

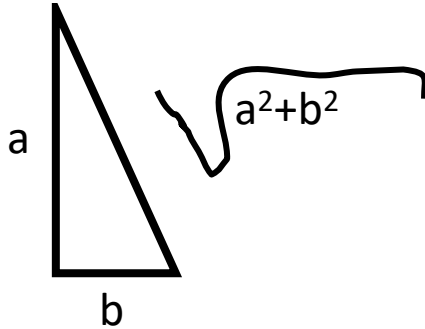
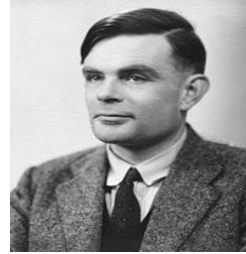
# Zero Knowledge Proofs

## Introduction to Zero Knowledge Interactive Proofs

Dan Boneh, **Shafi Goldwasser**, Dawn Song, Justin Thaler, Yupeng Zhang



# Classical Proofs

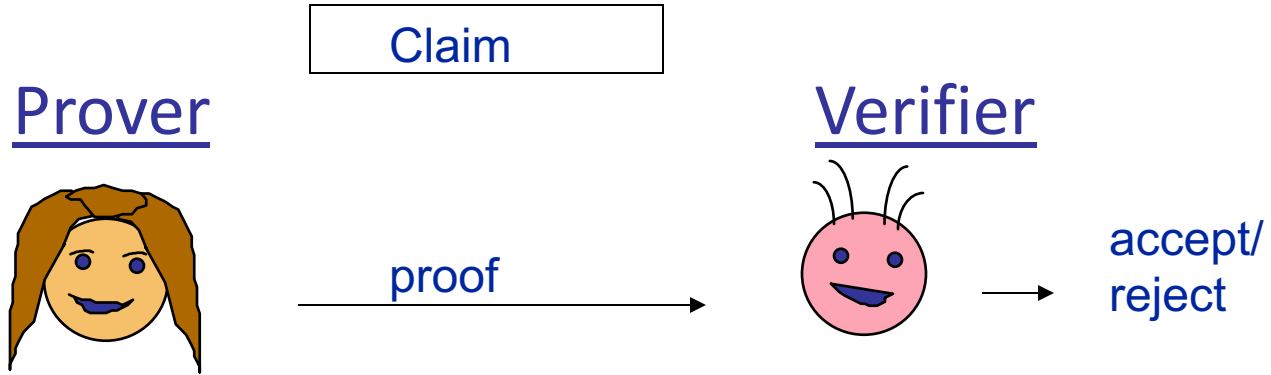


<p>Given: <math>AC \perp BD</math>  <math>BC = EC</math>  <math>AB</math> is not <math>\cong</math> to <math>ED</math></p> <p>Prove: <math>\angle B</math> is not <math>\cong</math> to <math>\angle CED</math></p>	
<p>Statements</p> <p>A 1. Assume: <math>\angle B \cong \angle CED</math>                  2. <math>AC \perp BD</math>                  3. <math>\angle BCA</math> and <math>\angle DCE</math> are right <math>\angle</math>s                  4. <math>\angle BCA \cong \angle DCE</math>                  5. <math>BC = EC</math>                  6. <math>\triangle BCA \cong \triangle ECD</math>                  7. <math>AB = ED</math>                  8. <math>AB</math> is not <math>\cong</math> to <math>ED</math></p>	<p>Reasons</p> <p>1. Assumption                  2. Given                  3. Defn. of <math>\perp</math> segs                  4. RAT                  5. Given                  6. ASA (1, 5, 4)                  7. CPCTC                  8. Given</p>
<p>But statement 7 contradicts statement 8. Consequently, the assumption must be false.  <math>\angle B</math> is not <math>\cong</math> to <math>\angle CED</math>.</p>	

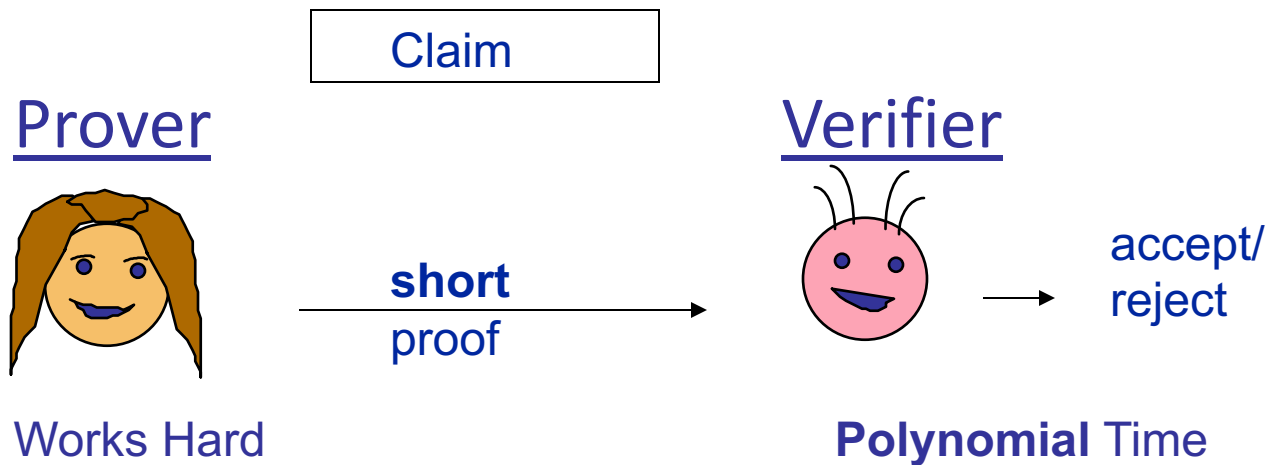
...

Prime-  
Number Thm

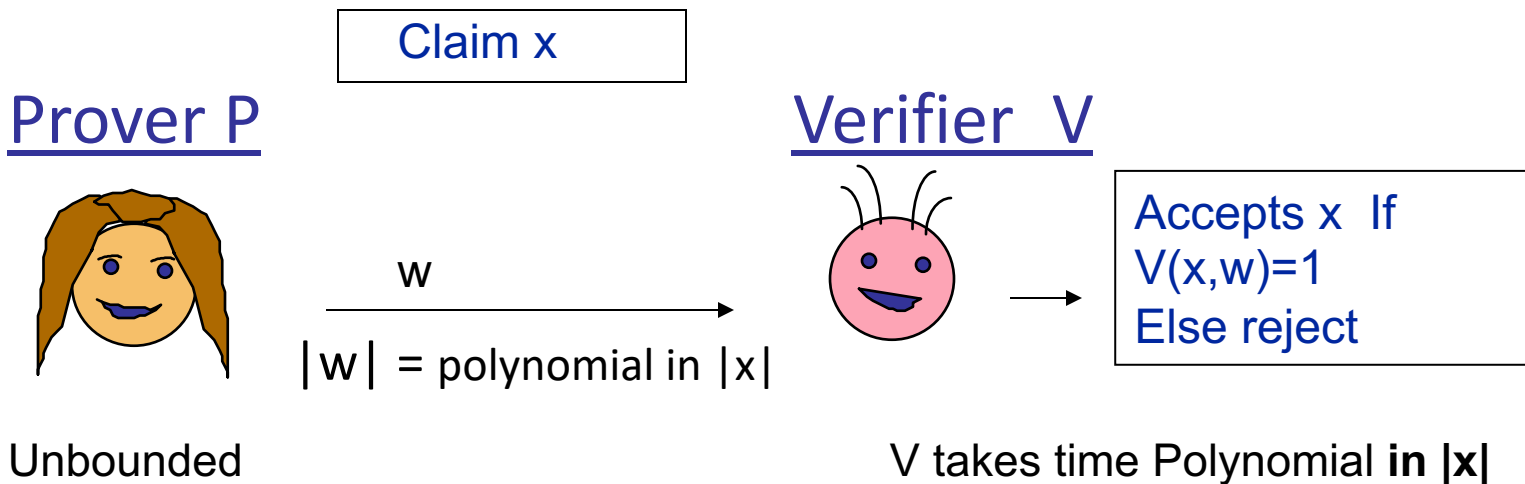
# Proofs



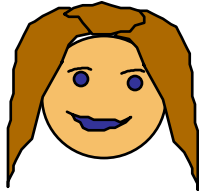
# Efficiently Verifiable Proofs (NP-proofs)



# Efficiently Verifiable Proofs (NP-proofs)



# Claim: $N$ is a product of 2 large primes



proof= $\{p,q\}$

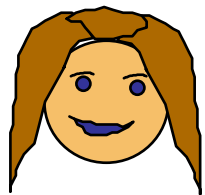


If  $N=pq$ ,  $V$  accepts  
Else  $V$  rejects

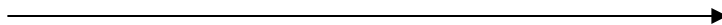
After interaction,  $V$  knows:

- 1)  $N$  is product of 2 primes
- 2) The two primes  $p$  and  $q$

Claim:  $y$  is a quadratic residue mod  $N$   
(i.e.  $\exists x$  in  $Z_N^*$  s. t.  $y=x^2 \pmod N$ )



Proof =  $x$

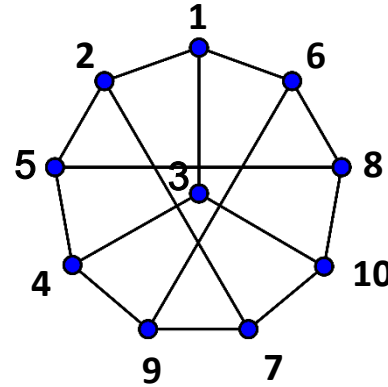
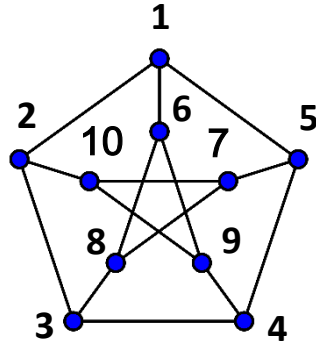


If  $y=x^2 \pmod N$ ,  $V$  accepts  
Else  $V$  rejects

After interaction,  $V$  knows:

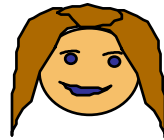
1.  $y$  is a quadratic residue mod
2. Square root of  $y$  (hard problem equivalent to factoring  $N$ )

# Claim: the two graphs are isomorphic

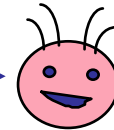


After interaction, V knows:

- 1)  $G_0$  is isomorphic to  $G_1$
- 2) The isomorphism  $\pi$



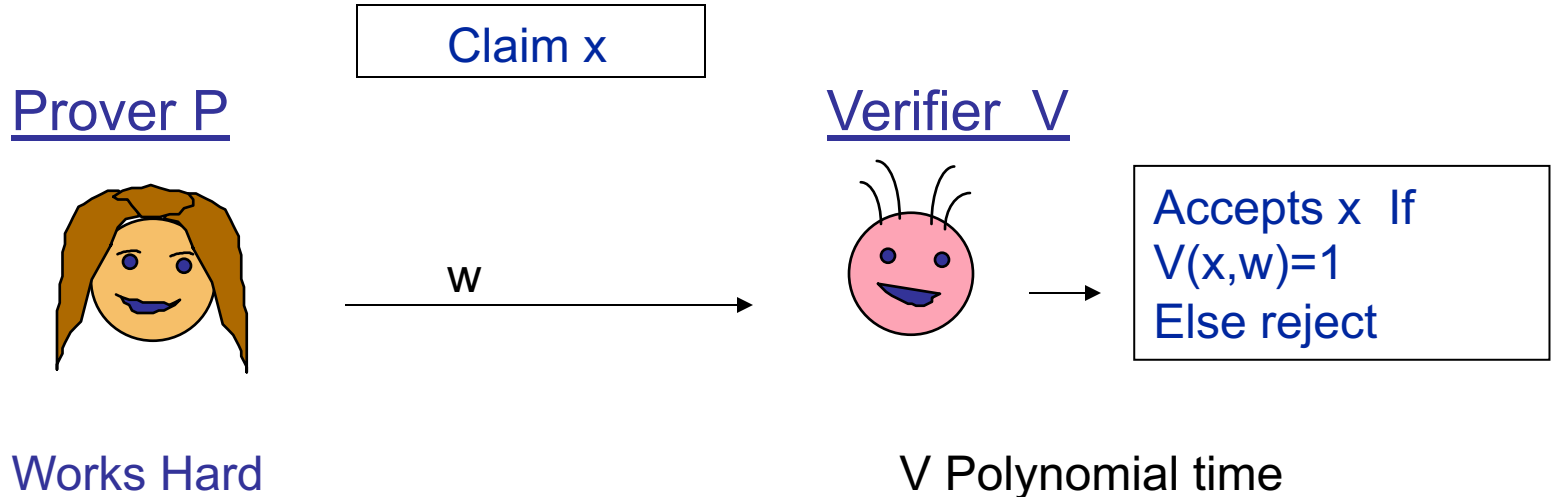
$\pi: [N] \rightarrow [N],$   
the isomorphism



Accept if  $\forall i, j:$   
 $(\pi(i), \pi(j)) \in E_1$  iff  
 $(i, j) \in E_0.$

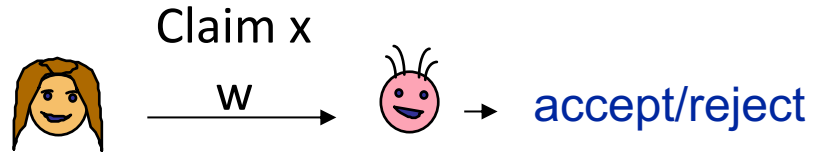


# Efficiently Verifiable Proofs (NP-Languages)



**Def:** A language  $L$  is a set of binary strings  $x$ .

# Efficiently Verifiable Proofs (NP-Languages)



**Def:**  $\mathcal{L}$  is an **NP**-language (or NP-decision problem), if there is a **poly ( $|x|$ ) time** verifier  $V$  where

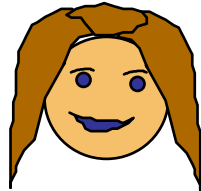
- **Completeness [True claims have (short) proofs].**  
if  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ , there is a **poly( $|x|$ )-long** witness  $w \in \{0,1\}^*$  s.t.  $V(x, w) = 1$ .
- **Soundness [False theorems have no proofs].**  
if  $x \notin \mathcal{L}$ , there is no witness. That is, for all  $w \in \{0,1\}^*$ ,  $V(x, w) = 0$ .

