

**Definition 1.1 (Dynamic weakly verifiable puzzle.)** A dynamic weakly verifiable puzzle (DWVP) is defined by a probabilistic algorithm  $P$  called a problem poser. We write  $P(\pi)$  to denote the algorithm  $P$  with the randomness  $\pi$ . The algorithm  $P$  outputs circuits  $\Gamma_V$ ,  $\Gamma_H$  and a puzzle  $x \in \{0,1\}^*$ . The circuit  $\Gamma_V$  takes as input  $q \in Q$ , an answer  $y \in \{0,1\}^*$ , and outputs 1 if  $y$  is a correct solution of  $x$  for  $q$  and 0 otherwise. The circuit  $\Gamma_H$  on input  $q \in Q$  outputs a hint such that  $\Gamma_V(q, \Gamma_H(q)) = 1$ .

A problem solver  $S$  is a probabilistic algorithm that takes as input a puzzle  $x$ , and has oracle access to  $\Gamma_V$  and  $\Gamma_H$ . The randomness used by  $S$  is denoted by  $\rho$ . The execution of  $S$  with the input  $x$  and the randomness  $\rho$  is denoted by  $S(x, \rho)$ . The queries of  $S$  to  $\Gamma_V$  are called verification queries, and to  $\Gamma_H$  hint queries. The solver  $S$  can ask at most  $h$  hint queries,  $v$  verification queries, and successfully solves the puzzle if and only if it makes a verification query  $(q, y)$  such that  $\Gamma_V(q, y) = 1$ , when it has not previously asked for a hint query on  $q$ .

**Definition 1.2 ( $k$ -wise direct-product of DWVPs.)** Let  $g : \{0,1\}^k \rightarrow \{0,1\}$  be a monotone function and  $P^{(1)}$  a problem poser as in Definition 1.1. The  $k$ -wise direct product of  $P^{(1)}$  is a DWVP defined by a probabilistic algorithm  $P^{(g)}$ . Let  $\pi^{(k)} := (\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)$  be the randomness used by  $P^{(g)}$ , and  $P^{(g)}(\pi^{(k)})$  denote the execution of  $P^{(g)}$  with the randomness  $\pi^{(k)}$ . The poser  $P^{(g)}$  outputs: a verification circuit

$$\Gamma_V^{(g)}(q, y_1, \dots, y_k) := g(\Gamma_V^1(q, y_1), \dots, \Gamma_V^k(q, y_k)),$$

a hint circuit

$$\Gamma_H^{(k)}(q) := (\Gamma_H^1(q), \dots, \Gamma_H^k(q)),$$

and a puzzle  $x^{(k)} := (x_1, \dots, x_k)$ , where the  $i$ -th instance  $(x_i, \Gamma_V^i, \Gamma_H^i) := P^{(1)}(\pi_i)$ .

We consider the following random experiment in which a DWVP, defined by  $P$ , is solved by a random circuit  $C$ .

**Experiment**  $\text{Success}^{P, C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}}(\pi, \rho)$

**Oracle:** A problem poser  $P$ , a solver circuit  $C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}$ .

**Input:** Bitstrings  $\pi, \rho$ .

**Output:** A bit  $b \in \{0,1\}$ .

$(x, \Gamma_V, \Gamma_H) := P(\pi)$

Run  $C^{\Gamma_V, \Gamma_H}(x, \rho)$

Let  $Q_{\text{Solved}} := \{q : C^{\Gamma_V, \Gamma_H} \text{ asked a verification query } (q, y) \text{ and } \Gamma_V(q, y) = 1\}$

Let  $Q_{\text{Hint}} := \{q : C^{\Gamma_V, \Gamma_H} \text{ asked a hint query on } q\}$

**If**  $\exists q \in Q_{\text{Solved}} : q \notin Q_{\text{Hint}}$  **then**

**return** 1

**else**

**return** 0

The success probability of  $C$  in solving DWVP posed by  $P$  is

$$\Pr_{\pi, \rho}[\text{Success}^{P, C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}}(\pi, \rho) = 1]. \quad (0.0.1)$$

**TODO:** Do we have to fix  $P$  here?

**TODO:** Do the circuit bound is well defined?

**TODO:** What happens when  $8(h + v) \left( \Pr_{\mu \leftarrow \mu_\delta^k} [g(\mu) = 1] + \varepsilon \right) \geq 1$  then the formula does not work

