# Signatures with Tight Multi-User Security from Search Assumptions

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Abstract. We construct two tightly secure signature schemes based on the computational Diffie-Hellman (CDH) and factoring assumptions in the random oracle model. Our schemes are proven secure in the multi-user setting, and their security loss is constant and does not depend on the number of users or signing queries. They are the first schemes that achieve this based on standard search assumptions, as all existing schemes we are aware of are either based on stronger decisional assumptions, or proven tightly secure in the less realistic single-user setting. Under a concrete estimation, in a truly large scale, the cost of our CDH-based scheme is about half of Schnorr and DSA (in terms of signature size and running time for signing).

 ${\bf Keywords.}$  Digital signature, tight reduction, multi-user security, search assumption.

# 1 Introduction

In modern public-key cryptography, a scheme is usually proposed together with a reduction-based security analysis. In such an analysis, a security model is defined to capture the security required in the real world. Then a reduction is constructed to show that if there is an adversary can break the security of the scheme, then the reduction can use this adversary to break some well-studied hardness assumption.

This analysis provides not only a mathematically proof for the security of a scheme, but also guidelines for theoretically sound parameter setup, namely, setting up parameters for a scheme so that it can offer the proven security guarantee.

CONCRETE SECURITY. To deploy a scheme in a theoretically sound manner, we need to know the scheme's concrete security. The reduction-based analysis offers a way to do so. More precisely, it establishes the following relation between the success ratio  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{A}}$  of an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  (which is defined as the quotient of its success probability and running time) attacking scheme S, and that of a reduction  $\mathcal{B}$ breaking the underlying assumption P:

$$\Gamma_{\mathcal{A}} \le L \cdot \Gamma_{\mathcal{B}}.\tag{1}$$

The parameter L is called the security loss. Equation (1) guides us in deriving parameters that can provably guarantee a *k*-bit security for the scheme<sup>1</sup>. According to the current cryptanalysis results, we derive suitable parameters for the hardness problem P to compensate the security loss L and have  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{A}} \leq L \cdot \Gamma_{\mathcal{B}} \leq 2^{-k}$ . Thus a smaller L can give us shorter key lengths, and potentially more efficient schemes.

We call a reduction (or the scheme's security) tight if L is a small constant. Recently, a relaxed notion, called almost tight security, was considered in [18,25,26], where L could be a linear or logarithmic function of the security parameter. In this paper, we only consider fully tight security. In non-tight schemes, the security loss can depend on the scale of applications, for instance the number of users and/or issued signatures for digital signatures. To provide the same level of security guarantee, one needs to reasonably estimate the scale of an application and derive larger parameters to compensate for the security loss. Such an increase in parameters will inevitably slow down computations.

Thus, a large amount of attention has recently been drawn towards research on tight security, which has spanned from theoretical (such as [31,13,4]) to more practical aspects (such as [27,20], and covered different primitives including (identity-based) encryption [25,18,14], digital signatures [28,31,30,26,27] and noninteractive zero-knowledge proofs [3,2].

In this paper we focus on digital signatures, which has numerous applications both on its own, and as a basic building block for advanced cryptographic protocols (for instance, TLS).

MULTI-USER SECURITY. The classical security model (or definition) for signature schemes is unforgeability against chosen-message attacks (UF-CMA) [29], where an adversary attempts to forge a signature on a fresh message after it adaptively asks for signatures on multiple different messages. The UF-CMA security is defined in the *single-user* setting, namely, an adversary can only see the public key of a single user. We believe this is less desirable in practice.

In practice, (independent) public keys of multiple users are exposed to an adversary. Presumably, it will output a valid forgery under one of these public keys in a meaningful way after asking multiple signatures. This is captured by the UF-CMA security in the multi-user setting (denoted by MU-UF-CMA).

Although the MU-UF-CMA security is more desirable than the UF-CMA security, most signature schemes are typically proven in the UF-CMA model. We believe there are two main reasons: Firstly, adversaries in the UF-CMA model have less capabilities and thus the security proof in this model is easier; secondly, asymptotically speaking, the UF-CMA security implies MU-UF-CMA according to a generic reduction in [24]. However, this is problematic when we consider concrete security and derive theoretically sound parameters for the scheme in practice, since the generic reduction in [24] is not tight.

Concretely, it loses a factor of  $\ell$ , which is the number of users: It only proves that attacking a scheme in the MU-UF-CMA model with  $\ell$  users does not increase

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Usually, "k-bit security" means that there is no adversary can break the scheme with success ratio larger than  $2^{-k}$  (see discussions in [7,17]).

the success ratio of the adversary by more than a factor of  $\ell$ , compared to attacking the same scheme in the UF-CMA model. Thus, via this non-tight generic reduction, a signature scheme with k-bit security guarantee in the UF-CMA model does not gives us the same level of provable security guarantee in the MU-UF-CMA model.

As a concrete example, we reasonably assume  $\ell := 2^{30}$  (about 1 billion)<sup>2</sup>. For a signature scheme, if the best adversary attacking it in the UF-CMA model has success ratio  $\Gamma_{\rm U} := 2^{-80}$  (i.e. 80-bit UF-CMA security), then the argument in [24] shows that the best adversary against the same scheme in the MU-UF-CMA model has success ratio  $\Gamma_{\rm MU} = 2^{30} \cdot 2^{-80} = 2^{-50}$ , which is not a safe margin for current large-scale applications. To provide the same level of security in the MU-UF-CMA model, we need to increase the key length accordingly to compensate the security loss, which is  $\ell := 2^{30}$  in the above case.

DIFFICULTY: TIGHT SECURITY FROM SEARCH ASSUMPTIONS. In recent years, several signature schemes with tight security in the single-user setting (aka. UF-CMA security) have been created, such as [28,31,30,18,14,13,34,26]. The schemes in [4,38,27,44,43] are the only ones we know of that have tight security in the multi-user setting (aka. MU-UF-CMA security). We note that [43] is based on the one-more CDH assumption, which is a non-static interactive assumption in pairing groups.

Furthermore, most of all the known tightly secure schemes (in both single-user and multi-user settings) require decisional assumptions. Inherently, decisional assumptions seem crucial for tight security. Different to the non-tight and guessing proof strategy, decisional assumptions and their random self-reducibility give security reductions the advantage to switch the distribution of signatures to random "at once", and then argue that even for an unbounded adversary there is no chance to win. This advantage cannot be easily achieved by search assumptions (such as the Computational Diffie-Hellman (CDH) and Factoring (FAC) assumptions), although search assumptions are more standard and reliable. For instance, the CDH assumption is more standard and weaker than the Decisional Diffie-Hellman assumption. It is similar for the FAC and the decisional Phi-Hiding assumption used in [34].

There are a few notable exceptions including the Rabin-William scheme [11] and the Micali-Reyzin scheme [40,6] based on FAC, the "selector bit" variants of RSA-PSS [35], and the Chevallier-Mames [19] and its later abstraction by Kiltz, Loss, and Pan [37]. However, their tight security is established in the less realistic single-user setting.

As a result of the above discussion, we raise the question of whether it is possible to construct an efficient and tightly MU-UF-CMA-secure signature scheme based on standard search assumptions. We are interested in schemes in the random oracle model [8]. In the random oracle model, a cryptographic hash function is modeled as an oracle that responds a random value in its output domain for each unique query. Although there is some limitation with the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Nowadays many applications involve billions of users. For instance, Facebook has about 2 billion active users daily, according to https://about.fb.com/company-info/.

model [16], security proofs in the model still give strong evidence of the scheme's practical security. Moreover, schemes in the random oracle model are usually more efficient than their counterparts in the standard model.

