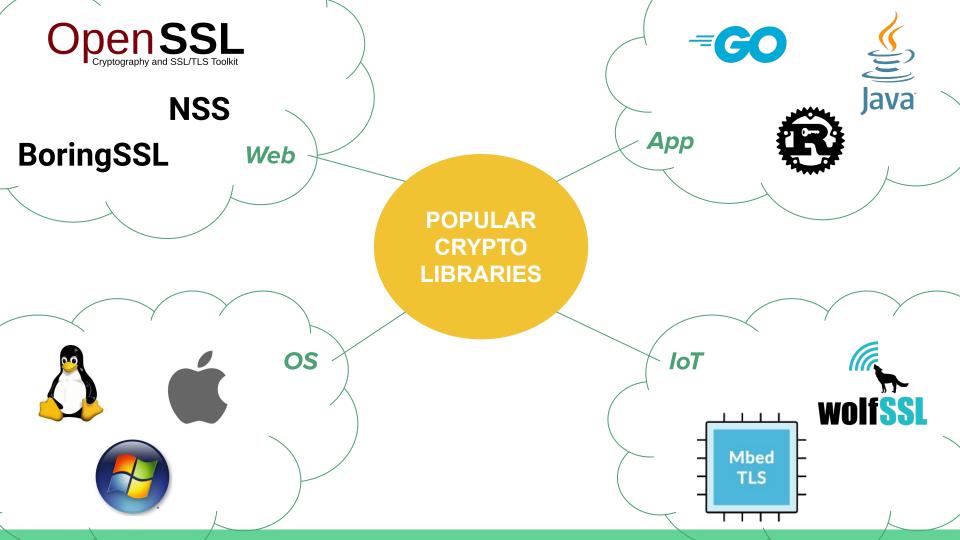
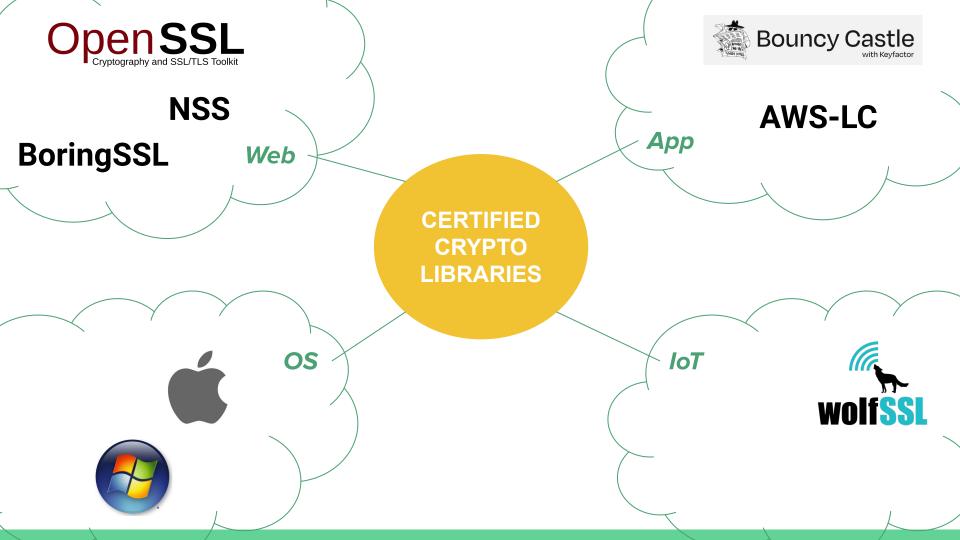
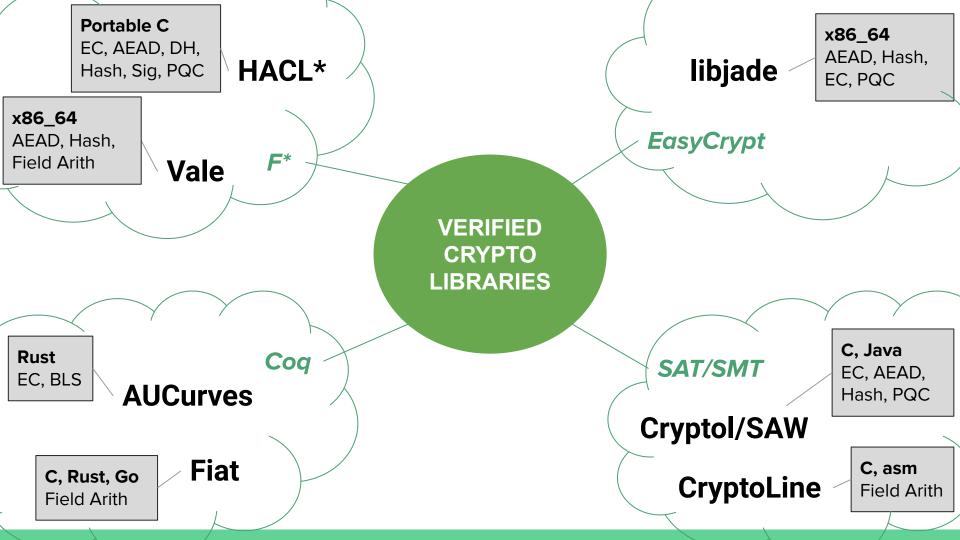
Formal Specifications for Certifiable Cryptography