**TODO:** Define  $\mu_\delta^{(k)}$

**Theorem 1.3 (Security amplification for a dynamic weakly verifiable puzzle.)** *Let  $P^{(1)}$  be a fixed problem poser as in Definition 1.1. There exists a probabilistic algorithm  $\text{Gen}(C, g, \varepsilon, \delta, n, v, h)$  which takes as input a solver circuit  $C$  for the  $k$ -wise direct product of  $P^{(1)}$ , a monotone function  $g : \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ , parameters  $\varepsilon, \delta, n$ , the number of verification queries  $v$ , and hint queries  $h$  asked by  $C$ , and outputs a circuit  $D$  such that the following holds:  
If  $C$  is such that*

$$\Pr_{\pi^{(k)}, \rho} [\text{Success}^{P^{(g)}, C}(\pi^{(k)}, \rho) = 1] \geq 8(h + v) \left( \Pr_{\mu \leftarrow \mu_\delta^k} [g(\mu) = 1] + \varepsilon \right)$$

*then  $D$  satisfies almost surely*

$$\Pr_{\pi, \rho} [\text{Success}^{P^{(1)}, D}(\pi, \rho) = 1] \geq (\delta + \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}).$$

*Additionally,  $D$  and  $\text{Gen}$  require only oracle access to  $g$  and  $C$ . Furthermore,  $D$  asks at most  $h$  hint queries,  $v$  verification queries and  $\text{Size}(D) \leq \text{Size}(C) \cdot \Theta(\frac{6k}{\varepsilon})$  and  $\text{Time}(\text{Gen}) = \text{poly}(k, \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, n, v, h)$ .*

The Theorem 1.3 implies that if there is no good solver for  $P^{(1)}$ , then a good solver for  $P^{(k)}$  does not exist.

The idea of the algorithm  $\text{Gen}$  is to find  $k - 1$  puzzles and a position for an input puzzle  $x$ , such that when  $C$  runs with these  $k - 1$  puzzles, and  $x$  placed on the right position, then  $x$  is often successfully solved.

**TODO:** Write it more clearly

To find such a position for  $x$  and  $k - 1$  puzzles  $\text{Gen}$  runs  $C$  repeatedly on different  $k - 1$  tuples of puzzles. Even if  $\text{Gen}$  finds a set of puzzles and a position for  $x$ , such that  $x$  is often solved it may still not constitute a valid solution, as an additional requirement is needed that this happens often for  $q$  on which a hint query was not asked before. To satisfy this requirement we split  $Q$ .

**TODO:** Assumptions on circuit  $C$  it does not ask verification queries on  $q$  for which it asked a hint query.

Let  $\text{hash} : Q \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, 2(h + v) - 1\}$ , then a set  $P_{\text{hash}} \subseteq Q$ , defined with respect to  $\text{hash}$ , is the set of preimages of 0 for function  $\text{hash}$ . The idea is that the set  $P_{\text{hash}}$  contains  $q$  on which  $C$  is not allowed to ask hint queries. Therefore, if  $C$  makes a verification query on  $q \in P_{\text{hash}}$  we know that no hint query is ever asked on this  $q$ . In the experiment  $\text{CanonicalSuccess}$  a circuit  $C$  succeeds if and only if it ask a verification query on  $q \in P_{\text{hash}}$  and no hint query is asked on  $q \in P_{\text{hash}}$ .

**TODO:** Define the enumeration of queries.

**Experiment**  $\text{CanonicalSuccess}^{P, C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}, \text{hash}}(\pi, \rho)$

**Oracle:** A problem poser  $P$ . A solver circuit  $C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}$ .

A function  $\text{hash} : Q \leftarrow \{0, \dots, 2(h + v) - 1\}$ .

**Input:** Bitstrings:  $\pi, \rho$ .

**Output:** A bit  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ .

$(x, \Gamma_V, \Gamma_H) := P(\pi)$

Run  $C^{\Gamma_V, \Gamma_H}(x, \rho)$

Let  $(q_j, y_j)$  be the first verification query such that  $C^{\Gamma_V, \Gamma_H}(q_j, y_j) = 1$ , or an arbitrary verification query if it fails.

**If**  $(\forall i < j : q_i \notin P_{\text{hash}})$  and  $q_j \in P_{\text{hash}}$  and  $\Gamma_V(q_j, y_j) = 1$

**return** 1

**else**

**return** 0

For fixed  $\text{hash}$  and  $P^{(1)}$  a canonical success of  $C$  for  $(\pi^{(k)}, \rho)$  is a situation when  $\text{CanonicalSuccess}^{P^{(g)}, C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}, \text{hash}}(\pi^{(k)}, \rho) = 1$ . We show that if for a fixed  $P^{(1)}$  a solver circuit  $C$  often succeeds in the experiment  $\text{Success}$  for  $P^{(g)}$ , then it also often successful in the experiment  $\text{CanonicalSuccess}$  for  $P^{(g)}$ .