### 1.1 Our Contribution: Multi-User Security from Search Assumptions

We construct two tightly secure signature schemes from standard (static) search assumptions (namely, CDH and FAC) in the multi-user setting. The security is proven in the random oracle model and the security loss is the constant 1. Our schemes improve upon those from the framework of Kiltz, Loss, and Pan at Asiacrypt 2017 [37] in the sense that our schemes have tight multi-user security. Asymptotically, our schemes have the same number of elements in a signature as [37], but, since our schemes are tightly secure in the multi-user setting, at the concrete security level our elements will be shorter and our schemes will have smaller signature size and achieve more efficient computation, in particular, for settings with large number of users. In fact, our CDH-based scheme is the Chevallier-Mames scheme [19]. Another interpretation of it is that we give a new tight security proof of the original Chevallier-Mames scheme in the multi-user setting.

In the following efficiency analysis, it shows that our CDH-based scheme is more efficient than Schnorr and DSA in a truly large setting. Moreover, our CDH-based scheme can offer offline pre-computation to speed up signing, namely, most of the work can be done offline before receiving the signing messages.

EFFICIENCY ANALYSIS. We compare the asymptotic efficiency of known tightly secure signature schemes (in both single-user and multi-user settings) in the random oracle model in Table 1. We are precise about the security loss from the single-user to the multi-user setting. The multi-user security of some schemes is established by the non-tight reduction in [24] and thus we need to choose a larger group to compensate the non-trivial security loss. We will mark those group sizes with  $G_{\ell}$ . We also include the two famous signature schemes Schnorr and DSA in our comparison. By the optimal security proof in [38], the security loss of Schnorr is  $12Q_h$ , where  $Q_h$  is the number of hash queries an adversary makes, and the loss of the Katz-Wang scheme (KW) [28] is 4. We note a recent work on Schnorr in the (idealized) generic group model (GGM) [15]. While a proof in the GGM certainly provides certain degree of confidence in the scheme's security, its scope is rather limited, for instance, it does not capture algorithms that make use of the representation of the group. Thus, we do not include their result in our comparison. The provable security result for DSA [36] is established by [22] in the single-user setting, and we believe it is hard to prove it tightly in the multi-user setting. We will give more details about this in Appendix A.

To provide the concrete efficiency comparison, we estimate the schemes based on the DLOG and Diffie-Hellman assumptions in Table 2. We consider exponentiation as the dominating factor in the running time cost. We use elliptic curves when estimating the schemes, as group elements have a much shorter

Scheme	Approx. Size	Off-line Exp.	On-line Exp.	Loss	Ass.	Search?
Schnorr [42]	n+ p	1	0	$12Q_h$	DLOG	1
DSA [36]	2 p	1	0	$\ell Q_h$	DLOG	1
KW [28,38]	n+ p	2	0	4	DDH	×
GJKW [28]	$G_\ell + n +  p $	1	2	$\ell$	CDH	1
FS <sub>CDH</sub> [37]	$G_\ell + n +  p $	1	2	$\ell$	CDH	1
ОF <sub>CDH</sub> [37]	$G_\ell + n +  p $	3	0	$\ell$	CDH	1
AFLT [1]	2n+c	1	0	$\ell$	DSDL	×
<b>FS</b> <sub>SCDH</sub> [37]	$G_\ell + 2n + c$	1	2	$\ell$	SCDH	1
OF <sub>SCDH</sub> [37]	$G_\ell + 2n + c$	3	0	$\ell$	SCDH	1
GJ [27]	2G + n + 4 p	0	7	3	CDH&DDH	×
WLGSZ [43]	2G' + 1	1	1	1	OMCDH	(1)
Ours (Fig. 2)	G+n+ p	3	0	1	CDH	1
MR [40, §4.3]	n +  N	1	1	l	FAC	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
BR [9]	n +  N	0	0	$\ell$	FAC	1
RSA-FDH [33]	N	0	1	$\ell$	$\Phi H$	×
FS <sub>FAC</sub> [37]	$G_{\ell} + n +  N $	1	2	l	FAC	1
Ours (Fig. 4)	G+n+ N	1	2	1	FAC	1

**Table 1.** Comparison between some known signature schemes in the random oracle model. Top: schemes in a cyclic group  $\mathbb{G}$  of prime order p. Bottom: schemes over  $\mathbb{Z}_N$ for composite N. We detail the security loss of the schemes in the multi-user setting with  $\ell$  users.  $Q_h$  is the maximum number of hash queries an adversary can make. Elements of  $\mathbb{G}$  have bit length G and n denotes the security parameter. We take the security loss into account, and, for non-tight schemes, we write their group size as  $G_{\ell}$ . G' denotes the bit length of a pairing-friendly group. c < |p| is a parameter for the short Diffie-Hellman assumptions. We count the numbers of offline ("Off-line Exp.") and online exponentiation ("On-line Exp.") during signing, respectively.

representation there than over finite fields. To have a k-bit secure DLOG problem, we need to choose a 2k-bit elliptic curve, according to the baby-step giant-step algorithm. As in [27], we assume k + 1 bits to represent a k-bit elliptic curve group element, and k bits to represent the corresponding discrete log. Thus, we need 257 bits to represent a group element of the NIST P256 curve.

For the running time in Table 2, similar to [27], we run "openss1 speed ecdh" on a computer with a 2.4 GHz Quad-Core Intel Core i5 CPU, 16 GB RAM and MacOS 10.15.3. This command offers speed estimation for one operation (namely, exponentiation in the language of this paper) for curves NIST P192 (takes 0.3 milliseconds), P224 (0.4ms), P256 (0.4ms), P384 (1.0ms), P521 (2.2ms), K233 (2.6ms), B163 (1.3ms) and so on. We use NIST P-curves for estimation, as they are more efficient than the other curves providing the same security level. We note that the security of Schnorr and DSA is dependent on  $Q_h$ , which is problematic, since an adversary can compute as many hash values as he would like offline. Computing hash functions is very cheap, and for instance, one can easily compute  $2^{29}$  ( $\approx 0.5$  billion) SHA-512 of 8192 byte messages per second with a normal PC. This is estimated by running "openss1 speed sha". Thus,  $Q_h$  can be much larger than the number of users. According to [38],  $Q_h$  is estimated in the range between  $2^{40}$  to  $2^{80}$ . We consider a setting with roughly a billion users ( $\ell := 2^{30}$ ), and take DSA as an example to show how we estimate: For ( $\ell, Q_h$ ) = ( $2^{30}, 2^{40}$ ) and 128-bit security, the security loss is  $2^{70}$ , and we require a 198-bit secure DLOG. Thus we need a 396-bit curve, and we suggest NIST P521 as the appropriate choice, for which one signing (which requires 1 operation) takes 2.2ms.

We note that the WLGSZ scheme uses Type 1 (symmetric) pairings [23]. Usually, in pairing-friendly groups, the group size is larger and operations (in particular, computing pairings) are less efficient than those in groups without pairings. For 128-bit security of WLGSZ, we should choose a Supersingular Curve over  $GF(2^{1223})$ , where 1 group operation takes 2.57ms, and 1 pairing takes 19.00ms.<sup>3</sup> We also put the estimation of it in Table 2.

Scheme	$Q_h$	Curve	Sig. Size (in bits)	Sig. Time (in milliseconds)
Schnorr [42]	$2^{40}$	P384	768	1.0
Schnorr [42]	$2^{80}$	P521	1024	2.2
DSA [36]	$2^{40}$	P521	1024	2.2
DSA [36]	$2^{80}$	P521	1024	2.2
GJKW [28]	-	P384	1153	3.0
FS <sub>CDH</sub> [37]	-	P384	1153	3.0
OF <sub>CDH</sub> [37]	-	P384	1153	3.0
WLGSZ [43]	-	$\mathbf{SS}$	2447	5.14
Ours (Fig. $2$ )	-	P256	769	1.2
KW [28,38]	-	P256	512	0.4
GJ [27]	-	P256	1794	2.8

Table 2. Concrete efficiency estimation of some known signature schemes based on the DLOG-related assumptions for 128-bit security and  $2^{30}$  ( $\approx 1$  billion) users. Top: schemes using search assumptions. Bottom: schemes using decisional assumptions. For the same security level, we focus on the signature size ("Sig. Size") and running time for signing ("Sig. Time"). '--' means the security of the corresponding scheme is independent of that parameter.

