

## Reference

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 10:12 AM

1. <https://www.rareskills.io/post/quadratic-arithmetic-program>

## QAP and encrypted polynomial evaluation

As you see these matrices are sparse. If we build ZK on R1CS, it won't be "succinct".  
 The succinctness of zk-SNARK is handled by QAP and encrypted polynomial evaluation.

We solve 3 problems in this session:

1. QAP: Lagrange Interpolation
2. Encrypted polynomial evaluation: Schwartz-Zippel Lemma
3. Homomorphism between R1CS and QAP

First, we demonstrate how to "squeeze" a column vector into a polynomial.

Let's pick the 2nd column of L and do Lagrange Interpolation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{matrix} (1,1) \\ (2,0) \\ (3,0) \\ (4,0) \\ (5,1) \\ (6,0) \\ (7,0) \end{matrix}$$

x-coordinate fixed: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 labels  
 y-coordinate taken from column vector

Side note: Factor Theorem

<http://abstract.ups.edu/aata/poly-section-division-algorithm.html>

**Corollary 17.8.** Let  $F$  be a field. An element  $\alpha \in F$  is a zero of  $p(x) \in F[x]$  if and only if  $x - \alpha$  is a factor of  $p(x)$  in  $F[x]$ .

*Proof.*

Given  $n+1$  points, **Lagrange Interpolation** finds a polynomial of degree  $n$  that goes through all the points. Recall that we are working with finite field so poly ring will be  $F[x]$ .

### Lagrange Interpolation



Idea: say we interpolate  $(0, k_0)$ ,  $(1, k_1)$ ,  $(2, k_2)$  and  $(3, k_3)$

Let  $f_0(x) = k_0$ ,  $f_0(1) = f_0(2) = f_0(3) = 0 \Rightarrow f_0(x) = (x-1)(x-2)(x-3) \cdot \frac{k_0}{6}$

$f_1(x) = k_1$ ,  $f_1(0) = f_1(2) = f_1(3) = 0 \Rightarrow f_1(x) = x(x-2)(x-3) \cdot \frac{k_1}{2}$

$f_2(x) = k_2$ ,  $f_2(0) = f_2(1) = f_2(3) = 0 \Rightarrow f_2(x) = x(x-1)(x-3) \cdot \frac{k_2}{-2}$

$f_3(x) = k_3$ ,  $f_3(0) = f_3(1) = f_3(2) = 0 \Rightarrow f_3(x) = x(x-1)(x-2) \cdot \frac{k_3}{6}$

Result:

$$f(x) = f_0(x) + f_1(x) + f_2(x) + f_3(x)$$

$$x=0: f(0) = k_0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = k_0$$

$$x=1: f(1) = 0 + k_1 + 0 + 0 = k_1$$

$$x=2: f(2) = 0 + 0 + k_2 + 0 = k_2$$

$$x=3: f(3) = 0 + 0 + 0 + k_3 = k_3$$

Lagrange Interpolation finds the **lowest degree** poly  $f(x)$  that interpolates all the given points. For the sake of contradiction, suppose that there exists a poly  $f'(x)$  of degree  $\leq n$  that interpolates same set of points. Since  $f(x)$  and  $f'(x)$  are equal at the given set of points,  $f(x) - f'(x) = 0$  at those points. That means poly  $(f-f')(x)$  has  $n+1$  zeroes. However,  $(f-f')(x)$  has degree  $\leq n$ , so it has at most  $n$  zeroes OR it is the zero polynomial. The only possibility is that  $(f-f')(x)$  is the zero polynomial, thus  $f(x) = f'(x)$ , a contradiction, since  $f(x)$  has non-zero degree- $n$  term.

<http://abstract.ups.edu/aata/poly-section-division-algorithm.html>

**Corollary 17.9.** Let  $F$  be a field. A nonzero polynomial  $p(x)$  of degree  $n$  in  $F[x]$  can have at most  $n$  distinct zeros in  $F$ .

*Proof.*

Note that the  $\deg(f'(x)) = n$  case also proves the **uniqueness** of  $f(x)$ .

