

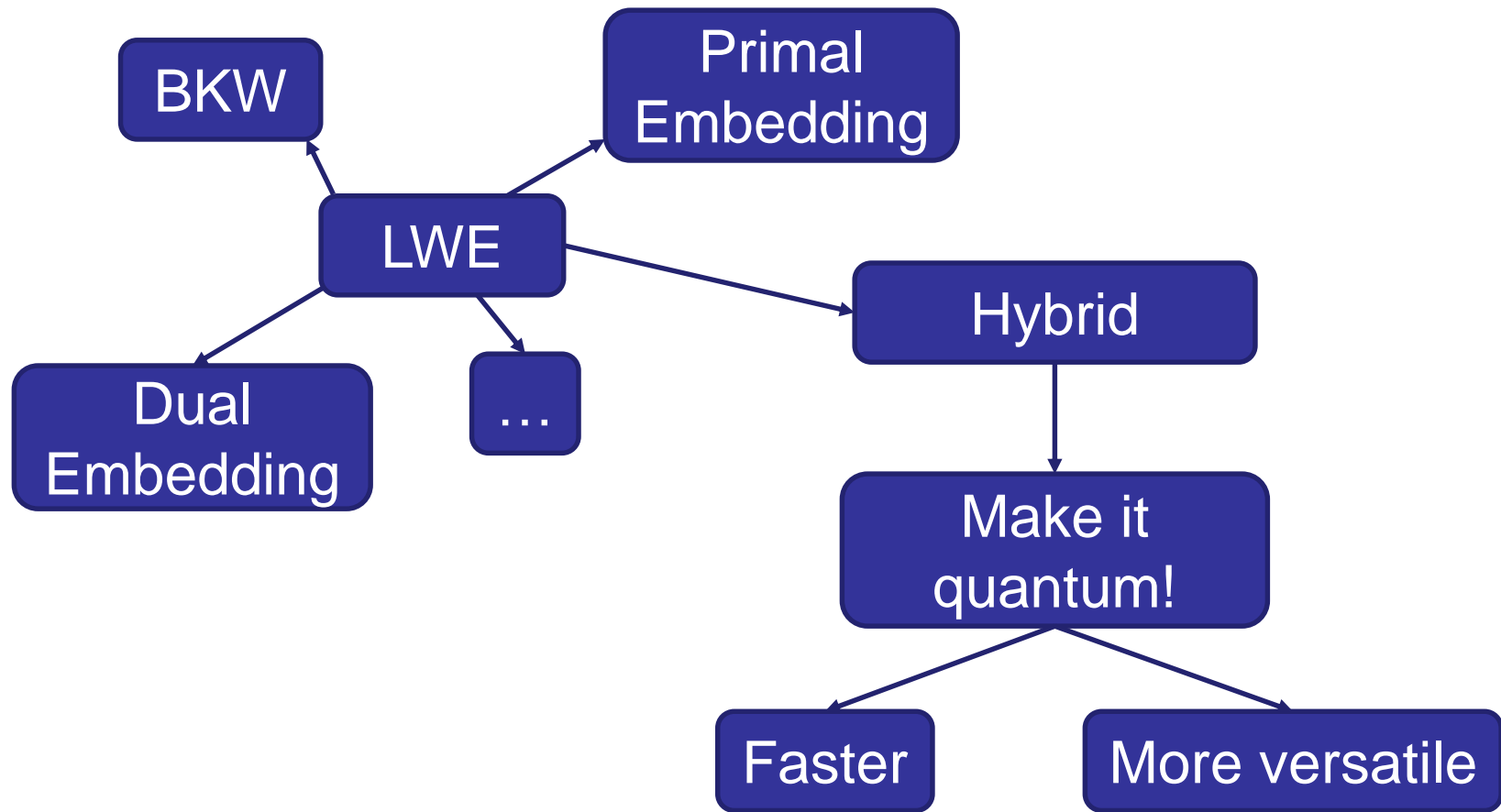
# A Hybrid Lattice Reduction and Quantum Search Attack on LWE



