## Modern Cryptography

# Post-Quantum Cycles - Lattice-based Cryptography on LWE and R-LWE problems

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- Lattice problems
- GGH cryptosystem
- Learning With Error (LWE) problem
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Lattice problems

### Lattice problems

#### Problems on lattices:

- Shortest Vector Problem (SVP)
- Closest Vector Problem (CVP)
- Shortest Independent Vectors Problem (SIVP)

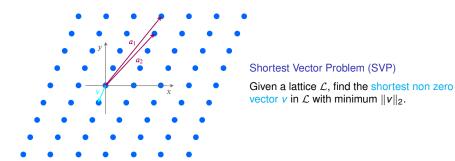
#### Problems combined with lattices:

- Learning With Error (LWE) problem
- Ring-Learning With Error (R-LWE) problem
- Small Integer Solution (SIS) problem

### Lattice problems: SVP

#### Note

Given  $\mathcal{B} = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  linearly independent vectors, then  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{B})$  is the set of all  $t = \sum_i x_i b_i$  with  $x_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .



## SVP and solving algorithms

#### Note

There are no known polynomial-time algorithms for solving the SVP

The algorithms that solves SVP

- deterministic (exactly), in  $n^{O(n)}$
- randomized (approximation), in 2<sup>O(n)</sup>

[Kannan '83]

[AKS '01]

Faster algorithms are very unlikely because

solve SVP exactly is NP-hard

[Ajtai '98]

Nevertheless worst case hardness is not enough for cryptography.

#### Theorem (Ajtai '98)

Reduction of worst-case SVP to average-case SVP

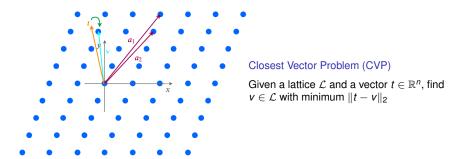
### Note (informally)

Some worst-case SVP instances can be reduced to a SVP instance that can be generated with the solution (i.e., with the shortest vector).

### Lattice problems: CVP

#### Note

Given  $\mathcal{B} = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  linearly independent vectors, then  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{B})$  is the set of all  $t = \sum_i x_i b_i$  with  $x_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .



## CVP and solving algorithms

The algorithms that solves SVP

- deterministic (exactly), in  $n^{O(n)}$
- randomized (approximation), in 2<sup>O(n)</sup>

[Kannan '83]

[AKS '01]

... and for CVP

• deterministic (exactly), in  $n^{O(n)}$ 

[Micciancio, Voulgaris '10]

#### Note

SVP can be solved by a polynomial number of call to a CVP solver. Hence SVP hardness implies CVP hardness (not vice versa).

However, it is proven that

- solve SVP exactly is NP-hard
- solve CVP exactly is NP-hard

[van Emde Boas '81]

[Aitai '98]

## Beyond exact solutions

#### If we consider:

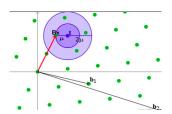
- dist $(t, \mathcal{L})$  be the minimum  $||t v||_2$  for  $v \in \mathcal{L}$
- $\gamma > 1$  some approximation factor

The problem becomes:

Approx-CVP $_{\gamma}$ 

Given t and  $\mathcal{L}$ , find v' such that

$$||t - v'||_2 \le \gamma \operatorname{dist}(t, \mathcal{L})$$



## Beyond exact solutions

#### If we consider:

- dist $(t, \mathcal{L})$  be the minimum  $||t v||_2$  for  $v \in \mathcal{L}$
- $\gamma > 1$  some approximation factor

The problem becomes:

### $\mathsf{Approx}\text{-}\mathsf{CVP}_\gamma$

Given t and  $\mathcal{L}$ , find v' such that

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#### The algorithms that solves CVP

- deterministic (exactly), in  $n^{O(n)}$
- Approx-CVP $_{\gamma}$ , in 2<sup>O(n)</sup>

[Micciancio, Voulgaris '10]

[LLL '82, Babai '86]

### Babai's Closest Vertex Algorithm

#### Note

If  $\mathcal{B}$  is an orthogonal basis of  $\mathcal{L}$ , approx-CVP can be solved in polynomial time.

