

Program Obfuscation and the Quest for Cryptography's Holy Grail



Vinod Vaikuntanathan

MIT CSAIL

Program Obfuscation

n. the action of making a program unintelligible, while preserving its input/output behavior.

Obfuscation

n. the action of making something obscure, unclear, or unintelligible.

Program 1

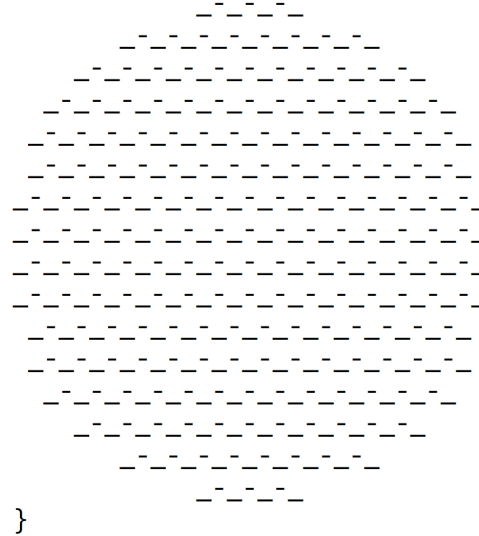
```

#include <math.h>
<sys/time.h>
<X11/Xlib.h>
<X11/keysym.h>
double L , o , P
, _=dt,T,Z,D=1,d,
s[999],E,h= 8,I,
J,K,w[999],M,m,0
,n[999],j=33e-3,i,
1E3,r,t,u,v,W,S=
74.5,l=221,X=7.26,
a,B,A=32.2,c,F,H;
int N,q,C,y,p,U;
Window z; char f[52]
; GC k; main(){ Display*=
XOpenDisplay( 0); z=RootWindow(e,0); for( XSetForeground(e,k=XCreateGC( e,z,0,0),BlackPixel(e,0)
; scanf("%lf%lf",y +n,w,y,+s)+1; y ++); XSelectInput(e,z= XCreateSimpleWindow(e,z,0,0,400,400
,0,0,WhitePixel(e,0),KeyPressMask); for(XMapWindow(e,z); ; T=sin(0)){ struct timeval G= {0,t,1e6}
; K=sos(j); N=1e4; M+= H*; Z=D*K; F+=P; r=E*K; W=cos( 0); m=K*W; H=K*T; O+=D*F/K+K/E*; B=
sin(j); a=B*T*D-E*W; XClearWindow(e,z); t=T+E*D*B*W; j+=d*_D-*F*E; P=W*E*B*T*D; for( o+=1+d*W*E
*T*B,E*d/K*B*+v+B/K*F*D)*_.. p<y; ){ T=p[s]; E=c-p[w]; D=p[L]; K=D*m-B*T-H*E; i=f(p+[w][p]+s
]=w; 0|K<fabs(W=T*r-I*E+d*P)|fabs(D=st-D*Z-u*E); K|N=1e4; else{ q=w/K*4e2+2e2; C= 2e2+4e2/K
D; N=1e4&& XDrawLine(e,z,k,N,u,q); N=q; N=q; U=c; } v+=*(X*t+P*M*M+1); T=K*X; 1+M*M;
XDrawString(e,z,k,z,20,380,f,17); Dev(1/15; i+=B*(1-M*M*-X*Z)*_..; for(; XPending(e); u +=C|N){
XEvent z; XNextEvent(e,&z);
++*(N=XLookupKeysym
(&z.xkey,0))-IT?
N-LT? UP-N?& E&
J:u+ 8:h); --*(
DN ?N-DT ?N=+
RT?&u: & W:8h:&J
); } m=15*F/l;
c+=I=m/l,1+H
+I*M+a*X)*_.. H
=A+r+v*F*-l+2
E=1+M*4.0/l,2t
=I+m/32-I*T/24
)/S; K=F*M*(
h* 1e4/l-(T+
E*5*T*E)/3e2
)/S-X*d-B*A;
a=2.63 /l*d;
X+= d*1-T/S
*(.19*E +a
*.64+J/1e3
)-M* v +A*
Z)*_.. 1 +=
K *_.. W=;
printf(f,
"%5d %3d"
"%7d",p,1
/1.7,(C=95+
0*57.3)*9550,(int)i); d+=*(.45+14/1*
X-a*130-J* 14)-/125e2+*v; v; P=(T*(47
I-m* 52+E*94 D-t*.38u*.21E*)/1e2+W*
179*v)/2312; select(p=0,0,0,&G); v=-(
W*F-T*(.63*m-I*.086+m*E*19-D*25-.11*u
)/107e2)*_.. D=cos(o); E=sin(o); } }

```

Program 2

```
#define _ F-->00 || F-00--;
long F=00,00=00;
main(){F_00();printf("%.3f\n", 4.*-F/00/00);}F_00()
{
```



}

Program Obfuscation

PROGRAMS w/ SECRETS:

Cryptographic keys

Licensing Info

Backdoors

The Algorithm Itself

Example: E-mail delegation



def	138805012AA98B7920FC103850
Se	89012408A292E00FF001659009
m	01659AA1606B692650F3893EE3
if	9030957BE927A6789C10846DD
re	10AA92DEADBEEF09179578134



Program Obfuscation in Crypto

“CRYPTO-COMPLETE” :

Nearly all crypto is an easy corollary of program obfuscation.

Public Key Encryption (from Secret Key Encryption)

[Diffie-Hellman'76]

Essentially what is required is a one-way compiler: one which takes an easily understood program written in a high level language and translates it into an incomprehensible program in some machine language. The compiler is one-

Enc(SK, ●)

Dec(SK, ●)

Secret-key Encryption

Public Encryption Algorithm =

Public Enc(SK, ●) Algorithm?

Dec(SK, ●)

Public-key Encryption

Program Obfuscation in Crypto

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Fully Homomorphic Encryption

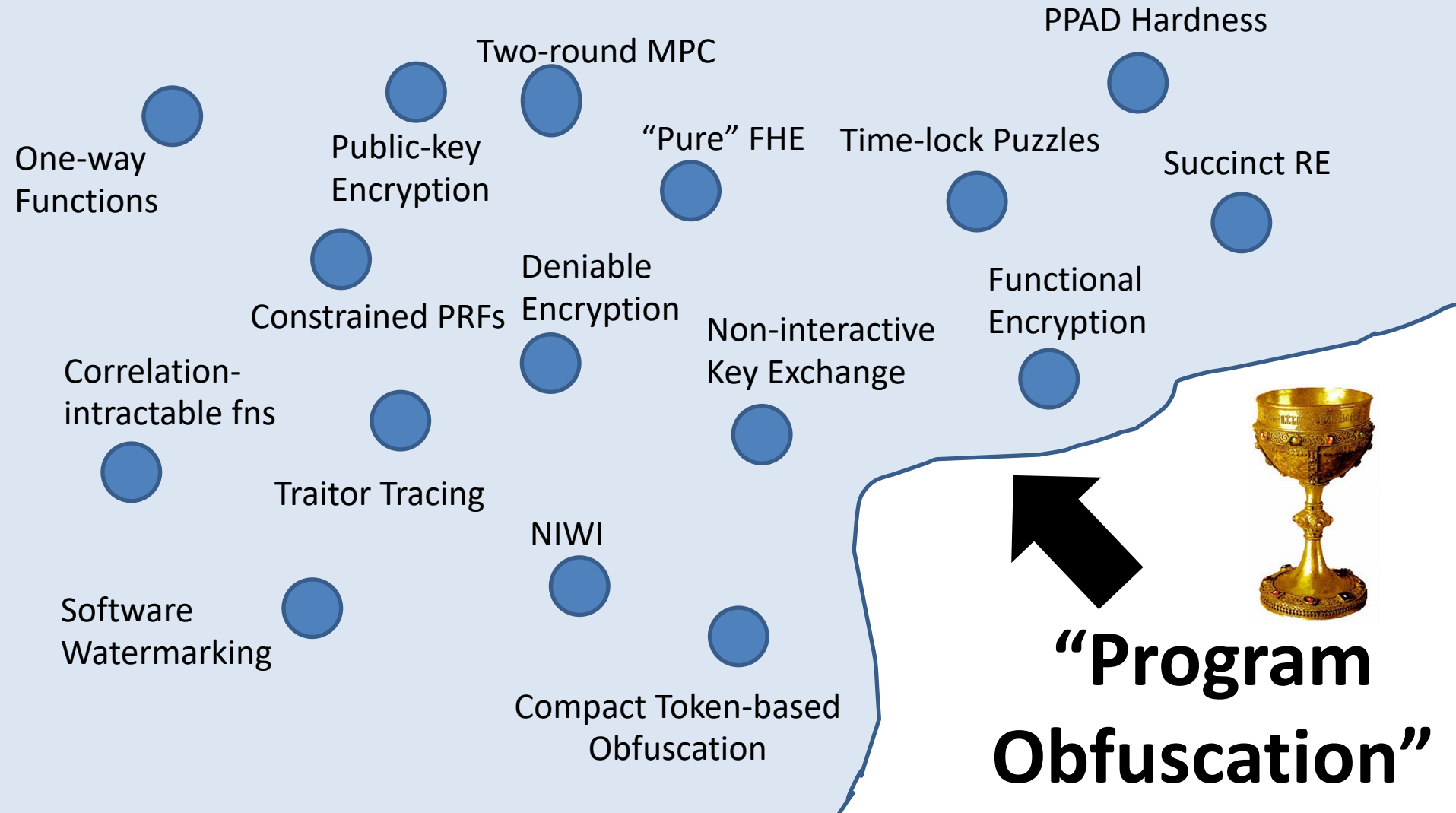
[Rivest-Adleman-Dertouzos'78, Gentry'09, Brakerski-**V**'11]

```
On Input ciphertexts  $c_1, c_2$  and OP:  
   $m_1 = \text{Dec}(\text{SK}, c_1)$ ;  $m_2 = \text{Dec}(\text{SK}, c_2)$ ;  
   $m_3 = m_1 \text{ OP } m_2$ ;  
  Return  $\text{Enc}(\text{SK}, m_3)$ ;
```



“CRYPTO-COMPLETE” :

Nearly all crypto is an easy corollary of program obfuscation.



TUTORIAL OUTLINE

Part 1. DEFINITIONS

of program obfuscation

- a. Virtual Black-Box OBF
- b. Indistinguishability OBF (IO)

Part 2. APPLICATIONS of IO

- a. Crypto Applications
- b. A Complexity Application
- c. Bootstrapping Theorems

Part 3. CONSTRUCTIONS

of IO from simpler objects

Theorem: If 3-linear maps exist and local PRGs exist, so does IO.

Part 4. DE-IO-IZATION

Remove the need for IO in applications.

e.g., Traitor Tracing (on Wed)

Defining Program Obfuscation (Take 1)

Virtual Black-Box (VBB) obfuscation

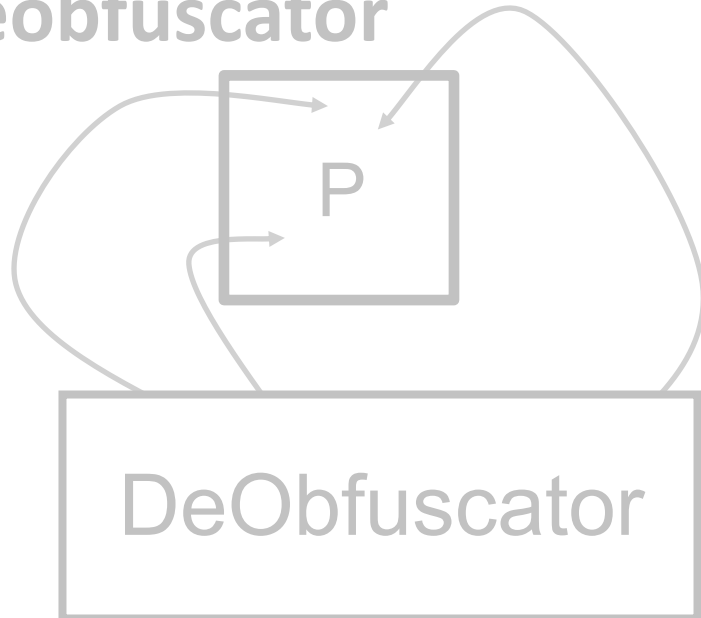
[Barak-Goldreich-Impagliazzo-Rudich-Sahai-Vadhan-Yang'01]

“ $\mathcal{O}(P)$ reveals no more info than black-box access to P ”.

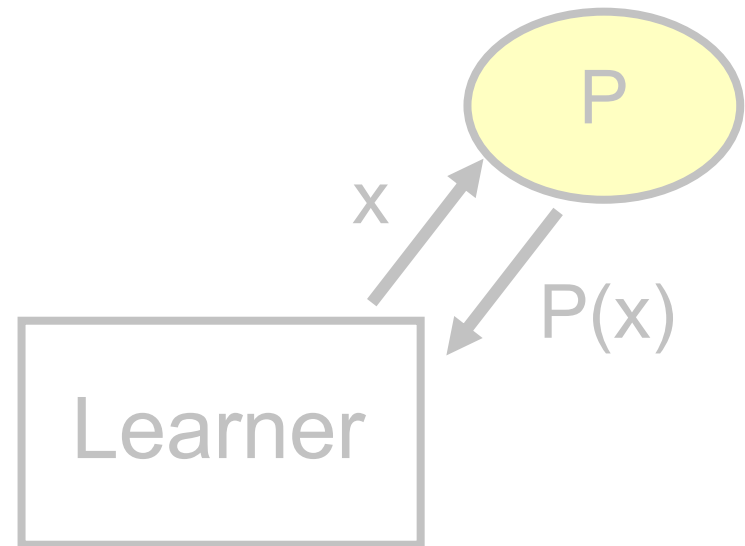
BAD NEWS: There are “unobfuscatable” programs!

[Barak-GIRSVY'01, Goldwasser-Kalai'05]

\forall Deobfuscator



\exists Black-box Learner



\approx

Unobfuscatable Programs

THEOREM [BAD NEWS, BGIRSVY' 01] :

$\forall \mathcal{O} \exists P$ such that \mathcal{O} completely fails to obfuscate P .

