

# Chosen-Ciphertext Security from Identity-Based Encryption\*

Dan Boneh<sup>†</sup>      Ran Canetti<sup>‡</sup>      Shai Halevi<sup>§</sup>      Jonathan Katz<sup>¶</sup>

## Abstract

We propose simple and efficient CCA-secure public-key encryption schemes (i.e., schemes secure against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks) based on any identity-based encryption (IBE) scheme. Our constructions have ramifications of both theoretical and practical interest. First, our schemes give a new paradigm for achieving CCA-security; this paradigm avoids “proofs of well-formedness” that have been shown to underlie previous constructions. Second, instantiating our construction using known IBE constructions we obtain CCA-secure encryption schemes whose performance is competitive with the most efficient CCA-secure schemes to date.

Our techniques extend naturally to give an efficient method for securing also IBE schemes (even hierarchical ones) against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks. Coupled with previous work, this gives the first efficient constructions of CCA-secure IBE schemes.

## 1 Introduction

The notion of resistance to adaptive chosen ciphertext attacks is considered the *de facto* standard security requirement for encryption schemes that are used to secure interaction over open networks. However, only a handful of approaches are known for constructing encryption scheme that can be proven to meet this notion of security. In this work we put forward a new approach for constructing such schemes.

### 1.1 Background

Security for public-key encryption schemes was first defined formally by Goldwasser and Micali [36]. Their notion of *semantic security* means that seeing an encryption of a message does not let an attacker compute anything about the message that it couldn’t compute without seeing the encryption (even if the attacker has some *a priori* information about that message). Goldwasser and Micali proved that semantic security is equivalent to the notion of *indistinguishability* that requires (roughly) the following: for any two plaintexts, given a “challenge” ciphertext  $C$  that encrypts one of these plaintexts it is infeasible to determine which one was encrypted (with any noticeable advantage over a random guess.) (See also [44, 33, 34].) Because these definitions imply security even when the adversary can mount a *chosen-plaintext attack* to obtain encryptions of plaintexts of its choice, we will refer to these notions using the commonly-accepted term “CPA-security.”

---

\*Preliminary versions of this work appeared at Eurocrypt 2004 [17] and RSA-CT 2005 [11].

<sup>†</sup>dabo@cs.stanford.edu. Computer Science Dept., Stanford University. Supported by NSF.

<sup>‡</sup>canetti@watson.ibm.com. IBM T.J. Watson Research Center. Supported by an NSF Cybertrust grant.

<sup>§</sup>shaih@alum.mit.edu. IBM T.J. Watson Research Center.

<sup>¶</sup>jkatz@cs.umd.edu. Dept. of Computer Science, University of Maryland. Work supported by NSF Trusted Computing Grant #0310751.

Semantic security, however, does not guarantee any security against an attacker that can make use of a decryption device in the course of its attack on the scheme. (Note that attacks of this sort may arise in practice [5, 50].) Indistinguishability-based definitions appropriate for this setting were given by Naor and Yung [46] (for the non-adaptive case) and Rackoff and Simon [47] (for the adaptive case). See also [27, 2, 34] for further discussion of these definitions. Extensions of semantic security to the case of chosen-ciphertext attacks were considered in [34, 35, 52, 14], where it is also shown that these definitions are equivalent to the indistinguishability-based ones.

The notion of security against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks (which we will refer to as “CCA security”) was shown to be appropriate for encryption schemes used in the presence of *active* adversaries who may potentially modify messages in transit (see [27, 2]). It was also shown that schemes meeting this level of security can be securely “plugged in” to higher-level protocols that were designed and analyzed under the idealized assumption of “secure channels” but deployed in open networks (see, e.g., [14, 18]). The notion of CCA security thus became the *de facto* level of security required of public-key encryption schemes used in practice.

Unfortunately, only a handful of public-key encryption schemes have been proven secure against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks without resorting to heuristics such as the random oracle methodology [3, 15]. In fact, before this work only two approaches were known for constructing such cryptosystems. The first follows the paradigm initially introduced by Naor and Yung [46] to achieve non-adaptive chosen-ciphertext security, and later extended to the case of adaptive chosen-ciphertext security by Dolev, Dwork, and Naor [27] and (in a different way) by Sahai [48]. This technique uses as building blocks any CPA-secure public-key encryption scheme and any non-interactive zero-knowledge (NIZK) proof system for all of  $\mathcal{NP}$  [6, 30]. Consequently, this approach can be based on general hardness assumptions [30]: specifically, the existence of enhanced trapdoor permutations [34, Sect. C.4.1]. Encryption schemes resulting from this approach, however, are highly impractical precisely because they employ generic NIZK proofs which in turn rely on generic reductions to some  $\mathcal{NP}$ -complete language. Thus, given current state of the art, this approach serves as a “feasibility result” for the existence of CCA-secure cryptosystems based on general assumptions but does not lead to any practical constructions.

The second technique is due to Cramer and Shoup [20, 21], and is based on algebraic constructs with particular homomorphic properties (i.e., those admitting “smooth projective hash proof systems” in the terminology of [21]). Algebraic constructs of the appropriate type are known to exist based on some specific number-theoretic assumptions: namely, the hardness of the decisional Diffie-Hellman problem [20] or the hardness of deciding quadratic residuosity or  $N^{\text{th}}$  residuosity in certain groups [21]. Other schemes following the same basic technique have been given recently [31, 22, 40], leading to a number of schemes efficient enough to be used in practice.

Interestingly, Elkind and Sahai observed that both these approaches for constructing CCA-secure encryption schemes can be viewed as special cases of a single paradigm [28]. In this paradigm one starts with a CPA-secure cryptosystem in which certain “ill-formed” ciphertexts are indistinguishable from honestly-generated ciphertexts. A CCA-secure cryptosystem is then obtained by having the sender honestly generate a ciphertext using the underlying CPA-secure scheme, and then append a “proof of well-formedness” (satisfying certain criteria) to this ciphertext. The NIZK proofs used by Sahai [48] as well as the smooth hash proof systems used by Cramer and Shoup [20, 21] are shown in [28] to satisfy the appropriate criteria.

## 1.2 Summary of Our Results

We propose two related approaches for constructing CCA-secure public-key encryption schemes based on any CPA-secure identity-based encryption (IBE) scheme, as described in Sections 2.1 and 3.1. (Our constructions use also other primitives, but those other primitives can be constructed from one-way functions, which in turn are implied by CPA-secure encryption.) A number of IBE schemes based on specific number-theoretic assumptions are known [16, 7, 8, 53]; thus, our techniques yield new constructions of CCA-secure encryption schemes based on these same assumptions (see below).

From a theory perspective, this work offers new ways of constructing CCA-secure encryption schemes that appear qualitatively different than previous work. In particular, the new constructions do not fit into the Elkind-Sahai mold that suffices to describe all existing constructions.

From a practical perspective, specific instantiations of our constructions yield practical CCA-secure encryption schemes with efficiency close to the best variants that are known from other paradigms (cf. Section 7).

These efficient instantiations are based on specific number-theoretic assumptions (such as *Bilinear Decisional Diffie-Hellman*) that are described in Section 7.3. Comparing the hardness assumptions that we need to those used in prior constructions of CCA-secure encryption schemes, we note that:

- The concrete assumptions used here seem incomparable to the existence of “enhanced trapdoor permutations” that underlies the standard construction of generic NIZK. However, these concrete assumptions are known to imply the existence of NIZK proof systems for all of  $\mathcal{NP}$  [16, Appendix B], and hence were already known to imply CCA-secure encryption (via the techniques of [27, 48]). We stress again that the schemes shown here are orders of magnitude more efficient than schemes constructed via generic NIZK.
- The assumptions required by our most efficient instantiations imply the hardness of the decisional Diffie-Hellman problem that underlies the schemes of [20, 40]. Less efficient variants of our schemes can also be proven secure with respect to assumptions that are incomparable to the decisional Diffie-Hellman assumption; see footnote 5 in Section 7.3.

**Further extensions and applications.** Both our techniques extend to give a transformation from any CPA-secure  $(\ell + 1)$ -level hierarchical identity-based encryption (HIBE) scheme [39, 32] to a CCA-secure  $\ell$ -level HIBE scheme (an informal discussion of HIBE, as well as formal definitions, are given in Section 3.2). In particular, applying our technique to any 2-level HIBE scheme gives a CCA-secure IBE scheme. Using this approach with known HIBE schemes [16, 7, 8, 53] yields the first efficient constructions of CCA-secure IBE schemes.

Our first approach, when instantiated with an appropriate IBE scheme [7], serves as the basis for the first CCA-secure threshold encryption scheme with *non-interactive* decryption [7, 9]. (In a threshold encryption scheme [24] the secret key is shared among multiple servers, some fraction of whom must cooperate in order to decrypt a given ciphertext.) Security in this case crucially relies on specific properties of our construction, and in particular the feature that a certain class of “valid” ciphertexts can be efficiently recognized without knowledge of the global secret key; the reader is referred to [7, 9] for further discussion.

Our approaches are generic and can be used to construct a CCA-secure encryption scheme from an *arbitrary* IBE scheme. Extending our work, Boyen et al. [13] show that for some concrete IBE schemes (e.g., the one of Waters [53]) a more efficient and direct construction of a CCA-secure encryption scheme is possible.

### 1.3 Organization

In the following section, we provide an informal overview of identity-based encryption and hierarchical identity-based encryption, as well as some “high-level” intuition regarding our techniques. Formal definitions of all relevant cryptographic notions (including IBE and CCA-secure public-key encryption) appear in Section 3 and Appendix A. The first of our transformations is discussed in Section 4, and our second construction is presented in Section 5. We briefly discuss the extension to hierarchical IBE in Section 6. In Section 7 we recall some specific, number-theoretic assumptions under which IBE schemes are known to exist, describe some concrete instantiations of our constructions based on these assumptions, and compare the efficiency of the resulting CCA-secure encryption schemes to the most efficient such construction that was previously known (namely, the Kurosawa-Desmedt variant [40] of the Cramer-Shoup encryption scheme [20]).

## 2 Overview of Our Techniques

### 2.1 Identity-Based Encryption

Before sketching our constructions, we first recall the notion of IBE as introduced by Shamir [49]. Informally, an IBE scheme is a public-key encryption scheme in which any string (i.e., identity) can serve as a public key. In more detail, a trusted authority called a *private-key generator* (PKG) is assumed to initialize the system by running a key-generation algorithm to generate “master” public and secret keys. The master public key  $PK$  is published, while the PKG stores the master secret key. Given the master secret key and an arbitrary string  $ID$  (viewed as the identity of a party in the system), the PKG can derive a “personal secret key”  $SK_{ID}$  and give it to this party. Any sender can encrypt a message for this party using only the master public key  $PK$  and the string  $ID$ ; we denote this by  $\mathcal{E}_{PK}(ID, \cdot)$ . The resulting ciphertext can be decrypted using the personal secret key  $SK_{ID}$ , but the following extension of CPA-security is required to hold:

For any two plaintexts and any identity  $ID$ , given a challenge ciphertext  $C$  which is an encryption of one of these plaintexts (with respect to  $ID$ ) it is infeasible to determine (with probability significantly better than  $1/2$ ) whether  $C$  corresponds to an encryption of the first plaintext or the second. *This should hold even if the adversary is given  $SK_{ID'}$  for multiple identities  $ID' \neq ID$  chosen adaptively by the adversary.*

The first formal definition of security for IBE was given by Boneh and Franklin [10]. In their definition, the adversary may choose the “target identity” ( $ID$  in the above) in an adaptive manner, based on the master public key  $PK$  and any keys  $\{SK_{ID'}\}$  the adversary has obtained thus far; we call such schemes “fully secure.” A weaker notion, proposed by Canetti, et al. [16] and called “selective-ID” security there, requires the adversary to specify the target identity *in advance*, before the master public key is published. Fully-secure IBE schemes in the random oracle model were first demonstrated by Boneh and Franklin [10] and Cocks [19]. Canetti, et al. [16], building on earlier work of Gentry and Silverberg [32], constructed an IBE scheme satisfying selective-ID security in the standard model; more efficient constructions were given by Boneh and Boyen [7]. More recently, Boneh and Boyen [8] have shown a fully-secure IBE scheme in the standard model, and a more efficient construction was subsequently given by Waters [53].

Both our constructions of CCA-secure encryption from IBE require an IBE scheme satisfying only the weaker notion of selective-ID security. Our transformation from any CPA-secure  $(\ell + 1)$ -level HIBE scheme to a CCA-secure  $\ell$ -level HIBE scheme preserves the level of security in the

above sense: i.e., if the original scheme is fully-secure then so is the derived scheme, but selective-ID security of the original scheme is sufficient for selective-ID security of the derived scheme.

## 2.2 Our Techniques

**Our first construction.** Given an IBE scheme, we construct a CCA-secure public-key encryption scheme as follows: The public key of the new scheme is the master public key  $PK$  of the IBE scheme and the secret key is the corresponding master secret key. To encrypt a message with respect to public key  $PK$ , the sender first generates a key-pair  $(vk, sk)$  for a one-time, strong<sup>1</sup> signature scheme, and then encrypts the message with respect to the “identity”  $vk$ . The resulting ciphertext  $C \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_{PK}(vk, m)$  is then signed using  $sk$  to obtain a signature  $\sigma$ . The final ciphertext consists of the verification key  $vk$ , the IBE ciphertext  $C$ , and the signature  $\sigma$ . To decrypt a ciphertext  $\langle vk, C, \sigma \rangle$ , the receiver first verifies the signature on  $C$  with respect to  $vk$  and outputs  $\perp$  if the verification fails. Otherwise, the receiver derives the secret key  $SK_{vk}$  corresponding to the “identity”  $vk$ , and uses  $SK_{vk}$  to decrypt the ciphertext  $C$  using the underlying IBE scheme.

