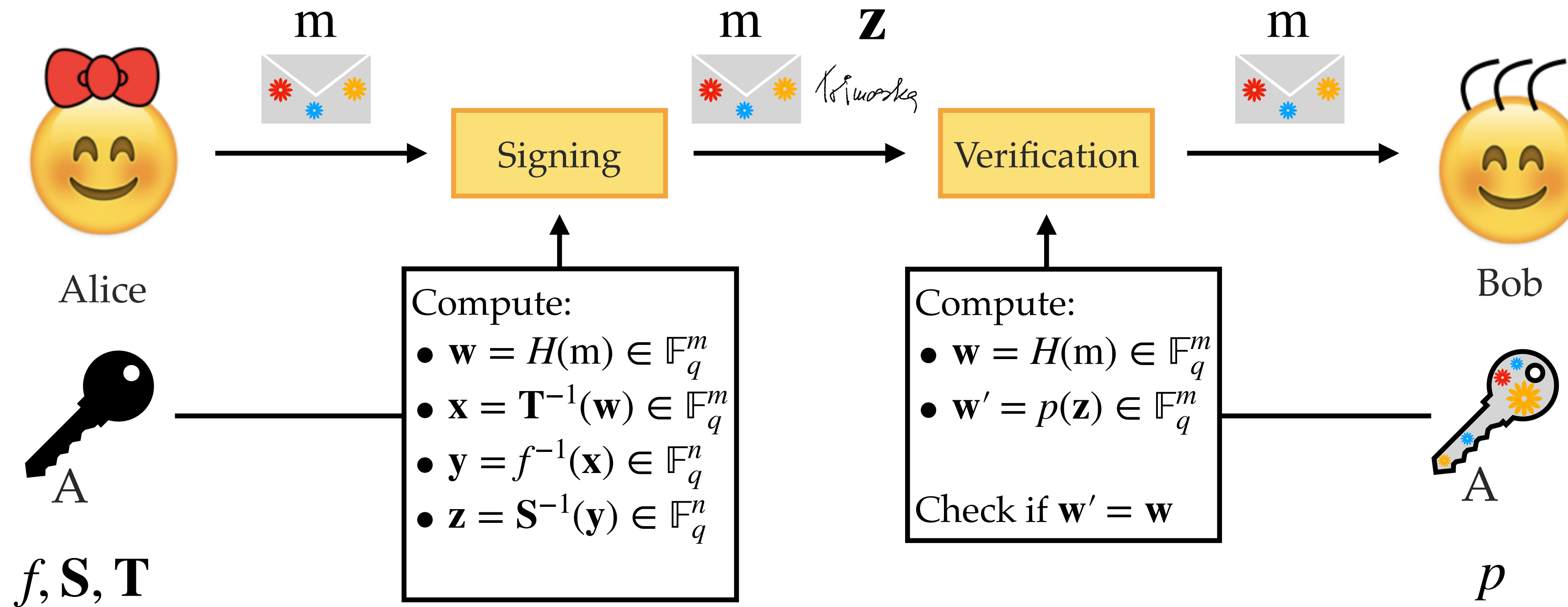
The trapdoor construction



General workflow



The trapdoor construction



Isomorphism of polynomials

The Isomorphism of Polynomials (IP) problem

Input: Two m -tuples of multivariate polynomials

$$f = (f^{(1)}, \dots, f^{(m)}), p = (p^{(1)}, \dots, p^{(m)}) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]^m.$$

Question: Find - if any - $\mathbf{S} \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ and $\mathbf{T} \in \text{GL}_m(\mathbb{F}_q)$ such that $p = \mathbf{T} \circ f \circ \mathbf{S}$.

The Extended Isomorphism of Polynomials (EIP) problem

Input: An m -tuple of multivariate polynomials $p = (p^{(1)}, \dots, p^{(m)}) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]^m$ and a special class of m -tuples of multivariate polynomials $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q[x_1, \dots, x_n]^m$.

Question: Find - if any - $\mathbf{S} \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$, $\mathbf{T} \in \text{GL}_m(\mathbb{F}_q)$ and $f = (f^{(1)}, \dots, f^{(m)}) \in \mathcal{C}$ such that $p = \mathbf{T} \circ f \circ \mathbf{S}$.

