

# Collusion Resistant Broadcast and Trace from Positional Witness Encryption

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**Abstract.** An emerging trend is for researchers to identify cryptography primitives for which feasibility was first established under obfuscation and then move the realization to a different setting. In this work we explore a new such avenue — to move obfuscation-based cryptography to the assumption of (positional) witness encryption. Our goal is to develop techniques and tools, which we will dub “witness encryption friendly” primitives and use these to develop a methodology for building advanced cryptography from positional witness encryption.

We take a bottom up approach and pursue our general agenda by attacking the specific problem of building collusion-resistant broadcast systems with tracing from positional witness encryption. We achieve a system where the size of ciphertexts, public key and private key are polynomial in the security parameter  $\lambda$  and independent of the number of users  $N$  in the broadcast system. Currently, systems with such parameters are only known from indistinguishability obfuscation.

## 1 Introduction

Over the past five years the introduction of candidate indistinguishability obfuscation schemes [27] has produced a dramatic shift in the community’s view of which cryptographic primitives are plausibly achievable. Starting with [56] there have been several works [56, 16, 26, 9, 45, 19, 43, 30, 10] that leverage the power of indistinguishability obfuscation [6, 7] to give new solutions for problems ranging from deniable encryption to showing the hardness of finding Nash equilibrium.

An emerging trend is for researchers to identify cryptography primitives for which feasibility was first established under obfuscation and then move the realization to a different setting. For example, several works [9, 46, 2, 40, 39, 59] proposed solutions under the Learning with Errors [54] (LWE) assumption of primitives (or impossibility results) that to that point were known only under indistinguishability obfuscation. The motivation for this movement is that LWE is considered a standard assumption with connections to certain problems on lattices, while current indistinguishability obfuscation constructions are based on much newer multilinear map candidates. In a different line of researchers [31,

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47] have shown how to base applications such as realizing trapdoor permutations and the hardness of Nash equilibrium from functional encryption. While subexponentially hard functional encryption is known to imply indistinguishability obfuscation [4, 11, 5], this direction is motivated by building these primitives with only a polynomial loss in the reductions coupled with prospect of functional encryption schemes realized from the polynomial hardness of standard assumptions.

In this work we explore a new such avenue — to move obfuscation-based cryptography to the assumption of (positional) witness encryption [29, 33]. Recall that in a witness encryption scheme, say for SAT, an encryption algorithm takes in a message  $m$  along with a boolean formula  $\phi$  that operates an  $n$  bit input  $w$  producing a ciphertext  $ct$ . A decryptor can recover the message  $m$  from  $ct$  if it knows a  $w$  such that  $\phi(w) = 1$ . If no such  $w$  exists, then the message is computationally hidden. In addition to serving as its own application, witness encryption is known to give rise to primitives such as identity-based encryption [58, 12] and attribute-based encryption [55].

A natural question is why push for moving cryptography from indistinguishability obfuscation to positional witness encryption when current constructions for both rely on multilinear maps [25, 22, 32, 23]. The justification (like in [31, 47]) relies on some projection to the future. Since witness encryption is a less powerful primitive than indistinguishability obfuscation, it is believed that the community will likely arrive at a standard assumption solution earlier. This conjecture is supported by some heuristic evidence:

- The work of [33] showing provably secure positional witness encryption from simple multilinear map assumptions came earlier than and was simpler than the later work [34] which gave a similar result for obfuscation.
- Recently, it was shown [18] that attribute-based encryption gives rise to a non-trivial form of witness encryption. This might lead to further advances in witness encryption which would not necessarily translate to general obfuscation.
- Recently, the concept of lockable obfuscation [39, 59] was proposed and shown to be realizable under the LWE assumption. Like witness encryption this is a general class of obfuscation, but is more restricted than indistinguishability obfuscation.
- Very recently, Chen et al. [20] gave a new candidate for witness encryption (albeit not positional witness encryption) inspired by [32] multilinear encodings. An important feature of their candidate is that it directly encodes read-once branching program representations of the associated CNF formulae, thereby avoiding attacks such as input-mixing and more. Since read-once branching programs are much less expressive than general branching programs, this also points towards reaching the goal of witness encryption before obfuscation.

In addition, we expect future solutions to witness encryption to be practically more efficient than full blown indistinguishability obfuscation.

Our goal is to develop techniques and tools, which we will dub “witness encryption friendly” primitives<sup>1</sup>, and use these to develop a methodology for building advanced cryptography from positional witness encryption. While we don’t expect to move all or even “most” of obfuscation-based cryptography to positional witness encryption, we believe that a long term effort could yield a number of applications which are comparable to those achieved from the aforementioned efforts on building from functional encryption [31, 47] or lockable obfuscation [39, 59].

We will take a bottom-up approach and pursue our general agenda by attacking specific problems that are not known from witness encryption. To that end in this work we study building collusion-resistant broadcast systems with tracing from positional witness encryption. Our goal is to achieve where the size of ciphertexts, public key and private key are polynomial in the security parameter  $\lambda$  and independent of the number of users  $N$  in the broadcast system.<sup>2</sup> Below we provide an overview of prior work, present our new results, toolkit of “witness encryption friendly” primitives, and the techniques that allow us to achieve the above goals.

## 1.1 Overview

*Broadcast Encryption with Tracing.* Broadcast Encryption was introduced by Fiat and Naor [24]. A broadcast encryption scheme, like a standard public key encryption scheme, consists of three algorithms — setup, encryption and decryption. The setup algorithm outputs a public key and  $N$  secret keys, where  $N$  represents the number of users given as an input. Using the encryption algorithm, a sender can encrypt a message such that the corresponding ciphertext can only be decrypted by the “qualified” users  $S \subseteq [N]$ .<sup>3</sup> Here the set  $S$  is given as input to the encryption algorithm. The decryption algorithm is self-explanatory. For security it is required that no set of colluding users can decrypt a ciphertext if none of them are *qualified*.

Suppose that a set of users  $S_1$  collude to create a decoding box  $D$  which is capable of decrypting ciphertexts intended for some (possibly different) set of users  $S_2$  with some non-negligible probability. A broadcast system which provides tracing capabilities allows extraction of a non-empty set  $T$  (from the box  $D$ ) such that  $T \subseteq S_1$ , i.e. contains at least one colluding user but none outside of it. Such broadcast systems are referred to as Trace and Revoke systems in the folklore [51, 50]. However, we chose to refer to it as Broadcast and Trace system as it is more appropriate. They have an additional tracing algorithm which given only the oracle access to the box  $D$  can perform this traitor extraction.

*Broadcast and Trace via Augmented Broadcast Encryption (AugBE).* Boneh and Waters (BW) [14] built the first fully collusion resistant Broadcast and Trace

<sup>1</sup> This is intended to mirror the term “iO friendly” used elsewhere in the literature.

<sup>2</sup> Following prior broadcast encryption literature we will not count a description  $S$  of the recipients of a ciphertext toward the ciphertext overhead.

<sup>3</sup> Here *qualified* could alternatively be interpreted as “non-revoked”.

scheme with sub-linear (in  $N$ ) ciphertext size. They also provided a framework for building Broadcast and Trace schemes by introducing an intermediate primitive called augmented broadcast encryption (AugBE). We follow the same approach in this work and therefore we elaborate on it now.

An AugBE scheme, as the name suggests, is a broadcast encryption scheme with an augmented encryption functionality. Similar to a standard broadcast encryption scheme it consists of setup, encryption and decryption algorithms. In an AugBE system, the encryption algorithm also receives a “cutoff” index  $i \in [N + 1]$ , in addition to a set  $S \subseteq [N]$ , as an input. This cutoff index affects the decryptability of the ciphertext in such a way that the resultant ciphertext can only be decrypted by the users  $S' = S \setminus [i - 1]$ , i.e. users whose indices are as large as  $i$  and belong to the set  $S$  are now labelled as *qualified*. BW defined two security properties for an AugBE system — index hiding and message hiding security. The first security property (index hiding) states that an encryption of  $m$  under set  $S$  to index  $i$  is indistinguishable from an encryption of  $m$  under set  $S$  to index  $i + 1$ , if either  $i \notin S$  (even when the adversary has all the secret keys), or the adversary does not have the  $i^{\text{th}}$  key. The second property (message hiding) states that an encryption of  $m_0$  under set  $S$  to index  $N + 1$  is indistinguishable from an encryption of  $m_1$  under set  $S$  to index  $N + 1$ , even when the adversary is given all  $N$  secret keys.

BW argued that if an AugBE scheme satisfies these two properties, then that is sufficient for constructing a Broadcast and Trace (BT) scheme. In their transformation, the BT setup and decryption algorithm are identical to their AugBE counterparts. For encryption, a sender runs the AugBE encryption algorithm with the cutoff index value set to be 1. The tracing algorithm runs AugBE encryption varying the value of cutoff index. Given a decoder box  $D$  and target set  $S$ , the tracing algorithm encrypts random messages under set  $S$  to every index  $i = 1$  to  $N + 1$ , and estimates (for each index  $i$ ) the probability  $D$  decrypts correctly. Suppose the probability decoder  $D$  is successful, i.e. decrypts standard (index 1) ciphertexts correctly, is at least  $\epsilon$ . By message hiding property, we know that  $D$  can not have non-negligible success probability when run on ciphertexts encrypting to index  $N + 1$ . This implies that there must exist an index  $i^* \in [N]$  such that the decoder’s success probability in decrypting index  $i^*$  ciphertexts is at least  $\approx \epsilon/N$  more than in decrypting index  $i^* + 1$  ciphertexts. Every cutoff index  $i$  where there is a gap in the estimated success probabilities for index  $i$  and  $i + 1$ , the tracing algorithm adds that user  $i$  to the set of traitors. The main idea here is that if an index  $i \notin S$  or the adversary does not have the key for user  $i$ , then by index hiding security it should not be able to distinguish between index  $i$  and  $i + 1$  ciphertexts.

Although the above transformation seems to work (at least intuitively), we would like to point out that the proof provided in [14] was inaccurate. Very briefly, the problem lies in the fact that there is a “semantic gap” between the definitions of BT and AugBE schemes. The issue is that in a BT system an adversary outputs a box which performs some decoding/decryption operations, whereas in an AugBE system the adversary plays a distinguishing game. At first,

it seems like one could use the decoder box to decrypt the ciphertext and use its output for distinguishing. The problem is that decoder might work incorrectly sometime and it would affect the success probability of the reduction algorithm. Similar issues were observed by Goyal, Koppula and Waters [41] in the context of (non-broadcast) traitor tracing. They resolved the issue by upgrading the security requirements from the underlying intermediate primitives to match the decoder-based security notions required for traitor tracing. In this work we fix the proof of security for the BW transformation showing that it does lead to a secure BT scheme.<sup>4</sup> More details are provided later in Section 3.

*Our Results and Prior Work.* Our main result are new collusion-resistant Broadcast and Trace schemes from positional witness encryption where the size of ciphertexts, public key and private key are polynomial in the security parameter  $\lambda$  and independent of the number of users  $N$ <sup>5</sup>. Currently, systems with such parameters are only known from indistinguishability obfuscation [52]. If we drop the tracing requirement, that is consider only broadcast encryption, there are constructions based on multilinear maps [15] and iO [16]. If we drop the revocation requirement, that is consider only traitor tracing, schemes with such parameters are known based on iO [16]. In bilinear groups we can achieve short ciphertexts [13, 35], but with longer keys if we drop the tracing requirement. Additionally, we have solutions [14] with ciphertexts that grow proportionally to  $\sqrt{N}$  if we keep it. Very recently, Goyal, Koppula and Waters [41] gave a polylog traitor tracing scheme from the LWE assumption. However, their system does not have the capability to broadcast to arbitrary sets.

