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**From:** zhenfei <zzhang@onboardsecurity.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 23, 2018 10:32 AM  
**To:** pqc-comments  
**Cc:** pqc-forum@list.nist.gov  
**Subject:** OFFICIAL COMMENT: NTRUEncrypt  
**Attachments:** signature.asc

Dear all,

We would like to thank Jingnan He and Xianhui Lu for pointing out a bug in our code.

In the discrete Gaussian sampling algorithm ntru-pke-1024/DGS.c

```
void DGS ( int64_t *v, /* output vector */  
const uint16_t dim, /* input dimension */  
const uint8_t stdev) /* input standard deviation */,
```

where the stdev is 724 and therefore requires more than 8 bits to store.

We have fixed this bug. The updated code will be available at

<https://www.onboardsecurity.com/nist-post-quantum-crypto-submission>

Best regards,

The NTRU team

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**From:** hassan LAAJI <hmhingenieur@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 25, 2018 11:11 PM  
**To:** pqc-comments  
**Cc:** pqc-forum@list.nist.gov  
**Subject:** OFFICIAL COMMENT: NTRUEncrypt

Hello, i'm very happy to contact you about your implementation in NIST.  
I have a remark in your implementation:  
perhaps with your compiler version it works goodly but in mine i find problem:  
in file dgs.h :

```
void DGS ( int64_t *v, /* output vector */  
          const uint16_t dim, /* input dimension */  
          const uint64_t stdev) /* input standard deviation */  
{
```

```
and  
void DDGS ( int64_t *v,  
            const uint16_t dim,  
            const uint64_t stdev,  
            unsigned char *seed,  
            size_t seed_len)
```

but in file poly.h :

```
void DGS (  
    int64_t *v,  
    const uint16_t N,  
    const uint16_t stdev);
```

```
/* deterministic DGS */  
void DDGS ( int64_t *v,  
            const uint16_t dim,  
            const uint64_t stdev,  
            unsigned char *seed,  
            uint16_t seed_len);
```

You must do the same types of parameters functions in both files : dgs.h ; poly.h  
it work when i changed in both files:

```
oid DGS ( int64_t *v, /* output vector */  
          const uint16_t dim, /* input dimension */  
          const uint16_t stdev) /* input standard deviation */  
{
```

```
and  
void DDGS ( int64_t *v,  
            const uint16_t dim,  
            const uint64_t stdev,  
            unsigned char *seed,  
            uint16_t seed_len)
```

Best regards

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**From:** EL HASSANE LAAJI <e.laaji@ump.ac.ma>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 05, 2018 5:58 PM  
**To:** pqc-comments; pqc-forum@list.nist.gov  
**Subject:** OFFICIAL COMMENT: NTRUencrypt

Hi Researchers;

About document title: NTRUencrypt A Lattice Based Cryptography Algorithm: Page 5, algorithm 3 NTRU-pke Decrypt. I want to ask you if in line 2, it is  $t=c-m$ , or  $t=c-m'$ ? Because  $m$  will be computed in line 6.

The same for algorithm 8.

Best regards.

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**From:** EL HASSANE LAAJI <[e.laaji@ump.ac.ma](mailto:e.laaji@ump.ac.ma)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 09, 2018 7:32 AM  
**To:** pqc-comments; pqc-forum@list.nist.gov  
**Subject:** Re: OFFICIAL COMMENT: NTRUEncrypt

Hi,

I have another remark:

- in doc :algorithm 1 you compute the public key as:  $h=g/(pf+1)$

- but in EESS section 9.1.1 you compute the public key as:  $h=p* g/(pf+1)$  or like you write:  $h=f^{(-1)} *g*p$  where  $f=1+pF$

Why you add p factor ?

Best regards

Le jeudi 5 avril 2018, EL HASSANE LAAJI <[e.laaji@ump.ac.ma](mailto:e.laaji@ump.ac.ma)> a écrit :

Hi Researchers;

About document title: NTRUencrypt A Lattice Based Cryptography Algorithm: Page 5, algorithm 3 NTRU-pke Decrypt. I want to ask you if in line 2, it is  $t=c-m$  , or  $t=c-m'$  ? Because  $m$  will be computed in line 6.

The same for algorithm 8.

Best regards.

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**From:** Zhenfei Zhang <zzhang@onboardsecurity.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 09, 2018 8:04 AM  
**To:** EL HASSANE LAAJI  
**Cc:** pqc-comments; pqc-forum@list.nist.gov  
**Subject:** Re: [pqc-forum] Re: OFFICIAL COMMENT: NTRUEncrypt

Hi El,

> About document title: NTRUencrypt A Lattice Based Cryptography Algorithm: Page 5, algorithm 3 NTRU-pke Decrypt. I want to ask you if in line 2, it is  $t=c-m$ , or  $t=c-m'$ ? Because  $m$  will be computed in line 6.

