

## II – Zero-Knowledge Proofs and Applications

---

David Pointcheval

Ecole normale supérieure/PSL, CNRS & INRIA



## **Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Knowledge**

Introduction

3-Coloring

Examples

## **Signatures**

From Identification to Signature

Forking Lemma

## **Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Membership**

Introduction

Example: DH

# Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Knowledge

---

## Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Knowledge

Introduction

3-Coloring

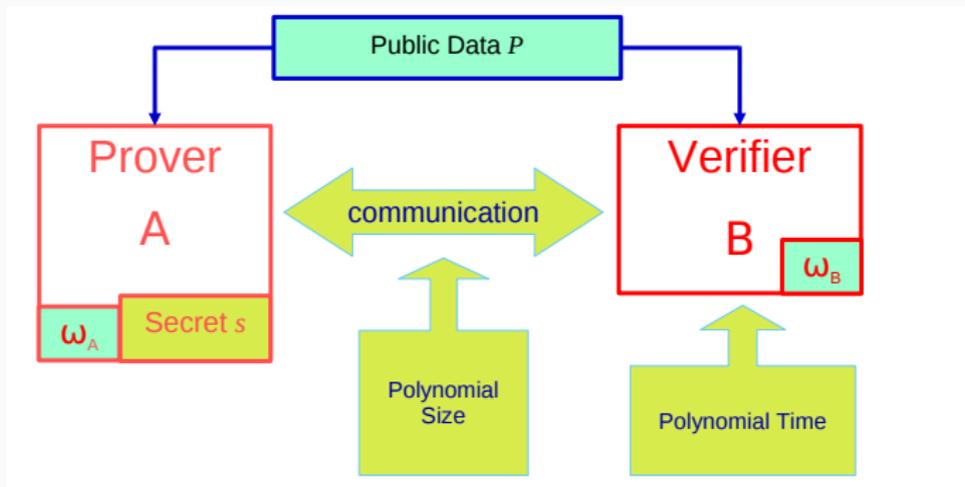
Examples

## Signatures

## Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Membership

# Proof of Knowledge

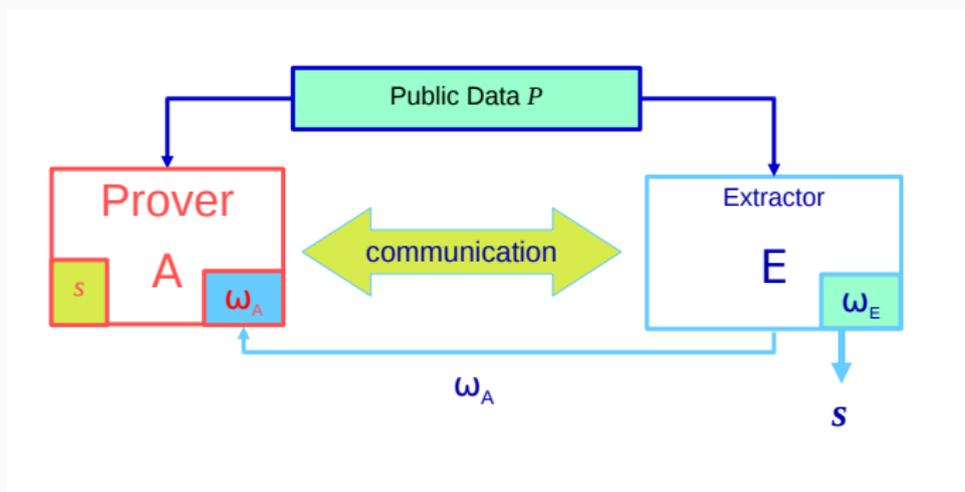
How do I prove that I know a solution  $s$  to a problem  $P$ ?