Proof: "Programs that eat themselves"

Define a family of programs $\{P_{x,y}\}$ where x and y are n -bit strings, as follows:

$$P_{x,y}(b, \Pi) = \begin{cases} y & \text{if } b=0 \text{ and } \Pi = x \\ x, y & \text{if } b=1 \text{ and } \Pi(0,x) = y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Unobfuscatable Programs

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1. Black-box access to P is useless:

For random x and y , cannot distinguish between black-box to $P_{x,y}$ versus black-box access to the all-zero function.

2. Can recover source from obfuscated code:

Given $P' = \mathcal{O}(P_{x,y})$, simply run $P'(1, P')$.



Defining Program Obfuscation (Take 2)

Virtual Black-Box (VBB) obfuscation

[Barak-Goldreich-Impagliazzo-Rudich-Sahai-Vadhan-Yang'01]

“ $\mathcal{O}(P)$ betrays no more info than black-box access to P ”.

BAD NEWS: There are “unobfuscatable” programs!

[BGIRSVY'01, Goldwasser-Kalai'05]

“Indistinguishability obfuscation”: Much weaker.

[BGIRSVY'01, Goldwasser-Rothblum'05]

GOOD NEWS #1: No impossibility results and even candidate constructions. [Garg-Gentry-Halevi-Raykova-Sahai-Waters'13]

GOOD NEWS #2:

IO + Basic Crypto + Hard Work = Nearly All Applications.

[Sahai-Waters'14 and many followups]

Defining Program Obfuscation (Take 2)

Indistinguishability Obfuscation (IO) for Circuits:

[Barak-Goldreich-Impagliazzo-Rudich-Sahai-Vadhan-Yang'01]

A probabilistic poly-time algorithm \mathcal{O} is an indistinguishability obfuscator if:

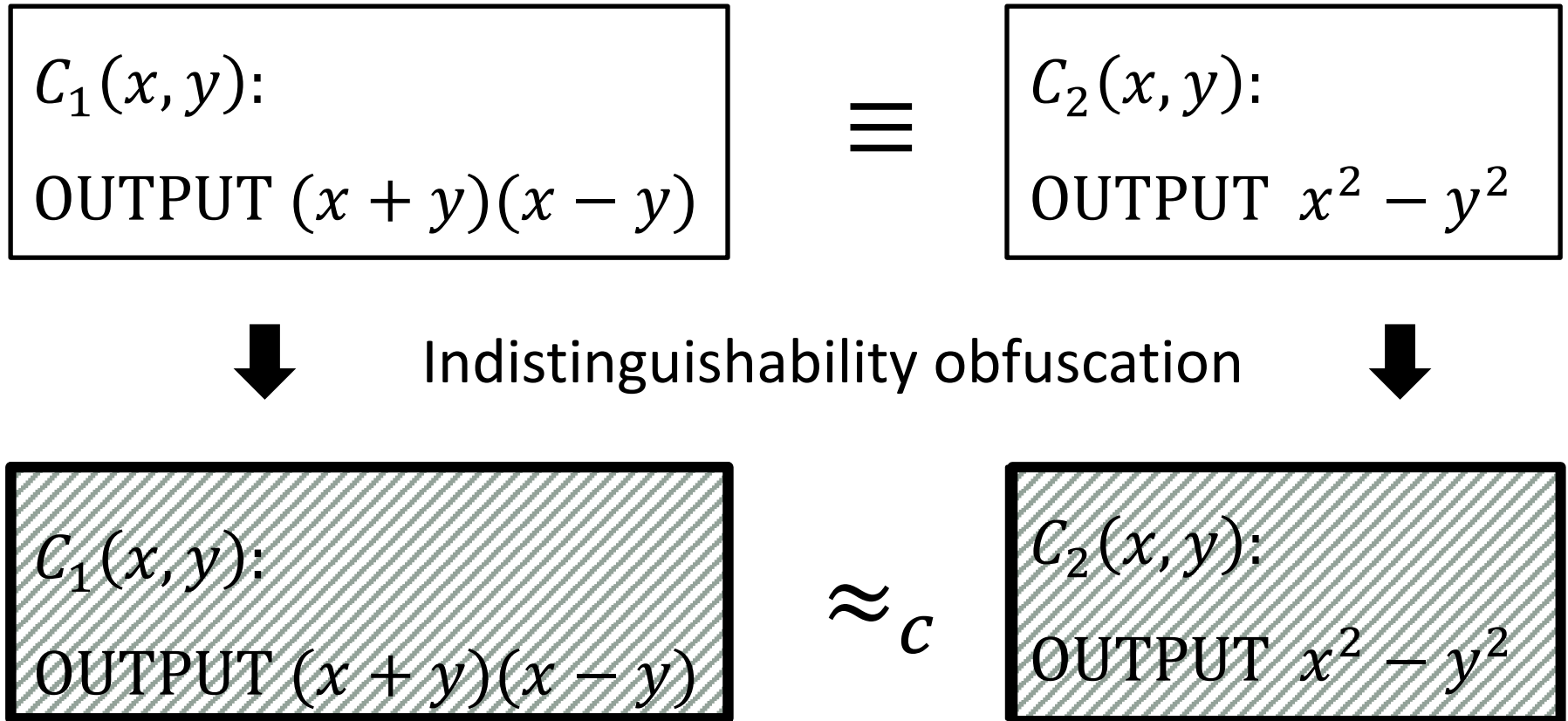
It is Correct:

For any circuit C , $\mathcal{O}(C)$ is functionally the same as C .

It is Secure:

For any two functionally equivalent circuits C_1 and C_2 of the same size, $\mathcal{O}(C_1)$ is computationally indistinguishable from $\mathcal{O}(C_2)$.

An Example



Indistinguishability Obfuscation:
Reveals the truth table, hides the *implementation*.

IO exists if $P = NP$

[BGIRSVY'01]

Computationally inefficient IO exists.

Given a circuit C , output the lexicographically smallest equivalent circuit C' .

If $P=NP$, this strategy can be implemented efficiently.

(Even better, this is a *perfect* IO.)

Corollary:

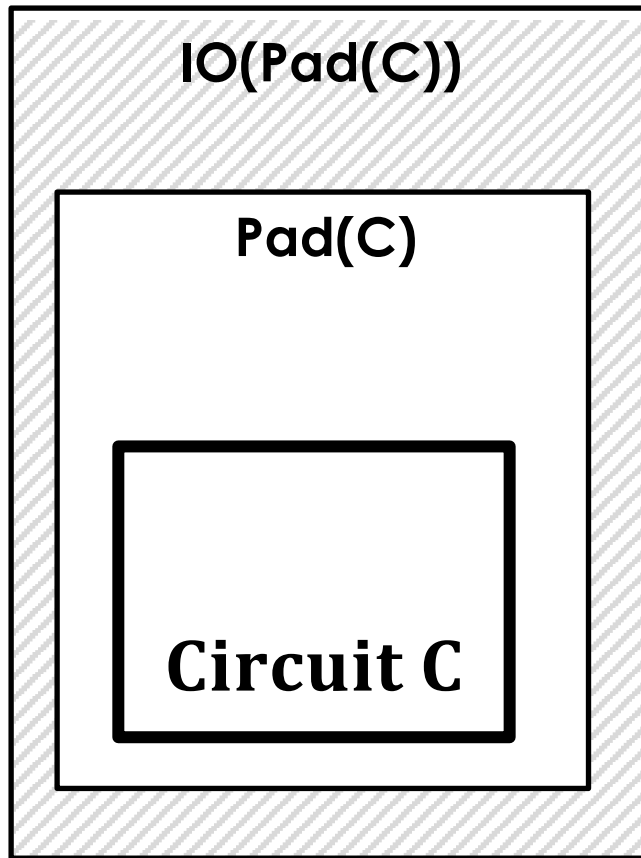
IO does not imply any crypto (even one-way functions).

Suppose $IO \Rightarrow OWF$.

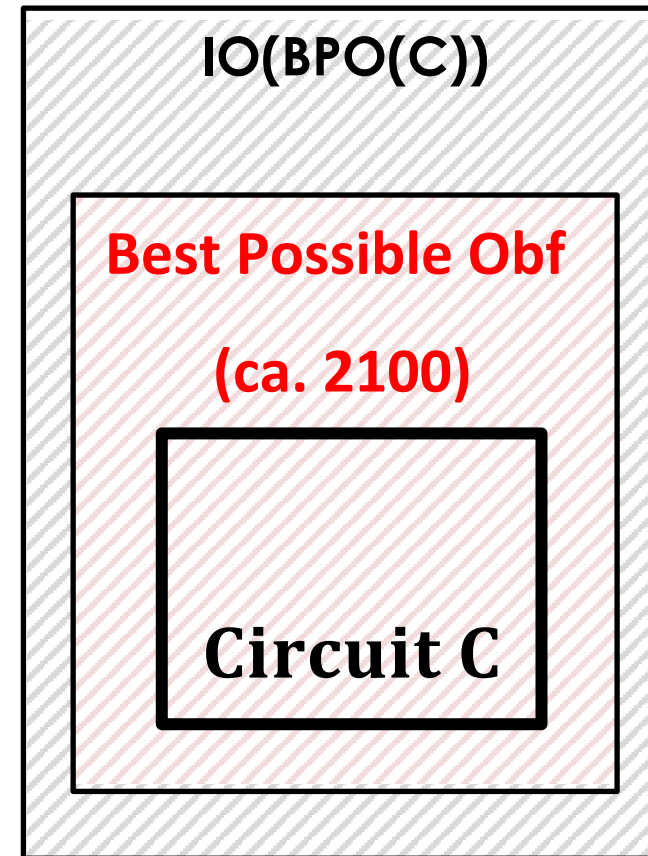
Then, $P = NP \Rightarrow \exists OWF$, a contradiction.

IO is a “Best Possible” Obfuscation

[Barak-Goldreich-Impagliazzo-Rudich-Sahai-Vadhan-Yang’01, Goldwasser-Rothblum’17]



\approx
(comp.
indistinguishable)
(as secure as)



More Theorems on IO

If Perfect (even Statistical) IO exists, then PH collapses.

[Goldwasser-Rothblum'07]

IO is equivalent to VBB with an unbounded simulator.

“Mildly compressing” IO + “standard crypto” implies IO.

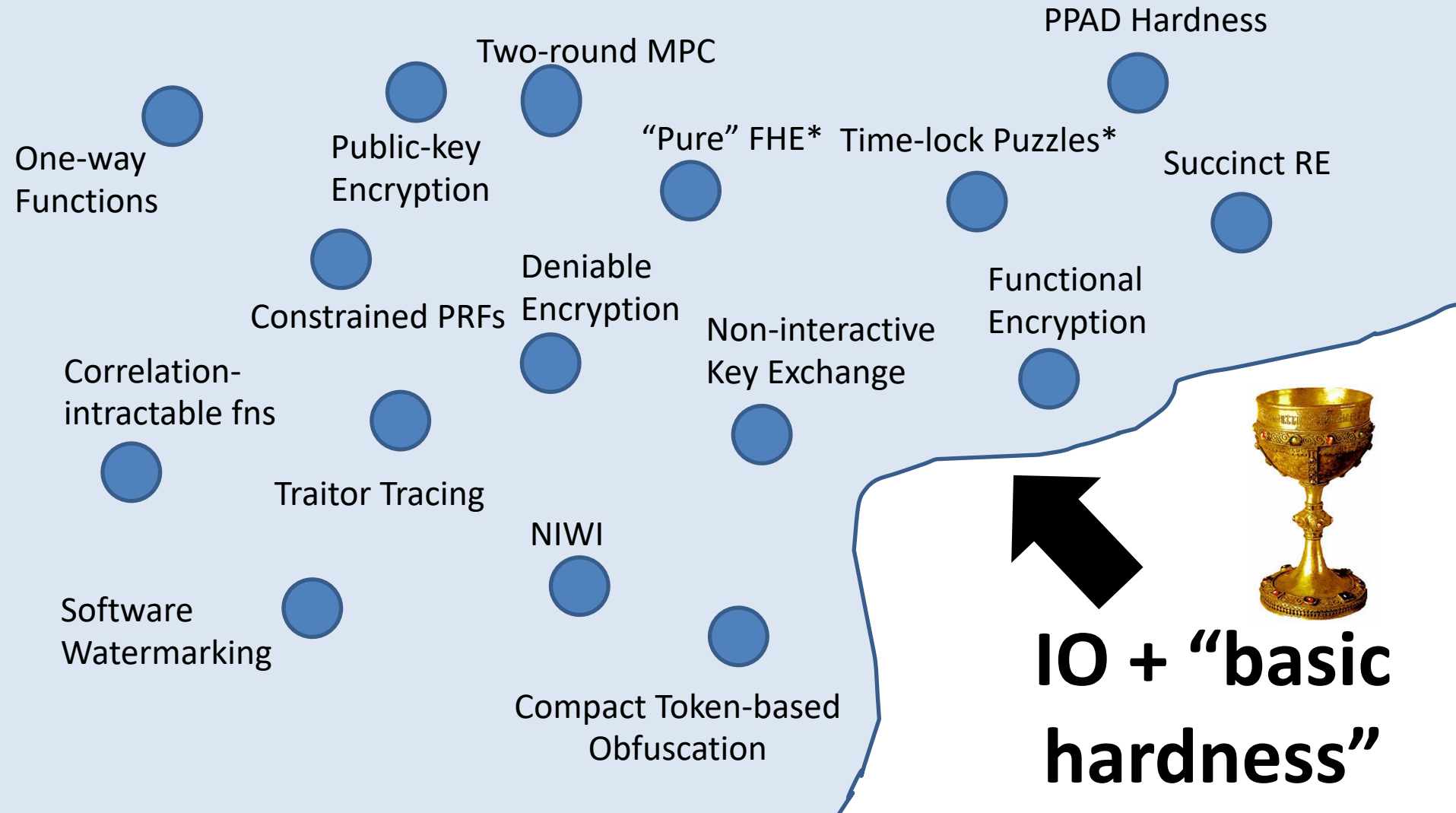
[Ananth-Jain'15, Bitansky-V.'15, Lin-Pass-Seth-Telang'16]

XIO is IO with two relaxations:

1. Obfuscator can run in $\text{poly}(2^n)$ time.
2. Obfuscated circuit has size $2^{(1-\varepsilon)n}$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$.