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# Motivation



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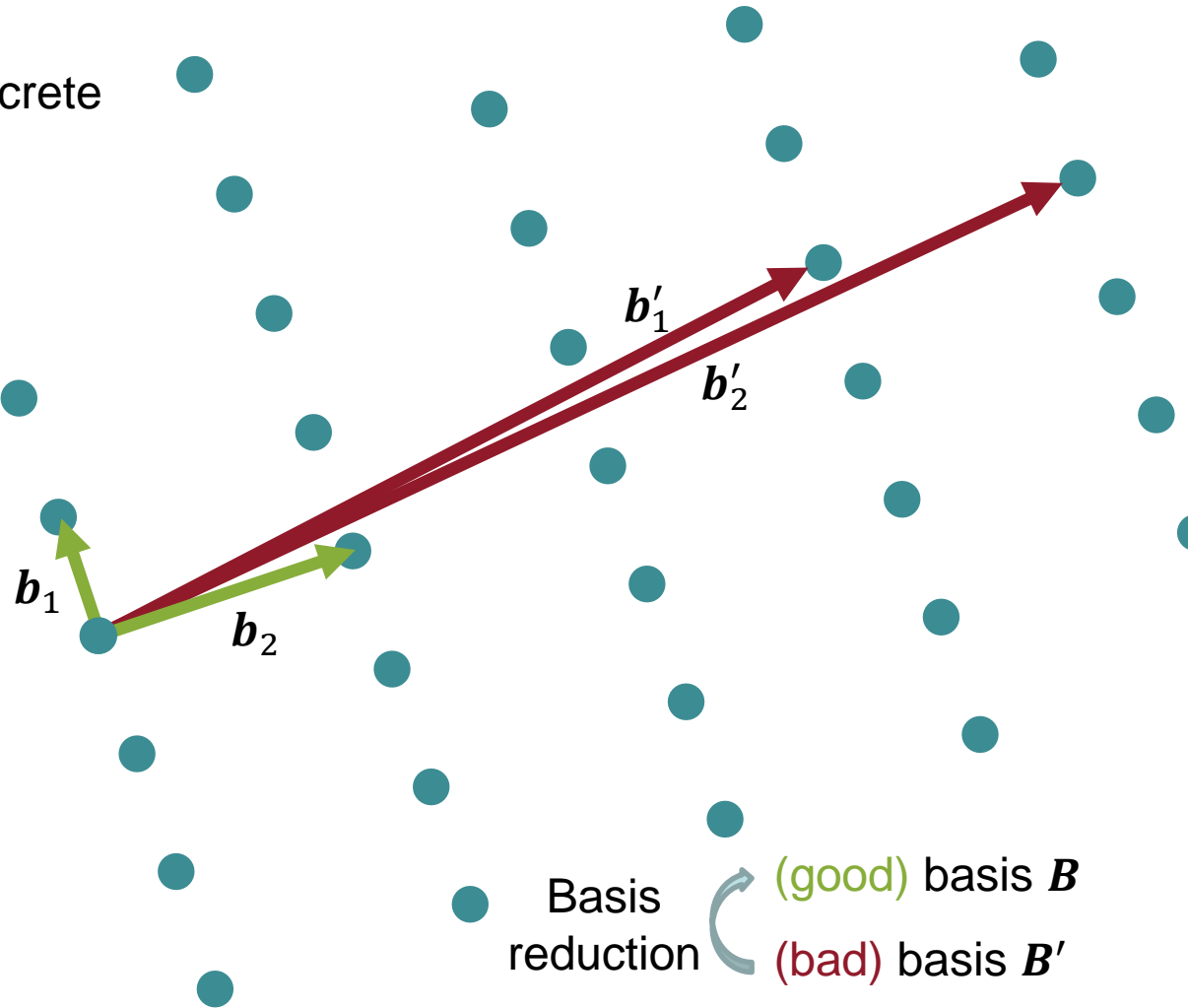
# Background and Notation

# Lattices

$n$ -dimensional **lattice**  $\Lambda$ : a discrete additive subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

