## Correlated Pseudorandomness

Achieving faster secure computation through pseudorandom correlation generators

## Geoffroy Couteau



## Start of the Story: Circa 2016



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- 1 A few months and a CCS'17 paper later, we concluded that the answer was 'not so much'



The Journey through Correlated Pseudorandomess


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## A Standard Cryptographic Approach



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## Secure Computation...

- Goal. Computing a public function on secret inputs
- Model. $n$ players, each with a private input $x_{i}$ interacting through authenticated channels

$$
f:(x, y) \mapsto\left(z_{A}, z_{B}\right)
$$



- Output: Alice learns $z_{A}$ and Bob learn $z_{B}$
- Security: Alice and Bob learn nothing else


## ... Is a Practical Concern.



$$
\Omega 828
$$

The Correlated Randomness Model


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Example: Beaver triples $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)_{i \leq n} \leftarrow\left(\mathbb{F}_{2} \times \mathbb{F}_{2}\right)^{n} \\ \text { shares }\left(\left(a_{i}, b_{i}, a_{i} \cdot b_{i}\right)_{i \leq n}\right)\end{array}\right.$


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## A Template to Instantiate Efficiently the Correlated Randomness Model

Given a correlation $C$, the dealer distributes shares of $C(r)$


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## Pseudorandom correlation generator

$\operatorname{Gen}\left(1^{\lambda}\right) \rightarrow\left(\operatorname{seed}_{A}, \operatorname{seed}_{B}\right)$ such that
(1) $\left(\operatorname{Expand}\left(A, \operatorname{seed}_{A}\right), \operatorname{Expand}\left(B, \operatorname{seed}_{B}\right)\right)$ looks like $n$ samples from the target correlation, and
(2) Expand $\left(A\right.$, seed $\left.{ }_{A}\right)$ looks 'random conditioned on satisfying the correlation with $\operatorname{Expand}\left(B, \operatorname{seed}_{B}\right)$ ' to Bob (similar property w.r.t. Alice).

## A Template to Instantiate Efficiently the Correlated Randomness Model: MPC with silent preprocessing

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Interactive protocol with short communication and computation; Alice and Bob store a small seed afterwards.

Preprocessing phase

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Interactive protocol with short communication and computation; Alice and Bob store a small seed afterwards.

$\operatorname{Expand}\left(\operatorname{seed}_{A}\right): \quad$ Expand $\left(\operatorname{seed}_{B}\right)$

The bulk of the preprocessing phase is offline: Alice and Bob stretch their seeds into large pseudorandom correlated strings.


Alice and Bob consume the preprocessing material in a fast, non-cryptographic online phase.

Preprocessing phase

## Q: What Correlations $C$ do we Consider?

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Distributing $\langle C(r)\rangle$ succinctly


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Function Secret Sharing

$$
\mathrm{FSS}\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\operatorname{Share}(f) \mapsto\left(\square \sum\right) \\
\operatorname{Eval}(\square, x)+\operatorname{Eval}(\Sigma, x)=f(x)
\end{array}\right.
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$\square$


DDH, DCR, class groups
$N^{1}$

High end

iO, Multi-key threshold FHE

All polytime functions

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High end

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# What Functions can be Shared? 

Sharing an arbitrary function:

f
.

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-

## What Functions can be Shared?



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## What Functions can be Shared?



## What Functions can be Shared?



# What Functions can be Shared? <br> succinctly 

- 


# What Functions can be,Shared? <br> succinctly 

| Sharing the all zero function: |
| :---: |
| $\forall x, f(x)=0$ |

## What Functions can be Shared? <br> succinctly



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## What Functions can be, Shared?

succinctly


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Sharing a point function
$f_{\alpha, \beta}(x \neq \alpha)=0, f(\alpha)=\beta$

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succinctly


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## What Functions can be Shared?

