

Final Exam Review Session

CS 171

April 30, 2024



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- 1 Identity-Based Encryption
- 2 Group-Based Assumptions and Bilinear Maps: DLOG, CDH, DDH, DBDH
- 3 Signatures
- 4 Commitment Schemes
- 5 Secret Sharing
- 6 Proof Systems



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(Similar high-level syntax and properties as other encryption schemes we've seen earlier like SKE/PKE)

- $Setup(1^\lambda) \rightarrow (msk, mpk)$.
- $KeyGen(msk, \mathbf{ID}) \rightarrow \mathbf{sk}_{\mathbf{ID}}$
- $Enc(mpki, \mathbf{ID}, m) \rightarrow ct$
- $Dec(\mathbf{sk}_{\mathbf{ID}}, ct) \rightarrow m$

Properties:

- Correctness: $Dec(\mathbf{sk}_{\mathbf{ID}}, Enc(mpki, \mathbf{ID}, m)) \rightarrow m$
- CPA Security – slightly different game compared to CPA security in SKE/PKE



- 1 Challenger runs $Setup(1^\lambda) \rightarrow (msk, mpk)$ and sends mpk to the adversary.
- 2 **Keygen Queries: Phase 1** Adversary sends ID to the challenger and gets back $sk_{ID} \leftarrow KeyGen(msk, ID)$ corresponding to the ID .
- 3 **Challenge phase:** Adversary sends a ID^* that was not queried as well as messages $m_0 \neq m_1$.
- 4 Challenger picks $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ and returns $c_b \leftarrow Enc(mp_k, ID^*, m_b)$.
- 5 **Keygen Queries: Phase 2** Adversary sends ID to the challenger and gets back $sk_{ID} \leftarrow KeyGen(msk, ID)$ corresponding to the ID (ID^* not allowed).
- 6 Adversary outputs a guess b' for b .



- The adversary has the power to choose which ID to use for the challenge phase, unlike in SKE/PKE, where the public key for encryption is fixed at the very beginning.
- KeyGen does what is designed to be hard to do in SKE/PKE – it computes a secret key for an ID given a public key (*How? Using additional secret information msk*).
- For questions: Most reductions will look similar to CPA security of SKE/PKE – make sure the adversaries receive the right answers to queries and that the ciphertext distribution is correct.
- Additional complexity: Need to take care of KeyGen queries.



IBE: Practice problem

Show that IBE implies PKE, i.e., given a CPA-secure IBE scheme (S, K, E, D) , construct a CPA-secure PKE scheme (Gen, Enc, Dec) .



IBE: Practice problem

Show that IBE implies PKE, i.e., given a CPA-secure IBE scheme (S, K, E, D) , construct a CPA-secure PKE scheme (Gen, Enc, Dec) .

- $Gen(1^\lambda)$: Run $S(1^\lambda) \rightarrow (msk, mpk)$ and return $sk = msk, pk = mpk$.
- $Enc(pk, m)$: Sample a random ID and run $E(mp_k, ID, m) \rightarrow ct$. Output (ID, ct) as the ciphertext.
- $Dec(sk, (ID, ct))$: First, derive sk_{ID} for the ID and then run $Dec(sk_{ID}, ct) \rightarrow m$.



IBE: Practice problem - Properties

Correctness: follows from correctness of IBE.



IBE: Practice problem - Properties

Correctness: follows from correctness of IBE.

CPA security: Suppose PKE was not CPA-secure. Let \mathcal{A} be an adversary that wins in the CPA game for PKE. We'll build an adversary B to break CPA security of IBE.

- IBE challenger runs $S(1^\lambda) \rightarrow (msk, mpk)$ and gives mpk to B . B sends it to A as pk .
- A outputs two challenge messages m_0, m_1 .
- B samples a random ID and sends (ID, m_0, m_1) to the IBE challenger.
- The IBE challenger chooses random $b = 0/1$ and returns $c = E(mp_k, ID, m_b)$.
- B sends (ID, c) to A and outputs whatever A outputs.

