## **Private Signaling**

Varun Madathil <sup>\*1</sup>, Alessandra Scafuro<sup>1</sup>, István András Seres<sup>2</sup>, Omer Shlomovits<sup>3</sup>, and Denis Varlakov<sup>3</sup>

> <sup>1</sup>North Carolina State University <sup>2</sup>Eötvös Loránd University <sup>3</sup>ZenGo X

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#### Abstract

We introduce the problem of *private signaling*. In this problem, a sender posts a message on a certain location of a public bulletin board, and then posts a signal that allows only the intended recipient (and no one else) to learn that it is the recipient of the message posted at that location. Besides privacy, two *efficiency* requirements must be met. First, the sender and recipient do not participate in any out-of-band communication. Second, the overhead of the recipient must be (much) better than scanning the entire board.

Existing techniques, such as server-aided fuzzy message detection (Beck et al., CCS'21), could be employed to solve the private signaling problem. However, this solution leads to a trade-off between privacy and efficiency, where the complexity of the recipient grows with the required privacy. Specifically, this would require a scan of the entire board to obtain full privacy for the recipient.

In this work, we present a server-aided solution to the private signaling problem that guarantees full privacy for all recipients while requiring only *constant* amount of work for both the recipient and the sender.

Specifically, we provide three contributions: First, we provide a formal definition of private signaling in the Universal Composability (UC) framework and show that it captures several real-world settings where recipient anonymity is desired. Second, we present two server-aided protocols that UC-realize our definitions: one using a single server equipped with a trusted execution environment, and one based on two servers that employ garbled circuits. Third, we provide an *open-source* implementation of both of our protocols, evaluate their performance, and identify for which sets of parameters they can be practical.

## 1 Introduction

Problem Statement. We focus on the problem of recipient anonymity. In its abstraction, there are M recipients  $R_1, \ldots, R_M$  publicly identified by their public keys  $pk_1, \ldots, pk_M$ . There is a public venue such as a bulletin board that collects messages  $(m_1, m_2, m_3, \ldots)$  from senders and are intended for recipients. The sender who posted message  $m_j$  on the board, will also post an auxiliary information c that signals the intended recipient, say  $R_i$ , that there is a message for them at a location j of the board. The problem is: how can this sender craft a signal c so that by looking at c, no one, except  $R_i$ , can detect who the intended recipient is for  $m_j$ , with the sender having no communication or prior shared state with  $R_i$ ?

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This abstraction captures various concrete problems such as anonymous messaging [CGBM15] and stealth payments[CM17]. We describe these specific applications in greater length in Sec 2.1. For the remainder of the introduction, we will focus on the general abstraction above.

Private Signaling: the Naive Inefficient Approach. A straightforward (though inefficient) solution for the private signaling problem would be as follows. The sender who intends to communicate that a message is located at loc to  $R_i$  can simply encrypt loc with the public key  $pk_i$  using a key-private CPA-secure encryption scheme <sup>1</sup> and then only post the ciphertext c on the board. In this case, the signal is the ciphertext itself. Then, each recipient can periodically download all ciphertexts posted on the board, attempt to decrypt each ciphertext to detect where the messages for the recipient are. Thanks to the key-privacy property of the encryption scheme, this solution gives *full* privacy to each recipient, since by looking at the ciphertext, every public key is equally likely to unlock it. Here full means that the anonymity set constitutes the entire set of (honest) recipients. Furthermore, this solution has no overhead on the sender, who simply performs one encryption per signal. However, full privacy comes with a high cost for each recipient since it needs to scan the *entire board* to detect the signal. In this work, we are interested in reducing the communication and computational complexity of the recipient.

Efficient Private Signaling: the Need for a Server. Can we do better than a linear scan of the board? First, note that without any external help, such as a server dedicated to filtering messages for each recipient, a recipient must read the entire list of, say N, signals to "see" which one is intended for them. Note that this is true regardless of the anonymity guarantees. Hence, a serverless solution would lead to complexity O(N) for each recipient. Alternatively, one can trade the search time with the signal size. Namely, search complexity can be lowered to  $O(\log N)$  per message for the recipient if the size of the signal grows with the total number of possible recipients, that is, O(M), which can be still very inefficient for even moderate M (we describe this in Appendix D).

Thus, for any non-trivial improvement of the complexity cost for the recipient, we need to use an external server to help with the filtering. In a very recent work [BLMG21] Beck et al. introduced the concept of Fuzzy Message Detection (FMD), a new cryptographic primitive that allows a third party to perform coarse filtering of messages for each recipient. Coarse means that, for each recipient  $R_i$ , the server will detect ciphertexts and maintain a *list* of ciphertexts that *could* be intended for  $R_i$ . This list includes a certain fraction  $p_i$  of false positive— hence fuzzy detection. The higher the rate  $p_i$  of false positive for  $R_i$ , the longer the list of ciphertexts detected for  $R_i$ , and the higher the anonymity set for  $R_i$ . This approach, however, presents major drawbacks for the recipient. First, the work done by the recipient grows proportionally to the amount of anonymity it desires. Specifically, the work done by recipient  $R_i$  is  $O(p_i \cdot N)$ , which translates into  $O(1 \cdot N)$  work if the highest privacy is required. Second, even if a recipient  $R_i$  chooses the highest false positive rate  $p_i = 1$ , this would still not guarantee  $R_i$  to have full privacy (recall, full privacy means that a signal can be associated to every (honest) recipient with the same probability) if other honest recipients have chosen smaller error rates.

A natural question arises: is there a solution for the private signaling problem that achieves *full* anonymity in the presence of untrusted servers and has only *constant* complexity for the recipient?

#### 1.1 Our contribution

We answer affirmatively to the question above. We provide three contributions:

1. Formalization of the Private Signaling Problem. We introduce the *private signaling problem* and provide a formal definition in the Universal Composability Framework [Can01]. Thus, we define an ideal functionality  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  that captures the correctness and privacy guarantees that we expect from a private signaling system. Previous work on related problems either did not provide any formal definition [MWS<sup>+</sup>19, WMS<sup>+</sup>19, LHA<sup>+</sup>20], or provide much weaker security

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Key-private means that by looking at the ciphertext, no one can distinguish which public key was used for encrypting the message [BBDP01].

guarantees[BLMG21]. We elaborate in Sec 5.

- 2. Protocols for private signaling with constant recipient overhead and provable UCsecurity. The focus of this work is to minimize the costs for the recipients and senders. We provide two protocols that UC-realize the ideal functionality  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  where a sender only needs to perform one (or two) encryptions to compute a signal, and a recipient does not need to perform any scan, and will just perform a number of decryptions that matches the number of received signals. We provide two protocols: one based on garbled circuits that requires two servers, and one leveraging on a Trusted Execution Environment (TEE) which requires a single server only (our approach is explained in Sec. 3).
- 3. **Open-source Implementations.** We implement both our protocols and measure their efficiency. We compare our performances with related work (we elaborate in Sec. 9).

# 2 Background for Private Signaling

### 2.1 Applications of Private Signaling

Private signaling is a powerful abstraction since many real-world applications can be seen as a special case of it. In the following, we highlight two prominent and timely problems that can be cast as private signaling problems and consequently solved with our proposed solutions.

Stealth addresses and payments. In cryptocurrencies (especially account-based ones  $[W^{+}14]$ ) it is common to use static, public identities or addresses. However, sending recurrent payments (e.g., salaries, donations, other regular purchases) to a static address that is publicly linked to an entity is harmful to both sender and recipient anonymity. To avert this issue, senders can generate so-called stealth addresses for their recipients [CM17]. More specifically, given a recipient's public address, the sender can non-interactively generate new "stealth" addresses for the intended recipient that is unlinkable to the recipient's static, public address [Ran]. Stealth addresses can only be redeemed by the true recipients. However, the difficulty is that recipients lack an efficient way to detect which stealth address belongs to them and are redeemable by them. Current implementations of stealth address payment systems apply the simple linear scan of the board as described earlier.<sup>2</sup> Private signaling can be seen as a solution to alleviate the computation complexity of the recipient. More specifically, with private signaling, a sender first creates a transaction with a stealth address of recipient  $R_i$  and posts it to the board. Once the transaction is confirmed and the location of the transaction is known on the board, the sender sends a *private signal* to the server, who obliviously stores it. Now a recipient only needs to ask the server for its list of signals so it can identify its stealth address transactions directly. **Anonymous messaging**. Modern private messaging applications are mostly focused on providing and improving sender anonymity [MKA<sup>+</sup>21, CGBM15], e.g., Signal's sealed sender functionality. In anonymous messaging applications, senders post their messages to one (or more) untrusted store-andforward server(s) [WCGFJ12] or to a shared public bulletin board, as in Riposte [CGBM15], where the servers need to maintain the board. Private signaling easily captures this problem in the following way: A sender first posts encrypted messages on a public board. The sender then sends the locations of these messages to the server in a privacy-preserving way, such that only the recipient can retrieve the locations from the servers at a later point in time. Once the recipient has these locations it can simply decrypt the corresponding messages from the board to get their messages. Thus anonymous messaging can be seen as special case of private signaling. Moreover, using our techniques, it is guaranteed that a recipient can retrieve its messages quickly and one can have arbitrary sized messages that can be stored on the public board.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>See: Umbra Cash (https://app.umbra.cash)

	Privacy	Security	Recipient	Server	#Servers
Naïve scan	full	-	$\mathcal{O}(N)$	Ø	0
FMD [BLMG21]	k-anon	G,SH	$\mathcal{O}(pN)$	$\mathcal{O}(pM)$	1
OMR2[LT21]	full	G, SH	$\mathcal{O}(N + \log^2(\hat{k})\log(\epsilon_n^{-1}) + \hat{k}^3)$	$\mathcal{O}(N(\log^2(\hat{k}) + \log \epsilon_p^{-1}))$	1
OMR3[LT21]	full	G, SH	$\mathcal{O}(\hat{k}\log(\hat{k})\log(\epsilon_n^{-1})\log^4(N) + \hat{k}^3)$	$\mathcal{O}(N(\log(\hat{k})\log(\epsilon_n^{-1})\log^4(N) + \log\epsilon_p^{-1}))$	1
Π <sub>TEE</sub>	full	UC, M	$\mathcal{O}(\ell)$	$\mathcal{O}(\ell M)$	1
Π <sub>GC</sub>	full	UC, SH	$\mathcal{O}(\bar{\ell})$	$\mathcal{O}(\ell M)$	2

Table 1: Comparing privacy-preserving message detection schemes in terms of the achieved privacy guarantees and the computational complexity of the participants. SH and M denotes semi-honest and malicious security, respectively. N denotes the total number of messages in the system and p denotes the false positive rate ( $0 \le p \le 1$ ) set individually by recipients in the Fuzzy Message Detection scheme (FMD) [BLMG21]. For simplicity, we assume that each recipient has the same false positive rate p.  $\ell$  denotes the maximum number of detectable incoming messages per each recipient and  $\bar{\ell}$  denotes the actual number of messages that are sent to a recipient. From OMR[LT21] we have  $\hat{k} = \tilde{O}(\bar{\ell} + \epsilon_p N)$ . Moreover,  $\epsilon_p$  is a false positive rate and  $\epsilon_n$  is a false negative rate. Finally the server computation is based on a single message received by the server(s).

### 2.2 Related and Concurrent Work

The closest work to ours is Fuzzy Message Detection by Beck et al[BLMG21]. Subsequently to our work, the definition of Oblivious Message Retrieval was introduced by Liu et al[LT21]. In this section we describe these works. A comparison in terms of asymptotic efficiency in provided in Table 1 and concrete efficiency in Table 4.

**Fuzzy Message Detection (FMD)** [**BLMG21**] Fuzzy message detection is a primitive that allows a server to do outsourced message detection. The recipient of a message provides the server with a "fuzzy" detection key that identifies the relevant ciphertexts as well non-matching flag ciphertexts with some false positive rate. This false positive rate is set by the recipient of the messages. The untrusted server that performs the fuzzy detection, must be unable to distinguish between a correct detection result and a false-positive.

Privacy. The privacy guaranteed by FMD is k-anonymity, which suffers of known attacks ( [Lew] [SPB21] show how the untrusted server can break recipient unlinkability and relationship anonymity). In this work, we aim at the strongest privacy guarantee, where each recipient has an anonymity set that is as large as the total number of honest recipients and senders (see Sec 5 to for details on our definition). Efficiency. In FMD, the senders need to compute  $\gamma$  (a constant of the order 10) number of encryptions and send them to the server. If N is the total number of messages that were sent to the server, each recipient will receive  $\rho N$  messages where  $\rho$  is a false positive rate. The recipient then would need to do  $\gamma$  decryptions on each of these messages to test if the message is actually for them or if it's a false positive. Note that recipients determine  $\rho$  in FMD and can therefore trade-off privacy for efficiency. By setting  $\rho$  to be a small value, the number of decryptions done by the recipient will also reduce. In this work instead we aim to minimize the work of the sender and the receiver. As we shall see in Sec 6 and 7 and as depicted in Table 1, in our protocol the sender only sends one (or two) encryptions, and the recipient needs to decrypt exactly the number of signals it receives.

Assumptions and Threat-model. FMD relies on a single untrusted server only. Instead, in this work we rely either on two non-colluding servers, or on the trusted execution environment (TEE) [PST17, CD16]. In FMD, security is provided via game-based proofs in presence of a semi-honest server. In contrast, in this work we define an ideal functionality for private signaling in the UC-model and consider either two semi-honest server or a malicious server equipped with TEE.

**Oblivious Message Retrieval (OMR)**[LT21] OMR is a recent work by Liu et al. that appeared subsequently to our work. OMR is another primitive that allows the recipient to provide a detection key to an untrusted server so that they can receive pertinent private messages that are posted to

a public board. Their aim is to not only detect messages but also to retrieve the messages from the server. They present two protocols OMR2 and OMR3, based on fully homomorphic encryption (FHE). In their protocols, a sender encrypts the message under the receiver's public key and post it to a board. A recipient requests its messages from a server by sending a detection (FHE key) along with a bound on the number of messages it may receive. The server then rencrypts each ciphertext on the board under this new FHE key such that it either decrypts to the message if it corresponds to the recipient or to zero otherwise. Finally, the encryptions are cleverly compacted so that the recipient does not have to do decryptions linear in the number of total messages on the board.

Efficiency. OMR2 requires the receiver to do O(N) decryptions, where N is the total number of messages on the board. OMR3 on the other hand, is optimized with compact detection but still requires  $O(\text{poly} \log(N))$  computation for the recipient. In contrast, in our protocol recipients will only need to perform decryptions equal to the number of messages they receive on the board. In both OMR2 and OMR3, the detection cost for the servers grows with N, whereas in our protocols, the detection cost grows with M, which is the number of recipients that are served by that server.

Assumptions and Threat-model. As in the case of FMD[BLMG21], both OMR2 and OMR3 rely only on a single untrusted server, whereas we make stronger assumptions as described above. In OMR, the authors present game-based proofs against a semi-honest adversary, whereas we present UC proofs.

Other properties. OMR achieves DoS resistance, where DoS attacks are defined as signals being pertinent for more than one receiver. Moreover, their protocols allow the receiver to determine the value  $\ell$  which is the number of messages they expect to receive, and the recipients also get an explicit overflow message in the case the specified  $\ell$  is less than the number of messages they actually receive.

Metadata-private messaging systems Previous works [VDHLZZ15] and [LZ16] describe dialing and add-friend protocols. These protocols enable one party to add another party as a friend and establish a connection with this friend such that an adversary cannot learn the friend's identity. This can be seen as a special case of the signaling problem, but these works do not consider the efficiency of the two parties that are involved. They require that all parties continuously send messages over the network (either cover traffic or actual protocol messages).

# 3 Our Approach to Build Private Signalling

We present two instantiations of the ideal functionality  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  that achieve *constant* communication and computation complexity for the recipient. Both instantiations are based on the same high-level approach of obliviously updating the list for the recipient. We explain the general approach first, and then the two techniques for implementing it.

Our approach is based on the following natural idea. Assume for a moment that privacy was not a concern, but only performance is, i.e., we want the overhead of the recipient to be minimal and depend only on the number of messages it receives. The recipients hire a Srv and register themselves with the server. (See Fig 1) The sender after posting a message to the board, sends a signal which is the encryption (under the pk of the server) of the the recipient's identity and the location of the message to the Srv through the board. The Srv maintains a table  $\mathbb{T}$ , with one row for each recipient. It decrypts the signal using its own secret key and adds the signal to the row of recipient. When a recipient  $R_i$  sends RECEIVE to the server, it simply responds with the corresponding row. Now, to achieve privacy, we "just" need to require the server to update this table *obliviously*. In other words, we need to devise a mechanism by which, on input an encrypted signal for a certain recipient  $R_i$ , the server can blindly and correctly update the *i*-th row without learning anything about the recipient who got the signal.

Finally, note that each recipient might receives a different number of signals over time. To prevent leaking of this information, in our protocol, we fix the size of each recipients' row to be an upper bound  $\ell$ , reflecting the signals recipients are expected to receive in a certain interval of time (e.g., per day, per-month, depending on the application).

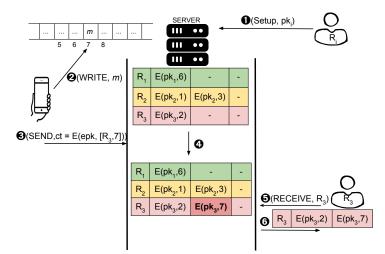


Figure 1: The no-privacy solution: **1** Each recipient  $R_i$  registers with the Srv and sends its  $pk_i$ . **2** A sender writes a message m for recipient  $R_3$  on position 7 of the board. **3** Sender sends a signal to the Srv for the posted message. The signal is an encryption of  $R_3$ , 7 under the public key of the server. **4** The server decrypts the signal using its secret key. The Srv then adds the encryption to the next available location in  $R_3$ 's row. **5**  $R_3$  requests its row from the Srv in an authenticated way, and **6**, the Srv responds with the encryptions in that row.

**TEE-based Solution** To update the table of signals  $\mathbb{T}$  obliviously by employing a single untrusted server, we leverage a trusted execution environment (TEE). Recall that a TEE allows a client to perform a private computation on a secret input, embedded in the TEE, through an untrusted server, called the host. TEEs are used to build virtual enclaves. A client can register with the enclave within the server and is guaranteed that all computations inside the enclave are hidden from the server. With this tool in hand, the idea is that the recipients will first register with the server by providing their public key.

After this setup phase where recipients register with the enclave, the enclave maintains a vector of zeros for each user i. This is equivalent to initializing the table  $\mathbb{T}$ .

Each enclave will implement the following program: on input a signal ciphertext  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  and the table  $\mathbb{T}$ , first decrypt  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  with its secret key. If the decryption results in a valid plaintext location loc and recipient index *i*, then the enclave will update the row *i* of the table  $\mathbb{T}$  with the loc in the next available position, and just re-write the other indexes. As in the solution with no privacy, a sender can communicate a signal for location loc to  $R_i$ , by simply encrypting the location and the recipient index under the enclave's public key pk, that is,  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}} = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}, R_i || \mathsf{loc})$  and send  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  to the server. The server will then run the enclave on input  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}, \mathbb{T}$  to run the above-described program.

