

Direct Products in Communication Complexity



Mark Braverman, Anup Rao, Omri Weinstein, Amir Yehudayoff

Princeton

Washington

Princeton

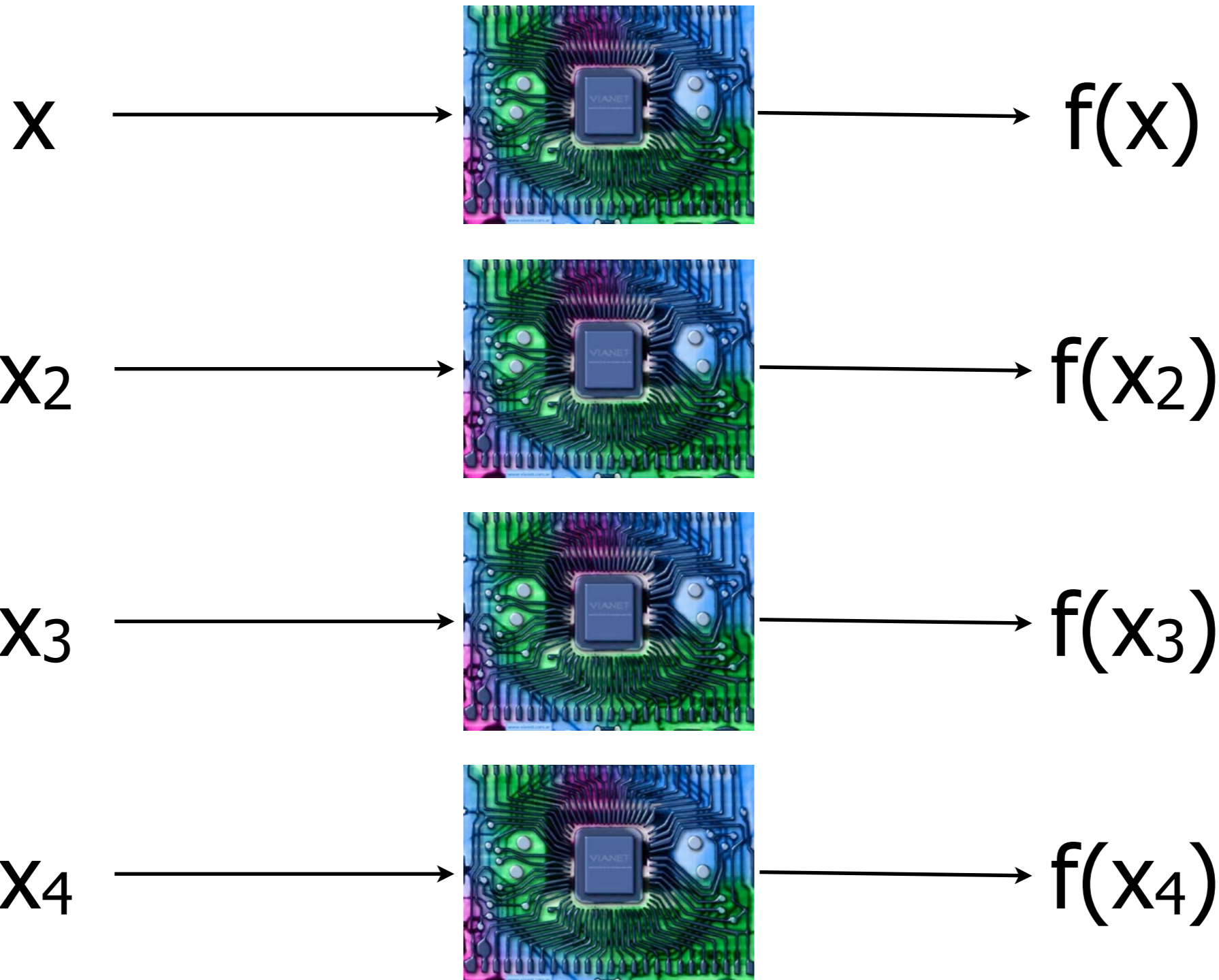
Technion

Direct Sums

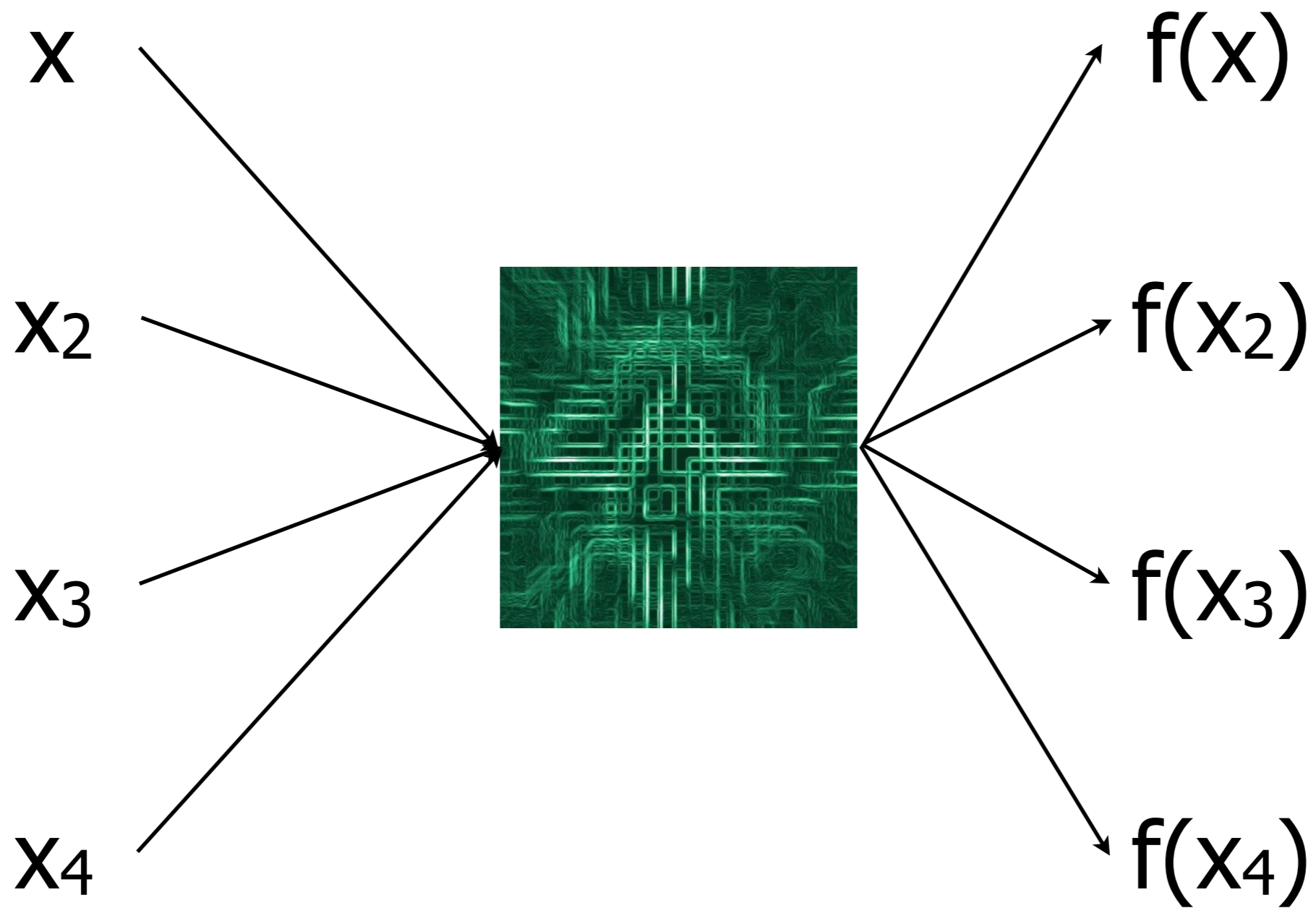
Direct Sums



Direct Sums



Direct Sums



Direct Products

Success
Probability

0.9

Random
input

Direct Products

Random
input

x



$f(x)$

Success
Probability

0.9

Direct Products

Success
Probability

Random
input



0.9^n

Direct Products

Success
Probability

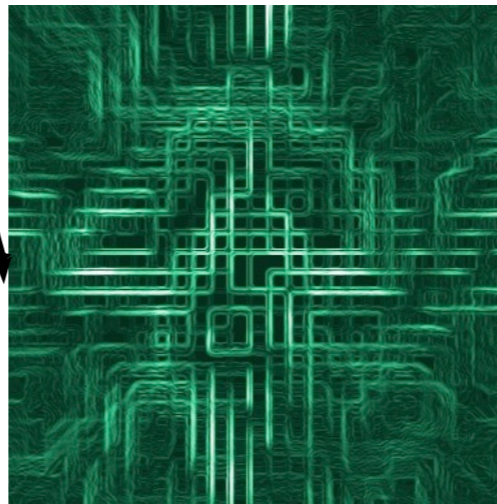
Random
input

x

x_2

x_3

x_4



$f(x)$

$f(x_2)$

$f(x_3)$

$f(x_4)$

0.6



Communication Complexity

Communication [Yao]

Alice
X

public randomness R

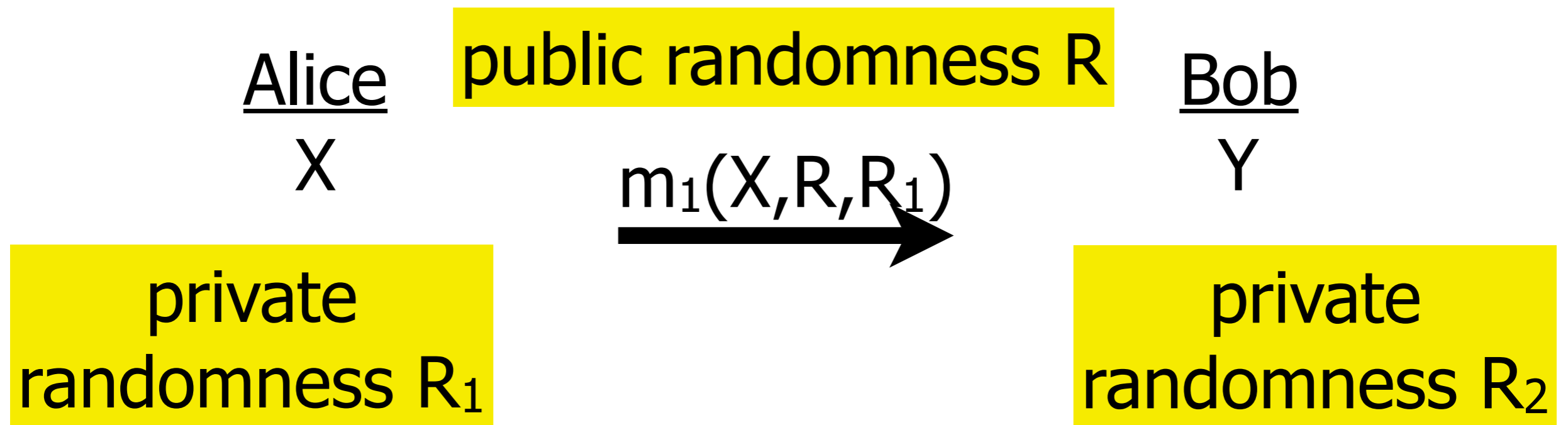
Bob
Y

private
randomness R_1

private
randomness R_2

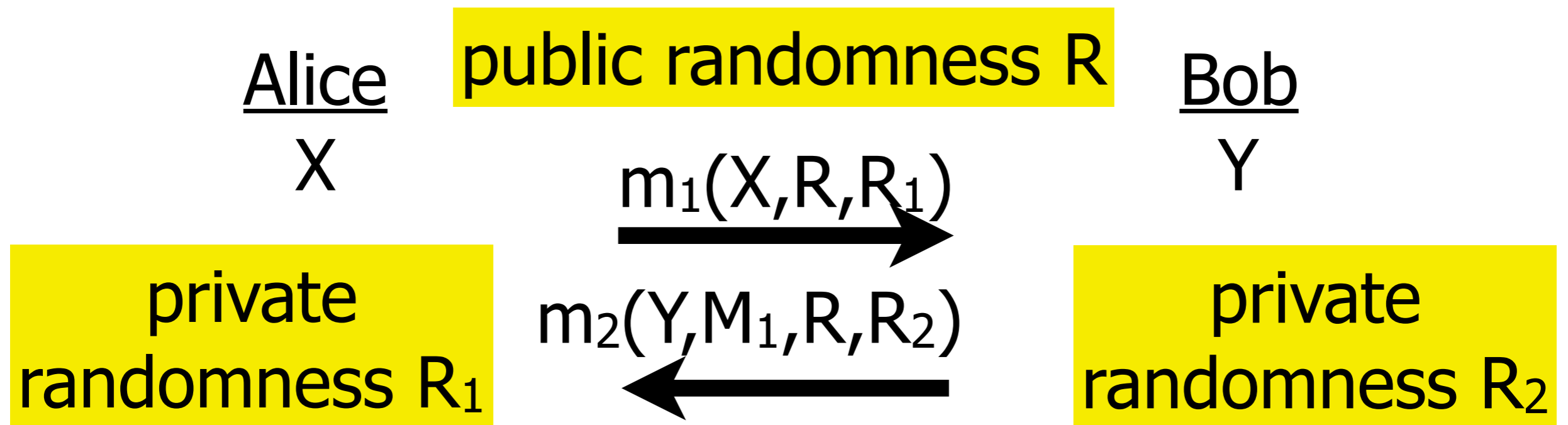
Complexity: # bits exchanged
 x, y drawn from some known distribution

Communication [Yao]



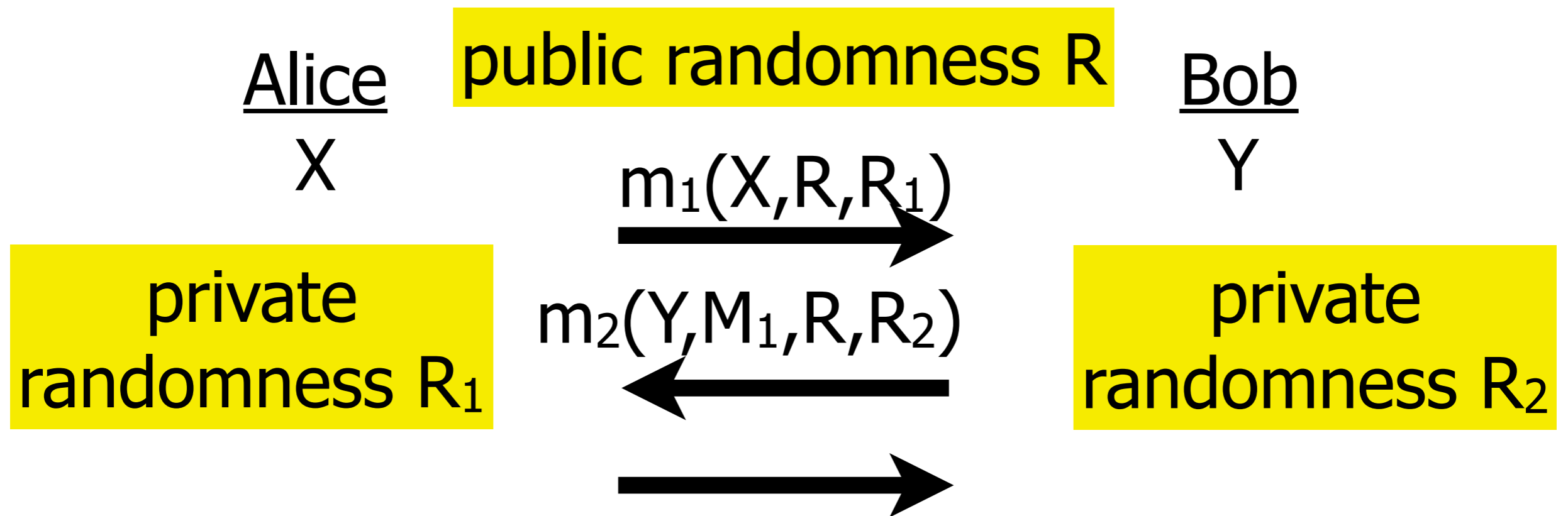
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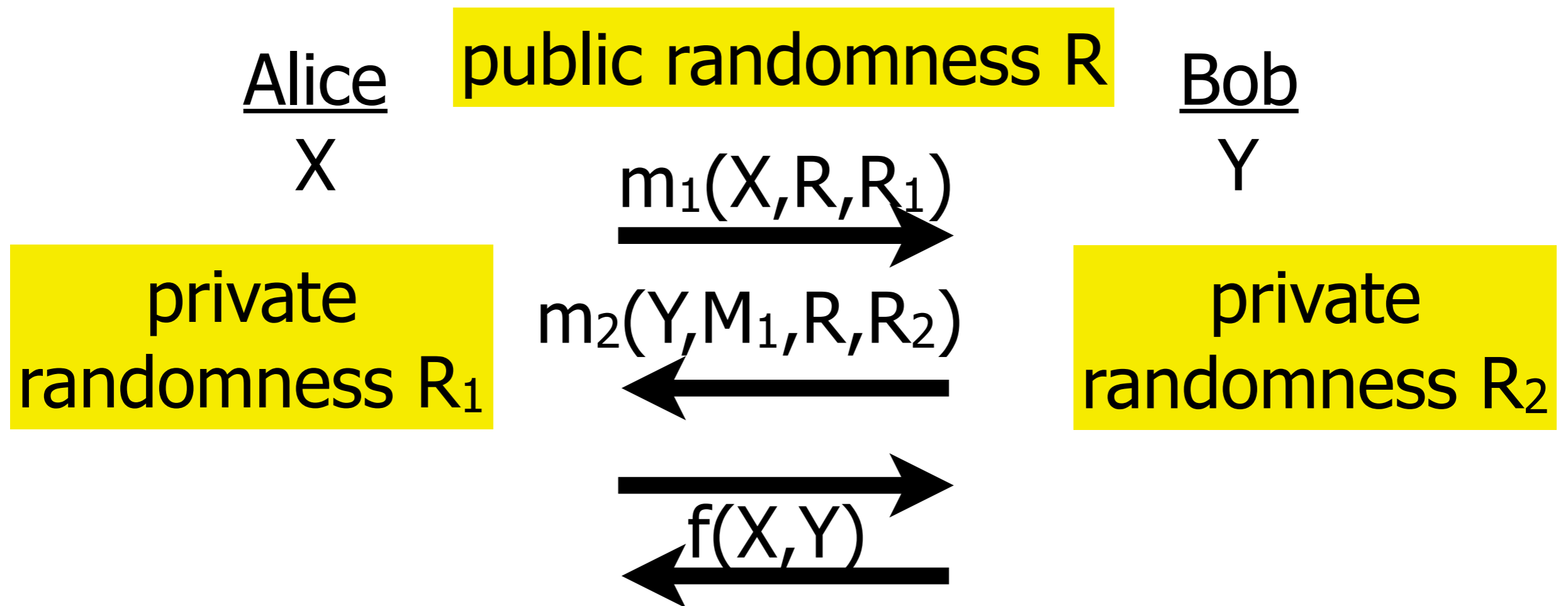
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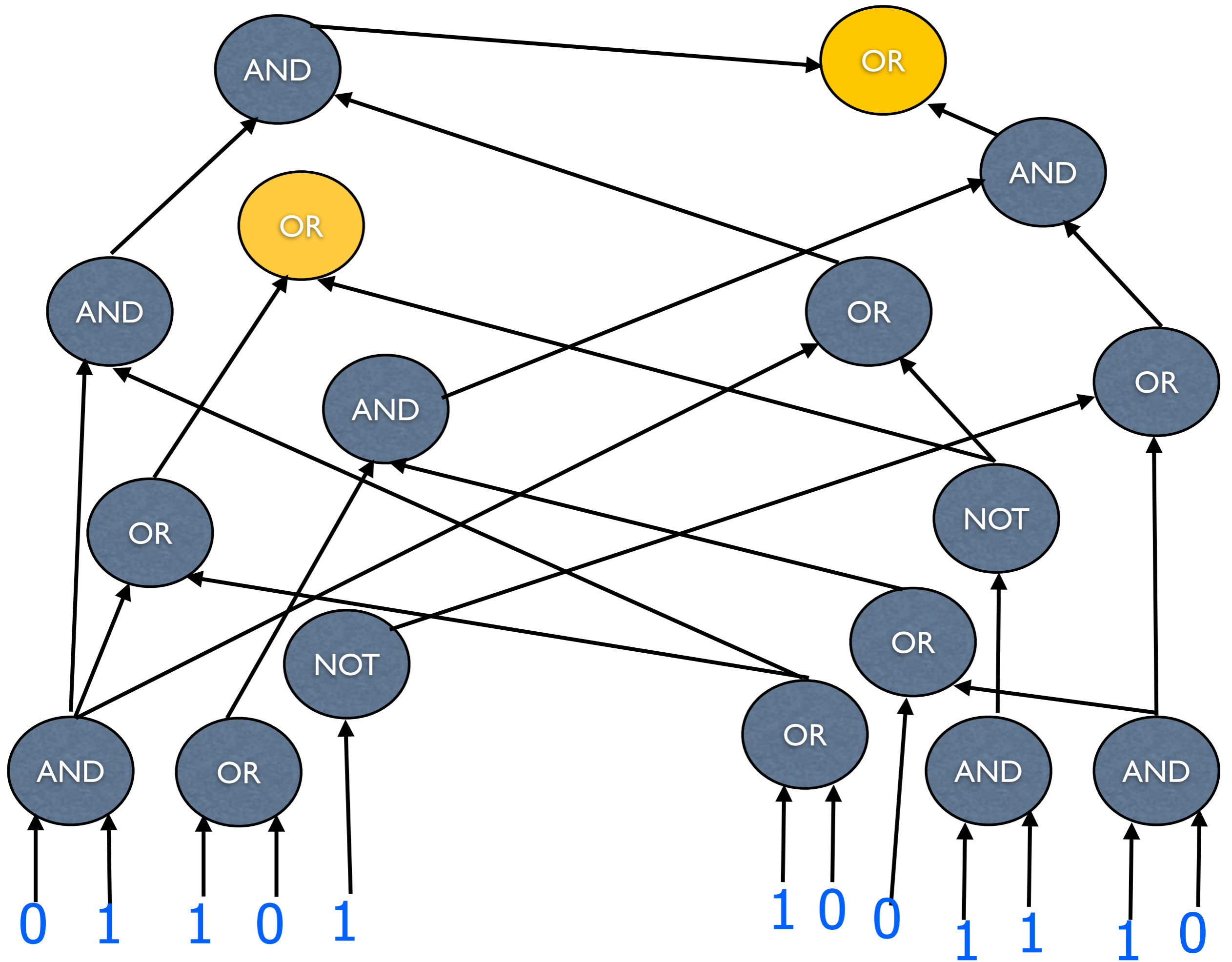


