

# Publicly-Verifiable Deletion via Target-Collapsing Functions

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The logo for the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), featuring the word "Caltech" in a bold, orange, sans-serif font.

Can we prove that **data** has been deleted?

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# Quantum Encryption with Certified Deletion (BI'20)

Bob



CT  $\uparrow$   $\downarrow \pi_{\checkmark}$   $\uparrow$   $k$



Alice  $CT \leftarrow \text{Enc}_k(m)$

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## Prior work:

- Broadbent and Islam (TCC '20): **Private-key encryption**
- Hiroka, Morimae, Nishimaki and Yamakawa (Asiacrypt '21): **Public-key encryption** and **attribute-based encryption**
- Bartusek and Khurana (CRYPTO '23): *Generic compiler* for **public-key, attribute-based and homomorphic encryption**

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Publicly-verifiable deletion?

**Anyone** should be able to verify a certificate  $\pi$  to determine whether **CT** was successfully deleted.

## Publicly-Verifiable Deletion

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**THIS WORK:** PVD under **standard assumptions**.

- Initiate the study of (certified-everlasting) **target-collapsing** hashes:
  - Proof of *Strong Gaussian-Collapsing Conjecture* (implies PVD under LWE/SIS)
  - Proof that the public-key encryption scheme by Hhan, Morimae, Yamawaka (Eurocrypt'23) enables PVD (implies PVD under non-abelian group actions)
- **Generic compiler** for cryptosystems with PVD from target-collapsing hashes (for example, assuming *almost-regular one-way functions*)

## **Candidate construction:**

Dual-Regev public-key scheme with PVD

Poremba (ITCS '23)

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# Gaussian superpositions

MAIN IDEA: Quantum reduction from SIS to LWE [Reg'05,SSTX'09]. Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{n \times m}$ .

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m} \rho_\sigma(\mathbf{x}) |\mathbf{x}\rangle \otimes |\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{x} \pmod{q}\rangle, \quad \rho_\sigma(\mathbf{x}) = \exp(-\pi \|\mathbf{x}\|^2 / \sigma^2).$$

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Coset state

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Coset state

Superposition of **short** vectors  $\mathbf{x}$   
subject to the constraint that

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} \pmod{q}.$$

(solutions to **inhomogenous SIS** problem)

# Duality of Gaussian States

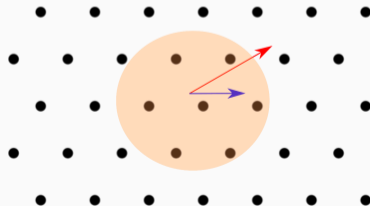
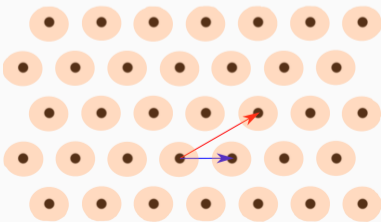
$$\sum_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n} \sum_{\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m} \rho_{q/\sigma}(\mathbf{e}) \omega_q^{-\langle \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{y} \rangle} |\mathbf{s}^T \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{e}^T \rangle$$

Primal state

$\longleftrightarrow$  FT

$$\sum_{\substack{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m: \\ \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} \pmod{q}}} \rho_{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) |\mathbf{x} \rangle$$

Dual state



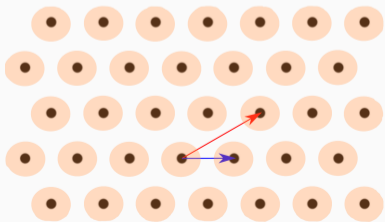


# Duality of Gaussian States

Use primal domain to *encrypt* messages.

$$\sum_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n} \sum_{\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m} \rho_{q/\sigma}(\mathbf{e}) \omega_q^{-\langle \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{y} \rangle} |\mathbf{s}^T \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{e}^T\rangle$$

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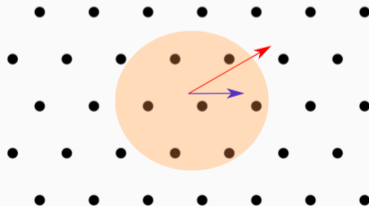


$\longleftrightarrow$   
FT

Use dual domain to *prove* deletion.

$$\sum_{\substack{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m \\ \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} \pmod{q}}} \rho_{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) |\mathbf{x}\rangle$$

Dual state



## Dual-Regev public-key encryption with PVD [Poremba, ITCS'23]

- $\text{KeyGen}(1^\lambda)$  generate  $\text{pk} = \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{n \times m}$  and  $\text{sk} = \mathbf{t}$  with  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{t} = \mathbf{0} \pmod{q}$ .
- $\text{Enc}_{\text{pk}}(b)$  generate a **verification key**  $\text{vk} \leftarrow (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n)$  and **ciphertext**

$$|\text{CT}\rangle \leftarrow \sum_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^n} \sum_{\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m} \rho_{q/\sigma}(\mathbf{e}) \omega_q^{-\langle \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{y} \rangle} |\mathbf{s}^\top \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{e}^\top + (0, \dots, 0, b \cdot \lfloor q/2 \rfloor)\rangle.$$

- $\text{Dec}_{\text{sk}}(|\text{CT}\rangle)$  measure the ciphertext in the computational basis with outcome  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m$  and round  $\mathbf{c}^\top \cdot \text{sk} \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  with respect to 0 and  $\lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor$ .