The actual protocol is slightly more complex as it requires a mechanism to prevent replay attacks from the untrusted server against the enclave. For the UC-security proof to go through, we need a mechanism to enforce that even if server and recipient are corrupt and collude, any attack is still simulatable in the ideal world. This requires a mechanism by which, to retrieve its signals, a recipient must first obtain a token from the TEE in every access. The details of the protocol are provided in Sec 6, and the protocol is described in Fig 7. We formally prove that our protocol UC-realizes the ideal private signal functionality. For the formal proof, we use the UC-formalization of TEE introduced by Pass et al. in [PST17] as the ideal functionality  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ . Our proof is provided in Appendix B and withstands malicious adversaries (for privacy). We present an illustration of this single-server approach in Fig 2. In the above approach we assumed that the enclave can store the table  $\mathbb{T}$  in its internal memory. We note that this need not always be possible since the total space that is available

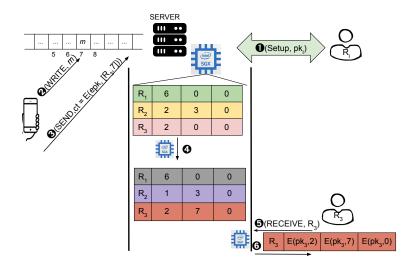


Figure 2: Single-server protocol. **1**  $R_i$  securely communicates its  $\mathsf{pk}_i$  with the enclave. **2 3** The sender writes a message m for recipient  $R_3$  on position 7 of the board and sends a signal (encryption of 7 under TEE's public key  $\mathsf{epk}$ ) to the Srv for the posted message. **4** The enclave takes as input the encryption of the signal, decrypts it and updates column 2 in  $R_3$ 's row with 7. **5**  $R_3$  requests for its row via the server to the enclave. **6** If valid, the TEE releases  $R_3$ 's row encrypted under the public key of  $R_3$  via the server.

in an enclave's (Intel SGX) internal memory is only 128MB. In Appendix E we present a modification of the protocol where the  $\mathbb{T}$  is stored by the server.

Limitations of Intel SGX: TEEs need to rely on a trusted authority (Intel in the case of Intel SGX), they are known to be prone to some side channel attacks  $[BMD^+17][GESM17]$  and finally there are memory limitations [CD16]

**Two-server Solution** To accomplish the goal of obliviously updating the table of signals  $\mathbb{T}$ , we can use two servers  $\mathsf{Srv}_1$  and  $\mathsf{Srv}_2$  and have the table secret-shared among them.  $\mathsf{Srv}_1$  (resp.,  $\mathsf{Srv}_2$ ) holds a table  $\mathbb{T}_1$  (resp.,  $\mathbb{T}_2$ ) of strings that look random to  $\mathsf{Srv}_1$ (resp.,  $\mathsf{Srv}_2$ ), but such that  $\mathbb{T}_1 \oplus \mathbb{T}_2 = \mathbb{T}$ .

Say a sender S posted a message m intended for R on the board that appears in location loc. To prepare a signal for R concerning location loc the sender will perform a simple operation. It will secret-share the input R, loc into random two shares  $R^{(1)}, R^{(2)}$  and  $loc^{(1)}, loc^{(2)}$  such that  $R = R^{(1)} \oplus R^{(2)}$  and  $loc = loc^{(1)} \oplus loc^{(2)}$ .

Next, servers  $Srv_1, Srv_2$  will update their tables by running a secure computation protocol (e.g., Yao's garbled circuits [Yao86, BHR12]), participating with their own secret input  $R^{(1)}, loc^{(1)}, \mathbb{T}_1$  (resp.,  $R^{(2)}, loc^{(2)}, \mathbb{T}_2$ ). The function being computed performs the following three elementary operations. (1) Reconstruct R and loc by xoring the shares. (2) Update the R-th row of the table to add loc to the first available index. (3) Re-randomize every other row. Note that, at the end of the secure computation of this function, each server receives a fresh share of the updated table, thus leaking no information about which row and column was actually updated.

When a recipient  $R_i$  wishes to retrieve their signals, it will send *i* (in an authenticating manner) to both servers and receive  $\mathbb{T}_1[i], \mathbb{T}_2[i]$  from which it can recover the locations by just performing xor. Upon each retrieve, the recipient's row is flushed.

Our protocol provides full privacy due to the following features: at any point, each server only owns only one share of the signals and the table of signals, and upon each update, the server obtains a re-randomization of the entire table, performed with fresh randomness that is sampled by both servers, which leaks no information about the row that was actually updated. We provide formal proofs of security in Appendix C In our proof, servers can collude with recipients and sender but (of

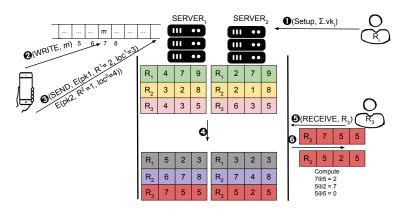


Figure 3: Two-server. **1**  $R_i$  registers with the two servers. **2** Sender writes message m for  $R_3$  on position 7 of the board. **3** Create shares of 3 e.g. (2, 1) and 7 = (3, 4), send (2, 3) to  $\mathsf{Srv}_1$  and (1, 4) to  $\mathsf{Srv}_2$ . **4**  $\mathsf{Srv}_1$  and  $\mathsf{Srv}_2$  run a 2PC with inputs  $(\mathbb{T}_1, 2, 3)$  and  $(\mathbb{T}_2, 1, 4)$  and some fresh randomness and output new tables  $\mathbb{T}_1$  and  $\mathbb{T}_2$  such that in the next available position of  $R_3$ 's row (column 2), is updated with fresh shares of 7, e.g. (5 and 2) and re-randomize all other indices while maintaining the invariant that  $\mathbb{T}_1[i][j] \oplus \mathbb{T}_2[i][j]$  remains the same. **5**  $R_3$  requests its row. **6** If valid,  $\mathsf{Srv}_1$  sends [7,5,5] and  $\mathsf{Srv}_2$  sends [5,2,5].  $R_3$  reconstructs locations by computing  $[7 \oplus 5, 5 \oplus 2, 5 \oplus 5] = [2,7,0]$ .

course) cannot collude with each other. For this protocol, our proofs are in the *semi-honest* setting. Finally, we note that we can extend this idea to a multi-server setting, where say n servers participate in an MPC to process a signal and update the shares of the table of signals.

The tradeoff here would be that sender will need to share the location and recipient index among n servers, and the recipient would need to recombine the shares received from n servers, but on the positive side, one can have weaker assumptions on the trust and non-collusion between the servers.

# 4 Preliminaries

Notation Let  $\lambda$  be the security parameter,  $poly(\cdot)$  be a polynomial function and let  $negl(\lambda)$  be a negligible function. M denotes the total number of recipients.

**Public Board:**  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$ . We assume that all parties have read and write access to a public board, which we abstract via a public ledger ideal functionality  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  functionality introduced in [BMTZ17].  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  maintains a global variable called **state** and parties can read from and write to this global state through the commands **READ** and **SUBMIT**. An abridged version of  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  is presented in the App A.8, Fig. 18.

In this section we present the crucial definitions and security guarantees of the primitives used in our protocols. We present the rest of the primitives more formally in App A.

**Trusted Execution Environment:**  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ . The TEE is modeled as a single, globally-shared ideal functionality that is denoted as  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  following the definition of [PST17]. The  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  functionality is depicted in Fig. 4 There are two types of invocations to the trusted hardware - *installation*, that allows to install a software and a *stateful resume*, that allows to execute it on an input. More details are provided in App A.3.

**Garbled Circuits** A garbling scheme  $\mathcal{G}$  (described in App. A.2) consists of five polynomial time algorithms (Garble, Encode, Eval, Decode, evaluate). Garble takes as input a function f and returns a garbled circuit F, encoding information e, and decoding information d. Encode takes e and an input x, and returns a garbled input X. Eval takes in the garbled circuit F and X, and returns a garbled output Y. Decode takes in the decoding information d and Y, and returns the plaintext output

//initialization On initialize: (mpk, msk) :=  $\Sigma$ .KeyGen $(1^{\lambda})$ , (epk, esk) := Enc.KeyGen $(1^{\lambda})$ ,  $T = \emptyset$ // public query interface: On receive\* getpk() respond with (mpk, epk)

#### **Enclave operations**

 $\mathcal{G}_{\mathrm{att}}[\Sigma, \mathsf{reg}]$ 

//local interface - install an enclave:
On receive\* install(idx, Prog) from some P ∈ reg:
if P is honest, assert idx = sid
generate nonce eid ∈ {0,1}<sup>λ</sup>, store T[eid, P] := (idx, Prog, 0), send eid to P.
//local interface - resume an enclave:
On receive\* resume(eid, inp) from some P ∈ reg:
let (idx, Prog, mem) := T(eid, P), abort if not found
let (outp, mem) := Prog(inp, mem), update T[eid, P] := (idx, Prog, mem)
let σ := Σ.Sig<sub>msk</sub>(idx, eid, Prog, outp) and send (outp, σ) to P.



y = f(x).

**Oblivious Transfer** In the oblivious transfer functionality (formally defined in App A.1, Fig 16), sender S has a pair of input strings  $s_0$  and  $s_1$  and a receiver R has a choice bit b. R learns only  $s_b$  while S learns nothing.

# 5 UC-Definition of Private Signaling

We define the problem of private signaling in the UC-framework [Can01]. In this framework, the security properties expected by a system are defined through the description of an ideal functionality. The ideal functionality is an ideal trusted party that performs the task expected by the system in a trustworthy manner. When devising an ideal functionality, one describes the ideal properties that the system should achieve, as well as the information that the system will inherently leak.

For the task of private signaling, we want to capture two properties: correctness and privacy. Correctness means that a recipient  $R_i$  should be able to learn all signals that are intended for them. Privacy means that by looking at the messages exchanged in the protocol *no one* except  $R_i$  (and the senders of the signals) should distinguish which signals are directed to  $R_i$ . Furthermore, we want to capture the following inherent leakage. First, an observer of the system can always learn that a signal was posted for "someone" (for instance, just by observing the board). Second, a protocol participant can learn that a certain recipient is trying to retrieve their own signals (for instance, in the serverless case, this can be detected by observing that a node is downloading a big chunk of the board, or in the server-aided case, it is just possible to observe that  $R_i$  connected to the server).

**Private Signaling Ideal Functionality** The functionality  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  provides the following interface -SEND and RECEIVE. The ideal functionality allows parties to send signals to a receiver, that informs that there exists a message at a particular location of the board maintained by an ideal ledger functionality  $\mathcal{G}_{ledger}$ . To add a signal for a recipient  $R_j$ , a sender sends SEND command with the pair  $(R_j, loc)$  to

#### Functionality $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$

The functionality maintains a table denoted  $\mathbb{T}$  indexed by recipient  $R_j$ , that contains information on the locations of signals for the corresponding recipient. Sending a signal (SEND): Upon receiving (SEND,  $R_j$ , loc) from a sender  $S_i$ , send (SEND,  $S_i$ ) to the adversary. Upon receiving (SEND, ok) from the adversary, append loc to  $\mathbb{T}[R_j]$ . Retrieving signals (RECEIVE): Upon receiving (RECEIVE) from some  $R_j$ , send (RECEIVE,  $R_j$ ) to the adversary. Upon receiving (RECEIVE, ok) from the adversary, send (RECEIVE,  $\mathbb{T}[R_j]$ ) to the recipient  $R_j$  and update  $\mathbb{T}[R_j] = []$ 

Figure 5: Private Signaling functionality

the ideal functionality. The latter will store this information for  $R_i$  in a table denoted  $\mathbb{T}$ , and will send to the adversary this information that a signal has been posted. This leakage captures the fact that in real life it is easy for an observer to detect that some sender is trying to send a message to some recipient. However this is the only information that anyone (except the sender, of course) will ever learn.

A recipient  $R_j$  can later query the ideal functionality to retrieve the signals that were sent to them. This is done using the **RECEIVE** command. This command also instructs the functionality to flush the row  $\mathbb{T}[R_j]$ . The ideal functionality will return the list to  $R_j$  and will inform the adversary that  $R_j$ has downloaded its private list of signals. Again, this captures the fact that in a real-world system a global observer can detect the fact that a certain device is trying to retrieve their signals (e.g., by observing the traffic). Since the only information leaked to the adversary is that a sender has posted a signal and that a recipient has retrieved its signals we capture the privacy requirement of private signaling.

**Corruption model** We consider two settings. In protocol  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$  (Section 6) we consider a single-server with a TEE. Here we assume that the server can be malicious but the TEE is trusted. In protocol  $\Pi_{\mathsf{GC}}$  (Section 7) we consider two-servers that do not collude. Furthermore, we allow any collusion between recipients and servers and prove that we achieve only privacy against malicious adversaries.

**Communication model** In our protocols we do not allow any out-of-band communication between the senders and the recipients. All entities have access to a global ledger functionality -  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$ . We assume that recipients have direct channels with the Srv(s). We show in Section 8 that our protocols can be extended such that there are multiple instances of these servers that serve different recipients.

# 6 Private Signaling Protocol with TEE $(\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}})$

The protocol  $\Pi_{\text{TEE}}$  assumes as hybrids a TEE functionality -  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$  (defined in Sec 4). This TEE runs a program Prog that is defined in Fig 6. We only present Prog here.  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$  attests (see Figure 4) to any computation that is done inside the processor and outputs a signed message to the server. As described in Figure 4 the  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$  functionality generates a signing key and an encryption key, and any entity can securely query the functionality to get the signing verification key and the encryption public key.

The TEE maintains a vector  $\vec{L}$  for each recipient. Each recipient  $R_i$  registers with the  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$  functionality by sending it a "setup" command through the server where it communicates its public key and verification key to the  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$  functionality. The program then initializes a vector  $\vec{L}_i$  with all zeros corresponding to this recipient.

To send a signal to a recipient  $R_i$ , the sender encrypts the public key of the recipient along with the location of the message -  $(pk_i, loc)$ , under the public key of the processor epkand submits this as a transaction to the  $\mathcal{G}_{ledger}$  functionality. The Srv sends a READ command to the  $\mathcal{G}_{ledger}$  functionality and

$\mathcal{G}_{\mathrm{att}}$	Secure processor functionality Figure 4			
$\vec{L}_i$	Encrypted locations for $R_i$			
ct <sub>keys</sub>	Encryption of encryption key and			
	verification key			
index <sub>i</sub>	Next available index in $\vec{L}_i$			
ctr <sub>i</sub>	Counter to prevent replayability of signatures			
Ct <sub>Signal</sub>	Encryption of loc			
ct <sub>loc</sub>	Encrypted locations returned on RECEIVE			
mpk, msk	$\checkmark$ Attestation keys of $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ functionality			
epk, esk	epk, esk Encryption keys of $\mathcal{G}_{att}$			

Table 2: Notations for  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$ 

retrieves the signals. To process these signals, the Srv inputs ("send", ct<sub>Signal</sub>) to the TEE. The TEE decrypts  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  to get the public key  $\mathsf{pk}_i$  of the recipient and location loc. The vector  $\vec{L_i}$  for recipient  $R_i$  is updated with the loc and all other indices of  $\vec{L}_i$  and all other  $\vec{L}_j$  for  $j \neq i$  are rewritten so that a malicious server that may observe memory access patterns cannot trivially learn the recipient of the signal. To receive its list of signals, a recipient  $R_i$  sends a signature along with a counter value denoted ctr. The TEE authenticates the recipient and checks that the counter value matches with the internally stored counter value of the recipient.

If valid, the TEE returns encrypts the vector  $\vec{L}_i$  under the public key of the recipient  $R_i$  and resets the vector  $\vec{L}$  to a vector of all zeros and returns the list of encryptions. The recipient decrypts each ciphertext until it decrypts to a zero which indicates that the recipient has received all the messages. The server does the checks to ensure that every request to the TEE is fresh and prevents a replay attack where a malicious server can simply send a previously received signature. This prevents the TEE from resetting the vector  $\vec{L}$  that corresponds to an honest user.

**Theorem 1.** Assume that the signature scheme  $\Sigma$  is existentially unforgeable under chosen message attacks, the encryption scheme Enc is CPA secure. Then the protocol  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$  in the  $(\mathcal{G}_{att}, \mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}})$ -hybrid world UC-realizes the  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  functionality.

*Proof.* (Sketch) To prove UC-security, we need to show that there exists a PPT simulator interacting with  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  that generates a transcript that is indistinguishable from the transcript generated in the real world where the adversary interacts with  $(\mathcal{G}_{att}, \mathcal{G}_{ledger})$  ideal functionalities. The simulator internally simulates the  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$  and the  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$  functionalities to the adversary. We consider two cases of corruption here and in both cases we need to show that the simulator can simulate without learning the locations of honest recipients. We briefly describe the main idea in the simulation of the above mentioned corruption cases:

- Sender and server are corrupt: The simulator receives a ("send",  $ct_{Signal}$ ) command via the  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ interface from the adversary. The simulator decrypts  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  using the secret key of the simulated TEE functionality esk and learns the recipient  $(R_i)$  and the location (loc). The simulator sends (SEND,  $R_i$ , loc) to the  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  ideal functionality on behalf of the adversary.
- Receiver and server are corrupt: The simulator receives a ("receive",  $ctr, \sigma$ ) command via the  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ interface from the adversary. The simulator verifies the signature  $\sigma$  and sends RECEIVE to the  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  functionality on behalf of the adversary. The simulator receives a vector of locations that correspond to the adversary. The simulator encrypts these locations under the public key of the receiver and returns the vector of encryptions.

