

Toward Practical Lattice-based Proof of Knowledge from Hint-MLWE

Duhyeong Kim
Intel Labs

Dongwon Lee, Jinyeong Seo, Yongsoo Song
Seoul National University

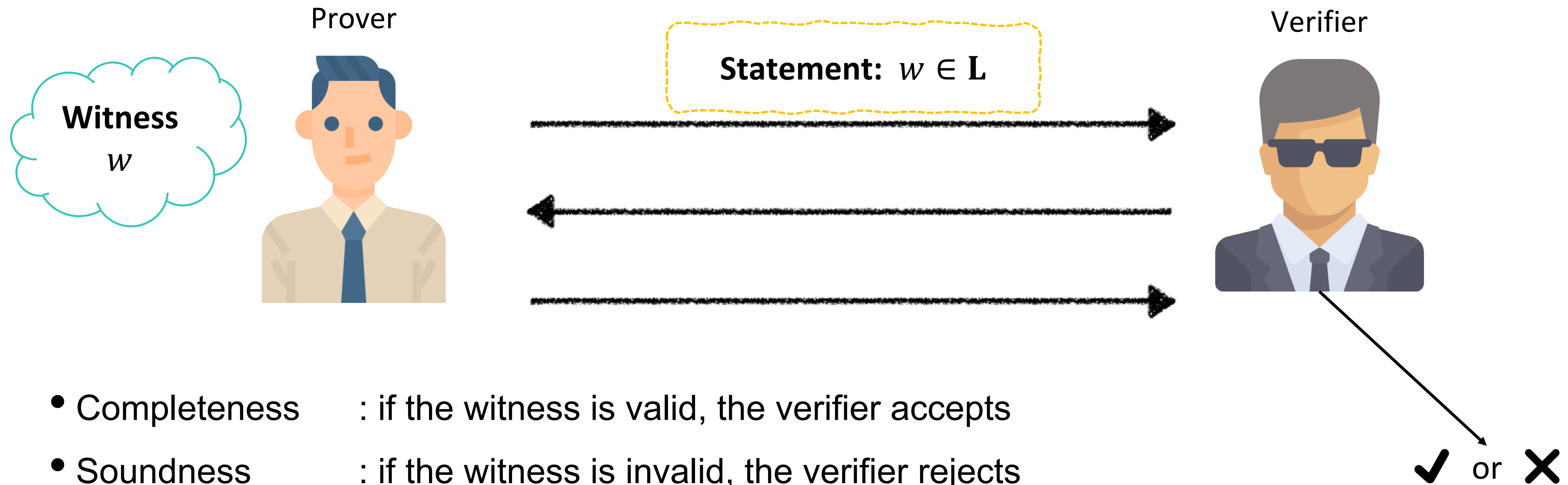


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Background

Background

Proof of Knowledge (PoK)



- **Completeness** : if the witness is valid, the verifier accepts
- **Soundness** : if the witness is invalid, the verifier rejects
- **Zero-knowledge** : the verifier **does not learn anything** about the witness
 - There exists a simulator that simulates the transcript

Background

Lattice-based PoK for linear relation

- High-Level Description

- Public: $\mathbf{B} \in R_q^{k \times \ell}$, $\mathbf{c} \in R_q^k$ for $k < \ell$ (R : polynomial ring)
- We want to prove the knowledge of $\mathbf{r} \in R^\ell$ and $\mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{M}(\subset R_q^k)$ s.t.

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{m} \pmod{q} \quad \text{and} \quad \|\mathbf{r}\|_2 \leq \beta.$$

Background

Lattice-based PoK for linear relation

- BFV encryption
 - Parameters : Ciphertext modulus q , plaintext modulus $t \mid q$, error distribution χ .
 - Public key : $\mathbf{p} = (p_0, p_1)^T \in R_q^2$
 - Ciphertext : For a message $m \in R_t$, the encryption algorithm samples $\mathbf{r} = (r_0, r_1, r_2) \leftarrow \chi^3$ and return
$$\mathbf{c} = r_2 \cdot \mathbf{p} + (r_0 + (q/t) \cdot m, r_1)^T \pmod{q}$$
 - The BFV ciphertext can also be expressed as

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{m} \pmod{q}$$

where $\mathbf{B} = [\mathbf{I}_2 \mid \mathbf{p}] \in R_q^{2 \times 3}$ and $\mathbf{m} = ((q/t) \cdot m, 0)^T$.

- **Proof of Plaintext Knowledge (PPK)** for BFV encryption:

To prove the knowledge of the **message** \mathbf{m} and the **encryption randomness** \mathbf{r} for given ciphertext \mathbf{c}

[Bra12] Zvika Brakerski. “Fully homomorphic encryption without modulus switching from classical GapSVP”, *CRYPTO 2012*.

[FV12] Junfeng Fan and Frederik Vercauteren. “Somewhat practical fully homomorphic encryption”, *ePrint 2012/144*.

