**ASPDAC 2022** 

#### A Voltage Template Attack on the Modular Polynomial Subtraction in Kyber

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#### Modern Cryptography

- Symmetric Cryptography: e.g., AES-128
- Hash Functions: e.g., SHA2-256
- Asymmetric Cryptography: RSA, ECC, etc

Modern Cryptography vs Quantum Computers



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Modern Cryptography vs Quantum Computers



National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Post Quantum Cryptography standardization competition

#### **NIST PQC standardization competition**

	Key Encapsulation Mechanisms		Digital Signature Algorithms	
Туре	Finalists	Alternates	Finalists	Alternates
Code-based	Classic McEliece	BIKE HQC		
Lattice-based	CRYSTALS-KYBER NTRU SABER	FrodoKEM NTRU Prime	CRYSTALS-DILITHIUM FALCON	
Isogeny-based		SIKE		
Multivariate			Rainbow	GeMSS
Zero-Knowledge				Picnic
Hash-based				SPHINCS+

### Post Quantum Cryptography Evaluation

**Evaluation Criteria** 



Performance – measured on various classical platforms

Other properties: Drop-in replacements, Perfect forward secrecy, Resistance to sidechannel attacks, Simplicity and flexibility, Misuse resistance, etc.

## NIST repeatedly states the importance of side channel analysis (SCA) attack and countermeasures

D. Moody et al., "Status report on the second round of the nistpost-quantum cryptography standardization process," 2020

#### SCA on PQC



Ravi P, Roy S S. Side-Channel Analysis of Lattice-based PQC Candidates[J].

Ravi P et al. Generic Side-channel attacks on CCA-secure lattice-based PKE and KEMs[J]. IACR Trans. Cryptogr. Hardw. Embed. Syst., 2020, 2020(3): 307-335.

Ravi P et al. Drop by Drop you break the rock-Exploiting generic vulnerabilities in Lattice-based PKE/KEMs using EM-based Physical Attacks[J]. Cryptology ePrint Archive, 2020.

Xu Z, Pemberton O M, Roy S S, et al. Magnifying side-channel leakage of lattice-based cryptosystems with chosen ciphertexts: The case study of kyber[J]. IEEE Transactions on Computers, 2021.

### Contribution

#### Post Quantum Cryptography Evaluation



We reveal a new vulnerability under template attack for Kyber, the polynomial modular subtraction.

The recovering accuracy achieves 100% when using 2×11×15 traces, and it still achieves 98% when only using 2×11×2 traces.

#### **Overview**

- Attacking model: the attackers can master a profiling device similar to the target device.
  - To the mastered device, the secret key *sk*, and ciphertext *ct* can be controlled by attackers.
  - To the target device, the ciphertext can be chosen and controlled by attackers.
- Analyzing Kyber512 and locating the potential vulnerabilities.
- Learning phase: establish the templates.
- Attacking phase: retrieve the secrets.

#### Locate the vulnerability in Kyber



#### Algorithm 1 Kyber.CPAPKE.Dec(c,sk)

Input: Secret Key  $sk \in \beta^{2 \cdot k \cdot n/8}$ Input: Ciphertext  $c \in \beta^{d_u \cdot k \cdot n/8 + d_v \cdot n/8}$ Output: Message  $m \in \beta^{32}$ 1:  $u \coloneqq Decompress_q(Decode_{d_u}(c), d_u)$ 2:  $v \coloneqq Decompress_q(Decode_{d_v}(c + d_u \cdot k \cdot n/8), d_v)$ 3:  $\hat{s} \coloneqq Decode_{12}(sk)$ 4:  $m \coloneqq Encode(Compress(v - NTT^{-1}(\hat{s} \circ NTT(u), 1)))$ 5: return m

#### Secret key in Kyber

$$\begin{cases} sk \to \hat{s} = NTT(s), s = (sk_1, sk_2) \\ sk_1 = a_{1,0} + a_{1,1}x + a_{1,2}x^2 + \dots + a_{1,255}x^{255} \\ sk_2 = a_{2,0} + a_{2,1}x + a_{2,2}x^2 + \dots + a_{2,255}x^{255} \\ a_{i,j} \in [-3,3], \ i \in [1,2], j \in [0,255]. \end{cases}$$

#### **Chosen-ciphertext**

$$\begin{cases} u = (u_1, u_2) \\ u_1 = b_{1,0} + b_{1,1}x + b_{1,2}x^2 + \dots + b_{1,255}x^{255} \\ u_2 = b_{2,0} + b_{2,1}x + b_{2,2}x^2 + \dots + b_{2,255}x^{255} \\ v = b_{v,0} + b_{v,1}x + b_{v,2}x^2 + \dots + b_{v,255}x^{255} \end{cases}$$

$$mp = v - s \cdot u = -sk_1 \cdot u_1$$
  
=  $-h \cdot a_{1,0} - h \cdot a_{1,1}x \cdots - h \cdot a_{1,255}x^{255}$ 

### Leaning phase

Collect voltage traces







#### Select points of interest (Pol)

normalized inter-class variance (NICV)

$$\begin{cases} \text{NICV: } \rho^2[\mathbb{E}[Y|X];Y] = \frac{Var[\mathbb{E}[Y|X]]}{\mathbb{E}[Y]}, \\ \rho^2(p^*) \to Var[\mathbb{E}[V(p^*)|sk_1[0]]] \end{cases} \end{cases}$$



# Learning phaseSplice Pol traces



#### Construct templates

$$\begin{cases} \mu_k = \frac{1}{|T_k|} \sum_{ts \in T_k} ts_k \\ S_k = \frac{1}{|T_k| - 1} \sum_{ts \in T_k} (ts - \mu_k)(ts - \mu_k)^T \\ S_{pooled} = \frac{1}{7} \sum_k S_k \end{cases}$$



### **Methodology & Evaluation**

(8)

#### Attacking phase

$$\begin{cases} C_{k,i} = \sqrt{(t_i - \mu_k)' S_{pooled}^{-1}(t_i - \mu_k)}; \\ C_k = \frac{1}{N_{ct}} \sum_{t_i \in T^*} C_{k,i}^2. \end{cases}$$

Reference implementation of IND-CCA2 secure Kyber KEM (Kyber512 for particular)

OSR407 boards (STM32F407IG, ARM Cortex-M4) @53MHz.

Pico 3206D oscilloscope @250MHz.



### **Methodology & Evaluation**

#### **Evaluation**





**TABLE II**Recovering accuracy of using different  $N_{ct}$ 

$vl_c \setminus N_{ct}$	1	2	5	15
0	94.4%	97.9%	100.0%	100.0%
1	86.6%	97.6%	97.6%	100.0%
2	97.7%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
3	97.7%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
-1	92.3%	93.1%	96.6%	100.0%
-2	92.2%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
-3	92.2%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total	93.5%	98.0%	99.0%	100.0%

Experiments show that the recovering accuracy achieves 100% when using 2×11×15 = 330 traces, and it still achieves 98% when only using 2×11×2 = 44 traces.

### Recap

#### The contribution of this work

We reveal a new vulnerability under template attack for Kyber, the polynomial modular subtraction.

The recovering accuracy achieves 100% when using 2×11×15 = 330 traces, and it still achieves 98% when only using 2×11×2 = 44 traces.



### Thank you for listening! Q&A

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