

Round and Communication Efficient Unconditionally-Secure MPC with $t < n/3$ in Partially Synchronous Network

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Abstract. In this work, we study unconditionally-secure multi-party computation (MPC) tolerating $t < n/3$ corruptions, where n is the total number of parties involved. In this setting, it is well known that if the underlying network is *completely asynchronous*, then one can achieve only *statistical security*; moreover it is *impossible* to ensure *input provision* and consider inputs of all the honest parties. The best known statistically-secure asynchronous MPC (AMPC) with $t < n/3$ requires a communication of $\Omega(n^5)$ field elements per multiplication. We consider a *partially synchronous* setting, where the parties are assumed to be globally synchronized initially for few rounds and then the network becomes completely asynchronous. In such a setting, we present a MPC protocol, which requires $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ communication per multiplication while ensuring input provision. Our MPC protocol relies on a new four round, communication efficient statistical *verifiable secret-sharing* (VSS) protocol with broadcast communication complexity *independent* of the number of secret-shared values.

1 Introduction

Threshold unconditionally-secure multiparty computation (MPC) is a fundamental problem in secure distributed computing [2, 8, 12, 26, 36, 38]. Informally, an MPC protocol enables a set of n mutually distrusting parties to jointly and securely compute a publicly known function f of their private inputs over some finite field \mathbb{F} , even in the presence of a *computationally unbounded active adversary* Adv , who can corrupt any t out of the n parties. Let the parties be connected by pair-wise secure (private and authentic) channels. Then in the *synchronous* communication setting, where the parties are assumed to be synchronized through a global clock, it is known that *perfectly-secure* MPC is possible if and only if $t < n/3$ [8]. If a common broadcast channel is also available to the parties

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in addition to the pair-wise secure channels, then one can tolerate upto $t < n/2$ corruptions, albeit with *statistical security*¹ [36]. The resilience bounds become different if one considers a completely *asynchronous* setting, where parties are not synchronized and messages can be arbitrarily delayed. Specifically, perfectly-secure asynchronous MPC (AMPC) is possible if and only if $t < n/4$ [7], while statistically-secure AMPC is possible if and only if $t < n/3$ [9].

Feasibility Results for Unconditionally-secure MPC: In any general MPC protocol [2–5, 8, 10, 12, 15, 20, 27, 36], the function f is usually expressed as an arithmetic circuit (consisting of addition and multiplication gates) over \mathbb{F} and then the protocol “securely” evaluates each gate in the circuit in a shared/distributed fashion. More specifically, each party secret-shares its inputs among the parties using a linear secret-sharing scheme (LSS) [17], say Shamir [37], with threshold² t . The parties then interact to maintain the following invariant for each gate: *given the gate inputs in a secret-shared fashion, the gate output is computed in a secret-shared fashion*. Finally the (shared) circuit output is publicly reconstructed. Intuitively, the privacy follows since each intermediate value in the above process remains secret-shared with threshold t . Due to the *linearity* of the LSS, the addition (linear) gates are evaluated *locally* by the parties. However, maintaining the above invariant for the multiplication (non-linear) gates requires interaction among the parties. The focus therefore is rightfully placed on measuring the communication complexity (namely the *total* number of field elements communicated) required to evaluate the multiplication gates in the circuit. In the recent past, a lot of work has been done to design communication-efficient MPC protocols; we summarize the relevant works here.

With $t < n/3$, [5] presents a perfectly-secure MPC protocol with $\mathcal{O}(n)$ amortized communication complexity³ per multiplication, while [10] presents a statistically-secure MPC protocol with $t < n/2$ with almost $\mathcal{O}(n)$ communication complexity per multiplication. Both these results are in the synchronous setting and require *non-constant* number of rounds of interaction among the parties. While the protocol of [5] requires $\Theta(n + \mathcal{D})$ rounds, the protocol of [10] requires $\Theta(n^2 + \mathcal{D})$ rounds, where \mathcal{D} denotes the *multiplicative depth* of the circuit.

A major drawback of the synchronous setting is that it does not model real life networks like the Internet accurately where it is very hard to ensure that the users are synchronized through a global clock and that there exists a strict

¹ The outcome of a perfectly-secure protocol is error-free, while a negligible error is allowed in a statistically-secure protocol.

² Informally such a scheme ensures that the shared value remains information-theoretically secure even if upto t shares are revealed. Shamir sharing of a secret with threshold t is done by selecting a random polynomial of degree at most t with the secret as the constant term and defining the individual shares as distinct evaluations of the polynomial.

³ The amortized communication complexity is derived under the assumption that the circuit is large enough so that the terms that are independent of the circuit size can be ignored.

a priori known upper bound on the message delivery. Real life networks can be modelled more appropriately by the asynchronous setting, where there are no known upper bounds and messages are delivered arbitrarily (the only guarantee given in this model is that the messages sent by the honest parties will reach to their destination eventually). Hence designing AMPC protocols is practically motivated. However, an inherent challenge in designing protocols in a completely asynchronous setting is that it is impossible to distinguish between a *slow*, but honest party (whose messages are delayed arbitrarily) and a corrupt party (who do not send any message at all). Hence in a completely asynchronous protocol, no party can afford to receive messages from all the n parties, as the wait may turn out to be an endless wait. So as soon a party receives messages from $n-t$ parties, it has to proceed to the next “step” of the protocol. However, in this process, messages from t potentially honest, but slow parties may get ignored. Due to this inherent phenomena, designing efficient AMPC protocols is a challenging task, as evident from the known feasibility results for AMPC protocols summarized below.

In a completely asynchronous setting, [34] presents a perfectly-secure AMPC protocol with $t < n/4$ and $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ communication per multiplication, while [32] presents a statistically-secure AMPC with $t < n/3$ and $\mathcal{O}(n^5)$ communication per multiplication. As it is clear, there is a significant gap in the communication complexity of MPC and AMPC protocols. In addition, any AMPC protocol cannot ensure *input provision*, namely the inputs of *all* the honest parties may not be considered for the circuit evaluation, as this may turn out to be an endless wait and so inputs of upto t potentially honest parties may get ignored. With an aim to bridge the gap in the communication complexity of synchronous and asynchronous MPC and to enforce input provision, the works of [4, 14] motivate and consider *hybrid* asynchronous setting, where the network is assumed to be synchronized for few initial rounds and then it becomes completely asynchronous. This is a practically motivated communication setting, which has been well considered in the recent past for bridging the efficiency gap between synchronous and asynchronous protocols for various distributed computing tasks [4, 6, 14, 23, 30].

With $t < n/4$, a perfectly-secure hybrid MPC protocol with one synchronous round is presented in [14], with $\mathcal{O}(n)$ amortized communication complexity per multiplication. In [15], four MPC protocols in the hybrid setting are proposed with $t < n/3$; while two of these protocols are perfectly-secure, the remaining two are statistically-secure. These protocols are obtained by instantiating the efficient framework for unconditionally-secure MPC proposed in [15] with existing VSS schemes with $t < n/3$ (more on this later). Among the perfectly-secure protocols, the first one requires less number of synchronous rounds, namely⁴ (12, 3), but requires a higher communication of $\mathcal{O}(n^5)$ per multiplication. The second perfectly-secure protocol requires more number of synchronous

⁴ We say a protocol requires (r, r') (synchronous) rounds, if it requires a total of r rounds of interaction among the parties and out of these r rounds, r' rounds require broadcast by the parties, where $r' \leq r$.

rounds, namely (21, 7), but provides a better communication complexity of $\mathcal{O}(n^4)$ per multiplication. So a tradeoff is attained between the amount of synchrony required and communication achieved per multiplication. The statistically-secure hybrid protocols of [15] with $t < n/3$ retain the same communication complexity as their perfect counterparts, but reduces the number of synchronous rounds. Namely the first statistically-secure protocol requires (7, 2) rounds and $\mathcal{O}(n^5)$ communication per multiplication, the second statistically-secure protocol requires (16, 6) rounds and $\mathcal{O}(n^4)$ communication per multiplication. As it is clear from these results, with $t < n/3$, significant improvement in the communication complexity is not achieved, even if partial synchrony is provided in the network. Our goal is to design more efficient hybrid MPC protocol with $t < n/3$ using minimal level of synchrony.

Our Results. We present a hybrid MPC protocol with $t < n/3$. Our protocol is *statistically-secure*, requires (4, 3) synchronous rounds and $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ communication per multiplication. Moreover, our protocol also ensures input provision. Our protocol outperforms the existing hybrid MPC protocols with $t < n/3$, both in terms of communication complexity as well as in terms of the number of synchronous rounds required in the protocol.

To design our protocol, we follow the standard offline-online paradigm, based on Beaver’s circuit-randomization technique [2] and which is now the de facto style of designing efficient MPC protocols [3–5, 10, 14, 15]. In this paradigm, an MPC protocol is divided into two phases, a *circuit-independent* offline phase and a *circuit-dependent* online phase. While the offline phase generates “raw data”, independent of the circuit and actual inputs for the computation, the online phase utilizes this raw data for the circuit evaluation. In a more detail, the offline phase generates random *multiplication triples* of the form (a, b, c) , Shamir-shared with threshold t ; here a, b are random and private and $c = ab$ holds. Later, using such triples, multiplication gates are evaluated in a shared fashion. For each multiplication gate, one multiplication triple from the offline phase is utilized and the multiplication gate is evaluated at the cost of publicly reconstructing two Shamir-shared values. Reconstructing a Shamir-shared valued (with threshold t) can be done efficiently with $t < n/3$ using the standard Reed-Solomon (RS) error correction [31], even in a *completely asynchronous* setting [7, 11]. Hence we shift the focus to design an efficient offline phase in the hybrid setting for generating multiplication triples. For this we follow the recent framework of [15], which shows how to efficiently generate Shamir-shared multiplication triples in offline phase, using *any* (polynomial based) *verifiable secret-sharing* (VSS) protocol [13] as a black-box. Informally, a VSS protocol allows a designated party called *dealer* (D) to *verifiably* Shamir-share a secret with threshold t . Thus at the end of the VSS protocol it is ensured that there exists some polynomial of degree at most t with the secret as the constant term and every share-holder has a distinct evaluation of this polynomial. Moreover this is ensured irrespective of whether the dealer is under the influence of the adversary or not. In addition, if the dealer is *honest* then it is ensured that the secret remains information-theoretically secure from t corrupted share-holders.

In this work, our proposed VSS protocol in the setting of $t < n/3$ is plugged into the framework of [15] and the result is a more efficient hybrid MPC protocol. Communication-wise, our VSS protocol stands out with an amortized overhead of $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ per secret-shared value, whereas the best known bound is only $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ [25, 28]. The improvement comes from the fact that our VSS protocol requires a broadcast complexity that is *independent* of the number of secrets shared, a property that is not achieved by the known constructions [25, 28]. To induce a better complexity over point-to-point channels, we use the best known *broadcast amplification* protocols (aka multi-valued broadcast protocols) [22] to simulate the broadcast invocations in the VSS protocols of [25, 28]. Informally, in a multi-valued protocol, broadcasting a “sufficiently large” message of size ℓ has communication complexity of $\mathcal{O}(n\ell)$ over point-to-point channels and a broadcast complexity of $\text{poly}(n)$. With $t < n/3$, the most efficient multi-valued broadcast protocol is due to [35]. The protocol requires a communication complexity of $\mathcal{O}(n\ell)$ over point-to-point channels and broadcast of n^2 bits for broadcasting an ℓ -bit message. Detailed analysis and comparison of our VSS with existing ones is deferred to the full version of the paper. In Fig. 1, we compare our MPC and VSS protocols with their previous best counter parts.

