

Quantum Implementation of Core Operations in Classic McEliece

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Introduction

- Post-quantum cryptography standardization contest in progress in NIST



PQC Standardization Process: Announcing Four Candidates to be Standardized, Plus Fourth Round Candidates

PQC Fourth Round Candidate Key-Establishment Mechanisms (KEMs)

The following candidate KEM algorithms will advance to the fourth round:

Public-Key Encryption/KEMs	
BIKE	Code-based cryptographic algorithms
Classic McEliece ✓	
HQC	
SIKE	Isogeny based cryptographic algorithms

- of quantum computers for cryptographic analysis undermines the security of existing encryption methods and diminishes their security strength.
- In order to establish post-quantum cryptographic systems, it becomes imperative to reevaluate the security of encryption algorithms in the context of quantum computing.
- In light of this, our paper focuses on optimizing the quantum circuit implementation technique for Classic McEliece, one of the candidate algorithms in NIST's Post-Quantum Cryptography Standardization Round 4.

Contribution

1. Quantum circuit of the encoding using three method.

→ We use three method to implement matrix-vector multiplication of the encoding in Classic McEliece and compare the resources of them

2. Quantum circuit of the Berlekamp-Massey algorithm

→ We present for the first time a quantum circuit of the Berlekamp-Massey decoding algorithm, the core operation of Classic McEliece

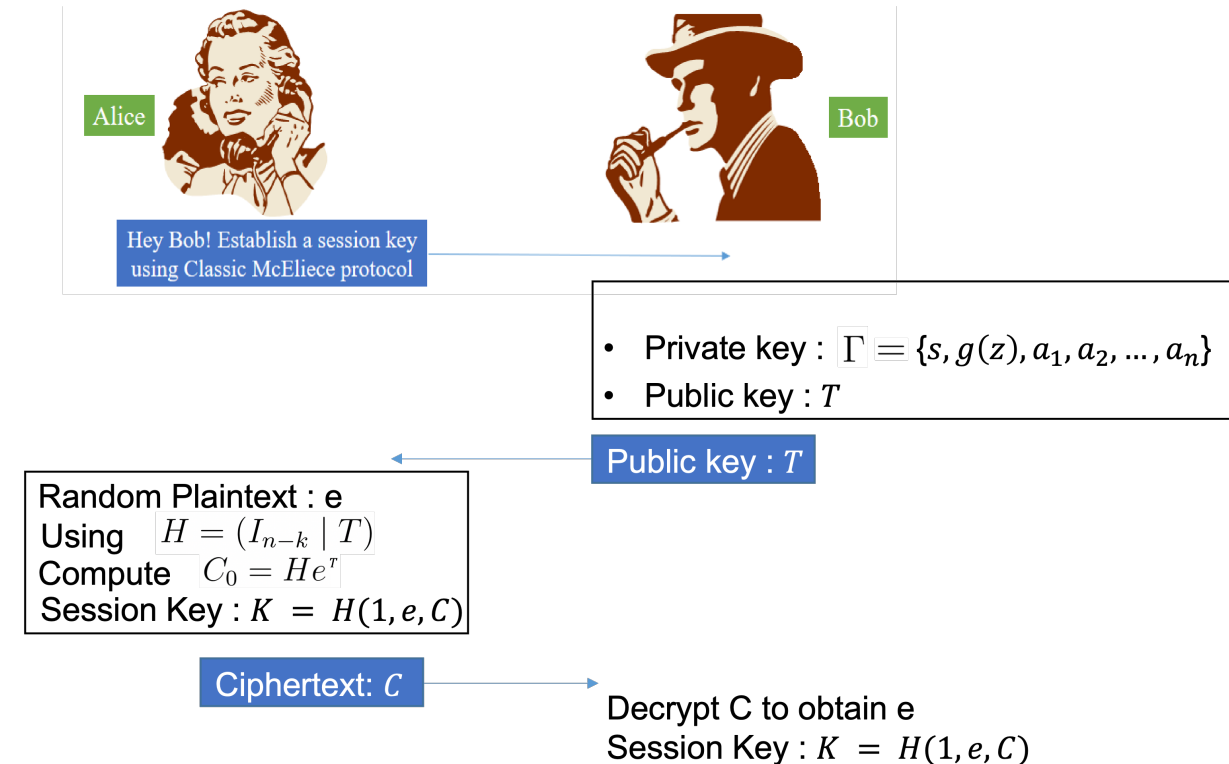
3. Efficient quantum implementation with WISA'22 quantum multiplication

→ We use the technique of [8] to implement binary field multiplication and inverse operation, which are key operations in the Berlekamp-Massey decoding algorithm. Through this, our proposed quantum circuit provides relatively low T -depth and full depth.