Background

Lattice-based PoK for linear relation

- BDLOP commitment
 - Parameters : Modulus q , error distribution χ .
 - Commitment key : $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{R} \cdot [\mathbf{I}_k \mid \mathbf{A}] \in R_q^{k \times \ell}$ for $\mathbf{A} \in R_q^{k \times (k-\ell)}$ and invertible $\mathbf{R} \in R_q^{k \times k}$
 - Commitment : For a message $m \in R_q$, the commitment algorithm samples $\mathbf{r} \leftarrow \chi^\ell$ and return
$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{m} \pmod{q}$$

where $\mathbf{m} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ m \end{bmatrix}$.

- **Proof of Opening Knowledge (POK)** for BDLOP commitment:

To prove the knowledge of the **message** \mathbf{m} and the **commitment randomness** \mathbf{r} for given commitment \mathbf{c}

Motivation

Motivation

Zero-Knowledge “Overkill”

- Conventional goal of Zero-knowledge:

Zero-knowledge w.r.t. **both** message **m** and randomness **r**

- **BUT!** Zero-knowledge of **randomness can be an overkill** for many of PoK applications

- Then, the natural question would be:

- How about **refining the goal** of zero-knowledge as following?

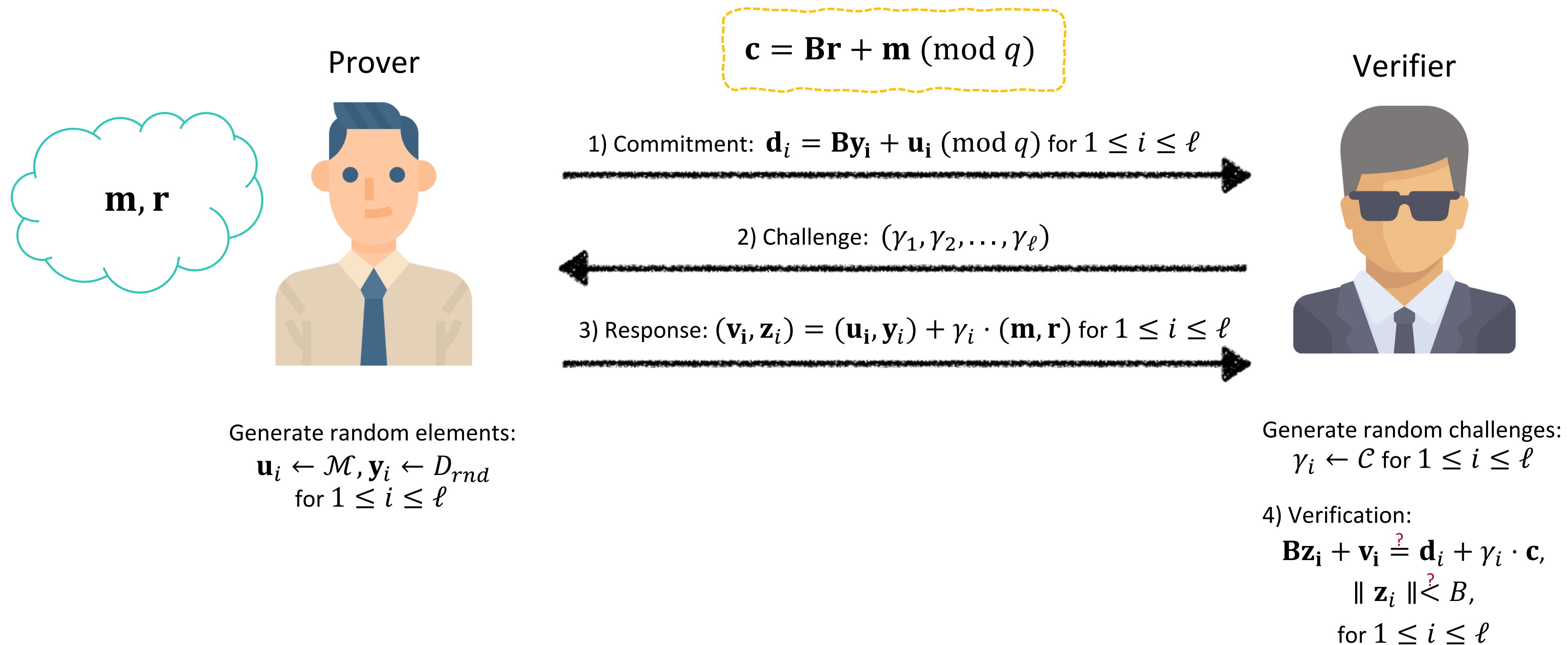
Zero-knowledge w.r.t. **only** message **m**

- Can we still achieve **zero-knowledge of m** while **allowing the leakage of r** information?

