

# A study of some practical impacts of twisted embeddings in lattice-based cryptography

Candidate: Laura Viglioni  
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Ricardo Dahab

March 12, 2021

## 1 Introduction

### Motivation

The imminent arrival of quantum computers in large scale demanded new research fields on how to create quantum-resistant cryptosystems. In the last two decades, lattice-based cryptosystems have become an important field in the cryptography community since these cryptosystems rely on mathematical problems we believe are hard, such as the Shortest Vector Problem [Definition 2.24] and the Shortest Independent Vectors Problem [Definition 2.25].

Some cryptosystems of our interest in this study are the ones based on the LWE (Learning With Errors) problem [Definition 2.27] and on the Ring-LWE (Learning With Errors over Rings)[Definitions 2.29, 2.28]. The usual instances of the Ring-LWE are the power-of-two cyclotomic number fields [Example 2.3], since they are homomorphic to a lattice in the  $H$  [Definition 2.20] with known orthonormal basis through the canonical embedding [Definition 2.34] and the errors can be sampled in the lattice and later converted to an element of the number field with reasonable efficiency.

Ortiz et al. [[4]] proposed a new variety of number fields that can be used as instances of the Ring-LWE based cryptosystems using twisted embeddings [Definition 2.36] – which are extension of the canonical –, that are as secure as the usual Ring-LWE [Theorem 3.1]. The main goal of this study is to compare the implementations of usual instances of Ring-LWE and the instances of the Twisted Ring-LWE [Definition 3.1], exploring theoretical and practical aspects of the Twisted Ring-LWE cryptosystem [Section 3.2], which include an analysis of both keys and messages sizes; the study of the relation between number fields and lattices with known orthonormal basis and if it is possible to use lattices without orthonormal basis and maintain a satisfactory efficiency in converting the error samplings from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  points into number field elements.

### Organization of this document

In section [2] we present the fundamental mathematical background of the Twisted Ring-LWE schema. In section [3] we discuss the impacts of the twisted embeddings in cryp-

tography and in sections [4, 5, 6] we discuss the objectives, methodology and an activity plan of this study.

## 2 Mathematical background

### 2.1 Preliminaries

In this text, we will consider the Natural Numbers  $\mathbb{N}$  the set of all positive integers:  $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  and  $\mathbb{P}$  the set of all prime numbers.

### 2.2 Groups

**Definition 2.1.** A **group** is a set  $G$  closed under a binary operation  $\cdot$  defined on  $G$  such that:

- **Associativity:**  $\forall a, b, c \in G, a \cdot (b \cdot c) = (a \cdot b) \cdot c$
- **Identity element:**  $\exists e \in G ; \forall a \in G, a \cdot e = e \cdot a = a$
- **Inverse element:**  $\forall a \in G, \exists b \in G ; a \cdot b = b \cdot a = e$

And it is denoted by  $\langle G, \cdot \rangle$ , or simply  $G$  if the operation is implied.

**Definition 2.2.** A group is said to be **commutative** or **abelian** if  $\forall a, b \in G, a \cdot b = b \cdot a$

A group is called **additive** or **multiplicative** if its operation is addition or multiplication, respectively.

**Definition 2.3.** A subset  $H$  of  $G$  is a **subgroup** of  $\langle G, \cdot \rangle$  if it is closed under  $\cdot$  induced by  $\langle G, \cdot \rangle$ . The **trivial subgroup** of any group is the set consisting of just the identity element.

**Definition 2.4.** The **order** of a group  $\langle G, \cdot \rangle$  is the cardinality of the set  $G$ .

**Definition 2.5.** A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  can be used to decompose  $G$  in uniform sized and disjoint subsets called **cosets**. Given an element  $g \in G$ :

- A **left coset** is defined by  $gH := \{g \cdot h ; h \in H\}$
- A **right coset** is defined by  $Hg := \{h \cdot g ; h \in H\}$

### 2.3 Rings and fields

**Definition 2.6.** A **ring** is a set together with two binary operations, we will note by  $+$  and  $*$  and call it addition and multiplication, respectively, such that:

- $\langle R, + \rangle$  is an abelian group.
- $*$  is associative
- $*$  is distributive over  $+$

And it is denoted by  $\langle R, +, * \rangle$ , or simply  $R$  if the operations are implied.

**Definition 2.7.** A ring is said to be **commutative** if its  $*$  operation is commutative.

**Definition 2.8.** A ring is said to be **with unity** if  $*$  has an identity element. We shall note it by 1 and it is called **unity**.

