

Fault attack on *SQLsign*



Jeonghwan Lee¹, Donghoe Heo¹, Hyeonhak Kim¹,
Gyusang Kim¹, Suhri Kim², Heeseok Kim¹, Seokhee Hong¹

¹Korea University

²Sungshin Women's University

PQCrypto 2024, University of Oxford



*We are from south ☺

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- III. Fault vulnerabilities in SQIsign**
- IV. Attack scenarios**
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SQLsign in a nutshell

SQIsign in a nutshell

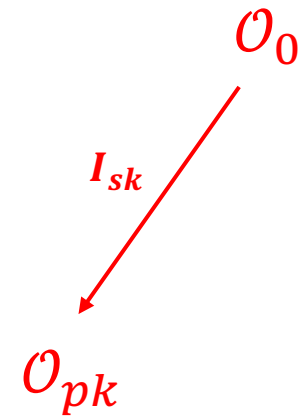
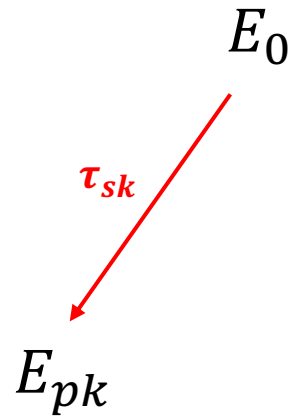
● SQIsign

- Is the only isogeny-based digital signature in candidates of NIST standardization process
- Is Fiat-Shamir heuristic-type digital signature
- Has the most compact keys and signature size
- Exploits the Deuring correspondence

j -invariant of a supersingular curve E	A maximal order in $B_{p,\infty}$ ($\mathcal{O} \cong \text{End}(E)$)
An isogeny $\varphi : E_s \rightarrow E_e$	An integral $(\mathcal{O}_s, \mathcal{O}_e)$ -ideal
$\deg(\varphi)$	$\text{nrd}(I_\varphi)$
$\varphi : E_s \rightarrow E_e, \psi : E_s \rightarrow E_e$	Equivalent ideals $I_\varphi \sim I_\psi$
$\psi \circ \varphi : E_s \rightarrow E_i \rightarrow E_e$	$I_{\psi \circ \varphi} = I_\varphi \cdot I_\psi$
$[\varphi]_* \psi, [\psi]^* \varphi$	$[I_\varphi]_* I_\psi, [I_\psi]^* I_\varphi$

SQLsign in a nutshell

- Key generation



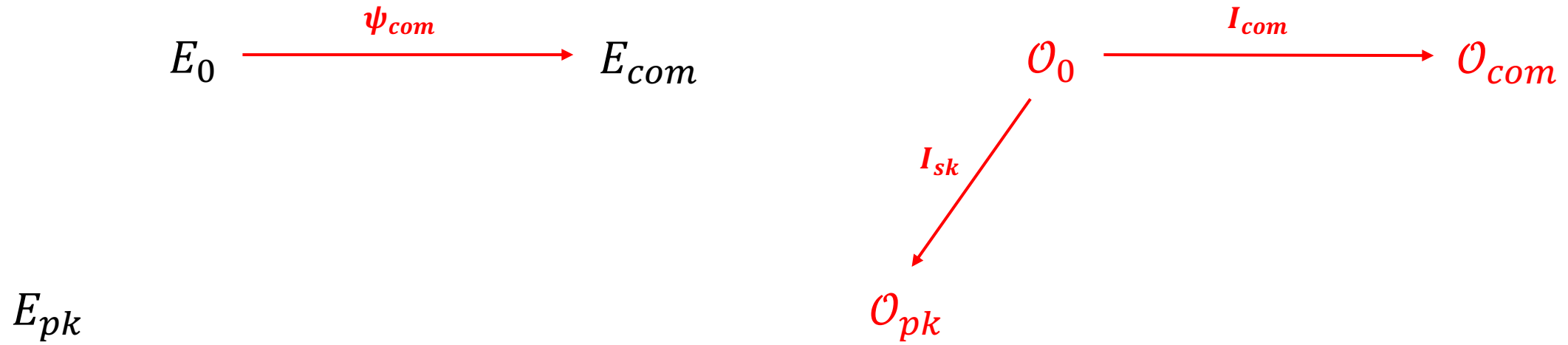
SQIsign in a nutshell

- Key generation



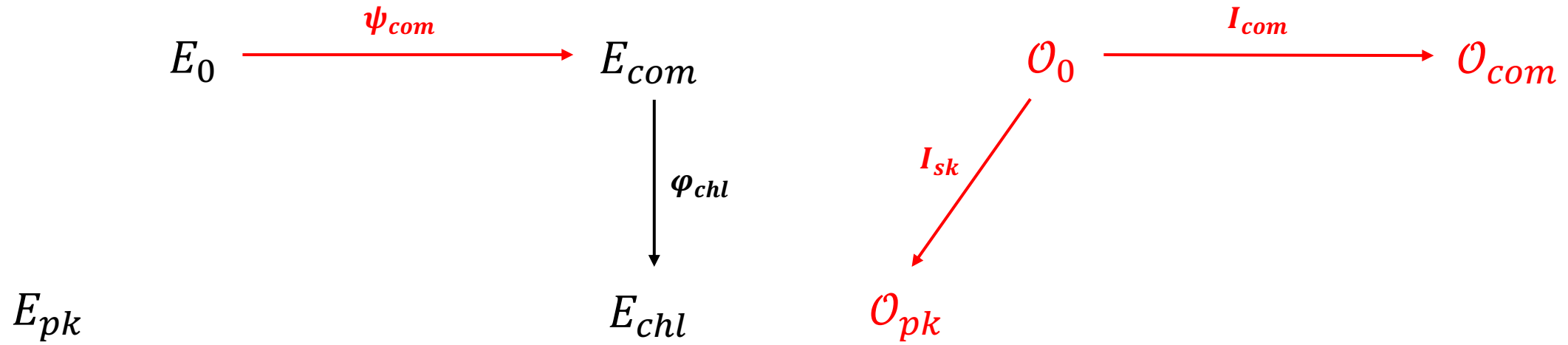
SQLsign in a nutshell

- Sign – The commitment phase



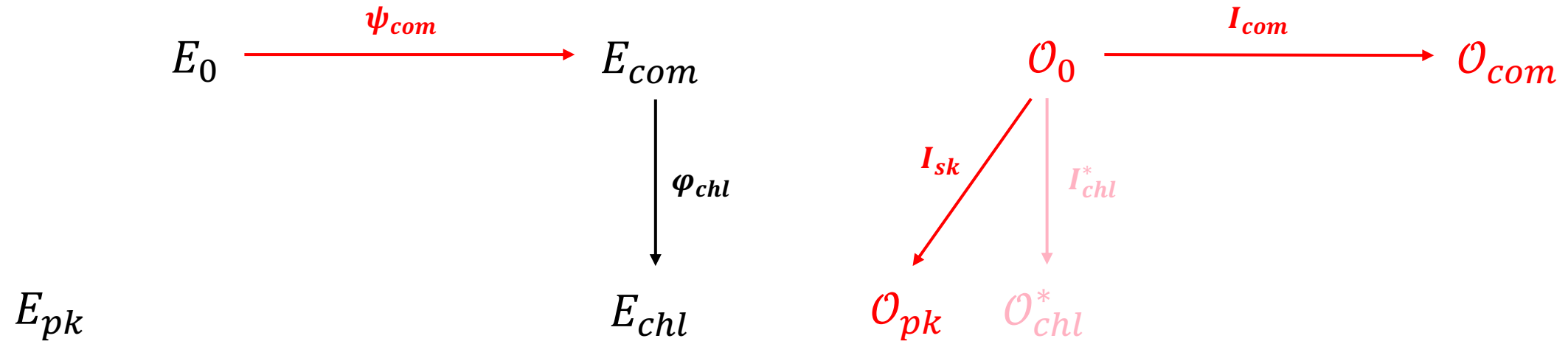
SQLsign in a nutshell

- Sign – The challenge phase



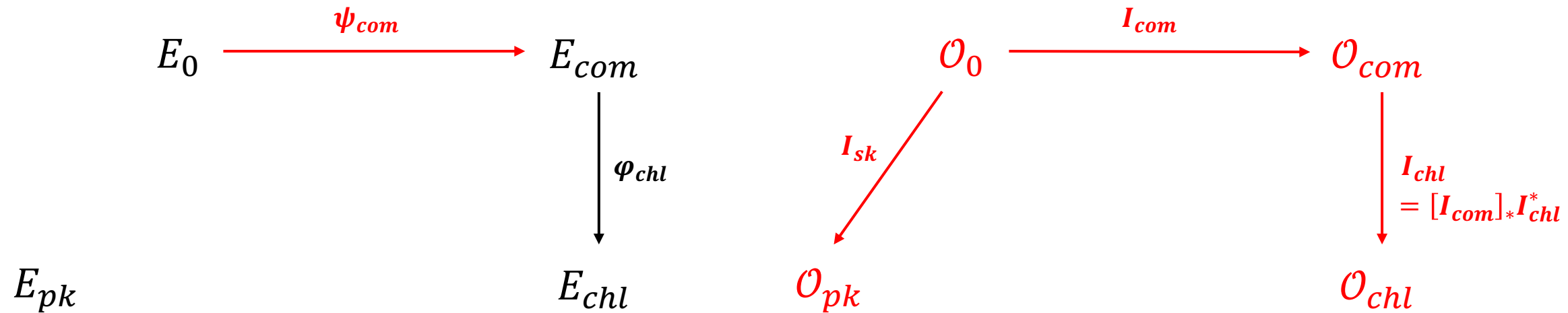
SQLsign in a nutshell

- Sign – The challenge phase



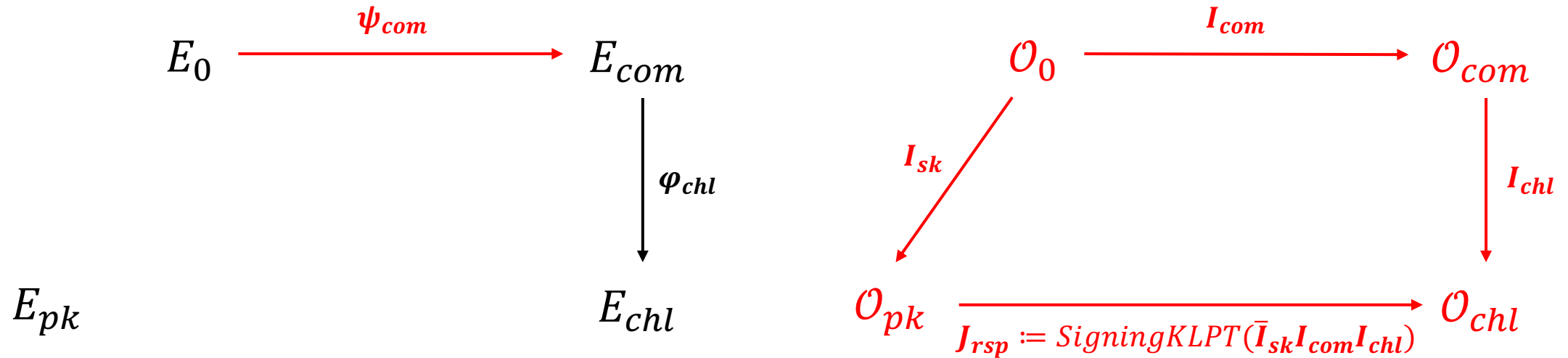
SQLsign in a nutshell

- Sign – The challenge phase



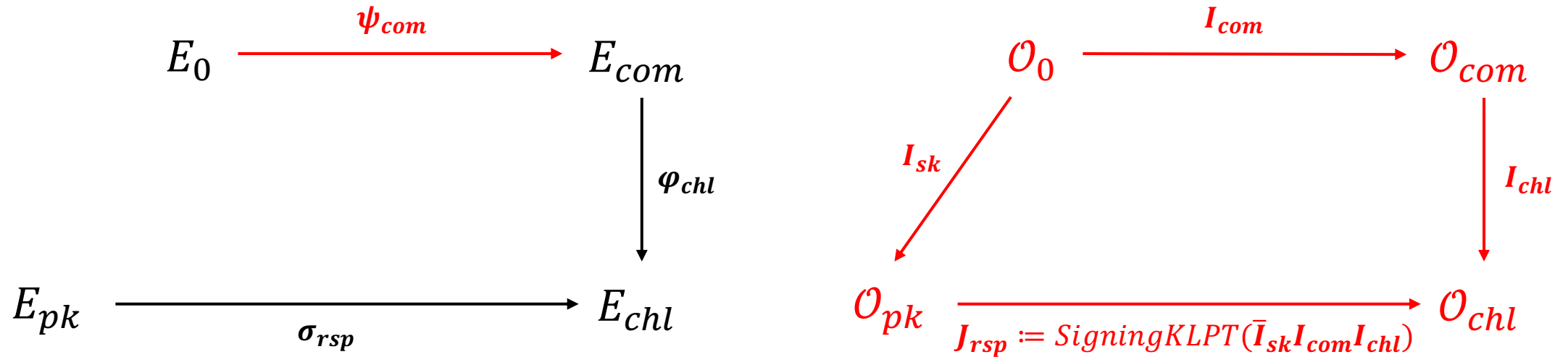
SQLsign in a nutshell

- Sign – The response phase



SQLsign in a nutshell

- Sign – The response phase



Signature : $(\sigma_{rsp}, hint_1, hint_2)$

SQLsign in a nutshell

- Verify

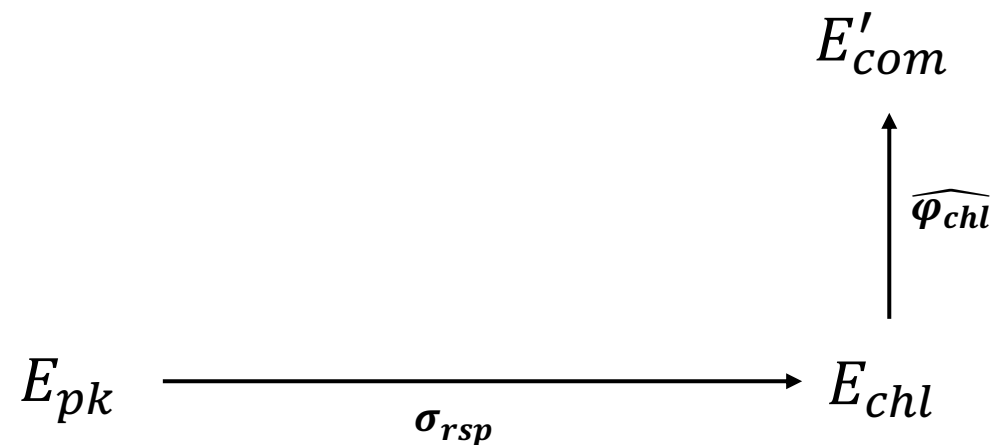
- Recover E_{chl} from a part of a signature (σ_{rsp})

$$E_{pk} \xrightarrow{\sigma_{rsp}} E_{chl}$$

SQLsign in a nutshell

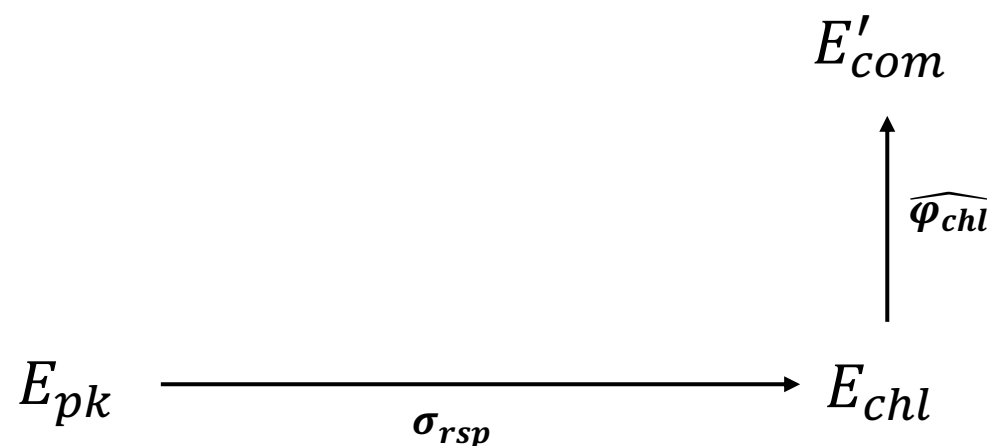
● Verify

- Recover E_{chl} from a part of a signature (σ_{rsp})
- Recover E'_{com} using the torsion point information made deterministically from E_{chl} and $hint_1$ from a signature



SQLsign in a nutshell

- Verify
 - Recover E_{chl} from a part of a signature (σ_{rsp})
 - Recover E'_{com} using the torsion point information made **deterministically from E_{chl}** and $hint_1$ from a signature
 - Check whether the verifier generates the challenge isogeny correctly by using the **torsion information** made **from E'_{com}** , $hint_2$ and **the hashing of the message and E'_{com}**



SQIsign in a nutshell

A deterministic SQIsign

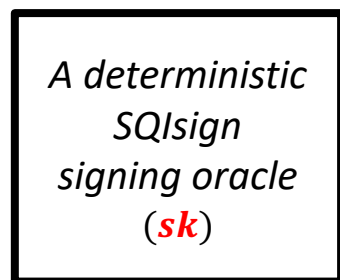
VS

A randomized SQIsign

$$E_0 \xrightarrow{\psi_{com}} E_{com}$$

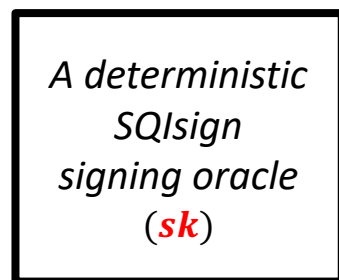
*The commitment isogeny is generated
by hashing of secret key and the message*

Msg



Sign

Msg

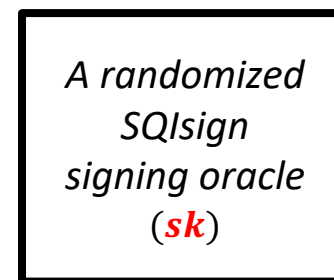


Sign

$$E_0 \xrightarrow{\psi_{com}} E_{com}$$

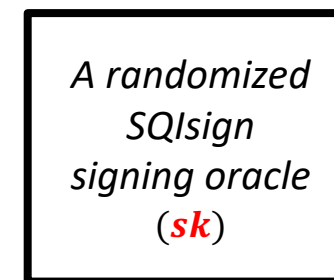
*The commitment isogeny is generated
by using a random number*

Msg



Sign

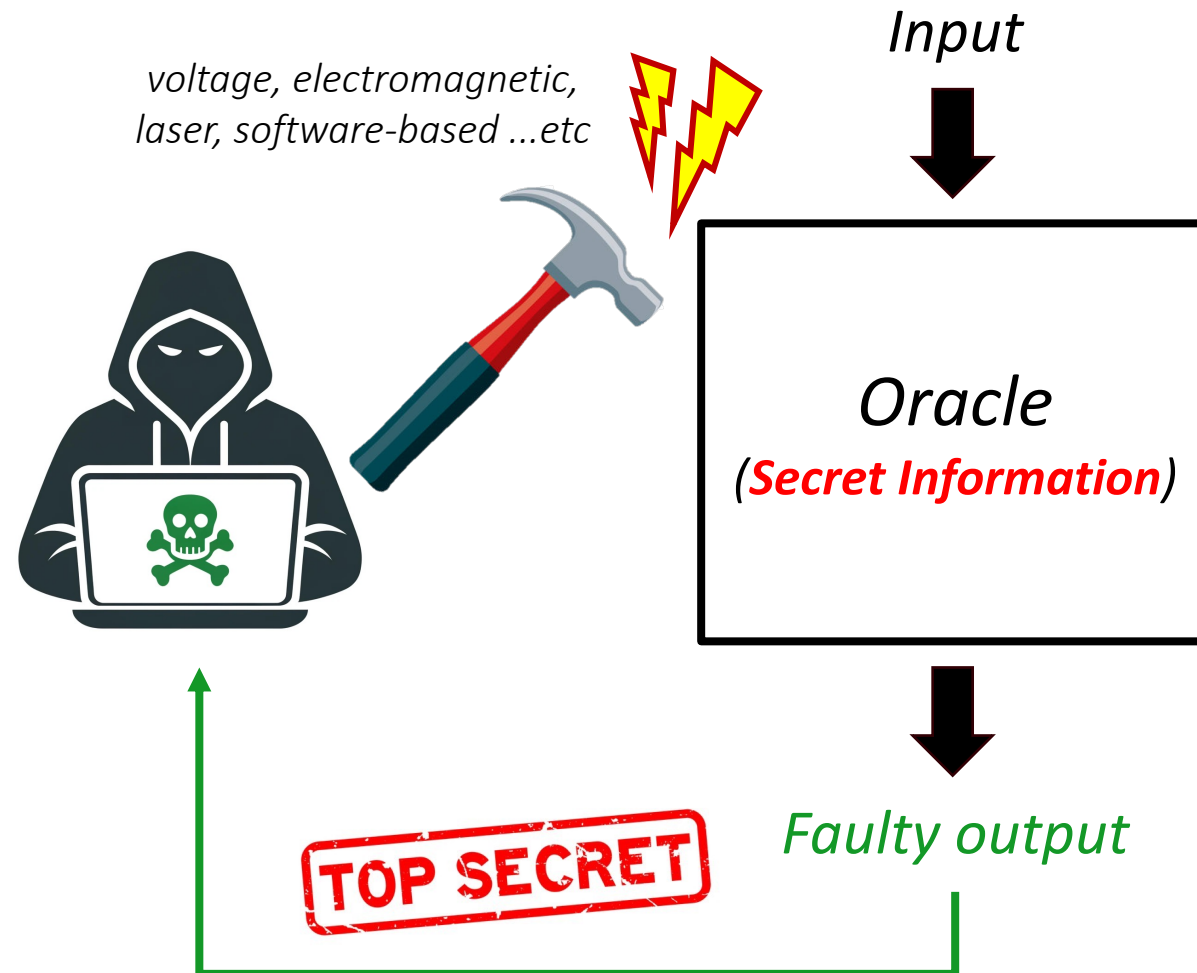
Msg



Sign'

Fault attack?

