



COSIC

X2X: Efficient A2B & B2A Conversions for $d + 1$ Shares in Hardware

with Application to Lattice-based PQC

COSIC Seminar

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COSIC, KU Leuven

March 27, 2025

Outline

- ① Introduction to PQC & Masking
- ② Algorithmic Improvements
- ③ Implementation & Evaluation
- ④ Conclusion

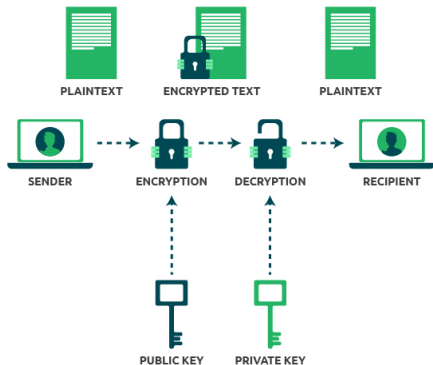


Outline

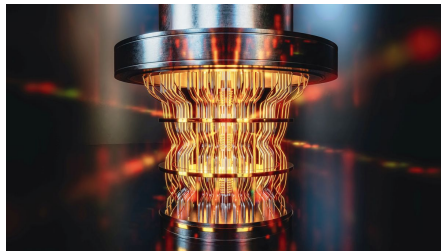
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Post-Quantum Cryptography



SOURCE: ClickSSL



SOURCE: ORF, Getty

Lattice-based PQC



ML-KEM & ML-DSA



Performance, security and bandwidth

FIPS 203

Federal Information Processing Standards Publication

Module-Lattice-Based Key-Encapsulation Mechanism Standard

Category: Computer Security

Subcategory: Cryptography

FIPS 204

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Module-Lattice-Based Digital Signature Standard

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Lattice-based PQC



ML-KEM & ML-DSA



Performance, security and bandwidth



Real-world deployment:

(Protection against) **Physical attacks**

FIPS 203

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Federal Information Processing Standards Publication

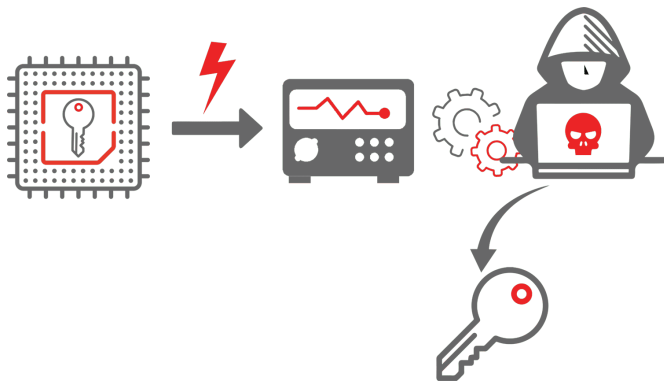
Module-Lattice-Based Digital Signature Standard

Category: Computer Security

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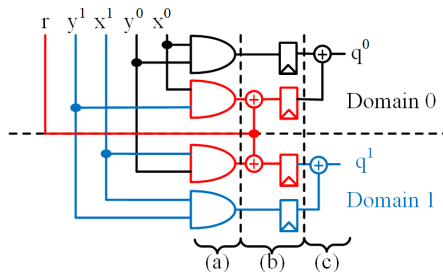
Side-Channel Attacks