**Definition 2.9.** A **division ring** is a ring  $R$  where  $\forall r \in R, \exists s \in R ; r * s = 1$ .

**Definition 2.10.** A **field** is a commutative division ring.

## 2.4 Number fields

**Definition 2.11.** Let  $K$  and  $L$  be two fields,  $L$  is said to be a **field extension** of  $K$  if  $L \subseteq K$  and we denote it by  $L/K$

Note that in a field extension  $L/K$ ,  $L$  has a structure of a vector space over  $K$ , where vector addition is in  $L$  and scalar multiplication  $a \in K, v \in L \implies av \in L$ . The dimension of  $L$  as a vector space is called **degree** and it is denoted by  $[L : K]$ .

**Definition 2.12.** A field extension is called **number field** when it is over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**Definition 2.13.** Let  $\alpha \in L$  where  $L/K$  is a field extension. We say that  $\alpha$  is **algebraic over  $K$**  if  $\exists p \in K[X] ; p(\alpha) = 0$ .  $p$  is said to be **the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$  over  $K$**  denoted by  $p_\alpha$ . If  $\alpha \in L = \mathbb{Q}[\theta]$ , we simply call  $\alpha$  an **algebraic number**.

**Example 2.1.** It is known that  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a field. If we add  $\sqrt{2}$  to the set, we can build a new field adding also all the powers and multiples of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . This new field is denoted by  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}]$ , note that  $\sqrt{2}$  is algebraic and its minimal polynomial  $p_{\sqrt{2}} = x^2 - 2$ . All elements of  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}]$  are in the form  $\{a + b\sqrt{2} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  and one of its basis is  $\{1, \sqrt{2}\}$ , so it has degree is 2.

**Example 2.2.** If we add  $\sqrt[3]{2}$  to  $\mathbb{Q}$  instead, its elements would have the form  $\{a + b\sqrt[3]{2} + c\sqrt[3]{4} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ , so one of its basis is  $\{1, \sqrt[3]{2}, \sqrt[3]{4}\}$ ,  $p_\alpha = x^3 - 2$  and its degree is 3.

**Example 2.3** ([4], Cyclotomic number field). A number field of particular interest is  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_m)$ , the  $m$ -th cyclotomic field, where  $\zeta_m = \exp 2\pi i/m$  is a primitive  $m$ -th root of unity for any integer number  $m \geq 1$ . The degree of  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_m)$  is  $\phi(m)$ , where  $\phi(\cdot)$  denotes the Euler's totient function. The minimal polynomial of  $\zeta_m$ , called the  $m$ -th cyclotomic polynomial, is  $\Phi_m(x) = \prod_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_m^*} (x - \zeta_m^k)$ , where  $\mathbb{Z}_m^*$  denotes the group of invertible elements in  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Example 2.4** ([4], Maximal real subfield). The number field  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_m + \zeta_m^{-1}) \subset \mathbb{R} \cap \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_m)$  is the maximal real subfield of  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_m)$  and has degree  $\phi(m)/2$  if  $m \geq 3$ .

**Theorem 2.1** ([7], p.40). *If  $K$  is a number field, then  $K = \mathbb{Q}[\theta]$  for some algebraic number  $\theta \in K$ , called primitive element.*

Then we conclude that  $\{1, \theta, \theta^2, \dots, \theta^{n-1}\}$  is a basis for the vector space  $K = \mathbb{Q}[\theta]$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Note that we can represent an number  $a \in K$  as a linear combination of  $\theta$ , i.e  $a = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i \theta^i$  or as a polynomial  $a(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i$ .

**Definition 2.14.** A number  $\alpha$  is said to be an **algebraic integer** if  $p \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$  ;  $p(\alpha) = 0$ . The set of all algebraic integers of  $K$  forms a ring called **ring of integers** of  $K$  and is denoted by  $\mathcal{O}_K$ .

**Definition 2.15.** An **integral basis** is a basis for a ring of integers.

**Definition 2.16** ([5], Section 2.3.2). An **integral Ideal**  $\mathfrak{I} \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  is a nontrivial additive subgroup that is also closed under multiplication by  $\mathcal{O}_K$ , *i.e.*,  $r \cdot a \in \mathfrak{I}$  for any  $r \in \mathcal{O}_K$  and  $a \in \mathfrak{I}$ . Any ideal  $\mathfrak{I}$  is a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module of rank  $n$ , *i.e.*, it is the set off all  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear combinations of some basis  $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\} \subset \mathfrak{I}$  of linearly independents (over  $\mathbb{Z}$ ) elements  $b_i$ .

**Definition 2.17** ([5], Section 2.3.2). A **fractional ideal**  $\mathfrak{I} \subset K$  is a set such that  $d\mathfrak{I} \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  is an integral ideal for some  $d \in \mathcal{O}_K$

**Definition 2.18** ([5], Section 2.3.3). For any fractional ideal  $\mathfrak{I} \subset K$ , its **dual ideal** is defined as  $\mathfrak{I}^\vee := \{a \in K ; Tr(a\mathfrak{I}) \subset \mathbb{Z}\}$ . An important canonical fractional ideal in a number field  $K$  is the **codifferent ideal**  $\mathcal{O}_K^\vee$ , *i.e.*, the dual ideal of the ring of integers:  $\mathcal{O}_K^\vee := \{a \in K ; Tr(a\mathcal{O}_K) \subset \mathbb{Z}\}$ .

