

# Information-Flow Types for Homomorphic Encryptions

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## ABSTRACT

We develop a flexible information-flow type system for a range of encryption primitives, precisely reflecting their diverse functional and security features. Our rules enable encryption, blinding, homomorphic computation, and decryption, with selective key re-use for different types of payloads.

We show that, under standard cryptographic assumptions, any well-typed probabilistic program using encryptions is secure (that is, computationally non-interferent) against active adversaries, both for confidentiality and integrity. We illustrate our approach using ElGamal and Paillier encryption.

We present two applications of cryptographic verification by typing: (1) private search on data streams; and (2) the bootstrapping part of Gentry’s fully homomorphic encryption. We provide a prototype typechecker for our system.

## Categories and Subject Descriptors

K.6.m [Security and Protection]: Security; D.2.0 [Software Engineering]: Protection Mechanisms; F.3.1 [Specifying and Verifying and Reasoning about Programs]: Specification techniques.

## General Terms

Security, Verification, Design, Languages.

## Keywords

Secure information flow, cryptography, confidentiality, integrity, non-interference, type systems.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Information flow security is a well-established, high-level framework for reasoning about confidentiality and integrity, with a clear separation between security specifications and mechanisms. At a lower level, encryption provides essential mechanisms for confidentiality, with a wide range of algorithms reflecting different trade-offs between security, functionality, and efficiency. Thus, the secure usage of adequate algorithms for a particular system is far from trivial.

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Even with plain encryption, the confidentiality and integrity of keys, plaintexts, and ciphertexts are interdependent: encryption with untrusted keys is clearly dangerous, and plaintexts should never be more secret than their decryption keys. Integrity also matters: attackers may swap ciphertexts, and thus cause the declassification of the wrong data after their successful decryption. Conversely, to protect against chosen-ciphertext attacks, it may be necessary to authenticate ciphertexts, even when plaintexts are untrusted.

Modern encryption schemes offer useful additional features, such as the ability to blind ciphertexts, thereby hiding dependencies between encrypted inputs and outputs, and more generally to compute homomorphically on encrypted data, for instance by multiplying ciphertexts instead of adding their plaintexts. These features are naturally explained in terms of information flows; they enable computations at a lower level of confidentiality—homomorphic operations can be delegated to an “honest but curious” principal—but they also exclude CCA2 security and require some care in the presence of active adversaries.

In this paper, we develop an information-flow type system for cryptography, with precise typing rules to reflect the diverse functional and security features of encryption schemes. Our goal is to understand them better, and to guide protocol designers and programmers. We rely on standard cryptographic assumptions, expressed as probabilistic polynomial-time indistinguishability games—this level of detail is necessary to reliably capture the information flows of the underlying algorithms. Thus, our adversaries are probabilistic polynomial-time programs, with limited read and write access to data, that attempt to gain information about higher-confidentiality data, or to influence higher-integrity data, by interacting with our programs. Our main theorem states that well typed probabilistic polynomial programs using any combination of encryptions, blinding, homomorphic functions, and decryptions are such that our adversaries succeed only with a negligible probability. Depending on the relative security levels of keys, plaintexts, and ciphertexts, we propose different typing rules. Our rules are sound with regards to standard cryptographic assumptions such as CPA or CCA2; they enable the selective re-use of keys for protecting different types of payloads, as well as blinding and homomorphic properties.

**Secure Distributed Computations** Our work is part of a research project on the synthesis and verification of distributed cryptographic implementations of programs from a description of their information flow security requirements. Fournet et al. [10] present such a security compiler that automatically generates code for encryption and authentication. As illustrated in our programming examples, an important motivation for a new type system is to justify its efficient use of cryptography. For instance, we strive to re-use the

same keys for protecting different types of data at different levels of security, so that we can reduce the overall cost of cryptographic protection. More generally, we would like to automatically generate well-typed code for performing blind computations, such as those supported by the systems of Henecka et al. [14] and Katz and Malka [15].

Formally, our work is based on the type system of Fournet and Rezk [9], who introduce the notion of *computational non-interference* against active adversaries to express information flow security in probabilistic polynomial-time cryptographic systems and present a basic type system for encryption and authentication mechanisms. In comparison, their typing rules are much more restrictive, and only support CCA2 public-key encryptions with a single payload type.

**Applications** We illustrate our approach using programming examples based on classic encryption schemes with homomorphic properties [8, 22]. We also develop two challenging applications of our approach. Both applications rely on a security lattice with intermediate levels, reflecting the structure of their homomorphic operations, and enabling us to prove confidentiality properties, both for honest-but-curious servers and for compromised servers controlled by an active attacker.

- We program and typecheck a practical protocol for private search on data streams proposed by Ostrovsky and Skeith III [21], based on a Paillier encryption of the search query. This illustrates that our types protect against both explicit and implicit information flows; for instance we crucially need to apply some blinding operations to hide information about secret loop indexes.
- We program and typecheck the bootstrapping part of Gentry’s fully homomorphic encryption [11]. Starting from the properties of the bootstrappable algorithms given by Gentry—being CPA and homomorphic for its own decryption and for some basic operations—we obtain an homomorphic encryption scheme for an arbitrary function. This illustrates three important features of our type system: the ability to encrypt decryption keys (which is also important for typing key establishment protocols); the use of CPA encryption despite some chosen-ciphertext attacks; and an interesting instance of homomorphism where the homomorphic function is itself a decryption.

This paper exclusively treats public-key encryptions. We believe that their symmetric-key counterparts can be treated similarly. We also refer to Fournet and Rezk [9] for cryptographic types for authentication primitives, such as public-key signatures. This paper omits many details and all proofs. The full paper, programming examples, and a prototype typechecker for our system are available online at [msr-inria.inria.fr/projects/sec/cflow](http://msr-inria.inria.fr/projects/sec/cflow).

## 2. PROGRAMS, TYPES, AND POLICIES

We use an imperative probabilistic WHILE language with security policies. A probabilistic semantics is necessary for modeling encryption security [13]. Shared memory is sufficient to model a wide range of interactions between programs and adversaries; for instance public untrusted variables model an open network.

**Language** The grammar for expressions and commands is

$$\begin{aligned} e &::= x \mid op(e_1, \dots, e_n) \\ P &::= x := e \mid x_1, \dots, x_m := f(e_1, \dots, e_n) \mid \\ &\quad P; P \mid \text{if } e \text{ then } P \text{ else } P \mid \text{while } e \text{ do } P \mid \text{skip} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{ASSIGNS} \quad \frac{\llbracket e \rrbracket(\mu) = v}{\langle x := e, \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_1 \langle \sqrt{\phantom{x}}, \mu \{x \mapsto v\} \rangle} \\ &\text{SEQS} \quad \frac{\langle P, \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_p \langle P_1, \mu_1 \rangle \quad P_1 \neq \sqrt{\phantom{x}}}{\langle P; P', \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_p \langle P_1; P', \mu_1 \rangle} \quad \text{SEQT} \quad \frac{\langle P, \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_p \langle \sqrt{\phantom{x}}, \mu_1 \rangle}{\langle P; P', \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_p \langle P', \mu_1 \rangle} \\ &\text{SKIPS} \quad \langle \text{skip}, \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_1 \langle \sqrt{\phantom{x}}, \mu \rangle \quad \text{STABLE} \quad \langle \sqrt{\phantom{x}}, \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_1 \langle \sqrt{\phantom{x}}, \mu \rangle \\ &\text{CONDTRUE} \quad \frac{\llbracket e \rrbracket(\mu) \neq 0}{\langle \text{if } e \text{ then } P \text{ else } P', \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_1 \langle P, \mu \rangle} \\ &\text{CONDFALSE} \quad \frac{\llbracket e \rrbracket(\mu) = 0}{\langle \text{if } e \text{ then } P \text{ else } P', \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_1 \langle P', \mu \rangle} \\ &\text{WHILETRUE} \quad \frac{\llbracket e \rrbracket(\mu) \neq 0}{\langle \text{while } e \text{ do } P, \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_1 \langle P; \text{while } e \text{ do } P, \mu \rangle} \\ &\text{WHILEFALSE} \quad \frac{\llbracket e \rrbracket(\mu) = 0}{\langle \text{while } e \text{ do } P, \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_1 \langle \sqrt{\phantom{x}}, \mu \rangle} \\ &\text{FUN} \quad \frac{p = \llbracket f \rrbracket(\mu(y_1), \dots, \mu(y_n))(\vec{v}) \quad p > 0}{\langle \vec{x} := f(y_1, \dots, y_n), \mu \rangle \rightsquigarrow_p \langle \sqrt{\phantom{x}}, \mu \{ \vec{x} \mapsto \vec{v} \} \rangle} \end{aligned}$$

Figure 1: Probabilistic operational semantics

where  $op$  and  $f$  range over polynomial  $n$ -ary deterministic and probabilistic functions respectively, with arity  $n \geq 0$ .

