

The Round Complexity of Quantum Zero-Knowledge

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Introduction

SBSH Commitments

WI Arguments

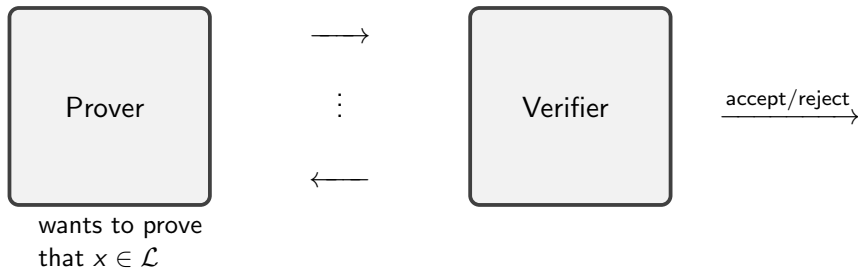
Existing ZK techniques

4-round ZK Argument for QMA Construction

Conclusion

ZK Protocol [GMR89]

Interactive Protocol which allows a Prover to prove the veracity of a statement while revealing nothing beyond that.



Round Complexity of ZK

- ▶ Number of messages exchanged in the protocol.

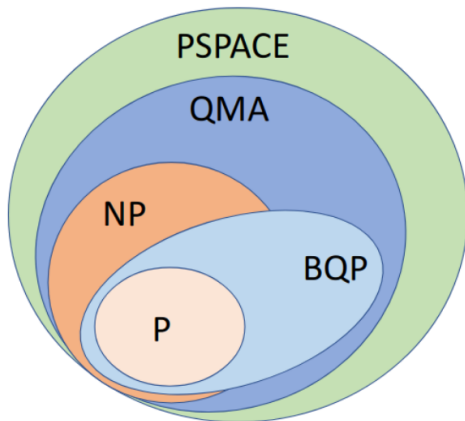
Round Complexity of ZK

- ▶ Number of messages exchanged in the protocol.
- ▶ Any NP statement can be proven in as few as four rounds of interaction [GMW86, GK96].

Round Complexity of ZK

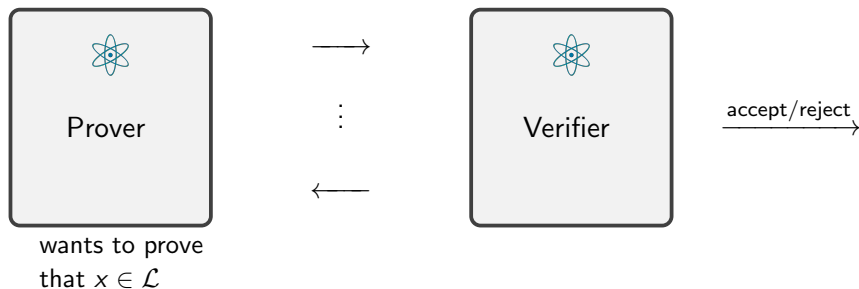
- ▶ Number of messages exchanged in the protocol.
- ▶ Any NP statement can be proven in as few as four rounds of interaction [GMW86, GK96].
- ▶ 3-round statistical ZK argument for NP (not post-quantum secure) [BP19].

Quantum Complexity



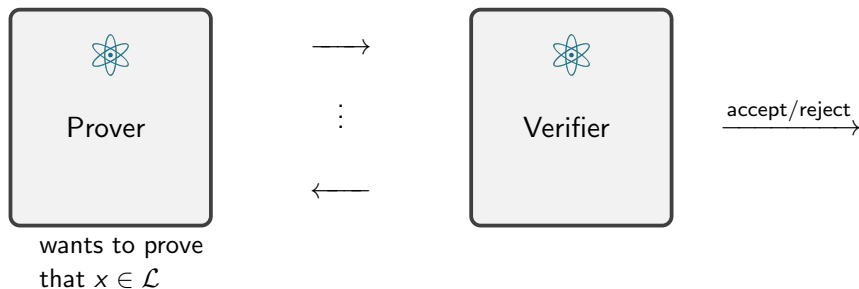
Quantum ZK Protocol [BJSW16]

Allows a Prover to prove the veracity of a statement in QMA while revealing nothing beyond that.



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Best known result in terms of round complexity is in constant rounds [BS20].

Results

2-round statistical WI argument for QMA

Assuming the quantum quasi-polynomial hardness of LWE, there exists a 2-round statistical WI argument for QMA.

