

# ADVENTURES IN SIS WITH HINTS

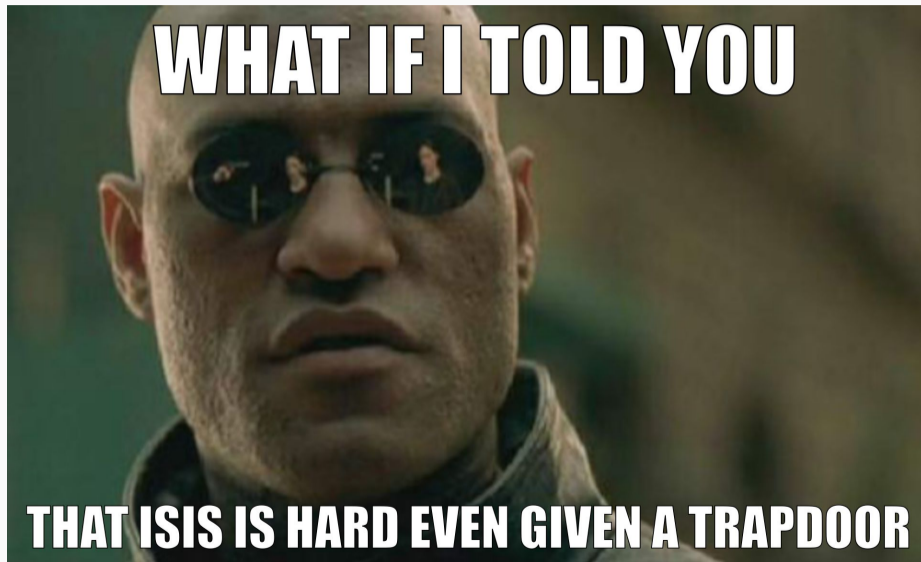
EMBRACING THE BRAVE NEW WORLD WHERE WE MAKE IT UP AS WE GO

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10 June 2024

- The SIS with Hints Zoo is an attempt to keep track of all those new SIS-like assumptions that hand out additional hints.
- I will discuss several of these assumptions here, with a focus on computational hardness rather than design.
  - **Designers** Please consider whether you can re-use one of those many newfangled assumptions before introducing yet another one.
  - **Cryptanalysts** Analyse them!
- I will also dive a bit deeper into some recent adventures in SIS with hints.



## Definition (M-(I)SIS)

- An instance of M-SIS is given by  $\mathbf{A} \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{R}_q^{n \times m}$  and has solutions  $\mathbf{u}^* \in \mathcal{R}^m$  such that  $\|\mathbf{u}^*\| \leq \beta^*$  and  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}^* \equiv \mathbf{0} \pmod{q}$ .
  - An instance of M-ISIS is given by  $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{t}) \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{R}_q^{n \times m} \times \mathcal{R}_q^n$  and has solutions  $\mathbf{u}^*$  such that  $\|\mathbf{u}^*\| \leq \beta$  and  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}^* \equiv \mathbf{t} \pmod{q}$ .
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- Throughout, feel free to set  $\mathcal{R} := \mathbb{Z}$ .
  - I am not going to discuss issues arising over cyclotomic rings in any detail.

- The kernel lattice  $\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A})$  of  $\mathbf{A}$  consists of all integral vectors  $\mathcal{R}_q$ -orthogonal to rows of  $\mathbf{A}$ :

$$\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A}) := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}^m : \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{x} \equiv \mathbf{0} \pmod{q}\}.$$

- $\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A})$  has rank  $m$  because  $q\mathcal{R}^m \subseteq \Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A}) \subseteq \mathcal{R}^m$ .
- I write  $\mathbf{G}$  for "the Gadget matrix"

$$\mathbf{G} := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 & \dots & \lfloor q/2 \rfloor & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 & 2 & 4 & \dots & \lfloor q/2 \rfloor \end{pmatrix}$$

K-SIS

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## Definition

For any integer  $k \geq 0$ , an instance of the  $k$ -M-SIS problem<sup>1</sup> is a matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{R}_q^{n \times m}$  and a set of  $k$  vectors  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$  s.t.  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}_i \equiv \mathbf{0} \pmod{q}$  with  $\|\mathbf{u}_i\| \leq \beta$ . A solution to the problem is a nonzero vector  $\mathbf{u}^* \in \mathcal{R}^m$  such that

$$\|\mathbf{u}^*\| \leq \beta^*, \quad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}^* \equiv \mathbf{0} \pmod{q}, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{u}^* \notin \mathcal{K}\text{-span}(\{\mathbf{u}_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq k}).$$

