

# Solving the Learning With Errors Problem

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Introduction

BDD & SIS: Lattice Reduction

SIS: Combinatorial Algorithms

BDD: Arora & Ge

# Learning with Errors

Given  $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{c})$  with  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m$ ,  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n$  and  $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times \ell}$  do we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{c} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \leftarrow & n & \rightarrow \\ & \mathbf{A} & \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{s} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e} \end{pmatrix}$$

or  $\mathbf{c} \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}_q^m)$ .

# We Want to Build Crypto Systems

Not precise enough

“Given  $m, n, q$  and  $\chi$  it takes  $2^{\tilde{O}(n^{2\epsilon})}$  operations in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$  to solve LWE.”

# Solving Strategies

Given  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{c}$  with  $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e}$  or  $\mathbf{c} \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}_q^m)$

- Solve the **Short Integer Solutions** problem (SIS) in the left kernel of  $\mathbf{A}$ , i.e.

find a short  $\mathbf{w}$  such that  $\mathbf{w} \times \mathbf{A} = 0$

and check if

$$\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{c} \rangle = \mathbf{w} \times (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e}) = \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{e} \rangle$$

is short.

- Solve the **Bounded Distance Decoding** problem (BDD), i.e.

find  $\mathbf{s}'$  such that  $\|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{c}\|$  with  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{s}'$  is minimised.

# Solving Strategies

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Find  $\mathbf{w}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{w} \times \mathbf{A} = 0$  with  $\|\mathbf{w}\| \approx \frac{1}{\alpha}$  to get

$$\|\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{e} \rangle\| \approx \frac{\alpha q}{\alpha} = q$$

to distinguish from  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}_q)$  in  $\text{poly}(n)$  time. Let  $\mathbf{B}$  denote a basis for  $\{\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0\}$ . Using standard results from lattice reduction we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\alpha} &= \delta^m \det(\mathbf{B})^{1/m} = \delta^{\sqrt{n \log_2 q / \log_2 \delta}} q^{n / \sqrt{n \log_2 q / \log_2 \delta}} \\ &= 2^{2 \sqrt{n \log_2 \delta \log_2 q}}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that lattice reduction with  $\delta = 2^{\frac{\log_2^2 \alpha}{4n \log_2 q}}$  solves Decision-LWE.



# BDD

Lattice reduction produces **short** and relatively **orthogonal bases** not only **short vectors**.

1. Reduce lattice basis to recover short and orthogonal basis  $\mathbf{A}'$
2. Use variant of Babai's nearest plane algorithm to find vector close to  $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{A}' \times \mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e}$ .

Tradeoff between lattice reduction and decoding stage.

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# BKW Algorithm I

We revisit Gaussian elimination:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{11} & \mathbf{a}_{12} & \mathbf{a}_{13} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{1n} & C_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_{21} & \mathbf{a}_{22} & \mathbf{a}_{23} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{2n} & C_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_{m1} & \mathbf{a}_{m2} & \mathbf{a}_{m3} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{mn} & C_m \end{pmatrix}$$
  
$$\stackrel{?}{=} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{11} & \mathbf{a}_{12} & \mathbf{a}_{13} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{1n} & \langle \mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{s} \rangle + \mathbf{e}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_{21} & \mathbf{a}_{22} & \mathbf{a}_{23} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{2n} & \langle \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{s} \rangle + \mathbf{e}_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_{m1} & \mathbf{a}_{m2} & \mathbf{a}_{m3} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{mn} & \langle \mathbf{a}_m, \mathbf{s} \rangle + \mathbf{e}_m \end{pmatrix}$$

# BKW Algorithm II

$$\Rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c} \mathbf{a}_{11} & \mathbf{a}_{12} & \mathbf{a}_{13} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{1n} & \langle \mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{s} \rangle + \mathbf{e}_1 \\ 0 & \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{22} & \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{23} & \cdots & \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{2n} & \langle \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2, \mathbf{s} \rangle + \mathbf{e}_2 - \frac{\mathbf{a}_{21}}{\mathbf{a}_{11}} \mathbf{e}_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \\ 0 & \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{m2} & \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{m3} & \cdots & \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{mn} & \langle \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_m, \mathbf{s} \rangle + \mathbf{e}_m - \frac{\mathbf{a}_{m1}}{\mathbf{a}_{11}} \mathbf{e}_1 \end{array} \right)$$

- ▶  $\frac{\mathbf{a}_{i1}}{\mathbf{a}_{11}}$  is essentially random in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$  wiping all “smallness”.
- ▶ If  $\frac{\mathbf{a}_{i1}}{\mathbf{a}_{11}}$  is 1 noise-size doubles because of the addition.

