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# **Efficient NewHope Cryptography Based Facial Security System on a GPU**

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**ABSTRACT** With explosive era of machine learning development, human data, such as biometric images, videos, and particularly facial information, have become an essential training resource. The popularity of video surveillance systems and growing use of facial images have increased the risk of leaking personal information. On the other hand, traditional cryptography systems are still expensive, time consuming, and low security, leading to be threatened by the foreseeable attacks of quantum computers. This paper proposes a novel approach to fully protect facial images extracted from videos based on a post-quantum cryptosystem named NewHope cryptography. Applying the proposed technique to arrange input data for encryption and decryption processes significantly reduces encryption and decryption times. The proposed facial security system was successfully accelerated using data-parallel computing model on the recently launched Nvidia GTX 2080Ti Graphics Processing Unit (GPU). Average face frame extracted from video (190 × 190 pixel) required only 2.2 ms and 2.7 ms total encryption and decryption times with security parameters n = 1024 and n = 2048, respectively, which is approximately 9 times faster than previous approaches. Analysis results of security criteria proved that the proposed system offered comparable confidentiality to previous systems.

**INDEX TERMS** Cryptosystem, facial security system, graphics processing unit, NewHope, public-key encryption.

# I. INTRODUCTION

The digital age has penetrated people's lives and created an information explosion with tremendously increasing multimedia data. This has motivated machine learning algorithms development to best address big data problems [1]. However, these algorithms often require to run on remote cloud servers with powerful computing capabilities and collect private user information for the predictive models. This leads to growing concerns regarding user data privacy as well as numerous opportunities for attackers and other malicious actors to compromise sensitive information. These challenges have motivated researchers to develop a cryptography based cloud computing system that supports encrypted data to protect privacy sensitive user information, e.g., facial images, ensuring user information is encrypted before being sent to cloud based servers, as shown in Fig. 1.

Shor [2] showed that current cryptographic algorithms can be solved in constant time with quantum computers.

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Therefore, post-quantum algorithms have become widespread and are being considered as promising solutions to deal with potential attacks and provide provable security to safeguard sensitive data from the quantum computer threats. Latticebased cryptography [3] has appeared as a modern security foundation. Its constructions dominated for the second round of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) post-quantum cryptography (PQC) standardization process, comprising promising candidates for PQC with strong theoretical security guarantees. Lattice constructions also provide initial primitives for many cryptographic functionalities, e.g., fully homomorphic encryption [4]. With the same key size, lattice-based cryptographic algorithms can offer much higher secure compared with conventional publickey algorithms, such as the Rivest–Shamir–Adleman (RSA) cryptosystem [5], or Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECC) algorithms [6].

Most of the practical lattice-based cryptosystems are built upon ring learning with errors (R-LWE) problem. Several software and hardware implementations of R-LWE cryptography and biometric cryptosystems have been



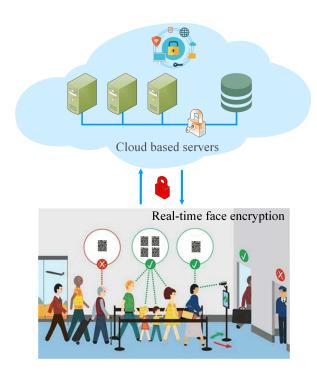


FIGURE 1. Post-quantum cryptography based facial security system.

reported [7]–[14]. In R-LWE primitives, polynomial multiplication is the basic and most expensive computation, and the number theoretic transform (NTT) is often utilized to perform polynomial multiplication efficiently.

Roy et al. [7] proposed a general hardware architecture for R-LWE based cryptography compared with ECC and N-th degree Truncated polynomial Ring Units (NTRU) cryptosystems. This approach decreased the complexity of forward NTT by avoiding the inherent pre-computed step in negative wrapped convolution (NWC) technique. However, this optimization cannot be applied to inverse NTT (INTT) due to the selection of transformation algorithms. Thomas et al. [8] proposed a software implementation on an 8-bit processor for the signature scheme using improved NTT approach. This method further removed the post-processing step of INTT and hiding the scaling of  $n^{-1}$  with a pre-calculated NTT, but not eliminated. Applying the R-LWE scheme for biomedical cryptosystems, Tan and Lee [9], [10] proposed the authentication systems based on biometrics, i.e., fingerprints, iris, and palmprints. These approaches encrypted biomedical images before sending to authentication systems, enhancing confidentiality over networks. Unfortunately, slow processing speed and low security may limit their scheme for practical applications. Tan et al. [11] also proposed a face encryption and decryption system effectively accelerated on a GPU platform but did not clearly indicate to the system security criteria.