Dan Boneh and David Mandell Freeman. [Linearly Homomorphic Signatures over Binary Fields and New Tools for Lattice-Based Signatures](#). In: *PKC 2011*. Ed. by Dario Catalano, Nelly Fazio, Rosario Gennaro and Antonio Nicolosi. Vol. 6571. LNCS. Springer, Heidelberg, Mar. 2011, pp. 1–16. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-642-19379-8\\_1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-19379-8_1)

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<sup>1</sup>This is the module variant defined in [ACLMT22].

## K-SIS HARDNESS

- [BF11] showed that  $k$ -SIS (over  $\mathbb{Z}$ ) is hard if SIS is hard for uniform  $\mathbf{A}$ , for discrete Gaussian  $\mathbf{u}_i$  and for  $k = O(1)$ .
- This reduction was improved in [LPSS14] to cover  $k = \mathcal{O}(m)$ .
- No proof was provided for the module variant in [ACLMT22] but Sasha Laphia later proved it (unpublished).



## PROOF IDEA

Let  $\mathcal{R}_q := \mathbb{Z}_q$  be a field. Given the challenge  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{R}_q^{n \times (m-k)}$

1. Sample a small Gaussian full rank matrix  $\mathbf{E} \in \mathbb{Z}^{m \times k}$  and write

$$\mathbf{E} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{F} \\ \mathbf{H} \end{pmatrix} \text{ with } \mathbf{H} \in \mathcal{R}^{k \times k} \text{ and invertible over } \mathcal{K}.$$

2. Set  $\mathbf{U} := -\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{H}^{-1}$  and  $\mathbf{A} := [\mathbf{B} | \mathbf{U}]$ .

- We have  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{0}$  since  $\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{F} - \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{H}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{H} \equiv \mathbf{0}$ .
- We also have that  $\mathbf{A}$  is close to uniform since  $\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{F}$  is close to uniform and  $\mathbf{H}$  is invertible.

3. When the adversary outputs  $\mathbf{u}^* = (\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{g})$ , we have

- $\mathbf{0} \equiv \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{f} - \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{H}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{g}$
- $\mathbf{0} = \det(\mathbf{H}) \cdot \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{f} - \det(\mathbf{H}) \cdot \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{H}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{g}$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .
- $\mathbf{0} = \mathbf{B} \cdot (\det(\mathbf{H}) \cdot \mathbf{f} - \det(\mathbf{H}) \cdot \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{H}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{g})$

## FROM $O(1)$ TO $O(m)$

- $\det(\mathbf{H})$  grows quickly with  $k$
- [LPSS14] essentially samples small  $\mathbf{H}$  with small inverse, but non-trivial to make the result look Gaussian.

# WHAT CAN IT DO?

- linearly homomorphic signatures
- removing the random oracle from GPV signatures at the price of restricting to  $k$  signatures
- traitor-tracing (by extension to  $k$ -LWE<sup>2</sup>)
- ...

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<sup>2</sup>It is exactly what you think it is

## Leakage Resilience

Alice has  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{T}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times m}$  is short and  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{T} \equiv \mathbf{0} \pmod{q}$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{T}$  is trapdoor. Even given, say,  $1/2$  of  $\mathbf{T}$  it is hard to recover a full trapdoor.

# THE CRISIS OF KNOWLEDGE ASSUMPTIONS

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## Definition (K-M-ISIS Admissible)

Let  $g(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{X}^{\mathbf{e}} := \prod_{i \in \mathbb{Z}_w} X_i^{e_i}$  for some exponent vector  $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{Z}^w$ . Let  $\mathcal{G} \subset \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{X})$  be a set of such monomials with  $k := |\mathcal{G}|$ . We call a family  $\mathcal{G}$  **k-M-ISIS-admissible** if (1) all  $g \in \mathcal{G}$  have constant degree, (2) all  $g \in \mathcal{G}$  are distinct and  $0 \notin \mathcal{G}$ .

