

# Building a SNARK, Part II

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# Review: Preprocessing argument systems

Public arithmetic circuit:  $C(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$

public statement in  $\mathbb{F}^n$    $\mathbf{x}$    $\mathbf{w}$  secret witness in  $\mathbb{F}^m$

Preprocessing (setup):  $S(C) \rightarrow$  public parameters  $(S_p, S_v)$

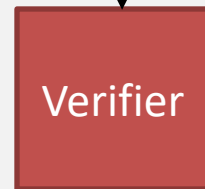
$S_p, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}$



proof  $\pi$

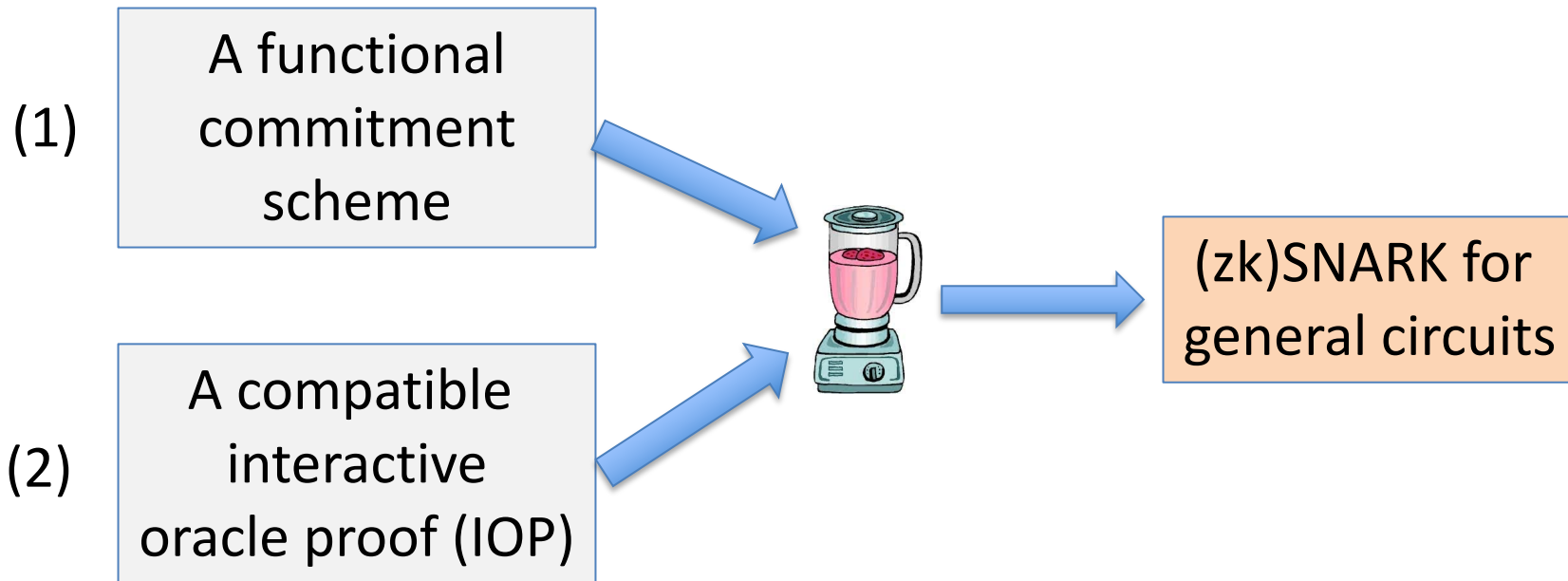
(I know a  $\mathbf{w}$  s.t.  $C(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) = 0$ )