Full proofs can be found at Appendix B

```
On input* ("setup", ct<sub>keys</sub>)
    Compute (pk, \Sigma.vk) = Dec(esk, ct_{keys}).
    Compute \vec{L} = \{0\}_{j=0}^{\ell}
Set index = 0 and ctr = 0
    Initialize \mathcal{T}[\mathsf{pk}] = (\vec{L}, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}, \mathsf{index}, \mathsf{ctr})
    return pk
\mathrm{On~input}^*~(\texttt{``send''},\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}})
    [\mathsf{msg}[0],\mathsf{msg}[1]] \gets \mathsf{Dec}(\mathsf{esk},\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}) \text{ and } \mathsf{msg}[0] = \mathsf{pk}
    Read \mathcal{T}[\mathsf{pk}] = (\vec{L}, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}, \mathsf{index}, \mathsf{ctr})
    Update index = (index + 1) \mod \ell,
    Update \vec{L}[index] = msg[1]
    Rewrite \vec{L}[j] for j \neq index
    Rewrite \mathcal{T}[i] for all i \neq \mathsf{pk}
On input* ("receive", (\mathsf{ctr}', \sigma))
    Read \mathcal{T}[\mathsf{pk}] = (\vec{L}, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}, \mathsf{index}, \mathsf{ctr})
    if \Sigma.Ver(\Sigma.vk, ctr', \sigma) = 1 and ctr = ctr' then
           Let (\mathsf{loc}_1 \dots \mathsf{loc}_\ell) = \vec{L}
           \mathrm{Compute}\ \vec{ct}_{\mathsf{loc}} = \mathsf{Enc}_{\mathsf{pk}}(\mathsf{loc}_1), \ldots, \ \mathsf{Enc}_{\mathsf{pk}}(\mathsf{loc}_\ell)
           Update \mathsf{ctr} = \mathsf{ctr} + 1, index = 0 and \vec{L} = \{0\}_{j=0}^{\ell}
           \mathbf{return}~(\vec{ct}_{\mathsf{loc}})
    else
           return \perp
```

Figure 6: Program  $\mathsf{Prog}[\ell]$  run by  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathrm{att}}$ 

Enclave setup 1. Srv: Run  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ .install(Prog[ $\ell$ ]) to get *eid*. Registration Recipient  $R_i$ : 1. Let  $(\mathsf{mpk}, \mathsf{epk}) := \mathcal{G}_{\mathrm{att}}.\mathsf{getpk}()$ 2. Compute  $(\mathsf{pk}_i, \mathsf{sk}_i) \leftarrow \mathsf{Enc}.\mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda}), (\Sigma.\mathsf{sk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i) \leftarrow \Sigma.\mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda}).$ 3. Set  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i} = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk}, (\mathsf{pk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i))$  and send ("setup",  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i}$ ) to Srv. 4. Await  $((eid, \mathsf{pk}_i), \sigma_T)$  from Srv. 5. Assert  $\Sigma$ . Ver<sub>mpk</sub> $((eid, pk_i), \sigma_T) = 1$  and publish  $pk_i$ . Initialize  $ctr_i = 0$ . Srv: 1. Upon receiving ("setup", ct<sub>keys,i</sub>)from  $R_i$ , let  $((\mathsf{pk}_i), \sigma_T)$ = $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att.resume}}(eid, (\text{"setup"}, \mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i}))$ . Send  $((eid, \mathsf{pk}_i), \sigma_T)$  to  $R_i$ . **Procedure** (SEND,  $R_i$ , loc) 1. Sender S gets (mpk, epk) :=  $\mathcal{G}_{att.getpk}()$  and computes  $ct_{Signal} = Enc(epk, [pk_i, loc])$  and sends (SUBMIT, (SEND,  $ct_{Signal}$ )) to  $\mathcal{G}_{ledger}$ . 2. Srv: Send READ to  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$ and upon receiving (SEND, ct<sub>Signal</sub>): Call  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathrm{att}}.\mathsf{resume}(eid, ("send", \mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}})).$ **Procedure RECEIVE** Recipient  $R_i$ : 1. Compute  $\sigma_i = \text{Sig}(\Sigma.\text{sk}_i, \text{ctr}_i)$  and send (RECEIVE,  $\text{ctr}_i, \sigma_i$ ) to Srv. Await ((*eid*,  $\vec{\text{ct}}_{\text{loc},i}), \sigma_T$ )  $\mathrm{from}\; Srv$ 2. Assert  $\Sigma$ .Ver<sub>mpk</sub> $((eid, \vec{ct}_{loc,i}), \sigma_T) = 1$ Initialize  $\mathsf{locns} = [], j = 0$ 3. while  $(loc_j = Dec(sk_i, \vec{ct}_{loc}[j])) \neq 0$  do  $locns.add(loc_i)$ j = j + 1 $\operatorname{ctr}_i = \operatorname{ctr}_i + 1$ return locns. Srv:  $((eid,\vec{\mathsf{ct}}_{\mathsf{loc},i}),\sigma_T)$ 1. Upon receiving (RECEIVE,  $\operatorname{ctr}_i, \sigma_i$ ) from  $R_i$ , let  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$ .resume(eid, ("receive", ctr<sub>i</sub>,  $\sigma_i))$ . 2. Send  $((eid, \vec{\mathsf{ct}}_{\mathsf{loc},i}), \sigma_T)$  to  $R_i$ 

Figure 7: The protocol for private signaling in the  $\mathcal{G}_{\rm att}$  hybrid world

# 7 Private Signaling with Two Servers $\Pi_{GC}$

 $\Pi_{GC}$  is run among two servers  $\operatorname{Srv}_1, \operatorname{Srv}_2$ . Each  $\operatorname{Srv}_i$  for i = 1, 2 maintains a table (denoted by  $\mathbb{T}^{(i)}$ ) that stores information on the signals. The tables are  $M \times \ell$  matrices where each row is associated with a recipient and  $\ell$  is the maximum number of signals that can be received by each recipient. The vector  $\left[(\mathbb{T}^{(1)}[R][1] \oplus \mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R][1]), \ldots, (\mathbb{T}^{(1)}[R][\ell] \oplus \mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R][\ell])\right]$  represents a vector of locations that have been signaled by senders to recipient R. The servers also maintain another table denoted  $\mathbb{L}^{(i)}$ , such that  $\mathbb{L}^{(1)}[R] \oplus \mathbb{L}^{(2)}[R]$  stores the next available index for recipient R. Our protocol uses: the ideal oblivious transfer functionality  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$ , garbled circuits and EUF-CMA signatures (defined in Section 4 and Appendix A).

$\mathbb{T}^{(i)}$	Table $(M \times \ell)$ of locations			
	maintained by $Srv_i$			
$\mathbb{L}^{(i)}$	Table of available indices denoted index			
$R^{(i)}$	Share of $R$ received by $Srv_i$			
loc <sup>(i)</sup>	Share of loc received by $Srv_i$			
$r^1_{(i,j)}, r^2_{(i,j)}$	Randomness used for both $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}[i][j]$ and $\mathbb{T}^{(2)}[i][j]$			
$r_{(i)}^1, r_{(i)}^2$	Randomness used for both $\mathbb{L}^{(1)}[i]$			
	and $\mathbb{L}^{(2)}[i]$			

Table 3: Notations for  $\Pi_{GC}$ 

Registering with the servers: Each recipient  $R_i$  registers with the two servers by sending shares of vector of  $\ell + 1$  zeros. This is achieved by sending  $r_0 \dots r_\ell$  to both the servers. The servers add a row to  $\mathbb{T}^{(a)}$  and  $\mathbb{L}^{(a)} - \mathbb{T}^{(a)}[R] = [r_1 \dots r_\ell]$  and  $\mathbb{L}^{(a)}[R] = r_0$ . The recipient  $R_i$  also sets a counter denoted  $ctr_i$ . The  $ctr_i$  is updated each time, the recipient invokes a RECEIVE command. The  $ctr_i$  along with the vectors are signed by the recipient and sent to the servers. We will describe the use of  $ctr_i$  later. Sending a signal: The sender (denoted S) sending a signal to recipient R that a message exists for them at location loc does the following: Create shares of  $\mathsf{pk}_R = \mathsf{pk}_R^{(1)} \oplus \mathsf{pk}_R^{(2)}$  and  $\mathsf{loc} = \mathsf{loc}^{(1)} \oplus \mathsf{loc}^{(2)}$ and compute  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal},a} = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_a, (\mathsf{pk}_R^{(1)}, \mathsf{loc}^{(a)}))$  where  $\mathsf{pk}_a$  is the public key of  $\mathsf{Srv}_a$ . The sender then submits these encryptions as transactions to the  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  functionality. The servers periodically send **READ** commands to  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$  to learn the signals. They then decrypt the  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal},a}$  to receive  $(\mathsf{pk}_{R}^{(1)},\mathsf{loc}^{(\mathsf{a})})$ . Since we assume that the servers do not collude, they do not learn any information about the recipient and the location. The two servers now run a 2PC Protocol processSignal that updates the tables according to the UpdateTable function. This function updates the tables maintained by the two servers in the following way: for the next available index (retrieved from the shares stored in tables  $\mathbb{L}^{(1)}$  and  $\mathbb{L}^{(2)}$ ) for receiver R store re-randomizations of the received shares and for every other index re-randomize the original shares. Since every index is updated, at the end of the protocol the two servers do not know which index was updated with the location, therefore hiding both the recipient's identity and the location of the signal. The UpdateTable also updates the tables  $\mathbb{L}^{(1)}$  and  $\mathbb{L}^{(2)}$  such that for receiver R, the tables store shares of an incremented index and for all other parties the shares are simply rerandomized.

Receiving a signal: To receive their vector of signals, the recipient sends a RECEIVE request to the two servers. This request includes a signature on freshly sampled random values that serve as new shares for the corresponding row on the table. Upon successful authentication, the servers send the corresponding table row to the receiver, who simply recombines the shares to receive their signals.

**Theorem 2.** The protocol  $\Pi_{GC}$  UC-realizes the  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  functionality in the  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$ -hybrid model assuming secure garbled circuits (Definition 1) and existential-unforgeable signature schemes.

#### Setup

 $Srv_a$ , for  $a \in \{1, 2\}$ : 1. Generate encryption keys  $(\mathsf{pk}_a, \mathsf{sk}_a) \leftarrow \mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda})$  and publish  $\mathsf{pk}_a$ Recipient  $R_i$ : 1.  $(\Sigma.\mathsf{sk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i) \leftarrow \Sigma.\mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda})$  and publish  $\Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i$ . 2. Sample  $r_i \leftarrow_{\$} \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$  for  $i \in [0,\ell]$ . 3. Initialize  $\operatorname{ctr}_i = 0$ . 4. Compute  $\sigma_i = \Sigma . \mathsf{Sig}(\Sigma . \mathsf{sk}_i, ((r_0 \dots, r_\ell), \mathsf{ctr}_i))$ 5. Send (**Setup**,  $(r_0 \ldots, r_\ell)$ , ctr<sub>i</sub>),  $\sigma_i$ ) to Srv<sub>i</sub>.  $Srv_a$ , for  $a \in \{1, 2\}$ : Upon receiving (**Setup**,  $((r_0 \dots, r_\ell), \mathsf{ctr}_i), \sigma_i)$  from  $R_i$ : 1. If  $\Sigma$ . Ver $(\Sigma$ .vk<sub>i</sub>,  $(r_0 \ldots, r_\ell)$ , ctr<sub>i</sub>),  $\sigma_i$ )  $\neq 1$ , ignore. 2. Else store  $\operatorname{ctr}_i$  and set  $\mathbb{T}^{(a)}[R_i] = (r_1, \ldots, r_\ell)$  and  $\mathbb{L}^{(a)}[R_i] = r_0$ . **Procedure** (SEND, R, loc) Sender S: 1. Compute  $R^{(1)}$  and  $R^{(2)}$  s.t.  $R = R^{(1)} \oplus R^{(2)}$ . 2. Compute  $loc^{(1)}$  and  $loc^{(2)}$  s.t.  $loc = loc^{(1)} \oplus loc^{(2)}$ 3. Compute  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal},a} = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_a, \mathsf{Signal}_a)$ , where  $\mathsf{Signal}_a = (R^{(a)}, \mathsf{loc}^{(a)})$  for  $a \in \{1, 2\}$ 4. Send (SUBMIT, (SEND, ct<sub>Signal,1</sub>, ct<sub>Signal,2</sub>) to  $\mathcal{G}_{ledger}$ .  $Srv_a$  for  $a \in \{1, 2\}$ : 1. Participate in protocol processSignal and update  $(\mathbb{T}^{(1)}, \mathbb{L}^{(1)})$  and  $(\mathbb{T}^{(2)}, \mathbb{L}^{(2)})$  respectively. **Procedure RECEIVE** Recipient  $R_i$ : 1. Sample  $r_i \leftarrow_{\$} \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$  for  $i \in [0,\ell]$ . 2. Compute  $\sigma_i = \Sigma$ .Sig $(\Sigma$ .sk $_i, (r_0, \ldots, r_\ell, a, \mathsf{ctr}_i))$  for  $a \in \{1, 2\}$ . 3. Send  $(\mathsf{vk}_i, (r_0, \ldots, r_\ell, a, \mathsf{ctr}_i), \sigma_i)$  to  $\mathsf{Srv}_a$ 4. Receive  $\mathbb{T}^{(a)}[R_i]$  from  $\mathsf{Srv}_a$ 5. Compute  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}[R][j] \oplus \mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R][j]$  until  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}[R][j] \oplus \mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R][j] = 0$ . 6. Update  $\operatorname{ctr}_i = \operatorname{ctr}_i + 1$ Srv<sub>a</sub>: 1. Check if  $\Sigma$ .Ver $(\Sigma$ .vk<sub>i</sub>, (ctr',  $(r_0, \ldots, r_\ell)), \sigma_i$ ) = 1 and ctr' = ctr<sub>i</sub>. Ignore if false. 2. Else send  $\mathbb{T}^{(a)}[R]$  to R. 3. Update  $\operatorname{ctr}_i = \operatorname{ctr}_i + 1$ 

Figure 8: Private signaling protocol with 2 servers

*Proof.* (Sketch) To prove UC-security (full proofs in Appendix C) we need to show that there exists a PPT simulator interacting with  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  that generates a transcript that is indistinguishable from the real world where the adversary interacts with the  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$  ideal functionality that is internally simulated by the simulator. We consider two cases of corruption:

- Sender and  $\operatorname{Srv}_1$  are corrupt: The simulator simulates  $\operatorname{Srv}_2$  and will receive shares  $R^{(2)}$  and  $\operatorname{loc}^{(2)}$ from the corrupt sender. It learns exact bits of  $\operatorname{loc}^{(1)}$  and  $R^{(1)}$  via the  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{ot}}$  functionality. The simulator computes  $R = R^{(1)} \oplus R^2$  and  $\operatorname{loc} = \operatorname{loc}^{(1)} \oplus \operatorname{loc}^{(2)}$  and sends (SEND, R, loc) to  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$  on behalf of the corrupt sender.
- Receiver and  $\operatorname{Srv}_1$  are corrupt: When a corrupt  $R_i$  request its row, it must request both  $\operatorname{Srv}_1$  and  $\operatorname{Srv}_2$ . The simulator then sends the RECEIVE command to the  $\mathcal{F}_{\operatorname{privSignal}}$  ideal functionality on behalf of the corrupt  $R_i$  and then learns the locations that  $R_i$  would receive. Since the two servers maintain shares of 0, simply  $\oplus$ -ing R's row in  $\mathbb{T}^{(2)}$  with the locations it received from the functionality gives the corrupt recipient its locations.

Protocol processSignal

 $Srv_a$  (where  $a \in \{1,2\}$ ) upon sending READ to  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  and receiving  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal},a}$ . Decrypt to get Signal<sub>a</sub>.

- 1. Parse  $\text{Signal}_a = (R^{(a)}, \mathsf{loc}^{(a)})$
- 2. Sample  $r_{(i)}^{(a)} \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{\lambda}$  for  $i \in [1, M], j \in [1, \ell]$ . 3. (As garbler of GC) Compute Garble $(1^{\lambda}(UpdateTable)) \rightarrow (F, e, d)$ , where F is the garbled (i) and ( circuit, and *e* encodes both possible bits of  $|\mathbb{T}^{(\cdot)}|, |\mathsf{loc}^{(\cdot)}|, |R^{(1)}|, |R^{(2)}|, |\mathbb{L}^{(1)}|, |\mathbb{L}^{(2)}|, |r^{(a)}_{(i,j)}|$
- for  $i \in [1, M], j \in [1, \ell], a \in \{1, 2\}$  and  $|r_{(i)}^{(a)}|$  for  $i \in [1, M], a \in \{1, 2\}$ 4. Seed (OT-SEND,  $(s_0, s_1)$ ) to  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$ , for each pair of encoded keys of bits in  $|\mathbb{T}^{(\cdot)}|, |\widehat{\mathsf{loc}}^{(\cdot)}|, |R^{(\cdot)}|, |\mathbb{L}^{(\cdot)}|, |r_{(i,j)}| \text{ for } i \in [1, M], j \in [1, \ell], |r_{(i)}| \text{ for } i \in [1, M]$
- 5. Send (F, d) to the other server, where F includes the keys for its own inputs, i.e.  $r_{(i,j)}$  for  $i \in [1, M], j \in [1, \ell], \log^{(a)}, R^{(a)}.$
- $Srv_a$ , upon receiving (F, d) from the other server:
- 1. (As evaluator of GC) Upon receiving OT-SEND from  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$ , send (OT-RECEIVE, b) to  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$  for each bit b in  $\mathbb{T}^{(a)}, \mathsf{loc}^{(a)}, \mathbb{R}^{(a)}, \mathbb{L}^{(a)}, r^{(a)}_{(i)}$  for  $i \in [1, M], j \in [1, \ell]$  and denote these strings as  $X_a$
- 2. Compute  $\mathsf{Eval}(F, (X_a))$  to get Y
- 3. Compute  $\mathsf{Decode}(d, Y)$  to get a new  $\mathbb{T}^{(a)}$  and  $\mathbb{L}^{(a)}$

Figure 9: GC protocol to update two tables

The UpdateTable function Input:  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}$ ,  $\mathbb{L}^{(1)}$ ,  $\log^{(1)}$ ,  $R^{(1)}$ ,  $R^{(2)}$ ,  $\{r_{(i,j)}^1\}_{i\in[1,M],j\in[1,\ell]]}$ ,  $\{r_{(i,j)}^{(1)}\}_{i\in[1,M],j\in[1,\ell]]}$ ,  $\{r_{(i)}^{(1)}\}_{i\in[1,M]}$ and  $\{r_{(i)}^{(2)}\}_{i\in[1,M]}$ Output: Updated  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}$ ,  $\mathbb{L}^{(1)}$ Algorithm 1: Compute  $R = R^{(1)} \oplus R^{(2)}$ 2: Compute index =  $(\mathbb{L}^{(1)}[R] \oplus \mathbb{L}^{(2)}[R]) \mod \ell$ 3: Update  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}[R]$ [index] =  $\log^{(1)}$ 4: Update  $\mathbb{L}^{(1)}[R] = (\operatorname{index} + 1)$ 5: for *i* in [1, M] do 6:  $\mathbb{L}^{(1)}[i] = \mathbb{L}^{(1)}[i] \oplus r_{(i)}^{(1)} \oplus r_{(i)}^{(2)}$ 7: for *j* in  $[1, \ell]$  do 8:  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}[i][j] = \mathbb{T}^{(1)}[i][j] \oplus r_{(i,j)}^{(1)} \oplus r_{(i,j)}^{(2)}$ 9: return  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}, \mathbb{L}^{(1)}$ 

Figure 10: The function to update the tables  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}$  and  $\mathbb{L}^{(1)}$ . The same algorithm updates the tables for  $\mathsf{Srv}_2$ , except in step 4: the circuit updates  $\mathbb{L}^{(2)}[R] = 0$ 

## 8 Extensions

**Privately Fetching the Message from**  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$ . In this work we only focus on having the recipients privately learning the *location* on the ledger where a message was written for them. The problem of privately reading a block of interest from the board, is not the scope of this work. Luckily, however, there exist techniques from the literature that can be used to solve this problem. Furthermore, our protocols can be easily modified to privately fetch the message (instead of the location).

Privately Fetching using Existing Techniques: If a client could download the entire blockchain (ledger), privately reading is easily accomplished. The client will just use the secret location to read the relevant portions of the blockchain. However, this is not suitable for clients with small storage space, that are referred to as light clients. There is an extensive literature for privacy-preserving reads for light clients [QHGR19, WMS<sup>+</sup>19, LHA<sup>+</sup>20, MWS<sup>+</sup>19] motivated by the problem of private cryptocurrency. In all of these works, the light client asks one (or more) powerful server(s) to learn its balance and other relevant information. To preserve the privacy of the light client, Qin et al. apply private information retrieval [QHGR19], Wüst et al. [WMS<sup>+</sup>19] employ TEEs, while Le et al. [LHA<sup>+</sup>20] use Oblivious RAM techniques. Crucially, the underlying assumptions of all such works is that the light clients (the recipient in our setting) already know the location of the blockchain that they wish to fetch. Privately communicating this location (without out-of-band communication, without the recipient being aware of the existence of the server) is what our protocols offers. Hence, our problem and techniques are complementary to the problem of light clients, and can be used in addition to the systems proposed in [WMS<sup>+</sup>19, MWS<sup>+</sup>19, LHA<sup>+</sup>20] so that a recipient privately learns these addresses (without having to communicate with the sender).

Modifying Private Signaling into Private Signaling & Fetching: Our current  $\Pi_{\text{TEE}}$  and  $\Pi_{\text{GC}}$  protocols can be modified to achieve a private READ functionality. The idea is to have the signal directly carry the message. Assuming that the messages are of fixed size, we modify the signal as follow. In  $\Pi_{\text{TEE}}$  the sender encrypts the message under the public key of the TEE and in  $\Pi_{\text{GC}}$  the sender creates two shares of the message and encrypts one share under the public key of one server, for both servers.

**Supporting Multiple Servers** As presented, our protocols assume that there is only one server (or a pair of servers) serving all the parties. In practice, there could exist several servers that offer the same

service. To this end, we describe how our protocols can be extended so that they support multiple servers. First, we note that any entity (including the servers) must not map an encrypted signal to the corresponding server. This is necessary, otherwise we reduce the anonymity set of each signal to be the set of recipients served by that server. To this end, we use key-private encryptions[BBDP01]. Second, we note that if the server processes a signal for a recipient that it does not serve, the tables are simply re-randomized in the GC-based protocol (in the TEE-based protocol, the TEE does nothing) and this is oblivious to a server by design. Thus the sender just computes an encryption of the signal as before using a key-private encryption scheme and posts it on the board. All servers will attempt to process the signal and update their tables. By design, the table that stores signals for the recipient will be updated with the signal and all other tables will just be re-randomized.