# BKW Algorithm III

We considering  $a \approx \log n$  'blocks' of  $b$  elements each.

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|ccc|c} \mathbf{a}_{11} & \mathbf{a}_{12} & \mathbf{a}_{13} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{1n} & c_0 \\ \mathbf{a}_{21} & \mathbf{a}_{22} & \mathbf{a}_{23} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{2n} & c_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_{m1} & \mathbf{a}_{m2} & \mathbf{a}_{m3} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{mn} & c_m \end{array} \right)$$

# BKW Algorithm IV

For each block we build a table of all  $q^b$  possible values indexed by  $\mathbb{Z}_q^b$ .

$$T^0 = \left[ \begin{array}{cc|ccc} -\lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor & -\lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor & \mathbf{t}_{13} & \cdots & \mathbf{t}_{1n} & c_{t,0} \\ -\lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor & -\lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor + 1 & \mathbf{t}_{23} & \cdots & \mathbf{t}_{2n} & c_{t,1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor & \lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor & \mathbf{t}_{q^2 3} & \cdots & \mathbf{t}_{q^2 n} & c_{t,q^2} \end{array} \right]$$

For each  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^b$  find row in **A** which contains **z** as a subvector at the target indices.

# BKW Algorithm V

Use these tables to eliminate  $b$  entries with one addition.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left( \begin{array}{cc|ccc} \mathbf{a}_{11} & \mathbf{a}_{12} & \mathbf{a}_{13} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{1n} & c_0 \\ \mathbf{a}_{21} & \mathbf{a}_{22} & \mathbf{a}_{23} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{2n} & c_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \\ \mathbf{a}_{m1} & \mathbf{a}_{m2} & \mathbf{a}_{m3} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{mn} & c_m \end{array} \right) \\
 + & \left[ \begin{array}{cc|ccc} -\lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor & -\lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor & \mathbf{t}_{13} & \cdots & \mathbf{t}_{1n} & c_{t,0} \\ -\lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor & -\lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor + \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{t}_{23} & \cdots & \mathbf{t}_{2n} & c_{t,1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \\ \lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor & \lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor & \mathbf{t}_{q^2 3} & \cdots & \mathbf{t}_{q^2 n} & c_{t,q^2} \end{array} \right] \\
 \Rightarrow & \left( \begin{array}{cc|ccc} \mathbf{a}_{11} & \mathbf{a}_{12} & \mathbf{a}_{13} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{1n} & c_0 \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{23} & \cdots & \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{2n} & \tilde{c}_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \\ \mathbf{a}_{m1} & \mathbf{a}_{m2} & \mathbf{a}_{m3} & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_{mn} & c_m \end{array} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

# BKW Algorithm VI

Memory requirement of

$$\approx \frac{q^b}{2} \cdot a \cdot (n + 1)$$

and time complexity of

$$\approx (a^2 n) \cdot \frac{q^b}{2}.$$

A detailed analysis of the algorithm for LWE is available as:



M.A., Carlos Cid, Jean-Charles Faugère, Robert Fitzpatrick and Ludovic Perret

On the Complexity of the BKW Algorithm on LWE

In *Designs, Codes and Cryptography*.



# BKW with Small Secret

Assume  $\mathbf{s} \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}_2^n)$ , i.e. all entries in secret  $\mathbf{s}$  are very small.

Common setting in cryptography

- ▶ for performance reasons and
- ▶ to realise some advanced functionality.

A technique called ‘modulus switching’ can be used to improve the performance of homomorphic encryption schemes.

## Lazy Modulus Switching

Exploit the same structure to solve such instances faster with BKW.



M.A., Jean-Charles Faugère, Robert Fitzpatrick, Ludovic Perret  
Lazy Modulus Switching for the BKW Algorithm on LWE.  
In *PKC 2014*, Springer Verlag, 2014.

