

Hardness Problems in Modern Cryptography

Discrete Logarithm Problem

Consider a group $G = \langle g \rangle$. Then given $g, e \in G$, it is difficult to find e .

Not Quantum-safe

Factoring: $N = pq$ (p, q are large primes)

Post Quantum Cryptography \rightarrow lattice-based crypto, isogeny-based, hash-based, etc.

Topics

\rightarrow ZKPs: Vipul Goyal's Notes, Goldreich (Ch. 4)

\rightarrow ZKPs over Blockchains (ZKSNARKS) \uparrow

\rightarrow Pairings, use in privacy preserving schemes: Dan Boneh

\rightarrow Lattice-based cryptography. (Peikert, Vadod V.)

Zero Knowledge Proofs

NP: Each language $L \in NP$ is characterized by a polynomial time recognizable relation R_L such that

Prover (P)	Verifier (V)
- Computationally unbounded	- "Easy"
- untrusted	- PPT

$$L = \{x : \exists y \text{ s.t. } (x, y) \in R_L\}, (x, y) \in R_L \Leftrightarrow |y| \leq \text{poly}(|x|)$$

Interactive Proof Systems (IP)

Let L be a language, and x be a statement.

We need to show $x \in L$. Suppose w is a witness of

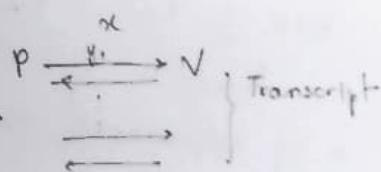
$x \in L$. An interactive protocol for L consists of the interactive PPT stateful algorithms P and V , where

$$(i) P(x, w, m_i^V) = m_{i+1}^P \quad [m_0^V = 1]$$

$$(ii) V(x, m_i^P) = m_{i+1}^V$$

such that at the end of this protocol, V outputs accept/reject and it should satisfy:

- [Completeness] If P, V are honest, $\exists w$ a valid witness for $x \in L$, V outputs accept
- [Soundness] $\forall x \notin L$, P^* using x , if V interacts with P^* , V rejects w.p. $\geq \frac{2}{3}$ (Soundness Parameter)



2.
IP: Class IP consists of all languages with interactive proof systems.

Clearly, $NP \subseteq IP$,

and $P \subseteq IP$

since there is no interaction in both of these cases (further the proof is generated in poly time in the case of P , not for NP).

Exercise: $GI \subseteq IP$.

Zero-Knowledge An interactive proof system is ^{perfectly} zero-knowledge if $\forall x \in L \forall$ PPT Verifiers V^* \exists a simulator $S(x, V^*)$ that outputs a transcript $T_{sim} = T_{real}$ where T_{real} is the actual interaction between P^*, V^* .

→ Modifications:

- $T_{sim} \approx_c T_{real}$: computationally zero-knowledge
- $T_{sim} \approx_s T_{real}$: statistical zero-knowledge

Class hierarchy:

$$BPP \subseteq PZK \subseteq SZK \subseteq CZK \subseteq IP$$

(most likely)

* If existence of one-way functions is assumed, $CZK = IP$.

Example: (ZKP for GI)

Two graphs $G_0 = (V_0, E_0)$ and $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ are isomorphic iff

\exists a permutation (bijective function on a set) $\pi: V_0 \rightarrow V_1$

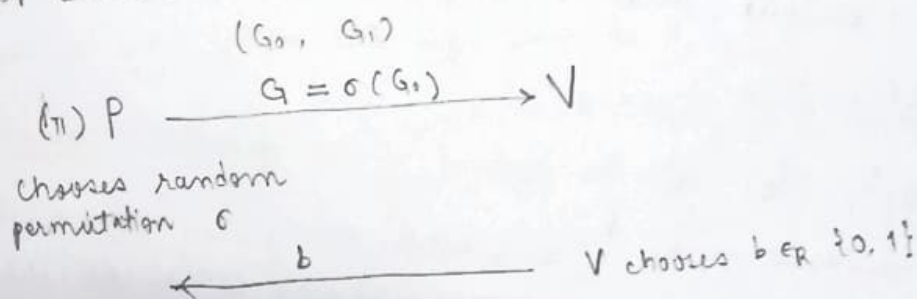
s.t. $\forall (i, j) \in E_0 \Leftrightarrow (\pi(i), \pi(j)) \in E_1$.

GI is not known to be in P. or in NP-complete.

\rightarrow If $G_0 \not\cong G_1$, then for any $G \cong G_0$, $G \not\cong G_1$. GI is an equivalence relation.

\rightarrow Suppose $G_0 \cong G_1$ and P is the group of permutations on these graphs. Then, $\{\pi(G_0) : \pi \leftarrow P\} = \{\pi(G_1) : \pi \leftarrow P\}$

The protocol between P and V is



If $b=0$, $k=\sigma$
 else $k = \sigma \circ \pi^{-1}$ \xrightarrow{k} check if $k(G_b) = G$
If yes, accept. else reject.

Completeness: Assume $G_0 \cong G_1$ and π is a valid witness

Since $\sigma(G_0) = G$, $G \not\cong G_0$, $G \cong G_1$

If $b=0$, $k=\sigma$, and $k(G) = \sigma(G_0) = G$

If $b=1$, $k = \sigma \circ \pi^{-1}$ and $k(G_1) = \sigma(\pi^{-1}(G_1)) = \sigma(G_0) = G$.

Thus, the verifier accepts in both cases, as desired

Soundness: Suppose $G_0 \not\cong G_1$. Then, $\forall G$, $G \not\cong G_0$ or $G \not\cong G_1$.

