



## IBM TO DEPLOY QUANTUM-PROOF CRYPTOGRAPHY CO-DEVELOPED WITH CWI AND R

Together with CWI, Radboud University and other international partners, IBM Research developed quantum-safe algorithms for securing data.

Press release from CWI  
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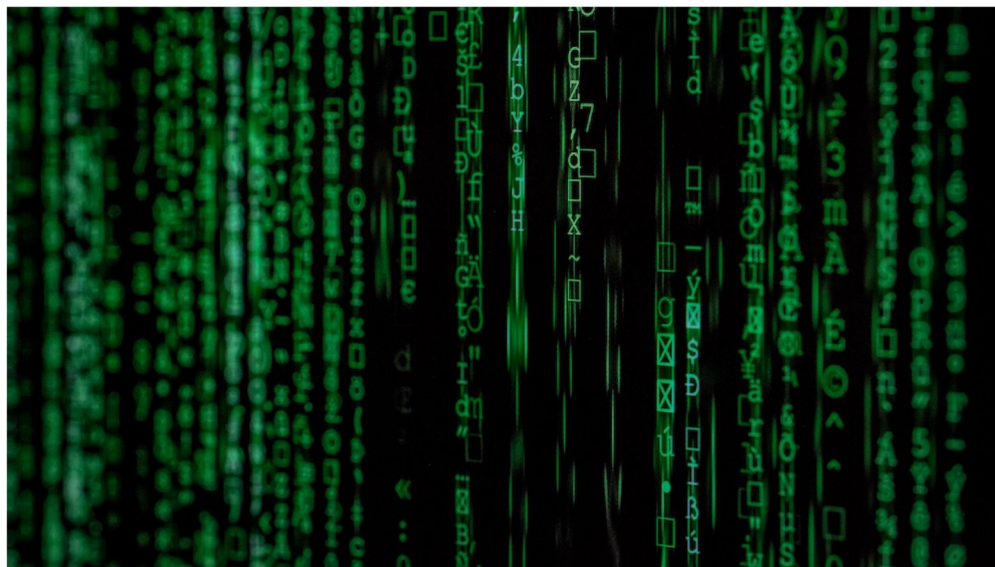


Photo by Markus Spiske on Unsplash

The new algorithms, which are part of the CRYSTALS suite, are based on the hardness of mathematical problems that have not succumbed to any algorithmic attacks, either classical or quantum. The team made them open-source and submitted them to the [National Institute of Standards and Technology \(NIST\)](#) as a candidate for standardization. IBM has now implemented CRYSTALS in one of the tape drives, making it the world's first quantum computing safe tape drive prototype.

CRYSTALS (CRYPTographic Suite for Algebraic latticeS), contains a secure key encapsulation mechanism called [Kyber](#), and a secure digital signature algorithm, called [Dilithium](#). IBM tested CRYSTALS successfully on a prototype IBM TS1160 tape drive using both Kyber and Dilithium to enable the world's first quantum computing safe tape drive. To help clients assess potential risks, IBM Security is also offering a quantum data risk assessment service to help clients develop a quantum-cryptography implementation strategy.

Quantum computing is an emerging technology that takes advantage of quantum mechanical phenomena to solve complex problems that are effectively impossible to solve on classical computers. There are serious concerns that data protection current encryption methods may become insecure within the next 10-30 years. While years away, data can be harvested, stored and decrypted in the future with a powerful enough quantum computer. Although the industry is still finalizing quantum cryptography standards, businesses and other organizations already can start preparing today. IBM will begin to offer quantum-safe cryptography services on its public cloud in 2022.

At CWI, cryptographer [Léo Ducas](#) is working on this research. He is a member of the Cryptology research group at CWI headed by Prof. Ronald Cramer. This group investigates fundamental cryptographic questions from a broad scientific perspective. CRYSTALS (Cryptographic Suite for Algebraic Lattices) is developed jointly in collaboration with several academic and commercial partners including ENS Lyon, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica (CWI) in Amsterdam and Radboud University. It has been included by [OpenQuantumSafe.org](#) to further develop open standards.

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