New results and trade-offs for Lattice-based Hash-and-sign signatures

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based on joint works with T.Espitau, P.A. Fouque, F.Gerard, M.Rossi, A.Takahashi, M.Tibouchi, Y.Yu

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Lattice-based signatures in NIST's call

As of Round 3, two among three finalists are lattice-based.

FALCON

"Hash-and-sign" in lattices [GPV'08] + NTRU trapdoors [DLP'14]

CRYSTALS-DILITHIUM

Fiat-Shamir "with abort" [Lyu12] + module lattices

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- × restricted parameter set
- × difficult implementation
- × expensive masking

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CRYSTALS-DILITHIUM

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Today: Mitaka

mitigate *all* these shortcomings!

Other features and results

Specific to Mitaka¹:

- Simple, cheap masking
- Fixed-point arithmetic friendly (over 2-powers cyclotomic rings) (not today)

For Falcon & Mitaka²:

- shorter signatures with elliptic sampling
- trade-off between bandwith and verification speed
- a generic compression technique for gaussian vectors (not today)

Overall: up to 40% smaller signatures for minimal security loss.

¹Mitaka: a simpler, parallelizable, maskable variant of Falcon, EUROCRYPT 2022

²Shorter hash-and-sign lattice-based signatures, CRYPTO 2022

Roadmap

Quickview of the GPV framework, and Falcon's design

Sampling over (structured) lattices

NTRU lattices and their bases

Masking Mitaka

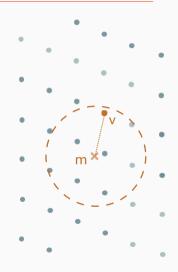
In practice

Making signatures even shorter

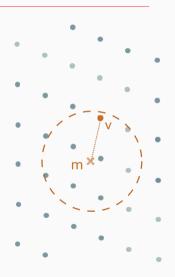
1) Hash msg as a random point m in the space



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- 2) Sample a random point v in the lattice, close to m

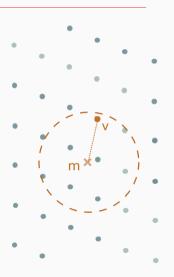


- 1) Hash msg as a random point \mathbf{m} in the space
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- 3) Signature: $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{m} \mathbf{v}$



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- Enough lattice points close to any target
- Forgery ~ CVP_γ: should be hard
- Public lattice
- Efficient sampling procedure for signer
- The sampler should not leak signer's secrets



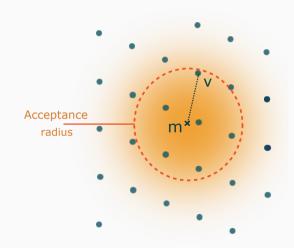
The GPV Framework

Simplified $Sign_{sk,\sigma}(msg)$:

- 1. $\mathbf{m} = \mathcal{H}(\mathsf{msg})$
- 2. $\mathbf{v} \leftarrow \mathsf{GaussianSampler}(\mathbf{sk}, \mathbf{m}, \sigma)$
- 3. Signature: $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{m} \mathbf{v}$.

Simplified
$$Verif_{\mathcal{L}=\mathbf{pk}}(msg, \mathbf{s})$$
:

- 1. If $\|\mathbf{s}\|$ too big, reject.
- 2. If $\mathbf{m} \mathbf{s} \not\in \mathcal{L}$, reject.
- 3. Accept.



the GPV Framework, explicitely

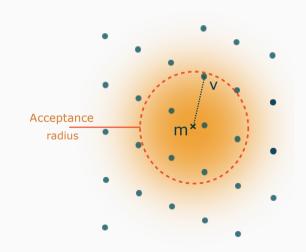
Take
$$\mathcal{L} = \Lambda_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\perp}(\mathbf{A})$$
 q-ary lattice with basis \mathbf{B} , then $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{0} \bmod \mathfrak{q}$

Simplified $\mathsf{Sign}_{\mathsf{B},\sigma}(\mathsf{msg})$:

- 1. **c** such that $\mathbf{Ac} = \mathcal{H}(\mathsf{msg})$
- 2. $\mathbf{v} \leftarrow \mathsf{GaussianSampler}(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{c}, \sigma)$
- 3. Signature: $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{c} \mathbf{v}$.

