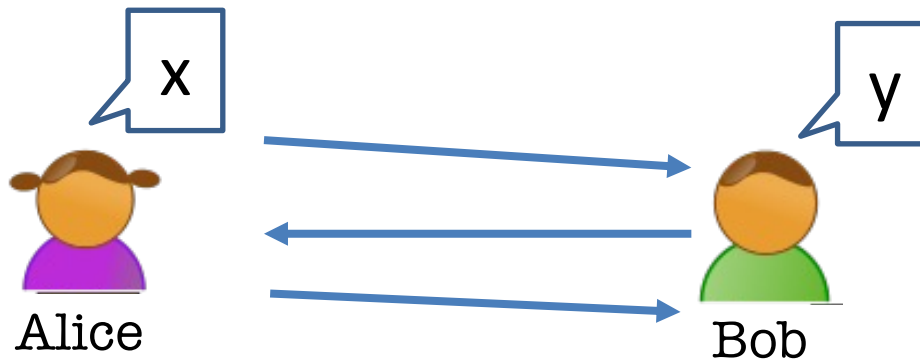


MIT 6.875

Foundations of Cryptography
Lecture 14

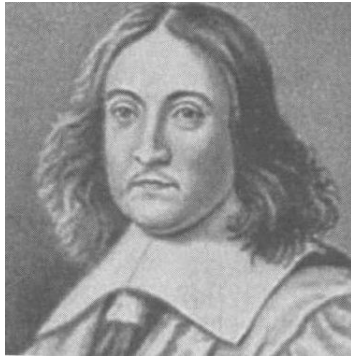
Beyond Secure Communication



Much more than communicating securely.

- Complex Interactions: **proofs**, computations, games.
- Complex Adversaries: Alice or Bob, adaptively chosen.
- Complex Properties: Correctness, Privacy, Fairness.
- Many Parties: this class, MIT, the internet.

Classical Proofs

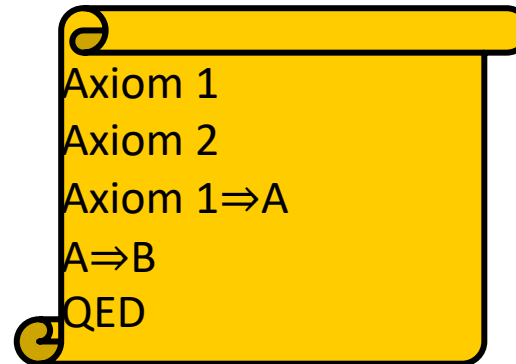
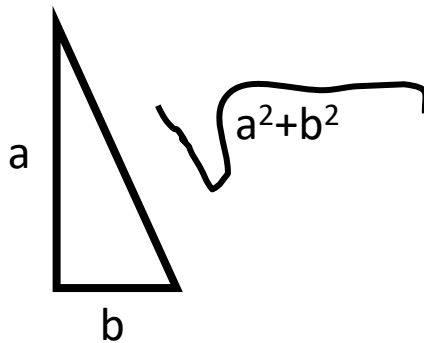


Steve Cook

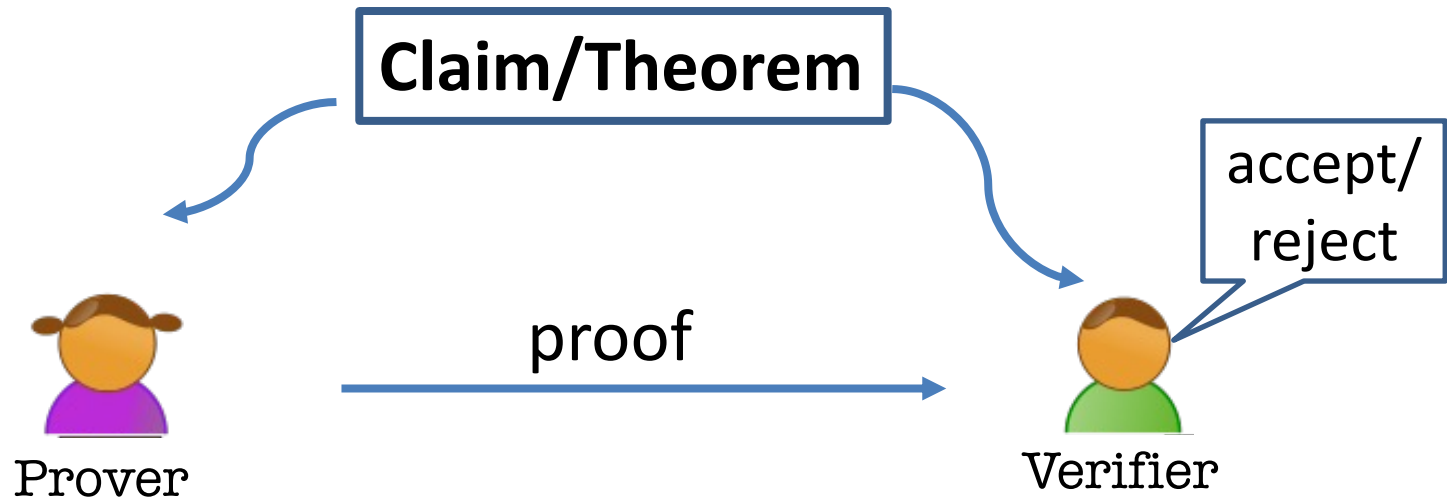


Leonid Levin

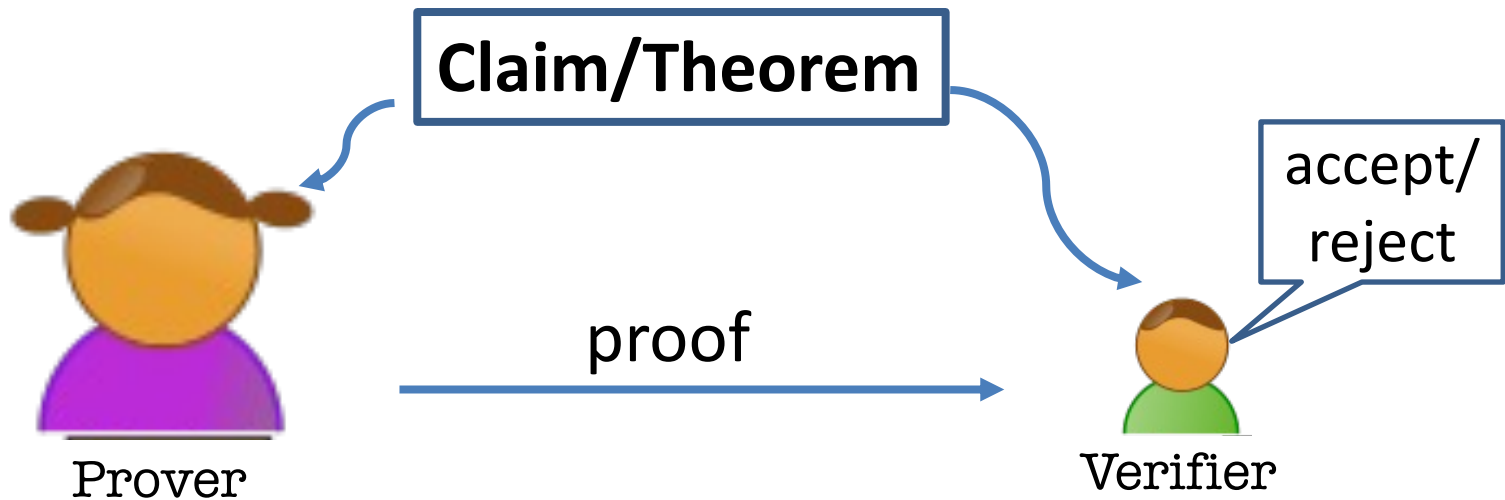
Prover writes down a string (proof); Verifier checks.



