# Doubly Efficient Private Information Retrieval and Fully Homomorphic RAM Computation

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# Motivating Example: Google Search

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### eye twitch covid symptom?





https://www.healthline.com > health > eye-health > is-ey.. **Is Eye Twitching a Sign of COVID-19? - Healthline** Jun 21, 2022 — Eye twitching can be a symptom of COVID-19, but it can also be caused by stress and eyestrain. Here are some other probable causes. COVID-19 symptom - Causes - Takeaway - Clinical trials

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov > articles > PMC8743236

### Eyelid Myokymia-a Presumed Manifestation of Coronavirus ...

by HA Khan · 2022 — The course and pattern of eyelid twitching were studied over 3 ... Common ocular complications/manifestations of COVID-19 include **dry eye**, ... Introduction · Methods · Results · Discussion

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com > photostory

Eye twitching and other eye symptoms associated with COVID ...

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https://www.allaboutvision.com > coronavirus > eye-pr...

Eye Problems that Could be Related to COVID - All About Vision Feb 17, 2021 — Eye twitching was not identified as an ocular symptom of COVID-19 in a metaanalysis of 12 studies on COVID-19 eye symptoms.

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COVID-19-Induced Vestibular Neuritis, Hemi-Facial Spasms ...

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**Major Caveat:** FHE operates in the circuit model - can't make efficient memory access while preserving security

⇒ Google needs to read the entire content of the internet to answer each encrypted query!





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### Result: We build FHE in the RAM model

- Google preprocesses the Internet content into a specialized data structure
- Can answer any future encrypted query efficiently by only accessing a few locations!





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# Fully Homomorphic Encryption (FHE)

[Rivest-Adleman-Dertouzos'78,Gentry '09,Brakerski-Vaikuntanathan11,...]



Circuit *C* for  $f(\cdot, y)$ 



# **RAM-FHE**



 $P(\cdot, \cdot)$ : RAM program for f with worst-case run-time T.



# **RAM-FHE**



 $P(\cdot, \cdot)$ : RAM program for f with worst-case run-time T.

*P* gets efficient access to **both** *x* and *y* 

Google search

### **Use cases over Circuit-FHE:**

- Private query to large public database
- Outsource computation on large private database
- Avoid blowup converting RAM program to circuit

# **RAM-FHE: Prior work and Our Result**

**Prior Work:** [Holmgren-Hamlin-Weiss-Wichs '19] build a weaker variant of RAM-FHE based on heuristic use of obfuscation

**Result:** We build RAM-FHE based on the Ring Learning with Errors (RingLWE) assumption (+ circular security)

- RingLWE is a well studied assumption
  - As hard as finding approximate shortest vector in ideal lattices in worst case.
  - Basis of new NIST standard for next generation public-key encryption.
- Alternate constructions: approximate GCD, NTRU, O(1)-Rank Module LWE

Main Challenge: Allow efficient database access under FHE without revealing the access pattern

# Private Information Retrieval (PIR) [CGKS95,K000]

# $\mathsf{DB} \in \{0,1\}^N$









Trivial solution: server sends entire DB.

Using crypto get **communication** *polylog(N)* 

# Private Information Retrieval (PIR) [CGKS95,KO00]

# $\mathsf{DB} \in \{0,1\}^N$









**Goal:** Retrieve DB[*i*] without revealing *i*.

Caveat: Server reads entire DB during

protocol

 $\Rightarrow$  Server computation is  $\geq N$ .

This is **inherent** if the server only stores DB.

# **PIR Lower Bound**



Server learns  $i \neq j!$ 

# Doubly Efficient PIR (DEPIR)



# Prior Work on DEPIR



### **Prior Work:**

- Originally proposed by [Beimel-Ishai-Malkin '00]
- First evidence from [Canetti-Holmgren-Richelson '17] and [Boyle-Ishai-Pass-Wootters '17]: give constructions of *keyed* DEPIR that rely on a new non-standard assumption and heuristic use of obfuscation



**Result:** We construct *unkeyed* DEPIR from the RingLWE assumption

- Server deterministically computes preprocessing on its own
- Later any client can query DB in a 2-Round Protocol

# Our Results on DEPIR

**Result:** We construct *unkeyed* DEPIR from the RingLWE assumption

- Server deterministically computes preprocessing on its own
- Later any client can query DB in a 2-Round Protocol

**Efficiency:** For any  $\epsilon > 0$ , database size *N*:

- Preprocessing run-time/size:  $O(N^{1+\epsilon})$
- PIR protocol run-time/communication: polylog N
- Also: **Updatable** DEPIR update  $\widetilde{DB}$  in time:  $O(N^{\epsilon})$

# Alternatively: $\rightarrow N \cdot 2^{O(\sqrt{\log N})} = N^{1+O(1)}$ $\rightarrow 2^{O(\sqrt{\log N})} = N^{O(1)}$ $\rightarrow 2^{O(\sqrt{\log N})} = N^{O(1)}$

# **DEPIR** Template



# **DEPIR** Template



# **Basic PIR from SHE**

Write *i* in base *d* (prime), note  $m = \log_d N$ 

DB ∈ {0,1}<sup>N</sup>

 $DB[i] = Dec_{sk}(\beta)$ 

 $f_{DB} \in \mathbb{Z}_d[X_1, \dots, X_m]$ 

 $f_{DB}(i_1, \dots, i_m) = \mathrm{DB}[i]$ 

 $f_{DB}$  has individual degree < d and total degree at most  $D = dm = d \cdot \log_d N$ 

