# **Zero Knowledge Proofs**

#### Introduction to Zero Knowledge Interactive Proofs

Dan Boneh, Shafi Goldwasser, Dawn Song, Justin Thaler, Yupeng Zhang





















### **Classical Proofs**

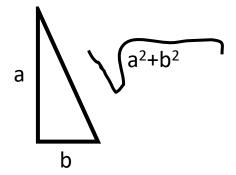


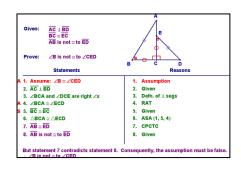






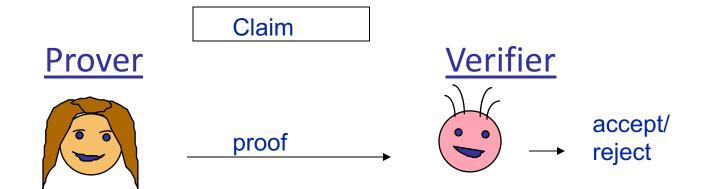






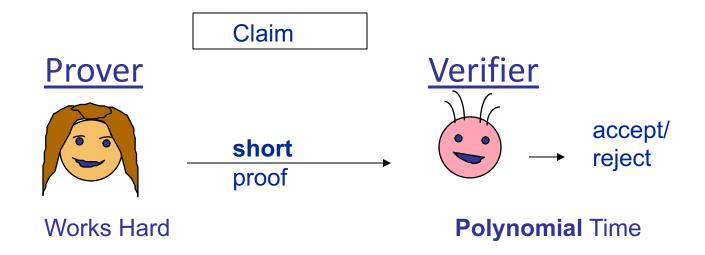
Prime-Number Thm

### **Proofs**



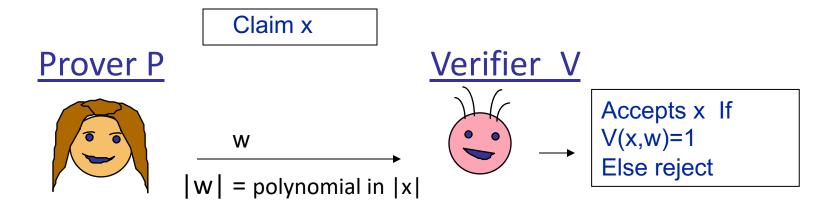
### Efficiently Verifiable Proofs (NP-proofs)





### Efficiently Verifiable Proofs (NP-proofs)





Unbounded

V takes time Polynomial in |x|

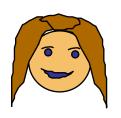
### Claim: N is a product of 2 large primes



After interaction, V knows:

- 1) N is product of 2 primes
- 2) The two primes p and q

# Claim: y is a quadratic residue mod N (i.e $\exists x \ in \ Z_N^* \text{ s. t. } y=x^2 \text{ mod N}$ )



Proof = x

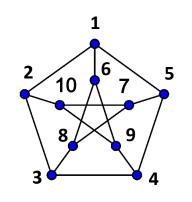


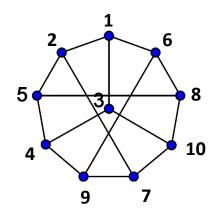
If y=x<sup>2</sup> mod N, V accepts Else V rejects

#### After interaction, V knows:

- 1. y is a quadratic residue mod
- 2. Square root of y (hard problem equivalent to factoring N)

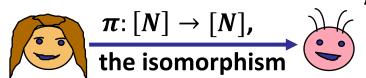
# Claim: the two graphs are isomorphic





After interaction, V knows:

- 1)  $G_0$  is isomorphic to  $G_1$
- 2) The isomorphism  $\pi$

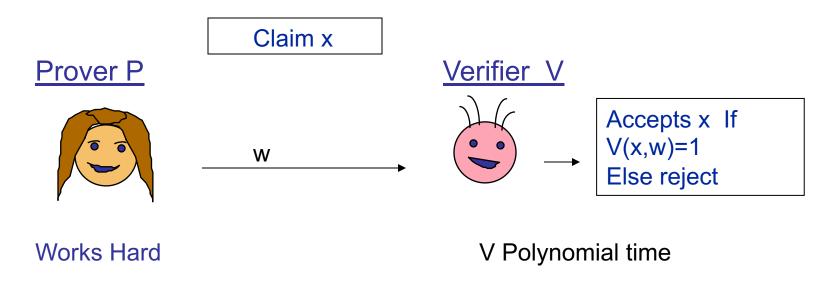


Accept if 
$$\forall i, j$$
:
$$(\pi(i), \pi(j)) \in E_1 \text{ iff}$$

$$(i, j) \in E_0.$$

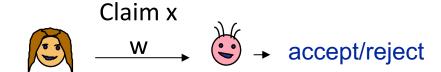
#### Efficiently Verifiable Proofs (NP-Languages)