Expressions  $e$  consist of variables and operations on data represented as bitstrings. We write  $op$  for nullary operations  $op()$ . We assume given standard functions for boolean and arithmetic constants  $(0, 1, \dots)$  and operators  $(\mid, +, \dots)$ . We let  $=_0$  be comparison on booleans, true when both its arguments are either 0 or non-0. We also have standard functions for pairs and functional arrays: we use  $\langle e_0, e_1 \rangle$  and  $(e)_i$  for constructing and projecting pairs, and use  $e[e_i]$  and  $\text{update}(x, e, e_i)$  for reading and updating arrays.

Commands  $P$  consist of variable assignments, using deterministic expressions and probabilistic functions (such as encryptions or key generations) composed into sequences, conditionals, and loops. We use syntactic sugar for arrays, writing  $x[e_i] := e$  instead of  $x := \text{update}(x, e, e_i)$ , and for loops, writing for  $x := e$  to  $e'$  do  $P$  instead of  $x := e; \text{while } x \leq e' \text{ do } \{P; x := x + 1\}$ .

**Semantics** Configurations  $(s)$  range over pairs of a command and a memory, written  $\langle P, \mu \rangle$ , plus inert configurations, written  $\langle \sqrt{\phantom{x}}, \mu \rangle$ , that represent termination with final memory  $\mu$ .

Probabilistic reductions between distributions of configurations are based on a probabilistic transition relation  $\rightsquigarrow_p$  defined in Figure 1. We lift these reduction steps to configuration distributions  $(d)$ , and write  $d \rightsquigarrow d'$  when, for all configurations  $s'$ , we have  $d'(s') = \sum_{s \rightsquigarrow_p s'} p \times d(s)$ . We denote by  $\rho_{\infty}(\langle P, \mu \rangle)$  the final distribution of memories after running program  $P$  with initial memory  $\mu$ . We write  $\text{Pr}[\langle P, \mu \rangle; \varphi]$  for the probability that  $P$  terminates with a final memory that meets condition  $\varphi$ .

**Confidentiality and Integrity** We annotate variables, types, and commands with security labels. These labels specify the programmer’s security intent, but they do not affect the behavior of programs. The security labels form a lattice  $(\mathcal{L}, \leq)$  obtained as the

product of two lattices, for confidentiality ( $\mathcal{L}_C, \leq_C$ ) and for integrity ( $\mathcal{L}_I, \leq_I$ ). We write  $\perp_{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $\top_{\mathcal{L}}$  for the smallest and largest elements of  $\mathcal{L}$ , and  $\sqcup$  and  $\sqcap$  for the least upper bound and greatest lower bound of two labels, respectively. We write  $\perp_C, \perp_I, \top_C$ , and  $\top_I$  for the smallest and largest elements of  $\mathcal{L}_C$  and  $\mathcal{L}_I$ , respectively.

For a given label  $\ell = (\ell_C, \ell_I)$  of  $\mathcal{L}$ , the confidentiality label  $\ell_C$  specifies a read level for variables, while the integrity label  $\ell_I$  specifies a write level; the meaning of  $\ell \leq \ell'$  is that  $\ell'$  is at least as confidential (can be read by fewer entities) and at most as trusted (can be written by more entities) than  $\ell$  [20]. We let  $C(\ell) = \ell_C$  and  $I(\ell) = \ell_I$  be the projections that yield the confidentiality and integrity parts of a label. We overload  $\leq_C$  and  $\leq_I$ , writing  $\ell \leq_C \ell'$  for  $C(\ell) \leq_C C(\ell')$  and  $\ell \leq_I \ell'$  for  $I(\ell) \leq_I I(\ell')$ . Hence, the partial order on  $\mathcal{L}$  is defined as  $\ell \leq \ell'$  iff  $\ell \leq_C \ell'$  and  $\ell \leq_I \ell'$ . In examples, we often use a four-point lattice defined by  $LH < HH < HL$  and  $LH < LL < HL$ , where for instance  $LH$  stands for low confidentiality and high integrity.

**Types for Information-Flow Security** We use the following grammar for security types:

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| $\tau ::= t(\ell) \mid \tau * \tau \mid \text{Array } \tau$                 | Security types        |
| $t ::= \text{Data}$   | Payload Data types    |
| $\mid \text{Enc } \tau \ K \ q \mid \text{Ke } E \ K \mid \text{Kd } E \ K$ | Encryption Data types |

where  $\ell \in \mathcal{L}$  is a security label,  $E$  is a set of security types,  $K$  is a key label, and  $q$  is an encryption index, as explained below. We have pairs at the level of the security types to keep track of tuples of values with different labels, e.g. for encrypting tuples.

Let  $L$  be the projection from security types to labels defined by  $L(\tau * \tau') = L(\tau) \sqcap L(\tau')$ ,  $L(\text{Array } (\tau)) = L(\tau)$ , and  $L(t(\ell)) = \ell$ . We overload  $\leq$  for subtyping on security types (e.g.  $t(\ell) \leq t(\ell')$  if  $\ell \leq \ell'$ ) and as a relation between security types and labels (e.g.  $t(\ell) \leq \ell$ ). We overload  $\sqcup$  from labels to types (e.g.  $t(\ell') \sqcup \ell = t(\ell' \sqcup \ell)$ ). Memory policies are functions  $\Gamma$  from variables to security types. For a given policy  $\Gamma$ , we overload  $\leq$  as a relation between variables, security types, and labels (e.g.  $x \leq \ell$  if  $\Gamma(x) \leq \ell$ ).

We explain our datatypes for encryptions, but defer their typing rules to the next sections.  $\text{Enc } \tau \ K$  represents an encryption of a plaintext with security type  $\tau$ ;  $\text{Ke } E \ K$  and  $\text{Kd } E \ K$  represent encryption and decryption keys, respectively, with a set  $E$  that indicates the range of security types  $\tau$  for the plaintexts that may be encrypted and decrypted with these keys. This set enables us to type code that uses the same key for encrypting values of different types, which is important for efficiency.

The key labels  $K$  are used to keep track of keys, grouped by their key-generation commands. In a given program, there should be only one keypair generation for a given label. These labels are attached to the types of the generated keypairs, and propagated to the types of any derived cryptographic materials. They are used to match the usage of key pairs and to prevent key cycles.

The encryption indexes  $q$  are used to distinguish between different datatypes for encryptions, for instance when they range over different groups before and after some homomorphic operations. In all other cases, we use a single, implicit index  $q = 0$ .

**Active adversaries** For a given  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}$ , we let  $\alpha$ -adversaries range over commands  $A$  that read variables in a set  $V_{\alpha}^C = \{x \mid x \leq_C \alpha\}$  and write variables outside a set  $V_{\alpha}^I = \{x \mid x \leq_I \alpha\}$ , that is,  $rv(A) \subseteq V_{\alpha}^C$  and  $wv(A) \cap V_{\alpha}^I = \emptyset$ . We consider programs obtained by composing commands with diverse levels of trust, including any  $\alpha$ -adversaries as well as fixed, trusted commands. To this end, we write  $P[\_]$  for a command context (with a grammar obtained from that of  $P$  by adding a hole  $\_$ ) and  $P[P']$  for the command obtained by replacing each occurrence of  $\_$  with  $P'$ .

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>VAR</b><br>$\frac{}{\vdash x : \Gamma(x)}$  | <b>OP</b><br>$\frac{op : \tau_1 \dots \tau_n \rightarrow \tau \quad \vdash e_i : \tau_i \text{ for } i = 1..n}{\vdash op(e_1, \dots, e_n) : \tau}$  | <b>SUBE</b><br>$\frac{\vdash e : \tau \quad \tau \leq \tau'}{\vdash e : \tau'}$ |
| <b>ASSIGN</b><br>$\frac{}{\vdash x := e : L(x)}$   | <b>PROBFUN</b><br>$\frac{\vdash e : \text{Data } (\ell) \text{ for } e \in \vec{e} \quad \text{Data } (\ell) \leq \Gamma(x) \text{ for } x \in \vec{x}}{\vdash \vec{x} := f(\vec{e}) : \ell}$ |   |
| <b>SEQ</b><br>$\frac{\vdash P : \ell \quad \vdash P' : \ell}{\vdash P ; P' : \ell}$  | <b>COND</b><br>$\frac{\vdash e : \text{Data } (\ell) \quad \vdash P : \ell \quad \vdash P' : \ell}{\vdash \text{if } e \text{ then } P \text{ else } P' : \ell}$                              |   |
| <b>WHILE</b><br>$\frac{\vdash e : \text{Data } (\ell) \quad \vdash P : \ell}{\vdash \text{while } e \text{ do } P : \ell}$ | <b>SUBC</b><br>$\frac{\vdash P : \ell \quad \ell' \leq \ell}{\vdash P : \ell'}$   | <b>SKIP</b><br>$\vdash \text{skip} : \top_{\mathcal{L}}$                        |
| <b>HOLE</b><br>$\vdash \_ : (C(\alpha), \top_I)$   |   |   |

