

# Moving the Goal to Post Quantum



Photo by My Profit Tutor on Unsplash

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# WHO HERE HAS NOT HEARD OF QUANTUM COMPUTING?



# HYPER HYPER

## Quantum Computing Hype Cycle Just Getting Started

Quantum computing could be to the 2020s what cloud computing was to the 2010s

By Dana Blankenhorn, InvestorPlace Contributor Jul 25, 2018, 1:24 pm EST



April 16, 2019 | Contributor: Kasey Panetta

## Quantum Computing Under Hype Cycle and Market Clock Scrutiny

*With new technology come the plaudits and the critics. Quantum computing is no different from any other sector*

By James Dargan - August 1, 2019 46 0

## The hype around quantum computing: it's not too early to get in

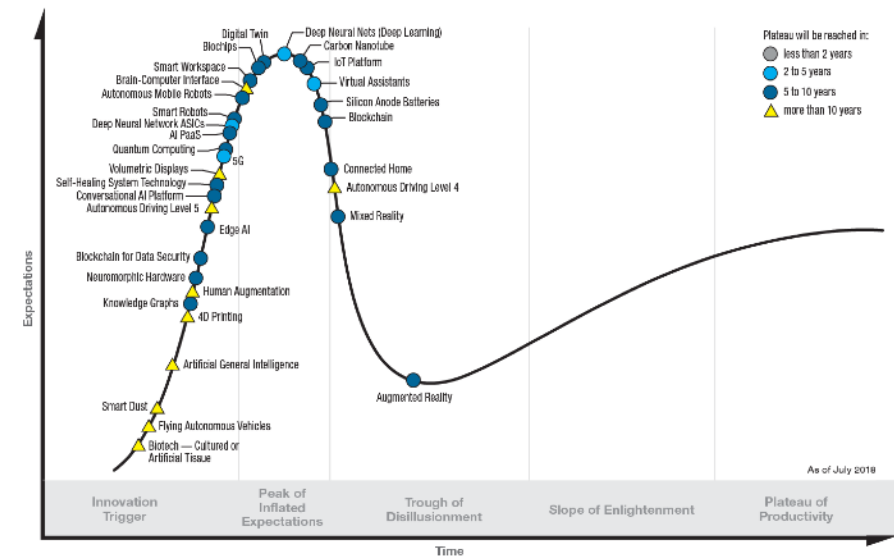
by Jurgita Lapienyte 15 February 2021

Quantum computing is not a cure-all for business computing challenges



by James Sanders in Innovation  
on May 16, 2019, 11:05 AM PST

### Hype Cycle for Emerging Technologies, 2018





**HYPE → PRESSURE → MISTAKES**



# HYPE → PRESSURE → MISTAKES



NOS Nieuws • Maandag 8 maart 2021, 17:00 •  
Aangepast maandag 8 maart 2021, 22:18



**Onderzoeker Kouwenhoven erkent fout: deeltje  
voor quantumcomputer niet gevonden**

# HYPE → PRESSURE → MISTAKES



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ANP

SCIENCE

17 maart 2022 - 11:05 door Jos Wassink

## Kouwenhoven departs, Microsoft presents Majoranas

In a strange combination of events, Microsoft announced both the departure of Leo Kouwenhoven this week and the discovery of scalable Majoranas – developed in Denmark.



# HYPE → PRESSURE → MISTAKES



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**Onderzoeker Kouwenhoven erkent fout: deeltje  
voor quantumcomputer niet gevonden**

**Delftse onderzoekers  
kwantumcomputers  
'verwijtbaar  
onzorgvuldig'**

Geen schending wetenschappelijke  
integriteit.

Het College van Bestuur van de TU Delft oordeelt dat Leo Kouwenhoven en Hao Zhang 'onzorgvuldig' hebben gehandeld en dat er deels ook sprake is van 'verwijtbare onzorgvuldigheid' bij de publicatie van hun werk over Majoranadeeltjes. Deze deeltjes zijn veelbelovend als basis voor een stabiele kwantumcomputer.

SCIENCE

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# Quantum supremacy using a programmable superconducting processor

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-1666-5>

Received: 22 July 2019

Accepted: 20 September 2019

Published online: 23 October 2019

Frank Arute<sup>1</sup>, Kunal Arya<sup>1</sup>, Ryan Babbush<sup>1</sup>, Dave Bacon<sup>1</sup>, Joseph C. Bardin<sup>1,2</sup>, Rami Barends<sup>1</sup>, Rupak Biswas<sup>3</sup>, Sergio Boixo<sup>1</sup>, Fernando G. S. L. Brandao<sup>1,4</sup>, David A. Buell<sup>1</sup>, Brian Burkett<sup>1</sup>, Yu Chen<sup>1</sup>, Zijun Chen<sup>1</sup>, Ben Chiaro<sup>5</sup>, Roberto Collins<sup>1</sup>, William Courtney<sup>1</sup>, Andrew Dunsworth<sup>1</sup>, Edward Farhi<sup>1</sup>, Brooks Foxen<sup>1,5</sup>, Austin Fowler<sup>1</sup>, Craig Gidney<sup>1</sup>, Marissa Giustina<sup>1</sup>, Rob Graff<sup>1</sup>, Keith Guerin<sup>1</sup>, Steve Habegger<sup>1</sup>, Matthew P. Harrigan<sup>1</sup>, Michael J. Hartmann<sup>1,6</sup>, Alan Ho<sup>1</sup>, Markus Hoffmann<sup>1</sup>, Trent Huang<sup>1</sup>, Travis S. Humble<sup>7</sup>, Sergei V. Isakov<sup>1</sup>, Evan Jeffrey<sup>1</sup>, Zhang Jiang<sup>1</sup>, Dvir Kafri<sup>1</sup>, Kostyantyn Kechedzhi<sup>1</sup>, Julian Kelly<sup>1</sup>, Paul V. Klimov<sup>1</sup>, Sergey Knysh<sup>1</sup>, Alexander Korotkov<sup>1,8</sup>, Fedor Kostritsa<sup>1</sup>, David Landhuis<sup>1</sup>, Mike Lindmark<sup>1</sup>, Erik Lucero<sup>1</sup>, Dmitry Lyakh<sup>9</sup>, Salvatore Mandrà<sup>3,10</sup>, Jarrod R. McClean<sup>1</sup>, Matthew McEwen<sup>5</sup>, Anthony Megrant<sup>1</sup>, Xiao Mi<sup>1</sup>, Kristel Michielsen<sup>11,12</sup>, Masoud Mohseni<sup>1</sup>, Josh Mutus<sup>1</sup>, Ofer Naaman<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Neeley<sup>1</sup>, Charles Neill<sup>1</sup>, Murphy Yuezhen Niu<sup>1</sup>, Eric Ostby<sup>1</sup>, Andre Petukhov<sup>1</sup>, John C. Platt<sup>1</sup>, Chris Quintana<sup>1</sup>, Eleanor G. Rieffel<sup>3</sup>, Pedram Roushan<sup>1</sup>, Nicholas C. Rubin<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Sank<sup>1</sup>, Kevin J. Satzinger<sup>1</sup>, Vadim Smelyanskiy<sup>1</sup>, Kevin J. Sung<sup>1,13</sup>, Matthew D. Trevithick<sup>1</sup>, Amit Vainsencher<sup>1</sup>, Benjamin Villalonga<sup>1,14</sup>, Theodore White<sup>1</sup>, Z. Jamie Yao<sup>1</sup>, Ping Yeh<sup>1</sup>, Adam Zalcman<sup>1</sup>, Hartmut Neven<sup>1</sup> & John M. Martinis<sup>1,5\*</sup>





# QUANTUM SUPREMACY

10.23.19

# OK, ONE MORE 'CAUSE I CAN'T RESIST...

## Quantum Computing: Is it the end of blockchain?

June 3rd 2018

 [TWEET THIS](#)



Is this the end of blockchain?



OK, ONE MORE 'CAUSE I CAN'T RESIST...


## Quantum Computing: Is it the end of blockchain?

June 3rd 2018

**SPOILER: YES!**

Is this the end of blockchain?

# THE HYPE ISN'T HELPFUL

- 
- The tech **news sites** are **abuzz with quantum**
  - It may seem like **quantum computing is just around the corner**
  - And that **it's going to change the world** (it is)
  - Some **quick facts**:
    - Practical quantum computers require **1,000s of** so-called *logical qubits* (which consist of **10,000s of** *physical qubits*)
    - Google's **quantum supremacy machine** had **53 physical qubits** — how supreme is that?

# THE HYPE ISN'T HELPFUL



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## Goal of this talk:

Poke through the hype and tell you  
*why you should care* about  
quantum computing and *what*  
*challenges we face when deploying*  
*quantum-resistant cryptography*

**the corner**

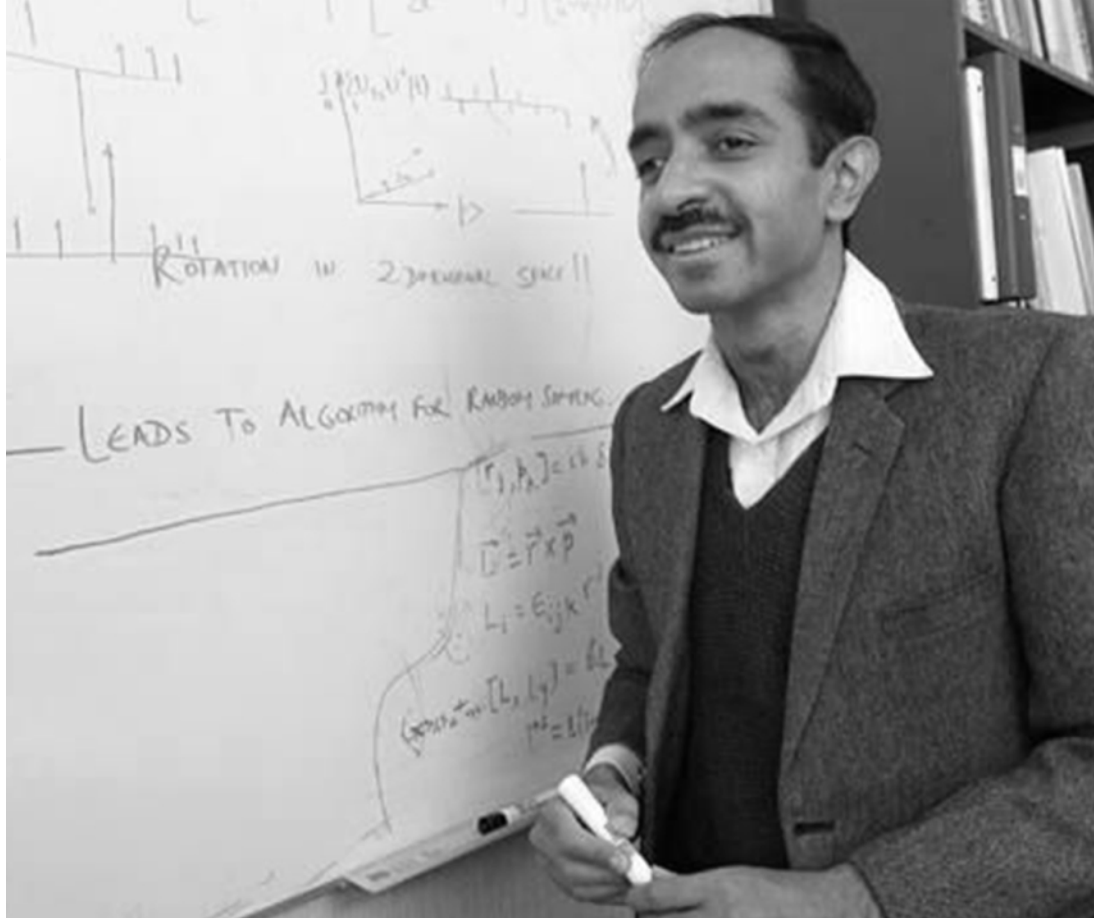
o-called  
al qubits)

