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# Wildcarded Identity-Based Encryption

the date of receipt and acceptance should be inserted later

**Abstract** In this paper we introduce a new primitive called identity-based encryption with wildcards, or WIBE for short. It allows a sender to encrypt messages to a whole range of receivers whose identities match a certain pattern. This pattern is defined through a sequence of fixed strings and wildcards, where any string can take the place of a wildcard in a matching identity. Our primitive can be applied to provide an intuitive way to send encrypted email to groups of users in a corporate hierarchy. We propose a full security notion and give ef-

ficient implementations meeting this notion under different pairing-related assumptions, both in the random oracle model and in the standard model.

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## 1 Introduction

The concept of identity-based cryptography was introduced by Shamir as early as in 1984 [22], and the same paper proposed an identity-based signature scheme. However, it took nearly twenty years for an efficient identity-based encryption (IBE) scheme to be proposed. In 2000 and 2001 respectively Sakai, Ohgishi and Kasahara [21] and Boneh and Franklin [8] proposed IBE schemes based on elliptic curve pairings. Also, in 2001 Cocks proposed a system based on the quadratic residuosity problem [11].

One of the main application areas proposed for IBE is that of email encryption. In this scenario, given an email address, one can encrypt a message to the owner of the email address without needing to obtain an authentic copy of the owner's public key first. In order to decrypt the email the recipient must authenticate itself to a trusted authority who generates a private key corresponding to the email address used to encrypt the message.

### 1.1 Identity-Based Encryption with Wildcards

Our work is motivated by the fact that many email addresses correspond to groups of users rather than single individuals. Consider the scenario where there is some kind of organisational hierarchy. Take as an example an organisation called ECRYPT which is divided into virtual labs, say AZTEC and STVL. In addition, these virtual labs are further subdivided into working groups WG1, WG2 and WG3. Finally, each working group may consist of many individual members. There are several extensions of the IBE primitive to such a hierarchical setting (HIBE) [15,14]. The idea is that each level can issue keys to users on the level below. For example the

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owner of the ECRYPT key can issue decryption keys for ECRYPT.AZTEC and ECRYPT.STVL.

Suppose that we wish to send an email to all the members of the AZTEC.WG1 working group, which includes the personal addresses

- ECRYPT.AZTEC.WG1.Nigel,
- ECRYPT.AZTEC.WG1.Dario,
- ECRYPT.AZTEC.WG1.John.

Given a standard HIBE one would have to encrypt the message to each user individually. To address this limitation we introduce the concept of *identity-based encryption with wildcards* (WIBE). The way in which decryption keys are issued is exactly as in a standard HIBE scheme; what differs is encryption. Our primitive allows the encrypter to replace any component of the recipient identity with a *wildcard* so that any identity matching the *pattern* can decrypt. Denoting wildcards by  $*$ , in the example above the encrypter would use the identity

- ECRYPT.AZTEC.WG1.\*

to encrypt to all members of the AZTEC.WG1 group.

It is often suggested that identity strings should be appended with the date so as to add timeliness to the message, and so try to mitigate the problems associated with key revocation. Using our technique we can now encrypt to a group of users, with a particular date, by encrypting to an identity of the form

- ECRYPT.AZTEC.WG1.\*.22Oct2006

for example. Thus any individual in the group

- ECRYPT.AZTEC.WG1

with a decryption key for 22nd October 2006 will be able to decrypt.

As another example, take a hierarchy of email addresses at academic institutions of the form

- name@department.university.edu,

i.e., the email address of John Smith working at the computer science department of Some State University would be johnsmith@cs.ssu.edu. Using our primitive, one can send encrypted email to everyone in the computer science department at Some State University by encrypting to identity \*@cs.ssu.edu, to everyone at SSU by encrypting to \*@\*.ssu.edu, to all computer scientists at any institution by encrypting to \*@cs.\*.edu, or to all system administrators in the university by encrypting to sysadmin@\*.ssu.edu.

## 1.2 Our Contributions

In this paper, we introduce the primitive of identity-based encryption with wildcards, or a WIBE for short. We define appropriate security notions under chosen-plaintext and chosen-ciphertext attack, and present the first instantiations of this primitive. In more detail, we

present the syntax and security notions in Section 3. To illustrate the relationship between WIBE and other identity-based primitives, we show how WIBE schemes can be built from HIBE schemes and from fuzzy identity-based encryption schemes.

As is the case for most public-key and identity-based encryption schemes, the non-hybrid WIBE schemes can only be used to encrypt relatively short messages, typically about 160 bits. To encrypt longer messages, one will have to resort to hybrid techniques: the sender uses the WIBE to encrypt a fresh symmetric key  $K$  and encrypts the actual message under the key  $K$ . The basic construction has been used within the cryptographic community for years, dating back to the work of Blum and Goldwasser in 1984 [5], but its security for the case of public-key encryption was not properly analysed until the work of Cramer and Shoup [12]. One would intuitively expect these results to extend to the case of WIBE, which is indeed the case. We present the syntax for a WIBE-KEM in Section 4, along with the composition theorem which proves that the combination of a secure WIBE-KEM and a secure DEM results in a secure WIBE scheme.

We also give several constructions for a WIBE scheme, classified according to their security guarantees. We first present the Boneh-Boyen WIBE (BB-WIBE – see Section 5.1) and the Boneh-Boyen-Goh WIBE (BBG-WIBE – see Section 5.2). These schemes are IND-CPA secure in the selective identity model and do not require random oracles to be proven secure, although we do require random oracles in order to prove their security in the full (non-selective-identity) model (see Section 5.4). We also present the Waters WIBE scheme (see Section 5.3) which is secure in the non-selective-identity IND-CPA setting without random oracles.

The range of IND-CPA WIBE schemes available makes selection difficult. The Waters WIBE scheme has the best security guarantees, but the worst performance. In particular, the number of elements in the master public key depends upon the maximum length of an identity, which is typically of the order of 160 bits. Hence, even with a small number of levels, the size of the master public key can be prohibitive. Both the BB-WIBE scheme and the BBG-WIBE scheme have better performance characteristics, but their security (in the non-selective-identity model) depends on random oracles. Furthermore, the BBG-WIBE scheme reduces to the less-studied  $L$ -BDHI assumption, but has the best performance characteristics.

The construction of IND-CCA secure WIBE schemes is more difficult. We present two generic transformations from an IND-CPA scheme into an IND-CCA scheme. The first transformation is based on the Canetti-Halevi-Katz transform (see Section 6.1). However, unlike the original CHK transform, we require a  $(2L+2)$ -level IND-CPA secure scheme in order to construct an  $L$ -level IND-CCA secure scheme. Doubling the hierarchy depth has a dramatic impact on efficiency and security of the schemes.

Scheme	$ mpk $	$ d $	$ C $	Decrypt	Assumption	RO
Generic	$ mpk_{HIBE} $	$2^L \cdot  d_{HIBE} $	$ C_{HIBE} $	$\text{Decrypt}_{HIBE}$	IND-HID-CPA HIBE	No
BB-WIBE	$2L + 3$	$L + 1$	$2L + 2$	$L + 1$	BDDH	Yes
BBG-WIBE	$L + 4$	$L + 2$	$L + 3$	2	$L$ -BDHI	Yes
Waters-WIBE	$(n + 1)L + 3$	$L + 1$	$(n + 1)L + 2$	$L + 1$	BDDH	No

**Table 1** Efficiency comparison between our CPA-secure schemes. We compare the generic scheme of Section 3.3, the Waters-WIBE scheme of Section 5.3, the BB-WIBE scheme of Section 5.1, the BBG-WIBE scheme of Section 5.2, and the Waters-WIBE scheme of Section 5.3. The schemes are compared in terms of master number of elements in the public key ( $|mpk|$ ), number of elements in the user secret key ( $|d|$ ), number of element in the ciphertext ( $|C|$ ), number of pairing operations required for decryption (Decrypt), the security assumption under which the scheme is proved secure, and whether this proof is in the random oracle model or not. The generic construction does not introduce any random oracles, but if the security proof of the HIBE scheme is in the random oracle model, then the WIBE obviously inherits this property.  $L$  is the maximal hierarchy depth and  $n$  is the bit length of an identity string. Figures are worst-case values, usually occurring for identities at level  $L$  with all-wildcard ciphertexts.

Scheme	$ mpk $	$ d $	$ C $	Encap	Decap	Security loss
$2L$ (BB-WIBE)	$4L + 7$	$2L + 1$	$3L + 2$	$3L + 2$	$2L + 1$	$q_H^{2L+2}$
$OW$ (BB-WIBE)	$2L + 3$	$L + 1$	$2L + 2$	$2L + 2$	$L + 1$	$q_H^L$
$2L$ (BBG-WIBE)	$2L + 6$	$2L$	$L + 3$	$L + 3$	2	$q_H^{2L+2}$
$OW$ (BBG-WIBE)	$L + 4$	$L + 1$	$L + 3$	$L + 3$	2	$q_H^L$
$2L$ (Waters)	$(n + 3)L + 3$	$2L + 1$	$(n + 2)L + 2$	$(n + 2)L + 2$	$2L + 1$	$(2nq_K)^{2L+2}$
KG-KEM	$(n + 1)L + 3$	$L + 1$	$(n + 1)L + 2$	$(n + 1)L + 2$	$L + 3$	$L(20(n + 1)q_K)^L$

**Table 2** Efficiency comparison between our CCA-secure schemes. The BB-WIBE scheme is the IND-WID-CPA scheme given in 5.1; the BBG-WIBE scheme is the IND-WID-CPA scheme given in 5.2; the Waters scheme is the IND-WID-CPA scheme given in 5.3. The  $2L(\cdot)$  transformation refers to the generic CCA-secure construction of a CCA-secure WIBE from a CPA-secure WIBE presented in Section 6.1. The  $OW(\cdot)$  transformation is our random-oracle based construction of a WIBE-KEM scheme from a CPA-secure WIBE presented in Section 6.2. The KG-KEM scheme is our direct construction of a WIBE-KEM without random oracles presented in Section 6.3. We compare the schemes in terms of number of elements in the master public key ( $|mpk|$ ), number of elements in the user secret key ( $|d|$ ), number of elements in the ciphertext ( $|C|$ ), number of exponentiations required for key encapsulation (Encap), number of pairings required for key decapsulation (Decap), and the dominant factor lost in the security reduction to the underlying assumption.  $L$  is the maximal hierarchy depth and  $n$  is the bit length of an identity string. The values  $q_H$  and  $q_K$  refer to the number of queries made by an adversary to the random oracle and key derivation oracle, respectively.

First, the efficiency of all known WIBE schemes (in terms of computation, key length, and ciphertext length) is linear in the hierarchy depth, so the switch to CCA-security essentially doubles most associated costs. Second, as mentioned above, the security of all known WIBE schemes degrades exponentially with the maximal hierarchy depth  $L$ . If the value of  $L$  is doubled, then either the scheme is restricted to half the (already limited) number of “useful” hierarchy levels, or that the security parameter must be increased to restore security. The first measure seriously limits the functionality of the scheme, the second increases costs even further.

Our second transform is based on Dent’s construction of a KEM (see Section 6.2). This converts a weakly secure (one-way) WIBE scheme into an IND-CCA secure WIBE-KEM, but requires the random oracle model in order to prove its security. We note that one-way security is implied by IND-CPA security (for sufficiently large messages spaces). Consequently, we can use any of the IND-CPA constructions gives in Section 5 to build an IND-CCA secure scheme.

Lastly, we present a direct construction of an IND-CCA secure WIBE-KEM (see Section 6.3), based on the Kiltz-Galindo construction, which does not require ran-

dom oracles to prove its security. If we compare this KG-WIB-KEM with the construction obtained by applying the CHK transform to the Waters WIBE scheme, then we see that the KG-WIB-KEM is twice as efficient in terms of secret key size and pairing computations during decryption. The difference with regard to ciphertext size and encryption time is less pronounced, but this disregards the difference in security loss. If we take into account the security loss, then the KG-WIB-KEM becomes much more efficient than the Waters WIBE scheme. For completeness, we should add that this comparison hides the fact that the KG-WIB-KEM scheme relies on a hash function with a slightly stronger security assumption than the standard notion of second pre-image resistance.

An overview of all the schemes we present is given in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

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## 2 A Recap on HIBEs

In this section, we recall basic notation and known results on different primitives that we will be using throughout this paper. In particular, we will recall several constructions of Hierarchical Identity-Based Encryption schemes (HIBEs) upon which our Wildcarded Identity-Based Encryption schemes (WIBEs) are based.

### 2.1 Basic Notation

Let  $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  be the set of natural numbers. Let  $\varepsilon$  be the empty string. If  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\{0, 1\}^n$  denotes the set of  $n$ -bit strings and  $\{0, 1\}^*$  is the set of all finite bit strings. If  $s = (s_1, \dots, s_n)$  is an ordered sequence of  $n$  elements of some set and  $0 \leq \ell \leq n$ , then  $s_{\leq \ell}$  is the ordered sequence consisting of the first  $\ell$  elements of  $s$ , i.e.  $s_{\leq \ell} = (s_1, \dots, s_\ell)$ . Furthermore, if  $ID$  is an  $n$ -bit string, then we set

$$[ID_i] = \{1 \leq j \leq n : \text{the } j^{\text{th}} \text{ bit of } ID_i \text{ is one}\}.$$

If  $S$  is a finite set, then  $y \xleftarrow{\$} S$  denotes the assignment to  $y$  of a randomly chosen element of the set  $S$ . If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a deterministic algorithm, then  $y \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(x)$  denotes the assignment to  $y$  of the output  $\mathcal{A}$  when run on the input  $x$ . If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a randomised algorithm, then  $y \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{A}(x)$  denotes the assignment to  $y$  of the output of  $\mathcal{A}$  on the input  $x$  when the algorithm is run with fresh random coins.

### 2.2 Hash Functions

A hash function is a family of maps  $F_k : \mathcal{IP} \rightarrow \mathcal{OP}$  indexed by a keyspace  $\mathcal{K}$  in which the output space  $\mathcal{OP}$  is finite. The input space  $\mathcal{IP}$  may be finite or infinite. Additionally, the keyspace may be empty or non-empty. There are many security properties that can be ascribed to a hash function. We will only need to consider one security property at this time (although we will introduce further security notions in later sections and may model these hash functions as random oracles).

**Definition 1** A  $(t, \epsilon)$  adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against the second pre-image resistance property of a family of hash functions  $F_k : \mathcal{IP} \rightarrow \mathcal{OP}$  with a finite input space  $\mathcal{IP}$  is an algorithm that runs in time at most  $t$  and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$ , where the adversary's advantage is defined to be:

$$\Pr[x \neq y \wedge F_k(x) = F_k(y) : x \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}; k \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{K}; y \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{A}(k, x)].$$

### 2.3 One-Time Signature Schemes

In order to amplify the security of a HIBE/WIBE (from IND-CPA security to IND-CCA security) we will make use of a one-time signature scheme. A one-time signature scheme is a triple of algorithms ( $\text{SigGen}, \text{Sign}, \text{Verify}$ ). The key generation algorithm  $\text{SigGen}$  outputs signing and verification keys  $(sk, vk)$  for the signature scheme. The signing algorithm takes as input a signing key  $sk$  and a message  $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , and outputs a signature  $\sigma \in \{0, 1\}^*$ . The verification algorithm takes as input a verification key  $vk$ , a message  $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$  and a signature  $\sigma \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , and outputs either  $\top$  (indicating a valid signature) or  $\perp$  (indicating an invalid signature). For correctness, we require that for all key pairs  $(sk, vk)$ , messages  $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , and signatures  $\sigma \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Sign}(sk, m)$ , we have that  $\text{Verify}(vk, m, \sigma) = \top$  with probability one.

The security notion for a one-time unforgeable signature scheme is captured by the following game played between an adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  and a hypothetical challenger:

1. The challenger generates a key pair  $(sk^*, vk^*) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{SigGen}$ .
2. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on input  $vk^*$ . The adversary outputs a message  $m^*$  and some state information  $state$ .
3. The challenger computes  $\sigma^* \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Sign}(sk^*, m^*)$ .
4. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on  $\sigma^*$  and  $state$ . The adversary outputs a message signature pair  $(m, \sigma)$ .

The adversary wins the game if  $\text{Verify}(vk^*, m, \sigma) = \top$  and  $(m, \sigma) \neq (m^*, \sigma^*)$ . The adversary's advantage is defined to be  $\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}]$ .

**Definition 2** A  $(t, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the one-time unforgeability of the signature scheme is an algorithm that

runs in time  $t$  and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$  in winning the above game.

## 2.4 Bilinear Maps and Related Assumptions

Let  $\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{G}_T$  be multiplicative groups of prime order  $p$  with an admissible map  $\hat{e} : \mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G} \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_T$ . By admissible we mean that the map is bilinear, non-degenerate and efficiently computable. Bilinearity means that for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  and all  $g \in \mathbb{G}$  we have  $\hat{e}(g^a, g^b) = \hat{e}(g, g)^{ab}$ . By non-degenerate we mean that  $\hat{e}(g, g) = 1$  if and only if  $g = 1$ .

In such a setting we can define a number of computational problems. The first we shall be interested in is called the bilinear decisional Diffie-Hellman (BDDH) problem [16]: given a tuple  $(g, g^a, g^b, g^c, T)$ , the problem is to decide whether  $T = \hat{e}(g, g)^{abc}$  or whether it is a random element of  $\mathbb{G}_T$ . More formally, we define the following game between an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and a challenger. The challenger first chooses a random generator  $g \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}^*$ , random integers  $a, b, c \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ , a random element  $T \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}_T$ , and a random bit  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$ . If  $\beta = 1$  it feeds  $\mathcal{A}$  the tuple  $(g, g^a, g^b, g^c, \hat{e}(g, g)^{abc})$  as input; if  $\beta = 0$  it feeds  $\mathcal{A}$  the tuple  $(g, g^a, g^b, g^c, T)$  as input. The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  must then output its guess  $\beta'$  for  $\beta$ . The adversary has advantage  $\epsilon$  in solving the BDDH problem if

$$\left| \Pr [\mathcal{A}(g, g^a, g^b, g^c, \hat{e}(g, g)^{abc}) = 1] - \Pr [\mathcal{A}(g, g^a, g^b, g^c, T) = 1] \right| \geq \epsilon,$$

where the probabilities are over the random choice of  $g, a, b, c, T$  and over the random coins of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Definition 3** A  $(t, \epsilon)$ -adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against the BDDH problem is an algorithm that runs in time at most  $t$  and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$ .

