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Quantum algorithms for number theory and their relevance to cryptography

I will report on recent results about quantum algorithms for solving computational problems in number theory.

In a recent work in collaboration with Fang Song, I presented the first quantum polynomial time algorithm for computing the S -unit group of a number field for a given set of prime ideals S . This algorithm works for arbitrary classes of number fields, even with large degree. It implies polynomial time algorithms for computing the ideal class group, solving the so-called "Principal Ideal Problem" (PIP), computing ray class groups and solving some norm equations. I will discuss the relevance of the efficient PIP resolution method for cryptography.

In collaboration with David Jao and Anirudh Sankar, I also described a quantum algorithm which finds an isogeny between two given supersingular curves over a finite field. In some cases, this algorithm runs in subexponential time. This can be used to attack quantum-safe cryptographic schemes relying on the hardness of finding an isogeny between two given supersingular curves.