# Proof of Knowledge: Soundness

$\mathcal{A}$  knows something. . . What does it mean?

the information can be extracted: **extractor**



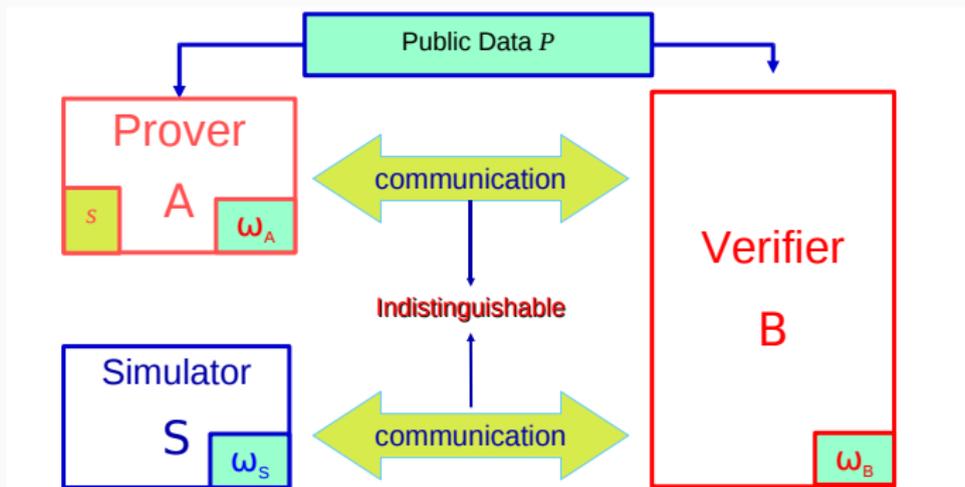
# Proof of Knowledge: Zero-Knowledge

How do I prove that I know a solution  $s$  to a problem  $P$ ?

I reveal the solution...

How can I do it without revealing any information?

Zero-knowledge: **simulation** and **indistinguishability**



## Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Knowledge

Introduction

3-Coloring

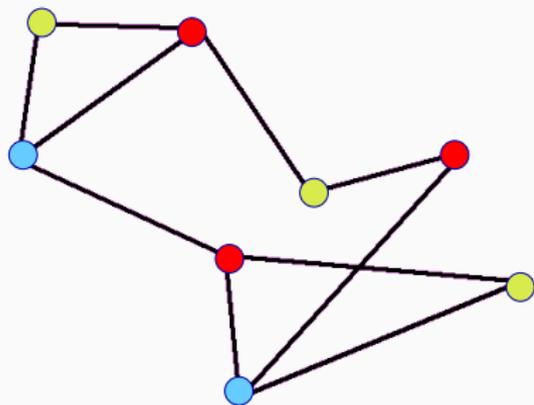
Examples

## Signatures

## Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Membership

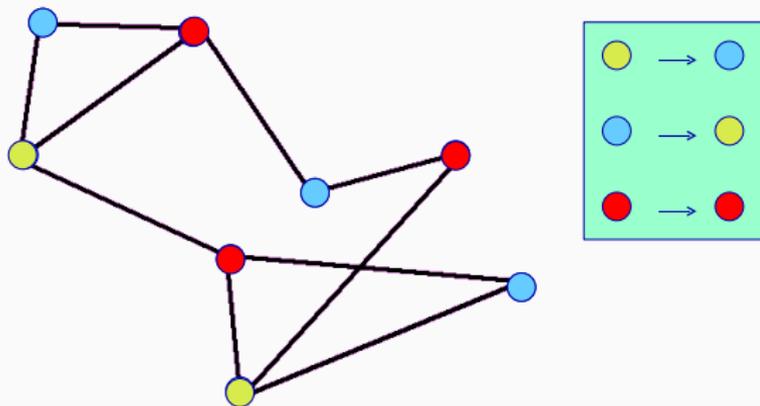
# Proof of Knowledge

How do I prove that I know a 3-color covering, without revealing any information?



