

# Semantically Secure Anonymity: Foundations of Re-Encryption

Adam L. Young<sup>1</sup> and Moti Yung<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cryptovirology Labs

<sup>2</sup> Snapchat and Dept. of Computer Science, Columbia University

**Abstract.** The notion of universal re-encryption is an established primitive used in the design of many anonymity protocols. It allows anyone to randomize a ciphertext without changing its size, without decrypting it, and without knowing the receiver’s public key. By design it prevents the randomized ciphertext from being correlated with the original ciphertext. We revisit and analyze the security foundation of universal re-encryption and show that to date it has not had a satisfactory definition of security, in spite of its numerous uses. We demonstrate this by constructing two cryptosystems that satisfy the established definition of a universal cryptosystem but that have encryption functions that do not achieve anonymity. To correct this, we introduce a new definition that includes the properties that are needed for a re-encryption cryptosystem to achieve anonymity building on “semantic security” and the fundamental property of “key anonymity.” Our examples show that omitting any of our requirements introduces a security weakness. We then introduce a new (more flexible) generalization of the well-known Decision Diffie-Hellman (DDH) random self-reduction and use it, in turn, to design a universal cryptosystem secure under DDH in the sense of our revised definition. As a new application, we present a novel secure *Forward-Anonymous Batch Mix*.

**Key words:** probabilistic re-encryption, key anonymity, anonymous communication, semantic security, message indistinguishability, batch mix, DDH groups, cryptanalysis of provably secure cryptosystems, end-to-end security.

## 1 Introduction

Nowadays, perhaps more than ever, anonymity tools are crucial for maintaining basic civil liberties. For example, as a result of the whistle-blowing by Edward Snowden, Americans and others have a better understanding of surveillance states and the privacy risks they pose. This reinforces the need for anonymity of communication, which, in fact, has been an active area of cryptographic research since the 1980s with numerous propositions and tools, suitable for various scenarios. Having a sound theoretical foundation for anonymity systems is a critical component in achieving privacy of users in the same way that message

security is achieved by having a sound theoretical foundation for encryption. Camenisch and Lysyanskaya, for example, presented a formal treatment of onion routing [3] where prior work was comparatively informal with ad-hoc security justifications. Onion routing falls into a class of anonymity systems known as “decryption mixes”, since layers of ciphertext are shed as the onion makes its way to the receiver.

In this work we present a formal treatment of a different fundamental class of anonymous communication protocols, namely, those based on universal re-encryption. This concept forms the basis of what has been called “re-encryption mixes”. Golle, Jakobsson, Juels, and Syverson introduced the notion of universal re-encryption and presented a cryptosystem that implements it called UCS [9]. A ciphertext in a re-encryption mix has the property that it can be efficiently re-encrypted by anyone without knowledge of the receiver’s public key. This is accomplished without ever exposing the underlying plaintext and without changing the size of the ciphertext. Using re-encryption randomness, the mapping is “lost” between the ciphertext that is supplied to the re-encryption operation and the resulting output ciphertext. Therefore, the notion of universal re-encryption propelled anonymity into the important area of “end-to-end encryption” systems that do not rely on servers for maintaining secrecy and that have the forward-secrecy property. Forward-secrecy and end-to-end encryption are becoming increasingly important in industrial systems in the post-Snowden era.

A number of anonymity protocols have been constructed that utilize universal re-encryption. Here, we show by way of analyzing the associated security definitions and proofs (i.e., a cryptanalysis methodology applied to provably secure systems) that the required level of security of this cryptographic primitive has not been properly defined. Specifically, we first show by way of concrete examples that the previous security definition of a universal cryptosystem does not sufficiently capture the anonymity property. The definition does capture semantic security of messages. However, in this anonymity setting where there is a complex goal that on top of semantic security requires additional properties, these needed properties and formal notions of security were neglected and were, in fact, never discussed. If we regard anonymity as having the same level of seriousness as message security then they must be discussed!

As a result of this missing foundational step, previous claims involving re-encryption in anonymity systems have been based on heuristics. Indeed, there are no properties required, nor proofs that they are achieved, in the papers exploiting re-encryption for anonymity.

In contrast, what is needed is a formal foundation of the field (as was done in other areas such as message encryption). To this end, we put forth a model of what is required for re-encryption in the context of anonymity systems and show that the existing constructions do not immediately lead to proofs of these properties (which were never defined). We also point out that the omission of any of the anonymity properties put forth lead to a traceability attack. Therefore, in light of the new properties, a new procedure for re-encryption in anonymity

systems is needed as well (one which is amenable to proofs of the properties). We re-emphasize that our investigation follows the traditional methodology of modern cryptography where similar corrections of definitions, constructions, proofs, and reductions have been a central theme aimed at establishing proper primitives to build security and privacy applications and protocols thereupon.

Maintaining message semantic security under the publicly performed re-encryption operation is relatively straightforward. But, this is misleading, since this characteristic does not hold for the entire set of properties needed for anonymity applications. In particular, “anonymity” of both the probabilistic encryption algorithm and the re-encryption algorithm were not properly defined in *any* prior work. As we know from other areas of cryptography, without foundations following a model, definitions, constructions and careful proofs, issues will surely arise. We summarize our contributions as follows:

1. We show a gap in the definition of a universal re-encryption cryptosystem, namely, the missing requirement that the output of the encryption function achieve key-anonymity.<sup>3</sup> We present two concrete cryptosystems that satisfy the definition of a universal cryptosystem yet have encryption functions that fail to achieve key anonymity. Consequently, we show that the universal mix network application in [9] does not assure receiver anonymity.
2. We present what we call *semantically secure anonymity* that defines the complete set of security properties that assure anonymity. Existing protocols have taken the anonymity of the encryption function for granted.
3. Construction: We generalize the well-known DDH random self-reduction and then use this generalization to prove that the ElGamal-based universal cryptosystem is secure under DDH as modeled.<sup>4</sup> This is a new reduction technique that may have independent applications.
4. Example application: We present a new forward-anonymous batch mix that is secure (as modeled here) under DDH.

Due to its flexibility, we anticipate that our new reduction technique will aid in future concrete and workable designs that use number theoretic and elliptic curve groups where DDH holds, since anonymity of channels is a central issue in cryptography and privacy applications and since sound foundations and correct proofs are needed. In fact, our new application of a forward-anonymous batch mix is an example of such an application, giving an end-to-end secure anonymous communication system. One may argue that DDH based systems are an issue of the 1990s and are of no current interest. However, we claim that this work is evidence to the contrary!

**Organization:** In Section 2 we present related work. Notation and definitions are covered in Section 3. In Section 4 we review universal re-encryption, the

---

<sup>3</sup> Note we are talking about the “initial” encryption function, not the re-encryption function.

<sup>4</sup> i.e., that key-privacy holds for the encryption and re-encryption functions and that message indistinguishability holds for the encryption and re-encryption functions.

universal cryptosystem UCS, and show the gap in key-anonymity. We define semantically secure anonymity in Section 5. We give a construction of a cryptosystem that achieves semantically secure anonymity in Section 6. The new DDH reduction technique is covered in Section 7 and we use it to prove the security of the construction in Section 8. The forward-secure batch mix is summarized in Section 9 and proven secure in Appendix A. We conclude in section 10.

## 2 Related Work

We first review the literature that leverages universal re-encryption as a primitive. Jakobsson et al presented a universal re-encryption cryptosystem that they referred to as UCS [9]. UCS is a 4-tuple of algorithms: a key generator, an encryption algorithm, a re-encryption algorithm, and a decryption algorithm. It is an extension of the ElGamal public key cryptosystem [5]. A ciphertext produced using this cryptosystem can be re-encrypted by anyone without first decrypting it. They present two applications that leverage a universal cryptosystem. In the first application an RFID tag is set to be a universal ciphertext that contains an underlying ID as the plaintext. The ciphertext is re-randomized periodically to prevent the tag from being tracked over time, e.g., as the object that contains the tag moves from place to place. With the private decryption key the ID can be obtained. Without the private key the ID in the ever changing RFID ciphertext cannot be obtained, making it difficult to track the object. They also apply universal re-encryption to construct a hybrid universal mix that leverages a public bulletin board. The mix is based on uploading and downloading ciphertexts to/from a bulletin board as opposed to leveraging a cascade of mix servers.

Fairbrother sought a more efficient hybrid universal cryptosystem based on UCS [6]. Universal re-encryption was used in a protocol to control anonymous information flow, e.g., to prevent spam from being injected into the anonymization network [13]. Onion-based routing and universal re-encryption were leveraged to form hybrid anonymous communication protocols [10, 14]. A circuit-based anonymity protocol was presented based on universal re-encryption [15]: in the first stage a channel is established through the network between Alice and Bob along with the keys needed for re-encryption and in the second stage Alice and Bob communicate with one another. Weakness in [13, 14, 10, 15] were presented in [4]. Golle presented a *reputable mix network* construction based on universal re-encryption [8]. A reputable mix has the property that the mix operator can prove that he or she did not author the content output by the mix.

Groth presented a re-randomizable and replayable cryptosystem based on DDH achieving adaptive chosen ciphertext security [11]. The construction and security arguments do not address key-anonymity.

Prabhakaran and Rosulek presented a construction for a rerandomizable encryption scheme [18] that aims to be CCA-secure under DDH. It extends the Cramer-Shoup public key cryptosystem. They define RCCA receiver-anonymity in detail but state that their scheme does not achieve it and that it is an open problem. The approach was later extended to combine computability features

with non-malleability of ciphertexts. The construction enables anyone to change an encryption of an unknown message  $m$  into an encryption of  $T(m)$  (a feature), for a set of specific allowed functions  $T$ , but is non-malleable with respect to all other operations [19]. They indicate that their construction does not achieve HCCA-anonymity and leave the anonymity problem as open.

There has been recent work on proxy encryption [12]. In proxy encryption a ciphertext of a message  $m$  encrypted under Alice’s public key is transformed (re-encrypted) into a ciphertext of  $m$  under Bob’s public key. Note that our setting is different since the receiver’s public key does not change in our re-encryption operation.

Having surveyed the literature it became apparent to us that numerous works have utilized universal re-encryption as a basic building block. This forms the motivation for a clean and correct foundation for this area. While we fully appreciate the pioneering work on this concept (a trailblazing step which is necessary), we believe that the time has come to treat anonymity with the same formal care and level of provability as, say, message security in public key cryptosystems. We believe that our work shows that identifying subtleties and producing necessary revisions is relevant, even for works that are older than 10 years, especially in areas that are becoming increasingly important to real-world applications.

