# INTRODUCTION TO (LATTICE-BASED) CRYPTOGRAPHY

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## Cryptography



Let's start with a simple example: you want to send a message to someone.

Two possibilities:

- Either you share a secret key (AES...),
- Either you don't  $\Rightarrow$  public key cryptography.

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# Public key cryptography





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Examples: factorisation (RSA), discrete log (El Gamal) ...

What does it mean to be difficult? Solving those problems needs an exponential complexity on a classical computer.

## Public key encryption





### Definition

A public key encryption scheme is defined by three algorithms (**KeyGen, Enc, Dec**) such that:

- KeyGen takes as input the security parameter  $\lambda$  and outputs the keys (pk, sk),
- Enc takes as input pk and a message m and outputs c = Enc(pk, m),
- **Dec** takes as input sk and a cipher c and outputs m = Dec(sk, c),

such that Dec(sk, (Enc(pk, m)) = m.



## **Public key encryption**

### Definition

A public key encryption scheme is defined by three algorithms (**KeyGen, Enc, Dec**) such that:

- KeyGen takes as input the security parameter  $\lambda$  and outputs the keys (pk, sk),
- Enc takes as input the public key pk and a message m and outputs c = Enc(pk, m),
- Dec takes as input the secret key sk and a cipher c and outputs m = Dec(sk, c),

such that Dec(sk, (Enc(pk, m)) = m).

Two important properties: correctness and security.



#### How do we define security of a public key encryption?



#### How do we define security of a public key encryption?

We use the notion of indistinguishability of the ciphertexts.

## **IND-CPA** security



To define the security, we use a game between a challenger and an adversary. We define the following experiment:

> Challenger Adversarv  $b \leftarrow U(\{0,1\})$ Generate (pk, sk)pk $\longrightarrow$  $M_0, M_1$ Choose  $M_0, M_1$ ←  $c \leftarrow \mathsf{Enc}(pk, M_b)$ Output b' $\longrightarrow$  $\mathcal{A}$  wins if b = b'

> > $Adv^{CPA}(\mathcal{A}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1/2|$

# Today: an introduction to (lattice-based) cryptography

- 1. El Gamal encryption scheme
  - Background
  - Discrete logarithm problem
  - El Gamal scheme and its security
- 2. Regev's encryption scheme
  - Lattices and hard problem on lattices
  - Learning With Errors problem
  - How to encrypt using LWE?
  - Practical scheme using Module-LWE

## Security hypothesis



To build a public key encryption scheme, we need:

- a "difficult to inverse" problem: allows to build a public key using a secret key but not to come back,
- ► a efficient key generation.

Example of RSA encryption scheme:

- ► the secret key is (p, q) two distinct primes
  ⇒ we have to be able to generate large prime efficiently
- the public key is N = pq

 $\Rightarrow$  the "factorization" problem must be difficult to solve.

## Difficult problem vs efficient algorihtm



Computational security: different from a perfect security, schemes can be attacked but it must be difficult (too slow in practice).

Let n be the security parameter:

- Efficient algorithm = polynomial in n ( $n^c$  for constant c),
- Difficult problem = no algorithm in polynomial time, best know algorithm has complexity exponential in n.

Order of magnitude:

- Today, a difficult problem  $\Rightarrow$  complexity  $2^{80}$  or  $2^{128}$ 
  - ▶ A 3.4GHz processor executes  $3.4 \times 10^9$  cycles per second
  - ▶  $2^{60}$  cycles requires  $340 \times 10^{6}$  secondes (around 11 years),
  - $2^{80}$  is  $2^{20}$  (around 1 million) times  $2^{60}$  ...

## Background



$$\mathbb{Z}_N = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1\}$$

- Operations of addition, substraction and multiplication,
- ▶  $(\mathbb{Z}_N, +, \times)$  is a ring.

• Inverse: if a is prime with N, the multiplicative inverse of  $a \mod N$  is b such that  $ab = 1 \mod N$ .

 $\rightarrow$  To find the inverse, use Extended Euclidean algorithm.

- $\rightarrow$  Allows to find (u, v) such that  $au + Nv = 1 \mod N$ .
- ▶ Particular case:  $p \text{ prime} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p = \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  has only inversible elements,  $\rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}_p, +, \times)$  is a field.

## Background



 $\mathbb{Z}_N^* = \{a \in \{1, \dots, N-1\} | \gcd(a, N) = 1\},\$ it is the set of integers of  $\mathbb{Z}_N$  invertible modulo N.

• Euler's totient function:  $\varphi(N) = Card(\mathbb{Z}_N^*)$ 

• If N prime: 
$$\varphi(N) = N - 1$$
,

• If  $N = \prod_i p_i^{e_i}$  with  $p_i$  prime and  $e_i > 1$ , then  $\varphi(N) = \prod_i p_i^{e_i-1}(p_i-1)$ .

#### Euler's Theorem

For N > 1 and  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$ , we have that  $x^{\varphi(N)} = 1 \mod N$ .

Consequence for  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$ :  $x^a \mod N = x^{a \mod \varphi(N)} \mod N$ .

