

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

# Low Weight Discrete Logarithms and Subset Sum in $2^{0.65n}$ with Polynomial Memory

**EUROCRYPT 2020**, May 11.-15. 2020

*Andre Esser* and Alexander May  
Horst Görtz Institute for IT Security  
Ruhr University Bochum

# Subset Sum

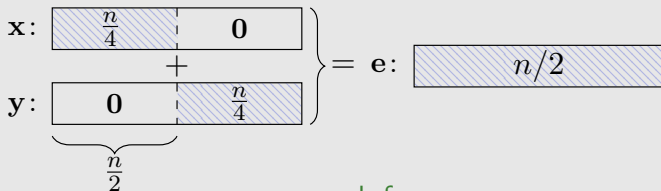
## Subset Sum Problem

**Given:**  $(a_1, \dots, a_n, t, \omega)$ , where  $a_i, t \in \mathbb{Z}_{2^n}$  and  $\omega \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$

**Find:**  $\mathbf{e} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ :  $\sum e_i a_i = t \pmod{2^n}$  and  $\text{wt}(\mathbf{e}) = \omega n$

- Random instance:  $a_i \in_R \mathbb{Z}_{2^n}$
- Cryptanalytic applications (Decoding, LPN, SIS, DLP)
- $\mathbf{a} := (a_1, \dots, a_n)$

# A memoryless Meet-in-the-Middle



search for  
collision

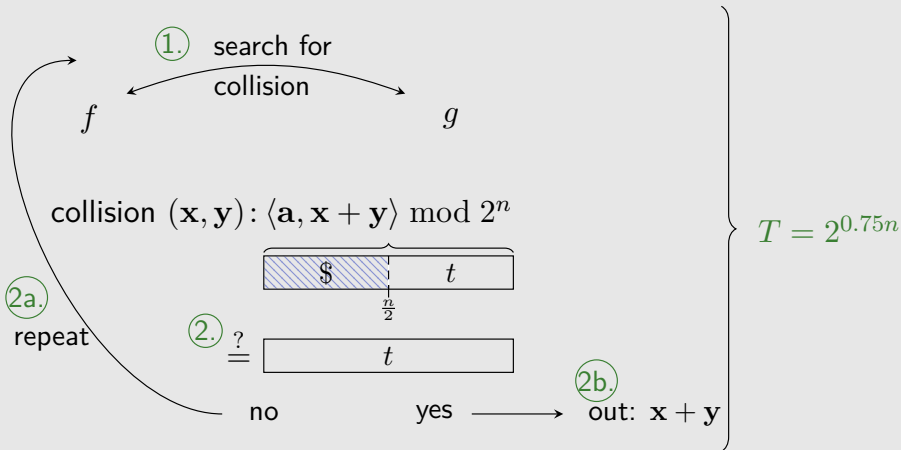
$$f(\mathbf{x}) := \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \bmod 2^{\frac{n}{2}}$$

$$g(\mathbf{y}) := t - \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \bmod 2^{\frac{n}{2}}$$

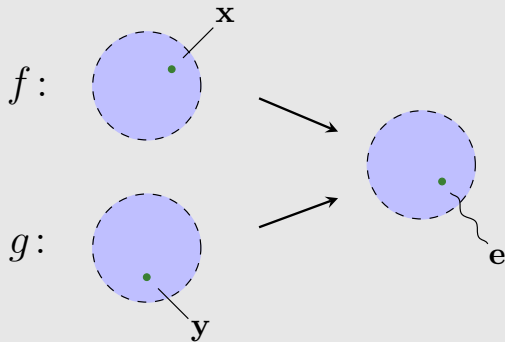
collision:  $\langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = t - \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \bmod 2^{\frac{n}{2}}$

$$t = \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} \rangle \bmod 2^{\frac{n}{2}}$$