Fault attack



Fault attack

Call for Additional Digital Signature Schemes for the Post-Quantum Cryptography Standardization Process

Updated October 2022 to reflect that IP statements can be accepted digitally.

4.B.4 Additional Security Properties While the previously listed security definitions cover many of the attack scenarios that will be used in the evaluation of the submitted algorithms, there are several other properties that would be desirable:

One such property where security and performance interact is **resistance to side-channel attacks**. Schemes that can be made resistant to side-channel attack at minimal cost are more desirable than those whose performance is severely hampered by any attempt to resist side-channel attacks. We further note that optimized implementations that address side-channel attacks (e.g., constant-time implementations) are more meaningful than those which do not. Finally, there are many different kinds of side-channel attacks, which require different kinds of access to the device being attacked. Attacks that can be carried out remotely, using only digital communications over a network, without physical access to the device being attacked, may be of special concern.

*Fault attacks on
lattice-based
cryptography*



Carry Your Fault: A Fault Propagation Attack on Side-Channel Protected LWE-based KEM

Suparna Kundu¹, Siddhartha Chowdhury², Sayandeep Saha³,
Angshuman Karmakar^{1,4}, Debdeep Mukhopadhyay² and Ingrid Verbauwhede¹

¹ COSIC, KU Leuven, Belgium

² Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India

³ Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium

⁴ Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, India

Fault-Enabled Chosen-Ciphertext Attacks on Kyber

Julius Hermelink^{1,2}, Peter Pessl¹, and Thomas Pöppelmann¹

¹ Infineon Technologies AG, Munich, Germany

{peter.pessl, thomas.poeppelmann}@infineon.com

² Research Institute CODE, Universität der Bundeswehr München, Munich, Germany
julius.hermelink@unibw.de

Number "Not Used" Once - Practical fault attack on *pqm4* implementations of NIST candidates

Prasanna Ravi^{1,2}, Debapriya Basu Roy³, Shivam Bhasin¹, Anupam Chattopadhyay², and Debdeep Mukhopadhyay³

¹ Temasek Laboratories, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore


² School of Computer Science and Engineering
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

³ Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur

and so on...

Fault attack

Randomization




```
int a,b;  
a = 1000;  
b = a;
```



```
a : 1000  
b : 684614321
```

Loop-abort



```
int i;  
for (i=0;i<100;i++){  
    ...  
}
```

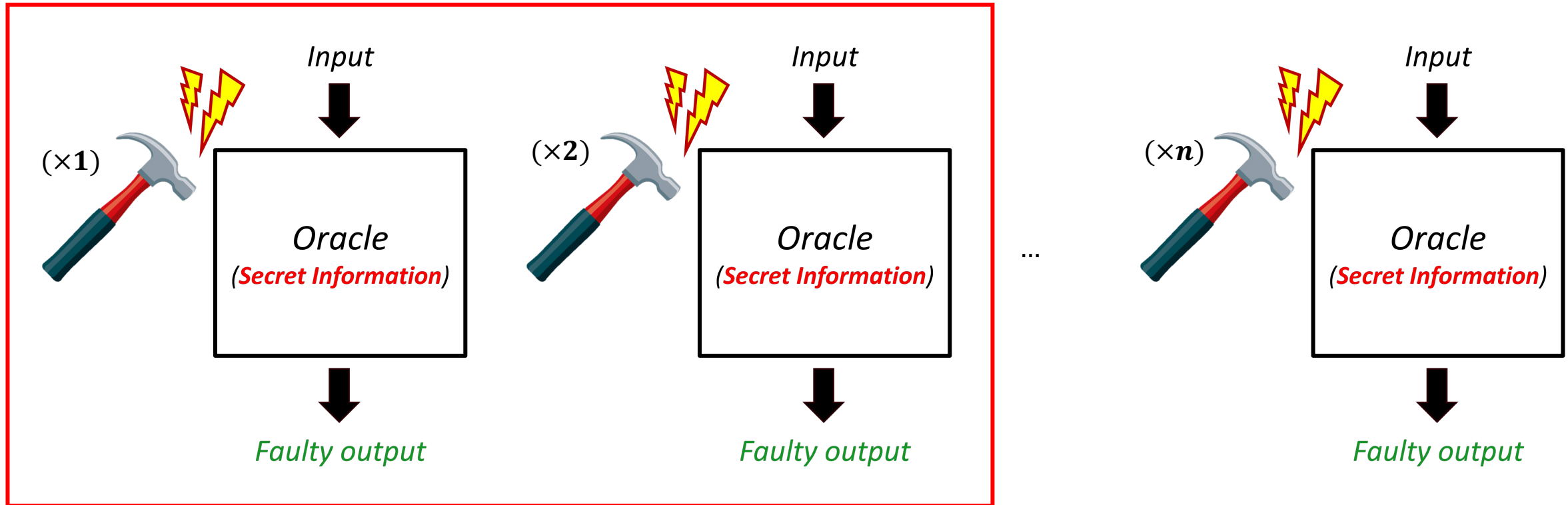


```
i : 351635410
```

aborted!

Fault attack

- n^{th} order fault attack



Fault vulnerabilities in SQLsign

Loop-aborts while computing the commitment isogeny

Algorithm 3 Odd-degree isogeny computation and the basis evaluation in lines 4 to 5 of **Algorithm 1**

Input: A domain curve E

Input: A generator K^\pm of $E[p \pm 1] \cap \ker(\phi)$, respectively

Input: A basis (P, Q) of $E[D]$ such that $\gcd(D, \deg(\phi)) = 1$

Output: An image curve E_c

Output: An evaluated basis $(\phi(P), \phi(Q))$

1: Let $\deg(\phi) = p_1^{e_1} \cdot p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_n^{e_n}$ for $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that $p_i | (p+1)$ for $1 \leq i \leq h$ and $p_i | (p-1)$ for $h < i \leq n$

2: $E_{1,0} := E$

3: $P_{1,0}, Q_{1,0} := P, Q$

Evaluate isogenies with kernel in $E[p+1]$

4: **for** $i \in \{1, \dots, h\}$ **do**

5: $K_i^+ := [p_{i+1}^{e_{i+1}} \cdots p_n^{e_n}] K^+$

6: **for** $j \in \{1, \dots, e_i\}$ **do**

7: $K_{i,j}^+ := [p_i^{e_i-j}] K_i^+$

8: Compute isogeny $\phi_{i,j}$ of $\deg(\phi_{i,j}) = p_i$ corresponding to the kernel $K_{i,j}^+$

9: $E_{i,j} := \phi_{i,j}(E_{i,j-1})$, $K^+ := \phi_{i,j}(K^+)$, $K^- := \phi_{i,j}(K^-)$

10: $P_{i,j}, Q_{i,j} := \phi_{i,j}(P_{i,j-1}), \phi_{i,j}(Q_{i,j-1})$

11: **end for**

12: **end for**

Evaluate isogenies with kernel in $E[p-1]$

13: **for** $i \in \{h+1, \dots, n\}$ **do**

14: $K_i^- := [p_{i+1}^{e_{i+1}} \cdots p_n^{e_n}] K^-$

15: **for** $j \in \{1, \dots, e_i\}$ **do**

16: $K_{i,j}^- := [p_i^{e_i-j}] K_i^-$

17: Compute isogeny $\phi_{i,j}$ of $\deg(\phi_{i,j}) = p_i$ corresponding to the kernel $K_{i,j}^-$

18: $E_{i,j} := \phi_{i,j}(E_{i,j-1})$, $K^- := \phi_{i,j}(K^-)$

19: $P_{i,j}, Q_{i,j} := \phi_{i,j}(P_{i,j-1}), \phi_{i,j}(Q_{i,j-1})$

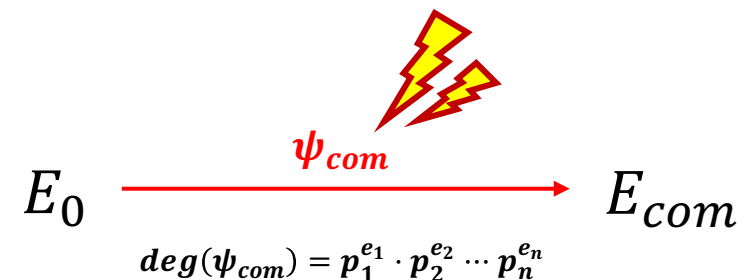
20: **end for**

21: **end for**

22: $E_c := E_{n,e_n}$

23: $\phi(P), \phi(Q) := P_{n,e_n}, Q_{n,e_n}$

24: **return** $E_c, (\phi(P), \phi(Q))$



Loop-aborts while computing the commitment isogeny

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6: **for** $j \in \{1, \dots, e_i\}$ **do**

7: $K_{i,j}^+ := [p_i^{e_i-j}] K_i^+$

8: Compute isogeny $\phi_{i,j}$ of $\deg(\phi_{i,j}) = p_i$ corresponding to the kernel $K_{i,j}^+$

9: $E_{i,j} := \phi_{i,j}(E_{i,j-1})$, $K^+ := \phi_{i,j}(K^+)$, $K^- := \phi_{i,j}(K^-)$

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11: **end for**

12: **end for**

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23: $\phi(P), \phi(Q) := P_{n,e_n}, Q_{n,e_n}$

24: **return** $E_c, (\phi(P), \phi(Q))$

$$E_0 \xrightarrow[\deg(\psi_{com}) = p_1^{e_1} \cdot p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_n^{e_n}]{\psi_{com}} E_{com}$$

$$E_0 \xrightarrow[\deg(\psi_{com}^f) = p_1^{e_1} \cdot p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_{i^f}^{e_{i^f}}]{\psi_{com}^f} E_{com}^f$$

Randomization while generating the commitment ideal

Algorithm 3 Making primitive then generating an ideal I_{com}

Input: A p -extremal maximal order O_0

Input: A generator coordinates $[g]_B$ w.r.t. the standard basis

Input: The norm D_{com}

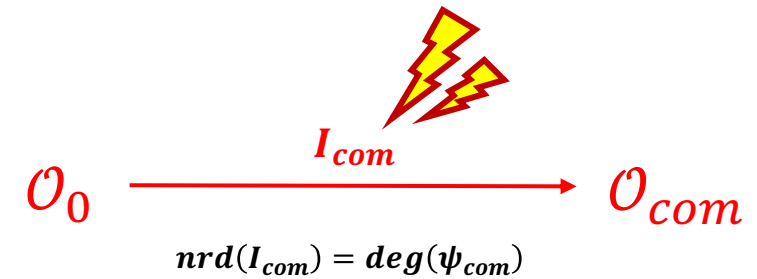
Output: A commitment ideal I_{com}

- 1: Let $B := \{1, i, j, ij\}$ be a set of the standard basis in quaternion algebra.
- 2: Let $B_{O_0} := \{\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4\}$ be a set of the basis of order O_0
- 3: Convert $[g]_B$ into $[g]_{O_0}$ using gaussian ellimination.
- 4: $content := gcd([g]_{O_0})$
- 5: $[g']_{O_0} := [g]_{O_0} / content$
- 6: $[g']_B := [g']_{O_0} * B_{O_0}$
- 7: $D'_{com} := D_{com} / gcd(content, D_{com})$
- 8: $I_{com} := O_0 < [g']_B, D'_{com} >$
- 9: **return** I_{com}

```

1  int quat_lattice_contains_without_alg( quat_alg_coord_t *coord ,
    const quat_lattice_t *lat, const quat_alg_elem_t *x){
2      // Test if rank 4 lattice under HNF ...
3      // Convert the basis by using gaussian elimination
4      // Final test
5      // Copy result
6      if(res && (coord != NULL)){
7          for(int i = 0; i < 4; i++){
8              ibz_copy(&((*coord)[i]), &(work_coord[i]));
9          }
10     }
11     // Finalize
12 }

