# Timed-Release and Key-Insulated Public Key Encryption

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**Abstract.** In this paper we consider two security notions related to Identity Based Encryption: Key-insulated public key encryption, introduced by Dodis, Katz, Xu and Yung; and Timed-Release Public Key cryptography, introduced independently by May and Rivest, Shamir and Wagner. We first formalize the notion of secure timed-release public key encryption, and show that, despite several differences in its formulation, it is equivalent to strongly key-insulated public key encryption (with optimal threshold and random access key updates). Next, we introduce the concept of an authenticated timed-release cryptosystem, briefly consider generic constructions, and then give a construction based on a single primitive which is efficient and provably secure.

**Keywords:** timed-release, authenticated encryption, key-insulated encryption.

### 1 Introduction

**Timed-Release cryptography**. The goal of timed-release cryptography is to "send a message into the future." One way to do this is to encrypt a message such that the receiver cannot decrypt the ciphertext until a specific time in the future. Such a primitive would have many practical applications, a few examples include preventing a dishonest auctioneer from prior opening of bids in a sealedbid auction [26], preventing early opening of votes in e-voting schemes, and delayed verification of a signed document, such as electronic lotteries [28] and check cashing. The problem of timed-release cryptography was first mentioned by May [21] and then discussed in detail by Rivest *et. al.* [26]. Let us assume that Alice wants to send a message to Bob such that Bob will not be able to open it until a certain time. The possible solutions fall into two categories:

– Time-lock puzzle approach. Alice encrypts her message and Bob needs to perform non-parallelizable computation without stopping for the required time to decrypt it.

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– Agent-based approach. Alice encrypts a message such that Bob needs some secret value, published by a trusted agent on the required date, in order to decrypt the message.

The first approach puts immense computational overhead on the message receiver, which makes it impractical for real-life scenarios. In addition, knowing the computational complexity of decryption, while giving us a lower bound on the time Bob may need to decrypt the message, does not guarantee that the plaintext will be available at a certain date. Still, this approach is widely used for specific applications [9, 4, 28, 19, 18]. The agent-based approach, on the other hand, relieves Bob from performing non-stop computation, sets the date of decryption precisely and does not require Alice to have information on Bob's capabilities. This comes at a price, though: the agents have to be trusted and they have to be available at the designated time.

In this paper we concentrate on the agent-based approach. Several agentbased constructions were suggested by Rivest *et. al.* [26]. For example, the agent could encrypt messages on request with a secret key which will be published on a designated date by the agent. It also could precompute pairs of public/private keys, publish all public keys and release the private keys on the required days. A different scheme was proposed in [13], in which non-malleable encryption was used and receiver would engage in a conditional oblivious transfer protocol with the agent to decrypt the message. In [11], the authors proposed to use Boneh and Franklin's IBE scheme [8] for timed-release encryption: for that, one can replace the identity in an IBE scheme with the time of decryption. Similar proposals appear in [20, 7]. While some of these proposals contain informal proofs of security, none of them consider and/or give a formal treatment of the security properties of timed-release public key encryption (or TR-PKE).

Since all known efficient constructions rely on the Boneh-Franklin IBE construction, a natural question to ask is if the existence of IBE is necessary for an efficient timed-release public key encryption. In this paper, we formalize the security requirements of TR-PKE and show that indeed this is the case: the existence of secure TR-PKE is equivalent to the existence of strongly key-insulated encryption with optimal threshold and random access key updates; existence of which in turn is known to be equivalent to the existence of IBE [5, 14].

SKIE-OTRU: Strongly key-insulated encryption with Optimal Threshold and Random Access Key Updates. Strongly key-insulated encryption addresses the problem of computer intrusion by breaking up the lifetime of a public key into periods, and splitting the decryption key between the user (say, a mobile device) and a trusted "helper" (say, a desktop server) so that:

- (Sequential Key Updates) At the beginning of each time period, the helper securely transmits a "helper secret key"  $hsk_i$  to the user, which he combines with his previous key,  $usk_{i-1}$ , to obtain a secret key  $usk_i$  that will decrypt messages encrypted during time period i.
- (Random Access Key Updates) Given any  $usk_i$  and  $hsk_j$ , the user can compute  $usk_j$ . This is useful for error recovery and it also allows the user to decrypt old messages.

- (User Compromise) An adversary who is given access to  $(usk_i, hsk_i)$  for several time periods *i* cannot break the encryption for a new time period.
- (*Helper Compromise*) An adversary given only the *hsk* cannot break the encryption scheme.

Combining results of Bellare/Palacio [5] and Dodis/Katz [14]<sup>1</sup>, it follows that existence of SKIE-OTRU is equivalent to IBE.

Authentication for Timed-Release Encryption. Many of the applications of timed-release cryptography mentioned above require some form of authentication as well. For example, if there is no authentication of bids in a sealed auction, any bidder may be able to forge bids for others, or force the auction to fail by submitting an unreasonably high bid. In this paper, we consider the security properties required by these applications and develop formal security conditions for a Timed-Release Public Key Authenticated Encryption (TR-PKAE) scheme.

One avenue for developing a TR-PKAE scheme would be composing an unauthenticated TR-PKE scheme with either a signature scheme or a (non-timedrelease) PKAE scheme. Although such constructions are possible, we note that the details of this composition are not trivial; examples from [2, 14] illustrate that naive constructions can fail to provide the expected security properties. Additionally, we note that such schemes are likely to suffer a performance penalty relative to a scheme based on a single primitive. Thus we also introduce a provably secure construction of a TR-PKAE scheme that is essentially as efficient as previous constructions of *non-authenticated* TR-PKE schemes [11, 20, 7].