(a) Communication complexity (in bits) per multiplication of various AMPC and hybrid MPC protocols with $t < n/3$

| Security | Underlying Network | | VSS Deployed in the Offline Phase | Communication Complexity |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| | Offline Phase | Online Phase | | |
| Statistical | Asynchronous | Asynchronous | [34] | $\mathcal{O}(n^5 \log \mathbb{F})$ [34] |
| Perfect | Hybrid (12, 3) rounds | Asynchronous | [28] | $\mathcal{O}(n^5 \log \mathbb{F})$ [15] |
| Perfect | Hybrid (21, 7) rounds | Asynchronous | [25] | $\mathcal{O}(n^4 \log \mathbb{F})$ [15] |
| Statistical | Hybrid (7, 2) rounds | Asynchronous | [28] | $\mathcal{O}(n^5 \log \mathbb{F})$ [15] |
| Statistical | Hybrid (16, 6) rounds | Asynchronous | [25] | $\mathcal{O}(n^4 \log \mathbb{F})$ [15] |
| Statistical | Hybrid (4, 3) rounds | Asynchronous | [This work] | $\mathcal{O}(n^2 \log \mathbb{F})$ [This work] |

(b) Amortized communication complexity per shared-secret of the underlying VSS deployed in the offline phase.

| Security | Network Type | Overhead |
|-------------|----------------------------|--|
| Statistical | Asynchronous | $\mathcal{O}(n^4)$ [34] |
| Perfect | Synchronous (7, 2) rounds | $\mathcal{O}(n^4)$ [28] |
| Perfect | Synchronous (16, 6) rounds | $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ [25] |
| Statistical | Synchronous (4, 3) rounds | $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ [This work] |

Fig. 1. Comparison of our results with previous best results.

Other Related Work. In the *synchronous* setting, MPC protocols with $\mathcal{O}(n)$ communication per multiplication has been reported in [5] with perfect security and $t < n/3$ and in [10] with statistical security and $t < n/2$. These protocols deploy *non-robust* secret-sharing protocols in the player-elimination and dispute-control framework. The non-robustness of the underlying primitives inflates the round complexity of their offline phase to $\mathcal{O}(n)$ and $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ respectively. The naive approach of adopting these protocols in hybrid setting will lead to protocols with $\mathcal{O}(n)$ or $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ synchronous (broadcast) rounds to execute the offline phase. The online phase of these protocols can be executed asynchronously. Our hybrid

MPC protocol on the other hand requires only a constant number of synchronous broadcast rounds.

The reported works [18, 19] in the synchronous setting with polylogarithmic (in n) communication per gate (denoted as $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(n)$)⁵ are only *non-optimally* resilient. While [19] works with $t < (\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon)n$ and provides statistical security, [18] works with $t < (\frac{1}{3} - \epsilon)n$ and provides perfect security, where $\epsilon > 0$. These protocols also evaluate the underlying circuit in a secret-shared fashion. However, instead of Shamir secret-sharing, they use packed secret-sharing [24] taking advantage of the presence of larger subset of honest parties (due to the non-optimal resilience). Due to the use of packed secret-sharing, “multiple” gates can be evaluated simultaneously by doing a fixed set of operations on the shares. However, this requires “special” structure from the underlying circuit being available at each layer, maintaining which, demands additional circuitry to be incorporated between different layers of the circuit. Evaluating the overall circuit using packed secret-sharing makes these protocols highly non-trivial and complex. It is not known how to adapt these protocols in a completely asynchronous or a partially synchronous setting. Specifically, it is not clear whether these protocols can be executed in a hybrid setting, with a *constant* number of synchronous rounds. Therefore, while treating VSS as an MPC functionality and evaluating the resultant “VSS circuit” using the MPC protocols of [18, 19] may lead to sublinear (namely $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}(n)$) overhead per secret-shared value, it is not clear if the resultant protocols runs with a *constant* number of synchronous rounds in hybrid setting.

New Techniques. Our VSS protocol is built upon a new primitive called *information checking with succinct proof of possession* (ICPoP) that takes motivation from *information checking protocol* (ICP) introduced in [16, 33, 36]. An ICP allows a D to privately authenticate some data for an intermediary INT, who can later publicly reveal this data and prove that it originated from D. On the other hand, in an ICPoP protocol INT gives a proof of possession publicly of the data originated from D, instead of publicly revealing the data. The proof preserves data privacy and is “succinct” i.e. its size is *independent* of the size of the data. The succinctness of the proof makes the broadcast complexity of our VSS protocol independent of the number of shared secrets. Our ICPoP also offers *transferability* that allows any designated party to take possession of INT’s authenticated (by D) data and to be able to give a proof of possession on the “behalf” of INT. The existing ICPs do not support transferability.

We next give a high level overview of our VSS. To share a secret s , we embed s in the constant term of a random bivariate polynomial $F(x, y)$ of degree t in x and y . Every party P_i then obtains a *row polynomial* $f_i(x) = F(x, \alpha_i)$. The parties then publicly verify whether the row polynomials of at least $n - t$ parties called VCORE define a unique bivariate polynomial. The standard way to do this is to perform the “pair-wise checking”, where every pair of parties (P_i, P_j)

⁵ The actual complexity (communication, computation and round) of these protocols are of the form $\mathcal{O}((\log^k n \cdot \text{poly}(\log |C|)) \cdot |C|) + \mathcal{O}(\text{poly}(n, \log |C|, \mathcal{D}))$, where \mathcal{D} is the multiplicative depth of the underlying circuit C .

is asked to verify the consistency of the common values on their respective polynomials and publicly complain if there is any inconsistency, in which case D publicly resolves the complaint by making the common value public [21, 25, 28]. This approach will lead to a broadcast complexity of $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ per secret-shared value; instead we use a statistical protocol called Poly-Check (Sect. 4.1), adapted from [34], which performs the same task in parallel for ℓ secrets (and hence ℓ bivariate polynomials), but keeping the broadcast complexity independent of ℓ . Once VCORE is found, it is ensured that D has committed a unique $F(x, y)$ and the secret $F(0, 0)$ to the parties in VCORE. To enable the parties to obtain their shares, the goal will be to enable each party P_j to compute its *column polynomial* $g_j(y) = F(\alpha_j, y)$. For this each party $P_i \in \text{VCORE}$ transfers its common value on $g_j(y)$ (namely $f_i(\alpha_j)$) to P_j . To ensure that correct values are transferred, P_j publicly gives a proof of possession of all the transferred values originated from D via the intermediary parties in VCORE. This is done in parallel for ℓ secrets (and hence ℓ bivariate polynomials); the succinctness of the proof ensures that this step has broadcast complexity, independent of ℓ .

2 Network Model, Definitions and Existing Tools

We consider a set $\mathcal{P} = \{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$ of n parties, connected by pair-wise private and authentic channels. For simplicity we assume $n = 3t + 1$, so $t = \Theta(n)$. There exists a computationally unbounded adversary Adv who can maliciously corrupt any t parties and may force them to behave in any arbitrary fashion during the execution of a protocol. We assume the adversary to be static, who decides the set of corrupted parties at the beginning of the protocol execution. We assume a partially synchronous network, where the first four rounds are synchronous, after which the entire communication is done *asynchronously*. Moreover, we assume that the parties have access to a broadcast channel during the second, third and fourth synchronous round. Our protocols operate over a finite field \mathbb{F} , where $|\mathbb{F}| > 2n$. We assume that there exists $2n$ distinct non-zero elements $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$ in \mathbb{F} . Each element of \mathbb{F} can be represented by $\mathcal{O}(\log |\mathbb{F}|)$ bits. The communication complexity of any protocol is defined to be the total number of field elements communicated by the *honest* parties in that protocol. We denote the point-to-point communication complexity by $\mathcal{PC}()$ and the broadcast communication complexity as $\mathcal{BC}()$.

Without loss of generality, we assume that the parties want to securely compute the function $f : \mathbb{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ via an MPC protocol, where $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = y$, such that $x_i \in \mathbb{F}$ is the input of P_i and every party is supposed to receive the output $y \in \mathbb{F}$. The function f is assumed to be represented by a publicly known arithmetic circuit C over \mathbb{F} . The circuit C consists of n input gates, two-input addition (linear) and multiplication (non-linear) gates, zero-input random gates (for generating random values during the computation) and one output gate. We denote by c_M and c_R the number of multiplication and random gates in C respectively. By $[X]$ and $[X, Y]$ for $Y \geq X$, we denote the sets $\{1, \dots, X\}$ and $\{X, X + 1, \dots, Y\}$, respectively. We use $i \in [k]$ to denote that i can take a value

from the set $\{1, 2 \dots k\}$. We will also require that $|\mathbb{F}| > 4n^4(c_M + c_R)(3t + 1)2^\kappa$ to ensure that the error-probability of our MPC protocol is at most $2^{-\kappa}$, for a given error parameter κ .

2.1 Definitions

Definition 1 (*d*-sharing [3, 5, 20]). A value $s \in \mathbb{F}$ is said to be *d*-shared if there exists a polynomial over \mathbb{F} , say $f(\cdot)$, of degree at most d , such that $f(0) = s$ and every (honest) party $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ holds a share s_i of s , where $s_i = f(\alpha_i)$. We denote by $[s]_d$, the vector of shares of s corresponding to the (honest) parties in \mathcal{P} .

A vector $\mathbf{S} = (s^{(1)}, \dots, s^{(\ell)}) \in \mathbb{F}^\ell$ is said to be *d*-shared if each $s^{(i)}$ is *d*-shared. Note that *d*-sharings are *linear*: given $[a]_d$ and $[b]_d$, then $[a + b]_d = [a]_d + [b]_d$ and $[c \cdot a]_d = c \cdot [a]_d$ holds, for a public constant c . In general, given ℓ sharings $[x^{(1)}]_d, \dots, [x^{(\ell)}]_d$ and a public linear function $g : \mathbb{F}^\ell \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^m$, where $g(x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(\ell)}) = (y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(m)})$, then $g([x^{(1)}]_d, \dots, [x^{(\ell)}]_d) = ([y^{(1)}]_d, \dots, [y^{(m)}]_d)$. We say that the parties *locally compute* $([y^{(1)}]_d, \dots, [y^{(m)}]_d) = g([x^{(1)}]_d, \dots, [x^{(\ell)}]_d)$ to mean that every P_i (locally) computes $(y_i^{(1)}, \dots, y_i^{(m)}) = g(x_i^{(1)}, \dots, x_i^{(\ell)})$, where $y_i^{(l)}$ and $x_i^{(l)}$ denotes the i^{th} share of $y^{(l)}$ and $x^{(l)}$ respectively.

Definition 2 (Polynomial-based) Verifiable Secret Sharing (VSS) [3–5]).