```



Randomization while generating the commitment ideal

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9          }
10     }
11     // Finalize
12 }

```



[Theorem 2]

$$\left(\frac{\varphi(D_{com})}{D_{com}} \right)^3 < P(I_{com}^f = O_0) < \frac{\varphi(D_{com})}{D_{com}}$$

Heuristically,

$$P(I_{com}^f = O_0) \approx \left(\frac{\varphi(D_{com})}{D_{com}} \right)^2$$

I_{com}^f : the faulty commitment ideal,
 D_{com} : the degree of a commitment isogeny,
 φ : Euler's totient function

Randomization while generating the commitment ideal

Algorithm 3 Making primitive then generating an ideal I_{com}

Input: A p -extremal maximal order O_0

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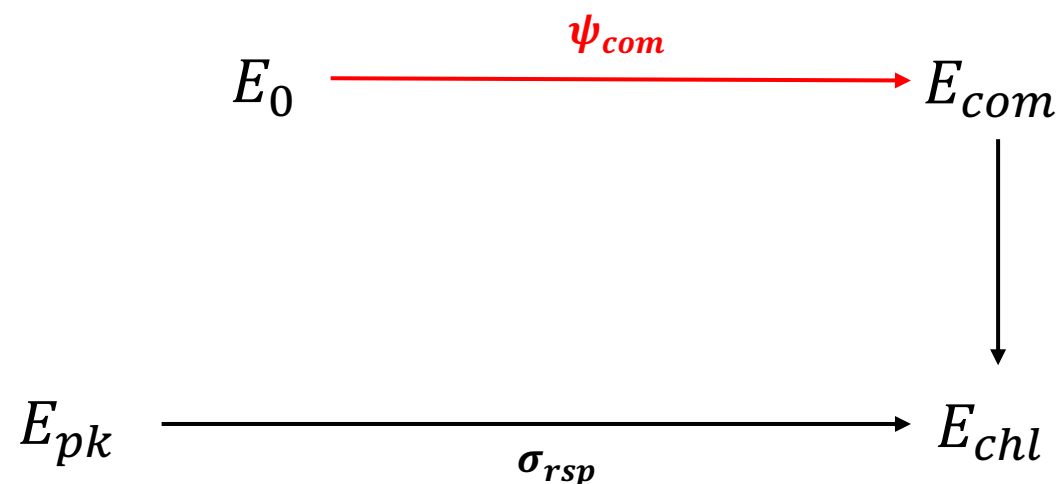
NIST level	Upper bound $\frac{\varphi(D_{com})}{D_{com}}$	Lower bound $(\frac{\varphi(D_{com})}{D_{com}})^3$	Approximation $(\frac{\varphi(D_{com})}{D_{com}})^2$	Simulation ($\times 100,000$)
NIST-I	0.59843	0.21430	0.35811	0.35782
NIST-III	0.53314	0.15154	0.28424	0.27910
NIST-V	0.52081	0.14126	0.27124	0.26797



Attack scenarios

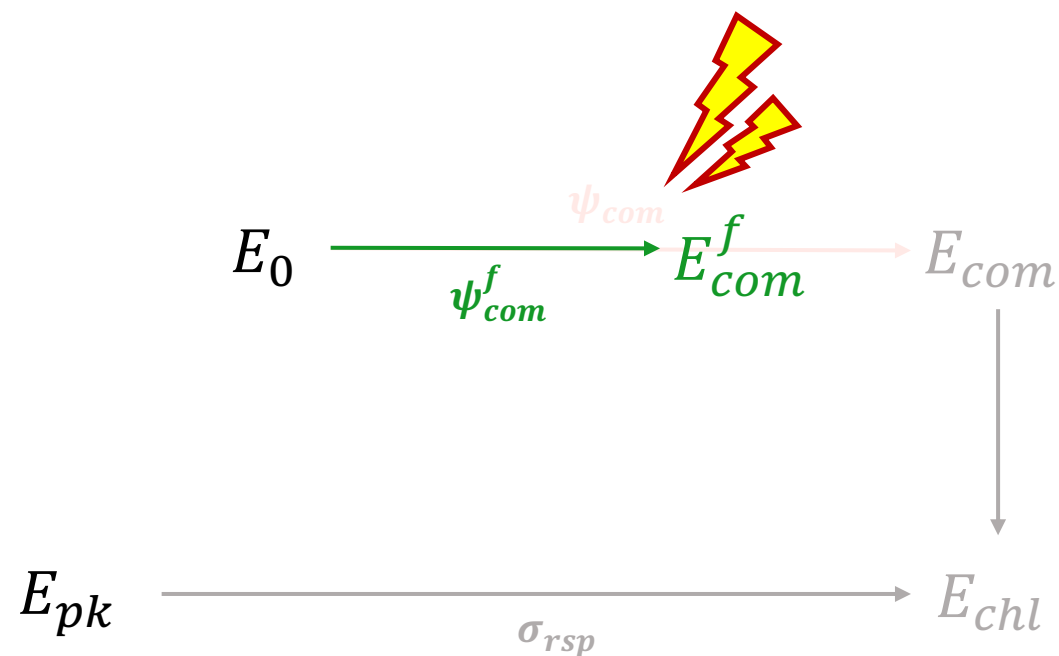
Intuition

- Goal : Connect E_0 and E_{pk} via an isogeny \rightarrow Equivalent secret key!
- Fault injection into commitment process to make it Brute-Forceable



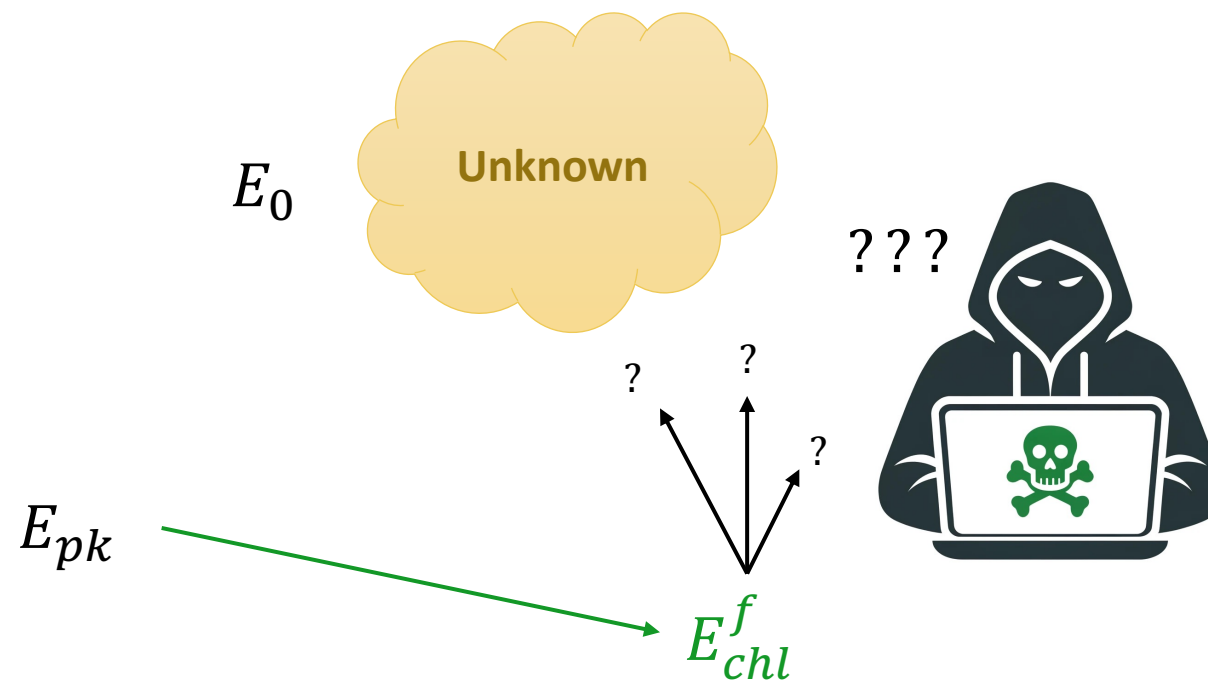
Intuition

- Goal : Connect E_0 and E_{pk} via an isogeny \rightarrow Equivalent secret key!
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Intuition

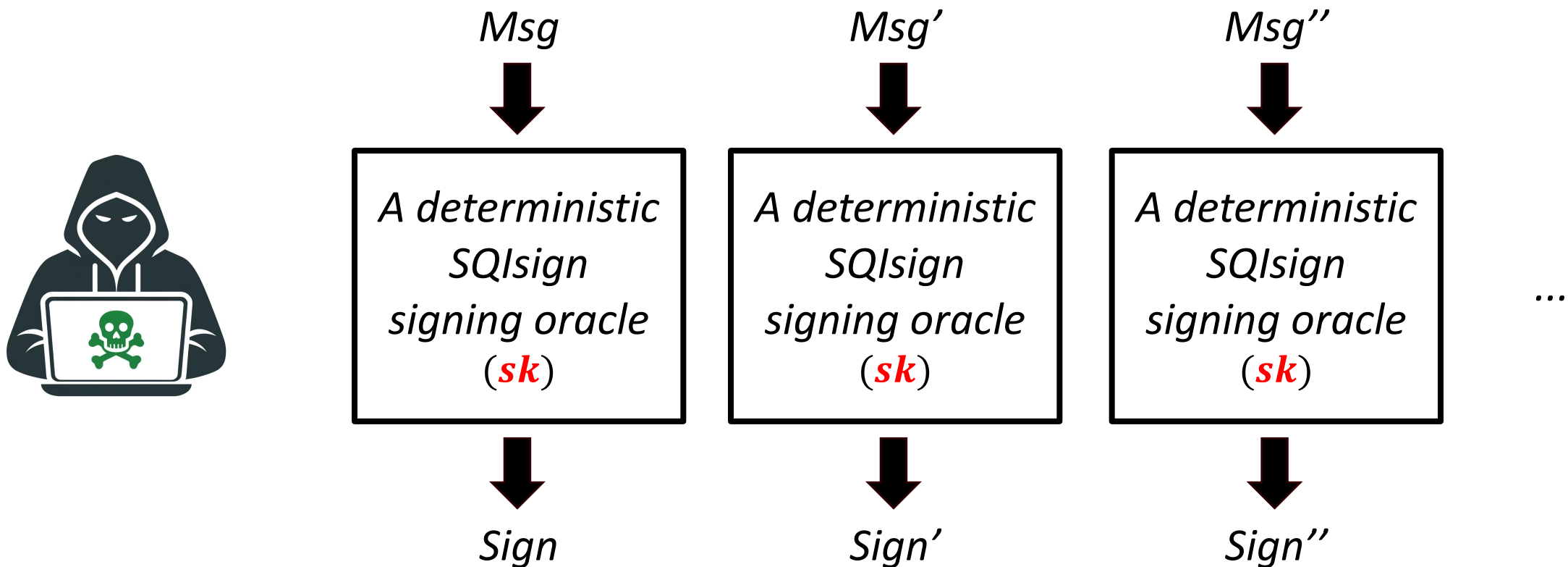
- Goal : Connect E_0 and E_{pk} via an isogeny \rightarrow Equivalent secret key!
- Fault injection into commitment process to make it Brute-Forceable
- One problem...
 - How to **recover the isogeny** from E_{chl}^f to E_{com}^f with the given information after the injection?



Fault attack on deterministic SQLsign

● Attacker model

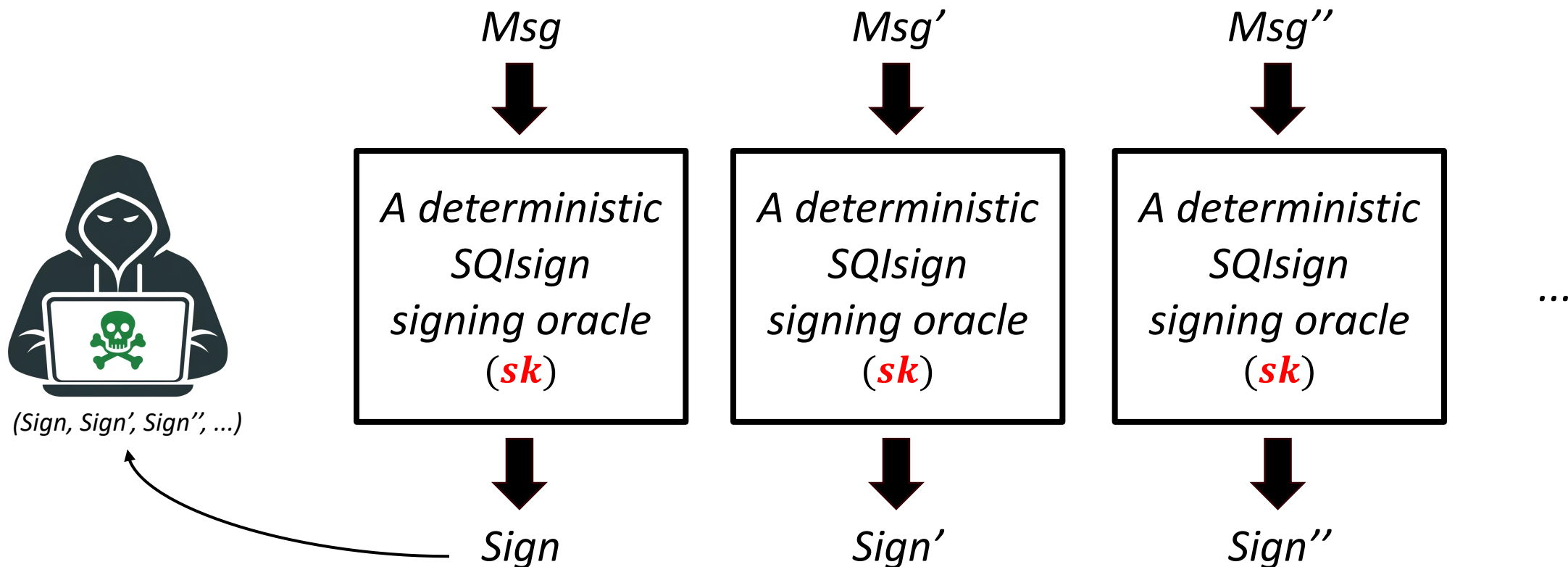