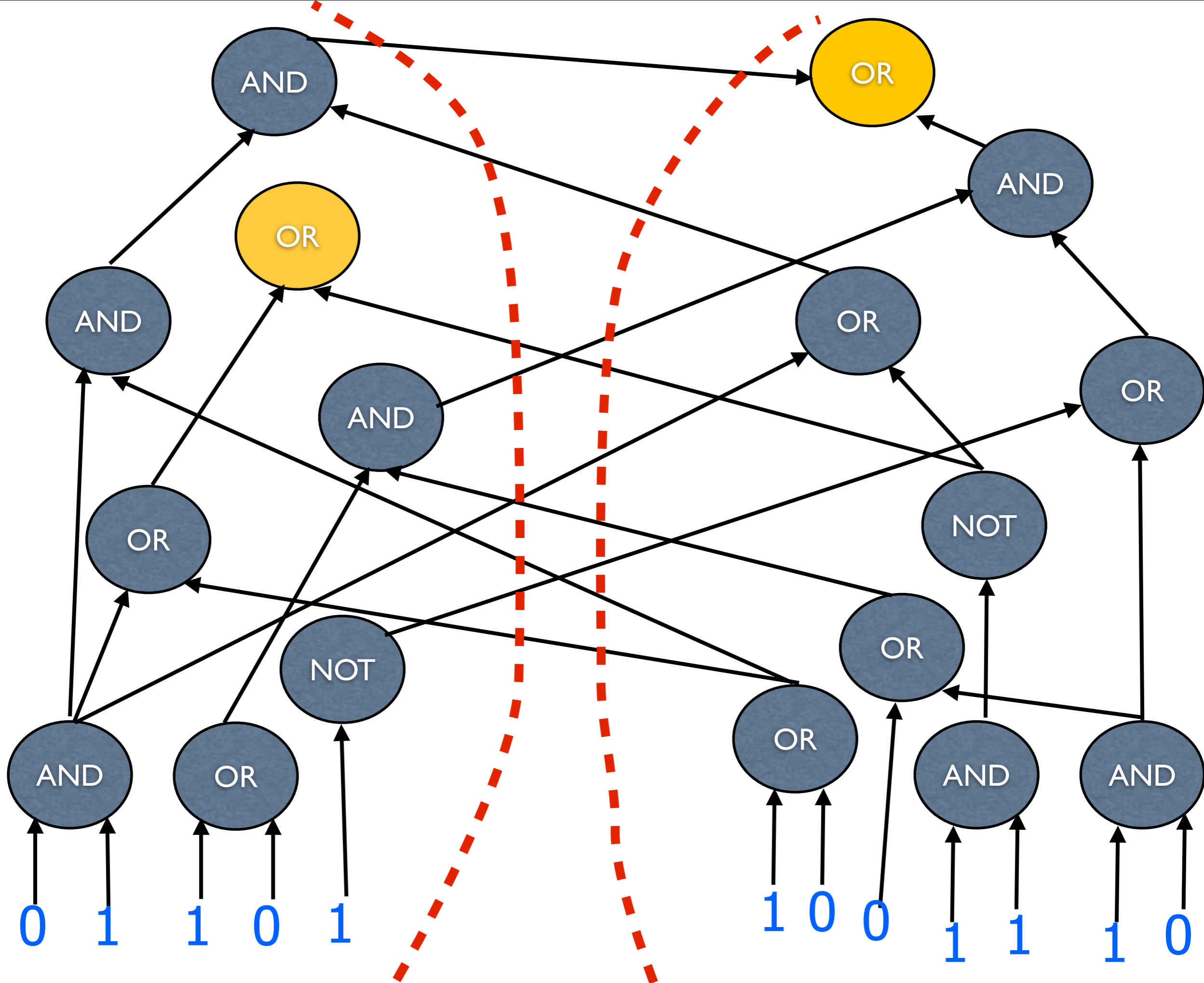
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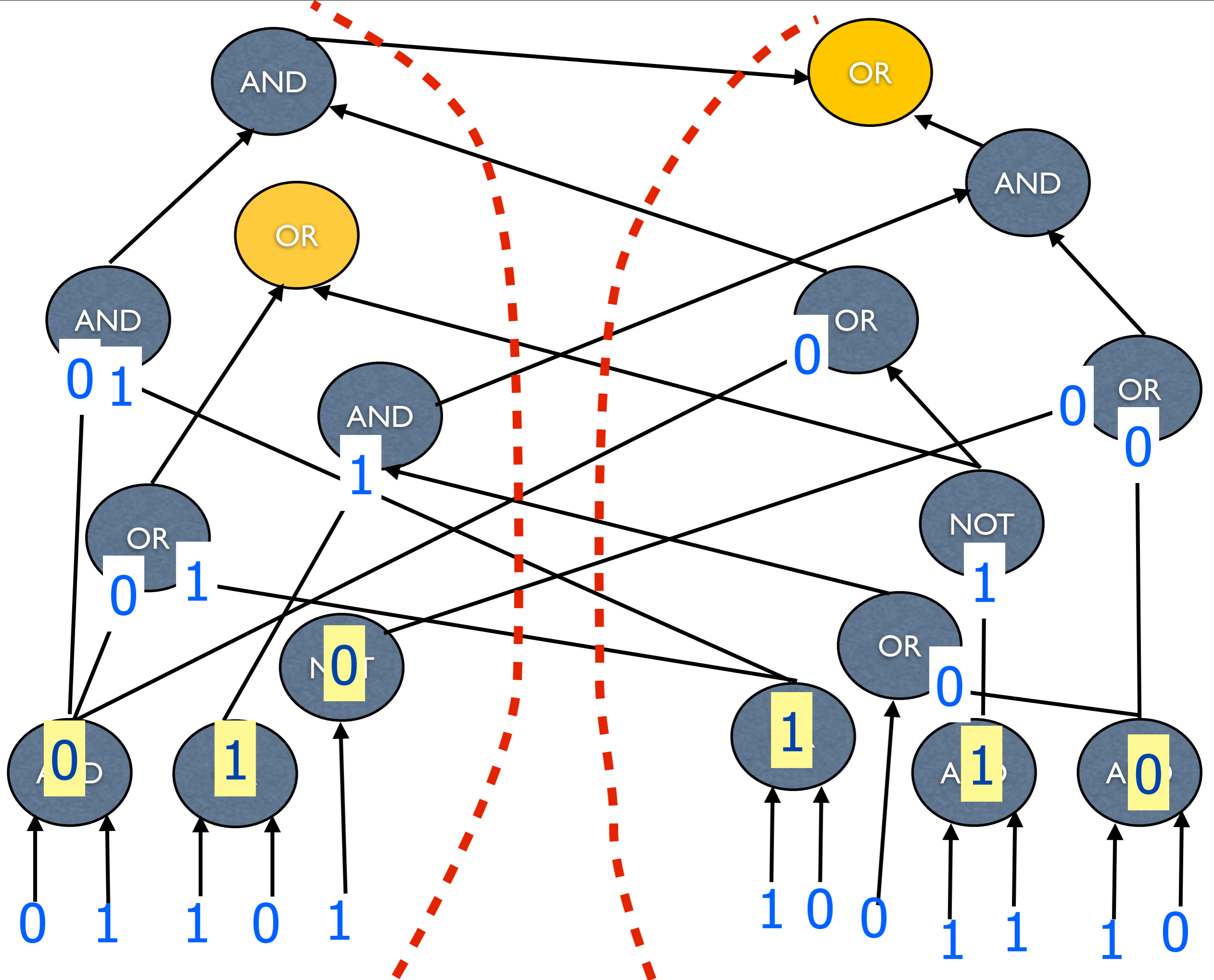
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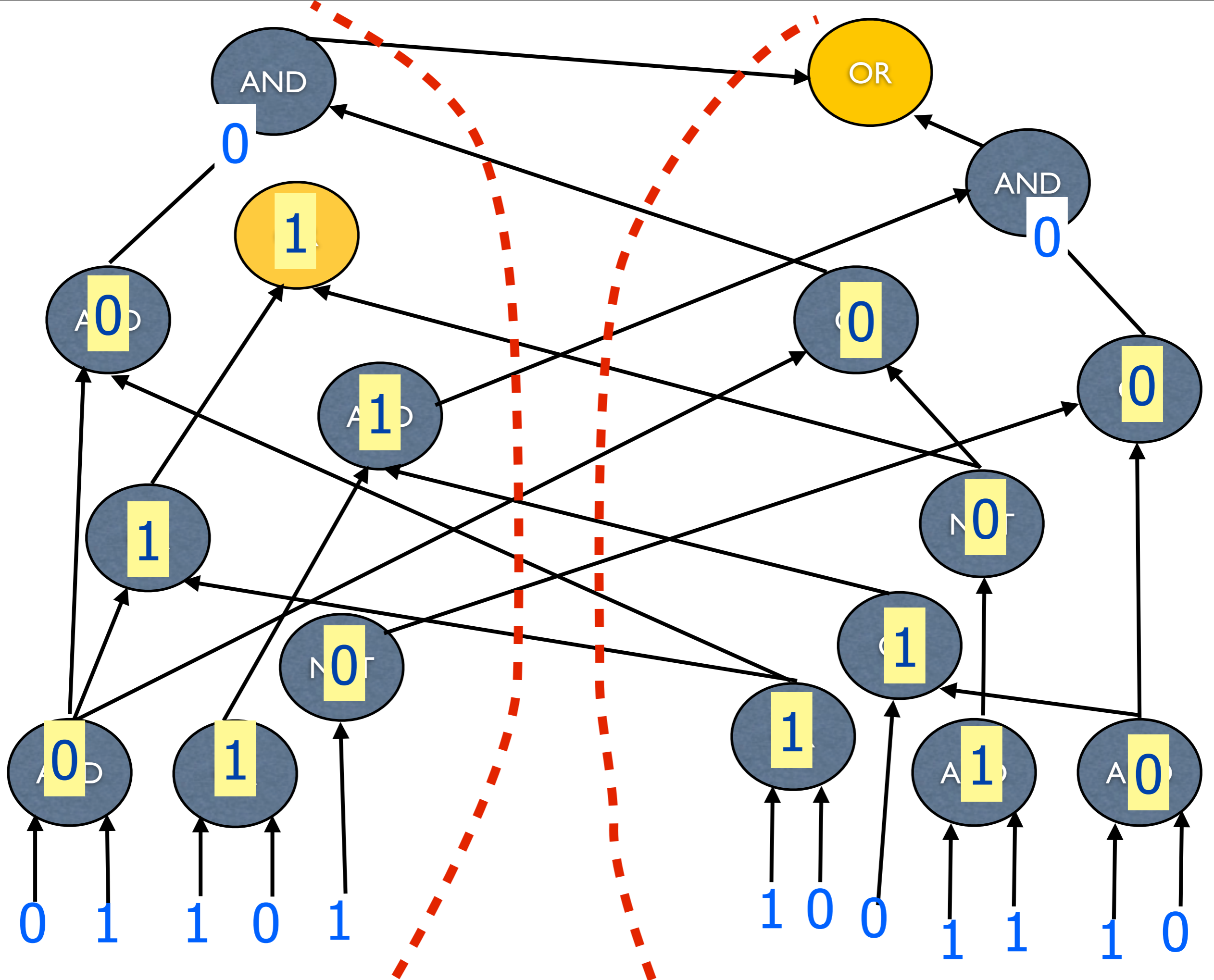


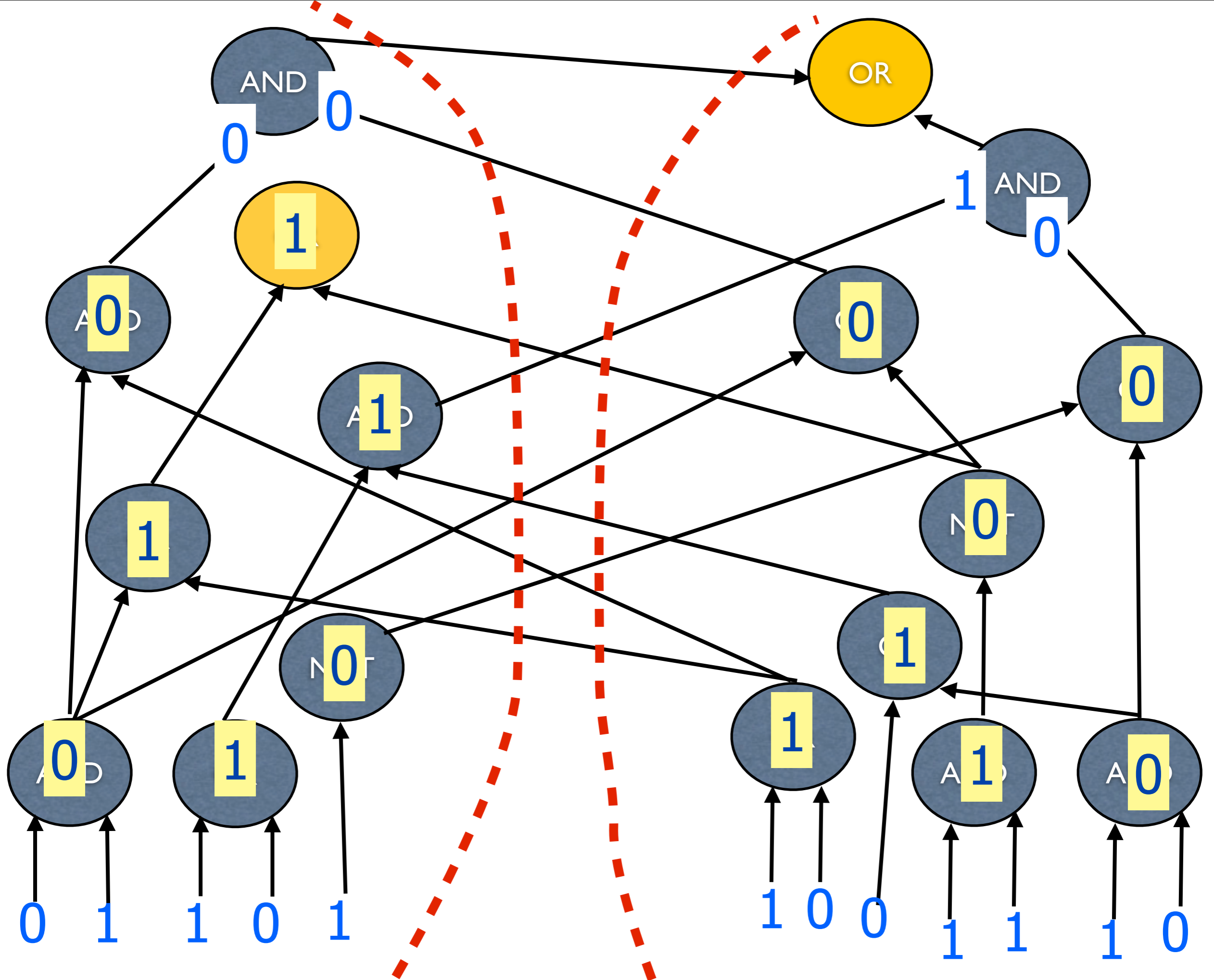
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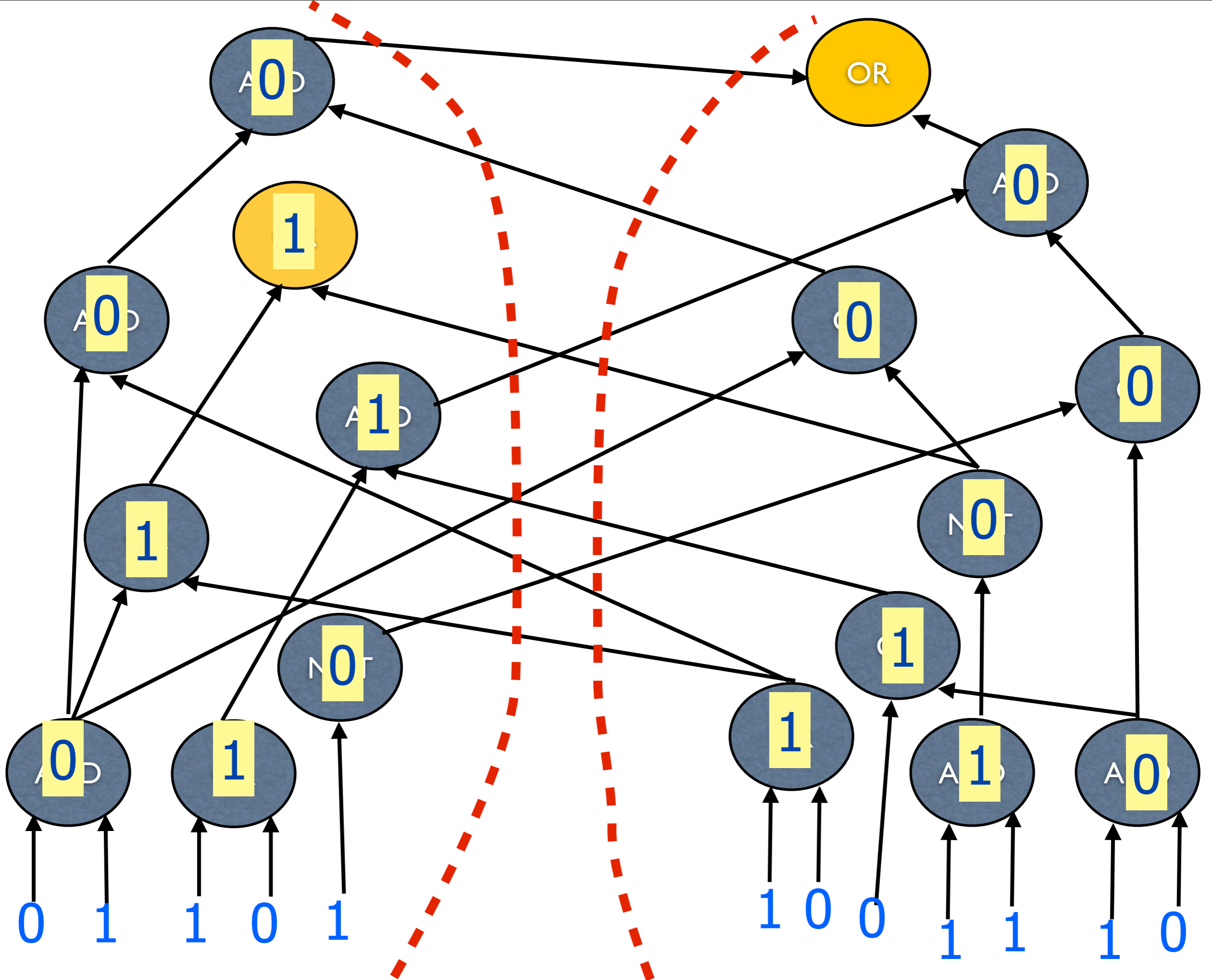


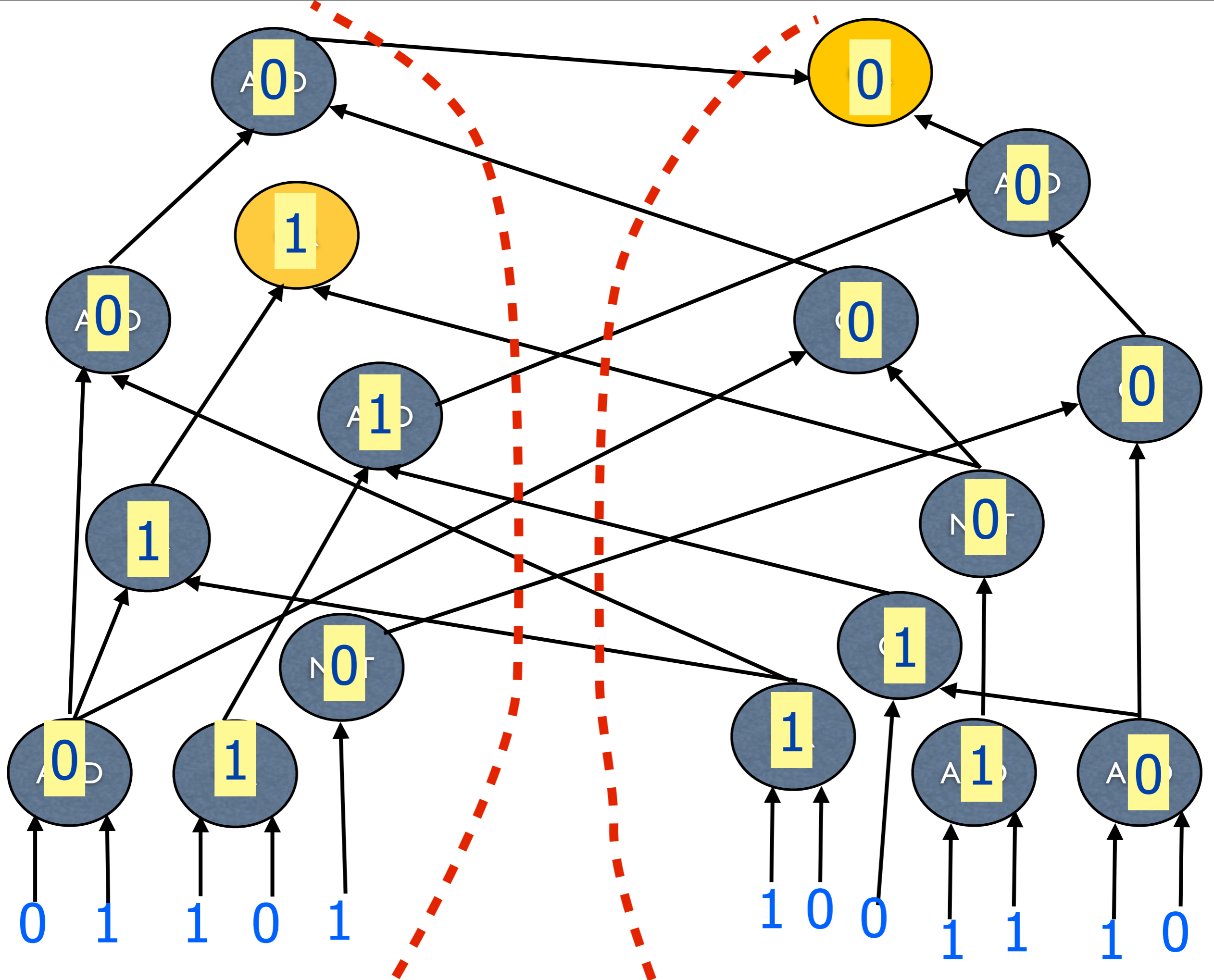












Applications

- Combinatorial Auctions
- Data Structure Lower Bounds
- VLSI design/Distributed Computing
- Lower bounds for branching programs, pseudorandom generators for space.
- Streaming algorithms

The Question

$\text{suc}(f,C)$ = max success probability for computing f with C bits CC

$$f^n(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n) = f(x_1, y_1), \dots, f(x_n, y_n)$$

If $\text{suc}(f,C) < 2/3$, is
 $\text{suc}(f^n, nC) \leq 2^{-n/100}$??

