

Hardness of Structured Lattice Problems for Post-Quantum Cryptography

Under the supervision of Damien Stehlé and Guillaume Hanrot

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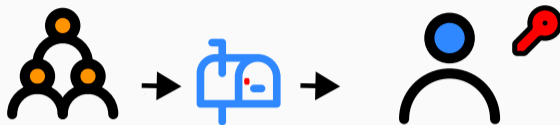
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Introduction: why study structured lattice problems?

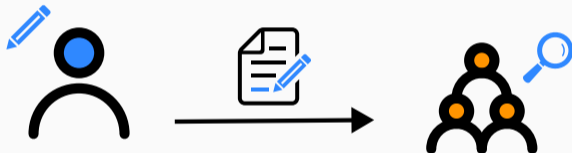


Some Example of Protocols

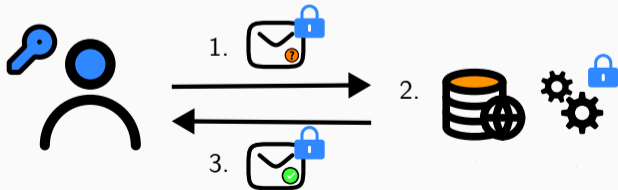
Public Key Encryption



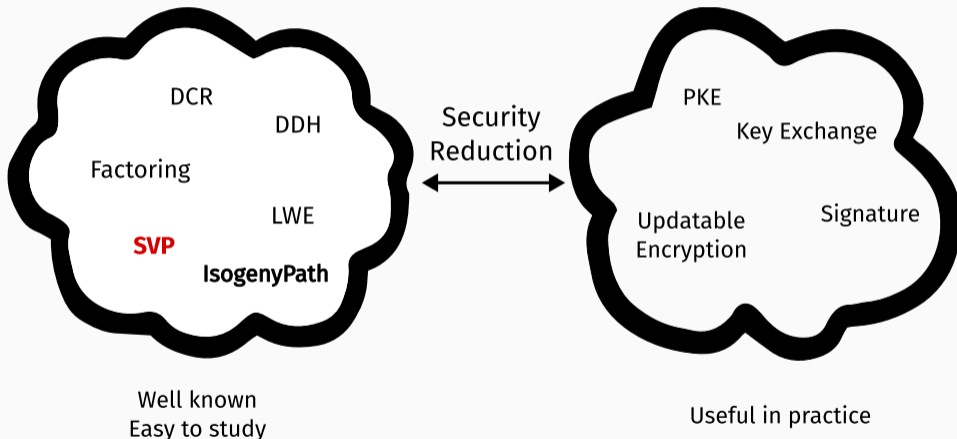
Signature



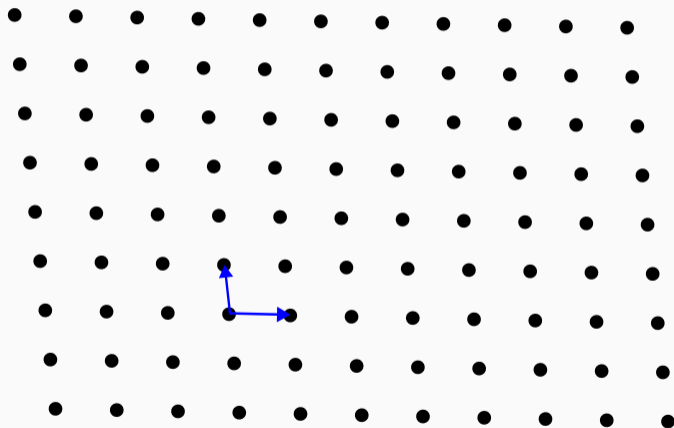
Homomorphic Encryption



Security proof and problem hardness



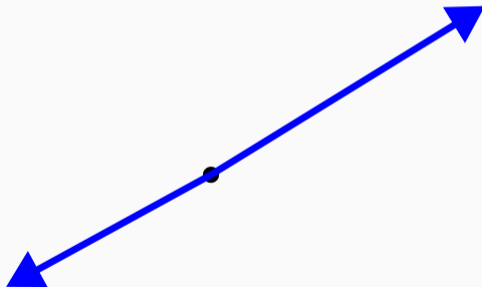
Our Mathematical Object of Choice: Lattices



Lattice spanned by $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{Z}^{n \times n}$:

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B}) = \{\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^n\}.$$

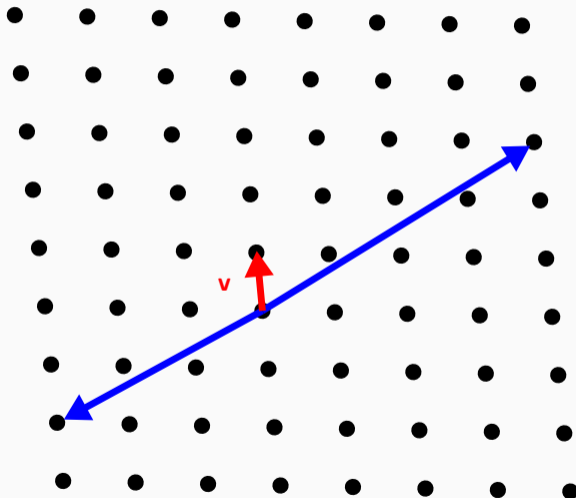
The Hard Problem for Lattices: Finding a Short Vector



Shortest Vector Problem (SVP)

Given B , find a shortest non-zero vector v in the lattice spanned by B .

The Hard Problem for Lattices: Finding a Short Vector



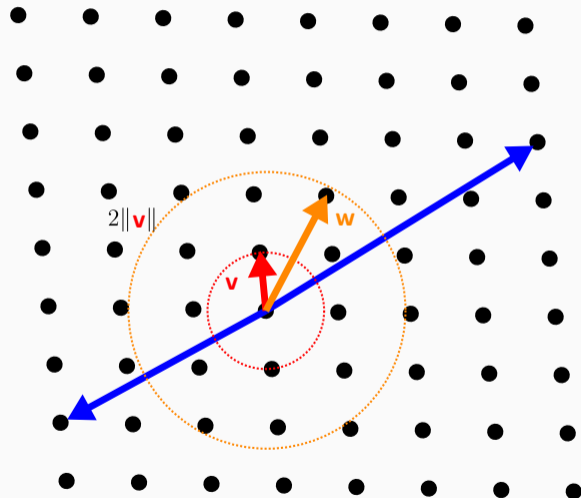
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In dimension n :

Finding v : $\sim 2^{O(n)}$ op.

The Hard Problem for Lattices: Finding a Short Vector



Approx SVP (SVP_γ)

Given B , find a short non-zero w in the lattice spanned by B with $\|w\| \leq \gamma \cdot \|v\|$.

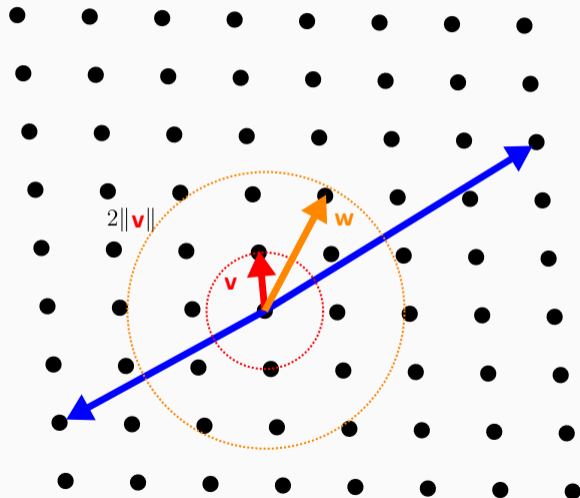
In dimension n :

Finding v : $\sim 2^{O(n)}$ op.

Finding w : $\sim 2^{O(n)}/\gamma$ op.

