Key-Insulated Public Key Cryptosystems

Yevgeniy Dodis[1], Jonathan Katz[2], Shouhuai Xu[3], and Moti Yung[4]

[1] Department of Computer Science, New York University. dodis@cs.nyu.edu
[2] Department of Computer Science, Columbia University. jkatz@cs.columbia.edu
[3] Department of Information and Software Engineering, George Mason University. sxu1@gmu.edu
[4] CertCo, Inc. moti@cs.columbia.edu

Abstract. Cryptographic computations (decryption, signature generation, etc.) are often performed on a relatively insecure device (e.g., a mobile device or an Internet-connected host) which cannot be trusted to maintain secrecy of the private key. We propose and investigate the notion of *key-insulated security* whose goal is to minimize the damage caused by secret-key exposures. In our model, the secret key(s) stored on the insecure device are refreshed at discrete time periods via interaction with a physically-secure — but computationally-limited — device which stores a "master key". All cryptographic computations are still done on the insecure device, and the public key remains unchanged. In a (t, N)-key-insulated scheme, an adversary who compromises the insecure device and obtains secret keys for up to t periods of his choice is unable to violate the security of the cryptosystem for *any* of the remaining $N - t$ periods. Furthermore, the scheme remains secure (for *all* time periods) against an adversary who compromises *only* the physically-secure device.

We focus primarily on key-insulated public-key encryption. We construct a (t, N)-key-insulated encryption scheme based on any (standard) public-key encryption scheme, and give a more ef£cient construction based on the DDH assumption. The latter construction is then extended to achieve chosen-ciphertext security.

1 Introduction

Motivation. Exposure of secret keys is perhaps the most devastating attack on a cryptosystem since it typically means that security is entirely lost. This problem is probably the greatest threat to cryptography in the real world: in practice, it is typically easier for an adversary to obtain a secret key from a naive user than to break the computational assumption on which the system is based. The threat is increasing nowadays with users carrying mobile devices which allow remote access from public or foreign domains.

Two classes of methods exist to deal with this problem. The £rst tries to prevent key exposure altogether. While this is an important goal, it is not always practical. For example, when using portable devices to perform cryptographic operations (e.g., decrypting transmissions using a mobile phone) one must expect that the device itself may be physically compromised in some way (e.g., lost or stolen) and thus key exposure is inevitable. Furthermore, complete prevention of key exposure —even for non-mobile devices —will usually require some degree of physical security which can be expensive and inconvenient. The second approach assumes that key exposure will inevitably occur and seeks instead to minimize the damage which results when keys are obtained by an adversary. Secret sharing [35], threshold cryptography [13, 12], proactive cryptography

[32], exposure-resilient cryptography [9] and forward-secure signatures [3, 5] may all be viewed as different means of taking this approach.

The most successful solution will involve a combination of the above approaches. Physical security may be ensured for a *single* device and thus we may assume that data stored on this device will remain secret. On the other hand, this device may be computationally limited or else not suitable for a particular application and thus we are again faced with the problem that some keys will need to be stored on insecure devices which are likely to be compromised during the lifetime of the system. Therefore, techniques to minimize the damage caused by such compromises must also be implemented.

Our Model. We focus here on a notion we term *key-insulated security*. Our model is the following (the discussion here focuses on public-key encryption, yet the term applies equally-well to the case of digital signatures). The user begins by registering a single public key PK. A "master" secret key SK^* is stored on a device which is physically secure and hence resistant to compromise. All decryption, however, is done on an insecure device for which key exposure is expected to be a problem. The lifetime of the protocol is divided into distinct periods $1, \ldots, N$ (for simplicity, one may think of these time periods as being of equal length; e.g., one day). At the beginning of each period, the user interacts with the secure device to derive a temporary secret key which will be used to decrypt messages sent during that period; we denote by SK_i the temporary key for period i. On the other hand, the public key PK used to encrypt messages does *not* change at each period; instead, ciphertexts are now labeled with the time period during which they were encrypted. Thus, encrypting M in period i results in ciphertext $\langle i, C \rangle$.

The insecure device, which does all actual decryption, is vulnerable to repeated key exposures; speci£cally, we assume that up to $t < N$ periods can be compromised (where t is a parameter). Our goal is to minimize the effect such compromises will have. Of course, when a key SK_i is exposed, an adversary will be able to decrypt messages sent during time period i. Our notion of security (informally) is that this is all an adversary can do. In particular, the adversary will be unable to determine any information about messages sent during *all* time periods other than those in which a compromise occurred. This is the strongest level of security one can expect in such a model. We call a scheme satisfying the above notion (t, N)-key-insulated.

If the physically-secure device is completely trusted, we may have this device generate (PK, SK^*) itself, keep SK^*, and publish PK. When a user requests a key for period i, the device may compute SK_i and send it to the user. More involved methods are needed when the physically-secure device is *not* trusted by the user. In this, more dif£cult case (which we consider here), the user may generate (PK, SK) himself, publish PK, and then derive keys SK^*, SK_0. The user then sends SK^* to the device and stores SK_0 himself. When the user requests a key for period i, the device sends "partial" key SK'_i to the user, who may then compute the "actual" key SK_i using SK_{i-1} and SK'_i. In this way, the user's security is guaranteed during *all* time periods with respect to the device itself, provided that the knowledge of SK^* *alone* is not suf£cient to derive any of the actual keys SK_i. We note that this strong security guarantee is essential when a single device serves many different users, offering them protection against key exposure. In this scenario, users may trust this device to update their keys, but may not want the device to be able to read their encrypted traf£c. Thus, there is no reason this device should have complete (or *any*!) knowledge of their “actual” keys. Finally we note that assuring that the devices are synchronized to the same period (so that only one secret key per period is given by the physically secure device) and that they handle proper authenticated interaction is taken care of by an underlying protocol (which is outside our model).

Other Applications. Besides the obvious application to minimizing the risk of key exposures across multiple time periods, key-insulated security may also be used to protect against key exposures across multiple locations, or users. For example, a company may establish a single public key and distribute (different) secret keys to its various employees; each employee is differentiated by his “non-cryptographic ID” i (e.g., a social security number or last name), and can use his own secret key SK_i to perform the desired cryptographic operation. This approach could dramatically save on the public key size, and has the property that the system remains secure (for example, encrypted messages remain hidden) for all employees whose keys are not exposed.

A key-insulated scheme may also be used for purposes of delegation [22]; here, a user (who has previously established a public key) delegates his rights in some speci£ed, limited way to a second party. In this way, even if up to t of the delegated parties’ keys are lost, the remaining keys —and, in particular, the user’s secret key — are secure.

Finally, we mention the application of key escrow by legal authorities. For example, consider the situation in which the FBI wants to read email sent to a particular user on a certain date. If a key-insulated scheme (updated daily) is used, the appropriate key for up to t desired days can be given to the FBI without fear that this will enable the FBI to read email sent on other days. A similar application (with weaker security guarantees) was considered by [2].

