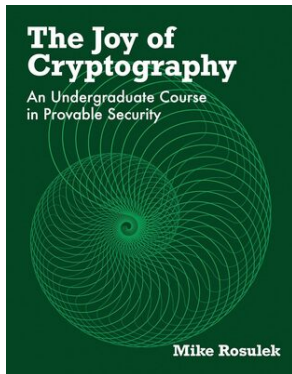


The Joy of Library-Based Security

Mike Rosulek



May 8: ProTeCS workshop @ Eurocrypt 2026



personal reflections on writing a textbook about *provable security*



research

expert audience

advanced proof techniques



teaching

novice audience

fundamental results only

a decade in the making

2012 frustration

...with available textbook options

a decade in the making

2012 **frustration**

...with available textbook options

2015 **enlightenment**

“I think I could present OTP, PRG, PRF, CPA, in a unified way...”

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publisher contract, complete rewrite from scratch

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2026 **relief**

appears in print January 6

2012 *frustration*

2 games?

$$\Pr_S[\mathcal{A}(G(S)) = 1] \approx \Pr[\mathcal{A}(U_{\lambda+\ell}) = 1]$$

$$\Pr_K[\mathcal{A}^{F(K,\cdot)}() = 1] \approx \Pr_R[\mathcal{A}^R() = 1]$$

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The CPA indistinguishability experiment $\text{PubK}_{\mathcal{A},\Pi}^{\text{cpa}}(n)$:

1. $\text{Gen}(1^n)$ is run to obtain keys (pk, sk) .
2. Adversary $\mathcal{A}$ is given pk as well as oracle access to $\text{Enc}_{pk}(\cdot)$. The adversary outputs a pair of messages m_0, m_1 with $|m_0| = |m_1|$. (These messages must be in the plaintext space associated with pk .)
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whatever this is

$$\Pr[M = m] = \Pr[M = m \mid C = c]$$

adversary gets input

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both, in different phases

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artificial “definition smell”

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generate forgery?

The signature experiment $\text{Sig-forg}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{cma}}(n)$.

1. $\text{Gen}(1^n)$ is run to obtain keys (pk, sk) .
2. Adversary $\mathcal{A}$ is given pk and oracle access to $\text{Sign}_{sk}(\cdot)$. (This oracle returns a signature $\text{Sign}_{sk}(m)$ for any message m of the adversary's choice.) The adversary then outputs (m, σ) .
3. Let $\mathcal{Q}$ denote the set of messages whose signatures were requested by $\mathcal{A}$ during its execution. The output of the experiment is 1 if $m \notin \mathcal{Q}$ and $\text{Verfy}_{pk}(m, \sigma) = 1$.

artificial “definition smell”

interaction as prose?

The CPA indistinguishability experiment $\text{PubK}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{cpa}}(n)$:

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interaction as “code”?

$(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{Gen}(1^n)$

$(m_0, m_1, \text{state}) := \mathcal{A}^{\text{Enc}_{pk}(\cdot)}(pk)$

assert $|m_0| = |m_1|$

$b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$

$c := \text{Enc}_{pk}(m_b)$

$b' := \mathcal{A}^{\text{Enc}_{pk}(\cdot)}(\text{state}, c)$

return $[b \stackrel{?}{=} b']$

primitive interface $\neq$ security game interface

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</nitpick>

2015 *enlightenment*

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organizing principles of library-based security

1 start with game-based security

[Shoup04, BellareRogaway06]

start with
1 game-based security
[Shoup04, BellareRogaway06]

write every security definition as
2 indistinguishability of two
separate games

death to “guess the secret bit!”

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write every security definition as

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death to “guess the secret bit!”

3 reductions are implicit

in the game-hopping flow

an example

1: ~~game based~~ library-based security

library = stateful collection of subroutines

$$K \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$$
$$\frac{\text{ENC}(M):}{\text{return Enc}(K, M)}$$
$$\frac{\text{DEC}(C):}{\text{return Dec}(K, C)}$$
$$\frac{\text{QUERY}(X):}{\text{if } L[X] \text{ undefined:}}$$
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“ $\mathcal{A} \diamond \mathcal{L}$ ” = result of composing (calling program) $\mathcal{A}$ with (library) $\mathcal{L}$ in the natural way

only interaction between adversary & “challenger” is **subroutine-calling**
(variables are *privately* scoped to the library)

2: security = indistinguishability of 2 libraries

Definition

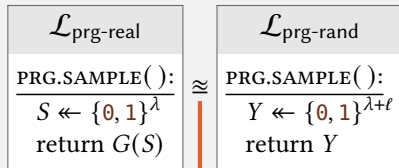
$G : \{0, 1\}^\lambda \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{\lambda+\ell}$ is a **secure pseudorandom generator** if:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \mathcal{L}_{\text{prg-real}} & \mathcal{L}_{\text{prg-rand}} \\ \hline \text{PRG.SAMPLE}(): \\ S \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \\ \text{return } G(S) & \cong \\ \hline \text{PRG.SAMPLE}(): \\ Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{\lambda+\ell} \\ \text{return } Y \end{array}$$

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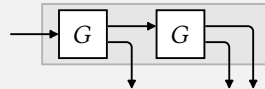


For all poly-time $\mathcal{A}$: $\Pr[\mathcal{A} \diamond \mathcal{L}_{\text{prg-real}} \Rightarrow 1] \approx \Pr[\mathcal{A} \diamond \mathcal{L}_{\text{prg-rand}} \Rightarrow 1]$

security proofs: an example

Claim:

