
Lecture 8: Privacy-Enhancing Technologies-2

-Zero Knowledge Proof

COMP 6712 Advanced Security and Privacy

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Topic 2: Zero-knowledge proof

- Identification protocol and signature
- Sigma protocol
- Zero-knowledge proof
 - Zero knowledge proof for all NP
 - Non-interactive ZKP
 - zkSNARK and applications

Our aim

- We would like to know what is zero-knowledge proof
- We start from a special case, sigma protocol
- How can we construct zero-knowledge proof?
- What can we do with zero-knowledge proof?
- Recent development of zero-knowledge proof.

Typical proof

- In mathematics and in life, we often want to convince or prove things to others.
- Typically, if I know that X is true, and I want to convince you of that, I try to present all the facts I know and the inferences from that fact that imply that X is true.
- Ex: I know that 26781 is not a prime since it is 113×237 ,
to prove to you that fact, I will present these factor and demonstrate that indeed $113 \times 237 = 26781$.

Why Zero-knowledge proof

- Byproduct of a proof is that you gained some knowledge,
- other than that you are now convinced that the statement is true.

- Ex: In the example before, not only are you convinced that 26781 is not a prime, but you also learned its factorization.

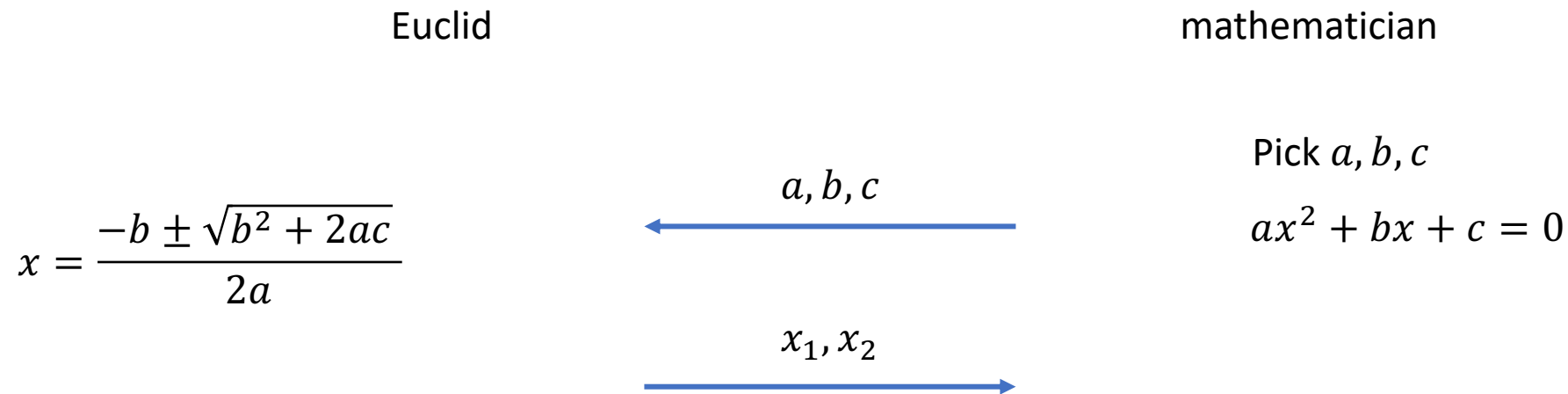
- A **zero knowledge proof** (Goldwasser, Micali, Rackoff 1982) tries to avoid it.
- Alice will prove to Bob that a statement X is true,
- Bob will completely convinced that X is true, but will not learn anything as a result of this process. That is, Bob **will gain zero knowledge**.

Mathematic problem

- Root of Quadratic equation
- $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$
- Solutions of this problem dates back to 2000 BC, Babylonian mathematicians give a preliminary solution.
- There are independent findings given by Babylonia, Egypt, Greece, China, and India.
- Now, we know $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 + 2ac}}{2a}$

We assume

- Euclid would like to show to another mathematician he can find roots of all Quadratic equations,



- **BUT do not want to give any concrete solutions.** (which adds “knowledge” to the mathematician)
- This is what zero-knowledge proof can solve

Applications: Electronic Voting (e-voting)

Candidates:

Alice,

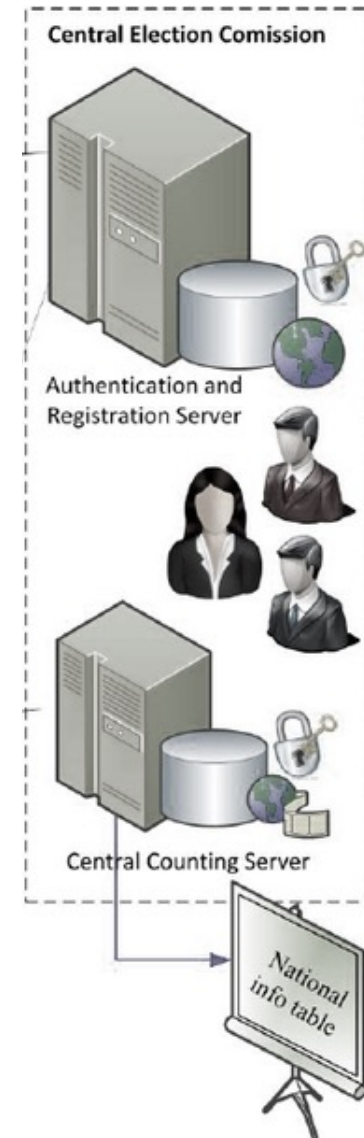
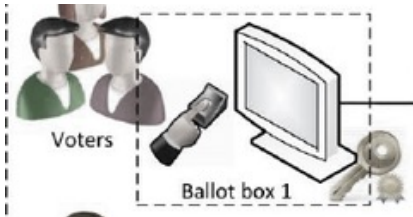
Bob,

Tom,

Tony,

...

Alice, 0 or 1

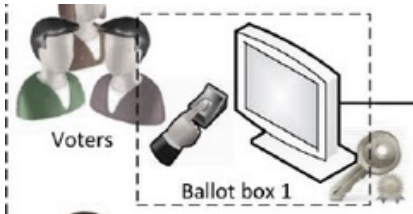


Electronic Voting (e-voting)

Candidates:

Alice,
Bob,
Tom,
Tony,

...



ElGamal Enc for privacy

$$G = \langle g \rangle$$

$$pk := h = g^s, sk := s$$

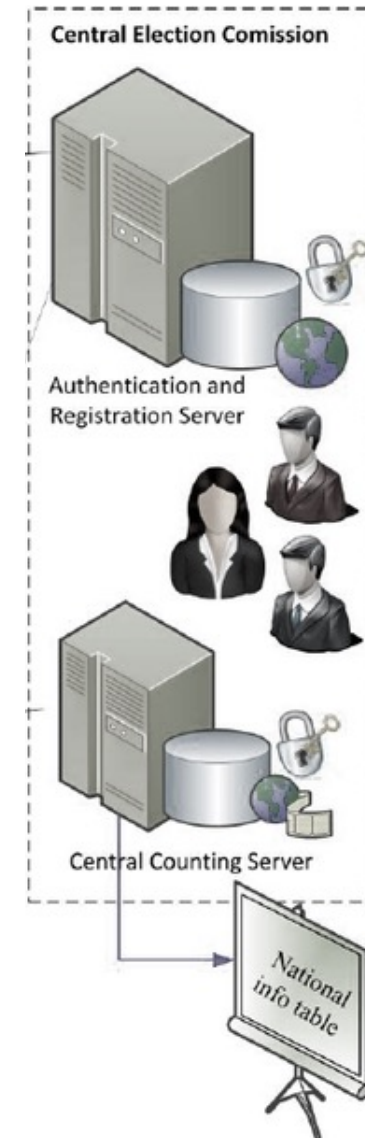
For Alice $g^{\beta_1}, h^{\beta_1} \cdot g^{b_1}$, where $b_1 = 0$ or 1

For Bob $g^{\beta_2}, h^{\beta_2} \cdot g^{b_2}$, where $b_2 = 0$ or 1

For Tony $g^{\beta_n}, h^{\beta_n} \cdot g^{b_n}$, where $b_n = 0$ or 1

$\Pi g^{\beta_i}, \Pi (h^{\beta_i} \cdot g^{b_i})$ which is $g^{\sum \beta_i}, (h^{\sum \beta_i} \cdot g^{\sum b_i})$

an enc of $\sum b_i$



Electronic Voting (e-voting)

Candidates:

Alice,
Bob,
Tom,
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...

ElGamal Enc for privacy

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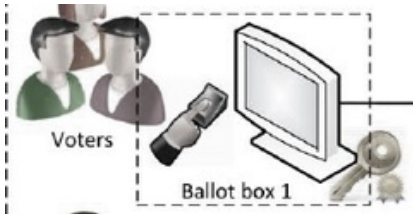
$$pk := h = g^s, sk := s$$

For Alice $g^{b_1}, h^{b_1} \cdot g^{b_1}$

Cheating Voter $b_1 = 1000$

Thus, the voter needs to prove this is a ElGamal enc of 0 or 1
While no knowledge of b_1 is leaked