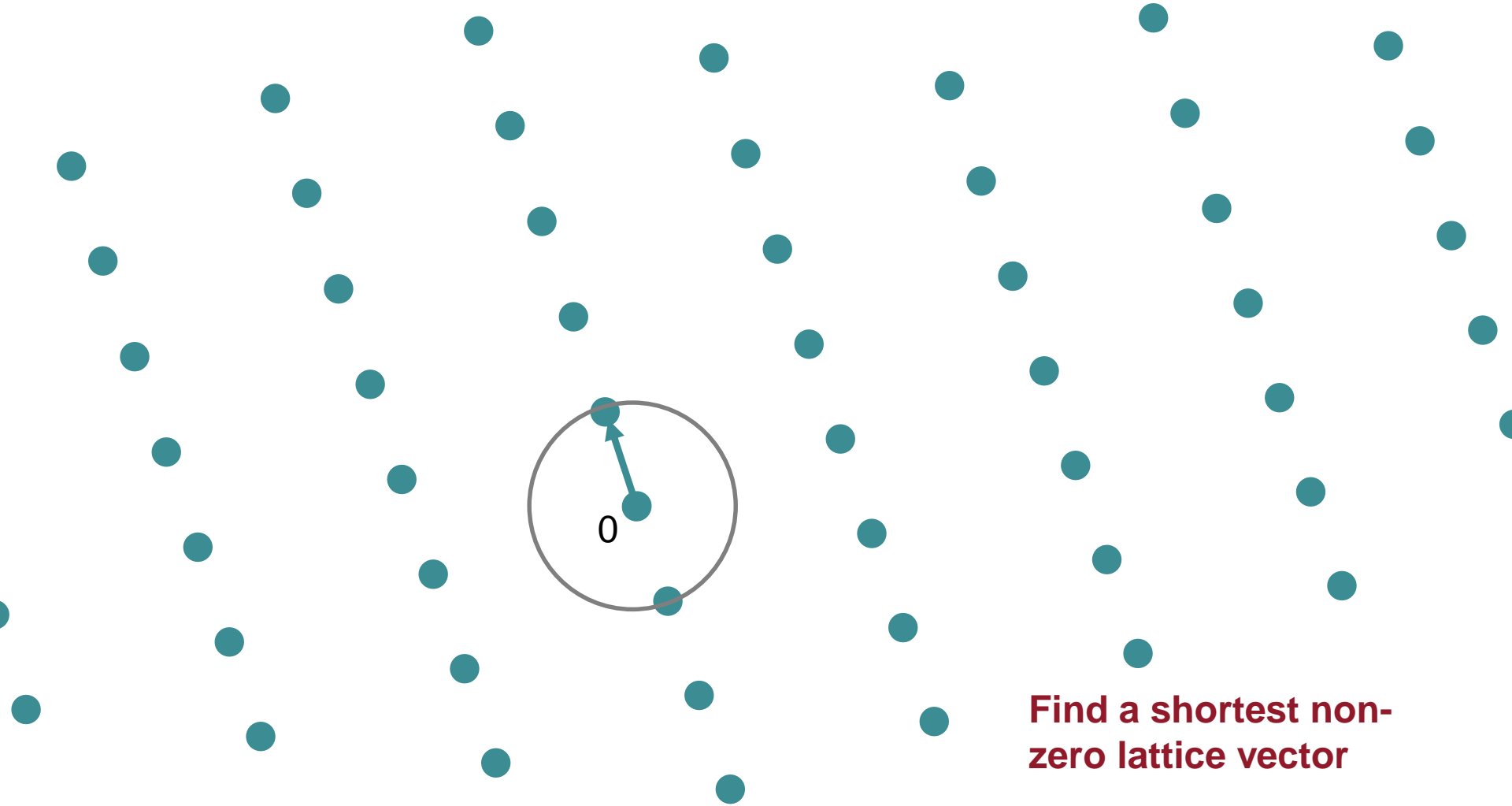
Basis of a lattice  $\Lambda$ : lin. ind.

$B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  such that  
 $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}b_1 + \dots + \mathbb{Z}b_n$ .



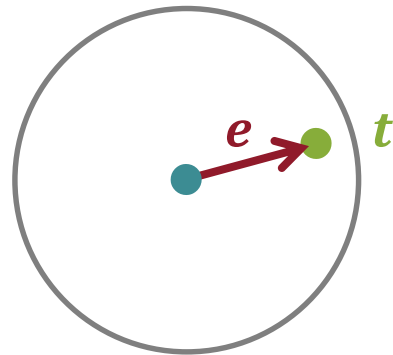
Basis reduction  $\curvearrowright$  (good) basis  $B$   
(bad) basis  $B'$

# Shortest Vector Problem (SVP)



**Find a shortest non-zero lattice vector**

# Closest Vector Problem (CVP)



Bounded Distance Decoding (BDD)

Given a target vector  $t$

Find (short) difference vector  $e$

# Learning with Errors (LWE)

The diagram shows the equation  $b = A \cdot s + e \pmod{q}$ . On the left, a green vertical bar represents vector  $b$ . To its right is an equals sign, followed by a green square representing matrix  $A$ . To the right of  $A$  is a dot, then a red vertical bar representing vector  $s$ , which is labeled "short" with a bracket underneath. This is followed by a plus sign and another red vertical bar representing vector  $e$ , also labeled "short" with a bracket underneath. To the right of  $e$  is the text "mod q".