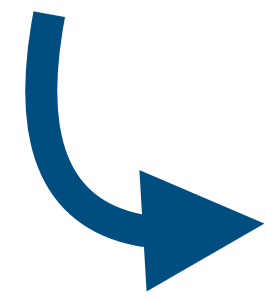


Signature schemes with the trapdoor construction rely on EIP, because we do not have the central map f , but we know the special class to which it belongs (example - UOV - coming up).

Unbalanced Oil and Vinegar (UOV)



The UOV central map

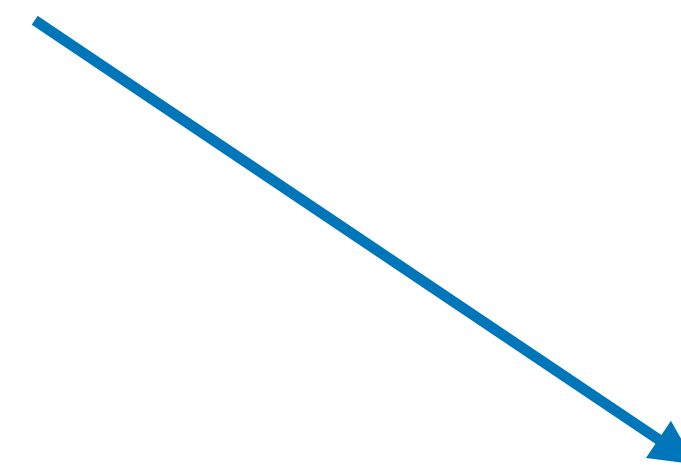


Unbalanced Oil and Vinegar [Kipnis, Patarin, Goubin, '99]

$$f^{(k)}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i \in V, j \in V} \gamma_{ij}^{(k)} x_i x_j + \sum_{i \in V, j \in O} \gamma_{ij}^{(k)} x_i x_j + \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i^{(k)} x_i + \alpha^{(k)}$$



Index set of vinegar variables: $V = \{1, \dots, v\}$



Index set of oil variables: $O = \{v + 1, \dots, n\}$

- The central map is constructed in such a way that enumerating all of the vinegar variables leaves us with a linear system in the oil variables (oil does not mix with oil).
- Everything is as described in the previous slides, except that we do not have a linear transformation on the output: $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{I}$.

Matrix representation of quadratic forms

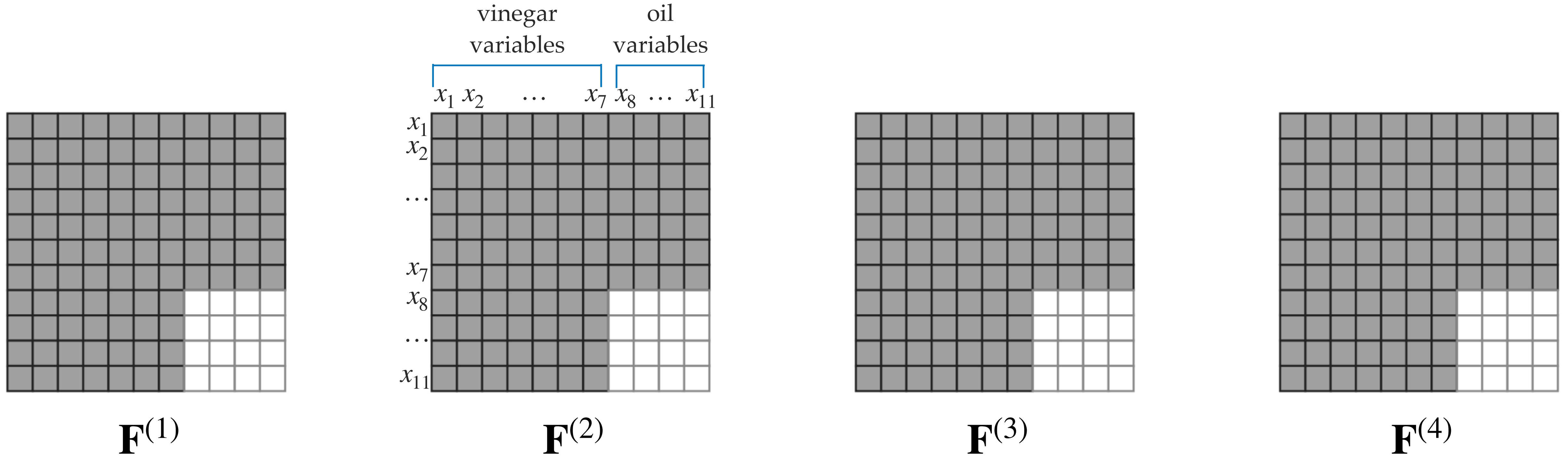
Quadratic form: $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum \gamma_{ij}x_i x_j$