#### Note

Babai's algorithm also works with sufficiently orthogonal bases, i.e., it solves CVP and appr-CVP.

#### Theorem (Babai's Closest Vertex Algorithm)

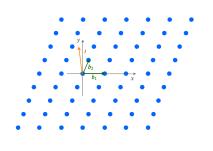
Let  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a lattice with basis  $\mathbf{b_1}, \dots, \mathbf{b_n}$ , and let  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be an arbitrary vector. If the vectors in the basis are sufficiently orthogonal to one another, then the following algorithm solves CVP.

```
Write t = t_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + t_2 \mathbf{b}_2 + \dots + t_n \mathbf{b}_n with t_1, \dots, t_n \in \mathbb{R}.
Set a_i = \lceil t_i \rceil for i = 1, 2, \dots, n.
Return the vector v = a_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + a_2 \mathbf{b}_2 + \dots + a_n \mathbf{b}_n.
```

### Babai's Closest Vertex Algorithm: Example

Write  $t = t_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + t_2 \mathbf{b}_2 + \dots + t_n \mathbf{b}_n$  with  $t_1, \dots, t_n \in \mathbb{R}$ . Set  $a_i = \lceil t_i \rceil$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Return the vector  $\nu = a_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + a_2 \mathbf{b}_2 + \dots + a_n \mathbf{b}_n$ .

Find the closest vector to t = (-1.1, 6.2)



Let  $\mathbf{b_1} = (5,0)$  and  $\mathbf{b_2} = (1,2)$  be the basis of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

$$t_1\begin{pmatrix}5\\0\end{pmatrix}+t_2\begin{pmatrix}1\\2\end{pmatrix}=\begin{pmatrix}-1.1\\6.2\end{pmatrix}$$

that is

$$t_2 = 3.1, \ t_1 = \frac{-1.1 - t_2}{5} = -0.84$$

and

$$a_2 = \lceil 3.1 \rceil = 3, \ a_1 = \lceil -0.84 \rceil = -1$$

We obtain: 
$$\nu = -\mathbf{b_1} + 3\mathbf{b_2} = (-2, 6)$$

### Babai's Closest Vertex Algorithm: Example

Write 
$$t = t_1 \mathbf{b_1} + t_2 \mathbf{b_2} + \dots + t_n \mathbf{b_n}$$
 with  $t_1, \dots, t_n \in \mathbb{R}$ .  
Set  $a_i = \lceil t_i \rfloor$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .  
Return the vector  $\nu = a_1 \mathbf{b_1} + a_2 \mathbf{b_2} + \dots + a_n \mathbf{b_n}$ .

Find the closest vector to t = (-1.1, 6.2)

Let  $\mathbf{b_1} = (9, 8)$  and  $\mathbf{b_2} = (8, 6)$  be the basis of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

$$t_1\begin{pmatrix} 9\\8 \end{pmatrix} + t_2\begin{pmatrix} 8\\6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1.1\\6.2 \end{pmatrix}$$

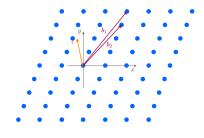
that is

$$t_2 = \frac{6.2 - 8t_1}{6}, \ t_1 = \frac{3.3 + 4*6.2}{5} = 5.62$$

and

$$a_2 = [-6.46] = -7, \ a_1 = [5.62] = 6$$

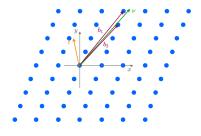
We obtain: 
$$\nu = 6b_1 - 7b_2 = (6, 12)$$



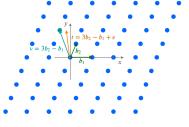
### Babai's Closest Vertex Algorithm: Example

Write  $t=t_1\mathbf{b}_1+t_2\mathbf{b}_2+\cdots+t_n\mathbf{b}_n$  with  $t_1,\ldots,t_n\in\mathbb{R}$ . Set  $a_i=\lceil t_i 
floor$  for  $i=1,2,\ldots,n$ . Return the vector  $\nu=a_1\mathbf{b}_1+a_2\mathbf{b}_2+\cdots+a_n\mathbf{b}_n$ .

