

# Salvaging Indifferentiability in a Multi-stage Setting



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**Cryptoplexity**

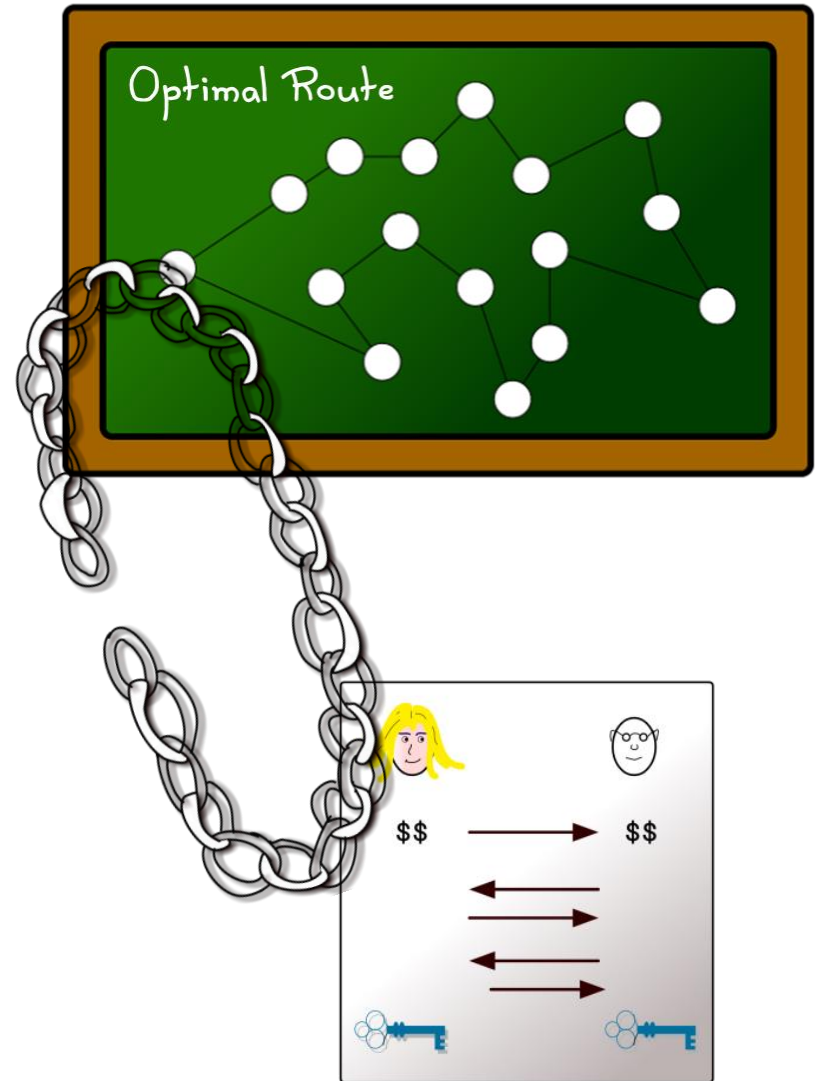
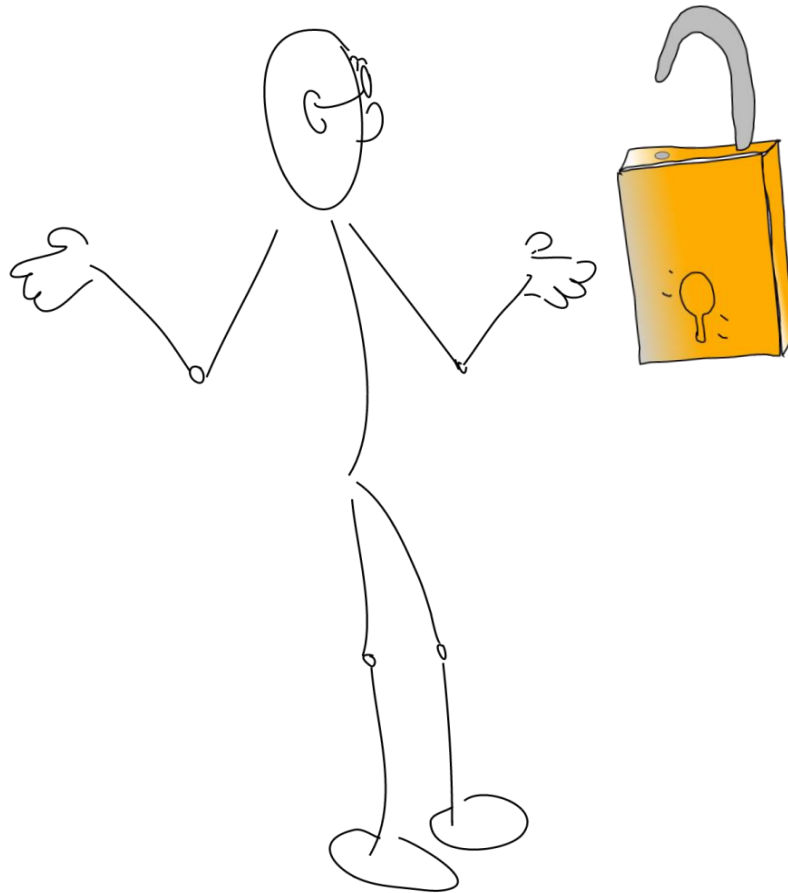
Cryptography & Complexity Theory  
Technische Universität Darmstadt  
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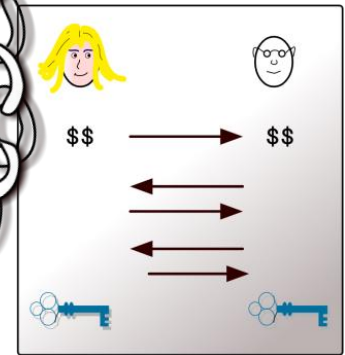
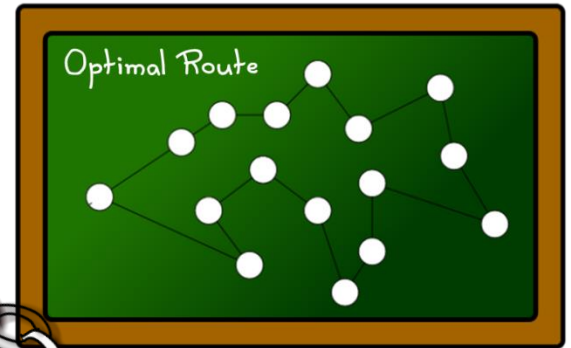
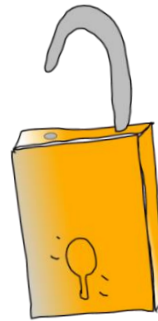
EUROCRYPT 2014, May 15<sup>th</sup>

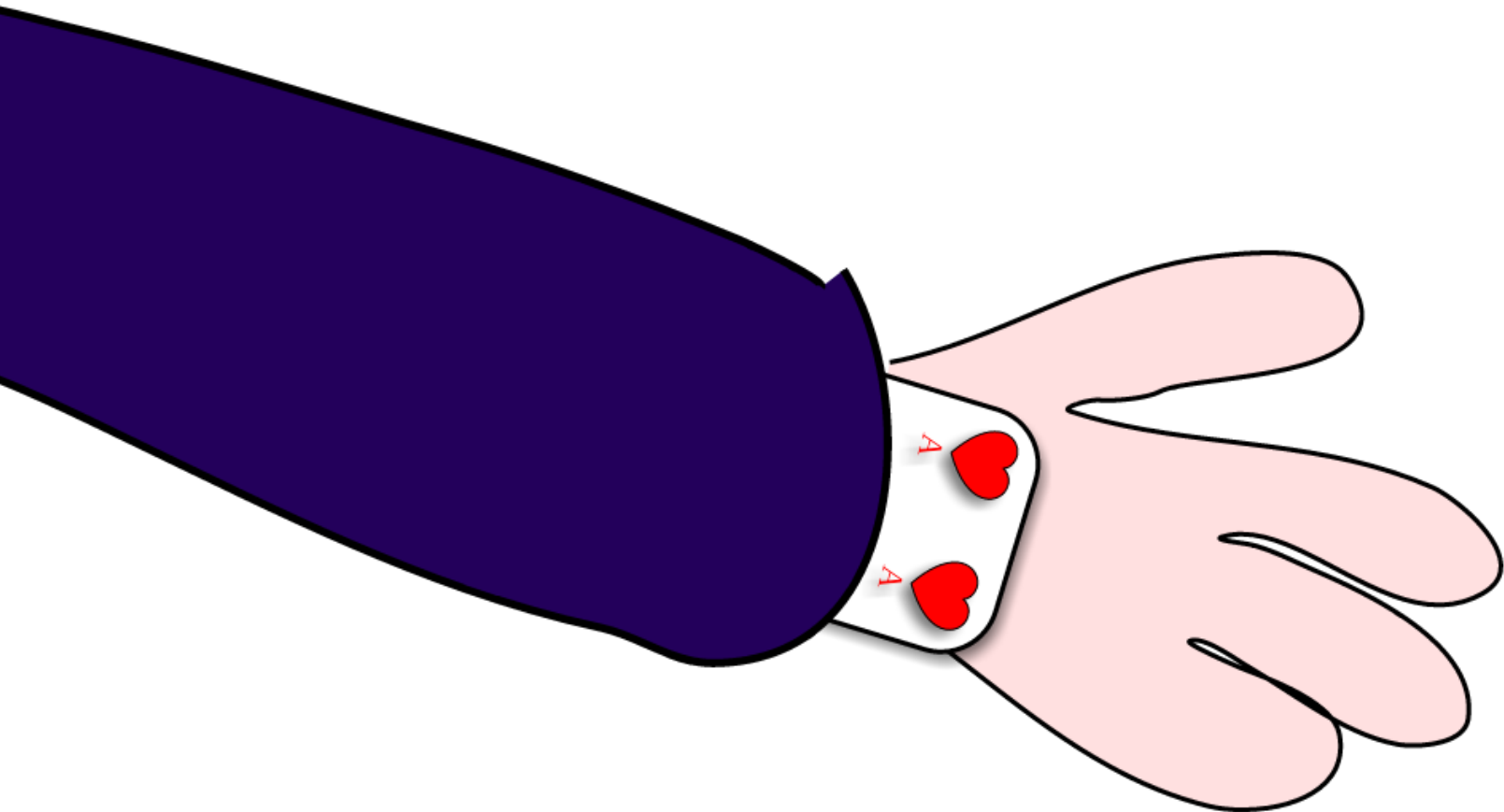
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Arno Mittelbach

