

# Concurrently Secure Blind Schnorr Signatures

Georg Fuchsbauer  
Mathias Wolf



EUROCRYPT'24

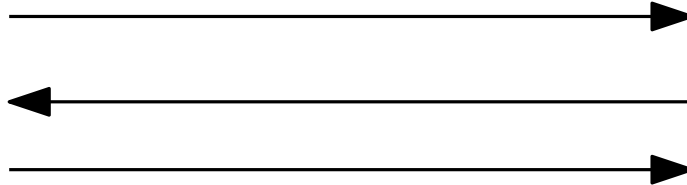


# Blind signatures

PSY



Signer ( $vk, sk$ )



Uma



User ( $vk, m$ )



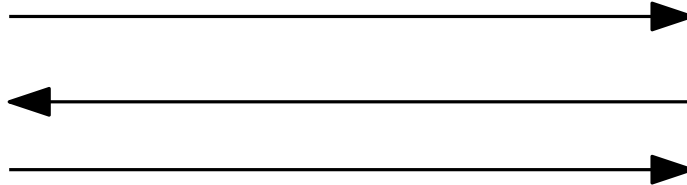
$$\sigma : \text{Ver}(vk, m, \sigma) = 1$$

- **Blindness**
- (one-more) **Unforgeability**

# Blind signatures



Signer ( $vk, sk$ )



User ( $vk, m$ )



$$\sigma : \text{Ver}(vk, m, \sigma) = 1$$

- e-cash
- e-voting
- anonymous credentials
- contact tracing
- advanced VPNs
- Bitcoin blind coin swaps
- private relays
- private access tokens
- Privacy Pass

# Our contributions

- Many schemes . . .  
. . . but with *non-standard* signature format
- Here: blind signing for  
**Schnorr** signatures



**NIST**



. . . but **no concurrently secure blind signing protocol**

- (1) Construct **secure protocol** (using NIZKs)
- (2) Propose **generalization** of blind signatures
- (3) **Implement** different instantiations

# Schnorr signatures

- Group  $(q, \mathbb{G}, G)$ , hash fct  $H: \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$
- $sk = x \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$ ,  $vk := X = xG$
- Prove I know  $x$

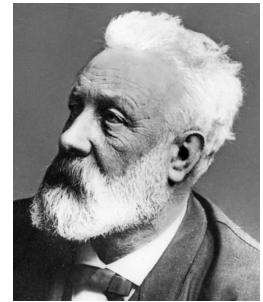
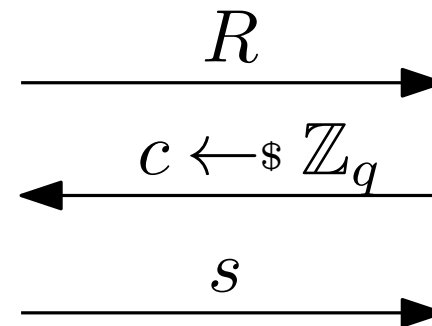


$$r \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q; R := rG$$

$$s := [r + cx]_q$$



Prover



Verifier

$$sG \stackrel{?}{=} R + cX$$

# Schnorr signatures

- Group  $(q, \mathbb{G}, G)$ , hash fct  $H: \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$
- $sk = x \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$ ,  $vk := X = xG$

- $\text{Sign}(x, m)$ :

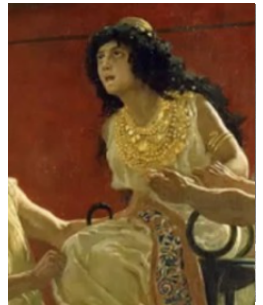
$$r \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q; R := rG$$

$$c := H(R, X, m)$$

$$s := [r + cx]_q$$

$$\sigma := (R, s)$$

$$sG \stackrel{?}{=} R + cX$$



Oracle

*Schnorr signatures are **unforgeable**  
in the ROM assuming  $\mathbb{G}$  is DL-hard*



