

# Verifiable delegated computation: zk-SNARKs and Applications



Anca Nitulescu  
CRYPTO team



# outline



## Motivation

Cloud  
Computing  
Blockchain  
Privacy



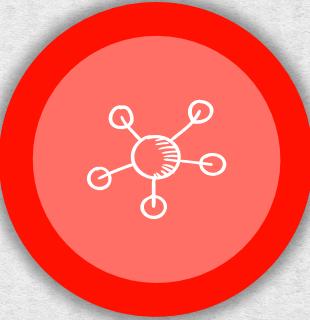
## SNARKs

Definition  
Properties  
Quantum  
resistance



## Construction

Tool Chain  
Encodings  
Assumptions  
Security



## Directions

### Post-quantum SNARK

Difficulties  
Comparison

### Open Problems

### Conclusions

# Motivation



## Motivation

Cloud  
Computing  
Blockchain  
Privacy



## SNARKs



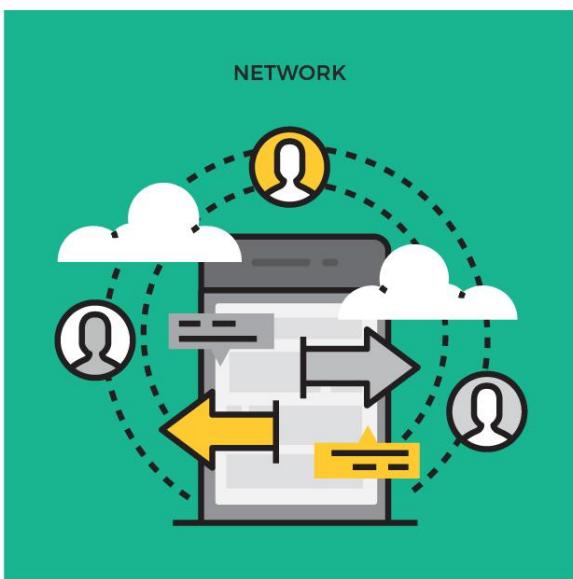
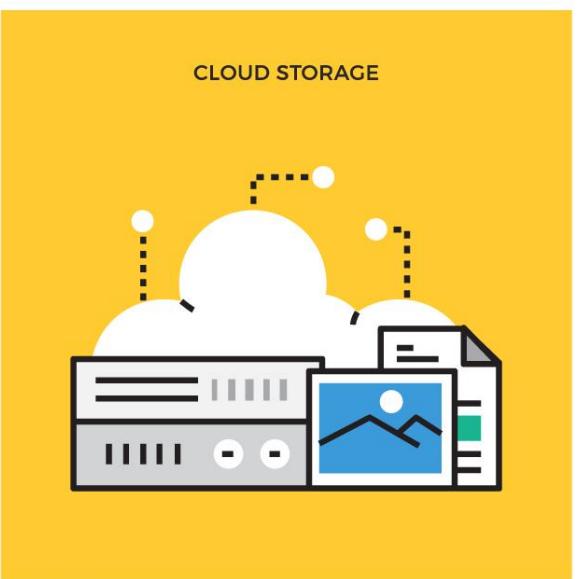
## Construction



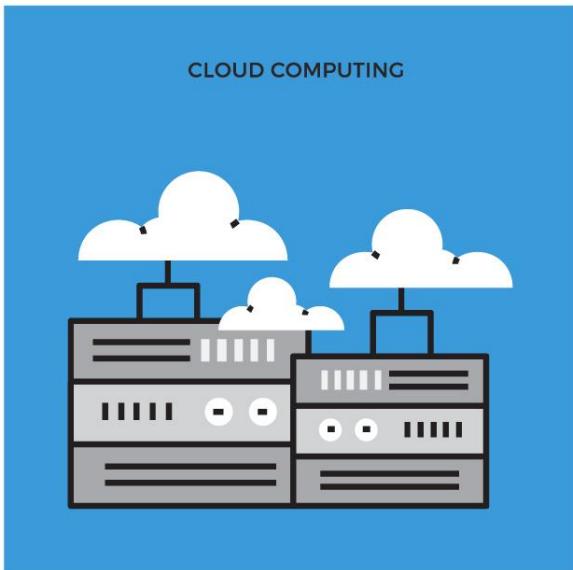
## Directions

# Cloud: Available for Everything

**Store**  
documents,  
photos,  
videos, etc



**Ask queries**  
on the data



**Share** them with  
colleagues,  
friends, family

**Process**  
the data

# Outsourced Processing

The Cloud Provider:

- **knows the content**
- **performs the computations**

**Claims to**

- safely store the data
- securely process the data
- answer correctly to our queries
- protect privacy



# Risks



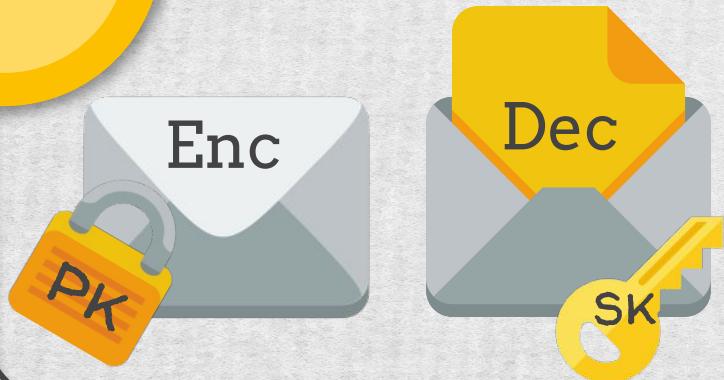
For economical reasons, by accident, or attacks

- data can get deleted
- results of computation can be modified
- one can use your private data to analyze and sell/negotiate the information

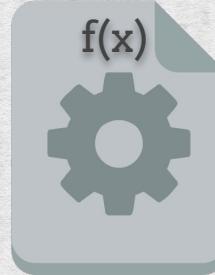
# Cryptography in the Cloud



Privacy



Authenticity



Integrity

# Cryptography

Much of the cryptography used today offers security properties for **data** and **communication**.

Aspects in information security:

- **data confidentiality**
- **authentication**
- **data integrity**

what about **computations**?



# Delegated Computation



Client

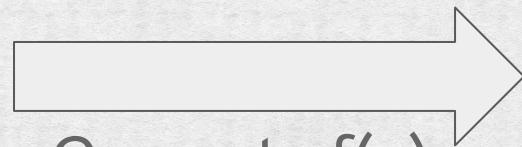


Worker

# Delegated Computation



Client



Compute  $f(x)$



Worker

# Delegated Computation



Client

“I have the  
result  $y=f(x)$ ”



Worker

# Unreliable worker



Client

$y^* \neq f(x)$

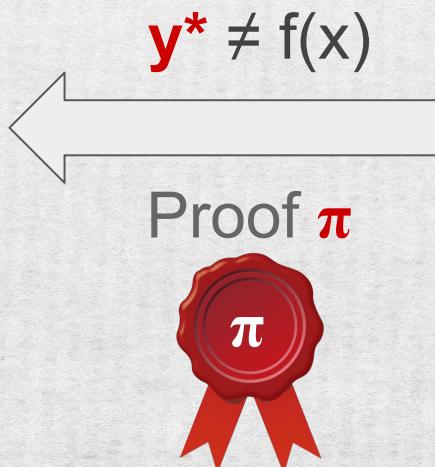


Corrupted  
Worker

# Ask for a proof

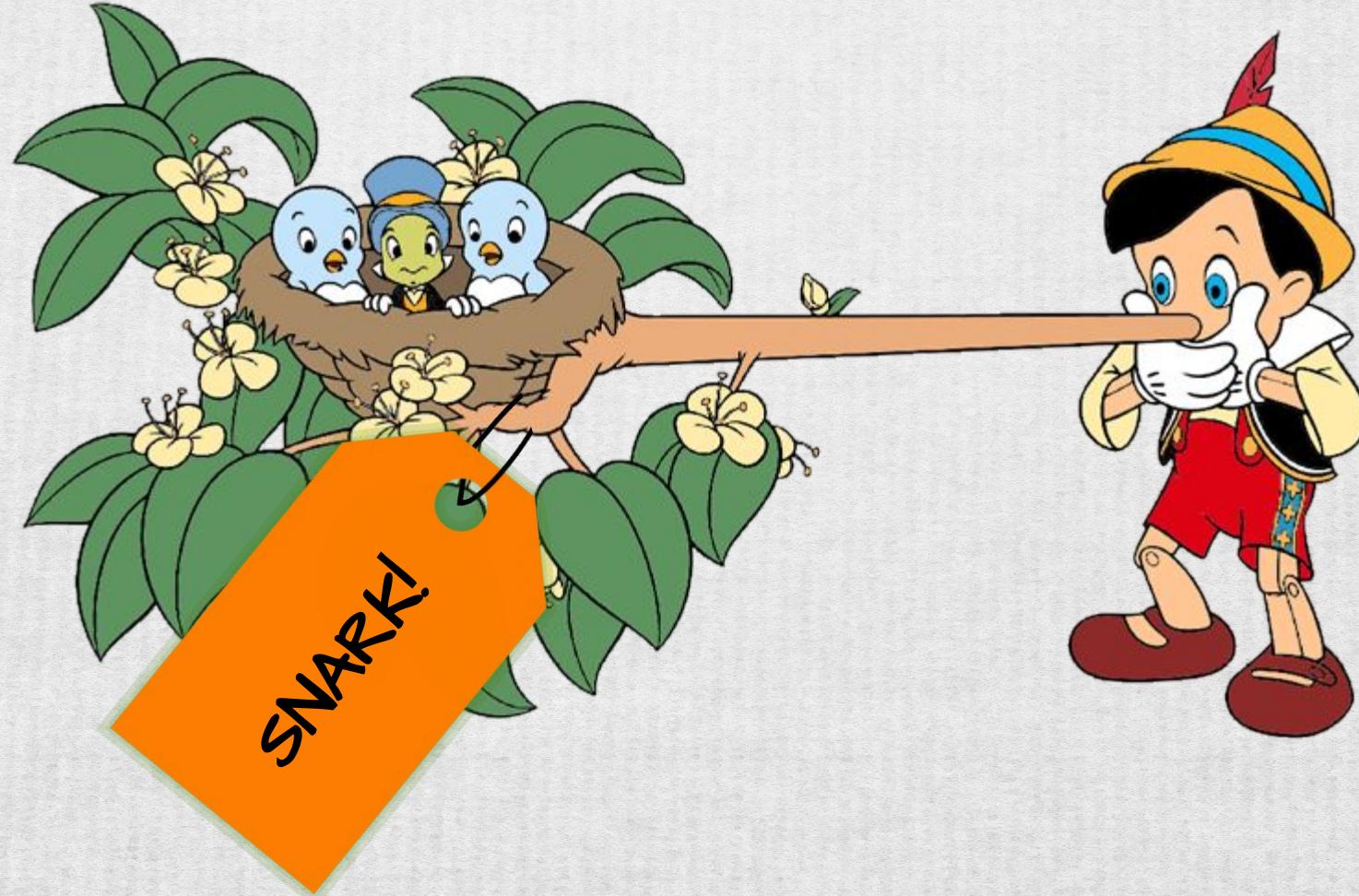


Client  
Verifier



Worker  
Prover

# Integrity for Computation

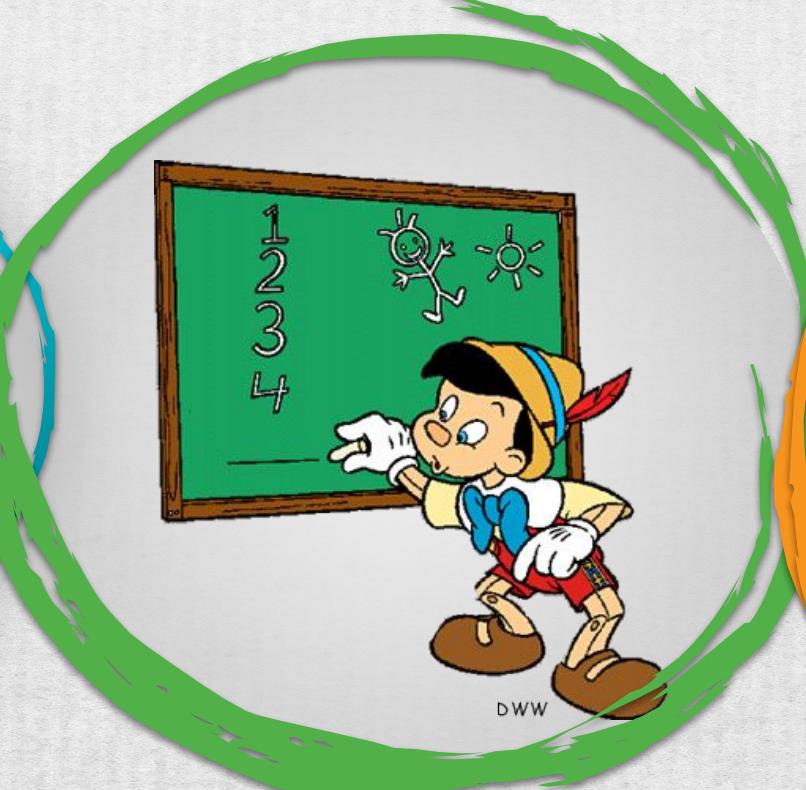


# SNARK: Properties of a Proof

Fast  
Verification

Proof of  
Knowledge

Succinct



# SNARKs



**Motivation**



**SNARKs**

Definition  
Properties  
Quantum  
resistance

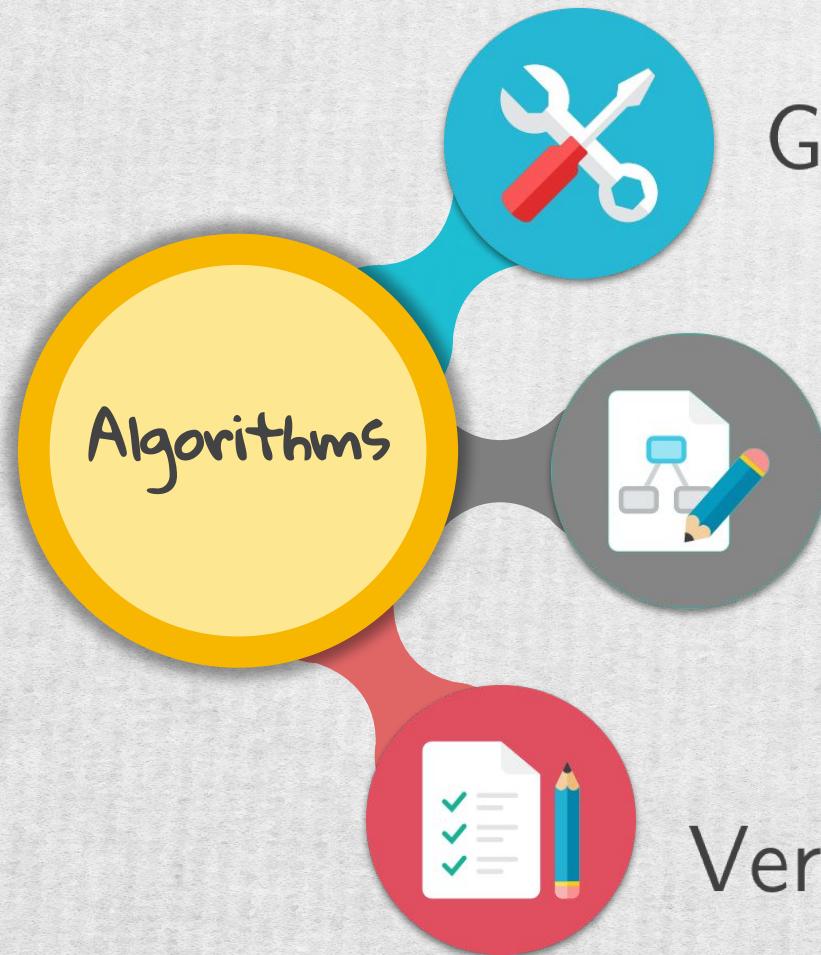


**Construction**



**Directions**

# Proof Systems


$$\text{Gen}(1^\lambda, \mathcal{R}) \rightarrow (\text{crs}, \text{vk})$$
$$\text{Prove}(\text{crs}, y, w) \rightarrow \pi : (y, w) \in R$$
$$\text{Verify}(\text{vk}, y, \pi) \rightarrow 0/1$$

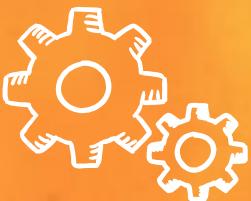

# Proofs in Crypto: since 1980s

## Correctness

any correct evaluation  
 $f(x)$  has a valid proof



## Proofs



## Zero-Knowledge

does not leak anything about the witness



## Efficiency

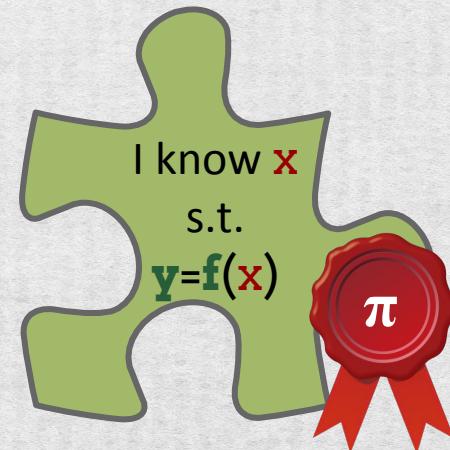
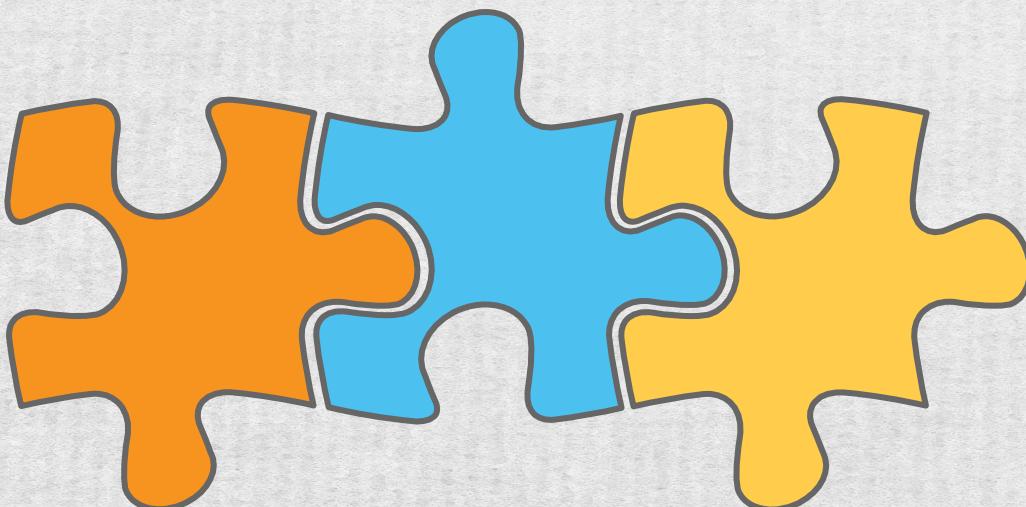
verification faster than computing  $f(x)$



# Proofs in Private Blockchain

## Key Properties for usage in Distributed Protocols

- zero knowledge
- proof of knowledge
- non-interactivity
- publicly verifiable
- succinctness



# SNARK: Succinct Non-Interactive ARgument of Knowledge



**Argument  
of Knowledge**

**Zero-Knowledge**  
does not leak anything  
about the witness



**Correctness**  
any correct evaluation  
 $f(x)$  has a valid proof



**SNARK**



**Succinctness**  
proof size independent  
of NP witness size



**Efficiency**  
verification faster  
than computing  $f(x)$



**Non-Interactivity**  
no exchange between  
prover and verifier

# Argument of Knowledge

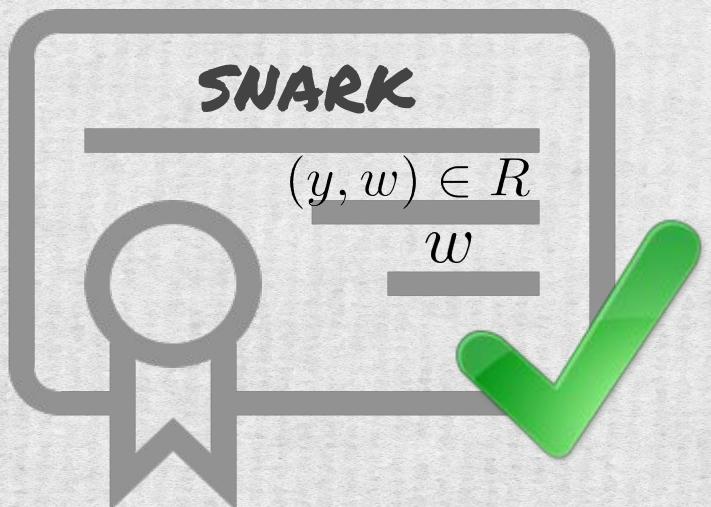
$\mathcal{A}$

crs, aux



Adversary

$\pi$



# Argument of Knowledge

$A$

crs, aux



Adversary

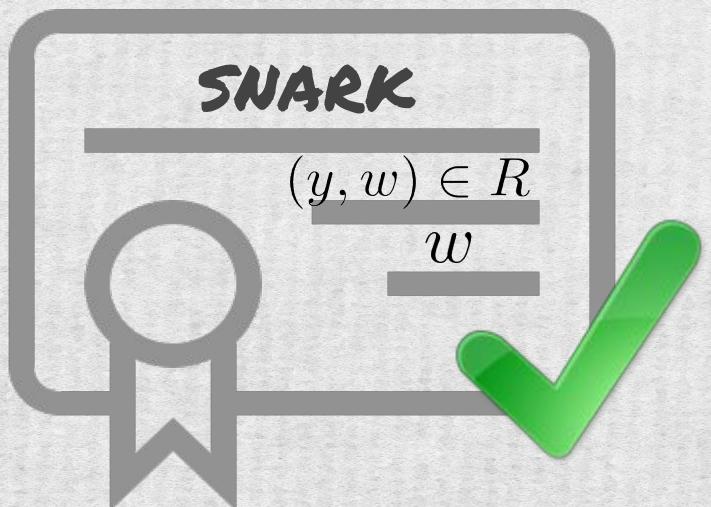
$\epsilon$

crs, aux



extractor

$\pi$



# Efficient Constructions: Pinocchio, Geppetto

Pinocchio:  
Nearly Practical  
verifiable  
Computation

Bryan Parno,  
Jon Howell,  
Craig Gentry,  
Mariana Raykova



Geppetto: versatile  
verifiable  
Computation

Craig Costello,  
Cédric Fournet,  
Jon Howell,  
Markulf Kohlweiss,  
Benjamin Kreuter, Michael  
Naehrig,  
Bryan Parno,  
Samee Zahur

# Quantum Attacks

## Existent SNARKs:

- zero-knowledge
- publicly-verifiable (only CRS)
- based on DLog in EC groups
- **not quantum resistant**



# Quantum Attacks

## Existent SNARKs:

- zero-knowledge
- publicly-verifiable (only CRS)
- based on DLog in EC groups
- **not quantum resistant**