**physical**

**qubits** — how supreme is that?

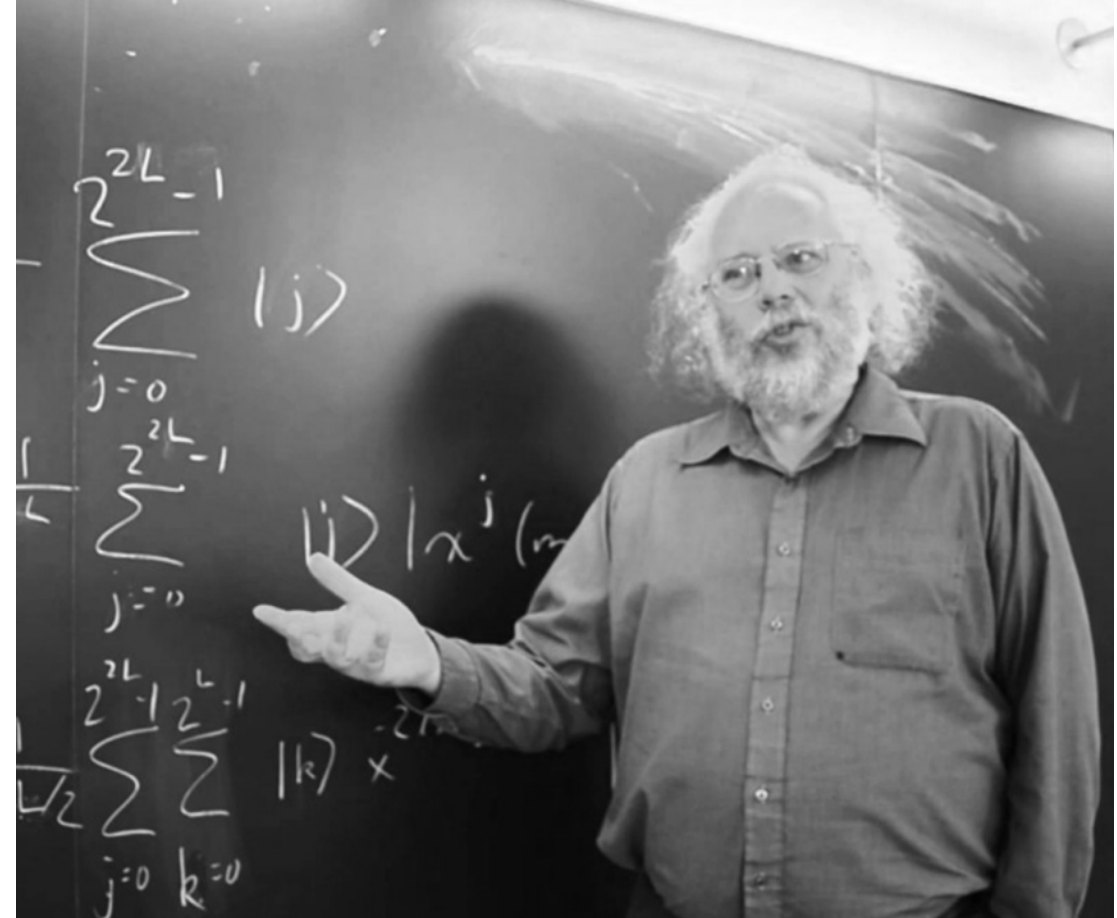


# WHY, THEN, WORRY ABOUT QUANTUM?



Lov Grover

(image: dotquantum.io)



Peter Shor

(image: dotquantum.io)

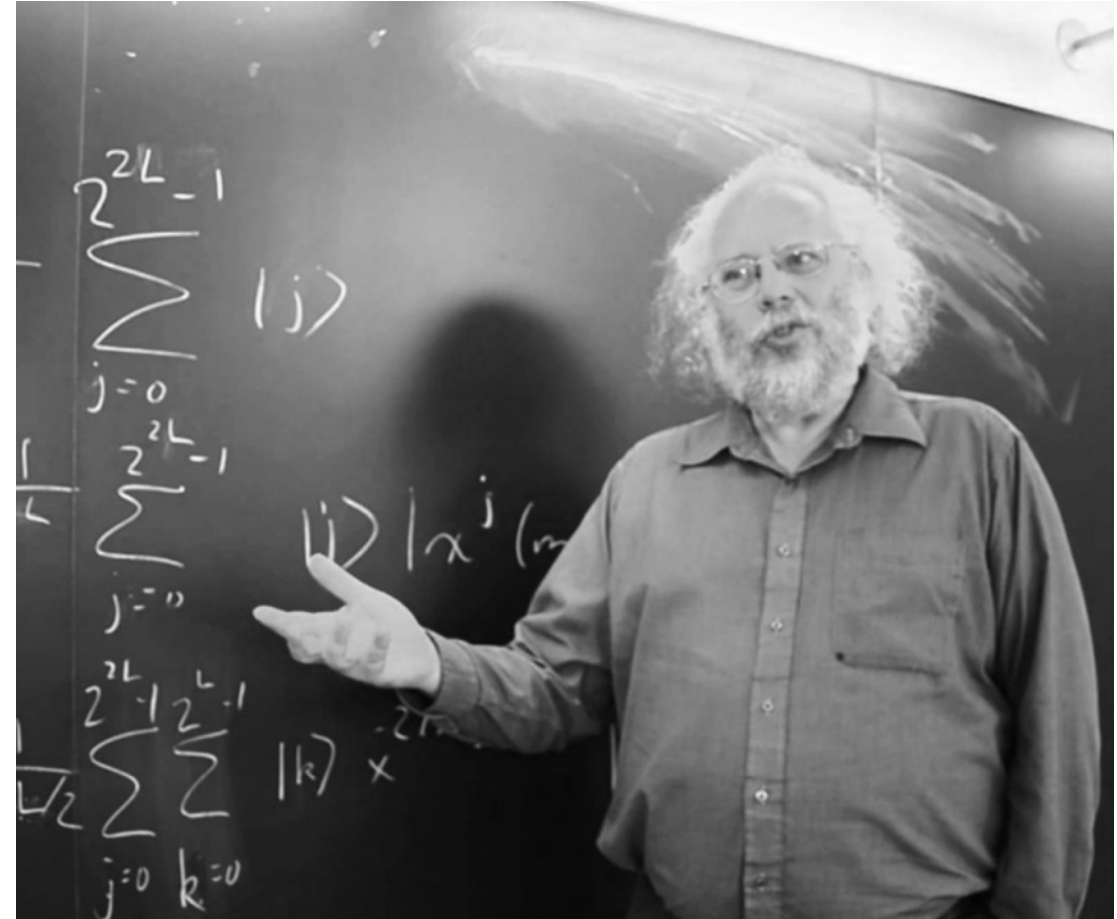
# WHY, THEN, WORRY ABOUT QUANTUM?



**Great theory, but  
no relevant impact  
on cryptography**

Lov Grover

(image: dotquantum.io)

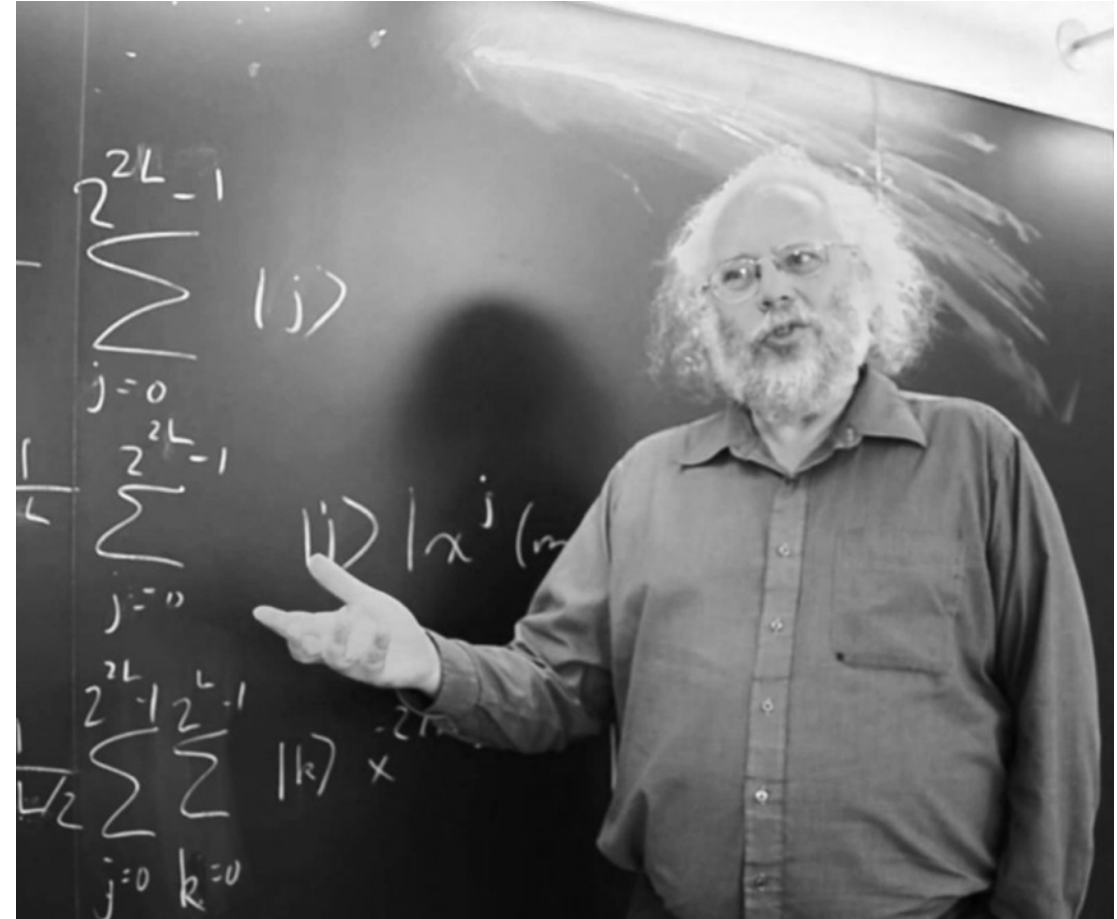


Peter Shor

(image: dotquantum.io)