Our Contributions. We introduce the notion of key-insulated security and construct ef£cient schemes secure under this notion. Although our de£nition may be applied to a variety of cryptographic primitives, we focus here on public-key encryption. In Section 3, we give a generic construction of a (t, N)-key-insulated encryption scheme based on any (standard) public-key encryption scheme. Section 4 gives a more ef£cient construction which is secure under the DDH assumption. Both of these schemes achieve semantic security; however, we show in Section 5 how the second scheme can be improved to achieve chosen-ciphertext security. In a companion paper [15], we consider key-insulated security of signature schemes.

Related Work. Arriving at the right de£nitions and models for the notion we put forth here has been somewhat elusive. For example, Girault [21] considers a notion similar to key-insulated security of signature schemes. However, [21] does not present any formal de£nitions, nor does it present schemes which are provably secure. Recently and concurrently with our work, other attempts at formalizing key-insulated public-key encryption have been made [36, 30]. However, these works consider only a *non-adaptive* adversary who chooses which time periods to expose at the outset of the protocol, whereas we consider the more natural and realistic case of an *adaptive* adversary who may choose which time periods to expose at any point during protocol execution. Furthermore, the solution of [36] for achieving chosen-ciphertext security is proven secure in the random oracle model; our construction of Section 5 is proven secure against chosen-ciphertext attacks in the standard model ([30] does not address chosen-ciphertext security at all). Finally, our de£nition of security is stronger than that considered in [36, 30]. Neither work considers the case of an untrusted, physically-secure device. Additionally, [30] require only that an adversary cannot fully determine an un-exposed key SK_i; we make the much stronger requirement that an adversary cannot break the underlying cryptographic scheme for any (set of) un-exposed periods.

Our notion of security complements the notion of forward security for digital signatures.[1] In this model [3, 5], an adversary who compromises the system during a particular time period obtains *all* the secret information which exists at that point in time. Clearly, in such a setting one cannot hope to prevent the adversary from signing messages associated with future time periods (since the adversary has all relevant information), even though no explicit key exposures happen during those periods. Forward-secure signatures, however, prevent the adversary from signing messages associated with *prior* time periods. Many improved constructions of forward-secure signatures have subsequently appeared [1, 28, 25, 31].

Our model uses a stronger assumption in that we allow for (a limited amount of) physically-secure storage which is used exclusively for key updates and is not used for the actual cryptographic computations. As a consequence, we are able to obtain a much stronger level of security in that the adversary is unable to sign/decrypt messages at *any* non-compromised time period, both in the future and in the past.

An identity-based encryption scheme may be converted to an $(N-1, N)$-key-insulated encryption scheme by viewing the period number as an "identity" and having the physically-secure device implement the trusted third party. In fact, our notion of (t, N)-key-insulated encryption *with a fully trusted device* can be viewed as a relaxation of identity-based encryption, where we do not insist on $t = N - 1$. Only recently Boneh and Franklin [7] have proposed a practical, identity-based encryption scheme; they also mention the above connection. It should be noted, however, that the security of their scheme is proven in the random oracle model under a very speci£c, number-theoretic assumption. By focusing on key-insulated security for $t \ll N$, as we do here, schemes based on alternate assumptions and/or with improved ef£ciency and functionality may be designed.

2 De£nitions

2.1 The Model

We now provide a formal model for key-insulated security, focusing on the case of public-key encryption (other key-insulated primitives can be de£ned similarly; e.g., signature schemes are treated in [15]). Our de£nition of a key-updating encryption scheme parallels the de£nition of a key-evolving signature scheme which appears in [5], with one key difference: in a key-updating scheme there is some data (in particular, SK^*) which is never erased since it is stored on a physically-secure device. However, since the physically-secure device may not be fully trusted, new security concerns arise.

De£nition 1. *A* key-updating (public-key) encryption scheme *is a 5-tuple of poly-time algorithms* $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{U}^*, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$ *such that:*

[1] Although forward-security also applies to public-key encryption, forward-secure encryption schemes are not yet known. The related notion of "perfect forward secrecy" [14], where the parties exchange ephemeral keys on a per-session basis, is incomparable to our notion here.

– $\mathcal{G}$*, the* key generation algorithm*, is a probabilistic algorithm which takes as input a security parameter* 1^k *and the total number of time periods* N*. It returns a public key* PK*, a master key* SK^**, and an initial key* SK_0*.*
– $\mathcal{U}^*$*, the* device key-update algorithm*, is a deterministic algorithm which takes as input an index* i *for a time period (throughout, we assume* $1 \leq i \leq N$*) and the master key* SK^**. It returns the partial secret key* SK'_i *for time period* i*.*
– $\mathcal{U}$*, the* user key-update algorithm*, is a deterministic algorithm which takes as input an index* i*, secret key* SK_{i-1}*, and a partial secret key* SK'_i*. It returns secret key* SK_i *for time period* i *(and erases* SK_{i-1}, SK'_i*).*
– $\mathcal{E}$*, the* encryption algorithm*, is a probabilistic algorithm which takes as input a public-key* PK*, a time period* i*, and a message* M*. It returns a ciphertext* $\langle i, C\rangle$*.*
– $\mathcal{D}$*, the* decryption algorithm*, is a deterministic algorithm which takes as input a secret key* SK_i *and a ciphertext* $\langle i, C\rangle$*. It returns a message* M *or the special symbol* $\perp$*.*

We require that for all messages M*,* $\mathcal{D}_{SK_i}(\mathcal{E}_{PK}(i, M)) = M$*.*

A key-updating encryption scheme is used as one might expect. A user begins by generating $(PK, SK^*, SK_0) \leftarrow \mathcal{G}(1^k, N)$, registering PK in a central location (just as he would for a standard public-key scheme), storing SK^* on a physically-secure device, and storing SK_0 himself. At the beginning of time period i, the user requests $SK'_i = \mathcal{U}^*(i, SK^*)$ from the secure device. Using SK'_i and SK_{i-1}, the user may compute $SK_i = \mathcal{U}(i, SK_{i-1}, SK'_i)$. This key may be used to decrypt messages sent during time period i without further access to the device. After computation of SK_i, the user must erase SK'_i and SK_{i-1}. Note that encryption is always performed with respect to a £xed public key PK which need not be changed. Also note that the case when the device is fully trusted corresponds to $SK_0 = \perp$ and $SK_i = SK'_i$.

Random-Access Key Updates. All the schemes we construct will have a useful property we call *random-access key updates*. For any current period j and any desired period i, it is possible to update the secret key from SK_j to SK_i in “one shot”. Namely, we can generalize the key updating algorithms $\mathcal{U}^*$ and $\mathcal{U}$ to take a pair of periods i and j such that $\mathcal{U}^*((i, j), SK^*)$ outputs the partial key SK'_{ij} and $\mathcal{U}((i, j), SK_j, SK'_{ij})$ outputs SK_i. Our de£nition above implicitly £xes $j = i - 1$. We remark that random-access key updates are impossible to achieve in the forward-security model.