# Blind Schnorr signatures

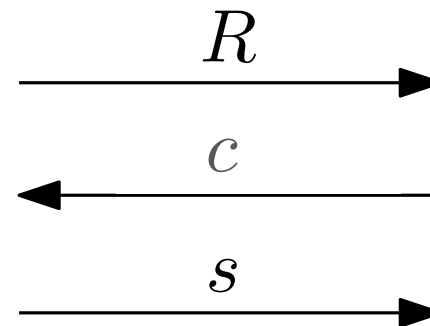
- Group  $(q, \mathbb{G}, G)$ , hash fct  $H: \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$
- $sk = x \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$ ,  $vk := X = xG$

$$R := rG$$

$$s := [r + cx]_q$$



Signer  $x$



User  $m$

Verifier: •  $c := H(R, X, m)$

... but signer knows  $(R, s)$

# Blind Schnorr signatures

$$\begin{aligned}
 s'G &= \underbrace{sG} + \alpha G \\
 &= \underbrace{R} + cX + \alpha G \\
 &= R' - \alpha G - \beta X + \underbrace{cX} + \alpha G \\
 &= R' - \cancel{\alpha G} - \cancel{\beta X} + (c' - \cancel{\beta})X + \cancel{\alpha G} \\
 &= R' + c'X
 \end{aligned}$$

$$: \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$$

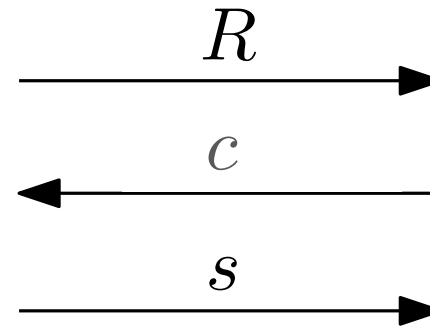
$$: G$$

$$R := rG$$

$$s := [r + c\mathbf{x}]_q$$



Signer  $x$



User  $m$

- User:
- $\alpha, \beta \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$
  - $R' := R + \alpha G + \beta X$
  - $c := [H(R', X, m) + \beta]_q$

Then  $(R', s' := [s + \alpha]_q)$  is a signature on  $m$ !



# Blind Schnorr signatures

- Group  $(q, \mathbb{G}, G)$ , hash fct  $H: \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_q$

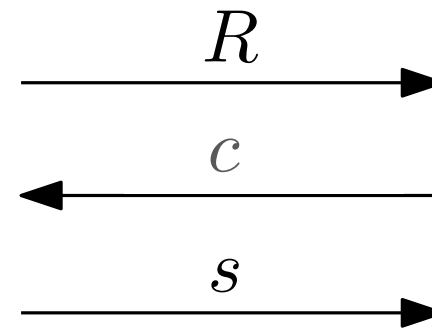


User  $m$

## Blindness

- $R'$  and  $c'$  are perfectly **hidden** from signer
- $s'$  is unique element so signature valid