We further develop a toolkit of certain simpler primitives such that these could be used in conjunction with positional witness encryption in similar vein to how we have *iO friendly* primitives to support applications of iO. Our BT scheme is secure assuming the existence of positional witness encryption and these simpler primitives. We provide numerous instantiations of these primitives from a wide variety of standard assumptions such as LWE, RSA and decision linear over bilinear groups. Now we describe our techniques and main ideas to build a Broadcast and Trace system.

*Building Augmented Broadcast Encryption from Positional Witness Encryption.* The main building block used in our construction is a positional witness encryption (PWE) scheme. In a PWE scheme, the encryption algorithm also takes as input a *cutoff* index  $i \in \{0, \dots, 2^n\}$  where  $n$  is the bit length of witnesses on which the corresponding boolean formula (witness relation)  $\phi$  operates. A decryptor can recover the message  $m$  from  $ct$  if it knows a  $w$  such that  $\phi(w) = 1$  and  $w \geq i$ .<sup>6</sup> For security it has two properties — message hiding and index hiding. First, message hiding states that a message encrypted for index  $2^n$  (i.e., the last

<sup>4</sup> Here we only consider BT schemes with public traceability.

<sup>5</sup> Here we assume that number of users  $N$  is at most  $\text{poly}(\lambda)$

<sup>6</sup> Here comparisons between bit-strings is performed by interpreting each bit-string as non-negative integer.

index) is hidden irrespective of the boolean formula used. Second, index hiding states that an encryption of  $m$  under formula  $\phi$  for index  $i$  is indistinguishable from an encryption of  $m$  under  $\phi$  to index  $i + 1$ , if  $\phi(i) = 0$ .

We now provide an outline of our AugBE construction. Let us start with a simple idea. Suppose during setup, the algorithm samples a key pair for a standard signature scheme. Next, the secret key for  $i^{\text{th}}$  user consists of a signature  $\sigma_i$  on message  $i$  and the public key simply corresponds to the verification key  $\text{vk}$ . To encrypt a message  $m$  under set  $S$  and index  $i$ , the encryptor runs the PWE encryption algorithm on message  $m$  for index  $i || 0^\ell$  and formula  $\phi_{\text{vk},S}$ , where  $\phi_{\text{vk},S}(j, \sigma) = 1$  iff ' $j \in S$ ' and ' $\sigma$  is a valid signature on  $j$  under  $\text{vk}$ '. Here  $\ell$  denotes the length of the signatures. For decryption a user simply runs the PWE decryption with its index and signature as the witness. Correctness of this scheme follows directly. However, this scheme is clearly not compact since the set  $S$  is embedded in the formula  $\phi_{\text{vk},S}$  and since the size of PWE ciphertexts could arbitrarily (but polynomially) depend on the size of the formula, thus the overall AugBE scheme could be highly inefficient. In a few words the problem is that we are implementing a trivial set membership check which breaks compactness.

To get around this problem we will use an alternate set membership check. Our idea is to embed only a succinct commitment to the set  $S$  in the formula  $\phi$  such that there exists proofs of membership in  $S$  that grow at most logarithmically with the number of users  $N$ . Clearly such a primitive would resolve the inefficiency problem. One possible execution of this idea is via a Merkle hash tree.<sup>7</sup> Let  $\mathbb{I}_S$  represent the  $N$ -bit indicator string corresponding to set  $S$ , i.e.  $i^{\text{th}}$  bit of  $\mathbb{I}_S$  is 1 iff  $i \in S$ . We modify the encryption procedure as follows — first compute a hash  $h$  of string  $\mathbb{I}_S$ ; next run the PWE encryption algorithm on message  $m$  for index  $i || 0^\ell || 0^k$  and formula  $\phi_{\text{vk},h,N}$ , where  $\phi_{\text{vk},h,N}(j, \sigma, \pi) = 1$  iff ' $j \leq N$ ', ' $\pi$  is a valid proof membership for index  $j$  w.r.t. hash  $h$ ' and ' $\sigma$  is a valid signature on  $j$  under  $\text{vk}$ '. Here proof  $\pi$  simply corresponds to the pre-images in the hash tree along the path from the root  $h$  to the leaf node containing the  $j^{\text{th}}$  bit, and  $k$  denotes the length of proof  $\pi$ . The decryption is then performed analogously where the decryptor computes the membership proof by hashing  $\mathbb{I}_S$  and using the appropriate leaf-to-root path as a proof. This seems to resolve the succinctness problem as the size of the ciphertext is independent of the number of users. Also, at least intuitively, it seems that the scheme should satisfy both index hiding and message hiding security properties. The intuition is that since  $\phi_{\text{vk},h,N}$  is not satisfied by any witness larger than  $(N + 1) || 0^\ell || 0^k$ , by using security of PWE we can argue message hiding security for the above scheme.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>7</sup> The idea of using Merkle hash tree for efficiently committing to large sets has also been previously used in works such as [3, 60].

<sup>8</sup> The proof will involve an exponential number of hybrids. This is because for applying message hiding security property of PWE the index used must be  $2^{\lambda+\ell+k}$  (i.e., the last index), therefore we need to use index hiding security to go from index  $(N + 1) || 0^\ell || 0^k$  to  $2^{\lambda+\ell+k}$  which takes an exponential number of hybrid steps. Here the exact ordering of witness components, i.e.  $i, \sigma, \pi$ , is very important for the proof to go through. We can only use the security of PWE scheme if index  $i$  is leading term and corresponds to the most significant bits.

For arguing index hiding security we would hope to use the fact that if  $i \notin S$ , or if the adversary does not receive the key for  $i^{\text{th}}$  user, then the adversary does not know of any witnesses of the form  $i \parallel \{0, 1\}^\ell \parallel \{0, 1\}^k$  and thus we could use PWE index hiding security. In the first case (i.e.,  $i \notin S$ ) hardness of computing witnesses should follow from collision resistance of the hash function, and in the second scenario it should follow from unforgeability of the signature scheme. However, there is a problem here. Although we could argue that witnesses are hard-to-compute while proving index hiding for AugBE, this won't be sufficient overall as for applying PWE index hiding security as it is necessary that there does *not* exist *any* witness of the form  $i \parallel \{0, 1\}^\ell \parallel \{0, 1\}^k$ . Thus, unless the underlying PWE scheme provides some strong notion of extractable security, it is not clear how to prove security of the above construction.<sup>9</sup>

To this end, we develop a toolkit of certain simpler primitives, which aid us in proving our construction to be secure. Our motivation here is that using such primitives, we could somehow indistinguishably switch between instances/formulae which have hard-to-compute witnesses to instances/formulae which do not have any witnesses (in some particular pre-specified range). Thus this would enable applicability of the index hiding security property of PWE scheme in the corresponding proof. Below we elaborate on two such primitives — all-but-one signatures and somewhere perfectly binding hash functions (a primitive similar to somewhere statistically binding hash functions described in [44, 53]).<sup>10</sup>

*A Toolkit for Witness Encryption.* The first primitive we consider is a special type of signature scheme called all-but-one (ABO) signatures. These are just like standard signatures, except the setup algorithm has a special “punctured” mode in which it takes a message  $m^*$  as an additional input and outputs a pair of signing and verification key  $(\text{sk}, \text{vk})$  such that there does not exist any signature that gets verified for message  $m^*$ . In other words, the verification algorithm on inputs  $\text{vk}$  and  $m^*$  rejects *every* signature  $\sigma$ . Now instead of unforgeability-type security, we only require that an adversary should not be able to distinguish verification keys that are output by *punctured* setup with message  $m^*$  from those output by normal setup, even when given access to the signing oracle.<sup>11</sup> We note that the notion of ABO signatures is motivated by constrained signatures [16] and splittable signatures [45], but is much weaker than both of those. In this work, we also provide new constructions of ABO signatures from a wide variety

<sup>9</sup> Although the notion of witness encryption with extractable security has been well studied [36, 28], extractability in the case of positional witness encryption is rather non-trivial to define due to the fact that PWE already requires index hiding to hold for all indices.

<sup>10</sup> We would like to point out that our techniques of relaxing extractably-secure assumptions to more standard indistinguishability-based assumptions are in part inspired by analogous results in the regime of moving from differing-inputs obfuscation (diO) to indistinguishability obfuscation (iO) [44, 52, 21].

<sup>11</sup> The adversary is not allowed to query the oracle on message  $m^*$  to allow trivial distinguishing attacks.

of standard assumptions. Next we discuss the second primitive we use, and later we will circle back to the new ABO signature constructions we provide.

The next primitive we employ is a somewhere perfectly binding (SPB) hash function [44, 53]. An SPB hash consists of four algorithms — setup, hash, open and verify. The setup algorithm is used to sample a hash key  $hk$ , and has two modes (akin to ABO signatures) — normal and “binding”. In the *binding* mode it takes an index  $i$  as an additional input, and it ensures that the corresponding hash function  $H_{hk}$  is perfectly binding for the  $i^{th}$  message position (i.e., the hash value completely determines the  $i^{th}$  bit of the pre-image). Additionally, SPB hashes have a local opening property which states that for any message  $m$ , any index  $i \leq |m|$  and hash  $h = H_{hk}(m)$ , one could create a *short* proof  $\pi$  proving that the message’s  $i^{th}$  bit is  $m[i]$  and it hashes to  $h$ .<sup>12</sup> Such proofs could be verified by running the verification algorithm which also take as input the hash key, hash value and a position. For security it is required that an adversary should not be able to distinguish between hash keys that are output by *binding* setup and those output by normal setup.

Next we show that if we use ABO signatures and SPB hash functions in the previously described AugBE construction then we can prove its security using positional witness encryption.

*Completing AugBE Construction.* As discussed earlier, ABO signature scheme and an SPB hash function enable us to indistinguishably turn instances with hard-to-compute witnesses into instances which have no witnesses (in a particular range). Therefore, by simply using an ABO signature scheme and an SPB hash function in our AugBE construction, we can also prove index hiding property of our construction. The construction is identical to the one described before, except that checking membership of index  $j$  will now be done by SPB verification algorithm as follows — ‘ $\pi$  proves that there exists a string  $x$  such that  $x[j] = 1$  and  $H_{hk}(x) = h$ ’. The proof of AugBE message hiding stays the same as  $\phi_{vk, hk, h, N}$  is not satisfied by any witness larger than  $(N + 1) || 0^\ell || 0^k$ . The AugBE index hiding proof is divided in two parts. Let  $i$  be the challenge index,  $S$  the challenge set and  $S_A$  the set of keys in adversary’s possession. We know that either  $i \notin S$  or  $i \notin S_A$ . Consider the following cases.

- $i \notin S_A$  : The idea here is that since the adversary does not have key for user  $i$ , thus we could instead generate the  $(sk, vk)$  key pair by running *punctured* setup for message  $i$ . From adversary’s perspective this can not be distinguished with non-negligible probability by ABO security. And now, since the verification key  $vk$  no longer accepts any signature  $\sigma$  for message  $i$ , we get  $\phi_{vk, hk, h, N}(w) = 0$  for all  $i || 0^\ell || 0^k \leq w < (i + 1) || 0^\ell || 0^k$ . As a result, we could use PWE index hiding security to switch from index  $i$  AugBE ciphertexts to index  $i + 1$  ciphertexts. Finally, we could *un-puncture* the key  $vk$  to complete the proof.

<sup>12</sup> Technically one could visualize the proof  $\pi$  as only proving that the  $i^{th}$  bit of pre-image is  $m[i]$ . The fact that it also proves that the message hashes to  $H_{hk}(m)$  is just due to the structure of the proof.