\mathbf{x}^\top				\mathbf{F}				\mathbf{x}
x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	$\frac{\gamma_{1,1}}{2}$	$\frac{\gamma_{1,2}}{2}$	$\frac{\gamma_{1,3}}{2}$	$\frac{\gamma_{1,4}}{2}$	x_1
				$\frac{\gamma_{2,1}}{2}$	$\gamma_{2,2}$	$\frac{\gamma_{2,3}}{2}$	$\frac{\gamma_{2,4}}{2}$	x_2
				$\frac{\gamma_{3,1}}{2}$	$\frac{\gamma_{3,2}}{2}$	$\gamma_{3,3}$	$\frac{\gamma_{3,4}}{2}$	x_3
				$\frac{\gamma_{4,1}}{2}$	$\frac{\gamma_{4,2}}{2}$	$\frac{\gamma_{4,3}}{2}$	$\gamma_{4,4}$	x_4

so with $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$, we get $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x}$.

The UOV central map


Toy example: $v = 7, m = 4$



*Grayed areas represent the entries that are possibly nonzero; blank areas denote the zero entries;

UOV key generation

In matrix representation


$$\mathbf{P}^{(k)} = \mathbf{S}^\top \mathbf{F}^{(k)} \mathbf{S}, \text{ for all } k \in \{1, \dots, m\}.$$

Why ?


$$\text{By definition, } p = f \circ \mathbf{S}.$$

In matrix representation, we need:

$$\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{P}^{(k)} \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{S}\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{F}^{(k)} (\mathbf{S}\mathbf{x})$$

$$\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{P}^{(k)} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{S}^\top \mathbf{F}^{(k)} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{x}$$

UOV in the NIST competition

UOV

TUOV

PROV

MAYO

VOX

QR-UOV

SNOVA

UOV in the NIST competition

UOV

TUOV

PROV

MAYO

VOX

QR-UOV

SNOVA

Example.

	NIST SL	n	m	\mathbb{F}_q	pk (bytes)	sk (bytes)	cpk (bytes)	sig+salt (bytes)
ov-1p	1	112	44	\mathbb{F}_{256}	278 432	237 896	43 576	128
ov-1s	1	160	64	\mathbb{F}_{16}	412 160	348 704	66 576	96
ov-III	3	184	72	\mathbb{F}_{256}	1 225 440	1 044 320	189 232	200
ov-V	5	244	96	\mathbb{F}_{256}	2 869 440	2 436 704	446 992	260

- We choose $n \sim 2.5m$ (slightly bigger than)

UOV-like schemes have:

- Big public keys
- Small signatures



Attacks on UOV

Attacks on UOV

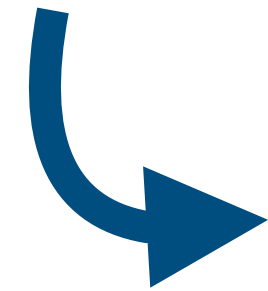
- Direct attack
- Reconciliation attack
- Kipnis-Shamir attack
- Intersection attack



Direct attack



Direct attack



Try to forge a signature with only the knowledge of the public key.

Constraint for modelisation

For a target \mathbf{w} , find \mathbf{z} such that $p(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{w}$.

→ Equations:

$$\mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{P}^{(1)} \mathbf{z} = w_1$$

$$\mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{P}^{(2)} \mathbf{z} = w_2$$

...

$$\mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{P}^{(m)} \mathbf{z} = w_m$$