- The attacker is allowed to make multiple queries to a deterministic SQLSign oracle with the same key



Fault attack on deterministic SQLsign

● Attacker model

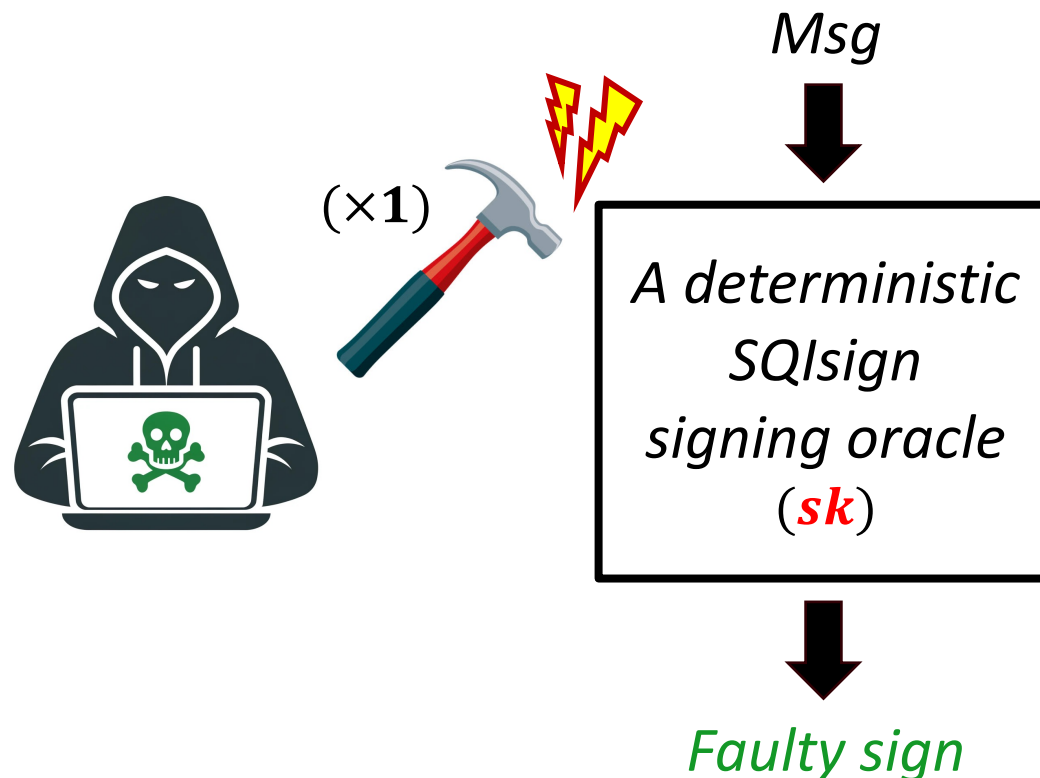
- The attacker is allowed to make multiple queries to a deterministic SQLSign oracle with the same key
- The oracle generates a signature for each query and the attacker receives it



Fault attack on deterministic SQLsign

● Attacker model

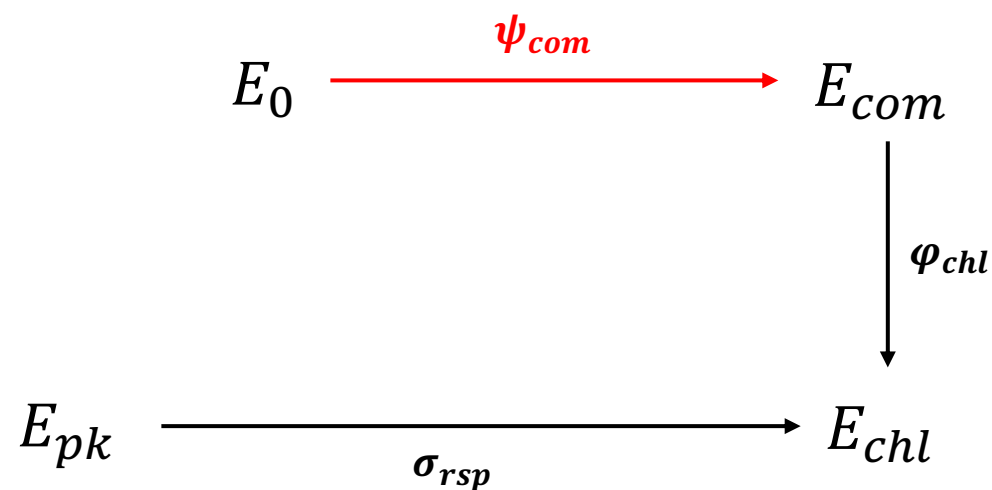
- The attacker is allowed to make multiple queries to a deterministic SQLSign oracle with the same key
- The oracle generates a signature for each query and the attacker receives it
- The attacker can inject a fault once during the oracle's operation (1st order fault attack)



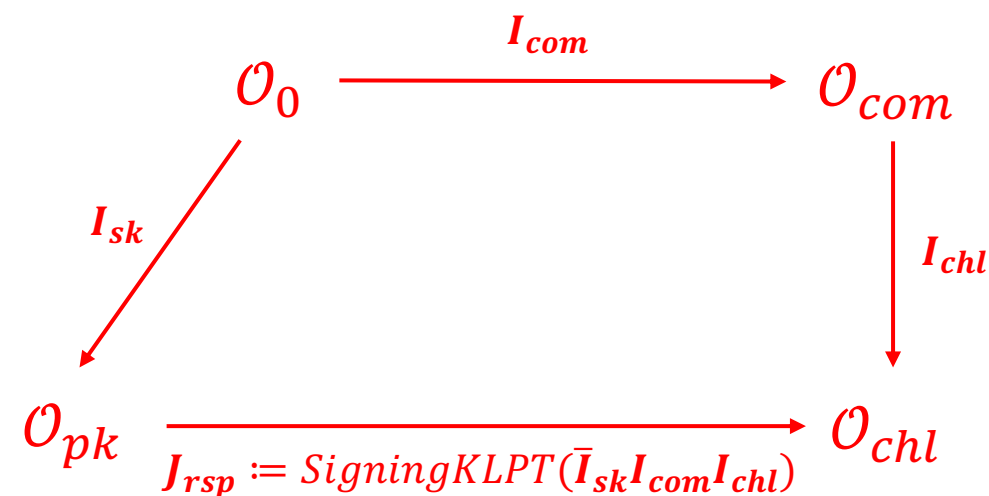
Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

- The data flow of the faulty SQIsign signing process

- 1st-order fault is injected while computing the commitment isogeny



Elliptic curves

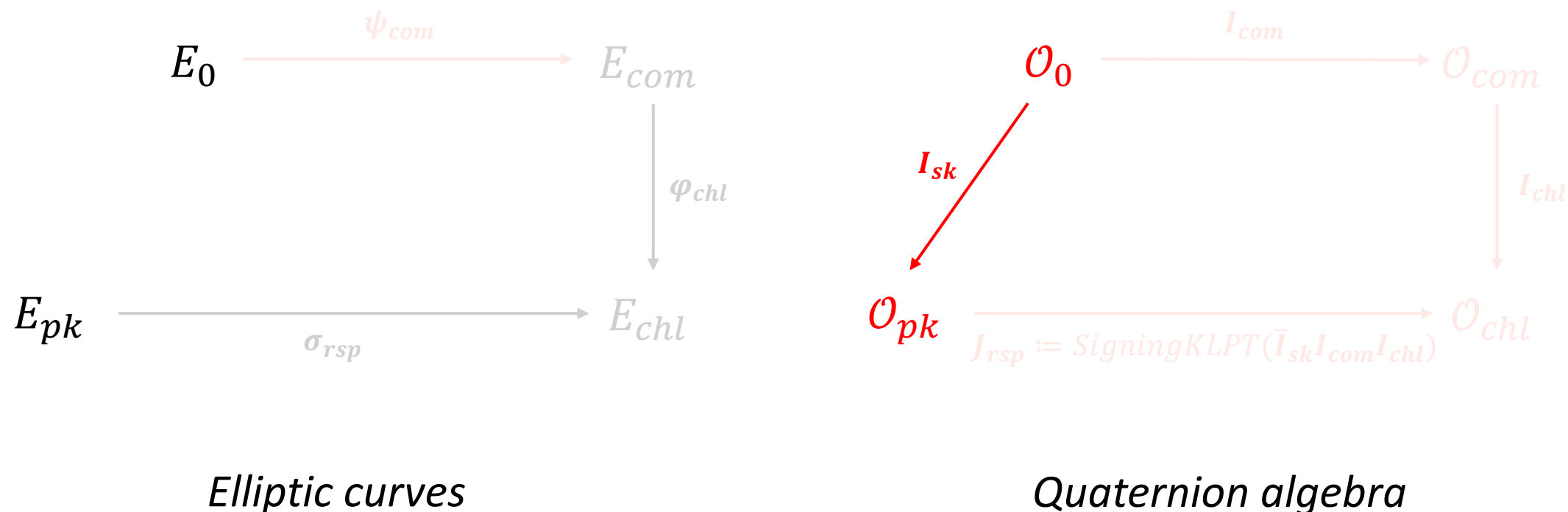


Quaternion algebra

Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

● The data flow of the faulty SQIsign signing process

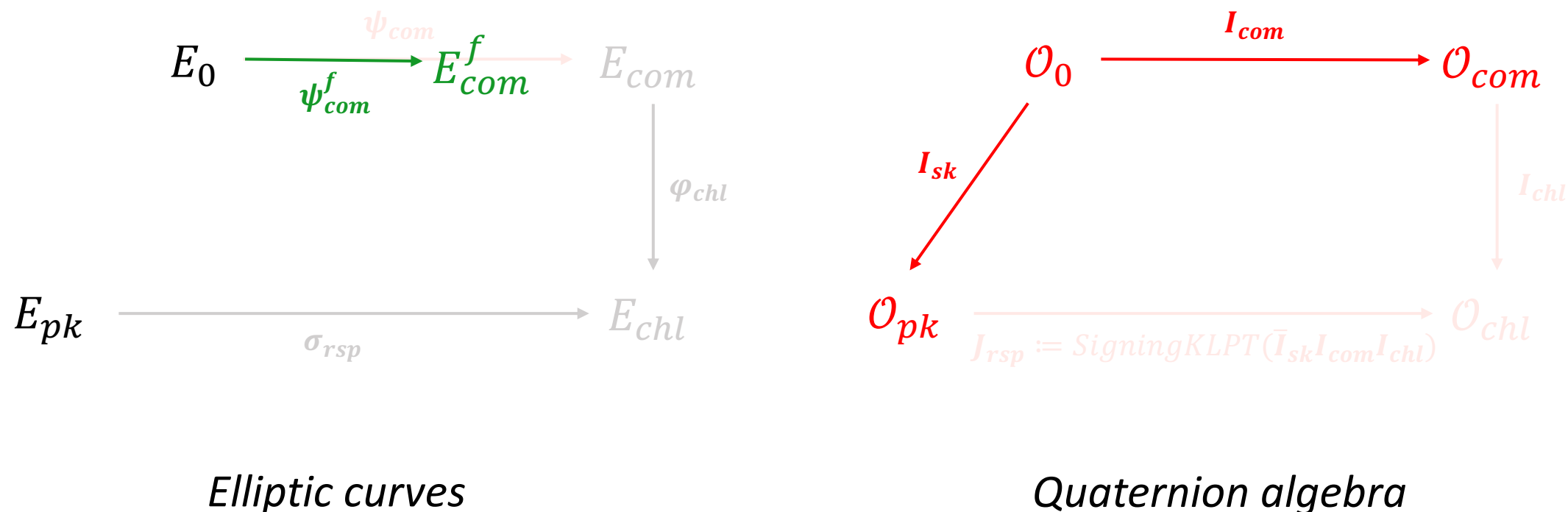
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Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

● The data flow of the faulty SQIsign signing process

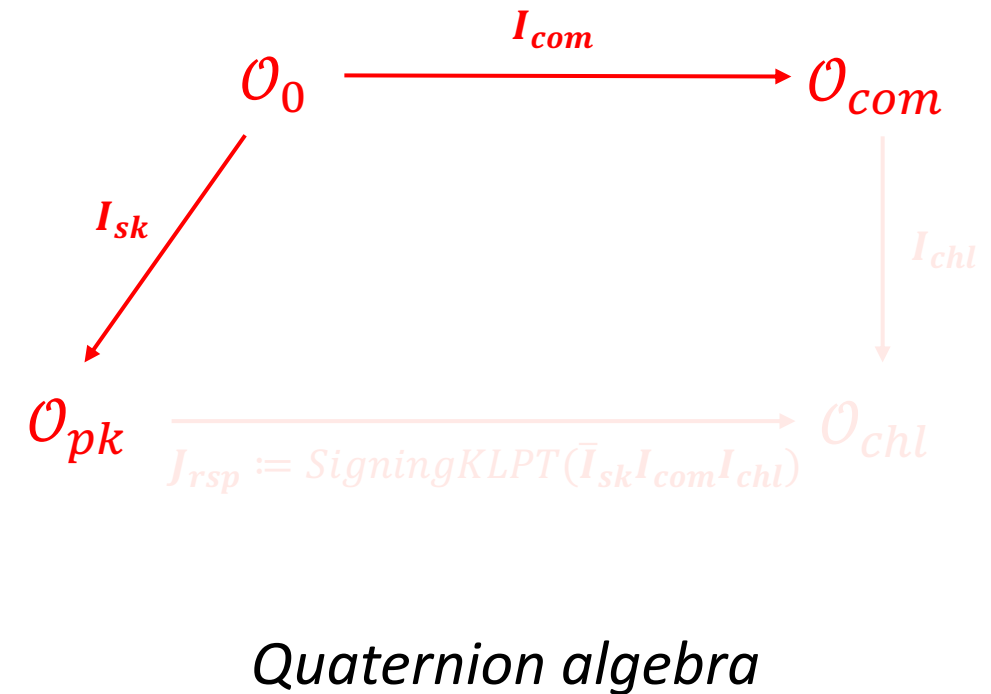
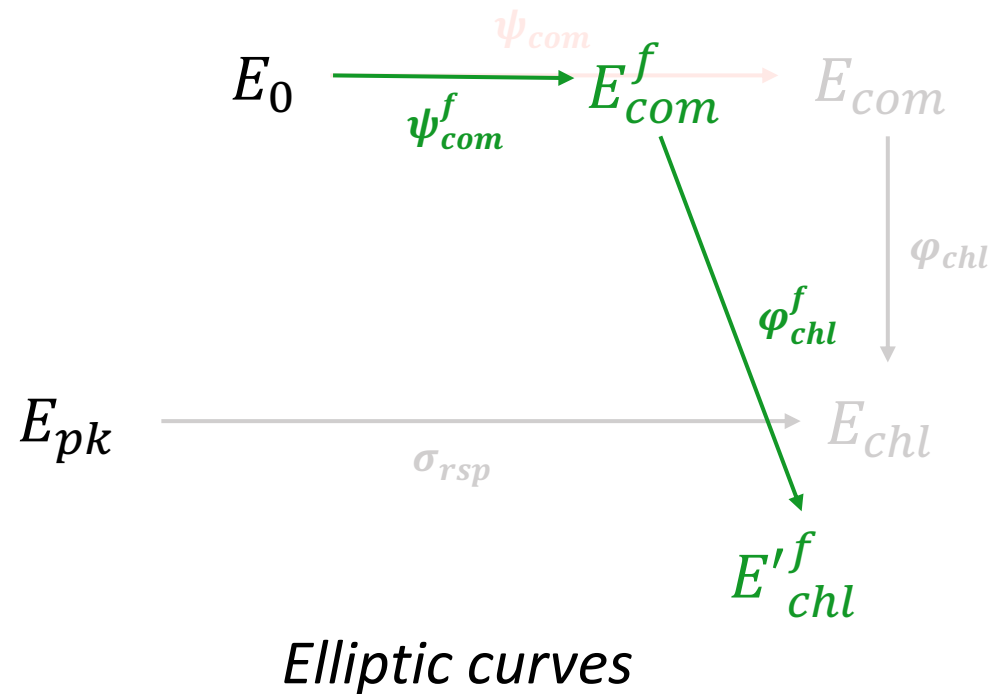
- 1st-order fault is injected while computing the commitment isogeny



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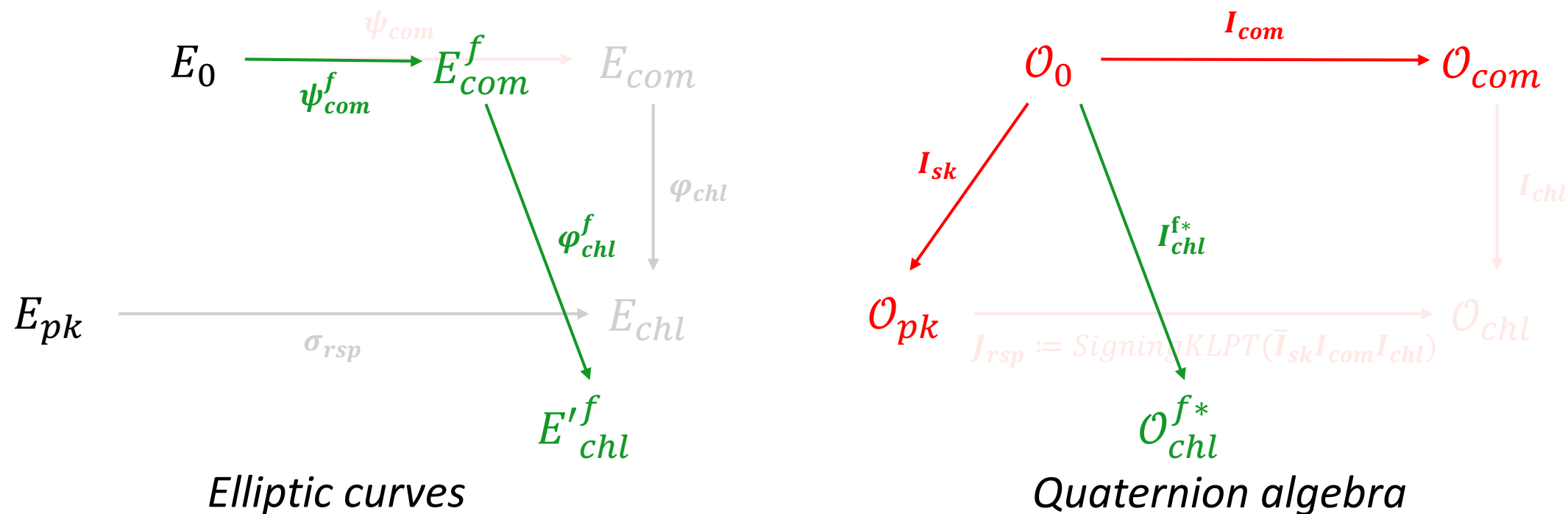
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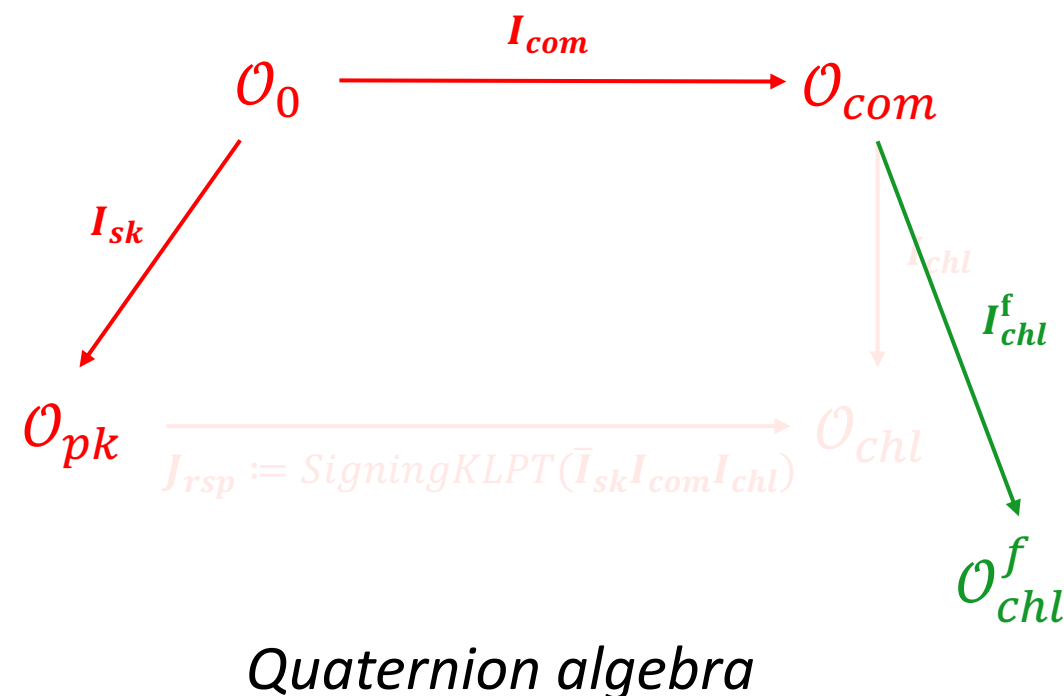
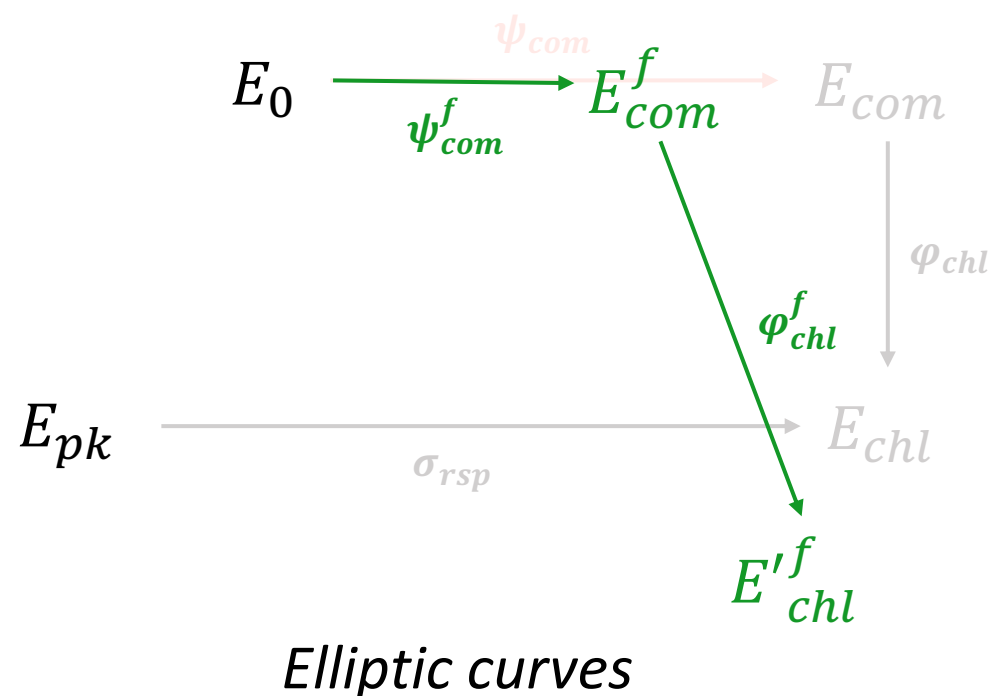
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Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

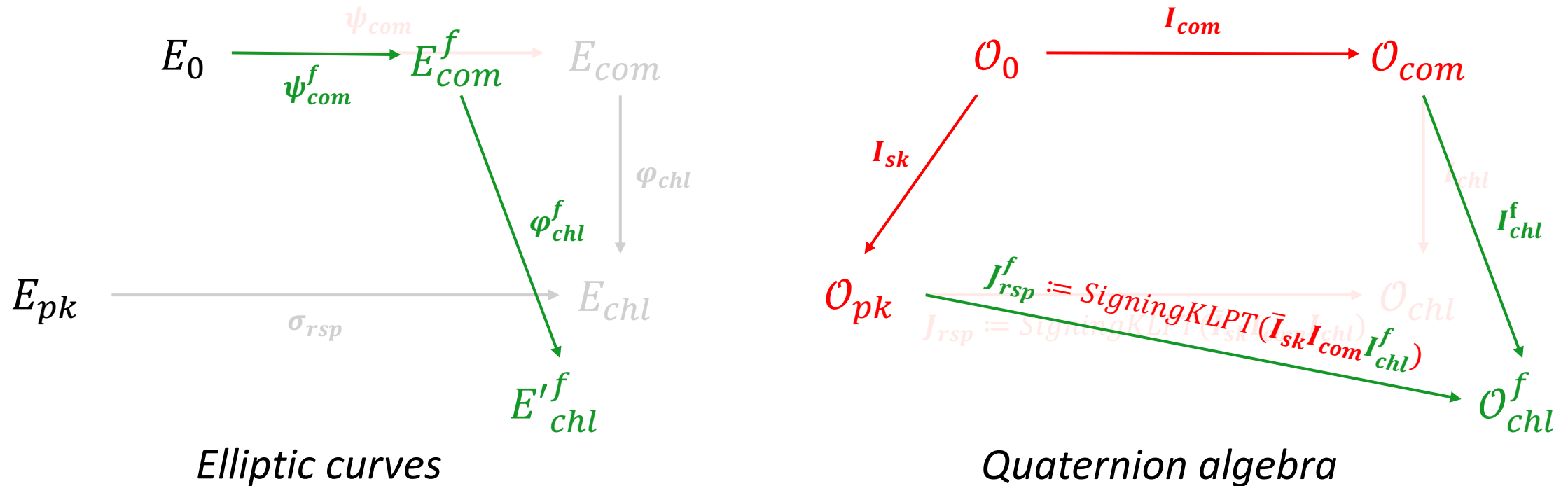
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Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