**Our Contribution.** This paper proposes a new primitive that provides timedrelease public key authenticated encryption (in short, TR-PKAE). The contribution of this paper is four fold:

- We give the first formal analysis of the security requirements for timedrelease public key encryption (TR-PKE) and show that this notion is equivalent to SKIE-OTRU.
- We introduce the notion of TR-PKAE, as satisfying four notions: IND-KC-CCA2, security against adaptive chosen ciphertext attacks under compromise of the timed-release agent and sender's private key; TUF-CTXT, or third-party unforgeability of ciphertexts; IND-RTR-KC-CCA2, or receiver undecryptability before release time under compromise of sender's private key; and RUF-TR-CTXT, or receiver unforgeability before release time.
- We introduce a protocol that provides authenticated timed-release public key encryption using a single primitive. The proposed protocol is essentially as efficient as Boneh and Franklin's chosen-ciphertext secure IBE scheme [8] (FullIdent, which will be referred to as BF-IBE in the rest of the paper) and is provably secure in the random oracle model. The proposed protocol requires minimal infrastructure (a single trusted agent) that can be shared among many applications and can be naturally converted to a threshold version,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bellare/Palacio showed that KIE-OTRU is equivalent to IBE, while Dodis/Katz showed equivalence of SKIE-OTRU and KIE-OTRU.

which provides robustness as well as stronger security by allowing outputs of multiple agents to be used.

**Overview of our construction.** Consider a public agent (similar to NTP server [23]), called TiPuS (<u>Timed-release Public Server</u>), which at discrete time-intervals publishes new *self-authenticating* information  $I_T = f(P_T, s)$  for current time T, where f and  $P_T$  are public, and s is secret. Alice can encrypt a message for Bob at time T using  $P_T$ , her private key and Bob's public key. Only when  $I_T$  is published on day T, will Bob be able to decrypt the message using  $I_T$ , his private key and Alice's public key.

We implement the above setting using an admissible bilinear map e (see Section 4.1), which along with the choice of groups and generator P is chosen independently of TiPuS. Each TiPuS chooses a secret  $s \in \mathbb{Z}_q$  and publishes  $P_{pub} = sP$ . At time T, the TiPuS publishes  $I_T = sP_T = sH(T)^2$  (*i.e.* the private key for identity T in BF-IBE [8]), where H is a cryptographic hash function.

Let  $(sk_a, pk_a) = (a, aP)$  and  $(sk_b, pk_b) = (b, bP)$  be Alice's and Bob's authenticated private/public key pairs respectively. To *encrypt* message m for Bob, 1) Alice computes bilinear map  $d = e(sP + r_1 \cdot bP, (r_2 + a)P_T)$  for random  $r_1, r_2$ , and applies hash function  $H_2$  to obtain  $K = H_2(d)$ , 2) she then encrypts message m as  $E_K(m)$ , where  $E_K$  is a symmetric encryption using key K. Bob also receives  $r_1P_T$  and  $r_2P$ . To *decrypt* the ciphertext, 1) Bob, having  $sP_T$ , computes d as  $e(r_2P + aP, sP_T + b \cdot r_1P_T)^3$ , 2) applying hash function  $H_2$ , Bob computes K and uses it to decrypt  $E_K(m)$ .<sup>4</sup> The full detailed protocol and all required definitions/discussions are presented in later sections.

Note the following practical aspects exhibited by the scheme: 1) (User Secret vs TiPuS Secret) the secret value of TiPuS, system parameters and users' private keys are completely independent. It will be shown later that compromise of TiPuS does not jeopardize confidentiality and unforgeability of user ciphertexts; 2) (Sharing) the published value  $sP_T$  can be shared among multiple applications; 3) (Scalability) the protocol can take full advantage of a) several independent TiPuS's, <sup>5</sup> b) threshold generation of  $sP_T$  [24]. The increase in computational complexity is minimal when such schemes are applied to the protocol.

### 2 Timed-Release Public Key Encryption (TR-PKE)

In this section we formalize the functionality and security requirements for a timed-release public key encryption system. These requirements are meant

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The authenticity of  $I_T$  can be verified by checking equality  $e(P_{pub}, P_T)$ , since by bilinearity  $e(sP, H(T)) = e(P, sH(T)) = e(P, H(T))^s$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Note that according to properties of bilinear map,  $e(r_2P + aP, sP_T + b \cdot r_1P_T) = e((r_2 + a)P, (s + b \cdot r_1)P_T) = e((s + r_1 \cdot b)P, (r_2 + a)P_T) = d.$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Without authentication, this scheme is similar to Bellare and Palacio's construction of an SKIE-OTRU scheme, in which  $d = e(sP + bP, r_2P_T)$ . However note that it cannot be used for timed-release: the receiver can publish as public key  $bP = \tau P - sP$ for any chosen  $\tau$  allowing him to decrypt any ciphertext before designated time.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> If  $s_i P$  is  $P_{pub}$  of the *i*-th token generator, then combined  $P_{pub}$  is  $\sum s_i P$  and combined  $sP_T$  is  $\sum s_i P_T$ .

to capture the required security requirements not addressed in previous work [21, 26, 11, 20, 7]; in particular they do not address the authentication requirements, which we add in section 3.

#### 2.1 Functional Requirements

Formally, we define a timed-release public-key encryption system  $\Gamma$  to be a tuple of five randomized algorithms:

- Setup, which given input  $1^k$  (the security parameter), produces public parameters  $\pi_g$ , which include hash functions, message and ciphertext spaces among others.
- TRSetup, which on input  $\pi_g$ , produces a pair  $(\delta, \pi_{tr})$  where  $\delta$  is a master secret and  $\pi_{tr}$  the corresponding timed-release public parameters. This setup is carried out by TiPuS which keeps the master secret key confidential, while all other parameters are public. We denote the combined public parameters of  $\pi_g$  and  $\pi_{tr}$  by  $\pi$ .
- KeyGen, given public parameters  $\pi_g$ , outputs a pair of secret key and public key (sk, pk).
- $\mathsf{TG}(\pi, \delta, T)$  computes the token  $tkn_T$  corresponding to time T using  $(\delta, \pi)$ . This functionality is performed by TiPuS which publishes  $tkn_T$  at time T.
- $\mathsf{Encrypt}(\pi, pk, m, T)$  computes the timed-release ciphertext c denoting the encryption with public key pk of message m with public parameters  $\pi$  and time encoding T.
- $\mathsf{Decrypt}(\pi, sk, \hat{c}, tkn_T)$  outputs the plaintext corresponding to  $\hat{c}$  if decryption is successful or the special symbol fail otherwise.