If $b=b'=0$, $\sigma(G_0) \neq G$, V rejects

$\Rightarrow \exists b' \in \{0, 1\}$ s.t. $G \not\cong G_{b'}$

If $b=b'=1$, $\sigma\pi^{-1}(G_1) \neq G$.

$\Rightarrow \Pr(b'=b) = 0.5$

Zero-Knowledge

1. S generates a random permutation ϕ , $b' \in \{0,1\}$, sets $G = \phi(G_0)$ [$P \xrightarrow{G} V$]
2. S generates random bit $b \in \{0,1\}$
3. If $b = b'$, send ϕ , else erase transcript and start from step 1.
4. Output accept, return the transcript.

Using V^* .

2. S runs V^* , sends b to S

4. Run V^* , output what V^* outputs

Exercise: Show that $GNI \in IP$.

Consider graphs G_0, G_1 . The protocol is as follows

1. Verifier chooses $i \in \{0,1\}$ and computes $G = \sigma(G_i)$ where σ is an arbitrary permutation. G is sent to the prover
2. The prover computes b s.t. $G_b \cong G$ and sends b to the verifier.
3. The verifier accepts if $i = b$.

Completeness: If $G_0 \not\cong G_1$, then $G = \sigma(G_i) \cong G_i \not\cong G_{1-i}$, $i \in \{0,1\}$.

Thus, the prover will always respond with $b = i$. Hence, any two $(G_0, G_1) \in GNI$ are always accepted by the verifier.

Soundness: Suppose $G_0 \cong G_1$. Then, $G = \sigma(G_i) \cong G_0 = G_1$. Thus, $b = i$ w.p. $\frac{1}{2}$. Hence this protocol is sound with soundness probability $p = \frac{1}{2}$.

This is an example of Honest Verifier Zero Knowledge (HVZK) protocol. To convert to ϵ ZK, the verifier must pick $G \cong G_0$ or $G \cong G_1$ instead of any arbitrary graph.

Amplifying Soundness

Soundness Parameter (p): It is essentially the probability that a dishonest prover can convince the verifier that $x \in L$ when in fact $x \notin L$.
To set p as close to 1, performing the ZKP protocol k times entirely,
 $\Pr[V \text{ outputs accept all } k \text{ times} \mid x \notin L] = (1-p)^k$.

For soundness of ϵ , run $\log_{1-p} \epsilon$ trials.

Commitment Schemes

These schemes have two properties: hiding/binding. This protocol is executed b/w a committer C and receiver R , and happens in two stages.

1. Commit phase: Given a message m , C sends $c = \text{Com}(m, s)$ for some randomness s and for a PPT algo Com to R .

2. Decommit/Reveal/Open Phase: C sends (m, s) and R executes.
 $c \stackrel{?}{=} \text{Com}(m, s)$. R accepts if equal, else reject.

s.t. it satisfies the following two properties.

i. Hiding Property: $\forall m_0, m_1 \in M$ s.t. $m_0 \neq m_1$,

$$\{\text{Com}(m_0, s) \mid s \leftarrow U\} \approx_c \{\text{Com}(m_1, s) \mid s \leftarrow U\}.$$

ii. Binding Property

• (Perfect binding) $\forall m_0, m_1 \in M$ s.t. $m_0 \neq m_1$, $\forall s_0, s_1 \in U$,
 $\text{Com}(m_0, s_0) \neq \text{Com}(m_1, s_1)$

• (Computational binding) $\forall m_0, m_1 \in M$ s.t. $m_0 \neq m_1$
 $\Pr[\exists s_0, s_1 \in U \text{ s.t. } \text{Com}(m_0, s_0) = \text{Com}(m_1, s_1)]$

is negligible.

Decision Diffie Hellman (DDH) Problem

Consider a multiplicative cyclic group G of order q and generator g , the DDH assumption states that given g^a and g^b , $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_q$, the following two probability distributions are computationally indistinguishable in $\log_2 q = \lambda$ (security parameter):

$$1. (g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_q$$

$$2. (g^a, g^b, g^c) \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_q, c \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$$

E1. Gamal Commitment Scheme

Commit: Given message $m \in G$, C picks random $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ and

$$L = (a, b), \quad C = (g^a, g^b, m \cdot g^{ab})$$

Decommit: C sends $m, (a, b)$ to R and R will check if $C \stackrel{?}{=} (g^a, g^b, m \cdot g^{ab})$

→ Binding Property: Suppose $\exists (m_1, a_1, b_1)$ s.t. $(g^{a_1}, g^{b_1}, m_1 g^{a_1 b_1}) = (g^a, g^b, m g^{ab})$. But by property of g , $g^{a_1} = g^a = g^{a_1} g^{a-a_1}$ $a=a_1$.

Similarly $b_1 = b$. Thus, $m_1 g^{a_1 b_1} = m g^{ab} \Rightarrow m_1 = m (g^{ab}) (g^{a_1 b_1})^{-1}$

This is perfect binding.

→ Hiding Property: From DDH.

$$\begin{aligned} \{ (g^a, g^b, g^{ab}) \} &\approx_c \{ (g^a, g^b, g^c) \} \quad \forall c \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q \\ \Rightarrow \{ (g^a, g^b, m g^{ab}) \} &\approx_c \{ (g^a, g^b, m g^c) \} \approx_c \{ (g^a, g^b, g^c) \} \end{aligned}$$

This is computational hiding

Blum Commitment Scheme

Consider a one-to-one one-way function $f: D \rightarrow R$ and a hardcore predicate h of f . [$f \rightarrow \text{mod } \exp$, $h \rightarrow \text{MSB}$]

Commit: Given $m \in \{0,1\}$, C samples s uniformly sampled at random from D , and sends

$$c = (f(s), m \oplus h(s))$$

Decommit: C will send (m, s) to R and R computes $(f(s), m \oplus h(s)) \stackrel{?}{=} c$

→ Binding Property: Suppose $(f(s_0), m_0 \oplus h(s_0)) = (f(s_1), m_1 \oplus h(s_1))$.
 clearly, since f is injective, $s_0 = s_1 \Rightarrow h(s_0) = h(s_1)$. Thus,

$$m_0 = m_0 \oplus h(s_0) \oplus h(s_0) = m_1 \oplus h(s_1) \oplus h(s_1) = m_1$$

→ Hiding Property: Given $f(s)$, $h(s)$ is simply a random bit. Thus,
 $m \oplus h(s)$ resembles an OTP.