We note that throughout this paper we will assume that the time  $t$  of an adversary includes its code size, in order to exclude trivial “lookup” adversaries.

A second problem we will use in our constructions is the  $\ell$ -bilinear Diffie-Hellman Inversion ( $\ell$ -BDHI) problem [6, 18]. The problem is to compute  $\hat{e}(g, g)^{1/\alpha}$  for random  $g \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}^*$  and  $\alpha \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$  given  $g, g^\alpha, \dots, g^{(\alpha^\ell)}$ . The decisional variant of this problem is to distinguish  $\hat{e}(g, g)^{1/\alpha}$  from a random element of  $\mathbb{G}_T$ . We say that adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  has advantage  $\epsilon$  in solving the decisional  $\ell$ -BDHI problem if

$$\left| \Pr [\mathcal{A}(g, g^\alpha, \dots, g^{(\alpha^\ell)}, \hat{e}(g, g)^{1/\alpha}) = 1] - \Pr [\mathcal{A}(g, g^\alpha, \dots, g^{(\alpha^\ell)}, T) = 1] \right| \geq \epsilon,$$

where the probability is over the random choice of  $g \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}^*$ ,  $\alpha \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ ,  $T \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}_T$ , and the coins of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Definition 4** A  $(t, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the decisional  $\ell$ -BDHI problem is an algorithm that runs in time at most  $t$  and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$  in the above game.

## 2.5 Hierarchical Identity-Based Encryption

An identity-based encryption (IBE) scheme is a tuple of algorithms (**Setup**, **KeyDer**, **Encrypt**, **Decrypt**) providing the following functionality. The trusted authority runs **Setup** to generate a master key pair  $(mpk, msk)$ . It publishes the master public key  $mpk$  and keeps the master secret key  $msk$  private. When a user with identity  $ID$  wishes to become part of the system, the trusted authority generates a decryption key  $d_{ID} \xleftarrow{\$} \text{KeyDer}(msk, ID)$ , and sends this key over a secure and authenticated channel to the user. To send an encrypted message  $m$  to the user with identity  $ID$ , the sender computes the ciphertext  $C \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encrypt}(mpk, ID, m)$ , which can be decrypted by the user as  $m \leftarrow \text{Decrypt}(d_{ID}, C)$ . We refer to [8] for details on the security definitions for IBE schemes.

In this paper, we are more interested in the concept of Hierarchical Identity-Based Encryption (HIBE) [14]. In a HIBE scheme, users are organised in a tree of depth  $L$ , with the root being the master trusted authority. The identity of a user at level  $0 \leq \ell \leq L$  in the tree is given by a vector  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell) \in (\{0, 1\}^*)^\ell$ . A HIBE scheme is a tuple of algorithms (**Setup**, **KeyDer**, **Encrypt**, **Decrypt**) providing the same functionality as in an IBE scheme, except that a user  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$  at level  $\ell$  can use its own secret key  $d_{ID}$  to generate a secret key for any of its children  $ID' = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell, ID_{\ell+1})$  via  $d_{ID'} \xleftarrow{\$} \text{KeyDer}(d_{ID}, ID_{\ell+1})$ . Note that by iteratively applying the **KeyDer** algorithm, user  $ID$  can derive secret keys for any of its descendants  $ID' = (ID_1, \dots, ID_{\ell+\delta})$ ,  $\delta \geq 0$ . We will occasionally use the overloaded notation

$$d_{ID'} \xleftarrow{\$} \text{KeyDer}(d_{ID}, (ID_{\ell+1}, \dots, ID_{\ell+\delta}))$$

to denote this process. The secret key of the root identity at level 0 is  $d_\epsilon \leftarrow msk$ . Encryption and decryption are the same as for IBE, but with vectors of bit strings as identities instead of ordinary bit strings.

The security of a HIBE scheme is defined through the following IND-ID-CPA game, played between an adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  and a hypothetical challenger:

1. The challenger generates a master key pair  $(mpk, msk) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Setup}$ .
2. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ . The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle that, on input of an identity  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$ , returns the secret key  $d_{ID} \xleftarrow{\$} \text{KeyDer}(msk, ID)$  corresponding to that identity. The adversary outputs two equal-length messages  $(m_0, m_1)$  and a challenge identity  $ID^* = (ID_1^*, \dots, ID_{\ell'}^*)$ , along with some state information *state*.
3. The challenger chooses a bit  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$  and computes the ciphertext  $C^* \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encrypt}(mpk, ID^*, m_\beta)$ .
4. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the input  $C^*$  and the state information *state*. The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle as before. The adversary outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .

In most cases, we will suppress the *state* information passed between adversary algorithms and simply assume that all necessary details are passed from one algorithm to the next. The adversary wins the game if  $\beta = \beta'$  and it never queries the key derivation oracle with any ancestor identity of  $ID^*$ , i.e. any identity  $ID = (ID_1^*, \dots, ID_\ell^*)$  where  $\ell \leq \ell^*$ . The adversary's advantage is defined to be equal to  $|2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1|$ .

**Definition 5** A  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-HID-CPA security of a HIBE scheme is an algorithm that runs in time at most  $t$ , makes at most  $q_K$  queries to the key derivation oracle, and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$  in winning the IND-HID-CPA game described above.

The IND-ID-CCA security game is identical to the IND-ID-CPA security game with the exception that in the IND-ID-CCA security game the adversary additionally has access to a decryption oracle that, on input of a ciphertext  $C$  and an identity  $ID$ , returns the decryption  $m \leftarrow \text{Decrypt}(\text{KeyDer}(msk, ID), C)$ . The adversary wins the game if  $\beta = \beta'$ , it never queries the key derivation oracle with any ancestor identity of  $ID^*$ , and it never queries the decryption oracle with the pair  $(C^*, ID^*)$  after the challenge ciphertext is computed.

**Definition 6** A  $(t, q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-HID-CCA security of the HIBE scheme is an algorithm that runs in time at most  $t$ , makes at most  $q_K$  queries to the key derivation oracle, makes at most  $q_D$  queries to the decryption oracle, and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$  in winning the IND-HID-CCA game described above.

In a *selective-identity* (sID) attack [6], the adversary has to output the challenge identity  $ID^*$  at the very beginning of the game, before even seeing the master public key. In other words, the adversary is considered to be a triple  $(\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$ , where  $\mathcal{A}_0$  simply outputs the challenge identity (and some state information to be passed to  $\mathcal{A}_1$ ). The definitions for IND-ID-CPA and IND-ID-CCA security are otherwise identical to those above. In the random oracle model [2], all algorithms, as well as the adversary, have access to a random oracle mapping arbitrary bit strings onto a range that possibly depends on the master public key. All above security definitions then take an extra parameter  $q_H$  denoting the adversary's maximum number of queries to the random oracle.

We now recap on the main efficient HIBE constructions in the literature, namely the HIBE schemes of Waters (W-HIBE), Boneh-Boyen (BB-HIBE), and Boneh-Boyen-Goh (BBG-HIBE).

## 2.6 The Boneh-Boyen HIBE

In this section, we present a variant of the HIBE scheme by Boneh and Boyen [6]. In this scheme, we assume that identities are elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  – if necessary this can be achieved by applying a collision-resistant hash function

$h : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$  to binary identities before applying the scheme. The scheme is described in Figure 1. The main difference between the original HIBE scheme of [6] and our variant above is that our scheme uses a different value  $u_{i,1}$  for each level, while the original scheme uses the same value  $u_1$  for all levels. Adding wildcard functionality to the original scheme would require us to include  $u_1^*$  in the ciphertext, but this ruins security as it can be used to change the identity for which a ciphertext is encrypted.

For completeness, we prove the security of this new HIBE scheme, despite its similarities to scheme of Boneh and Boyen [6].

**Theorem 1** *If there exists a  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$  adversary against the IND-sHID-CPA security of the BB-HIBE (with hierarchy depth  $L$ ) then there exists a  $(t', \epsilon')$ -adversary against the BDDH problem in  $\mathbb{G}$ , where  $\epsilon' \geq \epsilon - q_K/p$  and  $t' \leq t + O(L \cdot q_K \cdot t_{\text{exp}})$  and  $t_{\text{exp}}$  is the maximum time for an exponentiation in  $\mathbb{G}$  and  $p$  is the order of  $\mathbb{G}$ .*

*Proof* The present proof follows very closely the proof of security for the original scheme in [6]. As before, we assume that there exist an adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  that breaks the IND-sID-CPA-security of the BB-HIBE scheme and then we show how to efficiently build another adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  that, using  $\mathcal{A}$  as a subroutine, manages to solve the BDDH problem in  $\mathbb{G}$ .

Algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  first receives as input a random tuple  $(g, A = g^a, B = g^b, C = g^c, Z)$  and its goal is to determine whether  $Z = \hat{e}(g, g)^{abc}$  or  $\hat{e}(g, g)^z$  for a random element  $z$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . Algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  should output 1 if  $Z = \hat{e}(g, g)^{abc}$  and 0 otherwise. Algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  works as follows.

**Initialisation.** Algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  starts by running algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , which responds with the challenge identity  $ID^* = (ID_1^*, \dots, ID_{\ell^*}^*)$  where  $0 \leq \ell^* \leq L$ . If  $\ell^* = L$  then  $\mathcal{B}$  sets  $ID^* \leftarrow ID^*$ . Otherwise,  $\mathcal{B}$  randomly generates  $ID_{\ell^*+1}^*, \dots, ID_L^* \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$  and sets  $\tilde{ID}^* \leftarrow (ID_1^*, \dots, ID_L^*)$ .

**Setup.** To generate the systems parameters,  $\mathcal{B}$  first sets  $g_1 \leftarrow g$ ,  $h_1 \leftarrow A$ , and  $g_2 \leftarrow B$ . Algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  then chooses  $\alpha_{1,0}, \dots, \alpha_{L,0}, \alpha_{1,1}, \dots, \alpha_{L,1} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  at random and sets  $u_{i,0} \leftarrow g_1^{\alpha_{i,0}} \cdot h_1^{-ID_i^* \alpha_{i,1}}$  and  $u_{i,1} \leftarrow h_1^{\alpha_{i,1}}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, L$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  defines the master public key to be  $mpk \leftarrow (g_1, h_1, g_2, u_{1,0}, \dots, u_{L,0}, u_{1,1}, \dots, u_{L,1})$ . Note that the corresponding master secret key  $msk = g_2^a$  is unknown to  $\mathcal{B}$ .

**Phase 1.**  $\mathcal{B}$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on input  $mpk$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a key derivation oracle query on  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$ , where  $ID_i \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $\ell \leq L$ .  $ID$  cannot be a prefix of  $ID^*$ . If  $ID$  is a prefix of  $\tilde{ID}^*$  then  $\mathcal{A}$  aborts; let  $E$  be the event that this occurs. Otherwise, let  $j$  be the smallest index such that  $ID_j \neq \tilde{ID}_j^*$ . To reply to this query,  $\mathcal{B}$  first computes the key for identity  $ID' = (ID_1, \dots, ID_j)$

**Algorithm Setup:**

$g_1, g_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}; \alpha \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$   
 $h_1 \leftarrow g_1^\alpha; h_2 \leftarrow g_2^\alpha$   
 $u_{i,j} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}$  for  $i = 1 \dots L, j = 0, 1$   
 $mpk \leftarrow (g_1, g_2, h_1, u_{1,0}, \dots, u_{L,1})$   
 $msk \leftarrow h_2$   
 Return  $(mpk, msk)$

**Algorithm Encrypt( $mpk, ID, m$ ):**

Parse  $ID$  as  $(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$   
 $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p; C_1 \leftarrow g_1^r$   
 For  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$  do  
 $C_{2,i} \leftarrow (u_{i,0} \cdot u_{i,1}^{ID_i})^r$   
 $C_3 \leftarrow m \cdot \hat{e}(h_1, g_2)^r$   
 Return  $(C_1, C_{2,1}, \dots, C_{2,\ell}, C_3)$

**Algorithm KeyDer( $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, ID_{\ell+1}$ ):**

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$   
 $r_{\ell+1} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$   
 $d'_0 \leftarrow d_0 \cdot (u_{\ell+1,0} \cdot u_{\ell+1,1}^{ID_{\ell+1}})^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 $d'_{\ell+1} \leftarrow g_1^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 Return  $(d'_0, d_1, \dots, d_\ell, d'_{\ell+1})$

**Algorithm Decrypt( $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, C$ ):**

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$   
 Parse  $C$  as  $(C_1, C_{2,1}, \dots, C_{2,\ell}, C_3)$   
 $m' \leftarrow C_3 \cdot \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{\ell} \hat{e}(d_i, C_{2,i})}{\hat{e}(C_1, d_0)}$   
 Return  $m'$

**Fig. 1** The Boneh-Boyen HIBE scheme.

and then derive the key for  $ID$  using the key derivation algorithm. To derive the key for identity  $ID'$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  chooses the values  $r_1, \dots, r_j \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$  at random and sets  $d_{ID'} = (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_j)$  where

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_0 &\leftarrow g_2^{\frac{-\alpha_{j,0}}{\alpha_{j,1}(ID_j - ID_j^*)}} \cdot \prod_{i=1}^j (u_{i,0} \cdot u_{i,1}^{ID_i})^{r_i} \\
 a_i &\leftarrow g_1^{r_i} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, j-1 \\
 a_j &\leftarrow g_2^{\frac{1}{\alpha_{j,1}(ID_j - ID_j^*)}} \cdot g_1^{r_j}
 \end{aligned}$$

Algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_1$  terminates and outputs two equal-length messages  $(m_0, m_1)$ .

**Challenge.** Algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  then chooses a random bit  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$  and sends  $C^* = (C, C^{\alpha_{1,0}}, \dots, C^{\alpha_{\ell^*,0}}, m_\beta \cdot Z)$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  as the challenge ciphertext. Since  $u_{i,0} \cdot u_{i,1}^{ID_i^*} = g_1^{\alpha_{i,0}}$  for all  $i$ , we have that

$$C^* = (g_1^c, (u_{1,0} \cdot u_{1,1}^{ID_1^*})^c, \dots, (u_{\ell^*,0} \cdot u_{\ell^*,1}^{ID_{\ell^*}^*})^c, m_\beta \cdot Z).$$

As a result, when  $Z = \hat{e}(g, g)^{abc} = \hat{e}(h_1, g_2)^c$ ,  $C^*$  is a valid encryption of message  $m_\beta$  for the challenge identity  $ID^* = (ID_1^*, \dots, ID_{\ell^*}^*)$ . On the other hand, when  $Z = \hat{e}(g, g)^z$  for a random value  $z \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ , then the challenge ciphertext is independent of  $\beta$  from the view point of the adversary.

**Phase 2.**  $\mathcal{B}$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the challenge ciphertext  $C^*$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes any key derivation oracle queries, then they are answered as in Phase 1.  $\mathcal{A}_2$  terminates and outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .

**Output.** If  $\beta = \beta'$  then  $\mathcal{B}$  outputs 1, guessing that  $Z = \hat{e}(g, g)^{abc}$ , otherwise  $\mathcal{B}$  outputs 1.

Suppose  $E$  does not occur. Clearly, when  $Z = \hat{e}(g, g)^{abc}$ , the view of  $\mathcal{A}$  is identical to its view in a real attack and, thus, the probability that  $b = b'$  is exactly the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  wins the IND-SID-CPA game. On the other

hand, when  $Z$  is a random group element in  $\mathbb{G}_T$ , then the probability that  $b = b'$  is exactly  $1/2$ . Hence, if  $E$  does not occur then  $\mathcal{A}$  wins with probability  $\epsilon$ . If  $E$  does occur, then the simulator fails; however, for  $E$  to occur then  $\mathcal{A}$  must submit a key extraction query for an identity  $ID$  where  $ID^*$  is a prefix of  $ID$  and  $ID$  is a prefix of  $\tilde{ID}^*$ . This implies that  $ID_{\ell^*+1} = ID_{\ell^*+1}^*$  but, since  $ID_{\ell^*+1}^*$  is chosen at random and hidden from the execution of the attacker  $\mathcal{A}$ , we have that  $\Pr[E] \leq q_K/p$ . From the above, the result announced in Theorem 1 follows immediately.  $\square$

**2.7 The Boneh-Boyen-Goh Scheme**

In this section we present the HIBE scheme due to Boneh, Boyen and Goh [7], referred to as the BBG-HIBE scheme here. Again, we assume that identities are elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . The scheme is described in Figure 2.

The following theorem about the security of the scheme was proved in (the full version of) [7].

