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# Failing gracefully: Decryption failures and the Fujisaki- Okamoto transform

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# Motivation

**Computational problem**  
(LWE, NTRU, SD)...

**PKE**  
Passively secure  
(OW/IND-CPA)

**Key Encapsulation**  
IND-CCA



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Originally (FO99): no decryption failures (lattices, codes ☹)

Revisited (HHK17):

- ☑ small failure probability  $\delta$
- different rejection methods

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ROM: Rejection-method-agnostic

Quantum ROM:

Different methods → bounds vastly differ

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### Weird QROM thing 2

Grover-like  $\delta$  – term:  $q^2 \cdot \delta$

...can attackers quantum search?

**Suboptimal bounds?**

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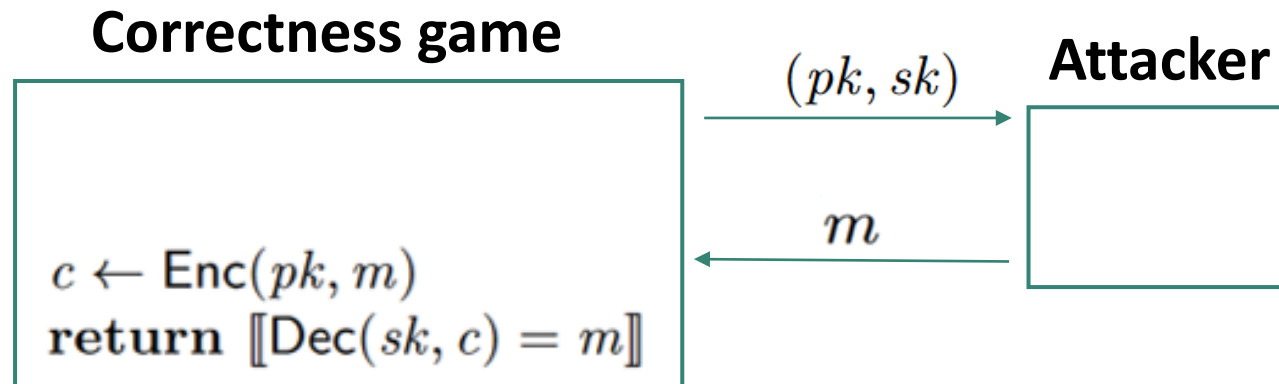
**Suboptimal bounds?**