INTERPRETATION AND OPEN PROBLEMS. According to Table 2, for a medium scale  $((\ell, Q_h) = (2^{30}, 2^{40}))$ , our scheme based on CDH (cf. PF-OF<sub>CDH</sub> in Figure 2) is comparable to the Schnorr signature, but for a truly large scale  $((\ell, Q_h) = (2^{30}, 2^{80}))$  our scheme is significantly more efficient than other schemes based on search assumptions (either DLOG or CDH).

It is worth mentioning that the KW scheme achieves the best efficiency at the cost of using a stronger assumption (DDH). CDH is more standard and weaker than DDH. For instance, in symmetric pairing groups, CDH is still hard, while DDH is easy. In fact, for certain primes, CDH is equivalent to DLOG [21,39].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Taken from the benchmarks in https://github.com/miracl/MIRACL/blob/master/ docs/miracl-explained/benchmarks.md (2020-03-26)

Our schemes live in harmony with the existing impossibility results about tightness [5,41,20]. Firstly, our schemes are not unique with respect to [5, Definition 1] and [41, Definition 1], and thus we do not contradict their results. Secondly, Cohn-Gordon et al.[20] showed the tightness impossibility result about authenticated key exchange protocols in a model where an adversary is allowed to corrupt a user's secret key, while our model does not allow signing key corruptions. This is a disadvantage of our schemes, since if one combines our schemes with the framework in [27] to construct an AKE protocol, the resulting protocol cannot provide any tight forward secrecy. We leave improving our schemes to allow signing key corruptions in a tight manner as the main open problem.

Another natural open problem is to further improve the efficiency of our schemes.

OUR APPROACH. We provide a brief overview of our technique. The starting point of our work is the work of Kiltz, Loss, and Pan (KLP) [37], which tightly transforms a five-move identification (ID) scheme into a signature scheme with programmable random oracles in the single-user setting. Before them, a similar work of Kiltz, Masny, and Pan (KMP) [38] has been done for the three-move identification schemes in the *multi-user* setting, and the Schnorr signature is a well-known example from this transformation. In particular, the KMP framework proves that the UF-KOA security implies the MU-UF-CMA security for signatures (cf. Appendix B and Theorem 3.2 in [38]). The UF-KOA security is the same as UF-CMA, except that an adversary cannot ask any signing queries. Naturally, one is tempted to transform the single-user security (UF-KOA) to multi-user (MU-UF-CMA) one for KLP signatures by using the KMP method.

In the "UF-KOA  $\rightarrow$  MU-UF-CMA" for SIG[ID]<sup>4</sup>, the security reduction gets a public key pk from the UF-KOA challenger. By the random self-reducibility (RSR) of ID, the reduction can randomize pk and derive public keys  $(pk_1, ..., pk_\ell)$ , which is given to the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against the MU-UF-CMA security. Due to some technical reason, only about half of  $(pk_1, ..., pk_\ell)$  are computed using pk and the other half are generated honestly. Signing queries from  $\mathcal{A}$  is generated by the honest-verifier zero-knowledge property of ID and programming the random oracle. To correctly map a MU-UF-CMA forgery to a UF-KOA one, the RSR property of ID allows, given the randomization trapdoor  $\tau_i$  (for a  $1 \le i \le \ell$ ), a valid transcript  $\mathbf{t}_1 := (R, h, s)$  under  $pk_i$  to be turned into another valid transcript  $\mathbf{t}_2 := (R, h, s^*)$  under  $pk_i$ . The reduction crucially requires that only the value  $s^*$  in  $\mathbf{t}_2$  is different to s in  $\mathbf{t}_1$ .

The five-move ID schemes in KLP only have a weaker form of RSR, namely, given  $\tau_i$ , a valid transcript  $(R_1, h_1, R_2, h_2, s)$  under  $pk_i$  can be converted to another valid transcript  $(R_1, h_1, R'_2, h_2, s^*)$  under pk for  $R_2 \neq R'_2$ , since  $R_2$  is dependent of  $pk_i$ . Unfortunately, this is problematic for converting a valid MU-UF-CMA forgery to a UF-KOA one: For a valid UF-KOA forgery under  $pk, h_2$  has to be equal to  $H_2(R'_2, m)$  and, in particular,  $H_2$  is simulated by the UF-KOA

 $<sup>^4</sup>$   $\mathsf{SIG}[\mathsf{ID}]$  is the signature scheme constructed from a three-move identification scheme  $\mathsf{ID}$  via the Fiat-Shamir transformation.

challenger; However, before the reduction receives  $\mathcal{A}$ 's MU-UF-CMA forgery of message m under public key  $pk_i$ ,  $h_2$  has been defined as  $h_2 := H_2(R_2, m)$  in one of the random oracle queries. Clearly,  $H_2(R_2, m) \neq H_2(R'_2, m)$  with overwhelming probability. Our solution is to apply the key-prefixing technique [12] and append  $R_1$  and a public key in  $H_2$ , namely, we compute  $H_2(R_1, R_2, pk, m)$  in our schemes. By knowing this additional information, we can carefully modify how the reduction queries the random oracle  $H_2$ , and make sure that  $h_2 = H_2(R_1, R'_2, pk, m)$ . We will refer to Sections 3 and 4 for technical details.

## 2 Preliminaries

NOTATIONS. For a prime p,  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is the residual ring  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ . If A is a set, then  $a \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} A$  denotes picking a from A according to the uniform distribution. All our algorithms are probabilistic polynomial time, otherwise, we will state it. Let A be an algorithm and  $a \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} A(b)$  denote the output of A on input b.

We present our definitions and proofs in the code-based game-playing framework [10,14]. A game G contains procedures INITIALIZE and FINALIZE, and some additional procedures  $P_1, \ldots, P_n$ , which are defined in pseudo-code. Initially all variables in a game are undefined (denoted by  $\perp$ ) and all sets are empty (denoted by  $\emptyset$ ). An adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is executed in game G (denoted by  $G^{\mathcal{A}}$ ) if it first calls INITIALIZE, obtaining its output. Next, it may make arbitrary queries to  $P_i$  (according to their specification), again obtaining their output. Finally, it makes one single call to FINALIZE( $\cdot$ ) and stops. We use  $G^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow d$  to denote that G outputs d after interacting with  $\mathcal{A}$ , and d is the output of FINALIZE.

### 2.1 The Computational Diffie-Hellman Assumption

A cyclic group generator  $\mathcal{G}$  is an algorithm that takes  $1^n$  as input (where *n* is the security parameter), and returns a *n*-bit prime *p*, a cyclic group  $\mathbb{G}$  of order *p*, and a generator of the group. We denote the output as  $(p, g, \mathbb{G}) \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{G}(1^n)$ .

**Definition 1 (Computational Diffie-Hellman Assumption).** The computational Diffie-Hellman problem CDH is  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -hard with respect to  $\mathcal{G}$  if for all adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time at most t, we have

$$\Pr[Z = g^{xy} \mid \mathsf{par} := (p, g, \mathbb{G}) \stackrel{\text{\tiny{\$}}}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{G}(1^n); x, y \stackrel{\text{\tiny{\$}}}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Z}_p, Z \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(\mathsf{par}, g^x, g^y)] \le \varepsilon.$$

### 2.2 The Factoring Assumption

The factoring-based scheme in [37] is proven based on the CDH assumption in the group of signed quadratic residues [32], which is tightly implied by the factoring assumption. We recall necessary background here. It is almost verbatim to the definitions in Section 4.3 of [37].

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we denote  $\mathbb{P}_{n/2}$  as the set of n/2 bit primes, and  $\operatorname{Blum}_n := \{N \mid N = (2p+1)(2q+1) \land (2p+1), (2q+1), p, q \in \mathbb{P}_{n/2} \land p \neq q\}$ . The factoring assumption is defined as follows.