## Post-Quantum SNARKs:

- based on **lattice assumptions**
- designated-verifiable (vk)
- zero-knowledge



# Construction



**Motivation**



**SNARKs**



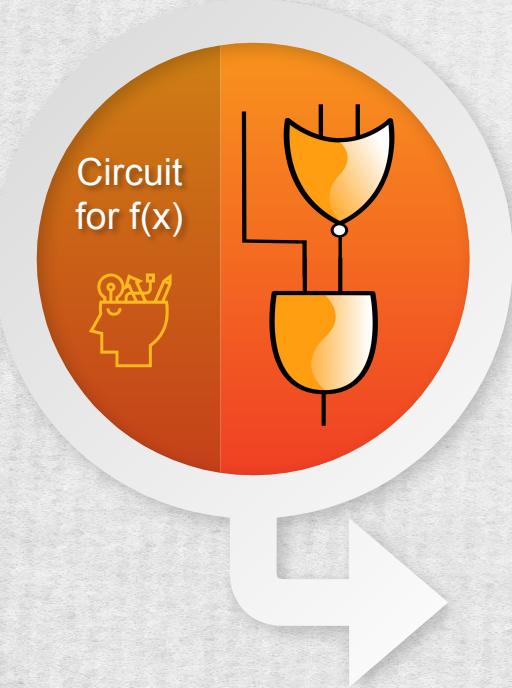
**Construction**

Tool Chain  
Encodings  
Assumptions  
Security

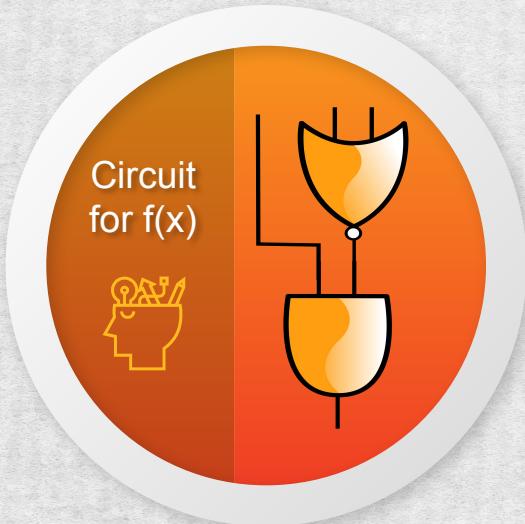


**Directions**

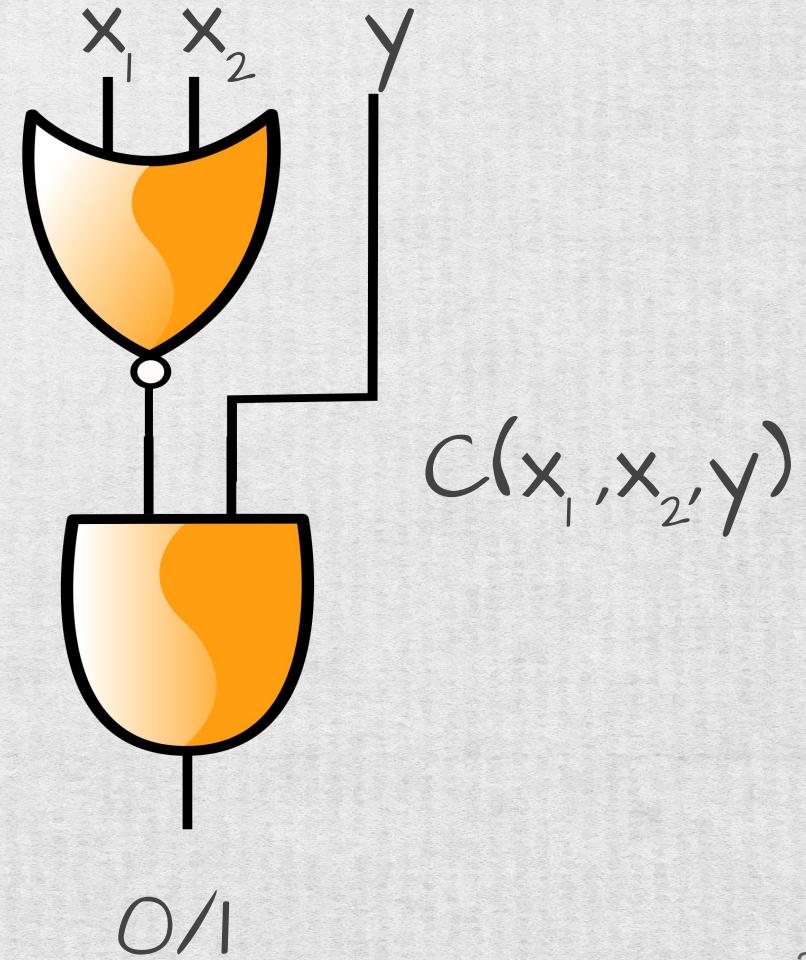
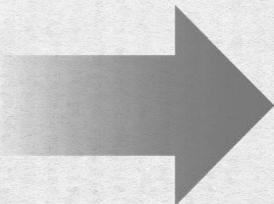
# SNARK: overview of Toolchain



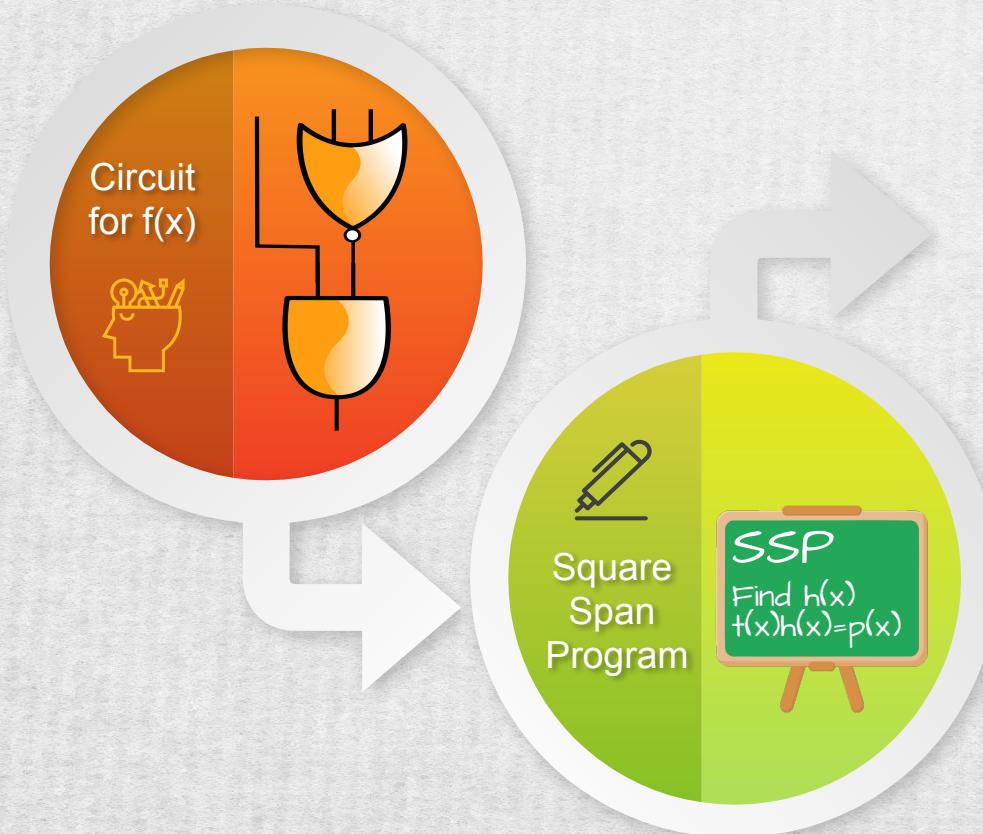
# Circuit Satisfiability Problem



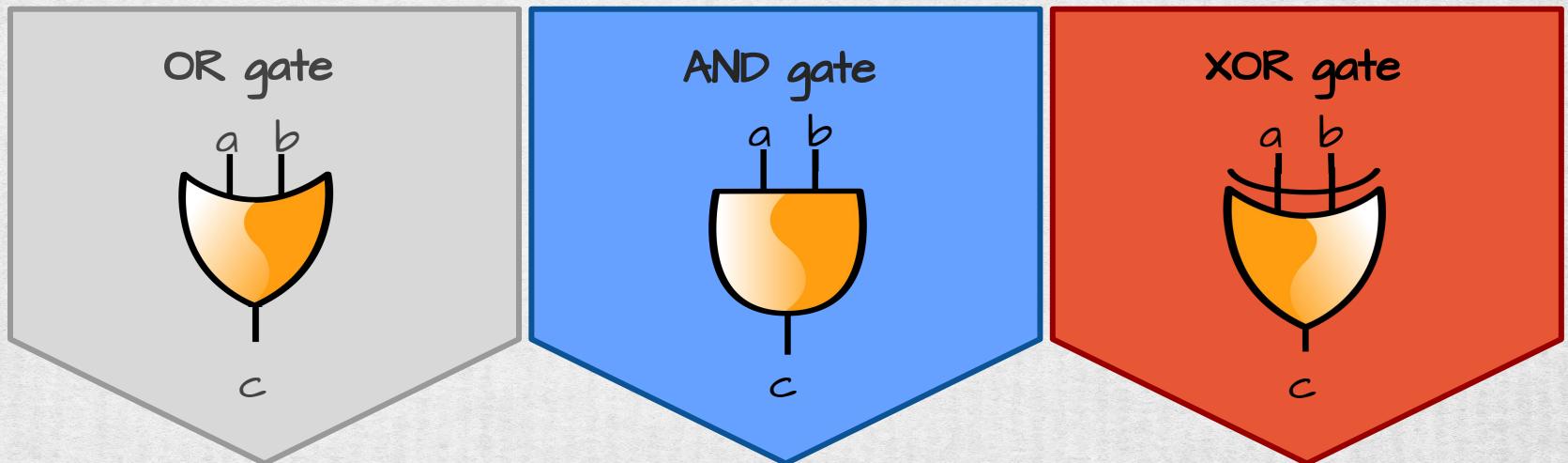
$$f(x_1, x_2) = y$$



# SNARK: overview of Toolchain



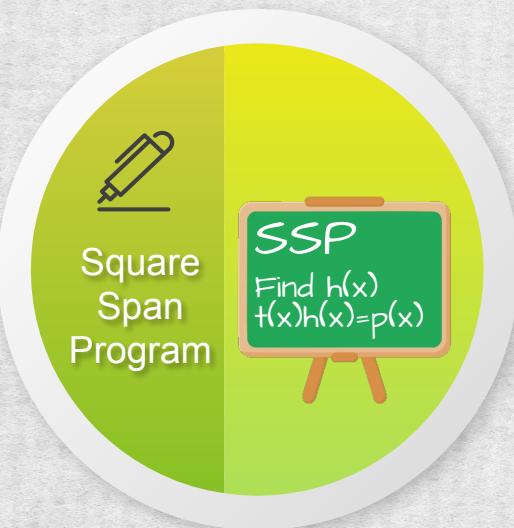
# Step 1. Linearization of logic gates



a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
$-a - b + 2c \in \{0,1\}$			$a + b - 2c \in \{0,1\}$			$a + b + c \in \{0,2\}$		

## Step 2. Matrix equation for circuit

OR gate	AND gate	XOR gate	Output gate = 1	Entries = bits
$-a - b + 2c \in \{0,1\}$	$a + b - 2c \in \{0,1\}$	$a + b + c \in \{0,2\}$	$3 - 3c \in \{0,1\}$	$2a, 2b \in \{0,2\}$



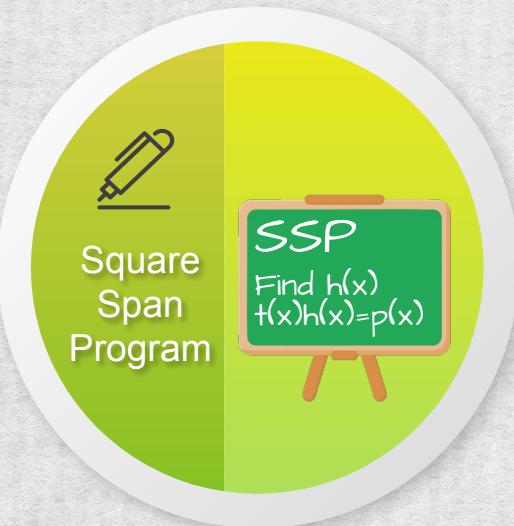
$$\alpha a + \beta b + \gamma c + \delta \in \{0,2\}$$

$$\begin{matrix} V \\ a \\ + \\ \delta \end{matrix} \in \{0,2\}^d$$

$$\left( \begin{matrix} V \\ a \\ + \\ \delta \end{matrix} \right) \circ \left( \begin{matrix} V \\ a \\ + \\ \delta - 2 \end{matrix} \right) = \begin{matrix} 0 \end{matrix}$$

# Step 2. Matrix equation for circuit

OR gate	AND gate	XOR gate	Output gate = 1	Entries = bits
$-a - b + 2c \in \{0,1\}$	$a + b - 2c \in \{0,1\}$	$a + b + c \in \{0,2\}$	$3 - 3c \in \{0,1\}$	$2a, 2b \in \{0,2\}$



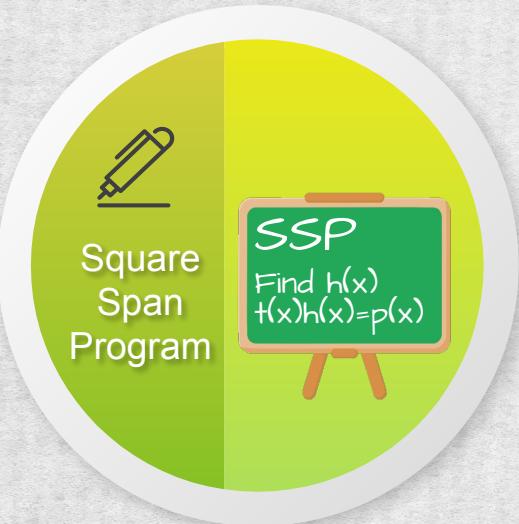
$$\alpha a + \beta b + \gamma c + \delta \in \{0,2\}$$

$$\left[ \begin{matrix} V \\ a \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \delta \end{matrix} \right] \circ \left[ \begin{matrix} V \\ a \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \delta \\ -2 \end{matrix} \right] = \begin{matrix} 0 \end{matrix}$$

$$\left[ \begin{matrix} V \\ a \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \delta \\ -1 \end{matrix} \right] \circ \left[ \begin{matrix} V \\ a \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \delta \\ -1 \end{matrix} \right] = \begin{matrix} 1 \end{matrix}$$

## Step 3. Polynomial Interpolation

$$\left[ \begin{matrix} V \\ a \\ 1 - \frac{1}{5} \end{matrix} \right] \circ \left[ \begin{matrix} V \\ a \\ 1 - \frac{1}{5} \end{matrix} \right] = \begin{matrix} 1 \end{matrix}$$

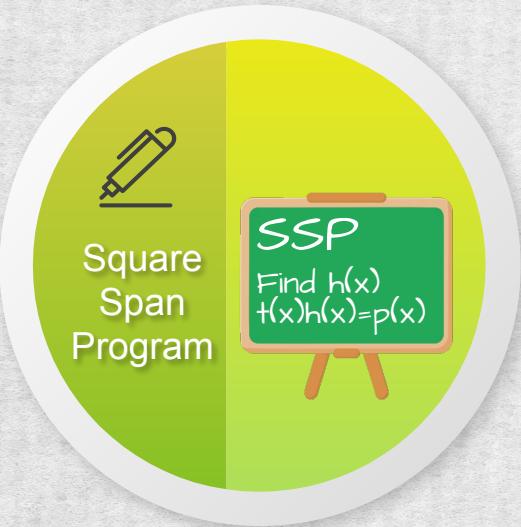


$$\forall \{r_j\} \in \mathbb{F}^d$$

$$\left( v_0(r_j) + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i v_i(r_j) \right)^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$v_0(r_j) = \delta_j - 1 \quad v_i(r_j) = V_{ji}$$

## Step 4. Polynomial Problem SSP

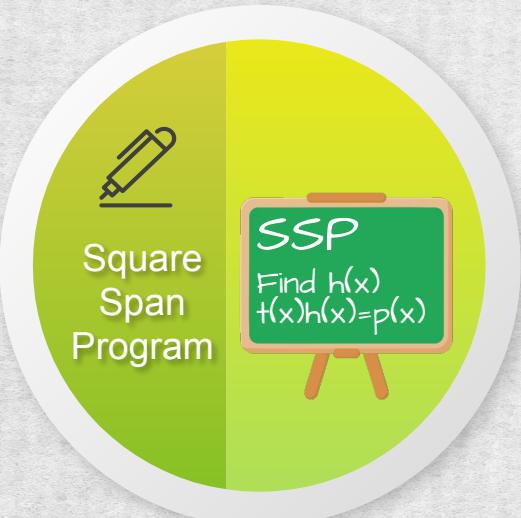


$$\left( v_0(r_j) + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i v_i(r_j) \right)^2 - 1 = 0$$

$\downarrow$

$$\prod_{j=1}^d (x - r_j) \mid \left( v_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i v_i(x) \right)^2 - 1$$

# Step 4. Polynomial Problem SSP



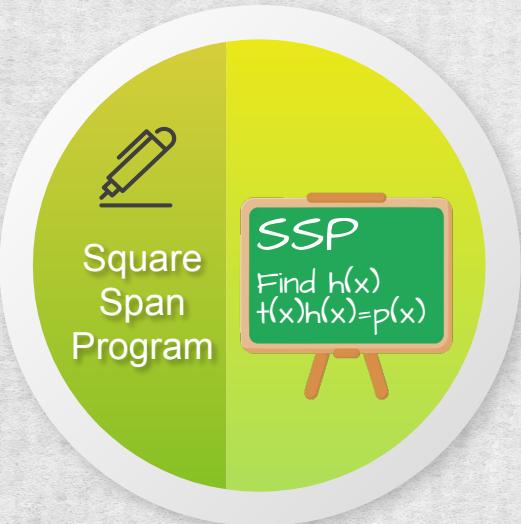
For  $\{v_i(x)\}_{i=1,m}$ ,  $t(x) \in \mathbb{F}[x]$

$$t(x) \mid V(x)^2 - 1$$

$$V(x) = v_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i v_i(x)$$

$$t(x) = \prod_{j=1}^d (x - r_j)$$

# Step 4. Polynomial Problem SSP

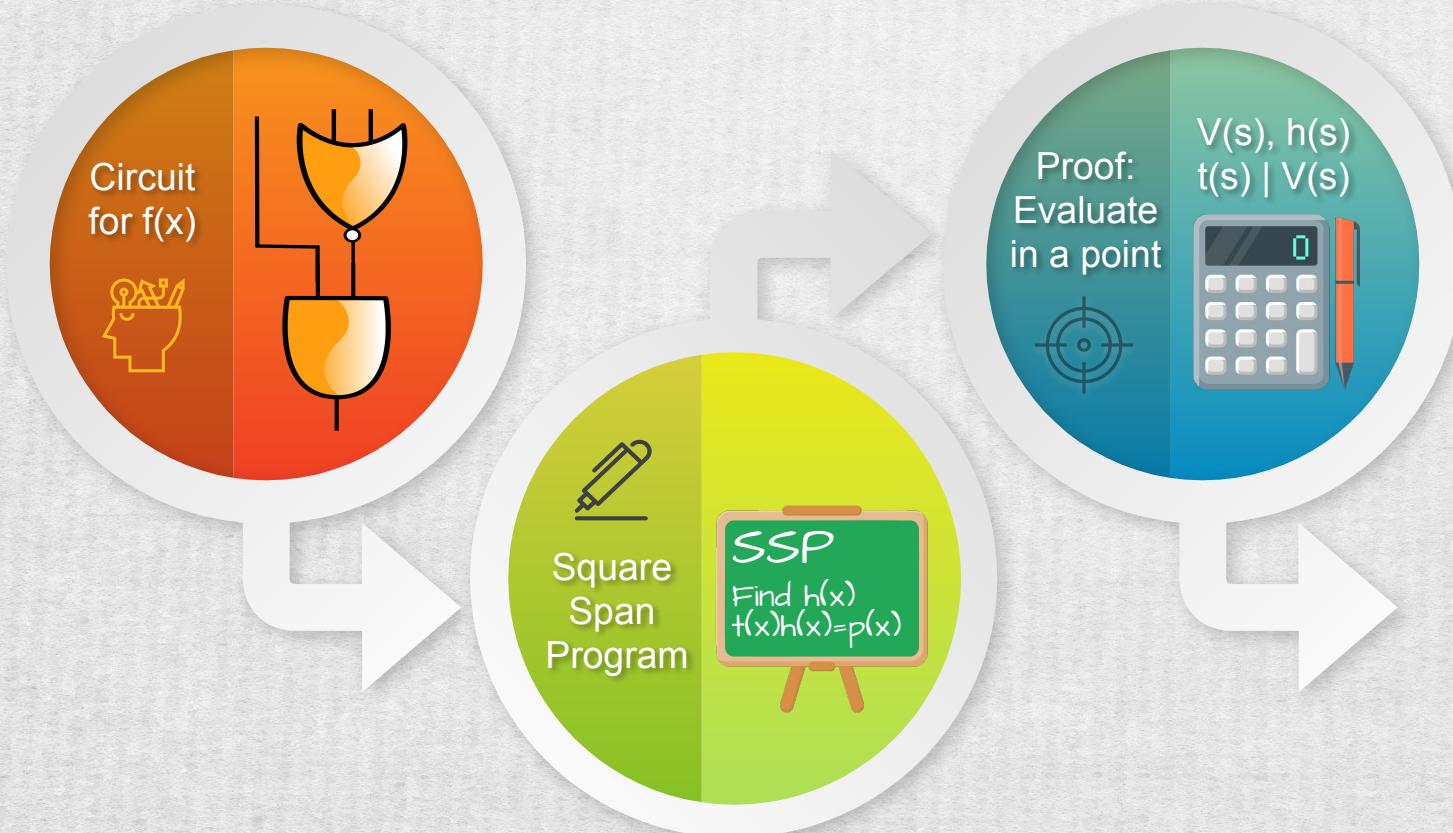


SSP

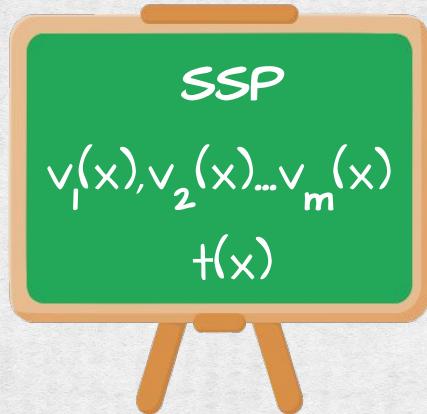
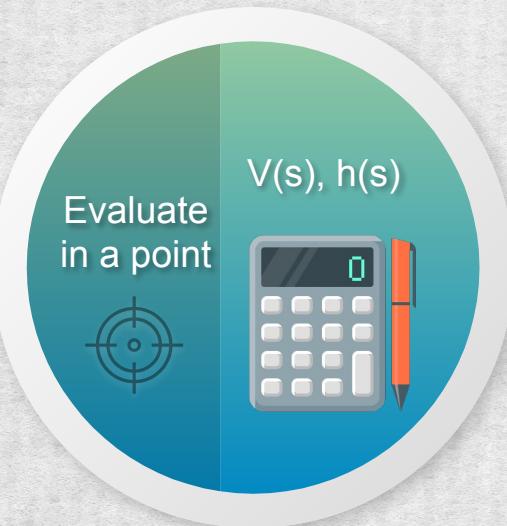
For  $\{v_i(x)\}_{i=1,m}$ ,  $t(x) \in \mathbb{F}[x]$   
find  $V(x), h(x)$  such that

$$V(x) = v_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i v_i(x)$$
$$t(x)h(x) = V(x)^2 - 1$$