# 1982-1985: Is there any other way?

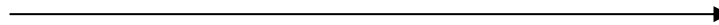


Micali Goldwasser Rackoff

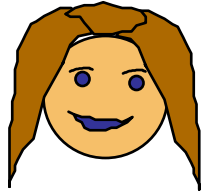
Theorem:  $y$  is a quadratic residue mod  $N$



Proof =  $\sqrt{y} \bmod N \in \mathbb{Z}_N^*$



# Zero Knowledge Proofs: Yes



**Main Idea:**  
Prove that  
I **could** prove it  
If I felt like it

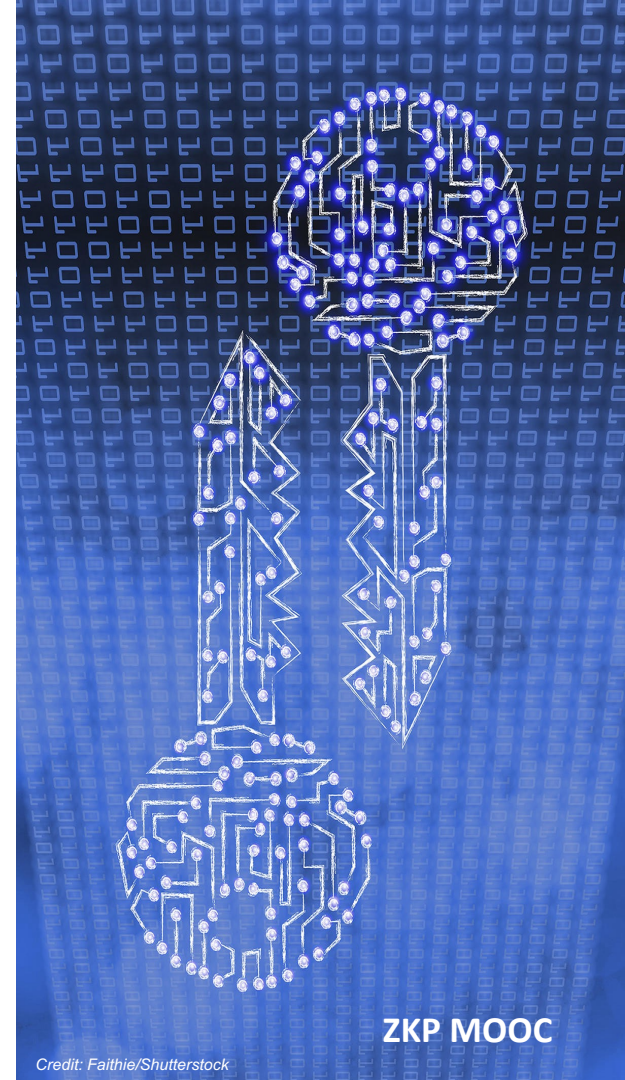


Micali

Goldwasser

Rackoff

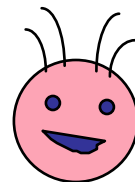
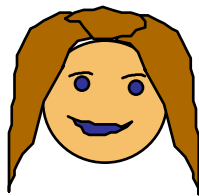
# Zero Knowledge Interactive Proofs



# Two New Ingredients

## Interactive and Probabilistic Proofs

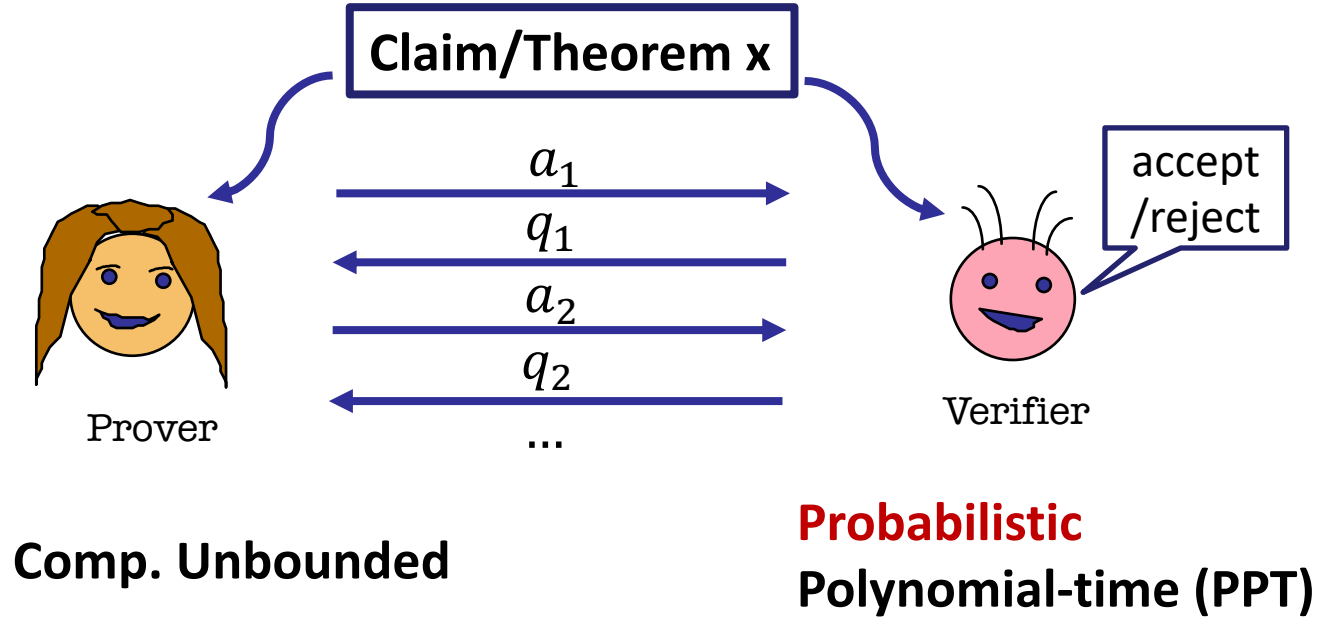
**Interaction:** rather than passively “reading” proof, verifier engages in a non-trivial **interaction** with the **prover**.



**Randomness:** verifier is randomized (tosses coins as a primitive operation), and can err in accept/reject with small probability



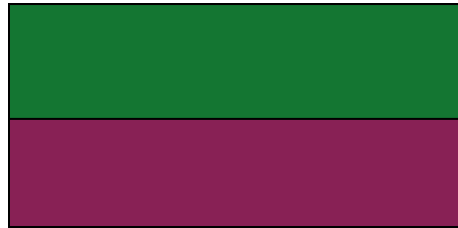
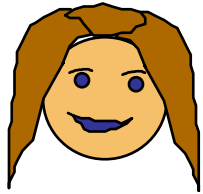
# Interactive Proof Model



Here is the idea:

How to prove colors are different to a **blind verifier**

Claim: This page contains 2 colors



Sends resulting page

Toss **coin** to decide if to flip page over or not  
Heads flip, Tails don't

If page is flipped  
Set  $\text{coin}' = \text{heads}$   
Else  $\text{coin}' = \text{tails}$

I guess you tossed **coin'**

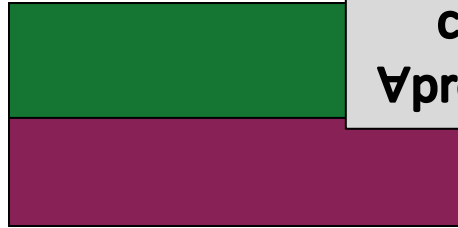
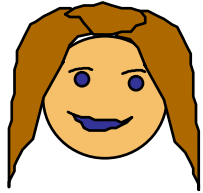
If  $\text{coin} \neq \text{coin}'$ ,  
reject, else accept



Here is the idea:

How to prove colors are different

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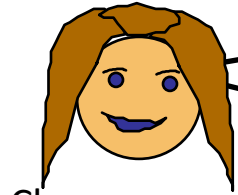
I guess you tossed **coin'**



If  $\text{coin} \neq \text{coin}'$ ,  
reject, else accept

- If there are 2 colors, then Verifier will accept
- If there is a single color,  $\forall$  provers  $\text{Prob}_{\text{coins}}(\text{Verifier accept}) \leq 1/2$
- If repeat  $i=1..k$  times and  $V$  accept if  $\text{coin}_i' = \text{coin}_i$  every repetition,  $\forall$  provers  $\text{Prob}_{\text{coins}}(\text{Verifier accept}) \leq 1/2^k$

# Interactive Proof for QR = $\{(N, y): \exists x \text{ s.t. } y = x^2 \pmod N\}$



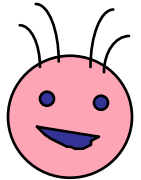
Choose  
random  
 $1 \leq r \leq N$   
s.t.  
 $\gcd(r, N) = 1$

Send  $s = r^2 \pmod n$  and say

- If I gave you square roots of both  $s$  and  $sy \pmod N$  you would be convinced that the claim is true (but also know  $\sqrt{y} \pmod N$ )
- Instead, I will give you a square root of either  $s$  or of  $sy \pmod N$  but you get to choose which!

Flip a  $b =$   to choose

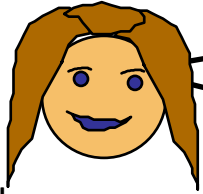
If  $b=1$ : send  $z=r$   
If  $b=0$ : send  $z=r\sqrt{y} \pmod N$



Accepts  
only if  
 $z^2 = sy^{1-b} \pmod N$

# Interactive Proof for QR=

- **Completeness:** If Claim is true, then Verifier will accept
- **Soundness:** If Claim is false,  $\forall$  provers  $\text{Prob}_{\text{coins}}(\text{Verifier accept}) \leq 1/2$
- **Prover only needs to know**  $x = \sqrt{y}$



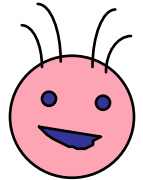
Choose  
random  
 $1 \leq r \leq N$   
s.t.  
 $\text{gcd}(r, N) = 1$

Sends  $s = r^2 \pmod n$  and says

- If I gave you square roots, you would be convinced that the claim is true (but also know  $\sqrt{y} \pmod N$ )
- Instead, I will give you a square root of  $s$  or of  $sy \pmod N$  but you get to choose which!

