# Efficient CCA-secure Threshold Public-Key Encryption Scheme

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Abstract: In threshold public-key encryption, the decryption key is divided into n shares, each one of which is given to a different decryption user in order to avoid single points of failure. In this study, we propose a simple and efficient non-interactive threshold public-key encryption scheme by using the hashed Diffie-Hellman assumption in bilinear groups. Compared with the other related constructions, the proposed scheme is more efficient.

**Key words:** Threshold public-key encryption; Chosen-ciphertext security; Hashed Diffie-Hellman assumption; CCA-secure

### 1 Introduction

In a threshold public-key encryption scheme, the private key corresponding to a public key is shared among a set of n decryption users. In such a scheme, a message is encrypted and sent to a group of decryption users, in such a way that the cooperation of at least t of them (where t is the threshold) is necessary in order to recover the original message. Moreover, no information about the message is leaked, even if the number of the corrupted users is up to t - 1. Such schemes have many applications in situations where one cannot fully trust a unique person, but possibly a pool of individuals, such as electronic voting, electronic auctions, key-escrow, etc.

In a non-interactive threshold public-key encryption scheme, no communication is needed amongst the decryption users performing the partial decryptions. Furthermore, such schemes are often required to be robust in that if threshold decryption of a valid ciphertext fails, the combiner can identify the decryption users who supply invalid partial decryption shares. Recently, we have seen many studies of such schemes in the crypto/security community [1, 3, 5, 7, 8].

In this study, we propose a more efficient non-interactive threshold public-key encryption scheme than the other related constructions, and the proposed scheme is proved to be CCA-secure under the hashed Diffie-Hellman (HDH) assumption in bilinear groups [2, 5].

In the proposed scheme, the decryption user needs to verify the ciphertext C before attempting to generate its partial decryption share. This validity check which is performed using two exponentiations in group  $\mathcal{G}$  is more efficient than that in the other related construc-

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tions in which the pairing computation is employed. Moreover, each of partial decryption share will be verified before running *Combine* algorithm.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows: After recalling the relevant technical definitions in the next section, the definitions and the security models of the threshold public-key encryption scheme are given in Section 3. In Section 4 and Section 5, we propose a more efficient non-interactive threshold public-key encryption scheme based on HDH assumption in bilinear groups, and then prove its security. Furthermore, the comparisons with the related constructions are given in Section 6 which is followed by the last section to conclude our works.

# 2 Preliminaries

#### 2.1 Bilinear Pairing

Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be an additive group of prime order  $p, \mathcal{F}$  be a multiplicative group of the same order. Bilinear pairing is a map  $\hat{e}: \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G} \to \mathcal{F}$  which satisfies the following properties:

- Bilinearity: given any  $g,h \in \mathcal{G}$  and  $a,b \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , we have  $\hat{e}(g^a,g^b) = \hat{e}(g,g)^{ab} = \hat{e}(g^{ab},g), etc.$
- Non-Degeneracy: There exists a  $g \in \mathcal{G}$  such that  $\hat{e}(g,g) \neq 1$ .
- Computability:  $\hat{e}(g,h)$  can be computed in polynomial time.

#### 2.2 HDH Assumption

Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a group of prime order p and g be a generator of  $\mathcal{G}$ . Let H be a one-way hash function  $H: \mathcal{G} \to \{0,1\}^l$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary. We define HDH advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\mathcal{G}$  at a security parameter  $\lambda$  as

$$Adv_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{G}}^{HDH}(\lambda) = |Pr[\mathcal{A}(g, g^{a}, g^{b}, H(g^{ab})) = 1] - Pr[\mathcal{A}(g, g^{a}, g^{b}, T \in_{R} \{0, 1\}^{l}) = 1]|.$$

The HDH assumption is that for every polynomial-time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , the function  $Adv_{\mathcal{A}\mathcal{G}}^{HDH}(\lambda)$  is negligible.

#### 2.3 Lagrange Interpolation

Let  $f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{t-1} a_j x^j$  be a polynomial over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  with degree t-1 where p is a prime, and let  $(x_1, f(x_1)), (x_2, f(x_2)), \cdots, (x_t, f(x_t))$  be t distinct points over f(x).