Additionally, Liu *et al.* [12] proposed an efficient method based on spatial and value scrambling models to preserve face regions on surveillance videos. This scheme was able to localize and encrypt multiple faces well with satisfied

anti-attack property. Thiyagarajan *et al.* [13] used the logistic map and a complex diffusion matrix in a chaotic image encryption scheme. Their encryption methodology offered a high resistance to statistical and differential attacks. Luo *et al.* [14] presented an efficient image secure solution based on ECC and public key encryption, namely EC-ElGamal, and chaotic theory to improve the randomness of the pixel distribution in cipher images. However, these current cryptosystems are still cumbersome and time consuming, which transit toward PQC to make image cryptosystems feasible and practical.

At Usenix 2016, Alkim *et al.* [15] proposed the NewHope post-quantum key agreement scheme, which was subsequently proposed to NIST PQC for standardization. NewHope is a lattice-based candidate for key-establishment in the second round of the NIST PQC standardization process [16]. NewHope's security is based on the conjectured quantum hardness of the R-LWE problem, and currently no attacks are known that can exploit the addition structures. Benchmark results confirmed that NewHope was computationally inexpensive with only a slight latency increases for some slow internet connections. This study leverages NewHope strong points as the basis for a high-speed video-based facial cryptosystem.

Parallel programming is being widely adopted for various computer research and development areas to improve algorithm performance while ensuring optimal results. Heterogeneous computing developments have facilitated adopting graphics processing units (GPUs) for parallel processing applications, taking advantage of their multithread-multicore architecture providing tremendous computation power and high memory bandwidth to effectively deal with scalable multi-objective decision variable problems. NVIDIA corp. introduced compute unified device architecture (CUDA) based on C/C++ in 2006 and the latest guide [17] helps to develop high speed applications that transparently scale parallelism to leverage the large number of processor cores on modern GPU devices. Parallel computing has been utilized to implement real-time video processing with transparent integration and optimization.

In this paper, we propose a NewHope cryptography based highly secure low latency facial security system to guard against adversarial attacks. Practical implementation confirmed that the proposed approach outperformed conventional works in term of processing time and had comparable information confidentiality. The main contributions of this paper are as follows:

- The proposed approach offers a high efficiency solution to fully protect color facial images extracted from realtime video streams. The model provides high accuracy and privacy protection based on NewHope cryptography.
- 2) With major encoding and decoding refinements, the proposed scheme pushes the security level up and shows how to dramatically accelerate the encryption



- and decryption processes, hence significantly reduce overall cryptosystem processing time.
- 3) This proposed scheme fully exploits various GPU platform's parallel architecture, and benchmark results confirm the scheme's applicability for a wide range of real-time image encrypting applications.
- 4) The resulting encrypted data completely satisfies security theory criteria, including similarity, information entropy, correlation coefficient (CC), number of pixels change rate (NPCR), and unified average changing intensity (UACI).

The remainder of this paper is constructed as follows: Section II briefly introduces the fundamental of R-LWE based public key cryptography, NTT multiplier, and random noise generator basic considerations. Section III describes the proposed NewHope cryptography based facial security system, and Section IV presents implementation results and performance analyses. Finally, conclusions are given in Section V.

#### II. BACKGROUND

# A. R-LWE BASED CRYPTOGRAPHY

Regev [18] proposed the Learning with Errors (LWE) problem and showed that it is difficult to solve worst-cases under quantum reduction. However, these LWE-based practical applications are inefficient due to inherent complex mathematics. To achieve efficient computation and reduce key size, Lyubashevsky *et al.* [19] proposed R-LWE, an ideal lattice algebraic LWE variant utilizing special structures, which helps to withstand quantum computer based attacks.

For the R-LWE problem, we define polynomials in ring  $Z[x]/\langle f(x)\rangle$  where f(x) is an irreducible polynomial of chosen degree n. For efficiency, define  $f(x)=x^n+1$  and let  $R_q=Z_q/(x^n+1)$  be the ring of integer polynomials modulo polynomial  $(x^n+1)$  with coefficients reduced modulo q. The general scheme based on the R-LWE problem [7]–[10], [19] includes three major procedures as follows:

- 1) Key generation: Sample polynomials  $a, e, s \in R_q$  and compute  $b = a \times s + e \in R_q$ , where (a, b) and s are the public-key and the private key, respectively.
- 2) Encryption: Input message m is first encoded to  $m_e \in R_q$ , and then polynomials  $e_1, e_2, e_3 \in R_q$  are randomly sampled. Ciphertext can be obtained as  $c_1 = a \times e_1 + e_2$  and  $c_2 = p \times e_1 + e_3 + m_e \in R_q$ .
- 3) Decryption: Compute  $m_d = c_1 \times s + c_2 \in R_q$  and recover the original message m from  $m_d$  using a decoder.