**Definition 2 (Factoring Assumption).** The factoring problem FAC is  $(t, \varepsilon)$  hard for Blum<sub>n</sub> if for all adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time at most t,

$$\Pr[N = PQ \land P, Q \in \mathbb{P}_{n/2} \mid N \stackrel{\text{s}}{\leftarrow} \mathsf{Blum}_n; (P, Q) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(N)] \le \varepsilon.$$
(2)

For an element  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_N$ , we define the absolute value

$$|x| := \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \le (N-1)/2 \\ -x & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

We define the group of signed quadratic residues as  $\mathbb{QR}_N^+ := \{|x| : x \in \mathbb{QR}_N\}$ . We have that  $(\mathbb{QR}_N^+, \circ)$  is a cyclic group with order  $|\mathbb{QR}_N^+| = \varphi(N)/4$ , where, for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{QR}_N^+$  and  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_N$ , group operations are defined as follows:

 $a \circ b := |a \cdot b \mod N|, \quad a^x := \underbrace{a \circ a \circ \ldots \circ a}_{x \text{ times}} = |a^x \mod N|, \quad a^{-1} := |a^{-1} \mod N|.$ 

**Lemma 1 (Lemma 7, [37]).** Let  $N' := \lceil N/4 \rceil$ ,  $\mathbb{G} := \mathbb{QR}_N^+$ , and  $X \notin \mathbb{Z}_{N'}, Y \notin \mathbb{Z}_{|\mathbb{G}|}$ . Then the statistical distance D(X,Y) satisfies  $D(X,Y) \leq \frac{2(P+Q)}{PQ}$ .

### 2.3 Digital Signature

**Definition 3 (Syntax of Digital Signature).** A digital signature scheme SIG is a tuple of algorithms (Setup, Gen, Sign, Ver) where

- The setup algorithm Setup takes as input a security parameter 1<sup>n</sup>, and outputs system parameters par.
- The key generation algorithm Gen takes as input the system parameters par, and returns public and secret keys (pk, sk). We assume that pk defines a message space  $\mathcal{M}$  and a signature space  $\Sigma$ .
- The signing algorithm Sign takes the secret key sk and a message  $m \in \mathcal{M}$  as inputs, and returns a signature  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ .
- The deterministic verification algorithm Ver takes a public key pk, a message m and a signature  $\sigma$  as inputs and returns 1 (accept) or 0 (reject).

For correctness, we require that  $\Pr[\operatorname{Ver}(pk, m, \operatorname{Sign}(sk, m)) = 1] = 1$ .

**Definition 4 (MU-UF-CMA Security).** A signature scheme SIG is said to be  $(t, \varepsilon, \ell, Q_s)$ -MU-UF-CMA secure (multi-user unforgeable against chosen message attacks), if for all adversaries  $\mathcal{A}$  that run in time t and makes at most  $Q_s$  queries to the signature oracle in the security game in Figure 1, we have

$$\Pr\left[\mathsf{MU}\text{-}\mathsf{UF}\text{-}\mathsf{CMA}^{\mathcal{A}} \Rightarrow 1\right] \leq \varepsilon.$$

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**Oracle** INITIALIZE: **Oracle** SIGN(i, m):  $\mathsf{par} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathsf{Setup}(1^n)$  $\overline{M \leftarrow M \cup \{(i,m)\}}$ For  $i = 1, \ldots, \ell$ :  $(pk_i, sk_i) \stackrel{\text{s}}{\leftarrow} \text{Gen}(par)$  $\mathsf{ctr} := \mathsf{ctr} + 1$  $\sigma \leftarrow \mathsf{Sign}(sk_i, m)$  $M := \emptyset; \operatorname{ctr} := 0$ Return (par,  $pk_1, \ldots, pk_\ell$ ) Return  $\sigma$ **Oracle** FINALIZE $(i^*, m^*, \sigma^*)$ : Return ((ctr  $\leq Q_s$ )  $\wedge$  Ver $(pk_{i^*}, m^*, \sigma^*) \wedge (i^*, m^*) \notin M$ )

Fig. 1. Security game for MU-UF-CMA security with  $\ell$  users.

#### 3 Construction from the CDH Assumption

Our construction here is based on the CDH-based online/offline signature scheme in [37]. We apply the key-prefixing technique [12] on it.

Let  $H_1: \{0,1\}^* \to \mathbb{G}$  and  $H_2: \{0,1\}^* \to \{0,1\}^n$  be two hash functions. We recall the signature scheme  $OF_{CDH} := (Setup, Gen, Sign, Ver)$  from [37] and define our key-prefixing variant  $\mathsf{PF}\text{-}\mathsf{OF}_{\mathsf{CDH}} := (\mathsf{Setup}, \mathsf{Gen}, \mathsf{Sign}_{\mathsf{pf}}, \mathsf{Ver}_{\mathsf{pf}})$  of it in Figure 2. We highlight the differences with grey. By additionally hashing  $R_1$  in  $H_2$ , we can prove that the multi-user (MU-UF-CMA) security of our  $PF-OF_{CDH}$  can be tightly implied by the single-user security of  $OF_{CDH}$  in the programmable random oracle model. Interestingly, PF-OF<sub>CDH</sub> is the same as the original Chevallier-Mames scheme [19]. Our proof can be seen as a new, tight proof of the scheme in the multi-user setting, while the original proof is only tight in the single-user setting.

$Setup(1^n)$ :	Sign $_{pf}(sk,m)$ :	$ Ver_{pf}(pk,m,\sigma):$
$par \mathrel{\mathop:}= (p,g,\mathbb{G}) \xleftarrow{\hspace{0.15cm}}{}^{\hspace{15cm}\$} \mathcal{G}(1^n)$	$\overline{r \stackrel{\hspace{0.1em} \circledast}{=} \mathbb{Z}_n}; R_1 \stackrel{\hspace{0.1em} \coloneqq}{=} q^r$	$\overline{\text{Parse } \sigma} := (R_L, h_2, s)$
Return par	$h_1 := H_1(R_1)$	$R_1 := g^s \cdot X^{-h_2}$
	$R_L := h_1^x \in \mathbb{G}; R_R := h_1^r$	$h_1 := H_1(R_1)$
Gen(par):	$R_2 := (R_L, R_R)$	$R_R := h_1^s \cdot R_L^{-h_2}$
$sk := x \xleftarrow{\hspace{1.5pt}{\$}} \mathbb{Z}_p$	$h_2 := H_2(R_1, R_2, pk, m)$	$R_2 := (R_L, R_R)$
$pk := X = g^x$	$s := x \cdot h_2 + r \in \mathbb{Z}_p$	If $h_2 = H_2(R_1, R_2, pk, m)$
Return $(pk, sk)$	$\sigma := (R_L, h_2, s)$	Return 1
	Return $\sigma$	Else return 0

Fig. 2. Signature schemes  $OF_{CDH}$  and  $PF-OF_{CDH}$ . We highlight the difference with grey Both schemes execute all the codes, while the codes with grey are only executed in PF-OF<sub>CDH</sub>.

We recall the security of  $OF_{CDH}$  from [37].

Lemma 2 (Security of  $OF_{CDH}$ , Theorem 2 of [37]). If CDH is  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -hard w.r.t  $\mathcal{G}$ , then  $\mathsf{OF}_{\mathsf{CDH}}$  is  $(t', \varepsilon', Q_s, Q_1, Q_2)$ -UF-CMA secure in the programmable

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random oracle model, where

$$\varepsilon' \le \varepsilon + \frac{Q_2 + 2}{2^n} + \frac{(Q_1 + Q_2)Q_s}{2^n} + \frac{1}{2^n}, \quad t' \approx t.$$
 (3)

where  $Q_s, Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are upper bounds on the number of signature and hash queries to  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  in the UF-CMA-experiment.

