

HILA5 Pindakaas: On the CCA security of lattice-based encryption with error correction

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Motivation

- ▶ HILA5 is a RLWE-based KEM submitted to NISTPQC.

*This design also provides **IND-CCA secure** KEM-DEM public key encryption if used in conjunction with an appropriate AEAD such as NIST approved AES256-GCM.*

— HILA5 NIST submission document (v1.0)

- ▶ Decapsulation much faster than encapsulation (and faster than any other scheme).
- ▶ No mention of a CCA transform (e.g. Fujisaki–Okamoto).

Noisy Diffie–Hellman

- ▶ Have a ring $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]/(q, \varphi)$ where $q \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $\varphi \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$.¹
- ▶ Let χ be a narrow distribution around $0 \in R$.
- ▶ Fix some “random” element $g \in R$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a, e \leftarrow \chi^n & & b, e' \leftarrow \chi^n \\ A = ga + e & & B = gb + e' \\ \swarrow & & \searrow \\ S = Ba = gab + e'a & & S' = Ab = gab + eb \end{array}$$

$$\implies S - S' = e'a - eb \approx 0$$

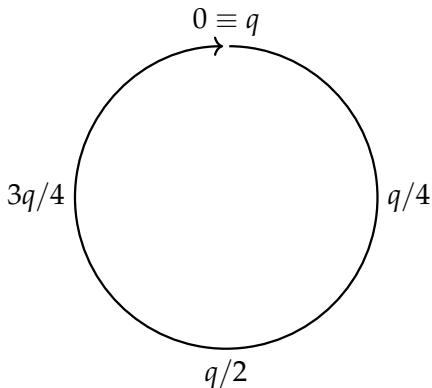
\uparrow
 χ small

¹There exist other rings that work.

Reconciliation

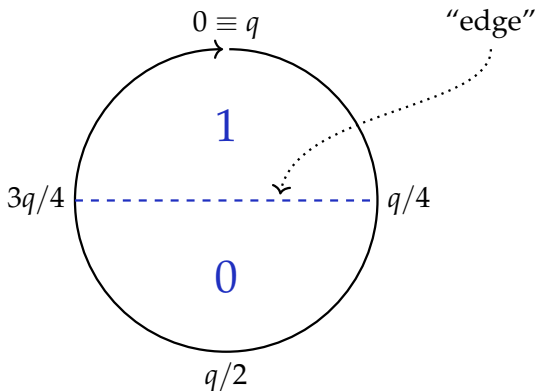
Alice and Bob obtain close secret vectors $S, S' \in (\mathbb{Z}/q)^n$.

How to map coefficients to bits?



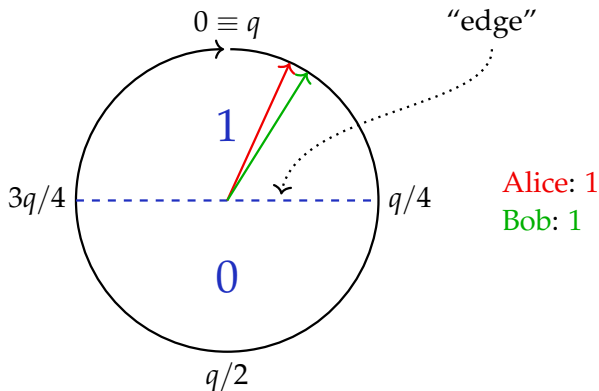
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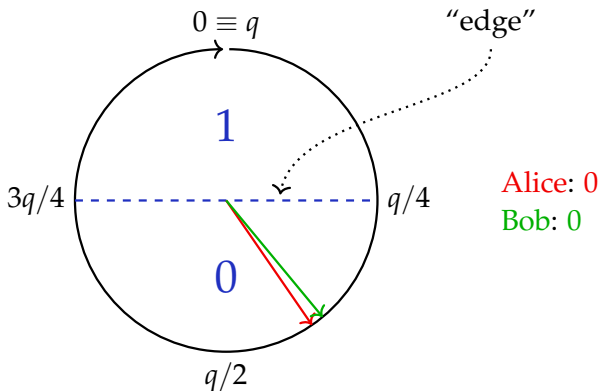
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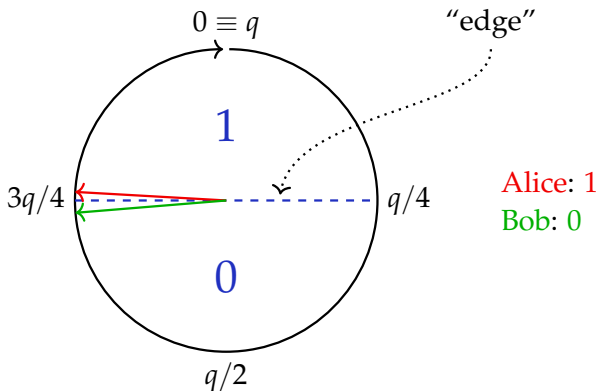
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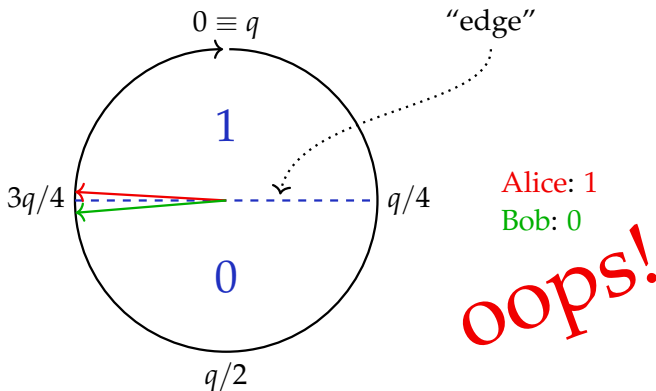
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Mapping coefficients to bits using **fixed intervals** is bad.

