

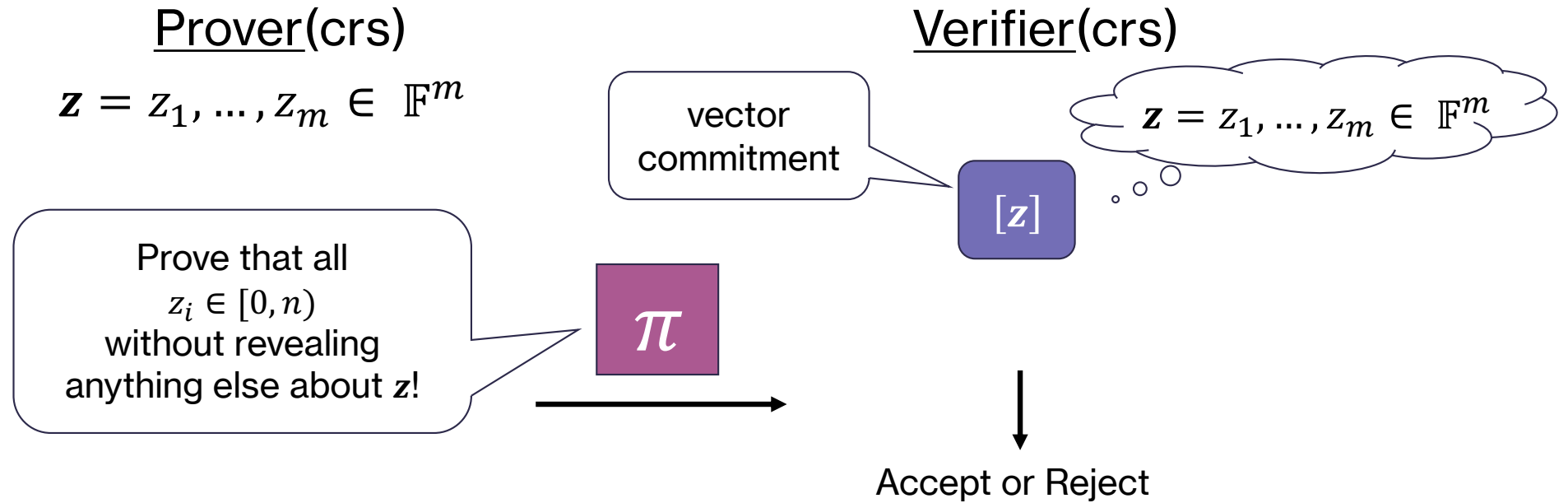


# DEKARTPROOF: EFFICIENT ZK VECTOR RANGE PROOFS AND THEIR APPLICATIONS

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# ZK Vector Range Proofs (ZKVRPs)



# ZK Vector Range Proof (ZKVRP) Applications

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- Publicly verifiable secret sharing (PVSS) schemes for field elements
  - Dealer encrypts secret shares and proves encrypted shares are “legitimate”
- PVSS used for threshold cryptography in distributed key generation
- PVSS for field elements often uses additively homomorphic ElGamal encryption

$$\text{Encrypt}(pk = g^{sk}, m, r) \rightarrow (g^m pk^r, g^r)$$

$$\text{Decrypt}((ct_1, ct_2), sk): \text{DLOG}(ct_1 / ct_2^{sk}) \rightarrow m$$

- Decryption involves solving discrete log →  
proving “legitimacy” means proving plaintexts are small
- Other applications: confidential transactions, electronic voting



Range  
size here  
is  $2^{40}$ !