**<u>Def</u>**: A language L is a set of binary strings x.

# Efficiently Verifiable Proofs (NP-Languages)



<u>Def</u>:  $\mathcal{L}$  is an <u>NP</u>-language (or NP-decision problem), if there is a <u>poly</u> (|x|) time verifier V where

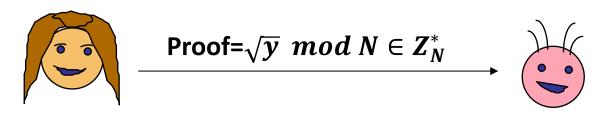
- Completeness [True claims have (short) proofs].
  - if  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ , there is a poly(|x|)-long witness  $w \in \{0,1\}^*$  s.t. V(x, w) = 1.
- Soundness [False theorems have no proofs].
  - if  $x \notin \mathcal{L}$ , there is no witness. That is, for all  $w \in \{0,1\}^*$ , V(x,w) = 0.

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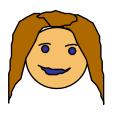
# 1982-1985: Is there any other way?



#### Theorem: y is a quadratic residue mod N



# Zero Knowledge Proofs: Yes

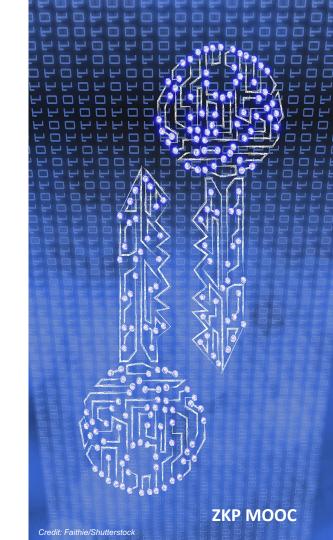


#### Main Idea:

Prove that
I **could** prove it
If I felt like it



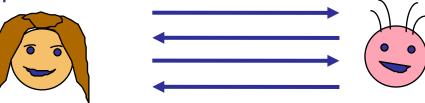
# Zero Knowledge Interactive Proofs



#### Two New Ingredients

#### Interactive and Probabilistic Proofs

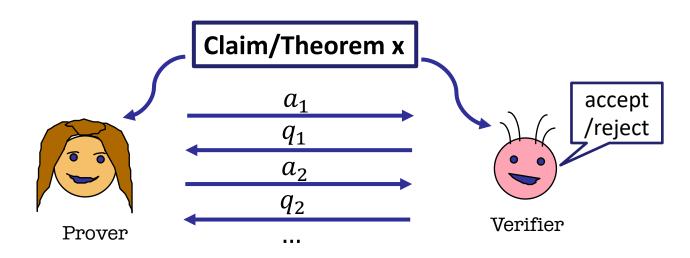
**Interaction:** rather than passively "reading" proof, verifier engages in a non-trivial interaction with the prover.





Randomness: verifier is randomized (tosses coins as a primitive operation), and can err in accept/reject with small probability

#### Interactive Proof Model



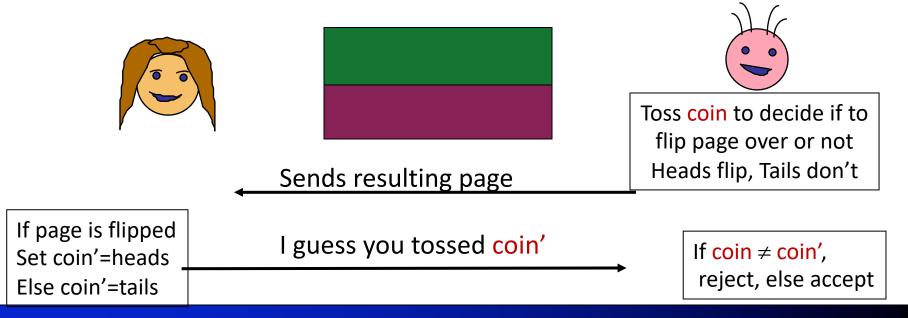
Comp. Unbounded

**Probabilistic**Polynomial-time (PPT)

#### Here is the idea:

#### How to prove colors are different to a blind verifier

#### Claim: This page contains 2 colors

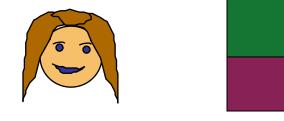


Here is the idea:

Else coin'=tails

How to prove colors are differ

### Claim: This page contains 2 c



Sends resulting page

If there are 2 colors, then Verifier will accept

If there is a single color,  $\forall$  provers  $\mathsf{Prob}_{\mathsf{coins}}(\mathsf{Verifier\ accept}) \leq 1/2$ 

If repeat i=1..k times and V accept if coin;'=coin; every repetition,
∀provers Prob<sub>coins</sub>(Verifier accept)≤ 1/2<sup>k</sup>

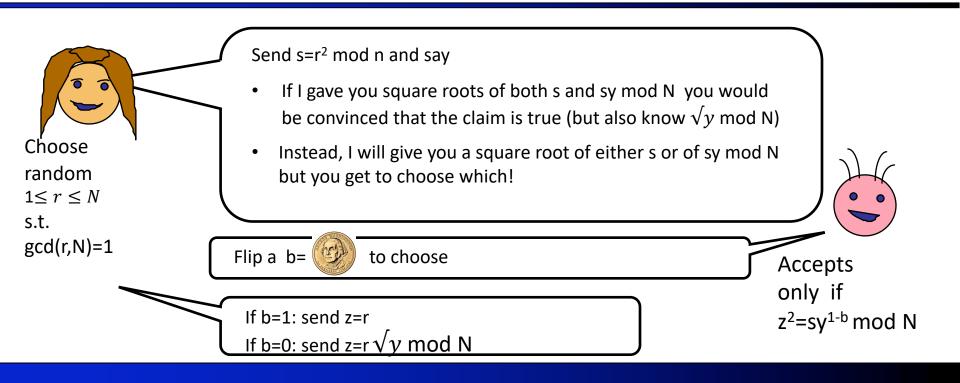
Toss coin to decide if to flip page over or not Heads flip, Tails don't

If page is flipped
Set coin'=heads

I guess you tossed coin'

If coin ≠ coin', reject, else accept

#### Interactive Proof for QR= $\{(N, y): \exists x \ s. \ t. \ y = x^2 \ mod \ N \}$



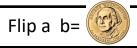
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#### Interactive Proof for QR= {

- Completeness: If Claim is true, then
   Verifier will accept
- nd savs
- Soundness: If Claim is false,  $\forall$  provers Prob<sub>coins</sub>(Verifier accept) $\leq 1/2$
- Sends s=r<sup>2</sup> mod n and says
  - Prover only needs to know  $x = \sqrt{y}$
- If I gave you square root be convinced that the claim is true (but also know  $\sqrt{y}$  mod N)
- Instead, I will give you a a square rot of s or of sy mod N but you get to choose which!

Choose random  $1 \le r \le N$  s.t.

gcd(r,N)=1



to choose

Accepts only if

 $z^2=sy^{1-b} \mod N$ 

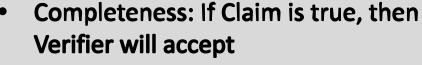
If b=1: send z=r

If b=0: send z=r $\sqrt{y}$  mod N

#### Interactive Proof for Q.

Repeat 100 times

Send s=r<sup>2</sup> mod n and s



Soundness: If Claim is false, ∀provers
 Prob<sub>coins</sub>(Verifier accept)≤ (1/2)<sup>100</sup>

- If I gave you square Prover only needs to know  $x = \sqrt{y}$  convinced that the claim is true (but also know v y mod iv)
- Instead, I will give you a a square rot of s or of sy mod N but you get to choose which!
- The fact that I COULD (in principle) do both, should convince you

