# Theoretical Hardness of Algebraically Structured Learning With Errors

#### Katharina Boudgoust

Univ Rennes, CNRS, IRISA

16th November 2021



encryption

Provably secure **public-key** cryptography needs **well-defined** assumptions in the form of **mathematical problems**.

Current problems: • Discrete Logarithm • Factoring

 $\blacktriangle$   $\exists$  poly-time quantum algorithm [Sho97].

Sources for assumedly quantum-resistant problems:

- Euclidean Lattices 🗧 🗧
- Codes
- Isogenies

**Q** my research

• Multivariate Systems

• ?

## Hard Lattice Problems

An Euclidean lattice  $\Lambda$  of rank n with a basis  $\mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{b}_j)_{1 \le j \le n}$  is given by

$$\Lambda(\mathbf{B}) = \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n z_j \mathbf{b}_j \colon z_j \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}.$$

The minimum of  $\Lambda$  is

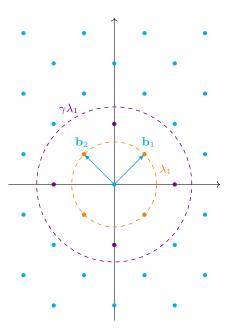
$$\lambda_1(\Lambda) := \min_{\mathbf{v} \in \Lambda \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}} \|\mathbf{v}\|.$$

The approximate shortest vector problem (SVP<sub> $\gamma$ </sub>) for  $\gamma \geq 1$  asks to find a vector w such that  $\|\mathbf{w}\| \leq \gamma \lambda_1(\Lambda)$ .

#### **Conjecture:**

There is no polynomial-time classical or quantum algorithm that solves SVP $_{\gamma}$  and its variants to within polynomial factors.

**A** Hard to build cryptography on top of  $SVP_{\gamma}$ .

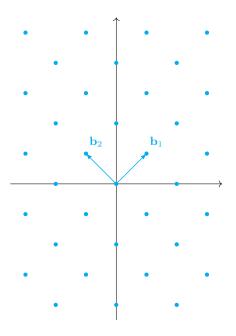


# Lattice-Based Cryptography

Value of the second second

(Main) Mathematical Problems:

- Short Integer Solution [Ajt96]
- NTRU [HPS98]
- Learning With Errors [Reg05]
  - Strong security guarantees At least as hard as variants of SVP<sub>γ</sub> for any Euclidean lattice
  - Efficiency Linear algebra & parallelizable
  - Many cryptographic applications
     Fully Homomorphic Encryption,
     E-Voting, Zero-Knowledge Proofs, ...



# NIST Competition

Started in 2016: NIST project to define new standards for post-quantum cryptography. A majority (5 out of 7) of the finalist candidates are based on lattice problems. Several among them (3 out of 5) are based on (variants of) Learning With Errors.

### Public Key Encryption

- Kyber: (module variant of) Learning With Errors
- Saber: (deterministic module variant of) Learning With Errors

### Digital Signature 🖋

• Dilithium: (module variant of) Learning With Errors

### Observation 🏁

Lattice-based cryptography, and in particular Learning With Errors, plays a key role in designing post-quantum cryptography.

# Outline

# Introduction

# 2 Learning With Errors

### Module Learning With Errors

- Binary Hardness
- Classical Hardness

### Partial Vandermonde Learning With Errors

- Hard Problems
- PASS Encrypt

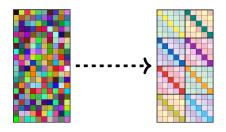
### 5 Conclusion and Perspectives

# Learning With Errors

### The Learning With Errors (LWE) Problem [Reg05] Set $\mathbb{Z}_q := \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}$ for some integer q. Given A ~ Unif( $\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times d}$ ), b $\in \mathbb{Z}_q^m$ , s ~ DistrS over $\mathbb{Z}^d$ , e ~ DistrE over $\mathbb{Z}^m$ such that $m \langle A , A \rangle = A + e = b \mod q.$ Search: find secret s distinguish from (A, b). where b ~ Unif( $\mathbb{Z}_{a}^{m}$ ) Decision: **DistrS** = Unif( $\mathbb{Z}_{q}^{d}$ ) $\mathsf{DistrE} = \mathsf{Gauss}(\mathbb{Z}^m)$ Standard: $\mathsf{DistrS} = \mathsf{Unif}(\{0,1\}^d)$ Binary Secret: $\mathsf{DistrE} = \mathsf{Gauss}(\mathbb{Z}^m)$ **DistrS** = Unif( $\mathbb{Z}_{q}^{d}$ ) DistrE $\hat{=}$ deterministic depends on A & s Rounding: $\sim \tilde{O}(\lambda^2) \\ \sim O(\lambda^2)$ **A** Storage $m(d+1)\log_2 q$ bits A Computation O(md)

 $\lambda$  security parameter

Reduce needed storage of the public key and speed-up the computations by adding structure!