Motivation

Previous Approaches

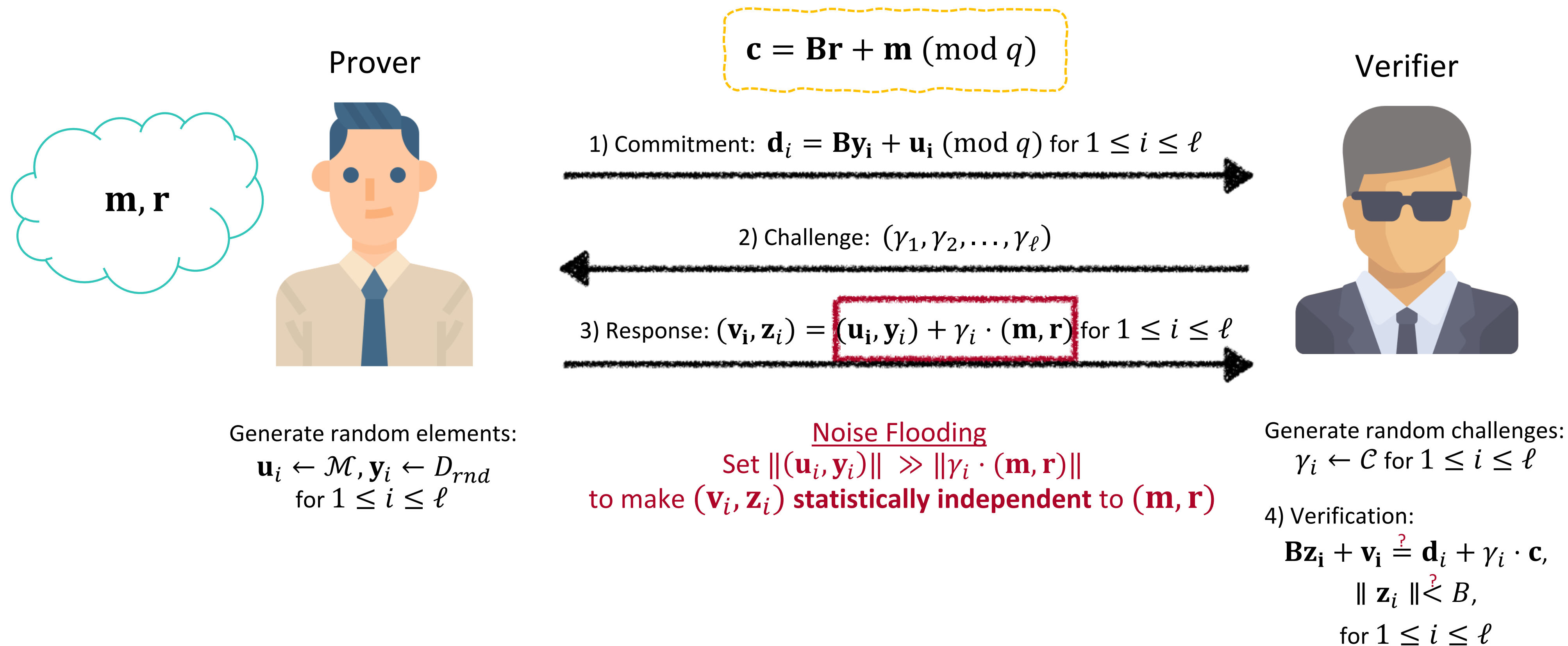
- Σ -protocol Framework:



Motivation

Previous Approaches: Noise Flooding

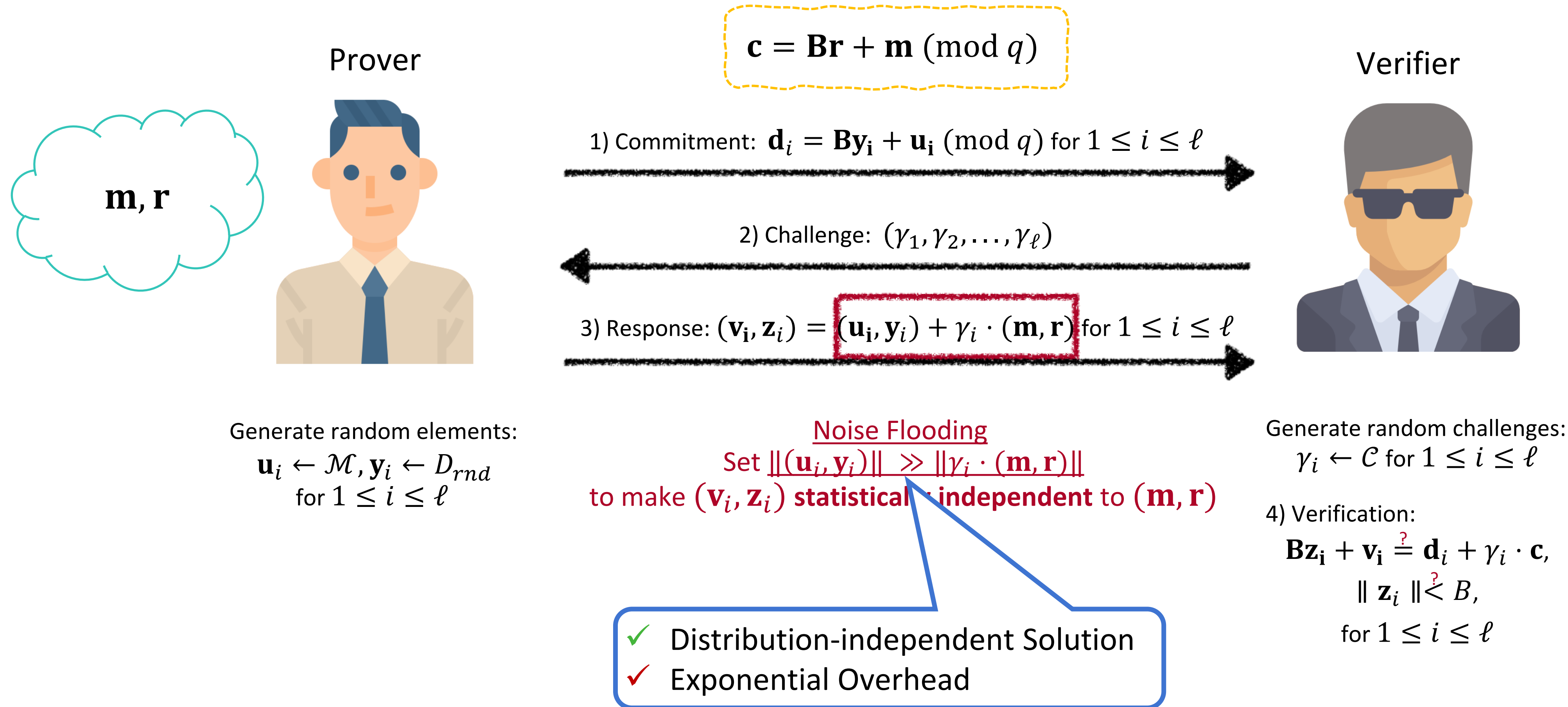
- For the zero-knowledge proof, previous work adopted **statistical methods**.



