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Quantum hurdles

An optimistic view of post-quantum security

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September 22, 2022



Crypto @ Fox-IT

We invent, create and manage cryptographic products for media and file encryption, network security, domain separation, secure mobile communications, and encryption key management.

- ✔ Separate entity, 100% Dutch, owned by Fox-IT
- ✔ Customers already demand quantum-proof solutions





1994

Polynomial-Time Algorithms for Prime Factorization and Discrete Logarithms on a Quantum Computer*

Peter W. Shor[†]

Abstract

A digital computer is generally believed to be an efficient universal computing device; that is, it is believed able to simulate any physical computing device with an increase in computation time by at most a polynomial factor. This may not be true when quantum mechanics is taken into consideration. This paper considers factoring integers and finding discrete logarithms, two problems which are generally thought to be hard on a classical computer and which have been used as the basis of several proposed cryptosystems. Efficient randomized algorithms are given for these two problems on a hypothetical quantum computer. These algorithms take a number of steps polynomial in the input size, e.g., the number of digits of the integer to be factored.

Keywords: algorithmic number theory, prime factorization, discrete logarithms, Church's thesis, quantum computers, foundations of quantum mechanics, spin systems, Fourier transforms



2001

**Experimental realization of Shor's quantum factoring algorithm
using nuclear magnetic resonance**

Lieven M.K. Vandersypen^{†,*}, Matthias Steffen^{*,†}, Gregory Breyta[†],
Costantino S. Yannoni[†], Mark H. Sherwood[†] and Isaac L. Chuang^{*,†}

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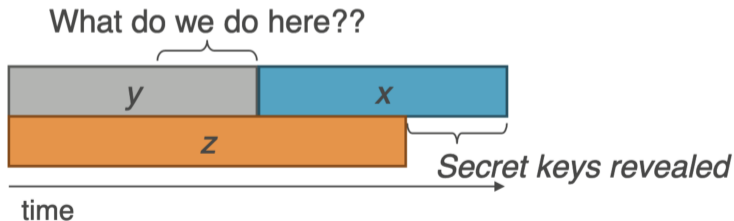
Quantum resilience efforts

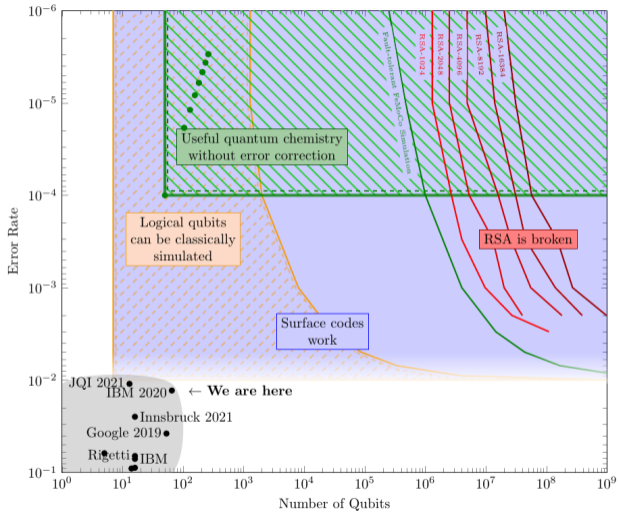
- ▼ Public-key encryption and key-establishment algorithms
 - ▶ Encryption without face-to-face shared secret (PKI)
 - ▶ Post-compromise security
- ▼ Digital signature algorithms
 - ▶ Digital signatures and authentication