**Lemma 3** (UF-CMA of  $OF_{CDH} \rightarrow MU$ -UF-CMA of PF- $OF_{CDH}$ ). If  $OF_{CDH}$  is  $(t, \varepsilon, Q_s, Q_1, Q_2)$ -UF-CMA secure, then PF- $OF_{CDH}$  is  $(t', \varepsilon', \ell, Q'_s, Q'_1, Q'_2)$ -MU-UF-CMA secure in the programmable random oracle model, where

$$\varepsilon' \le \varepsilon + \frac{Q'_2 Q'_s}{2^n}, \quad Q'_s = Q_s, \quad Q'_1 = Q_1 - 1, \quad Q'_2 = Q_2 - 1, \text{ and } t' \approx t.$$
 (4)

Here  $Q_s, Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are upper bounds on the number of signature and hash queries to  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  in the UF-CMA-experiment. Similarly,  $Q'_s, Q'_1$  and  $Q'_2$  are upper bounds on the number of signature and hash queries to  $H'_1$  and  $H'_2$  in the MU-UF-CMA-experiment.

Combining Lemmata 2 and 3, we get the following theorem.

**Theorem 1 (Security of PF-OF**<sub>CDH</sub>). If CDH is  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -hard with respect to  $\mathcal{G}$ , then PF-OF<sub>CDH</sub> is  $(t', \varepsilon', \ell, Q_s, Q_1, Q_2)$ -MU-UF-CMA secure in the programmable random oracle model, where

$$\varepsilon' \le \varepsilon + \frac{Q_2 + 3}{2^n} + \frac{(Q_1 + Q_2 + 2)Q_s}{2^n} + \frac{1}{2^n} + \frac{Q_2Q_s}{2^n}, \quad t' \approx t.$$
(5)

where  $Q_s, Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are upper bounds on the number of signature and hash queries to  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  in the MU-UF-CMA-experiment.

Thus, we only need to prove Lemma 3.

### 3.1 Proof of Lemma 3

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary that  $(t', \varepsilon', \ell, Q'_s, Q'_1, Q'_2)$ -breaks the MU-UF-CMA security of PF-OF<sub>CDH</sub>. We prove Lemma 3 by constructing a reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  that  $(t, \varepsilon, Q_s, Q_1, Q_2)$ -breaks the UF-CMA security of OF<sub>CDH</sub> and provides oracle access for  $\mathcal{A}$  as in Figure 3.

The reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  gets oracle access to INITIALIZE<sub>U</sub>, SIGN<sub>U</sub>, and FINALIZE<sub>U</sub> and random oracles HASH<sub>1</sub> and HASH<sub>2</sub> (for hash function  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  in OF<sub>CDH</sub>) from the UF-CMA security experiment. Moreover,  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates oracles INITIALIZE<sub>MU</sub>, SIGN<sub>MU</sub>, FINALIZE<sub>MU</sub> and random oracles HASH'<sub>1</sub> and HASH'<sub>2</sub> (for hash functions  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  in PF-OF<sub>CDH</sub>) for adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ .

ANALYSIS. We show that  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates a distribution statistically close to the real one for  $\mathcal{A}$ . It is trivial to see that the output of INITIALIZE<sub>MU</sub> distributes the same as the real one, since  $X_i$  is uniformly random over  $\mathbb{G}$ . Random oracles

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<b>Oracle</b> INITIALIZE <sub>MU</sub> :	Oracle $HASH'_1(R)$ :
$(par, X) \leftarrow \mathrm{INITIALIZE}_{U}$	$\overline{\text{Return HASH}_1(R)}$
For $i := 1, \ldots, \ell$ :	
$a_i \xleftarrow{\hspace{0.1em}} \mathbb{Z}_p$	<b>Oracle</b> $\operatorname{HASH}_2'(R_1, R_2, X_j, m)$ :
$X_i := X \cdot g^{a_i}$	If $X_i = X_i$ for some $1 \le i \le \ell$
$M := \emptyset; \operatorname{ctr} := 0$	Parse $R_2 := (R_L, R_R)$
Return (par, $X_1, \ldots, X_\ell$ )	$h_1 \leftarrow \text{HASH}_1(R_1)$
	$h_2 \leftarrow \operatorname{HASH}_2(R_1, (R_L/h_1^{a_i}, R_R), X_j, m)$
<b>Oracle</b> SIGN <sub>MU</sub> $(i, m)$ :	Else
$\overline{M \leftarrow M \cup \{(i,m)\}}$	$h_2 \leftarrow \operatorname{HASH}_2(R_1, R_2, X_j, m)$
ctr := ctr + 1	$\mathrm{H}_{2}^{\prime}[R_{1},R_{2},X_{j},m] := h_{2}$
$\hat{\sigma} := (\hat{R}_L, \hat{h}_2, \hat{s}) \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{U}(X_i, m)$	Return $h_2$
$\hat{R}_1 := q^{\hat{s}} \cdot X^{-\hat{h}_2}$	
$\hat{h}_1 \leftarrow H_{ASH_1}(\hat{R}_1)$	<b>Oracle</b> FINALIZE <sub>MU</sub> $(i^*, m^*, \sigma^*)$ :
$R_{L} := \hat{R}_{L} \cdot \hat{h}_{1}^{a_{i}} : \hat{R}_{B} := \hat{h}_{1}^{\hat{s}} \cdot \hat{R}_{L}^{-\hat{h}_{2}}$	$\overline{\text{If }(i^*,m^*)\in M\wedge ctr>Q_s}$
$R_2 := (R_L \hat{R}_R)$	Abort
If $H'_{2}[\hat{B}_{1}, B_{2}, X_{i}, m] =  $ then	Parse $\sigma^* := (R_L^*, h_2^*, s^*)$
$H'_{2}[\hat{R}_{1}, R_{2}, X_{i}, m] := \hat{h}_{2}$	$R_1^* := g^{s^*} \cdot X_{i^*}^{-h_2^*}$
Else	$h_1^* \leftarrow \operatorname{Hash}'_1(R_1^*)$
Abort	$\tilde{R}_L := R_L^* / h_1^{*a_i^*}$
$s := \hat{s} + a_i \hat{h}_2$	$\tilde{s} := s^* - a_{i^*} h_2^*$
Return $\sigma := (R_L, \hat{h}_2, s)$	$ ilde{\sigma} := ( ilde{R}_L, h_2^*,  ilde{s})$
	Return FINALIZE <sub>U</sub> $((X_{i^*}, m^*), \tilde{\sigma})$

**Fig. 3.** Security reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  to break the UF-CMA security of OF<sub>CDH</sub>, and simulate oracles for adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against the MU-UF-CMA security of PF-OF<sub>CDH</sub>. H<sub>2</sub>' is a list that keeps track of the inputs and outputs of random oracle HASH<sub>2</sub>'.

 $HASH_1$  and  $HASH_2$  are provided by the UF-CMA challenger and thus  $HASH'_1$  and  $HASH'_2$  are simulated properly.

