

# CAPYBARA and TSUBAKI: Verifiable Random Functions from Group Actions and Isogenies

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## Abstract

In this work, we propose two post-quantum verifiable random functions (VRFs) constructions based on group actions and isogenies, one of which is based on the standard DDH assumption. VRF is a cryptographic tool that enables a user to generate a pseudorandom output along with a publicly verifiable proof. The residual pseudorandomness of VRF ensures the pseudorandomness of unrevealed inputs, even if an arbitrary number of outputs and proofs are revealed. Furthermore, it is infeasible to generate proofs to validate distinct values as outputs for the same input.

In practical applications, VRFs have a wide range of uses, including in DNSSEC protocols, blockchain and cryptocurrency. Currently, most VRF constructions rely on elliptic curve cryptography (ECC), pairing, or Decisional Diffie-Hellman (DDH) type assumptions. These assumptions, however, cannot thwart the threats from quantum adversaries. In light of this, there is a growing need for post-quantum VRFs, which are currently less widely developed in the literature.

We contribute to the study by presenting two VRF proposals from group actions and isogenies. Our constructions are fairly simple and derived from number-theoretic pseudorandom functions. We present a proof system that allows us to prove the factorization of group actions and set elements, providing a proof for our VRFs. The first one is based on the standard DDH problem. For the proof we introduce a new problem, the master decisional Diffie-Hellman problem over group actions, which we prove to be equivalent to the standard DDH problem. Furthermore, we present a new use of quadratic twists to reduce costs by expanding the input size and relaxing the assumption to the square DDH problem. Additionally, we employ advanced techniques in the isogeny literature to optimize the proof size to 39KB and 34 KB using CSIDH512 without compromising VRF notions. To the best of our knowledge, they are the first two provably secure VRF constructions based on isogenies.

## 1 Introduction

Verifiable random functions (VRFs) are a cryptographic primitive that were first introduced by Micali, Rabin, and Vadhan [MRV99]. They are a more advanced form of pseudorandom functions (PRFs) that not only generate pseudorandom outputs, but also provide a non-interactive and publicly verifiable proof to validate the output. The security of VRFs is maintained even when numerous copies of the input, output, and proof are made public. In particular, the notion of residual pseudorandomness for VRFs ensures that the pseudorandomness remains for inputs that have not been evaluated and the unique provability guarantees that it is computationally infeasible for an attacker to generate distinct outputs for the same input with valid proofs.

The versatility of VRFs has been demonstrated through their applications in DNSSEC protocols [GNP<sup>+</sup>15] and, especially, blockchain technology [GHM<sup>+</sup>17, HMW18, EKS<sup>+</sup>21]. The growth of cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin and Algorand has spurred significant interest in blockchain technology, which is being fueled by its potential. Early blockchain systems, such as Bitcoin, utilized the Proof-of-Work (PoW) consensus

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mechanism, where miners compete to solve a cryptographic puzzle and the winner is rewarded. In contrast, the Proof-of-Stake (PoS) consensus protocol provides a more environmentally sustainable solution by allowing validators to stake their tokens and conducting an online lottery. Due to the cryptographic properties, VRFs play a critical role in PoS blockchain applications for their applications in cryptographic sortition and Byzantine consensus [GHM<sup>+</sup>17, DGKR18, HMW18].

In practice, most existing VRFs are based on elliptic curve cryptography (ECC), pairing-based BLS-type signatures or other Diffie-Hellman-type assumptions [BGLS03, BMR10, ACF14, Jag15, PWH<sup>+</sup>17]. However, these VRFs are vulnerable to quantum computing attacks, as they rely on underlying assumptions that can be broken by a quantum adversary in polynomial time [Sho99]. Despite their versatility and significance, post-quantum VRFs are underdeveloped, with only five constructions out of four works to date [EKS<sup>+</sup>21, BDE<sup>+</sup>22, ESLR22, EEK<sup>+</sup>22]. The preliminary result of the lattice-based LB-VRF [EKS<sup>+</sup>21] provides limited residual pseudorandomness and requires updating the public key after, at most, five evaluations. Though it is sufficient in some scenarios, it cannot serve for long-term applications or on a large scale. The construction in [EEK<sup>+</sup>22] has the same limitation. Currently, only SL-VRF [BDE<sup>+</sup>22] from LowMC and the lattice-based LaV [ESLR22] offer full VRF capabilities. Regardless of the existence of Naor–Reingold-type PRFs (pseudorandom synthesizers [NR99]) [BPR12, Mon18] in lattices, the most versatile post-quantum branch, it seems challenging to push them forward to VRFs from this direction in a practical manner. Therefore, post-quantum VRFs have limited development, with only two full VRF proposals relying on a well-known assumption from symmetric primitives and lattices. Further research is necessary to address this challenge and further advance the capabilities of VRFs.

Isogeny-based cryptography is a relatively new area of research, compared to other post-quantum branches, first introduced with the CGL hash function [CLG09]. The core assumption of isogeny-based cryptography is that it is hard to recover an isogeny between two isogenous elliptic curves. One of the most well-known isogeny-based cryptosystems is SIDH [JF11], which is a key exchange cryptosystem that relaxes the original isogeny assumption. Recently, Castryck, Decru, and Robert [CD22, Rob22] made exciting and significant advances that falsified the hardness of the SIDH problem, leading to the breaking of some relevant cryptosystems [YAJ<sup>+</sup>17, DdF<sup>+</sup>21]. Despite this fact, the original isogeny problem is still considered to be hard and several cryptosystems continue to be based on the original assumption [DKL<sup>+</sup>20, CLL23]. There is also a group action version of isogeny-based cryptography, called CSIDH, proposed by [CLM<sup>+</sup>18]. While it offers limited operations as the evaluation of the action is restricted to generating sets with small cardinality, it still results in the first secure and practical post-quantum non-interactive key exchange. With optimization advancements [BKV19, FFK<sup>+</sup>23], the CSIDH group action is becoming more flexible.

Despite a known subexponential vulnerability [Reg04, Kup05, Kup11, Pei20, BS20], recent research continues to demonstrate the competitiveness of isogeny cryptography as a post-quantum branch, including signature schemes [BKV19, EKP20, DG19], UC-secure oblivious transfers [LGd21, BMM<sup>+</sup>22], threshold signatures [DM20], (linkable/accountable) ring and group signatures [BKP20, BDK<sup>+</sup>22], and PAKE [AEK<sup>+</sup>22]. In the area of isogeny-based proposals, there was a verifiable random function scheme [Ler21] that was withdrawn due to insecurity<sup>1</sup>. Due to the less rich algebraic structure offered by the isogenies, translating classical constructions has shown to be a non-trivial task in general [BKP20, MOT20, LGd21, BDK<sup>+</sup>22] from the perspective of viable and practical tools and the reliable and versatile assumptions, both of which very limited. For instance, the most practical classical counterpart ECVRF [PWH<sup>+</sup>17], based on a signature scheme with the unique signature property, requires hashing a string to an elliptic curve point, which is known to be a notorious bottleneck in isogeny-based cryptography [BBD<sup>+</sup>22, MMP22]. Additionally, the use of pairings, [BGLS03, BLS01], could lead to a "partially post-quantum" only result [DMPS19].

Regardless of the prior failure and the difficulties, it is still natural to ask:

*Can we have a post-quantum verifiable random functions from isogenies with a competitive performance and without compromising security notions?*

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<sup>1</sup>From private communication.

## 1.1 Related Works

To the best of our knowledge, there are only five constructions from four works to date [EKS<sup>+</sup>21, BDE<sup>+</sup>22, ESLR22] related to post-quantum VRFs. Of these, the lattice-based LB-VRF, X-VRF, iVRF in [EKS<sup>+</sup>21, BDE<sup>+</sup>22, EEK<sup>+</sup>22] have limited capabilities but with compact proof sizes (0.6-7.3KB). They provide only limited residual pseudorandomness, requiring the public key to be updated after a limited number of evaluations, making it unsuitable for long-term applications or large-scale use. iVRF, tailored to their applications, also relaxes the unique provability by imposing one more restriction on the adversary (see CFU of [EEK<sup>+</sup>22] on P7) and leads to a compact proof size 0.6KB. The SL-VRF and LaV in [BDE<sup>+</sup>22, ESLR22] provide full VRFs from LowMC and the hybrid MSIS/MLWR respectively. They have proof sizes of 40KB, 12KB, and the secret key sizes of 24B and 6.4KB respectively.

In the field of isogeny cryptography, various protocols have been proposed that relate to random functions. For instance, Naor-Reingold type pseudorandom functions (PRF) have been proposed in [ADMP20, MOT20]. Additionally, there have been proposals for oblivious random functions using oblivious transfers with a Naor-Reingold-type PRF or one-more type assumptions [BKW20], however, which has been shown to be insecure [BKM<sup>+</sup>21]. To date, the only verifiable random function proposed in the isogeny literature is by Antonin Leroux [Ler21], which aimed for a one-time verifiable random function, but was later withdrawn due to security concerns. Currently, a provably secure isogeny-based VRF has yet to be introduced in the literature.

## 1.2 Contributions

In this study, we present two VRFs, CAPYBARA and TSUBAKI<sup>2</sup>, which provide an affirmative solution to the above question through the following three contributions.

1. Inspired and based on the Naor-Reingold pseudorandom function as in [ADMP20, BKW20, MOT20], we construct a proof system where the prover can demonstrate the knowledge of the action factorization of a set element based on a distinguished base point (see  $R_{\text{fac}}$  defined below). We use the technique from [BDK<sup>+</sup>22] to make the proof system online-extractable, providing tightly-secure unique provability. Additionally, we utilize the approach in [BKP20] to reduce the proof size. As a result, our VRFs have an exponentially large input space ( $\{0, 1\}^\lambda$ ) and expected proof sizes of 39KB and 34KB using CSIDH512, which is comparable to the symmetric-primitive-based VRF [BDE<sup>+</sup>22]. The secret key can also be stored (compressed) as a 32B seed and generated efficiently using PRNG on input of the seed.
2. We introduce a new decisional assumption, known as the master decisional Diffie-Hellman problem, which implies a variety of decisional problems. We show that it is as hard as the original DDH problem.
3. We show a new use of the quadratic twists (see Footnote 3) to expand the input space to be ternary ( $\{-1, 0, 1\}^\kappa$ ). By using a similar method, we prove that this variant is as secure as the decisional square Diffie-Hellman problem, whose computational version is as hard as the group action inverse problem.

As a result, we introduce the first group action and isogeny-based VRFs in literature with a competitive performance. Additionally, our CAPYBARA construction is based on the standard DDH assumption. Our method of construction and the techniques utilized are versatile and can be applied to other number-theoretic pseudorandom functions, demonstrating the promising potential of incorporating group actions and isogeny cryptography in the field of VRF research.

## 1.3 Technical Overview

The ideas beneath this work are fairly simple. First, given a transitive and free (effective) group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, h_0)$  for some distinguished element  $h_0 \in \mathcal{E}$ , we start from a Naor-Reingold-type pseudorandom

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<sup>2</sup>Compact Action factorization Proofs Yielded By A RANdom function and Twist-SqaUre-BASed tWeaK from Isogenies.

function on input  $x = (x_1 \cdots x_\kappa) \in \{0, 1\}^\kappa$ :

$$f(\mathbf{sk}, x) = (c_0 c_1 g_1^{x_1} \cdots g_\kappa^{x_\kappa}) \star h_0$$

where the secret key  $\mathbf{sk} = (c_0, c_1, g_1, \dots, g_\kappa)$  with the public key  $\mathbf{vk} = (c_0 \star h_0, c_1 \star h_0, g_1 \star h_0, \dots, g_\kappa \star h_0)$  as the evaluation of our verifiable random function. Remark that without  $c_1$ , it is a secure pseudorandom random function but not a secure verifiable random function since the adversary is given  $\mathbf{vk}$  so that the evaluation at 0 is known.

Second, the factorization over the group  $g = \prod g_i$  (not necessarily unique) gives the factorization of  $g \star h_0$  over the set with respect to  $h_0$ . We construct an action factorization proof system to prove the correctness of the evaluation of  $f(\mathbf{sk}, x)$ . Formally, let  $h \leftarrow f(\mathbf{sk}, x)$  on input  $x \in \{0, 1\}^\kappa$ . We consider the action factorization relation

$$R_{\text{fac}} = \left\{ \left( (h_0, X_0, X_1, \{h_i\}_{i \in I}, h), (c_0, c_1, \{g_i\}_{i \in I}) \right) \mid \begin{array}{l} X_j = c_j \star h_0 \quad \forall j \in \{0, 1\} \\ g_i \star h_0 = h_i \quad \forall i \in I \\ (c_0 c_1 \prod_{i \in I} g_i) \star h_0 = h \end{array} \right\},$$

where  $I = \{i \in [\kappa] \mid x_i = 1\}$ . Notice that without  $h$  in the statement and the constraint, the proof system is trivial using a standard graph-isomorphism-type proof of knowledge in parallel. We show that one with the corresponding witness can prove a set element  $h \in \mathcal{E}$  can be “factorized” through  $\{h_i\}_{i \in I}$  and  $h_0$  when the action is over an abelian group.

The three-move public-coin proof system starts from the prover who generates random  $r, r_0, r_i \leftarrow G$  for  $i \in I$ , computes  $(r \star X_0, r_0 \star X_1, \{r_i \star h_i\}_{i \in I}, (r r_0 \prod_{i \in I} r_i) \star h) = (X'_0, X'_1, \{h'_i\}_{i \in I}, h')$ , and sends it to the verifier. The verifier returns a random challenge  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  to the prover. Depending on  $b$ , the prover reveals  $(r c_0^b, r_0 c_1^b, \{g_i^b r_i\}_{i \in I})$  to the verifier. Upon receiving  $(r', r'_0, \{r'_i\}_{i \in I})$ , if  $b = 0$ , the verifier checks whether  $(r' \star X_0, r'_0 \star X_1, \{r'_i \star h_i\}_{i \in I}, (r' r'_0 \prod_{i \in I} r'_i) \star h) = (X'_0, X'_1, \{h'_i\}_{i \in I}, h')$ . If  $b = 1$ , the verifier checks whether  $(r' \star h_0, r'_0 \star h_0, \{r'_i \star h_0\}_{i \in I}, (r' r'_0 \prod_{i \in I} r'_i) \star h_0) = (X'_0, X'_1, \{h'_i\}_{i \in I}, h')$ . The verifier accepts if it is the case or rejects otherwise. By  $\lambda$  times repetitions and applying the Fiat-Shamir transform, one can obtain NIZK for the relation  $R_{\text{fac}}$ . For the sake of clarity, we present the construction by assuming the group structure is known. We show in Rem. 4.1 that the construction is also feasible in the unknown group structure setting.

Third, instead of resorting to an ad-hoc assumption, we prove the residual pseudorandomness of our VRF is as hard as the decisional Diffie-Hellman problem. We first introduce a generalized decisional problem – the master decisional Diffie-Hellman problem. The problem starts with the challenger giving the adversary an instance  $(g_1 \star h_0, \dots, g_N \star h_0)$ . The adversary can make queries for an arbitrary combination of  $(g_{s_1} \cdots g_{s_k}) \star h_0$  for any  $\{s_1, \dots, s_k\} \subseteq [N]$ , and also sends a challenge query, which has not been queried before. The challenger returns as instructed or a random set element from  $\mathcal{E}$ , and the adversary’s task is to determine which is the case. The problem covers a variety of variants of group-action-based decisional problems. Then, we prove the problem is as hard as the original DDH problem.

Fourth, we make the proof compact and achieve online extractability. The latter notion gives a tight reduction for the full uniqueness where the adversary cannot forge two valid proofs on the same input for two distinct evaluations for any malicious generated keys without using a rewinding argument. To achieve online extractability, one can consider using Unruh’s transform [Unr15] (or Pass’ transform [Pas03] by hashing both responses and appending them to the commitment. This, however, will result in costly overhead. Instead, while running the proof above, the prover uses a seed and a pseudorandom number generator (PRNG) to generate the group elements  $r, r_0, \{r_i\}_{i \in I}$ . By employing the proof technique developed in [BDK<sup>+</sup>22], the modification leads to an online-extractable proof system with much more compact proofs.