Find the closest vector to t = (-1.1, 6.2)



If 
$$\mathbf{b_1} = (9, 8)$$
 and  $\mathbf{b_2} = (8, 6)$ , then  $\nu = 6\mathbf{b_1} - 7\mathbf{b_2} = (6, 12)$ 

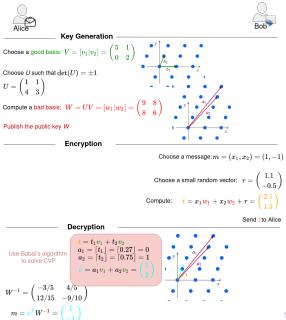


If 
$$\mathbf{b_1} = (5,0)$$
 and  $\mathbf{b_2} = (1,2)$ , then  $\nu = -\mathbf{b_1} + 3\mathbf{b_2} = (-2,6)$ 

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Goldreich, Goldwasser, Halevi (GGH) cryptosystem

### GGH public-key cryptosystem: example



## GGH public-key cryptosystem

Alice	Bob	
Key Creation		
Choose a good basis $v_1, \ldots, v_n$		
Choose an integer matrix U		
satisfying $\det(U) = \pm 1$ .		
Compute a bad basis $w_1, \ldots, w_n$		
as rows of $W = UV$ .		
Publish the public key $w_1, \ldots, w_n$ .		
Encryption		
	Choose small plaintext vector	
	$m=(x_1,\ldots,x_n).$	
	Choose random small vector $r$ .	
	Use Alice public key to compute	
	$t = x_1 w_1 + \cdots + x_n w_n + r.$	
	Send the ciphertext t to Alice.	
Decryption		
Use Babai's algorithm to compute		
the vector $\nu$ closest to $t$ .		
Compute $\nu^T W^{-1}$ to recover $m$ .		

### GGH public-key cryptosystem: a bit more

#### Note

GGH is a probabilistic cryptosystem since a single plaintext leads to many different ciphertexts due to the choice of the noise r.

### Note (Attacks)

No asymptotically good attack to GGH is known. Known attacks break the cryptosystem in practice for moderately large values of the security parameter.

### Note (Security)

Therefore, it is enough to increase the security parameter n (dimension of the lattice) to make the cryptosystem secure. However, this makes the cryptosystem impractical.

### so how much big *n*?

Here is the link to the lattice challenge, i.e. SVP computation.

### Summary

GGH scheme is secure but impratical.

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Learning With Errors (LWE) problem

### Problems combined with lattice

	Base	Ring	Module
Random error	Learning With	Ring-Learning With	Module Learning
	Errors (LWE)	Errors(RLWE)	With Errors (MLWE)
Rounding	Learning With	Ring-Learning With	Module Learning
	Rounding (LWR)	Rounding(RLWR)	With Rounding (MLWR)

#### Are all equivalent?

In theory: yes, but not strictly (one may need to change the parameters in order to have the same level of security).

In practice: At the moment there does not exist any attack which exploits the additional structures.

Error or Rounding?: in "error" we add a small noise, in "rounding" we round with a modulus.

## Solving a system of equations

Given a system of equations

$$\begin{cases} s_1 + 5s_2 + 3s_3 + 2s_4 \equiv 1 \mod 7 \\ s_1 + 4s_2 + 2s_3 + 6s_4 \equiv 2 \mod 7 \\ 2s_1 + s_2 + 3s_3 + s_4 \equiv 4 \mod 7 \\ 3s_1 + 4s_2 + 4s_3 + 6s_4 \equiv 0 \mod 7 \end{cases}$$

We want to find  $s = (s_1, \ldots, s_4) \in \mathbb{Z}_7^4$ 

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We want to find  $s = (s_1, \ldots, s_4) \in \mathbb{Z}_7^4$ 

#### Note

This problem is easy to solve via Gaussian Elimination (GE)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 & 2 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 & 4 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \\ s_3 \\ s_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \overset{\textit{GE}}{\Rightarrow} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \\ s_3 \\ s_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

#### Solution

In this case, s = (-1, -1, 0, 0).

