

# Game-Based Criterion Partition Applied to Computational Soundness of Adaptive Security

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**Abstract.** The composition of security definitions is a subtle issue. As most security protocols use a combination of security primitives, it is important to have general results that allow to combine such definitions. We present here a general result of composition for security criteria (i.e. security requirements). This result can be applied to deduce security of a criterion from security of one of its sub-criterion and an indistinguishability criterion. To illustrate our result, we introduce joint security for asymmetric and symmetric cryptography and prove that it is equivalent to classical security assumptions for both the asymmetric and symmetric encryption schemes. Using this, we give a modular proof of computational soundness of symbolic encryption. This result holds in the case of an adaptive adversary which can use both asymmetric and symmetric encryption.

**Keywords:** Provable Security, Security Games, Probabilistic Encryption, Computational Soundness of Formal Methods.

## 1 Introduction

Provable security consists in stating the expected security properties in a formally defined adversarial model and providing a mathematical proof that the properties are satisfied by the designed system/protocol. Micali and Goldwasser are probably the first to put forward the idea that security can be proved in a formally defined model under well-believed rigorously defined complexity-assumptions [GM84]. Although provable security has by now become a very active research field there is a lack of a general “proof theory” for cryptographic systems. As underlined by V. Shoup in [Sho04], security proofs often *become so messy, complicated, and subtle as to be nearly impossible to understand*. Ideally there should be a verification theory for cryptographic systems in the same way as there are verification theories for “usual” sequential and concurrent systems (cf. [Cou90, MP92]).

As security proofs are mostly *proofs by reduction* a promising approach seems to be one that is based on transforming the system to be verified into a system that obviously satisfies the required properties. Sequences of games have

been recently proposed as a tool for taming the complexity of security proofs [Sho04, BR04] and first implementations of tools that assisted in deriving such sequences have been developed [Bla06]. In particular, three types of transitions between games are proposed. One of the most powerful transitions is based on *indistinguishability*. Informally, to bound the probability of an event  $E_i$  in game  $i$  and the probability of event  $E_{i+1}$  in game  $i+1$ , one shows that there is a *distinguisher algorithm*  $D$  that interpolates between Game  $i$  and Game  $i+1$ , such that given an element from distribution  $P_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $D$  outputs 1 with probability  $Pr[E_i]$ . Hence,  $Pr[E_i] - Pr[E_{i+1}] = Pr[D(x) \rightarrow 1 | x \in P_1] - Pr[D(x) \rightarrow 1 | x \in P_2]$ , and hence, the indistinguishability assumption implies that  $Pr[E_i] - Pr[E_{i+1}]$  is negligible.

In this paper we prove a theorem that provides a powerful instance of the indistinguishability-based transition technique. This theorem can be used for compositional verification of cryptographic libraries as it allows one to reduce a security criterion into simpler ones. A typical use is to allow the comparison of a criterion that involves a set of oracles (which can for example all use the same challenge bit  $b$ ) with a criterion that only involves a subset of the oracles. As a simple application of this result, we can for instance prove the equivalence of semantic security of one key and semantic security in the multi-party setting [BBM00]. The advantage of applying our theorem in that case is that the proof is done without having to design adversaries, the only thing to do is to provide a partition of the criterion.

Moreover we believe that our main result is helpful when proving computational soundness of symbolic analysis for cryptographic protocols. This recent trend in bridging the gap that separates the computational and symbolic views of protocols has been initiated by Abadi and Rogaway [AR00]. In this paper, they prove that symbolic equivalence of messages implies computational indistinguishability provided that the cryptographic primitives are secure. This result has then been adapted for protocols where the adversary is an eavesdropper and has a passive behavior and the only allowed cryptographic primitive is symmetric encryption [AJ01].

Various extensions of [AR00, AJ01] have been presented recently by adding new cryptographic primitives [BCK05] or by removing the passive adversary hypothesis. There are different ways to consider non-passive adversaries, this can be done by using the simulatability approach [BPW03], by proving trace properties on protocols [MW04, CW05, JLM05]. Another possibility is to consider an adaptive adversary as introduced by Micciancio and Panjwani [MP05]. In this context, the adversary issues a sequence of adaptively chosen equivalent pairs of messages  $(m_0^1, m_1^1)$  to  $(m_0^q, m_1^q)$ . After query  $(m_0^i, m_1^i)$  the adversary receives a bit-string that instantiates either  $m_0^i$  or  $m_1^i$  and it has to tell which is the case. The main improvement with respect to the result of Abadi and Rogaway [AR00] is that the adversary has an adaptive behavior: it can first send a query  $(m_0^1, m_1^1)$  then using the result determine a new query and submit it. However Micciancio and Panjwani only consider symmetric encryption. In order to illustrate how

our main result can be used in such situations, we prove a similar result when considering both asymmetric and symmetric encryption. Besides by using our partition theorem, the proof we give is modular and hence easier to extend to more cryptographic primitives than the original one. For that purpose, we introduce new security criteria which define *pattern semantic security* and prove that these criteria are equivalent to classical semantic security requirements. The main interest of these criteria is to easily allow encryption of secret keys (either symmetric or private keys).

**Organization.** In section 2 after recalling some basic definitions, we introduce security criteria and some examples of cryptography-related criteria. A powerful way of composing security criteria is introduced and proved in section 3: the criterion partition theorem. Section 4 shows how to use this result soundly. To illustrate this we prove that some composition of asymmetric and symmetric encryption schemes can be directly stated secure by using the partition theorem. Using this last result, section 5 proves computational soundness of symbolic equivalence for an adaptive adversary using both asymmetric and symmetric encryption schemes. Eventually, section 6 draws some concluding remarks.

## 2 Preliminaries

### 2.1 Cryptographic Schemes

We first recall classical definitions for cryptographic schemes in the computational setting. In this setting, messages are bit-strings and a security parameter  $\eta$  is used to characterize the strength of the different schemes, for example  $\eta$  can denote the length of the keys used to perform an encryption.

An *asymmetric encryption scheme*  $\mathcal{AE} = (\mathcal{KG}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  is defined by three algorithms. The key generation algorithm  $\mathcal{KG}$  is a randomized function which given a security parameter  $\eta$  outputs a pair of keys  $(pk, sk)$ , where  $pk$  is a public key and  $sk$  the associated secret key. The encryption algorithm  $\mathcal{E}$  is also a randomized function which given a message and a public key outputs the encryption of the message by the public key. Finally the decryption algorithm  $\mathcal{D}$  takes as input a cipher-text and a secret key and outputs the corresponding plain-text, i.e.  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{E}(m, pk), sk) = m$ , if key pair  $(pk, sk)$  has been generated by  $\mathcal{KG}$ . The execution time of the three algorithms is assumed to be polynomially bounded by  $\eta$ .