- $i \notin S$  : The proof is very similar to the one described above. The only modification will be that instead of puncturing the verification key at index  $i$ , we *bind* the hash key for position  $i$ . The intuition is that since the  $i^{\text{th}}$  bit of string  $\mathbb{I}_S$  is zero (as  $i \notin S$ ), thus if the hash key  $\text{hk}$  was (perfectly) binding at position  $i$  then there will not exist any proof  $\pi$  that proves that there exists a string  $x$  such that  $H_{\text{hk}}(\mathbb{I}_S) = H_{\text{hk}}(x)$  the  $i^{\text{th}}$  bit of  $x$  is 1. Thus, as before  $\phi_{\text{vk}, \text{hk}, h, N}(w) = 0$  for all indices in that range and we can apply PWE index hiding security.

At a high level, the proposed paradigm is to first use the developed toolkit to turn formulae with *hard-to-compute* satisfying inputs into formulae with only *range-restricted* satisfying inputs, then use PWE security to cut through the range of *inactive* inputs, and finally switch back to original formulae using our toolkit. We believe that such a methodology will find more applications especially in bringing more primitives based on obfuscation to the assumption of (positional) witness encryption. Finally, we talk about the new ABO signature constructions that we provide.

*ABO Signatures from Standard Assumptions.* In this work we give two new pathways to build ABO signatures. First, we show that an ABO signature scheme can be generically built from any verifiable random function (VRF) [49] and a perfectly-binding (non-interactive) commitment scheme. Second, we show that any identity-based encryption (IBE) scheme [58, 12], that is anonymous [8] as well as allows efficient key verifiability, also leads to an ABO signature scheme. VRFs can be based on a wide variety of assumptions such as decision-linear over bilinear maps as well as RSA-like assumptions [49, 42] and perfectly-binding (non-interactive) commitment schemes can be based on assumptions such as DDH, LWE and LPN [37] and perfectly injective OWFs. IBE schemes with such verifiability and anonymity properties can be based on simple assumptions over bilinear maps as well as LWE [17, 57, 1, 48, 39, 59]. Thus this leads to new constructions of ABO signatures. We also point out that ABO signatures can be built from constrained signatures [16] and splittable signatures [45] which have been constructed under iO and OWFs. Constrained signatures have also been constructed from non-interactive witness indistinguishable proofs and perfectly binding commitments [16].

We now briefly highlight the main ideas to build these from VRFs. A VRF is like a pseudorandom function (PRF) in which the secret key holder can also prove correctness and uniqueness of PRF evaluation. Concretely, using the secret key  $\text{sk}$ , it could efficiently evaluate the function  $F_{\text{sk}}(\cdot)$  on any input  $x$  as well as generate a proof  $\pi$  of the statement  $y = F_{\text{sk}}(x)$ . An ABO signing key will simply correspond to the VRF secret key  $\text{sk}$ , and the ABO verification key will contain the VRF verification key  $\text{vk}$  as well as a commitment  $\text{COM}$ . Here  $\text{COM}$  commits to 0 during standard setup, whereas during punctured setup (with message  $x^*$ )  $\text{COM}$  commits to 1 where the random coins used are  $F_{\text{sk}}(x^*)$ . A signature  $\sigma$  for any message  $x$  will simply correspond to its function evaluation  $y = F_{\text{sk}}(x)$  as well as corresponding proof  $\pi$ . While verifying a message-signature pair  $x, (y, \pi)$

w.r.t. key  $(vk, COM)$ , the verifier checks two things — (1)  $\pi$  proves that  $y$  is a correct evaluation on input  $x$ , and (2)  $COM$  does not match the commitment of bit 1 obtained using  $y$  as randomness. Clearly this scheme satisfies the ABO scheme correctness condition if the underlying commitment scheme is perfectly binding as in case of normal setup, condition (2) will never be satisfied. Both our ABO constructions are provided later in Section 5.

Lastly, one might think that the full power of ABO signatures is not needed to build the above Broadcast and Trace system. Instead a restricted version where the message space is fixed to be  $\{1, 2, \dots, N\}$  might suffice. It turns out that such a restricted ABO signature scheme can be directly constructed from any SPB Hash function and length doubling pseudo-random generator (PRG). The idea is to sample an SPB hash key  $hk$ , random  $\lambda$  bit strings  $s_i$  for each message  $i \in [N]$  during setup. The verification key consists of the hash key  $hk$  and a hash value  $h$ , where  $h$  is computed as the SPB hash on the set  $\{t_i = PRG(s_i)\}_i$ . The signature on message  $i$  consists of  $(s_i, \pi_i)$  where  $\pi_i$  is the SPB hash opening of hash  $h$  on index  $i$ . The verification procedure first checks correctness of the hash proof  $\pi_i$ , and then also checks that  $PRG(s_i)$  is  $i^{th}$  block value. For punctured setup at index  $i^*$ , the algorithm changes the following — 1) it samples SPB hash  $hk$  to be binding at index  $i^*$ , 2) it samples  $t_{i^*}$  uniformly at random from  $\{0, 1\}^{2\lambda}$ . With all-but-negligible probability,  $t_{i^*}$  will lie outside the range space of PRG, therefore no valid signature for  $i^*$  would exist under punctured setup.

However, such an ABO scheme can only be used to build a Broadcast and Trace system in which the numbers of users is a-priori (and polynomially) bounded. A more desirable setting would be where the number of users that can be supported is exponential (i.e., unbounded), while allowing the encryptor to choose any polynomial sized (a-priori unbounded) subset of users to broadcast to. Such a Broadcast and Trace system would still require the full power of ABO signatures, thus we stick to the more general setting.

## 2 Preliminaries

*Notations.* For a probability distribution  $D$ , we denote by  $x \leftarrow D$  that  $x$  is sampled according to  $D$ . If  $S$  is a set,  $y \leftarrow S$  denotes that  $y$  is sampled from  $S$  according to the uniform distribution on  $S$ . The set of contiguous integers  $\{1, \dots, k\}$  for some  $k \geq 1$  is denoted by  $[k]$ . The set of contiguous integers  $\{m, \dots, n\}$  for some  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  is denoted by  $[m, n]$ . We sometimes slightly abuse notation and refer to bit strings in  $\{0, 1\}^\ell$  by integers, where the left most bit of  $x \in \{0, 1\}^\ell$  is considered as the most significant bit. For any set  $S$ , we denote the size of the set of  $|S|$ . We denote security parameter by  $\lambda$  in the rest of the paper. For any bit string  $t$ , we denote that  $\text{int}(t)$  as the integer representation of string  $t$ .

We define positional witness encryption in this section and defer the definitions of rest of the primitives to the full version of the paper due to space constraints.

## 2.1 Positional Witness Encryption

In this section, we formally define Positional Witness Encryption (PWE) [33] and list its correctness and security properties. The encryption system is defined for an NP language  $L$  and a message space  $\{\mathcal{M}_\lambda\}_\lambda$ . Let  $R(\cdot, \cdot)$  be the witness relation corresponding to  $L$  i.e., for any string  $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$ ,  $x \in L$  iff  $\exists w \in \{0, 1\}^{n(|x|)}$  s.t.  $R(x, w) = 1$ , where  $n(|x|)$  is the witness length of instance  $x$ . For simplicity of notation, we hereby denote  $n = n(|x|)$ . A party can encrypt a message  $m$  with an instance  $x$  and index  $\text{ind}$ . Another party can decrypt the ciphertext using a witness  $w$  to the instance  $x$  such that  $R(x, w) = 1$  and  $w \geq \text{ind}$ . Given a string  $w \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , we sometimes slightly abuse notation and also refer to  $w$  as an integer. Formally, the encryption system contains two procedures defined as follows.

- $\text{Encrypt}(1^\lambda, x, m, \text{ind}) \rightarrow \text{ct}$ . The encryption algorithm takes as input a security parameter  $1^\lambda$ , an instance  $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , a message  $m$ , an index  $\text{ind} \in [0, 2^n]$  and outputs a ciphertext  $\text{ct}$ .
- $\text{Decrypt}(w, \text{ct}) \rightarrow m$ . The decryption algorithm takes as input a witness  $w \in [0, 2^n - 1]$ , a ciphertext  $\text{ct}$  and outputs either a message  $m$  or  $\perp$ .

*Correctness.* We say that a PWE scheme is correct if for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , any instance  $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , any message  $m \in \mathcal{M}_\lambda$ , any witness  $w \in [0, 2^n - 1]$ , any position index  $\text{ind} \in [0, 2^n]$  such that  $R(x, w) = 1$  and  $w \geq \text{ind}$ , and  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(1^\lambda, x, m, \text{ind})$ , we have

$$\Pr \left[ \text{Decrypt}(w, \text{ct}) = m \right] = 1$$

*Security.* A positional witness encryption scheme should satisfy 2 security properties: *message indistinguishability* and *position indistinguishability* defined as follows.

**Definition 1 (Message Indistinguishability).** *A PWE scheme for a language  $L$  is message indistinguishability secure if for any stateful PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$  such that for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have*

$$\Pr \left[ \mathcal{A}(\text{ct}) = b : \begin{array}{l} (x, m_0, m_1) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(1^\lambda); \\ b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}; \text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(1^\lambda, x, m_b, 2^n) \end{array} \right] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(\lambda).$$

Note that the above property needs to be satisfied even for instances  $x \in L$ .

**Definition 2 (Position Indistinguishability).** *A PWE scheme for a language  $L$  with witness relation  $R(\cdot, \cdot)$  is position indistinguishability secure if for every stateful PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$  such that for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have*

$$\Pr \left[ \mathcal{A}(\text{ct}) = b : \begin{array}{l} (x, m, \text{ind}) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(1^\lambda); \\ b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}; \text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(1^\lambda, x, m, \text{ind} + b) \end{array} \right] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(\lambda).$$

where the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is restricted to produce a challenge  $(x, m, \text{ind})$  such that  $R(x, \text{ind}) = 0$ .

### 3 Revisiting Broadcast and Trace System

#### 3.1 Broadcast and Trace System

In this section, we formally define Broadcast and Trace system and describe its security properties. The security definition is motivated by a recent work by Goyal et al. [38] which points out problems with previously proposed notions of traitor tracing and proposes an indistinguishability based security definition for the primitive.

- $\text{Setup}(1^\lambda, 1^N) \rightarrow (\text{pk}, \{\text{sk}_1, \text{sk}_2, \dots, \text{sk}_N\})$ . The setup algorithm takes as input a security parameter  $\lambda$  and number of users  $N$ . It outputs a public key  $\text{pk}$ , and secret keys for  $N$  users  $\{\text{sk}_1, \text{sk}_2, \dots, \text{sk}_N\}$ .
- $\text{Encrypt}(\text{pk}, S, m) \rightarrow \text{ct}$ . The encryption algorithm takes as input public key  $\text{pk}$ , a set  $S \subseteq [N]$  of users, a message  $m$  and outputs a ciphertext  $\text{ct}$ .
- $\text{Decrypt}(i, \text{sk}_i, \text{pk}, S, \text{ct}) \rightarrow m / \perp$ . The decryption algorithm takes as input an index  $i \in [N]$ , secret key of  $i^{\text{th}}$  user, public key  $\text{pk}$ , a set of users  $S \subseteq [N]$ , a ciphertext  $\text{ct}$  and outputs either a message  $m$  or  $\perp$ .
- $\text{Trace}^D(\text{pk}, S_D, m_0, m_1, 1^{1/\epsilon}) \rightarrow S^*$ . The tracing algorithm takes as input a public key  $\text{pk}$ , a set of users  $S_D$ , two messages  $m_0, m_1$  and parameter  $\epsilon < 1$ . The algorithm has a black-box access to the decoder  $D$  and outputs a set of indices  $S^* \subseteq [N]$ .

*Correctness.* The Broadcast and Trace system is said to be correct if for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , any number of users  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , every subset of users  $S \subseteq [N]$ , every message  $m \in \mathcal{M}_\lambda$ , every user  $i \in S$ ,  $(\text{pk}, \{\text{sk}_1, \text{sk}_2, \dots, \text{sk}_N\}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}(1^\lambda, 1^N)$  and  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{pk}, S, m)$ , we have

$$\text{Decrypt}(i, \text{sk}_i, \text{pk}, S, \text{ct}) = m.$$

*Security.* Intuitively, the system is said to be secure if it is IND-CPA secure and if no poly-time adversary can produce a decoder that can fool the tracing algorithm. We formally define both of these properties below.