We did not need to make any keygen queries!



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Groups: Syntax

A group G is a set with a binary operation \cdot satisfying the following properties:

Closure $\forall g, h \in G$, we have that $g \cdot h \in G$.

Identity existence $\exists i \in G$ such that $\forall g \in G$, $g \cdot i = g = i \cdot g$.

Inverse existence $\forall g \in G$, $\exists h \in G$ such that $g \cdot h = i = h \cdot g$.

Associativity $\forall g_1, g_2, g_3 \in G$, we have that $(g_1 \cdot g_2) \cdot g_3 = g_1 \cdot (g_2 \cdot g_3)$.



Groups: Properties

- 1 Let G be a finite group with order m , Then:
 - for any element $g \in G$, we have $g^m = 1$.
 - for any element $g \in G$ and integer x , $g^x = g^{x \bmod m}$.
- 2 A group G is *cyclic* if $\exists g \in G$ such that $\{g^1, \dots, g^m\} = G$.
 - If G is a group of prime order p , then G is cyclic and every element except the identity is a generator of G .



The Discrete-Log Problem

- 1 Let $\mathcal{G}(1^n)$ be a PPT algorithm generating the description of a cyclic group of order q ($q = |G| \approx 2^n$) and a generator g .
- 2 Note that:
 - We can represent each group element with a unique bit representation of size $\log_2(n)$.
 - The group operation (addition) can be performed in time $\text{poly}(n)$.
 - Sampling a group element uniformly at random can be performed in time $\text{poly}(n)$ (given randomness).
- 3 I.e., we can sample a random element $x \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ and compute g^x in time $\text{poly}(n)$.



The Discrete-Log Game

$\text{DLog}_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{G}}(n)$

- 1 Run $\mathcal{G}(1^n)$ to obtain (G, g, q) .
- 2 Sample uniform $h \in G$.
- 3 \mathcal{A} is given (G, g, q, h) and it outputs x .
- 4 Output 1 if $g^x = h$ and 0 otherwise.

We say that the Discrete-Log Problem is hard relative to \mathcal{G} if \forall PPT adversaries \mathcal{A} , \exists function $\text{negl}(\cdot)$ such that

$$|\Pr[\text{DLog}_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{G}}(n) = 1]| \leq \text{negl}(n).$$



The Diffie-Hellman Problems

Two main forms:

- 1 *Computational* Diffie-Hellman Problem (CDH): given g^a and g^b , adversary needs to *compute* g^{ab} to win the game.
- 2 *Decisional* Diffie-Hellman Problem (DDH): given g^a and g^b , adversary needs to *distinguish* g^{ab} from a random group element to win the game.



The Computational Diffie-Hellman Game

$\text{CDH}_{\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{G}}(n)$

- 1 Run $\mathcal{G}(1^n)$ to obtain (G, g, q) .
- 2 Sample uniform $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_q^*$.
- 3 \mathcal{A} is given (G, g, q, g^a, g^b) and it outputs h .
- 4 Output 1 if $g^{ab} = h$ and 0 otherwise.

We say that the CDH Problem is hard relative to \mathcal{G} if \forall PPT adversaries \mathcal{A} , \exists function $\text{negl}(\cdot)$ such that

$$|\Pr[\text{CDH}_{\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{G}}(n) = 1]| \leq \text{negl}(n).$$



The Decisional Diffie-Hellman Game

$\text{DDH}_{\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{G}}(n)$

- 1 Run $\mathcal{G}(1^n)$ to obtain (G, g, q) .
- 2 Sample uniform $a, b, r \in \mathbb{Z}_q^*$. Sample a uniform bit $c \in \{0, 1\}$.
- 3 \mathcal{A} is given $(G, g, q, g^a, g^b, g^{ab+cr})$ and it outputs c' .
- 4 Output 1 if $c = c'$ and 0 otherwise.

