



Post-Quantum DNSSEC with FALCON-512 and PowerDNS

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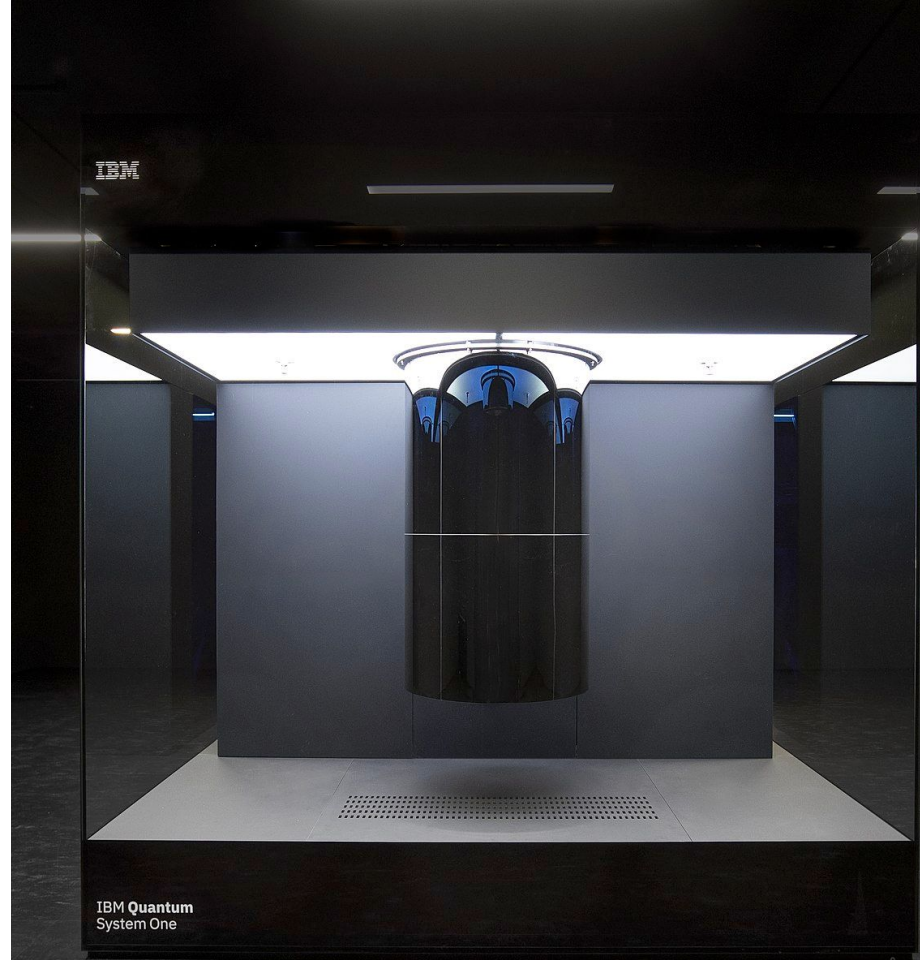
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<https://github.com/nils-wisio/dns-falcon>

Motivation

- Shor's Algorithm breaks all signature schemes used in DNSSEC
 - Sufficiently large quantum computer could be available in the future
 - New signature scheme required
 - DoH, DoT only provide transport security
- DNSSEC requirements
 - Fast validation
 - Short signatures
 - Short-ish public keys

**Mission: Create Real-World
Experimental Setup**



Why FALCON-512?

