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# Simulation without the Artificial Abort: Simplified Proof and Improved Concrete Security for Waters' IBE Scheme

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## Abstract

Waters' variant of the Boneh-Boyen IBE scheme is attractive because of its efficiency, applications, and security attributes, but suffers from a relatively complex proof with poor concrete security. This is due in part to the proof's "artificial abort" step, which has then been inherited by numerous derivative works. It has often been asked whether this step is necessary. We show that it is not, providing a new proof that eliminates this step. The new proof is not only simpler than the original one but offers better concrete security for important ranges of the parameters. As a result, one can securely use smaller groups, resulting in significant efficiency improvements.

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# 1 Introduction

The importance of identity-based encryption (IBE) as a cryptographic primitive stems from its widespread deployment and the numerous applications enabled by it. Since the initial work on providing realizations of IBE [8, 17], improving the efficiency, security, and extensibility of the fundamental primitive has consequently received substantial attention from the research community. A challenging problem has been to arrive at a practical IBE scheme with a tight security reduction under standard assumptions. (The most attractive target being DBDH without relying on random oracles.) While a typical approach for progressing towards this goal is proposing new constructions, in this paper we take another route: improving the concrete security of existing constructions. This requires providing better proofs of security and analyzing the impact of their tighter reductions.

WHY CONCRETE SECURITY? Informally speaking, consider an IBE scheme with a security reduction showing that attacking the scheme in time  $t$  with success probability  $\epsilon$  implies breaking some believed-to-be hard problem in time  $t + \omega_1$  with success probability  $\epsilon' \geq \epsilon/\omega_2$ . Tightness of the reduction refers to the value of  $\omega_1$  (the overhead in time needed to solve the hard problem using the scheme attacker) and of  $\omega_2$  (the amount by which the success probability decreases). Unlike asymptotic treatments, provably-secure IBE has a history of utilizing concrete security, meaning specifying  $\omega_1$  and  $\omega_2$  explicitly. Concrete-security for IBE started with Boneh and Franklin [8] and has been continued in subsequent works, e.g. [6, 7, 9, 36, 21, 25] to name just a few.

As Gentry points out [21], concrete security and tight reductions are not just theoretical issues for IBE, rather they are of utmost practical import: the speed of implementations increases as  $\omega_1$  and/or  $\omega_2$  decrease. This is because security guarantees are lost unless the size of groups used to implement a scheme grow to account for the magnitude of these values. In turn group size dictates performance: exponentiations in a group whose elements can be represented in  $r$  bits takes roughly  $\mathcal{O}(r^3)$  time. As a concrete example, this means that performing four 160-bit group exponentiations can be significantly faster than a *single* 256-bit group exponentiation. In practice even a factor of two efficiency slow-down is considered significant (let alone a factor of four), so finding as-tight-as-possible reductions is crucial.

OVERVIEW OF IBE APPROACHES. All practical IBE systems currently known are based on bilinear pairings. We can partition the space of such systems along two dimensions, as shown in the left table of Figure 1. In one dimension is whether one utilizes random oracles or not. In the other is the flavor of hard problem used, whether it be the basic bilinear Diffie-Hellman (BDH) assumption [8] or a  $q$ -dependent assumption such as  $q$ -BDHI [6]. Of note is that Katz and Wang [25], in the “random oracle/BDH” setting, and Gentry [21], in the “no random oracle/ $q$ -dependent setting”, have essentially solved the problem of finding practical schemes with tight reductions. On the other hand, finding practical schemes with tight reductions in the “no random oracle/BDH” setting represents a hard open problem mentioned in numerous works [6, 7, 36, 21]. This last setting turns out to be attractive for two reasons. First, from a security perspective, it is the most conservative (and consequently most challenging) with regard to choice of assumptions. Second, schemes thus far proposed in this setting follow a framework due to Boneh and Boyen [6] (so-called “commutative blinding”) that naturally supports many valuable extensions: hierarchical IBE [24], attribute-based IBE [34], direct CCA-secure encryption [10, 26], etc.

Progress in this setting is summarized in the right table of Figure 1. Boneh and Boyen initiated work here with the  $\text{BB}_1$  scheme (the first scheme in [6]). They prove it secure under the decisional BDH (DBDH) assumption, but in the selective-ID attack model of [12] in which adversaries must commit to a targeted identity before seeing the IBE system’s parameters. Boneh and Boyen show how to prove full security, but the reduction doing so is exponentially loose (briefly, because it

	$q$ -dependent	BDH
RO model	SK	BF , KW
Standard model	BB <sub>2</sub> , Ge	BB <sub>1</sub> , Wa

Scheme	Security	Reduction
BB <sub>1</sub>	selective-ID	polynomial
BB <sub>1</sub>	full	exponential
Wa	full	polynomial

Figure 1: A comparison of practical IBE schemes. BF is the Boneh-Franklin scheme [8]; SK is the Sakai-Kasahara scheme [35, 16]; KW is the Katz-Wang scheme [25]; BB<sub>1</sub> and BB<sub>2</sub> are the first and second Boneh-Boyen schemes from [6]; Wa is Waters’ scheme [36]; and Ge is Gentry’s scheme [21]. **(Left)** The assumptions (an  $q$ -dependent assumption versus bilinear Diffie-Hellman) and model (random oracles or not) used to prove security of the schemes. **(Right)** Types of security offered by standard model BDH-based systems and asymptotic reduction tightness.

requires guessing the hash of the to-be-attacked identity).

Waters’ proposed a variant of BB<sub>1</sub> that we’ll call Wa [36]. This variant requires larger public parameters, but can be proven fully secure with a polynomial reduction to DBDH that does not use random oracles. The relatively complex security proof relies on a novel “artificial abort” step, that, while clever, is unintuitive. It also significantly hurts the concrete security and, thereby, efficiency of the scheme. Many researchers in the community have asked whether artificial abortions can be dispensed with, but the general consensus seems to have been that the answer is “no” and that the technique is somehow fundamental to proving security. This folklore assessment (if true) is doubly unfortunate because Wa, inheriting the flexibility of the Boneh-Boyen framework, has been used in numerous diverse applications [10, 1, 5, 30, 13, 14, 22, 26]. As observed in [26], some of these subsequent works offer difficult to understand (let alone verify) proofs, due in large part to their use of the artificial abort technique in a more-or-less black-box manner. They also inherit its concrete security overhead.

THIS PAPER. Our first contribution is to provide a novel proof of Waters’ variant that completely eliminates the artificial abort step. The proof, which uses several new techniques and makes crucial use of code-based games [4], provides an alternate and (we feel) more intuitive and rigorous approach to proving the security of Wa. Considering the importance of the original proof (due to its direct or indirect use in [10, 1, 5, 30, 13, 14, 22, 26]), a more readily understood proof is already a significant contribution. Our reduction (like Waters’) is not tight, but as we see below it offers better concrete security for many important parameter choices, moving us closer to the goal of standard model BDH-based schemes with tight reductions. The many Waters’-derived works [10, 1, 5, 30, 13, 14, 22, 26] inherit the improvements in concrete security. We briefly describe these derivatives in Appendix A.

We now have the BB<sub>1</sub> and Wa schemes, the former with an exponentially-loose reduction and the latter with now two polynomial reductions each having a complex concrete security formula. What is the most efficient approach for providing provably-secure DBDH-based IBE? Since we want to account for the impact of reduction tightness, answering this question requires work. We offer a framework for computing the concrete efficiency of reductions, adopting techniques from [28, 27, 20]. Efficiency is measured by mapping desired (provable) security levels to requisite group sizes. Not only does this approach provide a metric for comparing different reductions, it also allows comparing the resultant bit-operation speed of schemes when each is instantiated in groups of size sufficient to account for the reduction. Providing such a framework that simultaneously provides simplicity, accuracy, and fairness (i.e. not biased towards particular schemes/reductions) turned out to be very

$\kappa$	$\epsilon$	$q$	$s_{BB}$	$s_W$	$s_{BR}$	$\mathbf{T}_{\text{Enc}}(s_W)/\mathbf{T}_{\text{Enc}}(s_{BR})$
60	$2^{-20}$	$2^{20}$	192	192	128	<b>9</b>
70	$2^{-20}$	$2^{20}$	256	192	128	<b>9</b>
80	$2^{-30}$	$2^{30}$	256	256	192	<b>5</b>
90	$2^{-30}$	$2^{30}$	–	256	192	<b>5</b>
100	$2^{-10}$	$2^{10}$	–	128	192	1/9
100	$2^{-40}$	$2^{40}$	–	256	192	<b>5</b>
192	$2^{-40}$	$2^{40}$	–	256	–	–

Figure 2: Table showing the security level of the pairing setups required to achieve  $\kappa$ -bits of security for the  $\text{BB}_1$  and  $\text{Wa}$  encryption schemes when adversaries achieve  $\epsilon$  success probability using  $q$  key extraction queries. Loosely speaking, the security level of the pairing setup is  $(\log p)/2$  where  $p$  is the size of the first pairing group. Here  $s_{BB}$ ,  $s_W$ ,  $s_{BR}$  are, respectively, the securities of the pairing setups for  $\text{BB}_1$ ,  $\text{Wa}$  under Waters’ reduction, and  $\text{Wa}$  under the new reduction. The final column represents the (approximate) ratio of encryption times for  $\text{Wa}$  as specified by the two reductions. A dash signifies that one needs a pairing setup of security greater than 256.

challenging.

Let us first mention the high-level results, before explaining more. In the end our framework implies that Waters’ variant usually provides faster standard model encryption (than  $\text{BB}_1$ ). Our new proof provides a better reduction for low to mid range security parameters, while Waters’ reduction is tighter for higher security parameters. The new reduction in fact drastically improves efficiency in the former category, offering up to 9 times faster encryption for low parameters and 5 times faster encryption for mid-range security levels. Where Waters’ reduction is tighter, we can continue to choose group size via it; the new reduction never *hurts* efficiency.

$\text{BB}_1$  does better than  $\text{Wa}$  when identities are short, such as  $n = 80$  bits. We have, however, focused on providing IBE with arbitrary identity spaces, which provides the most versatility. Supporting long identities (e.g. email addresses such as `john.doe123@anonymous.com`) requires utilizing a collision-resistant hash function to compress identities. In this case, the birthday bound mandates that the bit length  $n$  of hash outputs be double the desired security level, and this affects the  $\text{BB}_1$  scheme more due to its reduction being loose by a factor of  $2^n$ .

**FRAMEWORK DETAILS.** We present some results of applying our framework in Figure 2. Let us explain briefly what the numbers signify and how we derived them. (Details are in Section 4.) By a *setup* we mean groups  $\mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, \mathbb{G}_T$  admitting a bilinear map  $\mathbf{e}: \mathbb{G}_1 \times \mathbb{G}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_T$ . The setup provides security  $s$  (bits) if the best known algorithms to solve the discrete logarithm (DL) problem take at least  $2^s$  time in any of the three groups. We assume (for these estimates but not for the proof!) that the best algorithm for solving DBDH is solving DL in one of the groups. An important practical issue in pairings-based cryptography is that setups for arbitrary security are not known. Accordingly, we will restrict attention to values  $s = 80, 112, 128, 192,$  and  $256$ , based on information from [31, 27, 28, 18, 19]. Figure 6 in Appendix E shows representation sizes of the corresponding groups. Now we take as our target that the IBE scheme should provide  $\kappa$  bits of security. By this we mean that any adversary making at most  $q = 1/\epsilon$  **Extract** queries and having running time at most  $\epsilon 2^\kappa$  should have advantage at most  $\epsilon$ . For each scheme/reduction pair we can then derive the security  $s$  of the underlying pairing setup required to support the desired level of security. See Figure 2 for  $\text{BB}_1$  ( $s_{BB}$ ),  $\text{Wa}$  under Waters’ reduction ( $s_W$ ), and under the new reduction ( $s_{BR}$ ).

OTHER RELATED WORK AND OPEN PROBLEMS. Recently Hofheinz and Kiltz describe programmable hash functions [23]. Their main construction uses the same hash function (originally due to Chaum et al. [15]) as Waters’, and they provide new proof techniques that provide a  $\sqrt{n}$  ( $n$  is the length of identities) improvement on certain bounds that could be applicable to Wa. But this will only offer a small concrete security improvement compared to ours. Moreover, their results are asymptotic and hide (seemingly very large) unknown constants.

As mentioned, providing a scheme based on DBDH that has a tight security reduction (without random oracles) is a hard open problem, and one that remains after our work. (One reason we explain this is that we have heard it said that eliminating the artificial abort would solve the open problem just mentioned, but in fact the two seem to be unrelated.) Finding a tight reduction for Waters’ (or another  $\text{BB}_1$ -style scheme) is of particular interest since it would immediately give a hierarchical IBE (HIBE) scheme with security beyond a constant number of levels (the best currently achievable). From a practical point of view we contribute here, since better concrete security improves the (constant) number of levels achievable. From a theoretical perspective, this remains an open problem.