For k bit strings (m_0, m_1, \dots, m_r) , the commitment is
 $((f(s_0), m_0 \oplus h(s_0)), (f(s_1), m_1 \oplus h(s_1)), \dots)$

Pedersen Commitment Scheme

(Computationally binding scheme)

Discrete Logarithm Problem: Let G be a multiplicative cyclic group of prime order p with generator g . Given $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ $g^a \text{ mod } p$, it is hard to find a in PPT.

Setup:

1. Choose two very large primes p and q s.t. $q | p-1$.
2. Find a generator g of the order q which is a subgroup of \mathbb{Z}_p^* .
3. $a \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$ [a is a secret]
4. $h = g^a \text{ mod } p$
5. p, q, g, h are public, a is secret.

Commit: To commit to some $m \in \mathbb{Z}_q$, C will choose a random $r \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ and send

$$c = g^m h^r \pmod{p} = g^{m+ar} \pmod{p}$$

Decommit: C sends (m, r) to R , and R computes $g^m h^r \pmod{p}$

Perfectly Hiding: $c = g^{m+ar} \pmod{p}$. We have to show

$$\forall m' \in \mathbb{Z}_q \exists r' \in \mathbb{Z}_q \text{ s.t. } g^{m'+ar'} \equiv g^{m+ar} \pmod{p}$$

$$\Rightarrow m'+ar' \equiv m+ar \pmod{p} \Rightarrow r' \equiv a^{-1}(m+ar-m') \pmod{p} \\ \equiv a^{-1}(m-m') + r \pmod{p}$$

Computational Binding: We claim that if C can find x' s.t. $x \neq x'$ and $\text{Com}(x) = \text{Com}(x')$, then C can solve the discrete logarithm problem, i.e. find a given h .

Proof: From before, $a = \frac{x-x'}{x-x'}$, which means C can solve the Discrete Logarithm Problem.

Extending this scheme, $\forall m_i \in \mathbb{Z}_q$

$$\text{Com}(m_1, \dots, m_n, x) = g^{\sum_i m_i} h^x$$

which is a single group element. Unlike the blum commitment scheme.

* Pedersen scheme is additively homomorphic i.e.

$$\text{Com}(m_1, r_1), \text{Com}(m_2, r_2) = \text{Com}(m_1+m_2, r_1+r_2)$$

$$\text{In general, } \prod_i \text{Com}(m_i, r_i) = \text{Com}(\sum_i m_i, \sum_i r_i)$$

Graph 3-colouring Problem

Fact 1: Suppose we are given a graph and its 3-colouring. By permuting its colours, we get another valid 3-colouring. (i.e. permutation)

Fact 2: Suppose we are given a graph which is not 3-colourable, then any 3-colouring must contain at least one edge such that the two vertices that define the edge have the same colour.

Exp for Graph 3-colouring

$G(V, E)$

V

1. P permutes the colours randomly to obtain a new valid colouring of G .

1. c_1, \dots, c_n
 $n = |V|$

2. Selects a random edge $(i, j) \in E$ and asks P to decommit the colours of v_i and v_j .

1. $\forall v_i \in V, P$ sends $c_i = \text{com}(\text{colour}, v_i)$

$\text{colour}_i \rightarrow \text{colour of } v_i$

$c_i \rightarrow \text{randomness}$

2. (i, j)

3. (colour_i, c_i)
 (colour_j, c_j)

decommits are valid and

4. If $\text{colour}_i = \text{colour}_j$ then reject else accept.

2. P sends $\text{open}(c_i), \text{open}(c_j)$

Completeness: Suppose that G is 3-colourable. Then, in step 2a, P produces a valid 3-colouring. Hence, $\text{open}(c_i) \neq \text{open}(c_j)$ for any edge (i, j) and the verifier will always accept.

Soundness: Suppose that G is not 3-colourable. Then from fact 2, \exists at least one edge in E that does not satisfy the 3-colouring. Hence, $p = 1/n$.

Zero-Knowledge Let the colours be $\{1, 2, 3\}$. Then, the simulator S works as follows.

1. S picks a random edge (i', j') and colours $k_{i'}, k_{j'} \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ at random s.t. $k_{i'} \neq k_{j'}$

2. S generates commits $c_i \forall v_i \in V$.

- if $i \in \{i', j'\}$, S commits according to step 1.
- else, S commits to 0

3. Invoke V^* and provide commitments $c_i \forall v_i \in V$.

4. Upon receiving an edge (i, j) from V^* , S does the following:

- if $i = i', j = j'$, S will reveal the colours by decommitting $c_{i'}, c_{j'}$
- else, restart and go to step 1.

Proof of zero-knowledge uses hybrid arguments, to show

$$T_{\text{sim}} \approx_c T_{\text{real}} \quad \text{i.e., } T_{\text{sim}} = H_0 \approx_c H_1 \approx_c \dots \approx H_n = T_{\text{real}}$$

$\rightarrow H_0$: In this hybrid, S has a valid witness w and code of V^* . S runs V^* and its interaction. S behaves as an honest prover, and outputs transcript H_0 .

