# Timed Encryption and Its Application

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Abstract. In this paper, we propose a new notion of timed encryption, in which the encryption is secure within time t while it is totally insecure after some time T > t. We are interested in the case where t and T are both polynomial. We propose a concrete construction that is provably secure in the random oracle model. We show that it can be generically (although inefficient) constructed from a timed commitment of Boneh and Naor (CRYPTO'00). Finally, we apply this primitive to construct a deniable secure key exchange protocol, where the deniability and secrecy both hold adaptively and the adversary can conduct session state reveal attacks and eavesdropping attacks in the non-eraser model. Our protocol is the first to achieve each of the following properties: adaptive deniability admitting eavesdropping attacks and deniability admitting session state reveal attacks in the non-eraser model. Our protocol is constructed using a timing restriction (inherited from the timed encryption). However, the requirement is rather weak. It essentially asks a user to respond to a ciphertext as soon as possible and hence does not artificially cause any delay. Our usage of timed encryption for the deniability is to use the forceful decryption to obtain the plaintext and hence does not use any random oracle assumption (even if the secrecy proof needs this).

Key Words. Public-key Encryption, Key Exchange, Deniability

# 1 Introduction

We propose a new notion of *timed encryption*. Intuitively, a sender can encrypt a message m using a receiver's public key pk such that the latter can normally decrypt using his private key d. It further requires that any one without d can not decrypt the ciphertext within time t while after time T, any person can decrypt it. In this primitive, neither encryption nor decryption needs a trusted agent or needs any interaction. We are interested in the setting where both t and T are polynomial. Practically, t might be a few seconds and T might be is one day. Simply speaking, a timed encryption is a regular public-key encryption, except that it is secure only in time t while it is completely insecure after time T > t. It has applications in auction, delayed message broadcast and deniable authentication/key exchange. In auction, it is desired that during the bidding phase, bidders can cast their bids such that no one can read it within time t while it is publicly readable after time T > t. This can be realized using a timed encryption with a private key known to nobody. A more interesting setting is deniable authentication where a sender authenticates a message to a receiver while the latter can not prove to a third party the fact of the sender's presence. To achieve this, the receiver can first send a secret key using the sender's timed encryption. The sender then decrypts this key and uses it to authenticate the message back within time t. Since no one except the sender can reply within time t, the authentication is guaranteed. Finally, after time T > t, since anybody can decrypt the authentication key and create the authentication tag, the deniability is achieved.

## 1.1 Related Works

Timed encryption is related to *timed-release* encryption [27], which can be intuitively interpreted as "send a message into the future". This notion is different from ours. Ours requires that within time

t the owner of the private key is the unique person that can decrypt the ciphertext while in their notion no one can decrypt during this period. Due to this difference, none of the known timedrelease encryptions can be easily converted to a timed encryption in our notion. Timed-release encryption has two types of approaches.

*Time-lock puzzles.* In schemes in [27, 29] and the follow-up [25], a sender generates a RSA scheme and uses the factoring to compute  $2^t$  squarings efficiently in order to encrypt a secret while any other person does not have this factoring and hence has to manually repeat  $2^t$  squarings in order to decrypt it, due to which the decryption delay is achieved. Note this is different from a timed encryption since it is the sender (instead of a receiver) that knows the factoring.

Trusted Agents. In this approach, the time-delay is achieved since the decryption requires a secret from trusted agents who will release it after time t. The release can be done interactively or non-interactively. See [7, 17, 10, 13, 11, 12, 28] for references.

Identity-based encryption (IBE) [4] can achieve the delay through a decryption key control, where the identity includes a particular release-time and the decryption secret is available only after this time. This essentially still assumes a trusted agent.

Our timed encryption is different from theirs in that we do not assume any trusted party.

A more related direction is timed-commitment by Boneh and Naor [8], where a committer can commit to a message m and within time t the message m remains confidential while after time T the de-commitment can be opened forcefully. They used the time-lock puzzle based on the sequential nature of RSA modular squaring as in [29] to construct a timed commitment. They also applied this commitment into construct a timed signature. Garay and Jakobsson [20] applied timed commitment techniques to achieve the timed-release property for some standard signatures.

## 1.2 Contribution

In this paper, we propose a new notion of timed encryption, in which the encryption is secure within time t while it is totally insecure after time T > t. We are interested in the case where t and T can be both polynomial. We propose a concrete construction that is provably secure in the random oracle model. We also propose a generic construction from a timed commitment of Boneh and Naor [8]. Finally, we apply this primitive to construct a deniable secure key exchange protocol, where the deniability and secrecy both holds adaptively and the adversary has the capability of issuing session state reveal attacks and eavesdropping attacks. Our protocol is the first to achieve each of the following properties: adaptive deniability admitting eavesdropping attacks and deniability admitting session state reveal attacks both in the non-eraser model. Our protocol works in a timing model (inherited from the timed encryption). However, our timing restriction only requires a user to respond to a message as soon as possible and hence does not artificially cause any communication delay. Pass [9] noticed that deniability in the random oracle model is not trustable. Our deniability proof for the protocol only uses the forceful decryption algorithm of the timed encryption and hence does not depend on a random oracle assumption (even though the secrecy property of the encryption might use it).

## 2 Definitions

**Notations.** For a set  $S, x \leftarrow S$  samples x from S randomly; A|B means A concatenating with B. When the context is clear, we also use AB to denote the concatenation of A with B. We use  $negl: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{R}$  to denote a *negligible* function: for any polynomial p(x),  $\lim_{n\to\infty} negl(n)p(n) = 0$ .

In this paper, we always use  $\kappa$  to denote the security parameter. PPT stands for probabilistic polynomial time. Algorithm A (e.g., encryption or commitment) with input m and randomness r is written as A(m;r). When r is unspecified, simply write it as A(m).  $x \leftarrow A(m)$  denotes the random output of A with input m and unspecified randomness.

### 2.1 Timed Encryption

Timed encryption essentially is a public-key cryptosystem, which, besides the normal encryption and decryption, has a forceful decryption algorithm without a key but using longer time. In this paper, we are interested in the case where both the forceful decryption and normal decryption (with a key) run in a polynomial time. Here we need to be careful about the runtime as it depends on the space model. Specifically, an algorithm implemented in the parallel model runs faster than one in a non-parallel model. This problem has been noticed by Boneh and Naor [8] when they define *timed commitment*. They used the *parallel random access machine* (PRAM) model for this purpose, where an adversary can be implemented using *any* polynomial number of parallel processors. Practically, due to the hardware cost, the degree of parallelism is a priori bounded. Hence, it is useful to consider a bounded PRAM. For a fixed polynomial  $\alpha$ , we call an adversary with  $\alpha$  processors **an adversary in the**  $\alpha$ -**PRAM model** or simply an  $\alpha$ -**PRAM adversary**.

**Definition 1.** A triple of algorithms (G, E, D) is a public key encryption. It is a secure  $(\alpha, t, T)$ -timed encryption if the following holds. Let  $(e, d) \leftarrow G(1^{\kappa})$ .

- Completeness. A ciphertext generated through the specification can always be correctly decrypted using d. In addition, there exists an algorithm  $\mathfrak{T}$  of time T such that  $\mathfrak{T}(C) = D_d(C)$  holds for any string C, except for a negligible probability.
- Secrecy. Any PPT  $\alpha$ -PRAM adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  only has a negligible advantage in the chosen ciphertext attack below.
  - Challenge. A comes up with two messages  $m_0, m_1$  of equal length as a challenge pair. In turn, he will receive  $C_b = \mathcal{E}_e(m_b)$  for  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ .
  - **Decryption.** A can issue any decryption query  $C \neq C_b$  and receive  $D_d(C)$ . Finally, he outputs a guess bit b' for b. He succeeds if b' is computed within time t from receiving  $C_b$  and b' = b.

If (G, E, D) is a secure  $(\alpha, t, T)$ -timed encryption for any polynomial  $\alpha$ , then we call it a secure (t, T)-timed encryption.

Note that conventionally a CCA2 adversary can issue decryption queries before a challenge query. However, this is unnecessary for timed encryption since the runtime before a challenge is unrestricted (other than PPT) and the attacker thus can run the forceful decryption himself.

#### 2.2 Timed Commitment

Timed commitment is a special commitment whose secrecy is guaranteed only within a given time. It was proposed by Boneh and Naor [8]. Our timed encryption is motivated by this. A timed commitment consists of a committer S and a receiver R and proceeds in three phases.

Commit phase: To commit to a string  $w \in \{0,1\}^n$ , S and R execute a protocol Com and the final output by R is a commitment c to w.

Open phase: In the open phase, S sends the string w to R. Then, they execute a protocol DCom, at the end of which R obtains a proof that w is the committed value.

Forced open phase: If S refuses to execute the open phase, there exists an algorithm F-Open that takes c as input and, within time T, outputs w and a proof that w is the commitment in c.

In the security definition, Boneh and Naor requires the commitment remains confidential against any polynomial time PRAM adversary. As for the timed encryption, a  $\alpha$ -PRAM model is also practical. We relax Boneh and Naor's definition to the following.

**Definition 2.** Algorithm TC = (TC.Com, TC.DCom, TC.FD) is  $(\alpha, t, T)$ -secure timed commitment if it satisfies:

**Completeness:** When R accepts in the commitment phase, his output c must be a valid commitment for some  $w \in \{0,1\}^n$  such that TC.FO(c) = w.

**Binding:** If TC.Com(w) = c, then S can not convince R in the decommitment phase that c is a commitment of  $w' \neq w$ . This holds information theoretically.

**Soundness:** At the end of commitment phase, R is convinced that there exists a forced open algorithm TC.FO(c) that outputs the committed string w in time T.