# 9 Implementation and Evaluation

Implementation We used Intel SGX [MAB<sup>+</sup>13] to instantiate the  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  functionality. RSA-OAEP[FOPS01] was used as the public key encryption scheme since it can be modified to make it key-private as was noted by Bellare et al. [BBDP01]. We benchmarked our schemes on an AWS t3.medium instance. It had 4 GB RAM and 1 core Intel(R) Xeon(R) Platinum 8259CL CPU at 2.50GHz and it was running on the Amazon Linux 2 operating system. For the garbled circuit protocol (processSignal) we use the compiler of Ball et al. [BMR16].<sup>3</sup>. We used AES for the symmetric key encryption and SHA-256 for the hash functions (which is used in the OT protocol[ALSZ17] that realizes the  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$  functionality). All protocols are implemented in Rust.

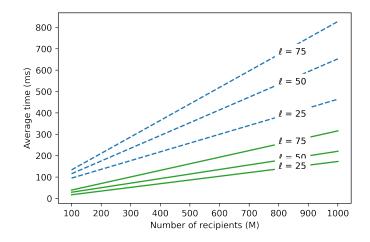


Figure 11: Comparing the average time taken to process a signal for the single-server protocols:  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$ (solid lines) and  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE-ext}}$ (dashed lines) by varying M from 100 to 1000 and  $\ell$  between 25, 50 and 75.

*Parameters.* There are two parameters in our protocols - the number of recipients M and an upper bound  $\ell$  on the number of signals that a recipient is expected to receive in a certain interval of time. For instance, in a private-cryptocurrency application, recipients might expect to receive at most  $\ell = 25$  private payments a week, and they will connect to the server(s) once a week to download their vector of signals.

In our measurements (see Figures 11 and 12) we choose to test for  $\ell$  varying 25, 50 and 75. This choice of parameters was inspired by applications of stealth payments in cryptocurrencies, and was

 $<sup>^{3}</sup> https://github.com/GaloisInc/fancy-garbling$ 

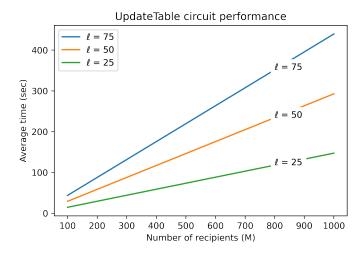


Figure 12: Evaluating the time taken to process signal when the value of  $\ell \in \{25, 50, 75\}$  for Protocol  $\Pi_{GC}$  and varying M from 100 to 1000.

	Baseline	$\Pi_{TEE}$	$\Pi_{GC}$	OMR[LT21]	FMD[BLMG21]
Server computation	NA	0.114s	146s	0.405s	0.001s
Recipient computation	0.012s	0.012s	0.001s	0.02s	2.1s
Total latency $(N = 500, 000)$	100 min	0.012s	210  days	2.45  days	32s / 9.1hrs
Signal size	NA	64 bytes	128 bytes	68 bytes	956 bytes

Table 4: Computation cost and signal size comparisons of FMD [BLMG21], OMR[LT21] and protocols  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$  and  $\Pi_{\mathsf{GC}}$ , assuming a recipient connect once a day. For  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$ ,  $\Pi_{\mathsf{GC}}$  and OMR the measurements are taken for  $\ell = 50$ . The total number of messages N is set as 500,000 (approximate number of transactions in a day in Bitcoin) and for  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$  and  $\Pi_{\mathsf{GC}}$ , M = 500. These numbers are take from OMR [LT21] and FMD [BLMG21] directly (FMD assumes a false positive rate  $\rho$  and we present latency for  $\rho = 2^{-15}$  and  $2^{-5}$ .

informed by the following data we have at time of writing. The number of stealth payments [eth] via Umbra[Sco] on the Ethereum blockchain was 416 transactions over a period of 5 months, which roughly amounts to a total (for all the recipients) of 20 private transactions per week. On the Zcash blockchain, the number of shielded (private) transactions between Oct 2016 to Jan 2018 was 6934 [KYMM18], which amounts to roughly total 140 transactions per week. In a system like Umbra, setting up  $\ell = 20$  and having the recipients retrieve once a week is suitable. In a more active system such as Zcash, setting  $\ell = 75$  (or  $\ell = 25$  checking every day) might be more suitable.

We vary the number M of recipients from 100 to 1000. The computation complexity of the servers increases linearly with M (although in the TEE-based construction there are slight differences). Thus, one can simply extrapolate for any M. Furthermore, as we explained in Section 8, our protocols can support multiple servers that split the workload, while not splitting the anonymity set. Hence, if multiple servers are employed, the total number M can be split into smaller  $M_j$  - the set supported by server  $S_j$ , while the anonymity set is still M (the number of total recipients).

#### Evaluation

Server's Running Time. Fig. 11 and Fig. 12 show the time it takes for the server(s) to process one signal. This time is a function of M and  $\ell$ , and for both protocols this time increases asymptotically linearly with M (for fixed values of  $\ell$ ). Concretely, for TEE-based protocols  $\Pi_{\text{TEE}}$  and  $\Pi_{\text{TEE-ext}}$ , the graphs show that even for M = 1000 (with  $\ell = 50$ ) it takes less than a second to process a signal.

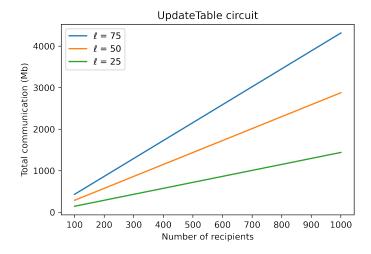


Figure 13: Evaluating the communication between the two servers when running the 2PC protocol in  $\Pi_{GC}$ . We vary M from 100 to 1000 and  $\ell$  between 25, 50 and 75.

For our two-server protocol -  $\Pi_{GC}$  (Fig. 12), the running time to process a signal is in the order of minutes. Though this protocol is not very useful for applications such as anonymous messaging where there are a lot of private messages, it may still practical be in systems like stealth payments assuming that the stealth transactions are distinguishable from the non-private ones (hence the servers do not need to process every transaction on the blockchain).

Latency for the recipients. For our protocols, we envision a setting where the servers process signals as soon as they are confirmed on the blockchain (in other words, our servers work in the background constantly rather than starting to work only after the recipients has asked to fetch its signals). This assumption is very natural for a server-client model. When the receiver connects to the server(s) it receives immediately every signal fetched by the server so far, up to the latest block of the blockchain that was processed by the servers. If the latest block processed by the servers is indeed the latest block that was posted to the blockchain, the recipients latency is 0. Our measurements of TEE-based protocols  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$  and  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE-ext}}$  in Fig 11 shows how the running times vary as a function of M and  $\ell$ and this information, in combination with information about frequency of the signals posted on the blockchain, can be used to evaluate the latency. These values depend on the specific application and the blockchain used. For concreteness (and following the analysis of OMR[LT21]), if we consider a blockchain such as Bitcoin, there are approximately 4000 transactions per block<sup>4</sup> (500K per day), and a block is confirmed, roughly, every 10 minutes. Not all 4000 transactions will be private (or signals), however, combining these value with the running times shown in Fig. 11, we see that for a number of recipients M up to 700 (and for  $\ell = 50$ ), the latency for a recipient is 0. This is because, the time to process a signal is 156.7ms, and hence will take about 10.44min to process all signals (assuming 4000) in block, which is approximately the time for a new block to be confirmed. Similarly for protocol  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE-ext}}$  (where the encryptions are not stored in the TEE, but in the memory of the server) the overall computation time to process a signal for M = 100 and  $\ell = 50$  is about 115.5ms, and hence will take 7.7 min to process all signals which is less than the time taken to confirm a block. Our two-server protocol -  $\Pi_{GC}$ , the average time taken to process a signal is in the order of minutes. Therefore this protocol would provide an acceptable latency in all the applications where the number of private signals in each block is limited.

Communication complexity. All signals are communicated to the servers via a blockchain (which we model in the paper as  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$ ). For  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$  the size of the signal is 64 bytes and for  $\Pi_{\mathsf{GC}}$  it is 128

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>https://www.blockchain.com/charts/n-payments-per-block

bytes. There is no communication overhead in  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$  at the server since the server simply forwards the signal to the TEE, whereas in  $\Pi_{\mathsf{GC}}$  the two servers need to run a 2PC protocol and scales with both M and  $\ell$ . As can be seen from Fig 13 Finally, for a RECEIVE command, the communication is an authentication from the recipient and the corresponding row from the servers. In  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$  this authentication is 512 bytes and the server returns  $\ell$  encryptions, each of size 512 bytes. In  $\Pi_{\mathsf{GC}}$  the recipient sends an authenticating message of size 512 bytes and receives two vectors of size  $\ell$  from each server.

Optimizations. To improve the performance of  $\Pi_{GC}$  we modify the UpdateTable function to process K signals in the same GC protocol. We observe that after a point K = 20 (see Figure 15), there is no significant improvement in the normalized time taken to process a signal. In Figure 14 we observe that for K = 5 and K = 10 the overall computation improved by  $2.33 \times$  and  $3.95 \times$  respectively. This gain in overall processing time can be attributed to lesser number of garbled tables that need to be computed and communicated.

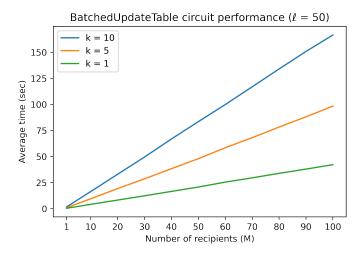


Figure 14: Evaluating the improvement in computation time to protocol  $\Pi_{GC}$  when signals are batched in groups of 5 and 10. We vary the number of recipients from 1 to 100 here.

Availability. The source code of our implementations of our protocols can be found at https://github.com/anon-submission-1100/pps.

Comparison with related work and baseline. We compare our protocols with the most related work FMD [BLMG21] and OMR [LT21] (discussed in Sec. 2.2) and with the baseline "naive" solution <sup>5</sup> in Table 4. Recall that in our approach the running time per signal depends on parameters M and  $\ell$ , and recall that we assume that the servers continuously process signals (regardless of whether the recipients is retrieving or not) as they appear on the ledger. In contrast, in OMR [LT21], the running time per signal depends on N (the total number of signals posted ever) and the upper bound  $\ell$  of actual signals the receiver expects to receive (in their construction  $\ell$  might change for each recipient). Furthermore, in OMR, the computation is done on demand, per-recipient, namely, when recipient asks to retrieve. Hence, even assuming that all requests are served in parallel, a recipient querying the server at time  $\delta$ , will need to wait until the server process all the signals posted since the beginning of time until time  $\delta$ .

In FMD, the server processes signals continuously, like ours, and the receiver obtains a list of signals. However, depending on the *privacy* parameter chosen by the receiver, this list can be as large

 $<sup>{}^{5}</sup>$ The baseline naive protocol is the one where a recipient simply attempts to decrypt every transaction on the board, after having downloaded it (for instance, once a day).

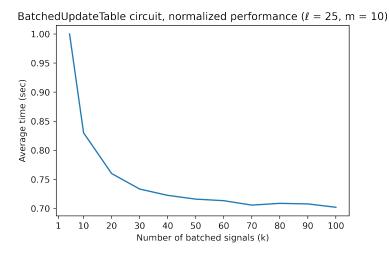


Figure 15: Effect of batching fixing  $\ell = 25$  and M = 10

as N. Indeed the privacy parameter  $\rho$  corresponds to a false positive rate. The higher the false positive rate, the higher is the computation expected for the recipient (and hence the latency). For instance for  $\rho = 2^{-15}$ , the error rate is very small and the overhead for the recipient is minimal, however, the anonymity achieved is  $\rho \times N$ , which is only 15 for N = 500,000. On the other hand for  $\rho = 2^{-5}$  the recipient gets an anonymity set of 15625 but takes up to 9 hours to detect its signals.

Due to these crucial differences, comparing with these approaches (and especially with OMR) is somewhat application dependent, since the choice of M,  $\ell$ , N, and whether the servers process signals *continuously* or whether they start to compute upon request, generates significant differences in the performances.

For the comparison, in Table 4 we considered settings and parameters used in OMR and FMD, and compared with the baseline solution. We considered a scenario where a recipient connects once a day; the number of total signals is N = 500,000 and the number of expected signals per recipient is  $\ell = 50$ . We set M = 500 for our protocols, and for FMD we considered error/privacy rate at both side of the spectrum (i.e.,  $\rho - 2^{-5}$  and  $\rho - 2^{-15}$ ).

We found that our TEE-based solutions is the fastest. Our GC-based solution, on the other hand, takes a long time to process 500,000 signals. However, we stress that the processing time of the servers does not impact the *running time* of the recipient that is still constant (regardless of  $M, \ell, N$ ). This running time impacts the latency, and suggest that GC-based solution should be used for applications with a lower volume of private signal per-day, and we are interested in saving computation and on-line time for the recipients.

Cross-over point with baseline solution. Comparison with baseline is relevant when the recipient connects at fixed interval to download and process the messages in bulk <sup>6</sup>. In this case, given an instantiation of the ledger, one can analyse the cross-over point where our solutions provide less latency than the baseline solution. For our TEE-based solution, assuming the ledger is implemented with bitcoin the cross-over point is 10 blocks. This is because it takes 480s to decrypt 10 blocks (assuming 0.012s to decrypt a signal, 4000 signals per block we have 10\*4000\*0.012). In our TEE-based solution, the server takes 7.5 min per block (paramters  $M = 500, \ell = 50$ ) and is continuously working. At the 10th block as well, the server take 7.5 min to process the block. But a receiver coming online then will take 8 min and this is the crossover point.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>If the recipients were always on-line and decrypting each signal, then no server-aided solution could beat this rate.

# 10 Conclusion and Open Problems

We have introduced the problem of *private signaling* that abstracts several real-world recipientanonymous applications. We provide a formal definition in the UC-framework, two server-aided protocols that achieve this definition (in the semi-honest and malicious setting), and open-source implementations. Our protocols achieve the best efficiency for the sender and recipients, requiring only minimal overhead.

The workload of the servers, however, is proportional to  $O(M\ell)$  per signal, which limits the choice of the parameters of M and  $\ell$ . We leave it as future work to explore techniques such as ORAM to improve the workload of the servers.

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# A Preliminaries (contd.)

### A.1 Oblivious transfer

Oblivious transfer (OT) is a two-party protocol in which a sender S has two input strings  $s_0, s_1 \in \{0, 1\}^{\lambda}$ , and a receiver R has a choice bit  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ . An OT protocol is called non-trivial if for any pair of strings  $s_0, s_1 \in \{0, 1\}^{\lambda}$ , and for any  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ , after participating in the interactive protocol, S outputs nothing and R learns  $s_b$ . We capture this definition formally as an ideal functionality  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$  in Figure 16.

Ideal Functionality  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$ :

- Upon receiving message (OT-SEND,  $s_0, s_1, S, R$ ) from S, where  $s_0, s_1 \in \{0, 1\}^{\lambda}$ , store  $s_0, s_1$  and answer SEND to R and S.
- Upon receiving message (OT-RECEIVE, b) from R, where  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ , send  $s_b$  to R and OT-RECEIVE to S and S, and halt. If no message (OT-SEND,  $\cdot$ ) was previously sent, do nothing.

Figure 16: Ideal functionality for oblivious transfer

### A.2 Garbled circuits

We present a formal definition for garbled circuits. We present the definitions of [BHR12].

**Definition 1.** A garbling scheme  $\mathcal{G}$  consists of five polynomial time algorithms (Garble, Encode, Eval, Decode, evaluate).

- 1. Garble $(1^{\lambda}, f) \rightarrow (F, e, d)$ . The garbling algorithm Garble takes in the security parameter  $\lambda$  and a circuit f, and returns a garbled circuit F, encoding information e, and decoding information d.
- 2.  $Encode(e, x) \rightarrow X$ . The encoding algorithm Encode takes in the encoding information e and an input x, and returns a garbled input X.
- 3.  $\mathsf{Eval}(F, X) \to Y$ . The evaluation algorithm  $\mathsf{Eval}$  takes in the garbled circuit F and the garbled input X, and returns a garbled output Y.
- 4.  $Decode(d, Y) \rightarrow y$ . The decoding algorithm Decode takes in the decoding information d and the garbled output Y, and returns the plaintext output y.
- 5.  $evaluate(f, x) \rightarrow y$ . The algorithms takes as input the description of the original function f and the initial input x and outputs the final output y.

**Correctness** if  $f \in \{0,1\}^*, k \in \mathbb{N}, x \in \{0,1\}^{f.n}$  and  $(F, e, d) \in [\mathsf{Garble}(1^k, f)]$ , then

 $\mathsf{Decode}(d, \mathsf{Eval}(F, \mathsf{Encode}(e, x))) = \mathsf{evaluate}(f, x)$ 

**Privacy** Let  $\mathcal{G} = (\text{Garble}, \text{Encode}, \text{Decode}, \text{Eval}, \text{evaluate})$  be a garbling scheme,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  a security parameter and  $\phi$  a side-information function. We present below the simulation-based notion of privacy via game  $\text{PrvSim}_{\mathcal{G},\phi,\mathcal{S}}$ , see the definition of the game in Figure 17.

The adversary wins the game if it guesses b correctly. The advantage of the adversary is defined as

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{G}}^{\mathrm{prv.sim},\phi,\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{A},k) = 2Pr[\mathsf{PrvSim}_{\mathcal{G},\phi,\mathcal{S}}^{\mathcal{A}}(\lambda)] - 1$$

```
procedure INITIALIZE

Pick b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}

procedure GARBLE((f, x))

if x \notin \{0, 1\}^{f.n} then

return \perp

if b = 1 then

(F, e, d) \leftarrow \text{Garble}(1^k, f)

X \leftarrow \text{Encode}(e, x)

else

y \leftarrow \text{evaluate}(f, x)

(F, X, d) \leftarrow S(1^k, y, \phi(f))

procedure FINALIZE

return b = b'
```

Figure 17: The  $\mathsf{PrvSim}_{\mathcal{G},\phi,\mathcal{S}}$  game

and protocol  $\mathcal{G}$  is prv.sim secure over  $\phi$  if for every polynomial time adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  there is a polynomial time algorithm  $\mathcal{S}$  such that  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{G}}^{\mathrm{prv.sim},\phi,\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{A},k)$  is negligible.

**Projective scheme** In our schemes we consider a *projective* garbling scheme. Thus *e* consists of 2n wire labels, where *n* is the number of input bits. We denote these wire labels as  $(X_i^0, X_i^1)_{i \in \text{indices}}$ . Encode $(e, x = (v_i)_{i \in \text{indices}})$  returns  $X = (X_i^{v_i})_{i \in \text{indices}}$ .

### A.3 Attested Execution Processers

In this section we present more details on the formalization of attested execution processers as described in [PST17]

Initialization Upon initialization, a manufacturer chooses a public verification key and signing key pair denoted (mpk, msk), for the signature scheme  $\Sigma$ . All attestations later will be done using msk.

The registry  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  is parameterized by a signature scheme  $\Sigma$  and a global registry reg which contains the list of all parties that are equipped with an attested execution processor. In our setting, only the Srv is in the registry reg.

**Public interface**  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  provides a public interface such that any party is allowed to query and obtain the public key mpk.