We say that the DDH Problem is hard relative to \mathcal{G} if \forall PPT adversaries \mathcal{A} , \exists function $\text{negl}(\cdot)$ such that

$$|\Pr[\text{DDH}_{\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{G}}(n) = 1]| \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n).$$



Bilinear Groups

- 1 “Groups where CDH is hard, but DDH is easy”
- 2 Consider a group G of prime order q and generator g :
- 3 We get a pairing operation e such that:
 - $e : G \times G \rightarrow G_T$
 - If g is a generator of G then $e(g, g)$ is a generator of G_T
 - $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_q^*, e(g^a, g^b) = e(g, g)^{ab}$
- 4 Intuition:
 - DDH is easy because if A, B, C is a DDH tuple, we can check $e(A, B) = e(g, C)$
 - CDH is hard because... no attacks are known.



The Decisional *Bilinear* Diffie-Hellman Game

$\text{DBDH}_{\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{G}}(n)$

- 1 Run $\mathcal{G}(1^n)$ to obtain $(G, G_T, g, q, e(\cdot, \cdot))$.
- 2 Sample uniform $a, b, c, r \in \mathbb{Z}_q^*$. Sample a uniform bit $\beta \in \{0, 1\}$.
- 3 \mathcal{A} is given $(G, G_T, g, q, g^a, g^b, g^c, e(g, g)^{abc+\beta r})$ and it outputs β' .
- 4 Output 1 if $\beta = \beta'$ and 0 otherwise.

We say that the DBDH Problem is hard relative to \mathcal{G} if \forall PPT adversaries \mathcal{A} , \exists function $\text{negl}(\cdot)$ such that

$$|\Pr[\text{DBDH}_{\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{G}}(n) = 1] - \frac{1}{2}| \leq \text{negl}(n).$$



Relationships Between (Hard) Problems

From Weakest (Easiest) to Strongest (Hardest):

$$\text{DDH} \implies \text{CDH} \implies \text{DLog} \implies \text{CRHF} \implies \text{OWF}$$
$$\text{CDH} \implies \text{DBDH}$$



Relationships Between (Hard) Problems Continued

CDH \implies DLog:

- 1 Want to show that if computing x from g^x in G was easy, then so is computing g^{ab} from g^a and g^b in G .
- 2 Given (G, g, q, g^a, g^b) , run $\mathcal{A}_{\text{Dlog}}$ on g^a to get a . Compute $(g^b)^a = g^{ab}$.
- 3 This approach wins with the same probability that $\mathcal{A}_{\text{Dlog}}$ solves the Dlog instance (non-negl).

DDH \implies CDH:

- 1 Want to show that if computing g^{ab} from g^a and g^b in G was easy, then so is distinguishing DDH triples.
- 2 Given $(G, g, q, g^a, g^b, g^{ab+cr})$, run \mathcal{A}_{CDH} on g^a and g^b to get g^{ab} and check if it equals g^{ab+cr} .
- 3 This approach wins the DDH game with non-negl probability.



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Signatures: Syntax

- **Gen**(1^n): Outputs public key and secret key pair (pk, sk) .
- **Sign** $_{sk}(m)$: Outputs a signature σ on the message m .
- **Vrfy** $_{pk}(m, \sigma)$: Outputs 0/1.

Correctness: For all n , except for negligible choices of (pk, sk) , it holds that for all m , **Vrfy** $_{pk}(m, \mathbf{Sign}_{sk}(m)) = 1$.



Signatures: Unforgeability Security Game

The task of the adversary is essentially to *forge* a valid signature, which successfully verifies, without having the secret key.

Forge_{A,Π}(1ⁿ)

- 1 Sample $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \mathbf{Gen}(1^n)$.
- 2 Let (m^*, σ^*) be the output of **Sign**_{sk}(·) by adversary $A(pk)$. Let M be the list of queries A makes.
- 3 Output 1 if $\mathbf{Vrfy}_{pk}(m^*, \sigma^*) = 1 \wedge m^* \notin M$ and 0 otherwise.

