

Computer Science 308-547A
Cryptography and Data Security

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These notes are, largely, transcriptions by Anton Stiglic of class notes from the former course *Cryptography and Data Security (308-647A)* that was given by prof. Claude Crépeau at McGill University during the autumn of 1998-1999. These notes are updated and revised by Claude Crépeau.

17 Zero-Knowledge Proofs

17.1 Interactive Proofs

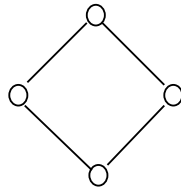
The statement is valid \Rightarrow Verifier will accept.

The statement is invalid \Rightarrow Verifier will reject with high probability.

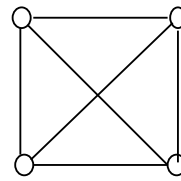
Zero-Knowledge: Whatever strategy the Verifier uses, all the data that he gets from the prover could have been generated by himself, alone, assuming that he knew the validity/invalidity of the statement.

17.1.1 ZK proof for graph isomorphism.

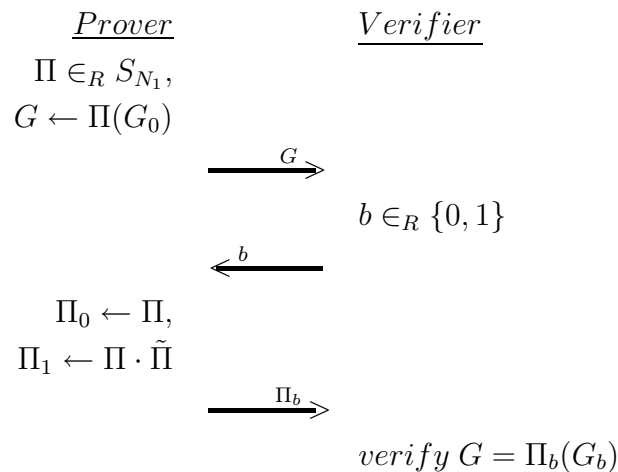
$$G_0 = (N_0, E_0)$$



$$G_1 = (N_1, E_1)$$



P wants to prove that $G_0 \cong G_1$. $G_0 = \tilde{\Pi}(G_1)$.



Definition 17.1 (Interactive Proof) An interactive proof (I, P) is a two party game between:

P : all-powerful prover, and
 V : the verifier (probabilistic polynomial time verifier),
such that

$$\forall_{x \in L} \Pr(V \text{ accepts } x \text{ after talking to } P) \geq \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\forall_{x \notin L} \forall_{P'} \Pr(V \text{ accepts } x \text{ after talking to } P') < \frac{1}{3}$$

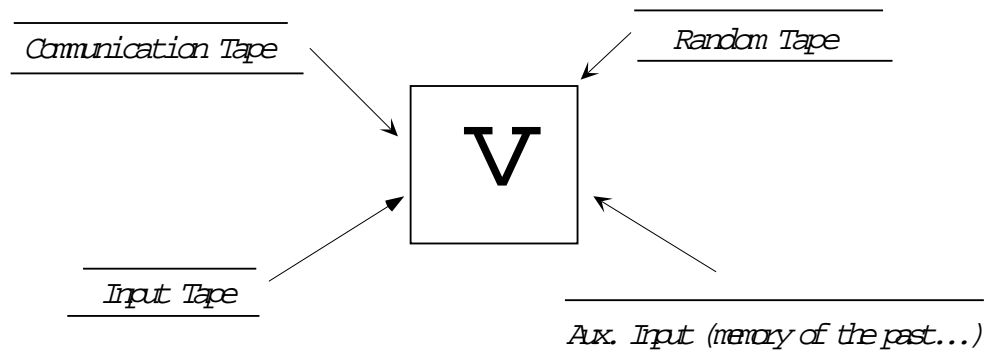
where P' is an arbitrary behaved and all powerful (can decide any language in constant time).

Note: “Talking to P ” does not mean “invoking P ”, because V has to be probabilistic polynomial time bounded.

For the above graph isomorphism proof to be an IP, one must execute two rounds of it. We will give a 1 round IP for this problem latter on.

