USING STRUCTURED VARIANTS IN LATTICE-BASED CRYPTOGRAPHY

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Cryptography



Let's start with a simple example: you want to send a message to someone.

Two possibilities:

- Either you share a secret key (AES...),
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- Solving those problems needs an exponential complexity on a classical computer.
- Shor's algorithm (1997): **polynomial time on a quantum computer**.



Context

New goals in cryptography

- Resisting to quantum computers,
- Need of new functionalities,
- \rightarrow need alternatives
 - Post-quantum secure,
 - ► Efficient,
 - New functionalities, different types of constructions.



NIST competition



From 2017 to 2024, NIST competition to develop new standards on post-quantum cryptography

Total: 69 accepted submissions (round 1)

- ► Signature (5 lattice-based),
- Public key encryption / Key Encapsulation Mechanism (21 lattice-based)

Other candidates: 17 code-based PKE, 7 multivariate signatures, 3 hash-based signatures, 7 from "other" assumptions (isogenies, PQ RSA ...) and 4 attacked + 5 withdrawn.

⇒ lattice-based constructions are very serious candidates
 5 over 7 finalists are lattice-based
 2022 first results: 3 over 4 new standards are lattice-based

Why lattice-based cryptography?



- Likely to resist attacks from quantum computers,
- Strong security guarantees, from well-understood hard problems on lattices.
- Novel and powerful cryptographic functionalities,
 - Public key encryption and signature scheme (practical),
 - Advanced signature (group signature ...), and encryption scheme (IBE, ABE, ...),
 - Fully homomorphic encryption.



Today: an introduction to lattice-based cryptography

1. Lattices

- Definition
- Hard problem on lattices
- 2. The Learning With Errors problem
 - Definition
 - Difficulty
 - How to encrypt using LWE?
- 3. Practical scheme
 - Adding structure
 - Module-LWE
 - Kyber encryption scheme





Lattice

 $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B}) = \{\sum_{1=i}^{n} a_i \mathbf{b}_i, a_i \in \mathbb{Z}\}$, where the $(\mathbf{b}_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$'s, linearly independent vectors, are a basis of $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$.





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- The *n*-th minima λ_n is the radius of a sphere which contains *n* linearly independent shortest vectors of the lattices.
- ► The fundamental parallelepiped is defined by $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{B}) = \{\sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i \mathbf{b}_i : c_i \in [0, 1)\}.$ Its volume defines the volume of the lattice: det(Λ) = |det(\mathbf{B})|.



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- ► The fundamental parallelepiped is defined by $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{B}) = \{\sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i \mathbf{b}_i : c_i \in [0, 1)\}.$ Its volume defines the volume of the lattice: det(Λ) = |det(\mathbf{B})|.
- Minkowski Theorem:

$$\lambda_1(\Lambda) \le \sqrt{n} \cdot \det(\Lambda)^{1/n}$$
$$\left(\prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(\Lambda)\right)^{1/n} \le \sqrt{n} \cdot \det(\Lambda)^{1/n}$$

Shortest Vector Problem (SVP)



Given a lattice $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ of dimension *n*:

Output: find the shortest non-zero vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$.



Approx Shortest Vector Problem (Approx SVP $_{\gamma}$)



Given a lattice $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ of dimension *n*:

Output: find a non-zero vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ such that $\|\mathbf{x}\| \leq \gamma \lambda_1(\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B}))$



Gap Shortest Vector Problem (GapSVP)



Given a lattice $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ of dimension n and d > 0:

Output: • YES: there is $\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ non-zero such that $\|\mathbf{z}\| < d$,

• NO: for all non-zero vectors $\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$: $\|\mathbf{z}\| \ge d$.



Gap Shortest Vector Problem (GapSVP $_{\gamma}$)



Given a lattice $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ of dimension n and d > 0:

Output: • YES: there is z ∈ L(B) non-zero such that ||z|| < d,
• NO: for all non-zero vectors z ∈ L(B): ||z|| ≥ γd.