Motivation

Previous Approaches: Noise Flooding

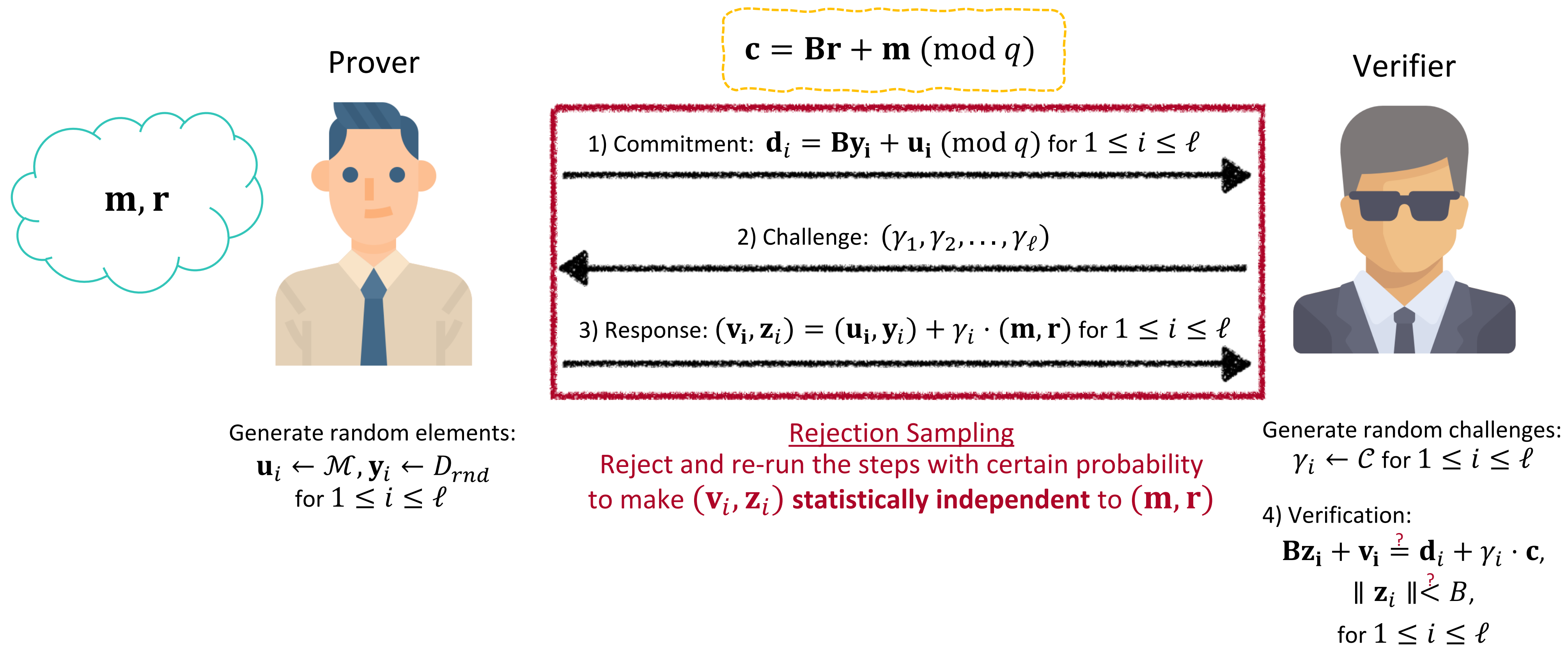
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Motivation