**Figure 2: Non-cryptographic typing rules with policy  $\Gamma$ .**

Figure 2 defines a type system that prevents information flows in command contexts that do not rely on cryptography: two runs of the command obtained by inserting  $\alpha$ -adversaries, starting with initial memories that coincide on all variables in  $V_{\alpha}^C$  (resp. outside  $V_{\alpha}^I$ ), yield final memory distributions that also coincide on those variables. The typing rules are standard, except for Rule HOLE, which safely accounts for any  $\alpha$ -adversary, and Rule PROBFUN, which is a probabilistic version of OP. In Rule OP, the first hypothesis gives the type signature of  $op$ :

|   |
|---|
| $op : \text{Data } (\ell) * \dots * \text{Data } (\ell) \rightarrow \text{Data } (\ell)$              |
| $\langle \rangle : \tau_0, \tau_1 \rightarrow (\tau_0 * \tau_1)$                                      |
| $()_i : (\tau_0 * \tau_1) \rightarrow \tau_i$   |
| $[] : \text{Array } (\tau)$   |
| $\text{cell} : \text{Array } (\tau), \text{Data } (L(\tau)) \rightarrow \tau$                         |
| $\text{update} : \text{Array } (\tau), \tau, \text{Data } (L(\tau)) \rightarrow \text{Array } (\tau)$ |
| $+$ : $\text{Array } (\tau), \tau \rightarrow \text{Array } (\tau)$                                   |
| $\text{size} : \text{Array } (\tau) \rightarrow \text{Data } (L(\tau))$                               |

We assume that all primitive operations run in polynomial time in the size of their arguments, and that all primitive probabilistic functions yield distributions that are polynomial-time samplable. As we use cryptographic primitives, we assume that they take an additional parameter included in the initial memory whose length matches a security parameter  $\eta$ . We overload  $\text{Pr}[(P, \mu); \varphi]$  to denote a probability function parameterized by  $\eta$ . This function is deemed negligible when, for all  $c > 0$ , there exists  $\eta_c$  such that, for all  $\eta \geq \eta_c$ , we have  $\text{Pr}[(P, \mu); \varphi] \leq \eta^{-c}$ .

### 3. TYPING ENCRYPTIONS

We consider cryptographic algorithms for asymmetric (public key) encryption. We model them in our language as probabilistic functions  $\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{E}$ , and  $\mathcal{D}$  that meet both functional and security properties, given below.

**DEFINITION 1 (ENCRYPTION SCHEME).** *Let  $\text{pubkeys}$ ,  $\text{seckey}$ s,  $\text{plaintexts}$ , and  $\text{ciphertexts}$  be sets of polynomially-bounded bit-strings indexed by  $\eta$ . An asymmetric encryption scheme is a triple of algorithms  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  such that*

1.  $\mathcal{G}_e$ , used for key generation, ranges over  $\text{pubkeys} \times \text{seckey}$ s;

2.  $\mathcal{E}$ , used for encryption, ranges over ciphertexts;
3.  $\mathcal{D}$ , used for decryption, ranges over plaintexts;
4. for all  $k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e()$ , if  $y := \mathcal{E}(m, k_e)$  with  $m \in \text{plaintexts}$ , then  $\mathcal{D}(y, k_d) = m$ .

Next, we recast the usual game-based definition of resistance against chosen plaintext attacks in our setting.

**DEFINITION 2 (CPA SECURITY).** *The scheme  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  provides indistinguishability against adaptive chosen-plaintext attacks when, for the commands*

$$E \doteq \text{if } b = 0 \text{ then } m := \mathcal{E}(x_0, k_e) \text{ else } m := \mathcal{E}(x_1, k_e) \\ \text{CPA} \doteq b := \{0, 1\}; k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e(); A[E]$$

and for any polynomials command context  $A$  such that  $b, k_d \notin \text{rv}(A)$  and  $b, k_d, k_e, \eta \notin \text{wv}(A)$ , the advantage of the adversary defined as  $|\Pr[\text{CPA}; b = 0] - \frac{1}{2}|$  is negligible.

The definition involves an indistinguishability game where the adversary command  $A$  attempts to guess (and write in variable  $g$ ) whether the oracle encrypts  $x_0$  or  $x_1$ . This notion of security does not involve the decryption algorithm. In particular, it does not cover chosen-ciphertext attacks.

**Typing CPA encryptions** Figure 3 gives cryptographic rules for typing the algorithms of a CPA encryption scheme.

In Rule **GENE** for key generation, the first hypothesis requires that the encryption scheme (implicitly parameterized by the key label  $K$ ) be at least CPA secure. The next two hypotheses give matching encryption-key and decryption-key types to variables  $k_e$  and  $k_d$ , with the same key label  $K$  and the same range of plaintexts  $E$ . The constraint  $\tau \leq_C \ell_d$  for every type  $\tau \in E$  states that the decryption key  $k_d$  is at least as confidential as every plaintext, thereby preventing confidentiality leaks by key compromise. (The constraint appears in **GENE** rather than **DECRYPT**, to ensure that all copies of the decryption key are sufficiently confidential.)

In Rule **ENCRYPT**, the first three hypotheses bind types to the ciphertext  $y$ , plaintext  $e$ , and key  $k_e$  involved in the encryption; these types are related by  $\tau \in E$  and  $K$ . The type of  $y$  carries two security labels:  $\ell_y$ , the level of the encryption, and  $L(\tau)$  within  $\text{Enc } \tau K$ , the level of the encrypted plaintext. The label  $\ell_y$  in the typing of  $k_e$  records an ordinary flow from  $k_e$  to  $y$ : by subtyping, we must have  $L(k_e) \leq \ell_y$ . Conversely, there is no constraint on the flow from  $e$  to  $y$ , so our typing rule may be sound only with cryptographic assumptions: for confidentiality, this flow reflects that encryption is a form of declassification:  $e$  can be more confidential than  $y$ . In that case, that is  $\tau \not\leq_C y$ , we say that  $K$  declassifies  $C(\tau)$ . For integrity, this flow reflects that encryption is also a form of endorsement: intuitively,  $y$  is only a carrier for  $e$ , not in itself an observable outcome of the program; its integrity indicates that  $y$  is the result of a correct encryption, even when  $e$  itself is not trusted. Finally, the disjunction is a robustness condition on the encryption key, requiring that its integrity be sufficient to protect the confidentiality of the plaintext. The first disjunct excludes that an  $\alpha$ -adversary may affect the encryption key (for instance overwriting it with a key she knows). The second disjunct states that the confidentiality protection provided by the key is nil, since an  $\alpha$ -adversary may directly read the plaintext. Hence, in case  $E$  contains plaintexts with different levels of secrecy, a key with relatively low integrity may still be used to encrypt a plaintext with relatively low confidentiality.

In Rule **DECRYPT**, the first three hypotheses on the left bind types to the variables  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $k_d$  involved in the decryption; these types

are related by  $\tau$  and  $K$ . The label  $L(x)$  flows from  $y$  to  $x$ , as in a normal assignment. The label  $\ell_d$  and the hypothesis  $\ell_d \leq_I x$  record integrity flows from  $k_d$  to  $x$ , as in a normal assignment. Conversely, there is no constraint on the confidentiality flow from  $k_d$  to the plaintext  $x$ , so our typing rule may be sound only with cryptographic assumptions. Informally, this reflects that the decrypted plaintext yield no information on the decryption key itself, thereby enabling decryptions of plaintexts with different confidentiality levels. When  $\ell_d \not\leq_C x$ , we say that  $K$  declassifies  $C(\ell_d)$ .

The disjunction deals with the integrity of the ciphertext  $y$  and the decryption key  $k_d$ , with three cases: either

- both ciphertext and decryption key have high integrity; or
- the plaintext is at least as confidential as the key; or
- cryptographic protection is nil, since an  $\alpha$ -adversary may read the decryption key then decrypt the plaintext.

The first case intuitively reflects our CPA security assumptions: it requires that the integrity of the ciphertext and the decryption key suffices to guarantee a correct decryption.

When  $y \not\leq_I \alpha$  and  $\ell_d \not\leq_C \alpha$ , the second case covers some chosen-ciphertext attacks, which may come as a surprise: in that case, we say that  $K$  depends on  $C(x)$  and we rely on an additional safety condition (see also Example 3 and 4). When  $\ell_d \not\leq_I \alpha$  and  $\ell_d \not\leq_C \alpha$ , the second case also cover compromise of the decryption key, which may then flow to the decrypted value, as discussed in Example 2.