Flip a  $b =$   to choose

If  $b=1$ : send  $z=r$   
If  $b=0$ : send  $z=r\sqrt{y} \pmod N$

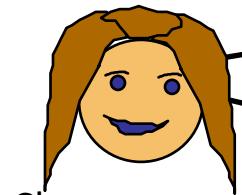


Accepts  
only if  
 $z^2 = sy^{1-b} \pmod N$

# Interactive Proof for C

Repeat 100 times

- **Completeness:** If Claim is true, then Verifier will accept
- **Soundness:** If Claim is false,  $\forall$  provers  $\text{Prob}_{\text{coins}}(\text{Verifier accept}) \leq (1/2)^{100}$
- **Prover only needs to know  $x = \sqrt{y}$**



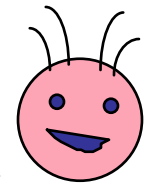
Choose random  $1 \leq r \leq N$   
 s.t.  $\text{gcd}(r, N) = 1$

Send  $s = r^2 \pmod n$  and  $s$

- If I gave you square  $s$  you would be convinced that the claim is true (but also know  $\forall y \pmod n$ )
- Instead, I will give you a square root of  $s$  or of  $sy \pmod N$  but you get to choose which!
- The fact that I COULD (in principle) do both, should convince you

Flip a coin  to choose

If  $b=1$ : send  $z=r$   
 If  $b=0$ : send  $z=r\sqrt{y} \pmod N$

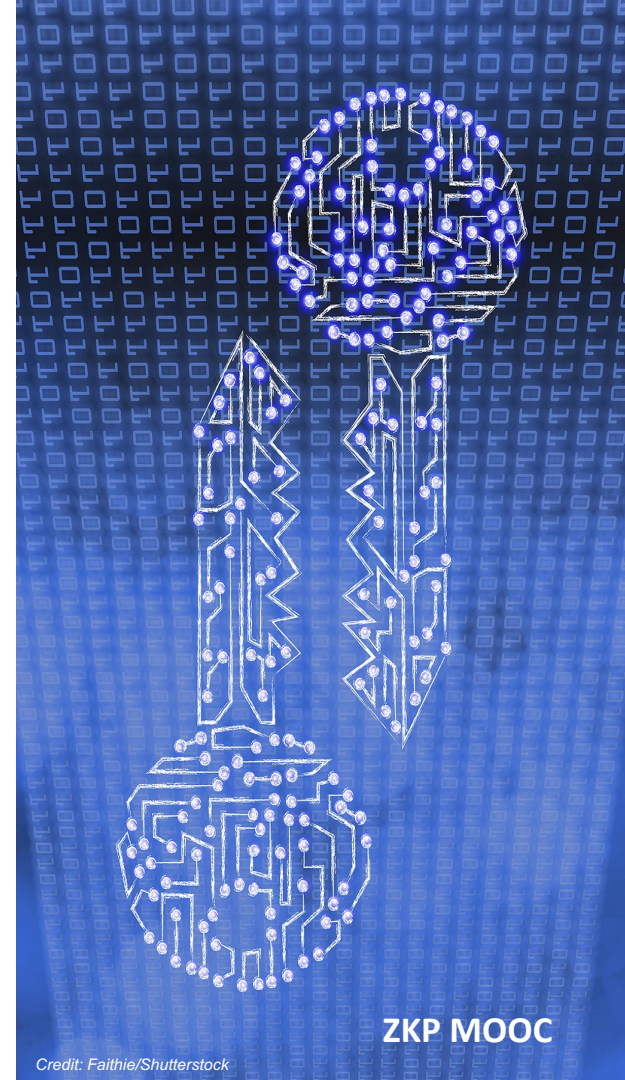


Accepts only if  $z^2 = sy^{1-b} \pmod N$

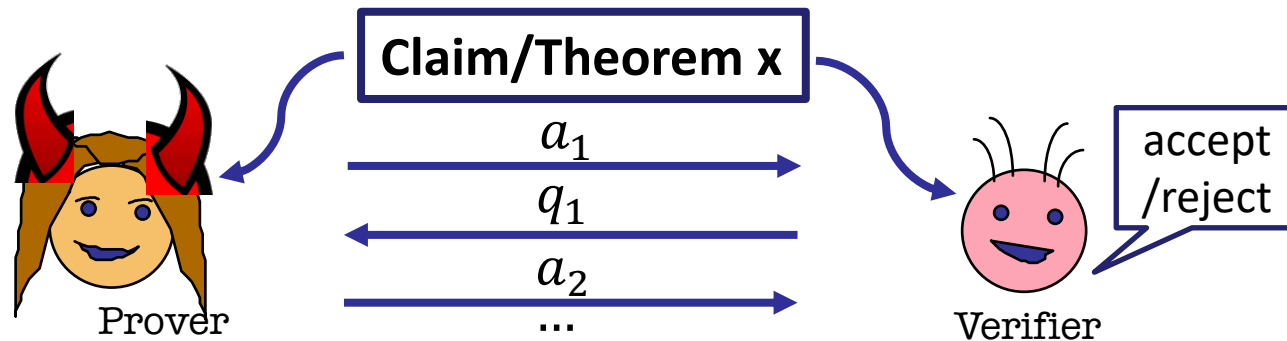
# What Made it possible?

- The statement to be proven has **many possible proofs** of which the prover chooses one ***at random***.
- Each such proof is made up of exactly 2 parts: seeing either part on its own gives the verifier no knowledge; seeing both parts imply 100% correctness.
- Verifier chooses **at random** which of the two parts of the proof he wants the prover to give him. The ability of the prover to provide either part, convinces the verifier

Definitions :  
of Zero Knowledge  
Interactive Proofs



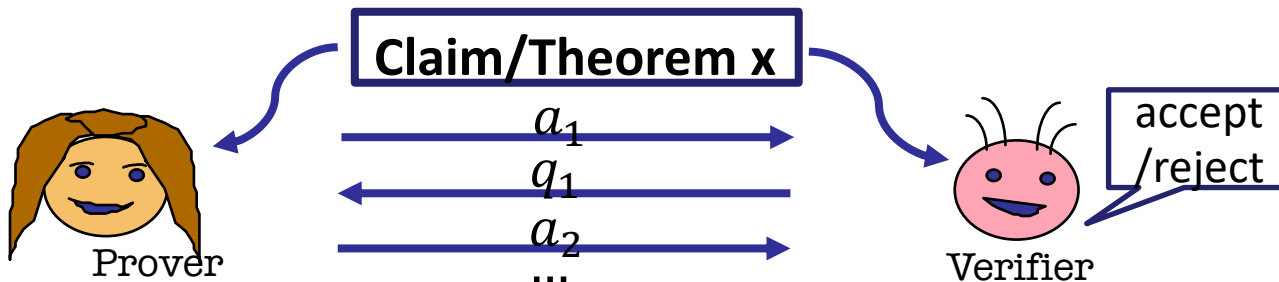
# Interactive Proofs for a Language $\mathcal{L}$



**Def:**  $(P, V)$  is an interactive proof for  $L$ , if  $V$  is probabilistic poly  $(|x|)$  time &

- **Completeness:** If  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ ,  $V$  always accepts.
- **Soundness:** If  $x \notin \mathcal{L}$ , for all **cheating prover strategy**,  $V$  will not accept except with negligible probability.

# Interactive Proofs: Notation



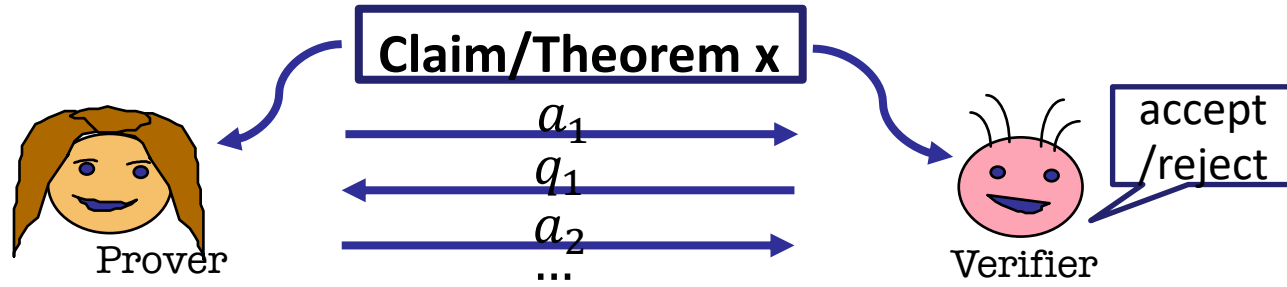
**Def:**  $(P, V)$  is an interactive proof for  $L$ , if  $V$  is probabilistic poly  $(|x|)$  and

- **Completeness:** If  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ ,  $\Pr[(P, V)(x) = \text{accept}] = 1$ .
- **Soundness:** If  $x \notin \mathcal{L}$ , for every  $P^*$ ,  $\Pr[(P^*, V)(x) = \text{accept}] = \text{negl}(|x|)$

where  $\text{negl}(\lambda) < \frac{1}{\text{polynomial}(\lambda)}$  for all polynomial functions



# Interactive Proofs: Notation

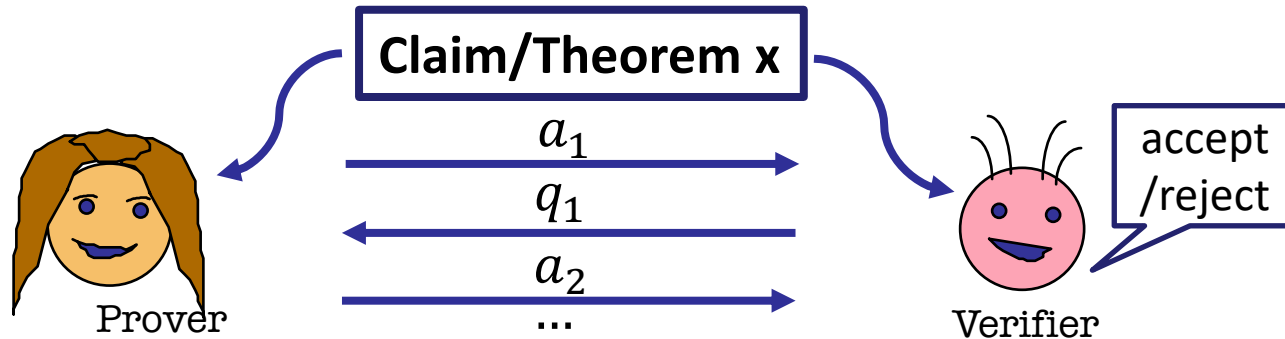


**Def** (ZKP) ...

**This is what a proof ultimately is!**

wh

# Interactive Proofs for a Language $\mathcal{L}$ : Notation

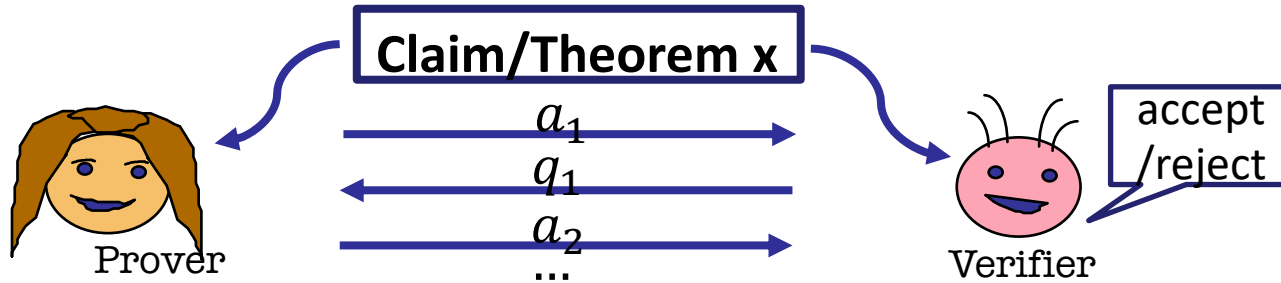


**Def:**  $(P, V)$  is an interactive proof for  $L$ , if  $V$  is probabilistic poly  $(|x|)$  and

- **Completeness:** If  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ ,  $\Pr[(P, V)(x) = \text{accept}] \geq c$
- **Soundness:** If  $x \notin \mathcal{L}$ , for every  $P^*$ ,  $\Pr[(P^*, V)(x) = \text{accept}] \leq s$

Equivalent as long as  $c - s \geq 1/\text{poly}(|x|)$

# The class of Interactive Proofs (IP)



**Def:** class of languages  $IP =$

**$\{L \text{ for which there is an interactive proof}\}$**

# What is zero-knowledge?

For true Statements,

for every verifier

What the verifier can compute

**after** the interaction =

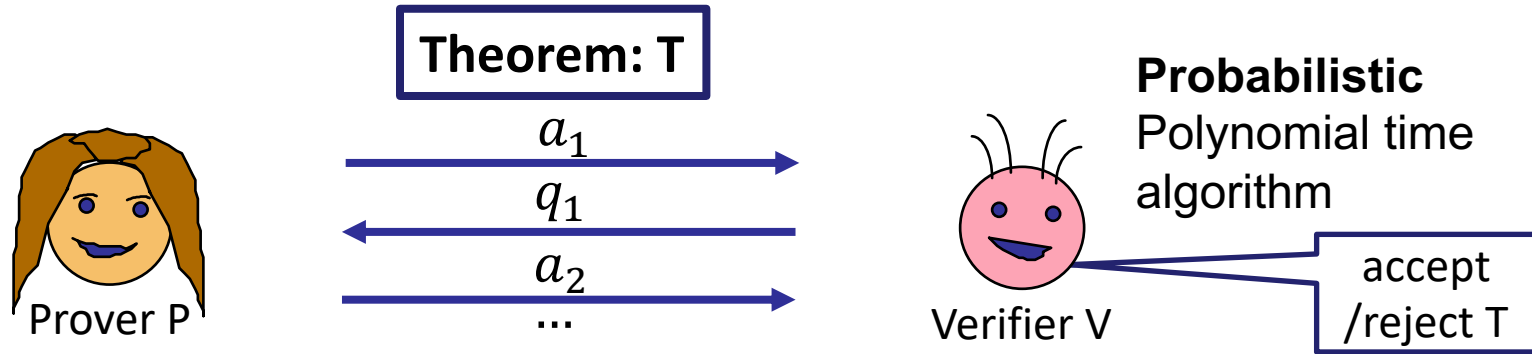
What the verifier could have computed

**before** interaction



**How do we capture this mathematically?**

# The Verifier's View



- After interactive proof, V “learned”:
  - T is true (or  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ )
  - A **view** of interaction (= transcript + coins V tossed)