## **Discrete logarithm problem**

If p is prime then Z<sup>\*</sup><sub>p</sub> is a cyclic group of order p − 1.
 It means it has φ(p − 1) generators g such that Z<sup>\*</sup><sub>p</sub> = (1, g, g<sup>2</sup>, · · · , g<sup>p−2</sup>).

### Discrete Logarithm Problem (DLP):

Let G be a finite group ( $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  as example), q its order, g a generator, and  $g^a$  where a is uniformly sampled in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$ , find a.

This problem can be difficult to solve or easy, it depends on the group!

- Historical choice:  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  with p prime,
- Bad choice possible,
- ► Good choice: quadratic residues subgroup of Z<sup>\*</sup><sub>p</sub>,
- Today: elliptic curves.

## **DLP and its variants**

## Discrete Logarithm Problem (DLP):

Let *G* be a finite group, *q* its order, *g* a generator, and  $g^a$  where *a* is uniformly sampled in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$ , find *a*.

### Computational Diffie-Hellman problem (CDH):

Let *G* be a finite group, *q* its order, *g* a generator, and  $g^a$ ,  $g^b$  where *a* and *b* are uniformly sampled in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$ , compute  $g^{ab}$ .

## Decisional Diffie-Hellman problem (DDH):

Given g a generator, distinguish between the distribution  $(g^a, g^b, g^{ab})$  and  $(g^a, g^b, g^c)$  where a, b and c are uniformly sampled in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$ .

## **DLP and its variants**

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DLP is the hardest to solve,

There exists groups where DDH is easy to solve but CDH difficult.

## **DDH experiment**



Given an algorithm  $\mathcal{G}$  which generates a group  $\mathbb{G}$ :

$$\frac{\mathcal{C} \qquad \qquad \mathcal{B}}{(\mathbb{G}, q, g) \leftarrow \mathcal{G}(1^n)} \\
x, y \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q) \\
\text{RAND } (b = 0): z \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q) \\
\text{DDH } (b = 1): z = xy \qquad \xrightarrow{(g, g^x, g^y, g^z)} \\
\text{output } b' \\
Adv(\mathcal{B}) = \left| \Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{DDH} 1] \right|.$$

#### Definition

The DDH problem is difficult to solve for a group G if for all Probabilistic Polynomial Time (PPT) algorithm B, there exists a negligible function negl(n) such that:

 $Adv(\mathcal{B}) \leq negl(n).$ 

Probabilities are taken over the experiment in which  $\mathcal{G}(1^n)$  outputs  $(\mathbb{G}, q, g)$  then uniform  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  are chosen.



- Exhaustive search: the security parameter n is the number of bits of q (the order of the group) i.e. log q = n. Brute-force search: exponential in n.
- ▶ Best known algorithm: the general number field sieve (NFS). Complexity in  $\exp(O(n)^{1/3}(\log n)^{2/3})$

## **ElGamal encryption**



► Key generation: generate ( $\mathbb{G}$ , q, g) (publics), then sample an uniform x, and compute  $h = g^x$ , Secret key: sk = x, Public key:  $pk = g^x$ .

▶ Enc: given  $pk = g^x$  and a message  $m \in \mathbb{G}$ , choose y uniform and output  $(g^y, h^y \cdot m)$ .

• **Dec:** given sk = x and  $(c_1, c_2)$ , output  $m = c_2/c_1^x$ .

Correctness:  $\frac{c_2}{c_1^x} = \frac{h^{y} \cdot m}{g^{xy}} = \frac{g^{xy} \cdot m}{g^{xy}} = m.$ 

#### Security

If the DDH problem is difficult to solve, then the ElGamal encryption scheme is IND-CPA secure.

## Principe d'une preuve de sécurité



Security proof: show that if an adversary can succeed in attacking the scheme with a non negligible advantage, then it is possible to solve a difficult problem (DDH).



show that if I know how to solve B then I know how to solve A:  $\Rightarrow$  if A is difficult to solve, then so is B.

We start with an instance A (instance of DDH :  $(g, g^x, g^y, g^z)$ ) and an oracle for B (which is the hypothesis that an adversary can successfully attack).



**Idea:** given the instance of DDH, we build one from the IND-CPA experiment and we use the answer of the adversary to solve DDH.

We recall the DDH experiment:

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{C} & \mathcal{B} \\
\hline (\mathbb{G}, q, g) \leftarrow \mathcal{G}(1^n) \\
x, y \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q) \\
\end{array}$$
RAND  $(b = 0)$ :  $z \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q)$ 
DDH  $(b = 1)$ :  $z = xy$ 

$$\xrightarrow{(g, g^x, g^y, g^z)} output b' \\
\hline Adv(\mathcal{B}) = \left| \Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{DDH} 1] \right|.$$



**Idea:** given the instance of DDH, we build one from the IND-CPA experiment and we use the answer of the adversary to solve DDH.

