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Multiplicative Learning with Errors and Cryptosystems

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Article Info	ABSTRACT
Article history:	We first introduce a new concept of multiplicative learning with errors (MLWE), which is multiplicative version of the learning with
Received Aug 12 th , 2012	errors (LWE). Then we reduce that the hardness of the search version
Revised Dec 20 th , 2013	for MLWE to its decisional version under the condition of modulo of
Accepted Mar 26 th , 2014	a product of sufficiently large smoothing prime factors. Next we construct the MLWE-based private-key and public-key encryption
Keyword:	schemes, and prove that the security of our schemes is based on the worst-case hardness assumption of MLWE. Finally, we discuss the
Multiplicative Learning with	LWE on additive group to the LWE on general abelian group and
Errors	approximate lattice problem on abelian group.
Private-Key Encryption Public-key Encryption LWE on Abelian Group	Copyright @ 2014 Institute of Advanced Engineering and Science. All rights reserved.
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1. INTRODUCTION

After the concept of public-key cryptosystem is presented, very few convincingly secure public-key schemes have been discovered despite considerable research efforts. Now standard cryptographic assumptions are mainly based on the hardness of computational problems such as integer factoring problem [1-2], discrete logarithm problem [3-4], elliptic curve problem [5-6] and lattice problem [7]. Recently, Regev [8] extended learning parity with noise (LPN) to learning with errors (LWE) over larger modulo, and described a different class of cryptosystem based on LWE. In the search version of LWE, the goal is to solve for an unknown vector *s* on Z_p^n which is often chosen uniformly at random, given any desired *m*=poly(*n*)

independent 'noisy random inner products' $(a_i, b_i = \langle a_i, s \rangle + e_i) \in \mathbb{Z}_p^n \times \mathbb{Z}_p$, $i \in [m]$, where $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}_p^n$ and each e_i the error distribution X. In the decisional version, the goal is merely to distinguish between noisy inner products as described above and uniformly random samples from $\mathbb{Z}_p^n \times \mathbb{Z}_p$. Moreover, Regev constructed an elementary reduction from the search version to decision version for the LWE problem when prime p=poly(n).

The multiplicative learning with error (MLWE) problem is a multiplicative version of LWE. It is parameterized by a dimension *n*, a modulus *p*, and an error distribution *X* over Z_p , where *X* is often considered as a Gaussian-like distribution that is relatively concentrated around 0. In the search version of MLWE, the goal is to solve for an unknown vector *s* on some subset of Z_p^n which is often chosen uniformly at random, given any desired *m*=poly(*n*) independent 'noisy random exponential inner products' $(a_i, b_i = (a_i \wedge s) \times e_i = \prod_{j=1}^n a_{i,j}^{s_j} \times e_i \in Z_{p^*}^n \times Z_{p^*}, i \in [m]$, where $a_i \in Z_{p^*}^n$, e_i the error distribution *X*. In the

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decisional version, the goal is to distinguish between noisy random exponential inner products and uniformly random samples from $Z_{n^*}^n \times Z_{n^*}$.

Related Work. After Regev introduces LWE and construct an elementary public key cryptosystem, many works (e.g. [9-19]) have focused on how improve and design various cryptographic primitive under the hardness of LWE.

Our work is inspired by Ref. [8]. Regev [8] defines the additive learning with error, whereas we generalize LWE on the additive group to the MLWE on the multiplicative group. Moreover, we also extend the work of [18] from exponential error noise to directly multiplicative noise error in the public key and ciphertext. Namely, the problem defined in [18] is equivalent to the LWE problem if there is an oracle solving the discrete logarithm problem, whereas MLWE we here introduce is not equivalent the LWE problem even if supposing the discrete logarithm oracle. We show the difference between them in the following Remark 2.1. Furthermore, we construct respectively public key and private key cryptosystems based on MLWE and discuss how to generalize LWE on additive group to LWE on general abelian group. To our knowledge, the leaning with error problem on the abelian group does not obtain the attention for researchers. We believe this contribution is of independently interest.