This is what Zero-knowledge proof can solve

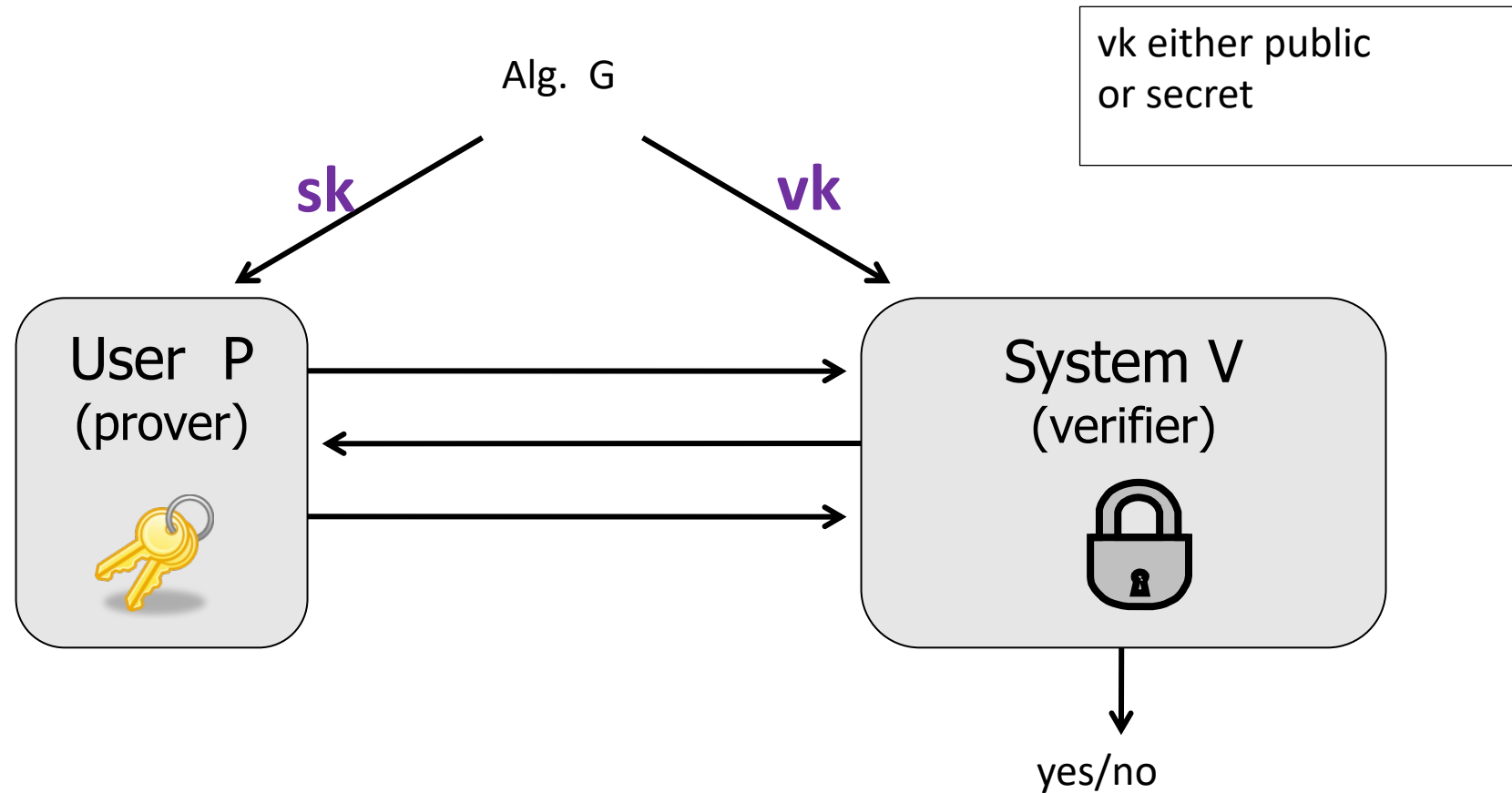


Identification protocol

Identification protocol and signature

- ID for dl
- DDH
- Schnorr signatures

Identification/Authentication paradigm

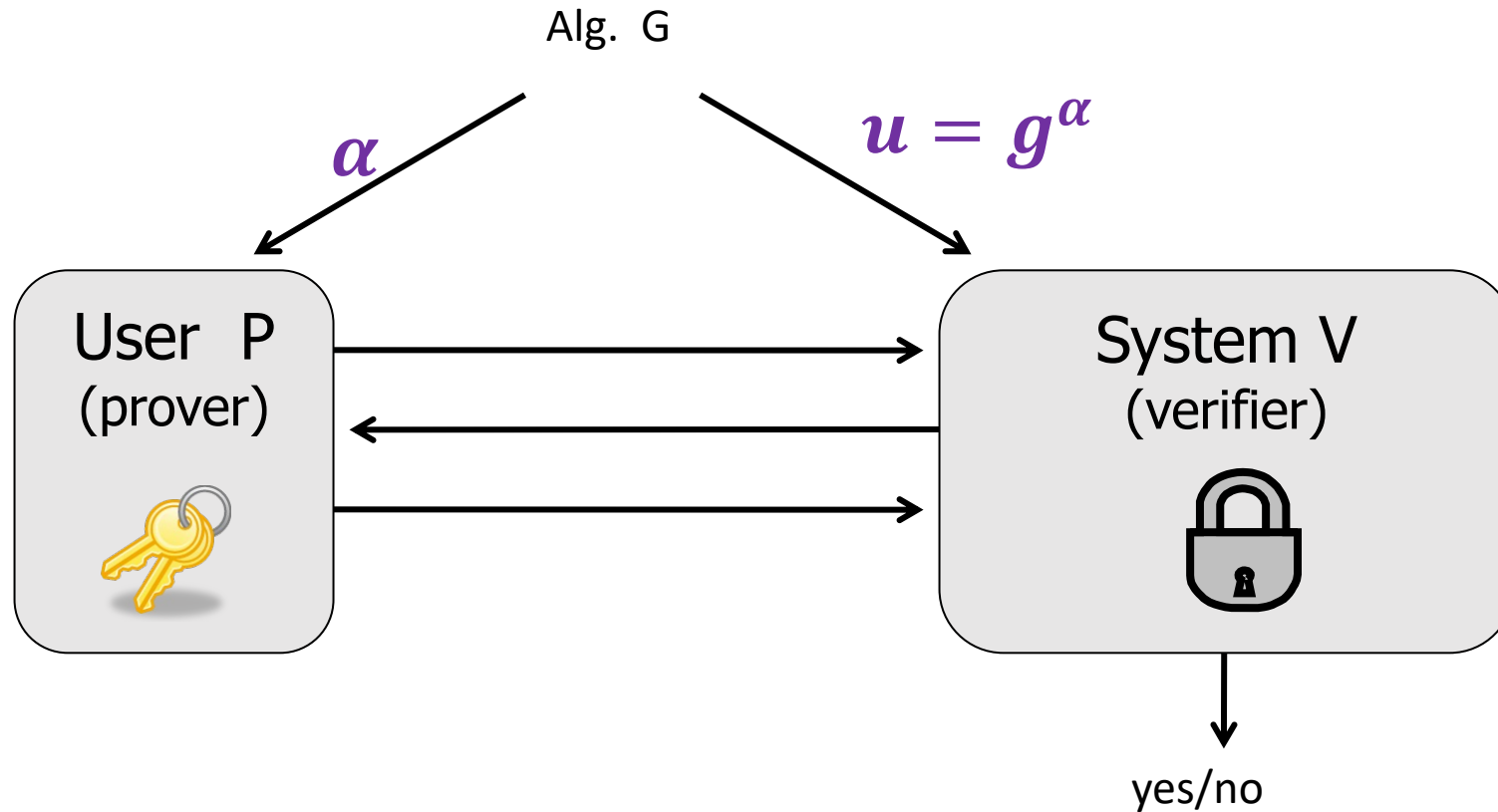


Password Auth. **sk = vk = pw**

Public key Auth. **sk, vk** is public key

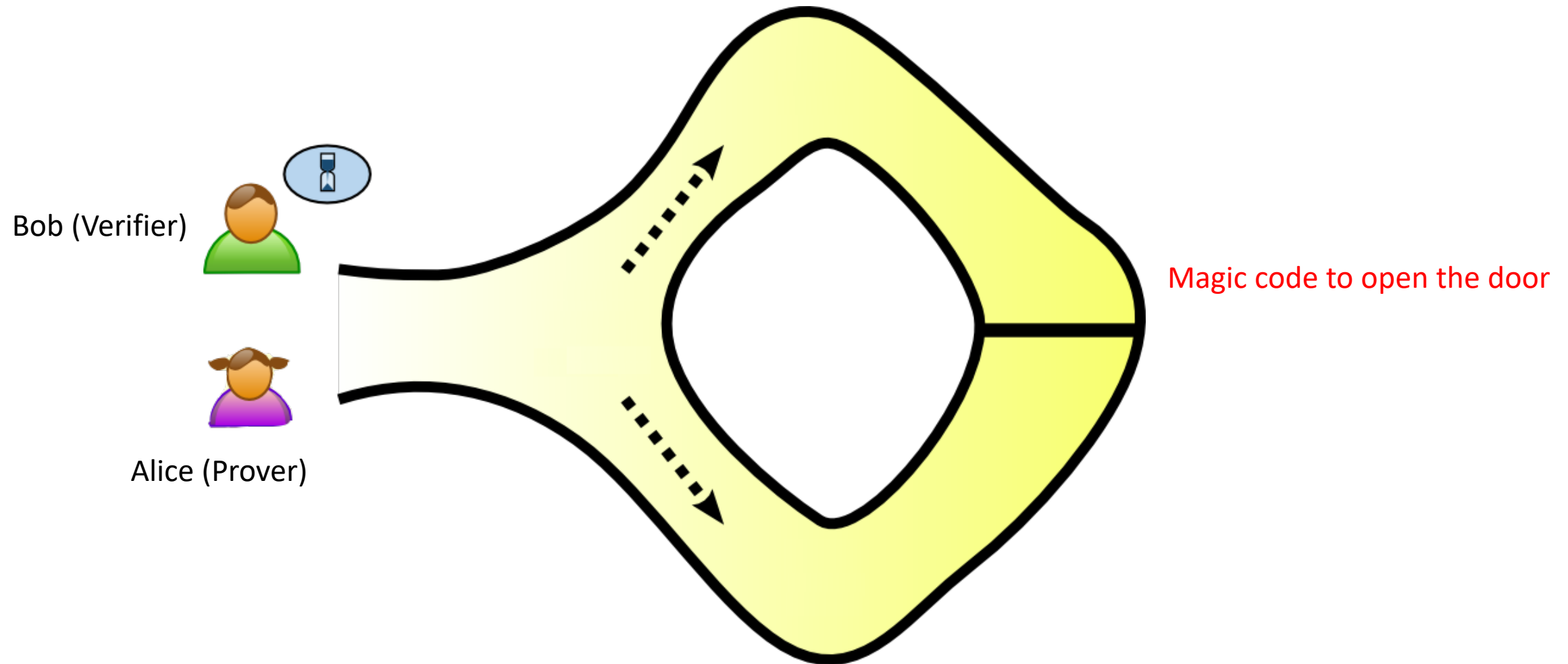
Identification/Authentication paradigm

$$G = \langle g \rangle, |G| = q$$

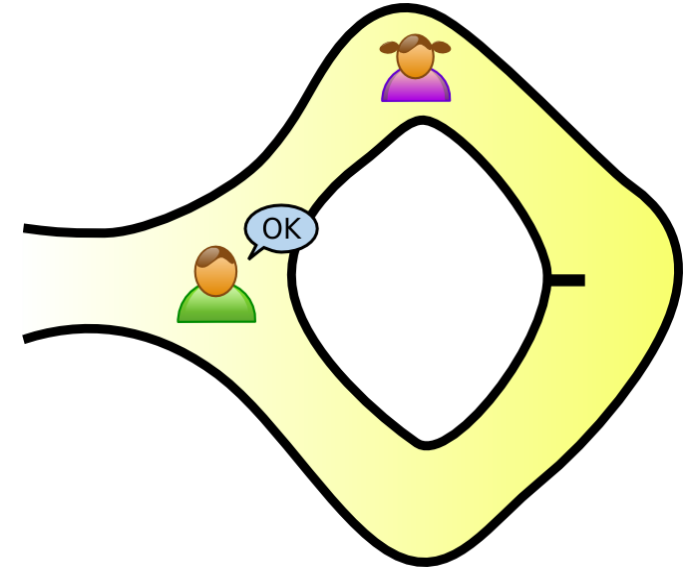
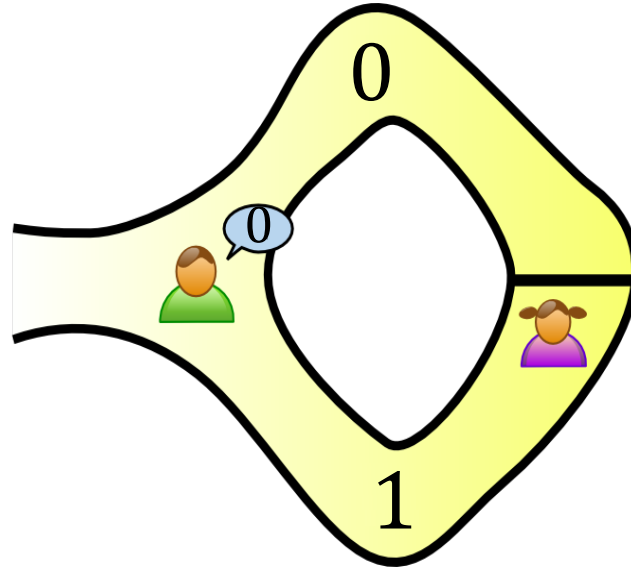
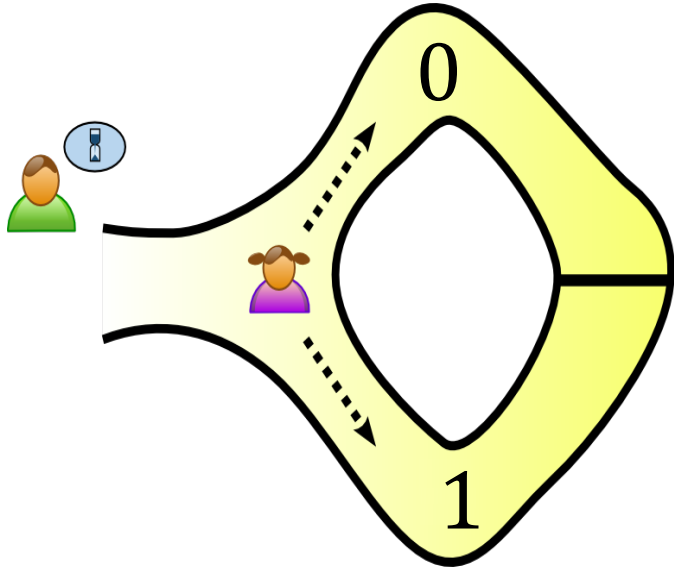


P proves the fact that "it knows α such that $u = g^\alpha$ "
and nothing else is leaked.
How????????