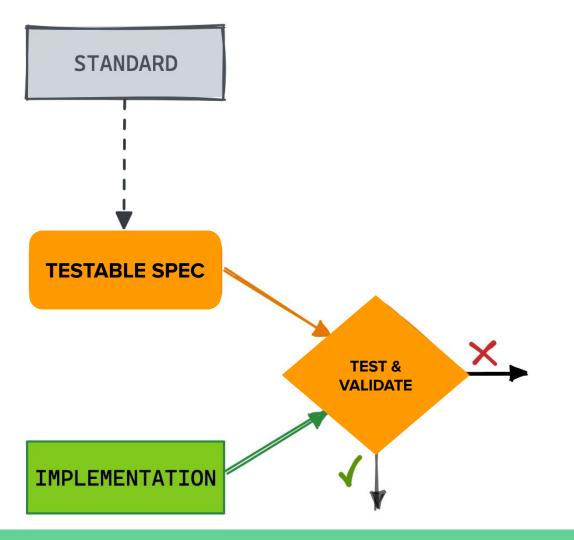
Karthikeyan Bhargavan

Manuel Barbosa, Franziskus Kiefer, Peter Schwabe, Pierre-Yves Strub

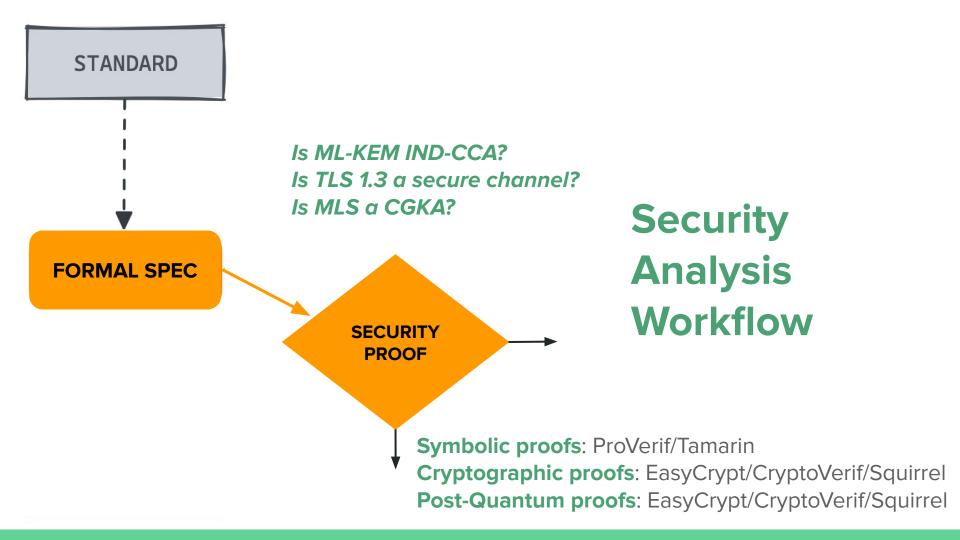


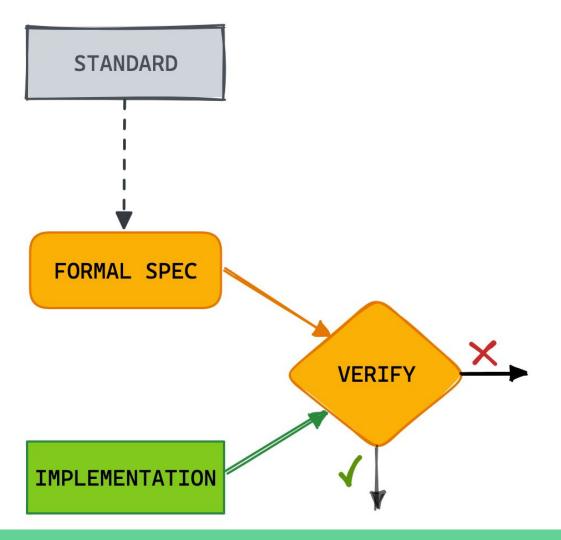




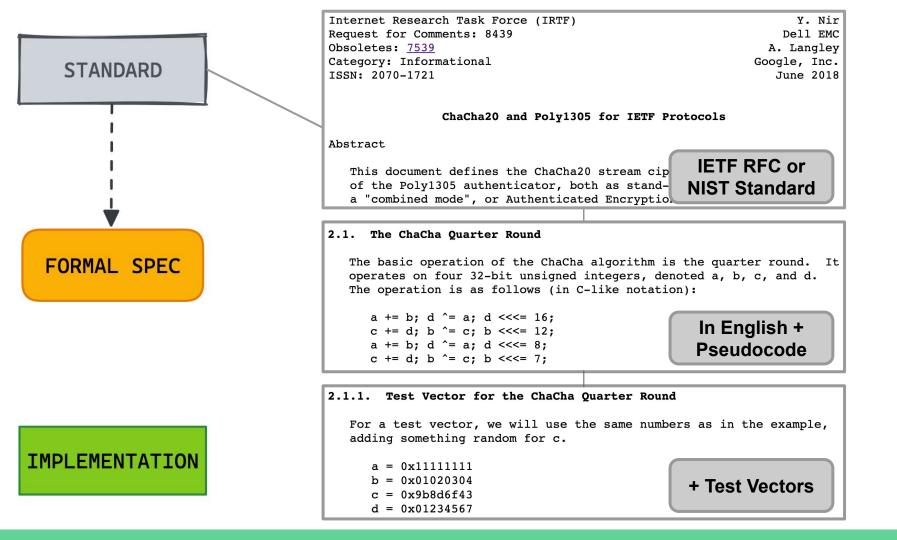


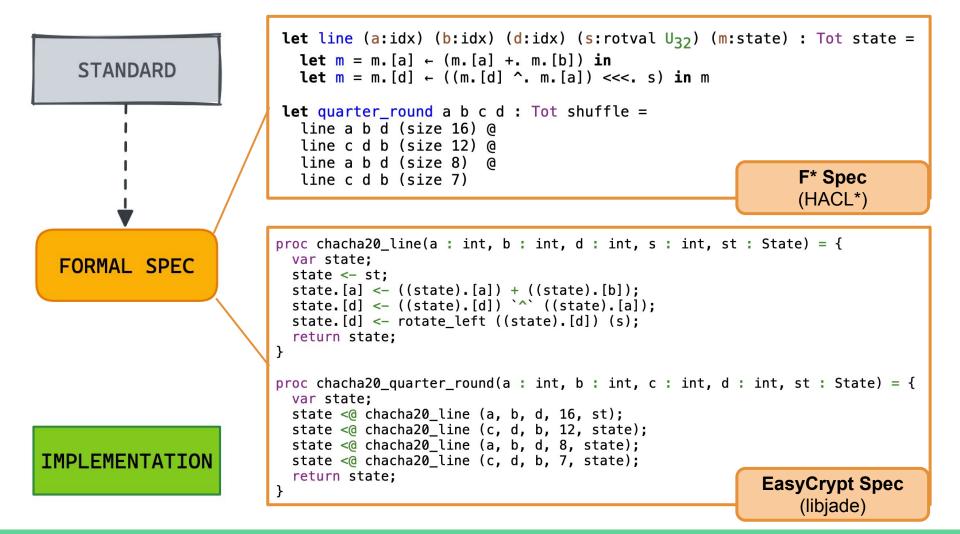
Certification Workflow

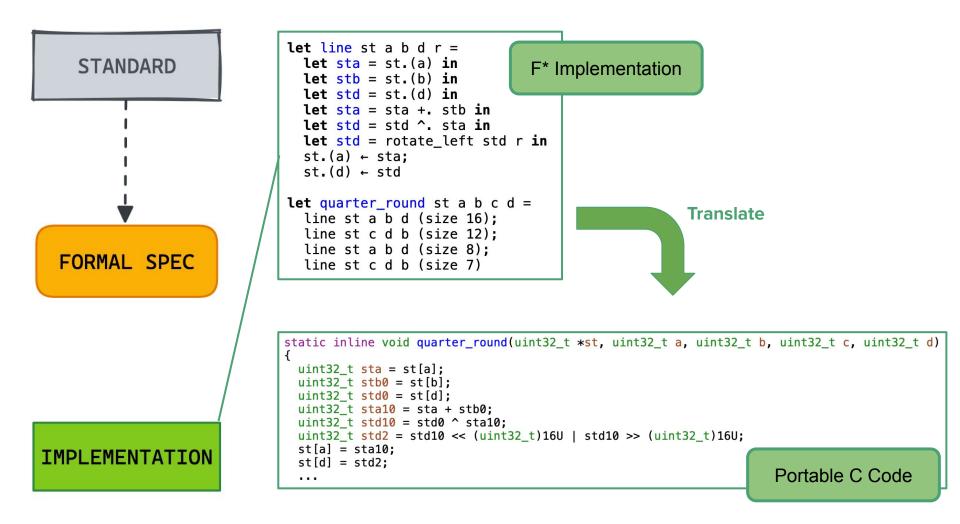


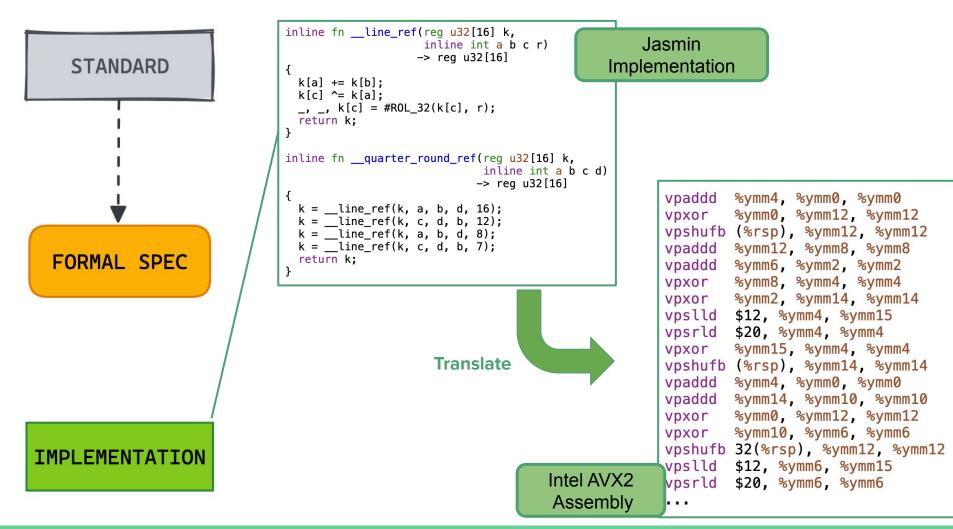


Verified Cryptography Workflow

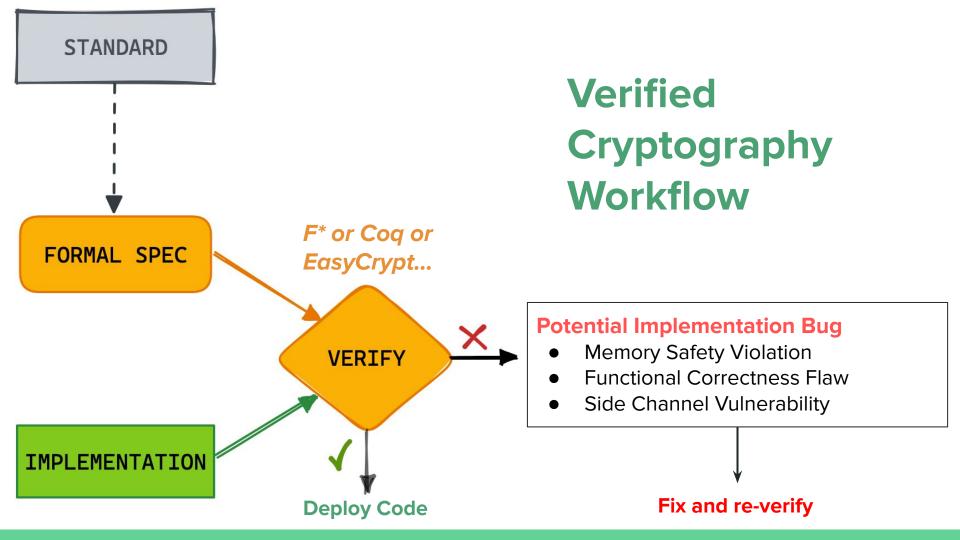








Tranclata



Good news: For any modern crypto algorithm, there is probably a verified implementation

- You don't have to sacrifice performance
- Mechanized proofs that you can run and re-run yourself
- You (mostly) don't have to read or understand the proofs

HACL* and libcrux

- HACL*: Verified C/assembly implementations of all the classical crypto you need
 - Specs/Proofs in F*
 - Intel/ARM SIMD-optimized
 - "Fastest in the world" (sometimes)
- libcrux: Verified Rust (and C) implementations of modern FIPS algorithms: SHA-3, ML-KEM, FrodoKEM, ...
- Used in Firefox, Linux, etc.

