

The Cost of Adaptivity in Security Games on Graphs

Chethan Kamath, **Karen Klein**, Krzysztof Pietrzak, Michael Walter



ETH zürich

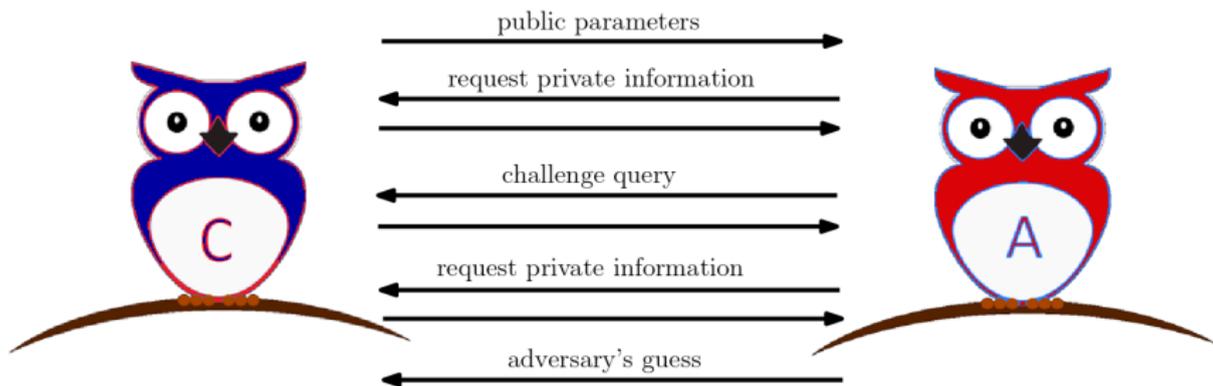


November 11, 2021

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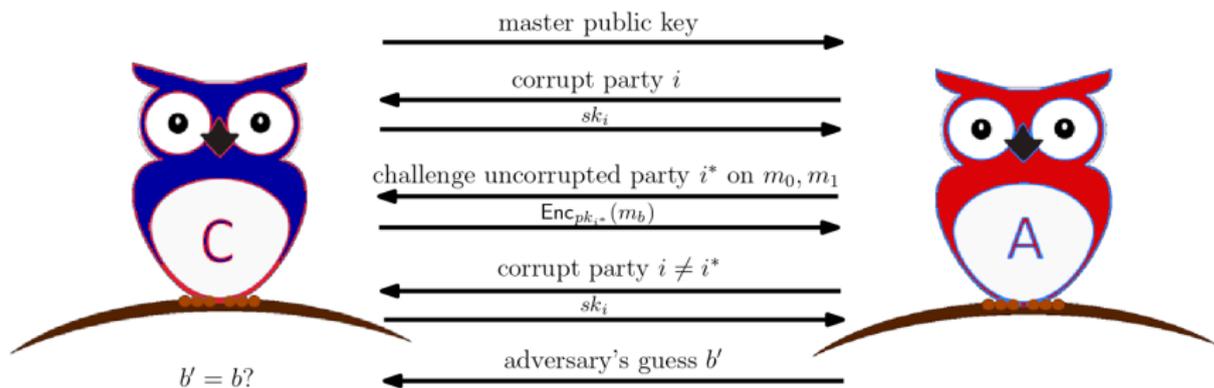
- 1 Introduction and Overview of our Results
- 2 Example: Generalized Selective Decryption (GSD)
- 3 Combinatorial Upper Bound
- 4 Cryptographic Lower Bounds
- 5 Conclusion and Open Problems