However, the most critical obstacle of R-LWE encryption still persist, i.e., large ciphertext expansion, resulting in huge amounts of calculations and transformations. Newhope [15] and HILA [20] offer many effective modifications for polynomial multiplication and ciphertext data compression to reduce R-LWE scheme arithmetic complexity for public key encryption problems. Processing input pixels can also take considerable computational overhead [9]–[11], particularly

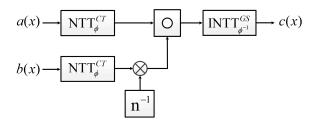


FIGURE 2. Number theoretic transform multiplier [8].

for high resolution images. This paper exploited an efficient input data arrangement with chosen polynomial degree for deployment on different platforms.

# B. NUMBER THEORETIC TRANSFORM MULTIPLIER

The NTT [21] is a form of discrete fast Fourier transformation, providing a strong tool for polynomial multiplication in a finite field with integers rather than complex numbers.

The original NTT-based multiplier in  $R_q$  domain needs zero padding which is doubling a and b input sizes. We utilize the NWC technique [8], [10], [22] to avoid zero padding. We choose n as a power of two and define a primitive 2n-th root of unity  $\phi \in Z_q$ , i.e.,  $\phi^2 = \omega \mod q$  where q is a modulus prime in form  $q = 1 \mod 2n$ . The NTT can be implemented efficiently by merging multiplications of powers of  $\omega$  with powers of  $\phi$  and  $\phi^{-1}$ , respectively, to eliminate pre-computed and post-processing steps. The NWC theorem reduces the degree of polynomials in NTT and INTT from 2n to n and eliminates modulo  $(x^n + 1)$ .

Using Cooley-Turkey (CT) [23] and Gentleman-Sande (GS) [24] algorithms to compute NTT and INTT, respectively, can help avoid expensive bit-reverse steps when performing polynomial multiplication,  $c = a \times b$ , in  $R_q$  domain as shown in Fig. 2 with details:

$$c = INTT_{\phi^{-1}}^{GS}(NTT_{\phi}^{CT}(a) \circ NTT_{\phi}^{CT}(b)), \tag{1}$$

where the symbol  $\circ$  denotes coefficient-wise multiplication. For a polynomial  $a = (a[0], \dots, a[n-1])$  we define:

$$NTT_{\phi}^{CT}(a) = \hat{a}[i] = \phi^{i} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} a[j] \omega^{ij} \mod q,$$
 (2)

$$INTT_{\phi^{-1}}^{GS}(\hat{a}) = a[i] = n^{-1}\phi^{-i}\sum_{j=0}^{n-1}\hat{a}[j]\omega^{-ij} \bmod q.$$
 (3)

#### C. RANDOM NOISE GENERATOR

The R-LWE problem hardness is directly related to the sampled polynomials' statistical properties. This provides an accurate and efficient sampler, which is a critical component for any lattice cryptographic implementation. Several methods are exploited for R-LWE cryptosystem operations to conduct random polynomial sampling. Although discrete Gaussian rejection and inversion sampling are popular choices, there are significant challenges to implement



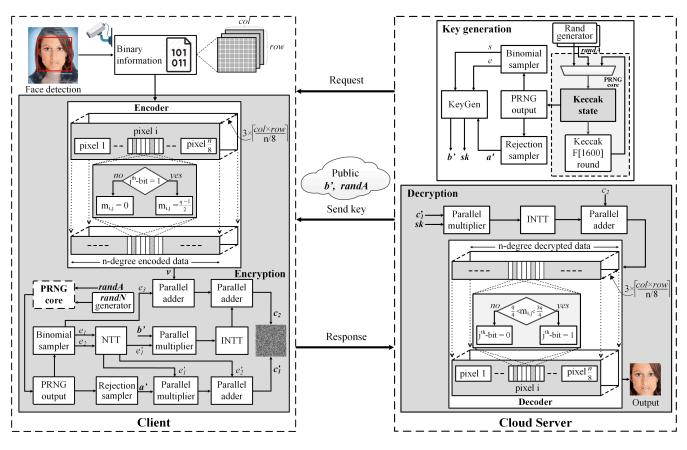


FIGURE 3. Proposed NewHope cryptography based facial security system.

# Algorithm 1 Key Generation (Server)

**Precondition:** 32-byte random array

**Output:** public key (pk) and secrete key (sk)

1: 
$$randA \stackrel{\$}{\longleftarrow} \{0, \dots, 255\}^{32}$$
  
2:  $a' \stackrel{\$}{\longleftarrow} f^n(randA)$   
3:  $s, e \stackrel{\$}{\longleftarrow} \Psi^n_k(\{0, 1\}^{32})$ 

