

Traceable Anonymous Encryption

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About this talk

- examine **covert channels** in the context of anonymous (traceable) encryption
- introduce a new primitive: **mediated anonymous traceable encryption**
- give
 - *security definitions* for this new primitive
 - a *construction* meeting the formalized requirements.
- **Caveat emptor:**
 - work in submission
 - somehow marginal to the workshop, but
 - uses techniques which originated in the context of voting protocols
 - can be applied to enforce security of voting protocols

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 - Motivation
 - Model
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 - Security
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 - Protection against the Opener
 - Protection Against the Issuer
 - Protection Against Active Adversaries
- 4 Conclusion

Anonymous encryption

- classical security requirement of an encryption scheme: **privacy of the encrypted data**.
- different (additional) security requirement: **key privacy** (Bellare, Boldyreva, Desai and Pointcheval – 2001)
↪ provides **privacy of the key under which the encryption was performed**.
- **anonymous communication**: eavesdroppers are prevented from learning the identities of the communicating parties
↪ a very attractive notion from the user's viewpoint.
- **But**, some organizations and governments are concerned about how anonymity can be abused by criminals.
↪ one should be capable of revoking key privacy when illegal behavior is detected.

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Anonymous Traceable Encryption

- **anonymous traceable encryption:**

- an adversary cannot determine which user's public key has been used to generate a given ciphertext
- a trusted third party (given some trapdoor information) is able to revoke anonymity of ciphertexts.

- several works try to achieve this property, e.g.

- custodian-hiding (verifiable) encryption (Liu, Wei and Wung – 2004)
- group encryption (Kiayia, Tsiounis and Yung – 2007)
- group decryption (Qin, Wu, Susilo, Wang – 2007)

- **But** they all miss a critical point: an encryption scheme produces a **covert channel**

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Covert channels

- **covert channel**: a communication channel that exists, contrary to system design.
aka subliminal channel, steganographic channel.
- to provide semantic security, asymmetric encryption has to be randomized
↪ covert channel
- malicious users may use the **covert channel** to communicate illegally using ciphertexts that trace back to some honest user.
- More precisely:
 - possible to encrypt a message to a user (the official target recipient for the tracing authority)
 - so that the **randomness** is used for transmitting information to a third (not traced as a possible recipient).

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Motivating Example 1: Auction Protocols

- in 2000, Sako proposed a novel approach to achieve bid secrecy in **auction protocols**.
- consists in expressing each bid as an encryption of a *known* message, with a key corresponding to the value of the bid.
- What needs to be hidden in the ciphertext is **not the message**, but **the key** used to encrypt it;
~> anonymous traceable encryption seems very promising for such applications.
- **But**, one major concern in auction protocols is the problem of collusion between bidders
~> it is highly desirable to prevent bidders from engaging in such collaborative bidding strategies.
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Motivating Example 2: Voting protocols

- **Kleptography** is a way of breaking security of cryptographic systems.
↪ works on code-level: a malicious implementation exploits randomness used in the protocol to build a **trapdoor**
- Randomness in e-voting makes room for a subliminal channel through which may leak:
 - voters' choices;
 - signing key of voting machines;
 - ...
- **Kleptographic attacks** have been presented on several voting protocols:
 - Benaloh-Tuinstra protocol
(Borzęcki, Kabarowski, Kubiak, Kutylowski, Zagòrski – 2006))
 - a Mix-net used as a building block of a *Prêt à Voter* e-voting protocol
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- necessity of a subliminal-channel free encryption scheme.

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Mediated Anonymous Traceable Encryption (MATE)

- introduction of a new primitive: **mediated anonymous traceable encryption**
- provides **confidentiality** and **anonymity**
- anonymity can be **revoked**
- prevents malicious users to embed **subliminal messages** in ciphertexts
- **Recall:** for semantic security, encryption has to be randomized
~> hard to eliminate covert channels
- even impossible without assuming that
 - recipients are securely **initialized by a trusted party**
 - ciphertexts are modified **on-line**
- removing the entropy in ciphertexts is impossible
~> add more randomness so that any hidden message is smothered.

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MATE: Cast of characters



(Honest) Users



Alice



Bob

Existence of a PKI

All participants have a certified pair of secret and public keys (sk, pk).

MATE: Cast of characters



(Honest) Users



Alice



Bob



Issuer

Issuer: for adding new members to the system

MATE: Cast of characters



(Honest) Users



Alice



Bob



Issuer



Opener

Opener: for revoking anonymity

MATE: Cast of characters



(Honest) Users



Alice

Bob



Issuer



Opener



Mediator

Mediator (honest but possibly curious): systematically re-randomizes all its inputs

MATE: Cast of characters



(Honest) Users



Alice



Bob



Eve



Issuer



Opener



Mediator

Adversary (Eve): confidentiality, anonymity, covert channels

Syntactic definition

Mediated Anonymous Traceable Encryption Schemes (GSetup, Join, Encrypt, ReRand, Decrypt, Trace, Judge)

- $GSetup(\lambda) \rightarrow (mpk, msk, sk_O, \mathcal{L})$:
 - a group public key mpk ,
 - a manager's secret key msk
 - an opening key sk_O ;
 - a data structure \mathcal{L} called a *registration list*.
- Join is a polynomial time interactive protocol between a member owning a pair of keys (sk, pk) and the issuer:
 - $Join.Member(id, mpk, sk) \rightarrow (pk_{id}, sk_{id})$;
 - $Join.Group(id, pk, msk) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$.
- $Encrypt(mpk, pk_{id}, m) \rightarrow C$.
- $ReRand(mpk, C) \rightarrow C'$.
- $Decrypt(mpk, sk_{id}, C) \rightarrow m$.
- $Trace(mpk, \mathcal{L}, sk_O, C) \rightarrow (id, \Pi)$.
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Security Notions