# SNARK: overview of Toolchain



# Proving on top of SSP: Idea



$V(s), h(s) = ?$

$$V(s) = v_0(s) + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i v_i(s)$$

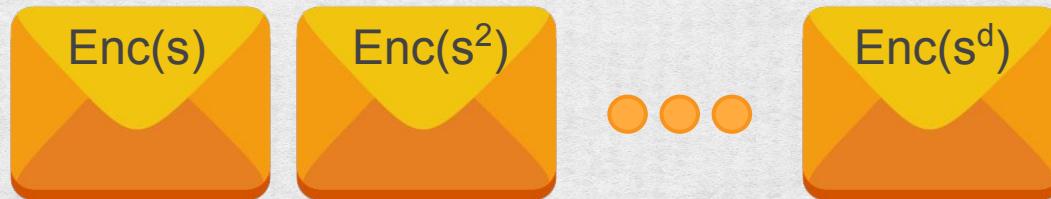
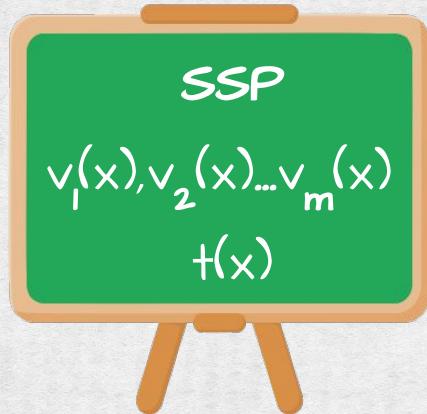
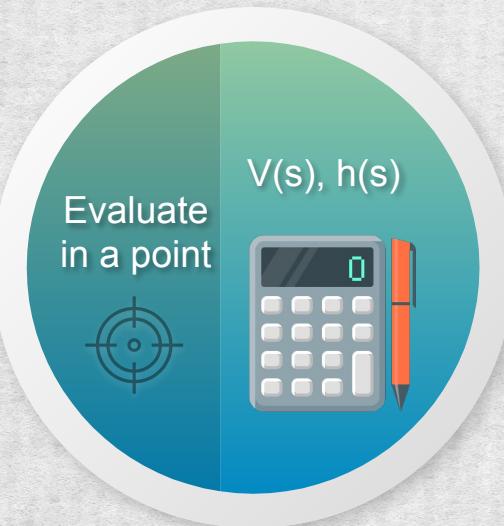
$$t(s)h(s) = V(s)^2 - 1$$



**Prover:** Evaluate the solution in a random unknown point  $s$

**Preprocessing:** Publish all necessary powers of  $s$  (hidden from the **Prover**)

# Proving on top of SSP: Idea

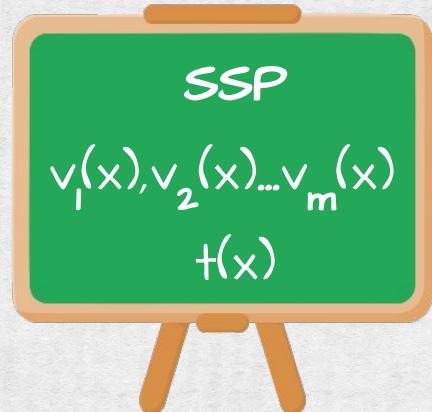
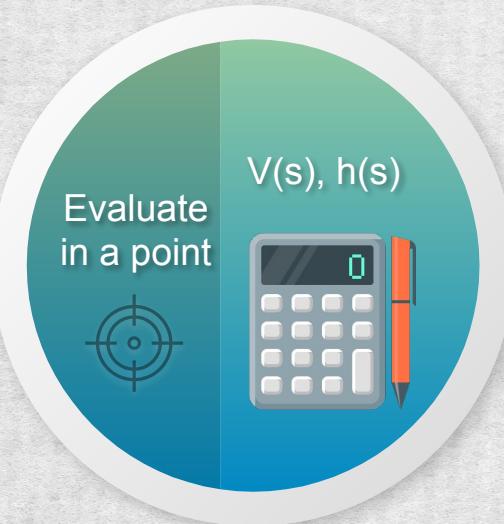


$V(s), h(s) = ?$

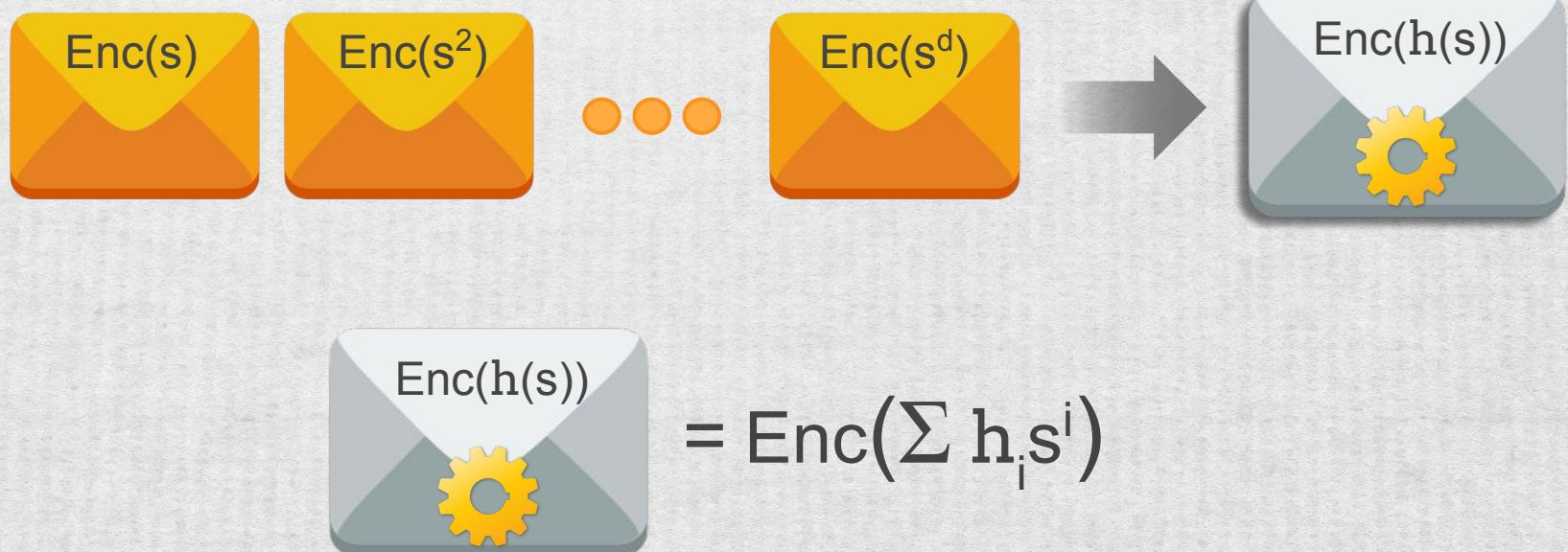
$$V(s) = v_0(s) + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i v_i(s)$$

$$t(s)h(s) = V(s)^2 - 1$$

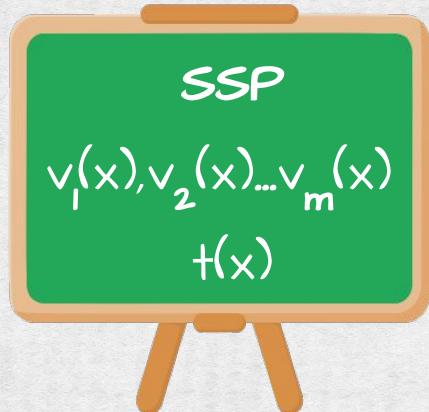
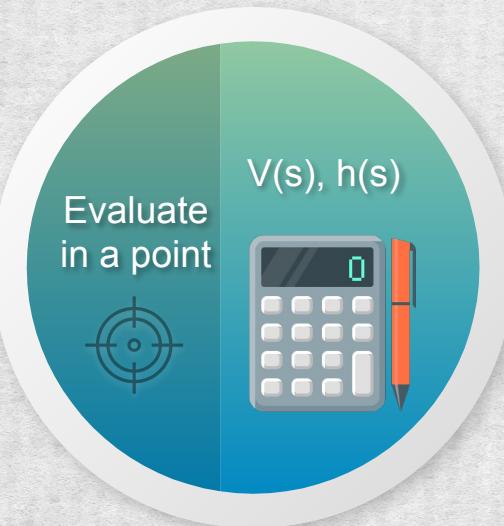
# Proving on top of SSP: Idea



$V(s), h(s) = ?$

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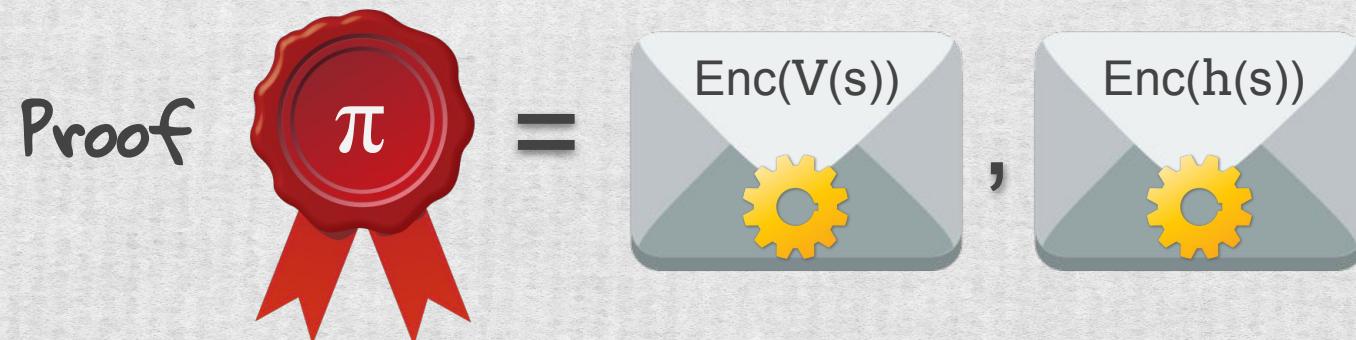
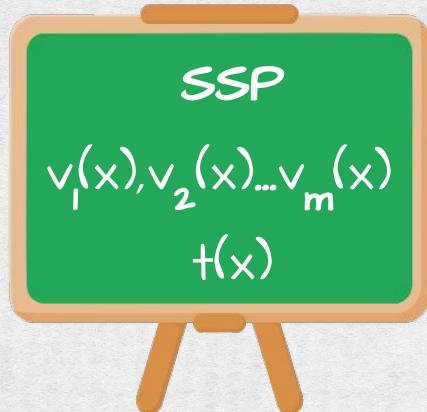
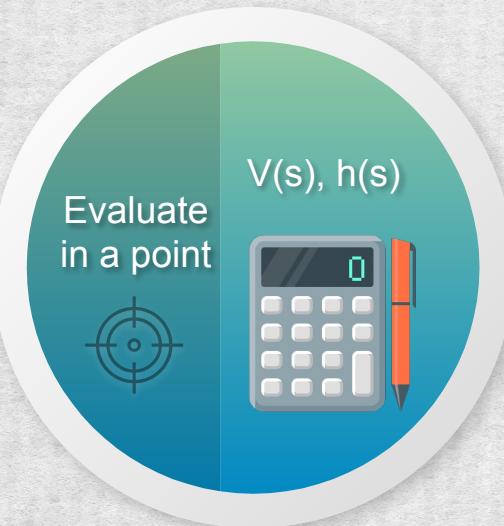
# Proving on top of SSP: Idea



Encoding:  
• *linearly* homomorphic

$$\text{Enc}(\sum_j h_j s^j) = \sum_j h_j \text{Enc}(s^j)$$

# Proving on top of SSP: Idea

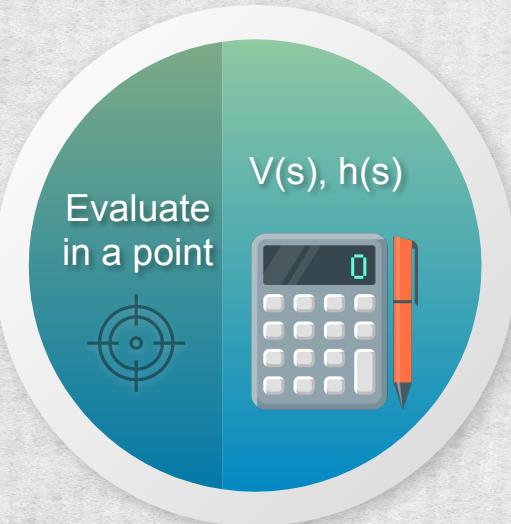


$V(s), h(s) = ?$

$$V(s) = v_0(s) + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i v_i(s)$$

$$t(s)h(s) = V(s)^2 - 1$$

# Not an argument of Knowledge!



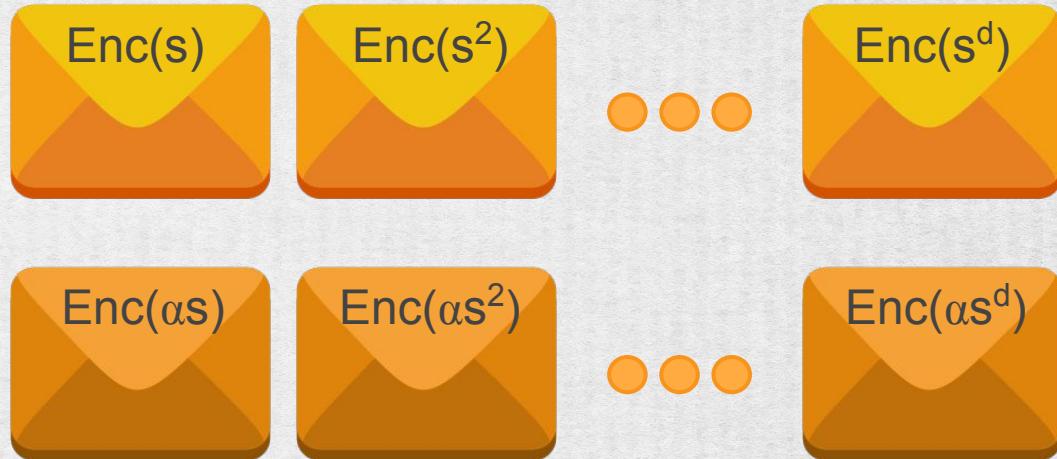
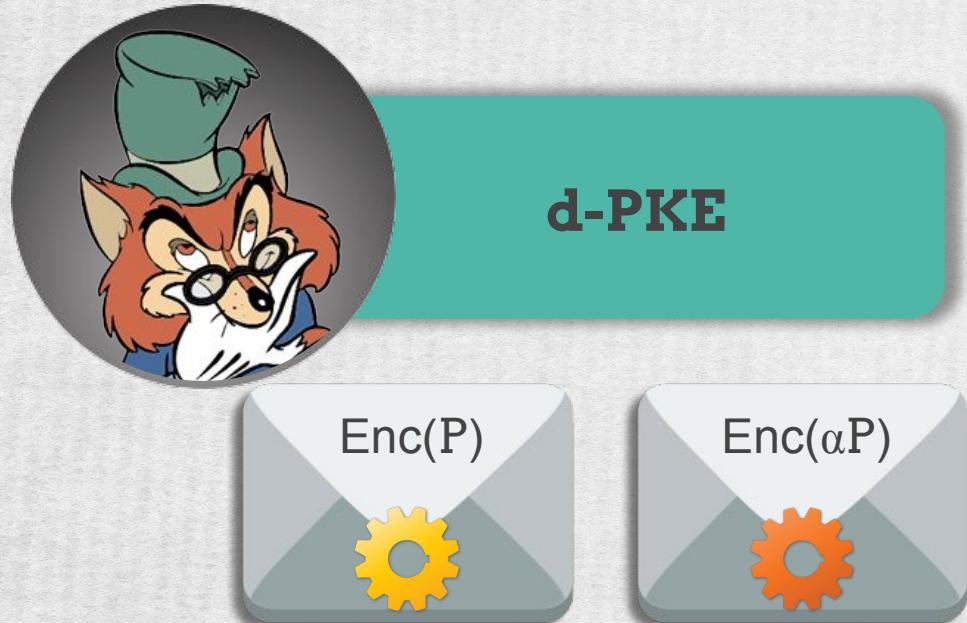
A green chalkboard with an orange frame and stand. It contains the text "SSP" and the mathematical expression  $v_1(x) + v_2(x) \dots + v_m(x)$ .

A teal rounded rectangle containing the text  $V(s), h(s) = ?$  Below it is the equation  $V(s) = v_0(s) + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i v_i(s)$ . Further down is the equation  $t(s)h(s) = V(s)^2 - 1$ .

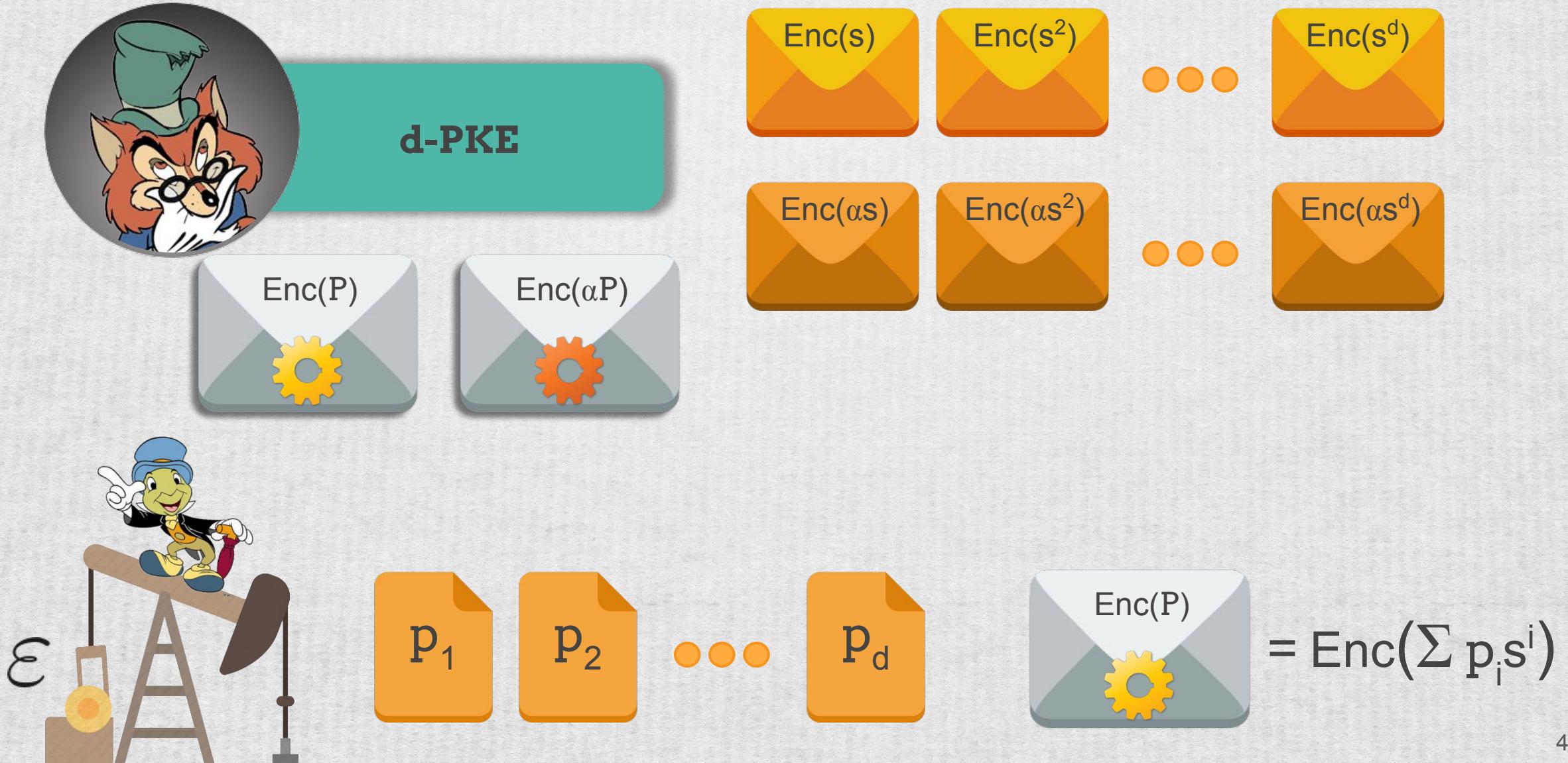
A sequence of four yellow and orange envelope icons labeled "Enc(s)", "Enc( $s^2$ )", three small orange dots, and "Enc( $s^d$ )". To the right is a large curly brace spanning three yellow and orange envelope icons labeled "Enc( $\beta v_i(s)$ )" and "Enc( $\beta$ )". The brace is positioned above the text  $i = 0, m$ .

The word "Proof" is followed by a red wax seal with the Greek letter  $\pi$  in the center. An equals sign follows the seal. To the right are three grey and white envelope icons with yellow gears inside, separated by commas. The first envelope is labeled "Enc(V(s))", the second "Enc(h(s))", and the third "Enc( $\beta V(s)$ )".