Local interface When a machine  $\mathcal{P}$  calls an install instruction to  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ , it asserts that  $\mathcal{P}$  is in reg. This models the fact that for a remote party to interact with  $\mathcal{P}$ 's trusted processor, all commands have to be passed through the intermediary  $\mathcal{P}$ . They formalize two types of invocations to the trusted hardware.

- Installation Enclave installation establishes a software enclave with program Prog, linked to some identifier idx. The functionality enforces that honest hosts provide the session identifier of the current protocol instance as idx.  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  further generates a random identifier (or nonce) eid for each installed enclave, which can later be used to identify the enclave upon resume. Finally,  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  returns the generated enclave identifier eid to the caller.
- Stateful resume An installed enclave can be resumed multiple times carrying state across these invocations. Each invocation identifies the enclave to be resumed by its unique *eid*. The enclave program Prog is then run over the given input, to produce some output (together with an updated memory mem). The enclave then signs an attestation, attesting to the fact that the enclave with session identifier *idx* and enclave identifier *eid* was installed with a program Prog, which was then

executed on some input to produce outp.

### A.4 Indistinguishability under chosen plaintext attacks

We present a definition for CPA security for private key encryption in Def 2 and for public key encryption in Def 3.

**Definition 2.** Let  $\mathcal{E} = (\text{KeyGen}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  be an encryption scheme. Let  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary and consider the following experiment.

 $\begin{array}{c} \underbrace{Experiment \ \boldsymbol{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{priv-cpa-b}}(\lambda):}_{k \leftarrow \mathsf{KeyGen}(\lambda) \\ m_0, m_1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}_{Enc_k}(\cdot)}(\lambda) \\ c \leftarrow \mathsf{Enc}(k, m_b) \\ b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}_{Enc_k}(\cdot)}(\lambda) \\ return \ b' \end{array}$ 

The advantage of the adversary is given as

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{priv-cpa}} = \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{priv-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1] - \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{priv-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1]$$

The scheme  $\mathcal{E}$  is said to be CPA secure if the function  $\operatorname{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\operatorname{priv-cpa}}(\cdot)$  is negligible for any adversay  $\mathcal{A}$  whose time complexity is polynomial in  $\lambda$ .

**Definition 3.** Let  $\mathcal{E} = (\text{KeyGen}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  be an encryption scheme. Let  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary and consider the following experiment.

 $\begin{array}{l} \underbrace{Experiment \ Exp_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\text{pub-cpa-b}}(\lambda):} \\ \underbrace{Experiment \ Exp_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\text{pub-cpa-b}}(\lambda):} \\ (pk, sk) \leftarrow KeyGen(\lambda) \\ m_0, m_1 \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}_{Enc_{pk}}(\cdot)}(\lambda) \\ c \leftarrow Enc(pk, m_b) \\ b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}_{Enc_{pk}}(\cdot)}(\lambda) \\ return \ b' \end{array}$ 

The advantage of the adversary is given as

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} = \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1] - \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1]$$

The scheme  $\mathcal{E}$  is said to be CPA secure if the function  $\operatorname{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\operatorname{pub-cpa}}(\cdot)$  is negligible for any adversay  $\mathcal{A}$  whose time complexity is polynomial in  $\lambda$ .

**Lemma 1.** Any public-key encryption scheme that has indistinguishable encryptions under a chosenplaintext attack also has indistinguishable multiple encryptions under a chosen-plaintext attack.

### A.5 Existential Unforgeability under Chosen Message Attacks

**Definition 4.** A digital signature scheme consists of three algorithms ( $\Sigma$ .KeyGen. $\Sigma$ .Sig,  $\Sigma$ .Ver). Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the adversary and consider the following experiment: Experiment  $Exp_{\Sigma,A}^{euf-cma}(\lambda)$ :

 $\begin{array}{l} (\Sigma.\mathsf{vk},\Sigma.\mathsf{sk}) \leftarrow \Sigma.\mathsf{KeyGen}(\lambda) \\ (m,\sigma) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}_{\mathsf{Sig}_{\Sigma}.\mathsf{sk}(\cdot)}}(\lambda) \\ Let \ \mathcal{Q} \ be \ the \ set \ of \ oracle \ queries \ to \ \mathsf{Sig}_{\Sigma}.\mathsf{sk}(\cdot). \\ If \ m \notin \mathcal{Q} \ and \ \Sigma.\mathsf{Ver}(\Sigma.\mathsf{vk},m,\sigma) = 1, \ return \ 1. \end{array}$ 

The advantage of the adversary is given as

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\Sigma,\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{euf}-\mathsf{cma}} = \Pr[\mathbf{\textit{Exp}}_{\Sigma,\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{euf}-\mathsf{cma}}(\lambda) = 1]$$

### A.6 Key privacy under chosen plaintext attacks

We present a notion of key-privacy under chosen plaintext attacks as defined in [BBDP01]. The adversary runs in two stages: in the find stage it takes two public keys  $pk_0$  and  $pk_1$  and outputs a message x with some state information s. In the guess stage the adversary gets a challenge ciphertext y, which is encrypted under one of the two keys at random. The adversary then tries to guess which key was used to compute the ciphertext y.

**Definition 5.** Let  $\mathcal{E} = (\text{KeyGen}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  be an encryption scheme. Let  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary. Consider the following experiment: Experiment  $Exp_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\text{ik-cpa-b}}(\lambda)$ :

 $\begin{array}{l} \underbrace{Experiment \ Exp_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}} \quad (\lambda):}_{(\mathsf{pk}_0,\mathsf{sk}_0) \leftarrow \mathsf{KeyGen}(1^k) \ and \ (\mathsf{pk}_1,\mathsf{sk}_1) \leftarrow \mathsf{KeyGen}(1^\lambda).\\ (x,s) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(\mathsf{find},\mathsf{pk}_0,\mathsf{pk}_1)\\ y \leftarrow \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_b,x)\\ d \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(\mathsf{guess},y,s)\\ return \ d \end{array}$ 

The advantage of the adversary is given as

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{ik-cpa}} = \Pr[\mathbf{\textit{Exp}}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{ik-cpa}-1}(\lambda) = 1] - \Pr[\mathbf{\textit{Exp}}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{ik-cpa}-0}(\lambda) = 1]$$

The scheme  $\mathcal{E}$  is said to be IK - CPA secure, if the function  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{ik-cpa}}(\cdot)$  is negligible for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  whose time complexity is polynomial in k.

### A.7 Universal Composability

In UC security we consider the execution of the protocol in a special setting involving an environment machine  $\mathcal{Z}$ , in addition to the honest parties and adversary. In UC, ideal and real models are considered where a trusted party carries out the computation in the ideal model while the actual protocol runs in the real model. The trusted party is also called the ideal functionality. For example the ideal functionality  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  is a trusted party that provides the functionality of private signaling. In the UC setting, there is a global environment (the distinguisher) that chooses the inputs for the honest parties, and interacts with an adversary who is the party that participates in the protocol on behalf of dishonest parties. At the end of the protocol execution, the environment receives the output of the honest parties as well as the output of the adversary which one can assume to contain the entire transcript of the protocol. When the environment activates the honest parties and the adversary, it does not know whether the parties and the adversary are running the real protocol –they are in the real world, or they are simply interacting with the trusted ideal functionality, in which case the adversary is not interacting with any honest party, but is simply "simulating" to engage in the protocol. In the ideal world the adversary is therefore called simulator, that we denote by  $\mathcal{S}$ .

In the UC-setting, we say that a protocol securely realizes an ideal functionality, if there exist no environment that can distinguish whether the output he received comes from a real execution of the protocol between the honest parties and a real adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , or from a simulated execution of the protocol produced by the simulator, where the honest parties only forward date to and from the ideal functionality.

The transcript of the ideal world execution is denoted  $\mathsf{IDEAL}_{\mathcal{F},\mathcal{S},\mathcal{Z}}(\lambda,z)$  and the transcript of the real world execution is denoted  $_{\Pi,\mathcal{A},\mathcal{Z}}(\lambda,z)$ . A protocol is secure if the ideal world transcript and the real world transcripts are indistinguishable. That is,  $\{\mathsf{IDEAL}_{\mathcal{F},\mathcal{S},\mathcal{Z}}(\lambda,z)\}_{\lambda\in\mathbb{N},z\in\{0,1\}^*} \equiv \{_{\Pi,\mathcal{A},\mathcal{Z}}(\lambda,z)\}_{\lambda\in\mathbb{N},z\in\{0,1\}^*}$ .

### A.8 Ledger functionality

In our protocols we model the public board for reads and writes in the form of a  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  ideal functionality presented here. We present an abridged version of the functionality where we present the

- Upon receiving (SUBMIT, tx) from a party P<sub>i</sub>:
  1. Choose a unique transaction ID txid and set BTX := (tx, txid, τ<sub>L</sub>, P<sub>i</sub>)
  2. If Validate(BTX, state, buffer) = 1 then buffer := buffer ∪ BTX
  3. Send (SUBMIT, BTX) to A.
  Upon receiving BEAD from a party P<sub>i</sub> send state<sub>P</sub> to P<sub>i</sub>. If received from A
- Upon receiving READ from a party  $P_i$ , send  $\mathtt{state}_{P_i}$  to  $P_i$ . If received from  $\mathcal{A}$ , send (state, buffer) to  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Figure 18: Abridged  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  functionality

**READ** and **SUBMIT** commands. For the complete description of the functionality, we refer the reader to Pages 339-340 of [BMTZ17].

# B Proof of Security of Theorem 1

*Proof.* To prove that  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$  UC-realizes  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$  we show that there exists a simulator  $\mathcal{S}$  that interacts with  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$  and the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  to generate a transcript that is indistinguishable from the real world protocol. We consider the following cases of corruption:

- Simulator  $S_N$  for the case when only the server is corrupt.
- Simulator  $S_s$  for the case when a subset of the senders and the server are corrupt.
- Simulator  $S_r$  for the case when a subset of the recipients and the server are corrupt/
- Simulator  $S_{rs}$  for the case when a subset of the recipients, a subset of the senders and the server is corrupt.

We discuss these simulators in more detail in the next subsections.

#### 

### **B.1** Case 1: Neither S nor R is corrupt

**Simulator overview** When neither the sender nor the recipients are corrupt, then the only corrupt entity is the server. In this case, the simulator interacts with the Srv and the  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  to simulate a transcript that is indistinguishable from the real world. Note that the simulator also simulates  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  and  $\mathcal{G}_{ledger}$  towards  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Proof by hybrids** We prove security via a sequence of hybrids where we start from the real world and move to the ideal world.

- **Hyb**<sub>0</sub> The real world protocol.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except that upon receiving a SEND command, the  $\mathbf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  is replaced with an encryption to 0 instead of the actual location. By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme we prove in Lemma 2 that the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  except that in the RECEIVE command, the simulator returns encryptions of 0 as  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{loc},i}$  to the server on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{att}}$ . By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme, we prove in Lemma 3 that the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- Hyb<sub>3</sub> is the same as Hyb<sub>2</sub> except that in the Setup procedure, the simulator aborts with sigFailure<sub>1</sub>. We prove in Lemma 4 that this occurs with negligible probability.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_4$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  except that in the RECEIVE command, the simulator may abort with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>. We prove in Lemma 5 that this occurs with negligible probability.

**Lemma 2.** Assuming CPA secure encryption scheme (Def 3),  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  are indistinguishable against a PPT adversary.

*Proof.* Note that the difference between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  is that in  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  the encryption  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  is replaced by an encryption to 0, under epk.

Assume a distinguisher D can distinguish between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$ , i.e.  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_0) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

Using this distinguisher D we construct a reduction B that can break the CPA security of encryption scheme.

- 1. Activate the distinguisher D
- 2. Run the **Setup** procedure for an honest recipient R, and let the encryption public key be pk.
- 3. Upon receiving a (SEND, R, loc) command from the environment, set  $m_0 = \text{loc}$  and  $m_1 = 0^{\lambda}$ .
- 4. Send  $m_0, m_1$  to the challenger and receive back c.
- 5. Set  $ct_{Signal} = c$  and send the transcript to the distinguisher D
- 6. Output whatever D outputs.

Note that in the case  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  was the encryption of  $m_0$  the distinguisher sees the hybrid world  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  and on the other hand when encryption of  $m_1$  is returned the distinguisher sees the hybrid world  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ .

Thus

$$Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1$$

The simulator S internally simulates  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  and  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  towards the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ 

**Setup** For each recipient  $R_i$ :

- 1. Compute  $(\mathsf{pk}_i, \mathsf{sk}_i) \leftarrow \mathsf{Enc.KeyGen}(1^{\lambda}), \ (\Sigma.\mathsf{sk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i) \leftarrow \Sigma.\mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda}).$
- 2. Set  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i} = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk}_i, (\mathsf{pk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i))$  and send ("setup",  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i}$ ) to Srv.
- 3. Upon receiving  $((eid, pk_i), \sigma)$  abort with sigFailure<sub>1</sub> if  $\sigma$  would be validated but the following communication was not recorded:  $((pk_i), \sigma) = \mathcal{G}_{att}.resume(eid, ("setup", ct_{keys,i}))$ .
- 4. Else publish  $\mathsf{pk}_i$  and set  $\mathsf{index}_i = 0$ ,  $\mathsf{ctr}_i = 0$  and  $\vec{L} = \{0\}_{j=0}^{\ell}$ .

SEND: Upon receiving (SEND,  $S_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ 

- 1. Compute  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}} = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk}, 0)$  and send (SUBMIT, (SEND,  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}})$ ) to  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$ .
- 2. Upon receiving ("send", ct<sub>Signal</sub>) on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ , rewrite each  $\vec{L}_i$ .
- 3. Send (SEND, ok) to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ .

**RECEIVE:** Upon receiving (**RECEIVE**,  $R_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ 

- 1. Compute  $\sigma_i = \text{Sig}(\Sigma.\text{sk}_i, \text{ctr}_i)$  and send (RECEIVE,  $\text{ctr}_i, \sigma_i$ ) to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- 2. Upon receiving  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att.}}$ resume $(eid, (\text{"receive"}, \mathsf{ctr}_i, \sigma_i, \vec{L}_i))$  on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att.}}$ :
  - (a) Compute  $\vec{\mathsf{ct}}_{\mathsf{loc},i} = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_i, 0) \dots \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_i, 0)$
  - (b) Update  $\mathsf{ctr}_i = \mathsf{ctr}_i + 1$
  - (c) Compute  $\sigma_T = \mathsf{Sig}(\mathsf{msk}, (eid, \vec{\mathsf{ct}}_{\mathsf{loc},i}))$
  - (d) Return  $(\vec{\mathsf{ct}}_{\mathsf{loc},i},\sigma_T)$  to  $\mathcal{A}$
- 3. Receive  $(eid, \vec{ct}_{loc,i}, \sigma_T)$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ . If this was received without the communication with  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ , abort with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>.
- 4. Else send (RECEIVE, ok) to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ .

**READ**: Upon receiving (**READ**) from  $\mathcal{A}$ , forward (**READ**) to  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  and return whatever is returned.

Figure 19: Simulator  $S_N$  for the case of only one corrupt server

and  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_0) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1$ This implies

ł

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} = \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1] - \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1]$$

 $= Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_0) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

But this is a contradiction, since we assume CPA secure encryption schemes and therefore  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ .

Hence  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_0) = 1] < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$  making the two hybrids indistinguishable.

**Lemma 3.** Assuming CPA secure encryption scheme (Def 3) and by Lemma 1,  $Hyb_2$  and  $Hyb_1$  are indistinguishable against a PPT adversary.

*Proof.* Note that the difference between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is that in  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  the encryption  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{loc}}$  is replaced by encryptions to 0, under the same  $\mathsf{pk}$ .

Assume a distinguisher D can distinguish between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ , i.e.  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

Using this distinguisher D we construct a reduction B that can break the CPA security of encryption scheme.

1. Activate the distinguisher D

2. Run the **Setup** procedure for an honest recipient R, and let the encryption public key be pk.

3. Upon receiving a RECEIVE command, simulate the protocol such that  $\mathsf{locns} = \{\mathsf{loc}_1 \dots \mathsf{loc}_\ell\}$  and set  $\vec{m_0} = \mathsf{locns}$  and  $\vec{m_1} = 0^{\lambda}$ .

- 4. Send  $\vec{m_0}, \vec{m_1}$  to the challenger and receive back  $\vec{c}$ .
- 5. Set  $\vec{ct}_{loc} = \vec{c}$  and send the transcript to the distinguisher D
- 6. Output whatever D outputs.

Note that in the case  $\vec{ct}_{loc}$  was the encryption of  $\vec{m_0}$  the distinguisher sees the hybrid world -Hyb<sub>1</sub> and on the other hand when encryption of  $\vec{m_1}$  is returned the distinguisher sees the hybrid world Hyb<sub>2</sub>.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} ⪻[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1 \\ & \text{and} \\ ⪻[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1 \\ & \text{This implies} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} = \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1] - \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1]$$

 $= Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

But this is a contradiction, since we assume CPA secure encryption schemes and therefore  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ .

Hence  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$  making the two hybrids indistinguishable.

**Lemma 4.** Assuming EUF-CMA signatures,  $Hyb_3$  and  $Hyb_2$  are indistinguishable.

*Proof.* Note that the difference between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  is that in  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  the event sigFailure<sub>1</sub> can occur. We prove in this section that the probability of this event occurring is negligible.

First we observe that  $sigFailure_1$  occurs when the simulator receives a signature from the adversary that was not created by the simulator on behalf of the  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ .

Assume a distinguisher D can distinguish between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$ , i.e.  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_3) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

This implies that  $Pr[sigFailure_1] > negl(\lambda)$ .

The simulator S internally simulates  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  towards the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ Setup For each recipient  $R_i$ : Same as in Fig 19 SEND: Upon receiving (SEND,  $S_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ , same as in Fig 19. //(Honest send) Upon receiving  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ .resume( $eid_j$ , ("send",  $ct_{Signal}$ )) on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  for a  $ct_{Signal}$  that was not created by the simulator. //(Malicious send) Let msg = Dec(esk,  $ct_{Signal}$ ). if msg[0] = pk and pk corresponds to some  $R_j$  then Let loc = msg[1] Send (SEND,  $R_j$ , loc) to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  on behalf of  $\mathcal{A}$  and receive (SEND,  $\mathcal{A}$ ) and send back (SEND, ok). Rewrite each index of each  $\vec{L}$ . RECEIVE Same as in Fig 19 SUBMIT : Upon receiving a SUBMIT request from  $\mathcal{A}$ , forward to  $\mathcal{G}_{ledger}$ . //(Malicious write to  $\mathcal{G}_{ledger}$ ) READ Same as in Fig 19

Figure 20: Simulator  $S_s$  for the case corrupt server and sender

Which implies that  $Pr[\mathcal{A}(\cdot) = ((eid, \mathsf{pk}_i), \sigma) \land \Sigma.\mathsf{Ver}(\mathsf{mpk}, (eid, \mathsf{pk}), \sigma) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ Using this adversary we present a reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  that breaks the EUF-CMA property (Def 4) of signature schemes.

- 1. Simulate the world as in  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$ , and receive  $\Sigma.vk$  from the challenger. Set mpk of  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  as  $\Sigma.vk$ .
- 2. When simulating  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$  and (eid, pk) needs to be signed, use  $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Sig}_{\Sigma,sk}}(\cdot)$  and send back the signature to the adversary.
- 3. Upon receiving  $((eid, (eid, pk)), \sigma'))$  from  $\mathcal{A}$  for which there was no communication with  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ , check that

 $\Sigma$ .Ver(mpk,  $(eid, (eid, pk)), \sigma') = 1$ .