# SHOR'S ALGORITHM

- Reduces effort of factoring integers and solving discrete logarithms to **polynomial time**
- This is a **big deal** - a sufficiently powerful quantum computer **could break all current public key crypto**
- E.g. break RSA 2048 in hours



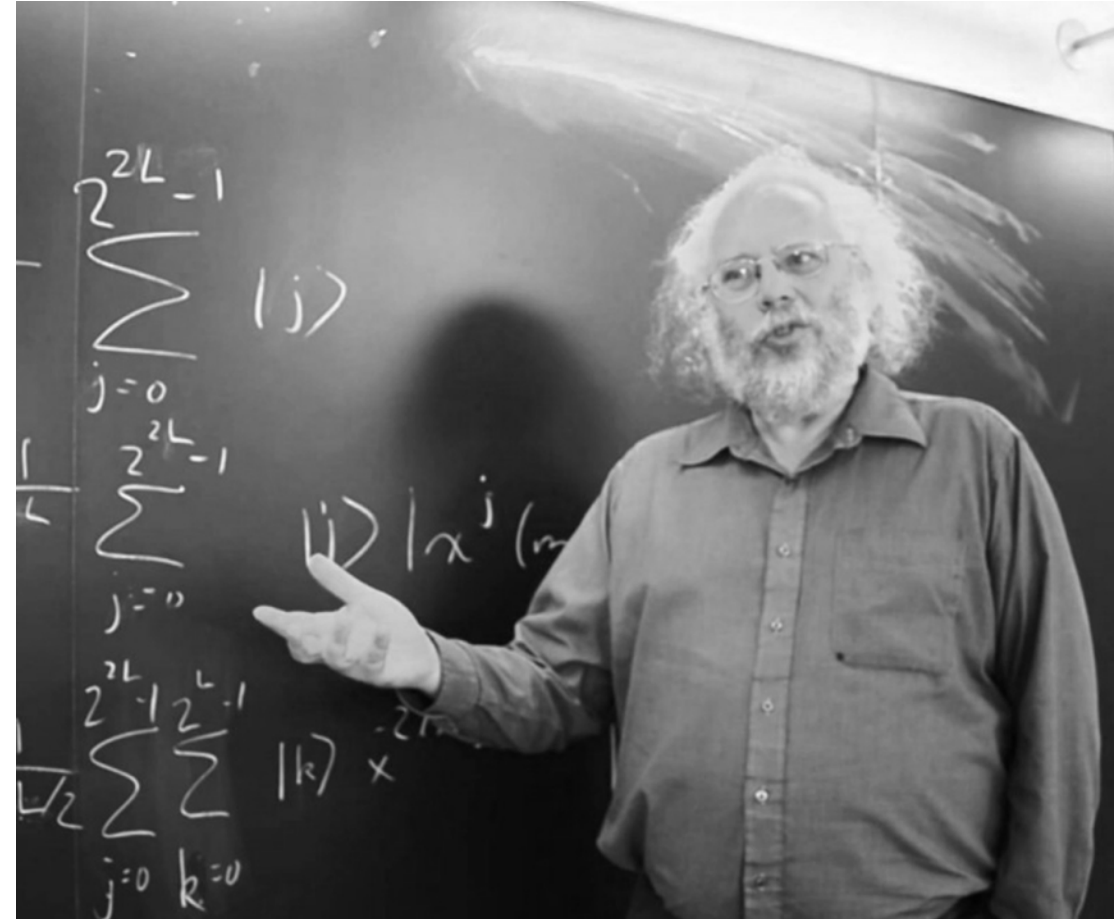
Peter Shor

(image: dotquantum.io)



# SHOR'S ALGORITHM: IMPACT

- **Asymmetric crypto** is used for many purposes: **key negotiation and authentication for HTTPS, legally binding digital signatures, ..., ..., ...**
- A sufficiently powerful **quantum computer** would cause major problems for all of the Internet



Peter Shor

(image: dotquantum.io)

# SHOD'S ALGORITHM. IMPACT

In normal user terms,  
we go from this:




to this:



For all of the Internet

(image: dotquantum.io)

# WHEN WILL SHOR BE A PROBLEM?



Public Key System	Key Size	Security	Logical qubits	Physical qubits	Running time
<b>RSA</b>	1024 bits	80 bits	2,050	$8.05 \times 10^6$	4 hours
	2048 bits	112 bits	4,098	$8.56 \times 10^6$	29 hours
	4096 bits	128 bits	8,194	$1.12 \times 10^7$	~10 days
<b>ECC</b>	256 bits	128 bits	2,330	$8.56 \times 10^6$	11 hours
	384 bits	192 bits	3,484	$9.05 \times 10^6$	38 hours
	512 bits	256 bits	4,719	$1.13 \times 10^7$	~2 days

Source: Grumbling, E. and Horowitz, M. (eds.), "Quantum Computing: Progress and Prospects", National Academy of Sciences, 2019



# IBM unveils its 433 qubit Osprey quantum computer

Frederic Lardinois @fredericl

3:00 PM GMT+1 • November 9, 2022

 Comment



 Image Credits: Amardeep Singh / 500px / Getty Images

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3:00 PM GMT+1 • November 9, 2022

 Comment



**Bart Preneel**

@bpreneel1



Largest quantum computer ever; about 9,999,567 bits to add before the first public key can be broken.



**Slashdot**  @slashdot · 9h

IBM Unveils Its 433 Qubit Osprey Quantum Computer [bit.ly/3UrVGd4](https://bit.ly/3UrVGd4)

1:07 AM · Nov 10, 2022 · Twitter Web App

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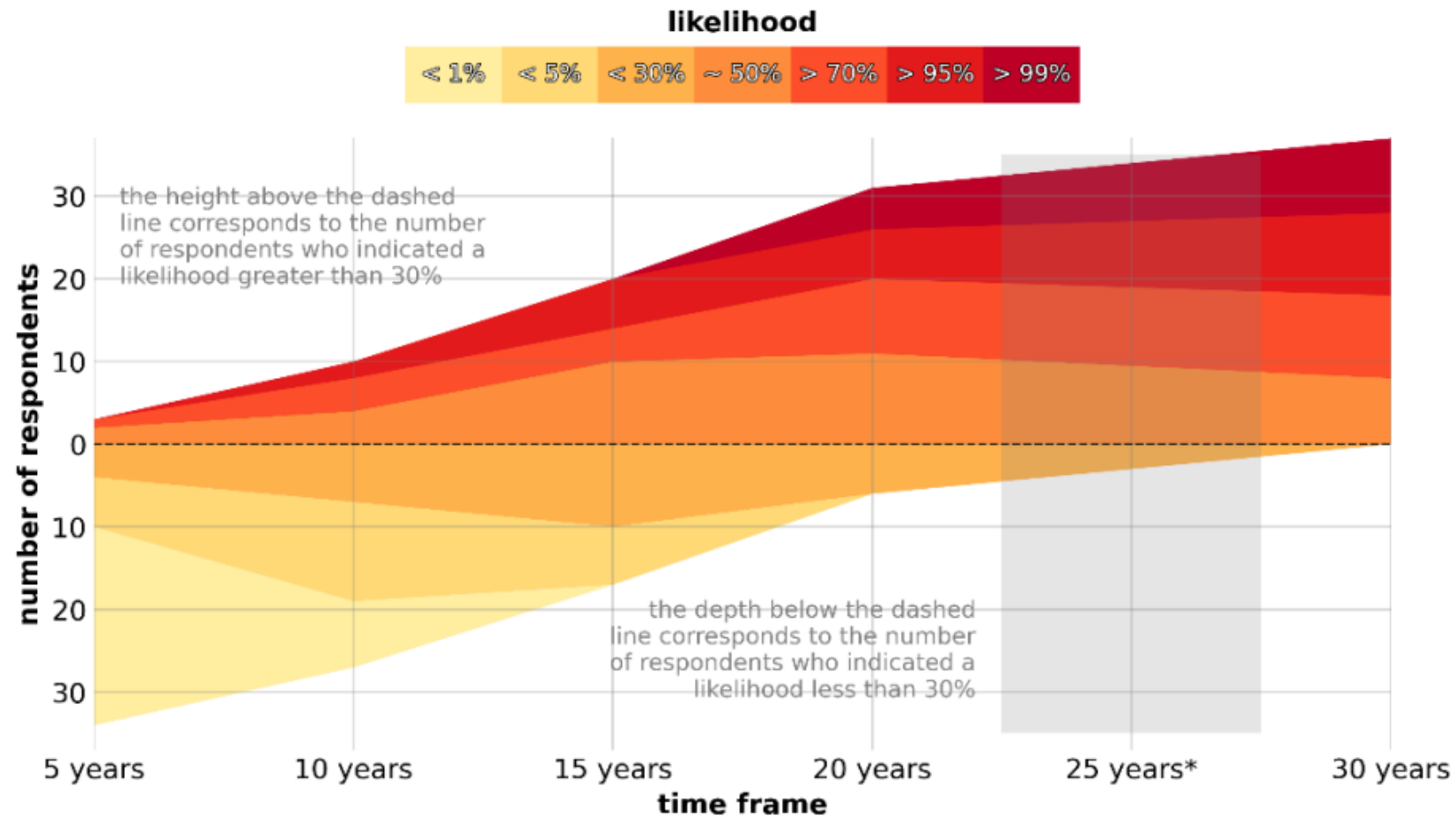


# WHAT QUANTUM EXPERTS THINK



## 2023 EXPERTS' ESTIMATES OF LIKELIHOOD OF A QUANTUM COMPUTER ABLE TO BREAK RSA-2048 IN 24 HOURS

Number of experts who indicated a certain likelihood in each indicated timeframe.  
Stacked area chart with baseline separating estimates larger or lower than 30%.  
[\*Shaded grey area corresponds to the 25-year period, not considered in the questionnaire.]



# WHAT QUANTUM EXPERTS THINK



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Number of experts who indicated a certain likelihood in each indicated timeframe.

### TL;DR:

Most quantum computing experts now think a cryptographically relevant quantum computer is an inevitability!



# TIME OF USE

- Whether we are safe **depends on how long cryptographic data is used**
- Rule of thumb:
  - **Short-term use:** no need to worry and **no need for immediate action**
  - **Long(er)-term use:** need to start **thinking about transitioning now**



Photo by Abdul A on Unsplash



# TIME OF USE EXAMPLES


- **Short-term use:**

(Two-factor) authentication, short-lived digital signatures (e.g. website certificates), online authentication protocols such as OpenID connect, SAML, ... (essentially **anything where the result of the cryptographic operation loses relevance quickly**)

- **Long-term use:**

Encrypted long-term archives, legally binding digital signatures, ephemeral key exchange, ... (essentially **anything where the result of the cryptographic operation should be safe for decades**)

# POST QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY

- 
- Cryptographers are working on **new public key algorithms** that are “**quantum safe**”
  - That is: they **remain secure**, even **after a sufficiently powerful quantum computer comes to be**
  - Development states of algorithms range **from ripe to green**

**post-** /pəʊst/ a prefix, meaning “behind,” “after,” “later,” “subsequent to,” “posterior to,” occurring originally in loanwords from Latin (postscript), but now used freely in the formation of compound words (*post-Elizabethan*; *postfix*; *postgraduate*; *postorbital*).