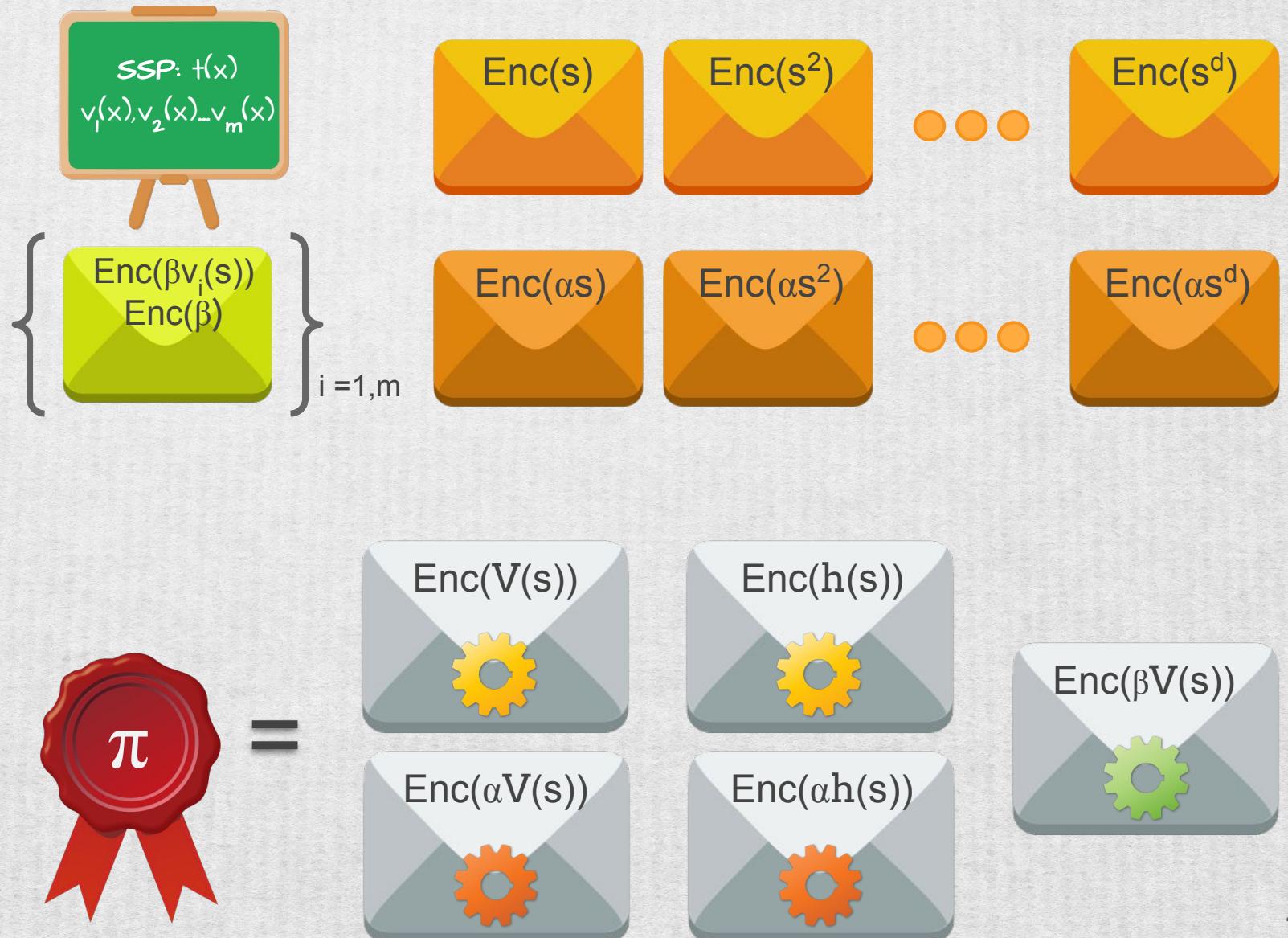
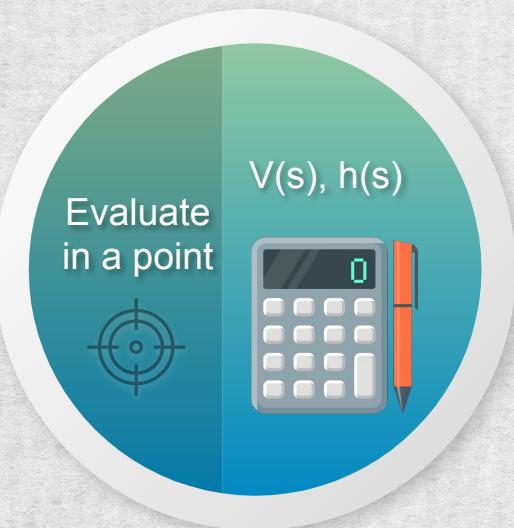
# Assumption PKE: Power Knowledge of Exponent



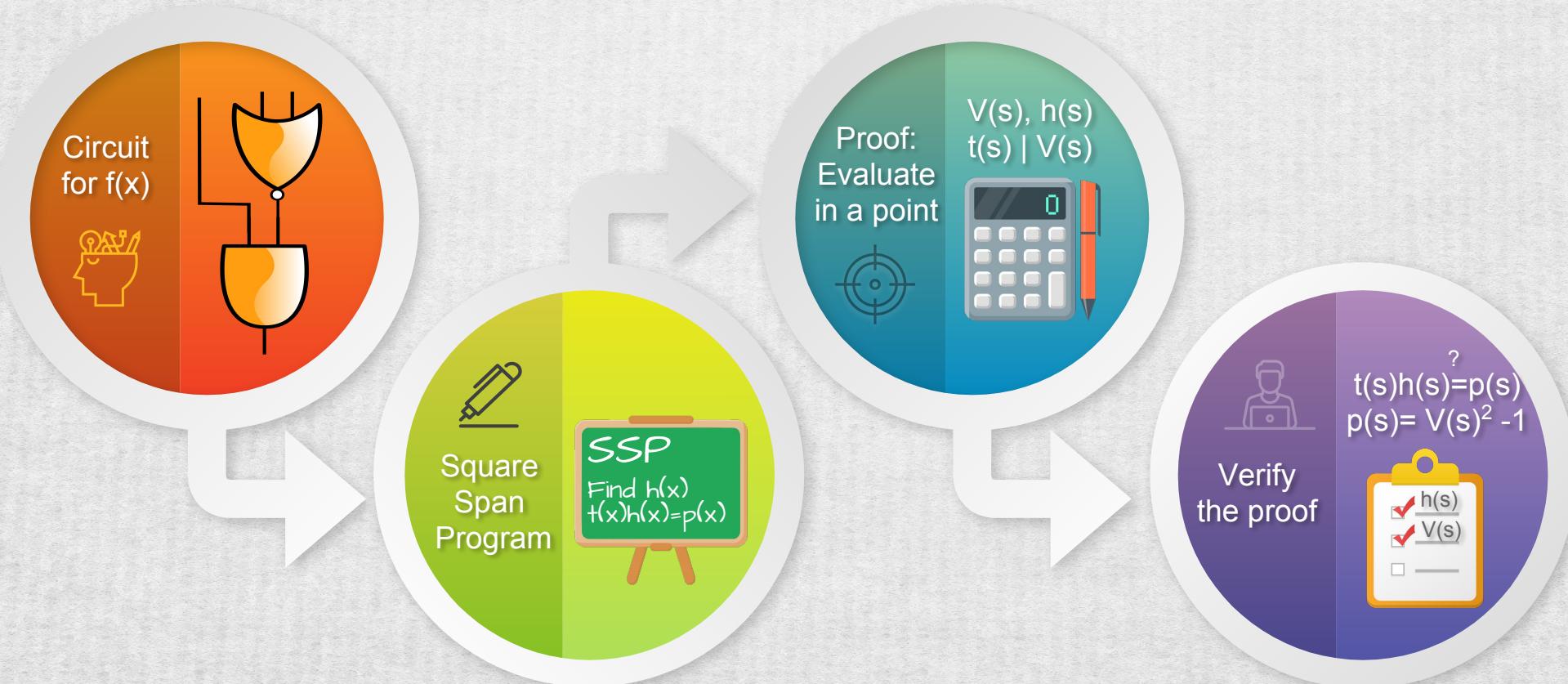
# Assumption PKE: Power Knowledge of Exponent



# Setup and Proof



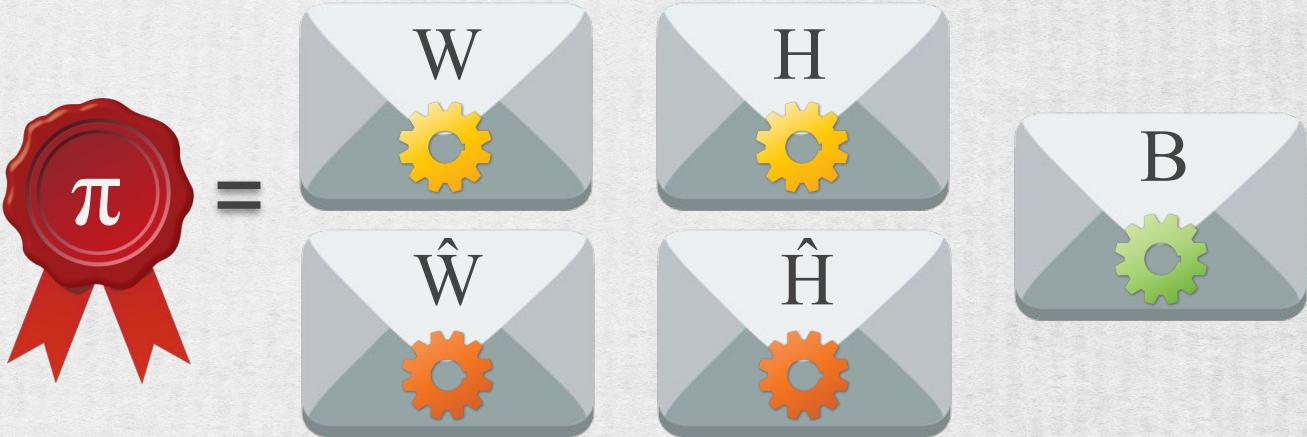
# SNARK: overview of Toolchain



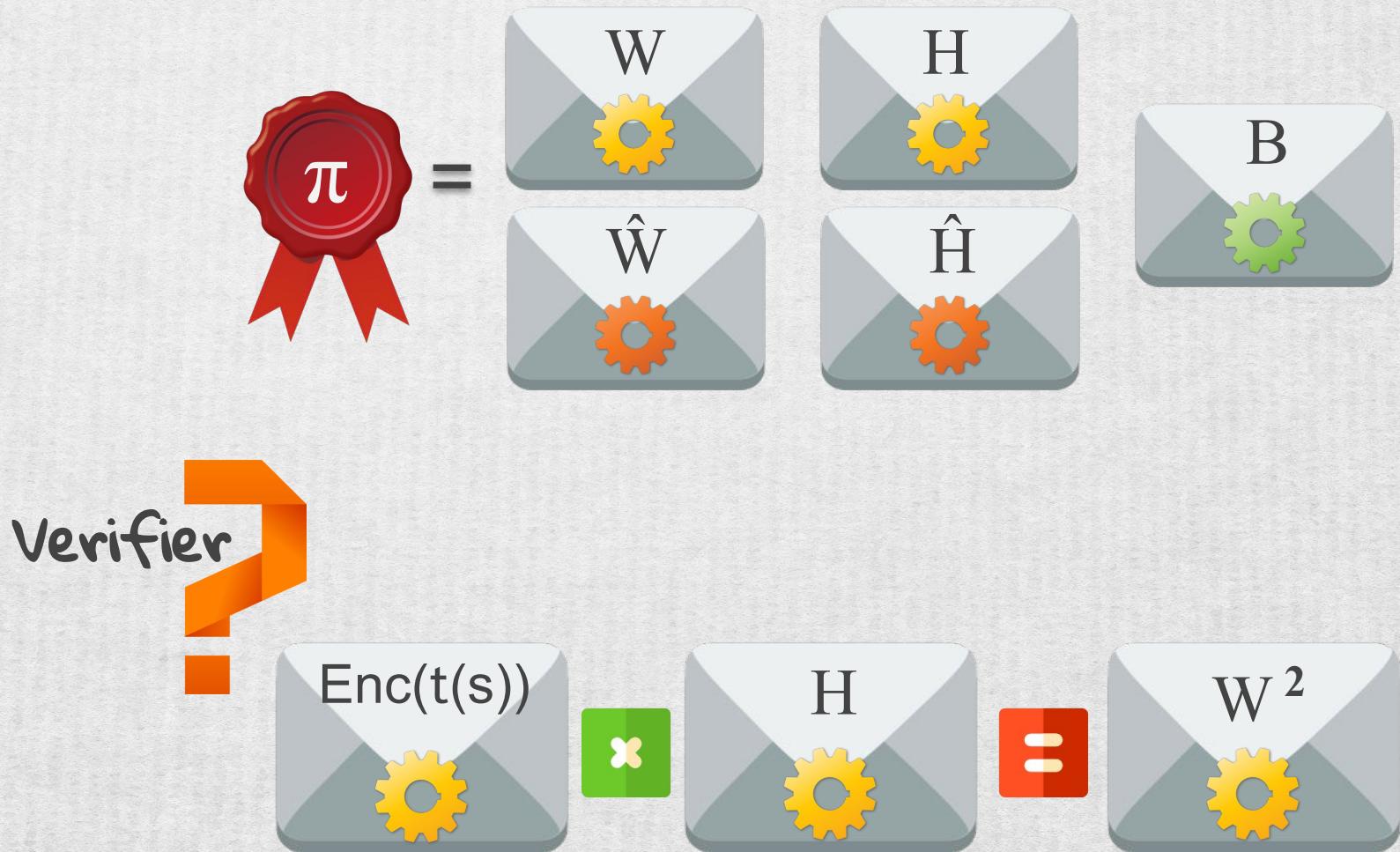
# Proving on top of SSSP: verifier



Verifier?



# Proving on top of SSSP: verifier



-1

# Proving on top of SSSP: verifier



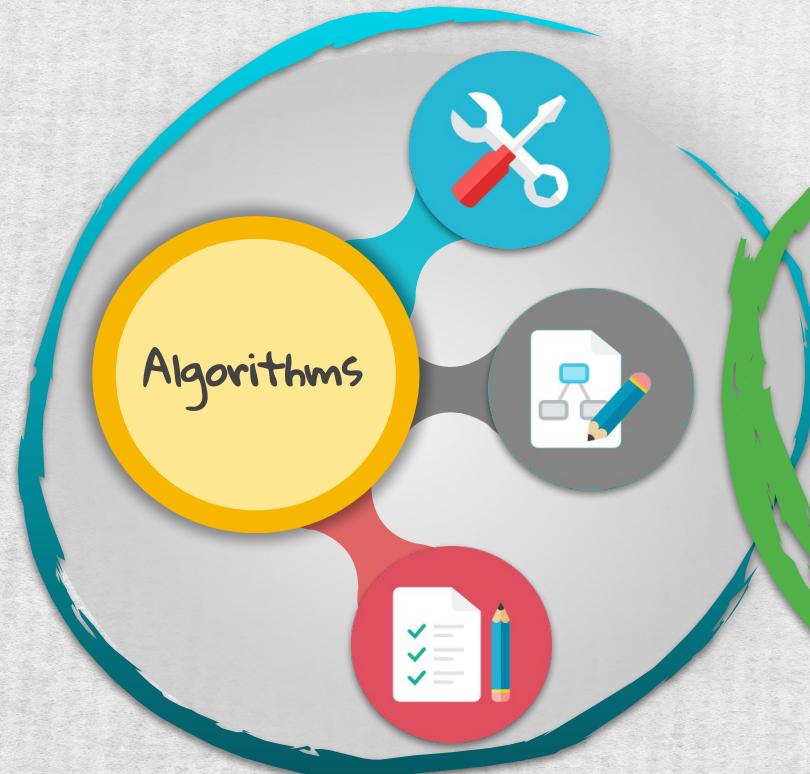
Encoding:

- *linearly* homomorphic
- quadratic root detection
- image verification



# Formal Construction and Security

Protocol



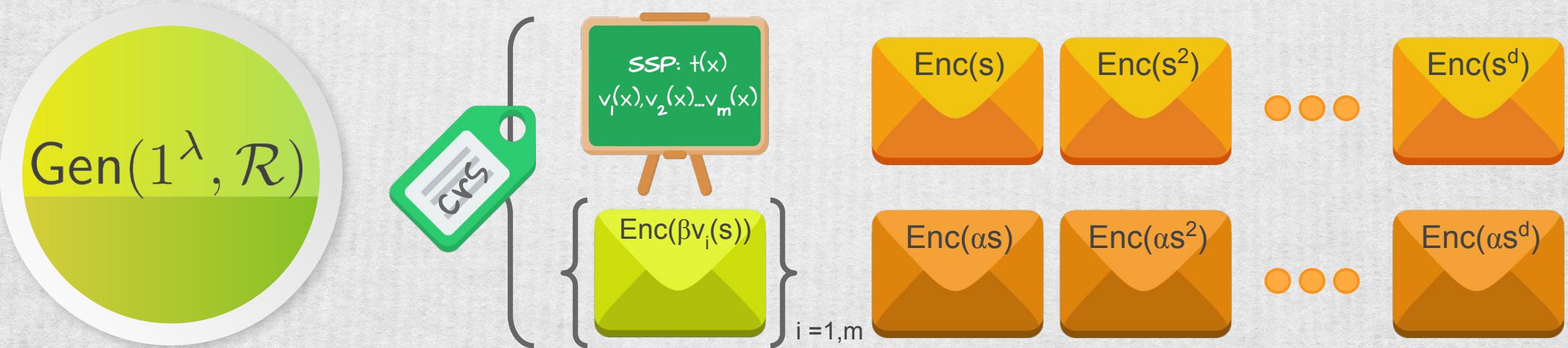
Assumptions



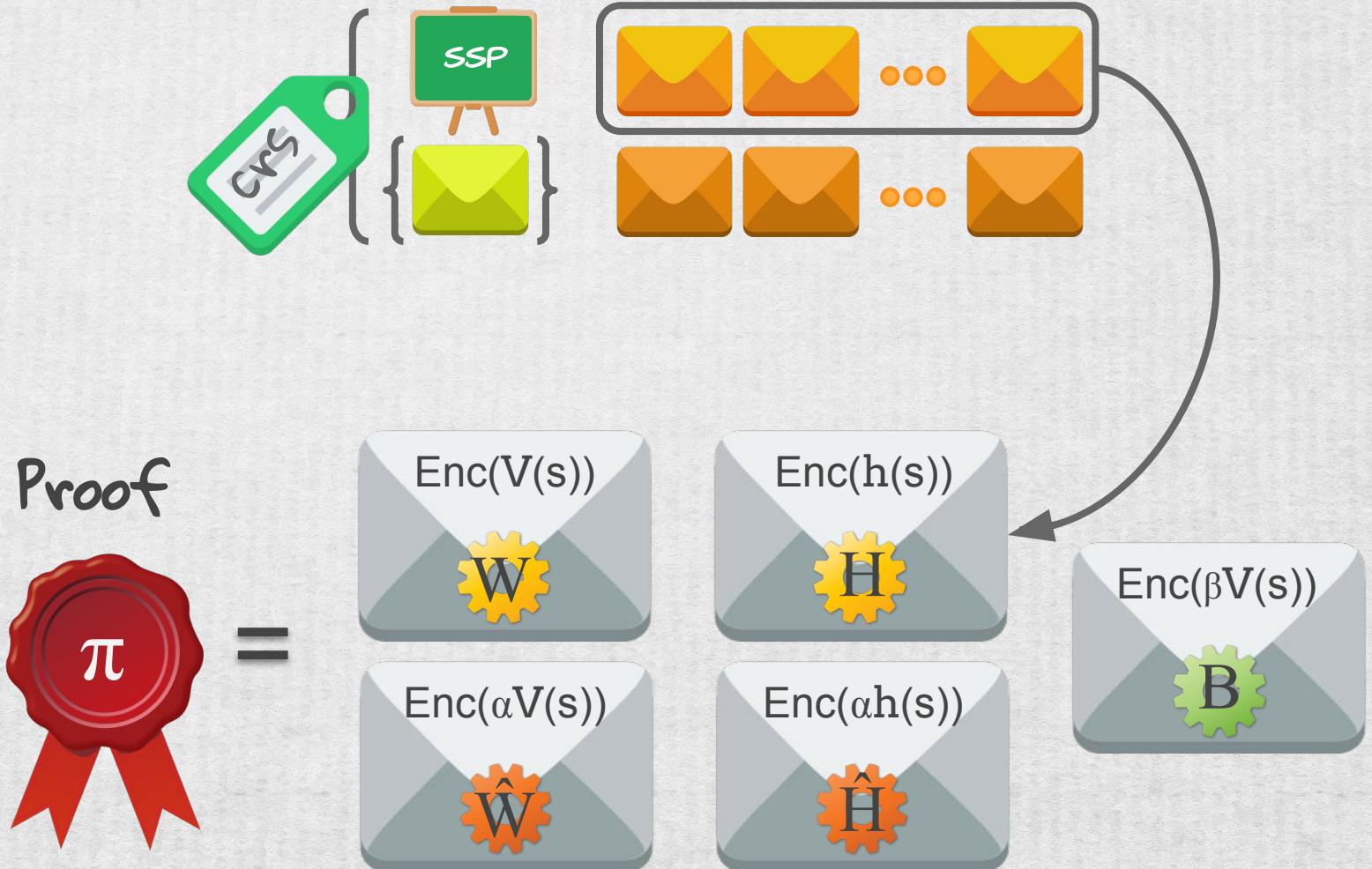
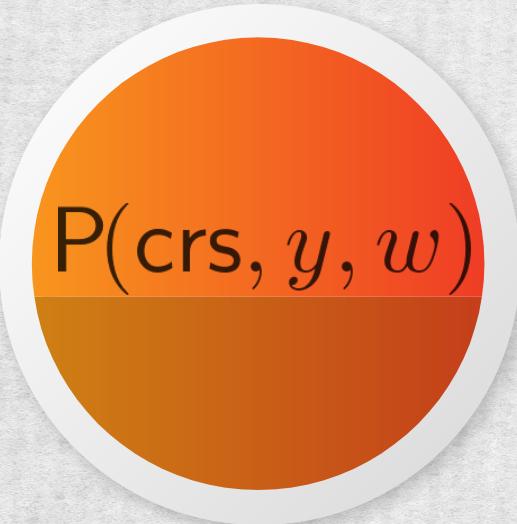
Security



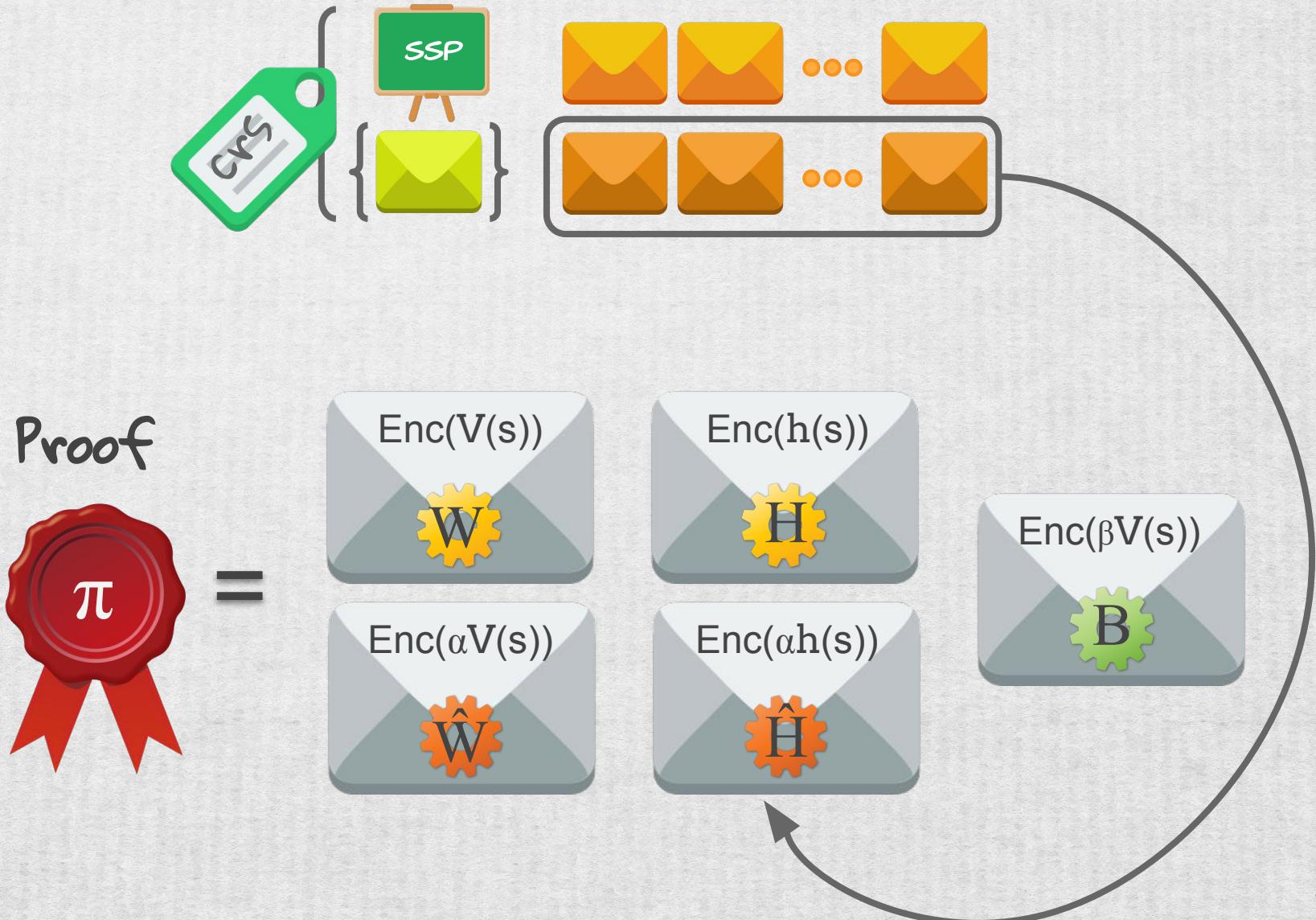
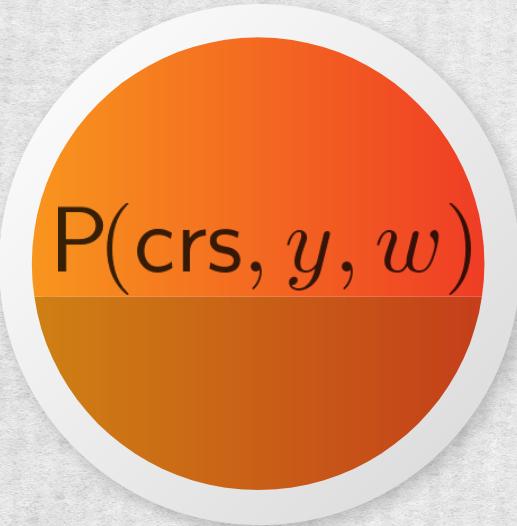
# Setup Algorithm