## Definition (K-M-ISIS Assumption)

Let  $\mathbf{t} = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ . Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be k-M-ISIS-admissible. Let  $\mathbf{A} \leftarrow_{\mathcal{S}} \mathcal{R}_q^{n \times m}$ ,  $\mathbf{v} \leftarrow_{\mathcal{S}} (\mathcal{R}_q^*)^w$ . Given  $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{t}, \{\mathbf{u}_g\})$  with  $\mathbf{u}_g$  short and  $g(\mathbf{v}) \cdot \mathbf{t} \equiv \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}_g \pmod{q}$  it is hard to find a short  $\mathbf{u}^*$  and small  $s^*$  s.t.  $s^* \cdot \mathbf{t} \equiv \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}^* \pmod{q}$ .

When  $n = 1$ , we call the problem **K-R-ISIS**.

Martin R. Albrecht, Valerio Cini, Russell W. F. Lai, Giulio Malavolta and Sri Aravinda Krishnan Thyagarajan.

**Lattice-Based SNARKs: Publicly Verifiable, Preprocessing, and Recursively Composable - (Extended Abstract)**. In:

*CRYPTO 2022, Part II*. ed. by Yevgeniy Dodis and Thomas Shrimpton. Vol. 13508. LNCS. Springer, Heidelberg, Aug.

2022, pp. 102–132. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-031-15979-4\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-15979-4_4)

## Some reductions (none cover the interesting cases):

- K-R-ISIS is as hard as R-SIS when  $m > k$  or when the system generated by  $\mathcal{G}$  is efficiently invertible.
- k-M-ISIS is at least as hard as K-R-ISIS and that K-M-ISIS is a true generalisation of K-R-SIS.
- Scaling  $(\mathcal{G}, g^*)$  multiplicatively by any non-zero  $g$  does not change the hardness, e.g. we may choose to normalise instances to  $g^* \equiv 1$ .
- $(\mathcal{G}, 1)$  is as hard as  $(\mathcal{G}, 0)$  for any  $\mathcal{G}$ : non-homogeneous variant is no easier than the homogeneous variant.

## Direct cryptanalysis:

- a direct SIS attack on  $\mathbf{A}$ .
  - finding short  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear combinations of  $\mathbf{u}_i$
  - finding  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linear combinations of  $\mathbf{u}_i$  that produce short images.
- ... all seem hard.

## KNOWLEDGE K-R-ISIS

The assumption states that for any element  $c \cdot \mathbf{t}$  that the adversary can produce together with a short preimage, it produced that as some small linear combination of the preimages  $\{\mathbf{u}_g\}$  we have given it. Thus, roughly:

### Definition (Knowledge K-R-ISIS)

If an adversary outputs any  $c, \mathbf{u}_c$  s.t.

$$c \cdot \mathbf{t} \equiv \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}_c \pmod{q}$$

There is an extractor that – given the adversary's randomness – outputs short  $\{c_g\}$  s.t.

$$c \equiv \sum_{g \in \mathcal{G}} c_g \cdot g(\mathbf{v}) \pmod{q}.$$

Think  $\mathbf{t} = (1, 0)$  and the second component serves as a "check equation": The assumption only makes sense for  $n > 1$ .



The knowledge  $k$ - $M$ -ISIS assumption, as stated, only makes sense for  $\eta \geq 2$ , i.e. not for  $k$ - $R$ -ISIS. To see this, consider an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  which does the following: First, it samples random short  $\mathbf{u}$  and checks whether  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u} \bmod q$  is in the submodule of  $\mathcal{R}_q^\eta$  generated by  $\mathbf{t}$ . If not,  $\mathcal{A}$  aborts. If so, it finds  $c$  such that  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u} = c \cdot \mathbf{t} \bmod q$  and outputs  $(c, \mathbf{u})$ . When  $\eta = 1$  and assuming without loss of generality that  $\mathcal{T} = \{(1, 0, \dots, 0)^\top\}$ , we observe that  $t = 1$  generates  $\mathcal{R}_q$ , which means  $\mathcal{A}$  never aborts. Clearly, when  $\mathcal{A}$  does not abort, it has no “knowledge” of how  $c$  can be expressed as a linear combination of  $\{g(\mathbf{v})\}_{g \in \mathcal{G}}$ . Note that when  $\eta \geq 2$  the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  aborts with overwhelming probability since  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u} \bmod q$  is close to uniform over  $\mathcal{R}_q^\eta$  but the submodule generated by  $\mathbf{t}$  is only a negligible fraction of  $\mathcal{R}_q^\eta$ . However, in order to be able to pun about “crises of knowledge”, we also define a ring version of the knowledge assumption. In the ring setting, we consider proper ideals rather than submodules.