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4-round statistical ZK argument for QMA (and NP)

Assuming the quantum quasi-polynomial hardness of LWE and a quasi-polynomially secure QFHE scheme, there exists a 4-round statistical ZK argument for QMA (and NP) with no trusted setup.

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Assuming the quantum quasi-polynomial hardness of LWE and a quasi-polynomially secure QFHE scheme, there exists a 4-round statistical ZK argument for QMA (and NP) with no trusted setup.

2-round ZK argument for QMA in the Timing Model

Assuming the quantum quasi-polynomial hardness of LWE , and a non-parallelizing function (resp. a post-quantum time-lock puzzle), there exists a 2-round computational (resp. statistical) ZK argument for QMA in the timing model.

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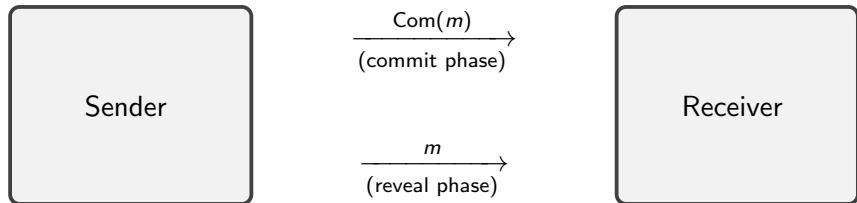
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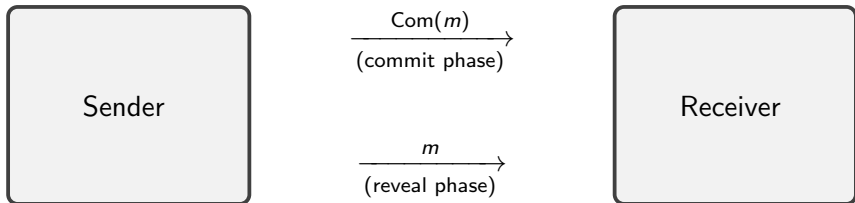
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Commitment Scheme



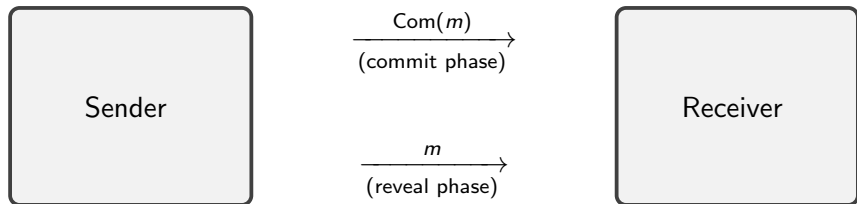
Commitment Scheme



- ▶ Hiding: The message m remains hidden from the receiver (before the reveal phase).

$$\text{Com}(m_0) \approx \text{Com}(m_1)$$

Commitment Scheme



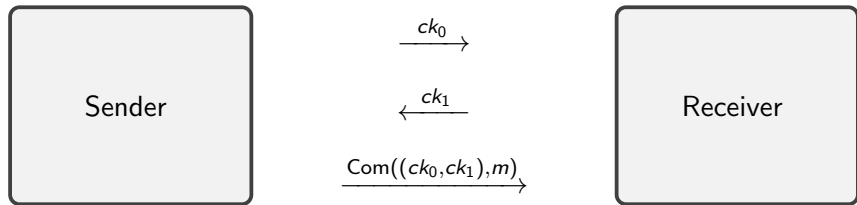
- ▶ Hiding: The message m remains hidden from the receiver (before the reveal phase).

$$\text{Com}(m_0) \approx \text{Com}(m_1)$$

- ▶ Binding: The commitment $\text{Com}(m)$ can only be opened to the message m .

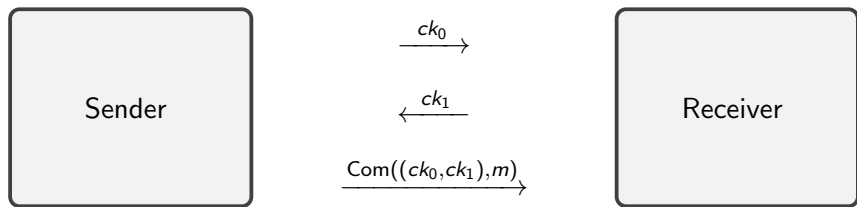
Sometimes Binding Statistically Hiding Commitment

An SBSH commitment is a special type of commitment [LVW20].