	Portable	Arm A64	Intel x64			
Algorithm	C code	Neon	AVX	AVX2	AVX512	Vale
AEAD						
Chacha20-Poly1305	✓ [43] (+)	✓ (*)	✓ (*)	✓ (*)	√ (*)	
AES-GCM						✓ [20]
Hashes						
SHA-224,256	🖌 [43] (+)	✓ (*)	✓ (*)	✓ (*)	√ (*)	√ [20]
SHA-384,512	✓ [43] (+)	✓ (*)	🖌 (*)	✓ (*)	√ (*)	
Blake2s, Blake2b	✓ [34] (+)	✓ (*)	🗸 (*)	✓ (*)		
SHA3-224,256,384,512	√ [34]					
HMAC and HKDF						
HMAC (SHA-2,Blake2)	✓ [43]	 ✓ (*) 	✓ (*)	✓ (*)	✓ (*)	
HKDF (SHA-2,Blake2)	√ [43]	✓ (*)	🗸 (*)	√ (*)		
ECC						
Curve25519	✓ [43]					√ [34]
Ed25519	✓ [43]	1	'			
P-256	√ [34]	'		l'		
High-level APIs						
Box	✓ [43]					
НРКЕ	✓ (*)	✓ (*)	✓ (*)	✓ (*)	✓ (*)	✓ (*)

But... not always easy to use, extend, or combine code from verified libraries

- You do need to carefully audit the formal specs, written in tool-specific spec languages like F*, Coq, EasyCrypt
- You do need to safely use their low-level APIs, which often embed subtle security-critical pre-conditions

Specs are needed for analysis and verification

But... what makes a spec a (good) spec?

Specs for ML-KEM

Mathematical Operations

$$\operatorname{Compress}_d: \quad \mathbb{Z}_q \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{2^d} \\ x \longrightarrow \left\lceil (2d/q) \cdot x \right\rfloor$$

- Feature: Succinct, unambiguous, mathematical
- Uses mathematical integers, in principle unbounded
- Uses modular field arithmetic, with specific rounding functions
- ML-KEM also uses polynomials, vectors, matrices
- Other crypto standards use elliptic curves, finite fields, pairing-based curves, ...

Mathematical Algorithms

- Computes a math function
- Uses loops, variables
- Easy to implement
- Not so simple to understand
- Is this a "good" spec?
- Is it correct?
- Desired Feature:

"We hold these specs to be self-evidently correct"

Algorithm 9 NTT⁻¹(\hat{f}) *Computes the polynomial* $f \in R_q$ *corresponding to the given NTT representation* $\hat{f} \in T_q$. **Input**: array $\hat{f} \in \mathbb{Z}_{q}^{256}$. ▷ the coefficients of input NTT representation **Output**: array $f \in \mathbb{Z}_a^{256}$. ▷ the coefficients of the inverse-NTT of the input 1: $f \leftarrow \hat{f}$ ▷ will compute in-place on a copy of input array 2: $k \leftarrow 127$ 3: for $(len \leftarrow 2; len < 128; len \leftarrow 2 \cdot len)$ **for** (*start* \leftarrow 0; *start* < 256; *start* \leftarrow *start* $+ 2 \cdot len$) 4: $zeta \leftarrow \zeta^{\mathsf{BitRev}_7(k)} \mod q$ 5: $k \leftarrow k - 1$ 6: for $(j \leftarrow start; j < start + len; j++)$ 7: $t \leftarrow f[j]$ 8: $f[j] \leftarrow t + f[j + len]$ \triangleright steps 9-10 done modulo q 9: $f[j + len] \leftarrow zeta \cdot (f[j + len] - t)$ 10: end for 11: end for 12. 13: end for \triangleright multiply every entry by $3303 \equiv 128^{-1} \mod q$ 14: $f \leftarrow f \cdot 3303 \mod q$ 15: return f

EasyCrypt Spec

op as_sint(x : Fq) = if (q-1) / 2 < asint x then asint x - q else asint x. op compress(d : int, x : Fq) : int = round (asint x * $2^d /_{\mathbb{R}}$ q) % 2^d . op decompress(d : int, x : int) : Fq = inFq (round (x * q /_{\mathbb{R}} 2^d)).

op invntt(p : poly) = Array256.init (fun i
$$\Rightarrow$$
 let ii = i / 2 in
if i % 2 = 0 then $\sum_{j=0}^{127}$ inv (inFq 128) * p[2*j] * zroot^{-(2*br j+1)*ii}
else $\sum_{j=0}^{127}$ inv (inFq 128) * p[2*j+1] * zroot^{-(2*br j+1)*ii})

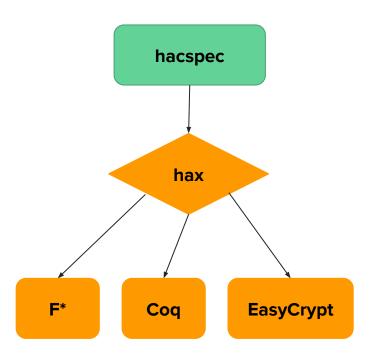
- **Feature:** Machine Checked
- Feature: Basis for security proof for ML-KEM
- Feature: Basis for correctness proof for Jasmin implementation
- Close to the mathematical spec (easy to eyeball and to formally verify)
- Can this be in the NIST spec? Is it stable? Is it readable for programmers?

Python pseudocode in the IETF RFC

- Python, SAGE-friendly
- Feature: Executable
- Feature: Readable by programmers, written by cryptographers
- Is this a "good" spec?
- Is it correct?

```
Compress(x, d) = Round((2^d / q) x) umod 2^d
def InvNTT(self):
    cs = list(self.cs)
    layer = 2
    zi = n//2
    while layer < n:
        for offset in range(0, n-layer, 2*layer):
            zi -= 1
            z = pow(zeta, brv(zi), q)
            for j in range(offset, offset+layer):
                t = (cs[j+layer] - cs[j]) % q
                cs[j] = (inv2*(cs[j] + cs[j+layer])) % q
                cs[j+layer] = (inv2 * z * t) \% q
        layer *= 2
    return Poly(cs)
```

An executable, translatable spec in hacspec



```
fn ntt_inverse(f_hat: KyberPolynomialRingElement) -> KyberPolynomialRingElement {
    let mut f = f_hat;
   let mut k: u8 = 127;
   // for (len <- 2; len <= 128; len <- 2*len)
    for len in NTT_LAYERS {
        // for (start <- 0; start < 256; start <- start + 2*len)</pre>
        for start in (0..(COEFFICIENTS_IN_RING_ELEMENT - len)).step_by(2 * len) {
            // zeta <- Zeta^(BitRev_7(k)) mod q</pre>
            let zeta = ZETA.pow(bit_rev_7(k));
            k -= 1;
            for j in start..start + len {
                let t = f[j];
                f[i] = t + f[i + len];
                f[j + len] = zeta * (f[j + len] - t);
            }
        }
    }
    // f <- f*3303 mod q
    for i in 0..f.coefficients().len() {
        f[i] = f[i] * INVERSE_OF_128;
    }
    f
```

Mathematical Precision vs. Implementation Guidance

- KyberSlash Attacks
- Version 1: timing attack due to division in Compress_1 applied to plaintext
- Version 2: timing attack due to division in Compress_12 applied to IND-CPA ciphertext
- Would having secrecy annotations in the spec have helped?