VIEWING PROOFS AS QUALITATIVE. We measure efficiency of schemes when one sets group size according to the best-known reduction. However, the fact that a proof implies the need for groups of certain size to guarantee security of the scheme does not mean the scheme is necessarily insecure (meaning there is an attack) over smaller groups. It simply means that the proof tells us nothing about security in these smaller groups. In the context of standards it is sometimes suggested one view a proof as a qualitative rather than quantitative guarantee, picking group sizes just to resist the best known attack. Our sense is that this procedure is not viewed as ideal even by its proposers but rather forced on them by the looseness of reductions. To rectify this gap, one must find tighter reductions, and our work is a step to this end.

## 2 Definitions and Background

NOTATION. We fix *pairing parameters*  $\text{GP} = (\mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, \mathbb{G}_T, p, \mathbf{e}, \psi)$  where  $\mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, \mathbb{G}_T$  are groups of prime order  $p$ ;  $\mathbf{e}: \mathbb{G}_1 \times \mathbb{G}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_T$  is a non-degenerate, efficiently computable bilinear map; and  $\psi: \mathbb{G}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_1$  is an efficiently computable isomorphism [8]. Let  $\text{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G})$  denote the time to compute an exponentiation in a group  $\mathbb{G}$ . Similarly, let  $\text{T}_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G})$  denote the time to compute a group operation in a group  $\mathbb{G}$ . Let  $\text{T}_{\psi}$  denote the time to compute  $\psi$ . Let  $\mathbb{G}^* = \mathbb{G} - \{\mathbf{1}\}$  denote the set of generators of  $\mathbb{G}$  where  $\mathbf{1}$  is the identity element of  $\mathbb{G}$ .

Vectors are written in boldface, e.g.  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{Z}_p^{n+1}$  is a vector of  $n + 1$  values each in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . We denote the  $i^{\text{th}}$  component of a vector  $\mathbf{u}$  by  $\mathbf{u}[i]$ . If  $S \in \{0, 1\}^*$  then  $|S|$  denotes its length and  $S[i]$  denotes its  $i^{\text{th}}$  bit. For integers  $i, j$  we let  $[i..j] = \{i, \dots, j\}$ . The running time of an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is denoted  $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A})$ . We use big-oh notation with the understanding that this hides a small, fixed, machine-dependent constant.

GAMES. Our security definitions and proofs use code-based games [4], and so we recall some background from [4]. A game (look at Figure 3 for examples) has an **Initialize** procedure, procedures to respond to adversary oracle queries, and a **Finalize** procedure. A game  $G$  is executed with an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  as follows. First, **Initialize** executes, and its outputs are the inputs to  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}$  executes, its oracle queries being answered by the corresponding procedures of  $G$ . When  $\mathcal{A}$  terminates, its output becomes the input to the **Finalize** procedure. The output of the latter is called the output of the game, and we let  $G^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow y$  denote the event that this game output takes value  $y$ . The boolean flag **bad** is assumed initialized to false. Games  $G_i, G_j$  are identical-until-bad

<b>procedure Initialize:</b> $g_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}_2^*; g_1 \leftarrow \psi(g_2); a, b, s \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p; d \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$ If $d = 1$ then $W \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbf{e}(g_1, g_2)^{abs}$ Else $W \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}_T$ Ret $(g_1, g_2, g_2^a, g_2^b, g_2^s, W)$	Game DBDH <sub>GP</sub>  <b>procedure Finalize(<math>d'</math>):</b> Ret $(d' = d)$
<b>procedure Initialize:</b> $(mpk, msk) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Pg}; c \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$ Ret $mpk$  <b>procedure Extract(<math>I</math>):</b> Ret $\text{Kg}(mpk, msk, I)$	Game IND-CPA <sub>IBE</sub>  <b>procedure LR(<math>I, M_0, M_1</math>):</b> Ret $\text{Enc}(mpk, I, M_c)$  <b>procedure Finalize(<math>c'</math>):</b> Ret $(c' = c)$

Figure 3: The DBDH and IND-CPA games.

if their code differs only in statements that follow the setting of `bad` to true. (For examples, games  $G_0, G_1$  of Figure 4 are identical-until-`bad`, as they differ only in the boxed statements.) We let “ $G_i^{\mathcal{A}}$  sets `bad`” denote the event that game  $G_i$ , when executed with adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , sets `bad` to true (and similarly for “ $G_i^{\mathcal{A}}$  doesn’t set `bad`”). It is shown in [4] that if  $G_i, G_j$  are identical-until-`bad` and  $\mathcal{A}$  is an adversary, then

$$\Pr [G_i^{\mathcal{A}} \text{ sets bad}] = \Pr [G_j^{\mathcal{A}} \text{ sets bad}]. \quad (1)$$

The fundamental lemma of game-playing [4] says that if  $G_i, G_j$  are identical-until-`bad` then for any  $y$

$$\Pr [G_i^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow y] - \Pr [G_j^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow y] \leq \Pr [G_i^{\mathcal{A}} \text{ sets bad}].$$

This lemma is useful when the probability that `bad` is set is small, but in our setting this probability will be close to one. We will instead use the following variant:

**Lemma 2.1** Let  $G_i, G_j$  be identical-until-`bad` games and let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary. Then for any  $y$

$$\Pr [G_i^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow y \wedge G_i^{\mathcal{A}} \text{ doesn't set bad}] = \Pr [G_j^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow y \wedge G_j^{\mathcal{A}} \text{ doesn't set bad}]. \quad \square$$

Lemma 2.1 is implicit in the proof of the fundamental lemma of [4], but for completeness we provide a proof in Appendix B. Lemma 2.1 was also used in [3, 33].

**DBDH PROBLEM.** The Decisional Bilinear Diffie-Hellman (DBDH) assumption (in the asymmetric setting) [6] is captured by the game described in Figure 3. We define the `dbdh`-advantage of an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\text{GP} = (\mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, \mathbb{G}_T, p, \mathbf{e}, \psi)$  by

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{GP}}^{\text{dbdh}}(\mathcal{A}) = 2 \cdot \Pr [\text{DBDH}_{\text{GP}}^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow \text{true}] - 1. \quad (2)$$

**IDENTITY-BASED ENCRYPTION.** An *identity-based encryption (IBE) scheme* is a tuple of algorithms  $\text{IBE} = (\text{Pg}, \text{Kg}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  with associated identity space  $\text{IdSp} \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$  and message space  $\text{MsgSp}$ . The key-issuing center runs the parameter generation algorithm  $\text{Pg}$  (which takes no input) generates a master public key  $mpk$  and a master secret key  $msk$ . The former is publicly distributed. The key generation algorithm  $\text{Kg}$  takes as input  $mpk, msk, I$ , where  $I \in \text{IdSp}$ , and outputs a secret key  $sk$  for party  $I$ . The encryption algorithm  $\text{Enc}$  takes inputs  $mpk, I, M$ , where  $I \in \text{IdSp}$  and  $M \in \text{MsgSp}$ , and outputs a ciphertext  $C$ . The deterministic decryption algorithm  $\text{Dec}$  takes inputs  $mpk, sk, I, C$  and outputs either  $\perp$  or a plaintext  $M$ . We require the usual consistency, namely that  $\text{Dec}(mpk, sk, I, \text{Enc}(mpk, I, M)) = M$  with probability one for all  $I \in \text{IdSp}$  and  $M \in \text{MsgSp}$ , where the probability is over  $(mpk, msk) \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Pg}; sk \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Kg}(mpk, msk, I)$  and the coins used by  $\text{Enc}$ . We use the notion of privacy from [8], namely indistinguishability under chosen-plaintext attack

(ind-cpa). The ind-cpa advantage of an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against an IBE scheme IBE is defined by

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\text{IBE}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(\mathcal{A}) = 2 \cdot \Pr [\text{IND-CPA}_{\text{IBE}}^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow \text{true}] - 1, \quad (3)$$

where game IND-CPA is shown in Figure 3. We only allow *legitimate* adversaries, where adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is legitimate if it makes only one query  $(I^*, M_0, M_1)$  to **LR**, for some  $I^* \in \text{IdSp}$  and  $M_0, M_1 \in \text{MsgSp}$  with  $|M_0| = |M_1|$ , and never queries  $I^*$  to **Extract**. Here  $|M|$  denotes the length of some canonical string encoding of a message  $M \in \text{MsgSp}$ . (In the schemes we consider messages are group elements.)

Note that we do allow multiple queries to **Extract** with the same identity, which is important because key generation in the schemes we consider are randomized. When we say that  $\mathcal{A}$  makes at most  $q$  oracle queries or has running time at most  $t$  we mean that this is true regardless of  $\mathcal{A}$ 's coins and environment, meaning even if its input and the answers to its oracle queries do not come from  $\text{IND-CPA}_{\text{IBE}}$ .

**WATERS' IBE SCHEME.** The Boneh-Boyen IBE scheme is described in Appendix F. The Waters' IBE scheme changes the hash function used by  $\text{BB}_1$ . Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Define the hash family  $H: \mathbb{G}_1^{n+1} \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_1$  by  $H(\mathbf{u}, I) = \mathbf{u}[0] \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbf{u}[i]^{I[i]}$  for any  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{G}_1^{n+1}$  and any  $I \in \{0, 1\}^n$ . The Waters IBE scheme  $\text{Wa} = (\text{Pg}, \text{Kg}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  associated to  $\text{GP}$  and  $n$  has associated identity space  $\text{IdSp} = \{0, 1\}^n$  and message space  $\text{MsgSp} = \mathbb{G}_T$ , and its first three algorithms are as follows:

<p><b>procedure Pg</b></p> $A_1 \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}_1; g_2 \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}_2^*$ $b \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p; B_2 \leftarrow g_2^b; \mathbf{u} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}_1^{n+1}$ $mpk \leftarrow (g_2, A_1, B_2, \mathbf{u})$ $msk \leftarrow A_1^b$ $\text{Ret } (mpk, msk)$	<p><b>procedure Kg(<math>mpk, msk, I</math>)</b></p> $(g_2, A_1, B_2, \mathbf{u}) \leftarrow mpk$ $K \leftarrow msk; r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ $\text{Ret } (K \cdot H(\mathbf{u}, I)^r, g_2^r)$	<p><b>procedure Enc(<math>mpk, I, M</math>)</b></p> $(g_2, A_1, B_2, \mathbf{u}) \leftarrow mpk$ $s \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ $\text{Ret } (\mathbf{e}(A_1, B_2)^s \cdot M, g_2^s, H(\mathbf{u}, I)^s)$
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Above, when we write  $(g_2, A_1, B_2, \mathbf{u}) \leftarrow mpk$  we mean  $mpk$  is parsed into its constituent parts. We do not specify the decryption algorithm since it is not relevant to IND-CPA security; it can be found in [36].

In [36] the scheme is presented in the symmetric setting where  $\mathbb{G}_1 = \mathbb{G}_2$ . While this makes notation simpler, we work in the asymmetric setting because it allows pairing parameters for higher security levels [19].

The hash functions used by Boneh-Boyen and Waters' schemes have restricted domain. One can extend to  $\text{IdSp} = \{0, 1\}^*$  by first hashing an identity with a collision-resistant hash function to derive an  $n$ -bit string. (For  $\text{BB}_1$  this is then encoded in some canonical fashion to a point in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .) To ensure security from birthday attacks, the output length  $n$  of the CR function must have bit-length at least twice that of the desired security parameter.

**WATERS' RESULT.** Waters [36] proves the security of the  $\text{Wa}$  scheme associated to  $\text{GP}$ ,  $n$  under the assumption that the DBDH problem in  $\text{GP}$  is hard. Specifically, let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an ind-cpa adversary against  $\text{Wa}$  that runs in time at most  $t$ , makes at most  $q \in [1 .. p/4n]$  queries to its **Extract** oracle and has advantage  $\epsilon = \mathbf{Adv}_{\text{Wa}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(\mathcal{A})$ . Then [36, Theorem 1] presents a dbdh-adversary  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}}$  such that

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\text{GP}}^{\text{dbdh}}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}}) \geq \frac{\epsilon}{32(n+1)q}, \text{ and} \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}}) = \mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A}) + \mathbf{T}_{\text{sim}}(n, q) + \mathbf{T}_{\text{abort}}(\epsilon, n, q) \quad (5)$$

where

$$\mathbf{T}_{\text{sim}}(n, q) = \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{T}_\psi + (n + q) \cdot \mathbf{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_1) + q \cdot \mathbf{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_2) + qn + \mathbf{T}_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_T)) \quad (6)$$

$$\mathbf{T}_{\text{abort}}(\epsilon, n, q) = \mathcal{O}(q^2 n^2 \epsilon^{-2} \ln(\epsilon^{-1}) \ln(qn)). \quad (7)$$

An important factor in the “looseness” of the reduction is the  $\mathbf{T}_{\text{abort}}(\epsilon, n, q)$  term, which can be very large, making  $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}})$  much more than  $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A})$ . This term arises from the “artificial abort” step. (In [36], the  $\mathbf{T}_{\text{abort}}(\epsilon, n, q)$  term only has a  $qn$  factor in place of the  $q^2 n^2$  factor we show. However, the step requires performing  $q$  times up to  $n$  operations over the integers modulo  $4q$  for each of the  $\ell = \mathcal{O}(qn\epsilon^{-2} \ln \epsilon^{-1} \ln qn)$  vectors selected, so our term represents the actual cost.)