Let $\mathbf{S} = (s^{(1)}, \dots, s^{(L)}) \in \mathbb{F}^L$ be a set of L values that a dealer $D \in \mathcal{P}$ wants to *t*-share among \mathcal{P} . Let Sh be a protocol for the n parties, where D has the input \mathbf{S} . Then Sh is a VSS scheme if the following holds for every possible Adv , on all possible inputs: **(1) Correctness:** If D is honest then \mathbf{S} is *t*-shared among \mathcal{P} at the end of Sh . Moreover even if D is corrupted there exists a set of L values, say $(\bar{s}^{(1)}, \dots, \bar{s}^{(L)})$, which is *t*-shared among \mathcal{P} at the end of Sh . **(2) Privacy:** If D is honest then Sh reveals no information about \mathbf{S} to Adv in the information-theoretic sense; i.e. Adv 's view is identically distributed for all possible \mathbf{S} .

If Sh satisfies all its properties without any error then it is called *perfectly-secure*. If the correctness is satisfied with probability at least $1 - \epsilon$, for a given error parameter ϵ , then it is called *statistically-secure*.

Unconditionally-secure MPC: Recent papers on efficient unconditionally-secure MPC follow a simpler “property based” security definition of secure MPC [3, 5, 10, 20], instead of the more rigorous “real-world/ideal-world” paradigm based definition [1, 29]. As our main goal is to provide an efficient VSS and MPC, to avoid blurring the main focus of the paper and to avoid additional technicalities, we also use the property based security definition. However, we confirm that using standard techniques, like the above efficient protocols, our MPC protocol can be also proved secure according to the simulation based definition. We defer the details to the full version of the paper.

Let $f : \mathbb{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ be a publicly known function and party P_i has input $x_i \in \mathbb{F}$. In any (unconditionally-secure) multiparty computation, each party P_i *t*-shares

its input. Let x_i be the value shared by P_i . If P_i is honest then $x_i = x_i$. The parties then compute f as $y = f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ and everyone receives y .

Definition 3 (Unconditionally-secure MPC). *A protocol Π among the n parties securely computes f , if it satisfies the following for every possible Adv , on all possible inputs: (1) **Correctness:** All honest parties obtain y at the end of Π . (2) **Privacy:** Adv obtains no additional information about the inputs of the honest parties, other than what is inferred from the inputs of the corrupted parties and y . Protocol Π is called perfectly-secure if it satisfies all its properties without any error. If the correctness is satisfied with probability at least $1 - 2^{-\kappa}$, for a given error parameter κ , then Π is called statistically-secure.*

Information Checking with Succinct Proof of Possession (ICPoP): An ICPoP protocol involves three entities: a designated dealer $D \in \mathcal{P}$ who holds a set of L private values $\mathcal{S} = \{s^{(1)}, \dots, s^{(L)}\}$, an intermediary $\text{INT} \in \mathcal{P}$ and the set of parties \mathcal{P} acting as verifiers (note that D and INT will also play the role of verifiers, apart from their designated role of dealer and intermediary respectively). The protocol proceeds in three phases, each of which is implemented by a dedicated sub-protocol: (1) **Distribution Phase:** Here D , sends \mathcal{S} to INT along with some *auxiliary information*. For the purpose of verification, some *verification information* is additionally sent to each individual verifier. (2) **Authentication Phase:** This phase is initiated by INT who interacts with D and the verifiers to ensure that the information it received from D is consistent with the verification information distributed to the individual verifiers. If D wants it can publicly abort this phase, which is interpreted as if D is accusing INT of malicious behaviour. (3) **Revelation Phase:** This phase is carried out by INT and the verifiers in \mathcal{P} only if D has not aborted the previous phase. Here INT reveals a proof of possession of the values received from D . The verifiers in \mathcal{P} check this proof with respect to their verification information. Then based on certain criteria, each verifier either outputs `AcceptProof` (indicating that it accepts the proof) or `RejectProof` (indicating that it rejects the proof).

Definition 4 (ICPoP). *A triplet of protocols ($\text{Distr}, \text{AuthVal}, \text{RevealPoP}$) (implementing the distribution, authentication and revelation phase respectively) is a $(1 - \epsilon)$ -secure ICPoP, for an error parameter ϵ , if the following holds: (1) **ICPoP-Correctness1:** If D and INT are honest, then each honest verifier $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ outputs `AcceptProof` at the end of `RevealPoP`. (2) **ICPoP-Correctness2:** If D is corrupted and INT is honest and if ICPoP proceeds to `RevealPoP`, then except with probability at most ϵ , all honest verifiers output `AcceptProof` at the end of `RevealPoP`. (3) **ICPoP-Correctness3:** If D is honest, INT is corrupted, ICPoP proceeds to `RevealPoP` and if the honest verifiers output `AcceptProof`, then except with probability at most ϵ , the proof produced by INT corresponds⁶ to the values in \mathcal{S} . (4) **ICPoP-Privacy:** If D and INT are honest, then information obtained by Adv during ICPoP is independent of \mathcal{S} .*

⁶ The interpretation of a proof corresponding to a set of values will be clear later during the formal presentation of our ICPoP.

(5) ICPoP-Succinctness of the Proof: *The size of the proof produced by INT during RevealPoP is independent of L .*

Properties of Polynomials: A bivariate polynomial $F(x, y)$ of degree at most t is of the form $F(x, y) = \sum_{i,j=0}^{i,j=t} r_{ij} x^i y^j$, where $r_{ij} \in \mathbb{F}$. Let $f_i(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} F(x, \alpha_i), g_i(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} F(\alpha_i, y)$ for $i \in [n]$. We call $f_i(x)$ and $g_i(y)$ as *i th row polynomial* and *column polynomial* respectively of $F(x, y)$. We say that a row polynomial $\bar{f}_i(x)$ lies on a bivariate polynomial $F(x, y)$ of degree at most t if $F(x, \alpha_i) = \bar{f}_i(x)$ holds. Similarly we will say that a column polynomial $\bar{g}_i(y)$ lies on $F(x, y)$ if $F(\alpha_i, y) = \bar{g}_i(y)$ holds. We will use the following well known standard properties of bivariate and univariate polynomials.

Lemma 1 ([1, 11, 34]). *Let $f_1(x), \dots, f_\ell(x), g_1(y), \dots, g_\ell(y)$ be degree t univariate polynomials with $t + 1 \leq \ell \leq n$, such that $f_i(\alpha_j) = g_j(\alpha_i)$ holds for every $\alpha_i, \alpha_j \in \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\ell\}$. Then there exists a unique bivariate polynomial $\bar{F}(x, y)$ of degree t , such that $f_i(x)$ and $g_i(y)$ lie on $\bar{F}(x, y)$, for $i \in [\ell]$.*

Lemma 2 ([1, 11, 34]). *Let $f_1(x), \dots, f_\ell(x)$ be univariate polynomials of degree at most t where $t + 1 \leq \ell \leq n$. Let $F(x, y)$ and $G(x, y)$ be two bivariate polynomials of degree at most t , such that $f_i(x)$ lies on both $F(x, y)$ and $G(x, y)$ for each $i \in [\ell]$. Then $F(x, y) = G(x, y)$.*

Lemma 3 ([34]). *Let $G^{(1)}(x), \dots, G^{(L)}(x)$ be degree d polynomials and let $A(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} eG^{(1)}(x) + \dots + e^L G^{(L)}(x)$, where e is a random value from $\mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\}$. Let a tuple $(\gamma, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_L)$ be such that $v_i \neq G^{(i)}(\gamma)$ for some $i \in [L]$. Then except with probability at most $\frac{L-2}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$, the condition $A(\gamma) \neq ev_1 + \dots + e^L v_L$ holds.*

Lemma 4 ([34]). *Let $h^{(0)}(y), \dots, h^{(L)}(y)$ be $L+1$ polynomials and r be a random value from $\mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\}$. Let $h_{com}(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} h^{(0)}(y) + rh^{(1)}(y) + \dots + r^L h^{(L)}(y)$. If at least one of $h^{(0)}(y), \dots, h^{(L)}(y)$ has degree more than t , then except with probability at most $\frac{L}{|\mathbb{F}|}$, the polynomial $h_{com}(y)$ will have degree more than t .*

3 Efficient ICPoP

We present a $(1 - \epsilon)$ -secure ICPoP protocol, where $|\mathcal{S}| = L = \ell \times \text{pack}$, with $\ell \geq 1$ and $1 \leq \text{pack} \leq n - t$; moreover $\epsilon = \max\{\frac{n\ell}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}, \frac{n(n-1)}{|\mathbb{F}|-\text{pack}}\}$. The protocol has communication complexity $\mathcal{PC}(\mathcal{O}(n\ell))$ and $\mathcal{BC}(\mathcal{O}(n))$. Hence the broadcast complexity is *independent* of ℓ . Our ICPoP is similar to the asynchronous ICP of [33], adapted to the synchronous setting with the following differences: in ICP the whole \mathcal{S} is revealed during the revelation phase, as only its authenticity is required during the revelation phase. We require INT to be able to publicly prove the possession of \mathcal{S} while maintaining its privacy. Hence the auxiliary information distributed in our ICPoP differs and also used differently; the details follow.

Let $\mathcal{S} = \{(s^{(1,1)}, \dots, s^{(1,\text{pack})}), \dots, (s^{(\ell,1)}, \dots, s^{(\ell,\text{pack})})\}$. During the distribution phase, D embeds the values $(s^{(k,1)}, \dots, s^{(k,\text{pack})})$ for $k \in [\ell]$ in a random degree d *secret-encoding* polynomial $G^{(k)}(x)$ at $x = \beta_1, \dots, \beta_{\text{pack}}$, where $\mathsf{d} = \text{pack} + t - 1$. In addition, D picks a *masking set* \mathcal{M} , consisting of $2 \cdot \text{pack}$ random values $\{(m^{(1,1)}, \dots, m^{(1,\text{pack})}), (m^{(2,1)}, \dots, m^{(2,\text{pack})})\}$, which are embedded in two random degree d polynomials $H^{(1)}(x)$ and $H^{(2)}(x)$ respectively at $x = \beta_1, \dots, \beta_{\text{pack}}$; we call these polynomials as *masking polynomials*. The polynomials are sent to INT , while each verifier P_i receives the values $v_{1,i}, \dots, v_{\ell,i}, m_{1,i}, m_{2,i}$ of these polynomials at a secret evaluation point γ_i . This distribution achieves **ICPoP-Privacy**, as each secret-encoding polynomial has degree d and adversary may get at most t values on these polynomials; so it will lack pack values on each polynomial to uniquely interpolate them.

