

**From:** Doge Protocol <[dogeprotocol1@gmail.com](mailto:dogeprotocol1@gmail.com)> via [ppc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov)  
**To:** ppc-forum <[ppc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**Subject:** [ppc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Saturday, July 30, 2022 06:59:48 PM ET

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Came accross this today and would like to share with the community.

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2022/975>

Our Magma implementation breaks the instantiation SIKEp434, which aims at security level 1 of the Post-Quantum Cryptography standardization process currently ran by NIST, in about one hour on a single core.

Ran on a single core, the ap-

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ters, previously believed to meet NIST's quantum security level 1, took about 62

minutes, again on a single core. We also ran the code on random instances of

SIKEp503 (level 2), SIKEp610 (level 3) and SIKEp751 (level 5), which took about

2h19m, 8h15m and 20h37m, respectively.

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**From:** David Jao <[djao@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:djao@uwaterloo.ca)> via [pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)  
**To:** [pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)  
**Subject:** Re: [pqc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Saturday, July 30, 2022 07:13:04 PM ET

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I was waiting in order to give the authors of the paper an opportunity to announce their results to the forum, in case they should wish to do so, but since someone else has already written about it, it's fair game to chime in now.

The result is legitimate, and very impressive. Huge congratulations to Castryck and Decru.

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-David

On 2022-07-30 6:58 p.m., Doge Protocol wrote:

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**From:** Tanja Lange <[tanja@hyperelliptic.org](mailto:tanja@hyperelliptic.org)> via [pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)  
**To:** [pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)  
**CC:** Cottaar, Jolijn <[j.cottaar1@student.tue.nl](mailto:j.cottaar1@student.tue.nl)>  
**Subject:** Re: [pqc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Saturday, July 30, 2022 09:01:31 PM ET

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[Beaking my silence on this list, hope I don't get a yellow card from NIST again.]

Dear David,  
Thanks for your email.

I have yet to read the paper but I should mention one idea for more randomized starting curves that my student Jolijn Cottaar and I have been discussing about (just to avoid the key-space reduction in SIKE). Instead of moving away from  $E_0$  by just a small isogeny to  $E_6$  one can use the big isogenies of the B-SIDH  $p-1$  to move away far. This is expensive but only done in generating the parameters.

This still means, though, that there is a known isogeny from  $E_0$  and thus the endomorphism ring of that  $E_A$  can still be computed. It depends on the details of the attack whether having to push the small endomorphisms though this and a twist makes the attack too expensive (like how pairings always exist but don't always do damage) and, as I said above, I haven't read the details, yet. I just feel that I should put this out here and give credit to Jolijn.

All the best  
Tanja

On Sat, Jul 30, 2022 at 07:11:50PM -0400, David Jao wrote:

> I was waiting in order to give the authors of the paper an opportunity to  
> announce their results to the forum, in case they should wish to do so, but  
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**From:** Dan Brown <[danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com](mailto:danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com)> via pqc-forum <[pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**To:** pqc-forum <[pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**CC:** dj...@uwaterloo.ca <[djao@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:djao@uwaterloo.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: [pqc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Friday, August 05, 2022 11:41:25 AM ET

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Should NIST now have an on-ramp for new KEMs?

On Saturday, July 30, 2022 at 7:12:56 PM UTC-4 dj...@uwaterloo.ca wrote:

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**Subject:** Re: [pqc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Saturday, August 06, 2022 06:59:45 PM ET

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It might still help to have another mini program for key establishment schemes, targeting smaller public-key and cipher text sizes, just like the one planned for signature schemes. SIKE had these characteristics and was in the 4th round, but since then has been broken. So it's always good to have alternates.

Actually, post quantum cryptography program should be a continuing program and not just stop with the ones that are in scope.

If currently known pqc algorithms get broken, it may be a decade before alternatives can be found and analyzed.

Thus a continuing program will greatly benefit, in case of a security catastrophe where no pqc schemes stood the test of time.