“CRYPTO-COMPLETE” :

IO + Basic Hardness + Hard Work \Rightarrow Nearly all crypto.



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e.g., Traitor Tracing (on Wed)

Application 1: One-way Functions

THEOREM [Komargodski-Moran-Naor-Pass-Rosen-Yogev'14]

If IO exists and $NP \not\subseteq i.o\text{-}coRP$, one-way functions exist.

One-way Function CONSTRUCTION:

$G(r) = \mathcal{O}(Z; r)$ where Z is the Zero circuit ($Z(x) = 0$ for all x)


Suppose there is an inverter Inv .

If F is UNSAT, then Inv “inverts” $\mathcal{O}(F; r)$.

// Outputs r' such that $\mathcal{O}(Z; r') = \mathcal{O}(F; r)$

If F is SAT, then Inv **cannot** “invert” $\mathcal{O}(F; r)$.

Satisfiability Algorithm, on input a formula F :

// since the sets $\{\mathcal{O}(F; r)\}_r$ and $\{\mathcal{O}(Z; r)\}_r$ are disjoint
If Inv inverts $\mathcal{O}(F; r)$, output UNSAT else output SAT. 

Application 2: Public-key Encryption

THEOREM [Garg-Gentry-Sahai-Waters'13, Sahai-Waters'14]

If IO and OWF exist, so does public-key encryption.

Public-key Encryption CONSTRUCTION:

Let $G: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{2n}$ be a cryptographic PRG.

Secret key = $s \leftarrow_R \{0,1\}^n$ and Public key = $G(s)$

$\text{Enc}(\text{PK}, m) \leftarrow_R \mathcal{O}(C_{\text{PK},m})$ where

$$C_{\text{PK},m}(x) = \begin{cases} m & \text{if } G(x) = \text{PK} \\ \perp & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

EXPT 0: Adv gets PK and ciphertext $\mathcal{O}(C_{PK,m})$.

\approx_{PRG}

EXPT 1: Adv gets \widetilde{PK} and ciphertext $\mathcal{O}(C_{\widetilde{PK},m})$
where \widetilde{PK} is uniformly random.

\approx_{IO}

(note: w.h.p. \widetilde{PK} lives outside the image of G)
EXPT 2: Adv gets \widetilde{PK} and ciphertext $\mathcal{O}(Z)$
where the circuit Z always outputs \perp .



THEOREM [Komargodski-Moran-Naor-Pass-Rosen-Yogev'14]

If IO exists and $NP \not\subseteq i.o\text{-}coRP$, one-way functions exist.

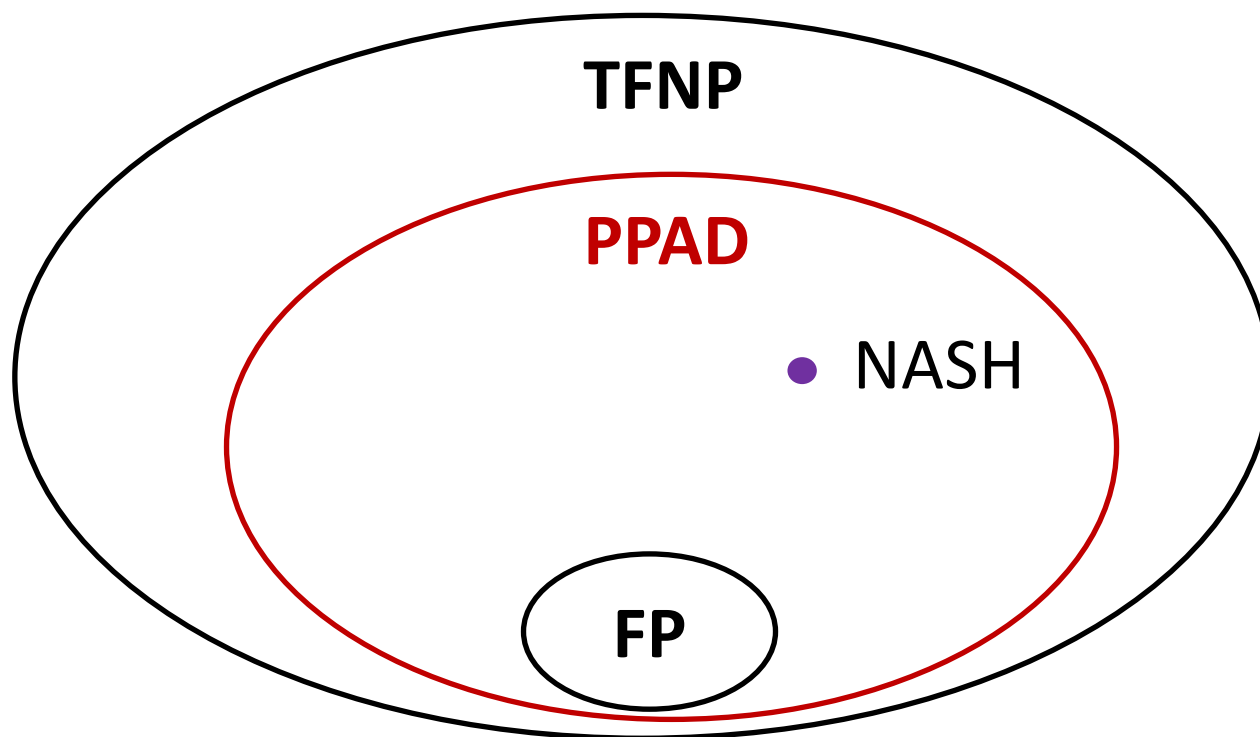
THEOREM [Garg-Gentry-Sahai-Waters'13, Sahai-Waters'14]

If IO and OWF exist, so does public-key encryption.

COMMON THEME :

IO “lifts” hardness into *useful* hardness.

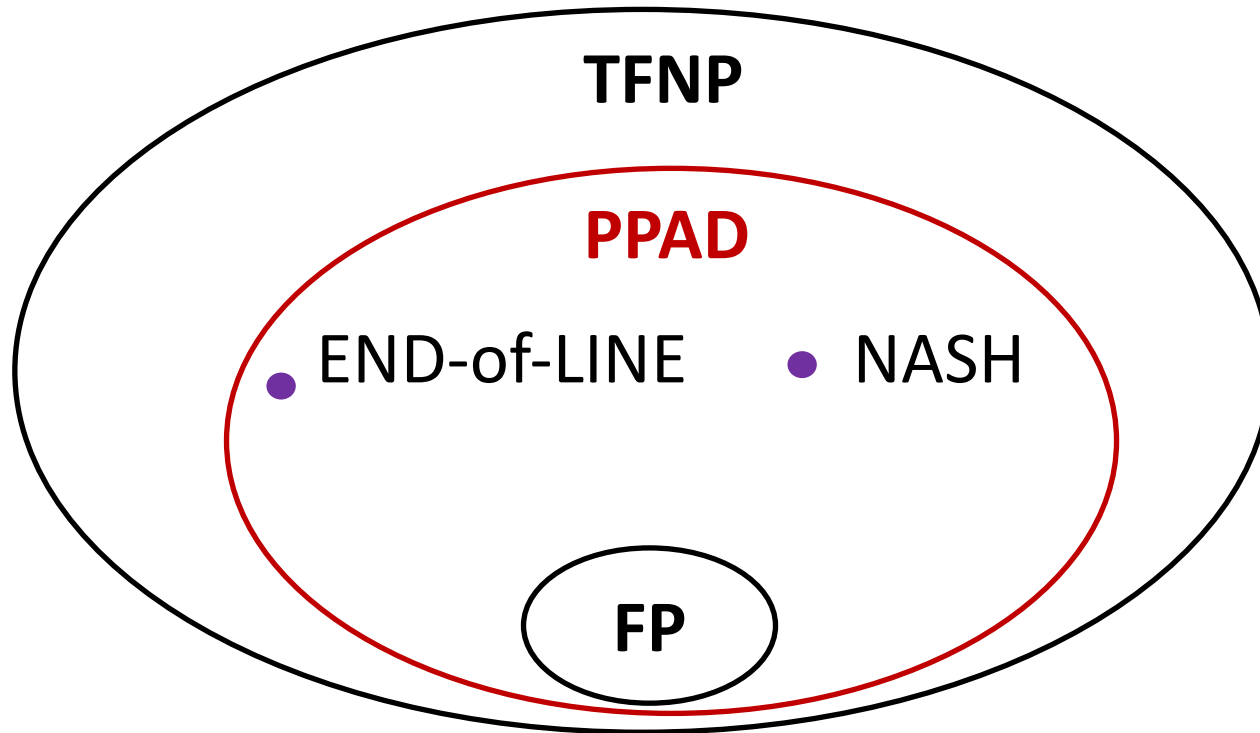
Application 3: PPAD-Hardness



PPAD [Papadimitriou'94]: Totality is proved via
“a parity argument in directed graphs”

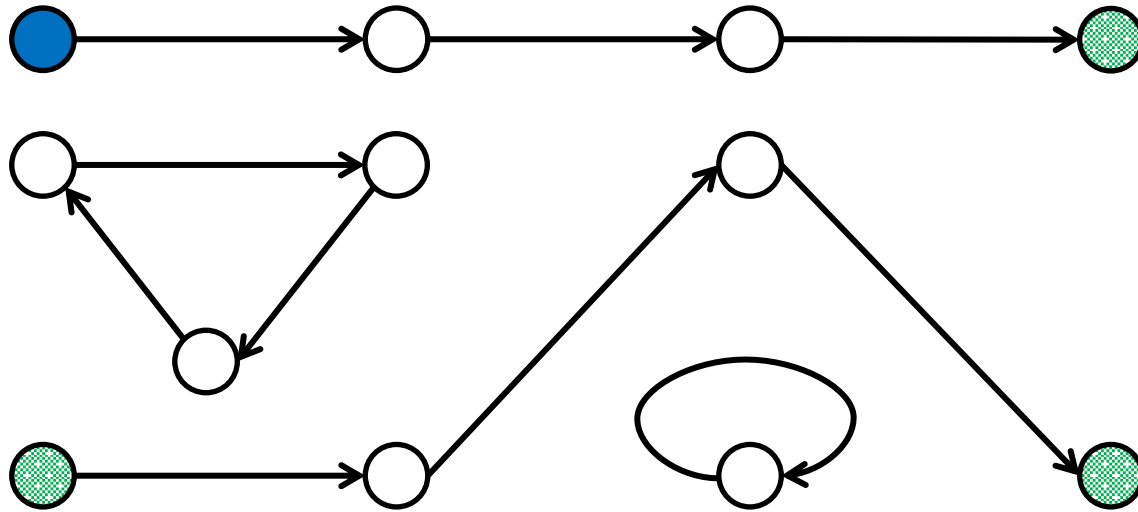
NASH is complete for PPAD [DGP'05, CD'05].

Application 3: PPAD-Hardness



Canonical complete problem: **END-of-LINE** [Pap'94]

The END-of-LINE Problem



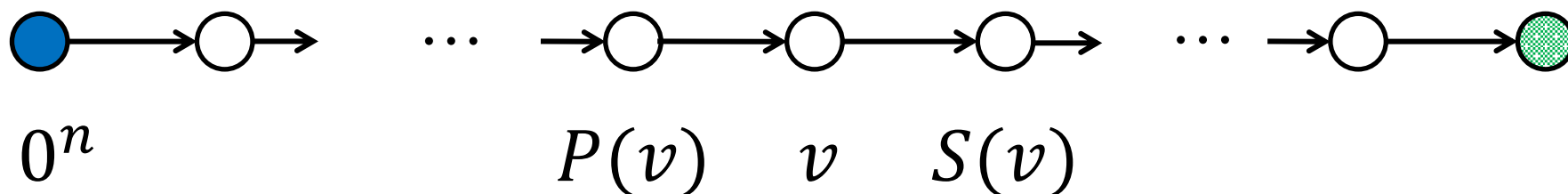
Input: A graph with in/out degree ≤ 1

A source: ●

Output: Another source/sink: ●

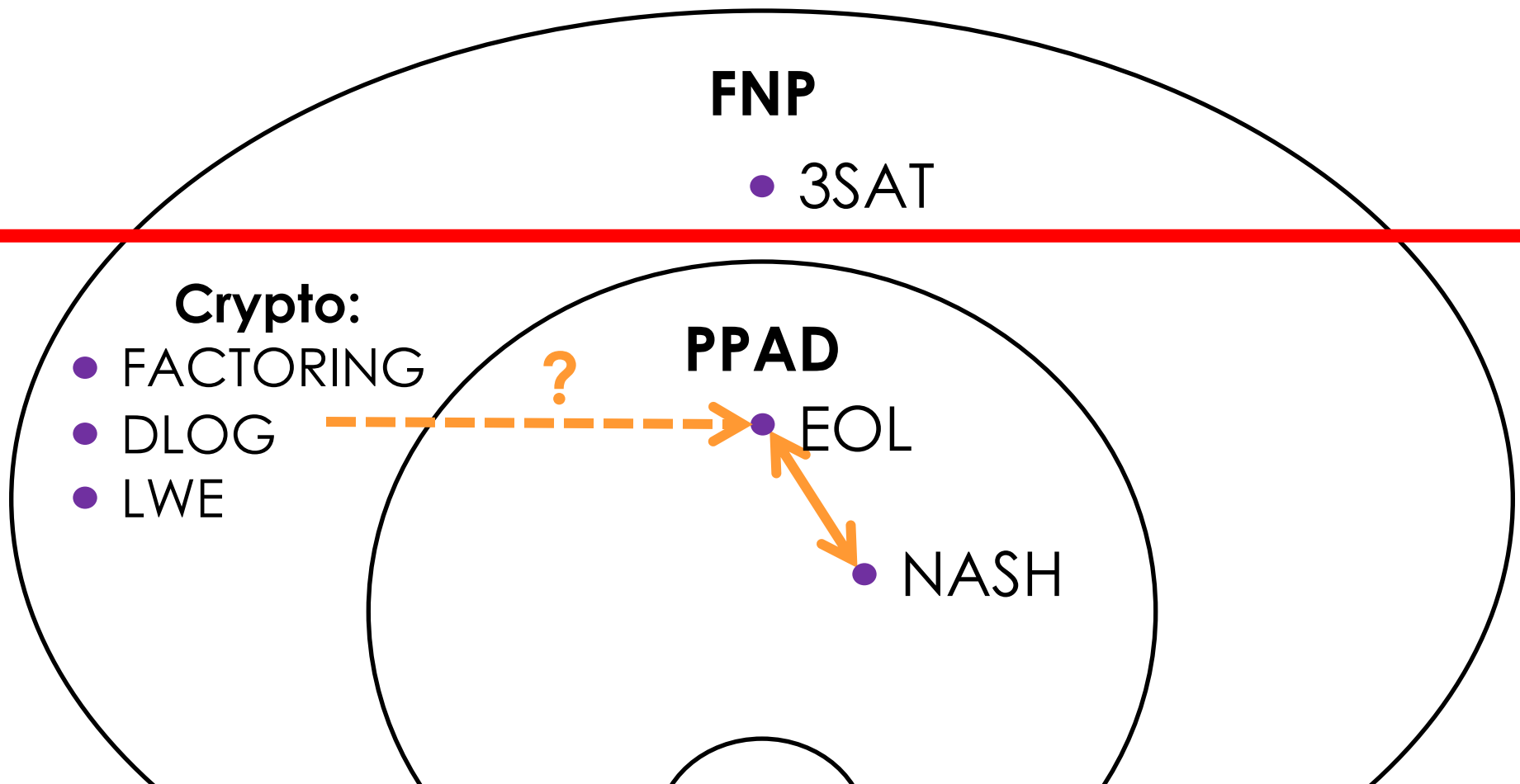
The END-of-LINE Problem

Exponential size graph:



Nodes are in $\{0,1\}^n$

Edges defined by programs $S, P: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^n$



THEOREM [Bitansky-Paneth-Rosen'15]

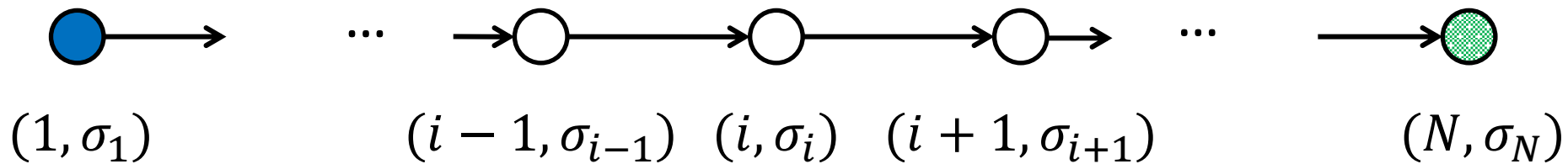
If IO and OWF exist, END-of-LINE is (average-case) hard.

(Previously Abbott-Kane-Valiant'05 from Super-VBB)

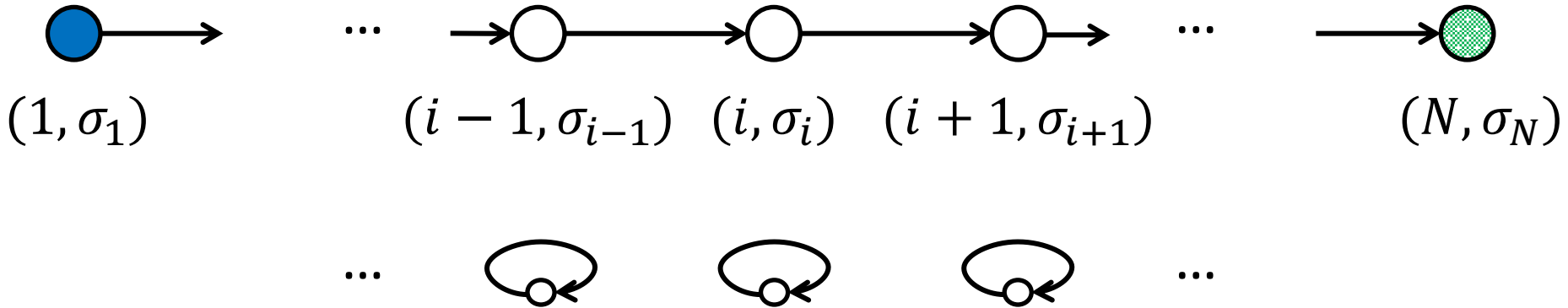
[Theorem 1.1 from Bitansky-Paneth-Rosen'15]

Constructing the Hard EOL Instance

Using a pseudorandom **function** f_k , construct a graph



where $\sigma_i = f_k(i)$.



$S:$ $S_k(i, \sigma):$

```

if  $(i, \sigma) = (N, \sigma_N)$ :
    return "sink"
if  $(i, \sigma) = (i, \sigma_i)$ :
    return  $(i+1, \sigma_{i+1})$ 
else:
    return  $(i, \sigma)$ 

```

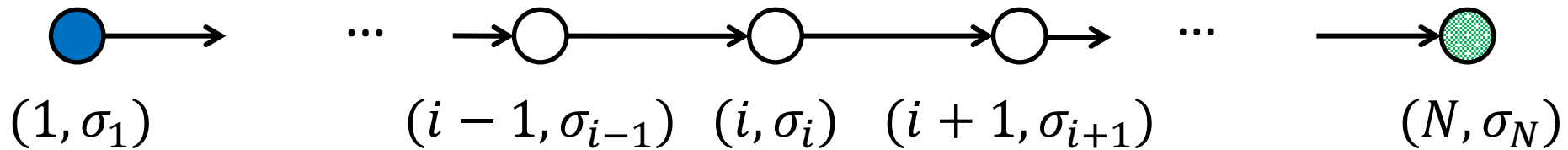
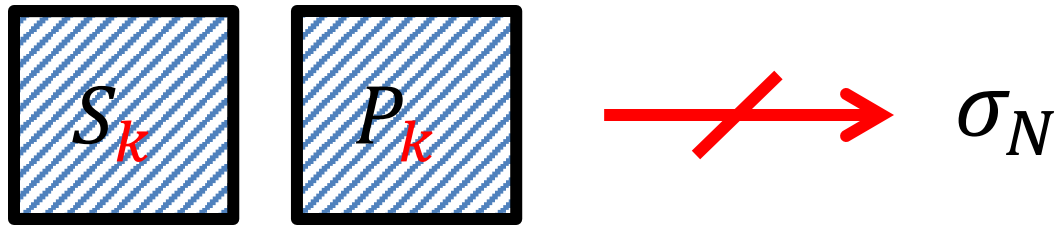
$P:$ $P_k(i, \sigma):$

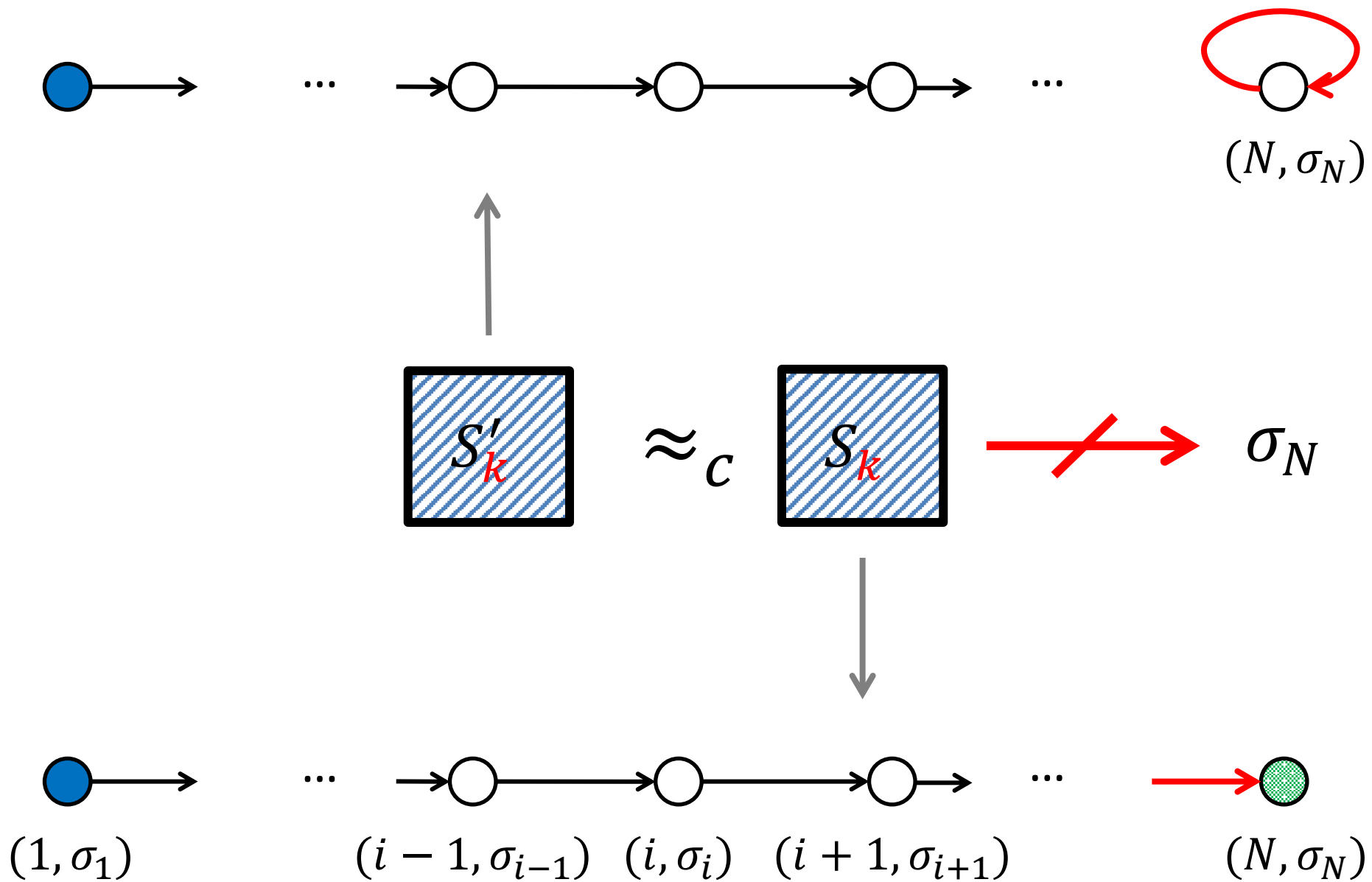
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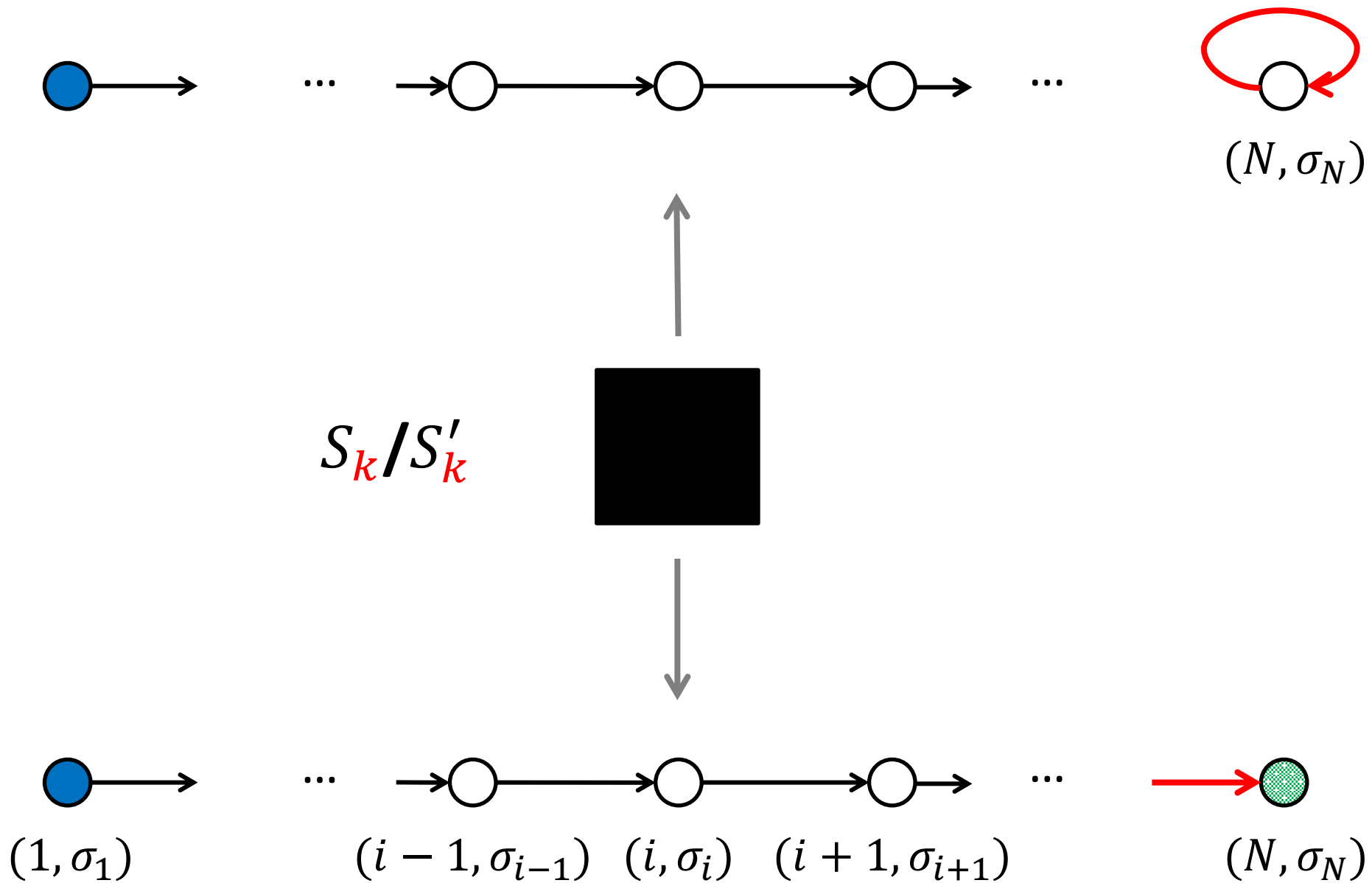
if  $(i, \sigma) = (1, \sigma_1)$ :
    return "source"
if  $(i, \sigma) = (i, \sigma_i)$ :
    return  $(i-1, \sigma_{i-1})$ 
else:
    return  $(i, \sigma)$ 