2: 
$$a' \stackrel{\$}{\longleftarrow} f^n(randA)$$

3: 
$$s, e \stackrel{\$}{\longleftarrow} \Psi_k^n(\{0, 1\}^{32})$$

- 4:  $sk \leftarrow NTT(s)$
- 5:  $e' \leftarrow NTT(e)$
- 6: b': =  $a' \circ sk + e'$
- 7: pk := (b', randA)
- 8: **return** (pk, sk)

a discrete Gaussian sampler effectively and protect against timing side-channel attacks [15], [25], [26]. The high rejection rate of samples along with the expensive calculation of exp() are the main reasons for inefficiency. Bernoulli sampler introduced in [27] is an optimized version of rejection operation with no need to calculate the exp() function or pre-computed probabilities. However, the time dependency of Bernoulli makes it vulnerable to timing attacks. The Ziggurat sampler is a variation of the rejection sampler introduced in [28] for a continuous Gaussian sampler, which offers a certain tradeoff between memory consumption and performance. More precision imposes heavy memory overhead, which could drop performance if the cache is fully occupied. Knuth-Yao sampler [29] provides a near optimal sampling due to near entropy consumption of the random bits. However, the output of Knuth-Yao is generated within an unpredictable amount of time [30]. Interestingly, Göttert et al. [31] first employed the rejection sampler to generate uniform random parameters for lattice-based cryptography, which can achieve remarkable speed and area improvement using lazy floating-point arithmetic. This rejection sampler was subsequently used in NewHope [15], and further optimized by Gueron and Schlieker [32] to provide 1.5 times performance improvement. Gueron et al. improved the sampling operation using the full 16-bit sample and reducing the rejection rate from 25% to 6%. This proposal develops a fast sampler using Keccak permutation based extendableoutput function (XOF) [33] with a small probability of rejection. Public parameters for R-LWE schemes are commonly generated by one party and sent to the other through a transmission channel, which consumes considerable network bandwidth. More effective communication would be to let both parties use the same sampler to generate the public parameters independently from a shared random seed.

Additionally, NewHope manipulates the centered binomial distribution  $\psi_k$  for the secret and noise term, which eliminate



the expensive calculation of exp() and pre-computed table in the rounded Gaussian sampler. The  $\psi_k$  is computed by  $\sum_{i=0}^{k-1}(b_i-b_i')$ , where  $b_i$  and  $b_i' \in \{0,1\}$  are uniform independent bits, and k=8 for all instantiations [15]. Sampling from the binomial distribution  $\psi_k$  involves 2k random bits take values in range of [-k,k]. The distribution  $\psi_k$  is zero centered, with variance k and standard deviation  $\sigma=\sqrt{k/2}$ . The choice of variance k can make a tradeoff between error probability and security level. Choosing a higher variance for binomial sampler, proposed scheme leaves a comfortable margin to the targeted 256 post-quantum bit-security. Binomial sampler has been also employed for many software implementations of HILA5 [20], LAC [34], LIMA [35], Kyber [36], and Titanium [37].

# III. PROPOSED CRYPTOSYSTEM FOR VIDEO-BASED FACIAL SECURITY

#### A. CRYPTOGRAPHY SCHEME FOR FACIAL SECURITY

Fig. 3 describes the proposed efficient cryptosystem for video based facial security. The most outstanding features are efficient encoding and decoding, and parallel processing for multiple faces frame encryption and decryption. Ciphertext size can be significantly reduced by employing an effective coefficient arrangement for transferring over communication channels. Moreover, public parameter properties and proper NTT operation placement differ from previous approachs [7]–[11], saving four NTT and two INTT computations.

Faces appearing in the video were extracted using Haar-based high speed support functions from the OpenCV library [38], [39] by the client. Face regions were then input into the encryption process before sending to a remote server over the network. These cipher images were then decrypted by the cloud server for specific applications as required.

# 1) KEY GENERATION

Algorithm 1 shows the key generation procedure, where the server uses an array of 32 random bytes as input for the SHAKE256 XOF sampling function [33] to generate a high security level public parameter a (256-bit security) with uniform distribution coefficients. We randomly generate  $a \in [0, q)$  by uniform sampler in GF(q), and it is usually freshly created for each instance to resist against various attack modes. With uniform distribution in GF(q), a can be considered as directly sampled in the NTT form. Hence, two NTT steps of polynomial a can be omitted in the key generation procedure.

Additionally, we use a 32-bit random string input for the binomial sampling function. These random noise polynomials are sampled over a centered binomial error distribution. We then calculate the public parameter b' in NTT format, and combine it with a' in the public key sent to the client. Rather than transmit the complete polynomial a', the server requires only its random seed, hence reducing the total public-key size.