# ZK Vector Range Proof (ZKVRP) Past Work

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- Proving  $m$  values are in  $[0, n)$ :
  - Lookup arguments (e.g., cq, Lasso)
    - Very fast prover time
    - Provers must store preprocessing hint of size  $O(n)$  or ZK is non-trivial
  - Bulletproofs: small proof size, fast prover, slower verifier
  - MissileProof: small proof size, fast verifier, slower prover
- DekartProof (our work): no hint, provably ZK, faster verifier than Bulletproofs, faster prover than MissileProof (asymptotically) and Bulletproofs (empirically)



Hint to  
preprocess  
table

Problem if  
 $n = 2^{40}$

# ZK Vector Range Proofs (ZKVRP)

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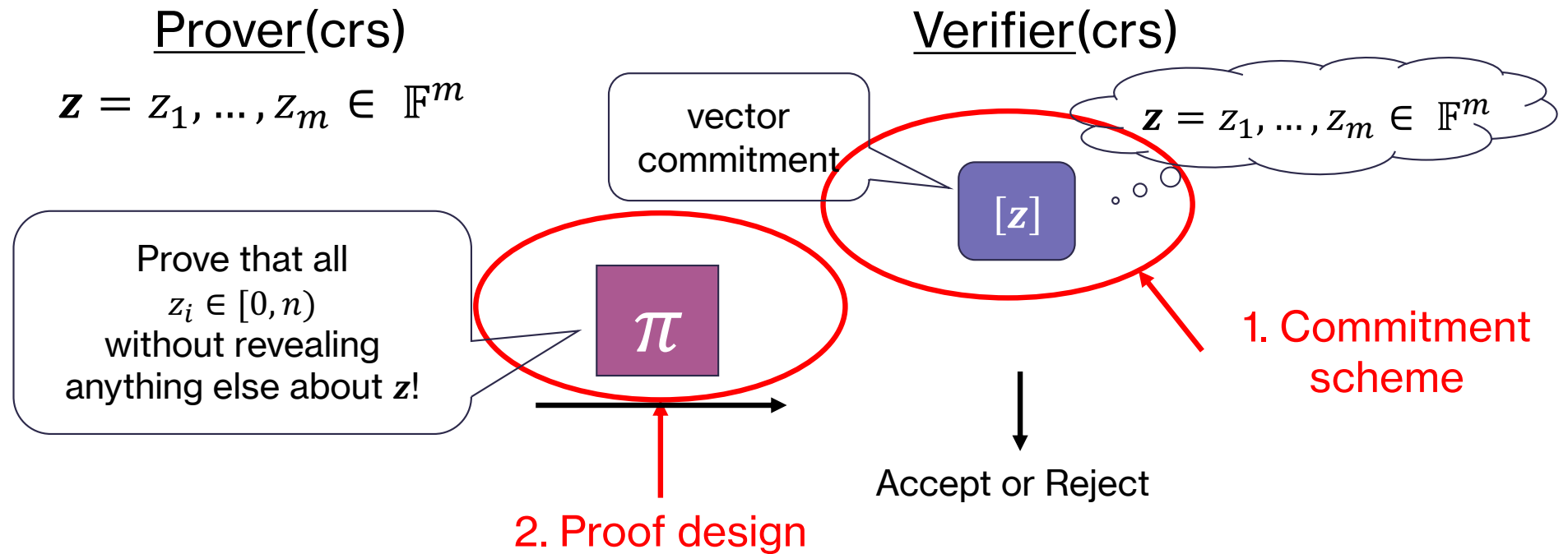
Need proof system for the following relation:

$$\mathcal{R}_{n,m} = \{ (com; \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{F}^m) : com = Commit(\mathbf{z}), \mathbf{z} \in [0, n)^m \}$$

with the following properties (informal):