**Examples** We provide a series of examples that illustrate the relative information-flow security properties of encryptions. In the examples, unless specified otherwise, we assume that  $\alpha$  is  $LH$  and  $k_e, k_d$  is a secure keypair, that is, we set  $L(k_e) = LH$  and  $L(k_d) = HH$  and assume that  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  is CPA. We also write for instance  $x_{LH}$  for a variable such that  $L(x_{LH}) = LH$ . We first encrypt a pair of mixed integrity into a ciphertext of high integrity:

**EXAMPLE 1 (HIGHER-INTEGRITY ENCRYPTIONS).**

Consider the command context

$$k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e(); x := (x_{HH}, x_{HL}); y_{LH} := \mathcal{E}(x, k_e); \_ ; \\ x' := \mathcal{D}(y_{LH}, k_d); x'_{HH} := (x')_0; x'_{HL} := (x')_1$$

Let  $\Gamma(x) = \Gamma(x') = \text{Data}(HH) * \text{Data}(HL)$ . This command typechecks; it is safe, inasmuch as the adversary can influence the values of  $x_{HL}$ ,  $x'_{HL}$  and of the ciphertext  $y_{LH}$ , but not the final value of  $x'_{HH}$ .

Encrypting with a low-integrity key clearly leads to confidentiality leaks, as the adversary may overwrite the key with its own key before the encryption. Decrypting with a low-integrity decryption key may also be problematic, especially when the plaintext is not secret, as illustrated below:

**EXAMPLE 2 (LOW-INTEGRITY KEYS).**

Consider the command context

$$k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e(); k'_d := k_d; y_{LH} := \mathcal{E}(1, k_e); \_ ; \\ \text{if } x_{HH} \text{ then } k''_d := k_d \text{ else } k''_d := k'_d; x_{LL} := \mathcal{D}(y_{LH}, k''_d)$$

We let  $k'_d$  and  $k''_d$  be low-integrity copies of the decryption key, that is  $L(k'_d) = L(k''_d) = HL$ . The command is not typable, and is actually unsafe, since we may fill the hole with the command  $k'_d := 0$ ; thus,  $k''_d$  to contain the correct key if and only if  $x_{HH} \neq 0$ , and the adversary can finally compare  $x_{LL}$  with 1, the correct decryption, and infer the confidential value  $x_{HH}$ .

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p>GENE</p> $\frac{\begin{array}{l} (\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D}) \text{ is CPA} \\ \Gamma(k_e) = \text{KeE} K(\ell_e) \\ \Gamma(k_d) = \text{KdE} K(\ell_d) \\ \forall \tau \in \mathbf{E}, \tau \leq_C \ell_d \end{array}}{\vdash k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e() : \ell_e \sqcap \ell_d}$ | <p>ENCRYPT</p> $\frac{\begin{array}{l} \Gamma(y) = \text{Enc } \tau K(\ell_y) \\ \vdash e : \tau \quad \tau \in \mathbf{E} \\ \vdash k_e : \text{KeE} K(\ell_e) \\ k_e \leq_I \alpha \text{ or } \tau \leq_C \alpha \end{array}}{\vdash y := \mathcal{E}(e, k_e) : \ell_y}$ | <p>DECRYPT</p> $\frac{\begin{array}{l} \tau \leq \Gamma(x) \quad \tau \in \mathbf{E} \\ \vdash y : \text{Enc } \tau K(L(x)) \\ \vdash k_d : \text{KdE} K(\ell_d) \quad \ell_d \leq_I x \\ (y \leq_I \alpha \text{ and } \ell_d \leq_I \alpha) \text{ or } \ell_d \leq_C x \text{ or } \ell_d \leq_C \alpha \end{array}}{\vdash x := \mathcal{D}(y, k_d) : L(x)}$ |
|--|---|--|

Figure 3: Typing rules for CPA encryption with policy  $\Gamma$ .

Similarly, since we rely on CPA (for chosen plaintext) and not CCA (for chosen ciphertext), decrypting a low-integrity ciphertext may also be problematic, as illustrated below:

**EXAMPLE 3 (CHOSEN-CIPHERTEXT ATTACKS).** *When decrypted, low-integrity ciphertexts may leak information about their decryption keys. For a given CPA encryption scheme  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$ , we derive a new scheme  $(\mathcal{G}'_e, \mathcal{E}', \mathcal{D}')$  as follows:*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}'_e() &\doteq \mathcal{G}_e() & \mathcal{E}'(x, k_e) &\doteq 1|\mathcal{E}(x, k_e) \\ \mathcal{D}'(y, k_d) &\doteq b|y' := y; \text{ if } b = 0 \text{ then } k_d \text{ else } \mathcal{D}(y', k_d) \end{aligned}$$

(where  $b|y' := y$  abbreviates decomposing  $y$  into  $b$  and  $y'$ ). In the new scheme, decryption leaks its key when called on an ill-formed ciphertext (prefixed with a 0 instead of a 1).

Although this scheme is CPA, decryption of a low-integrity ciphertext may cause a confidentiality flow from  $k_d$  to the decrypted plaintext, letting the adversary decrypt any other value encrypted under  $k_e$ .

**CPA versus chosen ciphertext attacks** As illustrated in Sections 7 and 8, our typing rules for CPA allow the decryption of low-integrity ciphertexts when the plaintext is secret, as long as the resulting plaintext never flows to any cryptographic declassification.

We define a notion of key dependencies, used to express the absence of key cycles in Section 6, and we give a counter-example showing an implicit information flow for one such cycle.

**DEFINITION 3 (KEY DEPENDENCIES).** *For given policy, adversary, and typed command context  $P$ ,  $K$  depends on  $K'$  when*

1.  $K$  occurs in the set  $\mathbf{E}'$  of plaintext types for  $K'$ ; or
2.  $K$  depends on  $c$ ,  $c \leq_C c'$ , and  $K'$  declassifies  $c'$ .

**EXAMPLE 4.** *For a given CPA encryption scheme  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$ , we define a modified scheme  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{E}', \mathcal{D}')$  as follows:*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}'(x, k_e) &\doteq r := \text{random\_plaintext}(); \\ &\quad \text{if } \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{E}(r, k_e), x) = r \text{ then } 0|x \text{ else } 1|\mathcal{E}(x, k_e) \\ \mathcal{D}'(b|y', k_d) &\doteq \text{if } b = 0 \text{ then } k_d \text{ else } \mathcal{D}(y', k_d) \end{aligned}$$

In the modified scheme, the encryption of a decryption key with the corresponding encryption key leaks the decryption key. This scheme is still CPA since an adversary would have to guess the decryption key for a successful attack. However, this scheme leaks  $k_d$  when the decryption of a compromised plaintext appears in an encryption:

$$\begin{aligned} k_e, k_d &:= \mathcal{G}_e(); y_{LL} := \mathcal{E}(0, k_e); \_ ; \\ x_{HL} &:= \mathcal{D}(y_{LL}, k_d); y'_{LL} := \mathcal{E}(x_{HL}, k_e); \end{aligned}$$

This command has a key-dependency cycle, but it is otherwise typable, and it is unsafe: we may fill the hole with a command injecting an ill-formed ciphertext; thus  $y'_{LL} = x_{HL} = k_d$  and the adversary can obtain the private key by reading  $y'_{LL}$ .

**Typing CCA2 encryptions** We recall the definition of CCA2, obtained from CPA by adding a decryption oracle:

**DEFINITION 4 (CCA2 SECURITY).** *The scheme  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  provides indistinguishability against adaptive chosen-plaintext and chosen-ciphertext attacks when, for the commands*

$$\begin{aligned} E &\doteq \text{if } b = 0 \text{ then } m := \mathcal{E}(x_0, k_e) \text{ else } m := \mathcal{E}(x_1, k_e); \\ &\quad \log := \log + m \end{aligned}$$

$$D \doteq \text{if } m \in \log \text{ then } x := 0 \text{ else } x := \mathcal{D}(m, k_d)$$

$$\text{CCA} \doteq b := \{0, 1\}; \log := \text{nil}; k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e(); A[E, D]$$

and for any polynomial command context  $A$  such that  $b, k_d \notin \text{rv}(A)$  and  $b, k_d, k_e, \eta, \log \notin \text{wv}(A)$ , the advantage of the adversary  $|\Pr[\text{CCA}; b =_0 g] - \frac{1}{2}|$  is negligible.

If the scheme is CCA2 secure, we may use an additional rule for typing decryptions, given below.