Claim: $H_0 = T_{\text{real}}$

Proof: Trivial since S has w and interaction proceeds as described.

$\rightarrow H_1$: S has valid witness w and code of V^* . S runs V^* , S picks $(i', j') \in E$ and commits to all colours honestly. When S receives (i, j) from V^* , it restarts if $(i, j) \neq (i', j')$, else outputs the actual transcript of the communication

Claim: $H_1 = H_0 = T_{\text{real}}$.

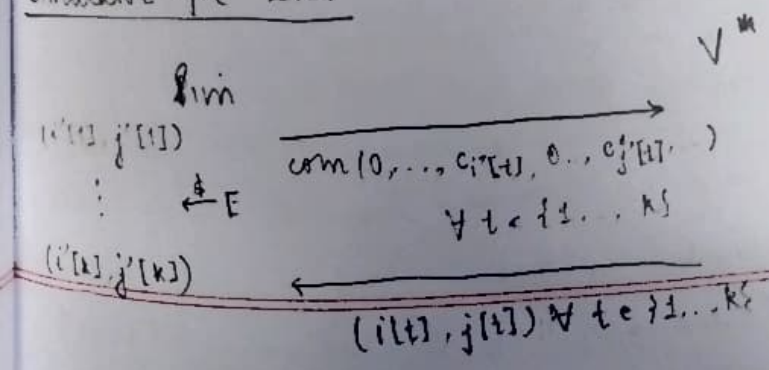
- $\rightarrow H_2$: Sim behaves as in H_1 , except for i, j , it commits to actual colouring, and for all others, it commits to 0
- claim: $T_2 \approx T_1$. [Hiding property of commits]
- $\rightarrow H_3$: Sim does not have witness w . S will sample i, j from E sample random colours $k_i \neq k_j$ to commit. For others, it commits to zero.
- claim: $T_2 = T_3 = T_{sim}$

To amplify soundness, we run k times, soundness parameter becomes $1 - (1 - 1/|E|)^k$.

Candidate Parallel ZKP

1. P generates k permutations $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_k$.
2. In the first round, P commits to colours based on k permutations.
3. V sends k challenges to P .
4. P opens commits related to k challenges. V accepts iff it would accept each of the k challenges individually, else it rejects.

Simulator for ZKP



About $\frac{1}{k} \exists p \in \{1, \dots, k\}$
 st. $(i[p], j[p])$ Else, $\xrightarrow{\text{decommit}(i[t], j[t]) \forall t \in \{1, \dots, k\}}$ Accepts.

This ZKP is a public coin protocol, since outputs of V are random. We convert it into a Non-Interactive Zero Knowledge (NIZK) protocol using the Fiat-Shamir Transform. Here, a public hash function H is used.

P

V

$$M_1 = \text{Commit}(x; r_1)$$

$$H(M_1) = M_2$$

$$M_3 = \text{resp}(M_2)$$

$$(M_1, M_3)$$



Verify if

$$M_3 = \text{resp}(H(M_1))$$

and accept/reject

Examples of NIZK : ZK-SNARKS, STARKS.

Proofs of Knowledge

An IP system P, V for an NP-relation R is a proof of knowledge with knowledge error ϵ if \exists an algorithm E called an extractor that runs in expected polynomial time such that for every input y and every prover P^* , where x is a witness of y , $\Pr[(x, y) \in R : x \leftarrow E^{P^*}(y)] \geq \Pr[\langle P^*, V \rangle(y) = 1] - \epsilon$.

Schnorr's Identification Protocol

1. Consider a cyclic group G of prime order q with generator $g \in G$.
 $G = \langle g \rangle$ where DL is hard.
2. P has a secret key $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ and a verification key $u = g^\alpha \in G$.
3. P needs to prove to V that they know α without revealing α .

P

V

Keygen: $\alpha \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$
 $u = g^\alpha \in G$

$$\alpha_t \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$$

$$u_t = g^{\alpha_t}$$

$$z = \alpha_t + d \cdot c$$

$$u_t \xrightarrow{\quad}$$

$$c \xleftarrow{\quad}$$

$$z \xrightarrow{\quad}$$

$c \xleftarrow{\quad} G \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ challenge space (small)
 $|C| \propto \sqrt{q}$ in \mathbb{Z}_q
 $g^{\alpha_t} (g^{\alpha})^c \stackrel{?}{=} z$

Honest Verifier Zero Knowledge (HVZK)

Here, V^* does nothing. If a malicious V^* does not select c randomly, the simulator transcript distribution is not computationally equal to a real transcript.

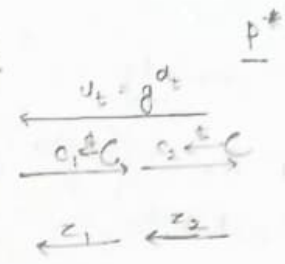
$$\begin{aligned} & \Delta_{sim} \\ & z \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q \\ & c \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q \\ & u_1 = \frac{g^z}{(g^c)^c} \end{aligned}$$

* Schnorr's identification scheme provides "deniability" which is not so in signing protocols.