## succinctly



## What Functions can be Shared? succinctly



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## What Functions can be Shared? succinctly

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Sharing a point function } \\
f_{\alpha, \beta}(x \neq \alpha)=0, f(\alpha)=\beta
\end{gathered}
$$

## Recursing:

$$
\begin{array}{cc}
b_{i} & \operatorname{seed}_{i} \\
& \vdots \\
b_{\alpha_{1}} & \operatorname{seed}_{\alpha_{1}} \\
& \vdots \\
b_{\sqrt{N}} & \operatorname{seed}_{\sqrt{N}}
\end{array}
$$

Giving $\Delta$ and sharing the $b_{i}$ 's are both essentially sharing a $\sqrt{N}$-size point function again: we can recurse the process! function again:we can recurse the process.

$\operatorname{seed}_{\alpha_{1}}^{\prime} 1-b_{\alpha_{1}}$ $\operatorname{seed}_{\sqrt{N}} b_{\sqrt{N}}$

## What Functions can be Shared? succinctly



## Back to the PCG Template

## Public function <br> FSS( $\overbrace{0 \cdot(\mathrm{PRG}(s e e d))}$ <br> Function secret sharing <br> Short seed

We can succinctly share point functions

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Secret sharing is additively homomorphic!

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Linear combinations of

## Back to the PCG Template

## Public function <br> FSS(C) $\stackrel{\sim}{\text { PRG }}($ seed $))$ <br> Short seed

Secret sharing is additively homomorphic!

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Linear combinations of

Are there any PRGs in this class?

## LPN to the Rescue

The LPN assumption - primal

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## The LPN assumption - dual



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PRG: $\left(\alpha_{i}\right)_{i \leq t} \mapsto H \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{t} \vec{u}_{\alpha_{i}}$, where $\vec{u}_{\alpha_{i}}$ is the unit vector with a 1 at $\alpha_{i}$

## LPN to the Rescue

## The LPN assumption - dual



PRG: $\left(\alpha_{i}\right)_{i \leq t} \mapsto \underbrace{H \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{t}} \vec{u}_{\alpha_{i}}$, where $\vec{u}_{\alpha_{i}}$ is the unit vector with a 1 at $\alpha_{i}$

## LPN to the Rescue

## The LPN assumption - dual


$\operatorname{PRG}:\left(\alpha_{i}\right)_{i \leq t} \mapsto \underbrace{H \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{t}} \underbrace{\vec{u}_{\alpha_{i}}}_{\text {(Truth table of) point functions }}$, where $\vec{u}_{\alpha_{i}}$ is the unit vector with a 1 at $\alpha_{i}$

Linear combination

## Back to the PCG Template Again



We have FSS for a class that contains a PRG

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We have FSS for a class that contains a PRG
The heavy lifting in the many subsequent works boils down to:

- Making the PRG more efficient
- Adding support for more complex $C$


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We have FSS for a class that contains a PRG
The heavy lifting in the many subsequent works boils down to:

- Making the PRG more efficient

Both questions are deeply

- Adding support for more complex $C$


## Digression: LPN versus LWE



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## LPN and LWE



Compressibility
$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{LPN}\left(\mathbb{F}_{2}\right): H \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{F}_{2}^{m \times n}, \\ & \\ & \operatorname{Ber}\left(\mathbb{F}_{2}\right)^{n}\end{aligned}$
'Sparse'
$t \cdot \log n \ll n$ entropy in the noise $\Longrightarrow$ compressibility! Crucially used in recent results: PCGs, but also iO and batch OT.

Statistical security
$\operatorname{LWE}\left(\mathbb{F}_{p}\right): H \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{F}_{p}^{m \times n}$, $\uparrow$
$[-B, B]^{n}$
‘Small’
$O(n)$ entropy in the noise $\Longrightarrow$ LHL, statistical security, lattice trapdoors, lossiness...

## Some of my Favourite Open Questions



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## Making the PRG more Efficient

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$$
\text { PRG : }\left(\alpha_{i}\right)_{i \leq t} \mapsto \quad H \quad \cdot(++++)
$$

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Multiplying by a random matrix of size $\Omega\left(n^{2}\right)$

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A $n$ is the total amount of correlated randomness we want to generate! (Think: $n \sim 2^{30}$ )

## Making the PRG more Efficient



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A $n$ is the total amount of correlated randomness we want to generate! (Think: $n \sim 2^{30}$ )

Can we replace $H$ with a matrix that allows for fast matrix-vector product?