Security of the above scheme against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks can be informally understood as follows. Say a ciphertext  $\langle vk, C, \sigma \rangle$  is *valid* if  $\sigma$  is a valid signature on  $C$  with respect to  $vk$ . Now consider a “challenge” ciphertext  $c^* = \langle vk^*, C^*, \sigma^* \rangle$  given to the adversary. We may first notice that any valid ciphertext  $c = \langle vk, C, \sigma \rangle$  submitted by the adversary to its decryption oracle (implying  $c \neq c^*$ ) must have  $vk \neq vk^*$  by the strong security of the one-time signature scheme (except with negligible probability). The crux of the security proof is showing that (selective-ID) security of the IBE scheme implies that obtaining the decryption of  $C$  does not help the adversary in deciding which message the ciphertext  $C^*$  corresponds to. Intuitively, this is because the adversary cannot guess the message corresponding to  $C^*$  with probability better than  $1/2$  *even if it were given the secret key  $SK_{vk}$* . (This is so since  $vk \neq vk^*$ , and  $C^*$  was encrypted for “identity”  $vk^*$  using an IBE scheme.) But giving  $SK_{vk}$  to the adversary can only make the adversary more powerful, since in that case it could decrypt  $C$  itself.

Our use of a strong one-time signature scheme to force the adversary’s decryption queries to differ from the challenge ciphertext in a specific way is reminiscent of prior work in the context of CCA-security [27, 48]. The key difference is that prior work used the verification key  $vk$  to implement “unduplicatable set selection” (cf. [48]) which requires  $\Theta(k)$  invocations of some underlying encryption scheme, where  $k$  is the security parameter. Furthermore, prior work also required some sort of “proof of consistency” for the resulting ciphertext, leading (as described earlier) to an impractical scheme. In contrast, our construction gives a CCA-secure encryption scheme with relatively minimal overhead as compared to the original IBE scheme.

We note also independent work of MacKenzie, et al. [43], who introduced a weaker notion of CCA-secure encryption and used essentially the same construction to convert any scheme satisfying their weaker definition into a full-fledged CCA-secure encryption scheme. Their work, however, only shows efficient realizations of schemes in the random oracle model.

We remark that if the signature scheme used is only unforgeable in the standard sense (rather than *strongly* unforgeable) we obtain an encryption scheme satisfying the slightly weaker notion of *replayable* CCA-security [18]. Also, a simple modification of the above construction gives an encryption scheme secure against *non-adaptive* chosen-ciphertext attacks [46, 27, 2] but with essentially no overhead as compared to the underlying IBE scheme. Namely, replace the verification key  $vk$  by a randomly-chosen string  $r \in \{0, 1\}^{\omega(\log k)}$ ; the resulting ciphertext is simply  $\langle r, C \rangle$ , where  $C$  is

<sup>1</sup>A “strong” signature scheme has the property that it is infeasible to create a new, valid signature even for a previously-signed message. A formal definition is given in Appendix A.

encrypted with respect to the “identity”  $r$ . Since an adversary cannot guess in advance (with better than negligible probability) which  $r$  will be used for the challenge ciphertext, an argument similar to the above shows that this scheme is secure against non-adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks.

**Improving the efficiency.** Focusing again on security against *adaptive* chosen-ciphertext attacks, the previous construction — although conceptually simple and efficient — does add noticeable overhead in practice to the underlying IBE scheme: encryption requires the sender to generate keys and sign a message; the ciphertext length is increased by the size of a verification key plus the size of a signature; and decryption requires the receiver to perform a signature verification. Although one-time signatures are “easy” to construct in theory, and are more efficient than “full-blown” signatures (i.e., those which are strongly unforgeable under adaptive chosen-message attack), they still have their price. In particular:

- Known one-time signature schemes based on general one-way functions [41, 29] allow very efficient *signing*; key generation and signature verification, on the other hand, require  $\Theta(k)$  evaluations of the one-way function and are relatively expensive. More problematic, perhaps, is that such schemes have very long public keys and/or signatures (with combined length  $\Theta(k^2)$ ), resulting in very long ciphertexts in our construction above.
- One-time signature schemes can of course be based on number-theoretic assumptions (say, by adapting “full-blown” signature schemes); this yields schemes whose computational cost for key generation, signing, and verifying is more expensive, but which (may) have the advantage of short(er) public keys and signatures.

We thus modify the previous construction by replacing the signatures with message authentication codes. Namely, we replace the secret signing key by a secret MAC key, and the role of the public verification key (which is used as the “identity” for the IBE) is now played by a commitment to the secret key. In more details, encryption of a message  $m$  is performed by first committing to a secret MAC key  $r$ , thus getting a commitment string  $\text{com}$  and the corresponding decommitment string  $\text{dec}$ . The ciphertext is  $\langle \text{com}, C, \text{tag} \rangle$ , where  $C$  is an encryption of the “message”  $m \circ \text{dec}$  with respect to the “identity”  $\text{com}$  (i.e.,  $C \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_{PK}(\text{com}, m \circ \text{dec})$ ) and  $\text{tag}$  is a message authentication code computed on  $C$  using key  $r$ . Decryption of ciphertext  $\langle \text{com}, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  is done in the natural way: the receiver first decrypts  $C$  with respect to “identity”  $\text{com}$  to obtain  $m \circ \text{dec}$ , and then recovers  $r$  using  $\text{com}$  and  $\text{dec}$ . The receiver then tries to verify  $\text{tag}$  using key  $r$ ; outputting  $m$  if verification succeeds and  $\perp$  otherwise.

The intuition for the security of this scheme is quite similar to the previous one: Consider a “challenge” ciphertext  $c^* = \langle \text{com}^*, C^*, \text{tag}^* \rangle$  that hides message  $m^*$  and MAC key  $r^*$  (via the decommitment string  $\text{dec}^*$ ). As before, decryption queries with a different “identity”  $\text{com} \neq \text{com}^*$  are useless to the attacker due to the security of the underlying identity-based encryption scheme. For decryption queries with the same “identity”  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  we note that either (i)  $C$  decrypts to  $m \circ \text{dec}$  where  $\text{dec}$  is a decommitment to  $r \neq r^*$ , which violates the binding condition of the commitment, or (ii) the attacker was able to compute a valid  $\text{tag}$  on  $C$  with respect to the hidden  $r^*$ . The second case can be shown to violate either the secrecy of the commitment (i.e., the adversary learns something about  $r^*$  by seeing  $\text{com}^*$ ) or the secrecy of the encryption (i.e., the adversary learns something about  $r^*$  via  $\text{dec}^*$  by seeing  $C^*$ ) or the security of the MAC (i.e., the adversary generates a valid tag without learning anything about  $r^*$ ).

We note that the actual proof for this scheme is somewhat harder than for the previous scheme, mainly due to the fact that here  $C$  must be decrypted *before* validity of the ciphertext as a whole can be checked. We thus must be careful to avoid the seeming circularity which arises since the

MAC key  $r$  is used to authenticate a string (namely,  $C$ ) that depends on  $r$  (via `dec`). We also note that the properties that we need from the commitment scheme are somewhat weaker than the standard notion of security of commitments, and we term the weakened variant an “encapsulation scheme” (cf. Section 5.1).

Using a message authentication code and a commitment to the key was suggested previously in the context of non-malleable commitment (e.g., [25, 26]), but we stress that our application of this technique is *qualitatively* different precisely due to the apparent circularity (and the resulting complications to the proof) discussed above. In particular, in the context of non-malleable commitment the MAC key can be revealed by the sender during the decommitment phase and hence the key is not used to authenticate a message which depends on itself. (In contrast, here the MAC key must be transmitted to the receiver as part of the ciphertext.)

### 3 Definitions

We use the standard definitions of public-key encryption schemes and their security against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks, and strong one-time signature schemes and message authentication codes. For convenience and to fix notation, we recall these definitions in Appendix A. Our definitions of IBE and HIBE schemes have also appeared previously; however, since these definitions are less familiar yet are central to our work, we include the appropriate definitions here. The definition of “encapsulation schemes” appears in Section 5.1. Our definitions and proofs are phrased with respect to uniform adversaries but can be easily extended also to the non-uniform setting. We let “PPT” stand for “probabilistic polynomial-time.”

If  $\Sigma$  is a set then  $\Sigma^n$  denotes the set of  $n$ -tuples of elements of  $\Sigma$ , with  $\Sigma^0$  denoting the set containing only the empty tuple. Thus, using this notation,  $\{0, 1\}^n$  denotes the set of binary strings of length  $n$ . We also define  $\Sigma^{<n} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup_{0 \leq i < n} \Sigma^i$  and  $\Sigma^{\leq n} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup_{0 \leq i \leq n} \Sigma^i$ .

#### 3.1 Identity-Based Encryption

We begin by reviewing the functional definition of an IBE scheme [10].

**Definition 1** An *identity-based encryption scheme* for identities of length  $n$  (where  $n$  is a polynomially-bounded function) is a tuple of PPT algorithms (`Setup`, `Der`,  `$\mathcal{E}$` ,  `$\mathcal{D}$` ) such that:

- The randomized *setup algorithm* `Setup` takes as input a security parameter  $1^k$ . It outputs a master public key  $PK$  and a master secret key  $\text{msk}$ . (We assume that  $k$  and  $n = n(k)$  are implicit in  $PK$ .)
- The (possibly randomized) *key-derivation algorithm* `Der` takes as input the master secret key  $\text{msk}$  and an identity  $ID \in \{0, 1\}^n$ . It returns the corresponding decryption key  $SK_{ID}$ . We write  $SK_{ID} \leftarrow \text{Der}_{\text{msk}}(ID)$ .
- The randomized *encryption algorithm*  `$\mathcal{E}$`  takes as input the master public key  $PK$ , an identity  $ID \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , and a message  $m$  in some implicit<sup>2</sup> message space; it outputs a ciphertext  $C$ . We write  $C \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_{PK}(ID, m)$ .
- The (possibly randomized) *decryption algorithm*  `$\mathcal{D}$`  takes as input an identity  $ID$ , an associated decryption key  $SK_{ID}$ , and a ciphertext  $C$ . It outputs a message  $m$  or the symbol  $\perp$  (which is not in the message space). We write  $m \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_{SK_{ID}}(ID, C)$ .

<sup>2</sup>For example, the message space may consist of all strings of length  $p(k)$ , where  $p$  is polynomially-bounded.

We require that for all  $(PK, \text{msk})$  output by  $\text{Setup}$ , all  $ID \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , all  $SK_{ID}$  output by  $\text{Der}_{\text{msk}}(ID)$ , all  $m$  in the message space, and all  $C$  output by  $\mathcal{E}_{PK}(ID, m)$  we have  $\mathcal{D}_{SK_{ID}}(ID, C) = m$ .  $\diamond$

We now give a definition of security for IBE. As mentioned in the Introduction, the definition we give is weaker than that considered by Boneh and Franklin [10] and conforms to “selective-ID” security [16] where the “target” identity is selected by the adversary before the public key is generated.

**Definition 2** An identity-based encryption scheme  $\Pi$  for identities of length  $n$  is *selective-ID secure against chosen-plaintext attacks* if the advantage of any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in the following game is negligible in the security parameter  $k$ :

1.  $\mathcal{A}(1^k)$  outputs a “target” identity  $ID^* \in \{0, 1\}^{n(k)}$ .
2.  $\text{Setup}(1^k)$  outputs  $(PK, \text{msk})$ . The adversary is given  $PK$ .
3. The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  may make polynomially-many queries to an oracle  $\text{Der}_{\text{msk}}(\cdot)$ , except that it may not request a secret key corresponding to the target identity  $ID^*$ .

We remark that the adversary is allowed to query this oracle repeatedly *using the same identity*; if  $\text{Der}$  is randomized, then possibly a different secret key is returned each time.

4. At some point,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs two messages  $m_0, m_1$  with  $|m_0| = |m_1|$ . A bit  $b$  is randomly chosen and the adversary is given a “challenge” ciphertext  $C^* \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_{PK}(ID^*, m_b)$ .
5.  $\mathcal{A}$  may continue to query its oracle  $\text{Der}_{\text{msk}}(\cdot)$  as above. Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a guess  $b'$ .

We say that  $\mathcal{A}$  *succeeds* if  $b' = b$ , and denote the probability of this event by  $\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{IBE}}[\text{Succ}]$ . The adversary’s *advantage* is defined as  $\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{IBE}}(k) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} |\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{IBE}}[\text{Succ}] - 1/2|$ .  $\diamond$

The definition may be extended to take into account security against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks. In this case, the adversary additionally has access to an oracle  $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}(\cdot)$  such that  $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}(C)$  returns  $\mathcal{D}_{SK_{ID^*}}(C)$ , where  $SK_{ID^*}$  is the secret key associated with the target identity  $ID^*$  (computed using  $\text{Der}_{\text{msk}}(ID^*)$ ).<sup>3</sup> The adversary has access to this oracle throughout the entire game, but cannot submit the challenge ciphertext  $C^*$  to  $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}$ .

**Remark on deterministic key-derivation.** For simplicity, when dealing with chosen-ciphertext security for IBE schemes we will assume that  $\text{Der}$  is *deterministic*. If  $\text{Der}$  is not deterministic, a definition of chosen-ciphertext security is complicated by the question of whether different invocations of the decryption oracle  $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}$  should use the *same* secret key  $SK_{ID^*}$  (computed using  $\text{Der}$  the first time  $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}$  is invoked) or a *fresh* secret key (computed by running  $\text{Der}$  using fresh random coins each time). The resulting security definitions obtained in each case seem incomparable, and there does not appear to be any reason to prefer one over the other. A related difficulty arises in the case of hierarchical identity-based encryption (discussed next) even in the case of chosen-plaintext attacks. These distinctions all become irrelevant when  $\text{Der}$  is deterministic.

Assuming deterministic key derivation is anyway without much loss of generality: given an IBE scheme with randomized key-derivation algorithm  $\text{Der}$  we can construct an IBE scheme with deterministic key derivation by (1) including a random key  $sk$  for a pseudorandom function  $F$  as part of the master secret key  $\text{msk}$ ; and (2) generating the decryption key for identity  $ID$  by running  $\text{Der}_{\text{msk}}(ID)$  using “randomness”  $F_{sk}(ID)$ . A similar idea applies to the case of hierarchical IBE, discussed in the next section.

<sup>3</sup>Note that decryption queries for identities  $ID' \neq ID^*$  are superfluous, as  $\mathcal{A}$  may make the corresponding  $\text{Der}$  query itself and thereby obtain  $SK_{ID'}$ .