## Applicability issue

**Concrete  $\delta$  – estimations ⚡**  
**security proofs**

# $\delta$ - estimations vs security proofs

$\delta \triangleq$  advantage in

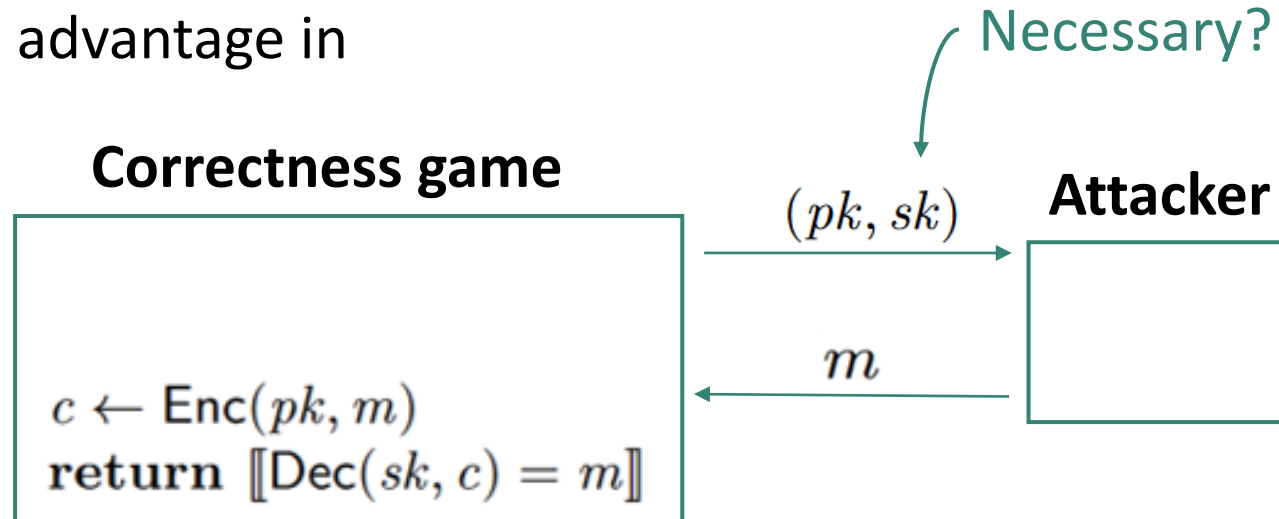


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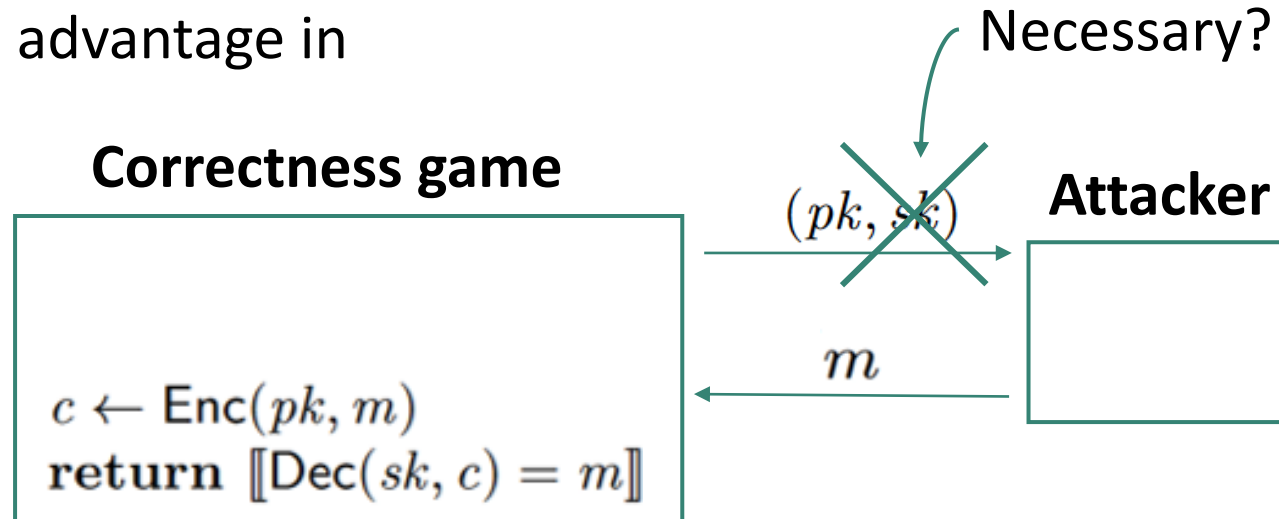
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# $\delta$ - estimations vs security proofs

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⚡ observed by Manuel Barbosa

$\delta$ -estimator scripts:

$\triangleq$  advantage in game **without  $sk$**

**Applicability issue**

Concrete  $\delta$  – estimations ⚡  
security proofs

# Our results (nutshell)

Tighter bound for FO with explicit rejection ( $\text{FO}^\perp$ ) for randomised schemes:

→ **Aligns** QROM results for **the two rejection types**

Bounds work with **sk-less failure notions** → **estimator-script-compatible** 😊

# Our results

Tighter bound for FO with explicit rejection ( $\text{FO}^\perp$ ) for randomised schemes:

$$\text{INDCCA}(\text{FO}^\perp(\text{PKE})) \leq \text{INDCPA}(\text{FO}^\perp(\text{PKE})) + T_{\text{SPREAD}} + T_{\text{FAIL}}$$

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Essentially  $4 \cdot \sqrt{\# \text{ queries}} \cdot \text{INDCPA}(\text{PKE})$

How? Semi-classical One-Way to Hiding (tailored)

Why not double-sided? Same bound


Why not MRM?  $4 \cdot \# \text{ queries}^2 \cdot \text{INDCPA}(\text{PKE})$

Decryption failures are

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$$T_{\text{SPREAD}} = \frac{2^{65} \cdot q}{\sqrt{2^\gamma}}$$


$\gamma$ : PKE spreadness ('entropy')

$$\text{DFMS22: } \frac{24 \cdot q \cdot \sqrt{q \cdot q_{\text{Decaps}}}}{\sqrt[4]{2^\gamma}}$$

$q$ : # RO queries

$q_{\text{Decaps}}$ : # CCA queries (NIST:  $2^{64}$ )

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Bound **also works for implicit rejection** (due to BH+19).