Seems hard **even with quantum computers.**

The Hard Problem for Lattices: Finding a Short Vector



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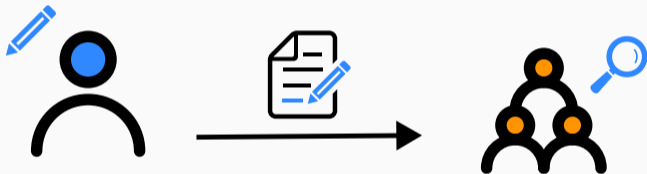
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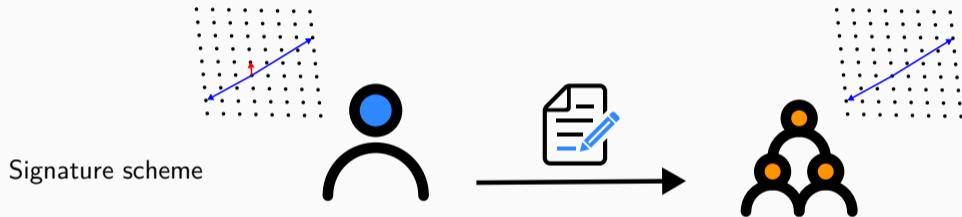
In cryptography, typically $n \simeq 1000$, $\gamma = \text{poly}(n)$.

Structured Lattices: Motivation

Signature scheme



Structured Lattices: Motivation



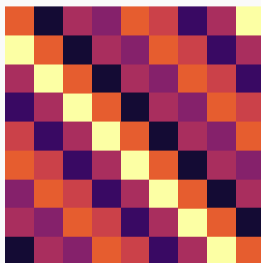
Using any matrix $B \in \mathbb{Z}^{n \times n}$: n^2 coefficients, long running-time, memory inefficient.

Structured Lattices

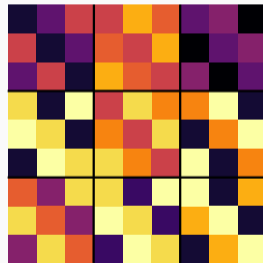
Idea: use matrices with structure (e.g. from algebraic number theory).
→ **Module Lattices.**



Unstructured



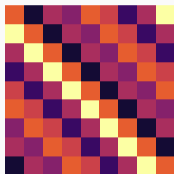
Rank 1
Ideal Lattices



Rank 3
Module lattice

New Lattices, New (easier) Problems

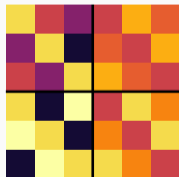
SVP for $B =$



Ideal HSVP (idHSVP)

Attacks exist

SVP for $B =$



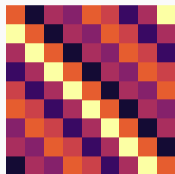
Module SVP (modSVP)

???

New Lattices, New (easier) Problems

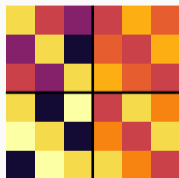
Attacks exist

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Ideal HSVP (idHSVP)

SVP for $B =$



Module SVP (modSVP)

???

Cramer, Ducas, Peikert, and Regev. Recovering short generators of principal ideals in cyclotomic rings. EUROCRYPT, 2016.
Cramer, Ducas, and Wesolowski. Short Stickelberger class relations and application to Ideal-SVP. EUROCRYPT, 2017.
Pellet-Mary, Hanrot, and Stehlé. Approx-SVP in ideal lattices with pre-processing. EUROCRYPT, 2019.

What do I mean, “easier”?

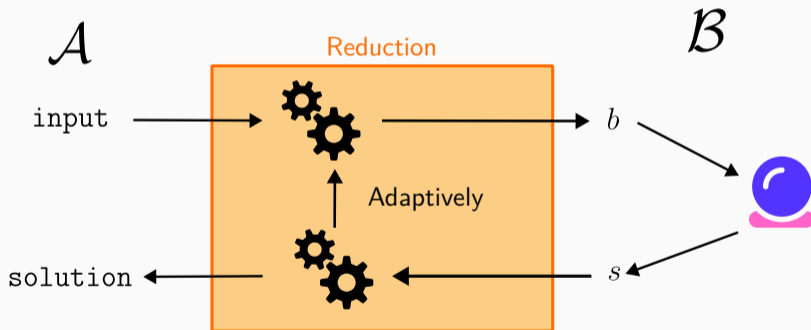
$$\text{Hardness}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \text{Hardness}(\mathcal{B})$$

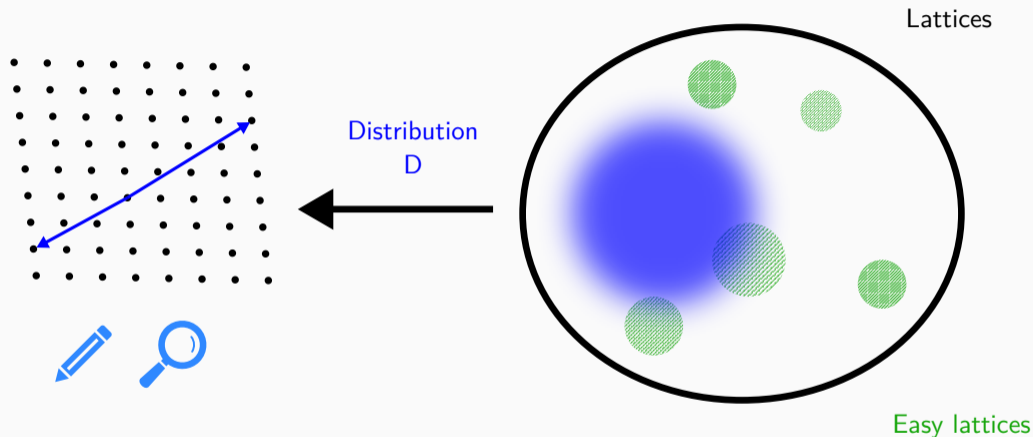
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$\text{Hardness}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \text{Hardness}(\mathcal{B}) \equiv$ “If someone solves \mathcal{B} , they can solve \mathcal{A} ”.

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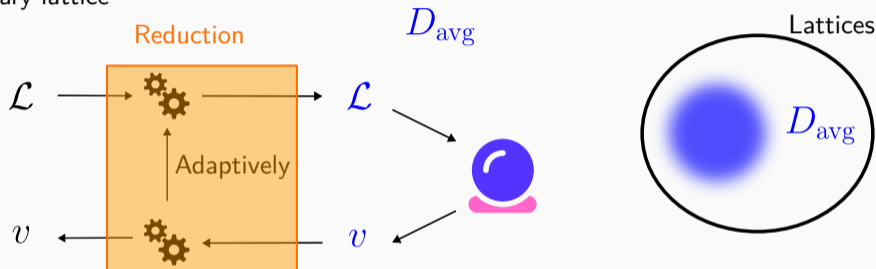




How do we avoid easy lattices?

Average-case reductions

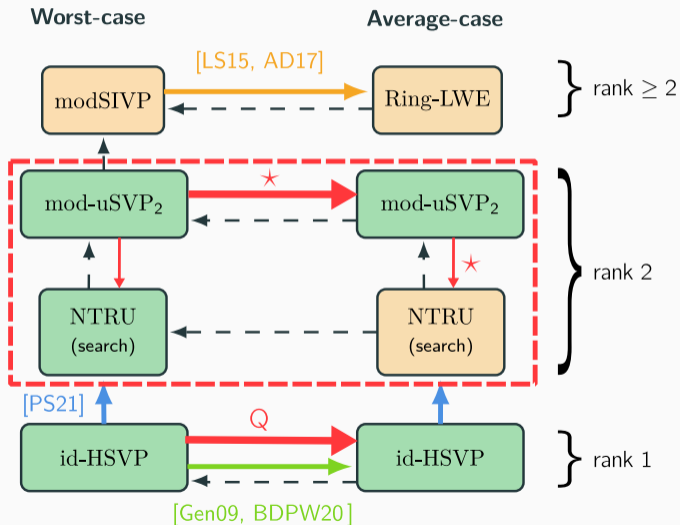
Arbitrary lattice



Oracle on D_{avg} strong enough to break any lattice

→ D_{avg} avoids easy lattices

What I did during my Phd



[LS15] Langlois, Stehlé. Worst-case to average-case reductions for module lattices. DCC 2014.