(One-more) **Unforgeability?**

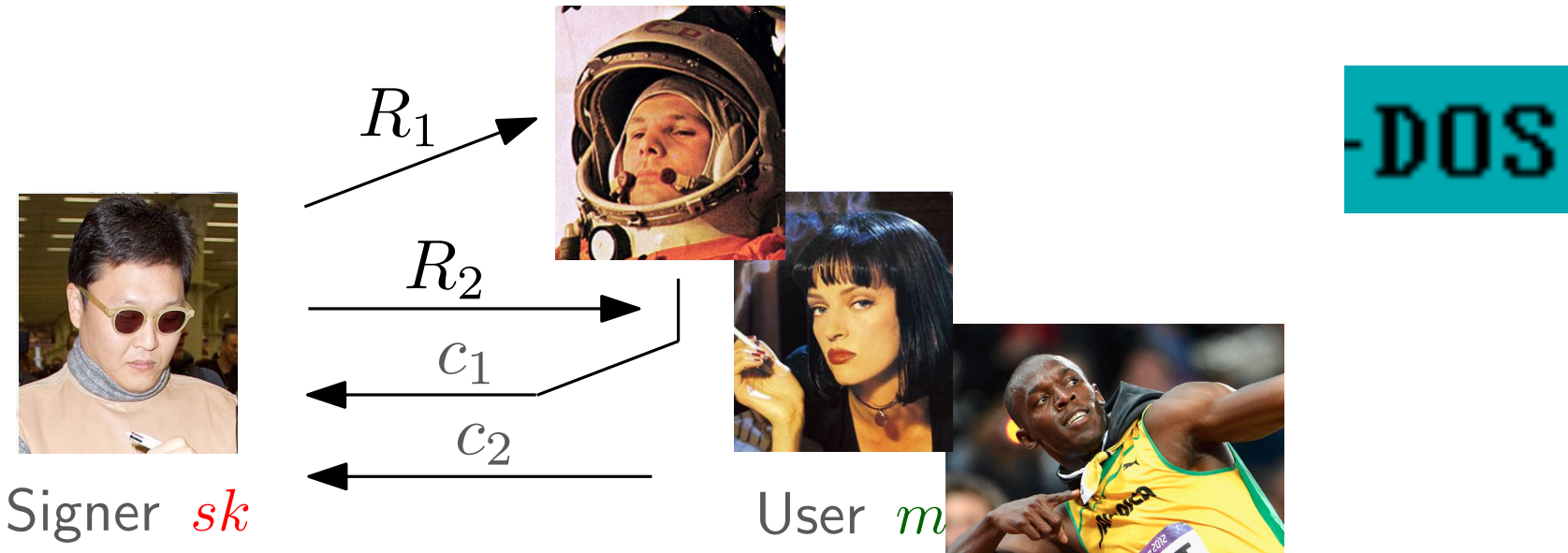


User:

- $\alpha, \beta \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$
- $R' := R + \alpha G + \beta X$
- $c := [H(R', X, m) + \beta]_q$

Then  $(R', s' := [s + \alpha]_q)$  is a signature on  $m$ !

# Unforgeability of blind Schnorr



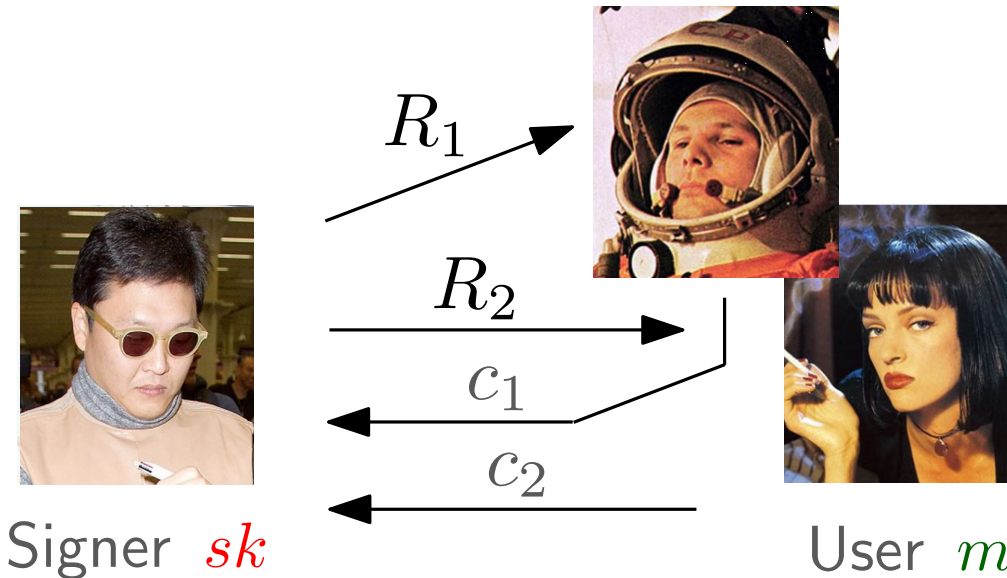
(One-more) **Unforgeability** (under concurrent attack)?