**Definition 2.19** (Fixed field by involution). A map  $f : K \rightarrow K$ , where  $K$  is a number field, is called **involution** of  $K$  if  $\forall a, b \in K$   $f(a+b) = f(a) + f(b)$   $f(a \cdot b) = f(a) \cdot f(b)$  and  $f(f(a)) = a$ . The subfield  $F = \{a \in K ; f(a) = a\}$  is called **fixed field by involution** of  $K$ .

## 2.5 The inner product space $H$

**Definition 2.20.** Let  $r, s, n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  such that  $n = r + 2s > 0$ . The space  $H \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is defined as:

$$H = \{(a_1, \dots, a_r, b_1, \dots, b_s, \bar{b}_1, \dots, \bar{b}_s) \in \mathbb{C}^n\}$$

where  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$  and  $b_j \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ . For all  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n), y = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in H$  the space  $H$  is endowed with inner product  $\langle x, y \rangle_H$  defined as:

$$\langle x, y \rangle_H = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \bar{y}_i = \sum_{i=1}^r x_i y_i + \sum_{i=1}^s x_{i+r} \bar{y}_{i+r} + \sum_{i=1}^s \overline{x_{i+r}} y_{i+r}$$

The  $\ell_2$ -norm and infinity norm of any  $x \in H$  are defined as  $\|x\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle_H}$  and  $\|x\|_\infty = \max \{|x_i|\}_{i=1}^n$ .

It can be proven that  $H$  and  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are isomorphic.

## 2.6 Lattices

### 2.6.1 Basic definitions

**Definition 2.21.** A Lattice  $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a subgroup of the additive group  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . In other words, given  $m$  linear independent vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the set  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m\}$  is called a **basis** for  $\Lambda$  and the Lattice may be defined by:

$$\Lambda := \left\{ x = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i v_i \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \lambda_i \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

*I.e.*, any  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  can be written as  $\lambda = Mv$  where  $M$  is the **generator matrix** of  $\Lambda$  where each row is a vector from the basis and  $v \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ .

Since space  $H$  (2.20) is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , all definitions above can be switched from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $H$  without any loss of generality.

**Definition 2.22.** The **minimum distance** of an Lattice  $\Lambda$  is the shortest nonzero vector from  $\Lambda$ , given some norm, *i.e.*:

$$\lambda_1(\Lambda) := \min_{0 \neq v \in \Lambda} \|v\|$$

We define  $\lambda_m$  as the set of  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  linear independent vectors of  $\Lambda$  such that the biggest vector from  $\lambda_m$  is equal or smaller than the biggest vector of any linearly independent set of length  $m$  in  $\Lambda$ . We usually use  $\lambda_n$ , where  $n$  is the size of the basis of  $\Lambda$  and we call them **shortest independent vectors** of  $\Lambda$ .

**Definition 2.23.** Let  $\Lambda$  be a lattice and  $M$  its generator matrix. The matrix  $G = MM^T$  is called **Gram matrix** for  $\Lambda$ .

## 2.6.2 Lattice problems

**Definition 2.24** ([5], Definition 2.8, Gap Shortest Vector Problem). For an approximation factor  $\gamma = \gamma(n) \geq 1$ , the  $GapSVP_\gamma$  is: given a lattice  $\Lambda$  and length  $d > 0$ , output **YES** if  $\lambda_1(\Lambda) \leq d$  and **NO** if  $\lambda_1(\Lambda) > \gamma d$ .

**Definition 2.25** ([5], Definition 2.8, Shortest Independent Vectors Problem). For an approximation factor  $\gamma = \gamma(n) \geq 1$ , the  $SIVP_\gamma$  is: given a lattice  $\Lambda$ , output  $n$  linearly independent lattice vectors of length at most  $\gamma(n) \cdot \lambda_n(\Lambda)$ .

## 2.7 Learning problems

In this section we will describe some problems that are believed to be hard and used in cryptography.