- after a Join protocol execution:
 - the public key of the user, and his identity, are stored/published in the registration list \mathcal{L} ,
 - the secret key is kept private.
- in our security model, we will exclude collusions of traitors: adversary will be given access to its **own private key only**, and possibly several public keys.
↪ in practice: private keys are stored in tamper-proof devices
- we will consider **Chosen-Plaintext Attacks** only (no decryption oracle is available to the adversary).
- Three different notions:
 - Semantic Security
 - Anonymity (Key privacy)
 - Subliminal-Channel Freeness

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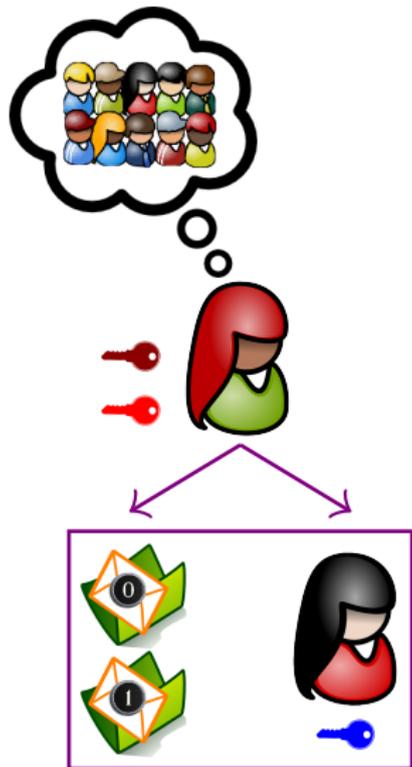
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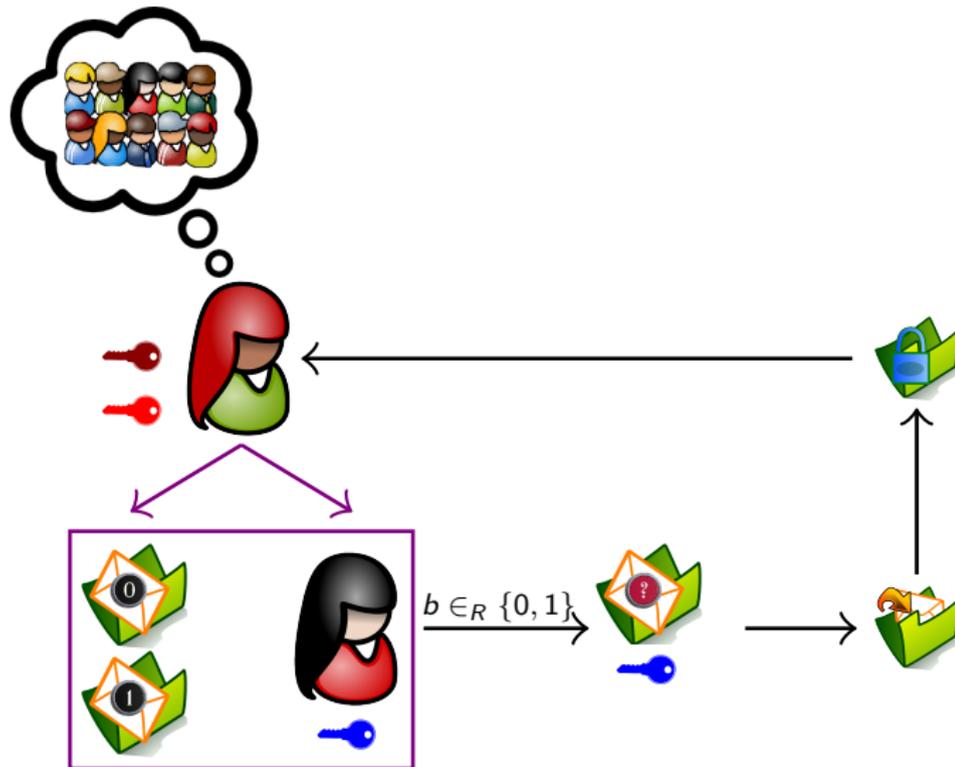