**Theorem 2** *If there exists a  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-sHID-CPA security of the BBG-HIBE (with hierarchy depth  $L$ ) then there exists a  $(t', \epsilon')$ -adversary against the  $L$ -BDHI problem in  $\mathbb{G}$ , where  $\epsilon' \geq \epsilon$  and  $t' \leq t + O(L \cdot q_K \cdot t_{exp})$  and  $t_{exp}$  is the time for an exponentiation in  $\mathbb{G}$ .*

**2.8 The Waters Scheme**

Waters [23] argued that his IBE scheme can easily be modified into an  $L$ -level HIBE scheme as per [6]. Here we explicitly present this construction, that we refer to as the Waters-HIBE scheme. The scheme makes use of  $n$ -bit identities and is described in Figure 3. The scheme makes use of group elements  $(u_{1,0}, \dots, u_{L,n})$  which are available as part of the scheme's public parameters. These group

Algorithm **Setup**:

$g_1, g_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}$ ;  $\alpha \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$   
 $h_1 \leftarrow g_1^\alpha$ ;  $h_2 \leftarrow g_2^\alpha$   
 $u_i \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, L$   
 $mpk \leftarrow (g_1, g_2, h_1, u_0, \dots, u_L)$   
 $d_0 \leftarrow h_2$   
 For  $i = 1, \dots, L + 1$  do  
 $d_i \leftarrow id_{\mathbb{G}}$   
 $msk \leftarrow (d_0, d_1, \dots, d_L, d_{L+1})$   
 Return  $(mpk, msk)$

Algorithm **Encrypt** $(mpk, ID, m)$ :

Parse  $ID$  as  $(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$   
 $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ ;  $C_1 \leftarrow g_1^r$   
 $C_2 \leftarrow (u_0 \prod_{i=1}^\ell u_i^{ID_i})^r$   
 $C_3 \leftarrow m \cdot \hat{e}(h_1, g_2)^r$   
 Return  $(C_1, C_2, C_3)$

Algorithm **KeyDer** $(d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, ID_{\ell+1})$ :

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, d_{\ell+1}, \dots, d_L, d_{L+1})$   
 $r_{\ell+1} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$   
 $d'_0 \leftarrow d_0 \cdot d_{\ell+1}^{ID_{\ell+1}} \cdot (u_0 \prod_{i=1}^\ell u_i^{ID_i})^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 For  $i = \ell + 2, \dots, L$  do  
 $d'_i \leftarrow d_i \cdot u_i^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 $d'_{L+1} \leftarrow d_{L+1} \cdot g_1^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 Return  $(d'_0, d'_{\ell+2}, \dots, d'_L, d'_{L+1})$

Algorithm **Decrypt** $(d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, C)$ :

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, d_{\ell+1}, \dots, d_{L+1})$   
 Parse  $C$  as  $(C_1, C_2, C_3)$   
 $m' \leftarrow C_3 \cdot \frac{\hat{e}(C_2, d_{L+1})}{\hat{e}(C_1, d_0)}$   
 Return  $m'$

**Fig. 2** The Boneh-Boyen-Goh HIBE scheme.

elements define a series of hash functions  $(F_1, \dots, F_L)$  where

$$F_i(ID_i) = u_{i,0} \prod_{j \in [ID_i]} u_{i,j}.$$

Waters [23] informally states that the above HIBE scheme is IND-ID-CPA secure under the BDDH assumption, in the sense that if there exists a  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the HIBE, then there exists an algorithm solving the BDDH problem with advantage  $\epsilon' = O((n \cdot q_K)^L \epsilon)$ .

**XXXXX**

Can we state this as a theorem in the same manner as other theorems? What is the time component of the reduction? Is the following correct?

**XXXXX**

**Theorem 3** *If there exists a  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-HID-CPA Waters-HIBE (with hierarchy depth  $L$ ) then there exists a  $(t', \epsilon')$ -adversary against the BDDH problem in  $\mathbb{G}$ , where*

$$\epsilon' \geq \frac{\epsilon}{(n \cdot q_K)^L} \quad \text{and} \quad t' \leq t + O(\epsilon^{-2} \cdot \ln(\epsilon^{-1})).$$

## 2.9 Hierarchical Identity-Based Key Encapsulation

One efficient paradigm for producing HIBE schemes is to the hybrid KEM-DEM construction. In the public key setting, this was first formally investigated by Cramer and Shoup [12] and extended to the identity-based setting by Bentahar *et al.* [3]. A hybrid construction consists of an asymmetric KEM and a symmetric DEM.

A hierarchical identity-based KEM (HIB-KEM) consists of four algorithms (**Setup**, **KeyDer**, **Encap**, **Decap**). The setup algorithm **Setup** and key derivation algorithm **KeyDer** pair  $(ID^*, C^*)$  after it receives the challenge ciphertext.

have the same syntax as for a HIBE scheme. The encapsulation algorithm **Encap** takes as input a master public key  $mpk$  and an identity  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$  with  $0 \leq \ell \leq L$ ; it outputs a symmetric key  $K \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  and an encapsulation  $C$ . The decapsulation algorithm **Decap** takes as input a private key  $d_{ID}$  and an encapsulation  $C$ , and outputs either a symmetric key  $K \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  or the error symbol  $\perp$ .

The security models for a HIB-KEM is similar to those of a HIBE scheme. The IND-HID-CCA game for a HIB-KEM, played between an attacker  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  and a challenger, is defined as follows:

1. The challenger generates a master key pair  $(mpk, msk) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Setup}$ .
2. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ . The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle that, on input of an identity  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$ , returns the secret key  $d_{ID} \xleftarrow{\$} \text{KeyDer}(msk, ID)$  corresponding to that identity. The adversary is also given access to a decryption oracle that will, on input of an identity  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$  and a ciphertext  $C$ , return  $\text{Decap}(\text{KeyDer}(msk, ID), C)$ . The adversary outputs a challenge identity  $ID^* = (ID_1^*, \dots, ID_{\ell^*}^*)$  and some state information *state*.
3. The challenger chooses a bit  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$ , computes the encapsulation  $(C^*, K_0) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encap}(mpk, ID^*)$  and chooses a random key  $K_1 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ .
4. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the input  $(C^*, K_\beta)$  and the state information *state*. The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle and decryption oracle as before. The adversary outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .

The adversary wins the game if  $\beta = \beta'$ , it never queries the key derivation oracle with any ancestor identity of  $ID^*$ , and if it doesn't query the decryption oracle on the  $ID^*$ ,  $C^*$  after it receives the challenge ciphertext.



**Algorithm Setup:**

$g_1, g_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}$ ;  $\alpha \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$   
 $h_1 \leftarrow g_1^\alpha$ ;  $h_2 \leftarrow g_2^\alpha$   
 $u_{i,j} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, L$ ;  $j = 0 \dots n$   
 $mpk \leftarrow (g_1, g_2, h_1, u_{1,0}, \dots, u_{L,n})$   
 $msk \leftarrow h_2$   
 Return  $(mpk, msk)$

**Algorithm Encrypt( $mpk, ID, m$ ):**

Parse  $ID$  as  $(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$   
 $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ ;  $C_1 \leftarrow g_1^r$   
 For  $i = 1 \dots \ell$  do  
 $C_{2,i} \leftarrow F_i(ID_i)^r$   
 $C_3 \leftarrow m \cdot \hat{e}(h_1, g_2)^r$   
 Return  $(C_1, C_{2,1}, \dots, C_{2,\ell}, C_3)$

**Algorithm KeyDer( $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, ID_{\ell+1}$ ):**

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$   
 $r_{\ell+1} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$   
 $d'_0 \leftarrow d_0 \cdot F_{\ell+1}(ID_{\ell+1})^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 $d'_{\ell+1} \leftarrow g_1^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 Return  $(d'_0, d_1, \dots, d_\ell, d'_{\ell+1})$

**Algorithm Decrypt( $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, C$ ):**

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$   
 Parse  $C$  as  $(C_1, C_{2,1}, \dots, C_{2,\ell}, C_3)$   
 $m' \leftarrow C_3 \cdot \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{\ell} \hat{e}(d_i, C_{2,i})}{\hat{e}(C_1, d_0)}$   
 Return  $m'$

**Fig. 3** The Waters HIBE scheme.

As usual, the adversary's advantage is defined to be equal to  $|2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1|$ .

**Definition 7** A  $(t, q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-HID-CCA security of the HIB-KEM is an algorithm that runs in time at most  $t$ , makes at most  $q_K$  queries to the key derivation oracle, makes at most  $q_D$  queries to the decryption oracle, and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$  in winning the IND-HID-CCA game described above.

Again, if the random oracle model [2] is used in the analysis of a scheme, then the above security definitions take an extra parameter  $q_H$  as input. This parameter denotes the adversary's maximum number of queries to the random oracle.

A DEM is a pair of deterministic algorithms  $(\text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$ . The encryption algorithm  $\text{Enc}$  takes as input a symmetric key  $K \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  and a message  $m$  of arbitrary length, and outputs a ciphertext  $C \leftarrow \text{Enc}(K, m)$ . The decryption algorithm  $\text{Dec}$  takes as input a symmetric key  $K \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  and a ciphertext  $C$ , and returns either a message  $m$  or the error symbol  $\perp$ . The DEM must satisfy the following soundness property: for all  $K \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  and for all  $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , we have that  $\text{Dec}(K, \text{Enc}(K, m)) = m$ .

The only secure condition in which we are interested is the (one-time) IND-CCA security game, which is played between an adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  and a challenger:

1. The challenger generates a key  $K \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ .
2. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$ . The adversary outputs two equal-length messages  $(m_0, m_1)$  and some state information  $state$ .
3. The challenger chooses a bit  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$  and computes the ciphertext  $C^* \leftarrow \text{Enc}(K, m_\beta)$ .
4. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on input  $C^*$  and the state information  $state$ . The adversary may query a decryption oracle which will, on input of a ciphertext  $C \neq C^*$ , return  $\text{Dec}(K, C)$ . The adversary outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .

The adversary wins if  $\beta = \beta'$  and its advantage is defined to be  $|2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1|$ .

**Definition 8** A  $(t, q_D, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the (one-time) IND-CCA security of the DEM is an algorithm that runs in time at most  $t$ , makes at most  $q_D$  decryption oracle queries, and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$  in winning the IND-CCA game described above.

A HIB-KEM and a DEM can be “glued” together to form a complete HIBE scheme. Further details can be found in [3]. We now recall the Kiltz-Galindo HIB-KEM scheme.

## 2.10 The Kiltz-Galindo HIB-KEM

This Kiltz-Galindo HIB-KEM construction [17], termed the KG-HKEM, is based on the Waters HIBE [23]. In this scheme, identities are considered to be  $n$ -bit strings and the scheme is described in Figure 4. In this description, we should include a key  $k$  for the hash function  $h_1 : \mathbb{G} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  as part of the public parameters, but, in order to simplify the description, we will treat the family of hash functions as if it were a fixed function. We assume this function  $h_1$  is a second-preimage resistant hash function. We also make use of the Waters hash functions  $(F_1, \dots, F_L)$  where

$$F_i(ID_i) = u_{i,0} \prod_{j \in [ID_i]} u_{i,j}.$$

The security of the Kiltz-Galindo scheme rests on the bilinear decisional Diffie-Hellman (BDDH) problem. Kiltz and Galindo proved the following security result for their scheme.

**Theorem 4** Suppose that there exists a  $(t, q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-HID-CCA security of the KG-HKEM (with hierarchy depth  $L$ ) then there exists a  $(t_c, \epsilon_c)$ -adversary against the BDDH problem in  $\mathbb{G}$  and a  $(t_h, \epsilon_h)$ -adversary against the second pre-image resistance prop-

erty of the hash function, where

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_c &\geq \frac{\epsilon - \epsilon_h - q/p}{(10(n+1)q)^L}, \\ t_c &\leq t + O(\epsilon_c^{-2} \cdot \ln(\epsilon_c^{-1})), \\ t_h &\leq O(t),\end{aligned}$$

$q = q_K + q_D$  and  $p$  is the order of  $\mathbb{G}$ .

### 3 Wildcard Identity-Based Encryption

#### 3.1 Syntax

Identity-based encryption with wildcards (WIBE) schemes are essentially a generalisation of HIBE schemes where at the time of encryption, the sender can decide to make the ciphertext decryptable by a whole range of users whose identities match a certain pattern. Such a pattern is described by a vector  $P = (P_1, \dots, P_\ell) \in (\{0, 1\}^* \cup \{\star\})^\ell$ , where  $\star$  is a special wildcard symbol. We say that identity  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_{\ell'})$  matches  $P$ , denoted  $ID \in_\star P$ , if and only if  $\ell' \leq \ell$  and for all  $i = 1, \dots, \ell'$  we have that  $ID_i = P_i$  or  $P_i = \star$ . Note that under this definition, any ancestor of a matching identity is also a matching identity. This is reasonable for our purposes because any ancestor can derive the secret key of a matching descendant identity anyway.

If  $P = (P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$  is a pattern, then we define  $W(P)$  to be the set of wildcard positions in  $P$ , i.e.

$$W(P) = \{1 \leq i \leq \ell : P_i = \star\}.$$

Formally, a WIBE scheme is a tuple of algorithms ( $\text{Setup}$ ,  $\text{KeyDer}$ ,  $\text{Encrypt}$ ,  $\text{Decrypt}$ ) providing the following functionality. The  $\text{Setup}$  and  $\text{KeyDer}$  algorithms behave exactly as those of a HIBE scheme. To create a ciphertext of a message  $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$  intended for all identities matching pattern  $P$ , the sender computes  $C \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encrypt}(mpk, P, m)$ . We assume that the pattern  $P$  is embedded into the ciphertext  $C$ , so that a decryptor knows for what pattern it was encrypted. Any of the intended recipients  $ID \in_\star P$  can decrypt the ciphertext using its own decryption key as  $m \leftarrow \text{Decrypt}(d_{ID}, C)$ . Correctness requires that for all key pairs  $(mpk, msk)$  output by  $\text{Setup}$ , all messages  $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , all  $0 \leq \ell \leq L$ , all patterns  $P \in (\{0, 1\}^* \cup \{\star\})^\ell$ , and all identities  $ID \in_\star P$ , we have

$$\text{Decrypt}(\text{KeyDer}(msk, ID), \text{Encrypt}(mpk, P, m)) = m$$

with probability one.

#### 3.2 Security Notions

We define the security of WIBE schemes analogously to that of HIBE schemes, but with the adversary choosing a challenge pattern instead of an identity to which the challenge ciphertext will be encrypted. To exclude trivial attacks, the adversary is not able to query the key derivation oracle on any identity that matches the challenge pattern, nor is it able to query the decryption oracle on the challenge ciphertext in combination with any identity matching the challenge pattern.

More formally, the IND-WID-CPA security model is defined through the following game, played between an adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  and a challenger:

1. The challenger generates a master key pair  $(mpk, msk) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Setup}$ .
2. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ . The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle that, on input of an identity  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$ , returns the secret key  $d_{ID} \xleftarrow{\$} \text{KeyDer}(msk, ID)$  corresponding to that identity. The adversary outputs two equal-length messages  $(m_0, m_1)$  and a challenge pattern  $P^*$ , along with some state information  $state$ .
3. The challenger chooses a bit  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$  and computes the ciphertext  $C^* \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encrypt}(mpk, P^*, m_\beta)$ .
4. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the input  $C^*$  and the state information  $state$ . The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle as before. The adversary outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .

The adversary wins the game if  $\beta = \beta'$  and it never queries the decryption oracle on any identity  $ID$  with matches the pattern  $P^*$ , i.e. any identity  $ID \in_\star P^*$ . The adversary's advantage is defined as  $|2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1|$ .

**Definition 9** A  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-WID-CPA security of the WIBE scheme is an algorithm that runs in time at most  $t$ , makes at most  $q_K$  key derivation oracle queries, and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$  in the IND-WID-CPA game described above.

In the IND-WID-CCA security model is identical to the IND-WID-CPA security model with the exception that the adversary has access to a decryption oracle, which will, on input of an identity  $ID$  and a ciphertext  $C$ , return  $\text{Decrypt}(\text{KeyDer}(msk, ID), C)$ . The adversary wins the game if  $\beta = \beta'$ , it never queries the decryption oracle on any identity  $ID \in_\star P^*$ , and the adversary doesn't query the decryption oracle the combination of any identity  $ID \in_\star P^*$  and the ciphertext  $C^*$ . The adversary's advantage is defined as  $|2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1|$ .

**Definition 10** A  $(t, q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-WID-CCA security of the WIBE scheme is an algorithm that runs in time at most  $t$ , makes at most  $q_K$  key derivation oracle queries, makes at most  $q_D$  decryption oracle queries, and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$  in the IND-WID-CCA game described above.

**Algorithm Setup:**

$v_1, v_2, v_3, \alpha \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}$ ;  $z \leftarrow e(g, \alpha)$   
 $u_{i,j} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, L; j = 0, \dots, n$   
 $mpk \leftarrow (v_1, v_2, v_3, u_{1,0}, \dots, u_{L,n}, z)$   
 $msk \leftarrow \alpha$   
 Return  $(mpk, msk)$

**Algorithm Encap( $mpk, ID$ ):**

Parse  $ID$  as  $(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$   
 $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ ;  $C_0 \leftarrow g^r$ ;  $t \leftarrow h_1(C_0)$   
 For  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$  do  
 $C_i \leftarrow F_i(ID_i)^r$   
 $C_{\ell+1} \leftarrow (v_1^t v_2^\ell v_3)^r$   
 $K \leftarrow z^r$   
 Return  $((C_0, \dots, C_{\ell+1}), K)$

**Algorithm KeyDer( $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, ID_{\ell+1}$ ):**

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$   
 $r_{\ell+1} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ ;  $d'_{\ell+1} \leftarrow g^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 $d'_0 \leftarrow d_0 \cdot F_{\ell+1}(ID_{\ell+1})^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 Return  $(d'_0, d_1, \dots, d_\ell, d'_{\ell+1})$

**Algorithm Decap( $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, C$ ):**

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$   
 Parse  $C$  as  $(C_0, \dots, C_{\ell+1})$   
 $t \leftarrow h_1(C_0)$   
 If  $\hat{e}(g, C_{\ell+1}) \neq \hat{e}(C_0, v_1^t v_2^\ell v_3)$ , then return  $\perp$   
 For  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$  do  
 If  $\hat{e}(g, C_i) \neq \hat{e}(C_0, F_i(ID_i))$  then return  $\perp$   
 Otherwise  $K \leftarrow e(C_0, d_0) / \prod_{i=1}^\ell e(C_i, d_i)$   
 Return  $K$

**Fig. 4** The Kiltz-Galindo HIB-KEM scheme.

As for the case of HIBEs, we also define a weaker selective-identity (sWID) security notion, in which the adversary commits to the challenge pattern at the beginning of the game, before the master public key is made available. The notions of IND-sWID-CPA and IND-sWID-CCA security are defined analogously to the above. In the random oracle model, the additional parameter  $q_H$  denotes the adversary's maximum number of queries to the random oracle, or the total number of queries to all random oracles when it has access to multiple ones.