### 2.7.1 Learning from Parity

**Definition 2.26.** Given  $m$  vectors uniformly chosen  $a_i \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_2^n$  and some  $\epsilon \in [0, 1]$ , we define the problem **Learning from Parity (LFP)** as:

find  $s \in \mathbb{Z}_2^n$  such that for  $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$

$$\langle s, a_i \rangle \approx_\epsilon b_i \pmod{2}$$

In other words, the equality holds with probability  $1 - \epsilon$

### 2.7.2 Learning with Errors

**Definition 2.27.** Learning with Errors (LWE) is a generalization of LFP (2.26) with two new parameters  $p \in \mathbb{P}$  and  $\chi$  a probability distribution on  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  so that we have:

$$\langle s, a_i \rangle \approx_{\chi} b_i \pmod{p} \quad \text{or} \quad \langle s, a_i \rangle + e_i = b_i \pmod{p}$$

Where  $a_i \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^n$  uniformly and  $e_i \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}$  according to  $\chi$

**Theorem 2.2** ([6], Theorem 1.1). *Let  $n, p$  be integers and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  be such that  $\alpha p > 2\sqrt{n}$ . If there exists an efficient algorithm that solves  $LWE_{p\Psi_\alpha}$  then there exists an efficient quantum algorithm that approximates the decision version of the shortest vector problem ( $GAP_{SVP}$  2.24) and the shortest independent vectors problem ( $SIVP$  2.25) to within  $\tilde{O}(n/\alpha)$  in the worst case.*

Where  $\Psi_\beta$  is defined as:

$$\forall r \in [0, 1), \Psi_\beta(r) := \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\beta} \cdot \exp\left(-\pi \left(\frac{r-k}{\beta}\right)^2\right)$$

### 2.7.3 Ring-LWE

Let  $K$  be a number field,  $R = \mathcal{O}_K$  its ring of integers and  $R^\vee$  the codifferent ideal of  $K$ . Let  $2 \leq q \in \mathbb{N}$  and for any fractional ideal  $\mathfrak{J} \subset K$ . Also let  $K_{\mathbb{R}}$  be the tensor product  $K \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathfrak{J}_q = \mathfrak{J}/q\mathfrak{J}$  and  $\mathbb{T} = K_{\mathbb{R}}/R^\vee$ .

The twisted embeddings can be extended from  $K$  to  $K_{\mathbb{R}}$  as follows [[4], Section 3]: for any totally positive  $\tau \in F$ , the  $\mathbb{R}$ -vector space  $\sigma_\tau(K_{\mathbb{R}})$  is isomorphic to  $H \simeq \mathbb{R}^n$ . Consider the extension of the trace function  $Tr_K : K \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  to  $Tr_K : K_{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , for any  $\tau \in F$  totally positive integer we can define the inner product as:

$$\langle a, b \rangle_\tau := \langle \sigma_\tau(a), \sigma_\tau(b) \rangle_H = Tr_K(\tau a \bar{b}), \quad a, b \in K_{\mathbb{R}}$$

By considering the inner product  $\langle a, b \rangle_\tau$ , the  $\mathbb{R}$ -vector space  $K_{\mathbb{R}}$  is an Euclidian vector space of dimension  $n$  isometric to both  $(H, \langle a, b \rangle_H)$  and  $(\mathbb{R}, \langle a, b \rangle)$ .

**Definition 2.28** ([5], Definition 2.15, Ring-LWE Average-Case Decision). Let  $\Upsilon$  be a distribution over a family of error distributions over  $K_{\mathbb{R}}$ . The average-case Ring-LWE decision problem, denoted  $R-LWE_q, \Upsilon$ , is to distinguish (with non-negligible advantage) between independent samples from  $A_{s,\psi}$  for a *random* choice of  $(s, \psi) \leftarrow U(R_q^\vee) \times \Upsilon$ , and the same number of uniformly random and independent samples from  $R_q \times \mathbb{T}$ .

**Theorem 2.3** ([5], Corollary 5.2). *Let  $\alpha = \alpha(n) \in (0, 1)$ , and let  $q = q(n)$  be an integer such that  $\alpha q \geq 2\sqrt{n}$ . Then, there is a polynomial-time quantum reduction from  $SIVP_{\gamma'}$  and  $GapSVP_{\gamma'}$  to (average-case, decision)  $LWE_{q,\alpha}$ .*

**Definition 2.29** ([2], Definition 3.2, Ring-LWE Search). Let  $\Psi$  be a family of distributions over  $K_{\mathbb{R}}$ . The search version of the *ring-LWE* problem, denoted  $R-LWE_{q,\Psi}$ , is defined as follows: given access to arbitrarily many independent samples from  $A_{s,\psi}$  for some arbitrary  $s \in R_q^\vee$  and  $\psi \in \Psi$ , find  $s$ .