2.2 Security

The are three types of exposures we protect against: (1) ordinary *key exposure*, which models (repeated) compromise of the insecure storage (i.e., leakage of SK_i); (2) *key-update* exposure, which models (repeated) compromise of the insecure device during the key-updating step (i.e., leakage of SK_{i-1} and SK'_i); and (3) *master key exposure*, which models compromise of the physically-secure device (i.e., leakage of SK^*; this includes the case when the device itself is untrusted).

To formally model key exposure attacks, we give the adversary access to two (possibly three) types of oracles. The £rst is a *key exposure oracle* $\mathsf{Exp}_{SK^*,SK_0}(\cdot)$ which, on input i, returns the temporary secret key SK_i (note that SK_i is uniquely de£ned by SK^* and SK_0). The second is a *left-or-right encryption oracle* [4], $\mathsf{LR}_{PK,b}(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot)$, where $\boldsymbol{b} = b_1 \dots b_N \in \{0,1\}^N$, de£ned as: $\mathsf{LR}_{PK,\boldsymbol{b}}(i, M_0, M_1) \overset{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{E}_{PK}(i, M_{b_i})$. This models encryption requests by the adversary for time periods and message pairs of his choice. We allow the adversary to interleave encryption requests and key exposure requests, and in particular the key exposure requests of the adversary may be made adaptively and in any order. Finally, we may also allow the adversary access to a *decryption oracle* $\mathcal{D}^*_{SK^*,SK_0}(\cdot)$ that, on input $\langle i, C\rangle$, computes $\mathcal{D}_{SK_i}(\langle i, C\rangle)$. This models a chosen-ciphertext attack by the adversary.

The vector $\boldsymbol{b}$ for the left-or-right oracle will be chosen randomly, and the adversary succeeds by guessing the value of b_i for any un-exposed time period i. Informally, a scheme is secure if any probabilistic polynomial time (PPT) adversary has success negligibly close to $1/2$. More formally:

De£nition 2. *Let $\mathit{\Pi} = (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{U}^*, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$ be a key-updating encryption scheme. For adversary A, de£ne the following:*

$$\mathsf{Succ}_{A,\mathit{\Pi}}(k) \overset{\text{def}}{=} \Pr\Big[(PK, SK^*, SK_0) \leftarrow \mathcal{G}(1^k, N); \boldsymbol{b} \leftarrow \{0,1\}^N;$$
$$(i, b') \leftarrow A^{\mathsf{LR}_{PK,\boldsymbol{b}}(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot), \mathsf{Exp}_{SK^*,SK_0}(\cdot), \mathcal{O}(\cdot)}(PK) : b' = b_i\Big],$$

*where i was never submitted to $\mathsf{Exp}_{SK^*,SK_0}(\cdot)$, and $\mathcal{O}(\cdot) = \perp$ for a plaintext-only attack and $\mathcal{O}(\cdot) = \mathcal{D}^*_{SK^*,SK_0}(\cdot)$ for a chosen-ciphertext attack (in the latter case the adversary is not allowed to query $\mathcal{D}^*(\langle i, C\rangle)$ if $\langle i, C\rangle$ was returned by $\mathsf{LR}(i, \cdot, \cdot)$). $\mathit{\Pi}$ is (t, N)-*key-insulated *if, for any* PPT *A who submits at most t requests to the key-exposure oracle, $|\mathsf{Succ}_{A,\mathit{\Pi}}(k) - 1/2|$ is negligible.*

As mentioned above, we may also consider attacks in which an adversary breaks in to the user's storage while a key update is taking place (i.e., the exposure occurs between two periods $i-1$ and i); we call this a *key-update exposure* at period i. In this case, the adversary receives SK_{i-1}, SK'_i, and (can compute) SK_i. Informally, we say a scheme has *secure key updates* if a key-update exposure at period i is equivalent to key exposures at periods $i-1$ and i and no more. More formally:

De£nition 3. *Key-updating encryption scheme $\mathit{\Pi}$ has* secure key updates *if the view of any adversary A making a key-update exposure request at period i can be perfectly simulated by an adversary A' who makes key exposure requests at periods $i-1$ and i.*

This property is desirable in real-world implementations of a key-updating encryption scheme since an adversary who gains access to the user's storage is likely to have access for several consecutive time periods (i.e., until the user detects or re-boots), including the key updating steps.

We also consider attacks which compromise the physically-secure device (this includes attacks in which this device is untrusted). Here, our de£nition requires that the encryption scheme be secure against an adversary which is given SK^* as input. Note that we do *not* require security against an adversary who compromises both the user's storage and the secure device —in our model this is impossible since, given SK^* and SK_i, an adversary can compute SK_j (at least for $j > i$) by himself.

De£nition 4. *Let $\mathit{\Pi}$ be a key-updating scheme which is (t, N)-key-insulated. For any adversary B, de£ne the following:*

$$\mathsf{Succ}_{B,\Pi}(k) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \Pr\Big[(PK, SK^*, SK_0) \leftarrow \mathcal{G}(1^k, N); \boldsymbol{b} \leftarrow \{0,1\}^N; \\ (i, b') \leftarrow B^{\mathsf{LR}_{PK,\boldsymbol{b}}(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot), \mathcal{O}(\cdot)}(PK, SK^*) : b' = b_i\Big],$$

where $\mathcal{O}(\cdot) = \perp$ for a plaintext-only attack and $\mathcal{O}(\cdot) = \mathcal{D}^*_{SK^*,SK_0}(\cdot)$ for a chosen-ciphertext attack (in the latter case the adversary is not allowed to query $\mathcal{D}^*(\langle i, C\rangle)$ if $\langle i, C\rangle$ was returned by $\mathsf{LR}(i,\cdot,\cdot)$*). Π is* strongly (t,N)-key-insulated *if, for any* PPT B, $|\mathsf{Succ}_{B,\Pi}(k) - 1/2|$ *is negligible.*

3 Generic Semantically-Secure Construction

Let (G, E, D) be any semantically secure encryption scheme. Rather than giving a separate (by now, standard) de£nition, we may view it simply as a $(0,1)$-key-insulated scheme. Namely, only one secret key SK is present, and any PPT adversary, given PK and the left-or-right-oracle $\mathsf{LR}_{PK,b}$, cannot predict b with success non-negligibly different from $1/2$. Hence, our construction below can be viewed as an ampli£cation of a $(0,1)$-key-insulated scheme into a general (t,N)-key-insulated scheme.

We will assume below that $t, \log N = O(\mathsf{poly}(k))$, where k is our security parameter. Thus, we allow exponentially-many periods, and can tolerate exposure of any polynomial number of keys. We assume that E operates on messages of length $\ell = \ell(k)$, and construct a (t,N)-key-insulated scheme operating on messages of length $L = L(k)$.

Auxiliary De£nitions. We need two auxiliary de£nitions: that of an *all-or-nothing transform* [34, 8] (AONT) and a *cover-free family* [18, 16]. Informally, an AONT splits the message M into n secret shares $x_1, \ldots, x_n$ (and possibly one public share z), and has the property that (1) the message M can be ef£ciently recovered from *all* the shares $x_1, \ldots, x_n, z$, but (2) missing even a single share x_j gives "no information" about M. As such, it is a generalization of $(n-1, n)$-secret sharing. We formalize this, modifying the conventional de£nitions [8, 9] to a form more compatible with our prior notation.

