Proximity testing for Reed–Solomon+

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- Will call these hash-based SNARKs.





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BCS







Proof length $I \approx O(n)$

Queries $q \approx O(\log n)$



BCS







Large, think 2^{24} Proof length $I \approx O(n)$

Queries $q \approx O(\log n)$ Small, think ~400









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$$k 2^{24}$$

Argument size $O(\lambda \cdot \mathbf{q} \cdot \log \mathbf{I})$


Constructing SNARKs [BCS16] Construction



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Small, tens of KiB



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Round by round, required by BCS transform.

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Can we move the constraint directly into the IOPP?



















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$$\sum_{b \in \{0,1\}^m} \hat{w}(\hat{f}(b), b) = c$$

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Rewrite RS codes to be about multilinear polynomials: $\operatorname{coeff}(\hat{p}) = \operatorname{coeff}(\hat{q})$ implies that $\hat{p}(z) = \hat{q}(z, z^2, ..., z^{2^{m-1}})$

If $\hat{w} = Z \cdot eq(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{r})$ we recover multilinear polynomial evaluation

Rounds: O(m)

Alphabet: \mathbb{F}^{2^k}

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Comparison with prior work

	Queries	Verifier Time	Alphabet
BaseFold	$q_{\rm BF} = O(\lambda \cdot m)$	$O(\mathbf{q}_{BF})$	\mathbb{F}^2
FRI	$q_{\rm FRI} = O\left(\frac{\lambda}{k} \cdot m\right)$	$O(\mathbf{q}_{FRI} \cdot 2^k)$	\mathbb{F}^{2^k}
STIR	$q_{\rm STIR} = O\left(\frac{\lambda}{k} \cdot \log m\right)$	$O(q_{\text{STIR}} \cdot 2^k + \lambda^2 \cdot 2^k)$	\mathbb{F}^{2^k}
WHIR	$q_{\rm WHIR} = O\left(\frac{\lambda}{k} \cdot \log m\right)$	$O(\mathbf{q}_{WHIR} \cdot (2^k + m))$	\mathbb{F}^{2^k}

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Drop-in replacement of FRI and STIR (when used for CRS[$\mathbb{F}, m, \rho, 0, 0$])

- **Same** benefits as STIR over FRI, and similar prover time.

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- Further, super-fast verification (next)