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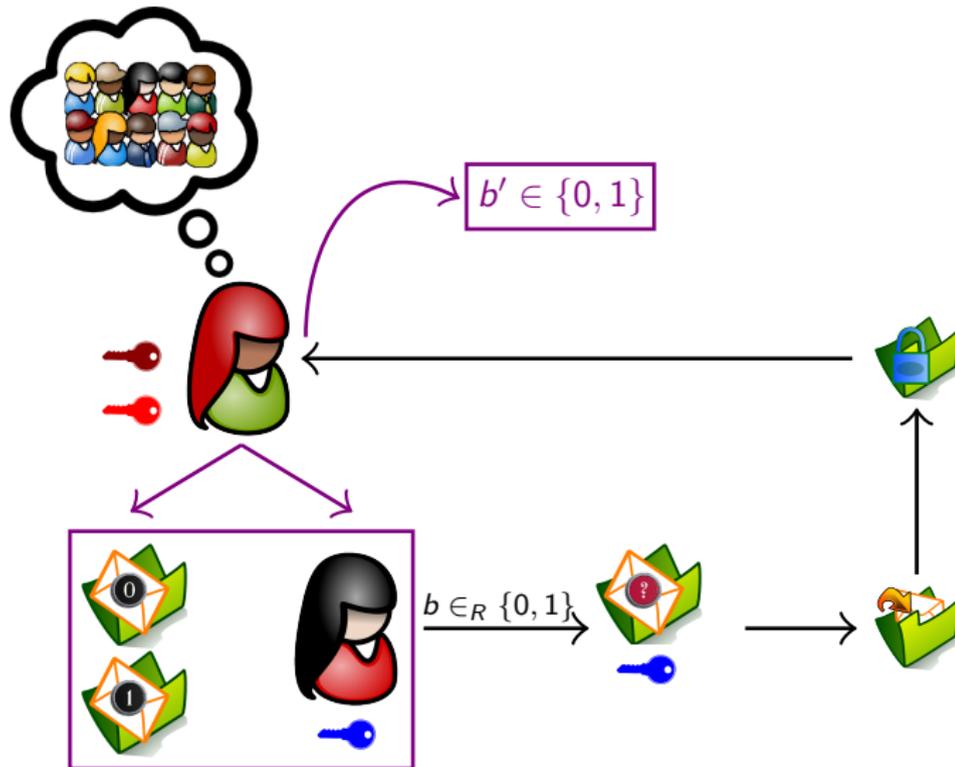
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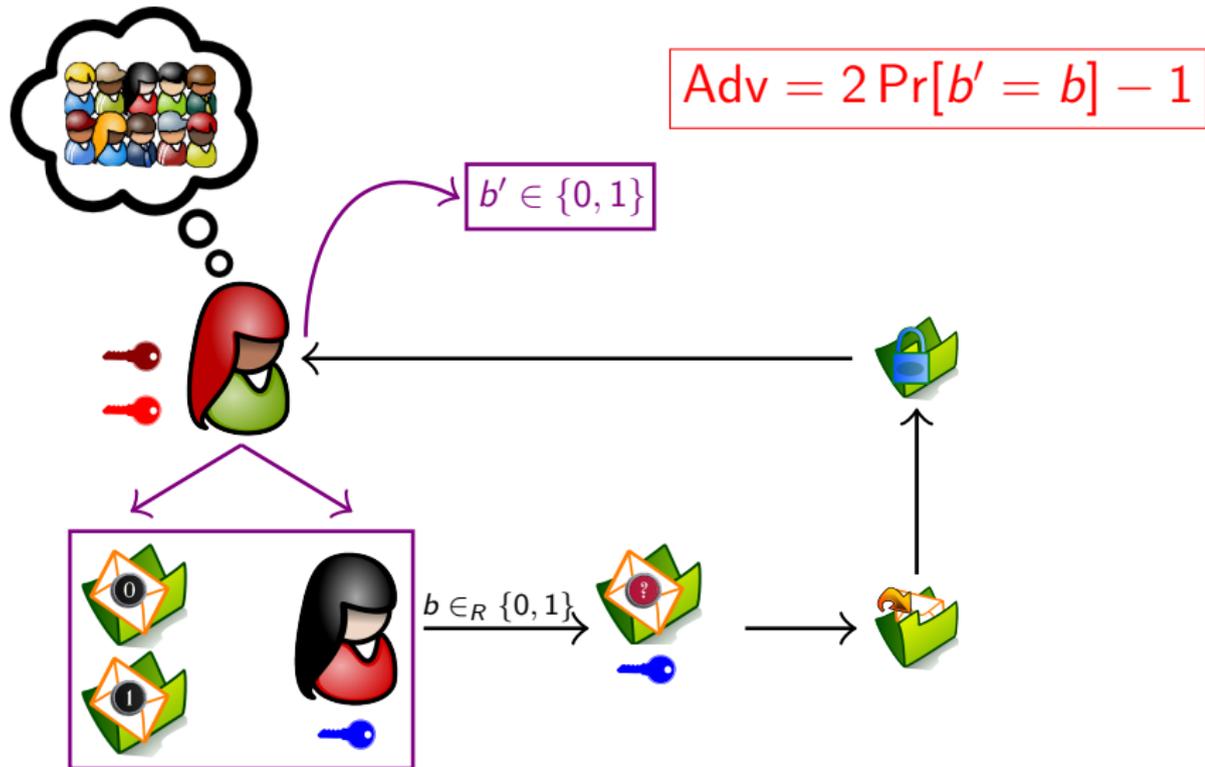
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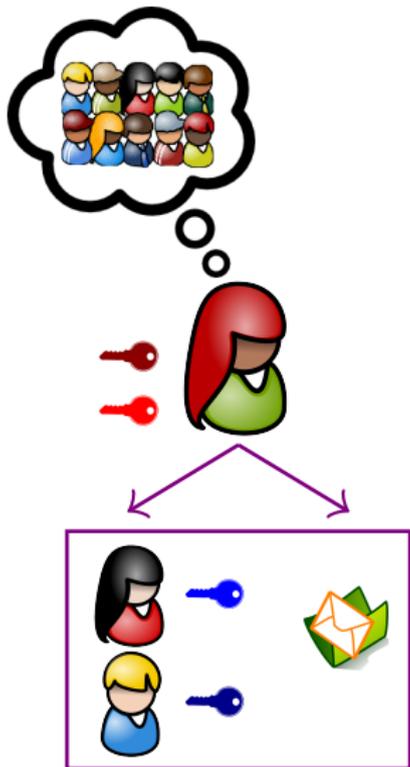
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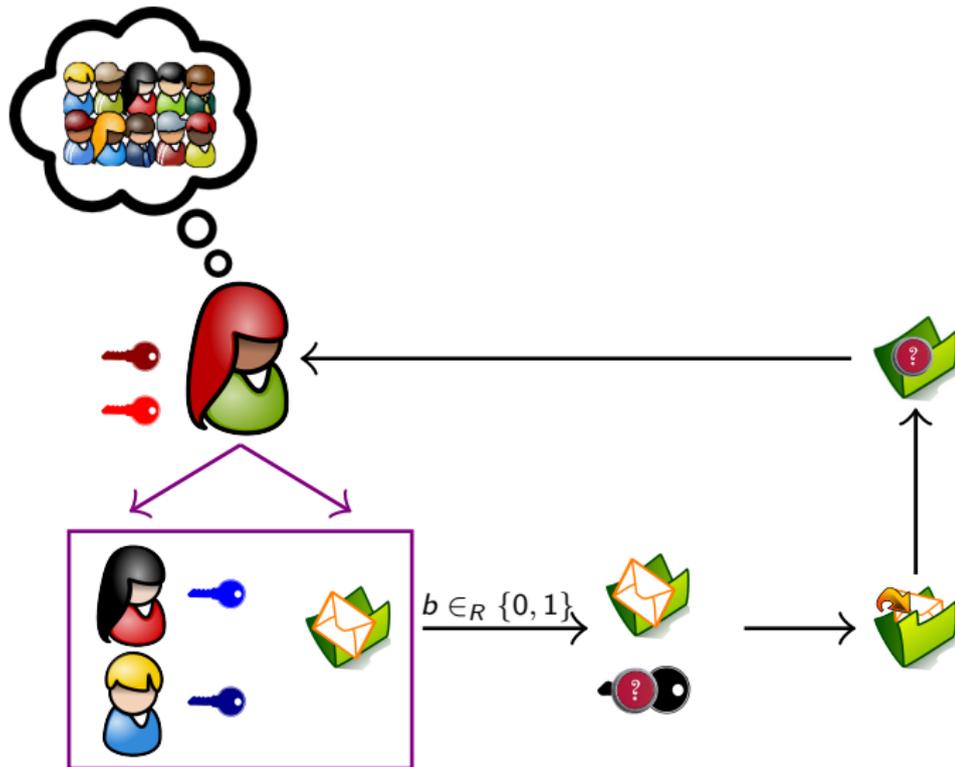
