Overview of attacks on ideal lattices

Alice Pellet-Mary

CNRS and Université de Bordeaux

talk at ANSSI

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Outline of the talk









First definitions

Lattices



- $L = \{Bx \mid x \in \mathbb{Z}^n\}$ is a lattice
- ▶ $B \in \operatorname{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ is a basis
- n is the dimension of L

Algorithmic problems



Algorithmic problems



approx-SVP shortest vector problem

approx-SIVP shortest independent vector problem

approx-CVP closest vector problem

Algorithmic problems



Supposedly hard to solve when *n* is large (input: a bad basis of L)

- even with a quantum computer
- even with a small approximation factor (poly(n))

Hardness of SVP and CVP

Best Time/Approximation trade-off for SVP, CVP (even quantumly): BKZ algorithm [Sch87,SE94]



[Sch87] C.-P. Schnorr. A hierarchy of polynomial time lattice basis reduction algorithms. TCS.

[SE94] C.-P. Schnorr and M. Euchner. Lattice basis reduction: improved practical algorithms and solving subset sum problems. Mathematical programming.

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Structured lattices

$$M_{a} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{1} & -a_{n} & \cdots & -a_{2} \\ a_{2} & a_{1} & \cdots & -a_{3} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n} & a_{n-1} & \cdots & a_{1} \end{pmatrix}$$

basis of a special case of ideal lattice

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basis of a special case of ideal lattice



basis of a special case of module lattice of rank *m*

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basis of a special case of ideal lattice basis of a special case of module lattice of rank *m*

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{ideal-SVP} = \mbox{SVP} \mbox{ restricted to ideal lattices} \\ \mbox{module-SVP} = \mbox{SVP} \mbox{ restricted to module lattices} \\ \mbox{ \Rightarrow hardness of these restricted problems much less understood than SVP} \end{array}$

Context

Standard lattice-based problems

LWE

- post-quantum
- ▶ equivalent to worst-case SIVP in unstructured lattice
- not super efficient

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RLWE / Module-LWE / NTRU

- post-quantum
- efficient
- how do they compare to structured lattice problems?



▲ Arrows may not all compose (different parameters) ▲



Arrows may not all compose (different parameters) A

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[[]SSTX09] Stehlé, Steinfeld, Tanaka, Xagawa. Efficient public key encryption based on ideal lattices. Asiacrypt. [SSTX09] Lyubashevsky, Peikert, Regev. On ideal lattices and learning with errors over rings. Eurocrypt.



▲ Arrows may not all compose (different parameters) ▲

[[]LS15] Langlois, Stehlé. Worst-case to average-case reductions for module lattices. DCC.



Arrows may not all compose (different parameters) A

[[]AD17] Albrecht, Deo. Large modulus ring-LWE \geq module-LWE. Asiacrypt.



Arrows may not all compose (different parameters) A

[[]Pei16] Peikert. A decade of lattice cryptography. Foundations and Trends in TCS.



Arrows may not all compose (different parameters) A

[[]PS21] Pellet-Mary, Stehlé. On the hardness of the NTRU problem. Asiacrypt.

breaking ideal-SVP \Rightarrow breaking RLWE / module-LWE / NTRU

- ullet as long as the attack does not generalize to rank \ge 2, we are safe
- \blacktriangleright belief that there is a gap between rank 1 (ideals) and rank \geq 2

State-of-the-art for ideal-SVP

How easy is ideal-SVP compared to SVP?



Unstructured lattices

How easy is ideal-SVP compared to SVP?



 Bernard, Roux-Langlois. Twisted-PHS: using the product formula to solve approx-SVP in ideal lattices. AC.

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 Attacks on ideal lattices
 20/09/2021
 13/24

[[]CDW17] Cramer, Ducas, Wesolowski. Short stickelberger class relations and application to ideal-SVP. Eurocrypt.

[[]PHS19] Pellet-Mary, Hanrot, Stehlé. Approx-SVP in ideal lattices with pre-processing. Eurocrypt.

How easy is ideal-SVP compared to SVP?



almost no impact for crypto size params

no reduction from RLWE to ideal-SVP

[PHS19] Pellet-Mary, Hanrot, Stehlé. Approx-SVP in ideal lattices with pre-processing. Eurocrypt.

 [BR20] Bernard, Roux-Langlois. Twisted-PHS: using the product formula to solve approx-SVP in ideal lattices. AC.

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Bernstein's claim



Ideal lattices (power-of-two cyclotomic)



ideals lattices [PHS19,BR20] (with $2^{O(n)}$ pre-processing)

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► This is in the crypto regime (but still ideal-SVP → RLWE)





Bernstein's claim



Ideal lattices (power-of-two cyclotomic)

- ► This is in the crypto regime (but still ideal-SVP → RLWE)
- ▲ So far, no argument to support this claim



ideals lattices [PHS19,BR20] (with $2^{O(n)}$ pre-processing)

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Concrete impact

When does [CDW17] starts out-performing BKZ?



(in cyclotomic fields)

Concrete impact

When does [CDW17] starts out-performing BKZ?