Simplified $Verif_{\mathbf{A}}(msg, \mathbf{s})$:

- 1. If $\|\mathbf{s}\|$ too big, refuse.
- 2. If $As \neq \mathcal{H}(msg)$, refuse.
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the GPV Framework, explicitely

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Simplified $Verif_{\mathbf{A}}(msg, \mathbf{s})$:

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Requirements:

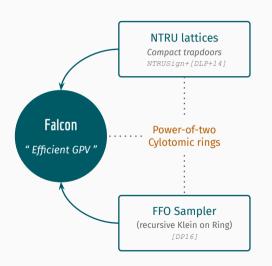
 \mathbf{CVP}_{γ} hard $\Rightarrow \sigma$ small $\Rightarrow \mathbf{B}$ has short vectors

Hard to compute **B** just from **A**

Easy to generate **A** just from **B**

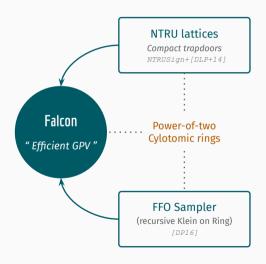
B is called "a trapdoor"

"Falcon: a quest for compactness"



NTRU lattices: free rank 2 modules over (polynomial, cyclotomic) rings

"Falcon: a quest for compactness"



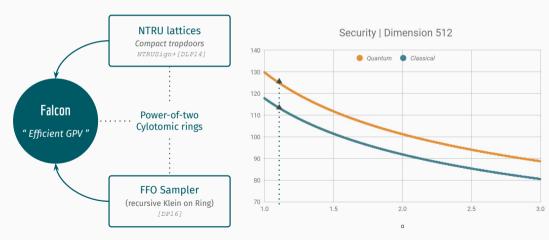
NTRU lattices: free rank 2 modules over (polynomial, cyclotomic) rings

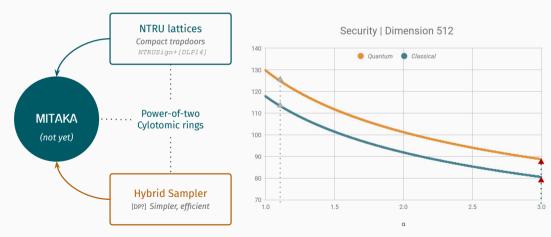
Pros:

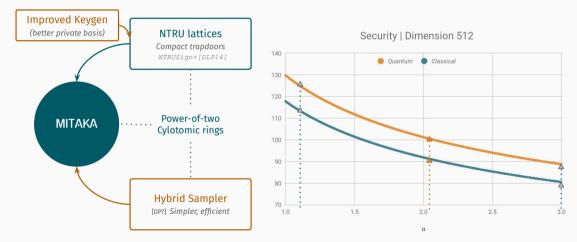
- ✓ Best bandwith of NIST signatures
- ✓ Fast signing, fast verification
- ✓ Quasi-linear thank to the ring

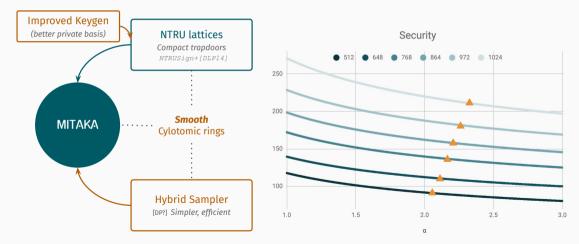
Cons:

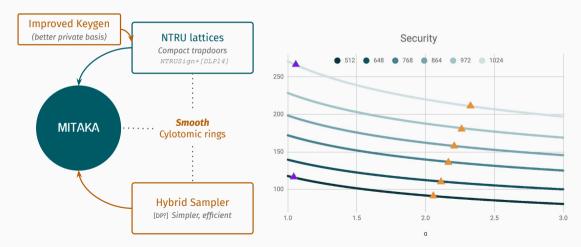
- × Few parameter sets
- × Complicated implementation
- × Expensive protections











Quickview of the GPV framework, and Falcon's design

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Some Gaussian samplers

Lattice Gaussian samplers = decoding + randomization

Famous lattice decoders made into Gaussian samplers:

Babai's Round-off:

Round target's coords in the lattice basis. Randomize the roundings

Babai's Nearest Plane:

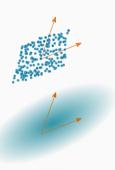
Adaptively round target's coords in the Randomize adaptively

Gram-Schmidt basis.