$S_v, \mathbf{x}$

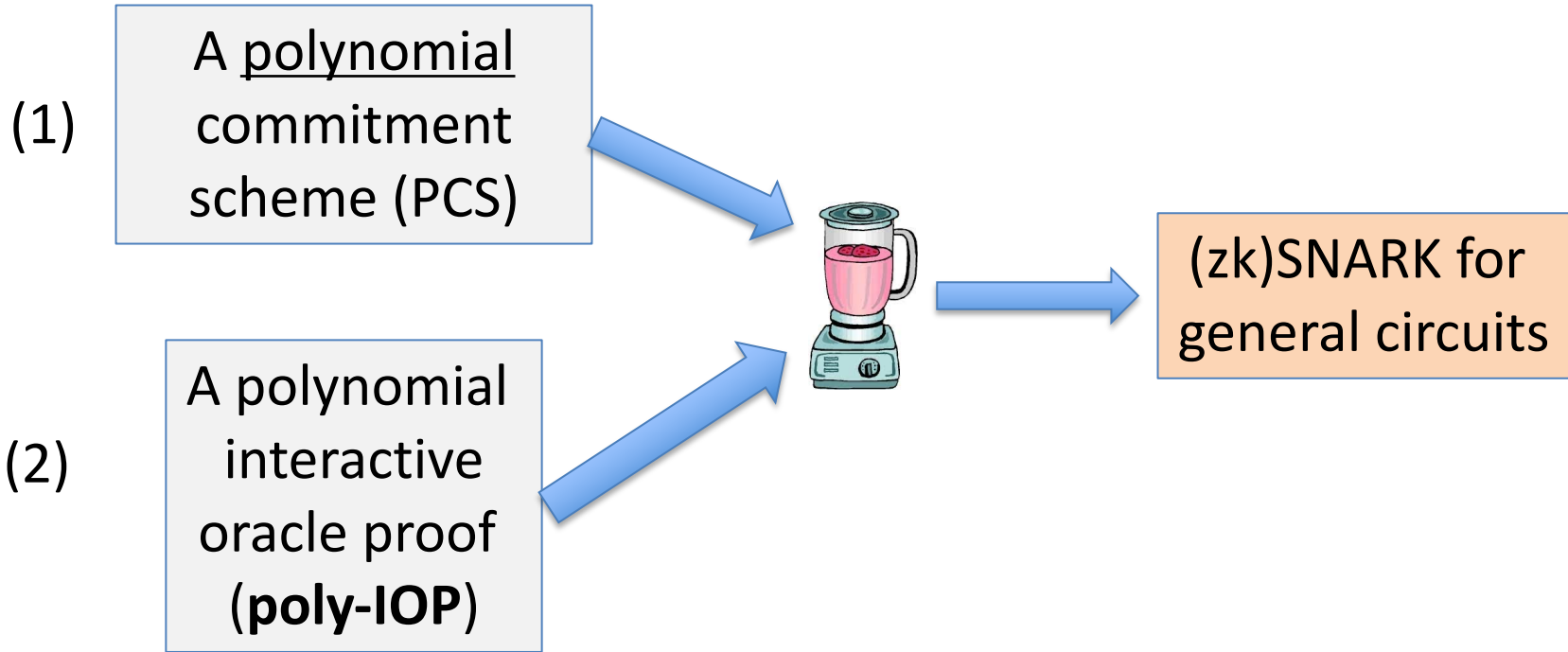


accept or  
reject

# A SNARK paradigm: two steps



# In this segment ...



# (1) Polynomial Commitment Scheme (PCS)

A functional commitment for the family  $\mathcal{F} = \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$

$\Rightarrow$  prover commits to a univariate polynomial  $f$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$ ,  
later can prove that  $v = f(u)$  for public  $u, v \in \mathbb{F}_p$

Key point: **proof size** and **verifier time** are  $O_\lambda(\log d)$

We saw several PCS constructions in the previous segment

## (2) Polynomial IOP:    prove $\exists w: C(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) = 0$

Setup( $C$ )  $\rightarrow$  public parameters  $\mathbf{S}_p$  and  $\mathbf{S}_v = (\boxed{f_0}, \boxed{f_{-1}}, \dots, \boxed{f_{-s}})$

Prover  $P(\mathbf{S}_p, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w})$

commit  $\boxed{f_1 \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]}$

$r_1$

$\vdots$

$r_{t-1}$

commit  $\boxed{f_t \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]}$

Verifier  $V(\mathbf{S}_v, \mathbf{x})$

$r_1 \leftarrow \mathbb{F}_p$

$r_{t-1} \leftarrow \mathbb{F}_p$

verify $^{f_{-s}, \dots, f_t}(\mathbf{x}, r_1, \dots, r_{t-1})$

fast verify that  
can evaluate  $f_i$   
at any point  
in  $\mathbb{F}_p$   
(outputs yes/no)

# In this segment ...

**Goal**: construct a poly-IOP called ***Plonk*** (eprint/2019/953)

[*Gabizon – Williamson – Ciobotaru*]

*Plonk* + PCS  $\Rightarrow$  SNARK

(and also a zk-SNARK)