A *symmetric encryption scheme*  $\mathcal{SE} = (\mathcal{KG}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  is also defined by three algorithms. The key generation algorithm  $\mathcal{KG}$  is a randomized function which given a security parameter  $\eta$  outputs a key  $k$ . The encryption algorithm  $\mathcal{E}$  is also a randomized function which given a message and a key outputs the encryption of the message by this key. Finally the decryption algorithm  $\mathcal{D}$  takes as input a cipher-text and a key and outputs the corresponding plain-text, i.e.  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{E}(m, k), k) = m$ . The execution time of the three algorithms is also assumed polynomially bounded by  $\eta$ .

A function  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is *negligible*, if it is ultimately bounded by  $x^{-c}$ , for each positive  $c \in \mathbb{N}$ , i.e. for all  $c > 0$  there exists  $N_c$  such that  $|g(x)| < x^{-c}$ , for all  $x > N_c$ .

## 2.2 Turing Machines with Oracles

Adversaries are polynomial-time random Turing machines (PRTM) with oracles. Oracles are also implemented using PRTMs. In order to detail the oracles an adversary can query, the definition of an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is for example:

**Adversary  $\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{O}_1, \mathcal{O}_2$ :**

Code of  $\mathcal{A}$  e.g:  $s \leftarrow \mathcal{O}_1(x)$

Where the code of  $\mathcal{A}$  can call two oracles using names  $\mathcal{O}_1$  and  $\mathcal{O}_2$ . When executing this adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , we use the notation  $\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2$  where  $\mathcal{B}_1$  and  $\mathcal{B}_2$  are two PRTMs to denote that names  $\mathcal{O}_1$  and  $\mathcal{O}_2$  are respectively implemented with oracles  $\mathcal{B}_1$  and  $\mathcal{B}_2$ .

We use the standard  $\lambda$ -notation to concisely describe PRTMs obtained from others by fixing some arguments. For instance, let  $G$  be a PRTM that has two inputs. Then, we write  $\lambda s.G(s, \theta)$  to describe the machine that is obtained from  $G$  by fixing the second argument to the value  $\theta$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{A}/\lambda s.G(s, \theta)$  denotes the machine  $\mathcal{A}$  that may query an oracle obtained from  $G$  by instantiating its second argument by  $\theta$ . The argument  $\theta$  of  $G$  is defined in the context of  $\mathcal{A}$  and may not be known by  $\mathcal{A}$ . So typically,  $\mathcal{A}$  may be trying to compute some information on  $\theta$  through successive queries.

Moreover, adversaries are often used as sub-routines in other adversaries. Consider the following description of a randomized algorithm with oracles. Here adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  uses  $\mathcal{A}$  as a sub-routine. Moreover,  $\mathcal{A}'$  may query oracle  $\mathcal{O}_1$ . On its turn  $\mathcal{A}$  may query the same oracle  $\mathcal{O}_1$  and additionally the oracle  $\lambda s.F_2(s, \theta_2)$ . The latter is obtained from  $F_2$  by fixing the second argument to  $\theta_2$  which is generated by  $\mathcal{A}'$ .

**Adversary  $\mathcal{A}'/\mathcal{O}_1$ :**

$\theta_2 \leftarrow \dots$   
 $s \leftarrow \mathcal{A}/\mathcal{O}_1,$   
 $\lambda s.F_2(s, \theta_2)$

## 2.3 Games and Criteria

A security criterion is defined as a game involving an adversary (represented by a PRTM). The game proceeds as follows. First some parameters  $\theta$  are generated randomly using a PRTM  $\Theta$ . The adversary is executed and can query an oracle  $F$  which depends on  $\theta$ . At the end, the adversary has to answer a bit-string whose correctness is checked by an algorithm  $V$  which also uses  $\theta$  (e.g.  $\theta$  includes a bit  $b$  and the adversary has to output the value of  $b$ ). Thus, a criterion is given by a triple consisting of three randomized algorithms:

- $\Theta$  is a PRTM that randomly generates some challenge  $\theta$ .
- $F$  is a PRTM that takes as arguments a bit-string  $s$  and a challenge  $\theta$  and outputs a new bit-string.  $F$  represents the oracles that an adversary can call to solve its challenge.
- $V$  is a PRTM that takes as arguments a bit-string  $s$  and a challenge  $\theta$  and outputs either true or false. It represents the verification made on the result computed by the adversary. The answer true (resp. false) means that the adversary solved (resp. did not solve) the challenge.

As an example let us consider an asymmetric encryption scheme  $(\mathcal{KG}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$ . Semantic security against chosen plain-text attacks (IND-CPA) can be represented using a security criterion  $(\Theta; F; V)$  defined as follows:  $\Theta$  randomly samples the challenge bit  $b$  and generates a key pair  $(pk, sk)$  using  $\mathcal{KG}$ ;  $F$  represents the public key oracle (this oracle returns  $pk$ ) and the left-right encryption oracle (given  $bs_0$  and  $bs_1$  this oracle returns  $\mathcal{E}(bs_b, pk)$ ); and  $V$  checks whether the returned bit equals  $b$ .

Note that  $\Theta$  can generate several parameters and  $F$  can represent several oracles. Thus, it is possible to define criteria with multiples  $\Theta$  and  $F$ . For example, a criterion with two challenge generators  $\Theta_1$  and  $\Theta_2$ , two oracles  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  and a verifier  $V$  is denoted by  $(\Theta_1, \Theta_2; F_1, F_2; V)$ .

Let  $\gamma = (\Theta; F; V)$ . The advantage of a PRTM  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\gamma$  is defined as the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  has to win its game minus the probability that an adversary can get without accessing oracle  $F$ .