Proofs



Efficiently Verifiable Proofs: \mathcal{NP}



Works hard

Polynomial-time

Theorem: N is a product of two prime numbers



Prover

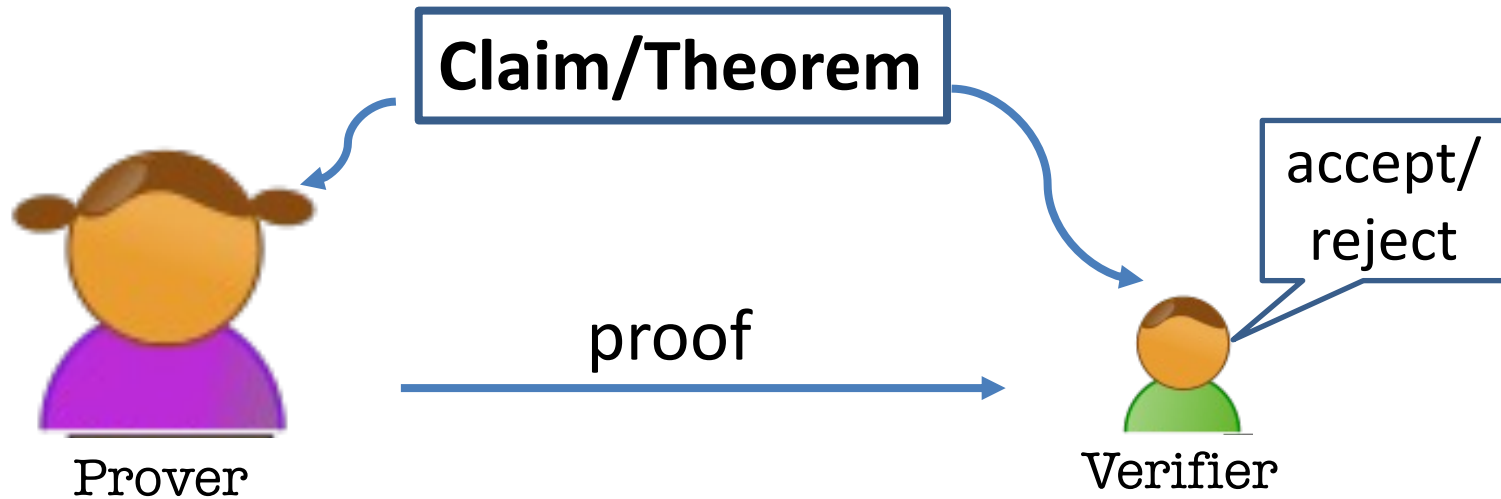
Proof = (P, Q)



Verifier

Accept iff $N = PQ$ and P, Q prime

Efficiently Verifiable Proofs: \mathcal{NP}

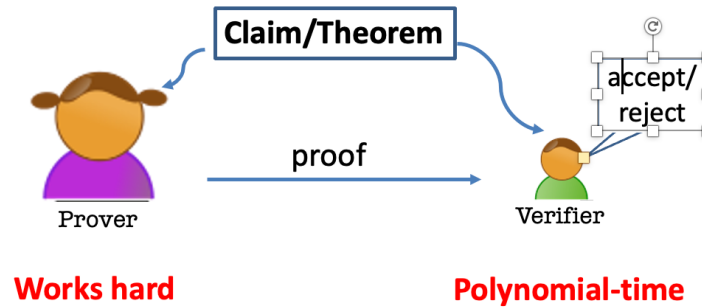


Works hard

Polynomial-time

Def: A language/decision procedure \mathcal{L} is simply a set of strings. So, $\mathcal{L} \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$.

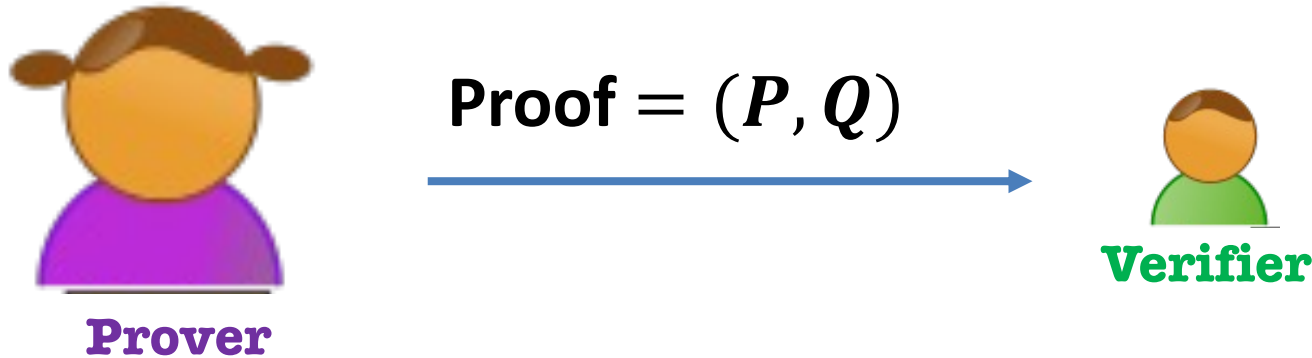
Efficiently Verifiable Proofs: \mathcal{NP}



Def: \mathcal{L} is an \mathcal{NP} -language if there is a **poly-time** verifier V where

- **Completeness: True theorems have (short) proofs.**
for all $x \in \mathcal{L}$, there is a **poly($|x|$)-long** witness (proof) $w \in \{0,1\}^*$ s.t. $V(x, w) = 1$.
- **Soundness: False theorems have no short proofs.**
for all $x \notin \mathcal{L}$, there is no witness. That is, for all polynomially long $w \in \{0,1\}^*$, $V(x, w) = 0$.

Theorem: N is a product of two prime numbers



Accept *iff* $N = PQ$.

After interaction, Bob the Verifier knows:

- 1) N is a product of two primes.
- 2) **Also**, the two factors of N .

Theorem: y is a quadratic residue mod N



Prover

Proof = $x \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$



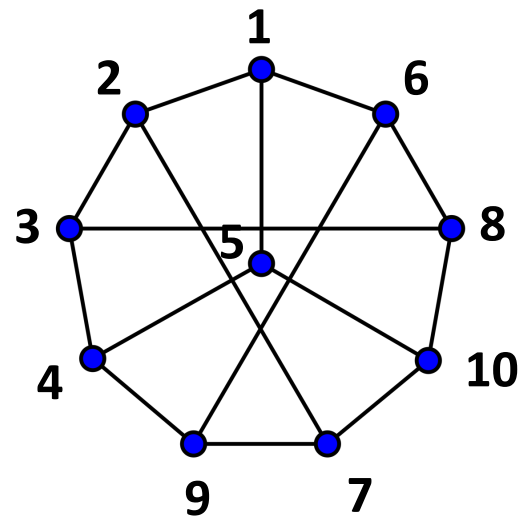
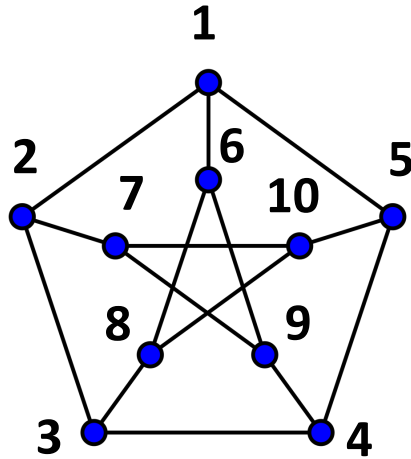
Verifier

Accept *iff*
 $y = x^2 \pmod{N}$.

