

# A note on *Failing gracefully*: Completing the picture for explicitly rejecting Fujisaki-Okamoto transforms using worst-case correctness

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**Abstract.** The Fujisaki-Okamoto (FO) transformation is used in most proposals for post-quantum secure key encapsulation mechanisms (KEMs) like, e.g., Kyber [BDK<sup>+</sup>18]. The security analysis of FO in the presence of quantum attackers has made huge progress over the last years, however, it had a particular quirk: unless incurring (even more) unreasonable security bounds, security was only shown for FO variants that react to invalid ciphertexts by returning a pseudorandom value ('implicit' reject) rather than 'explicitly' reporting decryption failure by returning a failure symbol. This part of the design has been subject to some debate, with the main question being whether explicitly rejecting variants could indeed be less secure than their implicitly rejecting counterparts.

A recent work by Hövelmanns, Hülsing and Majenz [HHM22] gave a proof which, in contrast to previous ones, was agnostic to the choice of how invalid ciphertexts are being dealt with, thus indicating that the two variants might be similarly secure. It involved, however, a new correctness notion for the encryption scheme that is used to encapsulate the keys. While this new notion in principle might allow to improve the overall security bound, it places a new analysis burden on designers: when looking at a concrete KEM at hand, it becomes necessary to analyze this new notion for the encryption scheme on which the KEM is based.

This note offers a trade-off between [HHM22] and its predecessors: it offers a bound for both rejection variants, but uses the established correctness notion that was used in all previous work.

**Keywords:** Public-key encryption, post-quantum, QROM, Fujisaki-Okamoto, decryption failures, NIST

## 1 Introduction

The Fujisaki-Okamoto (FO) transform [FO99, FO13, Den03] has become the de-facto standard to build secure KEMs. In particular, it was used in most KEM submissions to the NIST PQC standardisation process [NIS17]. In the context of post-quantum security, however, two novel issues surfaced:

1. Many of the PKE schemes used to encapsulate keys occasionally fail to decrypt a ciphertext to its plaintext (they do not have perfect correctness), and decryption failures have been shown [DGJ<sup>+</sup>19, BS20, DRV20, FKK<sup>+</sup>22] to impact security.
2. To rule out quantum attacks, the security proofs have to be done in the quantum-accessible random oracle model (QROM).

Both issues were tackled in [HHK17] and follow-up work (e.g., [SXY18, JZC<sup>+</sup>18, BHH<sup>+</sup>19, HKSU20, KSS<sup>+</sup>20, HHM22]). The QROM proofs prior to [HHM22], however, had a particular quirk: To avoid extreme additional reduction losses, they required the scheme to *reject implicitly*, that is, to return pseudorandom session keys instead of simply reporting an error when presented with a malformed ciphertext.

**The FO transformation.** Before discussing the goal of this note, we briefly recall the FO KEM transformation as introduced in [Den03] and revisited as  $\text{FO}_m^\perp$  by [HHK17].  $\text{FO}_m^\perp$  constructs a

KEM from a public-key encryption scheme PKE by first modifying PKE to obtain a deterministic scheme  $\text{PKE}^G$ , and then applying a PKE-to-KEM transformation ( $U_m^\perp$  in [HHK17]) to  $\text{PKE}^G$ :

DERANDOMISED SCHEME  $\text{PKE}^G$ . Starting from PKE and a hash function  $G$ ,  $\text{PKE}^G$  encrypts messages  $m$  according to the encryption algorithm  $\text{Enc}$  of PKE, using the hash value  $G(m)$  as the random coins for  $\text{Enc}$ :

$$\text{Enc}^G(pk, m) := \text{Enc}(pk, m; G(m)) ,$$

$\text{Dec}^G$  uses the decryption algorithm  $\text{Dec}$  of PKE to decrypt a ciphertext  $c$  to plaintext  $m'$ .  $\text{Dec}^G$  rejects by returning failure symbol  $\perp$  if  $c$  fails to decrypt or  $m'$  fails to encrypt back to  $c$ . (The formal definition is recalled on page 7).

PKE-TO-KEM TRANSFORMATION  $U_m^\perp$ . Starting from a deterministic encryption scheme  $\text{PKE}'$  and a hash function  $H$ , key encapsulation algorithm  $\text{KEM}_m^\perp := U_m^\perp[\text{PKE}', H]$  encapsulates a key  $K$  via a ciphertext  $c$  by letting

$$\text{Encaps}(pk) := (c := \text{Enc}'(pk, m), K := H(m)),$$

where  $m$  is picked at random from the message space. Decapsulation returns  $K := H(\text{Dec}'(c))$  unless  $c$  fails to decrypt, in which case it returns failure symbol  $\perp$ .

**The role of correctness errors.** The impact of correctness errors on security is reflected in hindrances when trying to show that FO-transformed KEMs are IND-CCA secure: During the proofs, the decapsulation oracle  $\text{ODECAPS}$  is replaced with a simulation. This simulation, however, is “too good” – it accurately decapsulates ciphertexts for which the real  $\text{ODECAPS}$  would fail. In other words, the change from the honest to a simulated decapsulation oracle is noticeable to attackers if they manage to craft a ciphertext where the honest decapsulation fails detectably. In [HHK17], the resulting advantage in distinguishing  $\text{ODECAPS}$  from its simulation was dealt with in two steps:

1. Bound it via a ‘break-correctness’ game COR. COR asks the adversary, equipped with the complete key pair *including the secret key*, to produce a plaintext  $m$  such that  $\text{Enc}^G(m)$  fails to decrypt.
2. Bound the maximal COR advantage in terms of a statistical ‘worst-case’ quantity  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$  of the underlying scheme PKE.  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$  is the maximal probability for plaintexts to cause decryption failure, averaged over the key pair.

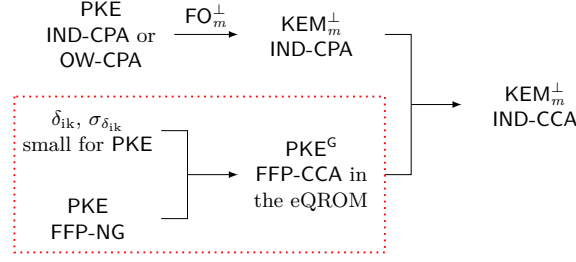
This lead to a typical search bound, as the adversary can use the secret key to check if ciphertexts fail.

**Correctness treatment in [HHM22] and open question.** A central motivation of [HHM22] was that it is hard to estimate concrete  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$ -bounds for particular schemes without relying on heuristics, and that it might be easier to estimate bounds for notions in which the attacker does not obtain the secret key.

[HHM22] therefore introduced a new family of correctness games that represent the search for failing plaintexts *without* the secret key, called *Find Failing Plaintext* (FFP) games, and then related the respective advantages to properties of the underlying encryption scheme PKE (see Fig. 1):

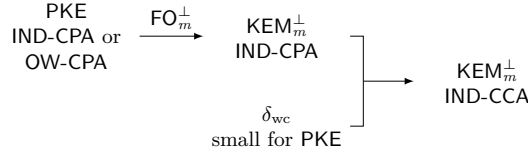
The resulting correctness requirements on PKE ( $\delta_{\text{ik}}$ ,  $\sigma_{\delta_{\text{ik}}}$  and FFP-NG) are defined in a way such reasoning about their concrete estimates can safely involve computational assumptions, as they represent settings in which the attacker does not possess the secret key. On the other hand, as already mentioned in [HHM22] (and later in [MX23]), these notions nonetheless introduce new analysis tasks for designers who want to argue security of their concrete scheme. Given that  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$ -correctness can be bounded heuristically by available estimator scripts, it might very well be that scheme designers are happy to resort to that heuristic. We therefore address the following open question:

**Can we reconcile the proof for explicitly rejecting KEMs given in [HHM22] with the more established correctness notion (worst-case correctness)?**



**Fig. 1.** Simplification of Figure 1 in [HHM22]. The red-dotted part introduces new analysis tasks for KEM designers.

**Result of this note.** We will show that the red-dotted part of Fig. 1 can be replaced with a picture only involving the worst-case correctness parameter  $\delta_{wc}$ , see Fig. 2.