### 3 New Proof of Waters’ IBE without Artificial Aborts

We start with some high-level discussion regarding Waters’ original proof and the reason for the artificial abort. First, one would hope to specify a simulator that, given IND-CPA adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  that attacks the IBE scheme using  $q$  **Extract** queries and gains advantage  $\epsilon$ , solves the DBDH problem with advantage not drastically worse than  $\epsilon$ . But  $\mathcal{A}$  can make **Extract** queries that force any conceivable simulator to fail, i.e. have to abort. This means that the advantage against DBDH is conditioned on  $\mathcal{A}$  not causing an abort, and so it could be the case that  $\mathcal{A}$  achieves  $\epsilon$  advantage in the normal IND-CPA experiment but almost always causes aborts for the simulator. In this (hypothetical) case, the simulator could not effectively make use of the adversary, and the proof fails.

On the other hand, if one can argue that the lower and upper bounds on the probability of  $\mathcal{A}$  causing an abort to occur are close (i.e. the case above does not occur), then the proof would go through. As Waters’ points out [36], the natural simulator (that only aborts when absolutely necessarily) fails to provide such a guarantee. To compensate, Waters’ introduced “artificial aborts”. At the end of a successful simulation for the IBE adversary, the simulator  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}}$  used by Waters’ generates  $\mathcal{O}(qn\epsilon^{-2} \ln \epsilon^{-1} \ln qn)$  random vectors. These are used to estimate the probability that the **Extract** queries made by  $\mathcal{A}$  cause an abort during any given execution of the simulator. The simulator then artificially aborts with some related probability. Intuitively, this forces the probability of aborting to be independent of  $\mathcal{A}$ ’s particular queries. Waters’ shows that  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}}$  provides the aforementioned guarantee of close lower and upper bounds and the proof goes through.

The artificial abort step seems strange because  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}}$  is forcing itself to fail even when it appears to have succeeded. The concrete security also suffers because the running time of the simulator goes up by  $\mathbf{T}_{\text{abort}}(\epsilon, n, q)$  as shown in (7).

The rest of this section is devoted to proving the next theorem, which establishes the security of the Waters’ IBE scheme without relying on an artificial abort step.

**Theorem 3.1** Fix pairing parameters  $\text{GP} = (\mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, \mathbb{G}_T, p, \mathbf{e}, \psi)$  and an integer  $n \geq 1$ , and let  $\text{Wa} = (\text{Pg}, \text{Kg}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  be the Waters IBE scheme associated to  $\text{GP}$  and  $n$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an ind-cpa adversary against  $\text{Wa}$  which has advantage  $\epsilon = \mathbf{Adv}_{\text{Wa}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(\mathcal{A}) > 0$  and makes at most  $q \in [1 .. p\epsilon/9n]$  queries to its **Extract** oracle. Then there is a dbdh adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  such that

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\text{GP}}^{\text{dbdh}}(\mathcal{B}) \geq \frac{\epsilon^2}{27qn + 3\epsilon}, \text{ and} \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{B}) = \mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A}) + \mathbf{T}_{\text{sim}}(n, q) \quad (9)$$

where  $\mathbf{T}_{\text{sim}}(n, q)$  was defined by (6).  $\square$

The limitations on  $q$ —namely,  $1 \leq q \leq p/4n$  in Waters’ result and  $1 \leq q \leq p\epsilon/9n$  in ours—are of little significance since in practice  $p \geq 2^{160}$ ,  $\epsilon \geq 2^{-80}$ , and  $n = 160$ . For  $q = 0$  there is a separate, tight reduction. The remainder of this section is devoted to the proof of Theorem 3.1.

**SOME DEFINITIONS.** Let  $m = \lceil 9q/\epsilon \rceil$  and let  $X = [-n(m-1)..0] \times [0..m-1] \times \cdots \times [0..m-1]$  where the number of copies of  $[0..m-1]$  is  $n$ . For  $\mathbf{x} \in X$ ,  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{Z}_p^{n+1}$  and  $I \in \{0,1\}^n$  we let

$$F(\mathbf{x}, I) = \mathbf{x}[0] + \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}[i]I[i] \quad \text{and} \quad G(\mathbf{y}, I) = \mathbf{y}[0] + \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{y}[i]I[i] \pmod p. \quad (10)$$

Note that while the computation of  $G$  above is over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , that of  $F$  is over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**ADVERSARY  $\mathcal{B}$ .** Our DBDH adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  is depicted in Figure 4, where the *simulation subroutines*  $\text{KgS}$  and  $\text{EncS}$  are specified below. There are two main differences between our adversary and that of Waters’. The first is that in our case the parameter  $m$  is  $\mathcal{O}(q/\epsilon)$  while in Waters’ case it is  $\mathcal{O}(q)$ . The second difference of course is that Waters’ adversary  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}}$ , unlike ours, includes the artificial abort step. Once  $\mathcal{A}$  has terminated, this step selects  $l = \mathcal{O}(qn\epsilon^{-2} \ln(\epsilon^{-1}) \ln(qn))$  new random vectors  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_l$  from  $X$ . Letting  $I_1, \dots, I_l$  denote the identities queried by  $\mathcal{A}$  to its **Extract** oracle and  $I_0$  the identity queried to the **LR** oracle, it then evaluates  $F(\mathbf{x}_i, I_j)$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq l$  and  $0 \leq j \leq q$ , and uses these values to approximate the probability that **bad** is set. It then aborts with some related probability. Each computation of  $F$  takes  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  time, and there are  $q$  such computations for each of the  $l$  samples, accounting for the estimate of (7). In addition there are some minor differences between the adversaries. For example,  $\mathbf{x}$  is chosen differently. (In [36] it is taken from  $[0..m-1]^{n+1}$ , and an additional value  $k \in [0..n]$ , which we do not have, is mixed in.)

We note that our adversary in fact *never* aborts. Sometimes, it is clearly returning incorrect answers (namely  $\perp$ ) to  $\mathcal{A}$ ’s queries. Adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  will recognize this, and all bets are off as to what it will do. Nonetheless,  $\mathcal{B}$  continues the execution of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Our analysis will show that  $\mathcal{B}$  has the claimed properties regardless.

An analysis of the running time of  $\mathcal{B}$ , justifying equations (6) and (9), is given in Appendix G.

**SIMULATION SUBROUTINES.** We define the subroutines that  $\mathcal{B}$  utilizes to answer **Extract** and **LR** queries. We say that  $(g_1, g_2, A_2, A_1, B_2, B_1, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}, S, W)$  are *simulation parameters* if:  $g_2 \in \mathbb{G}_2^*$ ;  $g_1 = \psi(g_2) \in \mathbb{G}_1^*$ ;  $A_2 \in \mathbb{G}_2$ ;  $A_1 = \psi(A_2) \in \mathbb{G}_1$ ;  $B_2 \in \mathbb{G}_2$ ;  $B_1 = \psi(B_2) \in \mathbb{G}_1$ ;  $\mathbf{x} \in X$ ;  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{Z}_p^{n+1}$ ;  $\mathbf{u}[j] = B_1^{\mathbf{x}[j]} g_1^{\mathbf{y}[j]}$  for  $j \in [0..n]$ ;  $S \in \mathbb{G}_2$ ; and  $W \in \mathbb{G}_T$ . We define the following procedures:

<p><b>procedure</b> <math>\text{KgS}(g_1, g_2, A_2, A_1, B_1, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, I)</math></p> <p><math>r \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{Z}_p</math>; <math>w \leftarrow F(\mathbf{x}, I)^{-1} \pmod p</math></p> <p><math>L_1 \leftarrow B_1^{F(\mathbf{x}, I) \cdot r} g_1^{G(\mathbf{y}, I) \cdot r} A_1^{-G(\mathbf{y}, I)w}</math></p> <p><math>L_2 \leftarrow g_2^r A_2^{-w}</math></p> <p>Ret <math>(L_1, L_2)</math></p>	<p><b>procedure</b> <math>\text{EncS}(S, W, M, \mathbf{y}, I)</math></p> <p><math>C_1 \leftarrow W \cdot M</math></p> <p><math>C_2 \leftarrow S</math>; <math>C_3 \leftarrow \psi(S)^{G(\mathbf{y}, I)}</math></p> <p>Ret <math>(C_1, C_2, C_3)</math></p>
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Note that if  $F(\mathbf{x}, I) \neq 0$  then  $F(\mathbf{x}, I) \not\equiv 0 \pmod p$  so the quantity  $w$  computed by  $\text{KgS}$  is well-defined whenever  $F(\mathbf{x}, I) \neq 0$ . This is because the absolute value of  $F(\mathbf{x}, I)$  is at most

$$n(m-1) = n \left( \left\lceil \frac{9q}{\epsilon} \right\rceil - 1 \right) < \frac{9nq}{\epsilon} \leq p, \quad (11)$$

the last because of the restriction on  $q$  in the theorem statement. The next lemma captures two facts about the simulation subroutines, which we will use in our analysis.

**Lemma 3.2** Let  $(g_1, g_2, A_2, A_1, B_2, B_1, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}, S, W)$  be simulation parameters. Let  $I \in \{0,1\}^n$ . Let  $mpk = (g_2, A_1, B_2, \mathbf{u})$ . Let  $b$  be the discrete log of  $B_1$  to base  $g_1$  and let  $msk = A_1^b$ . Let  $s$  be

<p><b>Adversary</b> <math>\mathcal{B}(g_1, g_2, A_2, B_2, S, W)</math>:</p> <p><math>c \xleftarrow{\\$} \{0, 1\}</math>; <math>A_1 \leftarrow \psi(A_2)</math>; <math>B_1 \leftarrow \psi(B_2)</math>  For <math>j = 0, \dots, n</math> do    <math>\mathbf{y}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{Z}_p</math>    If <math>j = 0</math> then <math>\mathbf{x}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} [-n(m-1)..0]</math>    Else <math>\mathbf{x}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} [0..m-1]</math>    <math>\mathbf{u}[j] \leftarrow B_1^{\mathbf{x}[j]} g_1^{\mathbf{y}[j]}</math>  <math>mpk \leftarrow (g_2, A_1, B_2, \mathbf{u})</math>  Run <math>\mathcal{A}(mpk)</math>, answering queries by</p> <p><b>query</b> <b>Extract</b>(<math>I</math>):  <math>sk(I) \leftarrow \perp</math>  If <math>F(\mathbf{x}, I) = 0</math> then <math>\text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}</math>  Else <math>sk(I) \xleftarrow{\\$} \text{KgS}(g_1, g_2, A_2, A_1, B_1, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, I)</math>  Ret <math>sk(I)</math></p> <p><b>query</b> <b>LR</b>(<math>I, M_0, M_1</math>):  <math>C \leftarrow \perp</math>  If <math>F(\mathbf{x}, I) \neq 0</math> then <math>\text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}</math>  Else <math>C \leftarrow \text{EncS}(S, W, M_c, \mathbf{y}, I)</math>  Ret <math>C</math></p> <p><math>\mathcal{A}</math> finishes, returning bit <math>c'</math>  If <math>\text{bad} = \text{true}</math> then <math>c' \xleftarrow{\\$} \{0, 1\}</math>  If <math>c = c'</math> then Ret 1 else Ret 0</p>	<p><b>procedure</b> <b>Initialize</b>:      Games <math>G_0, G_1, G_2</math></p> <p>000 <math>g_2 \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{G}_2^*</math>; <math>g_1 \leftarrow \psi(g_2)</math>; <math>a, b, s \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{Z}_p</math>  001 <math>A_2 \leftarrow g_2^a</math>; <math>B_2 \leftarrow g_2^b</math>; <math>S \leftarrow g_2^s</math>; <math>c, d \xleftarrow{\\$} \{0, 1\}</math>  002 <math>A_1 \leftarrow \psi(A_2)</math>; <math>B_1 \leftarrow \psi(B_2)</math>; <math>K \leftarrow A_1^b</math>  003 For <math>j = 0, \dots, n</math> do  004   <math>\mathbf{y}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{Z}_p</math>  005   If <math>j = 0</math> then <math>\mathbf{x}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} [-n(m-1)..0]</math>  006   Else <math>\mathbf{x}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} [0..m-1]</math>  007   <math>\mathbf{u}[j] \leftarrow B_1^{\mathbf{x}[j]} g_1^{\mathbf{y}[j]}</math>  008 <math>mpk \leftarrow (g_2, A_1, B_2, \mathbf{u})</math>  009 If <math>d = 1</math> then <math>W \leftarrow \mathbf{e}(A_1, B_2)^s</math>  010 Else <math>W \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{G}_T</math>  011 Ret <math>mpk</math></p> <p><b>procedure</b> <b>Extract</b>(<math>I</math>):      Games <math>G_0, \boxed{G_1}</math></p> <p>020 <math>sk(I) \leftarrow \perp</math>  021 If <math>F(\mathbf{x}, I) = 0</math> then  022   <math>\text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}</math>  023   <math>r \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{Z}_p</math>; <math>sk(I) \leftarrow (K \cdot H(\mathbf{u}, I)^r, g_2^r)</math></p> <p>024 Else <math>sk(I) \xleftarrow{\\$} \text{KgS}(g_1, g_2, A_2, A_1, B_1, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, I)</math>  025 Ret <math>sk(I)</math></p> <p><b>procedure</b> <b>LR</b>(<math>I, M_0, M_1</math>):      Games <math>G_0, \boxed{G_1}</math></p> <p>030 <math>C \leftarrow \perp</math>  031 If <math>F(\mathbf{x}, I) \neq 0</math> then  032   <math>\text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}</math>; <math>C \leftarrow (W \cdot M_c, S, H(\mathbf{u}, I)^s)</math></p> <p>033 Else <math>C \leftarrow \text{EncS}(S, W, M_c, \mathbf{y}, I)</math>  034 Ret <math>C</math></p> <p><b>procedure</b> <b>Finalize</b>(<math>c'</math>):      Games <math>G_0, \boxed{G_1}</math></p> <p>040 <math>c'' \leftarrow c'</math>  041 If <math>\text{bad} = \text{true}</math> then <math>c'' \xleftarrow{\\$} \{0, 1\}</math>; <math>c'' \leftarrow c'</math>  042 If <math>c = c''</math> then Ret 1 else Ret 0</p>
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Figure 4: Adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  and the start of the game sequence. Game  $G_1$  includes the boxed statements in procedures **Extract**, **LR**, and **Finalize** while  $G_0$  does not.

the discrete log of  $S$  to base  $g_2$ . Then if  $F(\mathbf{x}, I) \neq 0$  the outputs of  $\text{KgS}(g_1, g_2, A_2, A_1, B_1, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, I)$  and  $\text{Kg}(mpk, msk, I)$  are identically distributed. Also if  $F(\mathbf{x}, I) = 0$  then for any  $M \in \text{MsgSp}$ , the output of  $\text{EncS}(S, W, M, \mathbf{y}, I)$  is  $(W \cdot M, S, H(\mathbf{u}, I)^s)$ .  $\square$

The proof of Lemma 3.2, which follows arguments given in [36], is given in Appendix C.