After interaction, Bob the Verifier knows:

- 1) y is a quadratic residue mod N .
- 2) **Also**, the square root of y .

Theorem: Graphs G_0 and G_1 are isomorphic.



Prover

Proof = $\pi: [N] \rightarrow [N]$,

the isomorphism

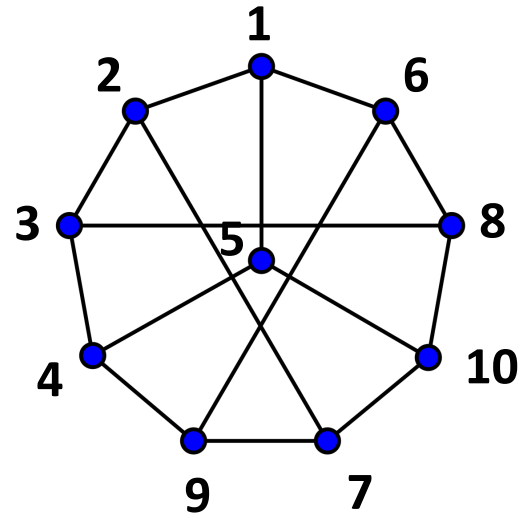
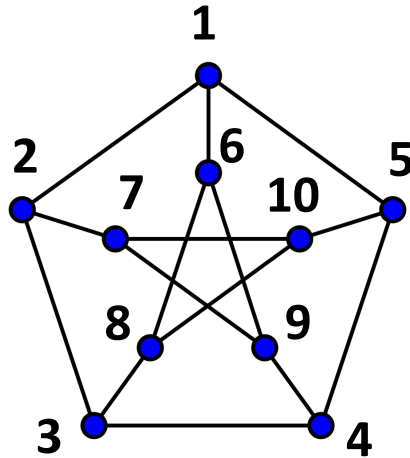


Verifier

Check $\forall i, j$:

$(\pi(i), \pi(j)) \in E_1$ iff $(i, j) \in E_0$.

Theorem: Graphs G_0 and G_1 are isomorphic.



Prover

Proof = $\pi: [N] \rightarrow [N]$,

the isomorphism

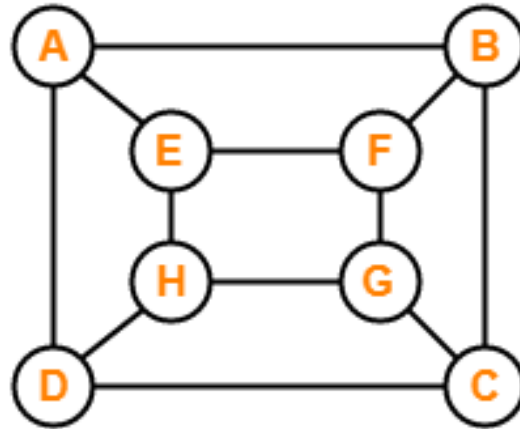


Verifier

After interaction, Bob the Verifier knows:

- 1) G_0 and G_1 are isomorphic.
- 2) **Also**, the isomorphism.

Theorem: Graphs G has a Hamiltonian cycle.



Prover

Proof = Hamiltonian cycle

(v_0, \dots, v_{N-1})

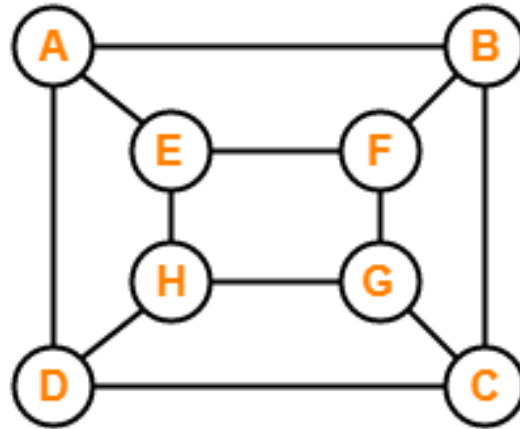


Verifier

Check $\forall i$:

$(v_i, v_{i+1 \bmod N}) \in E$

Theorem: Graphs G has a Hamiltonian cycle.



Prover

Proof = Hamiltonian cycle

(v_0, \dots, v_{N-1})

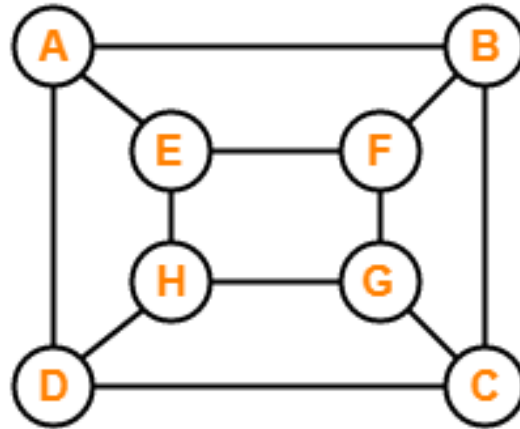


Verifier

After interaction, Bob the Verifier knows:

- 1) G *has* a Hamiltonian cycle.
- 2) **Also**, the Hamiltonian cycle itself.

Theorem: Graphs G has a Hamiltonian cycle.



Prover

Proof = Hamiltonian cycle



(v_0, \dots, v_{N-1})



Verifier

NP-Complete Problem:

Every one of the other problems can be reduced to it

Theorem: y is a quadratic residue mod N



Prover

Proof = $x \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$



Verifier

Accept *iff*
 $y = x^2 \pmod{N}$.

After interaction, Bob the Verifier knows:

- 1) y is a quadratic residue mod N .
- 2) **Also**, the square root of y .

Is there any other way?

Zero Knowledge Proofs



Prover

“I will prove to you that I could’ve sent you a proof if I felt like it.”



Micali

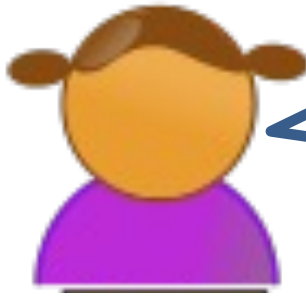


Goldwasser



Rackoff

Zero Knowledge Proofs



Prover

“I will not give you the square root, but I will prove to you that I could provide one if I wanted to.”