**Privacy:** For any  $\alpha$ -PRAM adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  of time t < T,  $|\Pr[\mathcal{A}(tr, w) = 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(tr, w') = 1]|$  is negligible, where tr is the transcript in the commitment phase and the probability is over coins of S and R.

If TC is  $(\alpha, t, T)$ -secure for any polynomial  $\alpha$ , then it is a (t, T)-secure timed commitment.

## 3 Timed Encryption in the Random Oracle Model

In this section, we construct a concrete timed encryption in the random oracle model. The idea is to decompose a secret into many partial secrets. Each part is not long and is deterministically encrypted. With a decryption key, the secret can be decrypted normally. However, without a decryption key, one (including a PRAM adversary) has to spend a considerable amount of time on determining all partial secrets. This prevents a PRAM adversary obtaining the secret in a short time. On the other hand, if afforded more time, any one can forcefully decrypt all partial secrets (and hence the secret).

**Construction 1.** Let E be a public key encryption with public key e and private key d and  $H : \{0,1\}^* \to \{0,1\}^\ell$  is a hash function.  $\kappa$  is a security parameter and  $\delta \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $\beta$  is a constant.  $\mathcal{K} : \{0,1\}^* \times \{0,1\}^\ell \to \{0,1\}^*$  is a symmetric key encryption, where  $\ell$  is the key length. To encrypt m, take  $r_0 \leftarrow \{0,1\}^\kappa$  and  $r_i \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\beta \log \kappa}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, \delta$ , and compute  $c_i = E_e[r_i; H(c_0r_0r_1\cdots r_i)]$  and  $c_0 = \mathcal{K}[m, H(r_0r_1\cdots r_\delta)]$ . Ciphertext  $C = r_0c_0\cdots c_\delta$ . To decrypt C using d, first decrypt  $\{r_i\}_i$  and then check the consistency of  $\{c_i\}_i$  with  $\{r_i\}_i$  and  $c_0$ . If inconsistent, reject; otherwise, decrypt  $c_0$  using secret key  $H(r_0\cdots r_\delta)$ . The forceful decryption is to search for  $r_1$  that is consistent with  $c_0r_0c_1$ . After finding  $r_1$ , try  $r_2$  from  $c_2$ ,  $r_3$  from  $c_3, \cdots$ . If any of  $r_i$ 's is not found, reject; otherwise, decrypt  $c_0$  using  $H(r_0\cdots r_\delta)$ . Denote this scheme by tE-RO.

**Remark.** One might think to simplify the ciphertext as  $r_0c_0c_1$  where the secret key for  $c_0$  is  $H(r_0r_1)$ . However, this is insecure since an attacker can simply guess  $r_1$  (hence decrypt  $c_0$ ) with a non-negligible probability  $\kappa^{-\beta}$ . Another simplification idea is to modify  $c_i$  as  $c_i = E[r_i; H(c_0r_0r_i)]$ . This is not good since  $\{c_i\}$  can be decrypted in parallel. In our construction, any attacker (disregarding the degree of his parallelism) has to recover  $r_1, \dots, r_{\delta}$  almost sequentially. So he can not quickly finish a forceful decryption. The time analysis for a  $\alpha$ -PRAM (or PRAM) adversary will

be given in the following theorem and the remark after it. Decryption using d is dominated by  $\delta + 1$  hashes of input length at most  $\beta \delta \log \kappa$  and  $\delta$  encryptions-and-decryptions of E. This does not assume a parallel implementation. If Merkle tree hash structure (see [21] for details) is used, then  $\{H(c_0r_0\cdots r_i)\}_{i=1}^{\delta}$  with input  $\{r_i\}_{i=1}^{\delta}$  can be computed efficiently with  $\delta^2$  parallel processors in  $\log \delta$  steps. In this case, the decryption using d can be parallelized. The cost is for each processor is just one encryption and one decryption of E plus  $\log \delta$  evaluations of a basic compressor (in the Merkle tree) with a short input.

**Theorem 1.** E is IND-CPA secure and  $\mathcal{K}$  is semantically secure and one-time unforgeable (unforgeable when given access to one valid ciphertext). H is a random oracle. Then, tE-RO is a secure  $(\sigma, t, \mu \delta k^{\beta})$ -timed encryption, where  $\mu$  is the time to compute one hash of an input length  $\kappa + \beta \delta \log \kappa$ and one encryption of E,  $\sqrt{\sigma t} \delta^{-1} \kappa^{-\beta/2} \log \kappa \leq 1/3$  and  $\delta \geq \log^{2+\epsilon} \kappa$  for some  $\epsilon > 0$ .

**Proof.** Completeness. When a ciphertext is generated normally, it can be decrypted correctly since by the completeness of E,  $r_1, \dots, r_{\delta}$  can be correctly decrypted and hence the secret key for  $c_0$  is uniquely determined and by the completeness of  $\mathcal{K}$ , the message m is uniquely decrypted. For any string  $C = r_0|c_0|\cdots|c_{\delta}$  (if C is not in this form, it will be invalid and hence normally rejected),  $(r_1, \dots, r_{\delta})$  (exist or not) can be unambiguously determined since we need to verify  $c_i = E[r_i; H(c_0r_0r_1\cdots r_i)]$  and also the decryption of E is unique.  $r_i$  can be either decrypted using d or sequential search over space  $\{0, 1\}^{\beta \log \kappa}$ . Hence, the forceful decryption and the normal decryption using d have an identical result. The cost for forceful decryption is dominated by  $\delta$  hashes of length  $\kappa + \beta \delta \log \kappa$  and  $\delta$  encryptions of E. So the completeness follows.

Secrecy. We claim that any  $\sigma$ -PRAM adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  can only break the secrecy negligibly; otherwise, an adversary  $\mathcal{D}$  can use  $\mathcal{A}$  to break the semantic security of  $\mathcal{K}$ .  $\mathcal{D}$  does the following. He generates (e, d) for the public key encryption and invokes  $\mathcal{A}$  with e.

- random oracle H. Upon any query x, maintain a list  $L_H$  and first check whether x is recorded in  $L_H$ . If not, take  $y \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\ell}$  and add (x,y) into  $L_H$ . In any case, return y for  $(x,y) \in L_H$  to the requester.
- Upon a challenge query  $m_0, m_1, \mathcal{D}$  outputs it as his own challenge query. In turn, he will receive  $\mathcal{K}[m_b]$  for  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ , where the secret key is hidden. He then defines  $c_0^* = \mathcal{K}[m_b]$  and generates  $r_0^*, r_i^* \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{\beta \log \kappa}, c_i^*, i = 1, \cdots, \delta$  normally. Finally, he outputs  $C_b^* = r_0^* c_0^* c_1^* \cdots c_{\delta}^*$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- Upon decryption query  $C = r_0 c_0 c_1 \cdots c_{\delta} (\neq C^*)$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$  decrypts normally. That is, he uses d to normally decrypt  $r_1, \cdots, r_{\delta}$  from  $c_1 \cdots c_{\delta}$  and then decrypts  $c_0$  normally.

Finally, when  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs a guess bit b' for b within time t from his receiving  $C_b^*$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$  does the following: if  $r_0^* \cdots r_{\delta}^*$  was queried to H oracle by  $\mathcal{A}$  or  $\mathcal{D}$  himself, he aborts with 0/1 randomly (denote this event by Bad); otherwise, it outputs whatever  $\mathcal{A}$  does. The view of  $\mathcal{A}$  in the simulation of  $\mathcal{D}$  is according to the real distribution unless the following events occur: (1) when  $\mathcal{A}$  issues a decryption query  $C = r_0 c_0 c_1 \cdots c_{\delta}$  after receiving  $C_b^*$ , it happens that  $C \neq C_b^*$  but  $r_0 c_1 \cdots c_{\delta}$  decrypt to  $r_0^* r_1^* \cdots r_{\delta}^*$ . In this case,  $c_0 \neq c_0^*$  (otherwise,  $C = C_b^*$ ) and the decryption key  $H(r_0^* \cdots r_{\delta}^*)$  is unknown to  $\mathcal{D}$  and hence can not answer. However, since  $c_0 \neq c_0^*$ , a valid  $c_0$  implies a forgery of ciphertext under the key of  $c_0^*$ , contradiction to the one-time unforgeability of  $\mathcal{K}$ . We ignore this forgery event from now on. (2) when  $\mathcal{A}$  issues the H-query  $(r_0^* \cdots r_{\delta}^*)$  (i.e., Bad event occurs), the answer should be the unknown key in  $c_0^*$  and so  $\mathcal{D}$  can not answer. Since right before Bad event, the view of  $\mathcal{A}$  is identical to the real world. Hence, the probability of Bad event will not change if the abortion of  $\mathcal{D}$  is replaced by a real execution. Thus,  $\Pr[\mathbf{Succ}(\mathcal{D})] \geq \Pr[\mathbf{Succ}(\mathcal{A})] - \Pr[\mathbf{Bad}]/2 + negl(\kappa)$ . Finally,

since  $\mathcal{A}$  has a polynomial time and polynomial parallel processors, so does  $\mathcal{D}$ . Hence, to prove the theorem, it is sufficient to prove that  $\Pr[\mathsf{Bad}]$  is negligible.

Lemma 1. Pr[Bad] is negligible.

*Proof.* We prove this lemma for a relaxed adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ :  $\mathcal{A}$  is any PPT adversary, except that after receiving  $C_b^*$ , he can only issue parallel *H*-queries for *t* times and each time includes at most  $\sigma$  *H*-queries. Here we implicitly assume one hash cost at least one time unit. We now show that the decryption query is unnecessary. To see this, we revise  $\mathcal{D}$  such that it does not issue a *H*-query except in creating  $C_b^*$  and the decryption query can be answered only using the existing records for *H*-queries from  $\mathcal{A}$ . Let  $C = r_0 c_0 c_1 \cdots c_{\delta}$  be a decryption query.  $\mathcal{D}$  acts as follows.

