

# DECENTRALIZED AND CYBER-SECURITY BASED INFORMATION SHARING COMMUNICATION SUITE

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The recent advancements in the field of cybersecurity demanded efficient information sharing and also that has been acknowledged for many years as a prominent factor to the cybersecurity community. At present, there is no standard infra for Information sharing and mostly utilizes non-standard data structural sources. To build up a secure infra for information sharing against possible vicious threats, a perfect cyber defense system is found to be the need of the hour. Cybersecurity investigators and architects head to uphold the integrity, availability, and confidentiality of selective information and data management systems via several cyber defense systems that defend any network and its systems from cyberpunks. With the enlargement in communicating networks, vulnerability to cyberpunks also raises. So, besides the concepts of cybersecurity, any key players need to build up a decentralized network system which enhances the robustness and renders an efficient resolution against cyberpunks and threat in the large-scale organization process. Even if attacker's minds blocking the entire network system, decentralization conception prevents such infiltration to access entire data. Thus, a decentralized cyber defense system has become an outstanding infra for any organization. However, establishing such kind of defense system is challenged mainly to the adaptation to a new decentralized network for privacy based information sharing among different blocks of the organization at a different location. Hence, we propose a secured information schema that enables the secured communication in encrypted format among different data points/data centers of the organization. Moreover, the resultants of the proposed concept show better complexity in terms of communication and computation costs. This conception delineated in this article once accomplished at a large-scale would render the basic building blocks for springing up an extremely efficacious cybersecurity information sharing system in the decentralized network.

**Keywords:** Cybersecurity, Decentralization, Homomorphic Encryption, ElGamal cryptosystem.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Most of the modern and complex networks progressively demand highly specialized conceptual cybersecurity knowledge. Moreover, the requirement and welfares of information sharing for resistant and firm cybersecurity are unambiguously recognized by all stakeholders, including commercial-grade and non-commercial-grade organizations, and private and governmental agencies. Organizations are aggregating an enormous amount of cybersecurity data internally and externally for employing better protection against threats and to defend a firm cybersecurity posture. Most of the researchers have spent substantial attempts to deal with the effects of cybersecurity information sharing and proposed many ideas to counter those sharing issues and also, to balance both the benefits and costs of applying quantitative and qualitative methods.

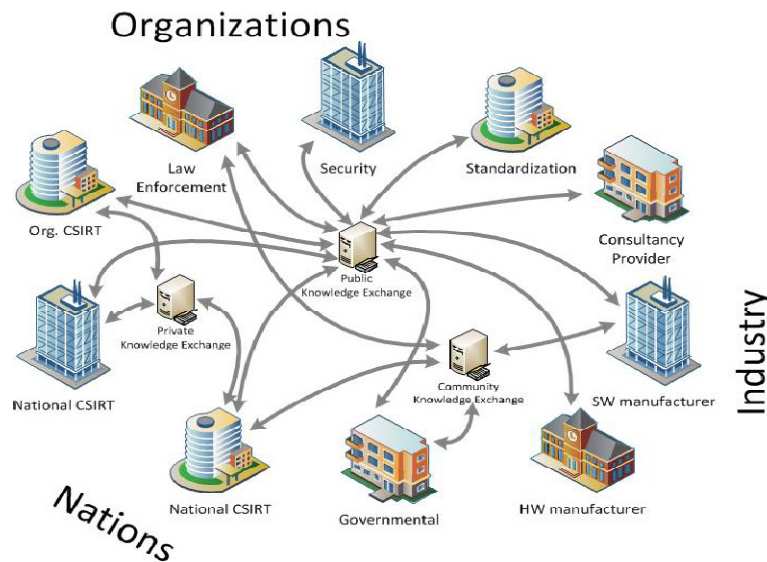
### 1.1 Scope of Collaborative Security in Decentralized Network

From [1], the collaborative security has been delineated as “rather than utilizing centrally supervised policies, the data points or centers in the organization may share and collect cybersecurity associated knowledge to attain the security concerned decisions”. The objective of this collaborationism is to attain the decisions more efficaciously as the enormous data are available, the precise decision can be attained on utilizing that selective information. So the “collaborative security” plays a key role among various security systems by portioning out various security-related information to make more sensible and effective decisiveness. This collaborative security system has been employed in many security-related domains such as intrusion detection, anti-malware, anti-spam, etc. Hence the collaborative security manages to behave in a decentralized manner to bring down the dependency on a single or centralized server and in return deliver firm data control to the different data-points/centers involved in the communications of the organization. It explores the importance of decentralization in providing security to any system.

