



Constant-time Lattice Reduction for SQIsign

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SQIsign: A post-quantum signature

+ Post-quantum signature

De Feo, Kohel, Leroux, Petit and Wesolowski, 2020



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De Feo, Kohel, Leroux, Petit and Wesolowski, 2020

- + Round 2 NIST candidate



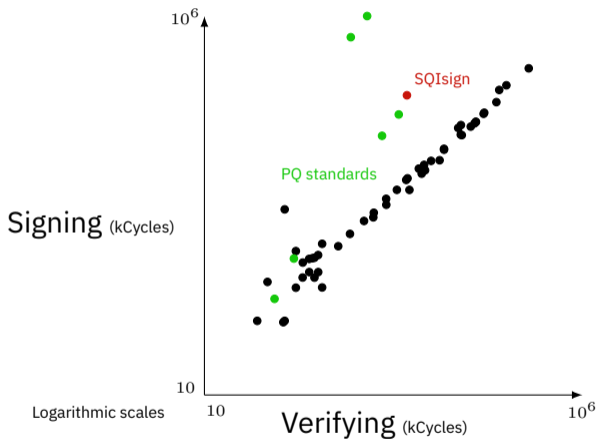
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Eprint 2020/1240

Logo from sqisign.org

LVL1 data from pqsort.tii.ae (24/02/2025)

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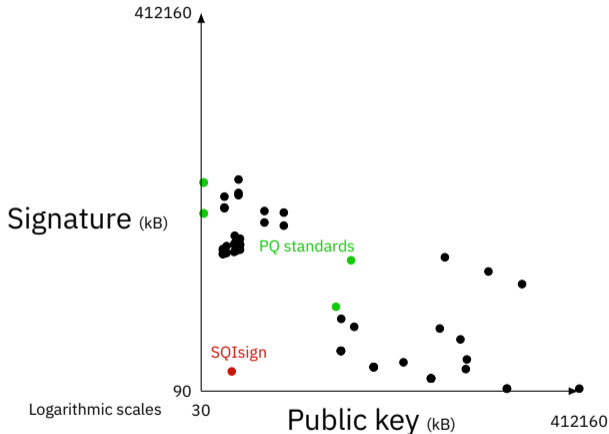
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- + public key: 148 bytes

- + signatures: 65 bytes



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- Complex



Short Quaternion and Isogeny Signature

Quaternions and Isogenies

	Secret World Quaternions	Public World Isogenies
Objects	Ideals	Isogenies
Lengths	Ideal norm	Isogeny degree

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short ideal \rightarrow short isogeny

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short ideal \rightarrow short isogeny

short element in ideal \rightarrow short ideal

Quaternion ideals

Quaternion algebra:

- 4-dimensional vector space over \mathbb{Q}
- + ...
- + with quadratic form called **norm N**

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Ideal:

- rank 4 *lattice*
 - ▶ Lattice: set of \mathbb{Z} -linear combinations of a \mathbb{Q} -basis

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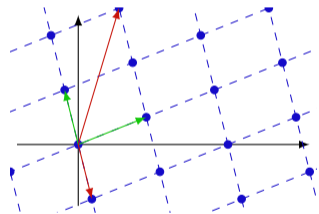
- rank 4 **lattice**
 - ▶ Lattice: set of \mathbb{Z} -linear combinations of a \mathbb{Q} -basis
- + ...
- + integer **norm**: $N(I) = \gcd_{x \in I} N(x)$

The lattice reduction problem

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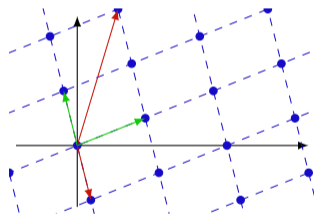
Given: A lattice basis B

Find: A *reduced* basis B' of the same lattice as B

Reduced: Containing only vectors which are

- of somewhat small norm
- and somewhat orthogonal

Several definitions exist



Lattice reduction like in lattice cryptography?

Lattice-crypto:

- Large dimension over \mathbb{Q}
- Often smaller integers
- Optimization for high dimension

- Lattice reduction in cryptanalysis
- Need fast reduction

SQIsign:

- Dimension 4 over \mathbb{Q}
- Large integers
- Optimization for large coefficients

- Lattice reduction used constructively
- Need secure reduction

Practical security in cryptography

Mathematical security:

Ensure that **given only public information**, an adversary cannot break the system

Implementation security:

Ensure **observing** the computation **only gives** public information to an adversary

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- Runtime
- Power consumption
- Memory accesses
- Faults

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Constant-time algorithms

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good Naive matrix multiplication

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Simplified: No **if**, no **while**

Lattice reduction algorithm: LLL

Require: B basis of a lattice L of rank d and $c \in]1/4, 1[$

Ensure: B an c -LLL-reduced basis of L

- 1: $B^* := \text{Gram-Schmidt-Orthogonalize}(B)$
- 2: **while** B is not reduced **do**
- 3: Size-reduce B , update B^*
- 4: **for** i from 1 to $d - 1$ **do**
- 5: **if** not $\text{LLLcondition}(c, i, B, B^*)$ **then**
- 6: Swap b_i, b_{i+1} in B , update B^* , continue
- 7: **end if**
- 8: **end for**
- 9: **end while**
- 10: **return** B