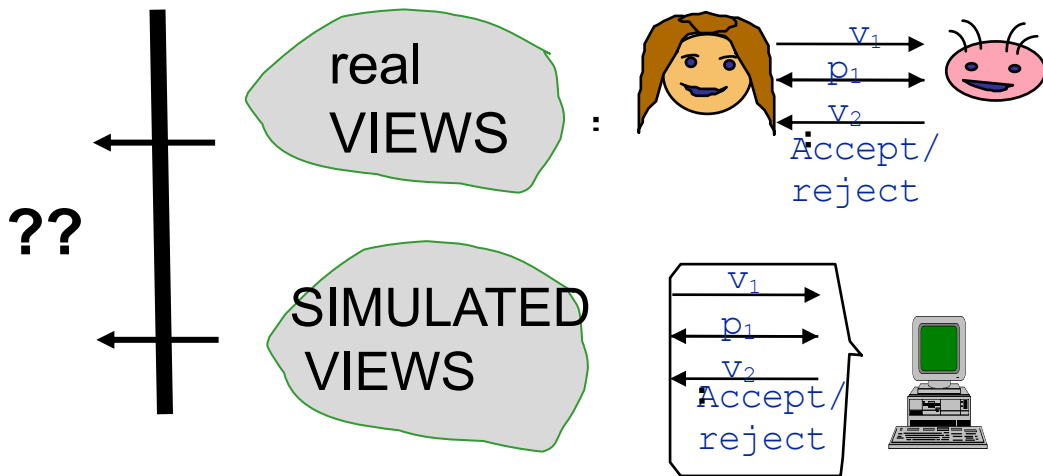
**Def:**  $\text{view}_V(P, V)[x] = \{(q_1, a_1, q_2, a_2, \dots, \text{coins of } V)\}$ .  
(probability distribution over coins of V and P)

# The Simulation Paradigm

$V$ 's view gives him nothing new, if he could have simulated it its own s.t  
'simulated view' and 'real-view' are **computationally-Indistinguishable**



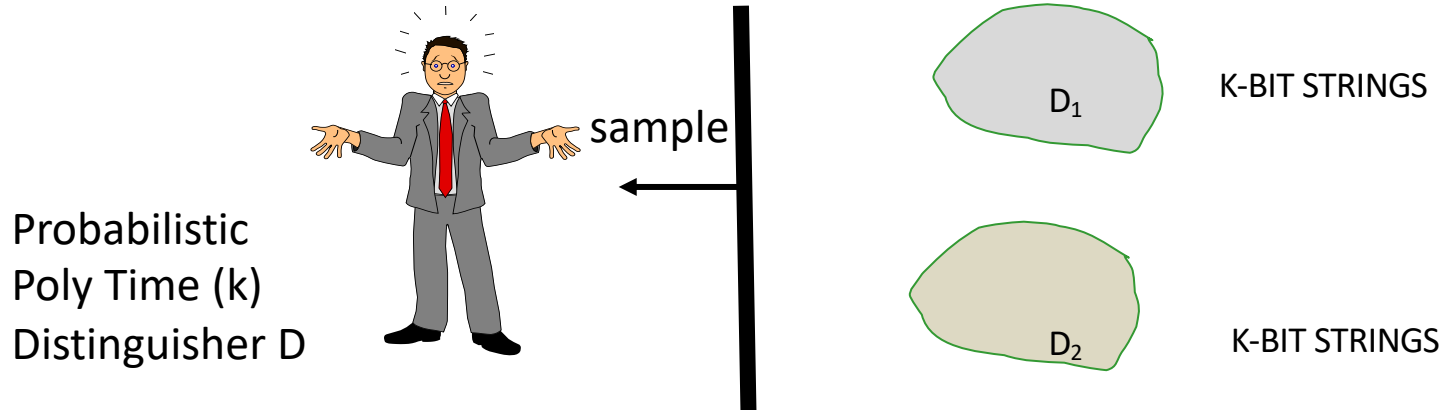
The poly-time Distinguisher



When Theorem is true

# Computational Indistinguishability

If no “distinguisher” can tell apart two different probability distributions they are “effectively the same”.



For all distinguisher algorithms  $D$ , even after receiving a polynomial number of samples from  $D_b$ ,  $\text{Prob}[D \text{ guesses } b] < 1/2 + \text{negl}(k)$

# Zero Knowledge: Definition

An Interactive Protocol  $(P, V)$  is zero-knowledge for a language  $L$  if there exists a **PPT** algorithm  $\text{Sim}$  (a simulator) such that **for every  $x \in L$** , the following two probability distributions are **poly-time** indistinguishable:

1.  $\text{view}_V(P, V)[x] = \{(q_1, a_1, q_2, a_2, \dots, \text{coins of } V)\}$   
(over coins of  $V$  and  $P$ )
2.  $\text{Sim}(x)$

**Def:**  $(P, V)$  is a zero-knowledge interactive protocol if it is *complete, sound and zero-knowledge*



# Zero Knowledge: Definition

An Interactive Protocol (P,V) is zero-knowledge for a language  $L$  if there exists a **PPT** algorithm Sim (a simulator) such that **for every  $x \in L$** , the following two probability distributions are **poly-time** indistinguishable:

Allow simulator S  
Expected  
Poly-time

1.  $view_V(P, V)[x, 1^\lambda] = \{(q_1, a_1, q_2, a_2, \dots, \text{coins of } V)\}$   
(over coins of V and P)
2.  $Sim(x, 1^\lambda)$

**Def:** (P,V) is a zero-knowledge interactive protocol if it is *complete, sound and zero-knowledge*

Technicality:  
Allows sufficient  
Runtime on small  $x$   
 $\lambda$ - security parameter

# What if V is **NOT HONEST**

OLD DEF

An Interactive Protocol (P,V) is **honest-verifier** zero-knowledge for a language  $L$  if there exists a PPT simulator  $\text{Sim}$  such that for every  $x \in L$ ,

$$\text{view}_V(P, V)[x] \approx \text{Sim}(x, 1^\lambda)$$

REAL DEF

An Interactive Protocol (P,V) is **zero-knowledge** for a language  $L$  if **for every PPT  $V^*$** , there exists a poly time simulator  $\text{Sim}$  s.t. for every  $x \in L$ ,

$$\text{view}_V(P, V)[x] \approx \text{Sim}(x, 1^\lambda)$$



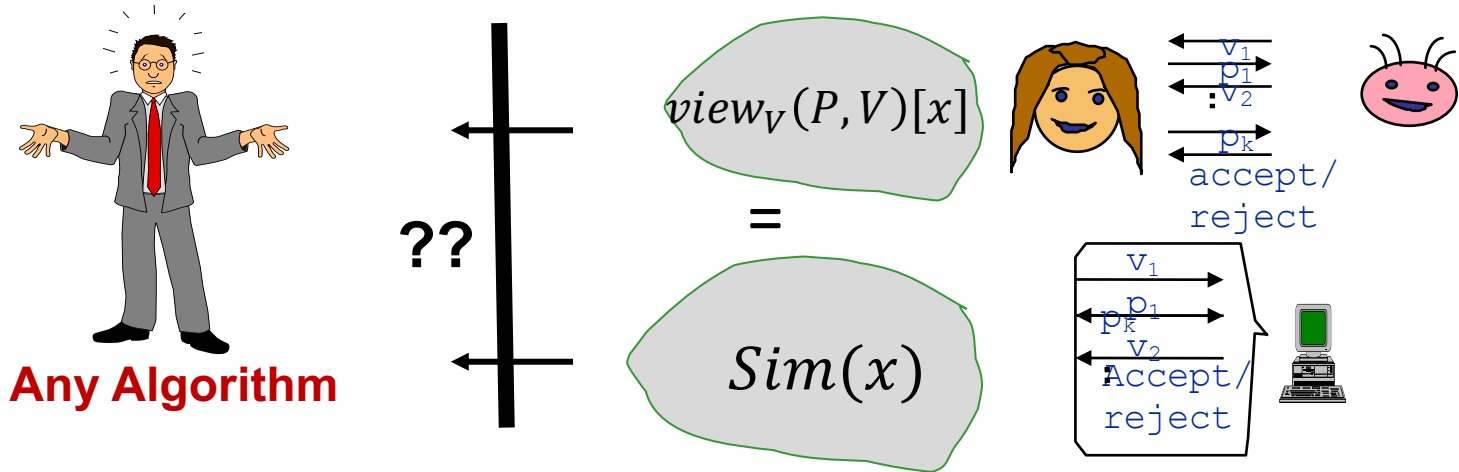
# Flavors of Zero Knowledge

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{view}_V(P, V)[x] & & \text{Sim}(x, 1^\lambda) \\ \text{REAL} & \approx & \text{SIMULATED} \end{array}$$

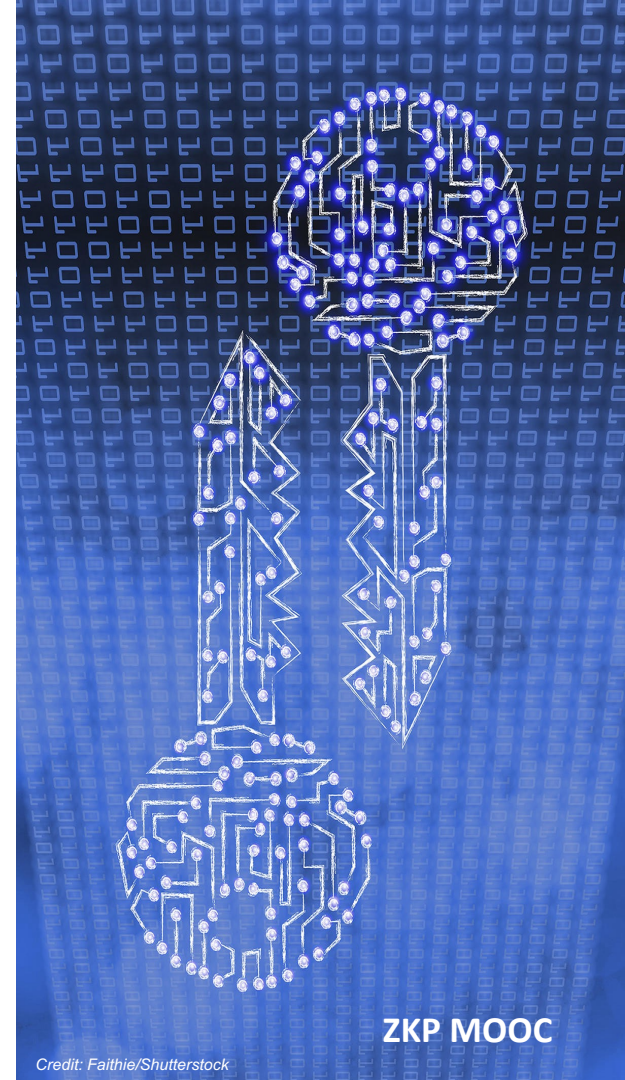
- Computationally indistinguishable distributions = CZK
- Perfectly identical distributions = PZK
- Statistically close distributions = SZK

# Special Case: Perfect Zero Knowledge

verifier's view can be exactly efficiently simulated  
'Simulated views' = 'real views'

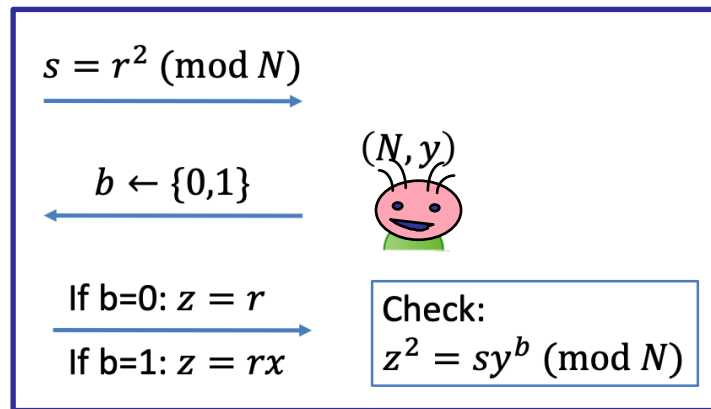


# Working through a Simulation for QR Protocol



# Recall the Simulation Paradigm

$view_V(P, V)$ :  
Transcript =  $(s, b, z)$ ,  
Coins =  $b$

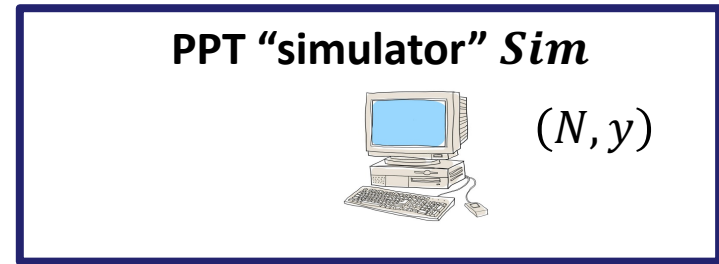
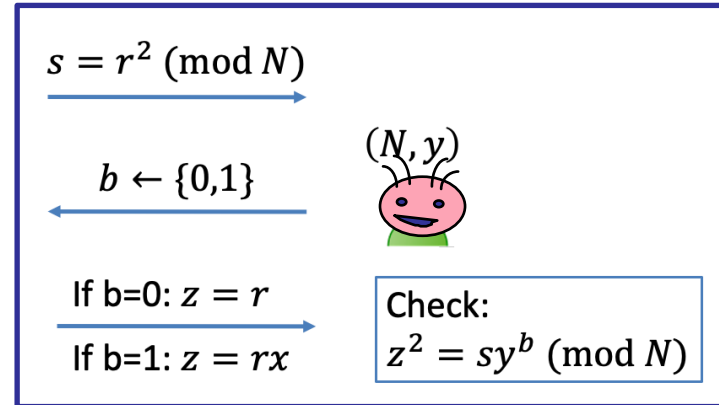


# Recall the Simulation Paradigm



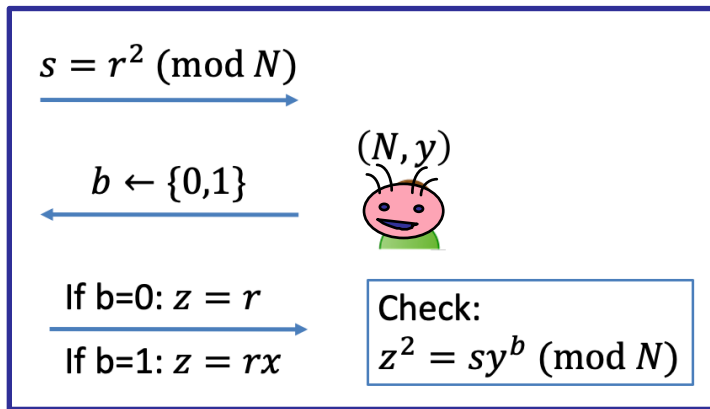
$view_V(P, V):$   
 $(s, b, z)$

$sim :$   
 $(s, b, z)$



# (Honest Verifier) Perfect Zero Knowledge

**Claim:** The QR protocol is perfect zero knowledge.



**Simulator S works as follows:**

1. First pick a random bit  $b$ .
2. pick a random  $z \in Z_N^*$ .
3. compute  $s = z^2 / y^b$ .
4. output  $(s, b, z)$ .