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta) = 2(Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta) = \text{true}] - PrRand^{\gamma}(\eta))$$

where  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta)$  is the Turing machine defined by:

**Game  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta)$ :**  
 $\theta \leftarrow \Theta(\eta)$   
 $d \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(\eta) / \lambda s. F(s, \theta)$   
**return**  $V(d, \theta)$

and  $PrRand^{\gamma}(\eta)$  is the best probability to solve the challenge that an adversary can have without using oracle  $F$ . Formally, let  $\gamma'$  be the criterion  $(\Theta; \epsilon; V)$  then  $PrRand^{\gamma}(\eta)$  is defined by:

$$PrRand^{\gamma}(\eta) = \max_{\mathcal{A}} (Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma'}(\eta) = \text{true}])$$

where  $\mathcal{A}$  ranges over any possible PRTM. For example when considering a criterion  $\gamma = (\Theta; F; V)$  where a challenge bit  $b$  is generated in  $\Theta$  and  $V$  checks that the adversary guessed the value of  $b$ , then  $PrRand^{\gamma}(\eta)$  equals  $1/2$ , in particular this is the case for IND-CPA.

### 3 The Criterion Partition Theorem

Consider a criterion  $\gamma = (\Theta_1, \Theta_2; F_1, F_2; V_1)$ , composed of two challenge generators  $\Theta_i$ , their related oracles  $F_i$ , and a verifier  $V_1$ . Assume that  $F_1$  and  $V_1$

do not depend on  $\theta_2$  (which is the part generated by  $\Theta_2$ ). Because of these assumptions,  $\gamma_1 = (\Theta_1; F_1; V_1)$  is a valid criterion. We are going to relate the advantages against  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma_1$ . To do so, let us consider the game  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^\gamma(\eta)$  played by an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\gamma$ :

**Game  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^\gamma(\eta)$ :**  
 $\theta_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $\theta_2 \leftarrow \Theta_2(\eta)$   
 $s \leftarrow \mathcal{A} / \lambda s.F_1(s, \theta_1),$   
 $\lambda s.F_2(s, \theta_1, \theta_2)$   
**return**  $V_1(s, \theta_1)$

We define an adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  against  $\gamma_1$  which tries to act like  $\mathcal{A}$ . However,  $\mathcal{A}'$  does not have access to its challenge  $\theta_1$  and hence it generates a new challenge  $\theta'_1$  (using  $\Theta_1$ ) and uses it to answer queries made by  $\mathcal{A}$  to  $F_2$ .

**Adversary  $\mathcal{A}' / \mathcal{O}_1$ :**  
 $\theta'_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $\theta_2 \leftarrow \Theta_2(\eta)$   
 $s \leftarrow \mathcal{A} / \mathcal{O}_1,$   
 $\lambda s.F_2(s, \theta'_1, \theta_2)$   
**return**  $s$

The game involving  $\mathcal{A}'$  against  $\gamma_1$ ,  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta)$ , is given by:

**Game  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta)$ :**  
 $\theta_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $\theta'_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $\theta_2 \leftarrow \Theta_2(\eta)$   
 $s \leftarrow \mathcal{A} / \lambda s.F_1(s, \theta_1),$   
 $\lambda s.F_2(s, \theta'_1, \theta_2)$   
**return**  $V_1(s, \theta_1)$

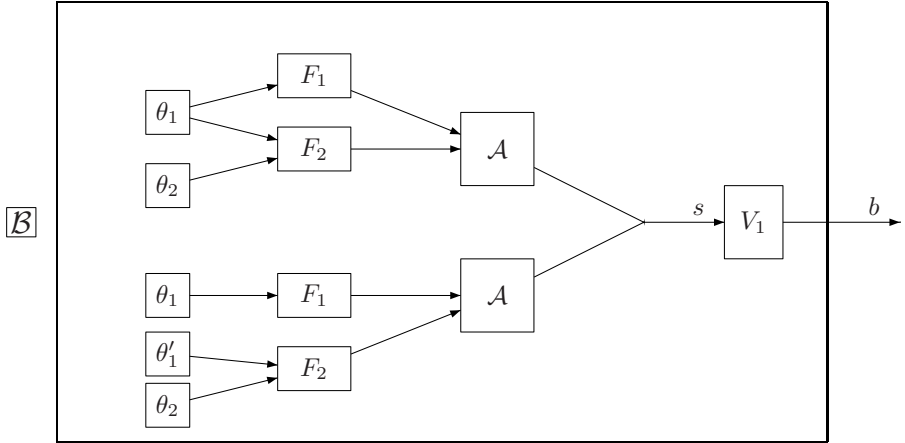
Our aim is to establish a bound on

$$|Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^\gamma(\eta) = true] - Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta) = true]|$$

To do so, we construct an adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  that tries to distinguish game  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^\gamma(\eta)$  from game  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta)$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{B}$  tries to distinguish the case where  $\mathcal{A}$  uses correlated oracles (i.e. the same  $\theta_1$  is used by  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ ) from the case where  $\mathcal{A}$  uses decorrelated oracles (i.e.  $\theta_1$  is used by  $F_1$  and a different  $\theta'_1$  is used by  $F_2$ ), figure 1 gives the intuition of how  $\mathcal{B}$  works:  $\mathcal{B}$  either simulates  $\mathcal{A}$  with correlated oracles in the upper part of the figure or  $\mathcal{A}$  with decorrelated oracles. Finally,  $\mathcal{B}$  uses the answer of  $\mathcal{A}$  in order to win its challenge. We introduce a new indistinguishability criterion  $\gamma_2$  that uses a challenge bit  $b$ , in this criterion the adversary has to guess the value of bit  $b$ . Our objective is to build a distinguisher  $\mathcal{B}$  such that the following equations hold:

$$Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2} = true \mid b = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^\gamma(\eta) = true] \quad (1)$$

$$Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2} = false \mid b = 0] = Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta) = true] \quad (2)$$



**Fig. 1.** Correlated and Decorrelated Oracles

Indeed, using these equations we will be able to derive the following bound:

$$|Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta) = true] - Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta) = true]| = \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta)$$

### 3.1 Construction of the Distinguisher

In the following, we give a methodology that tells us how to build the indistinguishability criterion  $\gamma_2$  and the adversary  $\mathcal{B}$ . To do so, we need an assumption on the form of the second oracle  $F_2$  from  $\gamma$ . This assumption is stated through the following hypothesis.

