

# PPAD IS AS HARD AS LWE & ITERATED SQUARING

NIR BITANSKY



ARKARAI CHOUDHURI JUSTIN HOLMGREN



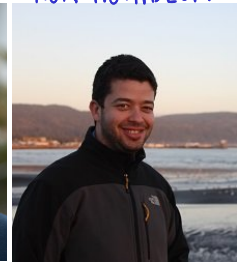
ALEX LOMBARDI



OMER PANETH



RON ROTHBLUM



CHEZHAN KAMATH

NTT RESEARCH

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

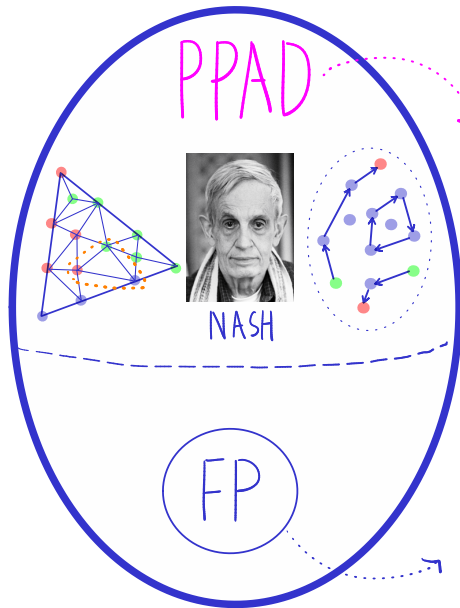
TECHNION

BERKELEY

SIMONS INSTITUTE

TCC 2022, NOV. 6-10, CHICAGO

# PPAD



PPAD

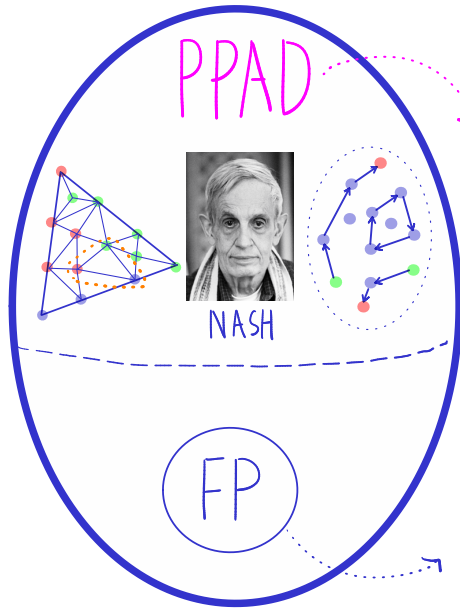
POLY. PARITY ARGUMENT ON DIGRAPHS

◆ CLASS OF SEARCH PROBLEMS

FP

EASY SEARCH PROBLEMS

# PPAD



POLY. PARITY ARGUMENT ON DIGRAPHS

◆ CLASS OF SEARCH PROBLEMS

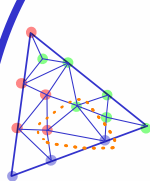
EASY SEARCH PROBLEMS

⇒ CRYPTO  $\overset{?}{\rightarrow}$  PPAD IS HARD  $\leftarrow$

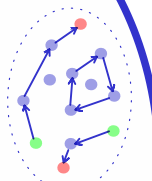
PPAD  $\subseteq$  TFNP

TOTAL FUNCTIONAL NP

PPAD



NASH



POLY. PARITY ARGUMENT ON DIGRAPHS

◆ CLASS OF SEARCH PROBLEMS

FP

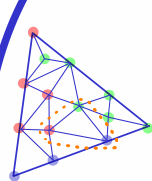
EASY SEARCH PROBLEMS

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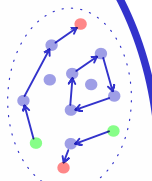
PPAD  $\subseteq$  TFNP

TOTAL FUNCTIONAL NP

PPAD



NASH



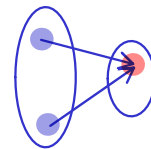
POLY. PARITY ARGUMENT ON DIGRAPHS

◆ CLASS OF SEARCH PROBLEMS

● FACTOR

● COLLISION

$$2041 = 20 \times 41$$



FP

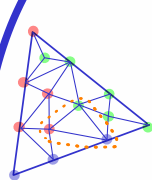
EASY SEARCH PROBLEMS

$\Rightarrow$  CRYPTO  $\stackrel{?}{\rightarrow}$  PPAD IS HARD  $\Leftarrow$

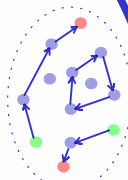
PPAD  $\subseteq$  TFNP

TOTAL FUNCTIONAL NP

PPAD



NASH



POLY-PARITY ARGUMENT ON DIGRAPHS

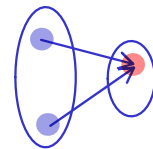
◆ CLASS OF SEARCH PROBLEMS

?

FACTOR

COLLISION

$$2041 = 20 \times 41$$

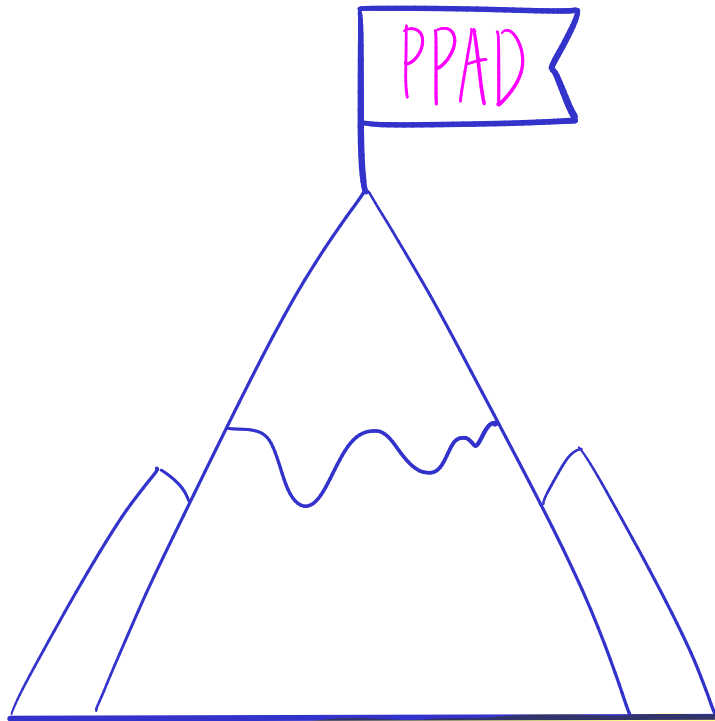


FP

EASY SEARCH PROBLEMS

$\Rightarrow$  CRYPTO  $\stackrel{?}{\rightarrow}$  PPAD IS HARD  $\Leftarrow$

CRYPTO  $\Rightarrow$  PPAD IS HARD



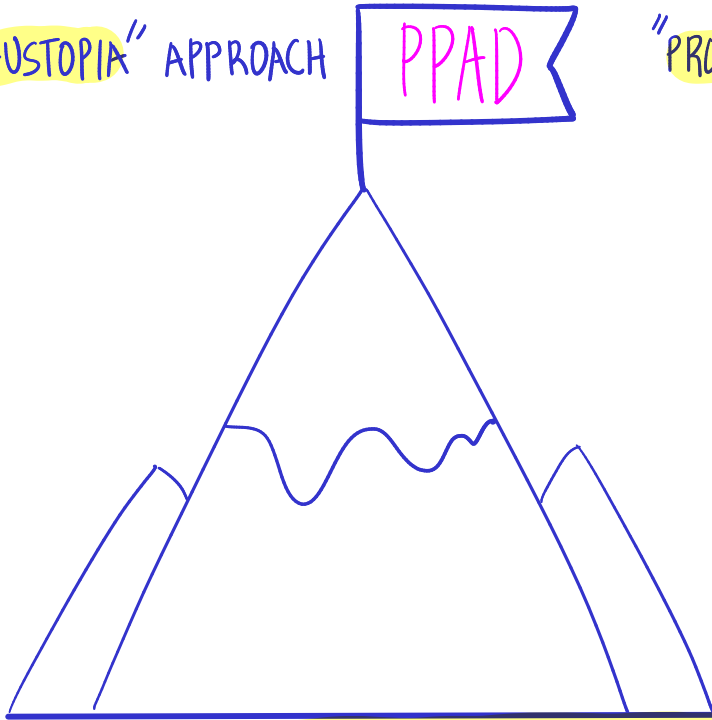
STANDARD CRYPTO : WELL-STUDIED, POLY. ASSUMPTIONS