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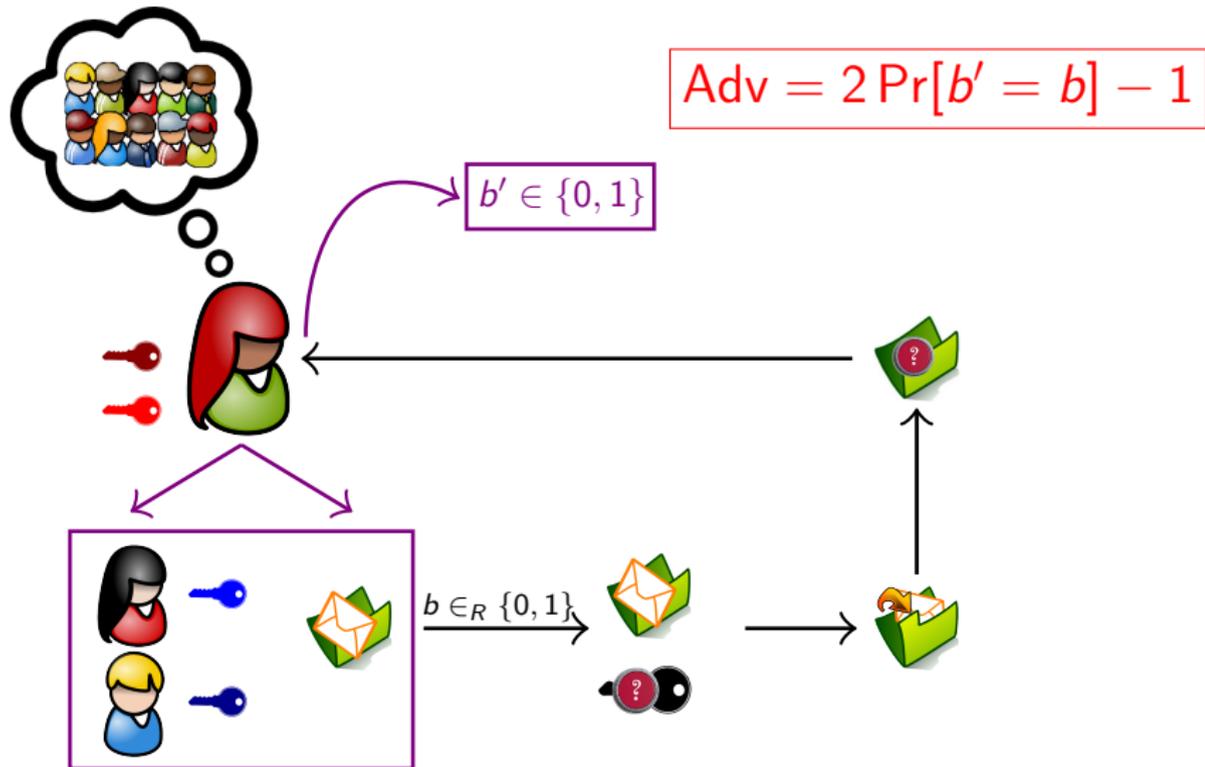
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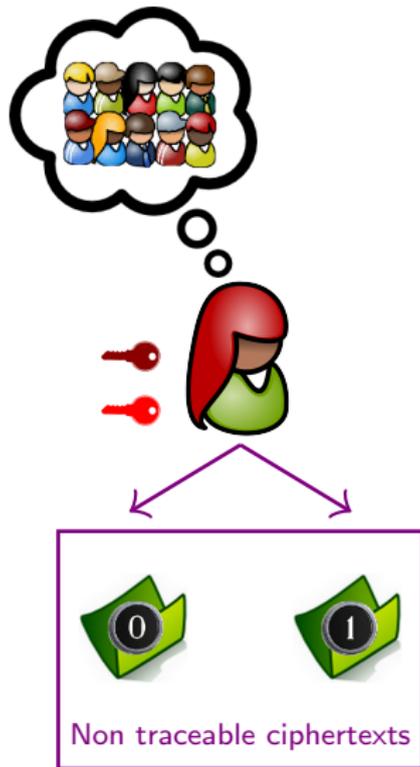
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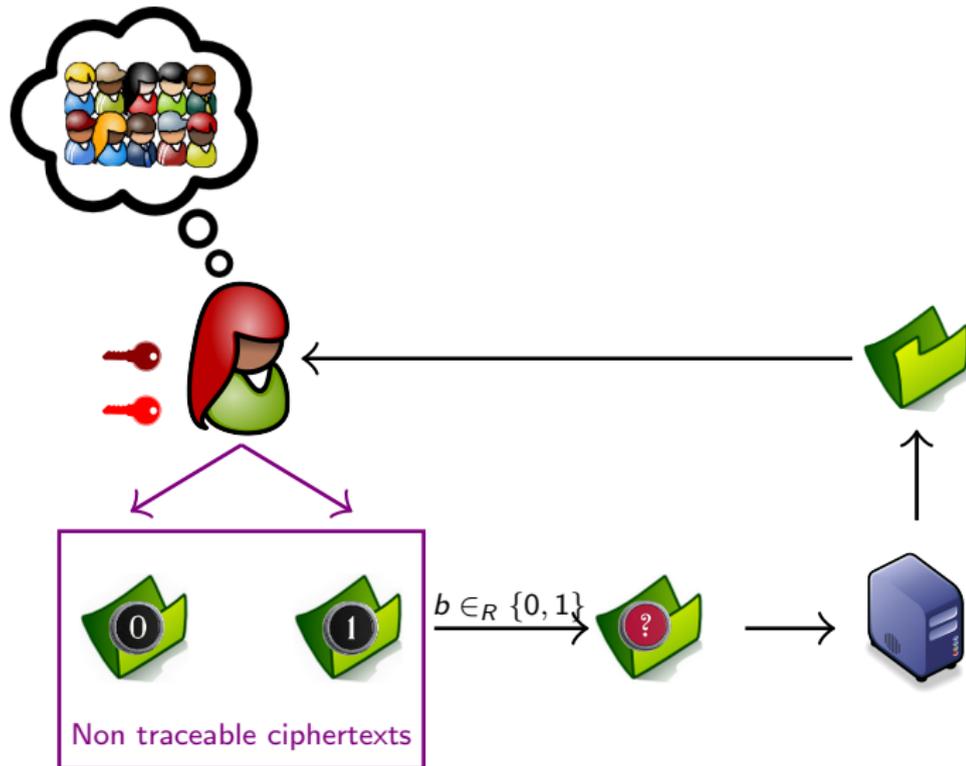
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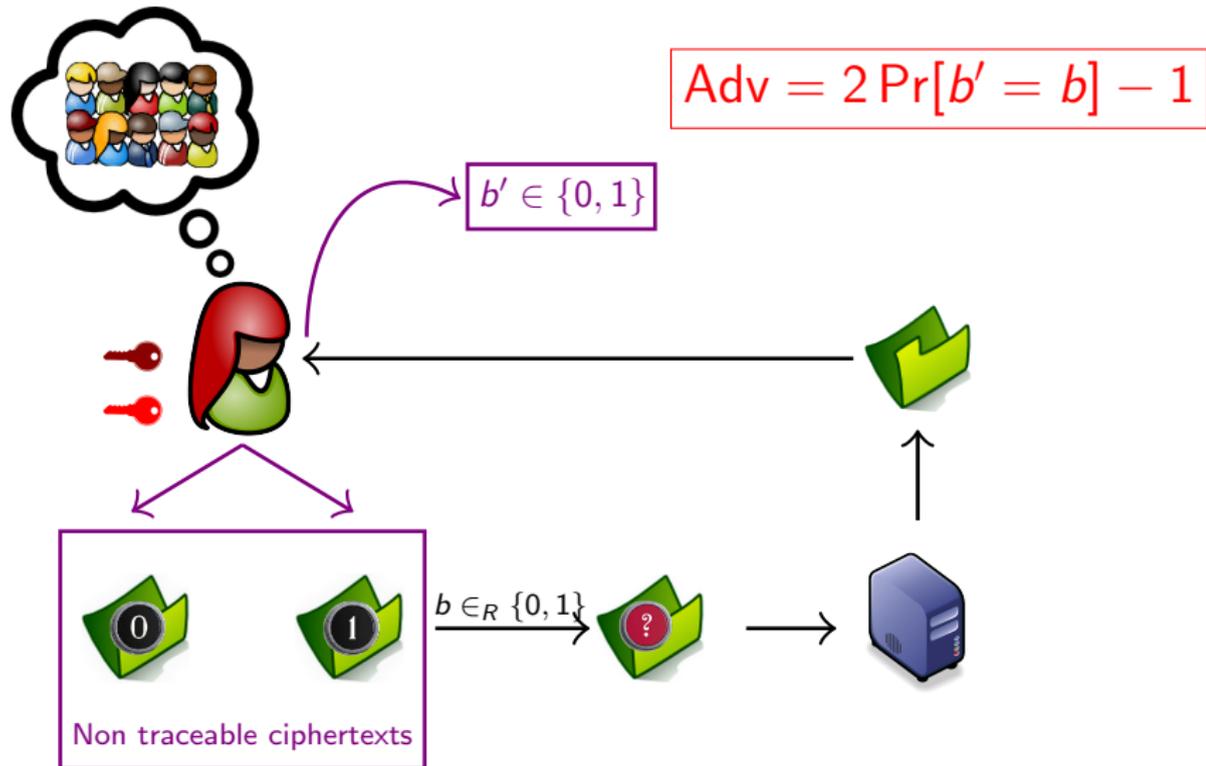
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Design principle

