

# **cq:**\* Cached quotients for fast lookups

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## Abstract

We present a protocol for checking the values of a committed polynomial  $\phi(X) \in \mathbb{F}_{<N}[X]$  over a multiplicative subgroup  $\mathbb{H} \subset \mathbb{F}$  of size  $n$  are contained in a table  $T \in \mathbb{F}^N$ . After an  $O(N \log N)$  preprocessing step, the prover algorithm runs in time  $O(n \log n)$ . Thus, we continue to improve upon the recent breakthrough sequence of results[?, ?, ?, ?] starting from Caulk [?], which achieve sublinear complexity in the table size  $N$ . The two most recent works in this sequence [?, ?] achieved prover complexity  $O(n \cdot \log^2 n)$ .

Moreover, as in [?, ?, ?] our construction relies on homomorphic table commitments, which makes them amenable to vector lookups in the manner described in Section 4 of [?].

## 1 Introduction

The *lookup problem* is fundamental to the efficiency of modern zk-SNARKs. Somewhat informally, it asks for a protocol to prove the values of a committed polynomial  $\phi(X) \in \mathbb{F}_{<n}[X]$  are contained in a table  $T$  of size  $N$  of predefined legal values. When the table  $T$  corresponds to an operation without an efficient low-degree arithmetization in  $\mathbb{F}$ , such a protocol produces significant savings in proof construction time for programs containing the operation. Building on previous work of [?], **plookup** [?] was the first to explicitly describe a solution to this problem in the polynomial-IOP context. **plookup** described a protocol with prover complexity quasilinear in both  $n$  and  $N$ . This left the intriguing question of whether the dependence on  $N$  could be made *sublinear* after performing a preprocessing step for the table  $T$ . Caulk [?] answered this question in the affirmative by leveraging bi-linear pairings, achieving a run time of  $O(n^2 + n \log N)$ . Caulk+ [?] improved this to  $O(n^2)$  getting rid of the dependence on table size completely.

However, the quadratic dependence on  $n$  of these works makes them impractical for a circuit with many lookup gates. We resolve this issue by giving a protocol called **cq** that is quasi-linear in  $n$  and has no dependence on  $N$  after the preprocessing step.

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\*Pronounced “seek you”.

## 1.1 Comparison of results

Table with relative proof size, prover ops, verifier ops proof-size caulk caulk+ flookup  
baloo 12  $\mathbb{G}_1$ , 1  $\mathbb{G}_2$ , 4  $\mathbb{F}$  this work 6  $\mathbb{G}_1$ , 1  $\mathbb{G}_2$

## 1.2 Technical Overview

The innovation of Caulk While [?, ?, ?, ?] use preprocessing and pairings to extract a subtable of witness size;

Our approach here we use preprocessing and pairings more directly to run an existing lookup protocol - mvlookup, in time independent from table size -logarithmic derivative method Let's review this protocol: It relies on the following lemma from [?] that says that  $f|_{\mathbb{H}} \in \mathfrak{t}$  if and only if for some  $m \in \mathbb{F}^N$

$$\sum_{i \in [N]} \frac{m_i}{X + t_i} = \sum_{i \in [n]} \frac{1}{X + f_i}$$

Roughly, the protocol of [?] checks this identity on a random  $\beta$ , by sending polynomials  $A$  and  $B$  that agree on  $\mathbb{V}$  with the rational function values of the LHS and RHS respectively. Given commitments to  $A, B$  we can check the equality holds via various sumcheck techniques, e.g. that described in [?]. The RHS is not a problem because it is a sum of size  $n$ . Interpolating  $A$ , and computing its commitment is actually not a problem either, because the number of non-zero values is at most  $n$ . So if we precompute the commitments to the Lagrange base of  $\mathbb{V}$  we're fine.

The main challenge, and innovation, is to convince the verifier  $\mathbf{V}$  that  $A$  is correctly formed.

This protocol is amenable, because polynomials involved have sparsity depending on witness - For large table problem is computing  $A$  that agrees with  $m/(\mathfrak{t} + \beta)$  on  $\mathbb{V}$

- Need way to compute  $A$

## 2 Preliminaries

### 2.1 Notation:

$\mathbb{H}$ - small space  $\mathbb{V}$ - big space Lagrange bases for big and small space