Then, given  $(x_1, f(x_1)), (x_2, f(x_2)), \dots, (x_t, f(x_t)), f(x)$  can be reconstructed as follows

$$f(x) = f(x_1)\lambda_{x_1}^x + f(x_2)\lambda_{x_2}^x + \dots + f(x_t)\lambda_{x_t}^x,$$

where

$$\lambda_{x_j}^x = \frac{(x-x_1)\cdots(x-x_{j-1})(x-x_{j+1})\cdots(x-x_t)}{(x_j-x_1)\cdots(x_j-x_{j-1})(x_j-x_{j+1})\cdots(x_j-x_t)},$$

for any  $1 \leq j \leq t$ .

# 3 Definitions

We follow the notation of CCA-secure threshold public-key encryption scheme from [5]. A threshold public-key encryption scheme consists of six algorithms.

- 1. Setup $(n, t, \lambda)$ : Takes as input the number of decryption users n, a threshold t, where  $1 \leq t \leq n$ , a security parameter  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}$ . It outputs a triple (PK, SK, VK), where PK is the public key,  $SK = (SK_1, \dots, SK_n)$  is a vector of n secret keys and  $VK = (VK_1, \dots, VK_n)$  is the corresponding vector of verification keys. The verification key  $VK_i$  is used to check the validity of partial decryption shares generated by using  $SK_i$ . The secret key  $SK_i$  is secretly given to the *i*th user, for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .
- 2. Encrypt(PK, M): Takes as input the public key PK and a message M to be encrypted. It outputs ciphertext C.
- 3. ValidateCT(PK, C): Takes as input the public key PK, and ciphertext C. It checks whether C is a valid ciphertext with respect to PK.
- 4. ShareDecrypt( $PK, i, SK_i, C$ ): Takes as input the public key PK, ciphertext C, a decryption user i and its secret key  $SK_i$ . It outputs a partial decryption share  $\sigma_i = (i, \vartheta_i)$ , or a special symbol  $(i, \bot)$  if C is invalid.
- 5. ShareVerify $(PK, VK_i, C, \sigma_i)$ : Takes as input the public key PK, the verification key  $VK_i$ , as well as ciphertext C and partial decryption share  $\sigma_i$ . It checks whether  $\sigma_i$  is a valid partial decryption share with respect to  $VK_i$  and C.
- 6. Combine  $(PK, VK, C, \Omega)$ : Takes as input the public key PK, the verification key VK, as well as ciphertext C, and  $\Omega = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_t)$  a list of t partial decryption shares. It outputs plaintext M or  $\perp$ .

We require, for all ciphertext C, **ShareVerify** $(PK, VK_i, C,$ **ShareDecrypt** $(PK, i, SK_i, C)$ ) = valid. In addition, let  $\Omega = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_t)$  be t distinct valid decryption shares of C, where C =**Encrypt**(PK, M), then we require **Combine** $(PK, VK, C, \Omega) = M$ .

Security against chosen ciphertext attack is defined using the following game between an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and a challenger  $\mathcal{R}$ , and both of them are given as input the system parameters  $n, t, \lambda \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $t \leq n$ .

- Init: The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a set  $S \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$  of t-1 decryption users to corrupt.
- Setup: The challenger  $\mathcal{R}$  runs Setup $(n, t, \lambda)$  algorithm to obtain a triple (PK, SK, VK), where  $SK = (SK_1, \dots, SK_n)$  and  $VK = (VK_1, \dots, VK_n)$ . It gives PK, VK and all  $(j, SK_j)$  (where  $j \in S$ ) to adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- Phase 1: Adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  adaptively issues ShareDecrypt queries with (i, C), where  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $C \in \{0, 1\}^*$ .

Challenger  $\mathcal{R}$  runs the **ShareDecrypt** algorithm using  $C, SK_i$  to get  $\sigma_i$ , and gives  $\sigma_i$  to adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ .

- Challenge: Adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs two equal length messages  $M_0$  and  $M_1$ . Challenger  $\mathcal{R}$  picks a random bit  $\delta \in \{0, 1\}$ , and sends  $C^* = \text{Encrypt}(PK, M_{\delta})$  to adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- Phase 2: Adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  makes further queries as in Phase 1 but is not allowed to make ShareDecrypt queries on  $C^*$ .
- Guess: Finally, adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a guess  $\delta' \in \{0, 1\}$  and wins the game if  $\delta = \delta'$ .