**Definition 3 (IND-CPA security).** *We say that a Broadcast and Trace scheme is IND-CPA secure if for every stateful PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$  such that for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , the following holds*

$$\Pr \left[ \begin{array}{l} 1^N \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(1^\lambda); (\text{pk}, (\text{sk}_1, \dots, \text{sk}_N)) \leftarrow \text{Setup}(1^\lambda, 1^N); \\ \mathcal{A}^{O(\cdot)}(\text{ct}) = b : \quad (S', m_0, m_1) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{O(\cdot)}(\text{pk}); b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}; \\ \quad \quad \quad \text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{pk}, S', m_b) \end{array} \right] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(\lambda).$$

Here,  $O(\cdot)$  is an oracle that has  $\{\text{sk}_i\}_{i \in [N]}$  hardwired, takes as input an index  $i \in [n]$  and outputs  $\text{sk}_i$ . Let the set of indices queried by the adversary to the oracle be  $S \subseteq [N]$ . Then the adversary is restricted to output the challenge set  $S'$  such that  $S' \subseteq [N] \setminus S$ .

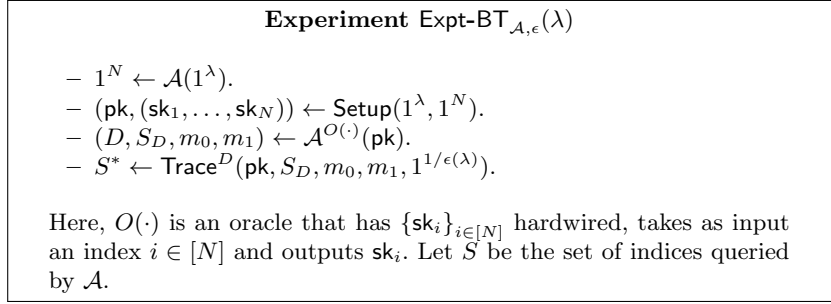


Fig. 1: Experiment  $\text{Expt-BT}$

**Definition 4 (IND-secure Traitor Tracing).** *Let  $(\text{Setup}, \text{Encrypt}, \text{Decrypt}, \text{Trace})$  be a Broadcast and Trace scheme. For any non-negligible function  $\epsilon(\cdot)$  and stateful PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , consider the experiment  $\text{Expt-BT}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon}(\lambda)$  defined as follows.*

*In order to define the security of tracing mechanism, we define the following events and probabilities as a function of security parameter  $\lambda$ .*

- $\text{Good-Dec}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon} : \Pr[D(\text{ct}) = b : b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}, \text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{pk}, S_D, m_b)] \geq 1/2 + \epsilon(\lambda)$   
 $\Pr\text{-Good-Dec}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon}(\lambda) = \Pr[\text{Good-Dec}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon}]$
- $\text{Correct-Tr}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon} : |S^*| > 0, S^* \subseteq S \cap S_D$   
 $\Pr\text{-Correct-Tr}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon}(\lambda) = \Pr[\text{Correct-Tr}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon}]$
- $\text{False-Tr}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon} : S^* \not\subseteq S \cap S_D$   
 $\Pr\text{-False-Tr}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon}(\lambda) = \Pr[\text{False-Tr}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon}]$

*The Broadcast and Trace scheme is said to have Ind-secure tracing mechanism if for every stateful PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , polynomial  $q(\cdot)$  and non-negligible function  $\epsilon(\cdot)$ , there exists negligible functions  $\text{negl}_1(\cdot)$  and  $\text{negl}_2(\cdot)$  such that for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$  satisfying  $\epsilon(\lambda) > 1/q(\lambda)$ ,  $\Pr\text{-Correct-Tr}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon}(\lambda) \geq \Pr\text{-Good-Dec}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon}(\lambda) - \text{negl}_1(\lambda)$  and  $\Pr\text{-False-Tr}_{\mathcal{A},\epsilon}(\lambda) \leq \text{negl}_2(\lambda)$ .*

### 3.2 Augmented Broadcast Encryption

In this section, we define Augmented Broadcast Encryption (AugBE) and its security properties.

- $\text{Setup}(1^\lambda, 1^N) \rightarrow (\text{pk}, \{\text{sk}_1, \dots, \text{sk}_N\})$ . The setup algorithm takes as input security parameter  $\lambda$  and number of users  $N$ . It outputs a public key  $\text{pk}$  and secret keys  $\{\text{sk}_1, \dots, \text{sk}_N\}$ , where  $\text{sk}_i$  is the secret key for user  $i$ .
- $\text{Encrypt}(\text{pk}, S, m, \text{ind}) \rightarrow \text{ct}$ . The encryption algorithm takes as input public key  $\text{pk}$ , a set of users  $S \subseteq [N]$ , a message  $m$ , and an index  $\text{ind} \in [N + 1]$ . It outputs a ciphertext  $\text{ct}$ .
- $\text{Decrypt}(i, \text{sk}_i, \text{pk}, S, \text{ct}) \rightarrow m / \perp$ . The decryption algorithm takes as input an index  $i$ , secret key for  $i^{\text{th}}$  user  $\text{sk}_i$ , public key  $\text{pk}$ , a set of users  $S \subseteq [N]$ , a ciphertext  $\text{ct}$  and outputs a message  $m$  or  $\perp$ .

*Correctness.* An AugBE scheme is said to be correct if for every security parameter  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , any number of users  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , any message  $m \in \mathcal{M}_\lambda$ , any subset of users  $S \subseteq [N]$ , any index  $\text{ind} \in [N]$ , any  $i \in S \cap \{\text{ind}, \text{ind} + 1, \dots, N\}$ ,  $(\text{pk}, \{\text{sk}_1, \text{sk}_2, \dots, \text{sk}_N\}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}(1^\lambda, 1^N)$  and  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{pk}, S, m, \text{ind})$ , we have

$$\text{Decrypt}(i, \text{sk}_i, \text{pk}, S, \text{ct}) = m.$$

*Security.* We need AugBE to satisfy 2 security properties. The first is *message hiding* property which states that no PPT adversary can distinguish between encryptions of  $m_0$  and  $m_1$  encrypted using the last index  $N + 1$ . The second is *index hiding* property which states that ciphertexts encrypted to index  $\text{ind}$  do not reveal any non-trivial information about the index. We formally define the security properties below.

**Definition 5 (Message Hiding).** *We say that an AugBE scheme satisfies message hiding property if for every stateful PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$  such that for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , the following holds*

$$\Pr \left[ \begin{array}{l} 1^N \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(1^\lambda); \\ (\text{msk}, \text{pk}, \{\text{sk}_i\}_{i \in [N]}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}(1^\lambda, 1^N); \\ (S', m_0, m_1) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{O(\cdot)}(\text{pk}); b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}; \\ \text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{pk}, S', m_b, N + 1) \end{array} \right] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(\lambda).$$

Here,  $O(\cdot)$  is an oracle that has  $\{\text{sk}_i\}_{i \in [N]}$  hardwired, takes as input an index  $i \in [N]$  and outputs  $\text{sk}_i$ .

**Definition 6 (Index Hiding).** *We say that an AugBE scheme satisfies index hiding property if for every stateful PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$  such that for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , the following holds,*

$$\Pr \left[ \begin{array}{l} (1^N, \text{ind}) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(1^\lambda); \\ (\text{msk}, \text{pk}, \{\text{sk}_i\}_{i \in [N]}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}(1^\lambda, 1^N); \\ (S', m) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{O(\cdot)}(\text{pk}); b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}; \\ \text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{pk}, S', m, \text{ind} + b) \end{array} \right] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(\lambda).$$

Here,  $O(\cdot)$  is an oracle that has  $\{\text{sk}_i\}_{i \in [N]}$  hardwired, takes as input an index  $i \in [N]$  and outputs  $\text{sk}_i$ . Let the set of keys queried by the adversary be  $S$ . We restrict the adversary to satisfy  $\text{ind} \notin S' \vee \text{ind} \notin S$ .

### 3.3 Broadcast and Trace from AugBE

We construct a Broadcast and Trace system assuming we have an AugBE scheme. The construction is same as [14], but we would like to point out their security proof is inaccurate. The problem lies in the fact that there is a “semantic gap” between their definitions of BT and AugBE schemes. The issue is that in a BT system an adversary outputs a box which performs some decoding/decryption operations, whereas in an AugBE system the adversary plays a distinguishing game. We modify their security proof as per indistinguishability based definition of Broadcast and Trace. Due to space constraints, we present the construction in the full version of the paper.

## 4 Construction of Augmented Broadcast Encryption

In this section, we construct an augmented broadcast encryption (AugBE) scheme from positional witness encryption (PWE), somewhere perfectly binding hash (SPB hash) function and all-but-one (ABO) signatures. We also prove that the construction satisfies the message hiding and index hiding properties.

Let  $\mathcal{ABO} = (\text{Setup}_{\text{ABO}}, \text{Setup-Punc}_{\text{ABO}}, \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}, \text{Verify}_{\text{ABO}})$  be an ABO signature scheme with message space  $\{0, 1\}^\lambda$ , signature space  $\{0, 1\}^{k(\lambda)}$ , secret key space  $\{\mathcal{S}_\lambda\}_\lambda$  and verification key space  $\{\mathcal{V}_\lambda\}_\lambda$ . Let  $\mathcal{SPB} = (\text{Setup}_{\text{SPB}}, \text{Setup-Bind}_{\text{SPB}}, \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}, \text{Open}_{\text{SPB}}, \text{Verify}_{\text{SPB}})$  be an SPB hash function with hash key space  $\{\mathcal{K}_\lambda\}_\lambda$ , hash space  $\{\mathcal{H}_\lambda\}_\lambda$  and hash opening space  $\{0, 1\}^{\ell(\lambda)}$ . For simplicity of notation, we hereby use  $\ell = \ell(\lambda)$  and  $k = k(\lambda)$ . Let  $\mathcal{PWE} = (\text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}, \text{Decrypt}_{\text{PWE}})$  be a PWE scheme with message space  $\{\mathcal{M}_\lambda\}_\lambda$  with respect to the following language  $\mathcal{L}$ . The language  $\mathcal{L}$  contains instances of the form  $(1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk}) \in 1^\lambda \times \{0, 1\}^\lambda \times \mathcal{H}_\lambda \times \mathcal{K}_\lambda \times \mathcal{V}_\lambda$ , where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , with the following witness relation  $\mathcal{R}$ :

$$(1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk}) \in \mathcal{L} \iff \begin{aligned} & \exists (i, \sigma, \pi) \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda \times \{0, 1\}^k \times \{0, 1\}^\ell \text{ s.t.} \\ & 1 \leq i \leq N \wedge \text{Verify}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{vk}, i, \sigma) = 1 \wedge \\ & \text{Verify}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, h, i, 1, \pi) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the above witness relation  $\mathcal{R}$  is well defined as  $\text{Verify}_{\text{ABO}}$  and  $\text{Verify}_{\text{SPB}}$  are deterministic algorithms. We construct an AugBE scheme  $\mathcal{AUGBE} = (\text{Setup}, \text{Encrypt}, \text{Decrypt})$  with message space  $\{\mathcal{M}_\lambda\}_\lambda$ . We sometimes slightly abuse notation and denote the values in  $\{0, 1\}^z$  (for  $z \in \mathbb{N}$ ) by integers. For any set  $S \subseteq [N]$ , let  $\mathbb{I}_S$  be a bit vector of length  $N$ , where the  $i^{\text{th}}$  element  $\mathbb{I}_S(i)$  is defined as

$$\mathbb{I}_S(i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in S, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- $\text{Setup}(1^\lambda, 1^N)$ : Sample  $(\text{vk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda)$  and  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N)$ . Compute signatures  $\{\sigma_i \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, i) : 1 \leq i \leq N\}$ . Output  $\text{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \text{vk}, \text{hk})$ , and secret keys  $\{\text{sk}_i = \sigma_i : 1 \leq i \leq N\}$ .
- $\text{Encrypt}(\text{pk}, S, m, \text{ind})$ : Let  $\text{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \text{vk}, \text{hk})$ . Compute SPB hash on  $\mathbb{I}_S$  i.e., compute the hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$ . Then encrypt the message  $m$  with PWE scheme using the instance  $\text{inst} = (1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk})$  and index  $\text{ind} \| 0^{k+\ell}$ , i.e., computes  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}(\text{inst}, m, \text{ind} \| 0^{k+\ell})$ .
- $\text{Decrypt}(i, \text{sk}_i, \text{pk}, S, \text{ct})$ : Let  $\text{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \text{vk}, \text{hk})$ . Compute hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$  and proof  $\pi_i \leftarrow \text{Open}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S, i)$ . Then decrypt the ciphertext using the witness  $w = i \| \text{sk}_i \| \pi_i$  i.e., output message  $m \leftarrow \text{Decrypt}_{\text{PWE}}(w = i \| \text{sk}_i \| \pi_i, \text{ct})$ .