# **Algorithm 2** Facial Image Encryption (Client)

```
Input: public key (pk) and input image (m)
Output: ciphertext c'_1 and c_2

1: a' \stackrel{\$}{\longleftarrow} f^n(randA)

2: e_1, e_2, e_3 \stackrel{\$}{\longleftarrow} \Psi^n_k(\{0, 1\}^{32})

3: e'_1 \longleftarrow ParallelNTT(e_1)

4: e'_2 \longleftarrow ParallelNTT(e_2)

5: m = Concat(image)

6: c \longleftarrow [0 \div 3 \times \lceil \frac{col \times row}{n/8} \rceil - 1]

7: p \longleftarrow [c \times \frac{n}{8} \div (c+1) \times \frac{n}{8} - 1]

8: //ParallelEncoder(m)

9: for i = 0 to n - 1 do

10: for j = 0 to n < 1 do

11: m_e[i] := \lfloor q/2 \rfloor \times m[8 \times p + j]

12: end for

13: end for

14: c'_1 := a' \circ e'_1 + e'_2

15: c_2 := ParallelINTT(b' \circ e'_1) + e_3 + m_e

16: return (c'_1, c_2)
```

# 2) ENCRYPTION

Algorithm 2 shows the face image encryption process at the client side. After receiving the random array from the server, the client pseudo-random noise generator (PRNG) component first generates the public parameter *a* using the same function as the remote server. Noise polynomials are also sampled using the binomial sampling function with 32-bit random string.

Encoding: For each input frame, three facial region channels were concatenated into an  $3 \times (col \times row)$  pixel array using Concat, which is then separated into n/8-pixel groups and mapped sequentially for encoding. Depending on the given polynomial degree, the number of groups are calculated by  $3 \times \lceil \frac{col \times row}{n/8} \rceil$ . The round-up operation is with zero padding to retain pixels at the back of each channel. These mapping operations can be simultaneously applied on parallel architectures to reduce the encoding time as shown in Fig. 3 in the Encoder block. The final encoding step is to assign  $m[i] \times (q-1)/2$  to each  $i^{th}$ -bit of n/8-pixel message m for corresponding polynomial coefficient.

The main concepts for this procedure include adding the n-bit encoded input message  $m_e$  in free NTT notation to generate the second ciphertext  $c_2$ . The first ciphertext  $c_1'$  is calculated by  $e_2' + a' \circ e_1'$  in NTT form. Polynomials  $c_2$  generated from n-bit input polynomials would be sent to server together with  $c_1'$  as ciphertexts of the original face images.

# 3) DECRYPTION

Algorithm 3 shows the server decryption process for ciphertext pairs  $(c'_1, c_2)$  received from clients and the secret key generated in Algorithm 1. Decryption is only possible with



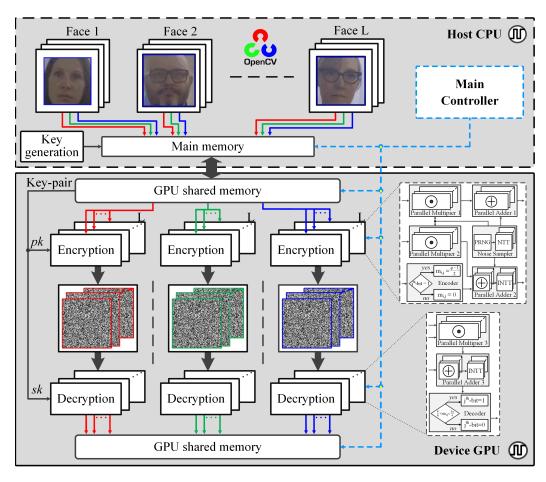


FIGURE 4. Proposed parallel architecture for NewHope cryptography based facial security system on a GPU platform.

knowledge of sk, since the large term b' cannot be eliminated when computing  $c_2 - INTT(c'_1 \circ sk)$ . Thus, this computation hides the original binary message in decryption.

Decoding: Decoding performs the opposite steps to encoding to reconstruct the original image. Using the chosen encode threshold from encryption side, the decoding function checks whether each received coefficient  $m_d[i]$  is in the interval  $\lfloor q/4, 3 \times q/4 \rfloor$ , which is interpreted as 1 or 0. Decryption data obtained from the Algorithm 3 are completely identical to the original images.

# **B. PARAMETER SELECTION**

Decryption error probabilities depend on the random noises  $e_1$ ,  $e_2$ , and  $e_3$  standard deviation  $\sigma$ . The noise follows a binomial random distribution  $\psi_k$  with carefully chosen variance, e.g., noise distribution  $\psi_k$  with variance k/2, has  $\sigma = \sqrt{k/2}$ . Smaller  $\sigma$  means smaller error probability, but also reduces security. Therefore, to obtain a fair decryption, we chose k=16 [20].

The proposed scheme security is based on the apparent R-LWE problem hardness. It has been proven that the R-LWE problem is as hard as solving worst case lattice problems for certain parameters. The final scheme security depends on the set (n, q, k), where n is the polynomial degree, q is the

coefficient modulus, and k is the integer parameter for the noise distribution. Larger n and larger k/q increase security. On the other hand, increasing q increases the noise budget, but lowers security, increases key size, ciphertext expansion, and reduces performance. To realize NTT efficiently, we chose the smallest prime modulus (14 bits). For the above q and k parameters, we recommend n=1024 and higher for long term security. The proposed scheme can achieve 256-bit security level for that tuple set [15].