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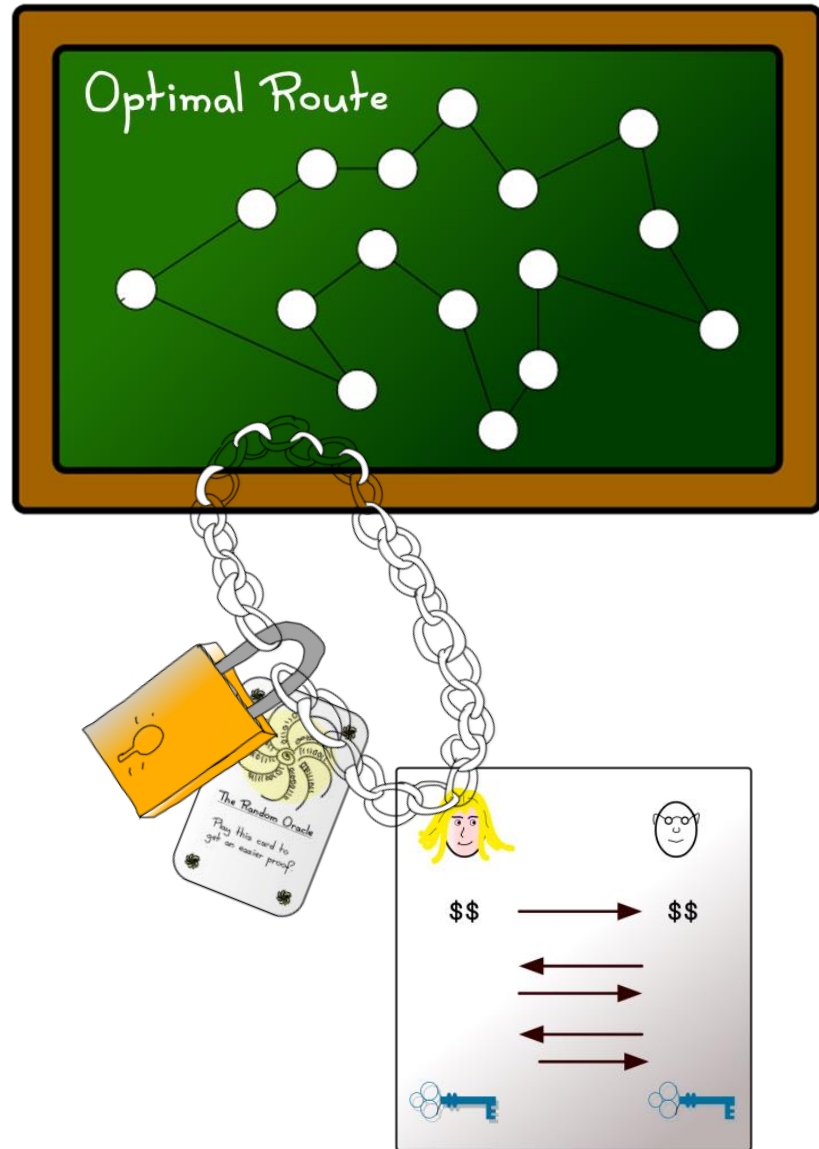
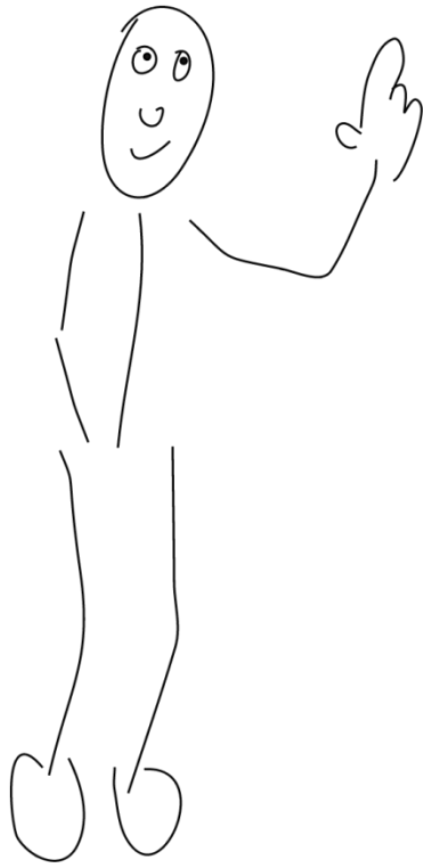
## The Random Oracle

Play this card to  
get an easier proof.

## The Random Oracle

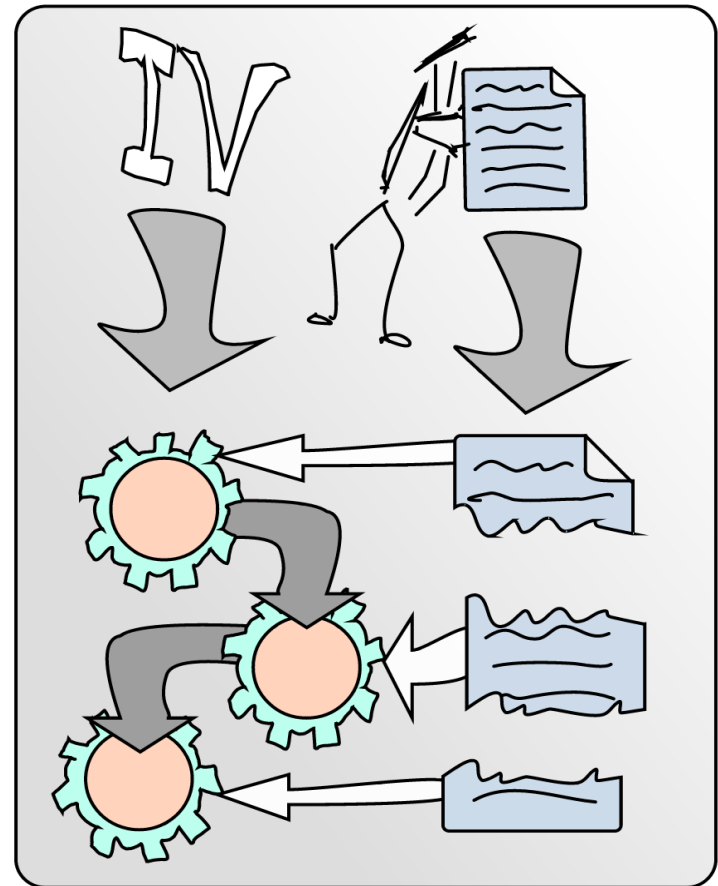
The Random Oracle  
allows you to  
replace all hash  
functions within  
your proof with a  
completely random  
function.

In the real world  
use a cryptographic  
hash construction.



# The Real World

A cryptographic hash function in the real world.

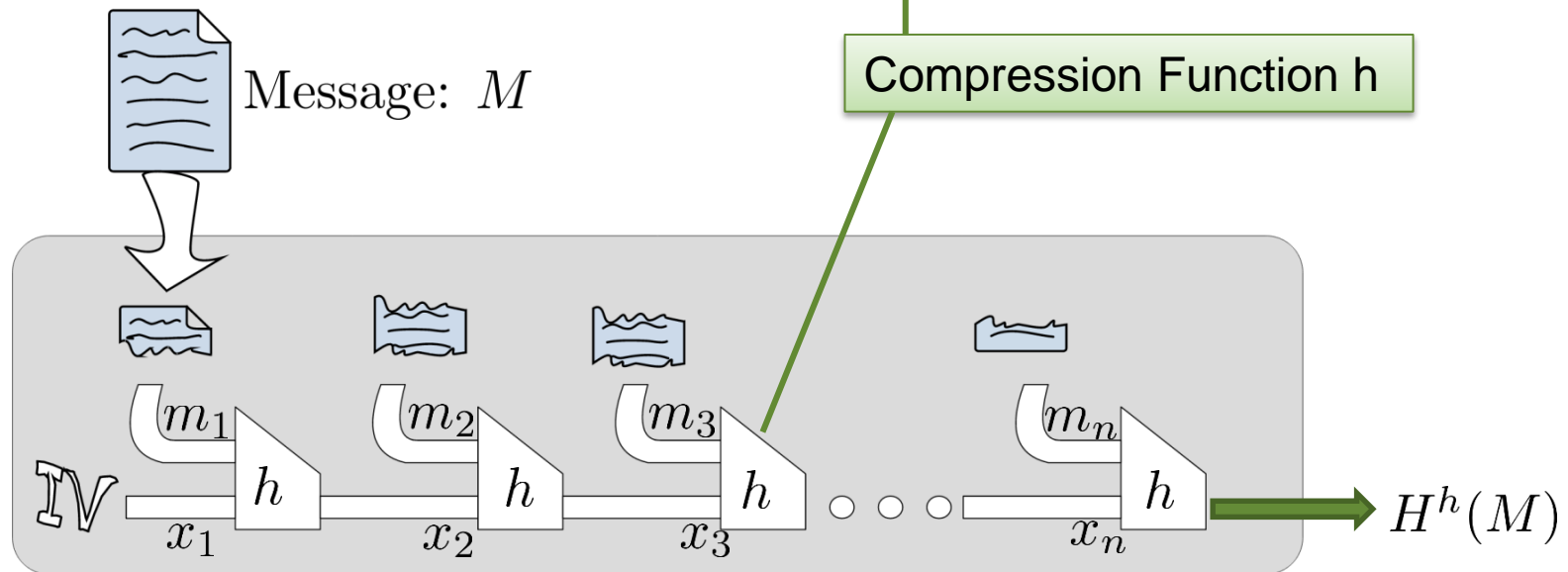


# (Iterative) Hash Function Design

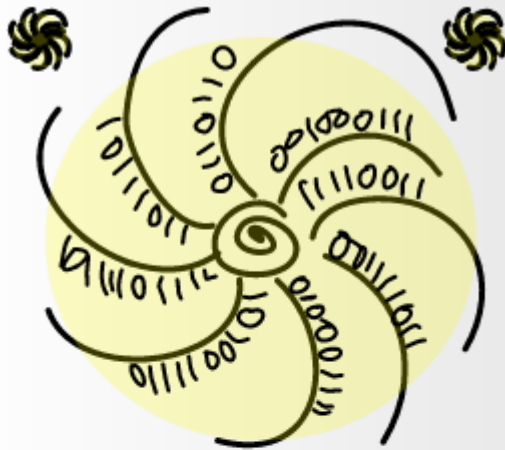
[Merkle-Damgård]

$$H^h : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$$

$$h : \{0, 1\}^d \times \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^s$$







## The Random Oracle

Play this card to  
get an easier proof?



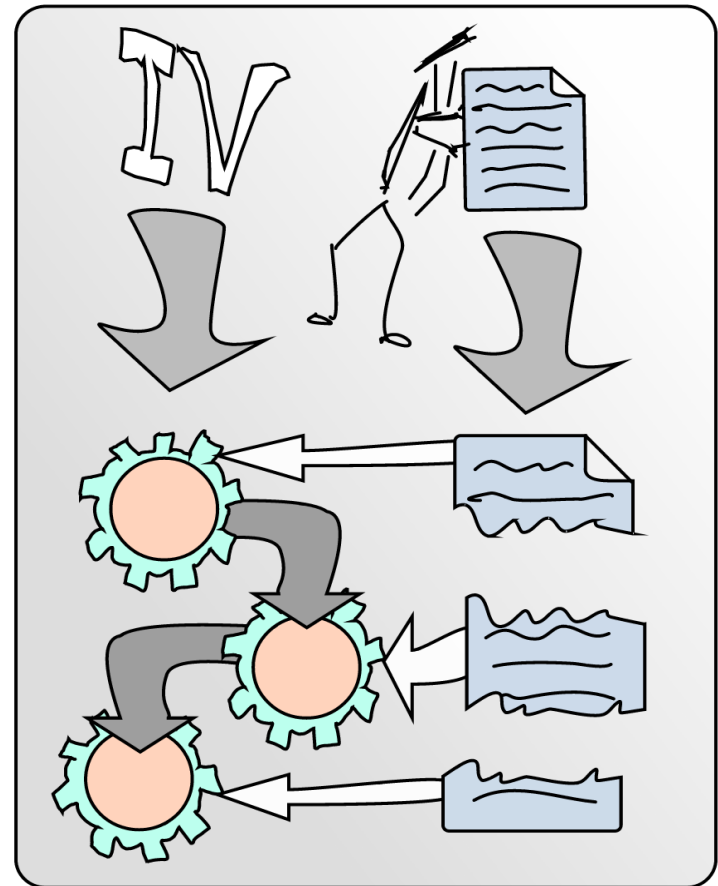
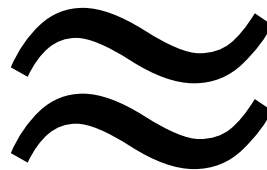
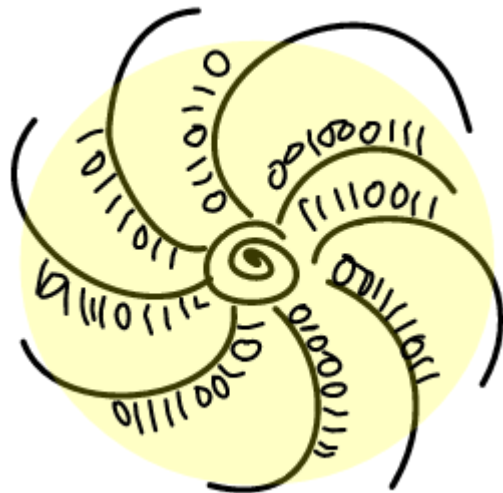
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The Random Oracle  
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In the real world  
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# Problem