# Folklore Algorithm

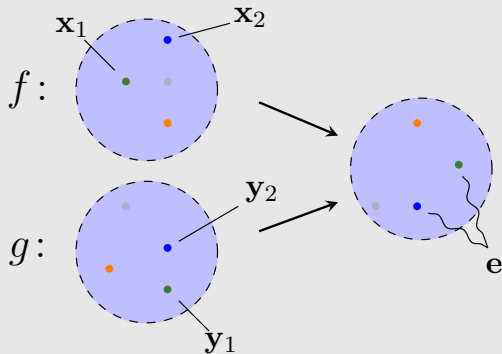


# The Representation Technique



$$\begin{array}{r}
 \mathbf{x} \quad \boxed{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline n/4 & \mathbf{0} \\ \hline \end{array}} \\
 \quad \quad \quad + \\
 \mathbf{y} \quad \boxed{\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \mathbf{0} & n/4 \\ \hline \end{array}} \\
 \quad \quad \quad = \\
 \mathbf{e} \quad \boxed{\begin{array}{|c|} \hline n/2 \\ \hline \end{array}}
 \end{array}$$

# The Representation Technique

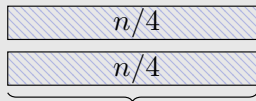


$$\begin{array}{r}
 x \quad \boxed{\text{---} \quad n/4 \quad \text{---}} \\
 + \\
 y \quad \boxed{\text{---} \quad n/4 \quad \text{---}} \\
 = \\
 e \quad \boxed{\text{---} \quad n/2 \quad \text{---}}
 \end{array}$$

many representations

**Goal:** increase domain and #useful collisions

# The memoryless BCJ Algorithm



increased size

⇒ increased modulus

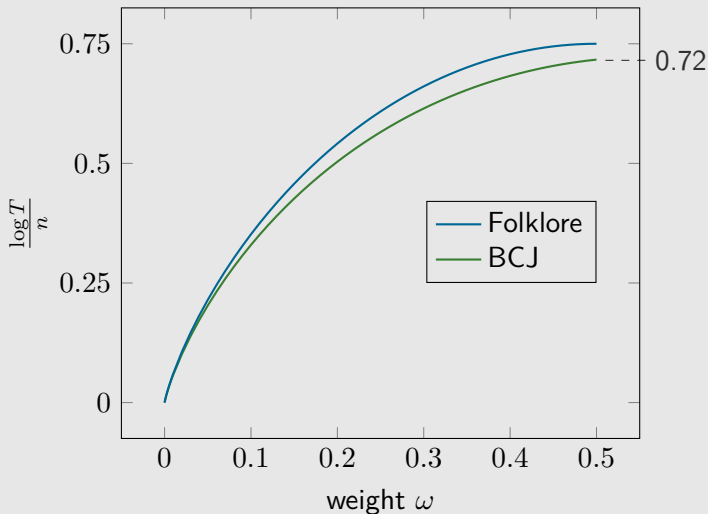
more collisions

many good collisions

$$T = \left( \frac{\text{\#good Colls}}{\text{\#all Colls}} \right)^{-1} \cdot T_C$$

$$= 2^{0.72n}$$

# Folklore vs. BCJ





# Discrete Logarithms

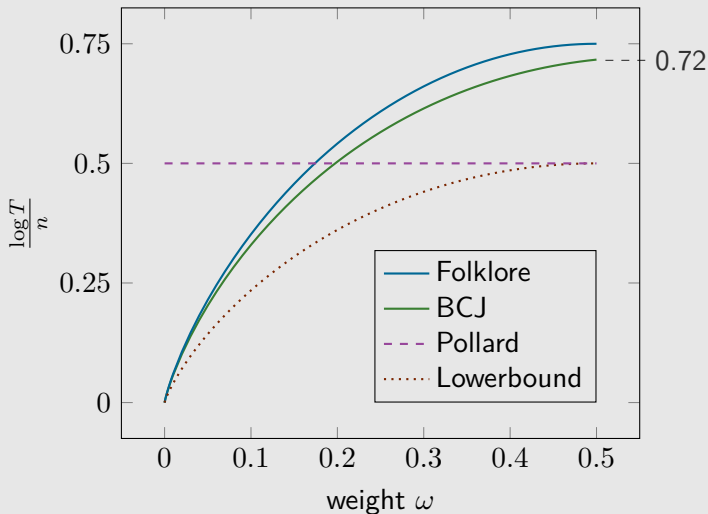
## (low weight) DLP

**Given:** group  $G$  with  $|G| \approx 2^n$  generated by  $g$ ,  $\beta \in G$  and  $\omega \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$