Algorithm	NIST Verdict	Approach	Private key	Public key	Signature	Sign/s	Verify/s
Crystals-Dilithium-II [29]	Finalist	Lattice	2.8kB	1.2kB	2.0kB		
Falcon-512 [31]	Finalist	Lattice	57kB	0.9kB	0.7kB	3,307	20,228
Rainbow- I_a [56]	Finalist	Multivariate	101kB	158kB	66B	8,332	11,065
RedGeMSS128 [16]	Candidate	Multivariate	16B	375kB	35B	545	10,365
Sphincs ⁺ -Haraka-128s [11]	Candidate	Hash	64B	32B	8kB		
Picnic-L1-FS [17]	Candidate	Hash	16B	32B	34kB		
Picnic2-L1-FS [17]	Candidate	Hash	16B	32B	14kB		
EdDSA-Ed25519 [12]		Elliptic curve	64B	32B	64B	25,935	7,954
ECDSA-P256 [12]		Elliptic curve	96B	64B	64B	40,509	13,078
RSA-2048 [12]		Prime	2kB	0.3kB	0.3kB	1,485	49,367

- Best fit among NIST finalists and candidates ([Müller, M., de Jong, J., van Heesch, M., Overeinder, B. & van Rijswijk-Deij, R. Retrofitting post-quantum cryptography in internet protocols: a case study of DNSSEC. SIGCOMM Comput. Commun. Rev. 50, 49–57 \(2020\).](#))
- Security equivalent to 256-bit ECDSA
- Security stronger than RSA-2048

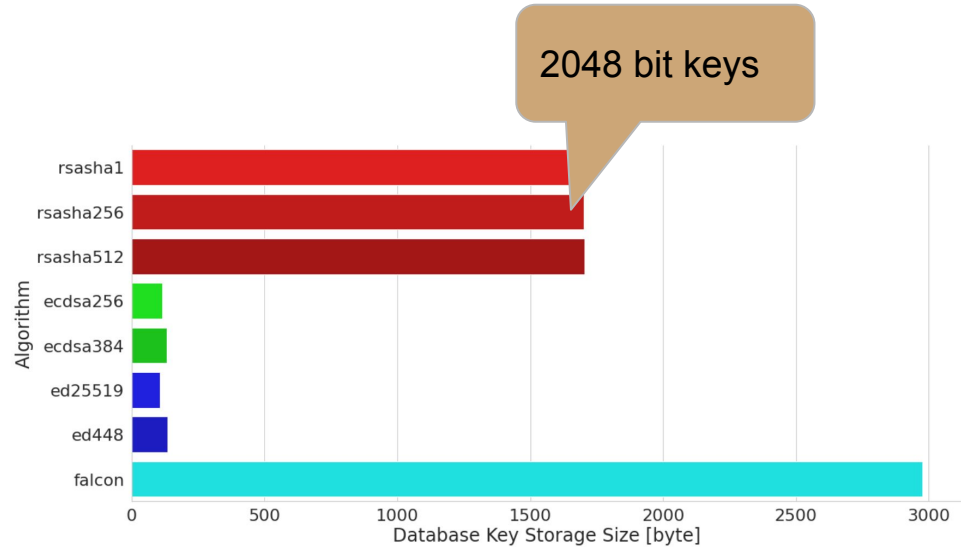
Why FALCON-512?

Algorithm	SL	Pub size (in B)	Sign size (in B)	sign/s	verify/s	Priv size (in B)
EdDSA-Ed22519	-	32	64	26k	8k	64
Falcon-512	I	897	666	6k	28k	1280
Falcon-1024	V	1793	1280	3k	13k	2310
qTESLA-p-I	I	15k	2592	1k	1k	5k
qTESLA-p-III	III	46	28k	500	500	16
MQDSS-31-48	I/II	46	28k	36	50	16
MQDSS-31-64	III/IV	64	60k	11	15	24
LUOV-7-57-197	I	11,5k	239	3k	8k	32
LUOV-7-83-283	III	35,4k	337	1k	2k	32
BLISS-BII	I	875	625	5,5k	33k	250
BLISS-BIV	III	875	813	6k	33k	375
SQISign	I	64	204	0.4	20	16

Red meaning, that the value exceeds the requirement. **Orange** that the hard requirement is not met but within the soft requirement boundary. **Pink** denoting non-safe algorithm