[AD17] Albrecht, Deo. Large Modulus Ring-LWE Module-LWE. ASIACRYPT 2017.

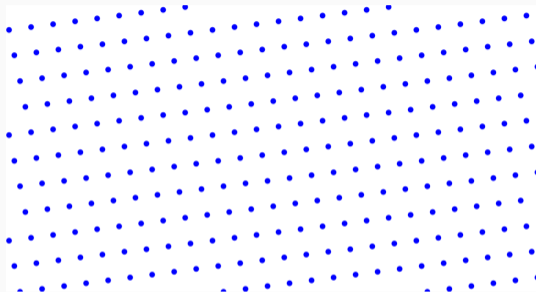
[PS21] Pellet-Mary, Stehlé. On the hardness of the NTRU problem. ASIACRYPT 2021.

[Gen09] Gentry. A Fully Homomorphic Encryption Scheme. PhD thesis. 2009.

[BDPW20] de Boer, Ducas, Pellet-Mary, Wesolowski. Random self-reducibility of Ideal-SVP via Arakelov random walks. CRYPTO, 2020.

Worst-case to Average-case reduction for mod-uSVP₂

mod-uSVP₂ lattices: they have something extra



Typical lattice



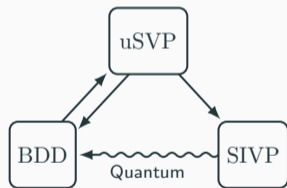
mod-uSVP₂ instance

γ -mod-uSVP₂

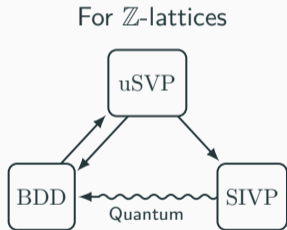
Given a basis \mathbf{B} of a module $M \subset \mathcal{O}_K^2$ s.t. $\lambda_1(M) \leq \det(\mathbf{B})^{1/(2d)}/\gamma$, find a short non-zero vector in it.

State of the art for mod-uSVP_2

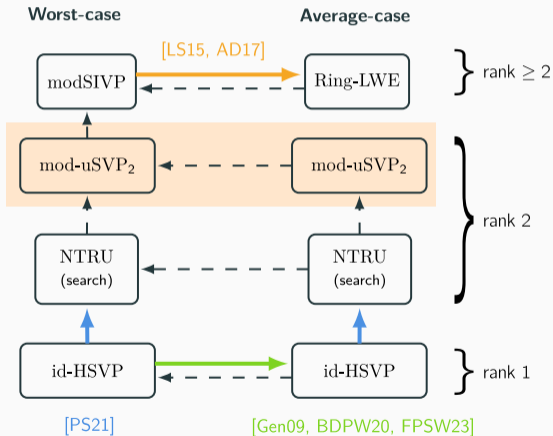
For \mathbb{Z} -lattices



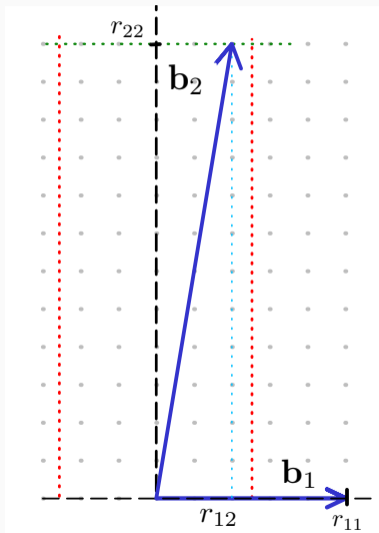
State of the art for mod-uSVP_2



For \mathcal{O}_K -modules



Anatomy of a mod-uSVP₂ instance: QR factorization



Any (free) mod-uSVP₂ instance has a basis

$$B = Q \cdot \begin{pmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} \\ 0 & r_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

with $r_{11} \ll r_{22}$, $r_{12} \in \left(-\frac{r_{11}}{2}, \frac{r_{11}}{2}\right)$ and Q orthogonal.

Goal for the randomization:

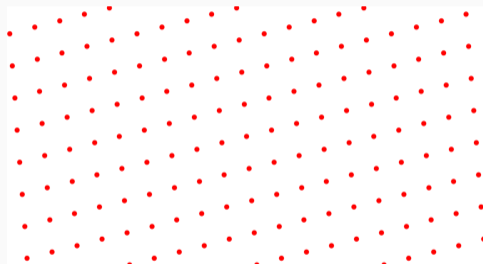
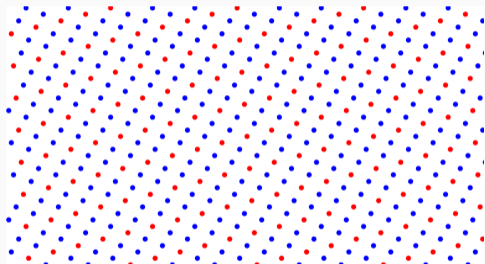
- Randomize Q .
- Randomize r_{11} and r_{22} .
- Randomize r_{12} .

Difficulty: we don't have access to the good basis.

Randomization of r_{11} and r_{22}

We multiply by a scalar: this changes r_{11} and r_{22} but r_{11}/r_{22} is fixed.

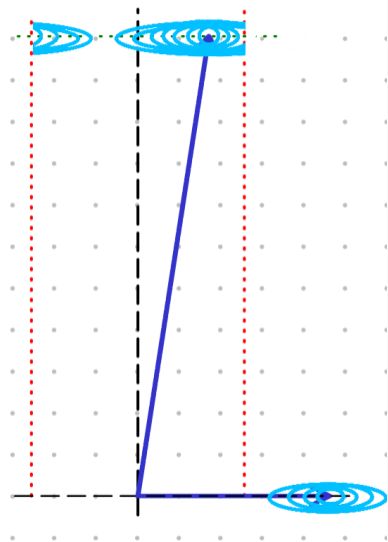
Solution: sparsification by a prime p .



Sparsification by p

Only keep 1 every p points. Multiplies r_{11} by p with high probability and leaves r_{22} unchanged.

Randomization of r_{12}



Idea: blur the space with a matrix D .

$$D \cdot Q \sim D = Q' \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

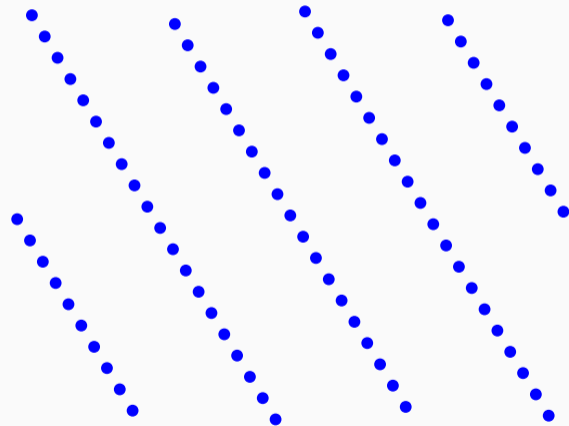
$$M' = D \cdot M \sim Q' \cdot \begin{pmatrix} r'_{11} & r'_{12} \\ 0 & r'_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} r'_{12} &= (b + ar_{12}) \bmod r'_{11} \\ &\approx \text{Unif}(\mathcal{O}_K \bmod r'_{11}) \end{aligned}$$

when D is a Gaussian.