- any encryption scheme allowing users to select a private/public key pair where the public key is **unregistered** contains a covert channel:
 - Eve can select such a key pair
 - encrypt a message of her choice under this public key
 - the ciphertext does not trace back to any registered user (but can be decrypted by Eve).

↪ **Idea:** use an encryption scheme with **key escrow**

- It is easy to design an anonymous encryption scheme that provides traceability **or** the absence of steganographic channel:
 - in 2007, Borisov and Minami proposed a **single-bit re-encryption scheme** based on the well-known Goldwasser-Micali scheme
 - it allows the encryption of a single bit to be transformed into another, supposedly completely unlinkable with the original but preserving the bit value.
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- Allows **external anonymity** which provides total privacy protection for data being transmitted.
- Re-encryption is based on a **homomorphic property**.
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- Appends an **identity element** to the ciphertext.
- First decrypts the identity element to confirm the intended message.

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ElGamal universal re-encryption

ElGamal re-encryption

- given a cyclic group $\mathbb{G} = \langle g \rangle$ of prime order p . ($\bar{\mathbb{G}} = \mathbb{G} \setminus \{1\}$)
- ($\text{pk} = g^x, \text{sk} = x$)
- Encrypt : $m \in \mathbb{G} \longrightarrow C = (c_1, c_2) = (m \cdot y^r, g^r)$
- ReRand : $(c_1, c_2) \in \mathbb{G}^2 \longrightarrow (c_1 \cdot y^s, c_2 \cdot g^s)$

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(Golle, Jakobsson, Juels and Syverson – 2004)

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- Encrypt : $m \in \mathbb{G} \longrightarrow C = (c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4) = (m \cdot y^r, g^r, y^t, g^t)$
 $= (\text{Encrypt}(m), \text{Encrypt}(1_{\mathbb{G}}))$
- ReRand : $(c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4) \in \mathbb{G}^4 \longrightarrow (c_1 \cdot c_3^{s_1}, c_2 \cdot c_4^{s_1}, c_3^{s_2}, c_4^{s_2})$

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Design principle

- ElGamal universal re-encryption is:

- semantically secure
- anonymous
- not subliminal-channel free ! :(

- nothing prevents Eve to use an unregistered public-key

↪ Idea: combine with a 1-resilient Identity-Based Encryption scheme

- use a master public key $\text{mpk} = (\Omega_1^{(0)}, \Omega_1^{(1)}, \dots, \Omega_\ell^{(0)}, \Omega_\ell^{(1)})$, where $\Omega_j^{(b)} = g^{1/x_j^{(b)}}$
- encode identities into ℓ -bits words: $\text{pk}_{\text{id}} = \mathcal{G}(\text{id}) = h_1 h_2 \dots h_\ell$
- $\text{sk}_{\text{id}} = (x_1^{(h_1)}, \dots, x_\ell^{(h_\ell)})$
- use a ℓ -out-of- ℓ secret sharing for $m \in \mathbb{G}$ and encrypt each share with ElGamal universal re-encryption scheme

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Description

- GSetup(λ):

- chooses a cyclic group $\mathbb{G} = \langle g \rangle$ of prime order p . ($\bar{\mathbb{G}} = \mathbb{G} \setminus \{1\}$)
- picks $x_1^{(0)}, x_1^{(1)}, \dots, x_\ell^{(0)}, x_\ell^{(1)} \xleftarrow{R} \mathbb{Z}_p$, where ℓ is the bit-length of the public keys, whereas the identities are μ -bit long.
- chooses a code with minimal distance 2, which encodes μ -bits words (the identities) into ℓ -bits words (the public keys) ($\text{pk}_{\text{id}} = \mathcal{G}(\text{id})$).

$\text{msk} = \text{sk}_O = (x_1^{(0)}, x_1^{(1)}, \dots, x_\ell^{(0)}, x_\ell^{(1)})$ and $\text{mpk} = (\Omega_1^{(0)}, \Omega_1^{(1)}, \dots, \Omega_\ell^{(0)}, \Omega_\ell^{(1)})$,
where $\Omega_i^{(b)} = g^{1/x_i^{(b)}}$ for $b \in \{0, 1\}$ and $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$.