We then recall the IND-CPA security game:

 $\begin{array}{c|c} \mathcal{B} & \mathcal{A} \\ (sk = x, pk = g^x) \leftarrow KeyGen(.) & \xrightarrow{pk = g^x} \\ \hline choose \ b & \xleftarrow{m_0, m_1} & Chooses \ m_0, m_1, \\ computes \ (c_1, c_2) \leftarrow Enc(pk, m_b) & \xrightarrow{c_1, c_2} & Computes \ a \ bit \ b' \\ & \text{if } b = b' \ then \ output \ Win \end{array}$ 

We want to show that if DDH is difficult to solve, then there exists a negligible function negl such that que:

 $\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ Win}] \le 1/2 + negl(n).$ 



#### We have an algorithm ${\mathcal B}$ which wants to solve DDH using ${\mathcal A}.$



#### View of $\mathcal{B}$ :

If RAND: z is uniformly distributed so c₂ too. A cannot distinguish between two ciphertexts: its advantage is zero, the probability that B outputs 1 is then 1/2.

$$\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] = 1/2,$$

# 

#### We have an algorithm ${\mathcal B}$ which wants to solve DDH using ${\mathcal A}.$



#### View of $\mathcal{B}$ :

If DDH: z = xy and the ciphertext is exactly an ElGamal ciphertext. The probability that B outputs 1 is exactly the success probability of A dans le in the IND-CPA security game (as it has the same view).

 $\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{DDH} 1] = \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}],$ 



To conclude, we have:  $\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] = 1/2,$   $\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{DDH} 1] = \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}],$ donc :

$$Adv(\mathcal{B}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{DDH} 1]|$$
$$= |\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}] - 1/2|$$

Finally:

- ► As DDH is a difficult problem, we know there exists a negligible function negl such that  $Adv(\mathcal{B}) \leq negl$  then  $\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}] \leq 1/2 + negl$ .
- We suppose that A successfully attack, then there exists a non negligible ε such that Pr[A win] ≥ 1/2 + ε, then Adv(B) ≥ ε which implies there exists a distinguisher for the DDH problem.

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## Post-quantum cryptography

Let's go back to the example: you want to send a message to someone.

#### Two possibilities:

- Either you share a secret key,
- Either you don't
  - $\Rightarrow$  public key cryptography (RSA...).

Solve a difficult algorithmic problem ⇔ Adversa Examples: factorisation, discrete log

Solving those problems needs an exponential complexity on a classical computer.

Shor's algorithm (1995): polynomial time on a quantum computer.





## Context



#### $\rightarrow$ need alternatives

- Post-quantum secure,
- Efficient,
- New functionalities, different types of constructions.



## **NIST competition**



From 2017 to 2024, NIST competition to develop new standards on post-quantum cryptography

Total: 69 accepted submissions (round 1)

- ► Signature (5 lattice-based),
- Public key encryption / Key Encapsulation Mechanism (21 lattice-based)

**Other candidates:** 17 code-based PKE, 7 multivariate signatures, 3 hash-based signatures, 7 from "other" assumptions (isogenies, PQ RSA ...) and 4 attacked + 5 withdrawn.

⇒ lattice-based constructions are very serious candidates
 5 over 7 finalists are lattice-based
 2022 first results: 3 over 4 new standards are lattice-based

## Why lattice-based cryptography?



- Likely to resist attacks from quantum computers,
- Strong security guarantees, from well-understood hard problems on lattices.
- Novel and powerful cryptographic functionalities,
  - Public key encryption and signature scheme (practical),
  - Advanced signature (group signature ...), and encryption scheme (IBE, ABE, ...),
  - Fully homomorphic encryption.



## Lattices





#### Lattice

 $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B}) = \{\sum_{1=i}^{n} a_i \mathbf{b}_i, a_i \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ , where the  $(\mathbf{b}_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ 's, linearly independent vectors, are a basis of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ .

## Lattices





Several basis define a lattice, some are better.

## Lattices





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#### Lattices





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- The *n*-th minima  $\lambda_n$  is the radius of a sphere which contains *n* linearly independent shortest vectors of the lattices.

#### Lattices





- Several basis define a lattice, some are better.
- The first minimum  $\lambda_1$  is the norm of the smallest non-zero vector.
- The *n*-th minima  $\lambda_n$  is the radius of a sphere which contains *n* linearly independent shortest vectors of the lattices.
- ► The fundamental parallelepiped is defined by  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{B}) = \{\sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i \mathbf{b}_i : c_i \in [0, 1)\}.$ Its volume defines the volume of the lattice: det( $\Lambda$ ) = |det( $\mathbf{B}$ )|.

#### Lattices



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- The fundamental parallelepiped is defined by  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{B}) = \{\sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i \mathbf{b}_i : c_i \in [0,1)\}.$ Its volume defines the volume of the lattice: det( $\Lambda$ ) = |det( $\mathbf{B}$ )|.

Minkowski Theorem:

$$\lambda_1(\Lambda) \le \sqrt{n} \cdot \det(\Lambda)^{1/n},$$
$$\left(\prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(\Lambda)\right)^{1/n} \le \sqrt{n} \cdot \det(\Lambda)^{1/n}.$$

#### **Shortest Vector Problem (SVP)**



Given a lattice  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$  of dimension *n*:

Output: find the shortest non-zero vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ .



### Approx Shortest Vector Problem (Approx SVP $_{\gamma}$ )



Given a lattice  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$  of dimension *n*:

Output: find a non-zero vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$  such that  $\|\mathbf{x}\| \leq \gamma \lambda_1(\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B}))$ 



#### Gap Shortest Vector Problem (GapSVP)



Given a lattice  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$  of dimension n and d > 0:

Output: • YES: there is  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$  non-zero such that  $\|\mathbf{z}\| < d$ ,

• NO: for all non-zero vectors  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ :  $\|\mathbf{z}\| \ge d$ .