On Friday, August 5, 2022 at 8:55:12 AM UTC-7 epersi...@fau.edu wrote:

Hi Dan

I believe NIST's on-ramp for new KEMs is already in place, as the 4th standardization round, featuring 3 beautiful code-based schemes ;)

Best,

Edoardo

On Aug 5, 2022, at 11:41 AM, 'Dan Brown' via [pqc-...@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-...@list.nist.gov) wrote:

**EXTERNAL EMAIL :** Exercise caution when responding, opening links, or opening attachments.

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**From:** John Mattsson <[john.mattsson@ericsson.com](mailto:john.mattsson@ericsson.com)> via pqc-forum <[pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**To:** Doge Protocol <[dogeprotocol1@gmail.com](mailto:dogeprotocol1@gmail.com)>, pqc-forum <[pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**CC:** epersi...@fau.edu <[epersichetti@fau.edu](mailto:epersichetti@fau.edu)>, pqc-forum <[pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)>, dj...@uwaterloo.ca <[djao@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:djao@uwaterloo.ca)>, danibrown%bl...@gtempaccount.com <[danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com](mailto:danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [pqc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Sunday, August 07, 2022 05:03:21 AM ET

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[dogeprotocol1@gmail.com](mailto:dogeprotocol1@gmail.com) wrote:

>It might still help to have another mini program for key establishment schemes, targeting smaller public-key and cipher text sizes, just like the one planned for signature schemes.

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I strongly agree. I think the post quantum cryptography program needs to continue with a round 5 and beyond.

As I wrote in <https://groups.google.com/a/list.nist.gov/g/pqc-forum/c/eAaiJO1qzKA/m/N0dyUTb5AAA> (which was sorted into the Dilithium thread because of some hidden metadata).

*"But round 4 will still be limited to KEMs and Signatures, which is a great start but clearly limiting. The most obvious thing missing is maybe NIKE. Static-Static DH has been used a lot for a long time. While Static-Static and Ephemeral-Static DH have for good reasons been replaced Ephemeral-Ephemeral DH in TLS, the use of Static-Static Key Exchange and Ephemeral-Static DH for implicit authentication has increased in other areas to lower the number of flights / message size / complexity, or to move away from the insecure use of symmetrical group keys. KEMs can do implicit authentication, but not very efficiently."*

If CRQCs are ever built we definitely need algorithms with as little overhead as possible as well as algorithms that can be used for Non Interactive Key Exchange. For some IoT applications you can tolerate much higher computational cost (up to some limit) to get smaller messages. Some radio technologies are brutally limited (and is expected to stay that way).

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Cheers,

John Preuß Mattsson

---

**From:** pqc-forum@list.nist.gov <pqc-forum@list.nist.gov> on behalf of Doge Protocol <dogeprotocol1@gmail.com>

**Date:** Sunday, 7 August 2022 at 00:59

**To:** pqc-forum <pqc-forum@list.nist.gov>

**Cc:** epersi...@fau.edu <epersichetti@fau.edu>, pqc-forum <pqc-forum@list.nist.gov>, dj...@uwaterloo.ca <djao@uwaterloo.ca>, danibrown%bl...@gtempaccount.com <danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com>

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Best,

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**From:** Blumenthal, Uri - 0553 - MITLL <[uri@ll.mit.edu](mailto:uri@ll.mit.edu)> via [ppc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov)  
**To:** John Mattsson <[john.mattsson@ericsson.com](mailto:john.mattsson@ericsson.com)>, pqc-forum <[ppc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: [ppc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Sunday, August 07, 2022 09:45:43 AM ET  
**Attachments:** [smime.p7m](#)

---

I agree with John. We sorely lack QR DH-like key agreements, as opposed to key encapsulation mechanisms.

TNX

--

V/R,

Uri

*There are two ways to design a system. One is to make it so simple there are obviously no deficiencies.*

*The other is to make it so complex there are no obvious deficiencies.*

*- C. A. R. Hoare*

---

**From:** 'John Mattsson' via pqc-forum

**Reply-To:** John Mattsson

**Date:** Sunday, August 7, 2022 at 05:03

**To:** Doge Protocol , pqc-forum

**Cc:** "epersi...@fau.edu" , pqc-forum , "dj...@uwaterloo.ca" ,  
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**From:** Tony Arcieri <[bascule@gmail.com](mailto:bascule@gmail.com)> via [pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)  
**To:** John Mattsson <[john.mattsson@ericsson.com](mailto:john.mattsson@ericsson.com)>  
**CC:** Doge Protocol <[dogeprotocol1@gmail.com](mailto:dogeprotocol1@gmail.com)>, pqc-forum <[pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)>, epersi...@fau.edu <[epersichetti@fau.edu](mailto:epersichetti@fau.edu)>, dj...@uwaterloo.ca <[djao@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:djao@uwaterloo.ca)>, danibrown%bl...@gtempaccount.com <[danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com](mailto:danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [pqc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Sunday, August 07, 2022 09:55:38 AM ET

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Static and ephemeral D-H can also be combined in several different key agreement patterns. See 3DH as used in the Signal Protocol, Noise, and OPTLS: such systems combine static D-H identity keys with ephemeral D-H keys for confidentiality, allowing 1-RTT semi-static and 0-RTT key agreement modes.

