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# Policy-driven Data Sharing over Attribute-Based Encryption supporting Dual Membership<sup>☆</sup>



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#### ABSTRACT

Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE) plays an important role in current secure data sharing through finegrained customizable policies. However, the existing ABE schemes only support simple predicates, = and  $\neq$ , but cannot express a more general membership predicates,  $\in$  and  $\notin$ , in policies. The low expressivity of ABE will enlarge the ciphertext storage and reduce the communication efficiency. To overcome this problem, we propose an ABE supporting Dual Membership (DM-ABE). The core problem for implementing this scheme is how to use cryptographic methods to decide the membership between the verified element and the given set. In order to solve this problem, we design a cryptographic algorithm, called Secure Decision of Membership (SDM), based on aggregation functions. In this algorithm, any set can be aggregated into one cryptographic element, and the verified element and the given set can be converted into another cryptographic element in decision process. The membership between them can be decided by the above two cryptographic elements. Furthermore, we construct the DM-ABE by using SDM. Because of the good expressivity of our DM-ABE, we further propose a novel cryptographic data sharing framework by integrating DM-ABE and attribute-based access control to provide fine-grained access control and security protection for private data. In the security proof of DM-ABE, we prove that the DM-ABE satisfies the semantic security against chosen-plaintext attacks under the DBDHE assumption in the standard model through a unified way, considering both two encryption methods for  $\in$  and  $\notin$  at the same time. Finally, we analyze our scheme in terms of time and space complexity, and compare it with some existing schemes. The results show that our DM-ABE has a better expressive ability on the boolean logic of general membership predicates, ∈ and ∉.

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# 1. Introduction

Thanks to the rapid development of information technologies, such as Internet of things (Xu et al., 2020) and cloud computing (Fan, 2021a), large-scale data sharing has become more and more widespread in the recent decade. For example, many countries have seen a steep rise in the amount of health data being generated. These data come not only from professional health systems (MRI scanners, pathology slides, DNA tests, etc.), but also from wearable devices. With up-to-date patient data at their fingertips, accurate and efficient health service can be provided to the fully informed patients and even save their lives. However, private data sharing between different organizations

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and users comes the risk of privacy leakage and unauthorized access. For this problem, many countries and regions established strict laws to provide protection for data sharing, such as the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA). However, only around 10% of the world's population has personal information covered by the GDPR or similar laws at the moment. How to use technical method to protect data privacy so that more people can enjoy the benefits from data sharing has become a popular challenge.

Attribute-Based Encryption (ABE), as a mature public-key cryptography technology, especially Ciphertext-Policy ABE (CP-ABE), is considered by many experts as an important technology to face the above challenge (Zhang et al., 2020a). The reason is that CP-ABE uses attributes as the minimum authorization units to describe subjects and objects (i.e. users and data), and encrypts private data according to access policies. The policy refers to the boolean statement represented by a formula involving logic operators ("AND( $\land$ )" and "OR( $\lor$ )") over a set of attribute rules, e.g.,  $Depart \in \{Surgery, Radiology\} \land Stuff \notin \{Patient, Nurse\}. A$ 

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**Table 1**Example policy expressed in different logics.

Туре	Expression	Number of predicates	Number of logic operators	Expressivity
DML	$Depart \in \{Surgery, Radiology\} \land Stuff \notin \{Patient, Nurse\}$	2	1	High
EL	$(Depart = Surgery \lor Depart = Radiology) \land (Stuff = ChiefPhysician \lor Stuff = Anesthetist \lor Stuff = Pharmacist \lor \cdots)$	<b>≽</b> 5	<b>≽</b> 4	Low
EL and NEL	(Depart = Surgery ∨ Depart = Radiology) ∧ (Stuff ≠ Patient ∧ Stuff ≠ Nurse)	4	3	Medium

user has the right to decrypt the encrypted data if and only if his attribute set corresponding to his private key satisfies the policy. Therefore, CP-ABE can protect data for the large-scale data sharing, since any subject satisfying the policy can decrypt private data.

Currently, various CP-ABE schemes have been proposed to meet different requirements, including outsourcing computing (Lai et al., 2013; Ma et al., 2017), fast decryption (Malluhi et al., 2017), multi-authority (Li et al., 2011; Chow, 2016), traceability (Zhang et al., 2020b), etc. However, the existing CP-ABE schemes only support simple predicates, mainly including equivalence decision ( $\equiv$ ) and non-equivalence decision ( $\neq$ ), which correspond to Equivalence Logic (EL) and Non-Equivalence Logic (NEL), respectively. They are just extreme cases of membership logic ( $\in$  and  $\notin$ ), which is called Dual Membership Logic (DML). The DML can represent two opposite memberships, Positive Membership (PM)  $\in$  and Negative Membership (NM)  $\notin$ . However, the existing CP-ABE schemes cannot efficiently express the DML-type predicates.

We take a policy  $Depart \in \{Surgery, Radiology\} \land Stuff \notin \{Patient, Nurse\}$  as an example, and Table 1 presents the policy expressed in different logics. If a CP-ABE only supports EL, it will express this policy into  $(Depart = Surgery \lor Depart = Radiology) \land (Stuff = ChiefPhysician \lor Stuff = Anesthetist \lor Stuff = Pharmacist \lor \cdots)$ . However, if this CP-ABE can support both EL and NEL, it can express this policy into  $(Depart = Surgery \lor Depart = Radiology) \land (Stuff \neq Patient \land Stuff \neq Nurse)$ . Clearly, the original policy only involves 2 predicates and 1 AND operators, while the policy expressed by the CP-ABE with EL and NEL involves 4 predicates and 3 AND/OR operators, because the DML-type predicates must be divided into several simple predicates for expression.

The above comparison indicates that the existing CP-ABE schemes have a low expressivity for the DML-type predicates because the DML-type predicates must be divided into several simple predicates for EL or NEL. Considering that each of predicates will be converted into a subciphertext in the encryption process of CP-ABE, the low expressivity will further increase the cost of ciphertext storage and computation, especially for the complex policies involved several DML-type predicates.

# 1.1. Motivation and approach

To overcome the low expressivity for DML-type predicates in the existing CP-ABE schemes, we construct a new CP-ABE scheme supporting Dual Membership, called DM-ABE scheme. The challenge in achieving this goal is how to use a cryptographic method to securely decide the membership between the verified element and the given set. For this challenge, we design a cryptographic algorithm, called Secure Decision of Membership (SDM), to securely make decision for dual memberships, i.e. PM and NM. The core part of the algorithm is the aggregation function which can implement compact cryptographic representation of sets. In this algorithm, any element u or set S will be converted into an element of the cryptographic space, where S is firstly encoded into a binary code, and then aggregated into a cryptographic

element EAgg(S) through an aggregation function EAgg(S). In order to verify whether the element u belongs to the set S, another aggregation function DAgg(S) is constructed to aggregate S and S into a cryptographic element DAgg(S). The membership between S and S can be decided according to EAgg(S) and DAgg(S).

Then, on the basis of the SDM algorithm, the DM-ABE scheme will be constructed so as to support the expression of dual membership. In this scheme, our approach is to convert the decision problem of SDM into a computation problem for a specified value. If the user's attribute satisfies the predicate, he can reconstruct the correct value for decryption; otherwise, he only obtains a random value. Considering that the two different encryption methods for dual memberships are involving in DM-ABE, we intend to prove the security of DM-ABE in a complete proof rather than in two parts.

#### 1.2. Related work

Since Sahai and Waters (2004) proposed a prototype of ABE, where each user's identity is described by a set of attributes, various ABE schemes have been proposed. The existing ABE schemes can be divided into three types: Key-Policy ABE (KP-ABE) (Goyal et al., 2006; Kim et al., 2017), CP-ABE (Bethencourt et al., 2007; Waters, 2011) and Dual-Policy ABE (DP-ABE) (Attrapadung and Imai, 2009). This paper mainly focuses on CP-ABE because data owners can specify scope of authorized users in CP-ABE scheme.

Recently, CP-ABE has become a mature technology, in terms of outsourcing computing (Li et al., 2020; Ning et al., 2018a; Zhong et al., 2021), fast decryption (Agrawal and Chase, 2017; Tsuchida et al., 2018), traceability (Li et al., 2009; Ning et al., 2018b), multi-authority (Jiang et al., 2016; Yu et al., 2017), security proof (Ambrona et al., 2017; Lin and Luo, 2020), etc. For example, Li et al. (2020) proposed an outsourcing CP-ABE scheme in which both authorized users and unauthorized users can verify the correctness of ciphertext transformation. Tsuchida et al. (2018) proposed a CP-ABE scheme supporting fast decryption and NEL. This scheme only needs constant pairing operations in decryption. Ning et al. (2018b) proposed a fully secure whitebox traceable CP-ABE scheme to capture malicious users who leak their access credentials. Yu et al. (2017) proposed a multiauthority ABE scheme, which avoids key escrow and prevents the malicious sharing of secret key by traceability mechanism.

However, for the expressivity, the existing CP-ABE schemes only support simple logic, and cannot express DML-type predicates efficiently. For example, Bethencourt et al. (2007) and Goyal et al. (2008) only support equivalence decision = . To improve the expressivity, Waters (2011) proposed a CP-ABE scheme to support NEL. However, this scheme regards the negative version of a positive attribute as an independent attribute. It results in the doubling of the attribute number in system.

To overcome this problem, Ostrovsky et al. (2007) proposed a method to convert a monotonic access structure into a non-monotonic access structure. By using this method, Yamada et al. (2014) proposed a CP-ABE scheme supporting NEL. The above schemes do not involve the concept of attribute variables. When these schemes decide whether an attribute set  $\Phi$  satisfies a NEL

predicate  $X \neq a$ , they compare a with all attributes in  $\Phi$ . If a is not equal to all attributes in  $\Phi$ , the predicate is satisfied.

Furthermore, Okamoto and Takashima (2010) and Okamoto and Takashima (2012) proposed another method to express NEL. In this method, each attribute is described as a tuple  $(t, \vec{v})$ , where t denotes an unique number of the attribute variable, and the vector  $\vec{v}$  denotes the assignment of this attribute variable. When these schemes decide whether an attribute set  $\Phi$  satisfies a NEL predicate  $X \neq (t_1, \vec{v}_1)$ , they firstly choose the attribute  $(t_2, \vec{v}_2) \in \Phi$  where  $t_2 = t_1$ , and then calculate the inner product of  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2$  to make decision. It indicates this predicate is satisfied, i.e.,  $(t_2 = t_1, \vec{v}_2) \neq (t_1, \vec{v}_1)$ , if the inner product satisfies a specified condition. By using this method, Tomida et al. (2020) proposed a CP-ABE supporting NEL based on Agrawal and Chase (2017). Then, Tsuchida et al. (2018) proposed a CP-ABE scheme supporting NEL and fast decryption.