- Join:

- Join.Member(id, mpk, sk): $\text{id} \rightarrow \text{pk}_{\text{id}} = \mathcal{G}(\text{id}) = h_1 h_2 \dots h_\ell$, where $h_i \in \{0, 1\}$.
 $\sigma = \text{Sign}(\text{sk}; \text{pk}_{\text{id}})$
- Join.Group(id, pk, msk): $\text{sk}_{\text{id}} = (x_1^{(h_1)}, \dots, x_i^{(h_\ell)})$. $\mathcal{L} \leftarrow \mathcal{L} \cup \{(\text{id}, \text{pk}_{\text{id}}, \sigma)\}$.

Description

- Encrypt($\text{mpk}, \text{pk}_{\text{id}}, m$) with $\text{pk}_{\text{id}} = \mathcal{G}(\text{id}) = h_1 \dots h_\ell$:

- 1 chooses random elements $K_i, U_i \in \mathbb{G}$, for $i = 1, \dots, \ell$, such that

$$\prod_{i=1}^{\ell} K_i = m \text{ and } \prod_{i=1}^{\ell} U_i = 1;$$

- 2 chooses two sequences of random scalars $t_i, s_i \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ for $i = 1, \dots, \ell$;
- 3 computes, for $i = 1, \dots, \ell$,

$$A_i = g^{t_i} \times K_i, \quad B_i = (\Omega_i^{(h_i)})^{t_i}, \quad C_i = g^{s_i} \times U_i, \quad D_i = (\Omega_i^{(h_i)})^{s_i}.$$

If, for some i , $C_i = 1$ or $D_i = 1$, then one restarts the encryption process.

Description

- $\text{ReRand}(\text{mpk}, C)$: with $C = (A_i, B_i, C_i, D_i)_{i=1, \dots, \ell} \in (\mathbb{G}^2 \times \bar{\mathbb{G}}^2)^\ell$,
 - 1 choose random elements $V_i, W_i \in \mathbb{G}$, for $i = 1, \dots, \ell$, such that $\prod_{i=1}^{\ell} V_i = \prod_{i=1}^{\ell} W_i = 1$;
 - 2 choose four sequences of random scalars $r_i^{(0)}, r_i^{(1)}, u_i^{(0)}, u_i^{(1)} \in \mathbb{Z}_p$, for $i = 1, \dots, \ell$;
 - 3 choose two random scalars $r, u \in \mathbb{Z}_p$, and compute, for $i = 1, \dots, \ell$, and for $b = 0, 1$:

$$\begin{aligned} A_i^{(b)} &\leftarrow A_i \times C_i^r \times g^{r_i^{(b)}} \times W_i, & B_i^{(b)} &\leftarrow B_i \times D_i^r \times (\Omega_i^{(b)})^{r_i^{(b)}} \\ C_i^{(b)} &\leftarrow C_i^u \times g^{u_i^{(b)}} \times V_i, & D_i^{(b)} &\leftarrow D_i^u \times (\Omega_i^{(b)})^{u_i^{(b)}}. \end{aligned}$$

Description

- $\text{Decrypt}(\text{mpk}, \text{sk}_{\text{id}}, C)$ with $\text{sk}_{\text{id}} = (X_1, \dots, X_\ell) = (x_1^{(h_1)}, \dots, x_\ell^{(h_\ell)})$: compute:

$$\prod_{i=1}^{\ell} A_i^{(h_i)} \times (B_i^{(h_i)})^{-X_i}.$$

- $\text{Trace}(\text{msk}, \mathcal{L}, \text{sk}_O, C)$:

- 1 enumerates all the public keys $\text{pk}_{\text{id}} = h_1 \dots h_\ell \in \mathcal{L}$ and checks whether

$$\prod_{i=1}^{\ell} C_i^{(h_i)} = \prod_{i=1}^{\ell} (D_i^{(h_i)})^{x_i^{(h_i)}}.$$

- 2 When such a pk_{id} is found, Π consists of non-interactive zero-knowledge proof of validity of this equality.
- $\text{Judge}(\text{mpk}, \mathcal{L}, C, \text{id}, \Pi)$: Check whether the proof Π is valid.

Semantic Security

The following result of the semantic security is similar to the usual ElGamal-like schemes ones.

Theorem

The scheme is semantically secure against chosen-plaintext attacks under the DDH assumption in \mathbb{G} .

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{M}_{\text{ATES}}}^{\text{weak-ind}}(t) \leq 2 \times \text{Adv}_{\mathbb{G}}^{\text{ddh}}(t'),$$

Definition

The DDH problem in basis g in \mathbb{G} , denoted $\text{DDH}_{\mathbb{G}}(g)$, consists, given (g^a, g^b, g^c) , in deciding whether $c = ab \pmod{p}$.

Anonymity

Anonymity relies on the DLIN assumption introduced in the context of bilinear cryptography:

Definition

The DLIN problem in basis (g, u, v) in \mathbb{G} , denoted $\text{DLIN}_{\mathbb{G}}(g, u, v)$, consists, given (u^a, v^b, g^c) , in deciding whether $c = a + b \pmod{p}$.

The DLIN assumption is weaker than the DDH assumption.