There are also "in-betweens", e.g. Ducas-Prest hybrid sampler (We'll cover that soon)

Randomized Round-off

Without randomization



Outputs
$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{B} \lceil \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{t} \rfloor$$



Randomized Round-off

Without randomization

Randomize rounding w/ discrete Gaussians

Leaks the lattice basis!



$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y} \leftarrow \lceil \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{t} \rfloor_r \\ \text{means } \mathbf{y} \leftrightarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}^n - \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{t}, r} \\ \text{Outputs } \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{B} \mathbf{y} \end{aligned}$$



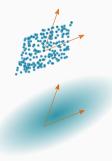
Randomized Round-off

Without randomization

Randomize rounding w/ discrete Gaussians

Leaks the lattice basis!

Add Gaussian perturbation to "smooth out" the lattice
(C. Peikert, CRYPTO 2010)



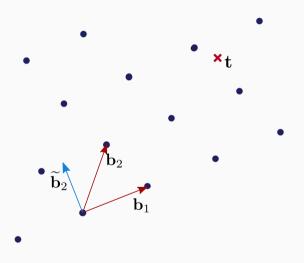


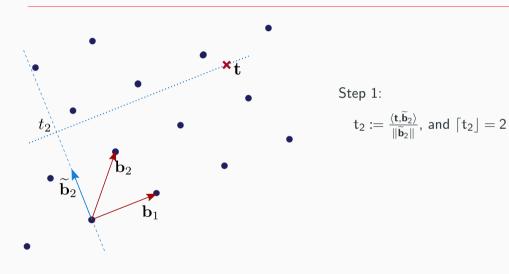
Peikert(
$$\mathbf{B}$$
, \mathbf{t} , σ , r):

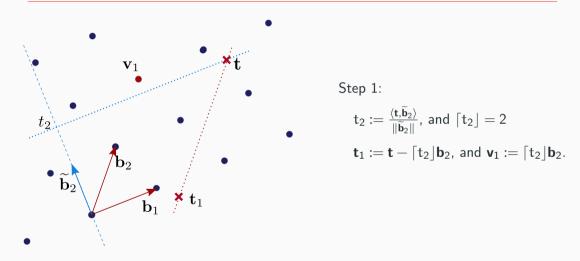
$$\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \sigma \cdot \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$

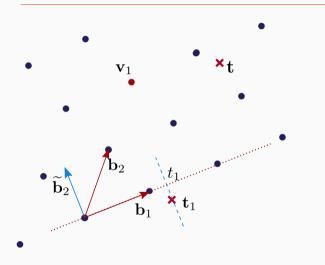
$$\mathbf{y} \leftarrow \lceil \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{t} - \mathbf{x} \rfloor_r$$

Outputs z = By.









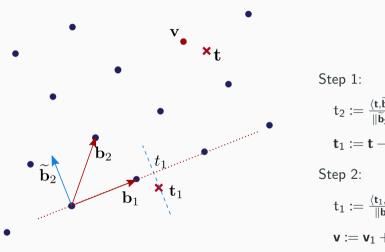
Step 1:

$$t_2 := rac{\langle \mathbf{t}, \widetilde{\mathbf{b}}_2
angle}{\|\widetilde{\mathbf{b}}_2\|}$$
 , and $\lceil t_2
floor = 2$

$$\mathbf{t}_1 := \mathbf{t} - \lceil \mathbf{t}_2 \rfloor \mathbf{b}_2$$
, and $\mathbf{v}_1 := \lceil \mathbf{t}_2 \rfloor \mathbf{b}_2$.

Step 2:

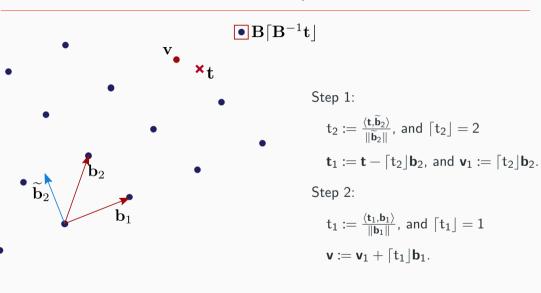
$$\mathsf{t}_1 := rac{\langle \mathsf{t}_1, \mathsf{b}_1
angle}{\| \mathsf{b}_1 \|}$$
 , and $\lceil \mathsf{t}_1
floor = 1$