Flip a b=

b= to choose

If b=1: send z=r

If b=0: send z=r  $\sqrt{v}$  mod N

Accepts
only if  $z^2=sv^{1-b} \mod N$ 

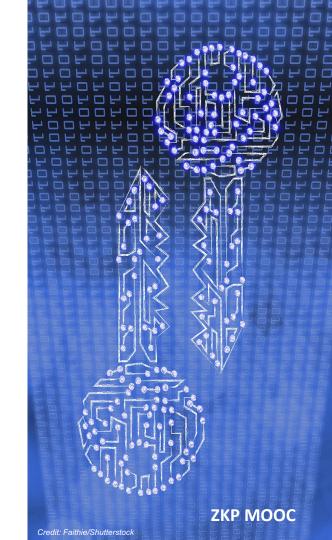
Choose random  $1 \le r \le N$  s.t.

gcd(r,N)=1

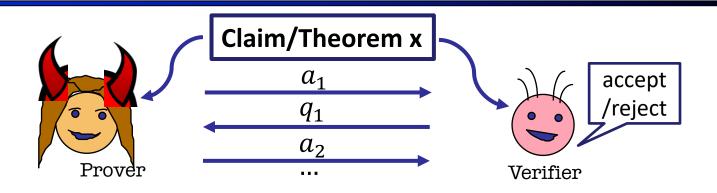
### What Made it possible?

- The statement to be proven has many possible proofs of which the prover chooses one at random.
- Each such proof is made up of exactly 2 parts: seeing either part on its own gives the verifier no knowledge; seeing both parts imply 100% correctness.
- Verifier chooses at random which of the two parts of the proof he wants the prover to give him. The ability of the prover to provide either part, convinces the verifier

<u>Definitions:</u> of Zero Knowledge Interactive Proofs



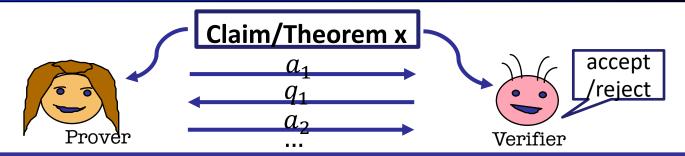
# Interactive Proofs for a Language $\mathcal{L}$



**<u>Def</u>**: (P, V) is an interactive proof for L, if V is probabilistic poly (|x|) time &

- Completeness: If  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ , V always accepts.
- **Soundness:** If  $x \notin \mathcal{L}$ , for all cheating prover strategy, V will not accept except with negligible probability.

#### Interactive Proofs: Notation

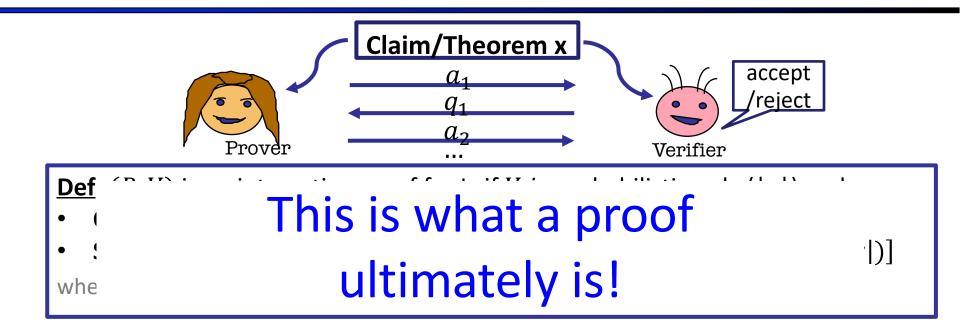


**<u>Def</u>**: (P, V) is an interactive proof for L, if V is probabilistic poly (|x|) and

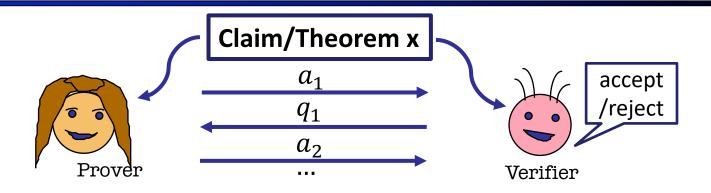
- Completeness: If  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ , Pr[(P, V)(x) = accept] = 1.
- Soundness: If  $x \notin \mathcal{L}$ , for every  $P^*$ ,  $Pr[(P^*, V)(x) = accept] = negl(|x|)$

where 
$$negl(\lambda) < \frac{1}{polynomial(\lambda)}$$
 for all polynomial functions