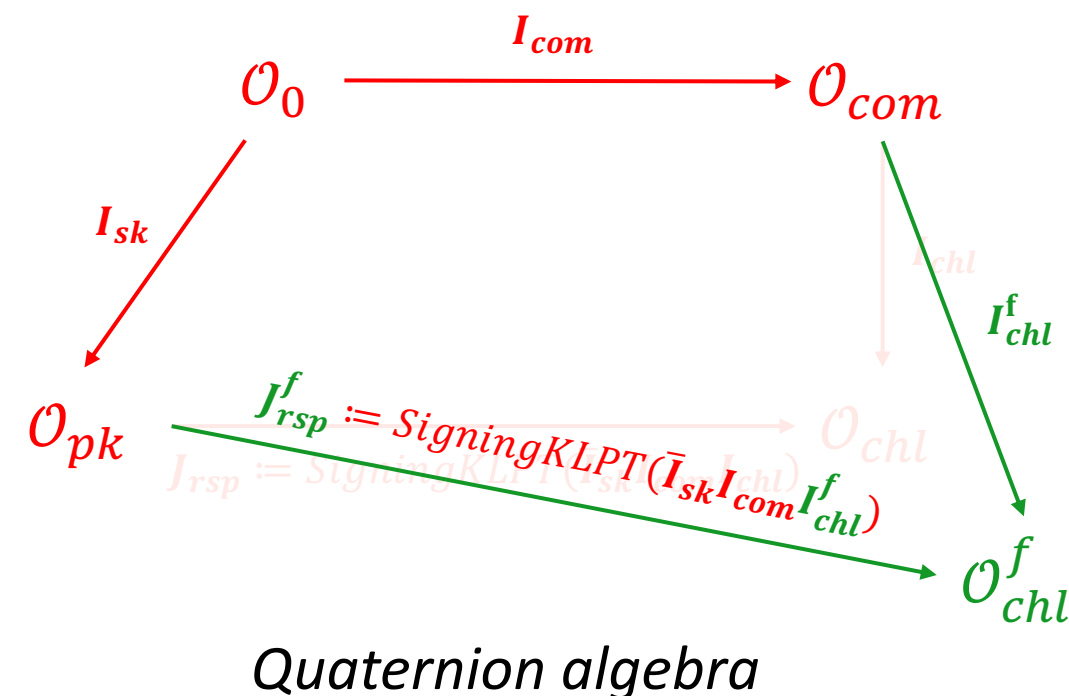
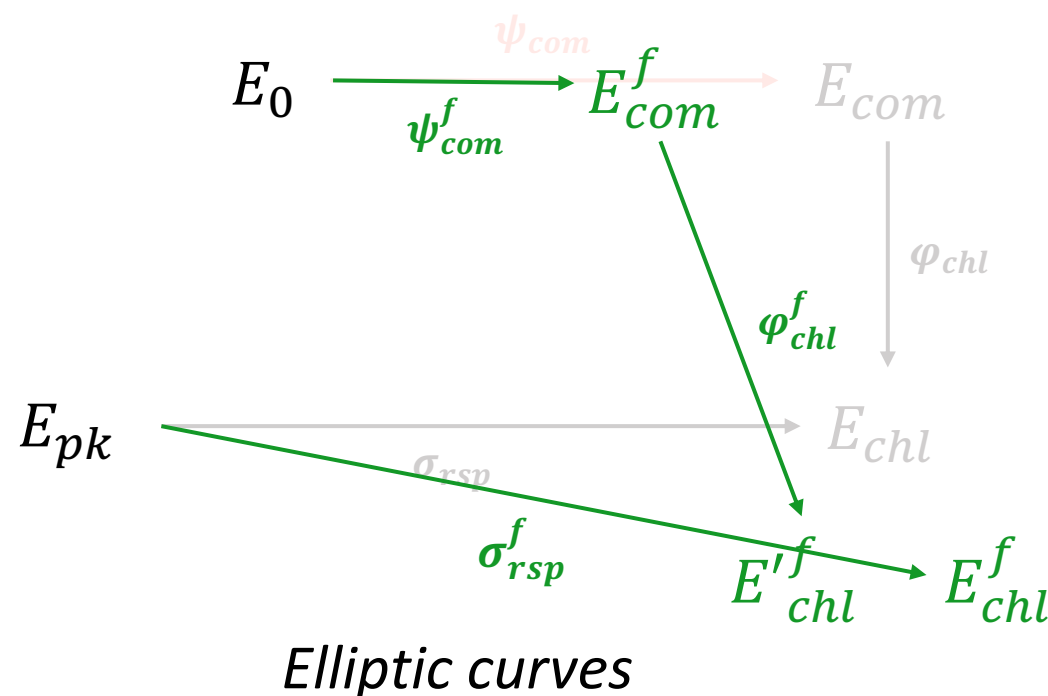
- The data flow of the faulty SQIsign signing process
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Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

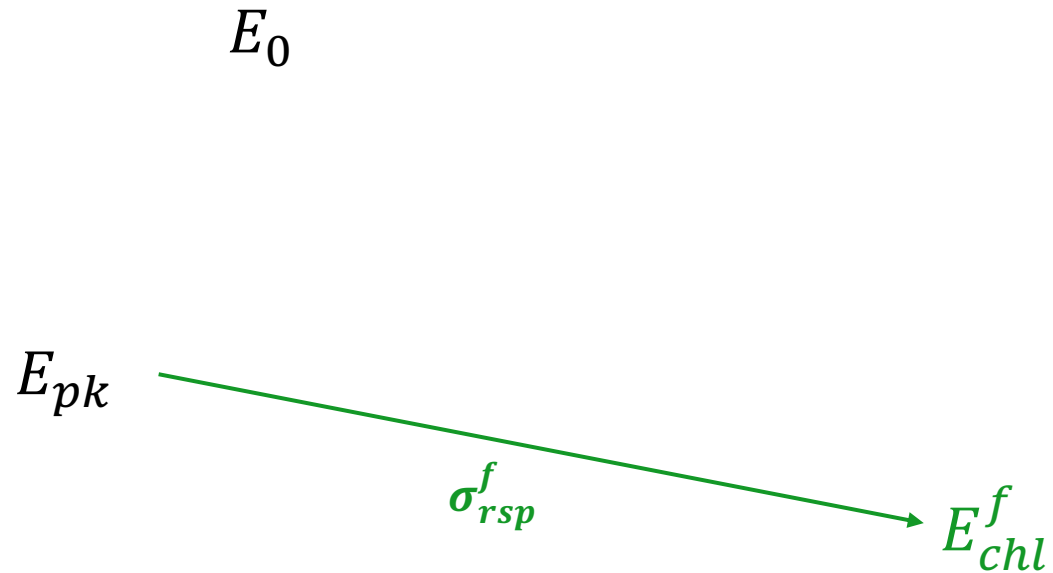
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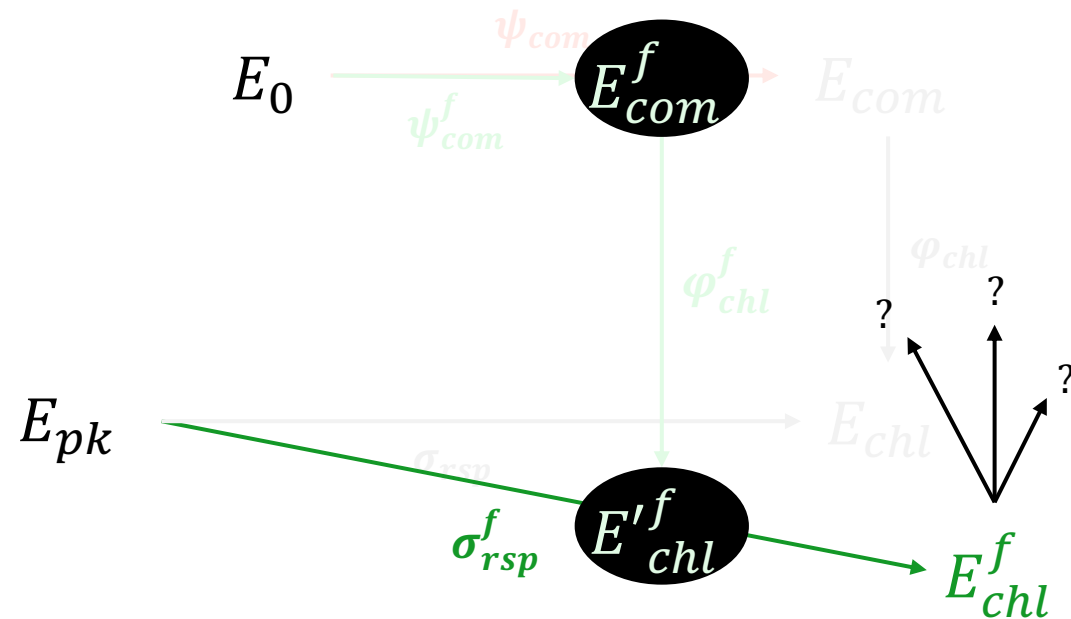
Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

- What the attacker receives...



Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

- What the attacker receives...



I can't recover E_{com}^f from E_{chl}^f and a faulty signature...

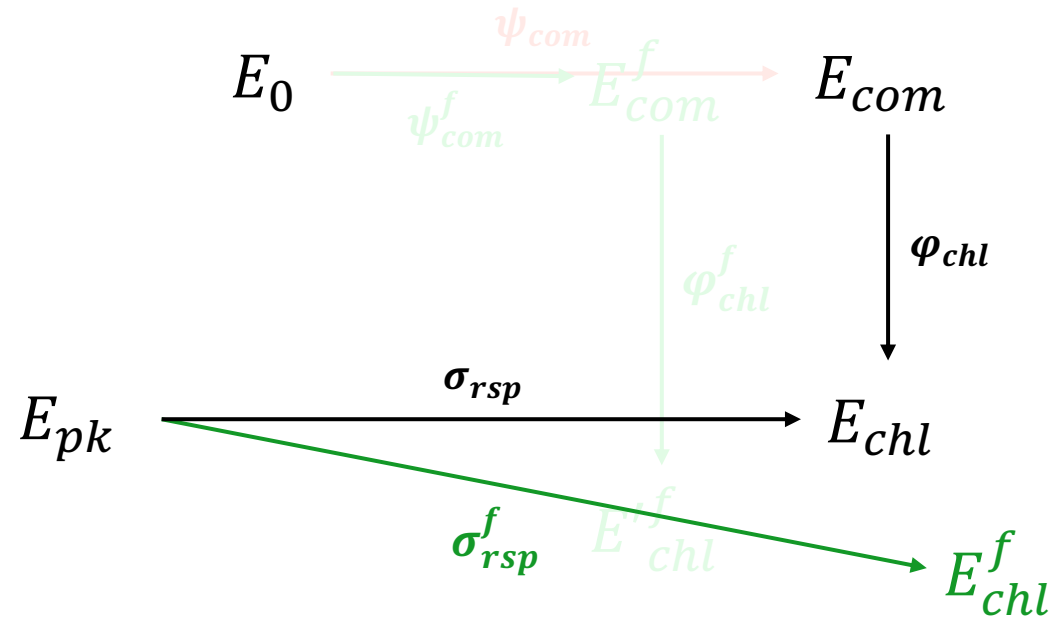


- What the attacker receives...



Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

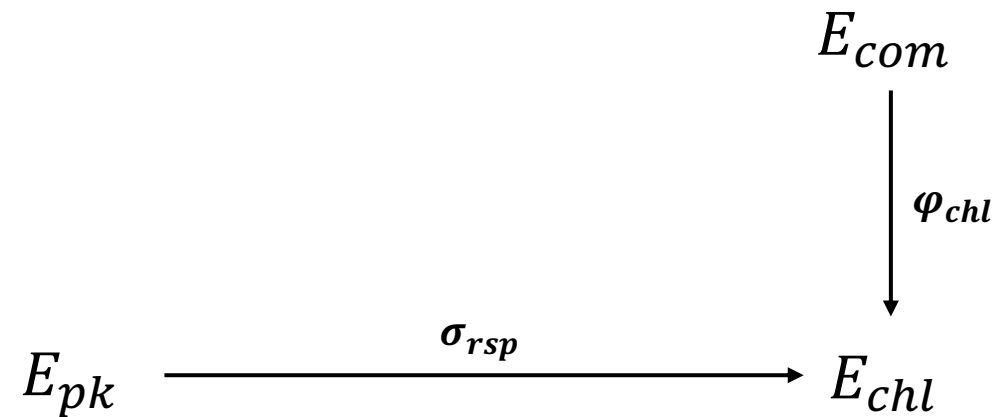
Let's use the *normal* signature
with the same message



Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

- Key recovery attack scenario

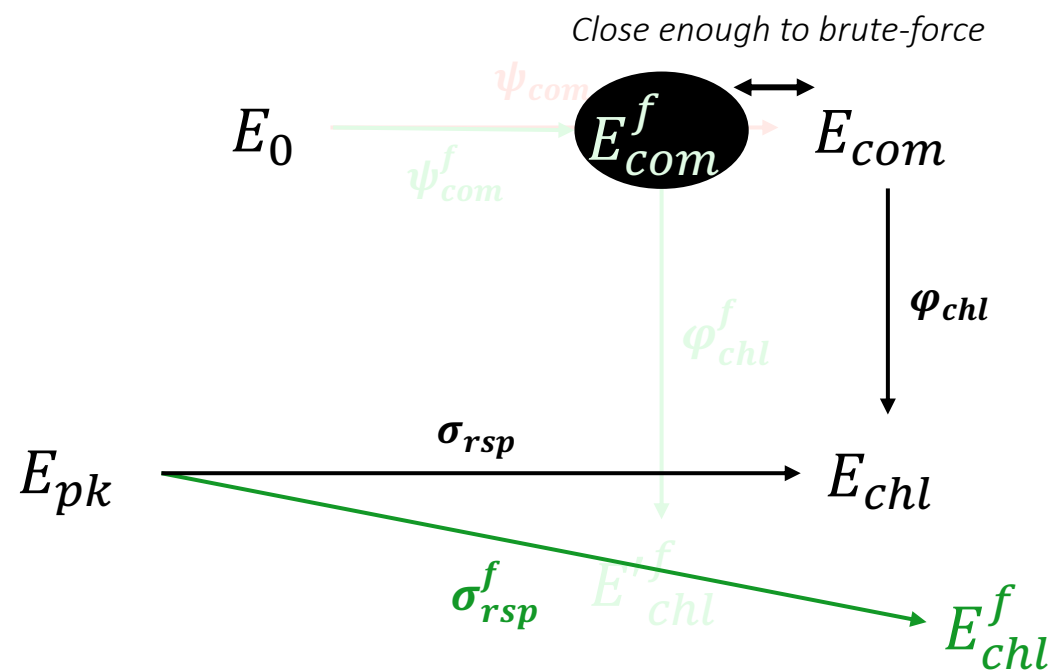
- First, the attacker queries the signing oracle with normal execution



Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

● Key recovery attack scenario

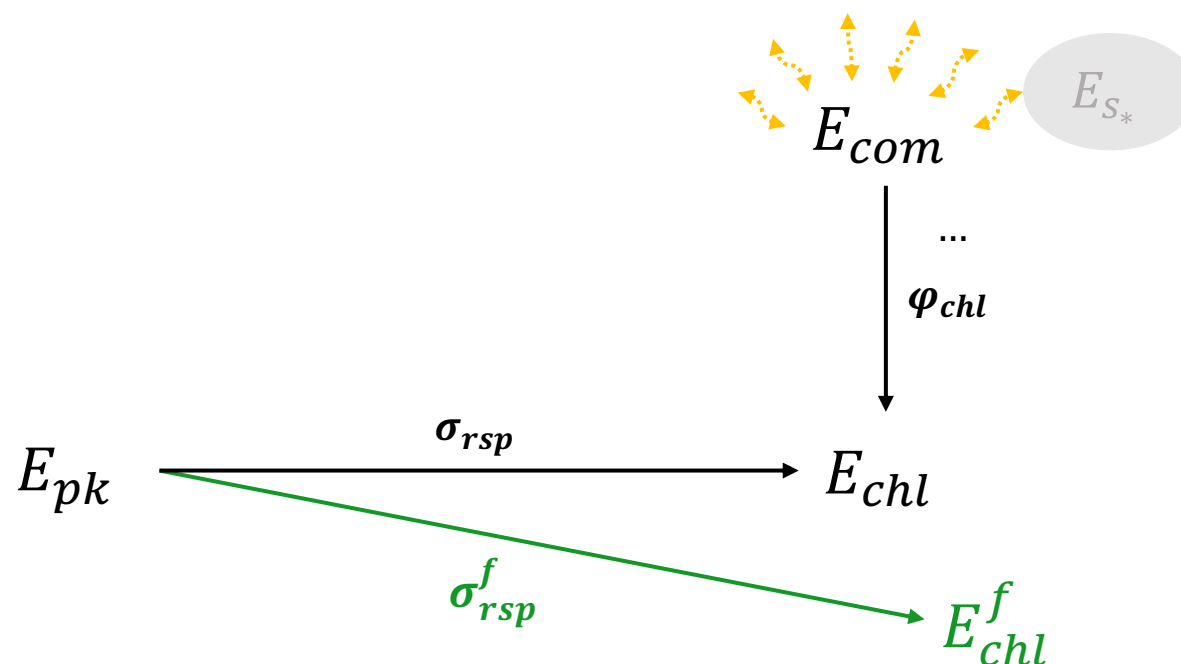
- Second, the attacker queries the signing oracle with a fault injection inducing E_{com}^f close to E_{com}



Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

● Key recovery attack scenario

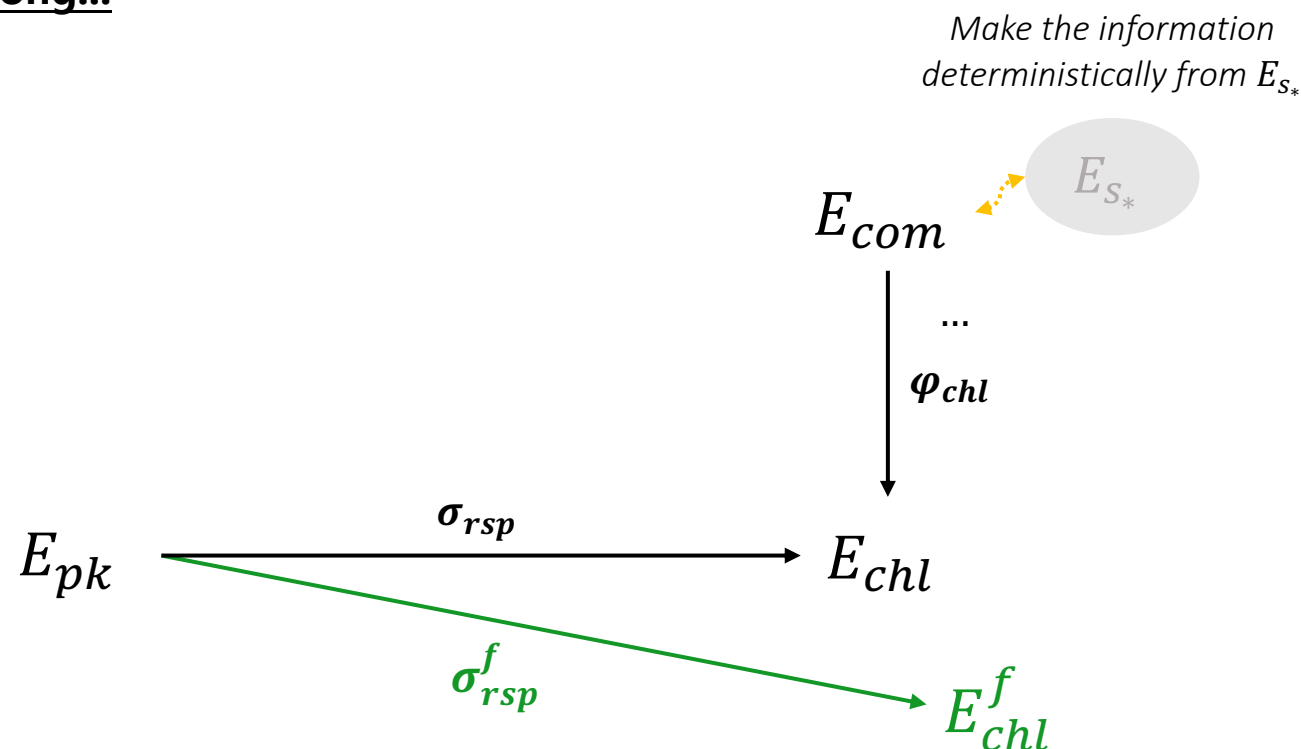
- Third, the attacker brute-force to find the isogeny from E_{com} to E_{com}^f
- How can she check whether the guessed curve is right or wrong?
 - If the guessed curve is wrong...



Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

● Key recovery attack scenario

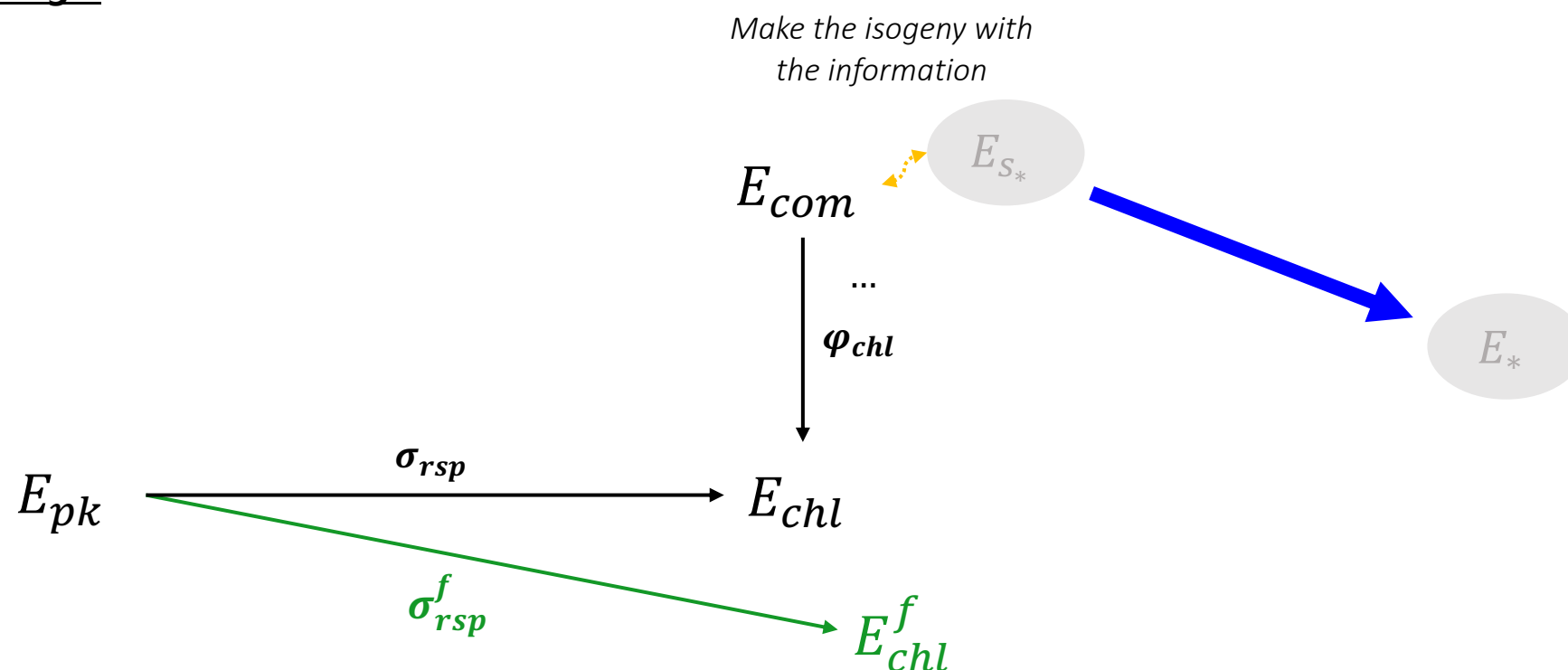
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Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

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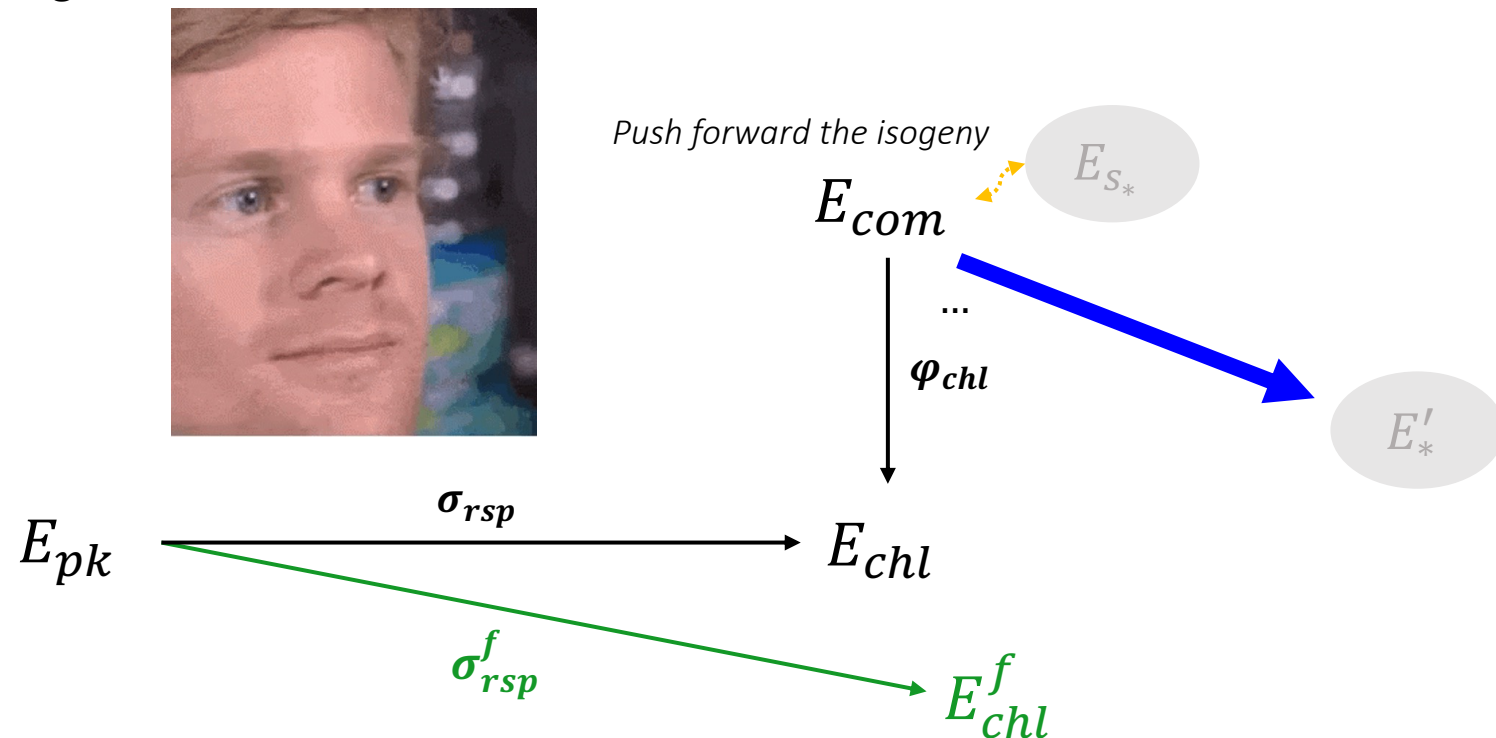