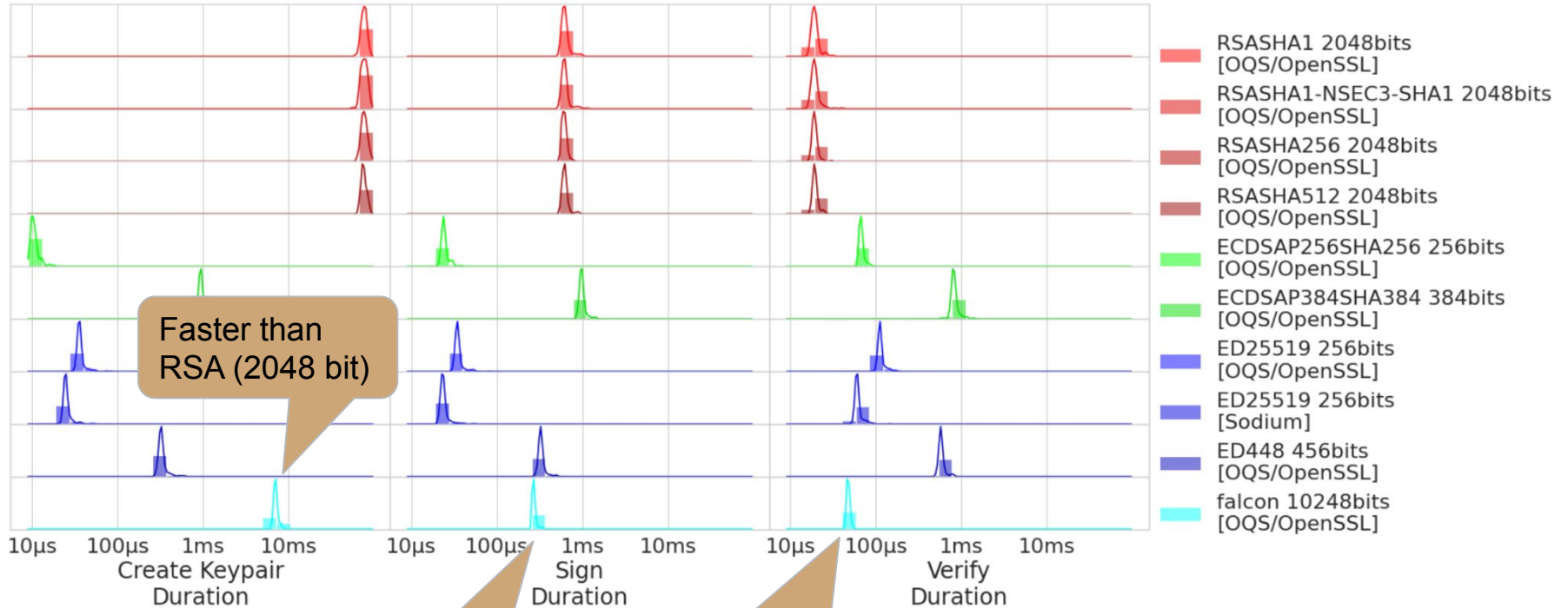
Implementation and Key Storage

- Using OpenSSL fork of Open Quantum Safe (OQS)
- Database Storage
 - Secret key size: 1281 byte
 - Public key size: 897 byte
 - **Total database storage size: 2976 byte**
(including base64 and 72 byte formatting overhead)



Performance

- PowerDNS ships performance test:
pdnsutil test-algorithms (mean of 100 samples)
- Run many times on my Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-8550U CPU @ 1.80GHz

