

# Tighter Security for Group Key Agreement in the Random Oracle Model

Bachelor Thesis
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#### **Abstract**

#### **TODO:** How to adapt abstract? What should it contain?

The Messaging Layer Security (MLS) protocol, recently standardized in RFC 9420 [3], aims to provide efficient asynchronous group key establishment with strong security guarantees. TreeKEM is the construction underlying MLS and a variant of it was proven adaptively secure in the Ran- dom Oracle Model (ROM) with a polynomial loss in security in [1]. The proof makes use of the Generalized Selective Decryption (GSD) security game introduced in [9], adapted to the public-key setting. GSD security is closely related to the security of TreeKEM and the encryption scheme used in TreeKEM was proven to be GSD secure in the ROM under the standard assumption of IND-CPA security, implying a proof of security for TreeKEM (a sketch of this proof was provided in [1] for the TreeKEM variant).

**TODO:** describe results

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#### Chapter 1

## Introduction

**TODO:** more accessible introduction on why this is important We all rely on messaging applications like WhatsApp, Signal, etc. in our daily lives and take it for granted that our messages will be transmitted securely (**TODO:** "see it as a prerequisite" maybe better?). **TODO:** smoother transition to talking about protocols? For two parties, the Double Ratchet protocol is a common solution (**TODO:** true?) to transmit messages securely and efficiently. For more than two parties this problem was only solved recently with the MLS protocol.

The Messaging Layer Security (MLS) protocol, recently standardized in RFC 9420 [3], aims to provide efficient asynchronous group key establishment with strong security guarantees. The main component of MLS, which is the source of its important efficiency and security properties, is a protocol called TreeKEM (initially proposed in [5]). In essence, TreeKEM, as adopted from its predecessors, structures a group of users as a binary tree with the group key at the root and all group members as leaves. Group members may then compute the group key, update it or add/remove other members with a number of operations logarithmic in the group size.

As for any scheme, it is important to have formal security guarantees for TreeKEM based on precise hardness assumptions. Providing security definitions for the scheme already helps to describe exactly what assumptions are made on the capabilities of an adversary and what kind of security one should expect when using the scheme in practice. Moreover, proofs of (reasonably tight) security under these definitions serve as a guide to implementors on what values to choose for the security parameters of the scheme and provide strong justification that there are no flaws in its design. Given that a major vision for the MLS protocol is for it to be used by messaging applications and that it has support from several large companies ([6], [7]), it has the potential to be used by a huge number of users. Thus, it is important to better understand the security of MLS and hence also of TreeKEM.

One choice that can be made when defining the security of TreeKEM is whether the adversary is modeled as *selective* or *adaptive*. In the former case, the adversary must provide all the interactions it will have with the protocol and when it will attempt to break the scheme at the beginning of the security game, while in the latter case the adversary can make its decisions based on responses from previous interactions. Clearly, the adaptive setting is much closer to how an attack would unfold in practice, so it is desirable to prove security against adaptive adversaries. However, achieving this without too much of a blow-up in the security loss is a challenge since one often resorts to guessing actions performed by the adversary.

The Generalized Selective Decryption (GSD) security game ([9]) was introduced precisely to analyze adaptive security for protocols based on a graph-like structure (as is the case with TreeKEM). In [1], a variant of TreeKEM was proven adaptively secure in the Random Oracle Model (ROM) with a security loss in  $\mathcal{O}((n \cdot Q)^2)$  (TODO: Is  $n \cdot Q$  really correct?), where n is the number of users and Q the number of protocol operations performed by these users. The proof mainly relies on showing that the encryption scheme employed in TreeKEM, a slight modification of an arbitrary IND-CPA secure encryption scheme, is GSD secure in the ROM.

TODO: describe results and contribution in detail

#### Chapter 2

## **Preliminaries**

#### 2.1 Notation

We will use the following notation throughout:

- We write x ← S to say that x is sampled uniformly at random from the finite set S
- If G is a cyclic group and g a generator, then
  - We write the group operation in G multiplicatively
  - **–**  $h^{-1}$  denotes the inverse of h ∈  $\mathbb{G}$
  - $\log_g(h)$  denotes the unique  $x \in [|G|]$  such that  $g^x = h$
- We write  $b \leftarrow \mathcal{A}$  to denote the event that a probabilistic polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs the bit b when playing a game where it must output a bit in the end
- For  $a, b \in \{0, 1\}^n$ ,  $a \oplus b$  denotes the XOR of a and b
- For  $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $[n] = \{1, ..., n\}$

#### 2.2 Basic definitions

The definitions presented in this section were taken from [8].

#### 2.2.1 Encryption schemes

Private-key encryption

**Definition 2.1 (Private-key encryption [8, Definition 3.7])** *A* private-key encryption scheme  $\Pi$  *consists of three probabilistic polynomial-time algorithms* (Gen, Enc, Dec) *such that:* 

- 1. The key-generation algorithm Gen takes as input  $1^n$  (in unary) where n is the security parameter and outputs a key k. We will assume the security parameter to be fixed and write  $k \leftarrow \text{Gen}()$ .
- 2. The encryption algorithm Enc takes as input a key k and a plaintext message  $m \in \{0,1\}^*$ , or  $m \in \{0,1\}^{\leq \eta}$  for some  $\eta$  if the message space is finite, and outputs a ciphertext c. We write this as  $c \leftarrow \operatorname{Enc}_k(m)$ .
- 3. The decryption algorithm Dec takes as input a key k and a ciphertext c, and outputs a message m or  $\perp$  (denoting an error). We write this as  $m = Dec_{sk}(c)$ .

We may also refer to algorithm X by  $\Pi.X$  for  $X \in \{Gen, Enc, Dec\}$ .

It is required that for every n, every key k output by Gen, and every message m, it holds that  $Dec_k(Enc_k(m)) = m$ .

#### **Public-key encryption**

**Definition 2.2 (Public-key encryption [8, Definition 12.1])** *A* public-key encryption scheme  $\Pi$  *consists of three probabilistic polynomial-time algorithms* (Gen, Enc, Dec) *such that:* 

- 1. The key-generation algorithm Gen takes as input  $1^n$  (in unary) where n is the security parameter and outputs a pair of keys (pk, sk) (a public and private key). We will assume the security parameter to be fixed and write  $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{Gen}()$ .
- 2. The encryption algorithm Enc takes as input a public key pk and a plaintext message  $m \in \mathcal{M}$  where  $\mathcal{M}$  is the message space and outputs a ciphertext c. We write this as  $c \leftarrow \operatorname{Enc}_{pk}(m)$ .
- 3. The decryption algorithm Dec takes as input a private key sk and a ciphertext c, and outputs a message m or  $\bot$  (denoting an error). We write this as  $m = \operatorname{Dec}_{sk}(c)$ .

*We may also refer to algorithm X by*  $\Pi$ . *X for X*  $\in$  {Gen, Enc, Dec}.

It is required that for every n, every key (pk, sk) output by Gen, and every message m, it holds that  $Dec_{sk}(Enc_{nk}(m)) = m$ .

#### 2.2.2 Security definitions

**Definition 2.3 (The IND-CPA game)** *Let*  $\Pi$  *a private-key encryption scheme. Define the game*  $Game_{\mathcal{A},\Pi}^{IND-CPA}$  *for an adversary*  $\mathcal{A}$ :

- 1. A key  $k \leftarrow \text{Gen}()$  is generated.
- 2. The adversary A is given oracle access to  $\Pi.Enc_k$  and outputs a pair of messages  $m_0, m_1$  of the same length.

- 3. A bit  $b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$  is sampled and A is given a ciphertext  $c \leftarrow \operatorname{Enc}_k(m_b)$ . (A continues to have oracle access to  $\Pi.\operatorname{Enc}_k$ .)
- 4. A outputs a bit b'. The output of the game is defined to be 1 if b' = b, and 0 otherwise.

**Definition 2.4 (IND-CPA security [8, Definition 3.21])** A private-key encryption scheme  $\Pi$  is  $(t, \varepsilon, q)$ -IND-CPA secure if for any adversary A running in time t we have

$$Adv_{\Pi}^{IND-CPA}(\mathcal{A}) \coloneqq 2 \cdot \left| Pr \Big[ Game_{\mathcal{A},\Pi}^{IND-CPA} = 1 \Big] - \frac{1}{2} \right| \le \epsilon.$$

The following fact will be applied several times throughout without reference.

**Lemma 2.5** Let X a Bernoulli random variable and  $b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$ , where X and b may not be independent. Then for  $x \in \{0,1\}$ 

$$2 \cdot \left| \Pr[X = b] - \frac{1}{2} \right| = \left| \Pr[X = x \mid b = 1] - \Pr[X = x \mid b = 0] \right|.$$

In particular, if A is an adversary with output in  $\{0,1\}$  playing a game where a bit  $b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$  is sampled, then for  $x \in \{0,1\}$ 

$$2 \cdot \left| \Pr[b \leftarrow \mathcal{A}] - \frac{1}{2} \right| = \left| \Pr[x \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid b = 1] - \Pr[x \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid b = 0] \right|.$$

**Proof TODO:** Verify statement and prove it.

We will make use of a weaker form of security called "indistinguishability in the presence of an eavesdropper" ([8]) and will refer to it as "EAV security". It is identical to IND-CPA security with the sole exception that the adversary does not have access to an encryption oracle.

**Definition 2.6 (The EAV game)** *Let*  $\Pi$  *a private-key encryption scheme. Define the game*  $Game_{\mathcal{A},\Pi}^{EAV}$  *for an adversary*  $\mathcal{A}$ :

- 1. A key  $k \leftarrow \text{Gen}()$  is generated.
- 2. The adversary A outputs a pair of messages  $m_0$ ,  $m_1$  of the same length.
- 3. A bit  $b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$  is sampled and A is given a ciphertext  $c \leftarrow \operatorname{Enc}_k(m_b)$ .
- 4. A outputs a bit b'. The output of the game is defined to be 1 if b' = b, and 0 otherwise.

**Definition 2.7 (EAV security [8, Definition 3.8])** A private-key encryption scheme  $\Pi$  is  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -EAV secure if for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time t we have

$$Adv_\Pi^{EAV}(\mathcal{A}) := 2 \cdot \left| Pr \Big[ Game_{\mathcal{A},\Pi}^{EAV} = 1 \Big] - \frac{1}{2} \right| \leq \epsilon.$$

**Lemma 2.8** Let  $\Pi$  a private-key encryption scheme. If  $\Pi$  is  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -IND-CPA secure, then  $\Pi$  is  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -EAV secure.

**Proof** This follows immediately from the fact that any EAV adversary is also an IND-CPA adversary.

**Definition 2.9 (The Decisional Diffie-Hellman (DDH) problem)** Let G a cyclic group and g a generator. Define the game  $Game_{\mathcal{A},(G,g)}^{DDH}$  for an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ :

- 1. Exponents  $x, y \leftarrow ||G||$  and a bit  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$  are sampled.
- 2. The adversary A is given  $h_1 := g^x$ ,  $h_2 := g^y$  and

$$k = \begin{cases} g^{x \cdot y} & b = 0\\ \tilde{k} & b = 1 \end{cases}$$

where  $\tilde{k} \leftarrow \mathbb{G}$ .