**Hypothesis 1.** *There exist three probabilistic random functions  $f$ ,  $g$  and  $f'$  such that oracle  $F_2$ 's implementation consists of two parts:  $\lambda s.f(g(s, \theta_1), \theta_2)$  and  $\lambda s.f'(s, \theta_2)$ . The first part depends on both  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  whereas the second depends only on  $\theta_2$ .*

The idea when introducing two parts for oracle  $F_2$  is to separate the oracles contained in  $F_2$  that really depend on both  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  (these oracles are placed in  $f(g(\dots))$ ) from the oracles that do not depend on  $\theta_1$  (placed in  $f'$ ). Let us illustrate this on the IND-CPA criterion with two keys: there are one left-right encryption oracle and one public key oracle for each key.  $\Theta_1$  generates the challenge bit  $b$  and the first key pair  $(pk_1, sk_1)$ ,  $\Theta_2$  generates the other key pair  $(pk_2, sk_2)$ . Oracle  $F_2$  contains the left-right oracle related to  $pk_2$  and the public key oracle that reveals  $pk_2$ . Hence  $f'$  is used to store the public key oracle whereas the left-right oracle has the form  $\lambda s.f(g(s, \theta_1), \theta_2)$  where  $f$  performs an encryption using key  $pk_2$  from  $\theta_2$  and  $g((s_0, s_1), \theta_1)$  returns  $s_b$  according to the value of challenge bit  $b$  from  $\theta_1$ . It is possible to split the oracles differently but this would not lead to interesting sub-criteria. In general it is always possible to perform a splitting that satisfies the previous hypothesis (for example,

$f'$  is empty and  $g(s, \theta_1)$  outputs both  $s$  and  $\theta_1$ ), however this can lead to some criteria against which adversaries may have a non-negligible advantage. In that situation the partition theorem cannot be used to obtain that the advantage of any adversary against the original criterion  $\gamma$  is negligible.

Adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  plays against an indistinguishability criterion. It has access to two oracles:  $\hat{\mathcal{O}}_1$  is implemented by the left-right oracle  $f \circ LR^b$ , where  $LR^b$  takes as argument a pair and returns either the first or the second element according to the value of bit  $b$ , i.e.  $LR^b(x_0, x_1) = x_b$ . Hence, we have  $f \circ LR^b(s_0, s_1) = f(s_b, \theta_2)$  and  $\hat{\mathcal{O}}_2$  is simply implemented by  $f'$ . Notice now that we have the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} f \circ LR^b(g(s, \theta'_1), g(s, \theta_1)) &= F_2(s, \theta_1, \theta_2), \text{ if } b = 1 \\ f \circ LR^b(g(s, \theta'_1), g(s, \theta_1)) &= F_2(s, \theta'_1, \theta_2), \text{ if } b = 0 \end{aligned}$$

More formally, our  $\gamma_2$  criterion is given by  $\gamma_2 = (b, \Theta_2; f \circ LR^b, f'; v_b)$ , where  $v_b$  just checks whether the bit returned by the adversary equals  $b$ .

We are now ready to give a distinguisher  $\mathcal{B}$  such that equations (1) and (2) hold:

**Adversary  $\mathcal{B}/\hat{\mathcal{O}}_1, \hat{\mathcal{O}}_2$ :**

```

 $\theta_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$ 
 $\theta'_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$ 
 $s \leftarrow \mathcal{A}/\lambda s.F_1(s, \theta_1),$  // oracle  $F_1$ 
 $\lambda s.\hat{\mathcal{O}}_1(g(s, \theta'_1), g(s, \theta_1)),$  // part  $f$  of oracle  $F_2$ 
 $\hat{\mathcal{O}}_2$  // part  $f'$  of oracle  $F_2$ 
 $\hat{b} \leftarrow V_1(s, \theta_1)$ 
return  $\hat{b}$ 

```

Recall that  $\mathcal{A}$  may query two oracles:  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  while  $\mathcal{B}$  may query the left-right oracle  $f \circ LR^b$  and  $f'$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{B}$  uses  $\Theta_1$  to generate  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta'_1$ . It is important to notice that  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta'_1$  are generated independently. Then,  $\mathcal{B}$  uses  $\mathcal{A}$  as a sub-routine using  $\lambda s.F_1(s, \theta)$  for  $\mathcal{A}$ 's first oracle, and the pair of functions  $\lambda s.\hat{\mathcal{O}}_1(g(s, \theta'_1), g(s, \theta_1))$  and  $f'$  for  $F_2$ .

The game corresponding to  $\mathcal{B}$  playing against  $\gamma_2$  can now be detailed:

**Game  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta)$ :**

```

 $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ 
 $\theta_2 \leftarrow \Theta_2(\eta)$ 
 $\hat{b} \leftarrow \mathcal{B}/\lambda s.f(LR^b(s), \theta_2),$ 
 $\lambda s.f'(s, \theta_2)$ 
return  $v_b(\hat{b})$ 

```

### 3.2 Comparing the Games

Let us now check equations (1) and (2). To do so, we first consider that  $b$  equals 1. Then game  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}$  can be detailed by introducing the definition of  $\mathcal{B}$  within the game:



**Game**  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta)|b = 1$ :

$\theta_2 \leftarrow \Theta_2(\eta)$   
 $\theta_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $\theta'_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $s \leftarrow \mathcal{A}/\lambda s.F_1(s, \theta_1)$   
 $\lambda s.f(g(s, \theta_1), \theta_2),$   
 $\lambda s.f'(s, \theta_2)$   
 $\hat{b} \leftarrow V_1(s, \theta_1)$   
**return**  $\hat{b} = 1$

After the hypothesis we made about the decomposition of oracle  $F_2$ , and when detailing  $\mathcal{B}$ , this game can be rewritten as follows, and rigorously compared to the game played by adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against criterion  $\gamma$ :

**Game**  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta)|b = 1$ :

$\theta_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $\theta'_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $\theta_2 \leftarrow \Theta_2(\eta)$   
 $s \leftarrow \mathcal{A}/\lambda s.F_1(s, \theta_1),$   
 $\lambda s.F_2(s, \theta_1, \theta_2)$   
 $\hat{b} \leftarrow V_1(s, \theta_1)$   
**return**  $\hat{b} = 1$

**Game**  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta)$ :

$\theta_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $\theta_2 \leftarrow \Theta_2(\eta)$   
 $s \leftarrow \mathcal{A}/\lambda s.F_1(s, \theta_1),$   
 $\lambda s.F_2(s, \theta_1, \theta_2)$   
**return**  $V_1(s, \theta_1)$

Therefore these two games are equivalent and so equation (1) holds:

$$Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2} = true \mid b = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta) = true]$$

We now detail the game played by adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against  $\gamma_2$  when the challenge bit  $b$  is 0. This game is compared to the game played by  $\mathcal{A}'$  against  $\gamma_1$ .

