Removing Trust Assumptions from Advanced Encryption Schemes

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Functional Encryption vs. Public-Key Encryption

Public-key encryption is **decentralized**







Can we get the best of both worlds?

Every user generates their own key (no coordination or trust needed) Does **not** support fine-grained decryption

Functional encryption is centralized



Central (trusted) authority generates individual keys

Supports fine-grained decryption capabilities

[GHMR18]



Users chooses their <u>own</u> public/secret key and **register** their public key with the curator

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Note: As users join, the master public key is updated, so users **occasionally** need to retrieve a new helper decryption key $\# \text{ key updates per user} = \text{poly}(\lambda, \log L)$

[GHMR18]

Key issuer replaced with key curator



- Initial constructions based on indistinguishability obfuscation or hash garbling (based on CDH, QR, LWE) – all require non-black-box use of cryptography
- High concrete efficiency costs: ciphertext is 4.5 TB for supporting 2 billion users [CES21]

Can we construct RBE schemes that only need black-box use of cryptography?

Can we construct support more general policies (beyond identity-based encryption)?

Removing Trust from Functional Encryption



Users chooses their own key and **register** the public key (together with **function** *f*) with the curator

Note: *f* could also be chosen by the key curator

Removing Trust from Functional Encryption



Registration-Based Cryptography

Can we construct RBE schemes that only need black-box use of cryptography? YES!

This talk

Can we construct support more general policies (beyond identity-based encryption)? YES!

Registration-based encryption [GHMR18, GHMMRS19, GV20, CES21, DKLLMR23, GKMR23, ZZGQ23, FKP23]

Registered attribute-based encryption (ABE)

- Monotone Boolean formulas [<u>HLWW23</u>, <u>ZZGQ23</u>, <u>GLWW24</u>]
- Inner products [FFMMRV23, ZZGQ23]
- Arithmetic branching program [ZZGQ23]
- Boolean circuits [HLWW23, FWW23]

Distributed/flexible broadcast [BZ14, KMW23, FWW23, GLWW23, GKPW24, CW24]

Registered traitor tracing [BLMMRW24]

Registered functional encryption

- Linear functions [DPY23]
- Quadratic functions [<u>ZLZGQ24</u>]
- Boolean circuits [FFMMRV23, DPY23]

<u>Underlined schemes</u> only need **black-box** use of cryptography

Lots of progress in this past year!

[SW05, GPSW06]



[SW05, GPSW06]



Can decrypt

[SW05, GPSW06]



[SW05, GPSW06]



Users <u>cannot</u> collude to decrypt

Registered Attribute-Based Encryption



Users chooses their <u>own</u> public/secret key Users join the system by registering their public key along with a set of attributes

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A Template for Building Registered ABE

Simplification: assume that all of the users register at the same time (rather than in an

[HLWW23]

online fashion)

Slotted registered ABE:

Let *L* be the number of users

Each slot associated with a public key pk and a set of attributes S

- $|mpk| = poly(\lambda, |\mathcal{U}|, \log L)$
- $|\text{hsk}_i| = \text{poly}(\lambda, |\mathcal{U}|, \log L)$
- λ : security parameter
- \mathcal{U} : universe of attributes

A Template for Building Registered ABE

Simplification: assume that all of the users register at the **same** time (rather than in an online fashion)

Slotted registered ABE:

Let *L* be the number of users

$$pk_1, S_1$$
 pk_2, S_2 pk_3, S_3 pk_4, S_4 \cdots pk_L, S_L
Aggregate
 mpk
 hsk_1, \dots, hsk_L

Each slot associated with a <u>public key</u> pk and a set of attributes S

Encrypt(mpk, P, m) \rightarrow ct

 $\text{Decrypt}(\text{sk}_i, \text{hsk}_i, \text{ct}) \rightarrow m$

Encryption takes master public key and policy *P* (no slot)

[HLWW23]

Decryption takes secret key sk_i for some slot and the helper key hsk_i for that slot

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Encrypt(mpk, P, m) \rightarrow ct

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Main difference with registered ABE: Aggregate takes all *L* keys <u>simultaneously</u>

[HLWW23]

Slotted Registered ABE to Registered ABE

[HLWW23]