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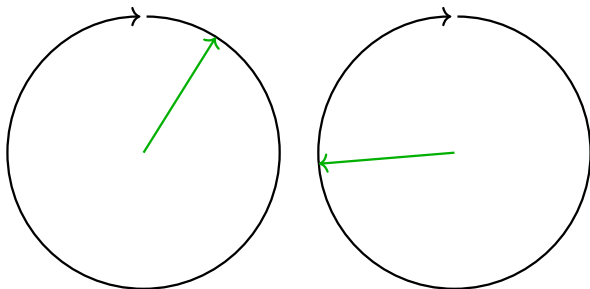
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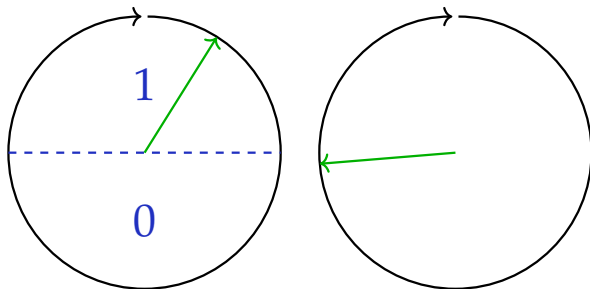
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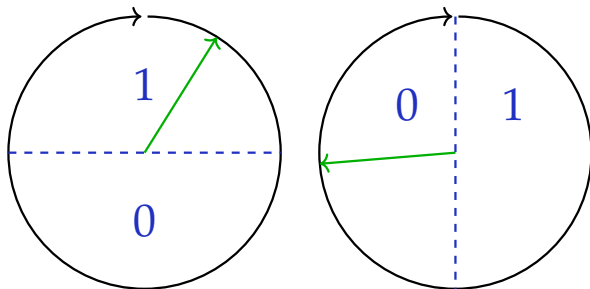
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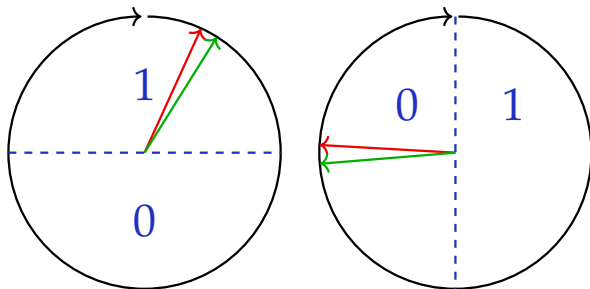
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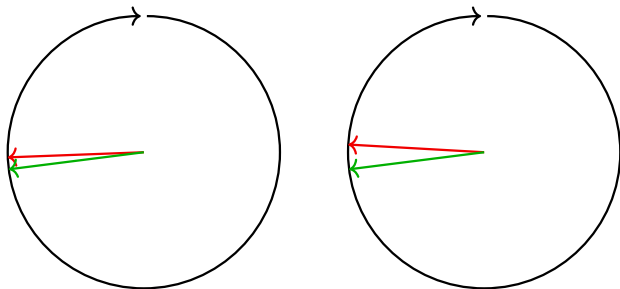


Fluhrer's attack <https://ia.cr/2016/085>

Problem: **Evil Bob** can trick **Alice** into leaking information by deliberately using the **wrong mapping** for one coefficient.