Introduction: Game-based Security



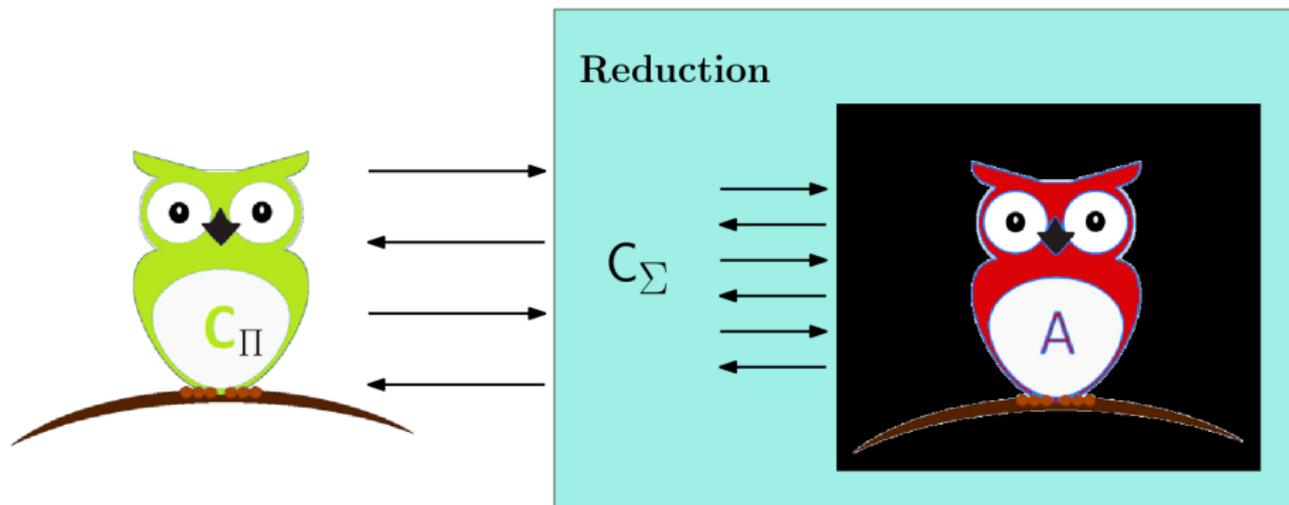
Introduction: Game-based Security

Identity-based Encryption



Introduction: Security Proof by Reduction

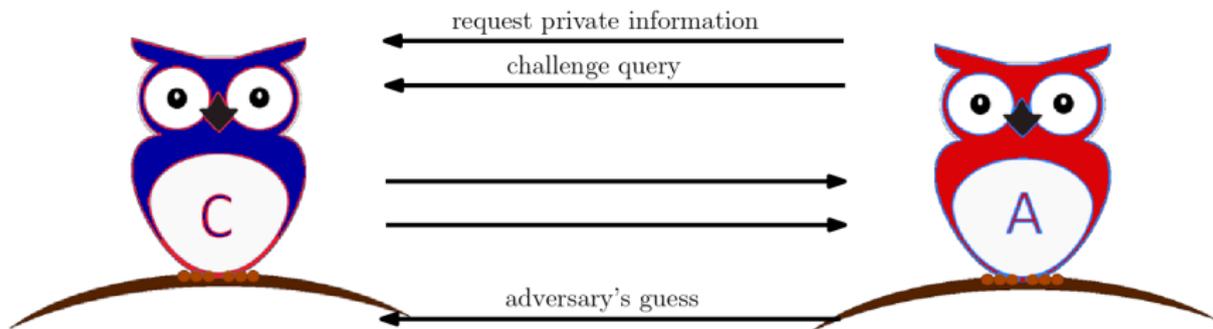
To prove **security of a scheme Σ** , relate it to some **hard problem Π**



A breaks Σ with advantage $\epsilon \Rightarrow$ **R breaks Π** with advantage ϵ/loss

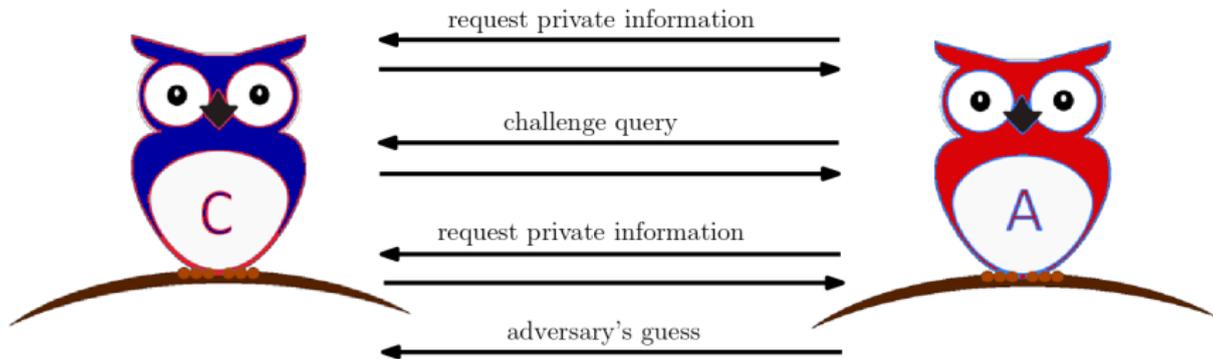
Introduction: Selective versus Adaptive Security

selective setting



Introduction: Selective versus Adaptive Security

adaptive setting



This paper: Lower bounds on security loss against adaptive adversaries

Our Results

This paper: Lower bounds on security loss against adaptive adversaries

Consider certain multi-round games that capture several existing constructions where the adversary queries edges of a graph:

- **Generalized selective decryption (GSD):**
nodes = keys, edges = encryptions
- **TreeKEM construction of continuous group key agreement:**
nodes = keys, sources = users, sinks = group keys, edges = encryptions
- **GGM84 construction of a prefix-constrained PRFs:**
nodes = seeds, edges = PRG evaluations
- **Proxy re-encryption (PRE):**
nodes = keys, edges = re-encryption keys

Our Results

Application	Underlying Graph	Lower Bound	Reduction	Upper Bound
GSD	Path P_N	$N^{\Omega(\log(N))}$	Oblivious	$N^{O(\log(N))}$ [FJP15]
	Binary In-Tree B_N	$N^{\Omega(\log(N))}$	Oblivious	$N^{O(\log(N))}$ [Pan07]
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$N = 2^n$... size of the graph.

GGM CPRF: n ... input length. TreeKEM: M ... number of users, Q ... number of queries.