Fifth, as an independent interest in the CSIDH setting, we develop a new use of the quadratic twists and reduce the sizes of the public and secret keys and the computational cost for the user by relaxing the assumptions. In this way, the public key can be naturally expanded twice  $(c_0 \star h_0, c_1 \star h_0, g_1 \star h_0, \dots, g_\kappa \star$

$h_0, (g_1 \star h_0)^t, \dots, (g_n \star h_0)^t$ .<sup>3</sup> The modification reduces 37% of the key size, the computational cost, and the maximal proof size. We prove that the underlying assumption for the residual pseudorandomness is as hard as the decisional square Diffie-Hellman problem in the appendix, of which the computational version is as hard as the group action inverse problem (i.e. Dlog).

Finally, we optimize the proof size again using the unbalanced challenge space and the seed trees introduced in [BKP20], which reduces the proof sizes of both constructions by a factor of 3. The proof sizes of our final VRFs are expected to be 39KB and 34KB when using CSIDH-512.

**Roadmap.** We begin in Sec. 2 with some preliminary backgrounds on sigma protocols and proof systems (Secs. 2.1 and 2.2), VRFs (Sec. 2.3), and group actions and hardness assumptions (Secs. 2.4 to 2.6). We then introduce our action factorization proof system in Sec. 4. We present our VRF constructions, CAPYBARA, in Sec. 5 and its variant, TSUBAKI, in Sec. 6. We show the underlying assumption of CAPYBARA (resp. TSUBAKI) is as hard as the DDH problem in Sec. 3 (resp. the decisional square DDH problem in App. A). Finally, we give the final optimization for both constructions and the performance comparison in Sec. 7.

## 2 Preliminaries

**Notations.** We denote  $\{1, \dots, N\} \subset \mathbb{N}$  by  $[N]$ . Say  $G$  acts on  $\mathcal{E}$  by  $\star$ . For  $\mathbf{v} = (a_1, \dots, a_N) \in G^N$  and  $\mathbf{e} = (E_1, \dots, E_N) \in \mathcal{E}^N$ , we extend the action to an arbitrary dimension by writing  $\mathbf{v} \star \mathbf{e} = (a_1 \star E_1, \dots, a_N \star E_N) \in \mathcal{E}^N$ . We also abuse the notation  $\mathbf{v} \star E = (a_1 \star E, \dots, a_N \star E) \in \mathcal{E}^N$  when the context is clear. Also,  $\mathbf{e}_i$  represents the  $i$ -th elementary vector where the  $i$ -th entry is 1 and the others are zeros. For an array  $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_N)$ , we may denote the  $i$ -th entry  $v_i$  as  $\mathbf{v}_i$ . For a subset  $I \subseteq [N]$ , we let  $\mathbf{v}_I$  denote the sub-array  $(v_i)_{i \in I}$ .

Two probability ensembles  $X_\lambda, Y_\lambda$  are said to be computationally indistinguishable, denoted by  $X_\lambda \approx_c Y_\lambda$ , if for any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  there exist a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\lambda)$  such  $|\Pr[\mathcal{A}(X_\lambda) = 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(Y_\lambda) = 1]| \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ . Also,  $X_\lambda, Y_\lambda$ , defined over the same set, are said to be statistically indistinguishable, denoted by  $X_\lambda \approx_s Y_\lambda$ , if there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\lambda)$  such  $\sum_a |\Pr[X_\lambda = a] - \Pr[Y_\lambda = a]| \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .

### 2.1 Sigma Protocol

**Definition 2.1** (Sigma Protocol). *A sigma protocol  $\Pi_\Sigma$  is a three-move proof system for a relation  $R$  consists of oracle-calling PPT algorithms  $(P = (P_1, P_2), V = (V_1, V_2))$ , where  $V_2$  is deterministic. We assume  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  share states and so does  $V_1$  and  $V_2$ . Let  $\text{ChSet}$  denote the challenge space. Then,  $\Pi_\Sigma$  proceeds as follows.*

- The prover, on input  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \in R$ , runs  $\text{com} \leftarrow P_1^\mathcal{O}(X, W)$  and sends a commitment  $\text{com}$  to the verifier.
- The verifier runs  $\text{ch} \leftarrow V_1^\mathcal{O}(1^\lambda)$ , drawing a random challenge from  $\text{ChSet}$ , and sends it to the prover.
- The prover, given  $\text{ch}$ , runs  $\text{resp} \leftarrow P_2^\mathcal{O}(X, W, \text{ch})$  and returns a response  $\text{resp}$  to the verifier.
- The verifier runs  $V_2^\mathcal{O}(X, \text{com}, \text{ch}, \text{resp})$  and outputs  $\top$  (accept) or  $\perp$  (reject).

Here,  $\mathcal{O}$  is modeled as a random oracle. For simplicity, we often drop  $\mathcal{O}$  from the superscript when it is clear from the context. We assume the statement  $\text{st}$  is always given as input to both the prover and the verifier. The protocol transcript  $(\text{com}, \text{ch}, \text{resp})$  is said to be valid in case  $V_2(\text{com}, \text{ch}, \text{resp})$  outputs  $\top$ .

We require the sigma protocol to be correct conditioned on the prover not aborting the protocol. Below, if  $\delta = 0$ , then it corresponds to the case when the prover never aborts.

<sup>3</sup> Remark the reduction of the key size comes in different flavors in contrast to [BKV19, EKP20] where the twist reduces the public key size by decreasing the soundness error of the sigma protocol. Here, the twist decreases the key size by expanding a binary input to a ternary input instead of benefiting the proof system. The proof system is still BINARY challenge in this construction.

**Definition 2.2** (Correctness). A sigma protocol  $\Pi_\Sigma$  is said to be correct if for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \in R$  and the prover and the verifier both follow the protocol specification, the verifier always outputs  $\top$ .

**Definition 2.3** (High Min-Entropy). We say a sigma protocol  $\Pi_\Sigma$  has  $\alpha(\lambda)$  min-entropy if for any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \in R$ , and a possibly computationally-unbounded adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , we have

$$\Pr[\text{com} = \text{com}' \mid \text{com} \leftarrow P_1^\mathcal{O}(\text{st}, \text{wt}), \text{com}' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^\mathcal{O}(\text{st}, \text{wt})] \leq 2^{-\alpha},$$

where the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $P_1$  and by the random oracle. We say  $\Pi_\Sigma$  has high min-entropy if  $2^{-\alpha}$  is negligible in  $\lambda$ .

**Definition 2.4** (Honest Verifier Zero-Knowledge). We say  $\Pi_\Sigma$  is honest-verifier-zero-knowledge for relation  $R$  if there exists a PPT simulator  $\text{Sim}^\mathcal{O}$  with access to a random oracle  $\mathcal{O}$  such that any statement-witness pair  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \in R$ ,  $\text{ch} \in \text{ChSet}$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$  and any computationally-unbounded adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  that makes at most a polynomial number of queries to  $\mathcal{O}$ , we have

$$\text{Adv}_{\Pi_\Sigma}^{\text{HVZK}}(\mathcal{A}) := \left| \Pr[\mathcal{A}^\mathcal{O}(P^\mathcal{O}(\text{st}, \text{wt}, \text{ch})) = 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}^\mathcal{O}(\text{Sim}^\mathcal{O}(\text{st}, \text{ch})) = 1] \right| = \text{negl}(\lambda),$$

where  $P = (P_1, P_2)$  is a prover running on  $(\text{st}, \text{wt})$  with a challenge fixed to  $\text{ch}$  and the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $(P, V)$  and by the random oracle.

**Definition 2.5** (Special Soundness). We say a sigma protocol  $\Pi_\Sigma$  has special soundness if there exists a polynomial-time extraction algorithm  $\text{Extract}$  such that, given a statement  $\text{st}$  and any two valid transcripts  $(\text{com}, \text{ch}, \text{resp})$  and  $(\text{com}, \text{ch}', \text{resp}')$  relative to  $\text{st}$  and such that  $\text{ch} \neq \text{ch}'$ , outputs a witness  $\text{wt}$  satisfying  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \in R$ .

## 2.2 Proof System Under the Random Oracle Model

**Definition 2.6** (Completeness). Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be a random oracle and  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}} = (\text{Prove}, \text{Verify})$  a NIZK proof system for a relation  $R$ . We say  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  for a relation  $R$  is complete if for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \in R$  and the prover and the verifier both follow the protocol specification, the verifier always accepts.

**Definition 2.7** (Zero-Knowledge). Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be a random oracle,  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}} = (\text{Prove}, \text{Verify})$  a NIZK proof system for a relation  $R$ , and  $\text{Sim}$  a zero-knowledge simulator with access to  $\mathcal{O}$  for  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$ . For  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \in R$ , the advantage of an zero-knowledge adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\text{Sim}$  is

$$\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}}^{\text{ZK}}(\mathcal{A}) = \left| \Pr[\mathcal{A}^\mathcal{O}(P^\mathcal{O}(\text{st}, \text{wt})) = 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}^\mathcal{O}(\text{Sim}^\mathcal{O}(\text{st})) = 1] \right|,$$

We say  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  is zero-knowledge if there exists a PPT simulator  $\text{Sim}$  such that for any  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \in R$ , (possibly computationally-unbounded) adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  making at most polynomially many queries to the random oracle, we have a negligible function  $\text{negl}(\lambda)$  such that  $\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}}^{\text{ZK}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .

**Definition 2.8** (Online Extractability). Let  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  be a NIZK proof system for a relation  $R$ . We said  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  has online-extractability if for any (possibly computationally-unbounded) adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a PPT extractor  $\text{Ext}$  with only extractability access to  $\mathcal{O}$  such that  $\mathcal{A}$  wins the following game with a negligible advantage:

- (i)  $\mathcal{A}$  can make polynomial number queries of the random oracle.
- (ii)  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs  $\text{st}$  and  $\pi$ .

We say  $\mathcal{A}$  wins if  $\text{Verify}^\mathcal{O}(\text{st}, \pi) = \top$  and  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \notin R$  where  $\text{wt} \leftarrow \text{Ext}(\text{st}, \pi)$ . The advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  is defined as  $\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}}^{\text{OE}}(\mathcal{A}) = \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}]$  where the probability is taken over the randomness used by the random oracle.

## 2.3 Verifiable Random Functions

In this subsection, we give a brief introduction to the verifiable random functions, and its notions [MRV99].

**Definition 2.9.** (*Verifiable Random Function*) A verifiable random function (VRF) consists of four probabilistic polynomial-time algorithms  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}} = \{\text{ParGen}, \text{KeyGen}, \text{VRF Eval}, \text{Ver}\}$  where:

- $\text{ParGen}(1^\lambda)$ : On input a security parameter  $1^\lambda$ , this probabilistic algorithm outputs some global, public parameter  $\text{pp}$ .
- $\text{KeyGen}(\text{pp})$ : On input public parameter  $\text{pp}$ , this probabilistic algorithm outputs two binary strings, a secret key  $\text{sk}$  and a public key  $\text{vk}$ .
- $\text{VRF Eval}(\text{sk}, x)$ : On input a secret key  $\text{sk}$  and an input  $x \in \{0, 1\}^{\ell(\lambda)}$ , this algorithm outputs  $(v, \pi)$  for the VRF value  $v \in \{0, 1\}^{m(\lambda)}$  and the corresponding proof  $\pi$  proving the correctness of  $v$ .
- $\text{Ver}(\text{vk}, v, x, \pi)$ : On input  $(\text{vk}, v, x, \pi)$ , this probabilistic algorithm outputs either 1 or 0.

The residual pseudorandomness guarantees the pseudorandomness of the function even if the user has revealed many evaluations together with the proofs. In some applications, it is sufficient to have a few-times relaxed notion where the pseudorandomness is ensured for only limited copies of evaluations are revealed [EKS<sup>+</sup>21]. In this work, we consider the original version of the notion.

**Definition 2.10.** (*(Residual) Pseudorandomness*) Let  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  be a PPT adversary. The pseudorandomness experiment  $\text{ExpVRF}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{PR}}(\lambda)$  of a VRF scheme  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  proceeds as follows.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  | $\mathcal{O}_{\text{VRF Eval}}(x)$ :      |
| 1. $Q \leftarrow \emptyset$  | 1. $Q \leftarrow Q \cup \{x\}$            |
| 2. $\text{pp} \leftarrow \text{ParGen}(1^\lambda)$   | 2. Return $\text{VRF Eval}(\text{sk}, x)$ |
| 3. $(\text{vk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\text{pp})$  |   |
| 4. $(\tilde{x}, st) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^{\mathcal{O}_{\text{VRF Eval}}(\cdot)}(\text{vk})$            |   |
| 5. $(v_0, \pi_0) \leftarrow \text{VRF Eval}(\text{sk}, \tilde{x})$   |   |
| 6. $v_1 \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^{m(\lambda)}$  |   |
| 7. $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$   |   |
| 8. $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_2^{\mathcal{O}_{\text{VRF Eval}}(\cdot)}(v_b, st)$                           |   |
| 9. The output of the experiment is defined to be 1 if $b' = b$ and $\tilde{x} \notin Q$ , and 0 otherwise. |   |

We say  $\mathcal{A}$  wins if  $\text{ExpVRF}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{PR}}(\lambda) = 1$ . The advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  is defined to be

$$\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{PR}}(\mathcal{A}) := |\Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}] - 1/2|,$$

where the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $\mathcal{A}$  and the randomness used in the experiment. A VRF protocol  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  is said to be pseudorandom if for any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}$  such that

$$\text{Adv}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi_{\text{VRF}}} \leq \text{negl}(\lambda).$$

**Definition 2.11.** (*Complete Provability*) Let  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}} = \{\text{ParGen}, \text{KeyGen}, \text{VRF Eval}, \text{Ver}\}$  be a VRF scheme.  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  is said to have provability if for any  $\text{pp} \leftarrow \text{ParGen}(1^\lambda)$  and  $(\text{vk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(\text{pp})$ , the output  $(v, \pi) \leftarrow \text{VRF Eval}(\text{sk}, x)$  satisfies

$$\text{Ver}(\text{vk}, v, x, \pi) = 1.$$

The following notion, unique provability, implies that for any adversary (possibly computationally unbounded with at most polynomial public coin queries) it is difficult to generate a malicious public key such that the adversary can produce two valid proofs for two distinct evaluations of the same input.

**Definition 2.12.** (*Unique Provability*) Let  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}} = \{\text{ParGen}, \text{KeyGen}, \text{VRF Eval}, \text{Ver}\}$  be a VRF scheme and  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2)$  be an adversary. A uniqueness provability experiment proceeds as follows.

1.  $\text{pp} \leftarrow \text{ParGen}(1^\lambda)$
2.  $(\text{vk}, \text{sk}) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1(\text{pp})$
3.  $(\text{vk}, x, v_1, v_2, \pi_1, \pi_2) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_2(\text{vk})$

We say an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  wins if  $v_1 \neq v_2$  and  $\text{Ver}(\text{vk}, v_1, x, \pi_1) = \text{Ver}(\text{vk}, v_2, x, \pi_2) = 1$ . The advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  is defined to be  $\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{UP}}(\mathcal{A}) := \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins}]$  where the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $\mathcal{A}$  and in the experiment.

## 2.4 Group Actions

Throughout this work we consider only free, transitive and effective group action. In this section, we give a brief introduction to the main component in our protocols – the group actions.

**Definition 2.13** (Group Action). A group  $G$  is said to act on a set  $\mathcal{E}$  if there is a map  $\star : G \times \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$  that satisfies the

1. *Identity:* if  $1$  is the identity element of  $G$ , then for any  $E \in \mathcal{E}$ , we have  $1 \star E = E$ .
2. *Compatibility:* for any  $g, h \in G$  and any  $E \in \mathcal{E}$ , we have  $(gh) \star E = g \star (h \star E)$ .

For the cryptographic purpose, we need the following propositions.

**Definition 2.14.** A group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star)$  is said to be

1. *transitive* if for any  $x_1, x_2 \in \mathcal{E}$  there exists  $g \in G$  such that  $x_2 = g \star x_1$ , or
2. *free* if for any  $g \in G$ ,  $g$  is the identity element if and only if there exists some  $x \in \mathcal{E}$  such that  $x = g \star x$ .