SOURCE: Secure-iC



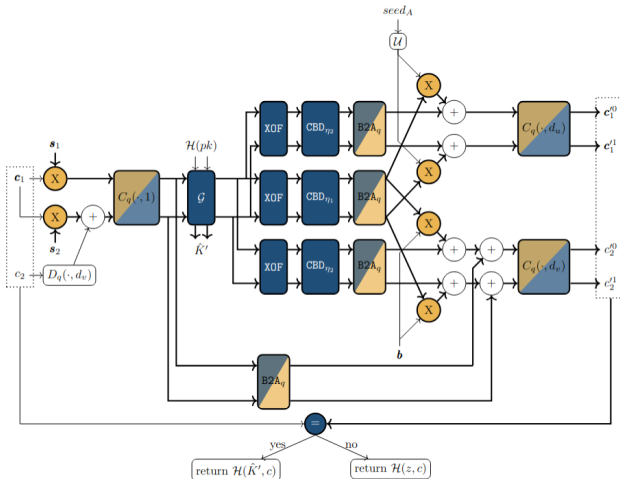
Masking



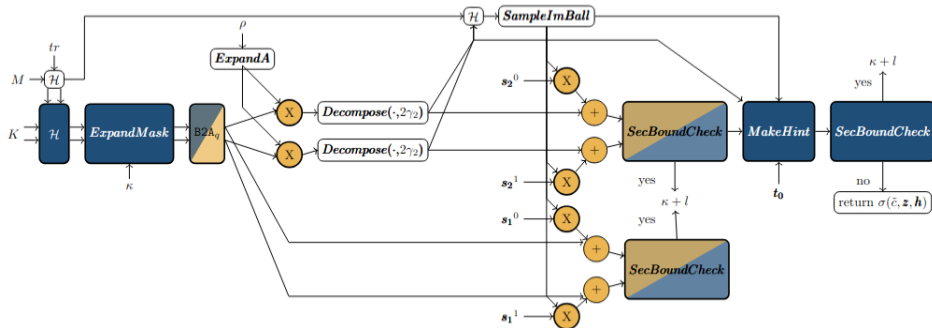
RAND & REG



Masking ML-KEM.Decaps



Masking ML-DSA.Sign



Masking Lattice-based PQC

Masking Lattice-based PQC requires a mix of **arithmetic** and **Boolean** sharing.

- ▶ **Polynomial** arithmetic (e.g., PolMult): $x = \sum_{i=0}^d x^{\{i\}}$
- ▶ **Bitwise** arithmetic (e.g., Hashing): $x = \bigoplus_{i=0}^d x^{\{i\}}$

Need **A2B** and **B2A**!



This Work: **X2X**

Full ML-KEM.Decaps or ML-DSA.Sign requires:

- ▶ **ANY** protection order d
- ▶ **ANY** modulus p or q
- ▶ **ANY** operation (A2B or B2A)
- ▶ Low cost (randomness, area)
- ▶ High performance (throughput)



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- 2 Algorithmic Improvements**
- 3 Implementation & Evaluation
- 4 Conclusion



Secure Addition: SecADD

$$s^{\{0:d\}} = x^{\{0:d\}} + y^{\{0:d\}} \bmod q = \bigoplus_{i=0}^d x^{\{i\}} + \bigoplus_{i=0}^d y^{\{i\}} \bmod q$$

- "Arithmetic addition on Boolean shares"

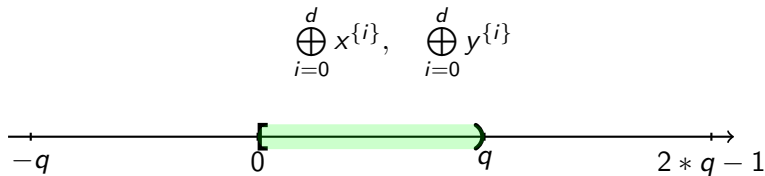


Secure Addition: SecADD

$$s^{\{0:d\}} = x^{\{0:d\}} + y^{\{0:d\}} \bmod q = \bigoplus_{i=0}^d x^{\{i\}} + \bigoplus_{i=0}^d y^{\{i\}} \bmod q$$

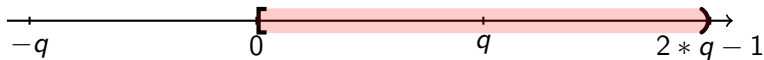
- "Arithmetic addition on Boolean shares"



SecADD_q: Typical Approach

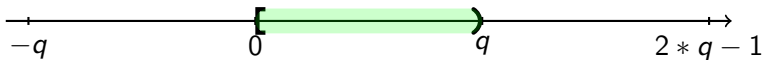
SecADD_q: Typical Approach

$$\text{Step 1: } s^{\{0:d\}} = \bigoplus_{i=0}^d x^{\{i\}} + \bigoplus_{i=0}^d y^{\{i\}}$$



SecADD_q: Typical Approach

$$\text{Step 2: } s^{\{0:d\}} = \bigoplus_{i=0}^d x^{\{i\}} + \bigoplus_{i=0}^d y^{\{i\}} \bmod q$$