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Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

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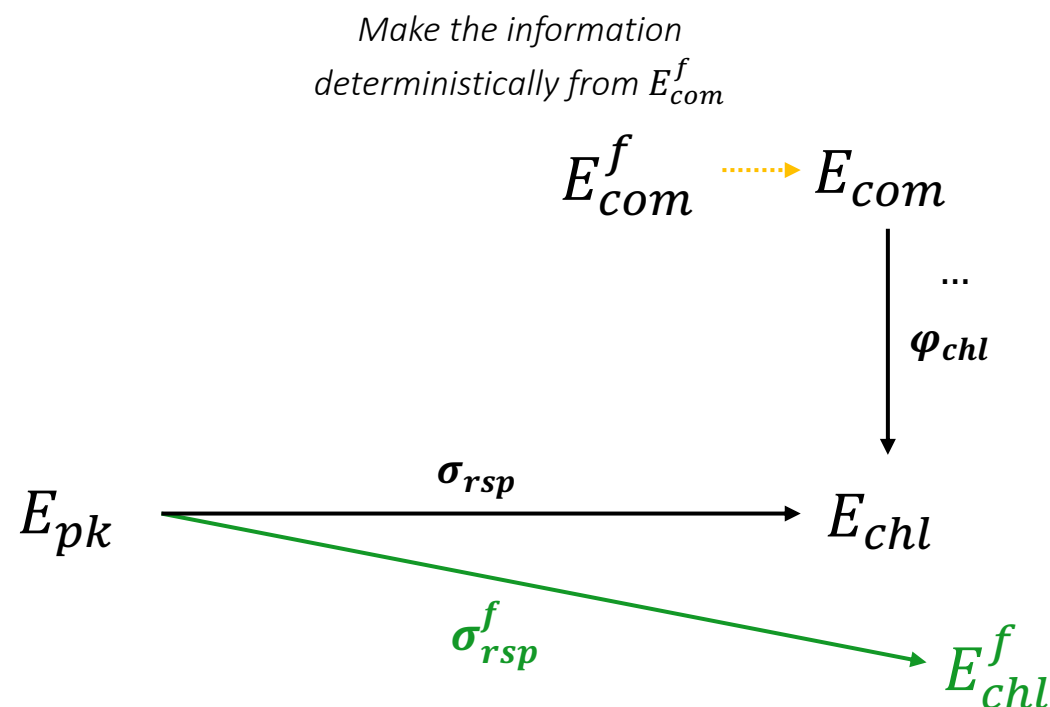
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Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

● Key recovery attack scenario

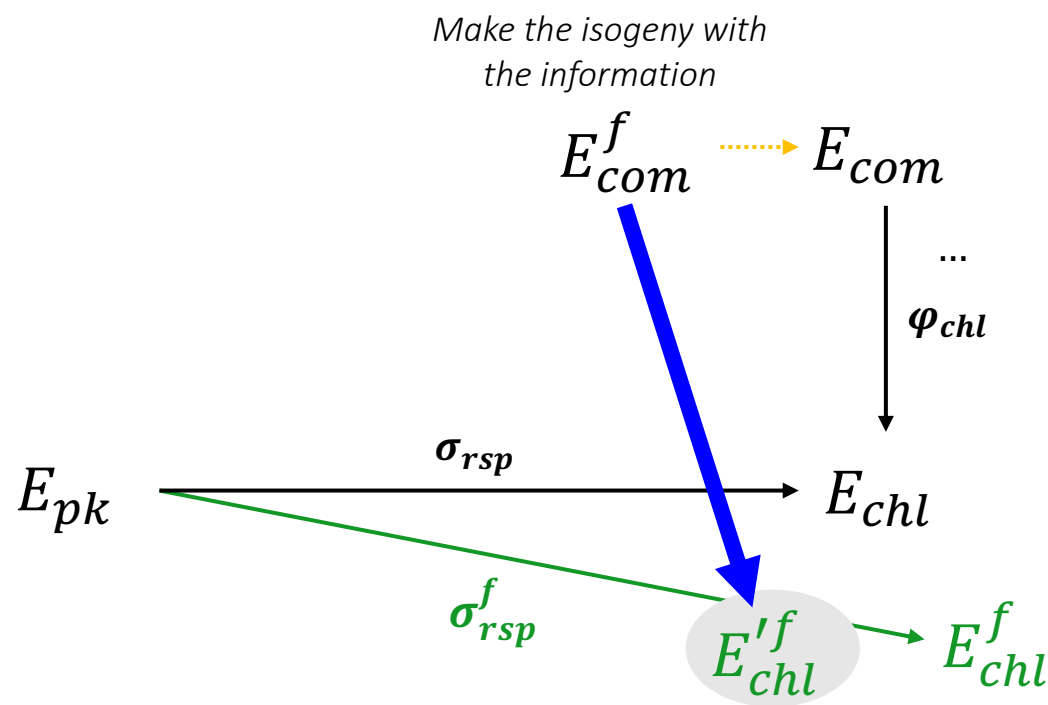
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Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

● Key recovery attack scenario

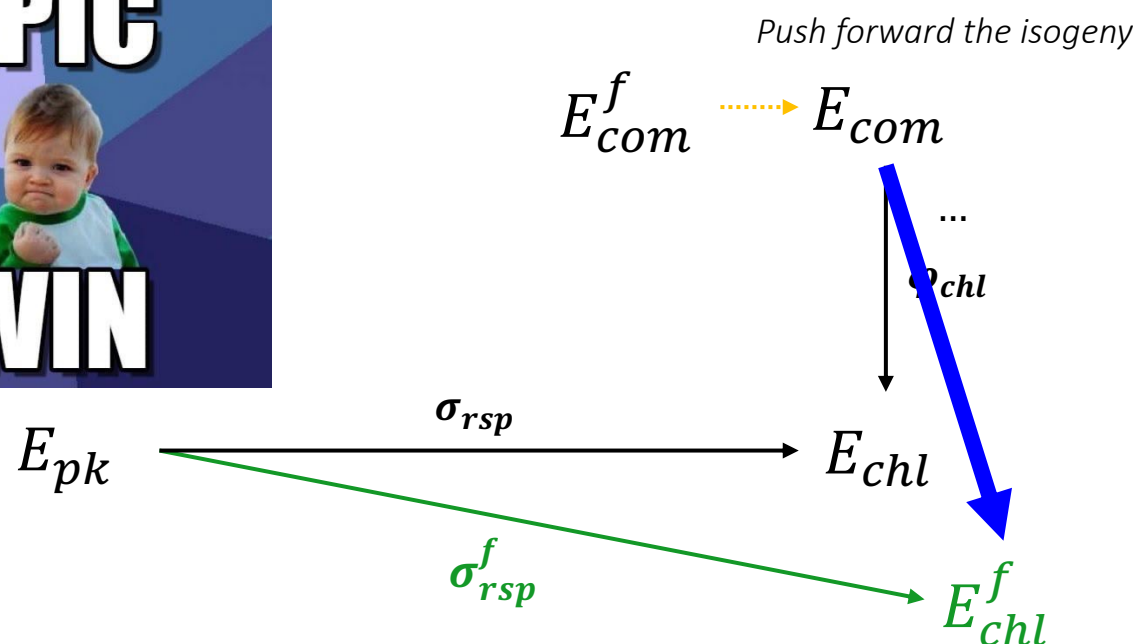
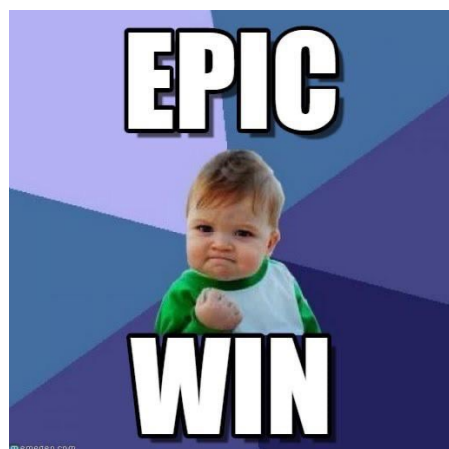
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Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

● Key recovery attack scenario

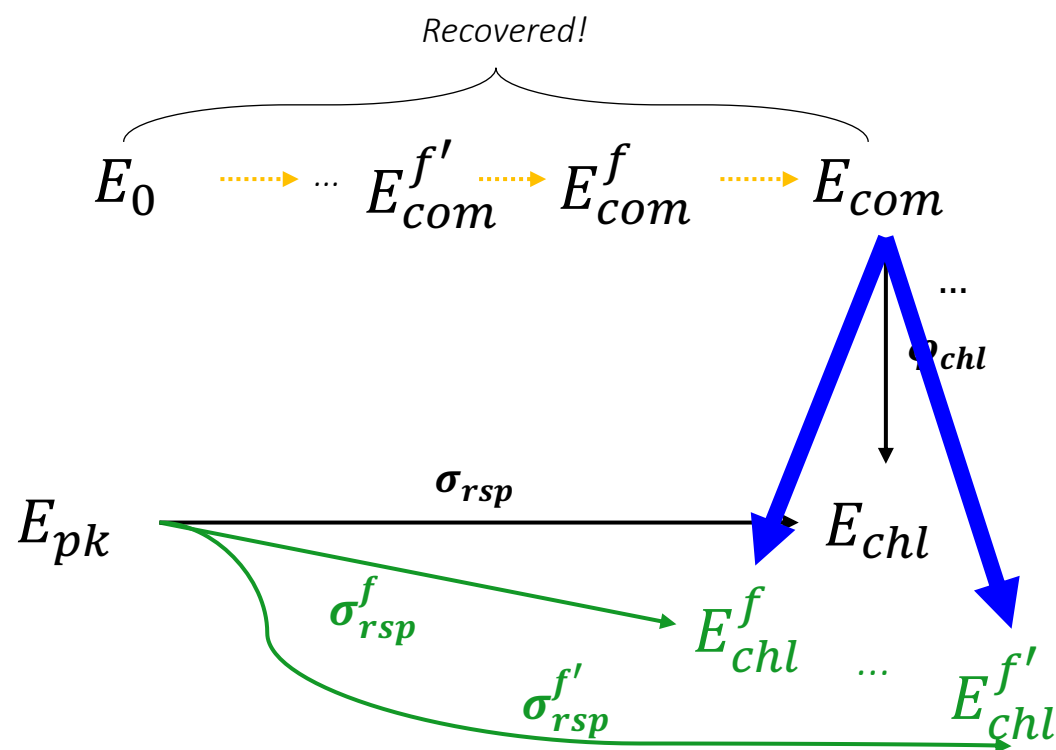
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Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

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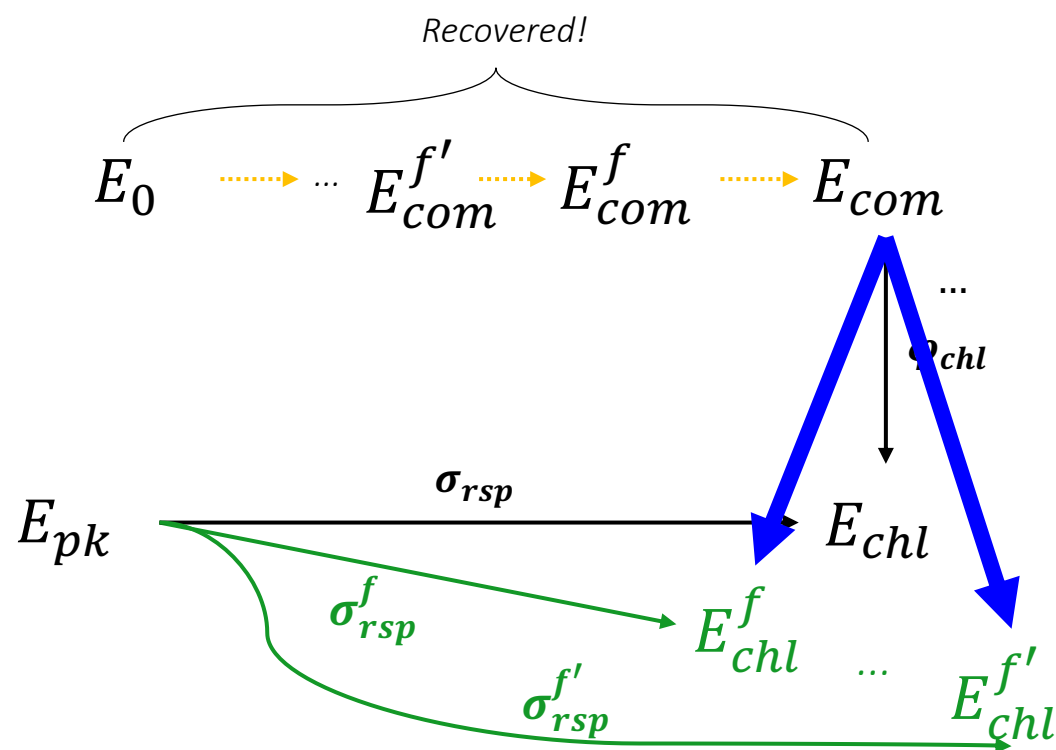
- Fourth, the attacker repeats the previous steps to recover the entire commitment isogeny
- Then, she gets the isogeny from E_0 to E_{pk} which is the equivalent secret key



Fault attack on deterministic SQIsign

● Key recovery attack scenario

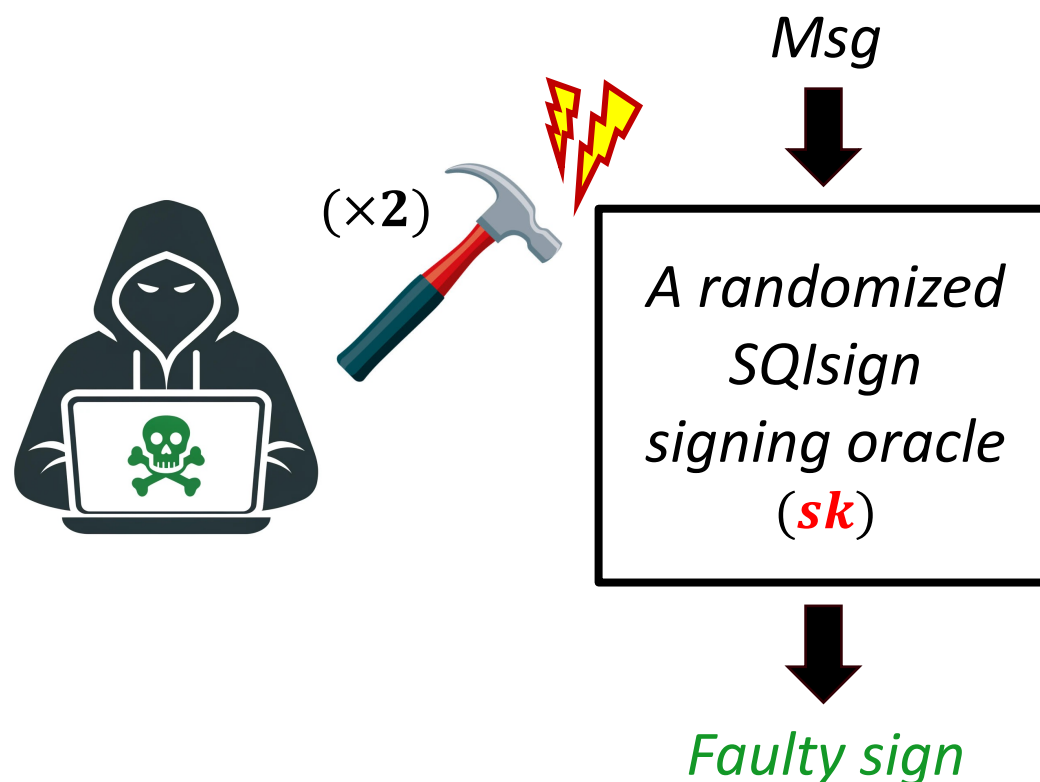
- When the degree of a commitment isogeny, D_{com} is B -smooth,
the total number of queries is $O(\log(D_{com}))$ and the time complexity is $O(B \cdot \log(D_{com}))$



Fault attack on randomized SQLsign

● Attacker model

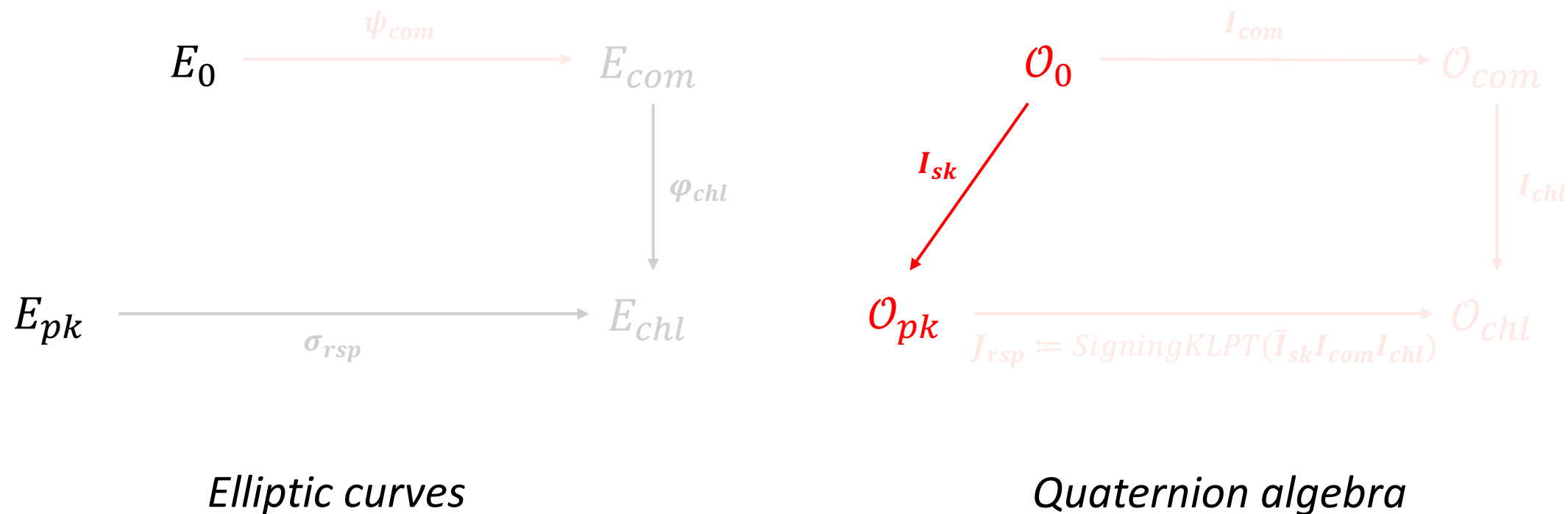
- The attacker is allowed to make multiple queries to a randomized SQLSign oracle with the same key
- The oracle generates a signature for each query and the attacker receives it
- The attacker can inject faults twice during the oracle's operation (2nd order fault attack)



Fault attack on randomized SQIsign

● The data flow of the faulty SQIsign signing process

