

# Lattice-Based Succinct Arguments for NP with Polylogarithmic-Time Verification

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Based on joint work with

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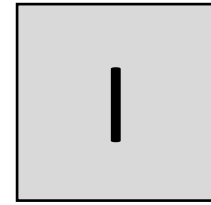
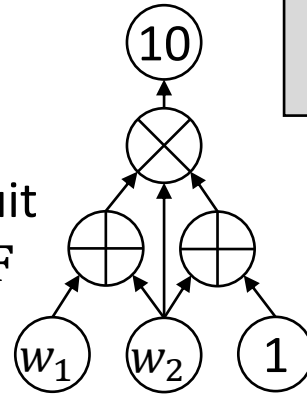
# Succinct arguments

**Witness:**

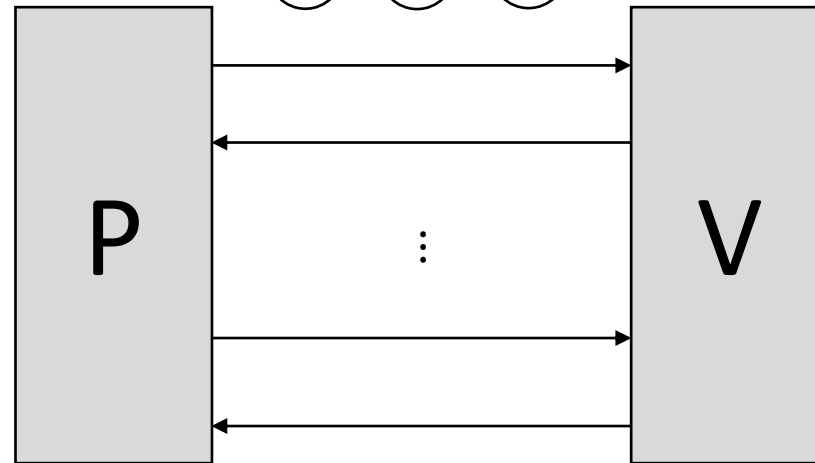
$$w_1 = 4$$

$$w_2 = 1$$

**Instance:**  
 $N$ -gate circuit  
over field  $\mathbb{F}$



Instance preprocessing for  
succinct verification!



**Completeness:**  
satisfiable  $\Rightarrow$

output ✓

or

output ✗

**Soundness:** unsatisfiable  $\Rightarrow$

**Succinctness:** proof size  $\ll$  instance size  
verifier work  $\ll$  checking  $x \in L$  naively

**No zero-knowledge today!**

# Existing succinct arguments

Pre-quantum, non-falsifiable assumptions

e.g. [Groth16]

Tiny proofs (~1KB)

Trusted setup

Pre-quantum, standard assumptions

e.g. Dory [Lee21]

Small proofs (~20KB)

Transparent

Without succinct verification

e.g. Labrador

Quite small proofs (~50KB)

Transparent

Lattice-based, non-falsifiable assumptions

e.g. [ACLMT22]

Large proofs (~1MB)\*\*\*

Trusted setup

Lattice-based, standard assumptions

?

Hash-based

e.g. Aurora [BSCRSVW19]

Orion [XZS22]

Large proofs (~1MB)

Transparent

(Russell's talk) 'Direct'

'Folding'

'PCP/IOP'

**Question:** can we construct transparent, succinct arguments directly from **standard** lattice assumptions?

# Results

# Main result

**R1CS problem over a ring  $R$ :** given matrices  $A, B, C \in R^{N \times N}$ , does there exist  $z \in R^n$  satisfying  $Az \circ Bz = Cz$ ?

**Bilinear module:** a triple of modules  $(M_L, M_R, M_T)$  over the same ring with a bilinear map  $e : M_L \times M_R \rightarrow M_T$ .

Has enough structure for Pedersen and Schnorr

# Main result

**R1CS problem over a ring  $R$ :** given matrices  $A, B, C \in R^{N \times N}$ , does there exist  $z \in R^n$  satisfying  $Az \circ Bz = Cz$ ?

**$k$ -level bilinear module:** triples of modules  $(M_L, M_R, M_T)_{i=1}^k$  over the same ring with a bilinear maps  $e_i : M_{L,i} \times M_{R,i} \rightarrow M_{T,i}$ .

**Theorem 1:** Let  $(M_{L,i}, M_{R,i}, M_{T,i}, e_i)_{i=1}^{\log N}$  be a “secure”,  $\log N$ -level bilinear module where  $M_{L,1}$  is a ring. Let  $I \subseteq M_{L,1}$  be a suitable ideal. There is a succinct argument of knowledge for R1CS with

R1CS Ring	Indexer time	Prover time	Verifier time	Proof size
$M_L/I$	$O(N)$ ops in $M_{T,\log N}$	$O(N)$ ops in $M_{T,\log N}$	$O(\log^2 N)$ ops in $M_{T,\log N}$	$O(\log^2 N)$ elems of $M_{T,\log N}$

# Corollaries

**Corollary 1:** Let  $d$  be a power of 2,  $p \ll q$  primes,  $R_p := \mathbb{Z}_p[X]/\langle X^d + 1 \rangle$  and similarly for  $R_q$ . Assuming SIS is hard over  $R_q$ , there is a succinct argument of knowledge for R1CS with

R1CS Ring	Indexer time	Prover time	Verifier time	Proof size
$R_p$	$O(N)$ ops in $R_q$	$O(N)$ ops in $R_q$	$O(\log^2 N)$ ops in $R_q$	$O(\log^2 N)$ elems of $R_q$

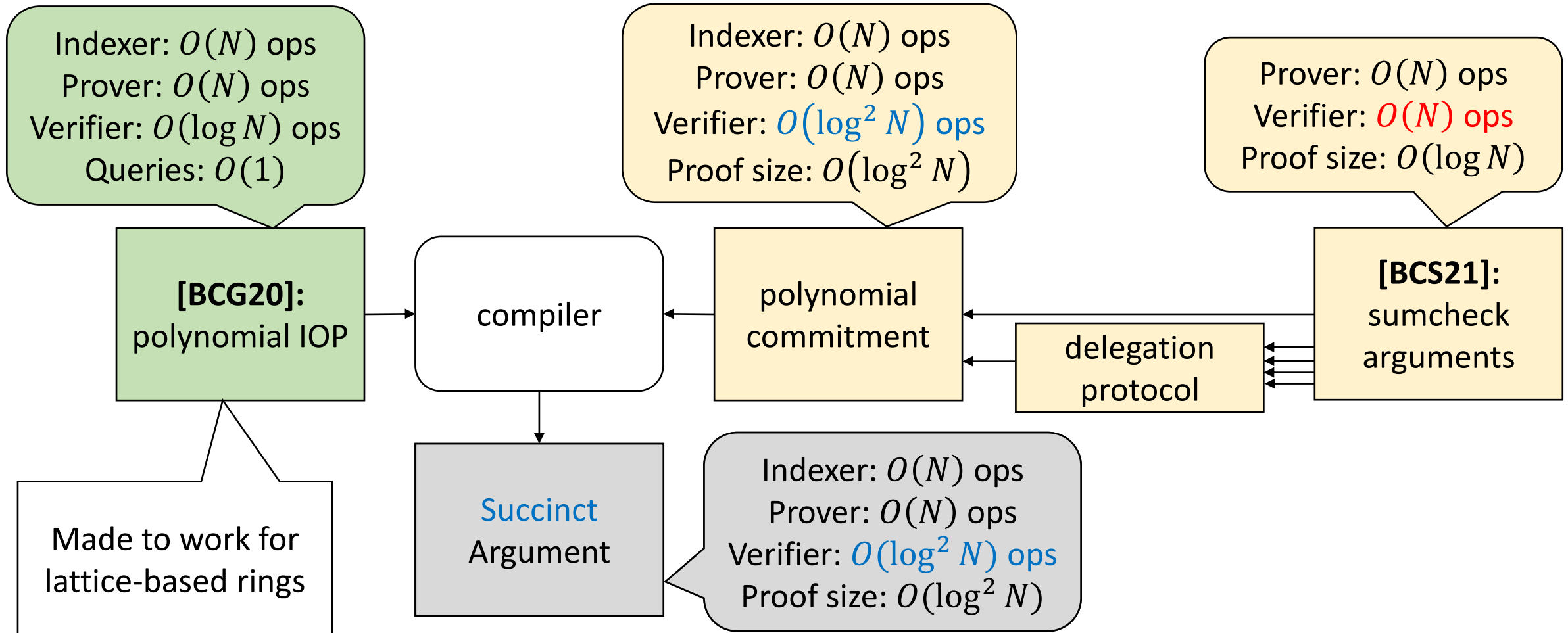
**Corollary 2:** Let  $e : \mathbb{G}_1 \times \mathbb{G}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_T$  be a bilinear group of prime order  $p$ . Assuming SXDH, there is a succinct argument of knowledge for R1CS with

