

Decoding problems with hints and applications to multi-receiver code-based encryption schemes

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Outline

- 1 Decoding problems with hints
- 2 Multi-receiver PKE basics
- 3 Security of the Decoding Problem with hints

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Decoding Problem

Distinguish between distributions

$$(\mathbf{G}, \mathbf{xG} + \mathbf{e}) \quad \text{and} \quad (\mathbf{G}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{e})$$

for

- $\mathbf{G} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^{k \times n}$
- $\mathbf{e} \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\omega)^n, \mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^k$
- $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^n$

Decoding Problem

\mathbb{F}^n

c

Decoding Problem with hint

Distinguish between distributions

$$(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{xG} + \mathbf{e}) \quad \text{and} \quad (\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{e})$$

for

- $\mathbf{v} \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\sigma)^n$, $\mathbf{G} \leftarrow \{\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{F}^{k \times n} \mid \mathbf{M}\mathbf{v}^T = \mathbf{0}\}$
- $\mathbf{e} \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\omega)^n$, $\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^k$
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Decoding Problem with hint

Distinguish between distributions

$$(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{xG} + \mathbf{e}) \quad \text{and} \quad (\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{e})$$

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- $\mathbf{e} \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\omega)^n$, $\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^k$
- $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle^\perp$

Decoding Problem with ℓ hints

Distinguish between distributions

$$(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{xG} + \mathbf{e}) \quad \text{and} \quad (\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{e})$$

for

- $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\sigma)^n$, $\mathbf{G} \leftarrow \{\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{F}^{k \times n} \mid \mathbf{M}\mathbf{v}_i^T = \mathbf{0} \text{ for all } i \in [1, \ell]\}$
- $\mathbf{e} \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\omega)^n$, $\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^k$
- $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \langle \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell \rangle^\perp$

Analog to k -LWE problem [LPSS14]

[LPSS14]: Ling, Phan, Stehlé, and Steinfeld. Hardness of k -LWE and applications in traitor tracing. (CRYPTO'14)

Decoding Problem with l hints

\mathbb{F}^n

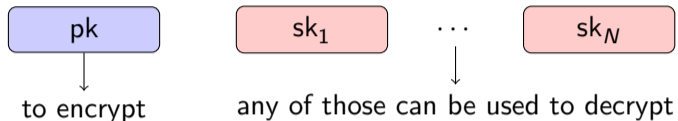
$\langle \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_l \rangle^\perp$
(l small)

\mathcal{C}

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What is a Multi-receiver PKE?

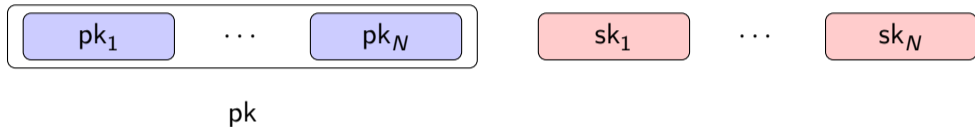


- $\text{KeyGen}(1^\lambda, 1^N) \rightarrow (pk, (sk_1, \dots, sk_N))$

Properties:

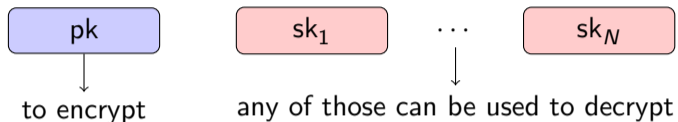
- Correctness: $\text{Dec}(\text{Enc}(m, pk), sk_i) = m$ for any $i \in [1, N]$
- IND-CPA security
- Compactness: $|ct|, |pk| \ll \lambda N$

Why compactness?



Not compact!

What is a Multi-receiver PKE?



- $\text{KeyGen}(1^\lambda, 1^N) \rightarrow (\text{pk}, (\text{sk}_1, \dots, \text{sk}_N))$

Properties:

- Correctness: $\text{Dec}(\text{Enc}(m, \text{pk}), \text{sk}_i) = m$ for any $i \in [1, N]$
- IND-CPA security
- Compactness: $|\text{ct}|, |\text{pk}| \ll \lambda N$

A compact but trivial solution

- **MultiPKE**.KeyGen($1^\lambda, 1^N$) :
 $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{PKE.KeyGen}(1^\lambda)$
 Output $(pk, (sk, \dots, sk))$
- **MultiPKE**.Enc(m, pk) :
 Output $ct = \text{PKE.Enc}(m, pk)$
- **MultiPKE**.Dec(ct, sk) :
 Output $m = \text{PKE.Dec}(ct, sk)$

We need more than bare IND-CPA security.