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**From:** Lanlan Pan <[abbypan@gmail.com](mailto:abbypan@gmail.com)> via [pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)  
**To:** Tony Arcieri <[bascule@gmail.com](mailto:bascule@gmail.com)>  
**CC:** John Mattsson <[john.mattsson@ericsson.com](mailto:john.mattsson@ericsson.com)>, Doge Protocol <[dogeprotocol1@gmail.com](mailto:dogeprotocol1@gmail.com)>, pqc-forum <[pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)>, epersi...@fau.edu <[epersichetti@fau.edu](mailto:epersichetti@fau.edu)>, dj...@uwaterloo.ca <[djao@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:djao@uwaterloo.ca)>, danibrown%bl...@gtempaccount.com <[danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com](mailto:danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [pqc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 11:20:47 AM ET

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3DH's implicit authentication is helpful to cut down message size.

And, when and how to provision/bootstrap the long-term identity keys.

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**From:** Dan Brown <[danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com](mailto:danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com)> via pqc-forum <[ppc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**To:** pqc-forum <[ppc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**CC:** epersi...@fau.edu <[epersichetti@fau.edu](mailto:epersichetti@fau.edu)>, pqc-forum <[ppc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov)>, dj...@uwaterloo.ca <[djao@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:djao@uwaterloo.ca)>, Dan Brown <[danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com](mailto:danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [ppc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 01:34:27 PM ET

---

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Best regards,

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**From:** Edoardo Persichetti <[epersichetti@fau.edu](mailto:epersichetti@fau.edu)> via pqc-forum <[pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**To:** Dan Brown <[danibrown%blackberry.com@gttempaccount.com](mailto:danibrown%blackberry.com@gttempaccount.com)>  
**CC:** pqc-forum <[pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)>, dj...@uwaterloo.ca <[djao@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:djao@uwaterloo.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: [pqc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 03:20:39 PM ET

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Hi Dan

I apologize for the facetious tone of my previous email, and thank you for your kind reply. Indeed, we all know (and are excited about!) NIST's on-ramp for signatures. This is what my opinion is, and what I understood from the process.

The on-ramp for signatures derived from a lack of diversity in the final choices, as we know. However, there was also a "numerical" gap in the number of options. By this I mean that the list of finalists was already very short before what happened to Rainbow.

Consider this: at the end of Round 3, NIST standardized 100% of lattice-based finalists, plus SPHINCS+, leaving behind only Picnic and GeMMs. On the other hand, for KEMs, NIST had already 3 equally good finalists to choose from, choosing only Kyber but reserving the right to "fall back" on NTRU, not to mention NTRUPrime, Frodo etc. I believe NIST was looking to provide diversity for KEMs out of Round 4; with your metric, Round 4 could provide the same "2.5" diversity if, for example, both Classic McEliece and BIKE are selected. However, if more alternatives are needed, I suppose NIST prefers to select from the existing round of candidates rather than opening a new round; the most pragmatic reason is the large amount of overhead necessary to run such a round, as well as the effort required to maintain such a large pool of standards.

Best,

Edoardo

p.s. I am not an expert on isogenies so I can't accurately comment on the topic, but my impression is that there is no way back for SIKE.

On Aug 10, 2022, at 1:33 PM, 'Dan Brown' via pqc-forum <[pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)> wrote:

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**From:** Christopher J Peikert <[cpeikert@alum.mit.edu](mailto:cpeikert@alum.mit.edu)> via [pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)  
**To:** David Jao <[djao@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:djao@uwaterloo.ca)>  
**CC:** [pqc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pqc-forum@list.nist.gov)  
**Subject:** Re: [pqc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 11:05:33 PM ET

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On Sat, Jul 30, 2022 at 7:13 PM David Jao <[djao@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:djao@uwaterloo.ca)> wrote:

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A (two-page) paper just appeared on eprint that claims to break this tweaked version in polynomial time. (I can't verify the details, but it looks plausible.)