3. A outputs a bit b'. The output of the game is defined to be 1 if b' = b, and 0 otherwise.

**Definition 2.10 (Hardness of the DDH problem [8, Definition 9.64])** *The DDH problem is*  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -hard in G *with the generator g if for any adversary* A *running in time t we have* 

$$Adv^{DDH}_{(G,g)}(\mathcal{A}) \coloneqq 2 \cdot \left| Pr \Big[ Game^{DDH}_{\mathcal{A},(G,g)} = 1 \Big] - \frac{1}{2} \right| \leq \epsilon.$$

**TODO:** Define DHIES.

#### 2.2.3 The Random Oracle Model

We will work in the commonly used Random Oracle Model (ROM) to prove our results. We refer the reader to [8, Chapter 6.5] for an informal overview of the ROM and to [4] for the original work that introduced the model. The ROM introduces the concept of a *random oracle*. If a function  $H: A \rightarrow B$  is modelled as a random oracle, then certain assumptions are made about what an adversary  $\mathcal A$  knows about H and how it interacts with it:

- From  $\mathcal{A}$ 's perspective, H is a black-box function. The only way for  $\mathcal{A}$  to interact with H is for it to provide a value  $a \in A$  and get back H(a), and this is the only way for  $\mathcal{A}$  to learn H(a). We say that  $\mathcal{A}$  queries H(a) or that  $\mathcal{A}$  queries H for a. This well-defined interface of  $\mathcal{A}$  to H implies that a reduction can extract the queries that  $\mathcal{A}$  makes to H.
- From  $\mathcal{A}$ 's perspective, H is a random variable, uniformly sampled from the set of all functions from A to B. Thus, if  $\mathcal{A}$  queries H for some  $a \in A$  that it has not queried before, the value H(a) is a random variable uniformly distributed in B from  $\mathcal{A}$ 's perspective.

We do not rely on the property known as "programmability" in this work.

#### Chapter 3

## **Tighter GSD security**

**TODO:** Replace mathrm with operatorname where necessary.

**TODO:** Motivate GSD

Following the general approach used in [1] to prove the security of (a variant of) TreeKEM in the ROM, we first prove a result on the GSD security of an IND-CPA secure encryption scheme. We do this specifically for the DHIES scheme. Moreover, we will make some notable modifications to the public-key GSD game defined in [1], to allow for the result to be applied to TreeKEM more directly and thus simplify the proof of Theorem .... We motivate the modifications made later in Section 4 on page 29.

## 3.1 Seeded GSD with Dependencies

We call our adaptation of GSD security Seeded GSD with Dependencies (SD-GSD).

**TODO:** Explain definition in words.

**TODO:** Motivate restrictions to the adversary.

**TODO:** Do not allow cycles in  $(V, E \cup D)$  either.

**TODO:** Add remark that cycles are (maybe) ok in the ROM.

**TODO:** Allow adversary to adaptively create nodes and seed dependencies. Also adapt proofs to guess from [N] as opposed to [n].

**TODO:** Change proofs such that reductions simulate all ROs. Also replace  $t_H \rightarrow x \cdot t_{\text{sample}}$ 

**Definition 3.1 (The SD-GSD game)** *Let*  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$  *a security parameter.* Q: *Where to define*  $\lambda$ ? *Let*  $\Pi = (Gen, Enc, Dec)$  *a public-key encryption scheme. Let* 

 $H_{gen}$ ,  $H_{dep}$ :  $\{0,1\}^{\lambda} \to \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$  two functions. Define the game  $Game_{\mathcal{A},\Pi}^{SD-GSD}$  for an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ :

- 1. The adversary A outputs  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and a list of dependencies  $D = \{(a_i, b_i)\}_{i=1}^m \in [n]^2$ . For each  $v \in [n]$ :
  - (i) Case  $v = b_i$  for some i (v is the target of some dependency): set  $s_v = H_{\text{dep}}(s_{a_i})$ .
    - Otherwise: sample  $s_v \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$ .

We call  $s_v$  the seed of the node v and a tuple  $(a,b) \in D$  a seed dependency.

- (ii) Compute  $(sk_v, pk_v) = \text{Gen}(H_{\text{gen}}(s_v))$ . **TODO:** Define what RHS means. Set  $C = E = \emptyset$ . We call the directed graph ([n], E) a GSD graph of size n.
- 2. A may adaptively do the following queries:
  - reveal(v) for  $v \in [n]$ : A is given  $pk_v$ .
  - encrypt(u,v) for  $u,v \in [n], u \neq v, (u,v) \notin E$ : (u,v) is added to E and A is given  $c \leftarrow \operatorname{Enc}_{vk_u}(s_v)$ .
  - corrupt(v) for  $v \in [n]$ ,  $v \notin C$ : A is given  $s_v$  and v is added to C. We call such a node  $v \in C$  corrupted. All nodes not reachable from any corrupted node in the graph ([n],  $E \cup D$ ) are safe (while all other nodes are unsafe) and we call their seeds hidden (even if an unsafe node happens to have the same seed).
- 3. A outputs a node  $v \in [n]$ . We call v the challenge node. A bit  $b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$  is sampled and A is given

$$r = \begin{cases} H_{\text{dep}}(s_v) & b = 0 \\ s & b = 1 \end{cases},$$

where  $s \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$ . A may continue to do queries as before.

4. A outputs a bit b'. The output of the game is defined to be 1 if b' = b, and 0 otherwise.

We require an adversary playing the above game to adhere to the following:

- The challenge node always remains a sink **TODO**: Not necessary?
- The challenge node is safe
- reveal is never queried on the challenge node **TODO**: Not necessary?
- The graphs (V, E) and (V, D) always remain acyclic and without self-loops
- All paths in the graph (V, D) are vertex disjoint **TODO**: This avoids multiple sources for single target.

Since we are only interested in the security of the SD-GSD game for the case where  $H_{\rm gen}$  and  $H_{\rm dep}$  are random oracles, our definition of security is centered around the choice of the encryption scheme  $\Pi$ .

**Definition 3.2 (SD-GSD security)** The triple  $(\Pi, H_{\text{gen}}, H_{\text{dep}})$ , where  $\Pi$  is a public-key encryption scheme and  $H_{\text{gen}}, H_{\text{dep}}$  are functions  $\{0,1\}^{\lambda} \to \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$ , is  $(t, \varepsilon, N, \delta)$ -SD-GSD secure if for any adversary A constructing a GSD graph of size at most N and indegree at most  $\delta$  and running in t time we have

$$Adv_{\Pi}^{SD-GSD}(\mathcal{A}) := 2 \cdot \left| Pr \Big[ Game_{\mathcal{A},\Pi}^{SD-GSD} = 1 \Big] - \frac{1}{2} \right| \leq \epsilon.$$

**Definition 3.3 (SD-GSD security in the ROM)** A public-key encryption scheme  $\Pi$  is  $(t, \varepsilon, N, \delta)$ -SD-GSD secure in the ROM if the triple  $(\Pi, H_{\text{gen}}, H_{\text{dep}})$  is  $(t, \varepsilon, N, \delta)$ -SD-GSD secure when  $H_{\text{gen}}$  and  $H_{\text{dep}}$  are modelled as random oracles.

#### 3.2 Proving SD-GSD security for DHIES in the ROM

**TODO:** Comment on switch from IND-CPA security to EAV security.

**Theorem 3.4** Let  $N, \delta \in \mathbb{N}$  arbitrary with  $\delta \leq N$ . Let  $\Pi_{DH}$  the DHIES scheme instantiated with a private-key encryption scheme  $\Pi_s$  where  $\Pi_s$ . Gen samples a key uniformly at random from  $\{0,1\}^\kappa$ . Let  $H_{DH}$  the KDF and G the group used in  $\Pi_{DH}$ . If  $\Pi_s$  is  $(t,\varepsilon)$ -EAV secure, the DDH problem is  $(t,\varepsilon)$ -hard in G and  $H_{DH}$  is modelled as a random oracle, then  $\Pi_{DH}$  is  $(\tilde{t},\tilde{\varepsilon},N,\delta)$ -SD-GSD secure in the ROM with

$$\tilde{\varepsilon} = 2 \cdot (\delta + 1) \cdot N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{2 \cdot m_{\mathrm{DH}} \cdot N^2}{|\mathbb{G}|} + \frac{m_{\mathrm{s}} \cdot N}{2^{\lambda - 1}},$$

where  $m_s$  is an upper bound on the number of queries made to either  $H_{gen}$  or  $H_{dep}$  and  $m_{DH}$  is an upper bound on the number of queries made to  $m_{DH}$ , and with

$$\begin{split} \tilde{t} &= t - \mathcal{O} \big( \lambda \cdot m_{\text{S}} \\ &+ N \cdot (t_{H_{\text{gen}}} + t_{H_{\text{dep}}} + (\lambda + \kappa) \cdot t_{\text{sample}} + m_{\text{DH}} \cdot t_{\text{op}} + t_{\Pi_{\text{DH}}.\text{Gen}} \big) \\ &+ N^2 \cdot t_{\Pi_{\text{DH}}.\text{Enc}} \big), \end{split}$$

where the various variables denote the following

- $t_{H_{gen}}$ : time to evaluate  $H_{gen}$  on  $s \in \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$
- $t_{H_{dep}}$ : time to evaluate  $H_{dep}$  on  $s \in \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$
- $t_{\text{sample}}$ : time to sample a bit
- $t_{\Pi_{DH},Enc}$ : time to encrypt  $s \in \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$  with  $\Pi_{DH}$
- $t_{\Pi_{DH}.Gen}$ : runtime of  $\Pi_{DH}.Gen$
- $t_{op}$ : time to perform the group operation in  $\mathbb{G}$
- $\gamma$ : length of encoding of a group element G (used in Lemma 3.8)

**Intuition** Consider an arbitrary SD-GSD adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ . For an execution of  $\mathsf{Game}_{\mathcal{A},\Pi_{\mathrm{DH}}}^{\mathrm{SD-GSD}}$  we say " $\mathcal{A}$  wins" to denote the event  $\mathsf{Game}_{\mathcal{A},\Pi_{\mathrm{DH}}}^{\mathrm{SD-GSD}}=1$ . As usual with random oracles we proceed by a case distinction on whether they were queried on some interesting value. Accordingly, let  $Q_{\mathrm{x}}$  denote the event that  $\mathcal{A}$  queries  $H_{\mathrm{x}}$  on a hidden seed for  $x \in \{\mathrm{gen}, \mathrm{dep}\}$ . Then we can write

$$\begin{split} \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] &= \Pr \big[ \mathcal{A} \text{ wins} \wedge Q_{\text{dep}} \big] + \Pr \big[ \mathcal{A} \text{ wins} \wedge \overline{Q_{\text{dep}}} \big] \\ &\leq \Pr \big[ \mathcal{A} \text{ wins} \wedge Q_{\text{dep}} \big] + \Pr \big[ \mathcal{A} \text{ wins} \mid \overline{Q_{\text{dep}}} \big] \\ &\stackrel{(\dagger)}{=} \Pr \big[ \mathcal{A} \text{ wins} \wedge Q_{\text{dep}} \big] + \frac{1}{2} \\ &\leq \Pr \big[ Q_{\text{dep}} \big] + \frac{1}{2} \\ &\leq \Pr[Q_{\text{s}}] + \frac{1}{2}, \end{split} \tag{3.1}$$

where  $Q_s := Q_{\text{gen}} \cup Q_{\text{dep}}$  (s for *seed*). Step (†) intuitively holds because without having queried  $H_{\text{dep}}$  for any hidden seed, in particular  $s_v$ ,  $H_{\text{dep}}(s_v)$  is a uniformly random value from  $\mathcal{A}$ 's perspective. Therefore, it can do no better than guessing to distinguish  $H_{\text{dep}}(s_v)$  from s.