Background : Classic McEliece

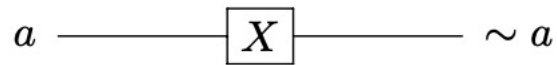
- Classic McEliece

- Classic McEliece is a code-based cipher which is one of the NIST Round 4 candidate algorithms.
- It uses the parity check matrix generated from the Goppa code as a public key.
 - A ciphertext is a syndrome value computed by multiplying a public key (a parity check matrix) and a secret information (a low-weight vector).
- For decryption, the syndrome value is decoded using a private key and a decoder.
 - By performing syndrome decoding, a low-weight vector is recovered from the syndrome value.

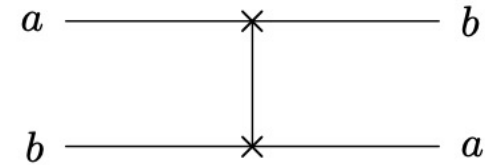


Background : Quantum gates

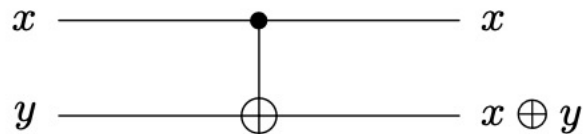
- Reversible quantum circuits for ciphers can be implemented using a variety of representative quantum gates.



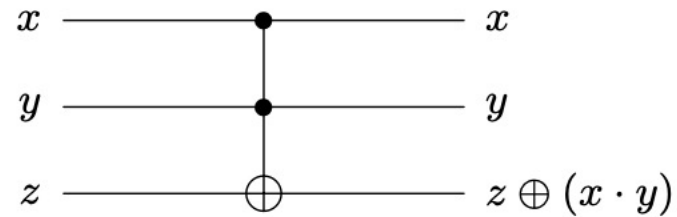
(a) X gate



(b) Swap gate



(c) CNOT gate



(d) Toffoli gate

Proposed Method

- Quantum Binary Field Multiplication
 - We apply **WISA'22 [8] multiplication**
 - optimized with a **Toffoli depth of one** for any field size.
 - WISA'22[8] multiplication
 - Using the **Karatsuba algorithm recursively** and allocating additional ancilla qubits.
 - All the AND operations become independent and the operations of **all Toffoli gates in parallel**.
 - The allocated ancilla qubits can be **reused** through **reverse operations**.

TABLE I: Quantum resources for the quantum multiplication circuit of $\mathbb{F}_{2^{12}}$ and $\mathbb{F}_{2^{13}}$.

Binary Field	#Clifford	# T	T -depth	#Qubits	Full depth
$\mathbb{F}_{2^{12}}$	761	378	4	162	37
$\mathbb{F}_{2^{13}}$	966	462	4	198	54

Proposed Method

- Quantum Binary Field Inversion
 - The inversion based on **Itoh-Tsujii**
 - Performing operations using **multiplications and squarings**.
 - Using the previously implemented multiplication and squaring
 - The inversion using **WISA'22[8] multiplication**.
 - Across multiple multiplication operations, **ancilla qubits can be reused**.
 - The inversion using **LUP decomposition for squarings**.
 - Through LUP decomposition, implemented **in-place** using only **CNOT gates**.

Proposed Method

- Quantum Binary Field Inversion
 - Ancilla qubits** are allocated only in the first multiplication and subsequent multiplications **reuse** the previous ancilla qubits without additional ancilla qubits.

TABLE II: Quantum resources for the quantum inversion circuit of $\mathbb{F}_{2^{12}}$ and $\mathbb{F}_{2^{13}}$.

Binary Field	#Clifford	# T	T -depth	#Qubits	Full depth
$\mathbb{F}_{2^{12}}$	4758	1890	20	402	194
$\mathbb{F}_{2^{13}}$	4988	1848	16	422	369