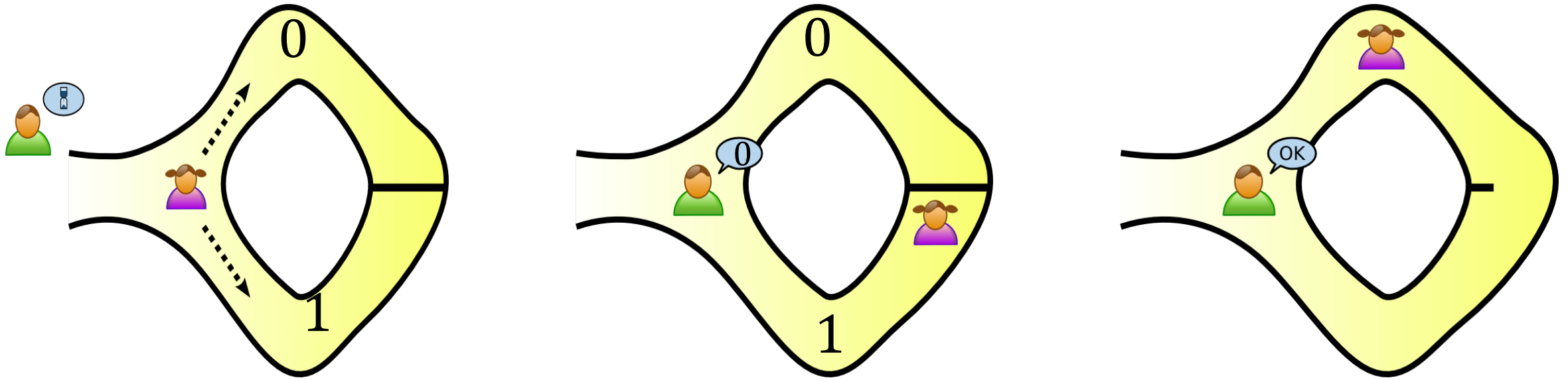
A toy example: Ali Baba Cave





Alibaba Cave

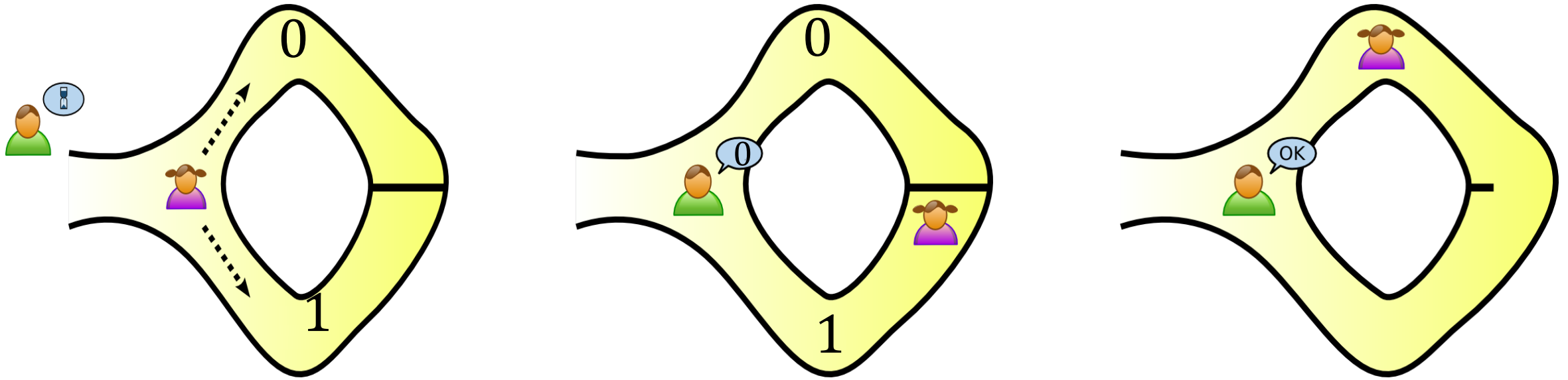




Alibaba Cave



- if  doesn't know the key, the proof was accepted with 1/2.
-  learns nothing about the magic code

Repeat the game n times



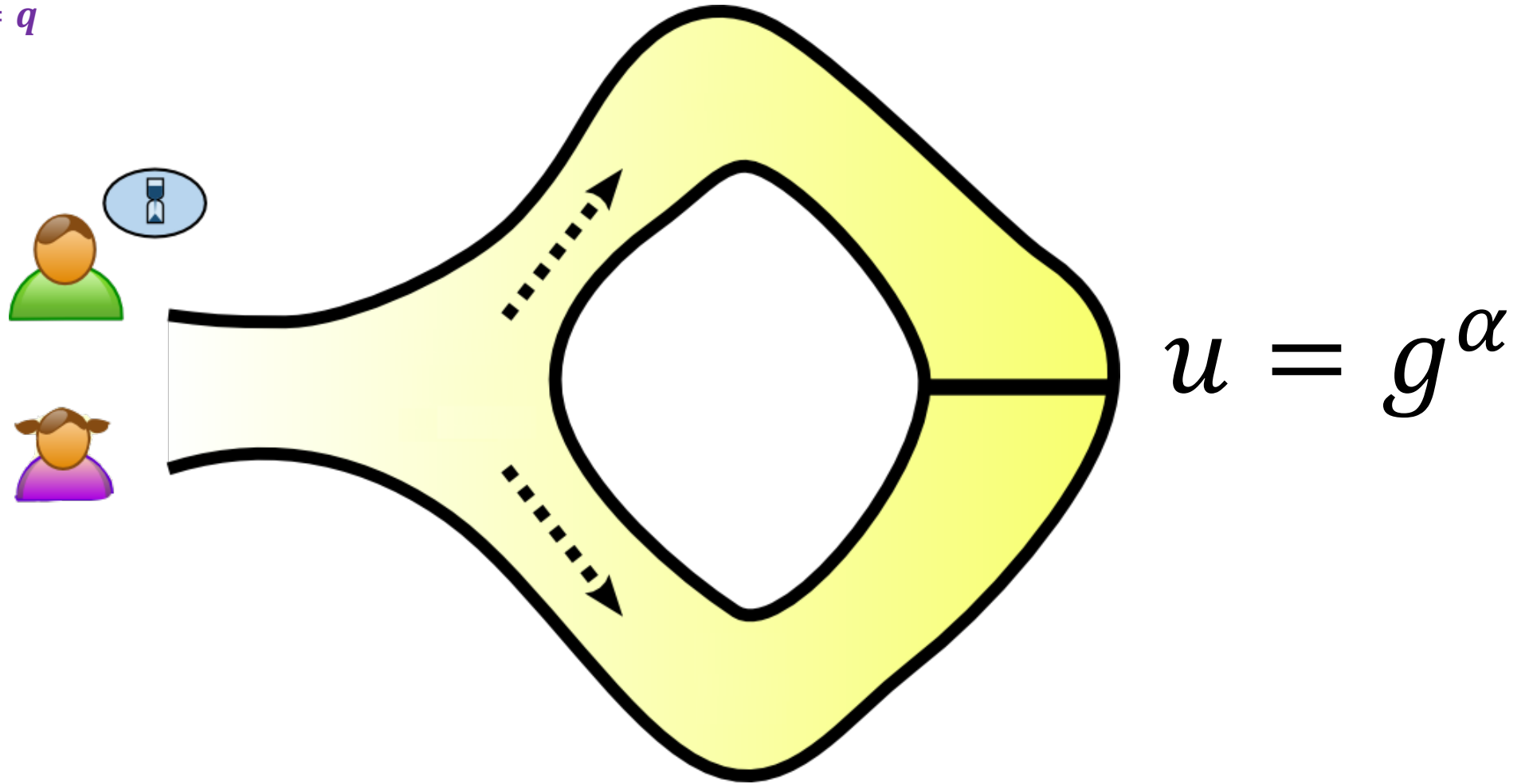
- if  doesn't know the key, the proof was accepted with $\frac{1}{2^n}$.
-  learns nothing about the magic code

