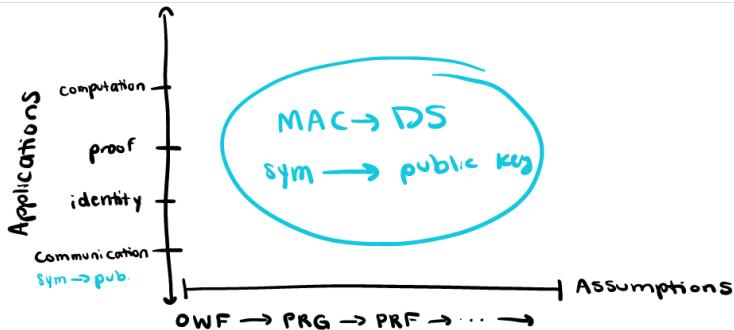


# Lesson 17 Lecture Notes

CS555

## 1 So far...



## 2 NP Proofs

### 2.1 Classical Proof

- Prover  $P$  has a witness (e.g., a 3-coloring of graph  $G$ ).
- Verifier  $V$  checks:
  1. Only 3 colors are used.
  2. Any two connected vertices have different colors.
- Goal: Verify coloring property on  $G$  without revealing the exact coloring.
- Computationally Zero-Knowledge Solution:
  - Prover commits on random permutation of graph with coloring.
  - Verifier challenges on one random edge.
  - Prover shows coloring of that edge.
- Properties:
  - **Completeness:** If  $G \in 3$ -colorable,  $V$  accepts  $P$ 's proof.
  - **Soundness:** If  $G \notin 3$ -colorable, any cheating prover is rejected with probability  $1 - \text{negl}$ .
  - **Zero-Knowledge:** A cheating verifier cannot learn more than validity; simulator can reproduce verifier's view.

### 2.2 Proof it is Zero-Knowledge

- **Hybrid  $H_0$ :**
  1. Pick random edge  $(i, j)$ .
  2. Color edge  $(i, j)$  randomly; color all other edges red.
  3. Give commitments to  $V$  and get edge challenge.
  4. If challenge  $\neq (i, j)$ , repeat.
  5. If challenge  $= (i, j)$ , output edge commitment and openings as simulated transcript.
- **Hybrid  $H_1$ :**
  - Permute legal coloring and color all edges correctly.
  - $H_0$  and  $H_1$  are indistinguishable.
- **Hybrid  $H_2$ :**
  - No repeat step; always give colorings when queried.
  - $H_1$  samples from same distribution as  $H_2$  with probability  $1 - 1/|E|$ .

### 2.3 Sequential vs. Parallel Repetition

- Zero-knowledge proof requires multiple queries to achieve negligible soundness error.
  - ie. if all edges but one is correct, it can pass with high probability on just a few runs but with many it will not
- Sequential repetition enforces randomness of verifier queries → could it be replaced with parallel repetition
- Parallel repetition does not preserve zero-knowledge property (cannot enforce truly random queries).

## 3 Proofs of Knowledge

- Beyond decision problems: show knowledge of solution (e.g., discrete log).
- Example: Discrete Logarithm Zero-Knowledge System
  - Parameters:  $p = 2q + 1$ ,  $y = g^x \pmod{p}$ .
  - Protocol:
    1. Alice sends  $z = g^r \pmod{p}$ .
    2. Bob sends challenge  $c \in \{0, 1\}$ .
    3. Alice responds  $s = r + cx \pmod{q}$ .
    4. Bob verifies:  $g^s \stackrel{?}{=} z \cdot y^c \rightarrow g^r \cdot g^{xc} \rightarrow g^{r+xc} = g^s$
  - **Proof: Extractor**
    - \* If prover convinces verifier with prob  $> 1/2 + \text{poly}^{-1}$ , extractor rewinds to obtain two transcripts with different  $c$ .
    - \* From  $s_0, s_1$ ,  $g^{s_1 - s_0} = y$  so  $s_1 - s_0$  is DLOG

## 4 Non-Interactive Zero-Knowledge Proofs

- Motivation: Interactive proofs require both parties online; want proofs usable later.
- Need a judge that makes sure both prover and verifier aren't cheating
- Fully non-interactive proofs only exist for  $P$  problems; these are trivial because they are verifiable in polytime.
- Two approaches to NIZK:
  1. Random Oracle Model: both sides access unbiased random oracle.
  2. Common Random String Model: shared random string used for challenges and permutations.