Note that the correctness properties of  $\mathcal{SPB}$  hash and  $\mathcal{ABO}$  signature schemes imply that  $w = i \| \text{sk}_i \| \pi_i$  is a valid witness to the instance  $\text{inst} = (1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk})$  (i.e.,  $R(x, w) = 1$ ). This along with the correctness of  $\mathcal{PWE}$  scheme imply the correctness of the above scheme. In the following subsections, we prove that the

above AugBE construction satisfies message hiding and index hiding properties. Formally, we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.** *If  $\mathcal{PWE}$  is a sub-exponentially secure PWE scheme as per Definitions 1 and 2,  $\mathcal{ABO}$  is a secure ABO signature scheme and  $\mathcal{SPB}$  is a secure SPB hash function, then  $\mathcal{AUGBE}$  is a secure AugBE scheme as per Definitions 5 and 6.*

#### 4.1 Message Hiding

In this subsection, we prove the message hiding property of the above scheme assuming sub-exponential security of  $\mathcal{PWE}$  scheme. For any instance  $(1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk})$ , let  $r(\lambda)$  be the length of witnesses accepted by the witness relation  $\mathcal{R}$ , i.e.,  $r(\lambda) = \lambda + k(\lambda) + \ell(\lambda)$ . For simplicity of notation, we ignore the parameters and simply denote it by  $r$ . We first describe the following games that help us in proving the property.

**Game  $N + 1 || 0^{k+\ell}$ .** This game is same as the AugBE message hiding game.

1. *Setup Phase.* The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  sends the number of users  $1^N$  to the challenger. The challenger samples the keys  $(\text{vk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda)$ , hash key  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N)$  and signatures  $\{\sigma_i \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, i) : 1 \leq i \leq N\}$ . It then sends the public key  $\text{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \text{vk}, \text{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
2. *Pre-Challenge Query Phase.* The adversary then adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ , the challenger responds with the secret key  $\text{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ .
3. *Challenge Phase.* The adversary then sends a pair of messages  $m_0, m_1$  and a set  $S \subseteq [N]$  to the challenger. The challenger samples a bit  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$  and computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$ . It then samples ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}(x = (1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk}), m_b, \text{int}(N + 1 || 0^{k+\ell}))$  and responds with  $\text{ct}$ .
4. *Post-Challenge Query Phase.* This is identical to Pre-Challenge Query Phase.
5. *Output Phase.* The adversary sends a bit  $b'$  to the challenger. The adversary wins if  $b' = b$ .

**Game  $y$  ( $N + 1 || 0^{k+\ell} < y \leq 2^r$ ).** This game is similar to **Game  $N + 1 || 0^{k+\ell}$** , except that the challenger encrypts the challenge message using index  $y$  instead of index  $\text{int}(N + 1 || 0^{k+\ell})$ .

3. *Challenge Phase.* The adversary then sends a pair of messages  $m_0, m_1$  and a set  $S \subseteq [N]$  to the challenger. The challenger samples a bit  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$  and computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$ . It then samples ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}(x = (1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk}), m_b, y)$  and responds with  $\text{ct}$ .

For any stateful PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , we define the advantage of the adversary in **Game  $x$**  as  $\text{Adv}_x^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) = \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1/2$ . We prove that the advantage of any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in **Game  $N + 1 || 0^{k+\ell}$**  is negligible in security parameter. For any stateful PPT adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\text{AdvPosInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$  denote the



advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in position indistinguishability game and  $\text{AdvMsgInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$  denote the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in message indistinguishability game of  $\mathcal{PWE}$  scheme. For any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda) = \sup_{\text{PPT } \mathcal{B}} \text{AdvPosInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$  and  $\text{AdvMsgInd}(\lambda) = \sup_{\text{PPT } \mathcal{B}} \text{AdvMsgInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$ . We now establish using the following lemma that the difference of the adversary's advantage between each adjacent game is at most  $2 \cdot \text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda)$ . Finally we show that if any adversary wins in the last game, then it wins message indistinguishability game against PWE challenger as well.

**Claim 1** *For every  $y$  s.t.  $N + 1 \parallel 0^{k+\ell} \leq y \leq 2^r - 1$ , every PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\text{Adv}_y^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) - \text{Adv}_{y+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda)$ .*

*Proof.* Consider any  $y$  s.t.  $N + 1 \parallel 0^{k+\ell} \leq y \leq 2^r - 1$ , any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . We build a PPT algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  which uses  $\mathcal{A}$  and has advantage  $(\text{Adv}_y^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) - \text{Adv}_{y+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda))/2$  in the position indistinguishability game of the  $\mathcal{PWE}$  scheme. The reduction algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  proceeds as follows.

$\mathcal{A}$  first sends the number of users  $1^N$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  then samples  $(\text{sk}, \text{vk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda)$ ,  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N)$ , signatures  $\{\sigma_j \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, j) : 1 \leq j \leq N\}$  and sends the public key  $\text{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \text{vk}, \text{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  then adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  responds with the secret key  $\text{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ . After query phase,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a challenge set  $S$  and a pair of messages  $m_0, m_1$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  samples a bit  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$  and computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$ . It then sends the challenge instance  $\text{inst} = (1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk})$ , challenge message  $m_b$  and challenge index  $y$  to the challenger  $\mathcal{C}$  of position indistinguishability game. The challenger samples a bit  $\beta \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$  and responds with a ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}(\text{inst}, m_b, y + \beta)$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ , which forwards it to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  further adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  responds with the secret key  $\text{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ . Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a bit  $b'$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ . If  $b' = b$ , then  $\mathcal{B}$  outputs 0 indicating its guess that the challenger encrypted  $m_b$  using index  $y$ . If  $b' \neq b$ , then  $\mathcal{B}$  outputs 1 indicating its guess that the challenger encrypted  $m_b$  using index  $y + 1$ .

We know that the index  $y$  cannot be a witness for the instance  $(1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk})$  as  $y \geq N + 1 \parallel 0^{k+\ell}$  (i.e.,  $y[1 : \lambda] \geq N + 1$ ). Therefore, the reduction algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  acts as a valid adversary in the position indistinguishability game. If  $\beta = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates the view of Game  $y$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\Pr[b' = b] = 1/2 + \text{Adv}_y^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ . Otherwise, it simulates the view of Game  $y + 1$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\Pr[b' = b] = 1/2 + \text{Adv}_{y+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ . Therefore, the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in position indistinguishability game is given by  $\text{AdvPosInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda) = 1/2 \cdot \Pr[b' = b | \beta = 0] + 1/2 \cdot \Pr[b' \neq b | \beta = 1] - 1/2 = 1/2 \cdot (\text{Adv}_y^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) - \text{Adv}_{y+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda))$ . Therefore,  $\text{Adv}_y^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) - \text{Adv}_{y+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda)$ .

**Claim 2** *For every stateful PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\text{Adv}_{2^r}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq \text{AdvMsgInd}(\lambda)$ .*

*Proof.* Consider any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . We build a PPT algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  which uses  $\mathcal{A}$  and has advantage  $\text{Adv}_{2^r}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$  in message indistinguishability game of the  $\mathcal{PWE}$  scheme. The reduction algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  proceeds as follows.

$\mathcal{A}$  first sends the number of users  $1^N$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  then samples  $(\text{sk}, \text{vk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda)$ , hash key  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N)$  and signatures  $\{\sigma_j \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, j) :$

$1 \leq j \leq N\}$ . It then sends the public key  $\mathbf{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \mathbf{vk}, \mathbf{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  then adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  responds with the secret key  $\mathbf{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ . After query phase,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a challenge set  $S$  and messages  $m_0, m_1$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\mathbf{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$ . It then sends challenge instance  $\text{inst} = (1^\lambda, N, h, \mathbf{hk}, \mathbf{vk})$  and challenge messages  $m_0, m_1$  to message indistinguishability game challenger  $\mathcal{C}$ . The challenger samples a bit  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$  and responds with ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}(\text{inst}, m_b, 2^r)$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ , which forwards  $\text{ct}$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  further adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  responds with the secret key  $\mathbf{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ . Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a bit  $b'$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ , which outputs  $b'$  as its guess in message indistinguishability game.

Clearly,  $\mathcal{B}$  is a valid adversary of the message indistinguishability game, and also simulates the view of **Game**  $2^r$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ . Note that advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in message indistinguishability game is given by  $\text{AdvMsgInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda) = \text{Adv}_{2^r}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ , and therefore  $\text{Adv}_{2^r}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq \text{AdvMsgInd}(\lambda)$ .

Note that by combining claims 1 and 2, the advantage of any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in AugBE message hiding game is  $\text{Adv}_{N+1||0^{k+\ell}}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) = \sum_{y=N+1||0^{k+\ell}}^{2^r-1} (\text{Adv}_y^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) - \text{Adv}_{y+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)) + \text{Adv}_{2^r}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot (2^\lambda - N) \cdot 2^{k+\ell} \cdot \text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda) + \text{AdvMsgInd}(\lambda)$ . Using complexity leveraging, we demand that  $\text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda) \leq 2^{-(\lambda+k+\ell+1)} \cdot \text{negl}(\lambda)$  for some negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$ . At the instantiation level, the security parameter will be increased to match this condition.

## 4.2 Index Hiding

In this section, we prove the index hiding property of the above scheme. We first describe the following 2 games that help us in describing the lemma formally.

**Game 0.** This game corresponds to AugBE index hiding game where the challenger always uses bit  $b = 0$ .

1. *Setup Phase.* The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  sends the number of users  $1^N$  and index  $i$  s.t.  $1 \leq i \leq N$  to the challenger. The challenger samples  $(\mathbf{vk}, \mathbf{sk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda)$ , hash key  $\mathbf{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N)$  and signatures  $\{\sigma_j \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\mathbf{sk}, j) : 1 \leq j \leq N\}$  of the AugBE scheme. It then sends the public key  $\mathbf{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \mathbf{vk}, \mathbf{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
2. *Pre-Challenge Query Phase.* The adversary then adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ , the challenger responds with the secret key  $\mathbf{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ .
3. *Challenge Phase.* The adversary then sends a message  $m$  and a set  $S \subseteq [N]$  to the challenger. The challenger computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\mathbf{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$  and responds with ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}(x = (1^\lambda, N, h, \mathbf{hk}, \mathbf{vk}), m, \text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}))$ .
4. *Post-Challenge Query Phase.* This is identical to Pre-Challenge Query Phase.
5. *Output Phase.* The adversary sends a bit  $b'$  to the challenger.