Reductions: oblivious \subseteq straight-line \subseteq arbitrary fully black-box

Main conceptual idea:

- Introduce **Builder-Pebbler Game**:
a two-player, multi-stage game
- Pebbler's success probability \rightarrow lower bounds on security loss:
use oracle separation techniques

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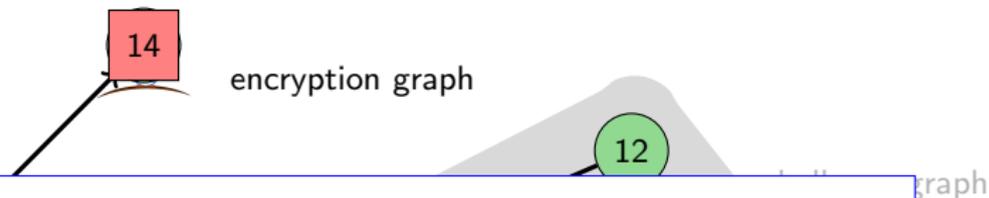
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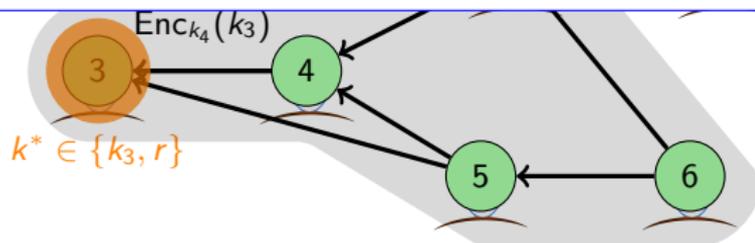
Generalized Selective Decryption (GSD) [Pan07]



Goal: Reduction proving **adaptive GSD security**
based on **IND-CPA security** of the SKE

Intuition: Reduction needs to **embed IND-CPA challenge at an edge**,
but can answer other uncorrupted edges real or fake

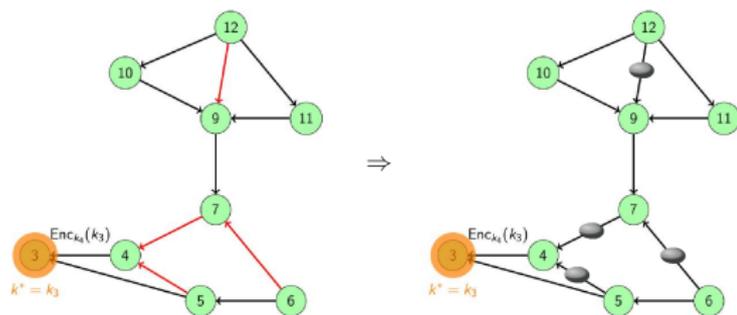
Rule: Cannot create **encryptions of the IND-CPA challenge key**
 \Rightarrow all edges incident on the challenge source must be **fake!**



Threshold Adversaries

Our (inefficient) adversary:

- Corrupts all nodes outside the challenge graph, outputs 1 if any fake edges outgoing from corrupt nodes
⇒ challenge key must be embedded in challenge graph
- On the challenge graph: Interprets **fake** edges as **pebbled**



- Outputs 0/1 if final **pebbling configuration** good/bad

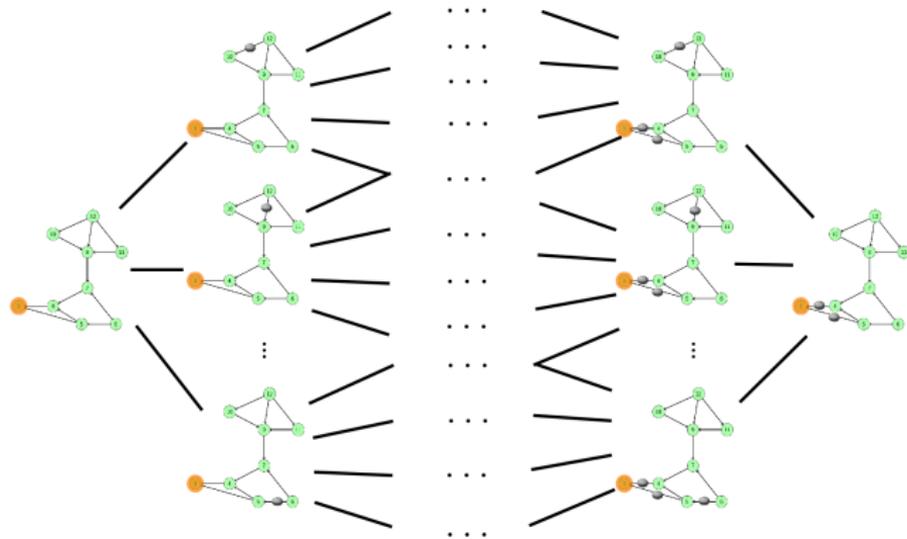
Threshold Adversaries

The threshold:

- Consider **reversible edge pebbling**:

Can place/remove a pebble on an edge iff all edges incident on its source are pebbled.