#### 1.3. Contribution

- We propose the concept of dual memberships and the problem of secure decision of dual memberships. To solve this problem, we design two aggregation functions, i.e., *EAgg()* and *DAgg()*, to compact the given set to a cryptographic element. Based on them, the verified element and the given set can be converted into cryptographic elements in decision process of dual membership. Furthermore, the membership between these elements can be decided by utilizing the shift-and-cancellation methods on a specific basis vector. Thus, we verify the feasibility of cryptographic dual memberships.
- We propose a new ABE scheme supporting Dual Membership, called DM-ABE. In this scheme, the SDM decision is converted into a computation problem on a specified value, and the membership decision for a single attribute variable in SDM is extended into that of multiple variables. Thus, this scheme has a high expressivity for DML-type predicates, and supports various types of predicates, =, ≠, ∈ and ∉. Finally, a Policy-Driven Data Sharing Architecture (PDDSA) is presented to provide secure issuing and acquiring on private data sharing by integrating DM-ABE with Attribute-Based Access Control (ABAC).

The security proof depends on Decisional Bilinear Diffie–Hellman Exponent (DBDHE) assumption rather than the randomness hypothesis of random oracle model. Furthermore, we consider both two different encryption methods for dual memberships at same time, and prove the security of DM-ABE in the complete proof rather than in two parts.

**Organization**: In the rest of this paper, Section 2 describes the SDM algorithm and DM-ABE scheme. The security analysis of the DM-ABE is presented in Section 3. In Section 4, we provide the performance analysis and comparison. In Section 5, we propose the application of DM-ABE, i.e., PDDSA. The paper concludes in Section 6.

#### 2. DM-ABE

In order to improve the expressivity of DML-type predicates, we propose a concrete construction of DM-ABE based on the SDM algorithm in this section. In this section, we use the bilinear map group system  $\mathbb{S}=(p,\mathbb{G},\mathbb{G}_T,e(\cdot,\cdot))$  to implement our SDM algorithm and DM-ABE scheme, where  $\mathbb{G},\mathbb{G}_T$  are two cyclic groups of prime order p, bilinear mapping  $e:\mathbb{G}\times\mathbb{G}\to\mathbb{G}_T$  is a mapping function which satisfies  $e(g^a,h^b)=e(g,h)^{ab}$  for  $\forall g,h\in\mathbb{G}$  and  $\exists a,b\in\mathbb{Z}_p^*$ .

#### 2.1. Construction of SDM

The algorithm, secure decision of membership, mainly focuses on the cryptographic representation of subsets in a set with fixed number of elements. For the set  $U = \{e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_{n-1}\}$ , a party with an element  $e_i$  can prove the membership (PM  $\in$  or NM  $\notin$ ) between  $e_i$  and a subset  $S \subseteq U$  to a party with S by using SDM. The definition of SDM is shown as follows.

**Definition 1** (*SDM*). A Probabilistic Polynomial-Time (PPT) algorithm  $P(e_i, S)$  is called a SDM algorithm, if for any  $e_i$ , the SDM can make decision for both PM and NM with the probability  $1 - \epsilon$ , where  $\epsilon$  is negligible, and SDM satisfy the following inequality,

$$\Pr\left[P(e_i, S) = \begin{cases} 1, & e_i \in S \\ -1, & e_i \notin S, e_i \in U \\ 0, & e_i \notin U \end{cases}\right] \ge 1 - \epsilon. \tag{1}$$

As shown in Eq. (1), this algorithm shall make decision for both PM ( $\in$ ) and NM ( $\notin$ ). For two cases, i.e.,  $e_i \in S$  and  $e_i \notin S \land e_i \in U$ , this algorithm can output 1 and -1 with overwhelming probability, respectively. Moreover, a new case  $e_i \notin U$  is also added into Eq. (1). It indicates that a malicious party intends to forge an element  $e_i \notin U$  to pass the verification of SDM algorithm, and this algorithm can distinguish the forged element efficiently.

To implement a practical construction of SDM, we use an aggregation function to generate the compact cryptographic representation of subsets. For the set  $U = \{e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_{n-1}\}$ , the aggregation function can compact any subset  $S \subseteq U$  into a value with fixed size. The definition of the aggregation function is shown as follows:

**Definition 2** (Aggregation Function). Let  $\mathcal{PK}$  be the public parameters in a group  $\mathbb{G}$ ,  $U = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{n-1}\}$  be the set of all attributes. The aggregation function  $Aggregate : \mathcal{PK} \times 2^U \to \mathbb{G}$  is a deterministic polynomial time algorithm and satisfies

$$Aggregate(mpk, S) = R_S, \tag{2}$$

where, mpk is the public key in  $\mathcal{PK}$ ,  $S \subseteq U$  is a subset,  $R_S$  is a sufficiently random value of group that prevents random guess.

According to the above definition, we design the aggregation function EAgg() shown as follows. Let n be a positive integer and g be a generator in  $\mathbb{G}$ . For a random value  $\mu \in_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{Z}_p$ , a parameter sequence  $\{g, g^{\mu}, g^{\mu^2}, \ldots, g^{\mu^{n-1}}, g^{\mu^n}, g^{\mu^{n+1}}, \cdots, g^{\mu^{2n-1}}\}$  consisting of 2n elements is constructed. By removing  $g^{\mu^n}$  from this sequence, we can obtain the main public key

$$mpk = \{g, g^{\mu}, g^{\mu^2}, \dots, g^{\mu^{n-1}}, g^{\mu^{n+1}}, \dots, g^{\mu^{2n-1}}\},$$
(3)

where  $\mu$  is a secret. For any subset  $S \subseteq U$ , we map its element  $e_i \in S$  to  $g^{\mu^{n-i}}$ , and construct Eagg() to generate the cryptographic representation of S, as shown in Eq. (4).

$$EAgg(S) = \prod_{e_i \in S} g^{\mu^{n-i}} = g^{\sum_{e_i \in S} \mu^{n-i}}.$$
(4)

The above function EAgg() aggregates S into a cryptographic element, and the discrete logarithm problem guarantees the randomness of EAgg(S). Specifically, we take a subset  $S = \{e_2, e_3\} \subseteq U = \{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$  as an example (for n = 4). S is firstly encoded as 011 according to the index of S in the power set of U. Then, the polynomial representation  $\mu + \mu^2$  of this subset is generated by 011 on the random variable  $\mu$ , where  $(\mu + \mu^2)$ 's binary code (we call it  $\mu$ -code) for  $\mu$  is 110. Finally, we extend this polynomial into an element  $g^{\mu + \mu^2}$  in  $\mathbb{G}$ .

When we decide whether the verified element  $e_i$  is in a given subset S, the  $\mu$ -code of S can be shifted i bits to the right, i.e., shift the (n-i)th bit of the  $\mu$ -code to the nth bit. It indicates that

**Table 2** The binary encoding for all subsets of  $\{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$  with the verified element  $e_2$ .

Subset	$(e_1e_2e_3)$	Polynomial representation	$(\mu^1\mu^2\mu^3)$	Shifted polynomial representation	$(\mu^1\mu^2\mu^3[\mu^4]\mu^5)$
{}	(000)	(0)	(000)	(0)	(00 000)
$\{e_3\}$	(001)	$(\mu)$	(100)	$(\mu^3)$	(00100)
$\{e_2\}$	(010)	$(\mu^2)$	(010)	$([\mu^4])$	(00 010)
$\{e_2, e_3\}$	(011)	$(\mu + \mu^2)$	(110)	$(\mu^3 + [\mu^4])$	(00110)
$\{e_1\}$	(100)	$(\mu^3)$	(001)	$(\mu^5)$	(00 001)
$\{e_1, e_3\}$	(101)	$(\mu + \mu^3)$	(101)	$(\mu^3 + \mu^5)$	(00 101)
$\{e_1, e_2\}$	(110)	$(\mu + \mu^2)$	(011)	$([\mu^4] + \mu^5)$	(00 011)
$\{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$	(111)	$(\mu + \mu^2 + \mu^3)$	(111)	$(\mu^3 + [\mu^4] + \mu^5)$	(00 111)

 $e_i \notin S$  if the nth bit is 0; otherwise,  $e_i \in S$ . This is called shift-and-cancellation method. For example, if the verified element is  $e_2$ , the mentioned  $\mu$ -code can be shifted 2 bits to the right so as to obtain 00110. Clearly, the fourth bit of it is 1, therefore  $e_2$  is in  $\{e_2, e_3\}$ . According to the above approach, we convert the problem of deciding membership into the 0/1 decision of the nth bit. Table 2 presents the binary encoding for all subsets of  $\{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$ , where the verified element is  $e_2$ .

Furthermore, we convert this 0/1 decision problem into a cryptographic problem of computing the nth element  $g^{\mu^n}$ . In order to achieve this conversion, another aggregation function DAgg() is designed to aggregate the verified element  $e_i$  and the given subset S, defined as Eq. (5).

$$DAgg(e_i, S) = \begin{cases} \prod_{e_j \in S, e_j \neq e_i} g^{\mu^{n-j+i}} & e_i \in S, \\ \prod_{e_i \in S} g^{\mu^{n-j+i}} & e_i \notin S. \end{cases}$$
 (5)

Based on two aggregation functions, *EAgg*() and *DAgg*(), the SDM algorithm can be constructed as follows:

1. Randomly choose  $h \in_R \mathbb{G}$  and secret  $r \in_R \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , then generate public parameters:

$$PK = (g, h, v = g^r, \{g_i = g^{\mu^i}\}_{i=1, i \neq n}^{2n}, \{h_i = h^{\mu^i}/g_n\}_{i=1}^{n-1}).$$
 (6)

- 2. For the verified element  $e_i$ , generate its cryptographic representation  $E_i = g_i^r$  according to the secret r.
- 3. For the set  $S \subseteq U$ , randomly choose  $t \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ , then compute  $C_0 = g^t$ ,  $w = v \cdot h$  and decision basis  $W = e(g_{n-1}, g_1)^t = e(g_n, g)^t$ . Finally, generate the cryptographic representation of set S according to PK as follows:

$$C_S = \begin{cases} (v \cdot EAgg(S))^t & e_i \in S, \\ (w/EAgg(S))^t & e_i \notin S. \end{cases}$$
 (7)

4. The following equation can be used to verify the dual membership between  $e_i$  and S:

$$P(e_i, S) = \begin{cases} 1 & W = e(C_S, g_i)/e(E_i \cdot DAgg(e_i, S), C_0), \\ -1 & W = e(C_S, g_i)/e(E_i \cdot h_i/DAgg(e_i, S), C_0), \\ 0 & \text{Otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(8)

Clearly, this algorithm satisfies Eq. (1). It means that this algorithm can efficiently decide the membership between the verified element  $e_i$  and the given set  $S \subseteq U$ , i.e.  $e \in S$  and  $e \notin S \land e \in U$ . Moreover, it can distinguish the forged element  $e_i \notin U$ .

