

# Quantum Encryption with Certified Deletion

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Based on joint work with Rabib Islam (arXiv: 1910.03551)

INTRIQ, November 12, 2019



A “physical” type of encryption:

“Luke, I am your father.”



Luke decides

- Open & read the content

**XOR**

- return the sealed envelope as a proof that message was not read

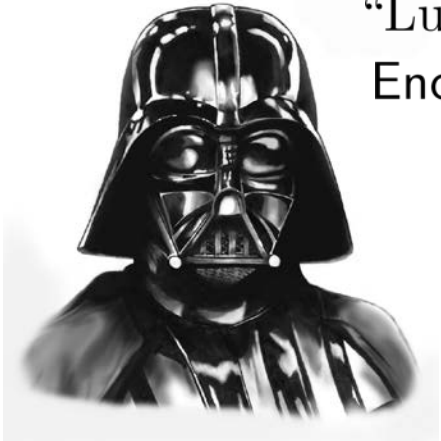


Can we achieve this in a digital world?

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No!

Proof by contradiction...



“Luke, I am your father.”

$\text{Encode}_k(\text{“Luke, I am your father.”})$

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Luke can:

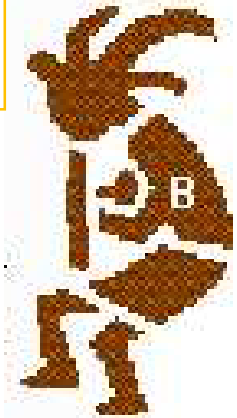
- Open & read the content (use copy #1)

**AND**

- Convince Darth Vader that he did not read the message (use copy #2)

This talk: how **quantum mechanics** allows the best of the physical and digital worlds:

- encoding a classical message into a **quantum** state
- Bob can prove that he deleted the message by using a **classical** string



## Quantum Encryption with Certified Deletion

# Applications

- European Union’s “right to be forgotten and to erasure” (2012): legislation stating that a person should be able to have their data erased whenever its retention is no longer necessary.

- A trusted third party can be asked to prove deletion; this can be used as a building block for bit commitment

## Erasable Bit Commitment from Temporary Quantum Trust

Norbert Lütkenhaus \*

Ashutosh S Marwah †

Dave Touchette ‡

October 31, 2019

- A more general framework where the only attack possible would be break the protocol *during* its execution (c.f. “everlasting security”) [open question]

# Related Work

## Revocable Quantum Timed-Release Encryption

DOMINIQUE UNRUH, University of Tartu

quantum encodings can be used to certify that a ciphertext is completely “returned” (2015)

PHYSICAL REVIEW A **97**, 032324 (2018)

### Local randomness: Examples and application

Honghao Fu<sup>1</sup> and Carl A. Miller<sup>1,2</sup>

proof of deletion is classical; device-independent; achieved for a single bit.

idea of classical deletion certificate: gives a candidate scheme and breaks it. (2019)

## Proving Erasure

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# Wiesner's conjugate coding

basis  $\theta \in \{0,1\}$ .  
bit  $r \in \{0,1\}$ .  
let  $|r\rangle_\theta = H^\theta |r\rangle$

| $\theta$ | $r$ | $ r\rangle_\theta$ |
|----------|-----|--------------------|
| 0        | 0   | $ 0\rangle$        |
| 0        | 1   | $ 1\rangle$        |
| 1        | 0   | $ +\rangle$        |
| 1        | 1   | $ -\rangle$        |

Computational basis

Diagonal basis

# Basic certified deletion scheme by example

$\theta$  random

$r$  random

|                    |             |             |             |             |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| $\theta$           | 0           | 1           | 0           | 1           |
| $r$                | 0           | 1           | 1           | 0           |
| $ r\rangle_\theta$ | $ 0\rangle$ | $ -\rangle$ | $ 1\rangle$ | $ +\rangle$ |
| $r_{comp}$         | 0           |             | 1           |             |
| $r_{diag}$         |             | 1           |             | 0           |

$r_{comp}$  substring of  $r$  where  $\theta = 0$

$r_{diag}$  substring of  $r$  where  $\theta = 1$

- To encrypt message  $m \in \{0,1\}^2$ , send  $|r\rangle_\theta, m \oplus r_{comp}$
- To decrypt using key  $\theta$ , measure qubits in position where  $\theta = 0$ , to get  $r_{comp}$ , then use  $m \oplus r_{comp}$  to compute  $m$ .
- To delete the message, measure all qubits in diagonal basis to get  $y = * 1 * 0$ .
- To verify the deletion, check that the  $\theta = 1$  positions of  $d$  equal  $r_{diag}$ .