The chosen q means that each ring coefficient fits into 14 bits. To efficiently reduce data size for transmission or storage, we specify a method of packing a vector with n 14-bit coefficients into  $14 \times n/8$  bytes. Each 14-bit segment can be concatenated into a continuous byte sequence in little-endian fashion, where the easiest encoding is blocks of eight coefficients. This helps to reduce public-key and ciphertext sizes for transmission between clients and servers by approximately 12.5%.

# C. PARALLEL ARCHITECTURE OF SCHEME ON A GPU

Processing a high-resolution image often takes a long time and requires an efficient mechanism for any practical application. To address this problem, we harness the thousands of cores present inside a GPU. GPU cores can



# **Algorithm 3** Facial Image Decryption (Server)

```
Input: ciphertext (c'_1, c_2) and secret key sk
Output: reconstructed image (m')
 1: m_d: = c_2 - ParallelINTT (c_1' \circ sk)

2: c \leftarrow [0 \div 3 \times \lceil \frac{col \times row}{n/8} \rceil - 1]

3: p \leftarrow [c \times \frac{n}{8} \div (c+1) \times \frac{n}{8} - 1]
   4: //ParallelDecoder(m_d)
   5: for i = 0 to n - 1 do
                 \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{for}\, j = 0 \text{ to } 7 \mathbf{\ do} \\ \mathbf{if}\, m_d[i] \in \lfloor \frac{q}{4} \div 3 \times \frac{q}{4} \rfloor \mathbf{\ then} \\ m'[8 \times p + j] \colon = 1 \end{array}
  6:
   7:
   8:
   9:
                                  m'[8 \times p + j] \colon = 0
 10:
                          end if
 11:
                 end for
 12:
         end for
 13:
14: return (m′)
```

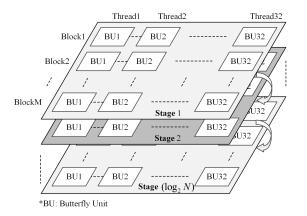


FIGURE 5. Proposed parallel NTT operation on a GPU platform.

act independently and process different parts of the image in parallel. Fig. 4 shows the proposed parallel scheme for multiple face regions. NTT-based multiplications often take considerable processing time in R-LWE based schemes due to the sequence of butterfly units in different processing stages. Butterfly unit properties are independent in the same stage as shown in Fig. 5. Hence we can spread the total butterfly units in each stage running in parallel with different weights. Taking 1024-point polynomial for example, 16 blocks (M) with 32-thread each were run in parallel for each stage. This method can accelerate both NTT and INTT operations. We further merged the scaling of  $n^{-1}$  into the last round of INTT operation to eliminate expensive modular multiplication. We used radix-2 NTT multipliers, hence N/2 butterfly units may be processed simultaneously in each stage, which helps approximately N times speed up compared to continuity processing. Coefficient-wise addition and multiplication are also performed in parallel according to the polynomial degree.

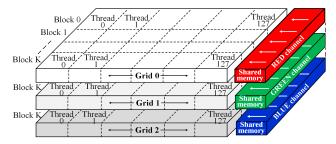


FIGURE 6. Proposed scheme to process color image in parallel on a GPU platform.

Additionally, encryption and decryption operations for color images were separated into  $3 \times \lceil \frac{col \times row}{n/8} \rceil$  parts and run in parallel along with shared memory, as shown in Fig. 6. This parallel architecture can also help achieve real-time multiple faces encryption speeds for high definition videos, which would have significant implications in increasing processing speed for actual machine learning systems.

# IV. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND COMPARISON

#### A. SIMULATION ENVIRONMENT

To evaluate the proposed cryptosystem effectiveness, all implementations were on a computer system comprising CPU Intel i9-999KF, 32 GB DRAM, Windows 10 64-bit operating system, and NVIDIA GeForce RTX 2080Ti GPU with 8 GB DRAM. We used CUDA Toolkit v10.1.243 and OpenCV v4.1.2. The proposed scheme implementation was evaluated on GPU and CPU platforms for images and videos to compare with previous studies.

#### B. TIME COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS

We evaluated the proposed scheme effectiveness for encryption and decryption using detected face regions from a video [40]. The face detection algorithm was run on an approximately 2 minutes long input video with  $720 \times 432$  pixel resolution in MPEG-4 format at 30 frames per second.

