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# Proving the TLS Handshake Secure (as it is)

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## Abstract

The TLS Internet Standard features a mixed bag of cryptographic algorithms and constructions, letting clients and servers negotiate their use for each run of the handshake. Although many ciphersuites are now well-understood in isolation, their composition remains problematic, and yet it is critical to obtain practical security guarantees for TLS. We experimentally confirm that all mainstream implementations of TLS share key materials between different algorithms, some of them of dubious strength. We outline attacks in their handling of resumption and renegotiation, stressing the need to model multiple related instances of the handshake.

We study the provable security of the TLS handshake, as it is implemented and deployed. To capture the details of the standard and its main extensions, we rely on mITLS, a verified reference implementation of the protocol. mITLS inter-operates with mainstream browsers and servers for many protocol versions, configurations, and ciphersuites; and it provides application-level, provable security for some.

We propose new agile security definitions and assumptions for the signatures, key encapsulation mechanisms (KEM), and key derivation algorithms used by the TLS handshake. By necessity, our definitions are stronger than those expected with simple modern protocols. To validate our model of key encapsulation, we prove that both RSA and Diffie-Hellman ciphersuites satisfy our definition for the KEM. In particular, we formalize the use of PKCS#1v1.5 encryption in TLS, including recommended countermeasures against Bleichenbacher attacks, and build a 3,000-line EASYCRYPT proof of the security of the resulting master secret KEM against replayable chosen-ciphertext attacks under the assumption that ciphertexts are hard to re-randomize.

Based on our new agile definitions, we construct a modular proof of security for the mITLS reference implementation of the handshake, including ciphersuite negotiation, key exchange, renegotiation, and resumption, treated as a detailed 3,600-line executable model. We present our main definitions, constructions, and proofs for an abstract model of the protocol, featuring series of related runs of the handshake with different ciphersuites. We also describe its refinement to account for the whole reference implementation, based on automated verification tools.

**Keywords:** TLS protocol, handshake, key exchange, cryptographic agility, provable security, reference implementation, PKCS, RSA, KEM

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# 1 Introduction

TLS is the most widely deployed protocol for securing communications and yet, after two decades of attacks, patches and extensions, its practical security remains unresolved. One of the most troublesome aspects of the protocol is its handling of a large number of cryptographic algorithms and constructions. New extensions are added to the protocol and its implementations, while older features are maintained for backward compatibility. Thus, TLS clients and servers offer many choices, and each run of the handshake involves a negotiation of the best protocol version, ciphersuite, and extensions available at both ends. Such a trade-off between flexibility and security creates several problems:

- (1) It makes the security of TLS depend on its correct configuration, inasmuch as some versions (e.g. SSL2) and algorithms (e.g. MD5 and RC4) are much weaker than others, and may also suffer from different implementation flaws [see e.g. 12]. In theory, only very restrictive configurations have been proved secure. In practice, dangerous mis-configurations of TLS and its underlying certificates are commonplace [see e.g. 26, 21].
- (2) It complicates the protocol logic, as the integrity of the negotiation itself relies on algorithms being negotiated; this is a persistent source of attacks, from protocol regression in SSL2 [62] to version fallback in current browsers [43].
- (3) It demands stronger security assumptions, to reflect the fact that honest parties may use the same key materials with different algorithms, e.g. the same master secret may be used to key different pseudo-random functions. Intuitively, TLS *on its own* enables a range of chosen-protocol attacks [34, 31] whereby a weak algorithm (chosen by the attacker) may compromise the security of stronger algorithms (chosen by honest parties). We detail below several constructions of TLS that demand joint assumptions on collections of algorithms. Surprisingly, prior work on the provable security of TLS failed to make this observation or left it implicit. The situation is aggravated by the common practice of buying a single certificate for multiple purposes.

Besides interference between multiple algorithms, TLS features dependencies between multiple runs of the handshake. For instance, a client connection may first run an RSA-based session to establish a master secret and keys for the record layer, then run a second session on the same connection, possibly with different algorithms and certificates. Using a parallel connection, the client may run a third *resumption* handshake, re-using the master secret of a prior session to derive new keys. At that point, the security of those keys depends on algorithms and constructions used in three runs of the handshake. This is in sharp contrast with prior work on the provable security of TLS [30, 37, 39], which focus on a fixed run of the protocol, for a fixed choice of algorithms. (See §7.1 for a detailed discussion of related work on provable security for TLS, and [10] for recent attacks involving triple handshakes.)

## 1.1 Cryptographic Agility in TLS

*Agile security* considers families of schemes or protocols, all serving the same purpose, when the same keys are shared across members of the family. Acar et al. [2] propose agile definitions for pseudo-random functions (PRF) and encryption schemes, and advocate agility as a major practical concern for protocols like TLS. Instead, *combined*, or *joint security* [28] studies the sharing of keys between constructions serving different purposes, e.g. encryption and signing. TLS requires both agile and joint security; in the remainder we let the term *agility* encompass both concepts. Prior works look at the idiosyncratic use of cryptographic primitives in TLS such as hash functions and randomness extractors [23, 22], but do not consider agile security.

The agility mechanisms of TLS are primarily driven by *ciphersuites* of the form `TLS_e_s_WITH_r`, which indicates a key encapsulation mechanism (KEM) *e* and signature scheme *s* for the handshake, and an authenticated encryption scheme *r* for the record layer. For instance, the commonly-used ciphersuite `TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA` indicates an RSA handshake: the client sends a fresh premaster secret encrypted under the server public key; both parties use it to extract a master secret, used in turn as the seed of a SHA1-based PRF to derive 4 keys for SHA1-based MACs and AES encryption in CBC mode. TLS 1.2 currently has 314 registered ciphersuites [29]. More precisely, the choice of algorithms depends on additional data exchanged during the handshake (hence subject to active attacks), including protocol versions, certificate requests, certificate chains, Diffie-Hellman group descriptions, and the contents of various extensions in the first two messages of the handshake (e.g. for choosing hash functions and elliptic curves). Still, because of key reuse across algorithms, we stress that the security of TLS does not reduce to the security of a few thousand fixed-algorithm variants of the handshake.

## 1.2 Empirical Study of Web Servers and Browsers

Using an online analyzer [55], we gathered extended information on server configurations for 215 of the top 500 domains,<sup>1</sup> including the TLS versions, ciphersuites, certificates, and extensions they offer. The full results are reported in §A.

These servers accept 64 ciphersuites, with an average of 12 and standard deviation of 6. They accept on average more than 5 encryption algorithms and 2 hash methods. They still widely deploy weak algorithms: 70% accept at least one ciphersuite with MD5 and 90% at least one with RC4.

All servers but one offer several versions; 37% offer only SSL3 and TLS 1.0; 56% offer all 4 versions from SSL3 to TLS 1.2. Although now forbidden by the standard, 3% still accept SSL2 with compatible ciphersuites. They all disable TLS-level compression. 86% support the (mandatory) secure renegotiation extension, leaving the others vulnerable to attacks [56]. 60% support session tickets for resumption.

We also tested 12 TLS clients, including major web browsers (Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer, Safari) and libraries (NSS, OpenSSL, SChannel, Secure Transport). These clients similarly propose a large number of ciphersuites, ranging from 19 to 36; they all propose weak hash (MD5) or encryption methods (RC4, or even no encryption). On the other hand, clients tend to support more recent ciphersuites than servers, notably those based on elliptic curves.

## 1.3 Cross-Ciphersuite Attacks

As a first, well-known example of key reuse, most TLS servers are configured to use the same RSA certificate both for signing handshake messages and for decrypting premaster secrets. Experimentally, 69% of the servers we tested propose at least one ciphersuite using RSA for encryption and one using it for signing, and, although this practice is discouraged, *all* 138 of those use the same key for both purposes.

As a second example, Mavrogiannopoulos et al. [49] report an interesting cross-protocol attack between plain Diffie-Hellman (DH) and Elliptic-Curve Diffie-Hellman (ECDH) ciphersuites, due to a misinterpretation of the signed group description sent by the server. Each family of ciphersuites is (a priori) secure in isolation, but configurations enabling a DH client and an ECDH server are subject to their attack.

Our third example concerns the record algorithms (the *r* in `TLS_e_s_WITH_r`). Recall that both parties derive keys for *r* immediately after the KEM phase, and start using them before verifying the Finished messages that confirm the integrity of the handshake. As an optimization, the optional False Start TLS extension [45] lets clients send private application data before key confirmation. Depending on *r*, the *same*

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.alexa.com/topsites/global>, as of January 2014, excluding domains with no valid HTTPS certificate.

key materials are split into IVs, MAC keys, and encryption keys of various lengths. Hence, the client and the server may start using the same bits with different algorithms  $r_C$  and  $r_S$ , for instance as an IV at the client and as a MAC key at the server. To our knowledge, we are the first to report this cross-algorithm attack against [45]. We do not have an exploit based on two standard record algorithms ( $r_C, r_S$ ) but one can easily design a pair of schemes strong in isolation and subject to the attack, and key recovery attacks against any standard algorithm  $r_C$  could be used to attack strong  $r_S$  algorithms.

## 1.4 Multiple Sessions and Connections

Following the standard, we recall TLS terminology for multiple related handshakes; this differs from the key-exchange model of Bellare & Rogaway [7] with only one kind of sessions and no shared state between sessions. Local instances of the protocol provide a *connection* (concretely, taking ownership of a TCP connection), either as client or as server. Each connection goes through a sequence of *epochs*, each epoch running one *handshake*. For a given connection, we refer to additional handshakes in the sequence as *renegotiations*. We refer to epochs performing full handshakes as *sessions*, and to epochs performing abbreviated handshakes as *resumptions*. We have a transition from the current epoch to the next each time a handshake *completes* by successfully processing the last message of the handshake. Abstractly, the local instance never stops; it is then ready to send (or receive) the first message of the next handshake.

*Sessions* intend to establish a fresh *master secret*, associated with data extracted from the handshake messages that record its origin and purpose, and used to derive fresh keys for the record layer. *Resumptions* instead rely on a prior complete session to save the cost of public-key cryptography and directly derive fresh keys using the algorithms and master secret of the original session. For each epoch, the handshake consists of a series of messages exchanged using the current record-layer protection mechanisms, initially in the clear, then typically using authenticated encryption.

## 1.5 Proving the TLS Handshake Secure

The scope of this paper is the TLS handshake, as it is specified in the Internet Standard and (to a lesser extent) as it is commonly used. We model multiple, related sessions and connections, and the agility issues caused by multiple ciphersuites featuring RSA and DHE key exchanges. We also model unilateral and mutual authentication, based on RSA and (EC)DSA signatures. On the other hand, we do not cover PSK, and ECDHE key exchanges, and we do not investigate the joint usage of keys for signing and encryption. Our presentation simply treats dual-purpose keys as compromised.

Dual-purpose use of RSA keys is a serious practical concern. Klíma and Rosa [35] develop attacks in the presence of dual-purpose keys, and Degabriele et al. [18] demonstrate their applicability to the context of the EMV protocol. We further discuss these concerns in §B.2 where we also propose joint security versions of our agile security definitions for signatures (§2) and KEMs (§3) that may be used to extend our results to dual-purpose keys.

Our main result is provable security for a standard-compliant, reference implementation of the handshake, seen as a detailed cryptographic model of the protocol. Our provably-secure handshake code consists of 3,600 lines of F#. Its security relies on new agile assumptions, notably for its KEMs. We reduce them to lower-level assumptions on RSA encryption and Diffie-Hellman exchange, using a 3,000-line EASYCRYPT [5] proof. Working with a reference implementation, and testing it against mainstream implementations, forces us to handle the details of multiple handshakes and algorithms. Proving it secure requires both modularity and automation. Conversely, the attacks in §1.3 and §7.2 illustrate the need to jointly model agility, resumption, and renegotiation.

A feature of TLS that traditionally resists abstraction is that the handshake releases algorithms and derived keys to the record layer *before* the handshake completes, so that its last messages can be exchanged as TLS fragments protected by the new keys. We revisit the cryptographic folklore that the handshake can only be proved secure by including these encrypted messages. The kernel of the lore is that it cannot be proved using a Bellare & Rogaway-style key-exchange definition. To achieve modularity, we separate record-key generation from handshake completion: our main definition releases the record keys in the middle of the handshake, before signaling its completion a few messages later. Since the handshake does *not* rely on record-layer protection, we can safely let the handshake adversary control both the network and the record layer. Completion is still necessary to confirm that the record keys are secure before encrypting any application data, e.g. to guarantee that the adversary did not manipulate the ciphersuite negotiation—but not for encrypting handshake Finished messages. This resolves the *Finished message controversy* of Jager et al. [30] in a novel and surprisingly elegant way.

We stress that this paper establishes the security of the *handshake*, seen as a component of TLS, not the full communications protocol. Our main construction provides key indistinguishability, and ensures agreement on parameters for the record layer. Our results complement those of Bhargavan et al. [9], who describe mITLS, an implementation of TLS verified in the computational model of cryptography; they focus on the main TLS API and application security, but rely on stronger, ad hoc assumptions for RSA and Diffie-Hellman ciphersuites. Our handshake is integrated with mITLS, which provides additional definitions and verified code for the record layer and the protocol logic. (Their security model ensures in particular that the record keys are used for protecting application data only after handshake completion [9].) By composing our results with theirs, we obtain security for a reference implementation of the TLS standard and the sample applications built and verified on top of mITLS.

## 1.6 Overview of the Paper

We see the use of a verified reference implementation and automated tools as essential to precisely account for multiple related epochs and algorithms in the TLS handshake; §6 briefly describes our use of high-level programming, type systems, and provers to carry out modular cryptographic verification at this scale. To present our result and explain its proof structure, however, we rely on more succinct definitions and constructions, given in §2–5 and outlined below. This more abstract treatment suffices to convey the main ideas, but it necessarily omits many aspects of the handshake, such as its message formats. We refer to the standard [19] or the implementation for the details. Also, for simplicity, we do not model forward secrecy and state reveal e.g. for master secrets, and we consider only static compromise for long-term keys.

**Agile signatures (§2) and certificates** We begin with a relatively simple agile definition. TLS supports three core signature algorithms,  $s \in \{RSA, DSA, ECDSA\}$ , used with a range of algorithms  $h$  to hash the text before signing. The hash algorithm depends on protocol versions, ciphersuites and extensions. TLS does not enforce any key-based hash algorithm policy, so we need a notion of security that tolerates *some* weak algorithms in the standard. For instance, a verifier tricked into using MD5 may remain secure, provided the signer only uses SHA1, and vice-versa. For each core algorithm  $s$ , we define  $h^*$ - $H$ -security against an adversary that must forge a valid signature for algorithms  $(s, h^*)$ , given access to signing oracles for any algorithms  $(s, h)$  with  $h \in H$ . We describe the hash-then-sign construction of TLS, and show that a family of secure schemes may not be jointly secure, but we leave open its concrete analysis for the range of algorithms used in TLS.

Our model excludes any validation rules for certificates and their PKI, an important problem outside the scope of the TLS standard. Our constructions simply authenticate the exchanged certificate chains,



and use a specification function to extract from them the public keys used in the handshake.

**Master secrets, key encapsulation, and key derivation (§3)** Following Krawczyk et al. [39], we use key encapsulation mechanisms [17] to model key-exchange; this allows us to unify RSA and Diffie-Hellman within the same formalism. Instead of treating the whole handshake as a KEM, however, following Morrissey et al. [51], we decompose it into *premaster secret*, *master secret*, and *record-key derivation* phases; this yields the modularity we need e.g. for modeling the re-use of master secrets between handshakes.

We show how to securely construct a master secret KEM from a premaster secret KEM for RSA and Diffie-Hellman ciphersuites (Theorem 3) and, independently, how to derive record keys and Finished messages from master secrets (§B.3). We formalize the proof of Theorem 3 in EASYCRYPT. For RSA, this involves showing that countermeasures to Bleichenbacher’s and follow-up attacks [11, 36] provide enough protection against chosen-ciphertext attacks. We rely on the assumption that PKCS#1v1.5 ciphertexts are hard to re-randomize; we leave open the problem of further reducing this conjecture to standard RSA assumptions.<sup>2</sup>

Our result does not directly compare to the one of Krawczyk et al. as their KEM also includes key derivation and Finished messages, whereas we rely on this new, additional assumption. During the EASYCRYPT development, we discovered minor flaws in our first informal proof, as well as in the proof of Krawczyk et al.; the authors acknowledged these flaws, which fortunately do not affect the overall bound, and fixed them in a long version of their paper [40]. To comply with the standard, we also support agility in the algorithm used to extract master secrets from a premaster secrets. As for agile signatures in §2, we arrive at a definition parameterized by an algorithm for the encryptor and a set of algorithms for the decryptor.

Once established, the master secret is used to key a pseudo-random function (PRF) for multiple epochs for two purposes: (1) to derive the record-layer key materials for the epoch; and (2) to compute the MACs of all messages exchanged in an epoch to verify its integrity. The corresponding security definition is given in §B.3 and requires that adversaries commit to a record-layer algorithm  $r$  before deriving keys from a nonce. This let us support the negotiation of  $r$  without having to make agile assumptions for the record layer, as discussed in §1.3.

**Agile security model (§4) and TLS proof (§5) for multiple sequences of handshakes** The main two goals of the handshake are to establish shared keys for the record layer, and to agree on many parameters, including those used in the handshake itself. To this end, we propose a new security definition that covers multiple epochs on different connections, related by resumptions and renegotiations. We equip our adversary (informally including the rest of TLS, the application, and the network) with oracles to create honest connections and long-term keys for clients and servers, to control their usage, and to exchange handshake messages. Each honest instance of the protocol represents a connection, and logs a sequence of *local assignments*, recording its view on the successive epochs of the connection. This enables us to capture TLS assignments in a generic manner. Our main integrity result is that, when a handshake completes, and under suitable conditions on algorithms and keys, honest clients and servers agree on all assignments for all epochs on the connection. More explicitly, for new sessions, both parties agree on a unique label (obtained by concatenating their random values); the negotiation algorithms, parameters, and key-exchange values; and the optional certificate chains for the client and the server. For resumptions, both parties agree on the label of the session being resumed, as well as a fresh unique label (obtained by concatenating new random values) for key derivation.

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<sup>2</sup>Kohlweiss et al. [38] use the same assumption and general proof idea to cover RSA ciphersuites.



We also provide secure key derivation, depending on distinguished exchange-value assignments for each ciphersuite. They are somewhat similar to session identifiers in Bellare-Rogaway models but are used to define both *safety*, akin to freshness, and partnering. A session is *safe* when honest client and server agree on these assignments, under suitable conditions on algorithms and long-term keys. As discussed above, our definition immediately releases all connection keys. We guarantee that the keys of safe sessions are indistinguishable from fresh random keys; this accounts for selective session key reveal and test queries in Bellare-Rogaway models. (In TLS, but not within the handshake, these keys will be used e.g. to encrypt the Finished messages; record encryption plays no role in our definition.) Additionally, we provide *verified safety*, that is, sufficient conditions on the recorded long-term keys that enable honest parties to infer that their session is safe.

Our main result (§5, Theorem 4) reduces the concrete security of the TLS handshake to agile assumptions on the constructions used for signatures, KEMs, and PRFs. Each epoch assigns a distinguished agility-parameter  $a$ , selecting all algorithms for the epoch. The theorem statement is parameterized by a predicate  $\alpha$  on  $a$  that holds whenever all algorithms selected by  $a$  are (assumed to be) secure. Thus, it provides meaningful security only for epochs where  $\alpha(a)$  holds, despite any other epochs. If  $\alpha$  is always false, there is nothing to prove. If we care specifically about one ciphersuite, say `TLS_DHE_DSS_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA`, we may apply our theorem with  $\alpha$  set to true only when  $a$  selects that ciphersuite. This already improves on non-agile results for TLS that assume all honest parties agree *in advance* on a ciphersuite and reject any others.

Figure 1 gives a model of the TLS handshake with enough details to follow our proof. Still, the model shown covers only two epochs (a static handshake with an anonymous client and a resumption), elides many details and requires some familiarity with the TLS standard. We recall, however, that our main result also applies to our standard-compliant implementation of the handshake for mTLS. Our proofs about this abstract model are parametric on the key exchange method and apply to both static RSA and DH ciphersuites; however, mTLS does not currently support static Diffie-Hellman ciphersuites.

Our model accounts for agility with respect to record algorithms, and yields channel security for mTLS without agile assumptions on the algorithms  $r$  used in the record layer. We thus validate the use of stateful LHAE [53] for clients and servers that negotiate  $r$ . We require, however, that no application data be sent before the Finished messages are verified. For implementations that violate this requirement, e.g. all Google servers and various browsers [45], stronger agile assumptions seem unavoidable.

**Code-Based Verified Implementation (§6)** We finally present the reference implementation of the handshake we integrated into mTLS, and its verification against our security definition, based on the same modular proof structure but at a greater level of detail, relying on type-based verification for scalability.

Our code supports the standard and commonly-used extensions; we tested it against various mainstream TLS clients and servers, using 4 versions ranging from SSL3 to TLS 1.2, 12 ciphersuites, and various subsets of extensions. It improves on the original mTLS code [9], which supported less features, and whose security relied on monolithic, TLS-specific assumptions for RSA and DH ciphersuites. We provide experimental results, showing that our ‘executable model’ within mTLS runs sample client and server applications with comparable performance.