**Game**  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta)|b = 0$ :

$\theta_2 \leftarrow \Theta_2(\eta)$   
 $\theta_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $\theta'_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $s \leftarrow \mathcal{A}/\lambda s.F_1(s, \theta_1),$   
 $\lambda s.F_2(s, \theta'_1, \theta_2)$   
 $\hat{b} \leftarrow V_1(s, \theta_1)$   
**return**  $\hat{b} = 0$

**Game**  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta)$ :

$\theta_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $\theta'_1 \leftarrow \Theta_1(\eta)$   
 $\theta_2 \leftarrow \Theta_2(\eta)$   
 $s \leftarrow \mathcal{A}/\lambda s.F_1(s, \theta_1),$   
 $\lambda s.F_2(s, \theta'_1, \theta_2)$   
**return**  $V_1(s, \theta_1)$

It is easy to see that these two games can be compared: adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  wins anytime  $\mathcal{A}'$  loses, and thus:

$$Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta) = false] = Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta) = true|b = 0]$$

We can therefore evaluate our distinguisher's advantage. For that purpose let us first notice that as  $\gamma_2$  consists in guessing the value of a random bit  $b$ ,  $PrRand^{\gamma_2}$  equals  $1/2$ . Furthermore  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma_1$  have the same verifier  $V_1$ , hence  $PrRand^{\gamma}$  is equal to  $PrRand^{\gamma_1}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta) &= 2(\Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta) = \text{true}] - \Pr\text{Rand}^{\gamma_2}) \\
&= 2\Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta) = \text{true}|b = 1]\Pr[b = 1] + \\
&\quad 2\Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta) = \text{true}|b = 0]\Pr[b = 0] - 1 \\
&= \Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta) = \text{true}] + \Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta) = \text{false}] - 1 \\
&= \Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta) = \text{true}] - \Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta) = \text{true}] \\
&= \Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta) = \text{true}] - \Pr\text{Rand}^{\gamma} \\
&\quad + \Pr\text{Rand}^{\gamma_1} - \Pr[\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta) = \text{true}] \\
&= \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta) - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta)
\end{aligned}$$

Given an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\gamma$ , we were able to build an adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  against  $\gamma_1$  and an adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against  $\gamma_2$  such that:

$$\forall \eta, \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta) = 2\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta) + \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta)$$

This is summed up in the following theorem which is our core result.

**Theorem 1 (Criterion Partition).** *Let  $\gamma$  be the criterion  $(\Theta_1, \Theta_2; F_1, F_2; V_1)$  where:*

1.  $V_1$  and  $F_1$  only depend on the challenge generated by  $\Theta_1$ , denoted by  $\theta_1$ .
2. There exist some PRTMs  $f, f'$  and  $g$  such that  $F_2$  is constituted of two parts:  $\lambda s.f(g(s, \theta_1), \theta_2)$  and  $\lambda s.f'(s, \theta_2)$

Then, for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against criterion  $\gamma$ , there exist two adversaries  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{A}'$ , such that:

$$\forall \eta, \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma}(\eta) = 2\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta) + \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta)$$

where  $\gamma_2 = (\Theta_2, b; f \circ LR^b, f'; v_b)$  is an indistinguishability criterion and  $\gamma_1 = (\Theta_1; F_1; V_1)$ .

This theorem can be used to prove that the advantage of any adversary against a criterion  $\gamma$  is negligible. For that purpose, one has to provide a partition of  $\gamma$  such that the advantage of any adversary against  $\gamma_1$  or  $\gamma_2$  is negligible. Then we get that for an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\gamma$ , the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  can be bounded by the advantage of an adversary against  $\gamma_1$  and the advantage of an adversary against  $\gamma_2$ . The advantage of these two new adversaries are negligible and so the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  is also negligible.

## 4 Mixing Asymmetric and Symmetric Encryption

### 4.1 Cryptographic Game: $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA

We introduce a security criterion that turns out to be useful for protocols where secret keys are exchanged. This criterion is an extension of semantic security against chosen cipher-text attacks (IND-CCA). In the classical  $N$ -IND-CCA

criterion (see [BBM00] about  $N$ -IND-CCA and its reduction to IND-CCA), a random bit  $b$  is sampled. For each key, the adversary has access to a left-right oracle (the adversary submits a pair of bit-strings  $bs_0, bs_1$  and receives the encoding of  $bs_b$ ) and a decryption oracle (that does not work on the outputs of the left-right oracle). The adversary has to guess the value of  $b$ . Criterion IND-CPA is the same as IND-CCA except that the adversary does not have access to the decryption oracle.

Since it has no information concerning secret keys, the adversary cannot get the encryption of a challenge secret key under a challenge public key. Therefore, we introduce the  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA criterion where the adversary can obtain the encryption of messages containing challenge secret keys, even if it does not know their values. For that purpose, the adversary is allowed to give pattern terms to the left-right oracles.

*Pattern terms* are terms where new atomic constants have been added: pattern variables. These variables represent the different challenge secret keys and are denoted by  $[i]$  (this asks the oracle to replace the pattern variable by the value of  $sk_i$ ). Variables can be used as atomic messages (data pattern) or at a key position (key pattern). When a left-right oracle is given a pattern term, it replaces patterns by values of corresponding keys and encodes the so-obtained message.