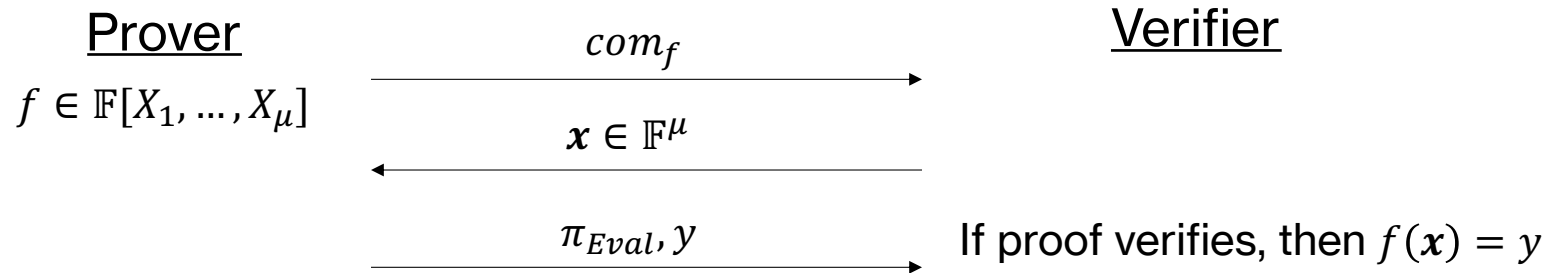
- Complete: honest provers succeed
- Sound: dishonest provers fail
- Zero-Knowledge: verifier only learns values are in the range and nothing more

# ZKVRP Design Strategy



# Polynomial Commitment Schemes (informal)

- Allows prover to “commit” to a polynomial and then prove its evaluations at certain points

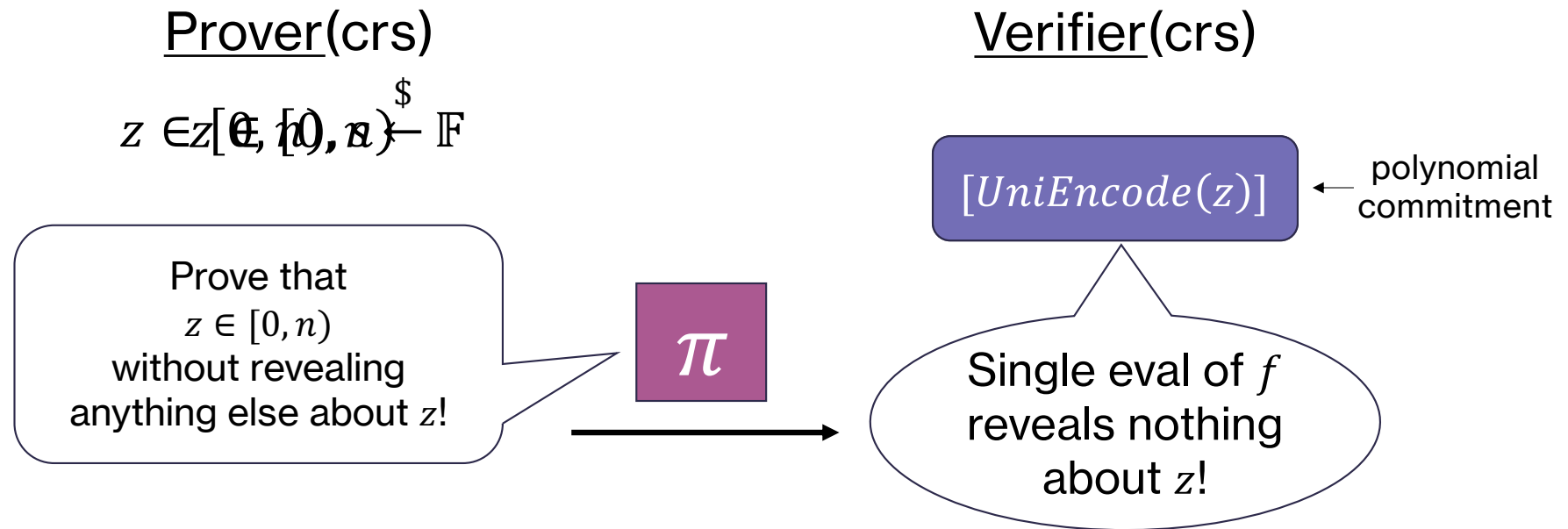


- Some PCSs are “homomorphic”

$$Commit(f) + Commit(f') = Commit(f + f')$$

- Why is this useful?
  - We will see that we can commit to vectors by committing to polynomials