Prior Work

Suppose $\text{succ}(f, C) < 2/3$, then $\text{succ}(f^n, T) \leq 2^{-n/100}$, if

- f is disjointness [Klauck]
- f has small discrepancy [Shaltiel, Lee-Shraibman-Spalek, Sherstov] or a smooth rectangle bound [Jain-Yao]
- $T < C$ [Pernafez-Raz-Wigderson]
- protocol has few rounds [Jain-Pereszlenyi-Yao, Molinaro-Woodruff-Yaroslavtsev]

Our Results

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Theorem (product distributions):

If $\text{suc}(f, C) < 2/3$, then

$$\text{suc}(f^n, nC/\text{polylog}(nC)) \leq 2^{-n/100}.$$

Theorem (arbitrary distributions):

If $\text{suc}(f, C) < 2/3$, then

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$k = \#$ bits in output of f

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$\leq 2/3$ [BBCR]

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Rest of the Talk

Theorem (uniform distribution):

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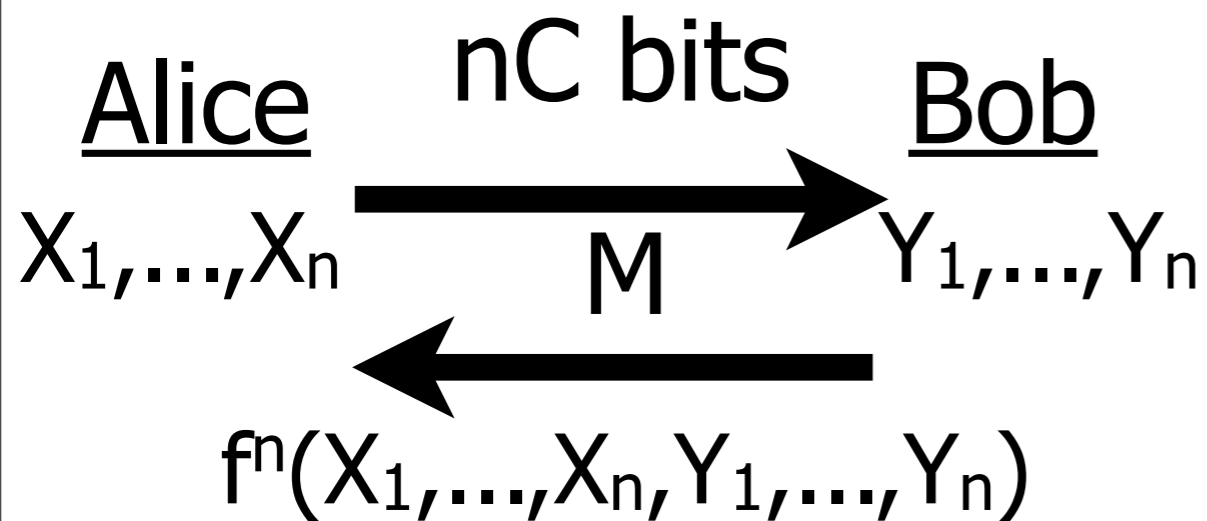
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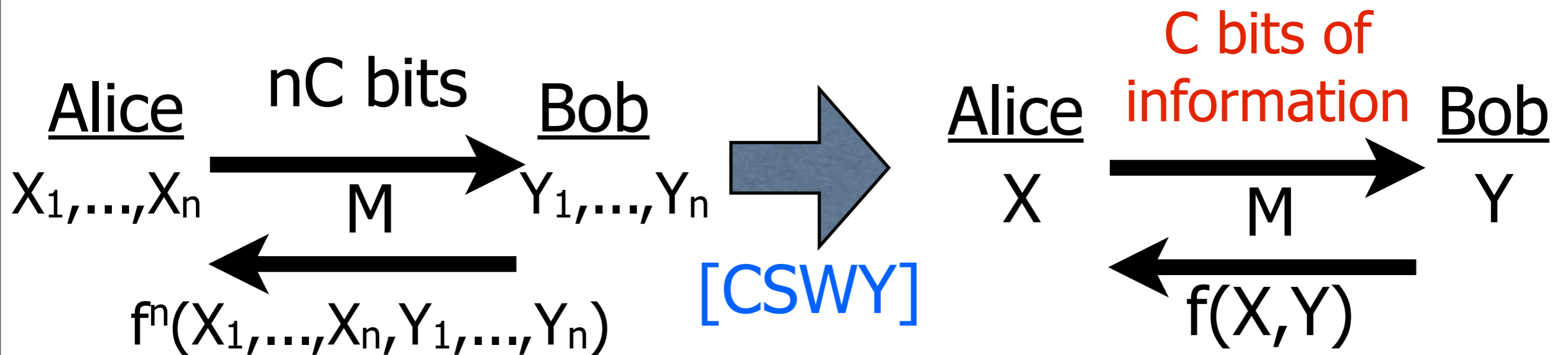
$k = \#$ bits in output of f

Proof by Reduction



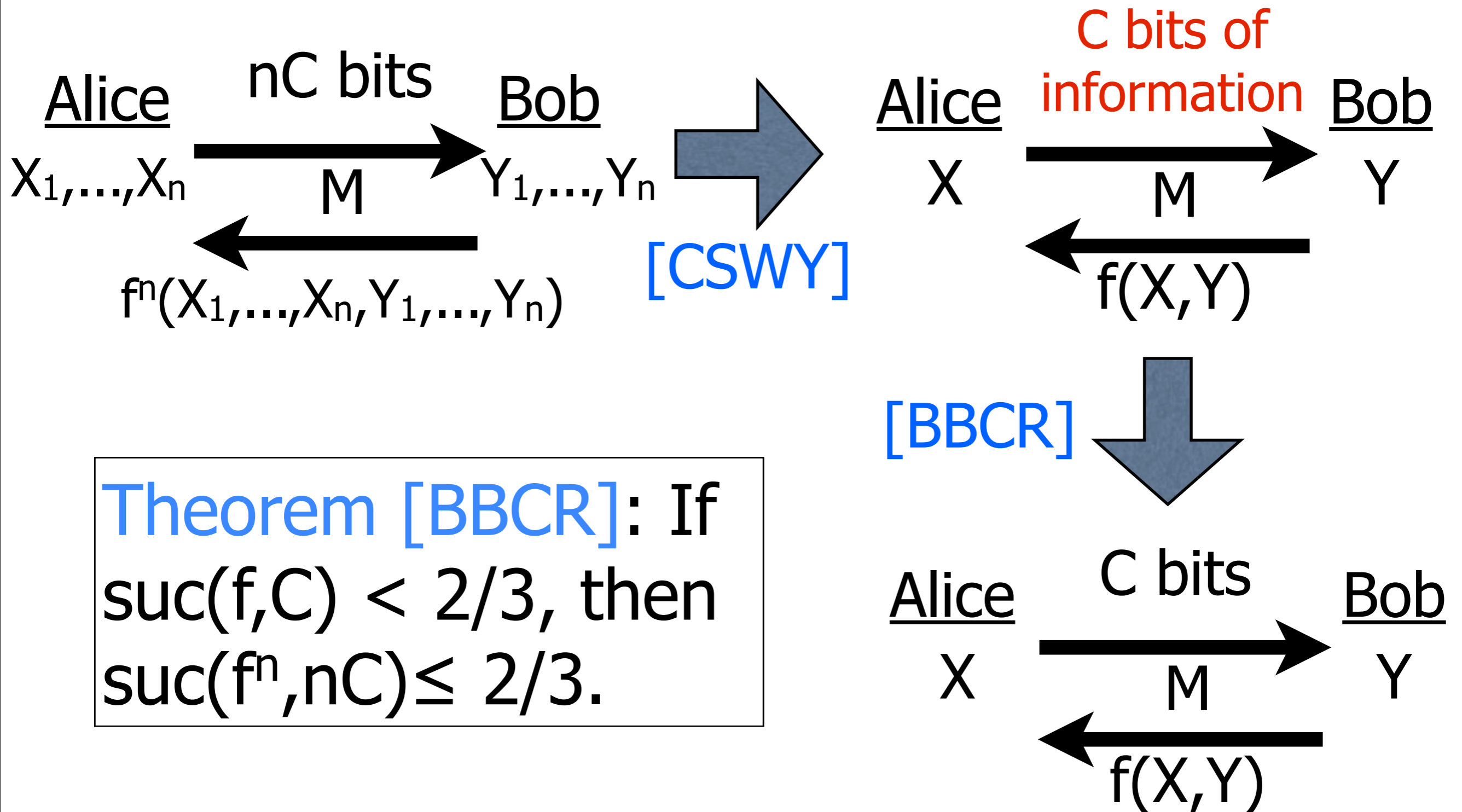
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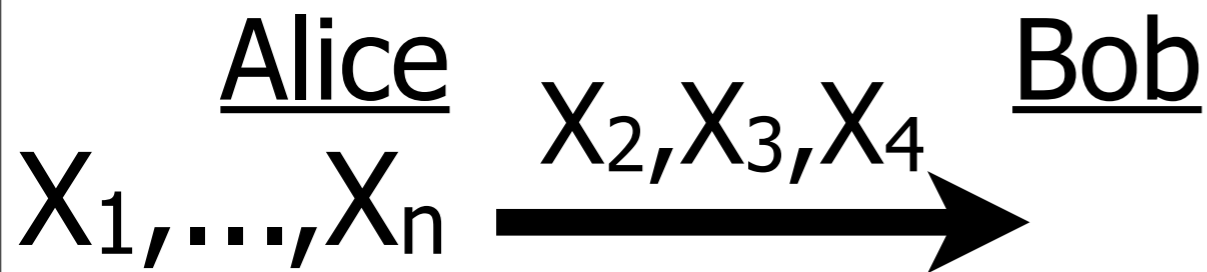
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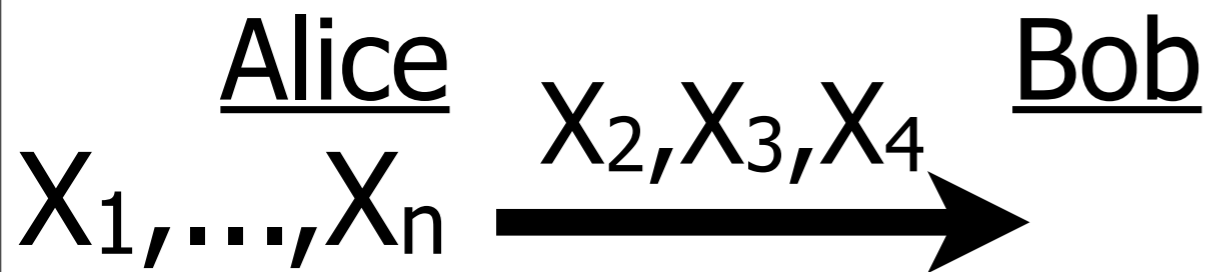
Examples

Suppose X_1, \dots, X_n are n uniform bits



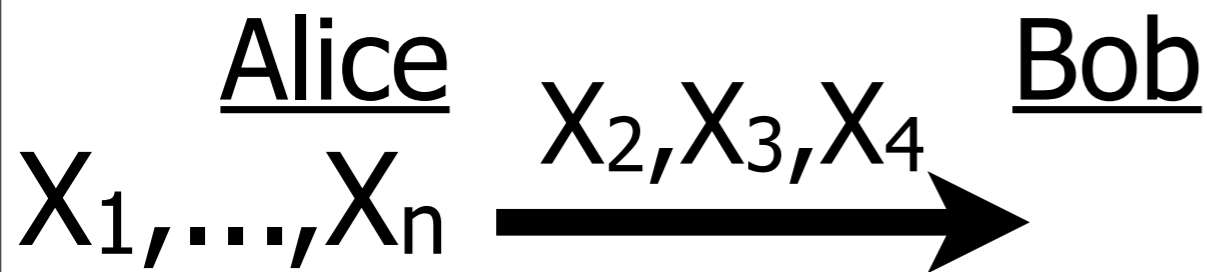
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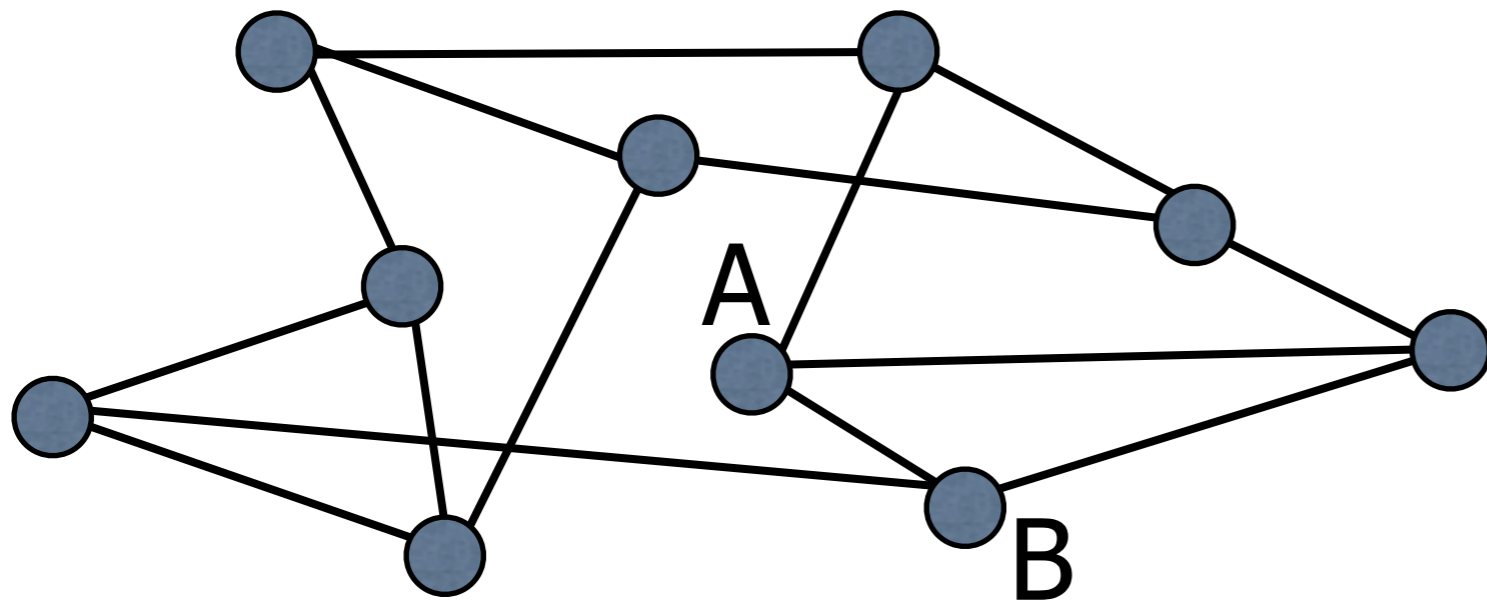


Information [Shannon]

$$I(A;B) = \sum_{p(a,b)} \mathbb{E} \left[\log \frac{p(a|b)}{p(a)} \right]$$

If A,B - random variables
 $p(a, b)$ - joint distribution

Information [Shannon]



Example:
(A,B) - random
edge in d-regular
graph on n
vertices

$$I(A;B) = \mathbb{E}_{p(a,b)} \left[\log \frac{p(a|b)}{p(a)} \right] = \log \frac{1/d}{1/n} = \log \frac{n}{d}$$

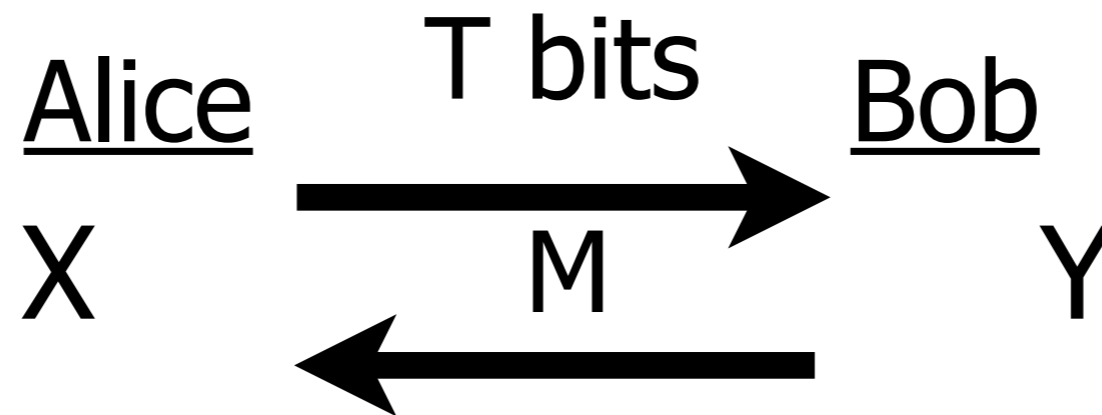
Properties of Info

$$I(A;B|C) = E_c[I(A;B|C=c)] = \mathbb{E}_{p(a,b,c)} \left[\log \frac{p(a|bc)}{p(a|c)} \right]$$

$$I(A_1A_2;B) = I(A_1; B) + I(A_2; B|A_1)$$

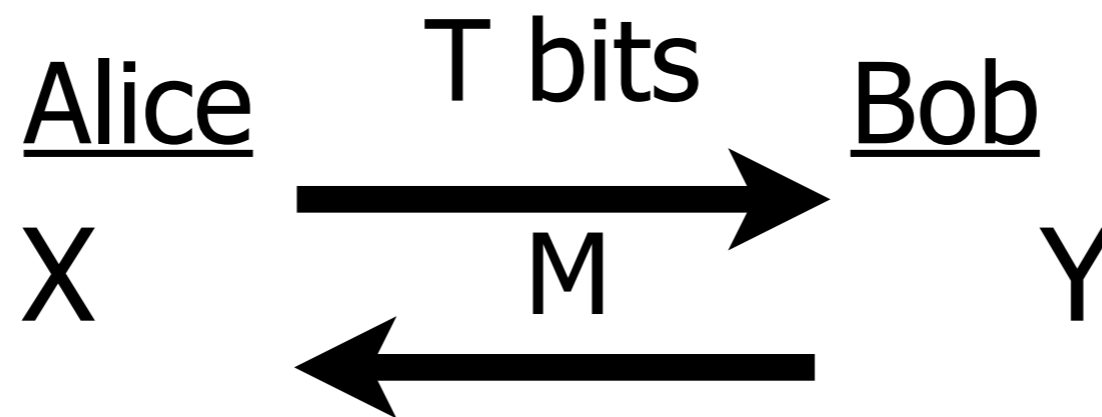
If D is a T -bit string,
 $I(C;D) \leq T$