Proof of Knowledge

We require to build an extractor E that runs in PPT

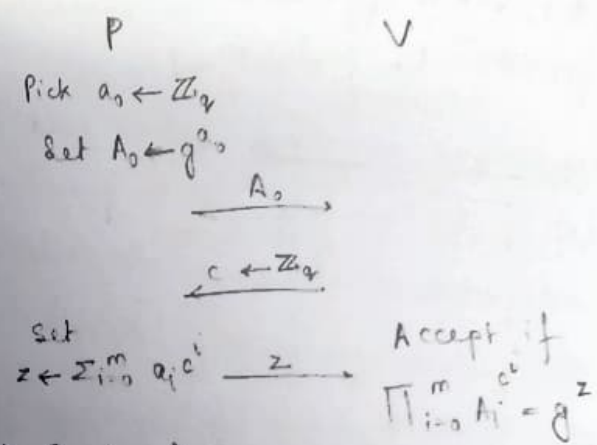
E extracts α from P^* by reminding E P^* to second interaction.



$$\begin{aligned} z_1 &= \alpha_1 + \alpha c_1, & z_2 &= \alpha_1 + \alpha c_2 \\ \Rightarrow \alpha &= \frac{z_1 - z_2}{c_1 - c_2} \end{aligned}$$

PoK of Multiple Discrete Logarithms

Setup: $G = \langle g \rangle$ of prime order q .
Witness: a_1, \dots, a_m s.t. $A_i = g^{a_i}$
Common String: (A_1, \dots, A_m) .



This is a ZK-SNARK
 Succinct \swarrow Non-interactive.

Attacks on Schnorr's Identification Protocol

- Direct attack: Here, sk known $A \xrightarrow{(sk)} c$
- Eavesdropping attack: C acts as transcript oracle. A gets honest transcripts (u_i, c, z)
- Active attack: Here, A can tamper (u_i, c, z) . Schnorr's protocol is not secure w.r.t this

Direct Attack Game

Given $I = (G, P, V)$ and adversary A
↳ keygen

- Challenger C runs G , gets (sk, vk) and sends vk to A
- C acts as verifier, A as prover
- A wins if C accepts

Define $\text{Adv}_{A,2}(1^n) \triangleq \Pr[\text{Direct}_{A,2}(1^n) = 1]$ as the advantage of the adversary. Then, the protocol is secure iff $\text{Adv}_{A,2}(1^n) \leq \text{negl}(n)$, where n is the security parameter.

Theorem: Under DL for group G , and assuming $|E|$ is super-poly, Schnorr's Identification Protocol is secure against direct attack

In particular if \exists an efficient adversary A with advantage ϵ , \exists an efficient adversary B with advantage $\epsilon' \geq \epsilon \cdot \frac{1}{N}$ for the DL problem.
(Forking)

Forking Lemma: Let S and T be finite nonempty sets and let $f: S \times T \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ be a function. Let X, Y, Y' be mutually independent random variables where X takes values in S and Y, Y' are uniformly distributed in T . Let $\epsilon \triangleq \Pr[f(X, Y) = 1]$ and $N \triangleq |T|$. Then, $\Pr[f(X, Y) = 1 \wedge f(X, Y') = 1 \wedge Y \neq Y'] \geq \epsilon^2 \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{N}$

Proof: Let \mathcal{Z}_{sch} denote Schnorr's identification protocol and A the PPT adversary attacking \mathcal{Z}_{sch} . We construct A' , a PPT adversary that solves the dlog problem in $G = \langle g \rangle$.

1. A' is given g^d as an input from the challenger of dlog.
2. A' sets $pp: G = \langle g \rangle$, $vk = g^d$ and calls A with these parameters.
3. A will output u_1 , A' sends $c_1 \xleftarrow{\$} G$, and will receive z_1
4. A' will rewind A , send $c_2 \xleftarrow{\$} G$, and will receive z_2 .

5. If $g^{x_1} \cdot (g^{x_2})^{c_1} = g^{x_2}$, then A outputs $\frac{x_1 - x_2}{c_1 - c_2}$ else \perp output.

Let w be the randomness in the execution except for the challenge itself.

Define $V(w, c) = 1$ if A correctly responds to challenge c for a randomness w .

For any fixed w define $S_w := \Pr_c [V(w, c) = 1]$

Define $S(1^n) := \text{Adv}_{A, \text{Tech}} = \sum_w S_w \Pr[w]$

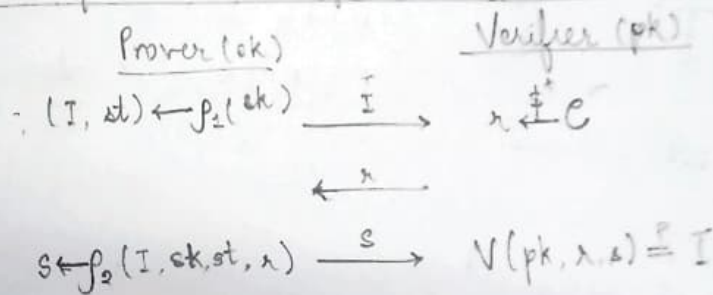
Here, A outputs correct x if A succeeds twice. Thus, by rewinding

$\Pr[\text{Alg } A: g(1^n) = 1] = \Pr_{w, c} [V(w, c_1) = 1 \wedge V(w, c_2) = 1 \wedge c_1 \neq c_2]$

$$\geq S(1^n)^2 - \frac{S(1^n)}{N} = \epsilon^2 - \frac{\epsilon}{N}$$

Eavesdropping Attacks Against General Identification Scheme (Σ)

Eavesdropping Game: For a given adversary A and the identification protocol $\Sigma = (V, P_1, P_2)$, the



eavesdropping attack game is as follows.

1. Key Generation: Challenger C runs $(sk, vk) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}()$ and sends vk to A .

2. Eavesdropping Phase: A requires $Q(n)$ transcripts between P and V where vk is the public key, sk the secret key. C sends $I_1, \dots, I_{Q(n)}$ to A .

3. Impersonation Attempt: A and C interact, with C following the algorithm of V , and A will act as the prover (not necessarily the same algorithm)

Active Game: Here, we replace the eavesdropping phase with a probing phase.