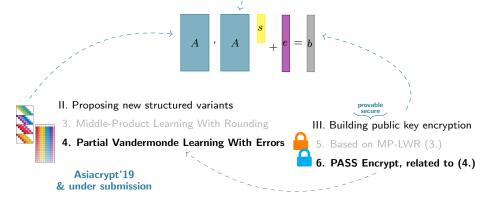


 $\Rightarrow$  structured variants of Learning With Errors

# My Contributions



- I. Study of existing structured variants
- 1. Module Learning With Errors with a binary secret
- 2. Classical hardness of Module Learning With Errors



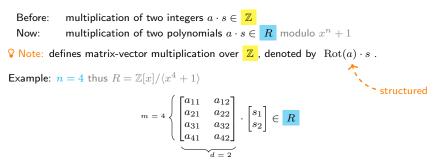
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# Hardness of Module Learning With Errors

Joint work with C. Jeudy, A. Roux-Langlois and W. Wen

## Ring of Integers over a Number Field

 $\label{eq:replace}$  ldea: replace  $\mathbb{Z}$  by the ring of integers R of some number field K of degree n. Think of  $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^n + 1 \rangle$  and  $K = \mathbb{Q}[x]/\langle x^n + 1 \rangle$  with  $n = 2^{\ell}$ .



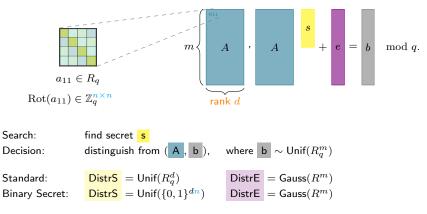
nm = 16

nd = 8

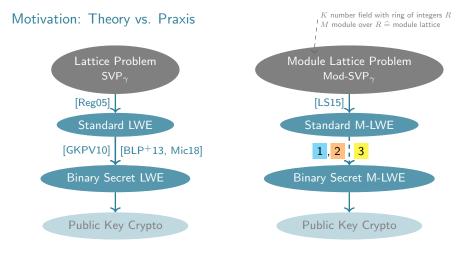
# Module Learning With Errors (Module-LWE, M-LWE) [BGV12, LS15]

Let R be the ring of integers of some number field K of degree n, set  $R_q = R/qR$ .

Given A ~ Unif $(R_q^{m \times d})$ , b  $\in R_q^m$ , s ~ DistrS over  $R^d$ , e ~ DistrE over  $R^m$  such that



For d = 1, we call this Ring-LWE [SSTX09, LPR10].



#### Contributions:

- Extending and Improving [GKPV10] to M-LWE
- 1 2 Extending [BLP<sup>+</sup>13] to M-LWE
- 3 Generalizing both proofs to bounded secrets



# Hardness of Module-LWE with Binary Secrets (Cyclotomics)

Standard M-LWE  $\rightarrow$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} \operatorname{modulus} q \\ \operatorname{ring} \operatorname{degree} n \\ \operatorname{secret} \mathbf{s}' \bmod q \\ \operatorname{Gaussian width} \alpha \\ \operatorname{rank} k \end{array}$ 

Binary Secret M-LWE

modulus qring degree nsecret s mod 2 Gaussian width  $\beta$ rank d

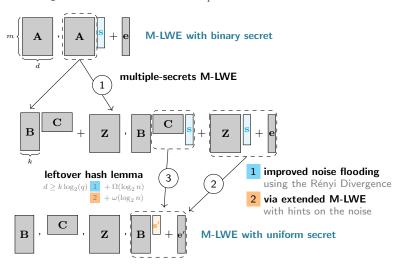
Property	Contribution 1	Contribution 2	
LWE analogue	[GKPV10] using RD*	[BLP+13]	
minimal rank $d$	$k \log_2 q + \Omega(\log_2 n)$	$(k+1)\log_2 q + \omega(\log_2 n) \gg$ practice	
noise ratio $eta/lpha$	$O(n^2\sqrt{m}d)$	$O(n^2\sqrt{d})$	
conditions on $q$	prime	number-theoretic restrictions	
decision/search	search	decision	
	I	pow-of-two: g prime and	
		$q = 5 \mod 8$	

 $\Rightarrow$  both proofs have their (dis)advantages

*Rényi Di	vergence
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# Proof of Hardness of Module-LWE with Binary Secrets

The secret  $\mathbf{s} \in R_2^d$  is binary and the secret  $\mathbf{s}' \in R_q^k$  is modulo q.