R1CS Ring	Indexer time	Prover time	Verifier time	Proof size
$\mathbb{F}_p$	$O(N)$ ops in $\mathbb{G}_T$	$O(N)$ ops in $\mathbb{G}_T$	$O(\log^2 N)$ ops in $\mathbb{G}_T$	$O(\log^2 N)$ elems of $\mathbb{G}_T$

Related  
to  
[Lee21],  
[Thaler]




# Our approach



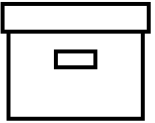
# Polynomial commitments with efficient verification

# Polynomial commitment schemes

Keygen  $\rightarrow$  

length  $N$

$\text{Commit}(p_{\text{doc}}, \text{key})$

$=$  

Binding: hard to find

$\text{Commit}(p_{\text{doc}}, \text{key})$

$= \text{Commit}(p_{\text{envelope}}, \text{key})$

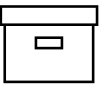
Eval:

Instance:  

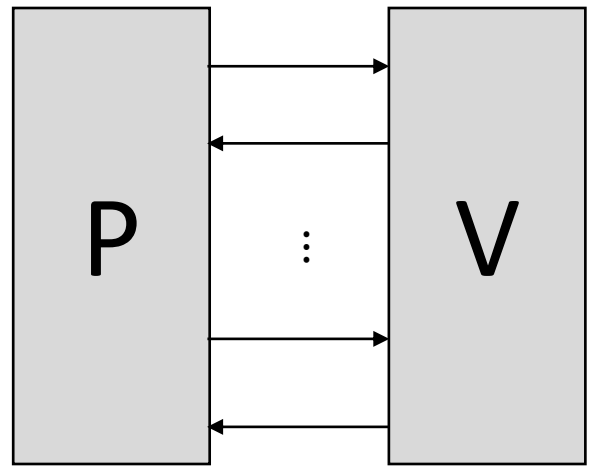
Inputs  $z_1, \dots, z_\ell$ , output  $v$

Witness:  $p_{\text{doc}}$

$\text{Commit}(p_{\text{doc}}, \text{key})$

$=$  

$p_{\text{doc}}(z_1, \dots, z_\ell) = v$



$O(\log(N))$   
rounds

$O(\log(N))$   
ops

$O(N)$  ops  
to evaluate

$O(\log(N))$   
communication

$p_{\text{key}}$  at  $r_1, \dots, r_\ell$

[BCS21]: sumcheck-friendly  
polynomial commitment schemes

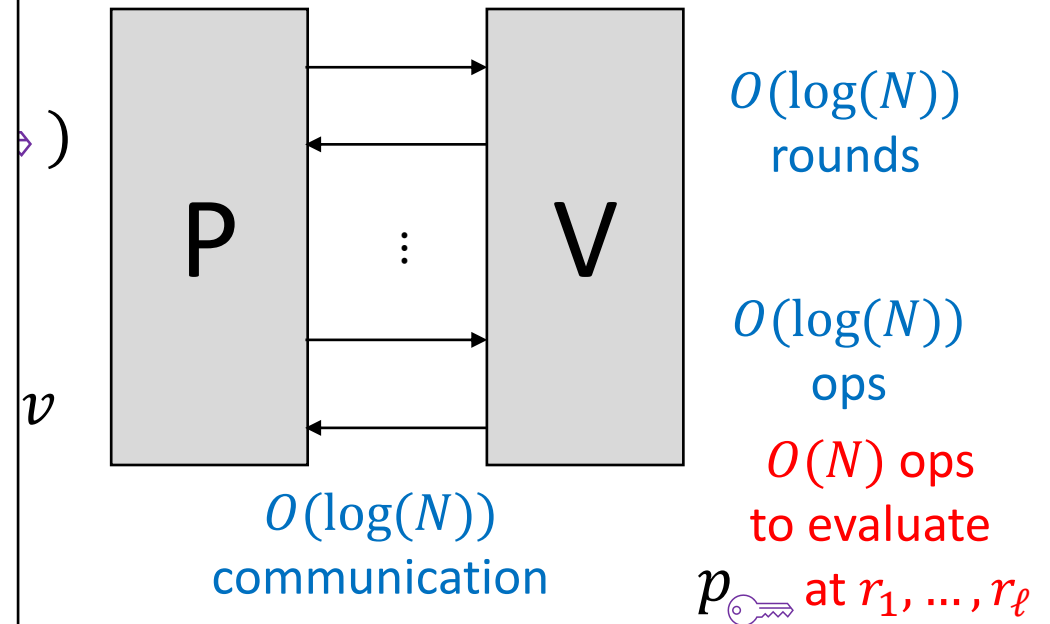
# Polynomial commitment schemes

**Goal:** delegate computation to the prover



**Instance:**  

Inputs  $z_1, \dots, z_\ell$ , output  $v$




[1]: sumcheck-friendly

polynomial commitment schemes

# Succinct verification through delegation

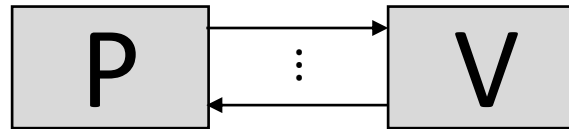
Witness:  $p$  

$\text{Commit}(p \text{  , \text{  }) = \text{  }$

$p \text{  } (z_1, \dots, z_\ell) = v$

Instance:    
length  $N$

Inputs  $z_1, \dots, z_\ell$ , output  $v$



$O(\log(N))$   
ops

$O(N)$  ops to evaluate

$p \text{  } \text{ at } r_1, \dots, r_\ell$

# Succinct verification through delegation

Witness:  $p_{\text{doc}}$

$$\text{Commit}(p_{\text{doc}}, \text{key}) = \text{box}$$

$$p_{\text{doc}}(z_1, \dots, z_\ell) = v$$

$$p_{\text{key}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v'$$

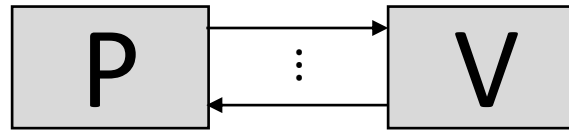
New Witness:  $p_{\text{key}}$

$$\text{Commit}(p_{\text{key}}, \text{key}) = \text{box}$$

$$p_{\text{key}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v'$$

Instance:  length  $N$  

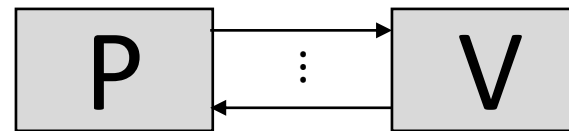
Inputs  $z_1, \dots, z_\ell$ , output  $v$



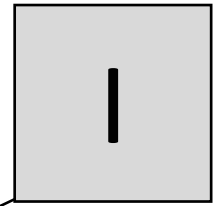
$v'$

New Instance:  length  $N/2$  

Inputs  $r_1, \dots, r_\ell$ , output  $v'$



Recurse!



$$= \text{Commit}(p_{\text{key}}, \text{key})$$

Instance compression for succinct verification!