For consistency, we require that  $\mathsf{Decrypt}(\pi, sk, \mathsf{Encrypt}(\pi, pk, m, T), \mathsf{TG}(\pi, \delta, T)) = m$ , for all valid  $(pk, sk), (\pi, \delta), T$ , and m,

#### 2.2 Security

It is standard to require that the PKE cryptosystem be secure against adaptive chosen-ciphertext (IND-CCA2) adversaries [25, 3, 2]. Ideally, in TR-PKE, one should separate the timed-release security from security of PKE. Namely, TR-PKE should maintain receiver confidentiality properties even if the timedrelease master secret is compromised. To that effect, we require that IND-CCA2 security against a third party is provided even when master secret is given to the adversary. We model this attack by a slightly modified IND-CCA2 game, shown in Figure 1. Here, in addition to adaptively choosing two "challenge plaintexts" that the adversary will need to distinguish between, he also adaptively chooses a "challenge time" for which his challenge ciphertext will be decrypted; he wins when he can tell whether his challenge ciphertext is an encryption of his first or second plaintext for the challenge time, given access to a decryption oracle and the master secret key of the TiPuS.

The timed-release functionality is provided by the token-generating infrastructure (i.e. TiPuS). Not knowing the corresponding token is what keeps the receiver from decrypting ciphertext until a designated time. To effect secure

Algorithm 2.1:  $Exp_{A,\Gamma}^{IND-CCA2}(k)$ Algorithm 2.2:  $Exp_{A,\Gamma}^{IND-RTR-CCA2}(k)$  $\pi_a \leftarrow \mathsf{Setup}(1^k)$  $\pi_g \leftarrow \mathsf{Setup}(1^k)$  $(\delta, \pi_{tr}) \leftarrow \mathsf{TRSetup}(1^k)$  $(\delta, \pi_{tr}) \leftarrow \mathsf{TRSetup}(1^k)$  $(m_0, m_1, pk^*, T^*) \\ \leftarrow A^{\mathsf{TG}(\pi, \delta, \cdot), \mathsf{Decrypt}^*(\pi, \delta, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)}(\pi)$  $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \mathsf{KeyGen}(\pi_g)$  $(m_0, m_1, T^*) \leftarrow A^{\mathsf{Decrypt}(\pi, sk, \cdot, \cdot)}(\pi, \delta, pk)$  $\beta \leftarrow_R \{0,1\}$  $\beta \leftarrow_R \{0,1\}$  $c^* \leftarrow \mathsf{Encrypt}(\pi, pk, m_\beta, T^*) \\ \beta' \leftarrow A^{\mathsf{Decrypt}(\pi, sk, \cdot, \cdot)}(\pi, \delta, pk, c^*)$  $c^* \leftarrow \mathsf{Encrypt}(\pi, pk^*, m_\beta, T^*) \\ \beta' \leftarrow A^{\mathsf{TG}(\pi, \delta, \cdot), \mathsf{Decrypt}^*(\pi, \delta, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)}(\pi, c^*)$ if (A queried  $\mathsf{Decrypt}(\pi, sk, c^*, tkn_{T^*})$ ) if (A queried Decrypt<sup>\*</sup>( $\pi$ ,  $sk^*$ ,  $c^*$ ,  $T^*$ ), then return (false) where  $sk^*$  corresponds to  $pk^*$ , else return  $(\beta' = \beta)$ or A queried  $\mathsf{TG}(\pi, \delta, T^*)$ ) then return (false) else return  $(\beta' = \beta)$  $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{Adv}_{A,\Gamma}^{\mathsf{IND}-\mathsf{CCA2}}(k) = \Pr[\mathsf{Exp}_{A,\Gamma}^{\mathsf{IND}-\mathsf{CCA2}}(k) = \mathsf{true}] - \frac{1}{2} \\ \mathsf{Adv}_{A,\Gamma}^{\mathsf{IND}-\mathsf{RTR}-\mathsf{CCA2}}(k) = \Pr[\mathsf{Exp}_{A,\Gamma}^{\mathsf{IND}-\mathsf{RTR}-\mathsf{CCA2}}(k) = \mathsf{true}] - \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$ 

Fig. 1. TR-PKE security experiments for the IND-CCA2 and IND-RTR-CCA2 games

timed-release, any TR-PKE cryptosystem must provide confidentiality against the receiver itself until the corresponding token is made available. We model this property by the IND-RTR-CCA2 game, shown in Figure 1; in this game, we modify the basic IND-CCA2 game by allowing the adversary to adaptively choose receiver public key  $pk^*$  and time  $T^*$  for the challenge. Instead of access to the timed-release secret, the adversary is given access to arbitrary tokens  $tkn_T$ , where  $T \neq T^*$ , and a decryption oracle  $\mathsf{Decrypt}^*(\pi, \delta, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$  which computes  $\mathsf{Decrypt}(\pi, \cdot, \cdot, \mathsf{TG}(\pi, \delta, \cdot)$ . The adversary may thus compute the decryption of any ciphertext for any time, *except* the challenge ciphertext in the challenge time  $T^*$  with chosen public key  $pk^*$ . We say a timed-release public-key cryptosystem  $\Gamma$  is secure if every polynomial time adversary A has negligible advantages  $\mathsf{Adv}_{A,\Gamma}^{\mathsf{ND}-\mathsf{CCA2}}(k)$  and  $\mathsf{Adv}_{A,\Gamma}^{\mathsf{ND}-\mathsf{RTR}-\mathsf{CCA2}}(k)$ .