CRYPTO  $\Rightarrow$  PPAD IS HARD

"OBFUSTOPIA" APPROACH

PPAD

"PROOF SYSTEM" APPROACH



STANDARD CRYPTO : WELL-STUDIED, POLY. ASSUMPTIONS



# CRYPTO $\Rightarrow$ PPAD IS HARD

"OBFUSTOPIA" APPROACH

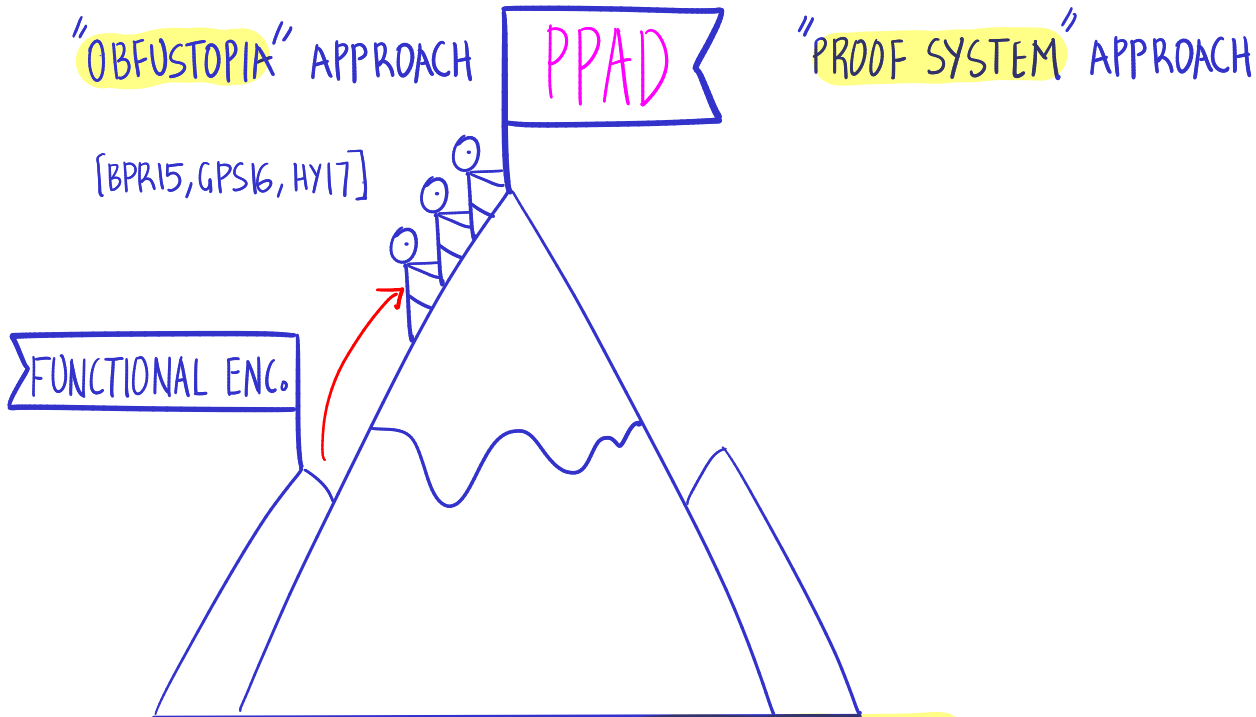
[BPR15, GPS16, HY17]

PPAD

"PROOF SYSTEM" APPROACH

FUNCTIONAL ENC.

STANDARD CRYPTO : WELL-STUDIED, POLY. ASSUMPTIONS



# CRYPTO $\Rightarrow$ PPAD IS HARD

"OBFUSTOPIA" APPROACH

[BPR15, GPS16, HY17]

PPAD

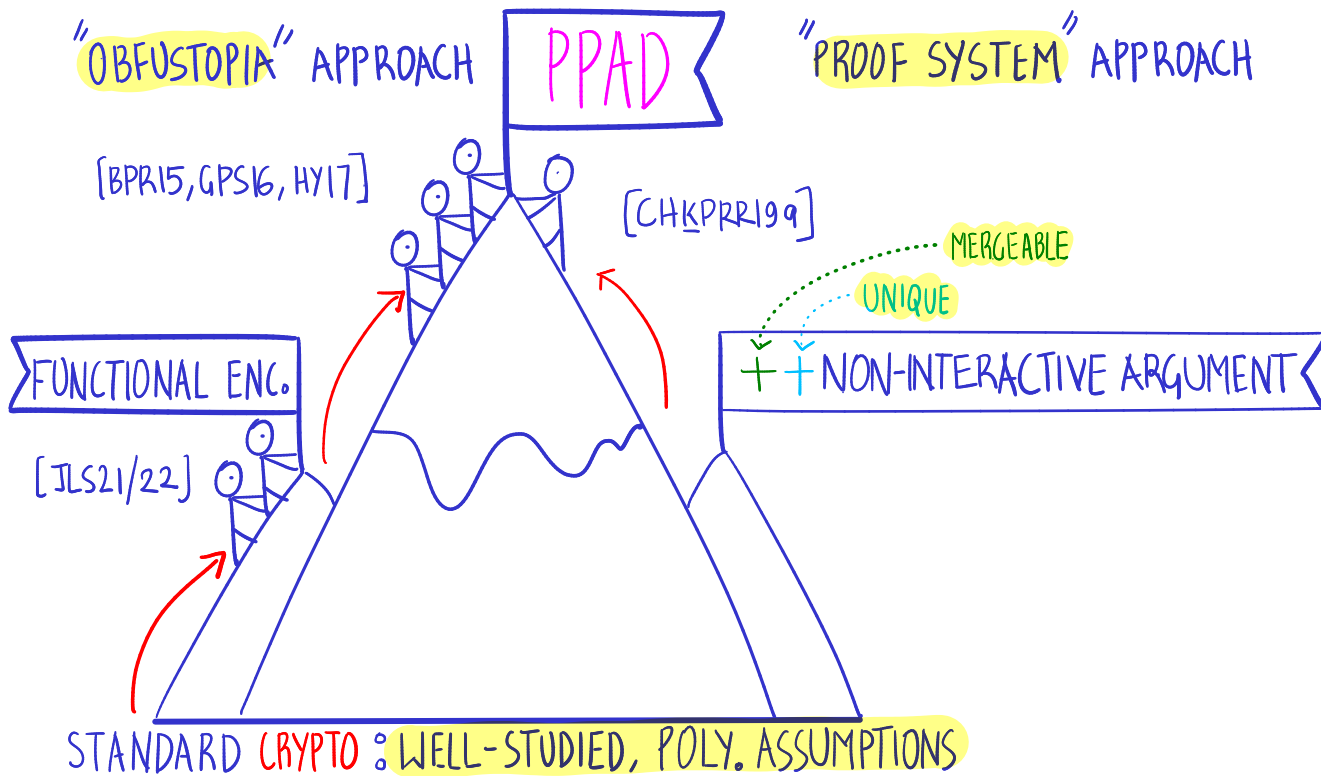
"PROOF SYSTEM" APPROACH

FUNCTIONAL ENC.