#### Gap Shortest Vector Problem (GapSVP $_{\gamma}$ )



Given a lattice  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$  of dimension n and d > 0:

Output: • YES: there is z ∈ L(B) non-zero such that ||z|| < d,</li>
• NO: for all non-zero vectors z ∈ L(B): ||z|| ≥ γd.



#### **Closest Vector Problem**



Given a lattice  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$  of dimension n and  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbb{Z}^m$ :

Output: find  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  minimizing  $||\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{t}||$ . Approx variant: find  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  such that  $||\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{t}|| \leq \gamma \cdot \operatorname{dist}(\mathbf{t}, \Lambda(\mathbf{B}))$ .



#### **Closest Vector Problem**



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How hard is it to solve those problems?

## Hardness of Approx SVP $_{\gamma}$





#### Conjecture

There is no polynomial time algorithm that approximates this lattice problem and its variants to within polynomial factors.



## At the heart of lattice-based cryptography the Learning With Errors problem

Introduced by Regev in 2005

**Problem**: solve a linear system with *m* equations and *n* variables  $(m \ge n)$ , with noise, and modulo an integer *q*.

Find  $(s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5)$  such that:

$s_1 + 22s_2 + 17s_3 + 2s_4 + s_5$	$\approx$	16	$\mod 23$
$3s_1 + 2s_2 + 11s_3 + 7s_4 + 8s_5$	$\approx$	17	$\mod 23$
$15s_1 + 13s_2 + 10s_3 + 3s_4 + 5s_5$	$\approx$	3	$\mod 23$
$17s_1 + 11s_2 + 20s_3 + 9s_4 + 3s_5$	$\approx$	8	$\mod 23$
$2s_1 + 14s_2 + 13s_3 + 6s_4 + 7s_5$	$\approx$	9	$\mod 23$
$4s_1 + 21s_2 + 9s_3 + 5s_4 + s_5$	$\approx$	18	$\mod 23$
$11s_1 + 12s_2 + 5s_3 + s_4 + 9s_5$	$\approx$	$\overline{7}$	$\mod 23$

#### **Gaussian distributions**



Continuous Gaussian distribution of center *c* and parameter *s*:

$$\begin{vmatrix} D_{s,c}(x) \sim \frac{1}{s} \exp\left(-\pi \frac{||x-c||^2}{s^2}\right) \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \end{vmatrix}$$

#### **Gaussian distributions**



Continuous Gaussian distribution of center c and parameter s:

$$D_{s,c}(x) \sim \frac{1}{s} \exp\left(-\pi \frac{||x-c||^2}{s^2}\right)$$
  
$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

Gaussian distribution on  $\mathbb{Z}$  of center c with parameter s:

$$\begin{array}{l} D_{\mathbb{Z},s,c}(x) \sim \frac{1}{s} \exp\left(-\pi \frac{||x-c||^2}{s^2}\right) \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{Z} \end{array}$$

- It is not the rounding of the continuous Gaussian.
- We now how to sample it efficiently.
- Almost all samples are in  $[-t \cdot s, +t \cdot s]$  for a constant *t*, if *s* is not to small.



#### Theorem (Gentry, Peikert, Vaikuntanathan 2008)

There exists a PPT algorithm which, given a basis **B** of a lattice  $\Lambda(\mathbf{B})$  of dimension n, a parameter  $s \ge \|\mathbf{\tilde{B}}\| \cdot \omega(\sqrt{\log n})$ , an a center  $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , outputs a sample from a distribution statistically close from  $D_{\Lambda,s,c}$ .

Intuition: sampling on  $\mathbb{Z}$  is quite easy, it is more complicated on a general lattice.

**Important:** Better is the basis (with short vectors), smaller is the parameter we can sample with, and then have short vectors.

## The Learning With Errors problem [Regev 05]



Let n > 1,  $q \ge 2$  and  $\alpha \in ]0, 1[$ . For any  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n$ , we define the distribution  $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$  by:

$$(\mathbf{a}, \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{s} \rangle + e)$$
, with  $\mathbf{a} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$  and  $e \leftarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}, \alpha q}$ .

#### Search LWE

For any **s**: find **s** given an arbitrary number of samples from  $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$ .

#### Decision LWE

With non-negligible probability on  $\mathbf{s} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$ : distinguish between the distributions  $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$  and  $U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{n+1})$ .

#### **Decision version**



Let n > 1,  $q \ge 2$  and  $\alpha \in ]0, 1[$ . For any  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n$ , we define the distribution  $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$  by:

$$(\mathbf{a}, \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{s} \rangle + e)$$
, with  $\mathbf{a} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$  and  $e \leftarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}, \alpha q}$ .

#### Decision LWE

With non-negligible probability on  $\mathbf{s} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$ : distinguish between the distributions  $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$  and  $U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{n+1})$ .

We consider an oracle  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{O}}$  which produces independant samples, all from the same distribution being:

- either  $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$  for a fixed  $\mathbf{s}$ ,
- either  $U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{n+1})$ .

The goal is to decide which one with a non-negligeable advantage.