Reconciliation attack

O

v

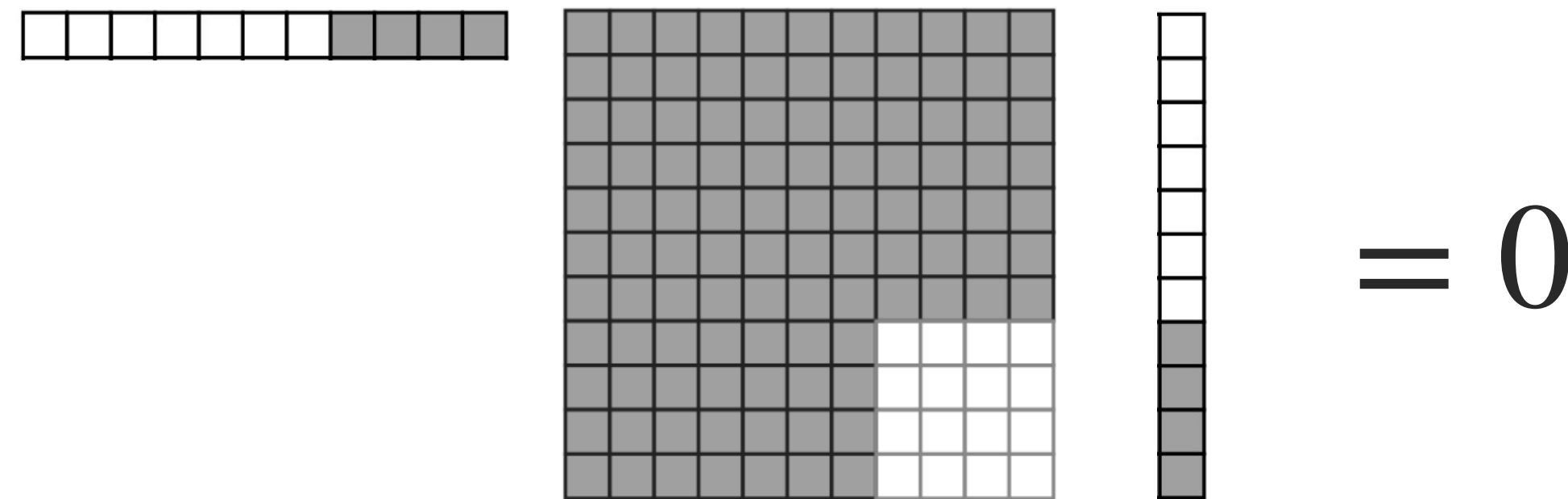
The secret subspace O

The map p with a UOV trapdoor vanishes on a linear subspace $O \subset \mathbb{F}_q^n$ of $\dim(O) = m$:

$$p(\mathbf{o}) = 0, \text{ for all } \mathbf{o} \in O.$$

Why ?

Let $O' \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$ be the m -dimensional space that consists of all the vectors whose first $n - m$ entries (corresponding to the vinegar variables) are zero: $O' = \{\mathbf{v} \mid v_i = 0 \text{ for all } i \leq n - m\}$.

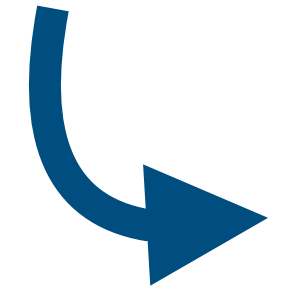


 f vanishes on O' .

Let $O = \mathbf{S}^{-1}(O')$.

 p vanishes on O .

Reconciliation attack



Find the secret oil subspace O : find m linearly independent vectors in O .

The polar form

The **polar form** of a quadratic map $p = (p^{(1)}, \dots, p^{(m)})$ is the bilinear form $p' = (p'^{(1)}, \dots, p'^{(m)})$ such that

$$p'^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = p^{(k)}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) - p^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}) - p^{(k)}(\mathbf{y}), \text{ for all } k \in \{1, \dots, m\}.$$

What does $p'^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ look like ?

Let $\tilde{\mathbf{P}}^{(k)}$ be the upper triangular representation of $p^{(k)}$.

$$\begin{aligned} p'^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= p^{(k)}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) - p^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}) - p^{(k)}(\mathbf{y}) \\ &= (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y})^\top \tilde{\mathbf{P}}^{(k)} (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) - \mathbf{x}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{P}}^{(k)} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{P}}^{(k)} \mathbf{y} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{P}}^{(k)} \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{y}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{P}}^{(k)} \mathbf{x} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^\top (\tilde{\mathbf{P}}^{(k)} + \tilde{\mathbf{P}}^{(k)\top}) \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{B}^{(k)} \mathbf{y} \end{aligned}$$

→ So, p' is bilinear and symmetric.

Reconciliation attack



Find the secret oil subspace O : find m linearly independent vectors in O .

Constraint for modelisation

For any vector $\mathbf{o}_i \in O$, we have that $\mathbf{o}_i^\top \mathbf{P}^{(k)} \mathbf{o}_i = 0$ for all $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$.