# Borgeaud's Range Proof for Single Value<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup><https://solvable.group/posts/membership-proofs-from-polynomial-commitments/>

# Borgeaud's Range Proof for Single Value<sup>1</sup>

Prover(crs)

$z \in [0, n)$

1. Call  $z_1, \dots, z_{\log_2(n)}$  the bit decomposition of  $z$

2. Send verifier commitments to each  $z_i$



Verifier(crs)

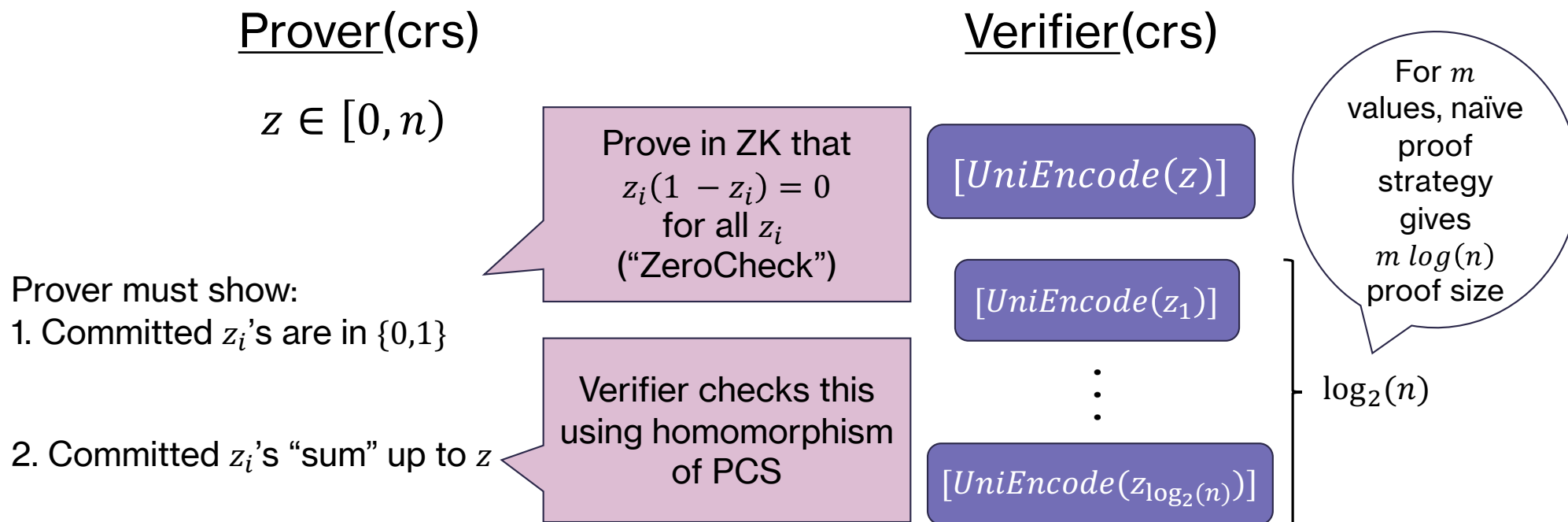
$[UniEncode(z)]$

$[UniEncode(z_1)]$

⋮

$[UniEncode(z_{\log_2(n)})]$

# Borgeaud's Range Proof for Single Value<sup>1</sup>



This scheme is complete, sound, and zero-knowledge!  
...but it is pretty inefficient

# How to Batch Borgeaud Efficiently

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- Where does inefficiency come from in Borgeaud?
  - Each commitment encodes only one value
- How to address this inefficiency?
  - Encode more than one value in each commitment
- How to encode more than one value?
  - Replace univariate polynomials with multilinear polynomials →  
leads to prover time savings