**Fig. 2.** Analogue of Fig. 1 with the alternative decryption failure analysis developed in this note.

To achieve this, the only part requiring a change will be how we reason that attackers cannot distinguish ODECAPS from its simulation, to which end we would like to simply resort to the original COR notion.

The only hurdle is that COR, as analysed so far, isn't a seamless fit: the simulation of ODECAPS in [HHM22] involves a slightly more complicated variant of the QROM, called eQROM. In the eQROM, the attacker gets an additional interface that essentially inverts certain encryptions. Since the search bound for COR was only known in the plain QROM that does not provide this additional interface, we need to reprove the bound in the eQROM.

**TL;DR for scheme designers.** Theorem 1 (on page 9) provides concrete bounds for the IND-CCA security of  $FO_m^\perp[\text{PKE}, G, H]$ . Ignoring constant factors up to 10 and an additive term related to the size of the message space (denoted “ $\lesssim$ ”), our bound is roughly of the following form:

$$\epsilon_{\text{IND-CCA-KEM}} \lesssim \sqrt{(d + q_D) \cdot \epsilon_{\text{IND-CPA}}} + (q + q_D + 1)^2 \cdot \delta_{wc} + q_D(q + q_D) \cdot 2^{-\gamma/2} .$$

The bound requires to upper bound the following values:

$\epsilon_{\text{IND-CPA}}$	IND-CPA advantage against PKE
$q$	number of issued random oracles queries
$q_D$	number of decryption queries
$d$	random oracle query depth (can be bounded trivially by $q$ )
$2^{-\gamma/2}$	maximal probability that encryption hits a specific ciphertext (see Def. 1 on page 4)
$\delta_{wc}$	worst-case correctness of PKE as defined in [HHK17] (see Def. 4 on page 5): probability that decrypting $\text{Enc}(m)$ doesn't yield $m$ for the worst message $m$ , averaged over $KG$

Assuming an attacker makes far less online queries than hash queries (so  $q_D \ll q$ ), trivially bounding  $d < q$ , and dropping constant factors up to 4, we can further simplify the bound to

$$\epsilon_{\text{IND-CCA-KEM}} \lesssim \sqrt{q \cdot \epsilon_{\text{IND-CPA}}} + q^2 \cdot \delta_{\text{wc}} + q_D \cdot q \cdot 2^{-\gamma/2} .$$

## 2 Preliminaries.

After establishing basic notation, we recall several correctness-related notions for public-key encryption schemes that were introduced in [HHK17] and [HHM22]. (For convenience, we also recall more standard definitions for public-key encryption and key encapsulation algorithms.)

For a finite set  $S$ , we denote the sampling of a uniform random element  $x$  by  $x \leftarrow_{\S} S$ , and we denote deterministic computation of an algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  on input  $x$  by  $y := \mathcal{A}(x)$ . By  $\llbracket B \rrbracket$  we denote the bit that is 1 if the Boolean statement  $B$  is true, and otherwise 0.

Below, we also consider all security games in the (quantum) random oracle model, where PKE and adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  are given access to (quantum) random oracles. (How we model quantum access is made explicit in Section 2.5 below.)

### 2.1 Standard definitions for PKE

For convenience, we start by recalling the formal definition of  $\gamma$ -spreadness.

**Definition 1 ( $\gamma$ -spreadness).** *We say that PKE is  $\gamma$ -spread iff for all key pairs  $(pk, sk) \in \text{supp}(\text{KG})$  and all messages  $m \in \mathcal{M}$  it holds that*

$$\max_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \Pr[\text{Enc}(pk, m) = c] \leq 2^{-\gamma} ,$$

where the probability is taken over the internal randomness  $\text{Enc}$ .

We also recall two standard security notions: One-Wayness under Chosen Plaintext Attacks (OW-CPA) and Indistinguishability under Chosen-Plaintext Attacks (IND-CPA).

**Definition 2 (OW-CPA, IND-CPA).** *Let  $\text{PKE} = (\text{KG}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  be a public-key encryption scheme with message space  $\mathcal{M}$ . We define the OW-CPA game as in Fig. 3 and the OW-CPA advantage function of an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against PKE as*

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}}^{\text{OW-CPA}}(\mathcal{A}) := \Pr[\text{OW-CPA}_{\text{PKE}}^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow 1] .$$

Furthermore, we define the 'left-or-right' version of IND-CPA by defining games  $\text{IND-CPA}_b$ , where  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  (also in Fig. 3), and the IND-CPA advantage function of an adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  against PKE (where  $\mathcal{A}_2$  has binary output) as

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{A}) := |\Pr[\text{IND-CPA}_0^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\text{IND-CPA}_1^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow 1]| .$$

<b>Game OW-CPA</b>	<b>Game IND-CPA<sub>b</sub></b>
01 $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{KG}$	06 $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{KG}$
02 $m^* \leftarrow_{\S} \mathcal{M}$	07 $(m_0^*, m_1^*, \text{st}) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1(pk)$
03 $c^* \leftarrow \text{Enc}(pk, m^*)$	08 $c^* \leftarrow \text{Enc}(pk, m_b^*)$
04 $m' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(pk, c^*)$	09 $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_2(pk, c^*, \text{st})$
05 <b>return</b> $\llbracket m' = m^* \rrbracket$	10 <b>return</b> $b'$

**Fig. 3.** Games OW-CPA and IND-CPA<sub>b</sub> for PKE.

Game FFP-CCA <sub>PKE<sup>G</sup></sub>	Oracle ODECRYPT( $c \neq c^*$ )
01 $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{KG}$	08 $m' := \text{Dec}(sk, c)$
02 $m \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{ODECRYPT}, \text{eCO.RO}, \text{eCO.Ext}}(pk)$	09 <b>if</b> $c \neq \text{Enc}(pk, m'; \text{G}(m'))$
03 $c := \text{Enc}(pk, m; \text{G}(m))$	10 <b>return</b> $\perp$
04 $m' := \text{Dec}(sk, c)$	11 <b>else</b>
05 <b>if</b> $c \neq \text{Enc}(pk, m'; \text{G}(m'))$	12 <b>return</b> $m'$
06 $m' := \perp$	
07 <b>return</b> $\llbracket m' \neq m \rrbracket$	

**Fig. 4.** Game FFP-CCA for derandomised scheme  $\text{PKE}^G$ , with  $\text{G}$  modelled as an extractable compressed oracle  $\text{eCO}$ , so with oracle interface  $\text{eCO.RO}$  and additional extractor interface  $\text{eCO.Ext}$  that, intuitively, produces plaintexts for queried ciphertexts. Lines 03-05 are defined relative to the random oracle  $\text{G}$  which is modelled as an extractable QRO, we stuck with writing  $\text{G}$  for the sake of simplicity. (Formally,  $\text{G}$  represents oracle interface  $\text{eCO.RO}$ .) This game is for derandomised schemes  $\text{PKE}^G$  (instead of an arbitrary  $\text{dPKE}$ ), the decryption oracle thus includes the respective re-encryption step.

## 2.2 FO-related correctness notions for PKE

FINDING FAILING PLAINTEXTS (FFP). Following [HHM22], we formalise the finding of failing plaintexts as the winning condition of the FFP game below. In the FFP-CCA game, the adversary is given the public key and access to a decryption oracle, outputs a message  $m$  and wins if  $\text{Dec}(sk, \text{Enc}(pk, m)) \neq m$ . We are only concerned with the game run against  $\text{PKE}^G$ , i.e., a public-key encryption scheme that stems from derandomising some public-key encryption scheme  $\text{PKE}$  as sketched in the introduction and formalised in Fig. 8 on page 7).