# First, a useful observation

A key fact: for  $0 \neq f \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$

$$\text{for } r \leftarrow \mathbb{F}_p : \quad \Pr[f(r) = 0] \leq d/p \quad (*)$$

$\Rightarrow$  suppose  $p \approx 2^{256}$  and  $d \leq 2^{40}$  then  $d/p$  is negligible

$\Rightarrow$  for  $r \leftarrow \mathbb{F}_p$ : if  $f(r) = 0$  then  $f$  is identically zero w.h.p

$\Rightarrow$  a simple zero test for a committed polynomial

**SZDL lemma:** (\*) also holds for multivariate polynomials (where  $d$  is total degree of  $f$ )





# A related observation

Suppose  $p \approx 2^{256}$  and  $d \leq 2^{40}$  so that  $d/p$  is negligible

Let  $f, g \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$ .

For  $r \leftarrow \mathbb{F}_p$ , if  $f(r) = g(r)$  then  $f = g$  w.h.p


$$f(r) - g(r) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad f - g = 0 \quad \text{w.h.p}$$

$\Rightarrow$  a simple equality test for two committed polynomials

# Useful proof gadgets

Let  $\omega \in \mathbb{F}_p$  be a primitive  $k$ -th root of unity ( $\omega^k = 1$ )

Set  $H := \{1, \omega, \omega^2, \dots, \omega^{k-1}\} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p$

Let  $f \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$  and  $b, c \in \mathbb{F}_p$ . ( $d \geq k$ )

There are efficient poly-IOPs for the following tasks:

Task 1 (**zero-test**): prove that  $f$  is identically zero on  $H$

Task 2 (**sum-check**): prove that  $\sum_{a \in H} f(a) = b$  (verifier has  $\boxed{f}$ ,  $b$ )

Task 3 (**prod-check**): prove that  $\prod_{a \in H} f(a) = c$  (verifier has  $\boxed{f}$ ,  $c$ )

# Zero test on H

$$(H = \{1, \omega, \omega^2, \dots, \omega^{k-1}\})$$

Prover P(f,  $\perp$ )

$$q(X) \leftarrow f(X)/(X^k - 1)$$

$$q \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$$

eval  $q(X)$  and  $f(X)$  at  $r$

Verifier V( $\boxed{f}$ )

$$r \leftarrow \mathbb{F}_p$$

learn  $q(r), f(r)$

**Lemma:**  $f$  is zero on  $H$  if and only if  $f(X)$  is divisible by  $X^k - 1$

accept if  $f(r) \stackrel{?}{=} q(r) \cdot (r^k - 1)$   
(implies that  $f(X) = q(X)(X^k - 1)$ )

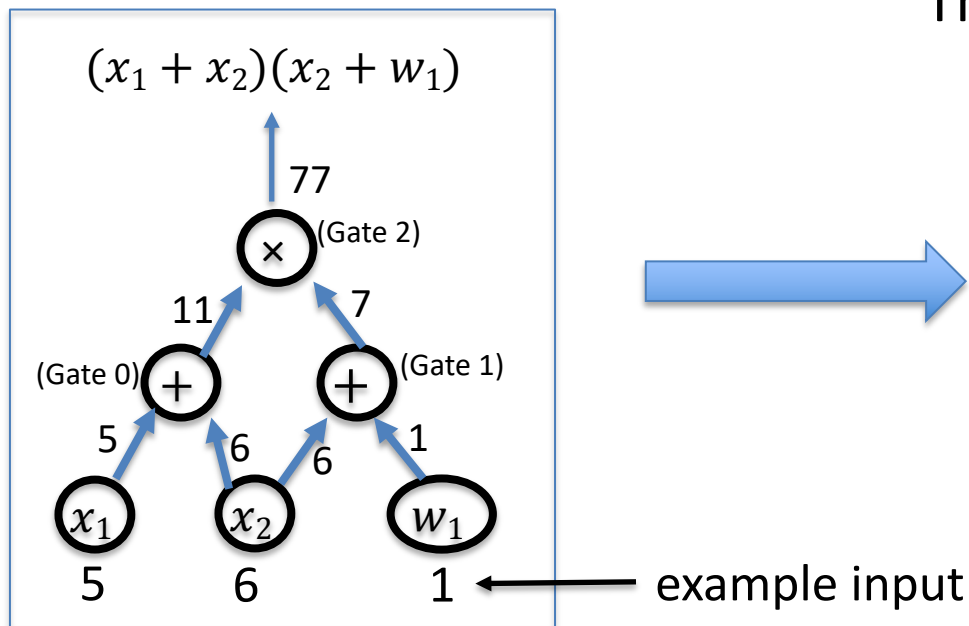
**Thm:** this protocol is complete and sound, assuming  $d/p$  is negligible.