# Multilinear Encoding of Vector

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- To do ZKVRP for  $m$  values, we use  $\mu$ -dimensional hypercube where  $\mu = \log_2(m + 1)$
- Assume for simplicity  $m + 1$  is a power of 2
- Let  $bin(i) \in \{0,1\}^\mu$  be the  $\mu$ -dimensional binary representation of  $i$
- For  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{F}^m$ , let  $f$  be the unique  $\mu$ -variate multilinear polynomial where:

$$f(bin(0)) = s \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{F}$$

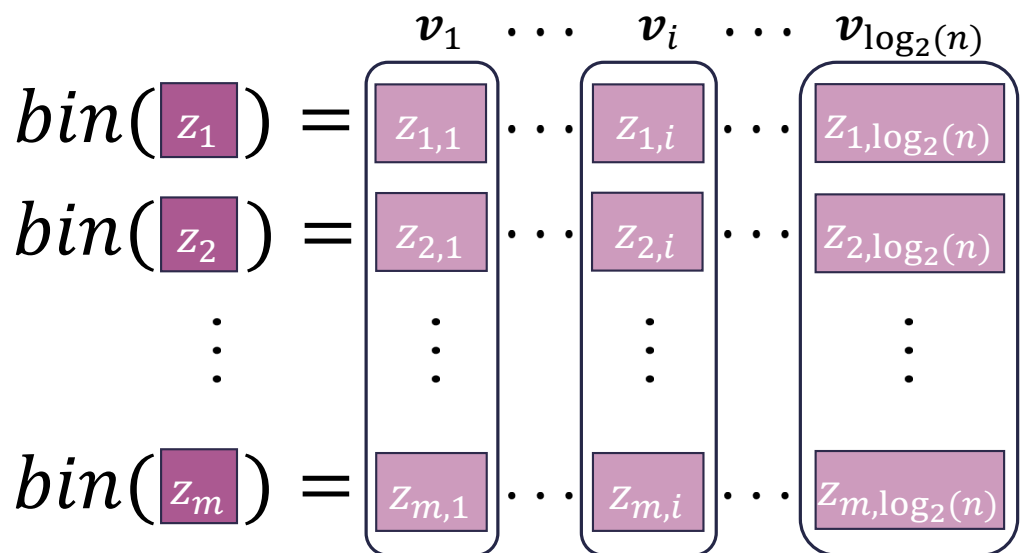
$$f(bin(i)) = z_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m$$

- Let  $MLEncode(\mathbf{z}) \in \mathbb{F}^{\leq 1}(X_1, \dots, X_\mu)$  denote this  $f$
- A single evaluation of  $f$  reveals nothing about  $\mathbf{z}$

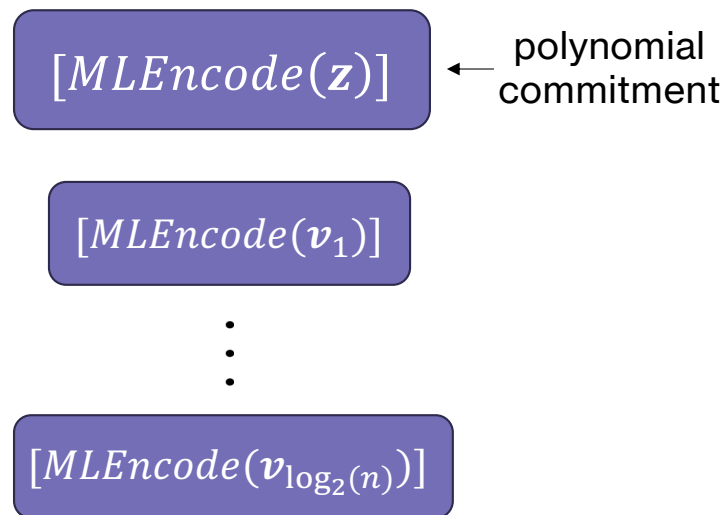
# Batching Borgeaud's Range Proof

Prover(crs)

$$\mathbf{z} = z_1, \dots, z_m \in \mathbb{F}^m$$



Verifier(crs)