Information Cost



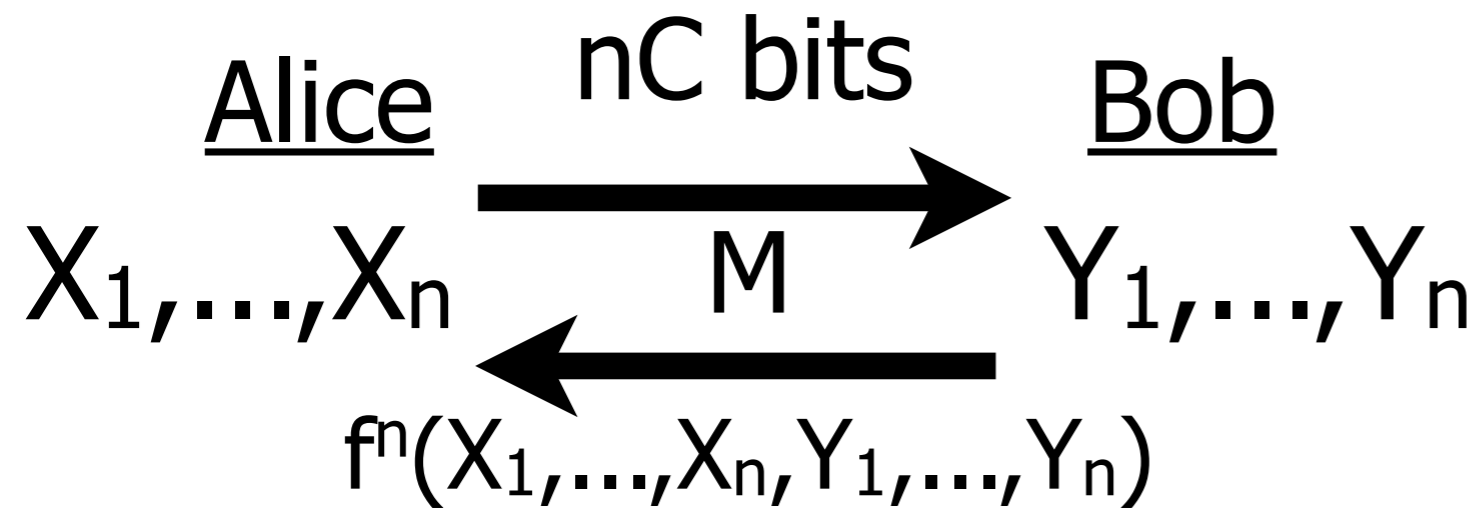
External information: $I(XY;M)$

Information Cost

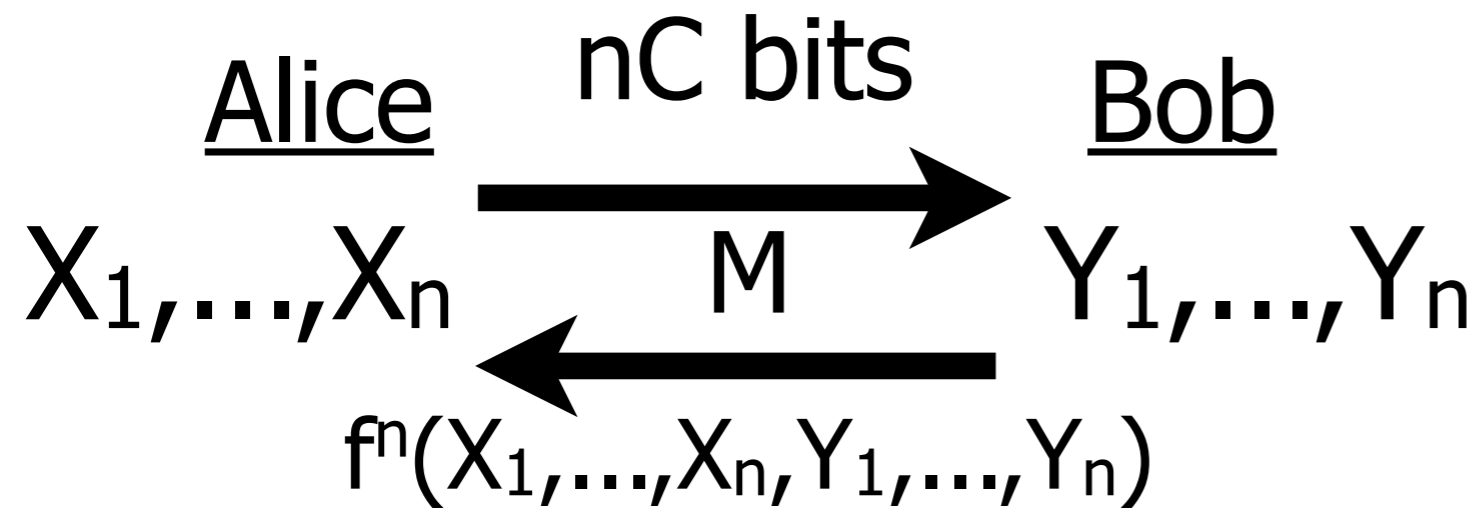


External information: $I(XY;M) \leq T$

Low Info Protocol

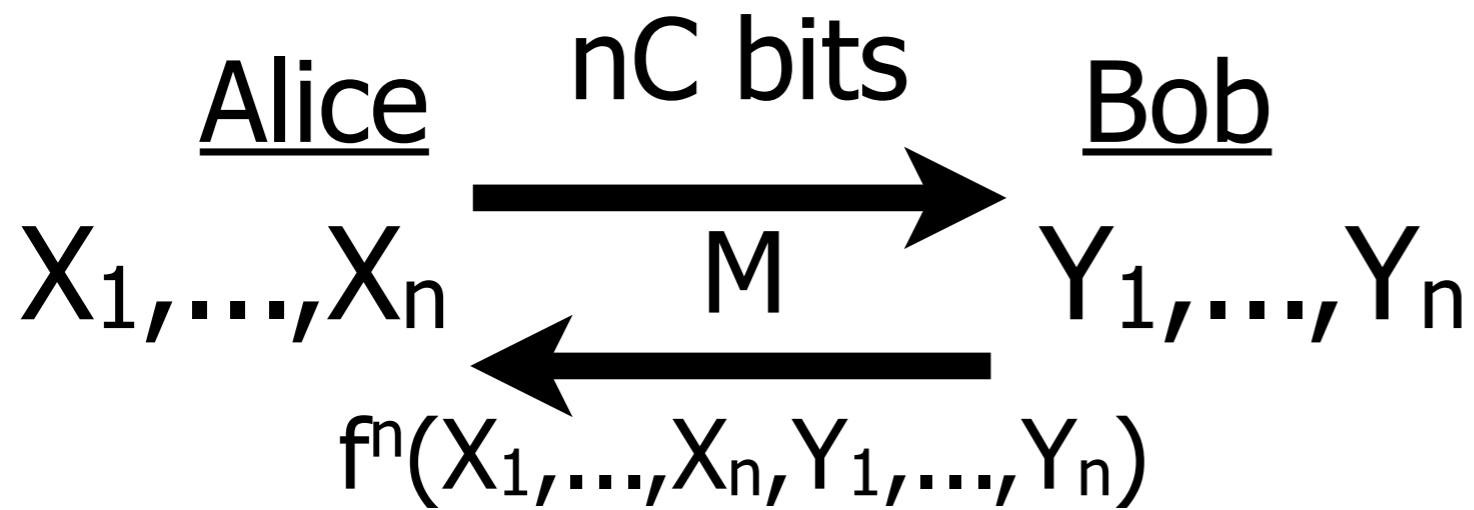


Low Info Protocol



$$\begin{aligned} nC &\geq I(X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n; M) \\ &= I(X_1 Y_1; M) \\ &\quad + I(X_2 Y_2; M | X_1 Y_1) \\ &\quad + I(X_3 Y_3; M | X_1 X_2 Y_1 Y_2) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Low Info Protocol

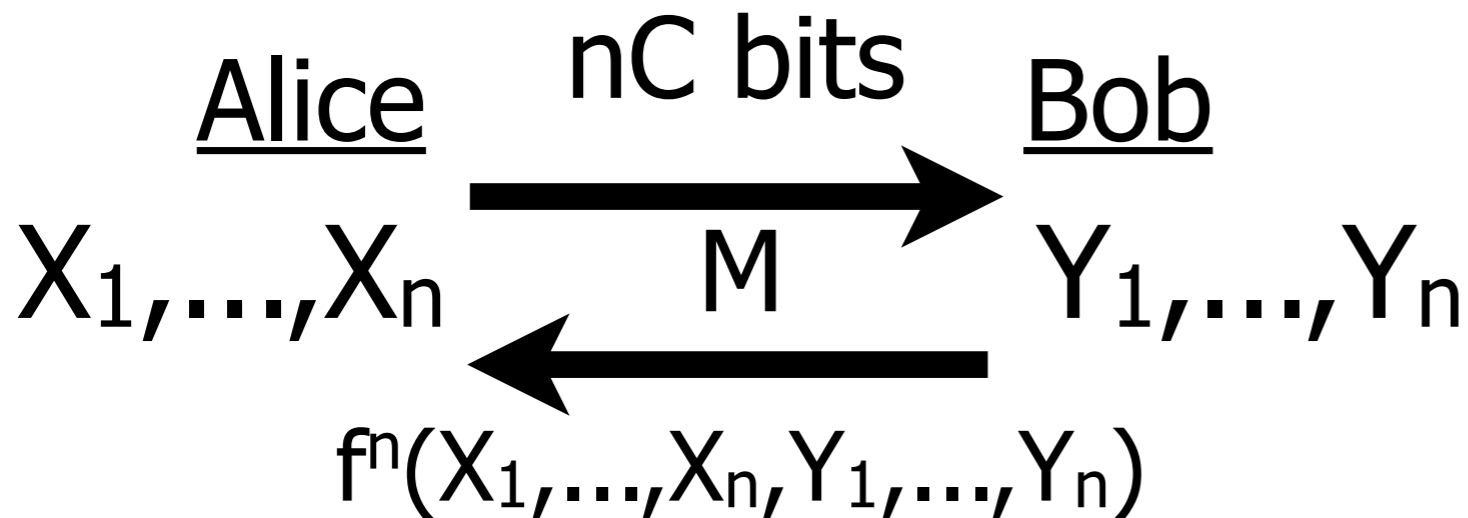


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For average i ,

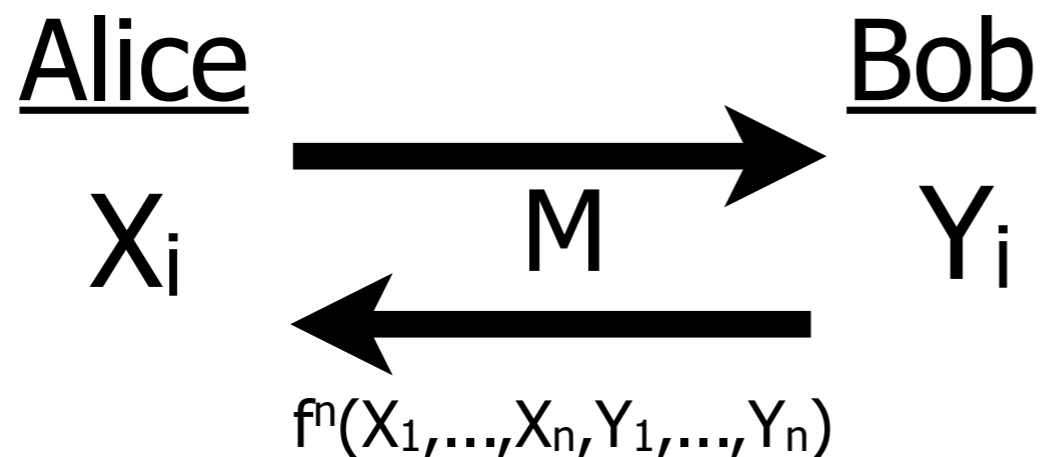
$$C \geq I(X_i Y_i; M | X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}, Y_1, \dots, Y_{i-1})$$

Low Info Protocol



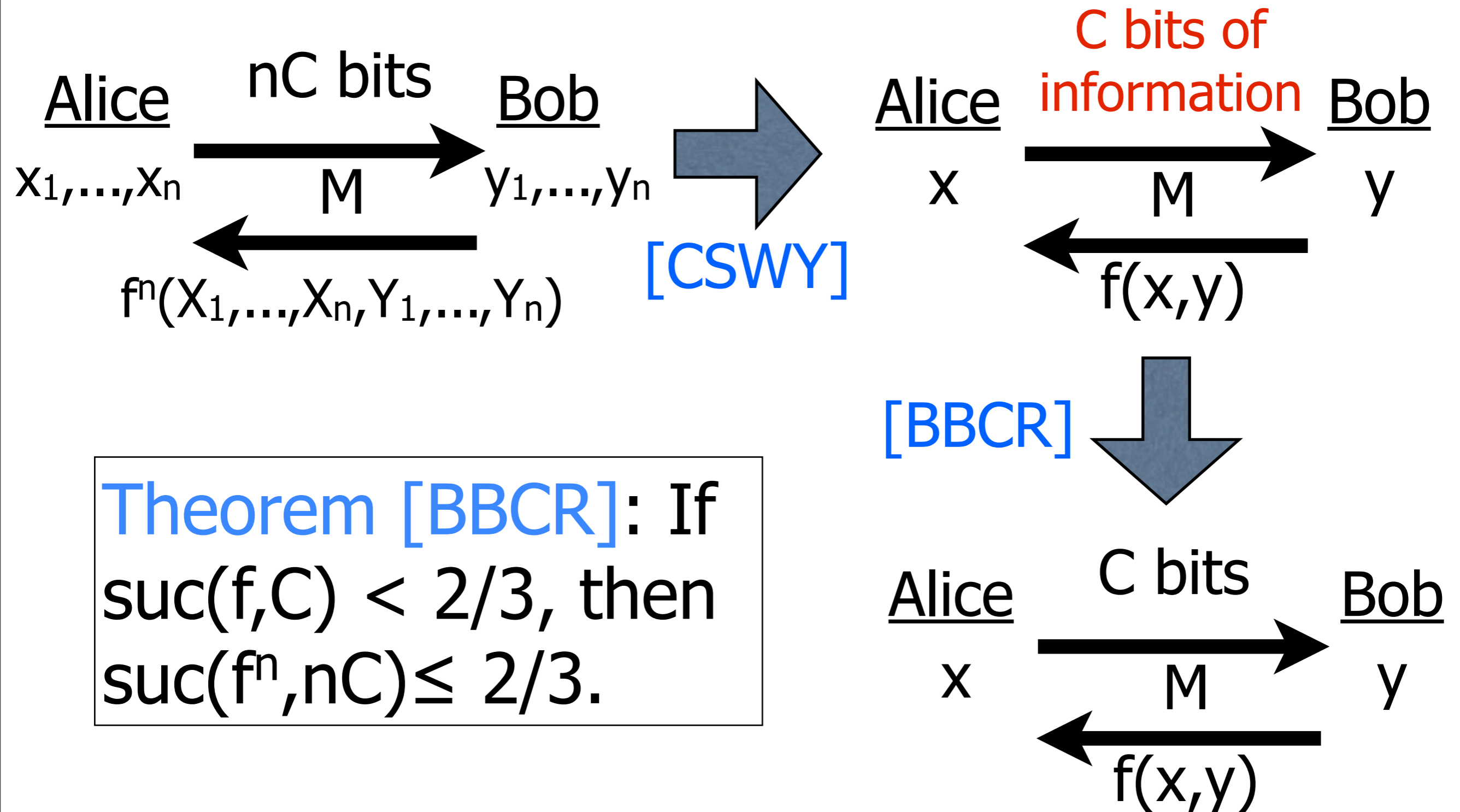
$$C \geq I(X_i Y_i; M \mid X_1, \dots, X_{i-1} Y_1, \dots, Y_{i-1})$$

publicly sample: $X_1, \dots, X_{i-1} Y_1, \dots, Y_{i-1}$



Information $\leq C$

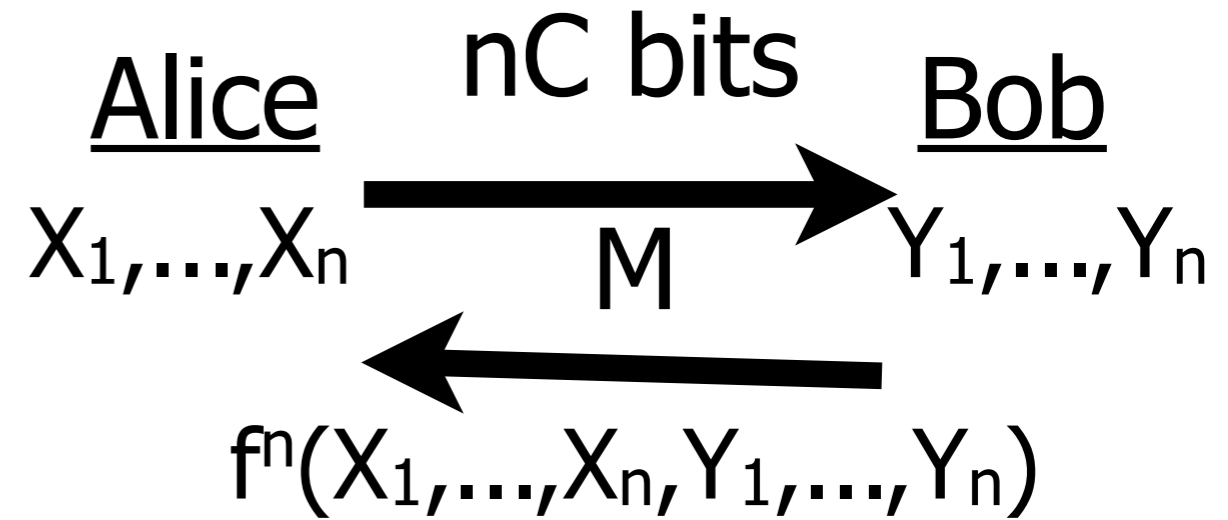
Reduction



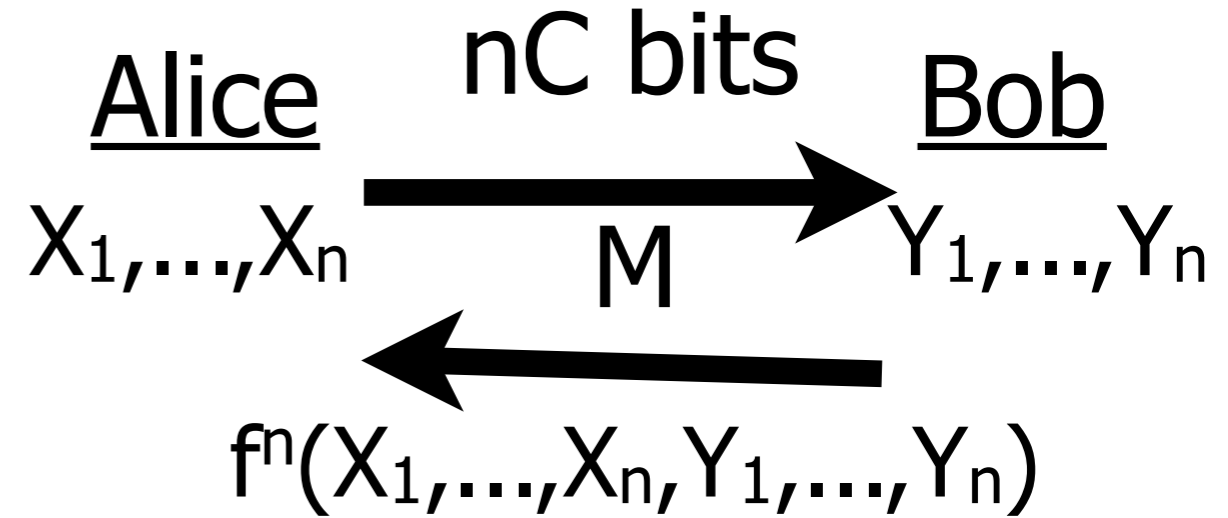
Theorem [BBCR]: If $\text{suc}(f, C) < 2/3$, then $\text{suc}(f^n, nC) \leq 2/3$.

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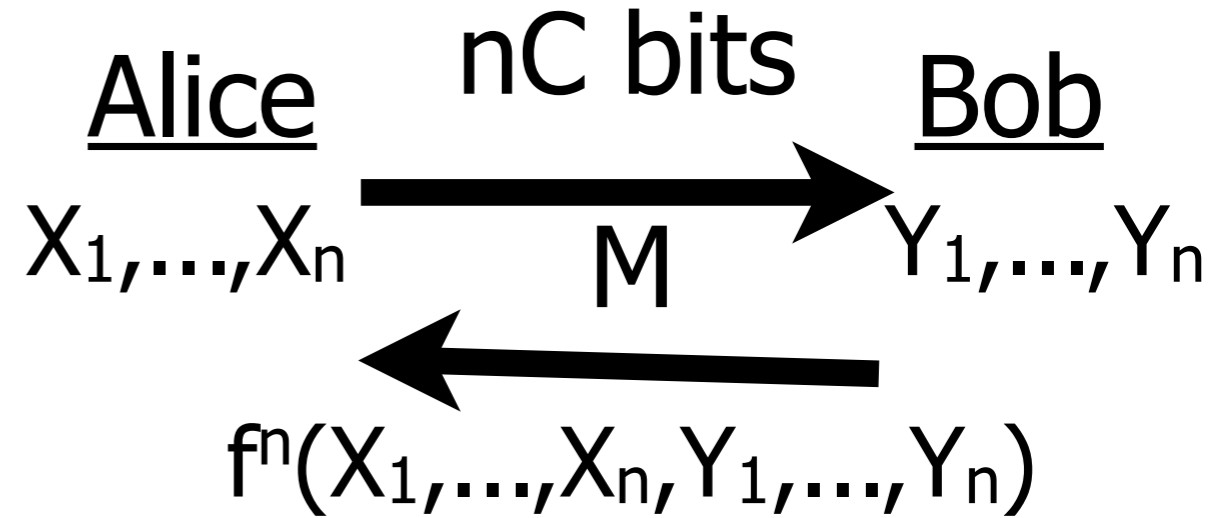


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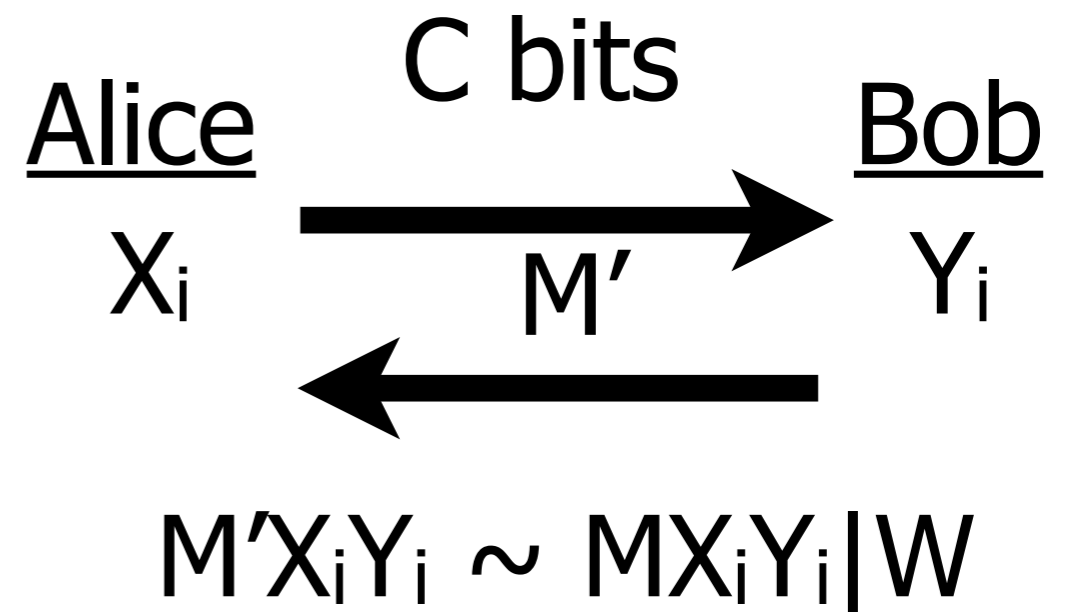
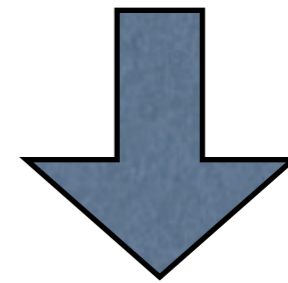