# Improved Noise Flooding via Rényi Divergence 1/2

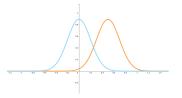
Let P, Q be discrete probability distributions.

In [GKPV10]: Statistical Distance

$$SD(P,Q) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x \in Supp(P)} |P(x) - Q(x)|$$

In our work: Rényi Divergence

$$\mathsf{RD}(P,Q) = \sum_{x \in \mathrm{Supp}(P)} \frac{P(x)^2}{Q(x)}$$



Example: two Gaussians  $D_{\beta}$  and  $D_{\beta,s}$ 

$$RD(D_{\beta}, D_{\beta,s}) = \exp\left(\frac{2\pi \|s\|^2}{\beta^2}\right)$$
$$SD(D_{\beta}, D_{\beta,s}) = \frac{\sqrt{2\pi} \|s\|}{\beta}$$

# Improving 2 by using Rényi Divergence 2/2

Both fulfill the probability preservation property for an event E:

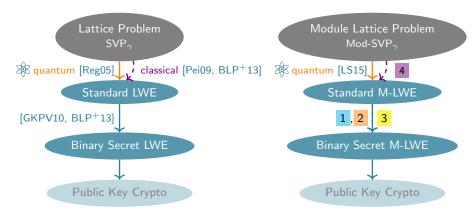
We need: Q(E) negligible  $\Rightarrow P(E)$  negligible Thus: SD(P,Q) = ! negligible and RD(P,Q) = ! constant

Back to example: two Gaussians  $D_{eta}$  and  $D_{eta,s}$  with  $\|s\| \leq lpha$ 

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathrm{SD}(D_{\beta}, D_{\beta,s}) &= \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}\|s\|}{\beta} & \Rightarrow \alpha/\beta \leq \text{negligible} \\ \mathrm{RD}(D_{\beta}, D_{\beta,s}) &= \exp\left(\frac{2\pi\|s\|^2}{\beta^2}\right) \approx 1 + \frac{2\pi\|s\|^2}{\beta^2} & \Rightarrow \alpha/\beta \leq \text{constant} \end{array}$$

A Rényi Divergence only for search problems.

# Motivation (Continued)



### Contributions:

<sup>\*</sup> Pseudorandomness of ring-LWE for any ring and modulus C. Peikert, O. Regev and N. Stephen-Davidowitz

# Classical Hardness of Module-LWE

High level idea following [BLP<sup>+</sup>13]:

- Step 1: Classical reduction from decision Mod-SVP  $_{\gamma}$  to decision Module-LWE with exponentially large modulus q
  - Extending [Pei09] (classical) and [PRS17] (decision) to the module variants.

`~~\_\_\_\_,

- Step 2: Reduction from Module-LWE with uniform secret to Module-LWE with binary secret
  - **V** Using either Contribution **1** or **2** presented before.
  - **A** Leftover hash lemma requires rank  $\geq \log(q) = \log(2^n) = n$ .

• Step 3: Modulus reduction from exponentially large to polynomially small modulus for Module-LWE with binary secret

**?** Using [AD17], computing bounds on singular values of rotation matrix, loss in the reduction depends on the norm of the secret.

# Partial Vandermonde Learning With Errors

Joint work with A. Sakzad and R. Steinfeld Under submission

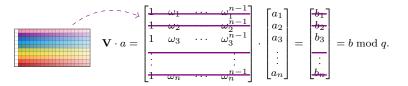
# Partial Vandermonde Transform [HPS<sup>+</sup>14, LZA18]

Again: Let R be the ring of integers of a number field K of degree n. Think of  $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^n + 1 \rangle$  and  $K = \mathbb{Q}[x]/\langle x^n + 1 \rangle$  with  $n = 2^{\ell}$ .