# Batching Borgeaud's Range Proof

Prover(crs)

$$\mathbf{z} = z_1, \dots, z_m \in \mathbb{F}^m$$

Prove in ZK that  
 $v_{j,i}(1 - v_{j,i}) = 0$   
for all  $i, j$   
("ML ZeroCheck")

Prover must show:

1. Committed  $v_i$ 's are in  $\{0,1\}^m$

2. Committed  $v_i$ 's "sum" up to  $z$

Verifier checks  
this using  
Schwartz-Zippel

Verifier(crs)

[MLEncode( $z$ )]

[MLEncode( $v_1$ )]

⋮

[MLEncode( $v_{\log_2(n)}$ )]



$MLEncode(v_i)$ 's at random point "sum" to  $MLEncode(z)$  at random point  $\Rightarrow v_i$ 's "sum" up to  $z$

# ZK ZeroCheck for Multilinear Polynomials

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- ZeroCheck for multilinear polynomials can be performed with sum-check → but sum-check is not zero-knowledge!
- Prior ZK sum-checks in literature, but they are not performant or not fully ZK
- So we design a new zero-knowledge sum-check!

# Sum-Check is not ZK

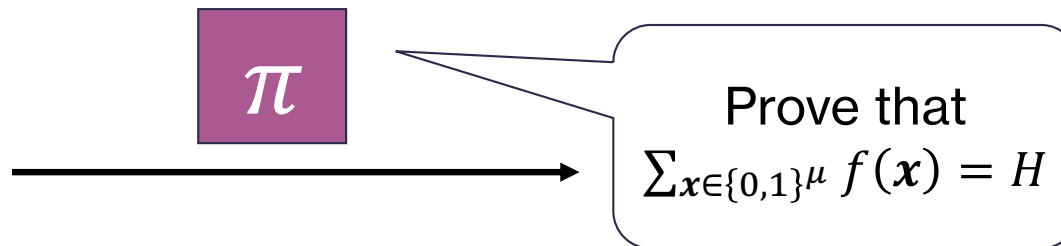
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Prover

$$f \in \mathbb{F}[X_1, \dots, X_\mu]$$

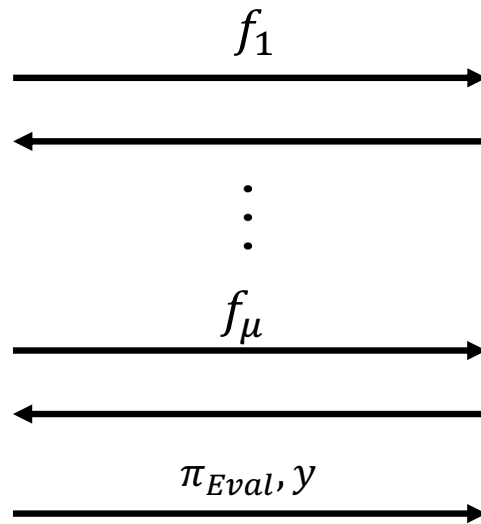
Verifier

$$com_f, H$$



# Sum-Check is not ZK

Prover  
 $f \in \mathbb{F}[X_1, \dots, X_\mu]$



Verifier  
 $com_f, H$

These are derived from  $f$

Reveals an evaluation of  $f$

How to make sum-check ZK?  
Address these two sources of leakage!

Use masking polynomial described in prior work [CFS17, XZZ19]