 $\operatorname{Compress}_d : \mathbb{Z}_q \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{2^d}$

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z}_q & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z}_{2^d} \\ x & \longrightarrow & \lceil (2d/q) \cdot x \rfloor \end{array}$

```
// t += ((int16_t)t >> 15) & KYBER_Q;
// t = (((t << 1) + KYBER_Q/2)/KYBER_Q) & 1;
t <<= 1;
t += 1665;
t *= 80635;
t >>= 28;
t &= 1;
```

Specs for Constructions & Protocols

CryptoVerif (Signed DH, HPKE, WireGuard)

- Process calculus
- Defines protocol actions, cryptographic assumptions, security goals, as oracles,
- Feature: Machine-checked
- Feature: Close to pen-and-paper proofs written by cryptographers
- Should this be in the HPKE RFC?

```
let processA(hf:hashfunction, skA:skey) =
    0A1(hostX: host) :=
        a <-R Z;
        ga <- exp(g,a);
        return(A, hostX, ga);</pre>
```

```
OA3(=A, =hostX, gb:G, s:signature) :=
  get keys(=hostX, pkX) in
  if verify(msg2(A, hostX, ga, gb), pkX, s) then
  gba <- exp(gb, a);
  kA <- hash(hf, gba);
  event endA(A, hostX, ga, gb);
  return(sign(msg3(A, hostX, ga, gb), skA));</pre>
```

```
OAfin() :=

if hostX = B then (

keyA:key <- kA

) else

return(kA).
```

ProVerif (TLS 1.3, Signal, ...)

- Process calculus
- Defines protocol actions, **symbolic** cryptographic assumptions, security goals, as concurrent processes
- Feature: Machine-checked
- Feature: Fully automatic, finds protocol flaws, MitM attacks
- Not a crypto proof (symbolic)
- Should this be in the TLS RFC?

let Client13() = (get preSharedKeys(a,b,psk) in in (io,ioffer:params); let nego(=TLS13,DHE_13(g,eee),hhh,aaa,pt) = ioffer in new cr:random; let (x:bitstring,gx:element) = dh_keygen(g) in let (early_secret:bitstring,kb:mac_key) = kdf_es(psk) in let zoffer = nego(TLS13,DHE_13(g,gx),hhh,aaa,Binder(zero)) in let pt = Binder(hmac(StrongHash,kb,msg2bytes(CH(cr,zoffer)))) in let offer = nego(TLS13,DHE_13(g,gx),hhh,aaa,pt) in let ch = CH(cr.offer) in event ClientOffersVersion(cr,TLS13); event ClientOffersKEX(cr,DHE_13(g,gx)); event ClientOffersAE(cr,aaa); event ClientOffersHash(cr,hhh); out(io,ch); let (kc0:ae key,ems0:bitstring) = kdf k0(early secret,msq2bytes(ch)) in insert clientSession0(cr,psk,offer,kc0,ems0);

in(io,SH(sr,mode)); let nego(=TLS13,DHE_13(=g,gy),h,a,spt) = mode in let log = (ch,SH(sr,mode)) in

```
let gxy = e2b(dh_exp(g,gy,x)) in
let handshake_secret = kdf_hs(early_secret,gxy) in
let (master_secret:bitstring,chk:ae_key,shk:ae_key,cfin:mac_key,sfin:mac_key) =
```

Questions: what makes a good spec?

Questions for discussion

- Should we embed formal specifications within NIST and IETF crypto standards?
- If not, would it be possible to link the pseudocode used in these standards with formal specifications?
- Is it more valuable to have an executable specification for testing or a formal spec for verification?
- Are specifications written in languages like Python and Rust more accessible, readable, usable than specifications written in formal languages like F* or EasyCrypt?
- Should formal specifications describe high-level mathematical concepts like polynomial multiplication or should they detail low-level algorithms like NTT multiplication?
- Should specifications in standards be targeted towards security proofs or implementation correctness, and can they do both?
- Should standards and their formal specifications include indications for secure implementations, such as algorithms that may be at risk of side-channel attacks?



hacspec: a tool-independent spec language

Design Goals

- **Easy to use** for crypto developers
- **Familiar** language and tools
- **Succinct** specs, like pseudocode
- Strongly typed to avoid spec errors
- **Executable** for spec debugging
- **Testable** against RFC test vectors
- Translations to formal languages like
 F*, Coq, EasyCrypt, ...

hacspec: a tool-independent spec language

Design Goals

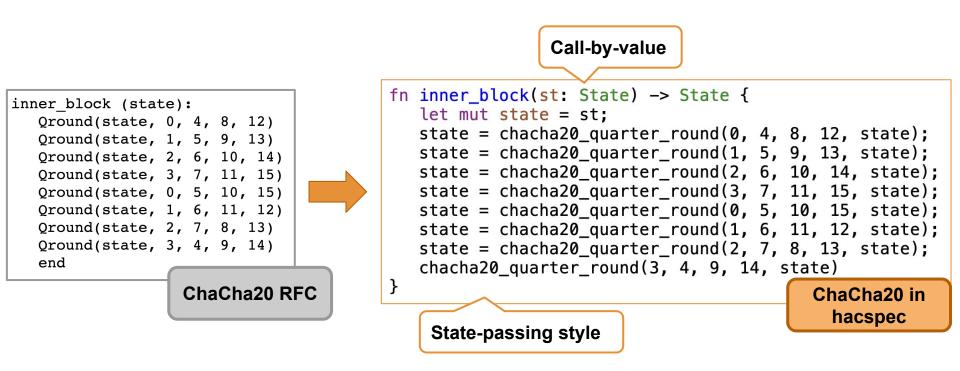
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- Strongly typed to avoid spec errors
- **Executable** for spec debugging
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- Translations to formal languages like
 F*, Coq, EasyCrypt, ...