Our focus is to show that signatures simulated by SIGN<sub>MU</sub> are statistically close to those outputted by  $\text{Sign}_{pf}$  of PF-OF<sub>CDH</sub>. Given  $\hat{\sigma} := (\hat{R}_L, \hat{h}_2, \hat{s}) \leftarrow$  SIGN<sub>U</sub>( $X_i, m$ ),  $\hat{\sigma}$  is a valid signature w.r.t. the verification of OF<sub>CDH</sub> (defined in Figure 2) and  $\hat{s}$  distributes uniformly at random, namely, the following equation holds:

$$\hat{h}_2 = \text{HASH}_2(\hat{R}_2, X_i, m),$$

where  $\hat{R}_2 = (\hat{R}_L, \hat{R}_R), \hat{R}_R = \hat{h}_1^{\hat{s}} \cdot \hat{R}_L^{-\hat{h}_2}, \hat{h}_1 = \text{HASH}_1(\hat{R}_1) \text{ and } \hat{R}_1 = g^{\hat{s}} \cdot X^{-\hat{h}_2}.$ 

If SIGN<sub>MU</sub>(*i*, *m*) does not abort, the signature  $\sigma := (R_L, \hat{h}_2, s)$  with  $s = \hat{s} + a_i \hat{h}_2$ output by SIGN<sub>MU</sub>(*i*, *m*) has the right distribution, namely, *s* is uniformly random (which is trivial due to the random  $\hat{s}$ ) and  $\sigma$  will pass the verification Ver<sub>pf</sub> of PF-OF<sub>CDH</sub>: Firstly, Ver<sub>pf</sub> will compute values  $R_1$  and  $R_2 := (R_L, R_R)$  according to its definition in Figure 2, and, by our simulation of INITIALIZE<sub>MU</sub> and SIGN<sub>MU</sub>, the following holds

$$R_1 := g^s \cdot X_i^{-\hat{h}_2} = g^{\hat{s} + a_i\hat{h}_2} \cdot (X \cdot g^{a_i})^{-\hat{h}_2} = g^{\hat{s}} \cdot X^{-\hat{h}_2} = \hat{R}_1$$
$$R_R := h_1^s \cdot R_L^{-\hat{h}_2} = \hat{h}_1^{\hat{s} + a_i\hat{h}_2} \cdot (\hat{R}_L \cdot \hat{h}_1^{a_i})^{-\hat{h}_2} = \hat{h}_1^{\hat{s}} \cdot \hat{R}_L^{-\hat{h}_2} = \hat{R}_R$$

where  $h_1 = \text{HASH}_1(R_1) = \text{HASH}_1(\hat{R}_1) = \hat{h}_1$ . Thus,  $\hat{h}_2$  in  $\sigma$  returned by SIGN<sub>MU</sub>(i, m) will have  $\hat{h}_2 = \text{HASH}_2'(R_1, R_2, X_i, m)$  and  $\text{Ver}_{pf}(X_i, m, \sigma) = 1$ .

Moreover, since  $\hat{s}$  is uniform,  $\hat{R}_1$  distributes uniformly over  $\mathbb{G}$  and the probability that  $\mathrm{H}'_2[\hat{R}_1, R_2, X_i, m]$  has been defined is at most  $Q'_2/|\mathbb{G}|$ . By applying the union bound on the number of signing queries,  $\mathcal{B}$  will abort its simulation with probability at most  $Q_s Q'_2/|\mathbb{G}|$ .

A VALID FORGERY. To see that  $\mathcal{B}$  produces a valid forgery, we first assume that the forgery  $(i^*, m^*, \sigma^* = (R_L^*, h_2^*, s^*))$  made by  $\mathcal{A}$  is a valid forgery in the MU-UF-CMA-experiment under the public key  $X_{i^*}$ , meaning that for

$$R_1^* := g^{s^*} \cdot X_{i^*}^{-h_2^*}, \quad h_1^* := \text{HASH}_1(R_1^*) \quad \text{and} \quad R_R^* := h_1^{*s^*} \cdot R_L^{*-h_2^*}.$$

we have  $h_2^* = \text{HASH}'_2(R_1^*, R_L^*, R_R^*, X_{i^*}, m^*)$ . In addition, it satisfies the freshness condition that  $(i^*, m^*)$  has not been queried in a previous signature query. For the signature  $\tilde{\sigma} = (\tilde{R}_L, h_2^*, \tilde{s})$ , we compute

$$\tilde{R}_1 := g^{\tilde{s}} \cdot X^{-h_2^*} = g^{s^* - a_{i^*}h_2^*} \cdot X^{-h_2^*} = g^{s^*} \cdot X_{i^*}^{-h_2^*} = R_1^*.$$

We set  $\tilde{h}_1 := \text{HASH}_1(\tilde{R}_1) = \text{HASH}_1(R_1^*) = h_1^*$  and compute

$$\tilde{R}_R := \tilde{h}_1^{\tilde{s}} \cdot \tilde{R}_L^{-h_2^*} = \tilde{h}_1^{s^* - a_{i^*} h_2^*} \cdot \left( R_L^* / \tilde{h}_1^{a_{i^*}} \right)^{-h_2^*} = \tilde{h}_1^{s^*} \cdot R_L^{* - h_2^*} = R_R^*.$$

Then, by the simulation of  $\text{HASH}'_2(R_1^*, R_2^*, X_{i^*}, m^*)$  and  $\tilde{R}_L = R_L^*/h_1^{a_{i^*}}$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} h_2^* &= \operatorname{HasH}_2'(R_1^*, R_2^*, X_{i^*}, m^*) = \operatorname{HasH}_2'(R_1^*, (R_L^*, R_R^*), X_{i^*}, m^*) \\ &= \operatorname{HasH}_2(R_1^*, (R_L^*/h_1^{a_{i^*}}, R_R^*), X_{i^*}, m^*) = \operatorname{HasH}_2(\tilde{R}_1, (\tilde{R}_L, \tilde{R}_R), X_{i^*}, m^*) = \tilde{h}_2 \end{aligned}$$

and hence  $\operatorname{Ver}(X, \tilde{m}, \tilde{\sigma}) = 1$  where  $\tilde{m} := (X_{i^*}, m^*)$ . Since  $\sigma^*$  was a fresh signature on  $(i^*, m^*)$ ,  $\tilde{m}$  has never been queried to the UF-CMA signature oracle, and hence  $\tilde{\sigma}$  is a fresh signature on the message  $\tilde{m}$ .

### 4 Construction from the Factoring Assumption

We can also apply our method to  $FS_{FAC}$  in [37] to get tight MU-UF-CMA security from the FAC assumption. We refer readers to Section 2.2 for necessary mathematical background of this section.

Let  $H_1: \{0,1\}^* \to \mathbb{QR}_N^+$  and  $H_2: \{0,1\}^* \to \{0,\ldots,2^k-1\}$  be hash functions, and let g be a generator of  $\mathbb{QR}_N^+$ . As before, in Figure 4 we have the original scheme  $\mathsf{FS}_{\mathsf{FAC}}$  and its prefixed variant  $\mathsf{PF}\mathsf{-FS}_{\mathsf{FAC}}$ . To give a syntactically correct definition, we require that Setup outputs a private parameter sp that only inputs to Gen.

By combining Corollary 1, Lemma  $8^5$  and Lemma 1 of [37], we get the following result.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> We use the result derived in the reduction, not the statement of the lemma, as they are not the same.

$Setup(1^n)$ :	Sign $_{pf}(sk,m)$ :	Ver pf $(pk, m, \sigma)$ :
$p, q \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{P}_{n/2} \text{ s.t.}$	$\overline{r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_{N/4}; R_1} := g^r$	$\overline{\text{Parse } \sigma} := (R_L, h_2, s)$
$P := 2p + 1 \in \mathbb{F}_{n/2}$ $Q := 2q + 1 \in \mathbb{P}_{n/2}$	$h_1 := H_1(R_1, pk, m) \in \mathbb{QR}_N^+;$	$R_{1} := g^{s} \circ X^{-n_{2}}$ $h_{1} := H_{1}(R_{1}, pk, m)$
N := PQ	$\begin{vmatrix} \kappa_L &:= n_1; \kappa_R &:= n_1 \\ R_2 &:= (R_L, R_R) \end{vmatrix}$	$R_R := h_1^s \circ R_L^{-h_2}$
sp := (p,q)	$h_2 := H_2(R_1, R_2, pk, m)$	$R_2 := (R_L, R_R)$
Return $(par, sp)$	$s := x \cdot h_2 + r \mod (\varphi(N)/4)$	$\begin{array}{c} \Pi \ n_2 = \Pi_2(\ \kappa_1,\ \kappa_2,\ p\kappa\ ,m) \\ \text{Return 1} \end{array}$
Gen(par, sp):	$\sigma := (R_L, h_2, s)$	Else return 0
$\overline{x \stackrel{\text{\tiny (1)}}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Z}_{N/4}; X} := g^x$	Return $\sigma$	
sk := (x, p, q) $pk := X$		
Return $(pk, sk)$		

Fig. 4. Signature schemes  $FS_{FAC}$  and  $PF-FS_{FAC}$ . We highlight the difference with grey . Both schemes execute all the codes, while the codes with grey are only executed in  $PF-FS_{FAC}$ .