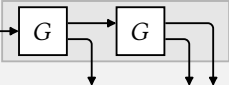
If G is a secure (length-doubling) PRG then



is a secure PRG

security proofs: an example

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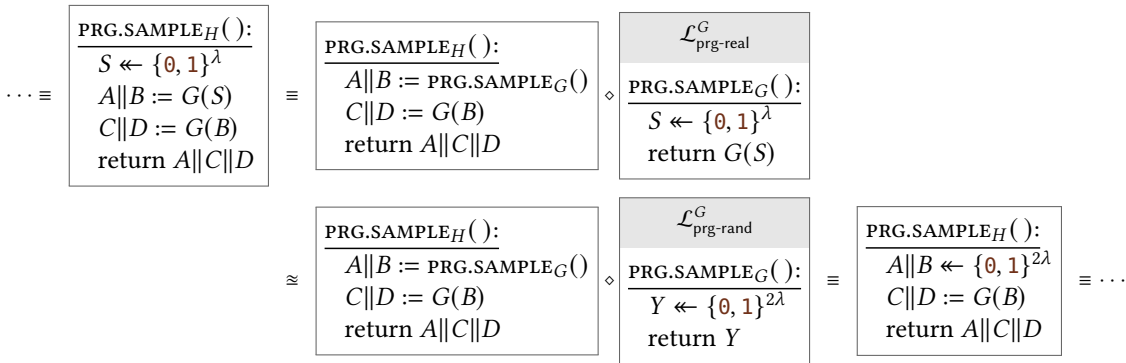
If G is a secure (length-doubling) PRG then  is a secure PRG

if	$\frac{\mathcal{L}_{\text{prg-real}}^G}{\text{PRG.SAMPLE}_G():}$	$\approx$	$\frac{\mathcal{L}_{\text{prg-rand}}^G}{\text{PRG.SAMPLE}_G():}$	then	$\frac{\mathcal{L}_{\text{prg-real}}^H}{\text{PRG.SAMPLE}_H():}$	$\approx$	$\frac{\mathcal{L}_{\text{prg-rand}}^H}{\text{PRG.SAMPLE}_H():}$
	$\frac{S \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda}{\text{return } G(S)}$		$\frac{Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{2\lambda}}{\text{return } Y}$		$\frac{S \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda}{A \parallel B := G(S)}$ $\frac{C \parallel D := G(B)}{\text{return } A \parallel C \parallel D}$		$\frac{Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{3\lambda}}{\text{return } Y}$

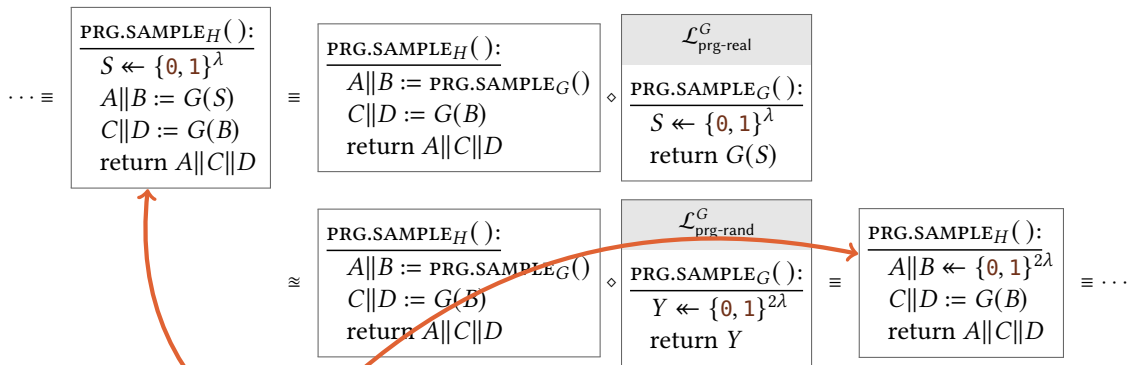
<demo>

where was the reduction?

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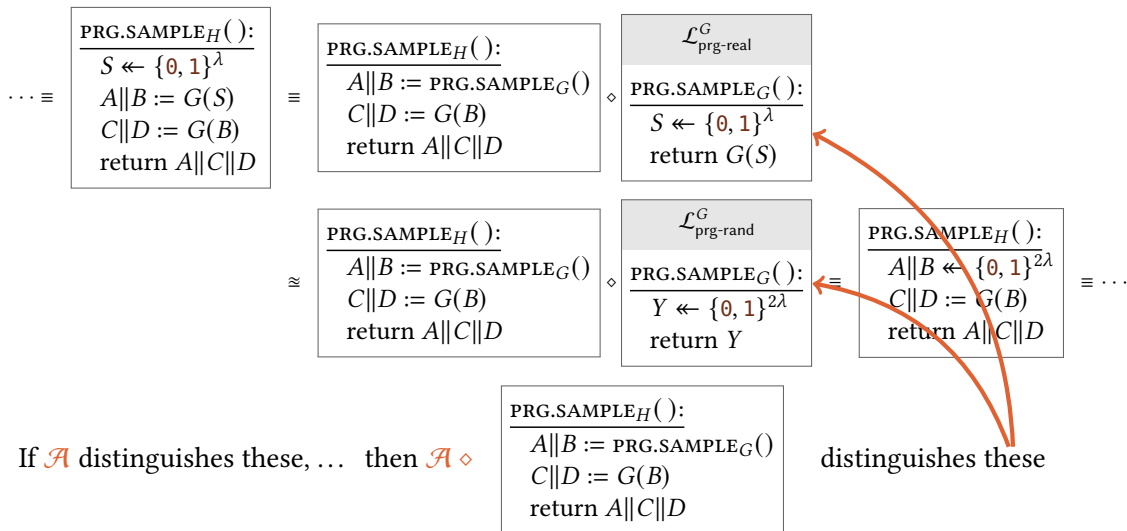


where was the reduction?



If $\mathcal{A}$ distinguishes these, ...

where was the reduction?