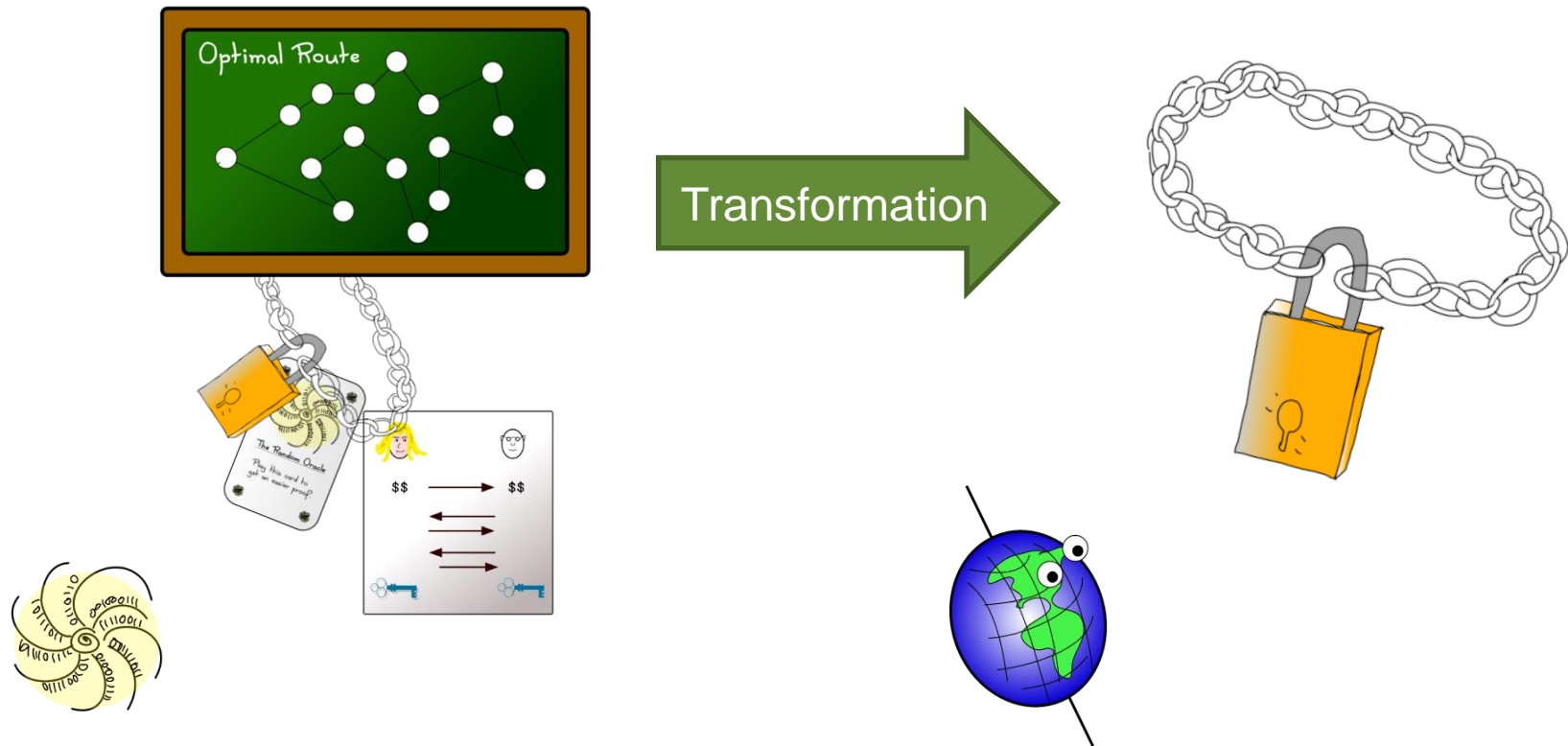
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How to gain more confidence in our scheme?

# Minimizing Assumptions

Proof in the Random Oracle Model

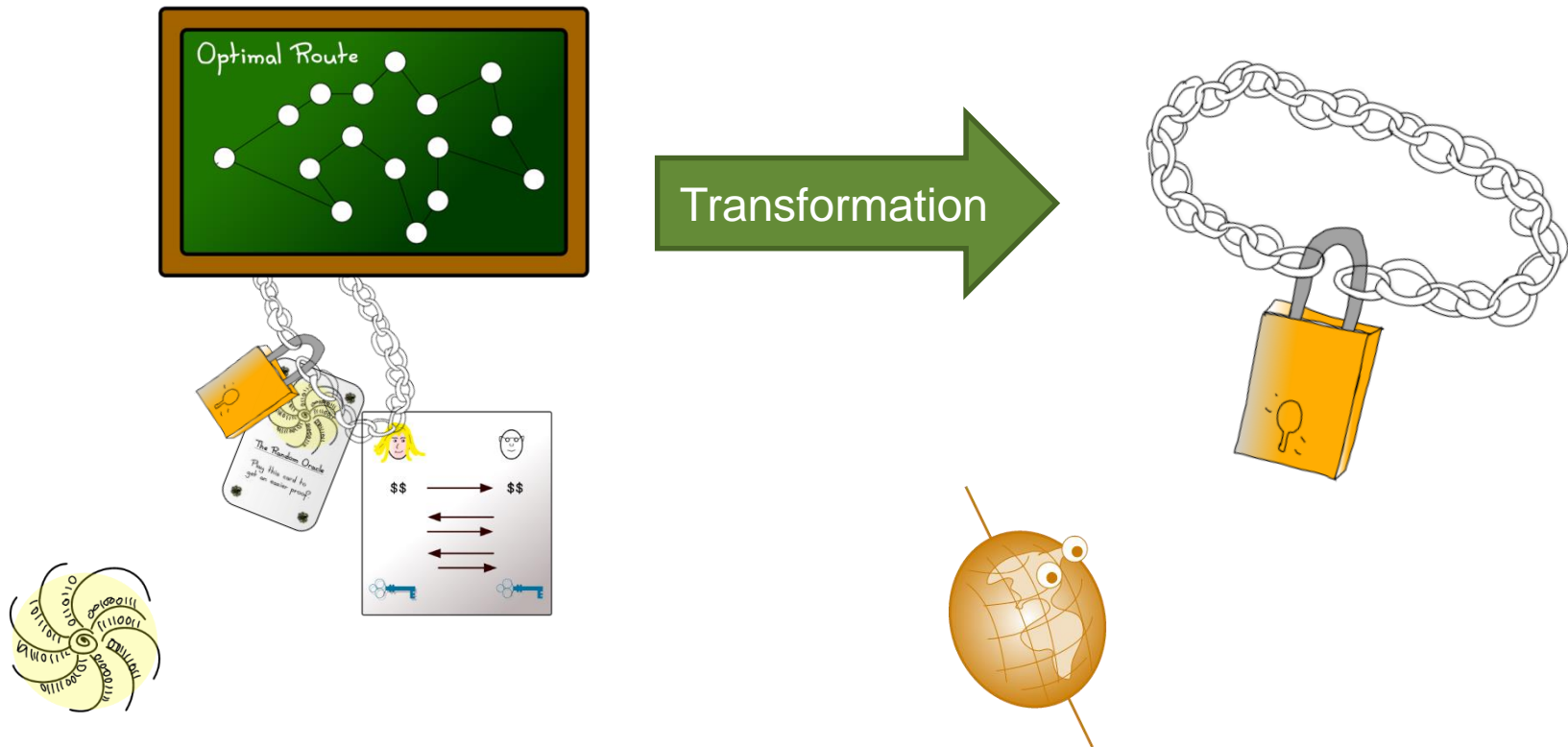
Proof in the Real World



# Minimizing Assumptions

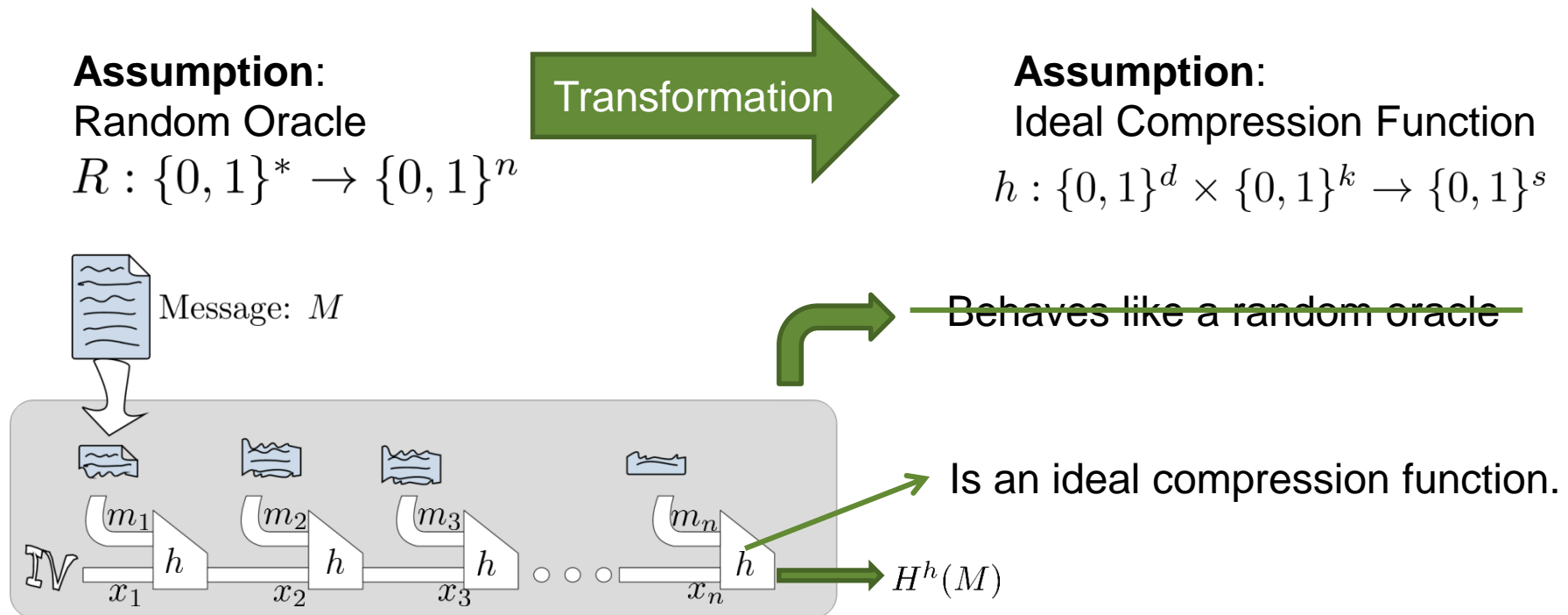
Proof in the Random Oracle Model

Proof in **something closer to Real World**



# Goal

- Prove that domain extension (i.e. iteration scheme) cannot be attacked.