# Complexity

**BKW** for  $q = \text{poly}(n)$

$$\mathcal{O} \left( 2^{cn} \cdot n \log_2^2 n \right)$$

**BKW + naive modulus switching** for  $q = \text{poly}(n)$

$$\mathcal{O} \left( 2^{\left( c + \frac{\log_2 d}{\log_2 n} \right) n} \cdot n \log_2^2 n \right)$$

**BKW + lazy modulus switching** for  $q = \text{poly}(n)$

$$\mathcal{O} \left( 2^{\left( c + \frac{\log_2 d - \frac{1}{2} \log_2 \log_2 n}{\log_2 n} \right) n} \cdot n \log_2^2 n \right)$$

where  $0 < d \leq 1$  is a small constant (so  $\log d < 0$ ).

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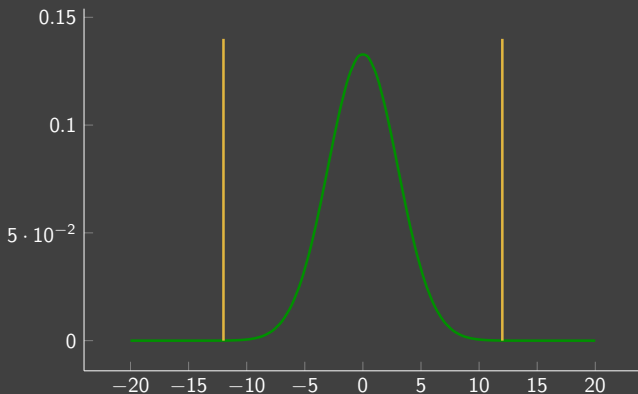
SIS: Combinatorial Algorithms

BDD: Arora & Ge

# The Idea I

Noise follows a discrete Gaussian distribution, we have:

$$\Pr[e \leftarrow_{\$} \chi : \|e\| > C \cdot \sigma] \leq \frac{2}{C\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-C^2/2} \in e^{\mathcal{O}(-C^2)}.$$



# The Idea II

If  $e \leftarrow_{\$} \chi$  and

$$P(X) = X \prod_{i=1}^{C \cdot \sigma} (X + i)(X - i),$$

we have  $P(e) = 0$  with probability at least  $1 - e^{\mathcal{O}(-C^2)}$ .

If  $(\mathbf{a}, c) = (\mathbf{a}, \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{s} \rangle + e) \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n \times \mathbb{Z}_q$ , and  $e \leftarrow_{\$} \chi$ , then

$$P\left(-c + \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{a}_{(j)} x_j\right) = 0,$$

with probability at least  $1 - e^{\mathcal{O}(-C^2)}$ .

# The Idea III

Each  $(\mathbf{a}, \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{s} \rangle + e) = (\mathbf{a}, c)$  generates a **non-linear equation** of degree  $2C\sigma + 1$  in the  $n$  components of the secret  $\mathbf{s}$  which holds with probability  $1 - e^{\mathcal{O}(-C^2)}$ .

Solve this “noise-free” system of equations with **Gröbner bases**.

# Tradeoff

More samples increase

1. the **number of equations**  $\rightarrow$  solving is **easier**.
2. the required interval  $C\sigma$  and hence the **degree**  $\rightarrow$  solving is **harder**.

# Complexity

**Arora-Ge** (Linearisation):

$$\mathcal{O} \left( 2^{8\omega \sigma^2 \log n (\log n - \log(8\sigma^2 \log n))} \right)$$

**Arora-Ge** (Linearisation) with  $\sigma = \sqrt{n}$

$$\mathcal{O} \left( 2^{8\omega n \log n (\log n - \log(8n \log n))} \right)$$

**Gröbner Bases** with  $\sigma = \sqrt{n}$

$$\mathcal{O} \left( 2^{2.16\omega n} \right)$$

under some regularity assumption.



# BinaryError-LWE

- ▶ BinaryError-LWE is a variant of LWE where the noise is  $\{0, 1\}$  but the number of samples severely restricted.
- ▶ Given access to  $m = \mathcal{O}(n \log \log n)$  samples we can solve BinaryError-LWE in **subexponential** time:

$$\mathcal{O}\left(2^{\frac{\omega n \log \log \log n}{8 \log \log n}}\right).$$



M.A., Carlos Cid, Jean-Charles Faugère, Robert Fitzpatrick and Ludovic Perret  
Gröbner Bases Techniques in LWE-Based Cryptography  
To appear.

Fin

Questions?