# Simplified Square Span Program

# 1 Background

### 1.1 Span Programs

A Span Program is a linear-algebraic model of computation introduced by Karchmer and Wigderson[2][4].

**Definition 1.** A SP over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  consists of a nonzero target vector  $\mathbf{t}$  over  $\mathbb{F}$ , a set of vectors  $\mathcal{V} = \{\mathbf{v}_1, ..., \mathbf{v}_m\}$ , a partition of the indices  $\mathcal{I} = \{1, ..., m\}$  into two sets  $\mathcal{I}_{labeled}$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{free}$ , and a further partition of  $\mathcal{I}_{labeled}$  as  $\bigcup_{i \in [n], j \in \{0,1\}} \mathcal{I}_{ij}$ .

The SP is said to "compute" a function f if the following is true for all input assignment  $u \in \{0,1\}^n$ : the target vector is in the span of the vectors that "belong" to the input assignments u – namely, the vectors with indices in  $\mathcal{I}_u = \mathcal{I}_{free} \cup_i \mathcal{I}_{i,u_i}$  – iff f(u) = 1. The size of the span program is m.

#### 1.2 Circuit Checker Function

Suppose C is a Boolean circuit that computes a function f.

**Definition 2.** Let  $f: \{0,1\}^n \to \{0,1\}$  be a function whose Boolean circuit C has s gates. Let N = n + s. Suppose  $\phi: \{0,1\}^N \to \{0,1\}$  is a function that outputs '1' iff the input is a valid assignment of C's wires (wires that fan out are considered one wire) with output wire set to '1'. We say that  $\phi$  is the circuit checker function for f.

# 2 Verifiable Computation

A public verifiable computation (VC) scheme allows a computationally limited client to outsource the computation of a function F on input u to an untrusted worker, and then verify the correctness of the returned result F(u). Critically, the outsourcing and verification procedures must be significantly more efficient for the client than performing the computation by itself.[5]

A public verifiable computation scheme provides *public delegation*, which allows arbitrary parties to submit inputs for delegation; and *public verifiability*, which allows arbitrary parties (not just the delegator) to verify the correctness of the results returned by the worker. The following definition captures these two properties.

**Definition 3.** A public verifiable computation scheme VC consists of a set of three polynomial-tima algorithms (KeyGen, Compute, Verify) defined as follows:

- $(EK_F, VK_F) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(F, 1^{\lambda})$ : The randomized key generation algorithm takes the function F to be outsourced and security parameter  $\lambda$ . It outputs a public evaluation key  $EK_F$ , and a public verification key  $VK_F$
- $(y, \pi_y) \leftarrow \text{Compute}(EK_F, u)$ : The deterministic worker algorithm uses the public evaluation key  $EK_F$  and input u. It outputs  $y \leftarrow F(u)$  and a proof  $\pi_y$  of y's correctness.
- $\{0,1\} \leftarrow \text{Verify}(VK_F, u, y, \pi_y)$ : Given the verification key  $VK_F$ , the deterministic verification algorithm outputs 1 if F(u) = y, and 0 otherwise.

# 3 Simplified Square Span Program

We define SSSP somewhat similarly to SSP.

**Definition 4.** A simplified square span program (SSSP) Q over the field  $\mathbb{F}$  consists of m+1 polynomials  $v_0(x), v_1(x), ..., v_m(x)$  and a target polynomial t(x) such that  $deg(v_i(x)) \leq deg(t(x))$  for all i=0,...,m.

$$t(x)$$
 divides  $\left(\sum_{i=0}^{m} a_i v_i(x)\right)^2 - 1$ 

Specifically,  $a_0 = 1$ .

We say that Q verifies a boolean function  $f: \{0,1\}^l \to \{0,1\}$  if it accepts exactly those imputs  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{F}^l$  that satisfy  $\mathbf{a} \in \{0,1\}^l$  and  $f(\mathbf{a}) = 1$ . We may see f as a binary circuit.

#### 3.1 Transformation From Circuit Satisfiability to SSSPs

Consider a circuit consisting of two NAND gates:

$$a_3 = \neg(a_1 \land a_2)$$
$$a_5 = \neg(a_3 \land a_4)$$

Since  $a_1, a_2, ..., a_5 \in \{0, 1\}$ , we have

$$(2a_i - 1)^2 = 1, \quad i = 1, 2, ..., 5$$

To linearize[3] the NAND gate with input  $a_1, a_2$  and output  $a_3$ , writing  $\bar{c}$  for 1-c, we have

$$a_3 = \neg(a_1 \land a_2) \iff a_1 + a_2 - 2\bar{a}_3 \in \{0, 1\}$$
  
 $\iff (2(a_1 + a_2 - 2(1 - a_3)) - 1)^2 = 1$   
 $\iff (2a_1 + 2a_2 + 4a_3 - 5))^2 = 1$ 

Similarly, we have

$$(2a_3 + 2a_4 + 4a_5 - 5))^2 = 1$$

The satisfiability of the circuit can therefore be represented by 7 quadratic equations:

$$(2a_1 - 1)^2 = 1$$
  $(2a_2 - 1)^2 = 1$  ...  $(2a_5 - 1)^2 = 1$   
 $(2a_1 + 2a_2 + 4a_3 - 5)^2 = 1$   
 $(2a_3 + 2a_4 + 4a_5 - 5)^2 = 1$ 

Corresponding to  $(\mathbf{a}V)^2 = 1$ .