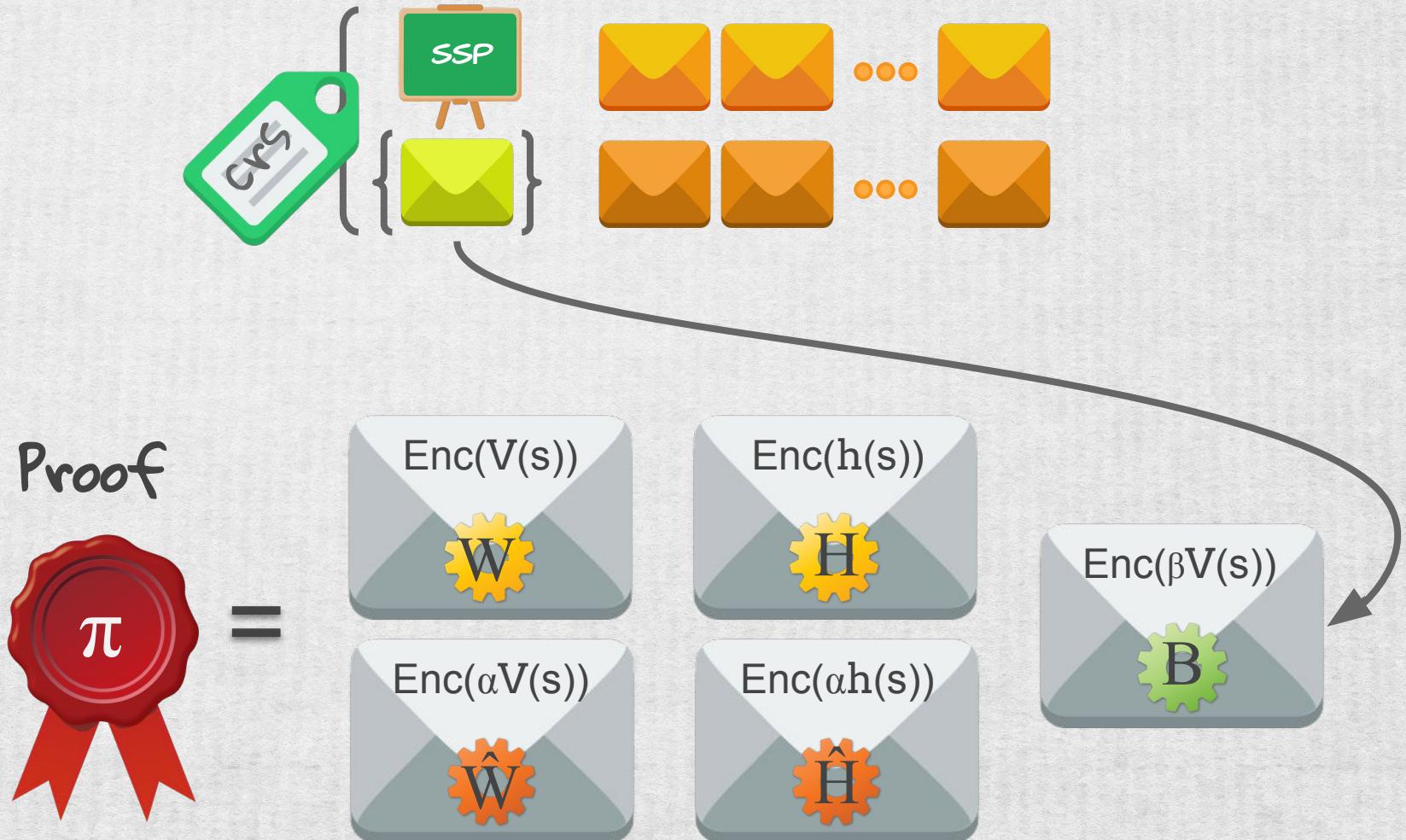
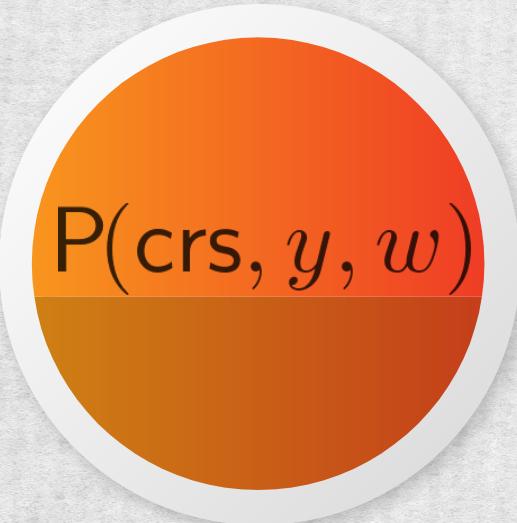
# Prover Algorithm



# Prover Algorithm

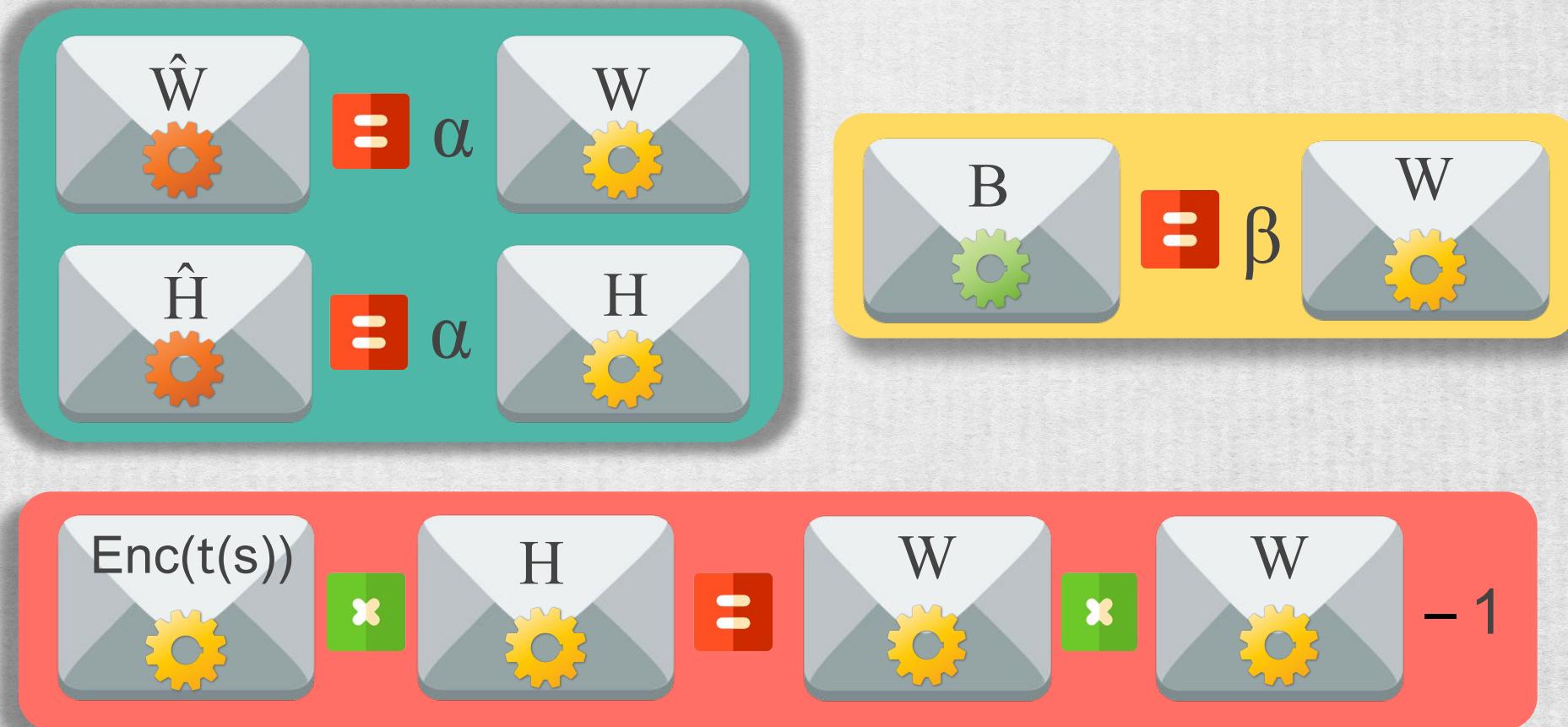


# Prover Algorithm



# Verifier Algorithm

$V(vk, y, \pi)$

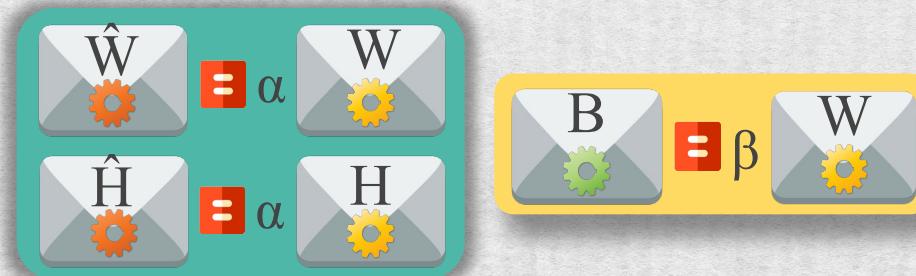
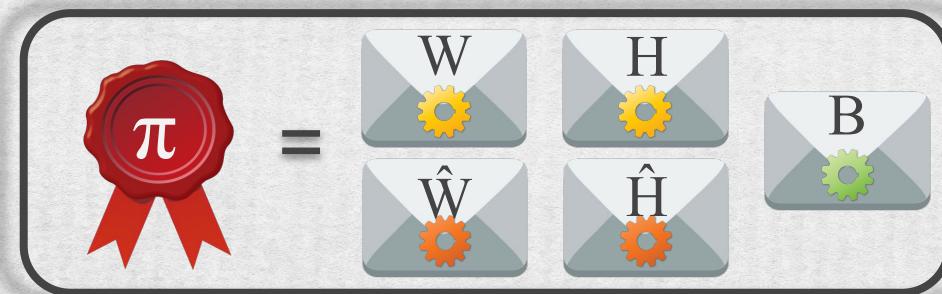


# Security Reduction

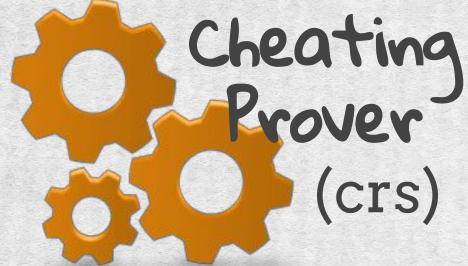
Gen( $1^\lambda, \mathcal{R}$ )

P(crs,  $y, w$ )

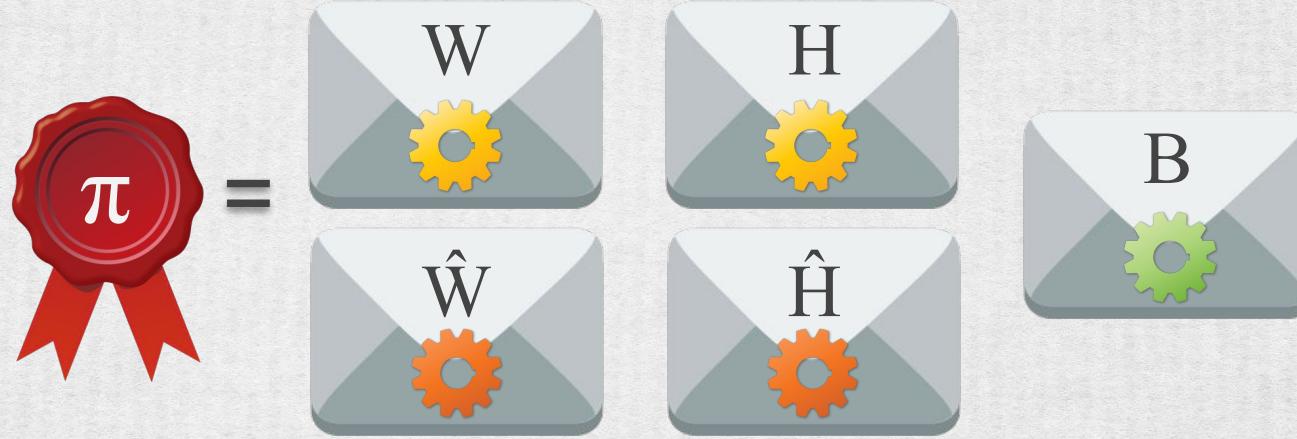
V(vk,  $y, \pi$ )



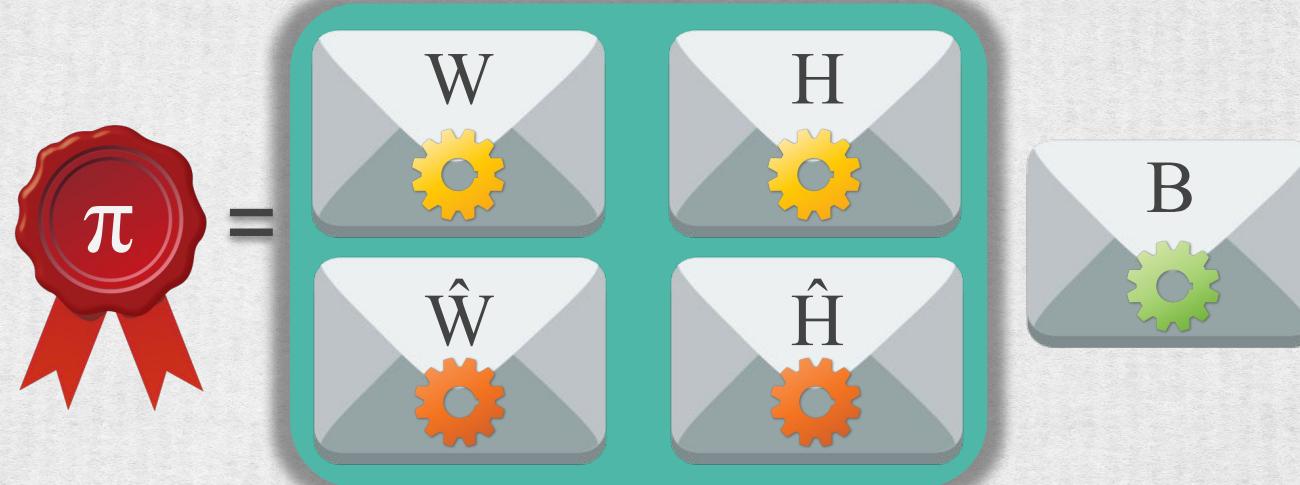
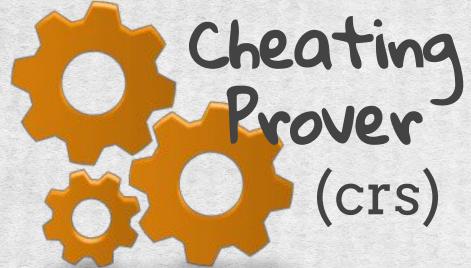
# Cheating Strategy



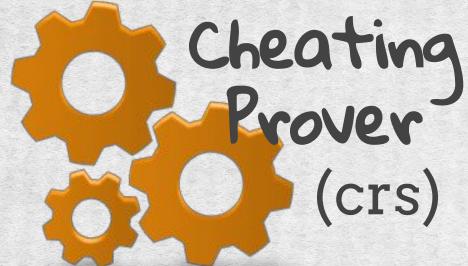
Cheating  
Prover  
(crs)



# Cheating Strategy



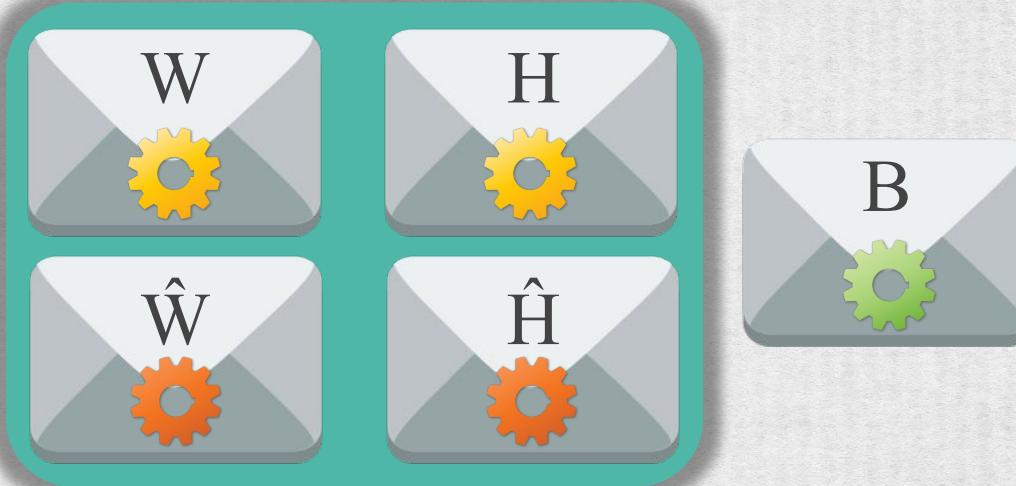
# Cheating Strategy



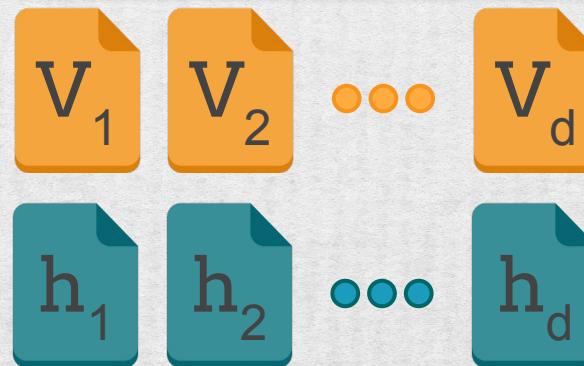
Cheating  
Prover  
(crs)



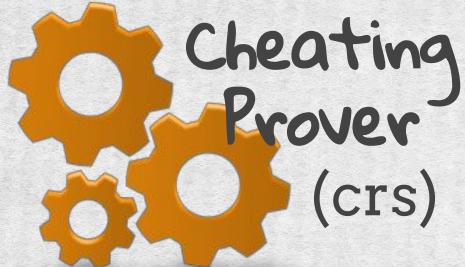
=



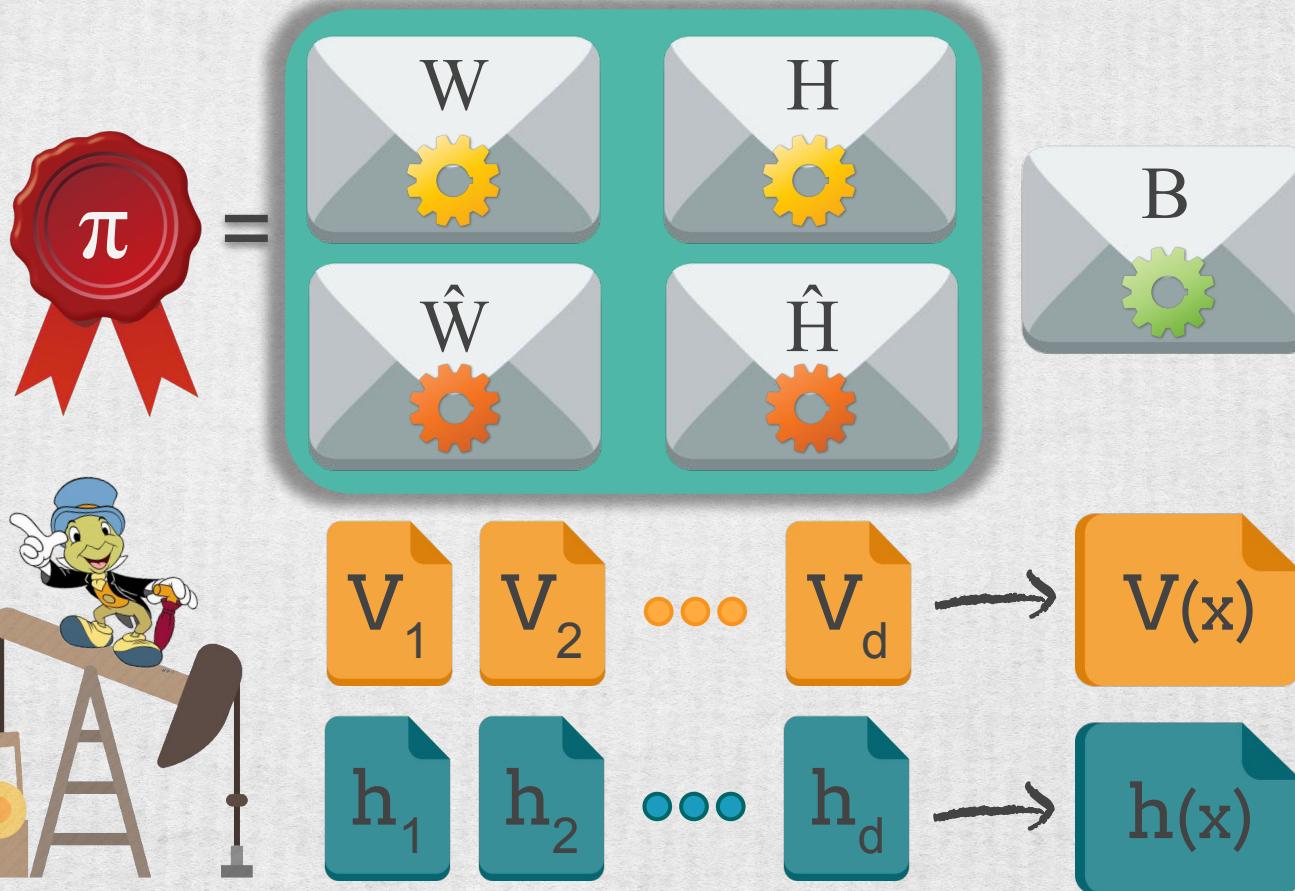
$\varepsilon$



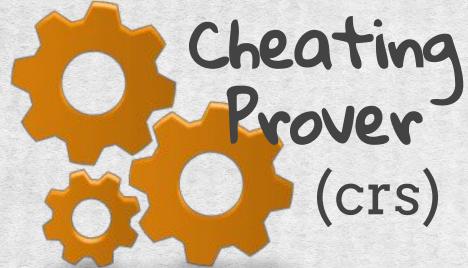
# Cheating Strategy



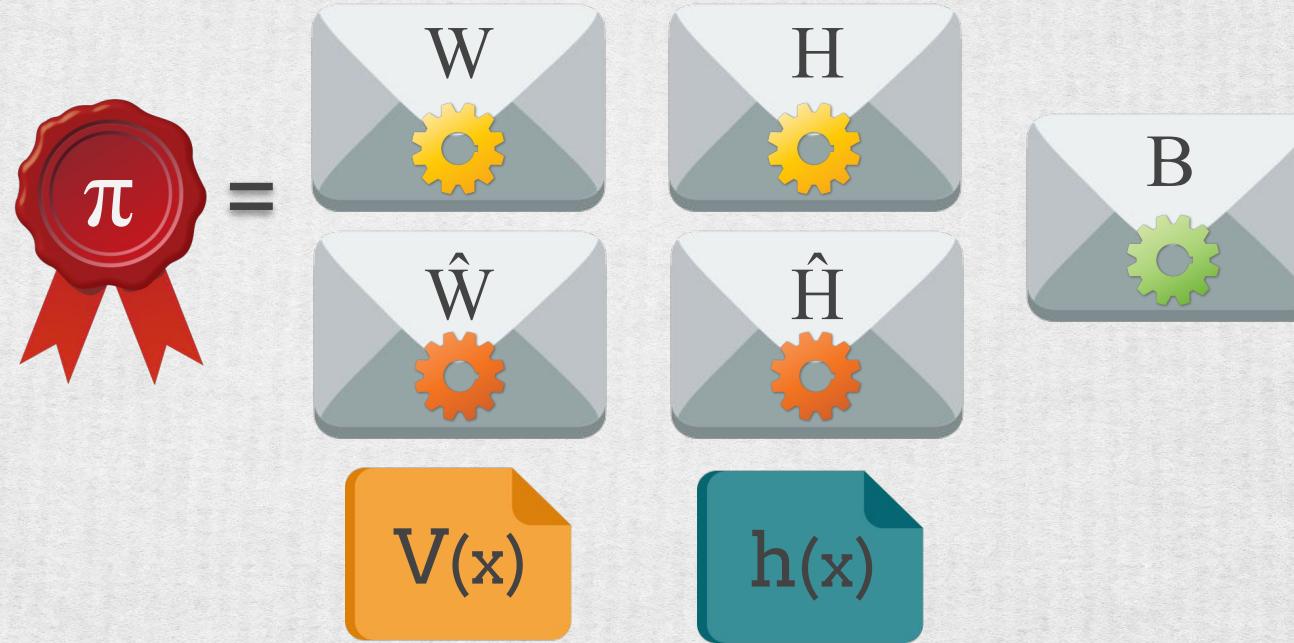
Cheating  
Prover  
(crs)