For any pair of vectors $\mathbf{o}_i, \mathbf{o}_j \in O$, we have that $\mathbf{o}_i^\top \mathbf{B}^{(k)} \mathbf{o}_j = 0$ for all $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$.

→ Equations:

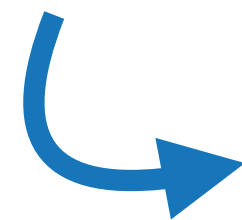
For $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ do

$$\mathbf{o}_i = (o_1, \dots, o_v, 0, \dots, 1_{n-i+1}, 0, \dots, 0)$$

Solve:

$$\mathbf{o}_i^\top \mathbf{B}^{(k)} \mathbf{o}_j = 0, \text{ for } k \in \{1, \dots, m\} \text{ and } j < i$$

$$\mathbf{o}_i^\top \mathbf{P}^{(k)} \mathbf{o}_i = 0, \text{ for } k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$$



In the first iteration, we have only quadratic equations, so this is the bottleneck. Linear constraints facilitate the resolution of a system.

Kipnis-Shamir attack

O

v

The orthogonal complement of a subspace

Let $V \subset \mathbb{F}_q^n$. The orthogonal complement of V is V^\perp such that

$$V^\perp = \{\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_i \in \mathbb{F}_q^n \mid \langle \mathbf{v}_j, \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_i \rangle = 0, \text{ for all } \mathbf{v}_j \in V\}.$$

If V is m -dimensional, then V^\perp is $(n - m)$ -dimensional.

Kipnis-Shamir attack

Find the secret oil subspace O . Works well for the balanced case ($n = 2m$) - the original proposal of OV.

Constraint for modelisation

For each $\mathbf{B}^{(k)}$, we have that $\mathbf{B}^{(k)}O \subset O^\perp$.

Since $\dim(O^\perp) = n - m = m$, we have that $\mathbf{B}^{(k)}O = O^\perp$.

Since this is true for all $\mathbf{B}^{(k)}$, we have that $\mathbf{B}^{(k_1)}O = O^\perp = \mathbf{B}^{(k_2)}O$.

Hence, we have that $\mathbf{B}^{(k_1)^{-1}}\mathbf{B}^{(k_2)}O = O$, for all pairs $\mathbf{B}^{(k_1)}, \mathbf{B}^{(k_2)}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \mathbf{o}_2, \mathbf{B}^{(k)}\mathbf{o}_1 \rangle &= \mathbf{o}_2^\top \mathbf{B}^{(k)}\mathbf{o}_1 \\ &= p^{(k)}(\mathbf{o}_1, \mathbf{o}_2) \\ &= p^{(k)}(\mathbf{o}_1 + \mathbf{o}_2) - p^{(k)}(\mathbf{o}_1) - p^{(k)}(\mathbf{o}_2) = 0\end{aligned}$$

→ Finding a common invariant subspace of a large number of linear maps is easy.

→ Oil and Vinegar becomes **Unbalanced** Oil and Vinegar because of this attack.



Intersection attack

Intersection attack

Find the secret oil subspace O . Use the ideas of the Kipnis-Shamir attack, but for the unbalanced case ($n > 2m$).

Constraint for modelisation

Since $n > 2m$, $\dim(O^\perp) > m$. We still have $\mathbf{B}^{(k_1)}O \subset O^\perp$ and $\mathbf{B}^{(k_2)}O \subset O^\perp$, but they are not (necessarily) the same subspace.

Idea: assuming that $\mathbf{B}^{(k_1)}O \cap \mathbf{B}^{(k_2)}O \neq \emptyset$, try to find a vector \mathbf{x} in this intersection.

If \mathbf{x} is in the intersection $\mathbf{B}^{(k_1)}O \cap \mathbf{B}^{(k_2)}O$, then both $\mathbf{B}^{(k_1)-1}\mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{B}^{(k_2)-1}\mathbf{x}$ are in O .

→ Equations:

$$p(\mathbf{B}^{(k_1)-1}\mathbf{x}) = 0$$

$$p(\mathbf{B}^{(k_2)-1}\mathbf{x}) = 0$$

$$p'(\mathbf{B}^{(k_1)-1}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{B}^{(k_2)-1}\mathbf{x}) = 0$$

→ The attack can be generalised to find a vector in the intersection of more than two subspaces.