The important notion of key privacy (also called key anonymity) was introduced by Boldyreva et al [1]. They formally defined public key cryptosystems that produce ciphertexts that do not reveal the receiver and showed that ElGamal and Cramer-Shoup achieve key privacy.

### 3 Notation and Definitions

If  $T$  is a finite set then  $x \leftarrow_U T$  denotes sampling  $x$  uniformly at random from  $T$ . Define  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  to be  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$ . Let  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  be the set of integers from  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  that are relatively prime to  $n$ .  $[1, t]$  denotes the set of integers  $\{1, 2, \dots, t\}$ .  $|\mathbb{G}|$  denotes the size of the group  $\mathbb{G}$ , i.e., number of elements in  $\mathbb{G}$ . We may omit writing “mod  $p$ ” when reduction modulo  $p$  is clear from the context.  $\Pr[A]$  denotes the probability that  $A$  is true. Let  $a \leftarrow b$  denote the assignment of  $b$  to  $a$ . For example,  $a \leftarrow M(x)$  denotes the execution of Turing machine  $M$  on input  $x$  resulting in output  $a$ .

A function  $\text{negl}$  is *negligible* if for all polynomials  $p(\cdot)$  there exists an  $\alpha$  such that for all integers  $n > \alpha$  it is the case that  $\text{negl}(n) < \frac{1}{p(n)}$ . We use  $\text{negl}$  to denote a negligible function.

The following definition of DDH is directly from [2]. A group family  $\mathbb{G}$  is a set of finite cyclic groups  $\mathbb{G} = \{G_{\mathbf{p}}\}$  where  $\mathbf{p}$  ranges over an infinite index set. We denote by  $|\mathbf{p}|$  the size of the binary representation of  $\mathbf{p}$ . We assume that there is a polynomial time (in  $|\mathbf{p}|$ ) algorithm that given  $\mathbf{p}$  and two elements in  $G_{\mathbf{p}}$  outputs their sum. An instance generator,  $\mathcal{IG}$ , for  $\mathbb{G}$  is a randomized algorithm that given an integer  $n$  (in unary), runs in time polynomial in  $n$  and outputs some random index  $\mathbf{p}$  and a generator  $g$  of  $G_{\mathbf{p}}$ . In particular,  $(\mathbf{p}, g) \leftarrow \mathcal{IG}(n)$ .

Note that for each  $n$ , the instance generator induces a distribution on the set of indices  $\mathbf{p}$ . The index  $\mathbf{p}$  encodes the group parameters.

A DDH algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  for  $\mathbb{G}$  is a probabilistic polynomial time Turing machine satisfying, for some fixed  $\alpha > 0$  and sufficiently large  $n$ :

$$|\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{p}, g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{“true”}] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{p}, g, g^a, g^b, g^c) = \text{“true”}]| > \frac{1}{n^\alpha}$$

where  $g$  is a generator of  $G_{\mathbf{p}}$ . The probability is over the random choice of  $\langle \mathbf{p}, g \rangle$  according to the distribution induced by  $\mathcal{IG}(n)$ , the random choice of  $a, b$ , and  $c$  in the range  $[1, |G_{\mathbf{p}}|]$  and the random bits used by  $\mathcal{A}$ . The group family  $\mathbb{G}$  satisfies the DDH assumption if there is no DDH algorithm for  $\mathbb{G}$ .

We now review the well-known random-self reduction for DDH [2, 20, 17].  $\text{DDHRerand}((p, q), g, x, y, z)$  randomizes a DDH problem instance by choosing  $u_1, u_2, v \in_U [1, q]$  and computing,

$$(x', y', z') \leftarrow (x^v g^{u_1}, y g^{u_2}, z^v y^{u_1} x^{v u_2} g^{u_1 u_2})$$

When  $(x, y, z)$  is a valid Diffie-Hellman 3-tuple then the output is a random Diffie-Hellman 3-tuple. When  $(x, y, z)$  is not a valid Diffie-Hellman 3-tuple then the output is a random 3-tuple.

## 4 Gap in Universal Re-encryption Definition

### 4.1 Review of the foundation of universal re-encryption

We review the definition of a universal cryptosystem exactly as defined in [9]. A universal cryptosystem (UCS) is a 4-tuple of algorithms defined by  $\text{UCS} = (\text{UKG}, \text{UE}, \text{URe}, \text{UD})$ , where UKG is the key generator, UE is the encryption algorithm, URe is the re-encryption algorithm, and UD is the decryption algorithm.

UKG outputs a public key  $PK$  (Golle et al do not have it return a key pair in the definition of their experiment).  $\text{UE}(m, r, PK)$  denotes the encryption of message  $m$  using public key  $PK$  and  $r$  is a re-encryption factor. It outputs a universal ciphertext  $C$ .  $\text{URe}(C, r)$  denotes the re-encryption of  $C$  using a re-encryption factor  $r$ . Golle et al assume an implicit parameterization of UCS under security parameter  $k$ . The decryption algorithm  $\text{UD}(SK, C)$  takes as input a private key  $SK$  and ciphertext  $C$  and returns the corresponding plaintext (or an indicator for failure).

Let  $\mathbf{M}$  be a message space and let  $\mathbf{R}$  be a set of encryption factors. Below is the verbatim definition of *universal semantic security under re-encryption* (USS) from [9].

Experiment  $\text{Exp}_{\mathcal{A}}^{\text{uss}}(\text{UCS}, k)$   
 $PK_0 \leftarrow \text{UKG}; PK_1 \leftarrow \text{UKG};$   
 $(m_0, m_1, r_0, r_1) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(PK_0, PK_1, \text{“specify ciphertexts”});$   
 if  $m_0, m_1 \notin \mathbf{M}$  or  $r_0, r_1 \notin \mathbf{R}$  then output ‘0’;  
 $C_0 \leftarrow \text{UE}(m_0, r_0, PK_0); C_1 \leftarrow \text{UE}(m_1, r_1, PK_1);$

$$\begin{aligned}
& r'_0, r'_1 \in_U \mathbf{R}; \\
& C'_0 \leftarrow \text{URe}(C_0, r'_0); C'_1 \leftarrow \text{URe}(C_1, r'_1); \\
& b \in_U \{0, 1\}; \\
& b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(C'_b, C'_{1-b}, \text{"guess"}); \\
& \text{if } b = b' \text{ then output '1' else output '0'};
\end{aligned}$$

An instantiation UCS is said to be *semantically secure under re-encryption* if for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  with resources polynomial in  $K$ , the probability given by  $\text{pr}[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{A}}^{uss}(UCS, k) = '1'] - 1/2$  is negligible in  $k$ .

The UCS construction from [9] is as follows. let  $\mathbf{p} = (p, q)$  be a group family where  $p$  is prime and  $p - 1$  is divisible by a large prime  $q$ . The group  $G_{\mathbf{p}}$  is the subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  having order  $q$ . The key generator outputs  $(PK, SK) = (y, x)$  where  $y$  is the public key and  $x \in_U \mathbb{Z}_q$

The encryption operation is denoted by  $\text{UE}(m, (k_0, k_1), y)$ . It encrypts message  $m \in G_{\mathbf{p}}$  using  $y$ .  $(k_0, k_1) \in_U \mathbb{Z}_q \times \mathbb{Z}_q$  are random encryption nonces. The encryption operation outputs the ciphertext  $c \leftarrow ((\alpha_0, \beta_0), (\alpha_1, \beta_1)) \leftarrow ((my^{k_0} \bmod p, g^{k_0} \bmod p), (y^{k_1} \bmod p, g^{k_1} \bmod p))$ .

The universal re-encryption algorithm  $\text{URe}(((\alpha_0, \beta_0), (\alpha_1, \beta_1)), (k'_0, k'_1))$  outputs a re-randomized ciphertext  $C'$ .  $(k'_0, k'_1) \in_U \mathbb{Z}_q \times \mathbb{Z}_q$  is a random re-encryption factor. Generate  $k'_0, k'_1 \in_U \mathbb{Z}_q$ . The output  $C'$  is defined as,

$$C' = ((\alpha'_0, \beta'_0), (\alpha'_1, \beta'_1)) = ((\alpha_0 \alpha_1^{k'_0}, \beta_0 \beta_1^{k'_0}), (\alpha_1^{k'_1}, \beta_1^{k'_1}))$$

The decryption algorithm  $\text{UD}(x, ((\alpha_0, \beta_0), (\alpha_1, \beta_1)))$  takes as input the private key  $x$  followed by a universal ciphertext under public key  $y$ . First it verifies that all 4 values in the universal ciphertext are in  $G_{\mathbf{p}}$  and if not the special symbol  $\perp$  is output. Compute  $m_0 = \alpha_0 / \beta_0^x$  and  $m_1 = \alpha_1 / \beta_1^x$ . If  $m_1 = 1$  then the output is  $m = m_0$ . Otherwise, output  $\perp$  indicating decryption failure.

## 4.2 Missing key-anonymity requirement for UE in USS definition

We now prove that USS as defined before (for which the security requirement is quoted above), accepts as valid cryptosystems that, in fact, contain encryption algorithms UE that do not produce key-anonymous ciphertexts.

**Cryptosystem 1:** Let UE be a universal encryption algorithm that outputs the ciphertext  $(a, b, y)$  where  $(a, b)$  is an ElGamal encryption under public key  $y$  of a message  $m$ . On input  $(a, b, y)$ , URe computes an ElGamal encryption of unity using  $y$  and uses that to rerandomize  $(a, b)$  to get  $(a', b')$ . URe outputs  $(a', b', y)$ . The adversary breaks anonymity by observing  $y$ .

**Cryptosystem 2:** Let UE be a universal encryption algorithm that outputs the ciphertext  $((\alpha_0, \beta_0), (\alpha_1, \beta_1))$  computed according to UE in UCS except that  $k_0$  is repeatedly generated until the least significant byte (lsb) of  $\beta_0$  matches that of  $y$ . Suppose  $y_0$  and  $y_1$  have differing lsbs. The adversary extracts the lsb of  $\beta_0$  and correlates it with the public key with matching lsb.