**Lemma 4 (Security of FS**<sub>FAC</sub>). If FAC is  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -hard for  $\text{Blum}_n$ , then  $\text{FS}_{\text{FAC}}$  is  $(t', \varepsilon', Q_1, Q_2)$ -UF-KOA secure in the random oracle model, where

$$\varepsilon' \le \varepsilon + \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} + \frac{Q_2 + 1}{2^k}, \quad t' \approx t$$

Lemma 5 (UF-KOA of FS<sub>FAC</sub>  $\rightarrow$  MU-UF-CMA of PF-FS<sub>FAC</sub>). If FS<sub>FAC</sub> is  $(t, \varepsilon, Q_1, Q_2)$ -UF-KOA secure, then PF-FS<sub>FAC</sub> is  $(t', \varepsilon', \ell, Q_s, Q'_1, Q'_2)$ -MU-UF-CMA secure in the programmable random oracle model, where

$$\varepsilon' \le \varepsilon + \frac{1}{2^{n/2-2}} + Q_s \left( \frac{Q_1'}{2^n} + \frac{Q_2'}{2^k} \right), \quad Q_1' = Q_1 - 1, \ Q_2' = Q_2 - 1, \ and \ t' \approx t.$$
(6)

Here  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are upper bounds on the number of hash queries to  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  in the UF-KOA-experiment. Similarly,  $Q_s, Q'_1$  and  $Q'_2$  are upper bounds on the number of signature and hash queries to  $H'_1$  and  $H'_2$  in the MU-UF-CMA-experiment.

Combining Lemmata 4 and 5, we get the following theorem.

**Theorem 2 (Security of PF-FS**<sub>FAC</sub>). If FAC is  $(t, \varepsilon)$ -hard for  $\text{Blum}_n$ , then PF-FS<sub>FAC</sub> is  $(t', \varepsilon', Q_s, Q_1, Q_2)$ -MU-UF-CMA secure in the programmable random oracle model, where

$$\varepsilon' \le \varepsilon + \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} + \frac{Q_2 + 2}{2^k} + \frac{1}{2^{n/2 - 2}} + Q_s \left(\frac{Q_1}{2^n} + \frac{Q_2}{2^k}\right), \ t' \approx t.$$
(7)

As before, we now only need to prove Lemma 5.

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Oracle INITIALIZE <sub>MU</sub> :	<b>Oracle</b> $\operatorname{HASH}_1(R, X_j, m)$ :
$(par, X) \leftarrow \text{INITIALIZE}_{U}$	If $H'_1[R, X_i, m] \neq \bot$
For $i := 1, \ldots, \ell$	Return $\mathrm{H}'_1[R, X_j, m]$
$a_i \xleftarrow{\hspace{0.1cm}} \mathbb{Z}_{\lceil N/4 \rceil}$	$h_1 \leftarrow \text{HASH}_1(R, X_j, m)$
$X_i := X \circ g^{a_i}$	$\mathrm{H}_1'[R, X_j, m] := h_1$
$pk_i := X_i$	Return $h_1$
$M := \emptyset; ctr := 0$	
Return $(par, pk_1, \dots, pk_\ell)$	<b>Oracle</b> $\operatorname{HASH}_2'(R_1, R_2, X_j, m)$ :
	If $H'_2[R_1, R_2, X_j, m] \neq \bot$
<b>Oracle</b> $SIGN_{MU}(i, m)$ :	Return $H'_2[R_1, R_2, X_j, m]$
$M \leftarrow M \cup \{(i,m)\}$	If $X_j = X_i$ for some $1 \le i \le \ell$
$\operatorname{ctr} := \operatorname{ctr} + 1$	Parse $R_2 := (R_L, R_R)$
$\hat{s}, w, h_2 \stackrel{\text{\tiny (b)}}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Z}_{\lceil N/4 \rceil}$	$h_1 \leftarrow \operatorname{Hash}'_1(R_1, X_i, m)$
$\hat{h}_1 := g^w;  \hat{R}_1 := g^{\hat{s}} \circ X_i^{-h_2}$	$h_2 \leftarrow \operatorname{HASH}_2(R_1, (R_L \circ h_1^{-a_i}, R_R), X_i, m)$
$\hat{R}_L := X_i^w;  \hat{R}_R := \hat{R}_1^w$	Else
If $H'_1[\hat{R}_1, X_i, m] = \perp$ then	$h_2 \leftarrow \operatorname{Hash}_2(R_1, R_2, X_j, m)$
$\mathrm{H}_1'[\hat{R}_1, X_i, m] := h_1$	$\mathrm{H}_{2}^{\prime}[R_{1},R_{2},X_{j},m] \coloneqq h_{2}$
Else	Return $h_2$
Abort	
$\hat{R}_2 = (\hat{R}_L, \hat{R}_R)$	<b>Oracle</b> FINALIZE <sub>MU</sub> $(i^*, m^*, \sigma^*)$ :
If $H'_2[\hat{R}_1, \hat{R}_2, X_i, m] = \perp$ then	$If ((i^*, m^*) \in M \land ctr > Q_s)$
$\mathrm{H}_{2}'[\hat{R}_{1},\hat{R}_{2},X_{i},m] := \hat{h}_{2}$	Abort
Else	Parse $\sigma^* := (R_L^*, h_2^*, s^*)$
Abort	$R_1^* := g^{s^*} \circ X_{i^*}^{-h_2^*}$
Return $\sigma := (R_L, h_2, \hat{s})$	$h_1^* \leftarrow \operatorname{HASH}'_1(R_1^*, X_{i^*}, m^*)$
	$\tilde{R}_L := R_L^* \circ (h_1^*)^{-a_{i^*}}$
	$ \tilde{s} := s^* - a_{i^*} h_2^*$
	$ ilde{\sigma} := ( ilde{R}_L, h_2^*,  ilde{s})$
	Return FINALIZE <sub>U</sub> $((X_{i^*}, m^*), \tilde{\sigma})$

**Fig. 5.** Security reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  to break the UF-KOA security of FS<sub>FAC</sub>, and simulate oracles for adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against the MU-UF-CMA security of PF-FS<sub>FAC</sub>. Operations denoted with  $\circ$  are performed in  $\mathbb{QR}_N^+$ , while other operations are performed over the integers.

### 4.1 Proof of Lemma 5

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary that breaks the  $(t', \varepsilon', \ell, Q_s, Q'_1, Q'_2)$ -MU-UF-CMA-security of PF-FS<sub>FAC</sub>. We construct a reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  that breaks the  $(t, \varepsilon, Q_1, Q_2)$ -UF-KOAsecurity of FS<sub>FAC</sub> as in Figure 5. As before, the reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  gets oracle access to INITIALIZE<sub>U</sub>, FINALIZE<sub>U</sub> and random oracles HASH<sub>1</sub> and HASH<sub>2</sub> (for hash function  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  in FS<sub>FAC</sub>) from the UF-KOA security experiment. Moreover,  $\mathcal{B}$ simulates oracles INITIALIZE<sub>MU</sub>, SIGN<sub>MU</sub>, FINALIZE<sub>MU</sub> and random oracles HASH<sub>1</sub> and HASH<sub>2</sub> (for hash functions  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  in PF-FS<sub>FAC</sub>) for adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ .

ANALYSIS. We again want to show that  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates a distribution statistically close to the real one for  $\mathcal{A}$ . It is trivial to see that the output of INITIALIZE<sub>MU</sub> has the same distribution as in the real case, since  $X_i$  is uniformly random over  $\mathbb{QR}_N^+$ .

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The random oracles are provided by the UF-KOA challenger and thus  $HASH'_1$  and  $HASH'_2$  are properly simulated.