**Lemma 1.4** *Success probability in solving a  $k$ -wise direct product of DWVP with respect to a function  $\text{hash}$ .*

For fixed  $P^{(1)}$  let  $C$  succeed in the experiment  $\text{Success}$  for  $P^{(g)}$  with probability  $\gamma$ , asking at most  $h$  hint queries and  $v$  verification queries. There exists a probabilistic algorithm, with oracle access to  $C$ , that runs in time  $O((h + v)^4 / \gamma^4)$ , and with high probability outputs a function  $\text{hash} : Q \rightarrow \{0, \dots, 2(h + v) - 1\}$  such that the canonical success probability of  $C$  with respect to  $P_{\text{hash}}$  is at least  $\frac{\gamma}{8(h+v)}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a family of pairwise independent hash functions  $Q \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, 2(h + v) - 1\}$ . For all  $i \neq j \in \{1, \dots, (h + v)\}$  and  $k, l \in \{0, 1, \dots, 2(h + v) - 1\}$  by pairwise independence property of  $\mathcal{H}$ , we have

$$\forall q_i, q_j \in Q : \Pr_{\text{hash} \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[\text{hash}(q_i) = k \mid \text{hash}(q_j) = l] = \Pr_{\text{hash} \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[\text{hash}(q_i) = k] = \frac{1}{2(h + v)}. \quad (0.0.2)$$

Let  $P^{(g)}, C, (\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)$  be fixed. We consider the experiment  $E$  and define a binary random variable  $X$  for the event that  $\text{hash}(q_j) = 0$ , and for every query  $q_i$  asked before  $q_j : \text{hash}(q_i) \neq 0$ . Conditioned on the event  $\text{hash}(q_i) = 0$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr_{\text{hash} \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[X = 1] &= \Pr_{\text{hash} \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[\text{hash}(q_j) = 0 \wedge \forall i < j : \text{hash}(q_i) \neq 0] \\ &= \Pr_{\text{hash} \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[\forall i < j : \text{hash}(q_i) \neq 0 \mid \text{hash}(q_j) = 0] \Pr_{\text{hash} \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[\text{hash}(q_j) = 0]. \end{aligned}$$

Now we use (0.0.2) twice and obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr_{\text{hash} \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[X = 1] &= \frac{1}{2(h + v)} \left( 1 - \Pr_{\text{hash} \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[\exists i < j : \text{hash}(q_i) = 0 \mid \text{hash}(q_j) = 0] \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2(h + v)} \left( 1 - \Pr_{\text{hash} \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[\exists i < j : \text{hash}(q_i) = 0] \right). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we use union bound and  $j \leq (h + v)$  to get

$$\Pr_{hash \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[X = 1] \geq \frac{1}{2(h + v)} \left( 1 - \sum_{i < j} \Pr_{hash \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[hash(q_i) = 0] \right) \geq \frac{1}{4(h + v)}.$$

Let  $G_A$  (correspondingly  $G_E$ ) denote the set of all  $(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)$  for which  $C$  succeeds in the random experiment  $A$  ( $E$ ). For fixed  $(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)$ , if  $C$  succeeds canonically, then it also succeeds in the random experiment  $A$ . Hence,  $G_E \subseteq G_A$  and we get

$$\Pr_{\substack{hash \leftarrow \mathcal{H} \\ (\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)}}[E^{P^{(g)}, C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}, hash}(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k) = 1] = \mathbb{E}_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k) \in G_A} \left[ \Pr_{hash \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[X = 1] \right] \geq \frac{\gamma}{4(h + v)}. \quad (0.0.3)$$

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**Algorithm: FindHash**

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**Oracle:** A solver circuit  $C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}$  for a  $k$ -wise direct product of DWVP.