To handle agile security in TLS, and to enable its automated verification, our code is structured into small, independent modules (that is, program libraries) parameterized by algorithm descriptors. For instance, our library code for the HMAC-based PRF used in TLS implements agility before calling selected core algorithms, e.g. SHA1. In contrast, the code that implements SHA1 is outside the scope of our verification effort—we document our agile cryptographic assumption on it, and call a standard library.

Each cryptographic construction used in the handshake corresponds to a separate library in the code. We define the security of libraries for multiple keys and multiple algorithms; the corresponding definitions and reductions to single-key security of individual algorithms appear in §B.4. To further align the code with proofs, we express security as the indistinguishability of concrete and idealized variants of libraries, under usage restrictions enforced by a type system, as described by Fournet et al. [24] and Bhargavan et al. [9].

In summary, our work sheds light on important design and implementation issues of TLS; it also suggests simple improvements to strengthen its security. To our knowledge, we provide the first provable-security results for TLS that account for algorithm agility. We are also the first to give an abstract security model for handshakes related by resumption and renegotiation.

**Further reading** The appendix provides raw data for our empirical analysis of TLS usage, and additional discussions, definitions, constructions, and proofs. A detailed description of triple-handshake attacks on TLS can be found at <https://www.secure-resumption.com/>. Further material is available from the MITLS website at <http://www.mitls.org/>.

## 1.7 Notation

We use sans-serif font for algorithm names, e.g. `Alg`. If such an algorithm uses a more primitive algorithm, we denote it by `alg`. In security experiments, we denote `ALG` the oracle giving access to algorithm `Alg`.

We use `:=` for deterministic assignments, and `←` to denote a random assignment, either uniformly from a finite set or according to a distribution determined by a probabilistic algorithm. When this distribution is implied by the context we write it as `$`; e.g., when describing generic key exchange we use `$` to denote the key space. We sometimes abuse notation and write, e.g., `(a, b, c)` instead of `((a, b), c)` to improve readability.

We use identifiers of cryptographic primitives, like `h` for a hash algorithm, `s` for a signature scheme, or `e` for a KEM, as both the name of the scheme and the scheme itself when there is no confusion. We denote signature and KEM schemes constructed from, and thus parameterized by these schemes, by `Ss` and `Ee` respectively. In a similar abuse of notation, we use functions such as `r = record(a)` to parse a cryptographic primitive identifier `r` of a certain kind, here a record algorithm, from a collection `a` of identifiers for different kind of cryptographic primitives.

## 2 Agile Signatures

An *agile signature scheme* consists of three algorithms: `KeyGen` is a standard key generation algorithm, while `Sign` and `Verify` take an extra agility parameter. For instance, given a core signature scheme `s = (keygen, sign, verify)`, the hash-then-sign scheme `Ss = (KeyGen, Sign, Verify)` of TLS is an agile signature scheme defined as follows: `KeyGen`  $\triangleq$  `keygen` generates a key pair for algorithm `s`; `Sign(h, sk, m)`  $\triangleq$  `sign(sk, h(m))` computes a signature using the core scheme `s` and hash algorithm `h`; and `Verify(h, pk, m, σ)`  $\triangleq$  `verify(pk, h(m), σ)` verifies a purported signature `σ` for message `m` hashed with algorithm `h`.

We define existential unforgeability under chosen-message attacks (EUF-CMA) for agile signatures.

**Definition 1** (EUF-CMA). *Let `(KeyGen, Sign, Verify)` be an agile signature scheme, `p*` a parameter, and `P` a set of parameters, and consider the following forgery game:*

<p><b>Game</b> EUF <math>\triangleq</math>  <code>pk, sk ← KeyGen(); M := ∅</code>  <code>m', σ ← A<sup>SIGN</sup>(pk)</code>  <b>return</b> <code>m' ∉ M ∧ Verify(p*, pk, m', σ)</code></p>	<p><b>Oracle</b> SIGN(<code>p, m</code>) <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <code>p ∉ P</code> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <code>M := M ∪ {m}</code>  <b>return</b> <code>Sign(p, sk, m)</code></p>
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The scheme is  $(\epsilon, t, p^*, P)$ -secure against EUF-CMA if, for any  $\mathcal{A}$  that runs in time  $t$ , the EUF game returns true with probability at most  $\epsilon$ .

This definition generalizes plain EUF-CMA security; the two coincide for a scheme with fixed hash algorithm  $h$ , i.e.  $(p^*, P) = (h, \{h\})$ . We do not require  $p^* \in P$ ; for instance, one may pragmatically assume that forging an MD5-based signature is hard when given only SHA1-based signatures. Indeed, the attacks of Stevens et al. [60] rule out  $(\text{MD5}, \{\text{MD5}, \dots\})$ -security, but  $(\text{MD5}, \{\text{SHA1}\})$ -security may still hold. On the other hand, non-agile security does not imply agile security. Consider for instance the scenario where the pre-image security of MD5 is broken. Then the attacks described by Naccache and Shparlinski [52] are likely to break  $(\text{SHA256}, \{\text{MD5}, \text{SHA256}\})$ -security, even though  $(\text{SHA256}, \{\text{SHA256}\})$ -security would still hold.

The TLS standard features the following hash-then-sign schemes: prior to version 1.2, RSA PKCS#1v1.5 signatures use the concatenation of MD5 and SHA1 hashes and (EC)DSA signatures use SHA1. TLS 1.2 introduces additional agility to facilitate migration from MD5 and SHA1 to stronger algorithms. Designers are aware of agility problems, and prescribe ad hoc countermeasures [19, §7.4.3]. The standard still requires that (EC)DSA use SHA1, delaying the migration to stronger algorithms. It also adds an encoding of the hash algorithm identifier as defined in [32] to guarantee that all hash algorithms have disjoint range.

Given algorithms  $h$  and  $h'$  with disjoint ranges, if the core signature scheme itself is  $(\epsilon, t)$ -EUF-CMA secure on their joint range, then we have  $(\epsilon', t', h, \{h, h'\})$ -security for the corresponding agile hash-then-sign signature scheme, where the difference between  $\epsilon, t$  and  $\epsilon', t'$  depends on the reduction to the collision resistance of  $h$ . Sadly, the core signature schemes used in TLS are not EUF-CMA secure. The best we can do, for now, is thus to assume that the hash-then-sign signature scheme that uses them meets Definition 1. (As evidenced by Bleichenbacher at the Crypto'06 rump session and elaborated by Kühn et al. [41], implementations need to be careful.)

### 3 Master Secrets & Key Encapsulation

Following [33, 39], we model the basic key-exchange functionality of TLS as different variations on KEMs. However, we separate the derivation of the master secret from the derivation of keys for the record-layer. We model the premaster secret phase for RSA and Diffie-Hellman exchanges as agile KEMs (`keygen, !enc, dec`) parameterized by a 2-byte protocol version string. (Thankfully, TLS never mixes KEM keys between RSA and Diffie-Hellman.)

**RSA** `keygen` generates a fresh RSA key pair  $(pk, sk)$ ; `enc` $(pv, pk)$  appends a randomly chosen 46-byte string to  $pv$  to obtain the premaster secret  $pms$ , and returns it with the ciphertext  $c$  resulting from its PKCS#1v1.5 encryption under  $pk$ ; `dec` $(pv, sk, c)$  decrypts  $c$  with  $sk$  using PKCS#1v1.5. If the padding is correct and the decrypted  $pms$  is exactly 48 bytes long, it returns  $pms$  with the first 2 bytes replaced by  $pv$ , otherwise it returns  $\perp$ ; such errors are handled in our  $ms$ -KEM below.

**Diffie-Hellman** `keygen` selects group parameters  $pp$ , generates a fresh pair of DH values  $(g^x, x)$ , and returns  $pk = (pp, g^x)$  and  $sk = (pk, x)$  as public and private KEM keys; `enc` $(pv, (pp, g^x))$  samples  $y$  and returns  $pms = g^{xy}$  and  $c = g^y$ ; `dec` $(pv, (pk, x), c)$  returns  $c^x = g^{xy}$ . The ciphertext space guarantees that  $c$  is in a large prime-order subgroup specified by  $pk$ . In contrast to the RSA  $pms$ -KEM, neither `enc` nor `dec` depend on  $pv$ .

On their own, these two premaster secret KEMs are *not* secure under any indistinguishability notion, even under relatively weak active attacks such as, for instance, plaintext-checking attacks (PCA): recall the

Bleichenbacher attack, and the lack of active security for basic Diffie-Hellman (e.g., querying a plaintext-checking oracle on  $c^r$  and  $pms^r$  for any  $r \neq 1$ , suffices to distinguish a random  $pms$  from the one encapsulated in  $c$ ). Rather than using  $pms$  as a key, TLS feeds it through an agile *key extraction function* (KEF) parameterized by a hash algorithm, to compute the master secret  $ms$ .

We model the master secret KEM of TLS as an *agile labeled KEM* (KeyGen, Enc, Dec) whose agility parameters are pairs composed of a valid protocol version and a hash algorithm name, and where labels are the concatenation of the client and server nonces.

**Generic  $ms$ -KEM construction** We model this phase of the handshake as an *agile labeled KEM*, extending the labeled KEMs of [33, 39] with an agility parameter. Given an agile (unlabeled)  $pms$ -KEM  $e = (\text{keygen}, \text{enc}, \text{dec})$  and an agile key extraction function family KEF, the master secret KEM  $E_e = (\text{KeyGen}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  of TLS is defined as follows:

- $\text{KeyGen}() \triangleq \text{keygen}()$ ;
- $\text{Enc}(pv, h, pk, \ell) \triangleq pms, c \leftarrow \text{enc}(pv, pk)$ ;  $ms \leftarrow \text{KEF}(pv, h, pms, \ell)$ ; **return**  $ms, c$   
generates a premaster secret  $pms$  and a ciphertext  $c$  using  $e$ , then derives a master secret  $ms$  for  $\ell$  using KEF.
- $\text{Dec}(pv, h, sk, \ell, c) \triangleq pms \leftarrow \text{dec}(pv, sk, c)$ ; **if**  $pms = \perp$  **then**  $pms \leftarrow pv \parallel \$$ ; **return**  $\text{KEF}(pv, h, pms, \ell)$   
decrypts the ciphertext  $c$  to obtain  $pms$ . If decryption fails, it computes a fake  $pms$  by appending a random 46-byte string to  $pv$  (this is never the case for DH). It returns the value obtained from  $pms$  and  $\ell$  using the agile KEF.

We assume sufficient checks to ensure that all arguments are well-formed before calling the master secret KEM algorithms, otherwise there are practical attacks [46]; e.g., for Diffie-Hellman, our code validates group parameters and checks that  $pk$  and  $c$  belong to a large prime-order subgroup before calling Dec. For RSA, checking that the argument of the DEC oracle is in the ciphertext space does not exclude ciphertexts with invalid padding—the padding is checked after RSA decryption.

We define security for agile labeled KEMs as indistinguishability under replayable chosen-ciphertext attacks (IND-RCCA), a relaxation of CCA security, first introduced for public-key encryption by Canetti et al. [16].

**Definition 2** (IND-RCCA). *Let  $(\text{KeyGen}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  be an agile labeled KEM,  $p^*$  a parameter,  $P$  a set of parameters; and consider the following game:*

<b>Game</b> RCCA $\triangleq$ $pk, sk \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}()$ $K, L := \emptyset$ $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{ENC}, \text{DEC}}(pk)$ <b>return</b> $(b' = b)$	<b>Oracle</b> ENC( $\ell$ ) $\triangleq$ <b>if</b> $\ell \in L$ <b>then return</b> $\perp$ $k_0, c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(p^*, pk, \ell)$ $k_1 \leftarrow \$$ $K(\ell) := K(\ell) \cup \{k_0, k_1\}$ <b>return</b> $k_b, c$	<b>Oracle</b> DEC( $p, \ell, c$ ) $\triangleq$ <b>if</b> $\ell \in L \vee p \notin P$ <b>then return</b> $\perp$ $L := L \cup \{\ell\}$ $k \leftarrow \text{Dec}(p, sk, \ell, c)$ <b>if</b> $k \in K(\ell)$ <b>then return</b> $\perp$ <b>return</b> $k$
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The RCCA advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{RCCA}}(\mathcal{A})$  is defined as  $2 \Pr[\text{RCCA} : b' = b] - 1$ . The scheme is  $(\epsilon, t, p^*, P)$ -secure against IND-RCCA- $n$  when the advantage of any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time  $t$  and making at most  $n$  queries to ENC is at most  $\epsilon$ . We write IND-RCCA instead of IND-RCCA-1.

The check  $\ell \in L$  in the decryption oracle reflects a property of TLS: honest servers decrypt at most once for each nonce. The check  $\ell \in L$  in the encryption oracle is analogous to the restriction of Krawczyk

et al. [39] to define IND-CCCA security for non-agile KEMs. In §3.3 we remove this usage restriction, and replace it with the requirement that the adversary (the reduction in the proof) calls a commit oracle before calling the DEC oracle. This is natural for TLS, where the server commits to a label when it generates its nonce.

The lemma below enables us to prove security for a single query, then use the multi-query variant for reasoning about TLS in our main theorem.

**Lemma 1.** *If a KEM (KeyGen, Enc, Dec) is  $(\epsilon/n, t', p^*, P)$ -secure against IND-RCCA, then it is  $(\epsilon, t, p^*, P)$ -secure against IND-RCCA- $n$ , where  $t' = t + O(n \cdot t_{\text{Enc}})$  and  $t_{\text{Enc}}$  is the worst-case cost of algorithm Enc.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary against IND-RCCA- $n$  and consider the hybrid game  $\text{RCCA}_i$  run with  $\mathcal{A}$  whose encryption oracle returns  $k_1$  (a random key) for the first  $i$  queries and  $k_0$  (a real key) for the rest. The RCCA advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  can be written as

$$\text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{RCCA}}(\mathcal{A}) = \Pr[\text{RCCA}_0 : b' = 1] - \Pr[\text{RCCA}_n : b' = 1]$$

If  $\mathcal{A}$  can distinguish between  $\text{RCCA}_0$  and  $\text{RCCA}_n$  with advantage  $\epsilon$ , then using  $\mathcal{A}$  one can construct an adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  that queries ENC only once and has advantage  $\epsilon/n$ . Adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  chooses uniformly an index  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , answers to  $\mathcal{A}$ 's first  $i - 1$  queries with a random key and a ciphertext computed using the Enc algorithm, to the  $i$ -th query using its own ENC oracle, and to the rest with real keys as the game RCCA would do if  $b = 0$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  answers decryption queries forwarding them to its own DEC oracle, returning  $\perp$  if the answer is a key computed during the simulation of an encryption query with the same label, and eventually returns the same response as  $\mathcal{A}$ . When  $b = 0$ , for a chosen  $i$  the output of the RCCA game for  $\mathcal{B}$  is the same as the output of  $\text{RCCA}_{i-1}$ , and when  $b = 1$  it is the same as the output of  $\text{RCCA}_i$ . We write  $\text{RCCA}(\mathcal{B})$  to denote the RCCA game for  $\mathcal{B}$ . Summing over all  $i$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{RCCA}}(\mathcal{B}) &= \Pr[\text{RCCA}(\mathcal{B}) : b' = 1 \mid b = 0] - \Pr[\text{RCCA}(\mathcal{B}) : b' = 1 \mid b = 1] \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Pr[\text{RCCA}_{i-1} : b' = 1] - \Pr[\text{RCCA}_i : b' = 1] \\ &= \frac{1}{n} (\Pr[\text{RCCA}_0 : b' = 1] - \Pr[\text{RCCA}_n : b' = 1]) = \frac{1}{n} \text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{RCCA}}(\mathcal{A}) \end{aligned}$$

The running time of  $\mathcal{B}$  is simply that of  $\mathcal{A}$  plus the cost of choosing the index  $i$  and simulating the encryption oracle of  $\mathcal{A}$ , which is essentially  $n \cdot t_{\text{Enc}}$ .  $\square$

Next, we define the assumptions for our main theorem on the TLS master secret KEM: *non-randomizability under plaintext-checking attacks* (NR-PCA) and *one-wayness under plaintext-checking attacks* (OW-PCA).

**Definition 3** (NR-PCA, OW-PCA). *Let (keygen, enc, dec) be an agile (unlabeled) KEM,  $p^*$  a parameter, and  $P$  a set of parameters. Consider the following games:*

<b>Game OW-PCA</b> $\triangleq$ $pk, sk \leftarrow \text{keygen}()$ $k^*, c^* \leftarrow \text{enc}(p^*, pk)$ $k \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{PCO}}(pk, c^*)$ <b>return</b> ( $k = k^*$ )	<b>Game NR-PCA</b> $\triangleq$ $pk, sk \leftarrow \text{keygen}()$ $k^*, c^* \leftarrow \text{enc}(p^*, pk)$ $c \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{PCO}}(pk, c^*)$ <b>return</b> ( $c \neq c^* \wedge k^* = \text{dec}(p^*, sk, c)$ )	<b>Oracle PCO</b> ( $p, k, c$ ) $\triangleq$ <b>if</b> $p \notin P \vee k = \perp$ <b>then</b> <b>return</b> $\perp$ $k' \leftarrow \text{Dec}(p, sk, c)$ <b>return</b> ( $k' = k$ )
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The NR-PCA advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{NR-PCA}}(\mathcal{A})$  is the probability that the NR-PCA game returns true. The KEM is  $(\epsilon, t, p^*, P)$ -secure against NR-PCA if the advantage of any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time  $t$  is at most  $\epsilon$ . OW-PCA advantage and security are defined analogously.

### 3.1 Security of Premaster Secret KEMs

We give some preliminary theorems and conjectures about the NR-PCA and OW-PCA security of TLS *pms*-KEMs, and relate our agile IND-RCCA KEMs to prior work and more standard assumptions. We hope this will stimulate further cryptanalytic work on TLS.

**Conjecture 1** (Non-randomizability of RSA *pms*-KEM). *Due to the random self-reducibility of RSA encryption, we conjecture that re-randomizing an RSA *pms*-KEM ciphertext is as hard as solving the RSA problem (with a considerable reduction loss). In fact, NR-PCA follows from OW-PCA and the common-input extractability assumption of [6] (swapping the role of randomness and plaintexts). This latter assumption holds unconditionally for small exponent RSA and certain parameters—not those of TLS—of the PKCS#1v1.5 encoding.*

Note that the DH *pms*-KEM is trivially non-randomizable, as it has unique ciphertexts, and that security against NR-PCA implies security against OW-PCA as long as it is easy to find more than one ciphertext of a given plaintext.

**Conjecture 2** (OW-PCA security of RSA *pms*-KEM). *[33] gives us reason to believe that the RSA *pms*-KEM is  $(\epsilon, t)$ -OW-PCA secure under the  $(\epsilon', t')$ -partial-RSA decision oracle assisted RSA assumption where  $\epsilon', t'$  are, however, not tight.*

**Theorem 1** (OW-PCA security of DH *pms*-KEM). *The DH *pms*-KEM is  $(\epsilon, t)$ -OW-PCA secure under the  $(\epsilon, t')$ -Strong Diffie-Hellman assumption [1], where  $t'$  is essentially  $t$ . This is the assumption that it is hard to compute  $g^{xy}$  given  $g^x, g^y$  and access to a DDH oracle with the first argument fixed to  $g^x$ .*

*Proof.* The reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  receives  $pp, g^x, g^y$  as input and has access to a restricted DDH oracle  $\text{DDH}(g^x, \cdot, \cdot)$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  calls the OW-PCA adversary with parameters  $(pp, g^x)$  as  $pk$  and  $g^y$  as  $c$ , and answers a plaintext-checking query  $\text{PCO}(pv, pms, c)$  using  $\text{DDH}(g^x, c, pms)$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  returns to its challenger the key output by the OW-PCA adversary. If the OW-PCA adversary succeeds, then this key equals  $g^{xy}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  wins its game.  $\square$

**Theorem 2** (Security under PRF-ODH). *The *ms*-KEM  $E_{DH} = (\text{KeyGen}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  is  $(\epsilon, t, p, \{p\})$ -IND-RCCA under the  $(\epsilon, t)$ -PRF-ODH assumption for the group parameters  $pp$  generated by  $\text{KeyGen}$  and the pseudo-random function  $f_{g^{uv}}(\cdot)$  defined as  $\text{KEF}(p, g^{uv}, \cdot)$ .*

In fact under the PRF-ODH formulation of Krawczyk et al. [39],  $E_{DH}$  is  $(\epsilon, t, h, \{h\})$ -IND-CCA secure, even if TLS would allow the reuse of nonces.

### 3.2 Security of Master Secret KEM

Our main result on KEMs is that the generic *ms*-KEM  $E_e$  of TLS is IND-RCCA secure if the underlying *pms*-KEM  $e$  is both NR-PCA and OW-PCA secure. The proof has been formalized using EASYCRYPT. The proof is in the random oracle model for the agile KEF. As weaker hash algorithms like MD5 are still widely supported by TLS, a proof in the random oracle is particularly problematic for TLS as it is used today. We investigate ways to avoid the random oracle assumption for all hash algorithms except the one being attacked in §B.1, but it is instructive to consider the setting where all KEF functions are modeled as random oracles first.

We prove security in the single-challenge case and rely on Theorem 1 to extend it to the multi-challenge setting.