From "Factoring polynomials with rational coefficients" by A. Lenstra, H. Lenstra, L. Lovász, 1982
Description adapted from H. Cohen's "A Course in Computational Algebraic Number Theory", 1993

Lattice reduction algorithm: Greedy

Require: B basis of a lattice L of rank $d \leq 4$, G its Gram matrix

Ensure: B a Minkowski-reduced basis of L , G its Gram matrix

1: done := False

2: **while** not done and $d > 1$ **do**

3: Sort (b_1, \dots, b_d) by norm, adapt B and G ;

4: $b_1, \dots, b_{d-1}, G' := \text{Greedy}(b_1, \dots, b_{d-1})$ adapt B and G

5: $b_d := b_d - c$ where c is closest to b_d in the lattice of b_1, \dots, b_{d-1} , adapt B and G ;

6: done := $(N(b_d) \geq N(b_{d-1}))$

7: **end while**

8: **return** B, G

From "Low-Dimensional Lattice Basis Reduction Revisited" by P. Q. Nguyen, D. Stehlé, 2004
(DOI 10.1007/978-3-540-2)

Lattice reduction algorithm: BKZ-2

Require: B basis of a lattice L of rank 4, parameter $\delta < 1$

Ensure: B a reduced basis of L

- 1: LLL-reduce(B)
- 2: **while** First tour or B has changed in previous tour **do**
- 3: **for** i from 1 to 3 **do**
- 4: $b := \text{SVP}(b_i, b_{i+1})$
- 5: **if** δ -condition(b, B) **then**
- 6: Insert b in B
- 7: **end if**
- 8: LLL-reduce(B)
- 9: **end for**
- 10: **end while**
- 11: **return** B

From "Lattice basis reduction: Improved practical algorithms and solving subset sum problems."
by C. P. Schnorr and M. Euchner, 1991 (DOI 10.1007/3-540-54458-5_51); Description from Eprint 2011/198

Lattice reduction algorithm: BKZ-2 for analysis

Require: B basis of a lattice L of rank 4, optional T_m max iteration number

Ensure: B a reduced basis of L if T_m large enough

- 1: **while** B has changed in previous tour and T_m not reached **do**
- 2: **for** i from 1 to 3 **do**
- 3: $b_1, b_{i+1} := \text{HKZ-reduce}(b_i, b_{i+1})$
- 4: Size-reduce(B)
- 5: **end for**
- 6: **end while**
- 7: **return** B

From "Terminating BKZ" by G. Hanrot, X. Pujol and D. Stehlé, 2011
(Eprint 2011/198)

Constant-time BKZ-2

Require: B basis of a lattice L of rank 4, iteration counts T_{Lagr} , T_{BKZ}

Ensure: B' a reduced basis of L if T_{Lagr} , T_{BKZ} are large enough

- 1: $B', G, B := B$, its Gram matrix, its orthogonalization
- 2: **for** j from 1 to T_{BKZ} **do**
- 3: **for** i from 1 to 3 **do**
- 4: Size-reduce b'_i , adapt G and B^* ;
- 5: Constant-time Lagrange-reduce $(b'_i, b'_{i+1}, T_{Lagr})$, adapt B', B^*, G
- 6: Size-reduce b'_i then b'_{i+1} , adapt G and B^*
- 7: **end for**
- 8: **end for**
- 9: **return** B'

Lagrange reduction

Require: b_1, b_2 basis of a rank-2 lattice L

Ensure: c, d basis of L with c minimal in L

1: **while** first round or $N(d) < N(c)$ **do**

2: $\mu = \lfloor \frac{N(c+d) - N(c) - N(d)}{2N(d)} \rfloor$

3: $c, d := d, c - \mu d$

4: **end while**

5: **return** c, d

N square of a norm (quadratic form)

Lagrange reduction

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- 3: $c, d := d, c - \mu d$
- 4: **end for**
- 5: CT-CONDITIONAL-SWAP $_{N(d) < N(c)}(c, d)$
- 6: **return** c, d

N square of a norm (quadratic form)

Iteration counts

Ensure:

$$\|b_0\| \leq 2 \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^{3/2} D^{1/4}$$

Require:

$$T_{\text{BKZ}} \geq \frac{2}{\log_2(8/7)} \log_2 \left(\log_2 \left(\frac{B^*}{D^{1/4}} \right) + \sqrt{5}(\log(4/3))^{1/2} \right)$$

$$T_{\text{Lagr}} \geq 2 + 2 \lceil (\log_{\sqrt{3}} 2) (9 \log_2 B + 12) \rceil$$

B : Square root of largest diagonal coefficient of Gram matrix of the input

B^* : Square root of largest norm of a vector in the orthogonalization of the input

D : Lattice volume

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$$T_{\text{Lagr}} \geq 2 + 2[(\log_{\sqrt{3}} 2) (9 \log_2 B + 12)]$$

In SQIsign:

$T_{\text{BKZ}} \approx$ Tens to hundreds

$T_{\text{Lagr}} \approx$ Thousands

B : Square root of largest diagonal coefficient of Gram matrix of the input

B^* : Square root of largest norm of a vector in the orthogonalization of the input

D : Lattice volume

Gap to practice

Example:

bitsize $N(I)$	T_{Lagr}		T_{BKZ}	
	theory	no failure observed	theory	no failure observed
260	2986	9	64	3

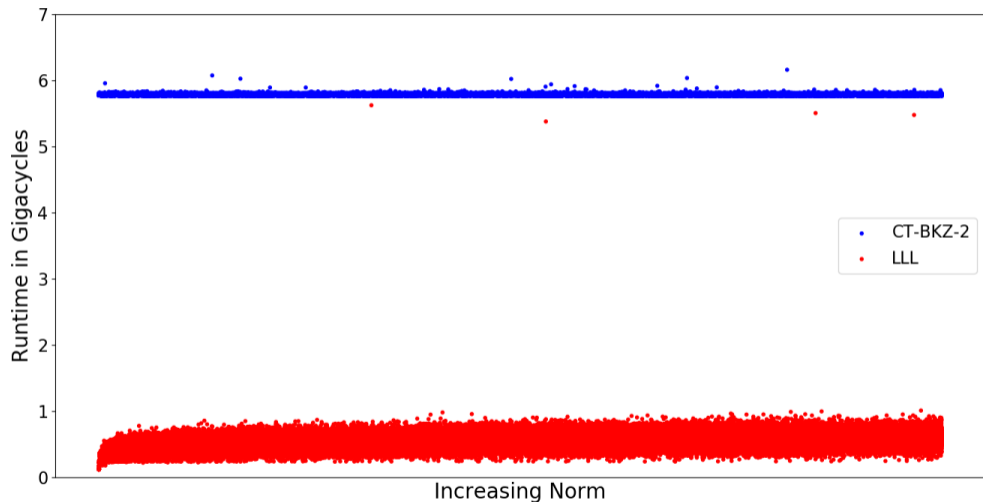
Possible reasons:

- ? LLL analysis not tight
- ? Worst case never met

And if we did less iterations?

- + Guaranteed constant runtime
 - + Output is lattice basis
 - Output might not be sufficiently reduced
- Running with reduced tours where risk is acceptable
- Reasonable runtime
- Experiments possible

CT-BKZ-2 is constant-time



Benchmarks and comparisons

Algorithm Parameters	old LLL	CT-BKZ-2		
		T_{BKZ}	T_{Lagr}	
LVL1	7,39	35,9	4	10
LVL3	17,2	81,8	4	11
LVL5	26,4	133	4	13

All timings in gigacycles on an Intel i7-11850H processor

Benchmarks and comparisons

Algorithm	old LLL	CT-BKZ-2
Integers	CT	CT
LVL1	7,39 <small>37 words</small>	35,9 <small>37 words</small>
LVL3	17,2 <small>55 words</small>	81,8 <small>55 words</small>
LVL5	26,4 <small>72 words</small>	133 <small>72 words</small>

All timings in gigacycles on an Intel i7-11850H processor

Iterations for less than 1 failure on 100 random SQIsign-typical inputs. Such inputs are bases in HNF of random O_0 -ideals of suitable norm.
For typical SQIsign inputs (from NIST round 1 or 2 implementation): $\log_2(N(I))$ about 260, 385, 508 and $\log_2(p)$ equal 254, 378, 502 respectively.

Benchmarks and comparisons

Algorithm	old LLL		CT-BKZ-2		
	CT		CT	short CT	
LVL1	7,39	37 words	35,9	9,59	20 words
LVL3	17,2	55 words	81,8	19,5	28 words
LVL5	26,4	72 words	133	38,9	37 words

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Benchmarks and comparisons

Algorithm	old LLL		CT-BKZ-2	
	CT	non-CT	CT	short CT
Integers				
LVL1	7,39 <small>37 words</small>	0,0016	35,9 <small>37 words</small>	9,59 <small>20 words</small>
LVL3	17,2 <small>55 words</small>	0,0025	81,8 <small>55 words</small>	19,5 <small>28 words</small>
LVL5	26,4 <small>72 words</small>	0,0031	133 <small>72 words</small>	38,9 <small>37 words</small>

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Benchmarks and comparisons

Algorithm	old LLL			CT-BKZ-2	
	CT	non-CT	L2	CT	short CT
LVL1	7,39 _{37 words}	0,0016	5×10^{-5}	35,9 _{37 words}	9,59 _{20 words}
LVL3	17,2 _{55 words}	0,0025	6×10^{-5}	81,8 _{55 words}	19,5 _{28 words}
LVL5	26,4 _{72 words}	0,0031	7×10^{-5}	133 _{72 words}	38,9 _{37 words}

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Integers and other limitations

- Current bottleneck: constant-time GCD
 - ▶ Rationals
 - ▶ Constant-time GCD self-implemented
 - ▶ Very large numbers

- Other number types?

Possible improvements

Optimizations

- Use compiler optimization
- Other number types

Usability

- Failure rate estimation

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Questions?

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