De£nition 5. *An ef£cient randomized transformation $\mathcal{T}$ is called an (L, ℓ, n)-*AONT *if: (1) on input $M \in \{0,1\}^L$, $\mathcal{T}$ outputs $(X, z) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x_1, \ldots, x_n, z)$, where $x_j \in \{0,1\}^\ell$; (2) there exists an ef£cient inverse function $\mathcal{I}$ such that $\mathcal{I}(X, z) = M$; (3) $\mathcal{T}$ satis£es the indistinguishability property described below.*
Let $X_{-j} = (x_1, \ldots, x_{j-1}, x_{j+1}, \ldots, x_n)$ and $\mathcal{T}_{-j}(M) = (X_{-j}, z)$, where $(X, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{T}(M)$. De£ne the left-or-right oracle $\mathsf{LR}_b(j, M_0, M_1) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{T}_{-j}(M_b)$*, where $b \in \{0,1\}$. For any* PPT *A, we let* $\mathsf{Succ}_{A,\mathcal{T}}(k) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \Pr[b \leftarrow \{0,1\}; b' \leftarrow A^{\mathsf{LR}_b(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot)}(1^k) \ : \ b' = b]$*. We require that* $|\mathsf{Succ}_{A,\mathcal{T}}(k) - 1/2|$ *is negligible.*

A family of subsets $S_1 \ldots S_N$ over some universe U is said to be *t-cover-free* if no t subsets $S_{i_1}, \ldots, S_{i_t}$ contain a (different) subset S_{i_0}; in other words, for all $\{i_0, \ldots, i_t\}$ with $i_0 \notin \{i_1, \ldots, i_t\}$, we have $S_{i_0} \not\subseteq \cup_{j=1}^t S_{i_j}$. A family is said to be *(t,α)-cover-free*, where $0 < \alpha < 1$, if, for all $\{i_0, \ldots, i_t\}$ with $i_0 \notin \{i_1, \ldots, i_t\}$, we have $|S_{i_0} \setminus \cup_{j=1}^t S_{i_j}| \geq \alpha |S_{i_0}|$. Such families are well known and have been used several times in cryptographic applications [10, 29, 20]. In what follows, we £x $\alpha = 1/2$ for simplicity, and will use the following (essentially optimal) result, non-constructively proven by [18] and subsequently made ef£cient by [29, 24].

Theorem 1 ([18, 29, 24]). *For any N and t, one can ef£ciently construct a $(t, \frac{1}{2})$-cover-free collection of N subsets $S_1, \ldots, S_N$ of $U = \{1, \ldots, u\}$, with $|S_i| = n$ for all i, satisfying: $u = \Theta(t^2 \log N)$ and $n = \Theta(t \log N)$.*

Since we assumed that $t, \log N = O(\mathsf{poly}(k))$, we have $u, n = O(\mathsf{poly}(k))$ as well.

Construction. For simplicity, we £rst describe the scheme which is not strongly secure (see De£nition 4), and then show a modi£cation making it strongly secure. Let $S_1, \ldots, S_N \subset [u] \overset{\text{def}}{=} \{1 \ldots u\}$ be the $(t, \frac{1}{2})$-cover-free family of n-element sets, as given by Theorem 1. Also, let $\mathcal{T}$ be a secure (L, ℓ, n)-AONT. Our (t, N)-key-insulated scheme will have a set of u independent encryption/decryption keys (sk_r, pk_r) for our basic encryption E, of which only the subset S_i will be used at time period i. Specifically, the public key of the scheme will be $PK = \{pk_1, \ldots, pk_u\}$, the secret key at time i will be $SK_i = \{sk_r \ : \ r \in S_i\}$, and the master key (for now) will be $SK^* = \{sk_1, \ldots, sk_u\}$. We de£ne the encryption of $M \in \{0, 1\}^L$ at time period i as:

$$\mathcal{E}_{PK}(i, M) = \langle \ i, \ (E_{pk_{r_1}}(x_1), \ldots, E_{pk_{r_n}}(x_n), \ z) \ \rangle,$$

where $(x_1, \ldots, x_n, z) \leftarrow \mathcal{T}(M)$ and $S_i = \{r_1, \ldots, r_n\}$. To decrypt $\langle i, (y_1, \ldots, y_n, z)\rangle$ using $SK_i = \{sk_r \ : \ r \in S_i\}$, the user £rst recovers the x_j's from the y_j's using D, and then recovers the message $M = \mathcal{I}(x_1, \ldots, x_n, z)$. Key updates are trivial: the device sends the new key SK_i and the user erases the old key SK_{i-1}. Obviously, the scheme supports secure key updates as well as random-access key updates.

Security. We informally argue the (t, N)-key-insulated security of this scheme (omitting the formal proof due to space limitations). The de£nition of the AONT implies that the system is secure at time period i provided the adversary misses *at least one* key sk_r, where $r \in S_i$. Indeed, semantic security of E implies that the adversary completely misses the shares encrypted with sk_r in this case, and hence has no information about the message M. On the other hand, if the adversary learn any t keys $SK_{i_1}, \ldots, SK_{i_t}$, he learns the auxiliary keys $\{sk_r \ : \ r \in S_{i_1} \cup S_{i_2} \ldots \cup S_{i_t}\}$. Hence, the necessary and suf£cient condition for (t, N)-key-insulated security is exactly the t-cover freeness of the S_i's! The parameter $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ is used to improve the exact security of our reduction.

Theorem 2. *The generic scheme Π described above is (t, N)-key-insulated with secure key updates, provided (G, E, D) is semantically-secure, $\mathcal{T}$ is a secure (L, ℓ, n)-AONT, and the family $S_1, \ldots, S_N$ is $(t, \frac{1}{2})$-cover-free. Speci£cally, breaking the security of Π with advantage ε implies the same for either (G, E, D) or $\mathcal{T}$ with advantage at least $\Omega(\varepsilon/t)$.*

Strong Key-Insulated Security. The above scheme is not *strongly* (t, N)-key-insulated since the device stores all the secret keys $(sk_1, \ldots, sk_u)$. However, we can easily £x this problem. The user generates one extra key pair (sk_0, pk_0). It publishes pk_0 together with the other public keys, but keeps sk_0 for itself (never erasing it). Assuming now that $\mathcal{T}$ produces $n + 1$ secret shares $x_0, \ldots, x_n$ rather than n, we just encrypt the £rst share x_0 with pk_0 (and the others, as before, with the corresponding keys in S_i). Formally, let $S_i' = S_i \cup \{0\}$, the master key is still $SK^* = \{sk_1, \ldots, sk_u\}$, but now $PK = \{pk_0, pk_1, \ldots, pk_u\}$ and the i-th secret key is $SK_i = \{sk_r \ : \ r \in S_i'\}$. Strong key-insulated security of this scheme follows a similar argument as in Theorem 2.