Identification for Discrete logarithm

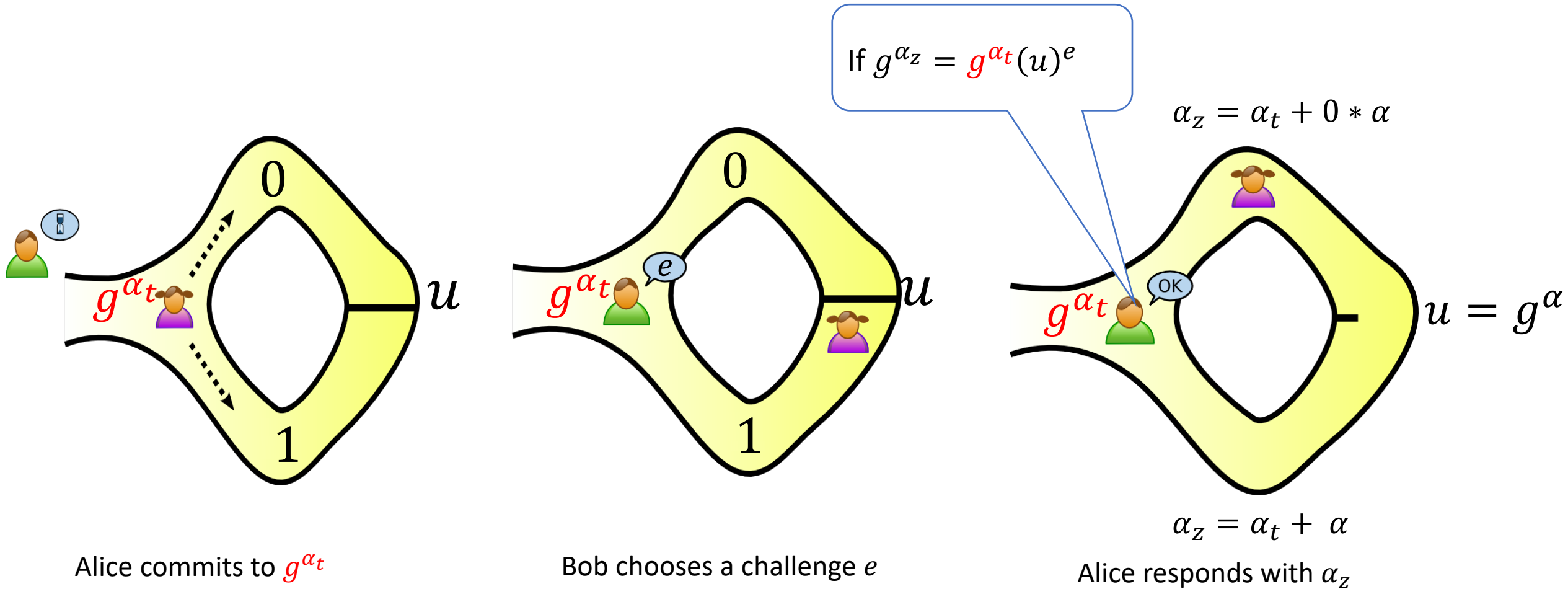
$$G = \langle g \rangle, |G| = q$$

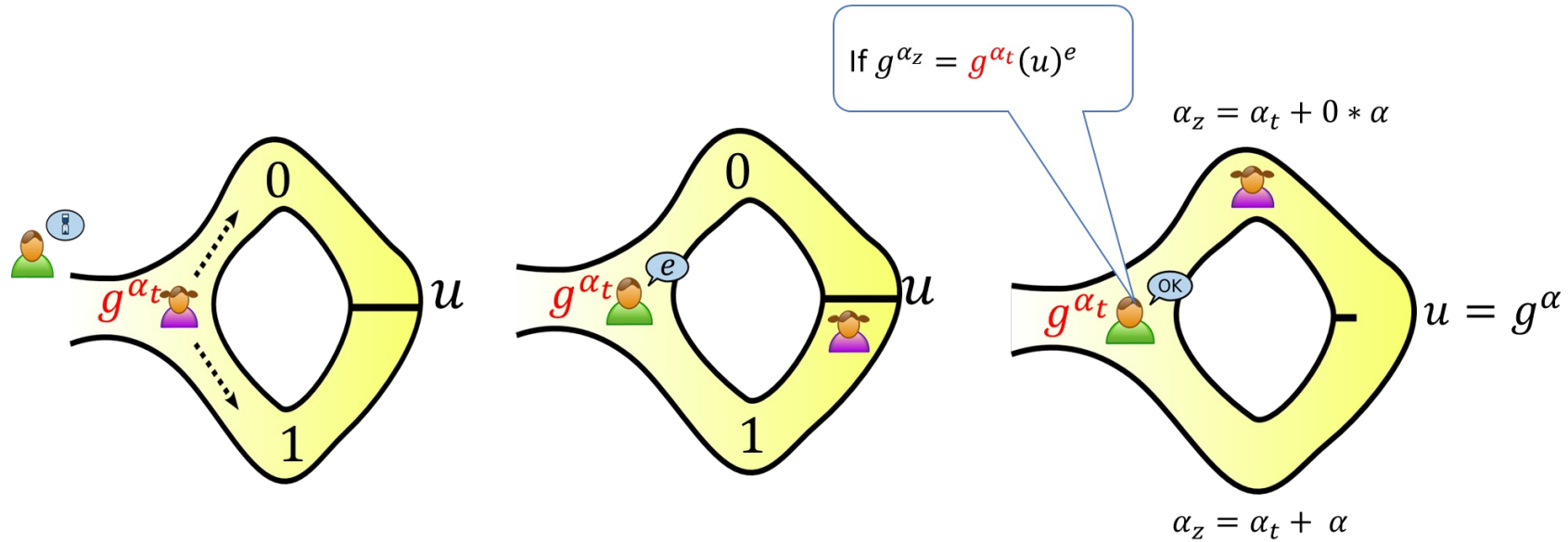
$$g^a g^b = g^{a+b}$$

$$(g^a)^b = g^{ab}$$

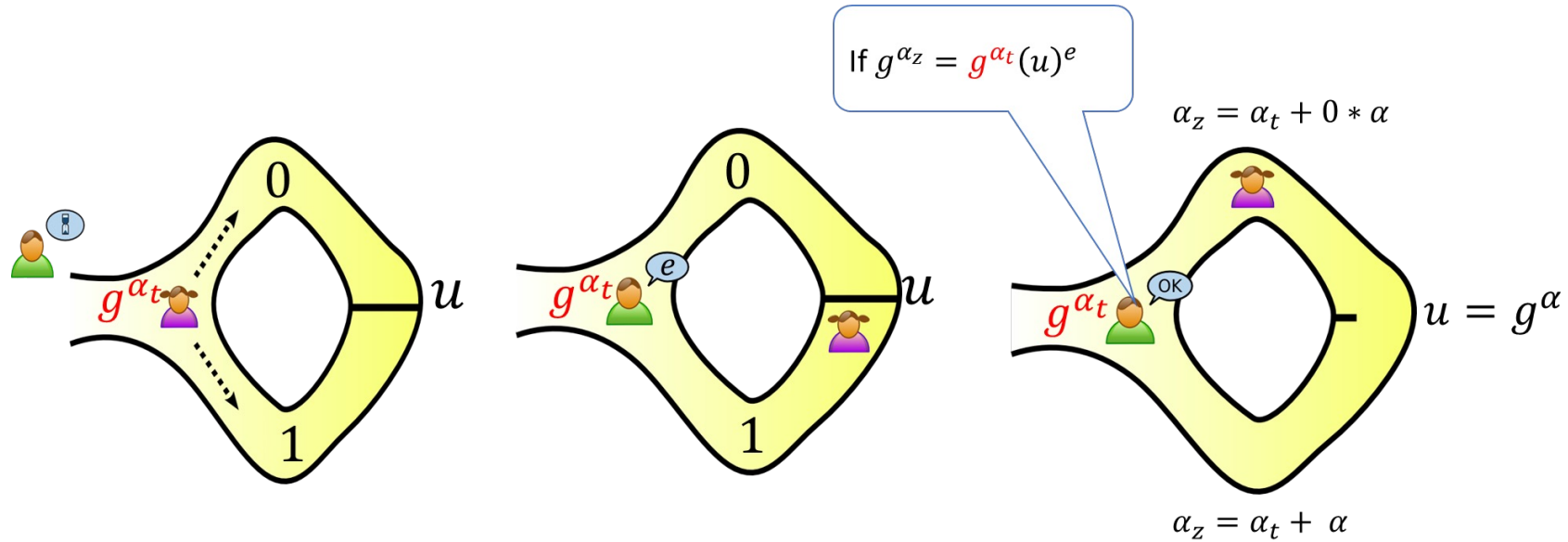


Schnorr Identification



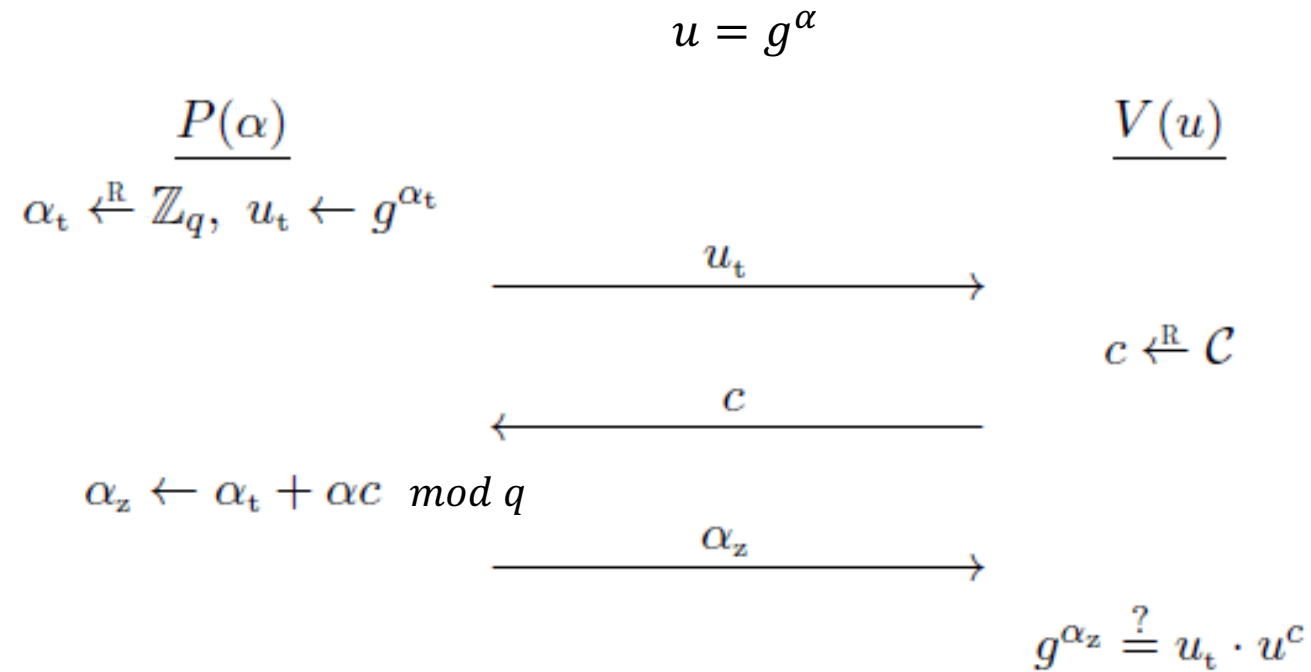


- if 🧑 doesn't know the key, the proof was accepted with 1/2.
- 🧑 learns nothing about the magic code (α is covered by α_t)



- ▶ if 🧑 doesn't know the key, the proof was accepted with $1/2$.
- ▶ Repeat the game n times, if ... doesn't know the key, accepted with $1/2^n$.
- ▶ How about choose $e \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$, (q entrances rather than 2)?

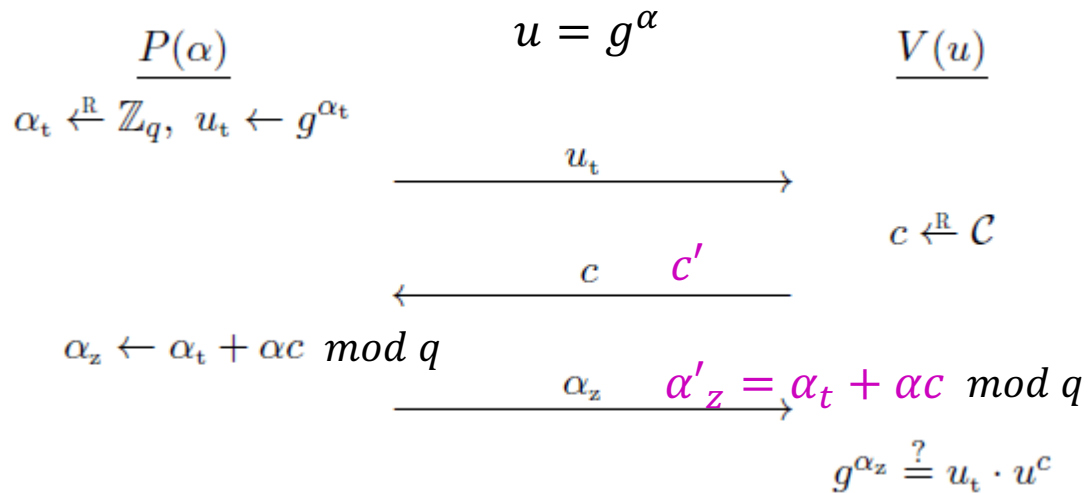
Schnorr Identification



- Challenge space $\mathcal{C} = \mathbb{Z}_q$
- Conversation: (u_t, c, α_z) is said to be valid if the verification passes

Direct Attacker

- An attacker without knowing α would like to pass the verification.



If the attacker can return valid respond α_z for a random c with probability ϵ

it can return valid respond α'_z for a random c' with probability $\epsilon - 1/q$ [Theorem 19.1, DS]

With c, c' and

$$\begin{cases} \alpha_z = \alpha_t + \alpha c \pmod q \\ \alpha'_z = \alpha_t + \alpha c' \pmod q \end{cases}$$

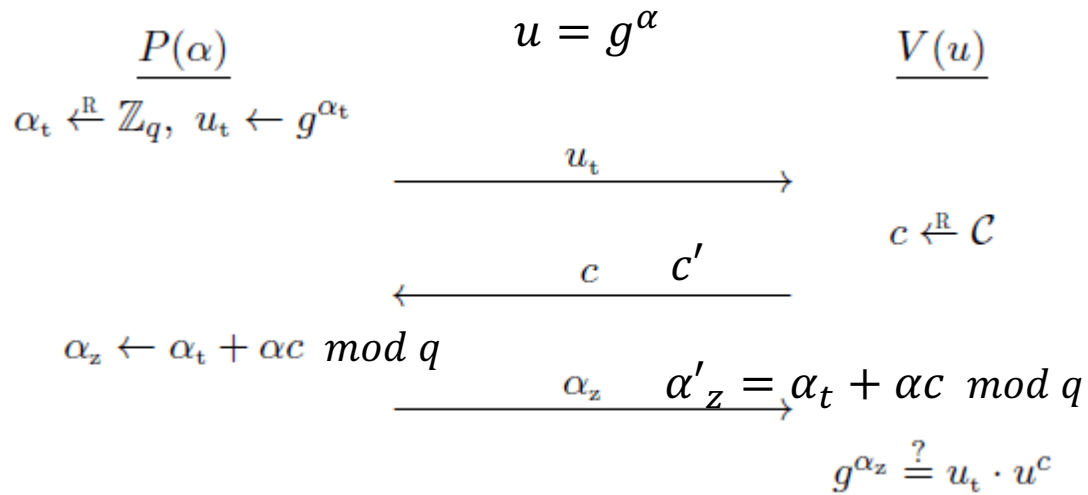
we can find (or extract) α with probability $\epsilon(\epsilon - 1/q)$ (which is the discrete logarithm problem)

What we have shown: “proof of knowledge”

- If **someone** passes the verification of Schnorr Identification,
- We must have **the someone** knows the discrete logarithm of $u = g^\alpha$

Eavesdropper Attacker

Actually, the attacker may see several valid conversations $(u_t^i, c^i, \alpha_z^i)_{i=1,2,3\dots}$ does “proof of knowledge” hold?



If the attacker can return valid respond α_z for a random c with probability ϵ

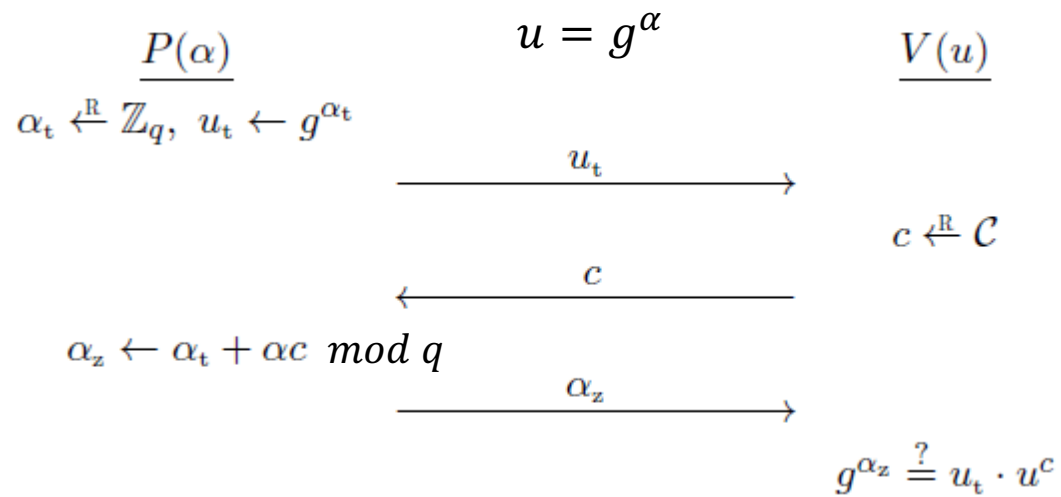
it can return valid respond α'_z for a random c' with probability $\epsilon - 1/q$ [Theorem 19.1, DS]

We can generate what Eav attacker learns $(u_t^i, c^i, \alpha_z^i)_{i=1,2,3\dots}$
 Sample $\alpha_z^i \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q, c^i \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$ compute $u_t^i = g^{\alpha_z^i} / u^{c^i}$

With c, c' and $\begin{cases} \alpha_z = \alpha_t + \alpha c \text{ mod } q \\ \alpha'_z = \alpha_t + \alpha c' \text{ mod } q \end{cases}$

we can extract α with probability $\epsilon(\epsilon - 1/q)$ (which is the discrete logarithm problem)

What we have shown: honest verifier zero-knowledge

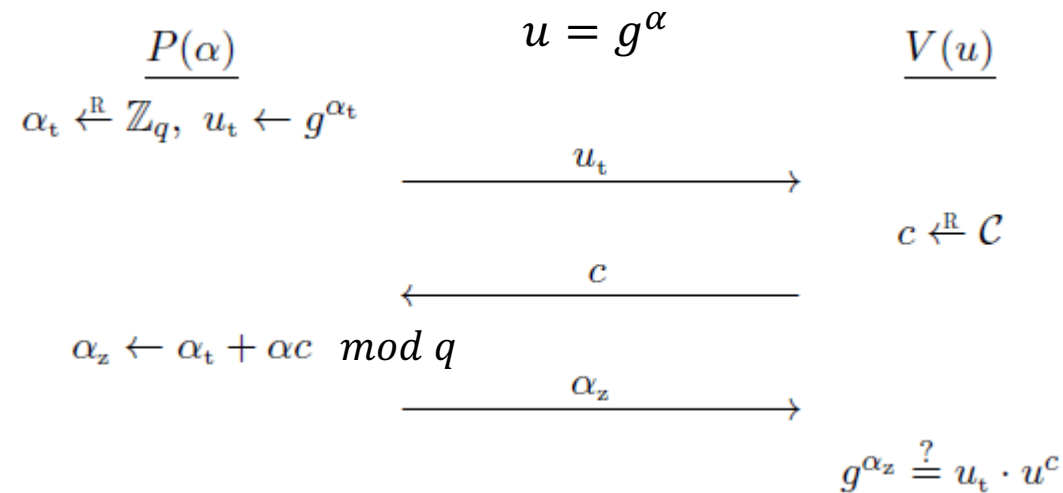


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 Sample $\alpha_z^i \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q, c^i \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$ compute $u_t^i = g^{\alpha_z^i} / u^{c^i}$