**Theorem 3** (RCCA from NR-PCA and OW-PCA). *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a  $(p^*, P)$ -RCCA adversary for  $E_e$  running in time  $t_{\mathcal{A}}$  and making at most  $q_{\text{KEF}}$  and  $q_{\text{DEC}}$  queries to the random and decryption oracle, respectively. Let  $p^* = (pv^*, h^*)$  and  $P' \triangleq \{pv \mid (pv, h) \in P\}$ . There exist an OW-PCA adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  and an NR-PCA adversary  $\mathcal{C}$  against  $e$ , both running in time  $t_{\mathcal{A}} + O(q_{\text{DEC}} \cdot q_{\text{KEF}})$ , such that*

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{RCCA}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq 2 \left( \mathbf{Adv}_{pv^*, P'}^{\text{NR-PCA}}(\mathcal{B}) + \mathbf{Adv}_{pv^*, P'}^{\text{OW-PCA}}(\mathcal{C}) + 2^{|pv| - |pms|} (q_{\text{KEF}} + q_{\text{DEC}}) \right).$$

The factor  $2^{|pv| - |pms|}$  is the entropy of the value  $pv \parallel \$$  used to derive the master secret when RSA decryption fails, as recommended by TLS 1.2 to mitigate Bleichenbacher attacks. With the DH  $pms$ -KEM, decryption never fails (as the ciphertext validation is done beforehand) so the last term in the bound above can be omitted.

*Proof.* In the single-challenge setting, we can represent the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  as a pair of procedures  $(\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  sharing state, the procedure  $\mathcal{A}_1$  chooses the label for the single query to the encryption oracle, while  $\mathcal{A}_2$  tries to guess the challenge bit  $b$ . The initial game in the ROM is thus:

<p><b>Game</b> <math>\text{RCCA} \triangleq</math>  <math>pk, sk \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}()</math>  <math>Q, K, L := \emptyset; b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}</math>  <math>\ell^* \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^{\text{KEF, DEC}}(pk)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>\ell^* \in L</math> <b>then return</b> false  <math>ms_0, c^* \leftarrow \text{Enc}(p^*, pk, \ell^*)</math>  <math>ms_1 \leftarrow \\$; K(\ell^*) := \{ms_0, ms_1\}</math>  <math>b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_2^{\text{KEF, DEC}}(ms_b, c^*)</math>  <b>return</b> <math>(b' = b)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle</b> <math>\text{KEF}(p, pms, \ell) \triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>(p, pms, \ell) \notin \text{dom}(Q)</math> <b>then</b>  <math>Q(p, pms, \ell) \leftarrow \\$</math>  <b>return</b> <math>Q(p, pms, \ell)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle</b> <math>\text{DEC}(p, \ell, c) \triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>\ell \in L \vee p \notin P</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>L := L \cup \{\ell\}</math>  <math>ms \leftarrow \text{Dec}(p, sk, \ell, c)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>ms \in K(\ell)</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <b>return</b> <math>ms</math></p>
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The proof proceeds by a sequence of games; we describe them below.

- $\text{RCCA}_0$ . We inline the definition of Dec in the initial game, and move the call to the enc algorithm of the  $pms$ -KEM used to compute  $pms^*$  before the first call to the adversary. This game is perfectly equivalent to the initial game because the label chosen by  $\mathcal{A}_1$  is not needed to compute  $pms^*$ .
- $\text{RCCA}_1$ . At the beginning of the game, for each pair  $(pv, \ell)$ , sample a random string  $F(pv, \ell)$ . When decryption of the  $pms$  fails during a decryption query, use  $pv \parallel F(pv, \ell)$  in place of  $pv \parallel \$$  to compute the master secret. Since each label  $\ell$  appears at most once in a decryption query, each of the used values is random and independent as in  $\text{RCCA}_0$  and the two games are equivalent.
- $\text{RCCA}_2$ . When decryption of the  $pms$  fails during a decryption query, simply use a random  $ms$  rather than  $\text{KEF}((pv, h), pv \parallel F(pv, \ell), \ell)$ . This only makes a difference if the adversary makes this query directly and hence

$$\Pr[\text{RCCA}_1 : b = b'] \leq \Pr[\text{RCCA}_2 : b = b'] + \Pr[\text{RCCA}_2 : \exists pv \ h \ \ell, ((pv, h), pv \parallel F(pv, \ell), \ell) \in \text{dom}(Q)]$$

Moreover, since  $\text{dom}(Q)$  contains at most  $q_{\text{KEF}} + q_{\text{DEC}}$  values, and each one determines a unique pair  $(pv, \ell)$ , the latter probability is at most  $2^{|pv| - |pms|} (q_{\text{KEF}} + q_{\text{DEC}})$ . Note that in game  $\text{RCCA}_2$  the values  $F(pv, \ell)$  are independent of  $\text{dom}(Q)$  because they are never used to answer decryption queries.

- $\text{RCCA}_3$ . Same as  $\text{RCCA}_2$ , but using a random  $ms_0$ . The game aborts when either  $\mathcal{A}_1$  or  $\mathcal{A}_2$  query directly  $\text{KEF}(p^*, pms^*, \cdot)$ , or  $\mathcal{A}_2$  queries the decryption oracle with  $p^*, \ell^*$  and a valid ciphertext  $c \neq c^*$

that decrypts to  $pms^*$ . Note that the first abort condition would allow one to compute  $pms^*$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ 's queries using a plaintext-checking oracle, while the second condition yields a re-randomization of the challenge ciphertext. Moreover, since both  $ms_0$  and  $ms_1$  are random, the view of the adversary in this game is independent of the challenge bit  $b$ , which means that  $\Pr[\text{RCCA}_3 : b = b'] = 1/2$ . Thus,

$$\Pr[\text{RCCA}_2 : b = b'] - \Pr[\text{RCCA}_3 : b = b'] = \Pr[\text{RCCA}_2 : b = b'] - 1/2 \leq \Pr[\text{RCCA}_3 : \text{abort}]$$

- **RCCA<sub>4</sub>**. Since the view of the adversary is independent of the bit  $b$  and we only care about the probability of the simulation aborting, we drop  $b$  and give the adversary a random challenge  $ms_0$  (unrelated to  $pms^*$ ). We reformulate the simulation of KEF and decryption queries using two maps  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  as follows:

<p><b>Game</b> <math>\text{RCCA}_4 \triangleq</math>  <math>pk, sk \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}()</math>  <math>Q_1, Q_2, K, L := \emptyset</math>  <math>(pms^*, c^*) \leftarrow \text{enc}(pv^*, pk)</math>  <math>\ell^* \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^{\text{KEF,DEC}}(pk)</math>  <math>ms_0, ms_1 \leftarrow \\$</math>  <math>K(\ell^*) := \{ms_0, ms_1\}</math>  <math>b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_2^{\text{KEF,DEC}}(ms_0, c^*)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle</b> <math>\text{KEF}(p, pms, \ell) \triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>(p, pms, \ell) \notin \text{dom}(Q_1)</math> <b>then</b>  <math>Q_1(p, pms, \ell) \leftarrow \\$</math>  <b>if</b> <math>\ell \in \text{dom}(Q_2)</math> <b>then</b>  <math>(pv, h, ms, c) := Q_2(\ell)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>(pv, h) = p \wedge pms = \text{dec}(pv, sk, c)</math>  <b>then</b> <math>Q_1(p, pms, \ell) \leftarrow ms</math>  <b>return</b> <math>Q_1(p, pms, \ell)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle</b> <math>\text{DEC}(p, \ell, c) \triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>\ell \in L \vee p \notin P</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>L := L \cup \{\ell\}</math>  <b>if</b> <math>(p, \ell, c) = (p^*, \ell^*, c^*)</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>(pv, h) := p; pms \leftarrow \text{dec}(pv, sk, c)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>(p, pms, \ell) \in \text{dom}(Q_1)</math>  <b>then</b> <math>ms := Q_1(p, pms, \ell)</math> <b>else</b> <math>ms \leftarrow \\$</math>  <math>Q_2(\ell) := (p, ms, c)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>ms \in K(\ell)</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <b>return</b> <math>ms</math></p>
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The simulation is such that if  $(pv, h, pms, \ell)$  is an entry in  $Q$  in  $\text{RCCA}_3$ , then either it is also in  $Q_1$  and the associated  $ms$  values coincide, or else  $Q_2$  maps  $\ell$  to  $(pv, h, ms, c)$  where  $ms = Q(pv, h, pms, \ell)$  and  $\text{dec}(pv, sk, c) = pms$ . This allows the simulator to answer KEF and decryption queries consistently. Moreover, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr[\text{RCCA}_3 : \text{abort}] \leq \\ & \Pr[\text{RCCA}_4 : \exists \ell, (p^*, pms^*, \ell) \in \text{dom}(Q_1)] + \\ & \Pr[\text{RCCA}_4 : \ell^* \in \text{dom}(Q_2) \wedge \text{let } (pv, h, ms, c) = Q_2(\ell^*) \text{ in } (pv, h) = p^* \wedge c \neq c^* \wedge \text{dec}(pv, sk, c) = pms^*] \end{aligned}$$

We bound each of the terms on the right-hand-side of this inequality independently using reductions to OW-PCA and NR-PCA.

- We use the following adversaries against OW-PCA and NR-PCA:

<p><b>Adversary</b> <math>\mathcal{B}^{\text{PCO}}(pk, c^*) \triangleq</math>  <math>Q_1, Q_2, K, L := \emptyset</math>  <math>\ell^* \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^{\text{KEF,DEC}}(pk)</math>  <math>ms_0, ms_1 \leftarrow \\$</math>  <math>K(\ell^*) := \{ms_0, ms_1\}</math>  <math>b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_2^{\text{KEF,DEC}}(ms_0, c^*)</math>  <b>foreach</b> <math>(pv, h, pms, \ell) \in \text{dom}(Q_1)</math> <b>do</b>  <b>if</b> <math>\text{PCO}(pv, pms, c^*)</math> <b>then return</b> <math>pms</math>  <b>return</b> <math>\\$</math></p>	<p><b>Adversary</b> <math>\mathcal{C}^{\text{PCO}}(pk, c^*) \triangleq</math>  <math>Q_1, Q_2, K, L := \emptyset</math>  <math>\ell^* \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^{\text{KEF,DEC}}(pk)</math>  <math>ms_0, ms_1 \leftarrow \\$</math>  <math>K(\ell^*) := \{ms_0, ms_1\}</math>  <math>b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_2^{\text{KEF,DEC}}(ms_0, c^*)</math>  <math>(pv, h, ms, c) := Q_2(\ell^*)</math>  <b>return</b> <math>c</math></p>
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Both adversaries simulate oracles KEF and DEC as in game  $\text{RCCA}_4$ , except that all checks are imple-

mented using the PCO oracle rather than the secret key:

<p><b>Oracle</b> KEF(<math>p, pms, \ell</math>) <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>(p, pms, \ell) \notin \text{dom}(Q_1)</math> <b>then</b>  <math>Q_1(p, pms, \ell) \leftarrow \\$</math>  <b>if</b> <math>\ell \in \text{dom}(Q_2)</math> <b>then</b>  <math>(pv, h, ms, c) := Q_2(\ell)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>(pv, h) = p \wedge \text{PCO}(pv, pms, c)</math>  <b>then</b> <math>Q_1(p, pms, \ell) \leftarrow ms</math>  <b>return</b> <math>Q_1(p, pms, \ell)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle</b> DEC(<math>p, \ell, c</math>) <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>\ell \in L \vee p \notin P</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>L := L \cup \{\ell\}</math>  <b>if</b> <math>(p, \ell, c) = (p^*, \ell^*, c^*)</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>(pv, h) := p; pms := \perp</math>  <b>foreach</b> <math>(p', pms', \ell') \in \text{dom}(Q_1)</math> <b>do</b>  <b>if</b> <math>p = p' \wedge \ell = \ell' \wedge \text{PCO}(pv, pms', c)</math> <b>then</b> <math>pms := pms'</math>  <b>if</b> <math>pms \neq \perp</math> <b>then</b> <math>ms := Q_1(p, pms, \ell)</math> <b>else</b> <math>ms \leftarrow \\$</math>  <math>Q_2(\ell) := (p, ms, c)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>ms \in K(\ell)</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <b>return</b> <math>ms</math></p>
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We have  $\Pr[\text{RCCA}_4 : \exists \ell, (p^*, pms^*, \ell) \in \text{dom}(Q_1)] \leq \mathbf{Adv}_{pv^*, P'}^{\text{OW-PCA}}(\mathcal{B})$  and

$$\Pr[\text{RCCA}_4 : \ell^* \in \text{dom}(Q_2) \wedge \text{let } (pv, h, ms, c) = Q_2(\ell^*) \text{ in } (pv, h) = p^* \wedge c \neq c^* \wedge \text{dec}(pv, sk, c) = pms^*] \leq \mathbf{Adv}_{pv^*, P'}^{\text{NR-PCA}}(\mathcal{C})$$

Putting all the above results together,

$$\Pr[\text{RCCA} : b' = b] - 1/2 \leq \mathbf{Adv}_{pv^*, P'}^{\text{OW-PCA}}(\mathcal{B}) + \mathbf{Adv}_{pv^*, P'}^{\text{NR-PCA}}(\mathcal{C}) + 2^{|pv| - |pms|} (q_{\text{KEF}} + q_{\text{DEC}})$$

from which the bound in the statement follows. Moreover, observe that under the convention that oracle calls have unit cost, the overhead of  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  is dominated by the cost of simulating decryption queries, which is  $O(q_{\text{KEF}})$  for a single query and  $O(q_{\text{DEC}} \cdot q_{\text{KEF}})$  overall.  $\square$

### 3.3 Committed RCCA Security

The RCCA game has a seemingly artificial restriction, namely that an adversary has to query ENC on a label  $\ell$  before using the same  $\ell$  in a decryption query. Unless one designs reductions carefully, it is unlikely that such a restriction will be met by an arbitrary adversary in an interactive protocol. Indeed in TLS the adversary is in control of the network, and upon learning a server's nonce (completing a label), can ask it to decrypt a ciphertext under that label before sending the nonce on to the client. We found that an earlier version of [39] and our proof of the handshake did not account for such attackers.

The following asymptotically equivalent *committed RCCA* definition removes this usage restriction, and replaces it with the requirement that the reduction (the adversary in the game) calls a COMMIT oracle before calling the DEC oracle. This is natural for TLS, where the server can commit to a label when it generates its nonce. The definition also replaces a result of  $\perp$  upon decryption of a challenge master secret, by ideal decryption using table lookup. This makes the oracles easier to use in reductions and more similar to the idealized libraries of [9].

**Definition 4** (Committed RCCA Security). *Let  $(\text{KeyGen}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  be an agile labeled KEM,  $P$  a set of agility parameters and  $p^*$  a public parameter. Consider the following game played between an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$*

and the challenger:

<p><b>Game CRCCA</b> <math>\triangleq</math>  <math>pk, sk \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}()</math>  <math>S, T := \emptyset</math>  <math>b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}</math>  <math>b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{COMMIT, ENC, DEC}}(pk)</math>  <b>return</b> <math>(b' = b)</math></p> <p><b>Oracle COMMIT</b><math>(\ell)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>S(\ell) \neq \emptyset</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>S(\ell) := S(\ell) \cup \{c\}</math>  <b>if</b> <math>b</math> <b>then</b>  <math>k_0, c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(p^*, pk, \ell)</math>  <math>k_1 \leftarrow \\$</math>  <math>T(\ell) := (c, k_0, k_1)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle ENC</b><math>(\ell)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>e \in S(\ell)</math> <b>then return</b>  <math>S(\ell) := S(\ell) \cup \{e\}</math>  <b>if</b> <math>b</math> <b>then</b>  <b>if</b> <math>c \notin S(\ell)</math> <b>then</b>  <math>k_0, c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(p^*, pk, \ell);</math>  <math>k \leftarrow \\$</math>  <math>T(\ell) := (c, k_0, k)</math>  <b>else</b> <math>(c, k_0, k) := T(\ell)</math>  <b>else</b> <math>k, c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(p^*, pk, \ell)</math>  <b>return</b> <math>k, c</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle DEC</b><math>(p, \ell, c)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>c \notin S(\ell) \vee d \in S(\ell) \vee p \notin P</math>  <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>S(\ell) := S(\ell) \cup \{d\}</math>  <math>k \leftarrow \text{Dec}(p, sk, \ell, c)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>b</math> <b>then</b>  <math>(c_0, k_0, k_1) := T(\ell)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>k = k_0</math> <b>then</b> <math>k := k_1</math>  <b>return</b> <math>k</math></p>
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The challenger maintains a set of flags  $S(\ell)$  for each label  $\ell$ .  $S(\ell)$  is initially  $\emptyset$ , flag  $c$  is added when the adversary commits to  $\ell$ ,  $e$  when it queries ENC on  $\ell$  and  $d$  when it queries DEC on  $\ell$ . Encrypting or decrypting twice with the same label yields uninformative answers, and the adversary can query both ENC and DEC on  $\ell$  only if it first committed to the label.

The IND-CRCCA advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{CRCCA}}(\mathcal{A})$  is defined as  $2 \Pr[\text{CRCCA} : b' = b] - 1$ . We say the KEM is  $(\epsilon, t, p^*, P)$ -secure against IND-CRCCA if the advantage of any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time  $t$  is at most  $\epsilon$ .

Let ENC' and DEC' refer to the oracles of RCCA. An adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against CRCCA that makes  $q_{\text{ENC}}$  and  $q_{\text{DEC}}$  decryption queries, respectively, can be turned into an RCCA adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  that achieves essentially the same advantage, but makes  $q_{\text{DEC}}$  extra decryption queries to ENC'. All that  $\mathcal{B}$  has to do is to explicitly query its oracle ENC' on  $\ell$  when  $\mathcal{A}$  makes a decryption query with label  $\ell$ ;  $\mathcal{B}$  answers using its oracle DEC', returning the key it gets from ENC'( $\ell$ ) if DEC' returns  $\perp$ .

**Tolerating Weak Hash Functions and Ad Hoc Long-Term-Key Usage** As shown in §1.2, many servers still accept MD5 for backward compatibility, so it is pragmatically important to protect (at least) clients that never accept MD5. To this end, instead of assuming a global random oracle for KEF, §B.1 provides a more realistic definition for  $pms$ -KEMs that suffices to prove security of the  $ms$ -KEM construction despite weak hash algorithms at the server.

Another practical concern is the sharing of long-term secret keys between signatures and KEMs. Accordingly, §B.2 gives joint security definitions, one for signatures schemes with a  $ms$ -KEM decryption oracle, and one for  $ms$ -KEM schemes with a signing oracle. This merely makes this real-world deployment assumption explicit—its assessment is left for future work.

## 4 Defining Agile Security for Multiple Sequences of Handshakes

Our security definition for handshakes is general enough to apply to TLS, as specified in the standard and coded in MITLS, while hiding implementation details like message formats and specific cryptographic constructions. The adversary creates and interacts with multiple instances  $i$  of a handshake protocol  $\Pi$  by calling  $\Pi$ 's oracles, detailed below. Each instance has a fixed role  $\mathcal{R}$ , either  $\mathcal{C}$  for Client or  $\mathcal{S}$  for Server, and models a connection endpoint.

- $\text{KeyGen}(v)$  creates and stores a new honest keypair for the long-term public-key algorithm  $v$  (in TLS, ranging over  $s$  for signing and  $e$  for key encapsulation) and returns the associated public key. Similarly,  $\text{KeyInject}(v, pk, sk)$  stores a dishonest keypair (assuming  $pk$  is not yet in the store).
- $\text{Init}(\mathcal{R}, \text{cfg}_{\mathcal{R}})$  creates an instance with role  $\mathcal{R}$  and local configuration  $\text{cfg}_{\mathcal{R}}$ ; it returns a fresh handle  $i$ . The handle  $i$  is global (it identifies an instance of the handshake and indirectly, through a certificate in  $\text{cfg}_{\mathcal{R}}$ , a party) rather than local (identifying a “session” for a specific party) as in models like Bellare & Rogaway’s.
- $\text{Send}_i(\text{frag})$  lets an existing instance  $i$  process a fragment, depending on its current state. An empty string is used when there is no fragment to process. As a result, the instance may update its state, assign local variables, and return a response. (In TLS, responses range over sequences of handshake and CCS message fragments, intended to be sent to the peer, as well as error messages.)
- $\text{Control}_i(\text{env})$  changes the global, internal state of the handshake, e.g., enabling the adversary to control access to stored sessions and private keys by the protocol the next time  $\text{Send}$  will be called, or to trigger a renegotiation request for an existing instance  $i$ . This single oracle accounts for many control functions in the mTLS handshake implementation. For example,  $\text{Control}$  provides the environment with means to reject certificates that it deems invalid.

Each instance maintains its private local state (e.g. using local variables and the state machine depicted in Figure 4). Each instance can go through a sequence of epochs (e.g. recording the number of cycles in the state machine). For each epoch, it records a sequence of *variable assignments*, extended as the result of calls to  $\text{Send}$  and  $\text{Control}$ . Each variable is assigned at most once in every epoch. The selection and ordering of assignments within an epoch depends on the protocol; for instance, a client epoch may assign its client-certificate variable, then send a message to the server, causing the server epoch to record the same assignment later in the protocol.

Our definition is based on local variable assignments, which summarize the view of clients and servers so far about each epoch. This is adequate to model the handshake as a component within TLS, but this differs from models based on *matching conversations* [7] that compare the (unparsed) messages they have sent and received so far. We use assignments to express the main goals of the protocol, for instance assigning a fresh random value to the record key variable  $k$ ; and agreeing on all assignments as a session completes. We list below the main variables used in our presentation, but our definition can account for a more detailed model of the TLS handshake.