Verifier time:  $O(\log k)$  and two eval verify (but can be done in one)

PLONK: a poly-IOP for a general circuit

# PLONK: a poly-IOP for a general circuit $C(x, w)$

**Step 1:** compile circuit to a computation trace (gate fan-in = 2)



The computation trace:

inputs:	5, 6, 1
Gate 0:	5, 6, 11
Gate 1:	6, 1, 7
Gate 2:	11, 7, 77

left inputs      right inputs      outputs

# Encoding the trace as a polynomial

$|C|$  := total # of gates in  $C$  ,      $|I|$  :=  $|I_x| + |I_w|$  = # inputs to  $C$

let  $d := 3 |C| + |I|$  (in example,  $d = 12$ )    and     $H := \{ 1, \omega, \omega^2, \dots, \omega^{d-1} \}$

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**The plan:** prover interpolates a polynomial

$$P \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$$

that encodes the entire trace.

Let's see how ...

inputs:	5, 6, 1
Gate 0:	5, 6, 11
Gate 1:	6, 1, 7
Gate 2:	11, 7, 77

# Encoding the trace as a polynomial

## The plan:

Prover interpolates  $P \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$  such that

(1)  **$P$  encodes all inputs:**  $P(\omega^{-j}) = \text{input } \#j$  for  $j = 1, \dots, |I|$

(2)  **$P$  encodes all wires:**  $\forall l = 0, \dots, |C| - 1$ :

- $P(\omega^{3l})$ : left input to gate  $\#l$
- $P(\omega^{3l+1})$ : right input to gate  $\#l$
- $P(\omega^{3l+2})$ : output of gate  $\#l$

inputs:	5, 6, 1
Gate 0:	5, 6, 11
Gate 1:	6, 1, 7
Gate 2:	11, 7, 77

# Encoding the trace as a polynomial

In our example, Prover interpolates  $P(X)$  such that:

inputs:  $P(\omega^{-1}) = 5, \quad P(\omega^{-2}) = 6, \quad P(\omega^{-3}) = 1,$

gate 0:  $P(\omega^0) = 5, \quad P(\omega^1) = 6, \quad P(\omega^2) = 11,$

gate 1:  $P(\omega^3) = 6, \quad P(\omega^4) = 1, \quad P(\omega^5) = 7,$

gate 2:  $P(\omega^6) = 11, \quad P(\omega^7) = 7, \quad P(\omega^8) = 77$

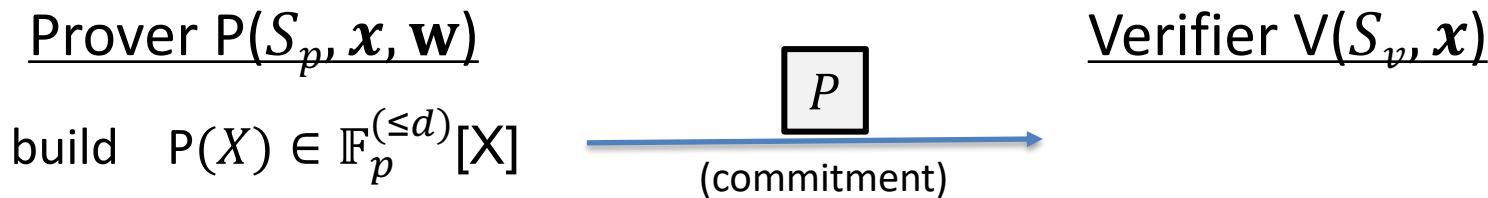
$\text{degree}(P) = 11$

Prover uses FFT to compute the coefficients of  $P$   
in time  $d \log_2 d$

inputs:	5, 6, 1
Gate 0:	5, 6, 11
Gate 1:	6, 1, 7
Gate 2:	11, 7, 77



# Step 2: proving validity of P



Prover needs to prove that P is a correct computation trace:

- (1) P encodes the correct inputs,
- (2) every gate is evaluated correctly,
- (3) the wiring is implemented correctly,
- (4) the output of last gate is 0