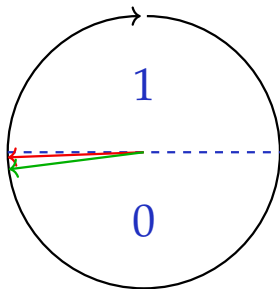
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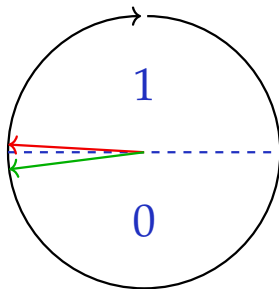


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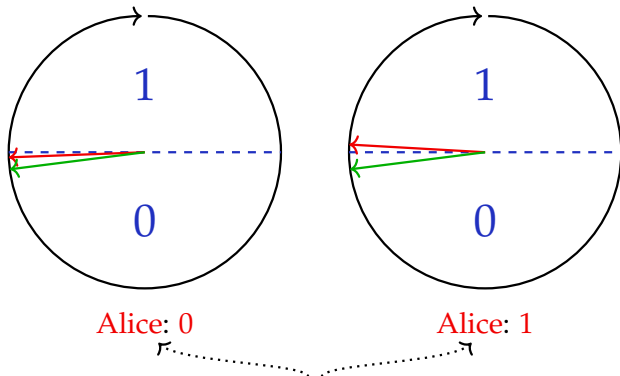
Alice: 0



Alice: 1

Fluhrer's attack <https://ia.cr/2016/085>

Problem: **Evil Bob** can trick **Alice** into leaking information by deliberately using the **wrong mapping** for one coefficient.



Evil Bob can distinguish these cases!
(He knows all the other key bits.)

Chosen-ciphertext information leaks

Evil Bob has two guesses k_0, k_1 for what Alice's key k will be given his manipulated public key B .