Micali



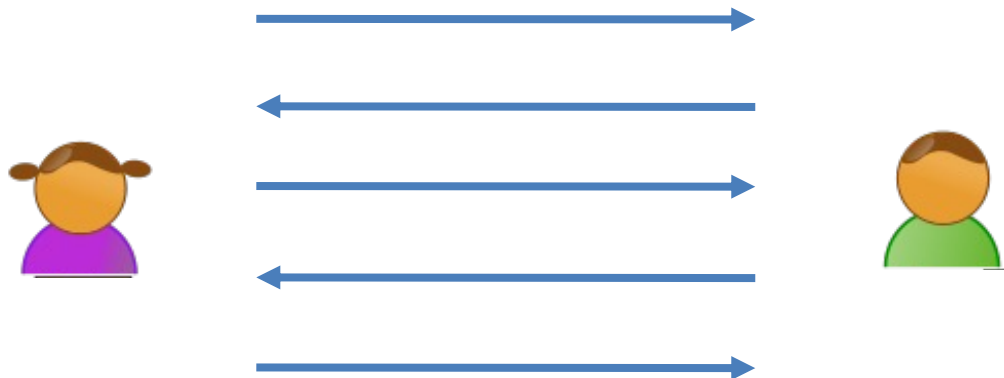
Goldwasser



Rackoff

Two (Necessary) New Ingredients

- 1. Interaction:** Rather than passively reading the proof, the verifier engages in a conversation with the prover.
- 2. Randomness:** The verifier is randomized and can make a mistake with a (exponentially small) probability.



Here is the idea.



Prover

THEOREM: “there is an $\leq k$ move solution to this cube”



Here is the idea.



→
“Random” config

Challenge (0 or 1)



Prover

0: Show $k/2$ moves



Verifier



Here is the idea.



→
“Random” config

Challenge (0 or 1)





Prover

1: Show $k/2$ moves

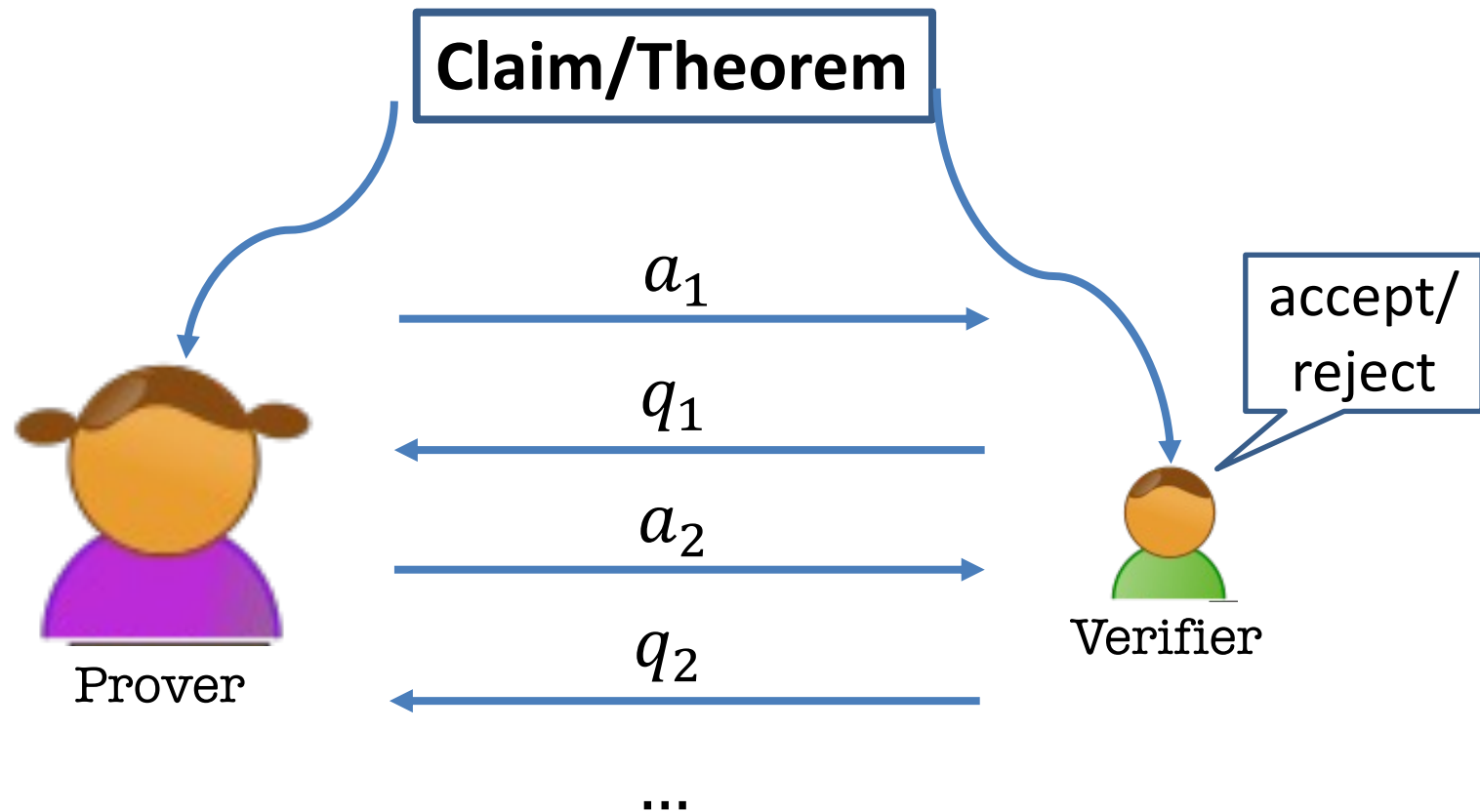


Verifier



POINT IS THIS: If the prover can do both consistently,
then there exist k moves that map  to 

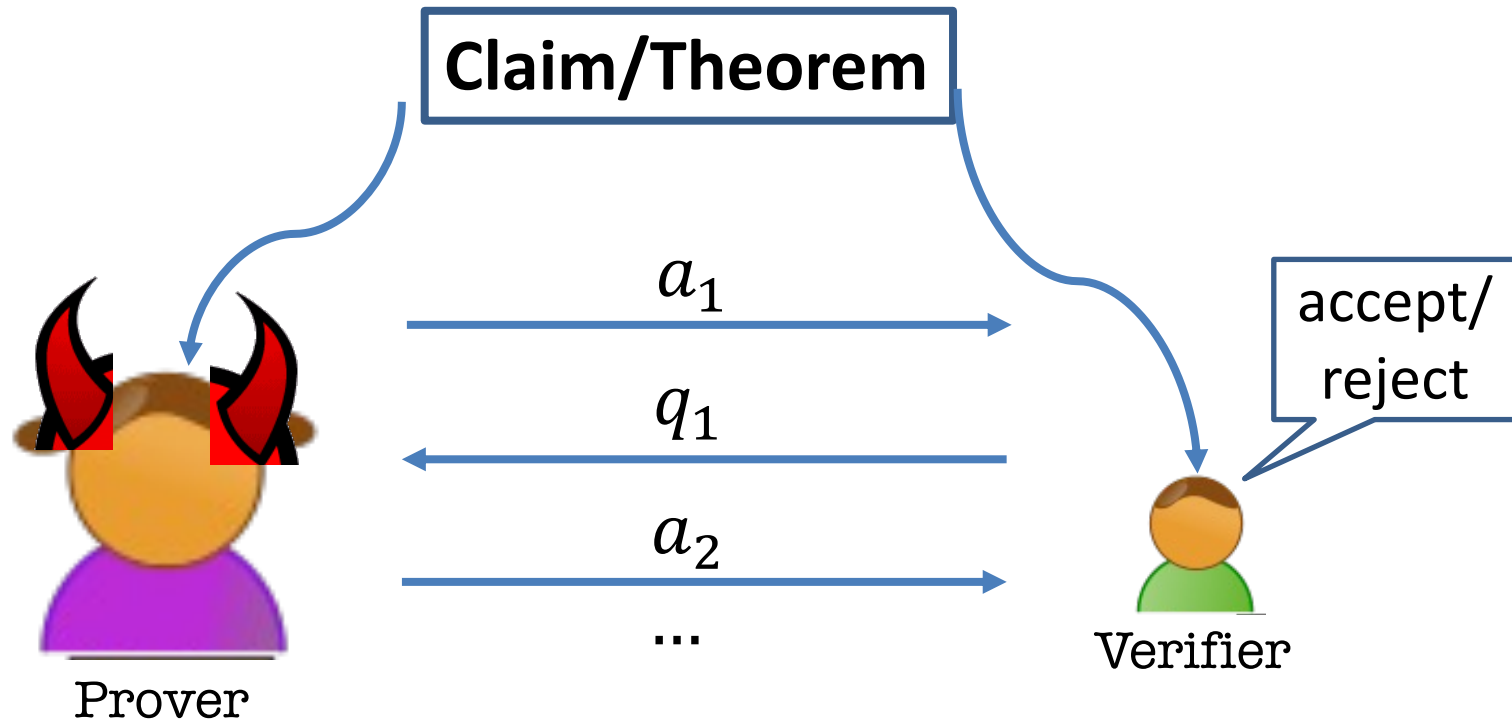
Interactive Proofs for a Language \mathcal{L}