# RADICALLY DIFFERENT

- For some algorithms, every key can **only** be **used once**
- Some require much **more CPU** power **or memory**
- Some algorithms have much **larger keys** (100s of KBs) **or signatures** (1,000s of bytes)
- Has **consequences for applications!**



# NIST COMPETITION

- Competition to select **secure quantum safe algorithms** for **different applications** (encryption, key exchange, signatures)
- End goal: **standardise secure and suitable algorithms**
- Current status: **first algorithms selected for standardisation**





# WHEN, NOT IF

- It is now a matter of **when, not if** post quantum algorithms **will be adopted**
- Once NIST standards exist, the US and other **governments** will start **requiring their use in tenders**
- This will **likely** take **years**, and **impact** many **Internet industries**







# ROCKY ROAD

- There is a **rocky road** ahead
- **PQC** has really **only** been **tested** in mainstream **Web** applications
- Yet the **Internet** is much **more** than just **the Web**
- The **\$1B** question: how do we transition the entire Internet to **PQC**?
- This is the **main research question** for our **SHARQS** project





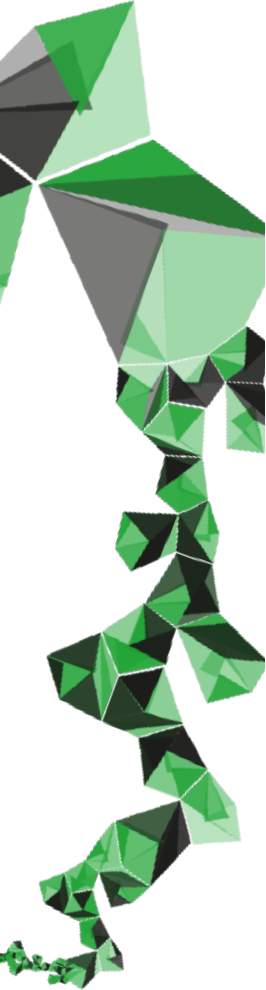
# ROCKY ROAD

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My esteemed academic colleagues  
working on post-quantum crypto think  
that **now we have algorithms we are**  
(almost) done...

I think **they are wrong** 😊

for our **SHARQS** project



# AN NREN EXAMPLE: FEDERATED IDENTITY



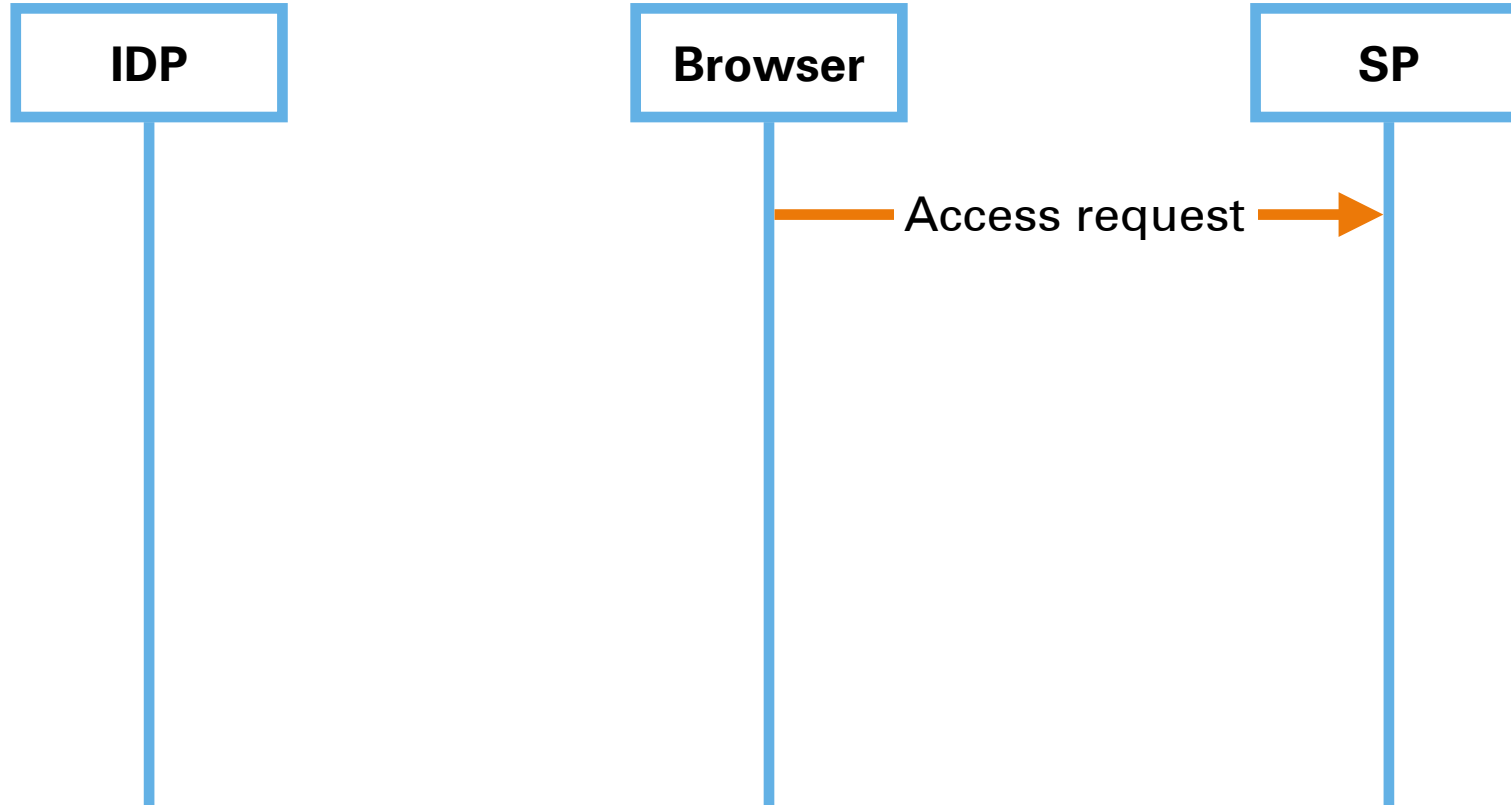
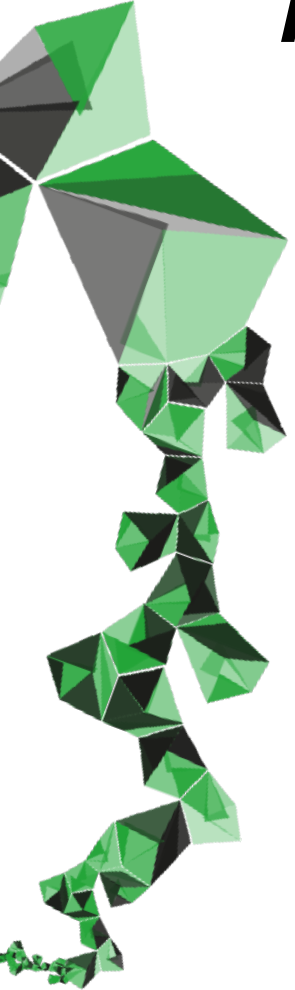
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**Browser**