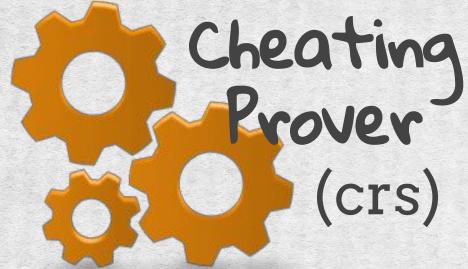
# Cheating Strategy



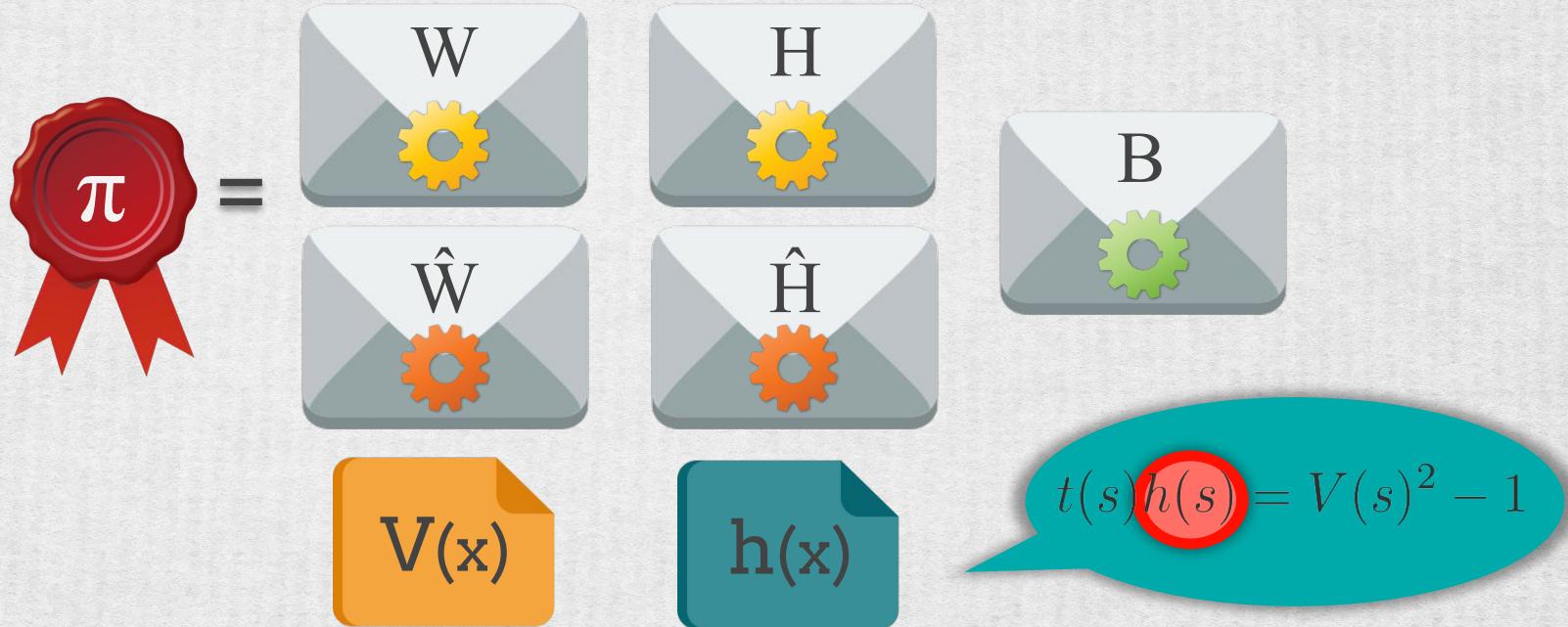
Cheating  
Prover  
(crs)



# Division does not hold



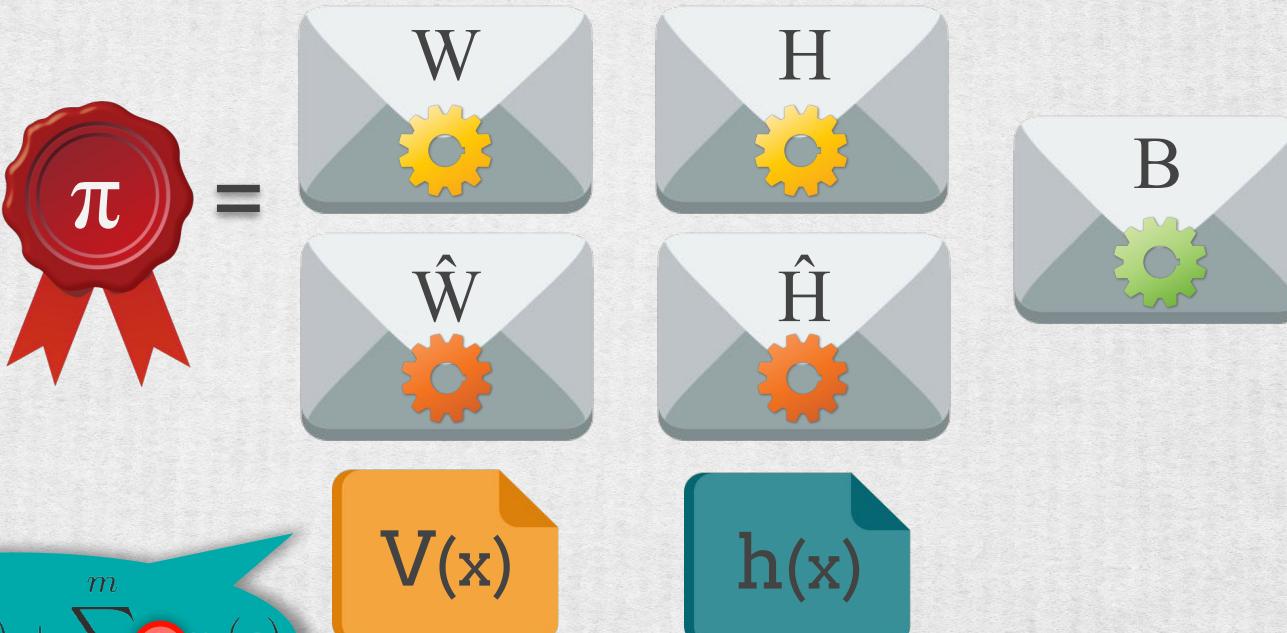
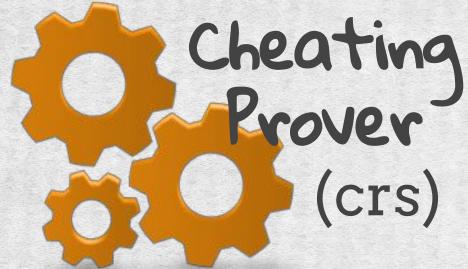
Cheating  
Prover  
(crs)



- $t(x)h(x) \neq V^2(x) - 1$ , but

A horizontal sequence of four boxes on a red background. From left to right, the boxes contain:  $\text{Enc}(t(s))$  (with a yellow gear icon), a green multiplication symbol ( $\times$ ),  $H$  (with a yellow gear icon), an equals sign ( $=$ ),  $W^2$  (with a yellow gear icon), and a minus one symbol ( $- 1$ ). This visualizes the failure of division in the context of the protocol.

# Invalid linear combination

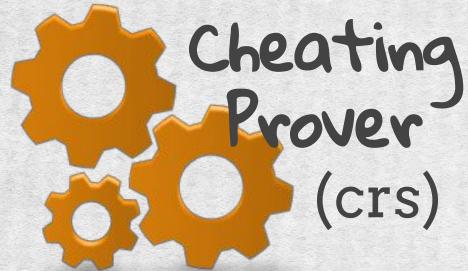


$$V(s) = v_0(s) + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i v_i(s)$$

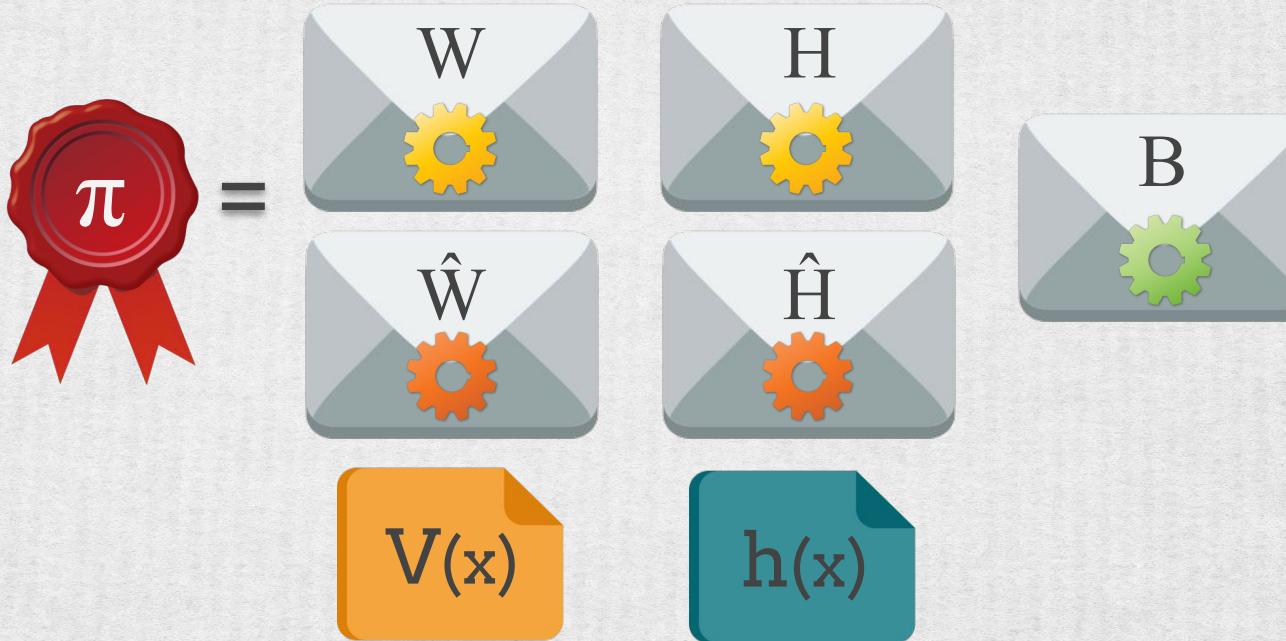
- $t(x)h(x) \neq V^2(x) - 1$ , but  $\text{Enc}(t(s))H = W^2 - 1$
- $V(x) \notin \text{Span}(v_1, \dots, v_m)$ , but



# Prover unable to compute higher degree polynomials



Cheating  
Prover  
(crs)

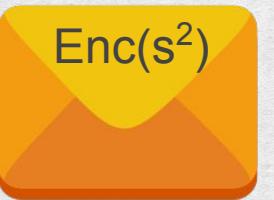


- $t(x)h(x) \neq V^2(x) - 1$ , but  $\text{Enc}(t(s))H = W^2 - 1$
- $V(x) \notin \text{Span}(v_1, \dots, v_m)$ , but  $B = \text{Enc}(\beta V(s))$

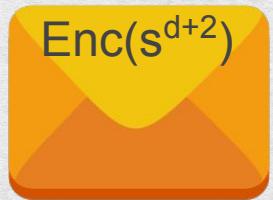
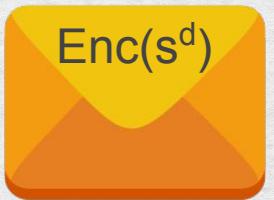
# Assumption PDH: Power Diffie-Hellman



**d-PDH**



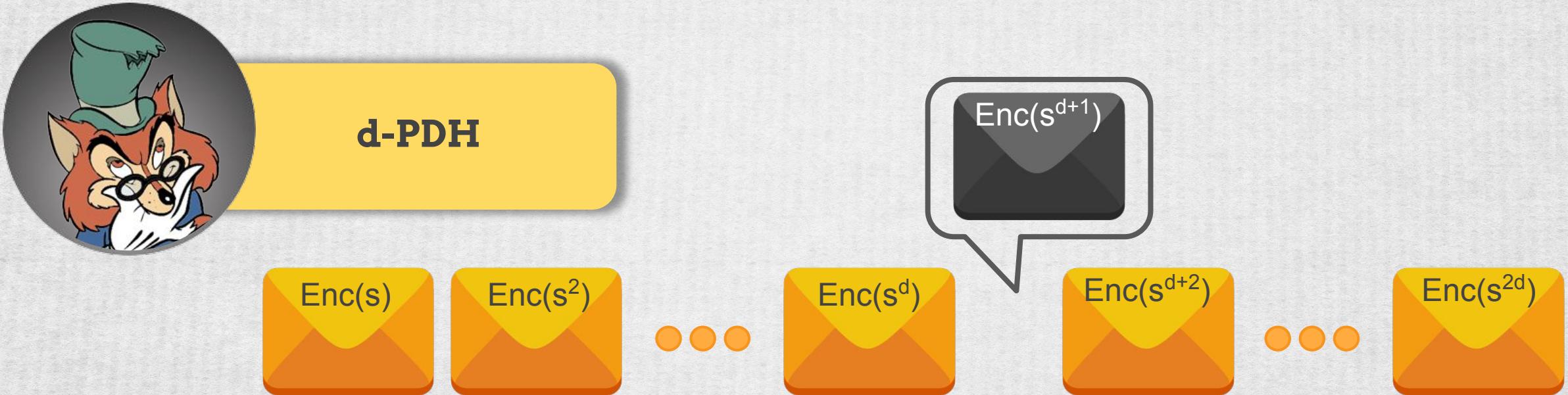
...



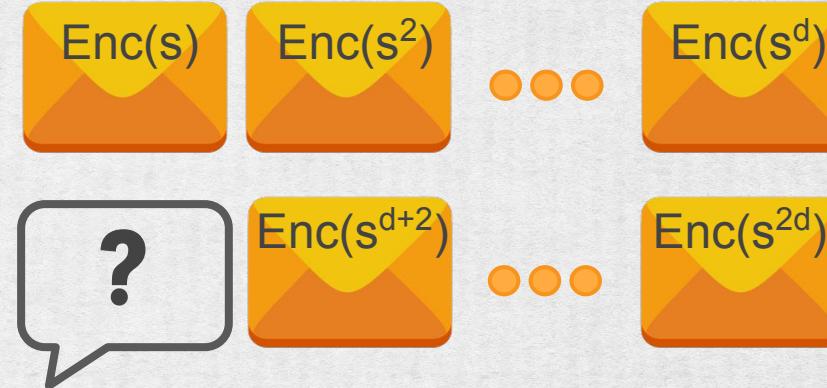
...



# Assumption PDH: Power Diffie-Hellman



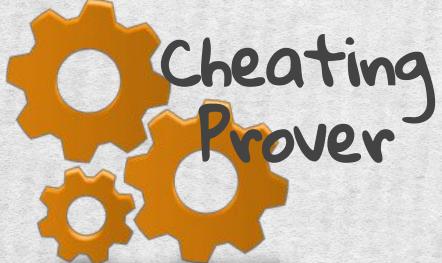
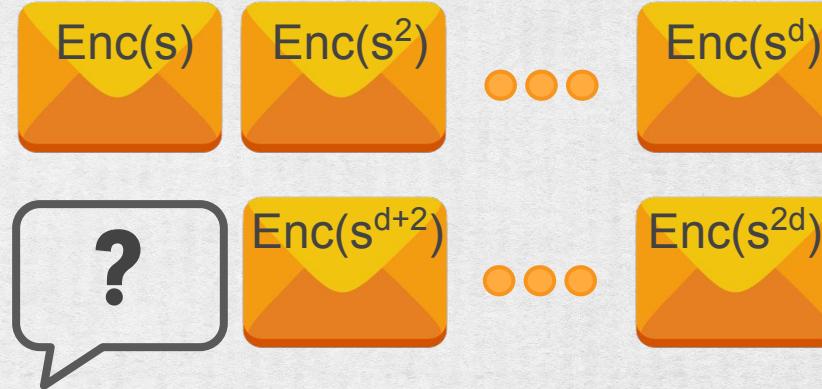
# Security Reduction: Cheating Prover to d-PDH



# Security Reduction: Cheating Prover to d-PDH



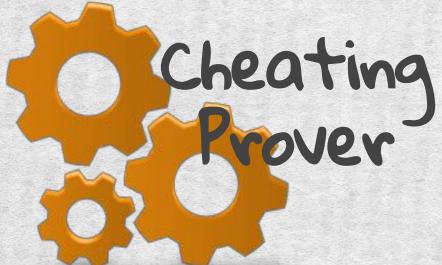
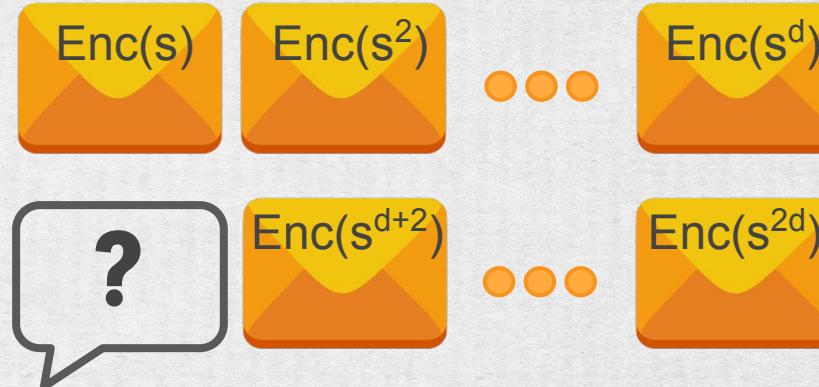
d-PDH



# Security Reduction: Cheating Prover to d-PDH



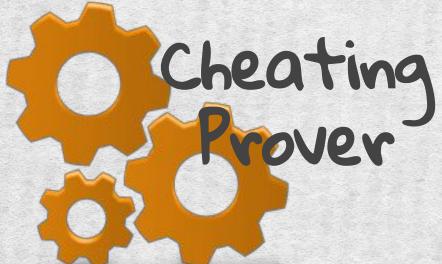
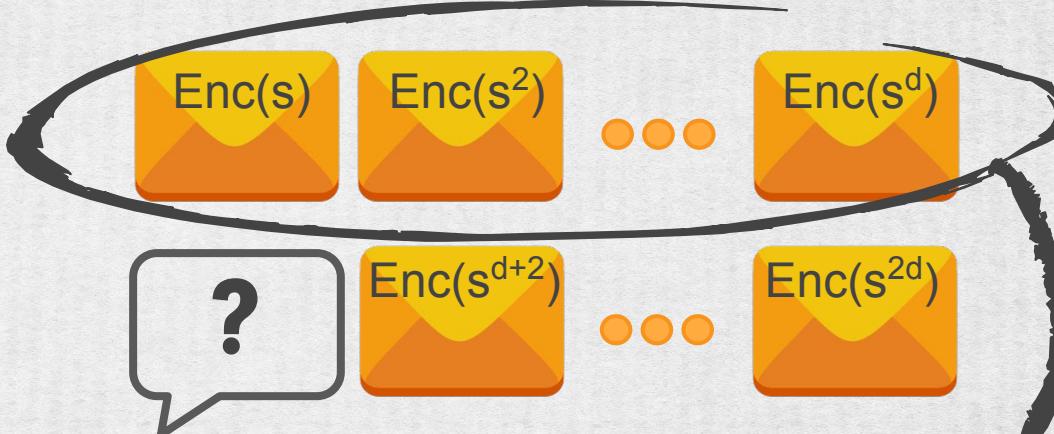
d-PDH



# Security Reduction: Cheating Prover to d-PDH



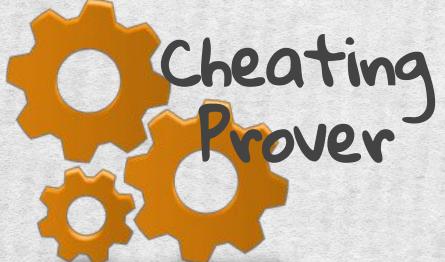
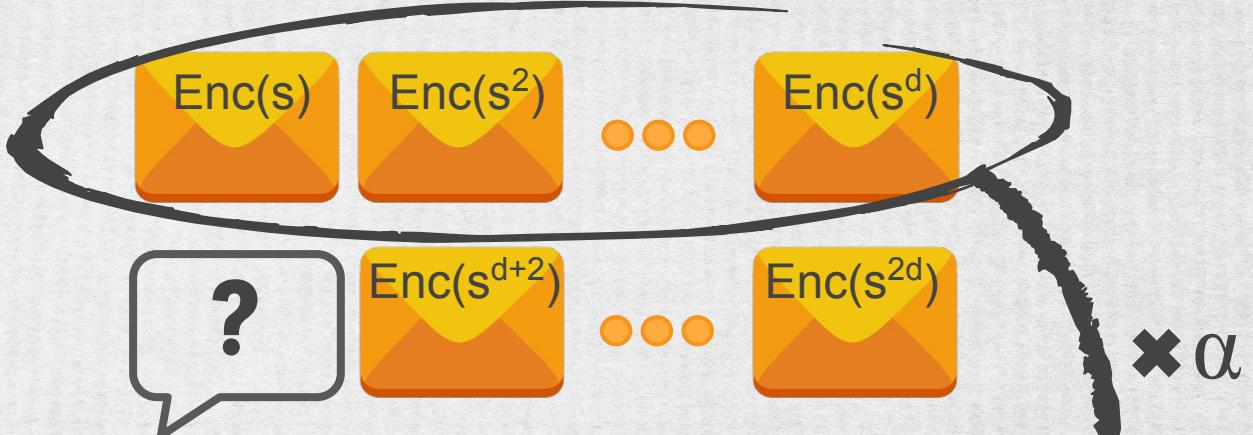
d-PDH