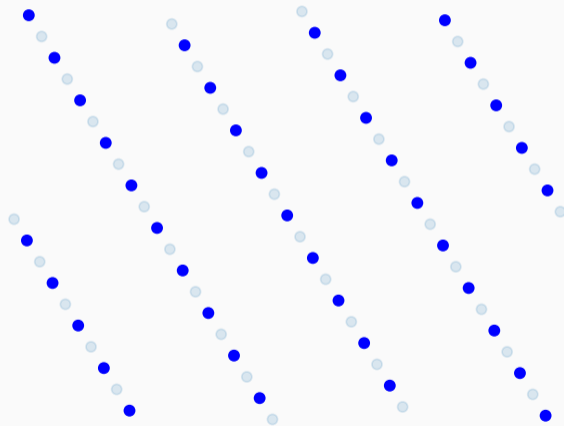
Visualization of the reduction



Randomization

Input: M_{input} .

Visualization of the reduction



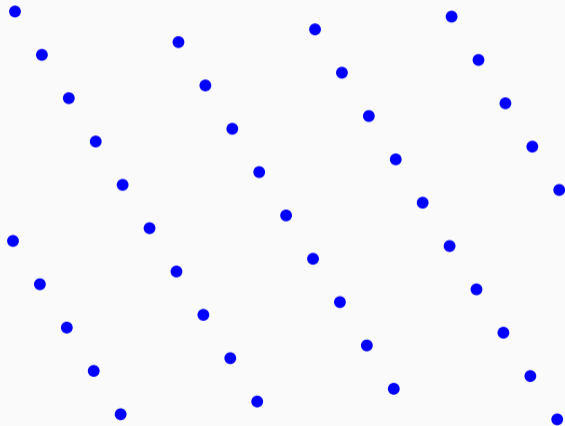
Randomization

Input: M_{input} .

Sparsification:

$$M_2 := M_{input} \cdot S.$$

Visualization of the reduction



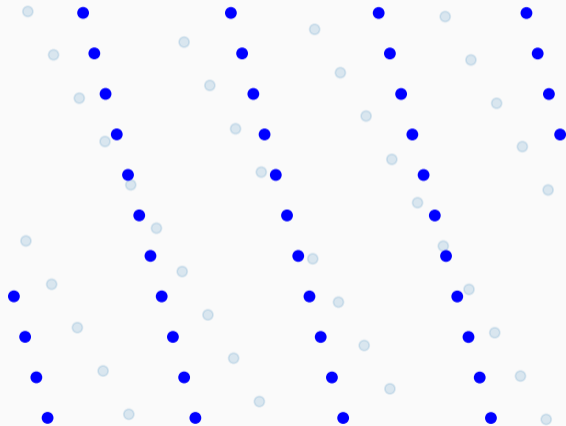
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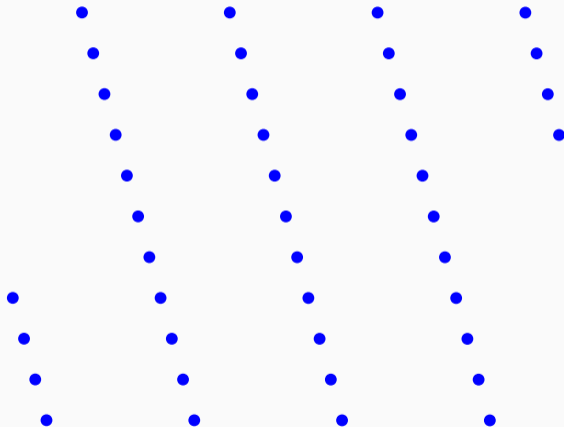
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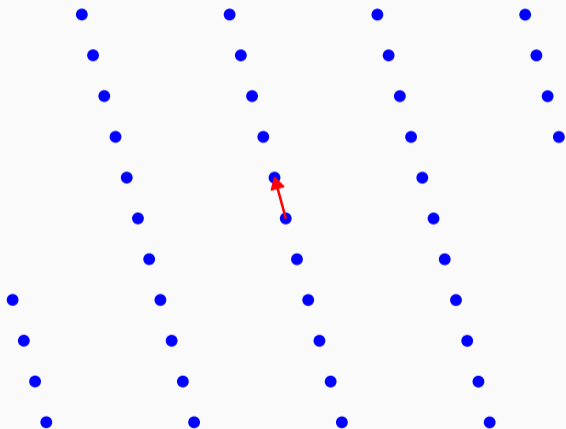
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Magic* happens.

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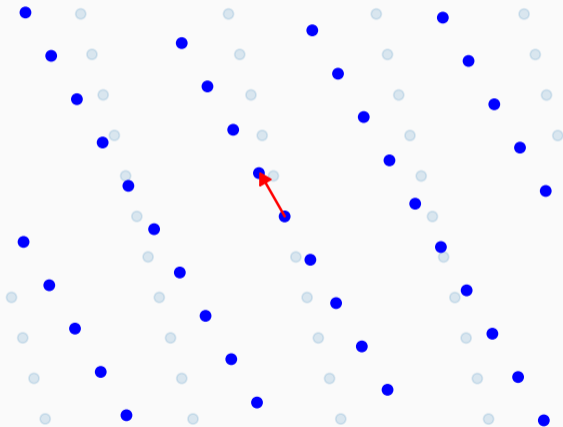
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Retrieving short vector in M_{input}

Oracle:

$$\mathcal{O}(M_{random}) \rightarrow v_1 \in M_{random}.$$

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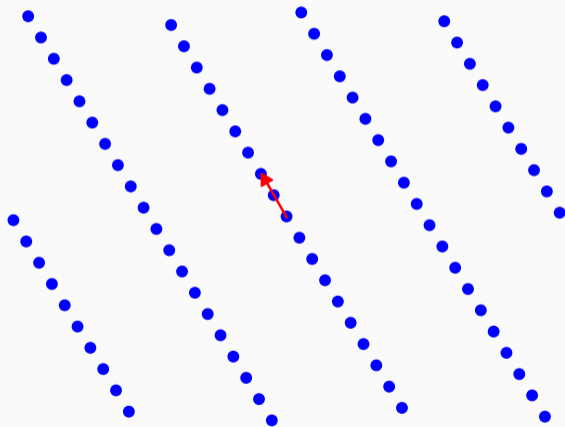
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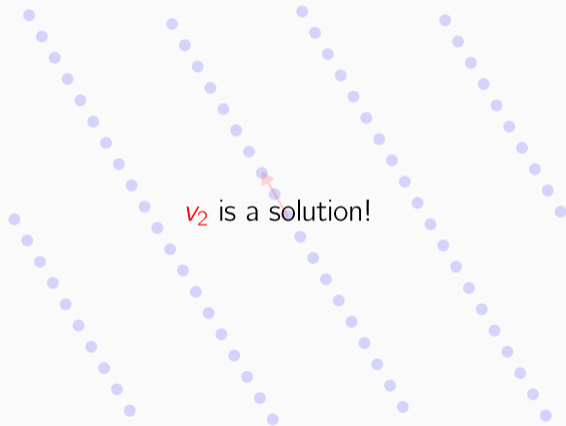
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Sparsification⁻¹:

$$\mathbf{v}_2 \in M_2 \subset M_{input}$$

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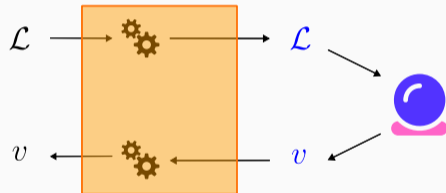
Sparsification⁻¹:

$$v_2 \in M_2 \subset M_{input} \rightarrow v_2 \text{ is a solution!}$$

Summary: Simplified Statement

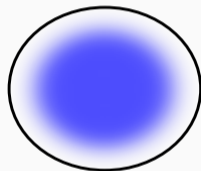
Arbitrary
 γ -mod-uSVP₂
lattice

Randomized
 γ -mod-uSVP₂
lattice



The last slides

D_{avg}



Set of all
 γ -mod-uSVP₂
lattices

D_{avg}

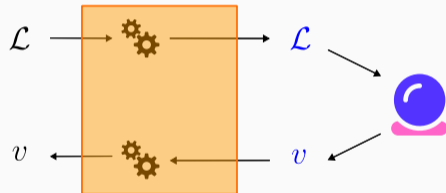
$$Q \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\gamma} \cdot J_1 & \gamma \cdot J_2 \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} J_1, J_2 \text{ uniform norm-1;} \\ x \text{ uniform mod } J_1/\gamma; \\ Q \text{ uniform orthogonal.} \end{cases}$$