Closest Vector Problem



Given a lattice $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ of dimension n and $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbb{Z}^m$:

Output: find $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ minimizing $||\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{t}||$. Approx variant: find $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ such that $||\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{t}|| \leq \gamma \cdot \operatorname{dist}(\mathbf{t}, \Lambda(\mathbf{B}))$.



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How hard is it to solve those problems?

Hardness of Approx SVP $_{\gamma}$





Conjecture

There is no polynomial time algorithm that approximates this lattice problem and its variants to within polynomial factors.



At the heart of lattice-based cryptography the Learning With Errors problem

Introduced by Regev in 2005

Problem: solve a linear system with m equations and n variables ($m \ge n$), with noise, and modulo an integer q.

Find $(s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5)$ such that:

$s_1 + 22s_2 + 17s_3 + 2s_4 + s_5$	\approx	16	$\mod 23$
$3s_1 + 2s_2 + 11s_3 + 7s_4 + 8s_5$	\approx	17	$\mod 23$
$15s_1 + 13s_2 + 10s_3 + 3s_4 + 5s_5$	\approx	3	$\mod 23$
$17s_1 + 11s_2 + 20s_3 + 9s_4 + 3s_5$	\approx	8	$\mod 23$
$2s_1 + 14s_2 + 13s_3 + 6s_4 + 7s_5$	\approx	9	$\mod 23$
$4s_1 + 21s_2 + 9s_3 + 5s_4 + s_5$	\approx	18	$\mod 23$
$11s_1 + 12s_2 + 5s_3 + s_4 + 9s_5$	\approx	$\overline{7}$	$\mod 23$

Gaussian distributions



Continuous Gaussian distribution of center *c* and parameter *s*:

$$\begin{vmatrix} D_{s,c}(x) \sim \frac{1}{s} \exp\left(-\pi \frac{||x-c||^2}{s^2}\right) \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \end{vmatrix}$$

Gaussian distributions



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$$D_{s,c}(x) \sim \frac{1}{s} \exp\left(-\pi \frac{||x-c||^2}{s^2}\right)$$

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

Gaussian distribution on \mathbb{Z} of center c with parameter s:

$$\begin{array}{l} D_{\mathbb{Z},s,c}(x) \sim \frac{1}{s} \exp\left(-\pi \frac{||x-c||^2}{s^2}\right) \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{Z} \end{array}$$

- It is not the rounding of the continuous Gaussian.
- We now how to sample it efficiently.
- Almost all samples are in $[-t \cdot s, +t \cdot s]$ for a constant *t*, if *s* is not to small.



Theorem (Gentry, Peikert, Vaikuntanathan 2008)

There exists a PPT algorithm which, given a basis **B** of a lattice $\Lambda(\mathbf{B})$ of dimension n, a parameter $s \ge \|\mathbf{\tilde{B}}\| \cdot \omega(\sqrt{\log n})$, an a center $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$, outputs a sample from a distribution statistically close from $D_{\Lambda,s,c}$.

Intuition: sampling on \mathbb{Z} is quite easy, it is more complicated on a general lattice.

Important: Better is the basis (with short vectors), smaller is the parameter we can sample with, and then have short vectors.

Smoothing parameter

Definition



For all $\varepsilon > 0$, the *smoothing parameter* of a lattice Λ with parameter ε is the smallest s such that $\rho_{1/s}(\Lambda^* \setminus \{0\}) \le \varepsilon$, we denote it by $\eta_{\varepsilon}(\Lambda)$.

When the Gaussian's parameter is bigger than smoothing parameter, the discrete gaussian distribution has the same properties than a continuous one. In particular:

► the discrete gaussian distribution $D_{\Lambda,s,c}$ is mainly concentrated in a sphere of radius \sqrt{ns} around its center *c*.

If $s > \eta_{\varepsilon}(\Lambda)$, $\Pr_{x \leftrightarrow D_{\Lambda,s,c}} \left[\|x - c\| > \sqrt{n}s \right] \le 2^{-n}.$

• Addition: if $s, t > \eta_{\varepsilon}(\Lambda)$, we can also add two gaussian on the same lattice :

$$D_{\Lambda,s} + D_{\Lambda,t} = D_{\Lambda,\sqrt{s^2 + t^2}}.$$



The size of the smooting parameter can be compared to the size of the n-th minima.

