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# Secure Hamming Distance based Computation and its applications

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# In this talk

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- Secure two-party computation of functions which depend only on the Hamming distance of the inputs.
  
- Security against malicious adversaries, according to the notion of full simulatability.
  - Therefore when used as a building block for more complex protocols, these can be analyzed assuming building block implemented by a trusted party.
  
- Applications ( $m$ -point-SPIR).

# HDOT – Hamming Distance based Oblivious Transfer

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- Hamming distance  $d_H(w, w')$
  
- **HDOT** – Hamming Distance based Oblivious Transfer, is a secure two-party protocol, where
  - $P_1$  has input  $w$ ,  $P_2$  has input  $w'$ . ( $|w|=|w'|=m$ )
  - $P_1$  learns an output which depends only on  $d_H(w, w')$
  
- More specifically,
  - $P_2$  has additional inputs  $Z_0, \dots, Z_m$
  - $P_1$  learns  $Z_d$ , where  $d = d_H(w, w')$ .

# HDOT- Straightforward applications

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- Computing the Hamming distance ( $Z_i = i$ )
- Computing scalar product ( $Z_i = i \bmod 2$ )
- EQ – Equality based transfer:  $EQ_{V_0, V_1}(w, w')$  outputs  $V_0$  if  $w = w'$ , and  $V_1$  otherwise.
  - Set  $Z_0 = V_0$ ,  $Z_1 = \dots = Z_m = V_1$ .
  - There is a specific output  $V_1$  if  $w \neq w'$ . This is harder than outputting a random output in that case.
- Threshold HDOT: output  $V_0$  if  $d_H(w, w') < t$ , and  $V_1$  otherwise.
- Computing similarity of documents.

# Trivial implementations

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- Recall, *1-out-of- $N$*  oblivious transfer
  - $P_2$  has input  $X_1, \dots, X_N$ .  $P_1$  has input  $1 \leq i \leq N$ .
  - $P_1$  learns  $X_i$ .
  - Can be implemented using  $\log N$  1-out-of-2 OTs.
- HDOT using *1-out-of- $2^m$*  OT...
- HDOT using *generic* two-party computation (Yao)
  - Requires  $m$  1-out-of-2 OTs, and a circuit for  $d_H(w, w')$ .
- Secure protocols computing scalar product, based on hom. enc. [WY, GLLM], semi-honest security.
- *Approximation* protocols [IW]. Good asymptotically.

# Our results

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- Recall, 1-out-of- $N$  oblivious transfer
  - $P_2$  has input  $X_1, \dots, X_N$ .  $P_1$  has input  $1 \leq i \leq N$ .
  - $P_1$  learns  $X_i$ .
  - Can be implemented using  $\log N$  1-out-of-2 OTs.
- HDOT using 1-out-of- $2^m$  OT...
- HDOT using generic two-party computation (Yao)
  - Requires  $m$  1-out-of-2 OTs, and a circuit for  $d_H(w, w')$ .
- Our results:
  - $\log(m)$  OTs,  $m$  homomorphic encryptions.
  - Security against malicious adversaries.

# The basic protocol

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- *bin*HDOT.  $w, w'$  are binary strings.
- First step: Use homomorphic encryption to let  $P_1$  learn  $d_H(w, w') + R$ , computed in a large field or ring.
- Second step: Run *1-out-of-( $m+1$ )* OT to let  $P_1$  learn desired protocol output.

## *bin*HDOT – First step

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- $W = W_0, \dots, W_{m-1}; \quad W' = W'_0, \dots, W'_{m-1}$
- $P_1$  knows the decryption key of a homomorphic encryption scheme over  $\mathbb{F}$ . ( $|\mathbb{F}| \gg m$ )
  
- $P_1$  sends  $E(w_0), \dots, E(w_{m-1})$
- $P_2$  uses homomorphic properties
  - To compute  $E(w_0 \oplus w'_0), \dots, E(w_{m-1} \oplus w'_{m-1})$
  - To sum these values and obtain  $E(d_H(w, w')) = E(d)$
- $P_2$  chooses random  $R \in \mathbb{F}$  and sends  $E(d+R)$  to  $P_1$