AGM - real and ideal pairing checks, agm - real and ideal pairing KZG

### 2.2 log derivative method

Lemma from mvlookup

**Lemma 2.1.** *Given  $f \in \mathbb{F}^n$ , and  $t \in \mathbb{F}^N$ , we have  $f \subset t$  as sets if and only if for some  $m \in \mathbb{F}^N$  the following identity of rational functions holds*

$$\sum_{i \in [n]} \frac{1}{X + f_i} = \sum_{i \in [N]} \frac{m_i}{X + t_i}.$$

### 3 Cached quotients

**Theorem 3.1.** Fix  $T \in \mathbb{F}_{<N}[X]$ , and a subgroup  $\mathbb{V} \subset \mathbb{F}$  of size  $N$ . There is an algorithm that after a preprocessing step of  $O(N \cdot \log N)$  operations. Given input  $f \in \mathbb{F}_{<n}[X]$  computes in  $O(n)$   $\mathbb{G}_1$  operations  $\text{cm} = [Q(x)]_1$  where  $Q \in \mathbb{F}_{<N}[X]$  is such that

$$f(X) \cdot T(X) = Q(X) \cdot Z_{\mathbb{V}}(X) + R(X),$$

for  $R(X) \in \mathbb{F}_{<N}[X]$

*Proof.* By lemma 3.2, the quotient commitments  $[Q_i(X)]_1$  can be computed in  $O(N \log N)$  time. These satisfy the following equations that depend only on  $T(X)$ , not  $f(X)$ , and so can be precomputed in a preprocessing step.

$$L_i(X) \cdot T(X) = t_i \cdot L_i(X) + Z_{\mathbb{V}}(X) \cdot Q_i(X)$$

By assumption, the polynomial  $f(X)$  can be written as a linear combination of the  $n$  Lagrange basis polynomials for the set  $\mathbb{H}$

$$f(X) = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{H}} f_i L_i(X)$$

Substituting this into the product with  $T(X)$ , and substituting each of the products  $L_i(X)T(X)$  with the appropriate cached quotient  $Q_i(X)$  we find

$$f(X)T(X) = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{H}} f_i L_i(X)T(X) = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{H}} f_i t_i L_i(X) + f_i Z_{\mathbb{V}}(X) Q_i(X)$$

Rearranging terms and factoring out  $Z_{\mathbb{V}}(X)$ , it follows that commitments to both the quotient  $Q(X)$  and remainder  $R(X)$  can be computed in  $O(n)$  group operations.

$$\begin{aligned} [Q(X)]_1 &= \sum_{i \in \mathbb{H}} f_i [Q_i(X)]_1 \\ [R(X)]_1 &= \sum_{i \in \mathbb{H}} f_i t_i [L_i(X)]_1 \end{aligned}$$

□

**Lemma 3.2.** Fix  $T \in \mathbb{F}_{<N}[X]$ , and a subgroup  $\mathbb{V} \subset \mathbb{F}$  of size  $N$ . There is an algorithm that given the  $\mathbb{G}_1$  elements  $\{[x^i]_1\}_{i \in \{0, \dots, N\}}$  computes for  $i \in [N]$ , the elements  $q_i := [Q_i(x)]_1$  where  $Q_i(X) \in \mathbb{F}[X]$  is such that

$$L_i(X) \cdot T(X) = t_i \cdot L_i(X) + Z_{\mathbb{V}}(X) \cdot Q_i(X)$$

in  $O(N \cdot \log N)$   $\mathbb{G}_1$  operations.

*Proof.* Substituting the definition of the Lagrange polynomial

$$L_i(X) = \frac{Z_{\mathbb{V}}(X)}{Z'_{\mathbb{V}}(\omega^i)(X - \omega^i)}$$

We can write the quotient  $Q_i(X)$  as the KZG opening for  $T(\omega^i) = t_i$  scaled by the derivative of  $Z_{\mathbb{V}}$  at  $\omega^i$ .

$$Q_i(X) = \frac{T(X) - t_i}{Z'_{\mathbb{V}}(\omega^i)(X - \omega^i)} = Z'_{\mathbb{V}}(\omega^i)^{-1} K_i(X)$$

First, the algorithm needs to compute the coefficients  $T(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \hat{t}_i X^i$  given the sequence of  $t_i$  values. This is possible in  $O(N \log N)$  time using an FFT to interpolate  $T(\omega^i) = t_i$ .

Then, the algorithm of Feist and Khovratovich [1] can be used to compute commitments to all the KZG proofs  $[K_i(X)]_1$  for a polynomial in  $O(N \log N)$ . This works by writing the vector of  $[K_i(X)]_1$  as the product of a matrix with the vector of  $[X^i]_1$ . This matrix is a DFT matrix times a Toeplitz matrix, both of which have algorithms for evaluating matrix vector products in  $O(N \log N)$  operations. Thus, all the KZG proofs can be computed in  $O(N \log N)$  field operations and operations in  $\mathbb{G}_1$ .