4. Probing Phase: A will ask to interact with P . C will comply by playing the role of the prover. A will play the role of the verifier but not necessarily follow the same algorithm. Here, A may interact with multiple instantiations of P with same (sk, vk)

Theorem: If \mathcal{Z} is secure against direct attack and is HVZK, then it is secure against eavesdropping attack.

Proof: If \mathcal{Z} is HVZK, it has a simulator S_{in} . Let A be an impersonation adversary that attacks \mathcal{Z} in an eavesdropping attack with access to Q transcripts. Let B be a direct attack adversary that attacks \mathcal{Z} .

Claim: $Adv_{B, \mathcal{Z}}^{direct} = Adv_{A, \mathcal{Z}}^{eav}$

Proof: B is a wrapper around A , and supplies the transcripts to A from S_{in} . B will reply to C what A returns. Thus, A will be as successful as B .

Corollary: \mathcal{Z}_{ech} is secure from an eavesdropping attack.

Proof: Using DL and HVZK property of \mathcal{Z}_{ech} .

Signatures From Identification Schemes

Let $\mathcal{Z} = (Gen, P_1, P_2, V)$, $(pk, sk) \leftarrow Gen(1^n)$.

Suppose $H: \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a hash function/random oracle. Here \mathbb{C} is the challenge space.

Signi(m, sk) $m \in \{0, 1\}^*$

1. Compute $(I, st) \leftarrow P_1(sk)$
2. Compute $r := H(I, m)$
3. Compute $s := P_2(sk, st, r)$

} Fiat-Shamir Transform.

Return $(r, s) \leftarrow \text{Signi}(m, sk)$

Verify($pk, m, (r, s)$)

1. Compute $V(pk, r, s) = I$
2. Check $H(I, m) \stackrel{?}{=} r$

Note: $H(I, m)$ can be written as $H_1(I, H_2(m))$ [Merkle Damgård Construction]

Problem. Let π be an identification scheme and π' be the signature scheme that resulted by the Fiat-Shamir transform. If π is secure against eavesdropping attacks and it is modeled as a random oracle, then π' is existentially unforgeable.

Proof. Let A' be a PPT adversary attacking π' with $q(n)$ queries made to H . We make the following assumptions:

1. A' can make any given query to H only once.
2. If the signing oracle responds with (r, s) as the signature on m and $\mathcal{V}(pk, r, s) = 1$, then A' never queries $H(I, m)$.
3. If A' outputs a forged signature (r, s) on m where $\mathcal{V}(pk, r, s) = 1$, then we assume A' had previously queried $H(I, m)$.

We construct PPT A that uses A' as a subroutine and attacks π .

A 's Algorithm

1. choose $j \leftarrow \{1, \dots, q(n)\}$
2. Run $A'(pk)$, and answer its queries as follows:
 - a. When A' makes its i^{th} random oracle query $H(I_i, m_i)$, answer as follows:
 - if $i = j$, then output I_j to \mathcal{V} of π and receive random challenge c .
 - if $i \neq j$, return $k \leftarrow \mathbb{C}$.
 - b. When A' requests a signature on m , answer it as follows:
 - query $\mathcal{O}_{\text{trans}}$ to obtain a transcript (I, r, s)
 - return (r, s) as signature on m .
3. If A' outputs a forgery (r, s) on m compute $I = \mathcal{V}(pk, r, s)$ and check if $I = I_j$ and $m = m_j$, then output s .

Note. A 's view is almost identical to the view of the signature forgery experiment because:

- Hash queries are answered uniformly random from \mathbb{C} .
- All signing queries are answered with valid signatures.
- Only difference comes when A' receives (r, s) as a signing query on m where $H(I, m) \neq r$ (from a previous hash query).

Hence, \mathcal{A} 's advantage of coming up with a forgery is
 $\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}, \pi}^{\text{sig-forg}}(1^n) - \text{negl}(n)$.

$$\therefore \text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}, \pi}^{\text{id}}(1^n) \geq \frac{1}{q(n)} [\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}, \pi}^{\text{sig-forg}}(1^n) - \text{negl}(n)]$$

Note: We assume Id, π is nondegenerate: For a fixed I and given sk , $\Pr(I = \rho_1(sk))$ is negligible.

Sigma (Σ) Protocols (abstraction of Zook for an NP-relation)

Suppose R is an interactive protocol in which inputs to P and V are (x, w) and w respectively, where $(x, w) \in R$.

A Σ -protocol consists of three messages:

1. Commitment: P sends u to V .

$P \xrightarrow{u} V$

2. V chooses a random challenge $c \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{C}$.

$V \xleftarrow{\$ \mathcal{C}} P$

3. P generates a response z , V outputs accept or reject.

$P \xrightarrow{z} V$

Properties of Σ -protocol.

1. Completeness: $\forall (x, w) \in R$, $\Pr[P(x, w) \leftrightarrow V(x) = \text{accept}] = 1$

2. Special Soundness: \exists an algorithm A s.t. given any two accepting transcripts (u, c, z) and (u, c', z') and $c \neq c'$, outputs w s.t. $(x, w) \in R$.

3. Special HVZK: \exists an algorithm M s.t. given x and c outputs (u, c, z) which is distributed like a real execution where V sends c .

Lemma: A Σ protocol for an NP-relation R gives an IP for d_R with soundness error at most $1/|\mathcal{C}|$.

Proof: It is easy to see completeness.

For every commitment u , \exists at most one challenge c such that (u, c, z) is accepting and $x \in L_R$. If there is more than one such c , by special soundness we can find a witness w for x which is a contradiction.