Comp. Unbounded

Probabilistic
Polynomial-time

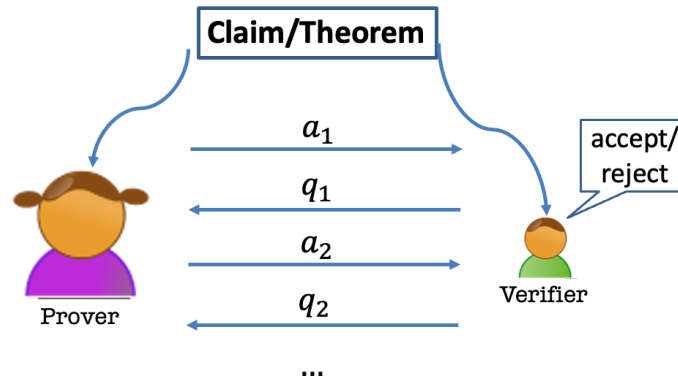
Interactive Proofs for a Language \mathcal{L}



Def: \mathcal{L} is an **IP**-language if there is a unbounded P and **probabilistic poly-time** verifier V where

- **Completeness:** If $x \in \mathcal{L}$, V always accepts.
- **Soundness:** If $x \notin \mathcal{L}$, **regardless of the cheating prover strategy**, V accepts with negligible probability.

Interactive Proofs for a Language \mathcal{L}



Def: \mathcal{L} is an \mathcal{IP} -language if there is a **probabilistic poly-time** verifier V where

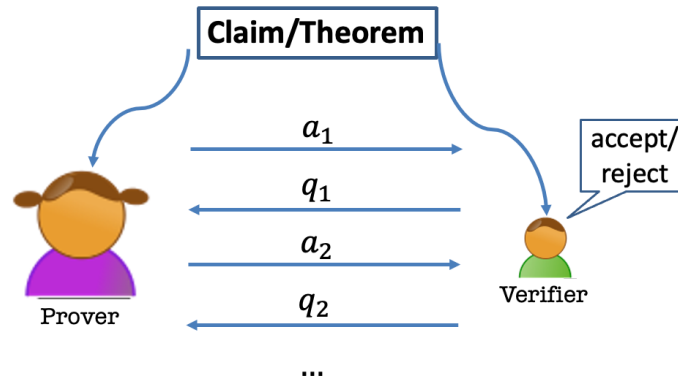
- **Completeness:** If $x \in \mathcal{L}$,

$$\Pr[(P, V)(x) = \text{accept}] = 1.$$

- **Soundness:** If $x \notin \mathcal{L}$, there is a negligible function negl s.t. for every P^* ,

$$\Pr[(P^*, V)(x) = \text{accept}] = \text{negl}(\lambda).$$

Interactive Proofs for a Language \mathcal{L}



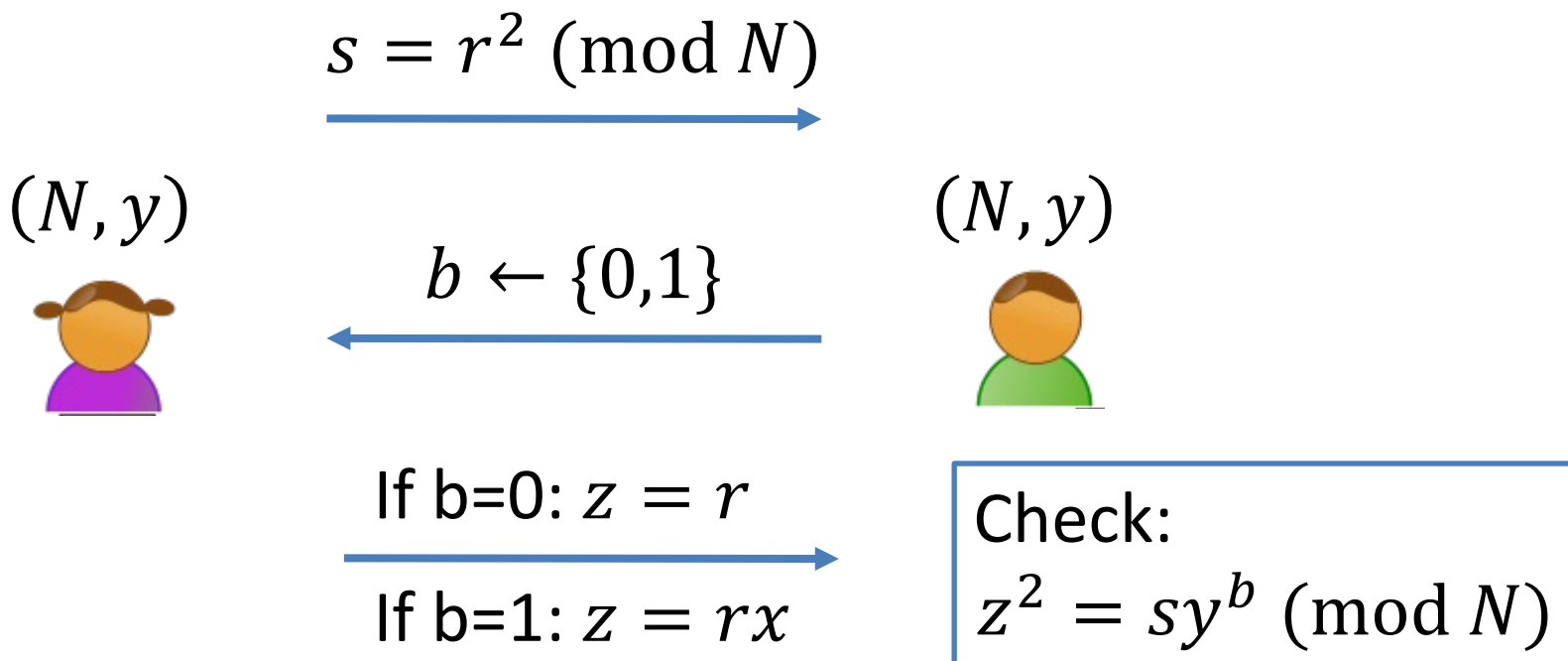
Def: \mathcal{L} is an \mathcal{IP} -language if there is a **probabilistic poly-time** verifier V where

- **Completeness:** If $x \in \mathcal{L}$,
$$\Pr[(P, V)(x) = \text{accept}] \geq c.$$
- **Soundness:** If $x \notin \mathcal{L}$, there is a negligible function negl s.t. for every P^* ,
$$\Pr[(P^*, V)(x) = \text{accept}] \leq s.$$

Equivalent as long as $c - s \geq 1/\text{poly}(\lambda)$

Interactive Proof for QR

$\mathcal{L} = \{(N, y) : y \text{ is a quadratic residue mod } N\}$.



