Zero knowledge proof and SNARK programming workshop

Daniel Szego



Tartalom

- Zero knowledge proofs
- Example Waldo, cave of Ali Baba
- SNARK/zkSNARK
- Applications
- Conclusions
- ZK programming

Zero knowledge proof

"Proof" of a statement

It's not a "classic" mathematical proof, it's stochastic, I know with high probability

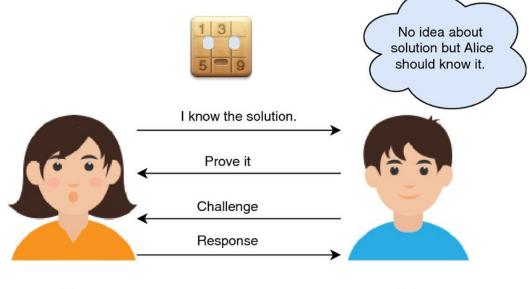
I know some kind of secret information, I "prove" that I know without saying it

Roles:

- Prover: prover

- Verifier: verifier, validator

Interactive / non-interactive



Alice Bob

Example - Waldo





Example - Cave of Ali Baba

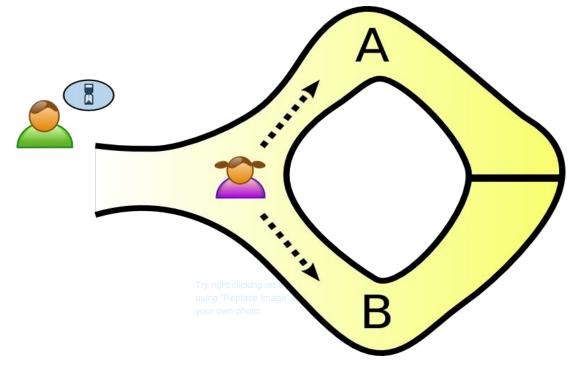
Alice and Bob

Alibaba's cave, which is closed in the middle with a door that opens with a "magic word".

Alice enters the cave and chooses a side to enter.

Bob goes into the cave and decides which side Alice should come back from.

He can cheat 50% of the time -> when repeated many times, he approaches 0%



SNARK / zkSNARK

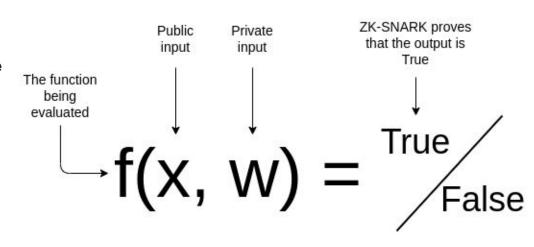
(zk) SNARK

Succinct: short, concise proof

Non-Interactive: there is no interaction, the prover produces it and sends it to the verifier.

Argument of Knowledge: Some information that the prover knows.

Zero-Knowledge: None of the private information reaches the validator.



Application - Authenticated but edited photos

Fake pictures, articles, information online.

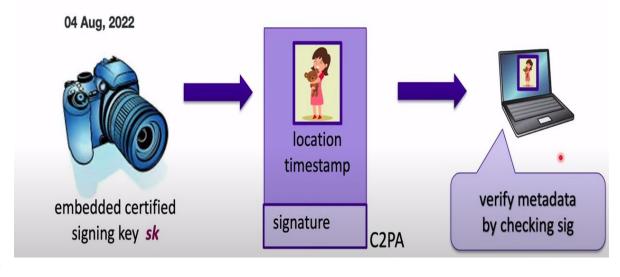
Camera with digital signature, location and time information.

Image transformation, resizing, cropping, sharpening, changing the color palette, etc.

The digital signature is not valid after transformation

Digital signature + transformation + SNARK

Sony Unlocks In-Camera Forgery-Proof Technology



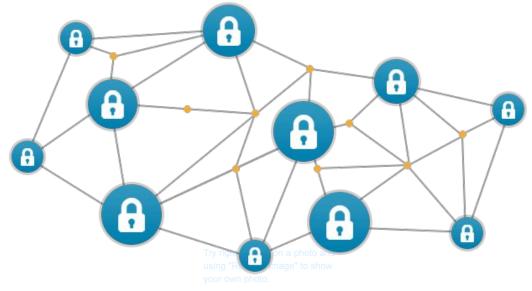
Application - Private blockchain transaction

Blockchain: independent nodes that authenticate transactions.

To authenticate, the node must see the transaction.

Privacy issues.

Instead of full transactions, transactions with secret input and zkSNARK proof.



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Apache 2.0

Application - Rollup

Scalability problem: Most blockchains can perform few transactions and that too slowly.

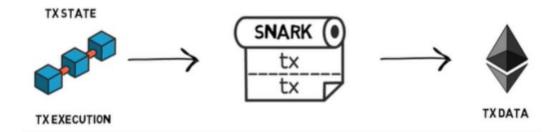
Reason: independent validators.

Batch execution of transactions outside the blockchain..

The problem is reliability, correct execution, exclusion of fraud.