Choose q prime such that  $q = 1 \mod 2n$ :

•  $x^n + 1 = \prod_{j=1}^n (x - \omega_j)$ , where  $\omega_j$  is a primitive 2n-th root of unity in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$ 

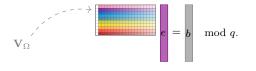
The set  $\{\omega_j\}_{j=1,...,n}$  defines the Vandermonde transform  $\mathbf{V} \colon R \to \mathbb{Z}_q^n$ , where



### Partial Vandermonde Problems

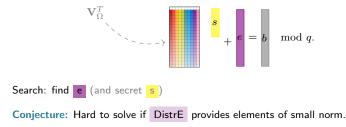
Choose a random subset  $\Omega \subseteq \{\omega_j\}_{j=1,...,n}$  of size  $|\Omega| = t$ .

Partial Vandermonde knapsack problem (PV-Knap): Sample e  $\sim$  DistrE over  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  defining



Search: find e

Partial Vandermonde Learning With Errors (PV-LWE): Sample s  $\sim$  DistrS over  $\mathbb{Z}^t$  and e  $\sim$  DistrE over  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  defining



## Equivalence of PV-Knap and PV-LWE

Let t = n/2 and set  $\mathcal{P}_t = \{\Omega \subseteq \{\omega_j\}_{j=1,\dots,n} : |\Omega| = t\}.$ 

Property 1:  $\mathbf{V}_{\Omega}$  defines a ring homomorphism from R to  $\mathbb{Z}_q^t$ :

$$\mathbf{V}_{\Omega}(a \cdot b) = (\mathbf{V}_{\Omega}a) \circ (\mathbf{V}_{\Omega}b)$$

(component-wise multiplication ○)

Property 2:  $\Omega^c = \{\omega_j\}_j \setminus \Omega$  defines the complement partial Vandermonde transform  $\mathbf{V}_{\Omega^c}$ . Given  $\mathbf{V}_{\Omega}a$  and  $\mathbf{V}_{\Omega^c}a$ , we can recover a.

Property 3: For every  $\Omega \in \mathcal{P}_t$ , there exists a  $\Omega' \in \mathcal{P}_t$  such that

$$\mathbf{V}_{\Omega'} \cdot \mathbf{V}_{\Omega}^T = 0 \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{t \times t}.$$

(parity check matrix, **A** only for power-of-two cyclotomics)

### Lemma (Adapted [MM11, Sec. 4.2])

Let  $\psi$  denote a distribution over  $\mathbb{Z}^n \cong R$ . There is an efficient reduction from PV-LWE $_{\psi}$  to PV-Knap $_{\psi}$ , and vice versa.

Idea: Given  $(\mathbf{V}_{\Omega}, b)$ , with  $b = \mathbf{V}_{\Omega}^T s + e$ . Compute  $\Omega'$  such that  $\mathbf{V}_{\Omega'} \cdot \mathbf{V}_{\Omega}^T = 0$ . Then,  $b' := \mathbf{V}_{\Omega'} b = \mathbf{V}_{\Omega'} e$  is an instance of PV-Knap.

# PASS Encrypt [HS15]

[HS15]	Our work
deterministic	randomized
without proof of security	with proof of security
fixed $\mathbf{V}_{\Omega}$	random $\mathbf{V}_{\Omega}$

Let  $p \ll q$  be two primes,  $m \in \{0,1\}^n$ ,  $\psi$  a distribution over  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  and t = n/2.

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda}) &: \text{ sample } f \leftarrow \psi \text{ and } \Omega \leftarrow \mathsf{Unif}(\mathcal{P}_t); \text{ return } \mathsf{sk} = f \text{ and } \mathsf{pk} = (\Omega, \mathbf{V}_{\Omega} f) \\ \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}, m) &: \text{ sample } r, s \leftarrow \psi; \text{ set } r' = pr \text{ and } s' = m + ps \\ e_1 &= (\mathsf{pk} \circ \mathbf{V}_{\Omega} r') + \mathbf{V}_{\Omega} s' \\ e_2 &= \mathbf{V}_{\Omega^c} r' \\ e_3 &= \mathbf{V}_{\Omega^c} s' \\ \text{ return } c &= (e_1, e_2, e_3) \\ \mathsf{Dec}(\mathsf{sk}, c) &: \text{ compute } c' = (\mathbf{V}_{\Omega^c} \mathsf{sk} \circ e_2) + e_3 \text{ and combine with } e_1 \text{ to } c'' \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n; \\ \text{ return } \mathbf{V}^{-1} c'' \text{ mod } p. \end{split}$$