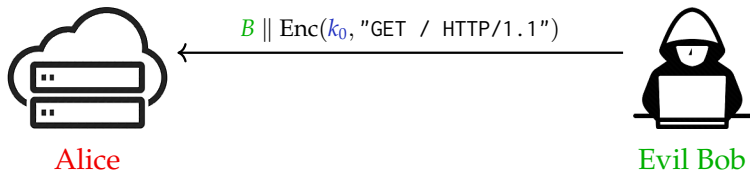
Alice



Evil Bob

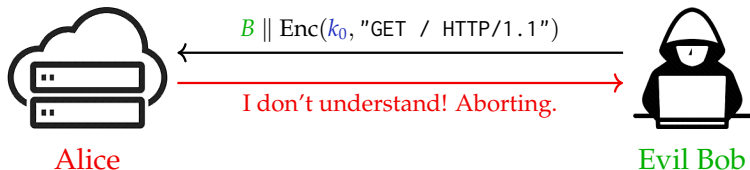
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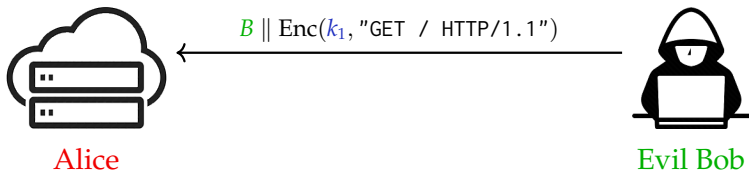
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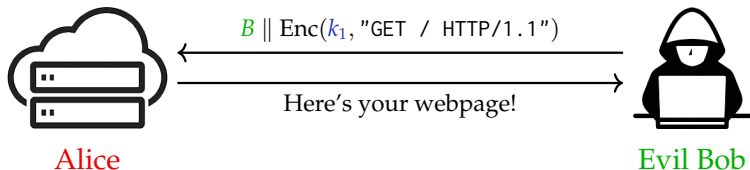
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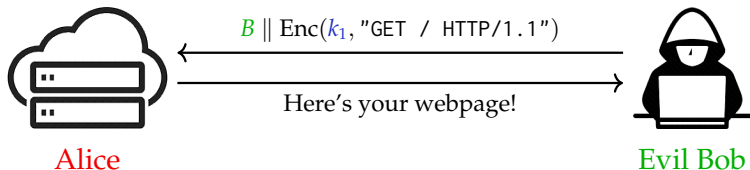
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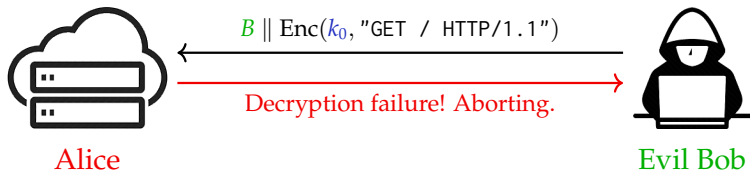
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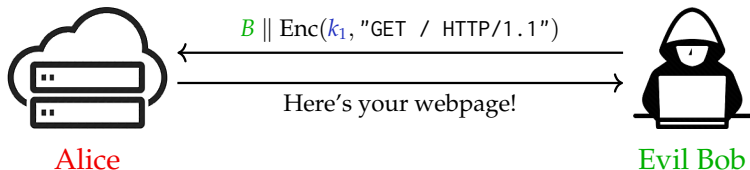


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Suppose Evil Bob knows b_δ such that $gab_\delta[0] = \overset{\text{edge}}{\downarrow} \tilde{M} + \delta$.

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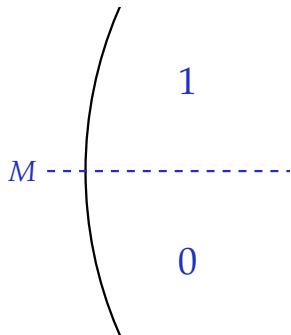
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Structure of R

\rightsquigarrow Can choose e' such that $e'a[0] = a[i]$ to recover all of a .

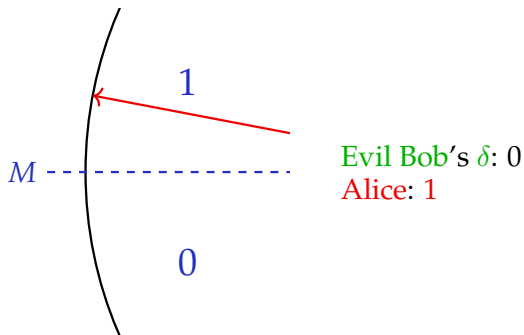
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Querying Alice with $b = b_\delta$ and $e' = 1$ leaks whether $-a[0] > \delta$.