For constructing a feasible construction from a group action, we require some efficient (PPT) algorithms. We adopt the *effective group action* framework introduced in [ADMP20].

**Definition 2.15** (Effective Group Action). A group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, E_0, \star)$  is effective if the following properties are satisfied:

1. The group  $G$  is finite and there exist PPT algorithms for (i.) the membership testing, (ii.) equality testing, (iii.) group operations, (iv.) element inversions, and (v.) a sampling method over  $G$ . The sampling method is required to be statistically indistinguishable from the uniform distribution over  $G$ .
2. The set  $\mathcal{E}$  is finite, and there exist PPT algorithms for the membership testing and generating a unique bit-string representation for every element in  $\mathcal{E}$ .
3. There exists a distinguished element  $E_0 \in \mathcal{E}$  and the bit-string representation is publicly known.
4. There exists a PPT algorithm that given any  $(g, x) \in G \times \mathcal{E}$  outputs  $g \star x$ .

**Remark 2.16 (Additional Requirements.)** We have two additional requirements for our group actions. Firstly, for security parameter  $\lambda$ , we require the group size  $|G|$  to be larger than  $2^\lambda$ . The requirement naturally holds due to the known quantum subexponential attacks  $2^{O(\sqrt{|G|})}$  [Reg04, Kup05, Kup11, Pei20, BS20]. This is necessary to ensure that we have adequate min-entropy for our proof system in Sec. 4. The second



requirement is that every  $G$  has a unique representation, which can be efficiently computed. The requirement is directly implied by the known-order effective group (KEGA) model [ADMP20]. We do not adopt the model since we use neither the group’s structure nor the group’s order (KEGA). With this assumption, we can ensure that revealing  $g + g'$  will not leak the information of  $g$  where  $g'$  is sampled uniformly from  $G$  for our proof system in Sec. 4. It is worth noting that this requirement is for simplicity of presentation and is not strictly necessary (see next remark).

**Remark 2.17.** For the sake of clarity, we present the work using the EGA model. A weaker version (restricted effective group action) restricted the feasible evaluation of the action to a generating set of small cardinality (e.g. the original CSIDH setting [CLM<sup>+</sup>18, DG19]). Our construction can also be realized with a few modifications for the proof system, requiring Fiat-Shamir with aborts [Lyu09, DG19]. We give a brief discussion in Rem. 4.1.

Throughout this work, we assume the action is always *free, transitive and effective* and denote it by a tuple  $(G, \mathcal{E}, E_0, \star)$  where  $E_0$  is the distinguished element. Also, we assume the sampling method over  $G$  is uniform.

In our second construction, we require a special operation—the quadratic twist. In the CSIDH group action  $(G, \mathcal{E})$  [CLM<sup>+</sup>18], when the prime equals 3 modulo 4, there exists a special operation, the quadratic twist  $t$ , such that for any  $E \in \mathcal{E}$ , we have  $E^t \in \mathcal{E}$ , and has the proposition  $(g \star E)^t = g^{-1} \star E^t$ . Also, there exists a special element  $E_0$ , usually used as the distinguished element in the literature, of  $j$ -invariant 1728, satisfies  $(E_0)^t = E_0$ . The quadratic twist has been shown to be a useful tool in some cryptosystems [BKV19, EKP20, LGd21, AEK<sup>+</sup>22].

We will only need the twist operation in Secs. 2.6 and 6, and we will declare this at the beginning of the sections.

## 2.5 Hardness Assumptions of Group Actions for CAPYBARA

In this subsection, we introduce a few standard assumptions in group actions. We start from two computational assumptions, which we will not use in our construction, but it is helpful to understand the hierarchy of the decisional versions.

**Definition 2.18** (Group Action Inverse Problem (GAIP)). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action. Given  $E$  sampled from the uniform distribution over  $\mathcal{E}$ , the GAIP problem consists in finding an element  $g \in G$  such that  $g \star E_0 = E$ .*

**Definition 2.19** (Computational Diffie-Hellman (CDH) Problem). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action. Given a tuple  $(g_1 \star E_0, g_2 \star E_0)$  where  $g_1, g_2$  are sampled uniformly from  $G$ , the computational Diffie-Hellman problem is to compute  $(g_1 g_2) \star E_0$ .*

The following is the core hardness assumption for our first VRF in Sec. 5.

**Definition 2.20** (Decisional Diffie-Hellman (DDH) Problem). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action. The decisional Diffie-Hellman problem is that the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is given one instance of  $T_b = (g_1 \star E_0, g_2 \star E_0, h_b \star E_0)$  where  $h_0 = g_1 g_2, h_1 = g_3$  and  $g_1, g_2, g_3, b \leftarrow G^3 \times \{0, 1\}$  and output  $b' \in \{0, 1\}$ .*

We denote the advantage of the decisional problem adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  by

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{DDH}}(\mathcal{A}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(T_0) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(T_1) \rightarrow 1]|,$$

where  $b$  is the randomness in the experiment, and the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $\mathcal{A}$  and the randomness used in the experiment. The group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  is implicitly parameterized in the experiment. We say the DDH problem is hard, if for any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}$  such that  $\text{Adv}(\mathcal{A})^{\text{DDH}} \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .

Note that when using CSIDH as an instance, we require  $p = 3 \pmod{4}$  to avoid the attacks presented in [CSV20, CHVW22] exploiting distinct pairings. Both attacks rely on the nontrivial characters derived from the nontrivial 2-torsion subgroup in the ideal class group, which is not the case when  $p = 3 \pmod{4}$ . Therefore, when CSIDH instantiated in this setting, DDH is believed to be hard.

**Definition 2.21** (Multi-Challenge Decisional Diffie-Hellman (mcDDH) Problem). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action and  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ . The multi-challenge decisional Diffie-Hellman experiment  $\text{Exp}^{\text{mcDDH}}(b)$  on input  $b$  proceeds as follows. The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is given  $(g_1 \star E_0)$  where  $g_1 \leftarrow G$  together with access to the oracle  $\mathcal{O}_b^{\text{mcDDH}}$  defined as follows:*

1.  $\mathcal{O}_0^{\text{mcDDH}}$ :  $(g_2 \star E_0, (g_1 g_2) \star E_0)$  where  $g_2$  are sampled uniformly from  $G$ ,
2.  $\mathcal{O}_1^{\text{mcDDH}}$ :  $(g_2 \star E_0, g_3 \star E_0)$  where  $g_2, g_3$  are sampled uniformly from  $G$ ,

and outputs  $b' \in \{0, 1\}$ .

We denote the advantage of a multi-challenge decisional Diffie-Hellman problem adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  problem by

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{mcDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) = \left| \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Exp}^{\text{mcDDH}}(b=0)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Exp}^{\text{mcDDH}}(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] \right|,$$

where  $b$  is the randomness in the experiment, and the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $\mathcal{A}$  and the randomness used in the experiment. The group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  is implicitly parameterized in the experiment. We say the mcDDH problem is hard, if for any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}$  such that  $\text{Adv}(\mathcal{A})^{\text{mcDDH}} \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ . One can use a standard hybrid argument and give a reduction from the DDH problem to the mcDDH problem.

A standard hybrid argument can lead to a reduction looseness that is proportional to the number of queries made. The equivalence is tight in the classical setting (i.e. the group setting) due to the randomizer introduced [NP01] which can keep regenerating a DH instance or a random instance depending on the input instance. Achieving a tight equivalence in the group action setting remains an open problem.

We introduce a generalized version of the decisional problem – the master decisional problem, analogue to the generalized DDH assumption [BLMW07] and similar to the Uber-family assumptions [Boy08]. In the master decisional problem, the starting instance consists of several random set elements, and the adversary can query any combination of them with respect to the group elements. We will show that the generalized version is as hard as the DDH problem using a hybrid argument.

**Definition 2.22** (Master Decisional Diffie-Hellman (MDDH) Problem). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ . The decisional master Diffie-Hellman problem experiment  $\text{Exp}^{\text{MDDH}}(n, b)$  on input  $(n, b)$  proceeds as follows.*

1. The challenger  $\mathcal{C}$  generates a tuple  $(g_1 \star E_0, \dots, g_n \star E_0)$  where  $g_1, \dots, g_n \leftarrow G$ , and sends the tuple to the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ .
2.  $\mathcal{A}$  is given access to a Diffie-Hellman (DH) oracle on input  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \{0, 1\}^n$  returning  $\prod_i^n g_i^{x_i} \star E_0$ .
3.  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a string  $v = (v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \{0, 1\}^n$  to  $\prod_i^n g_i^{v_i} \star E_0$  to the challenge oracle  $\mathcal{C}$ .
4.  $\mathcal{C}$  ignores if  $v$  has been queried before or is of the Hamming weight less than 2. Otherwise,  $\mathcal{C}$ , depending on the input  $b$ , computes  $X_0 = \prod_i^n g_i^{v_i} \star E_0$  or  $X_1 = r \star E_0$  for some  $r \leftarrow G$ , and send  $X_b$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ . This process will only output for one time.
5.  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs  $b' \in \{0, 1\}$ .

We denote the advantage of a decisional master Diffie-Hellman problem adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  by

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{MDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) = \left| \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Exp}^{\text{MDDH}}(n, b=0)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Exp}^{\text{MDDH}}(n, b=1)) \rightarrow 1] \right|,$$

where  $b$  is the randomness in the experiment, and the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $\mathcal{A}$  and the randomness used in the experiment. The group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  is implicitly parameterized in the experiment. We say the MDDH problem is hard, if for any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}$  such that  $\text{Adv}(\mathcal{A})^{\text{MDDH}} \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .

The assumption implies a variety of forms of decisional problems. For instance, given  $(a \star x, b \star x, c \star x, ab \star x, bc \star x, cd \star x)$  to distinguish between  $abc \star x$  or a random element in  $\mathcal{E}$  is an instance of the problem. The interactivity of the assumption appears to be strange at a glance. It is, however, very reasonable. Otherwise, when  $n$  is linear in  $\lambda$ , giving all combinations implies revealing almost the entire set  $\mathcal{E}$ . Looking ahead, we will use this problem to show our verifiable random function is residual pseudorandomness. Unlike pseudorandomness, where the adversary has access to either the pseudorandom function or a random function, the MDDH experiment allows the adversary to learn the evaluations of any combination of the instances adaptively. We show in Sec. 3 the equivalence of the master DDH and the original DDH.

## 2.6 Relaxed Decisional Assumptions for CSIDH-based Actions for TSubAKI

This section introduces a few relaxed decisional assumptions that allow us to construct a more efficient verifiable random function variant. We use the quadratic twists in this section, and for a group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  we let  $E_0 \in \mathcal{E}$  denote the element has the property that  $E_0^t = E_0$ . Also, for any  $(g, E) \in G \times \mathcal{E}$ , we have  $(g \star E)^t = g^{-1} \star E^t$ .

Firstly, we relax the DDH problem by introducing the standard square variant problem. The problem has been used to construct some cryptographic protocols [DM20, AEK<sup>+</sup>22]. A very recent work [DHK<sup>+</sup>23] justifies the hardness of the assumption in a generic model for group actions.

**Definition 2.23** (Decisional Square CSIDH (sDDH) Problem). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action. The decisional square CSIDH problem is that the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is given  $T_b = (g_1 \star E_0, h_b \star E_0)$  where  $h_0 = g_1^2, h_1 = g_2$  and  $(g_1, g_2, b) \leftarrow G^2 \times \{0, 1\}$  and return  $b' \in \{0, 1\}$ .*

We denote the advantage of an sDDH adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  by

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{sDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(T_0) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(T_1) \rightarrow 1]|,$$

where  $b$  is the randomness in the experiment, and the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $\mathcal{A}$  and the randomness used in the experiment. The group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  is implicitly parameterized in the experiment. We say the sDDH problem is hard, if for any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}$  such that  $\text{Adv}(\mathcal{A})^{\text{sDDH}} \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .

The computational version of the problem is quantum equivalent to the computational problem [LGd21], and quantum equivalent to the GAIP problem [GPSV18]. A full quantum equivalence is given in [MZ22]. One can reduce the sDDH problem to the DDH problem by mapping the instance  $(g_1 \star E_0, h_b \star E_0)$  to  $(g_1 \star E_0, (gg_1) \star E_0, (gh_b) \star E_0)$  where  $g \leftarrow G$ . Though the reverse reduction is not known, sDDH is still believed to be a hard problem.

We introduce the decisional assumptions for our VRF variant where the input is ternary from  $\{-1, 0, 1\}$ , naturally corresponding to the following queries.

**Definition 2.24** (Twisted Master Decisional CSIDH (tMDDH) Problem). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ . The twisted master DDH problem experiment  $\text{Exp}^{\text{tMDDH}}(n, b)$  on input  $(n, b)$  proceeds as follows.*

1. The challenger  $\mathcal{C}$  computes  $E = g \star E_0$  where  $g \leftarrow G$ .
2.  $\mathcal{C}$  generates a tuple  $(g_1 \star E, \dots, g_n \star E)$  where  $g_1, \dots, g_n \leftarrow G$ , and sends the tuple to the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ .
3.  $\mathcal{A}$  is given access to a Diffie-Hellman (DH) oracle on input  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \{0, \pm 1\}^n$  returning  $\prod_i^n g_i^{x_i} \star E$ .

4.  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a string  $v = (v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \{0, \pm 1\}^n$  to  $\prod_i^n g_i^{v_i} \star E$  to the challenge oracle  $\mathcal{C}$ .
5.  $\mathcal{C}$  ignores if  $v$  has been queried before or is of the Hamming weight less than 2. Otherwise,  $\mathcal{C}$ , depending on  $b$ , computes  $X_0 = \prod_i^n g_i^{v_i} \star E$  or  $X_1 = r \star E$  for some  $r \leftarrow G$ , and send  $X_b$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ . This process will only output for one time.
6.  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs  $b' \in \{0, 1\}$ .

We denote the advantage of the decisional problem adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  by

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{tMDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) = \left| \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Exp}^{\text{tMDDH}}(n, b = 0)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Exp}^{\text{tMDDH}}(n, b = 1)) \rightarrow 1] \right|,$$

where  $b$  is the randomness in the experiment, and the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $\mathcal{A}$  and the randomness used in the experiment. The group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  is implicitly parameterized in the experiment. We say the tMDDH problem is hard, if for any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}$  such that  $\text{Adv}(\mathcal{A})^{\text{tMDDH}} \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .

We show in App. A that the twisted decisional master CSIDH problem is not easier than the decisional square CSIDH problem. To see this, we are introducing a non-standard intermediate assumption, which will make the proof easier to follow. The assumption coincides with a decisional version of a problem proposed in [LGd21].

**Definition 2.25** (Decisional Reciprocal CSIDH (rDDH) Problem). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action. The decisional reciprocal CSIDH problem is that the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is given  $T_b = (g_1 \star E_0, g_2 \star E_0, h_b \star E_0, h'_b \star E_0)$  where  $h_0 = g_1 g_2, h_1 = g_3, h'_0 = g_1 g_2^{-1}, h'_1 = g_4$  and  $(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4, b) \leftarrow G^4 \times \{0, 1\}$ , and return  $b' \in \{0, 1\}$ .*

We denote the advantage of an rDDH adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  by

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{rDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(T_0) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(T_1) \rightarrow 1]|,$$

where  $b$  is the randomness in the experiment, and the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $\mathcal{A}$  and the randomness used in the experiment. The group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  is implicitly parameterized in the experiment. We say the rDDH problem is hard, if for any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}$  such that  $\text{Adv}(\mathcal{A})^{\text{rDDH}} \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .

The computational version proposed in [LGd21] has been proven to be equivalent to the computation square CDH problem, which is equivalent to the GAIP problem. The following proposition shows that the decisional reciprocal problem is not easier than the decisional square problem. In the appendix App. A, we will use the multi-challenge version of the decisional reciprocal problem to show the hardness of the twisted decisional master problem.