More formally, patterns are given by the following grammar where  $bs$  is a bit-string and  $i$  is an integer. In the definition of pattern terms, we use two binary operators: concatenation and encryption. Concatenation of patterns  $pat_0$  and  $pat_1$  is written  $(pat_0, pat_1)$ . Encryption of  $pat$  with key  $bs$  is denoted by  $\{pat\}_{bs}$ . Similarly, when the key is a challenge key, it is represented by a pattern variable  $[i]$ .

$$pat ::= (pat, pat) \mid \{pat\}_{bs} \mid \{pat\}_{[i]} \\ \mid bs \mid [i]$$

The computation (evaluation) made by the oracle is easily defined recursively in a context  $\theta$  associating bit-string values to the different keys. Its result is a bit-string and it uses the encryption algorithm  $\mathcal{E}$  and the concatenation denoted by “.” in the computational setting.

$$\begin{aligned} v(bs, \theta) &= bs & v(\{p\}_{bs}, \theta) &= \mathcal{E}(v(p, \theta), bs) \\ v([i], \theta) &= \theta(sk_i) & v(\{p\}_{[i]}, \theta) &= \mathcal{E}(v(p, \theta), \theta(pk_i)) \\ v((p_1, p_2), \theta) &= v(p_1, \theta) \cdot v(p_2, \theta) \end{aligned}$$

There is yet a restriction. Keys are ordered and a pattern  $[j]$  can only be encrypted under  $pk_i$  if  $i < j$  to avoid key cycles. This restriction is well-known in cryptography and widely accepted [AR00]. When the left-right pattern encryption oracle related to key  $i$  is given two pattern terms  $pat_0$  and  $pat_1$ , it tests that none contains a pattern  $[j]$  with  $j \leq i$ . If this happens, it outputs an error message, else it produces the encryption of the message corresponding to  $pat_b$ ,  $v(pat_b, \theta)$ , using public key  $pk_i$ . To win, the adversary has to guess the value of

secret bit  $b$ . In fact our acyclicity hypothesis only occurs on secret keys: when considering pattern  $\{\{p\}_{[j]}\}_{[j]}$ , the public key oracle related to key  $j$  can be called and returns bit-string  $bs$ , then pattern  $\{\{p\}_{bs}\}_{[j]}$  can be used to get the awaited result. We do not detail restrictions on the length of arguments submitted to the left-right oracle, an interesting discussion on that point appears in [AR00]. The most simple restriction is to ask that both submitted patterns can only be evaluated (using  $v$ ) to bit-strings of equal length.

Henceforth, let  $\mathcal{AE} = (\mathcal{KG}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  be an asymmetric encryption scheme. Then, criterion  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA is given by  $\gamma_N = (\Theta; F; V)$ , where  $\Theta$  randomly generates  $N$  pairs of keys  $(pk_1, sk_1)$  to  $(pk_N, sk_N)$  using  $\mathcal{KG}$  and a bit  $b$ ;  $V$  verifies whether the adversary gave the right value for bit  $b$ ; and  $F$  gives access to three oracles for each  $i$  between 1 and  $N$ : a left-right encryption oracle that takes as argument a pair of patterns  $(pat_0, pat_1)$  and outputs  $pat_b$  completed with the secret keys  $(v(pat_b, \theta))$  and encoded using  $pk_i$ ; a decryption oracle that decodes any message that was not produced by the former encryption oracle; and an oracle that simply makes the public key  $pk_i$  available.

Then,  $\mathcal{AE}$  is said  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA iff for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\gamma_N}(\eta)$  is negligible. Note that  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA with  $N = 1$  corresponds to IND-CCA.

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $N$  be an integer. If an asymmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{AE}$  is IND-CCA, then  $\mathcal{AE}$  is  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA.*

*Proof.* We want to establish first that an IND-CCA asymmetric encryption scheme is an  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA secure one. We use the criterion reduction theorem on  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA (denoted by  $\delta_N$ ). We now consider  $\delta_N = (\Theta_1, \Theta_2; F_1, F_2; V_1)$ , where the criterion partition has been performed the following way:

- $\Theta_1$  randomly generates the bit  $b$  and  $N - 1$  pairs of matching public and secret keys  $(pk_2, sk_2)$  to  $(pk_N, sk_N)$  using  $\mathcal{KG}$ .
- $\Theta_2$  randomly generates the first key pair  $(pk_1, sk_1)$ .
- $F_1$  contains the oracles related to  $\theta_1$ ; hence as neither  $pk_1$  nor  $sk_1$  can be asked to this oracle (because of acyclicity),  $F_1$  does not depend on  $\theta_2$ .
- $F_2$  contains the oracles related to key pair  $(pk_1, sk_1)$ , it uses  $\theta_1$  for the bit  $b$  and the different keys needed to fill in patterns.
- $V_1$  compares the output to  $b$ , and therefore only depends on  $\theta_1$ .

This splitting complies with the first hypothesis of theorem 1. Let us then check whether the second hypothesis holds. The decryption and public key oracles included in  $F_2$  only depend on  $\theta_2$ , we place them in  $f'$ . We let the encryption oracle be  $\lambda s.f(g(s, \theta_1), \theta_2)$  where  $g((pat_0, pat_1), \theta_1) = v(pat_b, \theta_1)$  plays the role of a left-right oracle,  $b$  being the challenge bit included in  $\theta_1$ , composed with the valuation function  $v$  that completes patterns, and  $f(bs, \theta_2) = \mathcal{E}(bs, pk_1)$  is the original encryption oracle.

The theorem can now be applied. It thus follows that for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against criterion  $\delta_N$ , there exist two adversaries  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{A}'$ , such that:

$$\forall \eta, \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\delta_N}(\eta) = 2\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\gamma_2}(\eta) + \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}'}^{\gamma_1}(\eta)$$

where  $\gamma_2 = (\Theta_2, b; f \circ LR^b, f'; v_b)$  is IND-CCA and  $\gamma_1 = (\Theta_1; F_1; V_1)$  is criterion  $\delta_{N-1}$ .

Hence if we suppose that the asymmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{AE}$  is IND-CCA and  $N - 1$ -PAT-IND-CCA, then the advantages of  $\mathcal{A}'$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are negligible, so the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  is also negligible and  $\mathcal{AE}$  is  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA. Moreover, as 0-PAT-IND-CCA consists in guessing a challenge bit without access to any oracle, any adversary's advantage against it is thus null, which obviously implies that any encryption scheme is 0-PAT-IND-CCA. Using a quick recursion, it now appears clearly that if an asymmetric encryption scheme is IND-CCA, it is also  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA for any integer  $N$ .

In this proof, we bound the advantage against  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA by  $2N$  times the advantage against IND-CCA. This bound is not contradictory with the one proposed by [BBM00] as the number of queries to each oracle is unbounded in our model.

### 4.2 Cryptographic Game: $N$ -PAT-SYM-CPA

In this section, we introduce a new criterion describing safety of a symmetric encryption scheme. This definition is an extension of semantic security against chosen plain-text attacks. The main difference with the  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA criterion is that there are no public key oracles and no decryption oracles. Hence the left-right encryption oracles are similar to those presented in the previous section and the adversary still has to guess the value of the challenge bit  $b$ . The hypothesis related to acyclicity of keys still holds:  $k_i$  can only appear encoded by  $k_j$  if  $i > j$ .