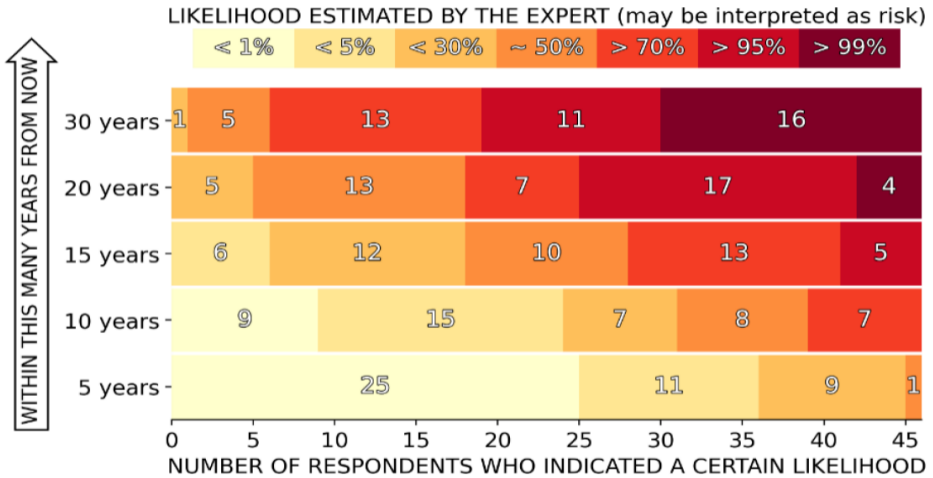


How soon do we need to worry?

- How long do you need encryption to be secure? (x years)
- How much time will it take to re-tool the existing infrastructure with large-scale quantum-safe solution? (y years)
- How long will it take for a large-scale quantum computer to be built (or for any other relevant advance)? (z years)









NIST

National Institute of Standards and Technology



Round 3 finalists

- ▼ Public-key Encryption and Key-establishment Algorithms
 - ▶ Classic McEliece, CRYSTALS-KYBER, NTRU, SABER
 - ▶ BIKE, FrodoKEM, HQC, NTRU Prime, SIKE
- ▼ Digital Signature Algorithms
 - ▶ CRYSTALS-DILITHIUM, FALCON, Rainbow
 - ▶ GeMSS, Picnic, *SPHINCS+*



OpenSSH

- * `ssh(1)`, `sshd(8)`: use the hybrid Streamlined NTRU Prime + x25519 key exchange method by default ("`sntrup761x25519-sha512@openssh.com`"). The NTRU algorithm is believed to resist attacks enabled by future quantum computers and is paired with the X25519 ECDH key exchange (the previous default) as a backstop against any weaknesses in NTRU Prime that may be discovered in the future. The combination ensures that the hybrid exchange offers at least as good security as the status quo.

We are making this change now (i.e. ahead of cryptographically-relevant quantum computers) to prevent "capture now, decrypt later" attacks where an adversary who can record and store SSH session ciphertext would be able to decrypt it once a sufficiently advanced quantum computer is available.



Cloudflare PQ experiments (August 2022)

Capturing from Wi-Fi: en0 (host 162.159.137.85 or host 2606:4700:7::a29f:8955)

Apply a display filter ...<R>

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.000000	2a02:a460:299e:0:c...	2606:4700:7::a29f:...	TCP	98	59614 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=...
2	0.006148	2606:4700:7::a29f:...	2a02:a460:299e:0:c...	TCP	86	443 → 59614 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=...
3	0.006316	2a02:a460:299e:0:c...	2606:4700:7::a29f:...	TCP	74	59614 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=2621...
4	0.007281	2a02:a460:299e:0:c...	2606:4700:7::a29f:...	TLSv1.3	1162	Client Hello
5	0.014389	2606:4700:7::a29f:...	2a02:a460:299e:0:c...	TCP	74	443 → 59614 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1089 Win=6...
6	0.018948	2606:4700:7::a29f:...	2a02:a460:299e:0:c...	TLSv1.3	1434	Server Hello, Change Cipher Spec, Appl...
7	0.018949	2606:4700:7::a29f:...	2a02:a460:299e:0:c...	TCP	1434	443 → 59614 [ACK] Seq=1361 Ack=1089 Win=...
8	0.018950	2606:4700:7::a29f:...	2a02:a460:299e:0:c...	TLSv1.3	826	Application Data, Application Data, Appl...
9	0.019038	2a02:a460:299e:0:c...	2606:4700:7::a29f:...	TCP	74	59614 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1089 Ack=3473 Win=...

> Renegotiation Info extension
- Extension: application_layer_protocol_negotiation (len=14)
 Type: application_layer_protocol_negotiation (16)
 Length: 14
 ALPN Extension Length: 12
 ALPN Protocol
- Extension: signed_certificate_timestamp (len=0)
 Type: signed_certificate_timestamp (18)
 Length: 0
- Extension: supported_versions (len=9)
 Type: supported_versions (43)
 Length: 9
 Supported Versions length: 8
 Supported Version: TLS 1.3 (0x0304)
 Supported Version: TLS 1.2 (0x0303)
 Supported Version: TLS 1.1 (0x0302)
 Supported Version: TLS 1.0 (0x0301)
- Extension: key_share (len=838)
 Type: key_share (51)
 Length: 838
 Key Share extension
 Client Key Share Length: 836
 Key Share Entry: Group: Unknown (65072), Key Exchange length: 832
 Group: Unknown (65072)
 Key Exchange Length: 832
 Key Exchange: 5c fb 7a b3 1a 60 -3 F D 0 :@ z . . .