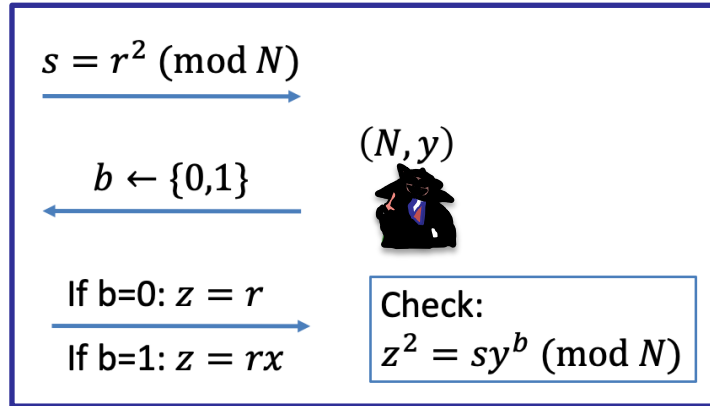
$view_V(P, V):$   
 $(s, b, z)$

**claim:** The simulated transcript is identically distributed as the real transcript



# Perfect Zero Knowledge: for all $V^*$

**Claim:** The QR protocol is perfect zero knowledge.



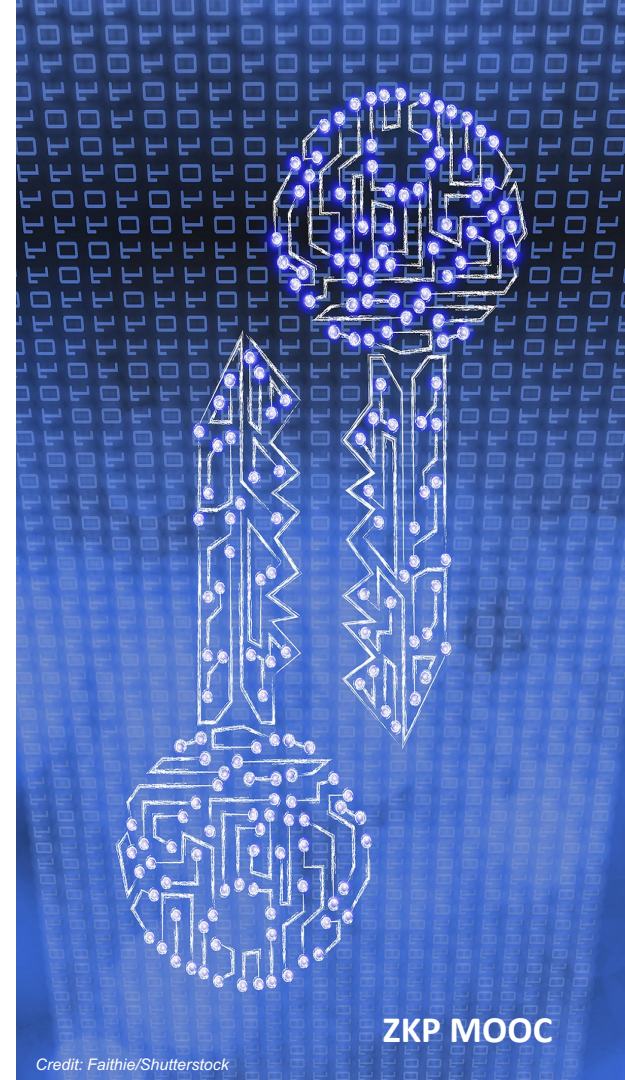
$view_V(P, V):$   
 $(s, b, z)$

**Simulator S works as follows:**

1. First pick a random bit  $b$ .
2. pick a random  $z \in Z_N^*$ .
3. compute  $s = z^2 / y^b$ .
4. If  $V^*((N, y), s) = b$  output  $(s, b, z)$   
if not goto 1 and repeat

**Claim:** Expected number of repetitions is two

# ZK proof of Knowledge



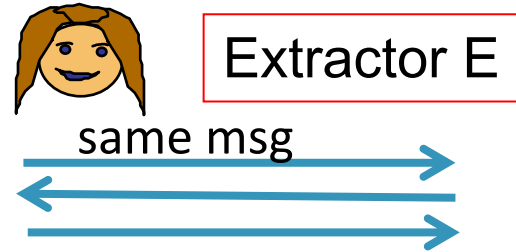
Prover seems to have proved more: theorem is correct and that she “knows” a square root mod N

Consider  $L_R = \{x : \exists w \text{ s.t. } R(x, w) = \textit{accept}\}$  for poly-time relation R.

**Def:**  $(P, V)$  is a **proof of knowledge** (POK) for  $L_R$  if :

$\exists$  PPT (knowledge) extractor algorithm E s. t.  $\forall x$  in L,  
in expected poly-time  $E^P(x)$  outputs  $w$  s.t.  $R(x, w) = \textit{accept}$ .

$E^P(x)$  (E may run P repeatedly on the same randomness)  
possibly asking different questions in every executions  
This is called the rewinding technique



Prover seems to have proved more not only that theorem is correct, but that she “knows” a square root mod N

Consider  $L_R = \{x : \exists w \text{ s. t. } R(x, w) = \textit{accept}\}$  for poly-time relation R.

Def: (P,V) is a **proof of knowledge** (POK) for  $L_R$  if :

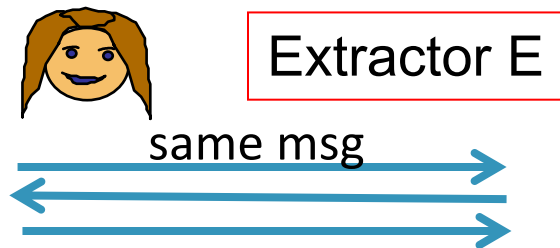
$\exists$  PPT (knowledge) extractor algorithm E s. t.  $\forall x$  in L,  
in expected poly-time  $E^P(x)$  outputs w s.t.  $R(x,w)=\textit{accept}$ .

[if  $\text{Prob}[(P,V)(x)=\textit{accept}] > \alpha$ , then  $E^P(x)$  runs in expected  $\text{poly}(|x|, 1/\alpha)$  time]

$E^P(x)$  (may run P repeatedly on the same randomness)

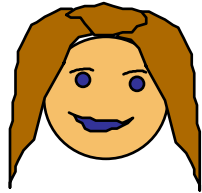
Possibly asking different questions in every executions

This is called the rewinding technique



# ZKPOK that Prover knows a square root $x$ of $y$ mod $N$

Input:  $(y, N)$



Extractor  
Algorithm

$s = r^2 \pmod N$



head



$r$



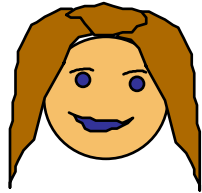
Extractor:

On input  $(y, N)$ ,

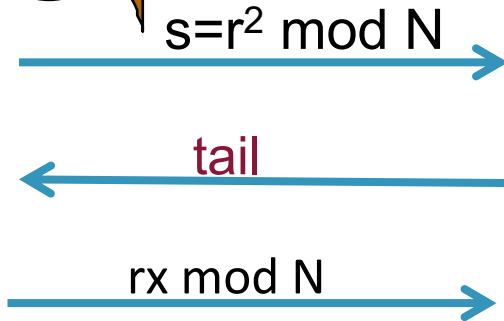
1. Run prover & receive  $s$
2. Set verifier message to **head**; Store  $r$

# The Rewinding Method

Input:  $(y, N)$



Extractor  
Algorithm

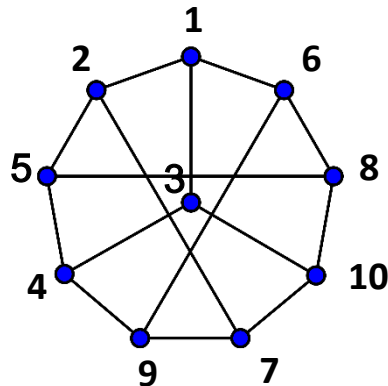
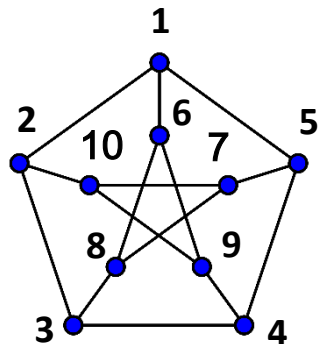


Extractor:

On input  $(y, N)$

1. Run prover & receive  $s$
2. Set verifier message to **head**; receive and store  $r$
3. **Rewind** and 2<sup>nd</sup> time set verifier message to **tail** receive  $rx$
4. Output  $rx/r = x \bmod N$

# ZK Proof for Graph Isomorphism

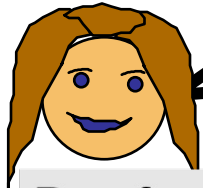


Recall:

$G_0$  is isomorphic to  $G_1$

If  $\exists$  isomorphism  $\pi: [N] \rightarrow [N]$ ,  $\forall i, j: (\pi(i), \pi(j)) \in E_1$  iff  $(i, j) \in E_0$ .

# ZK Interactive Proof for Graph Isomorphism



Proof:

$$H = \gamma_0(G_0),$$

$$H = \gamma_1(G_1),$$

Thus

$$G_1 = \gamma_1^{-1}(\gamma_0(G_0))$$

$$\text{Set } \sigma = \gamma_1^{-1} \gamma_0$$

I will produce a random graph  $H$  for which

**1:** I can give an isomorphism  $\gamma_0$  from  $G_0$  to  $H$

**OR**

**2:** I can give an isomorphism  $\gamma_1$  from  $G_1$  to  $H$

Thus,  $\exists$  isomorphism  $\sigma$  from  $G_0$  to  $G_1$

**Verifier, please randomly** choose if I should demonstrate my ability to do **#1** or **#2**.

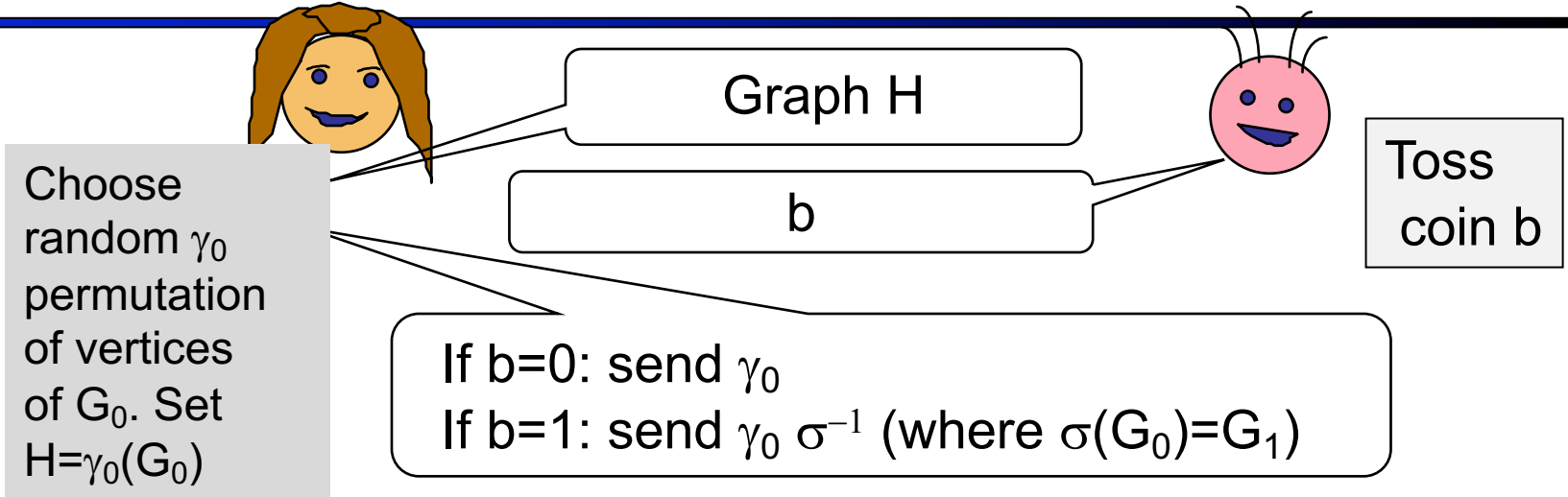


**POINT IS:** If I can do both, there exists an isomorphism from  $G_0$  to  $G_1$



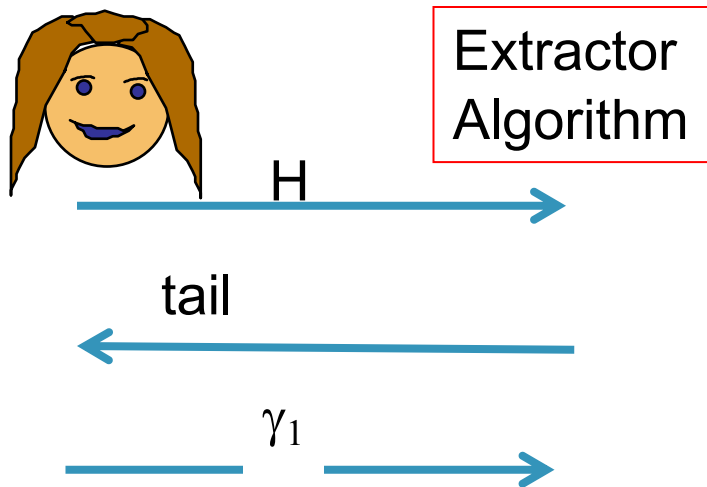
REPEAT K  
INDEPENDENT TIMES.