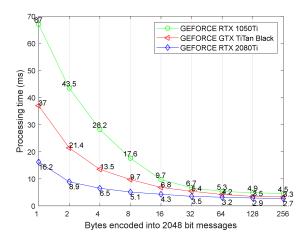
Table 1 compares the proposed scheme processing time with previous schemes. Face regions were extracted from video with average size  $190 \times 190$  pixel, and simulation results confirmed encryption and decryption required only 1.5 ms and 0.7 ms for n = 1024, and 1.8 ms and 0.9 ms for n = 2048, respectively, on the GPU platform. This outperformed Tan et al. [11] by approximately 90% and 87% for n = 1024 and n = 2048, respectively, in term of total processing time, while offering higher security. The evaluation results on CPU showed that our scheme was  $6\times$ ,  $14\times$ ,  $13\times$ and  $5\times$ ,  $12\times$ ,  $11\times$  faster than previous studies [9], [11], [14] for n = 1024 and n = 2048, respectively. Implementations were also deployed on various GPU platforms with different input frame compression rates into 2048 bit messages, as shown in Fig. 7. The proposed scheme achieved very low processing time on specific GPU Geforce RTX 2080Ti (2.7 ms) for the highest compression rate.



TABLE 1. Proposed scheme execution times for face encryption and decryption.

Parameters		C	PU implement	GPU implementation				
	Ref. [9]	Ref. [11]	Ref. [14]	This	work	Ref. [11] (GTX TiTan Black)		work 2080Ti)
Domain	n = 8	n = 256	ECC	n = 1024	n = 2048	n = 256	n = 1024	n = 2048
Random sampler	Gaussian	Gaussian	SHA-2	SHA-3	SHA-3	Gaussian	SHA-3	SHA-3
Encryption (ms)	858	1500	1330	95	112	18	1.5	1.8
Decryption (ms)	62	700	626	58	64	2	0.7	0.9
Total (ms)	920	2200	1956*	153	179	20	2.2	2.7

<sup>\*</sup> Normalized processing time for 3-channel frame size of 190×190 pixel



**FIGURE 7.** Comparison in execution times of face encryption and decryption on different GPUs with different encoded bytes for frame size of 190  $\times$  190 pixel.

Fig. 8 shows applying the proposed system for digital video content protection. For frames contain multiple faces, face regions are detected and encrypted when each frame is input using the location of identify regions. The proposed approach encrypted three-face images simultaneously, requiring only  $3.5 \, ms$  and  $3.8 \, ms$  total processing time with n=1024 and n=2048, respectively. For content decryption, we extract the location information and embed the decrypted contents of digital video. The proposed system achieved real-time face region encryption and decryption with high performance, adapted for practical applications.

# C. SECURITY LEVEL ANALYSIS

In addition to the histogram analysis was carried out on facial color images, we evaluated proposed cryptosystem on *Lena* gray scales image with size of 512 × 512 pixel to compare the effectiveness and security with previous studies. We employed several security measures based on different criteria to verify the proposed system robustness, including information entropy, CC, NPCR, and UACI.

# 1) HISTOGRAM ANALYSIS

In image processing contexts, histogram represents the pixel intensity distribution, showing the number of pixels corresponding to tonal values in a digital image. Pixel values range

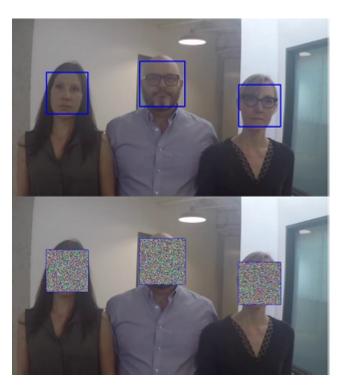


FIGURE 8. Encryption for multiple faces and digital video content protection.

from 0 to 255 for 8-bit images, hence an efficient image encryption system must produce an apparently random-like cipher images with uniformly distributed pixel density in this range. Fig. 9 shows differences between detected face region histograms with the corresponding encrypted image. The homogeneous histograms confirm that the proposed scheme can resist statistical analysis attacks.

#### 2) CORRELATION COEFFICIENTS

The correlation results between two adjacent pixels in plain and cipher image calculated by:

$$CC_{xy} = \frac{cov(x, y)}{\sqrt{D(x)D(y)}},\tag{4}$$

where

$$cov(x, y) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - E(x_i))(y_i - E(y_i)),$$

Method		Correlation coefficients					Entropy (bits/pixel)	
	Diag	gonal	Vei	tical	Horiz	zontal		
	Plain	Cipher	Plain	Cipher	Plain	Cipher	Plain	Cipher
Ref. [13]	-	0.0087	_	0.0011	-	0.0048	_	7.9943
Ref. [14]	0.9669	0.0011	0.9801	-0.0024	0.9858	0.0019	7.3871	7.9993
Proposed	0.9593	0.0039	0.9850	0.0015	0.9719	0.0002	7.3451	7.9978

TABLE 2. Comparison in correlation factor and information entropy.

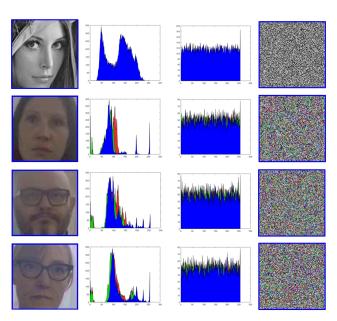


FIGURE 9. Typical original and encrypted facial images and corresponding histograms.

$$D(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - E(x_i))^2,$$
  
$$E(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i,$$

where x and y are 8-bit gray values for two adjacent pixels in an image; N is the total number of pixels; D(x) and E(x) are the variance and expectation of x, respectively.