> The same for algorithm 8.

Thanks for pointing this out. Yes it is a typo - should be  $t = c - m'$ .

- in doc :algorithm 1 you compute the public key as:  $h=g/(pf+1)$   
- but in EESS section 9.1.1 you compute the public key as:  $h=p* g/(pf+1)$  or like you write:  $h=f^{(-1)} *g*p$  where  $f=1+pF$

It's an inconsistency of the description in the report and the EESS1 spec.

In the end we will be using  $pg/(pf+1)$  in the encryption scheme - it doesn't really matter if we encode  $g/(pf+1)$  or  $pg/(pf+1)$  in the public key.

In the report we slightly changed it so that both NTRUEncrypt and pqNTRUSign uses a same key gen function  
- in pqNTRUSign we no longer have the  $p$  factor for the public key.

On that note, I just noticed an another typo: algorithm 2, line 5, it should be:  $t = p*r*h$ .

Regards,  
Zhenfei

On Mon, Apr 9, 2018 at 7:31 AM, EL HASSANE LAAJI <[e.laaji@ump.ac.ma](mailto:e.laaji@ump.ac.ma)> wrote:

Hi,  
I have another remark:  
- in doc :algorithm 1 you compute the public key as:  $h=g/(pf+1)$   
- but in EESS section 9.1.1 you compute the public key as:  $h=p* g/(pf+1)$  or like you write:  $h=f^{(-1)} *g*p$  where  $f=1+pF$   
Why you add  $p$  factor ?

Best regards

Le jeudi 5 avril 2018, EL HASSANE LAAJI <[e.laaji@ump.ac.ma](mailto:e.laaji@ump.ac.ma)> a écrit :

Hi Researchers;

About document title: NTRUencrypt A Lattice Based Cryptography Algorithm: Page 5, algorithm 3 NTRU-pke Decrypt. I want to ask you if in line 2, it is  $t=c-m$ , or  $t=c-m'$ ? Because  $m$  will be computed in line 6.

The same for algorithm 8.

Best regards.

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**From:** Zhenfei Zhang <zzhang@onboardsecurity.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 05, 2018 3:45 PM  
**To:** pqc-forum  
**Subject:** [pqc-forum] NTRUEncrypt

Hi all,

We would like to report that we have fixed the bugs reported in the email. Last week, we were also informed by Ray and Dustin about a bug in key generations. In our code, the fixed weight sparse polynomial generation function within key gen does not always return a fixed weight polynomial with balanced number of +/- 1s. We have also fixed this bug in this revision. For the latest version of our code please see: <https://github.com/NTRUOpenSourceProject/ntru-crypto/tree/master/NIST>

Regards,  
Zhenfei

On Sat, May 19, 2018 at 11:15 AM, Zhenfei Zhang <[zzhang@onboardsecurity.com](mailto:zzhang@onboardsecurity.com)> wrote:  
Hi Markku,

Thanks again for the reminder.  
We do have a patch which was supposed to be available at our website.  
I make sure they are available next week.

Cheers,  
Zhenfei

On Sat, May 19, 2018 at 10:46 AM, Markku-Juhani O. Saarinen <[mjos.crypto@gmail.com](mailto:mjos.crypto@gmail.com)> wrote:  
Hi,

The reference implementation of NTRUEncrypt KEM-1024 does not work -- the encryption and decryption parts do not generate the same shared secret.

I notified the design team more about this more than a month ago, and they rapidly acknowledged the problem, but I haven't seen a bugfix yet.

I don't know what precisely is causing this but there is at least one apparent bug in file NTRUEncrypt/Reference\_Implementation/ntru-kem-1024/NTRUEncrypt.c, function mask\_m():

```
274: /* extract the last bit of rh */
275: for (i=0;i<LENGTH_OF_HASH*2;i++)
276: {
277:     seed[i] = (rh[i*8] & 1);
278:     for (j=1;j<8;j++);
279:     {
280:         seed[i] <<= 1;
281:         seed[i] += (rh[i*8+j] & 1);
282:     }
283: }
```

Note the semicolon at the end of line 278 -- this is not a loop, it just sets j=8 and executes the following bit on lines 280-281 once.

The KAT files are probably useless as the error appears to be on the encrypt side.

The smaller variants of NTRUEncrypt (KEM-443 and KEM-743) do successfully encrypt/decrypt. The corresponding function of these variants looks little different so it is not obvious to me how to correct the error.

Cheers,  
- markku

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