**Proposition 2.26.** *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action. Given an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against the rDDH problem, there exist an sDDH adversary  $\mathcal{B}_1$  and a decisional CSIDH problem  $\mathcal{B}_2$  such that*

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{rDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \text{Adv}^{\text{sDDH}}(\mathcal{B}_1) + \text{Adv}^{\text{DDH}}(\mathcal{B}_2).$$

*Proof.* We prove this by introducing a series of hybrid games  $\text{Game}_1, \text{Game}_2, \text{Game}_3$  by gradually changing the experiment, where  $\text{Game}_1$  corresponds to the case of  $b = 0$  in the experiment (Def. 2.25) and  $\text{Game}_3$  corresponds to the case  $b = 1$ .

$\text{Game}_2$  : the same as  $\text{Game}_1$  except that the pair  $(g_1 \star E_0, g_2 \star E_0, g_1 g_2 \star E_0, g_1 g_3^{-1} \star E_0)$  given to  $\mathcal{A}$  is modified as  $(g_1 \star E_0, g_2 \star E_0, g_1 g_2 \star E_0, g_4 \star E_0)$  where  $g_4 \leftarrow G$ . Claim  $\text{Game}_1 \approx_c \text{Game}_2$  thanks to the sDDH problem. Concretely, we build an sDDH adversary  $\mathcal{B}_1$  using  $\mathcal{A}$ . Upon receiving a square CSIDH challenge  $(s \star E_0, X)$ , the reduction  $\mathcal{B}_1$  proceeds as follows

1. Generate  $a \leftarrow G$ .
2. Forward  $(a \star (s \star E_0), (s \star E_0)^t, a \star E_0, a \star X)$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
3. Output whatever  $\mathcal{A}$  returns.

Note that  $(s \star E_0)^t = s^{-1} \star E_0$  and  $a = (as)s^{-1}$ . Therefore, when the challenge is the second case in the sDDH experiment (i.e. a random curve),  $\mathcal{B}_1$  generates  $\text{Game}_2$ . On the other had, if the challenge is the first case in the experiment (i.e.  $X = s^2 \star E_0$ ), then  $\mathcal{B}_1$  generates  $\text{Game}_1$  since  $a \star X = as^2 \star E_0$  and  $as^2 = as(s^{-1})^{-1}$ . Therefore,  $\text{Adv}^{\text{sDDH}}(\mathcal{B}_1) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_2) \rightarrow 1]|$ .

$\text{Game}_3$  : the same as  $\text{Game}_2$  except that the pair  $(g_1 \star E_0, g_2 \star E_0, g_1 g_2 \star E_0, g_4 \star E_0)$  given to  $\mathcal{A}$  is modified as  $(g_1 \star E_0, g_2 \star E_0, g_3 \star E_0, g_4 \star E_0)$  where  $g_3 \leftarrow G$ . This is exactly the second case in the rDDH problem. Claim  $\text{Game}_2 \approx_c \text{Game}_3$  thanks to the DDH problem. Concretely, we build an DDH adversary  $\mathcal{B}_2$  using  $\mathcal{A}$ . Upon receiving a square CSIDH challenge  $(g_1 \star E_0, g_2 \star E_0, X)$ , the reduction  $\mathcal{B}_2$  proceeds as follows

1. Generate  $g_4 \leftarrow G$ .
2. Forward  $(g_1 \star E_0, g_2 \star E_0, X, g_4 \star E_0)$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
3. Output whatever  $\mathcal{A}$  returns.

Note that when the challenge is the second case in the DDH experiment (i.e. a random curve),  $\mathcal{B}_2$  generates  $\text{Game}_3$ . On the other hand, if the challenge is the first case in the experiment (i.e.  $X = g_1 g_2 \star E_0$ ), then  $\mathcal{B}_1$  generates  $\text{Game}_2$ . Hence,  $\text{Adv}^{\text{DDH}}(\mathcal{B}_2) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_2) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_3) \rightarrow 1]|$ .

Therefore, we have

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{rDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \text{Adv}^{\text{sDDH}}(\mathcal{B}_1) + \text{Adv}^{\text{DDH}}(\mathcal{B}_2).$$

□

### 3 Hardness of Master Decisional Diffie-Hellman Problem

The following theorem shows that the MDDH problem is as hard as the DDH problem. It is worth highlighting the reduction is inspired by the pseudorandomness treatment in the literature [BMR10, ADMP20, BKW20, MOT20].

**Theorem 3.1.** *The MDDH problem is not easier than the mcDDH problem. Concretely, let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action,  $\mathcal{A}$  be a MDDH problem adversary with parameter  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If at most  $q_{\text{DH}} = \text{poly}(\lambda)$  queries are made in the experiment by MDDH  $\mathcal{A}$  then there exists mcDDH problem adversaries  $\mathcal{B}_2, \dots, \mathcal{B}_n$  such that*

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{MDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \sum_{i=2}^n \text{Adv}^{\text{mcDDH}}(\mathcal{B}_i).$$

*Proof.* We prove the theorem via a hybrid argument by introducing a series of games  $\text{Game}_1, \dots, \text{Game}_n$  by modifying the responses of the DH oracle and the challenge oracle in the MDDH experiment gradually. Among the games,  $\text{Game}_1$  is the original MDDH experiment, We will modify the response of the challenge oracle and the DH oracle together, which will be explained later. For  $i \in [n]$  where  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ , let  $\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_i(b))$  represent  $\mathcal{A}$  running the  $\text{Game}_i$ , the modified MDDH experiment with the random coin  $b$  used in the experiment, and  $\mathcal{A}$  will return 0 or 1. Therefore, by definition,

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{MDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]|. \quad (1)$$

Looking ahead,  $\text{Game}_n$  be the modified MDDH experiment where both the DH oracle and the challenger reply with random elements in  $\mathcal{E}$ . Therefore, since  $b$  is information theoretically hidden from  $\mathcal{A}$ ,

$$|\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_n(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_n(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]| = 0. \quad (2)$$

$\text{Game}_1$  : the original MDDH experiment starting with a tuple  $(g_1 \star E_0, \dots, g_n \star E_0)$  where  $g_1, \dots, g_n \leftarrow G$  and the oracle responds as specified.

$\text{Game}_2$  to  $\text{Game}_n$ : for  $j \in \{2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\text{Game}_j$  is the same as  $\text{Game}_{j-1}$  except that the response of the DH oracle and the challenge oracle is modified as follows. The modification starts with a list  $L$  which is initially

$$\{(\mathbf{0}, E_0), (\mathbf{e}_1, g_1 \star E_0), \dots, (\mathbf{e}_j, g_j \star E_0)\} \subseteq \{0, 1\}^j \times \mathcal{E}.$$

On the query  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , if  $((x_1, \dots, x_j), X) \in L$  for some  $X \in \mathcal{E}$ , the oracle returns  $(\prod_{i=j+1}^n g_i^{x_i}) \star X$ ; otherwise, it draws  $g' \leftarrow G$ , computes  $X = g' \star E_0$ , adds  $((x_1, \dots, x_j), X)$  to the list  $L$ , and returns  $(\prod_{i=j+1}^n g_i^{x_i}) \star X$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ . The reply for the challenge query is modified in the same way if the random coin  $b = 0$ .

Claim that  $\text{Game}_{j-1} \approx_c \text{Game}_j$  for  $\mathcal{A}$  for any  $2 \leq j \leq n$ . Concretely, a reduction  $\mathcal{B}_j$  to the mcDDH problem proceeds as follows

1. Obtain  $(g' \star E_0, \{(X_i, X'_i)\}_{i \in [q_{\text{DH}} + j - 1]})$  from the mcDDH oracle.
2. Then,  $\mathcal{B}_j$  initializes with a list

$$L = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (\mathbf{e}_1, X_1), \dots, (\mathbf{e}_{j-1}, X_{j-1}), (\mathbf{0}, E), \\ (\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_j, X'_1), \dots, (\mathbf{e}_{j-1} + \mathbf{e}_j, X'_{j-1}), (\mathbf{e}_j, g' \star E_0) \end{array} \right\} \subseteq \{0, 1\}^j \times \mathcal{E},$$

where  $\mathbf{e}_i$  is the  $i$ -th elementary vector in  $\{0, 1\}^j$ , and set a counter  $\text{ct} = j$  to record the number of the pairs  $(X_i, X'_i)$  taken into the list  $L$ .

3. Invoke  $\mathcal{A}$  on input  $(E, X_1, \dots, X_{j-1}, g' \star E_0, g_{j+1} \star E_0, \dots, g_n \star E_0)$  where  $g_{j+1}, \dots, g_n \leftarrow G$ .
4. Upon receiving the oracle query  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , check whether  $((x_1, \dots, x_j), X) \in L$  for some  $X \in \mathcal{E}$ . If so, return  $\prod_{i=j+1}^n g_i^{x_i} \star X$ . Otherwise, update

$$L \leftarrow \{((x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}), 0), X_{\text{ct}}, ((x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}), 1), X'_{\text{ct}}\} \cup L,$$

and set  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{ct} + 1$ , and rerun this step again.

5. Output whatever  $\mathcal{A}$  returns.

Note that in Step 1. if  $\mathcal{B}_j$  is in the experiment  $\text{Exp}^{\text{mcDDH}}(0)$  in the mcDDH problem (Def. 2.21 Item 1) then  $\mathcal{B}_j$  generates  $\text{Game}_{j-1}$ . In contrast, if it is in the experiment  $\text{Exp}^{\text{mcDDH}}(1)$  in the mcDDH problem (Def. 2.21 Item 2), then  $\mathcal{B}_j$  generates  $\text{Game}_j$ . It follows that for  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}^{\text{mcDDH}}(\mathcal{B}_j) &= |\Pr[\mathcal{B}_j(\text{Exp}^{\text{mcDDH}}(0)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{B}_j(\text{Exp}^{\text{mcDDH}}(1)) \rightarrow 1]| \\ &= |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_{j-1}(b)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_j(b)) \rightarrow 1]| \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}^{\text{MDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) &= |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]| && \text{(By Eq. (1))} \\ &\leq \sum_{j=2}^n (|\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_{j-1}(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_j(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]| \\ &\quad + |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_{j-1}(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]| \\ &\quad + |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_n(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_{j-1}(b=1)) \rightarrow 1]| && \text{(Union bounds.)} \\ &= \sum_{j=2}^{n-1} \text{Adv}^{\text{mcDDH}}(\mathcal{B}_j). && \text{(By Eqs. (2) and (3))} \end{aligned}$$

The result follows.  $\square$

## 4 Proof Systems

### 4.1 The Action Factorization Relation and Its Sigma-Protocol

We consider the following action factorization relation  $R_{\text{fac}}$  for our verifiable random functions.

$$R_{\text{fac}} = \left\{ \text{st} = (E_0, \{E_i\}_{i \in [N]}, E), \text{wt} = \{s_i\}_{i \in [N]} \mid \begin{array}{l} E_i = s_i \star E_0 \ \forall i \in [N] \\ E = (\prod_{i=1}^N s_i) \star E_0 \end{array} \right\}.$$

**Sigma Protocol for  $R_{\text{fac}}$ .** We give a basic sigma protocol for  $R_{\text{fac}}$  as described in Fig. 1. Let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and a statement  $(\text{st} = E_0, \{E_i\}_{i \in [N]}, E)$ . Say the prover has the witness  $(\text{wt} = \{s_i\}_{i \in [N]})$  such that  $E_i = s_i \star E_0$  for any  $i \in [N]$  and  $E = (\prod_{i=1}^N s_i) \star E_0$ .

To prove the knowledge, the prover firstly generates  $r_1, \dots, r_N$ , computes  $E'_i = r_i \star E_i$  for all  $i \in [N]$  and  $E' = (\prod_{i=1}^N r_i) \star E$ , and sends those  $N + 1$  set elements to the verifier. The verifier returns a random challenge  $c$  from  $\{0, 1\}$  and sends it to the prover. If the challenge is 0, the prover reveals  $r_i$  for all  $i \in [N]$  to the verifier. Otherwise, the prover reveals  $s_i r_i$  for every  $i \in [N]$ . When  $c = 0$ , with received  $\{r'_i\}_{i \in [N]}$  the verifier checks whether  $r'_i \star E_i = E'_i$  for all  $i \in [N]$  and whether  $E' = (\prod_{i=1}^N r_i) \star E$ . When  $c = 1$ , with received  $\{r'_i\}_{i \in [N]}$  the verifier checks whether  $r'_i \star E_0 = E'_i$  for all  $i \in [N]$  and also  $(\prod_{i=1}^N r'_i) \star E_0 = E'$ .

In each case, if all equalities hold, the verifier returns 1 to represent the acceptance. Otherwise, the verifier returns 0 to represent the rejection.

**Remark 4.1.** *Constructing the same proof system in a restricted EGA model or the original CSIDH setting [CLM<sup>+</sup>18] with an unknown structure group is feasible. In these settings, the group elements are represented as a linear combination of a given generating set where the coefficients are chosen from a small interval  $[-t, t]$ . In this case, revealing the addition  $s + r$  if both  $s, r \in [-t, t]$  will leak the information of the secret  $s$ . Therefore, using Fiat-Shamir with aborts [Lyu09, DG19] can circumvent this by sampling  $r$  from a larger  $[-(T + 1)t, (T + 1)t]$  for some  $T \in \mathbb{N}$  and, then, aborting the session while required to reveal  $r + s$  and  $r + s \notin [-Tt, Tt]$ . With a straightforward application to our case of  $s_i r_i$  and  $\Pi(s_i r_i)$  for  $i \in [N]$  and  $T = 2\lambda^2$ , the abort rate will be larger than  $1/3$  (see [DG19, Lemma 2.]). The rejection sampling method can also be improved using [DPV19].*

To reduce the size of the overall response, the prover uses a pseudorandom number generator to generate  $r_1, \dots, r_N \in G$  with a seed,  $\text{seed}_0$ , picked uniformly at random from  $\{0, 1\}^\lambda$ . Also, the prover uses the Merkle tree to reduce the communication cost of the first message by producing a root of  $\{\{E'_i\}_{i \in [N]}, E'\}$  over  $\{0, 1\}^{2\lambda}$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** *The sigma protocol  $\Pi_\Sigma^{\text{base}}$  described in Fig. 1 has correctness.*

*Proof.* When the challenge is  $c = 0$ , the prover sends the seed,  $\text{seed}_0$ , to the verifier. The computation of the verifier will result in the same Merkle root in this case.