### 1.2. The Necessity of Decentralized Cybersecurity

Issues such as eminent spatiality of the node/system, incertitude, geographical detachment of components, delays in the communicating network, and rapid attacks by cyberpunks with the

motive of collapsing the entire network are factors that alarm the situation for the change from centralized decision making to decentralized control. A decentralized network is an environment that provides complete robustness by ensuring no single point of failure. The nodes/systems interconnected in the network are not dependent upon a single centralized device and hereby each node/system might be replicated with the network configurations. To avoid failure of the entire network system by external cyber-attacks, all the data-points/nodes in the network transmit selected information to all other known data-points/nodes, whether those adjacent data-points register the applicable data or not.



**Figure 1: Concept of Knowledge sharing in Decentralized Network [47]**

Normally, this information sharing approach uses BFS (Breadth-First Search) strategy which is referred to as the “message flooding approach”. To avoid infinite recursive data transmissions, to control the number of secured keys per information generation on a single request, every communicative information is allotted with a special value called the “Time-To-Live (TTL)” value. Every data-point shares this TTL info which decreases their value by 1 and only that info is forwarded, having positive TTL values. The merit of decentralized networks is that it does not demand network structural maintenances proactively. In the decentralized network system, the members of a multicast in-group are segmented into lots of smaller sub-groups that are regulated by different kind of sub-group controllers. This type of access puts an end to the single point vulnerability issue as well as the “one-affect-N” problem and importantly minimizes the re-keying computation cost.

### 1.3. Concern on Cybersecurity Attacks

The hypotheses of attacks are tremendous in decentralized networks. Most common attacks, as well as few suitable defense mechanisms that are adopted in the decentralized network system, are listed and discussed as,

#### i. Rational Attacks

For decentralized network services to be in effect, active interconnected data-point must collaborate, but a node/data-point constitutes a self-interested posse, and cooperation cannot be expected or enforced all the time. A sensible presumption is that a large section of data-points are rational and will merely seek to reduce their consumption of the network's available resources while reducing the utilization of their own. To illustrate with an example, here some set of nodes might recognize that refusal of sharing of the required information, they save precious uploadable bandwidth. Specifically, in the instance of copyrighted substantial, information sharing can have the worst consequences. Hence it is illegal and quite easy for attackers to determine who is sharing specific information that may lead to heavy disaster. These are adequately good for the circumstances to prompt data-points in getting "self-interested". If a large set of data-points/nodes are becoming self-interested and decline to contribute, the entire network system may destabilize. Successful decentralized systems must be planned/ designed to be robust against this ration attack and its mere consequences.

#### ii. File Poisoning

File poisoning attacks tend to be maneuver on the data plane and have turn exceedingly common in decentralized networks. This attack aims to interchange an informative file with a false one in the network that leads to inaccuracy especially during decision-making. This uninformative file is naturally of no use. To attack through this file poisoning, malicious data-points will incorrectly claim owning the desired file, and upon a postulation will respond with a polluted file. All these facts may enable the poisoned file with high availability throughout the network, and attract others to download it as the true one. Thus, the attackers have a variety of chances to breach the network system after such data pollution.

**iii. Sybil Attack**

Sybil attacks are constituent of the control plane class. The core idea behind this Sybil attack is to gain control over part of the network by enacting any single malicious identity as multiple identities. Once this representation has been accomplished, the attacker can breach and collapse the network activity through all possible events. For instance, the cyberpunks might attain sole responsibility for certain rightful files and prefer to spoil them with uninformative guidance. If the cyberpunks can lay his/her indistinguishability as a strategically unique way, the impairment and consequence will be high.

**iv. Eclipse Attack**

In the case of an eclipse attack, the cyberpunks try to gain control over a certain part of the network system through strategic routing paths. On the accomplishment of this early operation, the network system is separated into different sub-networks. Thus, for further communication, all data-point is made dependent on other sub-networks data-points. Besides this, all the information might have future possibilities to be routed through any one of the data-point controlled by cyberpunks. Here, each data-points are thus “eclipsed” to data-points that belong to other sub-network (like high-scale man-in-the-middle attacks). Sometimes, an eclipse attack could be the continuance of a Sybil attack. In such a case, the cyberpunks will try to position their deceiver data-points on the strategic communication paths. Now the attacker can completely take over the control of each sub-network. If an attacker plans for an eclipse kind of attack can attack the network through the following efficient ways.