## *bin*HDOT – Second step

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- $P_1$  decrypts  $E(d+R)$ , and reduces the result modulo  $m+1$ .
  - Note that  $d \leq m \ll |\mathbb{F}|$ , and therefore whp computing  $d+R$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  involves no modular operation.
  - Therefore the decrypted value equals  $d+R$  computed over the integers, and  $P_1$  computes  $d+R \bmod m+1$ .
- The parties run a 1-out-of- $(m+1)$  OT
  - $P_1$ 's input is  $d+R \bmod m+1$
  - $P_2$ 's rotates the order of  $Z_0, \dots, Z_m$  by  $R$ , and sets its input to be  $Z_{-R \bmod (m+1)}, Z_{-R+1 \bmod (m+1)}, \dots, Z_{-R+m \bmod (m+1)}$
  - $P_1$  learns  $Z_{(d+R)-R \bmod (m+1)} = Z_d$

# Overhead

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- Recall, overheads
  - OT > homomorphic encryption > homo. addition
- Overhead
  - Our protocol:  $m$  encryptions/additions,  $\log m$  OTs.
  - Yao:  $m$  OTs + evaluating a circuit.
- Precomputation:
  - Our protocol:  $P_1$  can precompute all  $m$  encryptions without communicating with  $P_2$ .
  - Yao: Precomputing the OTs requires interaction.

# Security against malicious adversaries

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- In the sense of **full simulatability**
  - I.e., the parties are aware of their inputs.
  - Anything an adversary does in the real protocol, it can also do in an ideal scenario including a TTP.
  
- Some issues:
  - Ensure that in the OT,  $P_1$  can only learn item  $d_H(w, w')$ .
  - Make sure that  $P_2$  “knows” its inputs to the OT.

# Security against malicious adversaries: Tools

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- Committed OT with constant difference (COTCD)
  - $P_2$  has inputs  $m_0, m_1$ , s.t.  $|m_0 - m_1| = \Delta$ .
  - $P_1$  has inputs  $i \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $\text{com}(m_0)$ ,  $\text{com}(m_1)$ ,  $\text{com}(\Delta)$ .
  - Output of  $P_1$ : output  $m_i$ , but only if  $|m_0 - m_1| = \Delta$
  
  - $P_1$  does not learn  $\Delta$ , but verifies that  $|m_0 - m_1| = \Delta$
  - Implementation based on JS committed OT.
  
- Oblivious Polynomial Evaluation (OPE)
  - $P_2$  has polynomial  $Q()$ .  $P_1$  has  $X$ .  $P_1$  learns  $Q(x)$ .
  - We use a construction of Hazay-Lindell.

# Security against malicious adversaries: The protocol

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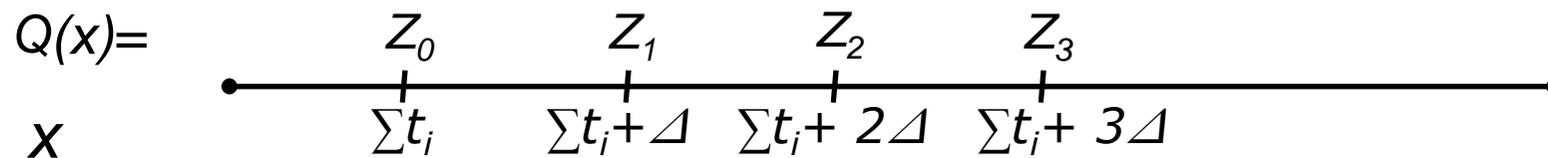
- $P_2$  chooses a random  $\Delta$
- For every letter location  $0 \leq i \leq m-1$ , run a COTCD, where
  - $P_2$  chooses a random value  $t_i$
  - $P_1$  learns  $t_i$  if  $w_i = w'_i$ . Learns  $t_i + \Delta$  otherwise.
- $P_1$  sums the values it received: gets  $\sigma = \sum t_i + \Delta d_h(w, w')$
- $P_2$  prepares a polynomial  $Q()$ , s.t.  $\forall j \quad Q(\sum t_i + \Delta \cdot j) = Z_j$ .