Proving (4) is easy: prove  $P(\omega^{3|C|-1}) = 0$

(wiring constraints)

inputs:	5,	6,	1
Gate 0:	5,	6,	11
Gate 1:	6,	1,	7
Gate 2:	11,	7,	77

# Proving (1): P encodes the correct inputs

Both prover and verifier interpolate a polynomial  $v(X) \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq |I_x|)}[X]$  that encodes the  $x$ -inputs to the circuit:

$$\text{for } j = 1, \dots, |I_x|: \quad v(\omega^{-j}) = \text{input } \#j$$

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In our example:  $v(\omega^{-1}) = 5$ ,  $v(\omega^{-2}) = 6$ ,  $v(\omega^{-3}) = 1$ . ( $v$  is quadratic)

constructing  $v(X)$  takes time proportional to the size of input  $x$

$\Rightarrow$  verifier has time to do this

# Proving (1): P encodes the correct inputs

Both prover and verifier interpolate a polynomial  $v(X) \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq |I_x|)}[X]$  that encodes the  $x$ -inputs to the circuit:

$$\text{for } j = 1, \dots, |I_x|: \quad v(\omega^{-j}) = \text{input \#}j$$

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Let  $H_{\text{inp}} := \{ \omega^{-1}, \omega^{-2}, \dots, \omega^{-|I_x|} \} \subseteq H$  (points encoding the input)

Prover proves (1) by using a zero-test on  $H_{\text{inp}}$  to prove that

$$P(y) - v(y) = 0 \quad \forall y \in H_{\text{inp}}$$

# Proving (2): every gate is evaluated correctly

**Idea:** encode gate types using a selector polynomial  $S(X)$

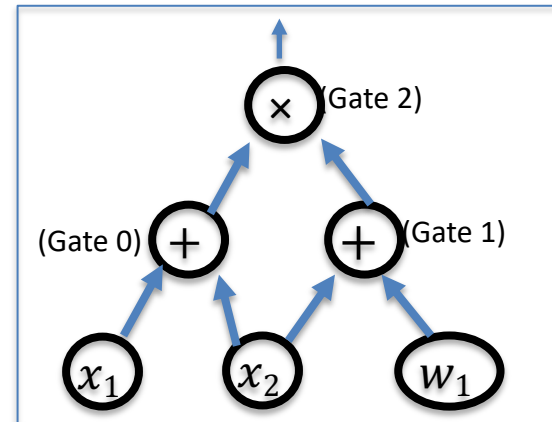
define  $S(X) \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$  such that  $\forall l = 0, \dots, |C| - 1$ :

$S(\omega^{3l}) = 1$  if gate  $\#l$  is an addition gate

$S(\omega^{3l}) = 0$  if gate  $\#l$  is a multiplication gate

In our example  $s(\omega^0) = 1$ ,  $s(\omega^3) = 1$ ,  $s(\omega^6) = 0$

(so that  $S$  is a quadratic polynomial)



# Proving (2): every gate is evaluated correctly

**Idea:** encode gate types using a selector polynomial  $S(X)$

define  $S(X) \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$  such that  $\forall l = 0, \dots, |C| - 1$ :

$S(\omega^{3l}) = 1$  if gate  $\#l$  is an addition gate

$S(\omega^{3l}) = 0$  if gate  $\#l$  is a multiplication gate

Observe that,  $\forall y \in H_{\text{gates}} := \{ 1, \omega^3, \omega^6, \omega^9, \dots, \omega^{3(|C|-1)} \}$ :

$$S(y) \cdot [\mathbf{P(y) + P(\omega y)}] + (1 - S(y)) \cdot \mathbf{P(y) \cdot P(\omega y)} = P(\omega^2 y)$$

left input

right input

left input

right input

output

# Proving (2): every gate is evaluated correctly

$$\text{Setup}(C) \rightarrow S_p := S \text{ and } S_v := ( \boxed{S} )$$

Prover  $P(S_p, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w})$

build  $P(X) \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$

$\boxed{P}$

(commitment)

Verifier  $V(S_v, \mathbf{x})$

Prover uses **zero-test** on the set  $H_{\text{gates}}$  to prove that  $\forall y \in H_{\text{gates}}$

$$S(y) \cdot [P(y) + P(\omega y)] + (1 - S(y)) \cdot P(y) \cdot P(\omega y) - P(\omega^2 y) = 0$$