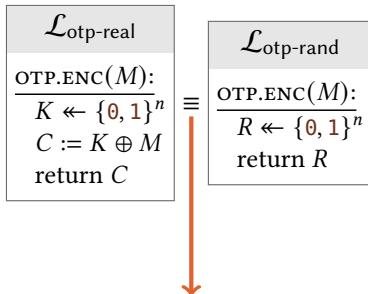


more detail:
a tour of security definitions

One-time-pad security property:

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{otp-real}}$		$\mathcal{L}_{\text{otp-rand}}$
$\text{OTP.ENC}(M):$ $K \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ $C := K \oplus M$ return C	$\equiv$	$\text{OTP.ENC}(M):$ $R \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ return R

One-time-pad security property:



For all (not necessarily poly-time) $\mathcal{A}$: $\Pr[\mathcal{A} \diamond \mathcal{L}_{\text{otp-real}} \Rightarrow 1] = \Pr[\mathcal{A} \diamond \mathcal{L}_{\text{otp-rand}} \Rightarrow 1]$

One-time secrecy for symmetric-key encryption:

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{L}_{\text{ots-real}} \\ \hline \text{OTS.ENC}(M): \\ K \leftarrow \mathcal{K} \\ C := \text{Enc}(K, M) \\ \text{return } C \end{array}} \equiv \boxed{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{L}_{\text{ots-rand}} \\ \hline \text{OTS.ENC}(M): \\ C \leftarrow \mathcal{C} \\ \text{return } C \end{array}}$$

(real-or-random!)

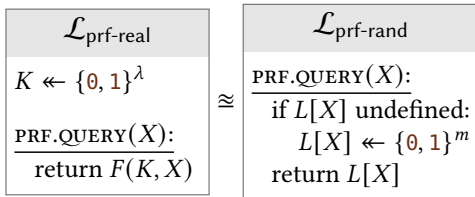
Left-or-right one-time secrecy for symmetric-key encryption:

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{ots-left}}$	$\equiv$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{ots-right}}$
$\text{OTS.ENC}(M_L, M_R):$ $K \leftarrow \mathcal{K}$ $C := \text{Enc}(K, M_L)$ return C		$\text{OTS.ENC}(M_L, M_R):$ $K \leftarrow \mathcal{K}$ $C := \text{Enc}(K, M_R)$ return C

$G : \{0, 1\}^\lambda \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{\lambda+\ell}$ is a **secure pseudorandom generator** if:

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \mathcal{L}_{\text{prg-real}} \\ \hline \text{PRG.SAMPLE}(): \\ \hline S \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \\ \text{return } G(S) \\ \hline \end{array} \approx \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \mathcal{L}_{\text{prg-rand}} \\ \hline \text{PRG.SAMPLE}(): \\ \hline Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{\lambda+\ell} \\ \text{return } Y \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Security of a **pseudorandom function**:



(“lazy random dictionary”)

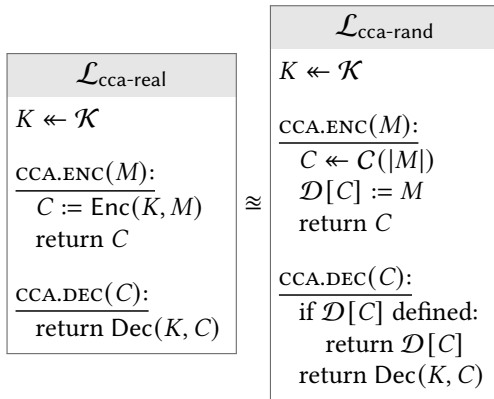
CPA security for symmetric-key encryption:

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{L}_{\text{cpa-real}} \\ K \leftarrow \mathcal{K} \\ \hline \text{CPA.ENC}(M): \\ C := \text{Enc}(K, M) \\ \text{return } C \end{array}} \approx \boxed{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{L}_{\text{cpa-rand}} \\ \hline \text{CPA.ENC}(M): \\ C \leftarrow \mathcal{C}(|M|) \\ \text{return } C \end{array}}$$

$\mathcal{C}(\ell)$ = set of ciphertexts that result from encrypting plaintexts of length ℓ

every ciphertext is a “challenge” ciphertext

CCA security for symmetric-key encryption:

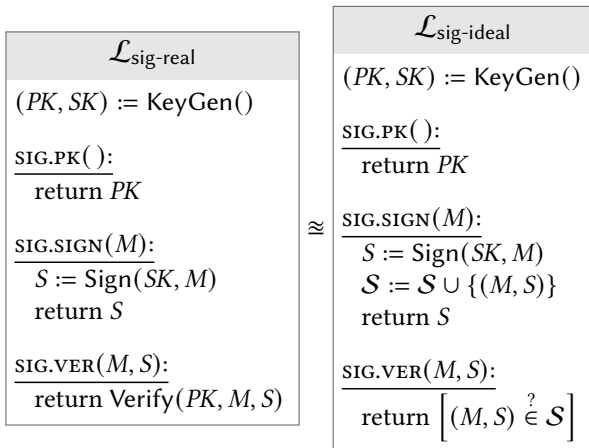


“patch” the decryption oracle vs “guard” the decryption oracle

CPA security for **public-key** encryption:

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{pk-cpa-real}}$		$\mathcal{L}_{\text{pk-cpa-rand}}$
$(PK, SK) := \text{KeyGen}()$		$(PK, SK) := \text{KeyGen}()$
$\frac{\text{CPA.PK}():}{\text{return } PK}$	$\approx$	$\frac{\text{CPA.PK}():}{\text{return } PK}$
$\frac{\text{CPA.ENC}(M):}{C := \text{Enc}(PK, M)}$ return C		$\frac{\text{CPA.ENC}(M):}{C \leftarrow C(M)}$ return C

Security for a **digital signature scheme**:

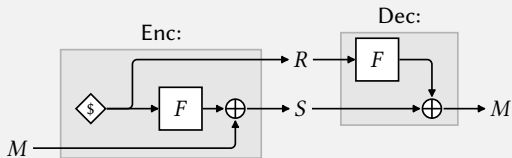


every call to SIG.VER is a potential for forgery

a tour of some security proofs

Claim:

If F is a secure PRF with input length λ , then the following is a CPA-secure symmetric encryption scheme:



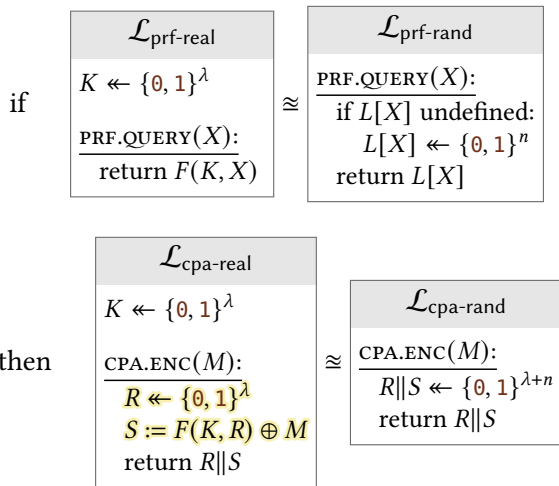
Enc(K, M):

$R \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$

$S := F(K, R) \oplus M$

return $R||S$

in other words...



<demo>

idiom: 3-hop maneuver

$$\mathcal{L}_1 \equiv \mathcal{L}_2 \diamond \mathcal{L}_{\text{left}} \quad (\text{factor out})$$

idiom: 3-hop maneuver

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_1 &\equiv \mathcal{L}_2 \diamond \mathcal{L}_{\text{left}} && (\text{factor out}) \\ &\cong \mathcal{L}_2 \diamond \mathcal{L}_{\text{right}} && (\text{swap})\end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{left}} \cong \mathcal{L}_{\text{right}}$ defines
security of some primitive

idiom: 3-hop maneuver

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A reduction in disguise:

*If $\mathcal{A}$ distinguishes $\mathcal{L}_1$ from $\mathcal{L}_3$ then
 $\mathcal{A} \diamond \mathcal{L}_2$ breaks the primitive*

if a proof fails, it's in the *factoring out* step

another example

idiom: bad events

Theorem

If $\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2$ **identical-until-bad**, then advantage is bounded by

$$\Pr[\text{bad event triggered in } \mathcal{A} \diamond \mathcal{L}_1]$$

idiom: bad events

Theorem

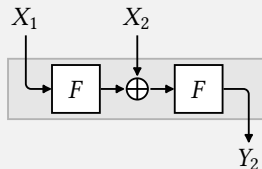
If $\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2$ **identical-until-bad**, then advantage is bounded by

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problem: some subtlety in analyzing bad event probability

2-block CBC-MAC:

If F is a secure PRF with input/output length λ , then the following is a secure PRF with input length 2λ :

$$\begin{array}{l} F_{\text{cbc}}^2(K, X_1 \| X_2): \\ \hline Y_1 := F(K, X_1) \\ Y_2 := F(K, Y_1 \oplus X_2) \\ \text{return } Y_2 \end{array}$$


in other words...

if

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{prf-real}}$	$\cong$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{prf-rand}}$
$K \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ $\text{PRF.QUERY}(X):$ return $F(K, X)$		$\text{PRF.QUERY}(X):$ if $L[X]$ undefined: $L[X] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ return $L[X]$

then

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{prf-real}}^{\text{cbc-2}}$	$\cong$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{prf-rand}}^{\text{cbc-2}}$
$K \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ $\text{PRF.QUERY}_{\text{cbc-2}}(X_1 \ X_2):$ $Y_1 := F(K, X_1)$ $Y_2 := F(K, Y_1 \oplus X_2)$ return Y_2		$\text{PRF.QUERY}_{\text{cbc-2}}(X_1 \ X_2):$ if $L[X_1 \ X_2]$ undefined: $L[X_1 \ X_2] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ return $L[X_1 \ X_2]$

<demo>

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{prf-rand}}$

PRF.QUERY($X_1 \| X_2$):

if $L[X_1 \| X_2]$ undefined:

$L[X_1 \| X_2] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$

$\mathcal{X} := \mathcal{X} \cup \{X_1 \| X_2\}$

return $L[X_1 \| X_2]$

END OF TIME:

for $X_1 \| X_2 \in \mathcal{X}$:

if $R[X_1]$ undefined: $R[X_1] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$

$Y_1 := R[X_1]$

if $R[Y_1 \oplus X_2]$ defined:

bad := true

$R[Y_1 \oplus X_2] := L[X_1 \| X_2]$

What is the bad event probability?

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{prf-rand}}$

PRF.QUERY($X_1 \| X_2$):

if $L[X_1 \| X_2]$ undefined:

$L[X_1 \| X_2] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$

$\mathcal{X} := \mathcal{X} \cup \{X_1 \| X_2\}$

return $L[X_1 \| X_2]$

END OF TIME:

for $X_1 \| X_2 \in \mathcal{X}$:

if $R[X_1]$ undefined: $R[X_1] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$

$Y_1 := R[X_1]$

if $R[Y_1 \oplus X_2]$ defined:

bad := true

$R[Y_1 \oplus X_2] := L[X_1 \| X_2]$

What is the bad event probability?