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 Q(x) = & z_0 & z_1 & z_2 & z_3 \\
 & | & | & | & | \\
 x & \sum t_i & \sum t_i + \Delta & \sum t_i + 2\Delta & \sum t_i + 3\Delta
 \end{array}$$

# Security against malicious adversaries: The protocol

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- The parties run an OPE where  $P_1$  learns  $Q(\sigma) = Q(\sum t_i + \Delta d_h(w, w')) = Z_{d(w, w')}$
- $P_1$  does not know  $\Delta$ . Therefore if it asks to learn a different value of  $Q()$ , whp it does not hit any of  $\sum t_i, \sum t_i + \Delta, \sum t_i + 2\Delta, \dots$



# An application: $m$ -point SPIR

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## □ SPIR – Symmetric PIR

- $P_2$  has inputs  $X_0, \dots, X_{N-1}$
- $P_1$  has input  $i \in 0, \dots, N-1$
- $P_1$  learns  $X_i$  in  $o(N)$  communication. Nothing else leaks.

## □ $m$ -point SPIR

- At most  $m$  inputs of  $P_2$  have unique values. All other inputs have a default value  $\alpha$ .
- $P_1$  must not know whether it learns the default value  $\alpha$  or one of the  $m$  unique values.
- (If we allow  $P_1$  to learn a *random* value instead of the default value  $\alpha$ , then easy to implement, using OPE.)

# 1-point SPIR

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## □ 1-point SPIR

- $X_{i_1}$  is unique. For all other  $i$ ,  $X_i = \alpha$ .
- If  $P_1$ 's input  $i$  is equal to  $i_1$ ,  $P_1$  must output  $X_{i_1}$ , otherwise it outputs  $\alpha$ .
- I.e., if  $d_H(i, i_1) = 0$ ,  $P_1$  must output  $X_{i_1}$ ...
- Implement using  $EQ_{X_{i_1}, \alpha}(i, i_1)$ . I.e.,  $P_1$  learns  $X_{i_1}$  if its input  $i$  is equal to  $i_1$ . Learns  $\alpha$  otherwise.
- (The EQ protocol is an invocation of HDOT.)
- $\log N$  communication,  $\log \log N$  OTs,  $\log N$  encryptions.

# *m*-point SPIR

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- 3-point SPIR (*m*-point SPIR is identical)
  - $X_{i_1}, X_{i_2}, X_{i_3}$  are unique. For all other  $i$ ,  $X_i = \alpha$ .
  - If  $P_1$ 's input  $i$  is in  $\{i_1, i_2, i_3\}$ , then  $P_1$  must output  $X_i$ , otherwise it outputs  $\alpha$ .

# Protocol for 3-point SPIR

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- $P_2$  chooses random  $z'_1, z'_2, z'_3$  s.t.  $z'_1 \oplus z'_2 \oplus z'_3 = \alpha$
- Sets  $z_1$ , s.t.  $z_1 \oplus z'_2 \oplus z'_3 = X_{i_1}$
- Sets  $z_2$ , s.t.  $z'_1 \oplus z_2 \oplus z'_3 = X_{i_2}$
- Sets  $z_3$ , s.t.  $z'_1 \oplus z'_2 \oplus z_3 = X_{i_3}$
  
- The parties run  $EQ_{z_1, z'_1}(i, i_1)$ ,  $EQ_{z_1, z'_2}(i, i_2)$ ,  $EQ_{z_1, z'_3}(i, i_3)$ .
- $P_1$  xors the three results it obtains.
  
- If  $i \neq i_1, i_2, i_3$ , then  $P_1$  learns  $z'_1, z'_2, z'_3$ , whose xor is  $\alpha$ .
- If  $i = i_1$ , then  $P_1$  learns  $z_1, z'_2, z'_3$ , whose xor is  $X_{i_1}$ . Etc...

## *m*-point SPIR

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- *m*-point SPIR requires *m* invocations of HDOT.
  - Communication is  $O(m \log N)$ .
- If the number *m* of unique points is  $o(N / \log N)$ , then communication is  $o(N)$ , as required in SPIR.
- *m*-point SPIR can be based on OT alone (unlike PIR).

# Conclusions

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- Focus on a class of useful functions.
- Find efficient protocols.
- Secure against malicious adversaries.
- A new variant of SPIR.