- Define **good** by a **cut in the configuration graph**:



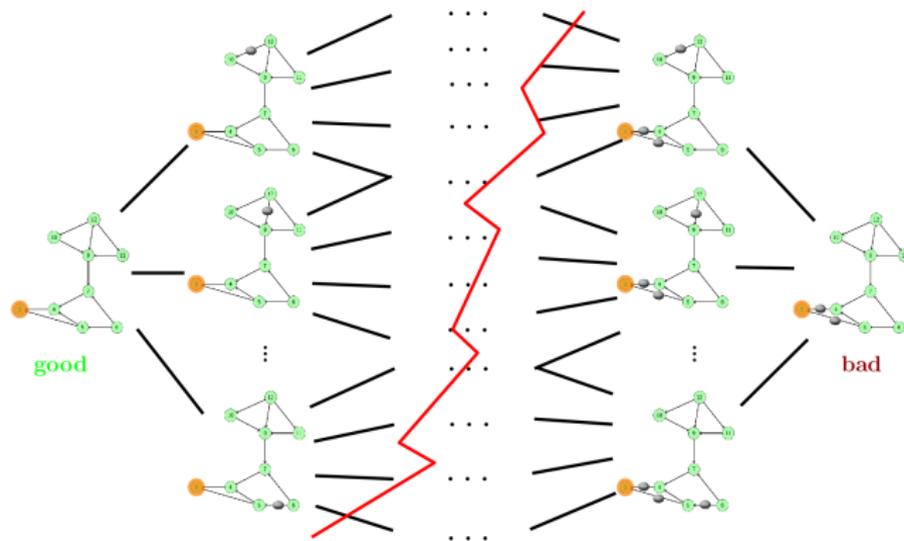
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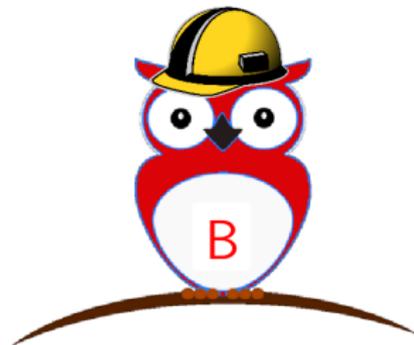
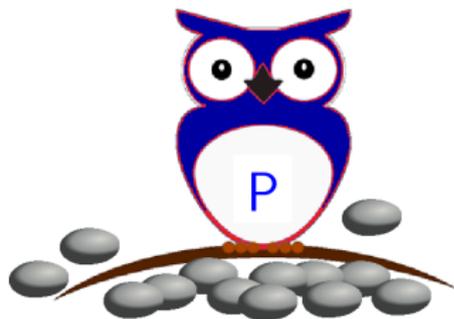
Cut set ... configurations at the border between good and bad

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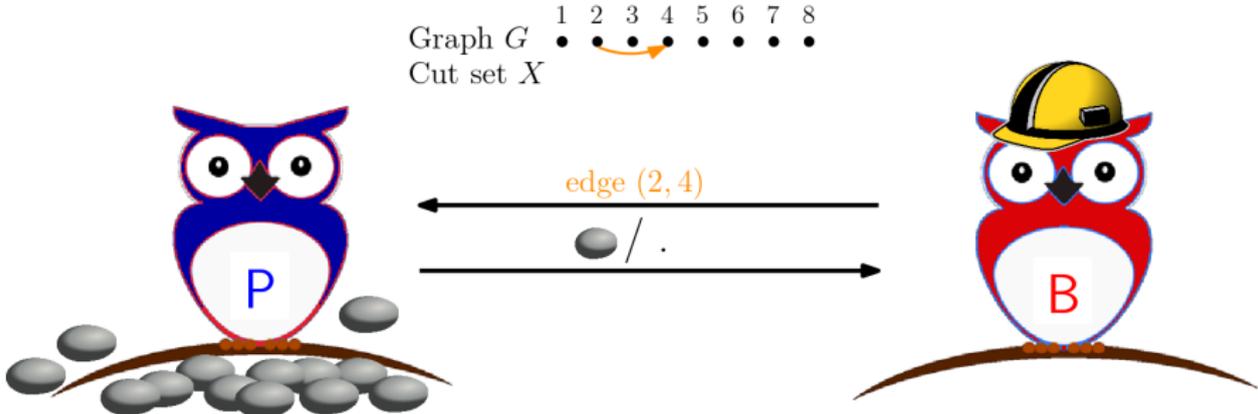
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Builder-Pebbler Game

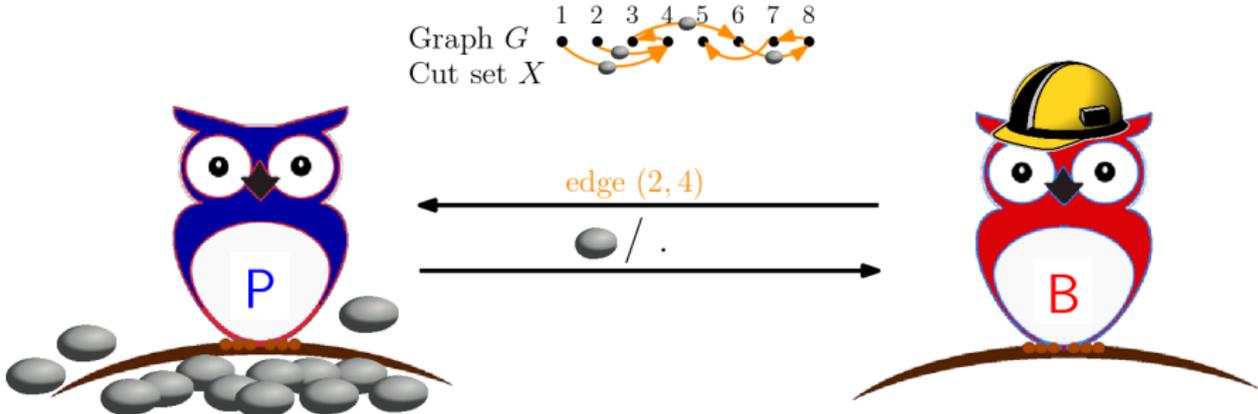
Graph G 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Cut set X • • • • • • • •