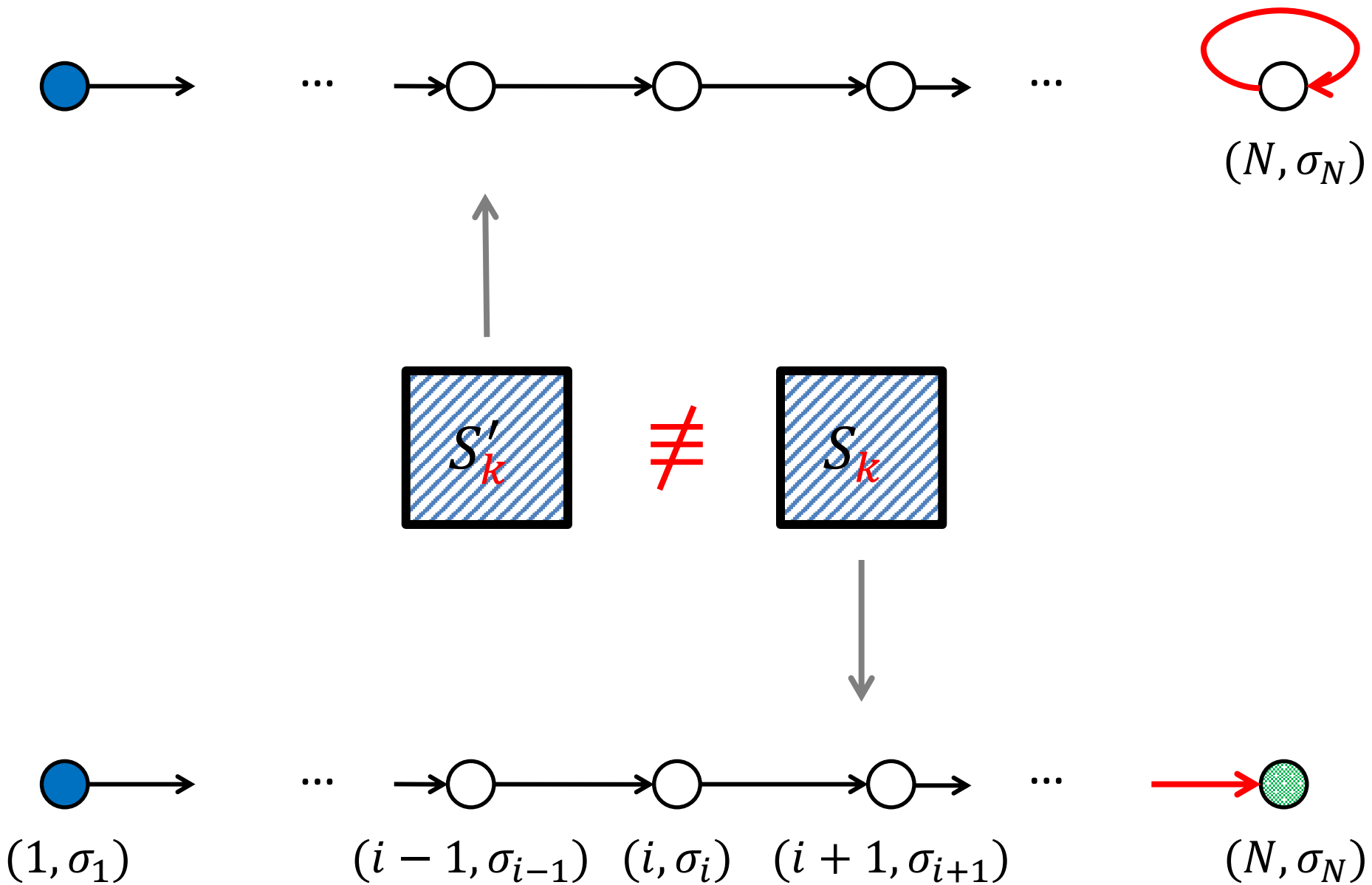
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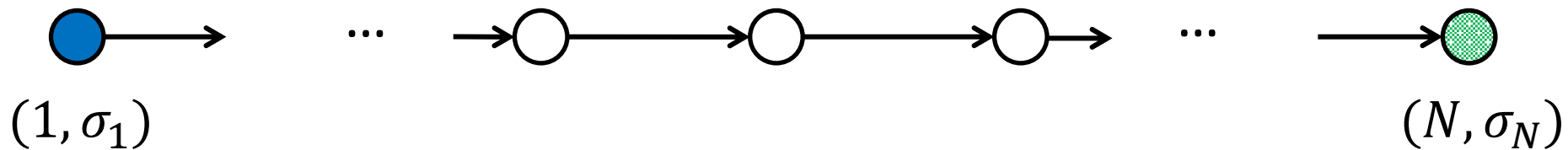
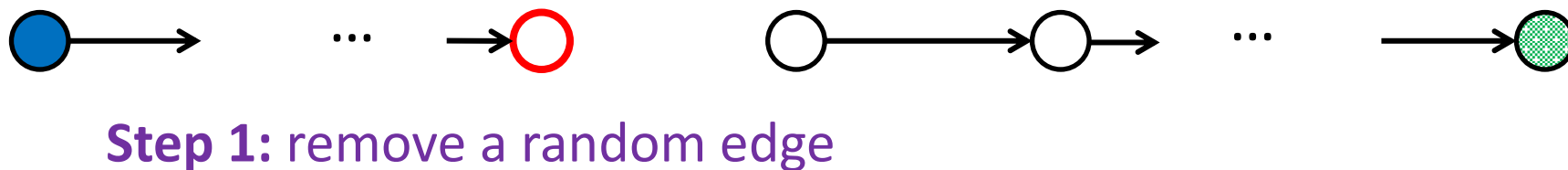
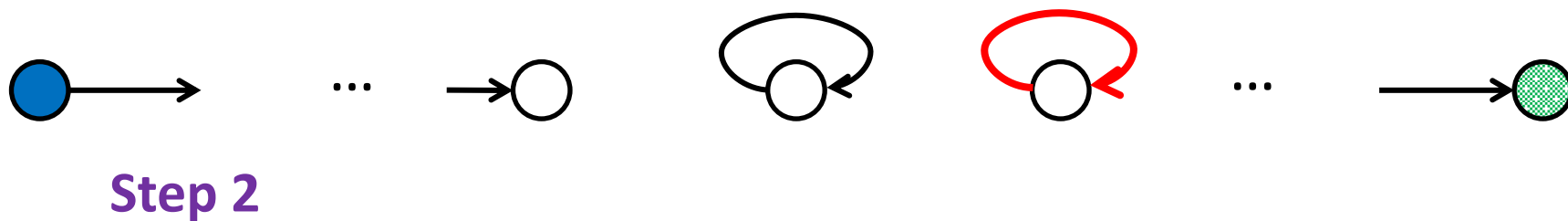
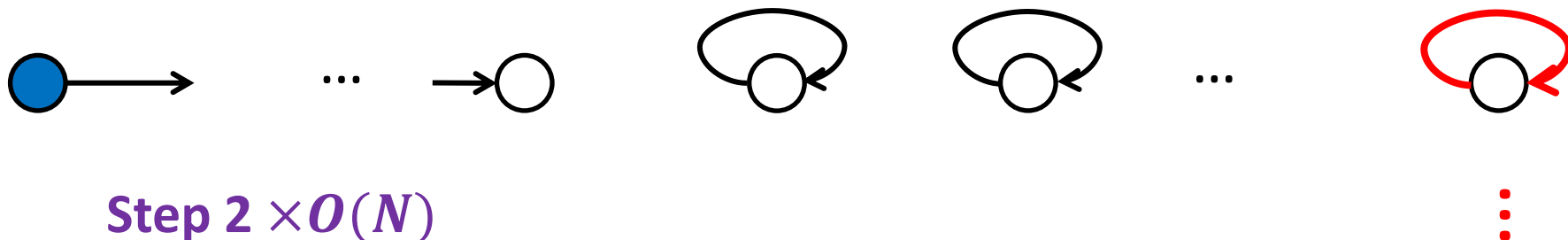
Need To Prove











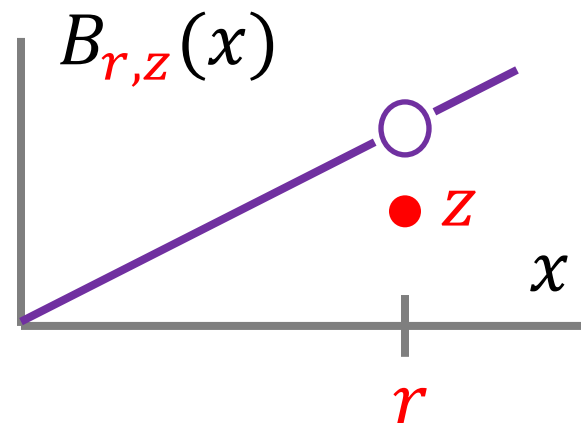
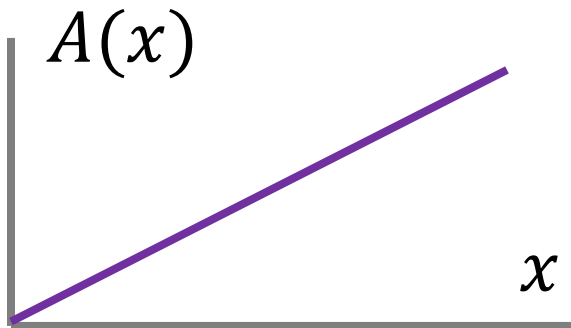
A Useful Lemma

A

$B_{r,z}(x)$:

if $x = r$: return z

else: return $A(x)$



A Useful Lemma

A

$B_{r,z}(x)$:

if $x = r$: return z

else: return $A(x)$

For a random r and for all z :

A

\approx_c

$B_{r,z}(x)$:

if $x = r$: return z

else: return $A(x)$

Proof of Lemma (using ideas from [Sahai-Waters14])

A

$B_{r,z}(x)$:

if $x = r$: **return z**

else: **return $A(x)$**

\approx_c using IO

Also using an Injective,
length doubling PRG:

$$g: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{2n}$$

$B_{s=g(r),z}^*(x)$:

if $g(x) = s$: **return z**

else: **return $A(x)$**

Proof of Lemma

A

$B_{r,z}(x)$:

if $x = r$: **return z**

else: **return $A(x)$**

using IO \approx_c

using g

\approx_c using IO

$B_{s \leftarrow U, z}^*(x)$:

if $g(x) = s$: **return z**

else: **return $A(x)$**

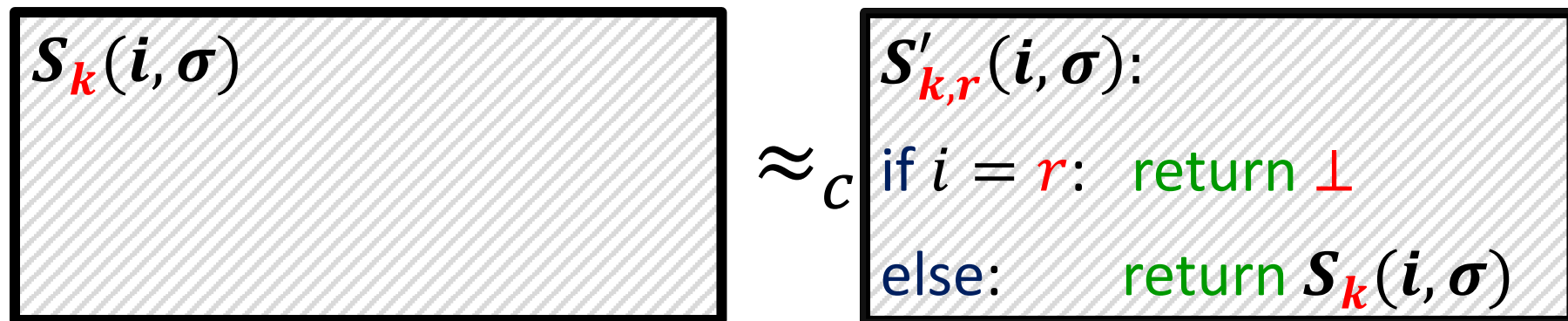
\approx_c

$B_{s = g(r), z}^*(x)$:

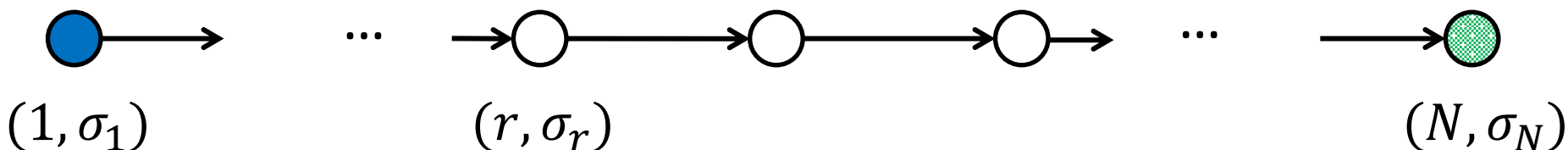
if $g(x) = s$: **return z**

else: **return $A(x)$**

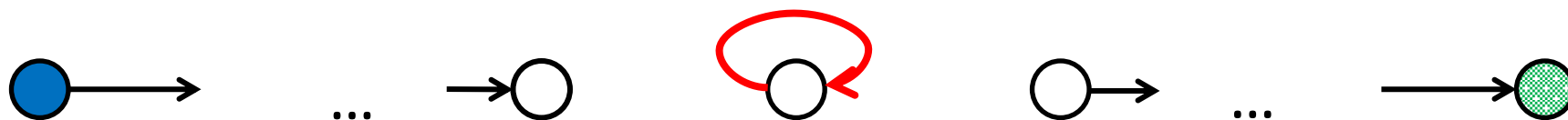
Step 1 - Proof



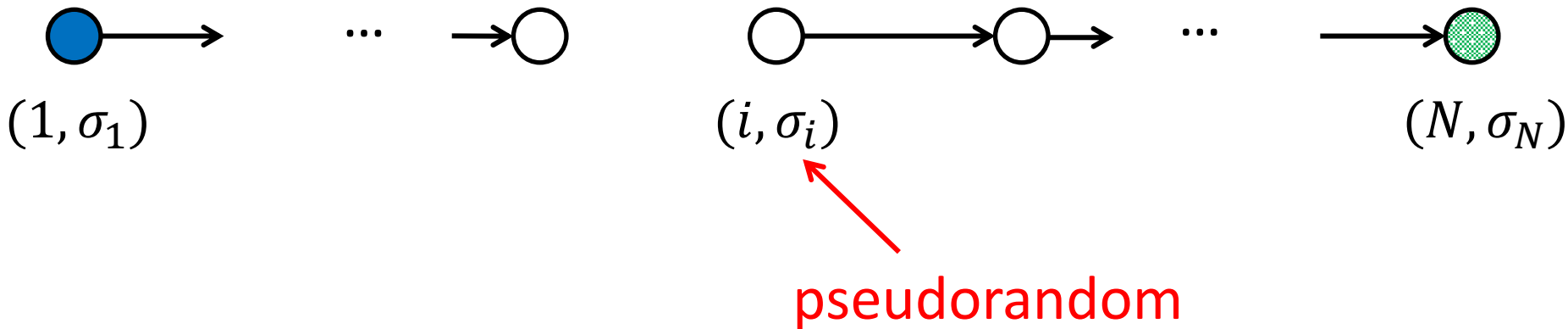
Step 1: remove a random edge



Step 2 - Proof



Step 2: modify a node with in-degree 0



Interlude: Pseudorandom Functions (PRFs)

Family of poly-time computable functions $\{F_K\}$ such that no poly-time oracle alg. can distinguish between oracle access to F_K vs. oracle access to a truly random function.