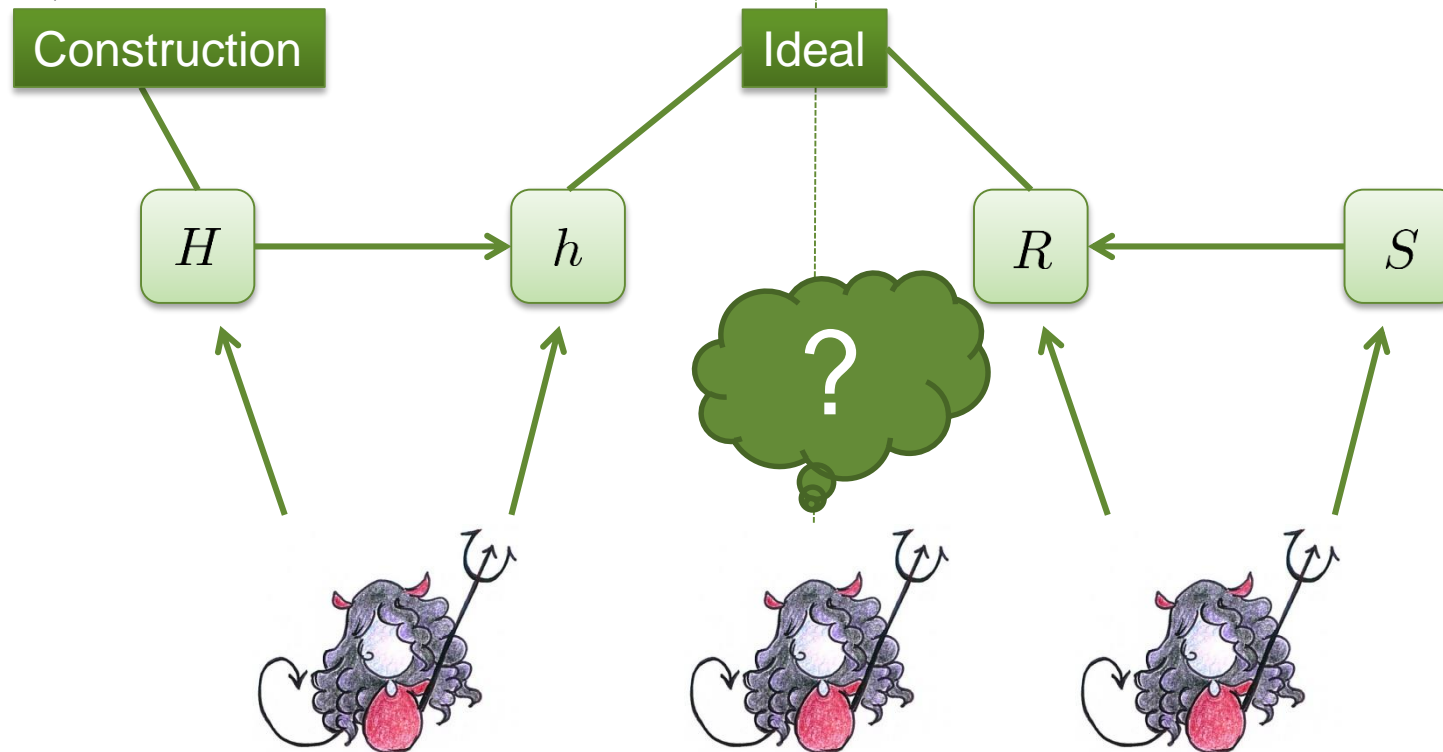
# Indifferentiability

[MRH04, CDMP05]

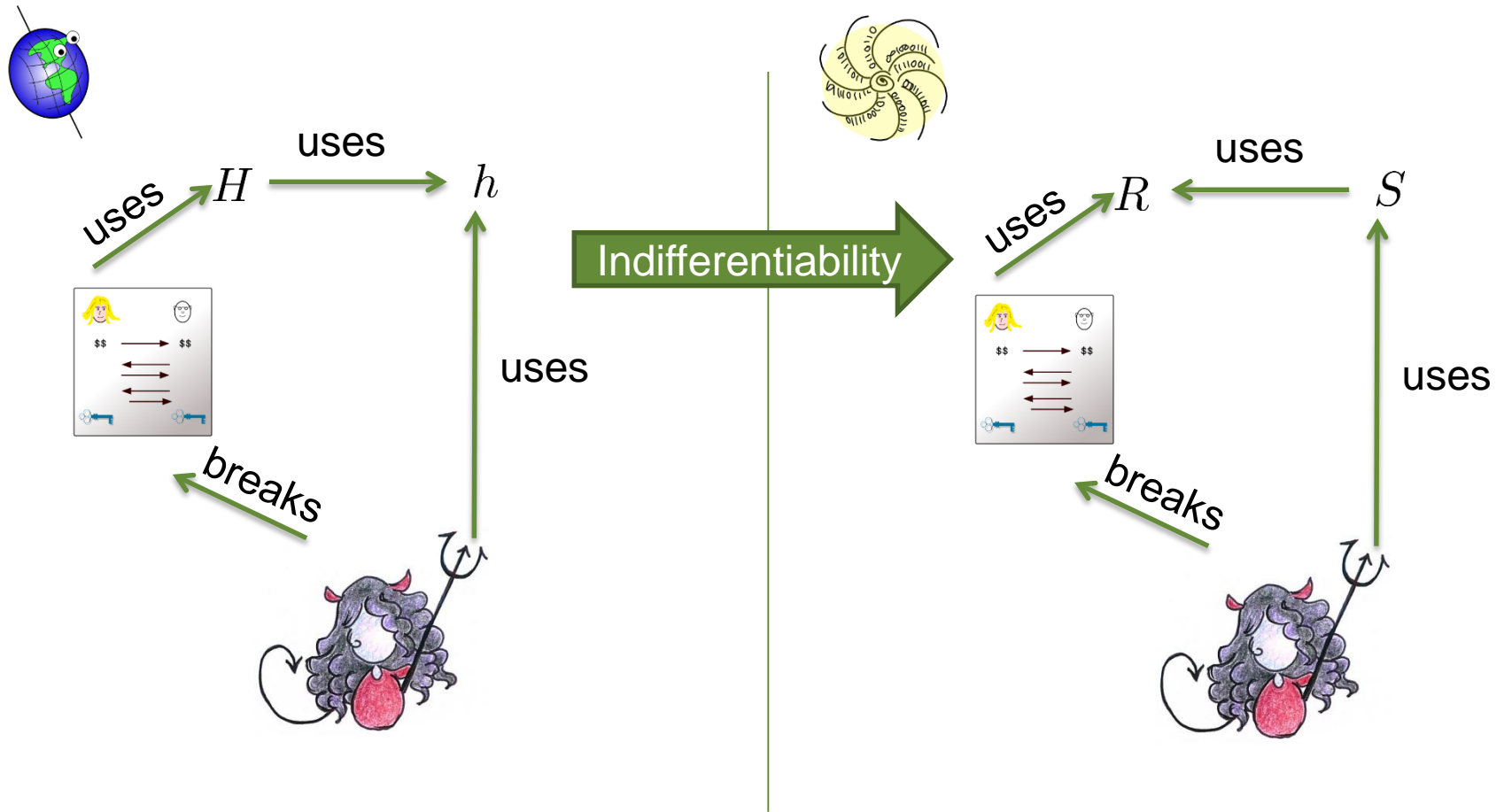


$$h : \{0, 1\}^d \times \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^s$$

$$R : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$$



# Indifferentiability





# Indifferentiability

- **Reduce security** of scheme  $G$  using indifferentiable **hash construction  $H$**  (with **ideal compression function  $h$** ) to scheme  $G$  using **random oracle  $R$** .

## Indifferentiable Hash Constructions

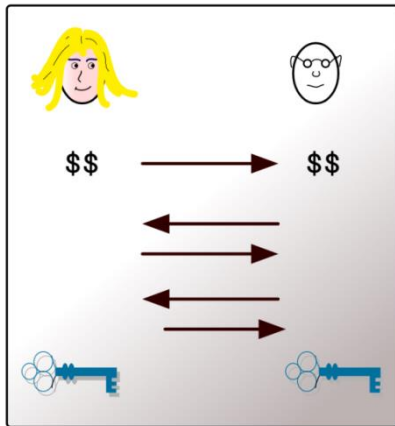
- Chop-MD
- HMAC
- NMAC
- Prefix-Free MD
- ...

# Enter: EUROCRYPT 2011

# Indifferentiability: Not in Multi-Stage Settings

[RSS11]

Indifferentiability only works in Single-Stage Settings.