## Solving a system of equations

Given a system of equations

$$\begin{cases} s_1 + 5s_2 + 3s_3 + 2s_4 \equiv 1 \mod 7 \\ s_1 + 4s_2 + 2s_3 + 6s_4 \equiv 2 \mod 7 \\ 2s_1 + s_2 + 3s_3 + s_4 \equiv 4 \mod 7 \\ 3s_1 + 4s_2 + 4s_3 + 6s_4 \equiv 0 \mod 7 \end{cases}$$

We want to find  $s = (s_1, \ldots, s_4) \in \mathbb{Z}_7^4$ 

#### Note

This problem is easy to solve via Gaussian Elimination (GE)

$$\begin{cases} s_1 + 5s_2 + 3s_3 + 2s_4 = 1 \mod 7 \\ s_2 + s_3 + (-4)s_4 = -1 \mod 7 \\ s_3 + 4s_4 = 0 \mod 7 \\ 2s_4 = 0 \mod 7 \end{cases}$$

#### Solution

In this case, s = (-1, -1, 0, 0).

## Passing to LWE problem (Regev, 2005)

Given a system of equations

$$\begin{cases} s_1 + 5s_2 + 3s_3 + 2s_4 \equiv 1 \mod 7 \\ s_1 + 4s_2 + 2s_3 + 6s_4 \equiv 2 \mod 7 \\ 2s_1 + s_2 + 3s_3 + s_4 \equiv 4 \mod 7 \\ 3s_1 + 4s_2 + 4s_3 + 6s_4 \equiv 0 \mod 7 \end{cases}$$

We want to find  $s = (s_1, \ldots, s_4) \in \mathbb{Z}_7^4$ 

#### Note

If we add a small error  $e \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$ ,

$$\begin{cases} s_1 + 5s_2 + 3s_3 + 2s_4 \approx 2 \ (= 1 + 1) \mod 7 \\ s_1 + 4s_2 + 2s_3 + 6s_4 \approx 2 \mod 7 \\ 2s_1 + s_2 + 3s_3 + s_4 \approx 3 \mod 7 \\ 3s_1 + 4s_2 + 4s_3 + 6s_4 \approx -1 \mod 7 \end{cases}$$

the Gaussian elimination does not work anymore, i.e., we cannot find s.

Learning with errors is hard.

### LWE problem: ingredients

#### LWE ingredients:

- integers n, q = poly(n), m,
- an error probability distribution  $\chi$  over  $\mathbb{Z}_q$ ,
- m random vectors  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n$
- a secret  $s \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n$  and  $b_1, \ldots, b_m \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  such that

$$\begin{pmatrix}
14 & 15 & 5 & 2 \\
13 & 14 & 14 & 6 \\
6 & 10 & 13 & 1 \\
\vdots & & & \\
6 & 7 & 16 & 2
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
s_1 \\
s_2 \\
s_3 \\
s_4
\end{pmatrix}
+
\begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
0 \\
-1 \\
\vdots \\
1
\end{pmatrix}
=
\begin{pmatrix}
8 \\
16 \\
3 \\
\vdots \\
3
\end{pmatrix}$$

### Is finding *s* even solvable?

#### Note

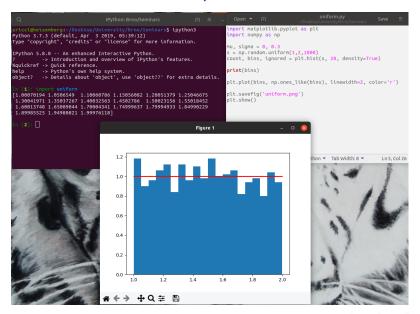
Short answer: it depends on the choice of the parameters.