**Find:**  $\alpha = \text{dlog}_g \beta$  satisfying  $g^\alpha = \beta$  and  $\text{wt}(\alpha) = \omega n$

- Time lower bound  $\sqrt{\binom{n}{\omega n}}$  (MitM)
- $\omega = \frac{1}{2}$  *usual* case
- Pollard Rho ( $T = 2^{0.5n}$ ,  $M = \text{poly}$ )

## low-weight DLP Landscape



# Use of Carry Bits

search for  
collision

$$f_1(x) := g^x$$

$$f_2(y) := \beta g^{-y}$$

$$\text{collision: } g^{x+y} = \beta = g^\alpha$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \mathbf{x} \quad \boxed{\frac{\omega n}{2}} \\
 + \\
 \mathbf{y} \quad \boxed{\frac{\omega n}{2}} \\
 = \\
 \mathbf{e} \quad \boxed{\omega n}
 \end{array}$$

## Use of Carry Bits

search for  
collision



$$f_1(x) := g^x$$

$$f_2(y) := \beta g^{-y}$$

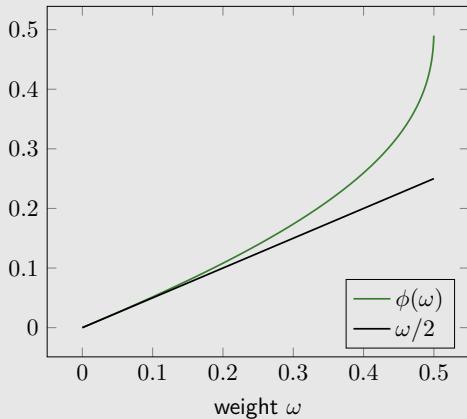
$$\text{collision: } g^{x+y} = \beta = g^\alpha$$

$x + y$  computed  
over  $\mathbb{Z} \pmod{|G|}$

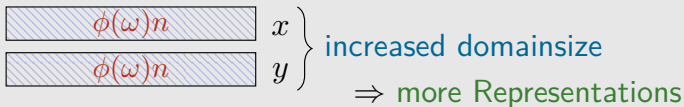
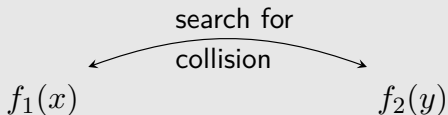
$$\begin{array}{r}
 x \quad \boxed{\frac{\omega n}{2} + \varepsilon} \\
 + \\
 y \quad \boxed{\frac{\omega n}{2} + \varepsilon} \\
 = \\
 \alpha \quad \boxed{\omega n}
 \end{array}$$

# Increase the Weight

$$\text{wt}(x) = \text{wt}(y) = \frac{\omega n}{2} + \varepsilon = \underline{\phi(\omega)} n$$