We need a rule of thumb to know which matrices will yield plausible variants of LPN

## Security of (variants of) LPN - Linear Tests

A tremendous number of attacks on LPN have been published


- Gaussian Elimination attacks
- Standard gaussian elimination

Information Set Decoding Attacks

- Prange's algorithm [Prange62]
- Stern's variant [ICIT-Stern88]
- Blum-Kalai-Wasserman [J.ACM:BKw

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- Sample-efficient BKW [A-R:Lyu05]
- Pooled Gauss [CRYPTO:EKM17]
- Well-pooled Gauss [CRYPTO:EKM17]
- Leviel-Fouque [SCN:LF06]
- Covering codes [JC:GJL19]
- Covering codes+ [BTV15]
- Covering codes++ [BV:AC16]
- Covering codes+++ [EC:ZJW16]
- Statistical Decoding Attacks
- Jabri's attack [ICCC:Jab01]
- Overbeck's variant [ACISP:Ove06]
- FKl's variant [Trans.IT:FKI06]
- Debris-Tillich variant [ISIT:DT17]
- BJMM variant [EC:BJMM12]
- May-Ozerov variant [EC:MO15]
- Both-May variant [PQC:BM18]
- MMT variant [AC:MMT11]
- Well-pooled MMT [CRYPTO:EKM17]
- BLP variant [CRYPTO:BLP11]

Other Attacks

- Generalized birthday [CRYPTO:Wag02]
- Improved GBA [Kirchner11]
- Linearization [EC:BM97]
- Linearization 2 [INDO:Saa07]
- Low-weight parity-check [Zichron17]
- Low-deg approx [ITCS:ABGKR17]

Crucial observation: most attacks fit in the same framework, the linear test framework. (*)


## Check

The adversary wins in the distribution induced by

(over a random choice of secret and sparse noise) is non-negligibly biased.

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## Withstanding Linear Tests

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## We have a sum of two distributions:

Induced by the codeword
$\vec{v}$


Protects against light linear tests

Induced by the noise vector

-

Protects against heavy linear tests

Claim: Assume $t$ (number of noisy coordinates) is set to a security parameter. If there is a constant $c$ such that every subset of $c \cdot n$ rows of $G$ is linearly independent, no linear test can distinguish $G \cdot \vec{S}+\vec{e}$ from random.

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## Rephrasing the sufficient condition:

Every subset of $O(n)$ rows of $G$ is linearly independent
$\Longleftrightarrow$ the left-kernel of $G$ does not contain nonzero vector of weight less than $O(n)$
$\Longleftrightarrow$ the dual code of $G$, i.e., the code generated by the transpose of its parity check matrix $H$, has linear minimum distance

## Pseudorandom Correlation Generators - Efficiency



We want to find a matrix $M=H^{\top}$ such that (1) the code generated by $M$ is a good code, and (2) computing $M T \cdot \vec{v}$ takes time $O(n)$ for any $\vec{v}$ $M \cdot \vec{v}$ (this is the transposition principle)
$\Longrightarrow$ We need to find a good and linear-time encodable code. And we want it concretely efficient!

## Pseudorandom Correlation Generators - Efficiency

There is an ongoing and exciting quest for pinpointing the right code for PCG applications:

- CCS:Boyle-C-Gilboa-Ishai'18 suggested using LDPC code
- CCS:Boyle-C-Gilboa-Ishai-Kohl-Rindal-Scholl'19 moved to quasi-cyclic codes due to concern regarding linear-time encoding of LDPC codes
- Crypto:C-Raghuraman-Rindal'21: tailored LDPC with heuristic \& experimental support
- Crypto:Boyle-C-Gilboa-Ishai-Kohl-Resch—Scholl'22: Expand-Accumulate codes
- Latest news: there's apparently a new proposal that suggests Expand-Convolute codes instead (and which breaks Silver along the way!)
- There are a few more codes l'd like to investigate, the quest continues!


## Some of my Favourite Open Questions



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## OLE Correlations

OLE over $\mathbb{F}$ is the type of correlation we want to do (semi-honest) secure computation of arithmetic circuits over $\mathbb{F}$.