**Theorem 2.4** ([2], Theorem 3.6). *Let  $K$  be the  $m$ th cyclotomic number field having dimension  $n = \phi(m)$  and  $R = \mathcal{O}_K$  be its ring of integers. Let  $\alpha < \sqrt{(\log n)/n}$ , and let  $q = q(n) \geq 2$ ,  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$  be a  $\text{poly}(n)$ -bounded prime such that  $\alpha q \geq \omega(\sqrt{\log n})$ . Then there is a polynomial-time quantum reduction from  $\tilde{O}(n/\alpha)$ -approximate SIVP (or SVP) on ideal lattices in  $K$  to  $R$ -DLWE $_{q, \Upsilon_\alpha}$ . Alternatively, for any  $l \geq 1$ , we can replace the target problem by the problem of solving  $R$ -DLWE $_{q, D_\xi}$  given only  $l$  samples, where  $\xi = \alpha \cdot (nl / \log(nl))^{1/4}$ .*

## 2.8 Twisted Embeddings

### 2.8.1 Embeddings

**Definition 2.30.** Let  $K$  and  $L$  be two field extensions and a homomorphism  $\phi : K \rightarrow L$ .  $\phi$  is said to be a  **$\mathbb{Q}$ -homomorphism** if  $\phi(a) = a, \forall a \in \mathbb{Q}$

**Definition 2.31.** A  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homomorphism  $\phi : K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is called an **embedding**.

**Theorem 2.5** ([7], p.41). *If  $K$  is a number field with degree  $n$  then there are exactly  $n$  embeddings  $\sigma_i : K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  where by  $\sigma_i(\theta) = \theta_i$  where  $\theta_i \in \mathbb{C}$  is a distinct zero of the  $K$ 's minimum polynomial.*

**Definition 2.32** (Trace and Norm). Let  $x \in K$  be an element of a number field and  $\{\sigma_i\}_{i=1}^n$  the possible embeddings. The elements  $\{\sigma_i(x)\}_{i=1}^n$  are called **conjugates** of  $x$  and we define the **norm** of  $x$   $N(x)$  and **Trace** of  $x$   $Tr(x)$  respectively:

$$N(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n \sigma_i(x), \quad Tr(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i(x)$$

**Theorem 2.6** ([7], p.54). *For any  $x \in K$ , we have  $N(x), Tr(x) \in \mathbb{Q}$ . If  $x \in \mathcal{O}_K$ , we have  $N(x), Tr(x) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

**Definition 2.33.** Let  $\{\sigma_i\}_n$  the possible embeddings of a number field  $K$ . Let  $r$  the number of embeddings with real images and  $2s$  the complex ones, then  $r + 2s = n$ . The pair  $(r, s)$  is called **signature** of  $K$ .

**Definition 2.34.** The homomorphism  $\sigma : K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r \times \mathbb{C}^s$ , where  $(r, s)$  is the signature of  $K$ , is said to be the **canonical embedding** and is defined by:

$$\sigma(x) = (\sigma_1(x), \dots, \sigma_r(x), \sigma_{r+1}(x), \dots, \sigma_{r+s}(x))$$

Note that we could rewrite the canonical embedding as  $\sigma : K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\sigma(x) = (\sigma_1(x), \dots, \sigma_r(x), \Re(\sigma_{r+1}(x)), \Im(\sigma_{r+1}(x)), \dots, \Re(\sigma_{r+s}(x)), \Im(\sigma_{r+s}(x)))$$

For now on we will denote it simply by:

$$\sigma(x) = (\sigma_1(x), \dots, \sigma_r(x), \sigma_{r+1}(x), \dots, \sigma_{r+2s}(x))$$

### 2.8.2 Algebraic lattices

**Theorem 2.7** ([7], p.155). *Let  $\{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n\}$  be an integral basis of  $K$ , The  $n$  vectors  $v_i = \sigma(\omega_i) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are linearly independent, so they define a full rank algebraic lattice  $\Lambda = \Lambda(\mathcal{O}_K) = \sigma(\mathcal{O}_K)$ .*

The generator matrix of  $\Lambda = \sigma(\mathcal{O}_K)$  is defined by:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(\omega_1) & \dots & \sigma_{r+2s}(\omega_1) \\ & \ddots & \\ \sigma_1(\omega_n) & \dots & \sigma_{r+2s}(\omega_n) \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

**Remark 2.1.** An embedding creates the correspondence between a point  $\lambda \in \Lambda \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  of an algebraic lattice (Theo. 2.7) and an integer in  $\mathcal{O}_K$ :

Let  $\lambda$  be a point of a lattice  $\Lambda$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{r+2s}) \in \Lambda \\ &= \left( \sum_{i=1}^n z_i \sigma_1(\omega_i), \dots, \sum_{i=1}^n z_i \sigma_{r+2s}(\omega_i) \right) \\ &= \left( \sigma_1 \left( \sum_{i=1}^n z_i \omega_i \right), \dots, \sigma_{r+2s} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n z_i \omega_i \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

where  $z_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Since any element  $x \in \mathcal{O}_K$  has the form  $x = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \omega_i$ , we can conclude that:

$$\lambda = (\sigma_1(x), \dots, \sigma_{r+2s}(x)) = \sigma(x)$$

### 2.8.3 Twisted embeddings

**Definition 2.35.** Let  $K$  be a number field with degree  $n$  and  $\sigma$  an embedding. We say that a number  $\tau \in F$ , where  $F$  is the fixed field by involution of  $K$  (Definition 2.19) is **totally positive** if  $\forall i \in 1, \dots, n$ ,  $\sigma_i(\tau) \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$ .