#### 2.3 Strongly Key-Insulated Public Encryption and Timed-Release

The notion of key-insulated public key encryption has been discussed in [15, 16, 5]. As mentioned previously, combining Bellare/Palacio [5] and Dodis/Katz [14] one obtains that the existence of secure SKIE-OTRU is a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of secure IBE. Briefly, a SKIE-OTRU consists of following algorithms: KG, which generates a triple  $(pk, usk_0, hsk)$  of public key, initial user secret key, and master helper key; HKU which computes a *stage i* helper secret key hsk<sub>i</sub> given (pk, hsk, i); UKU, which computes the stage *i* user secret key usk<sub>i</sub> given  $i, j, pk, hsk_i, usk_{i-1}$ ; RUKU, which computes the stage *i* a ciphertext corresponding to *m* to be decrypted in stage *i*, given (pk, m, i); and Dec, which, given  $(i, pk, usk_i, c)$  attempts to decrypt a ciphertext for stage *i*. Intuitively, hsk is given to a "helper", who will securely transmit, at the

beginning of each stage i, the secret  $hsk_i$  to the user. The user can then compute  $usk_i$ , delete any old usk's in his possession, and use  $usk_i$  to decrypt messages sent to him during stage i. Existence of RUKU facilitates error recovery and allows for decryption of old ciphertexts.

A SKIE (and SKIE-OTRU) scheme is considered CCA-secure with optimal threshold if two conditions hold: (1) given access to pk, a decryption oracle, and pairs  $(hsk_i, usk_i)$  of his choosing, an adversary cannot break the encryption scheme for a stage j for which he has not been given  $hsk_j$ ; and (2) given pk, hsk, and a decryption oracle, an adversary cannot break the encryption scheme for any stage [15, 16, 5]. The idea of separation of the timed-release master and user secrets in a TR-PKE very closely parallels the notions of helper and user secrets in a key-insulated cryptosystem; and both involve a "time period" parameter for encryption and decryption. Furthermore, the two security conditions for a SKIE scheme, in which either user keys or helper keys are assumed to be compromised, closely resemble the conditions IND-CCA2 and IND-RTR-CCA2 developed here.

However, there is a key difference between the SKIE-OTRU and TR-PKE notions. In the SKIE-OTRU setting, a helper is associated with at most one user, and cooperates exclusively with that user, whereas in the TR-PKE setting, it is assumed that many users may use the services of the TiPuS server, but the interaction between each user and the server will be minimal. This results in several operational differences: 1) User and Master Key Generation - in a TR-PKE scheme, they are generated independently, whereas in a SKIE-OTRU they are generated jointly: 2) Dissemination of secrets per time period – a SKIE scheme must use a secure channel to send the  $hsk_i$  to only one user, whereas the tokens generated by a TiPuS are assumed to be publicly disseminated; 3) Security notion of "user compromise" - a SKIE scheme's notion of "user compromise" is limited to chosen time periods and the keys are generated by the victim, whereas in TR-PKE's notion the attacker is the user itself and can generate its public key adaptively (perhaps without necessarily knowing the corresponding secret key) in order to break timed-release confidentiality. The following theorem shows that despite these differences, these notions are essentially equivalent.

**Theorem 1.** There exists a (chosen-ciphertext) secure timed-release public key cryptosystem if and only if there exists a secure strongly key-insulated public-key encryption scheme with optimal threshold that allows random-access key updates.

*Proof.* (Sketch) Suppose we have a secure TR-PKE scheme Γ = (Setup, TRSetup, TG, Encrypt, Decrypt). We construct a SKIE-OTRU scheme from Γ as follows. Set KG(1<sup>k</sup>) = ((π, pk), sk, δ), where (π, δ) ← TRSetup(1<sup>k</sup>) and (pk, sk) ← KeyGen(π); HKU((π, pk), δ, i) = tkn<sub>i</sub>, where tkn<sub>i</sub> ← TG(π, δ, i); UKU(i, (π, pk), tkn<sub>i</sub>, (sk, tkn<sub>i-1</sub>)) = (sk, tkn<sub>i</sub>); RUKU(i, j, (π, pk), tkn<sub>i</sub>, (sk, tkn<sub>j</sub>)) = (sk, tkn<sub>i</sub>); RUKU(i, j, (π, pk), tkn<sub>i</sub>, (sk, tkn<sub>j</sub>)) = (sk, tkn<sub>i</sub>); Enc((π, pk), m, i) = c, where c ← Encrypt(π, pk, m, i); and set Dec(i, (π, pk), (sk, tkn<sub>i</sub>), c) = Decrypt(π, sk, c, tkn<sub>i</sub>). This scheme essentially makes the TiPuS server in TR-PKE scheme Γ into a helper for an SKIE-OTRU scheme.

It is easy to see that this scheme must be a secure SKIE-OTRU scheme. Suppose an attacker given access to  $spk = (\pi, pk)$ ,  $hsk = \delta$  and a decryption

oracle can break the scheme; then it is easy to see that such an adversary can also be used to mount an IND-CCA2 attack on  $\Gamma$ , since these are exactly the resources given to an adversary in the IND-CCA2 game. Likewise, an adversary who can break the scheme given access to  $spk = (\pi, pk)$ , selected  $(usk_i, hsk_i) = (sk, tkn_i)$ pairs, and a decryption oracle can easily be used to mount an IND-RTR-CCA2 attack on  $\Gamma$ : when the SKIE adversary makes a corruption request for stage i, the corresponding RTR-CCA2 adversary queries its TG oracle for  $tkn_i$  and can forward  $(sk, tkn_i)$  to the SKIE adversary since the RTR-CCA2 adversary gets skas an input; all other queries made by the SKIE adversary can be passed directly to the corresponding oracles of the RTR-CCA2 adversary.