The  $N$ -PAT-SYM-CPA criterion is  $\gamma_N = (\Theta, F, V)$  where  $\Theta$  generates  $N$  symmetric keys and a bit  $b$ ;  $F$  gives access to one oracle for each key: a left-right encryption oracle that takes as argument a pair of patterns  $(pat_0, pat_1)$  and outputs  $pat_b$  completed with the secret keys  $(v(pat_b, \theta))$  and encoded with  $k_i$ . Finally,  $V$  returns true when the adversary returns bit  $b$ .

Let  $\gamma_N$  be a criterion including the oracles detailed above. A symmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{SE}$  is said  $N$ -PAT-SYM-CPA iff for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\gamma_N$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{SE}, \mathcal{A}}^{\gamma_N}(\eta)$ , is negligible in  $\eta$ .

Using the criterion partition theorem, it is possible to reduce criterion  $N$ -PAT-SYM-CPA to criterion SYM-CPA. This can be done by using the same partition as for criterion  $N$ -PAT-IND-CCA.

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $N$  be an integer. If a symmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{SE}$  is SYM-CPA, then  $\mathcal{SE}$  is  $N$ -PAT-SYM-CPA.*

### 4.3 Cryptographic Games: $N$ -PAS-CCA and $N$ -PAS-CPA

These criteria combine both precedent ones.  $N$  asymmetric and symmetric keys are generated along with a single challenge bit  $b$ . The adversary can access oracles it was granted in both previous criteria (left-right encryption, public key and decryption for the asymmetric scheme in  $N$ -PAS-CCA) and has to deduce the

value of the challenge bit  $b$ . The acyclicity condition still holds on both primitives. However, we authorize patterns using symmetric keys when accessing left-right oracles from the asymmetric part. Hence symmetric encryption and symmetric keys can be used under asymmetric encryption but the converse is forbidden. The pattern definition has to be extended so that the adversary can ask for both asymmetric and symmetric encryptions and asymmetric and symmetric keys.

Let  $\gamma_N$  be the criterion including the oracles detailed above. A cryptographic library  $(\mathcal{AE}, \mathcal{SE})$  is said  $N$ -PAS-CCA iff for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{AE}, \mathcal{SE}, \mathcal{A}}^{\gamma_N}(\eta)$ , is negligible. The challenge bit  $b$  is common to asymmetric and symmetric encryption, thus it is non trivial to prove that IND-CCA and SYM-CPA imply  $N$ -PAS-CCA. However using our partition theorem, it is possible to prove this implication.

**Proposition 3.** *Let  $N$  be an integer. If an asymmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{AE}$  is IND-CCA and a symmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{SE}$  is SYM-CPA, then the cryptographic library  $(\mathcal{AE}, \mathcal{SE})$  is  $N$ -PAS-CCA.*

This can easily be adapted to prove variants of this property, for example let us consider the IND-CPA criterion for the symmetric encryption scheme (the adversary only has access to the left-right oracle and has to guess the challenge bit) and the  $N$ -PAS-CPA criterion for a cryptographic library (the adversary has access to public keys for the asymmetric encryption scheme, to left-right oracles using patterns such that asymmetric secret keys cannot be asked to symmetric encryption oracles).

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $N$  be an integer. If an asymmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{AE}$  is IND-CPA and a symmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{SE}$  is SYM-CPA, then the cryptographic library  $(\mathcal{AE}, \mathcal{SE})$  is  $N$ -PAS-CPA.*

## 5 Computational Soundness of Adaptive Security

In this section, we prove computational soundness of symbolic equivalence for messages that use both asymmetric and symmetric encryption in the case of an adaptive adversary. This model has been introduced in [MP05]. Roughly, speaking it corresponds to the case of a passive adversary that however can adaptively chose symbolic terms and ask for their computational evaluation whereas in the passive case [AR00], the adversary is confronted with two fixed symbolic terms. The practical significance of this model is discussed in [MP05]. Our result is an extension of the soundness result from [MP05], moreover we propose a more modular approach which does not use any hybrid argument but is based on proposition 4. Another improvement is that we allow the adversary to reuse computational values within symbolic terms, constants in messages can be used to represent any bit-string. To simplify things up, we do not consider polynomial sequences of messages as in [MP05] but rather bounded sequences of messages. In fact, to cope with the polynomial case, we need to extend theorem 1 in order to handle a polynomial number of challenges. This extension is presented in [Maz06].

## 5.1 A Symbolic Treatment of Cryptography

Let **SymKeys**, **PKeys**, **SKeys** and **Const** be four disjoint sets of symbols representing *symmetric keys*, *public keys*, *secret keys* and *constants*. Let **Atoms** be the union of the previous sets. We assume the existence of a bijection  $\square^{-1}$  from **PKeys** to **SKeys** that associates to each public key the corresponding secret key. The inverse of this function is also denoted  $\square^{-1}$ . The set **Msg** of messages is defined by the following grammar.

$$\mathbf{Msg} ::= \mathbf{SymKeys} \mid \mathbf{Const} \mid (\mathbf{Msg}, \mathbf{Msg}) \mid \{\mathbf{Msg}\}_{\mathbf{SymKeys}}^s \mid \{\mathbf{Msg}\}_{\mathbf{PKeys}}^a$$

Elements of **SymKeys** can be thought of as randomly sampled keys, elements of **Const** as bit-strings. Term  $(m, n)$  represents the pairing of message  $m$  and  $n$ ,  $\{m\}_k^s$  represents the symmetric encryption of  $m$  using key  $k$  and  $\{m\}_{pk}^a$  represents the asymmetric encryption of  $m$  using public key  $pk$ . In the sequel, when presenting examples, we use symbols 0 and 1. These are to be understood as elements of **Const** which computational interpretations are respectively bit-strings 0 and 1.