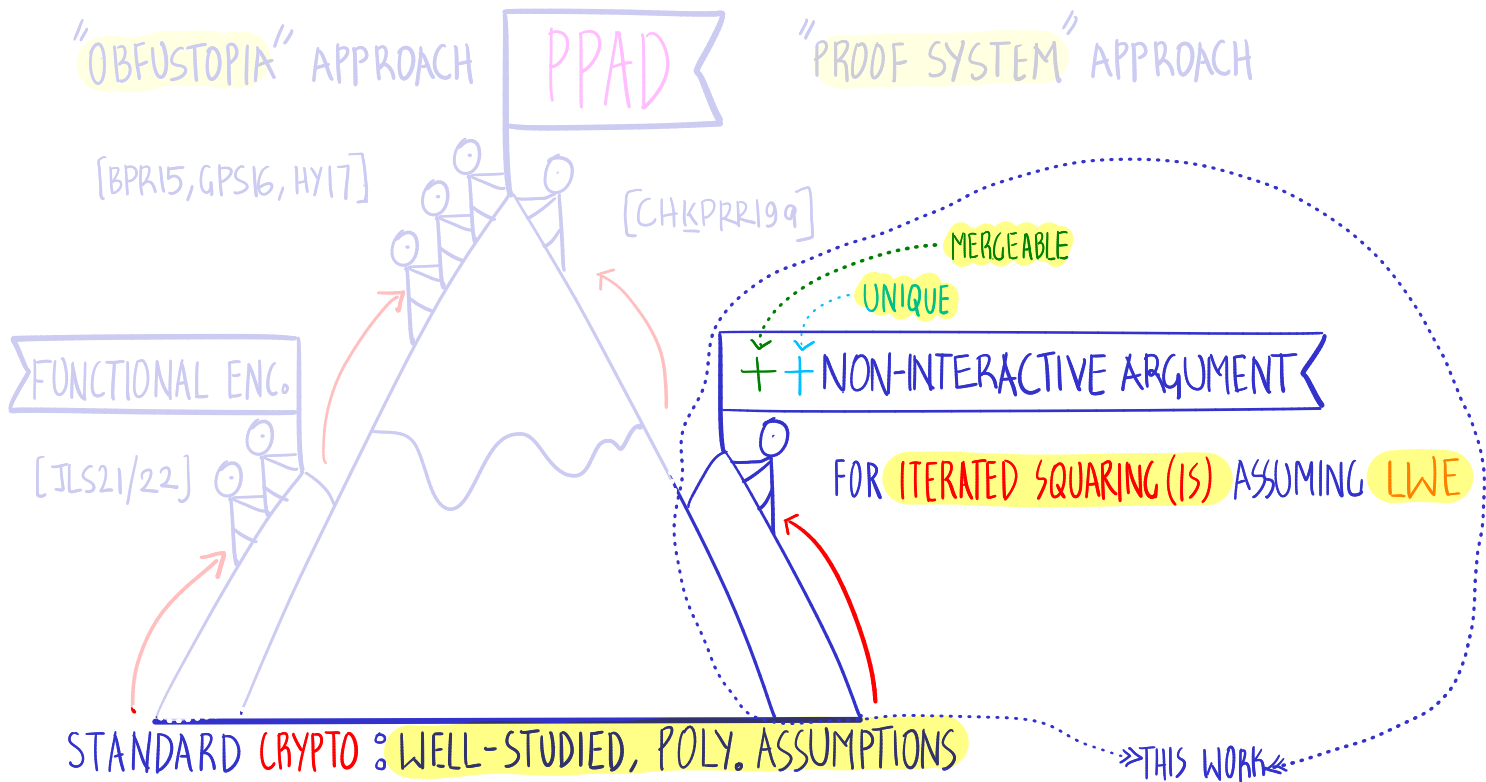
[JLS21/22]