Sum over "blinded"  $f$  so single eval leaks nothing

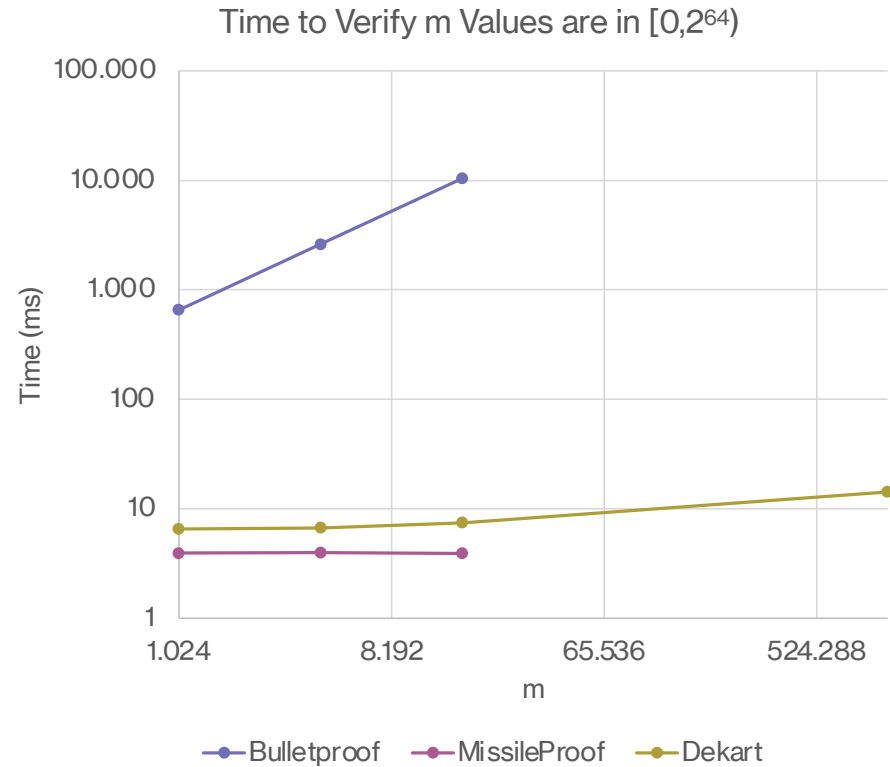
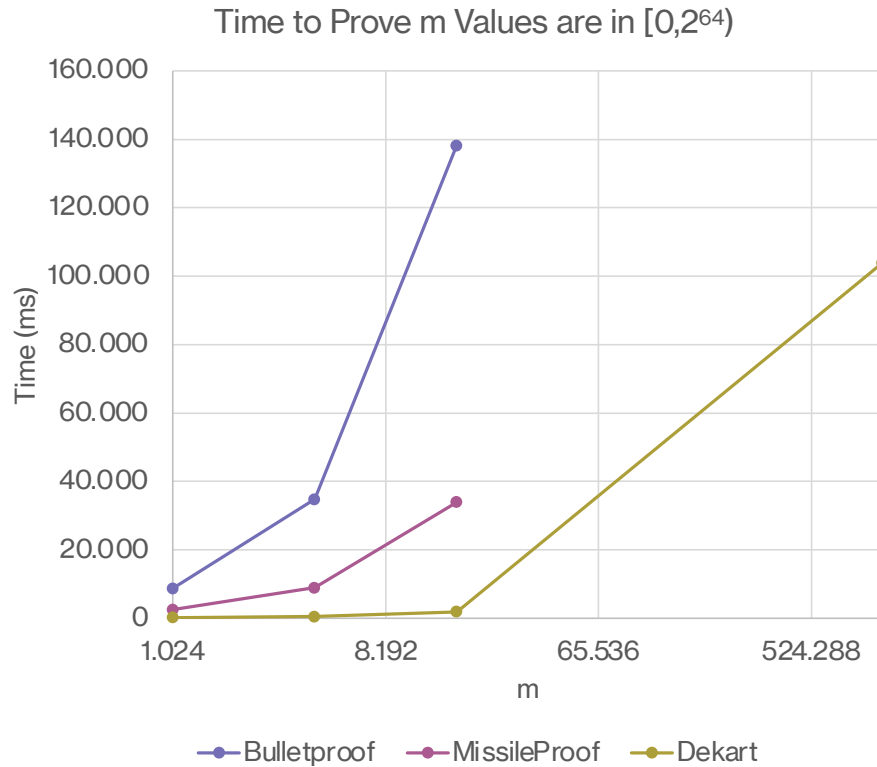
# Proving ZK Sum-Check is Sound and ZK