**Input:** A set  $\mathcal{H}$ .

**Output:** A function  $hash \in \mathcal{H}$ .

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For  $i = 1$  to  $32(h + v)^2/\gamma^2$

$hash \xleftarrow{\$} \mathcal{H}$

$count := 0$

**For**  $j := 1$  to  $32(h + v)^2/\gamma^2$

$\pi^{(k)} \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{kl}$

**If**  $CanonicalSuccess^{P^{(g)}, C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}, hash}(\pi^{(k)}) = 1$  **then**

$count := count + 1$

**If**  $\frac{\gamma^2}{32(h+v)^2} count \geq \frac{\gamma}{6(h+v)}$

**return**  $hash$

**return**  $\perp$

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We show that **FindHash** chooses  $hash$  such that the canonical success probability of  $C$  with respect to  $P_{hash}$  is at least  $\frac{\gamma}{4(h+v)}$  almost surely. Let  $\mathcal{H}_{Good}$  denote a family of functions  $hash \in \mathcal{H}$  for which

$$\Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[CanonicalSuccess^{P^{(g)}, C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}, hash}(\pi^{(k)}) = 1] \geq \frac{\gamma}{4(h + v)},$$

and  $\mathcal{H}_{Bad}$  be the family of functions  $hash \in \mathcal{H}$  such that

$$\Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[CanonicalSuccess^{P^{(g)}, C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}, hash}(\pi^{(k)}) = 1] \leq \frac{\gamma}{8(h + v)}.$$

Additionally, for a fixed  $hash$ , we define binary random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_N$  such that

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if in } i\text{th iteration variable } count \text{ is increased} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We first show that it is unlikely that **FindHash** returns  $hash \in \mathcal{H}_{Bad}$ . For  $hash \in \mathcal{H}_{Bad}$  we have  $\mathbb{E}_{\pi^{(k)}}[X_i] < \frac{\gamma}{8(h+v)}$ . Therefore, for any fixed  $hash \in \mathcal{H}_{Bad}$  using the Chernoff bound we get

$$\Pr_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i \geq \frac{\gamma}{6(h + v)} \right] \leq \Pr_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i \geq (1 + \frac{1}{3}) \mathbb{E}[X_i] \right] \leq e^{-\frac{\gamma}{4(h+v)} N/27}.$$

The probability that  $hash \in \mathcal{H}_{Good}$ , when picked, is not returned amounts

$$\Pr_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i \leq \frac{\gamma}{6(h+v)} \right] \leq \Pr_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i \leq (1 - \frac{1}{3}) \mathbb{E}[X_i] \right] \leq e^{-\frac{\gamma}{4(h+v)} N/27}.$$

Finally, we show that **FindHash** picks in one of its iteration  $hash \in \mathcal{H}_{Good}$  almost surely. Let  $Y_i$  be a binary random variable such that

$$Y_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if in } i\text{th iteration } hash \in \mathcal{H}_{Good} \text{ is picked} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

From equation (0.0.3) we know that  $\Pr_{hash \leftarrow \mathcal{H}} [Y_i = 1] = \mathbb{E}[Y_i] \geq \frac{\gamma}{4(h+v)}$ , almost surely. Thus, we get

$$\Pr_{hash \leftarrow \mathcal{H}} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^K Y_i = 0 \right] \leq \left( 1 - \frac{\gamma}{4(h+v)} \right)^K \leq e^{-\frac{\gamma}{4(h+v)} K}.$$

The bound stated in the Lemma 1.4 is achieved for  $\delta = \frac{1}{3}$  and  $K = N = 32(h+v)^2/\gamma^2$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 1.5 Security amplification of a dynamic weakly verifiable puzzle with respect to  $P_{hash}$ .**

For fixed  $P^{(1)}$  there exists an algorithm  $Gen(C, g, \varepsilon, \delta, n, v, h, hash)$ , which takes as input a solver circuit  $C$ , a monotone function  $g$ , a function  $hash : Q \rightarrow \{0, \dots, 2(h+v)-1\}$ , parameters  $\varepsilon, \delta, n$ , number of verification  $v$ , and hint  $h$  queries asked by  $C$ , and outputs a circuit  $D$  such that following holds:

If  $C$  is such that

$$\Pr_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)} [E^{P^{(g)}, C, Hash}(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k) = 1] \geq \Pr_{\mu \leftarrow \mu_\delta^k} [g(\mu) = 1] + \varepsilon,$$

then  $D$  satisfies almost surely

$$\Pr_{\pi} [\Gamma_V^{(g)}(D^{P^{(1)}, \tilde{C}, hash}(\pi)) = 1] \geq (\delta + \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}).$$

Furthermore,  $Size(D) \leq Size(C) \frac{6k}{\varepsilon}$  and  $Time(Gen) = poly(k, \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, n, v, h)$ .