When  $c = 1$ , the prover sends  $r'_i = s_i r_i$  for every  $i \in [N]$  to the verifier. Recall that for any  $i \in [N]$ , we have  $E_i = s_i \star E_0$ ,  $E'_i = r_i \star E_i$ ,  $E = (\prod_{i=1}^N s_i) \star E_0$ , and  $E' = (\prod_{i=1}^N r_i) \star E$ . Also,  $E'_i = r_i \star E_i$ . Hence, due to commutative  $G$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (E'_1, \dots, E'_N, E') &= (r_1 s_1 \star E_0, \dots, r_N s_N \star E_0, (\prod_{i=1}^N r_i s_i) \star E_0) \\ &= (r'_1 \star E_0, r'_N \star E_0, (\prod_{i=1}^N r'_i) \star E_0). \end{aligned}$$

The Merkle tree will result in the same root and correctness follows.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $|G| \geq 2^\lambda$  (see Rem. 2.16). The sigma protocol  $\Pi_\Sigma^{\text{base}}$  described in Fig. 1 has 2-special soundness for the relation  $R_{\text{fac}}$  if the Merkle tree hash function  $\mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel \cdot)$  is collision-resistant. Concretely, for a fixed statement  $\text{st}$ , there exists an extractor  $\text{Ext}$  on input two valid transcripts returning either a valid witness  $\text{wt}$  or a pair  $(\text{wt}_1, \text{wt}_2)$  such that  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \in R_{\text{fac}}$  or  $\mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel \text{wt}_1) = \mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel \text{wt}_2)$ , respectively.*

<b>round 1:</b> $P_1^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st} = (E_0, \{E_i\}_{i \in [N]}, E), \text{wt} = \{s_i\}_{i \in [N]})$	
1: $\text{seed}_0 \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^\lambda$	
2: $(r_1, \dots, r_N) \leftarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \text{seed}_0)$	▷ Generate $r_i \in G$
3: $E' \leftarrow E$	
4: <b>for</b> $i$ from 1 to $N$ <b>do</b>	
5: $E'_i \leftarrow r_i \star E_i$	
6: $E' \leftarrow r_i \star E'$	
7: $\text{root} \leftarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel \widetilde{E}'_1, \dots, \widetilde{E}'_N, E')$	▷ Produce $\text{root} \in \{0, 1\}^{2\lambda}$
8: Prover sends $\text{com} \leftarrow \text{root}$ to Verifier.	
<b>round 2:</b> $V_1^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{com})$	<b>Verification:</b> $V_2^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{com}, \text{ch}, \text{resp})$
1: $c \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}$	1: $(\text{root}, c) \leftarrow (\text{com}, \text{ch})$
2: Verifier sends $\text{ch} \leftarrow c$ to Prover.	2: <b>if</b> $c = 1$ <b>then</b>
<b>round 3:</b> $P_2^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st}, \text{com}, \text{ch})$	3: $(\{r'_i\}_{i \in [N]}) \leftarrow \text{resp}$
1: $c \leftarrow \text{ch}$	4: $\widetilde{E}' \leftarrow E_0$
2: <b>if</b> $c = 1$ <b>then</b>	5: <b>for</b> $i$ from 1 to $N$ <b>do</b>
3: <b>for</b> $i$ from 1 to $N$ <b>do</b>	6: $\widetilde{E}'_i \leftarrow r'_i \star E_0$
4: $r'_i \leftarrow s_i r_i$	7: $\widetilde{E}' \leftarrow r'_i \star \widetilde{E}'$
5: $\text{resp} \leftarrow \{r'_i\}_{i \in [N]}$	8: $\widetilde{\text{root}} \leftarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel \widetilde{E}'_1, \dots, \widetilde{E}'_N, \widetilde{E}')$
6: <b>else</b>	9: <b>return</b> $\perp$ if $\widetilde{\text{root}} = \text{root}$ ; otherwise, <b>return</b> $\perp$ .
7: $\text{resp} \leftarrow \text{seed}_0$	10: <b>else</b>
8: Prover sends $\text{resp}$ to Verifier	11:     Repeat <b>round 1</b> with $\text{seed}_0 \leftarrow \text{resp}$ .
	12: <b>return</b> $\perp$ if results in $\text{root}$ ; otherwise, <b>return</b> $\perp$ .

Figure 1: Construction of the base sigma protocol  $\Pi_{\Sigma}^{\text{base}} = (P' = (P'_1, P'_2), V' = (V'_1, V'_2))$  for the relation  $R$  where  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\text{Com} \parallel \cdot)$  are a PRNG and a commitment scheme instantiated by the random oracle, respectively.

*Proof.* Let  $\{\text{root}, 0, \text{resp}_0\}$  and  $\{\text{root}, 1, \text{resp}_1\}$  be the two valid transcripts for the same first-message  $\text{root}$ . Write  $r_1, \dots, r_N \leftarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \text{resp}_0)$  and  $\{r'_1, \dots, r'_N\} = \text{resp}_1$ , the extractor  $\text{Ext}$  proceeds as follows.

1. Compute  $\text{wt}_1 = (r_1 \star E_1, \dots, r_N \star E_N, (\prod_{i=1}^N r_i) \star E)$ .
2. Compute  $\text{wt}_2 = (r'_1 \star E_0, \dots, r'_N \star E_0, (\prod_{i=1}^N r'_i) \star E_0)$ .
3. If  $\text{wt}_1 \neq \text{wt}_2$ , then return  $(\text{wt}_1, \text{wt}_2)$ .
4. Else, return  $(r_1^{-1} r'_1, \dots, r_N^{-1} r'_N)$ .

Since  $V_2^{\mathcal{O}}(\{\text{root}, b, \text{resp}_b\}) \rightarrow 1$  for  $i \in \{0, 1\}$ , we know have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{root} &= \mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel r_1 \star E_1, \dots, r_N \star E_N, (\prod_{i=1}^N r_i) \star E), \\ \text{root} &= \mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel r'_1 \star E_0, \dots, r'_N \star E_0, (\prod_{i=1}^N r'_i) \star E_0) \end{aligned}$$

where  $r_1, \dots, r_N \leftarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \text{resp}_0)$  and  $\{r'_1, \dots, r'_N\} = \text{resp}_1$ . If  $\text{wt}_1 \neq \text{wt}_2$ , then they form a collision for the Merkle tree hash function.

If  $\text{wt}_1 = \text{wt}_2$ , we have  $r_i \star E_1 = r'_i \star E_0$  for any  $i \in [N]$  and  $(\prod_{i=1}^N r_i) \star E = (\prod_{i=1}^N r'_i) \star E_0$ . It follows that  $E_i = (r_i^{-1} r'_i) \star E_0$  for all  $i \in [N]$ . Moreover, since the group is commutative and  $(\prod_{i=1}^N r_i)^{-1} (\prod_{i=1}^N r'_i) \star E_0 = E$ , we have  $(\prod_{i=1}^N (r_i^{-1} r'_i)) \star E_0$ .  $\square$



**Theorem 4.4.** *The sigma protocol  $\Pi_{\Sigma}^{\text{base}}$  described in Fig. 1 has statistically HVZK where the pseudorandom number generator and the Merkle tree hash function are modeled as random oracles  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel \cdot)$ , resp. Concretely, for any  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \in R_{\text{fac}}$  and an computationally-unbounded adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  with at most  $q_H$  queries of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$ , there exists a simulator  $\text{Sim}$  such that*

$$\left| \Pr[\mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}}(P^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st}, \text{wt}, c)) = 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{Sim}^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st}, c)) = 1] \right| \leq q_H/2^\lambda.$$

*Proof.* Let  $(\text{st} = (E_0, \{E_i\}_{i \in [N]}, E), \text{wt} = \{s_i\}_{i \in [N]}) \in R_{\text{fac}}$ . Given a  $\text{st}$  and  $c \in \{0, 1\}$ , the simulator  $\text{Sim}^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st}, \text{wt}, c)$  proceeds as follows.

1. If  $c = 0$ , then execute  $P_1'$  and generate  $(\text{root}, 0, \text{seed}_0)$  where the witness is not required in this process.
2. If  $c = 1$ , then
  - (1.) Generate  $r'_1, \dots, r'_N \leftarrow G$  and let  $\text{resp} \leftarrow \{r'_1, \dots, r'_N\}$ .
  - (2.) Compute  $E'_i = r'_i \star E_0$  for every  $i \in [N]$ .
  - (3.) Compute  $E' = (\prod_{i=1}^N r'_i) \star E_0$ .
  - (4.) Compute  $\text{root} \leftarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel E'_1, \dots, E'_N, E')$ .
  - (5.) Return  $(\text{root}, c, \text{resp})$ .

The simulated transcripts are identical to ones produced by the prover with the witness executing the protocol  $\Pi_{\Sigma}^{\text{base}}$ . For the case  $c = 0$ , the procedure is the same since the witness is not involved.

For the case  $c = 1$ , one can observe that the simulator returns a valid transcript and each element in the response follows the uniform distribution over  $G$ . The distribution is the same as the uniform distribution over the coset  $(s_i)^{-1}G$  for any  $i \in [N]$  used by the prover, since  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$  is modeled as a random oracle, except for those queries has been made before. Concretely, the difference of two distribution is

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \Pr[(\text{com}, \text{ch}, \text{resp}) \leftarrow \tilde{P}^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st}, \text{wt}, c)] - \Pr[(\text{com}, \text{ch}, \text{resp}) \leftarrow \text{Sim}^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st}, c)] \right| \\ &= \left| \Pr[(\text{com}, 1, \text{resp}) \leftarrow \tilde{P}^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st}, \text{wt}, c)] - \Pr[(\text{com}, 1, \text{resp}) \leftarrow \text{Sim}^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st}, c)] \right| \\ &= \frac{q_H}{2} (1/2^\lambda - 1/|G|^N) \\ &\leq \frac{q_H}{2^\lambda}, \end{aligned}$$

so is the advantage of the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ . □

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $|G| \geq 2^\lambda$  (see Rem. 2.16). The sigma protocol  $\Pi_{\Sigma}^{\text{base}}$  in Fig. 1 has  $\lambda$  min-entropy where  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel \cdot)$  are model by a random oracle.*

*Proof.* When the challenge  $\text{ch} = 0$ , the seed is drawn uniformly at random from  $\{0, 1\}^\lambda$ , and then  $r_i$  are drawn uniformly at random from  $G$  for any  $i \in [N]$ . Note that  $|G| \geq 2^\lambda$ . Since the action is free and transitive,  $r_i \star E_i$  follows the uniform distribution over  $\mathcal{E}$  for every  $i$ . Then,  $\text{com} \in \{0, 1\}^{2^\lambda}$  is produced by  $\mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel \cdot)$ . Throughout the procedure, every random element is drawn from a set larger than  $2^\lambda$ . Therefore, we have  $\Pr[\text{com} = \text{com}' \mid \text{com} \leftarrow P_1^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st}, \text{wt}), \text{com}' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st}, \text{wt})] \leq 2^{-\lambda}$ . □

## 4.2 Online-extractable NIZK

By  $\lambda$  times repetitions and using the Fiat-Shamir transform, we turn the sigma protocol Fig. 1 into a proof system for the relation  $R_{\text{fac}}$ . The description is displayed in Fig. 2.

**Theorem 4.6** (Completeness). *The proof system  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  for the relation  $R_{\text{fac}}$  in Fig. 2 is complete.*

<b>Prove</b> <sup>O</sup> ( $\text{st} = (E_0, \{E_i\}_{i \in [N]}, E), \text{wt} = \{s_i\}_{i \in [N]}$ )	<b>Verify</b> <sup>O</sup> ( $\text{st} = (E_0, \{E_i\}_{i \in [N]}, E), \pi$ )
1: <b>for</b> $i \in [\lambda]$ <b>do</b> 2: $\text{com}_i \leftarrow P_1^{\text{O}}(\text{st}, \text{wt})$ 3: $\text{com} \leftarrow (\text{com}_1, \dots, \text{com}_\lambda)$ 4: $\text{ch} = (c_1, \dots, c_\lambda) \leftarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \text{st} \parallel \text{com})$ 5: <b>for</b> $i \in [\lambda]$ <b>do</b> 6: $\text{resp}_i \leftarrow P_2^{\text{O}}(\text{st}, \text{com}_i, c_i)$ 7: $\text{resp} \leftarrow (\text{resp}_1, \dots, \text{resp}_\lambda)$ 8: <b>return</b> $\pi \leftarrow (\text{com}, \text{ch}, \text{resp})$	1: $(\text{com} = (\text{com}_1, \dots, \text{com}_\lambda), \text{ch} = (c_1, \dots, c_\lambda), \text{resp} = (\text{resp}_1, \dots, \text{resp}_\lambda)) \leftarrow \pi$ 2: <b>output</b> = 1 3: <b>for</b> $i \in [\lambda]$ <b>do</b> 4: $r \leftarrow V_2'(\text{com}_i, c_i, \text{resp}_i)$ 5: <b>output</b> $\leftarrow \text{output} \cdot r$ 6: <b>output</b> $\leftarrow \text{output} \cdot (\text{ch} == \mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \text{st} \parallel \text{com}))$ 7: <b>return</b> <b>output</b>

Figure 2: NIZK for the relation  $R_{\text{fac}}$  by applying the Fiat-Shamir transform to  $\Pi_{\Sigma}^{\text{base}} = (P' = (P'_1, P'_2), V' = (V'_1, V'_2))$  with  $\lambda$  repetitions.

*Proof.* In each iteration of  $i \in [\lambda]$  in Fig. 2, the prover and the verifier execute  $P'$  and  $V'$  in  $\Pi_{\Sigma}^{\text{base}} = (P', V')$  respectively. By Def. 2.2, each execution of  $\Pi_{\Sigma}^{\text{base}} = (P', V')$  has correctness, and the completeness of  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  follows.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.7** (Zero-knowledge). *Let  $|G| \geq 2^\lambda$  (see Rem. 2.16). The proof system  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  for the relation  $R_{\text{fac}}$  in Fig. 2 is zero-knowledge in the random oracle model. Concretely, for any  $(\text{st}, \text{wt}) \in R_{\text{fac}}$  and an computationally-unbounded adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  with at most  $q_{\text{PRNG}}$  queries of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$  and  $q_{\text{FS}}$  queries of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \cdot)$ , there exists a simulator  $\text{Sim}$  such that*

$$\left| \Pr [\mathcal{A}^{\text{O}}(P^{\text{O}}(\text{st}, \text{wt})) = 1] - \Pr [\mathcal{A}^{\text{O}}(\text{Sim}^{\text{O}}(\text{st})) = 1] \right| \leq \frac{q_{\text{PRNG}}}{2^\lambda} + \frac{q_{\text{FS}}}{2^{\lambda N}},$$

*Proof.* Let  $\text{Sim}'$  be the simulator in Thm. 4.4. The simulator  $\text{Sim}$  firstly simulates the oracle of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \cdot)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \text{MT})$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$  by keeping lists  $L_{\text{FS}}$ ,  $L_{\text{MT}}$ , and  $L_{\text{PRNG}}$  respectively using the straight-line and on-the-fly method.  $\text{Sim}$  also keeps a list  $L$  to simulate the oracle queries. Take  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \cdot)$  for instance, upon receiving an oracle query as  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel x)$ , the  $\text{Sim}$  simulates the oracle as follows.

1. Check whether there exists a pair  $(x, y) \in L_{\text{FS}}$  for some  $y$ . If so, return  $y$ .
2. Otherwise draw  $y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  uniformly at random. Add  $y$  to the list  $(x, y)$  and return  $y$ .

Given a statement  $\text{st}$  in the language of  $R_{\text{fac}}$ , the simulator  $\text{Sim}$  simulates the transcripts as follows.

1. Generate  $\text{ch} = (c_1, \dots, c_\lambda) \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  uniformly at random.
2. For each  $i \in [\lambda]$ , run  $(\text{com}_i, c_i, \text{resp}_i) \leftarrow \text{Sim}'(\text{st}, c_i)$ .
3. Concatenate  $\text{com} \leftarrow (\text{com}_1, \dots, \text{com}_\lambda)$ ,  $\text{resp} \leftarrow (\text{resp}_1, \dots, \text{resp}_\lambda)$ .
4. Add  $(\text{com}, \text{ch})$  to the list  $L_{\text{FS}}$ . If  $\text{com}$  has been queried before, abort and return  $\perp$ .
5. Output the transcript  $(\text{com}, \text{ch}, \text{resp})$ .

By Thm. 4.5, we know each generation  $\text{com}_i$  has  $\lambda$  min-entropy. Therefore, the abort in Item 4 occurs with a negligible probability  $q_{\text{FS}}/2^{\lambda N}$ .

Given such a distinguisher  $\mathcal{A}$ , one can construct an HVZK adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against the sigma-protocol  $\Pi_{\Sigma}^{\text{base}}$  using  $\mathcal{A}$ . Recall that when the challenge is 0, the simulation of  $\text{Sim}'(\cdot, 0)$  is perfect. The reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  using  $\mathcal{A}$  proceeds as follows. Upon receiving the statement  $\text{st}$  and the transcript ensemble  $X = \{\text{com}_i, 1, \text{resp}_i\}_i$  for the challenge 1,  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates as what  $\text{Sim}$  does except that the transcripts from  $\text{Sim}'(\text{st}, 1)$  is replace by

those taken from the ensemble  $X$ .  $\mathcal{B}$  invokes  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $\text{st}$  and the simulated transcripts. When the ensemble is generated by a real prover, then  $\mathcal{B}$  generates the transcripts as a real prover in  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  except for the occurrence of aborts. When the ensemble is generated by a simulator, then  $\mathcal{B}$  generates the transcripts as  $\text{Sim}$  in  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$ . Hence,  $\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}}^{\text{ZK}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\Sigma}^{\text{base}}}^{\text{HVZK}}(\mathcal{B}) + q_{\text{FS}}/2^{\lambda N}$ .