#### Interactive Proofs: Notation



### Interactive Proofs for a Language $\mathcal{L}$ : Notation

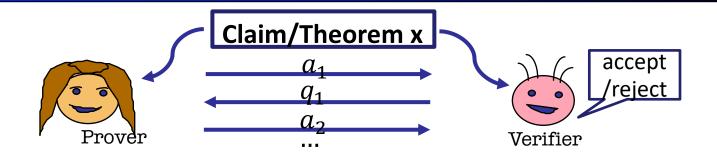


**<u>Def</u>**: (P, V) is an interactive proof for L, if V is probabilistic poly (|x|) and

- Completeness: If  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ ,  $Pr[(P, V)(x) = accept] \ge c$
- Soundness: If  $x \notin \mathcal{L}$ , for every  $P^*$ ,  $\Pr[(P^*, V)(x) = accept] \le s$

Equivalent as long as  $c - s \ge 1/\text{poly}(|x|)$ 

# The class of Interactive Proofs (IP)



**Def**: class of languages **IP** =

**{L for which there is an interactive proof}** 

# What is zero-knowledge?

For true Statements,

What the verifier can compute

after the interaction =

What the verifier could have computed

before interaction

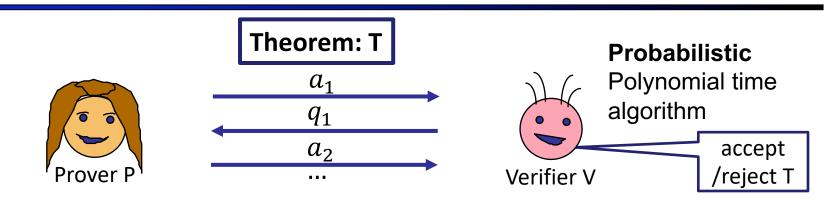
How do we capture this mathematically?

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for every verifier



### The Verifier's View

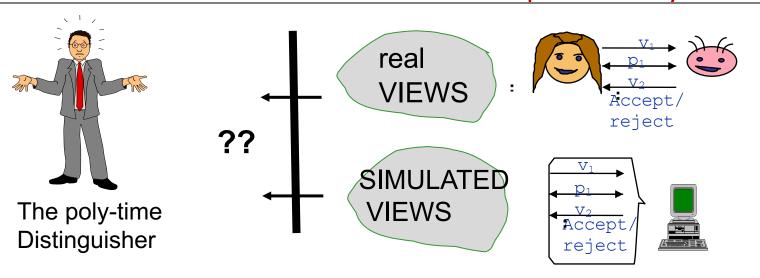


- After interactive proof, V "learned":
  - T is true (or  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ )
  - A view of interaction (= transcript+ coins V tossed)

Def: 
$$\mathbf{view}_{\mathbf{V}}(P, V)[x] = \{(q_1, a_1, q_2, a_2, ..., \text{coins of V})\}$$
. (probability distribution over coins of V and P)

# The Simulation Paradigm

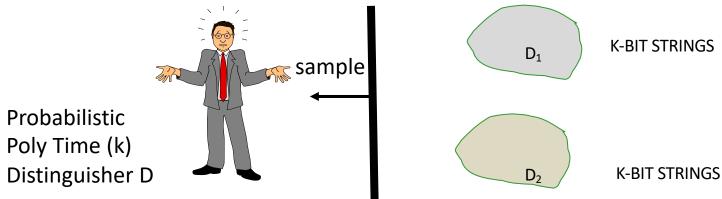
V's view gives him nothing new, if he could have simulated it its own s.t `simulated view' and `real-view' are computationally-Indistinguishable



When
Theorem
is true

# Computational Indistinguishability

If no "distinguisher" can tell apart two different probability distributions they are "effectively the same".



For all distinguisher algorithms D, even after receiving a polynomial number of samples from  $D_h$ , Prob[D guesses b] <1/2+negl(k)

### Zero Knowledge: Definition

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

1. 
$$view_V(P, V)[x] = \{(q_1, a_1, q_2, a_2, ..., coins of V)\}$$
  
2.  $Sim(x)$  (over coins of V and P)

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

### Zero Knowledge: Definition

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

Allow simulator S Expected Poly-time

1. 
$$view_V(P, V)[x, 1^{\lambda}] = \{(q_1, a_1, q_2, a_2, ..., coins of V)\}$$
  
2.  $Sim(x, 1^{\lambda})$  (over coins of V and P)