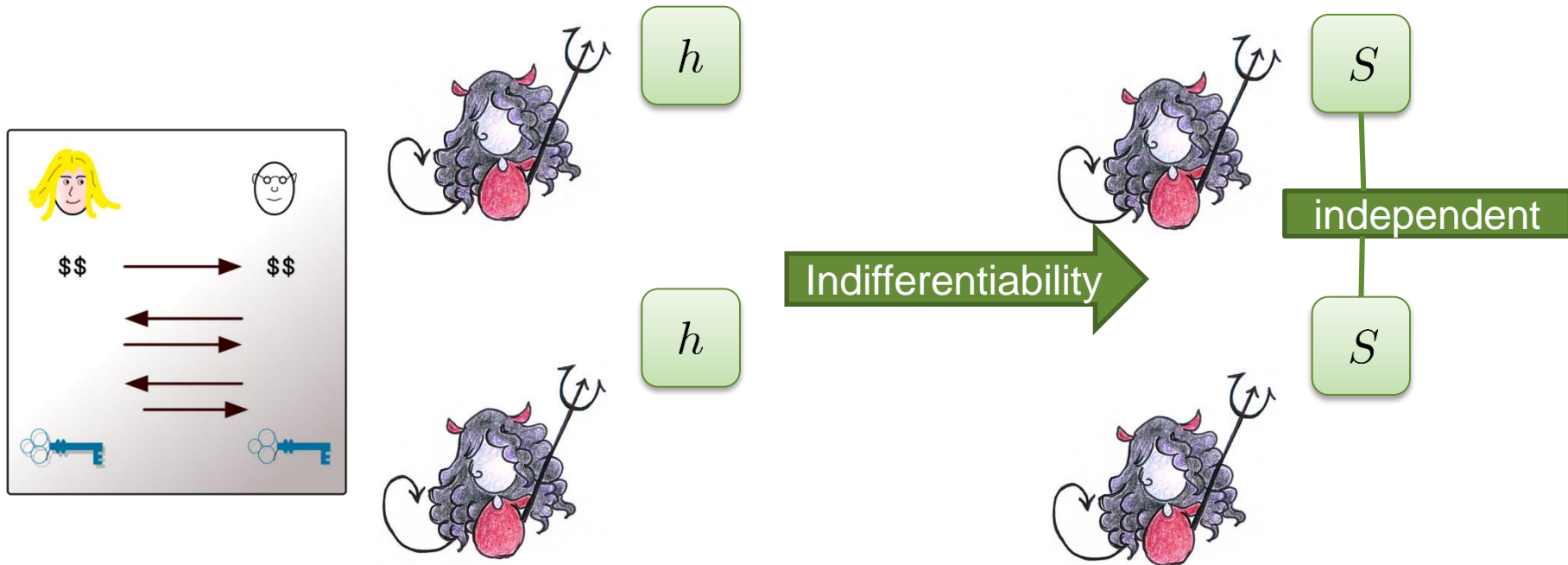


Restricted  
Communication

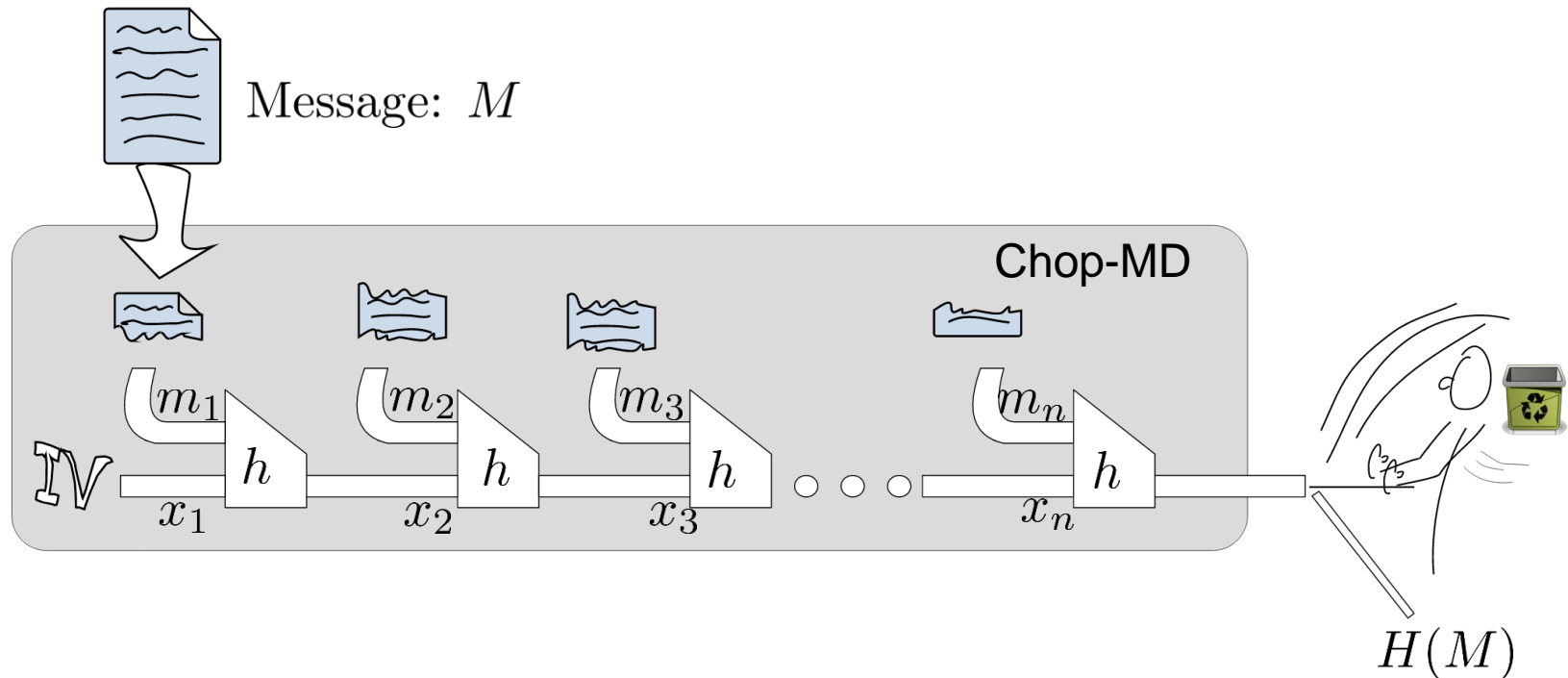
# Indifferentiability: Not in Multi-Stage Settings

[RSS11]

Indifferentiability only works in Single-Stage Settings.