Recall:  $V_{\Omega}$  and  $V_{\Omega^c}$  define V and V<sup>-1</sup>. Correctness:

$$e_{1} = (\mathbf{V}_{\Omega}f \circ \mathbf{V}_{\Omega}r') + \mathbf{V}_{\Omega}s' = \mathbf{V}_{\Omega}(f \cdot r' + s')$$
  

$$c' = (\mathbf{V}_{\Omega^{c}}\mathsf{sk} \circ (\mathbf{V}_{\Omega^{c}}r') + \mathbf{V}_{\Omega^{c}}s' = \mathbf{V}_{\Omega^{c}}(f \cdot r' + s')$$
 homomorphism  

$$\mathbf{V}^{-1}(e_{1}||c') = \mathbf{V}^{-1}(\mathbf{V}(f \cdot r' + s')) = f \cdot pr + ps + m = m \mod p$$
  
if  $f, r$  and  $s$  are small enough

# PASS Encrypt [HS15]

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Security:

 $e_1 = \mathbf{V}_{\Omega}(f \cdot r' + s')$  defines an instance of PV-Knap with pk,  $e_2$  and  $e_3$  as additional information.

 $\Rightarrow$  leaky variant of PV-Knap, that we call the PASS problem.

A PASS problem is tailored to PASS Encrypt!
 ? Reduce it from some more general problem?

# Properties of PASS Encrypt

#### Homomorphic properties:

```
Addition: Enc(pk, m_1) + Enc(pk, m_2) = Enc(pk, m_1 + m_2)
```

```
Multiplication: Enc(pk, m_1) \circ Enc(pk, m_2) = Enc(pk, m_1 \cdot m_2)
```

f A For  $\circ$ , need of 1 additional cross-term and the decryption algorithm has to be changed.

#### Efficiency:

Scheme	NTRU [HPS98]	P-LWE Regev [LP11]	PASS Encrypt
$\frac{ c + pk }{ m }$	$2\log_2 q$	$3\log_2 q$	$2.5 \log_2 q$

#### **Concrete Security:**

Known: key recovery and randomness recovery attacks [HS15, DHSS20]

New: plaintext recovery using hints attacks

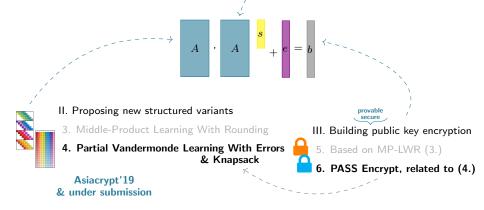
make use of leaky LWE estimator of Dachman-Soled et al. [DDGR20]

# Conclusion and Perspectives

# Conclusion



- I. Study of existing structured variants
- 1. Module Learning With Errors with a binary secret
- 2. Classical hardness of Module Learning With Errors



Asiacrypt'20 CT-RSA'21

# **Open Questions and Perspectives**

# I. Module LWE

Follow-ups 鏿

- General secret distributions (Entropic Secret Module-LWE)
- Small noise distributions (extending [MP13])

Open questions ?

- Classical and binary hardness for smaller ranks, in particular rank equals 1 (Ring-LWE)
  - Avoid leftover hash lemma in the reduction?
  - Avoid exponentially large modulus in [Pei09]?
- Narrow gap between theoretical reductions and practical attacks

### II. Partial Vandermonde LWE

Follow-ups 🥰

• Construct encryption scheme based only on PV-LWE / PV-Knap

Questions ?

- Hardness of partial Vandermonde problems
  - Cryptanalysis?
  - Worst-case average-case reductions as for LWE?
- More cryptographic applications

# Contributions

Published:

- CT-RSA'21 On the Hardness of Module-LWE with Binary Secret [HAL] Katharina Boudgoust, Corentin Jeudy, Adeline Roux-Langlois & Weiqiang Wen.
- Asiacrypt'20 Towards Classical Hardness of Module-LWE: The Linear Rank Case [HAL] Katharina Boudgoust, Corentin Jeudy, Adeline Roux-Langlois & Weiqiang Wen.
- Asiacrypt'19 Middle-Product Learning with Rounding Problem and its Applications [HAL] Shi Bai, Katharina Boudgoust, Dipayan Das, Adeline Roux-Langlois, Weiqiang Wen & Zhenfei Zhang.

Under Submission:

 Vandermonde meets Regev: Public Key Encryption Schemes Based on Partial Vandermonde Problems. Katharina Boudgoust, Amin Sakzad and Ron Steinfeld.

E-Print:

• Compressed Linear Aggregate Signatures Based on Module Lattices [IACR ePrint] Katharina Boudgoust and Adeline Roux-Langlois.

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