Our Results. Our main contribution is to introduce the concept of MLWE and prove that the hardness of the search version of MLWE is equal to its decisional version. Our second contribution is to construct MLWE-based private-key and public-key encryption schemes, whose securities are based on the worst-case hardness assumption of MLWE.

Organization. We describe notations and definitions in Section 2; we prove the hardness of MLWE in Section 3; we construct MLWE-based public key and private key cryptosystems in Section 4; and we extend LWE to the LWE on the abelian group and approximate lattice problem on abelian group in Section 5; we finally conclude this paper and give open problem in Section 6.

2. Preliminaries

We denote $[p] = \{1, 2, ..., p\}$, $-[p] = \{-1, -2, ..., -p\}$, $Z_p = \{\lceil -p/2 \rceil, ..., \lfloor (p-1)/2 \rfloor\}$, $Z_{p^*} = \{a \mid \gcd(a, p) = 1, and \ a \in Z_p\}$. We denote column vectors $x, y \in Z^n$, $x^c = (x_1^c, ..., x_n^c)$, $x / c = (x_1 / c, ..., x_n / c)$, $x \oplus y = (x_1 \oplus y_1, ..., x_n \oplus y_n)$, and $x^* y^{-1} = (x_1 \times y_1^{-1}, ..., x_n \times y_n^{-1})$, where the *c* is a non-zero constant.

We assume $X, Y \in \mathbb{Z}_p^{m \times n}$, $X^{\wedge r} Y^T = (a_{i,j})$ with $a_{i,j} = \prod_{k=1}^n x_{i,k}^{y_{j,k}}$, $X^{\wedge r} Y^T = (a_{i,j})$ with $a_{i,j} = \prod_{k=1}^n y_{j,k}^{x_{i,k}}$, $X^{\wedge r} Y^T = (a_{i,j})$ with $a_{i,j} = x_{i,j} y_{i,j}$, $Y^{-1} = (a_{i,j})$ with $a_{i,j} = y_{i,j}^{-1}$, $kX + c = (a_{i,j})$ with $a_{i,j} = kx_{i,j} + c$, $g^X = (a_{i,j})$ with $a_{i,j} = g^{x_{i,j}}$.

We denote $\lambda(p)$ the Carmichael's λ -function for p, $\varphi(p)$ Euler's φ -function for p.

Definition 2.1 (Learning With Error LWE_{*p,s,X*} [8]). Suppose n > 1, p be a positive integer and consider a list of equations with errors $\langle a_i, s \rangle + e_i = b_i \pmod{p}$, $i \in [m]$, $m \leq poly(n)$ where a_i, s are chosen independently from the uniform distribution on Z_p^n , e_i is independently drawn from the error distribution X and $b_i \in Z_p$. Let LWE_{*p,s,X*} denote the problem of recovering s from such equations, $A_{p,s,X}$ the probability distribution generated by LWE_{*p,s,X*}.

Definition 2.2 (Multiplicative Learning With Error $\text{MLWE}_{p,s,X}$). Assume n, m, p be positive integers, $a_i, i \in [m]$ are chosen independently from the uniform distribution on $Z_{p^*}^n$, s is chosen independently from the uniform distribution on $Z_{\phi(p)}^n$, $b_i = (a_i \wedge s) \times e_i \mod p$, where each e_i is independently drawn from the error distribution X on Z_p . Let $\text{MLWE}_{p,s,X}$ denote the problem of recovering s from such equations with errors, $\text{MA}_{p,s,X}$ the probability distribution generated by $\text{MLWE}_{p,s,X}$.

Remark 2.1. Notice that $MLWE_{p,s,X}$ is not equivalent to $LWE_{p,s,X}$. For example, assume p = 29, A, s, e, b be an input instance for $MLWE_{p,s,X}$, A_1, e_1, b_1 be the discrete logarithm \log_2 of A, e, b. It is easy to see that the error distribution e_1 on $Z_{\varphi(p)}$ is different from the one of e on Z_p .