$\ell$	epoch identifier; in TLS, the concatenation of the client and server random values.
$\ell_{\text{session}}$	resumption identifier; in TLS, the identifier of the epoch that completed the session being resumed. (The mTLS code also assigns the TLS <i>sessionId</i> , chosen by the server, but we do <i>not</i> use it as an identifier as it is not necessarily unique.)
$a_{\mathcal{C}}, a_{\mathcal{S}}$	client and server negotiation parameters; in TLS, they consist of protocol versions, ciphersuites, and extension messages.
$a$	agility parameter; in TLS, the protocol version, the negotiated ciphersuite, and data extracted from the first flight of messages sent by the server.
$\text{cert}_{\mathcal{C}}, \text{cert}_{\mathcal{S}}$	client and server certificate chains. In TLS, these certificates are optional; e.g. the assignment $\text{cert}_{\mathcal{C}} := \perp$ denotes the absence of client certificate.
$\text{ex}_{\mathcal{C}}, \text{ex}_{\mathcal{S}}$	client and server exchange variables, possibly secret, used to specify safety.
$k$	record key for the epoch; in TLS, depending on $a$ , this key is usually split into 4 keys for MAC & encrypt.
$\text{complete}$	successful completion flag, marking the end of the handshake for this epoch.

Unless explicitly mentioned for key-exchange materials, these variables are public: the adversary can read them, but not change them; the protocol can write them once in every epoch, but not read them. In particular, the adversaries we consider in compositional proofs of TLS can use the key  $k$  e.g. to encrypt Finished messages. (Conversely, the no-read restriction prevents the handshake from leaking  $k$  in subsequent messages; this matters once we replace  $k$  with a random value.) The agility-parameter variable  $a$  determines the algorithms and constructions used by the handshake. Our security properties are conditioned by a strength predicate  $\alpha(a)$  that indicates whether those algorithms are strong enough to secure the epoch. When the role of an epoch is clear from the context, the *peer* refers to the opposite role, and the *peer-exchange variable* refers to the exchange variable of the opposite role (e.g.  $ex_{\mathcal{C}}$  when  $\mathcal{R}$  is  $\mathcal{S}$ ).

We deliberately avoid modeling certificate validation. For the handshake, certificate chains are authenticated, uninterpreted bitstrings. We leave as future work supplementing our model with an application-level certificate infrastructure above the mTLS API. We assume given a public specification function  $\text{pk}(\text{cert})$  that returns either the public key associated with a certificate chain, or  $\perp$ . The session state does not need to explicitly mention public keys, but public keys can appear in exchange variables.

A security model for a protocol describes how queries are answered and how session variables are assigned. Next, we define properties of these models as they interact with an adversary.

**Definition 5** (Honesty, Safety, Matching Algorithms and Completion). *For a handshake protocol  $\Pi$  and a strength predicate  $\alpha(\cdot)$ , an adversary that calls  $\Pi$ 's oracles any number of times produces a trace of interleaved variable assignments for a series of epochs for each instance. In this trace:*

- *As determined by its assigned agility parameter  $a$ : an epoch is either a session, with distinguished client- and server-exchange variables, or a resumption, with an  $\ell_{\text{session}}$  variable; sessions (and their exchange variables) are either static or ephemeral; a static session has at least one static exchange variable; an ephemeral session has only ephemeral exchange variables.*
- *A (long-term) public key is honest for algorithm  $v$  if it was returned by a call to  $\text{KeyGen}(v)$ . All other keys are generated by the adversary and thus not honest. A session's ephemeral server-exchange variable assignment is honest if there is a server session with the same assignment to its server-exchange variable—and conversely for ephemeral client-exchange variables.*
- *A client session is safe if (i)  $\alpha(a)$  holds; (ii) honest public keys for  $a$ 's algorithms are assigned to all static exchange variables; and (iii) there is a server session with the same assignment to the ephemeral server-exchange variable. A server session is safe if the converse holds. (Said otherwise, a session is safe if  $\alpha(a)$  holds and all static exchange variables and ephemeral peer-exchange variable assignments are honest.)*
- *A resumption is safe if  $\alpha(a)$  holds and  $\ell_{\text{session}}$  is the identifier of a safe and complete session.*
- *An epoch has matching algorithm  $r = \text{record}(a)$  when there is a peer epoch with the same identifier  $\ell$  and algorithm  $r$ .*
- *An epoch is complete when it includes the assignment  $\text{complete} := 1$ .*

Anticipating on §5, for TLS we define the client exchange value  $ex_{\mathcal{C}}$  to be the master secret  $ms$  together with the KEM public key  $pk$ , and the server-exchange variable  $ex_{\mathcal{S}}$  to be the public key  $pk$  of the KEM. The latter is static for TLS-RSA, but ephemeral for TLS-DHE. Here  $ms$  is explicitly secret and ephemeral.<sup>3</sup>

**Definition 6** (Handshake Security). *Let  $\Pi$  be a handshake protocol,  $\alpha(\cdot)$  a strength predicate, and  $\mathcal{A}$  an adversary that calls  $\Pi$ 's oracles any number of times. Consider the following security properties:*

<sup>3</sup>The use of  $ms$  instead of the KEM ciphertext and other public values allows us to prove security of the handshake, even if PKCS#1v1.5 ciphertexts are re-randomizable, despite NR-PCA being broken, as long as the  $ms$ -KEM is still IND-RCCA secure.



- (1) **Uniqueness:** *epoch identifiers are used at most once in each role.*

Let  $\text{Adv}^{\text{U}}(\mathcal{A})$  be the probability that two different epochs with the same role assign the same value to  $\ell$  when  $\mathcal{A}$  terminates.

- (2) **Verified Safety:** *if the peer of a session uses a strong signature algorithm to authenticate and the public-key for the peer signature is honest, then the peer-exchange variable assignment is honest.*

Let  $\text{Adv}^{\text{S}}(\mathcal{A})$  be the probability that, when  $\mathcal{A}$  terminates, there is an epoch such that  $\alpha(a)$  holds; the public key of the peer is honest; and the assignment to the peer exchange value is not honest (i.e. not assigned by any peer);

- (3) **Agile Key Derivation:** *depending on a random bit  $b$ , replace the record key assigned in safe epochs with matching algorithm  $r$  with a fresh  $k \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(r)$ , assigning the same value to epochs that have the same identifier  $\ell$ , algorithms  $\text{kdf}(a)$  and exchange variables or resumption identifier.*

Let  $\text{Adv}^{\text{K}}(\mathcal{A}) = 2p - 1$  where  $p$  is the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  returns  $b$ .

- (4) **Agreement:** *for every safe and complete epoch, there is a safe epoch in the other role such that their two protocol instances agree on all prior assignments.*

Let  $\text{Adv}^{\text{I}}(\mathcal{A})$  be the probability that, when  $\mathcal{A}$  terminates: an instance created by  $\text{Init}(\mathcal{R}, \text{cfg})$  assigns  $\text{complete} := 1$  in a safe epoch; and no instance created by  $\text{Init}(\overline{\mathcal{R}}, \text{cfg}')$  begins with a series of epochs with the same assignments to all variables (up to, but possibly excluding  $\text{complete} := 1$ ).

Let  $\text{Adv}_{\alpha}^{\text{TLS}}(\mathcal{A})$  be  $\max_{G \in \{\text{U,S,K,I}\}} \text{Adv}^G(\mathcal{A})$ . The handshake is  $(\epsilon, t, \alpha)$ -secure when for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time  $t$ , we have  $\text{Adv}_{\alpha}^{\text{TLS}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \epsilon$ .

**Discussion** The properties above are given in chronological order: in TLS in particular, protocol instances first exchange fresh random values, then derive keys, and finally confirm the integrity of the session negotiation.

Property (1) simply ensures that  $\ell$  provides a unique identifier, later authenticated using (4); we use these identifiers for matching client and server sessions.

Property (2) enables, for instance, a client that trusts both the negotiated algorithm and the server certificates to deduce that its server-exchange variable is honest, and conclude that its session is safe.

Property (3) idealizes the derived key; this is key indistinguishability. Recall that TLS uses the key before the two parties actually agree on the record algorithms. Conservatively, (3) idealizes the key only when the record algorithms match. (§B.5 defines an alternative property for constructions that deliver fixed-sized keys irrespective of the algorithm, but constructions that use those keys with different algorithms require record agility.) As Krawczyk et al. [39], our model does not consider forward secrecy. We discuss forward secure variants of Verified Safety and Agile Key Derivation in §B.5.

Property (4) guarantees agreement on all variable assignments at the client and server instances since their creation, not just the assignments of the current epoch. Hence, as soon as one epoch safely completes, the peers agree also on all prior epochs on that connection—even those that were not safe, or not verifiably safe. However, the final assignment to *complete* is not itself authenticated, as the two instances asynchronously complete the epoch. Similarly, the *ordering* of assignments at the client and at the server may differ, as illustrated in Figure 1. For TLS, this property holds only thanks to the (mandatory) secure renegotiation extension, which links each epoch to its predecessor. This property is closely related to the TLS renegotiation results of Giesen et al. [27]. They additionally propose an extension of TLS that would guarantee agreement on the full stream of application data, not just the handshake epochs. On the

other hand, our model and security definition also cover resumptions and RSA ciphersuites, which are not covered by their results.

Unlike previous analyses of TLS, our definition accounts for session resumptions. Property (4) guarantees agreement on the new epoch identifier  $\ell$  and the identifier  $\ell_{session}$  of the resumed session (and hence on the new record keys), as long as the original session is safe. The epochs of the original session may be on a different connection, between a different pair of instances; for those instances, safety for the original session independently guarantees agreement on all its original variable assignments.

TLS applications often group connections that use the same session or the same long-term key, allowing them to share resources and access rights. For example, web browsers allow all connections to the same server to share resources via the Same Origin Policy. It may seem desirable to guarantee a strong relationship between such connections, but our Property (4) guarantees agreement only for the sequence of epochs over a single connection. Indeed, the natural extension of this property to multiple connections does not hold for TLS, as shown by the triple handshake attack of Bhargavan et al. [10]. In this attack, an unsafe server-authenticated session is resumed on a new connection and then renegotiated with a new safe mutually-authenticated session. For the new safe epoch, Property (4) retroactively guarantees agreement on the prior resumption, but *not* on the original unsafe session that was resumed. Consequently, it is possible for a client and server instance to have a safe epoch but inconsistent variable assignments for the session associated with a prior resumed epoch; this leads to a variety of attacks, similar to the renegotiation attacks of Ray [56]. A stronger agreement can be achieved either at the application level, by checking agreement on prior connections, or by a protocol extension that includes a hash of the log of the original session in resumption handshakes [10]; we leave the modeling of this extension and its security for future work.

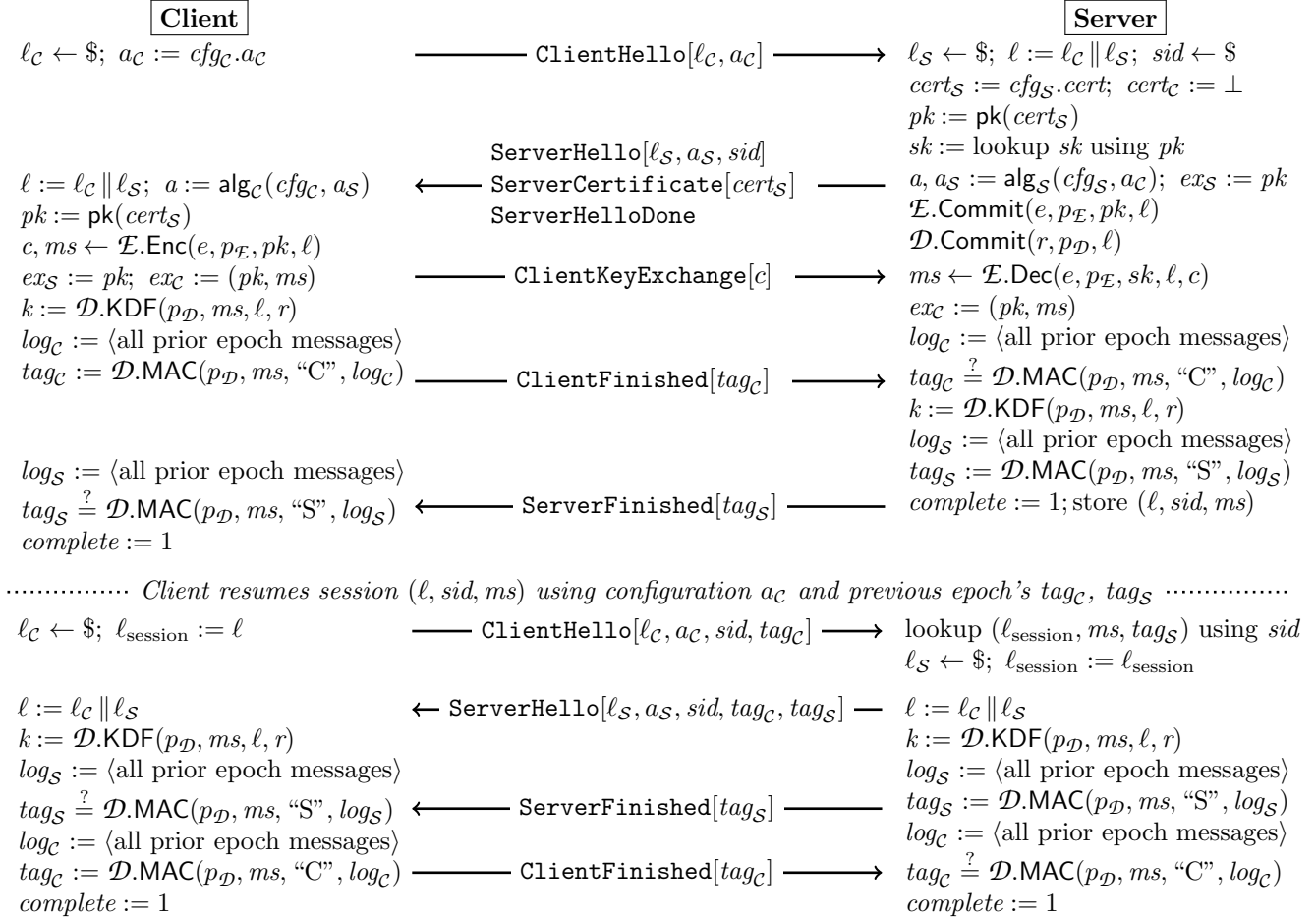
Compared with classic key exchange models [7] and the key exchange part of ACCE [30], our definition yields useful additional properties. Property (4) guarantees agreement on the negotiation parameters  $a_C$  and  $a_S$  for safe and complete epochs, thereby preventing version and ciphersuite rollback attacks (see §7.2).

Our definition also provides (some) security for anonymous connections, which can be composed with other authentication mechanisms to achieve application security. For example, renegotiation with client and server certificates may provide mutual authentication on top of an initial, safe, but anonymous handshake. Late application-level, client password authentication may also yield mutual authentication, as illustrated by mTLS [9].

## 5 Proving Agile Security for TLS Handshakes

We are now ready to reduce the security of TLS handshakes to the security of agile signatures, KEMs and PRFs. From these primitives we build three agile libraries  $\mathcal{S}$ ,  $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$  for signing (§2), key encapsulation (§3), and KDF-MAC (§B.3). This last library provides an intermediate abstraction, keyed by master secrets and used both for deriving record keys (using KDF) and producing Finished message tags (using MAC).

In §B.3, we define its security and show that the construction used in TLS, essentially a keyed hash with separate labels for key derivation and for MACing, is secure under the agile-PRF assumption proposed by Acar et al. [2]. We model key derivation in two steps, first as an agile family of PRFs, then as an agile functionality that separates its different usages and ensures that the derived record key is used with the same algorithms by the client and by the server. To elide details handled in the mTLS implementation, such as output lengths depending on agile parameters, we assume that PRF supports arbitrary size inputs and that its output is long enough to cover all TLS ciphersuites. Let  $[\cdot]_r$  and  $[\cdot]_p$  be functions that truncate to the record-key and MAC sizes, respectively. We define functionally correct algorithms by truncations:



Two epochs on the same connection: the first handshake establishes a session without client authentication using non-ephemeral (RSA) keys; the second handshake resumes the session. The protocol uses libraries for signatures ( $\mathcal{S}$ ), KEMs ( $\mathcal{E}$ ) and KDF-MAC ( $\mathcal{D}$ ). (1) Failed checks  $\stackrel{?}{=}$  stop the instance; (2) We use  $:=$  for assigning epoch variables and assume variables exchanged in messages are implicitly assigned. For instance, the client assigns  $\ell_C$  before sending the first message, and the server assigns  $\ell_C$  and  $a_C$  after parsing it. (3) We omit the extraction of the negotiated algorithms  $e, p_{\mathcal{E}}, s, p_{\mathcal{S}}, p_{\mathcal{D}}, r$  from  $a$ . For instance, we write  $r$  for  $\text{record}(a)$ . (4) We omit **ChangeCipherSpec** messages. (5)  $\langle \text{all prior epoch messages} \rangle$  means the concatenation of all messages sent and received so far, starting from the latest **ClientHello** message.

Figure 1: Abstract model of the TLS handshake protocol (Static Handshake; Resumption)

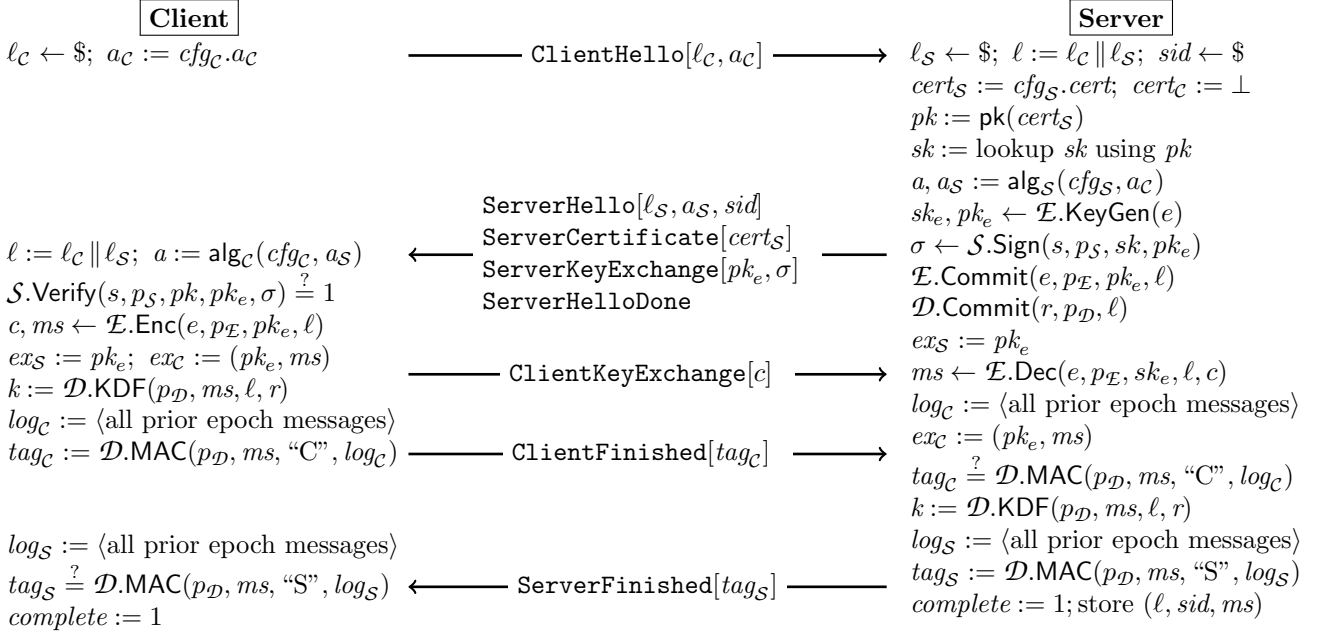


Figure 2: Abstract model of the TLS handshake protocol for ephemeral sessions

$\text{KDF}(p, \text{ms}, \ell, r) \triangleq \lfloor \text{PRF}(p, \text{ms}, \text{"key expansion"} \parallel \ell_S \parallel \ell_C) \rfloor_r$  and  $\text{MAC}(p, \text{ms}, t, v) \triangleq \lfloor \text{PRF}(p, \text{ms}, t \parallel v) \rfloor_p$  where  $t$  is either "client finished" or "server finished". We let  $\text{Adv}_{p^*, p}^{\text{UCR}}(\mathcal{A})$  be the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  produces a collision  $p, k, v, k', v', p \in P, (k, v) \neq (k', v')$  such that  $\lfloor \text{Prf}(p^*, k, t \parallel v) \rfloor_{p^*} = \lfloor \text{Prf}(p, k', t \parallel v') \rfloor_p$ . As  $\text{Prf}$  is unkeyed, we formulate the theorem as suggested in [59].

We structure the proof to apply simultaneously to the protocol, illustrated in Figures 1 and 2, and to its mTLS implementation. Figure 1 shows the assignments performed by a client instance and a server instance that run two successive, matching handshakes on the same connection: for both instances, a static session, followed by a (renegotiated) resumption. Figure 2 similarly shows the assignments for an ephemeral session. Figure 4 in §C depicts when these assignments are performed in the state machine of the mTLS implementation. As discussed in §3.3, we restructured the game-based definition for the KEM library  $\mathcal{E}$  in such a way that the oracle calls in the proof can follow the flow of the protocol and preserve the input-output behaviour of the cryptographic primitives. In §B.3 we perform a similar restructuring for  $\mathcal{D}$ . Following the flow, the server first calls  $\mathcal{E}.\text{Commit}(e, p_E, \text{pk}, \ell)$  and  $\mathcal{D}.\text{Commit}(r, p_D, \ell)$  to fix input values for these algorithms to be used later with a particular nonce  $\ell$ , e.g. the record algorithm  $r$  for key derivation. As a first step, our proof in §B.4 employs lemmas (proved using hybrid arguments that range over all honest keys) for the signature game (see §2), and these extended KEM and KDF games (see §3.3 and §B.3) to lift security to multi-key libraries. These libraries also implement weak algorithms and support dishonest keys. This yields the constructions  $\mathcal{S}$ ,  $\mathcal{E}$ , and  $\mathcal{D}$  of the figures, tightly related to the modules of our reference implementation of the handshake.

