

Perspectives from an ERC Grant Holder *(Very? Personal Views)*

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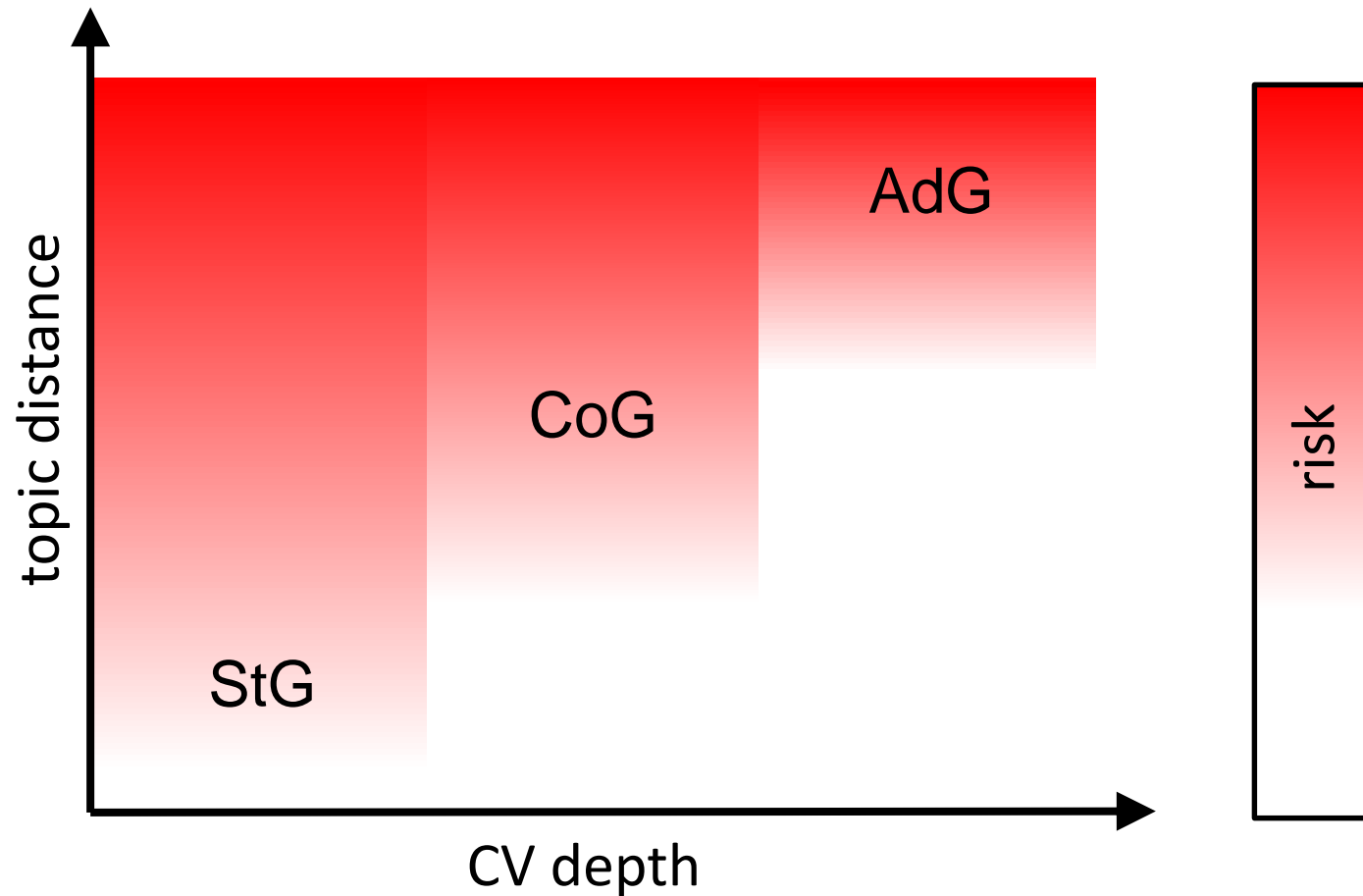
UCL Crypto Group

Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

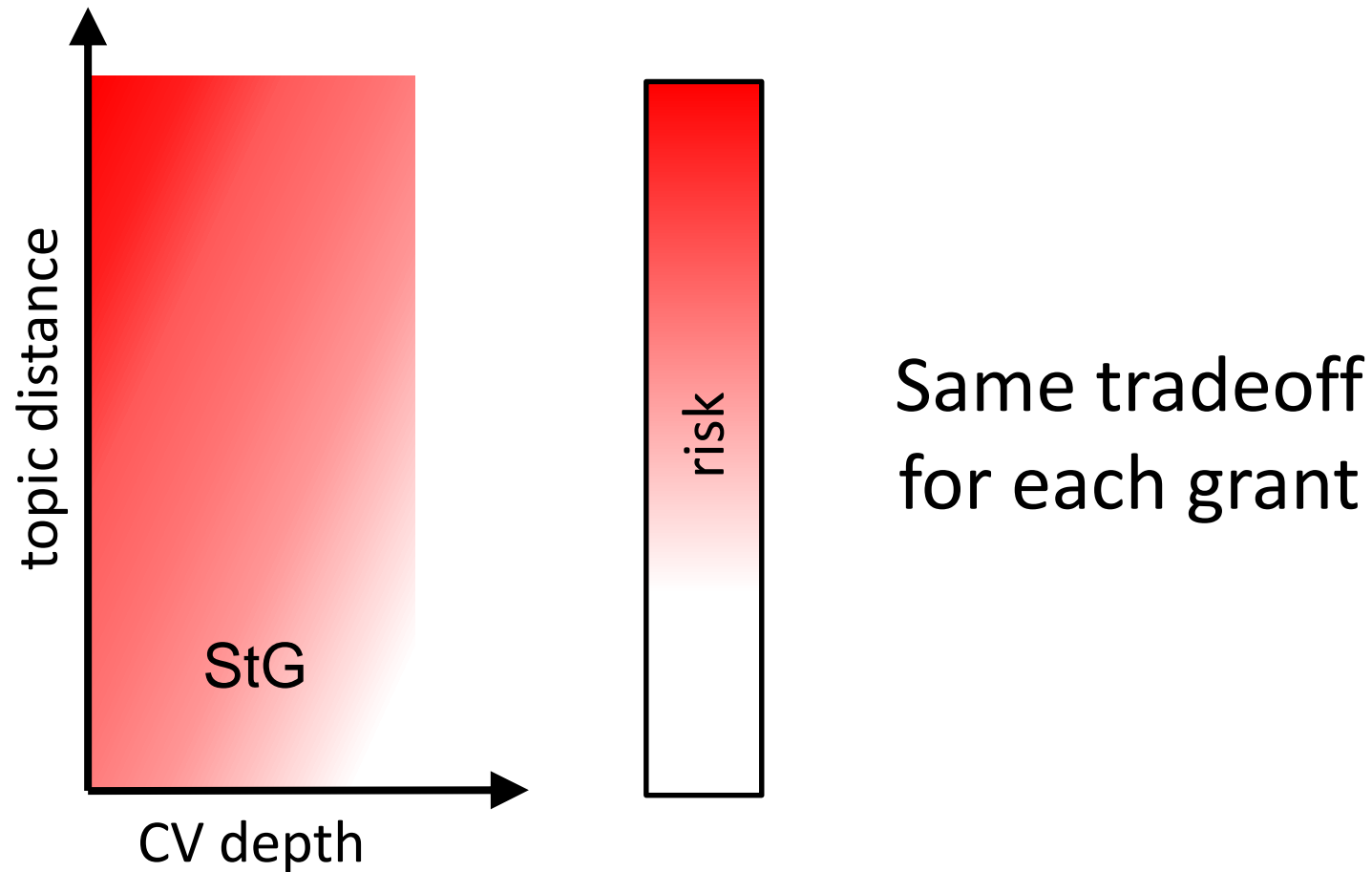
Belgian Information Webinar, May 16, 2024

Outline

- CV
- Timeline
- Topic choice
- Project structure
- High-risk / high-gain
- Interview
- Conclusions