# Proof of Knowledge

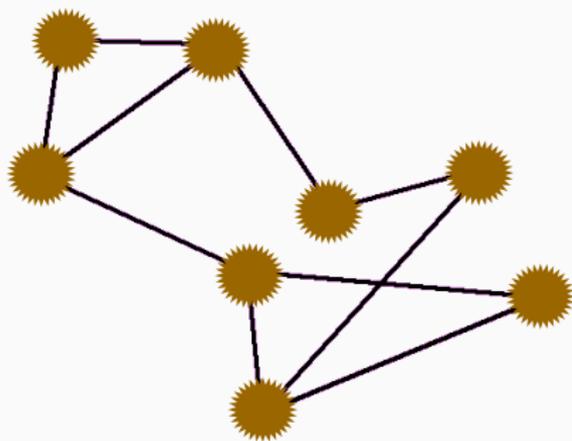
How do I prove that I know a 3-color covering, without revealing any information?



I choose a random permutation on the colors  
and I apply it to the vertices

# Proof of Knowledge

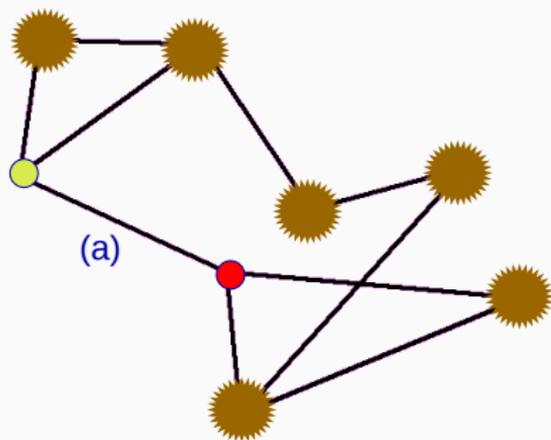
How do I prove that I know a 3-color covering, without revealing any information?



I mask the vertices  
and send it to the verifier

# Proof of Knowledge

How do I prove that I know a 3-color covering,  
without revealing any information?



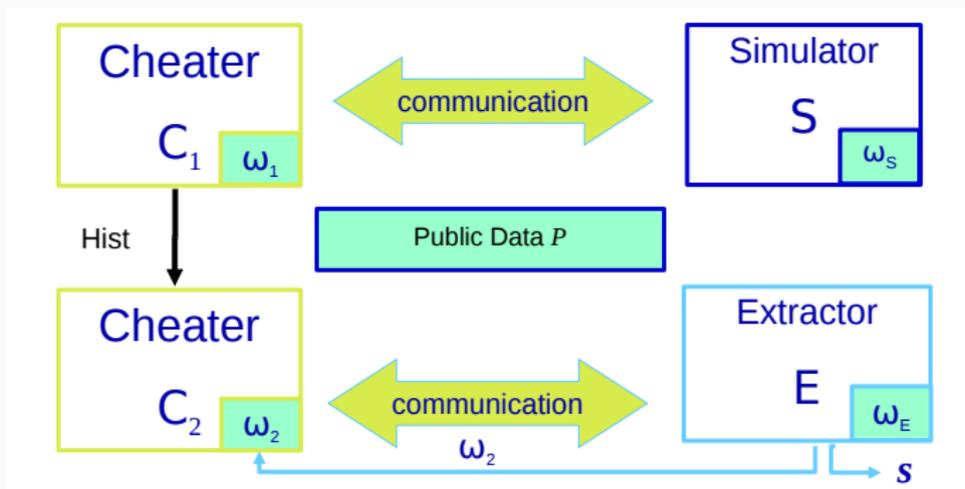
The verifier chooses an edge

I open it

The verifier checks the validity: 2 different colors

# Secure Multiple Proofs of Knowledge: Authentication

If there exists an efficient adversary,  
then one can solve the underlying problem:



## Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Knowledge

Introduction

3-Coloring

Examples

Signatures

Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Membership

# 3-Pass Zero-Knowledge Proofs

## Generic Proof

- Proof of knowledge of  $x$ , such that  $\mathcal{R}(x, y)$
- $\mathcal{P}$  builds a commitment  $r$  and sends it to  $\mathcal{V}$
- $\mathcal{V}$  chooses a challenge  $h \xleftarrow{R} \{0, 1\}^k$  for  $\mathcal{P}$
- $\mathcal{P}$  computes and sends the answer  $s$
- $\mathcal{V}$  checks  $(r, h, s)$