**TODO:** Motivate why we introduce  $Q_s$ . (Reason: If we try to bound  $Q_{dep}$  by itself, we must separately deal with the case where the adversary was able to trigger it at a node v by triggering  $Q_{gen}$  at a parent node p and subsequently decrypting a ciphertext. But our argument To eliminate this, we want to look at the point in time where either of the two events was first triggered.)

The heart of the proof is to bound  $\Pr[Q_s]$ . When the adversary first triggers  $Q_s$  by querying the seed of some safe node w, (with overwhelming probability w will be the only node with this seed and) it can only have learned the seed through encryptions  $c_1 \leftarrow \Pi_{DH}.\text{Enc}_{pk_{u_1}}(s_w), \ldots, c_d \leftarrow \Pi_{DH}.\text{Enc}_{pk_{u_d}}(s_w)$  where  $(u_1, w), \ldots, (u_d, w)$  are edges in the GSD graph (obtained through corresponding queries encrypt $(u_1, w), \ldots$ , encrypt $(u_d, w)$ ). The only other potential source of information about  $s_w$  would be a seed dependency (p, w), but this tells  $\mathcal{A}$  nothing: Since w is safe, p would also be safe and  $H_{\text{dep}}(s_p)$  cannot have been queried due to the assumption that w was the first node to trigger  $Q_s$ . Without having queried  $H_{\text{dep}}(s_p)$ , by virtue of  $H_{\text{dep}}$  being a random oracle  $s_w$  has the same distribution as a seed without a dependency from  $\mathcal{A}$ 's perspective (uniformly random).

**TODO:** Add plot illustrating edges in GSD graph and a potential seed dependency.

The proof in [1] simply argued that this is not too likely if these encryptions were made with an IND-CPA secure scheme. In the context of the DHIES scheme we can say more about these encryptions and achieve a better reduction loss. Let  $x_i = \log_g(pk_{u_i})$  (where g is the generator of G being used

in  $\Pi_{DH}$ ). Each encryption  $c_i$  is a tuple of the form  $\langle g^{y_i}, \Pi_s. \text{Enc}_{k_i}(s_w) \rangle$  where  $y_i \leftarrow [|G|], k_i = H_{DH}(g^{x_i \cdot y_i})$ . Now we can again do a case distinction on whether  $H_{DH}$  was queried for some group element  $g^{x_j \cdot y_j}$  or not:

- If such a query was made, then  $\mathcal{A}$  solved the Diffie-Hellman challenge  $(g^{x_j}, g^{y_j})$ . (Remember that we assumed that w is the first node for which  $Q_s$  is triggered and as before if w is safe, then so are the nodes  $u_i$ . Thus the adversary has not learned the exponent  $x_i$  through querying  $H_{\text{gen}}(s_{u_i})$  for any i.)
- If no such query was made, then from  $\mathcal{A}$ 's perspective all the  $k_i$  are independent, uniformly random keys and it still was able to learn  $s_w$  from the EAV secure encryptions  $\Pi_s.\operatorname{Enc}_{k_1}(s_w),\ldots,\Pi_s.\operatorname{Enc}_{k_d}(s_w)$ .

We can bound the probability of either of these events occurring using hardness of the DDH problem in  $\mathbb{G}$  and EAV security of  $\Pi_s$ , respectively.

To this end, we call a group element  $k \in \mathbb{G}$  a hidden Diffie-Hellman key if  $k = pk_u^{y_{u,v}}$ , where (u,v) is an edge in the GSD graph, u is safe and  $y_{u,v}$  is the exponent chosen in the DHIES encryption of  $s_v$  (i.e.  $\mathcal{A}$  was given a ciphertext of the form  $\langle g^{y_{u,v}}, \ldots \rangle$  when it queried encrypt(u,v)). Now analogously to above let  $Q_{\mathrm{DH}}$  the event that  $\mathcal{A}$  queries  $H_{\mathrm{DH}}$  on a hidden Diffie-Hellman key and let  $F_{\mathrm{DH}}$  the event that  $\mathcal{A}$  triggers  $Q_{\mathrm{DH}}$  before having triggered  $Q_{\mathrm{s}}$ . Then we can split the event  $Q_{\mathrm{s}}$  into two cases as motivated above:

$$\Pr[Q_s] = \Pr[Q_s \wedge F_{DH}] + \Pr[Q_s \wedge \overline{F_{DH}}].$$

We bound  $\Pr[Q_s \wedge F_{DH}]$  and  $\Pr[Q_s \wedge \overline{F_{DH}}]$  in Lemma 3.12 and Lemma 3.8, respectively. Overall this gives us a bound on the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  using (3.1). (To be precise, the event  $Q_s \wedge F_{DH}$  is a superset of the first scenario described further above. However, the argument applied in Lemma 3.12 gives the same bound for either event and this more general event has the advantage of being simpler.)

**Proof (of Theorem 3.4)** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  an arbitrary SD-GSD adversary running in time  $\tilde{t}$ . We will use the events defined above. We first justify step (†) in (3.1). Note that by the rules imposed on the adversary in the SD-GSD game, the challenge node v is safe and its seed  $s_v$  thus indeed hidden. If  $Q_{\text{dep}}$  does not hold, then  $\mathcal{A}$  has not queried  $H_{\text{dep}}$  for  $s_v$  and, by virtue of  $H_{\text{dep}}$  being a random oracle,  $H_{\text{dep}}(s_v)$  is a uniformly distributed value in  $\{0,1\}^{\lambda}$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ 's perspective. The value s follows the same distribution. Thus,  $\mathcal{A}$  behaves the same when given either r = s or  $r = H_{\text{dep}}(s_v)$  and

$$\Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid \overline{Q_{\text{dep}}}, b = 1] = \Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid \overline{Q_{\text{dep}}}, r = s]$$

$$= \Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid \overline{Q_{\text{dep}}}, r = H_{\text{dep}}(s_v)]$$

$$= \Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid \overline{Q_{\text{dep}}}, b = 0].$$
(3.2)

Therefore

$$\begin{split} \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins } \mid \overline{Q_{\text{dep}}} \,] &= \Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid \overline{Q_{\text{dep}}}, b = 1] \cdot \frac{1}{2} \\ &+ \Pr[0 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid \overline{Q_{\text{dep}}}, b = 0] \cdot \frac{1}{2} \\ &\stackrel{\text{(3.2)}}{=} \Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid \overline{Q_{\text{dep}}}, b = 0] \cdot \frac{1}{2} \\ &+ \Pr[0 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid \overline{Q_{\text{dep}}}, b = 0] \cdot \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}. \end{split}$$

By Lemma 3.12 on page 22 we have

$$\Pr[Q_{\rm s} \wedge F_{\rm DH}] \leq N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{m_{\rm DH} \cdot N^2}{|\mathbb{G}|}.$$

and by Lemma 3.8 on page 15 we have

$$\Pr[Q_{s} \wedge \overline{F_{DH}}] \leq \delta \cdot N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{m_{s} \cdot N}{2^{\lambda}},$$

so we know that

$$\Pr[Q_{\rm s}] \leq (\delta+1) \cdot N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{m_{
m DH} \cdot N^2}{|\mathbb{G}|} + \frac{m_{\rm s} \cdot N}{2^{\lambda}}.$$

Then by (3.1)

$$\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] \leq (\delta + 1) \cdot N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{m_{\text{DH}} \cdot N^2}{|\mathbb{G}|} + \frac{m_{\text{s}} \cdot N}{2^{\lambda}} + \frac{1}{2},$$

so

$$\mathrm{Adv}_{\Pi}^{\mathrm{SD-GSD}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq 2 \cdot \left( (\delta + 1) \cdot N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{m_{\mathrm{DH}} \cdot N^2}{|\mathbb{G}|} + \frac{m_{\mathrm{s}} \cdot N}{2^{\lambda}} \right) = \tilde{\varepsilon}.$$

**TODO:** Compare with result from [1].

#### 3.2.1 Reducing to EAV security

**TODO:** Motivate MI-EAV security by relating to intuition of Lemma 3.4.

**Definition 3.5 (The MI-EAV game)** Let  $\Pi$  a private-key encryption scheme. Define the game  $\mathsf{Game}_{\mathcal{A},\Pi}^{\mathrm{MI-EAV}}$  for an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ :

1. The adversary A outputs  $q \in \mathbb{N}$  and a pair of messages  $m_0$ ,  $m_1$  of the same length. We refer to q as the number of queries made by A.

- 2. A bit  $b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$  is sampled. For each  $i \in [q]$ , A is given an encryption  $c_i \leftarrow \Pi.\text{Enc}_{k_i}(m_b)$  where  $k_i \leftarrow \Pi.\text{Gen}()$  is generated independently of the other keys.
- 3. A outputs a bit b'. The output of the game is defined to be 1 if b' = b, and 0 otherwise.

**Definition 3.6 (MI-EAV security)** A private-key encryption scheme  $\Pi$  is  $(t, \varepsilon, q)$ -MI-EAV secure if for any adversary A making at most q queries and running in time t we have

$$Adv_{\Pi}^{MI-EAV}(\mathcal{A}) \coloneqq 2 \cdot \left| Pr \Big[ Game_{\mathcal{A},\Pi}^{MI-EAV} = 1 \Big] - \frac{1}{2} \right| \leq \epsilon.$$

Similar to how IND-CPA security for a single encryption query implies IND-CPA security for q queries with a security loss of q by a standard hybrid argument, we can show that EAV security implies MI-EAV security with the same loss. Given the well known result for IND-CPA security, it is clear that one should be able to use an analogous hybrid argument to show MI-EAV security from IND-CPA security. To see why we can make do with EAV security, recall the hybrid argument for IND-CPA security: We define the sequence of hybrid games  $H_0, \ldots, H_q$  where in the game  $H_i$  the first i encryption queries encrypt the second message and the remaining q-i queries encrypt the first message. Then given an IND-CPA adversary  $\mathcal A$  for multiple encryptions, an IND-CPA adversary  $\mathcal A'$  is constructed to bound

$$|\Pr[A \text{ outputs 1 in game } H_{i-1}] - \Pr[A \text{ outputs 1 in game } H_i]|$$

for arbitrary i. The adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  simulates  $H_{i-1}$  or  $H_i$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  depending on whether the ciphertext received from the (single-query) IND-CPA challenger, which gets passed on as the response to the i-th query, encrypts the first or the second message from the i-th pair of messages.  $\mathcal{A}'$  then uses the encryption oracle to pass on the right encryptions to  $\mathcal{A}$  for all other queries. Now notice that if we wanted to simulate to an MI-EAV adversary we wouldn't need access to an encryption oracle since for the MI-EAV security game all the other encryptions can easily be generated by  $\mathcal{A}'$  sampling the new keys itself.