# The Problem in a Nutshell



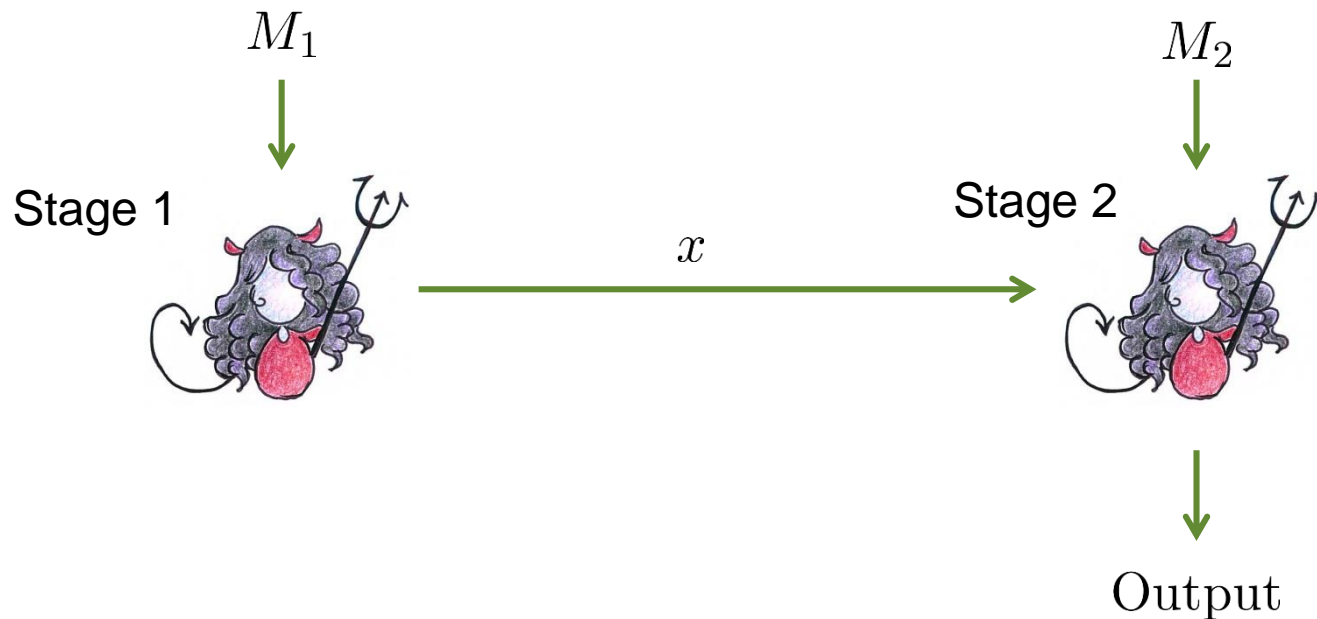
[CDMP05] Chop-MD is indifferentiable

# The Problem in a Nutshell

**Setting:** Choose messages  $M_1, M_2$  uniformly at random

**Task:** Jointly compute hash value of  $M_1 \parallel M_2$

**Restriction:**  $x \ll M_1$

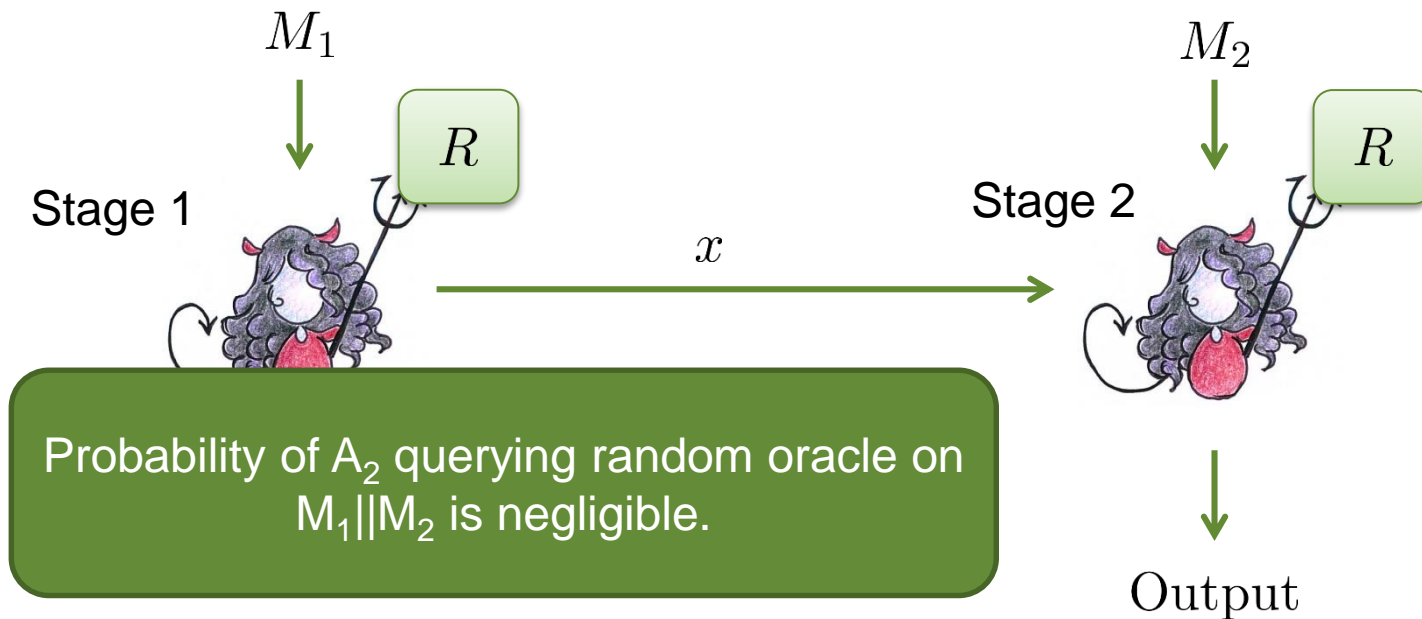


# The Problem in a Nutshell

**Setting:** Choose messages  $M_1, M_2$  uniformly at random

**Task:** Jointly compute ~~hash value~~ of  $M_1 || M_2$

**Restriction:**  $x \ll M_1$       Random Oracle value

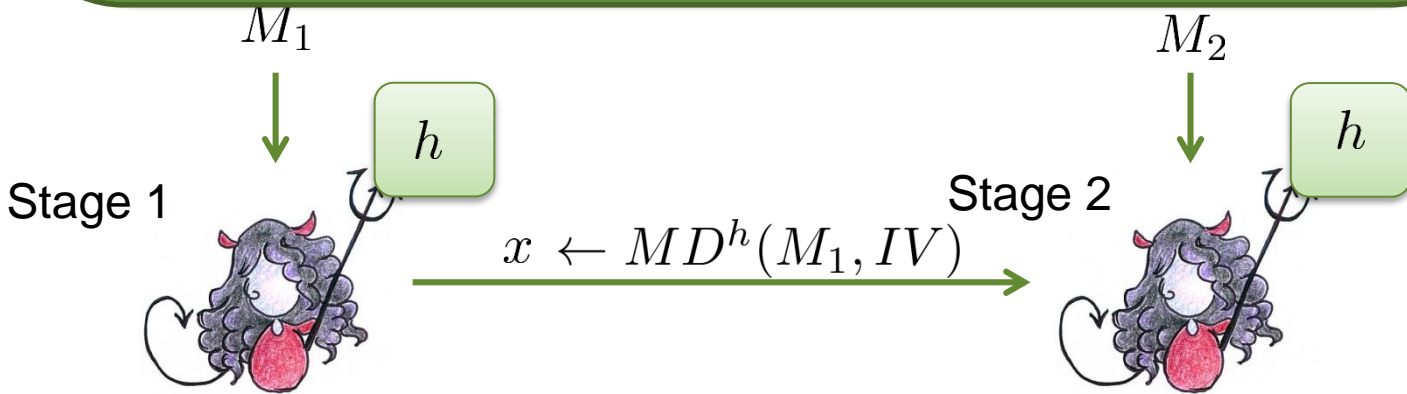
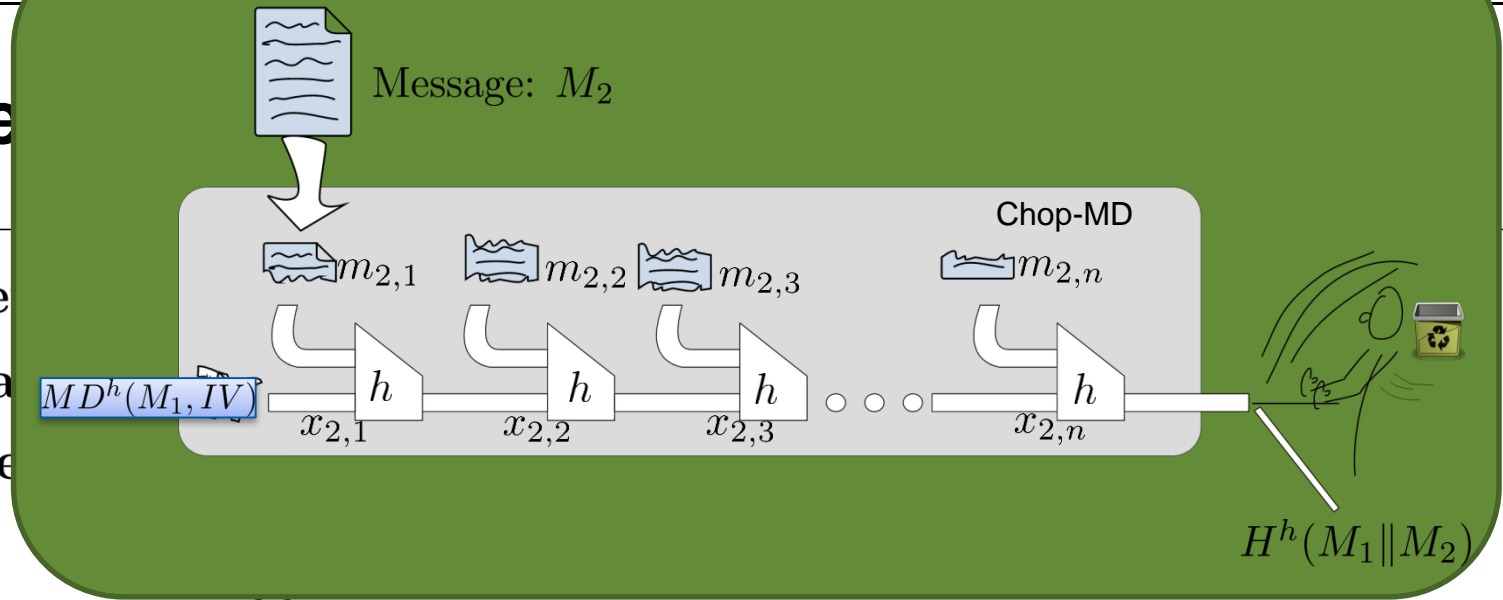


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Output :  $MD^h(M_2, x)_{\downarrow} = H^h(M_1 || M_2)$



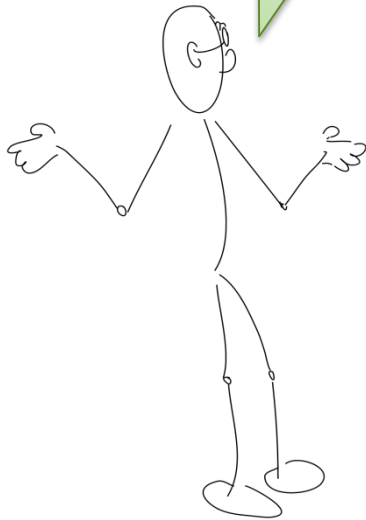
„Plain“  
Indifferentiability is  
**not sufficient** to  
achieve composition  
in **multi-stage**  
settings. [RSS11]

Is Multi-stage  
important?

To name a few:

- Det. Encryption
- UCE
- Proof-of-Storage
- KDM
- RKA

Yes



Every notion becomes  
Multi-stage under  
Leakage

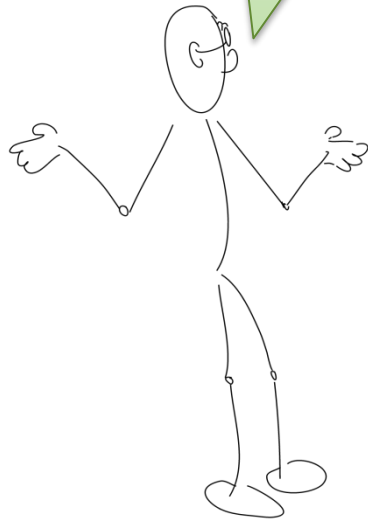


Can we  
strengthen  
indifferentiability  
?

# Yes, but ...

- Impossible for domain extenders (iterated hash constructions) [DGHM13,LAMP12,BBM13]
- Even single-reset is impossible [BBM13]

So what do we do?



1

- Formalize iterated hash constructions

2

- Formalize Problem

3

- Formalize joint property on game and hash constructions

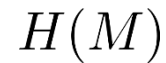
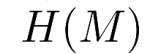
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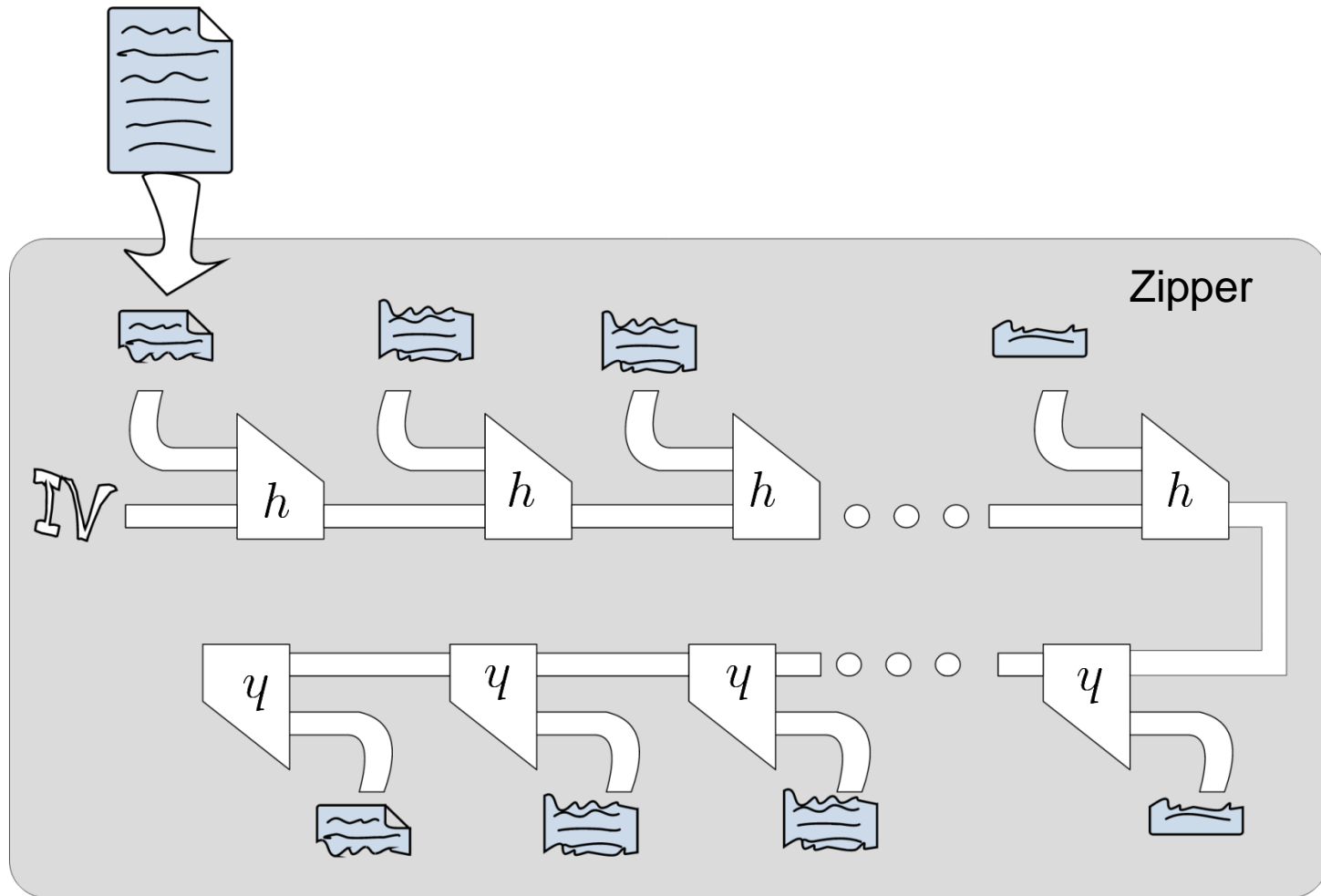
- Prove Composition

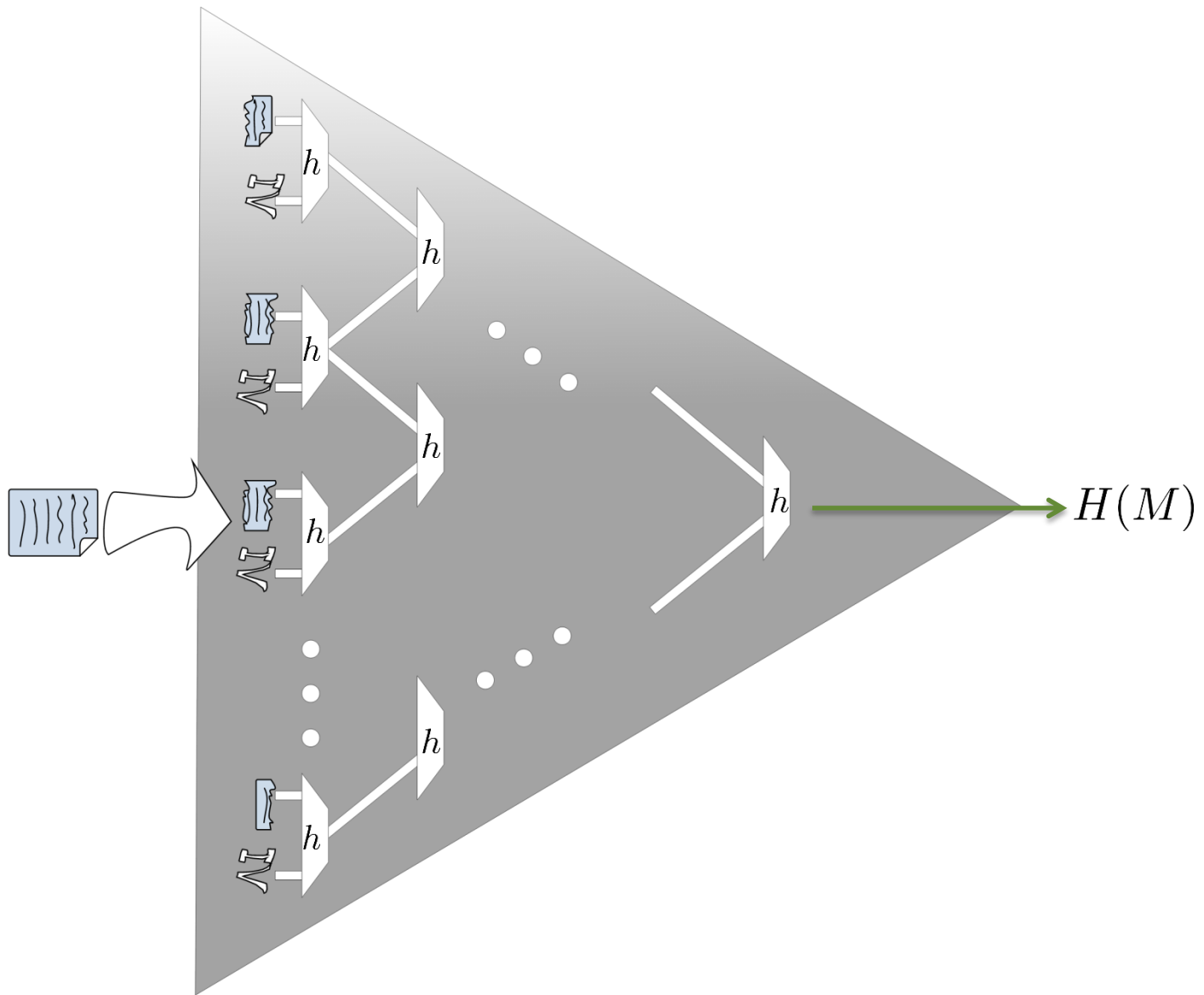
5

- Prove Property for interesting games and hash constructions.