### 3.2 Hierarchical Identity-Based Encryption

Hierarchical identity-based encryption (HIBE) is an extension of IBE suggested by Horwitz and Lynn [39]. In an  $\ell$ -level HIBE scheme, there is again assumed to be a trusted authority who generates master public and secret keys. As in the case of IBE, it is possible to derive a personal secret key  $SK_{ID_1}$  for any identity  $ID_1$  using the master secret key. The additional functionality provided by an HIBE scheme is that this personal secret key  $SK_{ID_1}$  may now be used to derive a personal secret key  $SK_{ID_1, ID_2}$  for the “ID-vector”  $(ID_1, ID_2)$ , and so on, with the scheme supporting the derivation of keys in this way for ID-vectors of length at most  $\ell$ . As in the case of IBE, any sender can encrypt a message for the ID-vector  $v = (ID_1, \dots, ID_L)$  using only the master public key and  $v$ ; the resulting ciphertext can be decrypted by anyone who knows  $SK_{ID_1, \dots, ID_L}$ . Security is defined as the natural analog of security in the case of IBE: informally, indistinguishability should hold for ciphertexts encrypted with respect to a target ID-vector  $v = (ID_1, \dots, ID_L)$  as long as the adversary does not know the secret keys of any identity of the form  $(ID_1, \dots, ID_{L'})$  for  $L' \leq L$ .

Before formally defining an  $\ell$ -level HIBE scheme, we first introduce some notation to deal with ID-vectors  $v \in (\{0, 1\}^n)^{\leq \ell}$ . For an ID-vector  $v = (v_1, \dots, v_L)$  (with  $v_i \in \{0, 1\}^n$ ), we define the *length of  $v$*  as  $|v| = L$  and let  $v.v'$  (for  $v' \in \{0, 1\}^n$ ) denote the ID-vector  $(v_1, \dots, v_L, v')$  of length  $|v| + 1$ . We let  $\varepsilon$  denote the ID-vector of length 0. Given  $v$  as above and an ID-vector  $v' = (v'_1, \dots, v'_{L'})$ , we say that  $v$  is a *prefix of  $v'$*  if  $|v| \leq |v'|$  and  $v_i = v'_i$  for  $i \leq |v|$ .

Re-phrased using the above notation, the functional property of an  $\ell$ -level HIBE scheme is this: given the secret key  $SK_v$  associated with the ID-vector  $v$  it is possible to derive a secret key  $SK_{v'}$  associated with the ID-vector  $v'$  (assuming  $|v'| \leq \ell$ ) whenever  $v$  is a prefix of  $v'$ . Similarly, the security provided by an HIBE scheme is that indistinguishability should hold for ciphertexts encrypted with respect to an ID-vector  $v$  even if the adversary has multiple keys  $\{SK_{v'}\}_{v' \in V}$  for some set  $V$  as long as no  $v' \in V$  is a prefix of  $v$ .

Formal definitions follow. The functional definition is essentially from [32], although we assume for simplicity that the key derivation algorithm is deterministic (cf. the remark in the previous section). As in the case of IBE, the definition of security we give is the one proposed by Canetti, et al. [16], which is weaker than the one considered in [32].

**Definition 3** An  $\ell$ -level HIBE scheme for identities of length  $n$  (where  $\ell, n$  are polynomially-bounded functions) is a tuple of PPT algorithms  $(\text{Setup}, \text{Der}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  such that:

- The randomized *setup algorithm*  $\text{Setup}$  takes as input a security parameter  $1^k$ . It outputs a master public key  $PK$  and a master secret key denoted  $SK_\varepsilon$ . (We assume that  $k, \ell = \ell(k)$ , and  $n = n(k)$  are implicit in  $PK$  and all node secret keys.)
- The deterministic *key-derivation algorithm*  $\text{Der}$  takes as input an ID-vector  $v \in (\{0, 1\}^n)^{< \ell}$ , its associated secret key  $SK_v$ , and a string  $r \in \{0, 1\}^n$ . It returns the secret key  $SK_{v.r}$  associated with the ID-vector  $v.r$ . We write this as  $SK_{v.r} := \text{Der}_{SK_v}(v, r)$ .
- The randomized *encryption algorithm*  $\mathcal{E}$  takes as input the master public key  $PK$ , an ID-vector  $v \in (\{0, 1\}^n)^{\leq \ell}$ , and a message  $m$  in some implicit message space. It outputs a ciphertext  $C$ . We write this as  $C \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_{PK}(v, m)$ .
- The (possibly randomized) *decryption algorithm*  $\mathcal{D}$  takes as input an ID-vector  $v \in (\{0, 1\}^n)^{\leq \ell}$ , its associated secret key  $SK_v$ , and a ciphertext  $C$ . It returns a message  $m$  or the symbol  $\perp$  (which is not in the message space). We write  $m \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_{SK_v}(v, C)$ .

We require that for all  $(PK, SK_\varepsilon)$  output by  $\text{Setup}$ , all  $v \in (\{0, 1\}^n)^{\leq \ell}$ , any secret key  $SK_v$  correctly generated (in the obvious way) for  $v$ , and any message  $m$  we have  $m = \mathcal{D}_{SK_v}(v, \mathcal{E}_{PK}(v, M))$ .  $\diamond$

**Definition 4** An  $\ell$ -level HIBE scheme  $\Pi$  for identities of length  $n$  is *selective-ID secure against chosen-plaintext attacks* if the advantage of any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in the following game is negligible in the security parameter  $k$ :

1. Let  $\ell = \ell(k)$ ,  $n = n(k)$ . Adversary  $\mathcal{A}(1^k)$  outputs a “target” ID-vector  $v^* \in (\{0, 1\}^n)^{\leq \ell}$ .
2. Algorithm  $\text{Setup}(1^k)$  outputs  $(PK, SK_\varepsilon)$ . The adversary is given  $PK$ .
3. The adversary may adaptively ask for the secret key(s) corresponding to any ID-vector(s)  $v$ , as long as  $v$  is not a prefix of the target ID-vector  $v^*$ . The adversary is given the secret key  $SK_v$  correctly generated for  $v$  using  $SK_\varepsilon$  and (repeated applications of)  $\text{Der}$ .
4. At some point, the adversary outputs two messages  $m_0, m_1$  with  $|m_0| = |m_1|$ . A bit  $b$  is randomly chosen, and the adversary is given a “challenge” ciphertext  $C^* \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_{PK}(v^*, m_b)$ .
5. The adversary can continue asking for secret keys as above. Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a guess  $b'$ .

We say that  $\mathcal{A}$  *succeeds* if  $b' = b$ , and denote the probability of this event by  $\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{HIBE}}[\text{Succ}]$ . The adversary’s *advantage* is defined as  $\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{HIBE}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} |\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{HIBE}}[\text{Succ}] - 1/2|$ .  $\diamond$

As in the case of IBE, it is easy to modify the above to take into account security against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks. Here, the adversary may additionally query an oracle  $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}(\cdot, \cdot)$  such that  $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}(v, C)$  returns  $\mathcal{D}_{SK_v}(v, C)$  using key  $SK_v$  correctly generated for  $v$ . The only restriction is that the adversary may not query  $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}(v^*, C^*)$  after receiving the challenge ciphertext  $C^*$ .

## 4 Chosen-Ciphertext Security from Identity-Based Encryption

Given an IBE scheme  $\Pi' = (\text{Setup}, \text{Der}, \mathcal{E}', \mathcal{D}')$  for identities of length  $n$  which is selective-ID secure against chosen-plaintext attacks, we construct a public-key encryption scheme  $\Pi = (\text{Gen}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  secure against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks. In the construction, we use a one-time signature scheme  $\text{Sig} = (\mathcal{G}, \text{Sign}, \text{Vrfy})$  in which the verification key output by  $\mathcal{G}(1^k)$  has length  $n = n(k)$ . We require that this signature scheme be secure in the sense of *strong* unforgeability, which means that an adversary should be unable to forge a new signature even on a previously-signed message (cf. Definition 11 in Appendix A). The construction of  $\Pi$  proceeds as follows:

**Key generation**  $\text{Gen}(1^k)$  runs  $\text{Setup}(1^k)$  to obtain  $(PK, \text{msk})$ . The public key is  $PK$  and the secret key is  $\text{msk}$ .

**Encryption** To encrypt message  $m$  using public key  $PK$ , the sender first runs  $\mathcal{G}(1^k)$  to obtain verification key  $vk$  and signing key  $sk$  (with  $|vk| = n$ ). The sender then computes  $C \leftarrow \mathcal{E}'_{PK}(vk, m)$  (i.e., the sender encrypts  $m$  with respect to the “identity”  $vk$ ) and  $\sigma \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{sk}(C)$ . The final ciphertext is  $\langle vk, C, \sigma \rangle$ .

**Decryption** To decrypt ciphertext  $\langle vk, C, \sigma \rangle$  using secret key  $\text{msk}$ , the receiver first checks whether  $\text{Vrfy}_{vk}(C, \sigma) \stackrel{?}{=} 1$ . If not, the receiver simply outputs  $\perp$ . Otherwise, the receiver computes  $SK_{vk} \leftarrow \text{Der}_{\text{msk}}(vk)$  and outputs  $m \leftarrow \mathcal{D}'_{SK_{vk}}(vk, C)$ .

It is clear that the above scheme satisfies correctness. We give some intuition as to why  $\Pi$  is secure against chosen-ciphertext attacks. Let  $\langle vk^*, C^*, \sigma^* \rangle$  be the challenge ciphertext (cf. Definition 8). It should be clear that, without any decryption oracle queries, the plaintext corresponding

to this ciphertext remains “hidden” to the adversary; this is so because  $C^*$  is output by  $\Pi'$  which is CPA-secure (and the additional components of the ciphertext provide no additional help).

We claim that decryption oracle queries cannot further help the adversary in determining the plaintext (i.e., guessing the value of  $b$ ; cf. Definition 8). On one hand, if the adversary submits to its decryption oracle a ciphertext  $\langle vk', C', \sigma' \rangle$  that is different from the challenge ciphertext but with  $vk' = vk^*$  then (with all but negligible probability) the decryption oracle will reply with  $\perp$  since the adversary is unable to forge new, valid signatures with respect to  $vk$ . On the other hand, if  $vk' \neq vk^*$  then (informally) the decryption query will not help the adversary since the eventual decryption using  $\mathcal{D}'$  (in the underlying scheme  $\Pi'$ ) will be done with respect to a different “identity”  $vk'$ . In the proof below, we formalize these ideas.

**Theorem 1** *If  $\Pi'$  is an identity-based encryption scheme which is selective-ID secure against chosen-plaintext attacks and  $\text{Sig}$  is a strong, one-time signature scheme, then  $\Pi$  is a public-key encryption scheme secure against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks.*

**Proof** Assume we are given a PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  attacking  $\Pi$  in an adaptive chosen-ciphertext attack. Say a ciphertext  $\langle vk, C, \sigma \rangle$  is *valid* if  $\text{Vrfy}_{vk}(C, \sigma) = 1$ . Let  $\langle vk^*, C^*, \sigma^* \rangle$  denote the challenge ciphertext received by  $\mathcal{A}$  during a particular run of the experiment, and let  $\text{Forge}$  denote the event that  $\mathcal{A}$  submits a valid ciphertext  $\langle vk^*, C, \sigma \rangle$  to the decryption oracle (we may assume that  $vk^*$  is chosen at the outset of the experiment, and so this event is well-defined even before  $\mathcal{A}$  is given the challenge ciphertext. Recall also that  $\mathcal{A}$  is disallowed from submitting the challenge ciphertext to the decryption oracle once the challenge ciphertext is given to  $\mathcal{A}$ .) We prove the following claims:

**Claim 1**  $\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Forge}]$  is negligible.

**Claim 2**  $|\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Succ} \wedge \overline{\text{Forge}}] + \frac{1}{2} \Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Forge}] - \frac{1}{2}|$  is negligible.

To see that these imply the theorem, note that

$$\begin{aligned} & |\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Succ}] - \frac{1}{2}| \\ & \leq |\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Succ} \wedge \text{Forge}] - \frac{1}{2} \Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Forge}]| + |\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Succ} \wedge \overline{\text{Forge}}] + \frac{1}{2} \Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Forge}] - \frac{1}{2}| \\ & \leq \Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Forge}] + |\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Succ} \wedge \overline{\text{Forge}}] + \frac{1}{2} \Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Forge}] - \frac{1}{2}|, \end{aligned}$$

which is negligible given the stated claims. (A concrete security bound can be derived easily.)

**Proof** (of Claim 1) The proof is quite straightforward. We construct a PPT forger  $\mathcal{F}$  who forges a signature with respect to signature scheme  $\text{Sig}$  (in the sense of Definition 11) with probability exactly  $\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Forge}]$ . Security of  $\text{Sig}$  implies the claim.

$\mathcal{F}$  is defined as follows: given input  $1^k$  and verification key  $vk^*$  (output by  $\mathcal{G}$ ),  $\mathcal{F}$  first runs  $\text{Setup}(1^k)$  to obtain  $(PK, \text{msk})$ , and then runs  $\mathcal{A}(1^k, PK)$ . Note that  $\mathcal{F}$  can answer any decryption queries of  $\mathcal{A}$ . If  $\mathcal{A}$  happens to submit a valid ciphertext  $\langle vk^*, C, \sigma \rangle$  to its decryption oracle before requesting the challenge ciphertext, then  $\mathcal{F}$  simply outputs the forgery  $(C, \sigma)$  and stops. Otherwise, when  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs messages  $m_0, m_1$ , forger  $\mathcal{F}$  proceeds as follows: it chooses a random bit  $b$ , computes  $C^* \leftarrow \mathcal{E}'_{PK}(vk^*, m_b)$ , and obtains (from its signing oracle) a signature  $\sigma^*$  on the “message”  $C^*$ . Finally,  $\mathcal{F}$  hands the challenge ciphertext  $\langle vk^*, C^*, \sigma^* \rangle$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ . If  $\mathcal{A}$  submits a valid ciphertext  $\langle vk^*, C, \sigma \rangle$  to its decryption oracle, note that we must have  $(C, \sigma) \neq (C^*, \sigma^*)$ . In this case,  $\mathcal{F}$  simply outputs  $(C, \sigma)$  as its forgery. It is easy to see that  $\mathcal{F}$ ’s success probability (in the sense of Definition 11) is exactly  $\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Forge}]$ .  $\square$

**Proof** (of Claim 2) We use  $\mathcal{A}$  to construct a PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  which attacks the IBE scheme  $\Pi'$  in the sense of Definition 2. Relating the advantages of  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}'$  gives the desired result.