# The Learning With Errors problem



 $\mathsf{LWE}^n_{\alpha,q}$ 



Search version: Given  $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{As} + \mathbf{e})$ , find s. Decision version: Distinguish from  $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b})$  with b uniform.



- Easy reduction : from decision to search
  - find  $\mathbf{s} \Rightarrow$  distinguish **b** uniform or **b** LWE sample,



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  - find  $\mathbf{s} \Rightarrow$  distinguish **b** uniform or **b** LWE sample,
  - ► Given (**A**, **b**), find the oracle to find **s**, compute **b As**:



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  - find  $\mathbf{s} \Rightarrow$  distinguish **b** uniform or **b** LWE sample,
  - ► Given (**A**, **b**), find the oracle to find **s**, compute **b As**:
    - ▶ if it is small, then **b** is an LWE sample,
    - ▶ if it looks uniform, then **b** is uniform.



- Easy reduction : from decision to search
  - find  $\mathbf{s} \Rightarrow$  distinguish **b** uniform or **b** LWE sample,
  - ► Given (**A**, **b**), find the oracle to find **s**, compute **b** − **As**:
    - ▶ if it is small, then **b** is an LWE sample,
    - ▶ if it looks uniform, then **b** is uniform.
- 2nd reduction: from search to decision
  - Distinguish **b** uniform from **b** LWE sample  $\Rightarrow$  find **s**,



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    - ▶ if it is small, then **b** is an LWE sample,
    - ▶ if it looks uniform, then **b** is uniform.
- 2nd reduction: from search to decision
  - Distinguish **b** uniform from **b** LWE sample  $\Rightarrow$  find **s**,
  - ► Given (A, b) use the oracle to find each coordinate of s: for all s<sup>\*</sup><sub>1</sub>, choose u uniform in Z<sub>q</sub> and modify (A, b) as follow:

$$(\mathbf{a}, b) + (u, 0, \dots, 0, us_1^*) = (\mathbf{a}', \langle \mathbf{a}', \mathbf{s} \rangle + e + u(s_1^* - s_1)),.$$

- if  $s_1^* = s_1$  it stays a LWE sample,
- else b will be uniform.

#### Short Integer Solution problem [Ajtai 1996]



For **A**  $\leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$ :



## 

## Short Integer Solution problem [Ajtai 1996]

For  $\mathbf{A} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$ :



#### Hardness of LWE



#### Exhaustive search

- ▶ Try all the  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n \to \text{is } \mathbf{b} \mathbf{As} \text{ small}$ ? ▶ ⇒ cost around  $q^n$ .

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- ▶ ⇒ cost around  $q^n$ .
- Other possibility: guess the *n* first errors, find  $\mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{is} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{As} \mathbf{small}$ ?
- ► ⇒ cost around  $(\alpha q \sqrt{n})^n$ .

## 

## Hardness of LWE

#### Exhaustive search

- Try all the  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n \to \text{is } \mathbf{b} \mathbf{As}$  small?
- ▶  $\Rightarrow$  cost around  $q^n$ .
- Other possibility: guess the n first errors, find  $\mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{is} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{As} \mathbf{small}$ ?
- ► ⇒ cost around  $(\alpha q \sqrt{n})^n$ .
- How to do better?
  - LWE is a lattice problem: consider

 $\Lambda_q(\mathbf{A}) = \{ \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{Z}^m : \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{As} \bmod q \text{ for } \mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \}.$ 

Solving LWE  $\Leftrightarrow$  solving CVP in this lattice.

• Cost: 
$$\left(\frac{n\log q}{\log^2 \alpha}\right)^{\frac{n\log q}{\log^2 \alpha}}$$

## Hardness of the Learning With Errors problem





#### **LWE variants**



Choose another distribution for the secret or the error. Regev 2009: uniform secret and gaussian error.





## Hardness of the Learning With Errors problem



- Applebaum, Cash, Peikert, Sahai 2009 same error and secret
- Goldwasser, Kalai, Peikert, Vaikuntanathan 2010 binary secret
- Brakerski, Langlois, Peikert, Regev, Stehlé 2013 binary secret
- Micciancio 2018 binary secret
- Brakerski, Döttling 2020 entropic secret

## Using LWE to build provable constructions - theory





#### Public key encryption







**Parameters**:  $n, m, q \in \mathbb{Z}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

► Keys:  $\mathbf{sk} = \mathbf{s}$  and  $\mathbf{pk} = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b})$ , with  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e} \mod q$ where  $\mathbf{s} \leftrightarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$ ,  $\mathbf{A} \leftrightarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$ ,  $\mathbf{e} \leftrightarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}^m, \alpha q}$ .



- **Parameters:**  $n, m, q \in \mathbb{Z}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ ,
- ► Keys: sk = s and pk = (A, b), with  $b = A s + e \mod q$ where  $s \leftrightarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$ ,  $A \leftrightarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$ ,  $e \leftrightarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}^m, \alpha q}$ .
- Encryption  $(M \in \{0,1\})$ : Let  $\mathbf{r} \leftrightarrow U(\{0,1\}^m)$ ,







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If close from 0: return 0, if close from  $\lfloor q/2 \rfloor$ : return 1.