A purely functional subset of Rust

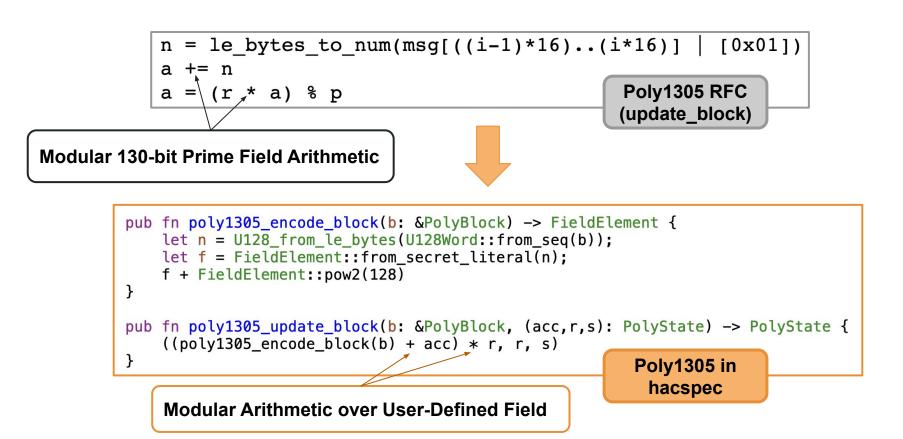
- Safe Rust without external side-effects
- No mutable borrows
- All values are copyable
- Rust tools & development environment
- A library of common abstractions
 - Arbitrary-precision Integers
 - Secret-independent Machine Ints
 - Vectors, Matrices, Polynomials,...

Language and Toolchain Details: hacspec.org

hacspec: purely functional crypto code in Rust



hacspec: abstract integers for field arithmetic



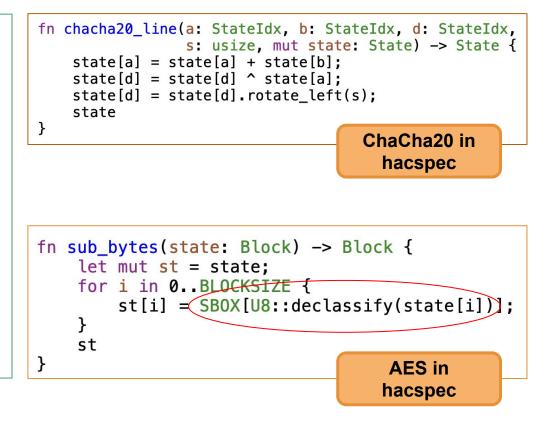
hacspec: secret integers for "constant-time" code

Separate Secret and Public Values

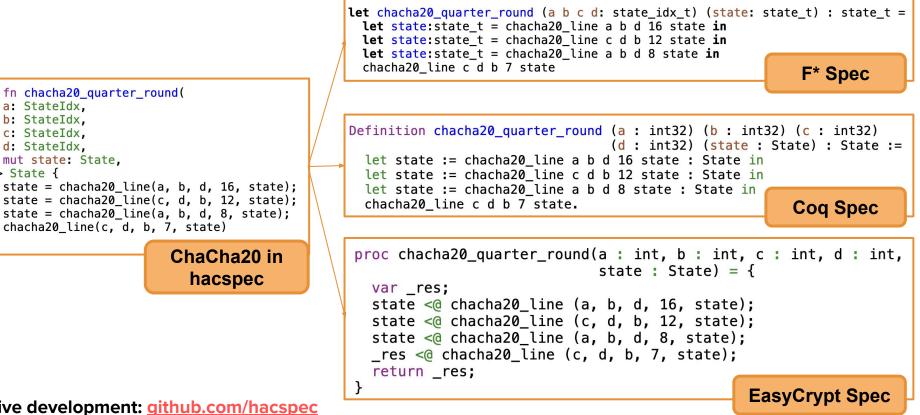
- New types: U8, U32, U64, U128
- Can do arithmetic: +, *, -
- Can do bitwise ops: ^, I, &
- Cannot do division: /, %
- Cannot do comparison: ==, !=, <, ...
- Cannot use as array indexes: x[u]

Enforces secret independence

- A "constant-time" discipline
- Important for some crypto specs



hacspec: translation to formal languages



Active development: github.com/hacspec

pub fn chacha20_quarter_round(

a: StateIdx, b: StateIdx,

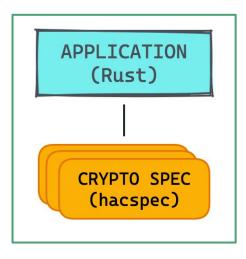
c: StateIdx,

d: StateIdx, mut state: State.