We define a following solver circuit  $\tilde{C}$  :

**Circuit**  $\tilde{C}^{\Gamma_V^{(g)}, \Gamma_H^{(g)}, hash, C}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$

Circuit  $\tilde{C}$  has good canonical success probability.

**Oracle:**  $\Gamma_V^{(g)}, \Gamma_H^{(k)}, hash, C$

**Input:**  $k$ -wise direct product of puzzles  $(x_1, \dots, x_k)$

Run  $C^{(\cdot, \cdot)}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$

**If**  $C$  asks a hint query  $q$  **then**

**If**  $q \in P_{hash}$  **then**

**return**  $\perp$

**else**

**return**  $\Gamma_H^{(k)}(q)$  to  $C$

**If**  $C$  asks a verification query on  $(q, y_1, \dots, y_k)$  **then**

**If**  $q \in P_{hash}$  **then**

**return**  $(q, y_1, \dots, y_k)$

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    else
        answer the verification query with 0
    return  $\perp$ 

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**Lemma 1.6** For fixed  $P^{(g)}$ , hash the following statement is true

$$\Pr_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)} [E^{P^{(g)}, C, \text{hash}}(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k) = 1] \leq \Pr_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)} [\Gamma_V^{(g)}(\tilde{C}^{\Gamma_V^{(g)}, \Gamma_H^{(g)}, \text{hash}}(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)) = 1].$$

**Proof.** We fix the a random bitstring  $(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)$ , hash. If  $C$  succeeds canonically then

$$\Gamma_V^{(g)}(\tilde{C}^{\Gamma_V^{(g)}, \Gamma_H^{(g)}, \text{hash}}(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)) = 1.$$

Using this observation, we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)} [E^{P^{(g)}, C, \text{hash}}(\pi^{(k)}) = 1] &= \sum_{\pi^{(k)} \in \{0,1\}^{kl}} \Pr[E^{P^{(g)}, C, \text{hash}}(\tilde{\pi}^{(k)}) = 1 | \pi^{(k)} = \tilde{\pi}^{(k)}] \Pr[\pi^{(k)} = \tilde{\pi}^{(k)}] \\ &\leq \sum_{\pi^{(k)} \in \{0,1\}^{kl}} \Pr[\Gamma_V^{(g)}(\tilde{C}^{\Gamma_V^{(g)}, \Gamma_H^{(g)}, \text{hash}}(\tilde{\pi}^{(k)})) = 1 | \pi^{(k)} = \tilde{\pi}^{(k)}] \Pr[\pi^{(k)} = \tilde{\pi}^{(k)}] \\ &= \Pr[E^{P^{(g)}, \tilde{C}, \text{hash}}(\pi^{(k)}) = 1] \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**Algorithm**  $\text{Gen}(\tilde{C}, g, \varepsilon, \delta, n)$

**Oracle:**  $\tilde{C}, g$

**Input:**  $\varepsilon, \delta, n$

**Output:** A circuit  $D$

**If** the number of puzzles to solve equals one **then**  
 return  $\tilde{C}$

**For**  $i := 1$  to  $\frac{6k}{\varepsilon} \log(n)$

$\pi^* \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^l$

$\tilde{S}_{\pi^*, 0} := \text{EvaluateSurplus}(\pi^*, 0)$

$\tilde{S}_{\pi^*, 1} := \text{EvaluateSurplus}(\pi^*, 1)$

**If**  $\tilde{S}_{\pi^*, 0} \geq (1 - \frac{3}{4k})\varepsilon$  or  $\tilde{S}_{\pi^*, 1} \geq (1 - \frac{3}{4k})\varepsilon$

$\tilde{C}' := \tilde{C}$  with the first input fixed on  $\pi^*$

return  $\text{Gen}(\tilde{C}', g, \varepsilon, \delta, n)$

// all estimates are lower than  $(1 - \frac{3}{4k})\varepsilon$

return  $D^{\tilde{C}}$

**EvaluateSurplus** $(\pi^*, b)$

**For**  $i := 1$  to  $N_k$

$(\pi_2, \dots, \pi_k) \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^{(k-1)l}$

$(c_1, \dots, c_k) := \text{EvalutePuzzles}(\pi^*, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_k)$

$\tilde{S}_{\pi^*, b}^i := g(b, c_2, \dots, c_k) - \Pr_{(u_2, \dots, u_k)} [g(b, u_2, \dots, u_k) = 1]$

return  $\frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{i=1}^{N_k} \tilde{S}_{\pi^*, b}^i$