- If  $r_0c_0 \neq r_0^*c_0^*$ , check whether  $r_0c_0r_1'$  for some  $r_1'$  was queried to H by  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $c_1^* = E[r_1'; H(r_0c_0r_1')]$ . If yes, define  $r_1 = r_1'$  and continue similarly to determine  $r_2, \dots, r_{\delta}$ ; otherwise, reject (this decision is correct by Lemma 2 (Appendix B) since  $H(c_0r_0r_1)$  is undefined (thus random)). When  $r_1 \cdots r_{\delta}$  are all determined, check whether  $r_0 \cdots r_{\delta}$  was queried to H. If yes, use  $H(r_0 \cdots r_{\delta})$  to decrypt  $c_0$ ; otherwise, reject (this decision is valid due to the unforgeability of  $\mathcal{K}$ ). As a summary,  $\mathcal{D}$  can decrypt C based on the records for H-queries from  $\mathcal{A}$  only.
- If  $r_0c_0 = r_0^*c_0^*$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$  searches for  $r_0^*r_1\cdots r_{\delta}$  over all records of *H*-queries such that it is consistent with  $c_1\cdots c_{\delta}$ . Note such a result is unique if any. If it is found, decrypt  $c_0$  using the record  $H(r_0^*r_1\cdots r_{\delta})$ ; otherwise, reject (this decision is correct due to the unforgeability of  $\mathcal{K}$  under the undefined (thus random) key  $H(r_0^*r_1\cdots r_{\delta})$ ). Again, the decryption is answered only based on records for *H*-queries from  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Therefore, to prove the lemma, it suffices to prove that any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  that receives  $C_b^*$  and issues at most t times of parallel *H*-queries, can come up with *H*-query  $r_0^* \cdots r_{\delta}^*$  (i.e., Bad event) negligibly.

Use DisOrd to denote the event: there exists (i, j) with  $j \ge i + \log \kappa - 1$  such that the first H-query with prefix  $r_0^* \cdots r_i^*$  is a H-query with prefix  $r_0^* r_1^* \cdots r_j^*$ . We first prove the following claim. Claim 1.  $\Pr[\text{DisOrd}] = negl(\kappa)$  holds for any PPT  $\mathcal{A}$  in the PRAM model (not just  $\sigma$ -PRAM model).

Proof. Otherwise, since there are at most  $\delta^2$  possible (i, j) pairs, there exist  $(i^*, j^*)$  so that DisOrd on  $(i^*, j^*)$  (or DisOrd $(i^*, j^*)$  for short) occurs non-negligibly. We show that the semantic security of (E, D) for the multiple ciphertexts can be violated by an adversary  $\mathcal{B}$ . Note semantic security in the multi ciphertexts and that for the single ciphertext are equivalent (e.g., see [21]).  $\mathcal{B}$  takes  $r_0^*, r_1^*, \cdots, r_{\delta}^*, m_0, m_1$  and sets the challenge pair for a multi-encryption as  $(r_{i^*}^*, \cdots, r_{\delta}^*)$  or  $(0, 0, \cdots, 0)$ . In turn, he will receive  $\alpha_{i^*}, \cdots, \alpha_{\delta}$  which is the encryption of either the first vector (corresponding to challenge bit u = 1) or all zeros (corresponding to challenge bit u = 0). Upon this, he takes  $K \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\ell}$ , defines  $H(r_0^* \cdots r_{\delta}^*) = K$  and computes  $c_0^* = \mathcal{K}(m_b, K)$ . He also defines  $H(c_0^* r_0^* \cdots r_{i^*}^*)$  as the hidden randomness of  $\alpha_i$  for  $i \geq i^*$ ; for  $i < i^*$ , he computes  $c_i^* = E[r_i; H(c_0^* r_0^* \cdots r_{i^*}^*)]$ , where  $\mathcal{B}$  maintains H oracle to compute H(x). Finally, he gives  $r_0^*, c_0^* \cdots, c_{i^*-1}^*$ , and  $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=i^*}^{\kappa}$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and answers the H-query from the latter normally unless a H-query q with prefix  $c_0^* r_0^* \cdots r_{i^*}^*$  occurs, which has two cases: if q in fact has a longer prefix  $c_0^* r_0^* \cdots r_{j^*}^*$ , then DisOrd $(i^*, j^*)$  occurs; otherwise, DisOrd $(i^*, j^*)$  will not occur. In the former case,  $\mathcal{B}$  terminates with output u' = 1; otherwise, outputs u' = 0. Note right before query q, the view of  $\mathcal{A}$  for the case u = 1, is according to the real distribution and hence  $\Pr[\mathcal{B}(\{\alpha_i\}_i) = 1] = \Pr[\text{DisOrd}(i^*, j^*)]$ ; when

 $u = 0, r_0^* |E[r_1^*; H(r_0^* r_1^*)]| \cdots |E[r_{i^*-1}^*; H(r_0^* \cdots r_{i^*-1}^*)]|E[0]| \cdots$ |E[0] is the challenge tuple.

We show that  $\mathsf{DisOrd}(i^*, j^*)$  in this case occurs negligibly. We show this by reducing to Lemma 5 (Appendix B). In fact, adversary C in Lemma 5 can carry out the simulation of  $\mathcal{B}$  for case u = 0 as follows. He prepares  $r_0^*, \dots, r_{i^*-1}^*, c_0^*$  as done by  $\mathcal{B}$ , lets  $r_{i^*-1+v}^* = x_v^*$  (unknown),  $v = 1, \dots, \delta - i^* + 1$ and defines the values  $H(c_0^*r_0^*\cdots r_i^*), i=i^*,\cdots,\delta$  randomly without specifying its input. In addition,  $n = j^* - i^*$ . Finally, *H*-query  $r_0 \cdots r_i$  is answered as follows. When  $i < i^*$ , the answer is normal as  $r_0^* \cdots r_{i^*-1}$  is known; when  $r_0 \cdots r_{i^*-1} \neq r_0^* \cdots r_{i^*}^*$  is answered with a random hash result; otherwise, query whether  $r_{i^*} \cdots r_i$  equals  $x_1^* \cdots x_{i-i^*+1}$  (i.e.,  $r_{i^*} \cdots r_i$ ). In case of no, answer the hash result as a random number; in case of yes,  $\operatorname{Rev}_N$  (in Lemma 5) occurs if and only if  $\operatorname{DisOrd}(i^*, j^*)$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ 's simulation occurs. Hence, when  $\mathcal{A}$  makes N times parallel queries,

$$\Pr[\mathsf{DisOrd}(i^*, j^*)] = \Pr[\mathsf{Rev}_N] \le \frac{N \cdot Poly(\kappa)}{\kappa^{(j^* - i^* + 1)\beta}} \le \frac{N \cdot Poly(\kappa)}{2\beta \log^2 \kappa},$$

negligible, where  $Poly(\kappa)$  is the degree of parallelism of  $\mathcal{A}$ . When u = 1,  $\Pr[\text{DisOrd}(i^*, j^*)]$  is nonnegligible. Hence, the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  is non-negligible, contradicting the semantic security of E. 

In the following, we assume DisOrd never occurs. Thus, for any i and  $j \ge i + \log \kappa - 1$ , the *H*-query with prefix  $r_0^* \cdots r_i^*$  (but not prefix  $r_0^* \cdots r_i^*$ ) always occurs prior to one with prefix  $r_0^* \cdots r_i^*$ .

Let  $\nu$  be the number of times that  $\mathcal{A}$  makes parallel *H*-queries. Let  $n_u$  denote the number of times  $\mathcal{A}$  make parallel *H*-queries after a query with prefix  $r_0^* r_1^* r_2^* \cdots r_{1+(u-1)\log \kappa}^*$  but till a query with prefix

 $r_0^{i} r_1^* r_2^* \cdots r_{1+u \log \kappa}^*$  (By Claim 1,  $n_u \ge 1$ ). We have that  $\Pr[\nu \le t] \le \Pr[\sum_{u=0}^{\delta/\log \kappa - 1} n_u \le t]$ . To bound this probability, we first show the following.

**Claim 2.**  $\Pr[n_0 \le a_0, \dots, n_{\delta/\log \kappa - 1} \le a_{\delta/\log \kappa - 1}] \le (\sigma/\kappa^\beta)^{\delta/\log \kappa} \cdot \prod_{u=0}^{\delta/\log \kappa - 1} a_u \le (\frac{t\sigma \log \kappa}{\delta \kappa^\beta})^{\delta/\log \kappa}$ . *Proof.* Similar to the treatment for DisOrd, we can show that  $\Pr[n_0 \le a_0] \le \frac{a_0\sigma}{\kappa^\beta}$ . By Lemma 4 (Appendix B), given the view (denoted by  $y_0$ ) of  $\mathcal{A}$  till the first query  $q_0$  with prefix  $r_0^* r_1^*$ , string  $r_{1+\log\kappa}\cdots r_{\delta}$  remains uniformly random to him, where  $x_i^* = r_i^*$  and  $\Omega$  is the set of queries prior to query  $q_0$  and  $u_0$  is query  $q_0$   $(x_0^* x_1^* x_2 \cdots x_{\log \kappa} \neq x_0^* x_1^* x_2^* \cdots x_{\log \kappa}^*$  is guaranteed by Claim 1). Hence, we can use the approach for bounding  $\Pr[\text{DisOrd}]$  to show that  $\Pr[n_1 \leq a_1 | y_0] \leq \frac{a_1 \sigma}{\kappa^{\beta}}$ , where  $y_0$  is the adversary view till the query with prefix  $r_0^*r_1^*$  occurs. Since DisOrd is assumed not to occur, this inequality holds for all  $y_0$ . Since  $n_0$  is deterministic in  $y_0$ , by Lemma 3 (Appendix B),  $\Pr[n_1 \leq$  $a_1|n_0 \leq a_0] \leq \frac{a_1\sigma}{\kappa^{\beta}}$ . Similarly, we can show that  $\Pr[n_i \leq a_i|n_0 \leq a_0, n_1 \leq a_1, \cdots, n_{i-1} \leq a_{i-1}] \leq \frac{a_i\sigma}{\kappa^{\beta}}$ . The first inequality follows. The second one is from the geometry inequality. We come back to bound  $\Pr[\nu \leq t] \leq \Pr[\sum_{u=0}^{\delta/\log \kappa - 1} n_u \leq t]$ . Since  $n_i \geq 1$ , if  $t < \delta/\log \kappa$ ,

 $\Pr[\nu \le t] = 0. \text{ If } t \ge \delta/\log \kappa, \text{ since } n_0 + \dots + n_{\delta/\log \kappa - 1} \le t \text{ has } \left(\frac{t}{\delta/\log \kappa}\right) \le \left(\frac{3t\log \kappa}{\delta}\right)^{\delta/\log \kappa} \text{ solutions,}$ by Claim 2, we have that

$$\Pr\left[\sum_{u=0}^{\delta/\log\kappa-1} n_u \le t\right] \le \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}t\sqrt{\sigma\log\kappa}}{\delta\kappa^{\beta/2}}\right)^{2\delta/\log\kappa}$$

negligible. Hence,  $\Pr[\mathsf{Bad}] = negl(\kappa)$ .

