# Chosen-Ciphertext Security (II)

CS 600.442 Modern Cryptography

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# Recall: Chosen-Ciphertext Attacks (CCA)

- Adversary can make decryption queries over ciphertext of its choice
- CCA-1: Decryption queries only before challenge ciphertext query
- CCA-2: Decryption queries before and after challenge ciphertext query
- $\bullet$  No decryption query c should be equal to challenge ciphertext  $c^*$

<u>Last time</u>: Construction of CCA-1 secure PKE

Today: Construction of CCA-2 secure PKE

## Recall: CCA-2 Security

# $\mathbf{Expt}^{\mathsf{CCA2}}_{\mathcal{A}}(b,z)$ :

- $\bullet$  st = z
- $\bullet \ (pk,sk) \leftarrow \mathsf{Gen}(1^n)$
- Decryption query phase 1 (repeated poly times):
  - $c \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(pk, \mathsf{st})$
  - $m \leftarrow \mathsf{Dec}(sk, c)$
  - st = (st, m)
- $(m_0, m_1) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(pk, \mathsf{st})$
- $c^* \leftarrow \operatorname{Enc}(pk, m_b)$
- Decryption query phase 2 (repeated poly times):
  - $c \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(pk, c^*, \mathsf{st})$
  - If  $c = c^*$ , output reject
  - $m \leftarrow \mathsf{Dec}(sk, c)$
  - st = (st, m)
- Output  $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(pk, c^*, \mathsf{st})$



### CCA-2 Security (contd.)

### Definition (IND-CCA-2 Security)

A public-key encryption scheme (Gen, Enc, Dec) is IND-CCA-1 secure if for all n.u. PPT adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\mu(\cdot)$  s.t. for all auxiliary inputs  $z \in \{0,1\}^*$ :

$$\left| \Pr \left[ \mathbf{Expt}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{CCA2}}(1, z) = 1 \right] - \Pr \left[ \mathbf{Expt}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{CCA2}}(0, z) = 1 \right] \right| \leqslant \mu(n)$$

### How to Construct CCA-2 secure Encryption?

- Why doesn't a CCA-1 secure scheme also achieve CCA-2 security?
- Main problem In CCA-2, an adversary may be able to "maul" challenge ciphertext into another ciphertext and then request decryption in the second phase. This is called *malleability attack*
- Solution Strategy: Ensure that adversary's decryption query is "independent" of (and not just different from) the challenge ciphertext. That is, make the encryption non-malleable

## CCA-2 Secure Public-Key Encryption

The first construction of CCA-2 secure encryption scheme was given by Dolev-Dwork-Naor.

#### **Ingredients:**

- An IND-CPA secure encryption scheme (Gen, Enc, Dec)
- An adaptive NIZK proof (K, P, V)
- A strongly unforgeable one-time signature (OTS) scheme (Setup, Sign, Verify). Assume, wlog, that verification keys in OTS scheme are of length n.

#### Construction

### Construction of (Gen', Enc', Dec'):

 $Gen'(1^n)$ : Execute the following steps

- Compute CRS for NIZK:  $\sigma \leftarrow \mathsf{K}(1^n)$
- Compute 2n key pairs of IND-CPA encryption scheme:  $\left(pk_i^j, sk_i^j\right) \leftarrow \mathsf{Gen}(1^n)$ , where  $j \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $i \in [n]$ .
- Output  $pk' = (\{pk_i^0, pk_i^1\}, \sigma), sk' = (sk_1^0, sk_1^1).$

### Construction (contd.)

### $\mathsf{Enc}'(pk',m)$ : Execute the following steps

- Compute key pair for OTS scheme:  $(SK, VK) \leftarrow \mathsf{Setup}(1^n)$ .
- Let  $VK = VK_1, ..., VK_n$ . For every  $i \in [n]$ , encrypt m using  $pk_i^{VK_i}$  and randomness  $r_i$ :  $c_i \leftarrow \text{Enc}\left(pk_i^{VK_i}, m; r_i\right)$
- Compute proof that each  $c_i$  encrypts the same message:  $\pi \leftarrow \mathsf{P}(\sigma, x, w)$  where  $x = \left(\left\{pk_i^{VK_i}\right\}, \left\{c_i\right\}\right)$ ,  $w = (m, \left\{r_i\right\})$  and R(x, w) = 1 iff every  $c_i$  encrypts the same message m.
- Sign everything:  $\Phi \leftarrow \mathsf{Sign}(SK, M)$  where  $M = (\{c_i\}, \pi)$
- Output  $c' = (VK, \{c_i\}, \pi, \Phi)$