**OVERVIEW.** Consider executing  $\mathcal{B}$  in game  $\text{DBDH}_{\mathbb{G}\mathbb{P}}$ . If  $d = 1$ , then Lemma 3.2 implies that adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  correctly answers oracle queries as long as it does not set  $\text{bad}$ . On the other hand if  $d = 0$  then  $\mathcal{B}$ 's output is a random bit. Attempting to conclude by showing that  $\text{bad}$  is seldom set fails, however, because in fact it will be set with probability close to 1. Alternatively, if one

<pre> <b>procedure</b> <b>Extract</b>(<math>I</math>): 220 If <math>F(\mathbf{x}, I) = 0</math> then <math>\text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}</math> 221 <math>r \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{Z}_p</math>; Ret <math>sk(I) \leftarrow (K \cdot H(\mathbf{u}, I)^r, g_2^r)</math>  <b>procedure</b> <b>LR</b>(<math>I, M_0, M_1</math>): 230 If <math>F(\mathbf{x}, I) \neq 0</math> then <math>\text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}</math> 231 Ret <math>C \leftarrow (W \cdot M_c, S, H(\mathbf{u}, I)^s)</math>  <b>procedure</b> <b>Finalize</b>(<math>c'</math>): 240 If <math>c = c'</math> then Ret 1 else Ret 0 </pre>	<p>Game <math>G_2</math></p> <p>Game <math>G_2</math></p> <p>Game <math>G_2</math></p>	<pre> <b>procedure</b> <b>Initialize</b>: 400 <math>A_1 \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{G}_1</math>; <math>g_2 \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{G}_2^*</math>; <math>b, s \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{Z}_p</math>; <math>i \leftarrow 0</math> 401 <math>B_2 \leftarrow g_2^b</math>; <math>S \leftarrow g_2^s</math>; <math>c, d \xleftarrow{\\$} \{0, 1\}</math>; <math>K \leftarrow A_1^b</math> 402 For <math>j = 0, \dots, n</math> do 403   <math>\mathbf{z}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{Z}_p</math>; <math>\mathbf{u}[j] \leftarrow g^{\mathbf{z}[j]}</math> 404   <math>mpk \leftarrow (g, A_1, B_2, \mathbf{u})</math> 405   If <math>d = 1</math> then <math>W \leftarrow \mathbf{e}(A_1, B_2)^s</math> 406   Else <math>W \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{G}_T</math> 407   Ret <math>mpk</math>  <b>procedure</b> <b>Extract</b>(<math>I</math>): 320 <math>cnt \leftarrow cnt + 1</math>; <math>I_{cnt} \leftarrow I</math> 321 <math>r \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{Z}_p</math>; Ret <math>sk(I) \leftarrow (K \cdot H(\mathbf{u}, I)^r, g_2^r)</math>  <b>procedure</b> <b>LR</b>(<math>I, M_0, M_1</math>): 330 <math>I_0 \leftarrow I</math> 331 Ret <math>C \leftarrow (W \cdot M_c, S, H(\mathbf{u}, I)^s)</math>  <b>procedure</b> <b>Finalize</b>(<math>c'</math>): 440 For <math>j = 0, \dots, n</math> do 441   If <math>j = 0</math> then <math>\mathbf{x}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} [-n(m-1) .. 0]</math> 442   Else <math>\mathbf{x}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} [0 .. m-1]</math> 443   For <math>j = 1, \dots, cnt</math> do 444     If <math>F(\mathbf{x}, I_j) = 0</math> then <math>\text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}</math> 445   If <math>F(\mathbf{x}, I_0) \neq 0</math> then <math>\text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}</math> 446   If <math>c = c'</math> then Ret 1 else Ret 0 </pre>	<p>Game <math>G_4</math></p> <p>Games <math>G_3, G_4</math></p> <p>Games <math>G_3, G_4</math></p> <p>Game <math>G_4</math></p>
<pre> <b>procedure</b> <b>Initialize</b>: 300 <math>A_1 \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{G}_1</math>; <math>g_2 \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{G}_2^*</math>; <math>b, s \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{Z}_p</math>; <math>cnt \leftarrow 0</math> 301 <math>B_2 \leftarrow g_2^b</math>; <math>S \leftarrow g_2^s</math>; <math>c, d \xleftarrow{\\$} \{0, 1\}</math>; <math>K \leftarrow A_1^b</math> 302 For <math>j = 0, \dots, n</math> do 303   <math>\mathbf{z}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{Z}_p</math>; <math>\mathbf{u}[j] \leftarrow g_1^{\mathbf{z}[j]}</math> 304   If <math>j = 0</math> then <math>\mathbf{x}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} [-n(m-1) .. 0]</math> 305   Else <math>\mathbf{x}[j] \xleftarrow{\\$} [0 .. m-1]</math> 306   <math>\mathbf{y}[j] \leftarrow \mathbf{z}[j] - b \cdot \mathbf{x}[j] \pmod p</math> 307   <math>mpk \leftarrow (g_2, A_1, B_2, \mathbf{u})</math> 308   If <math>d = 1</math> then <math>W \leftarrow \mathbf{e}(A_1, B_2)^s</math> 309   Else <math>W \xleftarrow{\\$} \mathbb{G}_T</math> 310   Ret <math>mpk</math>  <b>procedure</b> <b>Finalize</b>(<math>c'</math>): 340 For <math>j = 1, \dots, cnt</math> do 341   If <math>F(\mathbf{x}, I_j) = 0</math> then <math>\text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}</math> 342   If <math>F(\mathbf{x}, I_0) \neq 0</math> then <math>\text{bad} \leftarrow \text{true}</math> 343   If <math>c = c'</math> then Ret 1 else Ret 0 </pre>	<p>Game <math>G_3</math></p> <p>Game <math>G_3</math></p>		

Figure 5: Continuation of the game sequence. Games  $G_2$  and  $G_1$  (see Figure 4) have identical **Initialize** procedures. Games  $G_3$  and  $G_4$  have identical **Extract** and **LR** procedures.

could show that the setting of  $\text{bad}$  is independent of the correctness of  $\mathcal{B}$ 's output, then one could conclude by multiplying the probabilities of these events. The difficulty in the proof is that this independence does not hold. Waters' artificial abort step is one way to compensate. However, we have dropped this (expensive) step and propose nonetheless to push an argument through. We will first use the game sequence  $G_0$ – $G_4$  to arrive at a game where the choice of  $\mathbf{x}$  is independent of the game output. The subtle point is that this *still* does not provide independence between setting  $\text{bad}$  and the game output, because the identities chosen by  $\mathcal{A}$  for its oracle queries affect both events. The first step in addressing this is a conditioning argument based on Lemma 3.4 which allows us to express a lower bound on the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in terms of probabilities  $\gamma(\mathbf{I})$  associated to different queried identities. The crucial insight is that Lemma 3.5 gives upper and lower bounds on these probabilities that are very close, specifically within a factor of  $1 - \epsilon$  of each other, due to our choice of  $m = \mathcal{O}(q/\epsilon)$  rather than merely the  $m = \mathcal{O}(q)$  of [36]. Using this allows us to conclude easily.

THE GAME PLAYING SEQUENCE. Assume without loss of generality that  $\mathcal{A}$  always makes exactly  $q$  queries to its **Extract** oracle rather than at most  $q$ . The proof starts using a sequence of games

$G_0 - G_4$  to move from  $\mathcal{B}$  running in the DBDH experiment to a game  $G_4$  (shown in Figure 5) that is essentially the IND-CPA experiment, though with some additional bookkeeping. This transition is critical since it moves to a setting where the choice of  $\mathbf{x}$  is clearly independent of  $\mathcal{A}$ 's choices. We capture this game playing sequence via the following lemma. Let  $\text{GD}_4$  denote the event that  $G_4^{\mathcal{A}}$  does not set `bad`.

**Lemma 3.3**  $\text{Adv}_{\text{GP}}^{\text{dbdh}}(\mathcal{B}) = 2 \cdot \Pr [G_4^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_4] - \Pr [\text{GD}_4] \quad \square$

**Proof:** Figures 4 and 5 compactly describe four games showing next to each procedure the games in which it appears. For example, the **Initialize** procedure of Figure 4 is common to games  $G_0$ ,  $G_1$ , and  $G_2$ . Let  $\text{BD}_i$  denote the event that  $G_i^{\mathcal{A}}$  sets `bad` and  $\text{GD}_i$  the event that  $G_i^{\mathcal{A}}$  does not set `bad`, for  $0 \leq i \leq 4$ . The **Initialize** procedure of game  $G_0$  includes the code of the **Initialize** procedure of game  $\text{DBDH}_{\text{GP}}^{\mathcal{B}}$ . Game  $G_0$  and adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  answer  $\mathcal{A}$ 's oracle queries in the same way (remember that  $G_0$  omits the boxed statements). The output of  $G_0$  (as computed by its **Finalize** procedure) is the same as  $\mathcal{B}$ 's. (The code is written differently but is equivalent.) The bit  $d$  in  $G_0$  represents the challenge bit of the same name in game  $\text{DBDH}_{\text{GP}}^{\mathcal{B}}$ . Thus we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr [\text{DBDH}_{\text{GP}}^{\mathcal{B}} \Rightarrow \text{true}] &= \Pr [G_0^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d] \\ &= \Pr [G_0^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \mid \text{BD}_0] \Pr [\text{BD}_0] + \Pr [G_0^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_0]. \end{aligned}$$

If  $G_0^{\mathcal{A}}$  sets `bad` then line 041 ensures that  $c''$  is random. Line 042 then ensures that the output of  $G_0$  is random as well and thus equals  $d$  with probability  $1/2$ . This means that the conditional probability above is  $1/2$  and hence we have

$$\Pr [\text{DBDH}_{\text{GP}}^{\mathcal{B}} \Rightarrow \text{true}] = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \Pr [\text{BD}_0] + \Pr [G_0^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_0]. \quad (12)$$

The boxed statements of lines 023 and 032 of  $G_1$  are “corrections” which ensure that no oracle query ever returns  $\perp$ , even in the case that a subroutine would fail, meaning when `bad` is set. (Note this code uses the secret key  $K$  and the discrete log  $s$  of  $S$ , neither of which were given to  $\mathcal{B}$  or used by  $G_0$  to respond to oracle queries.) But  $G_0, G_1$  are identical-until-`bad`, so by (1) and Lemma 2.1 we have

$$\Pr [\text{BD}_0] = \Pr [\text{BD}_1] \quad \text{and} \quad \Pr [G_0^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_0] = \Pr [G_1^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_1]. \quad (13)$$

Let us now consider how  $G_1$  relates to  $G_2$ . Lemma 3.2 tells us that `KgS` at line 024 and the code of line 023 compute the same value  $sk(I)$ . Lemma 3.2 also tells us that `EncS` at line 033 and the code of line 032 compute the same tuple  $C$ . (Recall  $\mathcal{A}$  is allowed only one **LR** query.) Thus,  $G_1$  always answers oracle queries in the same manner, meaning one can equivalently define its **Extract** and **LR** procedures as in game  $G_2$ . Since the boxed code of line 041 is included in  $G_1$ , we always have  $c'' = c'$  and hence the output of the game is simply 1 if  $c = c'$  and 0 otherwise. This is how  $G_2$  computes its output at 240. It follows that

$$\Pr [\text{BD}_1] = \Pr [\text{BD}_2] \quad \text{and} \quad \Pr [G_1^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_1] = \Pr [G_2^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_2]. \quad (14)$$