- if n = 1 and e ∈ {-1,0,1}, i.e., χ is an uniform distribution over Z<sub>2</sub>,
   LWE can be solved (not easily) by linearization.
- if  $\chi$  is uniform over  $\mathbb{Z}_q$ , there is no information on the related LWE problem solution.

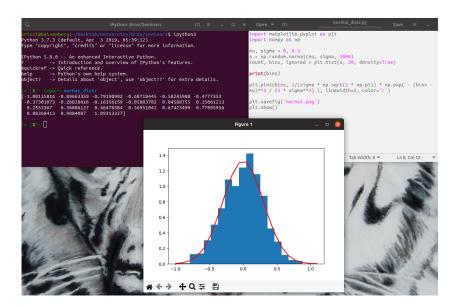
#### Note

It is important to choose (smartly) the error, i.e., the probability distribution  $\chi$  that creates the error.

### Uniform distribution: example



### Normal distribution: example



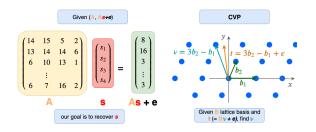
### LWE problem: formulation

#### Problem (Computational-LWE problem)

Given  $n, m, q \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\chi$  a distribution in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$  (typically "rounded" normal distribution). **Input:** a pair (A, As + e), where

- $\bullet$   $A \in UR \mathbb{Z}_a^{m \times n}$ .
- e chosen in  $\mathbb{Z}_q^m$  according to  $\chi^m$ .

**Goal:** For a vector  $\mathbf{s} \in UR \mathbb{Z}_q^n$ , given arbitrarily many samples  $(A, A\mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e})$ , compute  $\mathbf{s}$ .



### LWE problem: formulation

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- e chosen in  $\mathbb{Z}_q^m$  according to  $\chi^m$ .

**Goal:** For a vector  $\mathbf{s} \in U\mathbb{R}$   $\mathbb{Z}_q^n$ , given arbitrarily many samples  $(A, A\mathbf{s} + e)$ , compute  $\mathbf{s}$ .

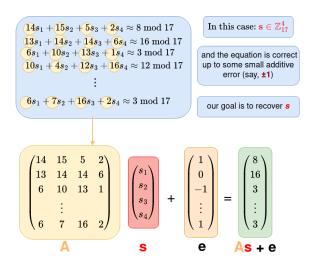
#### Note (Hardness)

Breaking the problem (or finding an efficient algorithm for LWE) implies having an efficient quantum algorithm for approximating SVP.

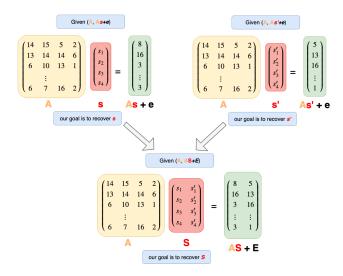
#### Theorem (Regev)

The LWE problems are as hard as worst-case assumptions in general lattices when  $\chi$  is a discrete Gaussian with standard deviation  $\sigma=\alpha q$  for some fixed real number  $0<\alpha<1$ .

## LWE problem in matrix form



### LWE problem: all matrices!



### When the error is "enough small"?

#### Simplified problem

We want to encrypt one-bit message  $m \in \{0, 1\}$ . If  $p \in \mathbb{Z}_{17}$  is our noise, then

$$c = p + m$$

For which value of p are we able to decrypt?

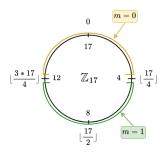
## When the error is "enough small"?

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For which value of *p* are we able to decrypt?