STANDARD CRYPTO : WELL-STUDIED, POLY. ASSUMPTIONS

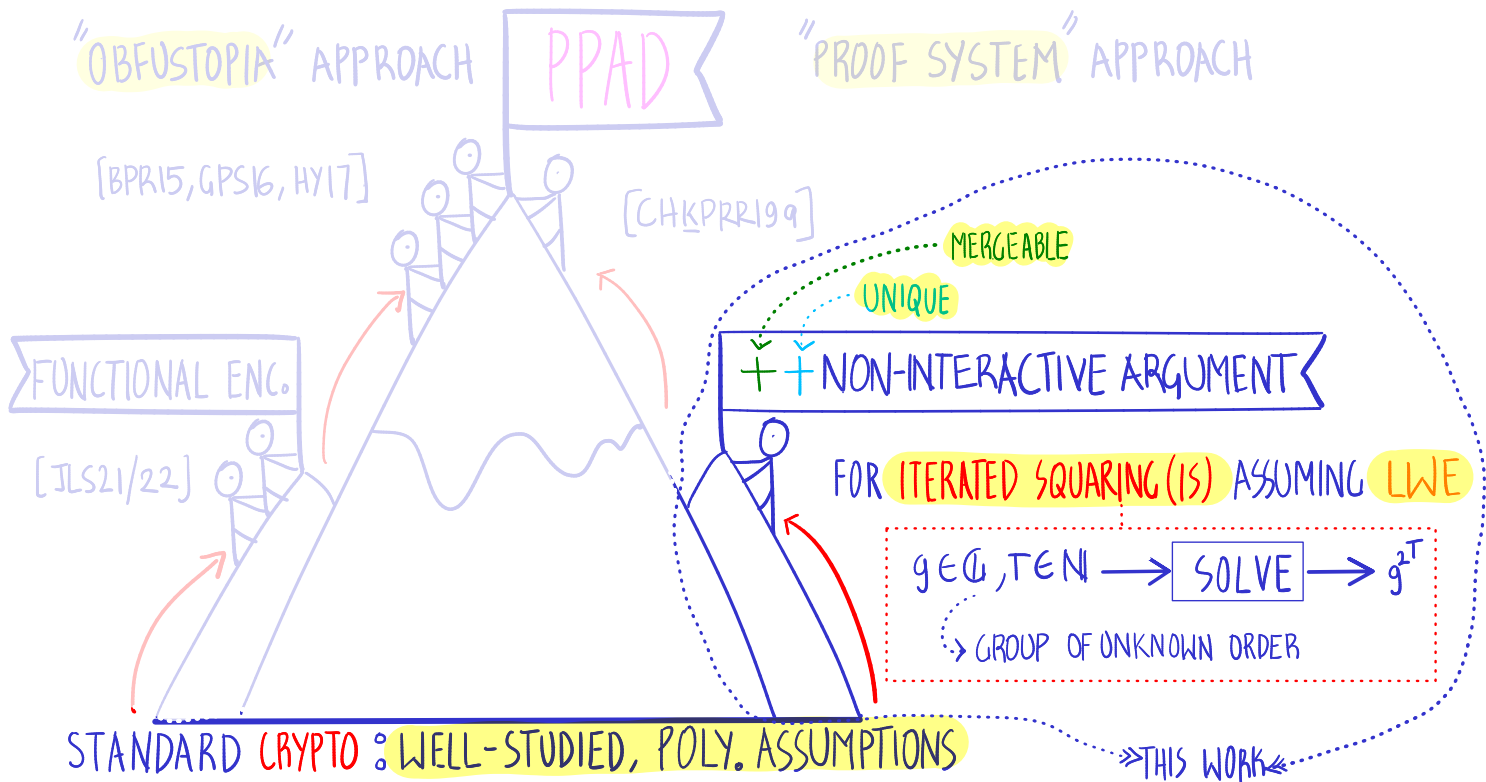
# CRYPTO $\Rightarrow$ PPAD IS HARD



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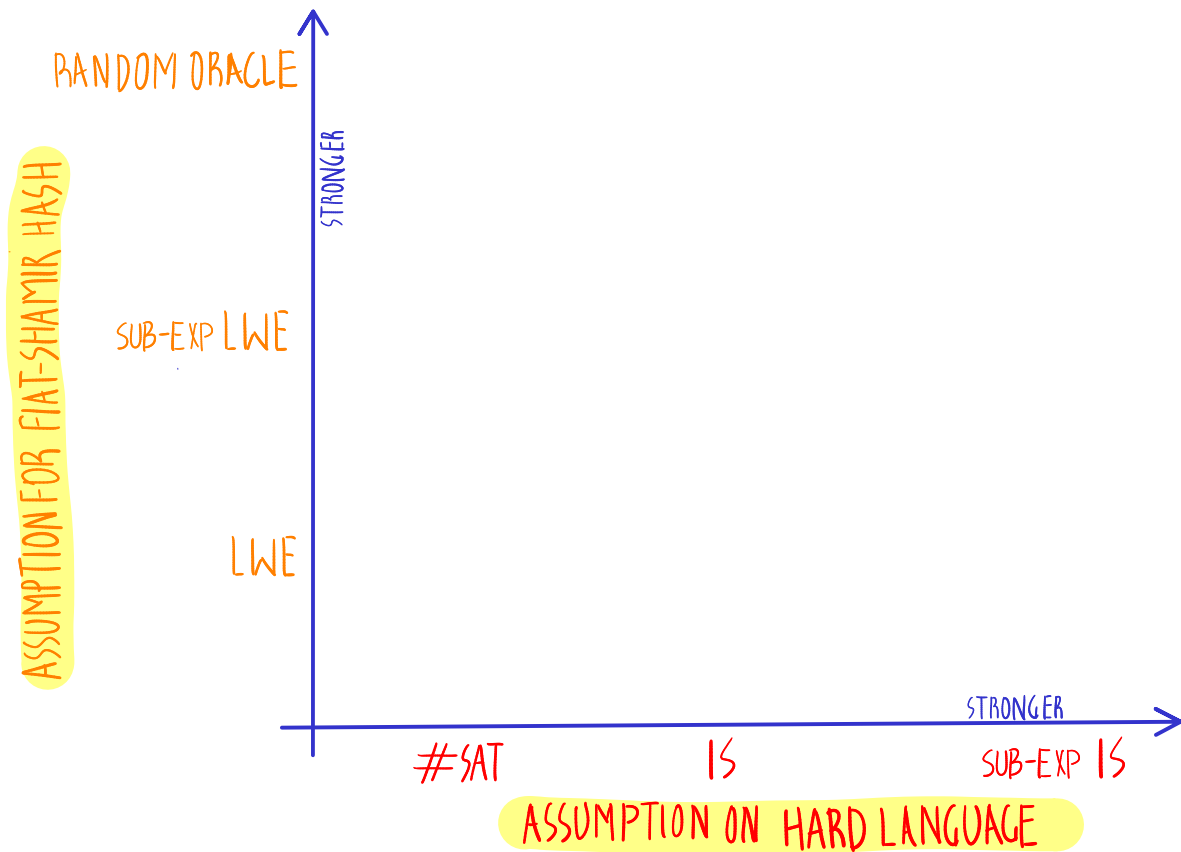


# CRYPTO $\Rightarrow$ PPAD IS HARD

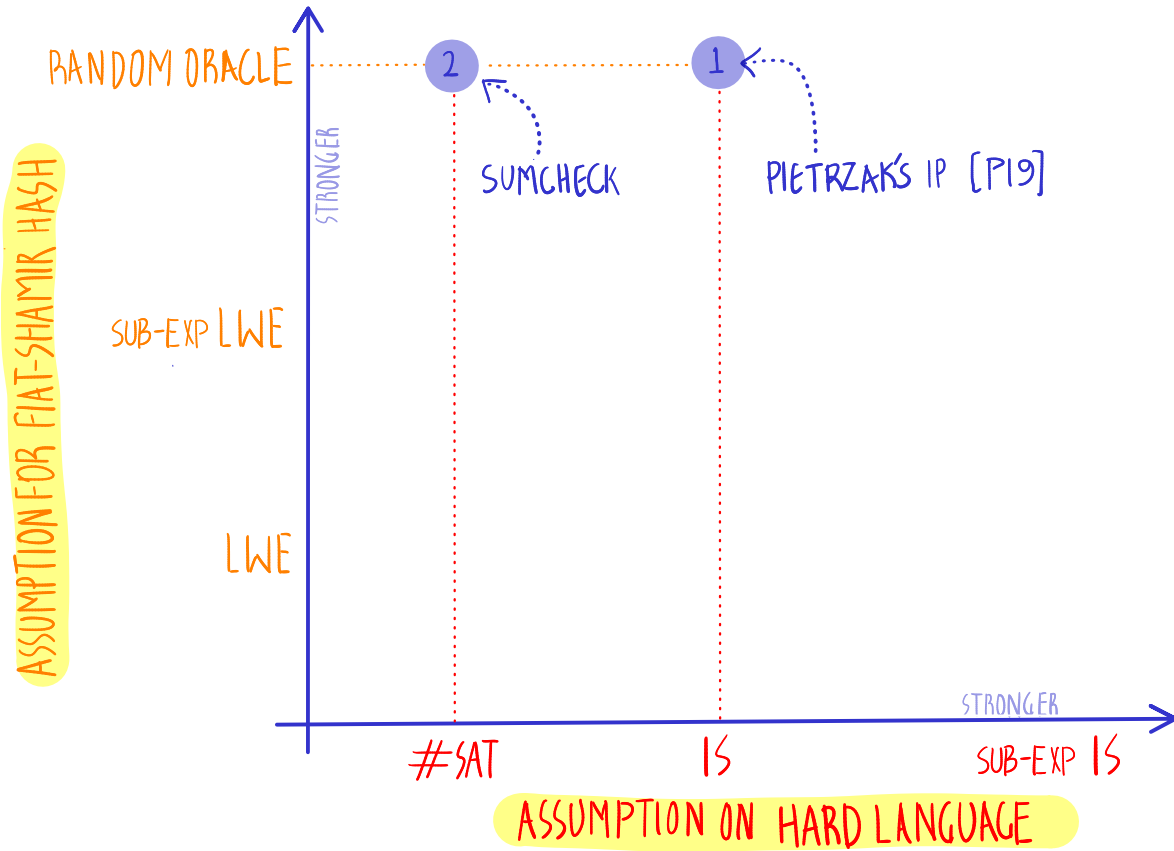


++IP FOR  $\mathcal{L}$  FIAT-SHAMIR  $\Rightarrow$  ++NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}$

++IP FOR  $\mathcal{L}$  FIAT-SHAMIR  $\implies$  ++NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}$



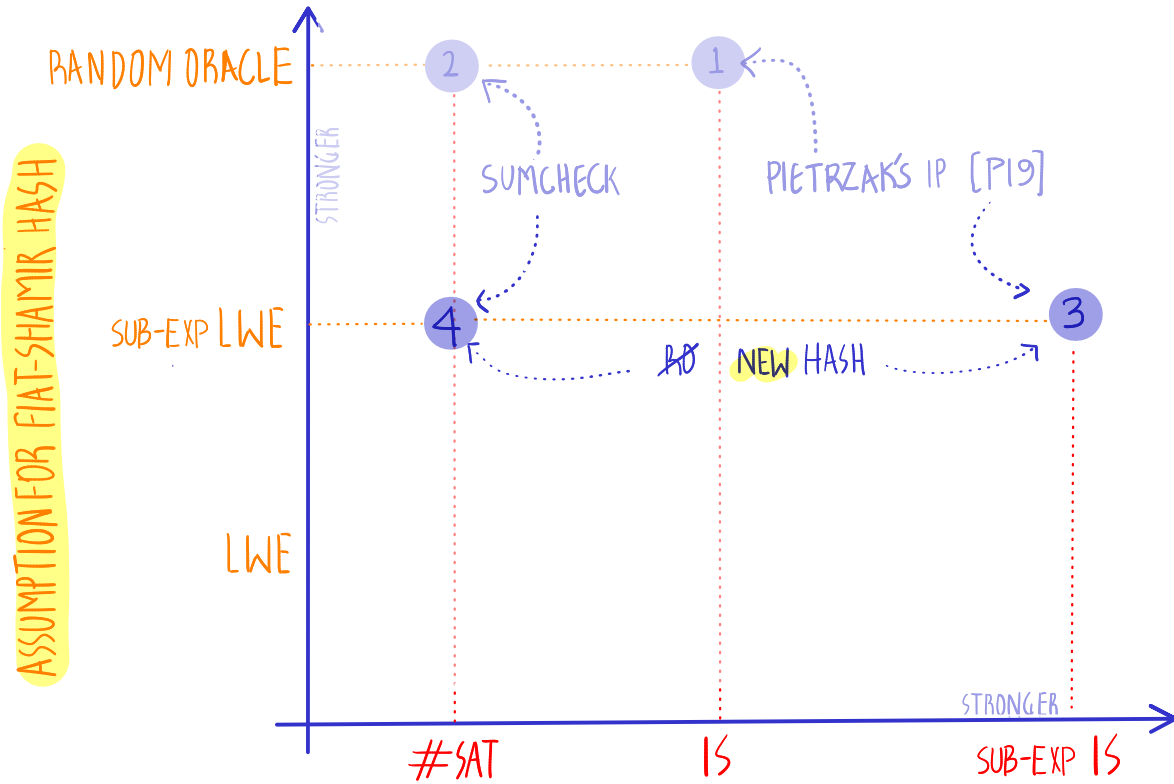
++IP FOR  $\mathcal{L}$  FIAT-SHAMIR  $\implies$  ++NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}$