Let *L* be the number of users

pk ₁ , <i>S</i> ₁	pk_2, S_2	pk ₃ , <i>S</i> ₃	pk_4, S_4	•••	pk_L, S_L	mpk
						hsk ₁ ,, hsk _L

Aggregate

Slotted scheme does *not* support online registration

Solution: use "powers-of-two" approach (like [GHMR18])

Maintain $\log L$ slotted schemes, where scheme *i* supports 2^i users

[GLWW24]

Construction will rely on a prime-order pairing group (\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{G}_T)

Pairing is an **efficiently-computable** bilinear map $e: \mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{G}_T$ from \mathbb{G} to \mathbb{G}_T : $e(g^x, g^y) = e(g, g)^{xy}$

Multiplies exponents in the target group



- Will consider a toy scheme with **two** slots and **two** attributes w_1, w_2 Policy will be "has attribute w_i "
- Scheme will rely on a structured common reference string (CRS)
- **General components:** $Z = e(g,g)^{\alpha}$ $h \leftarrow \mathbb{G}$

Slot components: each slot $i \in \{1,2\}$ will have a pair of group elements

$$(A_1, B_1)$$
 (A_2, B_2) $A_i = g^{t_i}$ $B_i = g^{\alpha} h^{t_i}$

Attribute component: for each slot, we have an attribute component $U_i = g^{u_i}$

 U_1 U_2

 t_i is a slot exponent u_i is an attribute exponent

- **General components:** $Z = e(g,g)^{\alpha}$ $h \leftarrow \mathbb{G}$
- Slot components: (A_1, B_1) and (A_2, B_2)
- Attribute component: U_1 , U_2

$$A_i = g^{t_i} \qquad B_i = g^{\alpha} h^{t_i}$$
$$U_i = g^{u_i}$$

To decrypt a ciphertext, **two** properties should hold:

- User should have the secret key for slot *i* Enforced by the <u>slot</u> components
- Attributes associated with slot *i* should satisfy the challenge policy

Enforced by the <u>attribute</u> components

General components: $Z = e(g,g)^{\alpha}$ $h \leftarrow \mathbb{G}$

- Slot components: (A_1, B_1) and (A_2, B_2)
- Attribute component: U_1 , U_2

 $A_i = g^{t_i} \qquad B_i = g^{\alpha} h^{t_i}$ $U_i = g^{u_i}$

User's individual public/secret key is an ElGamal key-pair sk = r, $pk = g^r$ (and some auxiliary information)

Aggregating public keys (pk_1, pk_2) with attribute sets S_1, S_2



Aggregated public key: $\widehat{T} = pk_1 \cdot pk_2 = g^{r_1 + r_2}$

product of public keys

Key for attribute 1: $\widehat{U}_1 = g^{u_2}$ Key for attribute 2: $\widehat{U}_2 = g^{u_1}$

product of attribute components for slots that do <u>not</u> contain the attribute

General components:
$$Z = e(g,g)^{\alpha}$$
 $h \leftarrow \mathbb{G}$

Slot components: $A_i = g^{t_i}$, $B_i = g^{\alpha} h^{t_i}$

Attribute component: $U_1 = g^{u_1}$, $U_2 = g^{u_2}$

$$\widehat{T} = g^{r_1 + r_2}$$
$$\widehat{U}_1 = g^{u_2}, \ \widehat{U}_2 = g^{u_1}$$

Aggregated master public key

 $pk_1 = g^{r_1} \\ S_1 = \{1\}$



Ciphertext: $s \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$, h_1 , $h_2 \leftarrow \mathbb{G}$ such that $h_1h_2 = h$ Suppose we encrypt μ to the policy "has attribute 1" **General components:** $\mu \cdot Z^s$, g^s **Slot component:** $h_1^s \widehat{T}^s$ **Attribute component:** $h_2^s \widehat{U}_1^s$

General components:
$$Z = e(g,g)^{\alpha}$$
 $h \leftarrow \mathbb{G}$ Aggregated master public keySlot components: $A_i = g^{t_i}$, $B_i = g^{\alpha} h^{t_i}$ $\widehat{T} = g^{r_1 + r_2}$ Attribute component: $U_1 = g^{u_1}$, $U_2 = g^{u_2}$ $\widehat{U}_1 = g^{u_2}$, $\widehat{U}_2 = g^{u_1}$ $\widehat{V}_1 = g^{r_1}$ General components: $\mu \cdot Z^s, g^s$ $Slot component:$ $h_1^s \widehat{T}^s$ Slot component: $h_2^s \widehat{U}_1^s$ Attribute component: $h_2^s \widehat{U}_1^s$