Force some difference between secret keys.

Multi-receiver PKE with revocation

- $\text{MultiPKE.KeyGen}(1^\lambda, 1^N) \rightarrow (\text{pk}, (\text{sk}_1, \dots, \text{sk}_N))$
- $\text{MultiPKE.Enc}\left(m, \text{pk}, \underbrace{(\text{sk}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{C}}}_{\text{revoked users}}\right) \rightarrow \text{ct}$ (for a set $\mathcal{C} \subset [1, N]$)
- $\text{MultiPKE.Dec}(\text{ct}, \text{sk}) \rightarrow m$

Properties:

- Correctness: $\text{MultiPKE.Dec}\left[\text{MultiPKE.Enc}\left(m, \text{pk}, (\text{sk}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{C}}\right), \text{sk}_j\right] = m$ for any $j \in [1, N] \setminus \mathcal{C}$
- IND-CPA security **with revocation**
- Compactness: $|\text{ct}|, |\text{pk}| \ll \lambda N$

Alekhovich PKE (1-bit scheme)

- $\text{PKE.KeyGen}(1^\lambda)$:
 $\mathbf{e} \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\sigma)^n$
 $\mathbf{G} \leftarrow \{\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{F}^{k \times n} \mid \mathbf{M}\mathbf{e}^T = \mathbf{0}\}$
Output $\text{pk} = \mathbf{G}$ and $\text{sk} = \mathbf{e}$
- $\text{PKE.Enc}(m \in \{0, 1\}, \text{pk} = \mathbf{G})$:
 $\mathbf{e}' \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\sigma)^n, \mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^k$
Output $\text{ct} = \mathbf{x}\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{e}'$ or $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^n$
(if $m = 0$) (if $m = 1$)
- $\text{PKE.Dec}(\text{ct}, \text{sk} = \mathbf{e})$:
Output $m = \text{ct} \cdot \mathbf{e}^T$

Multi-receiver Alekhnovich PKE

- $\text{MultiPKE.KeyGen}(1^\lambda, 1^N)$:

$$\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_N \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\sigma)^n$$

$$\mathbf{G} \leftarrow \{\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{F}^{k \times n} \mid \mathbf{M}\mathbf{e}_i^T = \mathbf{0} \text{ for all } i\}$$

$$\text{Output } \text{pk} = \mathbf{G} \text{ and } (\text{sk}_1, \dots, \text{sk}_N) = (\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_N)$$

- $\text{MultiPKE.Enc}(m \in \{0, 1\}, \text{pk} = \mathbf{G}, (\text{sk}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{C}})$:

$$\mathbf{e}' \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\sigma)^n, \mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^k, \mathbf{y} \leftarrow \langle (\text{sk}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{C}} \rangle^\perp$$

$$\text{Output } \text{ct} = \begin{matrix} \mathbf{x}\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{e}' & \text{or} & \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{e}' \\ \text{(if } m = 0\text{)} & & \text{(if } m = 1\text{)} \end{matrix}$$

- $\text{PKE.Dec}(\text{ct}, \text{sk} = \mathbf{e})$:

$$\text{Output } m = \text{ct} \cdot \mathbf{e}^T$$

Inspired from lattice Dual-Regev-based multi-receiver scheme [LPSS14]

Decoding Problem with ℓ hints

Distinguish between distributions

$$(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{xG} + \mathbf{e}) \quad \text{and} \quad (\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{e})$$