Define adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{A}'(1^k)$  runs  $\mathcal{G}(1^k)$  to generate  $(vk^*, sk^*)$ , and outputs the “target” identity  $ID^* = vk^*$ .
2.  $\mathcal{A}'$  is given a master public key  $PK$ . Adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$ , in turn, runs  $\mathcal{A}(1^k, PK)$ .
3. When  $\mathcal{A}$  makes decryption oracle query  $\mathcal{D}(\langle vk, C, \sigma \rangle)$ , adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  proceeds as follows:
  - (a) If  $vk = vk^*$  then  $\mathcal{A}'$  checks whether  $\text{Vrfy}_{vk^*}(C, \sigma) = 1$ . If so,  $\mathcal{A}'$  aborts and outputs a random bit. Otherwise, it simply responds with  $\perp$ .
  - (b) If  $vk \neq vk^*$  and  $\text{Vrfy}_{vk}(C, \sigma) = 0$  then  $\mathcal{A}'$  responds with  $\perp$ .
  - (c) If  $vk \neq vk^*$  and  $\text{Vrfy}_{vk}(C, \sigma) = 1$ , then  $\mathcal{A}'$  makes the oracle query  $\text{Der}_{\text{msk}}(vk)$  to obtain  $SK_{vk}$ . It then computes  $m \leftarrow \mathcal{D}'_{SK_{vk}}(vk, C)$  and responds with  $m$ .
4. At some point,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs two equal-length messages  $m_0, m_1$ . These messages are output by  $\mathcal{A}'$  as well. In return,  $\mathcal{A}'$  is given a challenge ciphertext  $C^*$ ; adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  then computes  $\sigma^* \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{vk^*}(C^*)$  and returns  $\langle vk^*, C^*, \sigma^* \rangle$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
5.  $\mathcal{A}$  may continue to make decryption oracle queries, and these are answered by  $\mathcal{A}'$  as before.
6. Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a guess  $b'$ ; this same guess is output by  $\mathcal{A}'$ .

Note that  $\mathcal{A}'$  represents a legal adversarial strategy for attacking  $\Pi'$ ; in particular,  $\mathcal{A}'$  never requests the secret key corresponding to the “target” identity  $vk^*$ . Furthermore,  $\mathcal{A}'$  provides a perfect simulation for  $\mathcal{A}$  until event `Forge` occurs. It is thus easy to see that:

$$\left| \Pr_{\mathcal{A}', \Pi'}^{\text{IBE}}[\text{Succ}] - \frac{1}{2} \right| = \left| \Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Succ} \wedge \overline{\text{Forge}}] + \frac{1}{2} \Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Forge}] - \frac{1}{2} \right|,$$

and the left-hand side of the above is negligible by the assumed security of  $\Pi'$ . □

This concludes the proof of the theorem. ■

## 5 A More Efficient Construction

We show here how the idea from the previous section can be implemented using a message authentication code along with a primitive we call an “encapsulation scheme” instead of a one-time signature scheme. As argued in the Introduction, this results in more efficient constructions of CCA-secure encryption schemes than the previous approach. However, using MACs rather than signatures — which, in particular, will imply that ciphertext validity can no longer be determined efficiently without an appropriate decryption key — complicates the security proof somewhat.

### 5.1 Encapsulation

We begin by defining a notion of “encapsulation” which may be viewed as a weak variant of commitment. In terms of functionality, an encapsulation scheme commits the sender to a *random string* as opposed to a string chosen by the sender as in the case of commitment. In terms of security, encapsulation only requires binding to hold for *honestly-generated encapsulations*; this is analogous to assuming an honest sender during the first phase of a commitment scheme.

**Definition 5** An *encapsulation scheme* is a triple of PPT algorithms  $(\text{Init}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{R})$  such that:

- $\text{Init}$  takes as input the security parameter  $1^k$  and outputs a string  $\text{pub}$ .
- $\mathcal{S}$  takes as input  $1^k$  and  $\text{pub}$ , and outputs  $(r, \text{com}, \text{dec})$  with  $r \in \{0, 1\}^k$ . We refer to  $\text{com}$  as the *commitment string* and  $\text{dec}$  as the *de-commitment string*.
- $\mathcal{R}$  takes as input  $(\text{pub}, \text{com}, \text{dec})$  and outputs  $r \in \{0, 1\}^k \cup \{\perp\}$ .

We require that for all  $\text{pub}$  output by  $\text{Init}$  and for all  $(r, \text{com}, \text{dec})$  output by  $\mathcal{S}(1^k, \text{pub})$ , we have  $\mathcal{R}(\text{pub}, \text{com}, \text{dec}) = r$ . We also assume for simplicity that  $\text{com}$  and  $\text{dec}$  have fixed lengths for any given value of the security parameter.  $\diamond$

As in the case of commitment, an encapsulation scheme satisfies notions of both binding and hiding. Informally, “hiding” requires that  $\text{com}$  should not reveal information about  $r$ ; formally,  $r$  should be indistinguishable from random even when given  $\text{com}$  (and  $\text{pub}$ ). “Binding” requires that an honestly-generated  $\text{com}$  can be “opened” to only a single (legal) value of  $r$ ; see below.

**Definition 6** An encapsulation scheme is *secure* if it satisfies both hiding and binding as follows:

**Hiding:** The following is negligible for all PPT  $\mathcal{A}$ :

$$\left| \Pr \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{pub} \leftarrow \text{Init}(1^k); r_0 \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^k; \\ (r_1, \text{com}, \text{dec}) \leftarrow \mathcal{S}(1^k, \text{pub}); b \leftarrow \{0, 1\} \end{array} : \mathcal{A}(1^k, \text{pub}, \text{com}, r_b) = b \right] - \frac{1}{2} \right|.$$

**Binding:** The following is negligible for all PPT  $\mathcal{A}$ :

$$\Pr \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{pub} \leftarrow \text{Init}(1^k); \\ (r, \text{com}, \text{dec}) \leftarrow \mathcal{S}(1^k, \text{pub}); \\ \text{dec}' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(1^k, \text{pub}, \text{com}, \text{dec}) \end{array} : \mathcal{R}(\text{pub}, \text{com}, \text{dec}') \notin \{\perp, r\} \right].$$

$\diamond$

In the definition above, both hiding and binding are required to hold only computationally. We remark, however, that the encapsulation scheme we will later construct achieves *statistical* hiding (and computational binding).

Since encapsulation is a weaker primitive than commitment, we could use any commitment scheme as an encapsulation scheme. We are interested, however, in optimizing the efficiency of the construction (in particular, the lengths of  $\text{com}$  and  $\text{dec}$  for a fixed value of  $k$ ) and therefore focus on satisfying only the weaker requirements given above. See further discussion in Section 7.2.

## 5.2 The Construction

Let  $\Pi' = (\text{Setup}, \text{Der}, \mathcal{E}', \mathcal{D}')$  be an IBE scheme for identities of length  $n = n(k)$  which is selective-ID secure against chosen-plaintext attacks, let  $(\text{Init}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{R})$  be a secure encapsulation scheme in which commitments  $\text{com}$  output by  $\mathcal{S}$  have length  $n$ , and let  $(\text{Mac}, \text{Vrfy})$  be a message authentication code. We construct a public-key encryption scheme  $\Pi$  as follows:

**Key generation** Keys for our scheme are generated by running  $\text{Setup}(1^k)$  to generate  $(PK, \text{msk})$  and  $\text{Init}(1^k)$  to generate  $\text{pub}$ . The public key is  $(PK, \text{pub})$ , and the secret key is  $\text{msk}$ .

**Encryption** To encrypt a message  $m$  using public key  $(PK, \text{pub})$ , a sender first encapsulates a random value by running  $\mathcal{S}(1^k, \text{pub})$  to obtain  $(r, \text{com}, \text{dec})$ . The sender then encrypts the “message”  $m \circ \text{dec}$  with respect to the “identity”  $\text{com}$ ; that is, the sender computes  $C \leftarrow \mathcal{E}'_{PK}(\text{com}, m \circ \text{dec})$ . The resulting ciphertext  $C$  is then authenticated by using  $r$  as a key for a message authentication code; i.e., the sender computes  $\text{tag} \leftarrow \text{Mac}_r(C)$ . The final ciphertext is  $\langle \text{com}, C, \text{tag} \rangle$ .

**Decryption** To decrypt a ciphertext  $\langle \text{com}, C, \text{tag} \rangle$ , the receiver derives the secret key  $SK_{\text{com}}$  corresponding to the “identity”  $\text{com}$ , and uses this key to decrypt the ciphertext  $C$  as per the underlying IBE scheme; this yields a “message”  $m \circ \text{dec}$  (if decryption fails, the receiver outputs  $\perp$ ). Next, the receiver runs  $\mathcal{R}(\text{pub}, \text{com}, \text{dec})$  to obtain a string  $r$ ; if  $r \neq \perp$  and  $\text{Vrfy}_r(C, \text{tag}) = 1$ , the receiver outputs  $m$ . Otherwise, the receiver outputs  $\perp$ .

**Theorem 2** *If  $\Pi'$  is an identity-based encryption scheme which is selective-ID secure against chosen-plaintext attacks, the encapsulation scheme is secure (in the sense of Definition 6), and  $(\text{Mac}, \text{Vrfy})$  is a strong, one-time message authentication code, then  $\Pi$  a public-key encryption scheme secure against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks.*

**Proof** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a PPT adversary attacking  $\Pi$  in an adaptive chosen-ciphertext attack. On an intuitive level, the proof here is the same as the proof of Theorem 1 in the following sense: Say a ciphertext  $\langle \text{com}, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  is *valid* if decryption of this ciphertext (using  $\text{msk}$ ) does *not* result in  $\perp$ . Let  $\langle \text{com}^*, C^*, \text{tag}^* \rangle$  denote the challenge ciphertext received by  $\mathcal{A}$ . One can then show that (1)  $\mathcal{A}$  submits to its decryption oracle a valid ciphertext  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  (with  $\langle C, \text{tag} \rangle \neq \langle C^*, \text{tag}^* \rangle$ ) only with negligible probability; and (2) assuming that this does not occur, the decryption queries made by  $\mathcal{A}$  do not help  $\mathcal{A}$  to “learn” the underlying plaintext. The second statement is relatively easy to prove; the first, however, is now more challenging to prove since validity of a ciphertext cannot be determined without knowledge of  $\text{msk}$ . Because of this, we structure the proof as a sequence of games to make it easier to follow. We let  $\Pr_i[\cdot]$  denote the probability of a particular event occurring in game  $i$ .

Game 0 is the original game in which  $\mathcal{A}$  attacks  $\Pi$  in a chosen-ciphertext attack as described in Definition 8. Let  $r^*, \text{com}^*, \text{dec}^*$  denote the values that are used in computing the challenge ciphertext, and notice that we may simply assume that these values are generated at the outset of the experiment (since these values are generated independently of  $\mathcal{A}$ 's actions). We are interested in upper-bounding  $|\Pr_0[\text{Succ}] - \frac{1}{2}|$ , where (recall)  $\text{Succ}$  denotes the event that  $\mathcal{A}$ 's output bit  $b'$  is identical to the bit  $b$  used in constructing the challenge ciphertext.

In Game 1, we modify the experiment as follows: on input a ciphertext of the form  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$ , the decryption oracle simply outputs  $\perp$ . Let  $\text{Valid}$  denote the event that  $\mathcal{A}$  submits a ciphertext  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  to its decryption oracle which is valid, and note that

$$|\Pr_1[\text{Succ}] - \Pr_0[\text{Succ}]| \leq \Pr_0[\text{Valid}] = \Pr_1[\text{Valid}].$$

The above holds since games 0 and 1 are identical until  $\text{Valid}$  occurs.

Let  $\text{NoBind}$  denote the event that  $\mathcal{A}$  at some point submits a ciphertext  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  to its decryption oracle such that: (1)  $C$  decrypts to  $m \circ \text{dec}$  (using the secret key  $SK_{\text{com}^*}$  derived from  $\text{msk}$ ) and (2)  $\mathcal{R}(\text{pub}, \text{com}^*, \text{dec}) = r$  with  $r \notin \{r^*, \perp\}$ . Let  $\text{Forge}$  denote the event that  $\mathcal{A}$  at some point submits a ciphertext  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  to its decryption oracle such that  $\text{Vrfy}_{r^*}(C, \text{tag}) = 1$ . We clearly have  $\Pr_1[\text{Valid}] \leq \Pr_1[\text{NoBind}] + \Pr_1[\text{Forge}]$ .

It is relatively easy to see that  $\Pr_1[\text{NoBind}]$  is negligible assuming the binding property of the encapsulation scheme. Formally, consider an adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  acting as follows: given input  $(1^k, \text{pub}, \text{com}^*, \text{dec}^*)$ , adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  generates  $(PK, \text{msk})$  by running  $\text{Setup}(1^k)$  and then runs  $\mathcal{A}$  on inputs  $1^k$  and  $(PK, \text{pub})$ . Whenever  $\mathcal{A}$  makes a query to its decryption oracle,  $\mathcal{B}$  can respond to this query as required by game 1; specifically,  $\mathcal{B}$  simply responds with  $\perp$  to a decryption query of the form  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$ , and responds to other queries using  $\text{msk}$ . When  $\mathcal{A}$  submits its two messages  $m_0, m_1$ , adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  simply chooses  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  at random and encrypts  $m_b$  in the expected way to generate a completely valid challenge ciphertext  $\langle \text{com}^*, C^*, \text{tag}^* \rangle$ . (Note that  $\mathcal{B}$  can easily do this

since it has  $\text{dec}^*$  and can compute  $r^*$ .) At the end of the experiment,  $\mathcal{B}$  can decrypt every query of the form  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  that  $\mathcal{A}$  made to its decryption oracle to see whether **NoBind** occurred and, if so, to learn a value  $\text{dec}$  such that  $\mathcal{R}(\text{pub}, \text{com}^*, \text{dec}) \notin \{r^*, \perp\}$ . But this exactly violates the binding property of encapsulation scheme  $(\text{Init}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{R})$ , implying that  $\Pr_1[\text{NoBind}]$  must be negligible.

Game 2 is derived by modifying the way the challenge ciphertext is computed. Specifically, when  $\mathcal{A}$  submits its two messages  $m_0, m_1$  we now compute  $C^* \leftarrow \mathcal{E}'_{PK}(\text{com}^*, 0^{|m_0|} \circ 0^n)$  followed by  $\text{tag}^* \leftarrow \text{Mac}_{r^*}(C^*)$ . The challenge ciphertext is  $\langle \text{com}^*, C^*, \text{tag}^* \rangle$ . (A random bit  $b$  is still chosen, but is only used to define event **Succ**.) Since the challenge ciphertext is independent of  $b$ , it follows immediately that  $\Pr_2[\text{Succ}] = \frac{1}{2}$ .