During revelation phase, to give a proof of possession of \mathcal{S} , INT produces a random linear combination of the values in $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$ by making public a random linear combiner, say e and a linear combination $C(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} eH^{(1)}(x) + e^2H^{(2)}(x) + e^3G^{(1)}(x) + \dots + e^{\ell+2}G^{(\ell)}(x)$. The values $C(\beta_1), \dots, C(\beta_{\text{pack}})$ define pack linear combinations of $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$ with respect to e . The pair $(e, C(x))$ is considered as a *proof of possession* of \mathcal{S} (union \mathcal{M}) and verified as follows: each verifier locally verifies if the corresponding linear combination $em_{1,i} + e^2m_{2,i} + e^3v_{1,i} + \dots + e^{\ell+2}v_{\ell,i}$ satisfies $C(x)$ at $x = \gamma_i$ and accordingly broadcast an **Accept** or a **Reject** message. If more than t verifiers broadcast **Accept** then the proof $(e, C(x))$ is said to be accepted, otherwise it is rejected. The proof will always be accepted for an *honest* D and INT , implying **ICPoP-Correctness1**. The size of the proof is $\mathcal{O}(n)$ (as $\mathsf{d} = \mathcal{O}(n)$), which is independent of ℓ , implying **ICPoP-Succinctness of the Proof**. No additional information about the secret-encoding polynomials is revealed from $C(x)$, thanks to the masking polynomials. If D is *honest* and INT is *corrupted* then the evaluation points of the honest verifiers will be private. So if INT gives a proof of possession of $\mathcal{S}^* \cup \mathcal{M}^* \neq \mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$ by revealing a linear combination of $\mathcal{S}^* \cup \mathcal{M}^*$ through $(e, C^*(x))$ where $C^*(x) \neq C(x)$, then with high probability, every honest verifier will reject the proof. This is because the corresponding linear combination of the values possessed by the honest verifiers will fail to satisfy $C^*(x)$; this implies **ICPoP-Correctness 3**.

The above mechanism, however, fails to achieve **ICPoP-Correctness 2**, as a *corrupted* D can distribute “inconsistent” polynomials and values to an *honest* INT and honest verifiers respectively; later on the proof produced by INT will be rejected by every honest verifier. To verify the consistency of the distributed information, during the authentication phase, INT “challenges” D by making public a random linear combination $A(x)$ of the received polynomials. In response, D either instructs to abort the protocol or continue, after verifying whether the $A(x)$ polynomial satisfies the corresponding random linear combination of the values held by each verifier. The idea here is that if D distributed inconsistent data, then with very high probability, any random linear combination of the distributed polynomials would fail to satisfy the corresponding linear combination of the values given to the honest verifiers. And this will be locally learned by the honest verifiers after $A(x)$ is made public. So if D still instructs

to continue the protocol, then clearly D is corrupted; so later even if the proof produced in the revelation phase turns out to be inconsistent with the information held by the honest verifiers, the proof is accepted by adding an additional acceptance condition to deal with this particular case. We stress that the additional acceptance condition never gets satisfied for an *honest* D and a *corrupted* INT. The privacy of the secret-encoding polynomials is still preserved during the authentication phase (for an honest INT and D), thanks to the masking polynomials⁷. The formal steps of ICPoP are given in Fig. 3. In the protocol, if the output is **AcceptProof** then we additionally let the parties output **pack** linear combinations of the values in $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$ possessed by INT; looking ahead this will be useful in our VSS. In Fig. 2 we give a pictorial representation of the values distributed and revealed in ICPoP.

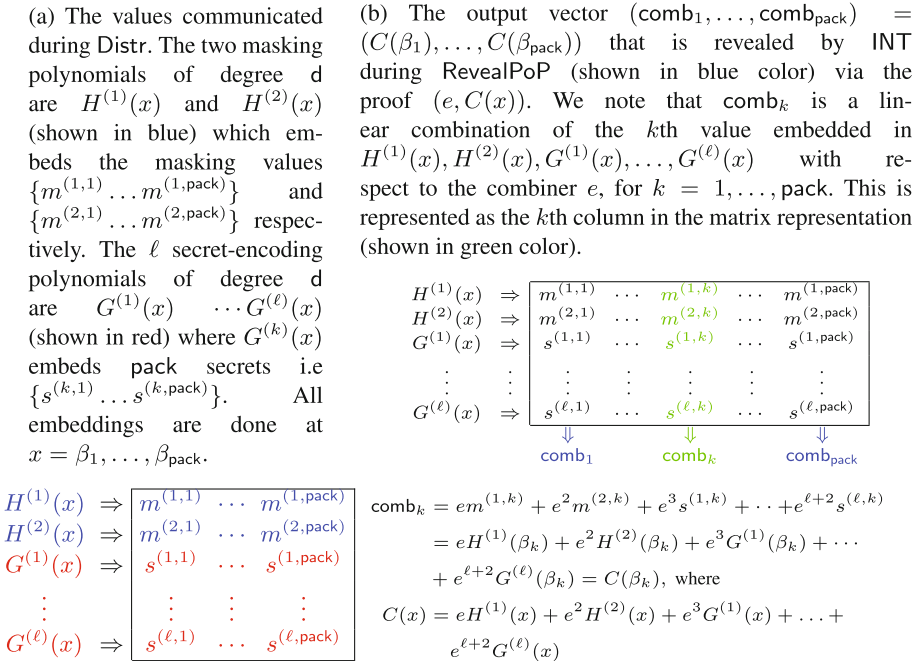


Fig. 2. Pictorial representation of the information generated and communicated during ICPoP protocol.

In ICPoP, the *correspondence* between a proof and a set of values is defined as follows: Let $\mathcal{S} = \{(s^{(1,1)}, \dots, s^{(1,pack)}), \dots, (s^{(\ell,1)}, \dots, s^{(\ell,pack)})\}$ and $\mathcal{M} = \{(m^{(1,1)}, \dots, m^{(1,pack)}), (m^{(2,1)}, \dots, m^{(2,pack)})\}$. We say that a proof $(e, C(x))$ *corresponds* to $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$ if $C(x)$ embeds linear combination of $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$ with respect to e

⁷ This explains the need for two masking polynomials: one is used to preserve the privacy of the secret-encoding polynomials during the authentication phase while the other is used to maintain the privacy during the revelation phase.

at $x = \beta_1, \dots, \beta_{\text{pack}}$; i.e. if $C(\beta_i) = em^{(1,i)} + e^2m^{(2,i)} + e^3s^{(1,i)} + \dots + e^{(\ell+2)}s^{(\ell,i)}$ holds for $i \in [\text{pack}]$.

We state the properties of our ICPoP and the final theorem. We give proofs for the important properties; the other proofs are simple and will appear in the full version.

Lemma 5 (ICPoP-Correctness1). *If D and INT are honest then each honest verifier $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ outputs `AcceptProof` along with $(C(\beta_1), \dots, C(\beta_{\text{pack}}))$ at the end of `RevealPoP`.*

Lemma 6 (ICPoP-Correctness2). *If D is corrupt and INT is honest, and if ICPoP proceeds to `RevealPoP`, then all honest verifiers output `AcceptProof`, except with probability at most $\frac{n\ell}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$.*

Proof. We claim that if INT is *honest* and ICPoP proceeds to `RevealPoP`, then an *honest* verifier P_i broadcasts `Accept`, except with probability at most $\frac{\ell}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$. Assuming that the claim is true, from the union bound it follows that the probability any honest verifier fails to broadcast an `Accept` message is at most $\frac{n\ell}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$, as the number of honest parties is upper bounded by n . This ensures that there will be more than t `Accept` messages broadcasted by honest verifiers implying that each honest verifier outputs `AcceptProof` at the end of `RevealPoP`.

We next proceed to prove our claim. For this we focus on a designated *honest* verifier P_i and consider the relationship that holds between the polynomials $\overline{G}^{(1)}(x), \dots, \overline{G}^{(\ell)}(x), \overline{H}^{(1)}(x), \overline{H}^{(2)}(x)$ distributed by a *corrupted* D to INT and the tuple $(\overline{\gamma}_i, \overline{v}_{1,i}, \overline{v}_{2,i}, \dots, \overline{v}_{\ell,i}, \overline{m}_{1,i}, \overline{m}_{2,i})$ distributed by D to P_i . We have two cases:

- $\overline{v}_{k,i} = \overline{G}^{(k)}(\overline{\gamma}_i)$ for each $k \in [\ell]$ and $\overline{m}_{1,i} = \overline{H}^{(1)}(\overline{\gamma}_i), \overline{m}_{2,i} = \overline{H}^{(2)}(\overline{\gamma}_i)$: In this case, the claim is true without any error as P_i will find that condition C1 is true for the $C(x)$ polynomial during `RevealPoP`.
- At least one of the following holds — either $\overline{v}_{k,i} \neq \overline{G}^{(k)}(\overline{\gamma}_i)$ for some $k \in [\ell]$ or $\overline{m}_{1,i} \neq \overline{H}^{(1)}(\overline{\gamma}_i)$ or $\overline{m}_{2,i} \neq \overline{H}^{(2)}(\overline{\gamma}_i)$: In this case, $A(\overline{\gamma}_i) \neq d\overline{m}_{1,i} + d^2\overline{m}_{2,i} + d^3\overline{v}_{1,i} + d^4\overline{v}_{2,i} + \dots + d^{\ell+2}\overline{v}_{\ell,i}$ holds, except with probability at most $\frac{\ell}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$ (follows from Lemma 3 by substituting $L = \ell + 2$). So clearly the verifier P_i will find that condition C2 is true during `RevealPoP`

Lemma 7 (ICPoP-Correctness3). *If D is honest, INT is corrupted, ICPoP proceeds to `RevealPoP` and if the honest verifiers output `AcceptProof`, then except with probability at most $\frac{nd}{|\mathbb{F}|-\text{pack}}$, the proof produced by INT corresponds to the values in $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$.*

Lemma 8 (ICPoP-Privacy). *If D and INT are honest, then the information obtained by Adv during ICPoP is independent of the values in \mathcal{S} .*

Theorem 1. *Protocols (Distr, AuthVal, RevealPoP) constitute a $(1 - \epsilon)$ -secure ICPoP for $L = \ell \times \text{pack}$ values with $\ell \geq 1$ and $1 \leq \text{pack} \leq n - t$, where $\epsilon = \max\{\frac{n\ell}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}, \frac{nd}{|\mathbb{F}|-\text{pack}}\}$ and $d = \text{pack} + t - 1$. The protocol has communication complexity $\mathcal{P}C(\mathcal{O}(n\ell))$ and $BC(\mathcal{O}(n))$.*