If the WIBE scheme has a finite message space  $\mathcal{M}$ , then we may also define a one-way notion for encryption security (OW-WID-CPA). This is formally defined via the following game, played between an adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  and a challenger:

1. The challenger generates a master key pair  $(mpk, msk) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Setup}$ .
2. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on input  $mpk$ . The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle as in the IND-WID-CPA game. The adversary outputs a challenge pattern  $P^*$  and some state information  $state$ .
3. The challenger generates  $m \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{M}$  and computes the ciphertext  $C^* \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encrypt}(mpk, P^*, m)$ .
4. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the input  $C^*$  and the state information  $state$ . The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle as before. It outputs a message  $m'$ .

The adversary wins the game if  $m = m'$  and the adversary never queries the key derivation oracle on an identity  $ID \in_* P^*$ . The adversary's advantage is defined to be  $|2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1|$ .

**Definition 11** A  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the OW-WID-CPA security of the WIBE scheme is an algorithm that runs in time at most  $t$ , makes at most  $q_K$  key derivation oracle queries, and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$  in winning the OW-WID-CPA game described above.

**3.3 Constructing a WIBE from a HIBE**

In order to clarify the relationship between HIBEs and WIBE, we first point out a generic construction of a WIBE scheme from any HIBE scheme. However, this WIBE scheme has a secret key size that is exponential in the depth of the hierarchy tree. Let “\*” denote a dedicated bitstring that cannot occur as a user identity. Then the secret key of a user with identity  $(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$  in the WIBE scheme contains the  $2^\ell$  HIBE secret keys of all patterns matching this identity. For example, the secret key of identity  $(ID_1, ID_2)$  contains four HIBE secret keys, namely those corresponding to identities

$$(ID_1, ID_2), (*, ID_2), (ID_1, *), (*, *).$$

To encrypt to a pattern  $(P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$ , one uses the HIBE scheme to encrypt to the identity obtained by replacing each wildcard in the pattern with the “\*” string, i.e. the identity  $(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$  where  $ID_i = *$  if  $P_i = *$  and  $ID_i = P_i$  otherwise. The final WIBE ciphertext consists of the pattern and the HIBE ciphertext. Decryption is done by selecting the appropriate secret key from the list and using the decryption algorithm of the HIBE scheme.

**Theorem 5** *If there exists a  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$  attacker against the IND-WID-CPA security of the WIBE scheme (with hierarchy depth  $L$ ) then there exists a  $(t', 2^L q_K, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-HID-CPA security of the corresponding HIBE scheme, where  $t' \leq 2^L q_K t_K$  and  $t_K$  is the time taken to compute a key derivation query. If there exists a  $(t, q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$  attacker against the IND-WID-CCA security of the WIBE scheme (with hierarchy depth  $L$ ) then there exists a  $(t', 2^L q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-HID-CCA security of the corresponding HIBE scheme, where  $t' \leq 2^L q_K t_K + q_D t_D$ ,  $t_K$  is the time taken to compute a key derivation query, and  $q_D$  is the time taken to compute a decryption query.*

Notice that the appearance of the term  $2^L$  in the security reduction means that this construction is only guaranteed to be secure when the number of levels grows polylogarithmically in the secure parameter. This restriction occurs in the security analysis of all the HIBE schemes that we consider.

The efficiency of the WIBE scheme obtained with the construction is roughly the same as that of the underlying HIBE scheme, but with the major disadvantage that the size of the secret key is  $2^\ell$  times that of a secret key in the underlying HIBE scheme. This is highly undesirable for many applications, especially since the secret key may very well be kept on an expensive secure storage device. It is interesting to investigate whether WIBE schemes exist with overhead polynomial in all parameters. We answer this question in the affirmative here by presenting direct schemes with secret key size linear in  $\ell$ . Unfortunately, for all of our schemes, this reduction in key size comes at the cost of linear-size ciphertexts, while the generic scheme can achieve constant-size ciphertexts when underlain by a HIBE with constant ciphertext size, e.g. that of [7].

### 3.4 The Relationship Between WIBEs and Fuzzy Identity-Based Encryption

Another related primitive is fuzzy identity-based encryption (FIBE) [20], which allows a ciphertext encrypted to identity  $ID$  to be decrypted by any identity  $ID'$  that is “close” to  $ID$  according to some metric. In the schemes of [20], an identity is a subset containing  $n$  elements from a finite universe. Two identities  $ID$  and  $ID'$  are considered “close” if  $|ID \cap ID'| \geq d$  for some parameter  $d$ . A FIBE with  $n = 2L$  and  $d = L$  can be used to construct a WIBE scheme (without hierarchical key derivation) by letting the decryption key for identity  $(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$  correspond to the decryption key for the set

$$\{1\|ID_1, \dots, \ell\|ID_\ell, (\ell+1)\|\varepsilon, \dots, L\|\varepsilon, 1\|“\star”, \dots, L\|“\star”\}.$$

One can encrypt to pattern  $P = (P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$  by encrypting to the set

$$\{1\|P'_1, \dots, \ell\|P'_\ell, (\ell+1)\|\varepsilon, \dots, 2L\|\varepsilon\},$$

where the  $P'_i \leftarrow P_i$  if  $i \notin W(P)$  and  $P'_i \leftarrow “\star”$  if  $i \in W(P)$ .

### 4 Identity-based Key Encapsulation with Wildcards

We can also define a notion of Identity-Based Key Encapsulation Mechanism with Wildcards (WIB-KEM). A WIB-KEM consists of the following algorithms four algorithms (Setup, KeyDer, Encap, Decap). The algorithms

Setup and KeyDer algorithms are defined as in the WIBE case. The encapsulation algorithm Encap takes the master public key  $mpk$  of the system and a pattern  $P$ , and returns  $(C, K)$ , where  $K \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  is a symmetric key and  $C$  is an encapsulation of the key  $K$ . Again we assume that the encapsulation includes a public encoding of the pattern  $P$  which has been encrypted to. Finally, the decapsulation algorithm Decap( $mpk, d_{ID}, C$ ) takes a private key  $d_{ID}$  and an encapsulation  $C$ , and returns either a secret key  $K$  or the error symbol  $\perp$ .

A WIB-KEM must satisfy the following soundness property: for all pairs  $(mpk, msk)$  output by Setup, all  $0 \leq \ell \leq L$ , all patterns  $P \in (\{0, 1\}^* \cup \{\star\})^\ell$ , and all identities  $ID \in_\star P$ , we have

$$\Pr[K' = K : (C, K) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encap}(mpk, P); K' \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Decap}(\text{KeyDer}(msk, ID), C)] = 1.$$

The IND-WID game for WIB-KEMs is similar to both the IND-WIB game for WIBEs and the IND-HIB game for HIB-KEMs. The IND-WIB-CCA game is played between an adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  and a challenger:

1. The challenger generates a master key pair  $(mpk, msk) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Setup}$ .
2. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ . The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle that, on input of an identity  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$ , returns the secret key  $d_{ID} \xleftarrow{\$} \text{KeyDer}(msk, ID)$  corresponding to that identity. The adversary is also given access to a decryption oracle that will, on input of an identity  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$  and a ciphertext  $C$ , return  $\text{Decap}(\text{KeyDer}(msk, ID), C)$ . The adversary outputs a challenge pattern  $P^*$  and some state information *state*.
3. The challenger chooses a bit  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$ , computes the encapsulation  $(C^*, K_0) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encap}(mpk, P^*)$  and chooses a random key  $K_1 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ .
4. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the input  $(C^*, K_\beta)$  and the state information *state*. The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle and decryption oracle as before. The adversary outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .

The adversary wins the game if  $\beta = \beta'$ , it never queries the key derivation oracle on any identity  $ID \in_\star P^*$ , and if it doesn't query the decryption oracle on the pair  $(ID, C^*)$  for some  $ID \in_\star P^*$  after it receives the challenge ciphertext. As usual, the adversary's advantage is defined to be equal to  $|2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1|$ .

Another common form for writing the advantage of an IND-WID-CCA adversary for a WIB-KEM is given by the following simple proposition.

**Proposition 1** *If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $(t, q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-WID-CCA security of the WIB-KEM and  $\beta, \beta'$  are as in the IND-WID-CCA security game, then*

$$\epsilon = |\Pr[\beta' = 1 \mid \beta = 1] - \Pr[\beta' = 1 \mid \beta = 1]|$$

**Definition 12** A  $(t, q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-WID-CCA security of a HIB-KEM is an algorithm that runs in time  $t$ , makes at most  $q_K$  queries to the key derivation oracle, makes at most  $q_D$  queries to the decryption oracle, and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$  in winning the IND-WID-CCA game described above.

We may combine a WIB-KEM (Setup, KeyDer, Encap, Decap) with a DEM (Enc, Dec) (see Section 2.9) to form a complete WIBE scheme (Setup, KeyDer, Encrypt, Decrypt), where the encryption and decryption algorithms are as follows:

- **Encrypt**( $mpk, P^*, m$ ):
  1. Compute  $(C_1, K) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encap}(mpk, P^*)$ .
  2. Compute  $C_2 \leftarrow \text{Enc}(K, m)$ .
  3. Output the ciphertext  $C = (C_1, C_2)$ .
- **Decrypt**( $d_{ID}, C$ ):
  1. Parse  $C$  as  $(C_1, C_2)$ .
  2. Compute  $K \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Decap}(d_{ID}, C_1)$ . If  $K = \perp$  then output  $\perp$ .
  3. Compute  $m \leftarrow \text{Dec}(K, C_2)$ .
  4. Output  $m$ .

**Theorem 6** If there exists a  $(t, q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$ -adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  against IND-WID-CCA security of the hybrid WIBE, then there is a  $(t_B, q_K, q_D, \epsilon_B)$ -adversary  $\mathcal{B} = (\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2)$  against the IND-WID-CCA security of the WIB-KEM and a  $(t_{B'}, q_D, \epsilon_{B'})$ -adversary  $\mathcal{B}' = (\mathcal{B}'_1, \mathcal{B}'_2)$  against the IND-CCA security of the DEM such that:

$$\begin{aligned} t_B &\leq t + q_D t_{\text{Dec}} + t_{\text{Enc}} \\ t_{B'} &\leq t + q_D(t_{\text{Dec}} + t_{\text{Decap}} + t_{\text{KeyDer}}) + q_K t_{\text{KeyDer}} \\ &\quad + t_{\text{Encap}} + t_{\text{Setup}} \\ \epsilon &\leq 2\epsilon_{B'} + \epsilon_B \end{aligned}$$

where  $t_{\text{Enc}}$  is the time to run the DEM's Enc algorithm,  $t_{\text{Dec}}$  is the time to run the DEM's Dec algorithm,  $t_{\text{Setup}}$  is the time to run the KEM's Setup algorithm,  $t_{\text{Decap}}$  is the time to run the KEM's Decap algorithm and  $t_{\text{KeyDer}}$  is the time to run the KEM's KeyDer algorithm.

*Proof* This proof mirrors the proofs of Cramer and Shoup [12] and Bentahar *et al.* [3]. We prove this result in two stages. First, we change the nature of the security game. Let Game 1 be the normal IND-WID-CCA game for the WIBE scheme. Let Game 2 be the slight adaptation of the IND-WID-CCA game:

1. The challenger generates a master key pair  $(mpk, msk) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Setup}$ .
2. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ . The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle that, on input of an identity  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$ , returns the secret key  $d_{ID} \xleftarrow{\$} \text{KeyDer}(msk, ID)$  corresponding to that identity. The adversary is also given access to a decryption oracle that, on input of an identity  $ID$  and a ciphertext  $C$ , returns  $\text{Decrypt}(\text{KeyDer}(msk, ID), C)$ .

The adversary outputs two messages  $(m_0, m_1)$  of equal length and a challenge pattern  $P^*$ , along with some state information *state*.

3. The challenger chooses a bit  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$  and a key  $K^* \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ , then computes the ciphertext  $(C_1^*, K) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encap}(mpk, P^*)$  and  $C_2 \leftarrow \text{Enc}(K^*, m_\beta)$ . The challenge ciphertext is  $C^* \leftarrow (C_1^*, C_2)$ .
4. The adversary runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the input  $C^*$  and the state information *state*. The adversary is given access to a key derivation oracle as before. The adversary is also given to a decryption oracle that, on input of an identity  $ID$  and a ciphertext  $C = (C_1, C_2)$ , returns

$$\begin{cases} \text{Decrypt}(\text{KeyDer}(msk, ID), C) & \text{if } ID \notin P^* \text{ or } C_1 \neq C_1^* \\ \text{Dec}(K^*, C_2) & \text{if } ID \in P^* \text{ and } C_1 = C_1^* \end{cases}.$$

The adversary outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .

Note that the only two differences between the game and the IND-WID-CCA game are that a random key is used to compute the challenge ciphertext and to decrypt certain ciphertexts after the challenge ciphertext is issued.

We show that any change in the actions of  $\mathcal{A}$  between Game 1 and Game 2 give rise to an adversary  $\mathcal{B} = (\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2)$  against the IND-WID-CCA security of the WIB-KEM. We describe the algorithm  $\mathcal{B}_1$  below:

1.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  takes as input the master public key  $mpk$ .
2.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a key derivation oracle query, then  $\mathcal{B}_1$  forwards this query to its own oracle and returns the result. If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a decryption oracle query on an identity  $ID$  and a ciphertext  $(C_1, C_2)$ , the  $\mathcal{B}_1$  forwards  $C_1$  to its decapsulation oracle and receives a key  $K$  in return.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  returns  $\text{Dec}(K, C_2)$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}_1$  outputs a challenge pattern  $P^*$  and two equal-length messages  $(m_0, m_1)$ .
3.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  outputs the challenge pattern  $P^*$ .

The challenger then computes a challenge encapsulation  $(C_1^*, K^*)$  where  $K^*$  is either the decapsulation of  $C_1^*$  or a random key. The algorithm  $\mathcal{B}_2$  runs as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  takes as input the challenge encapsulation  $(C_1^*, K^*)$ .  $\mathcal{B}_2$  chooses a bit  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$  and computes the remainder of the challenge ciphertext  $C_2^* \leftarrow \text{Enc}(K^*, m_\beta)$ .
2.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the challenge ciphertext  $C^* = (C_1^*, C_2^*)$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes a key derivation oracle query, then  $\mathcal{B}_2$  forwards this query to its own oracle and returns the result. If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes a decryption oracle query on an identity  $ID \in P^*$  and a ciphertext  $(C_1^*, C_2)$ , then  $\mathcal{B}_2$  returns  $\text{Dec}(K^*, C_2)$  to  $\mathcal{A}_2$ . Otherwise, if  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes a decryption oracle query on an identity  $ID$  and a ciphertext  $(C_1, C_2)$ , then  $\mathcal{B}_2$  answers the query as before, by querying its own oracle to find the decapsulation of  $C_1$  and decrypting  $C_2$  itself.  $\mathcal{A}_2$  outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .
3. If  $\beta = \beta'$  then  $\mathcal{B}_2$  outputs 1; otherwise  $\mathcal{B}_2$  outputs 0.

If  $K^*$  is the decapsulation of  $C_1^*$  then  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates Game 1 for  $\mathcal{A}$ ; whereas if  $K^*$  is a random key then  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates Game 2 for  $\mathcal{A}$ . Thus we have,

$$|\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins in Game 1}] - \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins in Game 2}]| = \epsilon_{\mathcal{B}}$$

by virtue of Proposition 1.

However, the security of Game 2 depends only on the (one-time) IND-CCA security of the DEM. We give an algorithm  $\mathcal{B}' = (\mathcal{B}'_1, \mathcal{B}'_2)$  reduces the security of the WIBE in Game 2 to the security of the DEM. We describe the algorithm  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  below:

1.  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  computes  $(mpk, msk) \leftarrow \text{Setup}$ .
2.  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a key derivation or decryption oracle query, then  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  computes the correct answer using its knowledge of the master private key  $msk$ .  $\mathcal{A}_1$  outputs a challenge pattern  $P^*$  and two equal-length messages  $(m_0, m_1)$ .
3.  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  outputs the messages  $(m_0, m_1)$ .

The challenger chooses a bit  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$  and computes the challenge encryption  $C_2^* \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Enc}(K^*, m_\beta)$  using a randomly chosen (and hidden) key  $K^* \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ . The algorithm  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  runs as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  takes  $C_2^*$  as input.  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  computes the encapsulation  $(C_1^*, K) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encap}(mpk, P^*)$  and sets the challenge ciphertext  $C^* \leftarrow (C_1^*, C_2^*)$ .
2.  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the input  $C^*$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes a key derivation oracle query, then  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  answers it correctly using its knowledge of the master private key  $msk$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes a decryption oracle query on an identity  $ID \in_* P^*$  and a ciphertext  $(C_1^*, C_2)$  then  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  computes the correct answer by querying its own decryption on  $C_2$  and returning the result. Otherwise, if  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes a decryption oracle query on an identity  $ID$  and a ciphertext  $C$ , then  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  computes the correct answer using its knowledge of the master private key  $msk$ .  $\mathcal{A}_2$  outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .
3.  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  outputs the bit  $\beta'$ .

$\mathcal{B}'$  correctly simulates Game 2 for  $\mathcal{A}$ . Furthermore,  $\mathcal{A}$  wins in Game 2 if and only if  $\mathcal{B}$  wins the IND-CCA game for a DEM. Hence,

$$|2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins Game 2}] - 1| = \epsilon_{\mathcal{B}'}$$

and so we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &= |2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins Game 1}] - 1| \\ &\leq 2 \cdot |\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins in Game 1}] - \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins in Game 2}]| \\ &\quad + |2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins in Game 2}] - 1| \\ &= 2\epsilon_{\mathcal{B}} + \epsilon_{\mathcal{B}'} . \end{aligned}$$

## 5 IND-WID-CPA Secure WIBE

In this section, we propose several WIBE schemes which are IND-WID-CPA secure, based on three existing HIBE schemes from the Boneh-Boyen family (BB-HIBE, BBG-HIBE, Waters-HIBE). These schemes are all proven secure using the same “projection” technique and so we only prove the security of one scheme (Waters-WIBE). Each of these three schemes is proven secure in the standard model; however, two of these schemes are only proven secure in the IND-sWID-CPA model. We therefore give a generic transformation from an IND-sWID-CPA secure scheme to an IND-WID-CPA secure scheme which uses the random oracle model.