Step 1: Compute $e(g^s, B_1) = e(g, g)^{\alpha s} e(g, h)^{st_i} = Z^s \cdot e(g, h)^{st_i}$

Need to cancel out this component

Observe: ciphertext contains a secret share of $h^s = (h_1 h_2)^s$, but blinded by slot component \hat{T} and attribute component \hat{U}

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Step 1: Compute $e(g^s, B_1) = e(g, g)^{\alpha s} e(g, h)^{st_i} = Z^s \cdot e(g, h)^{st_1}$

Step 2 (Slot Check): Using cross-terms and secret key r_1 , compute $e(g, h_1)^{st_1}$

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and attribute components
(available only if user has
attribute)Step 2 (Slot Check): Using cross-terms and secret keShare of $e(g, h)^{st_1}$ Cross-term between slot
and attribute (g, g)^{st_1u_2}Step 3 (Policy Check): Compute $e(A_1, h_2^s \hat{U}_1^s) = e(g^{t_1}, h_2^s \hat{U}_1^s) = e(g, h_2)^{st_1}e(g, g)^{st_1u_2}$

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Step 3 (Policy Check): Using cross-terms, compute $e(g, h_2)^{st_1}$

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Summary of approach:

- Aggregated key is the product of each user's individual public key (one per slot)
- Decryption will produce cross terms between slot *i* and user *j*'s secret key
- Each user includes a cross-term to cancel out these effects (part of the user's helper decryption key); CRS will contain cross-terms for attribute-slot components
Constructing Slotted Registered ABE

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Enforced by the <u>attribute</u> components

Enforced by the <u>slot</u> components

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Key technical approach: cancelling out cross-terms

- Technique leveraged in many pairing-based constructions of registration-based primitives
- Recently: lattice-based instantiation (in the setting of broadcast encryption) [CW24]
- But... seems to require a *long* and *structured* common reference string

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Key technical app

- Technique leve
- Recently: lattic
- But... seems to

Replace attribute components with linear secret sharing of *s* to support policies with a linear secret sharing scheme



As described, size of CRS is **quadratic** in number of slots

Reason: Each slot is associated with a slot exponent t_i and an attribute exponent u_i

Policy checking mechanism produces **extraneous** terms of the form $g^{st_iu_j}$ for $i \neq j$ and where g^s is from the challenge ciphertext

CRS will need to contain $g^{t_i u_j}$ for each $i \neq j$ for correctness

Can we publish fewer cross terms and still have correctness?

Approach: Choose t_i , u_i to be structured so there is redundancy in cross terms



Given
$$g^{t_1}, \ldots, g^{t_L}$$
 and g^{u_1}, \ldots, g^{u_L}

Goal: give out $g^{t_i u_j}$ for all $i \neq j$, but without ability to compute $g^{t_i u_i}$

Set
$$t_i = \alpha^{d_i}$$
 for some $\alpha \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$
Set $u_i = \beta \cdot \alpha^{d_i}$ where $\beta \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$
for *some* choice of $d_1, \dots, d_L \in \mathbb{N}$

Observe: if many pairs *i*, *j* share a common value $d_i + d_j$, then all such pairs can share a single cross term $g^{\beta \alpha^{d_i+d_j}}$

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How to choose d_1, \ldots, d_L ?

Requirement: For all k, there should not exist $i \neq j$ where $d_i + d_j = d_k + d_k$ Cross-term for (i, j) must **not** collide with non-cross-term for k

If $d_i + d_j = 2d_k$ (with $d_i < d_j$), then (d_i, d_k, d_j) form an **arithmetic progression** Suffices to come up with a *progression-free* set of integers $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{N}$ of size L and set $\{d_1, \dots, d_L\} = \mathcal{D}$; number of cross terms is then at most $2 \max \mathcal{D}$

Observe: if many pairs *i*, *j* share a common value $d_i + d_j$, then all such pairs can share a single cross term $g^{\beta \alpha^{d_i+d_j}}$

How to choose $d_1, ..., d_L$?