Summary: Simplified Statement

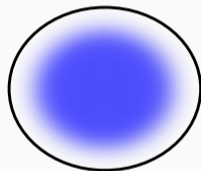
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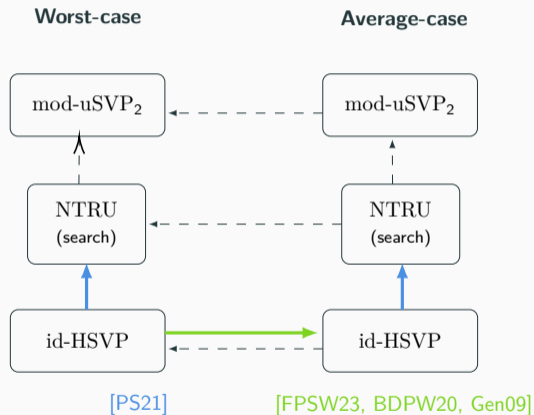
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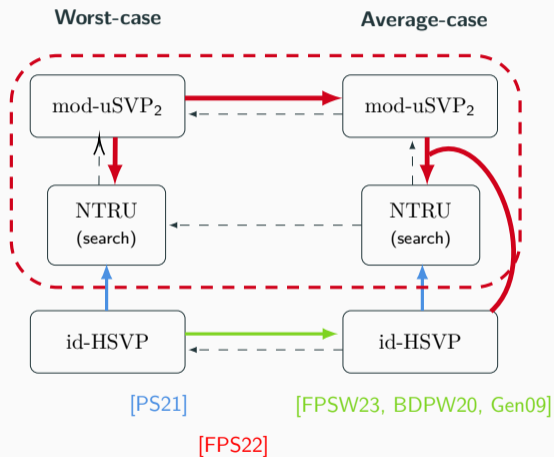
Theorem

Solving γ -mod-uSVP₂ reduces to solving mod-uSVP₂ for a lattice sampled from D_{avg} w.h.p.

- We are working with number fields all along.
- Non-free modules?
- How to round our module to have integers?
- Change in the approximation factor.
- Running time.
- Randomizing is not exact.



Contributions on mod-uSVP_2



Worst-case to Average-case reduction for id-HSVP

In more details: Number fields and ideals

\mathbb{Z}^n	$\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[X]/(X^n + 1)$	$\mathbb{Z}[X]/(X^2 + 1)$
$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 \\ \vdots \\ a_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$	$P(X) = a_0 + a_1X + \dots + a_{n-1}X^{n-1}$	$X + 2$
$\ \mathbf{v}\ $	$\sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i^2}$	$\sqrt{5}$

Definition (Ideal)

A set $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq K$ is an ideal if it is discrete, stable by addition and by multiplication by any element of \mathcal{O}_K . **Example:** $(X + 2) \cdot \mathcal{O}_K$.

Norm of an ideal: $\mathcal{N}(I) = \text{Vol}(I) / \text{Vol}(\mathcal{O}_K) \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Ideals are lattices!

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &= (X + 2) \cdot \mathcal{O}_K \\ &= \{(X + 2) \cdot (a + bX) \bmod X^2 + 1\}\end{aligned}$$

Ideals are lattices!

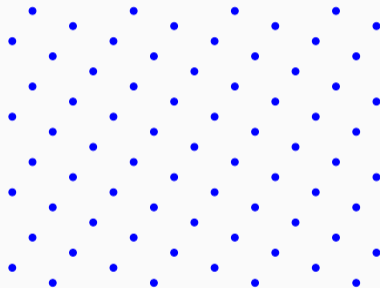
$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &= (X + 2) \cdot \mathcal{O}_K \\ &= \{(X + 2) \cdot (a + bX) \bmod X^2 + 1\} \\ &= \{(2a - b) + (a + 2b) \cdot X, a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}\end{aligned}$$

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The lattice \mathcal{L} associated to $(X + 2) \cdot \mathcal{O}_K$.

Let $\mathfrak{a}, \mathfrak{b}$ ideals of K , and $a \in K$.

Principal ideal

$$(a) = \{x \cdot a, x \in \mathcal{O}_K\}.$$

Multiplication and inverse

$$\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{b} = \{\sum_i a_i \cdot b_i\}, \mathfrak{a}^{-1} = \{x \in K, x \cdot \mathfrak{a} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K\}. \text{ We have that } \mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{a}^{-1} = \mathcal{O}_K.$$

Prime ideals

An ideal $\mathfrak{p} \neq \mathcal{O}_K$ is prime ($\mathfrak{p} \in \mathcal{P}$) if

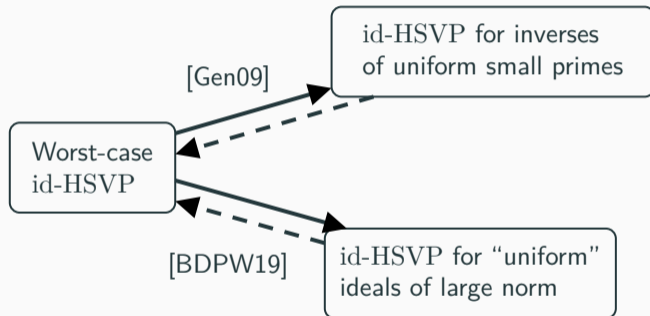
$$\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{b} \Rightarrow \mathfrak{a} = \mathcal{O}_K \text{ or } \mathfrak{b} = \mathcal{O}_K.$$

Is id-HSVP hard for a Random Ideal?

No clear answer. What do you mean by “Random”?

Is id-HSVP hard for a Random Ideal?

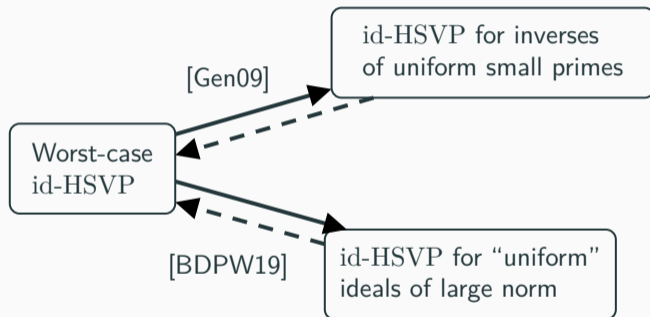
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[Gen09] Gentry. A Fully Homomorphic Encryption Scheme. [BDPW20] de Boer, Ducas, Pellet-Mary, Wesolowski. Random self-reducibility of Ideal-SVP via Arakelov random walks.

Is id-HSVP hard for a Random Ideal?

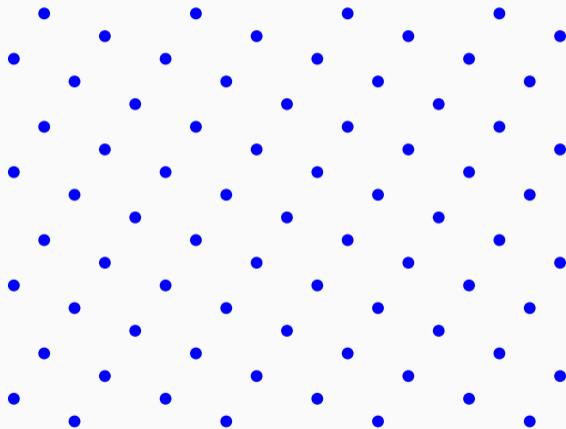
No clear answer. What do you mean by “Random”?