► SecMUX [1] or $2 \times$ SecADD [2]



A2B

► $A2B \approx \text{SecADD}(\text{SecADD}(\dots))$

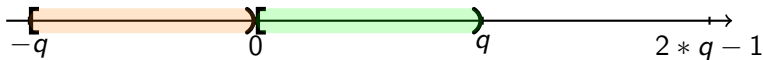
$$B^{\{0:d\}} = z^{\{0\}} + z^{\{1\}} + \dots + z^{\{d\}}$$

► $\uparrow d \rightarrow \uparrow \# \text{SecADD}$



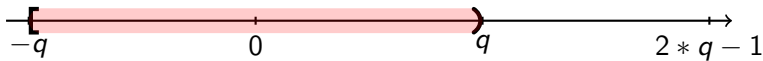
SecADDChain_q

$$\text{Step 0: } \bigoplus_{i=0}^d x^{\{i\}}, \quad \bigoplus_{i=0}^d y^{\{i\}} - q$$



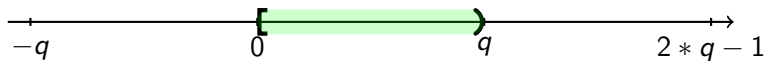
SecADDChain_q

$$\text{Step 1: } s^{\{0:d\}} = \bigoplus_{i=0}^d x^{\{i\}} + \bigoplus_{i=0}^d y'^{\{i\}}$$



SecADDChain_q

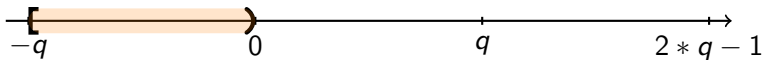
$$\text{Step 2: } s^{\{0:d\}} = \bigoplus_{i=0}^d x^{\{i\}} + \bigoplus_{i=0}^d y^{\{i\}} \bmod q$$



► **1** × SecADD

SecADDChain_q

$$\text{Step 2: } s'^{\{0:d\}} = s^{\{0:d\}} - q$$



- ▶ $1 \times \text{SecADD}$
- ▶ Interleave 2 options



B2A

► B2A $\approx$ A2B & SecADD^d

$$\text{Factory} : R^0, R^1 \dots R^{d-1}$$

B2A

► $B2A \approx A2B$ & SecADD^d

 : $R^0, R^1 \dots R^{d-1}$

$$B^{\{0:d\}} = R^{\{0\}} + R^{\{1\}} + \dots + 0$$



B2A

► $B2A \approx A2B \ \& \ SecADD^d$

$$\text{Factory} : R^0, \quad R^1 \quad \dots \quad R^{d-1}$$

$$B^{\{0:d\}} = R^{\{0\}} + R^{\{1\}} + \dots + 0$$

$$z^{\{0:d\}} = B^{\{0:d\}} + x^{\{0:d\}}$$



B2X2A & X2B

► $B2X2A \approx X2B$

$$\text{Factory} : R^0, R^1 \dots R^{d-1}$$

B2X2A & X2B

► B2X2A $\approx$ X2B

$$\text{Factory} : R^0, R^1 \dots R^{d-1}$$

$$z_{\{0:d\}} = R^{\{0\}} + R^{\{1\}} + \dots + x_{\{0:d\}}$$



B2X2A & X2B

► B2X2A $\approx$ X2B

$$\text{Factory} : R^0, R^1 \dots R^{d-1}$$

$$z^{\{0:d\}} = R^{\{0\}} + R^{\{1\}} + \dots + x^{\{0:d\}}$$

► X2B $\approx \text{SecADD}'(\text{SecADD}'(\dots))$

► Pre- and post-processing: see full paper!