- **Parameters**:  $n, m, q \in \mathbb{Z}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ ,
- ► Keys: sk = s and pk = (A, b), with b = A s + e mod q where s  $\leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$ , A  $\leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$ , e  $\leftarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}^m, \alpha q}$ .
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**Decryption** of  $(\mathbf{u}, v)$ : compute  $v - \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{s}$ ,

**r**  
**A b** + **e** +
$$\lfloor q/2 \rfloor \cdot M -$$
 **b** = small + $\lfloor q/2 \rfloor \cdot M$ 

LWE hard  $\Rightarrow$  Regev's scheme is IND-CPA secure.
#### Correction



#### The randomness **r** is uniformly chosen in $\{0, 1\}^m$ ,

and **e** is sampled from a discrete gaussian of parameter  $\alpha q \leq q/(8m)$ , then, with overwhealming probability,

$$\left|\sum_{i\leq m} r_i e_i\right| \leq \|\mathbf{r}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{e}\| \leq \sqrt{m} \cdot \frac{q}{8\sqrt{m}} = \frac{q}{8}$$

 $v - \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{s}$  is either close from 0, either close from  $\lfloor q/2 \rfloor$ , which allows to find M.



## **IND-CPA** security



To define the security, we use a game between a challenger and an adversary. We define the following experiment:



 $Adv^{CPA}(\mathcal{A}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1/2|$ 

#### **IND-CPA** security



**Goal of the proof:** show that if an adversary succeed in attacking the encryption scheme with a non-negligible advantage, then the challenger can use it to solve a difficult problem (here LWE).

Decision LWE can also be seen as a game:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{C} & \mathcal{B} \\
\hline \mathbf{A} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n}) \\
\text{RAND } (b = 0): \mathbf{b} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^m) \\
\text{LWE } (b = 1): \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{As} + \mathbf{e} & \xrightarrow{(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b})} \\
\hline & & \text{output } b' \\
\hline & & Adv(\mathcal{B}) = \left| \Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{LWE} 1] \right|.
\end{array}$$



Let  $m, n, q \ge 1$  be integers such that  $m \ge 4n \log q$  and q prime, and let  $\mathbf{A} \leftrightarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$  and  $\mathbf{r} \leftrightarrow U(\{0, 1\}^m)$ . Then  $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{A})$  has statistical distance  $\le 2^{-n}$  from the uniform distribution on  $\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q^n$ .



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• Statistical distance :  $\Delta(D_1, D_2) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_x |D_1(x) - D_2(x)|$ .



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- Statistical distance :  $\Delta(D_1, D_2) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_x |D_1(x) D_2(x)|$ .
- For any algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , we have  $|\Pr[\mathcal{A}(D_1) = 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(D_2) = 1]| \leq \Delta(D_1, D_2).$  $\Delta(D_1, D_2)$  small  $\Rightarrow D_1$  and  $D_2$  are statistically indistinguishable.



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The LHL implies that ( (A b) ,  ${\color{black} r}$  (A b) ) is indistinguishable from uniform.





**Idea:** we start from an LWE instance, and build an instance of the IND-CPA experiment, then we use the answer of the adversary to solve LWE. We use the following IND-CPA game:

 $\begin{array}{c|c} \mathcal{B} & \mathcal{A} \\ (sk = \mathbf{s}, pk = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{As} + \mathbf{e}) \leftarrow KeyGen(.) & \xrightarrow{pk = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b})} \\ \text{chooses } b & \xleftarrow{m_0, m_1} & \text{Chooses } m_0, m_1, \\ \text{computes } (\mathbf{u}, v) \leftarrow Enc(pk, m_b) & \xrightarrow{(\mathbf{u}, v)} & \text{Computes a bit } b' \\ & \text{if } b = b' \text{ then output Win} \end{array}$ 

We want to show that if LWE is hard, then there exists a negligible function *negl* such that:

 $\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ Win}] \le 1/2 + negl(n).$ 

#### ${\mathcal B}$ wants to solve decisional LWE using ${\mathcal A}.$





#### For $\mathcal{B}$ :

► RAND: **b** is uniform then v is uniform. A cannot distinguish between the two cases, its advantage is equals to zero, the probability that B outputs 1 is 1/2.

$$\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] = 1/2$$

 ${\mathcal B}$  wants to solve decisional LWE using  ${\mathcal A}.$ 



 $\begin{array}{c|c} \mathcal{C} & \mathcal{B} & \mathcal{A} \\ \hline \text{RAND:$ **b** $unif} \\ \text{LWE:$ **b**=**As**+**e** $& \xrightarrow{(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b})} & m_0, m_1, \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & &$ 

#### For $\mathcal{B}$ :

LWE: b = As + e and then the ciphertext is exactly a ciphertext from the Regev encryption scheme. The probability that B outputs 1 is exactly the success probability of A in the encryption scheme security game (as it has the same view of the experiment).

$$\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{LWE} 1] = \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}],$$



To conclude, we have:

 $\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] = 1/2,$  $\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{LWE} 1] = \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}],$ 

then:

$$Adv(\mathcal{B}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{LWE} 1]|$$
$$= |\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}] - 1/2|$$

If  $\mathcal{A}$  succeeds with a non-negligible probability, then there exists  $\varepsilon$  such that  $\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}] \geq 1/2 + \varepsilon$ , then  $Adv(\mathcal{B}) \geq \varepsilon$  which implies that there exists a distinguisher able to solve the decisional LWE problem.