Theorem [Goldreich-Goldwasser-Micali'84 + Hastad-Impagliazzo-Levin-Luby'89]
If one-way functions exist, so do PRFs.

Useful Tool: Punctured PRFs

Can create a “punctured key” $K\{x\}$ which

- Allows anyone to compute $F_K(y)$ for $y \neq x$, but
- Hides $F_K(x)$

THEOREM [Boyle-Goldwasser-Ivan’13, Boneh-Waters’13, Kiayias-Papadopoulos-Triandopoulos-Zacharias’13]

If one-way functions exist, so do punctured PRFs.

An Observation:

Punctured PRFs are “mildly obfuscatable” already.

Step 2 - Proof

Independent of r



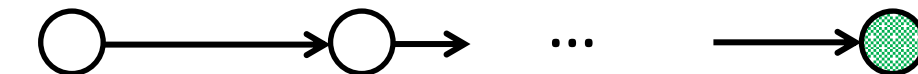
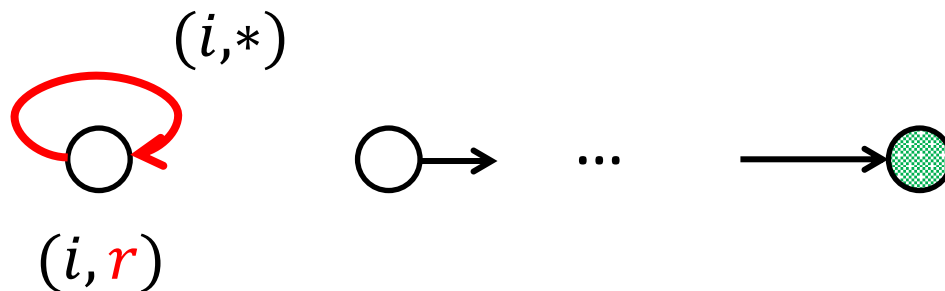
By Lemma



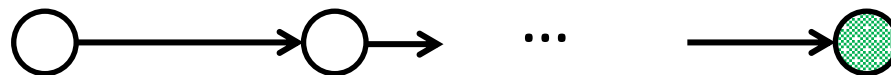
By IO and puncturing



$(1, \sigma_1)$

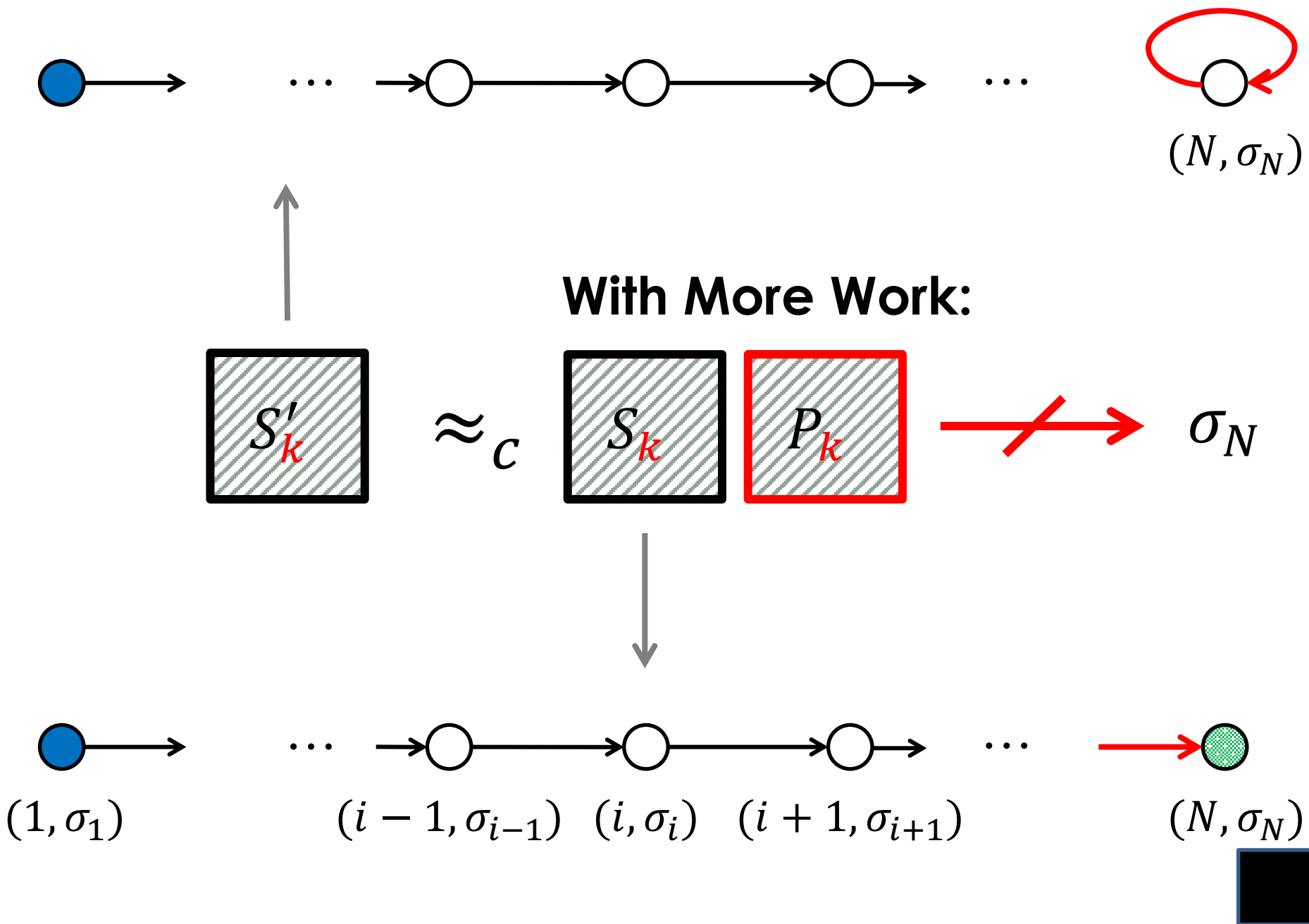


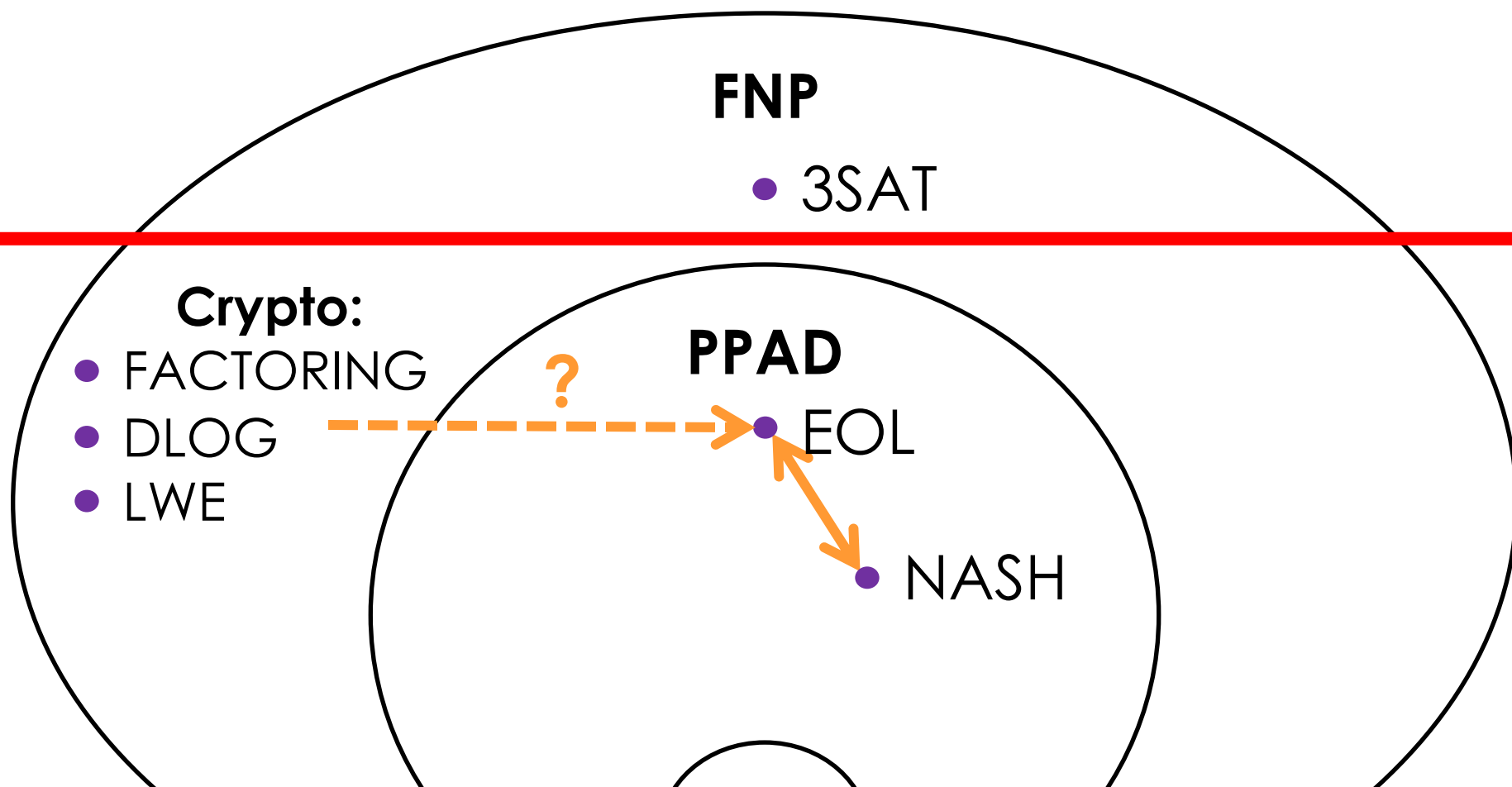
(i, r)



(i, σ_i)

(N, σ_N)





THEOREM [Bitansky-Paneth-Rosen'15]

If IO and OWF exist, END-of-LINE is (average-case) hard.

(Previously Abbott-Kane-Valiant'05 from Super-VBB)

[Theorem 1.1, [1]]

TUTORIAL OUTLINE

Part 1. DEFINITIONS

of program obfuscation

- a. Virtual Black-Box OBF
- b. Indistinguishability OBF (IO)

Part 2. APPLICATIONS of IO

- a. Crypto Applications
- b. A Complexity Application
- c. Bootstrapping Theorems

Part 3. CONSTRUCTIONS

of IO from simpler objects

Theorem: If 3-linear maps exist, so does IO.

Part 4. DE-IO-IZATION

Remove the need for IO in applications.

e.g., Traitor Tracing (on Wed)



IO Bootstrapping Theorems

1. From Simple Circuits to All Circuits.

IO for a circuit class \mathcal{C} implies IO for P assuming either:

- Fully homomorphic encryption with decryption in \mathcal{C}

[Garg-Gentry-Halevi-Raykova-Sahai-Waters'13]

OR

- Sub-exponentially secure PRFs computable in \mathcal{C}

[Applebaum'15, Canetti-Lin-Tessaro-**V.**'15]

2. From Circuits to Turing Machines and RAM Machines.

IO for circuits implies IO TMs and RAMs assuming that sub-exponentially secure PRGs exist.

[Canetti-Holmgren-Jain-**V.**'15, Bitansky-Garg-Lin-Pass-Telang'15, Koppula-Lewko-Waters'15, Canetti-Holmgren'16]

From Simple Circuits to All Circuits

THEOREM [Canetti-Lin-Tessaro-V'15]

If (subexp. secure) IO for NC1 exists and PRFs computable in NC1 exist, so does IO for P.

KEY TOOL: RANDOMIZED ENCODINGS [Ishai-Kushilevitz'98, Yao'86]

A randomized encoding **RE** is a probabilistic algorithm:

- takes a pair (C, x) and outputs a pair (\hat{C}, \hat{x}) .
- Given \hat{C} and \hat{x} , one can compute $C(x)$.
- Given $C(x)$, can simulate the distribution of (\hat{C}, \hat{x}) .
- **RE** can be computed in parallel (same depth as a PRF).