These are “secure” under [9] (as per the definition copied above). USS, however, is devoid of a requirement that the output of UE be key-anonymous. Furthermore, this is the only definition of security spelled out for the universal re-encryption cryptosystem in [9]. The definition “accepts” as secure encryption algorithms UE that fail to achieve key anonymity as proven by the above two example cryptosystems. There may exist other constructions in which the failure of UE to achieve key anonymity is subtle, yet like the above satisfy USS.

Practically, this means that cryptographers can construct universal cryptosystems that satisfy the USS definition but that have encryption algorithms that compromise the identity of the receiver without violating USS. This could potentially place the users of a universal cryptosystem in harms way.

Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be a universal cryptosystem that has an encryption algorithm UE that outputs ciphertexts that are not key-anonymous. The universal mix network construction in Section 4 of [9] has, in the first step called “submission of inputs”, users post ciphertexts produced by UE to a public bulletin board. When  $\mathcal{U}$  is used in this universal mix network construction, the anonymity of receivers is compromised.

Consequently, defining security for universal re-encryption in a way that achieves anonymity for ciphertexts output by UE has been left open. In addition, the properties of message indistinguishability for encryption and re-encryption were claimed to hold under DDH but no proof for this was given. In hindsight, we believe that the work in [9] was an *extremely* insightful step in the right direction of laying the foundation for universal re-encryption. In particular, we commend their approach of having the adversary fully specify the ciphertexts (messages and nonces) that are used in forming the re-encryption challenge ciphertexts. However, their definition is certainly insufficient as shown above.

## 5 Semantically Secure Anonymity

We now present the first definition of security for a universal cryptosystem that requires that the encryption algorithm provide key-anonymity.

**Definition 1.** *A universal cryptosystem  $\Pi$  is a 4-tuple of probabilistic polynomial time algorithms  $(Gen, Enc, ReEnc, Decr)$  together with auxiliary information  $\beta$  (e.g., group parameters) such that:*

1. *The key generation algorithm  $Gen(n, \beta)$  takes as input a security parameter  $n$  (in unary) and  $\beta$  and outputs  $(pk, sk)$  where  $pk$  is a public key and  $sk$  is the corresponding private key.*
2. *The encryption algorithm  $Enc_{pk}(m, k, \beta)$  is deterministic and it takes as input a public key  $pk$ , a message  $m$  from the underlying plaintext space, an encryption nonce  $k$ , and  $\beta$ . It outputs a ciphertext  $c$ . The operation is expressed as  $c \leftarrow Enc_{pk}(m, k, \beta)$ .*
3. *The re-encryption algorithm  $ReEnc(c, k, \beta)$  is deterministic and it takes as input a ciphertext  $c$ , a re-encryption nonce  $k$ , and  $\beta$ . It outputs a ciphertext  $c'$ . The operation is expressed as  $c' \leftarrow ReEnc(c, k, \beta)$ .*



4. The decryption algorithm  $Dec_{sk}(c, \beta)$  takes as input a private key  $sk$ , a ciphertext  $c$ , and  $\beta$ . It outputs a message  $m$  and a Boolean  $s$ .  $s$  is true if and only if decryption succeeds. The operation is expressed as  $(m, s) \leftarrow Dec_{sk}(c)$ .

It is required that, for all  $m$ , the ordered execution of  $c_0 \leftarrow Enc_{pk}(m, k_0, \beta)$ ,  $c_{i+1} \leftarrow ReEnc(c_i, k_i, \beta)$  for  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, t-1$ ,  $(m', s) \leftarrow Dec_{sk}(c_t, \beta)$  with  $(m', s) = (m, true)$  except with possibly negligible probability over  $(pk, sk)$  that is output by  $Gen(n, \beta)$  and the randomness used by the nonces for  $Enc$  and  $ReEnc$ . Here  $t$  is bounded from above by  $u^\alpha$  for some fixed  $\alpha > 0$  and sufficiently large  $u$ .

Definition 2 for message indistinguishability has been adapted from [7, 16].

**Definition 2.** The experiment for eavesdropping indistinguishability for the encryption operation is  $PubKEnc_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{eav}(n, \beta)$ :

1.  $Gen(n, \beta)$  is executed to get  $(pk, sk)$ .
2. Adversary  $\mathcal{A}(n, \beta, pk)$  outputs a pair of messages  $(m_0, m_1)$  where  $m_0$  and  $m_1$  have the same length. These messages must be in the plaintext space associated with  $pk$ .
3. A random bit  $b \in_U \{0, 1\}$  and random nonce  $k$  are chosen. Then ciphertext  $c \leftarrow Enc_{pk}(m_b, k, \beta)$  is computed and provided to  $\mathcal{A}$ . This is the challenge ciphertext.
4.  $\mathcal{A}(c)$  outputs a bit  $b'$ .
5. The output of the experiment is defined to be 1 if  $b' = b$  and 0 otherwise.

**Definition 3.** The experiment for eavesdropping indistinguishability for the re-encryption operation is  $PubKReEnc_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{eav}(n, \beta)$ :

1.  $Gen(n, \beta)$  is executed to get  $(pk, sk)$ .
2. Adversary  $\mathcal{A}(n, \beta, pk)$  outputs  $((m_0, k_0), (m_1, k_1))$  where  $(m_i, k_i)$  is a message/nonce pair for  $i = 0, 1$ . The messages must be of the same length. These messages must be in the plaintext space associated with  $pk$ .
3. A random bit  $b \in_U \{0, 1\}$  and random nonce  $k$  are chosen. Then ciphertext  $c \leftarrow Enc_{pk}(m_b, k_b, \beta)$  is computed. Then  $c' \leftarrow ReEnc(c, k, \beta)$  is computed and provided to  $\mathcal{A}$ . This is the challenge ciphertext.
4.  $\mathcal{A}(c')$  outputs a bit  $b'$ .
5. The output of the experiment is defined to be 1 if  $b' = b$  and 0 otherwise.

Definition 4 is key-anonymity [1]. Definition 5 is key-anonymity adapted for re-encryption.

**Definition 4.** The experiment for anonymity of the encryption operation is denoted by  $AnonEnc_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{eav}(n, \beta)$  and is as follows:

1.  $Gen(n, \beta)$  is executed twice to get  $(pk_0, sk_0)$  and  $(pk_1, sk_1)$ .
2. Adversary  $\mathcal{A}(n, \beta, pk_0, pk_1)$  outputs a message  $m$ . This message must be in the plaintext space associated with  $pk_0$  and  $pk_1$ .

3. A random bit  $b \in_U \{0, 1\}$  and random nonce  $k$  are chosen. Then ciphertext  $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}_{pk_b}(m, k, \beta)$  is computed and provided to  $\mathcal{A}$ . This is the challenge ciphertext.
4.  $\mathcal{A}(c)$  outputs a bit  $b'$ .
5. The output of the experiment is defined to be 1 if  $b' = b$  and 0 otherwise.

**Definition 5.** The experiment for anonymity of the re-encryption operation is denoted by  $\text{AnonReEnc}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{eav}(n, \beta)$  and is as follows:

1.  $\text{Gen}(n, \beta)$  is executed twice to get  $(pk_0, sk_0)$  and  $(pk_1, sk_1)$ .
2. Adversary  $\mathcal{A}(n, \beta, pk_0, pk_1)$  outputs  $(m, k)$  where  $m$  is a message and  $k$  is an encryption nonce  $k$ . The message  $m$  must be in the plaintext space associated with  $pk_0$  and  $pk_1$ .
3. A random bit  $b \in_U \{0, 1\}$  and random nonce  $k'$  are chosen. Then  $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}_{pk_b}(m, k, \beta)$  is computed. Then  $c' \leftarrow \text{ReEnc}(c, k', \beta)$  is computed and provided to  $\mathcal{A}$ . This is the challenge ciphertext.
4.  $\mathcal{A}(c')$  outputs a bit  $b'$ .
5. The output of the experiment is defined to be 1 if  $b' = b$  and 0 otherwise.

**Definition 6.** A universal cryptosystem  $\Pi$  is secure in the sense of **semantically secure anonymity** for security parameter  $n$  (in unary) and auxiliary information  $\beta$  if it satisfies the following:

1.  $\Pr[\text{PubKEnc}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{eav}(n, \beta) = 1] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$
2.  $\Pr[\text{PubKReEnc}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{eav}(n, \beta) = 1] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$
3.  $\Pr[\text{AnonEnc}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{eav}(n, \beta) = 1] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$
4.  $\Pr[\text{AnonReEnc}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}^{eav}(n, \beta) = 1] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$

We recap and say that correctness of decryption is obviously a must and we have demonstrated that message security must be required for the encryption and the re-encryption operations in order to maintain the security of the message throughout the system. Further, as the examples above demonstrated, key anonymity is required for these two operations as well. Intuitively, any violation of message security will render the encryption useless. Also, any tracing via the re-encryption operation due to message or key linkability will violate strict anonymity. Similarly, any tracing via the encryption operation due to message or key linkability will violate strict anonymity.

## 6 The Construction

Let  $n$  be a security parameter (in unary) and let  $\mathfrak{p} = (p, q)$  be a group family where  $p$  is prime and  $p - 1$  is divisible by a large prime  $q$ . The group  $G_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is the subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  having order  $q$ . For anonymity, the single group  $((p, q), g)$  is generated once using  $\mathcal{IG}(n)$  and is then used by all users. The auxiliary information  $\beta$  is defined to be  $((p, q), g)$ . We define the following to be universal cryptosystem  $\Psi$ .

**Key Generation:** Key generation is denoted by  $(y, x) \leftarrow \text{Gen}(n, \beta)$ . Here  $y \leftarrow g^x \bmod p$  where  $x \in_U [1, q]$ . The public key is  $pk = y$  and the private key is  $sk = x$ .

**Encryption:** Encryption is denoted by  $\text{Enc}_{pk}(m, (k_0, k_1), \beta)$ . It encrypts message  $m \in G_{\mathfrak{p}}$  using  $y$ .  $(k_0, k_1) \in_U [1, q] \times [1, q]$  is a random encryption nonce. The operation outputs the ciphertext  $c \leftarrow ((a_0, b_0), (a_1, b_1)) \leftarrow ((g^{k_0} \bmod p, y^{k_0} \bmod p), (g^{k_1} \bmod p, y^{k_1} m \bmod p))$ .