# KNOWLEDGE K-R-ISIS: ALMOST INSTANT KARMA

The Knowledge K-M-ISIS assumption is "morally"<sup>3</sup> false.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}_0 \\ \mathbf{A}_1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathbf{U} \pmod{q}.$$

- $\mathbf{U}$  is a trapdoor for  $\mathbf{A}_1$
- Use it to find a short preimage of some  $(\mathbf{c}^*, \mathbf{0})$  using, say, Babai rounding.
- It will change  $\mathbf{c}^*$  but we're allowed to output anything in the first component.

Hoeteck Wee and David J. Wu. **Lattice-Based Functional Commitments: Fast Verification and Cryptanalysis**. In: *ASIACRYPT 2023, Part V*. ed. by Jian Guo and Ron Steinfeld. Vol. 14442. LNCS. Springer, Heidelberg, Dec. 2023, pp. 201–235. DOI: 10.1007/978-981-99-8733-7\_7

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<sup>3</sup>The assumption is technically unfalsifiable but for all intents and purposes it is wrong by inspection of the attack.

*Our main result is a quantum polynomial-time algorithm that samples well-distributed LWE instances while provably not knowing the solution, under the assumption that LWE is hard. Moreover, the approach works for a vast range of LWE parametrizations, including those used in the above-mentioned SNARKs.*

Thomas Debris-Alazard, Pouria Fallahpour and Damien Stehlé. **Quantum Oblivious LWE Sampling and Insecurity of Standard Model Lattice-Based SNARKs**. Cryptology ePrint Archive, Paper 2024/030. 2024. URL: <https://eprint.iacr.org/2024/030>

BASIS

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# BASIS (RANDOM)

We consider  $k = 2$ , for simplicity.

## Definition (BASIS<sub>rand</sub>)

Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{n \times m}$ . We're given

$$\mathbf{B} := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}_0 & \mathbf{0} & -\mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{A}_1 & -\mathbf{G} \end{pmatrix}$$

and a short  $\mathbf{T}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{G} \equiv \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{T} \pmod{q}$  where  $\mathbf{A}_i$  are uniformly random for  $i > 0$  and  $\mathbf{A}_0 := [\mathbf{a}|\mathbf{A}^T]^T$  for uniformly random  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{a}$ .

Given  $(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{T})$  it is hard to find a short  $\mathbf{u}^*$  s.t.  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}^* \equiv \mathbf{0} \pmod{q}$ .

Hoeteck Wee and David J. Wu. **Succinct Vector, Polynomial, and Functional Commitments from Lattices**. In: *EUROCRYPT 2023, Part III*. ed. by Carmit Hazay and Martijn Stam. Vol. 14006. LNCS. Springer, Heidelberg, Apr. 2023, pp. 385–416. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-031-30620-4\_13

$\text{BASIS}_{\text{rand}}$  is as hard as SIS.

- We can construct  $\mathbf{B}$  given  $\mathbf{A}$  since we can trapdoor all  $\mathbf{A}_i$  for  $i > 0$ .
- For each column  $\mathbf{t} = (\mathbf{t}^{(0)}, \mathbf{t}^{(1)}, \mathbf{t}^{(G)})$  of  $\mathbf{T}$  we have  $\mathbf{A}_i \cdot \mathbf{t}^{(i)} \equiv \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{t}^{(G)}$  where  $\mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{t}^{(G)}$  is close to uniform.
- We can sample  $\mathbf{t}^{(0)}$ , compute  $\mathbf{y} := \mathbf{A}_0 \cdot \mathbf{t}^{(0)}$  and then use the gadget structure of  $\mathbf{G}$  to find a short  $\mathbf{t}^{(G)}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{A}_i \cdot \mathbf{t}^{(i)} \equiv \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{t}^{(G)}$ .
- Using the trapdoors for  $\mathbf{A}_i$  with  $i > 0$  we can find  $\mathbf{t}^{(i)}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{A}_i \cdot \mathbf{t}^{(i)} \equiv \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{t}^{(G)}$ .

# BASIS (STRUCTURED)

We consider  $k = 2$ , for simplicity.