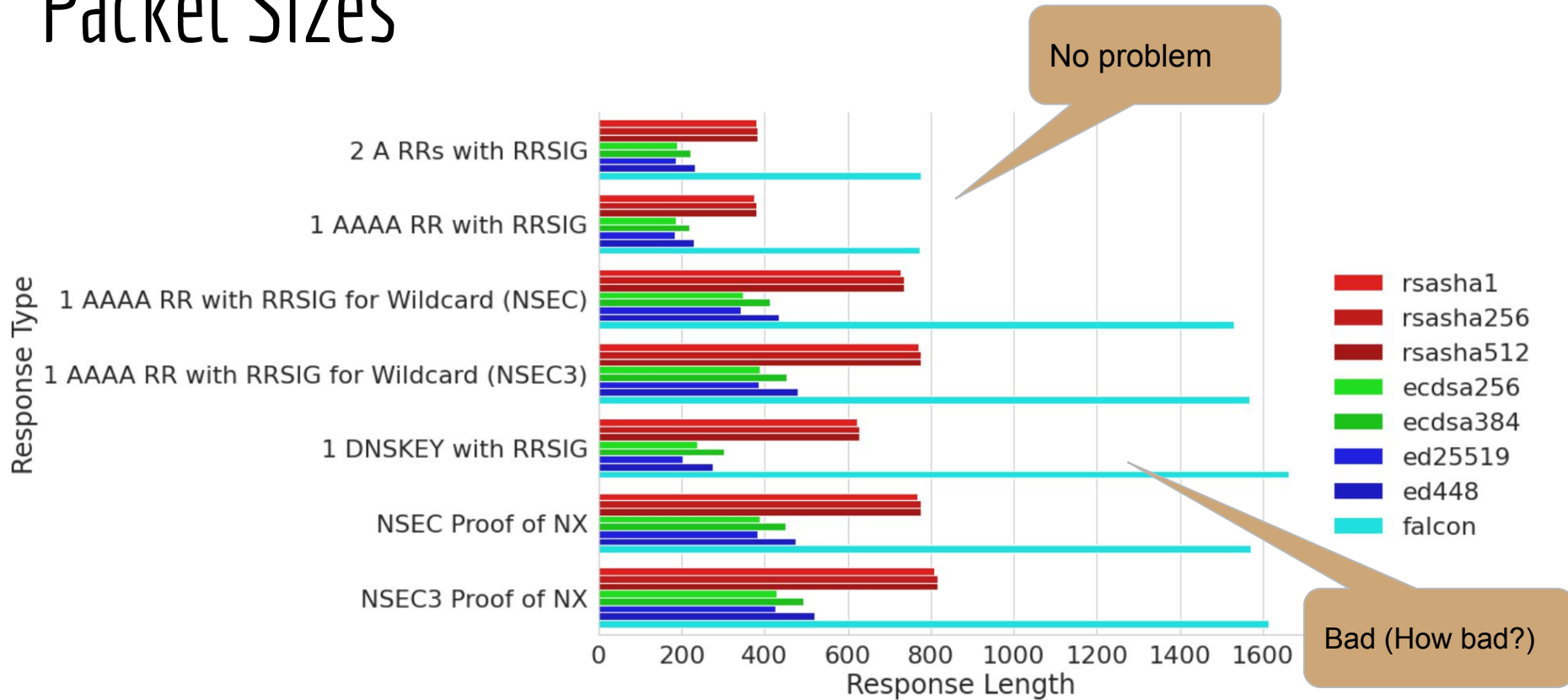


Faster than
RSA (2048 bit)

Slower than
ECDSA (256bit)

Faster than others
except RSA (2048 bit)

Packet Sizes



(vary slightly with involved (query) names)