## $\Sigma$ -Protocol

- Proof of knowledge of  $x$
- $\mathcal{P}$  sends a commitment  $r$
- $\mathcal{V}$  sends a challenge  $h$
- $\mathcal{P}$  sends the answer  $s$
- $\mathcal{V}$  checks  $(r, h, s)$

### Special soundness

If one can answer to two different challenges  $h \neq h'$ :  
 $\implies s$  and  $s'$  for a unique  $r$   
 $\implies$  one can extract  $x$

- Setting:  $n = pq$   
 $\mathcal{P}$  knows  $x$ , such that  $X = x^2 \bmod n$  and wants to prove it to  $\mathcal{V}$
- $\mathcal{P}$  chooses  $r \xleftarrow{R} \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ , sets and sends  $R = r^2 \bmod n$
- $\mathcal{V}$  chooses  $b \xleftarrow{R} \{0, 1\}$  and sends it to  $\mathcal{P}$
- $\mathcal{P}$  computes and sends  $s = x^b \times r \bmod n$
- $\mathcal{V}$  checks whether  $s^2 \stackrel{?}{=} X^b R \bmod n$

One then reiterates  $t$  times

For a fixed  $R$ , two valid answers  $s$  and  $s'$  satisfy

$$s^2/X = R = (s')^2 \bmod n \implies X = (s/s')^2 \bmod n$$

And thus  $x = s/s' \bmod n \implies$  **Special Soundness**

# Fiat-Shamir Proof: Extraction

More precisely: the execution of  $t$  repetitions depends on

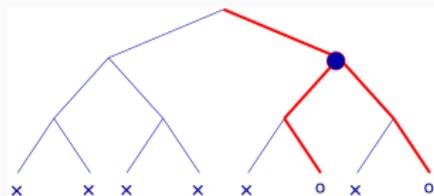
- $(b_1, \dots, b_t)$  from the verifier  $\mathcal{V}$
- $\omega$  that (together with the previous  $b_i$  ( $i < k$ )) determines  $R_k$  from the prover  $\mathcal{P}$

If  $\Pr_{\omega, (b_i)}[\mathcal{V} \text{ accepts } \mathcal{P}] > 1/2^t + \varepsilon$ ,

there is a good fraction of  $\omega$  (more than  $\varepsilon/2$ )

such that  $\Pr_{(b_i)}[\mathcal{V} \text{ accepts } \mathcal{S}] \geq 1/2^t + \varepsilon/2$ .

For such a good  $\omega$ : a good node along the successful path



# Fiat-Shamir Proof: Simulation

## Honest Verifier

Simulation of a triplet:  $(R = r^2 \bmod n, b, s = x^b \times r \bmod n)$

for  $r \xleftarrow{R} \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  and  $b \xleftarrow{R} \{0, 1\}$

Similar to:  $(R = s^2/X^b \bmod n, b, s)$

for  $s \xleftarrow{R} \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  and  $b \xleftarrow{R} \{0, 1\}$

Simulation: random  $s$  and  $b$ , and set  $(R = s^2/X^b \bmod n, b, s)$

## Any Verifier

Simulation of a triplet:  $(R = r^2 \bmod n, b = \mathcal{V}(\text{view}), s = x^b \times r \bmod n)$

for  $r \xleftarrow{R} \mathbb{Z}_n^*$  only!