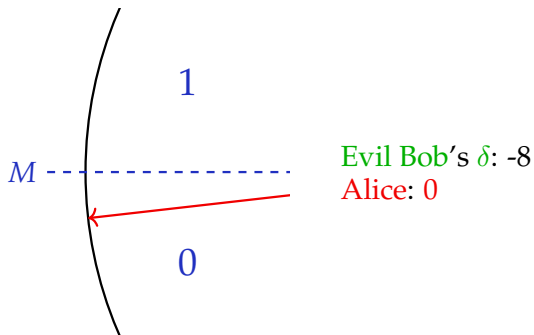
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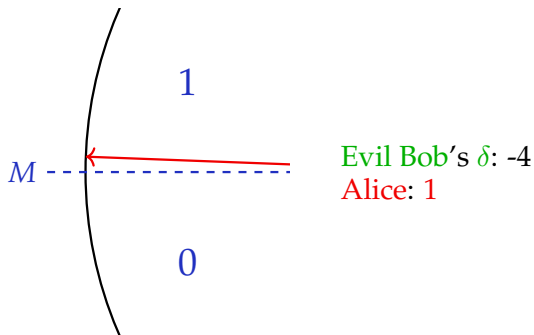
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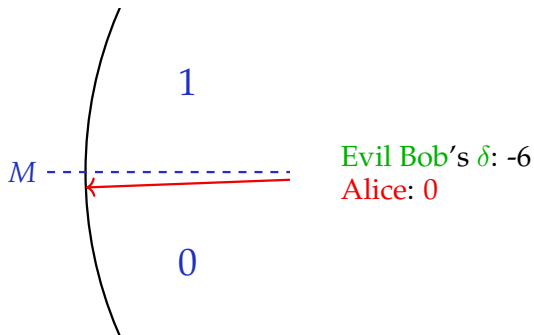
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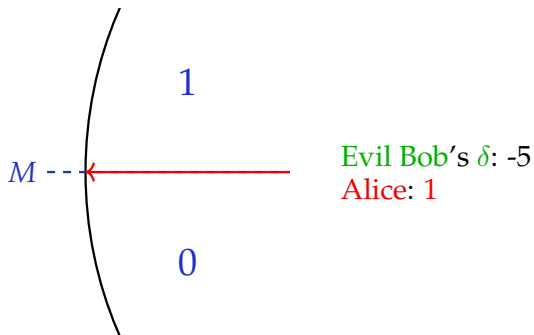
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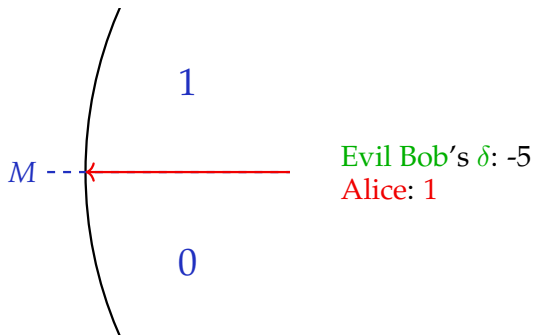
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Querying **Alice** with $b = b_\delta$ and $e' = 1$ leaks whether $-a[0] > \delta$.




\implies **Evil Bob** learns that $a[0] = 5$.


Our work

Adaption of [Fluhrer's attack](#) to [HILA5](#) and analysis

- ▶ Standard **noisy Diffie–Hellman** with **new reconciliation**.

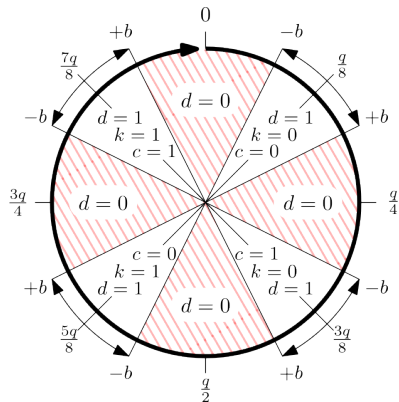
- ▶ Standard **noisy Diffie–Hellman** with **new reconciliation**.
- ▶ Ring: $\mathbb{Z}[x]/(q, x^{1024} + 1)$ where $q = 12289$.¹
- ▶ Noise distribution $\chi: \Psi_{16}$.¹  on $\{-16, \dots, 16\}$

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- ▶ Noise distribution $\chi: \Psi_{16}$.¹  on $\{-16, \dots, 16\}$
- ▶ New reconciliation mechanism:
 - ▶ Only use “**safe bits**” that are far from an edge.
 - ▶ Additionally apply an **error-correcting code**.

¹same as New Hope.

HILA5's reconciliation



(picture: HILA5 documentation)

For each coefficient:

$d = 0$: Discard coefficient.

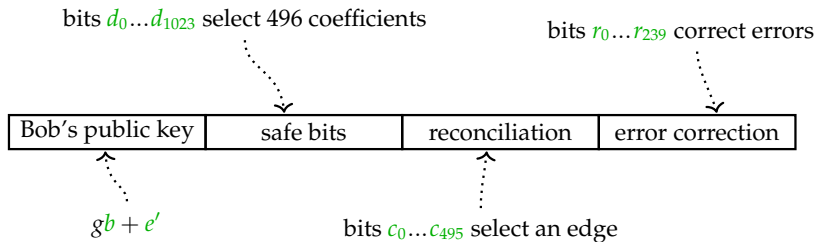
$d = 1$: Send reconciliation information c ; use for key bit k .