Sometimes Binding Statistically Hiding Commitment

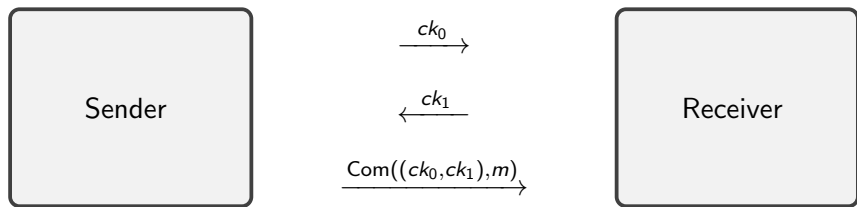
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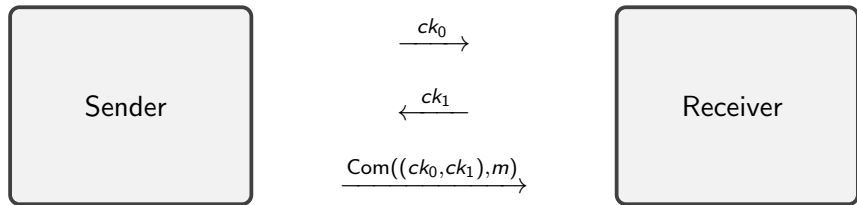
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- ▶ Statistically Hiding: $\text{Com}(m_0) \approx_S \text{Com}(m_1)$
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- ▶ Statistically Hiding: $\text{Com}(m_0) \approx_S \text{Com}(m_1)$
- ▶ Sometimes Binding: There's a negligibly small probability for the commitment to be perfectly binding.
- ▶ Straight line Extraction of m when binding.

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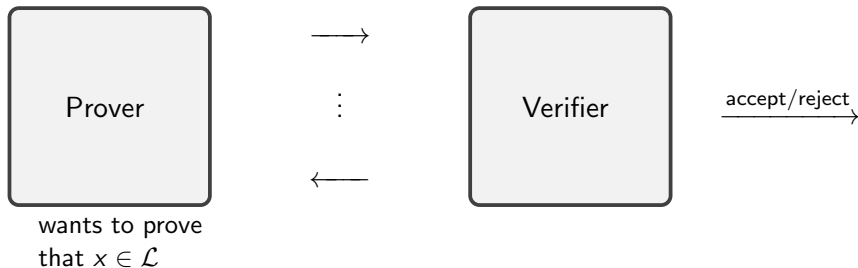
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Witness Indistinguishability [FS90]

- ▶ Weaker notion of ZK.

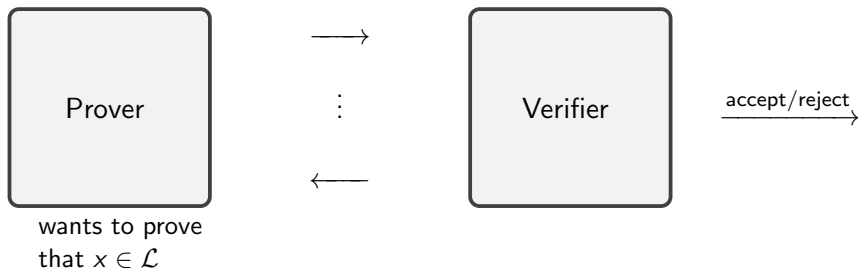
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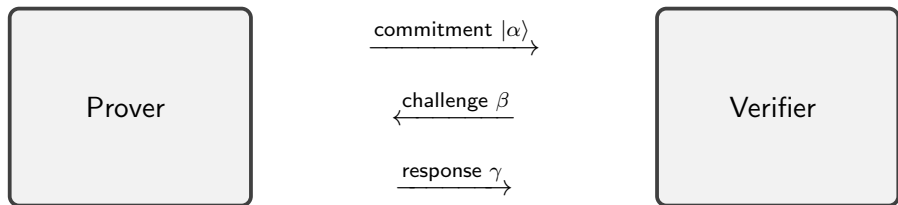
- ▶ The verifier cannot tell the difference between valid witnesses used by the prover.

Sigma Protocol for QMA

- ▶ Relaxation of ZK, assuming an Honest Verifier.