**Corollary 1.** tE-RO is secure  $(\delta / \log \kappa - 1, \mu \kappa^{\beta} \delta)$ -timed encryption for any  $\delta > \log \kappa$ .

**Proof.**  $\sigma$ -PRAM condition in the proof of Theorem 1 is used only in Claim 2. If  $t < \delta/\log \kappa$ , Claim 2 is not used in the proof and  $\Pr[\nu \le t] = 0$  (because  $n_i \ge 1$ ), where some negligible events are ignored.

**Efficiency.** tE-RO can be setup according to the adversary type. For  $\sigma$ -PRAM adversary, we can set  $\beta = \log(t^2\sigma)$  and  $\delta = \log^{2.5} \kappa$ , where t can be set according to the overall secrecy requirement. Under this setting, our theorem guarantees that no PPT adversary in the  $\sigma$ -PRAM can break the secrecy of the timed encryption with non-negligible advantage. On the other hand, the normal encryption of  $E^*$  is dominated by  $\log^{2.5} \kappa$  encryptions of E and hashing of H; the normal decryption is dominated by  $\log^{2.5} \kappa$  encryptions of E and hashing of H. Forceful decryption is dominated by  $\frac{1}{2}\kappa^{\beta}\log^{2.5}\kappa$  encryptions of E and hashing of H. If E uses a

Forceful decryption is dominated by  $\frac{1}{2}\kappa^{\rho} \log^{2.3} \kappa$  encryptions of E and hashing of H. If E uses a hybrid encryption, the cost for normal encryption/decryption of  $E^*$  does not increase much with  $\beta$  since the added cost are only from the hashing H and the (symmetric) data encryption part in E, both of which are cheap. When necessary,  $E_e^*()/D_d^*()$  can also be implemented in the parallel model for a speedup. t can be taken as large as  $\kappa^{\beta/2}/\sqrt{\sigma}$ . Hence, the secrecy level can be conveniently set without affecting the normal encryption/decryptions efficiency. For PRAM adversary (i.e., a PPT adversary with any polynomial parallelism, instead of a fixed  $\sigma$ -PRAM we just discussed), we are only guaranteed that the secrecy holds within time  $\delta/\log \kappa - 1$  where the time unit is one hash of input size  $\kappa + \beta$ . In this case, the scheme is meaningful only if  $E_e^*()/D_d^*()$  is implemented in the parallel model since otherwise the adversary is only given an attack time that is less than the time for a normal encryption/decryption, which is unreasonable. As said before if H uses Merkle tree hash structure, then  $E_e^*()/D_d^*()$  can be implemented in  $\delta^2$  parallel-processor model. Each processor has time independent of  $\delta$  (specifically, one encryption and decryption of E and  $\log \delta$  basic compression of small input). It should be noted that this parallel implementation is practical only if  $\delta$  is small (hence a small secrecy time bound t). In application of deniable key exchange at Section 5, the encryption secrecy is required only to hold for a few seconds. Hence this type of setup is enough. For applications requiring a large  $\delta$ , our scheme is not suitable.

# 4 Timed Encryption without a Random Oracle

In the last section, we have constructed a timed encryption in the random oracle model. In the following, we show that one can generically convert a timed commitment into a timed encryption. Since Boneh and Naor [8] constructed a timed commitment without a random oracle, a random oracle free timed encryption exists too. The idea is as follows. A timed commitment already has a forceful opening. But it lacks an efficient way (using a secret) to decrypt. Hence, naturally we can use a normal encryption to encrypt m and use a timed commitment to commit. With a decryption key, one can obtain m from the normal encryption while, without a decryption key, one can forcefully compute m from the timed commitment. To make sure the force commitments and normal encryptions are consistent in m, a non-interactive zero-knowledge (NIZK) proof is used. The formal description follows.

**Construction 2.** Let (e,d) be a public/private key pair for a public key encryption (E,D). TCom is a timed commitment.  $\mathcal{P}$  is a non-interactive zero knowledge using a common random string  $\sigma$  for relation  $R_e = \left\{ \langle (E_e[m;r], \mathsf{TCom}[m;r']), m, r, r' \rangle \mid m, r, r' \in \{0,1\}^* \right\}$ . To encrypt m, compute  $C = E_e[m;r], \tau = \mathsf{TCom}[m;r']$ , where r and r' are the randomness for C and  $\tau$  respectively.  $\pi = \mathcal{P}_{\sigma}[C, \tau; m, r, r']$ , where the input is  $(C, \tau)$  and witness is (m, r, r'). The final ciphertext is  $\gamma = (C, \tau, \pi)$ . Upon  $\gamma = (C, \tau, \pi)$ , the normal decryption with d is to first verify if  $\pi$  is valid. If yes, decrypt  $m = D_d(C)$ ; otherwise,  $\perp$ . Forced decryption algorithm  $\mathfrak{T}$  for  $\gamma$  is to first verify  $\pi$ . If valid, forcefully open  $\tau$ ; reject otherwise. Denote this scheme by  $(E^*, D^*)$ .

**Theorem 2.** If (E, D) is CCA2 secure, TCom is a secure  $(\alpha, t, T)$ -timed commitment and  $\mathcal{P}$  is a one-time simulation sound adaptive NIZK (See Appendix A), then  $(E^*, D^*)$  is a secure  $(\alpha, t, T)$ -timed encryption.

The proof follows from the intuition presented before; see Appendix C for details.

**Corollary 2.** In Theorem 2, if TCom is a secure (t, T)-timed commitment, then  $(E^*, D^*)$  is a secure (t, T)-timed encryption.

**Proof.** A secure (t, T)-timed commitment is a secure  $(\alpha, t, T)$ -timed commitment for any polynomial  $\alpha$ . By Theorem 2,  $(E^*, D^*)$  is also a secure  $(\alpha, t, T)$ -timed encryption.

### 5 Application to Adaptive Deniable Key Exchange

Deniable key exchange is a protocol that allows two parties to securely establish a common secret while neither of them can prove to a third party that the protocol execution between them has actually occurred. Technically, this can be achieved by requiring that the interaction be simulatable by each of them alone. This property prevents the communication record from being maliciously used as an evidence (i.e., at the court) against an honest user. Deniable key exchange has recently been actively studied in the literature [26, 16, 22]. We are especially interested in the deniability advocated by Di Raimondo et al. [16], where the deniability remains valid even if the adversary can eavesdrop some communication records between honest users. Eavesdropping could add to the difficulty of deniability. Indeed, the eavesdropped transcript is usually linkable to an honest user and its randomness is unknown to the attacker. If an adversary uses part of this transcript in an attack session, this linkage might remain. Adaptivity for deniability is also important, where an adversary can corrupt any user with the time going on. To our knowledge, no adaptive deniable key exchange in the eavesdropping model has been proposed before. In this section, we will resolve this question using a timed encryption (hence in the timing model). Our timing restriction is rather weak. It essentially asks a user to process the ciphertext as soon as possible and hence does not artificially cause any communication delay (unlike [19]). Our deniable security is proven in the non-eraser model, where the intermediate data in the protocol execution can not be erased and, when an instance is corrupted, it has to handled out the state faithfully.

The security model considered here is from Bellare-Rogaway [2] for session key security and from [19, 22] for deniability. Assume there are n parties  $P_1, \dots, P_n$ .  $P_i$  and  $P_j$  might jointly execute a key exchange protocol  $\Xi$  to establish a common secret (called *session key*).

Notions.  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  denotes a protocol instance in  $P_i$ , which is a copy of  $\Xi$  in it and  $\ell_i$  is its instance id.  $\operatorname{sid}_i^{\ell_i}$  is a session identifier for  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  and will be specified when analyzing the protocol security. Supposedly, two communicating instances should share the same session identifier.  $\operatorname{pid}_i^{\ell_i}$  is the partner party of  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  that he presumably interacts with.  $\operatorname{stat}_i^{\ell_i}$  is the internal state of  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$ . We also use  $\operatorname{stat}_i$  to denote an internal state for an unspecified instance in  $P_i$ .  $\operatorname{sk}_i^{\ell_i}$  is the session key in  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$ .  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  and  $\Pi_j^{\ell_j}$  are partnered if (1)  $\operatorname{pid}_i^{\ell_i} = P_j$  and  $\operatorname{pid}_j^{\ell_j} = P_i$ ; (2)  $\operatorname{sid}_i^{\ell_i} = \operatorname{sid}_j^{\ell_j}$ . Intuitively, instances are partnered if they are jointly executing  $\Xi$ . Adversarial Model. Now we introduce the attack model. Essentially, we would like to capture the concern that the adversary can fully control the network. In particular, he can inject, modify, block and delete messages at will. He can also corrupt some users and obtain their secret keys and internal states. He is also able to collect some selected session keys. Finally,  $\Xi$  is secure if the session key of any adversarially chosen instance remains computationally random, where the adversary is assumed not to compromise this session key in an obvious way (e.g., corruption or session key request). The formal model is defined as a game between a challenger and an attacker  $\mathcal{A}$ . The challenger maintains a set of oracles that represent events during protocol executions. Adversarial capabilities are modeled as queries to these oracles adaptively.