Not natural! We would want the same result for **uniform small prime ideals**.

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How to sample a uniform ideal? [Boe22]

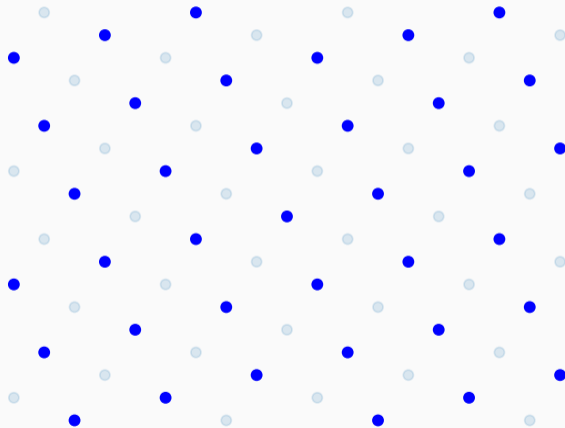


Sampling b uniform

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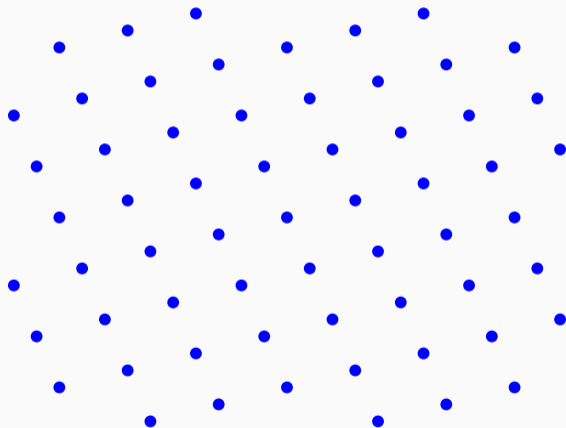
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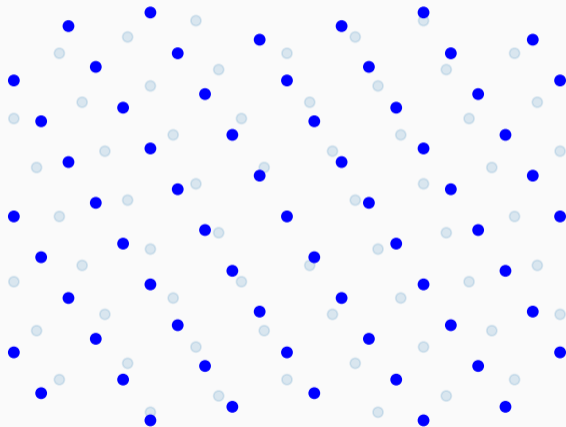
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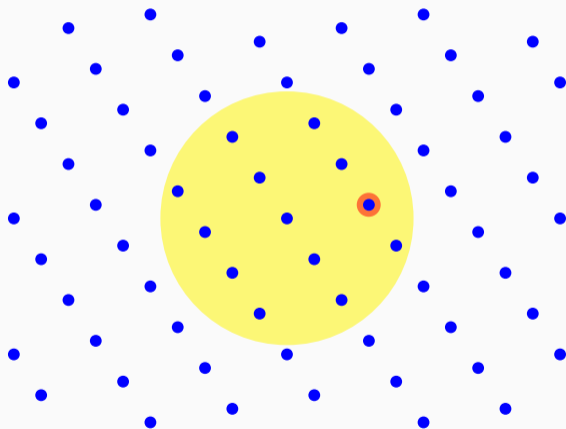
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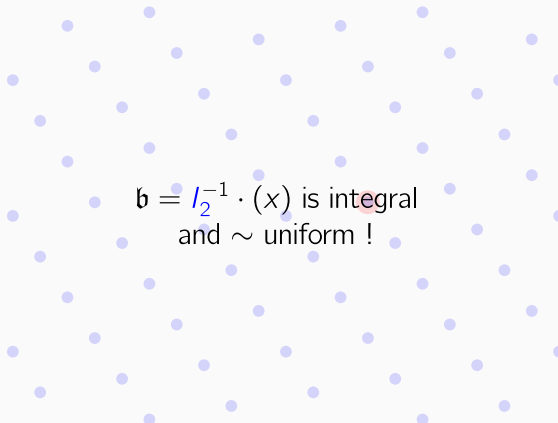
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How to sample a uniform ideal? [Boe22]



$\mathfrak{b} = l_2^{-1} \cdot (x)$ is integral
and \sim uniform !

Sampling \mathfrak{b} uniform

Input: any ideal \mathfrak{a} .

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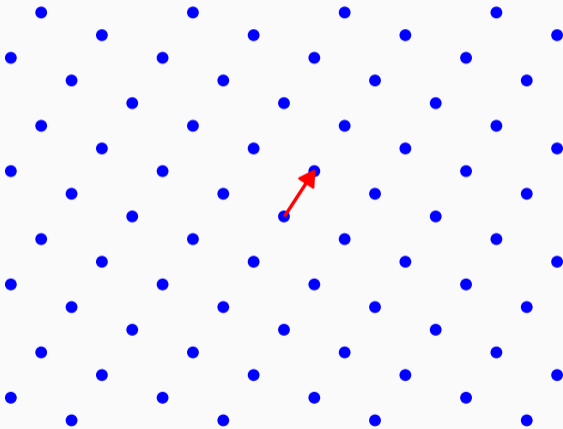
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Sampling with a Trapdoor: SampleIdeal

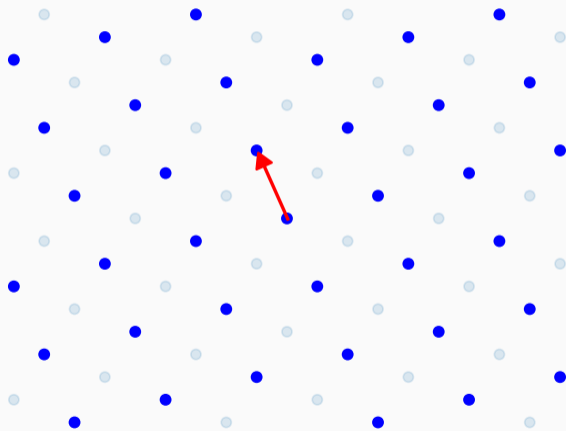


Sampling (b, y) with $y \in (b \cdot \alpha)^{-1}$ small

Input: any ideal α

$s_\alpha \in \alpha$.