$\iff$  "ROS" in GGM+ROM

[Sch01]



# Unforgeability of blind Schnorr



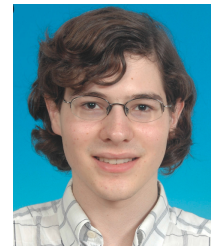
(One-more) **Unforgeability** (~~under concurrent attack~~)?

- **Practical attack:**

$\lambda$  queries

$\Rightarrow \lambda + 1$  signatures

[Ben<sup>+</sup>21]

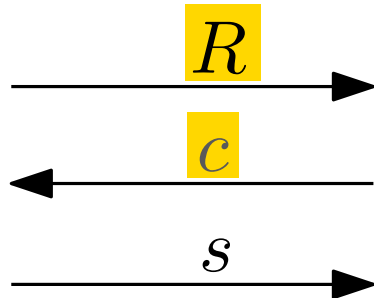


Can we define a **secure** blind-signing protocol for Schnorr signatures?

# Secure blind Schnorr signing...



Signer  $sk$



User  $m$

$$\alpha, \beta \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$$

$$R' := R + \alpha G + \beta X$$

$$c := [H(R', X, m) + \beta]_q$$

$$\text{return } (R', s' := [s + \alpha]_q)$$

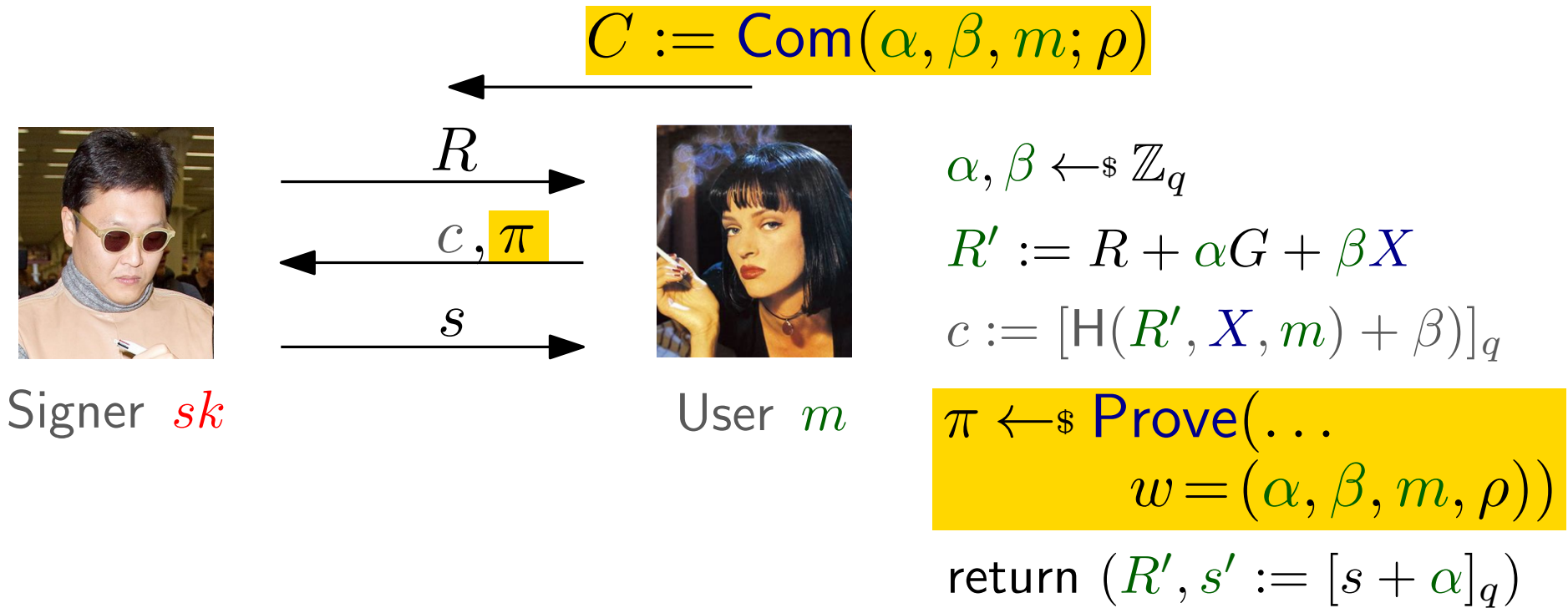


- **Practical attack:**
- $c_i$ 's depend on **all**  $R_i$ 's

[Ben<sup>+</sup>21]

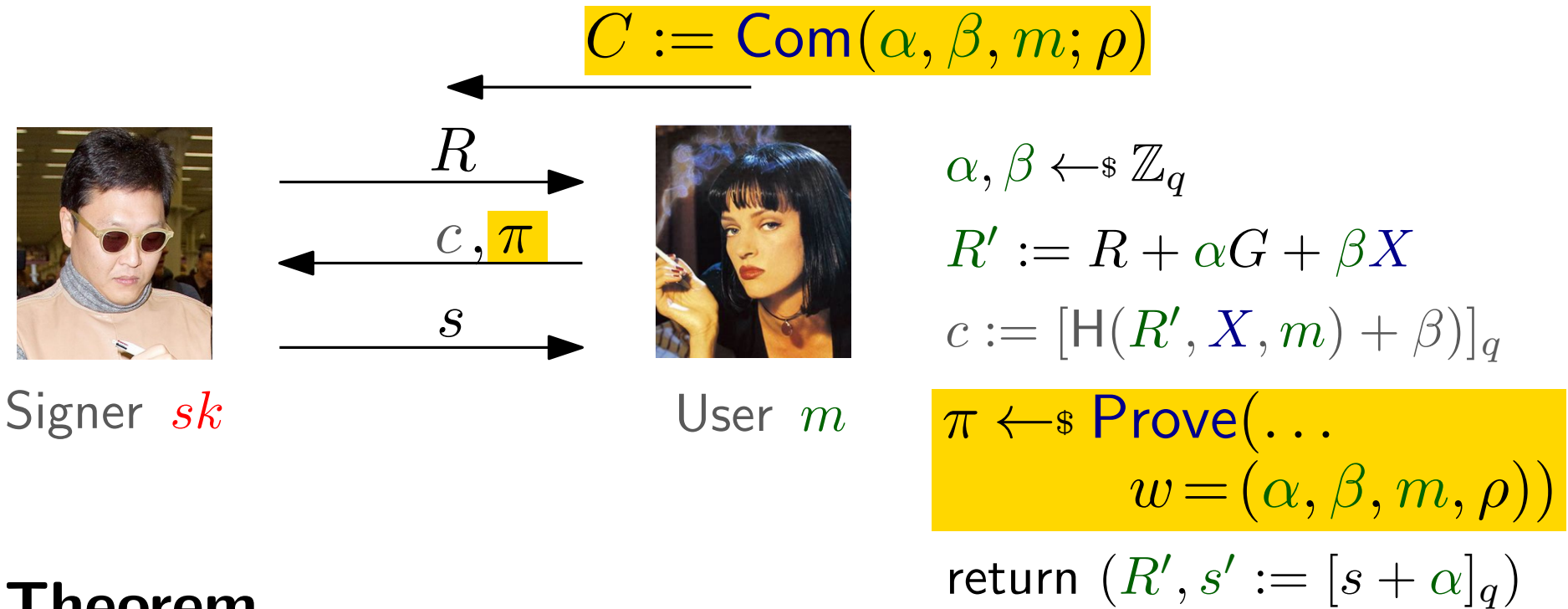


# Secure blind Schnorr signing...



$\Rightarrow$  Let U **commit** to her secrets **before**  
... and **prove** (in ZK) that  $c$  is consistent with  $C$