Micciancio, Regev 2004 and Regev 2005:
 For any lattice Λ and ε > 0

$$\sqrt{\frac{\ln(1/\varepsilon)}{\pi}} \cdot \frac{\lambda_n(\Lambda)}{n} \le \eta_{\varepsilon}(\Lambda) \le \sqrt{\frac{\ln(2n(1+1/\varepsilon))}{\pi}} \cdot \lambda_n(\Lambda).$$

The Learning With Errors problem [Regev 05]



Let n > 1, $q \ge 2$ and $\alpha \in]0, 1[$. For any $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n$, we define the distribution $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$ by:

$$(\mathbf{a}, \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{s} \rangle + e)$$
, with $\mathbf{a} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$ and $e \leftarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}, \alpha q}$.

Search LWE

For any **s**: find **s** given an arbitrary number of samples from $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$.

Decision LWE

With non-negligible probability on $\mathbf{s} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$: distinguish between the distributions $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$ and $U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{n+1})$.

Decision version



Let n > 1, $q \ge 2$ and $\alpha \in]0, 1[$. For any $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n$, we define the distribution $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$ by:

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With non-negligible probability on $\mathbf{s} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$: distinguish between the distributions $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$ and $U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{n+1})$.

We consider an oracle $\ensuremath{\mathcal{O}}$ which produces independant samples, all from the same distribution being:

- either $\mathcal{D}_{n,q,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$ for a fixed \mathbf{s} ,
- either $U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{n+1})$.

The goal is to decide which one with a non-negligeable advantage.

The Learning With Errors problem



 $\mathsf{LWE}^n_{\alpha,q}$



Discrete Gaussian error $D_{\mathbb{Z},\alpha q}$

Search version: Given $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{As} + \mathbf{e})$, find **s**. Decision version: Distinguish from (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b}) with **b** uniform.



- Easy reduction : from decision to search
 - find $\mathbf{s} \Rightarrow$ distinguish **b** uniform or **b** LWE sample,



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 - ► Given (**A**, **b**), find the oracle to find **s**, compute **b** − **As**:



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 - find $\mathbf{s} \Rightarrow$ distinguish **b** uniform or **b** LWE sample,
 - ► Given (**A**, **b**), find the oracle to find **s**, compute **b As**:
 - ▶ if it is small, then **b** is an LWE sample,
 - ▶ if it looks uniform, then **b** is uniform.



- Easy reduction : from decision to search
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 - ▶ if it is small, then **b** is an LWE sample,
 - ▶ if it looks uniform, then **b** is uniform.
- 2nd reduction: from search to decision
 - Distinguish **b** uniform from **b** LWE sample \Rightarrow find **s**,



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 - ▶ if it looks uniform, then **b** is uniform.
- 2nd reduction: from search to decision
 - Distinguish **b** uniform from **b** LWE sample \Rightarrow find **s**,
 - ► Given (A, b) use the oracle to find each coordinate of s: for all s^{*}₁, choose u uniform in Z_q and modify (A, b) as follow:

$$(\mathbf{a}, b) + (u, 0, \dots, 0, us_1^*) = (\mathbf{a}', \langle \mathbf{a}', \mathbf{s} \rangle + e + u(s_1^* - s_1)),.$$

- if $s_1^* = s_1$ it stays a LWE sample,
- else b will be uniform.

Short Integer Solution problem [Ajtai 1996]



For **A** $\leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$:



Short Integer Solution problem [Ajtai 1996]

For $\mathbf{A} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$:



Hardness of LWE



Exhaustive search

- ▶ Try all the $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n \to \text{is } \mathbf{b} \mathbf{As} \text{ small}$? ▶ ⇒ cost around q^n .

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- Other possibility: guess the *n* first errors, find $\mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{is} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{As} \mathbf{small}$?
- ► ⇒ cost around $(\alpha q \sqrt{n})^n$.