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2022/1038>

Sincerely yours in cryptography,

Chris

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**From:** dustin...@nist.gov <[dustin.moody@nist.gov](mailto:dustin.moody@nist.gov)> via pqc-forum <[ppc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**To:** pqc-forum <[ppc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**CC:** danibrown%bl...@gtempaccount.com <[danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com](mailto:danibrown%blackberry.com@gtempaccount.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: [ppc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 05:26:33 PM ET

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NIST

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**From:** Blumenthal, Uri - 0553 - MITLL <[uri@ll.mit.edu](mailto:uri@ll.mit.edu)> via [ppc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov)  
**To:** [ppc-forum](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov) <[ppc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:ppc-forum@list.nist.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: [ppc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 05:35:30 PM ET  
**Attachments:** [smime.p7m](#)

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NIST.IR report pointed out that Falcon implementations could be difficult to validate, because of its use of floating point.

There was Zalcon proposal that came late, but seemed to address the main shortcomings of Falcon. Since NIST already announced its plans to standardize Falcon - IMHO, it would be nice if Zalcon was considered for the 4th round, it's "late coming" perhaps compensated by its similarities with the winner Falcon.

Thanks.

Regards,  
Uri

On Aug 11, 2022, at 17:27, 'dustin...@nist.gov' via ppc-forum wrote:

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**Subject:** Re: [pgc-forum] Key recovery attack on SIDH  
**Date:** Friday, August 12, 2022 06:57:43 AM ET

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Is this true even now that the one markedly different scheme is totally broken? HQC and RQC still have similarities to lattice schemes in conceptual design after all

On Thu, Aug 11, 2022 at 5:26 PM '[dustin...@nist.gov](mailto:dustin...@nist.gov)' via pgc-forum <[pgc-forum@list.nist.gov](mailto:pgc-forum@list.nist.gov)> wrote:

In response to the question "Should NIST now have an on-ramp for new KEMs?" we wanted to share our current view. We are initiating the call for additional signatures primarily because we want a digital signature scheme that is not based on lattices and can be easily used by most applications. For the KEMs, we feel that with the candidates in the 4th round we will be able to achieve that same objective. Thus for now, we do not have any plans to initiate a new call for KEMs.

Standardization efforts in PQC will undoubtedly continue for many years, and new and ongoing research results will impact this. So we also are not ruling out that we could call for additional KEMs at some point in the future.

Dustin Moody

NIST

On Friday, August 5, 2022 at 11:41:13 AM UTC-4 [danibrown%bl...@gtempaccount.com](mailto:danibrown%bl...@gtempaccount.com) wrote:

Should NIST now have an on-ramp for new KEMs?

On Saturday, July 30, 2022 at 7:12:56 PM UTC-4 [dj...@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:dj...@uwaterloo.ca) wrote:

I was waiting in order to give the authors of the paper an opportunity to announce their results to the forum, in case they should wish to do so, but since someone else has already written about it, it's fair game to chime in now.

The result is legitimate, and very impressive. Huge congratulations to Castryck and Decru.

At first sight, the attack in 2022/975 uses knowledge of the endomorphism ring of the starting curve. As mentioned on page 2 of 2022/975, a possible "tweak" to SIKE was described in Section 8 of 2021/543 which could potentially thwart this attack. The tweak consists of randomly generating a starting curve of unknown endomorphism ring as part of the public key generation process. However, attacks always get better, never worse. It is possible that after further analysis, 2022/975's apparent dependence on knowledge of the starting curve's endomorphism ring will turn out to be spurious. More analysis is needed before we would be able to make any sort of confident claim as to whether or not the tweak would thwart the new attack.

-David

On 2022-07-30 6:58 p.m., Doge Protocol wrote:

Came accross this today and would like to share with the community.

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2022/975>

Our Magma implementation breaks the instantiation SIKEp434, which aims at security level 1 of the Post-Quantum Cryptography standardization process currently ran by NIST, in about one hour on a single core.

Ran on a single core, the ap-

pendent Magma code breaks the Microsoft SIKE challenges \$IKEp182 and \$IKEp217

in about 4 minutes and 6 minutes, respectively. A run on the SIKEp434 parame-

ters, previously believed to meet NIST's quantum security level 1, took about 62

minutes, again on a single core. We also ran the code on random instances of

SIKEp503 (level 2), SIKEp610 (level 3) and SIKEp751 (level 5), which took about

2h19m, 8h15m and 20h37m, respectively.

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-Jacob Alperin-Sheriff

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