# Secure blind Schnorr signing...



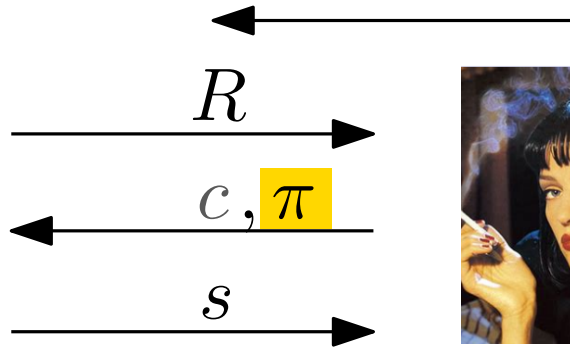
## Theorem.

(One-more) **Unforgeability** (under concurrent attack)  
 $\Leftrightarrow$  unforgeability of **Schnorr**  
 $+$  soundness of **Prove**

# Implementations



Signer  $sk$



User  $m$

$$\alpha, \beta \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$$

$$R' := R + \alpha G + \beta X$$

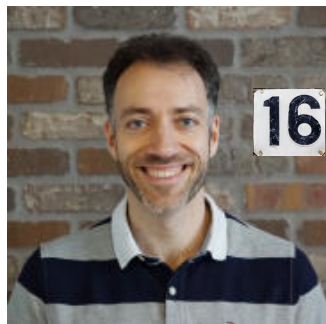
$$c := [H(R', X, m) + \beta]_q$$

$$\pi \leftarrow_{\$} \text{Prove}(\dots \\ w = (\alpha, \beta, m, \rho))$$

## 3 implementations using zk-SNARKs

(1) Groth16

(2) PlonK

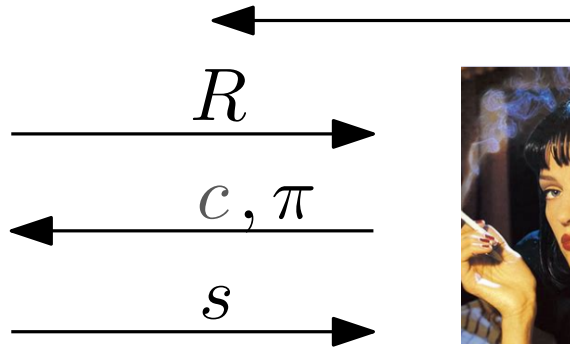


$ \pi $	$t_{\text{Verify}}$
$\approx 1 \text{ kB}$	$\ll 1 \text{ sec}$

# Implementations



Signer  $sk$



User  $m$

$$\alpha, \beta \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$$

$$R' := R + \alpha G + \beta X$$

$$c := [\text{H}(R', X, m) + \beta]_q$$

$$\pi \leftarrow_{\$} \text{Prove}(\dots)$$

$$w = (\alpha, \beta, m, \rho)$$

(1) Groth16    (2) PlonK

Elliptic curve	Hash function	$ crs $	$t_{\text{Prove}}$
Baby JubJub	Poseidon	< 1 MB	$\approx$ 1 sec
secp256k1	SHA-256	550 MB	$\approx$ 1 min



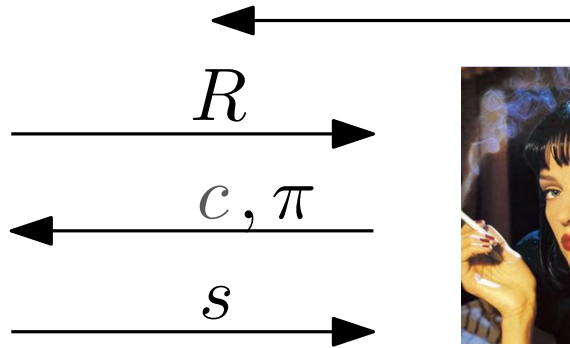
(cf. )