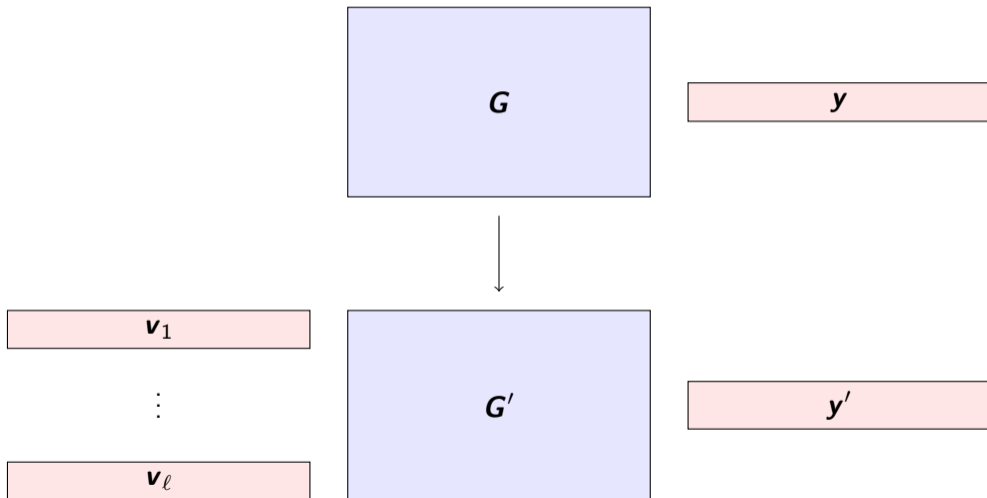
for

- $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\sigma)^n$, $\mathbf{G} \leftarrow \{\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{F}^{k \times n} \mid \mathbf{M}\mathbf{v}_i^T = \mathbf{0} \text{ for all } i \in [1, \ell]\}$
- $\mathbf{e} \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\omega)^n$, $\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^k$
- $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \langle \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell \rangle^\perp$

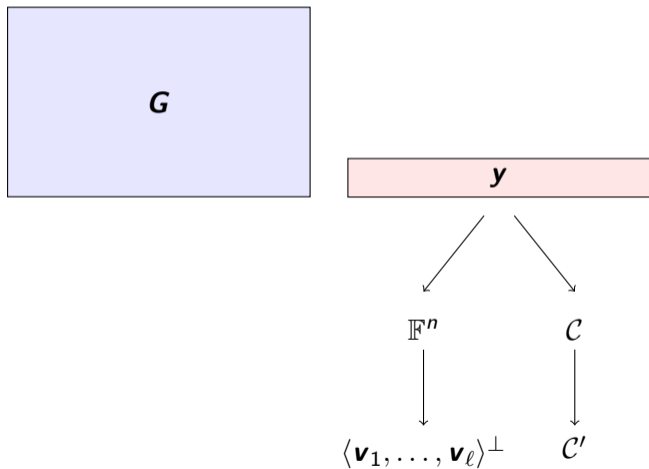
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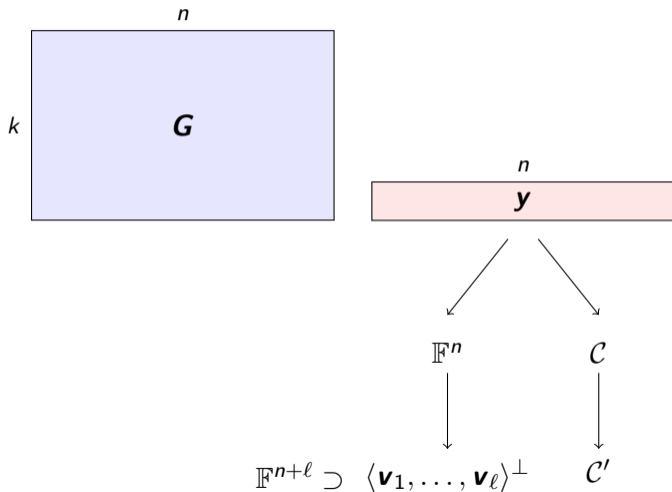
Reduction of security