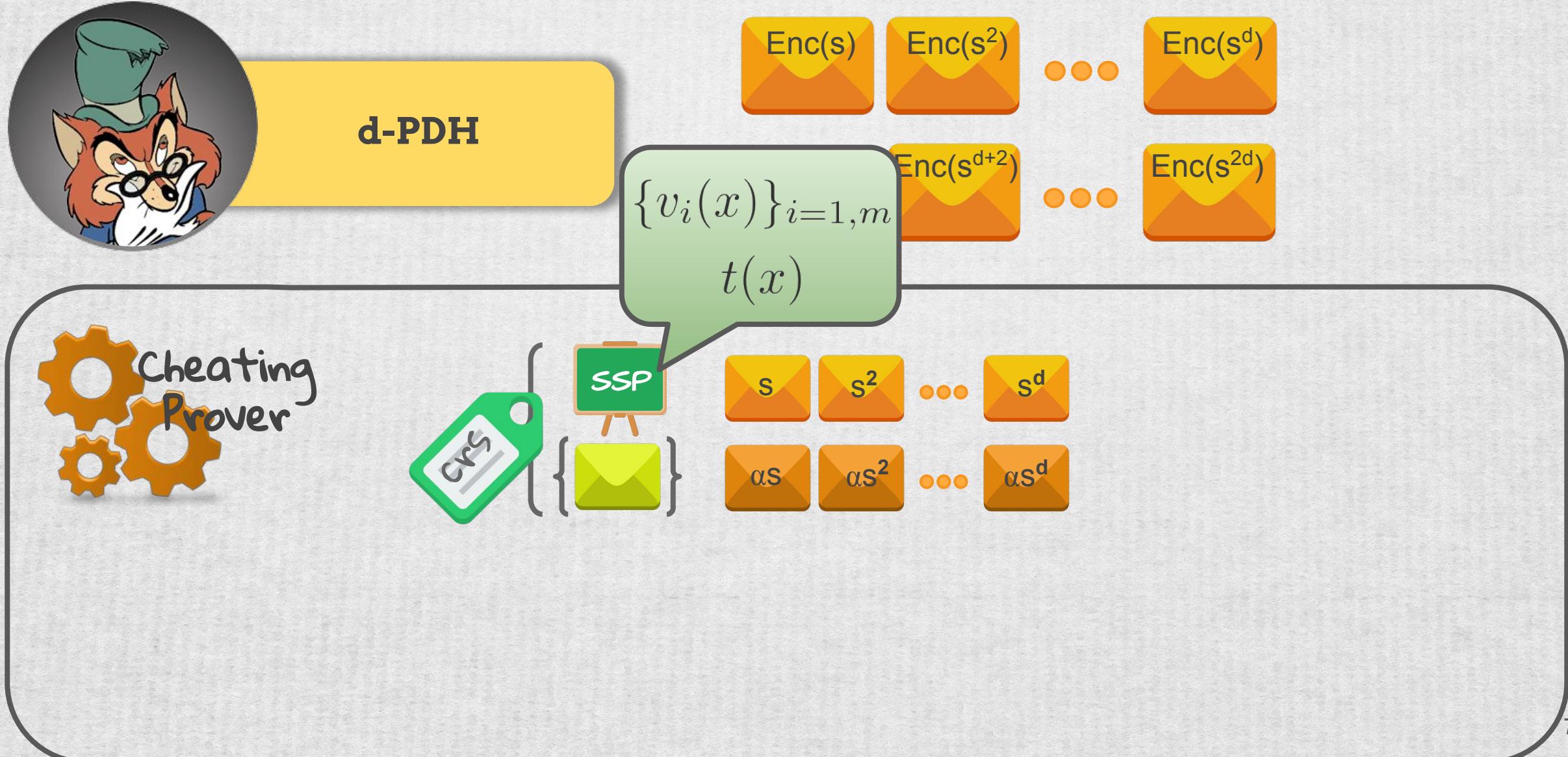
# Security Reduction: Cheating Prover to d-PDH



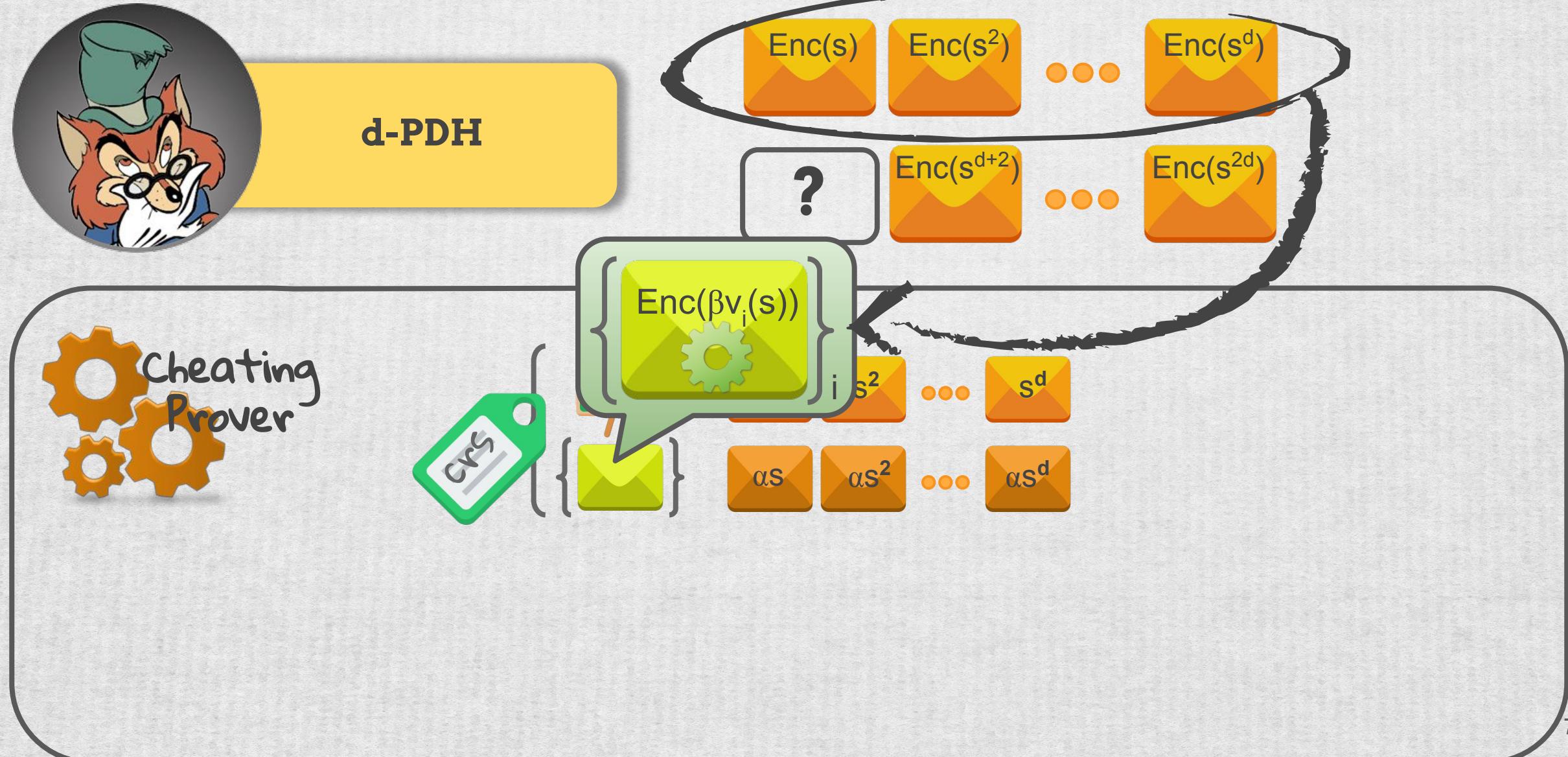
d-PDH



# Security Reduction: Cheating Prover to d-PDH



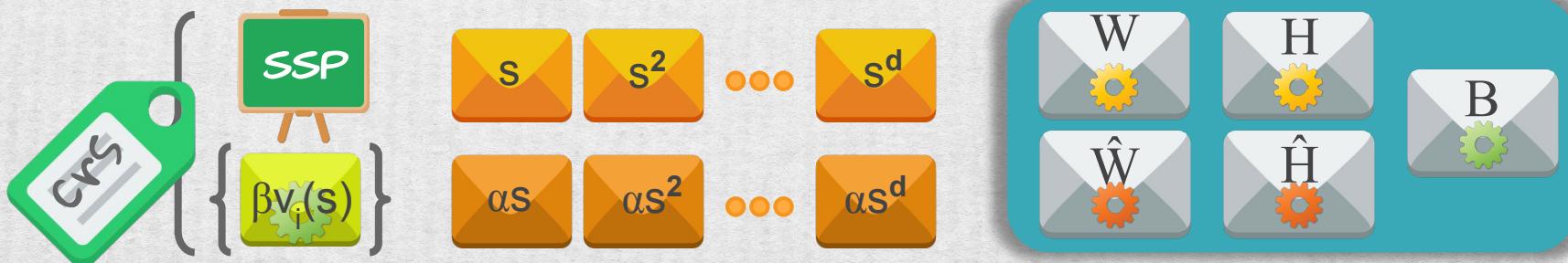
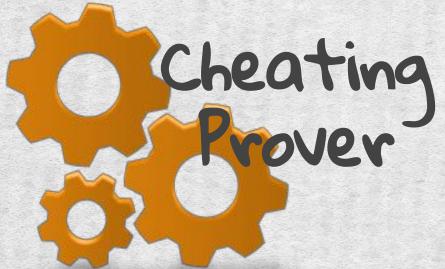
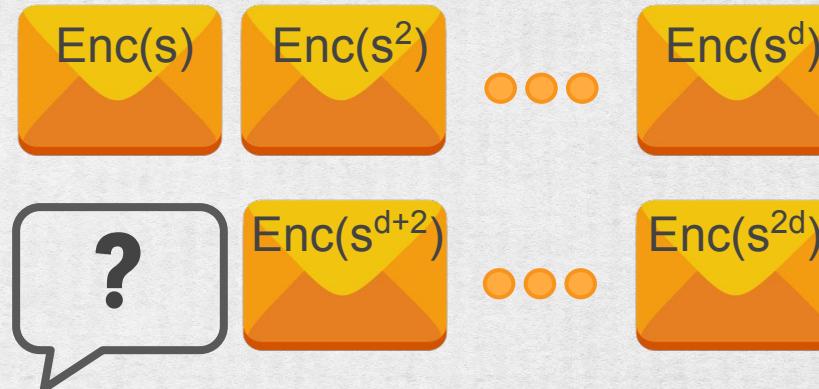
# Security Reduction: Cheating Prover to d-PDH



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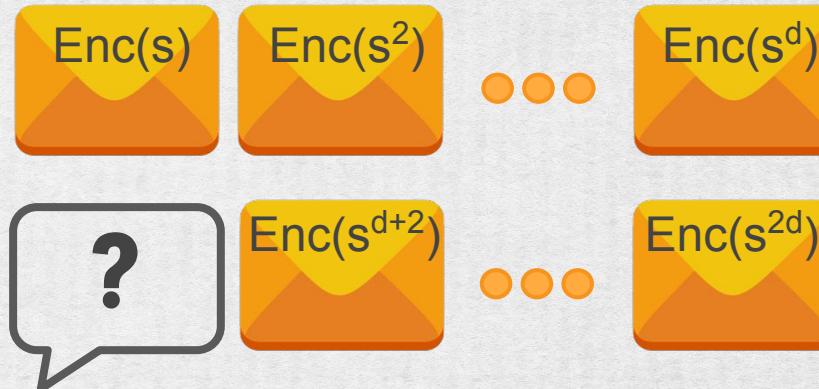
d-PDH



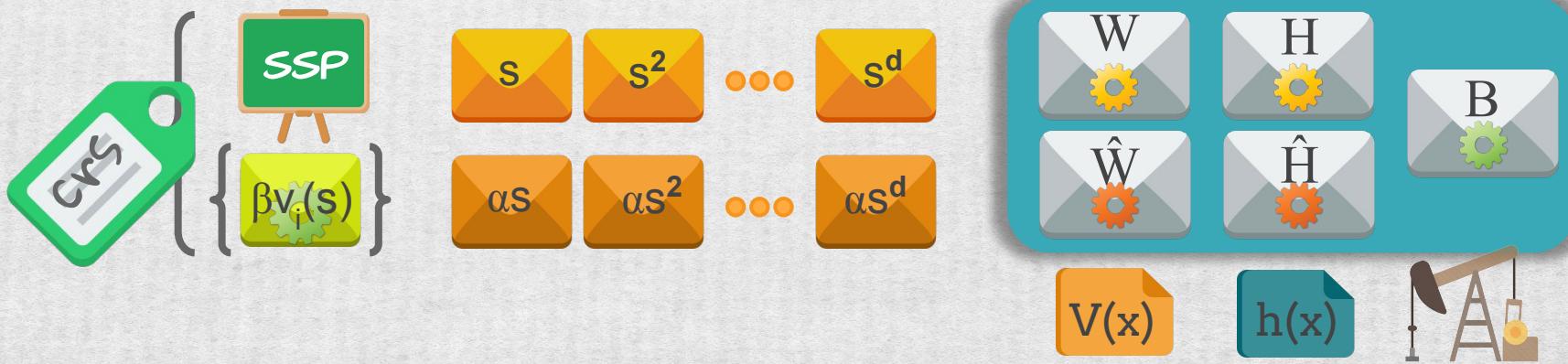
# Security Reduction: Cheating Prover to d-PDH



d-PDH



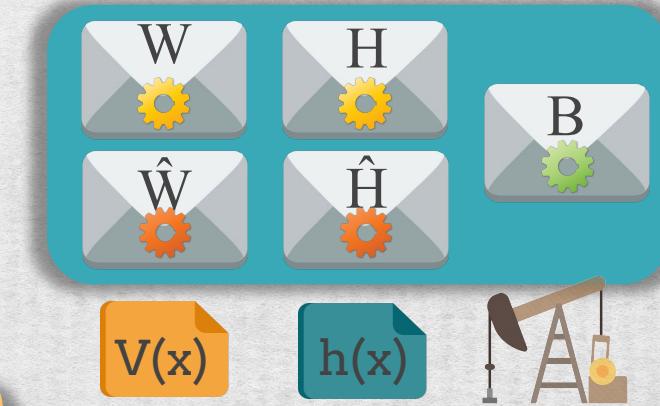
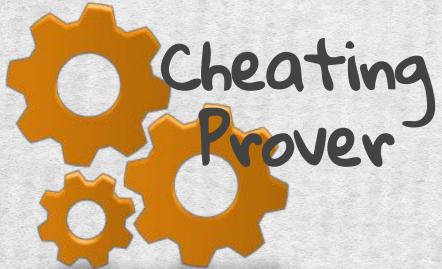
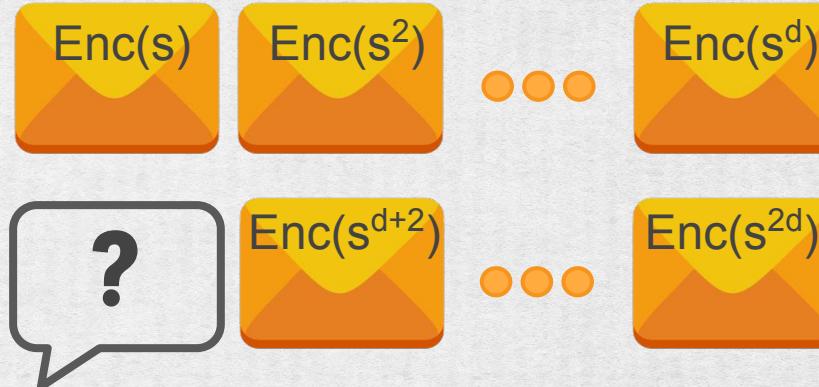
Cheating  
Prover



# Security Reduction: Cheating Prover to d-PDH



d-PDH

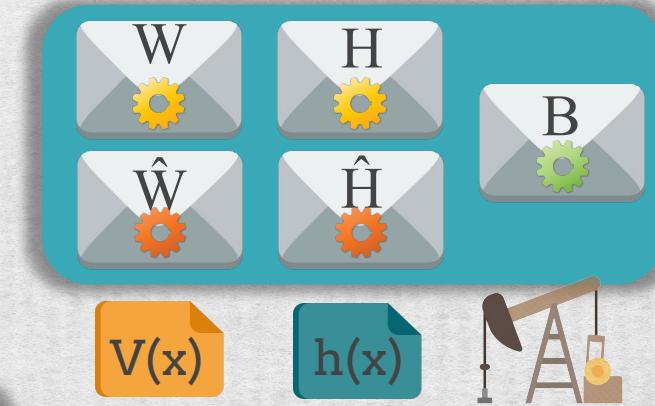
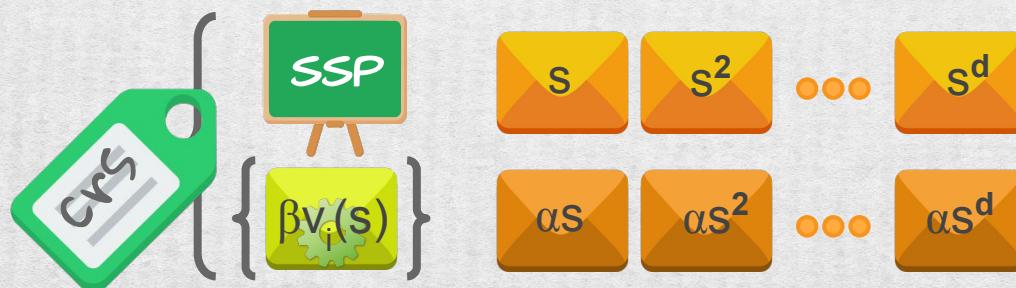
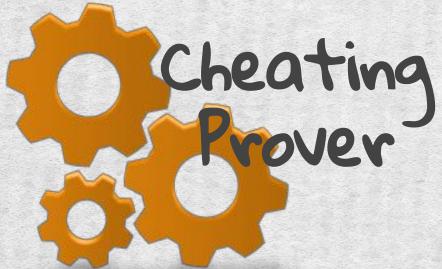
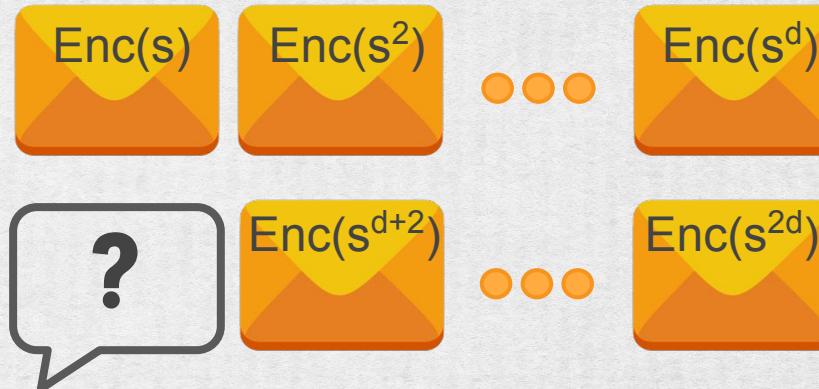


- $t(x)h(x) \neq V^2(x) - 1$ , but  $\text{Enc}(t(s))H = W^2 - 1$

# Security Reduction: Cheating Prover to d-PDH



d-PDH



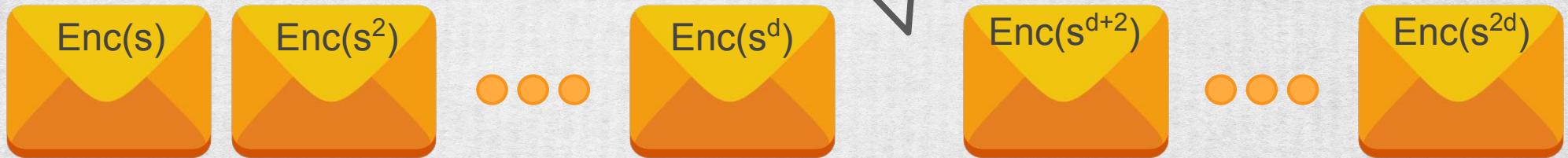
- $t(x)h(x) \neq V^2(x) - 1$ , but  $\text{Enc}(t(s))H = W^2 - 1$

$$p(x) = t(x)h(x) - V^2(x) + 1 \neq 0, \text{ but } p(s) = 0$$

# Security Reduction: Cheating Prover to d-PDH



**d-PDH**



- $t(x)h(x) \neq V^2(x) - 1$ , but  $\text{Enc}(t(s))H = W^2 - 1$

$$p(x) = t(x)h(x) - V^2(x) + 1 \neq 0, \text{ but } p(s) = 0$$

$$p_{d+1} \cdot \text{Enc}(s^{d+1}) = \text{Enc}(p(s)) - \sum_{i=1, \dots, d}^{d+2, \dots, 2d} p_i \text{Enc}(s^i)$$

# Encodings: Publicly vs. Designated verifiable

## Publicly Verifiable Encoding:

- linear operation using **crs**
- quadratic root detection using **crs**
- image verification using **crs**

## Designated Verifiable Encoding:

- linear operation using **crs**
- quadratic root detection needs **sk**
- image verification using **crs**

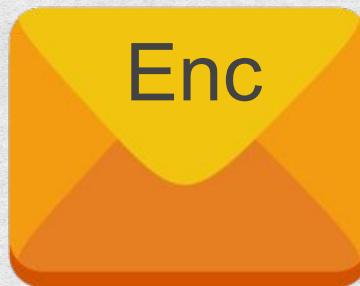
# Security: Types of encodings

## Publicly Verifiable Encoding:

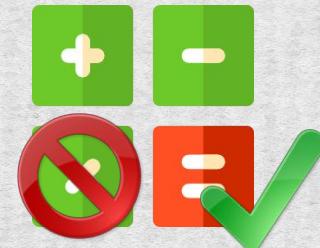
- linear operation using **crs**
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## Designated Verifiable Encoding:

- linear operation using **crs**
- quadratic root detection needs **sk**
- image verification using **crs**



Prover  
Verifier



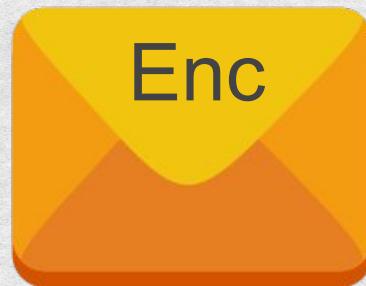
# Security: Types of encodings

## Publicly Verifiable Encoding:

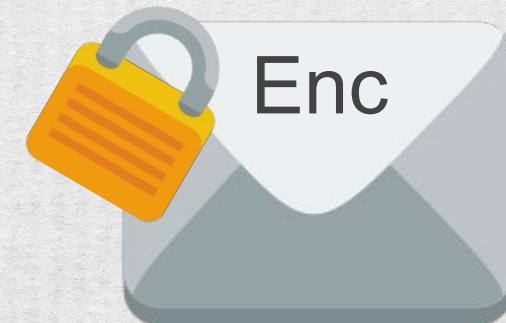
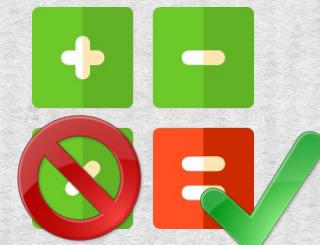
- linear operation using **crs**
- quadratic root detection using **crs**
- image verification using **crs**

## Designated Verifiable Encoding:

- linear operation using **crs**
- quadratic root detection needs **sk**
- image verification using **crs**