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- Normal polynomial interactive oracle proofs cannot capture our construction
  - E.g., our verifier must query sum of polynomial oracles
- We introduce a new information theoretic proof system called *Homomorphic Polynomial Interactive Oracle Proofs*
  - A model for instantiating polynomial interactive oracle proofs with homomorphic PCS
  - We give compilation theorem with round-by-round knowledge soundness proof
  - See paper for details

# Experimental Comparisons

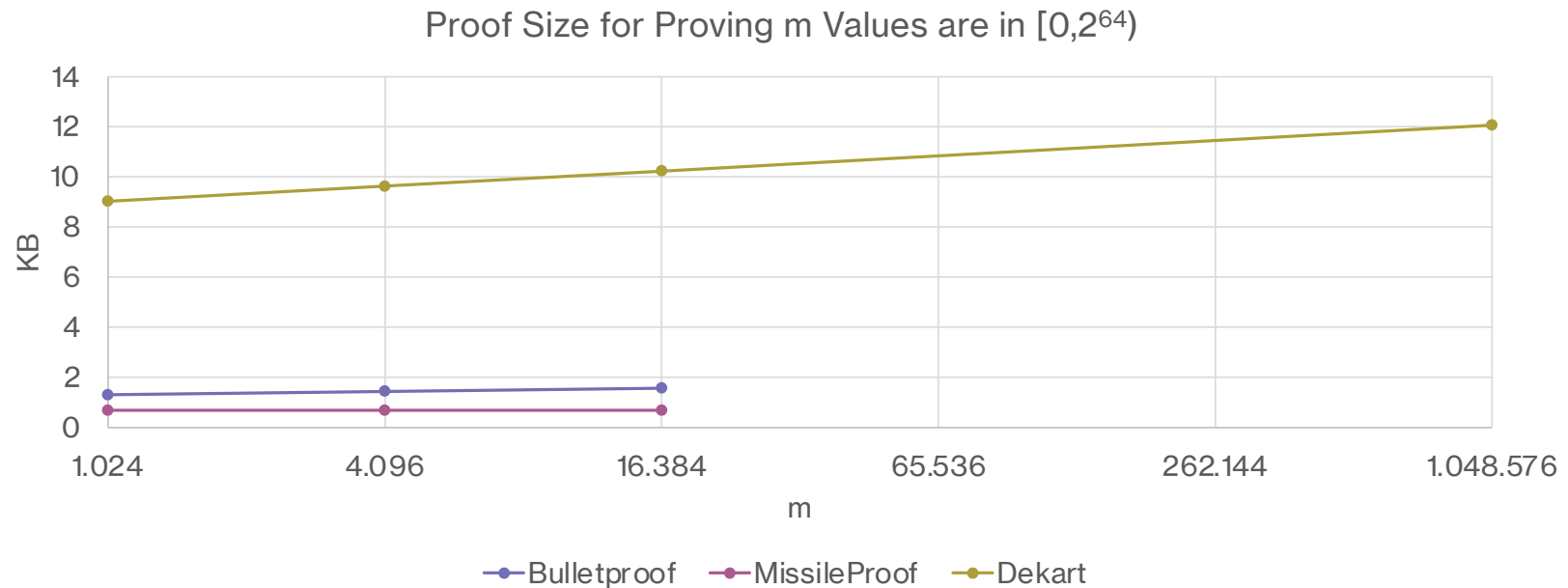
- Dekart has very fast prover (>10x faster) and relatively fast verifier (only 2x slower)



# Experimental Comparisons

- BUT Dekart has much larger proof size

→ Could be desirable tradeoff in some situations (e.g., PVSS)



# Conclusions

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- ZKVRPs are very useful in several blockchain applications (PVSS for field elements, confidential transactions, electronic voting, etc.)
- We introduce DekartProof, a new ZKVRP with efficient prover time, efficient verifier time, and short proofs
- As a building block, we introduce a ZK sum-check and prove its security
- Open question: efficient ZKVRPs in the lattice setting