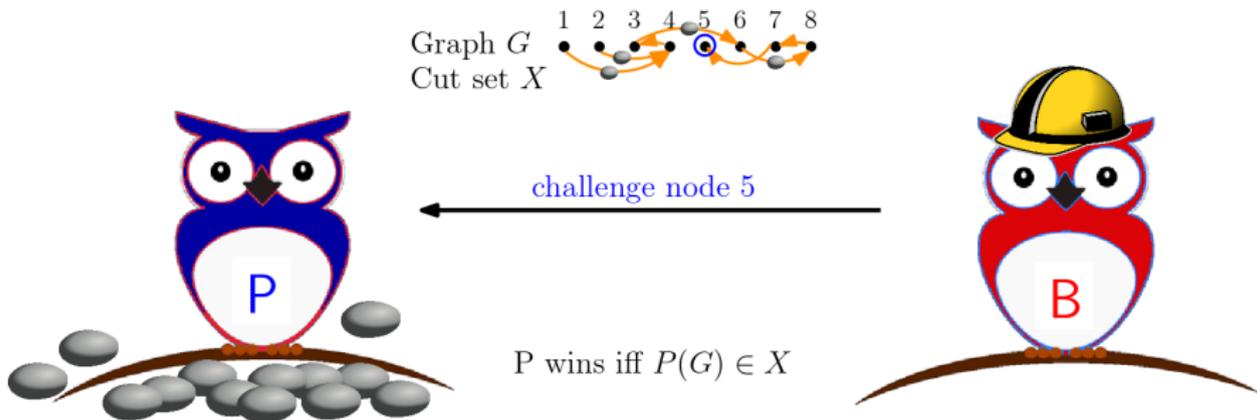
Builder-Pebbler Game



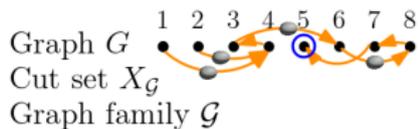
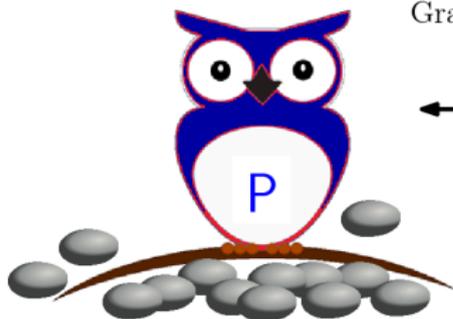
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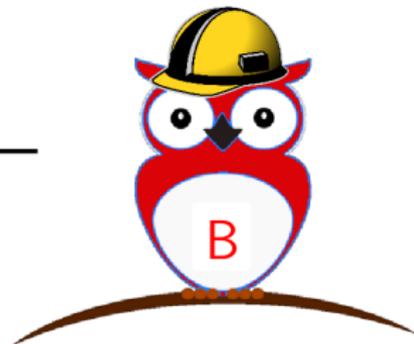
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Builder-Pebbler Game