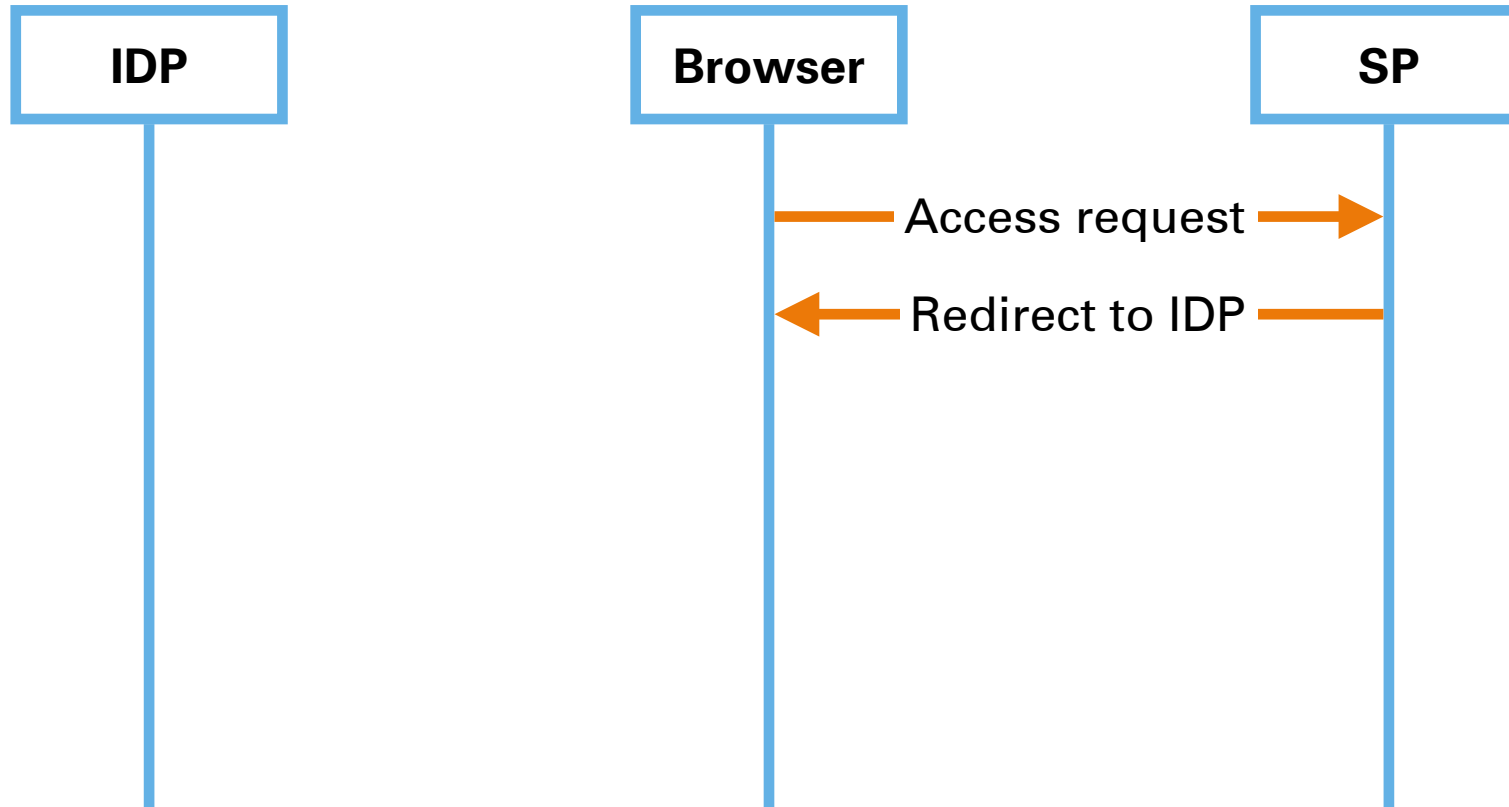
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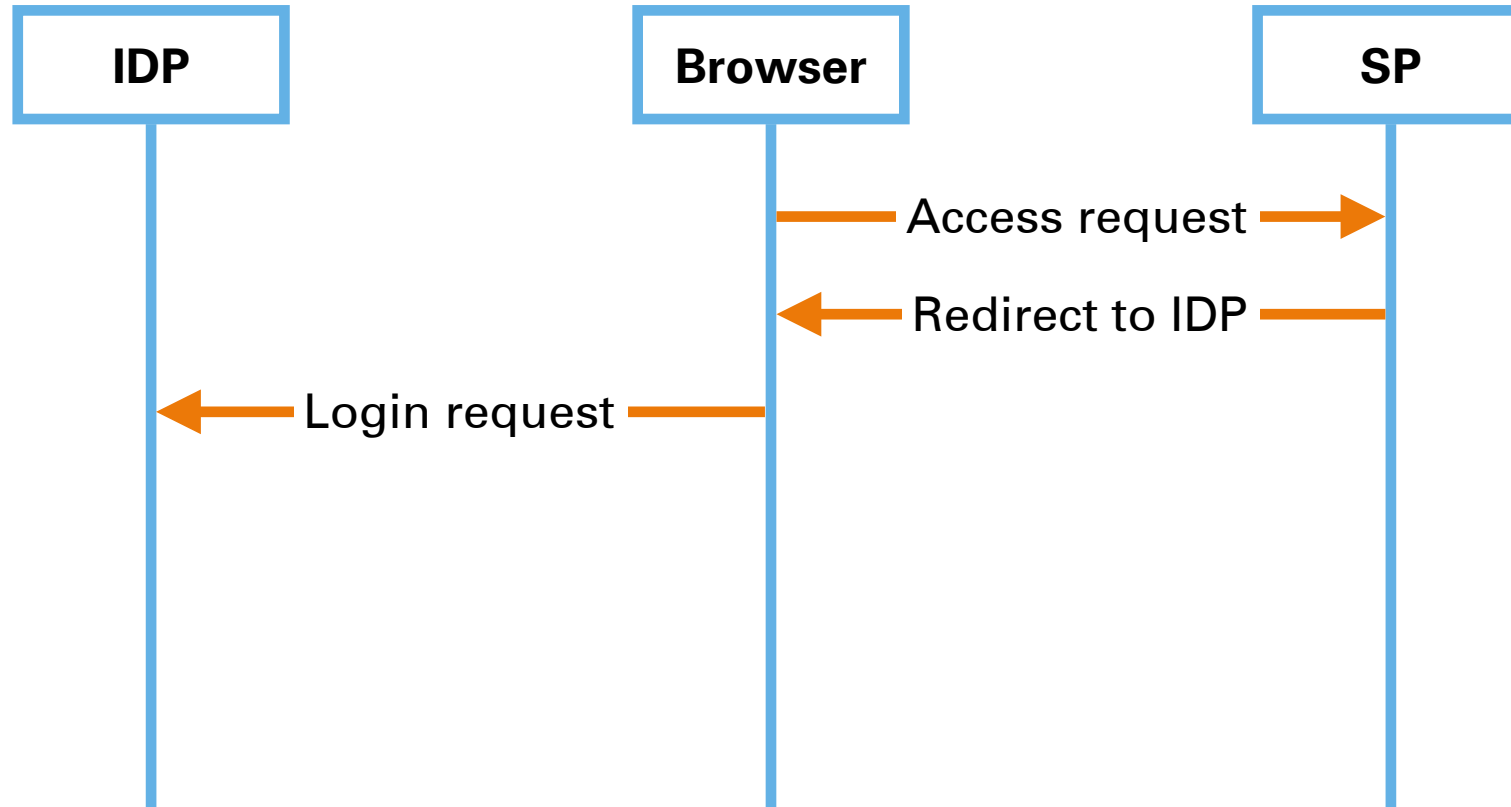
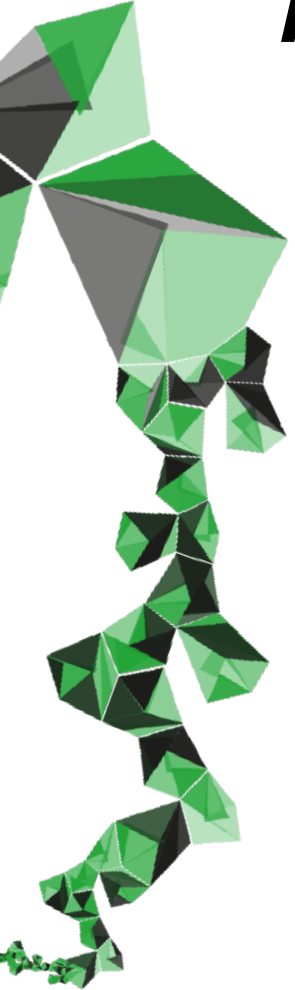
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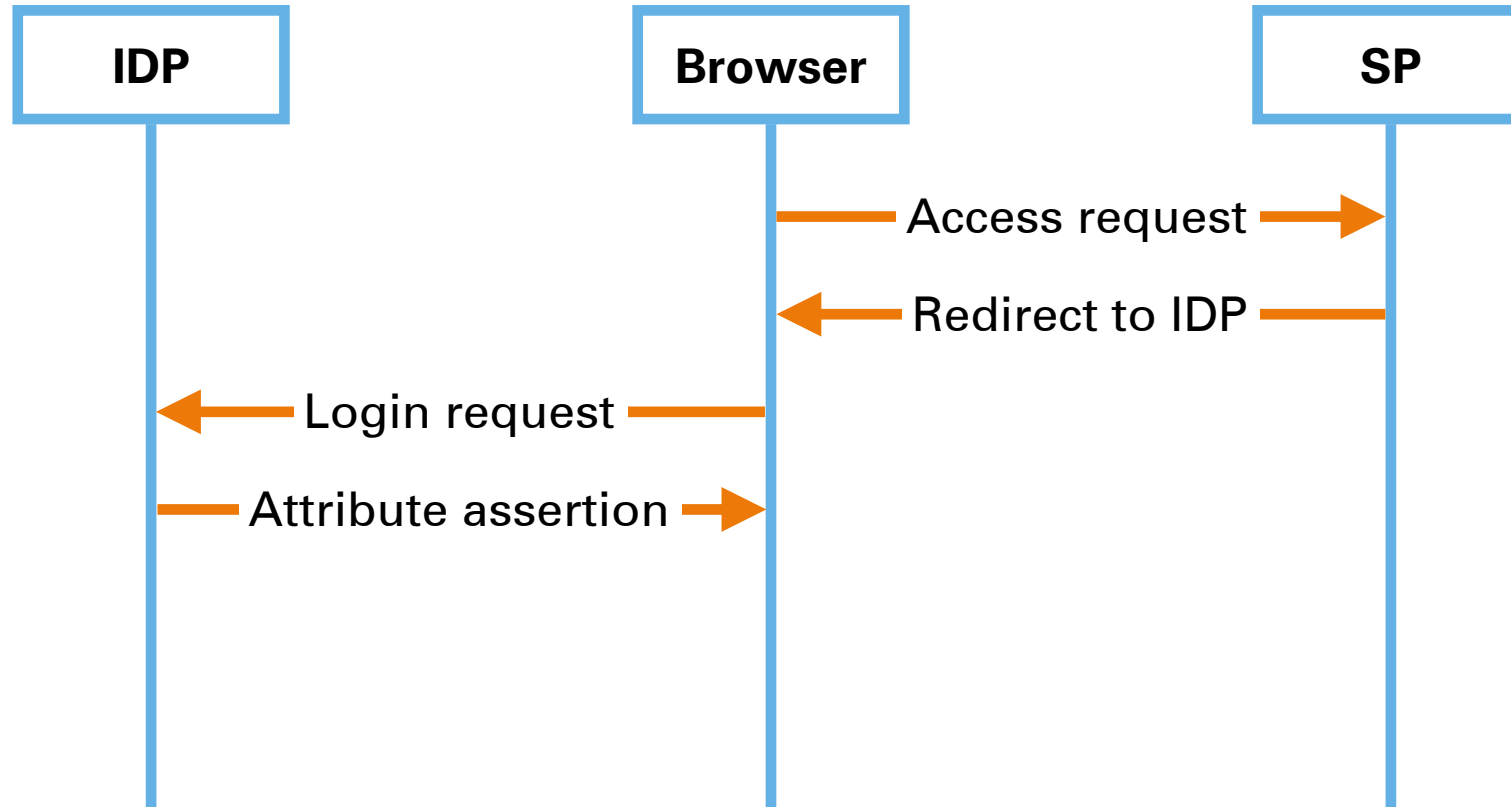
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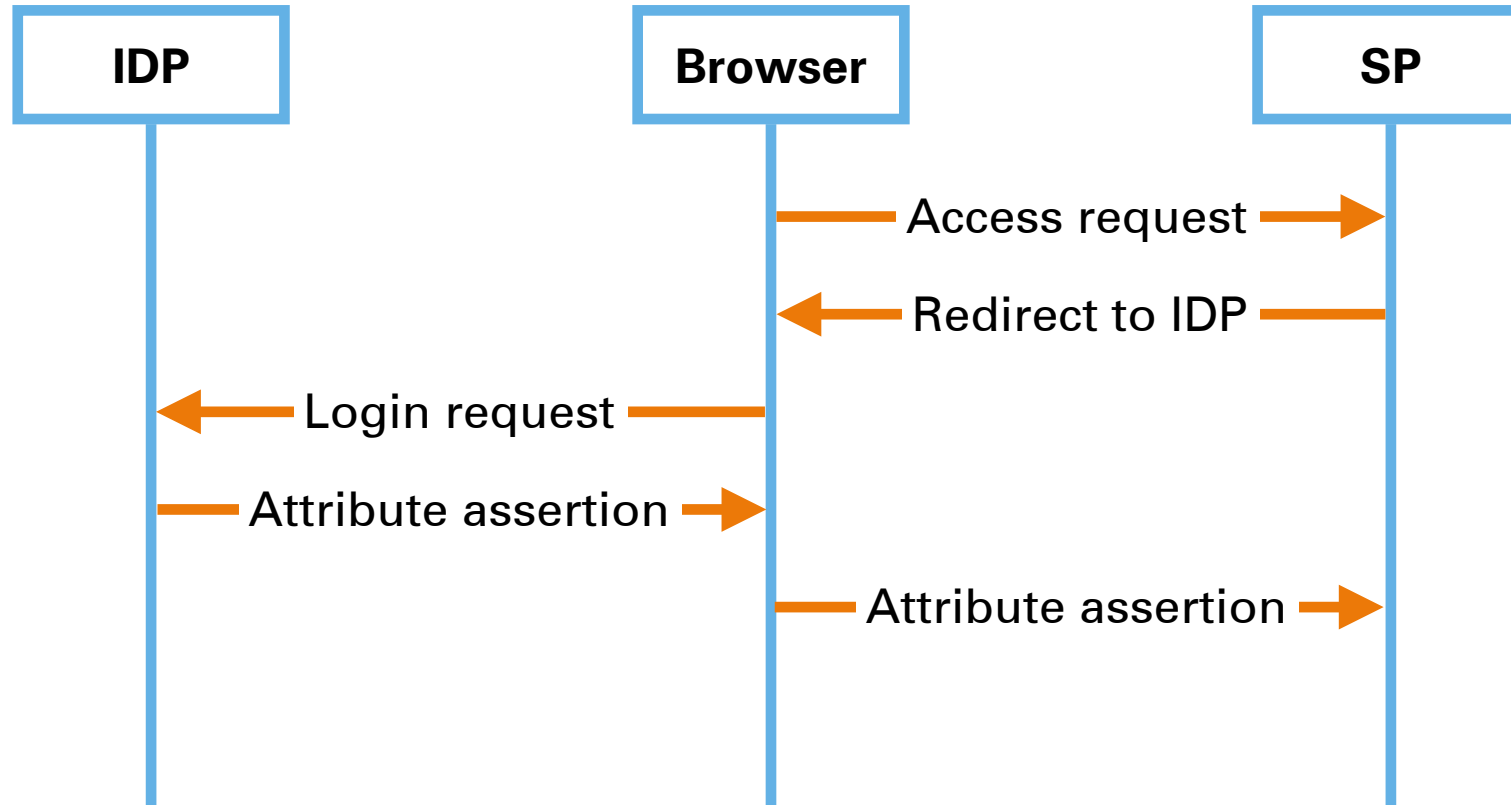
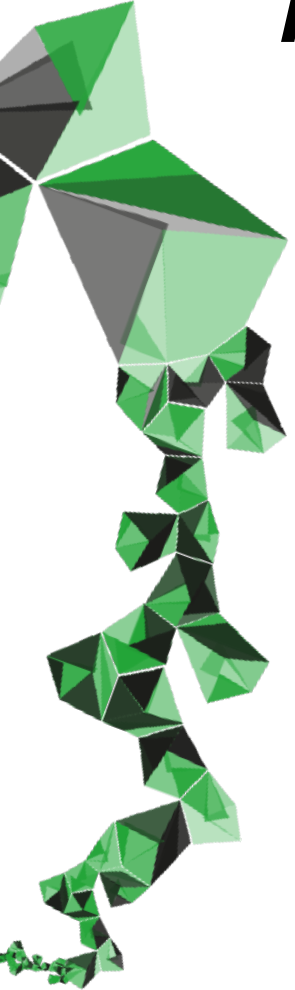