In an OLE, Alice gets $a \leftarrow \mathbb{F}$, Bob gets $b \leftarrow \mathbb{F}$, and Alice and Bob get random shares of $a \cdot b$.

## OLE Correlations, the LPN Way

## Goal:

- Alice gets a pseudorandom vector $\vec{x}$
- Bob gets a pseudorandom vector $\vec{y}$
- Alice and Bob get shares of $\vec{x} \odot \vec{y}$



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## OLE Correlations, the LPN Way

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00
Uses only LPN
This is a $t^{2}$-sparse matrix, i.e. a sum of $t^{2}$ point functions!
$\Longrightarrow$ can be generated with comm. $O\left(\lambda t^{2} \log n\right)$


## OLE Correlations, the Ring-LPN Way

## Crypto: Boyle-C-Gilboa-Ishai-Kohl-Scholl'20

Let $\mathscr{R}$ be the ring $\mathbb{Z}_{p} / F(X)$ where $F(X)$ is a degree- $n$ polynomial that splits entirely, and $p>n$.
Ring-LPN assumption: $(a, b) \sim(a, a \cdot e+f)$ where $(a, b) \leftarrow \mathscr{R}$ and $(e, f)$ are random $t$-sparse polynomials.
Observation: we can get $n$ OLE correlations from a single 'ring-OLE' correlation $(x, y,\langle x \cdot y\rangle)$ over $\mathscr{R}$ : the OLE correlations are obtained by reducing $x, y$, and $x \cdot y$ modulo each of the linear factors $F_{i}$ of $F$.

## Construction:

- Alice gets a pseudorandom polynomial $x=a \cdot e_{x}+f_{x}$ where $\left(e_{x}, f_{x}\right)$ are $t$-sparse polynomials over $\mathscr{R}$
- Bob gets a pseudorandom vector $y=a \cdot e_{y}+f_{y}$ where $\left(e_{y}, f_{y}\right)$ are $t$-sparse polynomials over $\mathscr{R}$
- Alice and Bob get shares of $x \cdot y=a^{2} \cdot\left(e_{x} e_{y}\right)+a \cdot\left(e_{x} f_{y}+f_{x} e_{y}\right)+f_{x} f_{y}$

The polynomials $a^{2}, a$ are public, and $e_{x} e_{y}, e_{x} f_{y}, f_{x} e_{y}, f_{x} f_{y}$ are all $t^{2}$-sparse polynomials

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Costs only $O(n \cdot \log n)$

- 'Splittable ring-LPN' deserves further study


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Let $\mathscr{R}$ be the ring $\mathbb{Z}_{p} / F(X)$ where $F(X)$ is a degree- $n$ polynomial that splits entirely, and $p>n$.
Ring-LPN assumption: $(a, b) \sim(a, a \cdot e+f)$ where $(a, b) \leftarrow \mathscr{R}$ and $(e, f)$ are random $t$-sparse polynomials.
Observation: we can get $n$ OLE correlations from a single 'ring-OLE' correlation $(x, y,\langle x \cdot y\rangle)$ over $\mathscr{R}$ : the OLE correlations are obtained by reducing $x, y$, and $x \cdot y$ modulo each of the linear factors $F_{i}$ of $F$.

## Construction:

- Alice gets a pseudorandom polynomial $x=a \cdot e_{x}+f_{x}$ where $\left(e_{x}, f_{x}\right)$ are $t$-sparse polynomials over $\mathscr{R}$
- Bob gets a pseudorandom vector $y=a \cdot e_{y}+f_{y}$ where $\left(e_{y}, f_{y}\right)$ are $t$-sparse polynomials over $\mathscr{R}$
- Alice and Bob get shares of $x \cdot y=a^{2} \cdot\left(e_{x} e_{y}\right)+a \cdot\left(e_{x} f_{y}+f_{x} e_{y}\right)+f_{x} f_{y}$

The polynomials $a^{2}, a$ are public, and $e_{x} e_{y}, e_{x} f_{y}, f_{x} e_{y}, f_{x} f_{y}$ are all $t^{2}$-sparse polynomials

Costs only $O(n \cdot \log n)$

- 'Splittable ring-LPN' deserves further study
- F must be large!