SNARK / zkSNARK proof of correct execution

ROLLUPS



your own photo

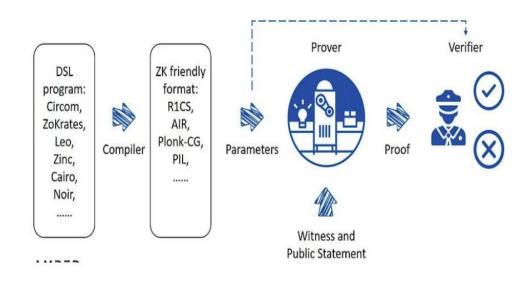
ZKP programming considerations

It is an area that requires serious theoretical preparation.

Especially mathematicians.

DSL (domain specific language) simplified, domain specific languages, simpler (!) for zero knowledge and SNARK programming.

However, simplified programming and cryptographic basics are still necessary.



Conclusions

An exciting emerging field,

Dynamic development both on the research - theoretical side and on the application side.

Min. 15 years of active development.

Tools and frameworks are also available on the engineering / programming side.

The area can be at least as important as the digital signature.

Zero Knowledge Proofs





ZK programming - engineering flow

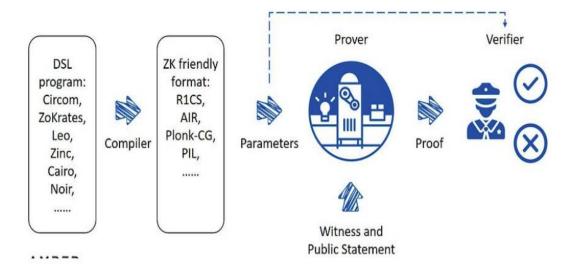
Domain specific languages for SNARK or *zk*SNARK programming

Abstracting away some of the mathematical and theoretical complexity

ZK and SNARK programming without cryptographic knowledge? Not yet:)

Compilation to mathematical representation, R1CS

Complex development frameworks, compile, test, prover, verifier module integrations.



Core algorithm consideration

Under very active development

Proof size

Verification time

Setup:

- per circuit
- universal
- transparent

Post quantum readiness

	size of proof π	verifier time	setup	post- quantum?
Groth'16	$pprox 200$ Bytes $O_{\lambda}(1)$	$\approx 1.5 \text{ ms}$ $O_{\lambda}(1)$	trusted per circuit	no
Plonk / Marlin	$pprox 400$ Bytes $O_{\lambda}(1)$	$\approx 3 \text{ ms}$ $O_{\lambda}(1)$	universal trusted setup	no
Bulletproofs	$\approx 1.5 \text{ KB}$ $O_{\lambda}(\log C)$	$\approx 3 \sec O_{\lambda}(C)$	transparent	no
STARK	$\approx 100 \text{ KB} \bullet \\ O_{\lambda}(\log^2 \mathcal{C})$	$\approx 10 \text{ ms}$ $O_{\lambda}(\log^2 \mathcal{C})$	transparent	yes

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DSL language and tool selection

Core algorithm consideration

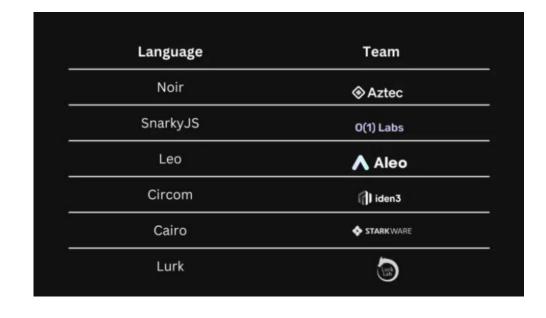
Imperative / description / circuit languages

Different base programming language

Different programming language and framework integration modules

Technological life cycle: all are early stage, but:

- Successful productive usage
- Stable releases



Circom

DLS / circuit programming language and development environment for arithmetic circuits and constraints

Used e.g. in tornado cash

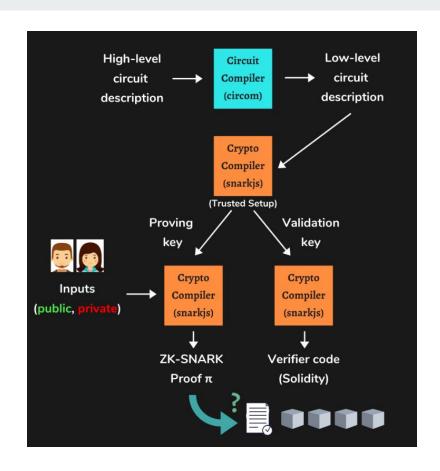
Supports:

- Groth16
- Plonk

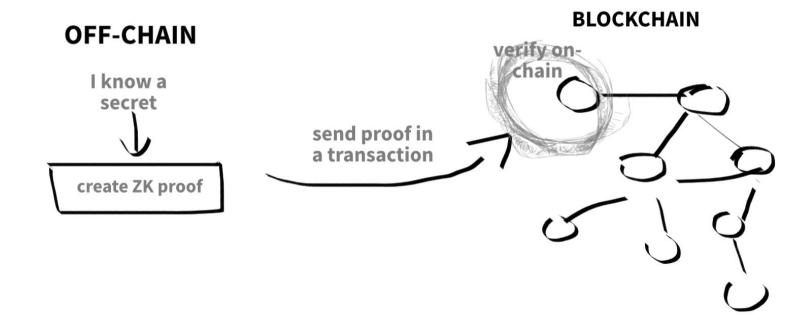
Well established (exist 3 years :)

Supported integration:

- javascript (snarkjs)
- cpp
- solidity verifier



Demo





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