The **Extract** and **LR** procedures of  $G_2$  may set `bad` but do not use it. Throwing in the bookkeeping of lines 300, 320, and 330, we can thus move the code setting `bad` into lines 340–342 in  $G_3$ . We then observe that lines 004–007 of  $G_2$  can equivalently be written as lines 303–306 of  $G_3$ . Finally, game  $G_2$  no longer uses  $g_1$ ,  $A_2$ , and  $B_1$ . Thus we re-write lines 000–002 of  $G_2$  as 300–301 of  $G_3$ . The distribution of  $A_1$  is equivalent in both games. At this point we have

$$\Pr [\text{BD}_2] = \Pr [\text{BD}_3] \quad \text{and} \quad \Pr [G_2^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_2] = \Pr [G_3^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_3]. \quad (15)$$

But now  $\mathbf{x}$  is not used in  $G_3$  until the **Finalize** procedure and  $\mathbf{y}$  is not used at all. Game  $G_4$  delays

picking  $\mathbf{x}$  until **Finalize** and drops  $\mathbf{y}$ , but otherwise its code matches that of  $G_3$ . Thus we have

$$\Pr[\text{BD}_3] = \Pr[\text{BD}_4] \quad \text{and} \quad \Pr[G_3^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_3] = \Pr[G_4^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_4]. \quad (16)$$

Using equations (2), (12), (13), (14), (15), and (16) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_{\text{GP}}^{\text{dbdh}}(\mathcal{B}) &= 2 \cdot \Pr[\text{DBDH}_{\text{GP}}^{\mathcal{B}} \Rightarrow \text{true}] - 1 \\ &= \Pr[\text{BD}_4] + 2 \cdot \Pr[G_4^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_4] - 1 \\ &= 2 \cdot \Pr[G_4^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_4] - \Pr[\text{GD}_4]. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 3.3.  $\blacksquare$

We now reach a subtle point. Consider the following argument: “The event  $\text{GD}_4$  depends only on  $\mathbf{x}$ , which is chosen at lines 440–442 *after* the adversary and game outputs are determined. So  $\text{GD}_4$  is independent of the event that  $G_4^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d$ .” If we buy this, the probability of the conjunct in Lemma 3.3 becomes the product of the probability of the constituent events, and it is quite easy to conclude. However, the problem is that the argument in quotes above is wrong. The reason is that  $\text{GD}_4$  also depends on  $I_0, \dots, I_q$  and these are adversary queries whose values are not independent of the game output. Waters’ compensates for this via the artificial abort step, but we do not have this step in  $\mathcal{B}$  and propose to complete the analysis anyway.

CONDITIONAL INDEPENDENCE LEMMA. Let

$$\text{ID} = \{(I_0, \dots, I_q) \in (\{0, 1\}^n)^{q+1} : \forall i \in [1..q] (I_0 \neq I_i)\}.$$

For  $(I_0, \dots, I_q) \in \text{ID}$  let

$$\gamma(I_0, \dots, I_q) = \Pr[F(\mathbf{x}, I_0) = 0 \wedge F(\mathbf{x}, I_1) \neq 0 \wedge \dots \wedge F(\mathbf{x}, I_q) \neq 0]$$

where the probability is taken over  $\mathbf{x} \xleftarrow{\$} X$ . This is the probability of  $\text{GD}_4$  under a particular sequence of queried identities  $I_0, \dots, I_q$ . (We stress that here we first fix  $I_0, \dots, I_q$  and then choose  $\mathbf{x}$  at random.) If  $\gamma(I_0, \dots, I_q)$  were the same for all  $(I_0, \dots, I_q) \in \text{ID}$  then the problem discussed above would be resolved. The difficulty is that  $\gamma(I_0, \dots, I_q)$  varies with  $I_0, \dots, I_q$ . Our next lemma is the main tool to resolve the independence problem. Roughly it says that if we consider the conditional space obtained by conditioning on a particular sequence  $I_0, \dots, I_q$  of queried identities, then independence does hold. To formalize this, let  $\mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{I})$  be the event that the execution of  $G_4$  with  $\mathcal{A}$  results in the identities  $I_0, \dots, I_q$  being queried by  $\mathcal{A}$ , where  $\mathbf{I} = (I_0, \dots, I_q)$ . Then:

**Lemma 3.4** For any  $\mathbf{I} \in \text{ID}$ ,

$$\Pr[G_4^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \text{GD}_4 \wedge \mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{I})] = \gamma(\mathbf{I}) \cdot \Pr[G_4^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d \wedge \mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{I})] \quad (18)$$

$$\Pr[\text{GD}_4 \wedge \mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{I})] = \gamma(\mathbf{I}) \cdot \Pr[\mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{I})] \quad \square \quad (19)$$

**Proof:** The set of coin tosses underlying the execution of  $G_4$  with  $\mathcal{A}$  can be viewed as a cross product  $\Omega = \Omega' \times X$ , meaning each member  $\omega$  of  $\Omega$  is a pair  $\omega = (\omega', \mathbf{x})$  where  $\mathbf{x}$  is the choice made at lines 440–442 and  $\omega'$  is all the rest of the game and adversary coins. For any  $\mathbf{I} \in \text{ID}$  let  $\Omega'(\mathbf{I})$  be the set of all  $\omega \in \Omega'$  such that the execution with  $\omega$  produces  $\mathbf{I}$  as the sequence of queried identities. (Which  $\mathbf{I}$  is produced depends only on  $\omega'$  since  $\mathbf{x}$  is chosen after  $\mathcal{A}$  has terminated.) Let  $\Omega'_{\text{out}}$  be the set of all  $\omega \in \Omega'$  on which the execution outputs  $d$ . (Again, this is determined only by  $\omega'$  and not  $\mathbf{x}$ .) Let  $X_{\text{gd}}(\mathbf{I})$  be the set of all  $\mathbf{x} \in X$  such that

$$F(\mathbf{x}, I_0) = 0 \wedge F(\mathbf{x}, I_i) \neq 0 \wedge \dots \wedge F(\mathbf{x}, I_q) \neq 0,$$

where  $\mathbf{I} = (I_0, \dots, I_q)$ . Now observe that the set of coins leading to  $G_4^A \Rightarrow d$  is  $\Omega'_{\text{out}} \times X$  and the set of coins leading to  $GD_4 \wedge Q(\mathbf{I})$  is  $\Omega'(\mathbf{I}) \times X_{\text{gd}}(\mathbf{I})$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow d \wedge GD_4 \wedge Q(\mathbf{I})] &= \frac{|(\Omega'_{\text{out}} \times X) \cap (\Omega'(\mathbf{I}) \times X_{\text{gd}}(\mathbf{I}))|}{|\Omega' \times X|} \\ &= \frac{|(\Omega'_{\text{out}} \cap \Omega'(\mathbf{I})) \times X_{\text{gd}}(\mathbf{I})|}{|\Omega' \times X|} = \frac{|\Omega'_{\text{out}} \cap \Omega'(\mathbf{I})| \cdot |X_{\text{gd}}(\mathbf{I})|}{|\Omega'| \cdot |X|} \\ &= \frac{|\Omega'_{\text{out}} \cap \Omega'(\mathbf{I})| \cdot |X|}{|\Omega'| \cdot |X|} \cdot \frac{|X_{\text{gd}}(\mathbf{I})|}{|X|} = \frac{|\Omega'_{\text{out}} \cap \Omega'(\mathbf{I}) \times X|}{|\Omega' \times X|} \cdot \frac{|X_{\text{gd}}(\mathbf{I})|}{|X|}. \end{aligned}$$

But the first term above is  $\Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow d \wedge Q(\mathbf{I})]$  while the second is  $\gamma(\mathbf{I})$ , establishing (18). For (19) we similarly have

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr [GD_4 \wedge Q(\mathbf{I})] &= \frac{|\Omega'(\mathbf{I}) \times X_{\text{gd}}(\mathbf{I})|}{|\Omega' \times X|} = \frac{|\Omega'(\mathbf{I})|}{|\Omega'|} \cdot \frac{|X_{\text{gd}}(\mathbf{I})|}{|X|} \\ &= \frac{|\Omega'(\mathbf{I})| \cdot |X|}{|\Omega'| \cdot |X|} \cdot \frac{|X_{\text{gd}}(\mathbf{I})|}{|X|} = \frac{|\Omega'(\mathbf{I}) \times X|}{|\Omega' \times X|} \cdot \frac{|X_{\text{gd}}(\mathbf{I})|}{|X|}. \end{aligned}$$

But the final terms above are  $\Pr [Q(\mathbf{I})]$  and  $\gamma(\mathbf{I})$ , respectively, establishing (19).  $\blacksquare$

ANALYSIS CONTINUED. Let  $\gamma_{\min}$  be the smallest value of  $\gamma(I_0, \dots, I_q)$  taken over all  $(I_0, \dots, I_q) \in \text{ID}$ . Let  $\gamma_{\max}$  be the largest value of  $\gamma(I_0, \dots, I_q)$  taken over all  $(I_0, \dots, I_q) \in \text{ID}$ . Using Lemma 3.3 we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_{\text{GP}}^{\text{dbdh}}(\mathcal{B}) &= 2 \cdot \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow d \wedge GD_4] - \Pr [GD_4] \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{I} \in \text{ID}} 2 \cdot \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow d \wedge GD_4 \wedge Q(\mathbf{I})] - \sum_{\mathbf{I} \in \text{ID}} \Pr [GD_4 \wedge Q(\mathbf{I})] \end{aligned}$$

and applying Lemma 3.4:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_{\text{GP}}^{\text{dbdh}}(\mathcal{B}) &= \sum_{\mathbf{I} \in \text{ID}} 2\gamma(\mathbf{I}) \cdot \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow d \wedge Q(\mathbf{I})] - \sum_{\mathbf{I} \in \text{ID}} \gamma(\mathbf{I}) \cdot \Pr [Q(\mathbf{I})] \\ &\geq \underbrace{\gamma_{\min} \sum_{\mathbf{I} \in \text{ID}} 2 \cdot \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow d \wedge Q(\mathbf{I})]}_{=2 \cdot \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow d]} - \underbrace{\gamma_{\max} \sum_{\mathbf{I} \in \text{ID}} \Pr [Q(\mathbf{I})]}_{=1} \\ &\geq 2\gamma_{\min} \cdot \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow d] - \gamma_{\max}. \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow d] &= \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow 1 \mid d = 1] \Pr [d = 1] + \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow 0 \mid d = 0] \Pr [d = 0] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow 1 \mid d = 1] + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \Pr [G_4^A \Rightarrow 0 \mid d = 0] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{Wa}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(\mathcal{A}) \right) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \cdot \text{Adv}_{\text{Wa}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(\mathcal{A}) + \frac{1}{2} \tag{22}$$

where we justify (21) as follows. In the case that  $d = 0$ , the value  $W$  is uniformly distributed over  $\mathbb{G}_T$  and hence line 331 gives  $\mathcal{A}$  no information about the bit  $c$ . So the probability that  $c = c'$  at line 446 is  $1/2$ . On the other hand if  $d = 1$  then  $G_4$  implements the  $\text{IND-CPA}_{\text{Wa}}$  game, so  $2 \cdot \Pr [G_4^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow 1 \mid d = 1] - 1 = \text{Adv}_{\text{Wa}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(\mathcal{A})$  by (3). We substitute (22) into (20) and get

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_{\text{GP}}^{\text{dbdh}}(\mathcal{B}) &\geq 2\gamma_{\min} \left( \frac{1}{4} \text{Adv}_{\text{Wa}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(\mathcal{A}) + \frac{1}{2} \right) - \gamma_{\max} \\ &= \frac{\gamma_{\min}}{2} \text{Adv}_{\text{Wa}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(\mathcal{A}) + (\gamma_{\min} - \gamma_{\max}). \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

To finish the proof, we use the following:

**Lemma 3.5**  $\frac{1}{n(m-1)+1} \left(1 - \frac{q}{m}\right) \leq \gamma_{\min} \leq \gamma_{\max} \leq \frac{1}{n(m-1)+1} \quad \square$

The proof of Lemma 3.5, based on ideas in [36], is given in Appendix D. Let  $\alpha = 1/(n(m-1)+1)$ . Recall that  $m = \lceil 9q/\epsilon \rceil \geq 9q/\epsilon$  where  $\epsilon = \text{Adv}_{\text{Wa}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(\mathcal{A})$ . Then, applying Lemma 3.5 to (23) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_{\text{GP}}^{\text{dbdh}}(\mathcal{B}) &\geq \frac{\alpha}{2} \left(1 - \frac{q}{m}\right) \epsilon + \alpha \left(1 - \frac{q}{m}\right) - \alpha = \alpha \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{q}{m}\right) \epsilon - \frac{q}{m} \right] \\ &\geq \alpha \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{q\epsilon}{9q}\right) \epsilon - \frac{q\epsilon}{9q} \right] = \frac{\alpha\epsilon}{18} (7 - \epsilon) \\ &\geq \frac{\alpha\epsilon}{3}. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

Inequality (24) is justified by the fact that  $\epsilon \leq 1$ . Using the fact that  $m = \lceil 9q/\epsilon \rceil \leq 9q/\epsilon + 1$  and substituting in for  $\alpha$ , we complete the derivation of our lower bound for  $\mathcal{B}$ :

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{GP}}^{\text{dbdh}}(\mathcal{B}) \geq \frac{\epsilon}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{n(m-1)+1} \geq \frac{\epsilon}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{n(9q/\epsilon)+1} = \frac{\epsilon^2}{27qn+3\epsilon}.$$

## 4 Measuring Concrete Security

**WORK FACTORS.** For any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time  $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A})$  and gaining advantage  $\epsilon$  we define the *work factor* of  $\mathcal{A}$  to be  $\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A})/\epsilon$ . The ratio of  $\mathcal{A}$ 's running time to its advantage provides a measure of the efficiency of the adversary. Generally speaking, to resist an adversary with work factor  $\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{A})$ , a scheme should have its security parameter (bits of security) be  $\kappa \geq \log \mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{A})$ . Note that for a particular value of  $\epsilon$ , this means a run time of  $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A}) = \epsilon 2^\kappa$ . Work factors were previously used in [20].