If SIGN<sub>MU</sub> does not abort, the signature  $\sigma = (\hat{R}_L, \hat{h}_2, \hat{s})$  is within statistical distance  $2(P+Q)/PQ \leq 2^{2-n/2}$  from a real distribution, and it passes the verification Ver<sub>pf</sub> of PF-FS<sub>FAC</sub>. To show this, we use Lemma 1 and a result from Lemma 8 in [37]. Combined, these show that when simulating a signature like we do in SIGN<sub>MU</sub>, the returned transcript  $(\hat{R}_1, \hat{h}_1, \hat{R}_2, \hat{h}_2, \hat{s})$  is within statistical distance at most 2(P+Q)/PQ from a real distribution. This is so because  $\hat{s}$  has statistical distance at most 2(P+Q)/PQ from a uniformly random variable over  $\mathbb{Z}_{|\mathbb{QR}_N^+|}$  by Lemma 1, and  $\hat{R}_1, \hat{R}_L, \hat{R}_R$  are determined by  $\hat{s}, \hat{h}_2$  and  $X_i$ , since they

are the unique values that satisfy  $\hat{R}_1 = g^{\hat{s}} \circ X_i^{-\hat{h}_2}$  and  $\hat{R}_R = \hat{h}_1^{\hat{s}} \circ \hat{R}_L^{-\hat{h}_2}$ .

For the verification, we proceed as we did for  $\mathsf{PF}\text{-}\mathsf{OF}_{\mathsf{CDH}}$ . The  $\mathsf{Ver}_{\mathsf{pf}}$  algorithm computes  $R_1$  and  $R_R$  as described in Figure 4, and from our simulation of INITIALIZE<sub>MU</sub> and SIGN<sub>MU</sub> we get

$$R_1 := g^{\hat{s}} \circ X_i^{-\hat{h}_2} = \hat{R}_1$$
$$R_R := h_1^{\hat{s}} \circ \hat{R}_L^{-\hat{h}_2} = g^{w\hat{s}} \circ X_i^{-w\hat{h}_2} = \left(g^{\hat{s}} \circ X_i^{-\hat{h}_2}\right)^w = \hat{R}_1^w = \hat{R}_R$$

where we after the programming have  $h_1 := \text{HASH}_1(R_1, X_i, m) = \hat{h}_1 = g^w$ . Thus,  $\hat{h}_2$  in  $\sigma$  returned by SIGN<sub>MU</sub>(i, m) will satisfy

$$\hat{h}_2 := \operatorname{HASH}_2'(R_1, \hat{R}_L, R_R, X_i, m),$$

and therefore  $\operatorname{Ver}_{pf}(X_i, m, \sigma) = 1$ . In the simulation we randomly choose  $\hat{s} \stackrel{\hspace{0.1em}}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em}}}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em}}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em}}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em}}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em}}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em}}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}}{\overset{0\,}{\overset{0\,}}{$ 

A VALID FORGERY. To show that  $(X_{i^*}, m^*, \tilde{\sigma} = (\tilde{R}_L, h_2^*, \tilde{s}))$  is a valid forgery in the UF-KOA-experiment, we first assume that  $(i^*, m^*, \sigma^* := (R_L^*, h_2^*, s^*))$  is a valid signature in the MU-UF-CMA-experiment, meaning that for

$$R_1^* := g^{s^*} \circ X_{i^*}^{-h_2^*}, \quad h_1^* := \text{HASH}_1'(R_1^*, X_{i^*}, m^*) \quad \text{and} \quad R_R^* := {h_1^*}^{s^*} \circ {R_L^*}^{-h_2^*},$$

we have  $h_2^* = \text{HASH}_2'(R_1^*, R_L^*, R_R^*, X_{i^*}, m^*)$ . It also satisfies the freshness condition that  $(i^*, m^*)$  has not been queried in a previous signature query in the MU-UF-CMA game. This means that if  $h_1^* = \text{H}_1'[R_1^*, X_{i^*}, m^*]$  or  $h_2^* = \text{H}_2'[R_1^*, R_2^*, X_{i^*}, m^*]$  are defined, it was not done by  $\text{SIGN}_{\text{MU}}$ , and hence the value was returned by an UF-KOA hash oracle, as required. For the signature  $\tilde{\sigma} = (\tilde{R}_L, h_2^*, \tilde{s})$  generated in FINALIZEMU, we compute  $\tilde{R}_1 := g^{\tilde{s}} \circ X^{-h_2^*} = g^{s^*-a_{i^*}h_2^*} \circ X^{-h_2^*} = g^{s^*} \circ X_{i^*}^{-h_2^*} = R_1^*$ . We set  $\tilde{h}_1 = \text{HASH}_1(\tilde{R}_1, X_{i^*}, m^*) =$ 

 $\operatorname{Hash}_1(R^*, X_{i^*}, m^*) = h_1^*$ , and compute

$$\tilde{R}_R := \tilde{h}_1^{\tilde{s}} \circ \tilde{R}_L^{-h_2^*} = \tilde{h}_1^{s^* - a_i * h_2^*} \circ \left( R_L^* \circ \left( \tilde{h}_1 \right)^{-a_i *} \right)^{-h_2^*} = \tilde{h}_1^{s^*} \circ R_L^{* - h_2^*} = R_R^*.$$

Then, by the simulation of  $\text{HASH}'_2(R_1^*, R_2^*, X_{i^*}, m^*)$ , we have that

$$\tilde{h}_2 := \text{HASH}_2(\tilde{R}_1, (\tilde{R}_L, \tilde{R}_R), X_{i^*}, m^*) = \text{HASH}_2'(R_1^*, R_2^*, X_{i^*}, m^*) = h_2^*, \quad (8)$$

and hence  $\operatorname{Ver}(X, \tilde{m}, \tilde{\sigma}) = 1$  where  $\tilde{m} := (X_{i^*}, m^*)$ . The running time is that of  $\mathcal{A}$  plus the  $Q_s$  simulations of SIGN<sub>MU</sub>, and we write  $t' \approx t$ .

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# A On the Multi-User Security of DSA

We show why it is difficult to show tight implication from the single-user security to the multi-user security for DSA. We first recall the scheme. Let p be an L-bit prime, and q be an N-bit prime such that  $q \mid (p-1)$ . For specifications on L and N, see the DSA documentation [36]. Let g be a generator of a subgroup of order q in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$ . The Gen, Sign and Ver can then be described as follows.

Gen(par):	Sign(sk,m):	$ Ver(X, m, \sigma):$
$\overline{sk := x \stackrel{\hspace{0.1em} \leftarrow \hspace{0.1em} \mathbb{S}}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em} \leftarrow}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em} \bullet}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em} \leftarrow}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em} \bullet}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em} \leftarrow}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em} \leftarrow}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em} \bullet}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em} \leftarrow}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em} \leftarrow}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{\hspace{0.1em} \leftarrow}{\overset{{0}}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}}{\overset{{0}}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{\\{0}}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{\overset{{0}}{{\\$	$r \in \mathbb{Z}_a^*$	$\overline{\text{Parse } \sigma} := (R, s)$
$X := g^x \mod p$	$R := (\overset{q}{g^r} \mod p) \mod q$	If $R = 0 \lor s = 0$
pk := X	s :=	Return 0
Return $(pk, sk)$	$(r^{-1}(H(m)+xR)) \mod q$	$w := s^{-1} \mod q$
	Return $\sigma := (R, s)$	$u_1 := H(m) \cdot w \mod q$
		$u_2 := R \cdot w \mod q$
		v :=
		$(g^{u_1}X^{u_2} \mod p) \mod q$
		If $v = R$
		Return 1
		Else return 0

Different to the Schnorr signature, given a valid signature  $\sigma := (R, s)$  under public key X, it is not possible to convert it to a valid signature under public key  $X \cdot g^{a_i}$  for  $a_i \stackrel{s}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Z}_q^* = \mathbb{Z}_q \setminus \{0\}$  using methods in [38,12], since we do not have the discrete log of R, namely,  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_q^*$ .