**Lemma 3.7** Let  $\Pi$  a private-key encryption scheme with finite message space. Let  $t_{\text{Gen}}$ ,  $t_{\text{Enc}}$  upper bounds for the runtime of  $\Pi$ .Gen and  $\Pi$ .Enc, respectively. If  $\Pi$  is  $(t,\varepsilon)$ -EAV secure, then for all  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\Pi$  is  $(\tilde{t},q \cdot \varepsilon,q)$ -MI-EAV secure with  $\tilde{t} = t - \mathcal{O}(q \cdot (t_{\text{Gen}} + t_{\text{Enc}}))$ .

#### **Q:** Move proof to appendix?

**Proof** Note that since the message space is finite, the time to encrypt a message is bounded. As outlined above the Lemma follows from a simple hybrid argument. Let  $q \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  an arbitrary MI-EAV adversary running

in time  $\tilde{t}$  and making at most q queries. Define the sequence of hybrid games  $H_0, \ldots, H_q$  where in the game  $H_i$  the first i encryptions given to the adversary encrypt  $m_1$  and all remaining encryptions encrypt  $m_0$ . We will write

$$\Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_i]$$

for the probability of A outputting 1 when playing the hybrid game  $H_i$ .

Let  $i \in [q]$ . Construct an EAV adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  that behaves as follows:

- 1.  $\mathcal{A}'$  runs  $\mathcal{A}$  and gets  $q, m_0, m_1$ .
- 2.  $\mathcal{A}'$  outputs the messages  $m_0$ ,  $m_1$  and gets a ciphertext c from the challenger.
- 3. A' gives the ciphertexts  $c_1, \ldots, c_q$  to A where

$$c_j = \begin{cases} \Pi.\operatorname{Enc}_{k_j}(m_1) & i < j \\ c & i = j \\ \Pi.\operatorname{Enc}_{k_j}(m_0) & i > j \end{cases}$$

and  $k_j \leftarrow \Pi.\text{Gen}() \ \forall j$ .

4. A' outputs whatever bit A outputs.

Now consider the value of the bit b sampled in the EAV game. If b = 0, then the first i - 1 ciphertexts that  $\mathcal{A}$  received were encryptions of  $m_1$  and the remaining ciphertexts were encryptions of  $m_0$ , where all encryptions were under keys sampled independently with  $\Pi$ .Gen. Thus, from the view of  $\mathcal{A}$  everything followed the same distribution as in the game  $H_{i-1}$  and

$$\Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 0] = \Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_{i-1}].$$

Analogously, in the case b=1 the first i ciphertexts received by A were encryptions of  $m_1$  and the rest encryptions of  $m_0$  so

$$\Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 1] = \Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_i].$$

Then

$$|\Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_{i-1}] - \Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_i]|$$

$$= |\Pr[\mathcal{A}' \rightarrow 1 \mid b = 0] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}' \rightarrow 1 \mid b = 1]|$$

$$= \operatorname{Adv}_{\Pi}^{\operatorname{EAV}}(\mathcal{A}')$$

$$\leq \varepsilon$$
(3.3)

by  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -EAV security of  $\Pi$  since  $\mathcal{A}'$  runs in time  $\tilde{t} + \mathcal{O}(q \cdot (t_{\mathsf{Gen}} + t_{\mathsf{Enc}})) = t$ . Now let b be the bit sampled in the MI-EAV game. Notice that

$$\Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid b = 0] = \Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_0]$$

and

$$\Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid b = 1] = \Pr[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_q].$$

Then

$$\begin{split} \operatorname{Adv}^{\operatorname{MI-EAV}}_{\Pi}(\mathcal{A}) &= |\operatorname{Pr}[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid b = 0] - \operatorname{Pr}[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid b = 1]| \\ &= |\operatorname{Pr}[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_0] - \operatorname{Pr}[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_q]| \\ &= \left| \sum_{i=1}^{q} \operatorname{Pr}[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_{i-1}] - \operatorname{Pr}[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_i] \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{q} |\operatorname{Pr}[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_{i-1}] - \operatorname{Pr}[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_i]| \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{q} |\operatorname{Pr}[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_{i-1}] - \operatorname{Pr}[1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A} \mid H_i]| \\ &\stackrel{(3.3)}{\leq} q \cdot \varepsilon. \end{split}$$

**Lemma 3.8** Recall the assumptions, variables and events from the statement and proof of Theorem 3.4. In particular, assume that  $\Pi_s$  is  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -EAV secure. Let  $\mathcal A$  an SD-GSD adversary running in time  $\tilde t$ , making at most  $m_s$  queries to  $H_{gen}$  or  $H_{dep}$  and at most  $m_{DH}$  queries to  $H_{DH}$ . Then

$$\Pr[Q_{s} \wedge \overline{F_{\mathrm{DH}}}] \leq \delta \cdot N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{m_{s} \cdot N}{2^{\lambda}}.$$

**Intuition** By Lemma 3.7 on page 13 we know that  $\Pi_s$  is MI-EAV secure. Continuing the high-level argument before the proof of Theorem 3.4, consider the first moment that  $\mathcal{A}$  triggers  $Q_s \wedge \overline{F_{\mathrm{DH}}}$  by querying the seed of some safe node w. As intended, it follows from the definition of the event  $F_{\mathrm{DH}}$  that from  $\mathcal{A}$ 's perspective all DHIES ciphertexts it got from queries encrypt(u, w) for any u contain encryptions of  $s_w$  under independent, uniformly random keys using  $\Pi_s$ . Moreover, as already argued once,  $\mathcal{A}$  has learned nothing from a potential seed dependency (p, w), so these encryptions are everything  $\mathcal{A}$  had at its proposal to learn  $s_w$ .

#### TODO: Add plot.

We can use  $\mathcal{A}'$ s ability to compute the seed  $s_w$  of a safe node w from encryptions of  $s_w$  to construct an MI-EAV adversary: We first guess a node z whose seed  $\mathcal{A}$  may query. Next we give the MI-EAV challenger  $s_z$  and some other independent seed s, and embed the encryptions we get back into the SD-GSD game when answering queries of the form encrypt(u, z) for any u. Now consider the behavior of  $\mathcal{A}$  depending on which seed the challenger chooses to encrypt:

• If the challenger chooses to encrypt  $s_z$ , then  $\mathcal{A}$  will trigger the event  $Q_{\rm s} \wedge \overline{F_{\rm DH}}$  with the same probability as before and if we guessed z correctly (i.e. z=w) we can detect whether  $Q_{\rm s} \wedge \overline{F_{\rm DH}}$  gets triggered

(by checking if  $H_{\text{gen}}(s_z)$  or  $H_{\text{dep}}(s_z)$  was queried by  $\mathcal{A}$  during the simulation).

• If the challenger chooses to encrypt s, then A receives no information about  $s_z$  and has negligible probability of querying it.

Thus, the advantage of the adversary is about  $\Pr[Q_s \land \overline{F_{DH}}]/N$ , where the factor 1/N arises from guessing z, and using that  $\Pi_s$  is MI-EAV secure we can bound this probability. Since we are only interested in checking whether the event was triggered for z, the adversary can abort when this is no longer possible (z is corrupted, some other hidden seed is queried, etc.).

**Proof (of Lemma 3.8)** As motivated above we construct an MI-EAV adversary A' to derive the bound. A' behaves as follows:

- 1. A' runs A to get n and D and initializes the GSD graph, seeds and the set of edges and corrupted nodes as in step 1 of the SD-GSD game.
- 2.  $\mathcal{A}'$  samples  $w \leftarrow [n], s \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$  and gives  $\delta$  and the messages  $s_w, s$  to the challenger. Let  $c_1, \ldots, c_{\delta}$  the encryptions it gets back.
- 3.  $\mathcal{A}'$  faithfully simulates the SD-GSD game to  $\mathcal{A}$  with the following exception: Whenever  $\mathcal{A}$  makes a query of the form  $\operatorname{encrypt}(u, w)$  for any u,  $\mathcal{A}'$  replies with  $\langle g^x, c_i \rangle$  where  $x \leftarrow [|\mathbb{G}|]$  and i is the index of the next ciphertext (from step 2) not yet used.

During the simulation A' also pays attention to the following:

- If any of the following events occur, A' aborts the simulation and outputs 0:
  - A queries  $H_{DH}$  for a hidden Diffie-Hellman key
  - A queries  $H_{gen}$  or  $H_{dep}$  for a hidden seed that is not  $s_w$
  - $\mathcal{A}$  queries corrupt(u) for some node u such that w is no longer safe
- If  $\mathcal{A}$  queries  $H_{\text{gen}}(s_w)$  or  $H_{\text{dep}}(s_w)$ ,  $\mathcal{A}'$  aborts the simulation and outputs 1. This is the only point at which  $\mathcal{A}'$  outputs 1.

If the simulation arrives to the point where A outputs its guess (step 4 of the SD-GSD game), then A' outputs 0.

The advantage of A' is given by

$$Adv_{\Pi}^{\text{MI-EAV}}(\mathcal{A}') = \left| \Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 0] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 1] \right|, \tag{3.4}$$

where *b* is the bit sampled by the MI-EAV challenger.

First, we will show that

$$\Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 0] \ge \frac{\Pr[Q_{s} \land \overline{F_{DH}}]}{N}.$$
 (3.5)

Let  $E = Q_s \wedge \overline{F_{DH}}$  and let E' the same event in the SD-GSD game simulated to  $\mathcal{A}$  during an execution of  $\operatorname{Game}_{\mathcal{A}',\Pi_s}^{\operatorname{MI-EAV}}$  with b=0. In the following while showing (3.5) we will implicitly assume that b=0 when referring to the game simulated to  $\mathcal{A}$  by  $\mathcal{A}'$ . On a high level (3.5) holds due to the fact that as long as the game has not been aborted the encryptions  $\mathcal{A}$  receives from  $\mathcal{A}'$  are indistinguishable from what it would get in the real SD-GSD game and we get a factor  $\frac{1}{N}$  from guessing the node that triggered E. However, showing this requires a few steps.