Let the set of all secret keys queried by the adversary be  $S^*$ . The adversary is restricted to query such that  $i \notin S \vee i \notin S^*$ .

**Game 3.** This game is similar to the first game, except that the challenger always uses bit  $b = 1$ .

3. *Challenge Phase.* The adversary then sends a message  $m$  and a set  $S \subseteq [N]$  to the challenger. The challenger computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$  and responds with ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}(x = (1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk}), m, \text{int}(i + 1||0^{k+\ell}))$ .

For any stateful PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , let the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs 1 in **Game**  $y$  be  $p_y^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ . We denote the advantage of a PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in distinguishing between any two games **Game**  $x$  and **Game**  $y$  by  $\text{Adv}_{x,y}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) = |p_x^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) - p_y^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)|$ .

**Lemma 1.** *If ABO is a secure ABO signature scheme, SPB is a secure SPB hash function, and PWE is a sub-exponentially secure PWE scheme as per Definition 2, for every stateful PPT Adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$  such that for every security parameter  $\lambda$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{0,3}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .*

*Proof.* We first classify the adversaries into the following 2 types.

- **Type 1 adversary:** Restricted to generate set of key queries  $S^*$  and challenge set  $S$  s.t.  $i \notin S$ .
- **Type 2 adversary:** Restricted to generate set of key queries  $S^*$  and challenge set  $S$  s.t.  $i \in S \wedge i \notin S^*$ .

We now prove Lemma 2 and 3 which together imply Lemma 1.

**Lemma 2.** *If SPB is secure, and PWE is a sub-exponentially secure as per Definition 2, for every stateful Type 1 PPT Adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$  such that for every security parameter  $\lambda$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{0,3}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .*

*Proof.* We prove the lemma using the following sequence of hybrids.

**Game 1.t** (for  $0 \leq t < 2^{k+\ell}$ ): Here  $t$  is a bit string of length  $k + \ell$ . This game is similar to **Game 0** except that challenger samples SPB hash key using **Setup-Bind** and encrypts the challenge message using index  $\text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + t$ .

1. *Setup Phase.* The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  sends the number of users  $1^N$  to the challenger. The challenger samples  $(\text{vk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda)$ ,  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup-Bind}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N, i)$  and signatures  $\{\sigma_j \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, j) : 1 \leq j \leq N\}$ . It then sends the public key  $\text{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \text{vk}, \text{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
3. *Challenge Phase.* The adversary sends a message  $m$  and a set  $S \subseteq [N]$  to the challenger. The challenger computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$  and responds with ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}((1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk}), m, \text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + t)$ .

**Game 1.2<sup>k+ℓ</sup>** : This game is similar to **Game 1.2<sup>k+ℓ</sup> - 1** except that challenger encrypts the challenge message using index  $\text{int}(i + 1||0^{k+\ell})$ .

1. *Setup Phase.* The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  sends the number of users  $1^N$  to the challenger. The challenger samples  $(\text{vk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda)$ , hash key  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup-Bind}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N, i)$  and signatures  $\{\sigma_j \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, j) : 1 \leq j \leq N\}$  of the AugBE scheme. It then sends the public key  $\text{pk} = (\text{vk}, \text{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .

3. *Challenge Phase.* The adversary sends a message  $m$  and a set  $S \subseteq [N]$  to the challenger, which computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$  and responds with ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}((1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk}), m, \text{int}(i + 1 || 0^{k+\ell}))$ .

For any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\text{AdvSpblnd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$  denote the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in index hiding game of  $\text{SPB}$  scheme and  $\text{AdvPosInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$  denote the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in position indistinguishability game of  $\text{PWE}$  scheme. For any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda) = \sup_{\text{PPT } \mathcal{B}} \text{AdvPosInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$  and  $\text{AdvSpblnd}(\lambda) = \sup_{\text{PPT } \mathcal{B}} \text{AdvSpblnd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$ . We prove Lemma 2 using the following sequence of claims.

**Claim 3** *For every Type 1 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\text{Adv}_{0,1,0}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvSpblnd}(\lambda)$ .*

*Proof.* Consider any Type 1 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . We build a PPT algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  which uses  $\mathcal{A}$  and has advantage  $\text{Adv}_{0,1,0}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)/2$  in index hiding game of the  $\text{SPB}$  scheme. The reduction algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  proceeds as follows.

$\mathcal{A}$  first sends the number of users  $1^N$  and an index  $i$  s.t.  $1 \leq i \leq N$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  then sends  $(N, i)$  to index hiding game challenger  $\mathcal{C}$ . The challenger samples a bit  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ . If  $b = 0$ , it responds with  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N)$ . Otherwise, it responds with  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup-Bind}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N, i)$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  samples  $(\text{sk}, \text{vk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda)$ , signatures  $\{\sigma_j \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, j) : 1 \leq j \leq N\}$  and sends the public key  $\text{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \text{vk}, \text{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  then adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  responds with secret key  $\text{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ . After query phase,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a challenge set  $S$  and a message  $m$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts if  $i \in S$ . Otherwise, it computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$  and responds with ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}((1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk}), m, \text{int}(i || 0^{k+\ell}))$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  further adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  responds with secret key  $\text{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ . Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a bit  $b'$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ , which outputs  $b'$  as its guess in the index hiding game.

As  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Type 1 adversary, note that  $i \notin S$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  does not abort. Note that if  $b = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates the view of Game 0 to  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\Pr[b' = 1] = p_0^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ . Otherwise, it simulates the view of Game 1.0 to  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\Pr[b' = 1] = p_{1,0}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ . This implies, the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in the index hiding game is given by  $\text{AdvSpblnd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda) = |1/2 \cdot \Pr[b' = 0|b = 0] + 1/2 \cdot \Pr[b' = 1|b = 1] - 1/2| = \text{Adv}_{0,1,0}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)/2$ . Therefore,  $\text{Adv}_{0,1,0}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvSpblnd}(\lambda)$ .

**Claim 4** *Assuming  $\text{SPB}$  is somewhere perfectly binding w.r.t. opening, for any  $0 \leq t \leq 2^{k+\ell} - 1$ , any stateful Type 1 PPT Adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\text{Adv}_{1,t,1,t+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda)$ .*

*Proof.* Consider any  $t$  s.t.  $0 \leq t \leq 2^{k+\ell} - 1$ , any Type 1 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . Assuming  $\text{SPB}$  is somewhere perfectly binding w.r.t. opening, we build a PPT algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  which uses  $\mathcal{A}$  and has advantage  $\text{Adv}_{1,t,1,t+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)/2$  in position indistinguishability game of the  $\text{PWE}$  scheme. The reduction algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  proceeds as follows.

$\mathcal{A}$  first sends the number of users  $1^N$  and an index  $i$  s.t.  $1 \leq i \leq N$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  then samples  $(\text{sk}, \text{vk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda)$ , hash key  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup-Bind}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N, i)$

and signatures  $\{\sigma_j \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, j) : 1 \leq j \leq N\}$ . It then sends the public key  $\text{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \text{vk}, \text{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  then adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  responds with secret key  $\text{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ . After query phase,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a challenge set  $S$  and a message  $m$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts if  $i \in S$ . Otherwise, it computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$ , and sends the challenge instance  $\text{inst} = (1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk})$ , challenge message  $m$  and challenge index  $\text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + t$  to the position indistinguishability game challenger  $\mathcal{C}$ . The challenger samples a bit  $\beta \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$  and responds with a ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}(\text{inst}, m, \text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + t + \beta)^{13}$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  forwards the ciphertext to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  further adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  responds with secret key  $\text{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ . Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a bit  $b'$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ , which outputs  $b'$  as its guess in the position indistinguishability game.

As  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Type 1 adversary, note that  $\mathbb{I}_S(i) = 0$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  does not abort. We know that,  $\Pr[\text{hk is binding w.r.t. opening at index } i] = 1$ . This implies that there does not exist a proof  $\pi$  such that  $\text{Verify}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, h, i, 1, \pi) = 1$  and  $\text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + t$  cannot be a witness of the instance  $(1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk})$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{B}$  acts as a valid adversary of the position indistinguishability game. If  $\beta = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates the view of Game 1. $t$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\Pr[b' = 1] = p_{1,t}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ . Otherwise, it simulates the view of Game 1. $t+1$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\Pr[b' = 1] = p_{1,t+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ . This implies, the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in the position indistinguishability game is given by  $\text{AdvPosInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda) = [1/2 \cdot \Pr[b' = 0 | \beta = 0] + 1/2 \cdot \Pr[b' = 1 | \beta = 1] - 1/2] = \text{Adv}_{1,t,1,t+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)/2$ . Therefore,  $\text{Adv}_{1,t,1,t+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda)$ .

**Claim 5** For every Type 1 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\text{Adv}_{1,2^{k+\ell},3}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvSpbInd}(\lambda)$ .

*Proof.* Consider any Type 1 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . We build a PPT algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  which uses  $\mathcal{A}$  and has advantage  $\text{Adv}_{1,2^{k+\ell},3}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)/2$  in the index hiding game of the  $\text{SPB}$  scheme. We ignore the description of algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  as it proceeds similar to proof of Claim 3.

Note that by triangle inequality and combining Claims 3, 4, and 5, the advantage of any Type 1 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in AugBE index hiding game is  $\text{Adv}_{0,3}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq \text{Adv}_{0,1,0}^{\mathcal{A}} + \sum_{t=0}^{2^{k+\ell}-1} \text{Adv}_{1,t,1,t+1}^{\mathcal{A}} + \text{Adv}_{1,2^{k+\ell},3}^{\mathcal{A}} \leq 4 \cdot \text{AdvSpbInd}(\lambda) + 2 \cdot 2^{k+\ell} \cdot \text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda)$ . Using complexity leveraging, we demand that  $\text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda) \leq 2^{-(k+\ell+1)} \cdot \text{negl}(\lambda)$  for some negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$ . At the instantiation level, the security parameter will be increased to match these conditions.

**Lemma 3.** If  $\text{ABO}$  is a secure ABO signature scheme and  $\text{PWE}$  is a sub-exponentially secure as per Definition 2, for every stateful Type 2 PPT Adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$  such that for every security parameter  $\lambda$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{0,3}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .

*Proof.* We prove the lemma using the following sequence of hybrids.

<sup>13</sup> Note that index  $\text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + 2^{k+\ell}$  is same as  $\text{int}(i+1||0^{k+\ell})$ .

Game 2. $t$  (for  $0 \leq t < 2^{k+\ell}$ ): Here  $t$  is a bit string of length  $k + \ell$ . This game is similar to Game 0 except, the challenger samples ABO signature verification key using Setup-Punc algorithm and encrypts challenge message using index  $\text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + t$ .

1. *Setup Phase.* The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  sends the number of users  $1^N$  to the challenger. The challenger samples  $(\text{vk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup-Punc}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda, i)$ ,  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N, i)$  and signatures  $\{\sigma_j \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, j) : 1 \leq j \leq N\}$ . It then sends the public key  $\text{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \text{vk}, \text{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
3. *Challenge Phase.* The adversary sends a message  $m$  and a set  $S \subseteq [N]$  to the challenger. The challenger computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$  and responds with ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}((1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk}), m, \text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + t)$ .

Game 2.2 $^{k+\ell}$  : This game is similar to Game 2.2 $^{k+\ell} - 1$  except that the challenger encrypts the challenge message using index  $\text{int}(i + 1||0^{k+\ell})$ .