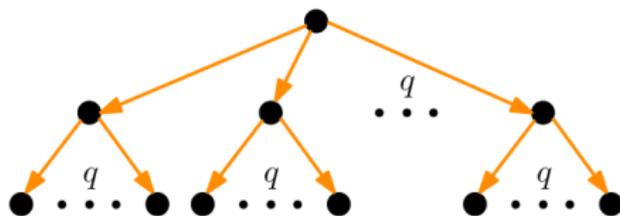


challenge node 5

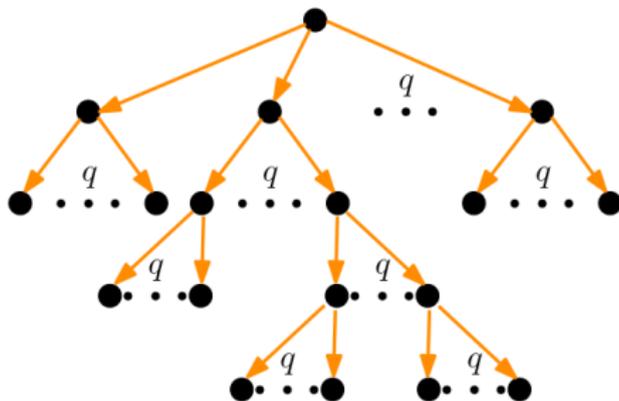


P wins iff $P(G) \in X_G$
 $\vee G \notin \mathcal{G}$

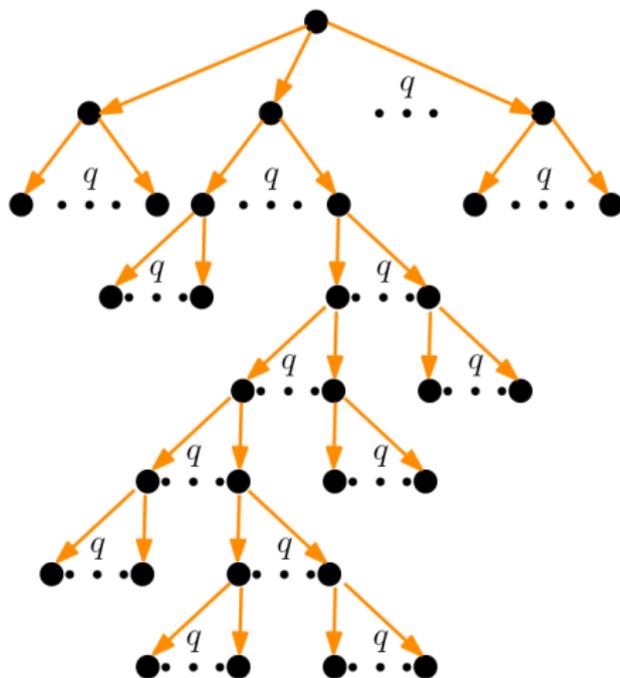
Builder Strategy for Trees



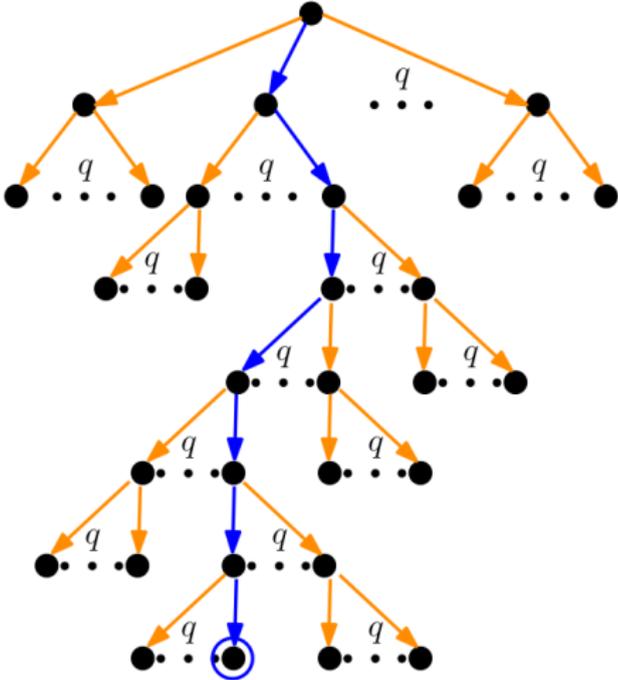
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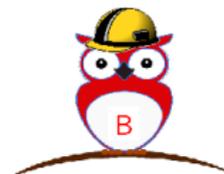
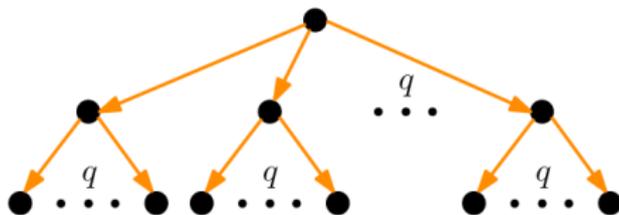


Cut for Trees with Large Outdegree

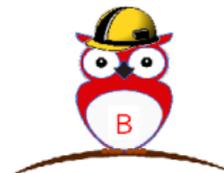
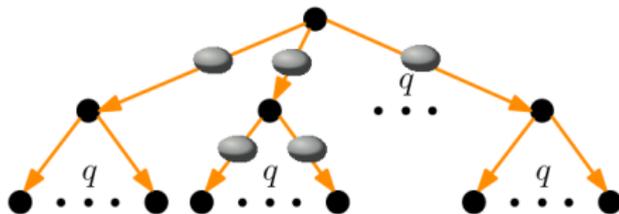
- **Challenge graph** = path of length n
- **Lower bound for reversible edge pebbling** on a path:
Require $\log(n) + 1$ pebbles to pebble last edge
- Define **cut X** : pebble configuration P on the challenge path is **good** iff it is **reachable with $\log(n)$ pebbles**

⇒ **Goal of the Pebbler**: Place $\log(n)$ pebbles on the challenge path, but *no* pebbles outgoing from nodes outside the path.

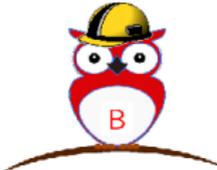
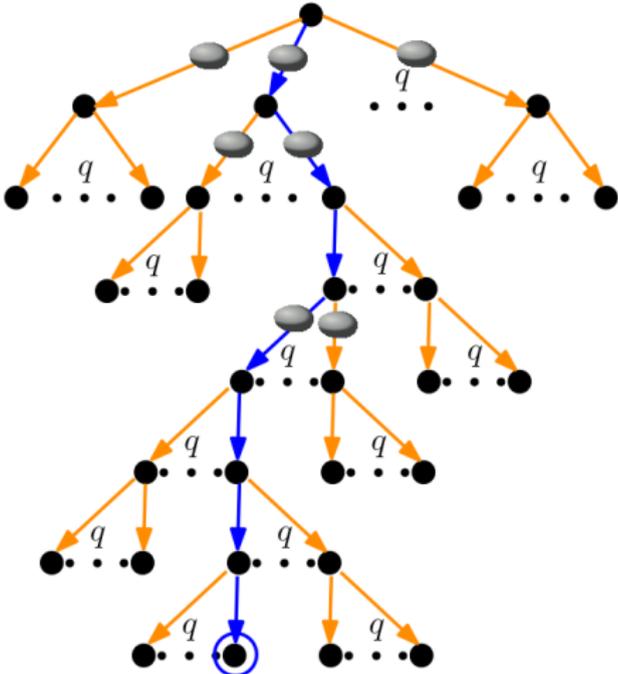
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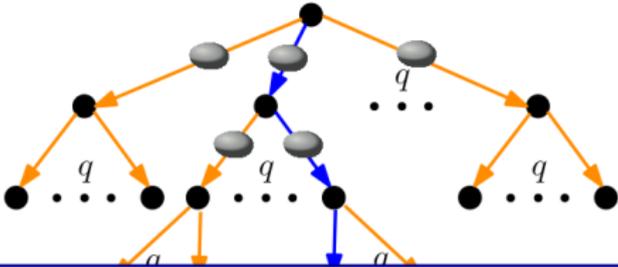
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Pebbler's success probability $\leq 1/q^{\log(n)-1} = N^{-\Omega(\log(N))}$
 $[q = O(n)]$