## 4 The Proposed Scheme

#### 4.1 Construction

- Setup(n, t, λ): The trust center generates the system parameters (p, G, F, ê) by running the group generator algorithm. It then does the following:
  - 1. Pick two generators  $g, X \in_R \mathcal{G}$ .
  - 2. Pick two hash functions  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ , where  $H_1 : \{0,1\}^l \times \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G} \to \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  is a secure hash function and  $H_2 : \mathcal{G} \to \{0,1\}^l$  is a random instance of a hash function such that the HDH assumption holds in bilinear groups.
  - 3. Pick a random polynomial  $f(x) = a + \sum_{j=1}^{t-1} a_j x^j$  with degree t-1 (where  $a, a_1, \dots, a_{t-1} \in_R \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , t is the value of threshold).
  - 4. Compute  $SK_i = f(i)$  and  $VK_i = X^{f(i)}$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .
  - 5. Let  $g_1 = g^a$ .
  - 6. Publish system parameters  $PK = (p, \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{F}, \hat{e}, g, g_1, X, H_1, H_2)$  and verification key  $VK = (VK_1, \cdots, VK_n)$ . Secret key  $SK_i$  is given to user *i* privately, for  $i = 1, \cdots, n$ .
- Encrypt(*PK*, *M*): To encrypt  $M \in \{0, 1\}^l$ , this algorithm picks  $k, r \in_R \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , and computes

$$C_0 = M \oplus H_2(g_1^k),$$
  
 $C_1 = g^k, C_2 = g^r,$   
 $\beta = kH_1(C_0, C_1, C_2) + r \pmod{p-1}.$ 

The output is  $C = (C_0, C_1, C_2, \beta)$ .

• ValidateCT(PK, C): To validate ciphertext  $C = (C_0, C_1, C_2, \beta)$ , this algorithm checks whether

$$g^{\beta} = C_2 \cdot C_1^{H_1(C_0, C_1, C_2)}$$

- ShareDecrypt( $PK, i, SK_i, C$ ): Decryption user *i* uses its secret key  $SK_i = f(i)$  to partially decrypt ciphertext  $C = (C_0, C_1, C_2, \beta)$  as follows:
  - 1. Run ValidateCT(*PK*, *C*) algorithm to check whether or not *C* is a valid ciphertext. If the verification fails, it outputs  $\sigma_i = (i, \bot)$ ;
  - 2. Otherwise, compute  $\vartheta_i = C_1^{f(i)}$  and output partial decryption share  $\sigma_i = (i, \vartheta_i)$ .

• ShareVerify $(PK, VK_i, C, \sigma_i)$ : To verify a partial decryption share  $\sigma_i$  with respect to ciphertext  $C = (C_0, C_1, C_2, \beta)$  under verification key  $VK_i$ , this algorithm firstly runs ValidateCT(PK, C) to check whether C is a valid ciphertext. If C and  $\sigma_i$  are well formed, it checks whether the following equation holds:

$$\hat{e}(\vartheta_i, X) = \hat{e}(C_1, VK_i).$$

- **Combine** $(PK, VK, C, \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_t\})$ : To decrypt ciphertext  $C = (C_0, C_1, C_2, \beta)$  using the partial decryption shares  $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_t\}$ , this algorithm firstly checks whether  $\sigma_i = (i, \vartheta_i)$  is valid by running **ShareVerify** $(PK, VK_i, C, \sigma_i)$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, t$ . Then, it performs as follows:
  - 1. Determine the Lagrange coefficients  $(\lambda_1^0, \lambda_2^0, \cdots, \lambda_t^0) \in \mathbb{Z}_q^t$ , and then compute

$$\mu = \prod_{i=1}^{t} (\vartheta_i)^{\lambda_i^0}.$$

2. Compute and output  $M = C_0 \oplus H_2(\mu)$  to decrypt  $C = (C_0, C_1, C_2, \beta)$  with  $\mu$ .

#### 4.2 Correctness

If the ciphertext  $C = (C_0, C_1, C_2, \beta)$  and partial decryptions  $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_t\}$  are valid, the **Combine** algorithm will output the correct plaintext.