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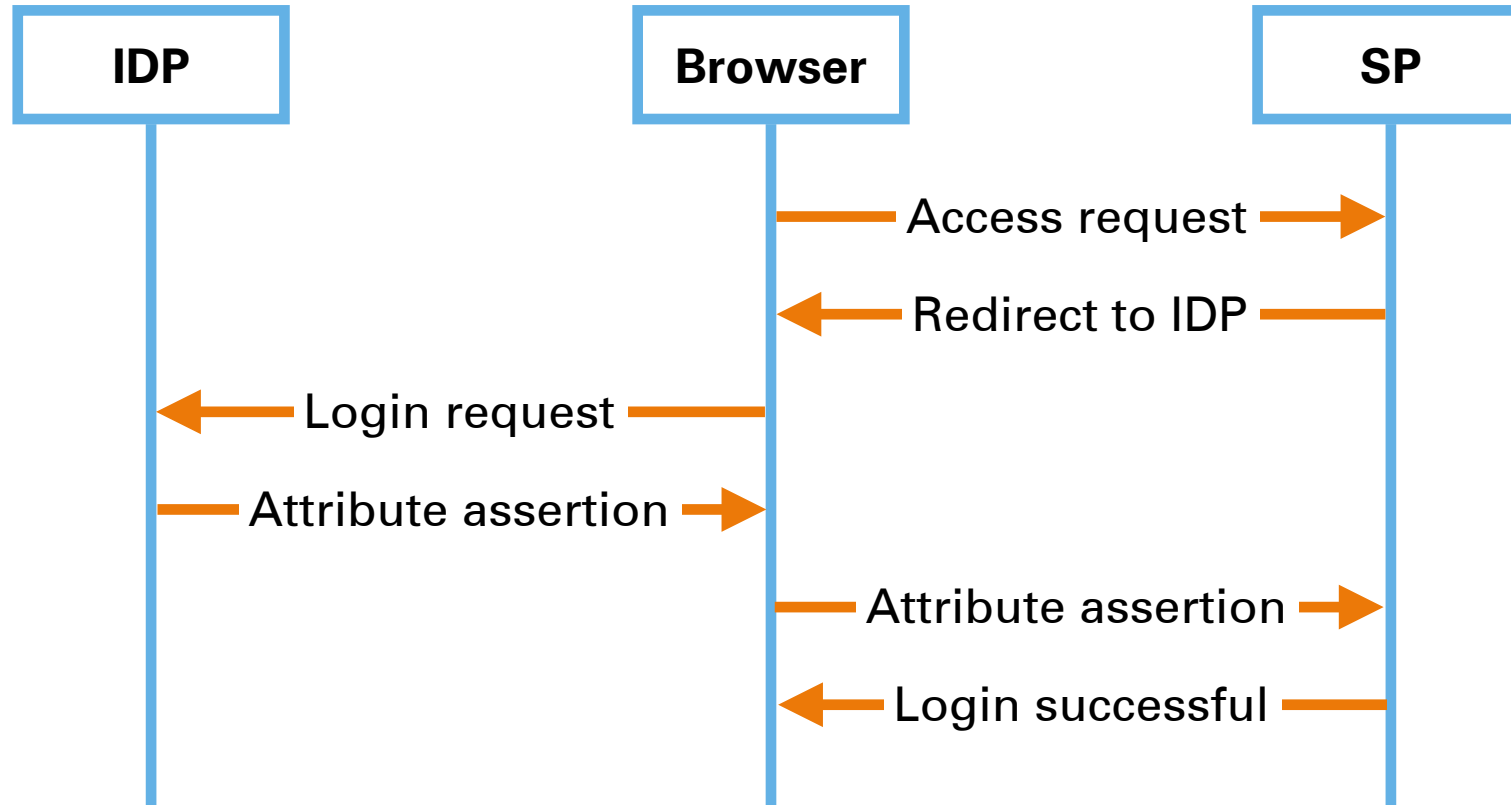