Step 1:
$$\begin{aligned} t_2 &:= \frac{\langle \mathbf{t}, \widetilde{\mathbf{b}}_2 \rangle}{\|\widetilde{\mathbf{b}}_2\|}, \text{ and } \lceil t_2 \rfloor = 2 \\ \mathbf{t}_1 &:= \mathbf{t} - \lceil t_2 | \mathbf{b}_2, \text{ and } \mathbf{v}_1 := \lceil t_2 | \mathbf{b}_2. \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathsf{t}_1 := rac{\langle \mathsf{t}_1, \mathsf{b}_1
angle}{\| \mathsf{b}_1 \|}$$
 , and $\lceil \mathsf{t}_1
floor = 1$

$$\textbf{v} := \textbf{v}_1 + \lceil t_1 \rfloor \textbf{b}_1.$$



Randomized NearestPlane: Klein's sampler

Without randomization



Randomize the rounding of each $t_i \in \mathbb{R}$ Leaks Gram-Schmidt basis!



On each $\mathbb{R}\widetilde{\mathbf{b}}_i$, rescale adaptively: $s_i := \frac{s}{\|\widetilde{\mathbf{b}}_i\|}$



$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Klein}(\textbf{B}, \widetilde{\textbf{B}}, \textbf{t}, s_i, r) : \\ & \textbf{v} = 0, \textbf{c} = \textbf{t} \\ & \text{for } i = n \text{ to } 1 : \\ & t_i = \left\lceil \frac{\langle \textbf{t}, \widetilde{\textbf{b}}_i \rangle}{\|\widetilde{\textbf{b}}_i\|^2} \right\rfloor_{s_i} \\ & \textbf{v} = \textbf{v} + t_i \textbf{b}_i \\ & \textbf{c} = \textbf{c} - t_i \textbf{b}_i \end{aligned}$$

Short interlude: module lattices in 1 min

Euclidean lattices

base ring is ${\mathbb Z}$

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbf{b}_1 \mathbb{Z} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbf{b}_m \mathbb{Z}$$
$$= \mathbf{B} \mathbb{Z}^m$$





Module lattices

base ring is $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]/(f(x))$ $\sim \mathbb{Z}^d$

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{M} &= \boldsymbol{b_1} R \oplus \cdots \oplus \boldsymbol{b_k} R \\ &\sim [\boldsymbol{b_1}] \mathbb{Z}^d \oplus \cdots \oplus [\boldsymbol{b_k}] \mathbb{Z}^d \\ &\sim [\boldsymbol{B}] \mathbb{Z}^{kd} \end{split}$$



Crypto: $k \le 5$, $d \ge 256$.

Hybrid sampling

 $\begin{aligned} \textbf{Hybrid} &= \text{Klein decoding over } R^2 \\ &+ \text{(Peikert) randomization in } R. \end{aligned}$

Klein



decoding in 2d randomization in \mathbb{Z}

Hybrid



decoding in rank 2 randomization in \mathcal{R} .

Ex: R power-of-2 cyclotomic and k = 2

$$\begin{split} & \textbf{Hybrid}(\textbf{B},\widetilde{\textbf{B}}_R,\textbf{t},s_1,s_2); \\ & \textbf{v}=0,\textbf{c}=\textbf{t} \\ & \textbf{for } i=2 \text{ to } 1; \\ & t_i=\mathsf{Peikert}(\textbf{I},\frac{\langle \textbf{t},\widetilde{\textbf{b}}_i\rangle_R}{\langle \widetilde{\textbf{b}}_i,\widetilde{\textbf{b}}_i\rangle_R},s_i,r) \\ & \textbf{v}=\textbf{v}+t_i\textbf{b}_i \\ & \textbf{c}=\textbf{c}-t_i\textbf{b}_i \\ & \mathsf{Outputs} \ \textbf{v} \end{split}$$

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{operations in } R \\ \Rightarrow \text{need "good FFT domain"} \end{array}$

Comparisons of samplers

| | Pros | Cons | $\textbf{Quality}\ \mathfrak{Q}(\textbf{B})$ |
|---------|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Peikert | fast simple | worst quality (lower security) | $s_1(\mathbf{B})$ (largest sing. value) |
| Hybrid | Good tradeoffs when ${\mathcal R}$ has a ${\it good basis}$ | | $s_1(\widetilde{\mathbf{B}})$ |
| Klein | best quality (higher security) | slower more involved | $max_{\mathfrak{i}} \ \widetilde{\boldsymbol{b}_{\mathfrak{i}}} \ $ |