**EvalutePuzzles** $(\pi^{(k)})$

$(x^{(k)}, \Gamma_V^{(g)}, \Gamma_H^{(k)}) := P^{(g)}(\pi^{(k)})$

**For**  $i := 1$  to  $k$

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 $(x_i, \Gamma_V^i, \Gamma_H^i) := P^{(1)}(\pi_i)$ 
 $(q, y^k) := \tilde{C}^{\Gamma_V^{(g)}, \Gamma_H^{(k)}}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k)$ 
For  $i := 1$  to  $k$ 
     $c_i := \Gamma_V^i(q, y_i)$ 
return  $(c_1, \dots, c_k)$ 

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**Circuit**  $D\tilde{C}, P^{(1)}$

**Oracle:** A circuit  $\tilde{C}$  with the first  $n$  puzzles fixed,  $P^{(1)}$

**Input:** A puzzle  $x^*$ , a random bitstring  $r \in \{0, 1\}^*$

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For  $i := 1$  to  $\frac{6k}{\varepsilon} \log(\frac{6k}{\varepsilon})$ 
     $\pi^{(k)} \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{(k-n-1)l}$  //read bits from  $r$ 
     $(c_1, \dots, c_{k-n-1}) := \text{EvaluatePuzzles}(\pi^{(k-n-1)})$ 
    If  $g(1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 0$ 
        For  $i := 1$  to  $k - n - 1$ 
             $(x_i, \Gamma_V^i, \Gamma_H^i) := P^{(1)}(\pi_i)$ 
             $(q, y_1, \dots, y_{k-n-1}) := \tilde{C}(x^*, x_2, \dots, x_{k-n-1})$ 
            return  $y_1$ 
return  $\perp$ 

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For  $k = 1$  the function  $g : \{0, 1\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is either an identity or a constant function. If  $g$  is identity then the success probability of  $\tilde{C}$  is at least  $\delta + \varepsilon$  and  $\tilde{C}$  can be directly used to solve a puzzle. In case when  $g$  is a constant function the statement is vacuously true.

Let  $(q, y_1, \dots, y_k)$  denote the output of  $\tilde{C}$  and  $c_i := \Gamma_V(q, y_i)$ . We define a surplus:

$$S_{\pi^*, b} = \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[g(b, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1] - \Pr_{\mu^{(k)}}[g(b, u_2, \dots, u_k) = 1] \quad (0.0.4)$$

The surplus  $S_{\pi^*, b}$  tells us how good  $\tilde{C}$  performs when the first puzzle is fixed, and instead  $c_1$  the value  $b$  is used. The procedure **EvaluateSurplus** returns the estimate for  $\tilde{S}_{\pi^*, b}$ . All puzzles used during obtaining the estimate are generated internally. Therefore, it is possible to provide answers for all hint and verification queries. The returned estimate  $\tilde{S}_{\pi^*, b}$  differs from  $S_{\pi^*, b}$  by at most  $\frac{\varepsilon}{4k}$  almost surely. Therefore, if  $\tilde{S}_{\pi^*, b} \geq (1 - \frac{3}{4k})\varepsilon$  then  $S_{\pi^*, b} \geq (1 - \frac{1}{k})\varepsilon$  almost surely, and we fix the first bit of  $g'(b_2, \dots, b_k) := g(b, b_2, \dots, b_k)$ , and the first puzzle of  $\tilde{C}$  for the one generated from  $\pi^*$  which yields a new circuit  $\tilde{C}'$ . The circuit  $\tilde{C}'$  satisfies the conditions of Lemma 1.5 and we recurse using  $\tilde{C}'$  and the monotone function  $g'$ .

If all estimates are less than  $(1 - \frac{3}{4k})\varepsilon$ , then intuitively  $\tilde{C}$  does not perform much better on the remaining  $k - 1$  puzzles than an algorithm that solves each puzzle independent with probability  $\delta$ . However, from the assumption we know that on all  $k$  puzzles  $\tilde{C}$  has higher success probability. Therefore, it is likely that the first puzzle is correctly solved with probability higher than  $\delta$ . We now show that this intuition is indeed correct. For a fixed puzzle  $x^*$  using (0.0.4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr_{u \leftarrow \mu_\delta^k}[g(1, u_2, \dots, u_k) = 1] - \Pr_{u \leftarrow \mu_\delta^k}[g(0, u_2, \dots, u_k) = 1] = \\ & \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[g(1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - \Pr_{\pi^k}[g(0, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - (S_{\pi^*, 1} - S_{\pi^*, 0}). \end{aligned} \quad (0.0.5)$$