all randomness chosen **after** adversary's
inputs ($\mathcal{X}$) are chosen

$\Rightarrow$ fairly straight-forward union bound

philosophical musings



contrapositive reasoning

if $\mathcal{A}$ breaks Σ then $\mathcal{B}$ breaks primitive



positive reasoning

if primitive secure then Σ secure



contrapositive reasoning

if $\mathcal{A}$ breaks Σ then $\mathcal{B}$ breaks primitive

focus is on unspecified, hypothetical,
mysterious $\mathcal{A}$



positive reasoning

if primitive secure then Σ secure

focus is on tangible libraries that define
security for Σ



contrapositive reasoning

if $\mathcal{A}$ breaks Σ then $\mathcal{B}$ breaks primitive

focus is on unspecified, hypothetical,
mysterious $\mathcal{A}$

$\mathcal{B}$ appears out of thin air,
one big conceptual leap



positive reasoning

if primitive secure then Σ secure

focus is on tangible libraries that define
security for Σ



cryptographic reasoning



cs101 reasoning



cryptographic reasoning

probabilities, distributions, views



cs101 reasoning

behavior of concrete source code
(CS major's native language)



cryptographic reasoning

probabilities, distributions, views

indistinguishability



cs101 reasoning

behavior of concrete source code
(CS major's native language)

these programs “do the same thing”



cryptographic reasoning

probabilities, distributions, views

indistinguishability

secrecy of values



cs101 reasoning

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(CS major's native language)

these programs “do the same thing”

lexical scope



cryptographic reasoning

probabilities, distributions, views

indistinguishability

secrecy of values

independence of random variables



cs101 reasoning

behavior of concrete source code
(CS major's native language)

these programs “do the same thing”

lexical scope

syntactic independence of variables
 (“can sample distribution *afterwards*”)

difficulties, limitations

awkward things

security definitions for CRHF, OWF

awkward things

security definitions for CRHF, OWF

so much “*bookkeeping!*”

- ▶ multi-stage games
- ▶ guarding an oracle
- ▶ adversary repeating queries

awkward things

single-instance vs multi-instance

security definitions for CRHF, OWF

so much “bookkeeping!”

- ▶ multi-stage games
- ▶ guarding an oracle
- ▶ adversary repeating queries

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{prg-real}}$	vs	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{prf-real}}^F$
$\text{PRG.SAMPLE}():$ $S \leftarrow \{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}\}^\lambda$ return $G(S)$		$K \leftarrow \{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}\}^\lambda$ $\text{PRF.QUERY}(X):$ return $F(K, X)$

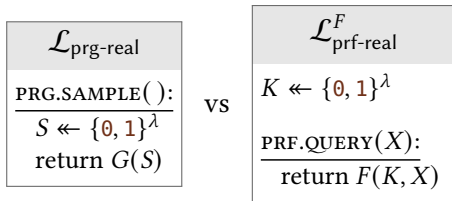
awkward things

single-instance vs multi-instance

security definitions for CRHF, OWF

so much “*bookkeeping!*”

- ▶ multi-stage games
- ▶ guarding an oracle
- ▶ adversary repeating queries



proof techniques:

- ▶ reduction rewinds the adversary (forking lemma)
- ▶ reduction “guesses the oracle query”
- ▶ ...

but can you use it for research?



State Separation for Code-Based Game-Playing Proofs

Chris Brzuska¹, Antoine Delignat-Lavaud², Cédric Fournet², Konrad Kohbrok¹, and
Markulf Kohlweiss^{2,3}

ia.cr/2018/306

personal reflections



security = indistinguishability of
2 separate games

personal reflections



security = indistinguishability of
2 separate games

“3-hop maneuver mindset”

personal reflections



security = indistinguishability of
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“3-hop maneuver mindset”

(MPC:) real world and ideal world are just
interactions with an adversary

personal reflections



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I have more confidence about details (of
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MPC interactions are complicated,
many distinct *phases*

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I have more confidence about details (of
definitions, protocols, ideal functionalities)



MPC interactions are complicated,
many distinct *phases*

reviewers not yet sufficiently indoctrinated

case study from a recent submission

an interactive 2PC protocol:

Alice (input X , $|X| = n_A$):

for $x \in X$:

$(sk_x, pk_x) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\lambda)$

$S_A = S_A \cup \{(x, pk_x)\}$

$D_A = \text{Encode}_A^{O_A}(S_A)$

$\xrightarrow{D_A}$

Bob (input Y , $|Y| = n_B$):

for $y \in Y$:

$\widetilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$

$(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\widetilde{pk}_y)$

$S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$

$D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$

$\xleftarrow{D_B}$

for $x \in X$:

$\widetilde{C}_x = \text{Decode}_B^{O_B}(D_B, x)$

if $\text{Decaps}(sk_x, \widetilde{C}_x) \neq \perp$:

$Z = Z \cup \{x\}$

output Z

an interactive 2PC protocol:

Alice (input X , $|X| = n_A$):

for $x \in X$:

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“real” interaction:

(corrupt Alice)

Real interaction:

(O_A, O_B) simulated honestly)

receive D_A from adversary

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$\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$

$(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$

$S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$

$D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$

give D_B to adversary

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Real interaction: (O_A, O_B) simulated honestly)receive D_A from adversaryfor $y \in Y$: $\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$ $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$ $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$ $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$ give D_B to adversaryHybrid 1: $\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{Samp}}$ plays role of O_A (O_B) simulated honestly)Samp(): $r \leftarrow \text{KEM.P}_A$ $Q = Q \cup \{r\}$ return r receive D_A from adversary $\tilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$ for $y \in Y$: $\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$ if $y \notin \tilde{X}$:abort if $\tilde{pk}_y \notin Q$ $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$ $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$ $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$ give D_B to adversaryHybrid 2: $\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{Samp}}$ plays role of O_A (O_B) simulated honestly)Samp(): $(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\lambda)$ $(\tilde{C}_{pk}, -) = \text{Encaps}(pk)$ $Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$ return pk receive D_A from adversary $\tilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$ for $y \in Y$: $\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$ if $y \notin \tilde{X}$:abort if $\tilde{pk}_y \notin Q$ $C_y = \tilde{C}_{\tilde{pk}_y}$ else: $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$ $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$ $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$ give D_B to adversaryHybrid 3: $\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{Samp}}$ plays role of O_A (O_B) simulated honestly)Samp(): $(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\lambda)$ $\tilde{C}_{pk} \leftarrow \text{KEM.C}_A$ $Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$ return pk receive D_A from adversary $\tilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$ for $y \in Y$: $\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$ if $y \notin \tilde{X}$:abort if $\tilde{pk}_y \notin Q$ $C_y = \tilde{C}_{\tilde{pk}_y}$ else: $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$ $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$ $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$ give D_B to adversaryHybrid 4: $\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{Samp}}$ plays role of O_A (O_B) simulated honestly)Samp(): $(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\lambda)$ $Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$ return pk receive D_A from adversary $\tilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$ for $y \in Y \cap \tilde{X}$: $\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$ $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$ $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$ $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$ give D_B to adversaryIdeal interaction: $\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{Samp}}$ plays role of O_A (O_B) simulated honestly)Samp(): $(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\lambda)$ $Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$ return pk receive D_A from adversary $\tilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$ send $\tilde{X}$ to $\mathcal{F}_{\text{psi}}$ receive $Z = \tilde{X} \cap Y$ from $\mathcal{F}_{\text{psi}}$ for $y \in Z$: $\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$ $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$ $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$ $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$ give D_B to adversary