## Definition (BASIS<sub>struct</sub>)

Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{n \times m}$ . We're given

$$\mathbf{B} := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}_0 & \mathbf{0} & -\mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{A}_1 & -\mathbf{G} \end{pmatrix}$$

and a short  $\mathbf{T}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{G}_{\eta'} \equiv \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{T} \pmod{q}$  where  $\mathbf{A}_i := \mathbf{W}_i \cdot \mathbf{A}$  for known  $\mathbf{W}_i \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{n \times n}$ .

Given  $(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{T})$  it is hard to find a short  $\mathbf{u}^*$  s.t.  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}^* \equiv \mathbf{0} \pmod{q}$ .

Hoeteck Wee and David J. Wu. **Succinct Vector, Polynomial, and Functional Commitments from Lattices**. In: *EUROCRYPT 2023, Part III*. ed. by Carmit Hazay and Martijn Stam. Vol. 14006. LNCS. Springer, Heidelberg, Apr. 2023, pp. 385–416. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-031-30620-4\_13

Given an algorithm for solving  $\text{BASIS}_{\text{struct}}$  there is an algorithm for solving k-M-ISIS.



## Definition (PRISIS)

Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{R}_q^{n \times m}$ . We're given

$$\mathbf{B} := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{0} & \dots & -\mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{0} & w \cdot \mathbf{A} & \dots & -\mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \ddots & -\mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{0} & \dots & w^{k-1} \cdot \mathbf{A} & -\mathbf{G} \end{pmatrix}$$

and a short  $\mathbf{T}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{G} \equiv \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{T} \pmod{q}$ .

Given  $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, w, \mathbf{T})$  it is hard to find a short  $\mathbf{u}^*$  s.t.  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}^* \equiv \mathbf{0}$ .

Giacomo Fenzi, Hossein Moghaddas and Ngoc Khanh Nguyen. **Lattice-Based Polynomial Commitments: Towards Asymptotic and Concrete Efficiency**. Cryptology ePrint Archive, Paper 2023/846.

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2023/846>. 2023. URL: <https://eprint.iacr.org/2023/846>

PRISIS's additional structure allows to prove a broader regime of parameters as hard as M-SIS

If  $k = 2$  then PRISIS is no easier than M-SIS

$$B := \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & \cdots & -G \\ 0 & w \cdot A & \cdots & -G \end{pmatrix}$$

## The Trick

- Plant an NTRU instance in  $w$ , and use its trapdoor to construct the global trapdoor  $T$
- Can pick parameters for NTRU that are statistically secure

$h$ -PRISIS [AFLN23] is a multi-instance version of PRISIS.

## Definition ( $h$ -PRISIS)

Let  $\mathbf{A}_i \in \mathcal{R}_q^{n \times m}$  for  $i \in \{0, \dots, h-1\}$ . We're given

$$\mathbf{B}_i := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}_i & \mathbf{0} & \dots & -\mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{0} & w_i \cdot \mathbf{A}_i & \dots & -\mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \ddots & -\mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{0} & \dots & w_i^{\ell-1} \cdot \mathbf{A}_i & -\mathbf{G} \end{pmatrix}$$

and a short  $\mathbf{T}_i$  s.t.  $\mathbf{G} \equiv \mathbf{B}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_i \pmod{q}$ .

Given  $(\{\mathbf{A}_i\}, \{\mathbf{B}_i\}, \{w_i\}, \{\mathbf{T}_i\})$  it is hard to find a short  $\mathbf{u}_i^*$  s.t.  $\sum \mathbf{A}_i \cdot \mathbf{u}_i^* \equiv \mathbf{0} \pmod{q}$ .

$h$ -PRISIS is no easier than PRISIS [AFLN23]. In particular, if  $\ell = 2$  then  $h$ -PRISIS is no easier than M-SIS [AFLN23].

## The Trick

- Let  $\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}$  be short and satisfy  $\mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{V} \equiv \mathbf{I}$ .
- We can re-randomise  $\mathbf{A}_0$  to  $\mathbf{A}_i$  as  $\mathbf{A}_i := \mathbf{A}_0 \cdot \mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{T}$  as  $\mathbf{T}_i := \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{T}$
- We have  $\mathbf{A}_i \cdot \mathbf{T}_i \equiv \mathbf{A}_0 \cdot \mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{T} \equiv \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{T}$ .
- $\mathbf{U} := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{R}_1 \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{R}_2 & \mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{V} := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \\ -\mathbf{R}_2 & \mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & -\mathbf{R}_1 \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix}$  where  $\mathbf{R}_i$  are small.