$\Pi = (\mathbf{Gen}, \mathbf{Sign}, \mathbf{Vrfy})$ is existentially unforgeable under adaptive chosen message attack if \forall probabilistic polynomial time (PPT) adversary A , it holds that:

$$\Pr[\text{Forge}_{A,\Pi} = 1] \leq \text{negl}(n)$$



Let $(\text{Gen}, \text{Sign}, \text{Vrfy})$ be a **perfectly correct secure digital signature scheme**. Perfect correctness states that for any message m ,

$$\Pr_{r_{\text{Gen}}, r_{\text{Sign}} \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n, (vk, sk) := \text{Gen}(1^n; r_{\text{Gen}})} [\text{Vrfy}(vk, m, \text{Sign}(sk, m; r_{\text{Sign}})) = 1] = 1,$$

where r_{Gen} are the random coins used by Gen and r_{Sign} are the random coins used by Sign . **Define** $f(x)$ to output the verification key vk output by $\text{Gen}(1^n; x)$. **Show that** f is a one-way function.



Signatures: Practice Problem Solution

If there exists a probabilistic polynomial time (PPT) A that can invert f with non-negligible probability, then we can construct a PPT B that breaks the security of the signature scheme:

- 1 B gets pk from its challenger and forwards it to A .
- 2 A outputs x' such that $f(x') = pk$.
- 3 B computes $(pk, sk') := \text{Gen}(1^n; x')$.
- 4 B picks an arbitrary message m and computes $\sigma \leftarrow \text{Sign}_{sk'}(m)$.
- 5 Since (pk, sk') is generated from Gen , σ is a valid signature for m with respect to pk . Hence B breaks the security of the signature scheme with non-negligible probability.



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Commitment Scheme Syntax

- 1 $\text{Gen}(1^n) \rightarrow \text{params}$
- 2 $\text{Commit}(\text{params}, m; r) = \text{com}$
 - \mathcal{M} is the message space, and $m \in \mathcal{M}$.
 - Other notation: $\text{Commit}(\text{params}, m) \rightarrow \text{com}$
- 3 **Open:** Committer publishes m and proves that com is a commitment to m . The verifier decides whether to accept or reject the proof.

Canonical Opening Procedure:

- Committer publishes (m, r) .
- Verifier checks whether $\text{com} = \text{Commit}(\text{params}, m; r)$. If so, they accept; if not, they reject.



Hiding Definition

The definition of hiding resembles CPA security.

Hiding-Game(n, \mathcal{A}):

- 1 The challenger samples $\text{params} \leftarrow \mathbf{Gen}(1^n)$ and sends params to the adversary \mathcal{A} .
- 2 \mathcal{A} outputs two messages $m_0, m_1 \in \mathcal{M}$.
- 3 The challenger samples $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ and computes:

$$\text{com}^* \leftarrow \text{Commit}(\text{params}, m_b)$$

They send com^* to \mathcal{A} .

- 4 \mathcal{A} outputs a guess b' for b . The output of the game is 1 if $b' = b$ and 0 otherwise.



Hiding Definition

The commitment scheme is **computationally hiding** (a.k.a. **hiding**) if for any PPT adversary \mathcal{A} ,

$$\Pr[\text{Hiding-Game}(n, \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow 1] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$$

The commitment scheme is **statistically hiding** if for any adversary \mathcal{A} *running in unbounded time*,

$$\Pr[\text{Hiding-Game}(n, \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow 1] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{negl}(n)$$



Binding Definition

The definition of binding resembles collision-resistance.