Completeness

Claim: If $(N, y) \in L$, then the verifier accepts the proof with probability 1.

Proof:

$$z^2 = (rx^b)^2 = r^2(x^2)^b = sy^b \pmod{N}$$

So, the verifier's check passes and he accepts.

Soundness

Claim: If $(N, y) \notin L$, then for every cheating prover P^* , the verifier accepts with probability at most $1/2$.

Proof: Suppose the verifier accepts with probability $> 1/2$.

Then, there is some $s \in Z_N^*$ s.t. the prover produces

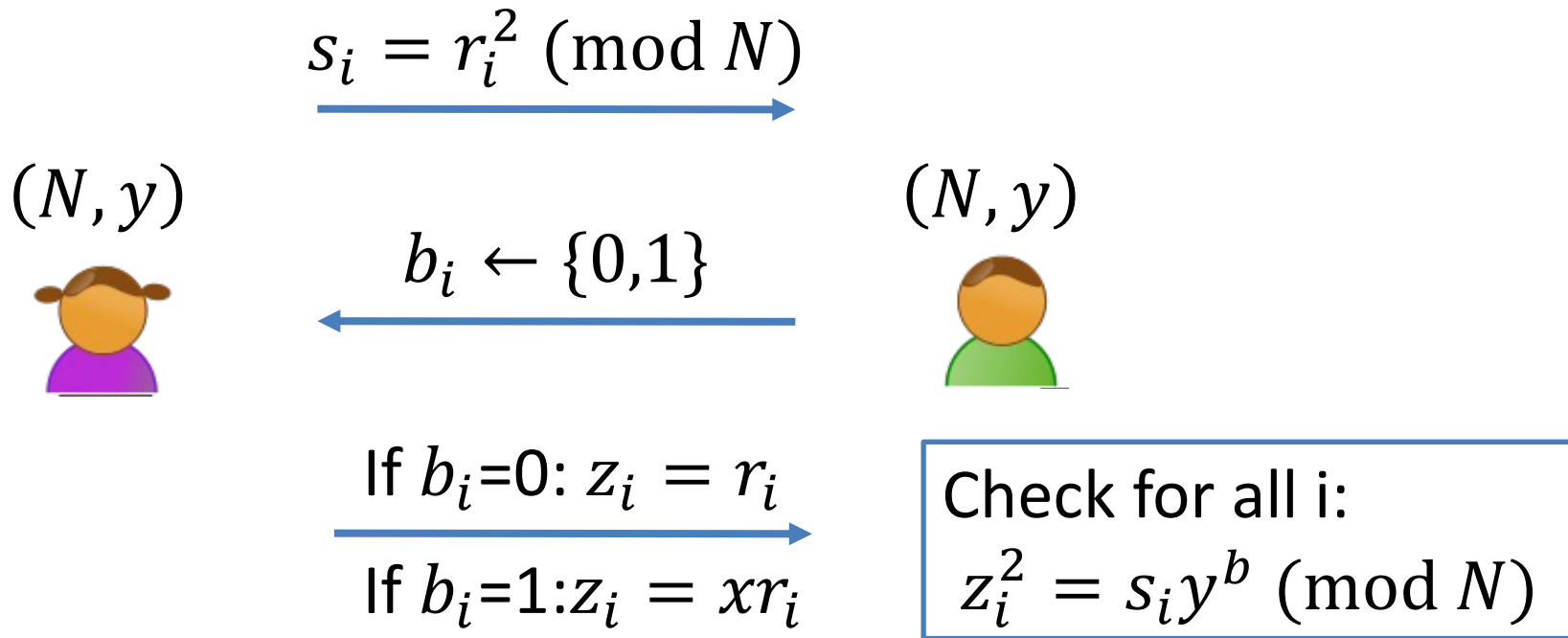
$$z_0 : z_0^2 = s \pmod{N}$$

$$z_1 : z_1^2 = sy \pmod{N}$$

This means $(z_1/z_0)^2 = y \pmod{N}$, which tells us that $(N, y) \in L$.

Interactive Proof for QR

$\mathcal{L} = \{(N, y) : y \text{ is a quadratic residue mod } N\}.$



REPEAT sequentially λ times.

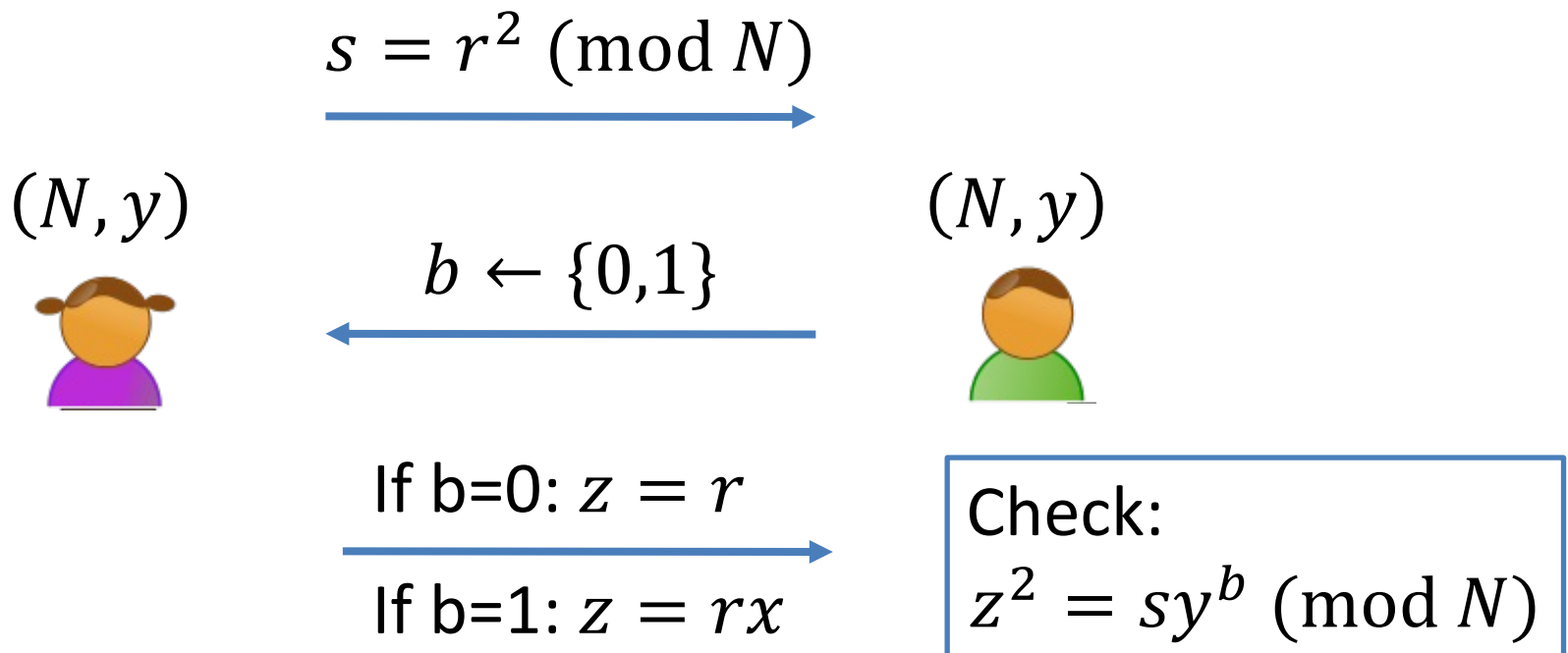
Soundness

Claim: If $(N, y) \notin L$, then for every cheating prover P^* , the verifier accepts with probability at most $(\frac{1}{2})^\lambda$.