2.  $Sim(x, 1^{\lambda})$ 

Def: (P,V) is a zero-knowledge interactive protocol if it is complete, sound and zero-knowledge Technicality: Allows sufficient Runtime onn small x  $\lambda$ - security parameter

### What if V is NOT HONEST

OLD DEP

An Interactive Protocol (P,V) is **honest-verifier** zeroknowledge for a language L if there exists a PPT simulator Sim such that for every  $x \in L$ ,  $view_V(P,V)[x] \approx Sim(x,1^{\lambda})$ 

CALDER

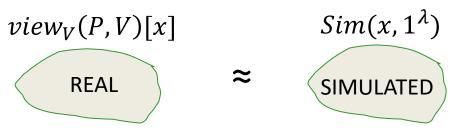
An Interactive Protocol (P,V) is **zero-knowledge** for a language L if **for every PPT**  $V^*$ , there exists a poly time simulator Sim s.t. for every  $x \in L$ ,

$$view_V(P,V)[x] \approx Sim(x,1^{\lambda})$$



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### Flavors of Zero Knowledge

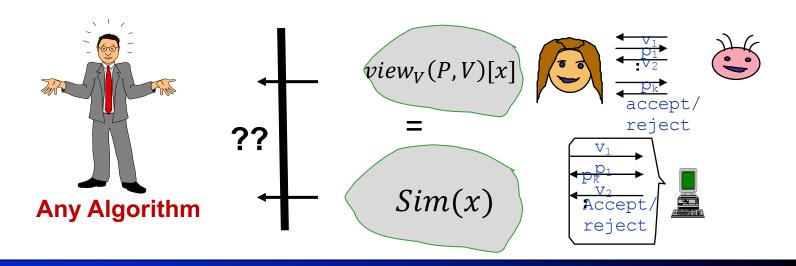


- Computationally indistinguishable distributions = CZK
- Perfectly identical distributions = PZK

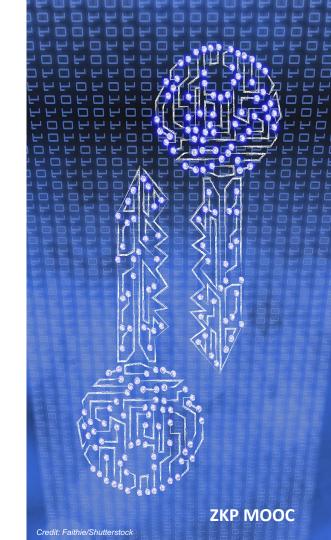
Statistically close distributions = SZK

# Special Case: Perfect Zero Knowledge

verifier's view can be exactly efficiently simulated 'Simulated views' = 'real views'

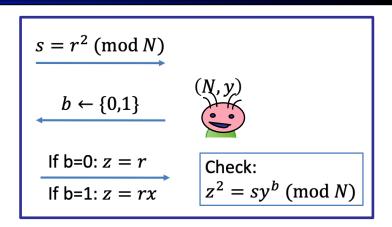


Working through a
Simulation
for QR Protocol



# Recall the Simulation Paradigm

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

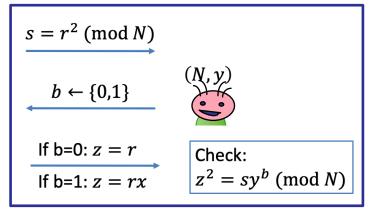


# Recall the Simulation Paradigm



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

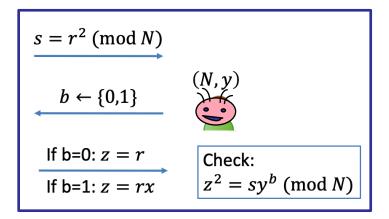
sim: (s,b,z)





# (Honest Verifier) Perfect Zero Knowledge

**Claim:** The QR protocol is perfect zero knowledge.



#### 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).

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

**claim:** The simulated transcript is identically distributed as the real transcript

# Perfect Zero Knowledge: for all V\*

Claim: The QR protocol is perfect zero knowledge.