### Construction (contd.)

### Dec'(sk',c'): Execute the following steps

- Parse  $c' = (VK, \{c_i\}, \pi, \Phi)$
- Let  $M = (\{c_i\}, \pi)$
- Verify the signature: Output  $\bot$  if Verify  $(VK, M, \Phi) = 0$
- Verify the NIZK proof: Output  $\perp$  if  $V(\sigma, x, \pi) = 0$  where  $x = \left(\left\{pk_i^{VK_i}\right\}, \left\{c_i\right\}\right)$
- Else, decrypt the first ciphertext component:  $m' \leftarrow \text{Dec}\left(sk_1^{VK_1}, c_1\right)$
- Output m'

### Security (Intuition)

Consider decryption queries after adversary receives challenge ciphertext  $C^*$ :

- Let  $C \neq C^*$  be a decryption query
- If verification key VK in C and verification key  $VK^*$  in challenge ciphertext  $C^*$  are same, then we can break the strong unforgeability of OTS
- If different, then VK and  $VK^*$  differ in at least one position  $\ell \in [n]$ :
  - Answer decryption query using the secret key  $sk_{\ell}^{VK_i}$ .
  - Don't need to know the secret keys  $sk_i^{VK_i^*}$  for  $i \in [n]$
  - Reduce to IND-CPA security of underlying encryption scheme

### Security (Hybrids)

- $H_0$ : (Honest) Encryption of  $m_0$
- $H_1$ : Compute CRS  $\sigma$  in public key and proof  $\pi$  in challenge ciphertext using NIZK simulator
- $H_2$ : Choose  $VK^*$  in the beginning during Gen'
- $H_3$ : For any decryption query  $C = (VK, \{c_i\}, \pi, \Phi)$ :
  - If  $VK = VK^*$  and Verify  $(VK, (\{c_i\}, \pi, \Phi), \Phi) = 1$ , then abort
  - Else, let  $\ell \in [n]$  be such that  $VK^*$  and VK in c differ at position  $\ell$ . Set  $sk' = \left\{ sk_i^{\overline{VK}_i^*} \right\}$ ,  $i \in [n]$ , where  $\overline{VK}_i^* = 1 - VK_i^*$ . Decrypt c by decrypting  $c_\ell$  (instead of  $c_1$ ) using  $sk_\ell^{\overline{VK}_\ell^*}$ .
- $H_4$ : Change every  $c_i^*$  in  $C^*$  to encryption of  $m_1$
- $H_5$ : Compute CRS  $\sigma$  in public key and proof  $\pi$  in challenge ciphertext honestly. This experiment is same as (honest) encryption of  $m_1$ .

### Indistinguishability of Hybrids

- $H_0 \approx H_1$ : ZK property of NIZK
- $H_1 \approx H_2$ : Generating  $VK^*$  early or later does not change the distribution
- $H_2 \approx H_3$ : We argue indistinguishability as follows:
  - First, we argue that probability of aborting is negligible. Recall that  $c \neq c^*$  by the definition of CCA-2. Then, if  $VK = VK^*$ , it must be that  $(\lbrace c_i \rbrace, \pi, \Phi) \neq (\lbrace c_i^* \rbrace, \pi^*, \Phi^*)$ . Now, if Verify  $(VK, (\{c_i\}, \pi), \Phi) = 1$ , then we can break strong unforgeability of the OTS scheme.
  - Now, conditioned on not aborting, let  $\ell$  be the position s.t.  $VK_{\ell} \neq VK_{\ell}^{*}$ . Note that the only difference in  $H_{2}$  and  $H_{3}$  in this case might be the answers to the decryption queries of adversary. In particular, in  $H_2$ , we decrypt  $c_1$  in c using  $sk_1^{VK_1}$ . In contrast, in  $H_3$ , we decrypt  $c_\ell$  in c using  $sk_\ell^{\overline{VK_\ell^*}}$ . Now, from soundness of NIZK, it follows that except with negligible probability, all the  $c_i$ 's in cencrypt the same message. Therefore decrypting  $c_{\ell}$  instead of  $c_1$ does not change the answer.

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# Indistinguishability of Hybrids (contd.)

- $H_3 \approx H_4$ : IND-CPA security of underlying PKE
- $H_4 \approx H_5$ : ZK property of NIZK

Combining the above, we get  $H_0 \approx H_5$ .