Operation Cost: SecADDChain_q^d & B2X2A

	Order	# SecADD				Total	# SecMUX				Total
		1	2	3	d		1	2	3	d	
[1]	1	4	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	2
	2	2	4	-	-	6	1	2	-	-	3
	3	4	-	4	-	8	2	-	2	-	4
	d	-	-	-	4	$2(d+1)$	-	-	-	2	$d+1$
[3]	1	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
[2]	1	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
	2	2	5	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
	3	4	0	6	-	10	-	-	-	-	-
	d	-	-	-	5 or 6 ^a	$3d$ or $3d+1^a$	-	-	-	-	-
B2X2A	1	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
	2	2	2	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
	3	2	0	4	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
	d	-	-	-	$2 \cdot \lceil \log_2(d) \rceil$	$2d$	-	-	-	-	-

Table: Detailed B2A_q Operation Cost Comparison ($d+1$ shares, k -bit words).^a For *complete* or *incomplete* tree-structure.

Outline

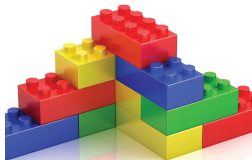
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Masking Techniques

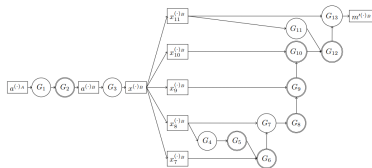
Approach 1: **Universal Composability**

- ▶ Masked Gadgets 
- ▶ (Over)conservative RND & REG



Approach 2: **Manual Masking**

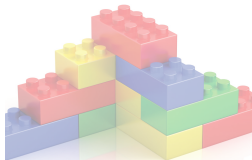
- ▶ Masked Gates 
- ▶ Error-prone



Masking Techniques

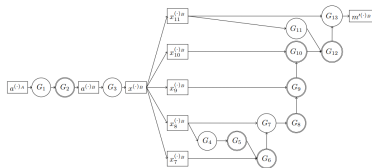
Approach 1: Universal Composability

- ▶ Masked Gadgets 
- ▶ (Over)conservative RND & REG



Approach 2: Manual Masking

- ▶ Masked Gates 
- ▶ Error-prone



Masking Techniques: Cost Comparison

Masking Technique	RND [bits]	Latency [cycles]	Verification
HPC1 (PINI)	228	18	Low
DOM (t -NI) + SecREF (t -SNI)	176	11	<i>High</i>
DOM (t -NI)	114	9	<i>High</i>

Table: Comparison of first-order masking techniques of a Brent-Kung SecADD ($k = 13$).

- Half-cycle datapath: see full paper!



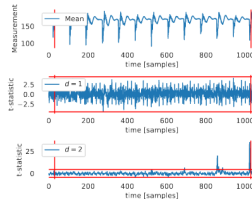
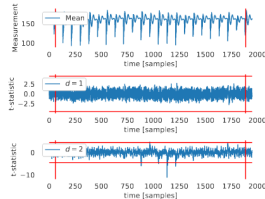
Performance Comparison

Table 4: Mask Conversion Hardware Implementation: Performance Comparison.

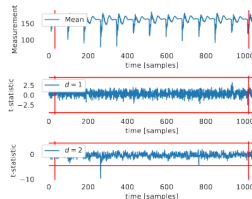
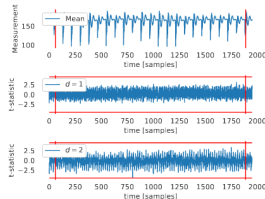
Design	Mask. Tech.	Device	k	d	Util. [LUT/FF]	Freq. [MHz]	OP	mod	Rand. ^a [bits]	Lat. [cycles]	TP [coeff/cycle]
[SMG15]	TI	Spartan-6	32	1	937/1,330	62	SecADD	2 ^k	32	6	0.167
				2	4,223/5,509	63			128	12	0.083
[FVBRR ⁺ 21]	TI	Artix-7	32	1	2,464/1,323	454	SecADD	2 ^k	-	6	-
[BG22]	PINI (HPC)	- ^c	32	1	-	-	SecADD	2 ^k	122	10	1
				2	-	-			366	10	1
[CGM ⁺ 23]	PINI (HPC)	Spartan-6	32	1	1,588/4,317	173	SecADD	2 ^k	74	18	1
				2	1,666/7,122	158			222	18	1
[CGTV15] ^b	PINI (HPC)	Artix-7	32	2	13,064/17,952	351	A2B	2 ^k	1,280	24	1
[BC22] ^b	PINI (HPC)	Artix-7	32	2	2,234/20,423	512	A2B	2 ^k	124	124	0.008
[LZP ⁺ 24]	PINI (HPC)	Artix-7	32	2	11,196/14,550	370	A2B	2 ^k	1,056	14	1
This Work (Full-cycle)	DOM	Kintex-7 ^d	13	1	1,150/3,335	176	A2B	2 ^k	140	10	2
								3329	255	20	1
				2	3,128/16,774	144	B2A	2 ^k	140	11	2
								3329	255	21	1
			13	1	1,133/2,170	139	A2B	2 ^k	534	20	2
								3329	993	40	1
This Work (Half-cycle)	DOM	Kintex-7 ^d	13	2	3,105/9,376	130	B2A	2 ^k	534	21	2
								3329	993	41	1
			13	2	3,105/9,376	130	A2B	2 ^k	140	5	2
								3329	255	10	1
			13	2	3,105/9,376	130	B2A	2 ^k	140	5	2
								3329	255	10	1