Binding-Game(n, \mathcal{A}):

- 1 The challenger samples $\text{params} \leftarrow \mathbf{Gen}(1^n)$ and sends params to the adversary \mathcal{A} .
- 2 \mathcal{A} outputs two pairs (m_0, r_0) and (m_1, r_1) , where $m_0, m_1 \in \mathcal{M}$.
- 3 The output of the game is 1 if $m_0 \neq m_1$, and

$$\text{Commit}(\text{params}, m_0; r_0) = \text{Commit}(\text{params}, m_1; r_1)$$

Otherwise, the output of the game is 0.



Binding Definition

The commitment scheme satisfies **computational binding** (a.k.a. **binding**) if for any PPT adversary \mathcal{A} ,

$$\Pr[\text{Binding-Game}(n, \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow 1] \leq \text{negl}(n)$$

The commitment scheme satisfies **statistical binding** if for any adversary \mathcal{A} *running in unbounded time*,

$$\Pr[\text{Binding-Game}(n, \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow 1] \leq \text{negl}(n)$$



- By default, “hiding” refers to computational hiding, and “binding” refers to computational binding.
- No commitment scheme can be both statistically hiding and statistically binding.



Commitment Scheme Practice Problem¹

The following construction uses a PRG to construct a commitment scheme.

Let $G : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{3n}$ be a PRG. Let $m \in \{0, 1\} = \mathcal{M}$.

- 1 Gen(1^n) : Sample $s \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{3n}$ and output $\text{params} = s$.
- 2 Commit($\text{params}, m; r$) : Let $r \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n$. Compute

$$\text{com} = G(r) \oplus (m \cdot s)$$

Prove that this construction satisfies computational hiding and statistical binding.



¹Adapted from the fall 2019 final exam, question 2.2.

Commitment Scheme Practice Problem: Hiding

Theorem

The scheme is computationally hiding.

Proof:

- 1 Intuition: This follows from the PRG security of G .
- 2 Overview: Assume toward contradiction that there exists a PPT adversary \mathcal{A} that can break hiding. Then we will use \mathcal{A} to construct an adversary \mathcal{B} that breaks the PRG security of G . This is a contradiction because \mathcal{B} is a secure PRG. Therefore, there is not actually a PPT adversary \mathcal{A} that can break hiding, so the commitment scheme is computationally hiding.



Commitment Scheme Practice Problem: Hiding

Construction of \mathcal{B} :

- 1 *Pseudorandom Case*: The PRG challenger samples $r \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ and sends $g = G(r)$ to \mathcal{B} .
- 2 *Truly Random Case*: The PRG challenger samples $g \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{3n}$ and sends g to \mathcal{B} .
- 2 \mathcal{B} chooses $m_0 = 0$ and $m_1 = 1$ and then samples $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$.
- 3 \mathcal{B} computes

$$\text{com}^* = g \oplus (m_b \cdot s)$$

and sends com^* to \mathcal{A} .

- 4 \mathcal{A} outputs a guess b' for b . \mathcal{B} checks whether $b = b'$. If so, \mathcal{B} outputs 0. If not, \mathcal{B} outputs 1.



Commitment Scheme Practice Problem: Hiding

- 1 *Pseudorandom Case*: If $g = G(r)$ for some random $r \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n$, then \mathcal{B} simulates the hiding security game for the commitment scheme. In this case,

$$\Pr[b = b'] = \Pr[\text{Hiding-Game}(n, \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow 1] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \text{non-negl}(n)$$

- 2 *Truly Random Case*: If $g \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{3n}$, then com^* is independent of b . com^* is basically a one-time pad ciphertext. In this case:

$$\Pr[b = b'] = \frac{1}{2}$$



Commitment Scheme Practice Problem: Hiding

In summary, \mathcal{B} breaks the PRG security of G because:

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr[\mathcal{B} \rightarrow 0 | \text{Pseudorandom Case}] - \Pr[\mathcal{B} \rightarrow 0 | \text{Truly Random Case}] \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} + \text{non-negl}(n) - \frac{1}{2} \\ &\geq \text{non-negl}(n)\end{aligned}$$

Q.E.D.