Given:  $A \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{m \times n}$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m$

Find:  $s \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n$

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# The (Quantum) Hybrid Attack on LWE



# Our approach

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We solve the LWE instance  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e} \bmod q$  as follows:

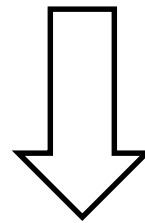
1. Transform LWE into SVP in some lattice  $\Lambda$
2. Generate a basis  $\mathbf{B}'$  of  $\Lambda$  of the form

$$\mathbf{B}' = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{C} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I}_r \end{pmatrix}$$

3. Solve SVP in  $\Lambda$  with our Quantum Hybrid Attack

# Transforming LWE into SVP

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s} + \mathbf{e} \text{ mod } q$$



$$\mathbf{v} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{s} \\ \mathbf{e} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{short}} \in \Lambda = \{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+m+1} : (\mathbf{A} | \mathbf{I}_m | - \mathbf{b}) \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} \text{ mod } q \}$$

# The Quantum Hybrid Attack (Idea)

**Setup:** Find a shortest non-zero vector  $v \in \Lambda(B') \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ , where  $B' = \begin{pmatrix} B & C \\ \mathbf{0} & I_r \end{pmatrix}$

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \hline v_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find  $v_1 \in \mathbb{Z}^{d-r}$  with lattice-based techniques:

- Basis reduction as precomputation
- BDD-algorithms (Nearest Plane [Babai86])

Quantum-search for  $v_2 \in \mathbb{Z}^r$  (“Grover-like”)

# Quantum vs. Classical Hybrid Attack

## Quantum

Quantum search for  $v_2$

- +  $\sqrt{\text{}}$ -speed-up over brute-force
- + More versatile
- + Low memory consumption
- + No collision-finding probability

## Classical

Meet-in-the-middle search for  $v_2$

- +  $\sqrt{\text{}}$ -speed-up over brute-force
- Requires highly structured keys
- Huge memory consumption
- Low collision-finding probability  
(might be  $\approx 2^{-90}$ )

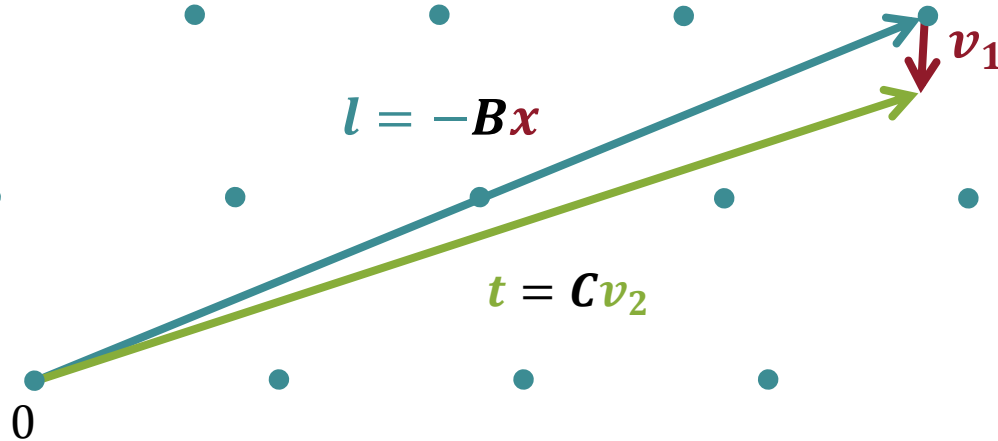
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# The Attack

