

BYEONGKYU HAN

byeongkyuhan@kookmin.ac.kr | [Han-16.github.io](https://github.com/Han-16) | linkedin.com/in/byeongkyuhan | github.com/Han-16

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research focuses on leveraging applied cryptography to address real-world security and privacy issues. I am especially interested in designing efficient zero-knowledge proof systems and advancing privacy-preserving AI.

EDUCATION

Kookmin University, Seoul, South Korea M.S. in Electronics Engineering (Advisor: Jihye Kim, Hyunok Oh)	Mar 2024 – Present
Kookmin University, Seoul, South Korea B.B.A in AI, Big Data, and Management; Minor in Computer Science	Mar 2019 – Feb 2024

EXPERIENCE

Kookmin University & Hanyang University Joint Research Intern — IT Security and Privacy & Security and Privacy Labs <ul style="list-style-type: none">Built a core knowledge in modern cryptography through Katz's <i>Advanced Topics in Cryptography</i>Developed a solid foundation of zk-SNARKs through the <i>ZKP-MOOC</i>Designed and implemented a privacy-preserving Verifiable Credential system as a PoC	Sep 2023 - Feb 2024
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PUBLICATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS

[1] **Aegis: Scalable Privacy-preserving CBDC Framework with Dynamic Proof of Liabilities**
Gweonho Jeong, Jaewoong Lee*, Minhae Kim*, **Byeongkyu Han***, Jihye Kim, Hyunok Oh
[*Under Review*], [*Paper*], [*Code*], [*Slides*] (* Equal contribution)

PROJECTS

Efficient Aggregation of Group Elements for zk-SNARK Circuits <ul style="list-style-type: none">Proposed an efficient proof method for aggregating group elements in zk-SNARK circuit.Replaced naive MSM with a random permutation and small prime based accumulation scheme.Refined the Pianist protocol to shrink the CRS from $O(N)$ to $O(\frac{N}{M})$ (N: circuit size; M: # of machines).Applied the proposed Efficient Aggregate Scheme, mitigating the overhead from CRS reduction.Achieved prover work $O(T \log T)$ and verifier cost and proof size $O(1)$, as in Pianist ($T = \frac{N}{M}$).	Sep 2025 - Present
A Privacy-Preserving STO system with Near-Real-Time PoL <ul style="list-style-type: none">Proposed a STO system providing privacy preserving, near-real-time PoL, and high-throughput trading.Extended Aegis to STO and designed the system to comply with Korean regulatory requirements.Achieved proof generation of 0.5s for 128 trades; reached 2,000 TPS through system optimizations.This system evolved into Fineapple by zkryptoSlides: [PDF]	Mar 2024 – Oct 2024
Verifiable Voting <ul style="list-style-type: none">Conducted as part of the Ethereum PSE Core Contribution Program 2024Implemented a Semaphore style voting circuit using Merkle tree membership and Groth16.Designed tally verification by integrating a Turbo Plonk custom gate with KZG.Achieved $O(1)$ verification time for both vote proofs and the final tally.Slides: [PDF]	Jun 2024 - Aug 2024

ACTIVITY

Ethereum Core Contribution Program (Mentor)

Jun 2025 - Aug 2025

ZK Education Team (ZKET), Ethereum Foundation

- Mentored participants in research and development of privacy and scaling technologies.
- Conducted sessions reviewing foundational papers on Groth16, KZG, PLONK and FRI.
- Facilitated special sessions on Circle STARK, FHE, and Privacy-Preserving AI.
- Provided hands-on sessions in building zk-SNARK circuits using Noir, Cairo, and Halo2.

Ethereum Core Contribution Program (Participant)

Jun 2024 - Aug 2024

Privacy and Scaling Explorations (PSE), Ethereum Foundation

- Participated in an 8-week study with the PSE team at the Ethereum Foundation.
- Studied and analyzed foundational papers on Groth16, PLONK, and FRI.
- Implemented a privacy-preserving, verifiable voting system ensuring vote and tally integrity.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Special Prize, National Cryptography Paper Competition

2025

Korea Cryptography Forum, Korea Institute of Information Security & Cryptology, South Korea

- Category: Application and Utilization of Cryptographic Technologies.
- Related Manuscripts: [1]

University Scholarships

2024 – 2025

- Professor-Nominated Merit Scholarship (\$9,500 total for 4 semesters)

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Embedded Systems for Next Generation Communications

Fall 2025

- Course on cryptography using Katz and Lindell's *Introduction to Modern Cryptography*.

Data Structures

Fall 2025

- Course on data structures in C: arrays, lists, stacks/queues, trees, and graphs.

Introduction to Programming

Fall 2025

- Course on basic C language syntax.

Object-Oriented Programming

Spring 2024

- Course on C++ OOP: classes, inheritance, core principles.

Programming Language

Spring 2024

- Course on basic C language syntax.