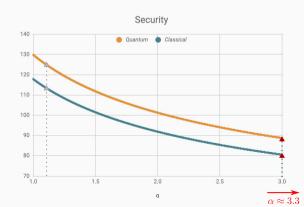
From quality to security

For NTRU-like q-ary lattices, the **quality factor** is
$$\alpha := \frac{\mathcal{Q}(\textbf{B})}{\sqrt{q}}$$

Concrete bitsecurity as a function of α over 2-powers cyclotomics

$$\alpha_{\mathsf{Falcon}} = 1.17$$

 $\alpha_{Hybrid} \geqslant 3.3$ (naively)



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NTRU Lattices

Improvements of the Key generation algorithm

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A. Wallet

NTRU Lattices

$${\mathcal R}$$
 some ring in a number field (say, ${\mathcal R}={\mathbb Z}[x]/(x^d+1)$ with $d=512)$

$$\alpha = \textstyle \sum_i \alpha_i X^i$$
 $[\alpha]$ matrix of multiplication by f

NTRU lattice: let $f, g \in \mathbb{R}$, $a := g/f \mod q$.

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{NTRU}}(\mathfrak{a}) := \Lambda^{\perp}_{\mathfrak{q}}((\mathfrak{a}, -1))$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} & \mathbf{v} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \mod q$$

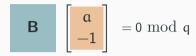
public basis

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc} 1 & \alpha \\ 0 & q \end{array}\right) \leftrightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc} \operatorname{Id}_d & [\alpha] \\ \hline [0] & q\operatorname{Id}_d \end{array}\right]$$

 $\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{NTRU}}(\mathfrak{a})$ has rank 2d and volume q^d Expect fundamental quantities to be $\approx \sqrt{q}$

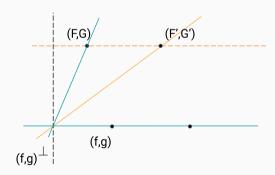
NTRU Trapdoors for signatures

A trapdoor is a short basis B of $\mathcal{L}_{NTRU}(\alpha)$ with good quality wrt. a sampler.



Computing B

- Take f, g so that $||(f, g)|| \approx \sqrt{q}$
- Complete the basis with a short (F, G): "Reverse" Nearest Plane (or Euclid algorithm + geometry)



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Achieve good quality

Sample **Gaussians** (f, g)'s until:

- Falcon: $\max(\|f,g\|,\|\widetilde{F},\widetilde{G}\|) \approx 1.17\sqrt{q}$
- Mitaka: $s_1(\widetilde{\mathbf{B}})$ as close as possible to \sqrt{q}

Both metrics can be computed just with f, g

(naive) KeyGen:

- 1) Do $f, g \leftarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}^d, \sqrt{\frac{q}{2d}}}$ Until f inv. mod q And $\|f, g\| \leqslant 1.17\sqrt{q}$;
- 2) (F) quality check: $\|\widetilde{F}, \widetilde{G}\| \leqslant 1.17\sqrt{q}$? else restart;

4) $(F, G) \leftarrow BasisCompletion(f, g, q);$ Compute all needed data; Output (pk, sk).

A. Wallet

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- 2) (F) quality check: $\|\widetilde{F}, \widetilde{G}\| \leqslant 1.17\sqrt{q}$? else restart;
- 2-bis) (M) quality check: $s_1(\widetilde{\mathbf{B}}) \leqslant 2.05\sqrt{q}$? else restart;
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Randomness is expensive, yet:

- This already happens often in Falcon
- Need *a lot* of tries to reach 2.05

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Our solution: amortize!