We claim that  $|\Pr_2[\text{Succ}] - \Pr_1[\text{Succ}]|$  is negligible. To see this, consider the following adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  attacking the IBE scheme  $\Pi'$  via a chosen-plaintext attack:

- Algorithm  $\mathcal{A}'(1^k)$  first runs  $\text{Init}(1^k)$  to generate  $\text{pub}$  and then runs  $\mathcal{S}(1^k, \text{pub})$  to obtain  $(r^*, \text{com}^*, \text{dec}^*)$ . It outputs  $\text{com}^*$  as the target identity and is then given the master public key  $PK$ . Finally,  $\mathcal{A}'$  runs  $\mathcal{A}$  on inputs  $1^k$  and  $(PK, \text{pub})$ .
- Decryption queries of  $\mathcal{A}$  are answered in the natural way:
  - Queries of the form  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  are answered with  $\perp$ .
  - Queries of the form  $\langle \text{com}, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  with  $\text{com} \neq \text{com}^*$  are answered by first querying  $\text{Der}_{\text{msk}}(\text{com})$  to obtain  $SK_{\text{com}}$ , and then decrypting in the usual way.
- Eventually,  $\mathcal{A}$  submits two equal-length messages  $m_0, m_1$ .  $\mathcal{A}'$  selects a bit  $b$  at random, and sends  $m_b \circ \text{dec}^*$  and  $0^{|m_0|} \circ 0^n$  to its encryption oracle. It receives in return a challenge ciphertext  $C^*$ , and uses this to generate a ciphertext  $\langle \text{com}^*, C^*, \text{tag}^* \rangle$  in the natural way.
- Further decryption queries of  $\mathcal{A}$  are answered as above.
- Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a bit  $b'$ . If  $b = b'$ , then  $\mathcal{A}'$  outputs 0; otherwise,  $\mathcal{A}'$  outputs 1.

Note that  $\mathcal{A}'$  is a valid adversary. Now, when the encryption query of  $\mathcal{A}'$  is answered with an encryption of  $m_b \circ \text{dec}^*$ , then the view of  $\mathcal{A}$  is exactly as in game 1; on the other hand, when the encryption query of  $\mathcal{A}'$  is answered with an encryption of  $0^{|m_0|} \circ 0^n$  then the view of  $\mathcal{A}$  is exactly as in game 2. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}', \Pi'}^{\text{IBE}} &= \left| \frac{1}{2} \Pr_1[\text{Succ}] + \frac{1}{2} \Pr_2[\overline{\text{Succ}}] - \frac{1}{2} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot |\Pr_1[\text{Succ}] - \Pr_2[\text{Succ}]|. \end{aligned}$$

Security of  $\Pi'$  implies that  $\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}', \Pi'}^{\text{IBE}}$  is negligible, implying that  $|\Pr_2[\text{Succ}] - \Pr_1[\text{Succ}]|$  is negligible. An exactly analogous argument shows that  $|\Pr_2[\text{Forge}] - \Pr_1[\text{Forge}]|$  is negligible as well. (The only difference is that  $\mathcal{A}'$  now runs  $\mathcal{A}$  to completion and then checks whether  $\mathcal{A}$  has made any decryption query of the form  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  for which  $\text{Vrfy}_{r^*}(C, \text{tag}) = 1$ . If so, then  $\mathcal{A}'$  outputs 1; otherwise, it outputs 0.)

In game 3, we introduce one final change. The components  $\text{com}^*$  and  $C^*$  of the challenge ciphertext are computed as in game 2; however, the component  $\text{tag}^*$  is computed by choosing a random key  $r \in \{0, 1\}^k$  and setting  $\text{tag}^* = \text{Mac}_r(C^*)$ . Event **Forge** in this game is defined as before, but using the key  $r$ ; that is, **Forge** is now the event that  $\mathcal{A}$  makes a decryption query of the form  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  for which  $\text{Vrfy}_r(C, \text{tag}) = 1$ .

We claim that  $|\Pr_3[\text{Forge}] - \Pr_2[\text{Forge}]|$  is negligible. To see this, consider the following algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  breaking the hiding property of the encapsulation scheme:

- $\mathcal{B}$  is given input  $1^k$  and  $(\text{pub}, \text{com}^*, \tilde{r})$ . It then runs  $\text{Setup}(1^k)$  to generate  $(PK, \text{msk})$ , and runs  $\mathcal{A}$  on inputs  $1^k$  and  $(PK, \text{pub})$ .
- Decryption queries of  $\mathcal{A}$  are answered in the natural way.
- Eventually,  $\mathcal{A}$  submits messages  $m_0, m_1$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  computes  $C^* \leftarrow \mathcal{E}'_{PK}(\text{com}^*, 0^{|m_0|} \circ 0^n)$ , computes  $\text{tag}^* = \text{Mac}_{\tilde{r}}(C^*)$ , and returns the challenge ciphertext  $\langle \text{com}^*, C^*, \text{tag}^* \rangle$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- Further decryption queries of  $\mathcal{A}$  are answered as above.
- When  $\mathcal{A}$  halts,  $\mathcal{B}$  checks whether  $\mathcal{A}$  has made any decryption query of the form  $\langle \text{com}^*, C, \text{tag} \rangle$  for which  $\text{Vrfy}_{\tilde{r}}(C, \text{tag}) = 1$ . If so,  $\mathcal{B}$  outputs 1; otherwise, it outputs 0.

Now, if  $\tilde{r}$  is such that  $(\tilde{r}, \text{com}^*, \text{dec}^*)$  was output by  $\mathcal{S}(1^k, \text{pub})$  then the view of  $\mathcal{A}$  is exactly as in game 2 and so  $\mathcal{B}$  outputs 1 with probability  $\text{Pr}_2[\text{Forge}]$ . On the other hand, if  $\tilde{r}$  is chosen at random independently of  $\text{com}^*$  then the view of  $\mathcal{A}$  is exactly as in game 3 and so  $\mathcal{B}$  outputs 1 with probability  $\text{Pr}_3[\text{Forge}]$ . The hiding property of the encapsulation scheme thus implies that  $|\text{Pr}_3[\text{Forge}] - \text{Pr}_2[\text{Forge}]|$  is negligible.

To complete the proof, we show that  $\text{Pr}_3[\text{Forge}]$  is negligible. This follows rather easily from the security of the message authentication code, but we sketch the details here. Let  $q = q(k)$  be an upper bound on the number of decryption oracle queries made by  $\mathcal{A}$ , and consider the following forging algorithm  $\mathcal{F}$ : first,  $\mathcal{F}$  chooses a random index  $j \leftarrow \{1, \dots, q\}$ . Next,  $\mathcal{F}$  begins simulating game 3 for  $\mathcal{A}$  in the natural way. If the  $j^{\text{th}}$  decryption query  $\langle \text{com}_j, C_j, \text{tag}_j \rangle$  occurs before  $\mathcal{A}$  makes its encryption query, then  $\mathcal{F}$  simply outputs  $(C_j, \text{tag}_j)$  and halts. Otherwise, in response to the encryption query  $(m_0, m_1)$  of  $\mathcal{A}$ , forger  $\mathcal{F}$  computes  $(r^*, \text{com}^*, \text{dec}^*) \leftarrow \mathcal{S}(1^k, \text{pub})$  followed by  $C^* \leftarrow \mathcal{E}'_{PK}(\text{com}^*, 0^{|m_0|} \circ 0^n)$ . Next,  $\mathcal{F}$  submits  $C^*$  to its  $\text{Mac}$  oracle and receives in return  $\text{tag}^*$ . Forger  $\mathcal{F}$  then gives the challenge ciphertext  $\langle \text{com}^*, C^*, \text{tag}^* \rangle$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and continues running  $\mathcal{A}$  until  $\mathcal{A}$  submits its  $j^{\text{th}}$  decryption query  $\langle \text{com}_j, C_j, \text{tag}_j \rangle$ . At this point,  $\mathcal{F}$  outputs  $(C_j, \text{tag}_j)$  and halts.

It is not difficult to see that the success probability of  $\mathcal{F}$  in outputting a valid forgery is at least  $\text{Pr}_3[\text{Forge}]/q$ . Since  $(\text{Mac}, \text{Vrfy})$  is a strong, one-time message authentication code and  $q$  is polynomial, this shows that  $\text{Pr}_3[\text{Forge}]$  is negligible.

Putting everything together, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
|\text{Pr}_0[\text{Succ}] - \frac{1}{2}| &\leq |\text{Pr}_0[\text{Succ}] - \text{Pr}_1[\text{Succ}]| + |\text{Pr}_1[\text{Succ}] - \frac{1}{2}| \\
&\leq \text{Pr}_1[\text{NoBind}] + \text{Pr}_1[\text{Forge}] + |\text{Pr}_1[\text{Succ}] - \text{Pr}_2[\text{Succ}]| + |\text{Pr}_2[\text{Succ}] - \frac{1}{2}| \\
&= \text{Pr}_1[\text{NoBind}] + \text{Pr}_1[\text{Forge}] + |\text{Pr}_1[\text{Succ}] - \text{Pr}_2[\text{Succ}]| \\
&\leq \text{Pr}_1[\text{NoBind}] + \text{Pr}_3[\text{Forge}] + |\text{Pr}_2[\text{Forge}] - \text{Pr}_3[\text{Forge}]| \\
&\quad + |\text{Pr}_1[\text{Forge}] - \text{Pr}_2[\text{Forge}]| + |\text{Pr}_1[\text{Succ}] - \text{Pr}_2[\text{Succ}]|,
\end{aligned}$$

and all terms in the final equation are negligible. (A concrete security analysis follows easily given the above equation and the details of the preceding proof.)  $\blacksquare$

## 6 Chosen-Ciphertext Security for IBE and HIBE Schemes

The techniques of the previous two sections extend relatively easily to enable construction of an  $\ell$ -level HIBE scheme secure against chosen-ciphertext attacks based on any  $(\ell + 1)$ -level HIBE scheme secure against chosen-plaintext attacks. (Recall that an IBE scheme is a 1-level HIBE

scheme.) We give the details for the signature-based approach of Section 4. For arbitrary  $\ell \geq 1$ , let  $\Pi' = (\text{Setup}', \text{Der}', \mathcal{E}', \mathcal{D}')$  be an  $(\ell + 1)$ -level HIBE scheme handling identities of length  $n + 1$ , and let  $\text{Sig} = (\mathcal{G}, \text{Sign}, \text{Vrfy})$  be a signature scheme in which the verification key output by  $\mathcal{G}(1^k)$  has length  $n = n(k)$ . We construct an  $\ell$ -level HIBE scheme  $\Pi$  handling identities of length  $n$ . The intuition behind the construction is simple: the ID-vector  $v = (v_1, \dots, v_L) \in (\{0, 1\}^n)^L$  in  $\Pi$  will be mapped to the ID-vector

$$\text{Encode}(v) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (0v_1, \dots, 0v_L) \in (\{0, 1\}^{n+1})^L$$

in  $\Pi'$ . We will maintain the invariant that the secret key  $SK_v$  for ID-vector  $v$  in  $\Pi$  will be the secret key  $SK'_{\hat{v}}$  for ID-vector  $\hat{v} = \text{Encode}(v)$  in  $\Pi'$ . When encrypting a message  $m$  to ID-vector  $v$  in  $\Pi$ , the sender will generate a verification key  $vk$  and then encrypt  $m$  to the ID-vector  $\hat{v} \cdot (1vk)$  using  $\Pi'$ . (The resulting ciphertext will then be signed as in Section 4.) The extra 0 and 1 bits used as “padding” ensure that any decryption queries asked by an adversary (in  $\Pi$ ) correspond (in  $\Pi'$ ) to nodes which are not ancestors of the target ID-vector.

In more detail,  $\Pi$  is constructed as follows:

**Setup** The **Setup** algorithm is the same as in  $\Pi'$ . (Note that  $\text{Encode}(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon$  so the master secret key  $SK_\varepsilon = SK'_\varepsilon$  satisfies the desired invariant.)

**Key derivation**  $\text{Der}_{SK_v}(v, r)$  runs as follows: let  $\hat{v} = \text{Encode}(v)$  and  $\hat{r} = \text{Encode}(r)$ . Run  $\text{Der}'_{SK'_v}(\hat{v}, \hat{r})$  and output the result as  $SK_{v,r}$ . (To see that key derivation maintains the desired invariant given that  $SK_v = SK'_{\hat{v}}$ , note that  $\text{Encode}(v \cdot r) = \text{Encode}(v) \cdot \text{Encode}(r)$ .)

**Encryption**  $\mathcal{E}_{PK}(v, m)$  first runs  $\mathcal{G}(1^k)$  to obtain  $(vk, sk)$ . Let  $\hat{v} = \text{Encode}(v) \cdot (1vk)$ . The algorithm then computes  $C \leftarrow \mathcal{E}'_{PK}(\hat{v}, m)$  and  $\sigma \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{sk}(C)$ . The final ciphertext is  $\langle vk, C, \sigma \rangle$ .

**Decryption**  $\mathcal{D}_{SK_v}(v, \langle vk, C, \sigma \rangle)$  proceeds as follows: first check whether  $\text{Vrfy}_{vk}(C, \sigma) \stackrel{?}{=} 1$ . If not, output  $\perp$ . Otherwise, let  $\hat{v} = \text{Encode}(v)$  and run  $\text{Der}'_{SK'_v}(\hat{v}, (1vk))$  to generate the key  $SK^* = SK'_{\hat{v} \cdot (1vk)}$ . Then output  $m := \mathcal{D}'_{SK^*}(\hat{v}, C)$ .

It can be verified easily that the above scheme is correct. An analogous construction can be given using the MAC-based construction of Section 5. We now state the main result of this section:

**Theorem 3** *If  $\Pi'$  is selective-ID secure against chosen-plaintext attacks and  $\text{Sig}$  is a strong, one-time signature scheme, then  $\Pi$  is selective-ID secure against chosen-ciphertext attacks.*

**Proof** The proof is similar to that of Theorem 1. Given any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  attacking  $\Pi$  in a selective-ID, chosen-ciphertext attack, we define an event **Forge** and then prove the analogs of Claims 1 and 2 in our setting. For visual comfort, we use  $\Pr[\cdot]$  instead of  $\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{HIBE}}[\cdot]$ .