# Find $v_1$ approach if $v_2$ is known

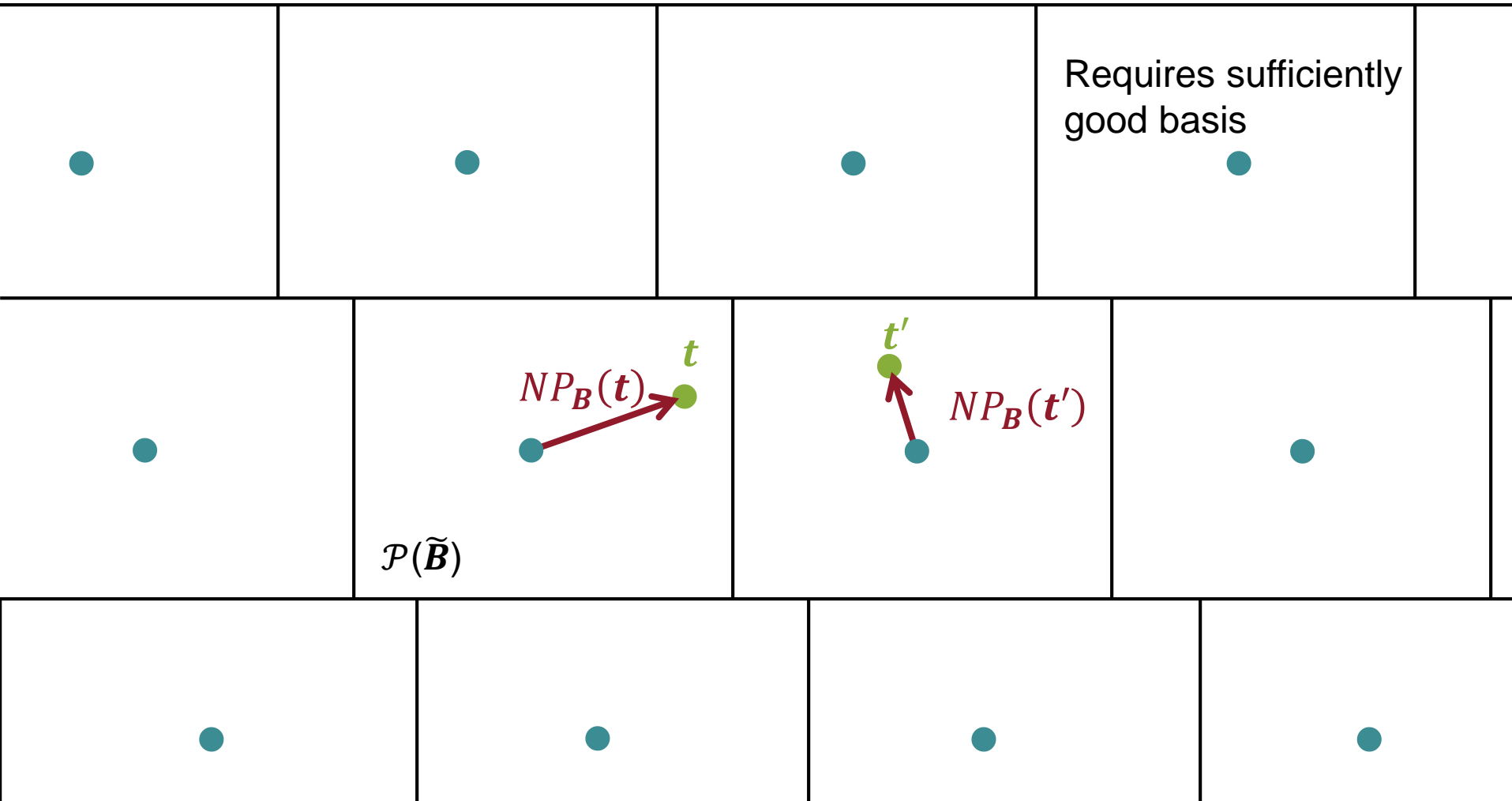
$$v = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} B & C \\ 0 & I_r \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Bx + Cv_2 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Lattice  $\Lambda = \Lambda(B)$



Solve BDD problem: Given  $t$ , find  $v_1$

# Solving BDD: Babai's Nearest Plane



# The Algorithm (Simplified Idea)

**Task:** find a shortest non-zero vector in a lattice  $\Lambda$

**Input:** a search space  $S \subset \mathbb{Z}^r$ , a basis  $B' = \begin{pmatrix} B & C \\ \mathbf{0} & I_r \end{pmatrix}$