Send $(i, \ell_i, M)$ . In this query,  $\mathcal{A}$  can send any message M to  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$ . The result is whatever the latter returns according to the specification. This models  $P_i$ 's response to an incoming message. Note Send $(i, \ell_i, Flow_a)$  and Send $(i, \ell_i, Flow_{a+2z})$  for  $a, z \in \mathbb{Z}$  must be consistent. Especially, the latter will start from the internal state of the former. For instance, in our construction at the next subsection,  $P_j$  requires that  $Flow_3$  be received within time t from receiving  $Flow_1$ . Toward this, upon Send $(j, \ell_j, Flow_1)$ , a timer is set and as a part of the internal state it will be feeded to Send $(j, \ell_j, Flow_3)$ , as  $\Pi_i^{\ell_j}$  does in the real execution.

Reveal $(i, \ell_i)$ . In this query,  $\mathcal{A}$  can ask for a session key  $sk_i^{\ell_i}$  in  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$ . It models a session key loss attack.

Corrupt $(i, \ell_i)$ . In this query,  $\mathcal{A}$  can ask to corrupt  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$ . In turn, state  $\mathsf{stat}_i^{\ell_i}$  is given. Note that  $P_i$ 's long term secret key is not part of  $\mathsf{stat}_i^{\ell_i}$ . This threat is also called *session state reveal attack* [1, 6]. Security against such an attack essentially means that compromising one session does not affect other sessions.

**Corrupt**(*i*). Upon this,  $\mathcal{A}$  can corrupt  $P_i$  and obtains his long term secret and all internal states  $\{\mathsf{stat}_i^{\ell_i}\}_{\ell_i}$ . In addition,  $P_i$ 's future action is taken by  $\mathcal{A}$ . This models the case where some users become malicious.

**Test** $(i, \ell_i)$ . This is the security test and is allowed to query it only once. The queried session must be completed and accepted. Furthermore, this session should not be *compromised* (see the definition below). When this oracle is called, it flips a fair coin b and provides a number  $\alpha_b$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ , where  $\alpha_0 = sk_i^{\ell_i}$  and  $\alpha_1 \leftarrow \mathcal{K}$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  is the space of  $sk_i^{\ell_i}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  then tries to output a guess bit b'. He is informed success if b' = b; otherwise, fail.

 $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  is said compromised if Reveal or Corrupt query was issued to it or its partnered session, or if  $P_i$  or  $\text{pid}_i^{\ell_i}$  is Corrupted.

The security of the protocol is defined through correctness, secrecy, authentication and deniability.

**Correctness.** If two partnered instances  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  and  $\Pi_j^{\ell_j}$  successfully complete, then  $sk_i^{l_i} = sk_j^{\ell_j}$ . **Secrecy.** Let  $\mathsf{Succ}(\mathcal{A})$  denote the success event in the **Test** query. The secrecy requires that  $\Pr[\mathsf{Succ}(\mathcal{A})] < \frac{1}{2} + negl(\kappa)$  (i.e., randomly guessing *b* is the best strategy).

Authentication. Essentially, authentication is to require that when one instance  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  successfully completes the execution of  $\Xi$ , indeed  $\operatorname{pid}_i^{\ell_i}$  attended this execution. Formally, let  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  be the test session and Non-Auth be the event: either there does not exist any partnered instance for  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  or its partnered instance is not unique. Then  $\Xi$  is said to be *authenticated* if  $\Pr[\operatorname{Non-Auth}(\mathcal{A})]$  is negligible. Note that as mentioned in [22], defining Non-Auth on the test session is for simplicity only.

**Deniability.** Deniability essentially states that the adversary view in the interaction can be simulated himself (i.e., using his knowledge only) and hence its view can not be used as evidences

against deniability of other users. Formally, the simulated interaction and the real interaction should be *statistically close*. In our case, it suffices that the oracles can be maintained using all users' public keys and (adaptively) corrupted users' secret keys (when corruption occurs), where a corrupted user's secret key will be provided to the simulator when adversary issues this corruption query. Hence, we can define the deniability as the statistical closeness between the adversary view when the oracles are maintained as specified and the adversary view when the oracles are simulated. As mentioned in the beginning, the deniability should hold against eavesdropping attack. This can be modeled by one more oracle below that is maintained by a trusted party.

- Execute $(i, \ell_i, j, \ell_j)$ . This oracle is maintained by a trusted party. When this oracle is called, a complete protocol execution between  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  and  $\Pi_j^{\ell_j}$  is carried out. Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  and the simulator will be provided with a protocol transcript tr. This captures an eavesdropping attack, where  $\mathcal{A}$  (and the simulator) does not know the randomness for data in the transcript.

**Definition 3.** A key exchange protocol  $\Xi$  is deniable secure if for any PPT A, correctness, secrecy, authentication and deniability are all satisfied.

**Remark.** In the next subsection, we will construct a key exchange protocol whose specification requires a timing restriction (e.g.,  $P_j$  requires that  $Flow_3$  must be received within time T after he sends out  $Flow_2$ ). We remark that our deniability definition in the above is for a general key exchange. It of course is suitable for our construction where the timing restriction is a part of the protocol. Due to this restriction, the deniable security in the above definition can be easily shown. In other words, this restriction is not an assumption for the protocol's deniability. That is why our definition of deniable security does not mention the timing restriction.

#### 5.1 Construction

In the following, we use a timed encryption to construct a new key exchange protocol that is adaptively deniable secure, where eavesdropping attacks and session state reveal attacks are both allowed. Our protocol is presented as follows (also see Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Our Timed Encryption-based Deniable Key Exchange tE-DKE(See details in the bodytext)

Initially, take  $(E_i, D_i) \leftarrow G(1^{\kappa})$  as user  $P_i$ 's public/private key pair. p, q are large primes with  $q \mid p-1. \ g \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  has an order of q. MAC:  $\{0, 1\}^{\kappa} \times \{0, 1\}^* \to \{0, 1\}^{\kappa}$  is a message authentication code with key space  $\{0, 1\}^{\kappa}$ . When  $P_i$  and  $P_j$  want to establish a session key, they proceed as follows.

- 1.  $P_i$  takes  $x \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q, k_1 \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\kappa}$  and sends  $C_1 = E_j[k_1|g^x]$  to  $P_j$ .
- 2. Upon  $C_1$ ,  $P_j$  takes  $y \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q, k_2 \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\kappa}$  and sends  $C_2 = E_i[k_2|C_1|g^y]$  to  $P_i$ .
- 3. Upon  $C_2$ ,  $P_i$  checks whether  $D_i(C_2) = k_2 |C_1| Y$  for some  $k_2 \in \{0, 1\}^{\kappa}$  and  $Y \in \langle g \rangle$ . If no, reject; otherwise, send  $\mathsf{MAC}_{k_2}(P_i|P_j|C_1|C_2|0)$  to  $P_j$ .
- 4. Upon  $\tau$ , if  $\tau = \mathsf{MAC}_{k_2}(P_i|P_j|C_1|C_2|0)$  and  $\tau$  is received within time t from sending out round two message and if  $D_j(C_1) = k_1|X$  for some  $X \in \langle g \rangle$  and  $k_1 \in \{0,1\}^{\kappa}$ , set  $sk = X^y$  and then compute and send  $\sigma = \mathsf{MAC}_{k_1}(P_i|P_j|C_1|C_2|1)$  to  $P_i$ ; otherwise, reject.
- 5. Upon  $\sigma$ , If  $\sigma \neq \mathsf{MAC}_{k_1}(P_i|P_j|C_1|C_2|1)$  or  $\sigma$  is received more than time t from sending out round one message, reject; otherwise, set  $sk = Y^x$ .

### **Remark.** To better understand our protocol, some remarks are necessary.

(1) One careful reader might realize that the final message flow seemingly can be moved to the second round (i.e., put together with  $C_2$ ). If so,  $P_j$  needs to first derive  $k_1$  from  $C_1$  in order to compute  $\mathsf{MAC}_{k_1}(*)$ . We show that this variant suffers from a session state reveal attack. Assume  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  sends  $C_1$  to  $P_j^{\ell_j}$ . When  $\Pi_j^{\ell_j}$  replies with  $C_2$  and  $\sigma$ , the attacker reveals the state of  $\Pi_j^{\ell_j}$  and obtains  $k_1$  in  $C_1$ . With  $k_1$ , the attacker forges a new  $C'_2$  and  $\sigma'$  with a known y'. Now when  $P_i^{\ell_i}$  successfully completes, it has no partner in  $P_j$  and in addition  $sk_i^{\ell_i}$  is known to the attacker. A simple counter measure for this attack is to erase  $k_1$  after computing  $\sigma$  (noticing  $k_1$  will not be used by  $P_j^{\ell_j}$  anymore). However, this works only in the eraser model, which is not the interest of this work. If  $\tau$  is sent in the 4th flow as we do, this attack will not occur. Intuitively, this is true since a party decrypts  $k_1$  or  $k_2$  only after  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  both are known to him. Hence, the attacker can not compute a  $\sigma'$  in order to authenticate his own X or Y.