Similar to:  $(R = s^2/X^b \bmod n, b = \mathcal{V}(\text{view}), s)$  for  $s \xleftarrow{R} \mathbb{Z}_n^*$

Simulation: random  $s$  and  $\beta$ , and set  $R = s^2/X^\beta \bmod n$

upon reception of  $b$ : if  $b = \beta$ , output  $s$ , else rewind

$b$  and  $\beta$  independent: rewind once over 2  $\implies$  linear time

- Setting:  $n = pq$  and an exponent  $e$   
 $\mathcal{P}$  knows  $x$ , such that  $X = x^e \bmod n$  and wants to prove it to  $\mathcal{V}$
- $\mathcal{P}$  chooses  $r \xleftarrow{R} \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ , sets and sends  $R = r^e \bmod n$
- $\mathcal{V}$  chooses  $b \xleftarrow{R} \{0, 1\}^t$  and sends it to  $\mathcal{P}$
- $\mathcal{P}$  computes and sends  $s = x^b \times r \bmod n$
- $\mathcal{V}$  checks whether  $s^e \stackrel{?}{=} X^b R \bmod n$

For a fixed  $R$ , two valid answers  $s$  and  $s'$  satisfy

$$s^e / X^b = R = (s')^e / X^{b'} \bmod n \implies X^{b'-b} = (s'/s)^e \bmod n$$

If  $e$  prime and bigger than  $2^t$ , then  $e$  and  $b' - b$  are relatively prime:

Bezout:  $ue + v(b' - b) = 1 \implies X^{v(b'-b)} = (s'/s)^{ve} = X^{1-ue} \bmod n$

As a consequence:  $X = ((s'/s)^v X^u)^e \implies$  **Special Soundness**

- Setting:  $\mathbb{G} = \langle g \rangle$  of order  $q$   
 $\mathcal{P}$  knows  $x$ , such that  $y = g^{-x}$  and wants to prove it to  $\mathcal{V}$
- $\mathcal{P}$  chooses  $k \xleftarrow{R} \mathbb{Z}_q^*$ , sets and sends  $r = g^k$
- $\mathcal{V}$  chooses  $h \xleftarrow{R} \{0, 1\}^t$  and sends it to  $\mathcal{P}$
- $\mathcal{P}$  computes and sends  $s = k + xh \bmod q$
- $\mathcal{V}$  checks whether  $r \stackrel{?}{=} g^s y^h$

For a fixed  $r$ , two valid answers  $s$  and  $s'$  satisfy

$$g^s y^h = r = g^{s'} y^{h'} \implies y^{h'-h} = g^{s-s'}$$

And thus  $x = (s - s')(h' - h)^{-1} \bmod q \implies$  **Special Soundness**

# Signatures

---

Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Knowledge

## **Signatures**

From Identification to Signature

Forking Lemma

Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Membership

## Zero-Knowledge Proof

- Proof of knowledge of  $x$
- $\mathcal{P}$  sends a commitment  $r$
- $\mathcal{V}$  sends a challenge  $h$
- $\mathcal{P}$  sends the answer  $s$
- $\mathcal{V}$  checks  $(r, h, s)$

## Signature

- Key Generation  $\rightarrow (y, x)$
- Signature of  $m \rightarrow (r, h, s)$   
Commitment  $r$   
Challenge  $h = \mathcal{H}(m, r)$   
Answer  $s$
- Verification of  $(m, r, s)$   
compute  $h = \mathcal{H}(m, r)$   
and check  $(r, h, s)$

## Special soundness

If one can answer to two different challenges  $h \neq h'$ :  $s$  and  $s'$  for a unique commitment  $r$ , one can extract  $x$

Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Knowledge

## **Signatures**

From Identification to Signature

Forking Lemma

Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Membership

The **Forking Lemma** shows an efficient reduction between the signature scheme and the identification scheme, but basically, if an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  produces, with probability  $\varepsilon \geq 2/2^k$ , a valid signature  $(m, r, h, s)$ , then within  $T' = 2T$ , one gets two valid signatures  $(m, r, h, s)$  and  $(m, r, h', s')$ , with  $h \neq h'$  with probability  $\varepsilon' \geq \varepsilon^2/32q_H^3$ .

The **special soundness** provides the secret key.

# Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Membership

---

Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Knowledge

Signatures

**Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Membership**

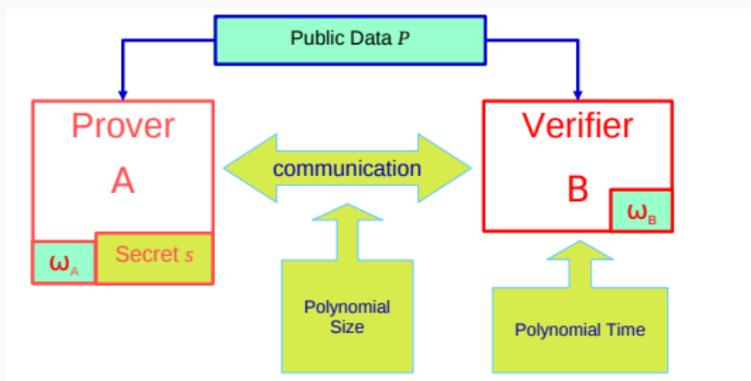
Introduction

Example: DH

# Proof of Membership

How do I prove that a word  $w$  lies in a language  $\mathcal{L}$ :  $P = (w, \mathcal{L})$ ?

- if  $\mathcal{L} \in \mathcal{NP}$ : a witness  $s$  can help prove that  $w \in \mathcal{L}$



If  $w \notin \mathcal{L}$ :

- Proof (perfect soundness): a powerful  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot cheat
- Argument (computational soundness): a limited  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot cheat

# Proof of Membership

## Soundness

$w \in \mathcal{L}$ ... what does it mean?

a witness **exists**, different from knowing it: no need of extractor

## Zero-Knowledge

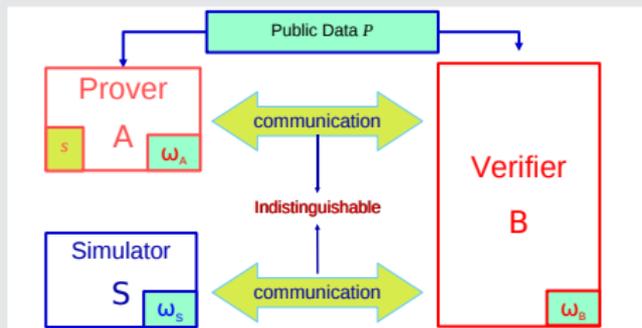
How do I prove there exists a witness  $s$ ? I reveal it...

How can I do it without revealing any information?

Zero-knowledge:

**simulation**

and **indistinguishability**



Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Knowledge

Signatures

**Zero-Knowledge Proofs of Membership**

Introduction

Example: DH

# Diffie-Hellman Language

In a group  $\mathbb{G} = \langle g \rangle$  of prime order  $q$ ,

the **DDH**( $g, h$ ) assumption states it is hard to distinguish  
 $\mathcal{L} = (u = g^x, v = h^x)$  from  $\mathbb{G}^2 = (u = g^x, v = h^y)$

- $\mathcal{P}$  knows  $x$ , such that  $(u = g^x, v = h^x)$  and wants to prove it to  $\mathcal{V}$
- $\mathcal{P}$  chooses  $k \xleftarrow{R} \mathbb{Z}_q^*$ , sets and sends  $U = g^k$  and  $V = h^k$
- $\mathcal{V}$  chooses  $h \xleftarrow{R} \{0, 1\}^t$  and sends it to  $\mathcal{P}$
- $\mathcal{P}$  computes and sends  $s = k - xh \bmod q$
- $\mathcal{V}$  checks whether  $U \stackrel{?}{=} g^s u^h$  and  $V \stackrel{?}{=} h^s v^h$

For a fixed  $(U, V)$ , two valid answers  $s$  and  $s'$  satisfy

$$g^s u^h = U = g^{s'} u^{h'} \quad h^s v^h = V = h^{s'} v^{h'}$$

- if one sets  $y = (s - s')(h' - h)^{-1} \bmod q \implies u = g^y$  and  $v = h^y$
- there exists a witness: **Perfect Soundness**