Hence, $\Pr[V \text{ accepts } |x \notin L] \leq \frac{1}{|C|}$, or soundness error is at most $1/|C|$. Hence, a Σ -protocol is an IP with soundness error $1/|C|$.

Diffie-Hellman Tuples (Chaum-Pedersen Protocol)

Diffie-Hellman tuples are of the form $(g, h, u, v) \in R \iff \exists w \text{ s.t. } u = g^w, v = h^w$.

where $g, h \in G = \langle g \rangle$. Note: Skipping g , this is a DH triple (g^a, g^b, g^c) iff $t = ab$.

The Chaum-Pedersen Σ -protocol is as follows:

1. P chooses $r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$ and sends $a = g^r, b = g^r$

P $\xrightarrow{\substack{a = g^r \\ b = h^r}} V$
($r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$)

2. V sends $c \xleftarrow{\$} C$

P $\xleftarrow{c \xleftarrow{\$} C} V$

3. P sends $z = r + cw$

P $\xrightarrow{z = r + cw} V$ $\begin{matrix} g^z \stackrel{?}{=} au^c \\ h^z \stackrel{?}{=} bv^c \end{matrix}$

4. V checks $g^z \stackrel{?}{=} au^c, h^z \stackrel{?}{=} bv^c$

Completeness: If (g, h, u, v) is a DH tuple and w is its witness,

$$g^z = g^{r+cw} = g^r (g^w)^c = au^c$$

$$h^z = h^{r+cw} = h^r (h^w)^c = bv^c$$

Special Soundness: Given two transcripts (a, b, c_1, z_1) and (a, b, c_2, z_2) , A outputs $w \leftarrow \frac{z_1 - z_2}{c_1 - c_2}$.

Special HVZK: Given c and (g, h, u, v) , M chooses $z \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$ and outputs $(g^z u^{-c}, g^z v^{-c}, c, z)$.

Other Properties of Σ -Protocols

Suppose t is the size of q . Then,

1. Any Σ -protocol is an IP with soundness error $1/2^t$

2. Any Σ -protocol is a PoK with knowledge error $1/2^t$.

3. Properties of Σ -protocol are invariant under parallel composition.

AND of Σ -Protocols: Can run all Σ protocols in parallel with same challenge for each.

OR of Σ -Protocols

Given two statements and two corresponding Σ -protocols, the prover must show they know the witness of at least one Σ protocol without revealing which.

Consider the Σ protocols (x_0, P_0) and (x_1, P_1) . The OR of these two protocols is:

$$1. P \xrightarrow{a_0, a_1} V$$

$$2. P \xleftarrow{e} V$$

$$3. P \xrightarrow{c_0, c_1: c_0 \oplus c_1 = e} V$$

$$z_0, z_1$$

4. V checks if $c_0 \oplus c_1 = e$ and $(a_0, c_0, z_0), (a_1, c_1, z_1)$ are both accepting. WLOG, suppose P has witness of x_0 and not necessarily witness of x_1 . P chooses $e_1 \xleftarrow{\$} C$ and runs $\text{Sim}(x_1, e_1)$ to obtain (a_1, c_1, z_1) . P will send (a_0, a_1) to V and receives e . P then computes $c_0 = e \oplus c_1$. Thus, P can generate (a_0, c_0, z_0) which is accepting. Hence, on sending (c_0, c_1, z_0, z_1) , V will accept.

Special Soundness:

Suppose $((a_0, a_1), e, z)$ and $((a_0, a_1), e', z')$ are accepting conversations. And WLOG suppose we require to extract w_1 . Clearly, since $e' \neq e$, at least c_0, c_0' or c_1, c_1' are different. Hence, (a_1, e_1, z) and (a_1, e_1', z') are two accepting transcripts of Σ_1 . \exists an algorithm to find w_1 (similarly for w_0).

Special HVZK: Given x_1, e , select $e_1 \xleftarrow{\$} C$. Set $c_0 = e \oplus e_1$.

Run $\text{Sim}(x_0, c_0)$ to get (a_0, c_0, z_0) and generate (a_1, c_1, z_1) using algo of Σ_1 . Thus, we can generate $((a_0, a_1), e, (z_0, z_1))$

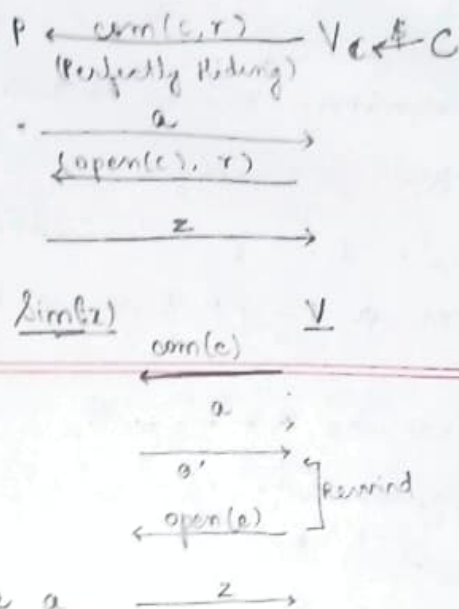
as required.

Note: For 1 out of n , extend the OR.

For k out of n , consider the OR of all $\binom{n}{k}$ AND Σ -protocols. [NOT PPT]

ZKP from Σ -Protocols

Here, the simulator V after finding c , runs special HVZK with inputs a, c to get an accepting conversation (a, c, z) , then uses that accepting conversation to generate the transcript.



Non-Interactive Proof

To generate a random challenge, we use a hash function H , modeled as an RO to prove the following:

1. If the Σ -protocol is (specially) sound, then the corresponding NIZK is also sound.
2. If the Σ -protocol is special HVZK, then the NI-proof system does not reveal anything about the witness (proved using the different definition of ZKP).