Consider a modification of the SD-GSD game  $G_1$  where the game is aborted whenever one of the following events occurs, where for all these events A' would also abort the simulation:

- A queries  $H_{DH}$  for a hidden Diffie-Hellman key
- A queries  $H_{gen}$  or  $H_{dep}$  for a hidden seed

(Since we are not interested in the output of the game we can define *aborting* the game as the game ending with output 0.) The game  $G_1$  is something between the real SD-GSD game and what  $\mathcal{A}'$  simulates to  $\mathcal{A}$ . The only difference in when  $G_1$  aborts compared to the game simulated by  $\mathcal{A}'$  is that we aren't paying attention to some specific node w remaining safe. Aborting the game in this way does not alter the probability of  $\mathcal{A}$  triggering the event E in  $G_1$ , since in either case when the game is aborted either E or  $\overline{E}$  is already known to hold:

- If  $\mathcal{A}$  queries  $H_{\mathrm{DH}}$  for a hidden Diffie-Hellman key, then it triggers  $Q_{\mathrm{DH}}$  and  $Q_{\mathrm{s}}$  has not been triggered before since this would have caused the game to be aborted. Thus,  $\mathcal{A}$  triggered  $F_{\mathrm{DH}}$  and  $Q_{\mathrm{s}} \wedge \overline{F_{\mathrm{DH}}}$  cannot hold in this execution of the game.
- If  $\mathcal{A}$  queries  $H_{\text{gen}}$  or  $H_{\text{dep}}$  for a hidden seed, then this triggers  $Q_{\text{s}}$ . Moreover,  $\overline{F_{\text{DH}}}$  also holds at this moment since the game would have aborted earlier if  $Q_{\text{DH}}$  had already been triggered. Thus,  $Q_{\text{s}} \wedge \overline{F_{\text{DH}}}$  holds.

Let  $E_1$  the same event as E in the game  $G_1$ . As argued above we have

$$\Pr[E_1] = \Pr[E]. \tag{3.6}$$

Now consider a game  $G_2$  which is a modification of the game  $G_1$  where at the beginning of the game  $w_2 \leftarrow [n]$  is sampled and the game also aborts if  $\mathcal{A}$  queries corrupt(u) for some node u such that  $w_2$  is no longer safe, just as in the game simulated by  $\mathcal{A}'$ . The game  $G_2$  is again something between the game  $G_1$  and what  $\mathcal{A}'$  simulates to  $\mathcal{A}$ . We also modify  $G_1$  such that it also samples  $w_1 \leftarrow [n]$  at the beginning of the game. This does not change the fact that (3.6) holds as the sampling of  $w_1$  has no effect on the execution of the game.

Let  $E_2$  and E' the events corresponding to E in the game  $G_2$  and the game simulated by A', respectively. We further introduce a new random variable W to analyze each game where

$$W = \begin{cases} 0 & \overline{E} \\ x & E \text{ was triggered at node } x \end{cases}$$

(if x is not unique we choose the node with lowest identifier). Let  $W_1$ ,  $W_2$  and W' be the corresponding random variables in game  $G_1$ , game  $G_2$  and the game simulated by  $\mathcal{A}'$ . Consider the probability  $\Pr[W_1 = w_1 \mid E_1]$ . The node  $w_1$  is sampled independently and does not affect the execution of the game. Therefore, in an execution where  $E_1$  occurs and the GSD graph has size n (so  $W_1 \in [n]$ ), we correctly guess  $W_1 = w_1$  with probability exactly  $\frac{1}{n} \geq \frac{1}{N}$ . Thus

$$\Pr[W_1 = w_1 \mid E_1] \ge \frac{1}{N}$$

and combining this with (3.6) we get

$$Pr[W_{1} = w_{1}] = Pr[W_{1} = w_{1} \wedge E_{1}]$$

$$= Pr[W_{1} = w_{1} \mid E_{1}] \cdot Pr[E_{1}]$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{N} \cdot Pr[E].$$
(3.7)

Analogously to the argument used to justify (3.6), we can argue that

$$Pr[W_1 = w_1] = Pr[W_2 = w_2]. (3.8)$$

The only difference from  $G_1$  to  $G_2$  is that  $G_2$  aborts when  $w_2$  is no longer safe. But if  $w_2$  is no longer safe then we know that  $W_2 \neq w_2$  (if  $W_2 = w_2$  the game would have already aborted when  $w_2$ 's seed was queried while it was safe). Thus, (3.6) indeed holds.

We now show an analogous result comparing the game  $G_2$  to the game simulated by A':

$$\Pr[W_2 = w_2] = \Pr[W' = w].$$
 (3.9)

Consider how  $G_2$  differs from the game simulated by  $\mathcal{A}'$ . Both games abort at exactly the same events (verify this! **Q**: Ok to add such a note for the reader?). They only differ in how  $\mathcal{A}'$  answers queries encrypt(u, w) for any u. In  $G_2$  such a query is answered with a ciphertext  $\langle g^x, c \rangle$  where  $x \leftarrow [|\mathbb{G}|], c \leftarrow \Pi_s.\mathrm{Enc}_k(s_w)$  and  $k = H_{\mathrm{DH}}(pk_u^x)$ .  $\mathcal{A}'$  answers such a query with  $\langle g^{x'}, c' \rangle$  where  $x' \leftarrow [|\mathbb{G}|], c' \leftarrow \Pi_s.\mathrm{Enc}_{k'}(s_w)$  and  $k' \leftarrow \{0,1\}^k$ . Now notice that as long as the game  $G_2$  is ongoing,  $pk_u^x$  is a hidden Diffie-Hellman key and  $\mathcal{A}$  has not queried  $pk_u^x$  to  $H_{\mathrm{DH}}$ . If it had, then the game would have already aborted. Therefore, from  $\mathcal{A}'$ s view k follows the same distribution as k'. Thus, overall

the game  $G_2$  and the game simulated by  $\mathcal{A}'$  are indistinguishable to  $\mathcal{A}$  and (3.9) holds.

Finally, notice that if the event W' = w occurred, then  $\mathcal{A}'$  outputs 1. Then we have

$$\Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 0] \ge \Pr[W' = w]$$

$$\stackrel{(3.9)}{=} \Pr[W_2 = w_2]$$

$$\stackrel{(3.8)}{=} \Pr[W_1 = w_1]$$

$$\stackrel{(3.7)}{\geq} \frac{\Pr[E]}{N}$$

$$= \frac{\Pr[Q_s \land \overline{F_{\text{DH}}}]}{N},$$

as promised.

Second, returning to (3.4), we can more easily show that  $\Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 1]$  is negligible. In the SD-GSD game simulated to  $\mathcal{A}$  during an execution of  $\mathsf{Game}_{\mathcal{A}',\Pi_s}^{\mathsf{MI-EAV}}$  with b=1, the seed  $s_w$  is a random variable independent of any information given to  $\mathcal{A}$ :

- the game aborts when w becomes unsafe, so  $s_w$  cannot be learned by querying corrupt(w) or by querying  $H_{\rm dep}(s_p)$  for an unsafe node p where (p,w) is a seed dependency
- querying  $H_{\text{dep}}(s_p)$  for a safe node p where (p, w) is a seed dependency results in the game being aborted and by virtue of  $H_{\text{dep}}$  being a random oracle, from  $\mathcal{A}$ 's perspective  $s_w$  follows the same distribution regardless of whether there is a seed dependency (p, w) or not
- with b = 1 queries encrypt(u, w) yield encryptions of s instead of  $s_w$

Therefore, for any seed s' that A queries to  $H_{gen}$  or  $H_{dep}$  we have

$$\Pr[s_w = s'] = \frac{1}{2^{\lambda}}.$$

Thus, by a union bound we have

$$\Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 1] \le \frac{m_{\rm s}}{2^{\lambda}}.\tag{3.10}$$

Combining (3.4), (3.5) and (3.10) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Adv}_{\Pi}^{\operatorname{MI-EAV}}(\mathcal{A}') &\geq \Pr \left[ \mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 0 \right] - \Pr \left[ \mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 1 \right] \\ &\geq \frac{\Pr \left[ Q_{\operatorname{s}} \wedge \overline{F_{\operatorname{DH}}} \right]}{N} - \frac{m_{\operatorname{s}}}{2^{\lambda}}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

Furthermore, going through the details yields that A' runs in time

$$t_{\mathcal{A}'} \coloneqq \tilde{t} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda \cdot m_{\text{s}} + \gamma \cdot m_{\text{DH}} + N \cdot (t_{H_{\text{gen}}} + t_{H_{\text{dep}}} + \lambda \cdot t_{\text{sample}} + t_{\Pi_{\text{DH}}.\text{Gen}}) + N^2 \cdot t_{\Pi_{\text{DH}}.\text{Enc}})$$

(the simulation of the SD-GSD game dominating the additional runtime). Using that  $t_{\rm op} = \Omega(\gamma)$ ,  $\delta \leq N$ ,  $t_{\Pi_{\rm s}.{\rm Gen}} = \mathcal{O}(\kappa \cdot t_{\rm sample})$ ,  $t_{\Pi_{\rm s}.{\rm Enc}} \leq t_{\Pi_{\rm DH}.{\rm Enc}}$  (as encrypting with  $\Pi_{\rm DH}$  involves an encryption with  $\Pi_{\rm s}$ ) and the definition of  $\tilde{t}$ , with appropriately chosen constants we have

$$t_{\mathcal{A}'} \leq t - \mathcal{O}(\delta \cdot (t_{\Pi_s.\text{Gen}} + t_{\Pi_s.\text{Enc}})).$$

By Lemma 3.7  $\Pi_s$  is  $(t - \mathcal{O}(\delta \cdot (t_{\Pi_s.Gen} + \Pi_s.Enc)), \delta \cdot \varepsilon, \delta)$ -MI-EAV secure, so

$$Adv_{\Pi}^{\text{MI}-\text{EAV}}(\mathcal{A}') \le \delta \cdot \varepsilon. \tag{3.12}$$

Finally, if we now combine (3.11) and (3.12) we get

$$\frac{\Pr[Q_{s} \wedge \overline{F_{DH}}]}{N} - \frac{m_{s}}{2^{\lambda}} \leq \delta \cdot \varepsilon$$

$$\iff$$

$$\Pr[Q_{s} \wedge \overline{F_{DH}}] \leq \delta \cdot N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{m_{s} \cdot N}{2^{\lambda}},$$

as was to prove.

#### Tighter MI-EAV security for certain schemes

In our reduction from MI-EAV security to EAV security (Lemma 3.7) we applied a general hybrid argument. It is also tempting to try a more direct approach. The EAV and MI-EAV games seem less far apart than IND-CPA for single and multiple encryptions: All additional encryptions in the MI-EAV game encrypt the same message, with the only difference being that each encryption is performed using a fresh key. If only we could take a single encryption  $c \leftarrow \operatorname{Enc}_k(m)$  and from it produce several encryptions  $c_i \leftarrow \operatorname{Enc}_{k_i}(m)$  for  $k_i \leftarrow \operatorname{Gen}()$  (without knowing k or m), then the additional encryptions would leak no new information to the adversary, and we would have a tight bound on MI-EAV security from EAV security. There is a simple EAV secure scheme that achieves the above property: the one-time pad. Given an encryption  $c = k \oplus m$ , we can just sample  $k' \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\kappa}$  and compute the ciphertext  $c' = c \oplus k' = (k \oplus k') \oplus m$ , an encryption of m under the uniformly random key  $k \oplus k'$ . In the following, we formalize this property of a private-key encryption scheme and use it to prove the desired bound on MI-EAV security.

**Definition 3.9 (Key-rerandomizability)** Let  $\Pi$  a private-key encryption scheme with security parameter  $\kappa$ .  $\Pi$  is key-rerandomizable if there exists a probabilistic polynomial time algorithm ReRan achieving the following: Given  $c \leftarrow \operatorname{Enc}_k(m)$  for any fixed message m in the message space and  $k \leftarrow \operatorname{Gen}()$ , the output  $c' \leftarrow \operatorname{ReRan}(c)$  follows the same distribution as the process of sampling  $k' \leftarrow \operatorname{Gen}()$  and computing a ciphertext  $\operatorname{Enc}_{k'}(m)$ . The runtime must be polynomial in  $\kappa$  and the length of the ciphertext c.