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 7 & 4 & 11 \\ 6 & 9 & 17 & 24 \\ 5 & 26 & 20 & 18 \\ 16 & 3 & 2 & 13 \end{pmatrix}, \quad s = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 10 \\ 23 \\ 11 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = (A^{n^{r}} s)^{*} e = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 4 \\ 12 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \mod 29,$$
$$A_{1} = \log_{2} A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 12 & 2 & 25 \\ 6 & 10 & 21 & 8 \\ 22 & 19 & 24 & 11 \\ 4 & 5 & 1 & 18 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e_{1} = \log_{2} e = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \\ 14 \\ 22 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b_{1} = A_{1} s + e_{1} = \begin{pmatrix} 23 \\ 2 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \mod 28.$$

3. Hardness of MLWE

In this section, we show the equivalence between the decisional version and the search version for MLWE when p is a product of sufficiently large smoothing prime factors.

Theorem 3.1 Let n > 1 be an integer, $p = p_1 \dots p_t$ for distinct primes $p_i = poly(n)$. There is a probabilistic polynomial time reduction from solving the search MLWE_{*p,s,X*} problem with overwhelming probability to distinguishing MA_{*p,s,X,e*} from $U(Z_{p^*}^n \times Z_{p^*})$ for arbitrary $s \in Z_{\lambda(p)}^n$ with overwhelming probability.

Proof: Assume D to be an efficient distinguisher that distinguishes $MA_{p,s,X}$ from U for modulus p_1 . Given input samples $(a_i, b_i = a_i \wedge^r s \times e_i), i \in [m]$ generated by the distribution $MA_{p,s,X}$. The goal is to solve s from (a_i, b_i) . Due to $p_1 = poly(n)$, we can compute the order of $a_{i,i}$. Without loss of generality, let the order of $a_{i,j}$ be $p_1 - 1$. First, choose *m* random $r_i \in Z_{p_1-1}$, and for any $k \in Z_{p_1-1}$, factor $k = xy \mod(p_1 - 1)$ such that $x \neq 1, y \neq 1$ and $\gcd(y, p_1 - 1) = 1$ except with $k = 0 \mod(p_1 - 1)$. Then, compute $a_{i,1} = a_{i,1}^{x+r_i}$, $a_{i,j} = a_{i,j}$, j > 1, $b_i = b_i \times a_{i,1}^{r_i y}$. Finally, call D with the parameters (a_i, b_i) . If $D((a_i, b_i)) = 1$, then $s_1 = k$, otherwise $s_1 \neq k$. If $s_1 = xy$, then $s_1 + r_i y = (x + r_i)y$, namely $(a'_i, b'_i) \in MA_{p_i, x, X}$. If $s_1 \neq xy$, the probability that $(s_1 + r_i y)/(x + r_i) = (s_1 + r_i y)/(x + r_i)$ is at most $1 - 1/(6 \ln \ln(p_1 - 1)) + 1/(p_1 - 1)$. When $(s_1 - xy)(r_i - r_i) = 0 \mod(p_1 - 1)$, $s_1 \neq xy$, and $r_i \neq r_i$, the probability of $\gcd(r_i - r_i, p_1 - 1) > 1$ is at most $1-1/(6\ln \ln(p_1-1))$. Moreover, the probability of $r_i = r_i$ is $1/(p_1-1)$. So, the probability that $(s_1 + r_i y)/(x + r_i) = (s_1 + r_i y)/(x + r_i)$ and $s_1 \neq xy$ for all (r_i, r_i) is at most $(1-1/(6\ln \ln (p_1-1))+1/(p_1-1))^{m-1}$ and negligible. In other words, if $s_1 \neq xy$, there does not exist an integer z such that $z = (s_1 + r_i y) / (x + r_i) \mod(p_1 - 1)$ for all i with overwhelming probability. In this case, b_i is uniformly random by applying the fact the order of $a_{i,1}$ is $p_1 - 1$ and $gcd(y, p_1 - 1) = 1$, namely, $r_i = r_i y \in U(Z_{p_i-1})$. Hence, we can decide whether $k = s_1$ by using D and $1 \le s_1 \le p_1 - 1 = poly(n)$. If all $1 \le k < p_1 - 1$ is not equal to s_1 , then $s_1 = 0 \mod(p_1 - 1)$, for the input samples are from the distribution $MA_{p_1,s,X}$. So, we can add a random number to s_1 , then decide s_1 . Finding all other coordinates is similar for modulus p_1 and $p_2,...,p_t$. Finally, we recover $s \in Z^n_{\lambda(p)}$ via the Chinese remainder theorem.