Honest verifier zero-knowledge says that:

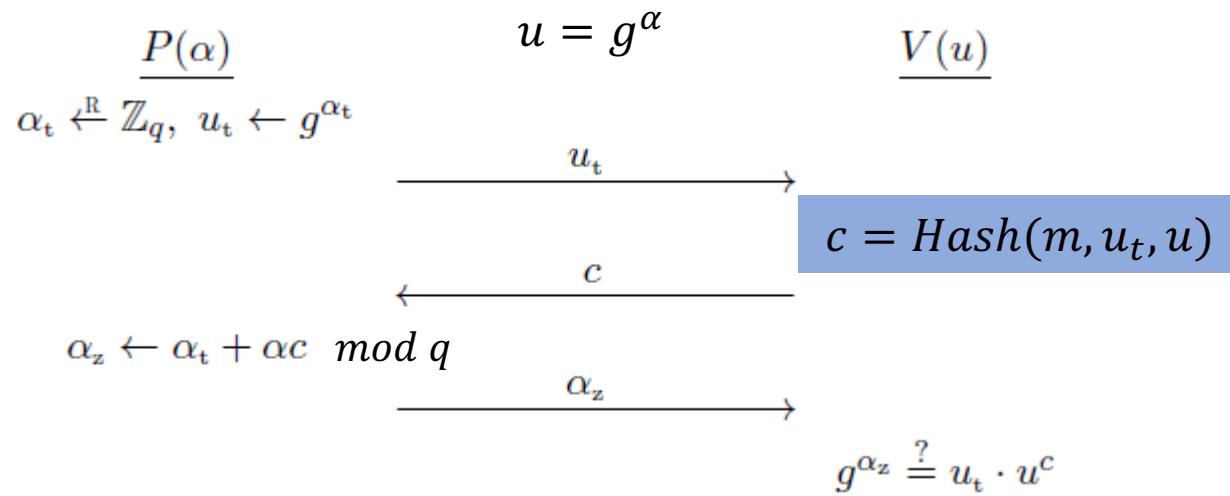
without knowing the witness (discrete logarithm), we can generate (simulate) the valid transaction efficiently

Schnorr Identification



- **Correctness(Completeness):** If P and V execute the protocol honestly, the proof is accepted.
- **Soundness (proof-of-knowledge):** If the proof is accepted, we can extract the witness (discrete log) α
- **Honest verifier zero-knowledge** says that: **without knowing** the witness (discrete logarithm), we can generate (simulate) the valid transaction efficiently

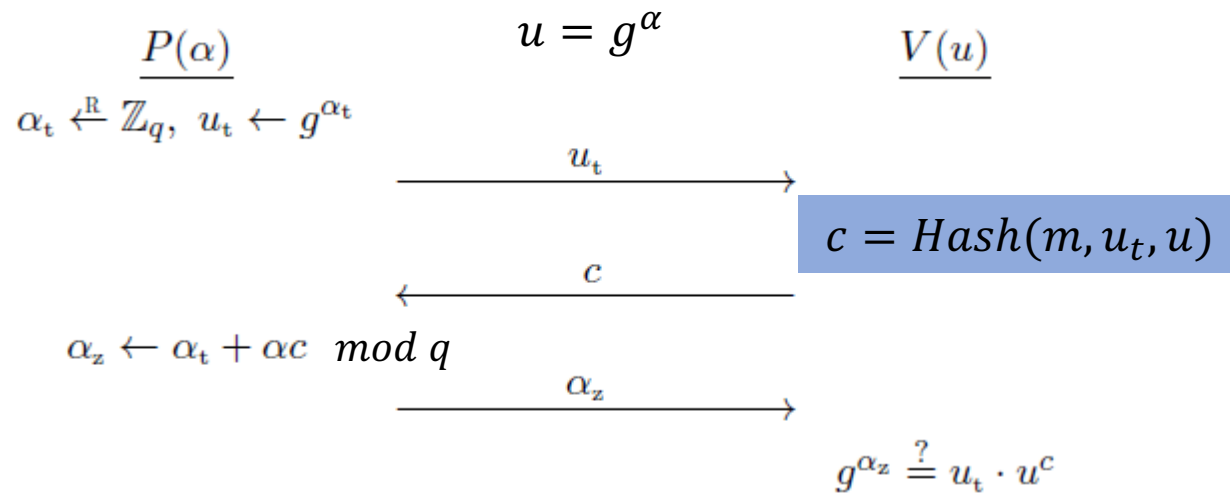
Identification protocol --- > Signature



- The key generation
 - $\alpha \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q, u = g^\alpha$
 - $sk = \alpha, vk = u$
- To sign m
 - $\alpha_t \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q, u_t = g^{\alpha_t}$
 - $c = \text{Hash}(m, u_t, u)$
 - $\alpha_z = \alpha_t + \alpha c \pmod q$
 - Return $\sigma = (u_t, c, \alpha_t)$
- Verification
 - $g^{\alpha_z} \stackrel{?}{=} u_t \cdot u^c$

Schnorr Signature is UF-CMA secure, under the discrete logarithm assumption

Identification protocol --- > Signature



- The key generation
 - $\alpha \leftarrow Z_q, u = g^\alpha$
 - $sk = \alpha, vk = u$
- To sign m
 - $\alpha_t \leftarrow Z_q, u_t = g^{\alpha_t}$
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 - $\alpha_z = \alpha_t + \alpha c \pmod q$
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Soundness (discrete log) \longrightarrow Unforgeability

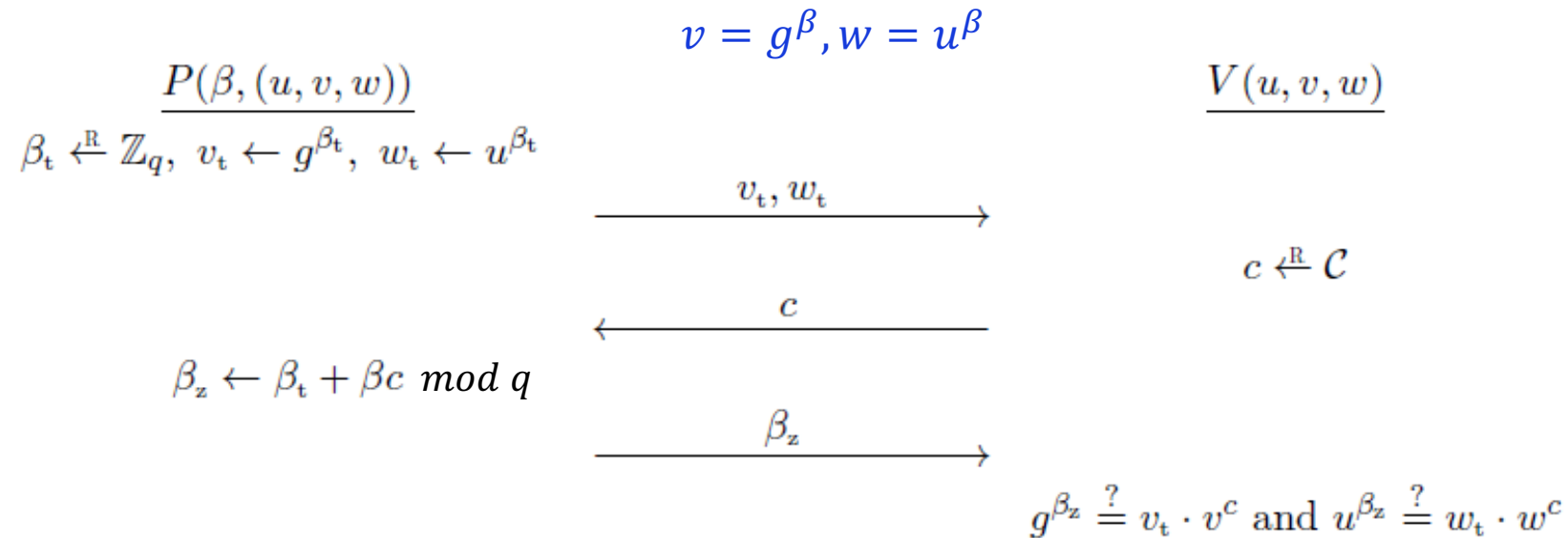
Hash is random oracle

Honest verifier zero-knowledge \longrightarrow Chosen Message Attack

History of Schnorr signature

- Schnorr invented Schnorr signature in 1989
- It was covered by U.S. Patent which expired in February 2008.
- In 1991, the National Institute of Standards (NIST) considered a number of viable candidates. Because the Schnorr system was protected by a patent, NIST opted for a more ad-hoc signature scheme: (EC)DSA
- Security: Schnorr > ECDSA
- Deployment: Schnorr < ECDSA

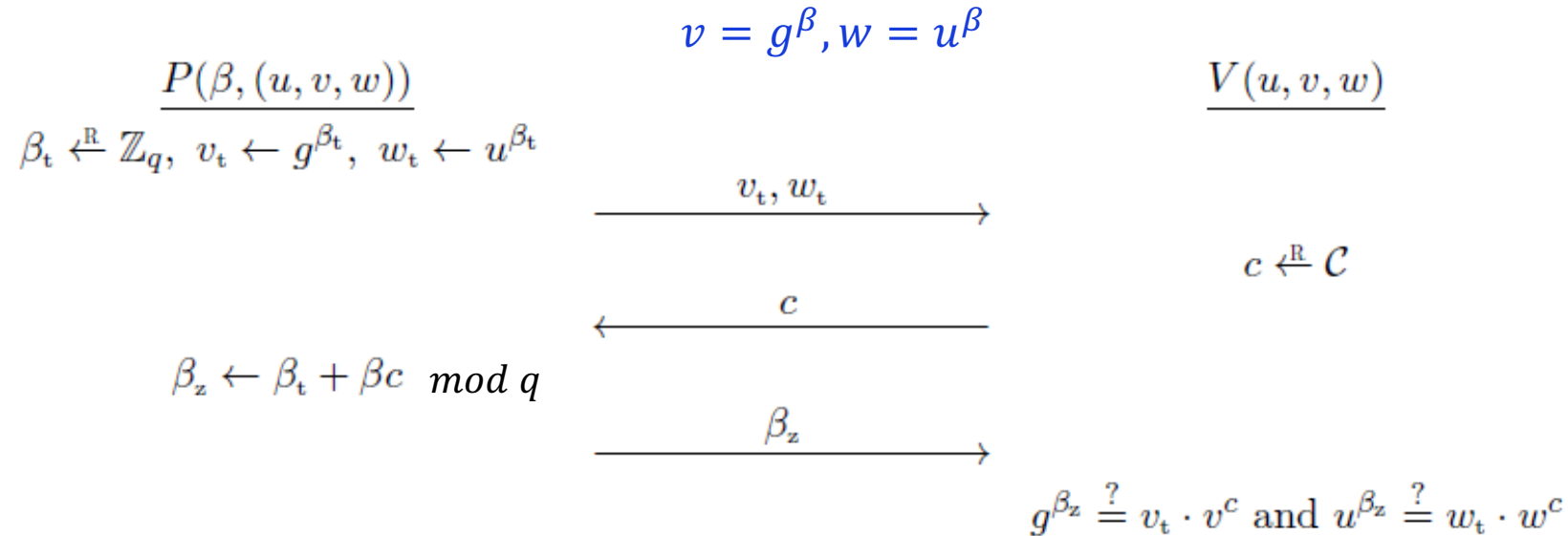
Identification for Decisional Diffie-Hellman ID_{DDH}



Given $(g, u, v = g^\beta, w = u^\beta)$ with witness β , P wants to prove that it knows β

Identification for Decisional Diffie-Hellman (DDH)

Given $(g, u, v = g^\beta, w = u^\beta)$ with witness β , P wants to prove that it knows β



- **Correctness(Completeness):** If P and V execute the protocol honestly, the proof is accepted.
- **Soundness (proof-of-knowledge):** If the proof is accepted, we can extract the witness (discrete log) α
- **Honest verifier zero-knowledge** says that: **without knowing** the witness (discrete logarithm), we can generate (simulate) the valid transaction efficiently

$$\beta_z \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q, c \leftarrow \mathbb{Z}_q, v_t = \frac{g^{\beta_z}}{v^c}, u_t = g^{\beta_z} / u^c$$

A short summary

- Identification protocol could be used to prove knowing something (discrete log)
- Without the fact of knowing something, nothing else is leaked
- Identification protocol could be used to build signature
- Identification protocols from discrete log and DDH