**Example** As outlined above, the one-time pad is an example of a key-rerandomizable encryption scheme.

**Q:** Is there a key-rerandomizable IND-CPA secure scheme? If yes, this would imply a key-rerandomizable AE scheme using the encrypt-then-authenticate paradigm, since a rerandomized tag can easily produced for the ciphertext by sampling a fresh MAC key.

The key idea underlying the proof of the following Lemma was already provided at the beginning of this section.

**Lemma 3.10** Let  $\Pi$  a key-rerandomizable private-key encryption scheme with finite message space. Let ReRan the corresponding algorithm to rerandomize ciphertexts and  $t_{ReRan}$  an upper bound for the runtime of ReRan. If  $\Pi$  is  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -EAV secure, then for all  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\Pi$  is  $(\tilde{t}, \varepsilon, q)$ -MI-EAV secure with  $\tilde{t} = t - \mathcal{O}(q \cdot t_{ReRan})$ .

**Proof** Note that since the message space and thus the ciphertext space is finite, the runtime of ReRan is indeed bounded. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  an MI-EAV adversary running in time  $\tilde{t}$  and making at most q queries. We construct an EAV adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$  that behaves as follows:

- 1. A' runs A to get the number of queries q and messages  $m_0, m_1$ .
- 2. A' gives  $m_0, m_1$  to the challenger and receives. Let  $c_1$  the ciphertext it gets back.
- 3.  $\mathcal{A}'$  computes ciphertexts  $c_2 \leftarrow \text{ReRan}(c_1), \dots, c_q \leftarrow \text{ReRan}(c_1)$  (with independent runs of ReRan).
- 4.  $\mathcal{A}'$  gives the ciphertexts  $c_1, \ldots, c_q$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- 5. A' outputs whatever bit A outputs.

We apply the properties of ReRan given in Definition 3.9 to show that the game simulated to  $\mathcal{A}$  is distributed identically to the MI-EAV game. For this we need only show that the ciphertexts  $c_1, \ldots, c_q$  given to  $\mathcal{A}$  in the simulation are distributed identically to the ciphertexts  $c'_1, \ldots, c'_q$  that  $\mathcal{A}$  would get in the real MI-EAV game. It is immediate that  $c_1$  is distributed identically to  $c'_1$ . Now let  $i \in \{2, \ldots, q\}$ . By Definition 3.9 ReRan(c) outputs a ciphertext encrypting  $m_b$  (where b is the bit chosen by the EAV challenger) distributed

identically to a ciphertext encrypting  $m_b$  output by the MI-EAV challenger. Thus, indeed for any i,  $c_i$  is distributed identically to  $c_i'$  and the claim holds. Therefore

$$Adv_{\Pi}^{MI-EAV}(\mathcal{A}) = Adv_{\Pi}^{EAV}(\mathcal{A}'). \tag{3.13}$$

Because  $\mathcal{A}'$  is an EAV adversary running in time  $\tilde{t} + \mathcal{O}(q \cdot t_{\text{ReRan}}) = t$  we know that

$$Adv_{\Pi}^{EAV}(A') \leq \varepsilon$$
,

which together with (3.13) concludes the proof.

By assuming a key-rerandomizable encryption scheme and applying Lemma 3.10 on the preceding page instead of the hybrid argument (Lemma 3.7) in the proof of Lemma 3.8, we can drop the  $\delta$  factor in the bound. This also allows us to drop the  $\delta$  factor in Theorem 3.4 on page 9.

**Corollary 3.11** Recall the setting of Theorem 3.4. If the private-key encryption scheme  $\Pi_s$  is additionally key-rerandomizable, then the bound in Lemma 3.8 can be improved to

$$\Pr[Q_{\rm s} \wedge \overline{F_{\rm DH}}] \leq N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{m_{\rm s} \cdot N}{2^{\lambda}}$$

and the bound  $\tilde{\epsilon}$  on the success probability of an SD-GSD adversary thus improved to

$$\tilde{\varepsilon} = 4 \cdot N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{2 \cdot m_{\mathrm{DH}} \cdot N^2}{|\mathbb{G}|} + \frac{m_{\mathrm{s}} \cdot N}{2^{\lambda - 1}}$$

(with appropriate changes to the runtime  $\tilde{t}$ ).

#### 3.2.2 Reducing to the DDH problem

**Lemma 3.12** Recall the assumptions, variables and events from the statement and proof of Theorem 3.4. In particular, assume that the DDH problem is  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -hard in  $\mathbb{G}$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  an SD-GSD adversary running in time  $\tilde{t}$ , making at most  $m_{S}$  queries to  $H_{gen}$  or  $H_{dep}$  and at most  $m_{DH}$  queries to  $H_{DH}$ . Then

$$\Pr[Q_{\rm s} \wedge F_{\rm DH}] \leq N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{m_{\rm DH} \cdot N^2}{|\mathbb{G}|}.$$

**Intuition** We will bound the simpler event  $F_{\mathrm{DH}}$ . This event tells us that there is some safe node a in the GSD graph with encryption edges to nodes  $u_1,\ldots,u_d$ , where the query  $\mathrm{encrypt}(a,u_i)$  returned the ciphertext  $\langle g^{y_i},\mathrm{Enc}_{k_i}(s_{u_i})\rangle$  with  $k_i=H_{\mathrm{DH}}(g^{sk_a\cdot y_i})$ , such that  $g^{sk_a\cdot y_j}$  was the first hidden Diffie-Hellman key queried by  $\mathcal A$  for some j. Moreover, at the instance  $g^{sk_a\cdot y_j}$  was queried, no hidden seed had yet been queried by  $\mathcal A$ , implying that  $\mathcal A$  had not queried  $H_{\mathrm{gen}}(s_a)$  and thus had no information about  $sk_a$  (recall that  $(pk_a,sk_a)=\mathrm{Gen}(H_{\mathrm{gen}}(s_a))$ ).

#### TODO: Add plot.

It is interesting to note that our approach does not require that  $\mathcal{A}$  has not queried  $H_{\text{dep}}$  for a hidden seed (i.e. that  $Q_{\text{dep}}$  was not triggered) as is implied by the event  $F_{\text{DH}}$ , because knowing  $H_{\text{gen}}(s_a)$  is the only way to learn about  $sk_a$ . Regardless, we still want to have our definition of  $F_{\text{DH}}$  include this information, as the bound on  $\Pr\left[Q_{\text{s}} \wedge \overline{F_{\text{DH}}}\right]$  in Lemma 3.8 on page 15 relies on the fact that in the event of  $Q_{\text{s}} \wedge \overline{F_{\text{DH}}}$  happening,  $Q_{\text{DH}}$  was not yet triggered when the event  $Q_{\text{s}}$  was triggered, i.e. when either the event  $Q_{\text{gen}}$  or the event  $Q_{\text{dep}}$  was triggered.

The intuition is clear that this means that  $\mathcal{A}$  solved the Diffie-Hellman challenge  $(g^{sk_a}, g^{y_j})$ . What is not immediately clear is how to embed a *given* Diffie-Hellman challenge  $(g^x, g^y)$  from an instance of the DDH game and use  $\mathcal{A}$  to tell whether the key k chosen by the challenger is the real key  $g^{x\cdot y}$  or a uniformly random group element. An intuitive strategy would be to embed the challenge by setting  $pk_a = g^x$  and  $g^{y_j} = g^y$ , which involves guessing  $u_j$ , and simply checking whether for any of the queries  $q_i$  to  $H_{\mathrm{DH}}$  by  $\mathcal{A}$  it holds that  $q_i = k$ . Now:

- If  $k = g^{x \cdot y}$ , A triggers  $F_{DH}$  and we guessed a and  $u_j$  correctly, then indeed as described above  $q_i = g^{sk_a \cdot y_j} = k$  will hold for some i.
- If k is a random group element, then A has negligible probability of querying k, as no information about k is ever leaked to A.

If we make sure not to change  $\mathcal{A}$ 's view of the game in the case  $k = g^{x \cdot y}$  in this process, we can achieve an advantage of about  $\Pr[F_{DH}]/N^2$ , where one factor 1/N arises from guessing a and another from guessing  $u_j$ . Unfortunately, this would yield no improvement over the result from [1].

**Q:** How to clarify that this was not my idea? We can avoid guessing  $u_j$  by being more clever about how we embed  $g^y$ . Instead of embedding  $g^y$  into a single encryption edge, we embed it into all encryption edges. To get a uniformly random exponent from y we set  $y_j = y + r_j \mod |G|$  with  $r_j \leftarrow [|G|]$ . Given  $g^{x \cdot y_j}$ , we can easily compute  $g^{x \cdot y}$ :

$$g^{x \cdot y_j} = g^{x \cdot (y+r_j)} = g^{x \cdot y} \cdot g^{x \cdot r_j} \iff g^{x \cdot y} = g^{x \cdot y_j} \cdot \underbrace{((g^x)^{r_j})^{-1}}_{=: R_j}.$$

Now to determine whether k is the real Diffie-Hellman key, we check whether  $q_i \cdot R_j = k$  for some i, j. This yields an advantage of about  $\Pr[F_{DH}]/N$  (and a slightly larger runtime). We can now proceed with the full proof.

**Proof (of Lemma 3.12)** As outlined above we use  $\mathcal{A}$  to construct a DDH adversary  $\mathcal{A}'$ .

1. A' gets  $h_1, h_2$  and k from the DDH challenger.

- 2.  $\mathcal{A}'$  runs  $\mathcal{A}$  to get n and D, samples  $a \leftarrow [n]$  and initializes the GSD graph, seeds and the set of edges and corrupted nodes as in step 1 of the SD-GSD game, with the sole exception that  $pk_a = h_1$  (as opposed to setting it to the public key output from  $\text{Gen}(H_{\text{gen}}(s_a))$ ).
- 3.  $\mathcal{A}'$  faithfully simulates the SD-GSD game to  $\mathcal{A}$  with the following exception: For the j-th query encrypt $(a,u_j)$  made by  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}'$  replies with  $\langle h_2 \cdot g^{r_j}, \operatorname{Enc}_{k_j}(s_{u_j}) \rangle$  where  $r_j \leftarrow [|\mathbb{G}|]$ ,  $k_j \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\kappa}$ .  $\mathcal{A}'$  also computes and stores  $R_j = \left(pk_a^{r_j}\right)^{-1}$ .

During the simulation A' also pays attention to the following:

- If any of the following events occur, A' aborts the simulation and outputs 0:
  - A queries  $H_{DH}$  for a hidden Diffie-Hellman key on an encryption edge  $(u,v) \in E$  with  $u \neq a$
  - A queries  $H_{gen}$  or  $H_{dep}$  for a hidden seed
  - A queries corrupt(u) for some node u such that a is no longer safe
- If  $\mathcal{A}$  queries  $q_i$  to  $H_{DH}$  such that  $q_i \cdot R_j = k$  for some j,  $\mathcal{A}'$  aborts the simulation and outputs 1. This is the only point at which  $\mathcal{A}'$  outputs 1.