$O(\log(N))$   
ops

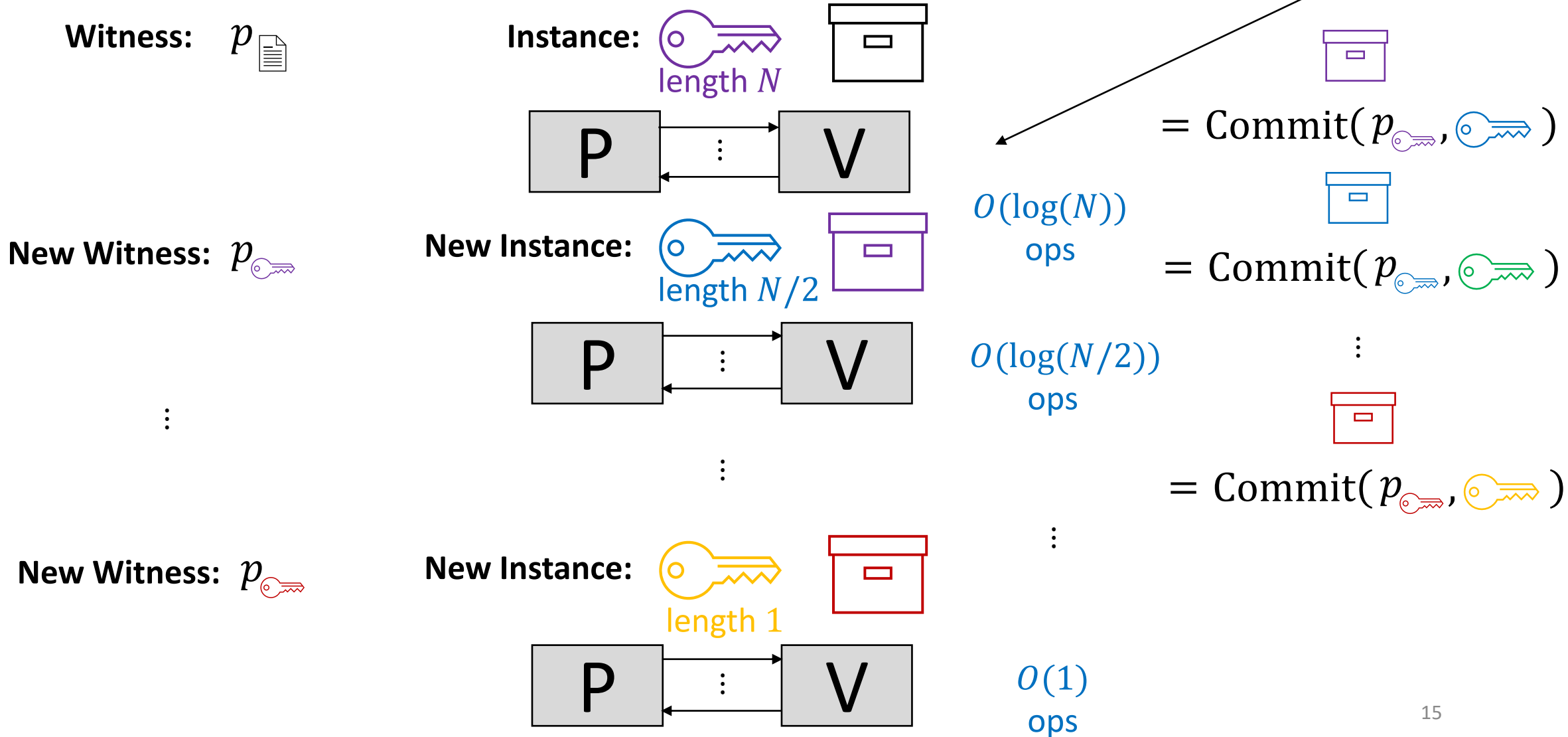
Delegate to the prover

$O(\log(N/2))$   
ops

$O(N/2)$  ops  
to evaluate

$p_{\text{key}}$

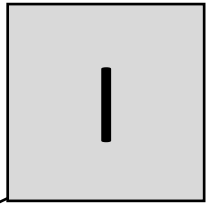
# Succinct verification via delegation



# Succinct verification via delegation

Witness:  $p$  

**Challenge 1:** committing and proving with commitment keys

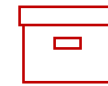


$$= \text{Commit}(p_{\text{key}}, \text{key})$$




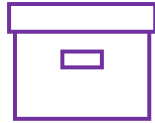
$$= \text{Commit}(p_{\text{key}}, \text{key})$$

⋮

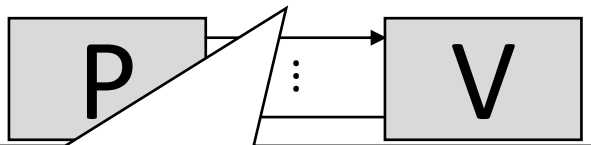


$$= \text{Commit}(p_{\text{key}}, \text{key})$$

New Witness:  $p$  

New Instance:    
length  $N/2$

Generalise approach from [Lee21], [Thaler] beyond pairings



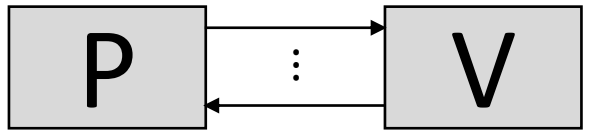
$O(\log^2(N))$   
ops

**Challenge 2:** reducing key length

New Witness:  $p$  

New

length 1





# A closer look at [BCS21] polynomial commitments

# Commitments over bilinear modules

- $R$ -module : a vector space over a ring  $R$

'Multiply' message and key elements using  $e$

Bilinear module:

- $R$ -modules  $M_L, M_R$  and  $M_T$
- $e : M_L \times M_R \rightarrow M_T$  is  $R$ -bilinear

$$C = p_0 G_0 + \dots + p_{N-1} G_{N-1} = \langle \underline{p}, \underline{G} \rangle$$

Add the pieces together

Hard to find small  $\underline{p}$  such that  $\langle \underline{p}, \underline{G} \rangle = 0$

Messages	Keys	Commitments	Assumption
small $M_L$	$M_R$	$M_T$	Bilinear Relation Assumption
$\mathbb{G}_1$	$\mathbb{G}_2$	$\mathbb{G}_T$	DPAIR ( $\Leftarrow$ SXDH)
small $R$	$R_q$	$R_q$	Ring SIS

$e$  is multiplication mod  $q$ ,  
 $R = \mathbb{Z}[X] / X^{d+1}$

# Polynomial commitments over bilinear modules

Keygen( $N$ ):

$$G_0, \dots, G_{N-1} \leftarrow M_R$$

$$\text{Commit} \left( \underline{p}_m(\underline{X}), \underline{G} \right) = \langle \underline{m}, \underline{G} \rangle \in M_T$$

$$\underline{m} = (m_0, \dots, m_{N-1}) \in M_L^N$$

$$\underline{p}_m(\underline{X}) = \sum_i X_1^{i_1} \dots X_\ell^{i_\ell} m_i \in M_L[\underline{X}]$$

multilinear

Eval:

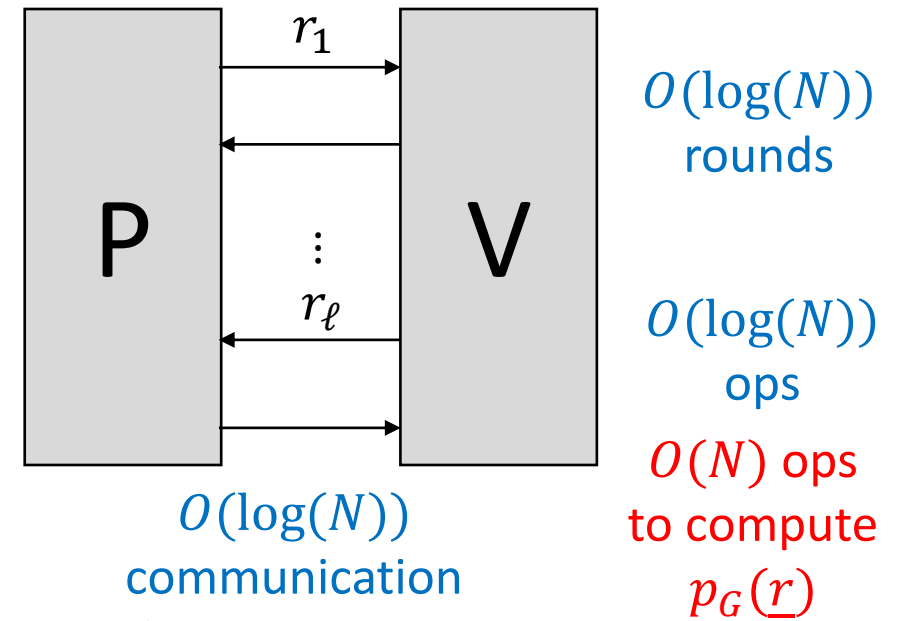
Instance:  $G_0, \dots, G_{N-1} \in M_R \quad C \in M_T$

Inputs  $z_1, \dots, z_\ell \in R$ , output  $v \in M_L$

Witness:  $\underline{p}_m$

$$\langle \underline{m}, \underline{G} \rangle = C$$

$$\underline{p}_m(z_1, \dots, z_\ell) = v$$

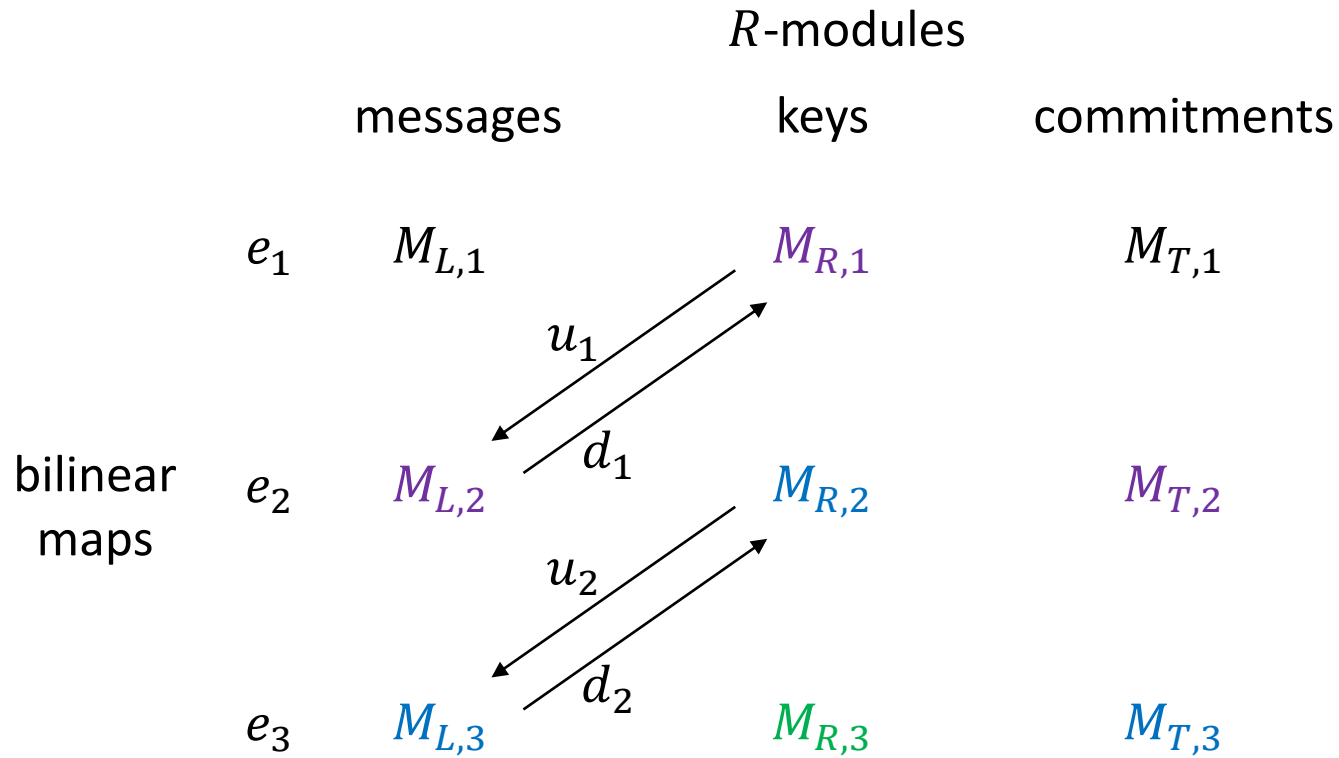


[BCS21]: sumcheck-friendly polynomial commitment schemes

Think of lattice bulletproofs (Russell's talk)

Challenge 1: committing and  
proving with commitment keys

# Levelled bilinear modules



## Requirements:

$$'M_{R,1} \subseteq M_{L,2}'$$

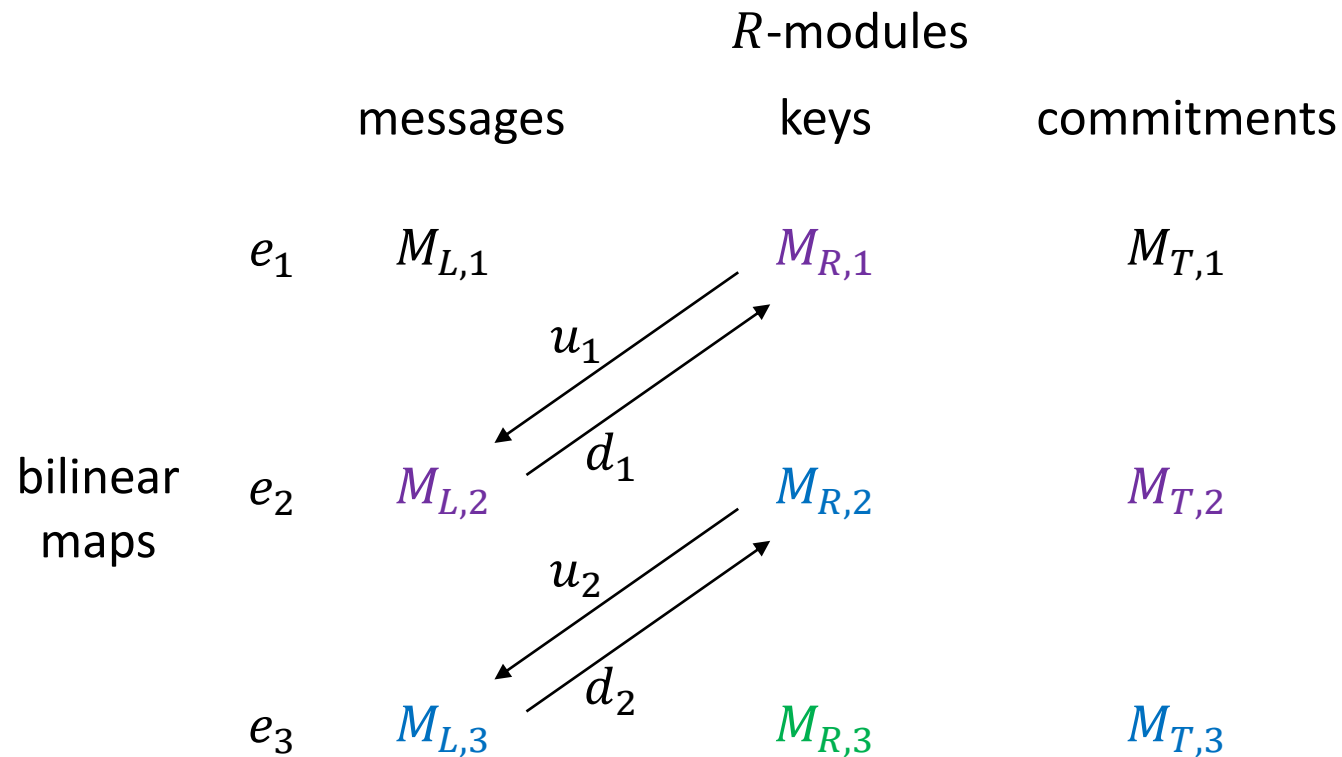
$$u_i(M_{R,i}) \subseteq M_{L,i+1}$$

$$p_{u_i(\underline{G})}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = u_i(v')$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v'$$