`galois.lagrange_poly()` takes two inputs:

- Input 1: x coordinates as GF array
- Input 2: y coordinates as GF array

Implementation:

```
ret2basic@Pwnieland: ~ 80x24
>>> import galois
>>> import numpy as np
>>> GF=galois.GF(1151)
>>> galois.lagrange_poly(GF(np.array([1,2,3,4,5,6,7])), GF(np.array([1,0,0,0,1,1,0])))
Poly(16x^6 + 767x^5 + 163x^4 + 273x^3 + 436x^2 + 627x + 21, GF(1151))
>>>
```

```
def interpolate_column_galois(col):
    xs = GF(np.array(range(1, len(col) + 1)))
    return galois.lagrange_poly(xs, col)

U_polys = np.apply_along_axis(interpolate_column_galois, 0, L_galois)
V_polys = np.apply_along_axis(interpolate_column_galois, 0, R_galois)
W_polys = np.apply_along_axis(interpolate_column_galois, 0, O_galois)
```

[https://numpy.org/doc/stable/reference/generated/numpy.apply\\_along\\_axis.html](https://numpy.org/doc/stable/reference/generated/numpy.apply_along_axis.html)

np.apply\_along\_axis takes 3 inputs:

- Input 1: apply which function
- Input 2: which axis (0 for column and 1 for row)
- Input 3: apply function to which matrix

## Building QAP formula

Recall that RICS formula was:

$$(U \cdot a)(V \cdot a) = W \cdot a$$

or equivalently

$$\sum_{i=0}^m a_i u_i(x) \sum_{i=0}^m a_i v_i(x) = \sum_{i=0}^m a_i w_i(x)$$

$$(L \cdot a) \circ (R \cdot a) = O \cdot a$$

↑  
Hadamard product

$$\begin{aligned} f(L) &= U \\ f(R) &= V \\ f(O) &= W \end{aligned}$$

f homomorphism

↑

will explain later as well

(U \* a) stands for inner product:

$$\begin{aligned} (U \cdot a) &= \langle u_1(x), u_2(x), \dots, u_m(x) \rangle \cdot \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m \rangle \\ &= a_1 u_1(x) + a_2 u_2(x) + \dots + a_m u_m(x) \end{aligned}$$

But this is imbalanced,  
will explain later

## Implementation:

```
def inner_product_polynomials_with_witness(polys, witness):
    mul_ = lambda x, y: x * y
    sum_ = lambda x, y: x + y
    return reduce(sum_, map(mul_, polys, witness))

# U * a
sum_au = inner_product_polynomials_with_witness(U_polys, a)
# V * a
sum_av = inner_product_polynomials_with_witness(V_polys, a)
# W * a
sum_aw = inner_product_polynomials_with_witness(W_polys, a)
```

map:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{polys} &= [p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n] \\ \text{witness} &= [w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n] \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{map\_result} = [p_1 * w_1, p_2 * w_2, \dots, p_n * w_n]$$

↓ ↓ ↓

reduce:

$$\text{reduce\_result} = p_1 * w_1 + p_2 * w_2 + \dots + p_n * w_n$$

lambda function: inline function with no function name

Map reduce:

- map(): apply a function to each entry of an iterator
- reduce(): "fold" an iterator using a function

```
ret2basic@Pwnieland: ~ 80x24
>>> list(map(lambda x, y: x + y, [1, 2, 3, 4], [5, 6, 7, 8]))
[6, 8, 10, 12]
>>>
```

```
ret2basic@Pwnieland: ~ 80x24
>>> from functools import reduce
>>> reduce(lambda x, y: x + y, [1, 2, 3, 4, 5])
15
>>>
```

## Balance out QAP formula

$$\begin{array}{lcl}
 U : \text{array for polys of degree } 6 & (C_1 x^6 + \dots) & \cdot (C_2 x^6 + \dots) \\
 & \downarrow \text{degree } 6 & \downarrow \text{degree } 6 \\
 V : \text{array for polys of degree } 6 & \Rightarrow (U \cdot a)(V \cdot a) = & W \cdot a + \text{some\_poly} \\
 & \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}} & \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}} \\
 W : \text{array for polys of degree } 6 & \text{degree } 12 & \text{degree } 6 \\
 & (C_1 C_2 x^{12} + \dots) &
 \end{array}$$

Why? Because R1CS formula can be viewed in another way:

$$(L \cdot a) \cdot (R \cdot a) = 0 \cdot a + \vec{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\nwarrow$  zero vector

$$f(\vec{0}) \neq \vec{0}$$

Let  $f(\vec{0})$  be a degree 12 poly to balance QAP equation

$$\Rightarrow \text{Some\_poly} = h(x) + \underbrace{t(x)}_{(x-1)(x-2)\dots(x-7)}$$