Previously used to reduce the CRS size in the context of pairing-based SNARKs [Lip12]

j where $d_i + d_j = d_k + d_k$ non-cross-term for k

 $-1 \alpha_j - 2\alpha_k$ (with $\alpha_i < \alpha_k$, α_k, α_j) form an arithmetic progression

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Progression-Free Sets



Simple construction due to Erdös and Turán [ET36]

Let $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{N}$ be the numbers whose ternary representation only use the digits 0 and 1

1 = 001**Progression-free:**3 = 010 $2d_k$ is a number that only uses 0 and 2 in ternary4 = 011 $1d_i \neq d_j$, then $d_i + d_j$ must contain a 1 somewhere in ternary9 = 100Thus $d_i + d_j \neq 2d_k$ for all $i \neq j$ 10 = 101To get a progression-free set with L values, maximum entry has size $L^{\log_2 3}$ 13 = 111Implies registered ABE scheme with CRS of size $O(L^{\log_2 3})$

State-of-the-art [Beh46, Elk10]: For every $L \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists a progression-free set of L integers with maximum value bounded by $L^{1+o(1)} \Rightarrow$ registered ABE with CRS size $L^{1+o(1)}$

Progression-Free Sets



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State-of-the-art [Beh46, Elk10]: For every $L \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists a progression-free set of L integers with maximum value bounded by $L^{1+o(1)} \Rightarrow$ registered ABE with CRS size $L^{1+o(1)}$

Registered ABE Summary



Lots to Explore for Registered ABE!

Pairing-based constructions require a long and structured CRS

- [HLWW23, ZZGQ23]: quadratic-size CRS
- [GLWW24]: nearly-linear size CRS ($L^{1+o(1)}$) using progression-free sets

Pairing-based constructions with linear-size CRS? Sublinear-size CRS? Transparent CRS?

• Possible using indistinguishability obfuscation [HLWW23] or witness encryption [FWW23]

Lower bounds on CRS size for constructions that make black-box use of cryptography?

Registered ABE from LWE (or falsifiable lattice assumptions)?

Registered ABE for Boolean circuits?

- Known from indistinguishability obfuscation or witness encryption
- [ZZGQ23]: registered ABE for arithmetic branching programs and inner products

An Application to Broadcast Encryption

Registered ABE is a useful building block for other trustless cryptographic systems



Suppose we want to encrypt a message to $\{pk_1, pk_3, pk_4\}$

[FWW23]

Public-key encryption: ciphertext size grows with the size of the set



Broadcast encryption: achieve *sublinear* ciphertext size, but requires central authority

Independent, user-generated keys

An Application to Broadcast Encryption

Distributed broadcast encryption [BZ14]



Each user chooses its own public key, and each key has a **unique** index Encrypt(pp, $\{pk_i\}_{i \in S}, m$) \rightarrow ct Can encrypt a message *m* to any set of public keys **Efficiency:** $|ct| = |m| + poly(\lambda, log|S|)$ Decrypt(pp, $\{pk_i\}_{i \in S}$, sk, ct) $\rightarrow m$ Any secret key associated with broadcast set can decrypt Decryption does requires knowledge of public keys in

[FWW23]

broadcast set

Distributed Broadcast from Slotted Registered ABE

[FWW23]

Consider a registered ABE scheme with a single dummy attribute x

Public key for an index i is a key for slot i with attribute x



Distributed Broadcast from Slotted Registered ABE

[FWW23]

Consider a registered ABE scheme with a single dummy attribute x

Public key for an index *i* is a key for **slot** *i* with **attribute** *x*



Distributed Broadcast from Slotted Registered ABE

Consider a registered ABE scheme with a single dummy attribute x

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Removing Trust from Functional Encryption



Goal: Support capabilities of functional encryption **without** a trusted authority

Open Problems

Schemes with short CRS or unstructured CRS without non-black-box use of cryptography Existing constructions have long structured CRS (typically quadratic in the number of users)

Lattice-based constructions of registration-based primitives

Registration-based encryption known from LWE [DKLLMR23] Registered ABE for circuits known from evasive LWE (via witness encryption) [FWW23] Distributed broadcast encryption from ℓ-succinct LWE [CW24]

Key revocation and verifiability

Defending against possibly malicious adversaries

Improve concrete efficiency for registration-based primitives

Current bottlenecks include large CRS and large public keys

Thank you!

References

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