## Conjecture

Implicit: smaller  $T_{\text{SPREAD}}$   
possible

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$T_{\text{FAIL}}$ : failure-finding game advantage **without sk**

Previous work:

Implicit: Essentially  $8q^2 \cdot \delta$

Explicit:  $24 \cdot q^2 \cdot \delta$

$$\text{PKE}^{\text{derand}}: c = \text{Encrypt}(\text{pk}, m; r), r = \text{Hash}_{\text{rand}}(m)$$

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3 ways to bound:

Failure attacker with CCA oracle, somewhat contrived ROM:

$$T_{\text{FAIL}} = \text{FAILURE} - \text{CCA}(\text{PKE}^{\text{derand}})$$

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Failure attacker **w'out** CCA oracle, somewhat contrived ROM:

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$T_{\text{FAIL}}$ : failure-finding game advantage **without sk**

3 ways to bound:

Breaking down FAILURE – CPA ( $\mathbf{PKE}^{\text{derand}}$ ), **generically**

- in terms of **PKE**, no contrived ROM
- fine-grained term compatible with existing  $\delta$ -estimator scripts

Previous work:

Implicit: Essentially  $8q^2 \cdot \delta$

Explicit:  $24 \cdot q^2 \cdot \delta$

# Our results

FAILURE – CPA ( $\text{PKE}^{\text{derand}}$ ) = sum of two bounds:

- Finding non-generic (key-dependent) failures for PKE
- Finding generic (key-independent) failures for  $\text{PKE}^{\text{derand}}$

$$\text{PKE}^{\text{derand}}: c = \text{Encrypt}(pk, m; r), r = \text{Hash}_{\text{rand}}(m)$$

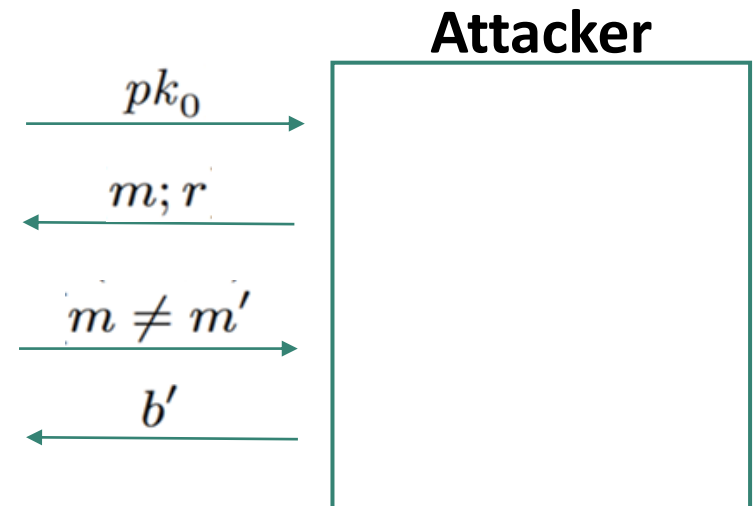
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## NonGenFail game

$(sk_0, pk_0) \leftarrow \text{KG}$   
 $(sk_1, pk_1) \leftarrow \text{KG}$   
  
 $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(pk_b, m; r)$   
 $m' := \text{Dec}(sk_b, c)$   
  
**return**  $[[b = b']]$



Task: Tell key pairs apart  
with single ‘does this fail’ query

Lattice-based: NonGenFail  $\approx$  IND-CPA

# Our results

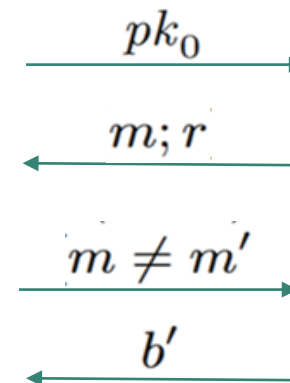
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## Attacker