SIGMA protocol

SIGMA protocol

- Identification protocol is a special case of SIGMA protocol
- We first recall the language and corresponding relation

A NP language $L := \{y \mid \exists x, s. t. (x, y) \in R\}$ Corresponding Relation R

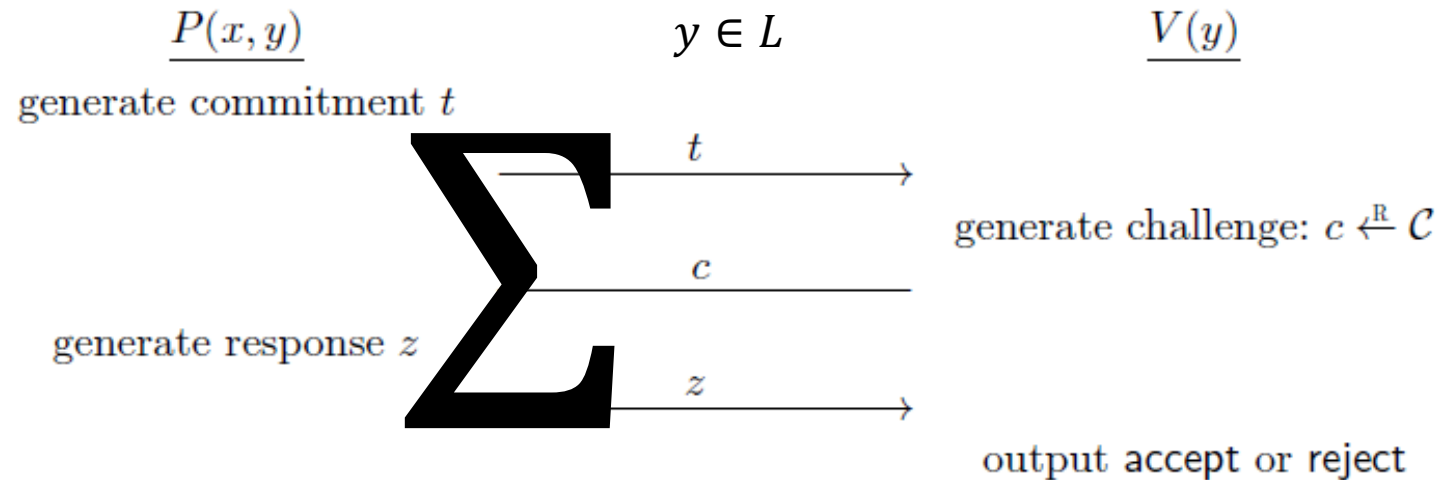
$y \in L$ if and only if \exists witness x , such that $(x, y) \in R$

$(g, u, v, w) \in L_{DDH}$ iff \exists witness β such that $v = g^\beta, w = u^\beta$

x is called the witness and y is called the statement

SIGMA protocol

- To prove that P knows witness x of statement y such that $(x, y) \in R$
- Sigma protocol runs as follows and



- **Correctness(Completeness):** If P and V execute the protocol honestly, the proof is accepted.
- **Special Soundness:** given valid transection (t, c, z) and (t, c', z') , we could extract x
- **Honest verifier zero-knowledge** says that: *without knowing* witness x , we can generate (*simulate*) the valid transaction efficiently for $y \in L$

Identification protocol is a special case of SIGMA

Schnorr, Discrete log relation $\mathcal{R} = \{ (\alpha, u) \in \mathbb{Z}_q \times \mathbb{G} : g^\alpha = u \}$

DDH relation $\mathcal{R} := \left\{ (\beta, (u, v, w)) \in \mathbb{Z}_q \times \mathbb{G}^3 : v = g^\beta \text{ and } w = u^\beta \right\}$

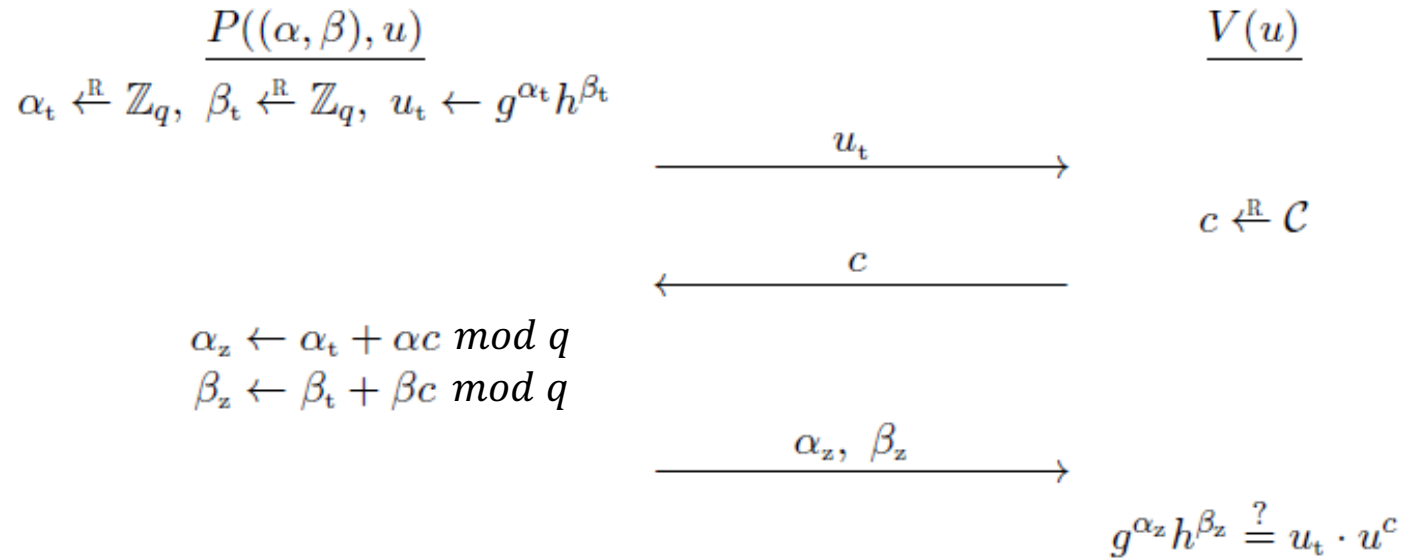
Other relations

Given $G = \langle g \rangle$ of order q , $h \in G$, and $u = g^\alpha h^\beta \in G$ with witness α, β , prove the following relation

$$\mathcal{R} = \left\{ ((\alpha, \beta), u) \in \mathbb{Z}_q^2 \times \mathbb{G} : g^\alpha h^\beta = u \right\}$$

Okamoto's protocol

$$\mathcal{R} = \left\{ ((\alpha, \beta), u) \in \mathbb{Z}_q^2 \times \mathbb{G} : g^\alpha h^\beta = u \right\}$$



Extension of Schnorr

- **Correctness(Completeness):** If P and V execute the protocol honestly, the proof is accepted.
- **Special Soundness:** given valid transection $(u_t, c, \alpha_z, \beta_z)$ and $(u_t, c', \alpha'_z, \beta'_z)$, we could extract α, β
- **Honest verifier zero-knowledge** says that: *without knowing* witness x , we can generate (*simulate*) the valid transaction efficiently for $y \in L$

AND composition of SIGAMA

Schnorr, Discrete log relation $\mathcal{R} = \{ (\alpha, u) \in \mathbb{Z}_q \times \mathbb{G} : g^\alpha = u \}$

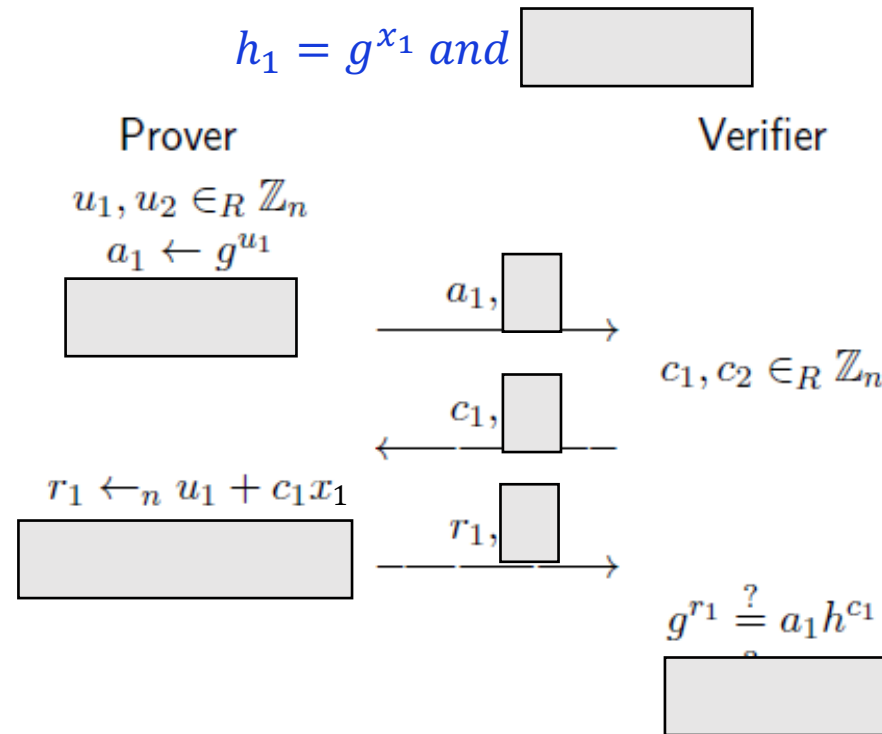
How about prove $R_1 \wedge R_2 = \{ (x_1, x_2; h_1, h_2) \in \mathbb{Z}_q^2 \times G^2 : h_1 = g^{x_1} \text{ and } h_2 = g^{x_2} \}$

R_1 and R_2 are Discrete log relations

$G = \langle g \rangle$ is group of order p

AND composition of SIGAMA: Parallel attempt

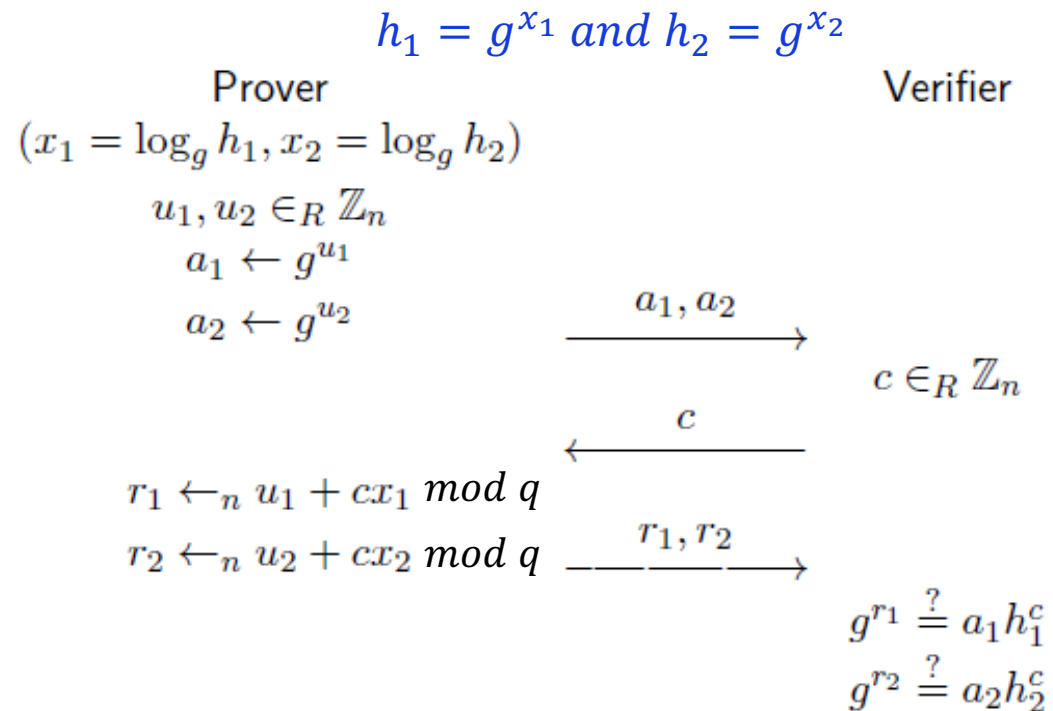
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Run two Schnorr protocols independently???