Try it yourself: Query Using an Unaware Resolver

```
dig TXT falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io @8.8.8.8 +dnssec
```

```
;; <<>> DiG 9.16.1-Ubuntu <<>> TXT falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io @8.8.8.8 +dnssec
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 62998
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 2, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
; EDNS: version: 0, flags: do; udp: 512
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io.      IN      TXT

;; ANSWER SECTION:
falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io.      3600 IN    RRSIG   TXT 17 5 3600 20220303000000 20220210000000 31800
falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io.      0bAEWtCiEPuYbpXfzUPV0NX0yY4Ds0m8k51NBY0hhpothB67/G1n+TKQ
... (shortened) ...
Fvy5TiGiKyD8/v909FEqUyE0PFk1K0wyLSHgtYnHEXlJf3jnr0sp998M 9nTaHRmtmiS5lLa4ntCjuQaZiVx9310Tp5/b+6g=
falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io.      3600 IN    TXT     "FALCON DNSSEQ PoC; details: github.com/nils-wisiol/dns-falcon"

;; Query time: 188 msec
;; SERVER: 8.8.8.8#53(8.8.8.8)
;; WHEN: Thu Feb 17 16:44:13 CET 2022
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 854
```


Try it yourself: Query Using a FALCON-512 Resolver

```
dig TXT falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io +dnssec @falcon.dedyn.io -p 5302
```

```
;; <<>> DiG 9.16.1-Ubuntu <<>> TXT falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io +dnssec @falcon.dedyn.io -p 5302
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 46685
;; flags: qr rd ra ad; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 2, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
; EDNS: version: 0, flags: do; udp: 512
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io.      IN      TXT

;; ANSWER SECTION:
falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io.      380 IN    TXT    "FALCON DNSSEQ PoC; details: github.com/nils-wisiol/dns-falcon"
falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io.      380 IN    RRSIG  TXT 17 5 3600 20220303000000 20220210000000 31800
falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io.      0bAEWtCiEPuYbpXfzUPV0NX0yY4Ds0m8k51NBY0hhpothB67/G1n+TKQ
... (shortened) ...
Fvy5TiGiKyD8/v909FEqUyE0PFk1K0wyLSHgtYnHEXlJf3jnr0sp998M 9nTaHRMtmiS51La4ntCjuQaZiVx9310Tp5/b+6g=

;; Query time: 24 msec
;; SERVER: 130.149.230.84#5302(130.149.230.84)
;; WHEN: Thu Feb 17 16:47:39 CET 2022
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 854
```

Try it yourself at <https://falcon.dedyn.io>

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `https://falcon.dedyn.io`. The page has a blue header with navigation links: `TALK AT OARC 37`, `FALCON-512 TEST ZONE ON DNSVIZ`, and `CODE ON GITHUB`. The main heading is **Post-Quantum DNSSEC with FALCON-512 and PowerDNS**.

Make a query

Send queries to our post-quantum enabled verifying resolver! To obtain responses signed with FALCON-512, query `A`, `AAAA`, and `TXT` records at `falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io.` and `*.falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io.`. To get classical signatures, try `rsasha256.example.falcon.dedyn.io.`, `ecdsa256.example.falcon.dedyn.io.`, `ed25519.example.falcon.dedyn.io.`, and the like.

Queries will be sent from your browser using DNS-over-HTTPS to a PowerDNS recursor with FALCON-512 support. The recursor will query our PowerDNS authoritative DNS server (again, with FALCON-512 support), to get your response. The recursor will then validate the signature and send the result to your browser. All queries are sent with the `DNSSEC_OK` flag (`+dnssec` in `dig`), so you will see `RRSIG` and `NSEC / NSEC3` records in the responses.

For more information, please check out the code at [GitHub](#).

The interface includes a form with a "Query type" dropdown set to "TXT" and an input field for "Enter a domain name" containing `falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io`. Below the form is a text area displaying the following DNS query response:

```
;; ->HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 0
;; flags: qr rd ra ad; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 2, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; QUESTION SECTION:
falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io IN TXT

;; ANSWER SECTION:
falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io 284 IN TXT "FALCON DNSSEC PoC; details: github.com/nils-wisioI/dns-falcon"
falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io 284 IN RRSIG TXT 17 5 3600 1644451200 1646265600 31800 falcon.example.falcon.dedyn.io
0hFwtC1FPuYbnXfzIPV0NX0vY4DsOm8K51NRY0hhnntbR67/Gln+TK0he5mb1Dr-x05+7VIT+XdwFdfEd01n25sv1cPPEh75W9cGLt1StD3t1H1N8XYuP7a0C0a1PEau5iF7M8uvM1asd4fZs
```