From Simple Circuits to All Circuits

THEOREM [Canetti-Lin-Tessaro-**V**.'15]

If (subexp. secure) IO for NC1 exists and PRFs computable in NC1 exist, so does IO for P.

CONSTRUCTION IDEA:


“Don’t compute $C(x)$. Compute $RE(C, x)$.”

$\mathcal{O}(C) =$

$P_{C,K}(x)$

Generate randomness $r = F_K(x)$

Output $RE(C, x; r)$.

Observe: P is a “low-depth” circuit if F_K is “low-depth”. 

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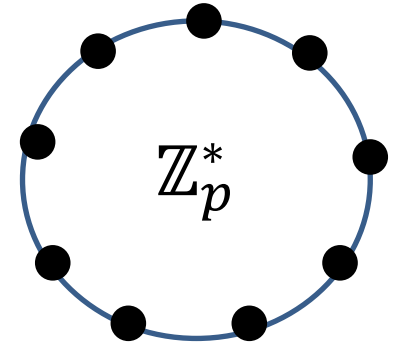
e.g., Traitor Tracing (on Wed)

Crypto and New Sources of Hardness

PUBLIC KEY ENCRYPTION

Discrete Logarithms.

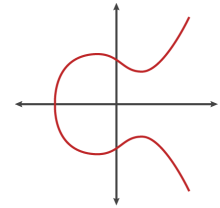
Hardness of Factoring.



Diffie-Hellman

IDENTITY-BASED ENCRYPTION

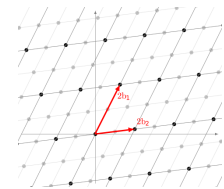
Elliptic Curves and
Bilinear Maps.



[Joux, Boneh-Franklin]

FULLY HOMOMORPHIC ENCRYPTION

Integer Lattices.



[Gentry, Brakerski-V]

INDISTINGUISHABILITY OBFUSCATION



Constructing Program Obfuscators

UPSHOT: We now have candidate constructions secure against all known attacks + generalizations, but no absolute proofs of security.

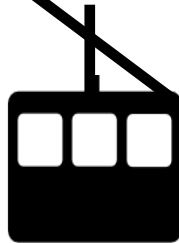


Constructing Program Obfuscators

THEOREM 1:

If token-based obfuscation exists,
so does indistinguishability obf.

THEOREM [BITANSKY-
V'15, ANANTH-JAIN'15]



OBFUSCATION

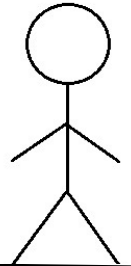
TOKEN-BASED OBF.

[Goldwasser-Kalai-Popa-V-Zeldovich'13]

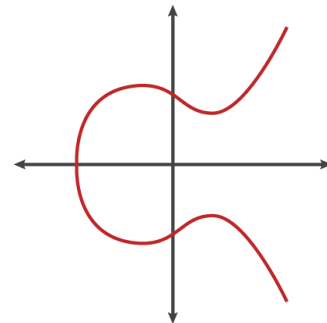
Constructing Program Obfuscators



TOKEN-BASED OBF.



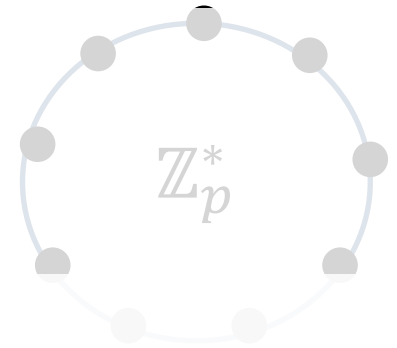
"2-LINEAR
MAPS"



1, 2- and 3-Linear Maps

1-Linear Map: Need Group G where

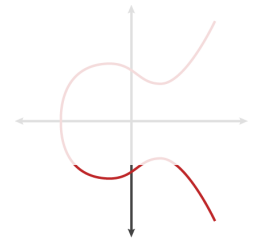
$$g^x \cdot g^y = g^{x+y} \quad \text{BUT} \quad g^x, g^y \xrightarrow{\text{hard}} g^{xy}$$



Diffie-Hellman

2-Linear Map: Need Groups G, G' where

$$g^x \circ g^y = g^{xy} \quad \text{BUT} \quad g^x, g^y, g^z \xrightarrow{\text{hard}} g^{xyz}$$



[Joux, Boneh-Franklin]

3-Linear Map: Need Groups G, G' where

$$g^x \circ g^y \circ g^z = g^{xyz} \quad \text{BUT} \quad g^x, g^y, g^z, g^w \xrightarrow{\text{hard}} g^{xyzw}$$



See [Huang'18] for a candidate

Constructing Program Obfuscators

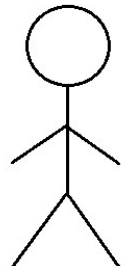
THEOREM 2 [Lin-V'16, Lin'17, Ananth-Sahai'17, Lin-Tessaro'17]

If 3-linear maps exist*, so does token-based obf.,
and therefore, indistinguishability obf.

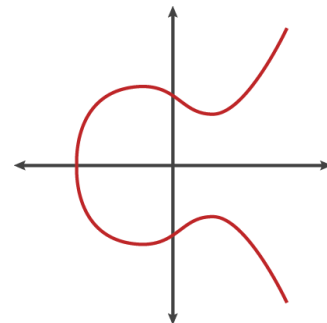


"3-LINEAR
MAPS"

TOKEN-BASED OBF.



"2-LINEAR
MAPS"



CONSTRUCTION OUTLINE

IO for P

[Bitansky-**V**15, Ananth-Jain'15,
Ananth-Jain-Sahai'16, Lin-Pass-Seth-Telang'16]



Token-based Obfuscation for P

[Lin16, Lin-**V**16, Lin17, Ananth-Sahai'17,
Lin-Tessaro'17]



+ "Local PRG"

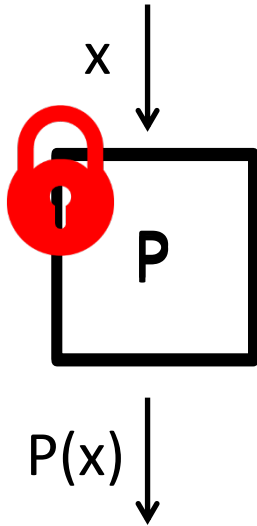
Token-based Obfuscation for NC^0

[Lin16, Lin-**V**16, Lin17, Ananth-Sahai'17,
Lin-Tessaro'17]



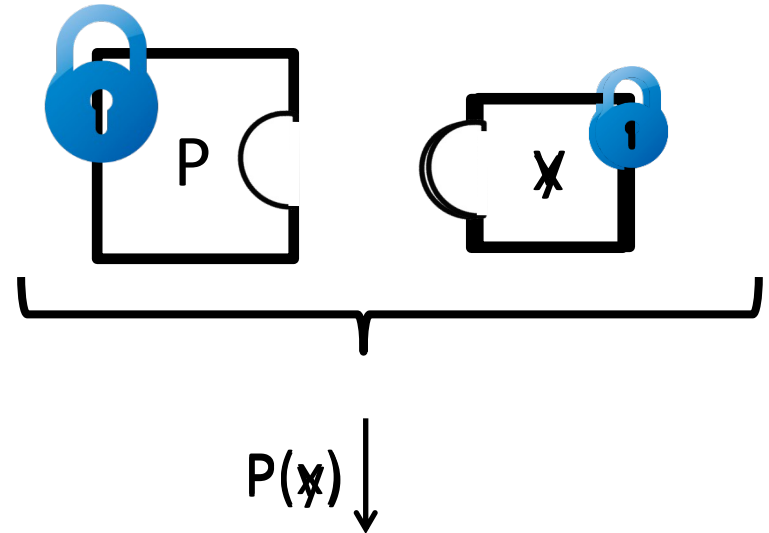
3-Linear Maps

Obfuscation



Given $\mathcal{O}(P)$, can compute $P(x)$ for any x .

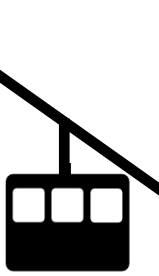
Token-Based Obfuscation (TBO)



$\text{TBO}(P)$ is useless by itself.
Given $\text{TBO}(P)$ and $\text{Tok}(x)$,
can compute $P(x)$.

From Token-Based to Obfuscation

[Bitansky-V 15, Ananth-Jain 15]



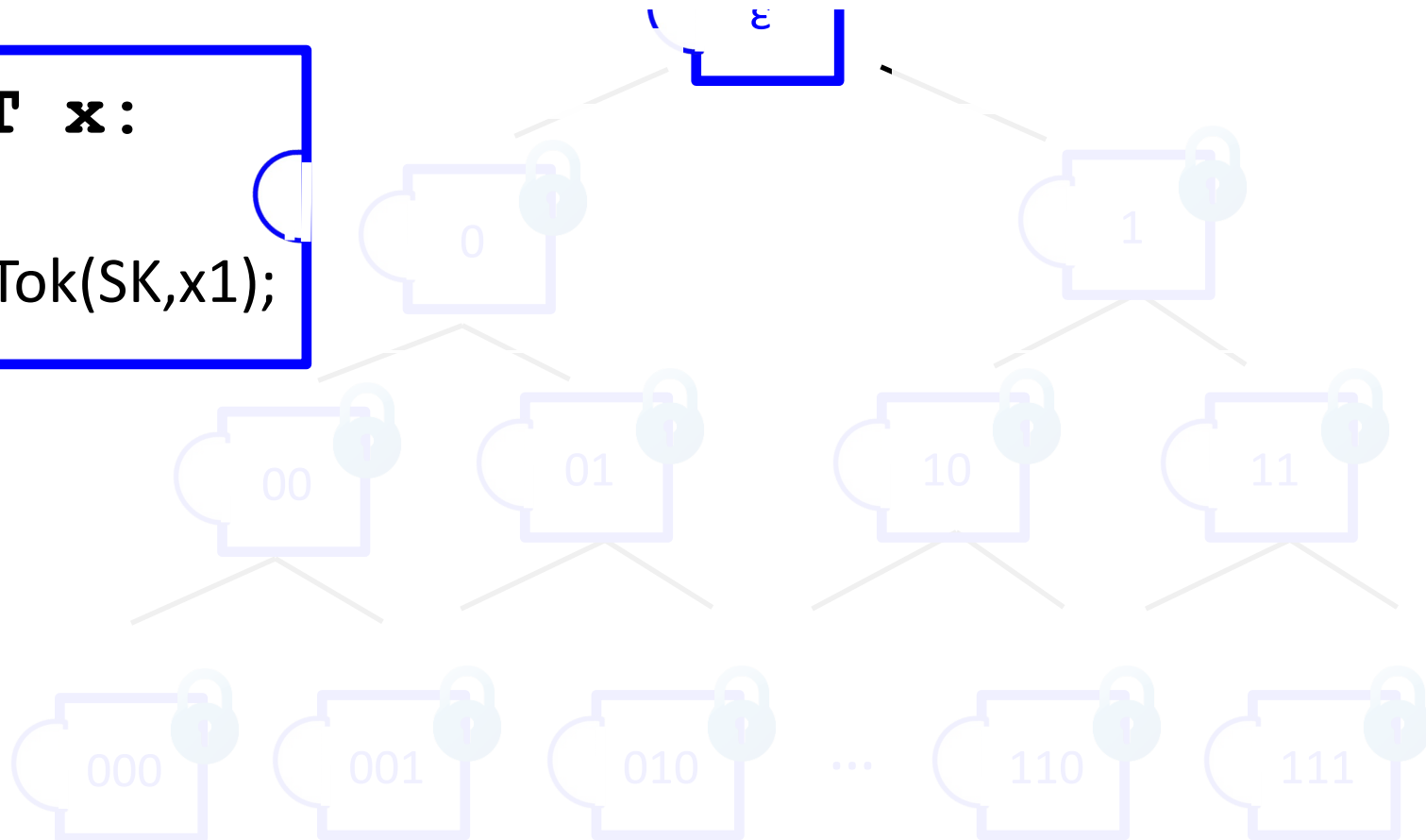
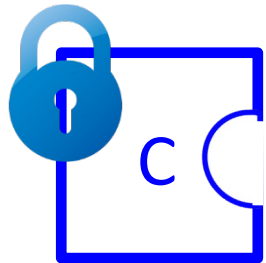
KEY IDEA: Self-Replicating Programs (Tokens)

Careful: (Token) SIZE Matters!

ON INPUT x :

Return

$\text{Tok}(\text{SK}, x_0), \text{Tok}(\text{SK}, x_1);$



From Token-Based to Obfuscation



KEY IDEA: Self-Replicating Programs (Tokens)

Careful: Token SIZE Matters!

[Goldwasser-Kalai-Popa-**V**-Zeldovich'13] uses standard crypto assumptions (Learning with Errors). However, their token size doubles every level of the tree!