Real interaction:
 (O_A, O_B) simulated honestly)
 receive D_A from adversary

for $y \in Y$:
 $\widetilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$
 $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\widetilde{pk}_y)$
 $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$
 $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$
 give D_B to adversary

Hybrid 1:
 $\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{Samp}}$ plays role of O_A
 (O_B) simulated honestly)

Samp():
 $r \leftarrow \text{KEM}, \mathcal{P}_\lambda$
 $Q = Q \cup \{r\}$
 return r
 receive D_A from adversary
 $\widetilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$

for $y \in Y$:
 $\widetilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$
 if $y \notin \widetilde{X}$:
 abort if $\widetilde{pk}_y \notin Q$
 $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\widetilde{pk}_y)$
 $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$
 $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$
 give D_B to adversary

Hybrid 3:
 $\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{Samp}}$ plays role of O_A
 (O_B) simulated honestly)

Samp():
 $(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\lambda)$
 $\widetilde{C}_{pk} \leftarrow \text{KEM}, C_\lambda$
 $Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$
 return pk

receive D_A from adversary
 $\widetilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$

for $y \in Y$:
 $\widetilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$
 if $y \notin \widetilde{X}$:
 abort if $\widetilde{pk}_y \notin Q$
 $C_y = \widetilde{C}_{\widetilde{pk}_y}$
 else: $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\widetilde{pk}_y)$
 $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$
 $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$
 give D_B to adversary

Hybrid 4:
 $\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{Samp}}$ plays role of O_A
 (O_B) simulated honestly)

Samp():
 $(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\lambda)$
 $Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$
 return pk
 receive D_A from adversary
 $\widetilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$

for $y \in Y \cap \widetilde{X}$:
 $\widetilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$
 $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\widetilde{pk}_y)$
 $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$
 $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$
 give D_B to adversary

Hybrid 2:
 $\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{Samp}}$ plays role of O_A
 (O_B) simulated honestly)

Samp():
 $(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\lambda)$
 $(\widetilde{C}_{pk}, -) = \text{Encaps}(pk)$
 $Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$
 return pk

receive D_A from adversary
 $\widetilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$

for $y \in Y$:
 $\widetilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$
 if $y \notin \widetilde{X}$:
 abort if $\widetilde{pk}_y \notin Q$
 $C_y = \widetilde{C}_{\widetilde{pk}_y}$
 else: $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\widetilde{pk}_y)$
 $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$
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 give D_B to adversary

Ideal interaction:
 $\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{Samp}}$ plays role of O_A
 (O_B) simulated honestly)

Samp():
 $(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\lambda)$
 $Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$
 return pk

receive D_A from adversary
 $\widetilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$

send $\widetilde{X}$ to $\mathcal{F}_{\text{psi}}$
 receive $Z = \widetilde{X} \cap Y$ from $\mathcal{F}_{\text{psi}}$

for $y \in Z$:
 $\widetilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_A^{O_A}(D_A, y)$
 $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\widetilde{pk}_y)$
 $S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$
 $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$

give D_B to adversary

$\rightsquigarrow$

Ideal interaction:

$\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{Samp}}$ plays role of O_A
 (O_B) simulated honestly)

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receive D_A from adversary

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 $D_B = \text{Encode}_B^{O_B}(S_B)$

give D_B to adversary

open problems

how to display sequences of hybrids on paper?

Uniformly sampled Y -values are indistinguishable from values sampled without replacement. The three-hop maneuver involving lemma 4.5.7 is omitted.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \boxed{\text{PRF.QUERY}_H(X):} \\
 \text{if } L^*[X] \text{ undefined:} \\
 \quad Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \\
 \\
 \text{if } L_2[Y] \text{ undefined:} \\
 \quad L_2[Y] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \\
 \quad L^*[X] := L_2[Y] \\
 \text{return } L^*[X]
 \end{array}
 \cong
 \begin{array}{c}
 \boxed{\text{PRF.QUERY}_H(X):} \\
 \text{if } L^*[X] \text{ undefined:} \\
 \quad Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \setminus \mathcal{Y} \\
 \quad \mathcal{Y} := \mathcal{Y} \cup \{Y\} \\
 \text{if } L_2[Y] \text{ undefined:} \\
 \quad L_2[Y] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \\
 \quad L^*[X] := L_2[Y] \\
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 \end{array}$$

In this hybrid, the Y -values are guaranteed to not repeat. Thus, the inner if-statement is *always* taken, and its body can be made unconditional.

$$\begin{array}{c}
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 \quad L^*[X] := L_2[Y] \\
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 \end{array}$$

Now the overall effect of the if-statement's body is to assign a uniformly sampled value to $L^*[X]$. The same logic can be written more directly, without Y , $\mathcal{Y}$, or $L_2[\cdot]$. The result of these simplification is $\mathcal{L}_{\text{prf-rand}}^H$, which completes the proof.