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## GenFail game

```
(pk, sk) ← KG
c := Enc(pk, m; Hashrand(m))
m' := Dec(sk, c)
return [[m' ≠ m]]
```

**Attacker**

$m$

Task: Find  $m$  failing for  $\text{PKE}^{\text{derand}}$   
**without even knowing  $pk$**

$$\text{PKE}^{\text{derand}}: c = \text{Encrypt}(pk, m; r), r = \text{Hash}_{\text{rand}}(m)$$

# Our results

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- **Finding generic (key-independent) failures for  $\text{PKE}^{\text{derand}}$**

## GenFail game

Analysis via new QROM ,find large values' bounds

$(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{KG}$   
 $c := \text{Enc}(pk, m; \text{Hash}_{\text{rand}}(m))$   
 $m' := \text{Dec}(sk, c)$   
**return**  $\llbracket m' \neq m \rrbracket$

Task: Find  $m$  failing for  $\text{PKE}^{\text{derand}}$   
**without even knowing  $pk$**

**Attacker**

$m$

# Finding generic failures

'Generic Failure' term =  $\tilde{\delta} + T_{\tilde{\delta}}$ :

$\tilde{\delta} :=$  computed  $\delta$ - estimate

$T_{\tilde{\delta}} \approx \left( \sqrt{-\ln(\tilde{\delta})} + \sqrt{\ln(q_{RO})} \right) \cdot \tilde{\delta}$  if failure tail envelope has Gaussian tail bound

Otherwise:

$T_{\tilde{\delta}} \approx q_{RO} \cdot$  decryption failure rate variance

 pessimistic:  $< \tilde{\delta}$

**Conjecture**

Lattice-based: variance very small



# Proof technique: Extractable QRROM (DFMS22)

**Idea:** ROM-like reduction via preimage extraction

FO proof:

$$O = \text{Hash}_{\text{rand}}: M \rightarrow R$$

CCA simulation:

Book-keep  $\text{Hash}_{\text{rand}}$  queries

# Proof technique: Extractable QRROM (DFMS22)

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QRROM  $O: X \rightarrow Y$  via compressed oracle (Zha19)

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**Idea:** ROM-like reduction via preimage extraction

QROM  $O: X \rightarrow Y$  via compressed oracle (Zha19)

+ interface  $\text{Extract}_f$  for  $f: X \times Y \rightarrow T$ :

$\text{Extract}_f(t)$ :

Collapse oracle database such that

- for one  $x$ ,  $f(x, y) = t$  for all  $y$  in  $x$ 's database superposition

Return  $x$

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'Surprising'  $\triangleq$  PKE spreadness

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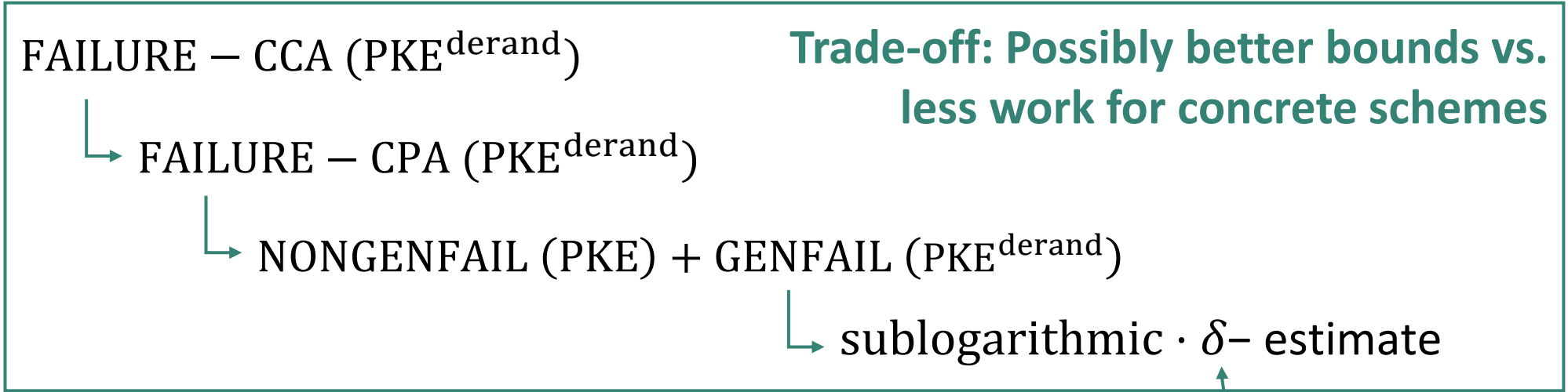
**Contribution: extractable  
QROM OWTH**