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Whir (PCS) 🍸
Field: Goldilocks2 and MT: Blake3
Number of variables: 20, folding factor: 4
Security level: 100 bits using ConjectureList security and 19 bits of PoW
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Num_queries: 17, rate: 2^-5, pow_bits: 15, ood_samples: 2, folding_pow: 2
Num_queries: 11, rate: 2^-8, pow_bits: 12, ood_samples: 2, folding_pow: 4
Num_queries: 8, rate: 2^-11, pow_bits: 12, ood_samples: 2, folding_pow: 6
final_queries: 6, final_rate: 2^-14, final_pow_bits: 16, final_folding_pow_bits: 0
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167.0 bits -- OOD commitment
102.0 bits -- (x4) prox gaps: 103.0, sumcheck: 102.0, pow: 0.0
171.0 bits -- OOD sample
100.0 bits -- query error: 82.0, combination: 94.6, pow: 18.0
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175.0 bits -- OOD sample
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100.0 bits -- (x4) prox gaps: 99.0, sumcheck: 98.0, pow: 2.0
179.0 bits -- OOD sample
100.0 bits -- query error: 88.0, combination: 92.3, pow: 12.0
100.0 bits -- (x4) prox gaps: 97.0, sumcheck: 96.0, pow: 4.0
183.0 bits -- OOD sample
100.0 bits -- query error: 88.0, combination: 90.7, pow: 12.0
100.0 bits -- (x4) prox gaps: 95.0, sumcheck: 94.0, pow: 6.0
100.0 bits -- query error: 84.0, pow: 16.0
Prover time: 356.9ms
Proof size: 58.7 KiB
Verifier time: 342.8µs
Average hashes: 1.1k
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100.0 bits -- (x4) prox gaps: 97.0, sumcheck: 96.0, pow: 4.0
 183.0 bits -- OOD sample
 100.0 bits -- query error: 88.0, combination: 90.7, pow: 12.0
100.0 bits -- (x4) prox gaps: 95.0, sumcheck: 94.0, pow: 6.0
100.0 bits -- query error: 84.0, pow: 16.0
Prover time: 356.9ms
Proof size: 58.7 KiB
Verifier time: 342.8µs
Average hashes: 1.1k
```

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Prover time: ~1s (MacBook Air) Commit & open: 63 KiB Verifier time: 270 μs (0.27 ms)

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- As a PCS for degree 2^{24} :

Verifier time (ms)	Brakedown	Ligero	Greyhound	Hyrax	PST	KZG	WHIR- $1/2$	WHIR-1/16
$\lambda = 100$	3500	733	-	100	7.81	2.42	0.61	0.29
$\lambda = 128$	3680	750	130	151	9.92	3.66	1.4	0.6

Table 4: Comparison of WHIR-CB's verifier time versus other polynomial commitment schemes, on 24 variables. For the KZG degree 2^{24} is used instead.

Schemes with trusted setup using pairings!

Comparison with BaseFold







Prover time

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Prover time

Remark: BaseFold implementation is not fully optimised



128-bits security level.

 $\lambda = 106 + 22$ bits of PoW + "list-decoding" assumptions.

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$m = 24, \rho = 1/4$	FRI	WHIR
Size (KiB)	177	106
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$d = 30, \rho = 1/2$ Size (KiB)	FRI 494	WHIR 187

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Verifier time	2.4ms	700µs
$d = 30, \rho = 1/2$	FRI	WHIR
Size (KiB)	494	187

 $\rho = 1/2$



Figure 2: Comparison of FRI, STIR and WHIR for $\rho = 1/2$. FRI: \times , STIR: \bullet , WHIR-CB: \blacktriangle . Pro time is displayed with logarithmic scaling.





Conclusion

WHIR Stanew IOPP for CRS codes.

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Query complexity:

$$O\left(\frac{\lambda}{k} \cdot \log m\right)$$

$$O(q_{\text{whir}} \cdot (2^k + m))$$

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WHIR S: a new IOPP for CRS codes.

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- Fastest verification of any PCS (including trusted setups!)
- Enables high-soundness compilation for Σ-IOP



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How? Inspiration from FFTs, for k = 1:

$$\mathsf{Fold}(f, \alpha) := f_{\mathsf{odd}} + \alpha \cdot f_{\mathsf{even}}$$

Can extend to every k that is a power of two.





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Properties:

Local: compute Fold(f, α)(z) at any point $z \in L^{2^k}$ with 2^k queries to f.

 $\delta \in \left(0, 1 - \sqrt{\rho}\right)$

Distance preservation: if f is δ -far from $RS[n, m, \rho]$, then w.h.p. $Fold(f, \alpha)$ remains also δ -far from RS[$n/2^k, m-k, \rho$]







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Unless w.p. $\approx \frac{\text{poly}(n,2^m)}{n}$ fraction of "corrupted" entries does not decrease.









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Test a random linear combination

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 f_1

Test a random linear combination





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Mutual correlated agreement: the stripe in which f_1, \ldots, f_m agree with \mathscr{C} is the same on which f^* does:

"No new correlated domains appear"



Implied by mutual correlated agreement



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 $f_1, \dots, f_m \colon L \to \mathbb{F}$



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 $\Lambda(\mathscr{C}, f, \delta)$ is the list of codewords of $\mathscr C$ that are δ -close to f

Taking lists and (random) combinations commute (if • mutual correlated agreement holds).





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Recent results show it holds up to 1.5 Johnson for general linear codes!









Reduce $CRS[n, m, \rho, \hat{w}, \sigma]$ **to** $CRS[n/2, m - 1, \rho, \hat{w}_{\alpha}, \sigma_{\alpha}]$

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P



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$$\sum_{\mathbf{b}} \hat{w}(f(\mathbf{b}), \mathbf{b}) = \sigma \text{ then:}$$

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Interleave sumcheck with FRI folding, similar to BaseFold, Hyperplonk, Gemini