Proof: Exercise.

This is Zero-Knowledge.

But what does that mean?



How to Define Zero-Knowledge?

After the interaction, V knows:

- The theorem is true; and
- A **view** of the interaction
(= transcript + coins of V)

P gives zero knowledge to V :

When the theorem is true, the view gives V nothing that he couldn't have obtained on his own without interacting with P .

How to Define Zero-Knowledge?

(P, V) is zero-knowledge if V can generate his **VIEW** of the interaction **all by himself** in **probabilistic polynomial time**.

How to Define Zero-Knowledge?

(P, V) is zero-knowledge if V can “simulate” his **VIEW** of the interaction **all by himself** in **probabilistic polynomial time**.

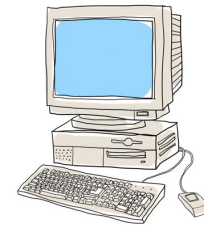
The Simulation Paradigm



$sim_S:$
 (s, b, z)

$view_V(P, V):$
 $Transcript = z$
 $Coins = b$

PPT “simulator” S



(N, y)

$s = r^2 \pmod{N}$

$b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$

If $b=0$: $z = r$

If $b=1$: $z = rx$

(N, y)



Check:

$z^2 = sy^b \pmod{N}$

Zero Knowledge: Definition

An Interactive Protocol (P, V) is zero-knowledge for a language L if there exists a **PPT** algorithm S (a simulator) such that **for every $x \in L$** , the following two distributions are indistinguishable:

1. $view_V(P, V)$

2. $S(x, 1^\lambda)$

(P, V) is a zero-knowledge interactive protocol if it is complete, sound and zero-knowledge.

Perfect Zero Knowledge: Definition

An Interactive Protocol (P,V) is **perfect zero-knowledge** for a language L if there exists a PPT algorithm S (a simulator) such that for every $x \in L$, the following two distributions are **identical**:

1. $view_V(P, V)$

2. $S(x, 1^\lambda)$

(P,V) is a zero-knowledge interactive protocol if it is complete, sound and zero-knowledge.

Statistical Zero Knowledge: Definition

An Interactive Protocol (P, V) is **statistical zero-knowledge** for a language L if there exists a PPT algorithm S (a simulator) such that for every $x \in L$, the following two distributions are **statistically indistinguishable**:

1. $view_V(P, V)$

2. $S(x, 1^\lambda)$

(P, V) is a zero-knowledge interactive protocol if it is complete, sound and zero-knowledge.

Computational Zero Knowledge: Definition

An Interactive Protocol (P, V) is **computational zero-knowledge** for a language L if there exists a PPT algorithm S (a simulator) such that for every $x \in L$, the following two distributions are **computationally indistinguishable**:

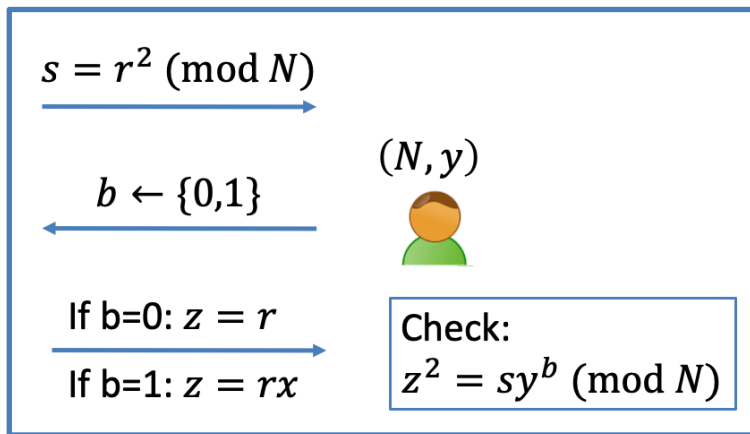
1. $\text{view}_V(P, V)$

2. $S(x, 1^\lambda)$

(P, V) is a zero-knowledge interactive protocol if it is complete, sound and zero-knowledge.

Zero Knowledge

Claim: The QR protocol is zero knowledge.



$view_V(P, V):$
 (s, b, z)

Simulator S works as follows:

1. First pick a random bit b .
2. pick a random $z \in Z_N^*$.
3. compute $s = z^2 / y^b$.
4. output (s, b, z) .

Exercise: The simulated transcript is identically distributed as the real transcript in the interaction (P, V) .

OLD DEF

What if V is NOT HONEST.

An Interactive Protocol (P,V) is **honest-verifier** perfect zero-knowledge for a language L if there exists a PPT simulator S such that for every $x \in L$, the following two distributions are identical:

$$1. \text{view}_V(P, V) \qquad 2. S(x, 1^\lambda)$$

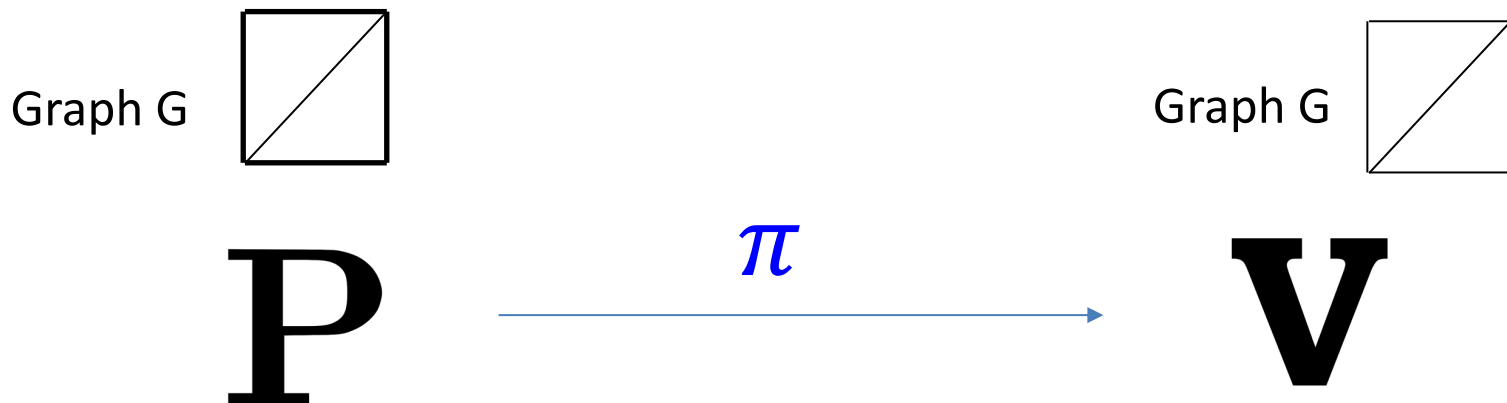
REAL DEF

An Interactive Protocol (P,V) is **perfect zero-knowledge** for a language L if **for every PPT V^*** , there exists a (expected) poly time simulator S s.t. for every $x \in L$, the following two distributions are identical:

$$1. \text{view}_{V^*}(P, V^*) \qquad 2. S(x, 1^\lambda)$$

Interaction is Necessary for ZK

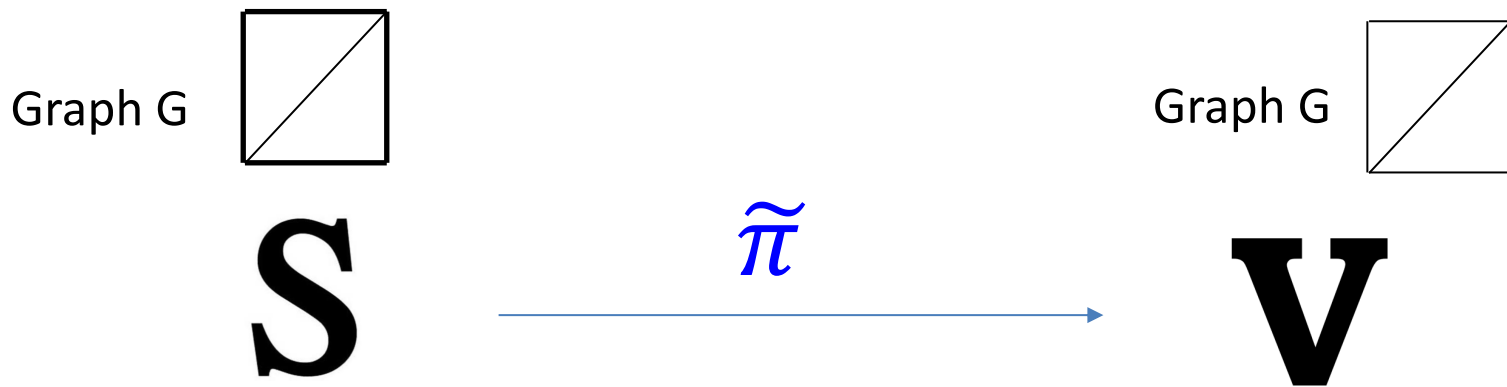
Suppose there *were* a non-interactive ZK proof system for 3COL.



Step 1. When G is in 3COL, V accepts the proof π .
(Completeness)

Interaction is Necessary for ZK

Suppose there *were* a non-interactive ZK proof system for 3COL.

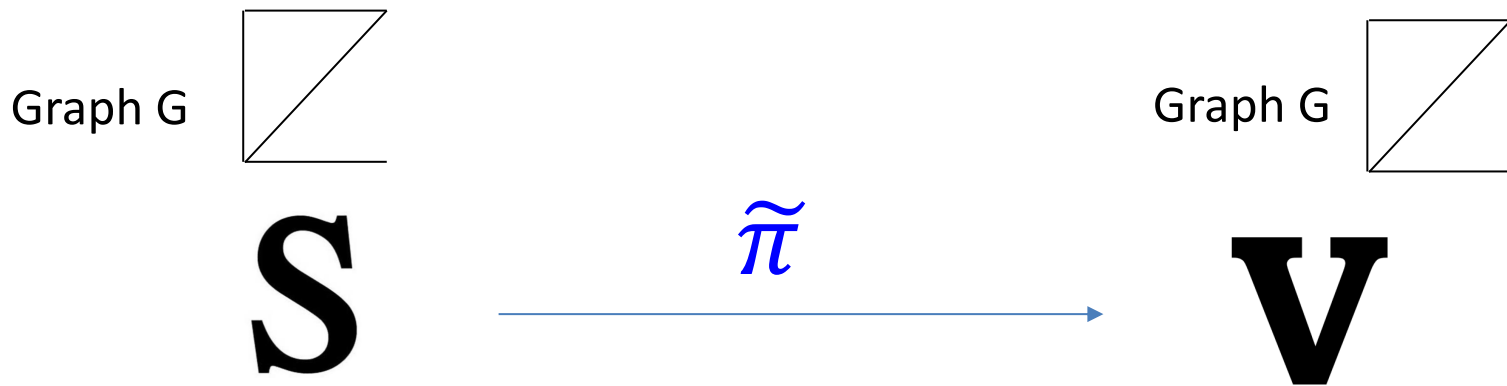


Step 2. **PPT Simulator S**, **given only G in 3COL**, produces an indistinguishable proof $\tilde{\pi}$ (Zero Knowledge).

In particular, V accepts $\tilde{\pi}$.

Interaction is Necessary for ZK

Suppose there *were* a non-interactive ZK proof system for 3COL.

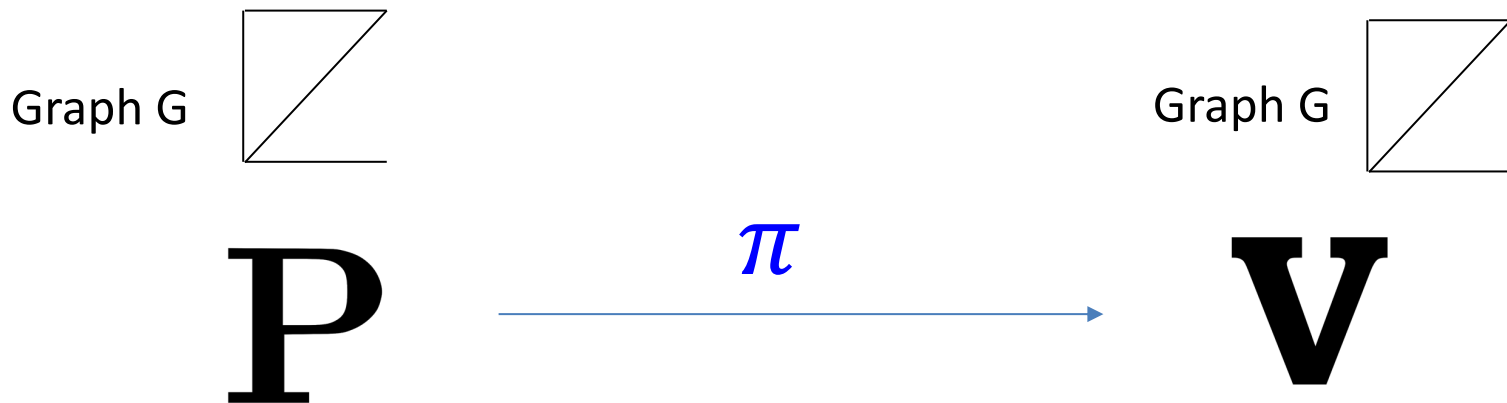


Step 3. Imagine running the Simulator S on a $G \notin 3\text{COL}$. It produces a proof $\tilde{\pi}$ which the verifier still accepts!

(WHY?! Because S and V are PPT. They together cannot tell if the input graph is 3COL or not)

Interaction is Necessary for ZK

Suppose there *were* a non-interactive ZK proof system for 3COL.



Step 4. **Therefore, S is a cheating prover!**

Produces a proof for a $G \notin 3\text{COL}$ that the verifier nevertheless accepts.

Ergo, the proof system is NOT SOUND!