## 1

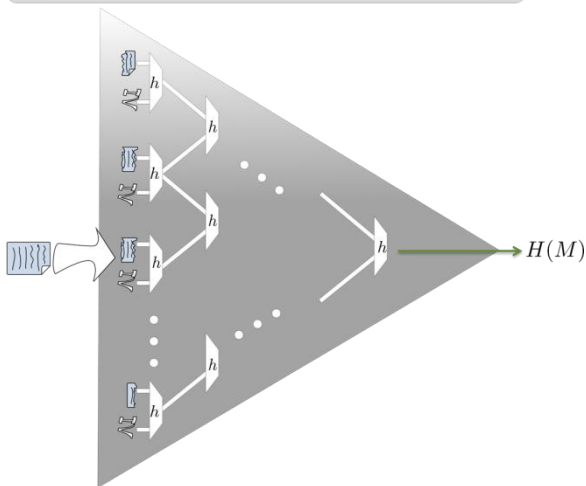
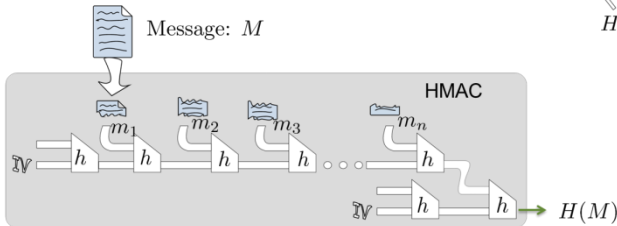
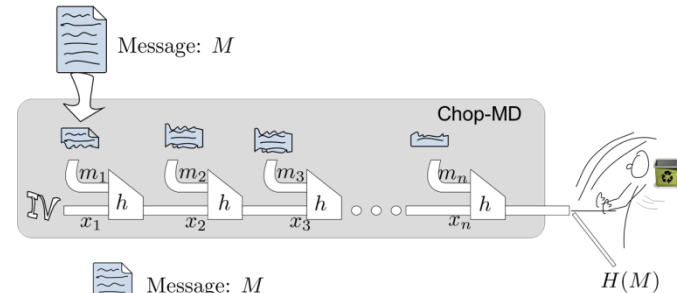




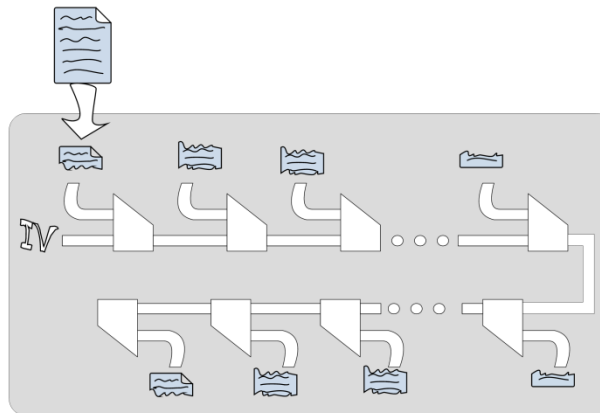




# Iterative Hash Functions



- The output of  $h$  is input to next  $h$
- The final output is the output of  $h$  plus a simple transformation.
  - Identity
  - Projection
- Constants can be used
- Given  $M \rightarrow$  one can build an execution graph
- Given a graph  $\rightarrow$  one can extract  $M$



# The Problem in Multi-stage Settings

2

- Formalize Problem

I start the computation of  $H(M)$



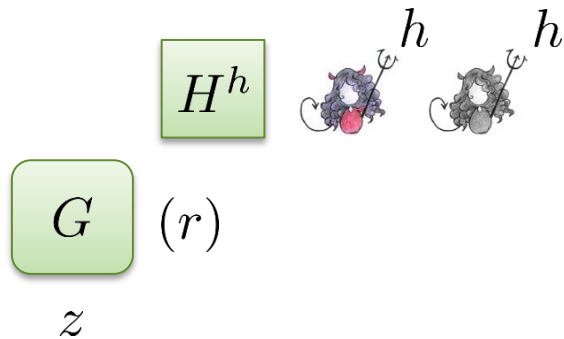
$h(m_i, x_i)$

I continue the computation with the intermediary value



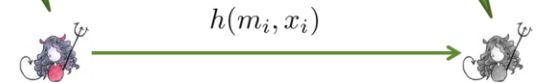
I don't need to know  $M$

# Formalize Bad Event



I start the computation of  $H(M)$

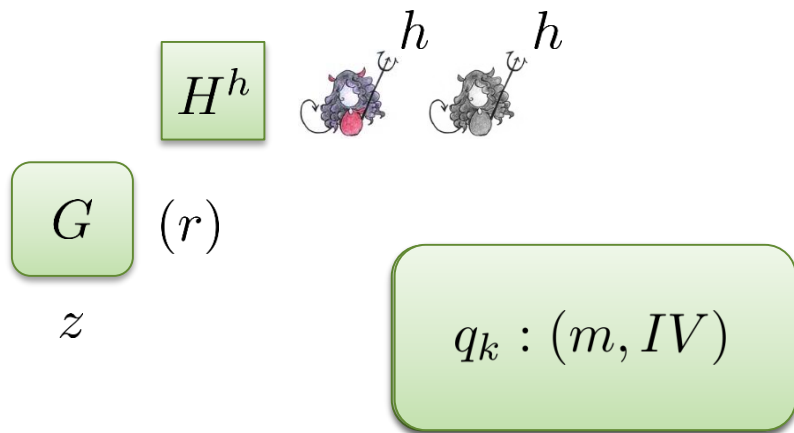
I continue the computation with the intermediary value



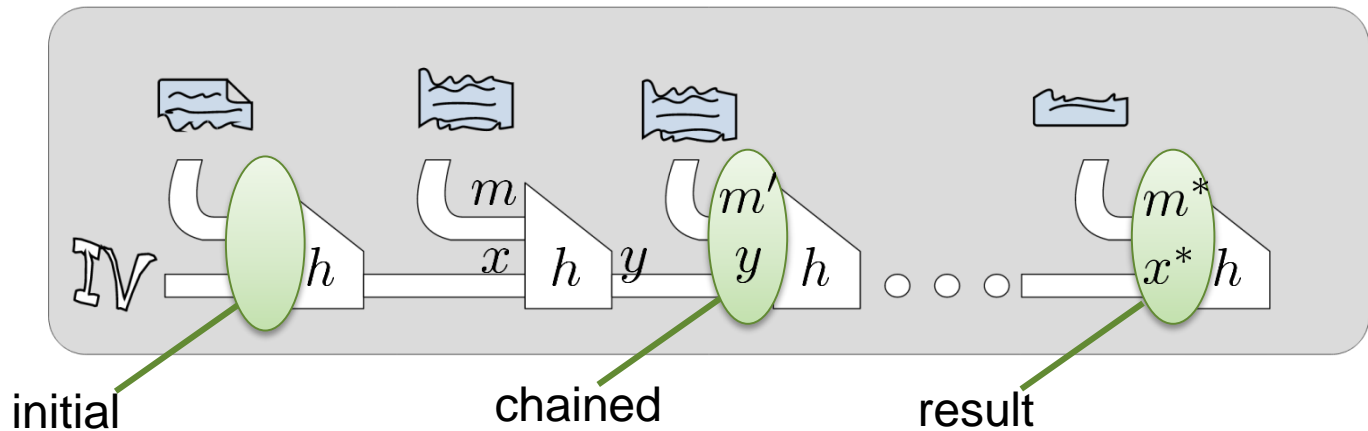
- Game never queries  $h$
- Adversaries never query  $H^h$



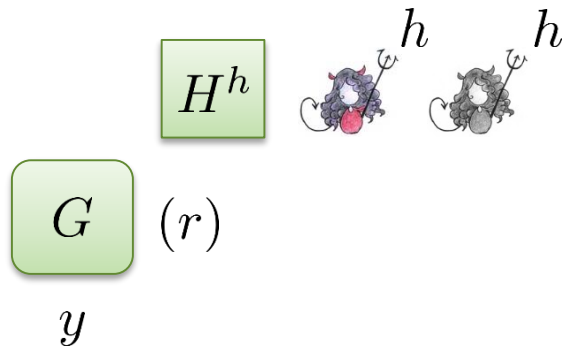
# Formalize Bad Event



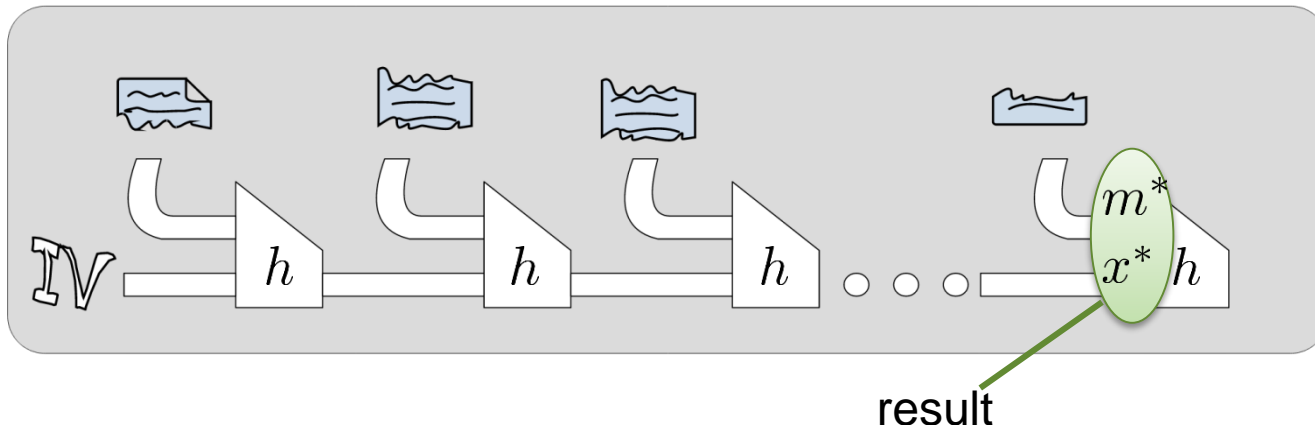
Fixing  $r$  induces a sequence of  $h$ -queries by adversaries.