Lemma 3.1 (Decisional Average-case to Worst-case). If there is a distinguisher that distinguishes $MA_{p,s,X}$ from *U* for a non-negligible fraction of all possible *s*, then there is an efficient algorithm that for all *s* accepts with probability exponentially close to 1 on inputs from $MA_{p,s,X}$ and rejects with probability exponentially close to 1 on inputs from U.

Lemma 3.2 (Search Average-case to Worst-case). If there exists an efficient algorithm that solves $MLWE_{p,s,X}$ for a non-negligible fraction of all possible *s*, then there exists an efficient algorithm that for all *s* solves $MLWE_{p,s,X}$ with probability exponentially close to 1.

Proof: The proofs of Lemma 3.1, 3.2 follow the adaptive ones of Lemma 4.1, 4.2 of Ref. [8]. ■

4. Cryptosystems

In this section, we present a private-key encryption scheme and a public-key encryption scheme based on the decisional MLWE problem, respectively. By using Theorem 3.1, we know their securities depend on the hardness of the MLWE problem.

4.1 Private-Key Encryption Scheme

Let *n* be the security parameter. $m = n^c$ where c > 0 is a constant, p = poly(n) is a prime, $q = \left| \sqrt{p} \right|$.

Key Generation Algorithm: On input 1^n , choose a uniformly random secret key $s \in \mathbb{Z}_p^n$.

Encryption Algorithm: On input a secret key $s \in Z_p^n$ and a message $y \in \{0,1\}^m$. Choose $A \in_R Z_{p^*}^{m \times n}$ uniformly at random and an error vector $e \in_R (-[q-1]) \cup [q-1]$ where $|e_i| \in [q-1]$, output the ciphertext $c = (A, (A^{\wedge r} s) * e * q^y \mod p)$.

Decryption Algorithm: On input a secret key $s \in Z_p^n$ and a ciphertext c = (A, b). The decryption algorithm computes $x = b * (A^{n} s)^{-1} \mod p$ and it deciphers as follows: if $-(q-1) \le x_i \le q-1$, then it deciphers $y_i = 0$, otherwise it deciphers $y_i = 1$.

Correctness: The decryption algorithm computes $x = b * (A^{n} s)^{-1} = e * q^{y}$. Thus, if $y_i = 0$, then $-(q-1) \le x_i \le q-1$. If $y_i = 1$, $q \le x_i = (e_i \times q) \mod p \le p-q$. We here use the absolutely least residue for modulo p.

Efficiency: The size of ciphertext c = (A, b) has $mn \lg p + m \lg p$ bits. The expansion of ciphertext is $(mn \lg p + m \lg p) / m = n \lg p + \lg p$ for each message bit.

Proposition 3.1 (Security). The symmetric encryption scheme is semantically secure assuming that the $MLWE_{p,s,U}$ problem is hard.

4.2 Public-key Encryption Scheme

Let *n* be the security parameter. m = 2n, $p = p_1 \dots p_t > 2^{4n \lg n + 12n}$ such that $p_i = poly(n)$ are distinct primes, $q = \lambda(p)$.

Key Generation: Choose uniformly at random $A \in \bigcup_{p^*}^{m \times n}$, $S \in Z_q^{m \times n}$, $E \leftarrow U_{[s]}^{m \times m} \bigcup U_{-[s]}^{m \times m}$, where $s = \lfloor 8\sqrt{n} \rfloor$. Output the secret key sk = (S), and the public key pk = (A, B) where $B = (A^{\wedge r} S^T) * E \mod p$.