- In general: go beyond your comfort zone



- My feeling: project must be adapted to CV

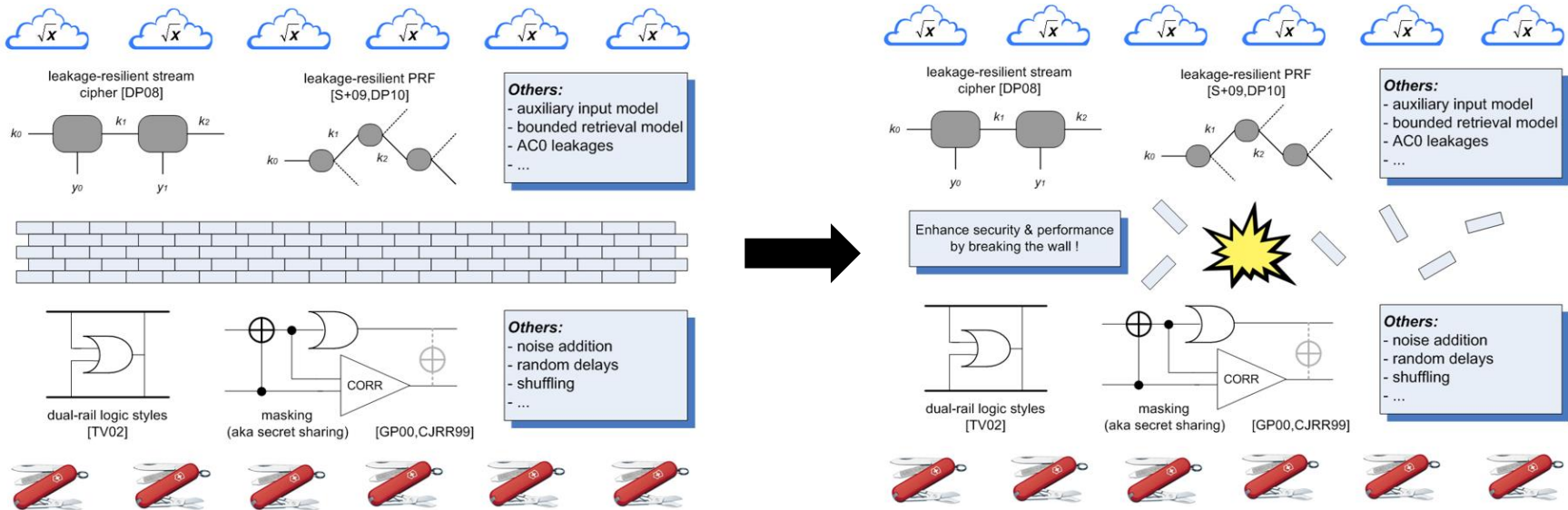
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- Write the final draft: one week
- Draft the interview slides: one week
- Ask for feedback: one month
- Finalize interview slides: one week