Ef£ciency. The main parameters of the scheme are: (1) the size of PK and SK^* are both $u = O(t^2 \log N)$; and (2) the user's storage and the number of local encryptions per global encryption are both $n = O(t \log N)$. In particular, the surprising aspect of our construction is that it supports an *exponential* number of periods N and the main parameters depend mainly on t, the number of exposures we allow. Since t is usually quite small (say, $t = O(1)$ and certainly $t \ll N$), we obtain good parameters considering the generality of the scheme. (In Section 4 we use a speci£c encryption scheme and achieve $|PK|, |SK^*| = O(t)$ and $|SK_i| = O(1)$.)

Additionally, the choice of a secure (L, ℓ, n)-AONT de£nes the tradeoff between the number of encrypted bits L compared to the total encryption size, which is $(\beta n\ell + |z|)$, where β is the expansion of E, and $|z|$ is the size of the public share. In particular, if $L = \ell$, we can use any traditional $(n-1, n)$-secret sharing scheme (e.g., Shamir's scheme [35], or even XOR-sharing: pick random x_j's subject to $M = \bigoplus x_j$). This way we have no public part, but the ciphertext increases by a factor of βn as compared to the plaintext. Computationally-secure AONT's allow for better tradeoffs. For example, using either the computational secret sharing scheme of [27], or the AONT constructions of [9], we can achieve $|z| = L$, while ℓ can be as small as the security parameter k (in particular, $\ell \ll L$). Thus, we get *additive* increase $\beta n\ell$, which is essentially independent of L. Finally, in the random oracle model, we could use the construction of [8] achieving $|z| = 0$, $L = \ell(n-1)$, so the ciphertext size is $\beta\ell n \approx \beta L$. Finally, in practice one would use the above scheme to encrypt a random key K (which is much shorter than M) for a symmetric-key encryption scheme, and concatenate to this the symmetric-key encryption of M using K.

Adaptive vs. Non-adaptive adversaries. Theorem 2 holds for an *adaptive* adversary who makes key exposure requests based on all information collected so far. We notice, however, that both the security and the ef£ciency of our construction could be somewhat improved for non-adaptive adversaries, who choose the key-exposure periods $i_1, \ldots, i_t$ at the outset of the protocol (which is the model of [36, 30, 2]). For example, it is easy to see that we no longer lose the factor t in the security of our reduction in Theorem 2. As for the ef£ciency, instead of using an AONT (which is essentially an $(n-1, n)$-secret sharing scheme), we can now use any $(n/2, n)$-"ramp" secret sharing scheme [6]. This means that n shares reconstruct the secret, but any $n/2$ shares yield no information about the secret. Indeed, since our family is $(t, \frac{1}{2})$-cover-free, any non-exposed period will have the adversary miss more than half of the relevant secret keys. For non-adaptive adversaries, we know at the outset which secret keys are non-exposed, and can use a simple hybrid argument over these keys to prove the security of the modi£ed scheme. For example, we can use the "ramp" generalization of Shamir's secret sharing scheme[2] proposed by Franklin and Yung [19], and achieve $L = \ell n/2$ instead of $L = \ell$ resulting from regular Shamir's $(n-1, n)$-scheme.

[2] Here the message length $L = \ell n/2$, and the ℓ-bit parts $m_1, \ldots, m_{n/2}$ of M are viewed as the $n/2$ lower order coef£cients of an otherwise random polynomial of degree $(n-1)$ over $GF[2^\ell]$. This polynomial is then evaluated at n points of $GF[2^\ell]$ to give the £nal n shares.

4 Semantic Security Based on DDH

In this section, we present an ef£cient strongly (t, N)-key-insulated scheme, whose semantic security can be proved under the DDH assumption.

We £rst describe the basic encryption scheme we build upon. The key generation algorithm $\mathsf{Gen}(1^k)$ selects a random prime q with $|q| = k$ such that $p = 2q + 1$ is prime. This de£nes a unique subgroup $\mathbb{G} \subset \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ of size q in which the DDH assumption is assumed to hold; namely, it is hard to disinguish a random tuple (g, h, u, v) of four independent elements in $\mathbb{G}$ from a random tuple satisfying $\log_g u = \log_h v$. Given group $\mathbb{G}$, key generation proceeds by selecting random elements $g, h \in \mathbb{G}$ and random $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_q$. The public key consists of g, h, and the Pedersen commitment [33] to x and y: $z = g^x h^y$. The secret key contains both x and y. To encrypt $M \in \mathbb{G}$, choose random $r \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ and compute $(g^r, h^r, z^r M)$. To decrypt (u, v, w), compute $M = w/u^x v^y$. This scheme is very similar to El Gamal encryption [17], except it uses two generators. It has been recently used by [26] in a different context.

Our Scheme. Our (t, N)-key-insulated scheme builds on the above basic encryption scheme and is presented in Figure 1. The key difference is that, after choosing $\mathbb{G}, g, h$, as above, we select two random polynomials $f_x(\tau) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{j=0}^{t} x_j^* \tau^j$ and $f_y(\tau) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{j=0}^{t} y_j^* \tau^j$ over $\mathbb{Z}_q$ of degree t. The public key consists of g, h and Pedersen commitments $\{z_0^*, \ldots, z_t^*\}$ to the coef£cients of the two polynomials (see Figure 1). The user stores the constant terms of the two polynomials (i.e., x_0^* and y_0^*) and the remaining coef£cients are stored by the physically-secure device. To encrypt during period i, £rst z_i is computed from the public key as $z_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \Pi_{j=0}^{t} (z_j^*)^{i^j}$. Then (similar to the basic scheme), encryption of message M is done by choosing $r \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ at random and computing $(g^r, h^r, z_i^r M)$. Using our notation from above, it is clear that $z_i = g^{f_x(i)} h^{f_y(i)}$. Thus, as long as the user has secret key $SK_i = (f_x(i), f_y(i))$ during period i, decryption during that period may be done just as in the basic scheme. As for key evolution, the user begins with $SK_0 = (x_0^*, y_0^*) = (f_x(0), f_y(0))$. At the start of any period i, the device transmits partial key $SK_i' = (x_i', y_i')$ to the user. Note that (cf. Figure 1) $x_i' = f_x(i) - f_x(i-1)$ and $y_i' = f_y(i) - f_y(i-1)$. Thus, since the user already has SK_{i-1}, the user may easily compute SK_i from these values. At this point, the user erases SK_{i-1}, and uses SK_i to decrypt for the remainder of the time period.

Theorem 3. *Under the DDH assumption, the encryption scheme of Figure 1 is strongly (t, N)-key-insulated under plaintext-only attacks. Furthermore, it has secure key updates and supports random-access key updates.*

Proof. Showing secure key updates is trivial, since an adversary who exposes keys SK_{i-1} and SK_i can compute the value SK_i' by itself (and thereby perfectly simulate a key-update exposure at period i). Similarly, random-access key updates can be done using partial keys $SK_{ij}' = (x_{ij}', y_{ij}')$, where $x_{ij}' = f_x(i) - f_x(j)$, $y_{ij}' = f_y(i) - f_y(j)$. The user can then compute $x_i = x_j + x_{ij}'$ and $y_i = y_j + y_{ij}'$.

