

ML-KEM Post-Quantum Key Agreement for TLS 1.3

draft-ietf-tls-mlkem-01

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-ietf-tls-mlkem/>

<https://github.com/tlswg/draft-ietf-tls-mlkem/>

A pure-PQ ciphersuite for TLS 1.3

- No purely post-quantum ciphersuites
- Fills in the other side of [draft-ietf-tls-hybrid-design](#)
- Adopted
- If PQ-only works for you, clean key agreement, no hybrid duplicate shares or mixing and matching logic

NamedGroups: MLKEM512, MLKEM768, MLKEM1024

```
enum {  
  
    ...,  
  
    /* ML-KEM Key Agreement Methods */  
    mlkem512(0x0200),  
    mlkem768(0x0201),  
    mlkem1024(0x0202)  
  
    ...,  
  
} NamedGroup;
```

Codepoints allocated:

512	MLKEM512	Y	N	[draft-connolly-tls-mlkem-key-agreement-03]	FIPS 203 version of ML-KEM-512
513	MLKEM768	Y	N	[draft-connolly-tls-mlkem-key-agreement-03]	FIPS 203 version of ML-KEM-768
514	MLKEM1024	Y	N	[draft-connolly-tls-mlkem-key-agreement-03]	FIPS 203 version of ML-KEM-1024

Client sends encaps key, server replies with ciphertext

```
struct {  
    NamedGroup group;  
    opaque key_exchange<1..216-1>;  
} KeyShareEntry;
```

These are transmitted in the `extension_data` fields of `KeyShareClientHello` and `KeyShareServerHello` extensions:

```
~~~~  
struct {  
    KeyShareEntry client_shares<0..216-1>;  
} KeyShareClientHello;  
  
struct {  
    KeyShareEntry server_share;  
} KeyShareServerHello;  
~~~~
```

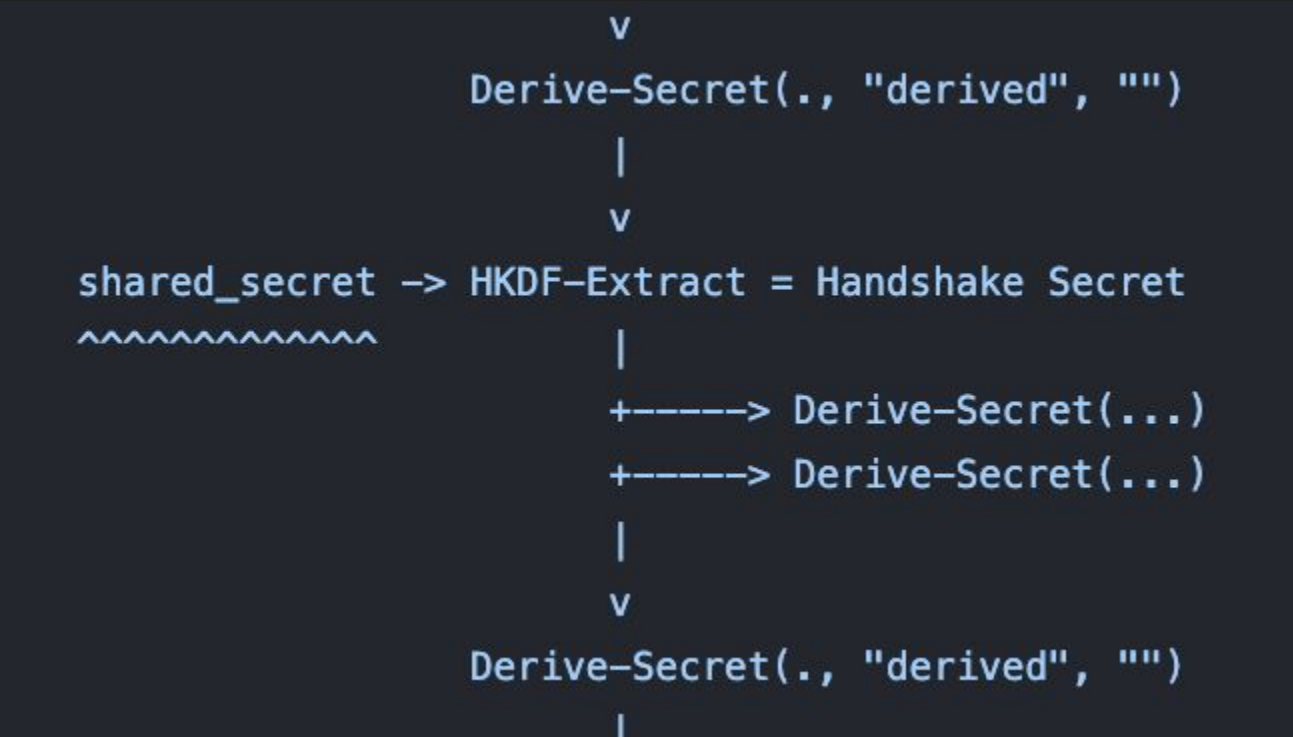
KEM shared secret is input to Handshake Secret derivation

```

      v
      Derive-Secret(., "derived", "")
      |
      v
shared_secret -> HKDF-Extract = Handshake Secret
~~~~~
      |
      +-----> Derive-Secret(...)
      +-----> Derive-Secret(...)
      |
      v
      Derive-Secret(., "derived", "")
      |

```

KEM shared secret is input to Handshake Secret derivation



Since 122 Bangkok

- Adopted
- Several reviews on-list
 - Removed unused normative ref
 - Removed security considerations section on fixed lengths
 - Remove paragraph on resilience to MAL and LEAK binding adversary model
 - Remove paragraph describing DH use in TLS 1.3 modeled as a KEM
 - Tighten up the failure rate section
 - Tighten up the requirements of TLS 1.3 key agreement and how ML-KEM satisfies
 - Tighten up section on reuse bounds
 - Redundant 'standard', 'fully' -> 'purely'
 - Fix line around fixed lengths/choosing algorithms
 - Remove section on larger sizes of public stuff
 - Add acknowledgments
- Pushed [-02](#)

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