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- Other possibility: guess the n first errors, find $\mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{is} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{As} \mathbf{small}$?
- ► ⇒ cost around $(\alpha q \sqrt{n})^n$.
- How to do better?
 - LWE is a lattice problem: consider

 $\Lambda_q(\mathbf{A}) = \{ \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{Z}^m : \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{As} \bmod q \text{ for } \mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \}.$

Solving LWE \Leftrightarrow solving CVP in this lattice.

• Cost:
$$\left(\frac{n\log q}{\log^2 \alpha}\right)^{\frac{n\log q}{\log^2 \alpha}}$$

Hardness of the Learning With Errors problem





LWE variants



Choose another distribution for the secret or the error. Regev 2009: uniform secret and gaussian error.



Using LWE to build provable constructions - theory





Public key encryption - definition





An encryption scheme is defined by three algorithms (KeyGen, Enc, Dec):

- The key generation algorithm KeyGen takes as input a security parameter λ and outputs the public and the secret keys (pk, sk).
- The encryption algorithm **Enc** takes as input the public key pk and a message m and outputs c = Enc(pk, m),
- The decryption algorithm **Dec** takes as input the secret key sk and a ciphertext c and outputs m = Dec(sk, c),

such that Dec(sk, (Enc(pk, m)) = m.



Parameters: $n, m, q \in \mathbb{Z}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$,

► Keys: $\mathbf{sk} = \mathbf{s}$ and $\mathbf{pk} = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b})$, with $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e} \mod q$ where $\mathbf{s} \leftrightarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$, $\mathbf{A} \leftrightarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$, $\mathbf{e} \leftrightarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}^m, \alpha q}$.



- **Parameters:** $n, m, q \in \mathbb{Z}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$,
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- Encryption $(M \in \{0,1\})$: Let $\mathbf{r} \leftrightarrow U(\{0,1\}^m)$,







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If close from 0: return 0, if close from $\lfloor q/2 \rfloor$: return 1.



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- ► Keys: sk = s and pk = (A, b), with b = A s + e mod q where s $\leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^n)$, A $\leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$, e $\leftarrow D_{\mathbb{Z}^m, \alpha q}$.
- Encryption $(M \in \{0,1\})$: Let $\mathbf{r} \leftrightarrow U(\{0,1\}^m)$,



Decryption of (\mathbf{u}, v) : compute $v - \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{s}$,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r} \\ \mathbf{A} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{s} \\ +\lfloor q/2 \rfloor \cdot M - \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r} \\ \mathbf{A} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{small} + \lfloor q/2 \rfloor \cdot M$$

LWE hard \Rightarrow Regev's scheme is IND-CPA secure.

Correction



The randomness **r** is uniformly chosen in $\{0, 1\}^m$,

and **e** is sampled from a discrete gaussian of parameter $\alpha q \leq q/(8m)$, then, with overwhealming probability,

$$\left|\sum_{i\leq m} r_i e_i\right| \leq \|\mathbf{r}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{e}\| \leq \sqrt{m} \cdot \frac{q}{8\sqrt{m}} = \frac{q}{8}$$

 $v - \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{s}$ is either close from 0, either close from $\lfloor q/2 \rfloor$, which allows to find M.



IND-CPA security



To define the security, we use a game between a challenger and an adversary. We define two experiments Exp_b for $b \in \{0, 1\}$:



$$Adv^{CPA}(\mathcal{A}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A} \to^{Exp_0} 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A} \to^{Exp_1} 1]|.$$

IND-CPA security



Goal of the proof: show that if an adversary succeed in attacking the encryption scheme with a non-negligible advantage, then the challenger can use it to solve a difficult problem (here LWE).

Decision LWE can also be seen as a game:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{C} & \mathcal{B} \\
\hline \mathbf{A} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n}) \\
\text{RAND } (b = 0): \mathbf{b} \leftarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^m) \\
\text{LWE } (b = 1): \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{As} + \mathbf{e} & \xrightarrow{(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b})} \\
\hline & \text{output } b' \\
\hline & Adv(\mathcal{B}) = \left| \Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{LWE} 1] \right|.
\end{array}$$



Let $m, n, q \ge 1$ be integers such that $m \ge 4n \log q$ and q prime, and let $\mathbf{A} \leftrightarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$ and $\mathbf{r} \leftrightarrow U(\{0, 1\}^m)$. Then $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{A})$ has statistical distance $\le 2^{-n}$ from the uniform distribution on $\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q^n$.