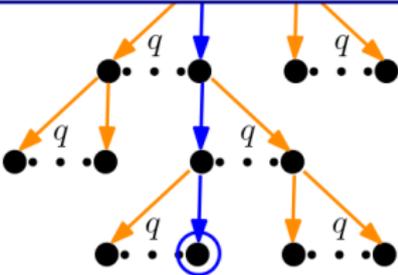


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Lower Bound for GSD

Combinatorial upper bound \rightarrow **cryptographic lower bound**:

- Construct **ideal SKE scheme**
- Construct (inefficient) **threshold adversary** for GSD that simulates the above Builder strategy B, such that:

\forall **straight-line reductions** R: \exists **Pebbler** P against B such that:

R has security loss $\leq \Lambda \Rightarrow$ P has advantage $\geq 1/\Lambda$

Theorem (GSD on trees, informal)

Any **straight-line reduction** proving security of unrestricted **adaptive GSD** based on the IND-CPA security of the underlying SKE scheme **loses** at least a **super-polynomial** factor ($N^{\Omega(\log(N))}$) in the number of users N .

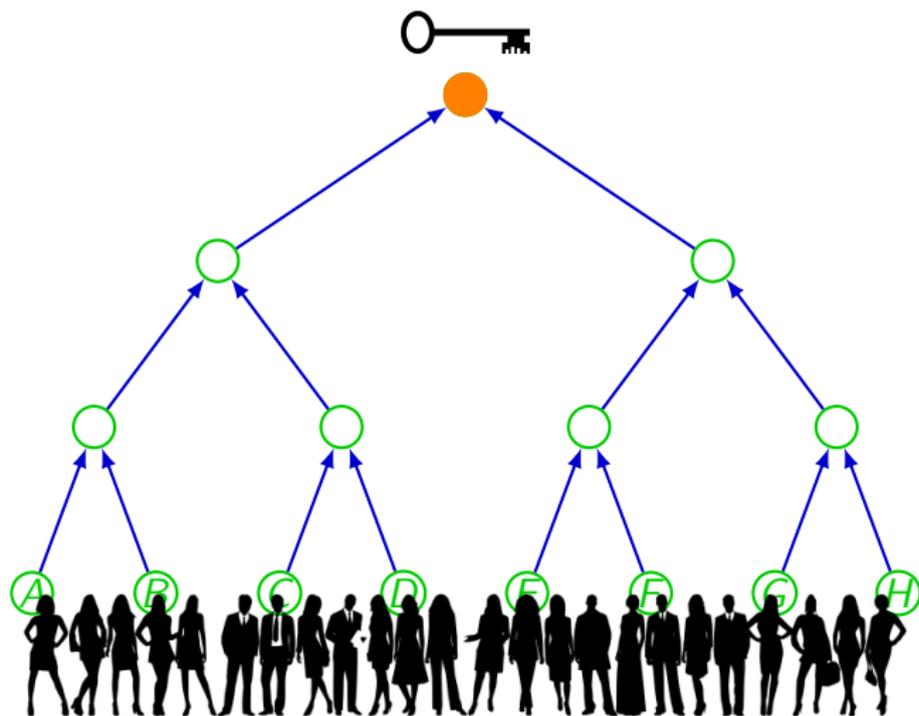
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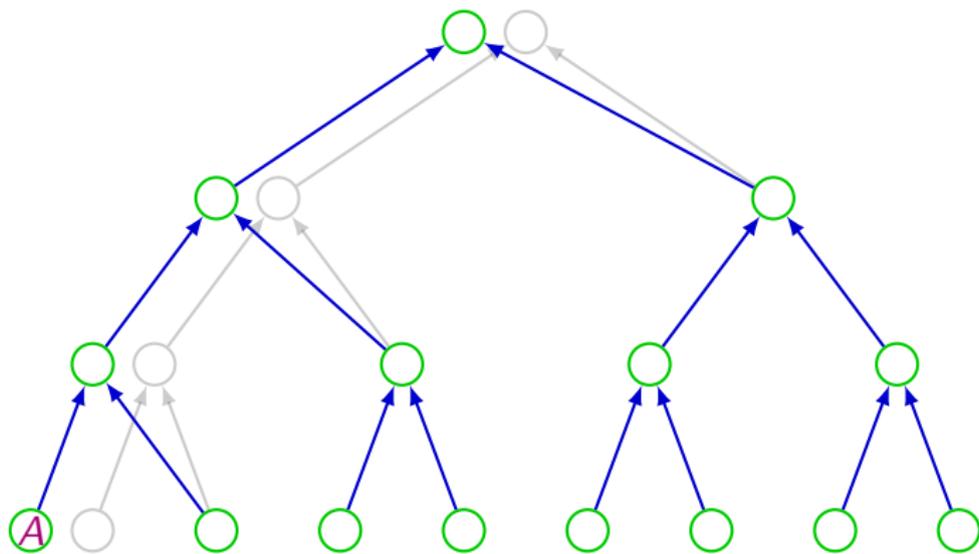
Continuous Group Key Agreement: TreeKEM [BBR18]