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{DECRYPT CCA2} \\ \tau \leq \Gamma(x) \quad \tau \in \mathbf{E} \\ \vdash y : \text{Enc } \tau K(L(x)) \\ \vdash k_d : \text{KdE} K(\ell_d) \quad \ell_d \leq_I x \quad \ell_d \leq_I \alpha \text{ or } \ell_d \leq_C \alpha \\ \forall \tau' \in \mathbf{E}, \tau' \leq \tau \sqcup (\perp, \top) \end{array}}{\vdash x := \mathcal{D}(y, k_d) : L(x)} \quad (\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D}) \text{ is CCA2}$$

Except for the CCA2 cryptographic assumption, the rule differs from rule DECRYPT only on the last line of hypotheses, so DECRYPT CCA2 effectively adds a fourth case for decryptions of low-integrity ciphertexts. In this new case, the adversary may be able to mix encryptions for values of type  $\tau$  with those of values of any other type  $\tau' \in \mathbf{E}$ , so we must statically exclude some of the resulting flows between plaintexts:  $\tau$  and  $\tau'$  must have the same datatypes at the same levels of confidentiality.

**EXAMPLE 5 (CIPHERTEXT REWRITING).** *Consider a command context using the same keypair for payloads at levels HH and LL:*

$$\begin{aligned} k_e, k_d &:= \mathcal{G}_e(); \\ y_{LL} &:= \mathcal{E}(x_{LL}, k_e); y'_{LL} := \mathcal{E}(x_{HH}, k_e); \_ ; x'_{LL} := \mathcal{D}(y_{LL}, k_d) \end{aligned}$$

The command is not typable, and is unsafe: indeed, we may fill the hole with an adversary command  $y_{LL} := y'_{LL}$ , thereby causing the program to leak a copy of the secret  $x_{HH}$  into  $x'_{LL}$ .

## 4. BLINDING SCHEMES: SECURITY AND TYPING

Blinding schemes, also known as reencryption schemes, have been introduced by Blaze et al. [3] and can be seen as special cases of homomorphic encryption schemes. To precisely keep track of their information flows, we separate encryption into two stages, each with its own primitive and typing rule:

- Pre-encryption  $\mathcal{P}()$  inputs a plaintext and outputs its representation as a ciphertext, but does not in itself provides confidentiality; it can be deterministic; it is typed as an ordinary operation and does not involve declassification.
- Blinding  $\mathcal{B}()$  operates on ciphertexts; it hides the correlation between its input and its output, by randomly sampling another ciphertext that decrypts to the same plaintext; it is typed with a declassification, similarly to rule ENCRYPT.

As shown below, some standard encryption schemes can easily be decomposed into pre-encryption and blinding. This enables us for instance to blind a ciphertext without knowing its plaintext, and to perform multiple operations on ciphertexts before blinding. For conciseness, we may still write  $\mathcal{E}$  instead of  $\mathcal{P}; \mathcal{B}$  when the two operations are executed together. We define the functional properties of blinding encryption schemes:

**DEFINITION 5 (BLINDING SCHEME).** A blinding encryption scheme is a tuple  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{D})$  such that  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{P}; \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{D})$  is an encryption scheme and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a probabilistic function such that, for all  $k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e()$ , if  $v$  encrypts  $m$ , then  $\mathcal{D}(v, k_d) = m$ , where ‘encrypts’ is defined by

1.  $v$  encrypts  $m$  when  $v := \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P}(m, k_e))$  with  $m \in \text{plaintexts}$ ;
2.  $v'$  encrypts  $m$  when  $v' := \mathcal{B}(v, k_e)$  and  $v$  encrypts  $m$ .

Blinding hides whether an encrypted value is a copy of an other, as shown in the following example.

**EXAMPLE 6.** Consider a service that, depending on a secret, either forwards or overwrites an encrypted message. We distinguish a third confidentiality level  $S$  such that  $L \leq_C S \leq_C H$ .

$k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e()$ ;  $y_{LH} := \mathcal{E}(m_{HH}, k_e)$ ;  
 if  $s_{SH}$  then  $y_{SH} := \mathcal{P}(m_{SH}, k_e)$  else  $y_{SH} := y_{LH}$ ;  
 $y'_{LH} := \mathcal{B}(y_{SH}, k_e)$

The resulting ciphertext  $y_{SH}$  is itself secret, as an adversary may otherwise compare it with  $y_{LH}$  and infer the value of  $s_{SH}$ . After blinding, however,  $y'_{LH}$  still protects the same message but can be safely treated as public, as an adversary reading  $y_{LH}$  and  $y'_{LH}$  learns nothing about  $m_{HH}$  or  $s_{SH}$ .

**CPA for Blinding** A blinding scheme  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{D})$  is secure enough to be used with our typing rules when  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{D})$  is CPA. We have shown this property for the blinding schemes based on El-Gamal [8]  $(\mathcal{G}_e^E, \mathcal{P}^E, \mathcal{B}^E, \mathcal{D}^E)$ , and Paillier [22]  $(\mathcal{G}_e^P, \mathcal{P}^P, \mathcal{B}^P, \mathcal{D}^P)$ .

**THEOREM 1.**  $(\mathcal{G}_e^E, \mathcal{B}^E, \mathcal{D}^E)$  and  $(\mathcal{G}_e^P, \mathcal{B}^P, \mathcal{D}^P)$  are CPA.

**Typing rules for Pre-Encryption and Blinding** The typing rules for pre-encryption and blinding appear in Figure 4.

Rule PRE-ENCRYPT is similar to ENCRYPT, but constrains the confidentiality flow from  $e$  to  $y$ , which forbids any declassification by typing.

The first three hypotheses of the Rule BLIND bind types to the variables  $k_e, z$ , and  $y$ . These types are related by  $\tau, \tau' \in E$  and  $K$ , which are also typing assumptions for encryptions with key  $k_e$ . The label  $\ell_y$  in the typing of  $k_e$  records the flow from  $k_e$  to  $y$  (by subtyping, we must have  $k_e \leq \ell_y$ ). The label  $L(\tau)$  in the typing of  $z$  records the flow from  $z$  to the encrypted value in  $y$ . The hypothesis  $\tau \leq \tau'$  ensure the correctness of the flow from the encrypted value in  $z$  to the encrypted value in  $y$ . Similarly to ENCRYPT, there is no constraint on the flow from  $z$  to  $y$ , so our typing rule may be sound only with cryptographic assumptions. When  $z \not\leq_C y$ , we say that  $K$  declassifies  $C(z)$ .

## 5. HOMOMORPHIC ENCRYPTIONS

We now consider encryption schemes with homomorphic properties: some functions on plaintexts can instead be computed on their ciphertexts, so that the command that performs the computation may run at a lower level of confidentiality. These schemes enable private remote evaluation: supposing that  $f_K$  is a function that homomorphically compute a function  $f$ , a client may delegate its evaluation to a server as follows:

1. the client encrypts the secret plaintext  $x$  into  $z_1$ ;
2. the server applies  $f_K$  to the encrypted value (possibly encrypting its own secret inputs);
3. the client decrypts the result.

Programmatically, to implement  $x' := f(x)$ , we use a sequence of three commands sharing the variables  $z$  and  $z'$  and the encryption key  $k_e$ :

$z := \mathcal{E}(x, k_e); z' := f_K(z, k_e); x' := \mathcal{D}(z', k_d)$

For simplicity, we do not consider probabilistic homomorphic functions, or homomorphic functions that take non-ciphertext arguments.

**DEFINITION 6 (HOMOMORPHIC ENCRYPTION SCHEME).** An homomorphic encryption scheme is a tuple  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{F})$  such that  $(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{D})$  is a blinding encryption scheme and  $\mathcal{F}$  is a partial map on polynomial deterministic functions such that for all  $k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e()$ , if  $v$  encrypts  $m$ , then  $\mathcal{D}(v, k_d) = m$ , where ‘encrypts’ is defined by

1.  $v$  encrypts  $m$  when  $v := \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P}(m, k_e))$  with  $m \in \text{plaintexts}$ ;
2.  $v'$  encrypts  $m$  when  $v' := \mathcal{B}(v, k_e)$  and  $v$  encrypts  $m$ .
3.  $v$  encrypts  $q'$   $f(m_1, \dots, m_n)$  when  $f \mapsto f_K : q \rightarrow q' \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $v := f_K(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ , and each  $v_i$  encrypts  $m_i$  for  $i \in 1..n$ .