## OLE Correlations, from Quasi-Abelian Syndrome Decoding

How do we break this 'field-size barrier'? An answer in our recent Crypto paper (Bombar-C-Couvreur-Ducros'23): we move to quasi-abelian codes, which are defined over group algebras.

## High level intuition

The group algebra structure gives a suitable framework to find the right polynomial $P$ to instantiate an LPN variant over a ring $\mathscr{R}=\mathbb{F}\left[X_{1}, \cdots, X_{d}\right] / P\left(X_{1}, \cdots, X_{d}\right)$ such that

- $\mathscr{R} \sim \mathbb{F} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{F}$ (i.e. we get many copies of an OLE over $\mathbb{F}$ )
- The underlying assumption is plausibly secure (i.e. resists linear attacks)

Using multivariate rings gives us many more roots of $P$ even for a small $\mathbb{F}!$ In fact, we can get up to $(|\mathbb{F}|-1)^{d}$ copies of an OLE over $\mathbb{F}$.

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This only gives something meaningful up to $\mathbb{F}_{3}$ !

## Some of my Favourite Open Questions



## Some of my Favourite Open Questions

Can we get fast, usable, scalable MPC over the internet?


## A Closer Look at Secure Communication

## Our ultimate goal is practical MPC that can be deployed and used over the web

Secure communication is already widely deployed and in use

$>85 \%$ of the total internet traffic is encrypted
$\Longrightarrow$ Let us look at secure communication's recipe for success!

## A Closer Look at Secure Communication

## Two Phases:

Key exchange phase


- One-time, simultaneous interaction
- Heavy (public key) computations
- Low communication $n \cdot \mid\left(\right.$ not $\left.n^{2}\right)$

Encryption phase


- Lightweight (symmetric) computations


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Two Phases:
Key exchange phase


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Encryption phase


- Lightweight (symmetric) computations


## Back to the PCG Template Again



- 1 Using a PRG enables a one-time generation of a fixed amount of correlations


## Back to the PCG Template Again



A pseudorandom correlation function is to a PCG what a PRF is to a PRG

## Back to the PCG Template Again



A pseudorandom correlation function is to a PCG what a PRF is to a PRG

## Back to the PCG Template Again



FOCS:BCGIKS20 and Crypto:BCGIKRS22 give plausible candidates

## Pseudorandom Correlation Functions



Correctness \& security:

- Black-box access to samples of the form $\left(F_{K_{A}}(x), F_{K_{B}}(x)\right)$ are indistinguishable from black-box access to random samples from a target correlation.
- From the viewpoint of Alice, each $F_{K_{B}}(x)$ is indistinguishable from a random value sampled conditioned on satisfying the correlation with $F_{K_{A}}(x)$.
- Same condition in the other direction.


## Public-Key Pseudorandom Correlation Functions



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Achieving non-interactive silent key generation


Formally:

- KeyGen $\rightarrow$ (pk, sk) generates public and private PCF keys
- KeyDer $\left(\mathrm{pk}_{A}, \mathrm{sk}_{B}\right) \rightarrow K_{B}^{A B}$ yields Bob's PCF key w.r.t. Alice's key
- $\operatorname{Eval}(K, x) \rightarrow y$ yields a pseudorandom sample


## Public-Key Pseudorandom Correlation Functions

Public-key PCFs are exactly the right tool to enable scalable, on-demand 2-party secure computation over the Internet, with a communication and computation pattern close to that of secure communication over the web.

Building efficient public-key PCF is essentially a wide-open question: the recent work of EC:Orlandi-Scholl-Yakoubov'21 gets it for OT from QR, but efficiency is quite bad.
(Teaser) Coming soon: we have some exciting progress in this line of work, which does not fully solve the problem, but is a big step forward!

## Some of my Favourite Open Questions



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## Some of my Favourite Open Questions

No time left for that, but l'd be happy to discuss it over dinner tonight!
Can we go below
$s / \log \log s$ ?
Other cool things to check out that I don't have time to discuss:

- People have been doing great things in zero-knowledge using these PCG techniques (incl. right here in Aarhus!)
- Everything we have so far works only for two parties!
- ... And many more


## Questions?