# Dual-Regev public-key encryption with PVD [Poremba, ITCS'23]

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To **delete** the ciphertext, apply the quantum Fourier transform resulting in

$$|\widehat{\text{CT}}\rangle = \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m: \\ \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} \pmod{q}}} \rho_\sigma(\mathbf{x}) \omega_q^{\langle \mathbf{x}, (0, \dots, 0, b \cdot \lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor) \rangle} |\mathbf{x}\rangle$$

and measure to obtain a *short* solution  $\pi$  to the **ISIS** problem  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \pi = \mathbf{y}$  (**public verification!**)

# Security

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# Certified Deletion Experiment

## CD-EXP<sub>A</sub>(b):

1. Sample a matrix  $\mathbf{A} \xleftarrow{s} \mathbb{Z}_q^{n \times m}$ .
2. Generate a pair  $(\mathbf{y}, |\psi_{b,\mathbf{y}}\rangle)$  with

$$|\psi_{b,\mathbf{y}}\rangle = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{y}} \rho_{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) \omega_q^{\langle \mathbf{x}, (0, \dots, 0, b \cdot \lfloor \frac{q}{2} \rfloor) \rangle} |\mathbf{x}\rangle.$$

3. Run  $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{y}, |\psi_{b,\mathbf{y}}\rangle)$  to produce certificate  $\pi$  and residual state  $\rho$ .
4. If  $\pi$  is **short** and  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \pi = \mathbf{y}$ , output  $\rho$ . Else, output  $|\perp\rangle\langle\perp|$ .

Security: For any QPT  $\mathcal{A}$ :  $\text{TD}(\text{CD-EXP}_{\mathcal{A}}(0), \text{CD-EXP}_{\mathcal{A}}(1)) \leq \text{negl.}$

**(Certified-Everlasting)  
Target-Collapsing Hashes**

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# Certified-Everlasting Gaussian-Collapsing

## CEGC-EXP<sub>A</sub>(b):

1. Sample a matrix  $\mathbf{A} \xleftarrow{s} \mathbb{Z}_q^{n \times m}$ .
2. Generate a pair  $(\mathbf{y}, |\psi_{\mathbf{y}}\rangle_X)$  with

$$|\psi_{\mathbf{y}}\rangle_X = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^m \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{y}} \rho_{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) |\mathbf{x}\rangle_X.$$

3. If  $b = 1$ , additionally **measure** register  $X$  in computational basis.
4. Run  $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{y}, X)$  to produce certificate  $\pi$  and residual state  $\rho$ .
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- Proof idea:
- use **entanglement** via  $|+\rangle_C$ : superposition of non-measured/measured register  $X$ .
  - wait until  $\mathcal{A}$  replies with  $\pi$ , then perform **projective measurement** on register  $C$ .



# Generalization: Certified-Everlasting Target-Collapsing

Let  $\mathcal{H} = \{h : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}\}_h$  be a hash family,  $\mathcal{D}$  be a distribution and  $\mathcal{M}$  be a measurement.

## Certified-Everlasting $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M})$ -Target-Collapsing

- Ajtai hash function  $\rightarrow$  random hash  $h$  in  $\mathcal{H}$
- Gaussian distribution  $\rightarrow$  distribution specified by  $\mathcal{D}$ .
- Computational basis measurement of  $X \rightarrow$  measurement specified by  $\mathcal{M}$ .

$$|\psi\rangle_{XY} = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \sqrt{\mathcal{D}(x)} |x\rangle_X \otimes |h(x)\rangle_Y.$$

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$$|\psi\rangle_{\mathcal{X}\mathcal{Y}} = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \sqrt{\mathcal{D}(x)} |x\rangle_{\mathcal{X}} \otimes |h(x)\rangle_{\mathcal{Y}}.$$

Main Theorem: If the hash function family  $\mathcal{H}$  satisfies

- $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M})$ -target-collision-resistance
- $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M})$ -target-collapsing

then  $\mathcal{H}$  is certified-everlasting  $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M})$ -target-collapsing.

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Main Theorem: If the hash function family  $\mathcal{H}$  satisfies

- $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M})$ -target-collision-resistance ( $\leftarrow$  quantum generalization of classical TCR)
- $(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M})$ -target-collapsing ( $\leftarrow$  weakening of collapsing property [Unruh'16])

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## Conclusion

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- We introduce a natural weakening of *collapsing* called **target-collapsing**.
- We show that hash functions which satisfy basic (non-everlasting) security properties *automatically* satisfy **certified-everlasting target-collapsing**.
- We use our **framework** to prove that the encryption schemes of Poremba (ITCS'23) and Hhan, Morimae and Yamakawa (Eurocrypt'23) **enable PVD**.
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## Open Problems:

- investigate the relationship between **target-collapsing** and **target-collision-resistance**, and related notions.
- new cryptographic **applications** of target-collapsing hashes.

Questions?