# Levelled bilinear modules



## Requirements:

*R*-homomorphisms

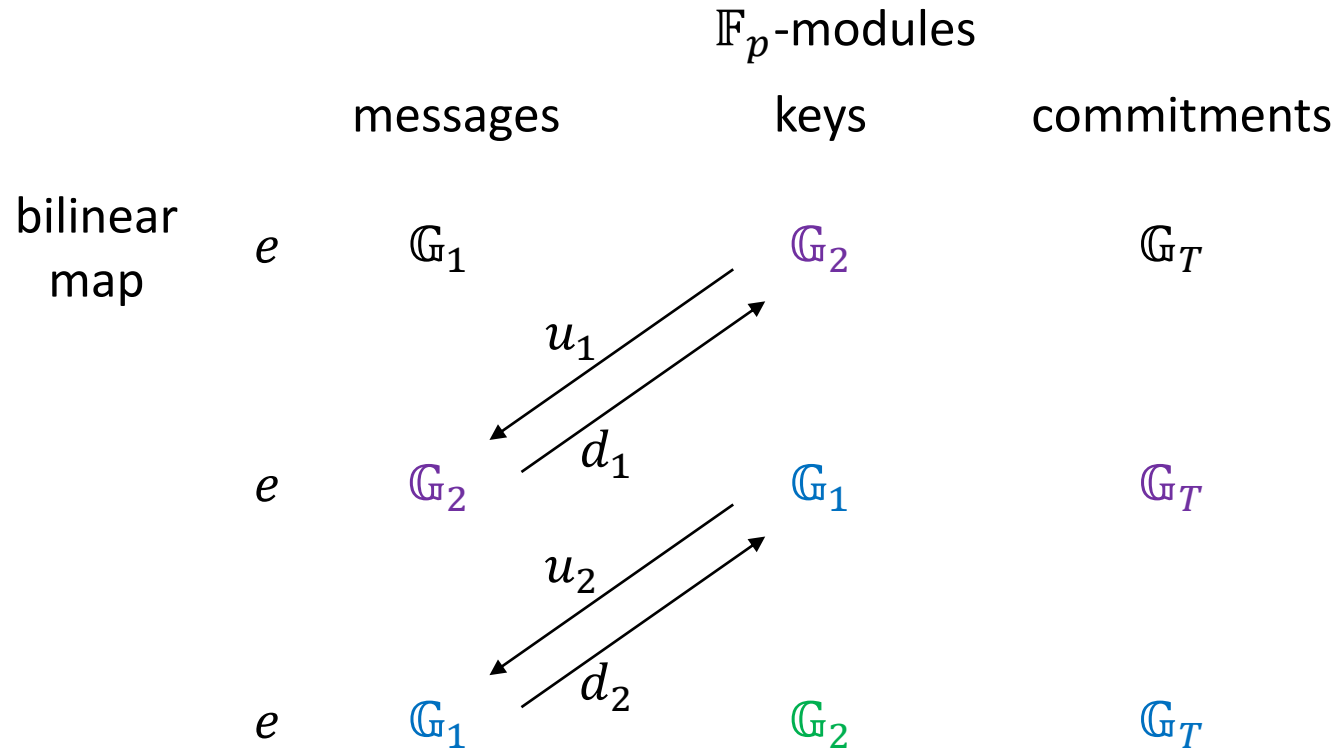
$$d_i : M_{L,i+1} \rightarrow M_{R,i}$$

$$u_i = d_i^{-1}$$

**Example:**  $d_i : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$ ,  $u_i$  'forgets' the mod  $p$

**Want bilinear relation assumption at each level**

# Pairing instantiation



$\mathbb{G}_1, \mathbb{G}_2, \mathbb{G}_T$  groups of prime order  $p$

$\text{keys}_{2i} \rightarrow \text{messages}_{2i+1}$

$\mathbb{G}_1$                        $\mathbb{G}_2$

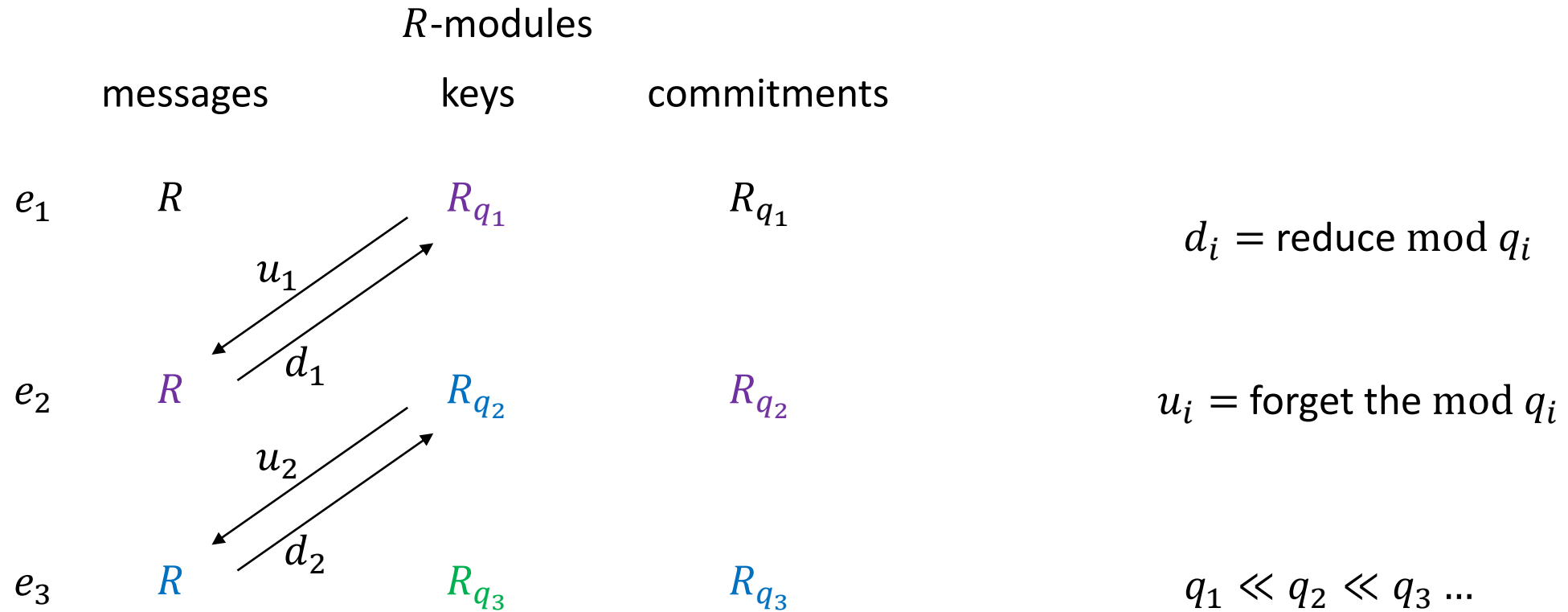
$\text{messages}_{2i+2} \leftarrow \text{keys}_{2i+1}$