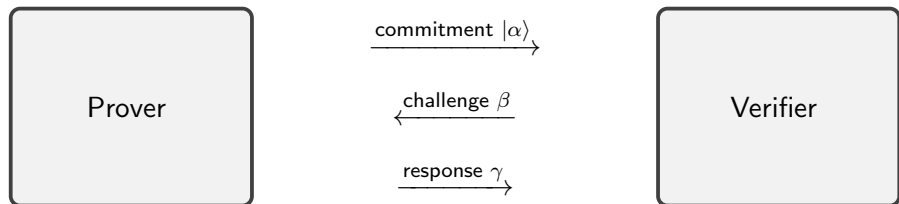
Sigma Protocol for QMA

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Sigma Protocol for QMA

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- ▶ Quantum Σ -Protocol where the computation of β and γ is completely classical [BG20].

Sigma Protocol for QMA

Statistical HVZK

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 - ▶ use SBSh commitment (parameters of other primitives are set accordingly).

Sigma Protocol for QMA

Statistical HVZK

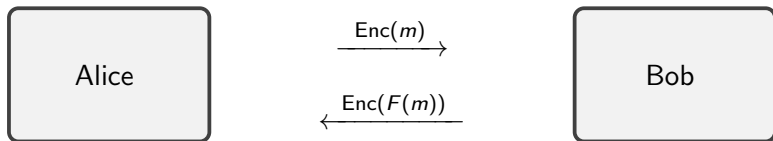
- ▶ The Sigma-Protocol [BG20] works for computational ZK and statistical soundness.
- ▶ Extend to statistical ZK and computational soundness:
 - ▶ use SBSh commitment (parameters of other primitives are set accordingly).
 - ▶ parallel repetition of [BS20] to get negligible soundness.

Necessary tools

- ▶ Pseudorandom Function: Given a key, produces a seemingly random string.

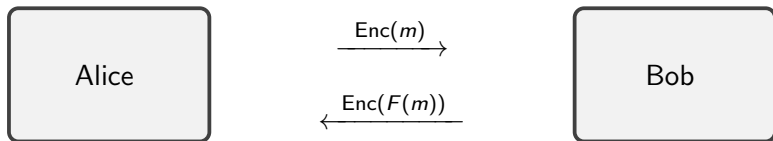
Necessary tools

- ▶ Pseudorandom Function: Given a key, produces a seemingly random string.
- ▶ Fully Homomorphic Encryption Scheme: Compute evaluations over encrypted data.



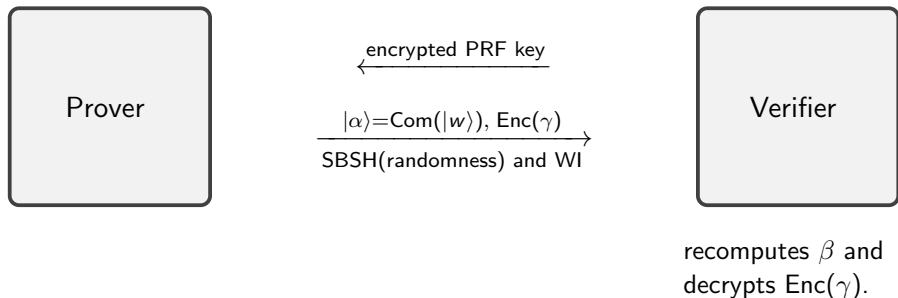
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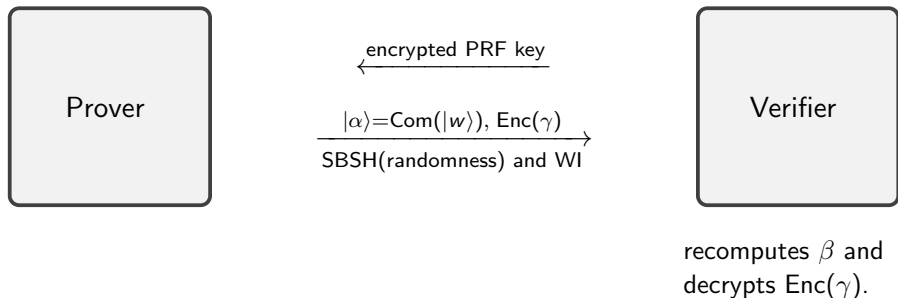
- ▶ Non-Interactive WI argument for NP [BFJ⁺20, GJJM20].