Therefore, we have

$$\left| \Pr[\mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}}(P^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st}, \text{wt})) = 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{Sim}^{\mathcal{O}}(\text{st})) = 1] \right| \leq \frac{q_{\text{PRNG}}}{2^{\lambda}} + \frac{q_{\text{FS}}}{2^{\lambda N}}.$$

□

**Theorem 4.8** (Online-extractable). *Assume  $\mathcal{O}(\cdot)$  is collision resistant,  $|G| \geq 2^{\lambda}$  (see Rem. 2.16), and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ . The proof system  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  in Fig. 2 is online-extractable. Concretely, for any adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $q_{\text{FS}}$  queries to  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \cdot)$  and  $q_{\text{PRNG}}$  queries to  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$ ,*

$$\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{OE}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \frac{q_{\text{FS}} + 1}{2^{\lambda}} + \frac{q_{\text{FS}} q_{\text{PRNG}}}{2^{N\lambda}}.$$

*Proof.* With the extractability access to the oracle, the extractor  $\text{Ext}$  observes the queries to  $\mathcal{O}$  of the form  $(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$ , and record  $(x, y)$  to the list  $L_{\text{PRNG}}$  where  $x$  is the input and  $y$  is the oracle output. Also,  $\text{Ext}$  does the same for the queries of the form  $(\text{FS} \parallel \cdot)$ , and keeps a list  $L_{\text{FS}}$ . We say  $x$  is in the list  $L_{\text{PRNG}}$  if there exists some  $y$  such that  $(x, y) \in L_{\text{PRNG}}$ .

Upon receiving a statement  $\text{st} = (E_0, (E_1, \dots, E_N), E')$ , possibly not in the language of  $\text{R}_{\text{fac}}$ , and a valid proof  $(\text{com}, \text{ch}, \text{resp})$ , the extractor  $\text{Ext}$  proceeds as follows.

1. Parse  $\text{ch} = (c_1, \dots, c_{\lambda})$  where  $c_k \in \{0, 1\}$  for  $i \in [\lambda]$ . Also, parse  $\text{com} = (\text{root}_1, \dots, \text{root}_{\lambda})$  and  $\text{resp} = (\text{resp}_1, \dots, \text{resp}_{\lambda})$ .
2. Collect  $K \subseteq [\lambda]$  where  $c_k = 1$  for any  $k \in K$ .
3. Collect the queries  $S = \{\text{seed}_j\}_{j \in [q_{\text{PRNG}}]}$  recorded in list  $L_{\text{PRNG}}$ .
4. Find one  $(k, j) \in K \times [q_{\text{PRNG}}]$  such that  $\text{root}_k, \text{seed}_j$  satisfy  $\text{root}_k = \mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel (r_1, \dots, r_N) \star (E_1, \dots, E_N))$  where  $(r_1, \dots, r_N) \leftarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \text{seed}_j)$ . If no such pairs found, return  $\perp$ .
5. Execute the extractor  $\text{Ext}'$  described in Thm. 4.3 on input two valid transcripts  $(\text{com}_k, 0, \text{seed}_j)$ ,  $(\text{com}_k, 1, \text{resp}_k)$  to extract  $\text{wt} \in G^N$  and return  $\text{wt}$ .

We have to argue the pair  $(k, j)$  in Item 4 exists with an overwhelming probability.

For simplicity, we say a seed  $\text{seed}$  can *serve as a 0-response* for  $\text{root}$  if  $(r_1, \dots, r_N) \leftarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \text{seed})$  and  $\text{root} = \mathcal{O}(\text{MT} \parallel (r_1, \dots, r_N) \star \text{st}, (\Pi r_i) \star E_0)$ . For example, one can interpret Item 4 as finding a 0-response for  $\text{root}_k$  for some  $k \in K$ .

**Case I:**  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \text{st} \parallel \text{com})$  **has not been queried before the verification.** This implies that the  $\mathcal{A}$  produces  $\text{com}$  and  $\text{resp}$  without knowing the challenge. However, it requires  $\text{ch}$  equals  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \text{st} \parallel \text{com})$  in the verification process. This occurs with a probability not greater than  $1/2^{\lambda}$ .

**Analysis.** We analyze the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\text{Ext}$  by aiming at each FS challenge query made by the adversary to  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \text{st}' \parallel \cdot)$  for some  $\text{st}'$ . We analyze when  $\mathcal{A}$  submit a new  $\text{com}' = (\text{root}'_1, \dots, \text{root}'_{\lambda})$  to the FS oracle, whether there exist 0-responses in the query list  $L_{\text{PRNG}}$ .

For  $K' \subseteq [\lambda]$ , we define the  $\text{E}_{K'}$  that when  $\mathcal{A}$  submitting  $\text{com}$  to the FS oracle of the form  $(\text{FS} \parallel \text{st}' \parallel \text{root}_1, \dots, \text{root}_{\lambda})$  to the random oracle, there exist no 0-responses in the query list  $L_{\text{PRNG}}$  for  $\text{root}_k$  for any  $k \in [K']$ . We also define event  $\text{F}_{K'}$  that the FS oracle returns the challenge  $(c'_1, \dots, c'_{\lambda})$  where  $c'_k = 1$  for all  $k \in K'$  and  $c_k = 0$  otherwise. Obviously,  $\Pr[\text{F}_{K'}] = 1/2^{\lambda}$  for every new FS query. Denote the event that  $\mathcal{A}$

outputs a transcript containing  $\text{com}'$  by  $\text{O}_{\text{com}'}$  (e.g.  $(\text{com}', \text{ch}', \text{resp}')$ ) and the output is extractable for  $\text{Ext}$  by  $\text{L}_{\text{com}'}$ . The latter case implies  $\mathcal{A}$  fails.

Note that  $\mathbf{E}_{K'}$  forms a partition. Therefore, if  $\mathcal{A}$  returns  $(\text{com}', \text{ch}', \text{resp}')$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[\text{O}_{\text{com}'}] &= \sum_{K' \subseteq [\lambda]} \Pr[\text{O}_{\text{com}'} \cap \mathbf{E}_{K'}] \\ &= \Pr[\text{O}_{\text{com}'} \cap \mathbf{E}_{K'}], \text{ for some } K' \\ &= \Pr[\text{O}_{\text{com}'} \cap \mathbf{E}_{K'} \cap \mathbf{F}_{K'}] + \Pr[\text{O}_{\text{com}'} \cap \mathbf{E}_{K'} \cap \neg \mathbf{F}_{K'}] \\ &\leq 1/2^\lambda + \Pr[\mathcal{A} \text{ wins using } \text{com}' \cap \mathbf{E}_{K'} \cap \neg \mathbf{F}_{K'}] + \Pr[\text{L}_{\text{com}'} \cap \mathbf{E}_{K'} \cap \neg \mathbf{F}_{K'}], \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Pr[\text{O}_{\text{com}'} \cap \mathbf{E}_{K'} \cap \mathbf{F}_{K'}] \leq 1/2^\lambda$  since  $\Pr[\mathbf{F}_{K'}] = 1/2^\lambda$ . We partition the event that  $\text{O}_{\text{com}'} \cap \mathbf{E}_{K'} \cap \neg \mathbf{F}_{K'}$  into two cases:  $\mathcal{A}$  wins or not (i.e. whether the tuple  $(\text{com}', \text{ch}', \text{resp}')$  is extractable).

**Case II:  $\mathcal{A}$  wins with a tuple using  $\text{com}' \cap \mathbf{E}_{K'} \cap \neg \mathbf{F}_{K'}$ .** Recall that if there exists  $k \in [\lambda] - K'$  such that  $c'_k = 1$ , then one can invoke  $\text{Ext}$  to extract the witness using  $\text{resp}'_k$  and the list of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$ . Therefore, the case that  $\mathcal{A}$  wins implies that  $c'_k = 0$  for all  $k \in [\lambda] - K'$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  produces a seed  $\text{seed}_k$  for some  $c'_k = 0, k \in K'$  such that  $\text{com}'_k = (r_1, \dots, r_N) \star E_0$  where  $(r_1, \dots, r_N) \leftarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \text{seed}_k)$ . Note that such  $\text{seed}_k$  is generated after the FS query. Since the protocol has the unique response property<sup>4</sup> and the group elements are generated uniformly from  $G$  by  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$ , the adversary can generate such a seed with chance not greater than  $q_{\text{PRNG}}/|G|^N$ .

Therefore,

$$|\Pr[\text{O}_{\text{com}'}] - \Pr[\text{L}_{\text{com}'}]| \leq 1/2^\lambda + q_{\text{PRNG}}/|G|^N.$$

Wrapping up, given an adversary with  $q_{\text{FS}}$  FS queries and  $q_{\text{PRNG}}$  PRNG queries, by taking a union bound over all FS queries we know the advantage of the adversary:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{OnlineExtract}}(\mathcal{A}) &\leq \Pr[\text{Case I}] + \sum_{\text{com in } L_{\text{FS}}} \Pr[\text{Case II wrt com}] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2^\lambda} + \sum_{\text{com in } L_{\text{FS}}} |\Pr[\text{O}_{\text{com}'}] - \Pr[\text{L}_{\text{com}'}]| \\ &\leq \frac{q_{\text{FS}} + 1}{2^\lambda} + \frac{q_{\text{FS}} q_{\text{PRNG}}}{|G|^N}. \end{aligned}$$

□

## 5 Verifiable Random Functions from Effective Group Actions

In this subsection, we present our first VRF construction from an effective group action – CAPYBARA (Compact Action factorization Proofs Yielded By A RAndom function):

**Construction.**  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}} = \{\text{ParGen}, \text{KeyGen}, \text{VRF Eval}, \text{Ver}\}$  using  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}^{\text{fac}} = (P, V), H$  where:

- **ParGen**( $1^\lambda$ ): on input a security parameter  $1^\lambda$ , it returns  $\text{pp} = (G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$ , which is a free, transitive and effective group action.
- **KeyGen**( $\text{pp}$ ): On input public parameter  $\text{pp} = (G, \star, E_0, \mathcal{E})$ , it returns a secret key  $\text{sk} = (c_0, c_1, s_1, \dots, s_\lambda)$  and a public key  $\text{vk} = (c_0 \star E_0, c_1 \star E_0, s_1 \star E_0, \dots, s_\lambda \star E_0)$ .

<sup>4</sup>Given  $\mathbf{E} \in \mathcal{E}^N$  there exist two unique group elements  $\mathbf{g} \in G^N$  and  $\mathbf{g}' \in G'^N$  such that  $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{g} \star (E_1, \dots, E_N)$  and  $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{g}' \star E_0$ .

- $\text{VRF Eval}(\text{sk}, x)$ <sup>5</sup>: On input a secret key  $\text{sk}$  and an input  $x = (x_i) \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ , this algorithm outputs  $(v, \pi)$  for the VRF value where  $v = (c_0 c_1 \prod_{i=1}^\lambda s_i^{x_i}) \star E_0$  together with the corresponding proof  $\pi$  where  $I = \{1, 2\} \cup \{i + 2 | x_i = 1 \wedge i \in [\lambda]\}$  and  $\pi \leftarrow P(\text{st} = (E_0, \text{vk}_I, v), \text{wt} = \text{sk}_I)$  of  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$ .
- $\text{Ver}(\text{vk}, v, x, \pi)$ : On input  $(\text{vk}, v, x, \pi)$ , this algorithm computes  $b \leftarrow V(\text{st} = (E_0, \text{vk}_I, v), \pi)$  using  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  where  $I = \{1, 2\} \cup \{i + 2 | x_i = 1 \wedge i \in [\lambda]\}$ , and returns  $b$ .

#### ParGen( $1^\lambda$ )

1: Generate  $\text{pp} = (G, \star, E_0, \mathcal{E})$   
 2: **return**  $\text{pp}$

#### KeyGen(pp)

1:  $(G, \star, E_0, \mathcal{E}) \leftarrow \text{pp}$   
 2:  $\text{sk} \leftarrow G^{\lambda+2}$   
 3:  $\text{vk} = \text{sk} \star E_0$   
 4: **return**  $(\text{vk}, \text{sk})$

#### VRF Eval( $\text{sk}, x$ )

1:  $(G, \star, E_0, \mathcal{E}) \leftarrow \text{pp}$   
 2:  $v = E_0$   
 3:  $I \leftarrow \{1, 2\}$   
 4: **for**  $i \in [\lambda]$  **do**  
 5:     **if**  $x_i = 1$  **then**  
 6:          $I \leftarrow I \cup \{i + 2\}$   
 7: **for**  $s \in \text{sk}_I$  **do**  
 8:      $v \leftarrow s \star v$   
 9:  $\pi \leftarrow P(\text{st} = (E_0, \text{vk}_I, v), \text{wt} = \text{sk}_I)$   
 10: **return**  $(v, \pi)$

#### VRF Ver( $\text{vk}, v, x, \pi$ )

1:  $(G, \star, E_0, \mathcal{E}) \leftarrow \text{pp}$   
 2: **for**  $i \in [\lambda]$  **do**  
 3:     **if**  $x_i = 1$  **then**  
 4:          $I \leftarrow I \cup \{i + 2\}$   
 5: **return**  $V(\text{st} = (E_0, \text{vk}_I, v), \pi)$

Figure 3: The verifiable random function scheme  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  based an effective group action and on the DDH problem where  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}^{\text{fac}} = (P, V)$  is an NIZK for the relation  $R_{\text{fac}}$  described in Sec. 4.2.

**Theorem 5.1.** *The VRF construction  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  in Fig. 3 has provability.*

*Proof.* Let  $(E, \pi) \leftarrow \text{VRF Eval}(\text{sk}, x)$  and  $v = (c_0 c_1 \prod_{i=1}^\lambda s_i^{x_i}) \star E_0$ . The proof  $\pi$  is generated by  $P(\text{st} = (E_0, \text{vk}_I, v), \text{wt} = \text{sk}_I)$  and  $I = \{1, 2\} \cup \{i + 2 | x_i = 1 \wedge i \in [\lambda]\}$ . Since  $(\text{st} = (E_0, \text{vk}_I, v), \text{wt} = \text{sk}_I) \in R$  and  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  has correctness, we have  $\text{VRF Ver}(\text{vk}, v, x, \pi) = 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 5.2.** *If  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  is extractable, the VRF construction  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  in Fig. 3 has computational full uniqueness in the random oracle model. Concretely, for any full uniqueness adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$ , there exists an extractable adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  such that*

$$\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{UP}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq 2\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}}^{\text{OE}}(\mathcal{B}).$$

*Proof.* Given  $(\text{vk}, x, v_1, v_2, \pi_1, \pi_2) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}$  where  $\text{VRF Ver}((E_0, \text{vk}_I, v_1), \pi_1) = \text{VRF Ver}((E_0, \text{vk}_I, v_2), \pi_2) = 1$  and  $v_1 \neq v_2$ . where  $I = \{1, 2\} \cup \{i + 2 | x_i = 1 \wedge i \in [\lambda]\}$ .

By invoking the extractor  $\text{Ext}$  of  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  in Thm. 4.8 twice, we have  $\mathbf{s}_1 \leftarrow \text{Ext}((E_0, \text{vk}_I, v_1), \pi_1)$ ,  $\mathbf{s}_2 \leftarrow \text{Ext}((E_0, \text{vk}_I, v_2), \pi_2)$  such that  $v_1 = (\prod_i (\mathbf{s}_1)_i) \star E_0$  and  $v_2 = (\prod_i (\mathbf{s}_2)_i) \star E_0$ . Also,  $\text{vk}_I = \mathbf{s}_1 \star E_0$  and  $\text{vk}_I = \mathbf{s}_2 \star E_0$ . Since the action is free and transitive, we have  $\mathbf{s}_1 = \mathbf{s}_2$ , which contradicts  $v_1 \neq v_2$ .