Edges:

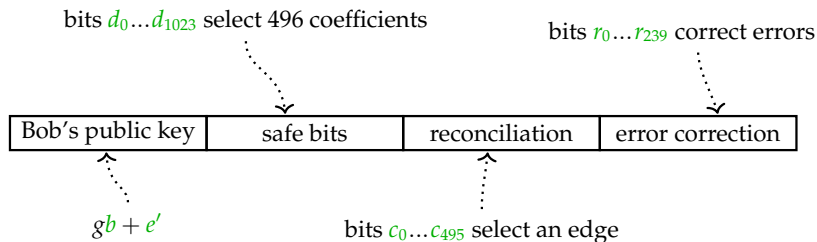
$c = 0$: $\lceil 3q/8 \rceil \dots \lceil 7q/8 \rceil \rightsquigarrow k = 0$.
 $\lceil 7q/8 \rceil \dots \lceil 3q/8 \rceil \rightsquigarrow k = 1$.

$c = 1$: $\lceil q/8 \rceil \dots \lceil 5q/8 \rceil \rightsquigarrow k = 0$.
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HILA5's packet format



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We're going to manipulate each of these parts.

Unsafe bits



We want to attack the first coefficient.

Unsafe bits

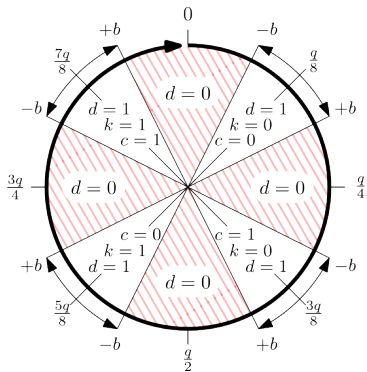


We want to attack the first coefficient.
 \implies Force $d_0 = 1$ to make Alice use it.

Living on the edge



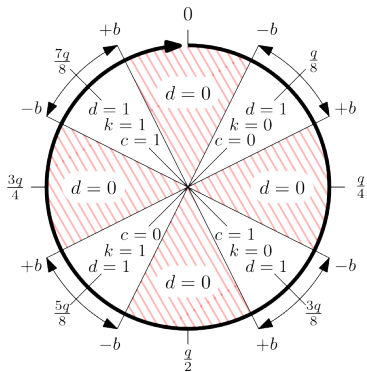
We want to attack the edge at $M = \lceil q/8 \rceil$.



Living on the edge



We want to attack the edge at $M = \lceil q/8 \rceil$. \implies Force $c_0 = 1$.



Making errors



- ▶ HILA5 uses a custom linear error-correcting code XE5.
- ▶ Encrypted (XOR) using part of Bob's shared secret S' .
- ▶ Ten variable-length codewords $R_0 \dots R_9$.
- ▶ Alice corrects $S[0]$ using the first bit of each R_i .
- ▶ Capable of correcting (at least) 5-bit errors.

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We want to keep errors in $S[0]$. \implies Flip the first bit of $R_0 \dots R_4$!

All coefficients for the price of one



Our binary search recovers $e'a[0]$ from $gab_\delta + e'a$ by varying δ .
How to get $a[1], a[2], \dots$?

All coefficients for the price of one



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How to get $a[1], a[2], \dots$?

By construction of $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]/(q, x^{1024} + 1)$,
Evil Bob can rotate $a[i]$ into $e'a[0]$ by setting $e' = -x^{1024-i}$.

Running the search for all i yields all coefficients of a .

Evil Bob needs evil b_δ



Recall that Evil Bob needs b_δ such that $gab_\delta[0] = M + \delta$.
How to obtain b_δ without knowing a ?

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This works because $M^{-1} \bmod q = -8$ is small here.

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If b_0 was wrong, the recovered coefficients are all 0 or -1 .

\implies easily detectable.

Implementation

- ▶ Our [code](#)² attacks the HILA5 [reference implementation](#).
- ▶ [100% success rate](#) in our experiments.
- ▶ Less than [6000 queries](#) (virtually always).
(Note: [Evil Bob](#) could recover fewer coefficients and compute the rest by solving a lattice problem of reduced dimension.)

²<https://helaas.org/hila5-20171218.tar.gz>

Thank you!

Bonus slide in case somebody asks...



TUJE KWALITEITSGARANTIE
SMREIJG TOT OP DE BODEM

BRON VAN BOUWSTOFFEN*

BRON VAN VITAMINE A & D

HILA5
PINDAKAAS

Per 100g
Energie 2311 kcal

STUKJES PINDA