Theorem

The scheme is statistically binding.

Proof:

- 1 If the adversary can break binding, then they can find two openings $(0, r_0)$ and $(1, r_1)$ such that

$$G(r_0) = G(r_1) \oplus s$$

- 2 This is only possible if there exist values $(r_0, r_1) \in \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^n$ such that $G(r_0) \oplus G(r_1) = s$.



Commitment Scheme Practice Problem: Binding

- 1 Let T be the set of all the values that $G(r_0) \oplus G(r_1)$ can take:

$$T = \{t \in \{0, 1\}^{3n} : \exists (r_0, r_1) \in \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^n \text{ s.t. } t = G(r_0) \oplus G(r_1)\}$$

- 2 $|T| \leq 2^{2n}$ because there are at most 2^{2n} values of (r_0, r_1) .
- 3 Finally, s is sampled uniformly at random from $\{0, 1\}^{3n}$. Therefore,

$$\Pr[s \in T] = \frac{|T|}{2^{3n}} \leq \frac{2^{2n}}{2^{3n}} = 2^{-n} = \text{negl}(n)$$

- 4 If $s \notin T$, then no adversary, even a computationally unbounded one, can break binding.



Commitment Scheme Practice Problem: Binding

Over the randomness of s , the probability that a computationally unbounded adversary can break binding is $\leq 2^{-n} = \text{negl}(n)$. Therefore, the commitment scheme satisfies statistical binding.

Q.E.D.



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Secret Sharing: Concept

- A (t, n) threshold secret sharing scheme allows one to split a secret s into n pieces so that one will need at least t shares to reconstruct s .
- A dealer takes s as input and uses a sharing algorithm to split the secret s into parts s_1, \dots, s_n to be given to parties P_1, \dots, P_n .
- **Correctness:** Any t parties can reconstruct s .
- **Security:** No collusion of $< t$ parties can reconstruct s .



Secret-Sharing: Definition

A (t, n) -secret sharing scheme (**Share**, **Reconstruct**) is defined as follows.

- **Share**(s): On input a secret s it outputs shares s_1, \dots, s_n .
- **Reconstruct**($\{s_i\}_{i \in T}$): Outputs s or \perp .
- **Correctness**: For any T such that $|T| \geq t$ and secret s we have that **Reconstruct**($\{s_i\}_{i \in T}$) = s .
- **Security**: For any T such that $|T| < t$, secrets s, s' and adversary A we have that $p = p'$ where

$$p = \Pr[A(\{s_i\}_{i \in T}) = 1 \mid (s_1, \dots, s_n) \leftarrow \mathbf{Share}(s)],$$

$$p' = \Pr[A(\{s'_i\}_{i \in T}) = 1 \mid (s'_1, \dots, s'_n) \leftarrow \mathbf{Share}(s')].$$



Secret-Sharing: Practice Problem

How can you secret-share among n parties and reconstruct using only a threshold t of n ?



Secret-Sharing: Solution, Shamir's

Main Idea: Remember polynomial interpolation from CS 70? This is literally that. To share $s \in \mathbb{Z}_q$: choose a random degree $t - 1$ polynomial $p(x)$ such that $p(0) = s$. Give out the shares $(p(1), \dots, p(n))$.

- Given t shares, we can reconstruct $p(x)$, and can then recover $p(0)$.

Sharing:

- Given a secret $s \in \mathbb{Z}_q$, choose $p(x) = s + a_1x + \dots + a_{t-1}x^{t-1}$, where a_i 's are chosen randomly in \mathbb{Z}_q . Give out the shares $(p(1), \dots, p(n))$.

Reconstruct:

- Given t values $(i_1, p(i_1)), \dots, (i_t, p(i_t))$, reconstruct p and output $p(0)$.