Let  $v^*$  denote the “target” ID-vector initially output by  $\mathcal{A}$ , and let  $\langle vk^*, C^*, \sigma^* \rangle$  be the challenge ciphertext received by  $\mathcal{A}$ . Let **Forge** be the event that  $\mathcal{A}$  makes a decryption query  $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}(v^*, \langle vk^*, C, \sigma \rangle)$  with  $\text{Vrfy}_{vk^*}(C, \sigma) = 1$ . (As in previous proofs, we may assume  $vk^*$  is chosen at the beginning of the experiment, and so this event is defined even before  $\mathcal{A}$  receives the challenge ciphertext. Recall also that  $\mathcal{A}$  is disallowed from submitting the challenge ciphertext to its decryption oracle once this ciphertext has been given to  $\mathcal{A}$ .) A proof exactly as in the case of Claim 1, relying again on the fact that  $\text{Sig}$  is a strong, one-time signature scheme, shows that  $\Pr[\text{Forge}]$  is negligible.

We next show that  $|\Pr[\text{Succ} \wedge \overline{\text{Forge}}] + \frac{1}{2} \Pr[\text{Forge}] - \frac{1}{2}|$  is negligible. To do so, we define adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  attacking  $\Pi'$  in a selective-ID chosen-plaintext attack.  $\mathcal{A}'$  is defined as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{A}'(1^k)$  runs  $\mathcal{A}(1^k)$  who, in turn, outputs an ID-vector  $v^* \in (\{0, 1\}^n)^{\leq \ell}$ . Adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  runs  $\mathcal{G}(1^k)$  to generate  $(vk^*, sk^*)$  and outputs the target ID-vector  $V^* = \text{Encode}(v^*).(\overline{1vk^*})$ .
2.  $\mathcal{A}'$  is given  $PK$ , which it gives to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
3. When  $\mathcal{A}$  requests the secret key for ID-vector  $v$ ,  $\mathcal{A}'$  requests the secret key  $SK'_{\hat{v}}$  for ID-vector  $\hat{v} = \text{Encode}(v)$  and returns this secret key to  $\mathcal{A}$ . Note that since  $v$  is not a prefix of the target ID-vector  $v^*$  of  $\mathcal{A}$ , it follows that  $\hat{v}$  is not a prefix of the target ID-vector  $V^*$  of  $\mathcal{A}'$ .
4. When  $\mathcal{A}$  makes a decryption query  $\widehat{\mathcal{D}}(v, \langle vk, C, \sigma \rangle)$ , adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  proceeds as follows:
  - (a) If  $v = v^*$  then  $\mathcal{A}'$  checks whether  $\text{Vrfy}_{vk}(C, \sigma) = 1$ . If so, then  $\mathcal{A}'$  aborts and outputs a random bit. Otherwise, it simply responds with  $\perp$ .
  - (b) If  $v \neq v^*$ , or if  $v = v^*$  and  $vk \neq vk^*$ , then  $\mathcal{A}'$  sets  $\hat{v} = \text{Encode}(v)$  and requests the secret key  $SK'_{\hat{v}.(\overline{1vk})}$ . (Note that  $\hat{v}.(\overline{1vk})$  is not a prefix of the target ID-vector  $V^*$  of  $\mathcal{A}'$ , so  $\mathcal{A}'$  is allowed to submit this request.) It then honestly decrypts the submitted ciphertext and returns the result to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
5. When  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs its two messages  $m_0, m_1$ , these same messages are output by  $\mathcal{A}'$ . In return,  $\mathcal{A}'$  receives a challenge ciphertext  $C^*$ . Adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  computes  $\sigma^* \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{sk^*}(C^*)$  and returns challenge ciphertext  $\langle vk^*, C^*, \sigma^* \rangle$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
6. Any of  $\mathcal{A}$ 's subsequent decryption queries, or requests for secret keys, are answered as before.
7. Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a guess  $b'$ ; this same guess is output by  $\mathcal{A}'$ .

Note that  $\mathcal{A}'$  represents a legal adversarial strategy for attacking  $\Pi'$ . As in the proof of Claim 2, it follows from the security of  $\Pi'$  that  $|\Pr[\text{Succ} \wedge \overline{\text{Forge}}] + \frac{1}{2} \Pr[\text{Forge}] - \frac{1}{2}|$  must be negligible. This completes the proof.  $\blacksquare$

We remark that when  $\Pi'$  is secure (against chosen-plaintext attacks) in the stronger attack model [10, 32] in which the adversary may choose the target ID-vector adaptively, then  $\Pi$  is secure against chosen-ciphertext attacks in the same model. A proof for this case is easily derived from the proof above.

Canetti, et al. [16] define a slightly stronger notion of HIBE which requires the HIBE scheme to support an arbitrary (polynomial) number of levels  $\ell$  and identities of arbitrary (polynomial) length  $n$  (where  $\ell, n$  are provided as input to the initial **Setup** algorithm). We refer to HIBE schemes of this type as *unbounded*. Security is defined as in Definition 4, except that the adversary's advantage must be negligible for all adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$  as well as for all polynomially-bounded functions  $\ell, n$ . Since the above construction requires only a strong, one-time signature scheme, which can be constructed based on any one-way function (and hence from any secure HIBE scheme), we have the following:

**Corollary 1** *If there exists an unbounded HIBE scheme which is selective-ID secure against chosen-plaintext attacks, then there exists an unbounded HIBE scheme which is selective-ID secure against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks.*

A similar result holds for unbounded HIBE schemes secure in the stronger sense of [10, 32] (cf. the remark following Theorem 3). The analogous result for the case of (standard) public-key encryption is not known.

## 7 Efficient Instantiations

Here, we describe one particular instantiation of our generic construction of CCA-secure cryptosystems from Section 5. We then compare the efficiency of this construction with the most efficient previously-known CCA-secure scheme. To instantiate our construction, we need to specify a message authentication code, an encapsulation scheme, and an IBE scheme which is selective-ID secure against chosen-plaintext attacks. We consider each of these in turn.

### 7.1 Message Authentication Code

A number of efficient (one-time) message authentication codes are known. Since the computational cost of these schemes will be dominated by the computational cost of the IBE scheme, we focus instead on minimizing the lengths of the key and the tag. For concreteness, we suggest using CBC-MAC with 128-bit AES as the underlying block cipher. (In this scheme, both the secret key and the tag are 128 bits long.) We remark, however, that one-time MACs with information-theoretic security [54, 51] could also be used.

### 7.2 Encapsulation Scheme

Adapting earlier work of Damgård, et al. [23] and Halevi and Micali [37], we propose an encapsulation scheme based on any universal one-way hash function (UOWHF) family  $\{H_s : \{0, 1\}^{k_1} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^k\}$  (where  $k_1 \geq 3k$  is a function of the security parameter  $k$ ). Our scheme works as follows:

- **Setup** chooses a hash function  $h$  from a family of pairwise-independent hash functions mapping  $k_1$ -bit strings to  $k$ -bit strings, and also chooses a key  $s$  defining UOWHF  $H_s$ . It outputs  $\text{pub} = (h, s)$ .
- The encapsulation algorithm  $\mathcal{S}$  takes  $\text{pub}$  as input, chooses a random  $x \in \{0, 1\}^{k_1}$ , and then outputs  $(r = h(x), \text{com} = H_s(x), \text{dec} = x)$ .
- The recovery algorithm  $\mathcal{R}$  takes as input  $((h, s), \text{com}, \text{dec})$  and outputs  $h(\text{dec})$  if  $H_s(\text{dec}) = \text{com}$ , and  $\perp$  otherwise.

We prove the following regarding the above scheme:

**Theorem 4** *The scheme above is a secure encapsulation scheme. Specifically, the scheme is computationally binding under the assumption that  $\{H_s\}$  is a UOWHF family, and statistically hiding (without any assumptions).*

**Proof** The binding property is easy to see. In particular, violation of the binding property implies that an adversary finds  $\text{dec}' \neq \text{dec}$  for which  $H_s(\text{dec}') = H_s(\text{dec})$ . Since  $\text{dec}$  is chosen independently of the key  $s$  in an honest execution of  $\mathcal{S}$ , security of the UOWHF family implies that binding can be violated with only negligible probability. We omit the straightforward details. (Note, however, that a UOWHF rather than a collision-resistant hash function is sufficient here since the binding property we require is weaker than that required by a standard commitment scheme.)

We next prove the following claim, which immediately implies statistical hiding:

**Claim 3** *For the encapsulation scheme described above, the statistical difference between the following distributions is at most  $2 \cdot 2^{\frac{2k-k_1}{3}} \leq 2 \cdot 2^{-k/3}$ :*

- (1)  $\{\text{pub} \leftarrow \text{Setup}; (r, \text{com}, \text{dec}) \leftarrow \mathcal{S}(\text{pub}) : (\text{pub}, \text{com}, r)\}$
- (2)  $\{\text{pub} \leftarrow \text{Setup}; (r, \text{com}, \text{dec}) \leftarrow \mathcal{S}(\text{pub}); r' \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^k : (\text{pub}, \text{com}, r')\}$ .

The proof of this claim is loosely based on [23, 37], but our proof is much simpler. Let  $\alpha \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{2k_1 - k}{3}$ , and assume for simplicity that  $k_1, k$  are multiples of 3. Fix an arbitrary  $s$  for the remainder of the discussion. For any fixed  $x \in \{0, 1\}^{k_1}$ , let  $N_x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x' \mid H_s(x') = H_s(x)\}$ ; this is simply the set of elements hashing to  $H_s(x)$ . Call  $x$  *good* if  $|N_x| \geq 2^\alpha$ , and *bad* otherwise. Since the output length of  $H_s$  is  $k$  bits, there are at most  $2^\alpha \cdot 2^k = 2^{\alpha+k}$  bad  $x$ 's; thus, the probability that an  $x$  chosen uniformly at random from  $\{0, 1\}^{k_1}$  is bad is at most

$$2^{\alpha+k-k_1} = 2^{\frac{2k-k_1}{3}} \leq 2^{-k/3}$$

(using the fact that  $k_1 \geq 3k$ ).

When  $x$  is good, the min-entropy of  $x$  — given  $(h, s)$  and  $H_s(x)$  — is at least  $\alpha$  since every  $\tilde{x} \in N_x$  is equally likely. Let  $U_k$  represent the uniform distribution over  $\{0, 1\}^k$ . Viewing  $h$  as a strong extractor (or, equivalently, applying the leftover-hash lemma [38]) we see that the statistical difference between  $\{h, s, H_s(x), h(x)\}$  and  $\{h, s, H_s(x), U_k\}$  is at most

$$2^{-(\alpha-k)/2} = 2^{\frac{2k-k_1}{3}} \leq 2^{-k/3}.$$

The claim, and hence the theorem, follows. ■

A practical setting of the above parameters (and one that we will use when discussing the efficiency of our scheme, below) is  $k_1 = 448$ ,  $k = 128$  which yields a 128-bit  $r$  with statistical difference at most  $2 \cdot 2^{\frac{256-448}{3}} = 2^{-63}$  from uniform.<sup>4</sup> Also, in practice one would likely replace the UOWHF by a suitable modification of a cryptographic hash function such as SHA-1.

### 7.3 IBE Schemes

Boneh and Boyen [7] recently proposed two efficient IBE schemes satisfying the definition of security needed for our purposes. In the interests of space, we will instantiate our construction using their first scheme only. (Of course, their second scheme could also be used. Doing so yields a mild efficiency improvement at the expense of requiring a stronger cryptographic assumption.)

We briefly discuss the cryptographic assumption on which the Boneh-Boyen IBE scheme is based. Let  $\mathcal{IG}$  denote an efficient algorithm which, on input  $1^k$ , outputs descriptions of two cyclic groups  $\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{G}_1$  of prime order  $q$  (with  $|q| = k$ ), a generator  $g \in \mathbb{G}$ , and an efficiently computable function  $\hat{e} : \mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G} \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_1$  which is a *non-trivial bilinear map*; namely, for all  $\mu, \nu \in \mathbb{G}$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  we have  $\hat{e}(\mu^a, \nu^b) = \hat{e}(\mu, \nu)^{ab}$  and  $\hat{e}(g, g)$  is a generator of  $\mathbb{G}_1$ . (See [10] for a discussion about realizing an algorithm  $\mathcal{IG}$  with these properties.)

The *computational bilinear Diffie-Hellman (BDH) problem with respect to  $\mathcal{IG}$*  is the following: given  $(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{G}_1, g, \hat{e})$  as output by  $\mathcal{IG}$  along with  $g^\alpha, g^\beta$ , and  $g^\gamma$  (for random  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ ), compute  $\hat{e}(g, g)^{\alpha\beta\gamma}$ . Informally, we say that  $\mathcal{IG}$  *satisfies the computational BDH assumption* if the computational BDH assumption with respect to  $\mathcal{IG}$  is hard for any PPT algorithm.

The *decisional BDH problem (BDDH) with respect to  $\mathcal{IG}$*  is to distinguish between tuples of the form  $(g^\alpha, g^\beta, g^\gamma, \hat{e}(g, g)^{\alpha\beta\gamma})$  and  $(g^\alpha, g^\beta, g^\gamma, \hat{e}(g, g)^\mu)$  for random  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \mu \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  (note that  $\hat{e}(g, g)^\mu$  is simply a random element of  $\mathbb{G}_1$ ). Informally, we say  $\mathcal{IG}$  *satisfies the decisional BDH assumption* if no PPT algorithm can solve the decisional BDH problem with respect to  $\mathcal{IG}$  with probability significantly better than  $\frac{1}{2}$ . We refer to [10] for formal definitions and further discussion.

<sup>4</sup>Note that since only second-preimage resistance is needed to achieve the binding property, a 128-bit output length provides sufficient security.

**Concrete IBE schemes.** We refer to [7] for the full details and content ourselves with giving only a high-level description of their first IBE scheme here, modified slightly for our eventual application. We assume for simplicity that system parameters  $(\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{G}_1, g, \hat{e})$  have already been established by running  $\mathcal{IG}(1^k)$  (of course, it is also possible for  $\mathcal{IG}$  to be run during key generation). Let  $G : \mathbb{G}_1 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^k$  be a function whose output is indistinguishable from uniform when its input is uniformly distributed in  $\mathbb{G}_1$  (thus,  $G$  is essentially a pseudorandom generator although it need not expand its input). The IBE scheme is defined as follows:

**Setup** Pick random generators  $g_1, g_2 \in \mathbb{G}$  and a random  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ . Set  $g_3 = g^x$  and  $Z = \hat{e}(g_1, g_3)$ . The master public key is  $PK = (g, g_1, g_2, g_3, Z)$  and the master secret key is  $\text{msk} = x$ .