W : event that
output is correct

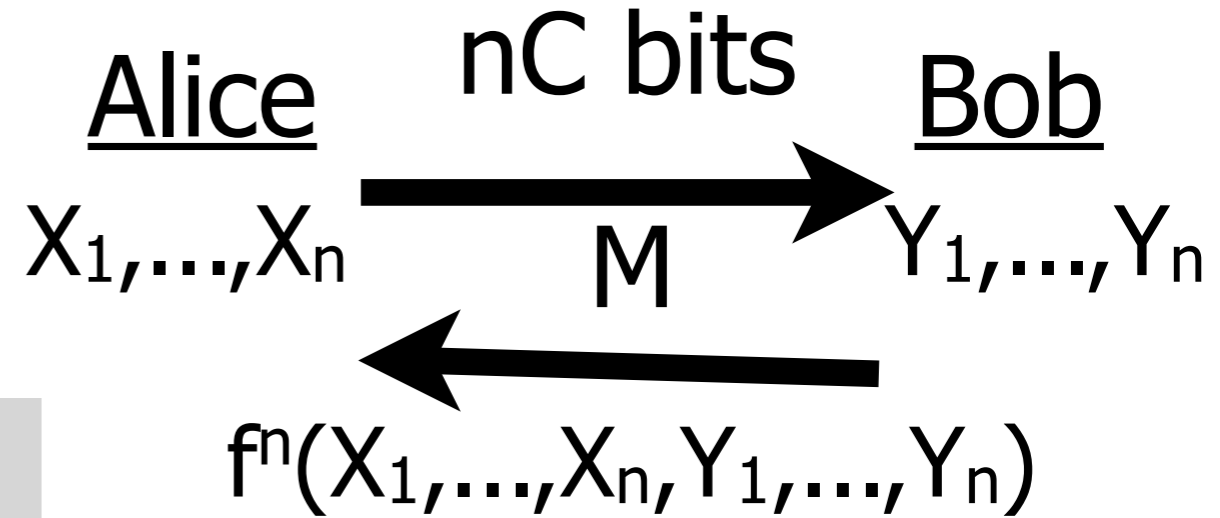
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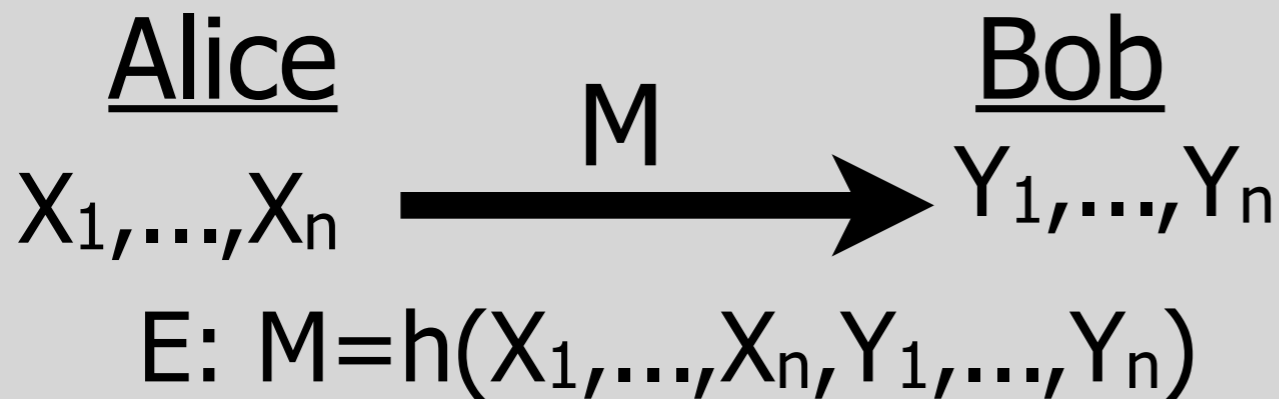
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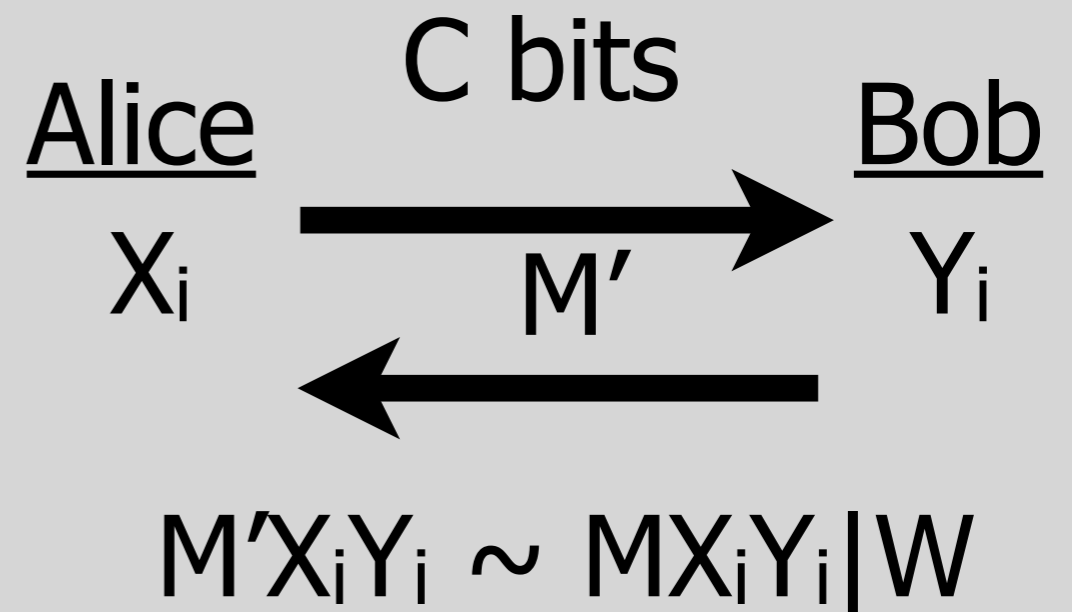
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Challenges:

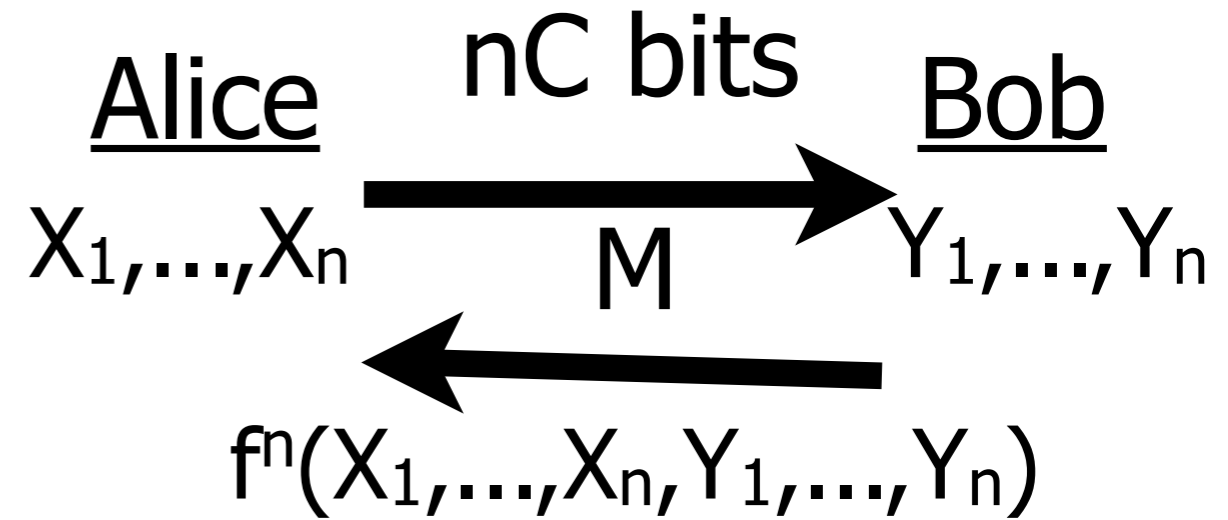
- $M|W$ is not a protocol, e.g.



Simulating $M|E$ with a protocol naively requires a lot of communication!

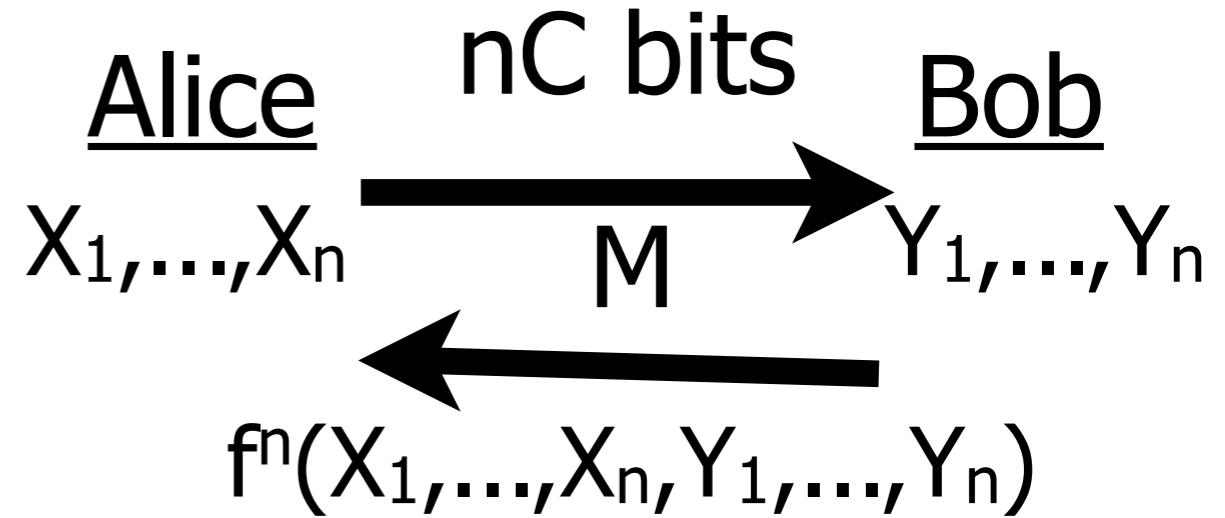


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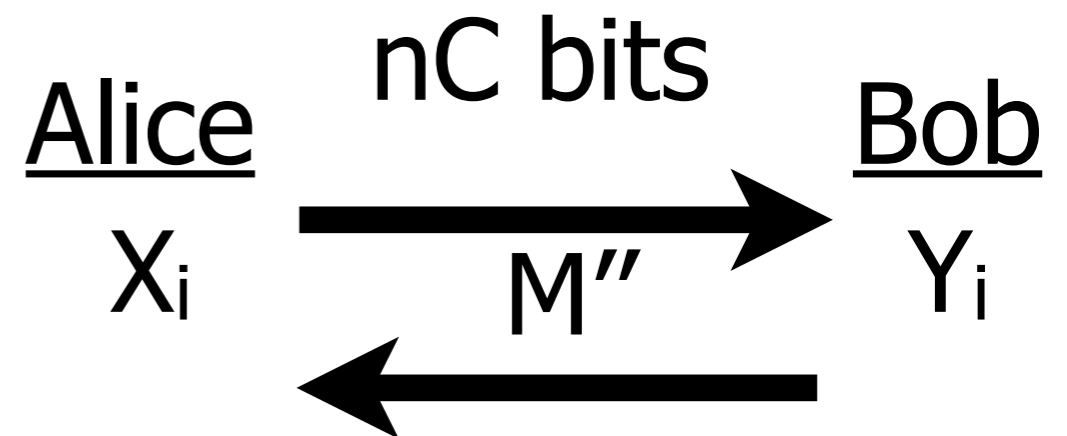
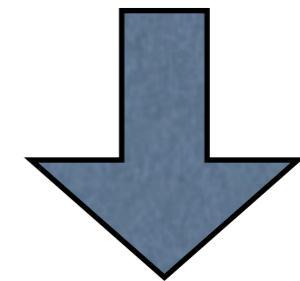


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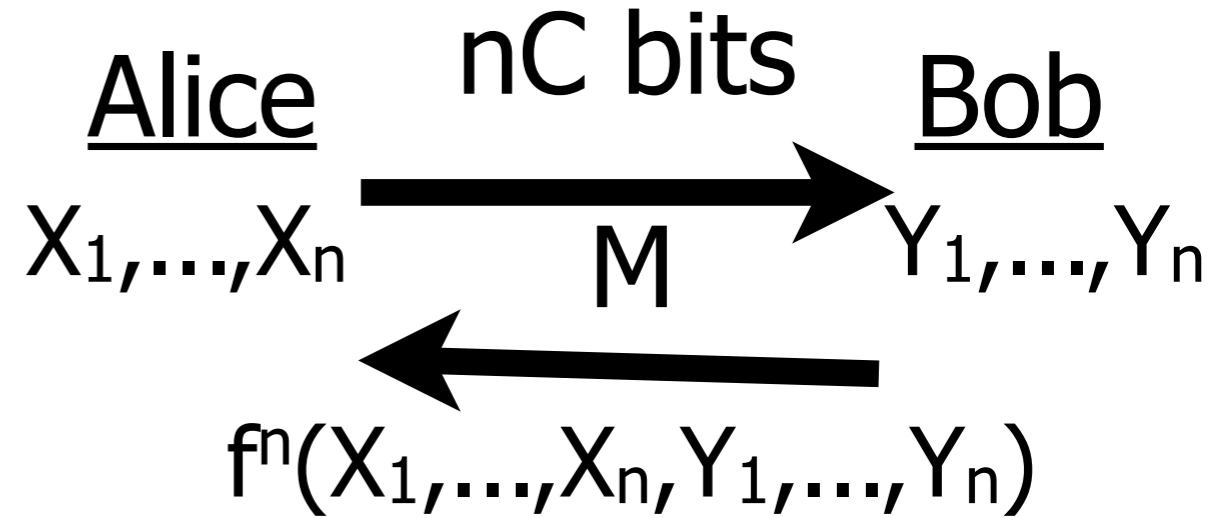


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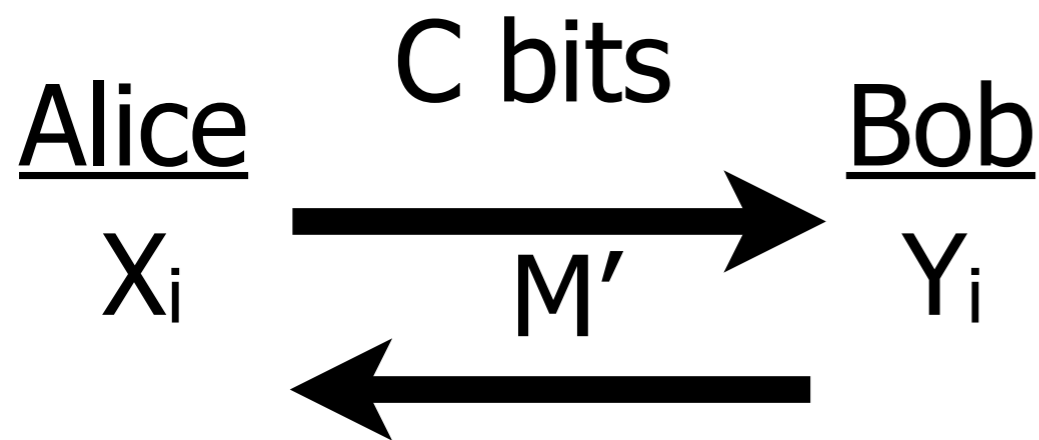
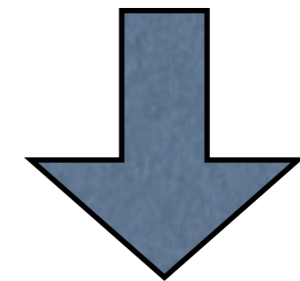


$$M''X_iY_i \sim MX_iY_i|W$$

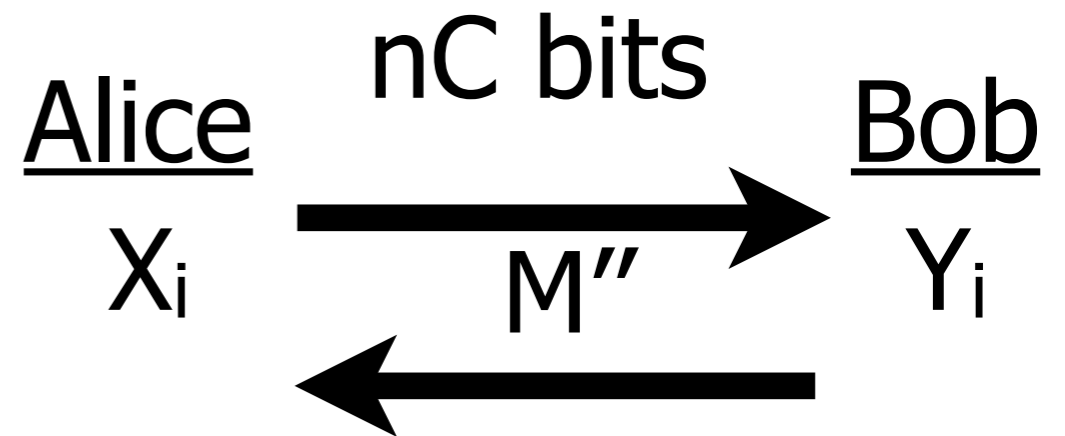
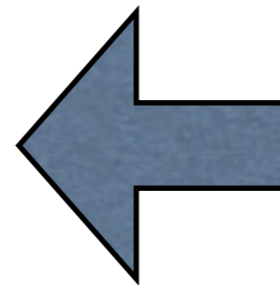
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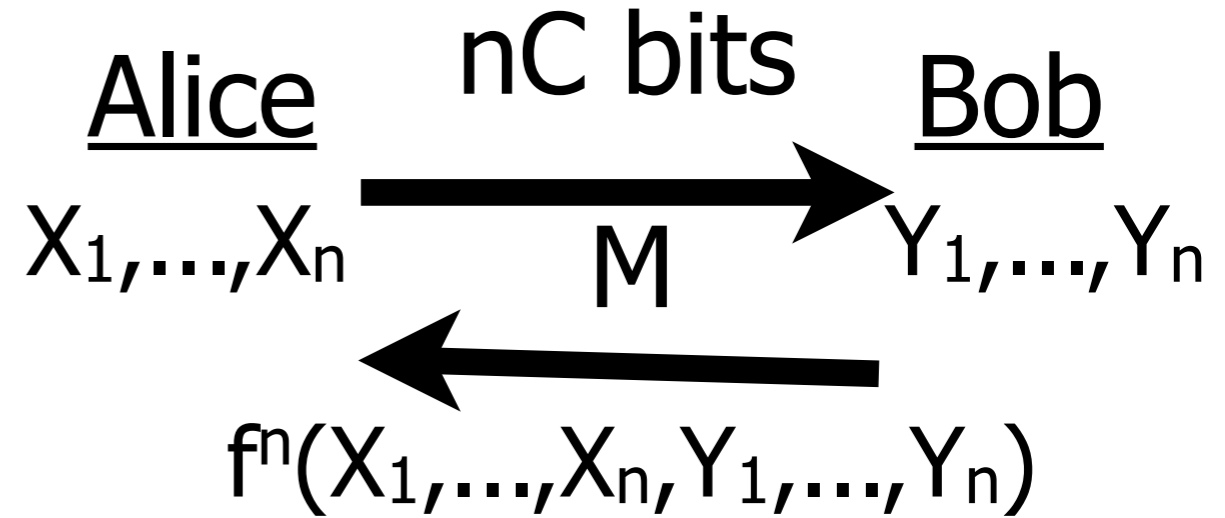