#### 2.2. Definition of DM-ABE

In this subsection, we will present the definition of the ABE scheme supporting dual membership. Let  $\mathbb{A} = \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m\}$ 

be the attribute variable set, where  $A_i$  is an attribute variable, m is the number of attribute variables. Suppose that there are at most (n-1) assignments for each attribute variable  $A_i \in \mathbb{A}$ . Let  $U_i = \{e_{i1}, e_{i2}, \ldots, e_{i(n-1)}\}$  be the assignment set of the attribute variable  $A_i$ , where  $e_{ij}$  represents the jth assignment of  $A_i$ . Let  $\Phi$  be the user's attribute set, e.g.  $\Phi = \{A_1 \leftarrow e_{11}, A_2 \leftarrow e_{21}, A_3 \leftarrow e_{32}\}$ . We use  $\Pi(\Phi) = 1$  to denote that the  $\Phi$  satisfies the policy  $\Pi$ . Our DM-ABE scheme consists of four algorithms shown as follows:

- Setup(A, κ): This algorithm takes an attribute variable set A, and a security parameter κ as inputs, then outputs a bilinear map group system S, a public key PK and a master secret key MK
- **KeyGen**(MK,  $\Phi$ ,  $ID_k$ ): This algorithm takes the master secret key MK, a user's attribute set  $\Phi$  and his/her unique identity  $ID_k$  as inputs, then outputs this user's private key  $sk_{\Phi}^{(k)}$ .
- DMABE-Enc(PK, Π): This algorithm takes the public key PK and an access policy Π as inputs, then outputs a session key ek and its ciphertext C<sub>Π</sub>.
- ek and its ciphertext  $C_{\Pi}$ .

   **DMABE-Dec**(PK,  $sk_{\Phi}^{(k)}$ ,  $C_{\Pi}$ ): This algorithm takes the public key PK, the user's private key  $sk_{\Phi}^{(k)}$  and the ciphertext  $C_{\Pi}$  as inputs. If the user's attribute set  $\Phi$  satisfies the policy  $\Pi$ , i.e.,  $\Pi(\Phi) = 1$ , the session key ek can be reconstructed from the ciphertext  $C_{\Pi}$ ; otherwise, this algorithm outputs a invalid value  $\bot$ .

**Correctness.** For all possible public keys PK and master keys MK from  $(PK, MK) \leftarrow \mathbf{Setup}(\mathbb{S}, \mathbb{A}, \kappa)$ , any user's private key  $sk_{\Phi}^{(k)}$  corresponding to his/her attribute set  $\Phi$  can be generated from  $sk_{\Phi}^{(k)} \leftarrow \mathbf{KeyGen}(MK, \Phi, \phi_k)$ . Given any policy  $\Pi$ , a session key ek and its valid ciphertext  $C_{\Pi}$  can be yielded from  $(C_{\Pi}, ek) \leftarrow \mathbf{DMABE} - \mathbf{Enc}(PK, \Pi)$ . If there exists a valid attribute set  $\Phi' \subseteq \Phi$  satisfying the access policy  $\Pi$ , i.e.,  $\Pi(\Phi') = 1$ , the correct ek can be reconstructed from  $C_{\Pi}$  by  $\mathbf{DMABE} - \mathbf{Dec}$ , that is,

$$\Pr[\mathbf{DMABE} - \mathbf{Dec}(PK, sk_{\Phi}^{(k)}, C_{\Pi}) = ek : \exists \Phi' \subseteq \Phi, \Pi(\Phi') = 1] = 1.$$
(9)

#### 2.3. Construction of DM-ABE

In this subsection, we will describe the construction of DM-ABE from the SDM algorithm. In this construction, a cryptographic hash function  $hash: \{0,1\}^* \to \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  is used to map each attribute variable  $A_i$  described as a binary string to a random element  $s_i = hash(A_i)$  for  $i \in [1,m]$ . For clarity, we use  $S_i$  and  $R_i$  to denote the designated set and the revocation set, respectively, so that the PM-type and NM-type predicates can be represented as  $A_i \in S_i$  and  $A_i \notin R_i$ , respectively. For each predicate in the policy, the DM-ABE utilizes the SDM to determine the membership between the user's attribute and the given set for authorization decision.

The construction of **Setup** is proposed in Algorithm 1, where, m is the number of attribute variables, and (n-1) is the number of assignments for each attribute variable. In order to apply

SDM to our DM-ABE, we generate the related parameters in this algorithm. Similarly to the SDM,  $\{g_j\}_{j=1,j\neq n}^{2n}$  and  $\{h_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  are generated for the aggregation functions in encryption and decryption. Moreover, the SDM only considers one attribute variable, while the DM-ABE considers m attribute variables. Therefore, v in the SDM is extended to  $\{v_i\}_{i=1}^m$  for m attribute variables.

#### Algorithm 1 Setup

```
Input: The attribute set \mathbb{A} and security parameter \kappa;
Output: Public key PK and master secret key MK;
 1: generate \mathbb{S} = (p, \mathbb{G}, \mathbb{G}_T, e(\cdot, \cdot)) according to \kappa;
 2: randomly pick elements \alpha, \beta, \mu, \gamma \in_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{Z}_{p}^{*}, h \in_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{G} and a
      generator g of G;
 3: compute \eta = g^{\alpha}, \xi = g^{\beta};
 4: for i \in [1, m] do
           compute v_i = g^{s_i \gamma}, where s_i = hash(A_i);
 5:
 6: for j \in [1, 2n] \land j \neq n do
           compute g_i = g^{\mu^j};
 7:
 8: for j \in [1, n-1] do
           compute h_i = h^{\mu^j}/g_n;
10: set V = e(g_n, g);

11: return MK = (\alpha, \beta, \mu, \gamma),

(g, h, \eta, \xi, \{v_i\}_{i=1}^m, \{g_j\}_{j=1, j \neq n}^{2n}, \{h_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}).
```

The Algorithm 2 shows the construction of **KevGen**. Note that. the user's attribute subkey for  $(A_i \leftarrow e_{ii})$  is not only related to the attribute  $e_{ii}$ , but also related to the attribute variable  $A_i$  and identity  $ID_k$  in this algorithm. Therefore, the sub-key is set in the form  $d_{ij}^{(k)} = g_j^{s_i \gamma} \cdot g^{-\phi_k}$  rather than the form  $E_j = g_j^r$  in the SDM.

#### Algorithm 2 KeyGen

**Input:** Master secret key MK, user's attribute set  $\Phi$  and identity

```
Output: User's private key sk_{\Phi}^{(k)};
 1: randomly pick \phi_k \in_R \mathbb{Z}_p^* for ID_k;
2: for \forall (A_i \leftarrow e_{ij}) \in \mathcal{D} do
              compute its sub-key d_{ii}^{(k)} = g_i^{s_{ii}} \cdot g^{-\phi_k} = v_i^{\mu^j} \cdot g^{-\phi_k};
```

4: compute 
$$d^{(k)} = g^{\frac{\alpha + \phi_k}{\beta}}$$
;  
5: **return**  $sk_{\phi}^{(k)} = \{\{d_{ij}^{(k)}\}_{(A_i \leftarrow e_{ij}) \in \phi}, d^{(k)}\}.$ 

The Algorithm 3 gives the construction of **DMABE-Enc**. In this algorithm, Linear Secret Sharing Scheme (LSSS) (Li, 2013) is used to represent the access policy. The policy  $\Pi$  involving l predicates will be converted into  $(M, \rho)$  by LSSS to share a random secret t, where M is an  $l \times b$  matrix, and  $\rho$  is a permutation function to map each row of M to a predicate. For each predicate in the policy, i.e.,  $A_i \in S_i$  or  $A_i \notin R_i$ , this algorithm utilizes EAgg() of the SDM to aggregate  $S_i$  or  $R_i$ , and then generate the subciphertext  $(c_{i1}, c_{i2})$ , where,  $c_{i1}$  corresponds to  $C_0$ ,  $c_{i2}$  corresponds to  $C_s$  in the SDM.

The Algorithm 4 proposes the construction of **DMABE-Dec**. If the user's attribute set  $\Phi$  satisfies the policy  $\Pi$ , there exist an authorized set F and a index set  $I = \{i : \rho(i) \in F\}$ . Then, the reconstruction vector  $\{\omega_i \in \mathbb{Z}_p\}_{i \in I}$  used for decryption can be computed according to M and I, such that  $\Sigma_{i \in I} \omega_i \lambda_i = t$ . Then, for each subsiphertext  $(c_{i1}, c_{i2})$ , this algorithm uses Eq. (11), which is similar to Eq. (8) in the SDM, to compute  $c_i = e(g_n g^{\phi_k}, g)^{\lambda_i}$ , where DAgg() is utilized to aggregate the user's attribute and the given set. Finally, ek can reconstructed by  $\{\omega_i\}_{i\in I}$  and  $\{c_i\}_{i\in I}$ .

Correctness. Next, we will discuss the correctness of our DM-ABE scheme. There are two cases shown as follows:

• **Case 1:** If the predicate is  $A_i \in S_i$ , and the attribute  $A_i \leftarrow e_{ij}$ corresponding to the  $d_{ii}^{(k)}$  satisfies this predicate,  $c_i$  can be

#### **Algorithm 3 DMABE-Enc**

**Input:** Public key PK and access policy  $\Pi$ ; **Output:** Session key ek and ciphertext  $C_{\Pi}$ ;

- 1: convert  $\Pi$  into  $(M, \rho)$  by LSSS;
- 2: randomly pick a vector  $v = (t, r_2, \dots, r_b) \in \mathbb{Z}_p^b$  to share the
- 3: **for**  $i \in [1, l]$  **do**
- 4: compute  $\lambda_i = M_i \cdot v$ ;
- extract the predicate  $A_i \in S_i$  or  $A_i \notin R_i$  from the ith literal
- **if** the predicate is  $A_i \notin R_i$  **then** 6:
  - compute  $w_i = v_i \cdot h$ ;
- compute  $(c_{i1}, c_{i2})$  according to  $S_i$  or  $R_i$  as follows:

$$(c_{i1}, c_{i2}) = \begin{cases} (g^{\lambda_i}, (v_i \cdot EAgg(S_i)) & A_i \in S_i; \\ (g^{\lambda_i}, (w_i / EAgg(R_i)) & A_i \notin R_i; \end{cases}$$
(10)

- 9: compute  $c' = g^t$  and  $c_0 = g^{\beta \cdot t} = \xi^t$ ; 10: **return**  $ek = \frac{e(g^\alpha, g^t)}{V^t}$  and  $C_{\Pi} = (\Pi, (M, \rho), c', c_0, \{c_{i1}, c_{i2}\}_{i=1}^l)$ .