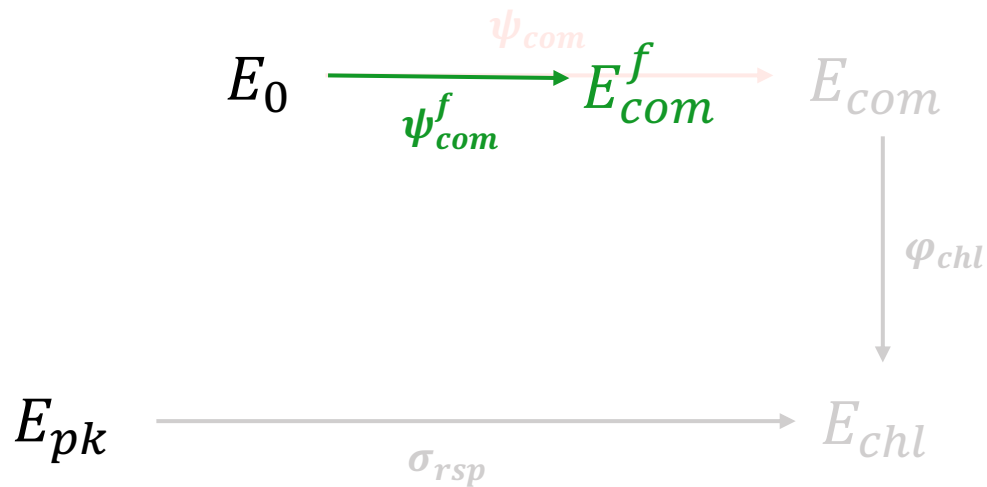
- 2nd-order fault is injected while computing the commitment isogeny and ideal, respectively



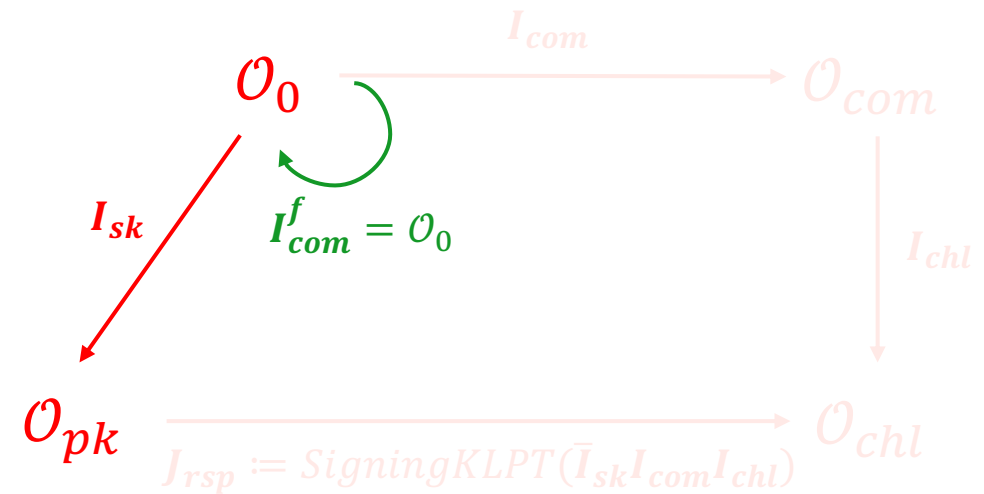
Fault attack on randomized SQIsign

● The data flow of the faulty SQIsign signing process

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Elliptic curves

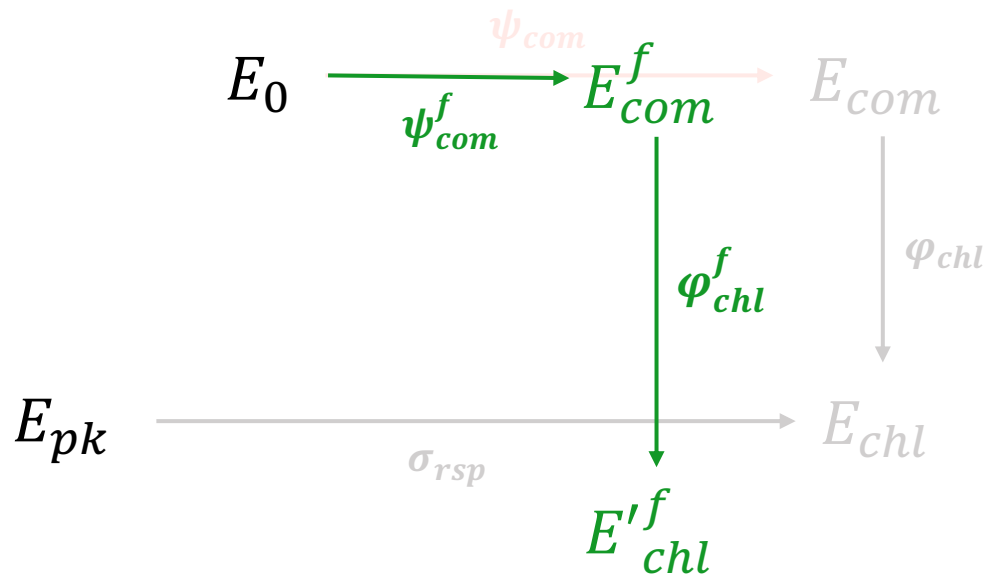


Quaternion algebra

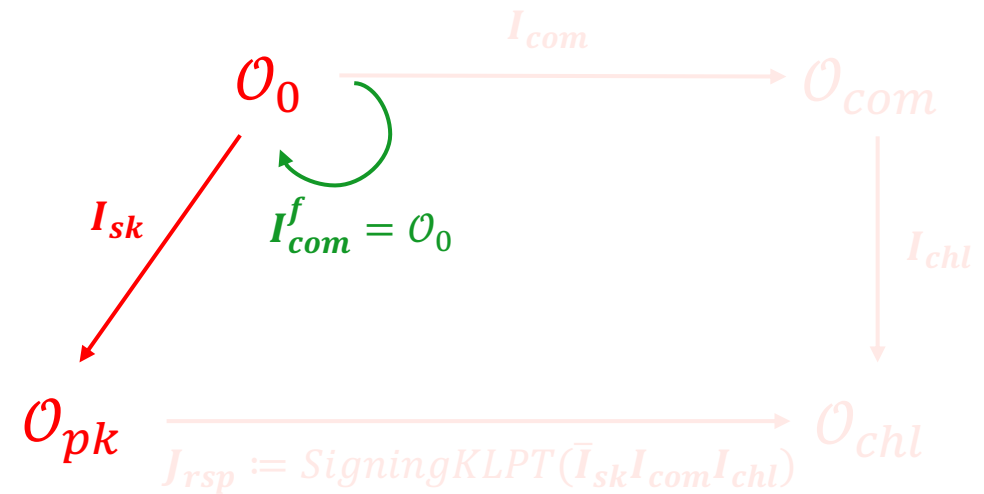
Fault attack on randomized SQIsign

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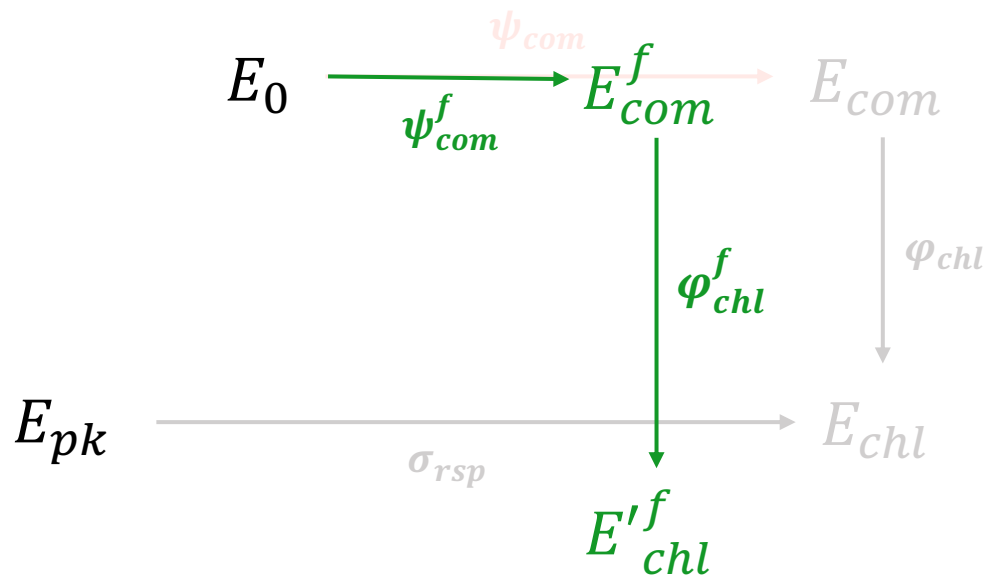


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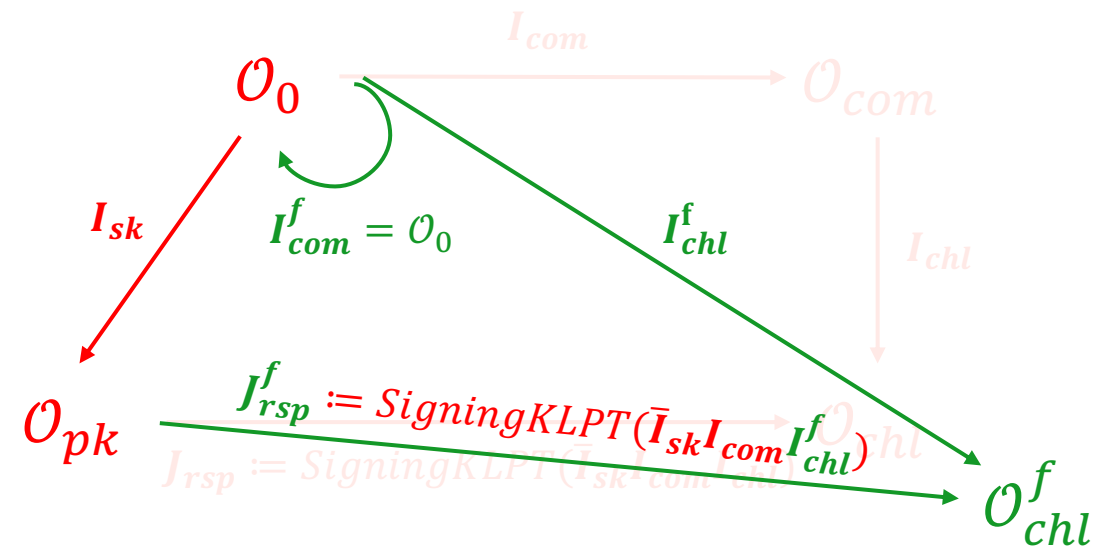
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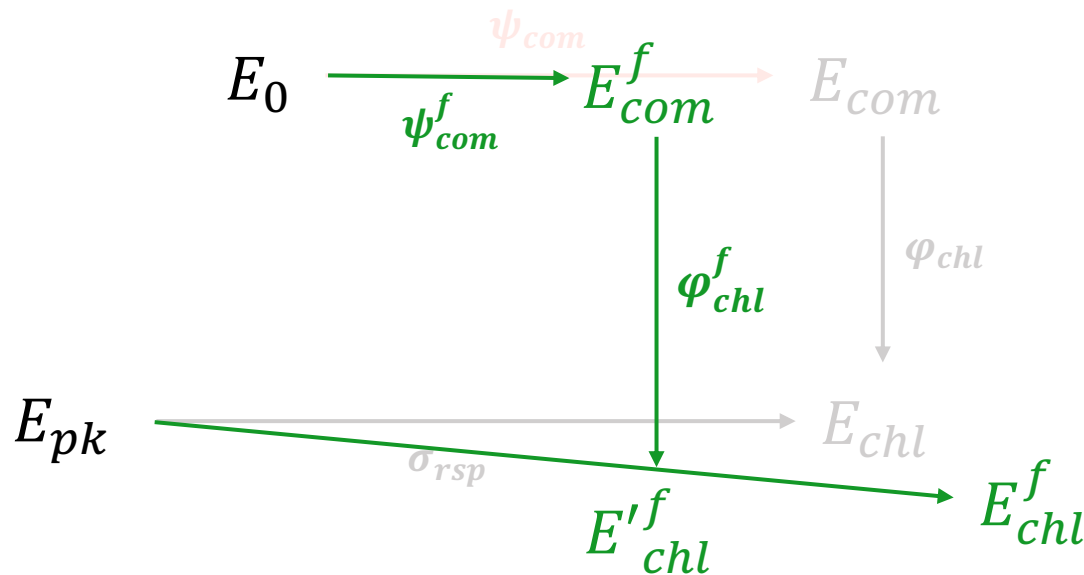


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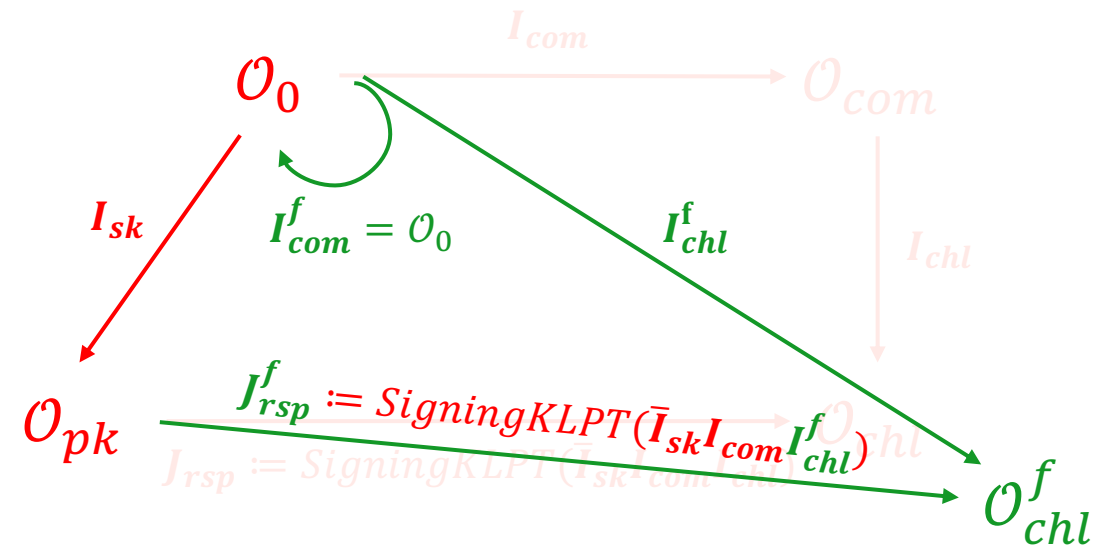
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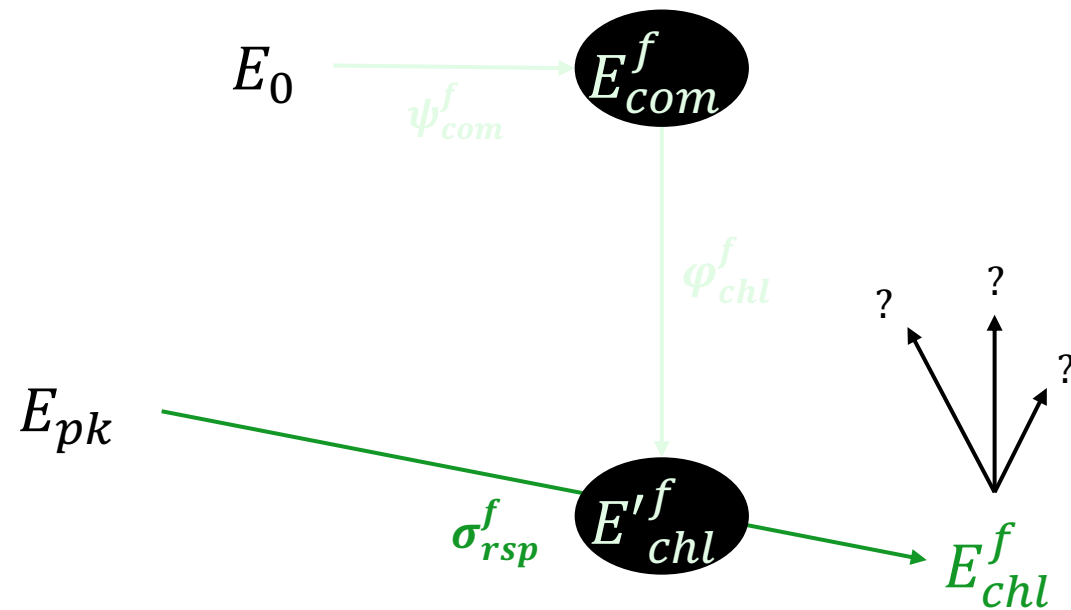
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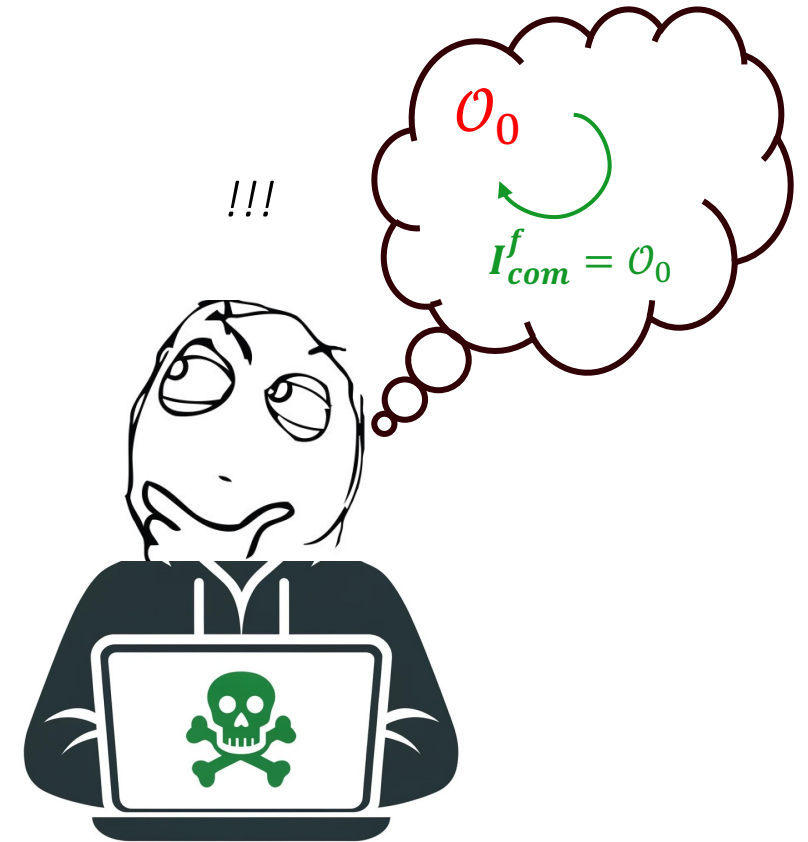
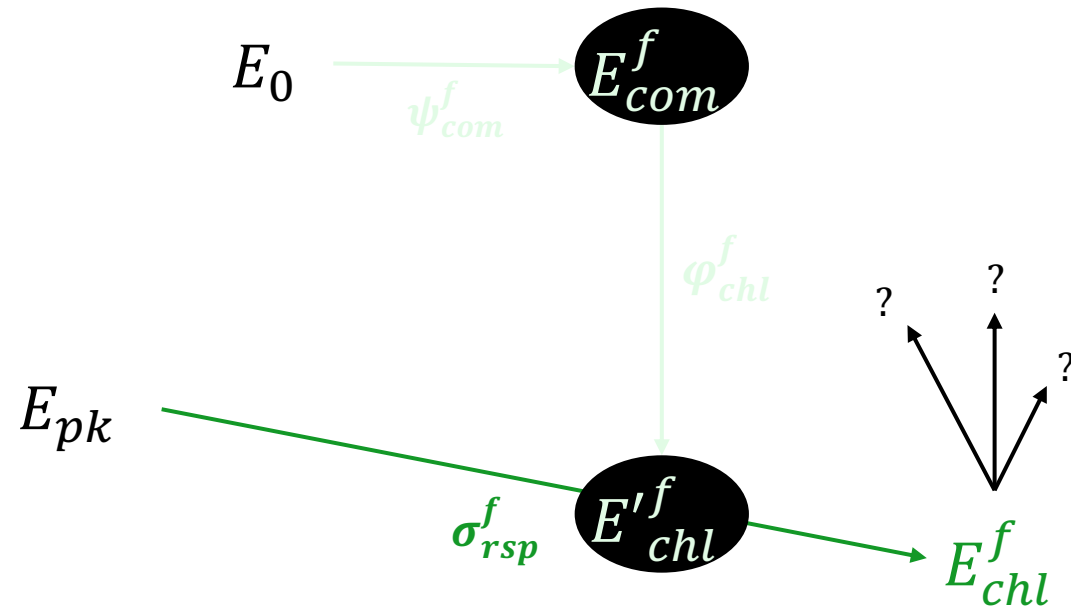
Fault attack on randomized SQLsign

- What the attacker receives...



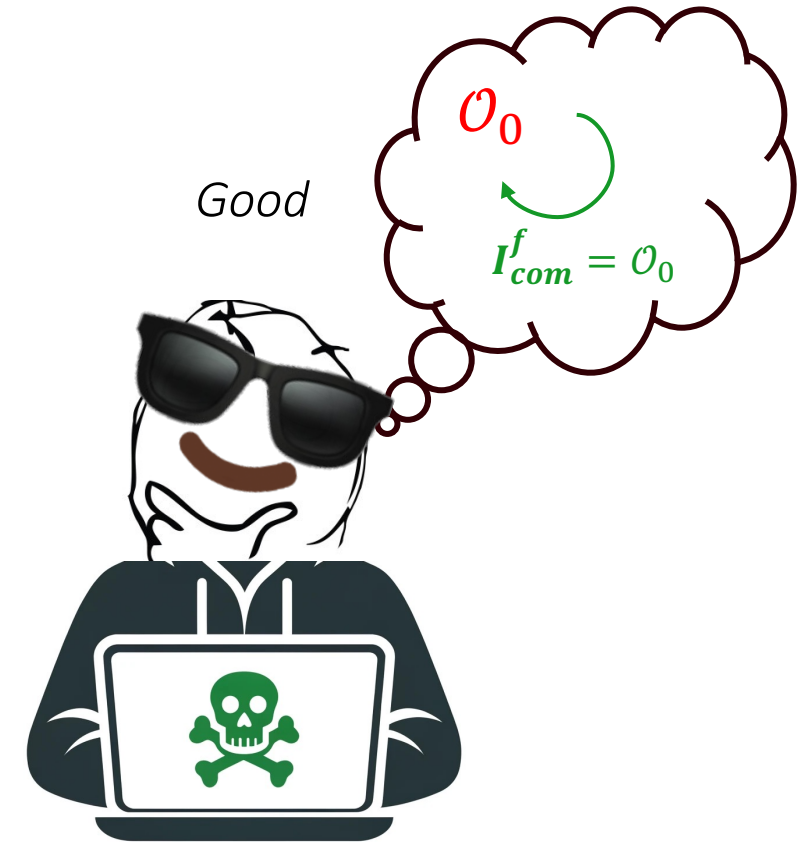
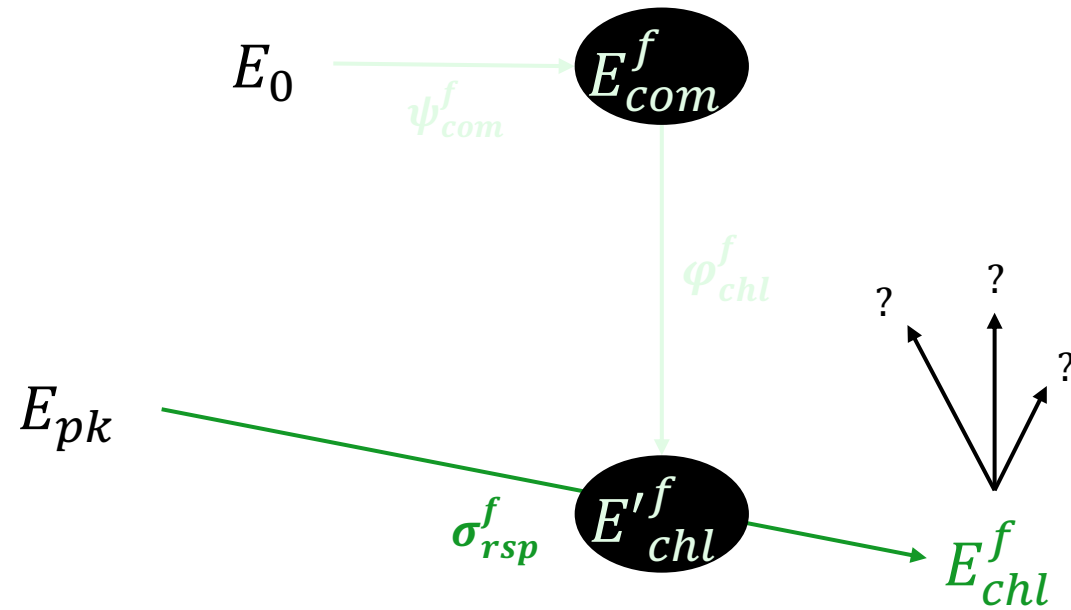
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Fault attack on randomized SQLsign

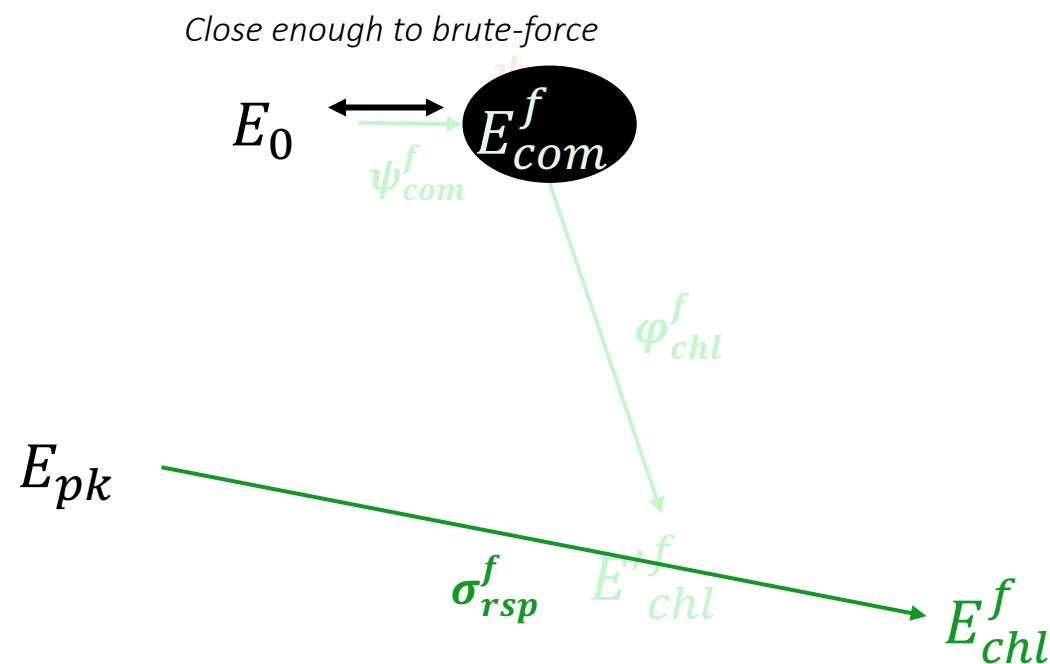
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Fault attack on randomized SQIsign

● Key recovery attack scenario

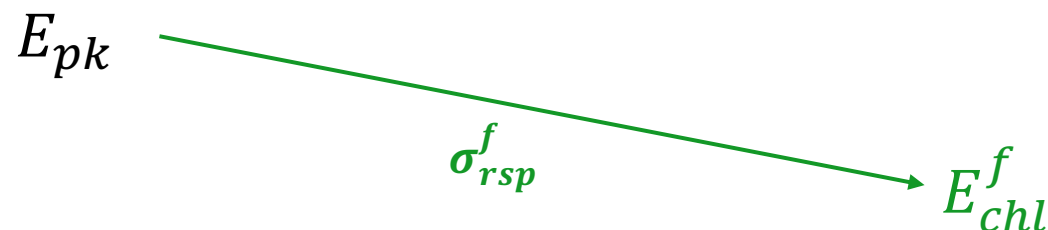
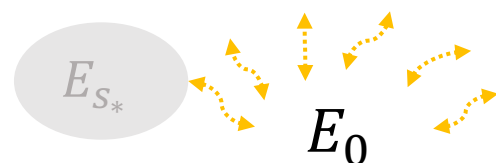
- First, the attacker queries the signing oracle with 2^{nd} order fault injection causing E_{com}^f to be close to E_0 and I_{com} to become \mathcal{O}_0



Fault attack on randomized SQIsign

● Key recovery attack scenario

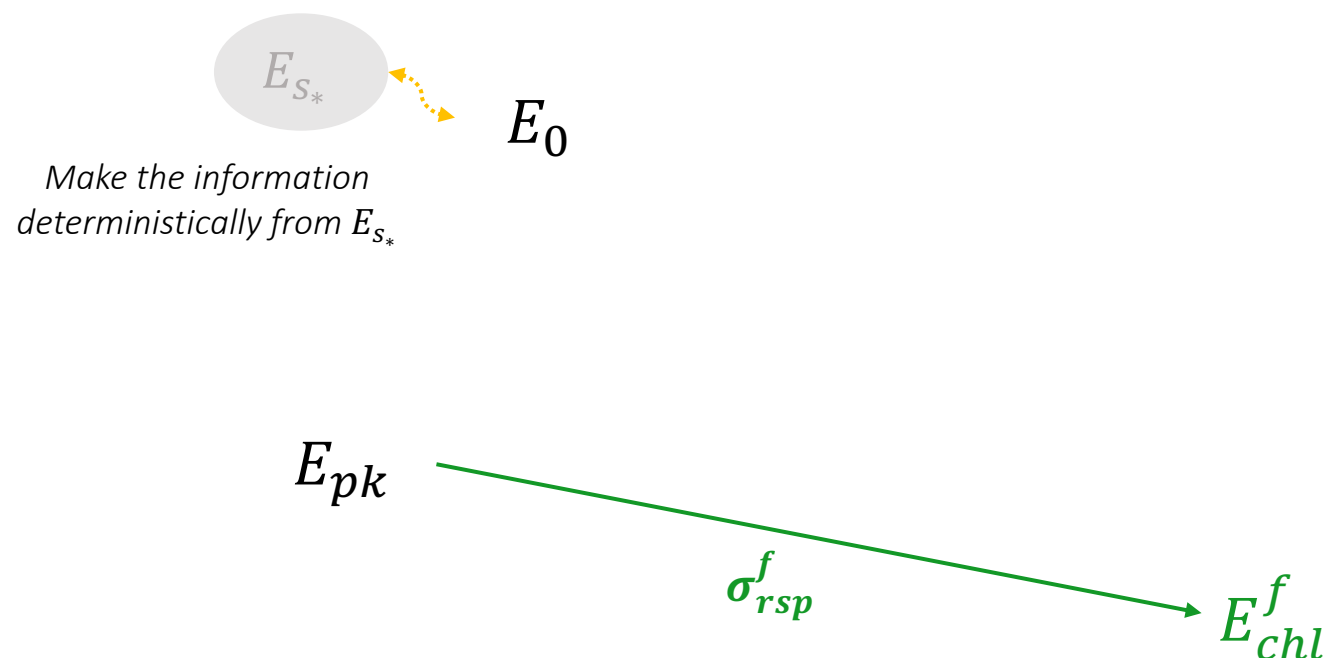
- Second, the attacker brute-force to find the isogeny from E_0 and E_{com}^f