- The attacker can attack the control plane are attacked inefficiently by rerouting all insecure messages.
- The attacker can make up one's data-point to drop all receivable unsecured messages, thus completely isolating the two sub-networks.

Finally, the communicable files to the genuine data-points are attacked by injecting misinformation or requesting the misguided file on behalf of the genuine one. Thus these files are copied or cached along the path and slow down or halt the process of the entire network by rerouting all queries in a misguided way.

## 2. RELATED WORK

### 2.1. Collaborative security and Associative Methods

Most of the existing research work exhibits remarkable efforts to dig into the epitome of collaborative security and critical review affiliated methods. Nevertheless, the scopes of those efforts are frequently limited to particular areas, which is insufficient for systematic classification and analysis. The collaborative attacks concerning the cybersecurity information sharing and the rudimentary secrecy challenges have been examined in [2]–[6]. A theoretical account for privacy preservation of cybersecurity data sharing has been nominated by [4]. This strategy employs a group signature to blot out the identicalness of the organizations. Nevertheless, this strategy does not defend the key collaborator's information. Some delineation from [6] has prototyped this secrecy issue in cybersecurity information sharing as a rule between attackers and organizations. Though this framework aids the organizations to determine their apportioning strategy, it does not furnish any practical resolution to defend the fundamental information. The article from [1] demonstrated aggregation of collaborative security concerning research. The primary consequence is that they lack insightful and detailed analysis with a precise summary. The theoretical aspects of [7] exhibited common units of a cooperative intrusion detection system which most specifically admits the system security and information sharing. They also delivered the privacy preservation scheme on apportioning any highly protective based information. The issues in collaborative intrusion detection systems were depicted in [8]. They reviewed several organized attacks that conventional intrusion detection systems cannot discover. The article [8] presented a new sort of intrusion detection system through a conjunctive lens. Apart from the above research exploits, the former research investigated specific facets of collaborative security measures, however, they did not consider the integrality of the issue. The article in [9] reviewed multiple classes of incorporated anomalies and delivers fundamental challenges for each class. They also looked into a series of methodologies to deal with these incorporated anomalies as well as rigorous comparability between those defined methods. The article in [10], with an illustration, discoursed one specific area in collaborative intrusion detection systems that warn or alert correlation. Their research reviewed a significant number of employed approaches to warn or alert correlation and demonstrated the weaknesses and strengths respectively. The author in [11] also carried a review of spam filtering approaches,

especially those addressing with collaboration, and furnished succinct statements of the pragmatic applications.

## 2.2. Cybersecurity Infrastructure and its Sharing Communities

As the intensity of selective information available has sprung up exponentially, so has the research concern in collaborative data sharing. It is generically distinguished across the several research project-based community that effective infrastructures are expected to alleviate such sharing. It is common in most Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) not to be an exception for employing effective cybersecurity, especially for data sharing. However, the majority of the function channelized at the exploitation of comprehensive structures of the organization for data sharing which has been guided by other communities. To illustrate, biology has been a highly contributive area in collaborative data sharing, since new DNA sequencing proficiencies have directed to the demand to manage the outcomes with a steep rise in the production of an amount of information.

Similarly, healthcare-associated data sharing has been a vital domain of focus for any researchers concerning data sharing over the last decade. This segment covers up some of the significant work exhibited in those communities, spotlighting both fundamental research and complete systems. Concerning systems, SciPort [12] offers a centralized server-based, lightweight data integrating architecture, which incorporates and shares a schematic plan across different organizations, providing distributed evolution, schematic plan management, and sharing. ORCHESTRA from [13] is a tool employed to alleviate the data sharing process when there is an improper consensus regarding how the data should be constituted, what is precise, and which original references are authoritative. The context in reference [14] delineates a middleware model that endorses the aggregation of data and secure sharing from heterogeneous information sources, meanwhile [15] nominates a privacy-preserving model to colligate large-scale, loosely coupled data sources through a brokering overlay. Hyperion from [16] is a prototype modeled system that affirms data sharing particularly for a network of independent Peer Relational Database Management Systems (PRDBMS) and [17] delineates a disseminated data sharing system that admits information sharing without shared outlines.