Larger |CC| in range of [0, 1] implies better correlation between adjacent pixels in an image, e.g., stronger similarity. Adjacent pixels in the original image are usually highly correlated diagonally, vertically and horizontally, i.e., CC values are usually close to 1; whereas a good encryption algorithm should not retain any relationship between adjacent pixels in the encrypted image, i.e., CCs are expected to be close to 0.

Table 2 compares the *Lena* gray scale image CCs between proposed scheme to other studies. All cipher images CCs are close to 0, our proposed scheme has comparable results compared to [13], [14]. This result confirm that the proposed encryption can effectively reduce the correlation of adjacent pixels in cipher images.

# 3) INFORMATION ENTROPY ANALYSIS

Cipher images should also have high randomness to guarantee security. Information entropy is a useful metric to evaluate image randomness defined by:

$$H(s) = -\sum_{i=0}^{\nu-1} P(s_i) log_2(P(s_i)),$$
 (5)

where s denotes the total number of symbols  $s_i$ , v is the number of values for each symbol and  $P(s_i)$  is the occurrence probability for  $s_i$ ; and  $0 < H(s) < log_2 v$ .

For an 8-bit gray image, higher H(s) implies less predictable image values, with ideally H(s) approaches 8. Table 2 shows that encrypted images achieve very high entropy, demonstrating the proposed scheme effectively hides the details of plain images. The comparison shows that the proposed method achieves higher value than [13] and slightly lower than [14], but the improvement in entropy from [14] (0.6122 bits/pixel) is less than that of ours (0.6526 bits/pixel). Hence the proposed scheme can produce cipher images with highly uniformly random distributions.

#### 4) NPCR AND UACI ANALYSIS

Differential cryptanalysis is a powerful statistical attack takes advantage of non-uniform relations between plain image and corresponding cipher image. To determine a cipher's resistance to differential attacks, NPCR and UACI [41] are measured to evaluate the robustness of the proposed scheme. Taking two slightly different plain images, while NPCR calculates the change rate in number of pixels between two cipher images, UACI represents the mean variation of pixel strength in same location of two cipher images. The NPCR and UACI values are described as percentage and determined

$$NPCR = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{W} \sum_{j=c1}^{H} D(i,j)}{W \times H} \times 100\%,$$

$$UACI = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{W} \sum_{j=1}^{H} |C_1(i,j) - C_2(i,j)|}{F \times W \times H} \times 100\%,$$
(6)

$$UACI = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{W} \sum_{j=1}^{H} |C_1(i,j) - C_2(i,j)|}{F \times W \times H} \times 100\%, \quad (7)$$

where  $C_1(i, j)$  and  $C_2(i, j)$  denote pixels at same position of two cipher images, W and H are the width and height of these images, F is the maximal intensive value (F = 255 for gray



TABLE 3. Comparison in NPCR and UACI.

Method	NPCR (%)	UACI (%)
Ref. [13]*	99.6081	33.4321
Ref. [14]	99.6113	33.4682
Proposed	99.6104	33.4691

 $<sup>^*</sup>$  Reported mean values 99.6073% and 33.4481% for NPCR and UACI

scale image), and D(i, j) is change rate defined as:

$$D(i,j) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } C_1(i,j) \neq C_2(i,j) \\ 0, & \text{if } C_1(i,j) = C_2(i,j). \end{cases}$$

In this test, we varied some random pixels in the original image, kept the same public key, generated freshly random noise, and evaluated our scheme on these plain images. NPCR and UACI values between two cipher images were calculated and furnished in Table 3. The expected values of NPCR and UACI are 99.6094% and 33.4635%, respectively, for [14] and our scheme. The mean values of [13] are reported slightly different to ours. Table 3 shows that NPCR and UACI values are very close to the mean for given image size. NPCR value of proposed scheme is larger than [13] and slightly smaller than [14] while our UACI is largest. These comparison results prove that our scheme is strength against differential attacks.

#### **V. CONCLUSION**

In this paper, we proposed an efficient NewHope cryptography based scheme for video-based facial security system, particularly suitable for a wide range of real-time vision applications. The main contributions from the proposed cryptosystem include high speed encoding and decoding techniques based on effectively arranging the pixel, and combine with NewHope scheme improvements for facial security. We also concentrated on accelerating the NTT-based multiplication and color images processing, taking full advantage of parallel architecture on GPU platform. The proposed system provides low latency and high security, offering a potential mechanism for real-time processing applications. Future works will explore the flexible parallel architecture of configurable devices, such as field-programmable gate array, for a higher performance image encryption system.

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