CONSTRUCTION OUTLINE

IO for P

[Bitansky-**V**15, Ananth-Jain'15,
Ananth-Jain-Sahai'16, Lin-Pass-Seth-Telang'16]



Token-based Obfuscation for P

[Lin16, Lin-**V**16, Lin17, Ananth-Sahai'17,
Lin-Tessaro'17]



+ Local PRG

Token-based Obfuscation for NC^0

[Lin16, Lin-**V**16, Lin17, Ananth-Sahai'17,
Lin-Tessaro'17]



3-Linear Maps

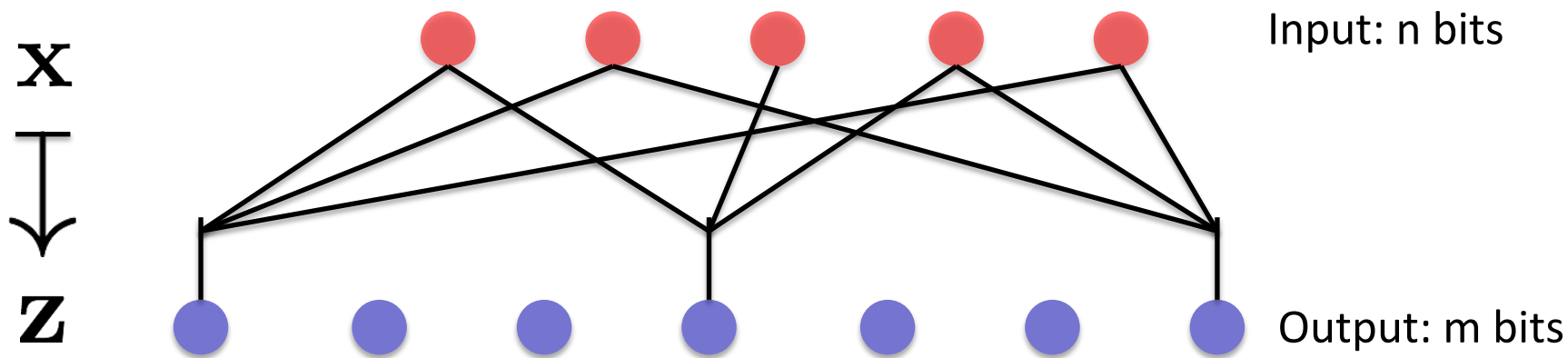
Local Pseudorandom Generators

[Goldreich'00]

Specified by:

- a) a sequence of m L -tuples H_1, \dots, H_m and
- b) a predicate $P: \{0,1\}^L \rightarrow \{0,1\}$.

n : input length (in bits)
 m : output length (in bits)
 L : locality
 $G_{H,P}$: the PRG



$$G_{H,P}(x) = P(x_{H_1}), P(x_{H_2}), \dots, P(x_{H_m})$$

$$\text{Security: } G(U_n) \approx_c U_m$$

Token-based Obf: From NC0 to P

Lemma: If there exists a TBO for degree-L functions **and there exists a locality-L PRG**, then TBO for P (and thus, IO) exists.

“Proof”: Similar to bootstrapping obfuscation

- ✓ Use Randomized encodings for P.
[Applebaum-Ishai-Kushilevitz'00, Yao'86]
- ✓ **No need for a PRF.** Instead, use a local PRG
- ✓ Benefit: Can start from TBO for NC0 (instead of NC1).

CONSTRUCTION OUTLINE

IO for P

[Bitansky-V15, Ananth-Jain'15,
Ananth-Jain-Sahai'16, Lin-Pass-Seth-Telang'16]



Token-based Obfuscation for P

[Lin16, Lin-V16, Lin17, Ananth-Sahai'17,
Lin-Tessaro'17]



+ Local PRG

Token-based Obfuscation for NC^0

[Lin16, Lin-V16, Lin17, Ananth-Sahai'17,
Lin-Tessaro'17]



3-Linear Maps

Token-Based Obfuscation for NC0: A Caricature

Lemma: For any constant L , there exists a TBO for degree- L functions (in particular, NC0) assuming **L-linear maps exist**.

Sketch:

- ✓ Obfuscation of $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is $(g^{x_1}, \dots, g^{x_n})$
- ✓ Given secret key, want to compute degree- L functions “in the exponent”.
- ✓ Prior works show that $O(L)$ -linear maps are *sufficient*.
- ✓ Lin-Tessaro show that L -linear maps are *sufficient*.

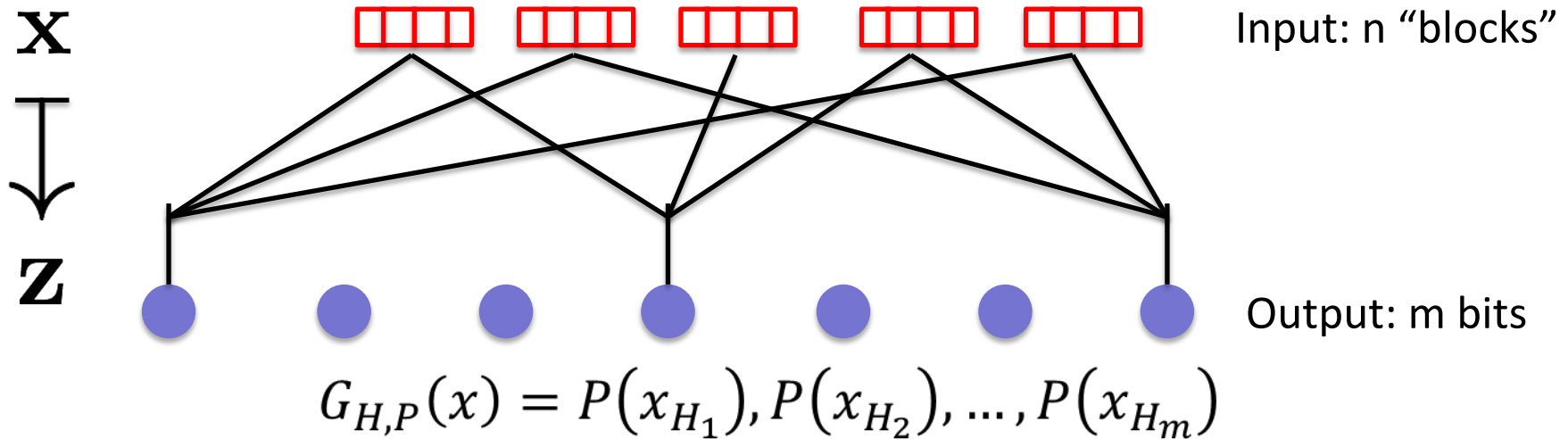
(L,q)-Blockwise Local PRGs

[Lin-Tessaro'17]

Specified by:

- a) a sequence of m L -tuples H_1, \dots, H_m and
- b) a predicate $P: [q]^L \rightarrow \{0,1\}$.

n : input length (in blocks)
 m : output length (in bits)
 L : locality
 q : alphabet size
 $G_{H,P}$: the PRG



******(We could additionally have different predicates P_i for each output bit. We focus on the single predicate case in this talk.)

Generalizing: The Lin-Tessaro Theorem

Theorem (informal): There exists an IO scheme, assuming:

- a) **L-linear maps** (with the SXDH assumption); and
- b) **Blockwise-Locality L PRGs** with polynomial stretch (and subexponential security)

[Lin and Tessaro, CRYPTO 2017]

Case L = 3: There exists an IO scheme, assuming:

a) **3-linear maps**; and

b) “**Blockwise 3-local**” PRGs expanding n blocks to $\tilde{\Omega}(n^{1+\epsilon})$ bits ✓

with sub-exponential security.

Generalizing: The Lin-Tessaro Theorem



TI (formal): There exists an IO scheme, assuming:

map (the SXDH assumption); and

Locality PRGs with polynomial stretch (and subexponential security)

[Lin and Tessaro, CRYPTO 2017]



Case L = 2: There exists an IO scheme, assuming:

a) **Bilinear maps**; and



b) “(2,q)-blockwise local” PRGs expanding n blocks to $\tilde{\Omega}(nq^{3+\epsilon})$ bits

with sub-exponential security.

Case L = 2: There exists an IO scheme, assuming:

a) **Bilinear maps** with the SXDH assumption; and 

b) “(2,q)-blockwise local” PRGs expanding n blocks to $\tilde{\Omega}(nq^{3+\epsilon})$ bits

with sub-exponential security.

Polynomial Time Attacks on Blockwise 2-local PRGs

[Lombardi-V’17, Barak-Brakerski-Komargodski-Kothari’17]

Therefore, the [LT17] construction gets stuck at 3-linear maps.

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of IO from simpler objects

Theorem: If 3-linear maps exist, so does IO.

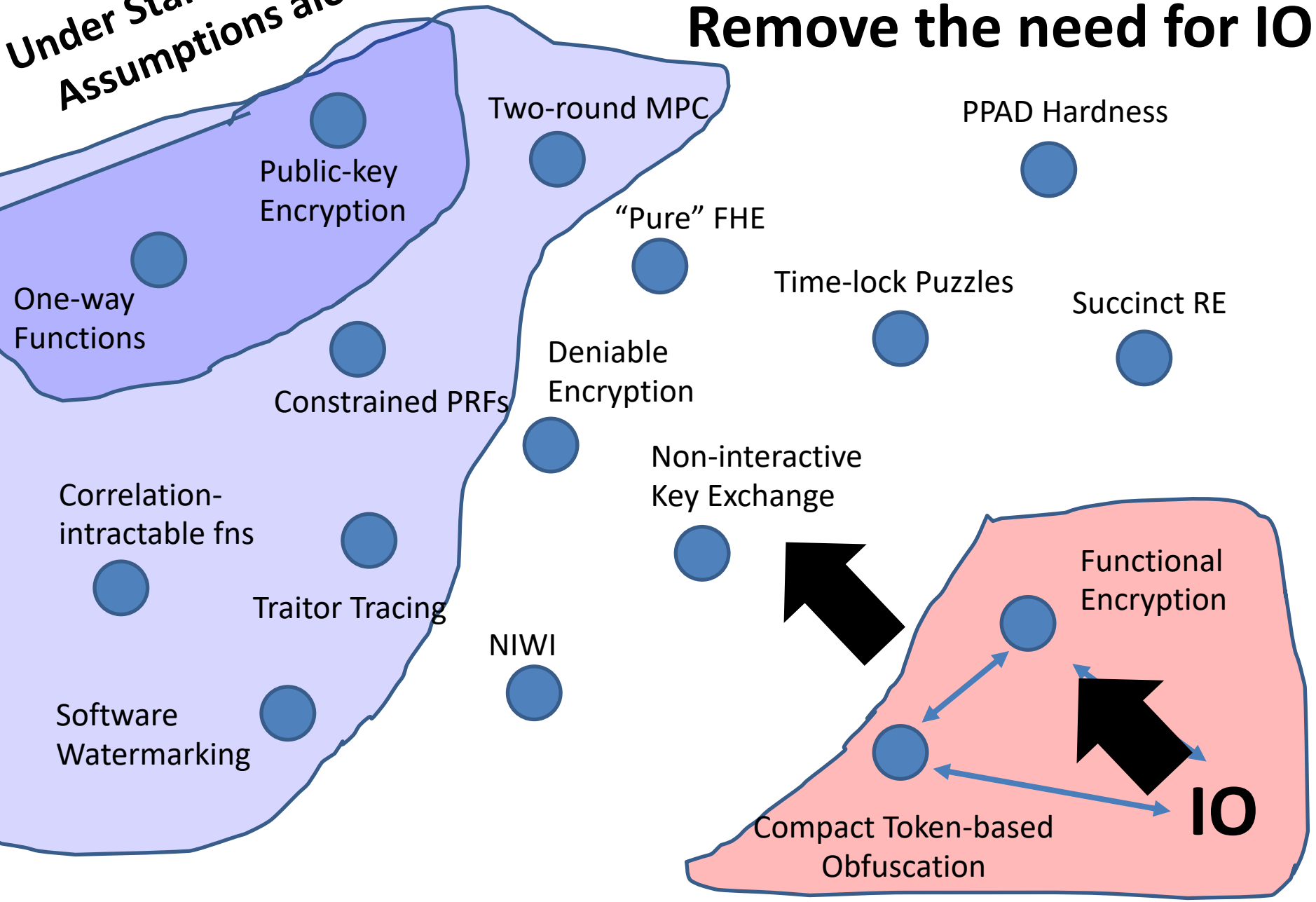
Part 4. DE-IO-IZATION

Remove the need for IO in applications.

e.g., Traitor Tracing (on Wed)

Under Standard Crypto
Assumptions alone:

DE-IO-IZATION: Remove the need for IO



“IO-Inspired” Results

**IO-based Constructions teach us new techniques.
(quite often, non-black-box techniques)**

- (Anonymous) ID-based Encryption from 1-linear maps.
(Previously, required 2-linear maps.)

[Garg-Dottling'17, '18, Brakerski-Lombardi-Segev-**V**.'18]

- 2-round Multiparty Computation from OT.
(Previously, required IO or learning with errors.)

[Garg-Srinivasan'18, Benhamouda-Lin'18]

SUMMARY

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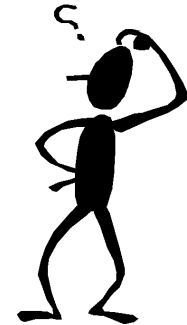
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Remove the need for IO in applications.

e.g., Traitor Tracing (on Wed)

Thank you!

The Quest Continues...



**PROGRAM
OBFUSCATION**

MANY OTHER RESULTS:

Obfuscating simple programs

Obfuscation with the aid of secure hardware

Achieving applications without obfuscation



**INDISTINGUISHABILITY
OBFUSCATION**

Functional Encryption

[Sahai-Waters'05, Boneh-Sahai-Waters'12]

Given *encryption* of string x

and *secret key* for function f

Thou shalt be able to compute $f(x)$,

but nothing else.

P.S.: the size of $\text{Enc}(x)$ should be $O_\lambda(|x|)$.

From NC0 to NC1 (Lemma 2)

Lemma 2: If there exists a functional encryption for degree- L functions **and there exists a locality- L PRG**, then functional encryption for NC1 (and thus, IO) exists.

“Proof”:

- ✓ Use AIK Randomized encodings for NC1.
[Applebaum-Ishai-Kushilevitz'04]
- ✓ **AIK Principle:** Instead of computing a complex function $F(x)$, compute a simpler randomized function $\hat{F}(x, r)$. (\hat{F} is in NC0).
- ✓ Problem: $|r|$ proportional to the circuit size of F and $\gg |x|$.
- ✓ Solution: use local PRG to generate r .



Connection between Local PRGs and IO

[Lin'16, Lin-**V**'16, Lin'17, Ananth-Sahai'17]

Theorem: There exists an IO scheme, assuming:

- a) **L-linear maps** with the SXDH assumption
- b) **Locality L PRGs** with *any* polynomial stretch (and subexponential security)
- c) **Subexponentially secure Learning with Errors** (ignored from now on)

[Lin, CRYPTO 2017]



Connection between Local PRGs and IO

[Lin'16, Lin-**V**'16, Lin'17, Ananth-Sahai'17]

Lin's Theorem = Lemma 1 + Lemma 2

Lemma 1: For any constant L , there exists a functional encryption for degree- L functions (in particular, NC0) assuming **L -linear maps exist**.

Lemma 2: If there exists a functional encryption for degree- L functions **and there exists a locality- L PRG**, then functional encryption for NC1 (and thus, IO) exists.