- + Reuse randomness
- + Galois automorphisms
- = "Free" blow-up of search-space (say, quartic)
- \Rightarrow good trapdoors in reasonable time

KeyGen (σ^2 target variance; m, n number of samples; set S of Galois automorphisms)

1) [Sampling]

- $\mathfrak{F}', \mathfrak{F}'' \leftarrow \mathfrak{m}$ Gaussian vectors of variance $\sigma^2/2$
- $\mathfrak{G} \leftarrow \mathfrak{n}$ Gaussian vectors of variance σ^2

2) [Blowing up]

- Pair two lists $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \mathcal{F}' + \mathcal{F}''$
- Let S act on \mathcal{G} : $\mathcal{G} \leftarrow \bigcup_{\tau \in S} \tau(\mathcal{G})$

For the generation cost of 2m + nGaussians, search a space of size

$$Card(S) \cdot m^2n$$

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- Pair two lists $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \mathcal{F}' + \mathcal{F}''$
- Let S act on \mathfrak{G} : $\mathfrak{G} \leftarrow \bigcup_{\tau \in S} \tau(\mathfrak{G})$
- 3) [Testing] For $f \in \mathcal{F}$, $g \in \mathcal{G}$ do

 If quality-testing(f, g)

 Output (pk(f, q), sk(f, q)).

For the generation cost of 2m + n Gaussians, search a space of size

$$Card(S) \cdot m^2n$$

Faster with additional tricks (filtering, early aborts, ...)

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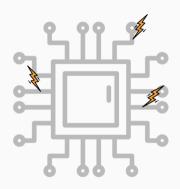
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Modeling side-channel adversaries

- Adversary obtains t intermediate values of the computation
- Successfully models practical noisy side-channel leakage [DDF14]
- Any set of at most t intermediate variables is independent of the secret.



Protecting Mitaka from t-probing adversary: an overview

Arithmetic masking of $x \in \mathbb{R}$

- $\bullet \ (x_0,\ldots,x_{t-1}) \leftarrow rand(\mathcal{R}).$
- $x_t = x (x_0 + \cdots + x_{t-1}).$
- Secret-share $x: [x] := (x_0, \dots, x_t)$.
- Masked $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ can be approximated by $\frac{[\alpha']}{C}$ with some $\alpha', C \in \mathbb{Z}$

Computation on secret-shares

- Linear operation is easy! $z_i = x_i + y_i$
- Non-linear operation with masked polynomial multiplication gadget PolyMult

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Precomputed values:

$$[eta_{\mathfrak{i}}] := [rac{\widetilde{f b}_{\mathfrak{i}}^*}{\langle \widetilde{f b}_{\mathfrak{i}}, \widetilde{f b}_{\mathfrak{i}}
angle_{\mathfrak{R}}}]$$

MaskHybrid([**B**], [β_1], [β_2], [s_1], [s_2], [**c**]):

$$[\boldsymbol{v}_2] := [\boldsymbol{0}], [\boldsymbol{c}_2] := [\boldsymbol{c}]$$

for i = 2 to 1:

$$\begin{aligned} [d_i] &= \sum_{j=1}^2 \mathsf{PolyMult}([c_{i,j}], [\beta_{i,j}]) \\ [t_i] &= \mathsf{MaskPeikert}(\boldsymbol{I}, [d_i], [s_i], r) \end{aligned}$$

$$[\mathbf{v}_{i-1}] = [\mathbf{v}_i] + \mathsf{PolyMult}([t_i], [\mathbf{b}_i])$$

$$[\mathbf{c}_{\mathfrak{i}-1}] = [\mathbf{c}_{\mathfrak{i}}] - \mathsf{PolyMult}([t_{\mathfrak{i}}], [\mathbf{b}_{\mathfrak{i}}])$$

Outputs $Unmask([\mathbf{v}_0])$

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- Secret-share $x: [x] := (x_0, ..., x_t).$
- Masked $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ can be approximated by $\frac{[\alpha']}{C}$ with some $\alpha', C \in \mathbb{Z}$

Computation on secret-shares

- Linear operation is easy! $z_i = x_i + y_i$
- Non-linear operation with masked polynomial multiplication gadget PolyMult

Precomputed values:

$$[eta_{\mathfrak{i}}] := [rac{\widetilde{f b}_{\mathfrak{i}}^*}{\langle \widetilde{f b}_{\mathfrak{i}}, \widetilde{f b}_{\mathfrak{i}}
angle_{\mathfrak{R}}}]$$

MaskHybrid([**B**], [β_1], [β_2], [s_1], [s_2], [**c**]):

$$[\textbf{v}_2] := [\textbf{0}], [\textbf{c}_2] := [\textbf{c}]$$

for i = 2 to 1:

$$\begin{aligned} [d_i] &= \sum_{j=1}^2 \mathsf{PolyMult}([c_{i,j}], [\beta_{i,j}]) \\ [t_i] &= \mathsf{MaskPeikert}(\mathbf{I}, [d_i], [s_i], r) \end{aligned}$$

$$[\mathbf{v}_{i-1}] = [\mathbf{v}_i] + \mathsf{PolyMult}([\mathbf{t}_i], [\mathbf{b}_i])$$

 $[\mathbf{c}_{i-1}] = [\mathbf{c}_i] - \mathsf{PolyMult}([\mathbf{t}_i], [\mathbf{b}_i])$

Outputs
$$Unmask([\mathbf{v}_0])$$

Signing operations outside the sampler are not sensitive!