## Loop:

- “Quantum-guess”  $v'_2 \in S$  (black box for now)
  - Check if guess is correct:
    - Calculate  $v'_1 = NP_B(Cv'_2)$
    - If  $v = \begin{pmatrix} v'_1 \\ v'_2 \end{pmatrix}$  is sufficiently short
      - Return  $v$



# Quantum Search (simplified)

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- Let  $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_k\}$  be a finite search space and  $D = \{p_1, \dots, p_k\}$  be a probability distribution on  $S$ .
- Let  $s \in S$  be a secret sampled from  $D$ . Task: find it!
- Choose a probability distribution  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_k\}$  on  $S$ .
- There exists a quantum algorithm (generalization of Grover's search algorithm) that finds  $s$  in roughly

$$L(A) = L(a_1, \dots, a_k) = \sum \frac{p_i}{\sqrt{a_i}}$$

loops (sampling from  $A$  and testing).

# How to choose the distribution A

- Minimize the function  $L(a_1, \dots, a_k) = \sum \frac{p_i}{\sqrt{a_i}}$  over all  $a_1, \dots, a_k \in (0,1)$  with  $a_1 + \dots + a_k = 1$ .
- Optimization with constraints in  $k$  variables ( $\rightarrow$  Lagrange)
- Optimal distribution  $(\bar{a}_1, \dots, \bar{a}_k)$  with  $\bar{a}_i = \frac{p_i^{2/3}}{\sum p_i^{2/3}}$
- **Minimal number of loops:**

$$L_{min} = \left( \sum p_i^{2/3} \right)^{3/2}$$

# Example (New Hope)

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Take  $S = \{-16, \dots, 16\}^{200}$  and  $D$  to be the distribution on  $S$  given in the “New Hope” key exchange scheme [ADPS16]

- Classical brute-force search:

$$L_{\text{classical}} \approx 33^{200} \approx 2^{1009}$$

- Grover’s quantum search:

$$L_{\text{Grover}} \approx \sqrt{33^{200}} \approx 2^{504}$$

- Our approach:

$$L_{\text{our}} \approx 2^{1.85 \cdot 200} \approx 2^{370}$$

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# Results

# Runtime Analysis

## Main result:

Let all notations be as before and  $D = \{p_1, \dots, p_k\}$  be the distribution from which  $v_2$  is sampled.

Success probability:

$$p_{succ} \approx \prod_{i=1}^{m-r} \left( 1 - \frac{2}{B\left(\frac{m-r-1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)} \int_{-1}^{\max(-r_i, -1)} (1-y^2)^{\frac{m-r-3}{2}} dy \right)$$

where  $B(\cdot, \cdot)$  denotes the Euler beta function,  $r_i = \frac{R_i}{2\|v_1\|}$  and  $R_i$  is the length of the  $i$ -th Gram-Schmidt vector in  $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$ .

Number of operations if successful:  $T_{hyb} \approx \frac{(m-r)^2}{2^{1.06}} \left( \sum p_i^{2/3} \right)^{3/2}$

# Runtime Analysis

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## Remarks:

- $T_{hyb}$  depends on the guessing-dimension  $r$  and the „quality“  $\delta$  (Hermite factor) of the basis  $\mathbf{B}$
- Use precomputation (basis reduction) to change  $\delta$
- Balance precomputation and actual attack costs:

$$T_{total}(r, \delta) = \frac{T_{red}(r, \delta) + T_{hyb}(r, \delta)}{p_{succ}(r, \delta)}$$

- Non-trivial optimization process in  $r$  and  $\delta$
- More details: see paper

# Results

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- Runtime depends on the cost of basis reduction (BKZ)
- How to model the SVP cost inside BKZ with block size  $\beta$ ?
- Two (very) different ways in the literature:
  - Enumeration:  $T_{SVP} = 2^{0.27\beta \ln(\beta) - 1.019\beta + 16.1}$
  - Sieving:  $T_{SVP} = 2^{0.265\beta + 16.4}$
- $T_{red} \approx dim * \#tours * T_{SVP}$
- $\rightarrow$  We provide two different runtime estimates
- Compare our results with the LWE estimator (not claimed security levels!)