The majority of effort has been dedicated to other significant domains for data sharing such as maintaining privacy while sharing secret information [18]- [19],

incorporating heterogeneous data sets [20], delineating data sharing policies [21], coercion [22], direction to uncertain data [23]-[24] and information evolution [25]. Various tools that ensure data sharing solely point-out the cybersecurity community and few of them enforce solutions to some of the fundamental problems keyed out in this paper. To illustrate, the Collective Intelligence Framework (CIF) [26] provides the independent intake of data feeds regardless of the data models.

Likewise, the Model-based Analysis of Threat Intelligence Sources (MANTIS) [27] nominates a conciliatory data model to ensure the tolerance for diverse revisions and formats. Both these tools aid in finding advanced solutions in the way that the researcher nominates. Others have a more circumscribed and bounded set about to data models, but integrate features such as confederacy of various communities, for example, the Malware Information Sharing Platform (MISP) [28], which has benefitted grip in different communities (e.g. EU, NATO) and admit efficient sharing formats of malware data.

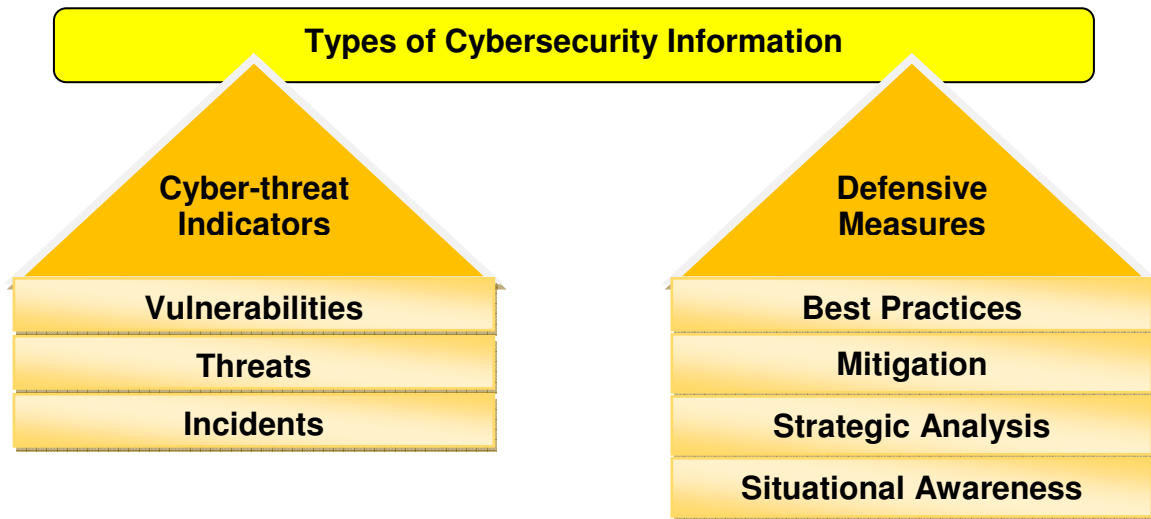
The Avalanche [29] systems and Collaborative Research into Threats (CRITs) [30] carry out the widely consented standards TAXII, MAEC, STIX, and CyBOX, which can affirm large communities. Despite the ample amount of research work and the numerous prototype systems that have been evolved, no system has yet developed into a widely recognized fine yielding system. Although most of these systems are beneficial at figuring out some issues (e.g., selective, sharing, privacy, heterogeneity), yet it is normally determined that none of the systems efficiently deal with all of the issues.

### **2.3. Types of Information to Be Shared**

It's been a high-end research question, "What type of information/data is trusted to be shared?" According to the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act (CISA) [31], the information that to be shared is designated into two types. They are

- Cyber-Threat Indicators and
- Defensive Measures.





**Figure. 2.1 Types of Cybersecurity Information (to be shared)**

The differentiation between these two major types of information categories is either they possess higher risk or lower risk to both market value and privacy of the sharing organization. Figure 2.1, depicts the combination of this classification based on [32]. The cyber-threat indicators category constitutes vulnerabilities (impairance that can be exploited), threats (possible severe issues), and incidents (particulars of cyber-attack events). All these kinds of information may cause a revelation of vital critical know-how of the organization that can damage its reputation and as a consequence contract market value. Meanwhile, defensive measures comprise best practices (data on most beneficial actions against attacks), mitigation (forethoughts/precaution for future attacks), strategic analysis (employing information to evolve effectual defensive measures), and situational awareness (information to deal with an incident). This kind of information generally does not have a greater risk to the organization.