AND composition of SIGAMA: Better solution

How about prove $R_1 \wedge R_2 = \{ (x_1, x_2; h_1, h_2) \in \mathbb{Z}_q^2 \times G^2 : h_1 = g^{x_1} \text{ and } h_2 = g^{x_2} \}$



The same challenge is applied to two proofs

OR composition of SIGAMA

Schnorr, Discrete log

$$\mathcal{R} = \{ (\alpha, u) \in \mathbb{Z}_q \times \mathbb{G} : g^\alpha = u \}$$

AND Composition

$$R_1 \wedge R_2 = \{ (x_1, x_2; h_1, h_2) \in \mathbb{Z}_q^2 \times G^2 : h_1 = g^{x_1} \text{ and } h_2 = g^{x_2} \}$$

OR Composition


$$R_1 \vee R_2 = \{ (x_1 \text{ or } x_2; h_1, h_2) \in \mathbb{Z}_q \times G^2 : h_1 = g^{x_1} \text{ or } h_2 = g^{x_2} \}$$


R_1 and R_2 are Discrete log relations

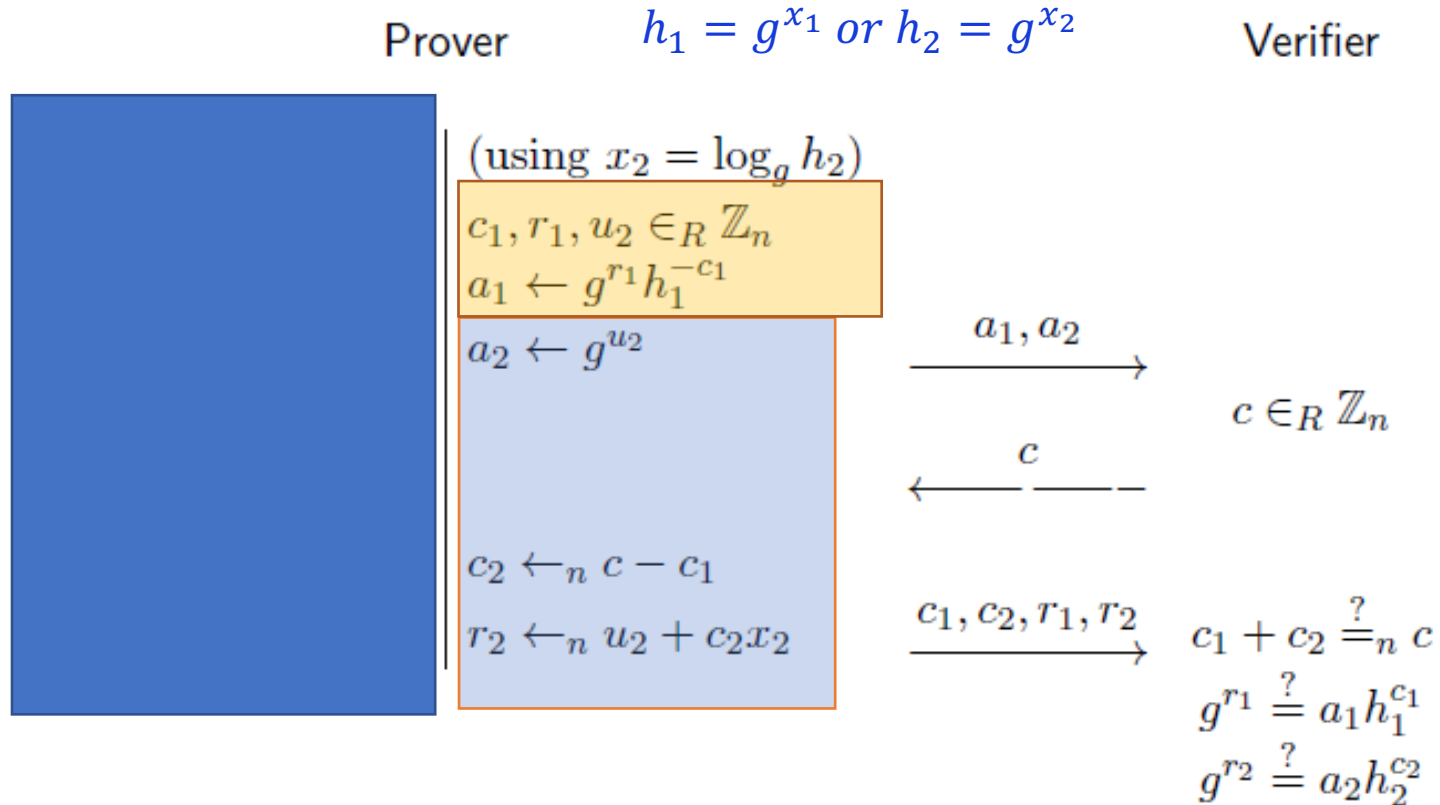
OR composition of SIGAMA

How about prove

$$R_1 \vee R_2 = \{ (x_1 \text{ or } x_2; h_1, h_2) \in \mathbb{Z}_q \times G^2 : h_1 = g^{x_1} \text{ or } h_2 = g^{x_2} \}$$

 The simulation

 The real Schnorr



- $c = c_1 + c_2$
- **Simulate** a valid transection for **unknown witness but known challenge**
- **Generate** the real Schnorr for **known witness but unknown challenge**

Question 1: 3 OR composition of SIGAMA

OR Composition

$$R_1 \vee R_2 = \{ (x_1 \text{ or } x_2; h_1, h_2) \in Z_q \times G^2 : h_1 = g^{x_1} \text{ or } h_2 = g^{x_2} \}$$

3OR Composition

$$R_1 \vee R_2 \vee R_3 = \{ (x_1, x_2 \text{ or } x_3; h_1, h_2, h_3) \in Z_q \times G^3 : \\ h_1 = g^{x_1} \text{ or } h_2 = g^{x_2} \text{ or } h_3 = g^{x_3} \}$$

- $c = c_1 + c_2 + c_3$
- Simulate two valid transactions for unknown witness but known challenge
- Generate a real Schnorr for known witness but unknown challenge

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are Discrete log relations

Question 2: AND-OR composition of SIGAMA

AND Composition $R_1 \wedge R_2 = \{ (x_1, x_2; h_1, h_2) \in Z_q^2 \times G^2 : h_1 = g^{x_1} \text{ and } h_2 = g^{x_2} \}$

OR Composition $R_1 \vee R_2 = \{ (x_1 \text{ or } x_2; h_1, h_2) \in Z_q \times G^2 : h_1 = g^{x_1} \text{ or } h_2 = g^{x_2} \}$

How about relation $(R_1 \vee R_2) \wedge (R_3 \vee R_4)$

R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are Discrete log relations

The second Assignment, I will give concrete requirement in next lecture.

Electronic Voting (e-voting)

Candidates:

Alice,
Bob,
Tom,
Tony,

...

ElGamal Enc for privacy

$$G = \langle g \rangle$$

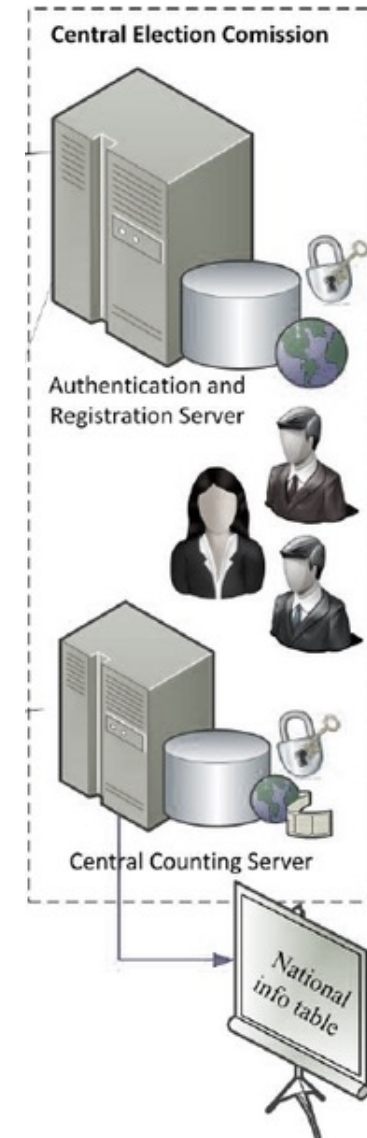
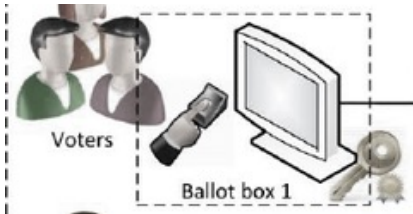
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For Alice $g^{b_1}, h^{b_1} \cdot g^{b_1}$

Cheating Voter $b_1 = 1000$

Thus, the voter needs to prove this is a ElGamal enc of 0 or 1
While no knowledge of b_1 is leaked

This is what Zero-knowledge proof can solve



OR-composition of ID_{DDH}

- We are ready to give such zero-knowledge proof
- Given $G = \langle g \rangle, pk = u = g^s$
- and ciphertext $v = g^\beta, e = u^\beta \cdot g^b$
- Proof the following relation

$$\mathcal{R} := \left\{ ((b, \beta), (u, v, e)) : v = g^\beta, e = u^\beta \cdot g^b, b \in \{0, 1\} \right\}.$$

(u, v, e) is the encryption of 0 or 1 if and only if (g, u, v, e) is a DDH tuple or $(g, u, v, e/g)$ is a DDH tuple

We only need an OR-composition of ID_{DDH} to show that (g, u, v, e) is a DDH tuple or $(g, u, v, e/g)$ is a DDH tuple

Applications: e-voting

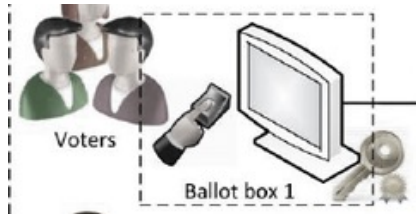
ElGamal Enc for privacy

$$G = \langle g \rangle$$

$$pk := u = g^s, sk := s$$

For Alice $v = g^{\beta_1}, e = h^{\beta_1} \cdot g^{b_1}$

Π



OR-composition proof Π of ID_{DDH} to show that (g, u, v, e) is a DDH tuple or $(g, u, v, e/g)$ is a DDH tuple

A short summary: SIGMA protocol

- Identification protocol is a generalization of Identification protocol
- To prove that P knows witness x of statement y such that $(x, y) \in R$
- SIGMA for several relations
- OR and AND composition of SIGMA protocol

Applications: e-voting

Zero-knowledge proof

Zero-knowledge proof

- Zero-knowledge proof is an extension of SIGMA protocol
- The interactive is not necessary of 3-pass
- The soundness is not necessary of proof-of-knowledge
- The zero-knowledge should be hold for any verifier

Zero Knowledge Proof for NP language

- Let L be an NP language
 - Prover with input (x, y) wants to prove that $y \in L$
-
- ➔ if $y \in L$, verifier accept
 - ➔ if $y \notin L$, for any (PPT) prover, verifier will reject
 - ➔ Zero-knowledge: any verifier learns nothing about the witness x

Zero Knowledge Proof (ZKP) for NP

Theorem [GMW86]
Commitment \implies ZKP for all of NP

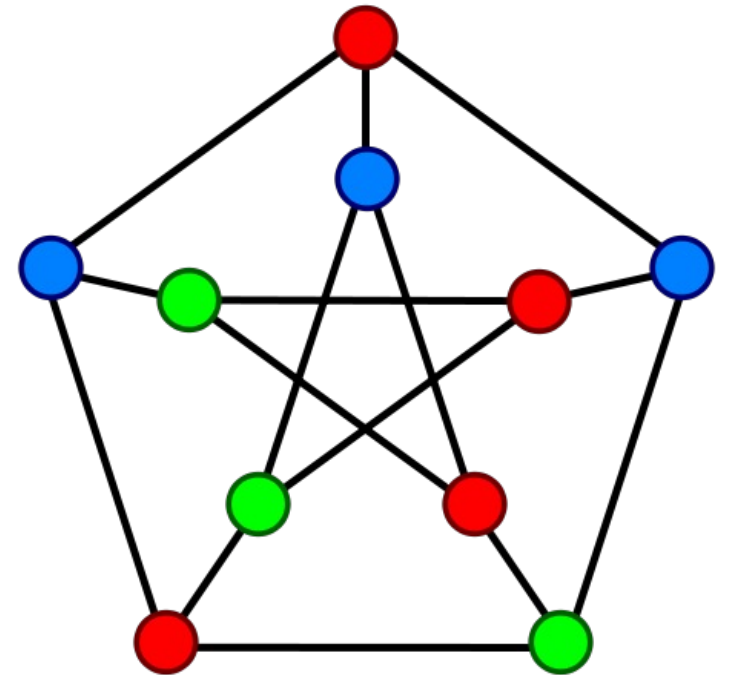
[GMW86] O Goldreich, S Micali, A Wigderson, Proofs that yield nothing but their validity or all languages in NP have zero-knowledge proof systems, 1986

Zero Knowledge Proof for NP

- To prove that \exists input x such that $C(x) = y$, where C is any polynomial size circuit.
- Circuit C could be:
 - $ax^2 + bx + c$
 - Polynomial function $\text{Poly}(x)$
 - Machine learning algorithms
 - Etc.....