**Definition 3** (FFP-CCA of  $\text{PKE}^G$ ). *Let  $\text{PKE}^G = (\text{KG}, \text{Enc}^G, \text{Dec}^G)$  be the modified public-key encryption scheme stemming from derandomising some public-key encryption scheme  $\text{PKE} = (\text{KG}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$ . We define the FFP-CCA game for  $\text{PKE}^G$  as in Fig. 4, and the FFP-CCA advantage function of an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\text{PKE}^G$  as*

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}^G}^{\text{FFP-CCA}}(\mathcal{A}) := \Pr[\text{FFP-CCA}_{\text{PKE}^G}^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow 1] .$$

We now recall the definition of worst-case-correctness introduced in [HHK17], there called  $\delta$ -correctness.

**Definition 4** ( $\delta_{\text{wc}}$ -worst-case-correctness). *We say that a public-key encryption scheme  $\text{PKE}$  is  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$ -worst-case-correct if*

$$\mathbb{E}[\max_{m \in \mathcal{M}} \Pr[\text{Dec}(sk, c) \neq m \mid c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(pk, m)]] \leq \delta_{\text{wc}} ,$$

where the expectation is taken over  $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{KG}$  and the probability is over the randomness of  $\text{Enc}$ .

In particular,  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$ -worst-case correctness means that even (possibly unbounded) adversaries with access to the secret key will succeed in triggering decryption failure with probability at most  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$ . This property was formalised in [HHK17] as the winning condition of a correctness game COR, in which the adversary gets the full key pair, outputs a message, and wins if the message exhibits decryption failure. The difference between FFP-CCA and COR is having the full key pair (COR) vs. having access to a decryption oracle (FFP-CCA).

Like [HHK17], we need to analyse the respective term for  $\text{PKE}^G$ , i.e., a public-key encryption scheme resulting from derandomising some public-key encryption scheme  $\text{PKE}$ . Since derandomisation happens via a random oracle  $\text{G}$ , [HHK17] introduced a QROM analogue of game COR, called COR-QRO, in which the attacker has quantum access to  $\text{G}$ .

Unlike in [HHK17], however, the proof structure imposed by [HHM22] makes it necessary to analyse the correctness game in an extension of the QROM, called eQROM. (For convenience, we

briefly recapture the eQROM in Section 2.5 below.) With Definition 5 below, we hence extend the COR-QRO definition from [HHK17] to the extended QROM. In the extended QROM,  $G$  is modelled as an extractable compressed oracle eCO that provides the oracle's interface (called eCO.RO) and, additionally, an extractor interface eCO.Ext that is defined relative to some function  $f$ . We will need to refer to the unitary operator facilitating queries to eCO.RO, which we denote by  $O$ . Intuitively, the extractor interface eCO.Ext, when queried on some target value  $t$ , produces preimages  $x$  such that  $f(x, G(x)) = t$ , assuming that such an  $x$  was already noticeable in previous oracle queries. Like [HHM22], we will work with  $f := \text{Enc}$ . This means that eCO.Ext, when queried on a ciphertext  $c$ , will produce a plaintext  $m$  for  $c$  such that  $m$  and its random oracle value  $r$  have the property that  $\text{Enc}(m; r) = c$ .

**Definition 5.** We define correctness game  $\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{PKE}^G}$  for  $\text{PKE}^G$ -modelling  $G$  as an extended QROM – in Fig. 5, and the advantage of an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\text{PKE}^G$  as

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}^G}^{\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}}(\mathcal{A}) := \Pr[\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{PKE}^G}^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow 1] .$$

<p><b>GAME</b> <math>\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{PKE}^G}</math></p> <p>13 <math>(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{KG}</math></p> <p>14 <math>m \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{eCO.RO}, \text{eCO.Ext}}(sk, pk)</math></p> <p>15 <math>c := \text{Enc}(pk, m; G(m))</math></p> <p>16 <math>m' := \text{Dec}^G(sk, c)</math></p> <p>17 <b>if</b> <math>c \neq \text{Enc}(pk, m'; G(m'))</math></p> <p>18     <math>m' := \perp</math></p> <p>19 <b>return</b> <math>\llbracket m' \neq m \rrbracket</math></p>
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**Fig. 5.** Correctness game  $\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}$  for  $\text{PKE}^G$  with  $G$  modelled as an extractable compressed oracle eCO, so with oracle interface eCO.RO and additional extractor interface eCO.Ext. Like in the FFP-CCA game (Fig. 4), we write  $G$  (instead of eCO.RO) in lines 03-05 for the sake of simplicity. The difference between games FFP-CCA and COR-eQROM is that in FFP-CCA,  $\mathcal{A}$  has the decryption oracle  $\text{ODECRYPT}$ , while in COR-eQROM, it has the full secret key.

### 2.3 Standard notions for KEM

We now recall Indistinguishability under Chosen-Plaintext Attacks (IND-CPA) and under Chosen-Ciphertext Attacks (IND-CCA).

**Definition 6** (IND-CPA, IND-CCA). Let  $\text{KEM} = (\text{KG}, \text{Encaps}, \text{Decaps})$  be a key encapsulation mechanism with key space  $\mathcal{K}$ . For  $\text{ATK} \in \{\text{CPA}, \text{CCA}\}$ , we define IND-ATK-KEM games as in Fig. 6, where

$$\text{O}_{\text{ATK}} := \begin{cases} - & \text{ATK} = \text{CPA} \\ \text{ODECAPS} & \text{ATK} = \text{CCA} \end{cases} .$$

We define the IND-ATK-KEM advantage function of an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against KEM as

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{KEM}}^{\text{IND-ATK-KEM}}(\mathcal{A}) := |\Pr[\text{IND-ATK-KEM}^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow 1] - 1/2| .$$

### 2.4 The Fujisaki-Okamoto transformation with explicit rejection

This section recalls the definition of  $\text{FO}_m^\perp$ . To a public-key encryption scheme  $\text{PKE} = (\text{KG}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  with message space  $\mathcal{M}$ , randomness space  $\mathcal{R}$ , and hash functions  $G : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  and  $H : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ , we associate

$$\text{KEM}_m^\perp := \text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}, G, H] := (\text{KG}, \text{Encaps}, \text{Decaps}) .$$

<b>Game</b> IND-ATK-KEM	$\text{ODECAPS}(c \neq c^*)$
01 $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{KG}$	07 $K := \text{Decaps}(sk, c)$
02 $b \leftarrow_{\mathcal{S}} \{0, 1\}$	08 <b>return</b> $K$
03 $(K_0^*, c^*) \leftarrow \text{Encaps}(pk)$	
04 $K_1^* \leftarrow_{\mathcal{S}} \mathcal{K}$	
05 $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{OATK}}(pk, c^*, K_b^*)$	
06 <b>return</b> $\llbracket b' = b \rrbracket$	

**Fig. 6.** Game IND-ATK-KEM for KEM, where  $\text{ATK} \in \{\text{CPA}, \text{CCA}\}$  and  $\text{O}_{\text{ATK}}$  is defined in Definition 6.

Its constituting algorithms are given in Fig. 7.  $\text{FO}_m^\perp$  uses the underlying scheme PKE in a derandomized way by using  $\text{G}(m)$  as the encryption coins (see line 02) and checks during decapsulation whether the decrypted plaintext does re-encrypt to the ciphertext (see line 06). This building block of  $\text{FO}_m^\perp$ , i.e., the derandomisation of PKE and performing a re-encryption check, is incorporated in the following transformation T:

$$\text{PKE}^{\text{G}} := \text{T}[\text{PKE}, \text{G}] := (\text{KG}, \text{Enc}^{\text{G}}, \text{Dec}^{\text{G}}),$$

with its constituting algorithm given in Fig. 8.