# Implementations



Signer  $sk$



User  $m$

$$\alpha, \beta \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$$

$$R' := R + \alpha G + \beta X$$


$$c := [H(R', X, m) + \beta]_q$$

$$\pi \leftarrow_{\$} \text{Prove}(\dots$$

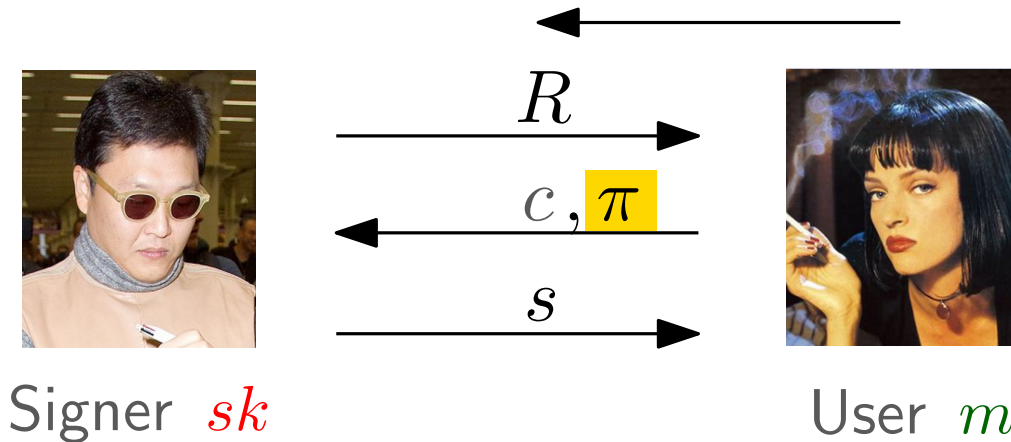
$$w = (\alpha, \beta, m, \rho))$$

## (3) Spartan



	Elliptic curve	Hash function	$ crs $	$t_{\text{Prove}}$
	secp256k1	SHA-256	36 kB	$\approx 2.5$ min

# Implementations



$$\alpha, \beta \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_q$$

$$R' := R + \alpha G + \beta X$$

$$c := [H(R', X, m) + \beta]_q$$

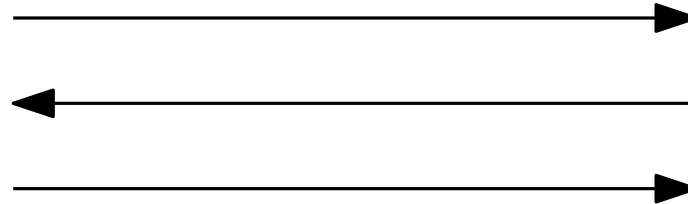
$$\pi \leftarrow_{\$} \text{Prove}(\dots \\ w = (\alpha, \beta, m, \rho))$$

... but U could also prove any **predicate** of the message

# Predicate blind signatures



Signer  $sk$



$vk$ ,  $pred$



User  $m$

... is guaranteed  
 $m$  satisfies  $pred$

... is guaranteed  
signer learns  
nothing else

- Generalization of **partially blind signatures**

# Applications

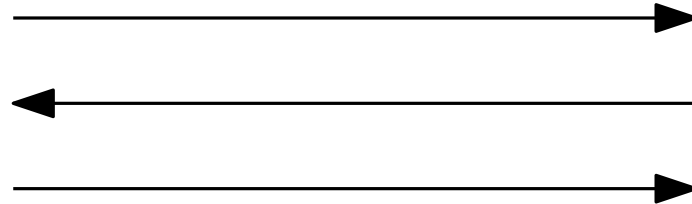
- Blind signing for signatures already deployed

- e-cash
- e-voting
- anonymous credentials
- contact tracing
- advanced VPNs
- Bitcoin blind coin swaps
- private relays
- private access tokens
- Privacy Pass

# Blind Bitcoin payments



Signer  $sk$



User  $m$

$vk$ ,  $pred$

$\Rightarrow$  Exchange debits user account by  $v$

BTC tx, "amount  $\leq v$ "