We now show that the scheme satis£es De£nition 2. By a standard hybrid argument [4], it is suf£cient to consider an adversary A who asks a single query to its left-or-right oracle (for some time period i of A's choice) and must guess the value b_i. So we assume A makes only a single query to the LR oracle during period i for which

```
$\mathcal{G}(1^k)$:  $(g,h,q) \leftarrow \mathsf{Gen}(1^k)$;  $x_0^*, y_0^*, \ldots, x_t^*, y_t^* \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$
         $z_0^* := g^{x_0^*} h^{y_0^*}, \ldots, z_t^* := g^{x_t^*} h^{y_t^*}$;  $PK := (g,h,z_0^*,\ldots,z_t^*)$
         $SK^* := (x_1^*, y_1^*, \ldots, x_t^*, y_t^*)$;  $SK_0 := (x_0^*, y_0^*)$
         return $PK, SK^*, SK_0$
```

```
$\mathcal{U}^*(i, SK^* = (x_1^*, y_1^*, \ldots, x_t^*, y_t^*))$:
    $x_i' := \sum_{j=1}^t x_j^* \left(i^j - (i-1)^j\right)$
    $y_i' := \sum_{j=1}^t y_j^* \left(i^j - (i-1)^j\right)$
    return $SK_i' = (x_i', y_i')$
```

```
$\mathcal{U}(i, SK_{i-1} = (x_{i-1}, y_{i-1}), SK_i' = (x_i', y_i'))$:
    $x_i := x_{i-1} + x_i'$
    $y_i := y_{i-1} + y_i'$
    return $SK_i = (x_i, y_i)$
```

```
$\mathcal{E}_{(g,h,z_0^*,\ldots,z_y^*)}(i, M)$:
    $z_i := \Pi_{j=0}^t (z_j^*)^{i^j}$
    $r \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$
    $C := (g^r, h^r, z_i^r M)$
    return $\langle i, C \rangle$
```

```
$\mathcal{D}_{(x_i,y_i)}(\langle i, C = (u,v,w) \rangle)$:
    $M := w / u^{x_i} v^{y_i}$
    return $M$
```

Fig. 1. Semantically-secure key-updating encryption scheme based on DDH.

it did not make a key exposure request. In the original experiment (cf. Figure 1), the output of $\mathsf{LR}_{PK,\boldsymbol{b}}(i, M_0, M_1)$ is de£ned as follows: choose $r \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ at random and output $(g^r, h^r, z_i^r M_{b_i})$. Given a tuple (g,h,u,v) which is either a DDH tuple or a random tuple, modify the original experiment as follows: the output of $\mathsf{LR}_{PK,\boldsymbol{b}}(i, M_0, M_1)$ will be $(u, v, u^{x_i} v^{y_i} M_b)$. Note that if (g,h,u,v) is a DDH tuple, then this is a perfect simulation of the original experiment. On the other hand, if (g,h,u,v) is a random tuple then, under the DDH assumption, the success of any PPT adversary in this modi£ed experiment cannot differ by more than a negligible amount from its success in the original experiment. It is important to note that, in running the experiment, we can answer all of A's key exposure requests correctly since all secret keys are known. Thus, in contrast to [36, 30], we may handle an adaptive adversary who chooses when to make key exposure requests based on all information seen during the experiment.

Assume now that (g,h,u,v) is a random tuple and $\log_g h \neq \log_u v$ (this will occur with all but negligible probability). We claim that the adversary's view in the modi£ed experiment is independent of $\boldsymbol{b}$. Indeed, the adversary knows only t values of $f_x(\cdot)$ and $f_y(\cdot)$ (at points other than i), and since both $f_x(\cdot)$ and $f_y(\cdot)$ are random polynomials of degree t, the values x_i, y_i $(= f_x(i), f_y(i))$ are *information-theoretically* uniformly distributed, subject only to:

$$\log_g z_i = x_i + y_i \log_g h. \qquad (1)$$

Consider the output of the encryption oracle $(u, v, u^{x_i} v^{y_i} M_b)$. Since:

$$\log_u (u^{x_i} v^{y_i}) = x_i + y_i \log_u v, \qquad (2)$$

and (1) and (2) are linearly independent, the conditional distribution of $u^{x_i} v^{y_i}$ (conditioned on b_i and the adversary's view) is uniform. Thus, the adversary's view is independent of b_i (and hence $\boldsymbol{b}$). This implies that the success probability of A in this modi£ed experiment is $1/2$, and hence the success probability of A in the original experiment is at most negligibly different from $1/2$.

We now consider security against the physically-secure device; in this case, there are no key exposure requests but the adversary learns SK^*. Again, it is suf£cient to consider an adversary who asks a single query to its left-or-right oracle (for time period i of its choice) and must guess the value b_i. Since SK^* only contains the t highest-order coef£cients of t-degree polynomials, the pair (x_i, y_i) is information-theoretically uniformly distributed (for all i) subject to $x_i + y_i \log_g h = \log_g z_i$. An argument similar to that given previously shows that the success probability of the adversary is at most negligibly better than $1/2$, and hence the scheme satis£es De£nition 4.

5 Chosen-Ciphertext Security Based on DDH

We may modify the scheme given in the previous section so as to be resistant to chosen-ciphertext attacks. In doing so, we build upon the chosen-ciphertext-secure (standard) public-key encryption scheme of Cramer and Shoup [11].

```
$\mathcal{G}(1^k)$: $(g, h, q) \leftarrow \mathsf{Gen}(1^k)$; $H \leftarrow \mathsf{UOWH}(1^k)$
    for $i = 0$ to $t$ and $n = 0$ to 2:
        $x^*_{i,n}, y^*_{i,n} \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$
    for $i = 0$ to $t$:
        $z^*_i := g^{x^*_{i,0}} h^{y^*_{i,0}}$; $c^*_i := g^{x^*_{i,1}} h^{y^*_{i,1}}$; $d^*_i := g^{x^*_{i,2}} h^{y^*_{i,2}}$
    $PK := (g, h, H, \{z^*_i, c^*_i, d^*_i\}_{0 \le i \le t})$
    $SK^* := (\{x^*_{i,n}, y^*_{i,n}\}_{2 \le i \le t,\, 0 \le n \le 2})$; $SK_0 := (\{x^*_{i,n}, y^*_{i,n}\}_{0 \le i \le 1,\, 0 \le n \le 2})$
    return $PK, SK^*, SK_0$
```

```
$\mathcal{U}^*(i, SK^*)$:
  for $n = 0$ to 2:
      $x'_{i,n} := \sum_{j=2}^{t} x^*_{j,n} \left(i^j - (i-1)^j\right)$
      $y'_{i,n} := \sum_{j=2}^{t} y^*_{j,n} \left(i^j - (i-1)^j\right)$
  return $SK'_i = (\{x'_{i,n}, y'_{i,n}\}_{0 \le n \le 2})$
```

```
$\mathcal{U}(i, SK_{i-1}, SK'_i)$:
  for $n = 0$ to 2:
      $x_{i,n} = x_{i-1,n} + x'_{i,n} + x_{1,n}$
      $y_{i,n} = y_{i-1,n} + y'_{i,n} + y_{1,n}$
  return $SK_i = (\{x_{i,n}, y_{i,n}, x_{1,n}, y_{1,n}\}_{0 \le n \le 2})$
```

```
$\mathcal{E}_{PK}(i, M)$:
    $z_i := \Pi_{j=0}^{t} (z^*_j)^{i^j}$; $c_i := \Pi_{j=0}^{t} (c^*_j)^{i^j}$
    $d_i := \Pi_{j=0}^{t} (d^*_j)^{i^j}$
    $r \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$
    $C := (g^r, h^r, z_i^r M, (c_i d_i^\alpha)^r)$,
        where $\alpha \overset{\text{def}}{=} H(g^r, h^r, z_i^r M)$
    return $\langle i, C \rangle$
```

```
$\mathcal{D}_{SK_i}(\langle i, C = (u, v, w, e) \rangle)$:
    $\alpha := H(u, v, w)$
    if $u^{x_{i,1} + x_{i,2}\alpha} v^{y_{i,1} + y_{i,2}\alpha} \neq e$
        return $\perp$
    else $M := w / u^{x_{i,0}} v^{y_{i,0}}$
    return $M$
```