| |
|---|
| $\text{ICPoP}(\mathcal{D}, \text{INT}, \mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{pack}, \mathcal{S}) : \mathcal{S} = \{(s^{(1,1)}, \dots, s^{(1,\text{pack})}), \dots, (s^{(\ell,1)}, \dots, s^{(\ell,\text{pack})})\}$ |
| $\text{Distr}(\mathcal{D}, \text{INT}, \mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{pack}, \mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M})$ |
| <p>Round 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \mathcal{D} defines a <i>masking set</i> $\mathcal{M} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(m^{(1,1)}, \dots, m^{(1,\text{pack})}), (m^{(2,1)}, \dots, m^{(2,\text{pack})})\}$ consisting of $2 \cdot \text{pack}$ random elements from \mathbb{F}. Let $d \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{pack} + t - 1$. Dealer \mathcal{D} selects ℓ random <i>secret-encoding polynomials</i> $G^{(1)}(x), G^{(2)}(x), \dots, G^{(\ell)}(x)$ of degree at most d, such that $G^{(k)}(\beta_1) = s^{(k,1)}, \dots, G^{(k)}(\beta_{\text{pack}}) = s^{(k,\text{pack})}$ for $k \in [\ell]$. In addition, \mathcal{D} selects two random <i>masking polynomials</i> $H^{(1)}(x), H^{(2)}(x)$ of degree d, such that $H^{(k)}(\beta_1) = m^{(k,1)}, \dots, H^{(k)}(\beta_{\text{pack}}) = m^{(k,\text{pack})}$ for $k \in [2]$. For each verifier $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$, dealer \mathcal{D} selects a random <i>evaluation point</i> γ_i such that $\gamma_i \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_{\text{pack}}\}$. - \mathcal{D} gives $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$ to INT by sending $G^{(1)}(x), \dots, G^{(\ell)}(x), H^{(1)}(x)$ and $H^{(2)}(x)$ to INT. <p>To each verifier $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$, dealer \mathcal{D} sends $(\gamma_i, v_{1,i}, v_{2,i}, \dots, v_{\ell,i}, m_{1,i}, m_{2,i})$, where $v_{k,i} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} G^{(k)}(\gamma_i)$ for $k \in [\ell]$ and $m_{k,i} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} H^{(k)}(\gamma_i)$ for $k \in [2]$.</p> |
| <p>Local Computation by INT: Let $\overline{G}^{(1)}(x), \dots, \overline{G}^{(\ell)}(x), \overline{H}^{(1)}(x)$ and $\overline{H}^{(2)}(x)$ be the polynomials received from \mathcal{D} (if \mathcal{D} is honest then these will be the same polynomials as selected by \mathcal{D}). INT sets $\overline{\mathcal{S}} = \{(\overline{s}^{(1,1)}, \dots, \overline{s}^{(1,\text{pack})}), \dots, (\overline{s}^{(\ell,1)}, \dots, \overline{s}^{(\ell,\text{pack})})\}$ and $\overline{\mathcal{M}} = \{(\overline{m}^{(1,1)}, \dots, \overline{m}^{(1,\text{pack})}), (\overline{m}^{(2,1)}, \dots, \overline{m}^{(2,\text{pack})})\}$, where $\overline{s}^{(k,1)} = \overline{G}^{(k)}(\beta_1), \dots, \overline{s}^{(k,\text{pack})} = \overline{G}^{(k)}(\beta_{\text{pack}})$ for $k \in [\ell]$ and $\overline{m}^{(k,1)} = \overline{H}^{(k)}(\beta_1), \dots, \overline{m}^{(k,\text{pack})} = \overline{H}^{(k)}(\beta_{\text{pack}})$ for $k \in [2]$; $\overline{\mathcal{S}} \cup \overline{\mathcal{M}}$ are considered to be <i>received</i> by INT from \mathcal{D}.</p> |
| <p>Local Computation Each Verifier P_i: Let $(\overline{\gamma}_i, \overline{v}_{1,i}, \overline{v}_{2,i}, \dots, \overline{v}_{\ell,i}, \overline{m}_{1,i}, \overline{m}_{2,i})$ be the tuple received from \mathcal{D} (if \mathcal{D} is honest then this will be the same tuple as computed by \mathcal{D}).</p> |
| $\text{AuthVal}(\mathcal{D}, \text{INT}, \mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{pack}, \overline{\mathcal{S}} \cup \overline{\mathcal{M}})$ |
| <p>Round 1: INT selects a random element $d \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\}$ and broadcasts $(d, A(x))$, where $A(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} d\overline{H}^{(1)}(x) + d^2\overline{H}^{(2)}(x) + d^3\overline{G}^{(1)}(x) + d^4\overline{G}^{(2)}(x) + \dots + d^{\ell+2}\overline{G}^{(\ell)}(x)$.</p> <p>Round 2: Upon receiving $(d, A(x))$ from the broadcast of INT, \mathcal{D} checks if $A(\gamma_i) = dm_{1,i} + d^2m_{2,i} + d^3v_{1,i} + d^4v_{2,i} + \dots + d^{\ell+2}v_{\ell,i}$ holds for every $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$. If not then it broadcasts an Abort message, else it broadcasts an OK message.</p> |
| <p>$\text{RevealPoP}(\mathcal{D}, \text{INT}, \mathcal{P}, \ell, \text{pack}, \overline{\mathcal{S}} \cup \overline{\mathcal{M}})$: Executed only if \mathcal{D} broadcasted OK during AuthVal.</p> |
| <p>Round 1: INT chooses a random element $e \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\}$ and broadcasts $(e, C(x))$ as a <i>proof of possession</i> of $\overline{\mathcal{S}} \cup \overline{\mathcal{M}}$, where $C(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} e\overline{H}^{(1)}(x) + e^2\overline{H}^{(2)}(x) + e^3\overline{G}^{(1)}(x) + e^4\overline{G}^{(2)}(x) + \dots + e^{\ell+2}\overline{G}^{(\ell)}(x)$.</p> <p>Round 2: Upon receiving the broadcast of $(e, C(x))$ from INT, every verifier $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ locally verifies the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - $C(\overline{\gamma}_i) \stackrel{?}{=} e\overline{m}_{1,i} + e^2\overline{m}_{2,i} + e^3\overline{v}_{1,i} + \dots + e^{\ell+2}\overline{v}_{\ell,i}$ — we call this condition C1. - $A(\overline{\gamma}_i) \neq d\overline{m}_{1,i} + d^2\overline{m}_{2,i} + d^3\overline{v}_{1,i} + d^4\overline{v}_{2,i} + \dots + d^{\ell+2}\overline{v}_{\ell,i}$ holds during AuthVal — we call this condition C2. <p>Verifier P_i broadcasts Accept if condition C1 or C2 is true for P_i, else it broadcasts Reject.</p> <p>Output Determination: If more than t verifiers broadcast Accept then each verifier P_i outputs AcceptProof along with the vector $(\text{comb}_1, \dots, \text{comb}_{\text{pack}}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (C(\beta_1), \dots, C(\beta_{\text{pack}}))$, else each verifier P_i outputs RejectProof.</p> |

Fig. 3. Efficient ICPoP protocol where $\ell \geq 1$ and $1 \leq \text{pack} \leq n - t$.

Proof. The properties of ICPoP follow from Lemmas 5–8. We next prove the communication complexity. During *Distr*, D sends $\ell + 2$ polynomials of degree d to INT and a tuple of $\ell + 3$ values to each individual verifier. During *AuthVal* a polynomial of degree d is broadcasted by INT and D broadcasts either an *OK* or *Abort* message. During *RevealPoP*, INT broadcasts a polynomial of degree d and each individual verifier broadcasts either an *Accept* or a *Reject* message. So overall the protocol has communication complexity $\mathcal{PC}(\mathcal{O}(n\ell))$ and $\mathcal{BC}(\mathcal{O}(n))$, as $d = \mathcal{O}(n)$. This also proves the **ICPoP-Succinctness of the Proof** property, as the size of the proof is independent of ℓ .

Transferability of ICPoP: In our VSS protocol we will use ICPoP as follows: after receiving $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$ from D via the secret-encoding and masking polynomials, INT will send these polynomials (and hence $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$) to another designated party, say $P_R \in \mathcal{P}$ (if INT is corrupted then it can send incorrect polynomials to P_R). Later on, party P_R will act as an INT and produce a proof of possession of $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$, which got “transferred” to P_R from INT; the proof gets verified with respect to the verification information held by the verifiers. This transfer of $\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{M}$ will satisfy all the properties of ICPoP, imagining P_R as the new INT. Specifically if D is *honest* and both INT and P_R are *honest*, then the privacy will hold. Moreover if P_R produces a proof of possession of incorrect sets (this can be the case if either INT or P_R is corrupted), then the proof gets rejected. If D is *corrupted* and both INT and P_R are honest then the proof given by P_R will be accepted.

4 Statistical VSS with a Quadratic Overhead

We present a 4-round VSS protocol *Sh* to t -share $\ell \times (n - t) = \Theta(n\ell)$ values with communication complexity $\mathcal{PC}(\mathcal{O}(n^3\ell))$ and $\mathcal{BC}(\mathcal{O}(n^3))$. So for sufficiently large ℓ , the broadcast complexity will be *independent* of ℓ . For simplicity, we will present a 5-round statistical VSS protocol *Sh-Single* for sharing a single secret. We will then explain how to reduce the number of rounds of *Sh-Single* from five to four. Finally we extend this four round *Sh-Single* to get *Sh*. We first discuss a protocol *Poly-Check* adapted from [34], used in our VSS.

4.1 Verifiably Distributing Values on Bivariate Polynomials of Degree at Most t

In our VSS protocol we will come across the following situation: D will select L bivariate polynomials $F^{(1)}(x, y), \dots, F^{(L)}(x, y)$, each of degree at most t and send the i th row polynomials $f_i^{(1)}(x), \dots, f_i^{(L)}(x)$ of $F^{(1)}(x, y), \dots, F^{(L)}(x, y)$ respectively to each P_i ; we stress that the corresponding column polynomials are retained by D. The parties now want to publicly verify if there is a set of at least $t + 1$ *honest* parties, who received row polynomials, lying on L unique bivariate polynomials of degree at most t without revealing any additional information about the polynomials. For this we use a two round protocol *Poly-Check* (see Fig. 4), which is adapted from an asynchronous protocol for the same purpose, presented in [34].

In the protocol Poly-Check, there is a designated *verifier* V , who challenges D to broadcast a random linear combination of the n column polynomials of all the bivariate polynomials selected by D . Specifically V provides a challenge combiner, say r and in response D makes public a linear combination of its column polynomials with respect to r ; to maintain the privacy of the column polynomials, this linear combination is blinded by a random degree t *blinding polynomial* $B(y)$, selected by D , with each party P_i having a value on this polynomial. Corresponding to the linear combination of the column polynomials produced by D , each party P_i makes public a linear combination of n values of all its row polynomials, with respect to the combiner r , which is blinded by the value of $B(y)$ possessed by it. The idea here is the following: if indeed there exists a set of $t + 1$ honest parties that we are looking for, then the values of the row polynomials possessed by these parties will define degree t column polynomials. And these column and row polynomials will be “pair-wise consistent”. Based on this idea we check if the blinded linear combination of the column polynomials produced by D is of degree t . Moreover it is also checked if there exists a *witness set* $\mathcal{W}^{(V)}$ of at least $2t + 1$ parties, such that their blinded linear combination of row polynomial values satisfies the linear combination produced by D . If any one of the above conditions is not satisfied the parties output \perp , otherwise they output $\mathcal{W}^{(V)}$. It is ensured that if V is *honest*, then except with probability $\frac{nL}{|\mathbb{F}|}$, the honest parties in $\mathcal{W}^{(V)}$ constitute the desired set of row polynomial holders. The properties of Poly-Check are stated in Lemma 9; we refer to [34] for the complete proof.