Encryption: Given the public key pk = (A, B) and a message $y \in \{0,1\}^m$. Choose uniformly at random $x \in \{0,1\}^m$ and output the ciphertext $c = (c_1, c_2)$, where $c_1 = (x \wedge^l A) \mod p$, $c_2 = (x \wedge^l B) \times M \mod p$,

 $M = diag(q^{y_1}, q^{y_2}, ..., q^{y_m})$, and $q = \lfloor p^{1/2} \rfloor$

Decryption: Given the secret key sk = (S) and a ciphertext $c = (c_1, c_2)$. Compute $w = c_2 * (c_1 \wedge^r S^T)^{-1}$, and output $y_i = 0$ if $|w_i| < q$ modulo p and $y_i = 1$ otherwise.

Correctness. Since
$$w = c_2 * (c_1 \wedge^r S^T)^{-1} = (q^{y_1} \prod e_{i,1}^{x_i}, q^{y_2} \prod e_{i,2}^{x_i}, ..., q^{y_m} \prod e_{i,m}^{x_i}) \mod p$$
,

$$|\prod e_{i,j}^{x_i}| \leq \prod (\sqrt{n} \times 8\sqrt{n}) = 2^{2n \lg n + 6n} < q, \ j \in [m]. \text{ Thus, if } y_i = 0, \text{ then } |w_i| < q, \text{ if } y_i = 1, \text{ then } |w_i| \geq q.$$

Efficiency. The size of the public key pk = (A, B) has $O(m^2 \lg p) = O(n^3 \lg n)$ bits. The size of the secret key sk = (S) is $O(mn \lg p) = O(n^2 \lg n)$ bits. The size of the ciphertext $c = (c_1, c_2)$ is $O(m \lg p) = O(n^2 \lg n)$ bits. The expansion of ciphertext is $O(n^2 \lg n/n) = O(n \lg n)$ for each message bit.

Proposition 3.2 (Security). The public key encryption scheme is secure assuming that the $MLWE_{p,s,U}$ problem is hard when p is a product of sufficiently large smoothing prime factors.

5. Extension

5.1 LWE on Abelian Group

The LWE problem is the additive group defined on Z_p^n , the MLWE problem is the multiplicative group defined on $Z_{p^*}^n$. So, it is not difficult to generalize the LWE on additive group to the LWE on general abelian group. Assume G is an abelian group, \times operator of G. The LWE problem on G is defined as desired m = poly(n)independent **'noisy** random follows: given any inner products' $(a_i, b_i = \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i,j}^{s_j} \times e_i) \in G^n \times G$, $i \in [m]$, where $a_i \in G^n$ and each e_i the error distribution X on G, $a_{i,j}^{s_j} = a_{i,j} \times a_{i,j} \dots \times a_{i,j}$, find s. In the search version, the goal is to solve for an unknown vector s on G^n which is often chosen uniformly at random. In the decisional version, the goal is merely to distinguish between noisy inner products above and uniformly random samples from $G^n \times G$. It is easy to verify the LWE problem on the abelian group can be used to construct the public key cryptosystem if there is a norm for the group elements in G. So, we believe it is very interesting to study the hardness of LWE on the general abelian group.

5.2 Approximate Lattice Problem on Abelian Group

We can further generalize LWE into an approximate lattice problem on general abelian group. Without loss of generality, we assume that G is an abelian group, × operator of G. The approximate lattice problem on G is defined as follows: given any m=poly(n) independent 'noisy random inner products' $b_i = (s_i \wedge A) \times e_i \in G^n$, $i \in [m]$, where $a_i \in G^n$ and each e_i the error distribution X on G, $s_i \wedge A = \prod A_{i,j}^{s_{i,j}}$, $a_{i,j}^{s_j} = a_{i,j} \times a_{i,j} \dots \times a_{i,j}$, find s. In the search version, the goal is to solve for an unknown vector s on G^n which is often chosen uniformly at random. In the decisional version, the goal is merely to distinguish between noisy inner products above and uniformly random samples from $G^n \times G$. Similarly, the approximate lattice problem on the abelian group can be used to construct the public key cryptosystem if there is a norm for the group elements in G.

6. Conclusion and Open Problem

We introduce the concept of MLWE and construct the public key and private key schemes based on MLWE, whose securities are based on the worst-case hardness assumption of MLWE. Furthermore, we also discuss the generalization of LWE to LWE over the Abelian group. An interesting open problem is to reduce the hardness of solving MLWE to the hardness of the general lattice problem.

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