Fig. 2. Chosen-ciphertext-secure key-updating encryption scheme based on DDH.

We brie¤y review the "basic" Cramer-Shoup scheme (in part to conform to the notation used in Figure 2). Given generators g, h of group $\mathbb{G}$ (as described in the previous section), secret keys $\{x_n, y_n\}_{0 \le n \le 2}$ are chosen randomly from $\mathbb{Z}_q$. Then, public-key components $z = g^{x_0} h^{y_0}$, $c = g^{x_1} h^{y_1}$, and $d = g^{x_2} h^{y_2}$ are computed. In addition, a function H is randomly chosen from a family of universal one-way hash functions. The public key is (g, h, z, c, d, H).

To encrypt a message $M \in \mathbb{G}$, a random element $r \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ is chosen and the ciphertext is: $(g^r, h^r, z^r M, (cd^\alpha)^r)$, where $\alpha = H(g^r, h^r, z^r M)$. To decrypt a ciphertext (u, v, w, e), we £rst check whether $u^{x_1 + x_2\alpha} v^{y_1 + y_2\alpha} = e$. If not, we output $\perp$. Otherwise, we output $M = w/u^{x_0} v^{y_0}$.

In our extended scheme (cf. Figure 2), we choose six random, degree-t polynomials (over $\mathbb{Z}_q$) $f_{x_0}, f_{y_0}, f_{x_1}, f_{y_1}, f_{x_2}, f_{y_2}$, where $f_{x_n}(\tau) \overset{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{j=0}^{t} x^*_{j,n}\tau^j$ and $f_{y_n}(\tau) \overset{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{j=0}^{t} y^*_{j,n}\tau^j$ for $0 \le n \le 2$. The public key consists of g, h, H, and Pedersen commitments to the coef£cients of these polynomials. The user stores the constant term *and* the coef£cient of the linear term for each of these polynomials, and the remaining coef£cients are stored by the physically-secure device.

To encrypt during period i, a user £rst computes z_i, c_i, and d_i by evaluating the polynomials "in the exponent" (see Figure 2). Then, just as in the basic scheme, encryption of M is performed by choosing random $r \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ and computing $(g^r, h^r, z_i^r M, (c_i d_i^\alpha)^r)$, where $\alpha \overset{\text{def}}{=} H(g^r, h^r, z_i^r M)$. Notice that $z_i = g^{f_{x_0}(i)} h^{f_{y_0}(i)}$, $c_i = g^{f_{x_1}(i)} h^{f_{y_1}(i)}$, and $d_i = g^{f_{x_2}(i)} h^{f_{y_2}(i)}$. Thus, the user can decrypt (just as in the basic scheme) as long as he has $f_{x_n}(i), f_{y_n}(i)$ for $0 \le n \le 2$. In fact, the secret key SK_i includes these values; in addition, the secret key at all times includes the linear coef£cients $x^*_{1,0}, y^*_{1,0}, \ldots, x^*_{1,2}, y^*_{1,2}$. These values are used to help update SK_i.

Theorem 4. *Under the DDH assumption, the encryption scheme of Figure 2 is strongly $(t-2, N)$-key-insulated under chosen-ciphertext attacks. Furthermore, the scheme has secure key updates and supports random-access key updates.*

Proof. That the scheme has secure key updates is trivial, since SK'_i may be computed from SK_{i-1} and SK_i. Random-access key updates are done analogously to the scheme of the previous section. We now show the key-insulated security of the scheme (cf. De£nition 2). A standard hybrid argument [4] shows that it is suf£cient to consider an adversary A who makes only a single request to its left-or-right oracle (for time period i of the adversary's choice) and must guess the value b_i. We stress that polynomially-many calls to the decryption oracle are allowed.

Assume A makes a single query to the LR oracle during period i for which it did not make a key exposure request. In the original experiment (cf. Figure 2), the output of $\mathsf{LR}_{PK,\boldsymbol{b}}(i, M_0, M_1)$ is as follows: choose $r \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$ and output $(g^r, h^r, z_i^r M_{b_i}, (c_i d_i^\alpha)^r)$, where α is as above. As in the proof of Theorem 3, we now modify the experiment. Given a tuple (g, h, u, v) which is either a DDH tuple or a random tuple, we de£ne the output of $\mathsf{LR}_{PK,\boldsymbol{b}}(i, M_0, M_1)$ to be $(u, v, \tilde{w} = u^{x_{i,0}} v^{y_{i,0}} M_{b_i}, \tilde{e} = u^{x_{i,1}+x_{i,2}\alpha} v^{y_{i,1}+y_{i,2}\alpha})$, where $\alpha \overset{\text{def}}{=} H(u, v, \tilde{w})$. Note that if (g, h, u, v) is a DDH tuple, then this results in a perfect simulation of the original experiment. On the other hand, if (g, h, u, v) is a random tuple, then, under the DDH assumption, the success of any PPT adversary cannot differ by a non-negligible amount from its success in the original experiment. As in the proof of Theorem 3, note that, in running the experiment, we can answer all of A's key exposure queries. Thus, the proof handles an adaptive adversary whose key exposure requests may be made based on all information seen up to that point.

Assume now that (g, h, u, v) is a random tuple and $\log_g h \ne \log_u v$ (this happens with all but negligible probability). We show that, with all but negligible probability, the adversary's view in the modi£ed experiment is independent of $\boldsymbol{b}$. The proof parallels [11, Lemma 2]. Say a ciphertext $\langle i, (u', v', w', e')\rangle$ is *invalid* if $\log_g u' \ne \log_h v'$. Then:

Claim. If the decryption oracle outputs $\perp$ for all invalid ciphertexts during the adversary's attack, then the value of b_i (and hence $\boldsymbol{b}$) is independent of the adversary's view.