<u>Encaps</u> ( $pk$ )	<u>Decaps</u> ( $sk, c$ )
01 $m \leftarrow_{\mathcal{S}} \mathcal{M}$	05 $m' := \text{Dec}(sk, c)$
02 $c := \text{Enc}(pk, m; \text{G}(m))$	06 <b>if</b> $m' = \perp$ <b>or</b> $c \neq \text{Enc}(pk, m'; \text{G}(m'))$
03 $K := \text{H}(m)$	07 <b>return</b> $\perp$
04 <b>return</b> $(K, c)$	08 <b>else</b>
	09 <b>return</b> $K := \text{H}(m')$

**Fig. 7.** Key encapsulation mechanism  $\text{KEM}_m^\perp = (\text{KG}, \text{Encaps}, \text{Decaps})$ , obtained from  $\text{PKE} = (\text{KG}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  by setting  $\text{KEM}_m^\perp := \text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}, \text{G}, \text{H}]$ .

<u>Enc</u> <sup>G</sup> ( $pk$ )	<u>Dec</u> <sup>G</sup> ( $sk, c$ )
01 $m \leftarrow_{\mathcal{S}} \mathcal{M}$	04 $m' := \text{Dec}(sk, c)$
02 $c := \text{Enc}(pk, m; \text{G}(m))$	05 <b>if</b> $m' = \perp$ <b>or</b> $c \neq \text{Enc}(pk, m'; \text{G}(m'))$
03 <b>return</b> $c$	06 <b>return</b> $\perp$
	07 <b>else</b>
	08 <b>return</b> $m'$

**Fig. 8.** Derandomized PKE scheme  $\text{PKE}^{\text{G}} = (\text{KG}, \text{Enc}^{\text{G}}, \text{Dec}^{\text{G}})$ , obtained from  $\text{PKE} = (\text{KG}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  by encrypting a message  $m$  with randomness  $\text{G}(m)$  for a random oracle  $\text{G}$ , and incorporating a re-encryption check during  $\text{Dec}^{\text{G}}$ .

## 2.5 Compressed oracles and extraction

For convenience, we now also recapture the eQROM. It was shown in [Zha19] how a quantum-accessible random oracle  $\text{O} : X \rightarrow Y$  can be simulated by preparing a database  $D$  with an entry  $D_x$  for each input value  $x$ , with each  $D_x$  being initialized as a uniform superposition of all elements of  $Y$ , and omitting the “oracle-generating” measurements until after the algorithm accessing  $\text{O}$  has finished.

In [DFMS21], this oracle simulation was generalized to obtain an *extractable* oracle simulator  $\text{eCO}$  (for extractable Compressed Oracle) that has two interfaces, the random oracle interface  $\text{eCO.RO}$  and an extraction interface  $\text{eCO.Ext}_f$ , defined relative to a function  $f : X \times Y \rightarrow T$ . Informally,  $\text{eCO.Ext}_f$  takes as input a classical value  $t$ . Consider the classical procedure of going through a lexicographically ordered list of lazy-sampled input output pairs  $(x, y)$  and outputting the first one such that  $f(x, y) = t$ .  $\text{eCO.Ext}_f$  performs the quantum analogue of that: a measurement that partially collapses the oracle database, just enough so that the classical procedure would yield one particular outcome  $x$  for all parts of the superposition. After the measurement,  $D$  is thus in a state such that the superposition held in database entry  $D_x$  only contains possibilities  $y$  for  $\text{eCO.RO}(x)$  such that  $f(x, y) = t$ , and no entry  $D_{x'}$  for any  $x' < x$  will have any possibilities  $y'$  left such that also  $f(x', y') = t$ . Whenever it is clear from context which function  $f$  is used, we simply write  $\text{eCO.Ext}$  instead of  $\text{eCO.Ext}_f$ .

In general,  $\text{eCO.Ext}_f$  can extract preimage entries from the “database”  $D$  during the runtime of an adversary instead of only after the adversary terminated. This allows for adaptive behaviour of a reduction, based on an adversary’s queries. In [DFMS21], it was already used for the same purpose we need it for – the simulation of a decapsulation oracle, by having  $\text{eCO.Ext}$  extract a preimage plaintext from the ciphertext on which the decapsulation oracle was queried. We will denote oracles modelled as extractable quantum-accessible RO’s by  $\text{eQRO}_f$ , and a proof that uses an  $\text{eQRO}_f$  will be called a *proof in the eQROM<sub>f</sub>*.

We will now make this description more formal, closely following notation and conventions from [DFMS21]. Like in [DFMS21], we keep the formalism as simple as possible by describing an inefficient variant of the oracle that is not (yet) “compressed”. Efficient simulation is possible via a standard sparse encoding, see [DFMS21, Appendix A]. The simulator  $\text{eCO}$  for a random function  $\text{O} : \{0, 1\}^m \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$  is a stateful oracle with a state stored in a quantum register  $D = D_{0^m} \dots D_{1^m}$ , where for each input value  $x \in \{0, 1\}^m$ , register  $D_x$  has  $n + 1$  qubits used to store superpositions of  $n$ -bit output strings  $y$ , encoded as  $0y$ , and an additional symbol  $\perp$ , encoded as  $10^n$ . We adopt the convention that an operator expecting  $n$  input qubits acts on the last  $n$  qubits when applied to one of the registers  $D_x$ . The compressed oracle has the following three components.

- The initial state of the oracle,  $|\phi\rangle = |\perp\rangle^{2^m}$
- A quantum query with query input register  $X$  and output register  $Y$  is answered using the oracle unitary  $O$  defined by

$$O|x\rangle_X = |x\rangle_X \otimes (F_{D_x} \text{CNOT}_{D_x:Y}^{\otimes n} F_{D_x}), \quad (1)$$

where  $F|\perp\rangle = |\phi_0\rangle$ ,  $F|\phi_0\rangle = |\perp\rangle$  and  $F|\psi\rangle = |\psi\rangle$  for all  $|\psi\rangle$  such that  $\langle\psi|\perp\rangle = \langle\psi|\phi_0\rangle = 0$ , with  $|\phi_0\rangle = |+\rangle^{\otimes n}$  being the uniform superposition. The CNOT operator here is responsible for XORing the function value (stored in  $D_x$ , now in superposition) into the query algorithm’s output register.

- A *recovery algorithm* that recovers a standard QRO  $\text{O}$ : apply  $F^{\otimes 2^m}$  to  $D$  and measure it to obtain the function table of  $\text{O}$ .

We now make our description of the extraction interface  $\text{eCO.Ext}$  formal: Given a random oracle  $\text{O} : \{0, 1\}^m \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ , let  $f : \{0, 1\}^m \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\ell$  be a function. We define a family of measurements  $(\mathcal{M}^t)_{t \in \{0, 1\}^\ell}$ . The measurement  $\mathcal{M}^t$  has measurement projectors  $\{\Sigma^{t,x}\}_{x \in \{0, 1\}^m \cup \{\emptyset\}}$  defined as follows. For  $x \in \{0, 1\}^m$ , the projector selects the case where  $D_x$  is the first (in lexicographical order) register that contains  $y$  such that  $f(x, y) = t$ , i.e.

$$\Sigma^{t,x} = \bigotimes_{x' < x} \bar{\Pi}_{D_{x'}}^{t,x'} \otimes \Pi_{D_x}^{t,x}, \quad \text{with} \quad \Pi^{t,x} = \sum_{\substack{y \in \{0, 1\}^n: \\ f(x,y)=t}} |y\rangle\langle y| \quad (2)$$

and  $\bar{\Pi} = \mathbb{1} - \Pi$ . The remaining projector corresponds to the case where no register contains such a  $y$ , i.e.

$$\Sigma^{t,\emptyset} = \bigotimes_{x' \in \{0, 1\}^m} \bar{\Pi}_{D_{x'}}^{t,x'}. \quad (3)$$



As an example, say we model a random oracle  $H$  as such an  $\text{eQRO}_f$ . Using  $f(x, y) := \llbracket H(x) = y \rrbracket$ ,  $\mathcal{M}^\perp$  allows us to extract a preimage of  $y$ .