2-Round WI Argument for QMA



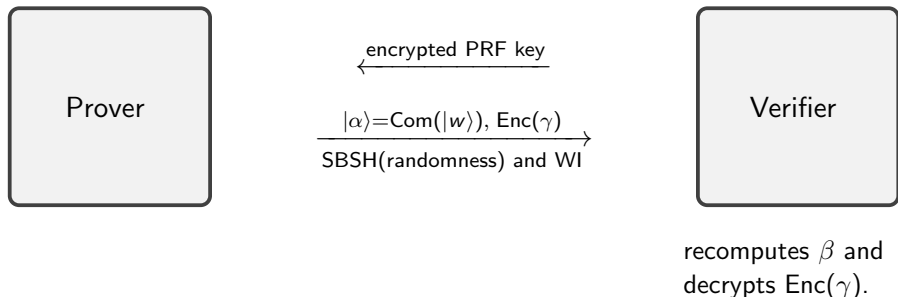
- ▶ The process is repeated twice.

2-Round WI Argument for QMA



- ▶ The process is repeated twice.
- ▶ Computational Soundness and Statistical WI.

2-Round WI Argument for QMA



- ▶ The process is repeated twice.
- ▶ Computational Soundness and Statistical WI.
- ▶ Assume quasi-polynomial hardness of LWE.

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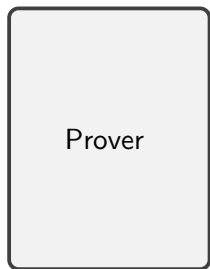
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Classical ZK



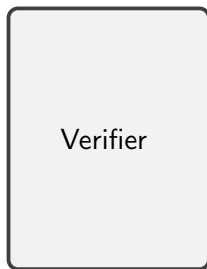
wants to prove
that $x \in \mathcal{L}$

$\xleftarrow{\text{Com}(chal)}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{commitment } a}$

$\xleftarrow{\text{decommits to } chal}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{partially opens } a}$

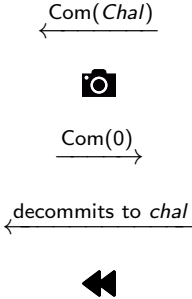


$\xrightarrow{\text{accept/}} \rightarrow$
reject

Classical ZK



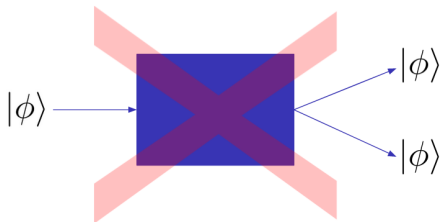
wants to prove
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$\xrightarrow{\text{accept/reject}}$

No-Cloning Theorem

No quantum procedure transforms $|\phi\rangle \rightarrow |\phi\rangle |\phi\rangle$, for all $|\phi\rangle$.



Quantum ZK



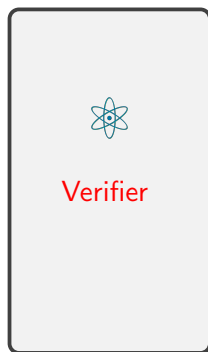
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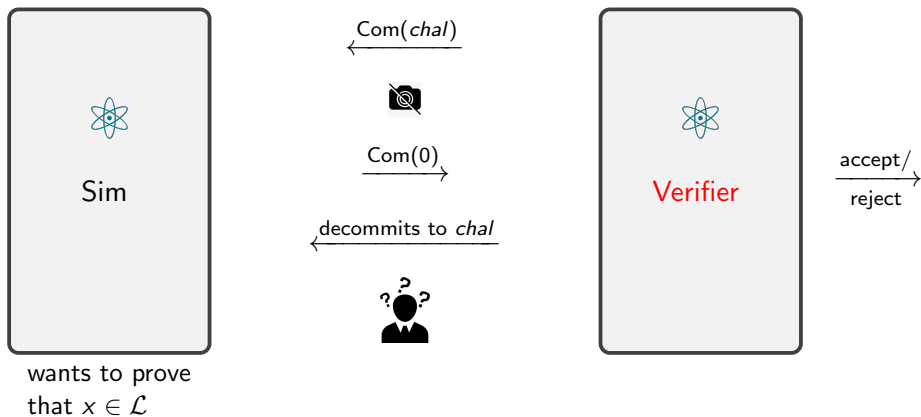
$\xrightarrow{\text{Com}(0)}$