**Universal Re-encryption:** The universal re-encryption operation is denoted by  $\text{ReEnc}(((a_0, b_0), (a_1, b_1)), (\ell_0, \ell_1), \beta)$ . The pair  $((a_0, b_0), (a_1, b_1))$  is a universal ciphertext and  $(\ell_0, \ell_1) \in_U [1, q] \times [1, q]$  is a re-encryption nonce. Compute  $(\alpha_0, \beta_0) \leftarrow (a_0 a_0^{\ell_0} \bmod p, b_0 b_0^{\ell_0} \bmod p)$  and compute  $(\alpha_1, \beta_1) \leftarrow (a_1 a_0^{\ell_1} \bmod p, b_1 b_0^{\ell_1} \bmod p)$ . Output the ciphertext  $c \leftarrow ((\alpha_0, \beta_0), (\alpha_1, \beta_1))$ . Notice how  $\text{ReEnc}$  is different from the re-encryption algorithm  $\text{URe}$  in [9]. The change we made allowed us to construct proofs of anonymity and message indistinguishability that are direct reductions with respect to DDH.

**Decryption:** The following decryption operation is denoted by  $\text{Dec}_{sk}(c, \beta)$ . Here  $c$  is the ciphertext  $((a_0, b_0), (a_1, b_1))$ . Compute  $m_0 \leftarrow b_0/a_0^x \bmod p$ . If  $m_0 = 1$  then set  $s = \text{true}$  else set  $s = \text{false}$ . If  $s = \text{true}$  set  $m_1 = b_1/a_1^x \bmod p$  else set  $m_1$  to be the empty string.  $s = \text{true}$  indicates successful decryption. Return  $(m_1, s)$ .

## 7 The New Construction: Expanded DDH Self-Reduction

We now generalize the DDH random self-reduction to output five values instead of three. This allows us to transform a DDH problem instance into either two DH 3-tuples with a common “public key” or a random 5-tuple, depending on the input problem instance. We utilize this property in our proofs of security in Section 8. We define algorithm  $\text{DDHRerand5}$  as follows.  $\text{DDHRerand5}((p, q), g, x, y, z)$  randomizes a DDH problem instance by choosing the values  $u_1, u_2, v, v', u'_1 \in_U [1, q]$  and computing,

$$(x'', x', y', z', z'') \leftarrow (x^{v'} g^{u'_1}, x^v g^{u_1}, y g^{u_2}, z^v y^{u_1} x^{v u_2} g^{u_1 u_2}, z^{v'} y^{u'_1} x^{v' u_2} g^{u'_1 u_2})$$

**Case 1.** Suppose  $(x, y, z)$  is a valid Diffie-Hellman (DH) 3-tuple. Then  $x = g^a$ ,  $y = g^b$ ,  $z = g^{ab}$  for some  $a, b$ . It follows that  $(x', y', z')$  is also a valid DH 3-tuple. It is straightforward to show that  $(x'', y', z'')$  is a valid DH 3-tuple as well.

**Case 2.** Suppose  $(x, y, z)$  is not a valid DH 3-tuple. Then  $x = g^a$ ,  $y = g^b$ ,  $z = g^{ab+c}$  for some  $c \neq 0$ . In this case,  $x' = g^{a'}$ ,  $y' = g^{b'}$ ,  $z' = g^{a'b'} g^{c v}$ . Since  $c \neq 0$  it follows that  $g^c$  is a generator of  $G_{\mathfrak{p}}$ . Also,  $x'' = g^{a''}$ ,  $y' = g^{b'}$ ,  $z'' = g^{a'' b'} g^{c v'}$ .

So, when  $(x, y, z)$  is a valid DH 3-tuple then  $(x', y', z')$  and  $(x'', y', z'')$  are random DH 3-tuples with  $y'$  in common and when  $(x, y, z)$  is not a valid DH 3-tuple then the output is a random 5-tuple.

## 8 Security of Universal Cryptosystem $\Psi$

We now prove the security of our construction. These are the first proofs of security for universal re-encryption that constitute direct reductions with respect to DDH.

**Theorem 1.** *If DDH is hard then  $\Pr[\text{AnonEnc}_{\mathcal{A},\Psi}^{eav}(n, \beta) = 1] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose there exists a probabilistic polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  for  $\text{AnonEnc}_{\mathcal{A},\Psi}^{eav}$ , an  $\alpha > 0$ , and a sufficiently large  $\kappa$ , such that  $\mathcal{A}$  succeeds with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Consider algorithm **AlgR3** that takes as input a DDH problem instance  $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ .

**AlgR3** $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ :

1. set  $(\alpha'_j, \alpha_j, y_j, \mu_j, \mu'_j) \leftarrow \text{DDHRerand5}((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$  for  $j = 0, 1$
2.  $m \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(n, \beta, y_0, y_1)$
3. generate  $u \in_U \{0, 1\}$
4. set  $c \leftarrow ((A_0, B_0), (A_1, B_1)) \leftarrow ((\alpha'_u, \mu'_u), (\alpha_u, \mu_u m))$
5.  $u' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c)$
6. if  $u = u'$  then output “true” else output “false”

Consider the case that the input is a DH 3-tuple. It follows from the definition of **DDHRerand5** that  $c$  is an encryption of  $m$  in accordance with **Enc** using  $y_u$  as the public key. Therefore, the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  is drawn from the same set and probability distribution as the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  in Definition 4. It follows that  $u = u'$  with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . So, for random exponents  $a$  and  $b$  in  $[1, q]$ ,  $\Pr[\text{AlgR3}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{“true”}] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Define  $\psi = \Pr[\text{AlgR3}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{“true”}]$ .

Now consider the case that the input is not a DH 3-tuple. It follows from the definition of **DDHRerand5** that the 5-tuple  $(\alpha'_u, \alpha_u, y_u, \mu_u, \mu'_u)$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_p^5$ . Therefore,  $c$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_p^2 \times G_p^2$ . Let  $p_1$  be the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  responds with  $u' = 0$ . Then the probability that  $u = u'$  is  $\frac{1}{2}p_1 + \frac{1}{2}(1 - p_1) = \frac{1}{2}$ . So, for randomly chosen exponents  $a, b$ , and  $c$  in  $[1, q]$ , the probability  $\Pr[\text{AlgR3}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^c) = \text{“true”}] = \frac{q^2}{q^3}\psi + (1 - \frac{q^2}{q^3})\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2\psi - 1}{2q}$  which is overwhelmingly close to  $\frac{1}{2}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** *If DDH is hard then  $\Pr[\text{AnonReEnc}_{\mathcal{A},\Psi}^{eav}(n, \beta) = 1] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose there exists a probabilistic polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  for  $\text{AnonReEnc}_{\mathcal{A},\Psi}^{eav}$ , an  $\alpha > 0$ , and a sufficiently large  $\kappa$  such that  $\mathcal{A}$  succeeds with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Consider algorithm **AlgR4** that takes as input a Decision Diffie-Hellman problem instance  $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ .

**AlgR4** $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ :

1.  $(\alpha'_j, \alpha_j, y_j, \mu_j, \mu'_j) \leftarrow \text{DDHRerand5}((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$  for  $j = 0, 1$
2.  $(m, (k_0, k_1)) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(n, \beta, y_0, y_1)$
3.  $u \in_U \{0, 1\}$

4.  $((A_0, B_0), (A_1, B_1)) \leftarrow \text{Enc}_{y_u}(m, (k_0, k_1), \beta)$
5.  $(c', (A'_0, B'_0), (A'_1, B'_1)) \leftarrow ((A_0 \alpha'_u, B_0 \mu'_u), (A_1 \alpha_u, B_1 \mu_u))$
6.  $u' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c')$
7. if  $u = u'$  then output “true” else output “false”

Consider the case that the input is a DH 3-tuple. Clearly  $((A_0, B_0), (A_1, B_1))$  is the ciphertext under public key  $y_u$  as specified by  $\mathcal{A}$ . It follows from the definition of **DDHRerand5** that  $c'$  is a re-encryption of  $((A_0, B_0), (A_1, B_1))$  in accordance with **ReEnc**. Therefore, the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  is drawn from the same set and probability distribution as the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  in Definition 5. It follows that  $u = u'$  with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . So, for random exponents  $a$  and  $b$  in  $[1, q]$ ,  $\Pr[\text{AlgR4}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{“true”}] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Define the value  $\psi$  to be  $\Pr[\text{AlgR4}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{“true”}]$ .

Now consider the case that the input is not a DH 3-tuple. It follows from definition of **DDHRerand5** that the 5-tuple  $(\alpha'_u, \alpha_u, y_u, \mu_u, \mu'_u)$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_p^5$ . Therefore,  $c'$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_p^2 \times G_p^2$ . Let  $p_1$  be the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  responds with  $u' = 0$ . Then the probability that  $u = u'$  is  $\frac{1}{2}p_1 + \frac{1}{2}(1 - p_1) = \frac{1}{2}$ . So, for randomly chosen exponents  $a, b$ , and  $c$  in  $[1, q]$ , the probability  $\Pr[\text{AlgR4}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^c) = \text{“true”}] = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2\psi - 1}{2q}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** *If DDH is hard then  $\Pr[\text{PubKEnc}_{\mathcal{A}, \psi}^{eav}(n, \beta) = 1] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose there exists a probabilistic polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  for  $\text{PubKEnc}_{\mathcal{A}, \psi}^{eav}$ , an  $\alpha > 0$  and a sufficiently large  $\kappa$ , such that  $\mathcal{A}$  succeeds with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Consider algorithm **AlgR1** that takes as input a DDH problem instance  $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ .

- AlgR1** $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ :
1. set  $(A', A, y, R, R') \leftarrow \text{DDHRerand5}((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$
  2.  $(m_0, m_1) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(n, \beta, y)$
  3.  $b \in_U \{0, 1\}$
  4.  $c \leftarrow ((A_0, B_0), (A_1, B_1)) \leftarrow ((A', R'), (A, Rm_b))$
  5.  $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c)$
  6. if  $b = b'$  then output “true” else output “false”

Consider the case that the input is a DH 3-tuple. It follows from the definition of **DDHRerand5** that  $c$  is an encryption of  $m_b$  according to **Enc** using  $y$  as the public key. Therefore, the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  is drawn from the same set and probability distribution as the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  in Definition 2. It follows that  $b = b'$  with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . So, for random exponents  $a$  and  $b$  in  $[1, q]$ ,  $\Pr[\text{AlgR1}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{“true”}] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Define  $\psi = \Pr[\text{AlgR1}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{“true”}]$ .

