

Comparing proofs of security for lattice-based encryption

Daniel J. Bernstein

Primary objective of this paper:
Make a **complete plan**
for **thorough security reviews**
of 36 target KEMs.

Much harder: Do the reviews!
Complete plan is framework
to evaluate which pieces are done,
and to coordinate further efforts.
KEMs vary in what's needed.

The target KEMs (all proposed
for wide deployment, IND-CCA2):

frodo	640, 976, 1344.
kyber	512, 768, 1024.
lac	128, 192, 256.
newhope	512, 1024.
ntru	hps2048509, hps2048677, hps4096821, hrss701.
ntrulpr	653, 761, 857.
round5n1	1, 3, 5.
round5nd	1.0d, 3.0d, 5.0d, 1.5d, 3.5d, 5.5d.
saber	light, main, fire.
sntrup	653, 761, 857.
threebears	baby, mama, papa.

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Revised plan:

1. Verify the “security proofs” .
2. Verify the cryptanalysis
of the risks left by the proofs.

Again clean up; check by hand;
track failure categories.

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all of the target proofs
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Are attack-cost analyses correct?
How thorough is exploration of space of optimizations?
How thorough is the study of claimed barriers to speedups that work for similar problems?
Do the cryptanalytic targets match the proof risks? etc.

Long history of failures: e.g. NSA overstated DES attack; $L(1/2)$ optimality conjecture for factorization was wrong; TLS Triple-DES-CBC was broken without Triple-DES attack; etc.

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Why bother with

Plan without proof
Verify cryptanalysis

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Why bother with proofs?

Plan without proofs is simple
Verify cryptanalysis of the K

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Plan without proofs is simpler:
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Sometimes this outweighs cost to verify proofs: reduces cost of thorough security review.
Hopefully less chance of disaster.

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This paper's verification plan skips proofs that clearly fail to reduce cost of cryptanalysis: e.g., frodo seed "reduction".

back-cost analyses correct?
Thorough is exploration
of optimizations?
Thorough is the study of
barriers to speedups
Look for similar problems?
Cryptanalytic targets
The proof risks? etc.
History of failures: e.g.,
Overstated DES attack cost;
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Priorization was wrong;
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Triple-DES attack; etc.

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But sometimes the proofs
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Sometimes this outweighs
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This paper's verification plan
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Product NTRU: convert core PKE into PKE that builds multiplier G pseudorandomly from public seed.

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As far as I can tell, none of the target KEMs claim higher U -user security.