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Proof systems: Syntax

A proof system is an interactive protocol between a Prover and Verifier. Prover wants to convince Verifier of the truth of some statement.

- Prover has access to the instance x and witness w such that $C(x, w) = 1$.
- Verifier only has the instance x and outputs 0/1 at the end of the interaction depending on if it is convinced by the prover.

Three main properties:

- **Completeness:** If Prover is honest, Verifier always (or with overwhelming probability) outputs 1.
- **Soundness:** If Prover is cheating (i.e., the statement is actually false and no witness exists), Verifier must output 1 only with negligible probability.
- **Zero-Knowledge:** If Prover is honest (follows the protocol), no (cheating) Verifier can gain any information about the witness from the interaction.



Soundness: Cheating prover vs Honest verifier

- *Building sound protocols:* Most protocols usually have a randomized step where the verifier sends a random element. Honest provers will always be able to answer for any random element, but a cheating prover will only be able to answer for a very small (read negligible) set of random values – has to hope that the verifier chooses one of those values at random.
- *General proof structure (to prove soundness):* Suppose the statement is false and the verifier accepts the proof (outputs 1) with non-negligible probability. Then, break some assumption / show that the statement is true – which is a contradiction – hence the verifier cannot accept the proof with non-negligible probability. QED.



Zero-Knowledge: Honest prover vs Cheating verifier

- *Definition:* $\exists Sim$ such that for all V^* and honest prover $P(x, w)$, the view of the verifier in the interaction with $P(x, w)$ and the output of $Sim^{V^*}(x)$ are indistinguishable to any PPT distinguisher.
 - What the verifier sees in a honest interaction can be simulated without knowing the witness, hence contains “zero knowledge” about the witness.
- *Building ZK protocols:* What the verifier sees should not contain any information about the witness – all messages should be blinded with some randomness.
- *General proof structure:* Construct a simulator that generates a transcript of the interaction without the witness. Can run V^* multiple times, can sample things out of order. Then, show that the distributions are either identical or computationally indistinguishable.



Proof systems: Practice problem

Q: Come up with a ZKP for Quadratic Residuosity: Consider a modulus m and a w such that $x = w^2 \pmod{m}$. The instance is (x, m) and the witness is the square root of $x \pmod{m}$.

Hint: This is also a three round protocol similar to other protocols you have seen. We only want soundness $1/2$ – we can use soundness amplification to make it negligible.



Construction:

- 1 The prover samples a random $r \in \mathbb{Z}$ and sends $a = r^2 \pmod m$ to the verifier.
- 2 The verifier samples a random bit $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$ and sends it.
- 3 The prover sends $z = w^b \cdot r \pmod m$ to the verifier.
- 4 Verifier accepts if $z^2 = x^b a \pmod m$.



Proof systems: Practice problem - Properties

Correctness:

$$z^2 = w^{2b} r^2 = x^b a \pmod{m}$$

Soundness: Suppose there does not exist a square root of x . For the prover to succeed with probability $> 1/2$, the prover should be able to pass the check for both $b = 0$ and $b = 1$ for some choice of first message a . If both checks pass, notice that

$$\begin{aligned} z_1^2 &= a \pmod{m} \\ z_2^2 &= xa \pmod{m} \\ \implies \left(\frac{z_2}{z_1}\right)^2 &= x \pmod{m} \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction.



Proof systems: Practice problem - Properties

Zero-Knowledge: Idea = Prover can always answer correctly if they know what bit the verifier would pick before they send the first message.

The simulator works like that of Graph Isomorphism (Disc 11).

- 1 *Sim* samples a random bit b' , samples a random $z \pmod m$ and computes $a = \frac{z^2}{x^{b'}}$ as the first message.
- 2 *Sim* runs V^* with a as the first message. If the second message from V^* is the same as b' , send z in the third step. Else go to step 1 and start over.

In expectation, *Sim* will need two tries to succeed as V^* 's view is independent of b' after the first message.

