

# Quantum Key Search for Ternary LWE

[ia.cr/2021/865](https://ia.cr/2021/865)

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# Introduction

- ▶ We Modified “Meet-LWE” [May2021] to the quantum setting.
- ▶ This algorithm attacks ternary LWE, including NTRU.
- ▶ Classical algorithm solves LWE in  $\mathcal{S}^{0.24}$ .

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- ▶ Classical algorithm solves LWE in  $\mathcal{S}^{0.24}$ .
- ▶ Quantum algorithm solves LWE in  $\mathcal{S}^{0.19}$ .
- ▶ Different approach than the current best attacks.
- ▶ NTRU still quantum secure.

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- ▶ Solve  $As = b + e \pmod q$  where  $s \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n, e \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n$  are the secret key.
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- ▶ NTRU:  $n = 509, q = 2048$ .
- ▶ Ternary if  $s, e \in \{-1, 0, 1\}^n$ .
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- ▶ We assume  $s$  has an equal number of 1 and  $-1$  entries.
- ▶ NTRU: 127 1s, 127 -1s, 255 0s.
- ▶ Number of possible  $s$ :  $\mathcal{S} = \binom{n}{w/2} \binom{n-w/2}{w/2}$ .
- ▶ NTRU:  $\mathcal{S} \approx 2^{754}$ .



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- ▶ Try to find solutions to  $A_1 s_1 \approx b - A_2 s_2$  using locality sensitive hashing.
- ▶ Time & space complexity for NTRU with  $n = 509, q = 2048, w = 254$ :

$$2^{377} = \mathcal{S}^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

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- ▶ For our NTRU example:  $2^{252} = \mathcal{S}^{1/3}$ .

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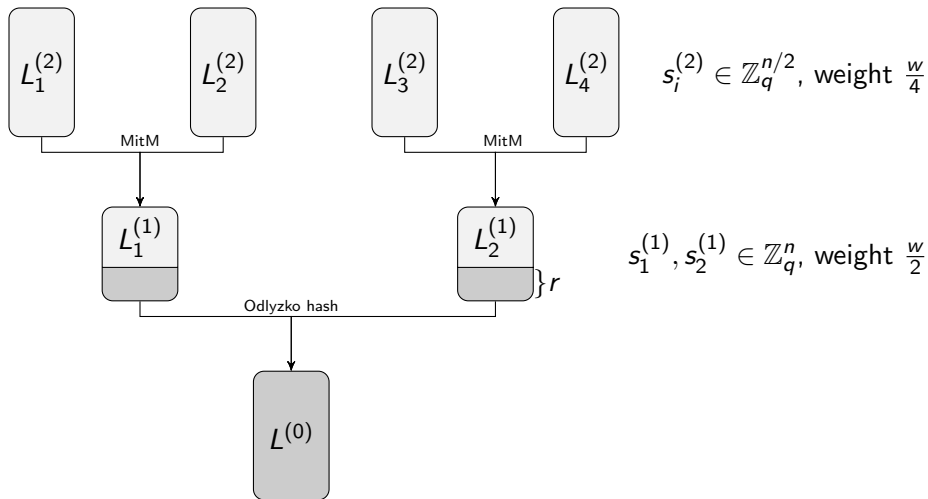
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- ▶ Do this recursively.
- ▶ At highest level do MitM.
- ▶ At lowest level check solution using LSH.



Figure



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- ▶  $T_\ell$  is the size of the largest list.
- ▶ Example:  $2^{282}$
- ▶ Final runtime:  $2^{282+36} = 2^{318} < 2^{377}$ .

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- ▶ Apply Grover & quantum walk.
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- ▶ Example:  $2^{36 \cdot \frac{1}{2}} = 2^{18}$ .
- ▶ Inner loop: subsets of highest level lists.
- ▶ Number of levels  $d + 1$ .
- ▶  $\gamma = \frac{2^d}{2^d + 1}$ .
- ▶ Example: 2 levels optimal,  $2^{212+18} = 2^{230} < 2^{318}$ .
- ▶ Further improvement:  $1 - 1 = 0$ .
- ▶ Classically now  $2^{267}$ .
- ▶ Example: 4 levels optimal,  $2^{155+33} = 2^{188}$ .

## Results

	$(n, q, w)$	MEET-LWE	QMEET-LWE	cSVP
NTRU-Enc	(509, 2048, 254)	$267 = 193 + 74$	$188 = 155 + 33$	98
	(677, 2048, 254)	$313 = 235 + 78$	$223 = 191 + 32$	137
	(821, 4096, 510)	$449 = 336 + 113$	$320 = 268 + 52$	164
	(701, 8192, 468)	$387 = 295 + 92$	$278 = 235 + 43$	126
NTRU-Prime	(653, 4621, 288)	$309 = 236 + 73$	$225 = 190 + 35$	119
	(761, 4591, 286)	$344 = 265 + 79$	$245 = 206 + 39$	143
	(857, 5167, 322)	$383 = 294 + 89$	$274 = 236 + 38$	163
BLISS I+II	(512, 12289, 154)	$206 = 168 + 38$	$149 = 133 + 16$	77
GLP I	(512, 8383489, 342)	$250 = 210 + 40$	$193 = 175 + 18$	34

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- ▶ Different heuristic.
- ▶  $\gamma$  for time-memory trade-off.