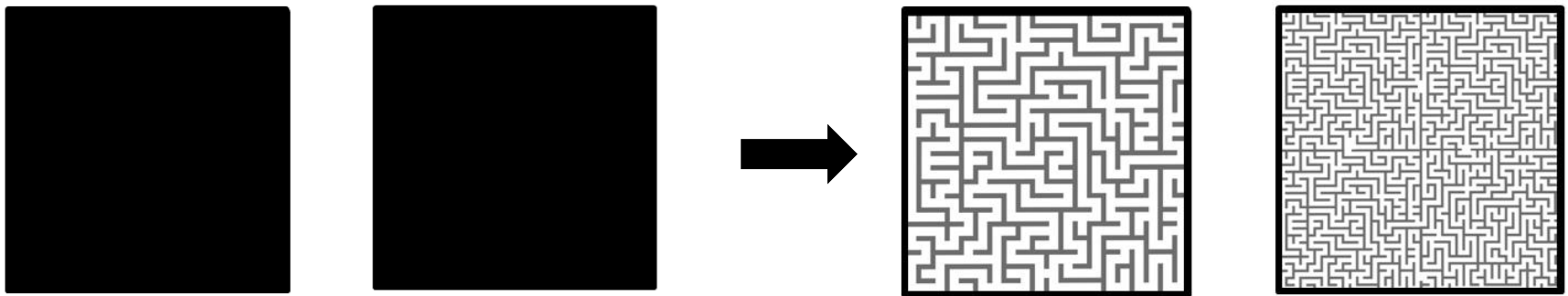
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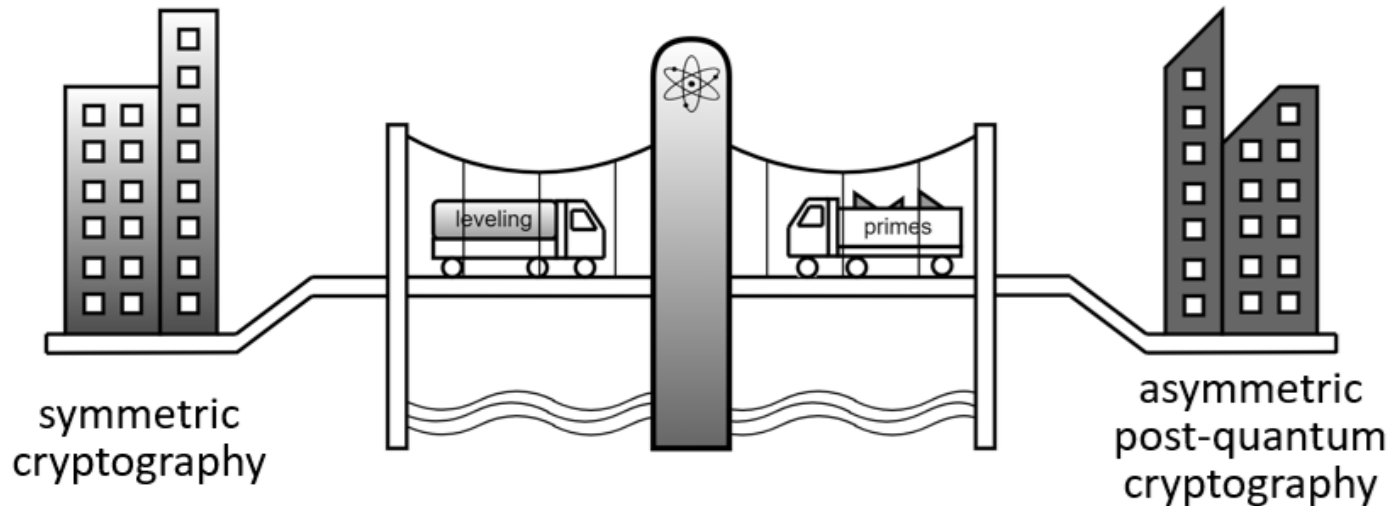
- StG:** reduce the gap btw. theory & practice
 - "Breaking the wall" image

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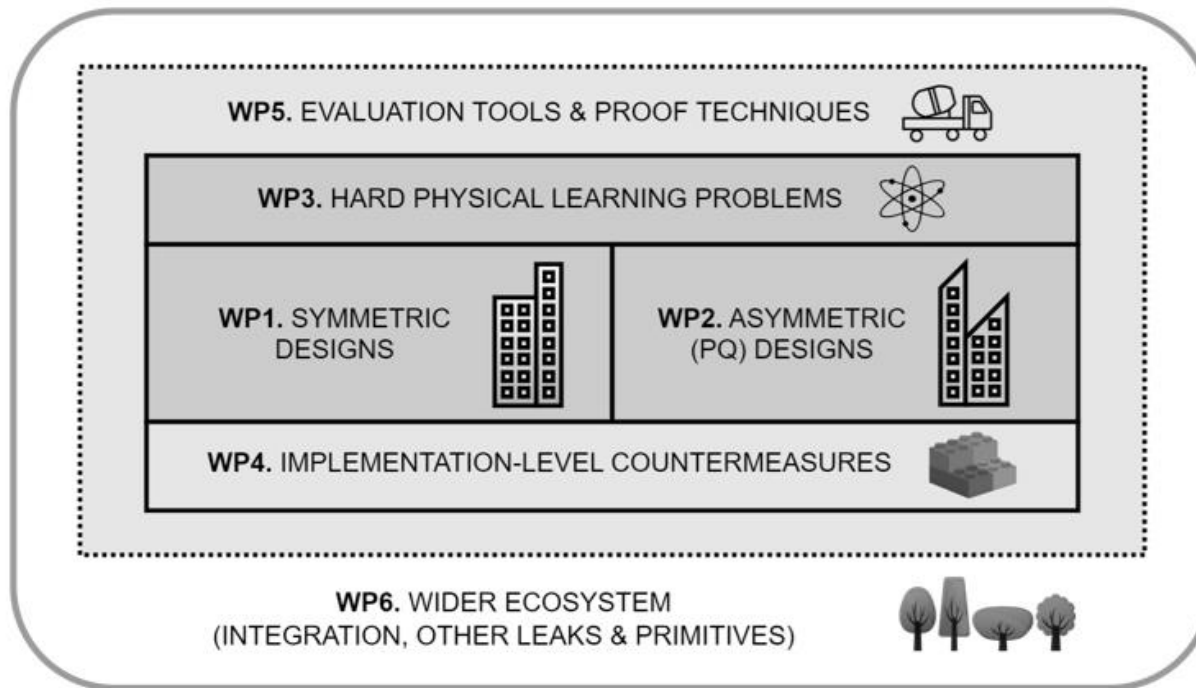
- **CoG**: question hidden/unrealistic assumptions
 - “Security without obscurity” image