Lemma 9 (Properties of Protocol Poly-Check [34]). *In protocol Poly-Check, the following holds:*

- If D is honest then every honest party outputs a $\mathcal{W}^{(V)}$ set which includes all the honest parties. Moreover the row polynomials of the honest parties in $\mathcal{W}^{(V)}$ will lie on $F^{(1)}(x, y), \dots, F^{(L)}(x, y)$. Furthermore Adv gets no additional information about $F^{(1)}(x, y), \dots, F^{(L)}(x, y)$ in the protocol.
- If D is corrupted and V is honest and if the parties output a $\mathcal{W}^{(V)}$, then except with probability at most $\frac{nL}{|\mathbb{F}|}$, there exists L bivariate polynomials, say $\overline{F}^{(1)}(x, y), \dots, \overline{F}^{(L)}(x, y)$, of degree at most t , such that the row polynomials of the honest parties in $\mathcal{W}^{(V)}$ lie on $\overline{F}^{(1)}(x, y), \dots, \overline{F}^{(L)}(x, y)$.
- The protocol requires two rounds and has communication complexity $\mathcal{BC}(\mathcal{O}(n))$.

4.2 Five Round Statistical VSS for a Single Secret

To t -share s , D selects a random *secret-carrying* bivariate polynomial $F(x, y)$ of degree at most t such that $s = F(0, 0)$. The i th row polynomial $f_i(x)$ of $F(x, y)$ is given to each P_i . We stress that *only* the row polynomials are distributed. The parties then verify the consistency of the distributed polynomials by publicly verifying the existence of a set VCORE of at least $2t + 1$ parties, such that

Poly-Check(D, V, \mathcal{P} , L , $\{F^{(1)}(x, y), \dots, F^{(L)}(x, y), B(y)\}$, $\{\bar{f}_i^{(1)}(x), \dots, \bar{f}_i^{(L)}(x), \bar{b}_i\}_{i \in [n]}$)

Round 1: Verifier V selects a random combiner $r \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\}$ and broadcasts r .

Round 2: The parties on receiving r from the broadcast of V do the following:

- D broadcasts the polynomial $E(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} B(y) + r g_1^{(1)}(y) + r^2 g_2^{(1)}(y) + \dots + r^n g_n^{(1)}(y) + r^{(n+1)} g_1^{(2)}(y) + r^{(n+2)} g_2^{(2)}(y) + \dots + r^{2n} g_n^{(2)}(y) + \dots + r^{(L-1)n+1} g_1^{(L)}(y) + r^{(L-1)n+2} g_2^{(L)}(y) + \dots + r^{Ln} g_n^{(L)}(y)$. Here $g_i^{(k)}(y) = F^{(k)}(\alpha_i, y)$ for $k \in [L]$ and $i \in [n]$.

- Each party $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ (including D) broadcasts the linear combination $e_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bar{b}_i + r \bar{f}_i^{(1)}(\alpha_1) + r^2 \bar{f}_i^{(1)}(\alpha_2) + \dots + r^n \bar{f}_i^{(1)}(\alpha_n) + r^{(n+1)} \bar{f}_i^{(2)}(\alpha_1) + r^{(n+2)} \bar{f}_i^{(2)}(\alpha_2) + \dots + r^{2n} \bar{f}_i^{(2)}(\alpha_n) + \dots + r^{(L-1)n+1} \bar{f}_i^{(L)}(\alpha_1) + r^{(L-1)n+2} \bar{f}_i^{(L)}(\alpha_2) + \dots + r^{Ln} \bar{f}_i^{(L)}(\alpha_n)$

Output determination: If $E(y)$ has degree more than t then each party $P_j \in \mathcal{P}$ outputs \perp and terminate. Else each party $P_j \in \mathcal{P}$ creates a *witness set* $\mathcal{W}^{(V)}$, initialized to \emptyset and then does the following:

- Include party P_i to $\mathcal{W}^{(V)}$ if the relation $E(\alpha_i) \stackrel{?}{=} e_i$ is true.
- If $|\mathcal{W}^{(V)}| \geq 2t + 1$ then P_j outputs $\mathcal{W}^{(V)}$, else P_j outputs \perp .

Fig. 4. Checking the consistency of row polynomials distributed by D under the supervision of a designated verifier V. The inputs for (an honest) D are L secret bivariate polynomials $F^{(1)}(x, y), \dots, F^{(L)}(x, y)$ of degree at most t and a secret blinding polynomial $B(y)$ of degree at most t . The inputs for (an honest) party P_i are L row polynomials $\bar{f}_i^{(1)}(x), \dots, \bar{f}_i^{(L)}(x)$ of degree at most t and a share \bar{b}_i of blinding polynomial. If D and P_i are honest then these values are private and $\bar{f}_i^{(k)}(x) = F^{(k)}(x, \alpha_i)$ and $\bar{b}_i = B(\alpha_i)$ will hold for each $k \in [L]$.

the row polynomials of the *honest* parties in VCORE lie on a unique bivariate polynomial, say $\bar{F}(x, y)$, of degree at most t . For this, n instances of Poly-Check are executed (one on the behalf of each party playing the role of the designated verifier V) and it is verified if there is common subset of at least $2t + 1$ parties, present across all the generated witness sets. As there will be at least one instance of Poly-Check executed on the behalf of an honest verifier, clearly the common subset of $2t + 1$ parties satisfies the properties of VCORE. To maintain the privacy of the row polynomials during the Poly-Check instances, n independent *blinding polynomials* are used by D, one for each instance. If a VCORE is found, then we say that D has “committed” the secret $\bar{s} = \bar{F}(0, 0)$ to the parties in VCORE via their row polynomials and the next goal will be to ensure that each party P_j obtains its column polynomial $\bar{g}_j(y)$ of $\bar{F}(x, y)$; party P_j can then output its share $\bar{s}_j = \bar{g}_j(0)$ of \bar{s} and hence \bar{s} will be t -shared via $\bar{F}(x, 0)$. If D is *honest* then $\bar{F}(x, y) = F(x, y)$ will hold (and hence $\bar{s} = s$), as VCORE will include all the honest parties.

To enable P_j obtain $\bar{g}_j(y)$, each $P_i \in \text{VCORE}$ can send the common point $\bar{f}_i(\alpha_j)$ on $\bar{g}_j(y)$ to P_j , where $\bar{f}_i(\alpha_j)$ denotes the j th value on the i th row polynomial received by P_i (if D is honest then $\bar{f}_i(\alpha_j) = f_i(\alpha_j)$ holds). The honest

parties in VCORE will always send the correct values; however the corrupted parties may send incorrect values. Due to insufficient redundancy in the received $\bar{f}_i(\alpha_j)$ values, party P_j cannot error-correct them (for this we require $|\text{VCORE}|$ to be of size at least $3t+1$). The way out is that P_j gives a *proof of possession* of the $\bar{f}_i(\alpha_j)$ values received from the parties P_i in VCORE. Namely the values on the row polynomials are initially distributed by D by executing instances of *Distr*. There will be n^2 such instances and instance *Distr* $_{ij}$ is executed to distribute $f_i(\alpha_j)$ to P_i , considering P_i as an INT; the corresponding instances *AuthVal* $_{ij}$ are also executed and it is ensured that the *AuthVal* instances, involving any party from VCORE as an INT, is not aborted by D. Now when a party P_i in VCORE sends $\bar{f}_i(\alpha_j)$ to P_j , party P_j acts as an INT and publicly gives a proof of possession of $\bar{f}_i(\alpha_j)$ by executing an instance *RevealPoP* $_{ji}$ of *RevealPoP*. The idea is to use the *transferability* property of *ICPoP* to identify the incorrectly transferred values. Namely if D is *honest* and an incorrect $\bar{f}_i(\alpha_j)$ is transferred to P_j , then the corresponding proof gets rejected during *RevealPoP* $_{ji}$ and P_j discard such values.

Unfortunately, if D is *corrupted* then the above mechanism alone is not sufficient for P_j to robustly reconstruct $\bar{g}_j(y)$. Because a *corrupted* P_i in VCORE can then transfer an incorrect $\bar{f}_i(\alpha_j)$ to P_j and still the proof will get accepted; this is because if *both* D and INT are corrupted, then INT will know the full auxiliary and verification information involved in *ICPoP*. As a result, P_j will end up not reconstructing a degree t column polynomial from the received $\bar{f}_i(\alpha_j)$ values. To deal with this particular case, we ensure that the \mathcal{M} sets used by D in the *ICPoP* instances have a similar “structure” as the corresponding \mathcal{S} sets. Specifically, D selects two random *masking* bivariate polynomials $M^{(1)}(x, y)$ and $M^{(2)}(x, y)$ each of degree at most t . Let $m_i^{(1)}(x), m_i^{(2)}(x)$ denote the corresponding row polynomials. The instances *Distr* $_{ij}$ are executed by setting $\mathcal{S}_{ij} = \{f_i(\alpha_j)\}$ and $\mathcal{M}_{ij} = \{m_i^{(1)}(\alpha_j), m_i^{(2)}(\alpha_j)\}$ (thus $\ell = 1$ and $\text{pack} = 1$ in these instances). The corresponding *AuthVal* $_{ij}$ instances are executed with $\bar{\mathcal{S}}_{ij} = \{\bar{f}_i(\alpha_j)\}$ and $\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{ij} = \{\bar{m}_i^{(1)}(\alpha_j), \bar{m}_i^{(2)}(\alpha_j)\}$, which denotes the \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{M} sets respectively received by P_i during *Distr* $_{ij}$ (if D is honest then these will be the same as \mathcal{S}_{ij} and \mathcal{M}_{ij}). The existence of VCORE will now imply that D has committed a secret-carrying polynomial, say $\bar{F}(x, y)$ and two masking bivariate polynomials, say $\bar{M}^{(1)}(x, y), \bar{M}^{(2)}(x, y)$ to the parties in VCORE, where all these polynomials have degree at most t . It follows that any linear combination of the column polynomials $\bar{F}(\alpha_j, y), \bar{M}^{(1)}(\alpha_j, y)$ and $\bar{M}^{(2)}(\alpha_j, y)$ will be a degree t univariate polynomial. And this property is used by P_j to identify the correctly transferred $\bar{\mathcal{S}}_{ij} \cup \bar{\mathcal{M}}_{ij}$ sets. Namely the values in the transferred $\bar{\mathcal{S}}_{ij} \cup \bar{\mathcal{M}}_{ij}$ sets should lie on degree t univariate polynomials and hence any random linear combination of these sets should also lie on a degree t polynomial. Based on this observation, party P_j selects a *common* random combiner, say e_j , for *all* the transferred $\bar{\mathcal{S}}_{ij} \cup \bar{\mathcal{M}}_{ij}$ sets and publicly reveals a linear combination of these $\bar{\mathcal{S}}_{ij} \cup \bar{\mathcal{M}}_{ij}$ sets via the *RevealPoP* $_{ji}$ instances. It is then publicly verified if these linearly combined values lie on a degree t polynomial. If not then it implies that D is

corrupted and it is discarded; see Figs. 5 and 6 for the formal details. For the ease of understanding, a pictorial representation of the information distributed in Sh-Single is given in Fig. 7.

We state the properties of Sh-Single and formally prove the correctness of Sh-Single in case of a corrupt dealer by means of a claim below. The remaining proofs will appear in the full version.