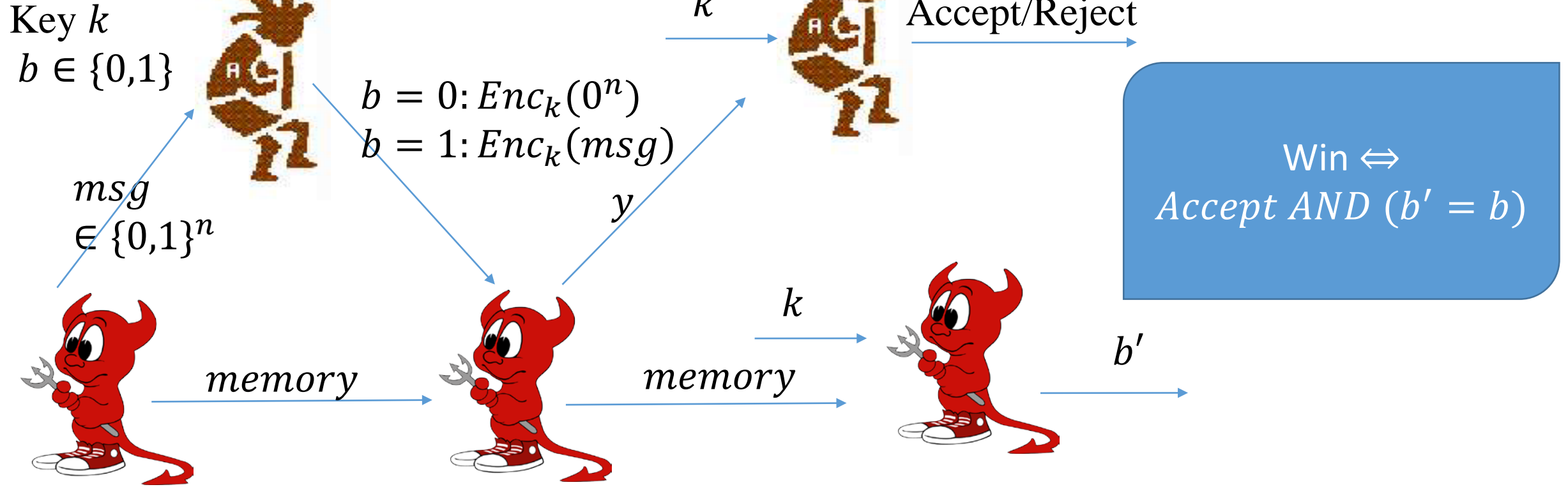
# Proof intuition

| $\theta$           | 0           | 1           | 0           | 1           |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| $r$                | 0           | 1           | 1           | 0           |
| $ r\rangle_\theta$ | $ 0\rangle$ | $ -\rangle$ | $ 1\rangle$ | $ +\rangle$ |
| $r_{comp}$         | 0           |             | 1           |             |
| $r_{diag}$         |             | 1           |             | 0           |

- A high success rate at predicting  $r_{diag}$  implies a low success rate of guessing  $r_{comp}$ .

$$H(X) + H(Z) \geq \log \frac{1}{c}$$

# Certified Deletion Security



Certified Deletion Security  $\Leftrightarrow \Pr(\text{Win}) \leq \frac{1}{2} + \eta(\lambda)$

# Certified Deletion Game

Key  $\theta, r$   
 $b \in \{0,1\}$



$b = 0: m = 0^n$   
 $b = 1: m = msg$   
 $|r\rangle_\theta, m \oplus r_{comp}$

$k$



Accept  $\Leftrightarrow y$  in  
 positions where  
 $\theta = 1$  is  
 consistent with  
 $r_{diag}$