Sampling with a Trapdoor: SampleIdeal



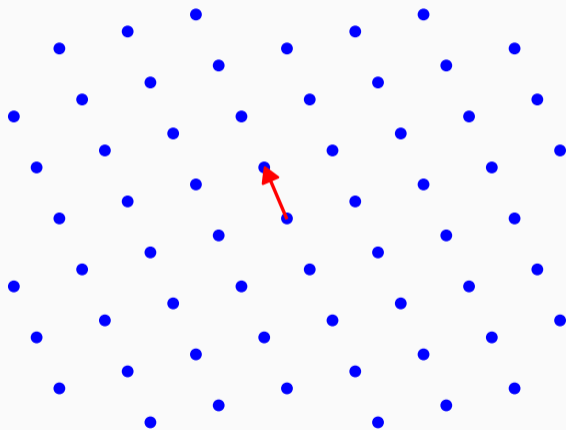
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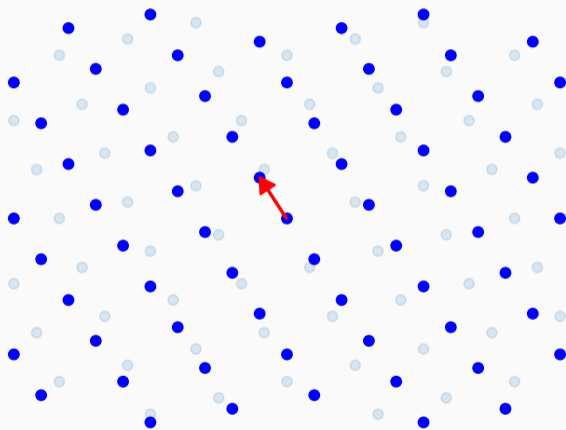
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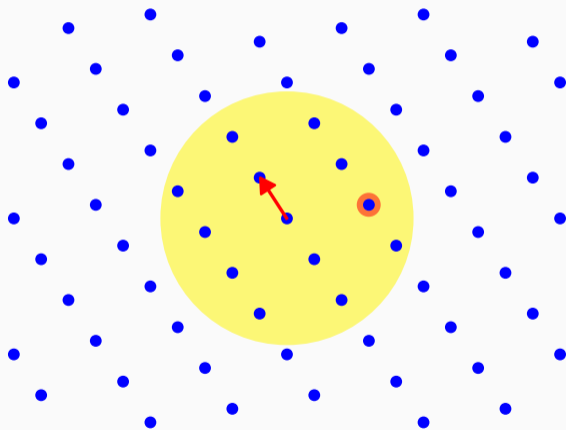
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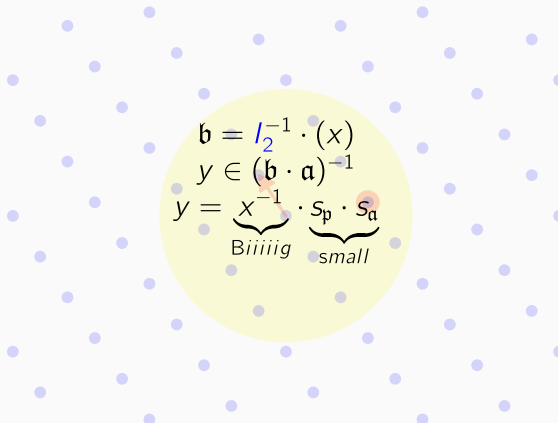
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Sample small $x \in l_2$. $y = x^{-1} \cdot s_p \cdot s_\alpha$

Sampling with a Trapdoor: SampleIdeal


$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{b} &= l_2^{-1} \cdot (x) \\ y &\in (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a})^{-1} \\ y &= \underbrace{x^{-1}}_{\text{Biiiiig}} \cdot \underbrace{s_p \cdot s_a}_{\text{small}} \end{aligned}$$

Sampling (\mathbf{b}, y) with $y \in (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a})^{-1}$ **small**

Input: any ideal \mathbf{a} $s_{\mathbf{a}} \in \mathbf{a}$.

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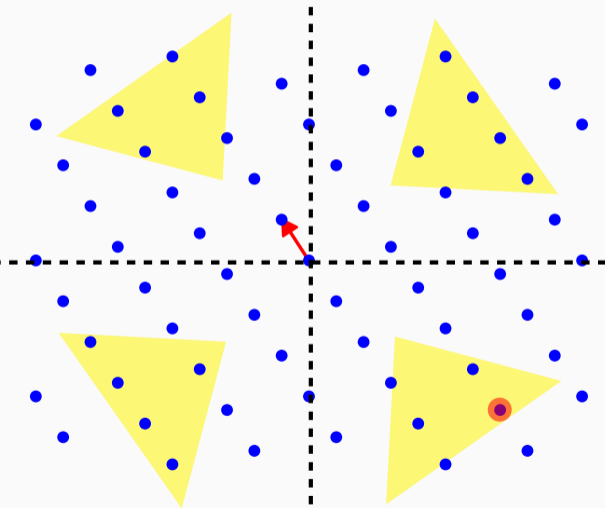
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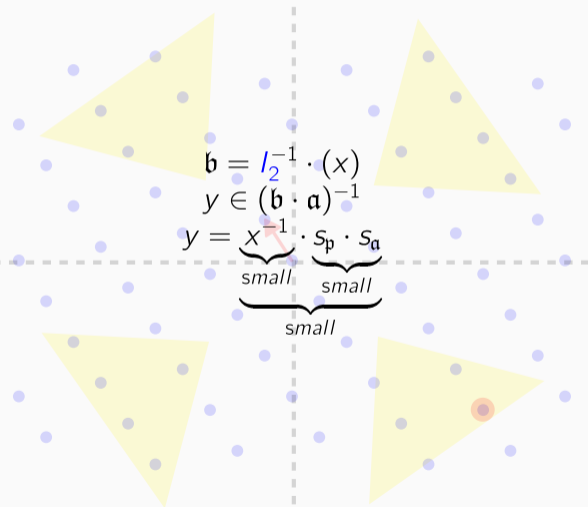
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Sample $x \in l \cap \mathcal{B}$. $y = x^{-1} \cdot S_p \cdot S_\alpha$

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Sampling with a Trapdoor: $\text{SampleIdeal}_{\mathcal{B}}$



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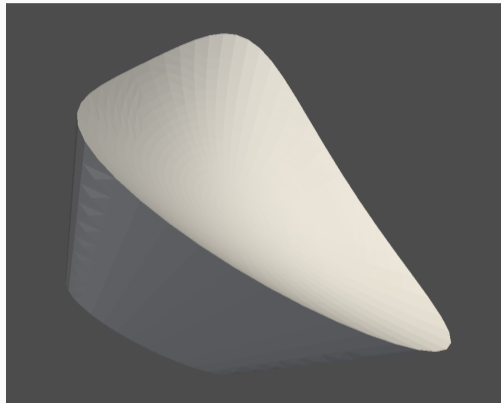
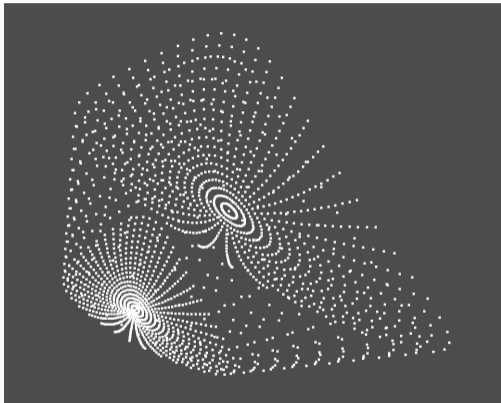
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Sample $x \in I \cap \mathcal{B}$.

$y = x^{-1} \cdot s_p \cdot s_{\mathfrak{a}}$

Magic happens

The shape \mathcal{B}



$$\mathcal{B}_{A,B}^\eta = \left\{ x \in K_{\mathbb{R}}, \quad |\mathcal{N}(x)| \in [A, B], \quad \left\| \text{Ln} \left(\frac{x}{\mathcal{N}(x)^{1/d}} \right) \right\|_2 \leq \log(\eta) \right\}$$

Taking a step back: $\text{SampleIdeal}_{\mathcal{B}}$

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1. Takes as input $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$ and $s_{\mathfrak{a}} \in \mathfrak{a}$ small.
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$$\text{id-HSVP}(\mathfrak{a}^{-1}) \xrightarrow{\text{SampleIdeal}_{\mathcal{B}}} \text{id-HSVP}(\mathfrak{a}) + \text{id-HSVP}(\mathfrak{b})$$

Worst-case id-HSVP

↓ [Gen09]

id-HSVP on uniform \mathfrak{p}^{-1}

↓ $\text{SampleIdeal}_{\mathcal{B}}$

id-HSVP on uniform \mathfrak{p}

The \mathcal{P}^{-1} -ideal-SVP to \mathcal{P} -ideal-SVP reduction

The oracle \mathcal{O} solves id-HSVP for \mathfrak{p} uniform prime of norm in $[A, B]$.