Next we define when a message  $m \in \mathbf{Msg}$  can be deduced from a set of messages  $E \subseteq \mathbf{Msg}$  (written  $E \vdash m$ ) by a passive eavesdropper. The deduction relation  $\vdash$  is defined by the standard Dolev-Yao inference system [DY83] and is given by the following rules:

$$\frac{m \in E}{E \vdash m} \quad \frac{E \vdash (m_1, m_2)}{E \vdash m_1} \quad \frac{E \vdash (m_1, m_2)}{E \vdash m_2} \quad \frac{E \vdash m_1 \quad E \vdash m_2}{E \vdash (m_1, m_2)} \\ \frac{E \vdash m \quad E \vdash k}{E \vdash \{m\}_k^s} \quad \frac{E \vdash \{m\}_k^s \quad E \vdash k}{E \vdash m} \quad \frac{E \vdash m \quad E \vdash pk}{E \vdash \{m\}_{pk}^a} \quad \frac{E \vdash \{m\}_{pk}^a \quad E \vdash pk^{-1}}{E \vdash m}$$

The information revealed by a symbolic expression can be characterized using *patterns* [AR00, MP05]. For a message  $m \in \mathbf{Msg}$  its pattern is defined by the following inductive rules:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathit{pattern}((m_1, m_2)) &= (\mathit{pattern}(m_1), \mathit{pattern}(m_2)) \\ \mathit{pattern}(\{m'\}_k^s) &= \{\mathit{pattern}(m')\}_k^s && \text{if } m \vdash k \\ \mathit{pattern}(\{m'\}_k^s) &= \{\square\}_k^s && \text{if } m \not\vdash k \\ \mathit{pattern}(\{m'\}_{pk}^a) &= \{\mathit{pattern}(m')\}_{pk}^a && \text{if } m \vdash pk^{-1} \\ \mathit{pattern}(\{m'\}_{pk}^a) &= \{\square\}_{pk}^a && \text{if } m \not\vdash pk^{-1} \\ \mathit{pattern}(m') &= m' && \text{if } m' \in \mathbf{Atoms} \end{aligned}$$

The symbol  $\square$  represents a cipher-text that the adversary cannot decrypt. As  $\square$  does not store any information on the length or structure of the corresponding plain-text, we assume that the encryption schemes used here do not reveal plain-text lengths (see [AR00] for details). Two messages are said to be *equivalent* if they have the same pattern:  $m \equiv n$  if and only if  $\mathit{pattern}(m) = \mathit{pattern}(n)$ . Two messages are *equivalent up to renaming* if they are equivalent up to some renaming of keys:  $m \cong n$  if there exists a renaming  $\sigma$  of keys from  $n$  such that  $m \equiv n\sigma$ .

*Example 1.* Let us illustrate this equivalence notion. We have that:

- $\{0\}_k^s \cong \{1\}_k^s$  encryptions with different plain-text cannot be distinguished if the key is not deducible.
- $(\{0\}_k^s, \{k\}_{pk}^a, pk^{-1}) \not\cong (\{1\}_k^s, \{k\}_{pk}^a, pk^{-1})$  but it is not the case if the key can be deduced.

## 5.2 Computational Soundness

This model is parameterized by an asymmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{AE} = (\mathcal{KG}^a, \mathcal{E}^a, \mathcal{D}^a)$  and a symmetric encryption scheme  $\mathcal{SE} = (\mathcal{KG}^s, \mathcal{E}^s, \mathcal{D}^s)$ . Computational semantics are given by a concretization function  $concr$  which can be derived from the  $v$  function that was introduced previously. This algorithm uses a computational substitution  $\theta$  which stores bit-string values for keys. Constants from **Const** represents bit-strings so the concretization of  $c$  from **Const** is  $c$  itself.

$$\begin{aligned}
 concr((m_1, m_2), \theta) &= concr(m_1, \theta) \cdot concr(m_2, \theta) & concr(k, \theta) &= \theta(k) \\
 concr(\{m\}_{pk}^a, \theta) &= \mathcal{E}^a(concr(m, \theta), \theta(pk)) & concr(c, \theta) &= c \\
 concr(\{m\}_k^s, \theta) &= \mathcal{E}^s(concr(m, \theta), \theta(k))
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus the computational distribution generated by a message can be obtained by randomly sampling the necessary keys and using the  $concr$  function.

We consider a model where the adversary can see the computational version of a bounded sequence of adaptively chosen messages. Let  $\alpha$  be a bound on the sequence length. The adaptive experiment proceeds as follows: the adversary has access to one oracle which takes as argument a pair of messages  $(m_0, m_1)$  and either outputs a concretization of  $m_0$  (oracle  $\mathcal{O}_0$ ) or a concretization of  $m_1$  (oracle  $\mathcal{O}_1$ ). These oracles work by randomly sampling the necessary keys then using the  $concr$  function on either  $m_0$  or on  $m_1$ . Finally, the adversary has to tell against which oracle it is playing,  $\mathcal{O}_0$  or  $\mathcal{O}_1$ . The advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  is defined by:

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{AE}, \mathcal{SE}, \mathcal{A}}^{adpt}(\eta) = Pr[\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{O}_1 = 1] - Pr[\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{O}_0 = 1]$$

Moreover there are restrictions on the sequence of messages submitted by the adversary  $(m_0^1, m_1^1)$  to  $(m_0^q, m_1^q)$ . Such a sequence is said to be *legal* if:

1. Messages  $(m_0^1, \dots, m_0^q)$  and  $(m_1^1, \dots, m_1^q)$  are equivalent up to renaming.
2. Messages  $(m_0^1, \dots, m_0^q)$  and  $(m_1^1, \dots, m_1^q)$  contain no encryption cycles, moreover secret keys cannot be sent under symmetric encryptions.
3. The lengths of  $(m_0^1, \dots, m_0^q)$  and  $(m_1^1, \dots, m_1^q)$  are lower than  $\alpha$ .

**Proposition 5.** *If  $\mathcal{AE}$  is an IND-CPA secure encryption scheme and  $\mathcal{SE}$  is a SYM-CPA secure encryption scheme, then the advantage of any legal adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{AE}, \mathcal{SE}, \mathcal{A}}^{adpt}(\eta)$ , is a negligible function in  $\eta$ .*

This result can be used to model secure multicast as presented in [MP05].



## 6 Conclusion

This paper contributes to the development of a proof theory for cryptographic systems by providing a theorem that allows to decompose the proof of correctness of a security criterion to the correctness of a sub-criterion and an indistinguishability criterion. We apply this decomposition result to prove that given secure asymmetric and symmetric encryption schemes we can combine them to obtain a secure cryptographic library.

This security result can be used to easily prove computational soundness of formal methods. This has been illustrated in the case of the adaptive setting for asymmetric and symmetric encryption.

In future works, we intend to develop this computational soundness result to the case of security protocols in general against an active adversary. We believe that our partition theorem will also be useful in this situation, in particular by giving simpler and more modular proofs of soundness.

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