Lagrange interpolation through  $\begin{matrix} (1,0) \\ (2,0) \\ \vdots \\ (7,0) \end{matrix}$   
 : 7 constraints  $\rightarrow$  up to  $(x-7)$

Now  $t(x)$  contributes degree 7, need  $h(x)$  to be degree 5

$$(U \cdot a)(V \cdot a) = W \cdot a + h \cdot t$$

$$h \cdot t = (U \cdot a) \cdot (V \cdot a) - (W \cdot a)$$

$$h = \frac{(U \cdot a) \cdot (V \cdot a) - (W \cdot a)}{t}$$

$$h(x) = \frac{(U(x) \cdot a) \cdot (V(x) \cdot a) - (W(x) \cdot a)}{t(x)}$$

Side note: this step is slow, can be optimized

Implementation:

```
# t(x) = (x-1)(x-2)(x-3)(x-4)(x-5)(x-6)(x-7)
t = galois.Poly([1, curve_order - 1], field = GF)\
* galois.Poly([1, curve_order - 2], field = GF)\
* galois.Poly([1, curve_order - 3], field = GF)\
* galois.Poly([1, curve_order - 4], field = GF)\
* galois.Poly([1, curve_order - 5], field = GF)\
* galois.Poly([1, curve_order - 6], field = GF)\
* galois.Poly([1, curve_order - 7], field = GF)

# t(tau)
t_evaluated_at_tau = t(tau)
print(f"t_evaluated_at_tau: {t_evaluated_at_tau}")
print(f"type of t_evaluated_at_tau: {type(t_evaluated_at_tau)}")

# (U * a)(V * a) = (W * a) + h * t
# h = ((U * a)(V * a) - (W * a)) / t
h = (sum_au * sum_av - sum_aw) // t
HT = h * t

print(f"U_polys: {U_polys}")
print(f"V_polys: {V_polys}")
print(f"W_polys: {W_polys}")
print(f"HT: {HT}")

assert sum_au * sum_av == sum_aw + HT, "division has a remainder"
```

will be explained later

### Idea behind QAP:

1. Operations in R1CS (addition and Hadamard product) form a ring when viewed as a set of column vectors (why this is the case will be explained later)
2. Polynomials under addition and multiplication are rings
3. There exists an easily computable homomorphism from R1CS to polynomials

<https://www.rareskills.io/post/quadratic-arithmetic-program>

**Theorem:** there exists a [Ring Homomorphism](#) from column vectors of dimension  $n$  with real number elements to polynomials with real coefficients.

**Proof:** I'm going to trigger the mathematicians by not putting one here. Let's move on.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ring\\_homomorphism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ring_homomorphism)

## Ring homomorphism

17 languages

Article Talk

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In **mathematics**, a **ring homomorphism** is a structure-preserving **function** between two **rings**. More explicitly, if  $R$  and  $S$  are rings, then a ring homomorphism is a function  $f: R \rightarrow S$  that preserves addition, multiplication and **multiplicative identity**; that is,<sup>[1][2][3][4][5]</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} f(a + b) &= f(a) + f(b), \\ f(ab) &= f(a)f(b), \\ f(1_R) &= 1_S, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $a, b$  in  $R$ .

These conditions imply that additive inverses and the additive identity are preserved too.

If in addition  $f$  is a **bijection**, then its **inverse**  $f^{-1}$  is also a ring homomorphism. In this case,  $f$  is called a **ring isomorphism**, and the rings  $R$  and  $S$  are called **isomorphic**. From the standpoint of ring theory, isomorphic rings have exactly the same properties.

If  $R$  and  $S$  are **rngs**, then the corresponding notion is that of a **rng homomorphism**,<sup>[a]</sup> defined as above except without the third condition  $f(1_R) = 1_S$ . A rng homomorphism between (unital) rings need not be a ring homomorphism.

The **composition** of two ring homomorphisms is a ring homomorphism. It follows that the rings forms a **category** with ring homomorphisms as **morphisms** (see **Category of rings**). In particular, one obtains the notions of ring endomorphism, ring isomorphism, and ring automorphism.