Homomorphic properties are usually incompatible with CCA2 security. Also, practical encryption schemes usually support a few fixed functions  $f$ , and often put limits on the number of consecutive applications of  $f_K$ . (This is the purpose of indexes in our model.) Intuitively, these homomorphic application are not perfect; they also produce noise, which may eventually leads to incorrect decryptions. For example, [4] provides a scheme with an unlimited number of additions but only one homomorphic multiplication. In our model, this translate to:  $\mathcal{F} = \{+ \mapsto +_K : 0 \rightarrow 0; * \mapsto *_K : 0 \rightarrow 1; + \mapsto +_K : 1 \rightarrow 1\}$ .

Figure 4 includes our additional rule for homomorphic computation, HOM-FUN. This rule is parametric on the homomorphic encryption scheme, and relies on a typing assumption on the corresponding ‘virtual’ computation on plaintexts, using a security policy extended with fresh plaintext variables:  $\Gamma, x : \tau \sqcup \ell_y, \vec{x} : \vec{\tau} \sqcup \ell_y \vdash x := f(\vec{x}) : L(\tau) \sqcup \ell_y$ .

The first hypotheses bind types to the variables  $k_e, y$ , and  $\vec{z}$  involved in the homomorphic operation; these types are related by  $\vec{\tau}, \tau \in E$  and  $K$ , which describe the typing assumptions for encryptions with key  $k_e$ . They also ensure that the function  $f$  is homomorphically implementable in this encryption scheme with the corresponding indexes. The last hypothesis ensure that  $f$  would be typable if applied on the decrypted ciphertext. The label  $\ell_y$  in the typing of  $k_e, y$ , and  $\vec{z}$  records the flow from  $k_e$  and  $\vec{z}$  to  $y$ .

Our typing rule ensures that if an homomorphic function types, its equivalent non-homomorphic version would also type, as illustrated in Example 7.

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>PRE-ENCRYPT</b><br>$\Gamma(y) = \text{Enc } \tau K q(\ell_y)$<br>$\vdash e : \tau \quad \tau \leq_C y$<br>$\vdash k_e : \text{Ke } E K(\ell_y)$<br>$\tau \in E$<br><hr/> $\vdash y := \mathcal{P}(e, k_e) : \ell_y$ | <b>BLIND</b><br>$(\mathcal{G}_e, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{D})$ is CPA<br>$\Gamma(y) = \text{Enc } \tau K q(\ell_y) \quad \tau' \leq \tau$<br>$\vdash z : \text{Enc } \tau' K q(L(\tau))$<br>$\vdash k_e : \text{Ke } E K(\ell_y) \quad \tau, \tau' \in E$<br>$k_e \leq_I \alpha \text{ or } \tau \leq_C \alpha$<br><hr/> $\vdash y := \mathcal{B}(z, k_e) : \ell_y$ | <b>HOM-FUN</b><br>$\mathcal{F}_K(f) = f_K : \vec{q} \rightarrow q'$<br>$\Gamma(y) = \text{Enc } \tau K q'(\ell_y)$<br>$\vdash z_i : \text{Enc } \tau_i K q_i(\ell_y) \quad \text{for } z_i \in \vec{z}$<br>$\vdash k_e : \text{Ke } E K(\ell_y) \quad \vec{\tau}, \tau \in E$<br>$\Gamma, x : \tau \sqcup \ell_y, \vec{x} : \vec{\tau} \sqcup \ell_y \vdash x := f(\vec{x}) : L(\tau) \sqcup \ell_y$<br><hr/> $\vdash y := f_K(\vec{z}, k_e) : \ell_y$ |
|--|--|--|

**Figure 4: Additional typing rules for pre-encryption, blinding, and encryption homomorphisms with policy  $\Gamma$ .**

**Examples** The examples below use Paillier encryption, which enables us to add plaintexts by multiplying their ciphertexts. Thus, we use  $f = +$  and  $f_K = *$ , and for  $\mathcal{F}(+) = * : 0 \mapsto 0$  we obtain a single instance of rule HOM-FUN:

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{HOM-PAILLIER} \\
\Gamma(y) = \text{Enc}(\text{Data}(\ell)) K(\ell_y) \\
\vdash z_i : \text{Enc}(\text{Data}(\ell_i)) K(\ell_y) \text{ for } i = 0, 1 \\
\vdash k_e : \text{Ke } E K(\ell_y) \quad \text{Data}(\ell), \text{Data}(\ell_0), \text{Data}(\ell_1) \in E \\
\ell_0 \sqcup \ell_1 \sqcup \ell_y \leq \ell \sqcup \ell_y \\
\hline
\vdash y := z_0 * z_1 : \ell_y
\end{array}$$

**EXAMPLE 7.** To illustrate our typing rule, we compare two programs that perform the same addition, on plaintexts (on the left) and homomorphically (on the right):

$$\begin{array}{ll}
P \doteq k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e(); & P' \doteq k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e(); \\
z_1 := \mathcal{E}(x_1, k_e); & z_1 := \mathcal{E}(x_1, k_e); \\
x'_1 := \mathcal{D}(z_1, k_d) & \\
x := x'_1 + x'_1; & y := z_1 * z_1; \\
y := \mathcal{E}(x, k_e); & \\
r := \mathcal{D}(y, k_d); & r := \mathcal{D}(y, k_d);
\end{array}$$

Suppose that we type  $P$  with a policy  $\Gamma$ , then, relying on the plaintext-typing assumption in rule HOM-FUN, we can also type  $P'$  with the same policy.

**EXAMPLE 8.** We show how to homomorphically multiply an encrypted value by a small integer factor.

$$\begin{array}{l}
k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e(); y_{LH} := \mathcal{E}(x_{HH}, k_e); z_{SH} := \mathcal{E}(0, k_e); \\
\text{for } i_{SH} := 1 \text{ to } n_{SH} \text{ do } z_{SH} := z_{SH} * y_{LH}; \\
z_{LH} := \mathcal{B}(z_{SH}, k_e); ; x_{HH} := \mathcal{D}(z_{LH}, k_d)
\end{array}$$

By typing, we have that an honest-but-curious adversary ( $\alpha = SH$ ) does not learn  $x_{HH}$ , and that a network adversary ( $\alpha = LH$ ) learns neither  $x_{HH}$  nor  $n_{SH}$ . The latter guarantee crucially relies on blinding the result at the end of the loop, since otherwise the adversary may also iterate multiplications of  $y_{LH}$  and compare them to the result to guess  $n_{SH}$ .

Another classic example of homomorphic scheme is the ElGamal encryption, which enables us to multiply plaintexts by multiplying their ciphertexts; we omit similar, typable programming examples.

## 6. COMPUTATIONAL SOUNDNESS

We define security properties for probabilistic command contexts as computational variants of noninterference, expressed as games [9].

**DEFINITION 7 (COMPUTATIONAL NON-INTERFERENCE).**

Let  $\Gamma$  be a policy,  $\alpha$  an adversary level, and  $P$  a command context.

$P$  is computationally non-interferent against  $\alpha$ -adversaries when, for both  $V = V_\alpha^C$  and  $V = V_\alpha^I$ , and for all polynomial

commands  $J, B_0, B_1, T$  containing no cryptographic variables, such that  $wv(B_b) \cap V = \emptyset$  and  $rv(T) \subseteq V$ ,  $\vec{A}$   $\alpha$ -adversaries such that  $P[\vec{A}]$  is a polynomial command,  $g \notin v(J, B_0, B_1, P, \vec{A})$ , and some variable  $b \notin v(J, B_0, B_1, P, \vec{A}, T)$  in the command

$$CNI \doteq b := \{0, 1\}; J; \text{if } b = 0 \text{ then } B_0 \text{ else } B_1; P[\vec{A}]$$

if we have  $\Pr[CNI; \bigwedge_{x \in rv(T)} x \neq \perp] = 1$ , then the advantage  $|\Pr[CNI; T; b = 0 \mid g] - \frac{1}{2}|$  is negligible.

In the game, the command  $J; \text{if } b = 0 \text{ then } B_0 \text{ else } B_1$  probabilistically initializes the memory, depending on  $b$ . Definition 7, then runs the command context applied to adversaries  $P[\vec{A}]$ . Finally,  $T$  attempts to guess the value of  $b$  and set  $g$  accordingly.  $T$  cannot read cryptographic variables, which are not an observable outcome of the program. The condition  $\bigwedge_{x \in rv(T)} x \neq \perp$  rules out commands  $T$  that may read uninitialized memory. Hence, the property states that the two memory distributions for  $b = 0$  and  $b = 1$  after running  $CNI$  cannot be separated by an adversary that reads  $V$ .

Besides the cryptographic assumptions, we state additional safety conditions for soundness.

**DEFINITION 8.** Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}$  be security label. A command context  $P$  is safe against  $\alpha$ -adversaries when  $\Gamma \vdash P$  and

1. Each key label is used in at most one key generation.
2. Each key variable read in  $P$  is first initialized by  $P$ .
3. There is no dependency cycle between key labels.