# Algorithm 4 DMABE-Dec

**Input:** Public key *PK*, user's private key  $sk_{\Phi}^{(k)}$  and ciphertext  $C_{\Pi}$ ; Output: Session key ek;

- 1: **if** the user's attribute set  $\Phi$  satisfies the policy  $\Pi$  **then**
- set F as the authorized set according to the user's private key  $sk_{\Phi}^{(k)}$ ;
- 3: set *I* = {*i* : ρ(i) ∈ *F*};
- compute the reconstruction vector  $\{\omega_i \in \mathbb{Z}_p\}_{i \in I}$  according to M and I;
- 5: for  $\forall i \in I$  do
- extract the  $S_i$  or  $R_i$  from the *i*th predicate,  $A_i \in S_i$  or  $A_i \notin R_i$ , from  $\Pi$ ;
- compute  $c_i$  according to the sub-key  $d_{ii}^{(k)}$  as follows:

$$c_{i} = \begin{cases} \frac{e(c_{i2}, g_{j})}{e(d_{ij}^{(k)} \cdot DAgg(e_{ij}, S_{i}), c_{i1})} & A_{i} \in S_{i} \wedge A_{i} \leftarrow e_{ij}; \\ \frac{e(c_{i2}, g_{j})}{e(d_{ij}^{(k)} \cdot h_{j}/DAgg(e_{ij}, R_{i}), c_{i1})} & A_{i} \notin R_{i} \wedge A_{i} \leftarrow e_{ij}; \end{cases}$$

$$(11)$$

- compute  $T = \prod_{i \in I} c_i^{\omega_i} = e(g_n g^{\phi_k}, g)^t$ ; compute  $ek = \frac{e(d^{(k)}, c_0)}{T} = \frac{e(g^{\alpha}, g^t)}{V^t}$ ;
- 10:
- 11: else
- return  $\perp$ .

computed as follows:

$$c_{i} = \frac{e(c_{i2}, g_{j})}{e(d_{ij}^{(k)} \cdot DAgg(e_{ij}, S_{i}), c_{i1})} = \frac{e((v_{i} \cdot EAgg(S_{i}))^{\lambda_{i}}, g_{j})}{e(g_{j}^{s_{i}\gamma - \phi_{k}} \cdot DAgg(e_{ij}, S_{i}), g^{\lambda_{i}})}$$

$$= \frac{e\left((g^{s_{i}\gamma} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} g_{n-k})^{\lambda_{i}}, g_{j}\right) \cdot e(g^{\phi_{k}}, g^{\lambda_{i}})}{e\left(g_{j}^{s_{i}\gamma} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}, k \neq j} g_{n-k+j}, g^{\lambda_{i}}\right)}$$

$$= \frac{e\left(g_{j}^{s_{i}\gamma} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}, k \neq j} g_{n-k+j}, g^{\lambda_{i}}\right) \cdot e(g_{n}g^{\phi_{k}}, g^{\lambda_{i}})}{e\left(g_{j}^{s_{i}\gamma} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}, k \neq j} g_{n-k+j}, g^{\lambda_{i}}\right)}$$

$$= e(g_{n}g^{\phi_{k}}, g)^{\lambda_{i}}.$$
(12)

• Case 2: If the predicate is  $A_i \notin R_i$ , and the attribute  $A_i \leftarrow e_{ij}$  corresponding to the  $d_{ij}^{(k)}$  satisfies this predicate,  $c_i$  can be computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
c_{i} &= \frac{e(c_{i2}, g_{j})}{e(d_{ij}^{(k)} \cdot h_{j}/DAgg(e_{ij}, R_{i}), c_{i1})} \\
&= \frac{e((v_{i} \cdot h/EAgg(R_{i}))^{\lambda_{i}}, g_{j})}{e(g_{j}^{s_{i}\gamma - \phi_{k}} \cdot h_{j}/DAgg(e_{ij}, R_{i}), g^{\lambda_{i}})} \\
&= \frac{e\left((g^{s_{i}\gamma} \cdot h/\prod_{e_{ik} \in R_{i}} g_{n-k})^{\lambda_{i}}, g_{j}\right) \cdot e(g^{\phi_{k}}, g^{\lambda_{i}})}{e\left(g_{j}^{s_{i}\gamma} \cdot h^{\mu^{j}}/(g_{n} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in R_{i}} g_{n-k+j}), g^{\lambda_{i}}\right)} \\
&= \frac{e\left(g^{s_{i}\gamma} \cdot h/\prod_{e_{ik} \in R_{i}} g_{n-k}, g_{j}^{\lambda_{i}}\right) \cdot e(g_{n}g^{\phi_{k}}, g^{\lambda_{i}})}{e\left(g^{s_{i}\gamma} \cdot h/\prod_{e_{ik} \in R_{i}} g_{n-k}, g_{j}^{\lambda_{i}}\right)} \\
&= e(g_{n}g^{\phi_{k}}, g)^{\lambda_{i}}.
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

If the user's attribute set  $\Phi$  satisfies the access policy  $\Pi$ , the reconstruction vector  $\{\omega_i \in \mathbb{Z}_p\}_{i\in I}$  can be computed, and the intermediate value T can be obtained as follows,

$$T = \prod_{i \in I} c_i^{\omega_i} = \prod_{i \in I} e(g_n g^{\phi_k}, g)^{\lambda_i \omega_i} = e(g_n g^{\phi_k}, g)^t.$$
 (14)

Finally, the session key ek' can be computed as follows:

$$ek' = \frac{e(d^{(k)}, c_0)}{T} = \frac{e(g^{\frac{\alpha + \phi_k}{\beta}}, g^{\beta t})}{e(g_n g^{\phi_k}, g)^t} = \frac{e(g^{\alpha}, g^t)}{e(g_n, g^t)} = ek.$$
(15)

#### 3. Security analysis

In this section, we firstly describe a game to define the security of DM-ABE scheme. Then, the DBDHE assumption is reduced to prove that our scheme satisfies semantic security.

#### 3.1. Security requirements

We require that the DM-ABE scheme satisfies semantic security under the chosen-plaintext attacks (i.e., IND-CPA). Specifically, given two messages,  $m_0$  and  $m_1$ , their corresponding ciphertexts,  $C_0$  and  $C_1$ , are indistinguishable. DM-ABE is semantically secure against IND-CPA for a given challenge policy, if the advantage of any PPT adversary is negligible in the following game.

- **Setup**.  $\mathcal{B}$  runs **Setup** algorithm to generate (PK, MK), then  $\mathcal{B}$  sends the public key PK to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- **Learning**.  $\mathcal{A}$  makes private key queries for some attribute sets  $\Phi$ , which do not satisfy the challenged policy  $\Pi^*$ , i.e.,  $\Pi^*(\Phi) = 0$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  runs **KeyGen** algorithm to generate the private key  $sk_{\Phi}^{(\phi)}$ , then  $\mathcal{B}$  sends it to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- **Challenge**.  $\mathcal{A}$  randomly selects two messages,  $m_0$  and  $m_1$ , and sends them to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  runs **DMABE Enc**(PK,  $\Pi^*$ )  $\rightarrow$  ( $C_{\Pi^*}$ , ek) under the challenged policy  $\Pi^*$ . Then he flips a random coin  $\sigma \in \{0, 1\}$ , and computes the ciphertext  $C_{\sigma}$  of  $m_{\sigma}$ . At last,  $\mathcal{B}$  sends the ciphertext to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- Guess.  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a guess  $\sigma'$  of  $\sigma$ , and he wins the game if  $\sigma' = \sigma$ .

The advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  in this game is defined as  $Adv_{\mathrm{DM-ABE}}^{\mathrm{IND}}(\mathcal{A}) \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} \left| \Pr[\sigma' = \sigma] - \frac{1}{2} \right|$ . The security definition of the DM-ABE scheme is shown as follow:

**Definition 3** (*Semantic Security*). We say the DM-ABE scheme is semantically secure under the IND-CPA game, if the advantage

 $Adv_{\mathrm{DM-ABE}}^{\mathrm{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{A})$  is negligible, i.e.  $Adv_{\mathrm{DM-ABE}}^{\mathrm{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{A}) < \epsilon(\kappa)$  in the security parameter  $\kappa$  for all PPT adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$ .

In the security proof, we prove our DM-ABE scheme satisfies IND-CPA security under the DBDHE assumption. The definition of the DBDHE problem and the DBDHE assumption are shown as follows:

**Definition 4** (*DBDHE Problem Xie and Ren, 2014*). Given a (2n+1)-tuple  $(g, g^t, \{g^{\mu^i}\}_{i=1, i \neq n}^{2n}) \in \mathbb{G}^{2n+1}$  and a random element  $W \leftarrow_R \mathbb{G}_T$  as input, output 1 if  $W = e(g^{\mu^n}, g)^t$  and 0 otherwise.

We define the advantage of algorithm  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{B}}$  to solve the DBDHE problem as follows:

 $Adv_{DRDHF}^{IND}(\mathcal{B})$ 

$$= \begin{vmatrix} \Pr[\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R}, e(G^{\mu^n}, G)^t) = 1 : G \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}, \mu, t \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Z}_p^*] \\ -\Pr[\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R}, W) = 1 : G \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}, \mu, t \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Z}_p^*, W \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}_T] \end{vmatrix}.$$
(16)

where  $\mathcal{R} = (G, G^t, \{G^{\mu^i}\}_{i=1, i \neq n}^{2n}).$ 

**Definition 5**  $((\epsilon, n)$ -DBDHE Assumption Xie and Ren, 2014). We say that the DBDHE assumption is  $(\epsilon, n)$ -secure in  $\mathbb S$ , if for all PPT algorithms  $\mathcal B$ , the advantage of solving the DBDHE problem is at most  $\epsilon$ , i.e.,  $Adv_{\mathrm{DBDHE}}^{\mathrm{IND}}(\mathcal B) < \epsilon$ .