Now suppose we have a secure SKIE-OTRU scheme  $\Sigma$ . If  $\Sigma$  has the additional property that KG can be implemented as two independent keying algorithms that generate  $(pk_h, hsk)$  and  $(pk_u, usk)$ , then it is straightforward to transform  $\Sigma$  into a TR-PKE scheme. Since we would not expect this property to hold in general, we work around this problem as follows. We know that by the existence of  $\Sigma$  there also exists an ordinary chosen-ciphertext secure PKC  $\Pi = (\mathsf{PKGen}, \mathsf{PKEnc}, \mathsf{PKDec})$ . The idea behind our construction is that TRSetup will sample  $(spk, hsk, usk_0) \leftarrow \Sigma.\mathsf{KG}(1^k)$  and set  $\pi = spk$  and  $\delta = (hsk, usk_0)$ ; KeyGen will sample  $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \Pi.\mathsf{PKGen}(1^k)$  and output (pk, sk).  $\mathsf{TG}(\pi, \delta, \mathsf{i})$  will first compute  $hsk_i = \mathsf{HKU}(spk, hsk, i)$  and then use  $usk_0$  and  $hsk_i$  to compute  $tkn_i = usk_i = \mathsf{RUKU}(i, 0, spk, usk_0, hsk_i)$ . Encryption and Decryption will use the multiple-encryption technique of Dodis and Katz [14].<sup>6</sup> Applying the results of [14], an IND-CCA2 attack on this scheme reduces to a chosen-ciphertext attack on  $\Pi$ , while an IND-RTR-CCA2 attack (even when receiver chooses its public key adaptively) on this scheme reduces to an SKIE chosen-ciphertext attack on  $\Sigma$ .

# 3 Authenticated TR-PKE (TR-PKAE)

The notion of authenticated encryption has been explored in depth in [2, 1]. In this section we adapt these definitions to give formal security and functionality requirements for a TR-PKAE scheme.

#### 3.1 Basic Cryptosystem

The syntactic definition of a TR-PKAE is essentially the same as that of a TR-PKE with the addition of the sender's public and secret key. Namely, the types of Setup, TRSetup, KeyGen and TG stay the same, but Encrypt and Decrypt are modified to take into account sender's keys:

-  $\mathsf{Encrypt}(\pi, sk_A, pk_B, m, T)$  returns an authenticated timed-release ciphertext c denoting the encryption from sender A to receiver B of m for time T.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Specifically, to encrypt message m for time T, we: (1) pick  $s_1 \leftarrow U_{|m|}$ , and set  $s_2 = m \oplus s_1$ , (2) pick signing and verification keys (SK, VK) for a one-time signature scheme, (3) let  $c_1 = \Sigma$ . Enc<sup>VK</sup> $(spk, s_1, T)$ ,  $c_2 = \Pi$ .PKEnc<sup>VK</sup> $(pk, s_2)$ , and (4) output  $(VK, c_1, c_2, \text{Sig}(VK, (T, c_1, c_2)))$ . Decryption follows the scheme of [14], except that  $c_1$  is decrypted using  $tkn_T = usk_T$ .

Algorithm 3.2:  $Exp_{A,\Gamma}^{IND-RTR-KC-CCA2}(k)$ Algorithm 3.1:  $Exp_{A,\Gamma}^{IND-KC-CCA2}(k)$  $\pi_a \leftarrow \mathsf{Setup}(1^k)$  $\pi_g \leftarrow \mathsf{Setup}(1^k)$  $(\delta, \pi_{tr}) \leftarrow \mathsf{TRSetup}(1^k)$  $(\delta, \pi_{tr}) \leftarrow \mathsf{TRSetup}(1^k)$  $(pk_a, sk_a) \leftarrow \mathsf{KeyGen}(\pi_a)$  $(pk_a, sk_a) \leftarrow \mathsf{KeyGen}(\pi_g)$  $(pk_b, sk_b) \leftarrow \mathsf{KeyGen}(\pi_a)$  $\boldsymbol{\kappa} \leftarrow (\pi, pk_a, sk_a)$  $\boldsymbol{\kappa} \leftarrow (\pi, \delta, pk_a, sk_a, pk_b)$  $(m_0, m_1, pk_b^*, T^*)$  $\leftarrow A^{\mathsf{TG}(\pi,\delta,\cdot),\mathsf{Decrypt}^*(\pi,\delta,pk_a,\cdot,\cdot,\cdot)}(\boldsymbol{\kappa})$  $(m_0, m_1, T^*)$  $\leftarrow A^{\mathsf{Decrypt}(\pi, pk_a, sk_b, \cdot, \cdot)}(\boldsymbol{\kappa})$  $\beta \leftarrow_R \{0,1\}$  $c^* \leftarrow \mathsf{Encrypt}(\pi, sk_a, pk_b^*, m_b, T^*) \\ \beta' \leftarrow A^{\mathsf{TG}(\pi, \delta, \cdot), \mathsf{Decrypt}^*(\pi, \delta, pk_a, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, c^*)$  $\beta \leftarrow_R \{0,1\}$  $c^* \leftarrow \mathsf{Encrypt}(\pi, sk_a, pk_b, m_\beta, T^*)$  $\beta' \leftarrow A^{\mathsf{Decrypt}(\pi, pk_a, sk_b, \cdot, \cdot)}(\boldsymbol{\kappa}, c^*)$ if (A queried  $\mathsf{Decrypt}^*(\pi, pk_a, sk_b^*, c^*, T^*)$ if (A queried or  $\mathsf{TG}(\pi, \delta, T^*)$ )  $\mathsf{Decrypt}(\pi, pk_a, sk_b, c^*, tkn_{T^*}))$ then return (false) then return (false) else return  $(\beta' = \beta)$ else return  $(\beta' = \beta)$  $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{Adv}_{A,\Gamma}^{\mathsf{IND}-\mathsf{KC}-\mathsf{CCA2}}(k) = \Pr[\mathsf{Exp}_{A,\Gamma}^{\mathsf{IND}-\mathsf{KC}-\mathsf{CCA2}}(k) = \mathsf{true}] - \frac{1}{2} \\ \mathsf{Adv}_{A,\Gamma}^{\mathsf{KC}-\mathsf{RTR}-\mathsf{KC}-\mathsf{CCA2}}(k) = \Pr[\mathsf{Exp}_{A,\Gamma}^{\mathsf{IND}-\mathsf{RTR}-\mathsf{KC}-\mathsf{CCA2}}(k) = \mathsf{true}] - \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$ 



-  $\mathsf{Decrypt}(\pi, pk_A, sk_B, \hat{c}, tkn_T)$  outputs plaintext  $\hat{m}$  if both decryption and authentication are successful and the special symbol fail otherwise.