# Preprocessing Polynomials [Kedlaya-Umans '08]

 $N = d^m = #$  coeff's in f

**Lemma:** Given polynomial  $f(X_1, ..., X_m)$  over the ring  $R = \mathbb{Z}_q$  with

individual degree < d into can preprocess f into a data structure such that:

- Can evaluate  $f(\alpha)$  for any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_a^m$  in time  $poly(d, m, log |R|) \rightarrow polylog(N)$
- Preprocessing time/space:  $N \cdot O(m \log N)^m \cdot \operatorname{poly}(d, m, \log|R|) \rightarrow N^{1+\epsilon}$

**Recall:** We want *d* small for the SHE scheme

### **Choose parameters:**

• 
$$d = \log^c N$$

• 
$$m = log_d N = \frac{\log N}{c \cdot \log \log N}$$

• 
$$|R| = 2^{\operatorname{polylog}(N)}$$

**Aside:** [KU'08] extends to polys over a larger class of rings including  $R = \mathbb{Z}_q[Y, Z]/(E_1(Y), E_2(Z))$ 

# Apply [KU08] to Basic PIR?

Write i in base d (prime)



$$\beta = Eval(f_{DB}, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m)$$

 $\forall i: \alpha_i \leftarrow Enc_{ck}(i_i)$ 

 $DB[i] = Dec_{sk}(\beta)$ 

 $sk \leftarrow$ 

 $i = (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m) \in \mathbb{Z}_d$ 

$$f_{DB}(i_1, \dots, i_m) = DB[i]$$

 $f_{DB} \in \mathbb{Z}_d[X_1, \dots, X_m]$ 

**Problem:** Server doesn't directly compute  $f_{DB}$  but instead SHE *Eval*  $\Rightarrow$  can't preprocess server computation

# Algebraic Somewhat Homomorphic Encryption (ASHE)



# Algebraic Somewhat Homomorphic Encryption (ASHE)



- Correspondence extends to polynomial evaluation:
  If α<sub>1</sub> ← Enc<sub>sk</sub>(μ<sub>1</sub>), ..., α<sub>m</sub> ← Enc<sub>sk</sub>(μ<sub>m</sub>) and f is a poly over Z<sub>d</sub> of total degree < D, then f(α<sub>1</sub>,..., α<sub>m</sub>) = Enc<sub>sk</sub>(f(μ<sub>1</sub>,..., μ<sub>m</sub>)) where f is "lifted" to R.
- Complexity (bit-size of ring elements, encryption/decryption time) can be poly(D).

# Algebraic Somewhat Homomorphic Encryption (ASHE)



 $\rightarrow$  Main construction

- Get ASHE from minor modifications of prior SHE schemes
  - From [BV11] based on RingLWE
  - From [LTV12] based on security of NTRU
  - From [vGHV10] based on Approximate GCD

# **Final DEPIR Construction**

Write i in base d (prime)



 $DB[i] = Dec_{sk}(\beta)$ 

Lift  $f_{DB}$  to  $f_{DB} \in \mathbb{R}[X_1, \dots, X_m]$ 

Preprocess with [KU08]

# From DEPIR to RAM-FHE

**Result:** We use techniques from our DEPIR construction + (circuit) FHE to build RAM-FHE based on the RingLWE assumption

We use the ASHE structure of our DEPIR to "glue" it together with a suitable circuit FHE

**Efficiency:** For any  $\epsilon > 0$ :

- Preprocessing time:  $O(|y|^{1+\epsilon})$
- Client time/communication:  $O(|x|^{1+\epsilon} + |f(x,y)|) \cdot \text{polylog}(|x| + |y|)$
- Server time:  $O(T^{1+\epsilon}) \cdot \text{polylog}(|x| + |y|)$

# Conclusions

We construct DEPIR and RAM-FHE from RingLWE.

### **Open Questions:**

- Applications? Of DEPIR/RAM-FHE themselves or of techniques
- Can we do it from plain LWE?
- Practical efficiency?

Thank you!



# **RAM Model**

- A RAM program *P* consists of a CPU step circuit with
- Random read access to y
- Random read access to  $\boldsymbol{x}$
- Random read/write access to Mem



# Simpler RAM-FHE

### • Simpler Case: RAM program *P* has

- read-only random-access to y
- but no random-access to x or to read/write memory.



# Use Circuit-FHE to compute the step circuit





# Key Observation: ASHE-FHE Hybrid

# ASHE:

Evaluate a low-degree polynomial on encrypted data

 Simply evaluates the (lifted) polynomial

### FHE.

Evaluate any circuit over encrypted data

Uses non-algebraic operations

switch back-and-forth

Based on RingLWE (or NTRU, ApproxGCD) + circular security

# **Full RAM-FHE Construction**

- Random-access to x can be handled similarly to y.
  - Client first encrypts x and then applies DEPIR preprocessing on it.
- Random-access to read-write memory via updatable DEPIR.
  - Store memory contents encrypted under ASHE-FHE in an updatable DEPIR data structure.