Algorithm 1 Inversion quantum circuit of $\mathbb{F}_{2^{12}}$

Input: 12-qubit x , 12-qubits $temp_{0\sim6}$, ancilla qubits ac

Output: x^{-1}

```

1:  $temp_0 \leftarrow \text{CNOT32}(x, temp_0)$ 
2:  $temp_0 \leftarrow \text{Squaring}(temp_0)$ 
3:  $temp_1 \leftarrow \text{Multiplication}(x, temp_0, ac)$ 
4:  $temp_2 \leftarrow \text{CNOT32}(temp_1, temp_2)$ 
5:  $temp_1 \leftarrow \text{Squaring}(temp_1)$ 
6:  $temp_1 \leftarrow \text{Squaring}(temp_1)$ 
7:  $temp_3 \leftarrow \text{Multiplication}(temp_2, temp_3, ac)$ 
8:  $temp_4 \leftarrow \text{CNOT32}(temp_3, temp_4)$ 
9:  $temp_3 \leftarrow \text{Squaring}(temp_3)$ 
10:  $temp_3 \leftarrow \text{Squaring}(temp_3)$ 
11:  $temp_3 \leftarrow \text{Squaring}(temp_3)$ 
12:  $temp_3 \leftarrow \text{Squaring}(temp_3)$ 
13:  $temp_5 \leftarrow \text{Multiplication}(temp_3, temp_4, ac)$ 
14:  $temp_5 \leftarrow \text{Squaring}(temp_5)$ 
15:  $temp_5 \leftarrow \text{Squaring}(temp_5)$ 
16:  $temp_6 \leftarrow \text{Multiplication}(temp_2, temp_5, ac)$ 
17:  $temp_6 \leftarrow \text{Squaring}(temp_6)$ 
18:  $temp_7 \leftarrow \text{Multiplication}(x, temp_6, ac)$ 
19:  $temp_7 \leftarrow \text{Squaring}(temp_7)$ 
20: return  $temp_7$ 

```

Proposed Method

- The encoding performs **matrix-vector multiplication**. (public key H and the random vector e)
 $C_0 = He$ (The public key H is a pre-defined value).
- Quantum simulation of the smallest parameter public key (768 x 3844) matrix is not possible.
→ Performing **reduced matrix-vector** multiplication (8 x 16)
- We implement three methods and compares their circuit costs.
 - Quantum – Quantum operation
 - Naïve (Out-of-place)
 - LUP decomposition(in-place)

Proposed Method

- Quantum – Quantum
 - When both qubits are set to 1, add 1 to the result vector.
 - Perform **AND** operations between the matrix values and vector qubits, and then implement the **XOR** operation with the result vectors.
→ **Using Toffoli gates.**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
def Encoding_1(eng, h, e, col, row):  
  
    syndrome = eng.allocate_quireg(row)  
  
    for i in range(row):  
        # Quantum - Quantum  
        h_e_mul(eng, h[(col*i):(col*i)+col], e, syndrome[row-1-i], col)  
  
    return syndrome
```

Proposed Method

- Classical - Quantum (Naïve)
 - Depending on the value of H , perform a **XOR operation**(CNOT gate) on the result vector. **(out-of-place)**
 - When the value of H is 1 , perform the CNOT operation between the the vector e and result qubit.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
def Encoding_2(eng, H, e, col, row):  
  
    syndrome = eng.allocate_quireg(row)  
    for i in range(row):  
        for j in range(col):  
            # Classic - Quantum  
            if(H[col*i+j] == 1):  
                CNOT | (e[col-1-j], syndrome[row-1-i])
```

Proposed Method

- Classical - Quantum (LUP decomposition)
 - **In-place** implementation based on the **LUP decomposition** of matrix H
→ the result vector is computed directly.
 - Through LUP decomposition, we obtain three matrices :
(a permutation matrix, a lower triangular matrix, and an upper triangular matrix)
→ **We can achieve the implementation using only CNOT gates without ancilla qubits to store the result.**

LUP decomposition

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
def Apply_U(eng, vector_e, row, col, U):  
    for i in range(row):  
        for j in range(col - 1 - i):  
            if (U[(i * col) + 1 + i + j] == 1):  
                CNOT | (vector_e[col - 2 - i - j], vector_e[col - 1 - i])
```

Proposed Method

- Quantum Circuit Implementation of the Berlekamp-Massey Decoding Algorithm
 - In Classic McEliece, the BM algorithm recovers the vector of secret weight–t from the ciphertext syndrome value.
 - The fundamental operations involve arithmetic in $\mathbb{F}_{2^{12}}/(x^{12} + x^3 + 1)$, $\mathbb{F}_{2^{13}}/(x^{13} + x^4 + x^3 + x^1 + 1)$
 - Multiplication and inversion are repeated as key operations.
 - **WISA'22[8] multiplication**
 - **Inversion based on Itoh-Tsujii**
 - We only target the Berlekamp-Massey decoding algorithm in **mceliece348864**.

Proposed Method

- Quantum Circuit Implementation of the Berlekamp-Massey Decoding Algorithm
 - In the implementation of Berlekamp-Massey, we employ the wise multiplication technique. By using this multiplication approach, we can **reuse the ancilla qubits**.
 - The application of this multiplication technique allows us to reduce the number of qubits and consequently enables the reuse of **the initially allocated ancilla qubits** across multiple multiplication and inversion operations.

Algorithm 2 The Berlekamp-Massey quantum circuit of Classic McEliece

Input: 12-qubit b , 12-qubit array $T[t+1]$, $C[t+1]$, $B[t+1]$, $s[2t]$, **ancilla qubits ac** , $L = 0$ (classical)

Output: C