Input:  $(G_0, G_1)$



- Claims:
- (1) Statement true  $\Rightarrow$  can answer correctly for  $b=0$  and  $1$
  - (2) Statement false  $\Rightarrow$   $\text{prob}_b(\text{catch a mistake}) \geq 1 - 1/2^k$
  - (3) Perfect ZK [Exercise]

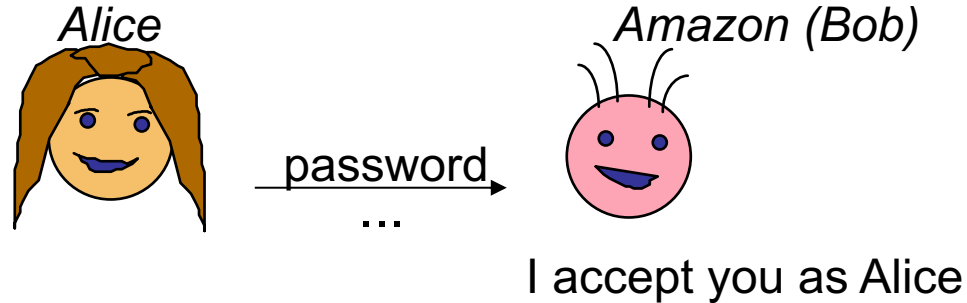
# ZKPOK that **Prover** knows an isomorphism from $G_1$ to $G_2$



## Extractor :

- 1) On input H  
set **coin**=head  
Store  $\gamma_0$
- 2) **Rewind** and 2<sup>nd</sup> time  
set **coin**=tail  
Store  $\gamma_1$
- 3) Output  $\gamma_1^{-1}(\gamma_0)$

# The first application: Identity Theft [FS86]



## For Settings:

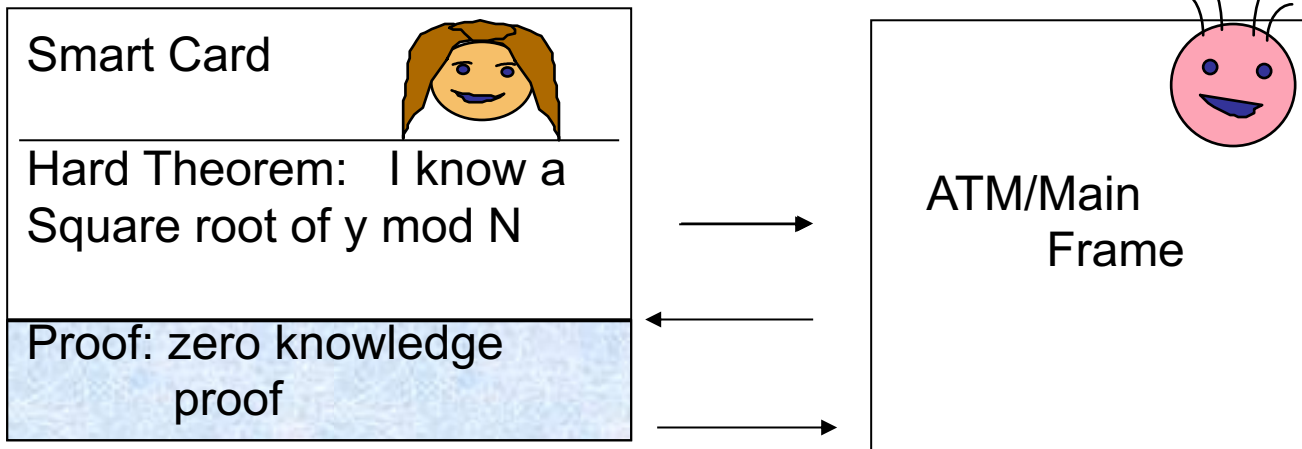
- Alice = Smart Card.
- Over the Net
- Breaking ins at Bob/Amazon are possible

*Passwords are no good*

# Zero Knowledge: Preventing Identity Theft

PROVER

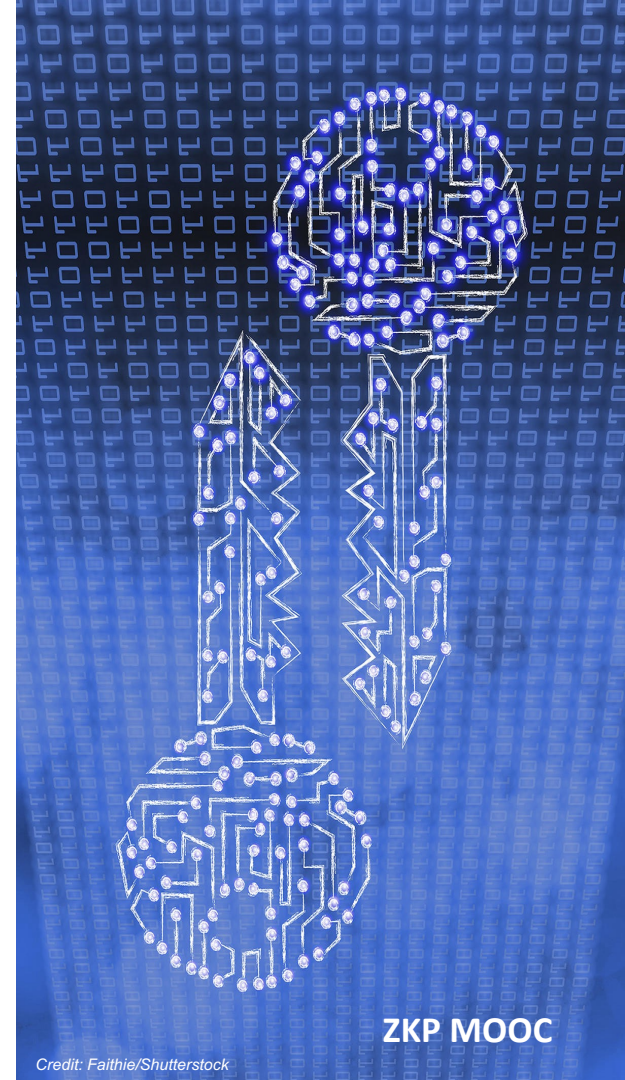
VERIFIER



To identify itself prover proves a hard theorem.

Interesting examples, one  
application

But, do all NP Languages  
have Zero Knowledge  
Interactive Proofs?



# Yes: All of NP is in Zero Knowledge

**Theorem[GMW86,Naor]:** If one-way functions exist, then every  $L$  in NP has computational zero knowledge interactive proofs

**Ideas of the proof:**

1. Show that an NP-Complete Problem has a ZK interactive Proof

[GMW87] Showed ZK interactive proof for G3-COLOR using bit-commitments

$\Rightarrow$  For any other  $L$  in NP,  $L <_p$  G3-COLOR (due to NPC reducibility)

$\Rightarrow$  Every instance  $x$  can be reduced to graph  $G_x$  such that

- if  $x$  in  $L$  then  $G_x$  is 3 colorable
- if  $x$  not in  $L$  then  $G_x$  is not 3 colorable

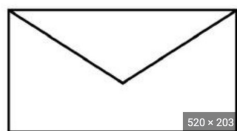
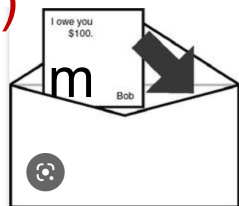
# Can you show Zero Knowledge for all of NP [GMW87]

**Theorem[GMW86, Naor]:** If one-way functions exist, then every  $L$  in NP has computational ZK interactive proofs

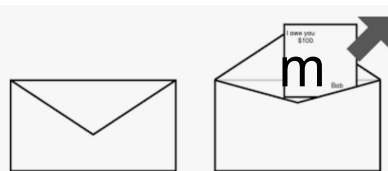
Ideas of the proof:

- 1.[GMW87] Show that an NP-Complete Problem has a ZK interactive Proof if bit commitments exist
- 2.[Naor]One Way functions  $\rightarrow$  bit commitment protocol exist

Commit( $m$ )



Decommit



hiding

binding

# Properties of a Bit Commitment Protocol (Commit, Decommit) between Sender S and Receiver R

**Hiding:**  $\forall$  receiver  $R^*$ , after **commit** stage  $\forall b, b' \in \{0,1\}$ , view of sender  $R^*$

$$\{\text{View}_{R^*}\{\text{Sender}(b), R^*\}(1^k)\} \approx_c \{\text{View}_{R^*}\{\text{Sender}(b'), R^*\}(1^k)\} \quad [k=\text{sec. param}]$$

**Binding:**  $\forall$  sender  $S^*$ , after **commit** and **decommit** stage

$\text{Prob}[R \text{ will accept two different values } b \text{ and } b'] < \text{negl}(k)$

K-security parameter

**Ex:** Use (semantically) secure probabilistic encryption scheme Enc

Commit(b) = “sender chooses  $r$  and sends  $c = \text{Enc}(b;r)$ ”

Decommit(c) = “sender sends  $r$  and  $b$ . Receiver rejects unless  $c = \text{Enc}(b;r)$ ”

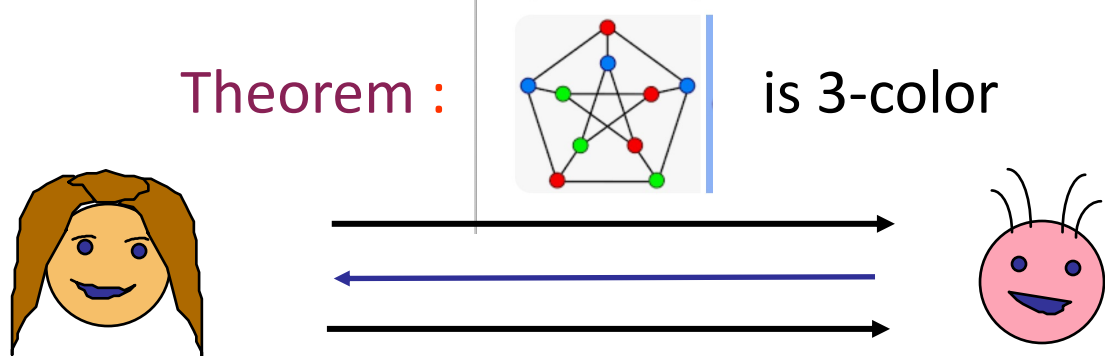


# All of NP is in Zero Knowledge

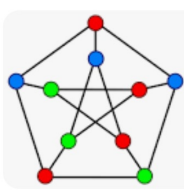
**Theorem[GMW86,Naor]:** If one-way functions exist, then every  $L$  in NP has computational zero knowledge interactive proofs

Ideas of the proof:

1. Show that an G3-COLOR has a ZK interactive Proof



Theorem :



is G3-COLORABLE

On common input graph  $G=(V,E)$  & prover input coloring  $\pi: V \rightarrow \{0,1,2\}$

1. **Prover:** pick a random permutation  $\sigma$  of colors  $\{0,1,2\}$  & color the graph with coloring  $\phi(v):=\sigma(\pi(v))$ , and **commit** to each color of each vertex  $v$  by running *Commit( $\phi(v)$ )* protocol
  2. **Verifier:** select a random edge  $e=(a, b)$  to send to Prover
  3. **Prover:** **Decommit** colors  $\phi(a)$  &  $\phi(b)$  of vertices  $a$  and  $b$
- Decision:** Verifier rejects If  $\phi(a) \neq \phi(b)$ , otherwise Verifier repeats steps 1-3 and accepts after  $k$  iterations

# Completeness and Soundness

- **Completeness:** if  $G$  is 3-colorable, then the honest prover uses a proper 3-coloring & the verifier always accepts.
- **Soundness:** If  $G$  is not 3-colorable, then for all  $P^*$ ,  
$$\text{Prob}[\text{Verifier accepts}] < (1 - 1/|E|)^k < 1/e^{|E|}$$
for  $k = |E|^2$ .
- **Zero Knowledge:** Easy to see informally, Messy to prove formally

# Honest Verifier Computational ZK

Simulator  $S$  in input  $G=(V,E)$  : choose at random in advance a challenge  $(a,b)$  of the honest verifier  $V$ .