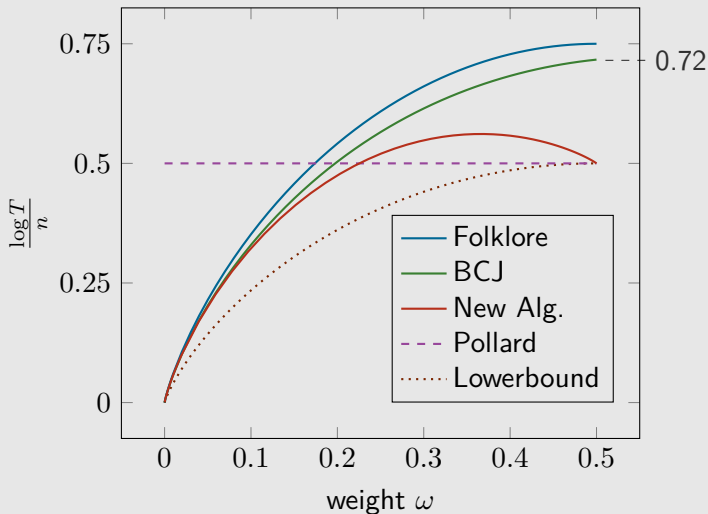


# The new Algorithm

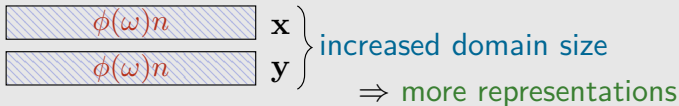
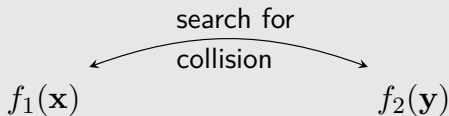


$$\begin{aligned}
 T &= \left( \frac{\# \text{good Colls}}{\# \text{all Colls}} \right)^{-1} \cdot T_C \\
 &= 2^{(H(\omega) - H(\phi)/2)n}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Updated low-weight DLP Landscape



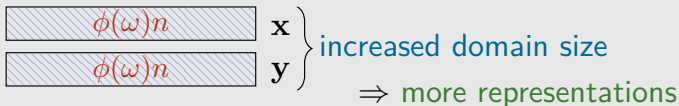
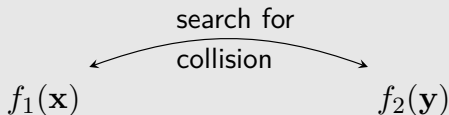
# A new Time-Memory-Tradeoff



$$\begin{aligned}
 T &= \left( \frac{\text{\#good Colls}}{\text{\#all Colls}} \right)^{-1} \cdot T_C \\
 &= 2^{(H(\omega) - H(\phi)/2)n}
 \end{aligned}$$



# A new Time-Memory-Tradeoff

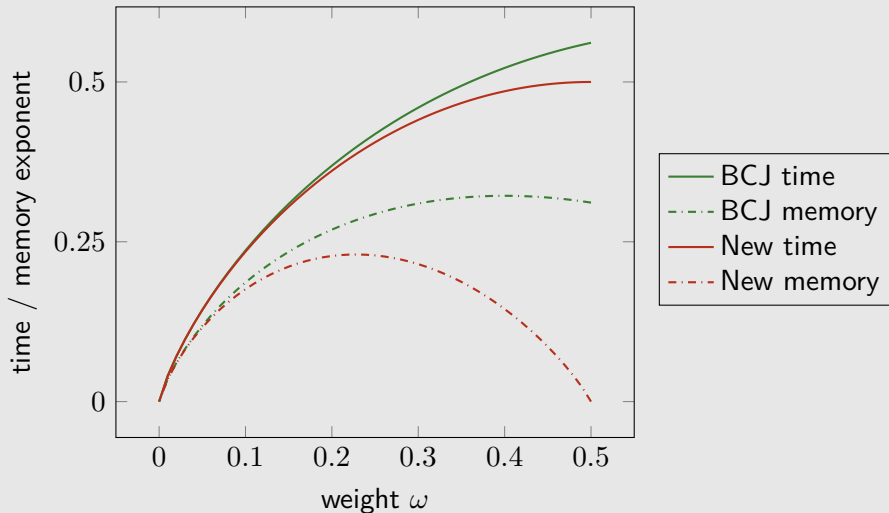


$$T = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\# \text{good Colls}}{\# \text{all Colls}}\right)^{-1}} \cdot T_C$$