17.1.2 Definiton of ZK-ness

definition of the Verifier:



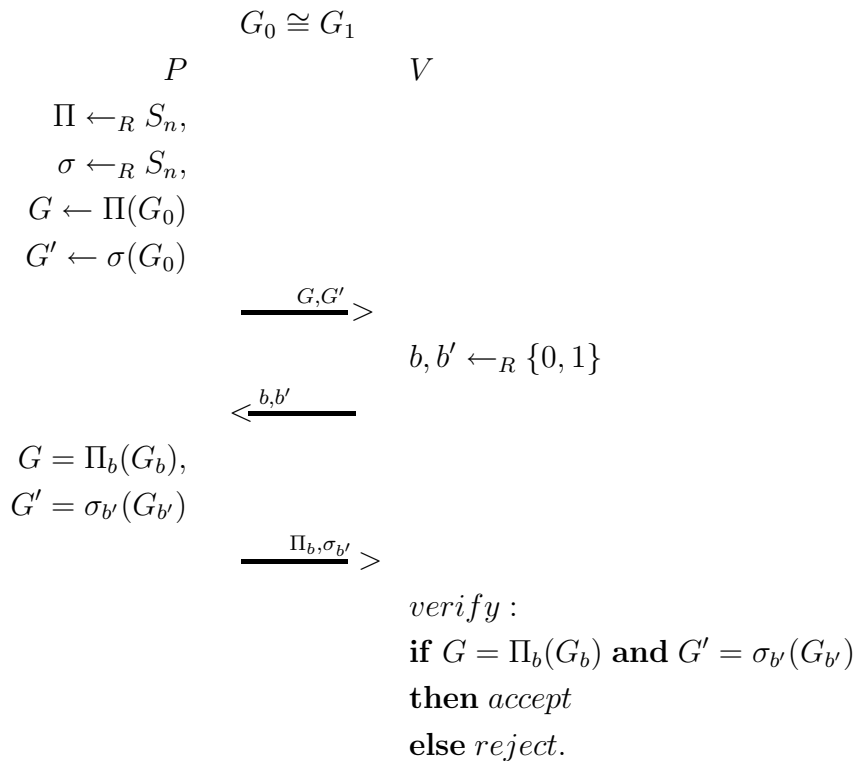
$View(V)$ = a computation history of V on some input.

Definition 17.2 An IP (P, V) is ZK if

$$\forall_{V'}, \exists_{S_{V'}} : \forall_{x \in L} View(V', (P, V'), x) = S'(x).$$

where V' is an arbitrary behavior of V that is probabilistic and polynomially time bounded and $S_{V'}$ is a simulator, also probabilistic polynomial time bounded.

Example 17.1 (graphs isomorphism:) An IP for graph isomorphism in 1 round that is ZK:



Variations on ZK:

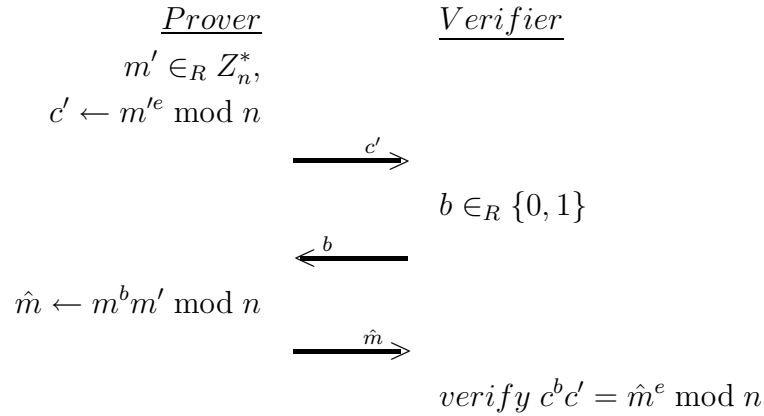
$View_{V'}(x) = S'(x)$ (distributions are the same): ZK is **perfect**.

$View_{V'}(x) \approx S'(x)$ (statistical indistinguishability): ZK is **statistical**.

$View_{V'}(x) \approx_P S'(x)$ (computational indistinguish.): ZK is **computational**.