- Choose random edge  $(a,b)$  in  $G$
- Choose colors  $\phi_a, \phi_b$  in  $\{0,1,2\}$  s.t  $\phi_a \neq \phi_b$  at random and for all other  $v \neq a,b$  set  $\phi_v = 2$ . Output simulated-view =  
(commit-transcript to  $\phi(v)$  for all  $v$  , edge  $= (a, b)$ ,  
decommit-transcript to colors  $\phi_a, \phi_b$  )

# Computational ZK: Simulation for any Verifier $V^*$

Simulator  $S$  on input  $G$  and verifier  $V^*$ : For  $i = 1$  to  $|E|^2$ :

- Choose random edge  $(a, b)$  and generate commitments  $com$  to colors as in honest verifier simulation.
- Run  $V^*$  on  $com$  to obtain challenge  $(a^*, b^*)$ ;  
if  $(a^*, b^*) = (a, b)$ , then output simulation as honest verifier case,  
If all iterations fail, then output  $\perp$ .

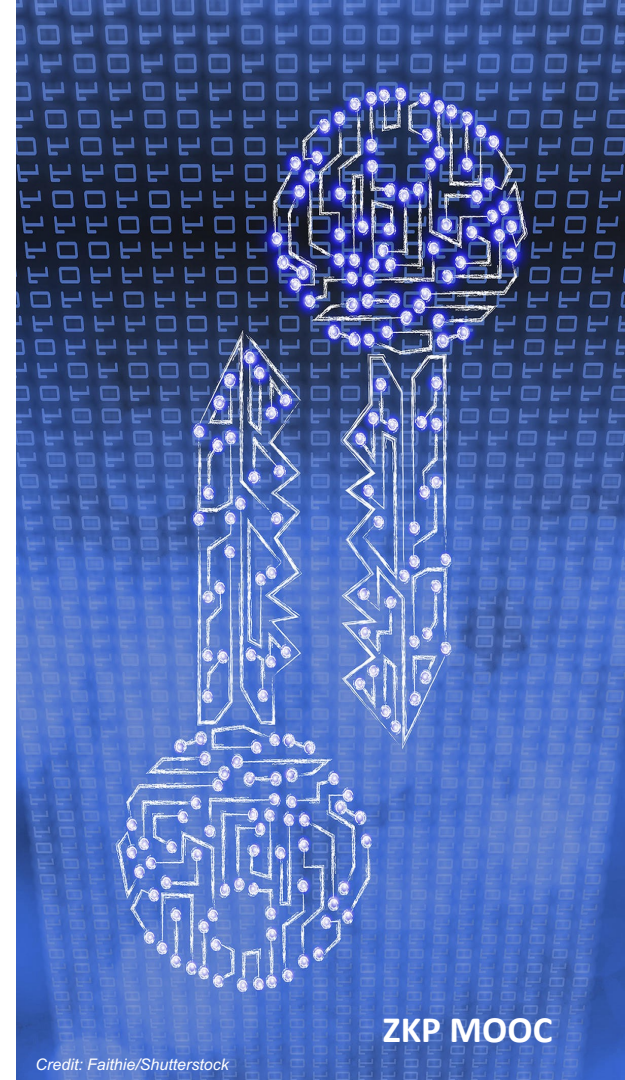
**Claim:** If Commitment scheme is Hiding & Binding, then

$\forall G, \pi$  (a true coloring) :  $\text{prob}[\perp \text{ output}] = \text{neg}(|E|)$  and if  $\perp$  is not output, then  
simulated-view  $\approx_c$  real-view

# Now, we have as many CZK examples as NP-languages

- $n$  is the product of 2 primes
  - $x$  is a square mod  $n$
  - $(G_0, G_1)$  are isomorphic
- } Stronger Guarantee: PZK
- Any SAT Boolean Formula has satisfying assignment
  - Given encrypted inputs  $E(x)$  & program  $PROG$ ,  $y=PROG(x)$
  - Given encrypted inputs  $E(x)$  & encrypted program  $E(PROG)$ ,  $y=PROG(x)$

# Applications in practice and in theory



# Protocol design applications

- Can prove relationships between  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  never revealing either one, only  $\text{commit}(m_1)$  and  $\text{commit}(m_2)$ .

**Examples:**  $m_1=m_2$  ,  $m_1 \neq m_2$  or more generally  $v=f(m_1, m_2)$  for any poly-time  $f$

**Generally:** A tool to enforce honest behavior in protocols without revealing any information. Idea: protocol players sends along with each *next-msg*, a ZK proof that  $\text{next-msg} = \text{Protocol}(\text{history } h, \text{ randomness } r)$  on history  $h$  &  $c = \text{commit}(r)$   
Possible since  $L = \{\exists r \text{ s.t. } \text{next} - \text{msg} = \text{Protocol}(h, r) \text{ and } c = \text{commit}(r)\}$  in NP.



# Uses for Zero Knowledge Proofs 90-onwards

Computation Delegation [Kalai, Rothblum x 2, Tromer,...]

Zero Knowledge and Nuclear Disarmament [Barak et al]

Zero Knowledge and Forensics [Naor et al]

Zcash: Bit Coin with privacy and anonymity [BenSasson, Chiesa et al]

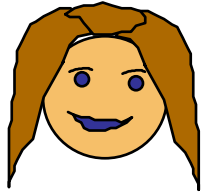
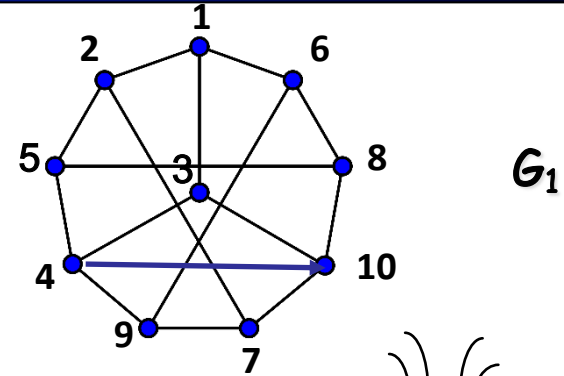
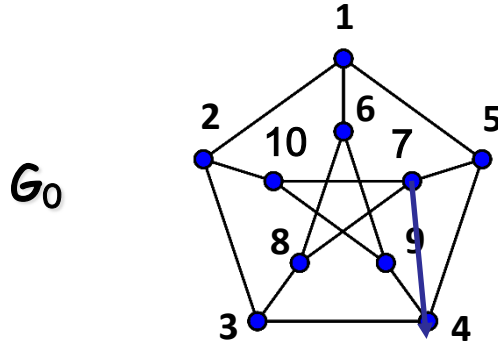
Zero Knowledge and Verification Dilemmas in the Law [Bamberger et al]

# Complexity Theory: Randomized Analogue to NP

Efficiently Solvable	P	BPP (randomized poly time)
Efficiently Verifiable	NP	IP

Q: Is **IP** greater than NP?

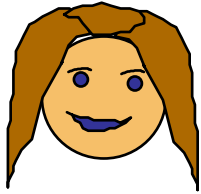
Claim:  $G_0$  is **Not Isomorphic** to  $G_1$   
(in co-NP, not known to be in NP)



Shortest classical proof:  
 $\approx$ exponential  $n!$  for  $n$  vertices  
**But can convince with an efficient  
interactive proof**



# Graph Non-Isomorphism in IP

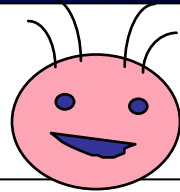


if  $H$  isomorphic  
to  $G_0$  then  $b = 0$ ,  
else  $b = 1$

input:  $(G_0, G_1)$

$\longleftarrow H = \gamma(G_c)$

$\xrightarrow{b}$



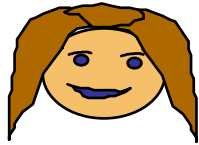
flip coin  $c \in \{0,1\}$   
pick random  $\gamma$

Reject if  $b \neq c$

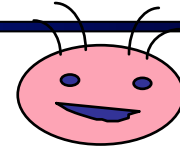
Accept after  $n$  repetitions

**Claim:** Completeness & Soundness hold

# Graph Non-Isomorphism in IP



input:  $(G_0, G_1)$



if  $H$  isomorphic to  $G_0$  then  $b = 0$ ,  
else  $b = 1$

$H = \gamma(G_c)$

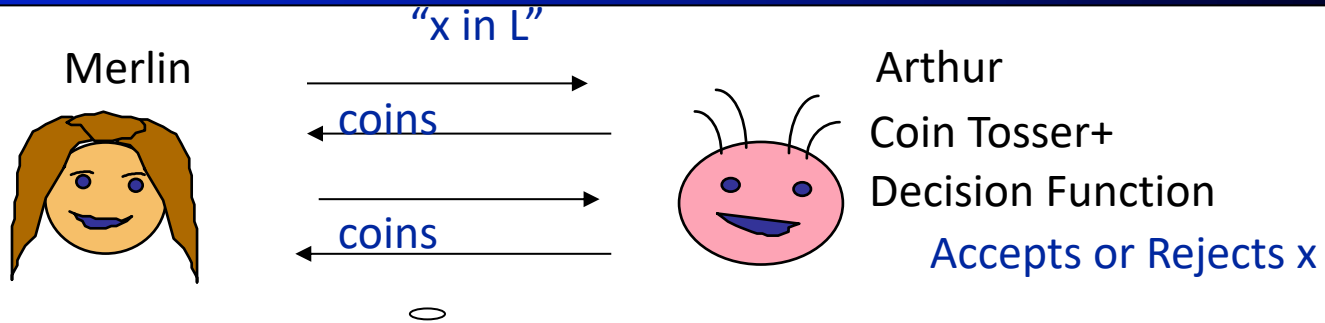
flip coin  $c \in \{0,1\}$  pick  
random  $\gamma$

$b$

Reject if  $b \neq c$   
Accept otherwise

**Not ZK!**  $V^*$  can learn if graph  $H$  of its choice is isomorphic to  $G_0$  or  $G_1$ .  
**Idea for fix:**  $V$  proves to  $P$  in ZK that he knows an isomorphism  $\gamma$

# Arthur-Merlin Games [BaM85]



GNI requires verifier to keep its coins secret as in IP protocols

Is coin privacy necessary?

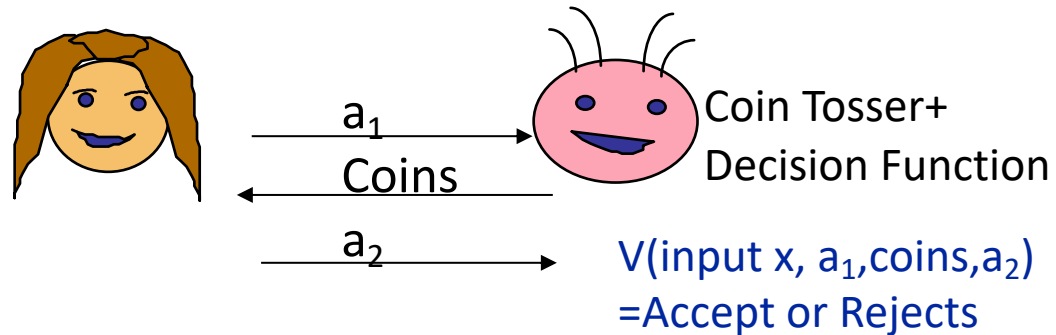
**Theorem[GoldwasserSipser86]:**  $AM$  (protocols with Public Coins) =  $IP$

**Idea:** Merlin proves to Arthur “the set of private coin executions that would make Verifer accept” is large. **Technique**= prove lower bound on size of sets

# AM Protocols enable “in practice” removal of interaction: the Fiat-Shamir Paradigm[FS87]

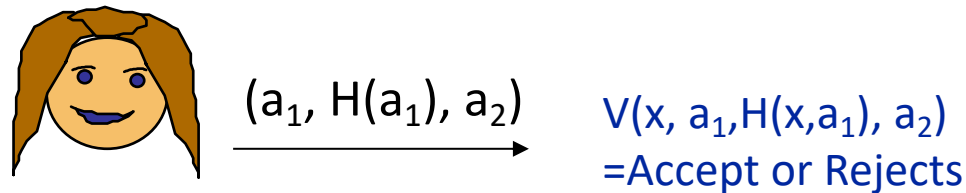
- Let  $H:\{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}^k$  be a cryptographic Hash function

- Can take an AM protocol



- Replace by

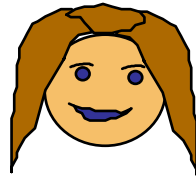
Fiat-Shamir Heuristic:  
If  $H$  is random-oracle, then completeness & soundness hold,  
Use  $H$  – hash function



# AM Protocols suggest “in practice” removal of interaction: the Fiat-Shamir Paradigm[FS87]

Warning: this does **NOT** mean every interactive ZK proof can transform to AM protocols and then use Fiat-Shamir heuristic,  
Since IP =AM transformation requires extra super-polynomial powers from Merlin  
And for Fiat-Shamir heuristic to work, Prover must be computationally bounded so not to be able to invert H  
Yet, many specific protocols, can benefit from this heuristic

Fiat-Shamir Heuristic:  
If H is random-oracle, then  
completeness & soundness hold



$(a_1, H(a_1), a_2)$

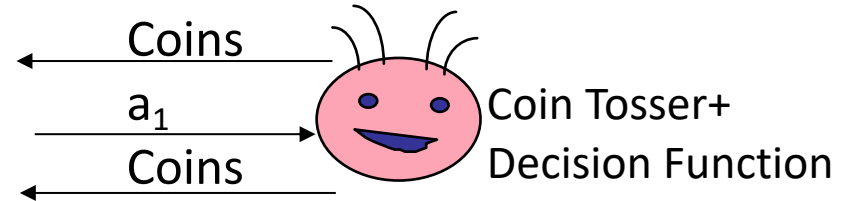
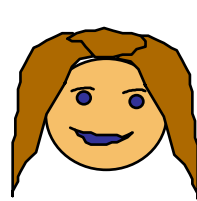
$V(x, a_1, H(x, a_1), a_2)$   
=Accept or Rejects



# AM Protocols suggest “in practice” removal of interaction: the Fiat-Shamir Paradigm[FS87]

- Let  $H:\{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}^k$  be a cryptographic Hash function

- Can take an AM protocol



Q: What if **first message** are coins from Arthur?