Therefore, the encryption becomes

$$c=p+m\lfloor \frac{q}{2}\rfloor$$

and the decryption is

$$m = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \in [5, 11] \\ 0 & \text{if } p \in [-4, 3] \end{cases}$$

### (Regev) one-bit encryption scheme





#### Public Parameter

Security parameter: n=3 Modulus : q=17 Number of eqs: 4

#### Key Generation

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \in_{\psi_a} \mathbb{Z}_{17}^4 \quad p = As + e = \begin{pmatrix} 21 \\ -11 \\ -33 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} + e \bmod 17 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 5 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Public key: (A,p)

#### Encryption

#### **Message:** b = 1 is a bit $\{0, 1\}$

$$Enc_{A,p}(b) = (a',p') = (\sum_{\mathcal{I}} a_i, \sum_{\mathcal{I}} p_i + b \lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor)$$
  
=  $(a_1 + a_4 = (-2,7,-1), p_1 + p_4 = 12)$ 

#### Ciphertext: (a', p')

### Decryption $e' = p' - a' * s^T = 12 - 2 = 10$

$$Dec_s(a', p') = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } e' \sim 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } e' \sim \frac{17}{2} = 1 \end{cases}$$



## (Generalized) Regev cryptosystem

#### Note

The one-bit scheme can be generalized to work with  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ .

#### Efficiency:

- only multiplications and additions modulus q.
- parallelization.
- Public/Private key size:  $(nl \log q, m(n+l) \log q)$ .
- Operation encryption/decryption per bit: (O(m(1 + n/l)), O(n)) (ignoring logarithmic factors).

#### Security:

 distinguishing between public keys (A, P) as generated by the cryptosystem and pairs (A, P) chosen uniformly at random implies a solution to the LWE problem.

#### Decryption errors:

- the error has to be "small enough".
- Using an appropriate set of parameters and en error correting code to encode m help.

#### Note

It is necessary to choose the parameters so that the LWE problem is hard.

## LWE applications to cryptography ...

#### ... include but are not limited to

- secret key encryption
- public key encryption
- key exchange
- digital signature
- (fully) homomorphic encryption
- identity-based encryption
- zero-knowledge proofs

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Ring-Learning With Errors (R-LWE) problem

### R-LWE problem: why?

#### Note

Cryptographic schemes based LWE problems (and SIS) tend to require rather large key sizes ( $\sim n^2$ ).

From a practical point of view, it will be good to reduce the key size to almost linear size.

### R-LWE problem: why?

#### Note

Cryptographic schemes based LWE problems (and SIS) tend to require rather large key sizes ( $\sim n^2$ ).

From a practical point of view, it will be good to reduce the key size to almost linear size.

- Need: more compactness.
- Idea: replace a random matrix with a structured "circulant" matrix with a random column

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & a_{42} & a_{43} & a_{44} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_4 & a_3 & a_2 \\ a_2 & a_1 & a_4 & a_3 \\ a_3 & a_2 & a_1 & a_4 \\ a_4 & a_3 & a_2 & a_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

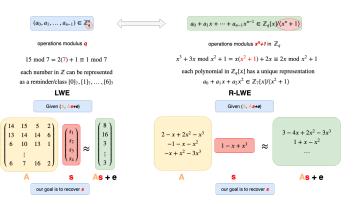
We need to memorize only one column.

### Ideal lattice: on the other side

#### Note

It is possible to achieve this goal assuming that there is some structure in the LWE samples.

The structure is the Ideal lattice, i.e. the group  $\mathbb{Z}_q^n$  is replaced by the ring  $\mathbb{Z}_q[x]/\langle x^n+1\rangle$ .



### Summary

#### Problems on lattice:

- CVP and SVP problems are NP-hard, i.e., secure against quantum attacks.
- Cryptographic protocols are based on hard problems that are easy to solve if you
  have a trapdoor (e.g., a good basis of a lattice)
- CVP and appr-CVP can be solved by Babai's algorithm with a lattice good basis
- GGH cryptosystem is based on the CVP problem and uses Babai's algorithm to decrypt the message.

#### LWE and R-LWE problems:

- solving a system of equations is easy (Gaussian elimination).
- if a small error is added, then Gaussian elimination does not work anymore
- LWE problem is NP-Hard with the right choice of parameters.
- LWE has too big key size (matrix A and secret s)
- R-LWE adds a structure to A that allows memorizing only one column of A, i.e. smaller keys.
- R-LWE problem is based on polynomials.

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### Thank you for attention!

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