The agility parameter  $a$  of the handshake indicates which algorithm to use for each underlying functionality. We write for instance  $a := \text{alg}_C(\text{cfg}_C, a_S)$  to retrieve  $a$  from the client configuration and the negotiation parameter of the server;  $e, p := \text{kem}(a)$  to retrieve the core algorithm  $e$  and public parameter of the master secret KEM from  $a$ .

Our second main theorem reduces the security of TLS handshakes to their underlying algorithms,

depending on a *strength predicate* on their agility parameters. Its proof is in §B.4, and relies on intermediate definitions in §3.3 and §B.3.

**Theorem 4** (TLS Handshake). *Let a range over the agility parameters supported by TLS and  $\alpha$  be a strength predicate (Definition 5). Let  $P_s = \{p \mid s, p := \text{sig}(a)\}$ ,  $P_s^* = \{p \mid s, p := \text{sig}(a) \wedge \alpha(a)\}$ ,  $P_e = \{p \mid e, p := \text{kem}(a)\}$ ,  $P_e^* = \{p \mid e, p := \text{kem}(a) \wedge \alpha(a)\}$ ,  $P = \{p \mid p := \text{prf}(a)\}$ , and  $P^* = \{p \mid p := \text{prf}(a) \wedge \alpha(a)\}$ . Assume the following holds:*

- (1) *If  $\alpha(a)$  and  $s, p := \text{sig}(a)$  then  $S_s$  is  $(\epsilon_{s,p}, t_{s,p}, p, P_s)$ -secure against EUF-CMA.*
- (2) *If  $\alpha(a)$  and  $e, p := \text{kem}(a)$  then  $E_e$  is  $(\epsilon_{e,p}, t_{e,p}, p, P_e)$ -secure against IND-RCCA- $n_{ms}$ .*
- (3) *If  $\alpha(a)$  and  $p := \text{prf}(a)$  then PRF is an  $(\epsilon_p, t_p, p, P)$ -secure PRF.*

Let  $n_s$  bound the number of calls to  $S_s.\text{KeyGen}$ . Let  $n$  and  $n_{ms}$  bound the number of epochs and sessions. Let  $n_e$  bound the number of calls to  $E_e.\text{KeyGen}$ , both for ephemeral and static KEMs.

Let  $\text{macsize} = \min_{p \in P^*} |\cdot|_p$  be the minimum secure finished message MAC size.

Given an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\Pi$ , there exists an adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  running in about the same time (given explicitly in the proof of this theorem) such that

$$\text{Adv}_\alpha^{\text{TLS}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \sum_s \sum_{p \in P_s^*} n_s \epsilon_{s,p} + \sum_e \sum_{p \in P_e^*} n_e \epsilon_{e,p} + n_{ms} \sum_{p \in P^*} \epsilon_p + \max_{p \in P} \text{Adv}_{p,P}^{\text{UCR}}(\mathcal{B}) + n^2 (2^{-225} + 2^{-\text{macsize}})$$

and where each  $t_*$  in the assumptions is at most the running time of  $\mathcal{A}$  plus the cost of simulating  $\Pi$  in the reduction.

**Discussion** In the theorem, the sets  $P_s$ ,  $P_e$ , and  $P$  represent the worst case. Indeed, signers may, for those keys that they consider honest, stop using signature algorithm  $s$  together with weak hash functions, like MD5, while TLS may still support verification using such hash algorithms for backward compatibility. To model such scenarios, one could instead add  $P_s$ ,  $P_e$ , and  $P$  to the state of the experiment to record which hash algorithms have been used so far for signing, decrypting and deriving keys to obtain a more precise statement.

## 6 Verified Reference Implementation

We jointly programmed the TLS handshake and developed its proof. We finally outline our code, and explain how its structure and automated verification relate to the cryptographic models of §2–5; we provide additional details and performance results in §C. Our handshake implementation for mITLS consists of 3,600 lines of F# code plus 2,050 lines of F7 specifications; it supports four protocol versions, three key exchange mechanisms, two signature algorithms, and four hash functions (see Table 1). It deals mostly with the protocol aspects; indeed, our cryptographic proof for Theorem 3, conducted with EASYCRYPT, concerns less than 200 lines of F#. Conversely, Theorem 4 involves the full codebase and proving it requires a modular design and automated program verification techniques.

We adopt the type-based cryptographic verification method of Fournet et al. [24], previously applied to mITLS by Bhargavan et al. [9, §2]. The mITLS library consists of 45 modules, not counting application code or platform libraries, as depicted in Figure 3. Each module implements a single cryptographic functionality or protocol component and represents an abstraction boundary through its interface. A module is either trusted to be implemented correctly (e.g. the session database), or idealized under a cryptographic

assumption (e.g. signatures) then verified, or perfectly verified (e.g. the protocol state machine). Each module interface specifies preconditions, postconditions, and type abstractions that govern the conditions under which secrets (keys, plaintexts, etc.) may be read or written by other modules.

We discuss the design of three important components that we modified during the course of this paper. *TLSInfo* defines agility parameters and logical predicates (corresponding to  $\alpha$  in Definition 5) that specify algorithmic strength, honesty for both long-term-keys and ephemeral secrets, matching record algorithms, and handshake completion events. This new logical model is more detailed than the original one [9]; furthermore, we extended the session structure and logical model to provide a general treatment of protocol extensions. *HandshakeMessages* implements message formatting and parsing, including input validation for the KEM; agreement (Definition 6(4)) depends on its details, since only formatted data is cryptographically authenticated. This code is complicated but not especially deep, and best handled using automated verification. *Handshake* implements the handshake state machine (*Send* in §5), shown in Figure 4 for the client. Its code is not as simple as suggested by the KEMs of §3, since the TLS standard employs different sequences of messages for (say) RSA and DHE handshakes. Hence, we have similar but separate code for them, each of their interfaces complying with the KEM abstraction of §3. Also, our code handles errors and warnings, omitted in this presentation but also verified.

Our new results on the handshake, composed with prior results on mTLS [9] (the record layer, the top-level API, and various applications) yield agile, verified application security for TLS as it is.

## 7 Related Work

### 7.1 Prior Security Results on the TLS Handshake

Research on secure key exchange usually follows either a game-based approach or a simulation-based approach, as pioneered by Bellare and Rogaway [7] and Canetti and Krawczyk [15], respectively. Gajek et al. [25] outline a proof of security of TLS in the simulation-based model of [14]. However, Küsters and Tuengerthal [42] correctly note that their (ab)use of a crucial theorem to obtain multi-session security relies on pre-established identifiers not available in TLS, and suggest a framework for overcoming this limitation.

Most of the cryptographic work on TLS follows the game-based approach. Jonsson and Kaliski [33] analyze the core of the RSA ciphersuites. Morrissey et al. [51] analyze a variant of the protocol using a modular approach that decomposes the handshake into *premaster secret*, *master secret*, and *record-key derivation* phases. Both of these works influence our analysis. To pinpoint some differences, Jonsson and Kaliski already propose to model part of the handshake as a KEM with one-time nonces, but their KEM includes the record-key derivation and Finished messages, and is thus not modular in the sense of Morrissey et al.. Although Morrissey et al. show how to boost security using a weakly secure (only one-way secure) premaster secret phase, they do not separately model this phase as a KEM. An advantage of their construction is that the same master secret can be used to derive multiple keys. However, they still rely on one-way security for record-key derivation, hence their analysis is more globally dependent on random oracles than ours.

Recently, there has been renewed interest in the security (and insecurity) of TLS. Jager et al. [30] perform a game-based security analysis of the TLS\_DHE\_DSS\_WITH\_3DES\_EDE\_CBC\_SHA ciphersuite, relying on the analysis of Paterson et al. [53] for the record protocol. A defining feature of their analysis is that they do not give a definition of security for the TLS handshake. Instead they define authenticated and confidential channel establishment (ACCE) security for the whole TLS protocol. Similarly, Kohlar et al. [37] study the ACCE security of TLS-RSA ciphersuites when instantiated with an IND-CCA secure key



transport encryption scheme. Again, this defeats the modularity goals of Morrissey et al. Brzuska et al. [13] propose a more composable game-based analysis technique and use TLS as a case study. They do, however, also assume that the key transport encryption scheme is IND-CCA. Giesen et al. [27] extend the work of Jager et al. with an analysis of secure session renegotiation, while Krawczyk et al. [39] extend it to support RSA and server-only authentication ciphersuites without having to assume IND-CCA security for PKCS#1v1.5. Similarly to Jonsson and Kaliski and us, they use a KEM abstraction for the cryptographic core of TLS. However, their analysis is for one fixed ciphersuite at a time, and all bets are off if the adversary tricks the client and server into using different algorithms. Moreover, it inherits the monolithic structure of ACCE, which makes it hard to reason modularly, e.g. to cover resumption.

The first work analyzing security of TLS as it is used is the work of Bhargavan et al. [9], which reports on a proof of security of a reference implementation of the TLS standard, using a combination of type checking and automated verification tools. In the present work, starting from the same code base, we develop a more abstract, human-readable, game-based proof that improves on Bhargavan et al. and makes their results more accessible. Like them we support renegotiation, resumption, and multiple ciphersuites. In the process, we clarify their definitions and modular structure. In particular we adapt the KEM concept to reason about both the premaster secret and master secret phases, which allows us to generalize the result of Jonsson and Kaliski, similarly to Krawczyk et al. but without sacrificing modularity (Krawczyk et al. consider KEM keys that include unencrypted Finished messages). Moreover, we use EASYCRYPT to machine check the proof of this theorem.

Recently, and independently of our work, Dowling et al. [20] studied the ACCE security of generic multi-ciphersuite protocols that reuse long-term keys. They “open” the ACCE definition, and show that under a global condition on key reuse, single ciphersuite security implies multi-ciphersuite security. Their positive results apply to the SSH protocol but not to TLS. Indeed, they acknowledge that in general TLS is not multi-ciphersuite secure and point to our present work for a finer analysis of whether certain combinations of ciphersuites are secure.

In parallel with our work, Kohlweiss et al. [38] conduct an extensive proof of TLS following the constructive cryptography paradigm of Maurer [47]. Their results and ours co-evolved. In particular, they adopted our approach for proving TLS-RSA modularly based on the assumption that PKCS#1v1.5 ciphertexts are hard to re-randomize. In a nutshell, their work can be seen as a simulation-based and single-ciphersuite analogue to ours.<sup>4</sup> It demonstrates the power, and some limitations, of the constructive cryptography approach to deal with real-world protocols. Irrespective of the elegance of the modeling language, we are, however, convinced that tool support is crucial to deal with the haystack of details of the TLS standard.

## 7.2 Attacks Involving Multiple Algorithms and Handshakes

Meyer and Schwenk [50] conducted a survey of previous attacks on SSL and TLS. Here, we mention a few attacks to motivate our definitions and theorems. We begin with historical attacks and end with new attacks discovered by us.

**Version and Ciphersuite Rollback Attacks** SSL version 2.0 is vulnerable to both version and ciphersuite rollback attacks [62], because its handshake protocol does not protect the integrity of these parameters. Hence, if a client and server support both TLS 1.0 and SSL2, a man-in-the-middle adversary can force them to use SSL2. Furthermore, he can force them to use a weak authenticated encryption scheme, e.g. 40-bit RC2 even if they both support AES.

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<sup>4</sup>To our knowledge, in this case “simulation-based” does not imply that their definitions are strictly stronger than ours. Rather, they are of a similar flavor, but because of the sheer amount of details most likely formally incomparable.

All TLS versions since SSL3 protect the integrity of the full handshake and SSL2 has been deprecated [61]. mITLS does not support SSL2, and our Theorem 4 guarantees agreement over all handshake parameters, including the version and ciphersuite, on safe epochs, that is, when both peers are honest and negotiate strong handshake algorithms.

**Key Exchange Confusion Attacks on Server Signatures** The `ServerKeyExchange` message in the TLS handshake typically contains a signature on the KEM’s public key. For example, in DHE ciphersuites, this key consists of the server-chosen Diffie-Hellman group and the server’s public key. In ECDHE, it indicates the elliptic curve and contains the server’s public key. In the (now rarely used) ephemeral RSA KEMs, it is a short-lived RSA modulus and exponent.

If a server signature generated for one KEM can be successfully used at a recipient who is using a different KEM, i.e. if the public keys of different KEM schemes can be confused, then an adversary can potentially impersonate the server without needing to know its private key. Wagner and Schneier [62] show how DHE public keys can be confused with ephemeral RSA, and Mavrogiannopoulos et al. [49] show how ECDHE public keys can be confused with DHE. The success probability of these attacks depends on implementation details; in practice, this is small but not negligible.

In mITLS, the *Sig* module that implements signatures specifies all the possible usages of a signature key, including the possible contents of `ServerKeyExchange` and `ClientCertificateVerify`. If the same key may be used to sign two different messages, we must prove that the formats of these messages are disjoint and hence, that the signature is unambiguous. mITLS does not support ECDHE or ephemeral RSA, but we prove, for example, that the implementation cannot confuse client logs (used for client authentication) with DHE group parameters. When adding new KEMs to the implementation, we would need to prove such disjointness properties for those KEMs’ public keys as well.

**Client Impersonation Attacks on Renegotiation** A mutually authenticated TLS handshake communicates client and server identities in the clear. To increase privacy, one may instead start a TLS connection with a handshake where one or both peers are anonymous, and then run a new mutually-authenticated renegotiation handshake within the protected channel. There may also be other reasons to use renegotiation, such as rekeying a long-lived connection, upgrading to a different ciphersuite, or replacing expired certificates.

Whenever a key exchange protocol is tunneled within another, it becomes vulnerable to a generic man-in-the-middle attack on the outer protocol [3]. Indeed, two instances of such attacks were found on TLS renegotiation by Ray [56] and Rex [58]. In the first instance, if a client starts an initial handshake with a server, an adversary could forward these handshake messages as a renegotiation within an existing TLS connection between the adversary and the server. Both client and server will successfully complete the handshake. However, the server will believe the client’s messages to be a continuation of the adversary’s connection, whereas the client is oblivious to this tunneling and believes it is beginning a new connection.

The recommended countermeasure is to link the renegotiation handshake with its preceding epoch, and has been standardized as a mandatory extension for all versions of TLS [57]. mITLS supports this extension and consequently, Theorem 4 guarantees that at the completion of a safe epoch, both client and server agree upon all previous epochs on the connection. However, this guarantee does not carry over to link different connections that resume the same original session, as we discuss below.

**Plaintext Recovery Attacks on Encrypted Extensions** Many recent proposed extensions to TLS optimistically send encrypted data even before the handshake is fully complete. One motivation is to

improve latency by reducing the number of roundtrips that a client needs to wait for before sending application data. For example, the False Start extension of Langley and Moeller [45] allows the client to send data immediately after the `ClientFinished` message, without waiting for `ServerFinished`. This extension is implemented by all Google websites, and by Chrome and Firefox. A second motivation is to improve the privacy of the handshake by sending some messages encrypted. The Next Protocol Negotiation (NPN) extension of Langley [44] (implemented by all major websites and browsers) sends an encrypted message after the `ChangeCipherSpec` message but before the `Finished` message. Such extensions are fragile against both implementation flaws and ciphersuite weaknesses. We outline a concrete plaintext-recovery attack against some client implementations and then discuss the agility requirements imposed by such extensions.

We found that some client implementations, such as Firefox and Chrome, only validate the server certificate (say against the server name) at the end of the handshake. So, if an active attacker replaces the server certificate with his own, all messages sent before the handshake is complete are encrypted for the adversary, leading to a plaintext-recovery attack. When the handshake completes, the invalid certificate is detected and the connection is torn down, but it is too late for the messages that were already sent. We mounted such attacks on encrypted NPN messages sent by Firefox and Chrome. More seriously, we were also able to recover encrypted user-identifying Channel IDs of [4] sent by Chrome.

The confidentiality of optimistically encrypted messages relies on the ciphersuites accepted by the client, since a man-in-the-middle adversary will be able to downgrade the client to its weakest ciphersuite regardless of the server; this ciphersuite rollback will be detected only when the handshake completes. As a countermeasure, extensions like False Start restrict the agility of the TLS handshake by requiring the ciphersuite to use symmetric ciphers with at least 128 bit keys (RC4!, AES) and strong key-exchange methods (DHE\_RSA, ECDHE\_RSA, DHE\_DSS, ECDHE\_ECDSA). However, MD5 is still allowed as a hash algorithm during False Start.

In our implementation, we forbid sending application and handshake data between `ChangeCipherSpec` and `Finished`. Our handshake definition does not guarantee confidentiality for keys before handshake completion. To support False Start, we would need to modify our definition as described in B.5 and would require record algorithms that satisfy stronger agile security properties, since the algorithms used by the client for encryption and the server for decryption may differ. More generally, using the same record keys with different algorithms makes security proofs more difficult. Instead, we advocate a new master secret derivation algorithm (also described in the draft paper at <https://www.secure-resumption.com/>) that ensures that record keys are context-bound to their intended ciphersuites.

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## A Empirical Results on TLS Configurations

We present empirical results on the TLS configurations deployed at 215 out of the 500 most popular websites as measured by Alexa. These results were compiled with the aid of Qualys SSL Labs analyzer [55].

### Supported Protocol Versions

SSL2	7	3.26 %
SSL3	212	98.60 %
TSL 1	214	99.53 %
TSL 1.1	129	60.00 %
TSL 1.2	124	57.67 %

**Avg. supported TLS versions per host:** 3.19

### Popular Protocol Extensions

Secure renegotiation	185	86.05 %
Session ticket	128	59.53 %

### Agility Summary

Ciphersuites count	64	Avg. hash algorithms per host	2.52
Ciphersuites avg. per host	11.88	Avg. encryption algorithms per host	5.36
Ciphersuites std. dev.	6.44	Avg. signature algorithms per host	1.06
		Avg. KEMs per host	1.73

### Hash algorithms

MD5	149	69.30 %
SHA	215	100.00 %
SHA256	103	47.91 %
SHA384	74	34.42 %

### Signature algorithms

ECDSA	13	6.05 %
RSA	215	100.00 %

### KEMs

DHE	61	28.37 %
ECDH	2	0.93 %
ECDHE	94	43.72 %
RSA	215	100.00 %

### Encryption algorithms

3DES_EDE_CBC	207	96.28 %
AES_128_CBC	212	98.60 %
AES_128_GCM	78	36.28 %
AES_256_CBC	212	98.60 %
AES_256_GCM	74	34.42 %
CAMELLIA_128_CBC	34	15.81 %
CAMELLIA_256_CBC	34	15.81 %
DES40_CBC	17	7.91 %
DES_CBC	23	10.70 %
IDEA_CBC	14	6.51 %
NULL	3	1.40 %
RC2_CBC_40	17	7.91 %
RC2_CBC_56	1	0.47 %
RC4_128	195	90.70 %
RC4_40	17	7.91 %
RC4_56	3	1.40 %
SEED_CBC	11	5.12 %

### Supported Ciphersuites

SSL_CK_DES_192_EDE3_CBC_WITH_MD5	7	3.26%	SSL_CK_DES_64_CBC_WITH_MD5	6	2.79%
SSL_CK_IDEA_128_CBC_WITH_MD5	1	0.47%	SSL_CK_RC2_128_CBC_EXPORT40_WITH_MD5	6	2.79%
SSL_CK_RC2_128_CBC_WITH_MD5	6	2.79%	SSL_CK_RC4_128_EXPORT40_WITH_MD5	6	2.79%
SSL_CK_RC4_128_WITH_MD5	7	3.26%	TLS_DHE_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	5	2.33%
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	57	26.51%	TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA	61	28.37%
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256	9	4.19%	TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256	9	4.19%
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA	61	28.37%	TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA256	9	4.19%
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384	9	4.19%	TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_128_CBC_SHA	25	11.63%
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_256_CBC_SHA	25	11.63%	TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA	8	3.72%
TLS_DHE_RSA_WITH_SEED_CBC_SHA	6	2.79%	TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	13	6.05%
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA	13	6.05%	TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256	13	6.05%
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256	13	6.05%	TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA	13	6.05%
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA384	13	6.05%	TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384	13	6.05%
TLS_ECDHE_ECDSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA	13	6.05%	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	77	35.81%
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA	94	43.72%	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256	74	34.42%
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256	73	33.95%	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA	92	42.79%
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA384	72	33.49%	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384	73	33.95%
TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_NULL_SHA	1	0.47%	TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA	75	34.88%
TLS_ECDH_anon_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	2	0.93%	TLS_ECDH_anon_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA	2	0.93%
TLS_ECDH_anon_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA	2	0.93%	TLS_ECDH_anon_WITH_NULL_SHA	1	0.47%
TLS_ECDH_anon_WITH_RC4_128_SHA	2	0.93%	TLS_RSA_EXPORT1024_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA	3	1.40%
TLS_RSA_EXPORT1024_WITH_RC2_CBC_56_MD5	1	0.47%	TLS_RSA_EXPORT1024_WITH_RC4_56_MD5	1	0.47%
TLS_RSA_EXPORT1024_WITH_RC4_56_SHA	3	1.40%	TLS_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_DES40_CBC_SHA	17	7.91%
TLS_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_RC2_CBC_40_MD5	17	7.91%	TLS_RSA_EXPORT_WITH_RC4_40_MD5	17	7.91%
TLS_RSA_WITH_3DES_EDE_CBC_SHA	207	96.28%	TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA	210	97.67%
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_CBC_SHA256	96	44.65%	TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_128_GCM_SHA256	76	35.35%
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA	210	97.67%	TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_CBC_SHA256	96	44.65%
TLS_RSA_WITH_AES_256_GCM_SHA384	72	33.49%	TLS_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_128_CBC_SHA	33	15.35%
TLS_RSA_WITH_CAMELLIA_256_CBC_SHA	33	15.35%	TLS_RSA_WITH_DES_CBC_SHA	22	10.23%
TLS_RSA_WITH_IDEA_CBC_SHA	14	6.51%	TLS_RSA_WITH_NULL_MD5	3	1.40%
TLS_RSA_WITH_NULL_SHA	3	1.40%	TLS_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_MD5	149	69.30%
TLS_RSA_WITH_RC4_128_SHA	194	90.23%	TLS_RSA_WITH_SEED_CBC_SHA	10	4.65%