Now consider the case that the input is not a DH 3-tuple. It follows from the definition of **DDHRerand5** that  $(A', A, y, R, R')$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_p^5$ . Therefore,  $c$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_p^2 \times G_p^2$ . Let  $p_1$  be the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  responds with  $b' = 0$ . Then the probability that  $b = b'$  is  $\frac{1}{2}p_1 + \frac{1}{2}(1 -$

$p_1) = \frac{1}{2}$ . So, for randomly chosen exponents  $a, b$ , and  $c$  in  $[1, q]$ , the probability  $\Pr[\text{AlgR1}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^c) = \text{“true”}] = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2\psi-1}{2q}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** *If DDH is hard then  $\Pr[\text{PubKReEnc}_{\mathcal{A}, \Psi}^{eav}(n, \beta) = 1] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose there exists a probabilistic polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  for  $\text{PubKReEnc}_{\mathcal{A}, \Psi}^{eav}$ , an  $\alpha > 0$ , and a sufficiently large  $\kappa$ , such that  $\mathcal{A}$  succeeds with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Consider algorithm  $\text{AlgR2}$  that takes as input a DDH problem instance  $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ .

- $\text{AlgR2}((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ :
1. set  $(\alpha', \alpha, y, \mu, \mu') \leftarrow \text{DDHRerand5}((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$
  2.  $((m_0, r_0), (m_1, r_1)) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(n, \beta, y)$
  3.  $b \in_U \{0, 1\}$
  4.  $((A_0, B_0), (A_1, B_1)) \leftarrow \text{Enc}_y(m_b, r_b, \beta)$
  5.  $c' \leftarrow ((A_0\alpha', B_0\mu'), (A_1\alpha, B_1\mu'))$
  6.  $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c')$
  7. if  $b = b'$  then output “true” else output “false”

Consider the case that the input is a DH 3-tuple. Clearly  $((A_0, B_0), (A_1, B_1))$  is the ciphertext of  $m_b$  as specified by adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ . It follows from the definition of  $\text{DDHRerand5}$  that  $c'$  is a re-encryption of  $((A_0, B_0), (A_1, B_1))$  according to  $\text{ReEnc}$ . Therefore, the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  is drawn from the same set and probability distribution as the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  in Definition 3. It follows that  $b = b'$  with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . So, for random exponents  $a$  and  $b$  in  $[1, q]$ ,  $\Pr[\text{AlgR2}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{“true”}] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Define the value  $\psi$  to be  $\Pr[\text{AlgR2}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{“true”}]$ .

Now consider the case that the input is not a DH 3-tuple. It follows from the definition of  $\text{DDHRerand5}$  that  $(\alpha', \alpha, y, \mu, \mu')$  is uniformly distributed in the set  $G_{\mathfrak{p}}^5$ . Therefore,  $c'$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_{\mathfrak{p}}^2 \times G_{\mathfrak{p}}^2$ . Let  $p_1$  be the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  responds with  $b' = 0$ . Then the probability that  $b = b'$  is  $\frac{1}{2}p_1 + \frac{1}{2}(1 - p_1) = \frac{1}{2}$ . So, for randomly chosen exponents  $a, b$ , and  $c$  in  $[1, q]$ , the probability  $\Pr[\text{AlgR2}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^c) = \text{“true”}] = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2\psi-1}{2q}$ .  $\square$

Theorems 1, and 2, 3, and 4 show the following.

**Theorem 5.** *If DDH is hard then  $\Psi$  is secure in the sense of semantically secure anonymity.*

## 9 Batch Mixing

A forward-anonymous mix protocol was presented in [9]. The definition of security for it is broken since it only requires that the universal cryptosystem satisfy USS, thereby allowing the use of a universal cryptosystem with a UE algorithm that does not produce key-anonymous ciphertexts. When such an encryption

algorithm is used, the anonymity of the receiver is compromised in step 1. We define a re-encryption batch mix protocol FB MIX in Appendix A together with a definition of security for it that assures anonymity of receivers. We prove that it is secure using direct reductions with respect to DDH. We claim the below. The proof is in Appendix A.

**Theorem 6.** *If DDH is hard then FB MIX is a forward-anonymous batch mix.*

## 10 Conclusion

We addressed basic definitions, constructions, and proofs related to anonymous end-to-end communication. We analyzed the security foundation of universal re-encryption and showed that the definition of security for it is devoid of the requirement that the encryption algorithm produce key-anonymous ciphertexts. We presented a new definition of security for it that requires message indistinguishability and key anonymity for both the encryption and re-encryption operations. We proved that the ElGamal-based universal cryptosystem construction is secure by showing direct reductions with respect to DDH. Finally, we presented a forward-anonymous batch mix that is secure under DDH.

## References

1. M. Bellare, A. Boldyreva, A. Desai, and D. Pointcheval. Key-Privacy in Public-Key Encryption. In *Asiacrypt '01*, pages 566–582, 2001.
2. D. Boneh. The Decision Diffie-Hellman Problem. In *Proceedings of the Third Algorithmic Number Theory Symposium*, pages 48–63, 1998.
3. J. Camenisch and A. Lysyanskaya. A Formal Treatment of Onion Routing. In *Advances in Cryptology—Crypto '05*, pages 169–187, 2005.
4. G. Danezis. Breaking Four Mix-related Schemes Based on Universal Re-encryption. *Int. J. Inf. Sec.*, 6(6):393–402, 2007.
5. T. ElGamal. A Public-Key Cryptosystem and a Signature Scheme Based on Discrete Logarithms. In *Advances in Cryptology—Crypto '84*, pages 10–18, 1985.
6. P. Fairbrother. An Improved Construction for Universal Re-encryption. In *Privacy Enhancing Technologies*, pages 79–87, 2004.
7. S. Goldwasser and S. Micali. Probabilistic Encryption. *Journal of Computer and System Sciences*, 28(2):270–299, 1984.
8. P. Golle. Reputable Mix Networks. In *Privacy Enhancing Technologies*, pages 51–62, 2004.
9. P. Golle, M. Jakobsson, A. Juels, and P. Syverson. Universal Re-encryption for Mixnets. In *CT-RSA 2004*, pages 163–178, 2004.
10. M. Gomułkiewicz, M. Klonowski, and M. Kutyłowski. Onions Based on Universal Re-encryption—Anonymous Communication Immune Against Repetitive Attack. In *WISA*, pages 400–410, 2004.
11. J. Groth. Rerandomizable and Replayable Adaptive Chosen Ciphertext Attack Secure Cryptosystems. In *Theory of Cryptography—TCC '04*, pages 152–170, 2004.
12. S. Hohenberger, G. N. Rothblum, A. Shelat, and V. Vaikuntanathan. Securely Obfuscating Re-encryption. *Journal of Cryptology*, 24(4):694–719, 2011.

13. M. Klonowski, M. Kutylowski, A. Lauks, and F. Zagórski. Universal Re-encryption of Signatures and Controlling Anonymous Information Flow. In *WARTACRYPT*, pages 179–188, 2004.
14. M. Klonowski, M. Kutylowski, and F. Zagórski. Anonymous Communication with On-line and Off-line Onion Encoding. In *SOFSEM*, pages 229–238, 2005.
15. T. Lu, B. Fang, Y. Sun, and L. Guo. Some Remarks on Universal Re-encryption and a Novel Practical Anonymous Tunnel. In *ICCNMC*, pages 853–862, 2005.
16. S. Micali, C. Rackoff, and B. Sloan. The Notion of Security for Probabilistic Cryptosystems. *SIAM Journal on Computing*, 17(2):412–426, 1988.
17. M. Naor and O. Reingold. Number-Theoretic Constructions of Efficient Pseudo-Random Functions. In *IEEE FOCS '97*, pages 458–467, 1997.
18. M. Prabhakaran and M. Rosulek. Rerandomizable RCCA Encryption. In *Advances in Cryptology—Crypto '07*, pages 517–534, 2007.
19. M. Prabhakaran and M. Rosulek. Homomorphic Encryption with CCA Security. In *Automata, Languages and Programming*, pages 667–678, 2008.
20. M. Stadler. Publicly Verifiable Secret Sharing. In *Advances in Cryptology—Eurocrypt '96*, pages 190–199, 1996.

## A Forward-Anonymous Batch Mix

Golle et al used the universal cryptosystem to construct a forward anonymous mix protocol centered around the use of a bulletin board. The number of ciphertexts on the board can vary over time. Servers download the ciphertexts from the board, re-randomize them, and then upload them in permuted order. We instead chose to analyze a batch mix that mixes a fixed number of ciphertexts. We consider this case since: (1) it is concrete in the sense that a fixed size vector of ciphertexts needs to be anonymized and this gives a precise level of anonymity (fixed-size random permutation), and (2) we achieve low-latency since once the batch forms at the first mix the ciphertexts are pushed through the cascade of mixes rapidly.

We point out that the security arguments of Golle et al for their proposed mixes are flawed:

1. **Not tied to DDH:** None of the proofs in the paper take a DDH problem instance as input. It follows that they did not prove that security holds under DDH.
2. **Not randomized reductions:** None of the input problem instances in the paper are randomized. It is well-known that randomized reductions are stronger than non-randomized ones.

Consequently the security of their mixes were not tied to the DDH problem as claimed. This left as open the problem of proving the security of universal re-encryption batch mixing. We solve this problem in this section.

Informally, the problem we consider is to establish an externally anonymous communication channel. A set of  $w$  senders  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_w$  want to send messages  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_w$  respectively, to a target set of  $w$  receivers  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_w$ . Consider the case that  $s_i$  sends a message to  $s_j$  where  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$ . We want an



eavesdropper to have negligible advantage in correlating the initial ciphertext that  $s_i$  sends out with the public key of  $r_j$ . In other words, the eavesdropper has negligible advantage over guessing the receiver.

The solution must be forward-anonymous: an adversary that compromises a mix server cannot break the anonymity of previously transmitted ciphertexts. The solution must be robust in that anonymity holds as long as there is at least one mix server not compromised by the adversary.

Note that a receiver of a message can determine who the sender of the message is. The receiver is able to decipher the ciphertext right when the sender transmits it to the first mix. Anonymity is against external adversaries.