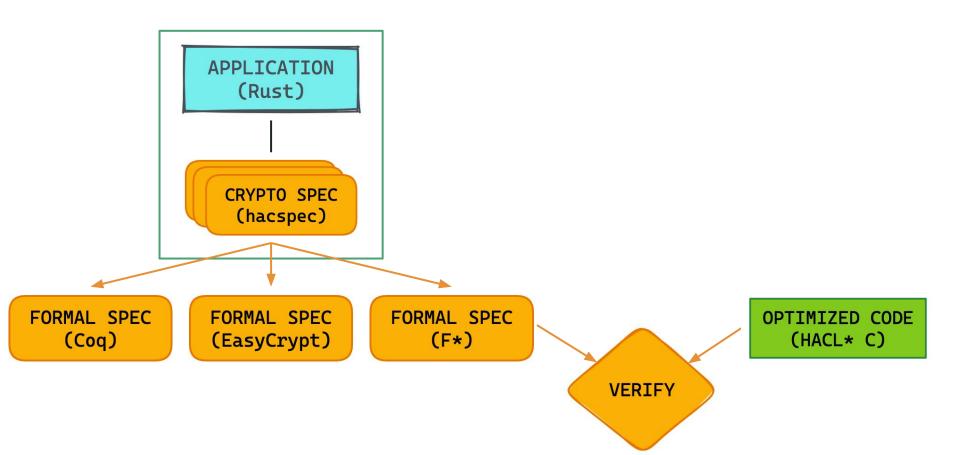
) -> State {

}

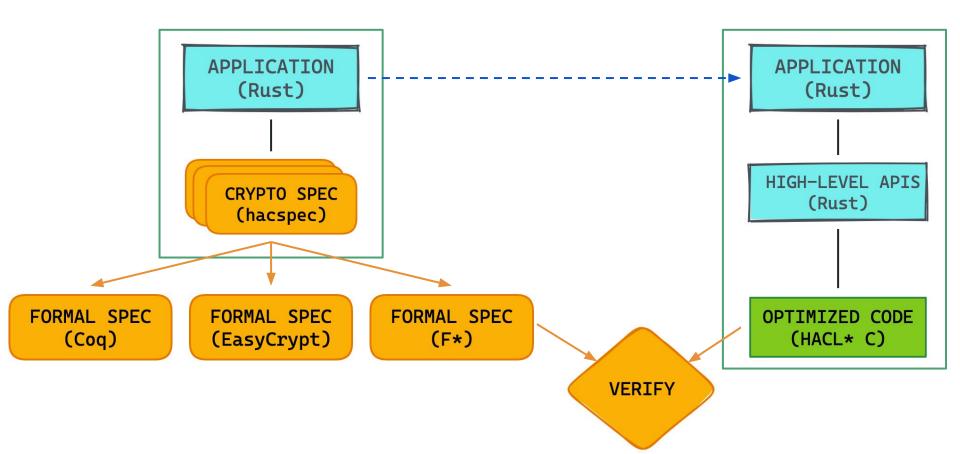
hacspec: towards high-assurance crypto software



hacspec: towards high-assurance crypto software

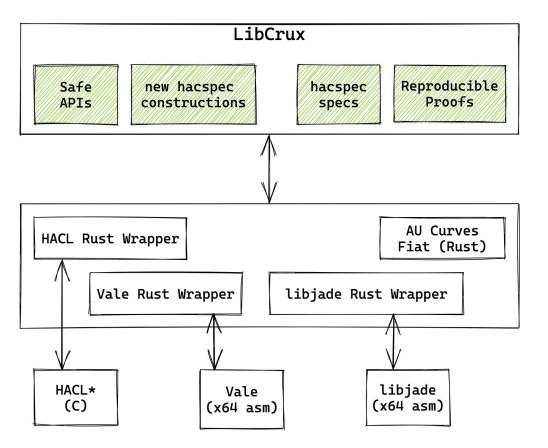


hacspec: towards high-assurance crypto software



libcrux: a library of verified cryptography

libcrux: architecture





Unsafe APIs: Array Constraints





Verified F* API: Preconditions

let aead_encrypt_st (w:field_spec) = key:lbuffer uint8 32ul

-> nonce: lbuffer uint8 12ul

-> alen:size_t

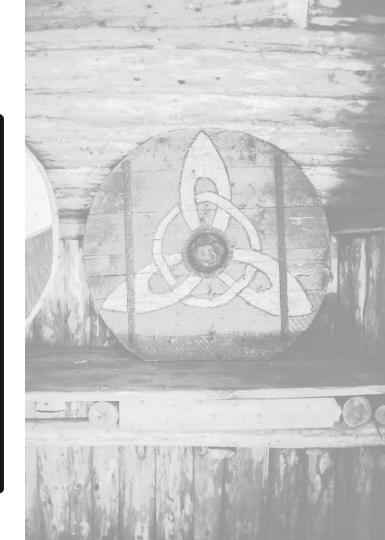
- -> aad:lbuffer uint8 alen
- -> len:size_t
- -> input:lbuffer uint8 len
- -> output: lbuffer uint8 len/
- -> tag:lbuffer uint8 16ul ->

Stack unit

(requires fun h ->

live h key /\ live h nonce /\ live h aad /\
live h input /\ live h output /\ live h tag /\
disjoint key output /\ disjoint nonce output /\
disjoint key tag /\ disjoint nonce tag /\
disjoint output tag /\ eq_or_disjoint input output /\
disjoint aad output)

Length Constraints



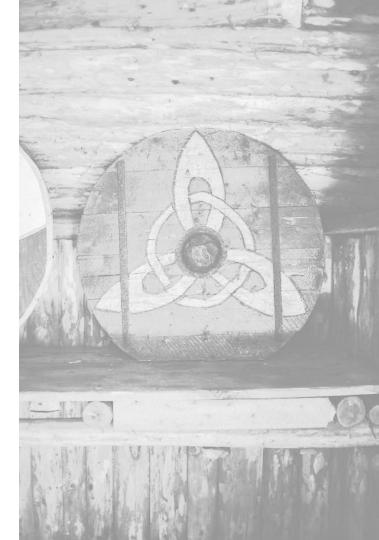
Verified F* API: Preconditions

- let aead_encrypt_st (w:field_spec) =
 key:lbuffer uint8 32ul
 - -> nonce:lbuffer uint8 12ul
 - -> alen:size_t
 - -> aad:lbuffer uint8 alen
 - -> len:size_t
 - -> input:lbuffer uint8 len
 - -> output:lbuffer uint8 len
 - -> tag:lbuffer uint8 16ul -> Stack unit

(requires fun h ->

live h key /\ live h nonce /\ live h add /\
live h input /\ live h output /\ live h tag /\
disjoint key output /\ disjoint nonce output /\
disjoint key tag /\ disjoint nonce tag /\
disjoint output tag /\ eq_or_disjoint input output /\
disjoint aad output)