Voting Protocol

- n voters vote either 0 or 1.
- At the end of the protocol, any voter knows the total sum of votes
- No voter should learn about anyone else's vote (but the counter may know)
- For encryption of the vote, we use a multiplicative variant of ElGamal.

Let $G = \langle g \rangle$ be a cyclic group of prime order q .

Suppose $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ is the secret key and $u = g^\alpha \in G$ is the public key

* $Enc(m, u)$: $\beta \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$, $v := g^\beta$, $e := v^\beta m$. Return (v, e)

* $Dec(v, e, \alpha)$: $m \leftarrow e v^{-\alpha}$. Return m .

Vote Tallying Center (VTC): Runs keygen to generate secret key α and public key $u = g^\alpha$, available publicly to all voters.

Voting Stage: i^{th} voter encrypts $b_i \in \{0, 1\}$ as their vote by encoding g^{b_i} to obtain $(v_i, e_i) \leftarrow \text{Enc}(g^{b_i}, u)$, which is published. Here, $g_i \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$, $v_i = g^{b_i}$, $e_i = u^{f_i m}$.

Tallying Stage. VTC takes all (v_i, e_i) and aggregates them into a single ciphertext $(v_x, e_x) = (\prod_{i=1}^n v_i, \prod_{i=1}^n e_i)$

Thus, $v_x = g^{\sum_{i=1}^n b_i}$, $e_x = u^{\sum_{i=1}^n f_i} g^{\sum_{i=1}^n f_i b_i}$. Here, $(v_x, e_x) = \text{Enc}(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i, u)$. Hence, VTC can decrypt (v_x, e_x) to obtain $\sum_{i=1}^n b_i$ and publish it.

Since σ is small (since n is small), one can get σ using a lookup table.

Proving Properties on Encrypted Data

Alice wants to convince the verifier that (v, e) encrypts a bit under Bob's public key.

We require a Σ -protocol for $\mathcal{R} = \{(b, \beta), (u, v, e) : v = g^b, e = u^{\beta} g^b, \text{ valid}\}$

* if $b = 0$, (u, v, e) is a DH-tuple

* if $b = 1$, $(u, v, e/g)$ is a DH-tuple.

Thus, the Σ -protocol is as follows:

$P((b, \beta), (u, v, e))$ Set $w_0 = e$, $w_1 = e/g$ $V(u, v, e)$

$P_{1b} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$, $v_{1b} = g^{P_{1b}}$, $w_{1b} = u^{P_{1b}}$

$d = (1-b)$, $c_d \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{C}$ [nonce for HVZK Sm] $\xrightarrow{v_{1b}, w_{1b}, v_{1d}, w_{1d}}$

$P_{2d} \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$, $v_{2d} = \frac{g^{P_{2d}}}{v_{cd}}$, $w_{2d} = \frac{u^{P_{2d}}}{w_{cd}}$ \xleftarrow{c}

$\xrightarrow{c_d, P_{2d}, P_{21}}$ Compute $c_1 \leftarrow c \oplus c_d$

Note: Voter must now publish NIZK that $b_i \in \{0, 1\}$ additionally.

Verify:
1. $g^{P_{2d}} = v_{1b} v_{cd}$
2. $u^{P_{2d}} = w_{1b} w_{cd}$

Note: $v_{2d} \neq \frac{u^{P_{2d}}}{c_d}$ as vote choice determines

DH-triple whose witness known a priori by voter

3. $g^{P_{21}} = v_{1b} v_{cd}$
4. $u^{P_{21}} = w_{1b} w_{cd}$

k-out-of-n / Threshold Sigma Protocols

Results from algebra:

1. Let \mathbb{F} be a field. Any $(d+1)$ pairs $(a_i, b_i) \in \mathbb{F}^2$ define a unique polynomial of degree d s.t. $p(a_i) = b_i \forall i$
2. The polynomial p is constructed by interpolation
3. Given a polynomial that was interpolated from random (a_i, b_i) , it is impossible to identify the points used in the interpolation.

Lagrange Interpolation Formula

Given points $(x_i, y_i)_{i=1}^n \in \mathbb{F}^2$, we need to find $p \in \mathbb{F}[x]$ of degree $n-1$ s.t. $p(x_i) = y_i$. Here, $p(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\prod_{j \neq i} \frac{x - x_j}{x_i - x_j} \right) y_i$.

Consider the n statements x_1, \dots, x_n and suppose A is the set of statements for which P has a witness, and B the set of remaining statements.

Field elements are represented as $\{1, \dots, n\}$.

P

V

1. $\forall i \in B$, P generates (a_i, e_i, z_i) using special HVZK snis. $\forall i \in A$, P generates a_i according to Σ -protocols.

$(a_1, \dots, a_n) \rightarrow$

$\leftarrow e$ 2. $e \leftarrow \mathbb{F}_C$

3. P generates the ONLY polynomial of degree $n-k$ s.t. $f(i) = e_i \forall i \in B$ and $f(0) = e$.

$$f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-k} a_j' x^j$$

$(e_1, \dots, e_n) \rightarrow$
 (z_1, \dots, z_n)

4. Check if $f(i) = e_i \forall i$ and $f(0) = e$

[f is constructed from any $n-k$ points].

$\forall i \in A$, P evaluates $e_i := f(i)$ and computes z_i accordingly

and $\forall i, (a_i, e_i, z_i)$ are accepting conversations

If P knows $k-1$ witnesses, $n-k+1$ HVZK snis are run, resulting in a $n-k$ degree poly which will pass if $f(0) = e$, thus soundness error is $\leq 1/|C|$