### A.1 Definition of security

**Definition 7.** A *forward-anonymous batch mix* protocol, denoted by **FBMIX**, is a 4-tuple of algorithms **FBGEN**, **FBENCR**, **FBMIXER**, and **FBDECR** where **FBGEN** generates a key pair for each receiver, where **FBENCR** encrypts the messages of the senders, where the **FBMIXER** servers are connected in series and they mix received ciphertexts and forward them on, that satisfies the following properties for all probabilistic polynomial-time passive adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$ :

1. **FBENCR Confidentiality:** The ciphertexts output by algorithm **FBENCR** satisfy the message indistinguishability property with respect to  $\mathcal{A}$  (Definition 10).
2. **FBMIXER Confidentiality:** The ciphertexts output by **FBMIXER** satisfy message indistinguishability with respect to  $\mathcal{A}$  (Definition 11)
3. **FBENCR Anonymity:** The ciphertexts output by **FBENCR** satisfy key anonymity with respect to  $\mathcal{A}$  (Definition 8).
4. **FBMIXER Anonymity:** The ciphertexts output by algorithm **FBMIXER** satisfy anonymity with respect to  $\mathcal{A}$  (Definition 9).
5. **Forward-Anonymity:** The **FBMIXER** servers have no secret key material.
6. **Robustness:** Anonymity of **FBMIX** holds provided at least one **FBMIXER** server is not compromised by  $\mathcal{A}$ .
7. **Completeness:**  $\forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$ , when sender  $s_i$  sends  $m_i$  to  $r_j$  where  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  then  $r_j$  receives  $m_i$ .
8. **Low-Latency:** Once  $w$  ciphertexts arrive at the first **FBMIXER** server, the batch moves through the mix at a speed limited only by the time to re-encrypt, permute, and forward.

### A.2 Forward-anonymous batch mix construction

We instantiate the mix as follows.

**FBGEN** $((p, q), g)$ :

1.  $(y_i, x_i) \leftarrow \text{UGEN}((p, q), g)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, w$
2. output  $((y_1, x_1), (y_2, x_2), \dots, (y_w, x_w))$

Let  $\sigma_i$  be the index of the receiver of the message of sender  $i$ . For example, if  $s_1$  sends to  $s_3$  then  $\sigma_1 = 3$ .

**FBENCR**( $p, g, (m_1, (k_{1,0}, k_{1,1}), \sigma_1), \dots, (m_w, (k_{w,0}, k_{w,1}), \sigma_w), y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w$ ):

1.  $c_i \leftarrow \mathbf{UENCR}(m_i, (k_{i,0}, k_{i,1}), (y_{\sigma_i}, g, p))$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, w$
2. output  $(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w)$

Define set  $S$  to be  $\{1, 2, \dots, w\}$ . Let  $\pi$  be a permutation from  $S$  onto  $S$ . Define  $\mathbf{fp}(\pi, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w)$  to be a function that outputs  $(c_{\pi(1)}, c_{\pi(2)}, \dots, c_{\pi(w)})$ . Let the algorithm  $\mathbf{fpinv}(\pi, c_{\pi(1)}, c_{\pi(2)}, \dots, c_{\pi(w)})$  be a function that uses  $\pi^{-1}$  to output the tuple  $(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w)$ .

**FBMIXER**( $p, \pi, (c_1, (\ell_{1,0}, \ell_{1,1})), (c_2, (\ell_{2,0}, \ell_{2,1})), \dots, (c_w, (\ell_{w,0}, \ell_{w,1}))$ ):

1.  $c'_i \leftarrow \mathbf{URE}(c_i, (\ell_{i,0}, \ell_{i,1}), p)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, w$
2. output  $\mathbf{fp}(\pi, c'_1, c'_2, \dots, c'_w)$

The **break** statement terminates the execution of the nearest enclosing **for** loop in which **break** appears.

**FBDECR**( $p, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_w$ ):

1. let  $L$  be the empty list
2. **for**  $i$  in 1 to  $w$ :
3.     **for**  $j$  in 1 to  $w$ :
4.          $(m, s) \leftarrow \mathbf{UDECR}(c_i, x_j, p)$
5.         **if**  $s = \text{true}$
6.             append  $(m, j)$  to  $L$
7.         **break**
8. output  $L$

There are four stages in the mix protocol. The mix protocol leverages  $N$  mix servers labeled  $1, 2, \dots, N$  and they are connected in series.

**Stage 1:**  $r_j$  generates a key pair  $(y_j, x_j)$  using **UGEN** and publishes  $y_j$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$ . This stage is effectively **FBGEN**.

**Stage 2:** Sender  $s_i$  formulates a message  $m_i$  to send to receiver  $r_j$ .  $s_i$  generates  $(k_{i,0}, k_{i,1}) \in_U [1, q] \times [1, q]$  and computes  $c_i \leftarrow \mathbf{UENCR}(m_i, (k_{i,0}, k_{i,1}), (y_{\sigma_i}, g, p))$ .  $s_i$  sends  $c_i$  to Mix 1 for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, w$ . This stage is effectively **FBENCR**.

**Stage 3:** Mix  $k$  where  $1 \leq k \leq N$  operates as follows. It waits until a full batch of  $w$  ciphertexts  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w$  arrive. It then generates  $(\ell_{i,0}, \ell_{i,1}) \in_U [1, q] \times [1, q]$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, w$ . It generates a permutation  $\pi$  from  $S$  onto  $S$  uniformly at random. It then computes,

$$(c'_{\pi(1)}, c'_{\pi(2)}, \dots, c'_{\pi(w)}) \leftarrow \mathbf{FBMIXER}(p, \pi, (c_1, (\ell_{1,0}, \ell_{1,1})), (c_2, (\ell_{2,0}, \ell_{2,1})), \dots, (c_w, (\ell_{w,0}, \ell_{w,1})))$$

If  $k < N$  then  $(c'_{\pi(1)}, c'_{\pi(2)}, \dots, c'_{\pi(w)})$  is sent to mix  $k + 1$ . If  $k = N$  then  $(c'_{\pi(1)}, c'_{\pi(2)}, \dots, c'_{\pi(w)})$  is posted to a public bulletin board. Each of these mixes is effectively **FBMIXER**.

**Stage 4:**  $r_j$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$  downloads all  $w$  ciphertexts from the bulletin board.  $r_j$  attempts decryption of every single one of the ciphertexts using  $x_j$ .

In so doing,  $r_j$  receives zero or more messages. If there is no  $i$  for which  $\sigma_i = j$  then  $r_j$  receives no messages. This stage is effectively FBDECR.

We can improve the performance of Stage 4 in the case that every receiver gets only one message from a sender. In this scenario, a receiver can pull down the ciphertexts from the bulletin board one by one and then stop when a ciphertext is received that properly decrypts. The batch mix provides external anonymity thereby breaking the link between senders and receivers. This use case would fail completely were the senders to post their key anonymous ciphertexts directly to the bulletin board. To see this, note that a passive eavesdropper would know the sender of each ciphertext on the bulletin board. The eavesdropper would then know who the receiver is of a given ciphertext based on when the receiver stops pulling down ciphertexts.

### A.3 Security of FBMIX

Where possible we allow the adversary to choose the receivers of messages in FBMIX. For example, the adversary can have Alice and Bob send messages to the same receiver, Carol. Consequently, many senders can send messages to the same receiver. As a result we need to generalize DDHRerand5 from Section 7. It generalizes to produce more DH 3-tuples with a common “public key” in the same way that the DDH random self-reduction generalized to form DDHRerand5.

To make the pattern clear we define DDHRerand7 as follows. The algorithm DDHRerand7( $(p, q), g, x, y, z$ ) randomizes a DDH problem instance by choosing the exponents  $u_1, u_2, v, v', v'', u'_1, u''_1 \in_U [1, q]$  and computing,

$$(x''', x'', x', y', z', z'', z''') \leftarrow (x^{v''} g^{u''_1}, x^{v'} g^{u'_1}, x^v g^{u_1}, y g^{u_2}, z^v y^{u_1} x^{v u_2} g^{u_1 u_2}, z^{v'} y^{u'_1} x^{v' u_2} g^{u'_1 u_2}, z^{v''} y^{u''_1} x^{v'' u_2} g^{u''_1 u_2})$$

and so on for ever more “ $v$  primes” and “ $u_1$  primes”.

For ease of use we parameterize this DDH generalization as follows. Let DDHRerandN( $(p, q), g, x, y, z, t$ ) be a DDH self-reduction algorithm that outputs a set  $T$  containing  $t$  3-tuples. Define, the set  $T = \{(A_1, B_1, R_1), (A_2, B_2, R_2), \dots, (A_t, B_t, R_t)\}$ .

The algorithm has these properties: (1) when the input  $(x, y, z)$  is a DH 3-tuple then all  $t$  output 3-tuples are random DH 3-tuples but with the middle term in common, and (2) when the input  $(x, y, z)$  is not a DH 3-tuple then  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_t, B_1, R_1, R_2, \dots, R_t \in_U G_p$  and  $B_1 = B_2 = \dots = B_t$ .

DDHRerandN( $(p, q), g, x, y, z, 2$ ) is logically equivalent to DDHRerand5. To see this, note that the algorithm DDHRerandN( $(p, q), g, x, y, z, 2$ ) outputs the set of tuples  $T = \{(A_1, B_1, R_1), (A_2, B_2, R_2)\}$  which, rearranging and dropping the  $B_2$  yields the 5-tuple  $(A_1, A_2, B_1, R_2, R_1)$ . Observe that  $B_1 = B_2$ .

Let GetMiddle( $T$ ) to be a function that on input a set  $T$  that is output by DDHRerandN, selects a tuple in  $T$  and returns the middle value in it. All middle values are the same so it doesn't matter which tuple is selected. We now address key anonymity for FBENCR.

**Definition 8.** If  $\forall$  probabilistic polynomial time adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\forall \alpha > 0$ ,  $\forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$ , and  $\forall$  sufficiently large  $\kappa$ , after the following,

1. generate  $((p, q), g) \leftarrow \mathcal{IG}(\kappa)$
2.  $((y_1, x_1), (y_2, x_2), \dots, (y_w, x_w)) \leftarrow \text{FBGEN}((p, q), g)$
3.  $(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_w) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}((p, q), g, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w, \text{"specify messages"})$
4. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $m_j \notin G_p$  then output "false" and halt
5.  $(k_{j,0}, k_{j,1}) \in_U [1, q] \times [1, q]$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
6.  $\sigma_j \in_U \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
7.  $(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w) \leftarrow \text{FBENCR}(p, g, (m_1, (k_{1,0}, k_{1,1}), \sigma_1), \dots, (m_w, (k_{w,0}, k_{w,1}), \sigma_w), y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w)$
8.  $(\sigma'_1, \sigma'_2, \dots, \sigma'_w) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w, \text{"guess"})$
9. if  $\sigma_i = \sigma'_i$  then output "true" else output "false"

the output of the experiment is "true" with probability less than  $\frac{1}{w} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$  then FBENCR is secure in the sense of key anonymity.