The consistency requirement is modified to require that, for all valid  $(pk_A, sk_A)$ ,  $(pk_B, sk_B)$ ,  $(\pi, \delta)$ , T, and m,  $\mathsf{Decrypt}(\pi, pk_A, sk_B, \mathsf{Encrypt}(\pi, sk_A, pk_B, m, T)$ ,  $\mathsf{TG}(\pi, \delta, T))=m$ .

#### 3.2 Security

**Confidentiality.** The confidentiality requirements of a TR-PKAE are essentially the same as the confidentiality requirements of a TR-PKE; *except* that we make the conservative assumption that the third party (in the case of IND-CCA2) or the receiver (in the case of IND-RTR-CCA2) has compromised the sender's secret key. This results in two new notions, IND-KC-CCA2 and IND-RTR-KC-CCA2, which we define formally in Figure 2. As before, we say that a TR-PKAE scheme provides confidentiality if every polynomial time adversary has negligible advantage, as defined in Figure 2.

As in the case of TR-PKE, the difference between IND-KC-CCA2 and IND-RTR-KC-CCA2 is in reversal of adversary roles. In IND-RTR-KC-CCA2, the goal is to ensure security against the receiver itself prior to the designated time.

**Ciphertext (Plaintext) Forgery.** For authentication properties of TR-PKAE, we concentrate on ciphertext forgery (plaintext forgery is defined analogously). We consider two types of ciphertext forgery: *third-party forgery* (TUF-CTXT), by an adversary that does not know the sender's and receiver's private keys but knows the master secret; and *forgery by the ciphertext receiver* (RUF-CTXT) [2]. If the TR-PKAE is not secure against TUF-CTXT then the scheme cannot claim

authentication properties since a third party may be able to forge new (perhaps decrypting to junk) ciphertexts between two users. If a TR-PKAE is not secure against RUF-CTXT, then the scheme does not provide non-repudiation<sup>7</sup> and furthermore, if the receiver's private key is compromised, the attacker can impersonate any sender to this receiver. We introduce the following games to model unforgeability (see Figure 3).

Timed-Release RUF-CTXT (RUF-TR-CTXT). We introduce a slightly weaker timed-release notion of RUF-CTXT<sup>8</sup>, which requires that the receiver should not be able to forge ciphertext to himself for a future date. This notion has two important implications: (1) the receiver should discard any ciphertexts received past decryption dates if his private key may be compromised; and (2) the receiver may be able to prove to a third party that a ciphertext was generated by the alleged sender if he can produce a proof of ciphertext existence prior to the decryption date. The game in Figure 3 is an enhancement of the RUF-CTXT condition proposed by An [2] to allow adaptive adversarial behavior: the receiver is not given access to the token for a single, adaptively-chosen *challenge* time period; in addition, the adversary can choose any receiver public key in the encryption queries. We say that a TR-PKAE encryption is secure against RUF-TR-CTXT, if every polynomial-time adversary A has negligible advantage,  $Adv_{A,f}^{RUF-TR-CTXT}(k)$ , against the challenger in the RUF-TR-CTXT game.

TUF-CTXT. In addition to timed-release receiver unforgeability, we also require a time-independent third-party unforgeability (TUF-CTXT) condition, which allows to separate timed-release functionality from PKAE. Thus, in the TUF-CTXT game defined in Figure 3, the master key is given to the adversary. We say that a TR-PKAE scheme  $\Gamma$  is secure against TUF-CTXT if every polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  has negligible advantage,  $\mathsf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A},\Gamma}^{\mathsf{TUF-CTXT}}(k)$ , in k.

# 4 The Proposed TR-PKAE <sup>9</sup>

Following the proof of Theorem 1, one approach to achieve TR-PKAE would be to combine a key-insulated encryption scheme with a PKAE scheme in a modular fashion using techniques such as given in [14]. However, it is desirable for modern authenticated encryption to have one primitive that achieves the desired security

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Since the receiver can generate the ciphertext allegedly coming from another user to himself, the receiver will not be able to prove to anybody that ciphertext was generated by the alleged sender even if all secret information is disclosed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> This allows us to avoid use of digital signature mechanisms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> We can easily adapt the proposed TR-PKAE to SKIE-OTRU. However, receiver unforgeability will be lost although third-party unforgeability remains, resulting in a weaker form of authenticated SKIE-OTRU. This is expected since the proposed TR-PKAE does not use digital signature mechanisms, which can be added if receiver unforgeability is needed. Still, note that attacker which compromises "helper" of user  $\boldsymbol{A}$ , still will not be able to forge ciphertexts to  $\boldsymbol{A}$  from another user, and if user  $\boldsymbol{A}$ 's decryption keys are compromised for some time-periods attacker will not be able to forge ciphertexts to  $\boldsymbol{A}$  for a new time-period.