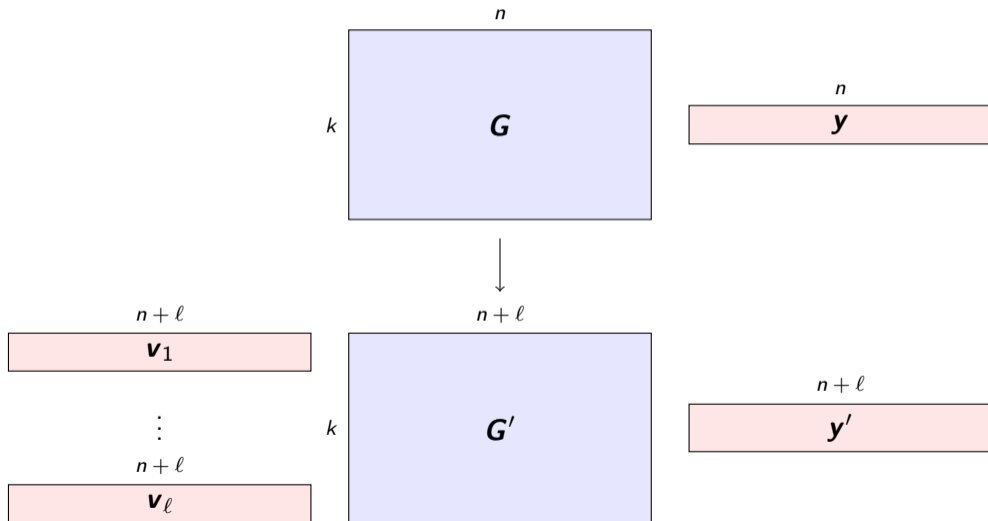
Reduction of security



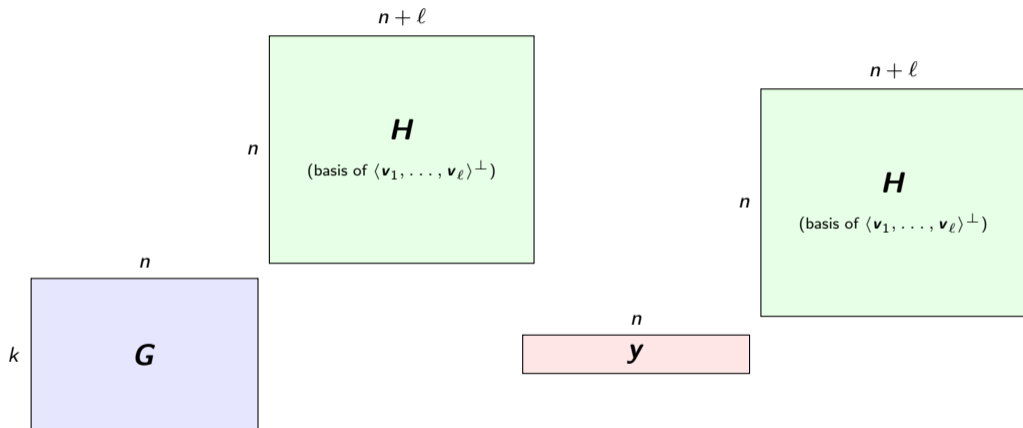
Reduction of security



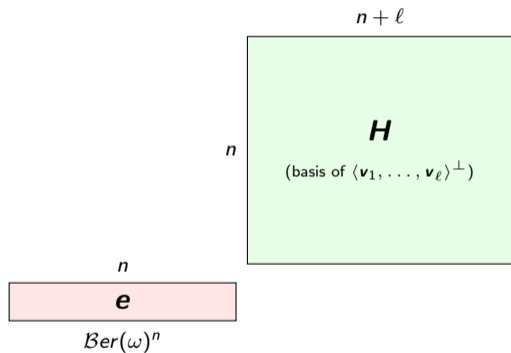
Reduction of security



Reduction of security



Uncorrelation of skewed Bernoulli noise



Uncorrelation of skewed Bernoulli noise

$$\begin{array}{c} n \\ \boxed{\mathbf{e}} \\ \text{Ber}(\omega)^n \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} n+l \\ \boxed{\mathbf{c}} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} n+l \\ \boxed{\mathbf{e}'} \\ \text{Ber}(\omega')^{n+l} \end{array}$$

$n+l$

n

H
(basis of $\langle \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell \rangle^\perp$)

Uncorrelation of skewed Bernoulli noise

n

$n+l$

n

H
(basis of $\langle \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell \rangle^\perp$)

n

\mathbf{e}

$\text{Ber}(\omega)^n$

$+$

$n+l$

\mathbf{c}

$=$

$n+l$

\mathbf{e}'