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

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

$$(N, y)$$

$$(N, y)$$

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

$$(N, y)$$

$$(N, y$$

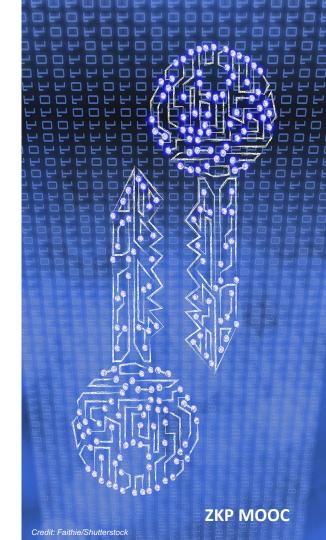
$$view_V(P,V)$$
:  $(s,b,z)$ 

#### 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. If  $V^*((N,y),s) = b$  output (s,b,z) if not goto 1 and repeat

Claim: Expected number of repetitions is two

# ZK proof of Knowledge

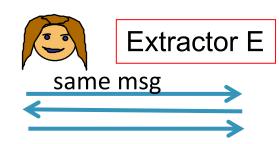


# Prover seems to have proved more: theorem is correct and that she "knows" a square root mod N

Consider  $L_R = \{x : \exists w \ s. \ t. \ R(x, w) = accept \}$  for poly-time relation R.

**Def:** (P,V) is a proof of knowledge (POK) for  $L_R$  if:  $\exists$  PPT (knowledge) extractor algorithm E s. t.  $\forall x$  in L, in expected poly-time  $E^P(x)$  outputs w s.t. R(x,w)=accept.

E<sup>P</sup>(x) (E may run P repeatedly on the same randomness) possibly asking different questions in every executions This is called the <u>rewinding technique</u>

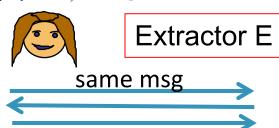


# Prover seems to have proved more not only that theorem is correct, but that she "knows" a square root mod N

Consider  $L_R = \{x : \exists w \ s. \ t. \ R(x, w) = accept \}$  for poly-time relation R.

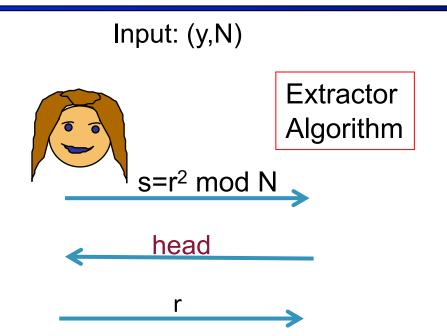
Def: (P,V) is a proof of knowledge (POK) for  $L_R$  if:  $\exists$  PPT (knowledge) extractor algorithm E s. t.  $\forall x$  in L, in expected poly-time  $E^P(x)$  outputs w s.t. R(x,w)=accept. [if Prob[(P,V)(x)=accept] >  $\alpha$ , then  $E^P(x)$  runs in expected poly( $|x|,1/\alpha$ ) time]

 $E^{P}(x)$  (may run P repeatedly on the same randomness) Possibly asking different questions in every executions This is called the <u>rewinding technique</u>



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#### ZKPOK that Prover knows a square root x of y mod N





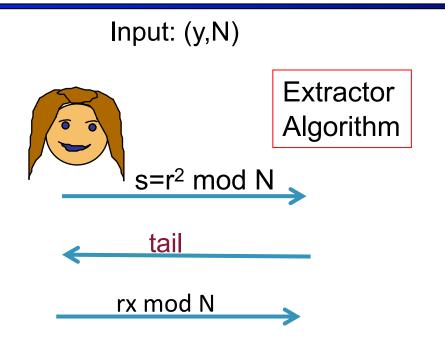
#### Extractór:

On input (y,N),

- 1. Run prover & receive s
- 2. Set verifier message to head; Store r

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#### The Rewinding Method





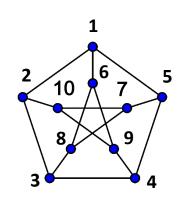
#### Extractor:

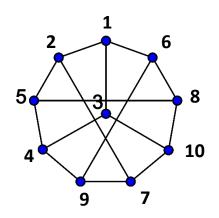
On input (y,N)

- 1. Run prover & receive s
- 2. Set verifier message to head; receive and store r
- 3. Rewind and 2<sup>nd</sup> time set verifier message to tail receive rx
- 4. Output rx/r=x mod N

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# ZK Proof for Graph Isomorphism



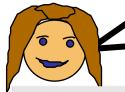


Recall:

 $G_0$  is isomorphic to  $G_1$ 

If  $\exists$  isomorphism  $\pi$ :  $[N] \rightarrow [N]$ ,  $\forall i, j : (\pi(i), \pi(j)) \in E_1$  iff  $(i, j) \in E_0$ .