**Definition 2.36** (Twisted Embedding). Given  $\tau$  a totally positive number, the  $\tau$ -**twisted embedding**, or simply twisted embedding, is the monomorphism defined as:

$$\sigma_\tau(x) = (\sqrt{\tau_1} \sigma_1(x), \dots, \sqrt{\tau_{r+2s}} \sigma_{r+2s}(x))$$

where  $\tau_i = \sigma_i(\tau)$ .

## 3 Twisted embeddings and cryptography

### 3.1 Twisted Ring-LWE

In this section we present variant of the Ring-LWE (Definition 2.29) using twisted embeddings (Definition 2.36).



**Definition 3.1** ([4], Twisted Ring-LWE distribution). For a totally positive element  $\tau \in F$ , let  $\psi_\tau$  denote an error distribution over the inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_\tau$  and  $s \in R_q^\vee$  (the “secret”) be an uniformly randomized element. The *Twisted Ring-LWE distribution*  $\mathcal{A}_{s, \psi_\tau}$  produces samples of the form

$$(a, b = a \cdot s + e \mod qR^\vee) \in R_q \times K_\mathbb{R}/qR^\vee.$$

Solving the Twisted Ring-LWE is as hard as solving the usual Ring-LWE as stated in Theorem 3.1:

**Theorem 3.1** ([4], Theorem 1). *Let  $K$  be an arbitrary number field, and let  $\tau \in F$  be totally positive. Also, let  $(s, \psi)$  be randomly chosen from  $(U(R_q^\vee) \times \Psi)$  in  $(K_\mathbb{R}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\tau=1})$ . Then there is a polynomial-time reduction from Ring-LWE $_{q, \psi}$  to Ring-LWE $_{q, \psi_\tau}^\tau$ .*

### 3.2 Error sampling in rotated $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -lattices

In this section we present the *Ortiz et al.* ([4], Section 8) variation of the cryptosystem of Lyubashevsky, Peikert, and Regev ([3], Section 8.2) using twisted embeddings. Let  $R$  be an  $m$ -th cyclotomic ring and  $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$  coprimes. The message space is defined as  $R_p$  and it is required  $q$  to be coprime with every odd prime dividing  $m$ . Consider that  $\phi_\tau$  is an error distribution over  $(K_\mathbb{R}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_\tau)$  and  $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  denotes a valid discretization to (cosets) of  $R^\vee$  or  $pR^\vee$ . Also,  $\hat{m} = m/2$  if  $m$  is even, otherwise  $\hat{m} = m$ . Finally, for any  $\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ , let  $[[\bar{a}]]$  denote the unique representative  $a \in (\bar{a} + q\mathbb{Z}) \cap [-q/2, q/2)$ , which is entry-wise extended to polynomials.

- **Key generation:** choose a uniformly random  $a \in R_q$ . Choose  $x \leftarrow \lfloor \phi_\tau \rfloor$  and  $e \leftarrow \lfloor p \cdot \phi_\tau \rfloor_{pR^\vee}$ . Output  $(a, b = \hat{m} \cdot (a \cdot x + e) \mod qR) \in R_q \times R_q$  as the public key and  $x$  as the secret key.
- **Encryption:** choose  $z \leftarrow \leftarrow \lfloor \phi_\tau \rfloor_R^\vee$ ,  $e' \leftarrow \lfloor p \cdot \phi_\tau \rfloor_{pR^\vee}$  and  $e'' \leftarrow \lfloor p \cdot \phi_\tau \rfloor_{t^{-1}\mu + pR^\vee}$ , where  $\mu \in R_p$  is the word to be encrypted. Let  $u = \hat{m} \cdot (a \cdot z + e') \mod qR$  and  $v = z \cdot b + e'' \in R_q^\vee$ . Output  $(u, v) \in R_q \times R_q^\vee$ .
- **Decryption:** Given the encrypted message  $(u, v)$ , compute  $v - u \cdot x \mod qR^\vee$ , and decode it to  $d = [[v - u \cdot x]] \in R^\vee$ . Output  $\mu = t \cdot d \mod pR$ .

In this cryptosystem, the most expensive operations to compute are the error sampling, its discretization and the polynomial multiplications. When  $R$  is the ring of integers of the maximal real subfield (2.4)  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$ , the sampling of error terms can be performed directly over  $(K_\mathbb{R}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_\tau)$  in the orthonormal basis while preserving the spherical format and standard deviation in respect to the corresponding distribution in  $H$ . The efficiency of discrete sampling when  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$  is reinforced by the fact that the discretization in  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -lattices is simply a coordinate-wise rounding to the nearest integer. ([4], Section 8).