Input: An ideal $I = \mathfrak{p}^{-1}$ with \mathfrak{p} uniform prime of norm in $[A, B]$.

Output: $x \in \mathfrak{p}^{-1} \setminus \{0\}$ small.

1: Let $s_{\mathfrak{p}} = \mathcal{O}(\mathfrak{p})$.

2: Let $(\mathfrak{b}, y) = \text{SampleIdeal}_{\mathcal{B}}(\mathfrak{p}, s_{\mathfrak{p}})$.

$\triangleright \|y\| \text{ small}$

3: **if** \mathfrak{b} is not prime **then**

4: Fail.

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- New ideal sampling algorithm.
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Open problems:

- Can we have such reduction without factoring?
- Can we get rid of the cost dependency in ρ_K ?

Conclusion and Perspectives

Taking a step back

- Structured lattice problems \rightarrow better performance for cryptography.
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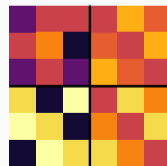
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Rank 2: mod-uSVP₂

- Proposed a “natural” distribution of instances.
- Proved a worst-case to average-case reduction for this distribution.



Reduction between
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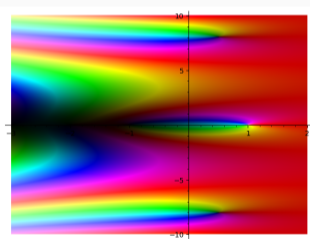


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A new bound on
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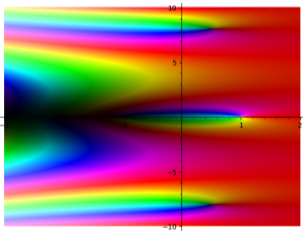


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A more generic average-case
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$\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{W}^{-1})\text{-id-HSVP}$



$\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{W})\text{-id-HSVP}$

+

$\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{I}_{A,B})\text{-id-HSVP}$

Reductions

- Understand gap between rank 1 and 2 (γ -mod-uSVP₂?).
- Go to higher rank: mod-NTRU_{n,m}, mod-uSVP_{n,m}.
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Links to Number Theory

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Thank you for your attention. I would be happy to answer your questions.

Pour ma famille : c'est un bon moment pour fuir.

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-  A. Langlois and D. Stehlé.
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A. Pellet-Mary and D. Stehlé.
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Extra Frames

Rounding Module in $K_{\mathbb{R}}$

The “good basis” is randomized, but not the “bad” one.

Basis	Short vector
$\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{b}_{11} & \tilde{b}_{12} \\ \tilde{b}_{21} & \tilde{b}_{22} \end{pmatrix} \in K_{\mathbb{R}}^{2 \times 2}$	$\tilde{\mathbf{s}} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{u} \\ \tilde{v} \end{bmatrix}$
$(M^{\vee})^2 \ni (\lambda \mathbf{I} + \varepsilon) \times \downarrow$	$(\lambda \mathbf{I} + \varepsilon) \times \downarrow$
$\begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{O}_K^{2 \times 2}$	$\mathbf{s} = (\lambda \mathbf{I} + \varepsilon) \tilde{\mathbf{s}} \in \mathcal{O}_K^2$

Lemma (definition of the dual)

If $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in M^{\vee}$, then $[\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}]^T \cdot M \subset \mathcal{O}_K^2$.

Then take HNF.

We work with elements of $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[X]/(X^n + 1)$ for $n = 2^r$.

Definition (NTRU_q)

Let $f, g \in \mathcal{O}_K$ with coefficients $\ll \sqrt{q}$ and f invertible mod q .
Given $h \in \mathcal{O}_K$ such that $f \cdot h = g \pmod{q}$, find a small multiple of (f, g) .

Proposed first in [HPS98].
Used in NIST's post-quantum standardization process: **NTRU** and **NTRUPrime**.

Advantages:

- Small keys.
- Fast encryption/decryption (much faster than RSA).
- Old.

The NTRU module

Given $h \in \mathcal{O}_K$, the set of solutions for (f, g) is

$$M = \{(f_0, g_0)^T \in \mathcal{O}_K^2, f_0 \cdot h = g_0 \bmod q\}$$

This is a module generated by the matrix

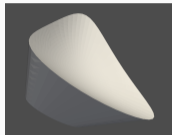
$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ h & q \end{pmatrix}$$

Solving NTRU is finding a short non-zero vector in M .

Big gap: NTRU is an instance of mod-uSVP_2

$$\lambda_1(M) \leq \|(f, g)^T\| \ll \sqrt{q} \text{ versus } \lambda_2(M) \geq \det(\mathbf{B})/\lambda_1 \gg \sqrt{q}.$$

What does “well chosen” mean?



1. $|\mathcal{B}_{A,B} \cap \mathfrak{a}|$ does not depend on \mathfrak{a} (too much).
2. $\text{Vol}(\text{Ln}(\mathcal{B}_{A,B}) \cap \{\sum x_i = t\})$ is constant for $t \in [A, B]$.
3. Its elements must be balanced.

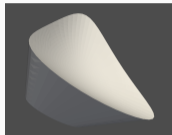
Balanced elements (for Minkowski embedding)

$x \in K$ is balanced if for all i ,

$$\frac{1}{\eta} \leq \frac{x_i}{\prod_j x_j^{1/d}} \leq \eta.$$

This is the same as $x \approx \mathcal{N}(x)^{1/d} \cdot (1, \dots, 1)$.

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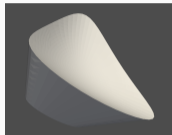
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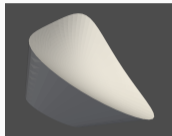
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In [BDPW20]: $\mathcal{B}_\infty(r)$: verifies items 1 and 2 but not 3!

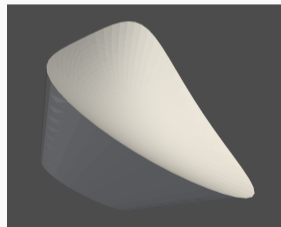
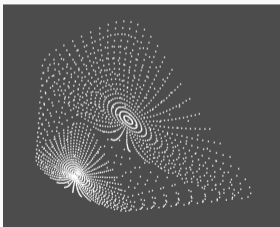
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Our shape

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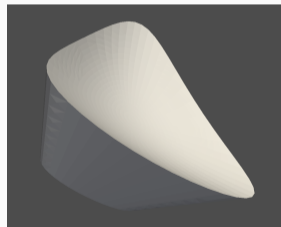
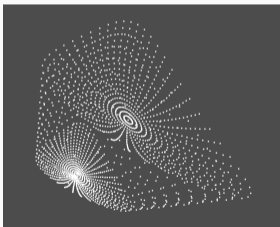


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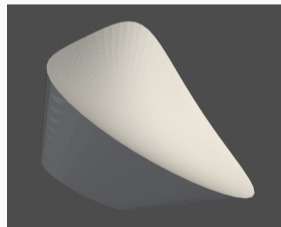
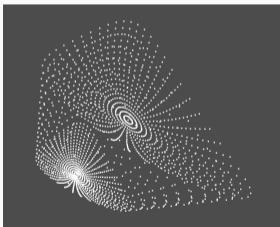


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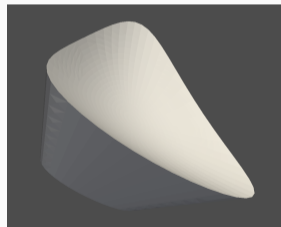
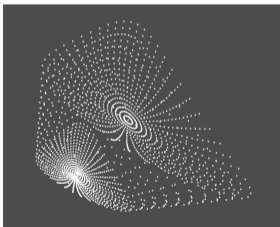


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