$\text{eCO}$  is initialized with the initial state of the compressed oracle.  $\text{eCO.RO}$  is quantum-accessible and applies the compressed oracle query unitary  $O$ .  $\text{eCO.Ext}$  is a classical oracle interface that, on input  $t$ , applies  $\mathcal{M}^t$  to  $\text{eCO}$ 's internal state (i.e. the state of the compressed oracle) and returns the result. The simulator  $\text{eCO}$  has several useful properties that were characterized in [DFMS21, Theorem 3.4], given below. These characterisations are in terms of the quantity

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(f) &= \max_t \Gamma_{R_{f,t}}, \text{ with} \\ R_{f,t}(x, y) &:\Leftrightarrow f(x, y) = t \text{ and} \\ \Gamma_R &:= \max_x |\{y \mid R(x, y)\}|. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

For  $f = \text{Enc}(\cdot; \cdot)$ , the encryption function of a PKE that takes as first input a message  $m$  and as second input an encryption randomness  $r$ , we have  $\Gamma(f) = 2^{-\gamma} |\mathcal{R}|$  if PKE is  $\gamma$ -spread. In this case,  $\text{eCO.Ext}(c)$  outputs a plaintext  $m$  such that  $\text{Enc}(m, \text{eCO.RO}(m)) = c$ , or  $\perp$  if the ciphertext  $c$  has not been computed using  $\text{eCO.RO}$  before.

### 3 Our main result

We start by stating our main result that relates IND-CCA security of  $\text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}, \text{G}, \text{H}]$  to IND-CPA security,  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$ -worst-case correctness and  $\gamma$ -spreadness of PKE.

**Theorem 1 (PKE IND-CPA secure and  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$ -worst-case correct  $\Rightarrow \text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}]$  IND-CCA).** *Let PKE be a (randomized) PKE scheme that is  $\gamma$ -spread and  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$ -worst-case-correct, with message space of size  $|\mathcal{M}|$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an IND-CCA-KEM adversary (in the QROM) against  $\text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}, \text{G}, \text{H}]$ , issuing at most  $q_G$  many queries to its oracle  $\text{G}$ ,  $q_H$  many queries to its oracle  $\text{H}$ , and at most  $q_D$  many queries to its decapsulation oracle  $\text{ODECAPS}$ . Let  $q = q_G + q_H$ , and let  $d$  be the query depth of the combined queries to  $\text{G}$  and  $\text{H}$ . Then there exists an IND-CPA adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against PKE such that*

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}, \text{G}, \text{H}]}^{\text{IND-CCA-KEM}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}, \mathcal{B}} + 10(q+1)^2 \delta_{\text{wc}} + \varepsilon_\gamma,$$

with

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}, \mathcal{B}} = 4 \cdot \sqrt{(d + q_D) \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{B})} + \frac{8(q + q_D)}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{M}|}},$$

and the additive spreadness term  $\varepsilon_\gamma$  being defined by

$$\varepsilon_\gamma = 24q_D(q_G + 4q_D) \cdot 2^{-\gamma/2}.$$

The running time of  $\mathcal{B}$  is bounded by  $\text{Time}(\mathcal{B}) \leq \text{Time}(\mathcal{A}) + \text{Time}(\text{eCO}, q + q_D, q_D) + O(q_D)$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  requires quantum memory bounded by  $\text{QMem}(\mathcal{B}) \leq \text{QMem}(\mathcal{A}) + \text{QMem}(\text{eCO}, q + q_D, q_D)$ , where  $\text{Time}(\text{eCO}, q, q_E)$ , and  $\text{QMem}(\text{eCO}, q, q_E)$ , denote the time, and quantum memory, necessary to simulate the extractable QROM for  $q$  many queries to  $\text{eCO.RO}$  and  $q_E$  many queries to  $\text{eCO.Ext}$ .

*Proof.* We begin by stating an implicit result of [HHM22] as Theorem 2 (below) that relates IND-CCA security of  $\text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}, \text{G}, \text{H}]$  to IND-CPA security of PKE and FFP-CCA security of  $\text{PKE}^G$  in the  $\text{eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}$ .

Theorem 1 is obtained by bounding the FFP-CCA term in Eq. (5) of Theorem 2 in terms of  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$ , which we will do in Section 4: Theorem 3 states that the FFP-CCA term can be bounded by  $10(q_G + q_H + q_D + 1)^2 \delta_{\text{wc}}$ . Here, we identified  $\mathcal{C}$ 's number of  $\text{eCO.RO}$  queries in Theorem 3 with  $q_G + q_H + q_D$  as indicated by Theorem 2.

For completeness, we show that Theorem 2 indeed follows straightforwardly from the results in [HHM22] in Section 5.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.**  $[\text{PKE}^{\text{G}} \text{ FFP-CCA and PKE IND-CPA secure} \Rightarrow \text{FO}_m^{\perp}[\text{PKE}] \text{ IND-CCA}]$  Let PKE be a (randomized) PKE scheme that is  $\gamma$ -spread, and let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an IND-CCA-KEM adversary (in the QRROM) against  $\text{FO}_m^{\perp}[\text{PKE}, \text{G}, \text{H}]$ , issuing at most  $q_{\text{G}}$  many queries to its oracle  $\text{G}$ ,  $q_{\text{H}}$  many queries to its oracle  $\text{H}$ , and at most  $q_{\text{D}}$  many queries to its decapsulation oracle  $\text{ODECAPS}$ . Let  $q = q_{\text{G}} + q_{\text{H}}$ , and let  $d$  be the query depth of the combined queries to  $\text{G}$  and  $\text{H}$ . Then there exist an IND-CPA adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against PKE and an  $\text{eQRROM}_{\text{Enc}}$  FFP-CPA adversary  $\mathcal{C}$  against  $\text{PKE}^{\text{G}}$  such that

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{FO}_m^{\perp}[\text{PKE}, \text{G}, \text{H}]}^{\text{IND-CCA-KEM}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}, \mathcal{B}} + \text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}^{\text{G}}}^{\text{FFP-CCA}}(\mathcal{C}) + \varepsilon_{\gamma} , \quad (5)$$

with

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}, \mathcal{B}} = 4 \cdot \sqrt{(d + q_{\text{D}}) \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{B})} + \frac{8(q + q_{\text{D}})}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{M}|}} ,$$

and the additive spreadness term  $\varepsilon_{\gamma}$  being defined by

$$\varepsilon_{\gamma} = 12q_{\text{D}}(q_{\text{G}} + 4q_{\text{D}})2^{-\gamma/2} .$$

The running time of  $\mathcal{B}$  is bounded by  $\text{Time}(\mathcal{B}) \leq \text{Time}(\mathcal{A}) + \text{Time}(\text{eCO}, q + q_{\text{D}}, q_{\text{D}}) + O(q_{\text{D}})$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  requires quantum memory bounded by  $\text{QMem}(\mathcal{B}) \leq \text{QMem}(\mathcal{A}) + \text{QMem}(\text{eCO}, q + q_{\text{D}}, q_{\text{D}})$ , where  $\text{Time}/\text{QMem}(\text{eCO}, q, q_{\text{E}})$  denotes the time/quantum memory necessary to simulate the extractable QRROM for  $q$  many queries to  $\text{eCO.RO}$  and  $q_{\text{E}}$  many queries to  $\text{eCO.Ext}$ .  $\mathcal{C}$  makes  $q_{\text{G}} + q_{\text{H}} + q_{\text{D}}$  queries to  $\text{eCO.RO}$ .

## 4 Bounding FFP-CCA in the eQRROM via worst-case correctness

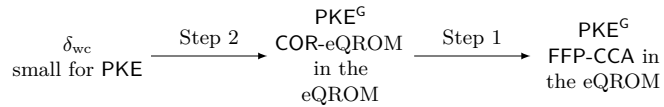
We now give the alternative analysis of FFP-CCA in the  $\text{eQRROM}_{\text{Enc}}$  that allows us to replace the FFP-CCA term in Theorem 2 by  $10(q + 1)^2\delta_{\text{wc}}$ .