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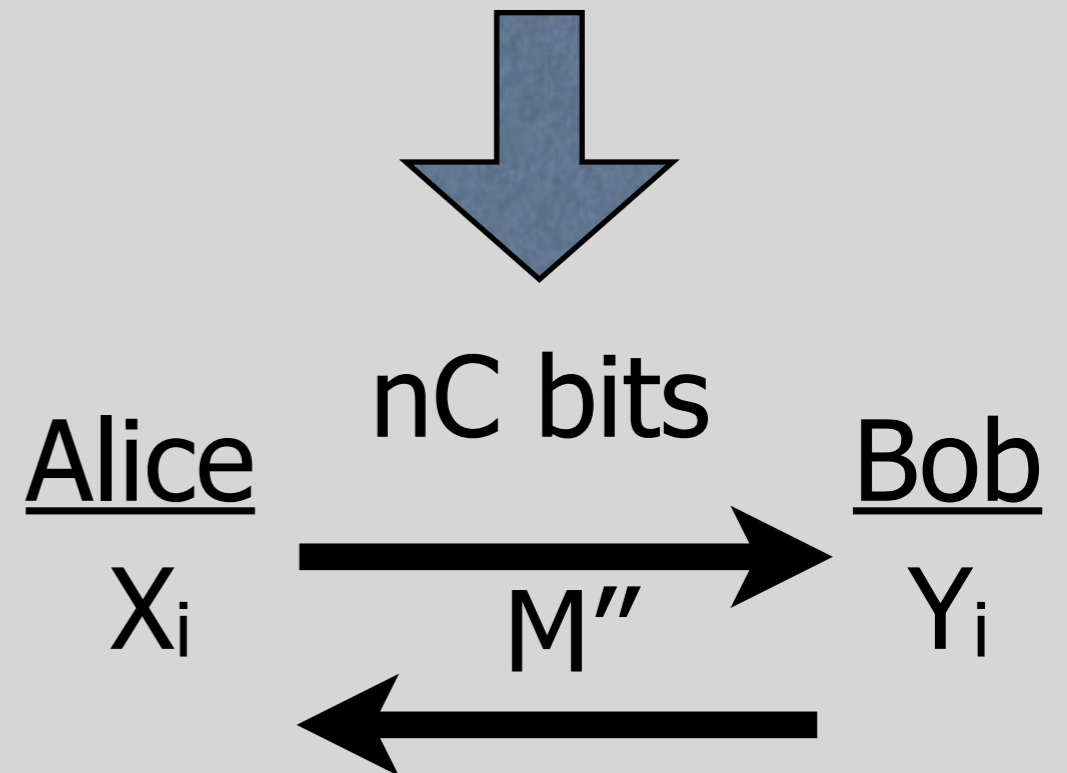
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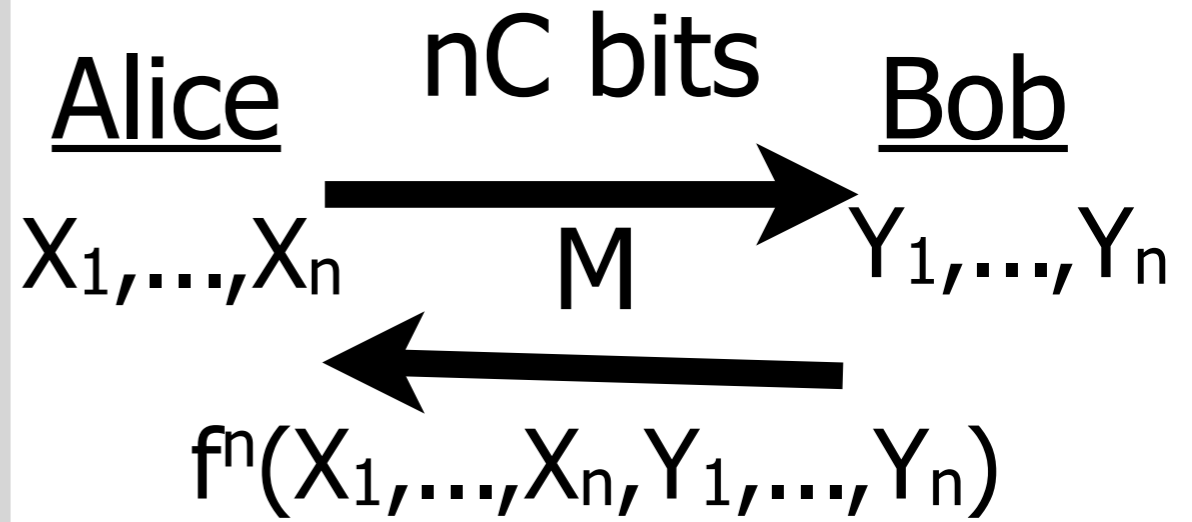


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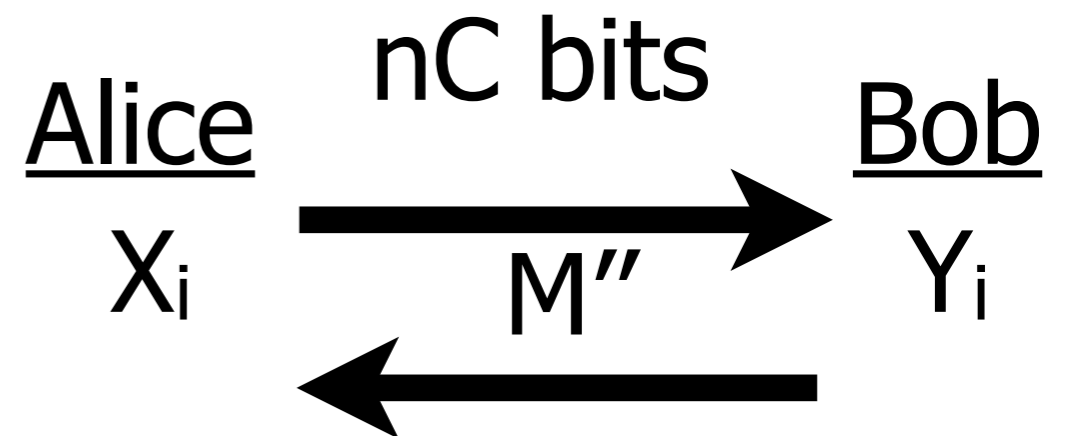
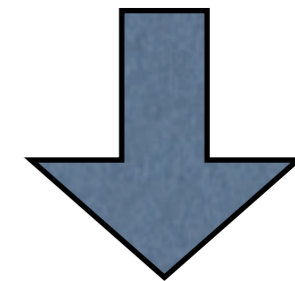
Intuition: W cannot
 simultaneously affect all n
 inputs or messages about
 all n inputs.



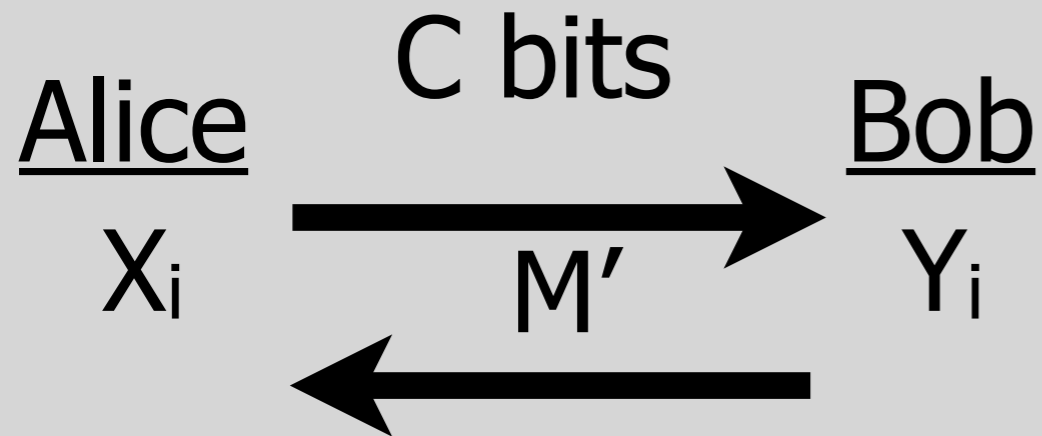
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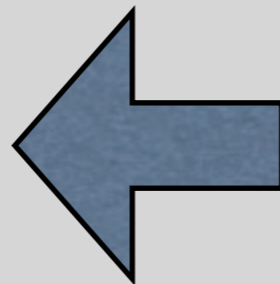
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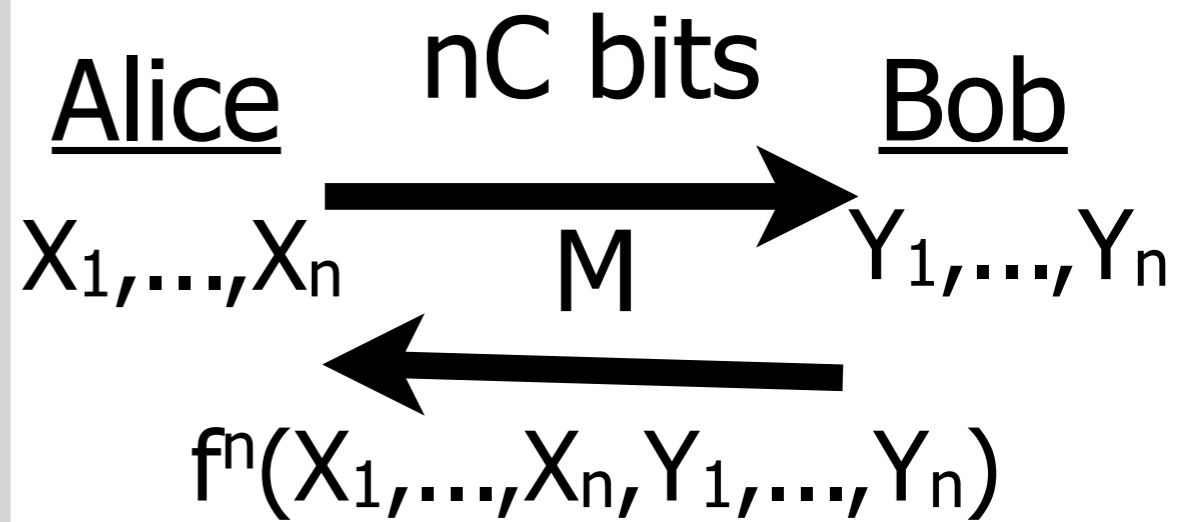
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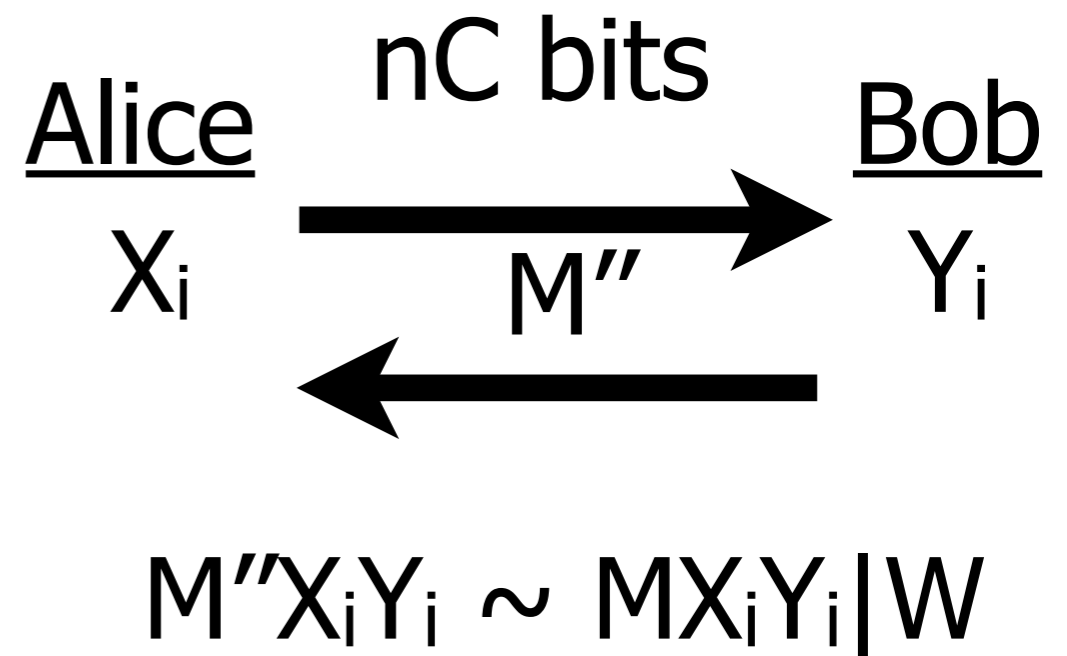
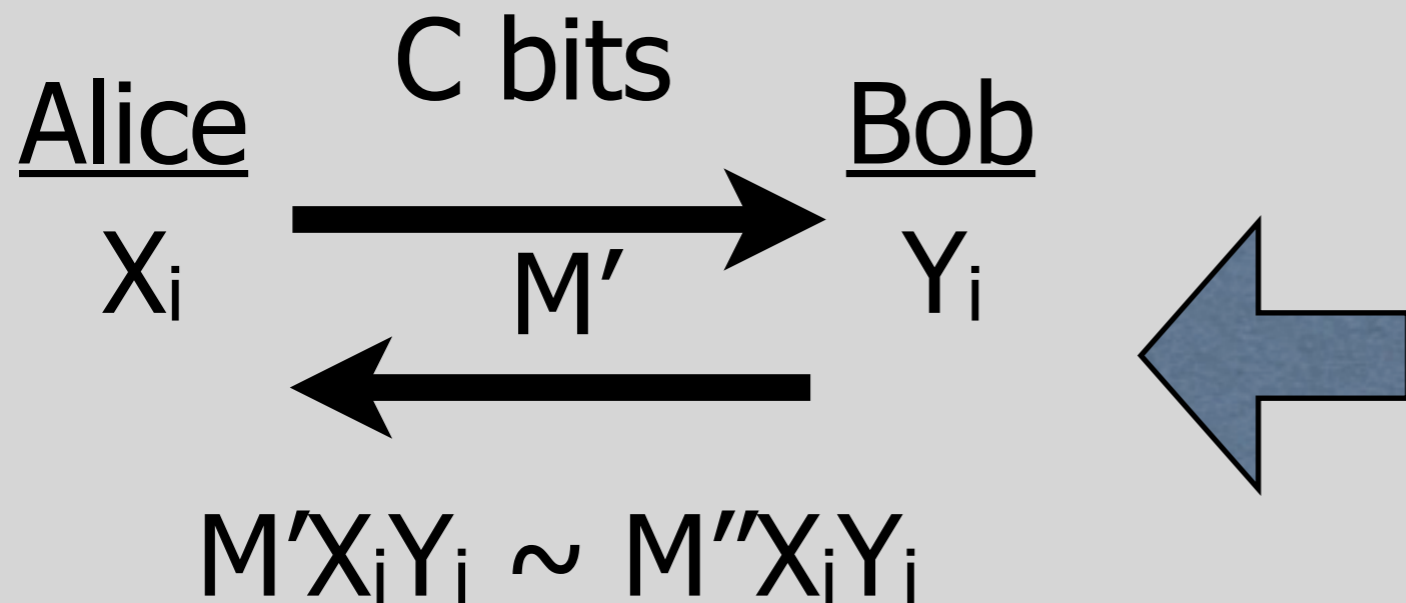
$$M'X_iY_i \sim M''X_iY_i$$



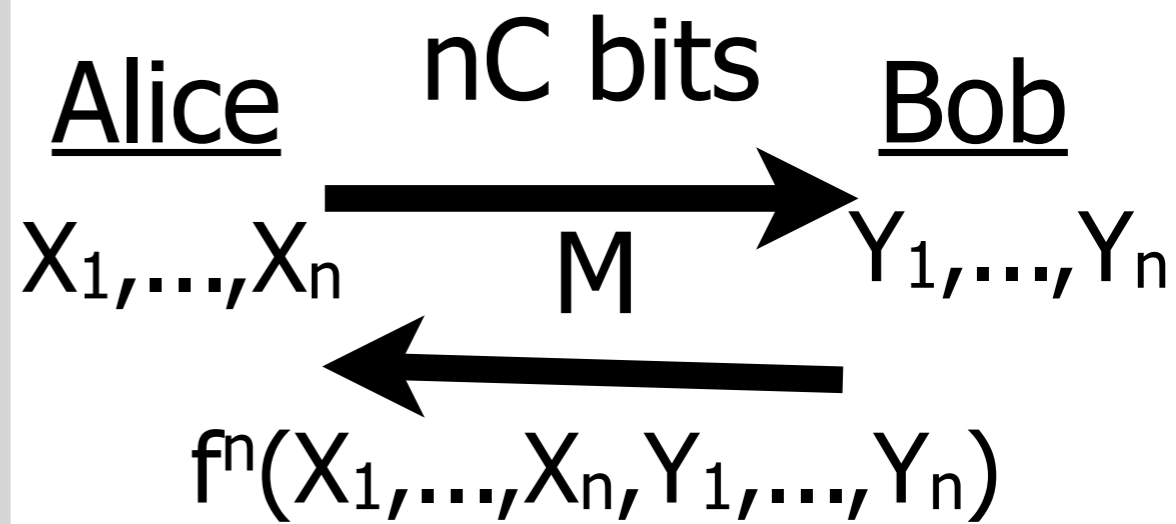
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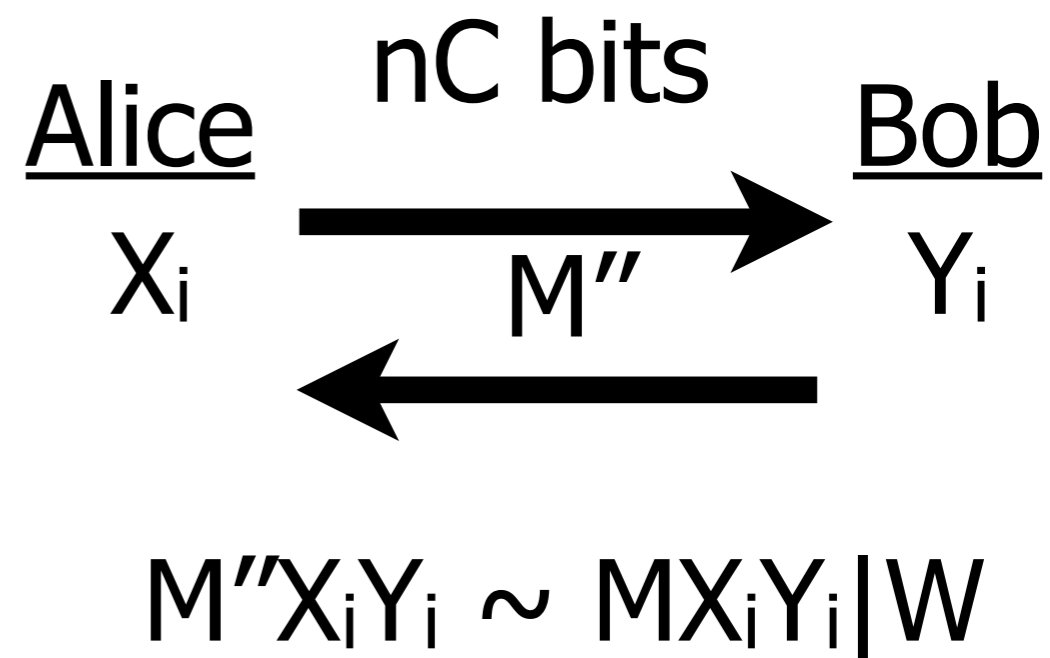
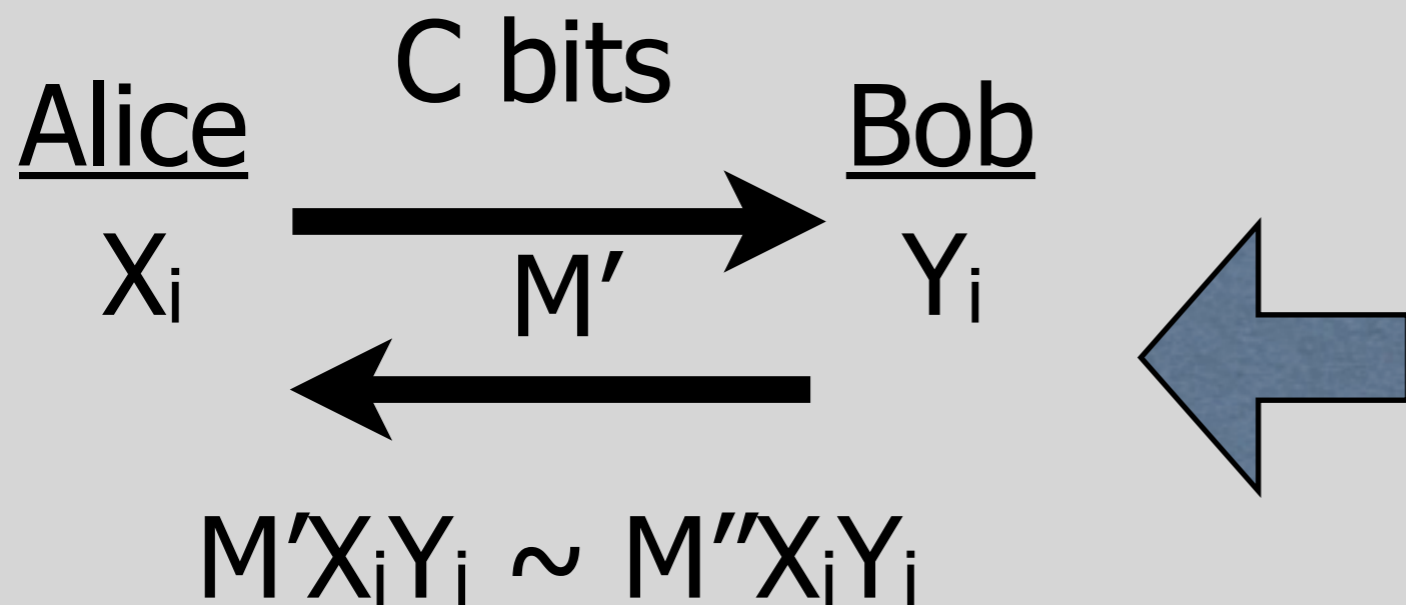
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 &\quad + I(X_3 Y_3; M | W X_1 X_2 Y_1 Y_2) \dots
 \end{aligned}$$



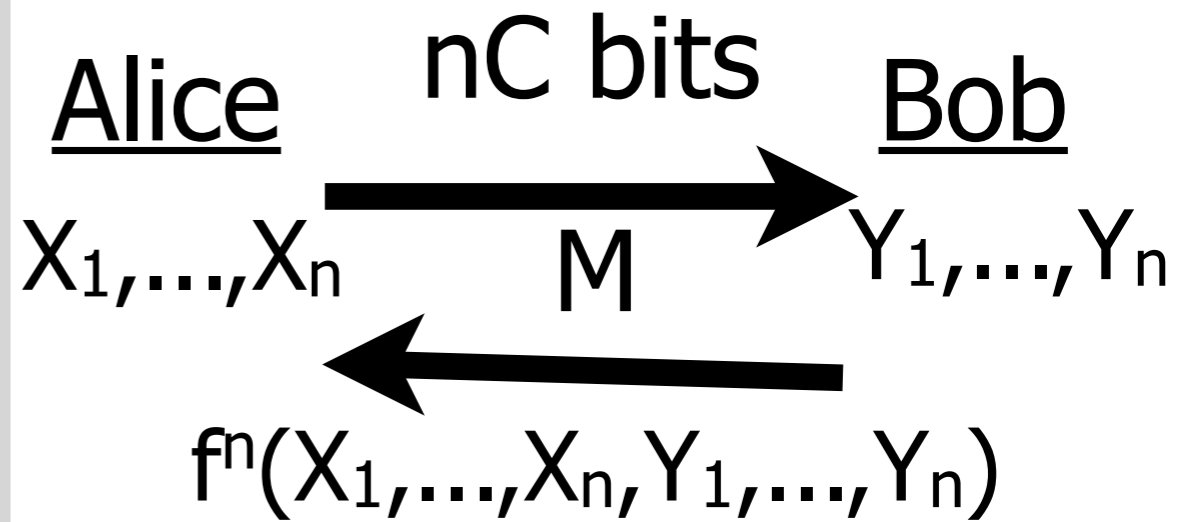
W: event that output is correct

For average i ,

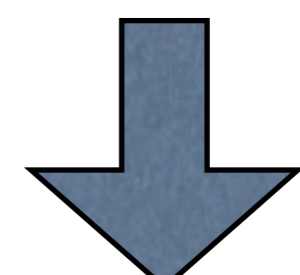
$$C \geq I(X_i Y_i; M | X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}, Y_1, \dots, Y_{i-1} W)$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 nC &\geq I(X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n; M | W) \\
 &= I(X_1 Y_1; M | W) \\
 &\quad + I(X_2 Y_2; M | W X_1 Y_1) \\
 &\quad + I(X_3 Y_3; M | W X_1 X_2 Y_1 Y_2) \dots
 \end{aligned}$$