Security Evaluation: TVLA in Lab

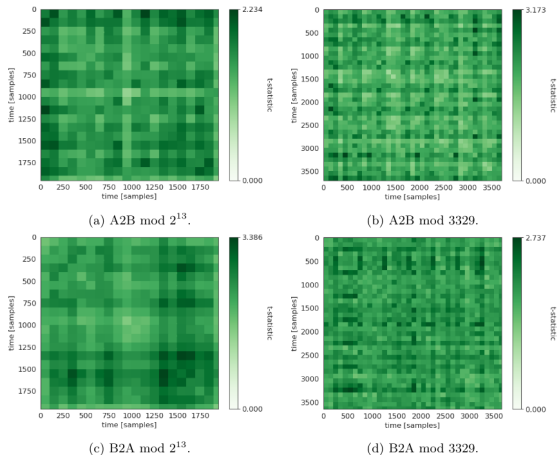
(a) A2B mod 2^{13} .

(b) A2B mod 3329.

(c) B2A mod 2^{13} .

(d) B2A mod 3329.

Security Evaluation: TVLA in Lab



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X2X: Summary

Full ML-KEM.Decaps or ML-DSA.Sign requires:

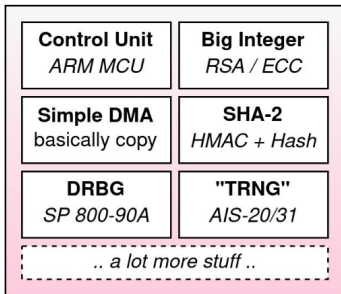
- ▶ **ANY** protection order d ✓
- ▶ **ANY** modulus p or q ✓
- ▶ **ANY** operation (A2B or B2A) ✓

- ▶ Low cost (randomness, area) ✓ (up to 62%, 45-60%)
- ▶ High performance (throughput, latency) ✓ (29-92%)

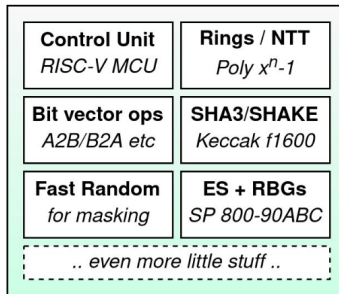


Future Work

Generic Secure Element in -2020



Generic Secure Element in 2025-



SOURCE:
PQShield



Thank you. Questions?



- [1] Gilles Barthe et al. “Masking the GLP Lattice-Based Signature Scheme at Any Order”. In: *Advances in Cryptology – EUROCRYPT 2018*. Ed. by Jesper Buus Nielsen and Vincent Rijmen. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2018, pp. 354–384. ISBN: 978-3-319-78375-8.
- [2] Gaëtan Cassiers. “Composable and efficient masking schemes for side-channel secure implementations”. PhD thesis. École polytechnique de Louvain and Université catholique de Louvain, 2022.
- [3] Tim Fritzmann et al. “Masked Accelerators and Instruction Set Extensions for Post-Quantum Cryptography”. In: *IACR Transactions on Cryptographic Hardware and Embedded Systems 2022.1* (Nov. 2021), pp. 414–460. DOI: 10.46586/tches.v2022.i1.414-460. URL: <https://tches.iacr.org/index.php/TCHES/article/view/9303>.