If the simulation arrives to the point where A outputs its guess (step 4 of the SD-GSD game), then A' outputs 0.

The advantage of A' is given by

$$Adv_{(G,g)}^{DDH}(\mathcal{A}') = \left| Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 0] - Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 1] \right|, \tag{3.14}$$

where b is the bit sampled by the DDH challenger.

First, we will show that

$$\Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 0] \ge \frac{\Pr[F_{\text{DH}}]}{N}.$$
(3.15)

This part of the proof proceeds very similarly to the proof of Lemma 3.8 on page 15 and we will be a bit more concise. We focus on executions of  $Game_{\mathcal{A},(G,g)}^{DDH}$  with b=0. Let the games  $G_1,G_2$  be defined as in Lemma 3.8, where we denote the node sampled at the beginning of each game by  $a_1,a_2$ , respectively (as opposed to  $w_1,w_2$ ). Let  $E=F_{DH}$  and let  $E_1,E_2$  and E' be the analogous events in  $G_1,G_2$  and the game simulated by  $\mathcal{A}'$  (note that in this latter game, the group elements  $pk_a^{\log_g(h_2)+r_j}$  are also hidden Diffie-Hellman keys). Finally, we introduce the random variable

$$A = \begin{cases} 0 & \overline{F_{\text{DH}}} \\ x & F_{\text{DH}} \text{ holds and } Q_{\text{DH}} \text{ was triggered on an encryption edge with source } x \end{cases}$$

(if x is not unique we choose the node with smallest identifier) and let  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$  and A' denote the corresponding random variables in game  $G_1$ , game  $G_2$  and the game simulated by A'.

Just as argued in Lemma 3.8,

$$Pr[E_1] = Pr[E] \tag{3.16}$$

holds, since whenever  $G_1$  aborts, it is already decided whether  $F_{DH}$  holds:

- If the game was aborted when  $\mathcal A$  queried a hidden Diffie-Hellman key, then  $F_{\mathrm{DH}}$  holds.
- If the game was aborted when A queried  $H_{gen}$  or  $H_{dep}$  for a hidden seed,  $F_{DH}$  does not hold.

Next, the inequality

$$\Pr[A_1 = a_1 \mid E_1] \ge \frac{1}{N}$$

and therefore also

$$\Pr[A_1 = a_1] \ge \frac{1}{N} \cdot \Pr[E] \tag{3.17}$$

hold for the same reason that

$$\Pr[W_1 = w_1 \mid E_1] \ge \frac{1}{N}$$

and (3.7) held in Lemma 3.8.

Then, the equality

$$\Pr[A_1 = a_1] = \Pr[A_2 = a_2] \tag{3.18}$$

holds again due to the fact that when  $G_2$  aborts because  $a_2$  is no longer safe, we know that  $A_2 \neq a_2$ .

Finally, we need to argue that

$$\Pr[A_2 = a_2] = \Pr[A' = a].$$
 (3.19)

Consider how  $G_2$  differs from the game simulated by  $\mathcal{A}'$ . As in Lemma 3.8, both games abort at exactly the same events (note that if  $q_i \cdot R_j = k$  holds and  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs 1, then  $q_i = k \cdot R_j^{-1} = k \cdot p k_a^{r_j} = h_1^{\log_g(h_2)} \cdot p k_a^{r_j} = p k_a^{\log_g(h_2) + r_j}$ , a hidden Diffie-Hellman key). The game simulated by  $\mathcal{A}'$  differs in two aspects:

- (i) A' sets  $pk_a = h_1$  and not to the public key output by  $Gen(H_{gen}(s_a))$
- (ii) A' answers queries encrypt(a, u) differently

Note that as long as the game  $G_2$  is ongoing, A has not queried  $H_{gen}$  for  $s_a$  or  $H_{DH}$  for a hidden Diffie-Hellman key. Both differences are therefore indistinguishable:

- (i) By assumption the stated in ... (**TODO:** state assumption), running Gen(r) on a random bit string  $r \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$  follows the same distribution as running Gen(). The former process is behind the distribution of  $pk_a$  as viewed from  $\mathcal{A}$  in  $G_2$ , as  $\mathcal{A}$  has not queried  $H_{gen}(s_a)$ , and the latter process is behind the distribution of  $pk_a$  in the game simulated by  $\mathcal{A}'$ , as the DDH challenger generates a public key with the same distribution as Gen(). Since both processes follow the same distribution,  $pk_a$  follows the same in  $G_2$  and the game simulated by  $\mathcal{A}'$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ 's perspecive.
- (ii) In  $G_2$  a query encrypt(a,u) is answered with  $\langle g^z,c\rangle$  where  $z \leftarrow [|\mathbb{G}|], c \leftarrow \Pi_s.\mathrm{Enc}_k(s_u)$  and  $k = H_{\mathrm{DH}}(pk_a^z)$ .  $\mathcal{A}'$  answers such a query with  $\langle g^{\log_g(h_1)+r},c'\rangle$  where  $r \leftarrow [|\mathbb{G}|], c' \leftarrow \Pi_s.\mathrm{Enc}_{k'}(s_u)$  and  $k' \leftarrow \{0,1\}^\kappa$ . First,  $\log_g(h_1) + r$  follows the same distribution as z. Second,  $pk_a^z$  is a hidden Diffie-Hellman and from  $\mathcal{A}$ 's view k follows the same distribution as k'.

Thus (3.19) indeed holds.

Now, again analogous to Lemma 3.8 if the event A' = a occurred, then A' outputs 1 and

$$\Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 0] \ge \Pr[A' = a]$$

$$\stackrel{\text{(3.19)}}{=} \Pr[A_2 = a_2]$$

$$\stackrel{\text{(3.18)}}{=} \Pr[A_1 = a_1]$$

$$\stackrel{\text{(3.17)}}{\geq} \frac{\Pr[E]}{N}$$

$$= \frac{\Pr[F_{\text{DH}}]}{N},$$

Second, we will show that  $\Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 0]$  is negligible. When b = 1 in  $\operatorname{Game}_{\mathcal{A},(G,g)}^{\mathrm{DDH}}$ , k is a uniformly random group element independent of any information given to  $\mathcal{A}$ , in particular of  $q_i \cdot R_j$  for any i,j. Thus for any i,j,

$$\Pr[q_i \cdot R_j = k] = \frac{1}{|\mathbb{G}|}.$$

Thus, by a union bound and using that  $i \in [m_{DH}], 1 \le j \le N-1 \le N$  (j is bounded by the maximum out-degree) we have

$$\Pr[\mathcal{A}' \to 1 \mid b = 0] \le \frac{m_{\text{DH}} \cdot N}{|\mathbb{G}|}.$$
 (3.20)

Combining (3.14), (3.15) and (3.20) we get

$$Adv_{(G,g)}^{DDH}(\mathcal{A}') \ge \frac{\Pr[F_{DH}]}{N} - \frac{m_{DH} \cdot N}{|G|}.$$
(3.21)

Furthemore, going through the details yields that A' runs in time

$$\begin{split} t_{\mathcal{A}'} \coloneqq \tilde{t} + \mathcal{O}\big(\lambda \cdot m_{\text{s}} \\ &+ N \cdot (t_{H_{\text{gen}}} + t_{H_{\text{dep}}} + (\lambda + \kappa) \cdot t_{\text{sample}} + m_{\text{DH}} \cdot t_{\text{op}} + t_{\Pi_{\text{DH}}.\text{Gen}}\big) \\ &+ N^2 \cdot t_{\Pi_{\text{DH}}.\text{Enc}}\big) \end{split}$$

(the simulation of the SD-GSD game dominating the additional runtime). Then using the definition of  $\tilde{t}$ , with appropriately chosen constants we have

$$t_{\mathcal{A}'} \leq t$$
.

So by virtue of the DDH problem being  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -hard in G

$$\mathrm{Adv}^{\mathrm{DDH}}_{(\mathbb{G},g)}(\mathcal{A}') \leq \varepsilon$$

and if we combine this with (3.21) we get

$$\begin{split} \frac{\Pr[F_{\mathrm{DH}}]}{N} - \frac{m_{\mathrm{DH}} \cdot N}{|\mathsf{G}|} &\leq \varepsilon \\ &\iff \\ \Pr[F_{\mathrm{DH}}] &\leq N \cdot \varepsilon + \frac{m_{\mathrm{DH}} \cdot N^2}{|\mathsf{G}|}, \end{split}$$

concluding the proof.

#### Chapter 4

## **Application to TreeKEM**

#### 4.1 Continuous Group Key Agreement

#### 4.1.1 Syntax

**TODO:** Explain model:

- users are honest nodes running the protocol algorithms and maintaining local state
- delivery server has a reliable and authenticated communication channel (message passing) to each individual user.
- users can also communicate directly (this is done for welcome messages).

Q: What assumptions are needed about the delivery server?

- cannot forge messages
- can choose not to deliver some messages

**Q:** What correctness conditions are necessary in the definition?

#### **Definition 4.1 (CGKA)** *A* CGKA scheme $\Sigma$ *consists of the following:*

#### INITIALIZATION:

- An algorithm Gen. Before joining any group, a user generates pair of keys (pk, sk) ← Gen(), a public and private key. The public key must be different for each user. The public key is used to invite the user to the group and should therefore be made public. The value sk is kept secret.
- An algorithm CreateGroup. A user runs  $\sigma \leftarrow$  CreateGroup() to locally initialize a group with themselves as the only member with the state of the group stored in  $\sigma$ .

#### COMPUTE THE GROUP KEY:

- A set of possible group keys K.
- An algorithm Key. At any point in time, a member of a group with state  $\sigma$  can compute the current group key  $k \leftarrow \text{Key}(\sigma)$  with  $k \in \mathcal{K}$ . Any set of members with consistent group states (see Definition 4.2 on the facing page) must compute the same key k.

#### Proposal:

- An algorithm ProposeUpdate. If a member u of a group with state σ wishes update their key material, they may run (σ, p) ← ProposeUpdate(σ) to create an update proposal p to be shared with other members of the group and update their state such that they have processed p. The update proposal contains (possibly public) information for the other group members about u's new key material such that other members know how to provide encrypted information in a commit for u to be able to compute the group key.
- An algorithm ProposeAdd. If a member of a group with state  $\sigma$  wishes to add a new user with public key  $pk_{new}$  to the group, they may run  $(\sigma, p) \leftarrow \text{ProposeAdd}(\sigma, pk_{new})$  to create an add proposal p to be shared with other members of the group and update their state such that they have processed p.
- An algorithm ProposeRemove. If a member of a group with state σ wishes
  to remove another member identified by a value v from the group, they may
  run (σ, p) ← ProposeAdd(σ, v) to create a remove proposal p to be
  shared with other members of the group and update their state such that
  they have processed p. The value v may be the other member's public key or
  some value which identifies the other member in the current group state.