# Results: New Hope and Frodo

Attack	New Hope	Frodo-592	Frodo-752	Frodo-864
Dual	1346	446	485	618
Decoding	833	-	-	-
<b>Qu. Hybrid</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>377</b>

Table 1: BKZ with enumeration

Attack	New Hope	Frodo-592	Frodo-752	Frodo-864
Dual	389	173	184	219
Decoding	380	-	-	-
<b>Qu. Hybrid</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>221</b>

Table 2: BKZ with sieving



# Results: Lindner-Peikert

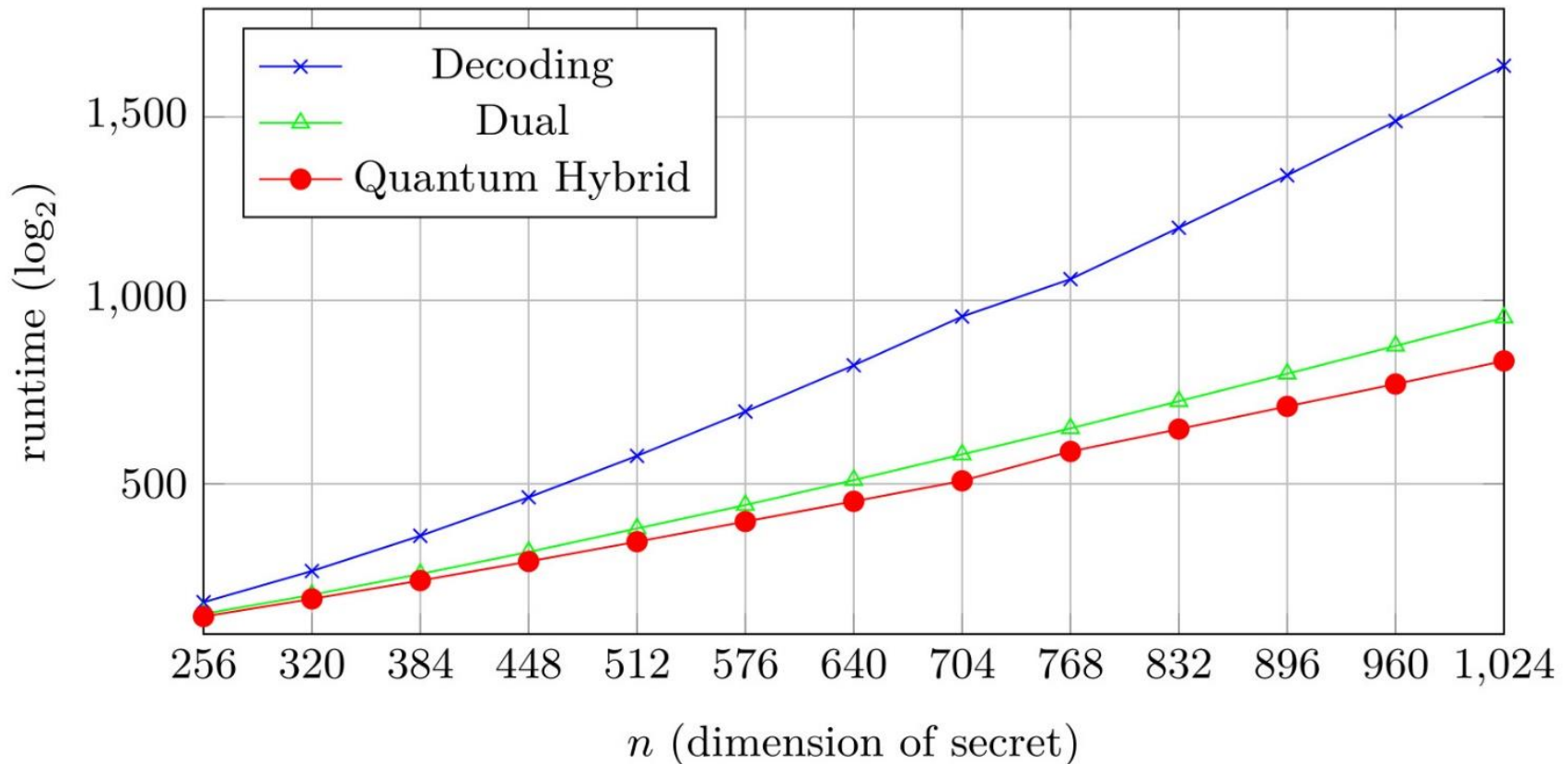


Figure 1: BKZ with enumeration