### 3.3 Impacts of the twisted embeddings

The correspondence between a point  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  of a lattice and an algebraic integer  $x \in \mathcal{O}_K$  of a ring of integers (Remark 2.1), *i.e.*,  $\lambda = (\sigma_1(x), \dots, \sigma_{r+2s}(x)) = \sigma(x)$ , where  $\sigma$  is the canonical embedding (Definition 2.34), allow us to sample errors over a Lattice and convert them through the embedding to the polynomial representation, *i.e.*, the representation of an element of a ring of integers.

This conversion is trivial when the Lattices we are dealing are rotations of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ , otherwise it can be very expensive. With the canonical embedding (Definition 2.34) we can achieve a  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  rotated Lattice with the cyclotomic number field with power of 2 dimension ([2], [1]).

Using the Twisted Embedding (Definition 2.36) we can obtain different lattices from the same number field:

**Example 3.1** ([4], Example 3). Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}) = \{a + b\sqrt{3} ; a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  be a totally real number field with degree 2. It follows that the fixed field by involution  $F = K$ . For any totally positive element  $\tau \in F$ , consider the lattice  $M_\tau = \mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{3}]$  in the inner product space  $(K_{\mathbb{R}}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_\tau)$ . The set  $\{1, \sqrt{3}\}$  in a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis of  $M_\tau$  and the Gram matrix of the lattice  $M_\tau$  is given by:

$$G_\tau = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Tr}_K(\tau) & \text{Tr}_K(\tau\sqrt{3}) \\ \text{Tr}_K(\tau\sqrt{3}) & \text{Tr}_K(3\tau) \end{bmatrix}$$

For example, for  $\tau = 1$  and  $\tau = 2 + \sqrt{3}$ , the Gram matrices are given by:

$$G_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad G_{2+\sqrt{3}} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 6 \\ 6 & 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

It can be shown that these two lattices are not equivalent.

The theorem (Theorem 3.2), proposition (Proposition 3.2.1) and corollary (Corollary 3.2.1) below show that we can build  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ -rotated lattices from the maximal real subfield (Example 2.4) using twisted embeddings, *i.e.*, the errors sampled on these lattices can be trivially converted to polynomial representation as elements of a number field.

**Theorem 3.2** ([4], Theorem 5). *Let  $K$  be a number field with a fixed field by the involution  $F$ . Consider  $\tau \in F$  totally positive and  $\mathfrak{I} \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  a fractional ideal such that  $\mathfrak{I}$  is an ideal lattice in  $(K_{\mathbb{R}}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_\tau)$ . If  $\mathfrak{I}$  is an orthonormal lattice, then both the format and the standard deviation of a spherical Gaussian distribution in an orthonormal basis of  $\mathfrak{I} \subset K_{\mathbb{R}}$  are preserved when seen in the canonical basis of the space  $H$  (via the twisted embedding  $\sigma_\tau$ ).*

**Proposition 3.2.1** ([4], Proposition 2). *Let  $p \geq 5$  be a prime number, and let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$  and  $\tau = \frac{1}{p}(1 - \zeta_p)(1 - \zeta_p^{-1})$ . Then  $\mathcal{O}_K$  in  $(K_{\mathbb{R}}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_\tau)$  is an orthonormal lattice with basis  $\mathcal{C}^\perp = \{e'_1, \dots, e'_n ; e'_n = e_n \text{ and } e'_j = e_j + e'_{j+1}\}$  where  $\mathcal{C} = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  is the integral basis of  $K$ .*

**Corollary 3.2.1** ([4], Corollary 1). *Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$  for  $p \geq 5$  prime and let  $v \in \mathcal{O}_K$  be a random variable distributed as  $\psi_s^n$  in the basis  $\mathcal{C}^\perp$ . Then, the distribution of  $(T^{-1} \circ \sigma_\tau)(v)$  for  $\tau = \frac{1}{p}(1 - \zeta_p)(1 - \zeta_p^{-1})$ , seen in the canonical basis of  $H$ , is the spherical Gaussian  $\psi_s^n$ .*

These new constructions with a more variety of possible rings increase the security notions of Ring-LWE (Definitions 2.29, 2.28) since specific rings might have specific vulnerabilities, thinking about cryptosystems security, that other rings don't. It's important to remark that each number field has its own polynomial representation and specifically a polynomial  $f(x)$  that defines the ring we use as a parameter in the Ring-LWE cryptosystems. That said, the size of the parameters, therefore keys, encrypted messages etc, and the cost of the Ring-LWE operations depend on the polynomial representation of the ring and of  $f(x)$ .

There is, though, an open question if there exist other number fields that we build orthonormal lattices and its polynomial arithmetic are efficient enough to be used in cryptosystems.