Algorithm 3.3:  $Exp_{\mathcal{A},\Gamma}^{\mathsf{TUF-CTXT}}(k)$ **Algorithm 3.4:**  $Exp_{\mathcal{A},\Gamma}^{\mathsf{RUF}-\mathsf{TR}-\mathsf{CTXT}}(k)$  $\begin{aligned} \pi_g &\leftarrow \mathsf{Setup}(1^k) \\ (\delta, \pi_{tr}) &\leftarrow \mathsf{TRSetup}(1^k) \end{aligned}$  $\pi_a \leftarrow \mathsf{Setup}(1^k)$  $(\delta, \pi_{tr}) \leftarrow \mathsf{TRSetup}(1^k)$  $(p_{k_a}, s_{k_a}) \leftarrow \mathsf{KeyGen}(\pi_g)$  $(c^*, T^*, p_k^*, s_k^*)$  $\leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\mathsf{TG}(\pi, \delta, \cdot), \mathsf{Encrypt}^*(\pi, \mathsf{sk}_a, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)}(\pi, p_{k_a})$  $(pk_a, sk_a) \leftarrow \mathsf{KeyGen}(\pi_g)$  $(pk_b, sk_b) \leftarrow \mathsf{KeyGen}(\pi_g)$  $(c^*, T^*)$  $\leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\mathsf{Encrypt}^*(\pi, sk_a, pk_b, \cdot, \cdot)}(\pi, \delta, pk_a, pk_b)$ if  $(\mathsf{Decrypt}^*(\pi, \delta, pk_a, sk_b^*, c^*, T^*) = \mathtt{fail}$ if  $(\mathsf{Decrypt}^*(\pi, \delta, pk_a, sk_b, c^*, T^*) = \mathtt{fail}$ or Encrypt<sup>\*</sup>( $\pi$ ,  $sk_a$ ,  $pk_b^*$ ,  $\cdot$ ,  $T^*$ ) returned  $c^*$ or  $(pk_b^*, sk_b^*) \notin [\mathsf{KeyGen}(1^k)]$ or  $\mathsf{Encrypt}^*(\pi, sk_a, pk_b, \cdot, T^*)$  returned  $c^*$ ) or  $\mathcal{A}$  queried  $\mathsf{TG}(\mathsf{T}^*)$ ) then return (false) then return (false) else return (true) else return (true)  $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}, \Gamma}^{\mathsf{TUF}-\mathsf{CTXT}}(k) = \Pr[\mathsf{Exp}_{\mathcal{A}, \Gamma}^{\mathsf{TUF}-\mathsf{CTXT}}(k) = \mathsf{true}] \ .\\ \mathsf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}, \Gamma}^{\mathsf{RUF}-\mathsf{TR}-\mathsf{CTXT}}(k) = \Pr[\mathsf{Exp}_{\mathcal{A}, \Gamma}^{\mathsf{RUF}-\mathsf{TR}-\mathsf{CTXT}}(k) = \mathsf{true} \ . \end{array}$ 



properties [10]: such solutions generally allow for a more efficient scheme, tighter security bounds and more stringent security. Below we construct an example of such a scheme that satisfies all of the above security requirements and is nearly as efficient as BF-IBE scheme [8]. We start with a review of Bilinear Diffie-Hellman Problem.

#### 4.1 Bilinear Diffie-Hellman Problem

Let  $\mathbb{G}_1$  and  $\mathbb{G}_2$  be two abelian groups of prime order q. We will use additive notation for group operation in  $\mathbb{G}_1$  (where aP denotes P added a times for  $P \in \mathbb{G}_1, a \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ ) and multiplicative notation for  $\mathbb{G}_2$  ( $g^a$  denotes the g multiplied a times for element g of  $\mathbb{G}_2$ ). Let  $e : \mathbb{G}_1 \times \mathbb{G}_1 \to \mathbb{G}_2$  be an admissible bilinear map [8]. The properties of the groups and constructions of e are explained in detail in [8]. We assume that the *Decisional Diffie-Hellman Problem* (DDHP) is hard in  $\mathbb{G}_2$ . Note that as a trivial consequence of DDHP assumption, the *Discrete Logarithm Problem* (DLP) is also hard in  $\mathbb{G}_2$ . As a consequence of the above assumptions, it follows that DLP is hard in  $\mathbb{G}_1$  [22].

Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a Bilinear Diffie-Hellman (BDH) Parameter Generator [8], i.e. a randomized algorithm that takes positive integer input k, runs in polynomial time in k and outputs prime q, descriptions of  $\mathbb{G}_1$ ,  $\mathbb{G}_2$  of order q, description of admissible bilinear map  $e : \mathbb{G}_1 \times \mathbb{G}_1 \to \mathbb{G}_2$  along with polynomial deterministic algorithms for group operations and e and generators  $P \in \mathbb{G}_1$ ,  $Q \in \mathbb{G}_2$ . We say that algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  has advantage  $\epsilon(k)$  in solving the computational BDH Problem (BDHP) for  $\mathcal{G}$  if there exists  $k_0$  such that:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{Adv}^{\mathsf{cbdh}}_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{G}}(k) &= \Pr[\langle q, \mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, e\rangle \leftarrow \mathcal{G}(1^k), P \leftarrow \mathbb{G}_1^*, a, b, c \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q^* : \\ \mathcal{A}(q, \mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, e, P, aP, bP, cP) &= e(P, P)^{abc}] \geq \epsilon(k), \forall k > k_0 \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

We say that  $\mathcal{G}$  satisfies the *computational* BDH Assumption if for any randomized polynomial-time algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  and any polynomial  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  we have  $\mathsf{Adv}_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{G}}^{\mathsf{cbdh}}(k) < 1/f(k)$  for sufficiently large k

### 4.2 Description of the Scheme

Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a *BDH Parameter Generator*. Figure 4 gives a complete description of our construction<sup>10</sup>. The symmetric encryption scheme used is a straightforward adaptation of the Fujisaki-Okamoto scheme [17]. We briefly demonstrate the consistency of the scheme before moving on to security considerations. Given ciphertext  $c = \langle Q_1, Q_2, \sigma \oplus K, m \oplus H_4(\sigma) \rangle$  computed using  $sk_A$ ,  $pk_B$  and T, we note that in the corresponding Decrypt computations we have 1)  $\hat{K} = K$  since  $e(Q_2 + pk_a, sP_T + sk_b \cdot Q_1) = e(r_2P + sk_aP, sP_T + sk_b \cdot r_1P_T) = e([r_2 + sk_a]P, [s + r_1 \cdot sk_b]P_T) = e([s + r_1 \cdot sk_b]P, [r_2 + sk_a]P_T) = e(P_{pub} + r_1 \cdot pk_b, [r_2 + sk_a]P_T), 3)$  as in Fujisaki-Okamoto, it follows that  $\hat{\sigma} = \sigma$ ,  $\hat{m} = m$  and 4)  $Q_1 = H_3(\hat{\sigma}, \hat{m})P$  and  $Q_2 = H_4(\hat{\sigma}, \hat{m})P$ . Thus the original plaintext is retrieved.