ZKP for 3-colorable Graphs

- Let $G=(V, E)$ be graphs on n vertices and define $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ be the set of vertices, and $E = \{e_{i,j}: \exists \text{ edge } e_{i,j} \text{ between } v_i, v_j\}$ be the set of edges.
- we say that a graph G is 3-colorable (or $G \in 3COL$) if there is a function $c : V \rightarrow \{R, G, B\}$ such that for every edge $(v_i, v_j) \in E$, $c(v_i) \neq c(v_j)$



ZKP for 3-colorable Graphs

- Why?
- The reason is that a protocol for $3COL$ actually implies a protocol for all languages in NP, since $3COL$ is NP-complete
- It means that we have a function **Reduce** that on input a NP language instance y , outputs a graph G such that

$$y \in L \text{ iff } G \in 3COL$$

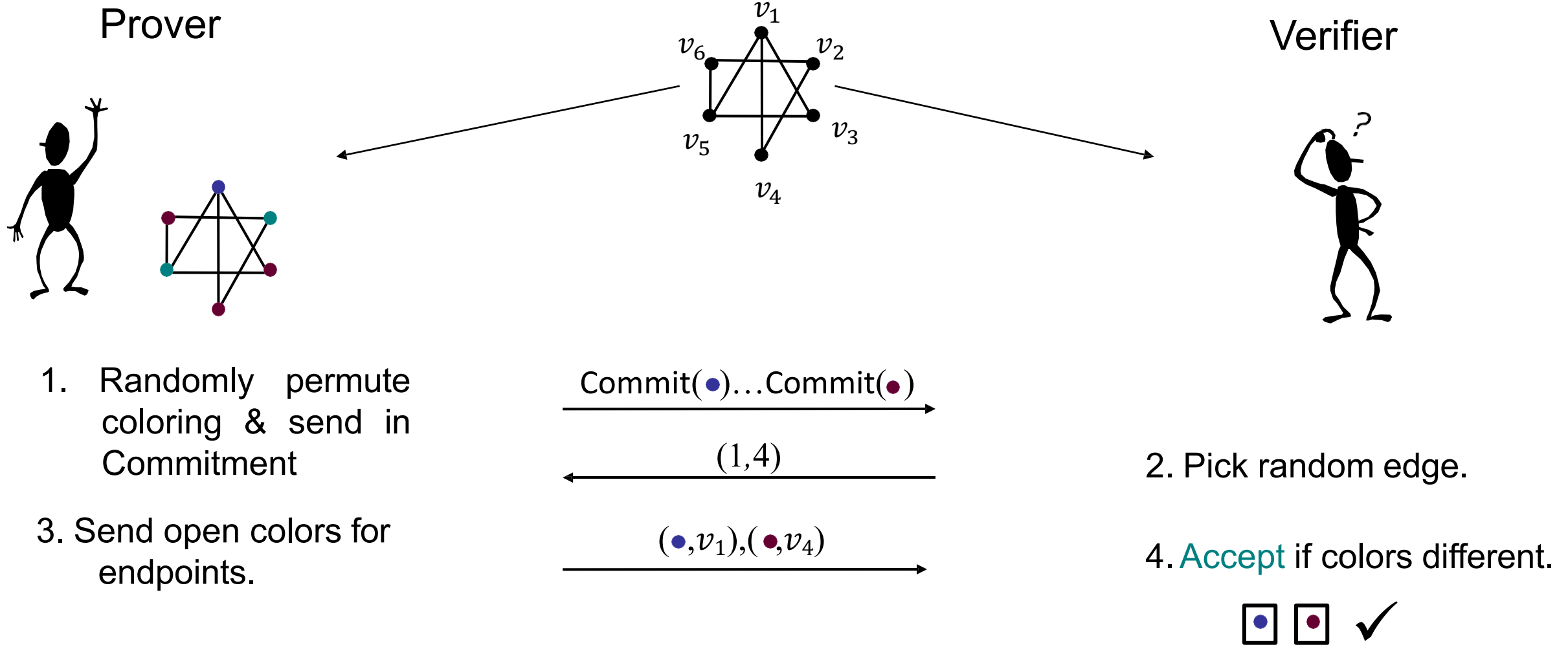
what's more, there exists **Reduce'** on input witness x for $y \in L$ outputs witness for $G \in 3COL$

- This can be used for the prover to convert their proof for any NP into a proof for the $3COL$ protocol.

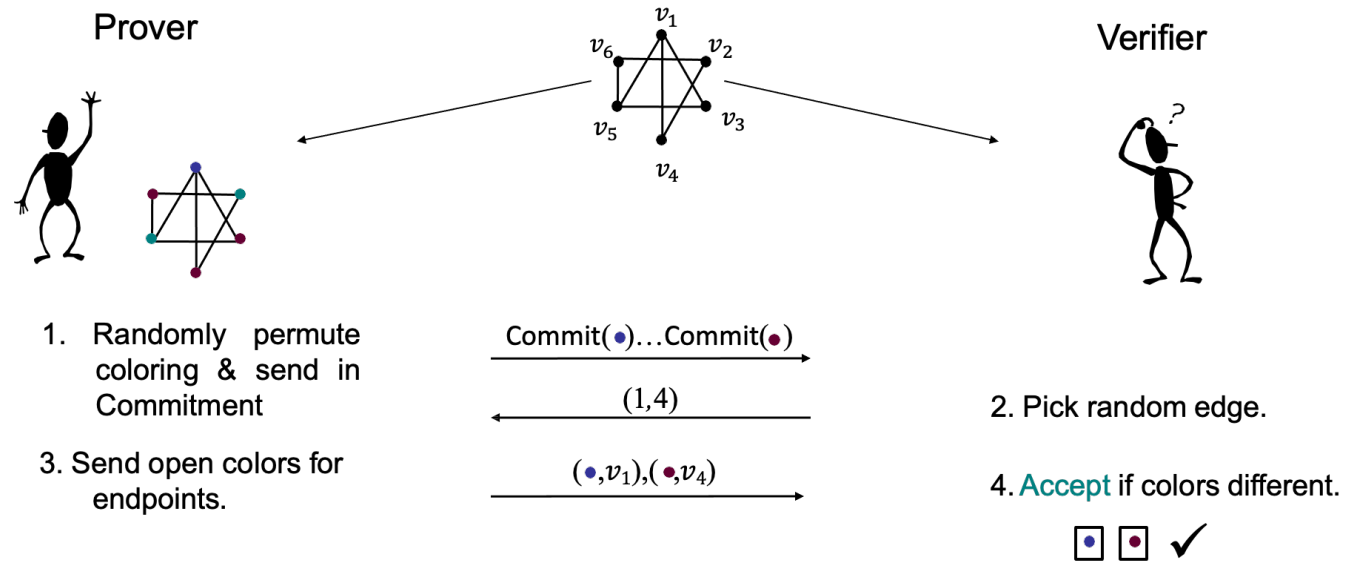
A tool: Commitment

- A commitment Com is a 3-tuple algorithms (Setup, Commit, Verify)
 - **Setup**: Generate public parameters pp
 - **Commit(m)**: Compute a commitment c to m with its opening d , and output c
 - **Verify(c, m, d)**: indicate the validation of (m, d) with respect to commitment c
- A commitment could be statistical hiding and computational binding, or computational hiding and statistical hiding. **For the first one**
 - *Hiding*: For any $m, m' \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{com}}$, their commitments are statistical indistinguishable.
 - *Binding*: No probability polynomial time (PPT) adversary could open a commitment c on two different messages.
- **Ex: Commit (m)** as Hash(m, d) for randomness d , Hash could be SHA256
 - Hiding: random oracle of Hash
 - Biding: collision resistance

ZKP for 3-colorable Graphs



ZKP for 3-colorable Graphs



- **Correctness(Completeness):** easy.
- **Soundness:** If it is not 3-colorable, for any (computational) P, V accepts with probability less than $1 - 1/|E|$
- Implied by the [binding of Commit](#)

ZKP for 3-colorable Graphs

- **(Honest verifier) Zero-knowledge:**
- Step 1: Pick random index i, j
- Step 2: Commit(0), ..., Commit(0), and only two of them (with index i, j) are different R, G, or B
- When getting (i', j') from verifier, if $(i', j') = (i, j)$ open commit, otherwise return to Step 1
- Imply by the **Hiding of Commit**

A short Summary

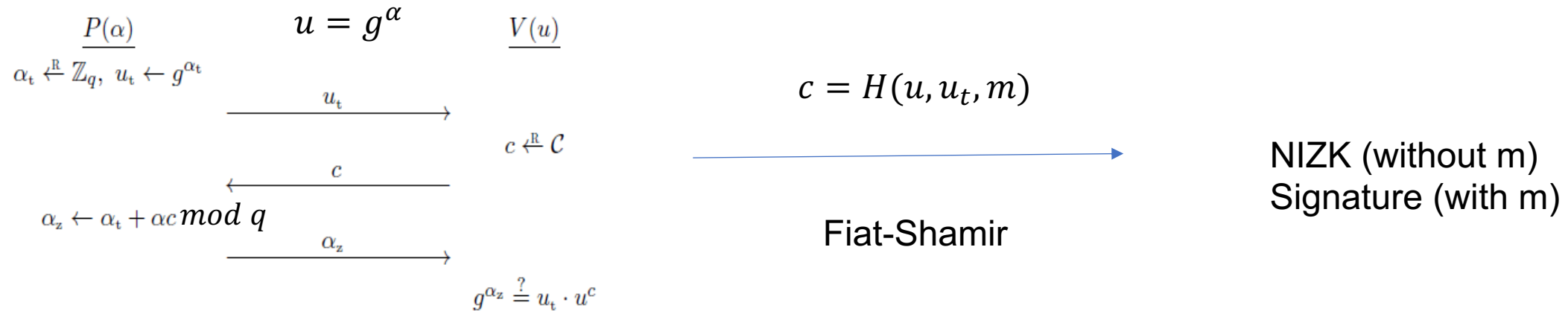
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Non-interactive Zero Knowledge (NIZK)

- Non-interactive is better than interactive (latency)
- NIZK \rightarrow signature, e-voting, etc.
- NIZK only exists for L in BPP, which is not interesting than NP
- However, with the setup of common random string,...
- Or **random oracle**...

NIZK assuming random oracle



Blum, Feldman, Micali. Non-interactive zero knowledge and its applications

Succinct Non-Interactive Proof (zkSNARK)

- It is better if we have a very small (Succinct) proof
- And the verification of the proof is efficient.
- These proof is called Succinct Non-Interactive Proof (zkSNARK)

- Consider the complexity of Verifier.
- Could it be less than computing $R(x, w)$?????
- YES!!!!

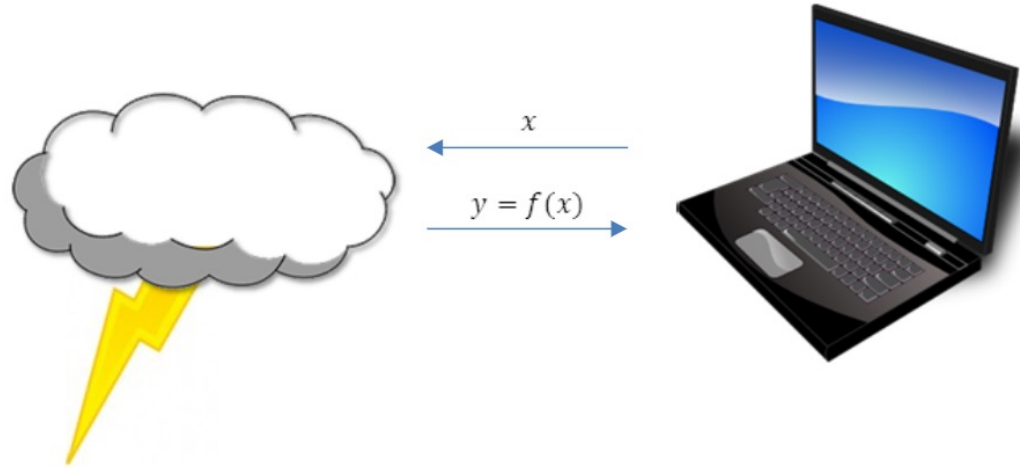
PCP Theorem [AS,ALMSS,Dinur]:

NP statements have polynomial-size PCPs in which the verifier reads only $O(1)$ bits.

- Can be made ZK with small overhead [KPT97,IW04]

Verifiable Outsourcing computation

We do not want to trust the cloud, but would like to use its power.



Cloud appends a zkSNARK Π to proof that $y = f(x)$

zk-SNARK/STARK

	SNARKs	STARKs	Bulletproofs
Algorithmic complexity: prover	$O(N * \log(N))$	$O(N * \text{poly-log}(N))$	$O(N * \log(N))$
Algorithmic complexity: verifier	$\sim O(1)$	$O(\text{poly-log}(N))$	$O(N)$
Communication complexity (proof size)	$\sim O(1)$	$O(\text{poly-log}(N))$	$O(\log(N))$
- size estimate for 1 TX	Tx: 200 bytes, Key: 50 MB	45 kB	1.5 kb
- size estimate for 10.000 TX	Tx: 200 bytes, Key: 500 GB	135 kb	2.5 kb
Ethereum/EVM verification gas cost	$\sim 600k$ (Groth16)	$\sim 2.5M$ (estimate, no impl.)	N/A
Trusted setup required?	YES 😞	NO 😊	NO 😊
Post-quantum secure	NO 😞	YES 😊	NO 😞
Crypto assumptions	DLP + secure bilinear pairing 😞	Collision resistant hashes 😊	Discrete log 😊

Thank you