$$\mu = \prod_{i=1}^{t} (\vartheta_i)^{\lambda_i^0} \\
= \prod_{i=1}^{t} (C_1^{f(i)})^{\lambda_i^0} \\
= C_1^{\sum_{i=1}^{t} f(i)\lambda_i^0} \\
= C_1^{f(0)} \\
= C_1^a, \\ C_0 \oplus H_2(\mu) = C_0 \oplus H_2(C_1^a) \\
= C_0 \oplus H_2((g^k)^a) \\
= C_0 \oplus H_2(g_1^k) \\
= (M \oplus H_2(g_1^k)) \oplus H_2(g_1^k) \\
= M.$$

### 5 Security

**Theorem 1** Assume that  $H_1$  is a random oracle and  $H_2$  is a random instance of a hash function such that the HDH assumption holds in bilinear groups. Suppose that there exists a polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  that breaks chosen-ciphertext security of the proposed scheme with non-negligible advantage. We show that there exists an algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  that runs in polynomial time and runs adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  as a subroutine to break the HDH assumption in bilinear groups.

*Proof*: The algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  is given group parameters  $(p, g, \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{F}, \hat{e})$  and a random HDH instance tuple  $(g, g^a, g^b, T, H_2)$ , where T is equal to  $H_2(g^{ab})$  or a random element in  $\{0, 1\}^l$ .

If T is equal to  $H_2(g^{ab})$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  outputs 1; otherwise, it outputs 0. Set  $g_1 = g^a$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  performs by interacting with the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in the following game:

- Init: The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  chooses a set S of t-1 decryption users that it wants to corrupt. Without loss of generality, we let  $S = \{1, \dots, t-1\} \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ .
- Setup:  $\mathcal{B}$  does as follows:
  - 1. Pick  $x \in_R \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  and compute  $X = g^x$ , and then give  $(p, \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{F}, \hat{e}, g, g_1, X)$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  as the system parameters. Two lists  $H_1$ -list and  $H_2$ -list are maintained by  $\mathcal{B}$  to answer  $H_1$  oracle queries and  $H_2$  oracle queries, respectively.
  - 2. Pick integers  $a_i \in_R \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  where  $i = 1, \dots, t-1$ . Note that there exists an interpolation polynomial f(x) with degree t-1, such that f(0) = a and  $f(i) = a_i$ . However,  $\mathcal{B}$  does not know f(x) since it does not know a.  $\mathcal{B}$  gives the t-1 secret keys  $SK_i = f(i) = a_i$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
  - 3. Construct the verification key  $VK = (VK_1, \dots, VK_n)$  as follows:
    - (a) For  $i \in S$ ,  $VK_i = X^{a_i}$  since  $f(i) = a_i$  which is known to  $\mathcal{B}$ .
    - (b) For  $i \notin S$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  computes the Lagrange coefficients  $\lambda_0^i, \lambda_1^i, \dots, \lambda_{t-1}^i \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ , and sets  $VK_i = g_1^{x\lambda_0^i} X^{a_1\lambda_1^i} \cdots X^{a_{t-1}\lambda_{t-1}^i}$ . We claim that  $VK_i$  is a valid verification key of the decryption user *i*. To verify the correctness, we have that

$$VK_{i} = g_{1}^{x\lambda_{0}^{i}} X^{a_{1}\lambda_{1}^{i}} \cdots X^{a_{t-1}\lambda_{t-1}^{i}}$$
  
$$= X^{a\lambda_{0}^{i}} X^{a_{1}\lambda_{1}^{i}} \cdots X^{a_{t-1}\lambda_{t-1}^{i}}$$
  
$$= X^{a\lambda_{0}^{i}+a_{1}\lambda_{1}^{i}+\dots+a_{t-1}\lambda_{t-1}^{i}}$$
  
$$= X^{f(0)\lambda_{0}^{i}+f(1)\lambda_{1}^{i}+\dots+f(t-1)\lambda_{t-1}^{i}}$$
  
$$= X^{f(i)}$$

 $\mathcal{B}$  gives the verification key VK to the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ .

- Phase 1:  $\mathcal{A}$  can adaptively issue the following queries:
  - $H_1$ -query: After receiving  $(C_0, C_1, C_2)$  from  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  performs as follows: If there exists an item  $[C_0, C_1, C_2, h_1]$  in the  $H_1$ -list with respect to  $(C_0, C_1, C_2)$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  responds with  $h_1$ ; otherwise,  $\mathcal{B}$  picks  $h_1 \in_R \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , stores  $[C_0, C_1, C_2, h_1]$  into the  $H_1$ -list and responds with  $h_1$ .
  - $H_2$ -query: After receiving  $\gamma$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  performs as follows: If there exists an item  $[\gamma, h_2]$  in the  $H_2$ -list with respect to  $\gamma$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  responds with  $h_2$ ; otherwise,  $\mathcal{B}$  computes  $h_2 = H_2(\gamma)$ , stores  $[\gamma, h_2]$  into the  $H_2$ -list and responds with  $h_2$ .
  - ShareDecrypt-query:  $\mathcal{A}$  issues decryption queries of the form (i, C), where  $C = (C_0, C_1, C_2, \beta)$  and  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . For each such decryption query,  $\mathcal{B}$  performs as follows:
    - 1. Check whether  $g^{\beta} = C_2 \cdot C_1^{H_1(C_0, C_1, C_2)}$ . If not, respond with  $\sigma_i = (i, \bot)$ ;
    - 2. Otherwise, perform as follows: If  $i \in S$ , compute  $\vartheta_i = C_1^{a_i}$ . Then, we have that  $\vartheta_i = C_1^{f(i)}$  since  $f(i) = a_i$  which is known to  $\mathcal{B}$ .

If  $i \notin S$ , compute the Lagrange coefficients  $\lambda_0^i, \lambda_1^i, \dots, \lambda_{t-1}^i \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ . Suppose  $C_1 = g^k$ . Since  $H_2$  is a random oracle, the probability of computing  $H_2(g_1^k)$  without issuing  $H_2$ -query is negligible. Then, we claim that there exists an item  $[\gamma = g_1^k = g^{ak}, H_2(\gamma)]$  in the  $H_2$ -list if the equation  $\hat{e}(\vartheta_i, X) = \hat{e}(C_1, VK_i)$  holds, where  $\vartheta_i = \gamma^{\lambda_0^i} C_1^{\sum_{j=1}^{t-1} a_j \lambda_j^i}$ . The correctness is given as follows:

For  $\vartheta_i = \gamma^{\lambda_0^i} C_1^{\sum_{j=1}^{t-1} a_j \lambda_j^i}$ , we have the following two equations:

$$\hat{e}(\vartheta_{i}, X) = \hat{e}(\gamma^{\lambda_{0}^{i}}C_{1}^{\sum_{j=1}^{t-1}a_{j}\lambda_{j}^{i}}, X) 
\hat{e}(C_{1}, VK_{i}) = \hat{e}(C_{1}, X^{f(i)}) 
= \hat{e}(C_{1}^{f(i)}, X) 
= \hat{e}(C_{1}^{a\lambda_{0}^{i}+\sum_{j=1}^{t-1}a_{j}\lambda_{j}^{i}}, X) 
= \hat{e}(C_{1}^{a\lambda_{0}^{i}}C_{1}^{\sum_{j=1}^{t-1}a_{j}\lambda_{j}^{i}}, X) 
= \hat{e}((g_{1}^{k})^{\lambda_{0}^{i}}C_{1}^{\sum_{j=1}^{t-1}a_{j}\lambda_{j}^{i}}, X)$$

Then, the equation  $\gamma = g_1^k = g^{ak}$  holds.

 $\mathcal{B}$  sends  $\sigma_i = (i, \vartheta_i)$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ . We claim that  $\sigma_i$  is a valid partial decryption about  $C = (C_0, C_1, C_2, \beta)$ . To verify the correctness, we have that

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \vartheta_{i} & = & \gamma^{\lambda_{0}^{i}} C_{1}^{\sum_{j=1}^{t-1} a_{j}\lambda_{j}^{i}} \\ & = & (g_{1}^{k})^{\lambda_{0}^{i}} C_{1}^{\sum_{j=1}^{t-1} a_{j}\lambda_{j}^{i}} \\ & = & (g^{ak})^{\lambda_{0}^{i}} C_{1}^{\sum_{j=1}^{t-1} a_{j}\lambda_{j}^{i}} \\ & = & (g^{k})^{a\lambda_{0}^{i}} C_{1}^{\sum_{j=1}^{t-1} a_{j}\lambda_{j}^{i}} \\ & = & C_{1}^{a\lambda_{0}^{i} + \sum_{j=1}^{t-1} a_{j}\lambda_{j}^{i}} \\ & = & C_{1}^{f(i)} \end{array}$$