Finally, the algorithm just needs to scale each  $[K_i(X)]_1$  by  $Z'_{\mathbb{V}}(\omega^i)$  to compute  $[Q_i(X)]_1$ . Conveniently, these values admit a very simple description when  $Z_{\mathbb{V}}(X) = X^N - 1$  is a group of roots of unity.

$$Z'_{\mathbb{V}}(X)^{-1} = (NX^{N-1})^{-1} \equiv X/N \bmod Z_{\mathbb{V}}(X)$$

In total, the prover computes the coefficients of  $T(X)$  in  $O(N \log N)$  field operations, computes the KZG proofs for  $T(\omega^i) = t_i$  in  $O(N \log N)$  group operations, and then scales these proofs by  $\omega^i/n$  in  $O(N)$  group operations. In total, this takes  $O(N \log N)$  field and group operations in  $\mathbb{G}_1$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.3.** *Fix  $T \in \mathbb{F}_{<N}[X]$ , and a subgroup  $\mathbb{V} \subset \mathbb{F}$  of size  $N$ . There is an algorithm that given the  $\mathbb{G}_1$  elements  $\{[x^i]_1\}_{i \in \{0, \dots, d\}}$  computes for  $i \in [N]$ , the elements  $q_i := [d^{-N} \cdot Q_i(x)]_1$  where  $Q_i(X) \in \mathbb{F}[X]$  is such that*

$$L_i(X) \cdot T(X) = t_i \cdot L_i(X) + Z_{\mathbb{V}}(X) \cdot Q_i(X)$$

*in  $O(N \cdot \log N)$   $\mathbb{G}_1$  operations.*

*Proof.* Note that the commitments here are just the commitments from 3.2 scaled by  $X^{d-N}$ . Scaling a matrix-vector product by a scalar is equivalent to scaling the vector and then multiplying by the matrix. In this case, scaling the commitments by  $X^{d-N}$  is equivalent to performing the matrix multiplication on the vector of commitments  $[X^i]_1$  for  $i \in [d - N, d - 1]$ . The rest of the algorithm remains the same, so these  $q_i$  can also be computed using  $O(N \log N)$  group operations.  $\square$

## 4 Main protocol

**Definition 4.1.**  $\mathcal{R}$  is all pairs  $(\text{cm}, f)$  such that  $\text{cm}$  is a commitment to  $f$  and  $f|_{\mathbb{H}} \subset T$ .  
*..bla problem is relation is defined only after srs is chosen*

### 4.1 Definitions

Ad-hoc dfn of ks protocol for table lookup

Relations dependent on srs. Tuple  $\text{gen}, \text{IsInTable}_{\mathbb{H}}$

- $\text{gen}(\mathbf{t}, N) \rightarrow \text{srs}$
- $\text{IsInTable}_{\mathbb{H}}$  a protocol between  $\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$  where  $\mathbf{P}$  has input  $f \in \mathbb{F}_{<n}[X]$ ,  $\mathbf{V}$  has  $[f(x)]_1$ . Both have  $\mathbf{t}$  and  $\text{srs}$ . such that
  - Completeness: If  $f|_{\mathbb{H}} \subset \mathbf{t}$  then  $\mathbf{V}$  outputs  $\text{acc}$  with probability one.
  - Knowledge soundness in the algebraic group model: For any  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbb{F}^n$ , the probability of any algebraic  $\mathcal{A}$  to win the following game is  $\text{negl}(\lambda)$ 
    1. Let  $\text{srs} = \text{gen}(\mathbf{t}, N)$ .
    2.  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a message  $\text{cm}$  and values  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  such that  $\text{cm} = \sum_{i \in [n]} f_i \cdot [L_i(x)]_1$ .
    3.  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$  engage in the protocol  $\text{IsInTable}_{\mathbb{H}}(\mathbf{t}, \text{cm})$  with  $\mathcal{A}$  taking the role of  $\mathbf{P}$ .
    4.  $\mathcal{A}$  wins if
      - \*  $\mathbf{V}$  outputs  $\text{acc}$
      - \*  $f|_{\mathbb{H}} \not\subset \mathbf{t}$ .

Main protocol: Preprocessed inputs:  $[Z_{\mathbb{V}}(x)]_2, [T(x)]_2$  Input  $(\text{cm}, f)$ .

#### Round 1: Committing to the multiplicities vector

1.  $\mathbf{P}$  computes poly  $m \in \mathbb{F}_{<N}[X]$  such that  $m_i = \text{number of times } \mathbf{t}_i \text{ appears in } f|_{\mathbb{H}}$
2.  $\mathbf{P}$  sends  $\mathbf{m} := [m(x)]_1$ .

#### Round 2: Interpolating the rational identity at a random $\beta$ ; checking the identity for $\mathcal{A}$ using pairings

1.  $\mathbf{V}$  chooses and sends random  $\beta \in \mathbb{F}$ .
2.  $\mathbf{P}$  computes  $A \in \mathbb{F}_{<N}[X]$  such that for  $i \in [N]$ ,  $A_i = m_i / (\mathbf{t}_i + \beta)$ .
3.  $\mathbf{P}$  sends  $\mathbf{a} := [A(x)]_1$ .