#### Hardness of SIS/LWE used as a foundation for many constructions.



#### Solutions used today?



#### Lattice-based NIST finalists

Among the 5 lattice-based finalists, 3 of them are based on (possibly structured) variants of LWE.

- Public Key Encryption
  - Crystals Kyber: Module-LWE with both secret and noise chosen from a centered binomial distribution.
  - Saber: Module-LWR (deterministic variant).
  - NTRU
  - **FrodoKEM** (as alternate candidate): LWE but with smaller parameters.

#### Signature

- Crystals Dilithium: Module-LWE with both secret and noise chosen in a small uniform interval, and Module-SIS.
- **Falcon**: Ring-SIS on NTRU matrices.

## Using SIS/LWE to build constructions





## Using SIS/LWE to build constructions in practice





## Using SIS/LWE to build constructions in practice





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#### From SIS/LWE to structured variants

**Problem:** constructions based on LWE enjoy a nice guaranty of security but are too costly in practice.

- ightarrow replace  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  by a Ring, for example  $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^n + 1 \rangle$   $(n = 2^k)$ .
- Ring variants since 2006:

- Structured  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{m \cdot n \times n}$  represented by  $m \cdot n$  elements,
- Product with matrix/vector more efficient,
- ► Hardness of Ring-SIS,

[Lyubashevsky and Micciancio 06] and [Peikert and Rosen 06]

Hardness of Ring-LWE [Lyubashevsky, Peikert and Regev 10].





### Idea: replace $\mathbb{Z}^n$ by $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^n + 1 \rangle$



where  $n = 2^k$  then the polynomial  $x^n + 1$  is irreducible. Elements of this ring are polynomials of degree less than n.

#### R is isomorph to $\mathbb{Z}^n$

Let  $a \in R$ , we have  $a(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + \ldots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1}$ , the isomorphism  $R \to \mathbb{Z}^n$  associate the polynomial  $a \in R$  to the vector  $\mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ . Idea: replace  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  by  $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^n + 1 \rangle$ 



Let's look at the product of two polynomials  $x^n + 1$ 

• 
$$a(x) = a_0 + a_1 \cdot x + \ldots + a_{n-1} \cdot x^{n-1}$$
  
•  $s(x) = s_0 + a_1 \cdot x + \ldots + a_{n-1} \cdot x^{n-1}$ 

Using matrices, it gives the following block:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_0 & -a_{n-1} & \cdots & -a_2 & -a_1 \\ a_1 & a_0 & \cdots & -a_3 & -a_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2} & a_{n-3} & \cdots & a_0 & -a_{n-1} \\ a_{n-1} & a_{n-2} & \cdots & a_1 & a_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s_0 \\ s_1 \\ \vdots \\ s_{n-2} \\ s_{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

#### **Module LWE**



Let *K* be a number field of degree *n* with *R* its ring of integers. Think of *K* as  $\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^n+1)$  and of *R* as  $\mathbb{Z}[x]/(x^n+1)$  for  $n = 2^k$ .

Replace  $\mathbb{Z}$  by R, and  $\mathbb{Z}_q$  by  $R_q = R/qR$ .



Special case d = 1 is Ring-LWE

#### Module SIS and LWE



$$R = \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^n + 1 \rangle$$
 and  $R_q = R/qR$ .

Let  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\mathbf{s} \in (R_q)^d$ , the distribution  $A_{\mathbf{s}, D_{R, \alpha q}}^{(M)}$  is:

- ▶  $\mathbf{a} \in (R_q)^d$  uniform,
- e sampled from  $D_{R,\alpha q}$ ,

Outputs:  $(\mathbf{a}, \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{s} \rangle + e)$ .

Module-LWE<sub> $q,\nu_{\alpha}$ </sub> Let  $\mathbf{s} \in (R_q)^d$  uniform, distinguish between an arbitrary number of samples from  $A_{\mathbf{s},D_{R,\alpha q}}^{(M)}$  or the same number from  $U((R_q)^d \times R_q)$ .

#### **Ideals and modules**



- $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^n + 1 \rangle$  and  $R_q = R/qR$ .
  - ► An ideal *I* of *R* is an additive subgroup of *R* closed under multiplication by every elements of *R*.
  - ► As *R* is isomorph to  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ , any ideal  $I \in R$  defines an integer lattice  $\Lambda(\mathbf{B})$  where  $\mathbf{B} = \{g \mod x^n + 1 : g \in I\}.$
  - A subset  $M \subseteq K^d$  is an *R*-module if it is closed under addition and multiplication by elements of *R*.
  - A finite-type *R*-module:  $M \subseteq R^d : \sum_{i=1}^D R \cdot \mathbf{b}_i, (\mathbf{b}_i) \in R^d$ ,
  - $M = \sum_{i=1}^{d} I_i \cdot \mathbf{b}_i$  where  $I_i$  are ideals of R and  $(I_i, \mathbf{b}_i)$  is a pseudo-basis of M.
  - > As ideals, any module defines an integer module lattice.