**Theorem 3** ( $\text{PKE } \delta_{\text{wc}}\text{-worst-case-correct} \Rightarrow \text{PKE}^{\text{G}} \text{ FFP-CCA}$ ). Let PKE be a (randomized) PKE scheme that is  $\delta_{\text{wc}}$ -worst-case-correct, and let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an FFP-CCA adversary  $\mathcal{C}$  against  $\text{PKE}^{\text{G}}$  in the  $\text{eQRROM}_{\text{Enc}}$ , issuing at most  $q_{\text{D}}$  decryption queries and  $q$  many queries to its extQRROM oracle interface  $\text{eCO.RO}$ . Then

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}^{\text{G}}}^{\text{FFP-CCA}}(\mathcal{C}) \leq 10(q + q_{\text{D}} + 1)^2\delta_{\text{wc}} . \quad (6)$$

*Proof.* The proof proceeds in two steps.

1. Use FFP-CCA adversary  $\mathcal{C}$  to construct a COR-eQRROM adversary  $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$  against  $\text{PKE}^{\text{G}}$  in the  $\text{eQRROM}_{\text{Enc}}$  that has the same advantage as  $\mathcal{C}$  and makes  $\hat{q} := q + q_{\text{D}}$  many queries to  $\text{eCO.RO}$ .
2. Prove that any such  $\text{COR-eQRROM}_{\text{PKE}^{\text{G}}, \text{Enc}}$  adversary  $\mathcal{D}$ , making  $\hat{q}$  many queries to the oracle interface  $\text{eCO.RO}$  that models  $\text{G}$ , has advantage at most  $10(\hat{q} + 1)^2\delta_{\text{wc}}$ .



For step 1, we note that COR-eQRROM adversaries get the full key pair  $(sk, pk)$  (as specified by game COR-eQRROM, see Fig. 5) and can hence simulate the decryption oracle on their own. In more detail, we construct COR-eQRROM adversary  $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$  against  $\text{PKE}^{\text{G}}$  as follows:  $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$  runs  $\mathcal{C}$ , forwards all  $\text{eCO.RO}/\text{eCO.Ext}$  queries to its own extractable oracle interfaces, and simulates  $\mathcal{C}$ 's Dec oracle using the secret key. To perform the re-encryption check during the simulation of Dec,  $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$  has to

make one additional query to eCO.RO per Dec call. Once  $\mathcal{C}$  finishes,  $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$  simply forwards  $\mathcal{C}$ 's output  $m$ .  $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$  perfectly simulates the FFP-CCA game for  $\mathcal{C}$  and wins iff  $\mathcal{C}$  wins, hence

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}^G}^{\text{FFP-CCA}}(\mathcal{C}) \leq \text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}^G}^{\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}}(\hat{\mathcal{C}}) .$$

To begin with step 2 (analysing the  $\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}$  advantage), we first slightly simplify the winning condition of the  $\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}$  game for  $\text{PKE}^G$ : We introduce game 1 that only differs from game 0, the original  $\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}$  game for  $\text{PKE}^G$ , by dropping the re-encryption check from the winning condition. It is easy to verify that the  $\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}$  advantage is exactly the advantage against game 1:

- The winning condition in game 1 implies the winning condition in game 0.
- To show the other direction, we notice that  $\mathcal{A}$  wins game 0 by producing a message  $m$  such that either its encryption fails to decrypt (which is the winning condition in game 1) or such that the re-encryption check fails. But if the the re-encryption check fails, then  $\text{Dec}(sk, c)$  cannot yield  $m$  (and  $\mathcal{A}$  again wins in game 1).

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}^G}^{\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}}(\hat{\mathcal{C}}) = \Pr[\hat{\mathcal{C}} \text{ wins in } G_1] .$$

<b>GAMES 0 - 1</b>	
09	$(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{KG}$
10	$m \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{eCO.RO, eCO.Ext}}(sk, pk)$
11	$c := \text{Enc}(pk, m; \mathbf{G}(m))$
12	$m' := \text{Dec}^G(sk, c)$
13	<b>if</b> $c \neq \text{Enc}(pk, m'; \mathbf{G}(m'))$ //Game $G_0$
14	$m' := \perp$ //Game $G_0$
15	<b>return</b> $\llbracket m' \neq m \rrbracket$

**Fig. 9.** Game  $G_0$ , the correctness game  $\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}$  for  $\text{PKE}^G$ , and Game  $G_1$  with slightly simplified winning condition.

We proceed by analysing the  $\text{COR-eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}$  advantage with this simplified winning condition. More concretely, we would like to bound the maximal advantage in game 1 of any adversary that makes at most  $\hat{q}$  many queries. To that end, we fix the key pair and define a predicate  $P_{\text{fail}, \text{PKE}^G}$  by

$$P_{\text{fail}, \text{PKE}^G}(m) \Leftrightarrow \text{Dec}_{sk}(\text{Enc}_{pk}^G(m)) \neq m .$$

We use the predicate to rewrite the winning condition in game 1:

$$\Pr[\hat{\mathcal{C}} \text{ wins in } G_1] = \mathbf{E}_{\text{KG}} \Pr_{m \leftarrow \hat{\mathcal{C}}^{\text{eCO.RO, eCO.Ext}}(sk, pk)} [P_{\text{fail}, \text{PKE}^G}(m)] .$$

We will now bound the right-hand side, i.e., the probability that  $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$  returns a message satisfying the predicate, for any fixed key pair. To that end, we give a helper Lemma 1 below which relates  $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$ 's success probability to a sum of square roots of probabilities (“amplitudes”). The sum is taken over all random oracle queries (including an implicit one to check the predicate). In the sum, the  $k$ -th summand intuitively represents the following: Consider the oracle query database  $D$  for eCO to contain up to  $k$  many entries, meaning up to  $k$  many queries to eCO.RO were made so far, without satisfying the predicate. We consider the maximal probability that picking a random output value  $u$  for some oracle input value  $m$  leads to  $(m, u)$  satisfying the predicate. (In the lemma’s notation,  $\text{Found}(D[m \mapsto u])$ , where we define Found like in Lemma 1, using our predicate  $P_{\text{fail}, \text{PKE}^G}$  on the message space.) The maximum is taken over all possible oracle input values  $m$  and all query databases  $D$  such that the predicate was not yet satisfied ( $\neg \text{Found}(D)$ ).

We continue by giving a formal argument. Note that the predicate  $P_{\text{fail}, \text{PKEG}}$  can be computed using a single query to  $\mathsf{G}$ , we can therefore identify variable  $q_{\mathcal{P}}$  in Lemma 1 with 1. Applying Lemma 1, we thus obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\Pr_{m \leftarrow \hat{\mathcal{C}}^{\text{eCO.RO, eCO.Ext}}(sk, pk)} [P_{\text{fail}, \text{PKEG}}(m)]} &\leq \sum_{k=1}^{\hat{q}+1} \max_{\substack{m, D: \\ |D| \leq k \\ \neg \text{Found}(D)}} \sqrt{10 \Pr_{u \leftarrow \mathcal{Y}} [\text{Found}(D[m \mapsto u])]} \\ &\leq (\hat{q} + 1) \max_{\substack{m, D: \\ |D| \leq \hat{q}+1 \\ \neg \text{Found}(D)}} \sqrt{10 \Pr_{u \leftarrow \mathcal{Y}} [\text{Found}(D[m \mapsto u])]} \end{aligned}$$

where the second inequality holds because any database with  $\ell < q + 1$  entries fulfilling the predicate can be completed to a database with  $q + 1$  entries still fulfilling the predicate.