$(a_1, a_2) = \text{Accept}$

Idea (used later in course extensively):

Post **first message coins** as a “publicly” chosen randomness for all to see and then apply Fiat-Shamir heuristics to get non-interactive proofs

$(a_2) = \text{Accept}$

or Rejects

# IP: Complexity Theory Catalyst

Decoupled “Correctness” from “Knowledge of the proof”

Ask new questions about nature of proof

**Questions** have been asked and answered in  
last 30+ years leading up to **current research on**  
**Provably outsourcing computation**

# Classically: Can Efficiently Verify

NP	✓	$\exists$ solution
Co-NP	?	0 solutions
#P	?	$2^{100}$ - 13 solutions
PSPACE	?	$\exists \forall \dots \exists$

Can you prove more via interactive proofs?

# Interactively Provable = PSPACE

[FortnowKarloffLundNissan89,  
Shamir89]

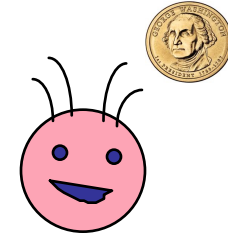
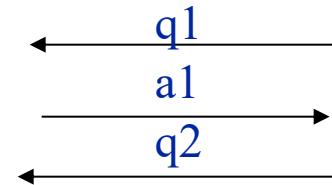
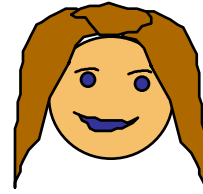
NP ✓

Co-NP ✓

#P ✓

PSPACE ✓

=IP



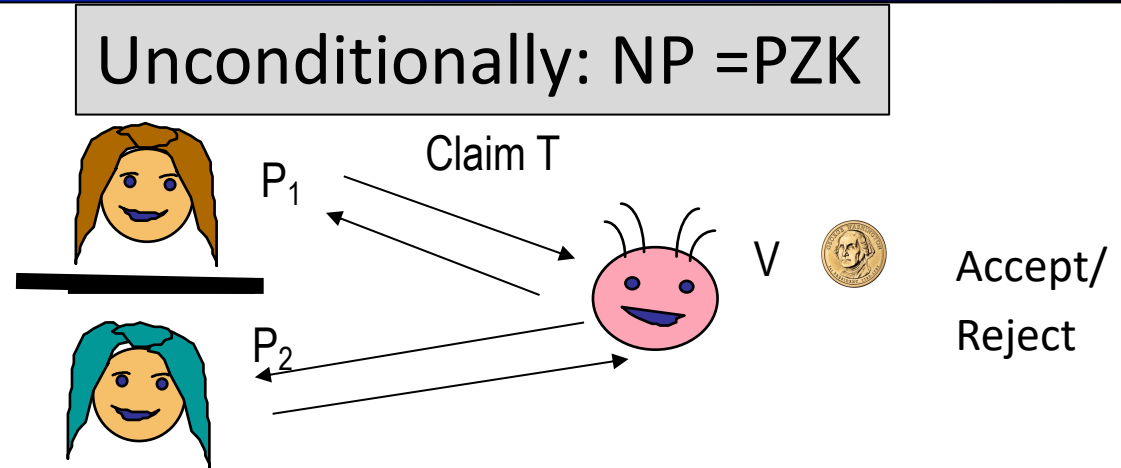
Accept/  
Reject

Other Ways to define probabilistic proof systems?

# The Arrival of the Second Prover (MIP)

[BenorGoldwasserKilianWigderson88]

NP ✓  
Co-NP ✓  
#P ✓  
PSPACE ✓



**Could two prove more than one?**  
**Intuition:** Can check consistency,  
Verifier catches provers if deviate

# The Second Prover is a Game Changer (MIP)

NP



Co-NP



#P



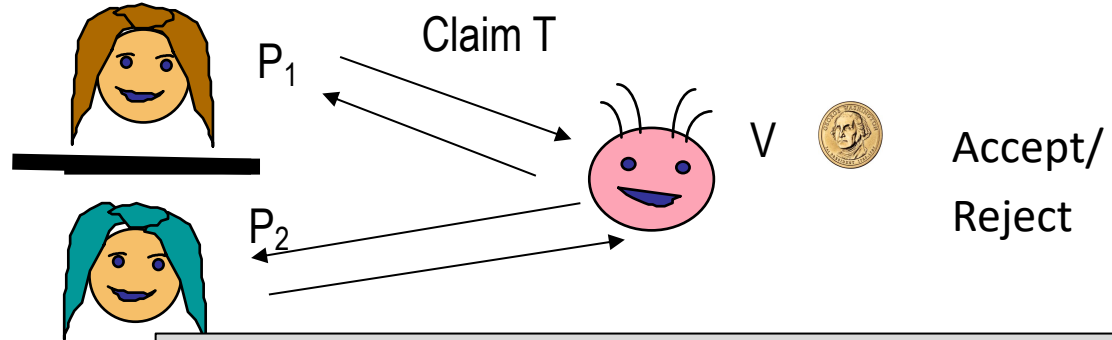
PSPACE



NEXPTIME



[BabaiFortnowLund90]

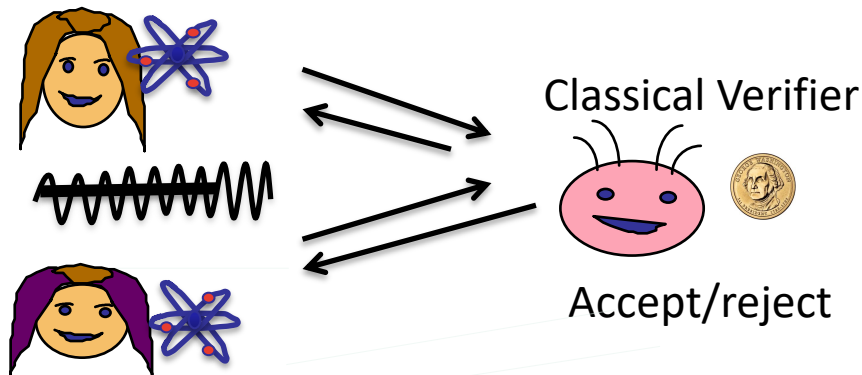


**PCP theorem** [FGLSS, AS, **ALMSS91**]:  
NP statements can be verified with high prob. by only reading a **constant** number of bits of the proof  
→ NP-Hardness of Approximation Problems

# Impact on Quantum Computing

Q: Can the correctness of a Quantum polynomial time computation be checked by a classical verifier?

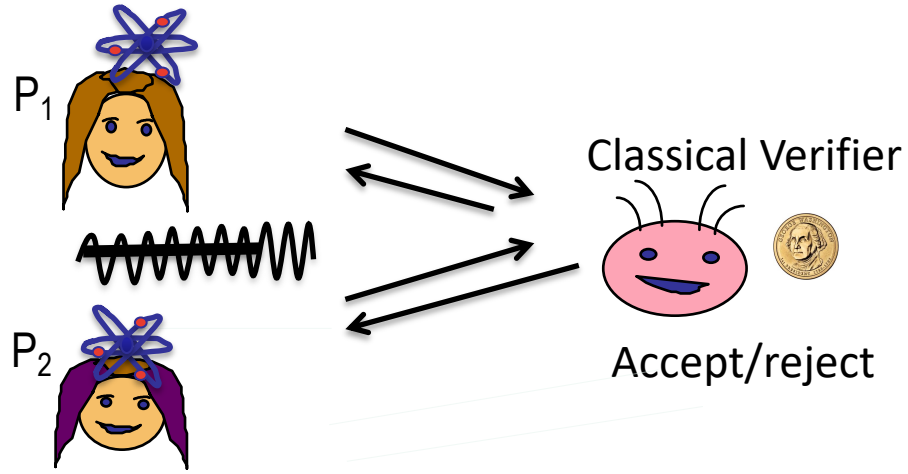
Quantum Polynomial time



**Theorem[ReichardtUngerVazirani13]:**

A classical Verifier can verify the computation of two entangled but non-communicating poly-time quantum algorithms

# Quantum MIP is All Powerful



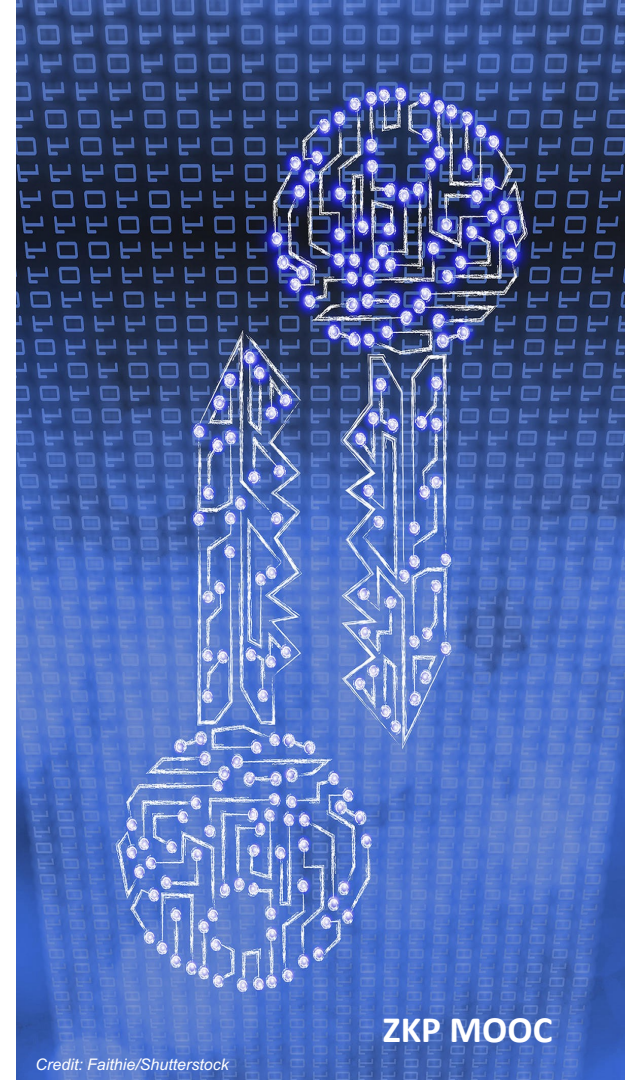
2020:

**$MIP^* = \text{Recursively Enumerable Languages}$**

[Ji, Natarajan, Vidick, Wright, Yuen]



# Aside: The Resistance



# 1983–1985 (The Resistance)



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An Interactive Non-deterministic Turing Machine (INDTM) is formed by two communicating modules: a *guesser*  $G$  and a *checker*  $C$ . The checker is a probabilistic Turing Machine.  $G$  and  $C$  share a read-only tape in which the input is written.  $C$  sends information to  $G$  by writing on a tape that  $G$  can read.  $G$  sends

# 1983–1985 (The Resistance)

Revised Version, Dec 8, 1988

## The Information Content of Proof Systems

### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 The goal

The goal contained in a

Example associated with graphs. A statistic in exhibiting that  $G$  is Harter's of all weights than  $B$ . Similar



# 1983–1985 (The Resistance)

Let me show you how to do it!  
Dec 7, 1984

ocols



## 1. Intr

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... is generally no problem at all communi-  
cating the knowledge efficiently, but the whole problem is making sure not *too much* knowledge  
has been communicated.

# 1985 (The Acceptance)

*We are very happy to inform you that your paper  
“The Knowledge Complexity of Interactive Proof Systems”  
has been selected for presentation at the 17th Symposium on Theory of  
Computing*



# Broader Lessons

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- Pay attention to good ideas
- It may take a long time >30 years to go from the basic idea to impact