### 5.1 The Boneh-Boyen WIBE

Our first construction is based on the slight variant of the BB-HIBE [6] which we prove secure in Section 2.6. As with the BB-HIBE scheme, the BB-WIBE makes use of identities which are elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . The scheme is described in Figure 5. Note that the decryption algorithm can determine if  $i \in W(P)$  by checking whether  $C_{2,i}$  contains one group element or two.

The BB-WIBE can actually be seen as a close relative of the Waters-WIBE scheme (see Section 5.3) with the hash function  $F_i(ID_i)$  being defined as

$$F_i(ID_i) = u_{i,0} \cdot u_{i,1}^{ID_i} .$$

Its security properties are different though since the BB-WIBE scheme can be proved secure in the selective-identity model only. We reduce its security to that of the BB-HIBE scheme, which in its turn is proved IND-sHID-CPA secure under the BDDH assumption in Section 2.6. The proof of the theorem below is analogous to that of Theorem 9, and hence omitted. One important difference with Theorem 9 is that the reduction from the BB-HIBE scheme is tight: because we prove security in the selective-identity model, we do not lose a factor  $2^L$  due to having to guess the challenge pattern upfront.

**Theorem 7** *If there exists a  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-sWID-CPA security of a BB-WIBE (with hierarchy depth  $L$ ) then there exists a  $(t', q'_K, \epsilon')$ -adversary against the IND-sHID-CPA security of the BB-HIBE, where*

$$t' \leq t + 2L(1 + q_K) \cdot t_{exp}, \quad q'_K \leq q_K \quad \text{and} \quad \epsilon' \geq \epsilon ,$$

where  $t_{exp}$  is the time required to compute an exponentiation in  $\mathbb{G}$ .

In terms of efficiency, the BB-WIBE scheme easily outperforms the Waters-WIBE scheme: the master public key contains  $2L + 3$  group elements. Encryption to a recipient pattern of length  $\ell$  and  $w$  wildcards involves

□

**Algorithm Setup:**

$g_1, g_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}$ ;  $\alpha \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$   
 $h_1 \leftarrow g_1^\alpha$ ;  $h_2 \leftarrow g_2^\alpha$   
 $u_{i,j} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}$  for  $i = 1 \dots L, j = 0, 1$   
 $mpk \leftarrow (g_1, g_2, h_1, u_{1,0}, \dots, u_{L,1})$   
 $msk \leftarrow h_2$   
 Return  $(mpk, msk)$

**Algorithm Encrypt( $mpk, P, m$ ):**

Parse  $P$  as  $(P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$   
 $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ ;  $C_1 \leftarrow g_1^r$   
 For  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$  do  
   If  $i \notin W(P)$  then  $C_{2,i} \leftarrow (u_{i,0} \cdot u_{i,1}^{P_i})^r$   
   If  $i \in W(P)$  then  $C_{2,i} \leftarrow (u_{i,0}^r, u_{i,1}^r)$   
 $C_3 \leftarrow m \cdot \hat{e}(h_1, g_2)^r$   
 Return  $(P, C_1, C_{2,1}, \dots, C_{2,\ell}, C_3)$

**Algorithm KeyDer( $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, ID_{\ell+1}$ ):**

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$   
 $r_{\ell+1} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$   
 $d'_0 \leftarrow d_0 \cdot (u_{\ell+1,0} \cdot u_{\ell+1,1}^{ID_{\ell+1}})^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 $d'_{\ell+1} \leftarrow g_1^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 Return  $(d'_0, d_1, \dots, d_\ell, d'_{\ell+1})$

**Algorithm Decrypt( $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, C$ ):**

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$   
 Parse  $C$  as  $(P, C_1, C_{2,1}, \dots, C_{2,\ell}, C_3)$   
 For  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$  do  
   If  $i \notin W(P)$  then  $C'_{2,i} \leftarrow C_{2,i}$   
   If  $i \in W(P)$  then  
     Parse  $C_{2,i}$  as  $(v_1, v_2)$   
      $C'_{2,i} \leftarrow v_1 \cdot v_2^{ID_i}$   
 $m' \leftarrow C_3 \cdot \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{\ell} \hat{e}(d_i, C'_{2,i})}{\hat{e}(C_1, d_0)}$   
 Return  $m'$

**Fig. 5** The Boneh-Boyen WIBE scheme.

$\ell + w + 2$  (multi-)exponentiations and produces ciphertexts containing  $\ell + w + 2$  group elements, or  $2L + 2$  group elements in the worst case that  $\ell = w = L$ . Decryption requires the computation of  $\ell + 1$  pairings, just like the Waters-WIBE scheme. However, this scheme is outperformed by the BBG-WIBE.

**5.2 The Boneh-Boyen-Goh WIBE**

Our second construction is based on the BBG-HIBE [7] (see Section 2.7). The BBG-HIBE scheme has the advantage of constant-sized ciphertexts. Our BBG-WIBE scheme does not have this advantage, but does have the advantage that a pattern with  $w$  wildcards leads to a ciphertext with  $w + 3$  elements and is secure under the same decisional  $L$ -BDHI problem as the BBG-HIBE. Again, identities are considered to be elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  and the scheme is given in Figure 6.

The BBG-WIBE scheme is significantly more efficient than the Waters-WIBE and BB-WIBE schemes in terms of decryption, and also offers more efficient encryption and shorter ciphertexts when the recipient pattern contains few wildcards. More precisely, the master public key contains  $L + 4$  group elements. Encryption to a recipient pattern of length  $\ell$  with  $w$  wildcards involves  $w + 3$  (multi-)exponentiations and  $w + 3$  group elements in the ciphertext, or  $L + 3$  of these in the worst case that  $\ell = w = L$ . Decryption requires the computation of two pairings, as opposed to  $\ell + 1$  of these for the Waters-WIBE and BB-WIBE schemes.

Again, the proof of the following theorem is analogous to that of Theorem 9, and hence omitted.

**Theorem 8** *If there is a  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the  $IND$ -sWID-CPA security of the BBG-WIBE (with hierarchy depth  $L$ ) then there exists a  $(t', q'_K, \epsilon')$ -adversary*

*against the  $IND$ -sHID-CPA security of the BBG-HIBE where*

$$t' \leq t - L(1 + 2q_K) \cdot t_{exp}, \quad q'_K \leq q_K, \quad \text{and} \quad \epsilon' \geq \epsilon,$$

*where  $t_{exp}$  is the time it takes to perform an exponentiation in  $\mathbb{G}$ .*

**5.3 The Waters WIBE**

Our third construction is based on the Waters-HIBE [23] (see Section 2.8). As in the HIBE scheme, the WIBE makes use of identities which are  $n$ -bit strings and a series of hash functions  $(F_1, \dots, F_L)$  where

$$F_i(ID_i) = u_{i,0} \prod_{j \in [ID_i]} u_{i,j}.$$

The scheme is described in Figure 7.

In terms of efficiency, the Waters-WIBE compares unfavourably with the BB-WIBE and BBG-WIBE (but provides stronger security guarantees in the standard model). The master public key of the Waters-WIBE scheme contains  $(n + 1)L + 3$  group elements. Encrypting to a pattern of length  $\ell$  containing  $w$  wildcards comes at the cost of  $\ell + nw + 2$  exponentiations and  $\ell + nw + 2$  group elements in the ciphertext; in the worst case of  $\ell = w = L$  this means  $(n + 1)L + 2$  exponentiations and group elements. (The pairing  $\hat{e}(h_1, g_2)$  can be precomputed.) Decryption requires the computation of  $\ell + 1$  pairings.

In terms of efficiency, the Waters-WIBE scheme performs well enough to be considered for use in practice, but definitely leaves room for improvement. The main problem is the dependency of the scheme on  $n$ , the bit length of identity strings. In practice, one would typically use the output of a collision-resistant hash function

<p><b>Algorithm Setup:</b></p> $g_1, g_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}; \alpha \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ $h_1 \leftarrow g_1^\alpha; h_2 \leftarrow g_2^\alpha$ $u_i \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G} \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, L$ $mpk \leftarrow (g_1, g_2, h_1, u_0, \dots, u_L)$ $d_0 \leftarrow h_2$ $\text{For } i = 1, \dots, L+1 \text{ do}$ $d_i \leftarrow id_{\mathbb{G}}$ $msk \leftarrow (d_0, d_1, \dots, d_L, d_{L+1})$ $\text{Return } (mpk, msk)$	<p><b>Algorithm KeyDer</b>(<math>d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, ID_{\ell+1}</math>):</p> $\text{Parse } d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)} \text{ as } (d_0, d_{\ell+1}, \dots, d_L, d_{L+1})$ $r_{\ell+1} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ $d'_0 \leftarrow d_0 \cdot d_{\ell+1}^{ID_{\ell+1}} \cdot (u_0 \prod_{i=1}^{\ell} u_i^{ID_i})^{r_{\ell+1}}$ $\text{For } i = \ell+2, \dots, L \text{ do}$ $d'_i \leftarrow d_i \cdot u_i^{r_{\ell+1}}$ $d'_{L+1} \leftarrow d_{L+1} \cdot g_1^{r_{\ell+1}}$ $\text{Return } (d'_0, d'_{\ell+2}, \dots, d'_L, d'_{L+1})$
<p><b>Algorithm Encrypt</b>(<math>mpk, P, m</math>):</p> $\text{Parse } P \text{ as } (P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$ $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p; C_1 \leftarrow g_1^r$ $C_2 \leftarrow (u_0 \prod_{i=1, i \notin W(P)}^{\ell} u_i^{P_i})^r$ $C_3 \leftarrow m \cdot \hat{e}(h_1, g_2)^r$ $C_4 \leftarrow (u_i^r)_{i \in W(P)}$ $\text{Return } (P, C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4)$	<p><b>Algorithm Decrypt</b>(<math>d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, C</math>):</p> $\text{Parse } d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)} \text{ as } (d_0, d_{\ell+1}, \dots, d_{L+1})$ $\text{Parse } C \text{ as } (P, C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4)$ $\text{Parse } C_4 \text{ as } (v_i)_{i \in W(P)}$ $C'_2 \leftarrow C_2 \prod_{i=1, i \in W(P)}^{\ell} v_i^{ID_i}$ $m' \leftarrow C_3 \cdot \frac{\hat{e}(C'_2, d_{L+1})}{\hat{e}(C_1, d_0)}$ $\text{Return } m'$

**Fig. 6** The Boneh-Boyen-Goh WIBE scheme.

<p><b>Algorithm Setup:</b></p> $g_1, g_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}; \alpha \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ $h_1 \leftarrow g_1^\alpha; h_2 \leftarrow g_2^\alpha$ $u_{i,j} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G} \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, L; j = 0 \dots n$ $mpk \leftarrow (g_1, g_2, h_1, u_{1,0}, \dots, u_{L,n})$ $msk \leftarrow h_2$ $\text{Return } (mpk, msk)$	<p><b>Algorithm KeyDer</b>(<math>d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, ID_{\ell+1}</math>):</p> $\text{Parse } d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)} \text{ as } (d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$ $r_{\ell+1} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ $d'_0 \leftarrow d_0 \cdot F_{\ell+1}(ID_{\ell+1})^{r_{\ell+1}}$ $d'_{\ell+1} \leftarrow g_1^{r_{\ell+1}}$ $\text{Return } (d'_0, d_1, \dots, d_\ell, d'_{\ell+1})$
<p><b>Algorithm Encrypt</b>(<math>mpk, P, m</math>):</p> $\text{Parse } P \text{ as } (P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$ $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p; C_1 \leftarrow g_1^r$ $\text{For } i = 1 \dots \ell \text{ do}$ $\text{If } i \notin W(P) \text{ then } C_{2,i} \leftarrow F_i(ID_i)^r$ $\text{If } i \in W(P) \text{ then } C_{2,i} \leftarrow (u_{i,0}, \dots, u_{i,n})^r$ $C_3 \leftarrow m \cdot \hat{e}(h_1, g_2)^r$ $\text{Return } (P, C_1, C_{2,1}, \dots, C_{2,\ell}, C_3)$	<p><b>Algorithm Decrypt</b>(<math>d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, C</math>):</p> $\text{Parse } d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)} \text{ as } (d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$ $\text{Parse } C \text{ as } (P, C_1, C_{2,1}, \dots, C_{2,\ell}, C_3)$ $\text{For } i = 1, \dots, \ell \text{ do}$ $\text{If } i \notin W(P) \text{ then } C'_{2,i} \leftarrow C_{2,i}$ $\text{If } i \in W(P) \text{ then}$ $\text{Parse } C_{2,i} \text{ as } (v_0, \dots, v_n)$ $C'_{2,i} \leftarrow v_0 \prod_{j \in [ID_i]} v_j$ $m' \leftarrow C_3 \cdot \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{\ell} \hat{e}(d_i, C'_{2,i})}{\hat{e}(C_1, d_0)}$ $\text{Return } m'$

**Fig. 7** The Waters WIBE scheme.

as identity strings, so that  $n = 160$  for a reasonable level of security. We note that the techniques of [10, 19] could be applied to trade a factor  $d$  in efficiency against the loss of a factor of  $2^{Ld}$  in the tightness of the reduction.

We now prove the security of the Waters-WIBE. This proof provides a template for the the proofs of security of the BB-WIBE (see Section 5.1 and the BBG-WIBE 5.2). We reduce the security of the Waters-WIBE to the security of the Waters-HIBE, which can in turn be reduced to the security of the BDDH problem (see Section 2.8).

**Theorem 9** *If there exists a  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-WID-CPA security of the Waters-WIBE scheme (with hierarchy depth  $L$ ) then there exists a  $(t', q'_K, \epsilon')$ -adversary against the IND-HID-CPA security of the HIBE*

*scheme, where*

$$t' \leq t + Ln(1 + q_K) \cdot t_{exp}, q'_K \leq q_K \text{ and } \epsilon' \geq \epsilon/2^L,$$

*and  $t_{exp}$  is the time it takes to perform an exponentiation in  $\mathbb{G}$ .*

*Proof* Suppose there exists a  $(t, q_K, \epsilon)$ -adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  against the IND-WID-CPA security of the Waters-WIBE scheme. We construct an adversary  $\mathcal{B} = (\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2)$  against the IND-HID-CPA security of the Waters-HIBE.

The intuitive idea behind the proof is that  $\mathcal{B}$  guesses the levels in which the challenge pattern contains wildcards. Any query that  $\mathcal{A}$  makes is passed by  $\mathcal{B}$  to its own oracles after stripping out the levels corresponding to wildcards in the challenge pattern. To this end, we construction a ‘projection’ map  $\pi : \{1, \dots, L\} \rightarrow$



$\{1, \dots, L\}$ . Suppose that  $\bar{P}^* \in \{\varepsilon, *\}^L$  is  $\mathcal{B}$ 's guess for the wildcard positions in the challenge pattern. Define to  $\bar{P}_{\leq i}^*$  to be equal to the first  $i$  bits of  $\bar{P}^*$  and define  $\pi$  as

$$\pi(i) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \in W(\bar{P}) \\ i - |W(\bar{P}_{\leq i}^*)| & \text{if } i \notin W(\bar{P}) \end{cases}$$

$\mathcal{B}$  is an adversary against the Waters-HIBE scheme. We denote parameters associated with the HIBE scheme using tildes. The algorithm  $\mathcal{B}_1$  runs as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  takes as input the master public key of the HIBE scheme  $\tilde{mpk} = (\tilde{g}_1, \tilde{g}_2, \tilde{h}_1, \tilde{u}_{1,0}, \dots, \tilde{u}_{L,n})$ .
2.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  computes  $\bar{P} = (\bar{P}_1, \dots, \bar{P}_L) \xleftarrow{\$} \{\varepsilon, *\}^L$ .
3.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  computes the master public key  $mpk = (g_1, g_2, h_1, u_{1,0}, \dots, u_{L,n})$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} g_1 &\leftarrow \tilde{g}_1 & g_2 &\leftarrow \tilde{g}_2 & h_1 &\leftarrow \tilde{h}_1 \\ u_{i,j} &\leftarrow \tilde{u}_{\pi(i),j} \text{ if } i \notin W(\bar{P}) \text{ and } j = 1, \dots, n \\ u_{i,j} &\leftarrow g_1^{\alpha_{i,j}} \text{ if } i \in W(\bar{P}), j = 1, \dots, n \text{ and } \alpha_{i,j} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p \end{aligned}$$

4.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a key derivation oracle on input  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$  then  $\mathcal{B}_1$  constructs an identity  $\tilde{ID} = (\tilde{ID}_1, \dots, \tilde{ID}_\ell)$  by setting  $\tilde{ID}_{\pi(i)} \leftarrow ID_i$  for each  $i \in W(\bar{P}_{\leq \ell}^*)$ .  $\mathcal{B}_1$  queries its key derivation oracle on  $\tilde{ID}$  and receives  $(\tilde{d}_0, \dots, \tilde{d}_\ell)$ .  $\mathcal{B}_1$  reconstructs the decryption key  $d_{ID} = (d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$  for  $ID$  as:

$$\begin{aligned} d_0 &\leftarrow \tilde{d}_0 \prod_{i \in W(\bar{P}_{\leq \ell}^*)} (u_{i,0} \prod_{j \in [ID_i]} u_{i,j})^{r_i} \text{ for } r_i \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p \\ d_i &\leftarrow \tilde{d}_i \text{ if } i \notin W(\bar{P}_{\leq \ell}^*) \\ d_i &\leftarrow g_1^{r_i} \text{ if } i \in W(\bar{P}_{\leq \ell}^*) \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{B}_1$  returns the key  $d_{ID}$  to  $\mathcal{A}_1$ .  $\mathcal{A}_1$  outputs two equal-length messages  $(m_0, m_1)$  and a challenge pattern  $P^* = (P_1^*, \dots, P_{\ell'}^*)$ .