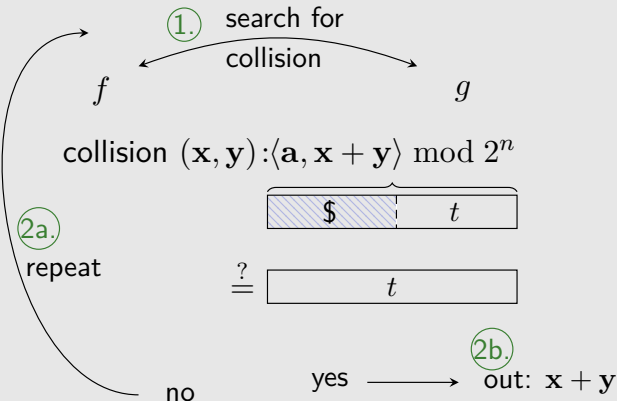
$$= 2^{\frac{H(\omega)n}{2}}$$

$$M = \left(\frac{\# \text{good Colls}}{\# \text{all Colls}}\right)^{-1}$$

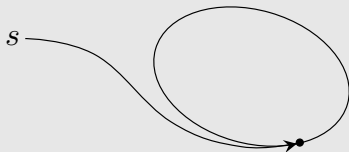
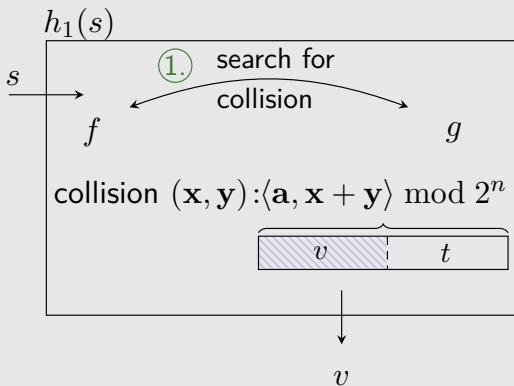
# Achieving the Square-Root Bound



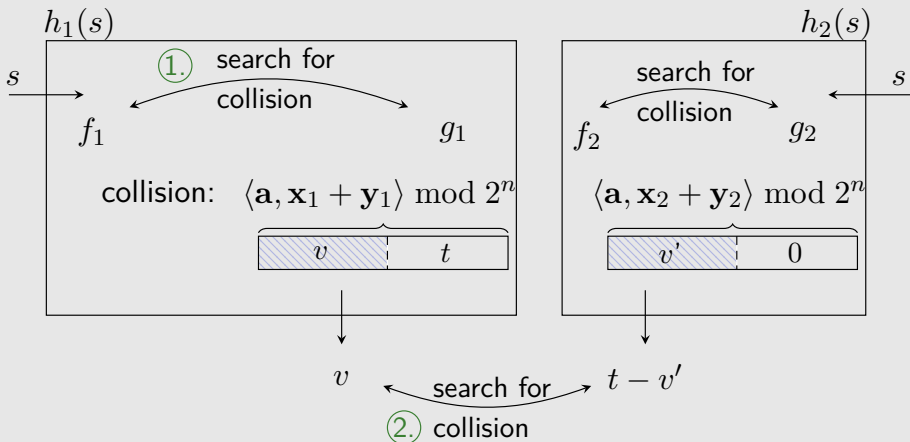
# Back to Subset Sum



# Back to Subset Sum

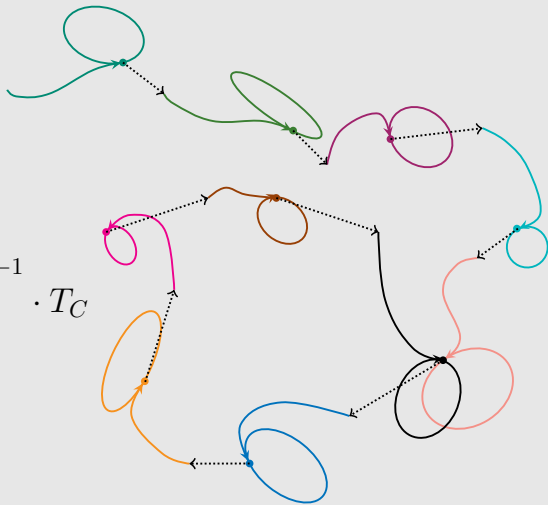


# Back to Subset Sum



$$\text{coll.} \Rightarrow \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{y}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{y}_2 \rangle = t \bmod 2^n$$

## Nested Rhos



$$T = \left( \frac{\text{\#good Colls}}{\text{\#all Colls}} \right)^{-1} \cdot T_C$$

$$= 2^{0.65n}$$

# Results