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Joy of Cryptography

how to display sequences of hybrids on paper?

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$\begin{array}{l} \text{PRF.QUERY}_H(X): \\ \text{if } L^*[X] \text{ undefined:} \\ \quad Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \setminus \mathcal{Y} \\ \quad \mathcal{Y} := \mathcal{Y} \cup \{Y\} \\ \quad L_2[Y] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \\ \quad L^*[X] := L_2[Y] \\ \text{return } L^*[X] \end{array}$	$\equiv$	$\begin{array}{l} \mathcal{L}_{\text{prf-rand}}^H \\ \text{PRF.QUERY}_H(X): \\ \text{if } L^*[X] \text{ undefined:} \\ \\ \quad L^*[X] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \\ \text{return } L^*[X] \end{array}$
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$\begin{array}{l} \text{KG}(): \\ \\ u \leftarrow u + 1; L_u \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^k \\ \\ \text{NAEENC}(i, N_p, N_S, A, M): \\ \\ C^* \parallel T \leftarrow \text{AE.Enc}(L_i, N_p, N_S, M) \\ T^* \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{\text{rout}} \setminus \mathcal{T}_i \\ \text{if } f_i[N_p \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \neq \perp \text{ then} \\ \quad \text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}; T^* \leftarrow f_i[N_p \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \\ \mathcal{T}_i \leftarrow \mathcal{T}_i \cup \{T^*\} \\ f_i[N_p \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \leftarrow T^* \\ \text{return } C^* \parallel T^* \\ \\ \text{NAEVER}(i, N_p, A, C^* \parallel T^*): \\ \\ (M, N_S, T) \leftarrow \text{AE.ParDec}(L_i, N_p, C^*) \\ \text{if } f_i[N_p \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \neq \perp \text{ then} \\ \quad \text{if } f_i[N_p \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] = T^* \text{ then} \\ \quad \quad \text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}; \text{return true} \\ \text{else} \\ \quad T_d \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{\text{rout}} \setminus \mathcal{T}_i \\ \quad \text{if } f'_i[N_p \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \neq \perp \text{ then} \\ \quad \quad T_d \leftarrow f'_i[N_p \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \\ \quad f'_i[N_p \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \leftarrow T_d \\ \quad \mathcal{T}_i \leftarrow \mathcal{T}_i \cup \{T_d\} \\ \quad \text{if } T_d = T^* \text{ then return true} \\ \text{return false} \end{array}$	$\boxed{G_2}, G_3$
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how to display sequences of hybrids on paper?

Uniformly sampled Y -values are indistinguishable from values sampled without replacement. The three-hop maneuver involving lemma 4.5.7 is omitted.

$\text{PRF_QUERY}_H(X):$ if $L^*[X]$ undefined: $Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ if $L_2[Y]$ undefined: $L_2[Y] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ $L^*[X] := L_2[Y]$ return $L^*[X]$	$\approx$	$\text{PRF_QUERY}_H(X):$ if $L^*[X]$ undefined: $Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \setminus \mathcal{Y}$ $\mathcal{Y} := \mathcal{Y} \cup \{Y\}$ if $L_2[Y]$ undefined: $L_2[Y] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ $L^*[X] := L_2[Y]$ return $L^*[X]$
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In this hybrid, the Y -values are guaranteed to not repeat. Thus, the inner if-statement is *always* taken, and its body can be made unconditional.

$\text{PRF_QUERY}_H(X):$ if $L^*[X]$ undefined: $Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \setminus \mathcal{Y}$ $\mathcal{Y} := \mathcal{Y} \cup \{Y\}$ if $L_2[Y]$ undefined: $L_2[Y] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ $L^*[X] := L_2[Y]$ return $L^*[X]$	$\equiv$	$\text{PRF_QUERY}_H(X):$ if $L^*[X]$ undefined: $Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \setminus \mathcal{Y}$ $\mathcal{Y} := \mathcal{Y} \cup \{Y\}$ $L_2[Y] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ $L^*[X] := L_2[Y]$ return $L^*[X]$
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Now the overall effect of the if-statement's body is to assign a uniformly sampled value to $L^*[X]$. The same logic can be written more directly, without $Y, \mathcal{Y}$, or $L_2[\cdot]$. The result of these simplification is $\mathcal{L}_{\text{prf-rand}}^H$, which completes the proof.

$\text{PRF_QUERY}_H(X):$ if $L^*[X]$ undefined: $Y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda \setminus \mathcal{Y}$ $\mathcal{Y} := \mathcal{Y} \cup \{Y\}$ $L_2[Y] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ $L^*[X] := L_2[Y]$ return $L^*[X]$	$\equiv$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{prf-rand}}^H$ $\text{PRF_QUERY}_H(X):$ if $L^*[X]$ undefined: $L^*[X] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ return $L^*[X]$
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Joy of Cryptography

$\text{Kg}():$ $u \leftarrow u + 1; L_u \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^k$ $\text{NAEEnc}(i, Np, Ns, A, M):$ $C^* \parallel T \leftarrow \text{AE.Enc}(L_i, Np, Ns, M)$ $T^* \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{\text{rout}} \setminus \mathcal{T}_i$ if $f_i[Np \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \neq \perp$ then bad $\leftarrow \text{true}$; $T^* \leftarrow f_i[Np \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)]$ $\mathcal{T}_i \leftarrow \mathcal{T}_i \cup \{T^*\}$ $f_i[Np \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \leftarrow T^*$ return $C^* \parallel T^*$ $\text{NAEVER}(i, Np, A, C^* \parallel T^*):$ $(M, Ns, T) \leftarrow \text{AE.ParDec}(L_i, Np, C^*)$ if $f_i[Np \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \neq \perp$ then if $f_i[Np \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] = T^*$ then bad $\leftarrow \text{true}$; return true else $T_d \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{\text{rout}} \setminus \mathcal{T}_i$ if $f'_i[Np \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \neq \perp$ then $T_d \leftarrow f'_i[Np \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)]$ $f'_i[Np \parallel \text{ixor}(A, T)] \leftarrow T_d$ $\mathcal{T}_i \leftarrow \mathcal{T}_i \cup \{T_d\}$ if $T_d = T^*$ then return true return false	G_2, G_3
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Real interaction:
(O_A, O_B simulated honestly)

receive D_A from adversary

for $y \in Y$:

$\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_{O_A}^{O_A}(D_A, y)$

$(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$

$S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$

$D_B = \text{Encode}_{O_B}^{O_B}(S_B)$

give D_B to adversary

Hybrid 1:

$\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{simpr}}$ plays role of O_A
(O_B simulated honestly)

$\text{Samp}():$

$r \leftarrow \text{KEM.P}_A$

$Q = Q \cup \{r\}$

return r

receive D_A from adversary

$\tilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$

for $y \in Y$:

$\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_{O_A}^{O_A}(D_A, y)$

if $y \notin \tilde{X}$:

 abort if $\tilde{pk}_y \notin Q$

$(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$

$S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$

$D_B = \text{Encode}_{O_B}^{O_B}(S_B)$

give D_B to adversary

Hybrid 2:

$\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{simpr}}$ plays role of O_A
(O_B simulated honestly)

$\text{Samp}():$

$(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(A)$

$(\tilde{C}_{pk}, -) = \text{Encaps}(pk)$

$Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$

return $\tilde{pk}$

receive D_A from adversary

$\tilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$

for $y \in Y$:

$\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_{O_A}^{O_A}(D_A, y)$

if $y \notin \tilde{X}$:

 abort if $\tilde{pk}_y \notin Q$

$C_y = \tilde{C}_{\tilde{pk}_y}$

else: $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$

$S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$

$D_B = \text{Encode}_{O_B}^{O_B}(S_B)$

give D_B to adversary

Hybrid 3:

$\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{simpr}}$ plays role of O_A
(O_B simulated honestly)

$\text{Samp}():$

$(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(A)$

$\tilde{C}_{pk} \leftarrow \text{KEM.C}_A$

$Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$

return $\tilde{pk}$

receive D_A from adversary

$\tilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$

for $y \in Y$:

$\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_{O_A}^{O_A}(D_A, y)$

if $y \notin \tilde{X}$:

 abort if $\tilde{pk}_y \notin Q$

$C_y = \tilde{C}_{\tilde{pk}_y}$

else: $(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$

$S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$

$D_B = \text{Encode}_{O_B}^{O_B}(S_B)$

give D_B to adversary

Hybrid 4:

$\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{simpr}}$ plays role of O_A
(O_B simulated honestly)

$\text{Samp}():$

$(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(A)$

$Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$

return $\tilde{pk}$

receive D_A from adversary

$\tilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$

for $y \in Y \cap \tilde{X}$:

$\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_{O_A}^{O_A}(D_A, y)$

$(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$

$S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$

$D_B = \text{Encode}_{O_B}^{O_B}(S_B)$

give D_B to adversary

Ideal interaction:

$\text{ExtOracle}^{\text{simpr}}$ plays role of O_A
(O_B simulated honestly)

$\text{Samp}():$

$(-, pk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(A)$

$Q = Q \cup \{pk\}$

return $\tilde{pk}$

receive D_A from adversary

$\tilde{X} = \text{ExtOKVS}(D_A)$

send $\tilde{X}$ to $\mathcal{F}_{\text{int}}$

receive $Z = \tilde{X} \cap Y$ from $\mathcal{F}_{\text{int}}$

for $y \in Z$:

$\tilde{pk}_y = \text{Decode}_{O_A}^{O_A}(D_A, y)$

$(C_y, -) = \text{Encaps}(\tilde{pk}_y)$

$S_B = S_B \cup \{(y, C_y)\}$

$D_B = \text{Encode}_{O_B}^{O_B}(S_B)$

give D_B to adversary

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me + coauthors

adapt to MPC in a more *principled* way

tools for formal proof verification

ProofFrog: A Tool For Verifying Game-Hopping Proofs

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tools for formal

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Vibe-coding a proof

Claude Code (Opus 4.6) was able to construct a valid ProofFrog scheme file and proof from a natural language input describing the scheme and the idea of each game hop. The runtime was about 5 minutes.

ProofFrog: A Tool For Verifying Proofs

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tools for writing hybrids

$K \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$

PRF.QUERY($X_1 \| X_2$):

$Y_1 := F(K, X_1)$

$Y_2 := F(K, Y_1 \oplus X_2)$

PRF.QUERY($X_1 \| X_2$):

if $L[X_1 \| X_2]$ undef:

$Y_1 := F(K, X_1)$

$L[X_1 \| X_2] := F(K, Y_1 \oplus X_2)$

return $L[X_1 \| X_2]$

PRF.QUERY($X_1 \| X_2$):

if $L[X_1 \| X_2]$ undef:

if $R[X_1]$ undef:

$R[X_1] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n$

$Y_1 := R[X_1]$

if $R[Y_1 \oplus X_2]$ undef:

$R[Y_1 \oplus X_2] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n$

$L[X_1 \| X_2] := R[Y_1 \oplus X_2]$

return $L[X_1 \| X_2]$

...

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edit *vertically* and *horizontally*

1 game-based security

[Shoup04, BellareRogaway06]

1 game-based security

[Shoup04, BellareRogaway06]

write every security definition as

2 indistinguishability of two separate games

1 game-based security

[Shoup04, BellareRogaway06]

write every security definition as

2 indistinguishability of two separate games

3 reductions are implicit

in the game-hopping flow

thanks!