4. If yes, output  $m = (eid, (eid, \mathsf{pk}))$  and  $\sigma = \sigma'$ Observe that

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{Adv}_{\Sigma,\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{euf-cma}} &= \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\Sigma,\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{euf-cma}}(\lambda) = 1] \\ &= \Pr[\Sigma.\mathsf{Ver}(\mathsf{mpk},(eid,\mathsf{pk}),\sigma) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda) \end{split}$$

But this is a contradiction since we assume EUF-CMA signatures and therefore  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\Sigma,\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{euf}-\mathsf{cma}} < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

Hence  $Pr[\mathsf{sigFailure}_1] < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$  and therefore  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_3) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$   $\Box$ 

**Lemma 5.** Assuming EUF-CMA signatures,  $Hyb_4$  and  $Hyb_3$  are indistinguishable.

*Proof.* Similar to the proof for Lemma 4

## **B.2** Case 2: S and Srv are corrupt

**Simulator Overview** In this case a subset of the senders are corrupt along with the server. To prove security we need to construct a simulator that interacts with the adversary and the  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  functionality that is indistinguishable from the real world.

**Proof by hybrids** Through hybrid arguments we move from the real world to the ideal world and prove that each pair of intermediate hybrids are indistinguishable.

- **Hyb**<sub>0</sub> is the real world.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except that for an honest sender, encryptions of 0 are sent instead of the actual locations in the SEND command. By the CPA security of the underlying encryption scheme,  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  except that for RECEIVE command, the simulator returns encryptions of 0 to the server as  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ . By the CPA security of the underlying encryption scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- $Hyb_3$  is the same as  $Hyb_2$  except that the "setup" of Setup procedure is done as in the simulation and the simulator might abort with sigFailure<sub>1</sub>. By the EUF-CMA property of the signature scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_4$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  except that the RECEIVE is done as in the simulation and the simulator might abort with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>. By the EUF-CMA property of the signature scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable.

Since the reductions are similar to the previous case, we omit them here.

### **B.3** Case 3: Srv and *R* are corrupt

**Simulator overview** In this case, the simulator needs to simulate a view towards a malicious recipient that is indistinguishable from the real world interaction. For malicious recipients, the simulator is notified of their RECEIVE request since the Srv must invoke the  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  functionality to get . Next the simulator needs to to send the correct locations to the recipient, even though the simulated  $\vec{L}$  are just an encryption of 0s. To this end, the simulator simply sends the RECEIVE command to the  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  functionality and learns the locations that correspond to the malicious recipient. It then simulates the  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  functionality to compute an encryption of the locations and sends it back to the Srv.

#### Proof by hybrids

- **Hyb**<sub>0</sub> The real world protocol.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except that upon receiving a SEND command, the  $\mathbf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  is replaced with an encryption to 0 instead of the actual location. By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  except that in the RECEIVE command for an honest recipient, the simulator returns encryptions of 0 as  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{loc},i}$  to the server on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{att}}$ . By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- Hyb<sub>3</sub> is the same as Hyb<sub>2</sub>, except that for malicious recipients, the simulator may abort with sigFailure. Since we assume EUF-CMA signatures these two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- Hyb<sub>4</sub> is the same as Hyb<sub>3</sub> except that in the Setup procedure, the simulator aborts with sigFailure<sub>1</sub>. Because of EUF-CMA signatures this occurs with negl probability.
- $Hyb_5$  is the same as  $Hyb_4$  except that in the RECEIVE command, the simulator may abort with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>. Because of EUF-CMA signatures this occurs with negl probability.

### **B.4** Case 4: Corrupt Srv, S and R

**Simulator overview** This simulator is a combination of the previous simulators, where the simulator simulates the SEND command as in the case when the Srv and the sender S are corrupt, for the Setup and RECEIVE commands the simulator simulates as in the case when the Srv and the recipient R are corrupt.

#### Proof by hybrids

• **Hyb**<sub>0</sub> is the real world.

The simulator  $\mathcal{S}$  internally simulates  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  towards the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ **Setup** For each honest recipient  $R_i$ : Same as in Fig 19 //(Malicious receiver): Upon receiving  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$ .resume $(eid, (\text{"setup"}, \mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i})$  from Srv on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$ : 1. Compute  $(\mathsf{pk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i) = \mathsf{Dec}(\mathsf{esk}, \mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i})$  and compute  $\mathsf{pk}_i$  from  $\mathsf{sk}_i$ . 2. Set  $\vec{L} = \{0\}_{i=0}^{\ell}$ 3. Set index = 0 and ctr = 04. Compute  $\sigma = \Sigma$ .Sig(msk, (eid, (pk))) and send  $(pk, \sigma)$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and store  $(pk_i, \Sigma.vk_i, index_i, ctr_i)$ . SEND: Same as in Fig 19 **RECEIVE** For honest recipients, same as in Fig 19. // (For malicious recipients) 1. Receive  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$ .resume $(eid, (\text{"receive"}, \mathsf{ctr}_i, \sigma_i))$  from Srv on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$ . If Sig.Ver $(\Sigma \cdot \mathsf{vk}_i, \mathsf{ctr}_i, \sigma_i) = 0$ , return  $\bot$ . Else if *i* corresponds to that of an honest recipient, abort with sigFailure. Else: 2. Send (RECEIVE,  $R_i$ ) to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  on behalf of  $R_i$  and get back (RECEIVE,  $R_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ . Send (RECEIVE, ok) to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  and get back  $[loc_1 \dots loc_\ell]$ . If less than  $\ell$  locations received, pad with 0. 3. Compute  $\operatorname{ct}_{\mathsf{loc},i} = (\operatorname{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_i, \mathsf{loc}_1) \dots \operatorname{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_i, \mathsf{loc}_\ell))$ 4. Compute  $\sigma_T = \Sigma$ .Sig(msk, (ct<sub>loc,i</sub>)) and send (ct<sub>loc,i</sub>,  $\sigma_T$ ) to  $\mathcal{A}$ . READ Same as in Fig 19

Figure 21: Simulator  $S_r$  for the case corrupt server and recipients

The simulator S maintains a public **board** and internally simulates  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  towards the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ 

### Setup

For each recipient  $R_i$ : Same as in Fig 21

SUBMIT : Same as in Fig 20

SEND: Same as in Fig 20

**RECEIVE** Same as in Fig 21

**READ** Same as in Fig 19

Figure 22: Simulator  $S_{sr}$  for the case corrupt server, server and recipients

- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except that for an honest sender, encryptions of 0 are sent instead of the actual locations in the SEND command. By the CPA security of the underlying encryption scheme,  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  except that for RECEIVE command, the simulator returns encryptions of 0 to the server as  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ . By the CPA security of the underlying encryption scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- Hyb<sub>4</sub> is the same as Hyb<sub>3</sub>, except that for malicious recipients, the simulator may abort with sigFailure. Since we assume EUF-CMA signatures these two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_5$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_4$  except that the "setup" of Setup procedure is done as in the simulation and the simulator might abort with sigFailure<sub>1</sub>. By the EUF-CMA property of the signature scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_6$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_5$  except that the RECEIVE is done as in the simulation and the simulator might abort with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>. By the EUF-CMA property of the signature scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable.

# C Proof of security for theorem 2

## C.1 Correctness

We require the following correctness guarantees from our protocol.

- 1. If a sender S sends a signal to recipient R using SEND for location loc, then processSignal ensures that upon RECEIVE from from R, it learns of loc.
- 2. Upon receiving a RECEIVE request from the R the rows for R maintained by the servers must be updated to shares of 0.

To check that the first guarantee is satisfied, let there be only one recipient R and the  $\mathbb{T}^{(i)}$  maintained by the servers have one column each with the value r. Let  $\mathbb{L}^{(i)}$  also be initialized with *idx*. This implies both tables maintain shares of 0.

That is the last updated index for R is  $idx \oplus idx = 0$  and the value at this index is  $r \oplus r = 0$ 

Now  $Srv_1$  upon receiving  $(R^{(1)}, loc^{(1)})$  and  $Srv_2$  upon receiving  $(R^{(2)}, loc^{(2)})$  from the sender S, run the processSignal procedure.

Srv<sub>i</sub> samples  $r_i$  and  $idx_i$  and creates a garbled circuit using Garble, which includes key labels for the r, idx, maintained by the other Srv and the randomly sampled  $r_i$  and  $idx_i$  by both Srv. These key labels are sent to the  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$  functionality and the keys for  $R^{(i)}$ ,  $|oc^{(i)}|$  and  $r_i$ ,  $idx_i$  that are known only to Srv<sub>i</sub> are directly sent to the other Srv. Moreover to evaluate its own circuit, the Srv<sub>i</sub> must receive same labels from  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$  and directly from the other Srv. By the correctness of the GC protocol, the circuit evaluates the function UpdateTable and UpdIndex we have that  $\mathbb{T}^{(i)}[R]$  is updated as  $|oc^{(i)} \oplus r_1 \oplus r_2 \oplus (r)|$ and  $\mathbb{L}^{(1)}[R]$  is updated as  $1 \oplus idx \oplus idx_1 \oplus idx_2$  and  $\mathbb{L}^{(2)}[R]$  is updated as  $idx \oplus index_1 \oplus idx_2$ .

Now note that the two  $\mathbb{L}^{(1)} \oplus \mathbb{L}^{(2)}$  maintains the invariant of the last updated index for R which is now  $1 \oplus idx \oplus idx_1 \oplus idx_2 \oplus idx \oplus idx_1 \oplus idx_2 = 1$  and the value at this index is  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)} \oplus \mathbb{T}^{(2)} = \log^{(1)} \oplus r_1 \oplus r_2 \oplus (r) \oplus \log^{(2)} \oplus r_1 \oplus r_2 \oplus (r) = \log^{(1)} \oplus \log^{(2)} = \log$ .

# C.2 Protocol $\Pi_{privSignal2}$ realizes the $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ functionality

*Proof.* To prove that  $\Pi_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$  UC-realizes  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$  we show that there exists a simulator  $\mathcal{S}$  interacting with  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$  that generates a transcript that is indistinguishable from the transcript generated by the real-world adversary running protocol  $\Pi_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$ . We consider the following different cases of corruption and define a simulator for each case:

- Simulator  $S_N$  for the case when neither a sender nor a recipient is malicious and only one of the two servers (w.l.o.g.  $Srv_1$ ) is corrupt.
- Simulator  $S_s$  for the case when a sender S is corrupt and colludes with one of the servers.
- Simulator  $S_r$  for the case when a recipient R is corrupt and colludes with one of the servers.

The simulator S is initialized with  $S_{Garble}$  which is the simulator for garbled circuits.

- **Setup** For each recipient  $R_i$ :
- 1.  $(\Sigma.\mathsf{sk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i) \leftarrow \Sigma.\mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda})$  and publish  $\Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i$ .
- 2. Randomly sample  $(r_0, \ldots, r_\ell) \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q^{\ell+1}$ , and initialize  $\mathsf{ctr}_i = 0$ .
- 3. Compute  $\sigma_i = \Sigma . \mathsf{Sig}(\Sigma . \mathsf{sk}_i, ((r_0 \dots, r_\ell), \mathsf{ctr}_i))$  and send  $(\mathbf{Setup}, (r_0 \dots, r_\ell), \mathsf{ctr}_i))$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .

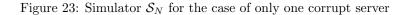
READ: Upon receiving (READ) from  $\mathcal{A}$ , send (READ) to  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  and forward the reply received.

SEND: Upon receiving (SEND,  $S_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ 

- 1. Sample  $r_1, r_2 \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{\lambda}$  and set  $R^{(1)} = R^{(2)} = r_1$  and  $\mathsf{loc}^{(1)} = \mathsf{loc}^{(2)} = r_2$  and send (SUBMIT, (SEND,  $(c_1, c_2)$ )) to  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  where  $c_1 = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_1, R^{(1)}, \mathsf{loc}^{(1)})$  and  $c_2 = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_2, 0)$ .
- 2. (Simulating  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$ ): Receive from  $\mathcal{A}$  (OT-SEND,  $(s_0, s_1)$ ) for bits in  $|\mathbb{T}^{(2)}|, |\mathsf{loc}^{(2)}|, |\mathbb{R}^{(2)}|, \mathbb{L}^{(2)}|$ and  $|r_{(i,j)}|$ . Store these strings and send OT-SEND to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- 3. Upon receiving (OT-RECEIVE, b) for bits in  $|\mathbb{T}^{(1)}|, |\mathsf{loc}^{(1)}|, |\mathbb{R}^{(1)}|, \mathbb{L}^{(1)}|$  and  $|r_{(i,j)}|$ , compute  $(F, X, d) \leftarrow \mathcal{S}_{\mathsf{Garble}}(1^k, y, (\mathsf{UpdateTable}, \mathsf{UpdIndex}))$ , where  $y = \mathbb{T}^{(*)}, \mathbb{L}^{(*)}$  and  $\mathbb{T}^{(*)} \leftarrow_{\$} \{0, 1\}^{M \times \ell}$  and  $\mathbb{L}^{(*)} \leftarrow_{\$} \{0, 1\}^M$ . Send corresponding bits of X via  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{ot}}$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and send (F, d) to  $\mathcal{A}$ . Send (SEND, ok) to  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$

**RECEIVE** : Upon receiving (**RECEIVE**,  $R_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ ,

- 1. Randomly sample  $(r_0, \ldots, r_\ell) \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q^{\ell+1}$ .
- 2. Send  $\sigma_i = \Sigma.Sig(\Sigma.sk_i, (ctr_i(r_0, \ldots, r_\ell) \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q^{\ell+1}))$  to  $\mathcal{A}$
- 3. Update  $\operatorname{ctr}_i = \operatorname{ctr}_i + 1$
- 4. Send ok to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ .



• Simulator  $S_{rs}$  for the case when both R and S are corrupt. Here we consider the case when the recipient and sender colludes with one of the two servers  $(Srv_1)$ . We discuss these simulators in more detail below.

## C.3 Case 1: Neither S nor R is corrupt

**Simulator overview.** When neither S nor R are corrupt, then the only corrupt party is  $Srv_1$ . Thus the simulator must interact with  $Srv_1$  (the adversary) and the functionality  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  to simulate a view that is indistinguishable from the real world protocol. The simulator simulates  $\mathcal{G}_{ledger}$  towards the adversary and forwards any request (SUBMIT, READ) from the adversary to the functionality. The simulator  $\mathcal{S}_N$  simulates the following commands it receives from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ :

- SEND: The simulator does not know the recipient or the location of the signal, since it only receives the sender identity from  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$ .  $\mathcal{S}_N$  thus sets R = 0 and  $\mathsf{loc} = 0$  and creates shares of the same. A share of each is sent to  $\mathsf{Srv}_1$ . Then using the simulator of the garbled circuit  $\mathcal{S}_{\mathsf{Garble}}$ , it simulates a GC such that the output of the  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}$  and  $\mathbb{L}^{(1)}$  are completely random. Note that in the real world as well each index is  $\oplus$ -ed with a random value from  $\mathsf{Srv}_2$ , thus intuitively this simulation should be indistinguishable from the real world.
- RECEIVE: The simulator requests  $Srv_1$  for the row corresponding to  $R_j$ , where  $R_j$  is the recipient for which  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  received a RECEIVE command.

We present the simulator more precisely in Fig 23

**Proof by hybrids.** We prove security via a sequence of hybrids where we start from the real world and move to the ideal world.

- **Hyb**<sub>0</sub> The real world protocol.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except for the SEND command the garbled circuit computation is done by  $S_{\mathsf{Garble}}$ . We prove in Lemma 6 that  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  are indistinguishable by the privacy property (Def 1) of garbled circuits.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  except for the SEND command, the encrypted signals posted on the board is replaced by encryptions of shares of 0. Since we use XOR, information theoretically  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  are indistinguishable to a computationally unbounded adversary. And this is equivalent to the ideal world.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  except in the SEND command, the encrypted signal for  $\mathbf{Srv}_2$  is now replaced with an encryption of 0. Since we use a CPA secure encryption scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable.

# **Lemma 6.** If secure garbled circuits with privacy (Def 1) are used then $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$ and $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ are indistinguishable to a PPT adversary.

*Proof.* Assume towards a contradiction that an adversary  $\mathcal{A}_{01}$  can distinguish between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ . Using this  $\mathcal{A}_{01}$  we construct an adversary  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathsf{Garble}}$  that breaks the privacy of the garbled circuits (def 1).

 $\mathcal{A}_{\mathsf{Garble}}$ 

- 1. Activate  $\mathcal{A}_{01}$ .
- 2. Simulate requests for  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$ . For a SEND command, as the garbler of the GC create the encodings as in the protocol, and receive (F, X, d) from the challenger, where X is received from an OT oracle.
- 3. Forward (F, X, d) to  $\mathcal{A}_{01}$ .
- 4. Output whatever  $\mathcal{A}_{01}$  outputs.

Analysis

Since  $\mathcal{A}_{01}$  can distinguish between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  we have:

$$Pr[\mathcal{A}_{01}(\mathbf{Hyb}_0) = 1] - Pr[\mathcal{A}_{01}(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$$

Observe that when b = 1 in the PrvSim game, the transcript seen by  $A_{01}$  is exactly as in the  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  since the garbled circuit is created honestly. Similarly, when b = 0, the transcript seen by  $A_{01}$  is exactly as in  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  since the simulator  $S_{\mathsf{Garble}}$  is used to compute (F, X, d).

Thus we have  $Pr[\mathcal{A}_{\mathsf{Garble}}(\mathsf{PrvSim}) = 1|b = 1] = Pr[\mathcal{A}_{01}(\mathbf{Hyb}_0) = 0]$  and  $Pr[\mathcal{A}_{\mathsf{Garble}}(\mathsf{PrvSim}) = 0|b = 0] = Pr[\mathcal{A}_{01}(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1]$ 

Thus  $Pr[\mathsf{PrvSim}_{\mathcal{G},\phi,\mathcal{S}}^{\mathcal{A}}(k)]$  which is  $1/2Pr[\mathcal{A}_{\mathsf{Garble}}(\mathsf{PrvSim}) = 1|b = 1] + 1/2Pr[\mathcal{A}_{\mathsf{Garble}}(\mathsf{PrvSim}) = 0|b = 0]$ 

And this is equal to

$$1/2|Pr[\mathcal{A}_{01}(\mathbf{Hyb}_0) = 0] + 1/2Pr[\mathcal{A}_{01}(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1]|$$

$$= |1/2 - 1/2Pr[\mathcal{A}_{01}(\mathbf{Hyb}_0) = 1] + 1/2Pr[\mathcal{A}_{01}(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1]|$$

 $> 1/2 + \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

which is non-negligible and this implies

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{G}}^{\mathrm{prv.sim},\phi,\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{A},k) > 2(1/2 + \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)) - 1 > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$$

which is a contradiction and that concludes our proof.

The simulator S has access to  $S_{Garble}$ 

Setup As in Fig 23

#### SEND:

- 1. Upon receiving (SEND,  $S_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ , simulate SEND as in Fig 23 // (Honest senders)
- 2. Upon receiving  $(R^{(2)}, \mathsf{loc}^{(2)})$  from  $\mathcal{A}$  after decrypting  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal},2}$  (that was received as a (SUBMIT, (SEND,  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal},1}, \mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal},2})$ ) call) // (Malicious senders)
  - (As  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$ ): Send OT-SEND to  $\mathcal{A}$  and receive (OT-RECEIVE, b) from  $\mathcal{A}$  for each bit in  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}, \mathbb{L}^{(1)}, \mathsf{loc}^{(1)}$  and  $R^{(1)}$ .
  - Compute  $loc^{(1)}$  and  $R^{(1)}$  from the received bits and compute  $loc = loc^{(1)} \oplus loc^{(2)}$  and  $R = R^{(1)} \oplus R^{(2)}$ .
  - Send (SEND, R, loc) to  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$  on behalf of  $\mathcal{A}$  and upon receiving (SEND,  $\mathcal{A}$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$  use  $\mathcal{S}_{\mathsf{Garble}}$  to compute  $(F, X, d) \leftarrow \mathcal{S}_{\mathsf{Garble}}(1^k, y, (\mathsf{UpdateTable}, \mathsf{UpdIndex}))$ , where  $y = \mathbb{T}^{(*)}, \mathbb{L}^{(*)}$  and  $\mathbb{T}^{(*)} \leftarrow_{\$} \{0, 1\}^{M \times \ell}$  and  $\mathbb{L}^{(*)} \leftarrow_{\$} \{0, 1\}^M$ . Send keys for corresponding bits of X via  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{ot}}$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and send (F, d) to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
  - Upon receiving (OT-SEND,  $(s_0, s_1)$ ) from  $\mathcal{A}$  for bits in  $|\mathbb{T}^{(2)}|$ ,  $|\mathsf{loc}^{(2)}|$ ,  $|\mathbb{R}^{(2)}|$ ,  $\mathbb{L}^{(2)}$  and  $|r_{(i,j)}|$ . Store these strings and send OT-SEND to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
  - Send (SEND, ok) to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$

RECEIVE: Simulate RECEIVE as in Fig 23

#### **READ**: Same as Fig 23.

SUBMIT: Upon receiving (SUBMIT, m), forward the command to  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  and return whatever is returned.