1. *Setup Phase.* The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  sends the number of users  $1^N$  to the challenger. The challenger samples  $(\text{vk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup-Punc}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda, i)$ , hash key  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N, i)$  and signatures  $\{\sigma_j \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, j) : 1 \leq j \leq N\}$  of the AugBE scheme. It then sends the public key  $\text{pk} = (\text{vk}, \text{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
3. *Challenge Phase.* The adversary sends a message  $m$  and a set  $S \subseteq [N]$  to the challenger, which computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$  and responds with ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}((1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk}), m, \text{int}(i + 1||0^{k+\ell}))$ .

For any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\text{AdvAbolnd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$  denote the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in VK indistinguishability game of  $\text{ABO}$  scheme and  $\text{AdvPosInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$  denote the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in position indistinguishability game of  $\text{PWE}$  scheme. For any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda) = \sup_{\text{PPT } \mathcal{B}} \text{AdvPosInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$  and  $\text{AdvAbolnd}(\lambda) = \sup_{\text{PPT } \mathcal{B}} \text{AdvAbolnd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda)$ . We prove Lemma 3 using the following sequence of claims.

**Claim 6** *For every Type 2 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\text{Adv}_{0,2,0}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvAbolnd}(\lambda)$ .*

*Proof.* Consider any Type 2 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . We build a PPT algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  which uses  $\mathcal{A}$  and has advantage  $\text{Adv}_{0,2,0}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$  in VK indistinguishability game of the  $\text{ABO}$  scheme. The reduction algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  proceeds as follows.

$\mathcal{A}$  first sends the number of users  $1^N$  and an index  $i$  s.t.  $1 \leq i \leq N$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  sends challenge message  $i$  to VK indistinguishability game challenger  $\mathcal{C}$ . The challenger samples a bit  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ . If  $b = 0$ , it samples  $(\text{sk}, \text{vk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda)$ . Otherwise, it samples  $(\text{sk}, \text{vk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup-Punc}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda, i)$ . It then sends  $\text{vk}$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  samples  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N)$  and sends the public key  $\text{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \text{vk}, \text{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  then adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts if  $j = i$ . Otherwise, it forwards the query to  $\mathcal{C}$ , which responds with  $\sigma \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, j)$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  forwards the reply to  $\mathcal{A}$ . After query phase,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a challenge set  $S$  and a message  $m$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$  and responds with ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}(x = (1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk}), m, \text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}))$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  then adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts if  $j = i$ . Otherwise, it forwards

the query to  $\mathcal{C}$ , which responds with  $\sigma \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, j)$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  forwards the reply to  $\mathcal{A}$ . Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a bit  $b'$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ , which outputs  $b'$  as its guess in the VK indistinguishability game.

As  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Type 2 adversary, it does not query for secret key  $\text{sk}_i$  and therefore,  $\mathcal{B}$  does not abort and acts as a valid adversary of the VK indistinguishability game. If  $b = 0$ , then  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates the view of Game 0 to  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\Pr[b' = 1] = p_0^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ . Otherwise, it simulates the view of Game 2.0 to  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\Pr[b' = 1] = p_{2.0}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ . This implies, the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in the index hiding game is given by  $\text{AdvSpInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda) = |1/2 \cdot \Pr[b' = 0|b = 0] + 1/2 \cdot \Pr[b' = 1|b = 1] - 1/2| = \text{Adv}_{0,2.0}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)/2$ . Therefore,  $\text{Adv}_{0,2.0}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvAboInd}(\lambda)$ .

**Claim 7** For every  $t$  s.t.  $0 \leq t \leq 2^{k+\ell} - 1$ , every Type 2 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\text{Adv}_{2.t,2.t+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda)$ .

*Proof.* Consider any  $t$  s.t.  $0 \leq t \leq 2^{k+\ell} - 1$ , a Type 2 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . We build a PPT algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  which uses  $\mathcal{A}$  and has advantage  $\text{Adv}_{2.t,2.t+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$  in position indistinguishability game of the  $\mathcal{PWE}$  scheme. The reduction algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  proceeds as follows.

$\mathcal{A}$  first sends the number of users  $1^N$  and an index  $i$  s.t.  $1 \leq i \leq N$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  then samples  $(\text{sk}, \text{vk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup-Punc}_{\text{ABO}}(1^\lambda, i)$ , hash key  $\text{hk} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{SPB}}(1^\lambda, N)$  and signatures  $\{\sigma_j \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{sk}, j) : 1 \leq j \leq N, j \neq i\}$ . It then sends the public key  $\text{pk} = (1^\lambda, N, \text{vk}, \text{hk})$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  then adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts if  $j = i$ . Otherwise, it responds with the secret key  $\text{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ . After query phase,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a challenge set  $S$  and a message  $m$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  computes hash  $h = \text{Hash}_{\text{SPB}}(\text{hk}, \mathbb{I}_S)$  and sends the challenge instance  $\text{inst} = (1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk})$ , challenge message  $m$  and challenge index  $\text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + t$  to the position indistinguishability game challenger  $\mathcal{C}$ . The challenger samples a bit  $\beta \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$  and responds with a ciphertext  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}_{\text{PWE}}(\text{inst}, m, \text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + t + \beta)^{14}$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  forwards the ciphertext to  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  further adaptively queries for secret keys. For each query  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  aborts if  $j = i$ . Otherwise, it responds with the secret key  $\text{sk}_j = \sigma_j$ . Finally,  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a bit  $b'$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ , which outputs  $b'$  as its guess in the position indistinguishability game.

As  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Type 2 adversary, it does not make key query on  $i$  and therefore,  $\mathcal{B}$  does not abort. As  $\text{vk}$  is punctured at  $i$ ,  $\nexists \sigma$  s.t.  $\text{Verify}_{\text{ABO}}(\text{vk}, i, \sigma) = 1$ . This implies  $\text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + t$  cannot be a witness of the instance  $(1^\lambda, N, h, \text{hk}, \text{vk})$  and therefore,  $\mathcal{B}$  acts as a valid adversary of the position indistinguishability game. If  $\beta = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates the view of Game 2. $t$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\Pr[b' = 1] = p_{2.t}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ . Otherwise, it simulates the view of Game 2. $t+1$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\Pr[b' = 1] = p_{2.t+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$ . This implies, the advantage of  $\mathcal{B}$  in the position indistinguishability game is given by  $\text{AdvPosInd}^{\mathcal{B}}(\lambda) = |1/2 \cdot \Pr[b' = 0|\beta = 0] + 1/2 \cdot \Pr[b' = 1|\beta = 1] - 1/2| = \text{Adv}_{2.t,2.t+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)/2$ . Therefore,  $\text{Adv}_{2.t,2.t+1}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda)$ .

**Claim 8** For every Type 2 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\text{Adv}_{2,2^{k+\ell},3}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq 2 \cdot \text{AdvAboInd}(\lambda)$ .

<sup>14</sup> Note that index  $\text{int}(i||0^{k+\ell}) + 2^{k+\ell}$  is same as  $\text{int}(i+1||0^{k+\ell})$ .

*Proof.* Consider any Type 2 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . We build a PPT algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  which uses  $\mathcal{A}$  and has advantage  $\text{Adv}_{2,2^{k+\ell},3}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)$  in VK indistinguishability game of the  $\mathcal{ABO}$  scheme. We ignore the description of algorithm  $\mathcal{B}$  as it proceeds similar to proof of Claim 6.

Note that by combining triangle inequality and Claims 6, 7, and 8, the advantage of any Type 2 PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  in AugBE index hiding game is  $\text{Adv}_{0,3}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda) \leq \text{Adv}_{0,2,0}^{\mathcal{A}} + \sum_{t=0}^{2^{k+\ell}-1} \text{Adv}_{2,t,2,t+1}^{\mathcal{A}} + \text{Adv}_{2,2^{k+\ell},3}^{\mathcal{A}} \leq 4 \cdot \text{AdvAbolnd}(\lambda) + 2 \cdot 2^{k+\ell} \cdot \text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda)$ . Using complexity leveraging, we demand that  $\text{AdvPosInd}(\lambda) \leq 2^{-(k+\ell+1)} \cdot \text{negl}(\lambda)$  for some negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$ . At the instantiation level, the security parameter will be increased to match this condition.

Note that Lemma 1 follows by combining Lemmas 2 and 3 as any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  of AugBE index hiding game is of either Type 1 or Type 2.

## 5 All-but-one Signatures from Standard Assumptions

In this section, we present two new constructions for all-but-one (ABO) signatures from standard assumptions. The first construction is based on verifiable random functions (VRF) and perfectly-binding (non-interactive) commitment schemes. The second construction is based on verifiable and anonymous identity-based encryption (VAIBE). The first ABO scheme satisfies perfect correctness, where as the second scheme satisfies correctness with all but negligible probability. We would like to point that using the second ABO signature scheme to instantiate the AugBE construction described in Section 4 results in AugBE scheme without perfect correctness. We finally note that VRFs can be based on simple assumptions over bilinear maps as well as RSA-like assumptions [49, 42], and perfectly binding commitments can be constructed from any injective OWF as well as based on assumptions such as DDH, LWE and LPN [37], and VAIBE can be based on simple assumptions over bilinear maps as well as LWE [17, 57, 48, 1].<sup>15</sup> Therefore, this leads to constructions of ABO signatures from a wide variety of standard assumptions listed above.

### 5.1 All-but-one Signatures from VRFs

Let  $\mathcal{VRF} = (\text{Setup}_{\text{VRF}}, \text{Eval}_{\text{VRF}}, \text{Verify}_{\text{VRF}})$  be a verifiable random function (VRF) with input space  $\{0, 1\}^{i(\lambda)}$ , output space  $\{0, 1\}^{o(\lambda)}$  and proof space  $\{0, 1\}^{p(\lambda)}$ . Let  $\mathcal{COM} = (\text{Setup}_{\text{COM}}, \text{Commit}, \text{Verify}_{\text{COM}})$  be a perfectly binding computationally hiding commitment scheme with randomness space  $\{0, 1\}^{o(\lambda)}$  and commitment space  $\{0, 1\}^{k(\lambda)}$ . We construct an ABO signature scheme  $\mathcal{ABO} = (\text{Setup}, \text{Setup-Punc}, \text{Sign}, \text{Verify})$  on message space  $\{0, 1\}^{i(\lambda)}$  and signature space  $\{0, 1\}^{o(\lambda)+p(\lambda)}$  as follows. For the simplicity of notation, we hereby denote  $i = i(\lambda)$ ,  $o = o(\lambda)$ ,  $p = p(\lambda)$  and  $k = k(\lambda)$ .

<sup>15</sup> We would like to point out that most existing IBE constructions based on LWE are already verifiable and they can be made anonymous by using the transformation from [39, 59].



- **Setup**( $1^\lambda$ ). Sample  $(\text{sk}_{\text{VRF}}, \text{vk}_{\text{VRF}}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{VRF}}(1^\lambda)$  and  $\text{pp} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{COM}}(1^\lambda)$ . Sample  $y^* \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^o$  and  $\text{cm} \leftarrow \text{Commit}(\text{pp}, 0; y^*)$ . Output  $\text{sk} = \text{sk}_{\text{VRF}}$  and  $\text{vk} = (\text{pp}, \text{vk}_{\text{VRF}}, \text{cm})$ .
- **Setup-Punc**( $1^\lambda, m^*$ ). Sample  $(\text{sk}_{\text{VRF}}, \text{vk}_{\text{VRF}}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{VRF}}(1^\lambda)$  and  $\text{pp} \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{COM}}(1^\lambda)$ . Sample  $(y^*, \pi) \leftarrow \text{Eval}_{\text{VRF}}(\text{sk}_{\text{VRF}}, m^*)$  and  $\text{cm} \leftarrow \text{Commit}(\text{pp}, 1; y^*)$ . Output  $\text{sk} = \text{sk}_{\text{VRF}}$  and  $\text{vk} = (\text{pp}, \text{vk}_{\text{VRF}}, \text{cm})$ .
- **Sign**( $\text{sk}, m$ ). Sample  $(y, \pi) \leftarrow \text{Eval}_{\text{VRF}}(\text{sk}, m)$ . Output  $\sigma = (y, \pi)$ .
- **Verify**( $\text{vk}, m, \sigma$ ). Let  $\sigma = (y, \pi)$  and  $\text{vk} = (\text{pp}, \text{vk}_{\text{VRF}}, \text{cm})$ . Output 1 iff  $\text{Verify}_{\text{VRF}}(\text{vk}_{\text{VRF}}, m, y, \pi) = 1 \wedge \text{Verify}_{\text{COM}}(\text{pp}, 1, \text{cm}, y) = 0$ .