#### 4.3 Security of the Scheme

The following security results apply to TR-PKAE. The hash functions are modeled as random oracles [6]. Due to space considerations, the detailed proofs of these results are omitted from this extended abstract and are available online [12]. First, we note the confidentiality properties of the proposed scheme.

**Theorem 2** (IND-KC-CCA2). Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a IND-KC-CCA2 adversary that makes  $q_2$  queries to  $H_2$ . Assume that  $\operatorname{Adv}_{\mathcal{A},TR-PKAE}^{\operatorname{IND}-\operatorname{KC-CCA2}}(k) \geq \epsilon$ . Then there exists an algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  that solves computational BDHP with advantage  $\operatorname{Adv}_{\mathcal{B},\mathcal{G}}^{\operatorname{cbdh}}(k) \geq \frac{2\epsilon}{q_2}$  and running time  $O(\operatorname{time}(\mathcal{A}))$ .

**Theorem 3** (IND-RTR-KC-CCA2). Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a IND-RTR-KC-CCA2 adversary that makes  $q_d$  decryption queries,  $q_2$  queries to  $H_2$  and  $q_{tok}$  queries to TG. Assume that  $\operatorname{Adv}_{\mathcal{A},TR-PKAE}^{\operatorname{IND-RTR}-KC-CCA2}(k) \geq \epsilon$ . Then there exists an algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  that solves computational BDHP with advantage  $\operatorname{Adv}_{\mathcal{B},\mathcal{G}}^{\operatorname{cbdh}}(k) \geq \frac{1}{4q_2 \cdot \max(q_2,q_d)} \left[\frac{\epsilon}{e \cdot (1+q_{tok})}\right]^3$  and running time  $O(time(\mathcal{A}))$ , where e = 2.71828...

The proposed protocol also satisfies the authentication properties specified in the previous section, i.e., TUF-CTXT and RUF-TR-CTXT.

**Theorem 4** (TUF-CTXT). Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a TUF-CTXT adversary that makes  $q_e$  encryption queries and  $q_2$  queries to  $H_2$ , and let  $\operatorname{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}, TR-PKAE}^{\mathsf{TUF-CTXT}}(k) \geq \epsilon$ . Then there exists an algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  with computational BDHP advantage  $\operatorname{Adv}_{\mathcal{B},\mathcal{G}}^{\mathsf{cbdh}}(k) \geq \frac{\epsilon}{2 \cdot q_e \cdot q_2}$  and running time  $O(time(\mathcal{A}))$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> As in [8], we can weaken surjectivity assumption on hash function  $H_1$ . The security proofs and results will hold true with minor modifications. We skip the details and refer reader to [8].



Fig. 4. The proposed TR-PKAE scheme

**Theorem 5** (RUF-TR-CTXT). Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a RUF-TR-CTXT adversary that makes  $q_e$  encryption queries,  $q_2$  queries to  $H_2$ , and  $q_{tok}$  queries to TG, and let  $\operatorname{Adv}_{\mathcal{A},TR-PKAE}^{\mathsf{RUF}-\mathsf{TR}-\mathsf{CTXT}}(k) \geq \epsilon$ . Then there exists an algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  with computational BDHP advantage  $\operatorname{Adv}_{\mathcal{B},\mathcal{G}}^{\mathsf{cbdh}}(k) \geq \frac{\epsilon}{2 \cdot q_2 \cdot q_e \cdot e \cdot (1+q_{tok})}$  and running time  $O(time(\mathcal{A}))$ , where e = 2.71828...

# 5 Efficiency of TR-PKAE

To compare the proposed scheme to BF-IBE [8], note that, in terms of significant operations – bilinear pairings, MapToPoint, exponentiations – TR-PKAE adds 3 additional exponentiations in  $\mathbb{G}_1$  for encryption and 2 for decryption. More precisely, encryption in TR-PKAE involves 1 bilinear map, 4 exponentiations in  $\mathbb{G}_1$  and 1 MapToPoint (to compute  $P_T$ ). The decryption involves 1 bilinear map and 3 exponentiations in  $\mathbb{G}_1$  (assuming  $P_T$  is pre-computed). Second, the proposed scheme adds additional point in  $\mathbb{G}_1$  to the ciphertext. Taking into

account functionality of TR-PKAE and the fact that naive combinations yielding hybrid protocols generally fail to provide required security, we expect hybrid constructions of TR-PKAE to be at least as expensive as our scheme.

We implemented the proposed primitives using Miracl library v.4.8.3 [27] with Tate pairing for the bilinear map. The group  $\mathbb{G}_1$  was chosen to be a subgroup of order q in a supersingular elliptic curve E over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ , where p is a 512 bit and q is a 160 bit primes. Group  $\mathbb{G}_2$  was a subgroup of a finite field of order 1024 bits. We used a P4-3.2 GHz "Northwood" (800MHz FSB) with 2GB of 400 MHz RAM desktop. The performance measurements are summarized in Table 1 and are all averaged over 10000 runs, except that the RSA results were obtained by running OpenSSL v.0.9.8 speed command. As expected, the proposed TR-PKAE is somewhat more expensive than BF-IBE in encryption/decryption, but when BF-IBE is extended to provide comparable functionality to TR-PKAE we expect the resulting scheme to be at least as expensive as the proposed protocol.

Function	modulus (bits)	exponent (bits)	performance (msec)
RSA(Sig/Dec)	1024	1024	2.96
RSA(Ver/Enc)	1024	$16 \ (e = 2^{16} + 1)$	0.14
Scalar Mul in EC over $\mathbb{F}_p$	160	160	2.23
MapToPoint	512	-	1.52
Pairing	512	160	18.15
TR-PKAE Enc	512	160	29
TR-PKAE Dec	512	160	25
BF-IBE Enc	512	160	24
BF-IBE Dec	512	160	21

Table 1. Cost of basic operations

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