## 4 Objectives

As presented in previous sections, the study of Ortiz et al. [[4]] showed that it is possible and as secure [Theorem 3.1] as default Ring-LWE [Definitions 2.29, 2.28] to use Twisted Embeddings [Definition 2.36] instead of the Canonical Embedding [Definition 2.34] to increase the variety of rings and lattices that can be used, *i.e.*, the arithmetic involved can be done in an efficient way. Example [3.1] shows that from the same ring, it is possible to generate different lattices, changing the parameters in the Twisted Embedding.

With the cyclotomic power-of-two number field [Example 2.3] we can sample errors from orthonormal lattices using the canonical embedding, with the twisted embeddings we can do it with the maximal real subfield [Example 2.4] for any prime  $p$  bigger than 3 [Prop 3.2.1, Corollary 3.2.1], we want in this work to validate the idea of using twisted embeddings in cryptography, explore the theoretical and the practical aspects of this proposal.

In practical aspects, the core of this study, we want to compare the implementation of the Twisted Ring-LWE and Ring-LWE comparing specific instances, *i.e.*, maximum real subfield versus the cyclotomic power-of-two, that includes our implementation and discovery about the sizes of the keys and the messages to check the viability of this proposal not only in security terms [Theorem 3.1] but also the content sizes and efficiency terms.

In theoretical aspects, we want to study the polynomial arithmetic of the maximal real subfield along with lattices generated by it and its properties, including the relation between the orthonormal basis and the efficient conversion between lattices points and elements of number fields [Remmark 2.1] and if it is possible to achieve a satisfactory efficiency with non-orthonormal basis, also, within the orthonormal context, if more number fields have efficient polynomial arithmetic. And, of course, a discovery about keys and message sizes using these number fields.

## 5 Methodology

To validate the idea of using twisted embeddings in Ring LWE based cryptosystems, exploring the aspects of the theoretical and practical impact of this proposal. To achieve that, we propose the following methodology:

- **Literature Review:** search for studies whose objectives are the proposal of new instances of a cryptosystem, for instance, *NTRU Prime* and *NTTRU*.
- **Theoretical experiments:** for a given number field, perform experiments using algebra libraries – *e.g.* SageMath – to discover twist factors that enhance characteristics of the resultant lattice, such as the shortest vector. Also, perform experiments to discover orthonormal bases.
- **Experimental outcome:** for the resultant number fields of the previous experiments, to calculate the expansion factor of a polynomial  $f(x)$  that defines the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[x]/f(x)$ . Also adapt or develop algorithms for polynomial multiplication with  $(O(n \log n))$  complexity and moderate constants.
- **Implementation:** implement a Twisted Ring-LWE based cryptosystem
- **Practical experiments:** perform experiments over the implemented cryptosystem to estimate the cost in terms of clock cycles, also key and message sizes.

## 6 Timeline

### 6.1 Activities

- First and second semesters of 2021
  - Study the Twisted Ring LWE problem and implementation.
  - Perform theoretical experiments with number fields, twist factors and lattices.
  - Calculate the expansion factor and adapt/develop algorithms for polynomial multiplication.
- First and second semesters of 2022
  - Implement a Twisted Ring-LWE based cryptosystem.
  - Compare instances of Ring LWE and Twisted Ring LWE, *i.e.*, analyze the cryptosystem in both terms of clock cycles and key sizes.
  - Defense of research thesis.

## Bibliography

## References

- [1] Léo Ducas and Alain Durmus. Ring-lwe in polynomial rings. In Marc Fischlin, Johannes Buchmann, and Mark Manulis, editors, *Public Key Cryptography – PKC 2012*, pages 34–51, Berlin, Heidelberg, 2012. Springer Berlin Heidelberg.

- [2] Vadim Lyubashevsky, Chris Peikert, and Oded Regev. On ideal lattices and learning with errors over rings. *Lecture Notes in Computer Science (including subseries Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence and Lecture Notes in Bioinformatics)*, 6110 LNCS(015848):1–23, 2010.
- [3] Vadim Lyubashevsky, Chris Peikert, and Oded Regev. A toolkit for ring-lwe cryptography. Cryptology ePrint Archive, Report 2013/293, 2013. <https://eprint.iacr.org/2013/293>.
- [4] Jheyne N. Ortiz, Robson R. de Araujo, Diego F. Aranha, Sueli I. R. Costa, and Ricardo Dahab. The Ring-LWE problem in lattice-based cryptography: in praise of the twisted embeddings. To be published, 2021.
- [5] Chris Peikert, Oded Regev, and Noah Stephens-Davidowitz. Pseudorandomness of ring-LWE for any ring and modulus. *Proceedings of the Annual ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing*, Part F1284:461–473, 2017.
- [6] Oded Regev. On lattices, learning with errors, random linear codes, and cryptography. *Journal of the ACM*, 56(6):1–37, 2009.
- [7] Ian Stewart and David Tall. *Algebraic number theory*. A K Peters, 2002.