## Clients statistics

Browser	TLS version (max)	Secure renegotiation	# Ciphers
Chrome 30.0.1599.69 (MAC,win8)	TLS1.2	Yes	20
Firefox 24 (MAC,win8)	TLS1	Yes	36
Safari 6.0.5 (MAC)	TLS1	No	27
Opera 12.16 (MAC)	TLS1	Yes	27
Opera 16 (win8)	TLS1.1	Yes	20
IE 11.0.9431 (win8)	TLS1.2	Yes	19
Chrome 30.0.1599.82 (android)	TLS1.2	Yes	38
Android Browser 4.2.2 (android)	TLS1	Yes	33
Dolphin v10 (android)	TLS1	Yes	33
CyanogenMod/10.1.3 (android)	TLS1	Yes	33
Safari (iOS 6.1.3)	TLS1.2	Yes	43

Browser	KEM	Hash	Signature
Chrome 30.0.1599.69 (MAC,win8)	ECDHE, DHE, RSA	SHA, SHA256, MD5	ECDSA, RSA
Firefox 24 (MAC,win8)	ECDHE, DHE, ECDH, RSA	SHA, MD5	ECDSA, RSA, DSS, FIPS
Safari 6.0.5 (MAC)	ECDHE, ECDH, RSA, DHE	SHA, MD5	ECDSA, RSA, DSS
Opera 12.16 (MAC)	DHE, DH, RSA	SHA, MD5	RSA, DSS
Opera 16 (win8)	ECDHE, DHE, RSA	SHA, MD5	ECDSA, RSA, DSS
IE 11.0.9431 (win8)	RSA, ECDHE, DHE	SHA256, SHA, SHA384	RSA, ECDSA, DSS
Chrome 30.0.1599.82 (android)	ECDHE, DHE, RSA	SHA, SHA256, MD5	ECDSA, RSA
Android Browser 4.2.2 (android)		SHA, MD5	ECDSA, RSA, DSS
Dolphin v10 (android)	ECDHE, SRP, DHE, RSA	SHA, MD5	ECDSA, RSA, DSS
CyanogenMod/10.1.3 (android)	ECDHE, SRP, DHE, ECDH, RSA	SHA, MD5	RSA, ECDSA, DSS
Safari (iOS 6.1.3)	ECDHE, ECDH, RSA, DHE	SHA256, SHA, MD5	ECDSA, RSA

Browser	Encryption
Chrome 30.0.1599.69 (MAC,win8)	AES_256_CBC, RC4_128, AES_128_CBC, 3DES_EDE_CBC
Firefox 24 (MAC,win8)	AES_256_CBC, CAMELLIA_256_CBC, RC4_128, AES_128_CBC, CAMELLIA_128_CBC, SEED_CBC, 3DES_EDE_CBC
Safari 6.0.5 (MAC)	AES_256_CBC, AES_128_CBC, RC4_128, 3DES_EDE_CBC
Opera 12.16 (MAC)	AES_256_CBC, AES_128_CBC, RC4_128, 3DES_EDE_CBC
Opera 16 (win8)	AES_256_CBC, AES_128_CBC, RC4_128, 3DES_EDE_CBC
IE 11.0.9431 (win8)	AES_128_CBC, AES_256_CBC, 3DES_EDE_CBC
Chrome 30.0.1599.82 (android)	AES_256_GCM, AES_256_CBC, RC4_128, AES_128_CBC, 3DES_EDE_CBC
Android Browser 4.2.2 (android)	AES_256_CBC, 3DES_EDE_CBC, AES_128_CBC, RC4_128
Dolphin v10 (android)	AES_256_CBC, 3DES_EDE_CBC, AES_128_CBC, RC4_128
CyanogenMod/10.1.3 (android)	AES_256_CBC, 3DES_EDE_CBC, AES_128_CBC, RC4_128
Safari (iOS 6.1.3)	AES_256_CBC, AES_128_CBC, RC4_128, 3DES_EDE_CBC, NULL

## B Additional Materials and Proofs for Sections 3–5

### B.1 Tolerating Weak Hash Functions

The extent to which we still have to trust MD5 ciphersuites, even if clients are configured to never negotiate a ciphersuite that uses it, is an important practical concern. Assume, for instance, that it is easy to compute MD5 pre-images. An attacker could intercept the client’s encrypted  $pms$  in a session configured to use a strong hash function  $h$  and forward it to the same server in a session configured to use MD5. Once the server starts using the master secret derived using MD5, this could reveal information about the key derived using  $h$ .

To study the extent to which one-wayness of hash functions in  $H$  is sufficient for agile IND-RCCA security we define agile variants of NR-PCA and OW-PCA security: *non-randomizability under plaintext-checking oracle and key extraction oracle attacks* (NR-PCA-KEF) and *one-wayness under plaintext-checking oracle and key extraction oracle attacks* (OW-PCA-KEF).

**Definition 7** (NR-PCA-KEF). *Let  $(\text{keygen}, \text{enc}, \text{dec})$  be an agile unlabeled KEM,  $P$  be a set of agility parameters and  $p^*$  a public parameter (not necessarily in  $P$ ). Let KEF be an agile KEF and  $P'$  a set of*

agility parameters for it (the sets  $P$  and  $P'$  need not be related in any meaningful way). Consider the game below for an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  given oracle access to PCO and EXT:

<b>Game NR-PCA-KEF</b> $\triangleq$ $pk, sk \leftarrow \text{keygen}()$ $k^*, c^* \leftarrow \text{enc}(p^*, pk)$ $c \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{PCO,EXT}}(pk, c^*)$ <b>return</b> $c \neq c^* \wedge k^* = \text{dec}(p^*, sk, c)$	<b>Oracle PCO</b> ( $p, k, c$ ) $\triangleq$ <b>if</b> $p \notin P \vee k = \perp$ <b>then return</b> $\perp$ $k' \leftarrow \text{dec}(p, sk, c)$ <b>return</b> $(k' = k)$	<b>Oracle EXT</b> ( $p, p', \ell, c$ ) $\triangleq$ <b>if</b> $p' \notin P'$ <b>then return</b> $\perp$ $k \leftarrow \text{dec}(p, sk, c)$ <b>if</b> $k = \perp$ <b>then</b> $k \leftarrow p \parallel \$$ <b>return</b> $\text{KEF}(p', k, \ell)$
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The NR-PCA-KEF advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{p^*, P, P'}^{\text{NR-PCA-KEF}}(\mathcal{A})$  is defined as the probability that the NR-PCA-KEF game returns true. The scheme  $(\text{keygen}, \text{enc}, \text{dec})$  is  $(\epsilon, t, \text{KEF}, P, P')$ -secure against NR-PCA-KEF if the advantage of any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time  $t$  is at most  $\epsilon$ .

**Definition 8** (OW-PCA-KEF). Let  $(\text{keygen}, \text{enc}, \text{dec})$  be an agile unlabeled KEM,  $P$  be a set of agility parameters and  $p^*$  a public parameter (not necessarily in  $P$ ). Let  $\text{KEF}$  be an agile KEF and  $P'$  a set of agility parameters for it (the sets  $P$  and  $P'$  need not be related in any meaningful way). Consider the game below for an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  given oracle access to PCO and EXT:

<b>Game OW-PCA-KEF</b> $\triangleq$ $pk, sk \leftarrow \text{keygen}()$ $k^*, c^* \leftarrow \text{enc}(p^*, pk)$ $k \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{PCO,EXT}}(pk, c)$ <b>return</b> $(k = k^*)$	<b>Oracle PCO</b> ( $p, k, c$ ) $\triangleq$ <b>if</b> $p \notin P \vee k = \perp$ <b>then return</b> $\perp$ $k' \leftarrow \text{dec}(p, sk, c)$ <b>return</b> $(k' = k)$	<b>Oracle EXT</b> ( $p, p', \ell, c$ ) $\triangleq$ <b>if</b> $p' \notin P'$ <b>then return</b> $\perp$ $k \leftarrow \text{dec}(p, sk, c)$ <b>if</b> $k = \perp$ <b>then</b> $k \leftarrow p \parallel \$$ <b>return</b> $\text{KEF}(p', k, \ell)$
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The OW-PCA-KEF advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{p^*, P, P'}^{\text{OW-PCA-KEF}}(\mathcal{A})$  is defined as the probability that the OW-PCA-KEF game returns true. The scheme  $(\text{keygen}, \text{enc}, \text{dec})$  is  $(\epsilon, t, \text{KEF}, P, P')$ -secure against OW-PCA-KEF if the advantage of any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time  $t$  is at most  $\epsilon$ .

**Theorem 5** (IND-RCCA from NR-PCA-KEF and OW-PCA-KEF). Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary against the single-challenge RCCA security of the generic TLS ms-KEM with  $p^* = (pv^*, h^*)$  assuming  $\text{KEF}(p^*, \cdot, \cdot)$  is a random oracle. Assume  $\mathcal{A}$  runs in time  $t_{\mathcal{A}}$ , makes at most  $q_{\text{KEF}}$  queries to the random oracle and at most  $q_{\text{DEC}}$  queries to the decryption oracle. Then, there exist a OW-PCA-KEF adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  and an NR-PCA-KEF adversary  $\mathcal{C}$  against the underlying pms-KEM, both running in time  $t_{\mathcal{A}} + O(q_{\text{DEC}} \cdot q_{\text{KEF}})$  such that

$$\text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{RCCA}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq 2 \left( \text{Adv}_{pv^*, P', P \setminus p^*}^{\text{NR-PCA-KEF}}(\mathcal{B}) + \text{Adv}_{pv^*, P', P \setminus p^*}^{\text{OW-PCA-KEF}}(\mathcal{C}) + 2^{|pv| - |pms|} (q_{\text{KEF}} + q_{\text{DEC}}) \right)$$

where  $P' \triangleq \{pv \mid (pv, h) \in P\}$ .

The proof is similar to Theorem 3, except that the reductions simulate  $\text{KEF}(p^*, \cdot, \cdot)$  as a random oracle, while queries of the form  $\text{KEF}(p, k, \ell)$  with  $p \neq p^*$  are answered using the concrete key extraction function. Decryption queries for  $p = (pv, h) \neq p^*$  are answered using  $\text{EXT}(pv, p, \cdot, \cdot)$  and the rest as in Theorem 3.

## B.2 Tolerating Unorthodox Long-term Key Usage

In theory we know from [28, 54] how to define the joint security of encryption and signature schemes. Analogously, a combined signature and key derivation scheme consists of algorithms  $(\text{KeyGen}, \text{Sign}, \text{Verify}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$ . We extend the agile notions of EUF-CMA and IND-RCCA security by giving the attacker additional access to a decryption and signing oracle respectively. Both definitions are parameterized by two sets of agility parameters  $P$  and  $P'$ :

**Definition 9** (Dual-purpose EUF-CMA). *Let  $(\text{KeyGen}, \text{Sign}, \text{Verify})$  be an agile signature scheme,  $\text{Dec}$  the decryption algorithm of a labeled KEM,  $p^*$  a parameter, and  $P$  and  $P'$  sets of parameters; and consider the following forgery game:*

<p><b>Game EUF</b> <math>\triangleq</math>  <math>pk, sk \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}()</math>; <math>M, L := \emptyset</math>  <math>m', \sigma \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{SIGN}, \text{DEC}}(pk)</math>  <b>return</b> <math>m' \notin M \wedge \text{Verify}(p^*, pk, m', \sigma)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle SIGN</b><math>(p, m)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>p \notin P</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>M := M \cup \{m\}</math>  <b>return</b> <math>\text{Sign}(p, sk, m)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle DEC</b><math>(p, \ell, c)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>\ell \in L \vee p \notin P'</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>L := L \cup \{\ell\}</math>  <math>k \leftarrow \text{Dec}(p, sk, \ell, c)</math>  <b>return</b> <math>k</math></p>
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The scheme is  $(\epsilon, t, p^*, P)$ -secure against dual-purpose EUF-CMA if, for any  $\mathcal{A}$  that runs in time  $t$ , the game returns true with probability at most  $\epsilon$ .

**Definition 10** (Dual-purpose IND-RCCA). *Let  $(\text{KeyGen}, \text{Enc}, \text{Dec})$  be an agile labeled KEM,  $\text{Sign}$  a signature algorithm,  $p^*$  a parameter,  $P$  and  $P'$  sets of parameters; and consider the following game:*

<p><b>Game RCCA</b> <math>\triangleq</math>  <math>pk, sk \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}()</math>  <math>K, L := \emptyset</math>  <math>b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}</math>  <math>b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{ENC}, \text{DEC}, \text{SIGN}}(pk)</math>  <b>return</b> <math>(b' = b)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle ENC</b><math>(\ell)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>\ell \in L</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>k_0, c \leftarrow \text{Enc}(p^*, pk, \ell)</math>  <math>k_1 \leftarrow \\$</math>  <math>K(\ell) := K(\ell) \cup \{k_0, k_1\}</math>  <b>return</b> <math>k_b, c</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle DEC</b><math>(p, \ell, c)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>\ell \in L \vee p \notin P</math>  <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>L := L \cup \{\ell\}</math>  <math>k \leftarrow \text{Dec}(p, sk, \ell, c)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>k \in K(\ell)</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <b>return</b> <math>k</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle SIGN</b><math>(p, m)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>p \notin P'</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <b>return</b> <math>\text{Sign}(p, sk, m)</math></p>
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The IND-RCCA advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{RCCA}}(\mathcal{A})$  is defined as  $2 \Pr[\text{RCCA} : b' = b] - 1$ .

The scheme is  $(\epsilon, t, p^*, P)$ -secure against dual-purpose IND-RCCA- $n$  when the advantage of any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time  $t$  and making at most  $n$  queries to ENC is at most  $\epsilon$ .

By and large, our goal in this work is not to minimize the assumptions that TLS relies upon, but to make them explicit and to provide the correct notation for talking in a constructive manner about them. If one is reluctant to make such assumptions about the primitives employed by TLS—as one indeed should be, then one should only consider keys to be *honest* if they have very restricted usages: only decryption, only signing, only for use in server authentication or in client authentication, with one common/DNS name, and no other defined/allowed usages. Proving a version of Theorem 4 that applies to dual-purpose keys, under weaker assumptions than the ones given in this section, is an important open problem.

### B.3 Agile PRFs, Key Derivation, and Finished Messages

An *agile PRF* is a family of keyed functions  $\text{Prf}(p, \cdot, \cdot)$  parameterized by  $p$ . We define the PRF security of  $\text{Prf}$  for a fixed  $p^*$  as the indistinguishability of  $\text{Prf}(p^*, k, \cdot)$  for a uniformly random key  $k$  from a random function, even when given oracle access to  $\text{Prf}(p, k, \cdot)$  for  $p \in P$ , where  $P$  is a set of agility parameters.

**Definition 11** (PRF security). *Let  $\text{Prf}$  be an agile PRF,  $p^*$  a parameter, and  $P$  a set of parameters. Consider the indistinguishability game:*

<p><b>Game PR</b> <math>\triangleq</math>  <math>k \leftarrow \\$</math>; <math>Q := \emptyset</math>  <math>b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}</math>  <math>b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{PRF}}()</math>  <b>return</b> <math>(b' = b)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle PRF</b><math>(p, x)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>p \notin P</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <b>if</b> <math>p \neq p^* \vee \neg b</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\text{Prf}(p, k, x)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>x \notin \text{dom}(Q)</math> <b>then</b> <math>Q(x) \leftarrow \\$</math>  <b>return</b> <math>Q(x)</math></p>
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The PRF advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{PRF}}(\mathcal{A})$  is defined as  $2 \Pr[\text{PR} : b' = b] - 1$ .  $\text{Prf}$  is an  $(\epsilon, t, p^*, P)$ -secure PRF when the advantage of any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time  $t$  is at most  $\epsilon$ .

This definition implicitly requires that the algorithms  $\text{Prf}(p, \cdot, \cdot)$  with  $p \in P$  do not leak the key  $k$ ; we assume that the output of  $\text{Prf}$  is long enough to cover all TLS ciphersuites. This allows us to elide details handled in the MITLS implementation, such as variable output lengths for different agility parameters.

The key-derivation and MAC scheme  $D_p = (\text{Kdf}, \text{Mac})$  of TLS is constructed as:  $\text{Kdf}(p, ms, \ell, r) \triangleq [\text{Prf}(p, ms, \text{"key expansion"} \parallel \ell_S \parallel \ell_C)]_r$  and  $\text{Mac}(p, ms, t, v) \triangleq [\text{Prf}(p, ms, t \parallel v)]_p$ , defined only for  $t = \text{"client finished"}$  or  $t = \text{"server finished"}$ , where  $[\cdot]_r$  and  $[\cdot]_p$  are functions that truncate to the record-key and MAC sizes for the algorithms specified by the parameters  $r$  and  $p$ , respectively.

This truncation of the PRF output is particularly important for finished message computation. The finished message is used to authenticate the transcript of the current handshake, but also to bind handshakes on the same connection together in the renegotiation extension. In the latter settings the adversary may have (partial) control of the PRF key, the master secret of the previous handshake. We thus also consider unkeyed collision security of the  $\text{Prf}$  function.

**Definition 12** (Unkeyed Collision Resistance (UCR)). *Let  $\text{Prf}$  be an agile PRF,  $p^*$  a parameter, and  $P$  a set of parameters. Consider the game:*

**Game UCR**  $\triangleq$   
 $p, k, v, k', v' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}()$   
**return**  $[\text{Prf}(p^*, k, v)]_{p^*} = [\text{Prf}(p, k', v')]_p \wedge (k, v) \neq (k', v')$

The unkeyed collision resistance advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{UCR}}(\mathcal{A})$  is the probability that the game UCR returns true.

We give a definition for a KDF & MAC scheme which in addition to a MAC oracle has  $\text{KDF}_S$ ,  $\text{COMMIT}(\ell, r)$ ,  $\text{KDF}_C(p, \ell, r)$ , and  $\text{KDF}_S(p, \ell, r)$  oracles. The definition is analogous to PRF security, except that  $(p^*, \ell, r)$  queries to  $\text{KDF}_C$  are only answered with a random value (for  $b = 1$ ) if  $(\ell, r)$  was queried to  $\text{COMMIT}$ , and queries to  $\text{KDF}_S$  are answered with the same value when  $\text{KDF}_C$  is queried on  $(p^*, \ell, r)$ .

**Definition 13** (Joint KDF & MAC security). *Let  $\text{Kdf}(p, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$  and  $\text{Mac}(p, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$  be agile functions parameterized by  $p$ ,  $P$  a set of agility parameters, and  $p^*$  a public parameter. Consider the following game played between an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  and the challenger:*

<p><b>Game KDF-MAC</b> <math>\triangleq</math>  <math>x \leftarrow \\$</math>  <math>Q, R, K, S := \emptyset</math>  <math>b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}</math>  <math>b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{COMMIT}, \text{MAC}, \text{KDF}_C, \text{KDF}_S}()</math>  <b>return</b> <math>(b' = b)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle MAC</b><math>(p, t, v)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>p \notin P</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <b>if</b> <math>p \neq p^* \vee \neg b</math> <b>then</b>              <b>return</b> <math>\text{Mac}(p, x, t, v)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>(p, t, v) \notin \text{dom}(Q)</math> <b>then</b>              <math>Q(p, t, v) \leftarrow \\$</math>              <b>return</b> <math>Q(p, t, v)</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle COMMIT</b><math>(\ell, r)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>\ell \in \text{dom}(S)</math> <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>S(\ell) := c</math>; <math>R(\ell) := r</math></p>
<p><b>Oracle KDF<sub>C</sub></b><math>(p, \ell, r)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>p \notin P \vee S(\ell) \in \{d, f\}</math>              <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>k \leftarrow \text{Kdf}(p, x, \ell, r)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>p = p^* \wedge S(\ell) = c \wedge R(\ell) = r</math> <b>then</b>              <b>if</b> <math>b</math> <b>then</b> <math>k \leftarrow \\$_r</math>              <math>S(\ell) := d</math>; <math>K(\ell) := k</math>  <b>else</b> <math>S(\ell) := f</math>  <b>return</b> <math>k</math></p>	<p><b>Oracle KDF<sub>S</sub></b><math>(p, \ell, r)</math> <math>\triangleq</math>  <b>if</b> <math>p \notin P \vee r \neq R(\ell) \vee S(\ell) = f</math>              <b>then return</b> <math>\perp</math>  <math>k \leftarrow \text{Kdf}(p, x, \ell, r)</math>  <b>if</b> <math>p = p^* \wedge b</math> <b>then</b>              <b>if</b> <math>S(\ell) = d</math> <b>then</b>                  <math>k := K(\ell)</math> <b>else</b> <math>k \leftarrow \\$_r</math>  <math>S(\ell) := f</math>  <b>return</b> <math>k</math></p>	

The challenger maintains a state variable  $S(\ell)$  for each label  $\ell$ . The state  $S(\ell)$  is initially  $\perp$ , transitions to  $c$  when the adversary commits to use  $\ell$  with a particular parameter  $r$ , to  $d$  once it is used in a  $\text{KDF}_C$  query,



and finally to  $f$  once it is used in a  $\text{KDF}_S$  query. If this order is not respected, the state is set to  $f$  and the result of any further query with that label is independent of  $b$ . MAC queries can be freely interleaved, and for  $b = 0$  are answered using the shared key  $x$ .