In other words, if  $\mathcal{A}$  wins, then the extractor  $\mathcal{E}$  shall fail among two extractions. We can therefore transform  $\mathcal{A}$  into an extractability adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$ . Concretely, if  $\mathcal{A}$  returns  $(\text{vk}, x, v_1, v_2, \pi_1, \pi_2)$ , then  $\mathcal{B}$  randomly outputs one of  $((E_0, \text{vk}_I, v_1), \pi_1)$  or  $((E_0, \text{vk}_I, v_2), \pi_2)$  where  $I = \{1, 2\} \cup \{i + 2 | x_i = 1 \wedge i \in [\lambda]\}$ . Therefore, we have

$$\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{UP}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq 2\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}}^{\text{OE}}(\mathcal{B}).$$

$\square$

<sup>5</sup>In the formal syntax of VRF,  $\text{vk}$  is not included in the  $\text{VRF Eval}$ . One can also include  $\text{vk}$  as part of the public key. In our case, the user can recover  $\text{vk}$  from  $\text{sk}$ . Both justify the notation here.

**Theorem 5.3.** *If the decisional master CSIDH problem is hard, then the VRF construction  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  in Fig. 3, with a subroutine  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}} = (P, V)$  in Fig. 2, has (residual) pseudorandomness. Concretely, for any residual pseudorandomness adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  with at most  $q_{\text{PRNG}}$  queries of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$  and  $q_{\text{FS}}$  queries of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \cdot)$ , there exists a MDDH adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  such that*

$$\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{PR}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \frac{q_{\text{PRNG}}}{2^\lambda} + \frac{q_{\text{FS}}}{2^{\lambda N}} + \text{Adv}^{\text{MDDH}}(\mathcal{B}).$$

*Proof.* We show by using a hybrid argument that such an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  can be transformed into a MDDH adversary  $\mathcal{B}_2$ . Let  $\text{Game}_0$  be the original residual pseudorandomness experiment and  $\text{Game}_1$  be the modified experiment. For  $i \in \{0, 1\}$ , we denote the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  in  $\text{Game}_i$  by  $\text{Adv}_i(\mathcal{A}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_i(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_i(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]|$ , where  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  represents the random coin chosen by the challenger (Def. 2.10 Item 7). Since  $\text{Game}_0$  is the original experiment, we know  $\text{Adv}_0(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{PR}}(\mathcal{A})$  by definition.

We introduce  $\text{Game}_1$  which is the same as  $\text{Game}_0$  except for the way of evaluating  $x$  for a query. Rather than generated via `Prove` from the subroutine  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$ , the proof is generated using the simulator `Sim` for  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  in Thm. 4.7. By Thm. 4.7, since the simulator `Sim` is statistically indistinguishable from a real prover, the change in  $\text{Game}_1$  results in a negligible loss. Concretely,  $|\text{Adv}_0(\mathcal{A}) - \text{Adv}_1(\mathcal{A})| \leq \frac{q_{\text{PRNG}}}{2^\lambda} + \frac{q_{\text{FS}}}{2^{\lambda N}}$ .

We now transform an adversary in  $\text{Game}_1$  into a MDDH problem adversary  $\mathcal{B}$ . The reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  starts the MDDH problem with parameter  $n = \lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , receives  $(E_1, \dots, E_\lambda)$ , and proceeds as follows.

1. First,  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates the oracle of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \cdot)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \text{MT})$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$  by keeping lists  $L_{\text{FS}}$ ,  $L_{\text{MT}}$ , and  $L_{\text{PRNG}}$  respectively using the straight-line and on-the-fly method.  $\mathcal{B}$  also keeps a list  $L$  to simulate the oracle queries. Take  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \cdot)$  for instance; upon receiving an oracle query as  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel x)$ , the  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates the oracle as follows.
  - (a) Check whether there exists a pair  $(x, y) \in L_{\text{FS}}$  for some  $y$ . If so, return  $y$ .
  - (b) Otherwise draw  $y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\lambda$  uniformly at random. Add  $y$  to the list  $(x, y)$  and return  $y$ .
2. Generates  $c_0, c_1 \leftarrow G$ .
3. Invoke  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $\text{vk} = (c_0 \star E_0, c_1 \star E_0, E_1, \dots, E_\lambda)$ .
4. Upon receiving the evaluation query  $x \in \{0, 1\}^\lambda$ , forward the query  $x$  to the MDDH problem oracle and receive  $E$ . Run the simulator in Thm. 4.7 to produce a proof  $\pi \leftarrow \text{Sim}(E_0, \text{vk}_I, (c_0 c_1) \star E)$  where  $I = \{1, 2\} \cup \{i + 2 \mid x_i = 1 \wedge i \in [\lambda]\}$ . Return  $(x, \pi)$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
5. Upon receiving the challenge  $\tilde{x}$ , forward the challenge to  $\tilde{x}$  to the MDDH problem challenger and obtains  $v_b$ . Forward  $v_b$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and output whatever  $\mathcal{A}$  returns.

When the MDDH problem challenger using the random coin  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  in the experiment (Def. 2.22 Item 4).  $\mathcal{B}$  creates  $\text{Game}_1$  using the same random coin  $b$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_1(\mathcal{A}) &= |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_i(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_i(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]| \\ &= \left| \Pr[\mathcal{B}_2(\text{Exp}^{\text{MDDH}}(\lambda, 1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{B}_2(\text{Exp}^{\text{MDDH}}(\lambda, 0)) \rightarrow 1] \right| \\ &= \text{Adv}^{\text{MDDH}}(\mathcal{B}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{PR}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \frac{q_{\text{PRNG}}}{2^\lambda} + \frac{q_{\text{FS}}}{2^{\lambda N}} + \text{Adv}^{\text{MDDH}}(\mathcal{B}).$$

□

## 6 TSUBAKI - Twist-Square-Based Tweak for Isogenies

This subsection presents the variant using the CSIDH-based action with quadratic twists. Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  denote the group action where  $E_0 \in \mathcal{E}$  denote the element has the property that  $E_0^t = E_0$ . Also, for any  $(g, E) \in G \times \mathcal{E}$ , we have  $(g \star E)^t = g^{-1} \star E^t$ .

A variant of CAPYBARA is described as follows.

### Construction.

<p><u>ParGen(<math>1^\lambda</math>)</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: Generate <math>\text{pp} = (G, \star, E_0, \mathcal{E})</math></li> <li>2: <b>return</b> <math>\text{pp}</math></li> </ol>	<p><u>KeyGen(<math>\text{pp}</math>)</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: <math>(G, \star, E_0, \mathcal{E}) \leftarrow \text{pp}</math></li> <li>2: <math>\text{sk} \leftarrow G^{\kappa+2}</math></li> <li>3: <math>\text{vk} = \text{sk} \star E_0</math></li> <li>4: <b>return</b> <math>(\text{vk}, \text{sk})</math></li> </ol>
<p><u>Expand<sub>s</sub>(<math>\text{sk}</math>)</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: <math>(c_0, c_1, s_1, \dots, s_\kappa) \leftarrow \text{sk}</math></li> <li>2: <b>return</b> <math>(c_0, c_1, s_1, \dots, s_\kappa, -s_1, \dots, -s_\kappa)</math></li> </ol>	<p><u>Expand<sub>v</sub>(<math>\text{vk}</math>)</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: <math>(X_1, X_1, E_1, \dots, E_\kappa) \leftarrow \text{vk}</math></li> <li>2: <b>return</b> <math>(X_1, X_1, E_1, \dots, E_\kappa, E_1^t, \dots, E_\kappa^t)</math></li> </ol>
<p><u>VRFEval(<math>\text{sk}, x</math>)</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: <math>(G, \star, E_0, \mathcal{E}) \leftarrow \text{pp}</math></li> <li>2: <math>v = E_0</math></li> <li>3: <math>I \leftarrow \{1, 2\}</math></li> <li>4: <b>for</b> <math>i \in [\kappa]</math> <b>do</b></li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">5: <b>if</b> <math>x_i = 1</math> <b>then</b></li> <li style="padding-left: 4em;">6: <math>I \leftarrow I \cup \{i + 2\}</math></li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">7: <b>if</b> <math>x_i = -1</math> <b>then</b></li> <li style="padding-left: 4em;">8: <math>I \leftarrow I \cup \{i + \kappa + 2\}</math></li> <li>9: <math>\text{sk}', \text{vk}' \leftarrow \text{Expand}_s(\text{sk}), \text{Expand}_v(\text{vk})</math></li> <li>10: <b>for</b> <math>s \in \text{sk}'_I</math> <b>do</b></li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">11: <math>v \leftarrow s \star v</math></li> <li>12: <math>\pi \leftarrow (P(\text{st} = (E_0, \text{vk}'_I, v), \text{wt} = \text{sk}'_I))</math></li> <li>13: <b>return</b> <math>(v, \pi)</math></li> </ol>	<p><u>VRFVer(<math>\text{vk}, v, x, \pi</math>)</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: <math>(G, \star, E_0, \mathcal{E}) \leftarrow \text{pp}</math></li> <li>2: <b>for</b> <math>i \in [\kappa]</math> <b>do</b></li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">3: <b>if</b> <math>x_i = 1</math> <b>then</b></li> <li style="padding-left: 4em;">4: <math>I \leftarrow I \cup \{i + 2\}</math></li> <li style="padding-left: 2em;">5: <b>if</b> <math>x_i = -1</math> <b>then</b></li> <li style="padding-left: 4em;">6: <math>I \leftarrow I \cup \{i + \kappa + 2\}</math></li> <li>7: <math>\text{vk}' \leftarrow \text{Expand}_v(\text{vk})</math></li> <li>8: <b>return</b> <math>V(\text{st} = (E_0, \text{vk}'_I, v), \pi)</math></li> </ol>

Figure 4: Our verifiable random function scheme  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}^\star}$  based on the sDDH problem where  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}^{\text{fac}} = (P, V)$  is an NIZK for the relation  $R_{\text{fac}}$  described in Sec. 4.2. The input  $x$  is ternary of length  $\kappa = \lambda / \log_2(3)$ .

The complete probability and the unique provability hold naturally by embedding  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}^\star}$  in Fig. 4 back to  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  in Fig. 3. We therefore skip the proofs here. We only show the residual pseudorandomness of  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}^\star}$ .

**Theorem 6.1.** *The VRF construction  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  in Fig. 4 has complete provability.*

**Theorem 6.2.** *If  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  is extractable, the VRF construction  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  in Fig. 4 has unique provability in the random oracle model. Concretely, for any unique provability adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}^\star}$ , there exists an extractable adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  against  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  such that*

$$\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{UP}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq 2\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}}^{\text{OE}}(\mathcal{B}).$$

**Theorem 6.3.** *If the twist decisional master CSIDH problem is hard, then the VRF construction  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}^\star}$  in Fig. 4, with a subroutine  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}} = (P, V)$  in Fig. 2, has (residual) pseudorandomness. Concretely, for any residual pseudorandomness adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  against  $\Pi_{\text{VRF}}$  with at most  $q_{\text{PRNG}}$  queries of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$  and  $q_{\text{FS}}$  queries of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \cdot)$ , there exists a tMDDH adversary  $\mathcal{B}$  such that*

$$\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{PR}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \frac{q_{\text{PRNG}}}{2^\lambda} + \frac{q_{\text{FS}}}{2^{\kappa N}} + \text{Adv}^{\text{tMDDH}}(\mathcal{B}).$$

*Proof.* We show by using a hybrid argument that such an adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  can be transformed into a tMDDH adversary  $\mathcal{B}_2$ . Let  $\text{Game}_0$  be the original residual pseudorandomness experiment and  $\text{Game}_1$  be the modified experiment. For  $i \in \{0, 1\}$ , we denote the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  in  $\text{Game}_i$  by  $\text{Adv}_i(\mathcal{A}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_i(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_i(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]|$ , where  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  represents the random coin chosen by the challenger (Def. 2.10 Item 7). Since  $\text{Game}_0$  be the original experiment, we know  $\text{Adv}_0(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{PR}}(\mathcal{A})$  by definition.

We introduce  $\text{Game}_1$ , which is the same as  $\text{Game}_0$  except for the way to respond to an evaluation query. Rather than generated via `Prove` from the subroutine  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$ , the proof is generated using the simulator `Sim` for  $\Pi_{\text{NIZK}}$  in Thm. 4.7. By Thm. 4.7, since the simulator `Sim` is statistically indistinguishable from a real prover, the change in  $\text{Game}_1$  results in a negligible loss. Concretely,  $|\text{Adv}_0(\mathcal{A}) - \text{Adv}_1(\mathcal{A})| \leq \frac{q_{\text{PRNG}}}{2^\lambda} + \frac{q_{\text{FS}}}{2^{\kappa N}}$ .

We now transform an adversary in  $\text{Game}_1$  into a tMDDH problem adversary  $\mathcal{B}$ . The reduction  $\mathcal{B}$  starts the tMDDH problem with parameter  $n = \kappa \in \mathbb{N}$ , receives  $(E, (E_1, \dots, E_\kappa))$ , and proceeds as follows.

1. Firstly,  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates the oracle of  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \cdot)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \text{MT})$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\text{PRNG} \parallel \cdot)$  by keeping lists  $L_{\text{FS}}$ ,  $L_{\text{MT}}$ , and  $L_{\text{PRNG}}$  respectively using the straight-line and on-the-fly method.  $\mathcal{B}$  also keeps a list  $L$  to simulate the oracle queries. Take  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel \cdot)$  for instance; upon receiving an oracle query as  $\mathcal{O}(\text{FS} \parallel x)$ , the  $\mathcal{B}$  simulates the oracle as follows.
  - (a) Check whether there exists a pair  $(x, y) \in L_{\text{FS}}$  for some  $y$ . If so, return  $y$ .
  - (b) Otherwise draw  $y \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\kappa$  uniformly at random. Add  $y$  to the list  $(x, y)$  and return  $y$ .
2. Generates  $c_0, c_1 \leftarrow G$ .
3. Invoke  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $\text{vk} = (c_0 \star E_0, E, E_1, \dots, E_\kappa)$ .
4. Upon receiving the evaluation query  $x \in \{0, \pm 1\}^\kappa$ , forward the query  $x$  to the tMDDH problem oracle and receive  $E$ . Write  $\text{vk}' = (c_0 \star E_0, c_0 \star E, E_1, \dots, E_\kappa, E_1^t, \dots, E_\kappa^t)$  and  $I = \{1, 2\} \cup \{i + 2 \mid x_i = 1 \wedge i \in [\kappa]\} \cup \{i + 2 + N \mid x_i = -1 \wedge i \in [\kappa]\}$ . Run the simulator in Thm. 4.7 to produce a proof  $\pi \leftarrow \text{Sim}(E_0, \text{vk}'_I, c_0 \star E)$ . Return  $(x, \pi)$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
5. Upon receiving the challenge  $\tilde{x}$ , forward the challenge to  $\tilde{x}$  to the tMDDH problem challenger and obtains  $v_b$ . Forward  $v_b$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  and output whatever  $\mathcal{A}$  returns.

When the tMDDH problem challenger using the random coin  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  in the experiment (Def. 2.22 Item 4).  $\mathcal{B}$  creates  $\text{Game}_1$  using the same random coin  $b$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adv}_1(\mathcal{A}) &= |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]| \\ &= \left| \Pr[\mathcal{B}_2(\text{Exp}^{\text{tMDDH}}(\kappa, 1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{B}_2(\text{Exp}^{\text{tMDDH}}(\kappa, 0)) \rightarrow 1] \right| \\ &= \text{Adv}^{\text{tMDDH}}(\mathcal{B}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\text{Adv}_{\Pi_{\text{VRF}}}^{\text{PR}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \frac{q_{\text{PRNG}}}{2^\lambda} + \frac{q_{\text{FS}}}{2^{\kappa N}} + \text{Adv}^{\text{tMDDH}}(\mathcal{B}).$$

□

## 7 Optimization and Performance

We ameliorate the proof size by utilizing the two techniques presented in [BKP20]. A brief is given as follows.

**Unbalanced Challenge Space.** One can observe the response of a prover in the proof system Fig. 2 for the challenge 0 is much shorter than the one for challenge one. The former is a single seed, while the latter is a



bunch of group elements. By introducing the unbalanced challenge space  $C_{M,K} = \{\text{ch} \in \{0,1\}^M \mid |\text{ch}| = K\}$ , where  $|\cdot|$  is the  $\ell_1$ -norm and  $2^\lambda \leq \frac{M!}{K!(M-K)!}$ . We thereby obtain a much smaller proof size while the online-extractability and zero-knowledge remain the same.