Lemma 10. *If D is honest then except with probability at most $\frac{n^3 t}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$, it is not discarded during Sh-Single.*

Lemma 11 (Correctness for an honest D). *If D is honest then except with probability at most $\frac{n^3 t}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$, the value s is t -shared at the end of Sh-Single.*

Lemma 12. *Let $\bar{f}_i(x), \bar{m}_i^{(1)}(x)$ and $\bar{m}_i^{(2)}(x)$ be the row polynomials defined by the values in $\bar{S}_{ij} \cup \bar{M}_{ij}$ received by party $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ from D for $j \in [n]$. If D is corrupted and a VCORE is formed during Sh-Single then except with probability at most $\frac{3n^2}{|\mathbb{F}|}$, there exist bivariate polynomials, say $\bar{F}(x, y), \bar{M}^{(1)}(x, y)$ and $\bar{M}^{(2)}(x, y)$, each of degree at most t , such that for each honest $P_i \in \text{VCORE}$, the polynomials $\bar{f}_i(x), \bar{m}_i^{(1)}(x)$ and $\bar{m}_i^{(2)}(x)$ lie on $\bar{F}(x, y), \bar{M}^{(1)}(x, y)$ and $\bar{M}^{(2)}(x, y)$ respectively.*

Proof. From the definition, $\text{VCORE} = \mathcal{W}^{(P_1)} \cap \mathcal{W}^{(P_2)} \cap \dots \cap \mathcal{W}^{(P_n)}$ and $|\text{VCORE}| \geq 2t+1$. This ensures that there are at least $t+1$ common honest parties in VCORE, say HVCORE. Consider an honest party $P_j \in \mathcal{P}$, playing the role of the verifier V in the instance Poly-Check $^{(P_j)}$. It follows from Lemma 9 (by substituting $L = 3$) that for the instance Poly-Check $^{(P_j)}$, except with probability at most $\frac{3n}{|\mathbb{F}|}$, the row polynomials $\bar{f}_i(x), \bar{m}_i^{(1)}(x)$ and $\bar{m}_i^{(2)}(x)$ of the parties $P_i \in \text{HVCORE}$ together lie on three unique bivariate polynomials, say $\bar{F}(x, y), \bar{M}^{(1)}(x, y)$ and $\bar{M}^{(2)}(x, y)$ respectively of degree at most t . The same will be true with respect to every other instance Poly-Check $^{(P_k)}$, corresponding to every other honest verifier $P_k \neq P_j$. Moreover, the set of three bivariate polynomials defined via each of these instances of Poly-Check will be the same, namely $\bar{F}(x, y), \bar{M}^{(1)}(x, y)$ and $\bar{M}^{(2)}(x, y)$ respectively. This follows from Lemma 2 (by substituting $\ell = |\text{HVCORE}|$) and the fact that $|\text{HVCORE}| \geq t+1$. The lemma now follows from the union bound and the fact that there are $\Theta(n)$ honest parties, playing the role of V .

Lemma 13 (Correctness for a corrupted D). *If D is corrupted and not discarded during Sh-Single, then there exists some value, say \bar{s} , such that except with probability at most $\frac{n^3}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$, \bar{s} is t -shared at the end of Sh-Single.*

Proof. If a corrupted D is not discarded then it implies that a set VCORE with $|\text{VCORE}| \geq 2t+1$ is constructed during Sh-Single. Let HVCORE be the set of honest parties in VCORE; clearly $|\text{HVCORE}| \geq t+1$. From Lemma 12 it follows

Sh-Single(D, \mathcal{P} , s)

Round 1: Dealer D does the following:

- Select a random *secret-carrying bivariate polynomial* $F(x, y)$ of degree at most t with $F(0, 0) = s$. Select two random *masking bivariate polynomials* $M^{(1)}(x, y)$ and $M^{(2)}(x, y)$, each of degree at most t . In addition select n random *blinding univariate polynomials* $B^{(P_1)}(y), \dots, B^{(P_n)}(y)$, each of degree at most t , where $B^{(P_i)}$ is associated with party $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$. Corresponding to each $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$, compute row polynomials $f_i(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} F(x, \alpha_i)$, $m_i^{(1)}(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} M^{(1)}(x, \alpha_i)$, $m_i^{(2)}(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} M^{(2)}(x, \alpha_i)$ and share-vector $(b_i^{(P_1)}, \dots, b_i^{(P_n)})$ of blinding polynomials, where $b_i^{(P_j)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} B^{(P_j)}(\alpha_i)$ for $j \in [n]$. Let $S_{ij} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{f_i(\alpha_j)\}$ and $\mathcal{M}_{ij} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{m_i^{(1)}(\alpha_j), m_i^{(2)}(\alpha_j)\}$ for $i, j \in [n]$.
- To each $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$, send $(b_i^{(P_1)}, \dots, b_i^{(P_n)})$. In addition, for $j \in [n]$, execute an instance $\text{Distr}(D, P_i, \mathcal{P}, 1, 1, S_{ij} \cup \mathcal{M}_{ij})$ of Distr to give $S_{ij} \cup \mathcal{M}_{ij}$ to P_i , considering P_i as an INT. Let Distr_{ij} denote the corresponding instance of Distr .

Round 2: Each $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ (including D) does the following: let $\overline{S}_{ij} = \{\overline{f}_{ij}\}$ and $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{ij} = \{\overline{m}_{ij}^{(1)}, \overline{m}_{ij}^{(2)}\}$ be the secret and masking set respectively received from D in Distr_{ij} . In addition, let $(\overline{b}_i^{(P_1)}, \dots, \overline{b}_i^{(P_n)})$ denote the vector received^a from D. Let $\overline{f}_i(x)$, $\overline{m}_i^{(1)}(x)$ and $\overline{m}_i^{(2)}(x)$ be the polynomials defined by the points $\{(\alpha_j, \overline{f}_{ij})\}_{j \in [n]}$, $\{(\alpha_j, \overline{m}_{ij}^{(1)})\}_{j \in [n]}$ and $\{(\alpha_j, \overline{m}_{ij}^{(2)})\}_{j \in [n]}$ respectively. If these polynomials are not of degree t then P_i broadcasts (Abort, P_i) , else it does the following:

- Transfer $\overline{S}_{ij} \cup \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{ij}$ to P_j by sending all the information received from D in the instance Distr_{ij} .
- As an INT, execute the steps of Round 1 of an instance $\text{AuthVal}(D, P_i, \mathcal{P}, 1, 1, \overline{S}_{ij} \cup \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{ij})$ of AuthVal , corresponding to the instance Distr_{ij} , for $j \in [n]$. Let this instance of AuthVal be denoted as AuthVal_{ij} .
- As a verifier V, execute the steps of Round 1 of an instance $\text{Poly-Check}(D, P_i, \mathcal{P}, 3, \{M^{(1)}(x, y), M^{(2)}(x, y), F(x, y), B^{(P_i)}(y)\}, \{\overline{m}_j^{(1)}(x), \overline{m}_j^{(2)}(x), \overline{f}_j(x), \overline{b}_j^{(P_i)}\}_{j \in [n]})$ of Poly-Check ; denote this instance as $\text{Poly-Check}^{(P_i)}$.

Round 3: Each $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ (including D) does the following: If (Abort, \star) message is received from the broadcast of more than t parties then discard D and abort Sh-Single . Else P_i does the following:

- Corresponding to each $j, k \in [n]$, participate as a verifier during Round 2 of AuthVal , in the instances AuthVal_{jk}
- Execute the steps of Round 2 of Poly-Check , corresponding to the instances $\text{Poly-Check}^{(P_1)}, \dots, \text{Poly-Check}^{(P_n)}$.
- **[Additional steps, If $P_i = D$]** — In addition to the above steps, P_i executes the following steps if P_i is D:
 - As a D, execute the steps of Round 2 of AuthVal , corresponding to the instances AuthVal_{jk} for each $j, k \in [n]$.
 - As a D, execute the steps of Round 2 of Poly-Check , corresponding to $\text{Poly-Check}^{(P_1)}, \dots, \text{Poly-Check}^{(P_n)}$.

^a If D is honest then $\overline{S}_{ij} = S_{ij}$, $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{ij} = \mathcal{M}_{ij}$ and $(\overline{b}_i^{(P_1)}, \dots, \overline{b}_i^{(P_n)}) = (b_i^{(P_1)}, \dots, b_i^{(P_n)})$.

Fig. 5. VSS for sharing a single secret: Part I.

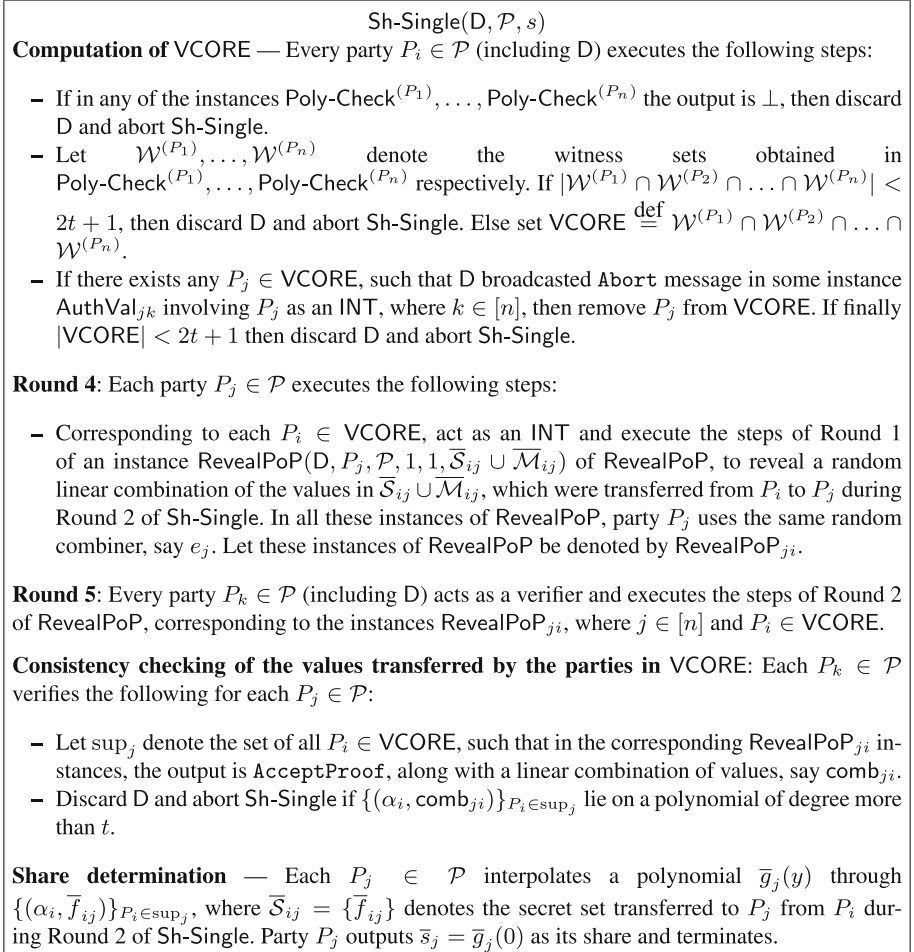


Fig. 6. VSS for sharing a single secret: Part II.

that except with probability at most $\frac{3n^2}{|\mathbb{F}|}$, the row polynomials $\bar{f}_i(x), \bar{m}_i^{(1)}(x)$ and $\bar{m}_i^{(2)}(x)$ of the parties in HVCORE lie on unique bivariate polynomials, say $\bar{F}(x, y), \bar{M}^{(1)}(x, y)$ and $\bar{M}^{(2)}(x, y)$ of degree at most t . We define $\bar{s} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bar{F}(0, 0)$ and claim that \bar{s} is t -shared via the polynomial $\bar{f}_0(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bar{F}(x, 0)$, with each honest P_j holding the share $\bar{s}_j \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bar{F}(\alpha_j, 0)$. To prove our claim, we show that each honest party P_j outputs its degree t univariate polynomial $\bar{g}_j(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bar{F}(\alpha_j, y)$ except with probability at most $\frac{n^2}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$; this ensures that P_j obtains the correct share, as $\bar{s}_j = \bar{g}_j(0)$. For this, we further need to show that the $\bar{\mathcal{S}}_{ij}$ set transferred by each party $P_i \in \text{sup}_j$ to P_j contains the value $\bar{g}_j(\alpha_i)$.