We use work factors to help tame the complexity of comparing reductions. Here we consider Waters' and our new reduction for  $\text{Wa}$ ; a treatment of  $\text{BB}_1$  is given in Appendix F. Consider an ind-cpa adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\text{Wa}$  that makes  $q$  **Extract** queries, runs in time  $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A})$ , and has advantage  $\epsilon = \text{Adv}_{\text{Wa}}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(\mathcal{A})$ . We can relate the work factor of  $\mathcal{A}$  to the work factors of Waters' adversary  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}}$  and our new reduction's adversary  $\mathcal{B}$ . Namely, using Equations (4) and (5), we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}}) &= \frac{\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A}) + \mathbf{T}_{\text{sim}}(n, q) + \mathbf{T}_{\text{abort}}(\epsilon, n, q)}{\epsilon/(32(n+1)q)} \\ &= 32q(n+1) (\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{A}) + \mathbf{T}_{\text{sim}}(n, q) \cdot \epsilon^{-1} + \mathbf{T}_{\text{abort}}(\epsilon, n, q) \cdot \epsilon^{-1}) \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

$s$	$\log p$	$\rho$	$k$	Representation Size (in bits)		
				$\mathbb{G}_1$	$\mathbb{G}_2$	$\mathbb{G}_T$
80	160	1	10	160	1600	1600
112	224	1	10	224	2240	2240
128	256	1	12	256	3072	3072
192	384	2	10	768	7680	7680
256	512	2	15	1024	15360	15360

Figure 6: Group sizes for some pairing instantiations. Each value of  $s$  represents a common security level for pairings. Here  $p$  is the common order of the groups, i.e.  $|\mathbb{G}_1| = |\mathbb{G}_2| = |\mathbb{G}_T| = p$ . The value  $\rho$  determines the size of the representation of an element in  $\mathbb{G}_1$ , where the size (in bits) is  $\rho \cdot \log p$ . Finally,  $k$  is the embedding degree and determines the size of the representation of  $\mathbb{G}_2$  and  $\mathbb{G}_T$ , where the size (in bits) is  $\rho \log p^k$ .

and using Equations(8) and (9) we have that

$$\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{B}) = \frac{\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A}) + \mathbf{T}_{\text{sim}}(n, q)}{\epsilon^2 / (27nq + 3\epsilon)} = \frac{(27nq + 3\epsilon)}{\epsilon} \cdot (\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{A}) + \mathbf{T}_{\text{sim}}(n, q) \cdot \epsilon^{-1}) . \quad (26)$$

A security proof is only meaningful when the adversary it constructs has work factor less than that of the best known attack. Otherwise, the proof does not guarantee that finding a successful attacker against the scheme contradicts our confidence in the hardness of the underlying problem. Pollard’s rho algorithm for finding discrete logs in  $\mathbb{G}_1$  is the best known attack against DBDH. (Our instantiations will ensure that finding discrete logs in  $\mathbb{G}_T$  is no easier than in  $\mathbb{G}_1$ .) The work factor of Pollard’s algorithm ends up being

$$\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{P}) = \frac{\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{P})}{\epsilon_p} = \frac{(0.88\sqrt{p} \cdot T_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_1))^2}{\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{P})} \geq 0.88\sqrt{p} \cdot T_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_1) .$$

where the last inequality is because  $\mathcal{P}$  achieves no more advantage after running for time  $0.88\sqrt{p} \cdot T_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_1)$ . We therefore compare the efficiencies of the two reductions based on their ability to satisfy

$$\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}}) \leq \mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{P}) \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{B}) \leq \mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{P})$$

for various values of  $\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $\epsilon$ ,  $q$ , and concrete pairing parameters.

PAIRING INSTANTIATIONS. In Appendix E we discuss the (complex) topic of instantiating pairings for various security levels. Since not all security levels have efficient instantiations [19, 18], we limit our attention to several *pairing setups* that correspond to the security levels indicated (for private and public-key cryptography) by the NIST key schedule [31]. These setups and their corresponding instantiation sizes are listed in Figure 6.

COMPARING THE REDUCTIONS. We are now ready to perform the comparison. Let  $\kappa = \log \mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{A})$ . The tables in Figure 7 show the pairing setup  $s_W$  needed to ensure  $\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{Wa}}) \leq \mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{P})$  is satisfied and the pairing setup  $s_N$  needed to ensure  $\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{B}) \leq \mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{P})$  is satisfied, for the indicated values of  $\kappa$ ,  $\epsilon$ , and  $q$ . Shown also is the pairing setup required for  $\mathbf{BB}_1$ . Note that while one can evaluate the equations everywhere, some combinations of  $\kappa$ ,  $\epsilon$ , and  $q$  don’t actually make sense, for example  $-\epsilon + q \geq \kappa$  implies that the adversary spends all its time making oracle queries. We have marked such combinations with a \*.

Waters’ reduction provides better or equal efficiency for some choices of parameters as compared to the new reduction. This occurs for relatively large values of  $\epsilon$ , small values of  $q$ , and/or very high values of  $\kappa$ . Moreover, if  $\epsilon$  and  $q$  are held constant, then Waters’ reduction has a constant level more efficiency as  $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$ . When choosing pairing parameters, one can use the minimum of

the two setups suggested by the reductions.

We can calculate the approximate (using conventions discussed in Appendix E) efficiency difference for encryption when  $\text{Wa}$  is instantiated with pairing setup  $s_W$  versus  $s_N$  using the following ratio

$$\frac{\mathsf{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_T) + \mathsf{T}_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_T) + \mathsf{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_2) + \mathsf{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_1)}{\mathsf{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}'_T) + \mathsf{T}_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}'_T) + \mathsf{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}'_2) + \mathsf{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}'_1)}.$$

Here  $\text{GP} = (\mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, \mathbb{G}_T, p, \mathbf{e}, \psi)$  are the pairings as instantiated under setup  $s_W$  and  $\text{GP}' = (\mathbb{G}'_1, \mathbb{G}'_2, \mathbb{G}'_T, p', \mathbf{e}', \psi')$  are the pairings as instantiated under setup  $s_N$ . Figure 2 in the introduction shows this ratio for some  $s_W, s_N$  pairs.

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## A Derivatives of Waters’ IBE

A large body of research [10, 1, 5, 26, 30, 13, 14, 22] utilizes Waters’ scheme. Recall that Waters’ already proposed a heirarchical IBE scheme based on  $\mathbf{Wa}$  in [36], and subsequently there have been numerous derivative works. All use the artificial abort, either due to a black-box reduction to Waters’ (H)IBE or as an explicit step in a direct proof. Our new proof technique immediately benefits those schemes that utilize Waters’ scheme directly (i.e. in a black-box manner). For the rest, we believe that our techniques can be applied but have not checked the details.

- Naccache [30] and Chatterjee and Sarkar [13, 14] independently and concurrently introduced a space-time trade-off for  $\mathbf{Wa}$  that involves modifying the hash function utilized from  $H(\mathbf{u}, I) = \mathbf{u}[0] \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbf{u}[i]^{I[i]}$  for  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{G}_1^{n+1}$  to  $H'(\mathbf{u}, I) = \mathbf{u}[0] \prod_{i=1}^{\ell} \mathbf{u}[i]^{I[i]}$  where  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{G}_1^{\ell+1}$  and each  $I[i]$  is now an  $n/\ell$ -bit string. For appropriate choice of  $\ell$  this will significantly reduce the number of elements included in the master public key. However the new choice of hash function impacts the reduction tightness, and since their proof includes just minor changes to Waters’, our new reduction will increase the efficiency of this time/space trade-off for various security levels.
- In [10]  $\mathbf{BB}_1$ - and  $\mathbf{Wa}$ -based constructions of CCA-secure public-key encryption schemes and their proofs for the  $\mathbf{Wa}$  case directly utilize artificial aborts.

- Kiltz and Galindo [26] propose a construction of CCA-secure identity-based key encapsulation that is a modified version of *Wa*.
- Wildcard IBE [1, 5] is a generalization of heirarchical IBE that allows encryption to identities that include wildcards, e.g. “\*@anonymous.com”. In [1] a wildcard IBE scheme is proposed that utilizes the Waters HIBE scheme, and the proof is black-box to it. In [5] a wildcard identity-based KEM is produced based (in a non-black-box manner) on Waters’ IBE.
- Wicked IBE [2] allows generation of private keys for wildcard identities. These private keys can then be used to generate derivative keys that replace the wildcards with any concrete identity string. They suggest using the Waters’ HIBE scheme to achieve full security in their setting.
- Blind IBE, as introduced by Green and Hohenberger [22], enables the “trusted” master key generator to generate a private key for an identity without learning anything about the identity. To prove a Waters’-based blind IBE scheme secure they utilize the Naccache proof [30] (mentioned above). They utilize blind IBE schemes to build efficient and fully-simulatable oblivious transfer protocols based on the assumptions inherited from the BDH-based IBE schemes used.

## B Proof of Lemma 2.1

We prove the lemma utilizing a coin-counting argument, following the approach of [4, Lemma 1]. For a pair of games  $G$  and  $H$  and an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  we assume that the number of random selection assignments  $s \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} S$  is less than or equal to some number  $b \geq 0$  and each set  $S$  sampled from is of size less than or equal to  $d > 0$  (for simplicity we disallow empty sets). Then we define the coins for  $(G, H, \mathcal{A})$  to be the set  $C = [0..d!]^b$ . Using coins  $\mathbf{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_b) \in C$ , the  $i^{th}$  random selection statement  $s \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_m\}$  for  $m < d$  in  $G^{\mathcal{A}}$  (equivalently  $H^{\mathcal{A}}$ ) is executed by assigning to  $s$  the value  $s_{c_i \bmod m}$ . (Note that there is no distinction between random assignment statements in the game or the adversary, they are treated the same.) Since  $m$  divides  $d$ , then selecting  $\mathbf{c}$  uniformly ensures that each random assignment statement returns an indendently and uniformly chosen element from the set. We write  $G^{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{c})$  to denote running  $G^{\mathcal{A}}$  on the particular choice of coins  $\mathbf{c}$ .

Let  $C$  be the set of coins for  $(G, H, \mathcal{A})$  where  $G$  and  $H$  are identical-until-bad games and  $\mathcal{A}$  is an adversary. Let  $\text{GD}_G$  (resp.  $\text{GD}_H$ ) be the event that **bad** is not set in game  $G$  (resp.  $H$ ). Let  $CG_0 = \{\mathbf{c} \in C : G^{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{c}) \Rightarrow y\}$  and  $CG_1 = C \setminus CG_0$ . Let  $CG^{\text{good}} = \{\mathbf{c} \in C : G^{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{c}) \text{ does not set bad}\}$ . Let  $CG_k^{\text{good}} = CG^{\text{good}} \cap CG_k$  for  $k \in [0, 1]$ . Define  $CH_0, CH_1, CH^{\text{good}}$ , and  $CH_k^{\text{good}}$  in the natural way.