1) [Offline]

 Outputs continuous Gaussian samples in arithmetically masked form

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2) [Online]

• sample discrete Gaussians share-by-share on each share c_i of $[c] = (c_0, \ldots, c_t)$.

Warning: security loss!

$\textbf{ShareByShareGauss}_r([c]) \textbf{:}$

```
for \mathfrak{i}=0 to t: z_{\mathfrak{i}} \leftarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}, c_{\mathfrak{i}}, r/\sqrt{t+1}}
```

Outputs (z_0, \ldots, z_t)

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- a trade-off: rejection-sampling in larger lattice

$\textbf{ShareByShareGauss}_r([c]) \textbf{:}$

```
\begin{split} & \text{for } i = 0 \text{ to } t \colon \\ & z_i \leftarrow D_{\frac{1}{B}\mathbb{Z},c_1,r/\sqrt{t+1}} \\ & \text{restart if } \sum\{z_i\} \neq 0 \\ & \text{Outputs } (z_0,\ldots,z_t) \end{split}
```

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- NTT/FFT on arithmetic shares (linear op.)
- Coordinate-wise multiplication with the standard ISW multiplier

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```

PolyMult([a], [b]):

$$[\widehat{a}] = \mathsf{NTT}([a])$$

 $[\widehat{b}] = \mathsf{NTT}([b])$

for
$$j = 0$$
 to $d - 1$:

$$\begin{aligned} [\widehat{c}_{j}] &= \mathsf{Mult}([\widehat{a}_{j}], [\widehat{b}_{j}]) \\ [c] &:= \mathsf{iNTT}([\widehat{c}_{0}], \dots, [\widehat{c}_{d-1}]) \end{aligned}$$

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A. Wallet

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Outputs [c]

No boolean-arithmetic share conversion in the online phase

About performances

 Table 1: Signature by seconds

| | Falcon | Mitaka | Ratio |
|----------|--------|--------|-------|
| d = 512 | 2800 | 6300 | 2.25 |
| d = 1024 | 1400 | 3100 | 2.21 |

experiments done with a **non-masked & non constant-time** implementation^(*) and reusing Falcon's C reference code (as submitted to NIST round 3)

(*): both schemes can be made constant-time, see e.g. Howe et al., PQCrypto 2020

A. Wallet

Practical perspectives and open problems

Mitaka can use fixed-point arithmetic only over cyclotomic 2-smooth

actually implement it (and target "almost" hardware constraints!)

Challenge: the keygen is then (even more) involved since we need to avoid *continuous* perturbations in Peikert's.

- Can we extend the technique to other cyclotomic rings?
- How efficient can we complete the basis when there is no tower?
- How to maximize the efficiency of the "micro-sieving" without FFT?
- Are there other techniques/approaches to avoid FPA?

Quickview of the GPV framework, and Falcon's design

Sampling over (structured) lattices

NTRU lattices and their bases

Masking Mitaka

In practice

Making signatures even shorter

A. Wallet

A peek in the verification algorithm

A message is as $\mathbf{c} = (0, \mathcal{H}(\mathsf{msg}))$. Signature $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, s_2) \in \mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{NTRU}}$, close to \mathbf{c} .

 $Verif_{\alpha}(msg, s_1 \in \mathbb{R}^2)$:

We send only s_1 , so let's **reduce its length**.

1. $s_2 \leftarrow as_1 - \mathcal{H}(msg) \mod q$

Fast thanks to NTT (so, q is well-chosen)

- 2. If $||(s_1, s_2) \mathbf{c}||$ too big, reject.
- 3. Accept.

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High-level ideas:

- Unbalance (s_1, s_2) using **elliptic sampling**
- Trade a few bits of q for efficiency

We send only s_1 , so let's **reduce its length**.