### ZK Interactive Proof for Graph Isomorphism



#### Proof:

$$H = \gamma_0(G_0),$$

$$H = \gamma_1(G_1),$$

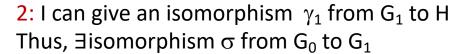
Thus

$$G_1 = \gamma_1^{-1}(\gamma_0(G_0))$$

Set 
$$\sigma = \gamma_1^{-1} \dot{\gamma}_0$$

I will produce a random graph H for which

1: I can give an isomorphism  $\gamma_0$  from  $G_0$  to H OR



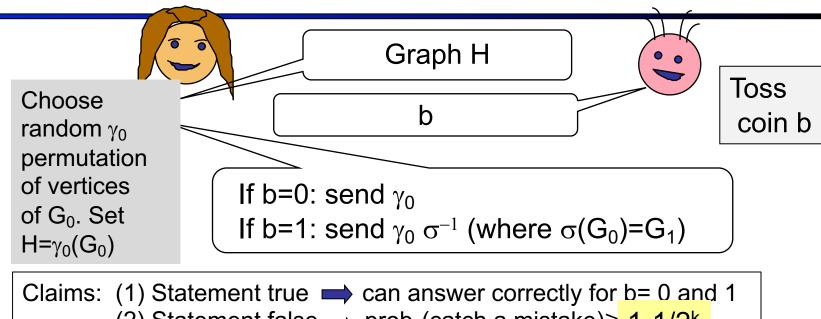
Verifier, please randomly choose if I should demonstrate my ability to do #1 or #2.

POINT IS: If I can do both, there exists an isomorphism from  $G_0$  to  $G_1$ 



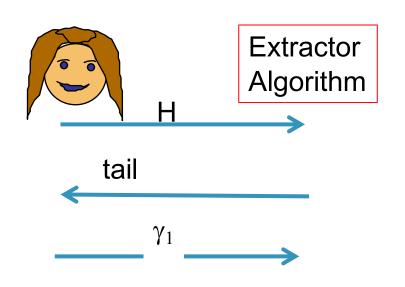
REPEAT K
INDEPENDENT TIMES.

Input:  $(G_0,G_1)$ 



- (2) Statement false → prob<sub>b</sub>(catch a mistake)≥ 1-1/2<sup>k</sup>
- (3) Perfect ZK [Exercise]

#### ZKPOK that **Prover knows an isomorphism** from G<sub>1</sub> to G<sub>2</sub>

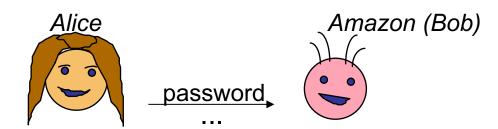


#### Extractor:

- On input H
   set coin=head
   Store γ<sub>0</sub>
- 2) Rewind and  $2^{nd}$  time set coin=tail Store  $\gamma_1$
- 3) Output  $\gamma_1^{-1}(\gamma_0)$

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# The first application: Identity Theft [FS86]



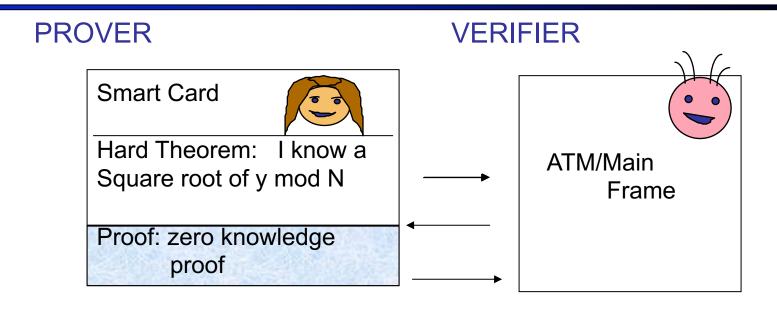
#### For Settings:

I accept you as Alice

- Alice = Smart Card.
- Over the Net
- Breaking ins at Bob/Amazon are possible

Passwords are no good

# Zero Knowledge: Preventing Identity Theft



To identify itself prover proves a hard theorem.

# Interesting examples, one application

But, do all NP Languages
have Zero Knowledge
Interactive Proofs?