# 3.2. Security proof

In this paper, we prove that our DM-ABE scheme is IND-CPA under the assumption that the DBDHE problem is hard. The DM-ABE utilizes two different encryption methods for dual predicates,  $\in$  and  $\notin$ , however, we prove the security of DM-ABE in the complete proof rather than two parts. During describing the game, the validation of simulated private keys is additionally provided in the learning stage. More preciously, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 1** (Semantic Security of DM-ABE). The DM-ABE scheme is  $(\epsilon, n)$ -semantically secure against chosen-plaintext attack under  $(\epsilon, n)$ -DBDHE assumption in  $\mathbb{S}$ , and advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  is  $Adv_{\mathrm{DM-ABE}}^{\mathrm{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{A}) < \epsilon$ .

**Proof.** Suppose there exists an adversary  $\mathcal A$  that can break our DM-ABE scheme under a non-negligible advantage, that is,  $Adv_{\mathrm{DM-ABE}}^{\mathrm{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal A) \geq \epsilon$ . Our objective is to build a PPT algorithm  $\mathcal B$  to solve the DBDHE problem. We utilize the following game to depict the construction of  $\mathcal B$ .

- **Setup.** The simulator  $\mathcal{B}$  runs **Setup** algorithm, and sends public parameters PK to the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ . This process is divided into the following six steps:
  - Step 1. Set g = G, and set  $G_j = G^{\mu^j}$  for  $j \in [1, n-1]$ , s.t.,  $g_j = g^{\mu^j} = G^{\mu^j}$ , where G is a generator of  $\mathbb{G}$ .
  - Step 2. Randomly select  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta \in_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , further compute  $\eta = g^{\alpha} = G^{\alpha}$  and  $\xi = g^{\beta} = G^{\beta}$ ;
  - Step 3. Compute  $s_i = hash(A_i)$  for i = [1, m];
  - Step 4. Randomly select  $\zeta \in_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , and set  $\gamma = \zeta (\sum_{e_{ik} \in S_i} \mu^{n-k})/s_i$  ( $\gamma$  is unknown, because  $\mu$  is unknown). Then compute  $v_i$  for  $i \in [1, m]$  as follows:

$$v_i = g^{s_i \gamma} = G^{s_i (\zeta - \frac{\sum_{e_{ik} \in S_i} \mu^{n-k}}{S_i})} = G^{s_i \zeta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_i} G_{n-k},$$
 (17)

where,  $v_i$  can be computed, although  $\gamma$  is unknown. The reason is that G,  $s_i$  and  $\xi$  are known, and

 $\prod_{e_{jk} \in S_i} G_{n-k}$  can be computed by  $\{G_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  in DBDHE instance.

- Step 5. Randomly select  $\delta \in_R \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  and compute  $h = G^{\delta} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in U_i} G_{n-k}$ . Note that, h can be computed since G,  $\delta$  and  $\{G_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1}$  are known.
- Step 6. For  $j \in [1, n-1]$ ,  $h_j$  can be computed shown as follows:

$$h_{j} = \frac{h^{\mu^{j}}}{g_{n}} = \frac{G_{j}^{\delta} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in U_{i}} G_{n-k+j}}{G_{n}} = G_{j}^{\delta} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in U_{i}, k \neq j} G_{n-k+j}. (18)$$

At last,  $\mathcal{B}$  sends  $PK = (G, \eta, \xi, h, \{v_i\}_{i=1}^m, \{g_j\}_{j=1, j \neq n}^{2n}, \{h_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .

• **Learning.**  $\mathcal{A}$  makes secret key queries for any attribute set  $\Phi^*$  which satisfies  $\Pi^*(\Phi^*) = 0$ . For the secret key query for each attribute  $A_i \leftarrow e_{ij} \in \Phi^*$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  randomly chooses  $\phi \in_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  according to the user's ID. Then, for each attribute  $A_i \leftarrow e_{ij}$  of this user,  $d_{ij}^{(\phi)}$  can be computed as follows:

$$d_{ij}^{(\phi)} = g_j^{s_{i}\gamma} \cdot g^{-\phi} = G_j^{s_i\zeta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_i} G_{n-k+j} \cdot G^{-\phi},$$
(19)

Note that, if  $e_{ij} \in S_i$ , i.e., k = j, the key  $d_{ij}^{(\phi)}$  of  $e_{ij}$  cannot be generated because  $G_n$  is unknown. Therefore,  $d_{ij}^{(\phi)}$  is valid only if  $e_{ij} \notin S_i$ . Then  $\mathcal B$  computes  $d^{(\phi)} = g^{\frac{\alpha+\phi}{\beta}}$ . Finally,  $\mathcal B$  sends  $sk_{\Phi^*}^{(\phi)} = \{\{d_{ij}^{(\phi)}\}_{(A_i \leftarrow e_{ij}) \in \Phi^*}, d^{(\phi)}\}$  to  $\mathcal A$ .

- **Challenge.**  $\mathcal{A}$  randomly chooses two messages,  $m_0$  and  $m_1$ , and sends them to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  runs **DMABE-Enc** algorithm to generate the ciphertext  $C_{\Pi^*}$  under  $\Pi^*$ . This process is described as follows:
  - Step 1. Convert the policy  $\Pi^*$  into  $(M, \rho)$  through LSSS, and M is a  $l \times b$  matrix.
  - Step 2. Randomly select  $r_i \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  for  $i \in [2, b]$  and set  $v = (t, r_2, \dots, r_b)^T$  (where, t is unknown).
  - Step 3. Compute  $\lambda_i = M_i \cdot v$  for  $i \in [1, l]$ , where  $M_i$  is the *i*th row of M. Let  $M_i = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_b)$ , and

$$\lambda_i = M_i \cdot v = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_b) \cdot (t, r_2, \dots, r_b)^T = x_1 t + \sum_{i=2}^b x_i r_i,$$
(20)

where, t is unknown, so  $\lambda_i$  is unknown.

- Step 4. Set  $c' = g^t = G^t$  and compute  $c_0 = g^{\beta t} = (G^t)^{\beta}$ .
- Step 5. For  $i \in [1, l]$ , the sub-cipher  $(c_{i1}, c_{i2})$  can be computed as follows:

If the *i*th predicate is  $A_i \in S_i$ , set  $c_{i1} = G^{\lambda_i}$ , and compute  $c_{i2}$  as follows:

$$c_{i2} = \left(v_i \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_i} g_{n-k}\right)^{\lambda_i} = \left(G^{s_i \zeta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_i} g_{n-k} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_i} g_{n-k}\right)^{\lambda_i}$$

$$= G^{s_i \zeta \lambda_i},$$
(21)

where,  $G^{\lambda_i}$  and  $(G^{s_i\zeta})^{\lambda_i}$  can be computed, since  $G^t$  is known, despite t is unknown. The computation processes are shown as follows:

$$G^{\lambda_i} = G^{x_1 t + \sum_{i=2}^b x_i r_i} = (G^t)^{x_1} \cdot \prod_{i=2}^b G^{x_i r_i};$$
 (22)

$$(G^{s_i\zeta})^{\lambda_i} = (G^{s_i\zeta})^{x_1t + \sum_{i=2}^b x_i r_i} = (G^t)^{s_i\zeta x_1} \cdot \prod_{i=2}^b G^{s_i\zeta x_i r_i}. \quad (23)$$

If the *i*th predicate is  $A_i \notin R_i$ , set  $R_i = U_i/S_i$ , then compute  $w_i$  as follows:

$$w_{i} = v_{i} \cdot h = G^{s_{i}\zeta + \delta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in U_{i}} G_{n-k} = G^{s_{i}\zeta + \delta} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in R_{i}} G_{n-k}.$$

$$(24)$$

Moreover, set  $c_{i1} = G^{\lambda_i}$ , and compute  $c_{i2}$  as follows:

$$c_{i2} = \left(w_i / \prod_{e_{ik} \in R_i} g_{n-k}\right)^{\lambda_i} = \left(G^{s_i \zeta + \delta} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in R_i} G_{n-k} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in R_i} G_{n-k}\right)$$

$$= (G^{s_i \zeta + \delta})^{\lambda_i},$$
(25)

where,  $G^{\lambda_i} = (G^t)^{x_1} \cdot \prod_{i=2}^b G^{x_i r_i}$ , and

$$(G^{s_{i}\zeta+\delta})^{\lambda_{i}} = (G^{s_{i}\zeta})^{\lambda_{i}} \cdot (G^{\delta})^{\lambda_{i}} = (G^{s_{i}\zeta})^{x_{1}t+\sum_{i=2}^{b} x_{i}r_{i}} \cdot (G^{\delta})^{x_{1}t+\sum_{i=2}^{b} x_{i}r_{i}}$$

$$= (G^{t})^{s_{i}\zeta x_{1}} \cdot \prod_{i=2}^{b} G^{s_{i}\zeta x_{i}r_{i}} \cdot (G^{t})^{\delta x_{1}} \cdot \prod_{i=2}^{b} G^{\delta x_{i}r_{i}}.$$
(26)

Based on the above, the ciphertext is  $C_{\Pi^*} = (\Pi, M, \rho, c', c_0, \{c_{i1}, c_{i2}\}_{i=1}^l)$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  randomly picks  $\sigma \in \{0, 1\}$ . Then he computes  $C_{\sigma} = m_{\sigma} \oplus W$ . At last,  $\mathcal{B}$  sends the tuple  $(C_{\Pi^*}, C_{\sigma})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .

• **Response.**  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs  $\sigma'$  as the guess. If  $\sigma' = \sigma$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  outputs 1; otherwise outputs 0.