1 [CHKPRR19a, EFK P19] 2 [CHKPRR19b]



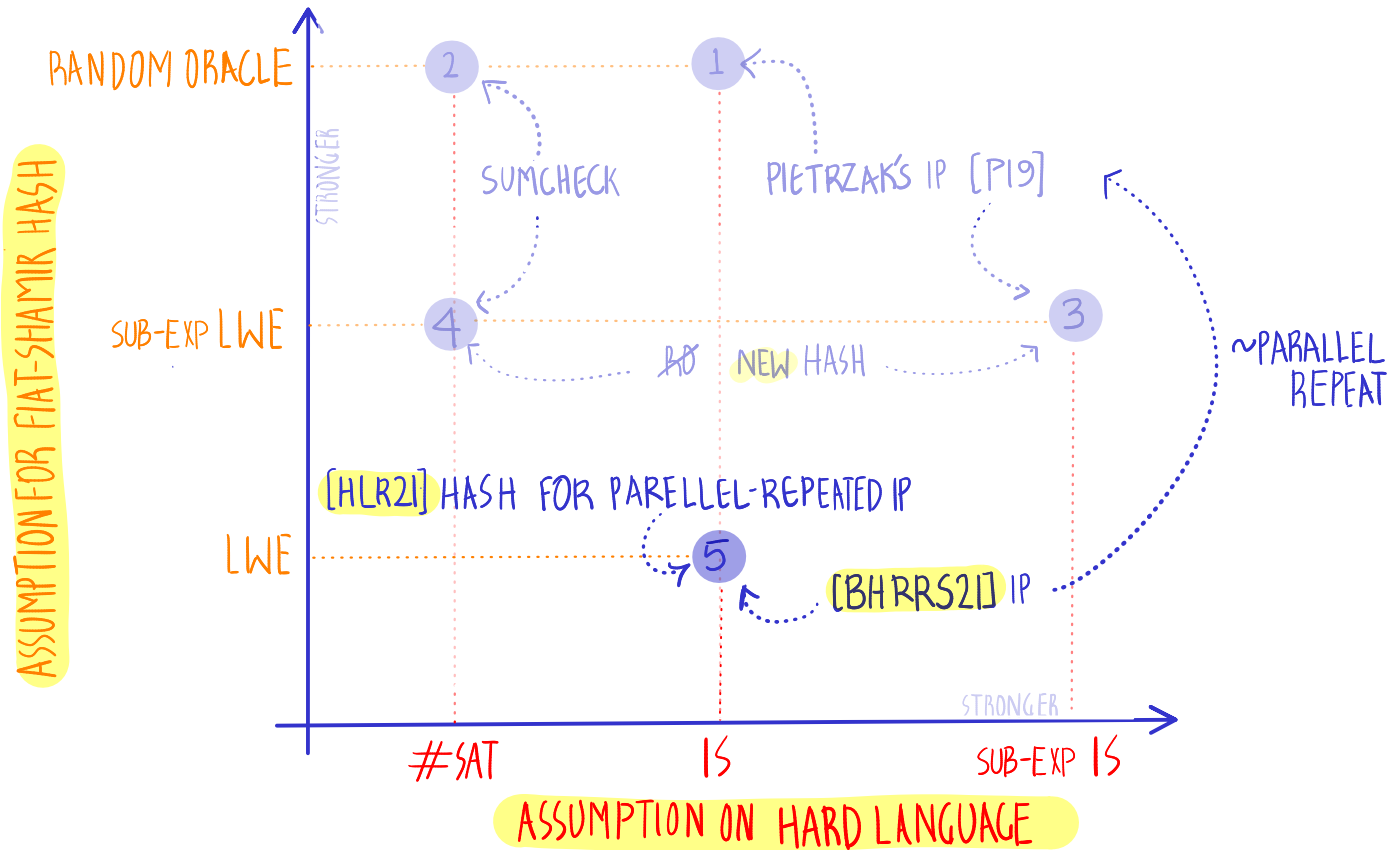
++IP FOR  $\mathcal{L}$  FIAT-SHAMIR  $\implies$  ++NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}$



ASSUMPTION ON HARD LANGUAGE

- 1 [CHKPRR19a, EFK19]
- 2 [CHKPRR19b]
- 3 [LV20]
- 4 [JKKZ21]

++IP FOR  $\mathcal{L}$  FIAT-SHAMIR  $\implies$  ++NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}$

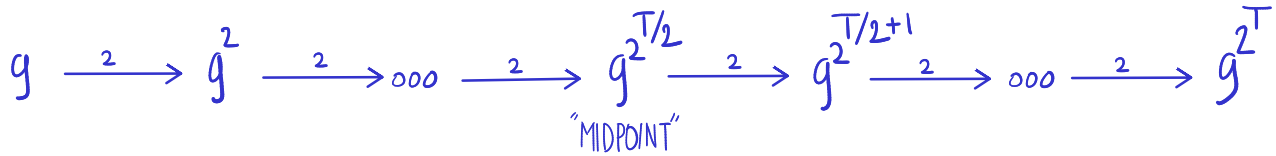
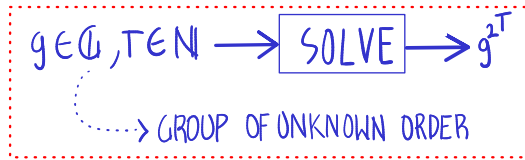


- 1 [CHK\_PRR19a, EFK\_P19] 2 [CHK\_PRR19b] 3 [LV20] 4 [JKK21] 5 [THIS WORK]

++NI-ARG

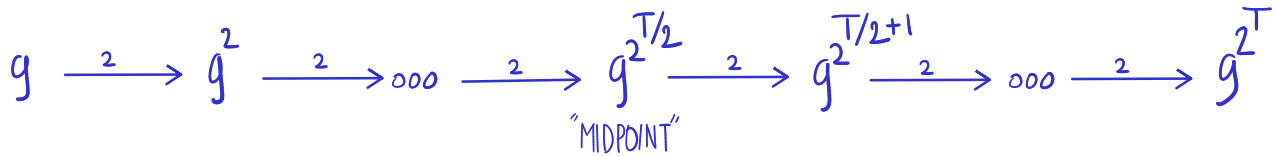
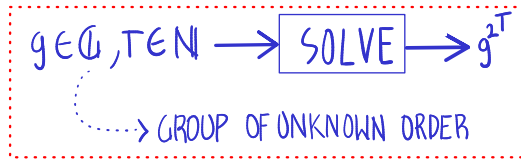
++ NI-ARG FOR  $\alpha_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ITERATED SQUARING (IS)



++ NI-ARG FOR  $\alpha_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ITERATED SQUARING (IS)