**Theorem 7.** If DDH is hard then algorithm FBENCR is secure in the sense of key anonymity.

*Proof.* Suppose there exists a probabilistic polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , an  $\alpha > 0$ , an  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$ , and a sufficiently large  $\kappa$ , such that  $\mathcal{A}$  succeeds with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{w} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Consider algorithm AlgR9 that takes as input a DDH problem instance  $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ .

AlgR9 $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ :

1.  $T_j \leftarrow \text{DDHRerandN}((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0, 2w)$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
2. set  $y_j = \text{GetMiddle}(T_j)$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
3.  $(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_w) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}((p, q), g, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w, \text{"specify messages"})$
4. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $m_j \notin G_p$  then output "false" and halt
5.  $\sigma_j \in_U \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
6. for  $j$  in 1.. $w$  do:
  7. extract a tuple  $(A_0, B_0, R_0)$  without replacement from  $T_{\sigma_j}$
  8. extract a tuple  $(A_1, B_1, R_1)$  without replacement from  $T_{\sigma_j}$
  9.  $c_j \leftarrow ((A_0, R_0), (A_1, R_1 m_j))$
10.  $(\sigma'_1, \sigma'_2, \dots, \sigma'_w) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w, \text{"guess"})$
11. if  $\sigma_i = \sigma'_i$  then output "true" else output "false"

Consider the case that the input is a DH 3-tuple. It follows from the definition of DDHRerandN that  $c_j$  is a proper encryption of  $m_j$  using public key  $y_{\sigma_j}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$  under FBENCR. Therefore, the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  is drawn from the same set and probability distribution as the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  in Definition 8. It follows that  $\sigma_i = \sigma'_i$  with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{w} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . So, for random exponents  $a$  and  $b$  in  $[1, q]$ ,  $\Pr[\text{AlgR9}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{"true"}] \geq \frac{1}{w} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Define  $\psi = \Pr[\text{AlgR9}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{"true"}]$ .

Now consider the case that the input is not a DH 3-tuple. It follows from the definition of DDHRerandN that  $c_j$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_p^2 \times G_p^2$  and  $y_j$

is uniformly distributed in  $G_p$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$ . Let  $p_j$  be the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  responds with  $\sigma'_i = j$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$ . Then the probability that  $\sigma_i = \sigma'_i$  is  $\frac{1}{w}p_1 + \frac{1}{w}p_2 + \dots + \frac{1}{w}p_w = \frac{1}{w}$ . So, for randomly chosen exponents  $a, b$ , and  $c$  in  $[1, q]$ ,  $\Pr[\text{AlgR9}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^c) = \text{“true”}] = \frac{q^2}{q^3}\psi + (1 - \frac{q^2}{q^3})\frac{1}{w}$  which is overwhelmingly close to  $\frac{1}{w}$ .  $\square$

We now address key anonymity for FB MIXER.

**Definition 9.** *If  $\forall$  probabilistic polynomial time adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\forall \alpha > 0$ ,  $\forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$ , and  $\forall$  sufficiently large  $\kappa$ , after the following,*

1. generate  $((p, q), g) \leftarrow \mathcal{IG}(\kappa)$
2.  $((y_1, x_1), (y_2, x_2), \dots, (y_w, x_w)) \leftarrow \text{FBGEN}((p, q), g)$
3.  $((m_1, r_1, \sigma_1), (m_2, r_2, \sigma_2), \dots, (m_w, r_w, \sigma_w)) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}((p, q), g, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w, \text{“specify ciphertexts and receivers”})$
4. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $m_j \notin G_p$  then output “false” and halt
5. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $r_j \notin [1, q] \times [1, q]$  then output “false” and halt
6. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $\sigma_j \notin S$  then output “false” and halt
7.  $(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w) \leftarrow \text{FBENCR}(p, g, (m_1, r_1, \sigma_1), \dots, (m_w, r_w, \sigma_w), y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w)$
8.  $\mu_j \in_U [1, q] \times [1, q]$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
9. select a permutation  $\pi$  from  $S$  onto  $S$  uniformly at random
10.  $(c'_{\pi(1)}, c'_{\pi(2)}, \dots, c'_{\pi(w)}) \leftarrow \text{FBMIXER}(p, \pi, (c_1, \mu_1), (c_2, \mu_2), \dots, (c_w, \mu_w))$
11.  $\pi' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c'_{\pi(1)}, c'_{\pi(2)}, \dots, c'_{\pi(w)}, \text{“guess”})$
12. if  $\pi'(i) = \pi(i)$  then output “true” else output “false”

the output of the experiment is “true” with probability less than  $\frac{1}{w} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$  then FB MIXER is secure in the sense of anonymity.

**Theorem 8.** *If DDH is hard then FB MIXER is secure in the sense of anonymity.*

*Proof.* Suppose there exists a probabilistic polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , an  $\alpha > 0$ , an  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$ , and a sufficiently large  $\kappa$ , such that  $\mathcal{A}$  succeeds with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{w} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Consider algorithm AlgR10 that takes as input a DDH problem instance  $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ .

AlgR10 $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ :

1.  $T_j \leftarrow \text{DDHRerandN}((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0, 2w)$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
2. set  $y_j = \text{GetMiddle}(T_j)$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
3.  $((m_1, r_1, \sigma_1), (m_2, r_2, \sigma_2), \dots, (m_w, r_w, \sigma_w)) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}((p, q), g, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w, \text{“specify ciphertexts and receivers”})$
4. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $m_j \notin G_p$  then output “false” and halt
5. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $r_j \notin [1, q] \times [1, q]$  then output “false” and halt
6. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $\sigma_j \notin S$  then output “false” and halt
7.  $(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w) \leftarrow \text{FBENCR}(p, g, (m_1, r_1, \sigma_1), \dots, (m_w, r_w, \sigma_w), y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w)$
8. for  $j$  in  $1..w$  do:
  9. extract a tuple  $(A_0, B_0, R_0)$  without replacement from  $T_{\sigma_j}$
  10. extract a tuple  $(A_1, B_1, R_1)$  without replacement from  $T_{\sigma_j}$

11.  $((\alpha_0, \beta_0), (\alpha_1, \beta_1)) \leftarrow c_j$
12.  $c'_j \leftarrow ((\alpha_0 A_0, \beta_0 R_0), (\alpha_1 A_1, \beta_1 R_1))$
13. select a permutation  $\pi$  from  $S$  onto  $S$  uniformly at random
14.  $(c'_{\pi(1)}, c'_{\pi(2)}, \dots, c'_{\pi(w)}) \leftarrow \mathbf{fp}(\pi, c'_1, c'_2, \dots, c'_w)$
15.  $\pi' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c'_{\pi(1)}, c'_{\pi(2)}, \dots, c'_{\pi(w)}, \text{"guess"})$
16. if  $\pi'(i) = \pi(i)$  then output "true" else output "false"

Consider the case that the input is a DH 3-tuple. Clearly the ciphertexts  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w$  are as specified by  $\mathcal{A}$ . It follows from the definition of  $\text{DDHRerandN}$  that  $c'_j$  is a proper re-encryption of  $c_j$  under  $\text{FBMIXER}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$ . Therefore, the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  is drawn from the same set and probability distribution as the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  in Definition 9. It follows that  $\pi'(i) = \pi(i)$  with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{w} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . So, for random exponents  $a$  and  $b$  in  $[1, q]$ ,  $\Pr[\text{AlgR10}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{"true"}] \geq \frac{1}{w} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Define the value  $\psi = \Pr[\text{AlgR10}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{"true"}]$ .

Now consider the case that the input is not a DH 3-tuple. It follows from the definition of  $\text{DDHRerandN}$  that  $y_j$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_p$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$  and that  $c'_j$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_p^2 \times G_p^2$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$ . Let  $p_j$  be the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  responds with  $\pi'(i) = j$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$ . Then the probability that  $\pi'(i) = \pi(i)$  is  $\frac{1}{w}p_1 + \frac{1}{w}p_2 + \dots + \frac{1}{w}p_w = \frac{1}{w}$ . So, for randomly chosen exponents  $a, b$ , and  $c$  in  $[1, q]$ ,  $\Pr[\text{AlgR10}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^c) = \text{"true"}] = \frac{q^2}{q^3}\psi + (1 - \frac{q^2}{q^3})\frac{1}{w}$  which is overwhelmingly close to  $\frac{1}{w}$ .  $\square$

We now address message indistinguishability.

**Definition 10.** *If  $\forall$  probabilistic polynomial time adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\forall \alpha > 0$ ,  $\forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$ , and  $\forall$  sufficiently large  $\kappa$ , after the following,*

1. generate  $((p, q), g) \leftarrow \mathcal{IG}(\kappa)$
2.  $((y_1, x_1), (y_2, x_2), \dots, (y_w, x_w)) \leftarrow \mathbf{FBGEN}((p, q), g)$
3.  $((m_{1,0}, m_{1,1}, \sigma_1), (m_{2,0}, m_{2,1}, \sigma_2), \dots, (m_{w,0}, m_{w,1}, \sigma_w))$   
 $\leftarrow \mathcal{A}((p, q), g, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w, \text{"specify messages and receivers"})$
4. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $(m_{j,0} \notin G_p \text{ or } m_{j,1} \notin G_p)$   
then output "false" and halt
5. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $m_{j,0} = m_{j,1}$  then output "false" and halt
6. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $\sigma_j \notin \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  then output "false" and halt
7.  $(k_{j,0}, k_{j,1}) \in_U [1, q] \times [1, q]$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
8.  $b_j \in_U \{0, 1\}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
9.  $(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w) \leftarrow \mathbf{FBENCR}(p, g, (m_{1,b_1}, (k_{1,0}, k_{1,1}), \sigma_1), \dots,$   
 $(m_{w,b_w}, (k_{w,0}, k_{w,1}), \sigma_w), y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w)$
10.  $(b'_1, b'_2, \dots, b'_w) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w, \text{"guess"})$
11. if  $b_i = b'_i$  then output "true" else output "false"

the output of the experiment is "true" with probability less than  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$  then  $\text{FBENCR}$  is secure in the sense of message indistinguishability.