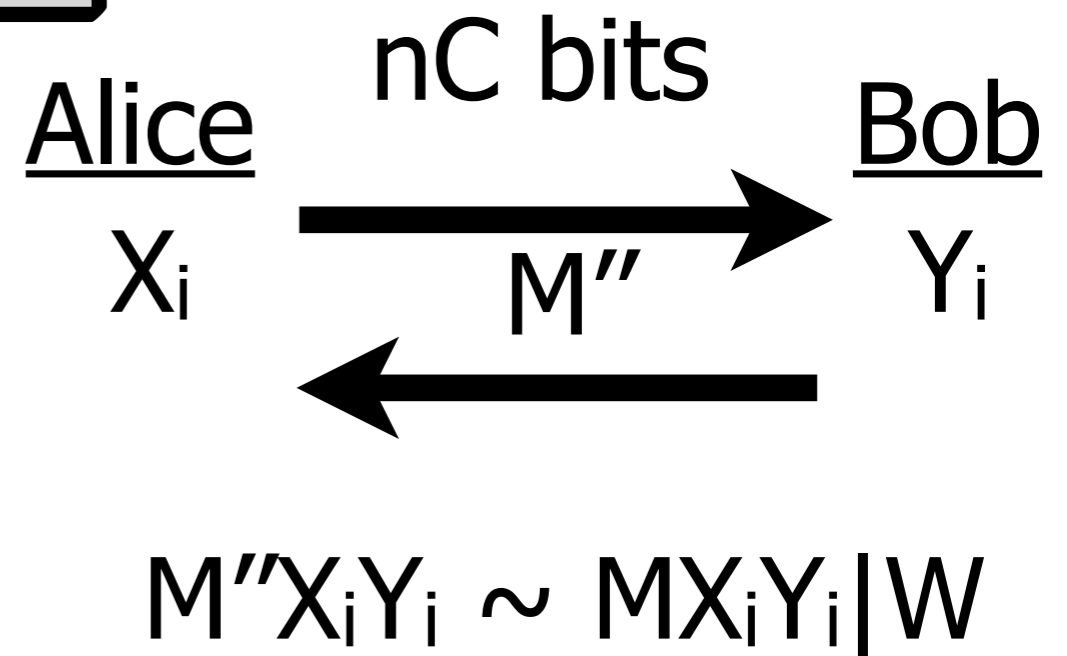
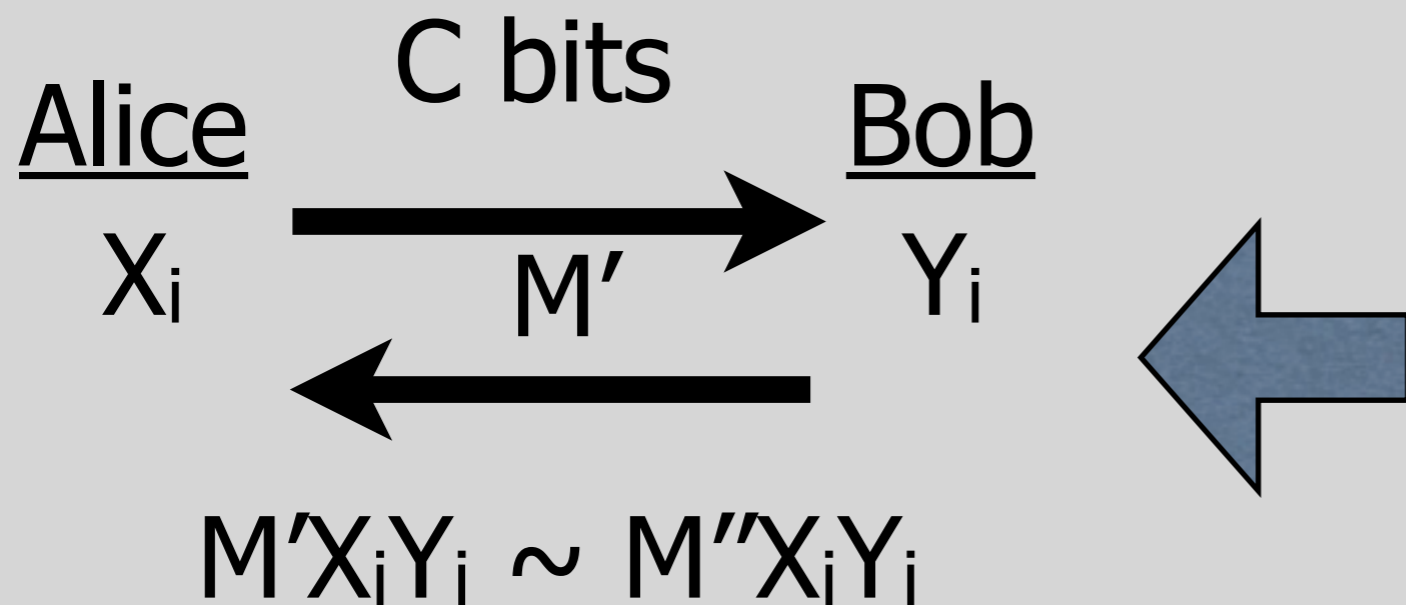
W: event that output is correct



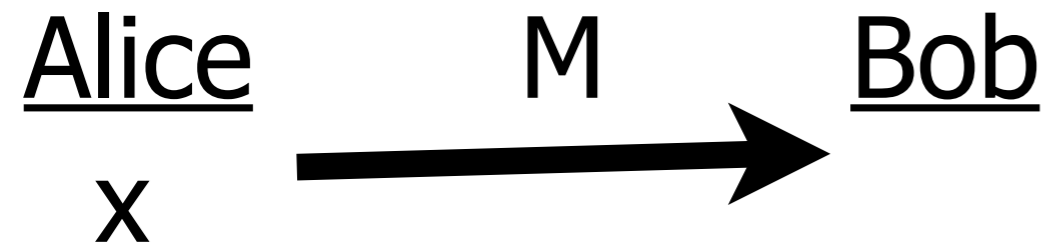
For average i ,

$$C \geq I(X_i Y_i; M | X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}, Y_1, \dots, Y_{i-1} W)$$

WANT: For average i ,

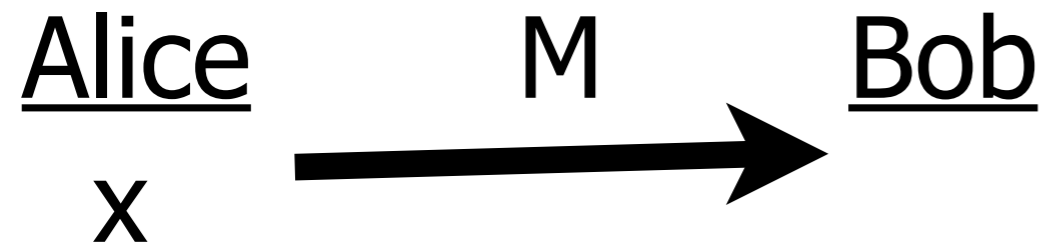
$$C \geq I(X_i Y_i; M'' | X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}, Y_1, \dots, Y_{i-1})$$


Cannot use BBKR:



$$M = \begin{cases} x, & \text{with } \varepsilon \text{ prob.} \\ \text{random,} & 1-\varepsilon \text{ prob.} \end{cases}$$

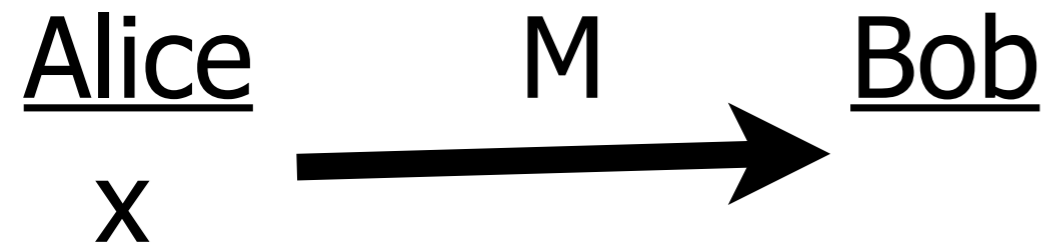
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M is ε close to having 0 information, but has very large information

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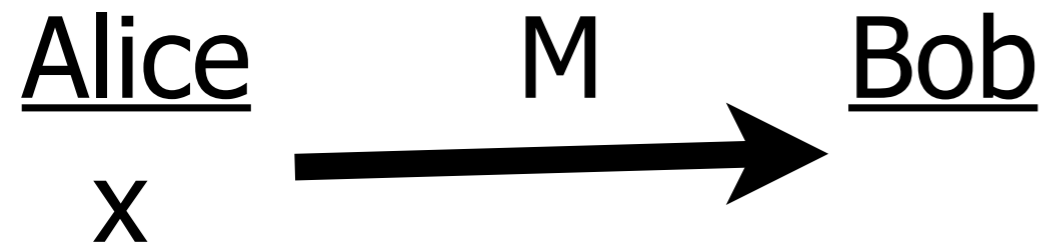


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Cannot use BBKR:

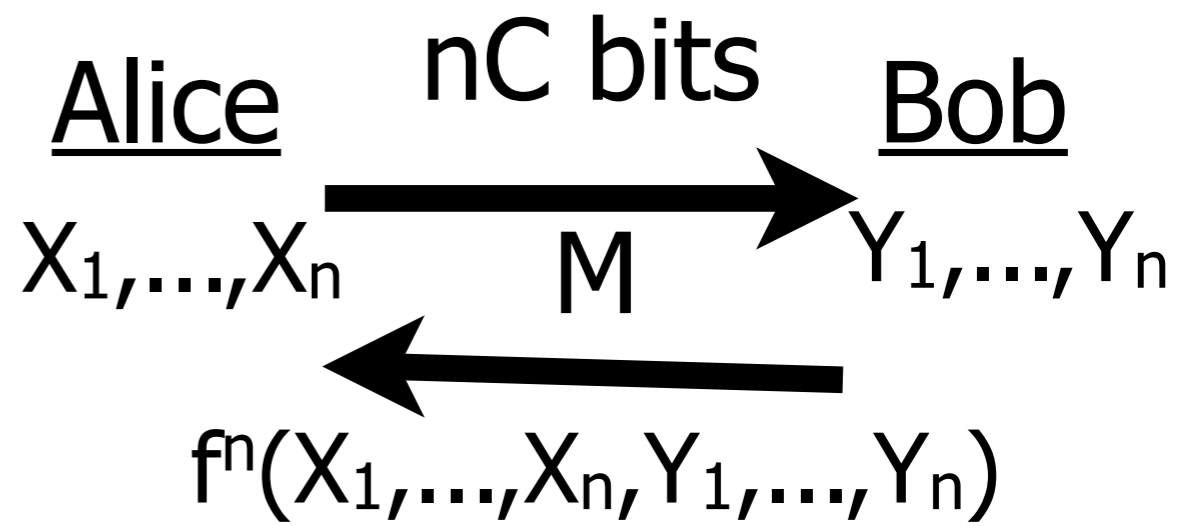
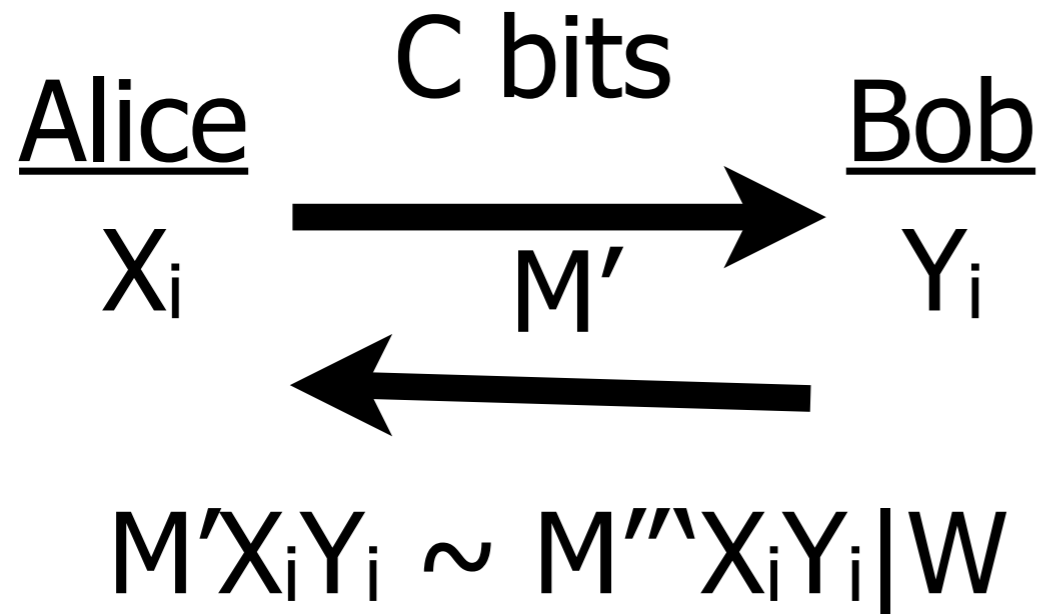


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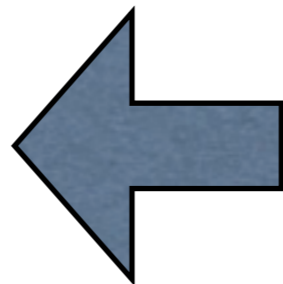
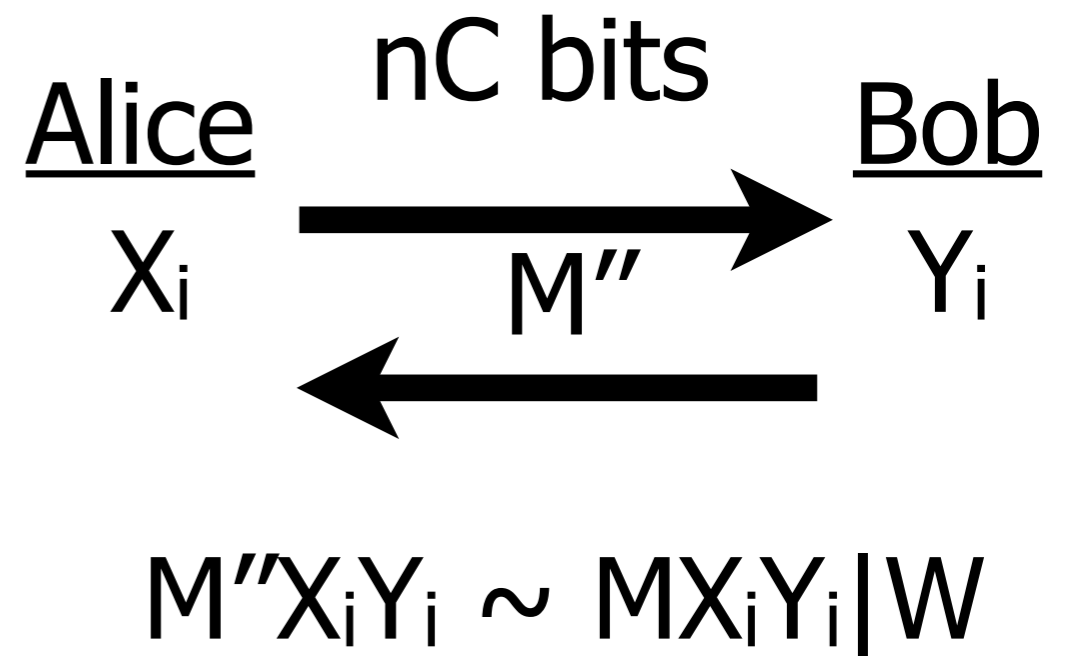
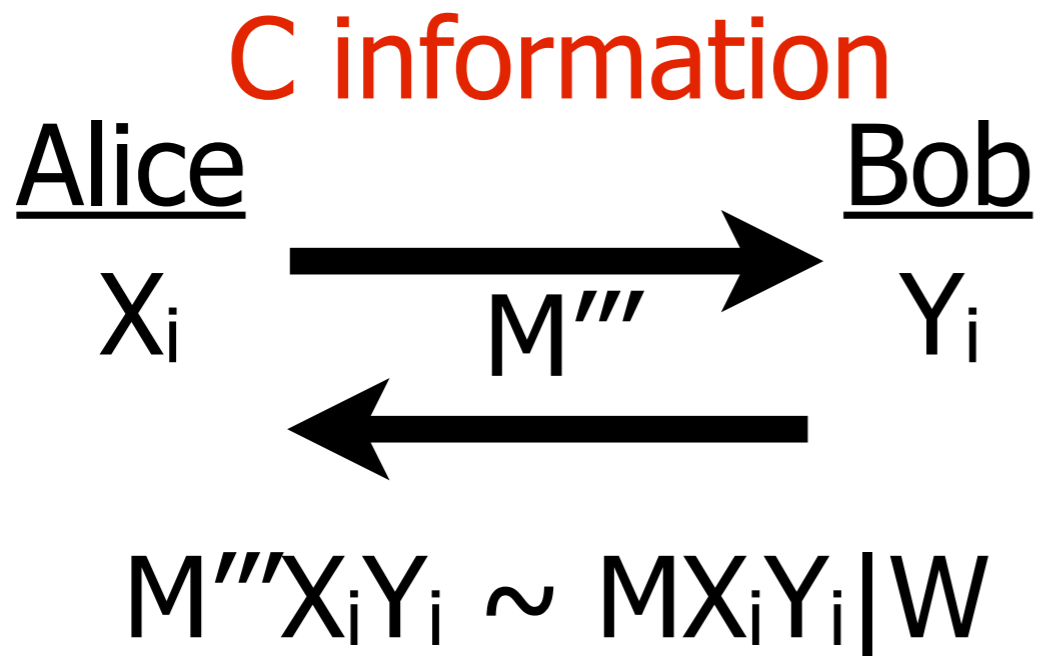
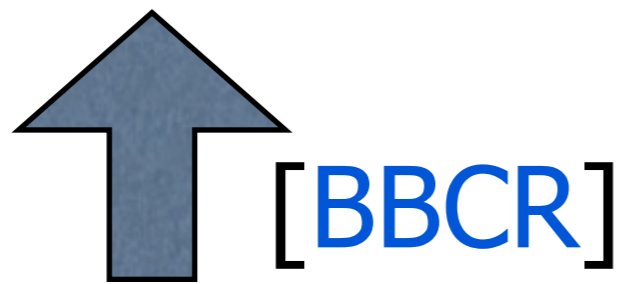
M is ε close to having 0 information, but has very large information

However: can modify protocol to obtain low info protocol!

Theorem: If a protocol is statistically close to low information, then it can be simulated by a low information protocol



W: event that output is correct



Results

Theorem (product distributions):

If $\text{suc}(f,C) < 2/3$, then

$$\text{suc}(f^n, nC/\text{polylog}(nC)) \leq 2^{-n/100}.$$

Theorem (arbitrary distributions):

If $\text{suc}(f,C) < 2/3$, then

$$\text{suc}(f^n, n^{1/2}(C-k)/\text{polylog}(nC)) \leq 2^{-n/100}.$$

$k = \#$ bits in output of f

Open Challenges

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- Simulating a protocol with information I and communication C currently takes $(I.C)^{1/2}$ [BBCR]. Is it possible to do better?

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- Simulating a protocol with information I and communication C currently takes $(I.C)^{1/2}$ [[BBCR](#)]. Is it possible to do better?
- Direct products in other computational models (like circuits)? Strong counterexamples known for circuits, but the full truth is still not known.

Questions?

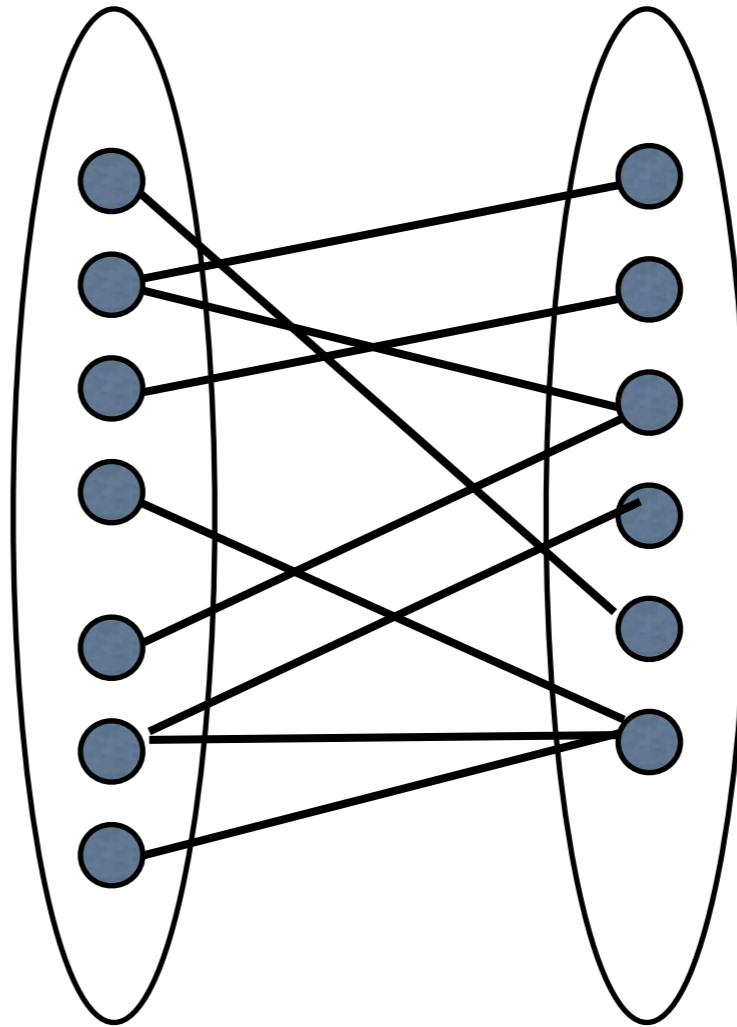


Obviously...