+ MERGEABLE

PROOFS OF SMALL RELATED STATEMENTS

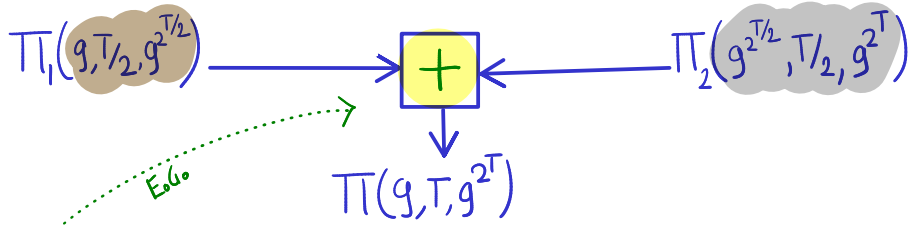
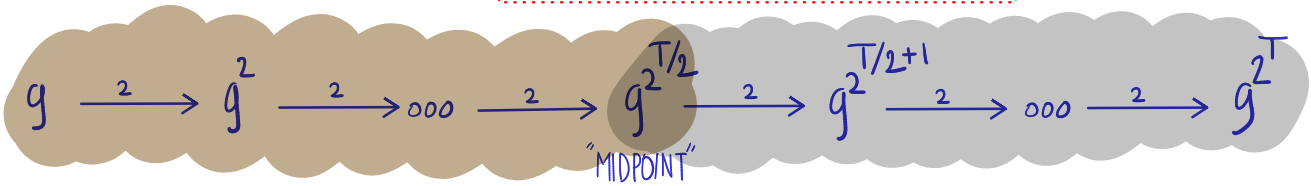
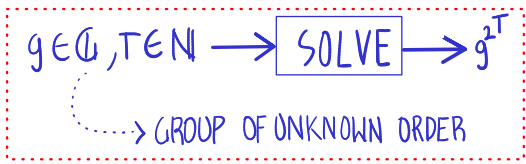


PROOF OF LARGER STATEMENT

FASTER THAN COMPUTING FROM SCRATCH

++ NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ITERATED SQUARING (IS)



+ MERGEABLE

PROOFS OF SMALL RELATED STATEMENTS

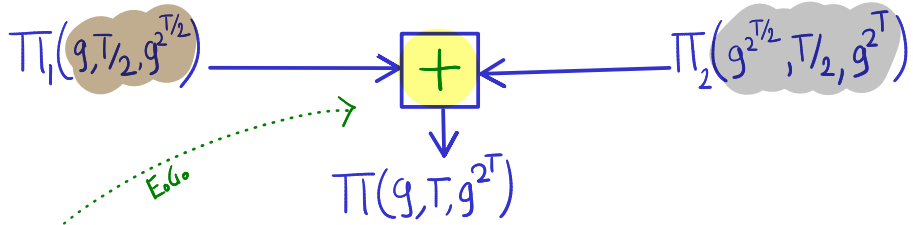
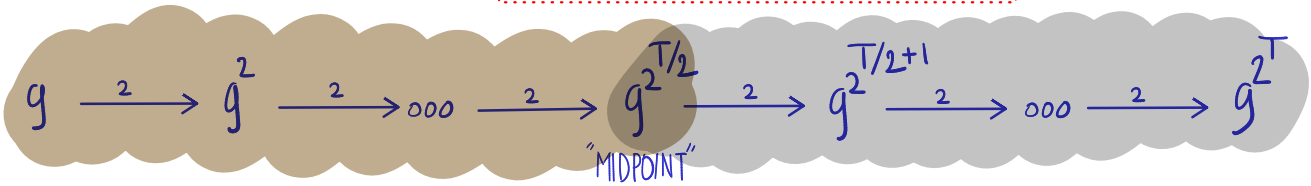
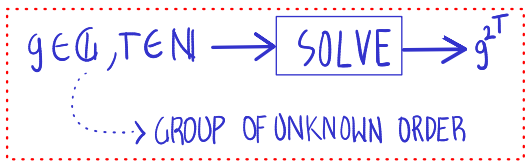


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ITERATED SQUARING (IS)



+ MERGEABLE

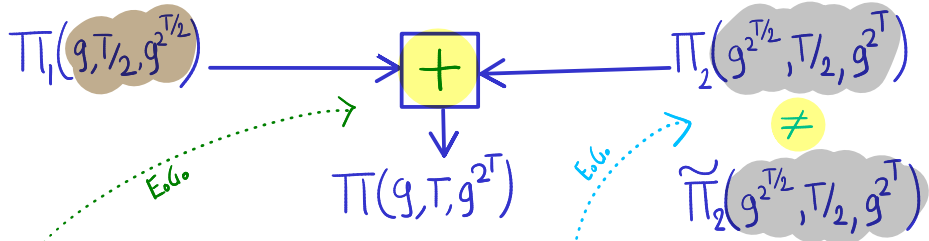
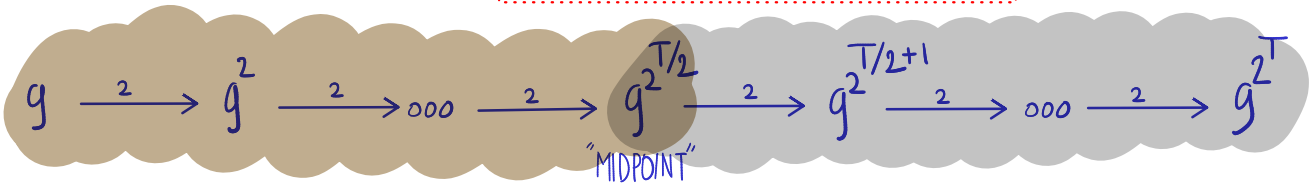
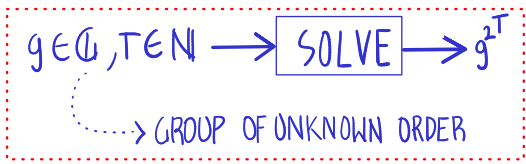
PROOFS OF SMALL RELATED STATEMENTS  
 ↓  
 PROOF OF LARGER STATEMENT  
 FASTER THAN COMPUTING FROM SCRATCH

+ UNIQUE

HARD TO FIND TWO PROOFS FOR  
 A TRUE STATEMENT

# ++ NI-ARG FOR $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ITERATED SQUARING (IS)



+ MERGEABLE

PROOFS OF SMALL RELATED STATEMENTS  
 ↓  
 PROOF OF LARGER STATEMENT  
 FASTER THAN COMPUTING FROM SCRATCH

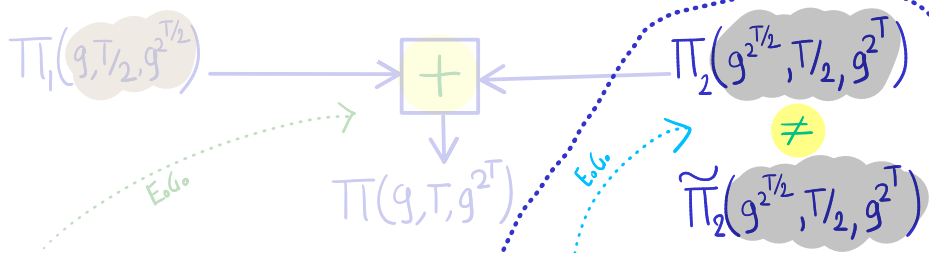
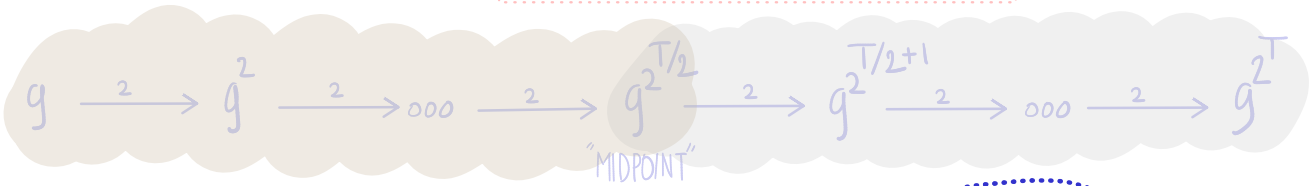
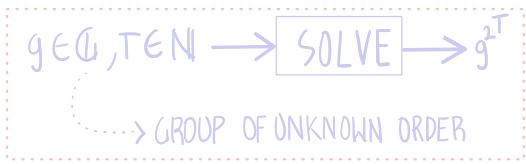
+ UNIQUE

HARD TO FIND TWO PROOFS FOR  
 A TRUE STATEMENT



# ++ NI-ARG FOR $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ITERATED SQUARING (IS)



+ MERGEABLE

PROOFS OF SMALL RELATED STATEMENTS



PROOF OF LARGER STATEMENT

FASTER THAN COMPUTING FROM SCRATCH

+ UNIQUE

HARD TO FIND TWO PROOFS FOR A TRUE STATEMENT

» FOCUS «

++ NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{1s} \triangleq \{(g, \tau, h) : g^{2^\tau} = h\}$

ATTEMPT 1: PIETRZAK'S IP [PI9]

+ UNIQUE?