• Challenge:  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs two equal length messages  $M_0$  and  $M_1$  on which it wishes to be challenged.  $\mathcal{B}$  picks  $\delta \in_R \{0, 1\}$  and  $\beta^* \in_R \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , and computes as follows:

$$C_0^* = M_\delta \oplus T, C_1^* = g^b, C_2^* = g^{\beta^*} / (g^b)^{H_1(C_0^*, C_1^*, C_2^*)}$$

If  $T = H_2(g^{ab}) = H_2((g^a)^b)$ , the challenge ciphertext  $C^* = (C_0^*, C_1^*, C_2^*, \beta^*)$  given to the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is a valid ciphertext on  $M_{\delta}$ . To verify the correctness, we have that

$$\begin{array}{rcl} C_{0}^{*} & = & M_{\delta} \oplus T \\ & = & M_{\delta} \oplus H_{2}((g^{a})^{b}) \\ & = & M_{\delta} \oplus H_{2}(g^{b}) \\ C_{1}^{*} & = & g^{b} \\ C_{2}^{*} & = & g^{\beta^{*}}/(g^{b})^{H_{1}(C_{0}^{*},C_{1}^{*},C_{2}^{*})} \\ & = & g^{\beta^{*}-bH_{1}(C_{0}^{*},C_{1}^{*},C_{2}^{*})} \\ & = & g^{r} \end{array}$$

where  $r = \beta^* - bH_1(C_0^*, C_1^*, C_2^*)$ , i.e.  $\beta^* = bH_1(C_0^*, C_1^*, C_2^*) + r$ .

- Phase 2:  $\mathcal{A}$  continues to issue further decryption queries (i, C) under the constraint that  $C \neq C^*$ .
- Guess: Eventually,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a guess bit  $\delta' \in \{0, 1\}$  for  $\delta$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  concludes its own game by outputting a guess as follows.

If  $\delta' = \delta$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  outputs 1 meaning that  $T = H_2(g^{ab})$ ; otherwise, it outputs 0 meaning  $T \neq H_2(g^{ab})$ .

We can see that  $\mathcal{B}$  can break the HDH assumption in bilinear groups with non-negligible advantage in polynomial time if  $\mathcal{A}$  wins the game.

# 6 Comparisons

The comparison with other related constructions [1, 3, 5, 7, 8] is given in Table 1, where AT09<sub>1</sub> and AT09<sub>2</sub> denote two constructions, TPKE1 and TPKE2 in [1], respectively. Let  $e_N$  denote the pairing with composite order  $N = p_1 p_2 p_3$ , which is about 50 times of that for computing  $e_p$  which denotes the pairing with prime order p [4]. Let E denote the exponentiation over finite fields which is more efficient than the pairing computation. The time of executing the *ValidateCT* algorithm in the *ShareVerify* algorithm is not counted, since the time of checking the validity of ciphertext is included in the *ShareDecrypt* algorithm.

With the comparison, we claim that the proposed scheme is more efficient than the other related constructions, especially in *Encrypt* and *ShareDecrypt*.

Table 1: Efficiency comparisons					
Scheme	Setup	Encrypt	ShareDecrypt	ShareVerify	Combine
AT09 <sub>1</sub> $[1]$	(n+3)E	$1e_p + 4E$	$2e_p + 2E$	$2e_p$	$1e_p + tE$
$AT09_2$ [1]	(2n+4)E	7E	$4e_p + 3E$	$4e_p$	tE
BBH06 [3]	2nE	$1e_p + 4E$	$2e_p + 4E$	$3e_p + 1E$	$2e_p + 2tE$
LDLK10 [7]	$1e_p + (2n+1)E$	5E	$2e_p + 6E$	$3e_p + 2E$	$2e_p + 2tE$
LY11 [8]	$(n+1)e_N + nE$	4E	$4e_N + 4E$	$2e_N + 1E$	$2e_N + 2tE$
GWWPY13 [5]	nE	5E	$2e_p + 3E$	$2e_p$	tE
Ours	nE	3E	3E	$2e_p$	tE

Table 1: Efficiency comparisons

# 7 Conclusions

In this study, we proposed a simple and efficient non-interactive threshold public-key encryption scheme based on the HDH assumption in bilinear groups, and proved its security. Compared with the other related constructions, the proposed scheme is more efficient.

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