0140 00 33 03 46 03 44 fe 30 03 40 5c fb 7a 83 1a 60 -3 F D 0 :@ z . . .
Key Exchange Length (tls.handshake.extensions_key_share_key_exchange_length), 2 bytes Packets: 67 - Displayed: 67 (100.0%) Profile: Default



The current state

- ▼ Lots of algorithms
- ▼ Lots of experiments
- ▼ Quantum computers are still far away...



APTs and other (cryptographic) threats

▼ Steal now, decrypt later



APTs and other (cryptographic) threats

- ▼ Steal now, decrypt later
- ▼ Weak points in (custom) libraries, tools and protocols
 - ▶ Timing and side-channel attacks



APTs and other (cryptographic) threats

microsoft / PQCrypto-LWEKE Public

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Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights

master PQCrypto-LWEKE / README.md Go to file

patricklonga Add option to compile for s390x processors ✓ Latest commit 5540ce1 on Jun 15 History

4 contributors

206 lines (145 sloc) | 9.83 KB

<> Raw Blame

FrodoKEM: Learning with Errors Key Encapsulation

This C library implements **FrodoKEM**, an IND-CCA secure key encapsulation (KEM) protocol based on the well-studied Learning with Errors (LWE) problem [1], which in turn has close connections to conjectured-hard problems on generic, "algebraically unstructured" lattices. This package also includes a Python reference implementation. **FrodoKEM** is conjectured to be secure against quantum computer attacks.



APTs and other (cryptographic) threats

return value of randombytes() not checked #29

Closed

dorsel opened this issue on Jun 1 · 1 comment



dorsel commented on Jun 1



For example during key generation:

[PQCrypto-LWEKE/src/kem.c](#)

Line 35 in 4210d53

```
35     randombytes(randomness, CRYPTO_BYTES + CRYPTO_BYTES + BYTES_SEED_A);
```

`randombytes()` can fail on Windows, which will go unnoticed and will lead to an insecure (possibly completely deterministic) key!

Additionally: the code in `randombytes.c` is not very well written for other reasons. On Linux, the code will simply deadlock if `\dev\urandom` is not available. And if you ever compile without either `WINDOWS` or `NIX`, then it defaults to returning `passed` instead of `failed`. But that last point doesn't actually matter, since the return value is not checked anyway...



1



APTs and other (cryptographic) threats

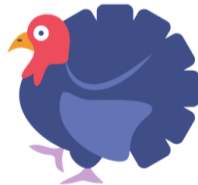
- ▼ Steal now, decrypt later
- ▼ Weak points in (custom) libraries, tools and protocols
 - ▶ Timing and side-channel attacks
- ▼ Using broken (post quantum) cryptographic algorithms.



APTs and other (cryptographic) threats



CECPQ2 = HRSS + X25519



CECPQ2b = SIKE + X25519



Future steps

- ▼ We know the timelines (sort of)
- ▼ We know the threats (mostly)
- ▼ What can I do?



Canaries in the coal mine

- ▼ Quantum-powered chemistry research
 - ▶ Molecule design and viability simulation, simulating protein dynamics (folding@home)



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Canaries in the coal mine

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- ▼ Artificial intelligence and machine learning
 - ▶ Quantum ML models



Future steps

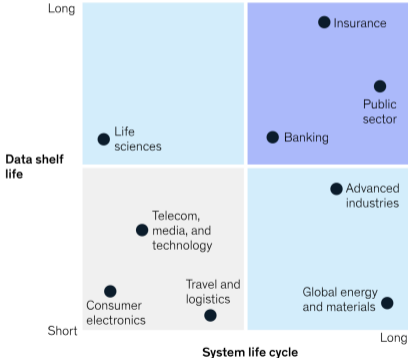
- ▼ We know the timelines (sort of)
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- ▼ **What can I do?**



What's your risk?