# Results: Lindner-Peikert

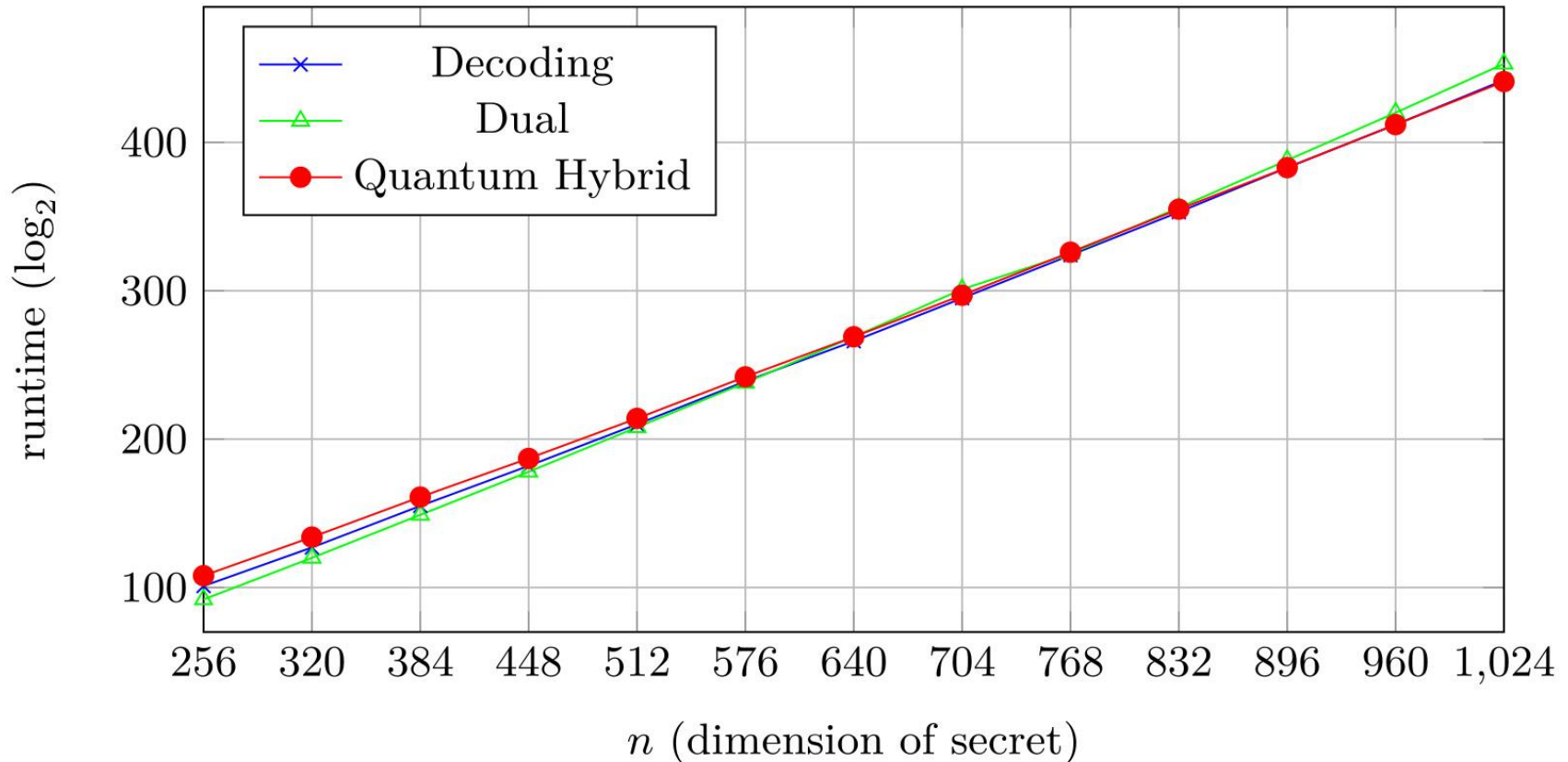


Figure 1: BKZ with enumeration

# Conclusion

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- New improved Quantum Hybrid Attack
- Detailed runtime analysis of the Quantum Hybrid
- New possibilities: apply Quantum Hybrid to non-uniform search spaces (e.g., LWE with Gaussian distribution)
- Outperforms other attacks in several instances

**Thank you!**  
**Questions?**

# Literature

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