#### Сомміт:

• An algorithm CreateCommit. To apply a set of proposals π to the group state, a member with state σ may run (σ', c, w₁, ..., wk) ← CreateCommit(σ, π), where c is a commit to be shared with other members, σ' would be the new state of the member after applying the commit and each wi is a welcome message, one for each new user added to the group in the commit with a corresponding add proposal in π. Welcome message wi contains a public key pki and the message should be shared with the user with public key pki such that they can join the group. Besides updating the key material for all other members with an update proposal in π, the commit also updates the member's key material. The member may keep both σ and σ' until the group agrees on whether to apply the commit c or not. If the commit is to be applied, the member sets its state to σ' and discards σ. Otherwise, it discards σ'. Applying a commit results in a new group key.

#### Process:

- An algorithm ProcessProposal. Upon receiving another member's proposal p, a member with state  $\sigma$  can set  $\sigma \leftarrow \text{ProcessProposal}(\sigma, p)$  to process p. The member should only process p if the  $\sigma$  and the state  $\sigma'$  that the other member created p in are consistent.
- An algorithm ProcessCommit. Upon receiving another member's commit c, a member with state  $\sigma$  can set  $\sigma \leftarrow$  ProcessCommit( $\sigma$ , c) to apply c. If the commit removed this member from the group, they should not be able to compute the group key from  $\sigma$  and should delete  $\sigma$ . To join a group again, a new pair of keys should be generated with Gen. As above, a user should only process a commit created in a consitent group state.
- An algorithm ProcessWelcome. Upon receiving a welcome message w for a user with public key pk, the user with this public key can set  $\sigma \leftarrow$  ProcessWelcome(pk, sk, w), where sk is the corresponding secret key output by Gen. The user must then discard sk.

For any object X above we will refer to it as  $\Sigma X$ .

Furthermore, a group member with state  $\sigma$  must be able to determine the set of members of the group from  $\sigma$ .

**Definition 4.2 (Consistent group states)** *Let*  $u_0$ ,  $u_1$  *two users with each user* a member of some group and let  $\sigma_0$  and  $\sigma_1$  their group states, respectively. For  $x \in \{0,1\}$ , let  $c_x$  be user  $u_x$ 's last commit, if it has a last commit, where this denotes either

- the latest commit that it either processed, or created and then subsequently applied
- or the commit that was output along with its welcome message from a call to CreateCommit if it just joined the group

The user  $u_x$  has no last commit if it just created its group with the CreateGroup operation. The group states  $\sigma_0$  and  $\sigma_1$  are said to be consistent if both users have a last commit and  $c_0 = c_1$ .

Users in different groups of course do not have consistent group states.

#### 4.1.2 Security

**Definition 4.3 (The CGKA game)** Let  $\Sigma$  a CGKA scheme. Define the game  $\mathsf{Game}_{\mathcal{A},\Sigma}^{\mathsf{CGKA}}$  for an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ :

1. The adversary A outputs  $u \in \mathbb{N}$ . For each  $i \in [u]$ , initialize user i by generating  $(pk_i, sk_i) \leftarrow \Sigma.\text{Gen}()$  (and resampling  $(pk_i, sk_i)$  until  $pk_i \neq pk_j \ \forall j < i$ ), preparing  $U_i = \varnothing$ , the set of unconfirmed commits at user i, and setting  $\sigma_i = \varnothing$ , where  $\varnothing$  denotes the empty value. The state output by an algorithm of  $\Sigma$  is never the empty value. A is given  $pk_1, \ldots, pk_u$ .

Set P = C = W = 0, where P denotes the number of proposals, C the number of commits and W the number of welcome messages created by A.

- 2. A may adaptively do the following queries:
  - create-group(i) for  $i \in [u]$ : set  $\sigma_i \leftarrow \text{CreateGroup}()$ .
  - propose-update(i) for  $i \in [u]$ ,  $\sigma_i \neq \emptyset$ : run  $(\sigma_i, p_{P+1}) \leftarrow \text{ProposeUpdate}(\sigma_i)$  to update user i's state and get a proposal  $p_{P+1}$ . A is given  $p_{P+1}$ . Set P = P + 1.
  - propose-add(i,j) for  $i,j \in [u]$ ,  $\sigma_i \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\sigma_j = \emptyset$ : run  $(\sigma_i, p_{P+1}) \leftarrow$  ProposeAdd $(\sigma_i, pk_j)$  to update user i's state and get a proposal  $p_{P+1}$ . A is given  $p_{P+1}$ . Set P = P + 1.
  - propose-remove(i, j) for i,  $j \in [u]$ ,  $\sigma_i \neq \varnothing$ ,  $\sigma_j \neq \varnothing$ : run ( $\sigma_i$ ,  $p_{P+1}$ )  $\leftarrow$  ProposeRemove( $\sigma_i$ ,  $pk_j$ ) to update user i's state and get a proposal  $p_{P+1}$ . A is given  $p_{P+1}$ . Set P = P + 1.
  - create-commit(i, I) for  $i \in [u]$ ,  $\sigma_i \neq \emptyset$ ,  $I \subseteq [P]$ : run  $(\sigma, c_{C+1}, w_{W+1}, \ldots, w_{W+k}) \leftarrow$  CreateCommit( $\sigma_i$ ,  $\{p_j \mid j \in I\}$ ) to create the new state  $\sigma$ , commit  $c_{C+1}$  and corresponding welcome messages. A is given  $c_{C+1}$  and  $w_{W+1}, \ldots, w_{W+k}$ . Set  $U_i = U_i \cup \{(C+1, \sigma)\}$ , C = C+1 and W = W+k.
  - confirm(j,b) for j s.t.  $(j,\sigma) \in U_i$  for some i, $\sigma$ ,  $b \in \{0,1\}$ : Set  $U_i = U_i \setminus \{(j,\sigma)\}$ . If b = 1, set  $\sigma_i = \sigma$ .
  - deliver-proposal(i, j) for  $i \in [u]$ ,  $\sigma_i \neq \emptyset$ ,  $j \in [P]$ : set  $\sigma_i \leftarrow \text{ProcessProposal}(\sigma_i, p_i)$ .
  - deliver-commit(i, j) for  $i \in [u]$ ,  $\sigma_i \neq \varnothing$ ,  $j \in [C]$ : run  $\sigma \leftarrow \text{ProcessCommit}(\sigma_i, c_j)$ . If  $c_j$  contains a remove proposal for user i, then set  $\sigma_i = \varnothing$ , generate a new pair  $(pk_i, sk_i) \leftarrow \Sigma.\text{Gen}()$  such that  $pk_i$  is unique and give  $(i, pk_i)$  to A. Otherwise, set  $\sigma_i = \sigma$ .
  - deliver-welcome(i, j) for  $i \in [u]$ ,  $\sigma_i = \emptyset$ ,  $j \in [W]$ : set  $\sigma_i \leftarrow \text{ProcessWelcome}(pk_j, sk_j, w_j)$  and set  $sk_i = \emptyset$ .
  - corrupt(i) for  $i \in [u]$ : A is given  $U_i$ . If  $\sigma_i = \emptyset$ , A is given  $sk_i$ . Otherwise, A is given  $\sigma_i$ .
- 3. A picks  $i \in \{0\} \cup [C]$ . We call the i-th commit the challenge commit, where the 0-th commit refers to the initial CreateGroup operation. Let  $\sigma$  the state output by the operation that created the i-th commit (the state output by CreateCommit if i > 0 or the state output by CreateGroup if i = 0). A bit  $b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$  is sampled and A is given

$$k = \begin{cases} \Sigma. \text{Key}(\sigma) & b = 0\\ \tilde{k} & b = 1 \end{cases}$$

where  $\tilde{k} \leftarrow \Sigma . \mathcal{K}$ . A may continue to do queries as before.

4. A outputs a bit b'. The output of the game is defined to be 1 if b' = b, and 0 otherwise.

We require an adversary playing the above game to adhere to the following:

- The challenge commit is safe (see Definition 4.5 on the next page) Q: Avoid collision in meaning of safe?
- create-group is queried exactly once Q: At least once?
- Every proposal is processed at most once by any user (i.e. the adversary may not query deliver-proposal(i, j) twice for the same pair (i, j))
- Every commit is processed at most once by any user
- A welcome message for user i is never processed by a user j with  $i \neq j$
- Every welcome message is processed at most once by a user
- For any query deliver-proposal(i, j) where the proposal  $p_j$  was created by user k while it was in state  $\sigma'_k$ ,  $\sigma_i$  and  $\sigma_k$  must be consistent
- For any query deliver-commit(i, j) where the commit  $c_j$  was created by user k while it was in state  $\sigma'_k$ ,  $\sigma_i$  and  $\sigma_k$  must be consistent
- A user never processes its own proposal or commit

The concept of a safe user and safe commit is adapted from the so-called "safe predicate" in [1], which again took inspiration from [2]. As elaborated in the cited papers and also analogous to how we needed to define "safe" nodes in the SD-GSD game, we want to forbid the adversary to ask to be challenged on a commit for which it can trivially compute the group key through some corruption it performed.

To see what is needed for a commit to be safe, consider some commit *c* with group key k created by a user i and let  $j \neq i$  any user that i would consider to be in the group after applying c. The commit c (or associated welcome messages) provides encrypted information for user *j* to compute the new group key using its current key material. Clearly, if this key material has been compromised by the adversary corrupting user *j*, the commit should not be safe. If the adversary has not corrupted user *j* since the user last updated their key material, then we would not expect the adversary to be able to compute the group key introduced in c, even if user j was corrupted before (recall post-compromise security). Moreover, corrupting user j after they have again updated their key material should not allow the adversary to compute the group key of *c* either (recall forward secrecy). We will later call this window between user j's last and next update a critical window during which the adversary must not have corrupted user *j* for *c* to be safe. Now, it is important to notice that the encrypted information in commit *c* is for the key material that user *j* had *from user i's view* when user *i* created *c*, so we must be careful to keep exactly this key material of user j inaccessible to the adversary through a corruption. The following definition formalizes this.

Definition 4.4 (Safe user) TODO: Define safe user.

Continuing the discussion above, so far we have considered a necessary condition to keep the commit c safe by restricting the corruptions made to a specific user j. If no user that i considered to be in the group (including user i) was compromised in their critical window, we would expect that the adversary is not able to compute the group key of c. Indeed, this is how we define a safe commit.

Definition 4.5 (Safe commit) TODO: Define safe commit.

**Definition 4.6 (CGKA security)** A CGKA scheme is  $(t, \varepsilon, q, u)$ -CGKA secure if for any adversary A making at most q queries to create — commit and asking for at most u users in step 1 we have

$$Adv^{CGKA}_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{A}) \coloneqq 2 \cdot \left| Pr \Big[ Game^{CGKA}_{\mathcal{A},\Sigma} = 1 \Big] - \frac{1}{2} \right| \leq \epsilon.$$

#### 4.2 The TreeKEM Protocol

**TODO:** Define TreeKEM as a CGKA.

**Q:** How much detail to provide on TreeKEM details?

### 4.3 TreeKEM security from SD-GSD security

**TODO:** Reduce TreeKEM security to GSD security.

**Theorem 4.7 TODO:** State and prove CGKA security of TreeKEM by applying Lemma 3.4.

## Appendix A

# **Dummy Appendix**

You can defer lengthy calculations that would otherwise only interrupt the flow of your thesis to an appendix.

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