**The validation of secret keys.** Next we analyze validation of the simulated private keys in the following cases.

• **Case 1:** The predicate is  $A_i \in S_i'$  and the attribute is  $A_i \leftarrow e_{ij}$ . In this case, we verify the secret key  $d_{ij}^{(\phi)}$  of this attribute is valid if  $e_{ij} \in S_i'$ , where  $S_i' \subseteq U_i/S_i$ . Under this condition, we can compute

$$c_{i2} = \left(G^{s_i\zeta} / \prod_{eik \in S_i} G_{n-k} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_i'} G_{n-k}\right)^{\lambda_i}; \tag{27}$$

$$d_{ij}^{(\phi)} = G_j^{s_i \zeta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_i} G_{n-k+j} \cdot G^{-\phi}, \tag{28}$$

and  $c_i$  can be computed as follows:

$$c_{i} = \frac{e(c_{i2}, g_{j})}{e\left(d_{ij}^{(\phi)} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S'_{i}, k \neq j} g_{n-k+j}, c_{i1}\right)}$$

$$= \frac{e\left((G^{s_{i}\zeta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S'_{i}} G_{n-k})^{\lambda_{i}}, G_{j}\right)}{e\left(G^{s_{i}\zeta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k+j} \cdot G^{-\phi} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S'_{i}, k \neq j} G_{n-k+j}, G^{\lambda_{i}}\right)}$$

$$= \frac{e\left(G^{s_{i}\zeta} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S'_{i}} G_{n-k}, G^{\lambda_{i}}_{j}\right) \cdot e(G^{\phi}, G^{\lambda_{i}})}{e\left(G^{s_{i}\zeta} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S'_{i}, k \neq j} G_{n-k}, G^{\lambda_{i}}_{j}\right)}$$

$$= e(G_{n-j}, G^{\lambda_{i}}_{j}) \cdot e(G^{\phi}, G^{\lambda_{i}}) = e(G_{n} \cdot G^{\phi}, G^{\lambda_{i}}). \tag{29}$$

• Case 2: The predicate is  $A_i \notin R'_i$  and the attribute is  $A_i \leftarrow e_{ij}$ . In this case, we verify the secret key  $d_{ij}^{(\phi)}$  of the attribute  $e_{ij}$  is

valid if  $e_{ij} \in S'_i$ , where  $S'_i \subseteq U_i/(S_i \cup R'_i)$ . Under this condition, we have

$$c_{i2} = \left(w_{i} / \prod_{e_{ij} \in R'_{i}} g_{n-j}\right)^{\lambda_{i}}$$

$$= \left(G^{s_{i}\zeta + \delta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in U_{i}} G_{n-k} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in R'_{i}} G_{n-k}\right)^{\lambda_{i}}$$

$$= \left(G^{s_{i}\zeta + \delta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S'_{i}} G_{n-k}\right)^{\lambda_{i}};$$

$$d_{ij}^{(\phi)} = G_{j}^{s_{i}\zeta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k+j} \cdot G^{-\phi},$$

$$(31)$$

and  $c_i$  can be computed as follows:

$$c_{i} = \frac{e(c_{i2}, g_{j})}{e\left(d_{ij}^{(\phi)} \cdot h_{j} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in R'_{i}} g_{n-k+j}, c_{i1}\right)}$$

$$= \frac{e\left(G^{s_{i}\zeta + \delta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S'_{i}} G_{n-k}, G_{j}^{\lambda_{i}}\right) \cdot e(G^{\phi}, G^{\lambda_{i}})}{e\left(G^{s_{i}\zeta + \delta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k+j} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in U_{i}, k \neq j} G_{n-k+j} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in R'_{i}} G_{n-k+j}, G^{\lambda_{i}}\right)}$$

$$= \frac{e\left(G^{s_{i}\zeta + \delta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S'_{i}} G_{n-k}, G_{j}^{\lambda_{i}}\right) \cdot e(G^{\phi}, G^{\lambda_{i}})}{e\left(G^{s_{i}\zeta + \delta} / \prod_{e_{ik} \in S_{i}} G_{n-k} \cdot \prod_{e_{ik} \in S'_{i}, k \neq j} G_{n-k}, G_{j}^{\lambda_{i}}\right)}$$

$$= e(G_{n-j}, G_{j}^{\lambda_{i}}) \cdot e(G^{\phi}, G^{\lambda_{i}}) = e(G_{n} \cdot G^{\phi}, G^{\lambda_{i}}).$$

$$(32)$$

**Advantage Evaluation** Now we analysis the advantage of A as follows:

$$Adv_{\rm DM-ABE}^{\rm IND-CPA}(\mathcal{A}) = \left| \Pr[\sigma' = \sigma] - \frac{1}{2} \right| = \frac{1}{2} |\Pr[\sigma' = \sigma] - 1|$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left| \Pr[\sigma' = 1 | \sigma = 1] - \Pr[\sigma' = 1 | \sigma = 0] \right|.$$
(33)

Note that, the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  is based on the condition that  $W=e(G^{\mu^n},G)^t$ , which ensures the ciphertext is valid. The advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  is based on the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ , and it can be computed as follows:

$$Adv_{\text{DBDHE}}^{\text{IND}}(\mathcal{B}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R}, e(G^{\mu^n}, G)^t) = 1 : G \overset{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}, \mu, t \overset{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Z}_p^*]$$

$$- \Pr[\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R}, W) = 1 : G \overset{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}, \mu, t \overset{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Z}_p^*]$$

$$- \Pr[\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R}, W) = 1 : G \overset{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}, \mu, t \overset{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}_T]|$$

$$= |\Pr[\sigma' = \sigma : W \overset{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}_T]|$$

$$- \Pr[\sigma' = \sigma : W \overset{R}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{G}_T]|$$

$$= \left|\frac{1}{2}\Pr[\sigma' = 1 : \sigma = 1 \land W = e(G^{\mu^n}, G)^t]\right|$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2}\Pr[\sigma' = 0 : \sigma = 0 \land W = e(G^{\mu^n}, G)^t] - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}|\Pr[\sigma' = 1|\sigma = 1 \land W = e(G^{\mu^n}, G)^t]$$

$$- \Pr[\sigma' = 1|\sigma = 0 \land W = e(G^{\mu^n}, G)^t]|$$

$$(34)$$

where  $\mathcal{R}=(G,G^t,\{G^{\mu^i}\}_{i=1,i\neq n}^{2n})$ . Based on the advantage evaluation, we get  $Adv_{\mathrm{DBDHE}}^{\mathrm{IND}}(\mathcal{B})=Adv_{\mathrm{DM-ABE}}^{\mathrm{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{A})$ . According to the hypothesis that  $Adv_{\mathrm{DM-ABE}}^{\mathrm{IND-CPA}}(\mathcal{A})\geq \epsilon$ , we have  $Adv_{\mathrm{DBDHE}}^{\mathrm{IND}}(\mathcal{B})\geq \epsilon$ . This is opposite to the definition of DBDHE assumption, so

the hypothesis is wrong, i.e.,  $Adv_{\rm DM-ABE}^{\rm IND-CPA}(\mathcal{A})<\epsilon$ . Consequently, our DM-ABE scheme is  $(\epsilon,n)$ -semantically secure against chosen plaintext attack under the  $(\epsilon,n)$ -DBDHE assumption, and the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  is  $Adv_{\rm DM-ABE}^{\rm IND-CPA}(\mathcal{A})<\epsilon$ .

#### 4. Performance analysis

In this section, we will analyze the performance of the DM-ABE in terms of computation and storage complexity, and then simulate the scheme to evaluate the execution time. Moreover, we provide the performance comparison between the DM-ABE and some existing CP-ABE schemes.

## 4.1. Complexity analysis

Before the complexity analysis of DM-ABE, we present some symbols for clarity shown in Table 3. Note that, we neglect the execution time of the operations in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , the hash function and the matrix multiplication, since they are much more efficient than exponentiation and pairing operations. The computation complexity analysis of DM-ABE is proposed in Table 4.

As shown in Table 4, the computation complexity of **Setup** is directly proportional to both m and n. The computation complexity of **KeyGen** is directly proportional to  $|\Phi|$ . The computation complexities of both **DMABE** — **Enc** and **DMABE** — **Dec** are directly proportional to  $|S_i|$  and  $|R_i|$ . However, the computation complexity of **DMABE** — **Enc** is also directly proportional to |I| ( $|\in|+|\notin|=|I|$ ), while the one of **DMABE** — **Dec** is directly proportional to |I| ( $|\in_d|+|\notin_d|=|I|$ ). Then, we propose the storage complexity analysis of DM-ABE in Table 5.

As shown in Table 5, the storage complexity of public key is directly proportional to m and n. The storage complexity of private key is directly proportional to  $|\Phi|$ . Moreover, the communication complexities of **DMABE** — **Enc** and **DMABE** — **Dec** are directly proportional to l and |I|, respectively.

## 4.2. Experimental analysis

In order to evaluate the practical performance of our DM-ABE scheme, we simulate four algorithms, **Setup**, **KeyGen**, **DMABE-Enc** and **DMABE-Dec**, based on Java Pairing Based Cryptographic Library (JPBC). The experiments are executed on 64-bit Windows 10 under Intel(R) Core(TM) i3-3240 CPU @3.40 GHz, 12.0 G ROM. In the experiment, we use a 160-bit elliptic curve group of type A,  $y^2 = x^3 + x$ , over a 512-bit finite field. The reason of choosing type A is that the size of public key *PK* will be increased if we choose an asymmetric elliptic curve group.

For the algorithm **Setup**, we carry out two experiments to evaluate the execution time shown as follows:

- (1) The number of assignments for each attribute variable (i.e., *n*) is set as 100, while the number of attribute variables (i.e., *m*) increases from 10 to 100. The execution time is shown in Fig. 1(a).
- (2) The number of attribute variables (i.e., *m*) is set as 100, while the number of assignments for each attribute variable (i.e., *n*) increases from 10 to 100. The execution time is shown in Fig. 1(b).

As shown in Fig. 1, the change trends of execution time for **Setup** are incremented. Specifically, the execution time of **Setup** rises from 3579 ms to 4653 ms, with m increasing from 10 to 100 in Fig. 1(a). In Fig. 1(b), the execution time of **Setup** rises from 1643 ms to 4573 ms, with n increasing from 10 to 100. It is easy to find that the execution time of **Setup** is not only directly proportional to m, but also to n.

 Table 3

 Definitions of the symbols used in complexity analysis.

Symbol	Description
$E(\mathbb{G}), E(\mathbb{G}_T)$	The execution time of one exponentiation operation in $\mathbb G$ and $\mathbb G_T$ , respectively
$M(\mathbb{G})$	The execution time of one multiplication operation in ${\mathbb G}$
$D(\mathbb{G}), D(\mathbb{G}_T)$	The execution time of one division operation in $\mathbb G$ and $\mathbb G_T$ , respectively
В	The execution time of one bilinear pairing operation $e: \mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{G}_T$
$l\mathbb{Z}_p$ , $l_{\mathbb{G}}$ , $l\mathbb{G}_T$	The length of one element in $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , $\mathbb{G}$ and $\mathbb{G}_T$ , respectively
m	The number of attribute variables
n	The number of assignments for each attribute variable
I	The number of predicates in the policy
$ \Phi ,  I $	The number of elements in $\Phi$ and $I$ , respectively
∈  ,   ∉	The number of PM-type predicates and NM-predicates in the policy, respectively
$ \in_d ,  \notin_d $	The number of attributes used for PM-type predicates and NM-type predicates in decryption, respectively
$ S_i $	The number of elements in $S_i$ for the PM-type predicate $A_i \in S_i$ in the policy
$ R_i $	The number of elements in $R_i$ for the NM-type predicate $A_i \notin R_i$ in the policy