The adversary knows at most $t-2$ values of $f_{x_0}(\cdot)$ and $f_{y_0}(\cdot)$ (at points other than i) and additionally knows the values $x^*_{1,0}$ and $y^*_{1,0}$ (the linear terms of these polynomials). Since $f_{x_0}(\cdot)$ and $f_{y_0}(\cdot)$ are random polynomials of degree t, the values $x_{i,0}, y_{i,0}$ ($= f_{x_0}(i), f_{y_0}(i)$) are uniformly distributed subject to:

$$\log_g z_i = x_{i,0} + y_{i,0} \log_g h. \tag{3}$$

Furthermore, when the decryption oracle decrypts valid ciphertexts $\langle i, (u', v', w', e')\rangle$, the adversary only obtains linearly-dependent relations $r' \log_g z_i = r' x_{i,0} + r' y_{i,0} \log_g h$ (where $r' \overset{\text{def}}{=} \log_g u'$). Similarly, decryptions of valid ciphertexts at other time periods do not further constrain $x_{i,0}, y_{i,0}$. Now consider the third component $u^{x_{i,0}} v^{y_{i,0}} M_{b_i}$ of the encryption oracle (the only one which depends on b_i). Since:

$$\log_u(u^{x_{i,0}} v^{y_{i,0}}) = x_{i,0} + y_{i,0} \log_u v, \tag{4}$$

and (3) and (4) are linearly independent, the conditional distribution of $u^{x_{i,0}} v^{y_{i,0}}$ (conditioned on b_i and the adversary's view) is uniform. Thus, the adversary's view is independent of b_i. The following claim now completes the proof of key-insulated security:

Claim. With all but negligible probability, the decryption oracle will output $\perp$ for all invalid ciphertexts.

Consider a ciphertext $\langle j, (u', v', w', e')\rangle$, where j represents a period during which a key exposure request was not made. We show that, with all but negligible probability, this ciphertext is rejected if it is invalid. There are two cases to consider: (1) $j = i$ (recall that i is the period during which the call to the LR oracle is made) and (2) $j \neq i$.

When $j = i$, the proof of the claim follows the proof of [11, Claim 2] exactly. The adversary knows at most $t-2$ values of $f_{x_1}(\cdot), f_{y_1}(\cdot), f_{x_2}(\cdot)$, and $f_{y_2}(\cdot)$ (at points other than i) and additionally knows the linear coef£cients of these polynomials. Since these are all random polynomials of degree t, the values $(x_{i,1}, y_{i,1}, x_{i,2}, y_{i,2})$ are uniformly distributed subject to:

$$\log_g c_i = x_{i,1} + y_{i,1} \log_g h \tag{5}$$

$$\log_g d_i = x_{i,2} + y_{i,2} \log_g h \tag{6}$$

$$\log_u \tilde{e} = x_{i,1} + \alpha x_{i,2} + (\log_u v)\, y_{i,1} + (\log_u v)\, \alpha\, y_{i,2}, \tag{7}$$

where (7) comes from the output of the encryption oracle. If the submitted ciphertext $\langle i, (u', v', w', e')\rangle$ is invalid and $(u', v', w', e') \neq (u, v, \tilde{w}, \tilde{e})$, there are three possibilities:

Case 1. $(u', v', w') = (u, v, \tilde{w})$. In this case, $v' \neq \tilde{v}$ ensures that the decryption oracle will reject.

Case 2. $(u', v', w') \neq (u, v, \tilde{w})$ but $H(u', v', w') = H(u, v, \tilde{w})$. This violates the security of the universal one-way hash family and hence cannot occur with non-negligible probability. See [11].

Case 3. $H(u', v', w') \neq H(u, v, \tilde{w})$. The decryption oracle will reject unless:

$$\log_{u'} e' = x_{i,1} + \alpha' x_{i,2} + (\log_{u'} v')\, y_{i,1} + (\log_{u'} v')\, \alpha'\, y_{i,2}. \tag{8}$$

But (5)–(8) are all linearly independent, from which it follows that the decryption oracle rejects except with probability $1/q$. (As in [11], each rejection further constrains the values $(x_{i,1}, y_{i,1}, x_{i,2}, y_{i,2})$; however, the k^{th} query will be rejected except with probability at most $1/(q-k+1)$.)

When $j \neq i$, the values $(x_{i,1}, y_{i,1}, x_{i,2}, y_{i,2}, x_{j,1}, y_{j,1}, x_{j,2}, y_{j,2})$ are uniformly distributed subject only to (5)–(7) and:

$$\log_g c_j = x_{j,1} + y_{j,1} \log_g h \tag{9}$$

$$\log_g d_j = x_{j,2} + y_{j,2} \log_g h. \tag{10}$$

Here, we make crucial use of the fact that the adversary has made at most $t-2$ key exposure requests —had the adversary learned $t-1$ points on the polynomials, this (along with knowledge of the linear coef£cients) would yield additional linear relations (e.g., between $x_{i,1}$ and $x_{j,1}$), and the proof of security would not go through.

If the ciphertext $\langle j, (u', v', w', e') \rangle$ submitted by the adversary is invalid, the decryption oracle will reject unless:

$$\log_{u'} e' = x_{j,1} + \alpha' x_{j,2} + (\log_{u'} v')\, y_{j,1} + (\log_{u'} v')\, \alpha'\, y_{j,2}. \tag{11}$$

Clearly, however, (5)–(7) and (9)–(11) are all linearly independent, from which it follows that the decryption oracle rejects except with probability $1/q$. This completes the proof of $(t-2, N)$-key-insulated security.

The key to the proof above (informally) is that the adversary learns only $t-1$ "pieces of information" about the polynomials $f_{x_1}(\cdot), f_{y_1}(\cdot), f_{x_2}(\cdot)$, and $f_{y_2}(\cdot)$ (i.e., their values at $t-2$ points and their linear coef£cients). Hence, before any calls to the decryption oracle have been made, the pair $(x_{i,1}, x_{j,1})$ (for example) is uniformly distributed. The proof of *strong* key-insulated security follows exactly the same arguments given above once we notice that SK^* gives only $t-1$ "pieces of information" as well (i.e., the $t-1$ leading coef£cients). We omit further details.

We note that a trivial modi£cation to the scheme achieves $(t-1, N)$-key-insulated security with minimal added complexity: choose random elements $\{\tilde{x}_{1,n}, \tilde{y}_{1,n}\}_{0 \le n \le 2}$, then set $\hat{x}_{1,n} = x_{1,n} + \tilde{x}_{1,n}$ and $\hat{y}_{1,n} = y_{1,n} + \tilde{y}_{1,n}$ for $0 \le n \le 2$. Now, include $\{\tilde{x}_{1,n}, \tilde{y}_{1,n}\}_{0 \le n \le 2}$ with SK^* and store $\{\hat{x}_{1,n}, \hat{y}_{1,n}\}_{0 \le n \le 2}$ as part of SK_0 (and have these values be part of SK_i at all time periods). Key updates are done in the obvious way. Note that SK^* only stores $t-1$ "pieces of information" about the random, degree-t polynomials; furthermore, $t-1$ key exposures only reveal $t-1$ "pieces of information" as well. Thus, a proof of security follows the proof of the above theorem.

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