Previous Approaches: Rejection Sampling

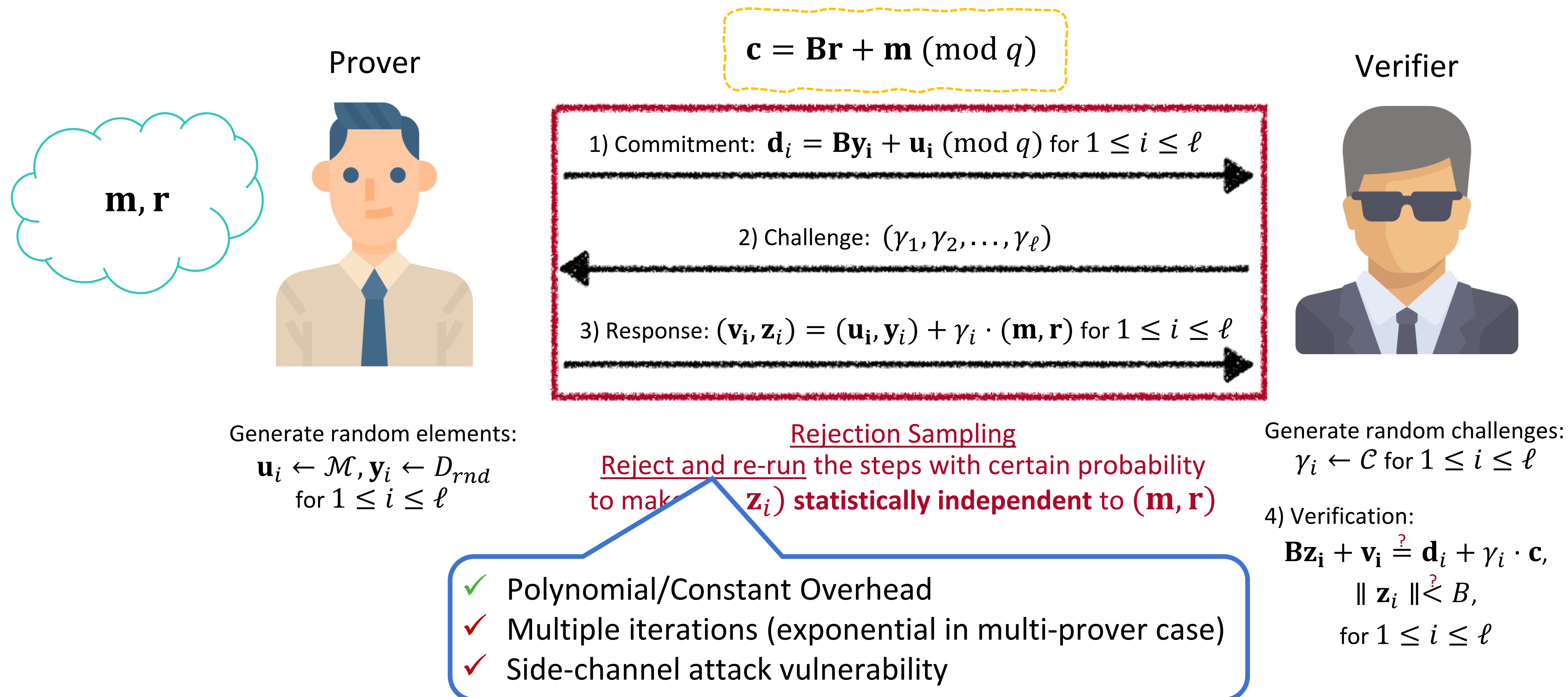
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Motivation