Because  $G$  and  $H$  are identical-until-bad we have that  $CG_1^{\text{good}} = CH_1^{\text{good}}$ . This is true because any vector  $\mathbf{c} \in CG_1^{\text{good}}$  does not cause **bad** to be set, thereby only code that is common with  $H$  is executed. So if  $G^{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{c}) \Rightarrow y$  then  $H^{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{c}) \Rightarrow y$ , making  $\mathbf{c} \in CH_1^{\text{good}}$ . A similar argument works in the other direction. So we have that

$$\Pr [G^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow 1 \wedge \text{GD}_G] = \frac{|CG_1^{\text{good}}|}{|C|} = \frac{|CH_1^{\text{good}}|}{|C|} = \Pr [H^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow 1 \wedge \text{GD}_H].$$

## C Proof of Lemma 3.2

As per the lemma statement, let  $(g_1, g_2, A_2, A_1, B_2, B_1, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}, S, W)$  be simulation parameters. For the first claim, we recall that  $\mathbf{x} \in X$  ensures that  $F(\mathbf{x}, I) \in [-n(m-1) \dots n(m-1)]$ . But the fact that  $m = \lceil 9q/\epsilon \rceil$  and the assumption that  $q \leq p\epsilon/9n$  together imply that  $n(m-1) < p$ . This implies that if  $F(\mathbf{x}, I) \neq 0$  then  $F(\mathbf{x}, I) \bmod p \neq 0$  as well. Thus  $w = F(\mathbf{x}, I)^{-1}$  is well-defined. Let

$a$  and  $b$  be the discrete logs (base  $g_1$ ) of  $A_1$  and  $B_1$ , respectively. Define the function  $f: \mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$  by  $f(r) = r - wa \pmod p$  for all  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ . Now we claim that for any  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  we have

$$A_1^b H(\mathbf{u}, I)^{f(r)} = B_1^{F(\mathbf{x}, I) \cdot r} g_1^{G(\mathbf{y}, I) \cdot r} A_1^{-G(\mathbf{y}, I) \cdot w} \quad (27)$$

$$g_2^{f(r)} = g_2^r A_2^{-w} \quad (28)$$

In other words, the output of  $\text{KgS}(g_1, g_2, A_2, A_1, B_1, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, I)$  when  $r$  is the underlying randomness equals the output of  $\text{Kg}(mpk, msk, I)$  when  $f(r)$  is the underlying randomness. But  $f$  is a permutation over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , so if  $r$  is uniformly distributed, so is  $f(r)$ . This proves that the outputs of  $\text{Kg}(mpk, msk, I)$  and  $\text{KgS}(g_1, g_2, A_2, A_1, B_1, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, I)$  are identically distributed as claimed. Let us now verify equations (27) and (28). We have:

$$\begin{aligned} A_1^b H(\mathbf{u}, I)^{f(r)} &= A_1^b \cdot \left( \mathbf{u}[0] \cdot \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbf{u}[i]^{I[i]} \right)^{r-w \cdot a} \\ &= g_1^{ab} \cdot \left( B_1^{\mathbf{x}[0]} g_1^{\mathbf{y}[0]} \cdot \prod_{i=1}^n B_1^{\mathbf{x}[i] I[i]} g_1^{\mathbf{y}[i] I[i]} \right)^{r-w \cdot a} \\ &= B_1^a \cdot \left( B_1^{F(\mathbf{x}, I)} \cdot g_1^{G(\mathbf{y}, I)} \right)^{r-w \cdot a} \\ &= B_1^a \cdot B_1^{F(\mathbf{x}, I) \cdot r} \cdot B_1^{-a} \cdot g_1^{G(\mathbf{y}, I) \cdot r} \cdot g_1^{-a G(\mathbf{y}, I) \cdot w} \\ &= B_1^{F(\mathbf{x}, I) \cdot r} \cdot g_1^{G(\mathbf{y}, I) \cdot r} \cdot A_1^{-G(\mathbf{y}, I) \cdot w}. \end{aligned}$$

We know that  $g_1 = \psi(g_2)$  and  $A_1 = \psi(A_2) = g_1^a$ . This means that  $A_2 = g_2^a$ . So

$$g_2^{f(r)} = g_2^{r-w \cdot a} = g_2^r A_2^{-w},$$

which completes the proof of the first part. For the second part, we assume that  $F(\mathbf{x}, I) = 0$  and let  $(C_1, C_2, C_3) \leftarrow \text{EncS}(S, W, M, \mathbf{y}, I)$ . Let  $s$  be the discrete log of  $S$  to base  $g_2$ . Then  $C_1 = W \cdot M$ ;  $C_2 = S$ ; and using that  $\psi(S) = g_1^s$  we have

$$C_3 = \psi(S)^{G(\mathbf{y}, I)} = (g_1^s)^{G(\mathbf{y}, I)} = \left( g_1^{G(\mathbf{y}, I)} \right)^s = \left( B_1^0 g_1^{G(\mathbf{y}, I)} \right)^s = \left( B_1^{F(\mathbf{x}, I)} g_1^{G(\mathbf{y}, I)} \right)^s = H(\mathbf{u}, I)^s.$$

Thus  $(C_1, C_2, C_3)$  is exactly  $(W \cdot M, S, H(\mathbf{u}, I)^s)$ .

## D Proof of Lemma 3.5

Fix an arbitrary  $(I_0, \dots, I_q) \in \text{ID}$ . We will show that

$$\frac{1}{n(m-1)+1} \left( 1 - \frac{q}{m} \right) \leq \gamma(I_0, \dots, I_q) \quad (29)$$

$$\frac{1}{n(m-1)+1} \geq \gamma(I_0, \dots, I_q). \quad (30)$$

The lemma follows. We first prove (29). We stress that below  $(I_0, \dots, I_q) \in \text{ID}$  is fixed and the probability is only over the random choice of  $\mathbf{x}$  from  $X$ . Let  $\mathbf{E}_i$  be the event that  $F(\mathbf{x}, I_i) = 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \gamma(I_0, \dots, I_q) &= \Pr [\bar{\mathbf{E}}_0 \vee \mathbf{E}_1 \vee \dots \vee \mathbf{E}_q] \\ &= \Pr [\bar{\mathbf{E}}_0 \vee (\mathbf{E}_0 \wedge \mathbf{E}_1) \vee \dots \vee (\mathbf{E}_0 \wedge \mathbf{E}_q)] \\ &= \Pr [\bar{\mathbf{E}}_0] + \Pr [(\mathbf{E}_0 \wedge \mathbf{E}_1) \vee \dots \vee (\mathbf{E}_0 \wedge \mathbf{E}_q)] \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

$$\leq \Pr [\bar{\mathbf{E}}_0] + \sum_{i=1}^q \Pr [\mathbf{E}_0 \wedge \mathbf{E}_i] \quad (32)$$

For every choice of  $\mathbf{x}[1], \dots, \mathbf{x}[n]$  there is exactly one choice of  $\mathbf{x}[0]$  such that  $F(\mathbf{x}, I_0) = 0$ , so that

$$\Pr [\mathbf{E}_0] = \frac{1}{n(m-1) + 1}. \quad (33)$$

Now let  $i \in [1..q]$ . Since  $I_0 \neq I_i$  there is a  $j \in [1..n]$  such that  $I_i[j] \neq I_0[j]$ . Let  $s \in \{0, i\}$  be such that  $I_s[j] = 0$  and  $I_{i-s}[j] = 1$ . For any choice of  $\mathbf{x}[1], \dots, \mathbf{x}[j-1], \mathbf{x}[j+1], \dots, \mathbf{x}[n]$  let

$$t_0 = - \sum_{l \neq j} \mathbf{x}[l] I_s[l] \quad \text{and} \quad t_j = -t_0 - \sum_{l \neq j} \mathbf{x}[l] I_{i-s}[l].$$

Then  $F(\mathbf{x}, I_0)$  and  $F(\mathbf{x}, I_i)$  are both zero only if  $(\mathbf{x}[0], \mathbf{x}[j]) = (t_0, t_j)$ . Since  $\mathbf{x}[0]$  is drawn from  $[-n(m-1)..0]$  and  $\mathbf{x}[j]$  from  $[0..m-1]$  this means that

$$\Pr [\mathbf{E}_0 \wedge \mathbf{E}_i] \leq \frac{1}{n(m-1) + 1} \cdot \frac{1}{m}. \quad (34)$$

One might ask why (34) is an inequality rather than an equality; isn't the probability that  $(\mathbf{x}[0], \mathbf{x}[j])$  equals  $(t_0, t_j)$  exactly the term on the right? The reason it is not is that  $t_j$  may not lie in  $[0..m-1]$ , so for some choices of the other coordinates of  $\mathbf{x}$ , the probability that  $\mathbf{x}[j] = t_j$  is zero.

Putting together (32), (33), and (34) we have

$$1 - \gamma(I_0, \dots, I_q) \leq 1 - \frac{1}{n(m-1) + 1} + \sum_{i=1}^q \frac{1}{m} \cdot \frac{1}{n(m-1) + 1} = 1 - \frac{1}{n(m-1) + 1} \left(1 - \frac{q}{m}\right)$$

which implies (29).

To derive (30), we note that (31) implies that  $1 - \gamma(I_0, \dots, I_q) \geq \Pr [\bar{\mathbf{E}}_0]$  which, when combined with (33), implies (30).

## E Instantiating Pairing Parameters

**PAIRINGS AND THEIR COSTS.** Let  $\text{GP} = (\mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, \mathbb{G}_T, p, \mathbf{e}, \psi)$  be pairing parameters as per Section 2. We focus on the Type 2 [19] setting for these parameters, since the Type 1 (i.e., the symmetric setting where  $\mathbb{G}_1 = \mathbb{G}_2$ ) is not easily instantiated for higher security levels [19]. In the Type 2 setting,  $\mathbb{G}_1$  is a subgroup of  $E(\mathbb{F}_r)$  where  $\mathbb{F}_r$  is a finite field. Group  $\mathbb{G}_2$  is a subgroup of  $E(\mathbb{F}_{r^k})$  where  $k$  is called the embedding degree. Group  $\mathbb{G}_T$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{F}_{r^k}^*$ . All three groups  $\mathbb{G}_1$ ,  $\mathbb{G}_2$ , and  $\mathbb{G}_T$  are of order  $p$  for some prime  $p$  that divides  $r^k - 1$ . Let  $\rho = (\log r)/(\log p)$ , which we call the representation multiplier. Elements of  $\mathbb{G}_1$  require  $\rho \log p$  bits to represent while elements of  $\mathbb{G}_2$  and  $\mathbb{G}_T$  require  $k\rho \log p$  bits to represent. We fix the following conventions regarding the computational costs of basic operations related to an instantiation of GP.

- A group operation in  $E(\mathbb{F}_r)$  takes at most 16 multiplications in the underlying field  $\mathbb{F}_r$  [19]. A multiplication in  $\mathbb{F}_r$  takes time proportional to  $\log^2 r$  [28]. Therefore, we estimate  $\mathbf{T}_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_1) \leq$

$16 \cdot \log^2 r$ .

- A group exponentiation in  $E(\mathbb{F}_r)$  takes in the worst case  $\log p$  operations in  $E(\mathbb{F}_r)$ , or  $T_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_1) \leq \log p \cdot T_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_1)$  [20].
- A group operation in  $\mathbb{G}_2$  takes  $T_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_2) = k^2 \cdot T_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_1)$  [19] while an operation in  $\mathbb{G}_T$  takes  $T_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_T) = k^2 \cdot T_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_1)/16$  [19]. Exponentiations in either group, in the worst case, require time  $T_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_2) \leq \log p \cdot T_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_2)$  and  $T_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_T) \leq \log p \cdot T_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_T)$  [20].
- A multi-exponentiation (of only a few elements) in a group  $\mathbb{G}$  takes time approximately the same as a single exponentiation, i.e.  $T_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G})$  [29].
- Computing the homomorphism  $\psi$  requires time  $T_\psi < T_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_1)$ .
- Addition or multiplication over the integers (of size at most  $2^p$ ) or the integers modulo  $p$  is unit cost.

Note that our estimates above are based on generic implementations which allow for simplicity but do not consider instance-specific improvements on computational time. The running times computed might therefore be over-estimates of the true costs for some choices of parameters and particular implementations.

CONCRETE PAIRING PARAMETERS. We will consider several sets of values of  $\log p$ ,  $k$ , and  $\rho$  (which fixes  $r$ , since  $\log r = \rho \log p$ ), shown in Figure 6. The figure displays curve parameters for commonly desired levels of security. Here the security level  $s$  means that roughly  $2^s$  operations should be needed to break discrete log in one of the corresponding groups ( $\mathbb{G}_1$ ,  $\mathbb{G}_2$ , or  $\mathbb{G}_T$ ). The group sizes are selected following the guidelines of [31, 27, 28, 18, 19], and specific values for  $\rho$  and  $k$  follow the recommendations of [18]. Note that for  $s = 192$  and  $s = 256$ , it is not possible to achieve  $\rho = 1$  without significantly increasing the subgroup size or using a much larger embedding degree, and unfortunately we do not know how to construct pairings for prime order groups with such a large embedding degree [18]. Thus we follow the recommendations of [18], and choose the smallest curves with  $\rho \approx 2$ . We've also set  $\log r^k$  to be large enough so that the resulting finite field is of size at least as large as those suggested by the NIST key size recommendations [31]. (This is meant to ensure, relative to the best known attacks, that solving DL in  $\mathbb{G}_T$  is no easier than solving discrete logarithms in  $\mathbb{G}_1$ , as we discuss below.)

TIME UNITS. To be concrete we will require a common time unit, which we set to be the cost of the group operation for the smallest group considered. Namely, the time to do a group operation in our selected 160-bit curve:  $T_u = 16 \cdot 160^2$ .

