# Faster polynomial multiplication on Cortex-M4 to speed up NIST candidates 

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## The quantum threat

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- Useful things: complex simulations that solve \{global warming, world hunger, diseases, ..\}


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- RSA is broken
- ECC is broken
- Symmetric crypto is 'broken'.. (but easily fixed)


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& \\
& \text { 'What if we used } 1 \text { GiB keys?' }
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- National Institute of Standards and Technology
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- Final selection: 2-4 years
- "Not a competition"
- "Performance will play a larger role in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ round"


## Post-quantum on small devices

"It's big and it's slow"

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- used in Crypto Eng. course
- PQM4: test and optimize on the Cortex-M4
- github.com/mupq/pqm4



## Learning with errors (LWE)

- Given uniform $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Z}_{q}^{k \times \ell}$
- Given "noise distribution" $\chi$
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- Structured lattices: work in $\mathbb{Z}_{q}[x] / f$


## Lattice-based KEMs - the basic idea

| Alice (server) |  | Bob (client) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e} \stackrel{s}{\leftarrow}_{\leftarrow} \\ & \mathbf{b} \leftarrow \mathbf{a s}+\mathbf{e} \end{aligned}$ |  | $\mathbf{s}^{\prime}, \mathbf{e}^{\prime} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \chi$ |
|  | b | $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \mathbf{a s}^{\prime}+\mathbf{e}^{\prime}$ |
|  | u |  |

Alice has $\mathbf{v}=\mathbf{u s}=\mathbf{a s s}^{\prime}+\mathbf{e}^{\prime} \mathbf{s}$
Bob has $\mathbf{v}^{\prime}=\mathbf{b s}^{\prime}=\mathbf{a s s}^{\prime}+\mathbf{e s}^{\prime}$

- Secret and noise $\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}^{\prime}, \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{e}^{\prime}$ are small
- $\mathbf{v}$ and $\mathbf{v}^{\prime}$ are approximately the same


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## 5 lattice-based KEMs

- RLizard, Saber, NTRU-HRSS, NTRUEncrypt, and Kindi
- Arithmetic in $\mathbb{Z}_{2^{m}}[x] / f$
- $11 \leq m \leq 14$
- $256 \leq n=\operatorname{deg}(f) \leq 1024$


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- Co-submitters of NTRU-HRSS
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- Multiplication of polynomials with $n$ coefficients over $\mathbb{Z}_{2^{m}}[x]$


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## Merged: NTRU

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## Schoolbook multiplication (e.g., $n=6$ )

$$
\begin{aligned}
& a=a_{5} x^{5}+a_{4} x^{4}+a_{3} x^{3}+a_{2} x^{2}+a_{1} x+a_{0} \\
& b=b_{5} x^{5}+b_{4} x^{4}+b_{3} x^{3}+b_{2} x^{2}+b_{1} x+b_{0}
\end{aligned}
$$



36 multiplications, 25 additions

## Karatsuba's method

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- Need some additional additions and subtractions
- Can be applied recursively
- At some threshold schoolbooks are more efficient


## Toom-Cook's method

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- Toom-3: split in 3 parts
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- Toom-4: split in 4 parts
- 7 instead of 16 multiplications
- Toom-5: split in 5 parts
- Loses too much precision!
- Toom-Cook uses divisions in $\mathbb{Z}$, not in $\mathbb{Z}_{16}$
- Losses add up!
- Toom-3 (1 bit) + Toom-4 (3 bits) $\Rightarrow$ multiply in $\mathbb{Z}_{12}$


## What's the best method?

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- We need
- Fast Karatsuba for all $n$
- Fast Toom-4 for all $n$
- Fast Toom-3 for all $n$
- Fast schoolbook for small $n$



## Fast schoolbook multiplication

- ARMv7E-M supports SMUAD (X) and SMLAD (X)
- All in one clock cycle
- Perfect for polynomial multiplication

| instruction | semantics |
| :--- | :--- |
| smuad Ra, Rb, Rc | $R a \leftarrow R b_{L} \cdot R c_{L}+R b_{H} \cdot R c_{H}$ |
| smuadx Ra, Rb, Rc | $R a \leftarrow R b_{L} \cdot R c_{H}+R b_{H} \cdot R c_{L}$ |
| smlad Ra, Rb, Rc, Rd | $R a \leftarrow R b_{L} \cdot R c_{L}+R b_{H} \cdot R c_{H}+R d$ |
| smladx Ra, Rb, Rc, Rd | $R a \leftarrow R b_{L} \cdot R c_{H}+R b_{H} \cdot R c_{L}+R d$ |

## Fast schoolbook multiplication, $n=6$



Fast schoolbook multiplication, $n=6$


## Fast schoolbook multiplication: less repacking



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## Exploring the design space

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- Compose larger schoolbooks
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- Automated compiling + benchmarking


## Schoolbook vs. Karatsuba



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- We are mainly interested in $n=\{10,11,12,16\}$
- or multiples $\{20,22,24,32\}$
- For $\{20,22,24,32\}$ Karatsuba is faster


## Karatsuba vs. Toom-4 vs. Toom-3



- Toom, multiple layers of Karatsuba
- Should be monotonic
- Some schoolbooks are just not that optimized


## Karatsuba vs. Toom-4 vs. Toom-3



- We are mainly interested in $n=\{256,701,743,1024\}$
- Ensure those 'make sense'


## Speed records

| scheme | params | impl | key gen | encaps | decaps |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| KINDI | $n=256$ | ref | 21794 k | 28176 k | 37129 k |
|  | $q=2^{14}$ | ours | $\mathbf{1 0 1 0 k}$ | $\mathbf{1 3 6 5 k}$ | $\mathbf{1 5 6 3 k}$ |
| NTRU-HRSS | $n=701$ | ref | 205156 k | 5166 k | 15067 k |
|  | $q=2^{13}$ | ours | $\mathbf{1 6 1 7 9 0 k}$ | $\mathbf{4 3 2 k}$ | $\mathbf{8 6 3 k}$ |
| NTRU-KEM | $n=743$ | ref | 59815 k | 7540 k | 14229 k |
|  | $q=2^{11}$ | ours | $\mathbf{5 6 6 3 k}$ | $\mathbf{1 6 5 5 k}$ | $\mathbf{1 9 0 4 k}$ |
| SABER | $n=256$ | ref | 6530 k | 8684 k | 10581 k |
|  |  | [1] | 1147 k | 1444 k | 1543 k |
|  | ours | $\mathbf{9 4 9 k}$ | $\mathbf{1 2 3 2 k}$ | $\mathbf{1 2 6 0 k}$ |  |
| RLizard | $n=1024$ | ref | 26423 k | 32156 k | 53181 k |
|  | $q=2^{11}$ | ours | $\mathbf{5 3 7 k}$ | $\mathbf{1 3 5 8 k}$ | $\mathbf{1 7 4 0 k}$ |

[1] Karmakar, A., Mera, J. M. B., Roy, S. S., \& Verbauwhede, I. (2018). Saber on ARM. IACR Transactions on Cryptographic Hardware and Embedded Systems, 243-266.

## Results \& Conclusions

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- Fastest PQC implementations on the Cortex-M4
- More than $2 x$ outperform R5ND_1PKEb and R5ND_3PKEb
- Scripts easily apply to parameter changes in Round 2

Paper: https://eprint.iacr.org/2018/1018 (in submission)
Software: https://github.com/mupq/polymul-z2mx-m4
PQM4: https://github.com/mupq/pqm4

All code available as public domain where possible