**Table 4**Computation complexity analysis of DM-ABE.

Algorithm	Computation complexity				
Setup	$(m+3n+2)\cdot E(\mathbb{G})+n\cdot D(\mathbb{G})$				
KeyGen	$( \Phi +2)\cdot E(\mathbb{G})+ \Phi \cdot M(\mathbb{G})$				
DMABE – Enc	$(2l+2)\cdot E(\mathbb{G})+( \in \cdot( S_i +1)+ \notin \cdot R_i )\cdot M(\mathbb{G})+ \notin \cdot D(\mathbb{G})+2\cdot B+D(\mathbb{G}_T)$				
DMABE - Dec	$(2 I +1) \cdot B + [  \in_d   \cdot  S_i  +   \notin_d   \cdot ( R_i +2)] \cdot M(\mathbb{G}) +  I  \cdot M(\mathbb{G}_T) +  I  \cdot E(\mathbb{G}_T) +   \in_d   \cdot D(\mathbb{G}) + D(\mathbb{G}_T)$				

Table 5
Storage complexity of our ABE scheme

Storage complexity of our Tibe seneme.	
Algorithm	Storage/Communication complexity
Setup	$4l_{\mathbb{Z}_p}$ (for MK); $(m+3n+4) \cdot l_{\mathbb{G}}$ (for PK)
KeyGen	$( arPhi +1) \cdot l_{\mathbb{G}} \; ( ext{for } sk_{ij}^{(\phi)})$
DMABE – Enc	$(l \cdot b) \cdot l_{\mathbb{Z}_p} + (2l+2) \cdot l_{\mathbb{G}}$ (for $C_{\Pi}$ ); $l_{\mathbb{G}_T}$ (for $ek$ )
DMABE - Dec	$( I +2)\cdot l_{\mathbb{G}_T}$

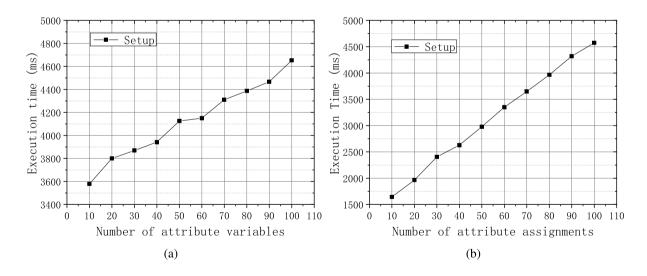


Fig. 1. Execution time of Setup.

For the algorithm **KeyGen**, we design an experiment to evaluate the execution time. In this experiment, the number of the user's attributes (i.e.,  $|\Phi|$ ) increases from 10 to 100. The experimental results are shown in Fig. 2.

As shown in Fig. 2, the execution time of **KeyGen** is about 221 ms–2182 ms, where  $|\Phi|$  increases from 10 to 100. It indicates that the execution time of **KeyGen** is directly proportional to  $|\Phi|$ .

Moreover, we carry out the experiments to evaluate the execution time of two algorithms, **DMABE-Enc** and **DMABE-Dec**, in two cases shown as follows:

- Case 1: In this case, all policies are set in the form,  $(A_1 \in S_1) \land (A_2 \notin R_2) \land \cdots \land (A_{l-1} \in S_{l-1}) \land (A_l \notin R_l)$ .
- Case 2: In this case, all policies are set in the form,  $(A_1 \in S_1) \vee (A_2 \notin R_2) \vee \cdots (A_{l-1} \in S_{l-1}) \vee (A_l \notin R_l)$ .

Note that, the user's attribute set should satisfy all predicates of the policy for decryption in Case 1 while only one predicate of the policy is required to be satisfied for decryption in Case 2.

For Case 1, we design two experiments with different parameters shown as follows:

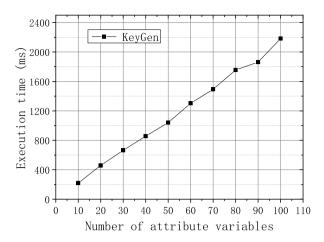


Fig. 2. Execution time of KeyGen.

- (1) The number of attributes in  $S_i$  or  $R_i$  for each predicate (we call it  $n_{att}$ ) in the policies is fixed to 10, while the number of predicates in the policies (i.e.,  $l = | \in | + | \notin |$ ) increases from 10 to 100. The execution time of **DMABE-Enc** and **DMABE-Dec** is shown in Fig. 3(a).
- (2) l is fixed to 50, while  $n_{att}$  increases from 10 to 100. The execution time of **DMABE-Enc** and **DMABE-Dec** is shown in Fig. 3(b).

Since all predicates involved in the policy should be satisfied for correct decryption in the worst situation, the number of attributes used for decryption equals to the number of predicates, i.e., |I| = l. In Fig. 3(a), the execution time of **DMABE-Enc** and **DMABE-Dec** raise linearly with the increasing l, and in Fig. 3(b), the execution time of these two algorithms is directly proportional for  $n_{att}$ . Specifically, in Fig. 3(a), the execution time of **DMABE-Enc** rises from 240 ms to 2142 ms, and the execution time of **DMABE-Dec** rises from 158 ms to 1878 ms, with the increase of l from 10 to 100. In Fig. 3(b), with increase of  $n_{att}$  from 10 to 100, the execution time of **DMABE-Enc** rises from 1084 ms to 1387 ms, and the one of **DMABE-Dec** rises from 814 ms to 1021 ms.

Similarly, we also evaluate the execution time of these two algorithms in Case 2. In this case, the experiments are designed with the parameters similar to Fig. 3(a) and (b), respectively. The experimental results are shown in Fig. 4.

As shown in Fig. 4(a), the execution time of **DMABE-Enc** raises linearly with the increasing l, while the one of **DMABE-Dec** is stable. The reason is that the correct decryption only requires that only one predicate in the policy is satisfied in this case, i.e., |I|=1. In details, with l increasing from 10 to 100, the execution time of **DMABE-Enc** rises from 241 ms to 2090 ms, but the one of **DMABE-Dec** is around 22 ms. As shown in Fig. 4(b), the execution time of **DMABE-Enc** and **DMABE-Dec** raises linearly with the increasing  $n_{att}$ , where, the execution time of **DMABE-Enc** rises from 1073 ms to 1291 ms, and that of **DMABE-Dec** raises from 21 ms to 26 ms.

## 4.3. Performance comparison

In this subsection, we present a comparison between our DM-ABE and some existing schemes in terms of the storage complexity of keys and ciphertexts, supporting logics and predicates, as well as hardness shown in Table 6. Here, suppose that |sk| and |C| denote the storage complexities of private key and ciphertext,

respectively. Then, we use d to denote the maximum number of multi-use of attributes in Tomida et al. (2020).

As shown in Table 6, Bethencourt et al. (2007) and Goyal et al. (2008) only support EL, and just can express AND/OR and equivalence decision (=). Comparing with Bethencourt et al. (2007) and Goyal et al. (2008), Waters (2011), Tsuchida et al. (2018), Yamada et al. (2014) and Tomida et al. (2020) can support NEL, where Tsuchida et al. (2018), Yamada et al. (2014) and Tomida et al. (2020) can express non-equivalence decision ( $\neq$ ), but Waters (2011) cannot. The reason is that Waters (2011) regards the negative attribute, e.g.  $\neg a$ , as an independent attribute. Suppose that x is an attribute variable, this scheme will express  $x \neq a$  into  $x = \neg a$ , which is still equivalence decision in essence. Being different form those schemes, our DM-ABE is more expressive because it supports DML, and can express various types of predicates,  $=, \neq, \in$  and  $\notin$ .

For the hardness, Bethencourt et al. (2007) is proven semantically secure under the generic group model. Goyal et al. (2008) is proven semantically secure under DBDH assumption in generic group model. Waters (2011) is proven semantically secure d-parallel BDHE assumption in standard model. Yamada et al. (2014) is proven semantically secure under n-(B) assumption in generic group model. Tomida et al. (2020) is proven secure under  $\mathcal{D}_k$ -MDDH assumption in random oracle model. Tsuchida et al. (2018) is proven secure under the q-DBDHE assumption in the standard model. Our DM-ABE is proven semantically secure under DBDHE assumption in standard model.

However, Table 6 cannot clearly reflect the outstanding advantage of DM-ABE on communication cost. Suppose that  $U = \{u_i\}_{i=1}^n$  is a set of n different assignments for x. We take Yamada et al. (2014) as an example, and use it to express two predicates,  $x \in U$  and  $x \notin U$ . The results are shown as follows:

- For  $x \in U$ , the scheme needs to divide it into n simple predicates  $x = u_i$ , and connects them by the logic symbol  $\vee$  to get  $(x = u_1) \vee (x = u_2) \vee \cdots \vee (x = u_n)$  involving n predicates and n-1 OR operators.
- For  $x \notin U$ , the scheme needs to divide it into n simple predicates  $x \neq u_i$ , and connects them by the logic symbol  $\wedge$  to get  $(x \neq u_1) \wedge (x \neq u_2) \wedge \cdots \wedge (x \neq u_n)$  involving n predicates and n-1 AND operators.

Clearly, Yamada et al. (2014) needs to divide  $x \in U$  or  $x \notin U$  into n simple predicates. It will result in the number of predicates increasing from 1 to n, and further raise the communication cost because each predicate will be converted into a subciphertext. Being different from the existing CP-ABE schemes, the DM-ABE scheme supports DML, and can efficiently express  $x \in U$  or  $x \notin U$  without dividing.

#### 5. Policy-driven data sharing architecture based on DM-ABE

## 5.1. Overview of PDDSA

Nowadays, many novel technologies, e.g., Internet of things (Fan, 2021b), cloud computing (Li et al., 2021a,b; Shantharajah and Maruthavani, 2021), improve the efficiency of data sharing, and enable data sharing more and more widespread in people's daily lives. However, how to overcome the security risk of private data is a popular challenge currently. To face this challenge, we propose the policy-driven data sharing architecture by integration of DM-ABE and Attribute-Based Access Control (ABAC) to provide protection for private data. The model framework of the proposed PDDSA is given in Fig. 5. Here, PDDSA includes two mechanisms, i.e., access control mechanism and ciphertext sharing mechanism, their details are shown as follows:

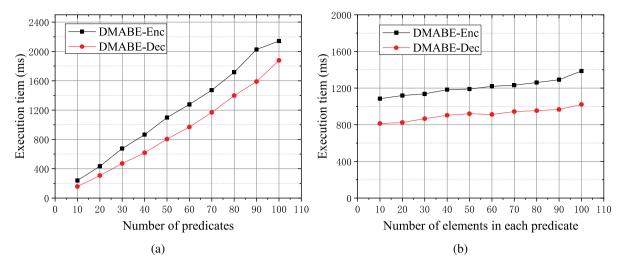


Fig. 3. Execution time of DMABE-Enc and DMABE-Dec in the worst situation.