Algebraic structure → Ring theory	
<b>Ring theory</b>	
Basic concepts	[show]
Commutative algebra	[show]
Noncommutative algebra	[show]
V · T · E	

Let  $R$  be the ring of column vectors with entries in  $\mathbb{R}$  of dimension  $n$   
 $S$  be the ring of  $\mathbb{R}[x] \rightarrow$  polys with real coefficients  
 domain  
 codomain

Write  $r \in R$  as  $(r_0, r_1, \dots, r_n)$   
 $s \in S$  as  $s_0 + s_1x + s_2x^2 + \dots + s_{n-1}x^{n-1} \Rightarrow f$  is lagrange interpolation

$$\textcircled{1} f(r+r') = f((r_0+r'_0, r_1+r'_1, \dots, r_n+r'_n))$$

$$= \text{Lagrange\_interpolate}((0, r_0+r'_0), (1, r_1+r'_1), \dots, (n, r_n+r'_n))$$

$$= \text{Lagrange\_interpolate}((0, r_0), (1, r_1), \dots, (n, r_n)) + \text{Lagrange\_interpolate}((0, r'_0), (1, r'_1), \dots, (n, r'_n))$$

$$= f(r) + f(r') \in R$$

```
ret2basic@Pwniesland: ~ 79x22
>>> import galois
>>> import numpy as np
>>> GF = galois.GF(1151)
>>> galois.lagrange_poly(GF(np.array([1,2,3,4])), GF(np.array([1,5,3,2])))
Poly(193x^3 + 1141x^2 + 985x + 1135, GF(1151))
>>> galois.lagrange_poly(GF(np.array([1,2,3,4])), GF(np.array([2,1,6,8])))
Poly(574x^3 + 12x^2 + 549x + 18, GF(1151))
>>> galois.lagrange_poly(GF(np.array([1,2,3,4])), GF(np.array([3,6,9,10])))
Poly(767x^3 + 2x^2 + 383x + 2, GF(1151))
>>>
```

$$\textcircled{2} f(r \cdot r') = f((r_0 \cdot r'_0, r_1 \cdot r'_1, \dots, r_n \cdot r'_n))$$

$$= \text{Lagrange\_interpolate}((0, r_0 \cdot r'_0), (1, r_1 \cdot r'_1), \dots, (n, r_n \cdot r'_n))$$

$$\neq \text{Lagrange\_interpolate}((0, r_0), (1, r_1), \dots, (n, r_n))$$

$$\cdot \text{Lagrange\_interpolate}((0, r'_0), (1, r'_1), \dots, (n, r'_n))$$

```
>>> a = galois.lagrange_poly(GF(np.array([1,2,3,4])), GF(np.array([1,5,3,2])))
>>> b = galois.lagrange_poly(GF(np.array([1,2,3,4])), GF(np.array([2,1,6,8])))
>>> c = galois.lagrange_poly(GF(np.array([1,2,3,4])), GF(np.array([2,5,18,16])))
>>> a * b
Poly(286x^6 + 29x^5 + 194x^4 + 620x^3 + 574x^2 + 889x + 863, GF(1151))
>>> c
Poly(955x^3 + 30x^2 + 134x + 34, GF(1151))
>>>
```

$$\textcircled{3} f(1_R) = f((1, 1, \dots, 1))$$

$$= \text{Lagrange\_interpolate}((0, 1), (1, 1), \dots, (n, 1))$$

$$= 1_S$$

```
ret2basic@Pwniesland: ~ 79x22
>>> galois.lagrange_poly(GF(np.array([1,2,3,4])), GF(np.array([1,1,1,1])))
Poly(1, GF(1151))
>>>
```

### Succinctness: evaluate poly at a single point

Now we have QAP equation, but comparing equality of two polynomials is still expensive when there are many constraints. To satisfy the "S" in "SNARK", we only evaluate polynomials at a single point  $p(\tau)$ , where  $\tau$  is a random value generated by trusted setup.

We claim that comparing equality of two polynomials is (almost) equivalent to evaluating them at a random point and then compare the result. This is supported by Schwartz-Zippel Lemma:

Observation:

degree  $d$  poly  $(x)$  over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ , guess its root  $r$

$$\Pr [\text{poly}(r) = 0] \leq \frac{d}{p} \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \# \text{ roots of } \text{poly}(x) \\ \leftarrow \text{all possibilities} \end{array}$$

↑  
guessed root is correct

This result was discussed in Lagrange Interpolation section.