Figure 24: Case when a sender and  $Srv_1$  are corrupt

## C.4 S and $Srv_1$ are corrupt

Simulator Overview In this setting, the simulator is similar to the previous case, except that the simulator cannot directly compute the recipient and the location. It cannot do so because it receives only one share of the recipient's index  $(R^{(2)})$  and the location  $(loc^{(2)})$ . But note that the simulator internally simulates  $\mathcal{F}_{ot}$  towards the  $\mathcal{A}$ . And the  $\mathcal{A}$  must send bits of  $R^{(1)}$  and  $loc^{(1)}$  to get the corresponding keys to evaluate its GC. At this point the simulator can learn the bits of  $loc^{(1)}$  and  $R^{(1)}$ . The simulator then proceeds as in the previous case and sends a SEND, R, loc message to the functionality. To simulate the rest of the interaction with  $Srv_1$ , the simulator simply calls  $\mathcal{S}_{Garble}$  as in Case C.3.

- **Hyb**<sub>0</sub>: The real world
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except that  $\mathcal{S}_{\mathsf{Garble}}$  is used to create the garbled circuit and the encodings for  $\mathsf{Srv}_1$ .  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  are indistinguishable by the privacy property of garbled circuits and the proof follows from Lemma 6.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  except that if  $\mathcal{A}$  is calls a SEND procedure, the simulator now extracts  $\mathsf{loc}^{(1)}$  and  $R^{(1)}$  from  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{ot}}$ , computes R and  $\mathsf{loc}$  and sends the SEND command to  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$ . Since we use ideal  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{ot}}$  and assume that  $\mathsf{loc}^{(1)} \oplus \mathsf{loc}^{(2)}$  will give some  $\mathsf{loc}$  and  $R^{(1)} \oplus R^{(2)}$  gives some valid recipient, the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  except in the SEND command, the encrypted signal for  $\mathbf{Srv}_2$  is now replaced with an encryption of 0. Since we use CPA secure encryption scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable. And  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is equal to the ideal world.

The simulator  $\mathcal{S}$  has access to  $\mathcal{S}_{Garble}$ 

SEND: Upon receiving (SEND,  $S_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ , simulate as in Fig 23.

## RECEIVE :

- Upon receiving (RECEIVE,  $R_j$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ , simulate as in Fig 23.
- Upon receiving  $\sigma_j = \Sigma$ .Sig $(\Sigma$ .sk<sub>j</sub>, (ctr',  $r_0, \ldots, r_\ell)$ , 2) from  $\mathcal{A}$  (on behalf of party  $R_j$ ), check that the signatures verify and ctr = ctr'. Else ignore.
- If the signatures correspond to that of an honest party abort with error  $UnforgeError_1$ , else send RECEIVE to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  on behalf of  $R_j$  and receive  $loc_1 \dots loc_\ell$  from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ . Send  $[loc_1 \oplus \mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R_j], \dots, loc_\ell \oplus \mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R_j]]$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and send ok to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$

Figure 25: Simulator for the case when a recipient and  $Srv_1$  are corrupt

## C.5 R and $Srv_1$ are corrupt

**Overview of the simulator** The simulator for the SEND procedure will work similar to the one in Sec C.3. This is so because we have one server corrupt and the sender is not corrupt. Thus instead of the actual R and loc we use shares of 0. Moreover  $S_{Garble}$  will be used to simulate the garbled circuit towards the corrupted server. But then for the RECEIVE command, the simulator does not have the loc for the corresponding recipient. To this end, the simulator just sends the RECEIVE command to the  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  functionality on behalf of the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ . Upon receiving  $\mathsf{loc}_1 \ldots \mathsf{loc}_\ell$ , the simulator updates  $\mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R]$  by  $\oplus$ ing each  $\mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R][i]$  with  $\mathsf{loc}_i$ . This ensures that simulation is correct since, the  $\mathcal{A}$ now receives this updated  $\mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R]$  which when  $\oplus$ -ed with  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}[R]$  will give the locations of signals for the adversary. We present the simulator formally in Fig 25

## Proof by hybrids

- **Hyb**<sub>0</sub> is the real world.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except that for each SEND the simulator now uses a simulated GC instead of the real world GC and responses to RECEIVE are done as in the simulation.  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$ are indistinguishable by the privacy property of GC and this follows the same proof as in Lemma 6. Note that the two tables maintain shares of 0. That is  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}[R_i][j] \oplus \mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R_i][j] = 0$  for all i and j. Since in the simulation, the simulator sends  $\mathbf{loc}_j \oplus \mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R_i][j]$  to the  $\mathcal{A}$  (who already has  $\mathbb{T}^{(1)}[R_i]$ ) the  $\mathcal{A}$  can get the correct locations as  $\mathbf{loc}_j \oplus \mathbb{T}^{(2)}[R_i][j] \oplus \mathbb{T}^{(1)}[R_i] = \mathbf{loc}_j \oplus 0 = \mathbf{loc}_j$ .
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  except that the simulator may abort with  $\mathsf{UnforgeError}_1$ . We prove in Lemma 7 that UF-CMA property of the underlying signature scheme  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  except in the SEND command, the encrypted signal for  $\mathbf{Srv}_2$  is now replaced with an encryption of 0. Since we use CPA secure encryption scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable. And  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is equal to the ideal world.

**Lemma 7.** Assuming existential unforgeable signatures that are secure against chosen message attacks,  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  are indistinguishable.

*Proof.* Note that the difference between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is that in  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  the event  $\mathsf{UnforgeError}_1$  can occur. We prove in this section that the probability of this event occurring is negligible.

First we observe that  $UnforgeError_1$  occurs when the simulator receives a signature from the adversary that is valid and corresponds to that of an honest party.

Assume a distinguisher D can distinguish between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ , i.e.  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

This implies that  $Pr[\mathsf{UnforgeError}_1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ .

The simulator S maintains a public **board** and also has access to  $S_{Garble}$ SUBMIT : Similar to simulation in Fig 23 READ : Similar to simulation in Fig 24 RECEIVE: Similar to simulation in Fig 25

Figure 26: Simulator for the case when a recipient, sender and  $Srv_1$  are corrupt

Which implies that  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a  $Pr[\Sigma.Ver(\Sigma.vk_j, (\mathsf{ctr}', (r_0, \dots r_\ell), 2), \sigma) = 1 \land R_j$  is honest  $\land \mathsf{ctr}'_j = \mathsf{ctr}_j] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

Using this adversary we present a reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  that breaks the EUF-CMA property (Def 4) of signature schemes.

- 1. Simulate the world as in  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ , and receive  $\Sigma.vk$  from the challenger. Set an honest recipient  $R_j$ 's verification key to be  $\Sigma.vk$  and publish it.
- 2. Upon receiving  $(\mathsf{ctr}', (r_0, \ldots, r_\ell, 2, \sigma), \text{ check if } \mathsf{ctr} = \mathsf{ctr}' \text{ and } \Sigma.\mathsf{Ver}(\Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_j, (\mathsf{ctr}', (r_0, \ldots, r_\ell), 2), \sigma) = 1.$
- 3. If yes, output  $(\mathsf{ctr}', (r_0, \ldots, r_\ell, 2), \sigma)$  to the challenger

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Adv}_{\Sigma,\mathcal{B}}^{\mathsf{euf}-\mathsf{cma}} &= \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\Sigma,\mathcal{B}}^{\mathsf{euf}-\mathsf{cma}}(\lambda) = 1] \\ &= \Pr[\Sigma.\mathsf{Ver}(\Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_j,(\mathsf{ctr}',(r_0,\ldots r_\ell),2),\sigma) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda) \end{aligned}$$

But this is a contradiction since we assume EUF-CMA signatures and therefore  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\Sigma,\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{euf}-\mathsf{cma}} < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

Hence  $Pr[\mathsf{UnforgeError}_1] < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$  and therefore  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ .

# C.6 S, R and $Srv_1$ are corrupt

**Overview of simulator** In this case the simulator needs to simulate a view on behalf of  $Srv_2$  only. To this end, when a SEND command is received, the simulation is done exactly as in Case C.4 and when for RECEIVE, the simulation is done as in Case C.5

- **Hyb**<sub>0</sub> is the real world hybrid.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except that the GC is now simulated and response to RECEIVE is returned as in the simulation. By a proof following Lemma 6 we have that  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  is the same  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  except that the SEND is now replaced by shares of 0. Since  $\mathbf{Srv}_1$  can only receive one share, information theoretically the  $\mathbf{Srv}$  cannot distinguish if its a share of 0 or the actual location. Thus  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  except that the simulator may abort if  $\mathsf{UnforgeError}_1$  in a RECEIVE command occurs. By a proof following Lemma 7,  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  are indistinguishable. And this is the same as in the ideal world.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_4$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  except in the SEND command, the encrypted signal for  $\mathbf{Srv}_2$  is now replaced with an encryption of 0. Since we use CPA secure encryption scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable. And  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is equal to the ideal world.

# D Inefficient solutions with no servers

As described in the introduction a naive scan for messages on the **board** by the recipient would require  $\mathcal{O}(N)$  computation from the recipient, where N is the total number of messages on the **board**.

An idea to improve the recipient's complexity in a setting without any servers is the following: Each recipient  $R_i$  initializes a counter that is encrypted under its public key using an additively homomorphic encryption scheme:  $\operatorname{ct}_{\operatorname{ctr}}^i = \operatorname{Enc}(\operatorname{pk}_i, 0)$ . Now when a sender wishes to signal that a message is for recipient  $R_i$ , the sender does the following computation: for  $R_i$  update  $\operatorname{ct}_{\operatorname{ctr}}^i = \operatorname{ct}_{\operatorname{ctr}}^i + \operatorname{Enc}(\operatorname{pk}_i, 0)$  and post  $\{\operatorname{ct}_{\operatorname{ctr}}^i\}_{i=1}^M$  to the **board** along with the message. At a later point of time, the recipient  $R_i$  retrieves the latest  $\operatorname{ct}_{\operatorname{ctr}}^i$  and decrypts it to learn the value of  $\operatorname{ctr}_i$ . If  $\operatorname{ctr}_i > 0$  then there exists a message for  $R_i$ . The recipient can then perform a binary search on the **board** to find in which locations the counter was incremented and thus learn the messages for itself. If the total number of messages on the **board** is N and the number of messages for the recipient is  $\ell$ , then the recipient will have to perform  $\mathcal{O}(\ell \log N)$  computation. But the sender computation and the signal size blows up to  $\mathcal{O}(M)$ .

# **E Protocol** $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE-ext}}$

**Protocol Overview** The protocol  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE-ext}}$  is the same as  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE}}$ , except that the TEE does not store the encryptions inside its internal memory but stores it on the server and requires the server to send the table to the TEE to process the signals.

## E.1 Proof of Security

**Theorem 3.** The protocol  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE-ext}}$  (Fig ??) UC-realizes the  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$  functionality assuming CPA secure encryption (Def 3) and existentially unforgeable signature schemes (Def 4).

*Proof.* To prove that  $\Pi_{\mathsf{TEE-ext}}$  UC-realizes  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$  we show that there exists a simulator  $\mathcal{S}$  that interacts with  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{privSignal}}$  and the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  to generate a transcript that is indistinguishable from the real world protocol. We consider the following cases of corruption:

- Simulator  $S_N$  for the case when only the server is corrupt.
- Simulator  $S_s$  for the case when a subset of the senders and the server are corrupt.
- Simulator  $S_r$  for the case when a subset of the recipients and the server are corrupt.
- Simulator  $S_{rs}$  for the case when a subset of the recipients, a subset of the senders and the server is corrupt.

We discuss these simulators in more detail in the next subsections.

# **E.2** Case 1: Neither S nor R is corrupt

**Simulator overview** When neither the sender nor the recipients are corrupt, then the only corrupt entity is the server. In this case, the simulator interacts with the Srv and the  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  to simulate a transcript that is indistinguishable from the real world. Note that the simulator also simulates  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  towards  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Proof by hybrids** We prove security via a sequence of hybrids where we start from the real world and move to the ideal world.

- **Hyb**<sub>0</sub> The real world protocol.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except that upon receiving a SEND command, the  $\mathbf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  is replaced with an encryption to 0 instead of the actual location. By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme we prove in Lemma 8 that the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- Hyb<sub>2</sub> is the same as Hyb<sub>1</sub> except that in the SEND command, the simulator returns encryptions of pk||0 instead of pk||loc. By the CPA security of the underlying encryption scheme the hybrids are

On input ("setup", ct<sub>keys</sub>) Compute  $(pk, \Sigma.vk) = Dec(esk, ct_{kevs})$ . Compute  $\vec{L} = \{\mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk},\mathsf{pk}\|0)\}_{i=0}^{\ell}$ Set index = 0 and ctr = 0return pk, store  $\vec{L}$  in external memory and  $(pk, \Sigma.vk, index, ctr)$  in internal memory. On input\* ("send",  $i, \vec{L}_i, \text{ct}_{Signal}$ ) Read  $index_i$ ,  $pk_i$  from internal memory corresponding to *i*. Let  $msg = Dec(esk, ct_{Signal})$ . if  $msg[0] = pk_i$  then Update index = (index + 1)  $\mod \ell$ for j in  $[1, \ell]$  do Let curr = Dec(esk,  $\vec{L}[j]$ ) if j = index then  $\vec{L}[j] = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk}, \mathsf{msg}[0] ||\mathsf{msg}[1])$ else L[j] = Enc(epk, curr)else for j in  $[1, \ell]$  do  $\vec{L}[j] = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk}, \mathsf{Dec}(\mathsf{esk}, \vec{L}[j]))$ return  $\vec{L}$ On input\* ("receive", ctr,  $\sigma$ ,  $\vec{L}$ , j) if  $\Sigma$ . Ver $(\Sigma$ .vk<sub>i</sub>, ctr',  $\sigma) = 1$  and ctr = ctr' and  $\forall i$ , Dec $(\text{esk}, \vec{L}[i][0:\lambda] = \text{pk}_i)$  then Compute  $\mathsf{loc}_i = \mathsf{Dec}(\mathsf{esk}, \vec{L}[i])$  for  $i \in [1, \ell]$ Compute  $\vec{ct}_{\mathsf{loc}} = \mathsf{Enc}_{\mathsf{pk}_i}(\mathsf{loc}_1), \ldots, \, \mathsf{Enc}_{\mathsf{pk}}(\mathsf{loc}_\ell)$ Update ctr = ctr + 1 and index = 0Update  $\vec{L} = \{\mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk},\mathsf{pk}_i||0)\}_{k=0}^{\ell}$ return  $(\vec{L}, \vec{ct}_{loc})$ else return  $\perp$ 

Figure 27: Program Prog run by  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ 

indistinguishable. By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme, we prove in Lemma 9 that the two hybrids are indistinguishable.

- $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  except that in the RECEIVE command, the simulator returns encryptions of 0 as  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{loc},i}$  to the server on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{att}}$ . By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme, we prove in Lemma 10 that the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- Hyb<sub>4</sub> is the same as Hyb<sub>3</sub> except that in the Setup procedure, the simulator aborts with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>. We prove in Lemma 11 that this occurs with negligible probability.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_5$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_4$  except that in the RECEIVE command, the simulator may abort with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>. We prove in Lemma 12 that this occurs with negligible probability.

**Lemma 8.** Assuming CPA secure encryption scheme (Def 3),  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  are indistinguishable against a PPT adversary.

*Proof.* Note that the difference between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  is that in  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  the encryption  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  is replaced by an encryption to 0, under epk.

Assume a distinguisher D can distinguish between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$ , i.e.  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] - 1$ 

Enclave setup 1. Run  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$ .install(Prog) to get *eid*. Setup Recipient  $R_i$ : 1. Compute  $(\mathsf{pk}_i, \mathsf{sk}_i) \leftarrow \mathsf{Enc.KeyGen}(1^{\lambda}), \ (\Sigma.\mathsf{sk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i) \leftarrow \Sigma.\mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda}).$  Set  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i} =$  $\mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk},(\mathsf{pk}_i,\Sigma,\mathsf{vk}_i))$  and send ("setup",  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i}$ ) to  $\mathsf{Srv}$ , and await ( $(eid,\mathsf{pk}_i),\sigma$ ) from  $\mathsf{Srv}$ . Assert  $\Sigma$ . Ver<sub>mpk</sub> $((eid, pk_i), \sigma) = 1$  and publish  $pk_i$ . Initialize  $ctr_i = 0$ . Srv:  $((\mathsf{pk}_i, \vec{L}_i), \sigma)$ ("setup",  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i}$ ) from  $R_i$ , let 1. Upon receiving =  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att.}}$ resume $(eid, (\text{``setup''}, \mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i})$ . Send  $((eid, \mathsf{pk}_i, \vec{L}_i), \sigma)$  to  $R_i$ . **Procedure** (SEND,  $R_i$ , loc) 1. Sender S gets (mpk, epk) :=  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ .getpk() and computes  $ct_{Signal} = Enc(epk, [pk_i, loc])$  and sends (SUBMIT, (SEND,  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}))$  to  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}.$ 2. Srv: Upon receiving (SEND, ct<sub>Signal</sub>) from  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  after sending READ: For  $j \in [1, M]$ , call  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att.resume}}(eid, (\text{``send''}, i, \vec{L}_j, \mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}))$  and receive an updated  $\vec{L}_j$ . Procedure RECEIVE Recipient  $R_i$ : 1. Compute  $\sigma_i = \text{Sig}(\Sigma.\text{sk}_i, \text{ctr}_i)$  and send (RECEIVE,  $\text{ctr}_i, \sigma_i$ ) to Srv. Await ( $(eid, \vec{L}_i, \vec{ct}_{loc,i}), \sigma_T$ ) from Srv 2. Assert  $\Sigma$ . Ver<sub>mpk</sub> $((eid, L_i, \vec{ct}_{loc,i}), \sigma_T) = 1$ Initialize  $\mathsf{locns} = [], j = 0$ 3. while  $(loc_j = Dec(sk_i, \vec{ct}_{loc}[j])) \neq pk || 0 do$  $locns.add(loc_i)$ j = j + 1return locns. Srv: let  $((eid, \vec{L}_i, \vec{ct}_{\mathsf{loc},i}), \sigma_T)$ 1. Upon  $R_i$ , (RECEIVE,  $\operatorname{ctr}_i, \sigma_i$ ) from receiving  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$ .resume $(eid, (\text{"receive"}, \operatorname{ctr}_i, \sigma_i, \vec{L}_i))$ . 2. Send  $((eid, \vec{L}_i, \vec{ct}_{\mathsf{loc},i}), \sigma_T)$  to  $R_i$  and update  $\vec{L}_i$ **Procedure** (READ) Send READ to  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  and receive state.