**Theorem 9.** *If DDH is hard then FBENCR is secure in the sense of message indistinguishability.*

*Proof.* Suppose there exists a probabilistic polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , an  $\alpha > 0$ , an  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$ , and a sufficiently large  $\kappa$ , such that  $\mathcal{A}$  succeeds with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Consider algorithm **AlgR7** that takes as input a DDH problem instance  $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ .

**AlgR7** $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ :

1.  $T_j \leftarrow \text{DDHRerandN}((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0, 2w)$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
2. set  $y_j = \text{GetMiddle}(T_j)$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
3.  $((m_{1,0}, m_{1,1}, \sigma_1), (m_{2,0}, m_{2,1}, \sigma_2), \dots, (m_{w,0}, m_{w,1}, \sigma_w))$   
 $\leftarrow \mathcal{A}((p, q), g, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w, \text{"specify messages and receivers"})$
4. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $(m_{j,0} \notin G_p$  or  $m_{j,1} \notin G_p)$  then output "false" and halt
5. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $m_{j,0} = m_{j,1}$  then output "false" and halt
6. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $\sigma_j \notin \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  then output "false" and halt
7.  $b_j \in_U \{0, 1\}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
8. for  $j$  in  $1..w$  do:
  9. extract a tuple  $(A_0, B_0, R_0)$  without replacement from  $T_{\sigma_j}$
  10. extract a tuple  $(A_1, B_1, R_1)$  without replacement from  $T_{\sigma_j}$
  11.  $c_j \leftarrow ((A_0, R_0), (A_1, R_1 m_{j,b_j}))$
  12.  $(b'_1, b'_2, \dots, b'_w) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w, \text{"guess"})$
  13. if  $b_i = b'_i$  then output "true" else output "false"

Consider the case that the input is a DH 3-tuple. It follows from the definition of **DDHRerandN** that  $c_j$  is a proper encryption of  $m_{j,b_j}$  using public key  $y_{\sigma_j}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$  under **FBENCR**. Therefore, the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  is drawn from the same set and probability distribution as the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  in Definition 10. It follows that  $b_i = b'_i$  with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . So, for random exponents  $a$  and  $b$  in  $[1, q]$ ,  $\Pr[\text{AlgR7}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{"true"}] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Define  $\psi = \Pr[\text{AlgR7}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{"true"}]$ .

Now consider the case that the input is not a DH 3-tuple. It follows from the definition of **DDHRerandN** that  $c_j$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_p^2 \times G_p^2$  and  $y_j$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_p$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$ . Let  $p_1$  be the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  responds with  $b'_i = 0$ . Then the probability that  $b_i = b'_i$  is  $\frac{1}{2}p_1 + \frac{1}{2}(1 - p_1) = \frac{1}{2}$ . So, for randomly chosen exponents  $a, b$ , and  $c$  in  $[1, q]$ , the probability  $\Pr[\text{AlgR7}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^c) = \text{"true"}] = \frac{q^2}{q^3}\psi + (1 - \frac{q^2}{q^3})\frac{1}{2}$  which is overwhelmingly close to  $\frac{1}{2}$ .  $\square$

**Definition 11.** *If  $\forall$  probabilistic polynomial time adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\forall \alpha > 0$ ,  $\forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$ , and  $\forall$  sufficiently large  $\kappa$ , after the following,*

1. generate  $((p, q), g) \leftarrow \mathcal{IG}(\kappa)$
2.  $((y_1, x_1), (y_2, x_2), \dots, (y_w, x_w)) \leftarrow \text{FBGEN}((p, q), g)$

3.  $(\pi, (m_{1,0}, m_{1,1}, r_{1,0}, r_{1,1}, \sigma_1), (m_{2,0}, m_{2,1}, r_{2,0}, r_{2,1}, \sigma_2), \dots, (m_{w,0}, m_{w,1}, r_{w,0}, r_{w,1}, \sigma_w)) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}((p, q), g, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w, \text{"specify ciphertexts, receivers, and } \pi\text{"})$
4. if  $\pi$  is not a permutation from  $S$  onto  $S$  then output "false" and halt
5. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $(m_{j,0} \notin G_p$  or  $m_{j,1} \notin G_p)$  then output "false" and halt
6. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $m_{j,0} = m_{j,1}$  then output "false" and halt
7. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $(r_{j,0} \notin [1, q] \times [1, q]$  or  $r_{j,1} \notin [1, q] \times [1, q])$  then output "false" and halt
8. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $\sigma_j \notin \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  then output "false" and halt
9.  $b_j \in_U \{0, 1\}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
10.  $(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w) \leftarrow \text{FBENCR}(p, g, (m_{1,b_1}, r_{1,b_1}, \sigma_1), \dots, (m_{w,b_w}, r_{w,b_w}, \sigma_w), y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w)$
11.  $r_j \in_U [1, q] \times [1, q]$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
12.  $(c'_{\pi(1)}, c'_{\pi(2)}, \dots, c'_{\pi(w)}) \leftarrow \text{FBMIXER}(p, \pi, (c_1, r_1), (c_2, r_2), \dots, (c_w, r_w))$
13.  $(c'_1, c'_2, \dots, c'_w) \leftarrow \text{fpinv}(\pi, c'_{\pi(1)}, c'_{\pi(2)}, \dots, c'_{\pi(w)})$
14.  $(b'_1, b'_2, \dots, b'_w) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c'_1, c'_2, \dots, c'_w, \text{"guess"})$
15. if  $b_i = b'_i$  then output "true" else output "false"

the output of the experiment is "true" with probability less than  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$  then FBMIXER is secure in the sense of message indistinguishability.

**Theorem 10.** *If DDH is hard then FBMIXER is secure in the sense of message indistinguishability.*

*Proof.* Suppose there exists a probabilistic polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , an  $\alpha > 0$ , an  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$ , and a sufficiently large  $\kappa$ , such that  $\mathcal{A}$  succeeds with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Consider algorithm **Algr8** that takes as input a DDH problem instance  $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ .

**Algr8** $((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0)$ :

1.  $T_j \leftarrow \text{DDHRerandN}((p, q), g, a_0, b_0, c_0, 2w)$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
2. set  $y_j = \text{GetMiddle}(T_j)$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
3.  $(\pi, (m_{1,0}, m_{1,1}, r_{1,0}, r_{1,1}, \sigma_1), (m_{2,0}, m_{2,1}, r_{2,0}, r_{2,1}, \sigma_2), \dots, (m_{w,0}, m_{w,1}, r_{w,0}, r_{w,1}, \sigma_w)) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}((p, q), g, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w, \text{"specify ciphertexts, receivers, and } \pi\text{"})$
4. if  $\pi$  is not a permutation from  $S$  onto  $S$  then output "false" and halt
5. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $(m_{j,0} \notin G_p$  or  $m_{j,1} \notin G_p)$  then output "false" and halt
6. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $m_{j,0} = m_{j,1}$  then output "false" and halt
7. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $(r_{j,0} \notin [1, q] \times [1, q]$  or  $r_{j,1} \notin [1, q] \times [1, q])$  then output "false" and halt
8. if  $\exists j \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  such that  $\sigma_j \notin \{1, 2, \dots, w\}$  then output "false" and halt
9.  $b_j \in_U \{0, 1\}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$
10.  $(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w) \leftarrow \text{FBENCR}(p, g, (m_{1,b_1}, r_{1,b_1}, \sigma_1), \dots, (m_{w,b_w}, r_{w,b_w}, \sigma_w), y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w)$



- $$(m_{w,b_w}, r_{w,b_w}, \sigma_w), y_1, y_2, \dots, y_w)$$
11. for  $j$  in  $1..w$  do:
  12.   extract a tuple  $(A_0, B_0, R_0)$  without replacement from  $T_{\sigma_j}$
  13.   extract a tuple  $(A_1, B_1, R_1)$  without replacement from  $T_{\sigma_j}$
  14.    $((\alpha_0, \beta_0), (\alpha_1, \beta_1)) \leftarrow c_j$
  15.    $c'_j \leftarrow ((\alpha_0 A_0, \beta_0 R_0), (\alpha_1 A_1, \beta_1 R_1))$
  16.    $(b'_1, b'_2, \dots, b'_w) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(c'_1, c'_2, \dots, c'_w, \text{"guess"})$
  17. if  $b_i = b'_i$  then output "true" else output "false"

Consider the case that the input is a DH 3-tuple. Clearly the ciphertexts  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_w$  are as specified by  $\mathcal{A}$ . It follows from the definition of **DDHRerandN** that  $c'_j$  is a proper re-encryption of  $c_j$  under **FBMIXER** for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$ . Therefore, the input to adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is drawn from the same set and probability distribution as the input to  $\mathcal{A}$  in Definition 11. It follows that  $b_i = b'_i$  with probability greater than or equal to  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . So, for random exponents  $a$  and  $b$  in  $[1, q]$ ,  $\Pr[\text{AlgR8}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{"true"}] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\kappa^\alpha}$ . Define the value  $\psi = \Pr[\text{AlgR8}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) = \text{"true"}]$ .

Now consider the case that the input is not a DH 3-tuple. It follows from the definition of **DDHRerandN** that  $y_j$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_{\mathfrak{p}}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$  and that  $c'_j$  is uniformly distributed in  $G_{\mathfrak{p}}^2 \times G_{\mathfrak{p}}^2$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, w$ . Let  $p_1$  be the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  responds with  $b'_i = 0$ . Then the probability that  $b_i = b'_i$  is  $\frac{1}{2}p_1 + \frac{1}{2}(1 - p_1) = \frac{1}{2}$ . So, for randomly chosen exponents  $a, b$ , and  $c$  in  $[1, q]$ , the probability  $\Pr[\text{AlgR8}((p, q), g, g^a, g^b, g^c) = \text{"true"}] = \frac{q^2}{q^3}\psi + (1 - \frac{q^2}{q^3})\frac{1}{2}$  which is overwhelmingly close to  $\frac{1}{2}$ .  $\square$

Theorems 7, 8, 9, and 10 show that properties 1, 2, 3, and 4 of a forward-anonymous batch mix hold, respectively. The **FBMIXER** servers store no keys at all so the forward-anonymity property holds (property 5). Theorem 8 proves that anonymity holds from a single honest mix. Therefore, the robustness property holds (property 6). Completeness and low-latency are straightforward to show (properties 7 and 8). Theorem 6 therefore holds.