Soundness: by mutual correlated agreement, w.h.p. if $\Delta(f, CRS[n, m, \rho, \hat{w}, \sigma]) > \delta$ then $\Delta(Fold(f, \alpha), CRS[n/2, m - 1, \rho, \hat{w}_{\alpha}, \hat{h}(\alpha)]) > \delta$

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In the full protocol, we fold by 2-by-2 k times. Can also fold by 2^k at a time (nice for first round!)

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P























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P

g

Claimed to be same polynomial





 $Fold(f, \alpha_1, ..., \alpha_k)$

P

8

Claimed to be same polynomial





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Similar structure to STIR! Multilinear structure forbids using quotients: we need new ideas to domain shift!

 $Fold(f, \alpha_1, ..., \alpha_k)$

P

8

Claimed to be same polynomial







Claim on $f:(\hat{w},\sigma)$



Claim on $f:(\hat{w},\sigma)$





Claim on $f:(\hat{w},\sigma)$



Output claims on *g*: $(\hat{w}_1, \sigma_1), \dots, (\hat{w}_{\ell}, \sigma_{\ell})$

Domain shifting $f: L \to \mathbb{F}$ Claim on $f: (\hat{w}, \sigma)$

f and *g* claimed to be evaluations of same polynomial. Want to output **claims** on *g*. **Goal:** If f is $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho}\right)$ -far from CRS[$|L|, m, \rho, \hat{w}, \sigma$], w.h.p. *g* is $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho'}\right)$ -far form least one $i \in [\ell]$



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Then, if \hat{p} satisfies the (\hat{w}, σ) -constraint f must be be $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho}\right)$ -far from it.



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|, w.h.p. g is
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-far from CRS[|L*|, $m, \rho', \hat{w}_i, \sigma_i$]





Claim on $f:(\hat{w},\sigma)$



f and *g* claimed to be evaluations of same polynomial. Want to output **claims** on *g*. **Goal:** If f is $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho}\right)$ -far from CRS[$|L|, m, \rho, \hat{w}, \sigma$], w.h.p. *g* is $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho'}\right)$ -far form the least one $i \in [\ell]$

Assume there is unique polynomial \hat{p} that is $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho'}\right)$ -close to g.

Then, if \hat{p} satisfies the (\hat{w}, σ) -constraint f must be be $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho}\right)$ -far from it.



Output claims on *g*: $(\hat{w}_1, \sigma_1), \dots, (\hat{w}_{\ell}, \sigma_{\ell})$

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Claim on $f:(\hat{w},\sigma)$



f and g claimed to be evaluations of same polynomial. Want to output claims on g. **Goal:** If *f* is $(1 - \sqrt{\rho})$ -far from CRS[|*L*|, *m*, ρ , \hat{w} , σ] least one $i \in [\ell]$

Assume there is unique polynomial \hat{p} that is $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho'}\right)$ -close to g. Then, if \hat{p} satisfies the (\hat{w}, σ) -constraint f must be be $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho}\right)$ -far from it. **New constraints:** (i) original constraint (\hat{w}, σ) (ii) $\hat{p}(z) = y$ for some random point z.



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Assume there is unique polynomial \hat{p} that is $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho'}\right)$ -close to g. Then, if \hat{p} satisfies the (\hat{w}, σ) -constraint f must be be $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho}\right)$ -far from it. **New constraints:** (i) original constraint (\hat{w}, σ) (ii) $\hat{p}(z) = y$ for some random point z. So, except with probability $\sqrt{\rho}$, g is $\left(1 - \sqrt{\rho'}\right)$ -far from CRS[$|L^*|, m, \rho', (\hat{w}_1, \sigma_1), \dots, (\hat{w}_{\ell}, \sigma_{\ell})$]. Can amplify to $\sqrt{\rho}^t$



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 $\Lambda(\mathscr{C}, g, \delta^*)$ 8 δ^* *****************





















- By fundamental theorem of algebra of w.h.p. no pair \hat{u}, \hat{v} with $\hat{u}(r) = \hat{v}(r)$
- Prover "chooses" which codeword \hat{u} it "commits" to





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Out Of Domain Subprotocol to force unique



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Add to list of constraints to enforce!





Sumcheck claims on g: $(\hat{w}_1, \sigma_1), \dots, (\hat{w}_{\ell}, \sigma_{\ell})$



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Batching





Sumcheck claims on g: $(\hat{w}_1, \sigma_1), \dots, (\hat{w}_{\ell}, \sigma_{\ell})$

Batching

Sumcheck claim on $g:(\hat{w}^*, \sigma^*)$



Many ways this can be done: we chose random linear combination.





















































Verifier can ask sumcheck queries

i.e. send \hat{w} and receive $\sum \hat{w}(\hat{f}(\mathbf{b}), \mathbf{b})$ b





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Generalizes univariate and

efficient arithmetizations?







V

P





 $\alpha \leftarrow \mathbb{F}$



 $\alpha \leftarrow \mathbb{F}$

Review: FRI iteration $f: L \to \mathbb{F}$



 $\alpha \leftarrow \mathbb{F}$

Claimed to be

same polynomial

f'



Recurse on
$$f' \in \mathsf{RS} \left[\frac{n}{2^k}, m-k, \rho \right]$$

$\alpha \leftarrow \mathbb{F}$



Disclaimer: in full FRI consistency checks are correlated between rounds.

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Soundness:

Suppose that $f' \in \mathsf{RS}[n/2^k, m - k, \rho]$.

If *f* is δ -far from RS[*n*, *m*, ρ],

Fold(f, α) must be δ -far from $\mathsf{RS}[n/2^k, m-k, \rho]$



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To get soundness error $\varepsilon_{\text{RBR}} \leq 2^{-\lambda}$: set $\delta := 1 - \sqrt{\rho}$ and $t := -\frac{1}{10}$ $-\log \sqrt{\rho}$

$$\alpha \leftarrow \mathbb{F}$$