#### **2.4. Review on Existing Cybersecurity Solutions**

In the field of cybersecurity, various solutions are proposed through different states of art technologies such as

- Intrusion Detection System (IDS),
- Vulnerability Scanners,
- Network and Application Firewall, and
- Intrusion Prevention System (IPS).

**i. Intrusion Detection System**

Intrusion detection systems (IDS) are the kind of software projected to find the illegal approach/attack to the resources or system. Signatures based Intrusion Detection Systems (SIDS) key out “signatures” of experienced approaches/attacks and employ suitable form (pattern) matching algorithms [33] for attack detection and analysis [34]. An anomaly-based system examines the remarkable feeding stream against constituted profile and sorts out all abnormal conduct as malicious [35]. Data Mining Methodologies for anomaly detection furnish the model for web application attacks/approaches based on the facts of statistical techniques [36]. Ontology oriented IDS resolutions are utilized in information security. Raskin et al. [37] evolved the typical ontology for selective information integrity of any web recourses and encourage the usage of ontology for information security purposes. Landwehr et al. [34] exhibit a unique classification hierarchy of intrusion based on location, genesis, and means. Ning et al. [38] viewed a hierarchical model for the stipulation of different approaches/attacks and thoroughly patterned and examined the attributes and characteristics of attack. McHugh [39] concentrated on the classification of attacks/approaches concerned to the protocol layer and Guha [40] stressed upon the examination of TCP/IP protocol stack along with its full constituted layers to assist as the basis for attack taxonomy. Denker et al [41] aim the control admittance through ontology evolved in DAML+OIL [42] but these organizations may not be fully utilizable due to mere representation of attack properties thus they are ineffective for intrusion detection. Many researches have focused on the ontology defined an intrusion detection technique especially for network layer attacks and also proposed the new approach to developing an intrusion detection application. Ontology of Information Security delineated the formal vulnerabilities, threats, countermeasures, models assets, and their relations. Researchers in [43] concentrate on the usage of security ontology that can affirm the ISO/IEC 27001 certification and sustenance of security policies/guidelines.

**ii. Vulnerability Scanners**

Commonly, web application-oriented scanners are the automated tools that commence by crawling into files concerning web applications and then examine its web pages to detect the vulnerabilities in the developed application on utilizing the passive technique. Through this technique, the scanners render a thorough investigation into inputs and then examine the response against those inputs for any security vulnerabilities [44].

### iii. Network and Application Firewall

Most of the accounted cyber crimes are listed as exploiters of the application layer. This became possible on the utilization of port 80 or 443(SSL), especially for business communication. Thus, these security solvents do not provide a perfect resolution to the application level threats. Although, it's been found that network firewalls are suitable only for securing the internal network infra and communication activities of the organizations, still vulnerable to several application illicit approaches/attacks by the cyber crooks. The relevant and necessary solutions are shortly explicated along with limitations.

### iv. Intrusion Prevention System

Intrusion Prevention systems are the software designed not only to detect the rise of vulnerabilities and unauthorized access to the resources but also to prevent the secured information from unauthorized access.