# Formalize Bad Event



**Bad result:**  $(m^*, x^*)$  is a bad result query, if  
 $\text{result}(m^*, x^*)$  relative to and   
 but  
 $\neg \text{chained}(m^*, x^*)$  relative to

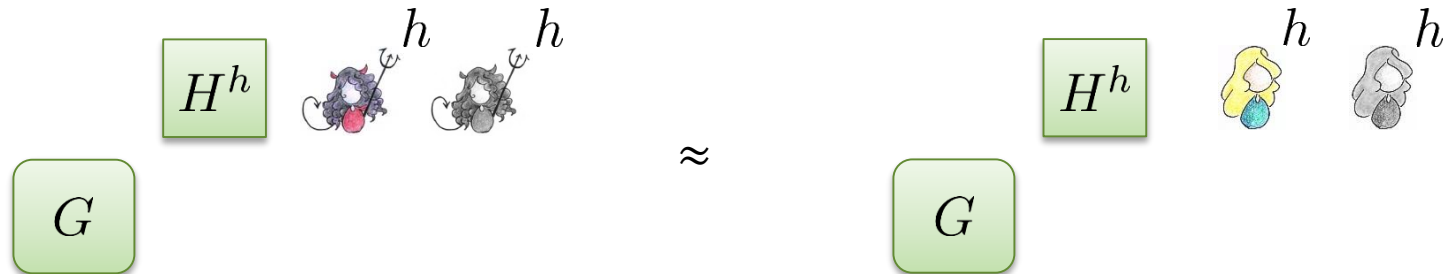


# Unsplittability

3

- Formalize joint property on game and hash constructions

A game  $G$  is UNSPLITTABLE for a hash construction  $H^h$ , if for every adversary there exists a simulator (an adapted adversary), such that



And during the execution of  $H^h$

The diagram shows a green box labeled  $H^h$  next to two cartoon characters, one holding a teardrop and the other holding a teardrop, both labeled with  $h$ . Below this, a green box labeled  $G$  is shown.

bad result queries occur only with negligible probability.

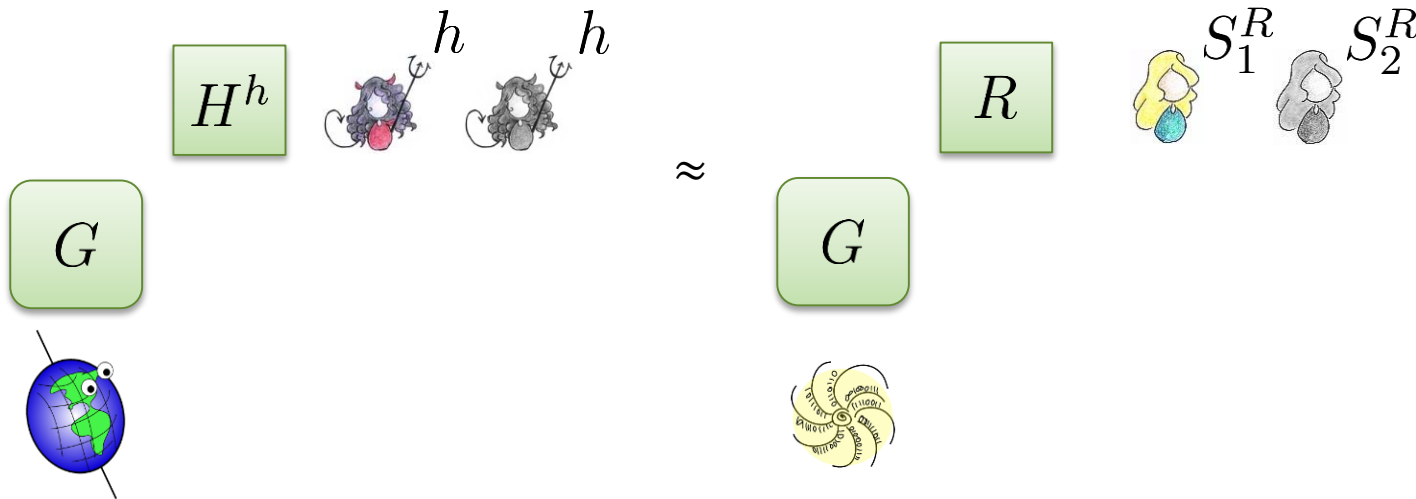
# Composition

4

- Prove Composition

- If game is UNSPLITTABLE for hash construction, then a random oracle can be replaced by that hash construction.

There exists a simulator  $S_1, S_2$  such that



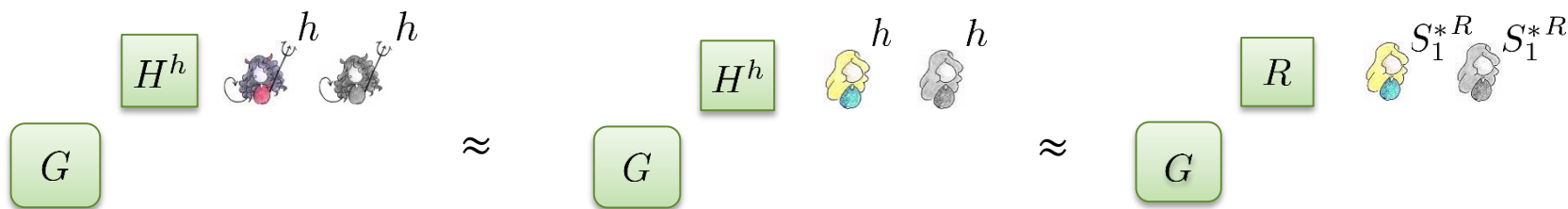
# Composition

- If  $H^h$  is indifferentiable from a random oracle  $R$  there exists a simulator  $S$  for single stage settings
- From  $S$  build a canonical simulator  $S^*$

non result queries  $\mapsto$  random

result queries  $\mapsto$  consistent with random oracle

- Derandomize  $S^*$  using the random oracle [BG81]





# Proof of Storage

5

- Prove Property for interesting games and hash constructions.

- RSS11 give proof-of-storage game as counter-example to general applicability of indifferntiability
- [this paper]: proof-of-storage is UNSPLITTABLE for any **multi-round** hash construction.

# Three Two-stage Security Games

5

- Prove Property for interesting games and hash constructions.

CDA

```
 $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$   
 $(pk, sk) \leftarrow \text{kgen}(1^\lambda)$   
 $(\mathbf{m}_0, \mathbf{m}_1, \mathbf{r}) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^h(1^\lambda)$   
 $\mathbf{c} \leftarrow \mathcal{E}^{H^h}(pk, \mathbf{m}_b; \mathbf{r})$   
 $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_2^h(pk, \mathbf{c})$   
return  $(b = b')$ 
```

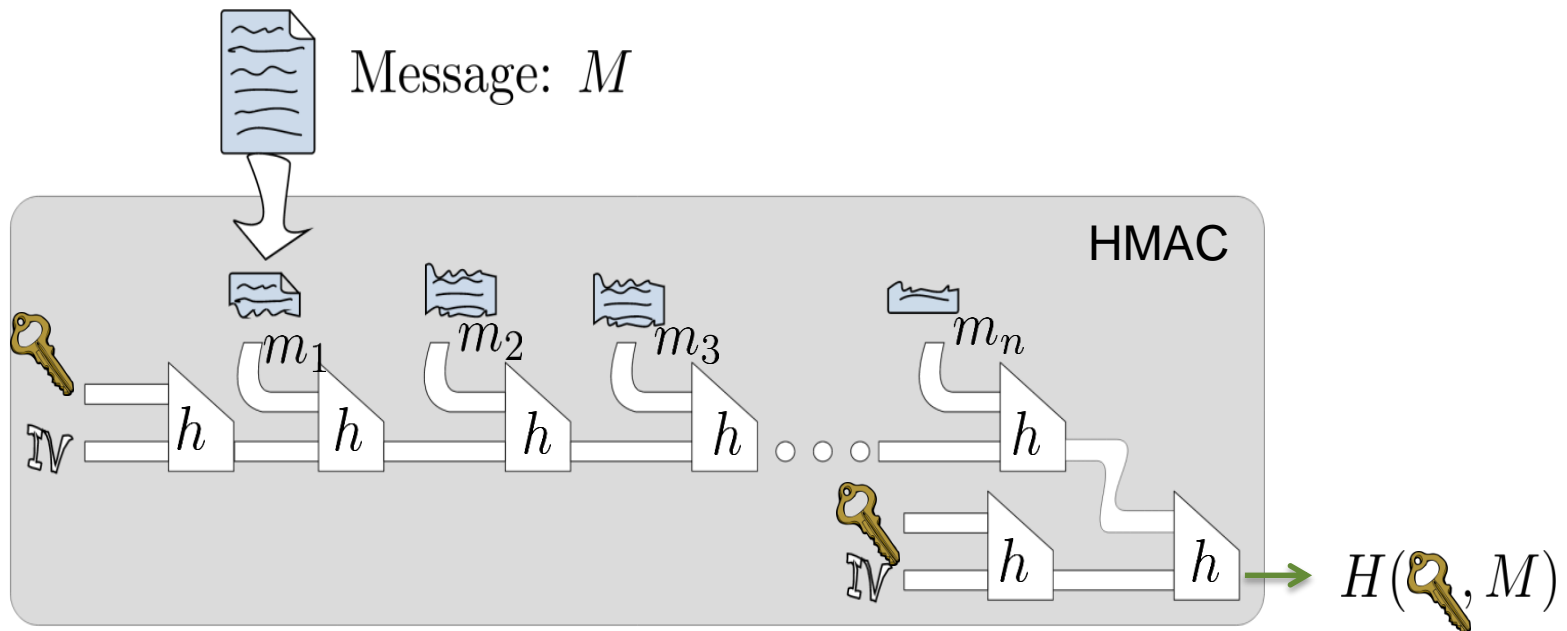
MLE

```
 $P \leftarrow \mathcal{P}$   
 $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}$   
 $(\mathbf{m}_0, \mathbf{m}_1, Z) \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^h(1^\lambda)$   
 $\mathbf{c} \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_P^{H^h}(\mathcal{K}_P(\mathbf{m}_b), \mathbf{m}_b)$   
 $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_2^h(P, \mathbf{c}, Z)$   
return  $(b = b')$ 
```

UCE

```
 $b \leftarrow \{0, 1\}; hk \leftarrow \text{kgen}(1^\lambda)$   
 $L \leftarrow \mathcal{S}^{\text{HASH}}(1^\lambda)$   
 $b' \leftarrow \mathcal{D}(1^\lambda, hk, L)$   
return  $(b = b')$   
  
HASH( $x$ )  
  
if  $T[x] = \perp$  then  
  if  $b = 1$  then  
     $T[x] \leftarrow H^h(hk, x)$   
  else  $T[x] \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^\ell$   
return  $T[x]$ 
```

**Theorem:** If only last adversary gets hash keys used by game, then the game is UNSPLITTABLE for key-prefixed hash constructions.



## ■ Summary

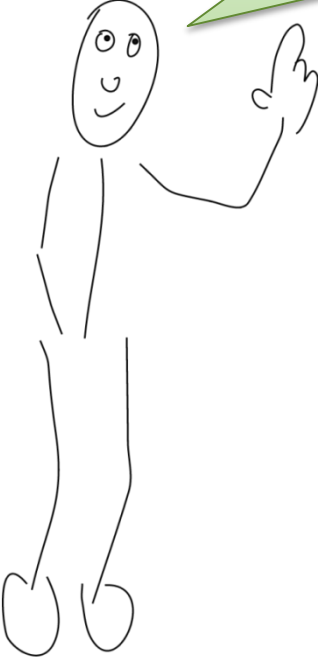
- **Unsplittability** allows to use indifferntiability in a multi-stage setting.
- Interesting games and hash constructions can be shown to be unsplittable.
- Study of multi-stage games provides insights into hash function design: **keyed**-constructions, **multi-round**

## ■ Open Problems

- **Sufficient conditions** for unsplittability
- **Ideal ciphers** instead of compression functions
  - Block-cipher based compression functions
  - SHA-3 (Keccak)



# Where we are – where to go



Here are a language and tools to work with indifferentiability in a multi-stage setting.

- Of course there is still work:
- Ideal Cipher Model
    - SHA-3
  - Conditions for Unsplittability

# Indifferentiability: an Example

$M \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^p$

$st \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_1^R(M, 1^\lambda)$

**if**  $|st| > n$  **then**

**return false**

$C \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^c$

$Z \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_2^R(st, C)$

**return**  $(Z = R(M \| C))$