## Hardness of Ring Learning With Errors problem





• Applebaum, Cash, Peikert, Sahai 2009 - same error and secret



#### Hardness of Module Learning With Errors problem



Applebaum, Cash, Peikert, Sahai 2009 - same error and secret
 Boudgoust, Jeudy, Roux-Langlois, Wen 2022: short error and secret distributions



#### Module or Rings?

#### Choice of parameters

- Example of Ring  $R_q = \mathbb{Z}_q[x]/\langle x^n + 1 \rangle$
- Constraints on parameters  $n = 2^k$ ,  $q = 1 \mod 2n \dots$
- An example of parameter set:
  - ▶  $n = 512 \Rightarrow$  60 bits of security,
  - ▶  $n = 1024 \Rightarrow$  140 bits of security,
  - ▶ (n = 256, d = 3) gives nd = 768 which is "in between".

#### Module LWE allows more flexibility.



#### From 2017 to 2024, NIST competition to develop new standards on post-quantum cryptography

2022 first results: 3 over 4 new standards are lattice-based

- Kyber encryption scheme based on Module-LWE,
- Dilithium signature scheme based on Module SIS and LWE,
- ► Falcon signature scheme based on NTRU and Ring-SIS.



## Encryption scheme based on Ring-LWE

[Lyubashevsky, Peikert, Regev 2011]

KeyGen : The secret key is a small  $s \in R$ The public key is  $(a, b) = (a, b = a \cdot s + e) \in R_q^2$ , with  $a \leftarrow U(R_q)$  and a small  $e \in R$ .

Enc : Given  $m \in \{0,1\}^n$ , a message is a polynomial in R with coordinates in  $\{0,1\}$ . Sample small  $r, e_1, e_2$  in R and output

$$(a \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{e}_1, b \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{e}_2 + \lfloor q/2 \rfloor \cdot m) \in R_q \times R_q.$$

Dec : Given  $(u, v) \in R_q \times R_q$ , compute

$$v - u \cdot s = (r \cdot e - s \cdot e_1 + e_2) + b\lfloor q/2 \rfloor \cdot m$$

For each coordinate of m, the plaintext is 0 if the result is closer from 0 than  $\lfloor q/2 \rfloor$ , and 1 otherwise.

#### **Kyber**



[Avanzi, Bos, Ducas, Kiltz, Lepoint, Lyubashevsky, Schanck, Schwabe, Seiler, Stehle]

- ► Kyber relies on Module-LWE,
- Uses  $R_q = \mathbb{Z}_q[x]/\langle x^{256} + 1 \rangle$  with q = 7681.
- The small elements follow a binomial distribution  $B_{\eta}$ : For some positive integer  $\eta$ , sample  $\{(ai, bi)\}_{i=1}^{\eta} \leftarrow (\{0, 1\}^2)^{\eta}$  and output  $\sum_{i=1}^{\eta} (a_i - b_i)$ .
- ► The uniform public key is generated given a *seed* and a function PARSE,
- Multiplication operations uses NTT Number Theoretic Transform which is a variant of the FFT in rings,
- Size of ciphertext is compressed by keeping only high order bits.

#### **Performances**



Current timings (ECDH) Public key around 32 bytes Efficiency comparable in terms of cycles.

			Kyber-512		
Sizes (in bytes)		Haswell cycles (ref)		Haswell cycles (avx2)	
sk:	1632	gen:	122684	gen:	33856
pk:	800	enc:	154524	enc:	45200
ct:	768	dec:	187960	dec:	34572
Kyber-768					
Sizes (in bytes)		Haswell cycles (ref)		Haswell cycles (avx2)	
sk:	2400	gen:	199408	gen:	52732
pk:	1184	enc:	235260	enc:	67624
ct:	1088	dec:	274900	dec:	53156
Kyber-1024					
Sizes (in bytes)		Haswell cycles (ref)		Haswell cycles (avx2)	
sk:	3168	gen:	307148	gen:	73544
pk:	1568	enc:	346648	enc:	97324
ct:	1568	dec:	396584	dec:	79128

#### **Choice of parameters**



Parameters used by Kyber:

▶ n = 256 and d = 2, 3, 4 giving three levels of security: 512, 768, 1024,

$$q = 7681$$

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- How do they choose the parameters?
  - ▶ By considering the LWE instance with dimension *nd*,
  - ▶ and the "lattice estimator" [Albrecht, Player, Scott 2015],

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## **Choice of parameters**

- Parameters used by Kyber:
  - ▶ n = 256 and d = 2, 3, 4 giving three levels of security: 512, 768, 1024,
  - ▶ q = 7681
- How do they choose the parameters?
  - ▶ By considering the LWE instance with dimension *nd*,
  - ▶ and the "lattice estimator" [Albrecht, Player, Scott 2015],
- There is no consideration of the structure!
  - ► Why?
  - Because we don't know how...

# Using LWE to build constructions in practice





#### Conclusion

![](_page_105_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Lattice-based cryptography allows to build efficient constructions such as encryption or signature schemes with a security based on the hardness of difficult algorithmic problems on lattices.
- Three schemes (Kyber, Dilithium and Falcon) will be standardise by the NIST, together with a hash-based signature. Two of them are based on Module-LWE.
- ► Approx Ideal SVP seems to be the easier problem to try to solve → the results of recent attacks does not impact the security of lattice-based constructions.