Risk of quantum-powered attack by industry

■ At risk before ~2025 ■ At risk between ~2025 and ~2030 ■ At risk after ~2030





What is this “Crypto Agility“ you speak of?

1. The ability of your tech-stack to switch to new cryptographic components
 - ▶ Algorithms, protocols, implementations, security strength
 - ▶ Platform compatibility, migrations, retirement of legacy
2. The ability of your organisation to classify its data and assets
 - ▶ Risk-based, value based, “treasure trove”



Open Quantum Safe

The ability of your tech-stack to switch to new cryptographic components

The Open Quantum Safe (OQS) project is an open-source project that aims to support the development and prototyping of quantum-resistant cryptography.

<https://openquantumsafe.org/>



HAPKIDO

The ability of your tech-stack to switch to new cryptographic components

- Hybrid
- Approach for
- quantum-safe **P**ublic **K**ey **I**nfrastructure **D**evelopment for
- Organisations

An initiative to help (large) organisations migrate their (internal) PKI and research how you could do certificate management with post quantum algorithms.



Intelligence agencies

The ability of your organisation to classify its data and assets

  AIVD,  BSI,  ANSSI,  GHQ,  NSA



Intelligence agencies

The ability of your organisation to classify its data and assets

- 🇮🇪 AIVD, 🇩🇪 BSI, 🇫🇷 ANSSI, 🇬🇧 GHQ, 🇺🇸 NSA
- 🇮🇪 Use long symmetric keys, research and use symmetric protocols, do not rely on quantum key distribution alone. Determine how *long* data needs to be safe. Protect that data accordingly.



Intelligence agencies

The ability of your organisation to classify its data and assets

- 🇮🇪 AIVD, 🇩🇪 BSI, 🇫🇷 ANSSI, 🇬🇧 GCHQ, 🇺🇸 NSA
- 🇮🇪 Start a data protection and asset classification program. Write a data governance policy. Discuss data retention policies with your employer. Mention the GDPR.



Are you crypto agile?

- ▼ Find the shortest (ie RSA 1024) certificate in your organisation (and replace it)
- ▼ Scan your network for servers that accept TLS 1.0 connections (and disable them)



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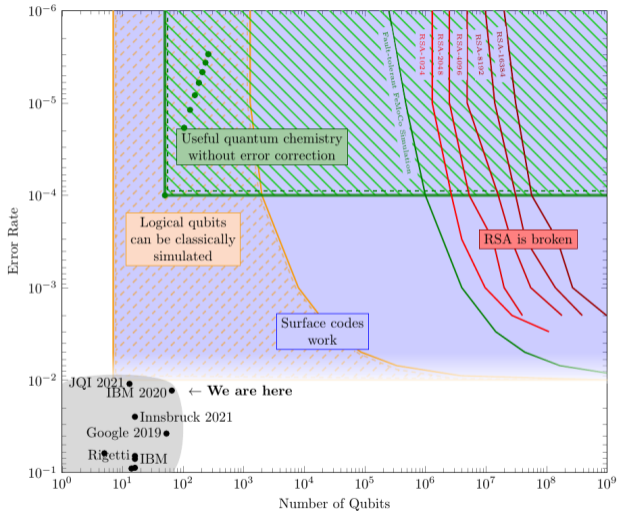
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- ▼ Suggest we “unflatten the network” to a network admin



Experiment with PQC

- ▼ Can you generate a quantum safe SSH keypair, and use it?
- ▼ Can you submit a quantum safe CSR to Let's Encrypt?
- ▼ Can you join the Cloudflare PQC experiment with a (sub)domain?
- ▼ Can you encrypt your backups using symmetric algorithms only?





Conclusion

- ▼ The utility of quantum computers in code-breaking and other number theoretical problems is **WAY** over hyped



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- ❖ Familiarize yourself with the new quantum resilient algorithms because learning is fun



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- ❖ Proper data classification and governance is a good idea either way
- ❖ Crypto agility is also a “low-regret move”
- ❖ Familiarize yourself with the new quantum resilient algorithms because learning is fun
- ❖ Don't panic



Ask me anything

Share experience. Build resilience.



Ask me anything



CRYPTO
part of **FOX IT**

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<https://f0x.nl/seccon22>