# Proving (3): the wiring is correct

**Step 4:** encode the wires of  $C$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} P(\omega^{-2}) = P(\omega^1) = P(\omega^3) \\ P(\omega^{-1}) = P(\omega^0) \\ P(\omega^2) = P(\omega^6) \\ P(\omega^{-3}) = P(\omega^4) \end{array} \right.$$

example:  $x_1=5, x_2=6, w_1=1$

	$\omega^{-1}, \omega^{-2}, \omega^{-3} :$	5, 6, 1
0:	$\omega^0, \omega^1, \omega^2 :$	5, 6, 11
1:	$\omega^3, \omega^4, \omega^5 :$	6, 1, 7
2:	$\omega^6, \omega^7, \omega^8 :$	11, 7, 77

Define a polynomial  $W: H \rightarrow H$  that implements a rotation:

$$W(\omega^{-2}, \omega^1, \omega^3) = (\omega^1, \omega^3, \omega^{-2}) , \quad W(\omega^{-1}, \omega^0) = (\omega^0, \omega^{-1}) , \dots$$

**Lemma:**  $\forall y \in H: P(y) = P(W(y)) \Rightarrow$  wire constraints are satisfied

# Proving (3): encoding the circuit wiring

**Problem:** the constraint  $P(y) = P(W(y))$  has degree  $d^2$

$\Rightarrow$  prover would need to manipulate polynomials of degree  $d^2$

$\Rightarrow$  quadratic time prover !! (goal: linear time prover)

Cute trick: use **prod-check proof** to reduce this to a constraint of linear degree



# Reducing wiring check to a linear degree

**Lemma:**  $P(y) = P(W(y))$  for all  $y \in H$  if and only if  $L(Y, Z) \equiv 1$ ,

$$\text{where } L(Y, Z) := \prod_{x \in H} \frac{P(x) + Y \cdot W(x) + Z}{P(x) + Y \cdot x + Z}$$

To prove that  $L(Y, Z) \equiv 1$  do:

- (1) verifier chooses random  $y, z \in \mathbb{F}_p$
- (2) prover builds  $L_1(X)$  s.t.  $L_1(x) = \frac{P(x) + y \cdot W(x) + z}{P(x) + y \cdot x + z}$  for all  $x \in H$
- (3) run prod-check to prove  $\prod_{x \in H} L_1(x) = 1$
- (4) validate  $L_1$ : run zero-test on  $H$  to prove  $L_2(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in H$ , where

$$L_2(x) = (P(x) + y \cdot x + z) L_1(x) - (P(x) + y \cdot W(x) + z)$$

# The final Plonk Poly-IOP (and SNARK)

Setup( $C$ )  $\rightarrow$   $S_p := (S, W)$  and  $S_v := ( \boxed{S} \text{ and } \boxed{W} )$  (untrusted)

Prover  $P(S_p, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w})$

Verifier  $V(S_v, \mathbf{x})$

build  $P(X) \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$

$\boxed{P}$   
(commitment)

build  $v(X) \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq |I_x|)}[X]$

Prover proves:

gates: (1)  $S(y) \cdot [P(y) + P(\omega y)] + (1 - S(y)) \cdot P(y) \cdot P(\omega y) - P(\omega^2 y) = 0 \quad \forall y \in H_{\text{gates}}$

inputs: (2)  $P(y) - v(y) = 0 \quad \forall y \in H_{\text{inp}}$

wires: (3)  $P(y) - P(W(y)) = 0 \quad \forall y \in H$

output: (4)  $P(\omega^{3|C|-1}) = 0$  (output of last gate = 0)

# The final Plonk Poly-IOP (and SNARK)

$\text{Setup}(C) \rightarrow S_p := (S, W)$  and  $S_v := ( \boxed{S} \text{ and } \boxed{W} )$

Prover  $P(S_p, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w})$

build  $P(X) \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq d)}[X]$

$\boxed{P}$

(commitment)

Verifier  $V(S_v, \mathbf{x})$

build  $v(X) \in \mathbb{F}_p^{(\leq |I_x|)}[X]$

**Thm**: The Plonk Poly-IOP is complete and knowledge sound

(eprint/2019/953)

# Many extensions ...

Plonk proof: a short proof ( $\approx 400$  bytes), fast verifier ( $\approx 6$ ms)

- Can handle circuits with more general gates than  $+$  and  $\times$ 
  - PLOOKUP: efficient Poly-IOP for circuits with lookup tables
- The resulting SNARK can be made into a zk-SNARK

Main research effort: SNARKs with faster prover time

END OF LECTURE