Figure 28: The protocol for private signaling in the  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  hybrid world

The simulator S internally simulates  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  towards the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ 

**Setup** For each recipient  $R_i$ :

1. Compute  $(\mathsf{pk}_i, \mathsf{sk}_i) \leftarrow \mathsf{Enc.KeyGen}(1^{\lambda})$ ,  $(\Sigma.\mathsf{sk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i) \leftarrow \Sigma.\mathsf{KeyGen}(1^{\lambda})$ . Set  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i} = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk}_i, (\mathsf{pk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i))$  and send ("setup",  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i}$ ) to  $\mathsf{Srv}$ . Upon receiving  $((eid, \mathsf{pk}_i), \sigma)$  abort with sigFailure<sub>1</sub> if  $\sigma$  would be validated but the following communication was not recorded:  $((\mathsf{pk}_i), \sigma) = \mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{att}}.\mathsf{resume}(eid, ("setup", \mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i}))$ . Else publish  $\mathsf{pk}_i$  and set  $\mathsf{index}_i = 0, \mathsf{ctr}_i = 0$  and  $\vec{L} = \{\mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk}, \mathsf{pk}_i \| 0)\}_{i=0}^{\ell}$ .

SEND: Upon receiving (SEND,  $S_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ 

- 1. Compute  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}} = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk}, 0)$  and send (SUBMIT, (SEND,  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}})$ ) to  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$ .
- 2. Upon receiving ("send",  $i, \vec{L}_i, \text{ct}_{Signal}$ ) on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ : Update  $\vec{L}_i = \text{Enc}(\text{epk}, \text{pk}_i || 0)$ and return  $\vec{L}_i$  and send ok to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ .

**RECEIVE** : Upon receiving (**RECEIVE**,  $R_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ 

- 1. Compute  $\sigma_i = \text{Sig}(\Sigma.\text{sk}_i, \text{ctr}_i)$  and send (RECEIVE,  $\text{ctr}_i, \sigma_i$ ) to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- 2. Upon receiving  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att.}}$ resume $(eid, (\text{``receive''}, \operatorname{ctr}_i, \sigma_i, \vec{L}_i))$  on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att.}}$ , if  $\exists j \in [1, \ell]$  s.t.  $\vec{L}_i[j][0:\lambda] \neq \mathsf{pk}_i$ , return  $\bot$ , else:
  - (a) Send ok to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$
  - (b) Compute  $\vec{\mathsf{ct}}_{\mathsf{loc},i} = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_i, 0) \dots \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_i, 0)$
  - (c) Update  $\operatorname{ctr}_i = \operatorname{ctr}_i + 1$
  - (d) Compute  $\sigma_T = \text{Sig}(\text{msk}, (eid, \vec{ct}_{\text{loc},i}))$
  - (e) Return  $(\vec{\mathsf{ct}}_{\mathsf{loc},i},\sigma_T)$  to  $\mathcal{A}$
- 3. Receive  $(eid, , \vec{ct}_{loc,i}, \sigma_T)$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ . If this was received without the communication with  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$ , abort with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>.

READ: Upon receiving READ from  $\mathcal{A}$ , send READ to  $\mathcal{G}_{ledger}$  and return whatever is returned.

Figure 29: Simulator  $S_N$  for the case of only one corrupt server

 $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_0) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

Using this distinguisher D we construct a reduction B that can break the CPA security of encryption scheme.

1. Activate the distinguisher D

- 2. Run the **Setup** procedure for an honest recipient R, and let the encryption public key be pk.
- 3. Upon receiving a (SEND, R, loc) command from the environment, set  $m_0 = \text{loc}$  and  $m_1 = 0^{\lambda}$ .
- 4. Send  $m_0, m_1$  to the challenger and receive back c.
- 5. Set  $ct_{Signal} = c$  and send the transcript to the distinguisher D
- 6. Output whatever D outputs.

Note that in the case  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  was the encryption of  $m_0$  the distinguisher sees the hybrid world - $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  and on the other hand when encryption of  $m_1$  is returned the distinguisher sees the hybrid world  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ .

Thus

$$Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_{1}) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1$$
  
and  
$$Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_{0}) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1$$
  
This implies

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1] - Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1]$$

 $= Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_0) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

But this is a contradiction, since we assume CPA secure encryption schemes and therefore  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ .

Hence  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_0) = 1] < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$  making the two hybrids indistinguishable.

**Lemma 9.** Assuming CPA secure encryption scheme (Def 3),  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  are indistinguishable against a PPT adversary.

*Proof.* Note that the difference between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is that in  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  the encryptions  $\vec{L}_i$  are replaced by an encryption to  $\mathsf{pk}_i || 0$ , under  $\mathsf{epk}$ .

Our proof strategy is as follows: we consider an intermediate hybrid where the  $\vec{L}_i$  are encryptions of 0. Let us call this  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ .1. We then prove that there is no distinguisher that can distinguish between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ .1 and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and no distinguisher that distinguishes  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ .1 and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$ , and therefore prove that there exists no distinguisher that can distinguish  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$ 

Assume a distinguisher  $D_1$  can distinguish between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1.1$ , i.e.  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1.1) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

Using this distinguisher  $D_1$  we construct a reduction B that can break the CPA security of encryption scheme.

- 1. Activate the distinguisher  $D_1$
- 2. Run the **Setup** procedure for an honest recipient R, and let the encryption public key be pk.
- 3. Upon receiving a (SEND, R, loc) command from the environment, set  $\vec{m}_0 = [pk \| loc_1, \dots, pk \| loc_\ell]$ and  $\vec{m}_1 = [0, \dots, 0]$ .
- 4. Send  $\vec{m}_0, \vec{m}_1$  to the challenger and receive back  $\vec{c}$ .
- 5. Set L = c and send the transcript to the distinguisher  $D_1$
- 6. Output whatever  $D_1$  outputs.

Note that in the case  $\vec{L}$  was the encryption of  $\vec{m}_0$  the distinguisher sees the hybrid world -  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ and on the other hand when encryption of  $\vec{m}_1$  is returned the distinguisher sees the hybrid world  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1.1$ .

Thus

$$Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_{1}.1) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub}-\mathsf{cpa}-1}(\lambda) = 1]$$
  
and  
$$Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_{1}) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub}-\mathsf{cpa}-0}(\lambda) = 1]$$

This implies

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} = \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1] - \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1]$$

 $= Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1.1) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

But this is a contradiction, since we assume CPA secure encryption schemes and therefore  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ .

Hence  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1.1) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$  making the two hybrids indistinguishable.

Similarly, assume a distinguisher  $D_2$  can distinguish between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ .1, i.e.  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1.1) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

Using this distinguisher  $D_2$  we construct a reduction B that can break the CPA security of encryption scheme.

- 1. Activate the distinguisher  $D_2$
- 2. Run the **Setup** procedure for an honest recipient R, and let the encryption public key be pk.
- 3. Upon receiving a (SEND, R, loc) command from the environment, set  $\vec{m}_0 = [\mathsf{pk} \| 0, \dots, \mathsf{pk} \| 0]$  and  $\vec{m}_1 = [0, \dots, 0]$ .
- 4. Send  $\vec{m}_0, \vec{m}_1$  to the challenger and receive back  $\vec{c}$ .
- 5. Set  $\vec{L} = c$  and send the transcript to the distinguisher  $D_1$
- 6. Output whatever  $D_1$  outputs.

Note that in the case  $\vec{L}$  was the encryption of  $\vec{m}_0$  the distinguisher sees the hybrid world -  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$ and on the other hand when encryption of  $\vec{m}_1$  is returned the distinguisher sees the hybrid world  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1.1$ .

Thus  $Pr[D_2(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1$ and  $Pr[D_2(\mathbf{Hyb}_1.1) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1$ This implies

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} = \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1] - \Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1]$$

 $= Pr[D_2(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1.1) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

But this is a contradiction, since we assume CPA secure encryption schemes and therefore  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ .

Hence  $Pr[D_2(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1.1) = 1] < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$  making the two hybrids indistinguishable.

Thus combining the two results we can claim that  $Pr[D_2(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_1) = 1] <$ negl( $\lambda$ ).

**Lemma 10.** Assuming CPA secure encryption scheme (Def 3) and by Lemma 1,  $Hyb_3$  and  $Hyb_2$  are indistinguishable against a PPT adversary.

*Proof.* Note that the difference between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  is that in  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  the encryption  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{loc}}$  is replaced by encryptions to 0, under the same pk.

Assume a distinguisher D can distinguish between  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  and  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$ , i.e.  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_3) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

Using this distinguisher D we construct a reduction B that can break the CPA security of encryption scheme.

- 1. Activate the distinguisher D
- 2. Run the **Setup** procedure for an honest recipient R, and let the encryption public key be pk.
- 3. Upon receiving a RECEIVE command, simulate the protocol such that  $\mathsf{locns} = \{\mathsf{loc}_1 \dots \mathsf{loc}_\ell\}$  and set  $\vec{m_0} = \mathsf{locns}$  and  $\vec{m_1} = 0^{\lambda}$ .
- 4. Send  $\vec{m_0}, \vec{m_1}$  to the challenger and receive back  $\vec{c}$ .

5. Set  $\vec{ct}_{loc} = \vec{c}$  and send the transcript to the distinguisher D

6. Output whatever D outputs.

Note that in the case  $\vec{ct}_{loc}$  was the encryption of  $\vec{m_0}$  the distinguisher sees the hybrid world -Hyb<sub>2</sub> and on the other hand when encryption of  $\vec{m_1}$  is returned the distinguisher sees the hybrid world Hyb<sub>3</sub>.

Thus

```
\begin{aligned} &Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_3) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1\\ &\text{and}\\ &Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1\\ &\text{This implies} \end{aligned}
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$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} = Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-1}}(\lambda) = 1] - Pr[\mathbf{Exp}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa-0}}(\lambda) = 1]$$

 $= \Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_3) = 1] - \Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] > \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ 

But this is a contradiction, since we assume CPA secure encryption schemes and therefore  $\mathbf{Adv}_{\mathcal{E},\mathcal{A}}^{\mathsf{pub-cpa}} < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$ .

Hence  $Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_3) = 1] - Pr[D(\mathbf{Hyb}_2) = 1] < \mathsf{negl}(\lambda)$  making the two hybrids indistinguishable.

**Lemma 11.** Assuming EUF-CMA signatures,  $Hyb_4$  and  $Hyb_3$  are indistinguishable.

*Proof.* Similar to the proof for Lemma 4

**Lemma 12.** Assuming EUF-CMA signatures,  $Hyb_5$  and  $Hyb_4$  are indistinguishable.

*Proof.* Similar to the proof for Lemma 5

## E.3 Case 2: S and Srv are corrupt

**Simulator Overview** In this case a subset of the senders are corrupt along with the server. To prove security we need to construct a simulator that interacts with the adversary and the  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  functionality that is indistinguishable from the real world.

**Proof by hybrids** Through hybrid arguments we move from the real world to the ideal world and prove that each pair of intermediate hybrids are indistinguishable.

- $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  The real world protocol.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except that upon receiving a SEND command, the  $\mathbf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  is replaced with an encryption to 0 instead of the actual location. By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme that the two hybrids are indistinguishable. The proof is similar to the proof of Lemma 8
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  except that in the SEND command for an honest sender, the simulator returns encryptions of  $\mathsf{pk}||0$  instead of  $\mathsf{pk}||\mathsf{loc}$ . By the CPA security of the underlying encryption scheme the hybrids are indistinguishable. The proof is similar to the proof of Lemma 9
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  except that the SEND command is done as in the simulation for malicious senders. By the CPA security of the encryption scheme the two hybrids are indistinguishable. The proof is similar to the proof of Lemma 9
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_4$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  except that in the RECEIVE command, the simulator returns encryptions of 0 as  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{loc},i}$  to the server on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{att}}$ . By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme, we prove in Lemma 10 that the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- Hyb<sub>5</sub> is the same as Hyb<sub>4</sub> except that in the Setup procedure, the simulator aborts with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>. Similar to the proof of Lemma 4 we prove that this occurs with negligible probability.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_6$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_5$  except that in the RECEIVE command, the simulator may abort with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>. Similar to the proof of Lemma 5 we prove that this occurs with negligible probability.

The simulator S internally simulates  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$  towards the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ **Setup** For each recipient  $R_i$ : Same as in Fig 29 SEND: Upon receiving (SEND,  $S_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ , same as in Fig 29. Upon receiving  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$ .resume $(eid, (\text{"send"}, i, \vec{L}_i \text{ct}_{\text{Signal}}))$  on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$  for a ct<sub>Signal</sub> that was not created by the simulator. Let  $msg = Dec(esk, ct_{Signal})$ . if msg[0] = pk and pk corresponds to  $R_i$  then Let loc = msg[1]Send (SEND,  $R_j$ , loc) to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  on behalf of  $\mathcal{A}$  and receive back (SEND,  $\mathcal{A}$ ). Send ok to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ . for j in  $[1, \ell]$  do  $\vec{L}_i[j] = \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk},\mathsf{pk}||0)$ return  $\vec{L}_i$ **RECEIVE** Same as in Fig 29 **READ for**  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  Same as in Fig 29 SUBMIT for  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$ : Upon receiving (SUBMIT, m) forward to  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{ledger}}$  and return what is returned.

Figure 30: Simulator  $S_s$  for the case corrupt server and sender

## E.4 Case 3: Srv and R are corrupt

**Simulator overview** In this case, the simulator needs to simulate a view towards a malicious recipient that is indistinguishable from the real world interaction. The challenge in this simulation is that the simulator needs to know when a malicious recipient requests from the Srv for its row. But since we design the protocol such that the Srv must request the  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  functionality for the signals, the simulator is notified of this RECEIVE request. Next the simulator needs to send the correct locations to the recipient, even though the simulated  $\vec{L}$  are just an encryption of 0s. To this end, the simulator simply sends the RECEIVE command to the  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  functionality and learns the locations that correspond to the malicious recipient. It then simulates the  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  functionality to compute an encryption of the locations and sends it back to the Srv.

- **Hyb**<sub>0</sub> The real world protocol.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except that upon receiving a SEND command, the  $\mathbf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  is replaced with an encryption to 0 instead of the actual location. By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme we prove in Lemma 8 that the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- Hyb<sub>2</sub> is the same as Hyb<sub>1</sub> except that in the SEND command, the simulator returns encryptions of pk||0 instead of pk||loc. By the CPA security of the underlying encryption scheme the hybrids are indistinguishable. The proof is the same as in lemma 9
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  except that in the RECEIVE command for an honest receiver, the simulator returns encryptions of 0 as  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{loc},i}$  to the server on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{att}}$ . By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme, the two hybrids are indistinguishable. The proof is the same as in lemma 10
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_4$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  except that for a malicious receiver, the RECEIVE command is done as in the simulation. Since the simulation is the same as the real world, the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- Hyb<sub>5</sub> is the same as Hyb<sub>4</sub> except that in the Setup procedure, the simulator aborts with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>.

The simulator S internally simulates  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  towards the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ **Setup** For each honest recipient  $R_i$ : Same as in Fig 29 // For malicious recipients Upon receiving  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$ .resume $(eid, (\text{"setup"}, \mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i})$  from Srv on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att}}$ : 1. Compute  $(\mathsf{pk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i) = \mathsf{Dec}(\mathsf{esk}, \mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{keys},i})$ 2. Set  $\vec{L} = \{ \mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk}, \mathsf{pk} \| 0) \}_{i=0}^{\ell}$ 3. Set index = 0 and ctr = 0=  $\Sigma$ .Sig(msk, (*eid*, (pk))) and send (pk,  $\vec{L}, \sigma$ ) to  $\mathcal{A}$  and store 4. Compute  $\sigma$  $(\mathsf{pk}_i, \Sigma.\mathsf{vk}_i, \mathsf{index}_i, \mathsf{ctr}_i).$ SEND: Same as in Fig 29 **RECEIVE** For honest recipients, same as in Fig 29. // For malicious recipients 1. Receive  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att.}}$ .resume $(eid, (\text{"receive"}, \mathsf{ctr}_i, \sigma_i, \vec{L}_i))$  from Srv on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\text{att.}}$ . If Sig.Ver $(\Sigma.vk_i, ctr_i, \sigma_i) = 0$  or  $\exists j \in [1, \ell]$  s.t.  $\vec{L}_i[j][0 : \lambda] \neq pk_i$ , return  $\perp$ . Else if *i* corresponds to that of an honest recipient, abort with sigFailure. Else: 2. Send (RECEIVE,  $R_i$ ) to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  on behalf of  $R_i$  and receive (RECEIVE,  $R_i$ ) from  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$ . Send ok to  $\mathcal{F}_{privSignal}$  and get back  $[loc_1 \dots loc_\ell]$ . If less than  $\ell$  locations received, pad with 0. 3. Compute  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{loc},i} = (\mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_i,\mathsf{loc}_1)\ldots\mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{pk}_i,\mathsf{loc}_\ell))$ 4. Compute  $\sigma_T = \Sigma$ .Sig(msk, (ct<sub>loc</sub>, i)),  $\vec{L}_i = \{\mathsf{Enc}(\mathsf{epk}, 0)\}_{i=0}^{\ell}$  and send (ct<sub>loc</sub>, i,  $\sigma_T$ ) to  $\mathcal{A}$ . READ Same as in Fig 29

Figure 31: Simulator  $S_r$  for the case corrupt server and recipients

The simulator S maintains a public **board** and internally simulates  $\mathcal{G}_{att}$  towards the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ Setup Same as in Fig 31 WRITE : Same as in Fig 29 SEND: Same as in Fig 30 RECEIVE Same as in Fig 31 READ Same as in Fig 29

Figure 32: Simulator  $S_{sr}$  for the case corrupt server, server and recipients

We prove in Lemma 4 that this occurs with negligible probability.

•  $\mathbf{Hyb}_6$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_5$  except that in the RECEIVE command, the simulator may abort with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>. We prove in Lemma 5 that this occurs with negligible probability.

## **E.5** Case 4: Corrupt Srv, S and R

**Simulator overview** This simulator is a combination of the previous simulators, where the simulator simulates the SEND command as in the case when the Srv and the sender S are corrupt, for the Setup and RECEIVE commands the simulator simulates as in the case when the Srv and the recipient R are corrupt.

- **Hyb**<sub>0</sub> The real world protocol.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_1$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_0$  except that upon receiving a SEND command, the  $\mathbf{ct}_{\mathsf{Signal}}$  is replaced with an encryption to 0 instead of the actual location. By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme we prove in Lemma 8 that the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- $Hyb_2$  is the same as  $Hyb_1$  except that in the SEND command, the simulator returns encryptions of pk||0 instead of pk||loc. By the CPA security of the underlying encryption scheme the hybrids are indistinguishable. The proof is the same as in Lem 9
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_2$  except that the SEND command is done as in the simulation for malicious senders. By the CPA security of the encryption scheme the two hybrids are indistinguishable. The proof is the same as in Lem 9
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_4$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_3$  except that in the RECEIVE command for an honest receiver, the simulator returns encryptions of 0 as  $\mathsf{ct}_{\mathsf{loc},i}$  to the server on behalf of  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{att}}$ . By the CPA security (Def 3) of the underlying encryption scheme, we prove in Lemma 10 that the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- $\mathbf{Hyb}_5$  is the same as  $\mathbf{Hyb}_4$  except that for a malicious receiver, the RECEIVE command is done as in the simulation. Since the simulation is the same as the real world, the two hybrids are indistinguishable.
- Hyb<sub>6</sub> is the same as Hyb<sub>5</sub> except that in the Setup procedure, the simulator aborts with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>. We prove in Lemma 4 that this occurs with negligible probability.
- $Hyb_7$  is the same as  $Hyb_6$  except that in the RECEIVE command, the simulator may abort with sigFailure<sub>2</sub>. We prove in Lemma 5 that this occurs with negligible probability.