Previous Approaches: Rejection Sampling

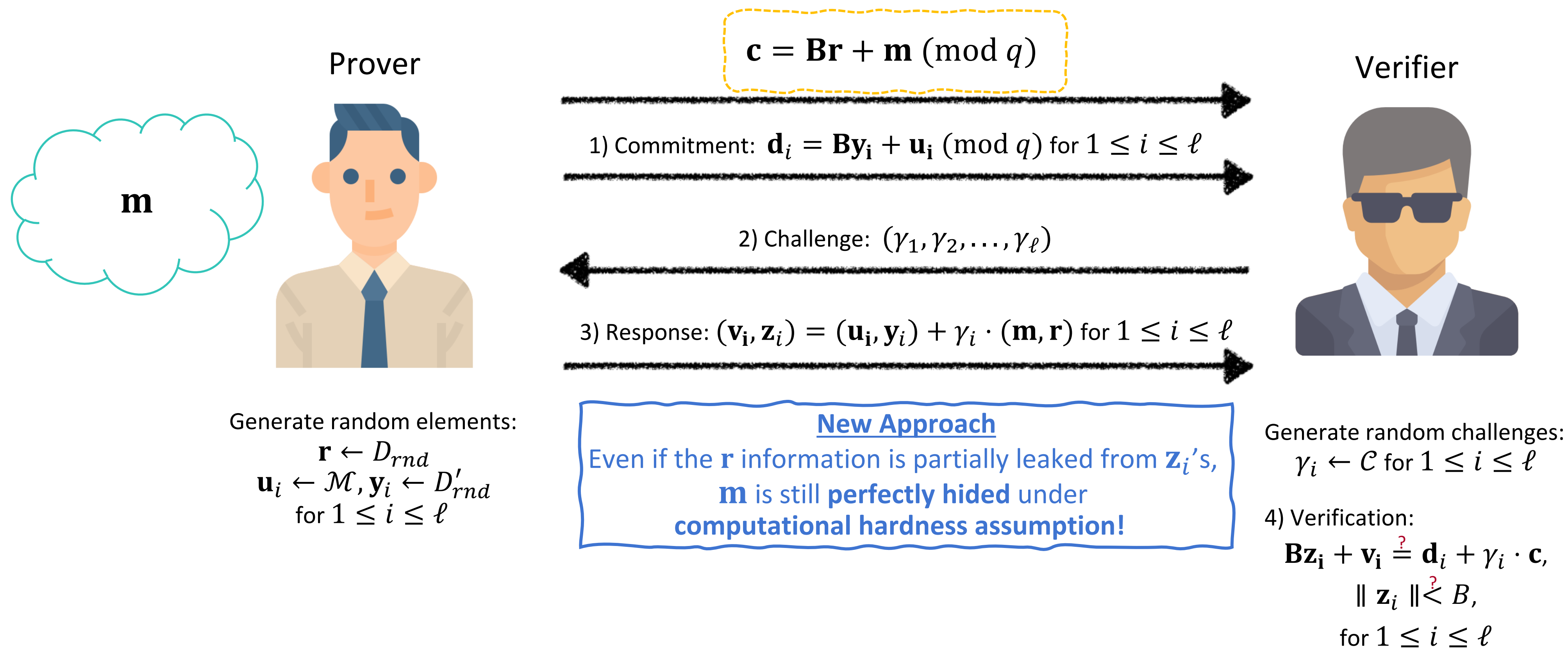
- For the zero-knowledge proof, previous work adopted **statistical methods**.



Motivation

New Framework

- “Refined” zero-knowledge proof based on **computational hardness assumption!**



Our Work

Our Work

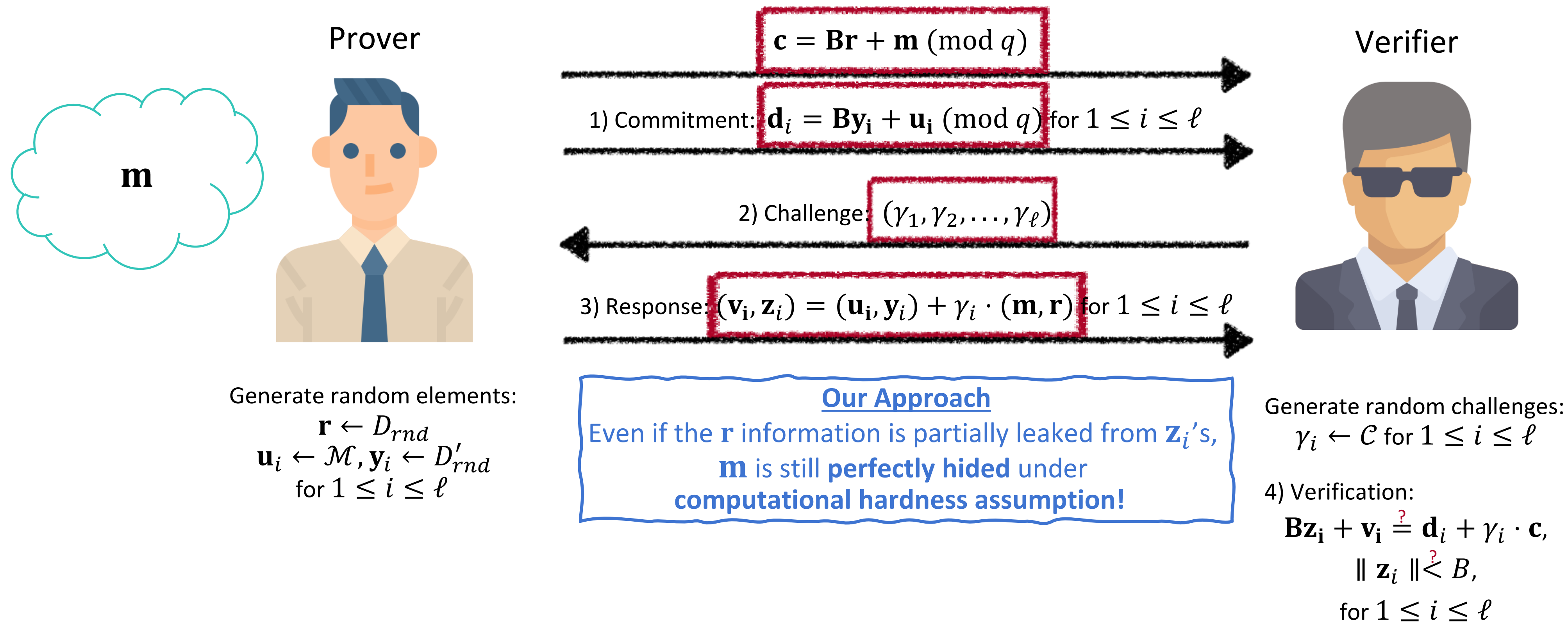
A New Framework on Lattice-based PoK with “refined” Zero-Knowledge