Fast thanks to NTT (so, q is well-chosen)

Challenge and dangers:

- we need yet another keygen
- How to keep the security level?

Elliptic sampling?

Elliptic Gaussian = a spherical Gaussian for another (euclidean) norm.

Any euclidean norm is $\|\mathbf{x}\|_Q^2 = \mathbf{x}^t Q \mathbf{x}$, with Q positive definite.

$$\big(\mathsf{then}\ \mathsf{Vol}_Q(\mathcal{L})^2 = \mathsf{det}(\mathbf{B}^tQ\mathbf{B})\big)$$

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$$\big(\mathsf{then}\ \mathsf{Vol}_Q(\mathcal{L})^2 = \mathsf{det}(\mathbf{B}^\mathsf{t}Q\mathbf{B})\big)$$

- Forgery hardness \sim volume of the decoding cell \Rightarrow keep volume by taking $Q = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$, where $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$ or with all positive embeddings.
- Adapting Klein/Hybrid sampler straightforward: orthogonalize for the form Q

Expected length of s_1 is now shorter by a factor $\sqrt{\gamma}$ compared to the previous case.

the total length stays the same (but for the other norm)

Distribution of secret keys

- ullet the larger γ is, the smaller f is.
- the smaller q is, the smaller f, g, are.

Impact: there are regimes where

- f, g may be sampled below the smoothing parameter of \mathbb{Z}^d
- (f, g) may be very short, maybe even close to sparse ternary

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But now, key recovery attacks may be more powerful...



(me two nights before the deadline)

On key-recovery:

- 1) we prove that the best case for the attacker is to find vectors short for $\|\cdot\|_Q$.
- 2) we adapt hybrid attacks using a geometric argument when f only is sparse this attack is (mildly) better than the regular hybrid

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- 1) we prove that the best case for the attacker is to find vectors short for $\|\cdot\|_Q$.
- 2) we adapt hybrid attacks using a geometric argument when f only is sparse
- 3) we identify a new attack by (pure) lattice reduction if $k=(\alpha f-g)/q$, there are ranges for f, g where lattice reduction over $(\alpha,-1,q)^{\perp}$ to recover (f,g,k) performs better than directly over $\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{NTRU}}$ to recover (f,g).

On key-recovery:

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On forgery:

1) Smaller q or larger γ are somewhat equivalent for forgery Because q/γ^2 drives the security against forgery.

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On forgery:

- 1) Smaller q or larger γ are somewhat equivalent for forgery
- 2) we highlight that smaller q makes some known attacks performing better "forgetting vectors" is useful against ModFalcon, not against Falcon, but it becomes useful again when q decreases.

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- 1) we prove that the best case for the attacker is to find vectors short for $\|\cdot\|_Q$.
- 2) we adapt hybrid attacks using a geometric argument when f only is sparse
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On forgery:

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- 2) we highlight that smaller q makes some known attacks performing better

Also, experimental confirmations of our heuristics, scripts to compute security levels.

Examples of new parameter sets

Parameters for and with q=257 and ellipsoidal Gaussians with $\gamma=8$. Classical security, size in bytes.

| | Falcon-512 | | | Mitaka-512 | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| | Security | sig | pk | Security | sig | pk | |
| Original | 123 | 666 | 896 | 102 | 710 | 896 | |
| Small $q = 257$ | 118 | 425 | 576 | 94 | 475 | 576 | |
| Ellipsoidal $\gamma=8$ | 116 | 410 | 896 | 92 | 460 | 896 | |
| | Falcon-1024 | | | | Mitaka–1024 | | |
| | Falc | on-102 | 24 | Mita | ka–102 | 24 | |
| | Falc Security | on–102 sig | 24 pk | Mita Security | sig | 24 pk | |
| Original | | | | | | | |
| Original Small $q = 257$ | Security | sig | pk | Security | sig | pk | |
| | Security 272 | sig 1280 | pk 1792 | Security 233 | sig 1405 | pk 1792 | |

NB: these sizes take our generic compression technique into account (7-15% smaller |sig|).

Let's conclude

Further works for optimization:

- Generic Gaussian samplers and application to hash-and-sign (and more?)
- Improved/optimal keygens for lattice trapdoor sampling

Thank you!

Mitaka: a simpler, parallelizable, maskable variant of Falcon, eprint 2021/1486 Shorter hash-and-sign lattice-based signatures, eprint 2022/785