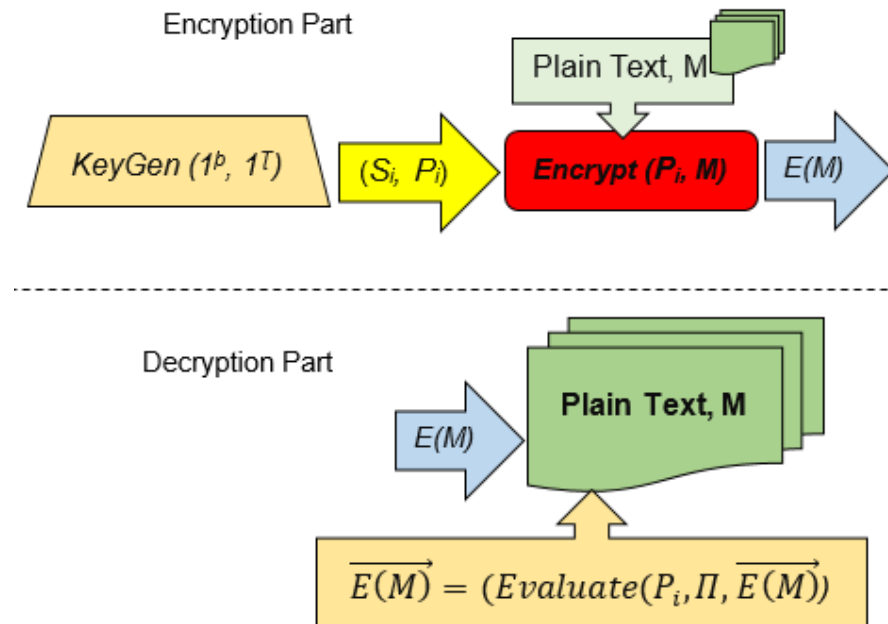
## 3. SECURED INFORMATION SCHEMA

The primary contributions of the research work can be summarized as follows.

- A highly secured cybersecurity information sharing schema has been proposed for a decentralized network system in which secure communication is enabled especially for multi-domain organizations possessing different data-point.
- To avoid information threats during communication, a well-known encryption technique has been utilized. This encryption technique not only serves to secure confidential data but also prevents communicative data from malicious threats or possible vulnerabilities.
- A specialized Homomorphic Encryption protocol called "ElGamal cryptosystem" is employed for the better optimization of key generation, encryption, and decryption process.

### 3.1. Homomorphic Encryption

The proposed schema utilizes the ElGamal cryptosystem [39] to leverage their homomorphic properties especially to perform the computations. The ElGamal encryption strategy is a probabilistic public-key encryption technique that is compiled of encryption, key generation, and decryption process. Figure 3.1 depicts the basic homomorphic procedures.



**Figure 3.1. Homomorphic Procedure**

To adapt to the decentralized network system, the distributed edition/version [45] of the ElGamal cryptosystem is employed. This cryptosystem highly supports both homomorphic multiplications as well as addition. Based upon several reviews, it was also found that the performance and computational efficiencies have been very effective in some of the recent researches done on privacy-preserving applications along with other standard cases of homomorphic encryption oriented applications.

The working mechanism of the ElGamal cryptosystem according to the distributed form is elaborately delineated in the upcoming section. Initially, there are  $n$  data-points are assumed in the system where each  $i^{th}$  data-point has its own secret key  $S_i$  and public key  $P_i$ . The distributed ElGamal cryptosystem is comprised of the following algorithms.

### 3.1.1. Key generation

The first step in the cryptosystem is to generate a common public key ( $P_i$ ) which is utilized in the distributed ElGamal cryptosystem and it has been depicted as follows,

$$PK = \prod_{i=1}^n S_i = g^{P_1 + \dots + P_n} \quad (3.1)$$

### 3.1.2. Encryption

The second step in the cryptosystem is to encrypt a communicative plaintext message, ( $M \in G$ ), and an integer  $R$  is chosen in a random manner from  $Z_q^*$  and after then the cipher text computation becomes:  $CT_1 = g^R$  and  $CT_2 = g^M \cdot PK^R$ . The encrypted message (cipher text) is computed as

$$E(M) = (CT_1, CT_2) \quad (3.2)$$

### 3.1.3. Decryption

Here, a mutual decryption key is not ciphered. Each data-point generates its ciphertext and disseminates partially decrypted estimates, and the final original/desired plaintext is disclosed by aggregating all partially decrypted estimates. For the ciphertext ( $CT_1, CT_2$ ), decryption proceeds as follows:

- Every  $i^{th}$  data-points computes,  $CT_1^{S_i}$ ;
- All the data-points disseminates committal estimated values  $H(CT_1^{S_i})$ ;
- Now, each  $i^{th}$  data-points distributes  $CT_1^{S_i}$  and verifies if each  $CT_1^{S_i}$  copes with  $H(CT_1^{S_i})$ ;
- Finally, each data-points computes,

$$\frac{CT_2}{\prod_{i=1}^n CT_1^{S_i}} = \frac{CT_2}{CT_1^{S_1 + \dots + S_n}} = g^M \quad (3.3)$$

- Finally,  $M$  will be disclosed by estimating the discrete logarithm.