Prover  
Verifier



Prover



Verifier

# Security: Publicly verifiable Encoding

$$\begin{aligned} \langle g \rangle &= \mathbb{G}, \langle \tilde{g} \rangle = \tilde{\mathbb{G}} \\ Enc(s) &= g^s \quad e : \mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{G}} \\ e(g^a, g^b) &= \tilde{g}^{ab} \end{aligned}$$



Prover



$$Enc(p(s)) = g^{p(s)} = g^{\sum_i p_i s^i} = \prod (g^{s^i})^{p_i}$$

# Security: Publicly verifiable Encoding

$$\begin{aligned} \langle g \rangle &= \mathbb{G}, \langle \tilde{g} \rangle = \tilde{\mathbb{G}} \\ Enc(s) &= g^s \quad e : \mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{G}} \\ e(g^a, g^b) &= \tilde{g}^{ab} \end{aligned}$$



Prover



$$Enc(p(s)) = g^{p(s)} = g^{\sum_i p_i s^i} = \prod (g^{s^i})^{p_i}$$

Verifier

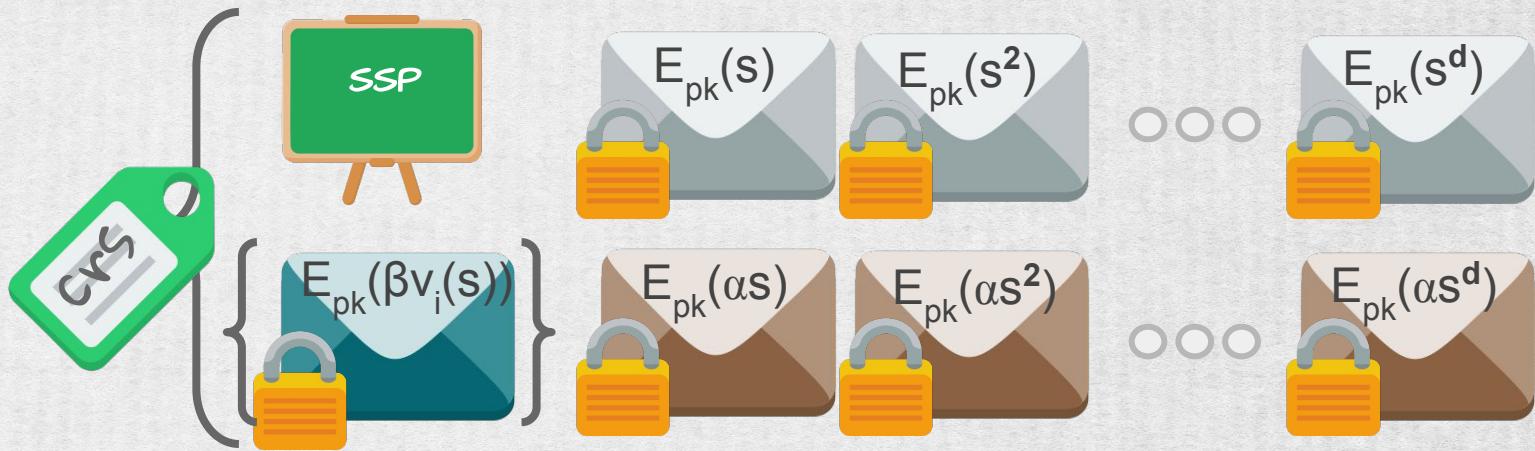


$$e(g^{t(s)}, g^{h(s)}) \stackrel{?}{=} e(g^{p(s)}, g)$$

# Security: Designated verifiable Encoding

Encryption:  $E_{pk}(m) = c$

Decryption:  $D_{sk}(c) = m$



Prover

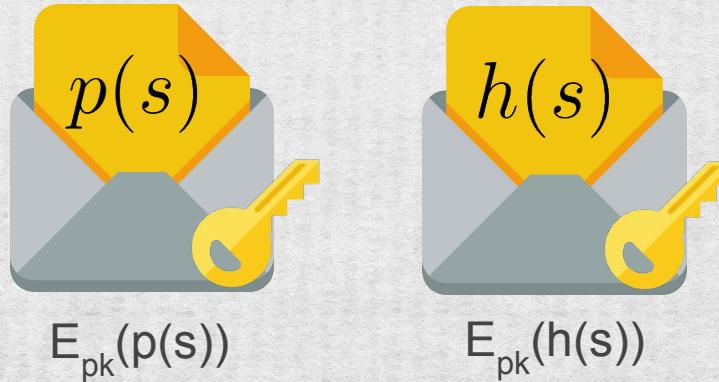
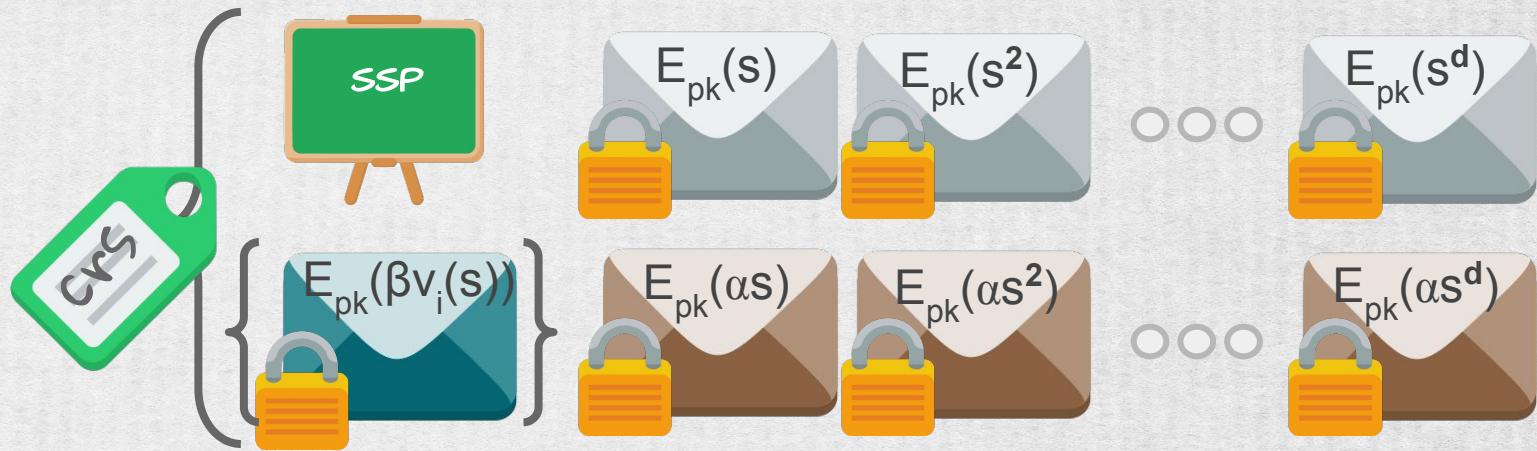


$$Enc(p(s)) = E_{pk}(p(s)) = E_{pk}\left(\sum p_i s^i\right) = \sum p_i E_{pk}(s^i)$$

# Security: Designated verifiable Encoding

Encryption:  $E_{pk}(m) = c$

Decryption:  $D_{sk}(c) = m$



$$t(s)h(s) \stackrel{?}{=} p(s)$$

# Directions



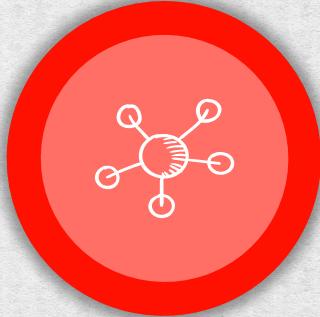
**Motivation**



**SNARKs**



**Construction**



**Directions**

**Post-quantum  
SNARK**

Difficulties  
Comparison

**Open Problems**

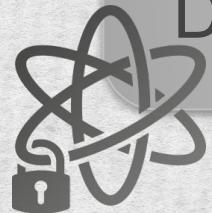
**Conclusions**

# Lattice-based Encodings: Regev Encryption Scheme

Encryption:  $E_{\vec{s}}(m) = (-\vec{a}, \vec{a}\vec{s} + pe + m)$ ,  $e \in \chi$

error

Decryption:  $D_{\vec{s}}((\vec{c}_0, c_1)) = \vec{c}_0 \cdot \vec{s} + c_1 \pmod{p}$



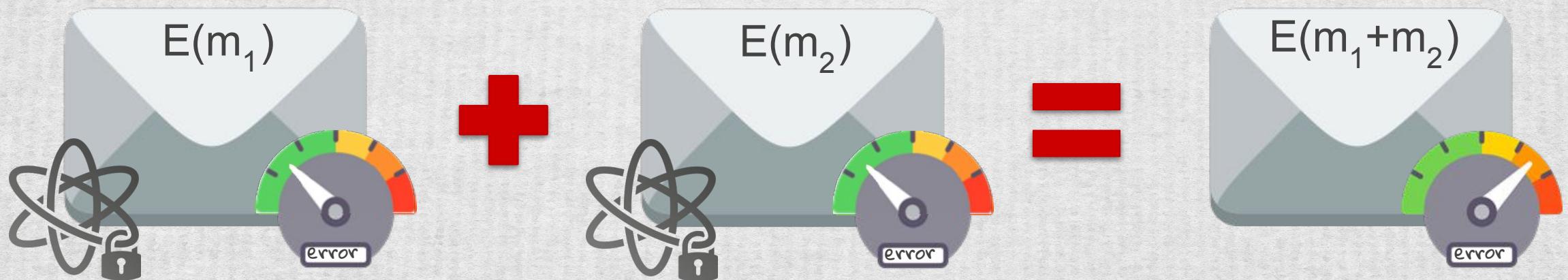
# Lattice-based Encodings: Regev Encryption Scheme

Encryption:  $E_{\vec{s}}(m) = (-\vec{a}, \vec{a}\vec{s} + pe + m)$ ,  $e \in \chi$

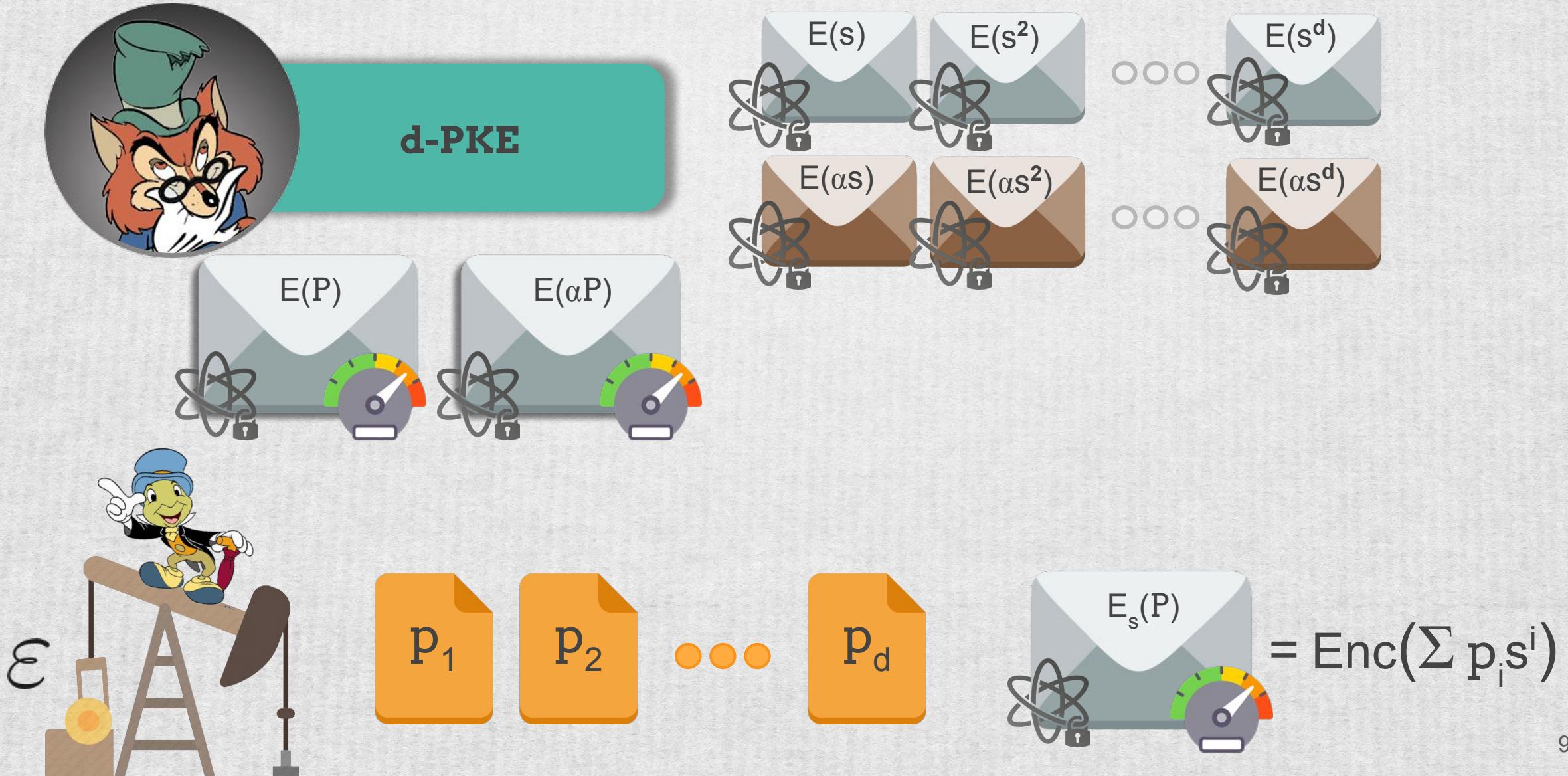
Decryption:  $D_{\vec{s}}((\vec{c}_0, c_1)) = \vec{c}_0 \cdot \vec{s} + c_1 \pmod{p}$



$$E_{\vec{s}}(m_1) + E_{\vec{s}}(m_2) = (-\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2, (\vec{a}_1 + \vec{a}_2)\vec{s} + p(e_1 + e_2) + m_1 + m_2)$$



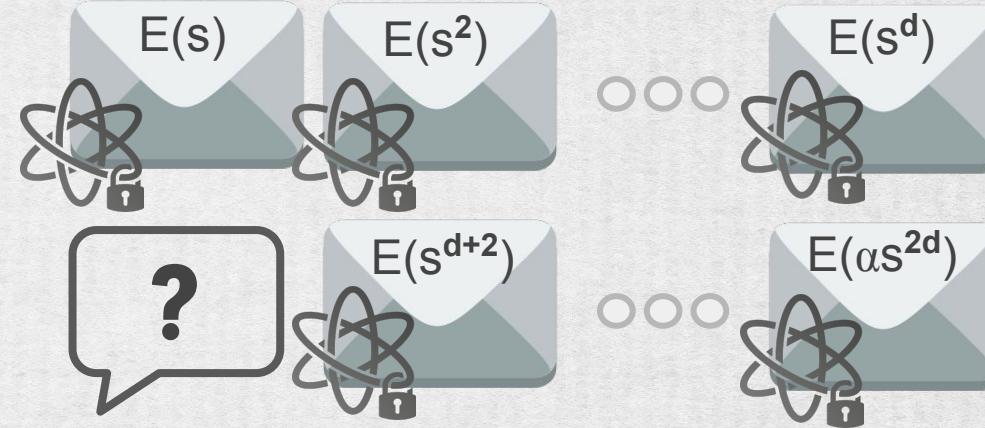
# New Lattice Assumptions



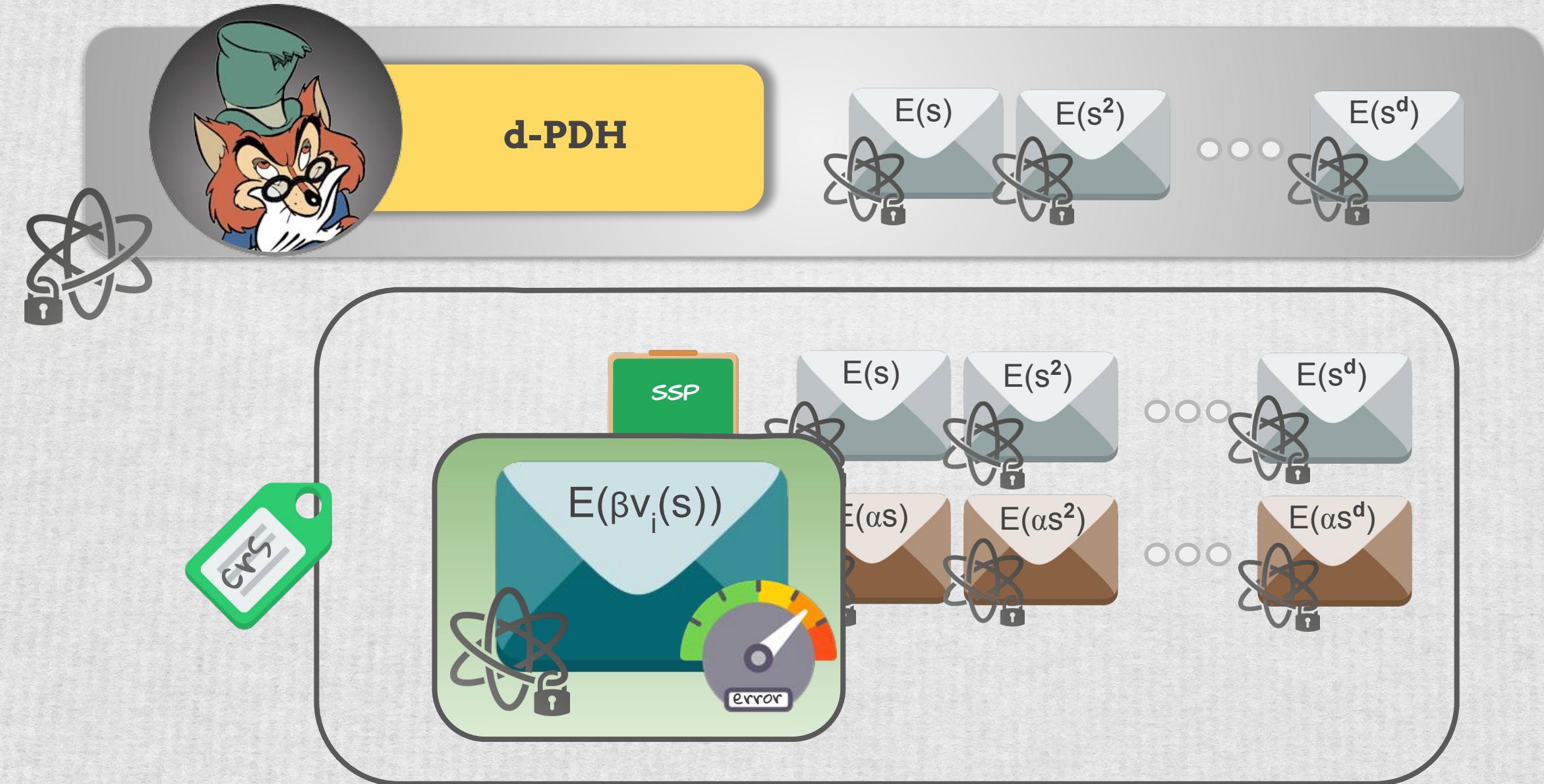
# Assumption d-PDH



d-PDH



# Technical Aspects

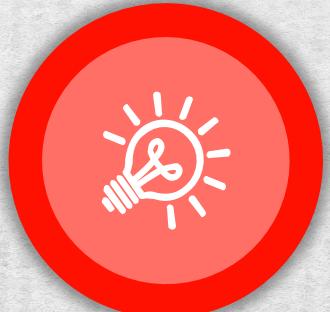


# SNARKs: Further Directions



## Standard SNARKs

based on DLog in EC groups  
not quantum resistant  
publicly-verifiable  
zero-knowledge

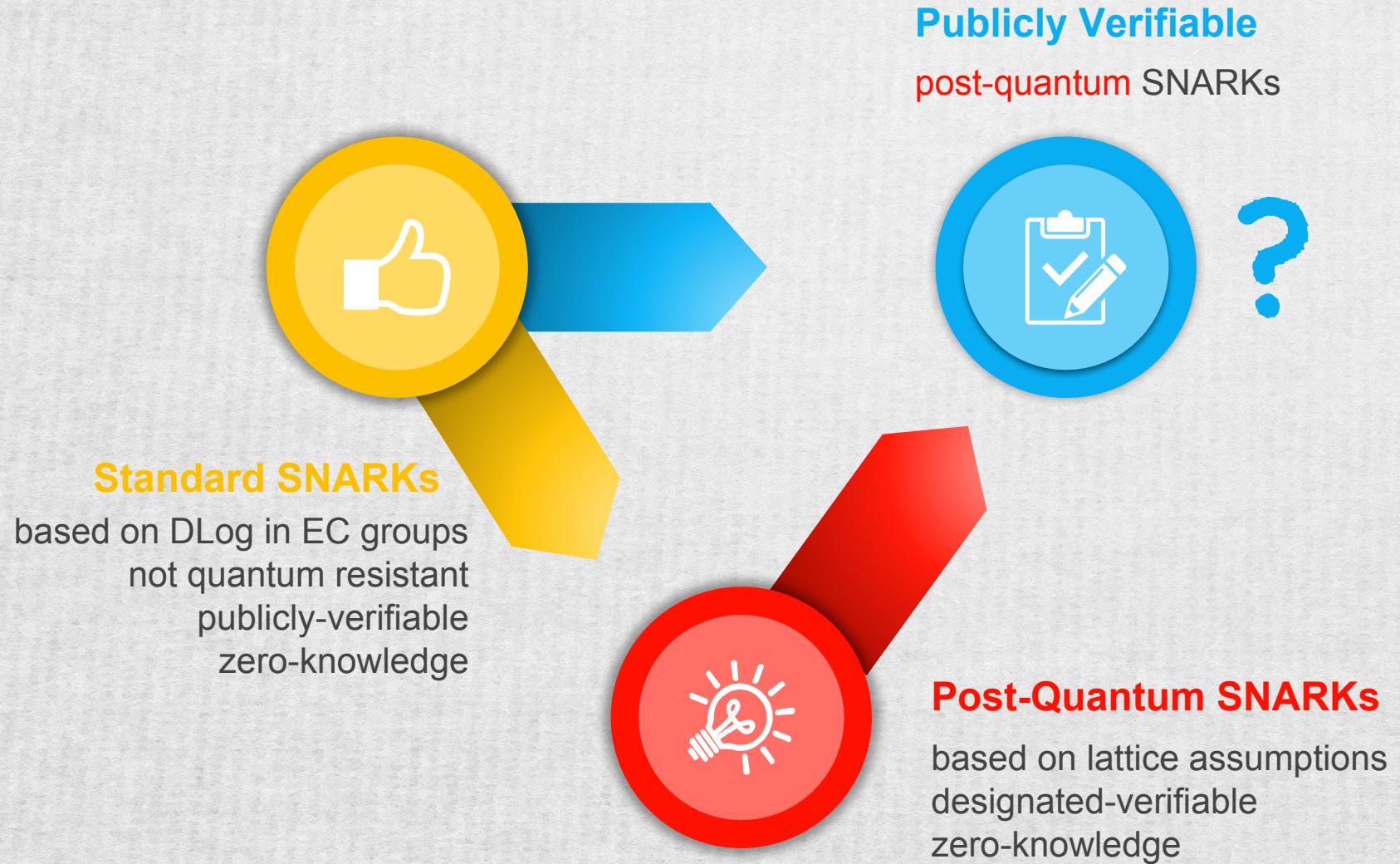


## Post-Quantum SNARKs

based on lattice assumptions  
designated-verifiable  
zero-knowledge



# SNARKs: Further Directions



# More trustful Cloud



THANK You



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