We rely on these conditions to apply cryptographic games in the proof of type soundness, for instance to guarantee the integrity of decrypted values. They can be enforced by static analysis, for instance by collecting all relevant static occurrences of variables and forbidding encryption-key generation within loops.

Condition 1 prevents decryption-key mismatches. Condition 2 recalls our assumption on uninitialized variables for keys. Condition 3 prevents leaks with low integrity ciphertext when using CPA.

We also assume that each static key label is associated to a fixed scheme for encryption that meets Definitions 1, 5, or 6 and we impose constraints on the length of ciphertexts in order to prevent information leakage via the length of encrypted messages (see appendix for a formal definition).

Relying on these conditions, we obtain our main security theorem: well-typed programs are computationally non-interferent.

**THEOREM 2.** Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}$  be a security label. Let  $\Gamma$  be a policy. Let  $P$  be a polynomial-time command context, safe against  $\alpha$ -adversaries.  $P$  satisfies computational non-interference against  $\alpha$ -adversaries.

The proof relies on a series of typability-preserving program transformations that match the structure of the games used in the

cryptographic security assumptions (Definition 2). These transformations replace, one static key label at a time, couples of encryptions and decryption algorithms by an ideal implementation that maintains a global table for all values encrypted so far and encrypts 0s instead of the actual plaintexts.

## 7. PRIVATE SEARCH ON DATA STREAMS

We illustrate the use of Paillier encryption on a simplified version of a practical protocol developed by Ostrovsky and Skeith III [21] for privately searching for keywords in data streams (without the Bloom filter). The protocol has two roles: an agency  $P$  and a service  $S$ . Assume that the service issues, or processes, confidential documents such as mail orders or airline tickets, and that the agency wishes to retrieve any such document whose content matches some keywords on a secret black list. The two roles communicate using a public network. The black list is too sensitive to be given to the service. Conversely, the service may be processing a large number of documents, possibly at many different sites, and may be unwilling to pass all those documents to the agency.

We formally assume that the agency is more trusted than the service. We suppose that the documents are arrays of words, and that all words (including the keywords on the black list) appear in a public, trusted dictionary. We model the public network using variables shared between  $P$  and  $S$ . We rely on the additive property of Paillier encryption, detailed in Section 5. We code the protocol using three commands, explained below.

Initially, the agency generates a keypair and encodes the list of keywords as an array ( $mask$ ) of encryptions indexed by the public dictionary that contains, for each word, either an encryption of 1 if the word appears in the black list or an encryption of 0 otherwise. The agency can distribute this array to the service without revealing the black list.

$$\begin{aligned} P_0 &\doteq k_e, k_d := \mathcal{G}_e(); \\ &\text{for } i := 0 \text{ to } size(words) - 1 \text{ do} \\ &\quad \text{if } words[i] \in keywords \text{ then } wb := 1 \text{ else } wb := 0; \\ &\quad mask[i] := \mathcal{E}(wb, k_e) \end{aligned}$$

Then, for each document  $d$ , the service homomorphically computes the number of matching keywords, as the sum of the 0 and 1s encrypted in  $mask$  for all indexes of the words ( $d[j]$ ) present in the document, by multiplying those encryptions in  $e$ . Moreover, the service homomorphically multiplies  $e$  and the value of the document  $d$  (seen as a large integer) in  $z$ —the loop computes  $e^d$ , and may be efficiently replaced with a fast exponentiation. In particular, if they were no matches,  $z$  is just an encryption of 0. Finally, the service blinds both  $e$  and  $z$  before sending them to the agency—this step is necessary to declassify these encryptions without leaking information on the document.

$$\begin{aligned} S &\doteq e := 1; \\ &\text{for } j := 0 \text{ to } size(d) - 1 \text{ do} \\ &\quad e := e * mask[words^{-1}(d[j])]; \\ &\quad e' := \mathcal{B}(e, k_e); z := 1; \\ &\text{for } j := 0 \text{ to } d - 1 \text{ do } z := z * e; \\ &\quad z' := \mathcal{B}(z, k_e) \end{aligned}$$

Last, for each pair  $e'$  and  $z'$ , the agency decrypts the value containing the number of matches (in  $n$ ) and, if  $n$  is different from 0, retrieves the value of the document by decrypting the product and dividing by  $n$ .

$$\begin{aligned} P &\doteq n := \mathcal{D}(e', k_d); \\ &\text{if } n > 0 \text{ then} \\ &\quad nd := \mathcal{D}(z', k_d); log := log + (nd/n) \end{aligned}$$

Adding an outer loop for the documents processed by the service, the whole protocol is modelled as the command

$$\begin{aligned} Q &\doteq P_0; \\ &\text{for } l := 0 \text{ to } nb\_docs \text{ do} \\ &\quad d := docs[l]; S; P; _ \end{aligned}$$

As discussed by Ostrovsky and Skeith III, this algorithm is reasonably efficient for the service, as it requires just a multiplication and a table lookup for each word in each document. Relying on Bloom filters, the authors of the protocol and Danezis and Diaz [6] develop more advanced variants, requiring less bandwidth and guaranteeing additional privacy properties for the service, but the overall structure of the protocol remains unchanged.

We now specify the security of the protocol as a policy  $\Gamma$  that maps the variable of  $Q$  to labels. We distinguish three levels of integrity:  $H$  for the agency,  $S$  for the service, and  $L$  for untrusted data, with  $H <_I S <_I L$ .  $k_e$  and  $keywords$  have high integrity ( $H$ ); all other variables have service integrity ( $S$ ).

We also distinguish four levels of confidentiality:  $H$  and  $P$  for the agency,  $S$  for the service, and  $L$  for public data. With  $L <_C P <_C H$  and  $L <_C S <_C H$ .

- $words, mask, e', z', i, nb\_docs, k_e$  are public (at level  $L$ );
- $docs, d, e, z, j, l$  are readable by the service ( $S$ ) and the agency;
- $keywords, kd, bw$  are readable only by the agency ( $P$ );
- $log, n, nd$  are also readable by the agency, but they depend on low-integrity decryptions, and thus should not flow to any further encryption with key  $k_e$  ( $H$ ).

We prove the security properties of the protocol as instances of computational non-interference, established by typing our code with different choices of adversary level  $\alpha$ .

**THEOREM 3.**  $\Gamma \vdash Q$  when  $\alpha$  ranges over  $SH$ ,  $SS$ , and  $LS$ , hence  $Q$  is computationally non interferent against these adversaries.

The case  $\alpha = SH$  corresponds to a powerful adversary that entirely controls the service but still learns nothing about the black-list: it cannot distinguish between any two runs of the protocol with different values of  $keywords$ . If the service is honest but curious ( $\alpha = SS$ ), the protocol also completes with the correct result. If the adversary controls only the network ( $\alpha = LS$ ), it learns nothing either about the documents contents ( $docs$ ).

## 8. BOOTSTRAPPING HOMOMORPHIC ENCRYPTIONS

Gentry [11] proposes a first fully homomorphic encryption (FHE) scheme, that is, a scheme that supports arbitrary computations on encrypted data, thereby solving a long-standing cryptographic problem [13]. Others, e.g. Smart and Vercauteren [23], develop more efficient constructions towards practical schemes.

These constructions are based on *bootstrappable encryption schemes*, equipped with homomorphic functions for the scheme's own decryption function as well as some more basic functions; these basic operations may represent e.g. logical gates. (Designing a bootstrappable encryption scheme is in itself very challenging, as it severely constrains the decryption algorithm, but is not our concern here.)

The bootstrap relies on a series of keys. Whenever the noise accumulated as the result of homomorphic evaluation needs to be



canceled, the intermediate result (encrypted under the current key) is encrypted using the next encryption key, then homomorphically decrypted using an encryption of the current decryption key under the next encryption key. This bootstrapping yields an homomorphic scheme for any function as long as the computation can progress using other homomorphic functions between encryptions and decryptions to the next key. (Following Gentry's terminology, the resulting scheme is a *leveled* FHE: the key length still depends on the max size of the circuit for evaluating  $f$ ; some additional key-cycle assumption is required to get a fixed-length key.)

Next, we assume the properties of the base algorithms given by Gentry—being CPA and homomorphic for its own decryption plus basic operations  $f_i$  that suffice to evaluate some arbitrary function  $f$ . We then show that these properties suffice to program and verify by typing the bootstrapping part of Gentry's construction, leading to homomorphic encryption for this arbitrary function  $f$ . Typing of Gentry's bootstrapping relies on typing rules for CPA with multiple keys and types of encrypted values, and on instances of rule HOM-FUN with  $f = \mathcal{D}$ .

We assume given a bootstrappable scheme using a set of homomorphic functions for decrypting and for computing:  $\mathcal{F} = \{\mathcal{D} : 0 \rightarrow 1; f^i : 1 \rightarrow 2 \text{ for } i = 1..n\}$ .