**Seed Trees.** The seed tree technique allows the prover to produce a large amount of the seeds using PRNG and iteratively generating binary subtrees. The leaves of the tree are the seeds to be used. The prover can later reveal the generating nodes while not disclosing the information of those unrevealed leaves. The method reduces the size of responses for the challenge 0 in our case. Though the proof size regarding this technique is not fixed, we will calculate the worst case for the proof size estimation.

The performances of CAPYBARA and TSUBAKI are given in Tab. 1 for the input space to be  $\{0,1\}^{128}$ . CAPYBARA is based on the standard DDH assumption while TSUBAKI is based on the stronger square DDH (Def. 2.23), of which the computational version is as hard as the group action inverse problem (Dlog). A very recent work [DHK<sup>+</sup>23] justifies the hardness of sDDH in a generic model for group actions. We use the group action from CSIDH512, as specified in [BKV19], with  $M = 855$  and  $K = 19$  as the unbalanced challenge space in our implementation. Our proof sizes are flexible and depend on the input length, with lengths of approximately  $79|x|/128$  for CAPYBARA and  $51|x|/81$  for TSUBAKI. The group action from CSIDH512 has been estimated to have 128 bits of classical security and over 60 bits of quantum security [Pei20]. We also compare our VRFs to other existing post-quantum VRFs, including LB-VRF [EKS<sup>+</sup>21], X-VRF, SL-VRF [BDE<sup>+</sup>22], LaV [ESLR22], and iVRF [EEK<sup>+</sup>22], all aiming to meet the NIST II security level. LB-VRF, X-VRF, and iVRF have limited residual pseudorandomness, while SL-VRF, LaV, and our VRFs are full VRFs. iVRF, tailored to their applications, also relaxes the unique provability by imposing one more restriction on the adversary (see CFU of [EEK<sup>+</sup>22] on P7). iVRF’s evaluation size is viewed as zero since one can recover the evaluation from the proof (see Table I of [EEK<sup>+</sup>22]). The security of X-VRF, SL-VRF, and iVRF is based on XMSS, LowMC, and SHA-256, respectively, and LB-VRF and LaV rely on a hybrid lattice assumption MSIS/MLWE and MSIS/MLWR respectively.

	$ \text{sk} $	$ \text{vk} $	$ v $	$ \pi $	Assumption	Relaxation
CAPYBARA [Fig. 3]	32B	8.3KB	64B	39 KB	DDH (Def. 2.20)	
TSUBAKI [Fig. 4]	32B	5.3KB	64B	34 KB	sDDH (Def. 2.23)	
LB-VRF I [EKS <sup>+</sup> 21]		3.3KB	84B	4.9KB	MSIS/MLWE	1-Time
LB-VRF III [EKS <sup>+</sup> 21]		3.4KB	84B	7.3KB	MSIS/MLWE	5-Time
X-VRF[BDE <sup>+</sup> 22]	132B	64B	32B	2.6 KB	XMSS	$2^{15}$ -Time
SL-VRF[BDE <sup>+</sup> 22]	24B	48B	32B	40 KB	LowMC	
LaV [ESLR22]	6.4KB	3.4KB	124B	12 KB	MSIS/MLWR	
iVRF [EEK <sup>+</sup> 22]		32B	0B	608 B	SHA-256	$2^{18}$ /See CFU of [EEK <sup>+</sup> 22]

Table 1: CAPYBARA and TSUBAKI (Figs. 3 and 4, resp) using the group action setting CSIDH512 instantiated in [BKV19]. The unbalanced challenge space  $C_{M,K}$  where  $M = 855, K = 19$  is used in the proof system Fig. 2. Note that our original secret key sizes are 2KB, 1.3KB, respectively, and one can use a 32B seed to generate the entire secret key  $\text{sk}$  using PRNG. Our proof sizes are  $\approx 79|x|/128$  and  $\leq 51|x|/81$  respectively and vary with the density  $|x|/\kappa$  of the input  $x$  where  $|\cdot|$  is the  $\ell_1$ -norm. The notations  $|\text{sk}|, |\text{vk}|, |v|, |\pi|$  represent the length of the secret key, verification key, output, and proof, respectively. The security of X-VRF, SL-VRF, and iVRF is based on XMSS, LowMC, and SHA-256, respectively, and LB-VRF and LaV rely on a hybrid lattice assumption MSIS/MLWE and MSIS/MLWR respectively.

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## A Hardness of Twisted Master Decisional Problem

We start from a quick recap of the assumptions in Sec. 2.6.

**Definition A.1** (Decisional Square CSIDH (sDDH) Problem). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action. The decisional square CSIDH problem is that the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is given  $T_b = (g_1 \star E_0, h_b \star E_0)$  where  $h_0 = g_1^2, h_1 = g_2$  and  $(g_1, g_2, b) \leftarrow G^2 \times \{0, 1\}$  and return  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ .*

**Definition A.2** (Decisional Reciprocal CSIDH (rDDH) Problem). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action. The decisional reciprocal CSIDH problem is that the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is given  $T_b = (g_1 \star E_0, g_2 \star E_0, h_b \star E_0, h'_b \star E_0)$  where  $h_0 = g_1 g_2, h_1 = g_3, h'_0 = g_1 g_2^{-1}, h'_1 = g_4$  and  $(g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4, b) \leftarrow G^4 \times \{0, 1\}$ , and return  $b' \in \{0, 1\}$ .*

**Definition A.3** (Multi-challenge Decisional Reciprocal CSIDH (mcrDDH) Problem). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action and  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ . The multi-challenge decisional reciprocal Diffie-Hellman experiment  $\text{Exp}^{\text{mcrDDH}}(b)$  on input  $b$  proceeds as follows. The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  is given  $(g_1 \star E_0)$  where  $g_1 \leftarrow G$  together with access to  $\mathcal{O}_b^{\text{mcrDDH}}$  defined as follows:*

1.  $\mathcal{O}_0^{\text{mcrDDH}}$ :  $(g_2 \star E_0, (g_1 g_2) \star E_0, (g_1^{-1} g_2) \star E_0)$  where  $g_2 \leftarrow G$ ,
2.  $\mathcal{O}_1^{\text{mcrDDH}}$ :  $(g_2 \star E_0, g_3 \star E_0, g_4 \star E_0)$  where  $g_2, g_3, g_4 \leftarrow G$ ,

and outputs  $b' \in \{0, 1\}$ .

We denote the advantage of a mcrDDH problem adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  problem by

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{mcrDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) = \left| \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Exp}^{\text{mcrDDH}}(b=0)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Exp}^{\text{mcrDDH}}(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] \right|,$$

where  $b$  is the randomness in the experiment, and the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $\mathcal{A}$  and the randomness used in the experiment.

The group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  is implicitly parameterized in the experiment. We say the mcrDDH problem is hard, if for any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}$  such that  $\text{Adv}(\mathcal{A})^{\text{mcrDDH}} \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ . One can use a standard hybrid argument to give a reduction from the rDDH problem to the mcrDDH problem. We skip the proof here.

**Definition A.4** (Twisted Master Decisional CSIDH (tMDDH) Problem). *Let  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  be a group action,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ . The twisted master DDH problem experiment  $\text{Exp}^{\text{tMDDH}}(n, b)$  on input  $(n, b)$  proceeds as follows.*

1. The challenger  $\mathcal{C}$  computes  $E = g \star E_0$  where  $g \leftarrow G$ .
2.  $\mathcal{C}$  generates a tuple  $(g_1 \star E, \dots, g_n \star E)$  where  $g_1, \dots, g_n \leftarrow G$ , and sends the tuple to the adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ .
3.  $\mathcal{A}$  is given access to a Diffie-Hellman (DH) oracle on input  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \{0, \pm 1\}^n$  returning  $\prod_i^n g_i^{x_i} \star E$ .
4.  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a string  $v = (v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \{0, \pm 1\}^n$  to  $\prod_i^n g_i^{v_i} \star E$  to the challenge oracle  $\mathcal{C}$ .
5.  $\mathcal{C}$  ignores if  $v$  has been queried before or is of the Hamming weight less than 2. Otherwise,  $\mathcal{C}$ , depending on  $b$ , computes  $X_0 = \prod_i^n g_i^{v_i} \star E$  or  $X_1 = r \star E$  for some  $r \leftarrow G$ , and send  $X_b$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ . This process will only output for one time.
6.  $\mathcal{A}$  outputs  $b' \in \{0, 1\}$ .

We denote the advantage of the decisional problem adversary  $\mathcal{A}$  by

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{tMDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) = \left| \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Exp}^{\text{tMDDH}}(n, b=0)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Exp}^{\text{tMDDH}}(n, b=1)) \rightarrow 1] \right|,$$

where  $b$  is the randomness in the experiment, and the probability is taken over the randomness used by  $\mathcal{A}$  and the randomness used in the experiment. The group action  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  is implicitly parameterized in the experiment. We say the tMDDH problem is hard, if for any PPT adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ , there exists a negligible function  $\text{negl}$  such that  $\text{Adv}(\mathcal{A})^{\text{tMDDH}} \leq \text{negl}(\lambda)$ .

**Theorem A.5.** *The tMDDH problem is not easier than the mcrDDH problem. Concretely, let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary against the mcrDDH problem with the parameter  $(G, \mathcal{E}, \star, E_0)$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If at most  $q_{\text{DH}} = \text{poly}(\lambda)$  queries are made in the mcrDDH experiment, then there exists tMDDH problem adversaries  $\mathcal{B}_2, \dots, \mathcal{B}_n$  such that*

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{tMDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \sum_{i=2}^n \text{Adv}^{\text{mcrDDH}}(\mathcal{B}_i).$$

*Proof.* We prove the theorem via a hybrid argument by introducing two series of games  $\text{Game}_1, \dots, \text{Game}_n$  by modifying the responses of the DH oracle and the challenge oracle in the tMDDH experiment gradually. Among the games,  $\text{Game}_1$  be the original tMDDH experiment, We will modify the response of the challenge oracle and the DH oracle together, which will be explained later. For  $i \in [n]$  where  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ , let  $\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_i(b))$  represent  $\mathcal{A}$  running the  $\text{Game}_i$ , the modified tMDDH experiment with the random coin  $b$  used in the experiment, and  $\mathcal{A}$  will return 0 or 1. Therefore, by definition,

$$\text{Adv}^{\text{tMDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) = |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]|. \quad (4)$$

Looking ahead,  $\text{Game}_n$  be the modified tMDDH experiment where both the DH oracle and the challenger reply with random elements in  $\mathcal{E}$ . Therefore, since  $b$  is information theoretically hidden from  $\mathcal{A}$ ,

$$|\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_n(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_n(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]| = 0. \quad (5)$$

$\text{Game}_1$ : the original tMDDH experiment starting with a tuple  $(g_1 \star E, \dots, g_n \star E)$  where  $g_1, \dots, g_n \leftarrow G$  and the oracle response as specified.

$\text{Game}_2$  to  $\text{Game}_n$ : for  $j \in \{2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\text{Game}_j$  is the same as  $\text{Game}_{j-1}$  except that the response of the DH oracle and the challenge oracle is modified as follows. The modification starts with a list  $L$  which is initially

$$\{(\mathbf{0}, E), (\mathbf{e}_1, g_1 \star E), \dots, (\mathbf{e}_j, g_j \star E)\} \subseteq \{0, \pm 1\}^j \times \mathcal{E}.$$

On the query  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \{0, \pm 1\}^n$ , if  $((x_1, \dots, x_j), X) \in L$  for some  $X \in \mathcal{E}$ , the oracle returns  $(\prod_{i=j+1}^n g_i^{x_i}) \star X$ ; otherwise, it draws  $g' \leftarrow G$ , computes  $X = g' \star E$ , adds  $((x_1, \dots, x_j), X)$  to the list  $L$ , and returns  $(\prod_{i=j+1}^n g_i^{x_i}) \star X$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ . The reply for the challenge query is modified in the same way if the random coin  $b = 0$ .

Claim that  $\text{Game}_{j-1} \approx_c \text{Game}_j$  for  $\mathcal{A}$  for any  $2 \leq j \leq n$  by assuming the mcrDDH problem. Concretely, a reduction  $\mathcal{B}_j$  to the mcrDDH problem proceeds as follows

1. Obtain  $T = (g' \star E_0, \{(X_i, X'_i, X''_i)\}_{i \in [q_{\text{DH}}+j-1]})$  from the mcrDDH oracle.
2. Overwrite the notations of  $X_i, X'_i, X''_i$  by  $(g' \star E, \{X_i, X'_i, X''_i\}_{i \in [q_{\text{DH}}+j-1]}) \leftarrow g \star T$  where  $g \leftarrow G$ .
3. Then,  $\mathcal{B}_j$  initializes with a list

$$L = \left\{ (\mathbf{e}_1, X_1), \dots, (\mathbf{e}_{j-1}, X_{j-1}), (\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_j, X'_1), \dots, (\mathbf{e}_{j-1} + \mathbf{e}_j, X'_{j-1}), (\mathbf{0}, E), \right. \\ \left. (\mathbf{e}_1 - \mathbf{e}_j, X''_1), \dots, (\mathbf{e}_{j-1} - \mathbf{e}_j, X''_{j-1}), (\mathbf{e}_j, g' \star E) \right\} \subseteq \{0, \pm 1\}^j \times \mathcal{E},$$

where  $\mathbf{e}_i$  is the  $i$ -th elementary vector in  $\{0, \pm 1\}^j$ , and set a counter  $\text{ct} = j$  to record the number of the pairs  $(X_i, X'_i, X''_i)$  taken into the list  $L$ .

4. Invoke  $\mathcal{A}$  on input  $(E, X_1, \dots, X_{j-1}, g' \star E_0, g_{j+1} \star E_0, \dots, g_n \star E_0)$  where  $g_{j+1}, \dots, g_n \leftarrow G$ .
5. Upon receiving the oracle query  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \{0, \pm 1\}^n$ , check whether  $((x_1, \dots, x_j), X) \in L$  for some  $X \in \mathcal{E}$ . If so, return  $\prod_{i=j+1}^n g_i^{x_i} \star X$ . Otherwise, update

$$L \leftarrow \{((x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}), 0), X_{\text{ct}}, ((x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}), 1), X'_{\text{ct}}, ((x_1, \dots, x_{j-1}), -1), X''_{\text{ct}}\} \cup L,$$

and set  $\text{ct} \leftarrow \text{ct} + 1$ , and rerun this step again.

6. Output whatever  $\mathcal{A}$  returns.

Note that in Step 1. if  $\mathcal{B}_j$  is in  $\text{Exp}^{\text{mcrDDH}}(0)$  (Def. A.3 Item 1) then  $\mathcal{B}_j$  generates  $\text{Game}_{j-1}$  because  $g' \star X_i = X'_i$  and  $g'^{-1} \star X_i = X''_i$ . In contrast, if it is in  $\text{Exp}^{\text{mcrDDH}}(1)$  (Def. A.3 Item 2), then  $\mathcal{B}_j$  generates  $\text{Game}_j$ . It follows that for  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ ,



$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Adv}^{\text{mcrDDH}}(\mathcal{B}_j) &= |\Pr[\mathcal{B}_j(\text{Exp}^{\text{mcrDDH}}(0)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{B}_j(\text{Exp}^{\text{mcrDDH}}(1)) \rightarrow 1]| \\
&= |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_{j-1}(b)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_j(b)) \rightarrow 1]|
\end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Adv}^{\text{tMDDH}}(\mathcal{A}) &= |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]| && \text{(By Eq. (4))} \\
&\leq \sum_{j=2}^n (|\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_{j-1}(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_j(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]| \\
&\quad + |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_{j-1}(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_1(b=0)) \rightarrow 1]|) \\
&\quad + |\Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_n(b=1)) \rightarrow 1] - \Pr[\mathcal{A}(\text{Game}_{j-1}(b=1)) \rightarrow 1]| && \text{(Union bounds.)} \\
&= \sum_{j=2}^{n-1} \text{Adv}^{\text{mcrDDH}}(\mathcal{B}_j). && \text{(By Eqs. (5) and (6))}
\end{aligned}$$

The result follows.  $\square$