**Derive** To derive the secret key for “identity”  $ID \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  using  $\text{msk} = x$ , choose a random  $t \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  and return the key  $SK_{ID} = (g_1^x g_2^t g_3^{t \cdot ID}, g^t)$ .

**Encrypt** To encrypt a message  $M \in \{0, 1\}^k$  with respect to “identity”  $ID \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ , choose a random  $s \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  and output the ciphertext  $(g^s, g_2^s g_3^{s \cdot ID}, G(Z^s) \oplus M)$ .

**Decrypt** To decrypt ciphertext  $(A, B, C)$  using private key  $(K_1, K_2)$ , output:

$$C \oplus G(\hat{e}(A, K_1)/\hat{e}(B, K_2)). \quad (1)$$

Correctness can be easily verified. Security of the above scheme is based on the decisional<sup>5</sup> BDH assumption. For efficiency, the master secret key  $\text{msk}$  may also contain the discrete logarithms of  $g_1, g_2$  (with respect to  $g$ ), in which case the key-derivation algorithm requires only two exponentiations with respect to the fixed base  $g$ .

## 7.4 Putting it all Together

Given the above, we now fully describe a CCA-secure encryption scheme. In describing the scheme, we focus on the case of encrypting “long” messages (say,  $10^4$  bits or longer). Focusing on this case allows for a more accurate comparison with the scheme of [40] (which also focuses on this case).

Let  $(\text{Mac}, \text{Vrfy})$  denote the CBC-MAC using 128-bit AES as the underlying block cipher. Let  $H : \{0, 1\}^{448} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{128}$  represent a hash function assumed to be second-preimage resistant (constructed, e.g., via a suitable modification of SHA-1). Let  $G : \mathbb{G}_1 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^*$  denote a pseudorandom generator with sufficiently-long output length (constructed, e.g., via a suitable modification of a block/stream cipher). We assume that  $|q| > 128$  so that strings in  $\{0, 1\}^{128}$  may be mapped to  $\mathbb{Z}_q$  in a one-to-one manner. Using the IBE scheme outlined above, we obtain the following (we assume that  $G, H, q, \mathbb{G}, \mathbb{G}_1, \hat{e}, g$ , and  $\hat{e}(g, g)$  are provided as universal parameters):

**Key generation** Choose  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, x \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$  and set  $g_1 = g^{\alpha_1}$ ,  $g_2 = g^{\alpha_2}$ , and  $g_3 = g^x$ . Also set  $Z = \hat{e}(g, g)^{\alpha_1 x}$ . Finally, choose hash function  $h$  from a family of pairwise-independent hash functions. The public key is  $PK = (g_1, g_2, g_3, Z, h)$  and the secret key is  $SK = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, x)$ .

**Encryption** To encrypt message  $M$  using public key  $(g_1, g_2, g_3, Z, h)$ , first choose random  $r \in \{0, 1\}^{448}$  and set  $k_1 = h(r)$  and  $ID = H(r)$ . Choose random  $s \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  and then set  $C = (g^s, g_2^s g_3^{s \cdot ID}, G(Z^s) \oplus (M \circ r))$ . Output the ciphertext

$$\langle ID, C, \text{Mac}_{k_1}(C) \rangle.$$

---

<sup>5</sup>Note that if  $G$  instead represents a hard-core predicate for the *computational* BDH assumption, we obtain a scheme (encrypting a single bit) secure under this, possibly weaker, assumption. Running the scheme in parallel we obtain a scheme encrypting longer messages, as needed by our construction.

|            | Encryption  | Decryption           | Key generation | Ciphertext overhead            |
|------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Our scheme | 3.5 f-exps. | 1.5 exp. + 1 pairing | 4 f-exps.      | $2 \cdot L_{\text{BG}} + 704$  |
| KD-CS [40] | 3.5 f-exps. | 1.5 exps.            | 3 f-exps.      | $2 \cdot L_{\text{DDH}} + 128$ |

Table 1: Efficiency comparison for CCA-secure encryption schemes. See text for discussion.

**Decryption** To decrypt ciphertext  $\langle ID, C, \text{tag} \rangle$ , first parse  $C$  as  $(A, B, \hat{C})$ . Then pick a random  $t \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  and compute the values  $(M \circ r) = \hat{C} \oplus G(\hat{e}(A^{\alpha_1 x + t(\alpha_2 + x \cdot ID)} B^{-t}, g))$ . Set  $k_1 = h(r)$ . If  $\text{Vrfy}_{k_1}(C, \text{tag}) \stackrel{?}{=} 1$  and  $H(r) \stackrel{?}{=} ID$  output  $M$ ; otherwise, output  $\perp$ .

We have changed the steps used in decryption for efficiency purposes, but it is easily checked that decryption yields the same result as deriving a secret key for identity  $ID$  and then using this key to decrypt  $C$ .

We tabulate the efficiency of our scheme, and compare it to the Kurosawa-Desmedt variant of Cramer-Shoup encryption [40, 20] (which we refer to as KD-CS), in Table 1. In tabulating computational efficiency, “private-key” operations (hash function/PRG evaluations) and group multiplications are ignored; “exp” stands for exponentiation; “f-exp” refers to exponentiation relative to a fixed base (where efficiency can be improved using pre-computation); and one multi-exponentiation is counted as 1.5 exponentiations. Ciphertext overhead is the difference (in bits) between the lengths of the ciphertext and the message.  $L_{\text{BG}}$  is the bit-length of an element in a group suitable for our scheme, and  $L_{\text{DDH}}$  is the bit-length of an element in a group suitable for the KD-CS scheme.

Although performance of the two systems looks similar, efficiency of the KD-CS scheme scales better with the security parameter, mainly because it is easier to find groups that are believed to satisfy the DDH assumption needed for KD-CS than to find groups that are believed to satisfy the BDDH assumption that we need. As an example, consider two concrete settings. (The following illustration assumes that the best way to solve either DDH or BDDH is to compute discrete logarithms):

**80-bit security.** Suppose we wish to use groups in which solving the discrete logarithm problem (using the best currently-known algorithms) is roughly equivalent to the security attained by 80-bit symmetric-key cryptography.

- Our scheme can use groups based on so-called MNT elliptic curves [45]. In this case, the discrete logarithm problem in a group  $\mathbb{G}$  in which elements can be written using  $L_{\text{BG}} = \log q$  bits ( $q$  prime) can be reduced to a discrete logarithm problem in  $\mathbb{F}_{q^6}^*$ . (See [12, Section 4.3].) 80-bit security for the latter is obtained by setting  $q^6 \approx 2^{1024}$  [42, 1] (specifically, our numbers throughout this discussion are taken from [1, Table 2]). We thus need  $L_{\text{BG}} \approx 1024/6 \approx 171$ .
- The KD-CS scheme can use standard elliptic curve groups, for which the best-known algorithm for computing discrete logarithms is Pollard’s rho algorithm that runs in time proportional to  $\approx \sqrt{q}$  for groups of order  $q$ . This gives  $L_{\text{DDH}} = \log q \approx 160$  [1].

We see that for this level of security, both schemes have ciphertexts of roughly the same length and group operations take roughly the same amount of time.

**256-bit security.** In this case the KD-CS scheme performs better than our scheme.

- For our scheme, we can use groups based on a certain class of elliptic curves suggested by Barreto and Naehrig [4]. (Note that such curves will give worse performance for the case

of 80-bit security considered above.) Now, the discrete logarithm problem in a group  $\mathbb{G}$  in which elements can be written using  $L_{\text{BG}} = \log q$  bits ( $q$  prime) can be reduced to a discrete logarithm problem in  $\mathbb{F}_{q^{12}}^*$ . 256-bit security for the latter is obtained by setting  $q^{12} \approx 2^{15360}$ . We thus need  $L_{\text{BG}} \approx 15386/12 \approx 1280$ .

- Following the analysis as in the case of 80-bit security, the KD-CS scheme can use  $L_{\text{DDH}} = \log q \approx 512$ .

We conclude that at the present state-of-the-art, the best scheme constructed under the paradigm of Cramer and Shoup is more efficient than the best schemes constructed under the paradigm presented here. (Still, schemes that are constructed under the paradigm from this paper have other advantages, such as being more amenable to distributed implementation, and being able to handle also hierarchical identity based encryption.)

## 8 Conclusions

We presented in this paper new paradigms for constructing CCA-secure public-key encryption schemes using IBE as a building block. Our paradigms extend to enable constructions of CCA-secure (hierarchical) identity-based encryption schemes as well. Instantiating our constructions with existing IBE systems yields a CCA-secure encryption scheme whose performance, for standard settings of the security parameter, is competitive with the best CCA-secure schemes known to date.

## Acknowledgments

We thank Eu-Jin Goh for pointing out that our techniques imply a conversion from IBE to non-adaptive CCA security with essentially no overhead. We also thank the anonymous referees for their helpful comments, and in particular for suggesting a way to simplify the presentation of the proof of Theorem 2

## References

- [1] E. Barker, W. Barker, W. Burr, W. Polk, and M. Smid. *Recommendation for Key Management — Part 1: General*. NIST Special Publication 800-57, August 2005, National Institute of Standards and Technology. Available at <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-57/SP800-57-Part1.pdf>
- [2] M. Bellare, A. Desai, D. Pointcheval, and P. Rogaway. Relations Among Notions of Security for Public-Key Encryption Schemes. *Adv. in Cryptology — Crypto 1998*, LNCS vol. 1462, Springer-Verlag, pp. 26–45, 1998.
- [3] M. Bellare and P. Rogaway. Random Oracles are Practical: a Paradigm for Designing Efficient Protocols. *First ACM Conf. on Computer and Communications Security*, ACM, pp. 62–73, 1993.
- [4] P. Barreto and M. Naehrig. Pairing-Friendly Elliptic Curves of Prime Order. *Selected Areas in Cryptography — SAC 2005*, LNCS vol. 3897, Springer-Verlag, pp. 319–331, 2006.

- [5] D. Bleichenbacher. Chosen-Ciphertext Attacks Against Protocols Based on the RSA Encryption Standard PKCS #1. *Adv. in Cryptology — Crypto 1998*, LNCS vol. 1462, Springer-Verlag, pp. 1–12, 1998.
- [6] M. Blum, P. Feldman, and S. Micali. Non-Interactive Zero-Knowledge and its Applications. *20th ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing*, ACM, pp. 103–112, 1988.
- [7] D. Boneh and X. Boyen. Efficient Selective-ID Secure Identity Based Encryption Without Random Oracles. *Adv. in Cryptology — Eurocrypt 2004*, LNCS vol. 3027, Springer-Verlag, pp. 223–238, 2004. Full version available at <http://eprint.iacr.org/2004/172>
- [8] D. Boneh and X. Boyen. Secure Identity Based Encryption Without Random Oracles. *Adv. in Cryptology — Crypto 2004*, LNCS vol. 3152, Springer-Verlag, pp. 443–459, 2004. Full version available at <http://eprint.iacr.org/2004/173>
- [9] D. Boneh, X. Boyen, and S. Halevi. Chosen-Ciphertext Secure Public-Key Threshold Encryption Without Random Oracles. *Topics in Cryptology — CT-RSA 2006*, LNCS vol. 3860, Springer-Verlag, pp. 226–243, 2006.
- [10] D. Boneh and M. Franklin. Identity-Based Encryption from the Weil Pairing. *SIAM J. Computing* 32(3): 586–615 (2003).
- [11] D. Boneh and J. Katz. Improved Efficiency for CCA-Secure Cryptosystems Built Using Identity-Based Encryption. *Topics in Cryptology — CT-RSA 2005*, LNCS vol. 3376, Springer-Verlag, pp. 87–103, 2005.
- [12] D. Boneh, B. Lynn, and H. Shacham, Short Signatures from the Weil Pairing. *J. Cryptology* 17(4): 297–319, 2004.
- [13] X. Boyen, Q. Mei, and B. Waters, Direct Chosen Ciphertext Security from Identity-Based Techniques. *12th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security*, ACM, pp. 320–329, 2005.
- [14] R. Canetti. Universally Composable Security: A New Paradigm for Cryptographic Protocols. *42nd IEEE Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science*, IEEE, pp. 136–145, 2001. Full version available at <http://eprint.iacr.org/2000/067>.
- [15] R. Canetti, O. Goldreich, and S. Halevi. The Random Oracle Methodology, Revisited. *J. ACM* 51(4): 557–594 (2004).
- [16] R. Canetti, S. Halevi, and J. Katz. A Forward-Secure Public-Key Encryption Scheme. *Adv. in Cryptology — Eurocrypt 2003*, LNCS vol. 2656, Springer-Verlag, pp. 255–271, 2003. Full version available at <http://eprint.iacr.org/2003/083> and to appear in *J. Cryptology*.
- [17] R. Canetti, S. Halevi, and J. Katz. Chosen-Ciphertext Security from Identity-Based Encryption. *Adv. in Cryptology — Eurocrypt 2004*, LNCS vol. 3027, Springer-Verlag, pp. 207–222, 2004.
- [18] R. Canetti, H. Krawczyk, and J.B. Nielsen. Relaxing Chosen Ciphertext Security. *Adv. in Cryptology — Crypto 2003*, LNCS vol. 2656, Springer-Verlag, pp. 565–582, 2003.
- [19] C. Cocks. An Identity-Based Encryption Scheme Based on Quadratic Residues. *Cryptography and Coding*, LNCS vol. 2260, Springer-Verlag, pp. 360–363, 2001.