$u_i = d_i = \text{Id}$

SXDH  $\Rightarrow$  **both** bilinear relation assumptions

# Lattice instantiation 1

$e_1$  is multiplication mod  $q_1$ ,  $R = \mathbb{Z}[X]/X^{d+1}$

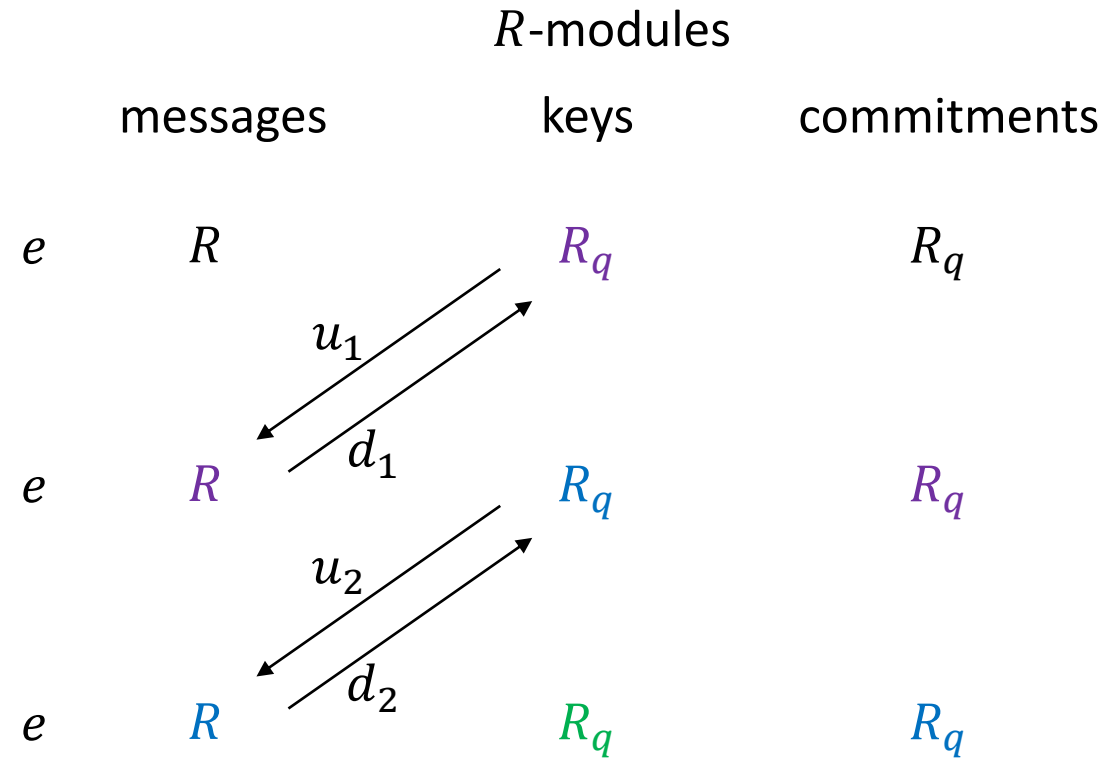


RSIS for  $R_{q_i} \Rightarrow$  bilinear relation assumptions at level  $i$



# Lattice instantiation 2

$e$  is multiplication mod  $q$ ,  $R = \mathbb{Z}[X]/X^{d+1}$



$u_i =$  forget the mod  $q$  and bit-decompose

$d_i =$  form an integer and reduce mod  $q$

$R$                        $R_q$   
 $\text{messages}_{i+1} \leftarrow \text{keys}_i$

RSIS for  $R_q \Rightarrow$  bilinear relation assumptions at every level

# Extra technicalities

$$p_{u_i(\underline{G})}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = u_i(v')$$

$\Downarrow$  Soundness

$$p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v'$$

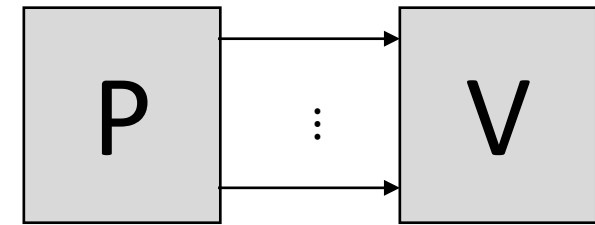
$$p_{u_i(\underline{G})}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = u_i(v')$$

$\Uparrow$  Completeness

$$p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v' \quad \text{Not true!}$$

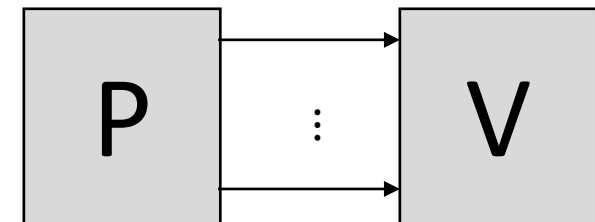
$$(1 \bmod 2) + (1 \bmod 2) \neq (2 \bmod 2)$$

Proof that  $p_{\underline{m}}(z_1, \dots, z_\ell) = v$



$$p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v' \quad \xrightarrow{v'}$$

Proof that  $p_{u_1(\underline{G})}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = u_1(v')$



# Extra technicalities

$$p_{u_i(\underline{G})}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = u_i(v')$$

↓ Soundness

$$p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v'$$

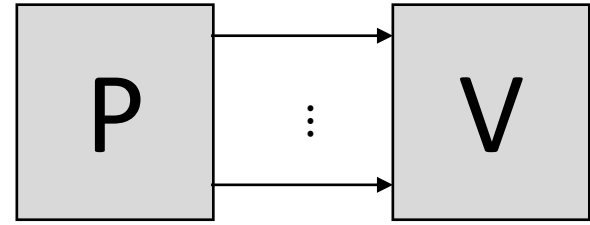
$$p_{u_i(\underline{G})}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = u_i(v') \text{ mod ker } d_i$$

↑ Completeness

$$p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v' \quad \text{Not true!}$$

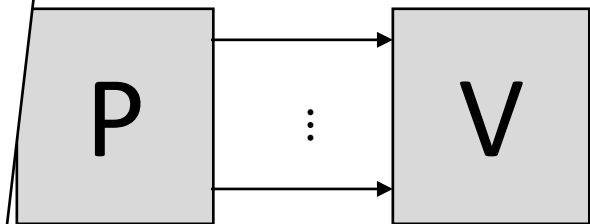
$$(1 \text{ mod } 2) + (1 \text{ mod } 2) \neq (2 \text{ mod } 2)$$

**Proof that**  $p_{\underline{m}}(z_1, \dots, z_\ell) = v$



$$p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v' \quad \xrightarrow{v'}$$

**Proof that**  $p_{u_1(\underline{G})}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) \equiv u_1(v')$



**Lattice instantiation 2:** key length increases  
Additional compression step required

# Challenge 2: reducing key length

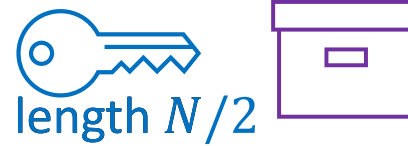
# Key splitting

Witness:  $p_{\text{key}}$

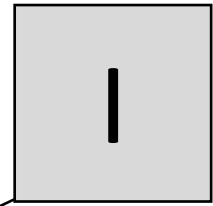
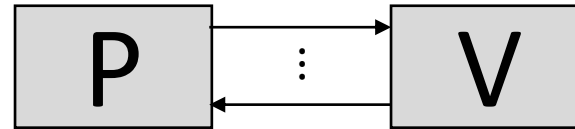
$$\text{Commit}(p_{\text{key}}, \text{key}) = \text{box}$$

$$p_{\text{key}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v'$$

Instance:



Inputs  $r_1, \dots, r_\ell$ , output  $v'$



$$= \text{Commit}(p_{\text{key}}, \text{key})$$

$$= \text{Commit}(p_{\text{key}}, \text{key})$$



$\neq$



# Key splitting

**Witness:**  $p_{\underline{G}}(\underline{X})$

$$\text{Commit}(p_{\underline{G}_L}, \underline{G}') = C_L$$

$$\text{Commit}(p_{\underline{G}_R}, \underline{G}') = C_R$$

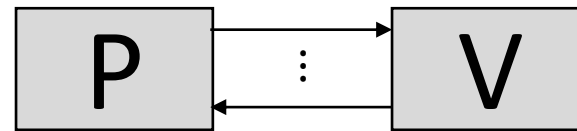
$$p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v'$$

$$\begin{aligned} p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) &= v' \\ &= \sum_i r_1^{i_1} \cdots r_\ell^{i_\ell} G_i \end{aligned}$$

$$C_L, C_R \in M_{T,2}$$

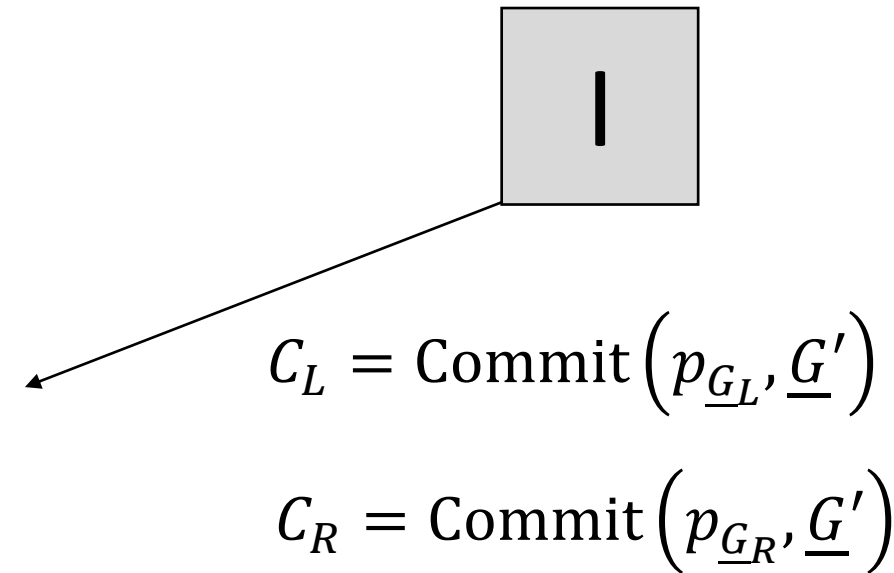
**Instance:**  $G'_0, \dots, G'_{N/2-1} \in M_{R,2}$

Inputs  $r_1, \dots, r_\ell$ , output  $v'$



$$\underline{G} = (\underline{G}_L, \underline{G}_R) \in M_L^{N/2} \times M_L^{N/2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) &= p_{\underline{G}_L}(r_2, \dots, r_\ell) + r_1 \cdot p_{\underline{G}_R}(r_2, \dots, r_\ell) \\ &= p_{\underline{G}_L + r_1 \underline{G}_R}(r_2, \dots, r_\ell) \end{aligned}$$



$$C_L = \text{Commit}(p_{\underline{G}_L}, \underline{G}')$$

$$C_R = \text{Commit}(p_{\underline{G}_R}, \underline{G}')$$

Ignore  $u$  map on this slide

# Key splitting

Witness:  $p_{\underline{G}_L + r_1 \underline{G}_R}(\underline{X})$

Instance:  $G'_0, \dots, G'_{N/2-1} \in M_{R,2}$

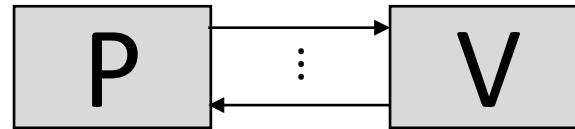
$$C_L + r_1 C_R \in M_{T,2}$$

$$\text{Commit}(p_{\underline{G}_L}, \underline{G}') = C_L$$

$$\text{Commit}(p_{\underline{G}_R}, \underline{G}') = C_R$$

$$p_{\underline{G}_L + r_1 \underline{G}_R}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) = v'$$

Inputs  $r_1, \dots, r_\ell$ , output  $v'$



$$C_L = \text{Commit}(p_{\underline{G}_L}, \underline{G}')$$

$$C_R = \text{Commit}(p_{\underline{G}_R}, \underline{G}')$$

$$\underline{G} = (\underline{G}_L, \underline{G}_R) \in M_L^{N/2} \times M_L^{N/2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) &= v' \\ &= \sum_i r_1^{i_1} \dots r_\ell^{i_\ell} G_i \end{aligned}$$

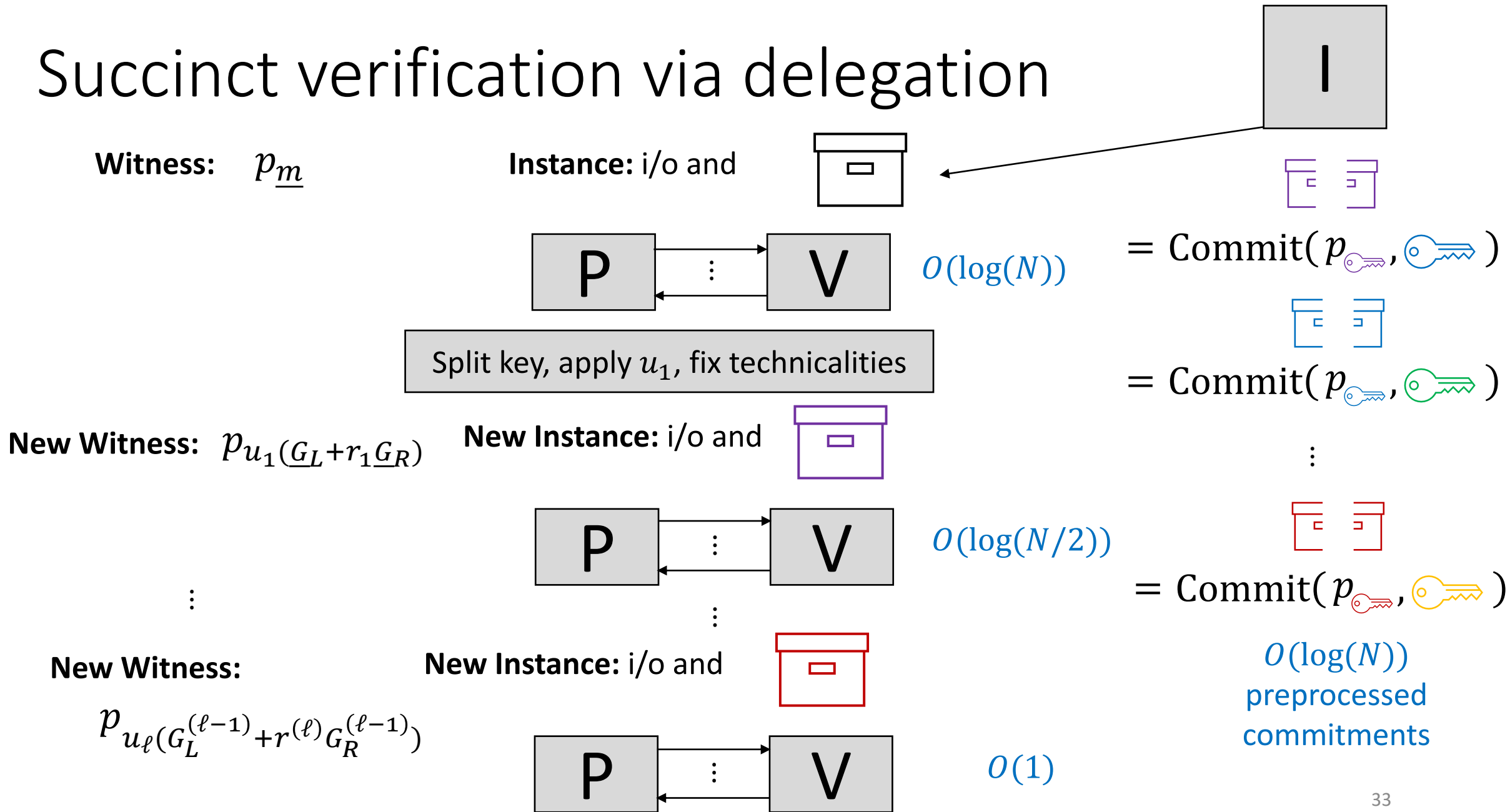
$$\begin{aligned} p_{\underline{G}}(r_1, \dots, r_\ell) &= p_{\underline{G}_L}(r_2, \dots, r_\ell) + r_1 \cdot p_{\underline{G}_R}(r_2, \dots, r_\ell) \\ &= p_{\underline{G}_L + r_1 \underline{G}_R}(r_2, \dots, r_\ell) \end{aligned}$$

Ignore  $u$  map on this slide

Putting everything together



# Succinct verification via delegation



# Conclusion and future work

# Main result

**R1CS problem over a ring  $R$ :** given matrices  $A, B, C \in R^{N \times N}$ , does there exist  $z \in R^n$  satisfying  $Az \circ Bz = Cz$ ?