(2) If  $C_1$  is not encrypted in  $C_2$ , the protocol again will suffer from a session state reveal attack. Indeed, when an attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  sees  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$ 's message  $C_1 = E_j[k_1|g^x]$ , he changes it to  $C'_1 = E_j[k'_1|g^{x'}]$ and sends it to  $\Pi_j^{\ell_j}$ . After seeing  $C_2$ , he forwards to  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$ . When  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  sends out  $\tau$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  corrupts  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$ and obtains  $k_2$ , with which  $\mathcal{A}$  computes  $\tau'$  that matches  $C'_1$  and  $C_2$ .  $\Pi_j^{\ell_j}$  then will be deceptively convinced. Our protocol will not suffer from this attack since  $C_1$  is encrypted in  $C_2$  and so  $\mathcal{A}$  can not mall  $C_2$  to  $C'_2$  that contains  $C'_1$  but does not change  $k_2$ .

(3) If  $g^x$  is not encrypted in  $C_1$  but it is included in the input for  $\tau$  and  $\sigma$ , then it still suffers from a session state reveal attack. The procedure is similar to the case in item (2).

(4) Deniability of our protocol is intuitively showed as follows. We are required to simulate the oracle response without using an honest user's decryption key. This is done due to the forceful decryption for the timed encryption. Specifically, when receiving  $C_2$ , the simulator can suspend the adversary and forcefully decrypt it. Note that in order for a protocol to be deniable, it only requires that based on public keys the simulator can simulate the adversary view in a polynomial time (i.e., in the same complexity class with the adversary so that toward deniability the code of the simulator can be run by the attacker himself). In timed encryption, the forceful decryption runs in a polynomial time and hence the simulation lies in the complxity class of an adversary. The suspension based simulation is used by Dwork, Naor and Sahai [19].

### 5.2 Security

In this section, we analyze the security of our protocol. We will show that it satisfies adaptive secrecy, adaptive deniability and authentication. Our adaptive deniability holds even if the adversary can

launch an eavesdropping attack. This is the first protocol in the literature that achieves this. Our secrecy property holds even if the adversary can launch a session state reveal attack in the non-eraser model, where all the intermediate data of an instance will not erased and (when revealed) will be given to the adversary. Avoiding such an attack is meaningful as it essentially means that compromising one session should not have a security effect on other non-partnered sessions. Before proceeding, we define the session identifier. For an initiator instance  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$ , let  $\operatorname{sid}_i^{\ell_i} = \langle P_i, P_j, E_j[k_1|g^x], C_2 \rangle$ . Similarly, we define one for a responding instance.

Deniability intuitively follows from the forceful decryption of timed encryption and suspension strategy of [19] as seen in the above remark. The secrecy is to say that an adversary in the secrecy test can not have a success probability better than a näive guess. A routine proof strategy is to use a sequence of game method to modify the oracles gradually such that the final game is easy to analyze. But one pitfall here is that since E is a timed encryption, we can not modify the encryption content; otherwise, the adversary will detect the modification as T is also a polynomial. In our proof, we will only modify the test instance and in addition the simulation will end when time t is elapsed since the modified ciphertext is sent. Hence, the adversary will not have enough time to detect the modification. The authentication property will be showed when we prove the secrecy property, where a test session provably has a unique partner instance.

**Theorem 3.** If (G, E, D) is a  $(\alpha, t, T)$ -timed encryption and MAC is an existentially unforgeable message authentication code, then tE-DKE is adaptively deniable secure against any PPT  $\alpha$ -PRAM suspendible adversary.

**Proof.** Assume  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  and  $\Pi_j^{\ell_j}$  share an identical sid and also both accepts. Using the notion in the protocol description,

$$\langle P_i, P_j, E_j[k_1|g^x], C_2 \rangle = \langle P_i, P_j, C_1, E_i[k_2|C_1|g^y] \rangle.$$

Then  $\Pi_i^{\ell_i}$  is the initiator and  $\Pi_j^{\ell_j}$  is the responder. Also  $C_1 = E_j[k_1|g^x]$  and  $C_2 = E_i[k_2|C_1|g^y]$ . Hence, they have an identical view on  $(g^x, g^y)$ . Since both accept, both compute  $sk = g^{xy}$ . This concludes the completeness.

We now consider the adaptive deniability. The oracle simulator is simple: it behaves normally except when he needs to use  $D_i$  to decrypt a ciphertext C. In this case, he suspends the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and uses forced decryption to obtain  $m = \mathfrak{T}(C)$ . After that, he frees  $\mathcal{A}$  and continues the normal execution. Due to the completeness of  $(\alpha, t, T)$ -timed encryption, the outcome of  $\mathfrak{T}$  differs from  $D_i(C)$  only negligibly. Note this holds regardless how C is computed (especially it could be computed under the help of Execute oracle or even it is invalid). Hence, the simulation is statistically close to the real one. Adaptive deniability follows<sup>1</sup>.

Now we consider the authentication property. If  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  is the test instance, we need to show that there is a unique partnered instance  $\Pi_s^{\ell_s}$  for it. We only need to prove the existence since the probability in an instance to repeatedly sample the same x (or y) is negligible. First consider the case  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  is a responder instance and after receiving a round one message  $C_1^*$  from a claimed party  $P_s$ , he sends  $C_2^* = E_s[k_2^*|C_1^*|g^{y^*}]$  to  $P_s$ . Denote the event that  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  receives a valid third round message  $\tau^*$  within time t from his sending out  $C_2^*$  but no partnered instance in  $P_s$  exists for  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$ , by Imp. We

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Note that the secrecy of (G, E, D) can be proven in the random oracle model (e.g., *t*E-RO). It is pointed out in [9] that the deniability in the random oracle model can not be trusted. In our deniability proof here, we only use the property of *E* that it can be forcefully decrypted by an algorithm  $\mathfrak{T}$  in time *T*. Hence, no secrecy (hence random oracle) is used or considered. Consequently our timed encryption *t*E-RO in Section 3 can be plugged here.

need to show that  $\Pr[\mathsf{Imp}]$  is negligible. Denote the real game by  $\Gamma$ . We modify  $\Gamma$  to  $\Gamma'$  such that the game terminates after time t from the moment  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  sends out  $C_2^*$ .  $\Pr[\mathsf{Imp}(\Gamma)] = \Pr[\mathsf{Imp}(\Gamma')]$  since if  $\mathsf{Imp}$  occurs, it must happen within time t since the moment  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  sends out  $C_2^*$ . We further modify  $\Gamma'$  to  $\Gamma''$  such that  $E_s[k_2^*|C_1^*|g^{y^*}]$  in  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  is replaced by  $E_s[\mathbf{0}|C_1^*|g^{y^*}]$ . To be consistent, whenever  $P_s$  receives the same  $E_s[\mathbf{0}|C_1^*|g^{x^*}]$ , it proceeds normally with assuming the decryption result being  $(k_2^*|C_1^*|g^{y^*})$  and so  $\tau$  is computed using  $k_2^*$ . By reducing to the secrecy property of E under CCA2 attack, we show that  $\Pr[\operatorname{Imp}(\Gamma')] = \Pr[\operatorname{Imp}(\Gamma'')] + negl(\kappa)$ . Otherwise, an  $\alpha$ -PRAM attacker  $\mathcal{D}$ for E is described as follows. Assume there are at most  $\mu$  responder instances. Given a challenge public key  $E, \mathcal{D}$  takes  $u \leftarrow \{1, \dots, \mu\}$  and  $s \leftarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$ . He sets up the system normally with  $\mathcal{A}$  against it, except  $E_s = E$ . He simulates  $\Gamma'$  normally, except when the *u*th responder instance  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  is invoked. In this case, if  $\mathsf{pid}_t^{\ell_t} \neq P_s$  or if  $P_s$  is corrupted, determinate with 0; otherwise, it takes  $y^*, k_2^*$  randomly and outputs the challenge pair as  $(\mathbf{0}|C_1^*|g^{y^*}, k_2^*|C_1^*|g^{y^*})$ . In turn, he receives  $C_2^*$  and sends to  $P_s$ . Later  $\mathcal{D}$  simulates the game normally, except whenever (1)  $P_s$  receives  $C_2^*$ , it proceeds using  $k_2^*|C_1^*|g^{y^*}$  (e.g. session state  $\mathsf{stat}_s^{\ell_s}$  also uses  $k_2^*$ ); (2)  $P_s$  receives  $C_2 \neq C_2^*$ , he asks his decryption oracle to compute  $k_2|C_1|g^y$ . Finally, when  $P_t^{\ell_t}$  receives a valid round three message  $\tau$ within time t from the moment its sending  $C_2^*$  while no partnered instance in  $P_s$  exists for  $P_t^{\ell_t}$ , then  $\mathcal{D}$  outputs 1; otherwise 0. The probability that the *u*th instance  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  is the test instance and  $P_s$  is its partner party is  $\frac{1}{nu}$ . When the guess is correct,  $C_2^*$  encoding  $\mathbf{0}|C_1^*|g^{y^*}$  (resp.  $k_2^*|C_1^*|g^{y^*}$ ) corresponds to the simulation of  $\Gamma''$  (resp.  $\Gamma'$ ). Hence, the non-negligible gap of event in Imp between them implies the non-negligible advantage of  $\mathcal{D}$ . In addition, since  $\mathcal{A}$  is in the  $\alpha$ -PRAM model, so is  $\mathcal{D}$ .  $\mathcal{D}$  does not add any delay in converting the challenge/answer of  $\mathcal{A}$  to his own. Thus,  $\mathcal{D}$  is a valid attacker. This contradicts to the secrecy of E. Finally,  $\Pr[\operatorname{Imp}(\Gamma'')]$  is negligible as Imp event (nonpartnering) implies that  $C_1^*$  in  $C_2^*$  was never computed by  $P_s$  and hence message  $C_2$  will not be accepted by any instance in  $P_s$ . Therefore, the usage of  $k_2^*$  in the simulation of  $\Gamma''$  is only to evaluate  $\mathsf{MAC}_{k_2^*}(\cdot)$  (especially recall  $P_t^{\ell_t}$  can not be issued a session state reveal) and hence the non-negligible probability of  $Imp(\Gamma'')$  event can be reduced to break MAC, contradiction! This completes the case  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  is a responder. When  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  is an initiator, the proof is similar that when  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  receives  $\sigma$ , there must exist a unique partnered instance in  $P_s$  for it. As a summary, we conclude that  $\Pr[\mathsf{Imp}(\Gamma)]$  is negligible and hence the authentication property holds.