To translate the summands back into terms concerning decryption failure, we note the following: If  $\neg \text{Found}(D)$ , but  $\text{Found}(D[x \mapsto u])$ , then it must be specifically the entry  $(x, u)$  that satisfies the predicate. Thus, assuming the database  $D$  before was in a state such that  $\neg \text{Found}(D)$ , we find

$$\text{Found}(D[x \mapsto u]) \Leftrightarrow \text{Dec}_{sk}(\text{Enc}_{pk}(x; u)) \neq x .$$

Using this fact and squaring both sides of the above inequality yields

$$\Pr_{m \leftarrow \hat{\mathcal{C}}^{\text{eCO.RO, eCO.Ext}}(sk, pk)} [P_{\text{fail}, \text{PKEG}}(m)] \leq 10(\hat{q} + 1)^2 \max_m \Pr_{u \leftarrow \mathcal{Y}} [\text{Dec}_{sk}(\text{Enc}_{pk}(m; u)) \neq x]$$

for any fixed key pair  $(sk, pk)$ . Taking the expectation over  $\text{KG}$  hence yields

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[\hat{\mathcal{C}} \text{ wins in } G_1] &\leq \mathbf{E}_{\text{KG}} 10(\hat{q} + 1)^2 \max_m \Pr_{u \leftarrow \mathcal{Y}} [\text{Dec}_{sk}(\text{Enc}_{pk}(m; u)) \neq x] \\ &= 10(\hat{q} + 1)^2 \delta_{\text{wc}}. \end{aligned}$$

□

In the above proof, we used the following

**Lemma 1 (Variant of Lemma 1 in [AMHJ<sup>+</sup>23]).** *Let  $\mathsf{G} : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  be a random oracle and let  $\mathcal{P}^{\mathsf{G}}$  be a predicate on some set  $\mathcal{Z}$  that can be computed using at most  $q_{\mathcal{P}}$  classical queries to  $\mathsf{G}$ . Let further  $\mathcal{A}^{\mathsf{G}}$  be an algorithm in the  $\text{eQRO}_f$  (for an arbitrary  $f$ ), making at most  $q$  quantum queries to  $\text{eCO.RO}$  and outputting  $z \in \mathcal{Z}$ . Then*

$$\sqrt{\Pr_{z \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\mathsf{G}}} [P(z)]} \leq \sum_{k=1}^{q+q_{\mathcal{P}}} \max_{\substack{x, D: \\ |D| \leq k \\ \neg \text{Found}_{\mathcal{P}}(D)}} \sqrt{10 \Pr_{u \leftarrow \mathcal{Y}} [\text{Found}_{\mathcal{P}}(D[x \mapsto u])]} \quad (7)$$

where  $\text{Found}_{\mathcal{P}}$  is the database property

$$\text{Found}_{\mathcal{P}} = (\exists z \in \mathcal{Z} : \mathcal{P}^D(z)) \quad (8)$$

and  $\mathcal{P}^D$  is the algorithm that computes  $\mathcal{P}$  but makes queries to  $D$  instead of  $\mathsf{G}$ , and if any query returns  $\perp$ ,  $\mathcal{P}^D$  outputs ‘false’.

Before we give a proof of Lemma 1, we need to prepare some ingredients. In particular, the proof uses the concept of *transition capacities* from [CFHL21], we now recall the required notation from that paper.

A *database property*  $P$  is a predicate on the set of partial functions with the same input and output space as  $\mathsf{G}$ . Overloading notation, we also denote by  $P$  the projector acting on a compressed oracle database register with support spanned by the computational basis states corresponding to partial functions fulfilling  $P$ . For any database property  $P$  we define the database property  $P_i$  such that  $f$  fulfils  $P_i$  iff it fulfils  $P$  and is defined on at most  $i$  inputs.

We now define the quantum transition capacity, following [CFHL21]. The quantum transition capacity  $\llbracket P \rightarrow P' \rrbracket$  is the quantum analogue of the maximum probability that a query transcript has a property  $P'$  after an input together with a freshly lazy-sampled output has been added to the transcript, given that the transcript has property  $P$  before. In addition, we define a  $q$ -query variant that considers  $q$  adaptively chosen inputs.

**Definition 7 (Quantum transition capacity).** *Let  $P, P'$  be two database properties. Then, the quantum transition capacity is defined as*

$$\llbracket P \xrightarrow{q} P' \rrbracket := \sup_{U_1, \dots, U_{q-1}} \|P' O U_{q-1} O \cdots O U_1 O P\|.$$

where the supremum is over all adversary register sizes and all unitaries  $U_1, \dots, U_{q-1}$  acting on the adversary's registers. We write

$$\llbracket P \rightarrow P' \rrbracket := \llbracket P \xrightarrow{1} P' \rrbracket = \|P' O P\|$$

To bound the power of the  $\text{eQROM}_f$  for search tasks, we strengthen the model slightly by having the interface  $\text{eCO.Ext}$  apply the purified version (the *Stinespring dilation*) of  $\mathcal{M}_t$  on input  $t$ , and return the (quantum) output register. This generalization is not strictly necessary for our proof, but is convenient as it allows us to model an algorithm with query access to  $\text{eQROM}_f$  as unitary. Concretely, the purified measurement is the isometry

$$V_{TD \rightarrow TDO} = \sum_t |t\rangle\langle t|_T \otimes V_{D \rightarrow DO}^{(t)}, \text{ with}$$

$$V_{D \rightarrow DO}^{(t)} = \sum_{x \in \{0,1\}^m} \Sigma_D^{t,x} \otimes |x\rangle_O.$$

Let us call this model the  $\text{eQROM}_f^*$  and the strengthened extraction interface  $\text{eCO.Ext}^*$ . Any algorithm in the  $\text{eQROM}_f$  can be simulated in the  $\text{eQROM}_f^*$  by submitting any  $\text{eCO.Ext}$  queries to  $\text{eCO.Ext}^*$ , measuring the output and returning the result.

In the following we prove that for query bounds for oracle search problems (like, e.g., preimage search, collision search) proven using the compressed oracle framework, the same bound holds for algorithms with  $\text{eQROM}_f^*$ -access, irrespective of the number of queries made to the interface  $\text{eCO.Ext}^*$ . On a high level, this is due to the fact that the operator that facilitates a query to  $\text{eCO.Ext}^*$  and the projector checking the database property commute. The argument is similar to the one made in Appendix B of [AMHJ<sup>+</sup>23]. We define the *decorated* transition capacity as

$$\llbracket P \rightarrow P' \rrbracket_V = \|P' V O P\|.$$

We have the following

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $V_{DE}$  be a controlled unitary with control register the database register  $D$ , and acting on an arbitrary additional register  $E$ . Then*

$$\llbracket P \rightarrow P' \rrbracket_V = \llbracket P \rightarrow P' \rrbracket.$$

*Proof.* As  $V$  is a controlled unitary with control register  $D$ , and  $P'$  is an operator that is diagonal in the computational basis, we have  $V_{DE} P'_D = P'_D V_{DE}$ . We thus get

$$\llbracket P \rightarrow P' \rrbracket_V = \|P' V O P\| = \|V P' O P\| = \|P' O P\| = \llbracket P \rightarrow P' \rrbracket.$$

Here, the second equality follows because  $V$  and  $P'$  commute, and the third equality is due to the unitary invariance of the operator norm.  $\square$

This lemma can be used to show that the framework for query bounds developed in [CFHL21] works essentially unchanged for the decorated transition capacity  $\llbracket P \rightarrow P' \rrbracket_V$  with a controlled unitary  $V$  as in Lemma 2 as well.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Here we have only defined and characterized the decorated transition capacity as needed for analyses that don't distinguish sequential and parallel queries, which suffices for our purposes.

Now, any algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  in the  $\text{eQROM}_f^*$  proceeds without loss of generality by applying the unitary

$$U_{\mathcal{A}} = U_q O U_{q-1} O \dots O U_0$$

to a quantum register initialized in the all-0 state, where the  $U_i$  have the form

$$U_i = U_{i,\ell} V U_{i,\ell-1} V \dots V U_{i,0},$$

where the unitaries  $U_{i,j}$  do not act on the compressed oracle database.