# WHAT CAN IT DO?

Polynomial commitment schemes, see Khanh's talk.

ONE-MORE-ISIS

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## Definition (One-more-ISIS)

Let  $\mathbf{A} \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q^{n \times m}$ .

**Syndrome queries:** can request a random challenge vector  $\mathbf{t} \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q^n$  which is added to some set  $\mathcal{S}$ .

**Preimage queries:** can submit **any** vector  $\mathbf{t}' \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n$  will get a short vector  $\mathbf{u}' \leftarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}^m, \sigma}$  such that  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}' \equiv \mathbf{t}' \pmod{q}$ . Denote  $k$  for the number of preimage queries.

The adversary is asked to output  $k + 1$  pairs  $\{(\mathbf{u}_i^*, \mathbf{t}_i)\}_{1 \leq i \leq k+1}$  satisfying:

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}_i^* \equiv \mathbf{t}_i \pmod{q}, \|\mathbf{u}_i^*\| \leq \beta^* \text{ and } \mathbf{t}_i \in \mathcal{S}.$$

The hardness of the problem is analysed using direct cryptanalysis in the original paper. The authors give a combinatorial attack and a lattice attack.

## The Trick

The key ingredient is that  $\beta^*$  is only marginally bigger than  $\sqrt{m} \cdot \sigma$ .



## HARDNESS: LATTICE ATTACK

- The adversary requests  $\geq \ell$  preimages of zero and uses that to produce a short basis  $\mathbf{T}$  for the kernel of  $\mathbf{A}$ , i.e.

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{T} \equiv \mathbf{0} \pmod{q}.$$

- This constitutes a trapdoor for  $\mathbf{A}$  and thus permits to return short preimages for any target.
- However, this trapdoor is of degraded quality relative to the trapdoor used by the challenger.

### Challenge

The key computational challenge then is to fix-up or improve this degraded trapdoor in order to be able to sample sufficiently short vectors.

# WHAT CAN IT DO?

Blind signatures.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup>But see Ward Beullens, Vadim Lyubashevsky, Ngoc Khanh Nguyen and Gregor Seiler. **Lattice-Based Blind Signatures: Short, Efficient, and Round-Optimal**. Cryptology ePrint Archive, Report 2023/077. <https://eprint.iacr.org/2023/077>. 2023.

HINTED LATTICE PROBLEMS AS HARD  
AS FINDING SHORT VECTORS IN  
PSPACE  $\cap$  E

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# HINTED LATTICE PROBLEMS AS HARD AS FINDING SHORT VECTORS IN $PSPACE \cap E$

joint work with Russell W. F. Lai<sup>5</sup> and Eamonn W. Postlethwaite

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<sup>5</sup>some slides nicked from Russell.

**Public Key** Matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{n \times m}$ .

**Secret Key** Short basis of  $\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A})$  of norm  $\alpha$ .

**Signature of  $\mu$**  Short vector  $\mathbf{u}$  satisfying

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u} \equiv H(\mu) \pmod{q} \quad \text{and} \quad \|\mathbf{u}\| \leq \beta$$

where  $H : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_q^n$  is hash function modelled as random oracle,  
 $\beta \approx \sqrt{m} \cdot \alpha$ .

## SECURITY PROOF $\approx$ ARGUMENT AGAINST SIGNING THE SAME $\mu$ TWICE:

- Signing same  $\mu$  twice  $\implies$

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}_0 \equiv \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1 = H(\mu) \pmod{q},$$

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot (\mathbf{u}_0 - \mathbf{u}_1) = \mathbf{0} \pmod{q},$$

i.e. giving away short vector  $\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}_1 \in \Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A})$ .

- Do this for many  $\mu \implies$  adversary gets short(-ish) basis of  $\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A})$  of norm  $\approx \sqrt{m} \cdot \alpha$ .

Does this (really) help adversary forge signatures?

One-more-ISIS assumption suggest "no"!