5. If  $\bar{P}_{\leq \ell'}^*$  and  $P^*$  do not have wildcards in exactly the same positions, then  $\mathcal{B}_1$  aborts. Otherwise,  $\mathcal{B}_1$  computes a challenge identity  $\tilde{ID}^* = (\tilde{ID}_1^*, \dots, \tilde{ID}_{\ell'}^*)$  by setting  $\tilde{ID}_i^* \leftarrow P_i^*$  for all  $i \notin W(P^*)$ .  $\mathcal{B}_1$  outputs the challenge identity  $\tilde{ID}^*$  and the two messages  $(m_0, m_1)$ .

The challenger will now encrypt  $m_\beta$  under the identity  $\tilde{ID}^*$  using the Waters-HIBE (for  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$ ). This results in a ciphertext  $\tilde{C}^* = (\tilde{C}_1^*, \tilde{C}_{2,1}^*, \dots, \tilde{C}_{2,\ell'}^*, \tilde{C}_3^*)$  which is input to the algorithm  $\mathcal{B}_2$  described below:

1.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  computes a challenge WIBE ciphertext  $C^* = (P^*, C_1^*, C_{2,1}^*, \dots, C_{2,L}^*, C_3^*)$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} C_1^* &\leftarrow \tilde{C}_1^* \\ C_{2,i}^* &\leftarrow \tilde{C}_{2,\pi(i)}^* \text{ if } i \notin W(P^*) \\ C_{2,i}^* &\leftarrow (C_1^{*\alpha_{i,0}}, \dots, C_1^{*\alpha_{i,n}}) \text{ for } i \in W(P^*) \\ C_3^* &\leftarrow \tilde{C}_3^* \end{aligned}$$

2.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the input  $C^*$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes a key derivation oracle query, then  $\mathcal{B}_2$  answer its queries as before.  $\mathcal{A}_2$  outputs a guess  $\beta'$ .
3.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  outputs  $\beta'$ .

We make several observations about the adversary  $\mathcal{B}$ . First, note that  $\mathcal{B}$  cannot correctly guess the bit  $\beta'$  unless it correctly guesses the locations of the wildcards in the challenge pattern. This happens with probability at least  $1/2^L$ . Second, we observe that if  $\mathcal{B}$  correctly guesses the position of the wildcards in the challenge ciphertext, then  $\mathcal{B}$  correctly simulates the key derivation oracle and challenge ciphertext for  $\mathcal{A}$ . Furthermore, if  $\mathcal{B}$  correctly guesses the position of the wildcards in the challenge ciphertext, then any legal key derivation oracle query that  $\mathcal{A}$  makes results in a legal key derivation oracle query made by  $\mathcal{B}$ . This is because for any identity  $ID \notin P^*$  there must exist an index  $i$  such that  $P_i^* \neq *$  and  $ID_i \neq P_i^*$ . Hence, the “projected” identity  $\tilde{ID}$  has  $\tilde{ID}_{\pi(i)} = ID_i \neq P_i^* = \tilde{ID}_{\pi(i)}^*$ . Hence, if  $\mathcal{B}$  correctly guesses the position of the wildcards in the challenge ciphertext, then  $\mathcal{B}$  wins if and only if  $\mathcal{A}$  wins. This leads to the results of the theorem.  $\square$

Note that the proof above loses a factor of  $2^L$  in the security reduction. This limits the secure use of the scheme in practice to very small (logarithmic) hierarchy depths, but this was already the case for the Waters-HIBE scheme, which loses a factor  $(nq_K)^L$  in its reduction to the BDDH problem. Alternatively, if we only consider patterns with a single sequence of consecutive wildcards, for example  $(ID_1, *, *, *, ID_5)$  or  $(ID_1, *, *)$ , then we only lose a factor of  $L^2$  when reducing to the Waters-HIBE scheme. If we consider the selective-identity notion, there is no need to guess the challenge pattern, so we do not lose any tightness with respect to the Waters-HIBE scheme.

#### 5.4 Converting Selective-Identity Security to Full Security

As observed by Boneh-Boyen [6] for the case of IBE schemes and by Boneh-Boyen-Goh [7] for the case of HIBE schemes, any HIBE scheme that is selective-identity (IND-sHID) secure can be transformed into a HIBE scheme that is fully (IND-HID) secure in the random oracle model. The transformation only works for small hierarchy depths though, since the proof loses a factor  $O(q_H^L)$  in reduction tightness. We show here that the same transformation works for the case of WIBE schemes at a similar cost of a factor  $O(q_H^L)$  in reduction.

Let  $\Pi = (\text{Setup}, \text{KeyDer}, \text{Encrypt}, \text{Decrypt})$  be a WIBE scheme with maximum hierarchy depth  $L$ . We construct a WIBE scheme  $\Pi' = (\text{Setup}, \text{KeyDer}', \text{Encrypt}', \text{Decrypt})$  where  $\text{KeyDer}'$  and  $\text{Encrypt}'$  are identical to  $\text{KeyDer}$  and  $\text{Encrypt}$  with the exception that the identity/pattern that

is input to a hash function before it is input to the relevant algorithm. A pattern  $P = (P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$  is transformed into a pattern  $P' = (P'_1, \dots, P'_\ell)$  where

$$P'_i \leftarrow \begin{cases} H_i(P_i) & \text{if } P_i \neq * \\ * & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $H_i : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{ID}$  (for  $1 \leq i \leq L$ ) are independent hash functions (modelled as distinct random oracles) and  $\mathcal{ID}$  is an appropriately sized subset of the allowable identities for the original WIBE scheme.<sup>1</sup>

**Theorem 10** *Suppose that there exists a  $(t, q_K, q_H, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-WID-CPA security of  $\Pi'$  (with hierarchy depth  $L$ ) then there exists a  $(t', q_K, \epsilon')$ -adversary against the IND-sWID-CPA security of  $\Pi$ , where  $t' \leq t$  and*

$$\epsilon' \geq \frac{\epsilon}{(L+1)(q_H + q_K L + 1)^L} - \frac{(q_H + q_K L + 1)^2}{|\mathcal{ID}|}.$$

*Proof* Suppose there exists a  $(t, q_K, q_H, \epsilon)$ -adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  against the IND-WID-CPA security of  $\Pi'$ . We construct an IND-sWID-CPA adversary  $\mathcal{B} = (\mathcal{B}_0, \mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2)$  against  $\Pi$  that uses  $\mathcal{A}$  as a subroutine. The algorithm  $\mathcal{B}_0$  runs as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{B}_0$  chooses  $\hat{\ell}^* \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1, \dots, L\}$  and  $\hat{ctr} \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1, \dots, q_H + q_K L + 1\}$ .  $\mathcal{B}_0$  computes the challenge pattern  $\hat{P}^* \leftarrow (\hat{P}_1^*, \dots, \hat{P}_{\hat{\ell}^*}^*)$  where

$$\hat{P}_i^* \leftarrow \begin{cases} * & \text{if } \hat{ctr} = 0 \\ ID & \text{if } \hat{ctr} \neq 0 \text{ where } ID \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{ID} \end{cases}$$

$\mathcal{B}_0$  outputs  $\hat{P}^*$ .

The challenger now issues the master public key  $mpk$  to the adversary. Algorithm  $\mathcal{B}_1$  run as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  receives the master public key  $mpk$ .
2.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  initialises a set of lists  $T_i$  to answer the random oracle queries for the hash function  $H_i$ . These lists are initially empty. For each list,  $\mathcal{B}_1$  initialises a counter  $ctr_i \leftarrow 1$ .
3.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ .  $\mathcal{B}_1$  answers  $\mathcal{A}_1$ 's oracle queries as follows:
  - Suppose  $\mathcal{A}_1$  queries the random oracle  $H_i$  on input  $ID$ . If  $T_i[ID]$  is defined, then  $\mathcal{B}_1$  returns  $T_i[ID]$ . Otherwise, if  $ctr_i = \hat{ctr}$ , then  $\mathcal{B}_1$  sets  $T_i[ID] \leftarrow \hat{P}_i^*$ , else  $\mathcal{B}_1$  sets  $T_i[ID] \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{ID}$ . In either case,  $\mathcal{B}_1$  increments  $ctr_i$  by one and returns  $T_i[ID]$ .
  - Suppose  $\mathcal{A}_1$  queries the key derivation oracle on  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$ .  $\mathcal{B}_1$  computes the hashed identity  $ID' = (ID'_1, \dots, ID'_\ell)$  where  $ID'_i \leftarrow H_i(ID_i)$  using the random oracle algorithm defined above.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  queries its own key derivation oracle on the input  $ID'$  and returns to the result to  $\mathcal{A}_1$ .

<sup>1</sup> These  $L$  independent random oracles  $(H_1, \dots, H_L)$  can easily be constructed from a single random oracle  $H$ , e.g. by setting  $H_i(\cdot) = H([i] \parallel \cdot)$  where  $[i]$  is a fixed-length representation of the integer  $i$ .

$\mathcal{A}_1$  terminates by outputting a challenge pattern  $P^* = (P_1^*, \dots, P_{\ell^*}^*)$  and two equal-length messages  $(m_0, m_1)$ .

4. If  $\ell^* \neq \hat{\ell}^*$ , if there exists  $i \in W(\hat{P}^*)$  such that  $P_i^* \neq *$ , or if there exists  $1 \leq i \leq \ell^*$  such that  $i \notin W(\hat{P}^*)$  and  $H_i(P_i^*) \neq \hat{P}_i^*$ , then  $\mathcal{B}_1$  aborts.
5.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  outputs the two messages  $(m_0, m_1)$ .

The challenger computes the challenge ciphertext  $C^*$  (which is the encryption of  $m_\beta$  for some randomly chosen  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$ ). This value is input to algorithm  $\mathcal{B}_2$  which runs as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the input  $C^*$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes any oracle query, then they are answered as above.  $\mathcal{A}_2$  outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .
2.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  outputs  $\beta'$ .

$\mathcal{B}$  wins the IND-sWID-CPA game if (1)  $\mathcal{A}$  wins the IND-WID-CPA game; (2)  $\mathcal{B}$  does not abort because the challenge pattern it outputs is incorrect; (3)  $\mathcal{A}$  does not force  $\mathcal{B}$  to make an illegal key derivation oracle query. The idea is that the counters  $\hat{ctr}_i$  are  $\mathcal{B}$ 's guess as to which oracle query will define the challenge patterns (where a counter values of  $\hat{ctr}_i = 0$  means that that position is a wildcard). We require that for each of the hash oracles provides no collisions – i.e. for each  $ID \neq ID'$  we have  $H_i(ID) \neq H_i(ID')$ . Since such a collision could only occur by accident, the probability is bounded by  $(q_H + q_K L + 1)^2 / |\mathcal{ID}|$  as there exists at most  $q_H + q_K L + 1$  entries in all the lists. We exclude the possibility this occurs by losing an additive factor of  $(q_H + q_K L) / |\mathcal{ID}|$  in the security reduction.

Furthermore, we require that the algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  correctly identifies the pattern that  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs. Since the values are chosen at random, we have that  $\hat{\ell}^* = \ell^*$  with probability  $1/(L+1)$  and that the  $\hat{ctr}_i$  value will be correct with probability  $1/(q_H + q_K L + 1)$ . If  $\mathcal{B}$  correctly guesses these values and there are no hash collisions, then  $\mathcal{A}$  will never force  $\mathcal{B}$  to make an illegal key derivation query. Hence, the result of the theorem holds.  $\square$

## 6 IND-WID-CCA Secure WIBEs

In this section, we present constructions for IND-WID-CCA secure WIBEs. We present one generic transform from an IND-WID-CPA WIBE into an IND-WID-CCA WIBE based on the Canetti-Halevi-Katz transform [9]; a generic random-oracle-based transform from an OW-WID-CPA WIBE into a IND-WID-CCA WIBE-KEM based on a transform of Dent [13]; and a direct construction for a WIBE-KEM based on the Kiltz-Galindo HIB-KEM [17] described in Section 2.10.

### 6.1 The Canetti-Halevi-Katz Transform

In this section, we construct a variant of the Canetti-Halevi-Katz transform [9] to convert a IND-WID-CPA

secure WIBE with hierarchy depth  $2L + 2$  into a IND-WID-CCA secure WIBE with hierarchy depth  $L$ , using a one-time signature scheme (see Section 2.3).

In order to complete this transform, we will make liberal use of an “encoding” function  $\text{Encode}$ . This function is “overloaded” so that it behaves slightly differently depending upon the format of the input. We will assume that 0 and 1 are valid identities (although any two fixed, distinct values will suffice). For a pattern  $P = (P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$ , we define:

$$\text{Encode}(P) = (0, P_1, 0, P_2, \dots, 0, P_\ell).$$

We also define  $\text{Encode}$  with two inputs:

$$\text{Encode}(P, vk) = (0, P_1, 0, P_2, \dots, 0, P_\ell, 1, vk).$$

We define a similar map for identities (interpreted as patterns without wildcards).

Given an IND-WID-CPA WIBE scheme  $\Pi = (\text{Setup}, \text{KeyDer}, \text{Encrypt}, \text{Decrypt})$  with hierarchy depth  $2L+2$ , we define an IND-WID-CCA WIBE  $\Pi' = (\text{Setup}, \text{KeyDer}', \text{Encrypt}', \text{Decrypt}')$  with hierarchy depth  $L$ . This scheme is described in Figure 8. The two main differences between the CPA-WIBE  $\Pi$  and the CCA-WIBE  $\Pi'$  are (1) if  $P$  is a pattern/identity used in the CCA-WIBE, then  $\text{Encode}(P)$  is the corresponding pattern/identity used in the CPA-WIBE; (2) the ciphertext for the CCA-WIBE is equal to the ciphertext for the CPA-WIBE on an identity that has been extended to include a verification key  $vk$  along with a signature computed using the signing  $sk$  corresponding to  $vk$ .

**Theorem 11** *Suppose that there exists a  $(t, q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-WID-CCA security of the WIBE  $\Pi'$  then there exists a  $(t_w, q_K + q_D, \epsilon_w)$ -adversary against the IND-WID-CPA security of  $\Pi$  and a  $(t_s, \epsilon_s)$ -adversary against the one-time unforgeability of the signature scheme, where*

$$\begin{aligned} t_w &\leq t + \dots, \\ t_s &\leq t + t_{\text{Setup}} + t_{\text{Encrypt}} + q_K \cdot t_{\text{KeyDer}} + q_D \cdot t_{\text{Decrypt}}, \\ \epsilon &\geq \epsilon_w + 2\epsilon_s. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof* The proof closely follows that of [9]. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an IND-WID-CCA adversary against  $\Pi'$  scheme. Suppose  $P^*$  is the challenge pattern that  $\mathcal{A}$  chooses and  $(vk^*, C^*, \sigma^*)$  is the challenge ciphertext that  $\mathcal{A}$  receives during an execution of the attack game. Let FORGE be the event that at some point during its execution  $\mathcal{A}$  queries the decryption oracle on an identity  $ID \in_\star P^*$  and a ciphertext of the form  $(vk^*, C, \sigma)$  such that the algorithm  $\text{Verify}(vk^*, C, \sigma)$  returns  $\top$ . Then we have that  $\mathcal{A}$ 's advantage is

$$|2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1/2| \leq |2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins} \mid \neg \text{FORGE}] - 1| + 2 \cdot \Pr[\text{FORGE}].$$

*Claim*  $\Pr[\text{FORGE}] \leq \epsilon_s$ .

We describe an algorithm  $\mathcal{B} = (\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2)$  which breaks the one-time unforgeability of the signature scheme if the event FORGE occurs. The algorithm  $\mathcal{B}_1$  runs as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  receives  $vk^*$  as input.
2.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  generates a master key pair  $(mpk, msk) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Setup}$ .
3.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a decryption or key derivation oracle query, then  $\mathcal{B}_1$  answers it using its knowledge of the master private key  $msk$ .  $\mathcal{B}_1$  outputs a challenge pattern  $P^*$  and two equal-length messages  $(m_0, m_1)$ .
4. If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  submitted a decryption oracle query  $(vk^*, C, \sigma)$  for which  $\text{Verify}(vk^*, C, \sigma) = \top$ , then  $\mathcal{B}_1$  chooses a ciphertext  $C^* \neq C$  and returns  $C^*$ . This is known as the error event.
5. Otherwise,  $\mathcal{B}_1$  chooses  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$ , computes  $C^* \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encrypt}(mpk, \text{Encode}(P^*, vk^*), m_\beta)$  and returns  $C^*$ .

The challenger then computes a signature  $\sigma^*$  on the “message”  $C^*$ . This is input to the algorithm  $\mathcal{B}_2$  described as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  receives  $\sigma^*$  as input.
2. If the error event occurred during the first phase, then  $\mathcal{B}_2$  outputs  $(C, \sigma)$ .
3. Otherwise  $\mathcal{B}_2$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the input  $(vk^*, C^*, \sigma^*)$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes a key derivation or decryption oracle query, then  $\mathcal{B}_2$  answers them using its knowledge of the master private key  $msk$ .  $\mathcal{B}_2$  outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .
4. If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  submitted a decryption oracle query  $(vk^*, C, \sigma)$  for which  $\text{Verify}(vk^*, C, \sigma) = \top$ , then  $\mathcal{B}_2$  outputs  $(C, \sigma)$ . Otherwise  $\mathcal{B}_2$  outputs the error symbol  $\perp$ .

Algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  is designed to output a valid forgery if the event FORGE occurs. If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a valid decryption oracle query on  $(vk^*, C, \sigma)$ , then the error event occurs, and  $\mathcal{B}$  trivially wins. If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes a valid decryption oracle query on  $(vk^*, C, \sigma)$ , then, since  $\mathcal{A}_2$  is forbidden from making a decryption oracle query on  $(vk^*, C^*, \sigma^*)$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  wins after  $\mathcal{A}$  finishes its execution. Hence, we have  $\epsilon_s = \Pr[\text{FORGE}]$ .

$$\text{Claim } |2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins} \mid \neg \text{FORGE}] - 1| \leq \epsilon_w.$$

We describe an algorithm  $\mathcal{B}' = (\mathcal{B}'_1, \mathcal{B}'_2)$  which breaks the IND-WID-CPA security of the WIBE scheme  $\Pi$  whenever  $\mathcal{A}$  wins and FORGE did not occur. Algorithm  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  runs as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  receives a master public key  $mpk$  as input.
2.  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  generates  $(vk^*, sk^*) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{SigGen}$ .
3.  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  run  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a key derivation oracle query on identity  $ID$ , then  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  makes a key derivation oracle query on  $\text{Encode}(ID)$  and returns the result. If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a decryption oracle query on identity  $ID$  and ciphertext  $(vk, C, \sigma)$ , then  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  returns  $\perp$  if  $vk = vk^*$  or if  $\text{Verify}(vk, C, \sigma) = \perp$ . Otherwise,  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  queries the key extraction oracle on  $\text{Encode}(ID, vk)$  to obtain a decryption key  $d$  and returns  $\text{Decrypt}(d, C)$ .  $\mathcal{A}_1$  outputs a pattern  $P^*$  and two equal-length messages  $(m_0, m_1)$ .