**$k$ -level bilinear module:** triples of modules  $(M_L, M_R, M_T)_{i=1}^k$  over the same ring with a bilinear maps  $e_i : M_{L,i} \times M_{R,i} \rightarrow M_{T,i}$ .

**Theorem 1:** Let  $(M_{L,i}, M_{R,i}, M_{T,i}, e_i)_{i=1}^{\log N}$  be a “secure”,  $\log N$ -level bilinear module where  $M_{L,1}$  is a ring. Let  $I \subseteq M_{L,1}$  be a suitable ideal. There is a succinct argument of knowledge for R1CS with

R1CS Ring	Indexer time	Prover time	Verifier time	Proof size
$M_L/I$	$O(N)$ ops in $M_{T,\log N}$	$O(N)$ ops in $M_{T,\log N}$	$O(\log^2 N)$ ops in $M_{T,\log N}$	$O(\log^2 N)$ elems of $M_{T,\log N}$

# Corollaries

**Corollary 1:** Let  $d$  be a power of 2,  $p \ll q$  primes,  $R_p := \mathbb{Z}_p[X]/\langle X^d + 1 \rangle$  and similarly for  $R_q$ . Assuming SIS is hard over  $R_q$ , there is a succinct argument of knowledge for R1CS with

R1CS Ring	Indexer time	Prover time	Verifier time	Proof size
$R_p$	$O(N)$ ops in $R_q$	$O(N)$ ops in $R_q$	$O(\log^2 N)$ ops in $R_q$	$O(\log^2 N)$ elems of $R_q$

**Corollary 2:** Let  $e : \mathbb{G}_1 \times \mathbb{G}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_T$  be a bilinear group of prime order  $p$ . Assuming SXDH, there is a succinct argument of knowledge for R1CS with

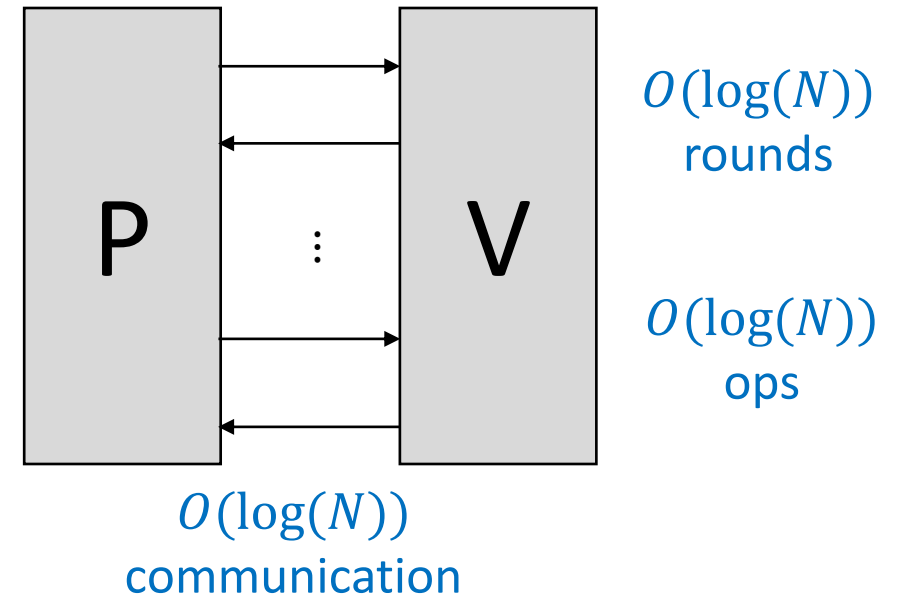
R1CS Ring	Indexer time	Prover time	Verifier time	Proof size
$\mathbb{F}_p$	$O(N)$ ops in $\mathbb{G}_T$	$O(N)$ ops in $\mathbb{G}_T$	$O(\log^2 N)$ ops in $\mathbb{G}_T$	$O(\log^2 N)$ elems of $\mathbb{G}_T$

# Future work

- Replace [BCS20] with something more concretely efficient...

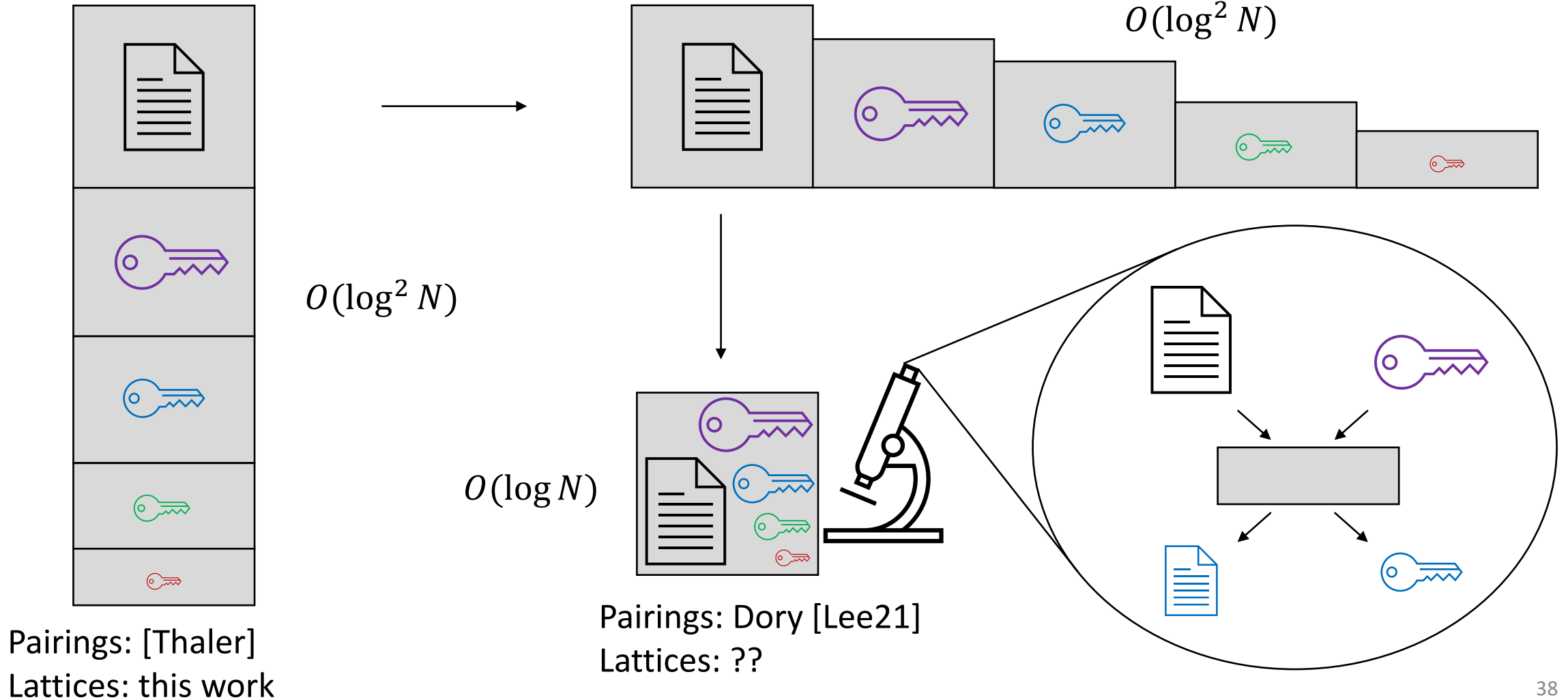
...Labrador?

- Low-memory prover algorithms



[BCS20]: sumcheck-friendly  
polynomial commitment schemes

# Further optimization ideas



# Further optimization ideas