- [20] R. Cramer and V. Shoup. Design and Analysis of Practical Public-Key Encryption Schemes Secure Against Adaptive Chosen-Ciphertext Attack. *SIAM J. Computing* 33(1): 167–226 (2003).
- [21] R. Cramer and V. Shoup. Universal Hash Proofs and a Paradigm for Adaptive Chosen Ciphertext Secure Public-Key Encryption. *Adv. in Cryptology — Eurocrypt 2002*, LNCS vol. 2332, Springer-Verlag, pp. 45–64, 2002.
- [22] J. Camenisch and V. Shoup. Practical Verifiable Encryption and Decryption of Discrete Logarithms. *Adv. in Cryptology — Crypto 2003*, LNCS vol. 2729, Springer-Verlag, pp. 126–144, 2003.
- [23] I. Damgård, T.P. Pedersen, and B. Pfitzmann. On the Existence of Statistically-Hiding Bit Commitment Schemes and Fail-Stop Signatures. *Adv. in Cryptology — Crypto 1993*, LNCS vol. 773, Springer-Verlag, pp. 250–265, 1993.
- [24] Y. Desmedt and Y. Frankel. Threshold Cryptosystems. *Adv. in Cryptology — Crypto 1989*, LNCS vol. 435, Springer-Verlag, pp. 307–315, 1990.
- [25] G. Di Crescenzo, Y. Ishai, and R. Ostrovsky. Non-Interactive and Non-Malleable Commitment. *30th ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing*, ACM, pp. 141–150, 1998.
- [26] G. Di Crescenzo, J. Katz, R. Ostrovsky, and A. Smith. Efficient and Non-Interactive Non-Malleable Commitment. *Adv. in Cryptology — Eurocrypt 2001*, LNCS vol. 2045, Springer-Verlag, pp. 40–59, 2001.
- [27] D. Dolev, C. Dwork, and M. Naor. Non-Malleable Cryptography. *SIAM J. Computing* 30(2): 391–437 (2000).
- [28] E. Elkind and A. Sahai. A Unified Methodology For Constructing Public-Key Encryption Schemes Secure Against Adaptive Chosen-Ciphertext Attack. Available at <http://eprint.iacr.org/2002/042/>.
- [29] S. Even, O. Goldreich, and S. Micali. On-Line/Off-Line Digital Signatures. *J. Cryptology* 9(1): 35–67 (1996).
- [30] U. Feige, D. Lapidot, and A. Shamir. Multiple Non-Interactive Zero-Knowledge Proofs Under General Assumptions. *SIAM J. Computing* 29(1): 1–28 (1999).
- [31] R. Gennaro and Y. Lindell. A Framework for Password-Based Authenticated Key Exchange. *Adv. in Cryptology — Eurocrypt 2003*, LNCS vol. 2656, Springer-Verlag, pp. 524–543, 2003.
- [32] C. Gentry and A. Silverberg. Hierarchical Identity-Based Cryptography. *Adv. in Cryptology — Asiacrypt 2002*, LNCS vol. 2501, Springer-Verlag, pp. 548–566, 2002.
- [33] O. Goldreich. A Uniform Complexity Treatment of Encryption and Zero-Knowledge. *J. Cryptology* 6(1): 21–53 (1993).
- [34] O. Goldreich. *Foundations of Cryptography, vol. 2: Basic Applications*. Cambridge University Press, 2004.
- [35] O. Goldreich, Y. Lustig, and M. Naor. On Chosen-Ciphertext Security of Multiple Encryptions. Available at <http://eprint.iacr.org/2002/089>.

- [36] S. Goldwasser and S. Micali. Probabilistic Encryption. *J. Computer System Sciences* 28(2): 270–299 (1984).
- [37] S. Halevi and S. Micali. Practical and Provably-Secure Commitment Schemes from Collision-Free Hashing. *Adv. in Cryptology — Crypto 1996*, LNCS vol. 1109, Springer-Verlag, pp. 201–215, 1996.
- [38] J. Håstad, R. Impagliazzo, L. Levin, and M. Luby. Construction of a Pseudorandom Generator from any One-Way Function. *SIAM J. Computing* 28(4): 1364–1396 (1999).
- [39] J. Horwitz and B. Lynn. Toward Hierarchical Identity-Based Encryption. *Adv. in Cryptology — Eurocrypt 2002*, LNCS vol. 2332, Springer-Verlag, pp. 466–481, 2002.
- [40] K. Kurosawa and Y. Desmedt. A New Paradigm of Hybrid Encryption Scheme. *Adv. in Cryptology — Crypto 2004*, LNCS vol. 3152, Springer-Verlag, pp. 426–442, 2004.
- [41] L. Lamport. Constructing Digital Signatures from a One-Way Function. Technical Report CSL-98, SRI International, Palo Alto, 1979.
- [42] A.K. Lenstra and E.R. Verheul. Selecting Cryptographic Key Sizes. *J. Cryptology* 14(4): 255–293 (2001).
- [43] P. MacKenzie, M. Reiter, and K. Yang. Alternatives to Non-Malleability: Definitions, Constructions, and Applications. *First Theory of Cryptography Conference — TCC 2004*, LNCS vol. 2951, Springer-Verlag, pp. 171–190, 2004.
- [44] S. Micali, C. Rackoff, and B. Sloan. The Notion of Security for Probabilistic Cryptosystems. *SIAM J. Computing* 17(2): 412–426 (1988).
- [45] A. Miyaji, M. Nakabayashi, and S. Takano. New Explicit Constructions of Elliptic Curve Traces for FR-Reduction. *IEICE Trans. Fundamentals*, E84-A(5): 1234–1243, 2001.
- [46] M. Naor and M. Yung. Public-Key Cryptosystems Provably-Secure against Chosen-Ciphertext Attacks. *22nd ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing*, ACM, pp. 427–437, 1990.
- [47] C. Rackoff and D. Simon. Non-Interactive Zero-Knowledge Proof of Knowledge and Chosen Ciphertext Attack. *Adv. in Cryptology — Crypto 1991*, LNCS vol. 576, Springer-Verlag, pp. 433–444, 1992.
- [48] A. Sahai. Non-Malleable Non-Interactive Zero Knowledge and Adaptive Chosen-Ciphertext Security. *40th IEEE Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science*, IEEE, pp. 543–553, 1999.
- [49] A. Shamir. Identity-Based Cryptosystems and Signature Schemes. *Adv. in Cryptology — Crypto 1984*, LNCS vol. 196, Springer-Verlag, pp. 47–53, 1985.
- [50] V. Shoup. Why Chosen Ciphertext Security Matters. IBM Research Report RZ 3076, November, 1998. Available at <http://www.shoup.net/papers>.
- [51] D.R. Stinson. Universal Hashing and Authentication Codes. *Designs, Codes, and Cryptography* 4(4): 369–380 (1994).

- [52] Y. Watanabe, J. Shikata, and H. Imai. Equivalence Between Semantic Security and Indistinguishability Against Chosen-Ciphertext Attacks. *Public-Key Cryptography 2003*, LNCS vol. 2567, Springer-Verlag, pp. 71–84, 2003.
- [53] B. Waters. Efficient Identity-Based Encryption Without Random Oracles. *Adv. in Cryptology — Eurocrypt 2005*, LNCS vol. 3494, Springer-Verlag, pp. 114–127, 2005.
- [54] M.N. Wegman and J.L. Carter. New Hash Functions and Their Use in Authentication and Set Equality. *J. Computer System Sciences* 22(3): 265–279 (1981).

## A Review of Standard Definitions

We provide the standard definitions of public-key encryption schemes and their security against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks (following [2]), as well as appropriate definitions for strong one-time signature schemes and message authentication codes.

### A.1 Public-Key Encryption

**Definition 7** A *public-key encryption scheme* PKE is a triple of PPT algorithms  $(\text{Gen}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$  such that:

- The randomized *key generation algorithm*  $\text{Gen}$  takes as input a security parameter  $1^k$  and outputs a public key  $PK$  and a secret key  $SK$ .
- The randomized *encryption algorithm*  $\mathcal{E}$  takes as input a public key  $PK$  and a message  $m$  (in some implicit message space), and outputs a ciphertext  $C$ . We write  $C \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_{PK}(m)$ .
- The (possibly randomized) *decryption algorithm*  $\mathcal{D}$  takes as input a ciphertext  $C$  and a secret key  $SK$ . It returns a message  $m$  or the symbol  $\perp$  (which is not in the message space). We write  $m \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_{SK}(C)$ .

We require that for all  $(PK, SK)$  output by  $\text{Gen}$ , all  $m$  in the message space, and all  $C$  output by  $\mathcal{E}_{PK}(m)$  we have  $\mathcal{D}_{SK}(C) = m$ . ◇

We recall the standard definition of security against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks (cf. [2]).

**Definition 8** A public-key encryption scheme  $\Pi$  is *secure against adaptive chosen-ciphertext attacks* (i.e., “CCA-secure”) if the advantage of any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in the following game is negligible in the security parameter  $k$ :

1.  $\text{Gen}(1^k)$  outputs  $(PK, SK)$ . Adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is given  $1^k$  and  $PK$ .
2. The adversary may make polynomially-many queries to a decryption oracle  $\mathcal{D}_{SK}(\cdot)$ .
3. At some point,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs two messages  $m_0, m_1$  with  $|m_0| = |m_1|$ . A bit  $b$  is randomly chosen and the adversary is given a “challenge ciphertext”  $C^* \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_{PK}(m_b)$ .
4.  $\mathcal{A}$  may continue to query its decryption oracle  $\mathcal{D}_{SK}(\cdot)$  except that it may not request the decryption of  $C^*$ .
5. Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a guess  $b'$ .

We say that  $\mathcal{A}$  *succeeds* if  $b' = b$ , and denote the probability of this event by  $\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Succ}]$ . The adversary’s *advantage* is defined as  $\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} |\Pr_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{\text{PKE}}[\text{Succ}] - 1/2|$ . ◇

## A.2 Signatures and MACs

We remind the reader of the standard functional definitions for signature schemes and message authentication codes, followed by a definition of strong, one-time security appropriate for each.

**Definition 9** A *signature scheme*  $\text{Sig}$  is a triple of PPT algorithms  $(\mathcal{G}, \text{Sign}, \text{Vrfy})$  such that:

- The randomized *key generation algorithm*  $\mathcal{G}$  takes as input the security parameter  $1^k$  and outputs a verification key  $vk$  and a signing key  $sk$ . We make the simplifying assumption that, for any  $k$ , all  $vk$  output by  $\mathcal{G}(1^k)$  have the same length.
- The *signing algorithm*  $\text{Sign}$  takes as input a signing key  $sk$  and a message  $m$  (in some implicit message space), and outputs a signature  $\sigma$ . We write  $\sigma \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{sk}(m)$ .
- The *verification algorithm*  $\text{Vrfy}$  takes as input a verification key  $vk$ , a message  $m$ , and a signature  $\sigma$ , and outputs a bit  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  (where  $b = 1$  signifies “acceptance” and  $b = 0$  signifies “rejection”). We write this as  $b := \text{Vrfy}_{vk}(m, \sigma)$ .

We require that for all  $(vk, sk)$  output by  $\mathcal{G}$ , all  $m$  in the message space, and all  $\sigma$  output by  $\text{Sign}_{sk}(m)$ , we have  $\text{Vrfy}_{vk}(m, \sigma) = 1$ .  $\diamond$

A message authentication code is similar in spirit to a signature scheme, except that here the signing key and verification key are identical. We review the definition for convenience:

**Definition 10** A *message authentication code* is a pair of PPT algorithms  $(\text{Mac}, \text{Vrfy})$  such that:

- The *tagging algorithm*  $\text{Mac}$  takes as input a key  $sk \in \{0, 1\}^k$  (where  $k$  is the security parameter), and a message  $m$  (in some implicit message space). It outputs a tag  $\text{tag}$ , and we denote this by  $\text{tag} \leftarrow \text{Mac}_{sk}(m)$ .
- The *verification algorithm*  $\text{Vrfy}$  takes as input a key  $sk$ , a message  $m$ , and a tag  $\text{tag}$ ; it outputs a bit  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  (where  $b = 1$  signifies “acceptance” and  $b = 0$  signifies “rejection”). We write this as  $b := \text{Vrfy}_{sk}(m, \text{tag})$ .

We require that for all  $sk$ , all  $m$  in the message space, and all  $\text{tag}$  output by  $\text{Mac}_{sk}(m)$ , we have  $\text{Vrfy}_{sk}(m, \text{tag}) = 1$ .  $\diamond$

We next turn to definitions of security for signature schemes and message authentication codes. The definition of security is analogous in each case: the adversary should be unable to forge a valid message/signature (resp., message/tag) pair, after receiving a signature (resp., tag) on any *single* message  $m$  of the adversary’s choice. Note that we require so-called *strong* security in each case, so that it should be infeasible for the adversary to generate even a different signature (resp., tag) on the same message  $m$ . Again, we provide formal definitions for convenience.

**Definition 11** A signature scheme  $\text{Sig}$  is a *strong, one-time signature scheme* if the success probability of any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in the following game is negligible in the security parameter  $k$ :

1.  $\mathcal{G}(1^k)$  outputs  $(vk, sk)$  and the adversary is given  $1^k$  and  $vk$ .
2.  $\mathcal{A}(1^k, vk)$  may do one of the following:
  - (a)  $\mathcal{A}$  may output a pair  $(m^*, \sigma^*)$  and halt. In this case  $(m, \sigma)$  are undefined.
  - (b)  $\mathcal{A}$  may output a message  $m$ , and is then given in return  $\sigma \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{sk}(\cdot)$ . Following this,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs  $(m^*, \sigma^*)$ .

We say the adversary *succeeds* if  $\text{Vrfy}_{vk}(m^*, \sigma^*) = 1$  but  $(m^*, \sigma^*) \neq (m, \sigma)$  (assuming  $(m, \sigma)$  are defined). We stress that the adversary may succeed even if  $m^* = m$ .  $\diamond$

**Definition 12** A message authentication code  $(\text{Mac}, \text{Vrfy})$  is a *strong, one-time message authentication code* if the success probability of any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in the following game is negligible in the security parameter  $k$ :

1. A random key  $sk \in \{0, 1\}^k$  is chosen.
2.  $\mathcal{A}(1^k)$  may do one of the following:
  - (a)  $\mathcal{A}$  may output  $(m^*, \text{tag}^*)$ . In this case,  $(m, \text{tag})$  are undefined.
  - (b)  $\mathcal{A}$  may output a message  $m$  and is then given in return  $\text{tag} \leftarrow \text{Mac}_{sk}(m)$ . Following this,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs  $(m^*, \text{tag}^*)$ .

We say the adversary *succeeds* if  $\text{Vrfy}_{sk}(m^*, \text{tag}^*) = 1$  but  $(m^*, \text{tag}^*) \neq (m, \text{tag})$  (assuming  $(m, \text{tag})$  are defined). We stress that the adversary may succeed even if  $m^* = m$ .  $\diamond$