Due to space constraints, we prove that the  $\mathcal{ABO}$  signature scheme satisfies the required correctness properties in the full version of the paper.

We prove that the above scheme satisfies VK indistinguishability property using a sequence of hybrids. The first hybrid is same as the VK indistinguishability game, except that the challenger always uses punctured setup to generate verification key. The second hybrid is same as the first hybrid, except that the challenger samples  $y^*$  randomly during the setup phase. These two hybrids are indistinguishable to the adversary as the  $\mathcal{VRF}$  scheme has pseudorandomness property and as the adversary is not allowed to query for signature on message  $m^*$ . The third hybrid is same as the VK indistinguishability game, except that the challenger always uses normal setup to generate verification key. The second and third hybrids are indistinguishable to the adversary as he cannot distinguish between commitment of 0 and commitment of 1 (computational hiding property of the  $\mathcal{COM}$  scheme). Due to space constraints, we prove that the above scheme satisfies VK indistinguishability in the full version of the paper.

## 5.2 All-but-one Signatures from VAIBE

In this section, we construct all-but-one (ABO) signatures from verifiable and anonymous identity based encryption system (VAIBE). Let  $\mathcal{VAIBE} = (\text{Setup}_{\text{VAIBE}}, \text{KeyGen}, \text{Encrypt}, \text{Decrypt}, \text{Verify}_{\text{VAIBE}})$  be any VAIBE scheme for message space  $\{0, 1\}^{m(\lambda)}$ , ciphertext space  $\{0, 1\}^{c(\lambda)}$ , secret key space  $\{0, 1\}^{k(\lambda)}$ , identity space  $\{0, 1\}^{i(\lambda)}$  and proof space  $\{0, 1\}^{r(\lambda)}$ . We construct an ABO signature scheme  $\mathcal{ABO} = (\text{Setup}, \text{Setup-Punc}, \text{Sign}, \text{Verify})$  for message space  $\{0, 1\}^{i(\lambda)} \setminus \{0^{i(\lambda)}\}$  and signature space  $\{0, 1\}^{k(\lambda)+r(\lambda)}$  i.e., for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , identity  $0^{i(\lambda)}$  is not supported by the signature scheme. Let  $\mathcal{I}_\lambda = \{0, 1\}^{i(\lambda)} \setminus \{0^{i(\lambda)}\}$ . For simplicity of notation, we hereby denote  $m = m(\lambda), c = c(\lambda), k = k(\lambda), i = i(\lambda)$  and  $p = p(\lambda)$ . Also, we hereby refer to messages in  $\mathcal{ABO}$  scheme by identities in  $\mathcal{VAIBE}$  scheme. Formally, the construction proceeds as follows.

- **Setup**( $1^\lambda$ ). Sample VAIBE keys  $(\text{mpk}_{\text{VAIBE}}, \text{msk}_{\text{VAIBE}}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{VAIBE}}(1^\lambda)$ . Sample a random message  $x \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^m$  and compute ciphertext  $t \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{mpk}_{\text{VAIBE}}, 0^i, x)$ . Output secret key  $\text{sk} = \text{msk}_{\text{VAIBE}}$  and verification key  $\text{vk} = (x, \text{mpk}_{\text{VAIBE}}, t)$ .
- **Setup-Punc**( $1^\lambda, \text{id}^*$ ). Sample VAIBE keys  $(\text{mpk}_{\text{VAIBE}}, \text{msk}_{\text{VAIBE}}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{VAIBE}}(1^\lambda)$ . Choose a random message  $x \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^m$ . Encrypt the message  $x$  using

- identity  $\text{id}^*$  i.e., compute ciphertext  $t \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{mpk}_{\text{VAIBE}}, \text{id}^*, x)$ . Output secret key  $\text{sk} = \text{msk}_{\text{VAIBE}}$  and verification key  $\text{vk} = (x, \text{mpk}_{\text{VAIBE}}, t)$ .
- $\text{Sign}(\text{sk}, \text{id})$ . Sample  $(\text{sk}_{\text{id}}, \pi) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\text{sk}, \text{id})$ . Output signature  $\sigma = (\text{sk}_{\text{id}}, \pi)$ .
  - $\text{Verify}(\text{vk}, \text{id}, \sigma)$ . Let  $\sigma = (\text{sk}', \pi)$  and  $\text{vk} = (x, \text{mpk}, t)$ . Output 1 iff  $\text{Verify}_{\text{VAIBE}}(\text{mpk}, \text{id}, \text{sk}', \pi) = 1 \wedge x \neq \text{Decrypt}(\text{sk}', t)$ .

We note that the  $\mathcal{ABO}$  scheme does not achieve perfect correctness<sup>16</sup>. We now prove that the  $\mathcal{ABO}$  scheme satisfies the required correctness properties with all but negligible probability.

*Correctness of Setup.*

**Claim 9** *There exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\cdot)$  such that for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$  and any identity  $\text{id} \in \mathcal{I}_\lambda$ , we have*

$$\Pr \left[ \begin{array}{l} (\text{mpk}, \text{msk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{VAIBE}}(1^\lambda), x_0 \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^m, \\ \text{Verify}(\text{vk}, \text{id}, \sigma) = 0 : t \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{mpk}, 0^i, x_0), \text{vk} \leftarrow (x_0, \text{mpk}, t), \\ \sigma = (\text{sk}_{\text{id}}, \pi) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\text{msk}, \text{id}) \end{array} \right] \leq \frac{1}{2^m} + \text{negl}(\lambda).$$

*Proof.* Suppose there exists a non-negligible function  $\delta(\cdot)$  such that, for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists an identity  $\text{id}'_\lambda \in \mathcal{I}_\lambda$  such that,

$$\Pr \left[ \begin{array}{l} (\text{mpk}, \text{msk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{VAIBE}}(1^\lambda), x_0 \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^m, \\ \text{Verify}(\text{vk}, \text{id}'_\lambda, \sigma) = 0 : t \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{mpk}, 0^i, x_0), \text{vk} \leftarrow (x_0, \text{mpk}, t), \\ \sigma = (\text{sk}_{\text{id}'_\lambda}, \pi) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\text{msk}, \text{id}'_\lambda) \end{array} \right] > \frac{1}{2^m} + \delta(\lambda).$$

By the correctness of  $\mathcal{VAIBE}$  scheme, we know that  $\text{Verify}_{\text{VAIBE}}(\text{mpk}, \text{id}'_\lambda, \text{sk}_{\text{id}'_\lambda}, \pi) = 1$ . This implies,

$$\Pr \left[ \begin{array}{l} (\text{mpk}, \text{msk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{VAIBE}}(1^\lambda), \\ \text{Decrypt}(\text{sk}_{\text{id}'_\lambda}, t) = x_0 : x_0 \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^m, t \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{mpk}, 0^i, x_0), \\ \sigma = (\text{sk}_{\text{id}'_\lambda}, \pi) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\text{msk}, \text{id}'_\lambda) \end{array} \right] > \frac{1}{2^m} + \delta(\lambda). \quad (1)$$

For any fixed  $x_0 \in \{0, 1\}^m$ , let

$$p_{x_0} = \Pr \left[ \begin{array}{l} (\text{mpk}, \text{msk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{VAIBE}}(1^\lambda), \\ \text{Decrypt}(\text{sk}_{\text{id}'_\lambda}, t) = x_0 : x_1 \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^m, t \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{mpk}, 0^i, x_1), \\ (\text{sk}_{\text{id}'_\lambda}, \pi) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\text{msk}, \text{id}'_\lambda) \end{array} \right].$$

We know that  $\sum_{x_0} p_{x_0} = 1$ . This implies,

$$\Pr \left[ \begin{array}{l} (\text{mpk}, \text{msk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{VAIBE}}(1^\lambda), x_1 \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^m, \\ \text{Decrypt}(\text{sk}_{\text{id}'_\lambda}, t) = x_0 : x_0 \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^m, t \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{mpk}, 0^i, x_1), \\ (\text{sk}_{\text{id}'_\lambda}, \pi) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\text{msk}, \text{id}'_\lambda) \end{array} \right] = \frac{1}{2^m}. \quad (2)$$

<sup>16</sup> Using this  $\mathcal{ABO}$  scheme in our AugBE construction results in an AugBE scheme without perfect correctness.

We build a non-uniform PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  that breaks IND-CPA security of  $\mathcal{VAIBE}$  scheme. The algorithm proceeds as follows. Assume the adversary is given  $\text{id}'_\lambda$  as a non-uniform advice.  $\mathcal{A}$  first samples two random messages  $x_0 \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^m, x_1 \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^m$  and sends challenge messages  $(x_0, x_1)$  and challenge identity  $0^i$  to VAIBE IND-CPA challenger  $\mathcal{C}$ .  $\mathcal{C}$  samples VAIBE keys  $(\text{mpk}, \text{msk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup}_{\text{VAIBE}}(1^\lambda)$ , a bit  $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ , and computes ciphertext  $t \leftarrow \text{Encrypt}(\text{mpk}, 0^i, x_b)$ .  $\mathcal{C}$  sends public key  $\text{mpk}$  and challenge response  $t$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ . The adversary then makes a key query on index  $\text{id}'_\lambda$  to the challenger, which responds with  $(\text{sk}_{\text{id}'_\lambda}, \pi) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\text{msk}, \text{id}'_\lambda)$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs 1 if  $\text{Decrypt}(\text{sk}_{\text{id}'_\lambda}, t) = x_0$  and outputs 0 otherwise.

By equation 1, if  $b = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs 1 with probability greater than  $\frac{1}{2^m} + \delta(\lambda)$ . By equation 2, if  $b = 1$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs 1 with probability  $\frac{1}{2^m}$ . This implies that the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  in the IND-CPA game is at least  $1/2 \cdot \delta(\lambda)$ .

*Correctness of Punctured Setup.*

**Claim 10** For all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , any identity  $\text{id}^* \in \mathcal{I}_\lambda$ , any keys  $(\text{sk}, \text{vk}) \leftarrow \text{Setup-Punc}(1^\lambda, \text{id}^*)$ , any  $\sigma \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{k+r}$ , we have  $\text{Verify}(\text{vk}, \text{id}^*, \sigma) = 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\text{vk} = (x, \text{mpk}, t)$  and  $\sigma = (\text{sk}', \pi)$ . From the soundness of verifiability property of  $\mathcal{VAIBE}$  scheme, we know that if  $\text{Verify}_{\text{VAIBE}}(\text{mpk}, \text{id}^*, \text{sk}', \pi) = 1$ , then  $\text{Decrypt}(\text{sk}', t) = x$ . Therefore,  $\text{Verify}(\text{vk}, \text{id}^*, \sigma) = 0$ .

The VK indistinguishability property of the above scheme follows from the IND-ANON security of the  $\mathcal{VAIBE}$  scheme. Intuitively, if an adversary can distinguish between verification key generated by the normal setup and the punctured setup, then he can also distinguish between VAIBE ciphertext encrypted using identity  $0^i$  and VAIBE ciphertext encrypted using identity  $\text{id}^*$ , which contradicts the IND-ANON security property of the  $\mathcal{VAIBE}$  scheme. Due to space constraints, we defer the full proof to the full version of the paper.

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