# THE $k$ -HINT INHOMOGENEOUS SHORT INTEGER SOLUTION PROBLEM:

## Definition (k-H-ISIS)

Let  $k, n, m, q, \beta, \text{HintGen}$ , where

$$\forall \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{n \times m}, \text{HintGen}(\mathbf{A}) \subseteq_k \Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A}) \quad \text{and} \quad \beta \leq r \cdot \|\text{HintGen}(\mathbf{A})\|$$

for some ratio  $r \leq \text{polylog}(m)$ . (We mostly care about  $r \leq O(1)$  or at least  $r \leq O(\log m)$ .)

Given  $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{U})$  where

$$\mathbf{A} \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q^{n \times m}, \quad \mathbf{y} \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q^n, \quad \mathbf{U} \leftarrow \text{HintGen}(\mathbf{A}).$$

find  $\mathbf{u}^* \in \mathbb{Z}^m$  such that

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{u}^* \equiv \mathbf{y} \pmod{q} \quad \text{and} \quad \|\mathbf{u}^*\| \leq \beta.$$

The  $k$ -hint (Homogeneous) Short Integer Solution (k-H-SIS) problem: Same thing but  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$ .

## SUCCESSIVE MINIMA AND SIVP

- Successive minima  $\lambda_i(\Lambda)$  = radius of smallest ball containing  $i$  linearly independent lattice vectors.
- SIVP $_\gamma$ : Given lattice  $\Lambda \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ , find  $m$  linearly independent lattice vectors of norm at most  $\gamma \cdot \lambda_m(\Lambda)$ .
- We will discuss asymptotic complexities in terms of  $m$ .



# ENUMERATION AND SIEVING

Two types of lattice algorithms for  $\gamma \leq \text{poly}(m)$ :

## Enumeration-type

- Enumerate over all non-zero vectors in  $\Lambda$  of norm at most  $\beta$ .
- Output the shortest vector.

## Sieving-type

- Start with a long list of vectors in  $\Lambda$ .
- Search for an integer combination of vectors in the list which gives a shorter vector.
- Add resulting vector to the list.
- Repeat.

Space-time complexity of  $\text{SIVP}_\gamma$  over  $\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A})$ :

Algorithms	Time	Memory	Assumptions
Enumeration	$m^{\Omega(m)}$	$\text{poly}(m)$	-
Sieving	$2^{\Omega(m)}$	$2^{\Omega(m)}$	-
Sieving (this work)	$2^{\Omega(m)}$	$\text{poly}(m)$	1) sub. exp. OWF and 2) k-H-SIS is easy

### Our Interpretation

Hinted lattice problems seem hard.

## STEP 1: ENTROPIC REDUCTION FROM $\kappa$ -H-SIS TO $\kappa$ -H-ISIS

We show that the classic SIS to ISIS reduction gives the following:

### $k$ -H-SIS $\rightarrow$ $k$ -H-ISIS

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be PPT adversary against  $k$ -H-ISIS, then there exists a PPT adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against  $k$ -H-SIS. The output of  $\mathcal{B}$  follows a Gaussian distribution (with some centre) with high min-entropy.

$\mathcal{B}$ 's outputs are drawn from the following distribution:

- Choose a centre  $\mathbf{c}$  from some distribution (somehow chosen by  $\mathcal{A}$ ).
- Output a sample from  $\mathcal{D}_{\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A}),s,\mathbf{c}}$ , where the Gaussian parameter  $s$  satisfies

$$s \geq \sqrt{m} \cdot \lambda_m(\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A})) \geq \eta_\epsilon(\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A}))$$

with high probability.

## STEP 2: GAUSSIAN VECTORS GENERATE THE LATTICE

We prove the following lattice generation theorem:

### Gaussian vectors generate the lattice

Let  $\Lambda \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  be any lattice and suppose  $s \geq \sqrt{m} \cdot \lambda_m(\Lambda)$ .

Let  $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_{\Lambda, s, \mathbf{c}_i}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, t$  with arbitrary and potentially distinct centres  $\mathbf{c}_i$ .

There exists  $t^* = O(m \cdot \log(s\sqrt{m}))$  s.t. if  $t \geq t^*$ , then  $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i \in \{1 \dots t\}}$  generates  $\Lambda$  with probability at least  $1 - 2^{-\Omega(m)}$ .

This was known only for  $\mathbf{c}_i := \mathbf{0}, \forall i$ .<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>Ishay Haviv and Oded Regev. **On the Lattice Isomorphism Problem**. In: *25th SODA*. ed. by Chandra Chekuri. ACM-SIAM, Jan. 2014, pp. 391–404. DOI: 10.1137/1.9781611973402.29.