Using the prepared ingredients, we can conclude that Lemma 1 from [AMHJ+23] holds in the  $\text{eQROM}_f^*$ , with a bound depending on the number of  $\text{eCO.RO}$  queries only:

*Proof (of Lemma 1).* The proof is identical to the proof of Lemma 1 in [AMHJ+23], with one difference: If we denote the adversary's unitary (we can purify/Stinespring-dilate any adversary for this mathematical argument) between the  $i$ th and the  $(i+1)$ -st query to  $\text{eCO.RO}$  by  $U_i$ , we obtain the decorated transition capacity  $\llbracket \neg \text{Found} \wedge (|D| \leq k-1) \rightarrow \text{Found} \rrbracket_{U_i}$  instead of the 'non-decorated' capacity  $\llbracket \neg \text{Found} \wedge (|D| \leq k-1) \rightarrow \text{Found} \rrbracket$ . (Note that  $U_i$  includes any  $\text{eCO.Ext}$  queries made by the adversary between the  $i$ th and the  $(i+1)$ st query to  $\text{eCO.RO}$ , which are controlled unitaries with control register  $D$ .) Due to Lemma 2, however, this does not make any difference and the proof proceeds as in [AMHJ+23].  $\square$

## 5 Obtaining the passive-to-active KEM result (Theorem 2) from [HHM22]

For the reader's convenience, we begin by restating Theorem 2.

**Theorem 2.**  $[\text{PKE}^G \text{ FFP-CCA and PKE IND-CPA secure} \Rightarrow \text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}] \text{ IND-CCA}]$  Let PKE be a (randomized) PKE scheme that is  $\gamma$ -spread, and let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an IND-CCA-KEM adversary (in the QROM) against  $\text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}, \text{G}, \text{H}]$ , issuing at most  $q_G$  many queries to its oracle  $\text{G}$ ,  $q_H$  many queries to its oracle  $\text{H}$ , and at most  $q_D$  many queries to its decapsulation oracle  $\text{ODECAPS}$ . Let  $q = q_G + q_H$ , and let  $d$  be the query depth of the combined queries to  $\text{G}$  and  $\text{H}$ . Then there exist an IND-CPA adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against PKE and an  $\text{eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}$  FFP-CPA adversary  $\mathcal{C}$  against  $\text{PKE}^G$  such that

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}, \text{G}, \text{H}]}^{\text{IND-CCA-KEM}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}, \mathcal{B}} + \text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}^G}^{\text{FFP-CCA}}(\mathcal{C}) + \varepsilon_\gamma, \quad (5)$$

with

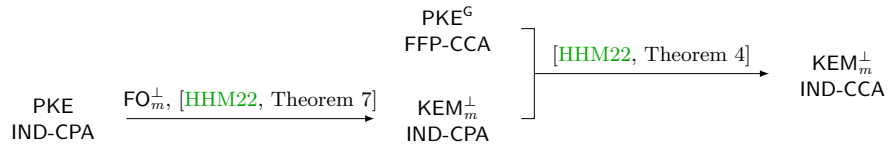
$$\text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}, \mathcal{B}} = 4 \cdot \sqrt{(d + q_D) \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{B})} + \frac{8(q + q_D)}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{M}|}},$$

and the additive spreadness term  $\varepsilon_\gamma$  being defined by

$$\varepsilon_\gamma = 12q_D(q_G + 4q_D)2^{-\gamma/2}.$$

The running time of  $\mathcal{B}$  is bounded by  $\text{Time}(\mathcal{B}) \leq \text{Time}(\mathcal{A}) + \text{Time}(\text{eCO}, q + q_D, q_D) + O(q_D)$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  requires quantum memory bounded by  $\text{QMem}(\mathcal{B}) \leq \text{QMem}(\mathcal{A}) + \text{QMem}(\text{eCO}, q + q_D, q_D)$ , where  $\text{Time}/\text{QMem}(\text{eCO}, q, q_E)$  denotes the time/quantum memory necessary to simulate the extractable QROM for  $q$  many queries to  $\text{eCO.RO}$  and  $q_E$  many queries to  $\text{eCO.Ext}$ .  $\mathcal{C}$  makes  $q_G + q_H + q_D$  queries to  $\text{eCO.RO}$ .

The corollary is obtained in a straightforward manner by combining Theorems 4 and 7 from [HHM22] as indicated in the figure below:



We begin by repeating [HHM22, Theorem 3].

**Theorem 4** ( $\text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}]$  IND-CPA and  $\text{PKE}^\mathbb{G}$  FFP-CCA  $\xrightarrow{\text{eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}}$   $\text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}]$  IND-CCA). *Let PKE be a (randomized) PKE that is  $\gamma$ -spread, and  $\text{KEM}_m^\perp := \text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}, \mathbb{G}, \mathbb{H}]$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an IND-CCA-KEM-adversary (in the QROM) against  $\text{KEM}_m^\perp$ , making at most  $q_{\text{D}}$  many queries to its decapsulation oracle  $\text{ODECAPS}$ , and making  $q_{\text{G}}$ ,  $q_{\text{H}}$  queries to its respective random oracles. Let furthermore  $d$  and  $w$  be the combined query depth and query width of  $\mathcal{A}$ 's random oracle queries. Then there exist an IND-CPA-KEM adversary  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  and an FFP-CCA adversary  $\mathcal{C}$  against  $\text{PKE}^\mathbb{G}$ , both in the  $\text{eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}$ , such that*

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{KEM}_m^\perp}^{\text{IND-CCA-KEM}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \text{Adv}_{\text{KEM}_m^\perp}^{\text{IND-CPA-KEM}}(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) + \text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}^\mathbb{G}}^{\text{FFP-CCA}}(\mathcal{C}) + 12q_{\text{D}}(q_{\text{G}} + 4q_{\text{D}}) \cdot 2^{-\gamma/2} .$$

The adversary  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  makes  $q_{\text{G}} + q_{\text{H}} + q_{\text{D}}$  queries to  $\text{eCO.RO}$  with a combined depth of  $d + q_{\text{D}}$ , and  $q_{\text{D}}$  queries to  $\text{eCO.Ext}$ . Here,  $\text{eCO.RO}$  simulates  $\mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{H}$ . Adversary  $\mathcal{C}$  makes  $q_{\text{D}}$  many queries to  $\text{ODECRYPT}$  and  $\text{eCO.Ext}$  and  $q_{\text{G}}$  queries to  $\text{eCO.RO}$ . Neither  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  nor  $\mathcal{C}$  query  $\text{eCO.Ext}$  on the challenge ciphertext. The running times of the adversaries  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  are bounded by  $\text{Time}(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})$ ,  $\text{Time}(\mathcal{C}) \leq \text{Time}(\mathcal{A}) + O(q_{\text{D}})$ .

We proceed by repeating [HHM22, Theorem 7]. The bound in Theorem 2 is obtained by plugging [HHM22, Theorem 7] into [HHM22, Theorem 3] above, identifying  $\tilde{q}$  with  $q_{\text{G}} + q_{\text{H}} + q_{\text{D}}$ ,  $\tilde{d}$  with  $d + q_{\text{D}}$ , and  $\tilde{q}_{\text{E}}$  with  $q_{\text{D}}$ .

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  be an IND-CPA-KEM adversary against  $\text{KEM}_m^\perp := \text{FO}_m^\perp[\text{PKE}, \mathbb{G}, \mathbb{H}]$  in the  $\text{eQROM}_{\text{Enc}}$ , issuing  $\tilde{q}$  many queries to  $\text{eCO.RO}$  in total, with a query depth of  $\tilde{d}$ , and  $\tilde{q}_{\text{E}}$  many queries to  $\text{eCO.Ext}$ , where none of them is with its challenge ciphertext. Then there exists an IND-CPA adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against PKE such that*

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{KEM}_m^\perp}^{\text{IND-CPA-KEM}}(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) \leq 4 \cdot \sqrt{\tilde{d} \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{PKE}}^{\text{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{B})} + \frac{8\tilde{q}}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{M}|}} .$$

The running time and quantum memory footprint of  $\mathcal{B}$  satisfy  $\text{Time}(\mathcal{B}) = \text{Time}(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) + \text{Time}(\text{eCO}, \tilde{q}, \tilde{q}_{\text{E}})$  and  $\text{QMem}(\mathcal{B}) = \text{QMem}(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) + \text{QMem}(\text{eCO}, \tilde{q}, \tilde{q}_{\text{E}})$ .

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