Then we can represent the constraints as

$$\mathbf{a}V = (1, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5) \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -5 & -5 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

To get a SSSP, let p be a prime and  $r_1, r_2, ..., r_7$  be 7 distinct elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . Pick degree 5 polynomials  $v_0(x), v_1(x), ..., v_5(x)$  such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_0(r_1) \ v_0(r_2) \ v_0(r_3) \ v_0(r_4) \ v_0(r_5) \ v_0(r_6) \ v_0(r_7) \\ v_1(r_1) \ v_1(r_2) \ v_1(r_3) \ v_1(r_4) \ v_1(r_5) \ v_1(r_6) \ v_1(r_7) \\ v_2(r_1) \ v_2(r_2) \ v_2(r_3) \ v_2(r_4) \ v_2(r_5) \ v_2(r_6) \ v_2(r_7) \\ v_3(r_1) \ v_3(r_2) \ v_3(r_3) \ v_3(r_4) \ v_3(r_5) \ v_3(r_6) \ v_3(r_7) \\ v_4(r_1) \ v_4(r_2) \ v_4(r_3) \ v_4(r_4) \ v_4(r_5) \ v_4(r_6) \ v_4(r_7) \\ v_5(r_1) \ v_5(r_2) \ v_5(r_3) \ v_5(r_4) \ v_5(r_5) \ v_5(r_6) \ v_5(r_7) \end{pmatrix} = V = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \ -1 \ -1 \ -1 \ -1 \ -1 \ -5 \ -5 \\ 2 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 2 \ 0 \\ 0 \ 2 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 2 \ 0 \\ 0 \ 0 \ 2 \ 0 \ 0 \ 2 \ 0 \\ 0 \ 0 \ 2 \ 0 \ 0 \ 2 \ 0 \\ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 2 \ 0 \ 0 \ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $t(x)=(x-r_1)(x-r_2)...(x-r_7)$  to get a SSSP  $(v_0(x),v_1(x),...,v_5(x),t(x))$  for the circuit such that

$$t(x)$$
 divides  $\left(\sum_{i=0}^{5} a_i v_i(x)\right)^2 - 1$ , where  $a_0 = 1$ 

If and only if  $a_1, a_2, ... a_5$  satisfy the circuit.

# 4 Building Verifiable Computation from SSSPs

### 4.1 Bilinear groups

We use the following notation[1]:

- 1.  $\mathbb{G}$  and  $\mathbb{G}_T$  are two (multiplicative) cyclic groups of prime order q.
- 2. G is a generator of  $\mathbb{G}$ .

3. e is a bilinear map  $e: \mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G} \to \mathbb{G}_T$ . That is, for all  $U, V \in \mathbb{G}$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $e(U^a, V^b) = e(U, V)^{ab}$ . We also require that e(G, G) is a generator of  $\mathbb{G}_T$ .

We say that  $\mathbb{G}$  is a **bilinear group** if there exists a group  $\mathbb{G}_T$  and a bilinear map as above.

### 4.2 Verifiable Computation from SSSPs

We will now construct succinct and perfect NIZK argument of knowledge for any functions  $l_u, l_w$  and families  $\{\mathcal{R}\}_{\lambda}$  of relations R of pairs  $(u, w) \in \{0, 1\}^{l_u(\lambda)} \times \{0, 1\}^{l_w(\lambda)}$  that can be computed by polinomial size circuits with  $m(\lambda)$  wires and  $n(\lambda)$  gates for a total size of  $d(\lambda) = m(\lambda) + n(\lambda)$ 

•  $(\sigma,\tau) \leftarrow \text{Setup}(1^{\lambda}, R)$ : Run  $gk := (p, \mathbb{G}, \mathbb{G}_T, e) \leftarrow \mathcal{G}(1_{\lambda})$ . Parse R as a boolean circuit  $C_R : \{0,1\}^{l_u} \times \{0,1\}^{l_w} \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ . Generate a SSSP  $Q = (v_0(x), ..., v_m(x), t(x))$  that verifies  $C_R$  over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . Pick  $G \leftarrow \mathbb{G}^*$  and  $\beta, s \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  such that  $t(s) \neq 0$ . Return

$$\sigma = (gk, G, \dots G^{s^d}, \{G^{\beta v_i(s)}\}_{i>l_u}, G^{\beta t(s)}, Q)$$
  
$$\tau = (\sigma, \beta, s)$$

•  $\pi \leftarrow \text{Prove}(\sigma, u, w)$ : Parse u as  $(a_1, ..., a_{l_u}) \in \{0, 1\}^{l_u}$  and use w to compute  $a_{l_u+1}, ..., a_m$  such that t(x) divides  $\left(\sum_{i=0}^m a_i v_i(x)\right)^2 - 1$ . Let

$$h(x) = \frac{\left(\sum_{i=0}^{m} a_i v_i(x)\right)^2 - 1}{t(x)}$$

Use linear combinations of the elements in  $\sigma$  to compute

$$\begin{split} H &= G^{h(s)} & V_w &= G^{\sum\limits_{i>l_u}^m a_i v_v(s)} \\ B_w &= G^{\beta\left(\sum\limits_{i>l_u}^m a_i v_i(s)\right)} & V &= G^{\sum\limits_{i=0}^m a_i v_i(s)} \end{split}$$

and return  $\pi = (H, V_w, B_w, V)$ .

•  $\{0,1\} \leftarrow \text{Verify}(\sigma, u, \pi)$ : Parse u as  $(a_1, ..., a_{l_u}) \in \{0,1\}^{l_u}$  and  $\pi$  as  $(H, V_w, B_w, V) \in \mathbb{G}^4$ . Return 1 if and only if

$$e(H, G^{t(s)}) = e(V^2/G) \quad e(V_w, G^\beta) = e(B_w, G).$$

#### 5 Extractor

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# References

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