We now consider the secrecy. We have showed that the test instance  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  must have a unique partnered instance  $\Pi_s^{\ell_s}$ . In addition, this  $\Pi_s^{\ell_s}$  also only have  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  as its unique partnered instance in  $P_t$ . This is so due to the fact that sampling a repeated x or y in  $P_t$  has a negligible probability (we ignore it). Now we argue the adversary success in the test session is  $1/2 + negl(\kappa)$ ; otherwise, an attacker  $\mathcal{B}$  can break DDH assumption as follows. Given a challenge tuple  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  sets up  $\Gamma$  normally with  $\mathcal{A}$  against it. It takes a distinct pair u < v randomly from  $\{1, \dots, \mu\}$ . Then it simulates  $\Gamma$  normally, except when the uth instance  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  or vth instance  $\Pi_s^{\ell_s}$  is invoked. In the former case directly define  $g^x$  as  $\alpha$  and in the latter case define  $g^y$  as  $\beta$ . In this simulation,  $x = \log_g \alpha$  and  $y = \log_g \beta$  are unknown. Whenever  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  or  $\Pi_s^{\ell_s}$  is compromised or if  $\Pi_t^{\ell_s}$  and  $\Pi_s^{\ell_s}$  are not partnered instances or if neither of them is chosen as the test session, then aborts; otherwise, define  $\gamma$  as the challenge session key for the test session (which is either  $\Pi_t^{\ell_t}$  or  $\Pi_s^{\ell_s}$ ). Finally, output whatever  $\mathcal{A}$  does. First of all, we have showed that there is a unique pair of partnered instances, one of which is the test session. If this pair of partnered instance are the uth and vth instances, then the abortion event will not occur. Since prior to the abortion event adversary view is real, the correct guess of (u, v) has a probability of  $\frac{1}{\mu(\mu-1)}$ . Conditional on the correct guess of (u, v), the

adversary view is according to the real distribution in  $\Gamma$ . Hence, non-negligible advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  in  $\Gamma$  implies a non-negligible advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in his DDH game, contradiction!

**Corollary 3.** In Theorem 3, if (E, D) is (t, T)-timed encryption, then tE-DKE is adaptively deniable secure against any PPT PRAM suspendible adversary.

**Proof.** For any polynomial  $\alpha$ , (E, D) is  $(\alpha, t, T)$ -timed encryption. By Theorem 3, tE-DKE is deniable secure against any PPT  $\alpha$ -PRAM suspendible adversary. The claim follows.

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### Appendix A. One-time Simulation Sound Non-Interactive Zero Knowledge (NIZK)

One-time simulation sound NIZK essentially means that except the usual adaptive NIZK property, the adversary can not prove a false theorem even if the adversary sees a simulated proof for a false theorem. The formulation below essentially follows from [21, 24].

**Definition 4.** A pair of probabilistic polynomial time machines (P, V) with a common random string  $\sigma$  is an adaptive non-interactive zero-knowledge (Adaptive NIZK) proof system for an  $\mathcal{NP}$ -language L with  $\mathcal{NP}$ -relation  $R_L$  if the following holds.

- Completeness. For any  $(x, w) \in R_L$ , it holds that  $\Pr[V(x, \sigma, P(x, w, \sigma)) = 1] = 1 negl(\kappa)$ , where  $\sigma$  is uniformly random over  $\{0, 1\}^{poly(\kappa)}$  and the probability is over the choices of  $\sigma$  and coins of P.
- Adaptive Soundness. For  $\sigma \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\kappa}$ , the probability that there exists  $x \notin L$  and a proof  $\pi$  such that  $(\sigma, x, \pi)$  is accepting, is negligible, where the probability is over the choices of  $\sigma$ .
- Adaptive Zero Knowledge. For any non uniform PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a simulator  $\mathcal{SIM}$  such that  $(\sigma, x, \pi)$  generated in the following two processes are indistinguishable.
  - $\diamond Take \ \sigma \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\ell}; \ (x,w) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(\sigma) \ s.t. \ (x,w) \in R_L; \ \pi = P(x,w,\sigma).$
  - ◊ SIM simulates σ with a trapdoor τ;  $(x, w) ← A(\sigma)$  s.t.  $(x, w) ∈ R_L$ ; SIM computes π from  $(x, \sigma, \tau)$ .

Adatpive NIZK is one-time simulation sound if there exists adaptive NIZK simulator SIM such that for any PPT adversary A the following holds negligibly.

• SIM outputs  $(\sigma, \tau)$  and gives  $\sigma$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ ;  $\mathcal{A}(\sigma)$  computes statement x and gives it to SIM; SIM generates a proof  $\pi$  for x using  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  and gives it to  $\mathcal{A}$ ;  $\mathcal{A}$  generates a statement x' and its proof  $\pi'$ ) using  $(x, \sigma, \pi)$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  succeeds if  $V(x', \sigma, \pi') = 1, (x', \pi') \neq (x, \pi)$  and  $x' \notin L$ .

### Appendix B. Some Useful Lemmas.

**Lemma 2.** Let (G, E, D) be an IND-CPA secure public key encryption. Let  $(e, d) \leftarrow G(1^{\kappa})$  be a public/private key pair. Then for any c,  $\Pr[E_e(D_d(c)) = c] = negl(\kappa)$ , where the probability is over the randomness of  $E_e(\cdot)$  and  $G(1^{\kappa})$ .

**Proof.** Otherwise, assume the claim is violated by a (valid!) ciphertext  $\alpha$ . Recall that IND-CPA security states that for **any**  $m_0, m_1$  of the same length,

$$\Pr[\mathcal{A}(E(m_b)) = b] = 1/2 + negl(\kappa).$$

Especially, consider  $m_0 = D_d(\alpha)$  and  $m_1 = \mathbf{0}$  of the same length. An adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  incorporating  $(m_0, m_1)$  can break IND-CPA of (E, D) as follows. When receiving  $c_b = E_e(m_b)$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  computes  $c \leftarrow E_e(m_0)$ . If  $c = c_b$ , then he outputs 0; otherwise, output 0/1 randomly. Note  $c = c_b$  implies b = 0 since the decryption of E is unique. Hence,  $\Pr[\mathcal{A}(c_b) = b] = 1/2 + \Pr[c = c_b]/2$ . On the other hand,  $\Pr[c = c_b] = \Pr[b = 0] \cdot \sum_{u \in E_e(m_0)} \Pr^2[E_e(m_0) = u] \ge \Pr^2[E_e(m_0) = \alpha]/2$ , non-negligible. So  $\Pr[\mathcal{A}(c_b) = b] - 1/2$  is non-negligible, contradiction!

**Lemma 3.** Let X and Y be random variables over sets  $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}$  respectively and  $f : \mathcal{Y} \to \mathcal{Z}$  is a deterministic function, where  $\mathcal{Z}$  is an arbitrary set and  $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . If  $\Pr[X \leq x | Y = y] \leq \lambda$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ , then  $\Pr[X \leq x | f(Y) = f(y)] \leq \lambda$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{Proof.} \quad \Pr[X \leq x, f(Y) = f(y)] \\ &= \sum_{y' \in f^{-1}(f(y))} \Pr[X \leq x, Y = y'] \\ &\leq \sum_{y' \in f^{-1}(f(y))} \lambda \Pr[Y = y'] \\ &= \lambda \Pr[f(Y) = f(y)]. \text{ The lemma follows.} \end{array}$ 

**Lemma 4.** Let  $x_0^* \in \{0,1\}^*$  and  $x_i^* \leftarrow \{0,1\}^a, i = 1, \dots, n$ .  $H : \{0,1\}^* \to \{0,1\}^\ell$  is a random oracle. Consider a set  $\Omega \subseteq \{x_0^* x_1 s \mid s \in \{0,1\}^*, x_1 \in \{0,1\}^a, x_1 \neq x_1^*\}$  and  $1 \le j < j' \le n$ . Fix  $u_0 = x_0^* x_1^* x_2 \cdots x_{j'}$  for some  $x_i \in \{0,1\}^a \cup \{\text{empty string}\}$  but  $x_2 x_3 \cdots x_j \neq x_2^* x_3^* \cdots x_j^*$ . Then,  $x_{j+1}^* \cdots x_n^*$  is uniformly distributed over  $\{0,1\}^{a(n-j)}$ , given  $x_1^* x_2^* \cdots x_j^*$ ,  $\Omega, u_0, \{H(u) \mid u \in \Omega\}, \{H(x_0^* x_1^* \cdots x_i^*) \mid i = 1, \dots, n\}$  and  $\{H(u_0)\}$ .