4. **P** computes  $\mathbf{q}_a := [Q_A(x)]_2$  where  $Q_A \in \mathbb{F}_{<N}[X]$  is such that

$$A(X)(T(X) + \beta) - m(X) = Q_A(X) \cdot Z_V(X)$$

5. **P** computes  $B \in \mathbb{F}_{<n}[X]$  such that for  $i \in [n]$ ,  $B_i = 1/(f_i + \beta)$ .

6. **P** sends  $\mathbf{q}_b := [B(x)]_1$ .

7. **P** computes  $Q_B(X)$  such that

$$B(X)(f(x) + \beta) - 1 = Q_B(X) \cdot Z_H(X)$$

8. **P** computes and sends the value  $a_0 := A(0)$ .

9. **V** sets  $b_0 := (N \cdot a_0)/n$ .

10. **P** computes and sends  $\mathbf{p} = [P(x)]_1$  where

$$P(X) := A(X) \cdot X^{d-N}$$

11. **V** checks that  $A$  encodes the correct values:

$$e(\mathbf{a}, [T(x)]_2 + [\beta]_2) = e(\mathbf{q}_a, [Z_V(x)]_2) \cdot e(\mathbf{m}, [1]_2)$$

12. **V** checks that  $A$  has the appropriate degree:

$$e(\mathbf{a}, [x^{d-N}]_2) = e(\mathbf{p}, [1]_2).$$

**Round 3: Checking the identities for  $B$  at random  $\gamma \in \mathbb{F}$**

1. **V** sends random  $\gamma, \eta, \zeta \in \mathbb{F}$ .

2. **P** sends  $b_\gamma := B(\gamma)$ ,  $Q_{b,\gamma} := Q_B(\gamma)$ ,  $f_\gamma := f(\gamma)$ .

3. As part of checking the correctness of  $\mathbf{q}_b$ , **V** computes  $Z_H(\gamma) = \gamma^n - 1$  and computes

$$Q_{b,\gamma} := \frac{b_\gamma \cdot (f_\gamma + \beta) - 1}{Z_H(\gamma)}$$

4. As part of checking  $P$  is correct, **V** computes

$$P_\gamma := b_\gamma \cdot \gamma^{d-n}$$

5. To perform a batched KZG check for the correctness of the values  $a_\gamma, b_\gamma, f_\gamma, P_\gamma$

- (a) **V** sends random  $\eta \in \mathbb{F}$ . **P** and **V** separately compute

$$v := b_\gamma + \eta \cdot f_\gamma + \eta^2 \cdot Q_{b,\gamma} + \eta^3 \cdot P_\gamma$$

(b)  $\mathbf{P}$  computes  $\pi_\gamma := [h(x)]_1$  for

$$h(X) := \frac{B(X) + \eta \cdot f(X) + \eta^2 \cdot Q_B(X) + \eta^3 \cdot P(X) - v}{X - \gamma}$$

(c)  $\mathbf{V}$  computes

$$\mathbf{c} := \mathbf{b} + \eta \cdot \mathbf{f} + \eta^2 \cdot \mathbf{q}_\mathbf{b} + \eta^3 \cdot \mathbf{p}$$

and checks that

$$e(\mathbf{c} - [v]_1 + \gamma \cdot \pi_\gamma, [1]_2) = e(\pi_\gamma, [x]_2)$$

6. To perform a batched KZG check for the correctness of the values  $a_0, b_0$

(a)  $\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$  separately compute

$$u := a_0 + \zeta \cdot b_0.$$

(b)  $\mathbf{P}$  computes and sends  $\pi_0 := [h_0(x)]_1$  for

$$h_0(X) := \frac{A(X) + \zeta \cdot B(X)}{X}$$

(c)  $\mathbf{V}$  computes

$$\mathbf{c}_0 := \mathbf{a} + \zeta \mathbf{b}$$

and checks that

$$e(\mathbf{c}_0 - [u]_1, [1]_2) = e(\pi_0, [x]_2)$$

**Stats:** verifier pairings: 4 - pair  $\mathbf{a}$  with random combination of  $T$  and  $[x^{d-N}]_2$ , pair  $\mathbf{q}_\mathbf{a}$  with  $Z_\Psi$ .

**Lemma 4.2.** *The element  $q_A$  in Step 4 can be computed in  $n \log n$   $\mathbb{G}_2$ -operations and  $O(n \log n)$   $\mathbb{F}$ -operations*

**Lemma 4.3.** *The elements  $\pi_0, \pi_\gamma$  can be computed in  $2 \cdot n \log n$   $\mathbb{G}_1$ -operations and  $O(n \log n)$   $\mathbb{F}$ -operations*

Knowledge soundness proof: Look at the following events