From the monotonicity of  $g$  we know that for any set of tuples  $(b_1, \dots, b_k)$  and sets  $G_0 = \{(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k) : g(0, b_2, \dots, b_k) = 1\}$ ,  $G_1 = \{(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k) : g(1, b_2, \dots, b_k) = 1\}$  we have

$G_0 \subseteq G_1$ . Hence, we can write (0.0.5):

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr_{\mu_\delta^k}[g(1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 0] = \\ & \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[g(1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 0 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - (S_{\pi^*,1} - S_{\pi^*,0}). \end{aligned} \quad (0.0.6)$$

Let  $G_{\mu^{(k)}}$  denote the event  $g(1, u_2, \dots, u_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, u_2, \dots, u_k) = 0$ , and correspondingly  $G_{\pi^{(k)}} := g(1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 0$ . Then multiplying and dividing  $\Pr[\Gamma_V^{(g)}(D(x^*, \pi^{(k)})) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*]$  by (0.0.6) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr_r[\Gamma_V^{(g)}(D(x^*, r)) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] &= \frac{\Pr_r[\Gamma_V^{(g)}(D(x^*, r)) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[G_\pi \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*]}{\Pr_{u \leftarrow \mu_\delta^k}[G_\mu]} \\ &\quad - \frac{\Pr_r[\Gamma_V^{(g)}(D(x^*, r)) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] (S_{\pi^*,1} - S_{\pi^*,0})}{\Pr_{u \leftarrow \mu_\delta^k}[G_\mu]} \end{aligned} \quad (0.0.7)$$

If output of  $D(x^*, r) \neq \perp$  then we denote  $c_i := \Gamma_V^i(q, y_i)$ . We can write the first summand of (0.0.7) as

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr_r[\Gamma_V^{(g)}(D(x^*, r)) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[G_\pi \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] = \\ & \Pr_r[D(x^*, r) \neq \perp \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[c_1 = 1 \mid G_\pi, \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[G_\pi \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \end{aligned} \quad (0.0.8)$$

where we make use of the fact that the event  $G_\pi$  implies  $D(x^*, r) \neq \perp$ . We consider two cases. For  $\Pr_{\pi^k}[g(1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 0 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}$  then

$$\Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[c_1 = 1 \mid G_\pi, \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[G_\pi \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}, \quad (0.0.9)$$

and when  $\Pr_{\pi^k}[g(1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 0] > \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}$  then circuit  $D$  outputs  $\perp$  only if it fails in all  $\frac{6k}{\varepsilon} \log(\frac{6k}{\varepsilon})$  iterations to find  $\pi^{(k)}$  such that  $g(1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 0$  which happens with probability

$$\Pr_r[D(x^*, r) = \perp \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \leq (1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{6k})^{\frac{6k}{\varepsilon} \log(\frac{6k}{\varepsilon})} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}. \quad (0.0.10)$$

We conclude that in both cases:

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr_r[D(x^*, r) \neq \perp \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[c_1 = 1 \mid G_\pi, \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[G_\pi \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \\ & \geq \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[c_1 = 1 \mid G_\pi, \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[G_\pi \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}. \end{aligned} \quad (0.0.11)$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr_r[D(x^*, r) \neq \perp \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[c_1 = 1 \mid G_\pi, \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[G_\pi \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \\ & = \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[c_1 = 1 \wedge g(1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 0 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - \frac{\varepsilon}{6k} \\ & = \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[g(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 0 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - \frac{\varepsilon}{6k} \\ & = \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[g(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[g(0, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 0 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}, \end{aligned}$$



and finally by (0.0.4)

$$\begin{aligned}
& \Pr_r[D(x^*, r) \neq \perp \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[c_1 = 1 \mid G_\pi, \pi_1 = \pi^*] \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[G_\pi \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \\
&= \Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[g(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - \Pr_{\mu_\delta^{(k)}}[g(0, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 0 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - S_{\pi^*, 0} - \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}.
\end{aligned} \tag{0.0.12}$$

Inserting this result into the equation (0.0.7) yields

$$\begin{aligned}
\Pr_{r, \pi}[D(x, r) = 1] &= \mathbb{E}_\pi \left[ \Pr_r[D(x, r) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E}_\pi \left[ \frac{\Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[g(c) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - \Pr_{\mu_\delta^{(k)}}[g(0, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 0 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}}{\Pr_{\mu_\delta^k}[G_\mu]} \right] \\
&\quad - \mathbb{E}_\pi \left[ \frac{S_{\pi^*, 0} + \Pr_r[\Gamma_V^{(g)}(D(x^*, r)) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*](S_{\pi^*, 1} - S_{\pi^*, 0})}{\Pr_{\mu_\delta^k}[G_\mu]} \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{0.0.13}$$