Algorithm  $\text{KeyDer}'(d_{ID}, ID')$ :  
 $d_{ID \parallel ID'} \leftarrow \text{KeyDer}(d_{ID}, (0, ID'))$   
 Return  $d_{ID \parallel ID'}$

Algorithm  $\text{Encrypt}'(mpk, P, m)$ :  
 $(sk, vk) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{SigGen}$   
 $P' \leftarrow \text{Encode}(P, vk)$   
 $C' \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encrypt}(mpk, P', m)$   
 $\sigma \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Sign}(sk, C')$   
 $C \leftarrow (vk, C', \sigma)$   
 Return  $C$

Algorithm  $\text{Decrypt}'(d_{ID}, C)$ :  
 Parse  $C$  as  $(vk, C', \sigma)$   
 If  $\text{Verify}(vk, C', \sigma) = \perp$  then return  $\perp$   
 $d \xleftarrow{\$} \text{KeyDer}(d_{ID}, (1, vk))$   
 $m \leftarrow \text{Decrypt}(d, C')$   
 Return  $m$

**Fig. 8** The Canetti-Halevi-Katz transform.

4.  $\mathcal{B}'_1$  returns the challenge pattern  $\text{Encode}(P^*, vk^*)$  and the messages  $(m_0, m_1)$ .

The challenger will pick a random  $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$  and computes the ciphertext

$$C^* \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encrypt}(mpk, \text{Encode}(P^*, vk^*), m_\beta).$$

This ciphertext is input to the algorithm  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  below:

1.  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  receives the ciphertext  $C$ .  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  computes  $\sigma^* \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Sign}(sk^*, C^*)$ .
2.  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the ciphertext  $(vk^*, C^*, \sigma^*)$ . All oracle queries are answered in exactly the same way as in the first phase.  $\mathcal{A}_2$  outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .
3.  $\mathcal{B}'_2$  outputs  $\beta'$ .

It is clear that as long as  $\mathcal{B}'$  does not make an illegal key derivation oracle query, then  $\mathcal{B}'$  wins if and only if  $\mathcal{A}$  wins (assuming that FORGE does not occur).  $\mathcal{B}'$  may make key derivation oracle queries in response to  $\mathcal{A}$  making a key derivation oracle query or a decryption oracle query. If  $\mathcal{A}$  makes a decryption oracle query on an identity  $ID$  and ciphertext  $(vk, C, \sigma)$  then  $\text{Encode}(ID, vk) \not\leq_* \text{Encode}(P^*, vk^*)$  as

- if  $|ID| > |P^*|$  then  $\text{Encode}(ID, vk)$  can never match  $\text{Encode}(P^*, vk^*)$ ;
- if  $|ID| = |P^*|$  then  $\text{Encode}(ID, vk) \not\leq_* \text{Encode}(P^*, vk^*)$  as  $vk \neq vk^*$ ;
- if  $|ID| < |P^*|$  then  $\text{Encode}(ID, vk) \not\leq_* \text{Encode}(P^*, vk^*)$  as they do not agree on the next-to-last level (due to the  $\{0, 1\}$  encoding at alternate levels).

Furthermore, if  $\mathcal{A}$  makes a key derivation oracle query on an identity  $ID$  then, by definition, we have  $ID \not\leq_* P^*$ . Hence, we  $\text{Encode}(ID) \not\leq_* \text{Encode}(P^*, vk^*)$  as

- if  $|ID| > |P^*| + 1$  then  $\text{Encode}(ID)$  can never match  $\text{Encode}(P^*, vk^*)$ ;
- if  $|ID| = |P^*| + 1$  then  $\text{Encode}(ID) \not\leq_* \text{Encode}(P^*, vk^*)$  as they do not agree on the next-to-last level (due to the  $\{0, 1\}$  encoding at alternate levels);
- if  $|ID| \leq |P^*|$  then  $\text{Encode}(ID) \not\leq_* \text{Encode}(P^*, vk^*)$  as  $\text{Encode}(ID) \not\leq_* \text{Encode}(P^*)$ .

Hence,  $\mathcal{A}$  never forces  $\mathcal{B}'$  to make an illegal key derivation oracle query and so  $\mathcal{B}'$  wins whenever  $\mathcal{A}$ . Thus,

$$|2 \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins} \mid \neg \text{FORGE}] - 1| \leq \epsilon_w.$$

A combination of the two claims gives the theorem.  $\square$

One may wonder why we require a  $(2L + 2)$ -level IND-WIB-CPA-secure WIBE in order to construct an  $L$ -level IND-WID-CCA-secure WIBE when the original result of Canetti-Halevi-Katz [9] only required an  $(L + 1)$ -level IND-HID-CPA-secure HIBE to construct an  $L$ -level IND-HID-CCA-secure HIBE. The construction of [9] encodes every identity string  $ID$  as  $0 \parallel ID$  and every verification key  $vk$  as  $1 \parallel vk$ . For a HIBE, the different form of the two types of binary string means that when we use the key extraction oracle to decrypt a ciphertext, we never query the key extraction oracle on an ancestor of the challenge identity. However, if we try and use the same trick to construct a chosen-ciphertext secure WIBE, then it is possible that we will query the key extraction oracle on an identity that matches the challenge pattern because both  $0 \parallel ID$  and  $1 \parallel vk$  match the pattern string  $*$ . Hence, we are forced to place the single bits that identify whether the following binary string is an identity or a verification key into their own levels on the WIBE.

#### 6.1.1 Applying the transformation to Waters-WIBE.

If we apply the above transformation to the Waters-WIBE scheme described in Section 5.3 (which recall was IND-WPA-CPA-secure) and prove the security of the scheme directly, rather than by applying Theorems 9 and 11, then we may achieve some small efficiency gains. In particular, if we wish to construct an  $L$ -level CCA-secure WIBE scheme, then a naive application of the theorems suggests that we have to start from a  $(2L + 2)$ -level Waters-WIBE scheme, meaning that the public parameters for the WIBE consist of  $(2L + 2)(n + 1) + 3$  group elements, and that we lose a factor of  $2^{2L+2}$  in the security reduction from the Waters-WIBE to the Waters-HIBE scheme.

However, if we look at the proof techniques used in the theorems, then we can make some efficiency gains. In particular,

- $L + 1$  levels of the WIBE are only used to encode either a zero or a one. This means that the public parameters do not require the  $n + 1$  group elements required to represent an  $n$ -bit identity at those levels; they only require the two group elements that are required to encode a single-bit identity. Hence, the public parameters only requires  $(L + 1)(n + 3) + 3$  group elements.
- the reduction from the CPA-secure WIBE to the CPA-secure HIBE loses a factor of  $2^{2L+2}$  because we need to guess the positions of the wildcards in the challenge identity. However, in this construction, the wildcards can only occur at  $L$  different positions, instead of all  $2L + 2$  positions. Hence, we actually only lose a factor of  $2^L$  in this reduction.

Unfortunately, we still do require a  $(2L + 2)$ -level instantiation of the Waters-WIBE scheme. This implies an important security loss because the proof of security for the Waters-HIBE loses a factor of  $O((nq_K)^{2L+2})$  in the reduction to the BDDH assumption.

## 6.2 The Dent KEM Transform

One approach to building systems secure against adaptive chosen ciphertext attacks is to transform a weakly-secure (OW-WID-CPA) WIBE scheme into a strongly-secure (IND-WID-CCA) WIB-KEM scheme. This obviously gives rise to an IND-WID-CCA WIBE scheme when combined with a suitably secure DEM (see Sections 2.9 and 4). We apply an analogue of the transformation of Dent [13].

Suppose  $\Pi = (\text{Setup}, \text{KeyDer}, \text{Encrypt}, \text{Decrypt})$  be an OW-WID-CPA WIBE scheme (see Section 3.2) with a finite message space  $\mathcal{M}$ . We assume that the **Encrypt** algorithm uses random values taken from a set  $\mathcal{R}$ . We can write **Encrypt** as a deterministic algorithm  $C \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(mpk, P, m; r)$  where  $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{R}$ . We require that the scheme satisfies a notion of randomness called  $\gamma$ -uniformity.

**Definition 13** A WIBE scheme  $\Pi$  is  $\gamma$ -uniform if for all master public keys  $mpk$  that could be output by the key generation algorithm, for all patterns  $P$ , for all messages  $m$  and ciphertexts  $C$ , we have

$$\Pr[\text{Encrypt}(mpk, P, m) = C] \leq \gamma.$$

The only difficulty in applying the method of Dent [13] is that we must re-encrypt the recovered message as an integrity check. In the WIBE setting, this means we must know the pattern under which the message was originally encrypted. Recall, that the set  $W(C) = \{i \in \mathbb{Z} : P_i = *\}$  of the pattern  $P$  used to encrypt the encrypt

the message, along with the length  $\ell$  of the pattern, is easily derived from the ciphertext. We use this information to give an algorithm  $P$ , which on input  $(ID, C)$ , where  $C$  is a ciphertext and  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$ , returns the pattern  $P = (P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$  where

$$P_i = \begin{cases} * & \text{if } i \in W(C) \\ id_i & \text{if } i \notin W(C) \end{cases}$$

We transform the WIBE scheme  $\Pi = (\text{Setup}, \text{KeyDer}, \text{Encrypt}, \text{Decrypt})$  with a finite message space  $\mathcal{M}$  and hierarchy depth  $L$  into a WIB-KEM scheme  $\Pi' = (\text{Setup}, \text{KeyDer}, \text{Encap}, \text{Decap})$  using two hash functions:

$$H_1 : (\{0, 1\}^n \cap \{*\})^* \times \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$$

and

$$H_2 : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda.$$

The complete scheme is given in Figure 9.

**Theorem 12** Suppose that there exists a  $(t, q_K, q_D, q_H, \epsilon)$ -adversary, in the random oracle model, against the IND-WID-CCA security of the WIB-KEM  $\Pi'$  then there exists a  $(t', q_K, \epsilon')$ -adversary against the OW-WID-CPA security of the WIBE  $\Pi$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon' &\geq \frac{\epsilon - q_D(|\mathcal{M}|^{-1} + \gamma)}{q_H + q_D} \\ t' &\leq t + q_H t_{\text{Encrypt}} \end{aligned}$$

where  $t_{\text{Encrypt}}$  is the time taken to perform an encryption,  $\Pi$  has finite message space  $\mathcal{M}$ , and  $\Pi$  is  $\gamma$ -uniform.

*Proof* Suppose there exists a  $(t, q_K, q_D, q_H, \epsilon)$ -adversary  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  against the IND-WID-CCA security of the WIB-KEM in the random oracle model. We construct an adversary  $\mathcal{B} = (\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2)$  against the OW-WID-CPA security of the WIBE. The algorithm  $\mathcal{B}_1$  runs as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  receives a master public key  $mpk$ .
2.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  initialises three lists  $T_1$ ,  $E_1$  and  $T_2$  which are initially set to be empty.
3.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on  $mpk$ .  $\mathcal{B}_1$  answers  $\mathcal{A}_1$ 's oracle queries as follows:
  - Suppose  $\mathcal{A}_1$  queries the  $H_1$ -oracle on input  $(P, m)$ . If  $T_1[P, m]$  is defined,  $\mathcal{B}_1$  returns  $T_1[P, m]$ . Otherwise,  $\mathcal{B}_1$  chooses  $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{R}$ , sets  $T_1[P, m] \leftarrow r$ , sets  $E_1[P, m] \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(mpk, P, m; r)$ , and returns  $r$ .
  - Suppose  $\mathcal{A}_1$  queries the  $H_2$ -oracle on input  $r$ . If  $T_2[r]$  is defined,  $\mathcal{B}_1$  returns  $T_2[r]$ . Otherwise,  $\mathcal{B}_1$  chooses  $K \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ , sets  $T_2[r] \leftarrow K$ , and returns  $K$ .
  - Suppose  $\mathcal{A}_1$  queries the key derivation oracle on the input  $ID$ .  $\mathcal{B}_1$  forwards this request to its own key derivation oracle and returns the result.

<p>Algorithm <b>Encap</b>(<math>mpk, P</math>):</p> <p><math>m \leftarrow \mathcal{M}</math></p> <p><math>r \leftarrow H_1(P, m)</math></p> <p><math>C \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(mpk, P, m; r)</math></p> <p><math>K \leftarrow H_2(m)</math></p> <p>Return <math>(C, K)</math></p>	<p>Algorithm <b>Decap</b>(<math>d_{ID}, C</math>):</p> <p><math>m \leftarrow \text{Decrypt}(d_{ID}, C)</math></p> <p><math>P \leftarrow P(ID, C)</math></p> <p><math>r \leftarrow H_1(P, m)</math></p> <p><math>C' \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(mpk, P, m; r)</math></p> <p>If <math>C = C'</math> then return <math>m</math></p> <p>Otherwise return <math>\perp</math></p>
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**Fig. 9** The Dent transform.

- Suppose  $\mathcal{A}_1$  queries the decryption oracle on the identity  $ID$  and the ciphertext  $C$ .  $\mathcal{B}_1$  searches the list  $T_1$  for an entry  $C = E_1[P, m]$  where  $P = P(ID, C)$ . If no such entry exists, then  $\mathcal{B}_1$  returns  $\perp$ . Otherwise,  $\mathcal{B}_1$  computes  $K \leftarrow H_2(m)$  as above and returns  $K$ .

The adversary outputs a challenge pattern  $P^*$ .

4.  $\mathcal{B}_1$  outputs the challenge pattern  $P^*$ .

The challenger then computes a challenge encryption  $C^* \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Encrypt}(mpk, P^*, m^*; r^*)$  for  $m^* \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{M}$  and  $r^* \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{R}$ . This ciphertext is input to the algorithm  $\mathcal{B}_2$ :

1.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  receives  $C^*$ .
2.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  generates  $K^* \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ .
3.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on the input  $(C^*, K^*)$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  queries any oracle, then  $\mathcal{B}_2$  answers these queries as before.  $\mathcal{A}_2$  outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .
4.  $\mathcal{B}_2$  randomly chooses a defined entry for one of the hash functions, either  $T_1[P, m]$  or  $T_2[m]$ , and outputs  $m$ .

The basic strategy of this security proof is to take advantage of the fact that the only way that  $\mathcal{A}$  can determine if  $C^*$  is an encapsulation of  $K^*$  is to query the  $H_2$ -oracle on  $m^*$ . However, we first have to show that the simulated hash function, key derivation, and decryption oracles are consistent with the real IND-WID-CCA game.

The simulated key derivation oracle is perfect, as is the hash function oracle, with the exception that the hash function oracle fails to respond to correctly to an  $H_1$ -oracle query on  $(P^*, m^*)$  or a  $H_2$ -oracle query on  $m^*$ . However, the decryption oracle is more problematic. There are two types of error event that can occur with the decryption oracle:

- The decryption oracle will respond incorrectly if  $\mathcal{A}_1$  queries the oracle on an identity  $ID \in_* P^*$  and the ciphertext  $C^*$ . However, since  $m^*$  is information theoretically hidden from  $\mathcal{A}_1$ , this occurs with probability at most  $1/|\mathcal{M}|$ .
- The decryption oracle will respond incorrectly if  $\mathcal{A}$  queries the decryption oracle on an identity  $ID$  and a ciphertext  $C$  for which  $T_1[P, m]$  is undefined, where  $P \leftarrow P(ID, C)$  and  $m \leftarrow \text{Decrypt}(d_{ID}, C)$ , but for which

$$C = \text{Encrypt}(mpk, P(ID, C), m; T_1[P, m])$$

where  $T_1[P, m]$  is randomly chosen at the end of the game if it is not defined later by an adversarial query.

Since  $T_1[P, m]$  is randomly chosen and  $\Pi$  is  $\gamma$ -uniform, we have that this occurs with probability  $\gamma$ .

We have that the probability that either of these events occurs is therefore bounded by  $q_D(|\mathcal{M}|^{-1} + \gamma)$ . Assuming none of these events occur, we have that the simulation is perfect unless  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a query which defines the hash function values  $T_1[P^*, m^*]$  or  $T_2[m^*]$ . Since  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot determine whether  $K^*$  is the correct key for  $C^*$  without querying the  $H_2$ -oracle on  $m^*$ , we have that this event will occur with probability at least  $\epsilon - q_D(|\mathcal{M}|^{-1} + \gamma)$ . However, if this event occurs, then  $\mathcal{B}$  will win the OW-WID-CPA with probability at least  $1/(q_H + q_D)$  (as there exists at most  $q_H + q_D$  entries on  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ ). Hence,  $\mathcal{B}$  wins with probability at least

$$\epsilon' \geq \frac{\epsilon - q_D(|\mathcal{M}|^{-1} + \gamma)}{q_H + q_D}$$

which gives the theorem.  $\square$

### 6.3 The Kiltz-Galindo WIB-KEM

We present a construction for a WIB-KEM based on the Kiltz-Galindo HIB-KEM [17] (see Section 2.10). This will be the only direct construction of a IND-WID-CCA secure WIBE that we will present in this paper. Note that the Kiltz-Galindo scheme generates keys which are elements of the group  $\mathbb{G}_T$ , and we will follow this practice in our construction of the WIB-KEM. However, our definition of a WIB-KEM requires that the keys it generates are bitstrings. This discrepancy can be overcome by hashing the group element used as the key using a smooth hash function. A hash function  $h : \mathbb{G}_T \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  is  $\epsilon$ -smooth if for all  $K \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  and for all  $z \in \mathbb{G}_T^*$ , we have that

$$\Pr \left[ h(z^r) = K : r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p \right] = 1/2^\lambda + \epsilon.$$

A naive attempt to implement a Kiltz-Galindo WIB-KEM may result in the following encapsulation algorithm:

Algorithm **Encap**( $mpk, P$ ):  
 Parse  $P$  as  $(P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$   
 $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ ;  $C_0 \leftarrow g^r$ ;  $t \leftarrow h_1(C_0)$   
 For  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$  do  
   If  $P_i \neq *$  then  $C_i \leftarrow (u_{i,0} \prod_{j \in P_i} u_{i,j})^r$   
   If  $P_i = *$  then  $C_i \leftarrow (u_{i,0}^r, \dots, u_{i,n}^r)$   
 $C_{\ell+1} \leftarrow (v_1^t v_2^\ell v_3)^r$   
 $K \leftarrow z^r$   
 Return  $C = (C_0, \dots, C_{\ell+1})$  and  $K$ .