### 3.1.4. Homomorphic Property

ElGamal encryption process has a hereditary homomorphic attribute [46], which admits exponentiation and multiplication to be executed on a set of required ciphertexts without any decryption, such as multiplication based homomorphic computation,

$$\begin{aligned}
E(M_1)^{M_2} &= (g^{R_1}, g^{M_1} \cdot PK^{R_1})^{M_2} \\
&= (g^{R_1 \cdot M_2}, g^{M_1 \cdot M_2} \cdot PK^{R_1 + M_2}) \\
&= E(M_1 + M_2)
\end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

and addition based homomorphic computation,

$$\begin{aligned}
E(M_1) \times E(M_2) &= (g^{R_1}, g^{M_1} \cdot PK^{R_1}) \times (g^{R_2}, g^{M_2} \cdot PK^{R_2}) \\
&= (g^{R_1 + R_2}, g^{M_1 + M_2} \cdot PK^{R_1 + R_2}) \\
&= E(M_1 + M_2)
\end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

#### 4. SYSTEM MODEL

In the proposed model, it is assumed that there are numerous ( $dp$ ) organizations/data-points  $\{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{dp}\}$ . Since the decentralized network model is presumed, here each intra and inter data-points of any organization are allowed to collaborate, especially for encrypted communication. Each of them encrypts their data, and upon encryption transmits the ciphertext to the Central data-point ( $Cdp$ ) where vital computation is performed. These computations are performed based on homomorphic operations. The  $Cdp$  determines the encrypted outcomes and transmits it back to its parent organization without gaining knowledge on any private selective information of the organizations.

The commencement of the crypto process starts from key generation, where each  $dp$  generates its key pairs ( $S_i, P_i$ ) and transmit the  $P_i$  to the  $Cdp$ . Later then,  $Cdp$  combines the entire received  $P_i$  to acquire the master  $P_i$  which is distributed to all  $dp$ . This master  $P_i$  is utilized to encrypt individual private data. On receiving the encrypted ciphertext, the  $Cdp$  then executes homomorphic operations to obtain the combined encrypted outcomes which are apportioned among the different  $dp$  in the network. The organizations then cooperate to decrypt the outcomes with the aid of  $Cdp$  utilizing their own  $S_i$  without disclosing any private data to the  $Cdp$  or other organizations. Based on the decrypted results and its analysis make the organizations examine the impacts of cyberactivities if any and also lead a way to prevent secure data from external threats.

#### 5. PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

The observational analysis is sectioned into two primary segments. Firstly, the complexity of the proposed schema is discussed concerning communication and computation costs.

Secondly, based upon the computational complexities, few experiments are executed and exhibit the bandwidth and actual time utilized for processing the entire proposed schema. The complexity analysis includes the analysis of encryption/decryption and the message transmission costs for the single execution. Here, it is assumed that single encryption in the ElGamal cryptosystem is always equivalent to  $2m_E$  where  $m_E$  denotes modular exponentiation. Let, one homomorphic multiplication, homomorphic addition, and discrete logarithm for decryption represented as  $h_{add}$ ,  $h_{mul}$  and  $\sqrt{T}m_E$  respectively. Here,  $T$  denotes the size of the plaintext that needs to be encrypted or decrypted. The units of communication and computation costs are presumed to be bits and seconds respectively. To test the performance is tested and evaluated using spam emails. Initially, the dataset of spam emails is randomly split into 20 different sets which are represented as 20 different organizations. For evaluating the performance spam assassin dataset is utilized. Each organization bearing the subset of the dataset will execute the arbitrary computations and share the encrypted format outcomes with the *Cdp*. Upon receiving aggregated resultants from *Cdp*, each organization can generate and disclose,  $M$  by estimating the discrete.

### 5.1. Computation Complexity

At the commencement of experimental procedures, the *Cdp* gathers the entire  $P_i$  and creates a master  $P_i$  for all organizations. In this computation *Cdp* of each organization performs  $k$  multiplication over the public parameter as depicted in the equation. 3.1. Thus, the computation complexity of initialization procedures is presumed to be in  $k$  seconds. The organization transmits the encrypted data (ciphertexts) to its *Cdp*. Later then, each organization executes two encryptions as depicted in the equation. 3.4 with the complexity of  $2m_E$  seconds. Now, the *Cdp* of each organization executes three different homomorphic additions, out of which two are executed for  $D$  organizations. Therefore, the complexity gets  $2h_{add} \times D + h_{add}$  seconds. Then the *Cdp* determines the minimum outcomes between the  $n$  ciphertexts. Afterward, the outcome ciphertexts are disseminated to the organizations, where they handle the decryption technique to decrypt the results locally, which tends to render the complexity of  $m_E + D \times m_E$ . Each organization blots out their secret keys  $S_k$  by advancing the ciphertext to the power of  $S_k$ , and performing  $D$  modular exponentiation. Eventually, the organization executes a discrete logarithm which brings  $\sqrt{T} \times m_E$  seconds. Thus the decryption takes total complexity of  $O(m_E + D \times m_E +$