$\text{succ}(f^n, nC) \leq \text{exponentially small}$

Watch Out [Feige]

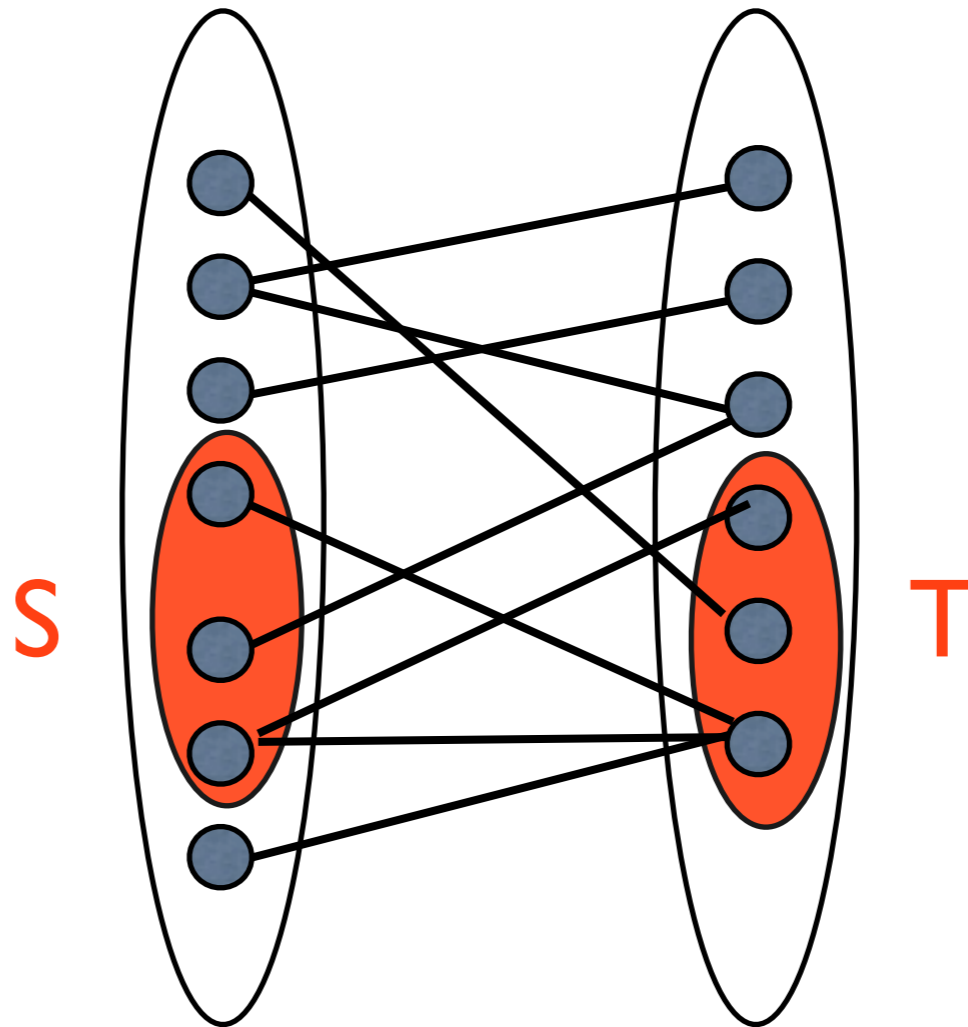
Uniformly random
graph, K vertices on
each side.



Watch Out [Feige]

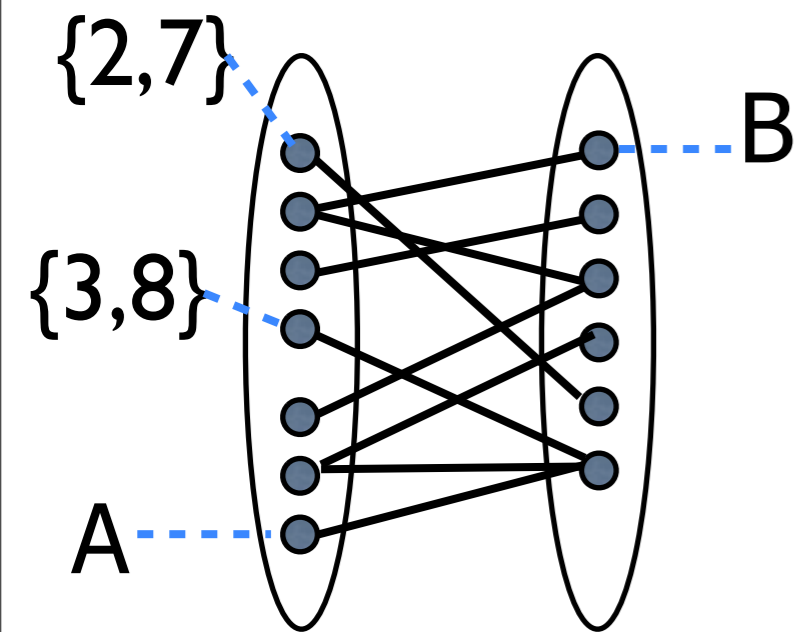
Uniformly random graph, K vertices on each side.

If $|S|, |T| > 2(\log K)$,
edge density between $S, T \sim 0.5$



Watch Out [Feige]

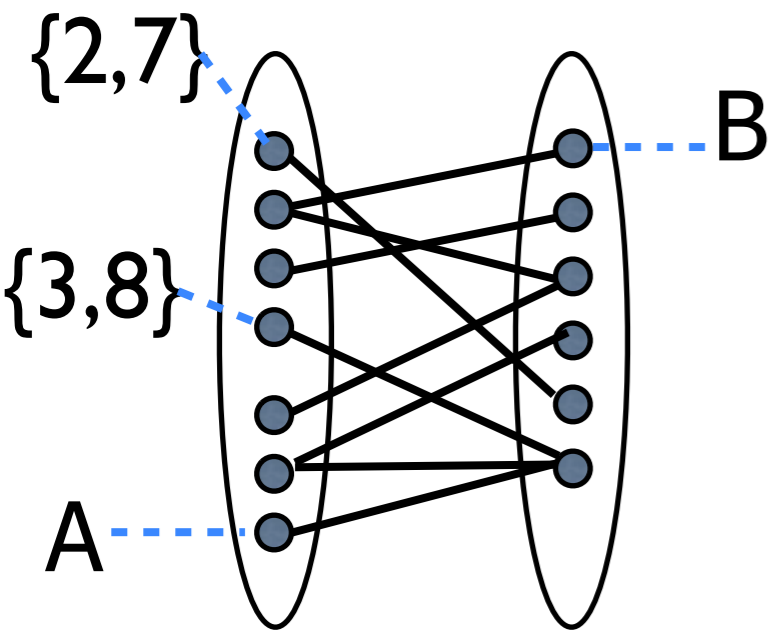
Random graph,
edge density =
0.5



$A, B \subset \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$
 $|A|, |B| = 2$

Watch Out [Feige]

Random graph,
edge density =
0.5



$A, B \subset \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$
 $|A|, |B| = 2$

Alice

$x \in [k]$

Output $A \ni x$

Bob

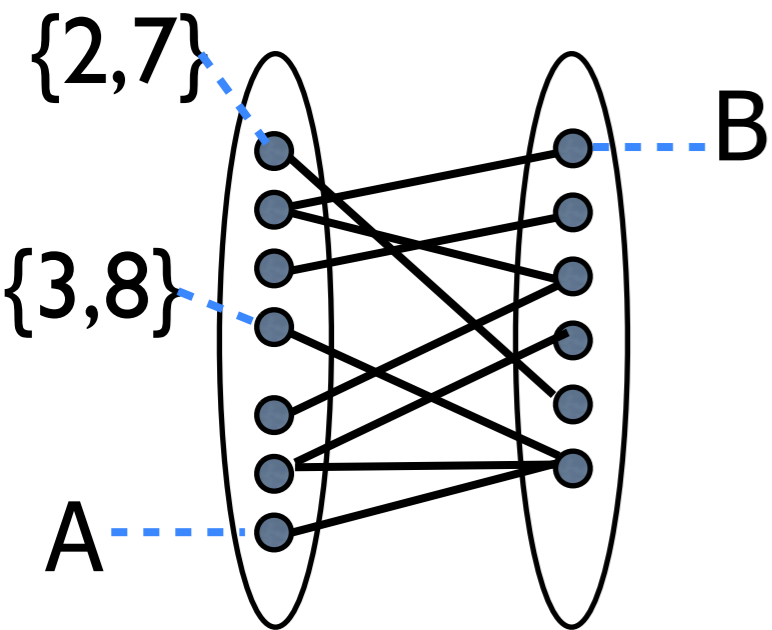
$y \in [k]$

Output $B \ni y$

Goal: Output (A, B) that is an edge

Watch Out [Feige]

Random graph,
edge density =
0.5



$A, B \subset \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$
 $|A|, |B| = 2$

Alice

$x \in [k]$

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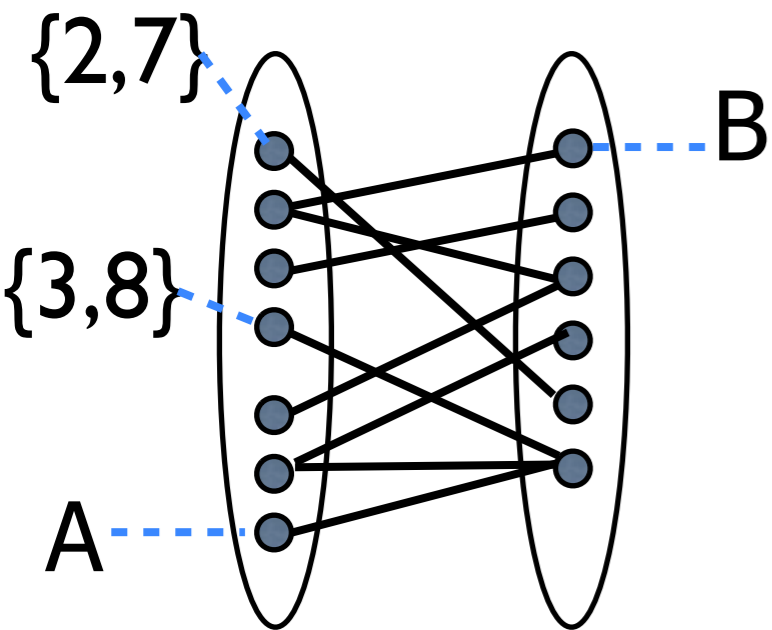
$y \in [k]$

Output $B \ni y$

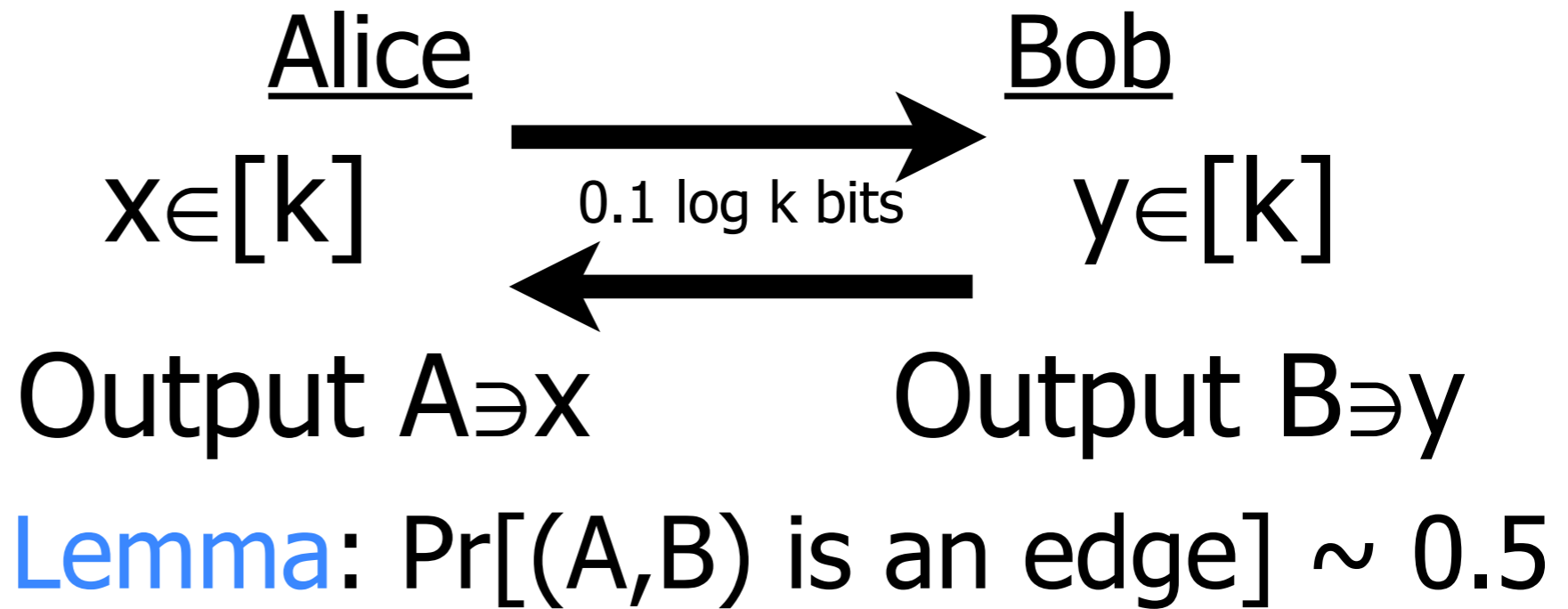
Lemma: $\Pr[(A, B) \text{ is an edge}] \sim 0.5$

Watch Out [Feige]

Random graph,
edge density =
0.5

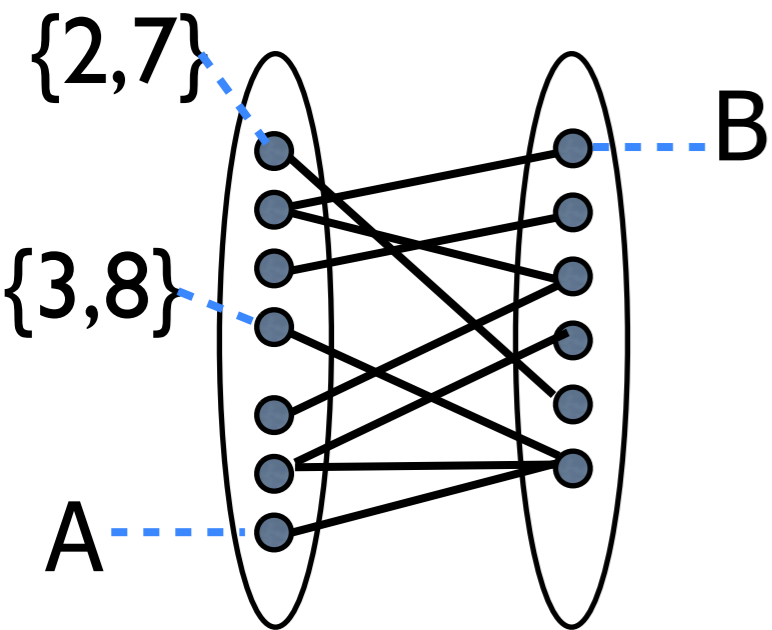


$A, B \subset \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$
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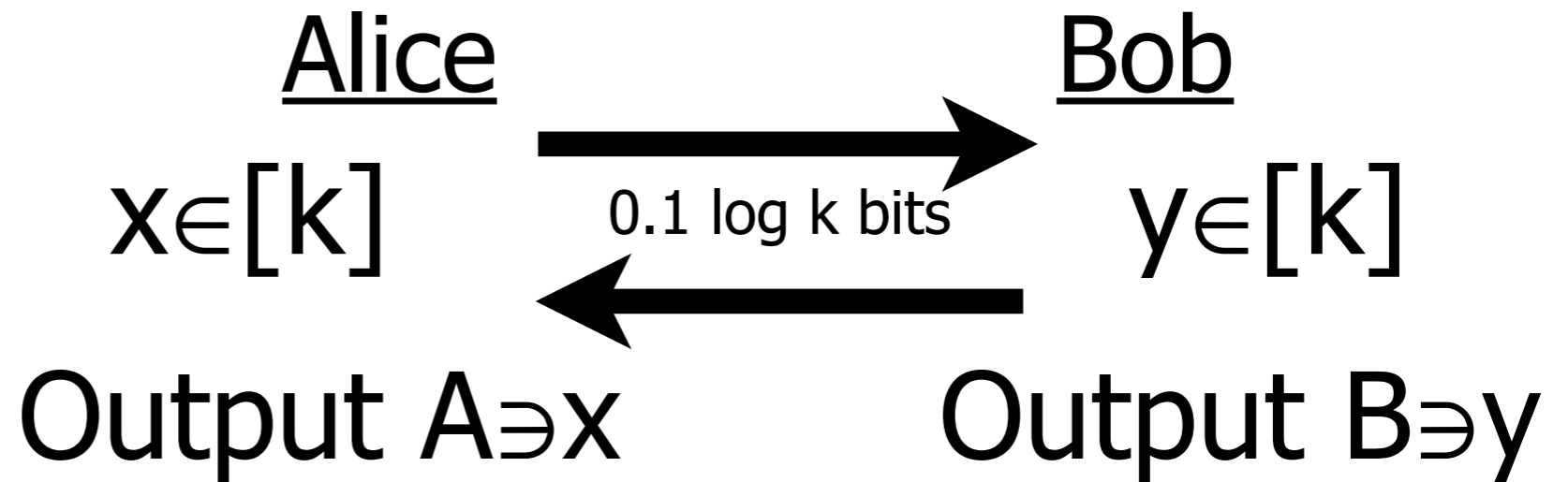
Watch Out [Feige]

Random graph,
edge density =
0.5



$A, B \subset \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$

$|A|, |B| = 2$



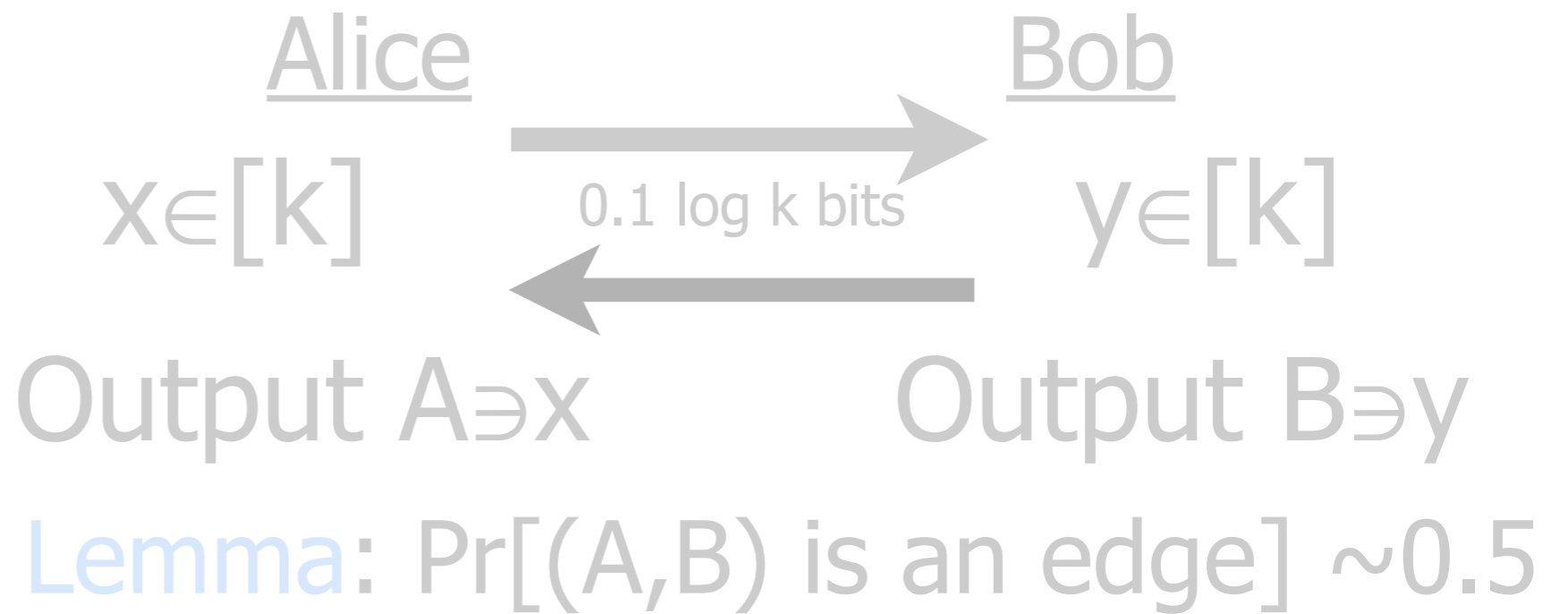
Lemma: $\Pr[(A, B) \text{ is an edge}] \sim 0.5$



Lemma: $\Pr[(A, B) \text{ is an edge}] \sim 0.5$

Wait wait...

Random graph,
edge density =
0.8



This protocol
does not
actually
transmit A, B !

Alice $x_1, x_2 \in [k]$
 $A = \{x_1, x_2\}$

Bob $y_1, y_2 \in [k]$
 $B = \{y_1, y_2\}$

Lemma: $\Pr[(A, B) \text{ is an edge}] \sim 0.5$