## STEP 3: IMPROVED ANALYSIS OF SIEVES

We prove the following sieving theorem:

### Number of points in a ball

Let  $S = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_t\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  be any set of  $t$  distinct vectors of norm  $\|\mathbf{x}_i\| \leq \beta$ .

Let  $1 < r = o(\log m)$  be some improvement ratio.

There exists  $t^* \leq 2^{O(m \log r)}$  s.t., if  $t \geq t^*$ , then there exist  $i, j$  s.t.  $0 < \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\| \leq \beta/r$ .

Previous sieve analyses were

- heuristic (assuming vectors are uniformly distributed on the surface of a sphere) and
- only for  $r = O(1)$ .

## STEP 4: FINDING ONE MILDLY SHORT VECTOR

Suppose there exists a PPT entropic k-H-SIS solver  $\mathcal{B}$  with ratio  $r > 1$ .

We construct a  $(2^{O(m)}, \text{poly}(m))$  time/memory k-H-SIS solver  $\mathcal{B}'$  with constant ratio  $r' < 1$ .

### Basic Idea

Run entropic kHSIS solver  $\mathcal{B}$  many times to get  $2^{\Omega(m)}$  vectors, then apply sieving theorem.

## STEP 4: FINDING ONE MILDLY SHORT VECTOR (MORE DETAILS)

1. Success probability amplification: Repeat  $\mathcal{B}$  to make success probability overwhelming.
2. Randomised memory-inefficient sieve:
  - Fill random tape of (amplified)  $\mathcal{B}$  with  $t \geq 2^{\Omega(m)}$  independent randomness  $\chi_1, \dots, \chi_t$ .
  - For each  $i, j \in [t]$ :
    - Compute  $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{U}; \chi_i)$ .
    - Compute  $\mathbf{x}_j \leftarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{U}; \chi_j)$ .
    - Output  $\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j$  if  $0 < \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\| \leq \|\mathbf{U}\| / r'$ .
    - Entropic-ness of  $\mathcal{B}$  + sieving theorem  $\implies$  Successful output with overwhelming probability.
3. Derandomisation: derandomise the double-loop with sub-exp. secure PRF.

## STEP 5: FINDING LOTS OF MILDLY SHORT VECTORS

Suppose further that the entropic kHSIS solver  $\mathcal{B}$  has Gaussian outputs.

We construct a  $(2^{O(m)}, \text{poly}(m))$  sieving routine  $\mathcal{C}$ :

**Input**  $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{U})$  where  $\mathbf{U}$  generates  $\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A})$ .

**Output**  $\mathbf{U}' \subset \Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A})$  generating  $\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A})$  with  $\|\mathbf{U}'\| \leq \|\mathbf{U}\| / r'$ .

### Basic Idea

Run  $\mathcal{B}'$  many times to get  $\Omega(m \cdot \log(s\sqrt{m}))$  vectors, then apply lattice generation theorem.



## STEP 6: ITERATED SIEVING

Assume the existence of a chain of entropic  $k$ -H-SIS solvers  $\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2, \dots$  with Gaussian outputs with arbitrary (small) centres, accepting Gaussian inputs with arbitrary (small) centres.

We construct a  $(2^{O(m)}, \text{poly}(m))$ -memory algorithm which solves  $\text{SIVP}_\gamma$  for  $\Lambda_q^\perp(\mathbf{A})$  with  $\gamma \geq m$ .

### Basic Idea

Feed output of sieving subroutine to itself until improvement stops.

# WHAT IF I TOLD YOU

THAT ISIS IS HARD EVEN GIVEN A TRAPDOOR, ASSUMING THE ISIS NORM BOUND IS SUFFICIENTLY SMALL, SUB-EXP SECURE PRFS EXIST AND THERE IS NO CHAIN\* OF POLYNOMIAL-MEMORY SIEVES.

\*HERE CHAIN MEANS THAT EACH ALGORITHM IS HAPPY WITH THE THE DISTRIBUTION OUTPUT BY ITS PREDECESSOR.

**DESIGNERS** PLEASE CONSIDER WHETHER YOU  
CAN RE-USE ONE OF THOSE MANY  
NEWFANGLED ASSUMPTIONS BEFORE  
INTRODUCING YET ANOTHER ONE.

**CRYPTANALYSTS** ANALYSE THEM!