$\sqrt{T} \times m_E$ ) seconds. Lastly, the total computation cost of each *Cdp* and the organization becomes  $2h_{add} \times D + h_{add} + n \text{ and } k + 2m_E + m_E + D \times m_E + \sqrt{T} \times m_E$  seconds respectively.

**5.2. Communication Complexity**

For the evaluation of communication complexity, each generated ciphertexts that are to be exchanged among the various *Cdp*'s of different organizations, and all these ciphertexts are assumed as *T* bits. At the initial phase, the *Cdp* gets the  $P_i$  from all organizations. Therefore it carries  $D \times T$  bits. As per the proposed scheme, each organization transmits two pairs of ciphertexts to the *Cdp*. Now the communication costs become  $4T$  bits for each organization. The server receives from *D* organization which results in  $4T \times D$  bits to get the ciphertexts. Later on, executing the homomorphic operations the *Cdp* disseminate a pair of ciphertext which is acquired by each *D* of  $2T$  bits. Throughout the execution of the decryption process, the *Cdp* and each *D* exchange another set of ciphertexts which is depicted in the equation. 3.4. During this process, the bandwidth demand becomes  $2T$  bits for each organization and  $2T \times D$  bits for the *Cdp*. Therefore, the total data/information essential for each *D* and *Cdp* is  $7T$  and  $7D \times T$  bits respectively.

**5.3. Efficiency**

**Table 1. Computational Complexity (in Time and Communication)**

	Computation Complexity	Communication Complexity
<b>Data-Points</b>	$2h_{add} \times D + h_{add} + n$	$7T$
<b>Organization</b>	$k + 2m_E + m_E + D \times m_E + \sqrt{T} \times m_E$	$7D \times T$
	Cost in Seconds	Cost in MB
<b>Data-Points</b>	20	0.0011
<b>Organization</b>	20	0.03

Table 1 depicts the performance outcomes of the proposed schema for data-points and organization. For experimental analysis, 20 organizations and 20 different ciphertexts are considered, therefore,  $D = 20$  and  $T = 20$  respectively. Out of this presumed ciphertext, the *Cdp*'s of each organization has to perform the comparison process to determine the minimum value without knowing the actual value. In the experimental setup, one homomorphic addition, and one modular exponentiation takes about  $5.7 \times 10^5$  and  $2 \times 10^5$  seconds respectively. On utilizing this setup, the entire schema process which comprises the mentioned server and each organization takes about 20 seconds for full completion. Figure 1 demonstrates the scalability of



the proposed scheme by enhancing the count of organizations as per the requirement of applications. The result shows that there is a significant increase in the computation time as the count of the organization increases. However, the computation time of data-points seems not in the increasing mode, since the number of ciphertexts for comparison purposes was limited to 20.

## 6. CONCLUSION

In this research article, a privacy-preserving schema has been proposed to enable secure communication in the decentralized network infra. Thus, on utilizing the homomorphic encryptions, proactive cyber defense is employed in an organization against harmful email. Although this is a simple approach to implement the specialized encryptions over a suitable dataset, the real challenges existed during decryption without exposing any private information while sharing them with other *Cdp*'s of a different organization. Thus, the proposed schema addresses and overcomes these challenges through the deployment of homomorphic encryptions based ElGamal cryptosystem. This schema can be deployed to other types of numerical value based cyber threats dataset, since homomorphic encryptions highly support the features of numerical values like phishing data, but cannot be employed to fractional values. The proposed schema can be of great usage for a proactive cyber defense system as it can secure the dataset in a secured communication manner through strong encryption techniques. As a future enhancement, collaborative, and proactive cyber defense systems using unsupervised machine learning algorithms are considered in a privacy-preserving manner. In-depth privacy examination and investigation on experimental outcomes of proposed schema exhibit the practicality as well as security.

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