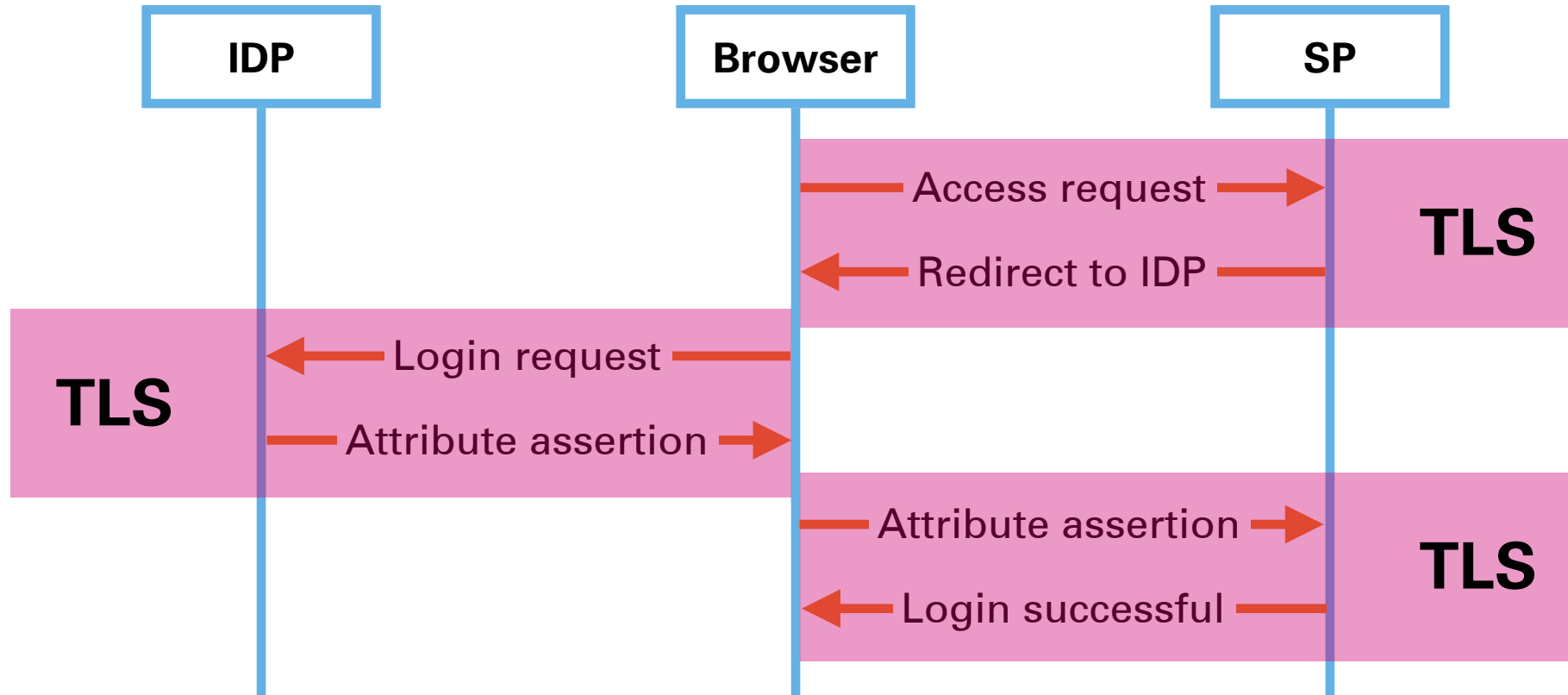
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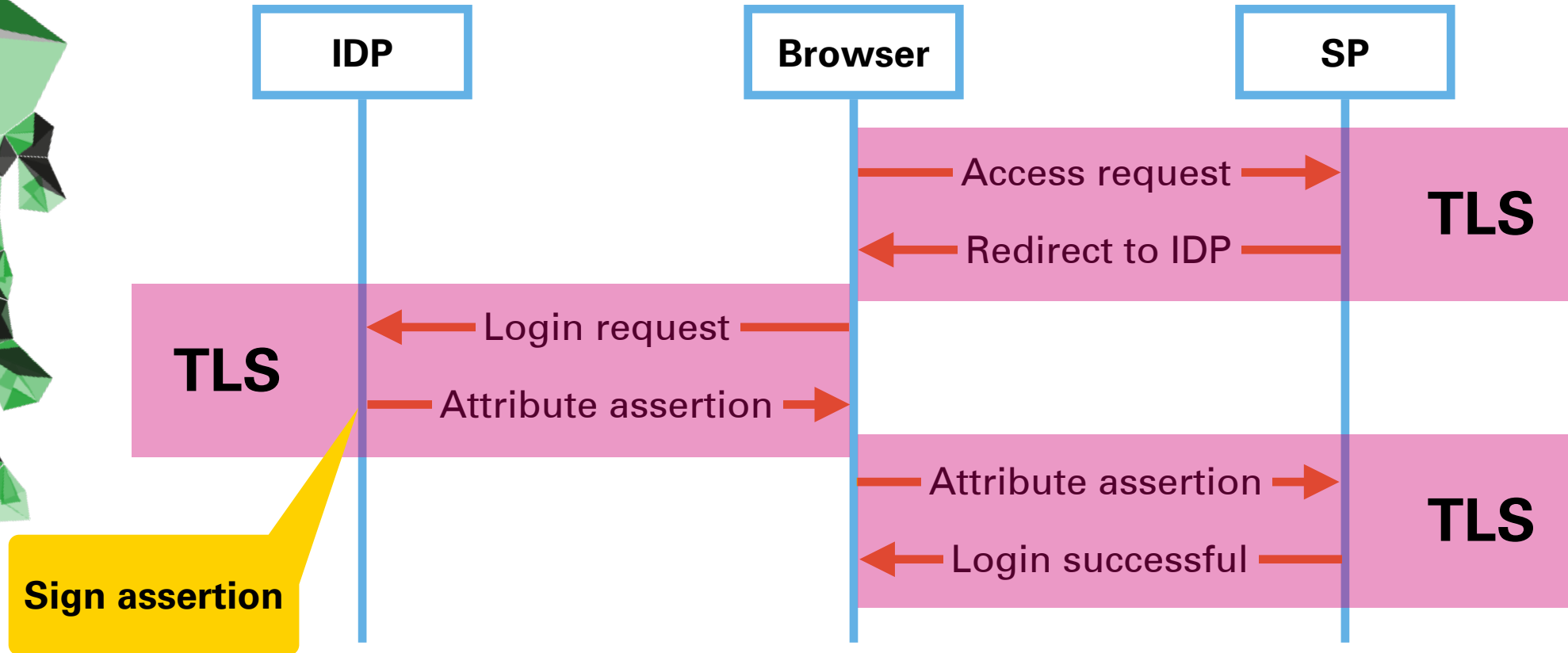
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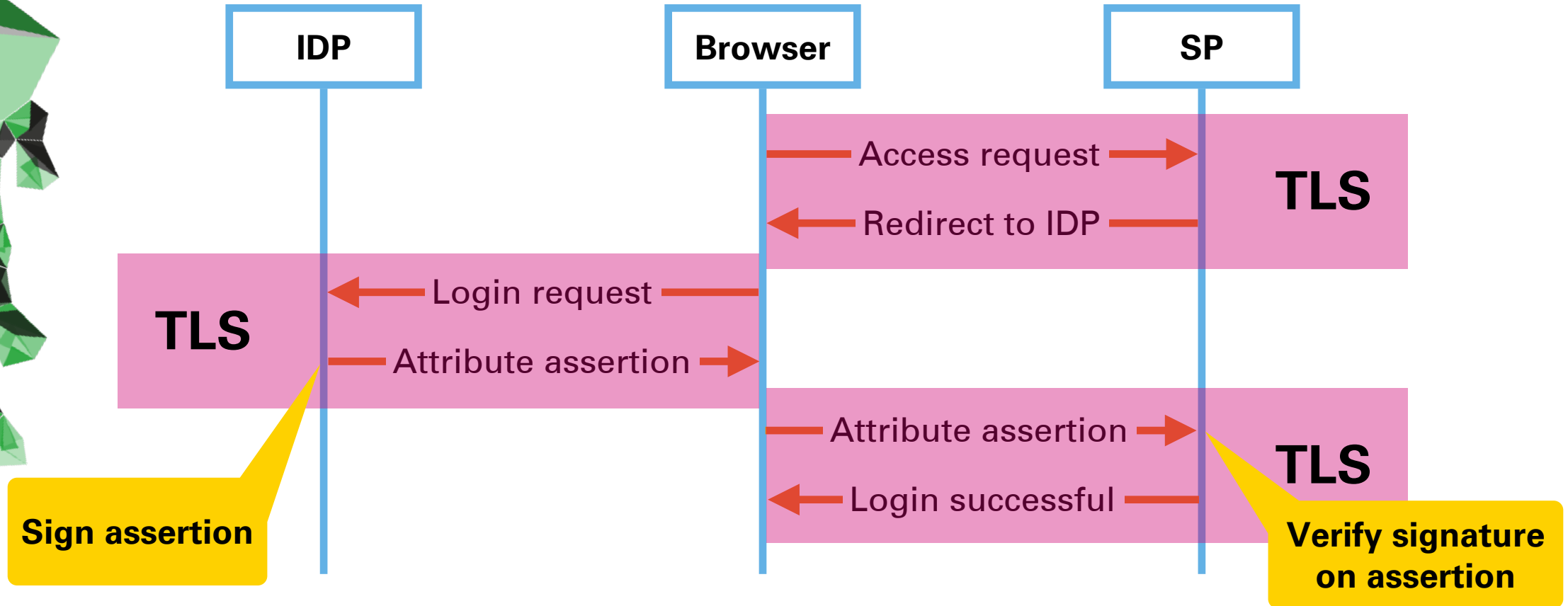


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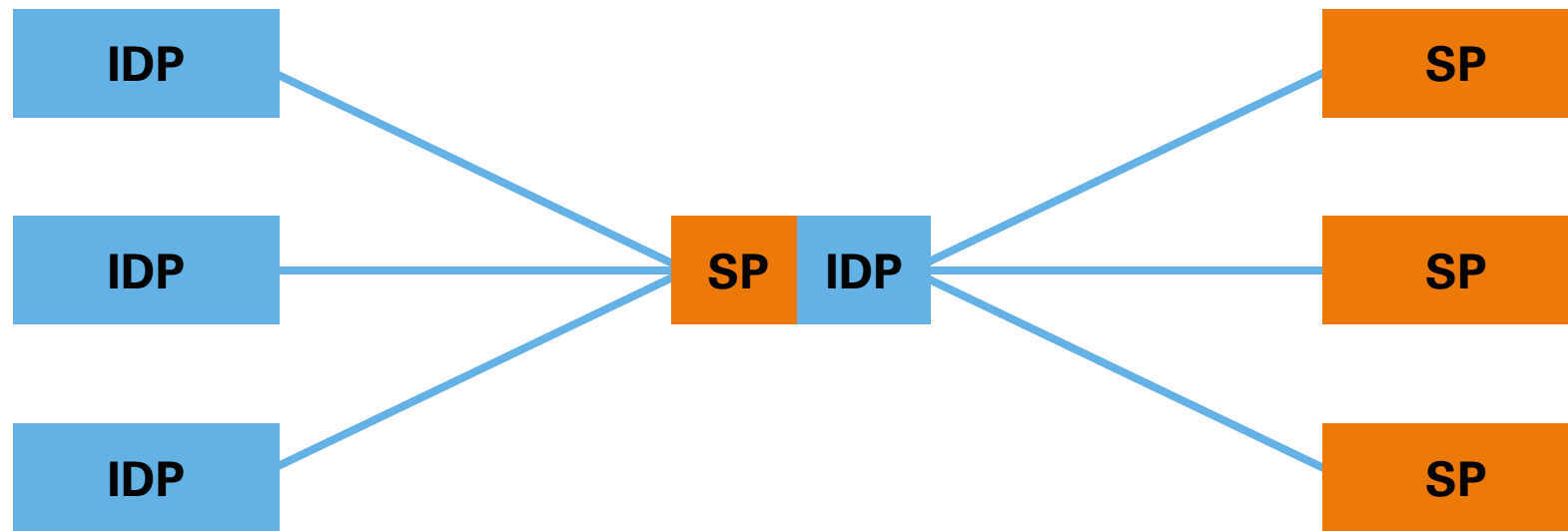




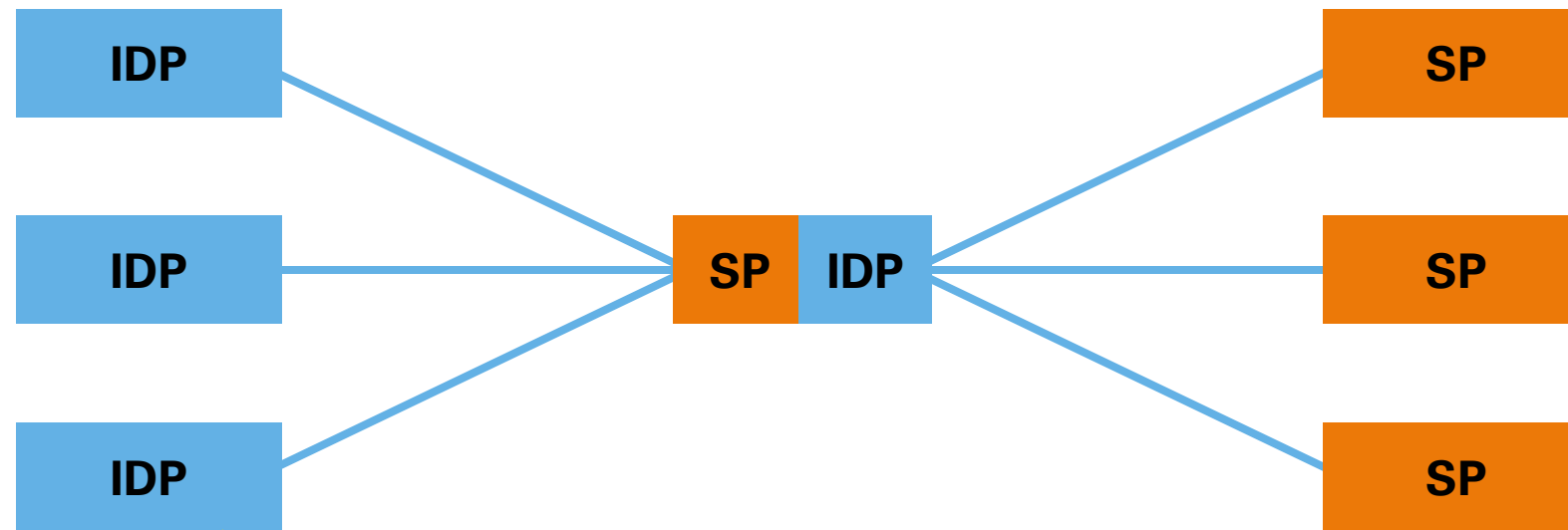
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# WELL ACTUALLY...