- We **first** propose secure lattice-based PoK protocols **w/o noise flooding or rejection sampling**
 - Zero-knowledge w.r.t. message holds under the “**Hint-MLWE**” assumption.
 - v.s. noise flooding : exponential \rightarrow **polynomial/constant** overhead
 - v.s. rejection sampling : $O(\sqrt{dim})$ **smaller** soundness slack, no repetition required
- Instantiation on the following primitives:
 - Proof of Plaintext Knowledge (PPK) for BFV encryption
 - Proof of Opening Knowledge (POK) for BDLOP commitment
 - Naturally extendable to various BDLOP-based ZKP applications
- **Tight Reduction** from **MLWE** to **Hint-MLWE** under discrete Gaussian setting
 - $LWE \rightarrow \text{Hint-LWE}$ & $RLWE \rightarrow \text{Hint-RLWE}$ also hold

Proof Sketch

Zero-Knowledge w.r.t. Message

- Need to show the transcript $(\mathbf{c}, (\mathbf{d}_i, \gamma_i, \mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{z}_i)_i)$ is **simulatable** without the message \mathbf{m}



Proof Sketch

Zero-Knowledge w.r.t. Message

- **Observation 1:** Trivially-simulatable components of the transcript $(\mathbf{c}, (\mathbf{d}_i, \gamma_i, \mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{z}_i)_i)$:
 1. \mathbf{d}_i can be generated by the other components and the public key \mathbf{B}
 - $\mathbf{d}_i = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}_i + \mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{z}_i - \gamma_i \cdot \mathbf{r}) + (\mathbf{v}_i - \gamma_i \cdot \mathbf{m}) = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{z}_i + \mathbf{v}_i - \gamma_i \cdot \mathbf{c}$
 2. \mathbf{v}_i is also trivially simulatable for each case as following:
 - PPK of BFV encryption : $\mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{u}_i + \gamma_i \cdot \mathbf{m} \pmod{t}$ is uniform modulo t
 - POK of BDLOP commitment : $\mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{0}$ & Do not send \mathbf{v}_i to the verifier
- Now, it **suffices to simulate** $(\mathbf{c}, (\mathbf{z}_i)_i)$ for public key \mathbf{B} and challenges $(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_\ell)$

Proof Sketch

Zero-Knowledge w.r.t. Message

- **Observation 2:** The tuple $(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2, \dots, \mathbf{z}_\ell)$ can be expressed as

$$(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{B}\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{m}, \gamma_1 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_1, \gamma_2 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \gamma_\ell \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_\ell)$$

- Since $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{R} \cdot [\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{A}]$ for a public invertible matrix \mathbf{R} , it is equivalent to simulate

$$(\mathbf{A}, [\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{A}]\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{R}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{m}, \gamma_1 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_1, \gamma_2 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \gamma_\ell \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_\ell)$$

Proof Sketch

Zero-Knowledge w.r.t. Message

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MLWE Instance
over the secret \mathbf{r}

Hints on the secret \mathbf{r}

Proof Sketch

Zero-Knowledge w.r.t. Message

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? $\}$

$$(\mathbf{A}, \text{uniform}, \gamma_1 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_1, \gamma_2 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \gamma_\ell \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_\ell)$$

Proof Sketch

Zero-Knowledge w.r.t. Message

- **Observation 2:** The tuple $(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2, \dots, \mathbf{z}_\ell)$ can be expressed as

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- Since $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{R} \cdot [\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{A}]$ for a public invertible matrix \mathbf{R} , it is equivalent to simulate

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? }

$$\underline{(\mathbf{A}, \textit{uniform}, \gamma_1 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_1, \gamma_2 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \gamma_\ell \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_\ell)}$$



Simulatable!

Hint-MLWE

Definition

- **MLWE _{R,d,m,q,σ} Assumption:**

$$(\mathbf{A}, [\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{A}]\mathbf{r})$$

$$c \in \mathcal{L}$$

$$(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b})$$

for $\mathbf{A} \xleftarrow{\$} R_q^{m \times d}, \mathbf{b} \xleftarrow{\$} R_q^m, \mathbf{r} \xleftarrow{\$} D_\sigma^{m+d}$ (discrete Gaussian)

[LS15] Adeline Langlois, and Damien Stehlé. "Worst-case to average-case reductions for module lattices." *Designs, Codes and Cryptography*, 2015.