SOUND?

FIAT-SHAMIR?

++ NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{1s} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ATTEMPT 1: PIETRZAK'S IP [PI9]

$(g, T, h)$

$\mathcal{P}$

$\mathcal{V}$

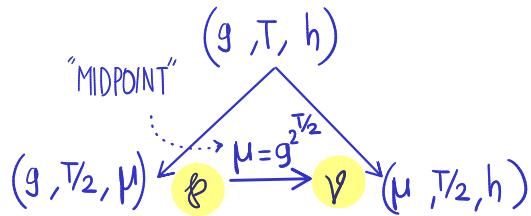
+ UNIQUE?

SOUND?

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++ NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{1s} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ATTEMPT 1: PIETRZAK'S IP [PI9]



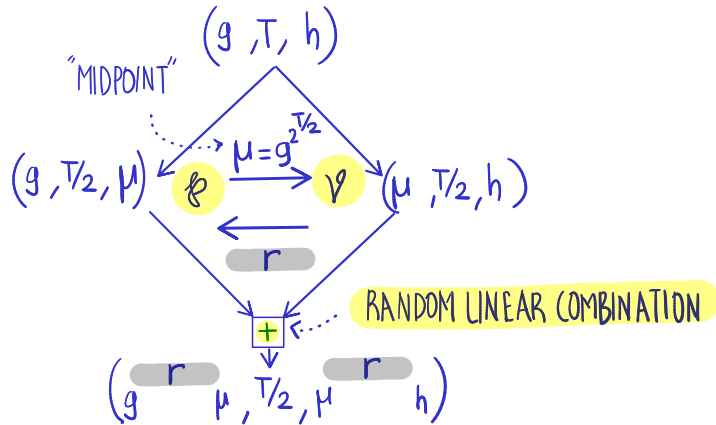
+ UNIQUE ?

SOUND ?

FIAT-SHAMIR ?

++ NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{1s} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ATTEMPT 1: PIETRZAK'S IP [PI9]



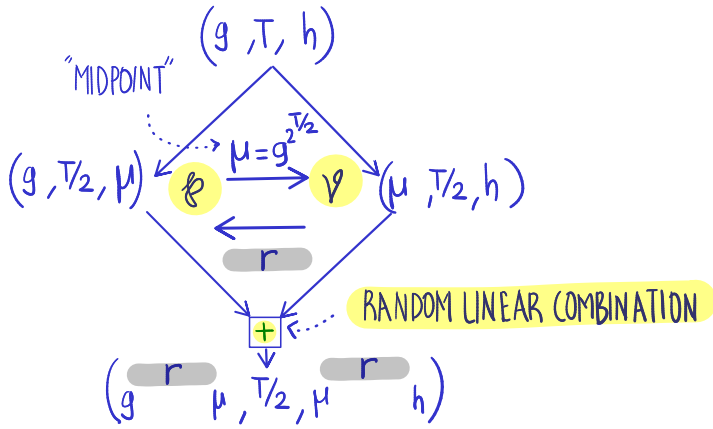
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++ NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ATTEMPT 1: PIETRZAK'S IP [PI9]



RECURSE  $\dots \rightarrow \begin{matrix} \circ \\ \circ \\ \circ \end{matrix}$

$(g', 2, h')$   $\leftarrow$   $\mu$  ACCEPTS IF  $h' = (g')^2$

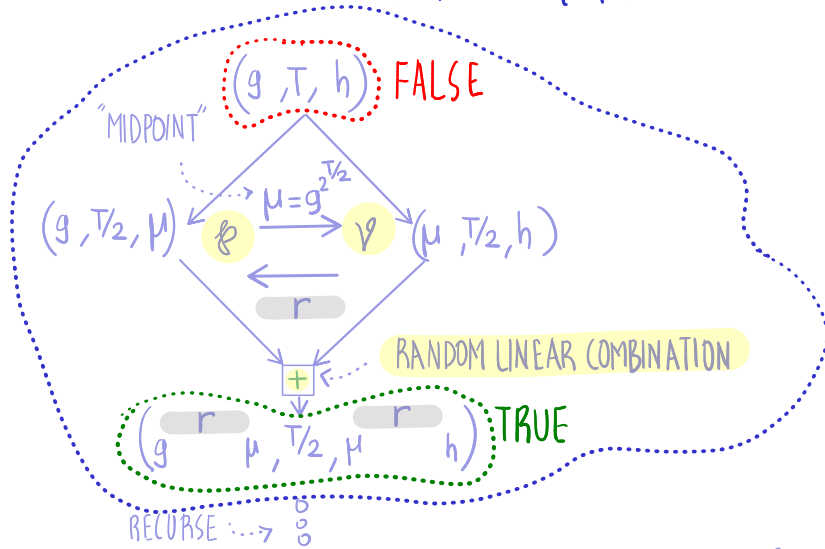
+ UNIQUE?

SOUND?

FIAT-SHAMIR?

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ATTEMPT 1: PIETRZAK'S IP [PI9]



$(g', 2, h)$  ACCEPTS IF  $h' = (g')^2$

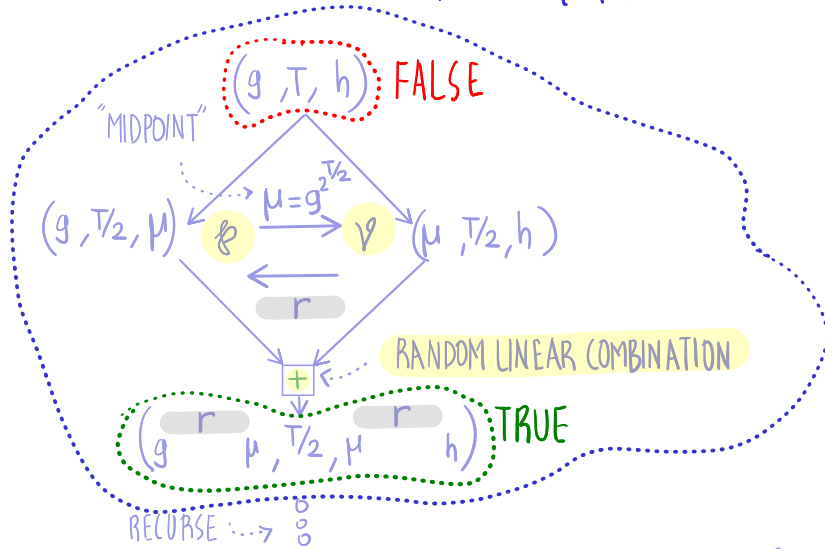
+ UNIQUE?

SOUND?   $\exists$  BAD  $r \Rightarrow$  STATISTICAL SOUNDNESS

FIAT-SHAMIR?

++ NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ATTEMPT 1: PIETRZAK'S IP [PI9]



$(g', 2, h')$   $\mathcal{V}$  ACCEPTS IF  $h' = (g')^2$

+ UNIQUE?