$msg$   
 $\in \{0,1\}^n$

$y$

$\theta, r$

$b'$

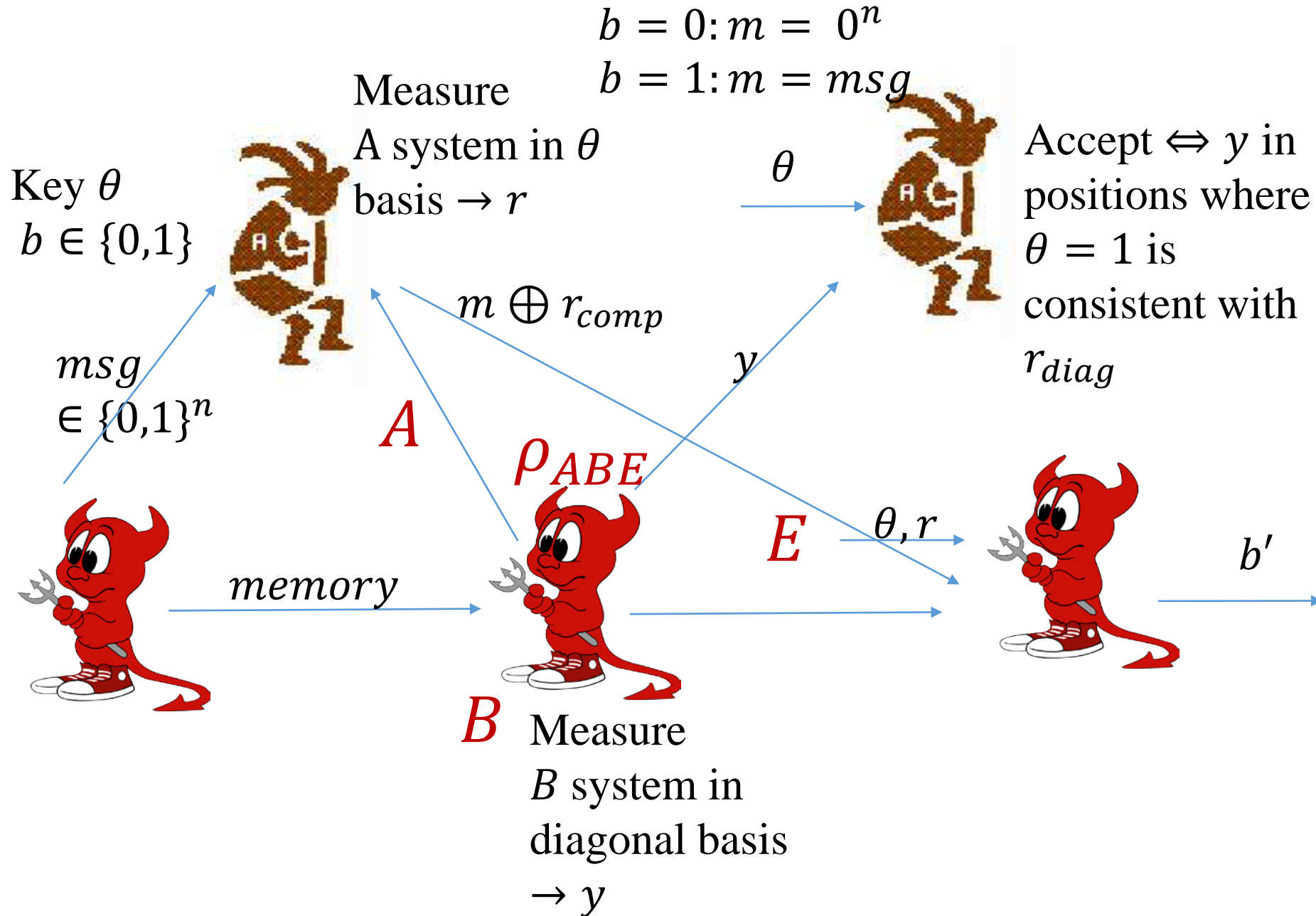
memory

memory

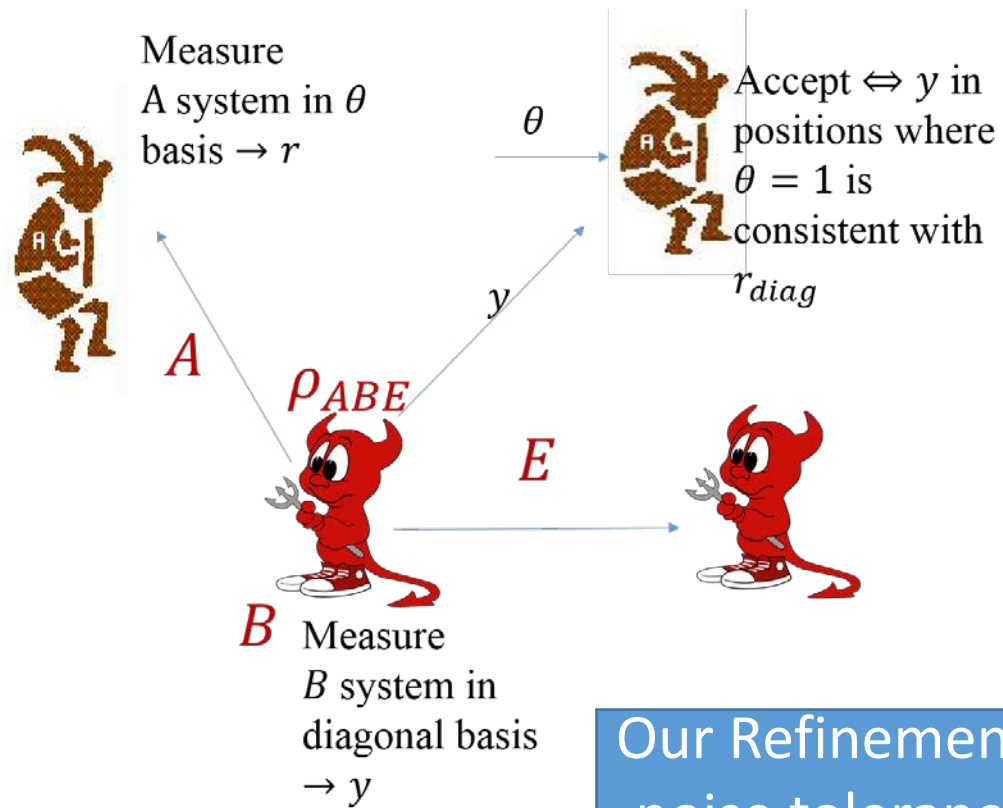


Win  $\Leftrightarrow$   
 Accept AND  $(b' = b)$

# Certified Deletion Game (entanglement - based)



Win  $\Leftrightarrow$   
 Accept AND ( $b' = b$ )



Entropic uncertainty relation (Tomamichel & Renner 2011):  
 $X$ : outcome if Alice measures  $n$  qubits in computational basis  
 $Z$ : outcome if Alice measures  $n$  qubits in diagonal basis  
 $Z'$ : outcome of Bob who measures  $n$  qubits in diagonal basis

$$H_{min}^\epsilon(X | E) + H_{max}^\epsilon(Z | Z') \geq n,$$

$H_{min}^\epsilon(X | E)$ : average prob. that Eve guesses  $X$  correctly  
 $H_{max}^\epsilon(Z | Z')$ : # of bits that are required to reconstruct  $Z$  from  $Z'$ .

Our Refinements of the protocol:

- noise tolerance: Accept  $y$  if less than  $k\delta$  bits are wrong; send a syndrome to allow decoding.
- reduce and make uniform E's advantage: Use privacy amplification (2-universal hash function) to make  $r_{comp}$  exponentially close to uniform from E's point of view.

By giving an upper bound on the max-entropy, we obtain a lower bound on the min-entropy.  
 The conclusion is that  $P(win) \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .

# Summary

- Quantum encodings for classical messages allows the advantages of the physical world for certified deletion, with the convenience of digital communication.



Thank you!