Conclusion

- **Storage:**
 - okay, but 1.5 times 2048bit RSA
- **Performance:**
 - Key creation:
 - faster than 2048bit RSA
 - slower than others
 - Signing:
 - faster than 2048bit RSA
 - slower than 256bit ECDSA
 - Verification:
 - slower than 2048bit RSA
 - but faster than others
- **Online PoC and Playground**
- **Compatibility:**
 - Paket Sizes: Prone for TCP fallback
 - DoT, DoH have no such limitation
 - Future work!



Future Work

- How many *validating* resolvers do not support TCP?
 - Or have other issues with large responses
- Other PQ algorithms?
 - BLISS: similar key and signature size, but not part of NIST competition
 - [Merkle Tree](#)?
- What would it take to make the root PQ secure?
 - Root algo rollover
 - Root key rollover was quite a project
- Compatibility with FALCON-512 implementation in BIND of Jason Goertzen? <https://github.com/Martyrshot/OQS-Bind-testing-env>

Thank You!

Any Questions?

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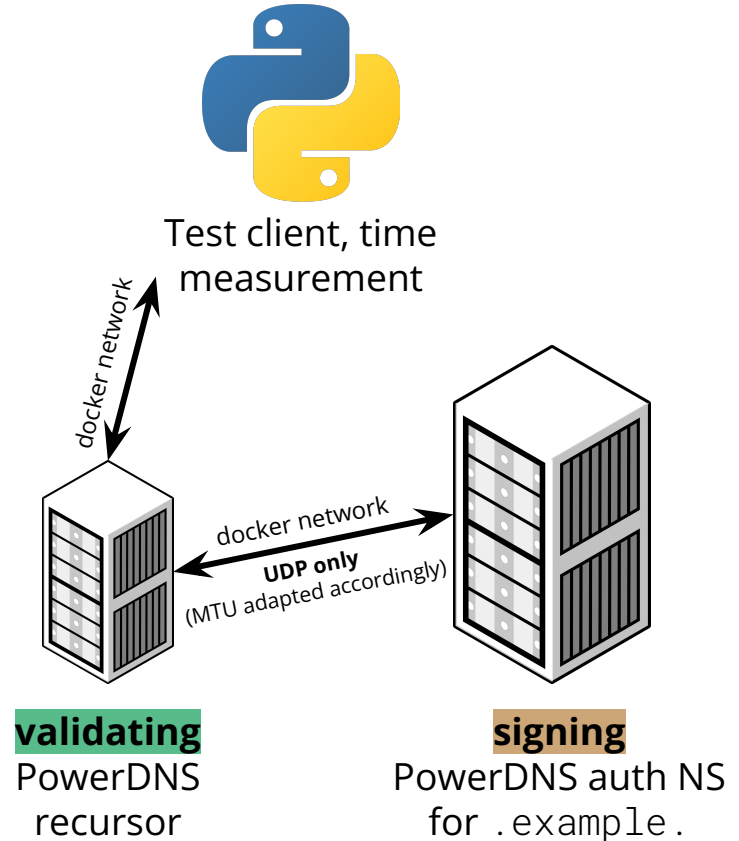
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Technische Universität Berlin, deSEC e.V.

<https://github.com/nils-wisiol/dns-falcon>
<https://falcon.dedyn.io/>

Backup

Performance II

- Recursor has classical trust root for .example manually configured
- Recursor cache configured such that each query will be validated
- Sequentially query zones with different crypto config
- [complete setup on GitHub](#)



Performance II

Query Time against Local Validating Resolver