The joint KDF & MAC advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{KDF-MAC}}(\mathcal{A})$ , is  $2 \Pr[\text{KDF-MAC} : b' = b] - 1$ . We say that  $(\text{Kdf}, \text{Mac})$  are jointly  $(\epsilon, t, p^*, P)$ -secure if the advantage of any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  running in time  $t$  is at most  $\epsilon$ .

We confirm the following lemma for the KDF & MAC construction used in TLS, by verifying that  $\text{Prf}$  is used by  $\text{Kdf}$  and  $\text{Mac}$  on disjoint domains.

**Lemma 2** (KDF & MAC). *If  $\text{Prf}$  is an  $(\epsilon, t, p^*, P)$ -secure PRF, then  $(\text{Kdf}, \text{Mac})$  are jointly  $(\epsilon, t', p^*, P)$ -secure, where  $t'$  is  $t$  plus a small cost for multiplexing between different functions.*

Define the advantage  $\text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{UCR-MAC}}(\mathcal{A})$  of an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against the unkeyed collision resistance of  $\text{Mac}$  as the probability that the following game returns **true**:

**Game UCR-MAC**  $\triangleq$   
 $p, t, x, v, x', v' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}()$   
**return**  $\text{Mac}(p^*, x, t, v) = \text{Mac}(p, x', t, v') \wedge (x, v) \neq (x', v') \wedge$   
 $t \in \{\text{“client finished”}, \text{“server finished”}\}$

The collision resistance of  $\text{Mac}$  follows from the unkeyed collision resistance of  $\text{Prf}$ .

**Lemma 3** (UCR MAC). *Given an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against the unkeyed collision resistance of  $\text{Mac}$ , there exists an adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against the unkeyed collision resistance of  $\text{Prf}$  (given explicitly in the proof of this lemma) running roughly in the same time such that*

$$\text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{UCR-MAC}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \text{Adv}_{p^*, P}^{\text{UCR}}(\mathcal{B})$$

*Proof.* Take  $\mathcal{B}() \triangleq p, t, x, v, x', v' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}();$  **return**  $(p, x, t \parallel v, x', t \parallel v')$ . □

From a protocol design viewpoint, more robust, modern constructions such as SP-800-108 additionally hash the target algorithm and key length for the derived key, to ensure that different algorithms always yield (computationally) independent keys. This is however not required by our definition, as it does not idealize keys in case of algorithm mismatch.

**Discussion.** Agreeing on the parameter  $r$  as the key is derived is important for compositional proofs, and in particular to ensure that our model of the handshake fits within our model for the whole TLS protocol. Assume given a generic family of schemes  $(\tilde{\sigma}_r(k, \dots))$  whose algorithms are parameterized by a key  $k$ . These schemes may provide, for instance, authenticated encryption  $(\text{Enc}_r(k, t), \text{Dec}_r(k, c))$ , or more advanced LHAE variants, such as those used in the TLS record layer of the MITLS implementation. Suppose their security is expressed using a game of the form  $k \leftarrow \$; \mathcal{A}^{\tilde{\sigma}_r(k, \cdot)}$ . Then, for each safely-derived key  $k$  for algorithm  $r$ , relying on the fact that *all* users of  $k$  will use that key with (at most) the algorithm  $r$ , we can create a shared instance for  $r$  and continue the proof with the corresponding game—provided the algorithms denoted by  $r$  are secure in isolation. Conversely, if both parties may start using the same fresh key  $k$ , or parts of it, with (potentially) different algorithms  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ , then we would need a joint, stronger, agile security assumption for these schemes.

## B.4 Proof of Theorem 4

**Initial hybrids** The code of [9] implements cryptographic libraries for signatures, the *ms*-KEM, and key derivation. In addition to being compiled in the concrete way, these libraries can be compiled with an `#ideal` flag; the resulting code then expresses an idealized functionality, whose stronger properties can be checked and used for automated verification. For example, for any instance with an honest key and a strong algorithm, the ideal implementation of signatures rejects the messages that were not previously signed. Similarly, the ideal code for key encapsulation and key derivation provides fresh random master secrets and record keys. Each idealization step may depend on others. For example, key derivation assumes that the master secret is random; it will thus be idealized only after idealizing key encapsulation. (These dependencies are checked by type-checking.) Like ideal functionalities, idealized libraries can intuitively be understood as implemented by a trusted third party that performs the checks and distributes perfectly random keys to the instances involved. In the `MITLS` code, we implement them (in code flagged by `#ideal`) using table lookup with tables only accessible from the `MITLS` implementation.

`MITLS` provides multi-key, a.k.a. multi-user [8], variants of the primitives described and proven secure in §2, §3, and §B.3. Let  $\alpha_{\mathcal{L}}$ ,  $\mathcal{L} \in \{\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D}\}$  be library specific strength predicates. For honest keys, library  $\mathcal{L}$  compiled with the `#ideal` flag set provides ideal functionality for all agility parameters  $a_{\mathcal{L}}$  for which  $\alpha_{\mathcal{L}}$  holds. In addition to implementing weak algorithms  $\mathcal{L}$  also support dishonest keys through its own implementation of `KeyInject` queries. For dishonest keys, the `#ideal` flag does not change the behavior of the library. Formally, for each  $(\epsilon, t, \alpha_{\mathcal{L}})$ -secure library, we prove that the implementations compiled with and without the `#ideal` flag are computationally indistinguishable.

Next, we show how to match these requirements to the definitions and proofs in this paper, relying on hybrid-arguments to deal with multiples instances. Let  $P_s, P_e, P$  be algorithm specific agility sets, either defined statically for the worst case, or dynamically updated as part of the experiment, as discussed in §5. For conciseness, we omit  $P_s^*, P_e^*, P^*$  restrictions for indexes when they are clear from the context.

**Lemma 4** (Signature library). *If for all  $s, p$  for which  $\alpha_{\mathcal{S}}(s, p)$ , the signature scheme  $S_s$  is  $(\epsilon_{s,p}, t_{s,p}, p, P_s)$ -secure against *EUFCMA*, then the signature library  $\mathcal{S}$  is  $(\sum_s \sum_p n_s \epsilon_{s,p}, t, \alpha_{\mathcal{S}})$ -secure, letting  $s$  and  $p$  range over all strong algorithmic choices,  $n_s$  bound the number of keys generated for algorithm  $s$ , and  $t_{s,p}$  be at most  $t$  plus the maximum cost of the corresponding reductions  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$ .*

**PROOF SKETCH:** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary against  $\mathcal{S}$ . The proof is via a hybrid argument over honest signature public keys for strong algorithms. Assume agility parameters are totally ordered by  $<$ . Define the hybrid library  $\mathcal{S}_{i,j}$  as follows: up to the  $i$ -th honest public key and any agility parameter, and for the  $i$ -th honest key and  $p \leq j$ , it behaves as if `#ideal` is set. For the  $i$ -th honest key and agility parameter  $p > j$ , and for the rest of the honest keys, behaves as if `#ideal` is not set. Let  $s$  be the public key algorithm of the  $i$ -th honest signature key. We describe a reduction  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$  that uses an  $\epsilon_{s,j}$  difference in the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  between two hybrids to break *EUFCMA* security. For the  $i$ -th public key, the reduction uses the public key from the *EUFCMA* game. The reduction uses its oracle `SIGN` to sign using the corresponding private key.

Until  $\mathcal{A}$  produces a forgery for the  $i$ -th key and agility parameter  $j$ , the reduction  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$  behaves exactly like hybrid  $\mathcal{S}_{i,j-1}$  or  $\mathcal{S}_{i,j}$  (respectively hybrid  $\mathcal{S}_{i-1,p_{max}}$  or  $\mathcal{S}_{i,j}$  at key borders). When  $\mathcal{A}$  terminates,  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$  simply forwards the output of  $\mathcal{A}$ , and thus succeeds when  $\mathcal{A}$  does. □

The key encapsulation library  $\mathcal{E}$  is a multi-scheme and multi-key version of the agile *ms*-KEM defined and constructed in §3. Like Definition 4, the  $\mathcal{E}$  library provides a `Commit(pk, ℓ, p)` function which, when

the  $\#$ ideal flag is set, calls Enc to derive a KEM ciphertext and a master secret  $k_0$  and samples a fake master secret  $k_1$ . It stores  $(pk, \ell, e, p_{\mathcal{E}}, c_0, k_0, k_1)$  to answer both encryption and decryption queries related to public key  $pk$  and label  $\ell$ .

**Lemma 5** (Key encapsulation library). *If for all  $e, p$  for which  $\alpha_{\mathcal{E}}(e, p)$ , the key encapsulation scheme  $E_e$  is  $(\epsilon_{e,p}, t_{e,p}, p, P_e)$ -secure against IND-CRCCA, then the key encapsulation library  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $(\sum_e \sum_p n_e \epsilon_{e,p}, t, \alpha_{\mathcal{E}})$ -secure, letting  $e$  and  $p$  range over all strong algorithms,  $n_e$  bound the number of keys generated for algorithm  $e$ , and  $t_{e,p}$  be at most  $t$  plus the maximum cost of the corresponding reductions  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$ .*

PROOF SKETCH: Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary against  $\mathcal{E}$ . The proof is via a hybrid argument over honest KEM keys for strong algorithms. Assume agility parameters are totally ordered by  $<$ . Consider hybrid libraries  $\mathcal{E}_{i,j}$  defined as follows: up to the  $i$ -th honest public key,  $\mathcal{E}_{i,j}$  uses KEMs with random master secrets in safe instances. For the  $i$ -th honest key and  $p \leq j$  it uses random master secrets in safe instances; for  $p > j$  it uses concretely generated master secrets. For the rest of public keys, it uses KEMs with concretely generated master secrets.

Let  $e$  be the public key algorithm of  $i$ -th honest KEM. We describe a reduction  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$  that uses an  $\epsilon_{e,j}$  difference in the probabilities of  $\mathcal{A}$  between two hybrids to break IND-CRCCA security. For the  $i$ -th honest public key  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$  use the public key of the CRCCA game. Upon a call to  $\text{Commit}(pk_i, \ell, j)$ , call  $\text{COMMIT}(\ell)$ . Upon a call to Enc for the  $i$ -th public key and agility parameter  $j$ , call  $\text{ENC}(\ell)$  to obtain  $c$  and  $k$ . For other agility parameters, run the concrete KEM encryption on demand. For the  $i$ -th public key, the reduction uses calls to DEC to compute the key returned by the Dec library function. Depending on the bit  $b$  of CRCCA, reduction  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$  behaves exactly like hybrid  $\mathcal{E}_{i,j-1}$  or  $\mathcal{E}_{i,j}$  (respectively hybrid  $\mathcal{E}_{i-1, p_{\max}}$  or  $\mathcal{E}_{i,j}$  at key borders).  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$  simply forwards the guess of  $A$ . □

The key derivation and finish MAC library  $\mathcal{D}$  is a multi-key (multi- $ms$ ) version of the agile joint KDF & MAC scheme defined and constructed in §B.3.

**Lemma 6** (Key derivation and finish MAC library). *If for all  $p$  for which  $\alpha_{\mathcal{D}}(p)$  the joint KDF & MAC scheme  $D_p$  is  $(\epsilon_p, t_p, p, P)$ -secure, then the key derivation and Finished MAC library  $\mathcal{D}$  is  $(n_{ms} \sum_p \epsilon_p, t, \alpha_{\mathcal{D}})$ -secure, letting  $p$  range over all strong algorithms,  $n_{ms}$  bound the number of (honest) master secrets, and  $t_p$  be at most  $t$  plus the maximum cost of the corresponding reductions  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$ .*

PROOF SKETCH: Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary against  $\mathcal{D}$ . The proof is via a hybrid argument over the safe KDF keys  $ms$  and their strong algorithms. Assume agility parameters are totally ordered by  $<$ . Consider hybrid libraries  $\mathcal{D}_{i,j}$  defined as follows: up to the  $i$ -th master secret,  $\mathcal{D}_{i,j}$  randomly samples keys using  $\text{KeyGen}_r()$  and produces random MAC tags (idealized output). For the  $i$ -th master secret with  $p \leq j$  it also provides idealized output; for  $p > j$  it uses concretely generated keys and MAC tags. For honest master secrets greater than  $i$ , it uses KDFs with concretely generated keys and tags.

We now describe a reduction  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$  that uses an  $\epsilon_j$  difference in the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  between two hybrids to break joint KDF & MAC security. For the  $i$ -th master secret,  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$  uses the KDFMAC game. It calls  $\text{COMMIT}(\ell, r)$  when the corresponding Commit function is called in the library. It calls  $\text{KDF}_C$  to obtain the keys of client epochs and  $\text{KDF}_S$  to obtain the keys of server epochs. The reduction uses calls to MAC to obtain MAC tags for both client and server Finished messages. Depending on the bit  $b$  of KDFMAC, the reduction behaves exactly like hybrid  $\mathcal{D}_{i,j-1}$  or  $\mathcal{D}_{i,j}$  (respectively hybrid  $\mathcal{D}_{i-1, p_{\max}}$  or  $\mathcal{D}_{i,j}$  at master secret borders).  $\mathcal{B}_{i,j}$  simply forwards the guess of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

In the last hybrid the output for safe keys and strong algorithm parameters is random. □

In addition the idealized functionality guarantees for all  $p^*$  such that  $\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}(p^*)$  that  $\text{MAC}(\cdot, \cdot, t, \cdot)$  is injective for  $t = \text{"client finished"}$  and  $t = \text{"server finished"}$ , i.e.  $\forall p^*, p, ms, ms', log, log' : \alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}(p^*) \wedge \text{MAC}(p^*, ms, t, log) = \text{MAC}(p, ms', t, log') \Rightarrow ms = ms' \wedge log = log'$ .

**Lemma 7** (Injectivity of key derivation and finish MAC library). *Given an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  with advantage  $\text{Adv}_{\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}}^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{A})$  in breaking the injectivity of the key derivation and finished MAC library  $\mathcal{D}$ , one can construct an adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  (given explicitly in the proof of this lemma) such that*

$$\text{Adv}_{\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}}^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \max_{p|\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}(p)} \text{Adv}_{p,P}^{\text{UCR-MAC}}(\mathcal{B})$$

where  $\text{Adv}_{p,P}^{\text{UCR-MAC}}(\mathcal{B})$  is the advantage against the unkeyed collision resistance of the MAC scheme in  $D_p$ .

PROOF SKETCH: For  $\mathcal{A}$  to successfully break injectivity, he has to make library calls such that  $\text{MAC}(p^*, ms, t, log) = \text{MAC}(p, ms', t, log')$ ,  $\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}(p^*)$ ,  $(ms, log) \neq (ms', log')$ ,  $t \in \{\text{"client finished"}, \text{"server finished"}\}$ . If this is the case, adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  returns  $p, t, ms, log, ms', log'$  as a collision for  $\text{Mac}$  for some strong parameter  $p^*$ , and thus:

$$\text{Adv}_{\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}}^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \max_{p^*|\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}(p^*)} \text{Adv}_{p^*,P}^{\text{UCR-MAC}}(\mathcal{B}) \quad \square$$

We are now ready to employ these lemmas in the proof of our main theorem. We look both at full (sessions) and abbreviated handshakes (resumptions) at once, as the proof and the bounds are shared.

PROOF OUTLINE. Global type checking guarantees that libraries are called with correct parameters. For instance the ciphertext parameter in a call to the  $\text{Dec}$  function of a DH KEM must be elements of the right prime order subgroup. This is enforced by checks when parsing network messages.

(1) *Uniqueness.* Let  $n$  be the total number of epochs. Irrespective of timestamps, the length of the randomness in client and server nonces is 224 bits. The probability that  $n$  randomly generated 224 bit values give rise to a collision is approximately  $\binom{n}{2}2^{-224}$ . This is the worst case as it assumes that the adversary controls half of  $\ell$  and that all of them are of the same role. We thus bound  $\text{Adv}^{\text{U}}(\mathcal{A})$  by  $n^22^{-225}$ . This also implies uniqueness both for sessions and resumptions.  $\square$

(2) *Verified Safety.* We need to show that, if there is a peer signature, its public key is honest, and its signing algorithm is strong, then there is a peer session with the same assignments to all peer-exchange variables.

For anonymous peers there is nothing to prove: they do not have public keys and their communication partners cannot verify the safety of their session. Conversely, the servers of static ciphersuites like TLS-RSA and static Diffie-Hellman have only static server exchange values: their safety may be independently inferred by the application, e.g. by validating their certificate chains, but this is outside our TLS handshake model. This leaves two cases that require a reduction proof to agile EUF CMA (Definition 1): Clients using ephemeral Diffie-Hellman verify a signature on the server's ephemeral DH contribution.<sup>5</sup> Conversely, servers with authenticated clients verify a signature on the clients transcript up to sending the `ClientKeyExchange` fragment. Since we allow the same signature keys to be used both by clients and servers, we consider both cases at once. The proof involves two games.

- *Game 1* is the original verified safety game, in which  $\mathcal{A}$  interacts with the TLS handshake protocol by calling `KeyGen`, `KeyInject`, `Init`, `Send`, and `Control` any number of times, in any order.

<sup>5</sup>Some legacy ciphersuites also support ephemeral variants of RSA key transport; they could be modeled in a similar fashion, but are not supported by MITLS.

- *Game 2* is the same as Game 1, except that signature verification is corrected to fail (irrespective of the tag) when the signature scheme is strong, the signing key honest, and yet (1) for client verification on  $pk_e$ , there is no server epoch that assigns  $pk_e$  to its server-exchange variable; and (2) for server verification of the log till `CertificateVerify` excluded, there is no client epoch with a matching log.

In this final game, we check that the attacker never wins, because

- (1) Clients and servers sign only payloads formatted from their local exchange variables and logs.
- (2) Client and server signed payloads have disjoint formats, so their respective signatures cannot be confused.
- (3) Client-signed payloads are injective in the inputs to the MS computation, so the server will compute and assign the same client-exchange variable.
- (4) Server-signed payloads are injective in (i.e., unambiguously determines) the DH KEM, so the client will assign the same server-exchange variable. In this presentation, we do not support both DHE and ECDHE simultaneously, so formally there is no risk of confusing their signed exponentials [48]; otherwise we would require that the honestly-signed payloads for DHE and ECDHE have disjoint formats and that clients in addition to verifying signatures check for these format differences.

As the assumptions in Theorem 4 are sufficient to derive that library  $\mathcal{S}$  is  $(\epsilon_{\mathcal{S}}, t_{\mathcal{S}}, \alpha_{\mathcal{S}})$ -secure, we have that the difference of the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is bounded by  $\epsilon_{\mathcal{S}}$ . Moreover, because in Game 2 the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  is zero, we have  $\mathbf{Adv}^{\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \sum_s \sum_p n_s \epsilon_{s,p}$ , as required.  $\square$

(To prove Verified safety we only had to consider sessions. Our proof does not rely on the freshness of the nonces. In a more general model, e.g. when the adversary can eventually decrypt KEM ciphertexts, we would insert an intermediate game between Games 1 and 2 and then rely on the freshness of the verifier's nonce to exclude KEM replay attacks.)

(3) *Agile Key Derivation.* The proof proceeds using a sequence of games. Let  $\Pr[G_i : b' = 1]$  be the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs 1 in Game  $i$ .

- *Game 1.* This is the agile key derivation game for  $b = 0$ .
- *Game 2.* This is the same as Game 1, except that we abort if there are colliding nonces. We bound the probability of aborting by the Uniqueness advantage:  $\Pr[G_1 : b' = 1] - \Pr[G_2 : b' = 1] \leq \mathbf{Adv}^{\mathcal{U}}(\mathcal{A})$ .
- *Game 3.* The same as Game 1 except that we set the `#ideal` flag in  $\mathcal{E}$ . As the assumptions in Theorem 4 are sufficient to derive that library  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $(\epsilon_{\mathcal{E}}, t_{\mathcal{E}}, \alpha_{\mathcal{E}})$ -secure, we have that

$$\Pr[G_2 : b' = 1] - \Pr[G_3 : b' = 1] \leq \epsilon_{\mathcal{E}} = \sum_e \sum_p n_e \epsilon_{e,p}.$$

- *Game 4.* Same as Game 3, except that we set the `#ideal` flag in  $\mathcal{D}$ . This means that we sample fresh keys (in exactly the same way as in the  $b = 1$  branch).