- For reasonable run-time (a few core-days):
 - ▶ dim ≳ 5 000
- For NIST's weakest security requirement:
 - ▶ dim ≳ 17 000





Concrete impact

When does [CDW17] starts out-performing BKZ?

- For reasonable run-time (a few core-days):
 - ▶ dim ≳ 5 000
- For NIST's weakest security requirement:
 - dim $\gtrsim 17\,000$
- Dimension of NIST candidates:
 - ▶ dim ≈ 500 or 1 000





Techniques

Math background

Notation

$$K = \mathbb{Q}[X]/(X^n + 1)$$
, with $n = 2^k$

 $O_K = \mathbb{Z}[X]/(X^n + 1)$

(or any cyclotomic field)

Math background

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• Units: $O_K^{\times} = \{a \in O_K \mid \exists b \in O_K, ab = 1\}$

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• Units:
$$O_K^{\times} = \{a \in O_K \mid \exists b \in O_K, ab = 1\}$$

• Principal ideals:
$$\langle g \rangle = \{gr \mid r \in O_K\}$$

- ▶ g is a generator of $\langle g \rangle$
- $\blacktriangleright \ \ \{ \text{ generators of } \langle g \rangle \ \} = \{ gu \, | \, u \in \mathcal{O}_K^{\times} \}$

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(or any cyclotomic field)

 O_K is a lattice

$$O_{\mathcal{K}} = \mathbb{Z}[X]/(X^{n}+1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n}$$
$$r(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} r_{i}X^{i} \mapsto (r_{0}, r_{1}, \dots, r_{n-1})$$



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 $Log: O_K \to \mathbb{R}^n$ (take the log of every coordinate)

Let $1 = (1, \cdots, 1)$ and $H = 1^{\perp}$.



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Properties $(r \in O_K)$

 $\log r = h + a \cdot 1$, with $h \in H$

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- a = 0 iff r is a unit



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The Log unit lattice

$$\Lambda := \operatorname{Log}(O_{\mathcal{K}}^{ imes})$$
 is a lattice in H .

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a ≥ 0

• $||r|| \simeq \exp(||\log r||_{\infty})$



The Log unit lattice

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What does $Log\langle g \rangle$ look like?



[[]CGS14]: Campbell, Groves, and Shepherd. Soliloquy: a cautionary tale.

[[]CDPR16] Cramer, Ducas, Peikert and Regev. Recovering short generators of principal ideals in cyclotomic rings. EC.

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[[]BS16]: Biasse, Song. Efficient quantum algorithms for computing class groups and solving the principal ideal problem in arbitrary degree number fields. SODA.

▶ Find a generator g₁ of ⟨g⟩.
 ▶ [BS16]: quantum poly time

 $Log(g_1)$

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- ▶ Find a generator g₁ of ⟨g⟩.
 ▶ [BS16]: quantum poly time
- Solve CVP in Λ
 - Good basis of Λ (cyclotomic field)
 - $\Rightarrow \mathsf{CVP} \text{ in poly time} \\ \Rightarrow \|h\| \le \widetilde{O}(\sqrt{n})$



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More evolved algorithms: using S-units

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+ covering radius of Log-S-unit lattice = O(1) (instead of $O(\sqrt{n})$)

• can reach approximation factor poly(n) (instead of $2^{O(\sqrt{n})}$)

More evolved algorithms: using S-units

Idea: replace units by S-units

- + covering radius of Log-S-unit lattice = O(1) (instead of $O(\sqrt{n})$)
 - can reach approximation factor poly(n) (instead of $2^{O(\sqrt{n})}$)
- we don't know a good basis of the Log-S-unit lattice
 - need to pre-compute it (time 2^{O(n)})
 - even with the best basis possible, we can only solve CVP with approx $O(\sqrt{n})$ in poly time \Rightarrow still $2^{O(\sqrt{n})}$ approx-SVP in poly time

Attacks on module lattices

Not much:

- BKZ algorithm for modules [MS20]
 - does not outperform BKZ, but the algo uses only modules (no unstructured lattices)

[[]MS20] Mukherjee and Stephens-Davidowitz. Lattice reduction for modules, or how to reduce module-SVP to module-SVP. Crypto.

Attacks on module lattices

Not much:

- BKZ algorithm for modules [MS20]
 - does not outperform BKZ, but the algo uses only modules (no unstructured lattices)
- Algorithm for SVP in rank-2 modules [LPSW19]
 - ▶ Needs an oracle solving CVP in a fixed lattice of dimension n^2

[[]LPSW19] Lee, Pellet-Mary, Stehlé, Wallet. An LLL algorithm for module lattices. Asiacrypt.



Missing ingredients to have an impact on crypto:

¹https://pqcrypto2021.kr/download/program/3.1_PQC.pdf

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Missing ingredients to have an impact on crypto:

• Attacks on modules of rank \geq 2 (not ideals)

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- ▶ Attacks for small approximation factors

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To learn more: Damien Stehle's invited talk at PQCrypto 2021¹

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Missing ingredients to have an impact on crypto:

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Thank you

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