$\xleftarrow{\text{decommits to } chal}$



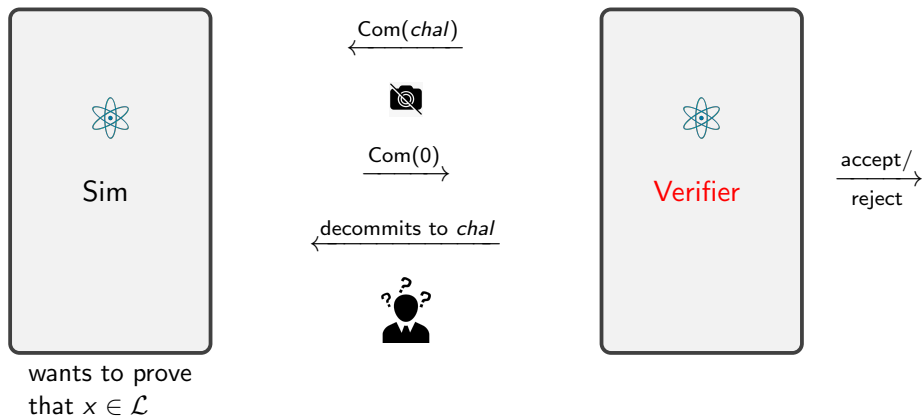
$\xrightarrow{\text{accept/reject}}$

Quantum ZK



- ▶ Simulation techniques that don't use rewinding still rely on cloning.

Quantum ZK

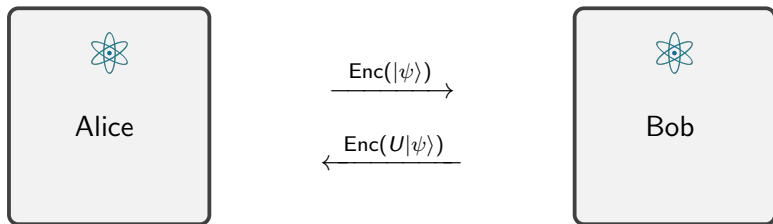


- ▶ Simulation techniques that don't use rewinding still rely on cloning.
- ▶ Linear Extraction Technique in [\[AL20, BS20\]](#).

Necessary Tools

Quantum FHE Scheme [Mah18, Bra18]

A Quantum FHE scheme [Mah18, Bra18] allows Alice to encrypt some message $|\psi\rangle$ such that later Bob (holding any unitary U) can compute



Necessary Tools

Compute-and-Compare Obfuscation [WZ17, GWK17, GWVW19]

- ▶ Compute-and-Compare Program:

$$\mathbf{CC}[f, s, z](x) = \begin{cases} z, & f(x) = s \\ \perp, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Necessary Tools

Compute-and-Compare Obfuscation [WZ17, GKW17, GKVW19]

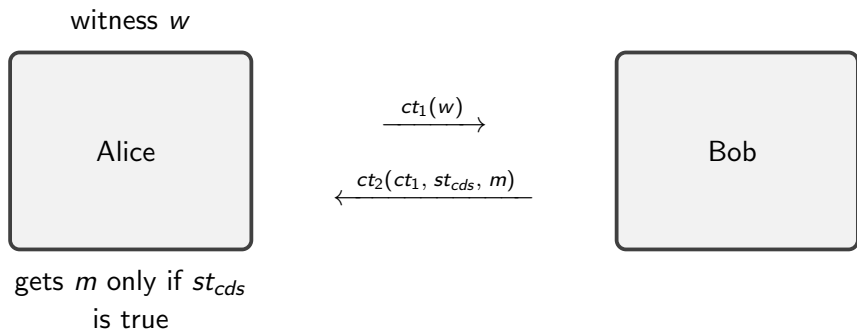
- ▶ Compute-and-Compare Program:

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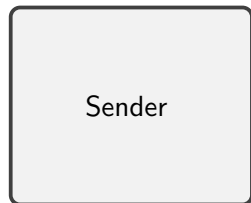
- ▶ Compute-and-Compare Obfuscator: Compiles a **CC** program to the obfuscated program $\widetilde{\mathbf{CC}}$, where the implementation is hidden.