As the assumptions in Theorem 4 are sufficient to derive that library  $\mathcal{D}$  is  $(\epsilon_{\mathcal{D}}, t_{\mathcal{D}}, \alpha_{\mathcal{D}})$ -secure, we have that

$$\Pr[G_3 : b' = 1] - \Pr[G_4 : b' = 1] \leq \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}} = n_{ms} \sum_p \epsilon_p.$$

Collision resistance is not necessary here.

- *Game 5.* Same as Game 4 except that we unset the  $\#$ ideal flag in  $\mathcal{E}$ . This means that we revert to generating master secrets for the  $b = 0$  branch as in Game 2. Again, as the assumptions in Theorem 4 are sufficient to derive that library  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $(\epsilon_{\mathcal{E}}, t_{\mathcal{E}}, \alpha_{\mathcal{E}})$ -secure, we have that

$$\Pr[G_4 : b' = 1] - \Pr[G_5 : b' = 1] \leq \epsilon_{\mathcal{E}} = \sum_e \sum_p n_e \epsilon_{e,p}.$$

- *Game 6.* Same as Game 5, but we revert to allowing collisions on  $\ell$ . We bound the probability of aborting by the Uniqueness advantage:  $\Pr[G_5 : b' = 1] - \Pr[G_6 : b' = 1] \leq \mathbf{Adv}^U(\mathcal{A})$ . Game 6 behaves just like the agile key derivation game for  $b = 1$ , thus

$$\mathbf{Adv}^K(\mathcal{A}) \leq \Pr[G_1 : b' = 1] - \Pr[G_6 : b' = 1] \leq 2 \cdot \left( \mathbf{Adv}^U(\mathcal{A}) + \sum_e \sum_p n_e \epsilon_{e,p} \right) + n_{ms} \sum_p \epsilon_p. \quad \square$$

(To prove Agile Key Derivation we had to consider sessions and resumptions simultaneously. Only changes in Game 3 and Game 5 do not affect resumptions, as the master secret is reused from the resumed session.)

(4) *Agreement.* The proof proceeds using a sequence of games.

- *Games 1-4* are the same as the corresponding games for agile key derivation, thus

$$\mathbf{Adv}^{G_1}(\mathcal{A}) - \mathbf{Adv}^{G_4}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \mathbf{Adv}^U(\mathcal{A}) + \epsilon_{\mathcal{E}} + \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}}.$$

In Game 4 MACs of safe epochs are generated at random. Recall that the safe renegotiation extension requires that the log includes the MAC of the log of prior epochs. Here the idealizations justified using unkeyed collision resistance are crucial as these prior epochs may not be safe. We let  $\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}$  be a predicate that is always true. This means that we authenticate all assignments up to the current epoch and thus

$$\mathbf{Adv}^{G_4}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \mathbf{Adv}_{\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}}^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{B}) + 2 \cdot \left( \binom{n}{2} 2^{-\min_p |\text{Mac}_p|} \right) \leq \mathbf{Adv}_{\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}}^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{B}) + n^2 \cdot 2^{-\min_p |\text{Mac}_p|}$$

by the collision probability of MAC tags and thus

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Adv}^I(\mathcal{A}) &\leq \epsilon_{\mathcal{E}} + \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}} + \mathbf{Adv}_{\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}}^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{B}) + n^2 \cdot 2^{-\min_p |\text{Mac}_p|} \\ &\leq \mathbf{Adv}^U(\mathcal{A}) + \sum_e \sum_p n_e \epsilon_{e,p} + n_{ms} \sum_p \epsilon_p + \mathbf{Adv}_{\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}}^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{B}) + n^2 \cdot 2^{-\min_p |\text{Mac}_p|}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

(To prove Agreement we had to consider sessions and resumptions simultaneously. Only the changes in Game 3 did not affect resumptions, as the master secret is reused from the resumed session.)

By taking the maximum of these bounds, we conclude

$$\mathbf{Adv}_{\alpha}^{\text{TLS}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \sum_s \sum_p n_s \epsilon_{s,p} + \sum_e \sum_p n_e \epsilon_{e,p} + n_{ms} \sum_p \epsilon_p + \mathbf{Adv}_{\alpha'_{\mathcal{D}}}^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{B}) + n^2 \left( 2^{-225} + 2^{-\min_p |\text{Mac}_p|} \right). \quad \square$$

## B.5 Additional Handshake Security Properties

**Definition 14** (Additional Handshake Games). *Let  $\Pi$  be a handshake protocol and  $\mathcal{A}$  an adversary that calls  $\Pi$ 's oracles any number of times, in any order. Consider the following security properties:*



- (1) **Forward Secure Verified Safety:** To model forward secrecy, give  $\mathcal{A}$  an additional action `Corrupt` that returns the private key of a long-term key pair and marks the corresponding public key as no longer honest; otherwise the definition is unchanged from verified safety.  
Let  $\text{Adv}^{\text{FS}}(\mathcal{A})$  be the probability that one epoch has the following properties when  $\mathcal{A}$  terminates:  $\alpha(a) = 1$ ; the public key is honest for the signing algorithm indicated by  $a$ ; and the assignment to the the peer exchange value is not honest (i.e. not assigned by any peer);
- (2) **Raw Key Derivation:** depending on a random bit  $b$ , replace the record key assigned in safe epochs with a fresh  $k$  of maximum length, i.e. as produced by `Prf`, assigning the same value to epochs that have the same identifier  $\ell$ , algorithms `kdf(a)` and exchange variables or resumption identifier.  
Let  $\text{Adv}^{\text{R}}(\mathcal{A}) = 2p - 1$  where  $p$  is the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  returns  $b$ .
- (3) **Agile Forward Secure Key Derivation:** give  $\mathcal{A}$  access to an additional oracle `Corrupt` that returns the private key of a long-term key pair; depending on a random bit  $b$ , replace the record key assigned in safe ephemeral epochs with matching algorithm  $r$  with a fresh  $k \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(r)$ , assigning the same value to epochs that have the same identifier  $\ell$ , algorithms `kdf(a)` and exchange variables or resumption identifier.  
Let  $\text{Adv}^{\text{F}}(\mathcal{A}) = 2p - 1$  where  $p$  is the probability that  $\mathcal{A}$  returns  $b$ .  
(Analogously to above, define Raw Forward Secure Key Derivation by not require matching record algorithms  $r$  and replace the keys with fresh random values of maximum key length.)

*Forward Secure Verified Safety.* The proof of forward secure verified safety is identical to the proof of verified safety, as it is not affected by the corruption of long-term KEM keys and as nothing needs to be proven about corrupted signature keys.

*Forward Secure Agile Key Derivation.* The proof of forward secure key derivation is analogous to agile key derivation, except that in Game 3 and Game 5 only ephemeral sessions are idealized while in Game 4 only the keys derived from master secrets generated in ephemeral sessions are idealized. This means that in the proof static KEM keys are treated as dishonest by the  $\mathcal{E}$  library.

*Raw (Forward Secure) Key Derivation.* The protocol in Figure 1 does not meet the *raw key derivation* property if KDF returns different keys for different record algorithms, as is the case in TLS since keys are cut to the required length. Raw forward security can be recovered by returning constant-size keys. The proof is similar to the proof above, except that the reduction calls `Commit` for both the client and the server with an  $a$  with a constant record algorithm. Note that *Agile Key Derivation* is not sufficient for providing guarantees for *False Start* as it guarantees that the same record keying material will never be used with different record algorithms. Instead, *False Start* requires *Raw Key Derivation* security for the handshake and stronger agile security properties for record algorithms that may share raw keys.

## C Verified Reference Implementation of the miTLS Handshake

We refer to Bhargavan et al. [9, §2] for a description of the type-based cryptographic verification method used for miTLS. The full modular structure of the miTLS implementation is depicted in Figure 3 and the protocol features it supports are listed in Table 1. We highlight four aspects of the miTLS handshake implementation and our proofs, before presenting performance results.

### C.1 Agility Parameters

The various cryptographic algorithms, protocol versions, and extensions supported by the implementation are defined in the modules: *TLSConstants* and *Extensions*. The module *TLSInfo* specifies agility

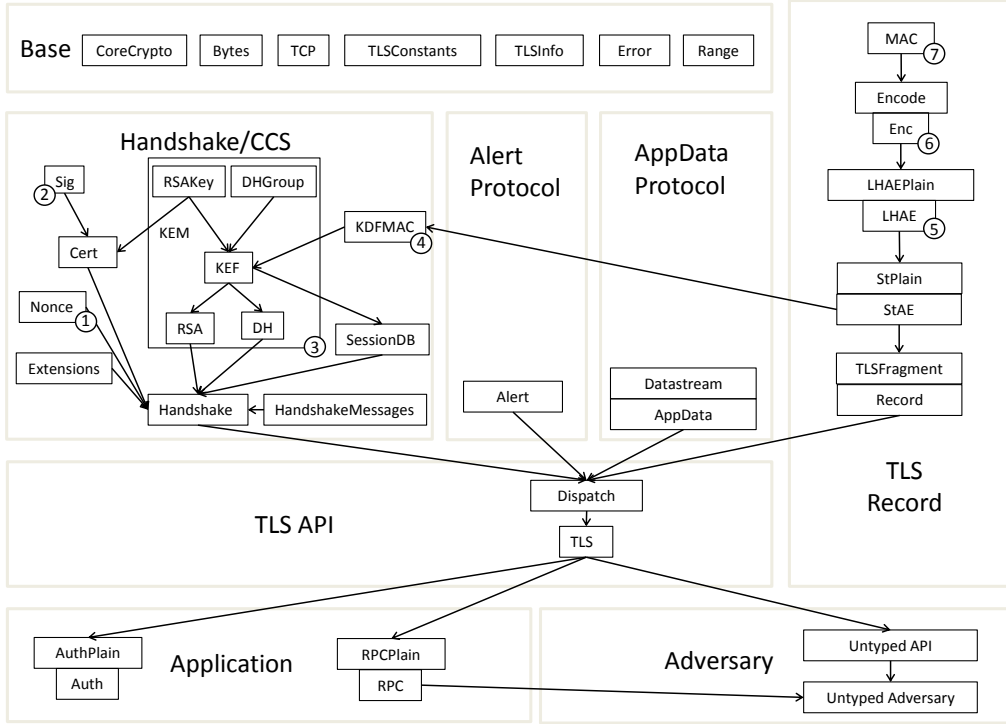


Figure 3: Modular structure of mTLS, and main sequence of game for its security proof.

parameters for various cryptographic constructions and indexes and data structures to represent sessions and connections. Its interface defines a series of predicates that define the strength various algorithms (e.g. *StrongKDF*, *StrongAE*), the honesty of various long-term keys and short-term secrets (e.g. *HonestSig*, *HonestPMS*), and safety for epochs.

## C.2 The Handshake API

The application can control the TLS client and server by calling functions in the *TLS* module, which in turn calls the relevant functions in the *Handshake* module. The main functions in this interface are:

```

val init: rl:Role → c:config → (ci:CI * s:(;ci)state){ Config(ci,s) = c ...}
val authorize: r:Role → si:SessionInfo → unit { Authorize(r,si)}
val resume: nextSID:sessionID → c:config → (ci:CI * s:(;ci)state){ Config(ci,s) = c ...}

```

This interface formally corresponds to the adversary’s *Control* interface. The *init* function creates a connection and initiates the first handshake on it. The *authorize* function enables the application to inspect and authorize a peer’s certificate (and other session parameters) before the handshake is completed. Once a handshake is completed, the application may send data on the new epoch, but we do not show those record-layer functions here. An application may resume a previous session over a new connection by calling *resume*. Other function (not shown here) allow the application to renegotiate and resume sessions over the same connection.

Table 1: Supported protocol versions, ciphersuites and extensions.

Protocol Versions	Key exchange	Signature	Record encryption	Hash	Extensions
TLS 1.2	RSA	RSA	AES_256_GCM	SHA384	Secure renegotiation
TLS 1.1	DHE	DSA	AES_128_GCM	SHA256	Extended length-hiding
TLS 1.0	DH		AES_256_CBC	SHA	Session hashes
SSL3	DH_anon		AES_128_CBC	MD5	Secure resumption
			3DES_EDE_CBC		
			RC4_128		

### C.3 Message Formats

After initialization, the *Handshake* module listens to messages from the network, which represent the adversary’s *Send* interface. It parses each message and then calls the relevant function to modify the handshake state and adds the message to the log for eventual authentication in the Finished (and CertificateVerify) messages.

The *HandshakeMessages* module constructs and parses handshake messages. Detailed message formats are traditionally ignored in protocol models and cryptographic proofs, but are crucial in TLS to establish *Agreement*, which depends on both the client and server having the same parsed interpretation of their Handshake message logs. To give an example, the first message in the log, ClientHello, has the following format:

```

struct {
  ProtocolVersion client_version;
  Random random;
  SessionID session_id;
  CipherSuite cipher_suites<2..216-2>;
  CompressionMethod compression_methods<1..28-1>;
  select (extensions_present) {
    case false: struct {};
    case true: Extension extensions<0..216-1>;
  };
} ClientHello;

```

To ensure that this message can be parsed unambiguously at both client and server, we define a logical function *ClientHelloMsg*(*pv,crand,sid,cs,cl,ext*) that precisely details this message format. We then prove that the functions in *HandshakeMessages* that generate and parse client hello messages obey this logical specification. For example:

```

val clientHelloBytes: c:config → cr:random → sid:sessionID → ext:bytes → m:bytes { B(m) =
  ClientHelloMsg(c.maxVer,cr,sid,c.ciphersuites,c.compressions,ext) }

```

Then, we prove that the logical function is injective, so that there is a unique way to parse its components.

```

theorem !pv,crand,sid,cs,cl,ext,pv',crand',sid',cs',cl',ext'.
  ClientHelloMsg(pv,crand,sid,cs,cl,ext) = ClientHelloMsg(pv',crand',sid',cs',cl',ext') ⇔
  (pv = pv' ∧ crand = crand' ∧ ...)

```

Finally, we extend this injectivity theorem to the full handshake log. Any two equal logs must begin with the same ClientHello message, and hence with the same parameters. More generally, we show that they agree on all the handshake parameters and hence on all the variable assignments in the current epoch.

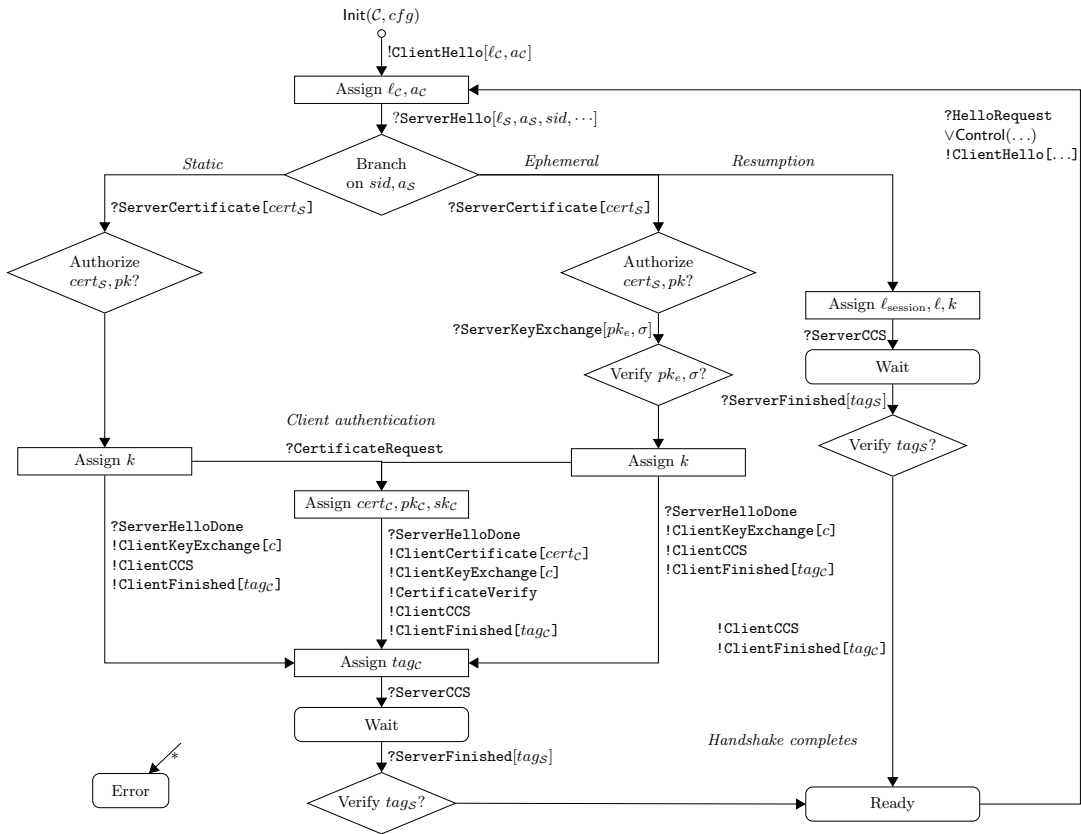


Figure 4: State machine of the client handshake module.

## C.4 State Machine

The bulk of the protocol logic is encoded in the handshake state machine, as depicted in Figure 4. Encoding and verifying such a complex state machine is a challenge—not only does it implement different control flow paths for different key exchanges, different protocol versions, and client authentication modes, it must also be ready to receive messages that trigger any handshake at any time.

In such code, it is easy to make some implementation decisions that end up bypassing security. For example, if a client renegotiates a full handshake with the server, then during this second handshake it may continue to receive data over the connection established from the first handshake. It should accept this data until it receives the new ChangeCipherSpec message, at which point it should stop accepting data until the handshake is complete, since new keys have been committed on but not confirmed. However, many TLS implementations make the mistake of accepting data even in this inconsistent state. The mTLS implementation carefully enforces such state machine invariants.

As a second example, suppose a client has sent its Finished message and is waiting for the server’s Finished message. It is tempting for the client to start sending its data already to reduce the latency of the TLS connection. This is the design of the TLS False Start extension, and a similar rationale is used in the TLS NPN NextProtocolMessage. In both cases, if the ciphersuite negotiated is strong enough, the confidentiality of the data being sent seems to be preserved. But cryptographically, it is difficult to justify a design where a client and server may use the same keys with different algorithms. Moreover, we

KEX	Ciphersuite		F# (BC)		F# (EVP)		OpenSSL		Oracle JSSE	
	Enc	MAC	HS/s	MiB/s	HS/s	MiB/s	HS/s	MiB/s	HS/s	MiB/s
RSA	RC4	MD5	268.22	43.44	273.81	89.54	1257.50	255.99	410.55	64.59
RSA	RC4	SHA	272.32	38.13	270.84	84.76	1214.58	216.20	419.67	59.47
RSA	3DES	SHA	259.86	8.54	272.32	18.82	1147.40	22.12	383.58	10.47
RSA	AES128	SHA	266.23	22.84	269.96	50.10	1121.55	261.74	406.55	58.84
RSA	AES128	SHA256	268.80	19.37	271.13	43.12	1121.56	122.36	401.56	47.87
RSA	AES256	SHA	261.77	20.11	271.13	41.21	1185.66	221.06	-	-
RSA	AES256	SHA256	257.45	17.39	270.84	35.94	1087.29	111.88	-	-
DHE	3DES	SHA	20.83	8.46	20.96	18.32	336.92	22.19	-	-
DHE	AES128	SHA	21.02	22.69	20.85	47.72	343.43	277.64	-	-
DHE	AES128	SHA256	20.94	19.16	20.84	43.46	338.76	123.19	-	-
DHE	AES256	SHA	20.56	20.12	20.95	40.04	344.86	246.14	-	-
DHE	AES256	SHA256	21.11	17.62	20.79	35.69	339.22	113.37	-	-

Figure 5: Performance benchmarks (OpenSSL 1.0.1e as server).

found several conditions where such encrypted data may be sent too optimistically, and may be leaked to a network-based adversary. The mITLS implementation strictly forbids such early data transmission.

We verify that the mITLS state machine preserves its logical invariants; this proof is for a 1,700-line program module and requires the use of an SMT solver. We also verify that the state machine treats all secrets parametrically, as a precondition to the game-based transformations of earlier sections.

## C.5 Performance Evaluation

We evaluate the performance of the mITLS implementation, written in F# and linked to the Bouncy Castle C# and the OpenSSL EVP cryptographic providers, against two popular TLS implementations: OpenSSL 1.0.1e, written in C and using its own aforementioned cryptographic libraries (EVP), and Oracle JSSE 1.7, written in Java and using the SunJSSE cryptographic provider.

We tested clients and servers for each implementation against one another, running on the same host to minimize network effects. Figure 5 reports our results for different clients and ciphersuites with OpenSSL as server. We measured (1) the number of handshakes completed per second; and (2) the average throughput provided on the transfer of a 400 MB random data file.

At first glance, when comparing to OpenSSL, these results highlight that the mITLS reference implementation has been designed primarily for modular verification, and has not been optimized for speed. For example, all buffers are implemented using plain functional byte arrays which involve a lot of dynamic allocation and copying as record fragments are processed. However, when compared to VM-based languages, the slow-down is less prominent (order of magnitude of 2 for JSSE), and we consistently outperform the rudimentary TLS client distributed with Bouncy Castle. Moreover, when changing the mITLS crypto provider from BouncyCastle to OpenSSL EVP, one can notice that throughput is then 1.5 faster in the mITLS implementation than in the JSSE case.