Hint-MLWE

Definition

- Hint-MLWE $_{R,d,m,q,\sigma_1}^{\ell,\sigma_2,\mathcal{C}}$ Assumption:

$$(\mathbf{A}, [\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{A}]\mathbf{r}, \gamma_1 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_1, \gamma_2 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \gamma_\ell \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_\ell)$$

$\leftarrow \mathcal{C}$

$$(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{b}, \gamma_1 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_1, \gamma_2 \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \gamma_\ell \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_\ell)$$

for $\mathbf{A} \xleftarrow{\$} R_q^{m \times d}$, $\mathbf{b} \xleftarrow{\$} R_q^m$, $\mathbf{r} \xleftarrow{\$} D_{\sigma_1}^{m+d}$, $\mathbf{y}_i \xleftarrow{\$} D_{\sigma_2}^{m+d}$ (discrete Gaussian), and $\gamma_i \leftarrow \mathcal{C}$

- Generalized notion of Hint-LWE [CKK+18] and Multi-Hint Extended RLWE [BKMS22]

[CKK+18] Jung Hee Cheon, Dongwoo Kim, Duhyeong Kim, Joohee Lee, Junbum Shin, and Yongsoo Song. "Lattice-based secure biometric authentication for hamming distance." *ACISP 2021*.

[BKMS22] Jose Maria Bermudo Mera, Angshuman Karmakar, Tilen Marc, and Azam Soleimani. "Efficient lattice-based inner-product functional encryption." *PKC 2022*.

Hint-MLWE

Computational Hardness

Theorem: Let $\sigma, \sigma_1, \sigma_2 > 0$ be reals such that $\frac{1}{\sigma^2} = 2 \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{B}{\sigma_2^2} \right)$ where $B := \ell \cdot \max_{\gamma \leftarrow \mathcal{C}} \|\gamma\|_1^2$.
If $\sigma \geq \eta_\epsilon(\mathbb{Z}^n)$, there exists poly-time reduction from $\text{MLWE}_{R,d,m,q,\sigma}$ to $\text{Hint-MLWE}_{R,d,m,q,\sigma_1}^{\ell,\sigma_2,\mathcal{C}}$ with advantage loss $\leq (d + m) \cdot 2\epsilon$.

Implication

- Hint-MLWE w/ **width** $\sigma_1 = 2\sigma$, $\sigma_2 = 2\sqrt{B}\sigma$ is harder than MLWE w/ **width** σ
 - **1-bit** larger size of secret \mathbf{r} (σ_1 v.s. σ)
 - $\|\mathbf{y}_i\|_2 = O(\sqrt{\ell} \cdot \|\gamma_i \cdot \mathbf{r}\|_2)$ (σ_2 v.s. σ_1)

Hint-MLWE

Computational Hardness

Theorem: Let $\sigma, \sigma_1, \sigma_2 > 0$ be reals such that $\frac{1}{\sigma^2} = 2 \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{B}{\sigma_2^2} \right)$ where $B := \ell \cdot \max_{\gamma \leftarrow \mathcal{C}} \|\gamma\|_1^2$.
If $\sigma \geq \eta_\epsilon(\mathbb{Z}^n)$, there exists poly-time reduction from $\text{MLWE}_{R,d,m,q,\sigma}$ to $\text{Hint-MLWE}_{R,d,m,q,\sigma_1}^{\ell,\sigma_2,\mathcal{C}}$ with advantage loss $\leq (d + m) \cdot 2\epsilon$.

How to Prove?

- Reverse the point of view ☺
- Analyze the “**conditional distribution**” of \mathbf{r} for given hints $(\gamma_i \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_i)_i$
- Then, $[\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{A}]\mathbf{r}$ can be simulated “from” \mathbf{A} , $(\gamma_i \cdot \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{y}_i)_i$, and given MLWE instance

Results

Comparison v.s. Previous Methods

Method	Type	Zero-Knowledge	Soundness slack
Noise Flooding	Statistical Analysis	Message & Randomness	$\ \mathbf{z}_i\ _2 = O(2^{\lambda_{zk}/2} \cdot \ \gamma_i \cdot \mathbf{r}\ _2)$
Rejection Sampling			$\ \mathbf{z}_i\ _2 = O(\sqrt{dn} \cdot \ \gamma_i \cdot \mathbf{r}\ _2)$
Hint-MLWE	Cryptographic Assumption	Message	$\ \mathbf{z}_i\ _2 = O(\sqrt{\ell} \cdot \ \gamma_i \cdot \mathbf{r}\ _2)$

The slack is “independent” to dimension

Results

Practicality: Application to various Lattice-based ZKPs

- Hint-MLWE framework is naturally applicable to various BDLOP-based proof systems:
 - Proof of **multiplicative relation** [ALS20]
 - Proof of knowledge for a **(ternary) solution of linear system** over \mathbb{Z}_q [ENS20]
- **Smaller Parameters** than previous results based on rejection sampling
- Please refer to the full version for more details: <https://ia.cr/2023/623>

[ALS20] Thomas Attema, Vadim Lyubashevsky, and Gregor Seiler. "Practical product proofs for lattice commitments", *CRYPTO 2020*.

[ENS20] Muhammed F. Esgin, Ngoc K. Nguyen, and Gregor Seiler. "Practical exact proofs from lattices: New techniques to exploit fully-splitting rings." *ASIACRYPT 2020*.



thank you!