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Fault attack on randomized SQIsign

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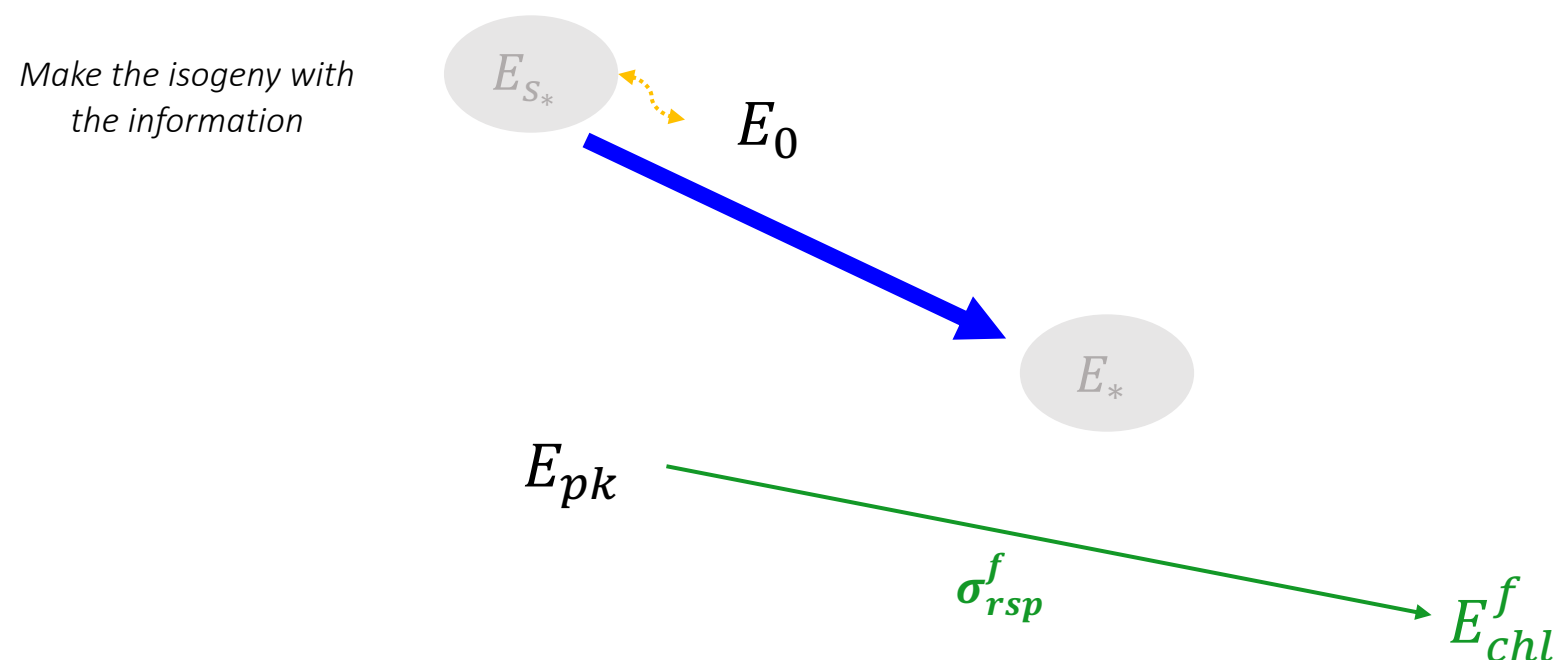
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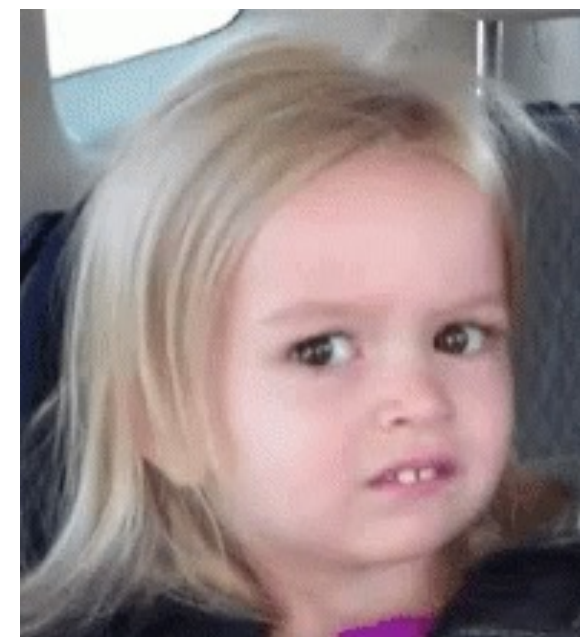
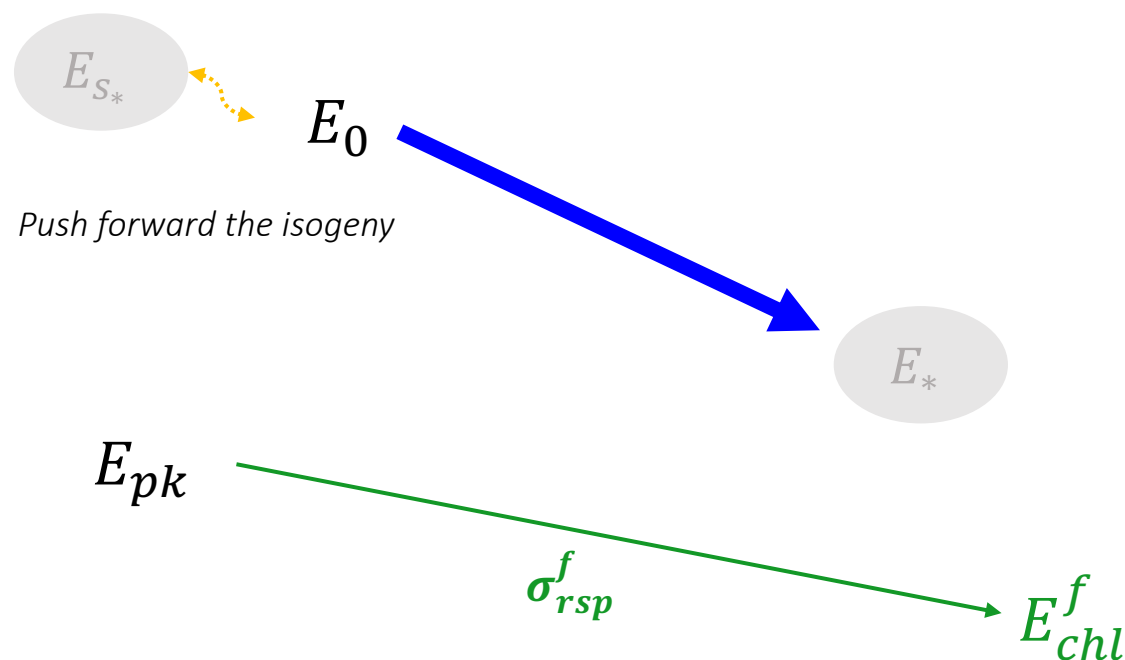
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Fault attack on randomized SQIsign

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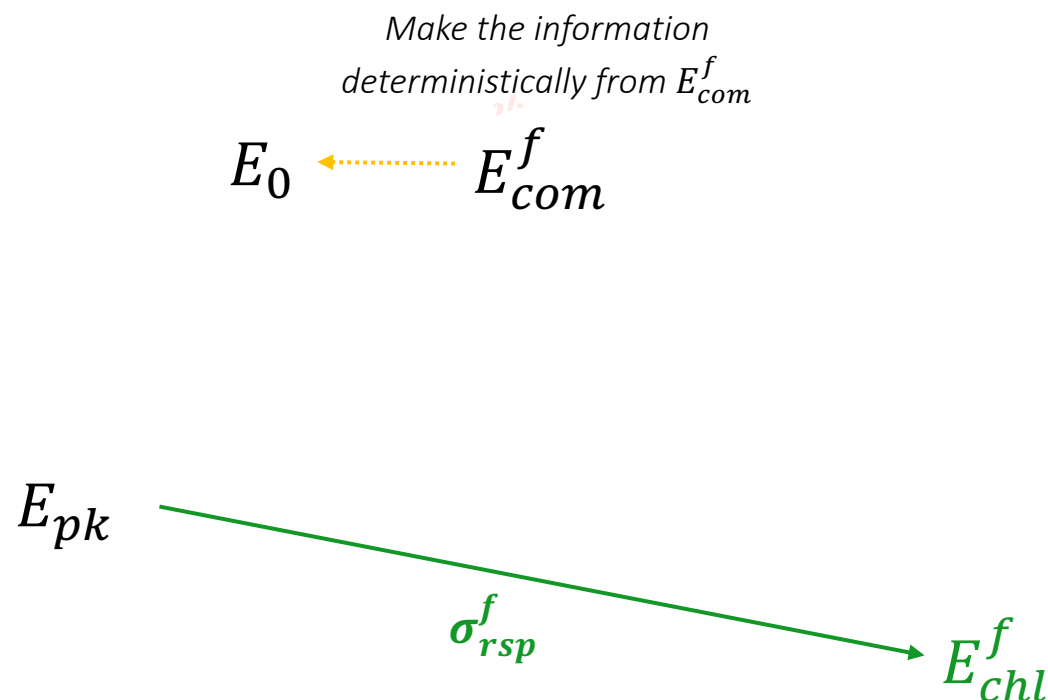
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Fault attack on randomized SQIsign

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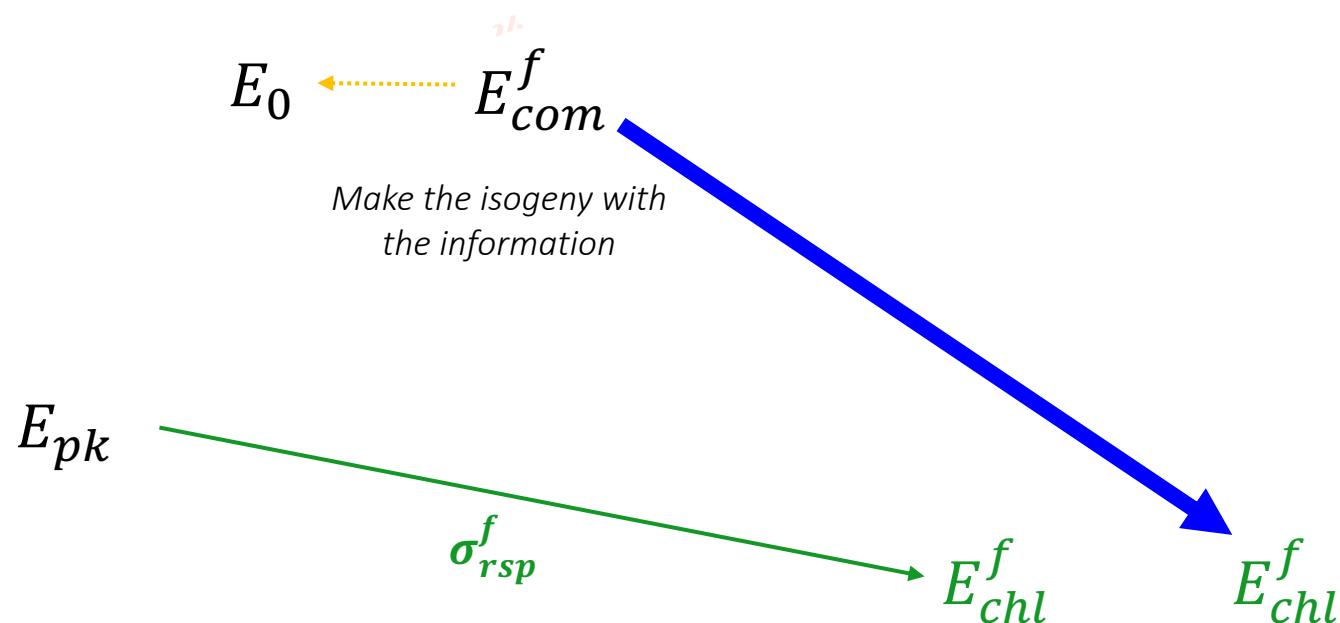
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Fault attack on randomized SQIsign

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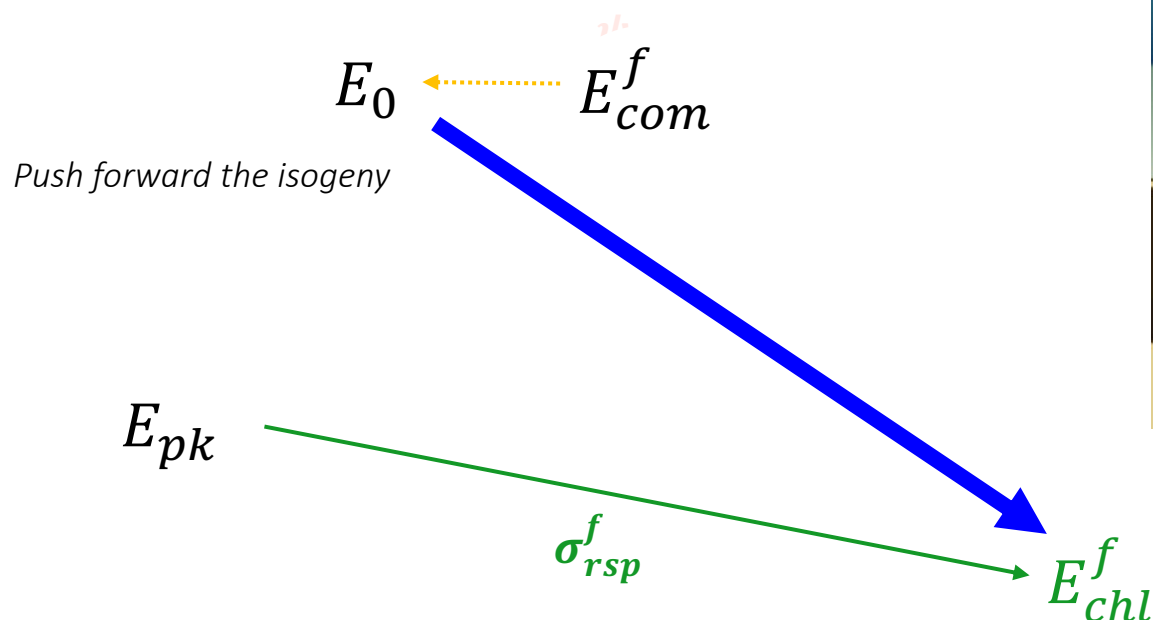
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Fault attack on randomized SQIsign

● Key recovery attack scenario

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 - If the guessed curve is **right...**
- She gets the isogeny from E_0 to E_{pk} which is the equivalent secret key

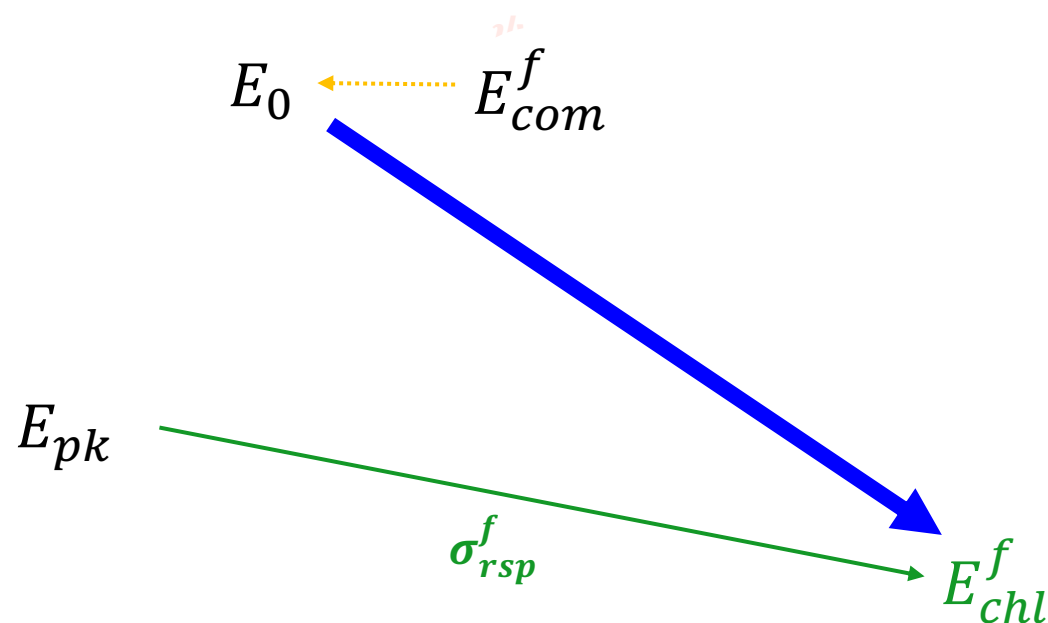


Fault attack on randomized SQIsign

- Key recovery attack scenario

- When the degree of a commitment isogeny D_{com} is B -smooth,

the total number of queries is $O\left(\left(\frac{D_{com}}{\varphi(D_{com})}\right)^3\right)$ by Theorem 2 and **the time complexity** is $O(B)$



Conclusion and countermeasures

1. We found two fault vulnerabilities in SQIsign
2. We showed the key recovery attack scenarios on both deterministic SQIsign and randomized SQIsign using these vulnerabilities
3. Both vulnerabilities can be countered using intuitive methods
 - Verify the iterator and norm!
 - Multiple checkers for high-order fault attacks!

Q&A

Thanks

<https://ia.cr/2024/581>

Email : hwani0814@korea.ac.kr



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