Disjointness Constraints



libcrux: Typed Rust APIs

type Chacha20Key = [u8; 32]; type Nonce = [u8; 12]; type Tag = [u8; 16];

```
fn encrypt(
    key: &Chacha20Key,
    msg_ctxt: &mut [u8],
    nonce: Nonce,
    aad: &[u8]
) -> Tag
```



libcrux: supported algorithms & perf

Crypto Standard	Platforms	Specs	Implementations
ECDH • x25519 • P256	Portable + Intel ADX Portable	hacspec, F* hacspec, F*	HACL*, Vale HACL*
AEADChacha20Poly1305AES-GCM	Portable + Intel/ARM SIMD Intel AES-NI	hacspec, F*, EasyCrypt hacspec, F*	HACL*, libjade Vale
Signature • Ed25519 • ECDSA P256 • BLS12-381	Portable Portable Portable	hacspec, F* hacspec, F* hacspec, Coq	HACL* HACL* AUCurves
Hash Blake2 SHA2 SHA3	Portable + Intel/ARM SIMD Portable Portable + Intel SIMD	hacspec, F* hacspec, F* hacspec, F*, EasyCrypt	HACL* HACL* HACL*, libjade
HKDF, HMAC	Portable	hacspec, F*	HACL*
НРКЕ	Portable	hacspec	hacspec

libcrux: performance

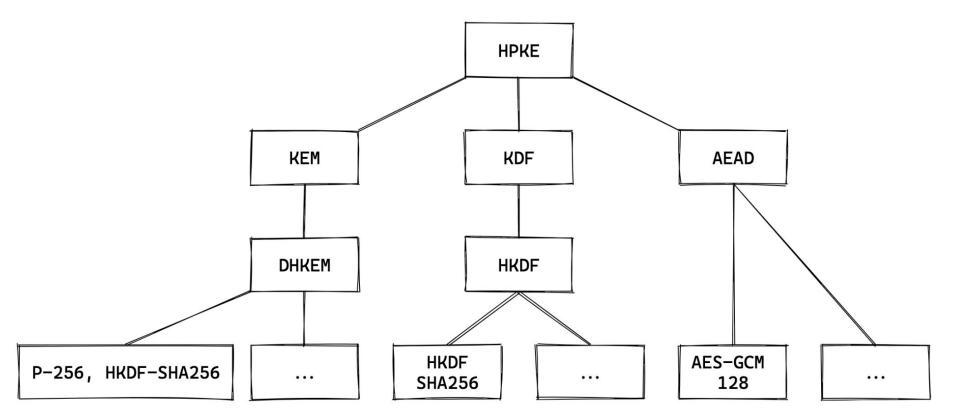
		libcrux	Rust Crypto	Ring	OpenSSL
Sha3 256		574.39 MiB/s	573.89 MiB/s	unsupported	625.37 MiB/s
x25519		30.320 µs 🔪	35.465 µs	30.363 µs	32.272 µs
	libjade	HACL* + Vale		Intel Kaby Lak	e (ADX, AVX2)

	libcrux	Rust Crypto	Ring	OpenSSL
Sha3 256	337.67 MiB/s	275.05 MiB/s	unsupported	322.21 MiB/s
x25519	-37.640 µs	67.660 µs	71.236 µs	48.620 µs
	HACL*	[Apple Arm M	l1 Pro (Neon)

Stream:	Internet Research Task Force (IRTF)			
RFC:	9180			
Category:	Informatior	nal		
Published:	February 20)22		
ISSN:	2070-1721			
Authors:	R. Barnes	K. Bhargavan	B. Lipp	C. Wood
	Cisco	Inria	Inria	Cloudflare

RFC 9180 Hybrid Public Key Encryption

HPKE: Construction



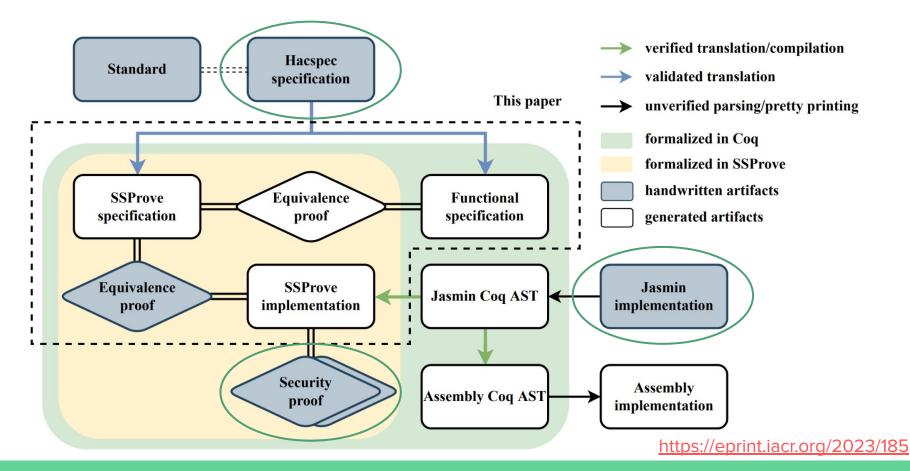
HPKE code performance: hacspec vs. stateful Rust

	hacspec HPKE	Rust HPKE
Setup Sender	79.9 µs	68 µs
Setup Receiver	76 µs	54.4 µs

	libcrux	RustCrypto
Sha2 256	311.76 MiB/s	319.10 MiB/s
x25519	30.320 µs	35.465 µs
x25519 base	30.218 µs	11.812 µs
ChaCha20Poly1305	758.89 MiB/s	249.33 MiB/s

Ongoing and Future Work

The Last Yard: linking hacspec to security proofs



Verification Tools: more proof backends for hacspec

Security Analysis Tools

- SSProve: modular crypto proofs
- EasyCrypt: verified constructions

- ProVerif: symbolic protocol proofs
- CryptoVerif: verified protocols
- Squirrel: protocol verifier

Program Verification Tools

- QuickCheck: logical spec testing
- Creusot: verifying spec contracts
- Aeneas: verifying Rust code
- LEAN: verification framework
- <Your favourite prover here>

Conclusions

• Fast verified code is available today for most modern crypto algorithms

- + some post-quantum crypto; Future: verified code for ZKP, FHE, MPC, ...
- Most code in C or Intel assembly; Ongoing: Rust, ARM assembly, ...
- hacspec can be used as a common spec language for multiple tools/libraries
 - **Ongoing:** adding new Rust features, new proof backends, linking with Rust verifiers, ...
 - Try it yourself: <u>hacspec.org</u>
- **libcrux** provides safe Rust APIs to multiple verified crypto libraries
 - Ongoing: recipes for integrating new verified crypto from various research projects
 - Try it yourself: <u>libcrux.org</u>

Thanks!

- HACL*: <u>https://github.com/hacl-star/hacl-star</u>
- Vale: <u>https://github.com/ValeLang/Vale</u>
- libjade: https://github.com/formosa-crypto/libjade
- AUCurves: <u>https://github.com/AU-COBRA/AUCurves</u>

- hacspec: https://github.com/hacspec/hacspec
- libcrux: <u>https://github.com/cryspen/libcrux</u>