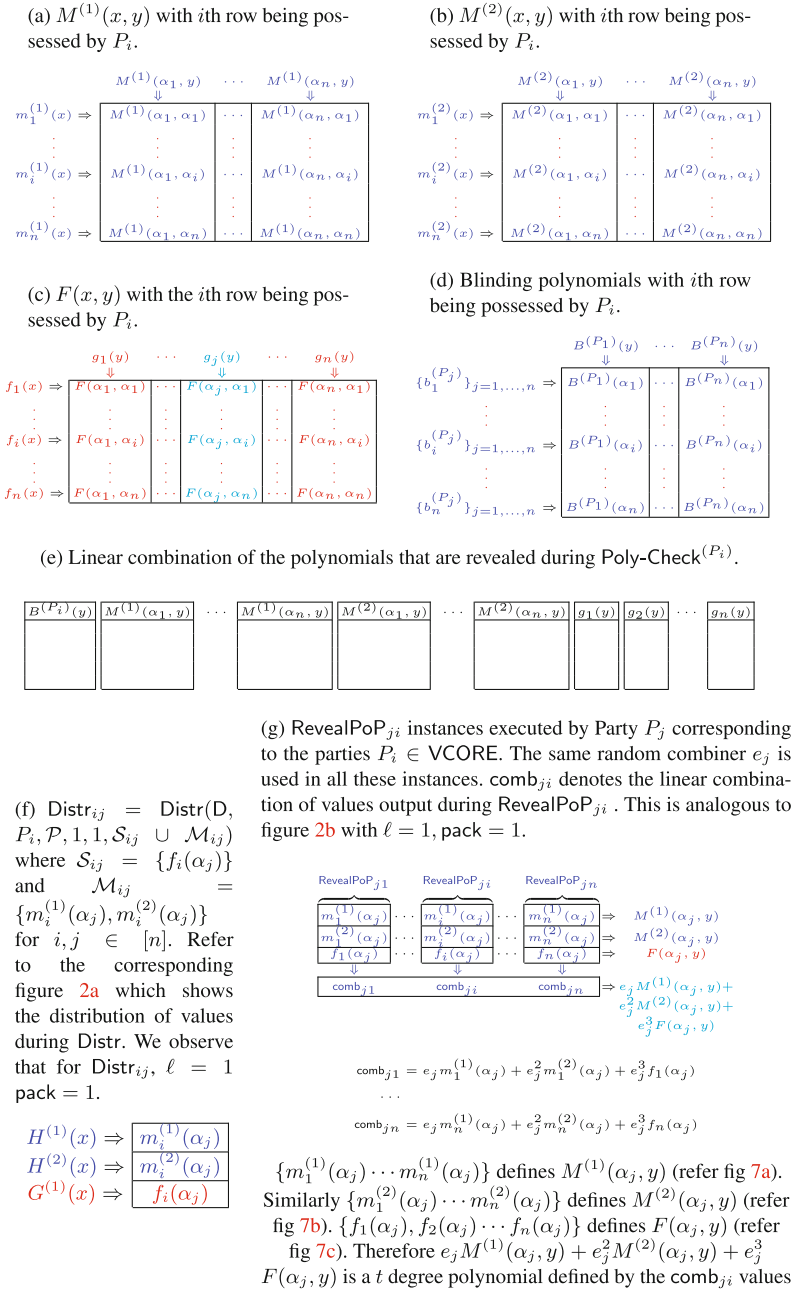


Fig. 7. Pictorial representation of the values distributed in Sh-Single protocol.

Consider an honest P_j . Notice that $\text{sup}_j \subseteq \text{VCORE}$. We first argue that every $P_i \in \text{HVCORE}$ is present in sup_j , except with probability at most $\frac{n^2}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$. This is because there are $\Theta(n)$ such parties P_i and in each corresponding RevealPoP_{ji} instance, the output is AcceptProof , which follows from Lemma 6 (by substituting $\ell = 1$). Now consider the set of values $\overline{\mathcal{S}}_{ij} = \{\overline{f}_{ij}\}$ and $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{ij} = \{\overline{m}_{ij}^{(1)}, \overline{m}_{ij}^{(2)}\}$ transferred by the parties $P_i \in \text{HVCORE}$ to P_j . Since $\overline{f}_{ij} = \overline{f}_i(\alpha_j) = \overline{g}_j(\alpha_i)$ holds, it follows that the values $\{\overline{f}_{ij}\}_{P_i \in \text{HVCORE}}$ define the degree t univariate polynomial $\overline{g}_j(y)$. Similarly the values $\{\overline{m}_{ij}^{(1)}\}_{P_i \in \text{HVCORE}}$ and $\{\overline{m}_{ij}^{(2)}\}_{P_i \in \text{HVCORE}}$ define degree t univariate polynomials $\overline{M}^{(1)}(y, \alpha_j)$ and $\overline{M}^{(2)}(y, \alpha_j)$ respectively. To complete the proof, we argue that except with probability at most $\frac{2}{|\mathbb{F}|}$, the values in the $\overline{\mathcal{S}}_{ij}$ and $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{ij}$ set transferred by a *corrupted* party $P_i \in \text{sup}_j$ lie on $\overline{g}_j(y)$, $\overline{M}^{(1)}(y, \alpha_j)$ and $\overline{M}^{(2)}(y, \alpha_j)$ respectively. This is because the combiner e_j selected by the honest P_j in the RevealPoP_{ji} instances corresponding to the parties in sup_j is truly random and unknown to the adversary in advance, when the $\overline{\mathcal{S}}_{ij}$ and $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{ij}$ sets are transferred to P_j . The rest follows from Lemma 4 (by substituting $L = 2$) and the fact that the values $\{\text{comb}_{ji}\}_{P_i \in \text{sup}_j}$ lie on a polynomial of degree at most t (otherwise D would have been discarded), say $\text{comb}_j(y)$, where $\text{comb}_j(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} e_j \overline{M}^{(1)}(y, \alpha_j) + e_j^2 \overline{M}^{(2)}(y, \alpha_j) + e_j^3 \overline{g}_j(y)$. As there can be n^2 pair of parties involving a corrupted party, it follows by the union bound that except with probability at most $\frac{2n^2}{|\mathbb{F}|}$, the corrupted parties in VCORE transfer the correct values to the honest parties.

As each honest P_j correctly obtains its column polynomial except with probability at most $\frac{n^2}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$ and as there are $\Theta(n)$ such honest parties, it follows that except with probability at most $\frac{n^3}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$, the value \overline{s} is t -shared.

Lemma 14 (Privacy). *In protocol Sh-Single, the value s remains information theoretically secure.*

Theorem 2. *Sh-Single is a five round VSS protocol for a single secret, satisfying the requirements of VSS except with probability $\frac{n^3 t}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}$. The protocol has communication complexity $\mathcal{PC}(\mathcal{O}(n^3))$ and $\mathcal{BC}(\mathcal{O}(n^3))$.*

Proof. The properties of VSS follow from Lemmas 11–14. In the protocol n^2 instances of ICPoP (with $\ell = 1$, $\text{pack} = 1$) and n instances of Poly-Check (each with $L = 3$) are executed. The rest follows from the communication complexity of ICPoP (Theorem 1) and Poly-Check (Lemma 9).

From Five Rounds to Four Rounds: In Sh-Single, the instances of RevealPoP which start getting executed during Round 4 can be instead instantiated during Round 3 itself. Namely irrespective of the formation of VCORE , each party P_j starts executing the instance RevealPoP_{ji} corresponding to *each* party $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$, based on the set of values in $\overline{\mathcal{S}}_{ij} \cup \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{ij}$ which were transferred to P_j by P_i

during Round 2. Next VCORE is computed and if P_i is found not to be present in VCORE, then the instance RevealPoP_{j_i} can be halted; otherwise the remaining steps of the RevealPoP_{j_i} instance are executed during Round 4. Based on this modification, Sh-Single now requires four rounds, the rest of the properties remain same.

Sharing $\ell \times (n - t)$ Secrets: To share $\ell \times (n - t)$ secrets, the underlying instances of Distr , AuthVal and RevealPoP are executed to deal with $\ell \times \text{pack}$ values simultaneously, where $\text{pack} = n - t$. The steps for consistency checking of the values transferred by the parties in VCORE are also generalized to deal with $\ell \times (n - t)$ values. With these modifications, we get a four round Sh for sharing $\ell(n - t)$ values. The properties of Sh follow in a straight forward fashion from the corresponding properties of Sh-Single , taking into account that the underlying instances of ICPoP that are executed deal with $\ell \times (n - t)$ values. We state the theorem below. The proof will appear in the full version.

Theorem 3. *Sh is a four round VSS for $\ell \times (n - t)$ values, with an error probability of $\max\{\frac{n^3(n-1)}{|\mathbb{F}|-(n-t)}, \frac{n^3\ell}{|\mathbb{F}|-1}\}$. The protocol has communication complexity $\mathcal{PC}(\mathcal{O}(n^3\ell))$ and $\mathcal{BC}(\mathcal{O}(n^3))$.*

5 Efficient Statistical MPC Protocol

Using Sh , we design a statistical MPC protocol in the partially synchronous setting. The protocol is designed in the offline-online paradigm, where in the offline phase, the parties generate t -sharing of random and private multiplication triples of the form (a, b, c) , where $c = ab$. Later in the online phase, these triples are used for the shared evaluation of the circuit using the standard Beaver multiplication triple based technique [2, 3, 5, 14]. For designing the offline phase protocol, we use the protocol Sh and deploy the efficient framework of [15]. The shared evaluation of the circuit is done in a completely asynchronous fashion in the online phase. We get the following theorem. The complete description of the protocol and the proof will appear in the full version.

Theorem 4. *Let $f : \mathbb{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ be a function expressed as an arithmetic circuit over a finite field \mathbb{F} , consisting of c_M and c_R multiplication and random gates respectively. Assuming that the first four communication rounds are synchronous broadcast rounds after which the entire communication is asynchronous, there exists a statistical MPC protocol to securely compute f , provided $|\mathbb{F}| \geq 4n^4(c_M + c_R)(3t + 1)2^\kappa$ for a given error parameter κ . The protocol has communication complexity $\mathcal{PC}(\mathcal{O}(n^2(c_M + c_R) + n^4))$ and $\mathcal{BC}(\mathcal{O}(n^4))$.*

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