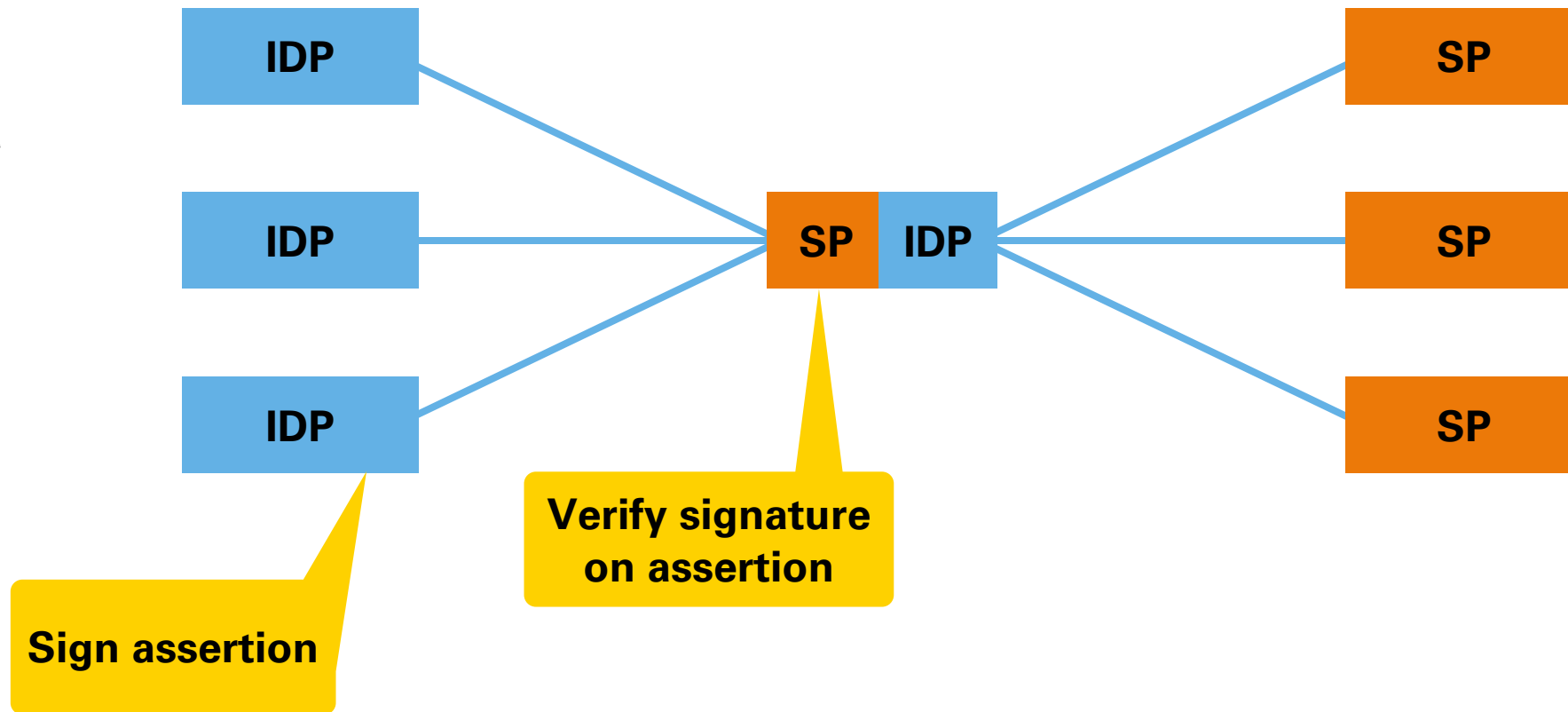


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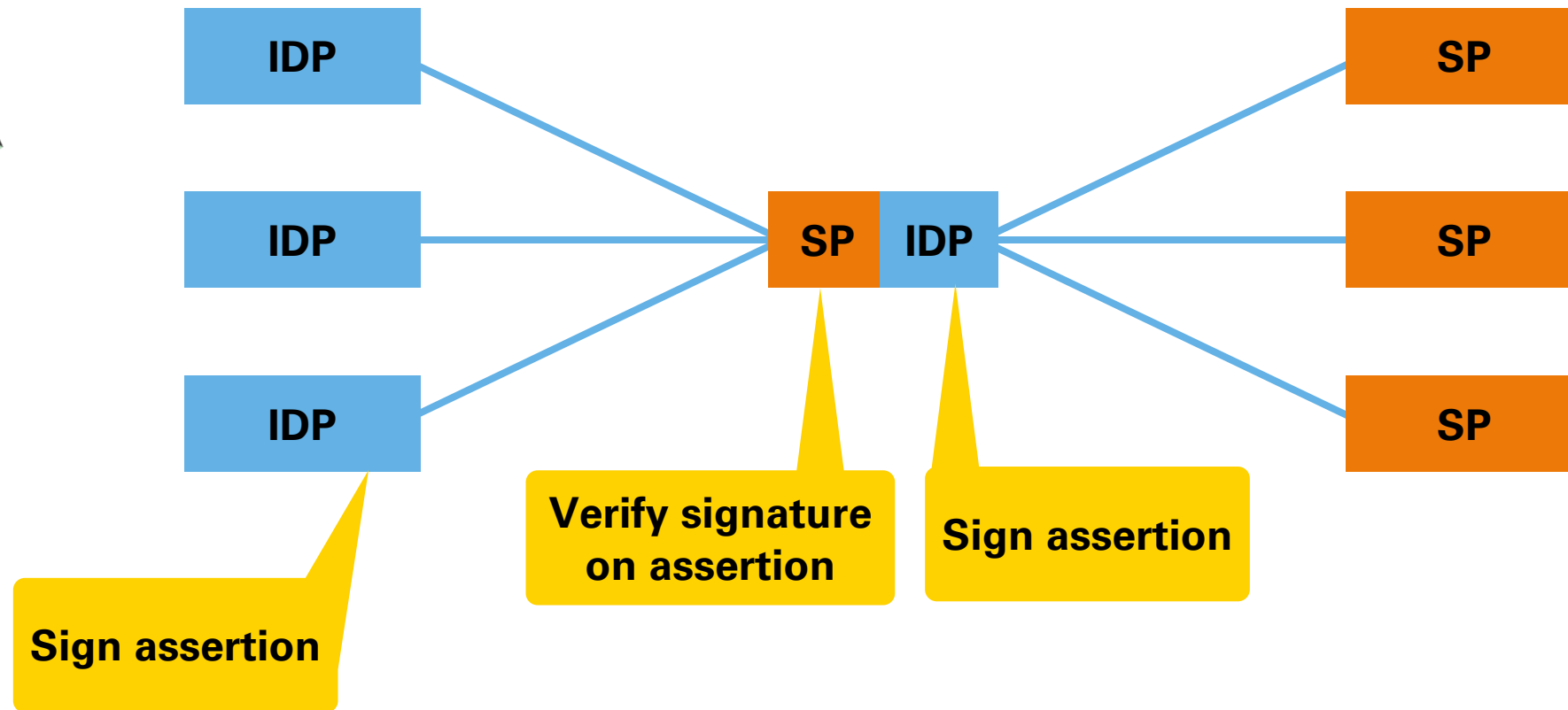
**Sign assertion**

# WELL ACTUALLY...

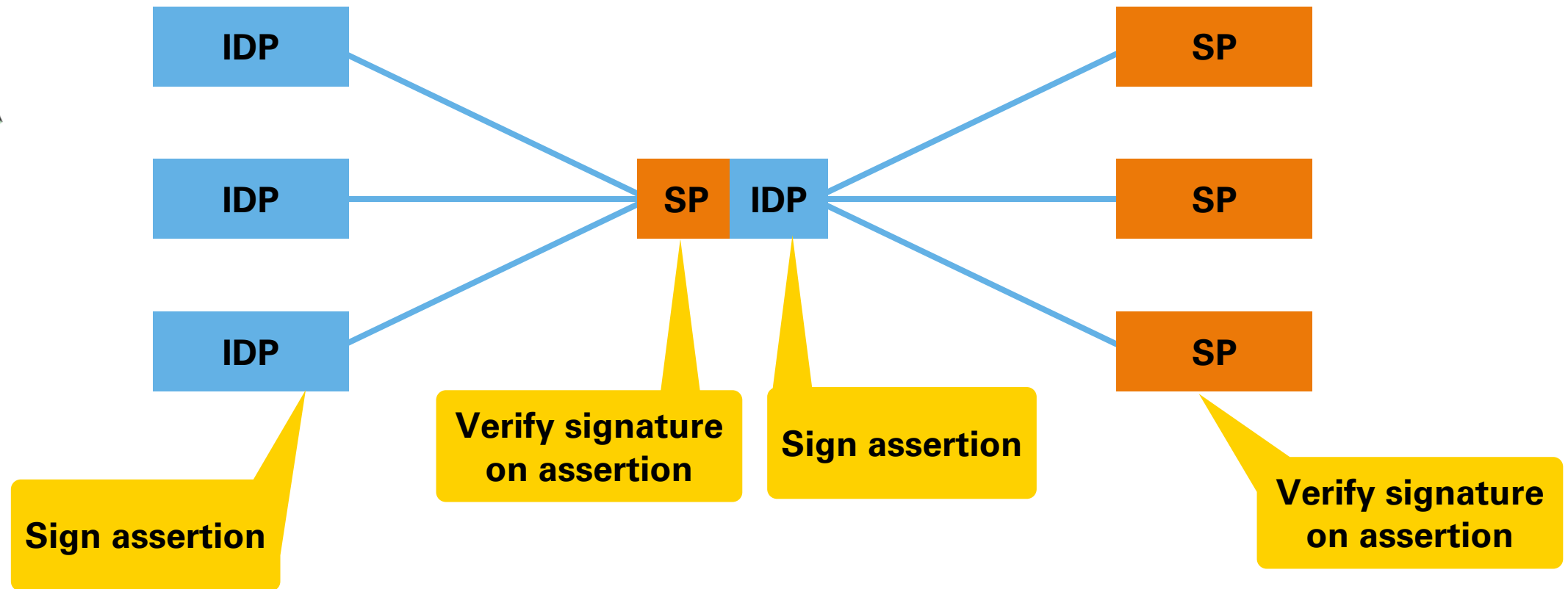




# WELL ACTUALLY...



# WELL ACTUALLY...





## Some more missing details:

- Hub-n-spoke —> **more TLS** connections
- Where-Are-You-From (WAYF), **even more TLS** connections
- **Signing (and verifying) federation metadata**

## All in all (in hub-n-spoke + WAYF):

- 6 TLS connections
- 2 signatures, 2 verifications

# GOAL OF THIS ONE EXAMPLE





# GOAL OF THIS ONE EXAMPLE

- There is potentially even **more complexity just in the web identity federation case**



# GOAL OF THIS ONE EXAMPLE

- There is potentially even **more complexity just in the web identity federation case**
- This is just one example, we have **other federations**



# GOAL OF THIS ONE EXAMPLE

- There is potentially even **more complexity just in the web identity federation case**



- This is just one example, we have **other federations**



- These are just examples for "mainstream computing"; **what about HPC? IoT? ICS?**



# GOAL OF THIS ONE EXAMPLE

I have left out even more detail 🤪

I hope I convinced you **were are only just starting the transition** to post-quantum cryptography



# WHAT TO DO?...

- Powerful **quantum computers** are **years, if not decades** away
- **Treat any** vendor **claim** that **you need to act NOW**, or hype-panic **with suspicion**
- Do **take** the **PQC** transition **seriously**, it is the **biggest change** to the Internet **in decades**

**DON'T PANIC**



# COMMUNITY


- 
- We have our **work** cut out for us **the coming years**
  - The **NREN community** can **take up a pioneering role**
  - **Close ties with academia** mean **we can work together**
  - **Our research needs your help and your input** (and data)!

Photo by Hannah Busing on Unsplash





# THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?