When  $p$  is huge, the probability of guessing correct root in one shot is close to 0. In other words, poly is zero polynomial with extremely high probability.

An equivalent version:

$$\Pr [\text{poly}_1(r) - \text{poly}_2(r) = 0] \leq \frac{d}{p}$$

$$\Pr [\text{poly}_1(r) = \text{poly}_2(r)] \leq \frac{d}{p}$$

The above is saying, the probability of getting the same result after evaluating two polynomials is close to 0. In other words,  $\text{poly}_1$  and  $\text{poly}_2$  are the same polynomial with extremely high probability.

Conclusion: we can evaluate both sides of QAP equation at a random point and compare the result. If the result is the same, we deduce that the polynomials are the same. This is the idea behind "succinctness" in SNARK.

(Random point needs to be generated by trusted setup, will cover that in the next session)

## Pairing (as black box)

G1 point = (x-coordinate, y-coordinate) -> 2 coordinates

G2 point = 4 coordinates, since the underlying curve involves complex number

Pairing = "multiplication" between G1 and G2 points

Math behind pairing will be covered in session 4. At this moment we use pairing as a black box.

```
ret2basic@Pwnieland: ~$ python3
Python 3.10.12 (main, Mar 22 2024, 16:50:05) [GCC 11.4.0] on linux
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> from py_ecc.bn128 import G1, G2, pairing
>>> G1
(1, 2)
>>> G2
((10857046999023057135944570762232829481370756359578518086990519993285655852781,
 11559732032986387107991004021392285783925812861821192530917403151452391805634),
 (8495653923123431417604973247489272438418190587263600148770280649306958101930,
 4082367875863433681332203403145435568316851327593401208105741076214120093531))
>>> pairing(G2, G1)
(18443897754565973717256850119554731228214108935025491924036055734000366132575,
 10734401203193558706037776473742910696504851986739882094082017010340198538454, 5
 985796159921227033560968606339653189163760772067273492369082490994528765680, 409
 3294155816392700623820137842432921872230622290337094591654151434545306688, 64212
 1370160833232766181493494955044074321385528883791668868426879070103434, 45274498
 49947601357037044178952942489926487071653896435602814872334098625391, 3758435817
 766288188804561253838670030762970764366672594784247447067868088068, 180591685461
 48152671857026372711724379319778306792011146784665080987064164612, 1465660657393
 6501743457633041048024656612227301473084805627390748872617280984, 17918828665069
 49134403974358911834255255337522161073581112289083834142789347, 194554243435768
 86430889849773367397946457449073528455097210946839000147698372, 7484542354754424
 633621663080190936924481536615300815203692506276894207018007)
>>>
```



```
ret2basic@Pwniesland: ~ 80x24
>>> from py_ecc.bn128 import G1, G2, pairing, add, multiply
>>> multiply(G1, 2)
(1368015179489954701390400359078579693043519447331113978918064868415326638035, 9
918110051302171585080402603319702774565515993150576347155970296011118125764)
>>> add(G1, G1) == multiply(G1, 2)
True
>>>
```

Elliptic curve (over finite field) addition is "partial homomorphic encryption" under addition:

$$3G + 4G = (G+G+G) + (G+G+G+G) = 7G$$

also:  $3+4=7 \Rightarrow 7G$

But it is not "partial homomorphic encryption" under multiplication:

$$3G \cdot 4G = ?$$

Definitely not  $12G$

Pairing (denoted as  $e()$ ) acts as "partial homomorphic encryption" under multiplication:

$$e(aG1, bG2) = e(cG1, G2) \text{ iff } a \cdot b = c$$

e.g.:  $e(3G_1, 4G_2) = e(12G_1, G_2)$  Since  $3 \cdot 4 = 12$

```
ret2basic@Pwniesland: ~ 79x22
>>> from py_ecc.bn128 import G1, G2, add, multiply, pairing
>>> term1 = multiply(G2, 4)
>>> term2 = multiply(G1, 3)
>>> term3 = G2
>>> term4 = multiply(G1, 12)
>>> pairing(term1, term2) == pairing(term3, term4)
True
>>>
```

In Groth16, verifier receives a proof containing some  $G1$  and  $G2$  points on  $bn128$  curve, and the only thing he does is computing this pairing.

It is ok to understand pairing this way if you don't care about the math behind it.