However, such an implementation would be insecure in the IND-WID-CCA model. An attacker could output a challenge pattern  $P^* = (*)$  and would receive a key  $K$  and an encapsulation  $(C_0, C_1, C_2)$  where  $C_0 = g^{r^*}$  and  $C_1 = (u_{1,0}^{r^*}, \dots, u_{1,n}^{r^*})$ . It would be simple for the attacker then to construct a valid encapsulation of the same key for a particular identity  $ID$  by setting  $C'_1 \leftarrow u_{1,0}^{r^*} \prod_{j \in [ID]} u_{1,j}^{r^*}$ . Thus, submitting the identity  $ID$  and the ciphertext  $(C_0, C'_1, C_2)$  to the decryption oracle will return the correct decapsulation of the challenge.

This attack demonstrates the importance of knowing the location of the wildcards that were used to create an encapsulation. We solve this problem by increasing the scope of the hash function  $h_1$ . In the original proof of security, the hash function prevents an attacker from submitting a valid ciphertext  $C$  to the decapsulation oracle where  $C$  has the same decapsulation as  $C^*$  but  $C_0 \neq C_0^*$ . We extend this to prevent an attacker from submitting a valid ciphertext  $C$  to the decapsulation oracle where  $C$  has the same decapsulation but either  $C_0 \neq C_0^*$  or  $C$  and  $C^*$  have wildcards in different positions. To do this we make use of a function **Encode**, which on input of a pattern  $P = (P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$ , returns a bitstring  $b_1 b_2 \dots b_\ell$ , where  $b_i = 1$  if  $P_i$  is a wildcard, otherwise  $b_i = 0$ . Note that two patterns  $P_1, P_2$  have wildcards in the same location if and only if  $\text{Encode}(P_1) = \text{Encode}(P_2)$ .

However, since an attacker can submit ciphertexts to the decapsulation oracle with patterns of his own choice, the increased scope of the hash function means that we have to rely on a slightly stronger assumption than with standard notions of second-preimage resistance (see Section 2.2). Informally, we will require the hash function to be second-preimage resistant, even when the attacker is allowed to choose the first  $L$  bits. Recall that a hash function is a family of maps  $F_k : \mathcal{IP} \rightarrow \mathcal{OP}$  indexed by a keyspace  $\mathcal{K}$  in which the output space  $\mathcal{OP}$  is finite. We formally define the extended second pre-image resistance property as follows:

**Definition 14** A  $(t, \epsilon)$  adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against the extended second pre-image resistance property of a family hash functions  $F_k : \mathcal{IP} \rightarrow \mathcal{OP}$  with a finite input space  $\mathcal{IP}$  is an algorithm that runs in time at most  $t$  and has advantage at least  $\epsilon$ , where the adversary's advantage is

defined to be:

$$\Pr[(l_x, x) \neq (l_y, y) \wedge F_k(l_x, x) = F_k(l_y, y) : \\ x \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}; k \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{K}; (l_x, l_y, y) \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{A}(k, x)].$$

As in the Kiltz-Galindo HIB-KEM (see Section 2.10) identities are considered to be  $n$ -bit strings and for simplicity we will treat the family hash functions as a fixed functions. We also make use of the Waters hash functions  $(F_1, \dots, F_L)$  where

$$F_i(ID_i) = u_{i,0} \prod_{j \in [ID_i]} u_{i,j}.$$

The scheme is described in Figure 10. Note that we can recover  $\text{Encode}(P)$  from a WIB-KEM ciphertext by looking at the number elements in the ciphertext  $C_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq \ell$ .

**Theorem 13** *If there exists a  $(t, q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$  adversary for the Kiltz-Galindo WIB-KEM in the IND-WID-CCA model, then there exists a  $(t_c, \epsilon_c)$  adversary against the BDDH problem in  $\mathbb{G}$  and a  $(t_h, \epsilon_h)$  adversary against the extended second pre-image resistance property of  $h_1$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} t_c &\leq t + O(\epsilon_c^{-2} \cdot \ln(\epsilon_c^{-1})), \\ t_h &\leq O(t), \\ \epsilon_c &\geq \frac{\epsilon - \epsilon_h - q_D/p}{L(20(n+1)q_K)^L}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $p$  is the order of  $\mathbb{G}$ .

*Proof* We will assume that starred variables correspond to the challenge ciphertext. For example,  $P^*$  is the challenge pattern. Consider a polynomial-time attacker  $\mathcal{A}$ . Suppose  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  is a  $(t, q_K, q_D, \epsilon)$ -adversary against the IND-WID-CCA security of the Kiltz-Galindo WIB-KEM. First, we change the IND-WID-CCA game so that  $\mathcal{A}$  wins if and only if  $b = b'$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  never submitted a ciphertext  $C$  to the decapsulation oracle with  $t = t^*$ . Since  $t = h_1(\text{Encode}(P), C_0)$  and the pair  $(C_0, P)$  uniquely defines the entire ciphertext, this collision can only occur if  $\mathcal{A}$  submits the ciphertext  $C^*$  to the decapsulation oracle before the challenge phase (which can occur with probability at most  $q_D/p$  since  $r$  is chosen at random) or if there is an extended second pre-image collision in the hash function (which occurs with probability at most  $\epsilon_h$ ). Therefore, the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  wins this slightly altered game is  $\epsilon - \epsilon_h - q_D/p$ .

We now show that we can reduce the security of the scheme in this game to the DBDH problem (see Section 2.4). We begin by guessing the length of the challenge pattern and the position of the wildcards within the pattern. We guess this correctly with probability at least  $1/(L \cdot 2^L)$  and we abort if the attacker outputs a challenge pattern that differs from our guess. Let  $W \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, L\}$  be the set of integers corresponding to

**Algorithm Setup:**

$v_1, v_2, \alpha \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}; z \leftarrow e(g, \alpha)$   
 $u_{i,j} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, L; j = 0, \dots, n$   
 $mpk \leftarrow (v_1, v_2, u_{1,0}, \dots, u_{L,n}, z)$   
 $msk \leftarrow \alpha$   
 Return  $(mpk, msk)$

**Algorithm Encap( $mpk, P$ ):**

Parse  $P$  as  $(P_1, \dots, P_\ell)$   
 $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ ;  $C_0 \leftarrow g^r$ ;  $t \leftarrow h_1(\text{Encode}(P), C_0)$   
 For  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$  do  
   If  $P_i \neq *$  then  $C_i \leftarrow F_i(P_i)^r$   
   If  $P_i = *$  then  $C_i \leftarrow (u_{i,0}^r, \dots, u_{i,n}^r)$   
 $C_{\ell+1} \leftarrow (v_1^t v_2)^r$   
 $K \leftarrow z^r$   
 Return  $((C_0, \dots, C_{\ell+1}), K)$

**Algorithm KeyDer( $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, ID_{\ell+1}$ ):**

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$   
 $r_{\ell+1} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ ;  $d'_{\ell+1} \leftarrow g^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 $d'_0 \leftarrow d_0 \cdot F_{\ell+1}(ID_{\ell+1})^{r_{\ell+1}}$   
 Return  $(d'_0, d_1, \dots, d_\ell, d'_{\ell+1})$

**Algorithm Decap( $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}, C$ ):**

Parse  $d_{(ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)}$  as  $(d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$   
 Parse  $C$  as  $(C_0, \dots, C_{\ell+1})$   
 $t \leftarrow h_1(\text{Encode}(P), C_0)$   
 If  $\hat{e}(g, C_{\ell+1}) \neq \hat{e}(C_0, v_1^t v_2)$ , then return  $\perp$   
 For  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$  do  
   If  $i \notin W(P)$  then  
      $C'_i \leftarrow C_i$   
     If  $\hat{e}(g, C'_i) \neq \hat{e}(C_0, F_i(ID_i))$  then return  $\perp$   
   If  $i \in W(P)$  then  
     Parse  $C_i$  as  $(v_0, \dots, v_n)$   
     If any  $\hat{e}(g, v_j) \neq \hat{e}(C_0, u_{i,j})$  then return  $\perp$   
      $C'_i \leftarrow v_0 \prod_{j \in [ID_i]} v_j$   
 Otherwise  $K \leftarrow e(C_0, d_0) / \prod_{i=1}^\ell e(C'_i, d_i)$   
 Return  $K$

**Fig. 10** The Kiltz-Galindo WIB-KEM scheme.

the levels at which the wildcards appear in the challenge pattern.

The basic principle of the proof is to handle levels  $i \notin W$  in exactly the same way as in the Kiltz-Galindo proof and to handle levels  $i \in W$  in a naive way. We may extract private keys for identities in the same way as in the Waters HIBE. If we guess the position of the wildcards in the challenge pattern correctly, then this will mean we can extract private keys for all valid queries made by the attacker. Note that since we have guessed the length and the location of the wildcards in the challenge pattern, we may immediately compute  $\text{Encode}(P^*)$  even though we do not know the value of  $P^*$ .

Formally, we define an adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against the DBDH problem as follows:

1.  $\mathcal{B}$  receives  $(g, g^a, g^b, g^c, Z)$  from the challenger.
2.  $\mathcal{B}$  guesses the length and wildcard positions of the challenge pattern  $P^*$ .
3.  $\mathcal{B}$  sets  $t^* \leftarrow h_1(\text{Encode}(P^*), g^c)$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  sets

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_1 &\leftarrow g^a & d &\xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p & v_2 &\leftarrow (g^a)^{-t^*} \cdot g^d \\
 z &\leftarrow \hat{e}(g^a, g^b) & m &\leftarrow 2q_K
 \end{aligned}$$

(Note that this implicitly defines the private key to be  $\alpha = g^{ab}$ .) For each  $i \notin W$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  computes

$$\begin{aligned}
 k_i &\leftarrow \{1, \dots, n\} \\
 x_{i,0}, \dots, x_{i,n} &\xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p \\
 y_{i,0}, \dots, y_{i,n} &\xleftarrow{\$} \{0, \dots, m-1\} \\
 u_{i,0} &\leftarrow g^{x_{i,0}} \cdot v_1^{y_{i,0}-k_i m} \\
 u_{i,j} &\leftarrow g^{x_{i,j}} \cdot v_1^{y_{i,j}} \text{ for } 1 \leq j \leq n
 \end{aligned}$$

For each  $i \in W$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  computes

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_{i,0}, \dots, x_{i,n} &\xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p \\
 u_{i,j} &\leftarrow g^{x_{i,j}} \text{ for } 0 \leq j \leq n
 \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{B}$  sets  $mpk = (g, v_1, v_2, u_{0,0}, \dots, u_{L,n}, z)$ . For convenience,  $\mathcal{B}$  defines the functions

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_i(ID_i) &= -mk_i + y_{i,0} + \sum_{j \in [ID_i]} y_{i,j}, \\
 K_i(ID_i) &= x_{i,0} + \sum_{j \in [ID_i]} x_{i,j}.
 \end{aligned}$$

(Note that since  $m(n+1) < p$  we have that  $J_i(ID_i) \equiv 0 \pmod p$  if and only if  $J_i(ID_i) = 0$ , which would imply that  $J_i(ID_i) \equiv 0 \pmod m$ . Hence, if  $J_i(ID_i) \not\equiv 0 \pmod m$ , then  $J_i(ID_i)$  is invertible modulo  $p$ .)

4.  $\mathcal{B}$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_1$  on the input  $mpk$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  answers  $\mathcal{A}_1$ 's oracle queries as follows:

- Suppose  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a key extraction query on the identity  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  searches for some  $i' \notin W$  such that  $J_{i'}(ID_{i'}) \not\equiv 0 \pmod m$ , generates  $r_1, \dots, r_\ell \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ , and computes

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_0 &\leftarrow v_1^{-\frac{K_{i'}(ID_{i'})}{J_{i'}(ID_{i'})}} \prod_{i=1}^\ell (u_{i,0} \prod_{j \in [ID_i]} u_{i,j})^{r_i} \\
 d_{i'} &\leftarrow v_1^{-\frac{1}{J_{i'}(ID_{i'})}} g^{r_{i'}} & d_i &\leftarrow g^{r_i} \text{ for all } i \neq i'.
 \end{aligned}$$

If such a value  $i'$  does not exist then  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts; otherwise  $\mathcal{B}$  returns  $(d_0, \dots, d_\ell)$ .

- Suppose  $\mathcal{A}_1$  makes a decryption oracle query on an identity  $ID = (ID_1, \dots, ID_\ell)$  and a ciphertext  $C = (C_0, \dots, C_{\ell+1})$ . For each  $i \in W(P)$ ,



$\mathcal{B}$  parses  $C_i$  as  $(C_{i,0}, \dots, C_{i,n})$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  computes  $t \leftarrow h_1(\text{Encode}(P), C_0)$  and checks that

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{e}(g, C_{\ell+1}) &= \hat{e}(C_0, v_1^t v_2) \\ \hat{e}(g, C_i) &= \hat{e}(C_0, F_i(ID_i)) \text{ for all } i \notin W(P) \\ \hat{e}(g, C_{i,j}) &= \hat{e}(C_0, u_{i,j}) \\ &\text{for all } i \in W(P) \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq n \end{aligned}$$

If any of these checks fail, then  $\mathcal{B}$  returns  $\perp$ . Otherwise  $\mathcal{B}$  returns  $K \leftarrow \hat{e}(C_{\ell+1}/C_0^d, g^b)^{1/(t-t^*)}$ .

$\mathcal{A}_1$  outputs a challenge pattern  $P^*$ .

5. If  $P^*$  is not of the same length as the earlier guess, or does not have wildcards in the correct place, then  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts.  $\mathcal{B}$  checks that  $J_i(ID_i) = 0$  for all  $i \notin W$ . If not, then  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts. Otherwise,  $\mathcal{B}$  sets

$$K^* \leftarrow Z \quad C_0^* \leftarrow g^c \quad C_{\ell+1}^* \leftarrow (g^c)^d.$$

For each  $i \notin W$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  sets

$$C_i \leftarrow (g^c)^{K_i(ID_i)}.$$

For each  $i \in W$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  sets

$$C_i^* \leftarrow ((g^c)^{x_{i,0}}, \dots, (g^c)^{x_{i,n}}).$$

$\mathcal{B}$  sets  $C^* = (C_0^*, \dots, C_{\ell+1}^*)$ .

6.  $\mathcal{B}$  runs  $\mathcal{A}_2$  on  $C^*$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_2$  makes any oracle queries, then  $\mathcal{B}$  answers them as in Step (4).  $\mathcal{A}_2$  outputs a bit  $\beta'$ .
7.  $\mathcal{B}$  outputs  $\beta'$ .

A few simple calculations verifies that (providing  $\mathcal{B}$  does not abort)  $\mathcal{B}$  answers  $\mathcal{A}$ 's oracle requests correctly. Furthermore, assuming  $\mathcal{B}$  does not abort, if  $Z = \hat{e}(g, g)^{abc}$  then the challenge ciphertext is encapsulation of  $K^*$ , whereas if  $Z$  is random then the challenge ciphertext is still correctly formed but the key is random. Hence, if  $\mathcal{B}$  does not abort, we have that  $\mathcal{B}$  wins if and only if  $\mathcal{A}$  wins.

Now we have to bound the probability that  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts. Note that the values  $y_{i,j}$  and  $k$  are information theoretically hidden from the attacker (until  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts). Hence,  $\mathcal{B}$ 's strategy is independent of these values. We consider the challenge ciphertext first. As the values  $y_{i,j}$  and  $k$  are randomly chosen, the probability that  $J_i(ID_i) = 0$  for each  $i \notin W$  is at least  $1/((n+1)m)^L$ . Next, we consider the key derivation oracle queries. Suppose  $\mathcal{A}$  makes a key derivation oracle query on  $ID$ . Then  $ID \notin P^*$  which means there much exist  $i'$  such that  $ID_{i'} \neq P_{i'}^* \neq *$ . The probability that  $J_{i'}(id_{i'}) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{0}$  is at least  $1 - 1/m$ . Hence, the probability that all key derivation oracle queries can be computed is at least  $(1 - 1/m)^{q_K} \geq 1 - q_K/m$ . However, the probability that these events occur may not be independent of the value of the message; hence, we are forced to augment our algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  to use the artificial abort techniques of Waters [23]. This guarantees that  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts with probability exact  $q_K/m$  by estimating the probability of an abort using  $O(\epsilon^{-2} \ln \epsilon^{-1})$  trials. Thus, the probability that  $\mathcal{B}$  succeeds is

$$\epsilon' \geq \frac{\epsilon - \epsilon_h - q_D/p}{L2^L((n+1)m)^L(q_K/m)} = \frac{\epsilon - \epsilon_h - q_D/p}{2L(4(n+1)q_K)^L}$$

which gives the theorem.  $\square$

We also note that the security proof for our construction can be completed, even if the used hash function is only assumed to be standard second-preimage resistant. However, this will add an additional security loss of  $L2^L$  with respect to the hash function. Considering that security already degrades exponentially with  $L$ , this will not be a significant addition to the existing security loss and might be preferred instead of introducing a stronger assumption about the hash function.

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