We are now ready to program the bootstrapping for  $f$ . Both parties agree on the function to compute,  $f$ , and its decomposition into successive computation steps  $(f_i)_{i=1..n}$  such that  $f = f_1; \dots; f_n$ . This may be realized by producing a circuit to evaluate  $f$  and then letting the  $f_i$  be the successive gates of the circuit. For simplicity, we assume that each  $f_i$  operates on all the bits of the encrypted values; Gentry instead uses a tuple of functions  $f_i^{j=1..w}$  for each step, each  $f_i^j$  computing one bit of the encrypted values. This more detailed bootstrapping can be typed similarly.

For the plaintexts, we write  $x_0$  for the input,  $x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}$  for the intermediate results, and  $x_n$  for the final result, so the high-level computation is just  $x_i := f_i(x_{i-1})$  for  $i = 1..n$ .

The client generates all keypairs; encrypts the input using the first encryption key; encrypts each decryption key using the next encryption key; calls the server; and decrypts the result using the final key:

$$\begin{aligned} P_c &\doteq ke_i, kd_i := \mathcal{G}_e(); & \text{for } i = 1..n \\ skd_i &:= \mathcal{E}(kd_i, ke_{i+1}); & \text{for } i = 1..n-1 \\ y_0 &:= \mathcal{E}(x_0, ke_1); \\ \vdots & & \text{calling the server} \\ x_n &:= \mathcal{D}(z_n, sk_n) \end{aligned}$$

The message consists of the content of the shared variables  $y_0, ke_1, skd_1, \dots, ke_{n-1}, skd_{n-1}, ke_n$ . The server performs the homomorphic computation for each  $f_i$ , interleaved with the re-keying.

$$\begin{aligned} P_s &\doteq (z_i := f_{K_i}^i(y_{i-1}, ke_i); \\ &\quad t_i := \mathcal{E}(z_i, ke_{i+1}); \\ &\quad y_i := \mathcal{D}_{K_{i+1}}(t_i, skd_i, ke_{i+1});)_{\text{for } i=1..n-1} \\ &\quad z_n := f_{K_n}^n(y_{n-1}, ke_n); \end{aligned}$$

We specify the security of the protocol as a policy  $\Gamma$  that maps the variable of  $P_c$  and  $P_s$  to labels. We distinguish three levels of integrity:  $H$  for the agency,  $S$  for the service, and  $L$  for untrusted data, with  $H <_I S <_I L$ .  $ke_i$  and  $kd_i$  have high integrity ( $H$ ) for  $i = 1..n$ ; all other variables have service integrity ( $S$ ).

Since our scheme is only CPA, we need  $n+1$  levels of confidentiality to separate the results of low integrity decryptions:  $H_0..H_n$  for the agency and  $L$  for public data, such that  $L <_C H_0 <_C \dots <_C H_n$ .

- $ke_i, skd_i, z_i, t_i, y_i$  are public for  $i = 1..n$  (at level  $L$ );
- $x_0$  is readable only by the agency ( $H_0$ );
- $kd_i$  is readable only by the agency for  $i = 1..n$  ( $H_i$ );
- $x_n$  is also readable by the agency, but moreover it depends on low-integrity decryptions, and thus should not flow to any further encryption with any of the key  $ke_i$  for  $i = 1..n$  ( $H_n$ ).

Let  $\tau_i = \text{Data}(H_i S)$ . We type our variables as follows, for  $i = 1..n-1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(ke_i) &= \text{Ke } E_i K_i(LH) \\ \Gamma(kd_i) &= \text{Kd } E_i K_i(H_i H) \\ \Gamma(x_0) &= \tau_0 \\ \Gamma(skd_i) &= \text{Enc } (\text{Kd } E_i K_i(H_{i-1} S)) K_{i+1} 0(LS) \\ \Gamma(y_0) &= \text{Enc } \tau_0 K_1 0(LS) \\ \Gamma(z_i) &= \text{Enc } \tau_{i-1} K_i 2(LS) \\ \Gamma(t_i) &= \text{Enc } (\text{Enc } \tau_{i-1} K_i 2(LS)) K_{i+1} 0(LS) \\ \Gamma(y_i) &= \text{Enc } \tau_i K_{i+1} 1(LS) \\ \Gamma(z_n) &= \text{Enc } \tau_{n-1} K_n 2(LS) \\ \Gamma(x_n) &= \tau_n \end{aligned}$$

with the encrypted sets below, for  $i = 2..n$ :

$$\begin{aligned} E_1 &= \{\tau_0\} \\ E_i &= \{\tau_{i-1}, \text{Kd } E_{i-1} K_{i-1}(H_{i-2} S), \text{Enc } \tau_{i-1} K_{i-1}(H S)\} \end{aligned}$$

We verify that the commands above are typable with the resulting policy  $\Gamma$ :

**THEOREM 4.**  $\Gamma \vdash P_c[P_s]$  when  $\alpha$  ranges over  $LS$  and  $LH$ , hence  $P_c[P_s]$  is computationally non-interferent against these adversaries.

The theorem yields strong indistinguishability guarantees. The case  $\alpha = LS$  corresponds to an “honest but curious” adversary, who can observe all server operations on ciphertexts (that is, read all intermediate values) but still learn nothing about the plaintexts. The case  $\alpha = LH$  corresponds to an active adversary in full control of the service, who can disrupt its operations, and still learns nothing about the plaintexts. To clarify these confidentiality guarantees, we verify by typing that our construction is in particular CPA. We let  $S$  abbreviate the scheme  $(\mathcal{G}_e^h, \mathcal{E}^h, \mathcal{D}^h, \{f \mapsto f_K : 0 \rightarrow 1\})$  defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} ke, kd &:= \mathcal{G}_e^h() \doteq (ke_i, kd_i := \mathcal{G}_e();)_{\text{for } i=1..n} \\ &\quad (skd_i := \mathcal{E}(kd_i, ke_{i+1});)_{\text{for } i=1..n-1} \\ ke &:= (ke_1, \dots, ke_n, skd_1, skd_{n-1}); \\ kd &:= (kd_1, kd_n) \\ y &:= \mathcal{E}^h(e, ke) \doteq y := \mathcal{E}(e, (ke)_1); \\ y &:= f_K^h(z, ke) \doteq y_0 := z; \\ &\quad (z_i := f_{K_i}^i(y_{i-1}, (ke)_i); \\ &\quad t_i := \mathcal{E}(z_i, (ke)_{i+1}); \\ &\quad y_i := \mathcal{D}_{K_{i+1}}(t_i, (ke)_{i+n}, (ke)_{i+1});)_{\text{for } i=1..n-1} \\ y &:= f_{K_n}^n(y_{n-1}, (ke)_n) \\ x &:= \mathcal{D}^h(y, kd) \doteq \text{if } is\_enc(y, (kd)_1) \\ &\quad \text{then } x := \mathcal{D}(y, (kd)_1) \\ &\quad \text{else } x := \mathcal{D}(y, (kd)_2) \end{aligned}$$

**THEOREM 5.**  $S$  is a CPA homomorphic encryption scheme.

## 9. RELATED WORK

**Information flow policies and types** Non-interference was introduced by Goguen and Meseguer [12]. Laud [17] introduces computational non-interference in a model with passive adversaries (CNIP). Laud and Vene [19] propose a type system (relying on CPA) to verify CNIP in a language with symmetric encryption but where decrypted values cannot be treated as keys. Fournet and Rezk [9] generalize CNIP to the active case, with adversaries that may interfere with the normal execution of programs, and also covers integrity properties. We present a type system (relying on CCA2) that enables typing of key establishment protocols. In a similar line of work, Smith and Alpizar [24] present a type system (relying on CCA2) with encryption and decryption but no explicit keys. Askarov et al. [1] propose a type system for cryptographically masked flows. Their system also handles key reuse for plaintexts at different levels, via subtyping, but their adversary model is weaker than ours, and excludes in particular chosen-ciphertext attacks. Laud [18] investigates conditions such that cryptographically masked flow imply secrecy and proposes a simpler computationally-sound execution model for passive adversaries.

**Homomorphic encryptions** The first CPA homomorphic encryption scheme is due to Goldwasser and Micali [13]. Additive homomorphic encryption schemes proved to be CPA include Benaloh [2] and Paillier [22]. ElGamal [8] is a CPA multiplicative homomorphic encryption scheme. Other schemes [4, 11] allow both addition and multiplication.

**Protocol analysis featuring homomorphic encryptions** Delaune et al. [7] and Lafourcade [16] analyse protocols featuring homomorphic encryptions using equational theories (see Cortier et al. [5]) to model homomorphisms.

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