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• Statistical distance : $\Delta(D_1, D_2) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_x |D_1(x) - D_2(x)|$.



Let $m, n, q \ge 1$ be integers such that $m \ge 4n \log q$ and q prime, and let $\mathbf{A} \leftrightarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$ and $\mathbf{r} \leftrightarrow U(\{0, 1\}^m)$. Then $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{A})$ has statistical distance $\le 2^{-n}$ from the uniform distribution on $\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q^n$.

- Statistical distance : $\Delta(D_1, D_2) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_x |D_1(x) D_2(x)|$.
- For any algorithm \mathcal{A} , we have $|\Pr[\mathcal{A}(D_1) = 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(D_2) = 1]| \leq \Delta(D_1, D_2).$ $\Delta(D_1, D_2)$ small $\Rightarrow D_1$ and D_2 are statistically indistinguishable.



Let $m, n, q \ge 1$ be integers such that $m \ge 4n \log q$ and q prime, and let $\mathbf{A} \leftrightarrow U(\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n})$ and $\mathbf{r} \leftrightarrow U(\{0, 1\}^m)$. Then $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{A})$ has statistical distance $\le 2^{-n}$ from the uniform distribution on $\mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n} \times \mathbb{Z}_q^n$.

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- For any algorithm \mathcal{A} , we have $|\Pr[\mathcal{A}(D_1) = 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(D_2) = 1]| \leq \Delta(D_1, D_2).$ $\Delta(D_1, D_2)$ small $\Rightarrow D_1$ and D_2 are statistically indistinguishable.

The LHL implies that ((A b) , ${\color{black} r}$ (A b)) is indistinguishable from uniform.





Idea: we start from an LWE instance, and build an instance of the IND-CPA experiment, then we use the answer of the adversary to solve LWE. We use the following IND-CPA game:

 $\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{B} & \mathcal{A} \\ (sk = \mathbf{s}, pk = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{As} + \mathbf{e}) \leftarrow KeyGen(.) & \xrightarrow{pk = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b})} \\ \text{chooses } b & \xleftarrow{m_0, m_1} & \text{Chooses } m_0, m_1, \\ \text{computes } (c_1, c_2) \leftarrow Enc(pk, m_b) & \xrightarrow{c_1, c_2} & \text{Computes a bit } b' \\ & \text{if } b = b' \text{ then output Win} \end{array}$

We want to show that if LWE is hard, then there exists a negligible function *negl* such that:

 $\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ Win}] \le 1/2 + negl(n).$

 ${\mathcal B}$ wants to solve decisional LWE using ${\mathcal A}.$





For \mathcal{B} :

▶ RAND: **b** is uniform then c_2 is uniform. A cannot distinguish between the two cases, its advantage is equals to zero, the probability that B outputs 1 is 1/2.

$$\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] = 1/2,$$

 ${\mathcal B}$ wants to solve decisional LWE using ${\mathcal A}.$





For \mathcal{B} :

LWE: b = As + e and then the ciphertext is exactly a ciphertext from the Regev encryption scheme. The probability that B outputs 1 is exactly the success probability of A in the encryption scheme security game (as it has the same view of the experiment).

$$\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{LWE} 1] = \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}],$$



To conclude, we have:

 $\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] = 1/2,$ $\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{LWE} 1] = \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}],$

then:

$$Adv(\mathcal{B}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{RAND} 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{LWE} 1]|$$
$$= |\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}] - 1/2|$$

If \mathcal{A} succeeds with a non-negligible probability, then there exists ε such that $\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ win}] \geq 1/2 + \varepsilon$, then $Adv(\mathcal{B}) \geq \varepsilon$ which implies that there exists a distinguisher able to solve the decisional LWE problem.





Hardness of LWE used as a foundation for many constructions.



Solutions used today?