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# Conclusion

Thanks for listening!  
Eprint: 2022/365

Tighter bound for  $FO^\perp$ , alternative bound for implicit



script-compatible

**QRDM tools:** ‘large value search’ results + proof strategy:

- Reduction needs to
- Book-keep queries
  - Simulate hash values via  $\$$  → extractable OWTH

# Bonus: IND-CCA of FO in the ROM

## FO encapsulation

Key:  $k = \text{Hash}_{\text{key}}(m), m = \$$

Ciphertext:  $r = \text{Hash}_{\text{rand}}(m)$   
 $c = \text{Encrypt}(\text{pk}, m; r)$

## FO decapsulation

$m' = \text{Decrypt}(\text{sk}, c)$   
 $k = \text{Hash}_{\text{key}}(m')$

**IND:** Breaking IND = breaking PKE

**CCA:** Book-keep queries to  $\text{Hash}_{\text{rand}}$   
Look up  $m$  encrypting to  $c$   
Return  $\text{Hash}_{\text{key}}(m)$

**Decaps simulation fails if:**

- $c$  valid, but  $m$  not yet queried  $\rightarrow \gamma$ -spreadness
- $c$  stems from 'failing'  $m$ :
  - $c = \text{Encrypt}(m)$  with  $r = \text{Hash}_{\text{rand}}(m)$
  - $\text{Decrypt}(c) \neq m$

„PKE entropy“

**Correctness game against derandomised PKE**

Advantage  $< q_{RO} \cdot \delta$



# In the quantum ROM?

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**IND:** Breaking IND = breaking PKE

**CCA:** Simulation that still fails for failing  $m$

**Replace  $\text{Hash}_{\text{rand}}$  with 'perfectly correct' oracle**  
Advantage  $< q_{RO}^2 \cdot \delta$

# In the quantum ROM?

☑ One-way to hiding (OWTH)  
U14, AHU19, BH+19, KS+21

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## This work

ROM-like simulation via extractable QRROM  
+  
OWTH in extractable QRROM

# Bonus: tail bound of failure tail envelope

$$T_{\tilde{\delta}} \approx \left( \sqrt{-\ln(\tilde{\delta})} + \sqrt{\ln(q_{RO})} \right) \cdot \tilde{\delta} \quad \text{if failure tail envelope has Gaussian tail bound}$$

$$\text{Failure tail envelope: } \tau(t) := \max_m \Pr_r \left[ \Pr_{pk,sk} [m, r \text{ fail for } pk, sk] \geq t \right]$$

$$\text{Gaussian tail bound: } \tau(t) \leq \exp \left( -\frac{1}{\tilde{\delta}^2} \cdot (t - \delta_{ik})^2 \right)$$

$$\max_m \Pr_{r, pk, sk} [m, r \text{ fail for } pk, sk]$$

# Bonus: Compressed oracle (Zha19)

- Oracle database initialised to  $D := \bigotimes_{x \in \text{query domain}} |x, \perp\rangle_{D_x}$
- Process queries  $|x, y\rangle$  by applying
  - $F_{D_x}$  to output register of  $D_x$

$$F_{D_x} |\psi\rangle := \begin{cases} \text{uniform superposition,} & |\psi\rangle = \perp \\ \perp, & |\psi\rangle = \text{uniform superposition} \\ |\psi\rangle, & |\psi\rangle \text{ orthogonal to } \perp, \text{ uniform} \end{cases}$$

- $\text{CNOT}_{D_x:Y}^{\bigotimes}$  to  $D_x$ , query output register  $Y$
- $F_{D_x}$  to output register of  $D_x$