**Proof.** We now fix  $x_0^* x_1^* \cdots x_j^*$ . For any possible value of  $x_{j+1}^* \cdots x_n^*$ , the conditions in the lemma will be valid and sets  $\Omega$ ,  $\{u_0\}$  and  $\{x_0^* x_1^*, \cdots, x_0^* x_1^* \cdots x_n^*\}$  are mutually disjoint. By the random oracle definition, the randomness of H values  $\{H(u) \mid u \in \Omega\}$ ,  $\{H(x_0^* x_1^* \cdots x_i^*) \mid i = 1, \cdots, n\}$  and  $\{H(u_0)\}$  are all jointly independent. Hence, they are jointly independent of the randomness for  $x_{j+1}^* \cdots x_n^*$  (more specifically, for any value  $x_{j+1}^* \cdots x_n^* \in \{0,1\}^{\ell(n-j)}$ , the randomness for these H values are unchanged).

**Lemma 5.** Consider the following game. Take  $x_i^* \leftarrow \{0,1\}^a, i = 1, \cdots, m$ . An adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  can adaptively query whether any string  $x_1x_2\cdots x_i$  equals  $x_1^*x_2^*\cdots x_i^*$  for any  $i = 1, \cdots, m$ . Let n < m. Rev<sub>N</sub>(m, n) denotes the event that, within N queries, a query  $x_1^*x_2^*\cdots x_i^*$  for some i > n occurs prior to any query  $x_1^*x_2^*\cdots x_i^*$  for  $i \leq n$ . Then,  $\Pr[\operatorname{Rev}_N(m,n)] \leq \frac{N}{2^{a(n+1)}}$ .

**Proof.** First of all,  $\Pr[\operatorname{Rev}_N(m,n)] \leq \Pr[\operatorname{Rev}_N(n+1,n)]$  since an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in the game for case m = n + 1 can simulate an environment for the case m > n + 1 by taking  $x_{n+2}^*, \dots, x_m^*$  normally. In the simulated environment, any query  $x_1 \dots x_i$  for  $i \leq n+1$  is answered by forwarding to  $\mathcal{A}$ 's challenger; any wuery  $x_1 \dots x_i$  for i > n + 1 is handled by querying his own challenger whether  $x_1 \dots x_{n+1}$  is correct. In case of yes and  $x_{n+2} \dots x_i = x_{n+2}^* \dots x_i^*$  holds as well, return '='; otherwise, return ' $\neq$ '. The simulation is perfect. Thus,  $\operatorname{Rev}_N(m, n)$  for the case m > n + 1 implies  $\operatorname{Rev}_N(n+1,n)$ . We concentrate on  $\Pr[\operatorname{Rev}_N(n+1,n)]$ .  $\operatorname{Rev}_N(n+1,n)$  occurs if and only if query  $x_1^* x_2^* \dots x_{n+1}^*$  occurs before any query  $x_1^* x_2^* \dots x_i^*$  for  $i \leq n$ . Let  $p_t$  be the probability of event that query  $x_1^* x_2^* \dots x_{n+1}^*$  occurs at query t while, before this, no query  $x_1^* x_2^* \dots x_i^*$  occurs for any  $i \leq n$ . Then  $\Pr[\operatorname{Rev}_N(n+1,n)] = \sum_{t=1}^N p_t$ . Now we compute  $p_t$ . We consider the candidate set  $S_\ell$  for  $x_1^* \dots x_{n+1}^*$  in view of  $\mathcal{A}$  after query  $\ell$ . Initially, no query is issued and  $S_0 = \{0,1\}^{a(n+1)}$ . At query  $\ell < t$ , observe that when a query  $x_1 x_2 \dots x_i$  is answered with ' $\neq$ ', then  $x_1 x_2 \dots x_i * * \neq x_1^* x_2^* \dots x_{n+1}^*$  and hence this pattern can be removed from  $S_{\ell-1}$  and any sequence in  $\mathcal{S}_\ell$  satisfies queries issued so far by  $\mathcal{A}$  and is a candidate for  $x_1^* \dots x_{n+1}^*$ . So  $p_t = \frac{|S_1|}{|S_0|} \cdot \frac{|S_{t-1}|}{|S_{t-1}|} - \frac{1}{|S_0|} = 2^{-a(n+1)}$ . The lemma follows.

## Appendix C. Proof of Theorem 2

**Proof.** Completeness. Any normally generated ciphertext in  $E^*$  can be correctly decrypted from both the completeness of E and  $\mathcal{P}$ . For any string  $\gamma = (C, \tau, \pi)$ , if  $\pi$  is invalid, both  $\mathfrak{T}$  and  $D^*$ rejects  $\gamma$ . If  $(C, \tau) \notin R_e$  (i.e., no (m, r, r') exists for the consistency of  $(C, \tau)$ ), then by soundness of  $\mathcal{P}, \pi$  is invalid. Hence, both  $\mathfrak{T}$  and  $D^*$  rejects. If  $(C, \tau) \in R_e$  and  $\pi$  are valid, then  $\mathfrak{T}$  uses the forceful open algorithm for TCom to obtain m which is identical to  $D_d(C)$ . Ignoring the time to verify  $\pi, \mathfrak{T}$  runs in time T. The completeness follows.

Secrecy. Denote the probability of adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  outputting 0 in the CCA2 game of  $(E^*, D^*)$  by  $p_{bb}$ when the challenge bit is b. We also consider the same event in a modified CCA2 game, where the common random string  $\sigma$  is simulated together with a trapdoor  $\eta$ , by  $p_{bb}^*$ . Use  $p_{bb'}^*$  to denote the same event in the further modified CCA2 game where in the challenge ciphertext  $(C_b^*, \tau^*, \pi^*)$ ,  $C_b^*$ encrypts  $m_b$  while  $\tau^*$  commits to  $m_{b'}$ . (remark: in this case,  $\pi^*$  is simulated using the trapdoor  $\eta$  as normally such a proof does not exist by soundness of  $\mathcal{P}$ .) The secrecy requires  $|p_{00} - p_{11}| = negl(\kappa)$ . It suffices to show that  $|p_{00} - p_{00}^*|, |p_{00}^* - p_{10}^*|, |p_{10}^* - p_{11}^*|, |p_{11}^* - p_{11}|$  are all negligible.  $|p_{bb} - p_{bb}^*|$  is negligible simply due to the adaptive zero knowledge of  $\mathcal{P}$ . We now prove the other two. Denote the CCA2 game corresponding to  $p_{bb'}$  by  $\Gamma_{bb'}$  and to  $p_{bb'}^*$  by  $\Gamma_{bb'}^*$ .

We show that if this is not true, then (E, D) is not CCA2 secure. Let  $\mathcal{A}^*$  $|p_{00}^* - p_{10}^*| = negl(\kappa).$ be an attacker for  $(E^*, D^*)$ . The attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  for (E, D) can be constructed as follows. Given  $e, \mathcal{A}$ simulates  $\sigma$  with trapdoor  $\eta$  and give  $(e, \sigma)$  to  $\mathcal{A}^*$ . Upon a challenge query  $(m_0, m_1)$ , he forwards to his own challenger. In turn, it receives  $C_b$ . Then he computes  $\tau = \operatorname{TCom}(m_0)$  and  $\pi^*$  for  $(C_b, \tau^*)$ using  $\eta$ . Finally, give  $\gamma_b = (C_b, \tau^*, \pi^*)$  to  $\mathcal{A}^*$ . A decryption query  $(C, \tau, \pi)$  after the challenge query is handled as follows. By query restriction,  $(C, \tau, \pi) \neq (C_b, \tau^*, \pi^*)$ . If  $(C, \tau, \pi) \neq (C_b, \tau^*, \pi^*)$  but  $\pi$  is invalid, reject normally. If  $(C, \tau, \pi) \neq (C_b, \tau^*, \pi^*)$  but  $\pi$  is valid, by one-time simulation soundness of  $\mathcal{P}$ , it there must exist (m, r, r') such that  $((C, \tau), (m, r, r')) \in R_e$ . In this case, if  $C \neq C_b$ , then C is decrypted using the decryption oracle of  $\mathcal{A}$  normally; otherwise, we suspend  $\mathcal{A}^*$  and then use the forced-open algorithm in TCom to compute the de-commitment m in  $\tau$  (which is  $m_b$  by consistency of C and  $\tau$ , the validity of  $\pi$  and the one-time simulation soundness of  $\mathcal{P}$ ) and hence b is obtained. Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs whatever  $\mathcal{A}^*$  does (the valid output of  $\mathcal{A}^*$  must be within time t from receiving his challenge). Note ignoring the negligible decryption error, the view of  $\mathcal{A}^*$  is identical to  $\Gamma_{b0}^*$ . Hence, non-negligible gap between  $p_{00}^*$  and  $p_{10}^*$  implies the non-negligible advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ , contradiction to the security of (E.D).

 $\frac{|p_{10}^* - p_{11}^*| = negl(\kappa)}{\text{adversary } \mathcal{B}. \ \mathcal{B} \text{ does the following. He takes } (e, d) \text{ normally, generates } \sigma \text{ with trapdoor } \eta \text{ and simulates } \Gamma_{10}^*: \text{ upon challenge query } (m_0, m_1), \text{ he provides } (m_0, m_1) \text{ to his own challenger and receives } \tau_b = \mathsf{TCom}(m_b). \text{ Then, the challenge for } \mathcal{A} \text{ is } (E_e(m_0), \tau_b, \pi^*), \text{ where } \pi^* \text{ is simulated using } \eta. \text{ Upon a decryption query } (c, \tau, \pi), \text{ he answers it normally using } d. \text{ Finally, when } \mathcal{A} \text{ outputs } 0 \text{ within time } t, \mathcal{B} \text{ outputs } 0; 1 \text{ otherwise. Note the adversary view in the simulation is according to } \Gamma_{1b}^*. \text{ In addition, if } \mathcal{A} \text{ is in the } \alpha\text{-PRAM model and outputs } b \text{ in time } t, \text{ then } \mathcal{B} \text{ is in a } \alpha\text{-PRAM model and returns } b \text{ in time } t \text{ from receiving } \tau_b \text{ (here we ignore the small time to compute } E_e(m_0) \text{ and } \pi^*).}$