Necessary Tools

Conditional Disclosure of Secrets [AIR01]



Homomorphic Trapdoor Technique [AL20, BS20]



$pk, \text{Enc}(td)$

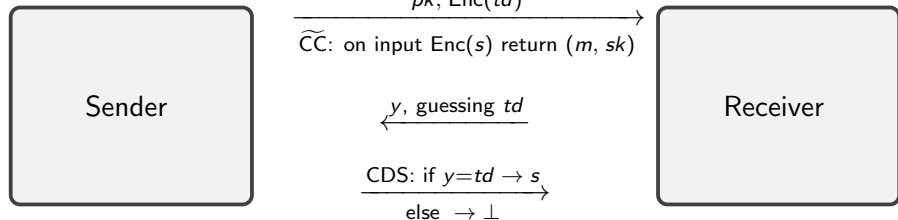
$\widetilde{\text{CC}}$: on input $\text{Enc}(s)$ return (m, sk)

$y, \text{guessing } td$

CDS: if $y=td \rightarrow s$
else $\rightarrow \perp$

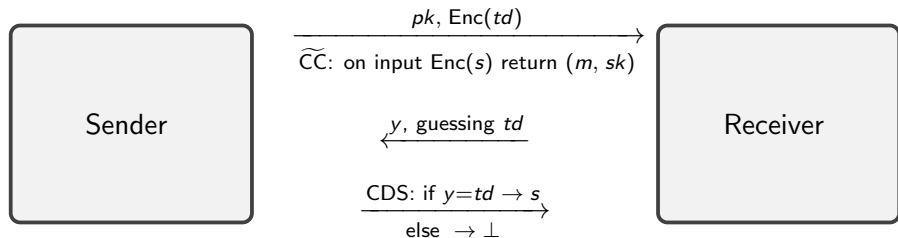


Homomorphic Trapdoor Technique [AL20, BS20]



Hiding: Receiver cannot guess td due to the security of FHE.

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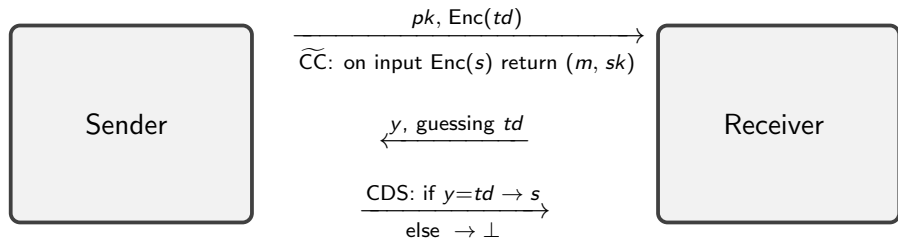


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Extraction:

- ▶ Extractor has access to inner state of the sender.

Homomorphic Trapdoor Technique [AL20, BS20]



Hiding: Receiver cannot guess td due to the security of FHE.

Extraction:

- ▶ Extractor has access to inner state of the sender.
- ▶ $\text{Enc}(td) \xrightarrow{\text{homomorphically}} \text{Enc}(s)$.

ZK Protocols for QMA

▶ No Cloning Extraction

→

Constant-Round
Computational ZK Argument
for QMA [BS20]

ZK Protocols for QMA

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Constant-Round
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▶ Statistical WI for QMA

$\xrightarrow[\text{Extraction}]{\text{No Cloning}}$

4-Round Statistical ZK
Argument for QMA

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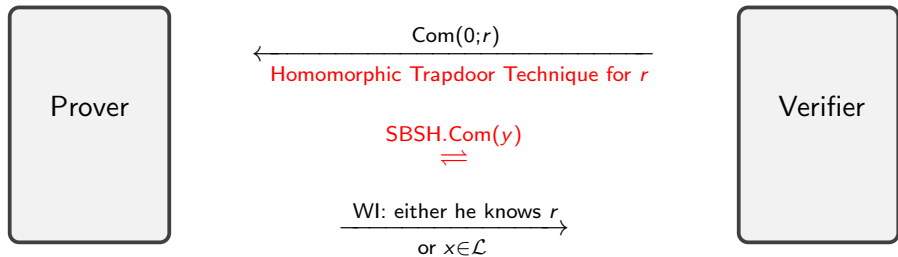
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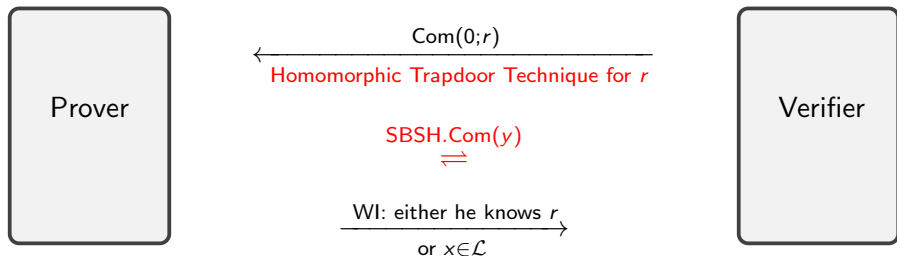
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4-round ZK Argument for QMA Construction