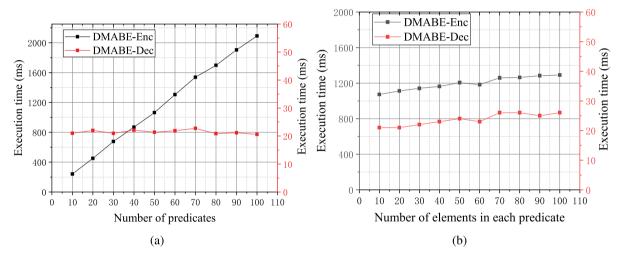


Fig. 4. Execution time of DMABE-Enc and DMABE-Dec in the best situation.

**Table 6**The comparison between DM-ABE and some existing ABE schemes.

Scheme	sk	C	٨	٧	=	#	€	∉	Supporting logics	Hardness
Bethencourt et al. (2007)	$O( \Phi )$	O(l)	✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	EL	General group model (Boneh et al., 2005)
Goyal et al. (2008)	$O( \Phi  \cdot l^{3.42})$	$O(m \cdot l^{3.42})$	✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	EL	DBDH (Sahai and Waters, 2005)
Waters (2011)	$O( \Phi )$	O( <i>l</i> )	✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	EL, NEL	d-parallel BDHE (Waters, 2011)
Yamada et al. (2014)	$O( \Phi )$	O(l)	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	EL, NEL	n - (B) (Yamada et al., 2014)
Tomida et al. (2020)	$O( \Phi )$	O(l) + O(d)	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	EL, NEL	$\mathcal{D}_k$ -MDDH (Escala et al., 2017)
Tsuchida et al. (2018)	$O( \Phi )$	O( <i>l</i> )	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	EL, NEL	q-DBDHE (Rouselakis and Waters, 2013)
Ours	$O( \Phi )$	O( <i>l</i> )	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	$\checkmark$	DML	DBDHE (Xie and Ren, 2014)

- Access control mechanism: It corresponds to the orange, the lavender and the green rectangular boxes in Fig. 5. This mechanism is designed on basis of ABAC, because ABAC can provide high flexibility, rich semantics, fine granularity and other properties. Being different from the other access control models, ABAC regards an attribute as the minimum authorization unit, and makes authorization decision by policies and various types of attributes including Subject (Sub), Object (Obj), Action (Act) and Environment (Env). ABAC model can be implemented by XACML language, as shown in Fig. 6. PEP is used to interpret the user's requests. PDP is applied to make authorization decision. PAP and PIP are responsible for management of policy and attribute
- repositories, respectively. PEP and PDP construct the socalled Authorization Services. When a user sends a request to an edge node through a terminal, the PEP of this node interprets this request into the one in the XACML form, and sends it to PDP. The PDP queries the corresponding access policy and attribute set from PAP and PIP, respectively. Then PDP makes authorization decision according to them, and returns the decision result to the PEP. Finally, the PEP performs this request if it is permitted.
- **Ciphertext sharing mechanism**: It is on the basis of the DM-ABE scheme, because of the high expressivity on DMI-type predicates. Under this mechanism, private data is shared in a ciphertext form between edge nodes to avoid

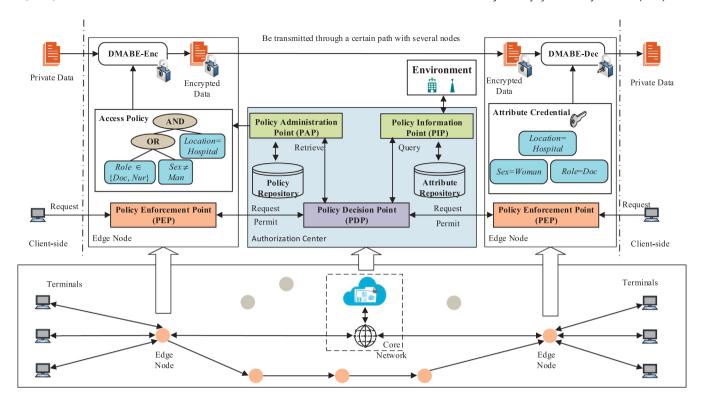


Fig. 5. The model framework of PDDSA. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

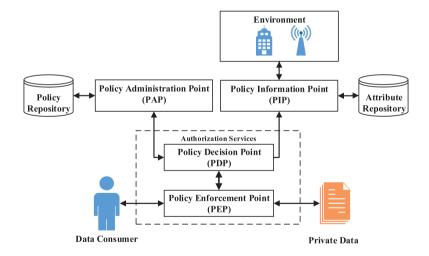


Fig. 6. The model framework of distributed ABAC.

the potential security risks, e.g., privacy leakage. More concretely, private data is issued after it is automatically encrypted into the ciphertext through DM-ABE under the policy of ABAC/XACML. For the receiver, the ciphertext can be decrypted if and only if his/her attribute credentials satisfy the policy.

In PDDSA, the core components include edge nodes and core network, where PEP is deployed in edge node, while the core network consists of PDP, PAP and PIP. We give their details shown as follows:

- Edge nodes: which are used for implementing 3 functionalities. The first one is encryption and decryption of data. When a user's request is permitted, PEP automatically encrypts or decrypts data for this user. The second one is storage of encrypted data. The third one is the transmission of encrypted data. If a request for accessing certain encrypted data is permitted, the edge node that possesses the data will transmit the data to the target edge node through a specified path.
- Core network: which is applied for authorization decision, and includes PDP, PAP and PIP. When PEP sends some requests to the core network, the PDP will make decision for

these requests with the help of the PAP and the PIP. Moreover, the policy and attribute repositories can be deployed in a certain platform, e.g., cloud.

#### 5.2. Workflow of PDDSA

In this paper, we assume that requests of users only include two basic operations, i.e., *Issue* (for issuing private data) and *Acquire* (for acquiring private data), in our PDDSA. For these two types of requests, PDDSA provides two processes for data issuing and data acquiring. Before description of them, we assume **Setup**() and **KeyGen**() have been invoked, so each of users shares the DM-ABE cryptographic system and public key PK, and further obtains his/her own private key  $sk_{\phi}^{(k)}$ .

**The process of data issuing**: For a data issuing request made by a user, it can be performed only if this user's attribute credentials satisfy a specified policy. The steps are shown as follows:

- Step 1. A user sends his/her data issuing request to an edge node through a terminal. The PEP in this node interprets it into *Req*, i.e., *Req* ← **PEP**(*Sub*, *Act* = *Issue*, *Obj*, *Env*), and then sends *Req* to PDP.
- Step 2. After the PDP receives Req, the PDP firstly queries the policies from PAP, i.e.,  $(\Pi_S, \Pi_O) \leftarrow \mathbf{PDP}^{\mathrm{PAP}}(Req)$ , where  $\Pi_S$  is the policy for Req,  $\Pi_O$  is the access policy for the private data *Obj.data* corresponding to *Obj.* Furthermore, the PDP queries the attribute set Att form PIP, i.e.,  $Att \leftarrow \mathbf{PDP}^{\mathrm{PIP}}(\Pi_S, Req)$ . Finally, the PDP makes an authorization decision according to  $\Pi_S$  and Att, i.e.,  $Aut \leftarrow \mathbf{PDP}(\Pi_S, Att)$ , where  $Aut \in \{0, 1\}$ , if Aut = 1, this request is permitted; otherwise, it is denied.
- Step 3. If Aut=1, the PDP sends Aut and  $\Pi_0$  to the PEP. This PEP performs  $(ek, C_{\Pi_0}) \leftarrow \mathbf{DMABE} \mathbf{Enc}(PK, \Pi_0)$  to generate the session key ek and ciphertext  $C_{\Pi_0}$ . Furthermore, the PEP encrypts Obj.data into  $C_0$  by ek through a certain symmetric encryption algorithm. Finally, PEP destroys ek, Obj.data and saves the encrypted data  $C_0$ ,  $C_{\Pi_0}$ . Otherwise, the PEP denies this request.

**The process of data acquiring:** For a data acquiring request made by a user, it can be performed only if this user's attribute credentials satisfy a specified access policy. The steps are shown as follows:

- Step 1. A user sends his/her data acquiring request to an edge node, and the PEP in this node interprets it into *Req*, i.e., *Req* ← **PEP**(*Sub*, *Act* = *Acquire*, *Obj*, *Env*) further sends *Req* to PDP.
- Step 2. After the PDP receives Req, it subsequently performs  $\Pi_0 \leftarrow \mathbf{PDP}^{\mathsf{PAP}}(Req)$  and  $Att \leftarrow \mathbf{PDP}^{\mathsf{PIP}}(\Pi_0, Req)$ , where  $\Pi_0$  is the access policy for Obj.data. Furthermore, the PDP performs  $Aut \leftarrow \mathbf{PDP}(\Pi_0, Att)$  for this request.
- Step 3. If Aut = 1, the PDP sends Aut to the PEP, and the encrypted data  $C_0$ ,  $C_{\Pi_0}$  is transmitted to the PEP through a certain path. Then, the PEP obtains the user's  $sk_{\Phi}^{(k)}$ , and performs  $ek \leftarrow \mathbf{DMABE} \mathbf{Dec}(sk_{\Phi}^{(k)}, C_{\Pi_0})$ . Moreover, the PEP decrypts  $C_0$  into Obj.data by ek through the corresponding symmetric decryption algorithm. Finally, the PEP returns Obj.data to this user. Otherwise, the PEP denies this request.

In this section, we give the PDDSA and two processes of data issuing and acquiring. In PDDSA, the access control mechanism can be provided for data sharing with high flexibility and fine granularity. Moreover, the ciphertext sharing mechanism based on DM-ABE can provide automatic encryption and decryption of private data according to access policies, without the data owner's intervention. Moreover, this mechanism supports the expression

for various types of predicates, e.g., =,  $\neq$ ,  $\in$  and  $\notin$ , because of the high expressivity of DM-ABE.

#### 6. Conclusion

The existing ABE schemes has a low expressivity on DMLtype predicate, and just support simple predicates = and  $\neq$ . To improve the expressivity, we construct the DM-ABE scheme. In order to implement the DM-ABE, the SDM algorithm is designed by aggregation functions to securely decide the membership between the verified element and the given set. In this algorithm, any element and set will be converted into a cryptographic element. Furthermore, we construct the DM-ABE based on SDM. Due to the good expressivity of our DM-ABE, a new cryptographic data sharing framework by integrating DM-ABE and ABAC is designed to provide fine-grained access control and security protection for private data. Moreover, we prove that the proposed scheme satisfies semantic security in the standard model under DBDHE assumption. The performance analysis and comparison show that our DM-ABE has a better expressive ability for DML than the existing ABE schemes.

## **Declaration of competing interest**

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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