Theorem

The scheme is anonymous against chosen-plaintext attacks under the $\text{DLIN}_{\mathbb{G}}$ assumption, if the public keys are taken in a code with minimal distance at least 2:

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{M}_{\text{ATES}}}^{\text{anon}}(t) \leq 8\ell^2 \times \text{Adv}_{\mathbb{G}}^{\text{dlin}}(t).$$

Anonymity: Proof (Sketch)

- Given \mathcal{A} an adversary against the anonymity of our scheme, we construct \mathcal{B} , that has access to \mathcal{A} in order to break the $\text{DLIN}_{\mathbb{G}}(g, u, v)$ problem.
- \mathcal{B} simulates the GSetup algorithm by using g as the group generator and

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega_i^{(b)} &= g^{1/x_i^{(b)}}, \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, \ell \text{ and } b = 0, 1 \\ \Omega_\gamma^{(\alpha)} &= u \\ \Omega_\delta^{(\beta)} &= v\end{aligned}$$

- \mathcal{A} asks for public keys and one private key sk_{id} for itself. With probability $1/4$, this private key does not need to know u nor v discrete log.
- Then, \mathcal{A} outputs a message m and two public keys in \mathcal{L} : pk_0 and pk_1 . \mathcal{B} picks a random bit B . Since we use a code of minimal distance 2 for generating the public keys pk_β and pk_{id} differ in at least 2 positions. With probability $\geq 1/\ell^2$, they differ in position γ and δ and the public key pk_B contains the DLIN basis (u, v) :
- \mathcal{B} 's simulation is then straightforward (but tedious) computation to embed the DLIN instance in the challenge ciphertext.

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Subliminal Channel Freeness

Theorem

The scheme is subliminal-channel free against chosen-plaintext attacks under the DDH assumption:

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{M}_{\text{ATES}}}^{\text{subF}}(t) \leq 4 \times \text{Adv}_{\mathbb{G}}^{\text{ddh}}(t'),$$

where t' exceeds t for a few more exponentiations (14ℓ).

Proof (Sketch):

- We consider an adversary \mathcal{A} that owns a key, and that tries to transfer some information in a ciphertext that does not trace back to this key.
- under the DDH assumption, after re-randomization, any ciphertext that does not trace back to its key is **indistinguishable** to a random ciphertext for \mathcal{A} .
- therefore the re-randomization of two ciphertexts that **do not trace back to** \mathcal{A} will lead to indistinguishable ciphertexts. \square

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Contents

Traceable Anonymous Encryption

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- 4 Conclusion

Protection against the Opener

- Our scheme only provides “**weak**” semantic security since the issuing key and the opening key are the same
- separation of the authorities \rightsquigarrow embed our scheme into a *bilinear setting*.
- Let $(\mathbb{G} = \langle g \rangle, \mathbb{G}_T, e)$ be a pairing friendly structure, i.e.

$$e : \mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G} \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_T$$

is a (non-degenerate) bilinear map:

- this structure permits to give group elements $g^{x_i^{(b)}}$ to the opening authority instead of the scalar exponents $x_i^{(b)}$.
- encryption of the message is done in the group \mathbb{G}_T instead of the group \mathbb{G} (i.e.

$$A_i = e(g, g)^{t_i} \times K_i, B_i = e(g, (\Omega_i)^{(h_i)})^{t_i} \dots$$

- but the tracing elements $(C_i, D_i) \in \mathbb{G}$ remains unchanged
- we can then achieve the strong notion of **semantic security** (assuming the hardness of DDH in \mathbb{G}_T), and our scheme remains **anonymous** (since the DLIN problem remains difficult in a bilinear setting).

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Protection against the Opener

- Unfortunately, in the subliminal freeness game, the pairing structure combined with the knowledge of one secret key are enough to give the adversary all the control over the simulation.
- But if:
 - we replace the code that encodes identity with a code with minimal distance 3
 - and the tracing procedure now enumerates all the words at distance at most one from the public keys $pk_{id} \in \mathcal{L}$we can only prove security against generic adversaries.
- we leave as an open problem the design of a two-level trust secure scheme in the standard model.

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 - and the tracing procedure now enumerates all the words at distance at most one from the public keys $pk_{id} \in \mathcal{L}$we can only prove security against generic adversaries.
- we leave as an open problem the design of a two-level trust secure scheme in the standard model.

Protection against the Opener

- Unfortunately, in the subliminal freeness game, the pairing structure combined with the knowledge of one secret key are enough to give the adversary all the control over the simulation.
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Protection against the Issuer

- The **issuer** can be involved in malicious activities (*key escrow problem*).
- to prevent the issuer from breaking the semantic security:
 - first encrypt m with an appropriate encryption scheme in \mathbb{G}^r for $r \in \mathbb{N}$.
(e.g. ElGamal: $r = 2$)
 - then to re-encrypt (component by component) the ciphertext with our MATE scheme
- If the global ciphertext is not traceable, then the underlying ciphertext will be totally random, and thus, no information will be transmitted.

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- The security model could be enhanced to provide an access to a decryption oracle.
(but under specific conditions, because of the natural malleability of the schemes).
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- 4 Conclusion

Conclusion

- we examined covert channels in the context of anonymous traceable encryption
- we introduced a new primitive: **mediated anonymous traceable encryption**
- we gave security definitions for this new primitive and a construction meeting the formalized requirements.
- our construction is fairly efficient, with ciphertexts that have **logarithmic size** in the number of group members
- Its security analysis requires classical complexity assumptions in the **standard model**.

Open problems

- design of a **two-level trust** secure scheme in the standard model.
- design of a scheme secure against **active adversaries** and covert-channel freeness.

- design of a scheme with **constant-size** ciphertexts.

Unfortunately, the Boneh-Franklin universal re-encryption IBE scheme is **not** subliminal free

- design a scheme secure against **collusions of traitors** (i.e. in which the adversary is given access to several private keys).

Conjecture: a variant of our scheme with frameproof codes reaches this strong security notions.

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