SOLVING DBDH. To the best of our knowledge, the best (published) attack for solving DBDH in our setting is to compute a discrete log in one of the three groups. For  $\mathbb{G}_1$  and  $\mathbb{G}_2$ , which as outlined above are subgroups of elliptic curves, the best published attacks for solving discrete log are generic [28], e.g. Pollard's algorithm [32]. Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the dl (discrete log) adversary that implements Pollard's algorithm against a group  $\mathbb{G}$ . Then we have that

$$\epsilon_p = \mathbf{Adv}_{\mathbb{G}}^{\text{dl}}(\mathcal{P}) = \mathbf{T}(\mathcal{P})^2 / (.88\sqrt{p} \cdot T_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}))^2 \quad (35)$$

where  $|\mathbb{G}| = p$  and the advantage of a dl adversary is defined in the usual way (the probability that it successfully computes, given base  $g \in \mathbb{G}^*$  and  $g^a$  for  $a \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$ , the discrete log  $a$ ). Since elements of  $\mathbb{G}_2$  have a larger representation than those of  $\mathbb{G}_1$  (by a factor of  $k$ , the embedding degree), Pollard's algorithm will run faster against  $\mathbb{G}_1$  than  $\mathbb{G}_2$ , so we need not consider attacking  $\mathbb{G}_2$  directly. For  $\mathbb{G}_T$ , better attacks are known, particularly index-calculus methods [28]. Such attacks are sub-exponential in the number of group operations, meaning they work faster than attacks against  $\mathbb{G}_1$  and  $\mathbb{G}_2$ . Security therefore requires that  $\mathbb{G}_T$  has a representation that is significantly larger than

that of  $\mathbb{G}_1$ 's. Our choices of pairing instantiations described above ensure that the time to compute a discrete log in  $\mathbb{G}_1$  (using Pollard's algorithm) is a lower bound on the time to compute a discrete log in  $\mathbb{G}_T$  (using index-calculus methods). This was accomplished by choosing  $r^k$  appropriately.

## F The $\text{BB}_1$ Scheme and its Security

**BONEH-BOYEN IBE SCHEME.** Fix pairing parameters  $\text{GP} = (\mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, \mathbb{G}_T, p, \mathbf{e}, \psi)$  and let  $n$  be a positive integer that is less than the number of bits required to represent elements in  $\mathbb{G}_1$ . Define the hash family  $H_{BB}$ :  $\mathbb{G}_1^2 \times \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_1$  by  $H_{BB}(\mathbf{u}, I) = \mathbf{u}[0] \cdot \mathbf{u}[1]^I$  for any  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{G}_1^2$  and where  $I \in \{0, 1\}^n$  is taken first encoded as an element of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  in some canonical way. (The first argument is the key and the second is the input.) The Boneh-Boyen IBE scheme [6]  $\text{BB}_1 = (\text{Pg}^*, \text{Kg}^*, \text{Enc}^*, \text{Dec}^*)$  associated to  $\text{GP}$  has associated identity space  $\text{IdSp} = \{0, 1\}^n$  and message space  $\text{MsgSp} = \mathbb{G}_T$ . Its algorithms are defined in the same manner as those given below for Waters' scheme, modulo replacing  $\mathbf{u} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}_1^{n+1}$  in  $\text{Pg}$  with  $\mathbf{u} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}_1^2$  and replacing  $H$  with  $H_{BB}$  in  $\text{Kg}$  and  $\text{Enc}$ .

**SECURITY OF  $\text{BB}_1$ .** Boneh and Boyen prove that  $\text{BB}_1$  is selective-ID secure [6]. Recall that selective-ID security [11, 12] restricts attention to adversaries that must specify the challenge ID before receiving the system parameters. To return to full security (as given in Section 2), they show that any selective-ID-secure IBE scheme is also fully secure, though the reduction loses a factor of  $2^n = |\text{IdSp}|$  in the advantage relation. We combine their results to assess the concrete security of  $\text{BB}_1$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an ind-cpa adversary against  $\text{BB}_1 = (\text{Pg}^*, \text{Kg}^*, \text{Enc}^*, \text{Dec}^*)$  which has advantage  $\epsilon = \text{Adv}_{\text{BB}_1}^{\text{ind-cpa}}(\mathcal{A})$  and that makes  $q$  **Extract** queries. Then [6, Theorem 4.1] and [6, Theorem 7.1] together imply that there exists a dbdh-adversary  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{BB}_1}$  such that

$$\text{Adv}_{\text{GP}}^{\text{dbdh}}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{BB}^*}) \geq \frac{\epsilon}{2^n} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{T}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{BB}^*}) = \mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A}) + \mathbf{T}'_{\text{sim}}(q)$$

where  $N$  is the size of the identity space and

$$\mathbf{T}'_{\text{sim}}(q) = \mathcal{O}((q+2) \cdot \text{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_1) + q \cdot \text{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_2) + \text{T}_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_T) + \text{T}_{\psi}).$$

The work factor for  $\mathcal{B}_{\text{BB}^*}$  is then

$$\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{BB}^*}) = 2^n \cdot \frac{\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{A}) + \mathbf{T}'_{\text{sim}}(q)}{\epsilon} = 2^n \cdot \mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{A}) + \epsilon^{-1} \mathbf{T}'_{\text{sim}}(q).$$

We can compare this reduction's efficiency to the two **Wa** reductions again by assessing when  $\mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{BB}^*}) \leq \mathbf{WF}(\mathcal{P})$  is satisfied. Figure 7 shows the result.

## G Simulation Overhead for $\mathcal{B}$

Let  $\text{GP} = (\mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, \mathbb{G}_T, p, \mathbf{e}, \psi)$  be pairing parameters as per Section 2. We calculate  $\mathbf{T}_{\text{sim}}$ , which is the overhead of the reduction. The time used by  $\mathcal{B}$  beyond that already utilized by  $\mathcal{A}$  includes time to answer  $\mathcal{A}$ 's oracle queries. Note that all the integer operations used by  $\mathcal{B}$  are on integers of absolute value less than  $p$ . This holds even for integers output by  $\text{F}(\mathbf{x}, I)$  as shown by Equation (11).

Adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  first performs two computations of  $\psi$  and  $n$  multi-exponentiations in  $\mathbb{G}_1$ . Each **Extract** query may execute **KgS**, resulting in  $n$  additions over  $\mathbb{Z}$  (to compute  $\text{F}(\mathbf{x}, I)$ ), an inversion over the integers modulo  $p$  (to compute  $\text{F}(\mathbf{x}, I)^{-1}$ ), a multi-exponentiation in  $\mathbb{G}_1$ , and a multi-exponentiation in  $\mathbb{G}_2$ . The **LR** query may execute **EncS**, resulting in a multiplication in  $\mathbb{G}_T$ , a computation of  $\psi$ , and an exponentiation in  $\mathbb{G}_1$ . Thus,

$$\mathbf{T}_{\text{sim}}(n, q) = \mathcal{O}(\text{T}_{\psi} + (n+q) \cdot \text{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_1) + q \cdot \text{T}_{\text{exp}}(\mathbb{G}_2) + qn + \text{T}_{\text{op}}(\mathbb{G}_T)). \quad (36)$$

$\kappa$	$\epsilon$	$q$	$s_{BB}$	$s_W$	$s_N$
60	$2^{-10}$	$2^{10}$	192	112	112
60	$2^{-10}$	$2^{20}$	192	112	112
60	$2^{-10}$	$2^{30}$	192	192	128
60	$2^{-10}$	$2^{40}$	192	192	192
60	$2^{-20}$	$2^{10}$	192	112	112
60	$2^{-20}$	$2^{20}$	192	192	128
60	$2^{-20}$	$2^{30}$	192	192	192
60*	$2^{-20}$	$2^{40}$	192	192	192
60	$2^{-30}$	$2^{10}$	192	192	128
60	$2^{-30}$	$2^{20}$	192	192	192
60*	$2^{-30}$	$2^{30}$	192	192	192
60*	$2^{-30}$	$2^{40}$	192	256	192
60	$2^{-40}$	$2^{10}$	192	192	192
60*	$2^{-40}$	$2^{20}$	192	192	192
60*	$2^{-40}$	$2^{30}$	192	256	192
60*	$2^{-40}$	$2^{40}$	192	256	256

$\kappa$	$\epsilon$	$q$	$s_{BB}$	$s_W$	$s_N$
70	$2^{-10}$	$2^{10}$	256	112	112
70	$2^{-10}$	$2^{20}$	256	112	112
70	$2^{-10}$	$2^{30}$	256	192	128
70	$2^{-10}$	$2^{40}$	256	192	192
70	$2^{-20}$	$2^{10}$	256	112	112
70	$2^{-20}$	$2^{20}$	256	192	128
70	$2^{-20}$	$2^{30}$	256	192	192
70	$2^{-20}$	$2^{40}$	256	256	192
70	$2^{-30}$	$2^{10}$	256	192	128
70	$2^{-30}$	$2^{20}$	256	192	192
70	$2^{-30}$	$2^{30}$	256	256	192
70*	$2^{-30}$	$2^{40}$	256	256	192
70	$2^{-40}$	$2^{10}$	256	192	192
70	$2^{-40}$	$2^{20}$	256	256	192
70*	$2^{-40}$	$2^{30}$	256	256	192
70*	$2^{-40}$	$2^{40}$	256	256	256

$\kappa$	$\epsilon$	$q$	$s_{BB}$	$s_W$	$s_N$
80	$2^{-10}$	$2^{10}$	256	112	112
80	$2^{-10}$	$2^{20}$	256	112	128
80	$2^{-10}$	$2^{30}$	256	192	192
80	$2^{-10}$	$2^{40}$	256	192	192
80	$2^{-20}$	$2^{10}$	256	112	128
80	$2^{-20}$	$2^{20}$	256	192	192
80	$2^{-20}$	$2^{30}$	256	192	192
80	$2^{-20}$	$2^{40}$	256	256	192
80	$2^{-30}$	$2^{10}$	256	192	192
80	$2^{-30}$	$2^{20}$	256	192	192
80	$2^{-30}$	$2^{30}$	256	256	192
80	$2^{-30}$	$2^{40}$	256	256	192
80	$2^{-40}$	$2^{10}$	256	192	192
80	$2^{-40}$	$2^{20}$	256	256	192
80	$2^{-40}$	$2^{30}$	256	256	192
80*	$2^{-40}$	$2^{40}$	256	256	256

$\kappa$	$\epsilon$	$q$	$s_{BB}$	$s_W$	$s_N$
100	$2^{-10}$	$2^{10}$	–	128	192
100	$2^{-10}$	$2^{20}$	–	192	192
100	$2^{-10}$	$2^{30}$	–	192	192
100	$2^{-10}$	$2^{40}$	–	192	192
100	$2^{-20}$	$2^{10}$	–	128	192
100	$2^{-20}$	$2^{20}$	–	192	192
100	$2^{-20}$	$2^{30}$	–	192	192
100	$2^{-20}$	$2^{40}$	–	256	192
100	$2^{-30}$	$2^{10}$	–	192	192
100	$2^{-30}$	$2^{20}$	–	192	192
100	$2^{-30}$	$2^{30}$	–	256	192
100	$2^{-30}$	$2^{40}$	–	256	192
100	$2^{-40}$	$2^{10}$	–	192	192
100	$2^{-40}$	$2^{20}$	–	256	192
100	$2^{-40}$	$2^{30}$	–	256	192
100	$2^{-40}$	$2^{40}$	–	256	256

$\kappa$	$\epsilon$	$q$	$s_{BB}$	$s_W$	$s_N$
128	$2^{-10}$	$2^{10}$	–	192	192
128	$2^{-10}$	$2^{20}$	–	192	192
128	$2^{-10}$	$2^{30}$	–	192	192
128	$2^{-10}$	$2^{40}$	–	192	192
128	$2^{-20}$	$2^{10}$	–	192	192
128	$2^{-20}$	$2^{20}$	–	192	192
128	$2^{-20}$	$2^{30}$	–	192	192
128	$2^{-20}$	$2^{40}$	–	256	256
128	$2^{-30}$	$2^{10}$	–	192	192
128	$2^{-30}$	$2^{20}$	–	192	192
128	$2^{-30}$	$2^{30}$	–	256	256
128	$2^{-30}$	$2^{40}$	–	256	256
128	$2^{-40}$	$2^{10}$	–	192	192
128	$2^{-40}$	$2^{20}$	–	256	256
128	$2^{-40}$	$2^{30}$	–	256	256
128	$2^{-40}$	$2^{40}$	–	256	256

$\kappa$	$\epsilon$	$q$	$s_{BB}$	$s_W$	$s_N$
192	$2^{-10}$	$2^{10}$	–	256	256
192	$2^{-10}$	$2^{20}$	–	256	256
192	$2^{-10}$	$2^{30}$	–	256	256
192	$2^{-10}$	$2^{40}$	–	256	256
192	$2^{-20}$	$2^{10}$	–	256	256
192	$2^{-20}$	$2^{20}$	–	256	256
192	$2^{-20}$	$2^{30}$	–	256	256
192	$2^{-20}$	$2^{40}$	–	256	–
192	$2^{-30}$	$2^{10}$	–	256	256
192	$2^{-30}$	$2^{20}$	–	256	256
192	$2^{-30}$	$2^{30}$	–	256	–
192	$2^{-30}$	$2^{40}$	–	256	–
192	$2^{-40}$	$2^{10}$	–	256	256
192	$2^{-40}$	$2^{20}$	–	256	–
192	$2^{-40}$	$2^{30}$	–	256	–
192	$2^{-40}$	$2^{40}$	–	–	–

Figure 7: Comparison of pairing setups required to provably ensure security of  $BB_1$  and  $Wa$  for various security levels  $\kappa$  and values of  $\epsilon$  and  $q$ . Here  $s_{BB}$  represents  $BB_1$  under Boneh and Boyen’s reduction,  $s_W$  represents  $Wa$  under Waters’ reduction, and  $s_N$  represents  $Wa$  under the new reduction. A dash indicates that a pairing setup greater than 256 is required.