

# Pairing-Based Cryptography & Generic Groups

Lecture 19

# Bilinear Pairing

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  - Not degenerate:  $e(g, g) \neq 1$
- D-BDH Assumption: For random  $(a, b, c, z)$ , the distributions of  $(g^a, g^b, g^c, g^{abc})$  and  $(g^a, g^b, g^c, g^z)$  are indistinguishable

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  - e.g. Alice computes  $e(g,g)^{abc} = e(g^b, g^c)^a$
  - By D-BDH the key  $e(g,g)^{abc} = e(g, g^{abc})$  is pseudorandom given eavesdropper's view  $(g^a, g^b, g^c)$

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  - Trivial if only one witness. Very useful when two kinds of witnesses

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- Special purpose proof for statements that arise in specific schemes, under specific assumptions
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  - May exploit similar assumptions as used in the basic scheme



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  - (where  $A, B \in G$ , integers  $a, b, c$  are known to both)
- Useful in proving statements like “these two commitments are to the same value”, or “I have a signature for a message with a certain property”, when appropriate commitment/signature scheme is used

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- Variants and other assumptions, in different settings
  - When  $e: G_1 \times G_2 \rightarrow G_T$ : DDH in  $G_1$  and/or  $G_2$
  - When  $G$  has composite order: Pseudorandomness of random elements from a prime order subgroup of  $G$ .

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  - Random Oracle Model
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- Useful in at least “prototyping” new primitives (e.g. IBE)



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  - In addition, if modeling a group with bilinear pairing, also provides the pairing operation and operations for the target group

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  - And an exhaustive analysis in terms of formal polynomials to show requisite security properties

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- Risk: There maybe a simple attack against our construction because of some specific (otherwise benign) structure in the group
  - No “if this scheme is broken, so are many others” guarantee
- Better practice: when possible identify simple (new) assumptions sufficient for the security of the scheme. Then prove the assumption in the generic group model

# “Knowledge” Assumptions

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- KEA-1: Given  $(g, g^a)$  for a random generator  $g$  and random  $a$ , if a PPT adversary extends it to a DDH tuple  $(g, g^a, g^b, g^{ab})$  then it “must know”  $b$

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  - Even if the group has a bilinear pairing operation

# Today



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