$\text{Ber}(\omega')^{n+l}$

$\omega' = 2\ell(2\omega)^{\frac{1}{2\ell}}$

Theorem of the reduction of security

Theorem (Informal)

Consider noise levels ω and $\omega' \in \left(2\ell(2\omega)^{\frac{1}{2\ell}}, 1/2\right)$. Then, the generic decoding problem $DP(n, k, \omega)$ reduces to ℓ - $DP(n + \ell, k, \omega', \sigma)$.

Reduction is **non tight**; if $\ell \gg 1$, ω' tends quickly to $\frac{1}{2}$

Multi-receiver Alekhnovich PKE

- $\text{MultiPKE.KeyGen}(1^\lambda, 1^N)$:

$$\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_N \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\sigma)^n$$

$$\mathbf{G} \leftarrow \{\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{F}^{k \times n} \mid \mathbf{M}\mathbf{e}_i^T = \mathbf{0} \text{ for all } i\}$$

$$\text{Output pk} = \mathbf{G} \text{ and } (\text{sk}_1, \dots, \text{sk}_N) = (\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_N)$$

- $\text{MultiPKE.Enc}(m \in \{0, 1\}, \text{pk} = \mathbf{G}, (\text{sk}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{C}})$:

$$\mathbf{e}' \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\sigma)^n, \mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^k, \mathbf{y} \leftarrow \langle (\text{sk}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{C}} \rangle^\perp$$

$$\text{Output ct} = \mathbf{x}\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{e}' \text{ or } \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{e}'$$

(if $m = 0$) (if $m = 1$)

- $\text{PKE.Dec}(\text{ct}, \text{sk} = \mathbf{e})$:

$$\text{Output } m = \text{ct} \cdot \mathbf{e}^T$$

Perspectives: compact multi-receiver Alekhovich PKE with MDPC codes

- MultiPKE.KeyGen($1^\lambda, 1^N$) :

$$\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_N \leftarrow \mathcal{C}_{\text{MDPC}}^\perp$$

$$\mathbf{G} \leftarrow \{\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{F}^{k \times n} \mid \mathbf{M}\mathbf{e}_i^T = \mathbf{0} \text{ for all } i\}$$

$$\text{Output pk} = \mathbf{G} \text{ and } (\text{sk}_1, \dots, \text{sk}_N) = (\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_N)$$

- MultiPKE.Enc($m \in \{0, 1\}$, pk = \mathbf{G} , $(\text{sk}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{C}}$) :

$$\mathbf{e}' \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\sigma)^n, \mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^k, \mathbf{y} \leftarrow \langle (\text{sk}_i)_{i \in \mathcal{C}} \rangle^\perp$$

$$\text{Output ct} = \begin{matrix} \mathbf{x}\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{e}' & \text{or} & \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{e}' \\ \text{(if } m = 0\text{)} & & \text{(if } m = 1\text{)} \end{matrix}$$

- PKE.Dec(ct, sk = \mathbf{e}) :

$$\text{Output } m = \text{ct} \cdot \mathbf{e}^T$$

MDPC-Decoding Problem with ℓ hints

Distinguish between distributions

$$(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{xG} + \mathbf{e}) \quad \text{and} \quad (\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell, \mathbf{G}, \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{e})$$

for

- $\mathbf{G} \leftarrow$ MDPC matrix, $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell \leftarrow \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{G}}^\perp$ of short Hamming weight
- $\mathbf{e} \leftarrow \text{Ber}(\omega)^n$, $\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}^k$
- $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \langle \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell \rangle^\perp$

MDPC-Decoding Problem with ℓ hints

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- $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \langle \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell \rangle^\perp$

Thanks for your attention!

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2025/2151>

-  San Ling, Duong Hieu Phan, Damien Stehlé, and Ron Steinfeld.
Hardness of k -LWE and applications in traitor tracing.
In Juan A. Garay and Rosario Gennaro, editors, CRYPTO 2014, Part I, volume 8616 of LNCS, pages 315–334. Springer, Heidelberg, August 2014.