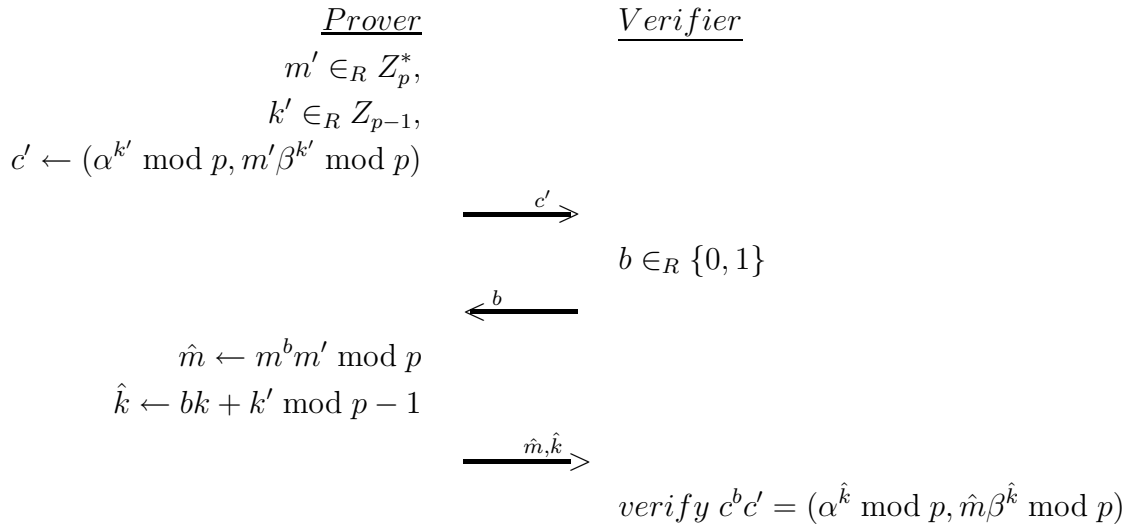
17.2 RSA

P wants to prove that he knows m such that $c = m^e \bmod n$, where e, n and c are given publicly.



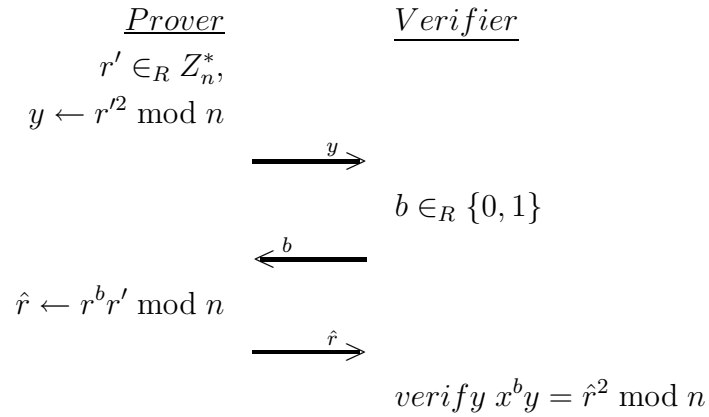
17.3 ElGammal

P wants to prove that he knows m such that $c = (\alpha^k \bmod p, m\beta^k \bmod p)$, for some k where p, α, β and c are given publicly.



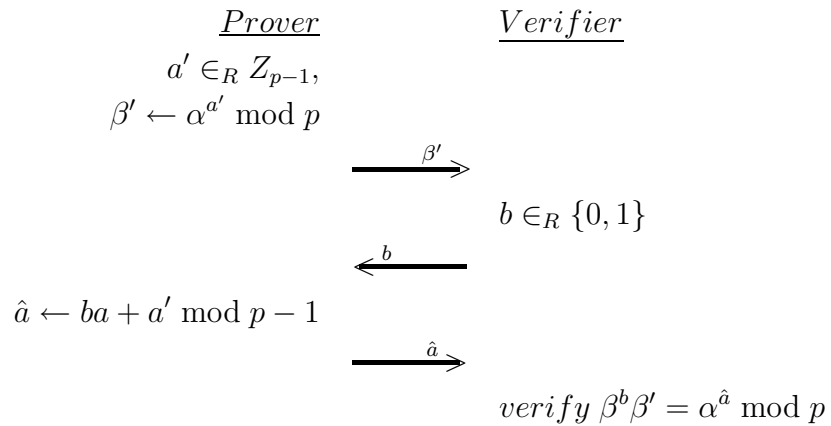
17.4 Factoring

P wants to prove that he knows the factorization of n . The Verifier provides some quadratic residue x the Prover shows that a knows a square root r .



17.5 Discrete log

P wants to prove that he knows a such that $\beta = \alpha^a \bmod p$, where p, α, β .



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