- Questioning meta-limitation helps

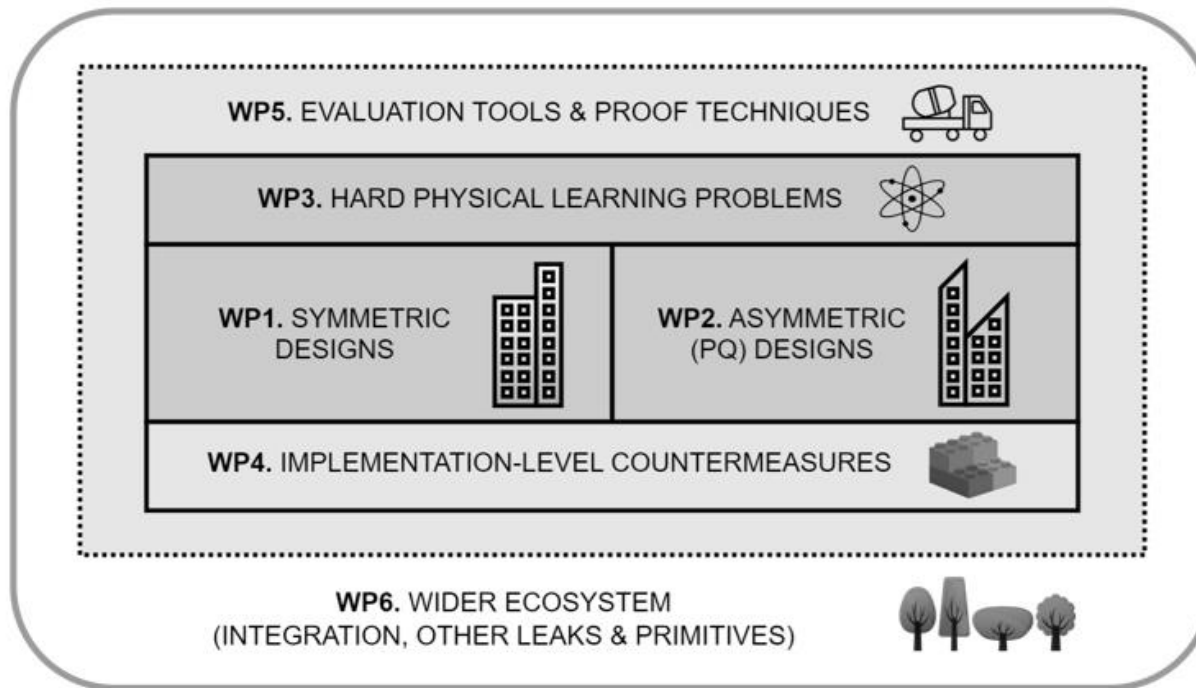


- **AdG:** connect subfields with similar challenges
 - “Bridging symmetric & asymmetric crypto” image

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- Also helps project management, reporting, ...

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 - ... project structure helps for that & CV matters

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- **Seed results (for main starting points) help**
 - Shows you will not struggle 3 years to start
 - Novel approaches harder to accept than incremental ones

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- Let the reviewers exhaust their questions!
- You don't see the reviews before
 - => re-submission can significantly help

- Embrace who you are / what you like
- Write a project that resembles you
 - Sometimes against the diverse feedback received
- (So that you're happy if you get the money)

& in case of virtual interview, don't sit, stand!

Thanks

- Question?