For the second summand we show that if we do not recurse, then almost surely majority of estimates is low. Let assume

$$\Pr_\pi \left[ \left( S_{\pi, 0} \leq (1 - \frac{1}{2k})\varepsilon \right) \wedge \left( S_{\pi, 1} \leq (1 - \frac{1}{2k})\varepsilon \right) \right] < 1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}, \tag{0.0.14}$$

then the algorithm recurses almost surely. Therefore, under the assumption that  $Gen$  does not recurse, we have almost surely

$$\Pr_\pi \left[ \left( S_{\pi, 0} \leq (1 - \frac{1}{2k})\varepsilon \right) \wedge \left( S_{\pi, 1} \leq (1 - \frac{1}{2k})\varepsilon \right) \right] \geq 1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}. \tag{0.0.15}$$

Let us define a set

$$\mathcal{W} = \left\{ \pi : \left( S_{\pi, 0} \leq (1 - \frac{1}{2k})\varepsilon \right) \wedge \left( S_{\pi, 1} \leq (1 - \frac{1}{2k})\varepsilon \right) \right\} \tag{0.0.16}$$

and use  $\mathcal{W}^c$  to denote the complement of  $\mathcal{W}$ . We bound the second summand in (0.0.13)

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E}_\pi \left[ S_{\pi^*, 0} + \Pr_r[\Gamma_V^{(g)}(D(x^*, r)) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*](S_{\pi^*, 1} - S_{\pi^*, 0}) \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E}_{\pi \in \mathcal{W}^c} \left[ S_{\pi^*, 0} + \Pr_r[\Gamma_V^{(g)}(D(x^*, r)) = 1 \mid \pi = \pi^*](S_{\pi^*, 1} - S_{\pi^*, 0}) \right] \\
&\quad + \mathbb{E}_{\pi \in \mathcal{W}} \left[ S_{\pi^*, 0} + \Pr_r[\Gamma_V^{(g)}(D(x^*, r)) = 1 \mid \pi = \pi^*](S_{\pi^*, 1} - S_{\pi^*, 0}) \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{0.0.17}$$

$$\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{6k} + \mathbb{E}_{\pi \in \mathcal{W}^c} \left[ S_{\pi^*, 0} + \Pr_r[\Gamma_V^{(g)}(D(x^*, r)) = 1 \mid \pi = \pi^*]\left((1 - \frac{1}{2k})\varepsilon - S_{\pi^*, 0}\right) \right] \tag{0.0.18}$$

$$\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{6k} + 1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{2k} = 1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{3k} \tag{0.0.19}$$

Finally, we insert this result into equation (0.0.13) and make use of the fact

$$\begin{aligned}
\Pr[g(u) = 1] &= \Pr[(g(0, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 1) \vee (g(1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 0 \wedge \mu_1 = 1)] \\
&= \Pr[g(0, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 1] + \Pr[g(1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 1 \wedge g(0, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 0] \Pr[\mu_1 = 1]
\end{aligned}$$

which yields

$$\Pr_{r, \pi}[D(x, r) = 1] \geq \mathbb{E}_\pi \left[ \frac{\Pr_{\pi^{(k)}}[g(c) = 1 \mid \pi_1 = \pi^*] - \Pr_{\mu_\delta^{(k)}}[g(0, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 0] - (1 - \frac{1}{6k})\varepsilon}{\Pr_{\mu_\delta^k}[G_\mu]} \right]$$

Using the assumptions of Lemma 1.5, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\Pr_{r,\pi}[D(x,r) = 1] &\geq \frac{\Pr_{\mu_\delta^{(k)}}[g(\mu) = 1] + \varepsilon + \Pr_{\mu_\delta^{(k)}}[g(0, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k) = 0] - (1 - \frac{1}{6k})\varepsilon}{\Pr_{\mu_\delta^k}[G_\mu]} \\
&\geq \frac{\varepsilon + \delta \Pr_{\mu_\delta^{(k)}}[G_\mu] - (1 - \frac{1}{6k})\varepsilon}{\Pr_{\mu_\delta^k}[G_\mu]} \geq \delta + \frac{\varepsilon}{6k}
\end{aligned}$$