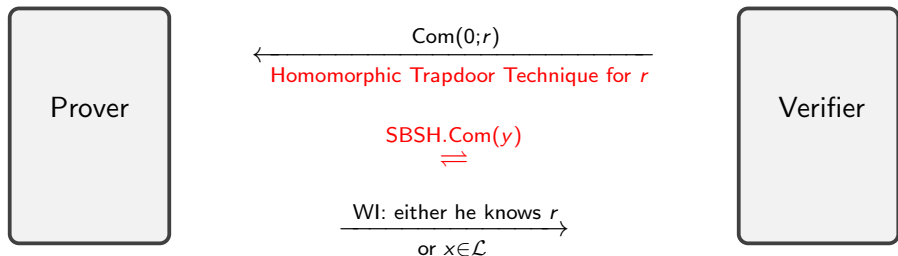


4-round ZK Argument for QMA Construction



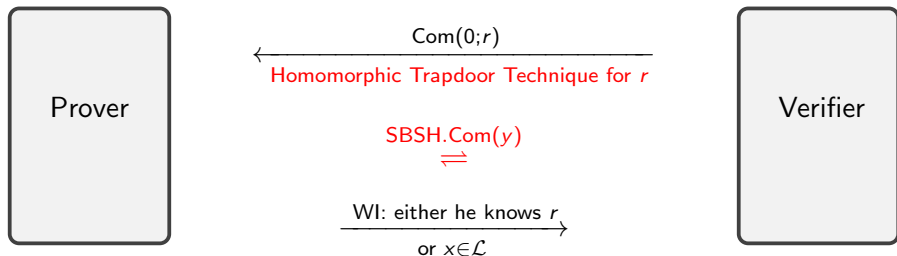
- ▶ Simulator extracts r and proves the other WI clause.

4-round ZK Argument for QMA Construction



- ▶ Simulator extracts r and proves the other WI clause.
- ▶ Works for non-Malicious Verifiers:

4-round ZK Argument for QMA Construction



- ▶ Simulator extracts r and proves the other WI clause.
- ▶ Works for non-Malicious Verifiers:
 - ▶ Non-Aborting.
 - ▶ Explainable (messages can always be explained).

Extend to Malicious Verifiers

Aborting

- ▶ Our simulator fails in the aborting case, gets stuck with Verifier's encrypted inner state.

Extend to Malicious Verifiers

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- ▶ Following the template of [BS20], we construct two Simulators:
 - ▶ one aborting
 - ▶ one non-aborting

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Aborting

- ▶ Our simulator fails in the aborting case, gets stuck with Verifier's encrypted inner state.
- ▶ Following the template of [BS20], we construct two Simulators:
 - ▶ one aborting
 - ▶ one non-aborting
- ▶ A combined simulator guesses which one should be used, using Watrous' Quantum Rewinding Lemma [Wat09].

Extend to Malicious Verifiers

Non-Explainable

- ▶ Add proof from the verifier to the prover that the messages were computed honestly.

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- ▶ Verifier's messages are classical, so ZK for NP suffices.

Extend to Malicious Verifiers

Non-Explainable

- ▶ Add proof from the verifier to the prover that the messages were computed honestly.
- ▶ Verifier's messages are classical, so ZK for NP suffices.
- ▶ To maintain statistical ZK and round complexity we need a 3-round post-quantum ZK proof for NP.

Obstacles

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- ▶ We need a 3-round post-quantum ZK proof.
- ▶ Existing 2-round (post-quantum) CDS protocols only provide computational security for the receiver.
- ▶ **Solved by constructing a 3-round sometimes-extractable statistically receiver private oblivious transfer (SRP-OT).**

Sometimes-Simulatable ZK

- ▶ Weaker ZK notion.

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- ▶ Simulation is possible with some (negligibly) small probability.

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- ▶ Security parameters of other primitives are set to account for this exponential loss.

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- ▶ Assuming quasi-polynomial hardness of LWE we construct:
 - ▶ A 2-round Statistical Witness Indistinguishability Argument for QMA without trusted setup.
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- ▶ Assuming quasi-polynomial hardness of LWE we construct:
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- ▶ <https://eprint.iacr.org/2021/918>
Orestis Chardouvelis and Giulio Malavolta.