TreeKEM: Update

Alice updates:

- choose fresh keys (via hash chain, as in TreeKEM)
- remove old keys



Lower Bound for TreeKEM

- Game is quite similar to **public-key GSD**
- Construct adversary that **embeds tree structure** as above (depth $\log(M)$, M group size)

Crucial: **Relay server is not trusted!**

Theorem (TreeKEM, informal)

*Any **straight-line reduction** proving **adaptive CGKA security** for **TreeKEM** based on the **IND-CPA security** of the underlying **PKE scheme** loses a **super-polynomial factor** ($M^{\Omega(\log \log(M))}$) in the group size M .*

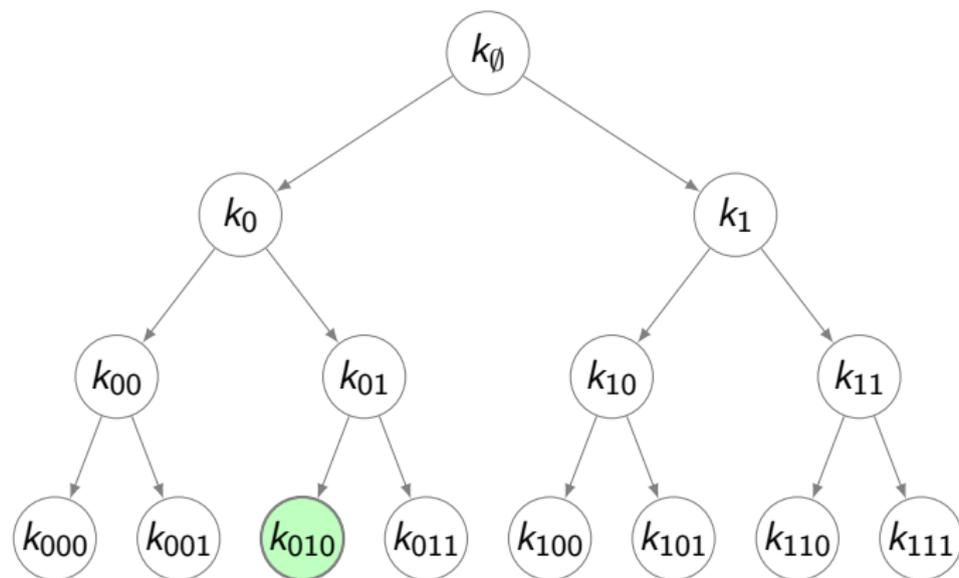
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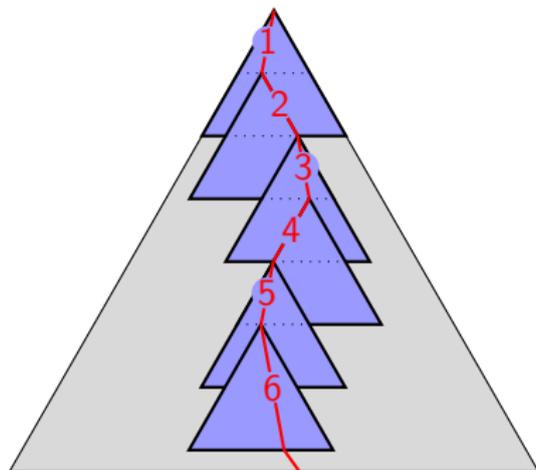
Prefix-constrained PRF: GGM84



$F_{GGM}(k, x) = k_x$ where $k_\emptyset = k$ and $\forall z \in \{0, 1\}^* : k_{z\|0} \| k_{z\|1} = \text{PRG}(k_z)$

Adversary can query **constrained keys** and evaluations.

Lower Bound for GGM84



Theorem (GGM CPRF, informal)

Any **straight-line reduction** proving **adaptive security** for the **GGM CPRF** based on the security of the underlying PRG loses a **super-polynomial** factor ($n^{\Omega(\log(n))}$) in the input size n .

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For the other results, see <https://eprint.iacr.org/2021/059!>

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Conclusion and Open Problems

Initiated study of **lower bounds** on loss in **adaptive security** for certain **multi-round** games on graphs.

- Can we strengthen our lower bounds to hold also for **rewinding / non-obliviousness** reductions? Or can we use these techniques to overcome our lower bounds?

PRE on complete DAGs: LB for arbitrary black-box reductions.

- What are **other multi-round games** captured by the Builder-Pebbler Game?
- Can we use pebbling lower bounds to prove lower bounds on the loss in adaptive security in **other settings**, i.e. constant-round games (eg. ABE, Garbling)?

Yao's garbling: Yes [KKPW21], but very different techniques required

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!