```

1:  $b \leftarrow X(b[0])$ 
2:  $C[0] \leftarrow X(C[0][0])$ 
3:  $B[1] \leftarrow X(B[1][0])$ 
4: for  $N = 0$  to  $2t - 1$  do
5:    $d \leftarrow$  new 12-qubit allocation
6:   for  $i = 0$  to  $\min(N, t)$  do
7:      $d \leftarrow$  MultiplicationXOR( $C[i]$ ,  $s[N - i]$ ,  $ac$ )
8:   end for
9:   if ( $2L \leq N$ ) then
10:    for  $i = 0$  to  $t$  do
11:       $T[i] \leftarrow$  new 12-qubit allocation
12:       $T[i] \leftarrow \text{CNOT32}(C[i], T[i])$ 
13:    end for
14:  end if
15:   $b^{-1} \leftarrow$  Inversion( $b$ ,  $ac$ )
16:  if ( $2L > N$ ) then
17:    for  $i = 0$  to  $t$  do
18:       $C[i] \leftarrow$  MultiplicationXOR( $f$ ,  $B[i]$ ,  $ac$ )
19:    end for
20:  end if
21:  if ( $2L \leq N$ ) then
22:    for  $i = 0$  to  $t$  do
23:       $C[i] \leftarrow$  MultiplicationXOR( $f$ ,  $B[i]$ ,  $ac$ )
24:       $L \leftarrow N + 1 - L$  (classical)
25:    end for
26:    for  $i = 0$  to  $t$  do
27:       $B[i] \leftarrow T[i]$ 
28:    end for
29:     $b = d$  (classical)
30:  end if
31:  for  $i = 0$  to  $t - 1$  do
32:     $B[t - i] \leftarrow B[t - 1 - i]$ 
33:  end for
34:   $B[0] \leftarrow$  new 12-qubit allocation
35: end for
36: return  $C$ 

```

Performance

- Estimating the quantum resources for the quantum circuit of the matrix-vector multiplication encoding algorithm.
 - The **LUP decomposition** allows for an **in-place** implementation, **minimizing the required number of qubits**.
 - In terms of CNOT gate count and **depth**, both naïve and LUP offer similar performance.
 - Quantum– Quantum method achieves a **highest cost** in terms of both depth and qubits.

TABLE III: Quantum resources for the quantum circuit of the matrix-vector multiplication encoding algorithm.

matrix-vector encoding	Method	#Clifford	# T	T -depth	#Qubits	Full depth
Quantum-Quantum	Naive	784	896	92	152	147
Classic-Quantum	Naive	45	-	-	24	14
	LUP	37	-	-	16	13

Performance

- Estimating the quantum resources for the quantum circuit of the Berlekamp-Massey decoding algorithm
 - **Multiplication and inversion** are operations that require many quantum resources and are repeated in the proposed **Berlekamp-Massey** quantum circuit.
 - many quantum resources are used and the number of **qubits** is also very **high**.
 - Because the parameters used in Classic McEliece are large, this has a high cost even when ported to quantum.

TABLE IV: Quantum resources for the quantum circuit of the Berlekamp-Massey decoding algorithm.

Berlekamp-Massey	#Clifford	# T	T -depth	#Qubits	Full depth
$t = 64$ and $\mathbb{F}_{2^{12}}$	12823392	579384	60800	888492	363696

Conclusion

- In this paper, the core operations of the Classic McEliece algorithm, which is one of the code-based cryptosystems among the NIST Round4 candidates, are implemented as quantum circuits.
- Especially, the quantum circuit for **Berlekamp-Massey decoding** is presented for the first time in this work.
- As a future research direction, we plan to **complete the entire quantum circuit** for Classic McEliece based on the implemented core operations.
- Given the significantly large key size of the Classic McEliece scheme, adjustments need to be made to accommodate the feasible simulation range.

Q & A