SOUND?



$\exists!$  BAD  $r$

$\Rightarrow$  STATISTICAL SOUNDNESS

FIAT-SHAMIR?



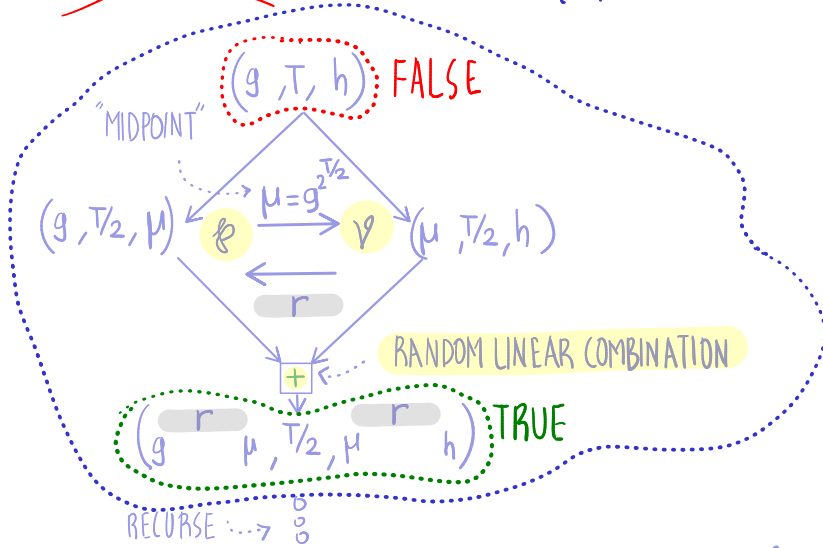
SOLVE DLP

$\Rightarrow$  CANNOT USE [PSI9] HASH FROM LWE



++ NI-ARG FOR  $\Delta_{15} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

~~ATTEMPT 1: PIETRZAK'S IP [PI9]~~



$(g', 2, h')$  ACCEPTS IF  $h' = (g')^2$

+ UNIQUE?

SOUND?



$\exists!$  BAD  $r$

$\Rightarrow$  STATISTICAL SOUNDNESS

FIAT-SHAMIR?

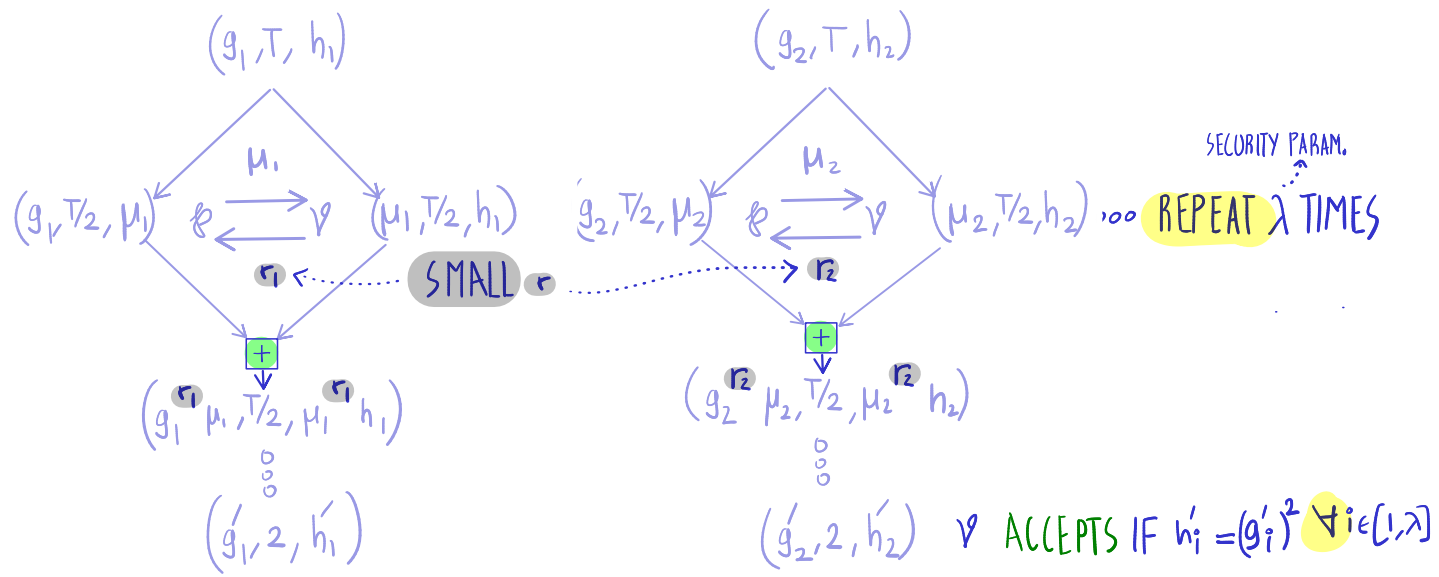


SOLVE DLP

$\Rightarrow$  CANNOT USE [PSI9] HASH FROM LWE

++NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ATTEMPT 2: PIETRZAK'S IP W/ "SMALL"  $r$  & PARALLEL REPETITION



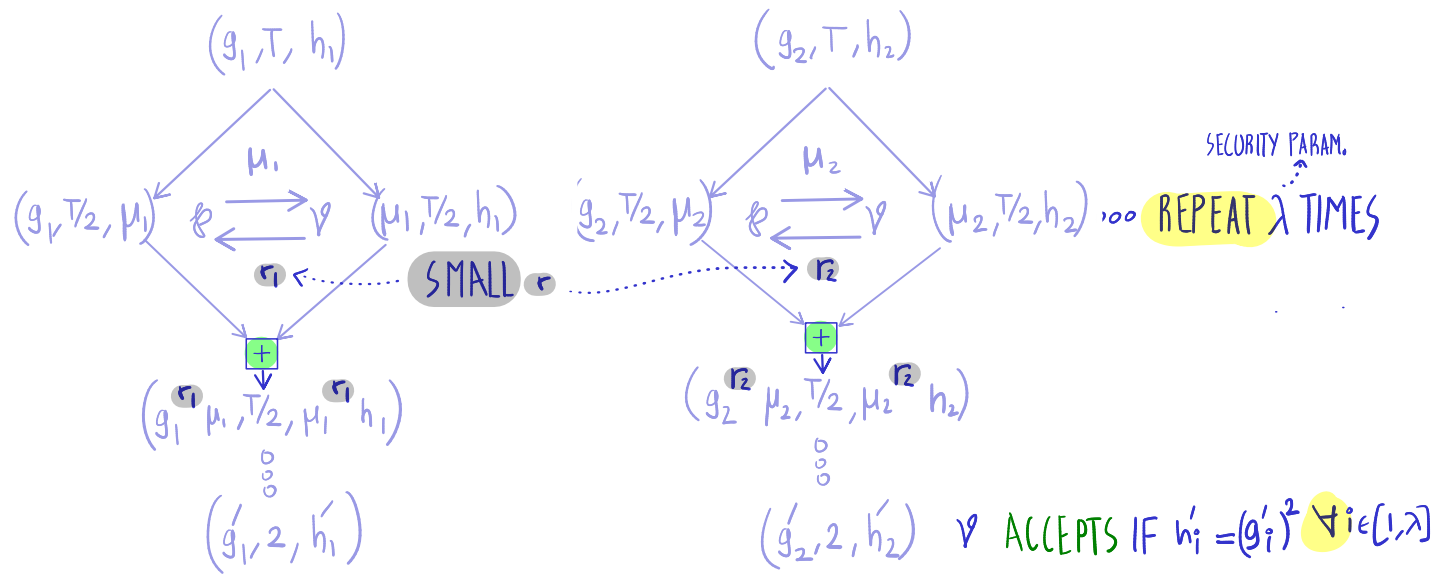
+UNIQUE ?

SOUND ?

FIAT-SHAMIR ?

++NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

ATTEMPT 2: PIETRZAK'S IP W/ "SMALL"  $r$  & PARALLEL REPETITION



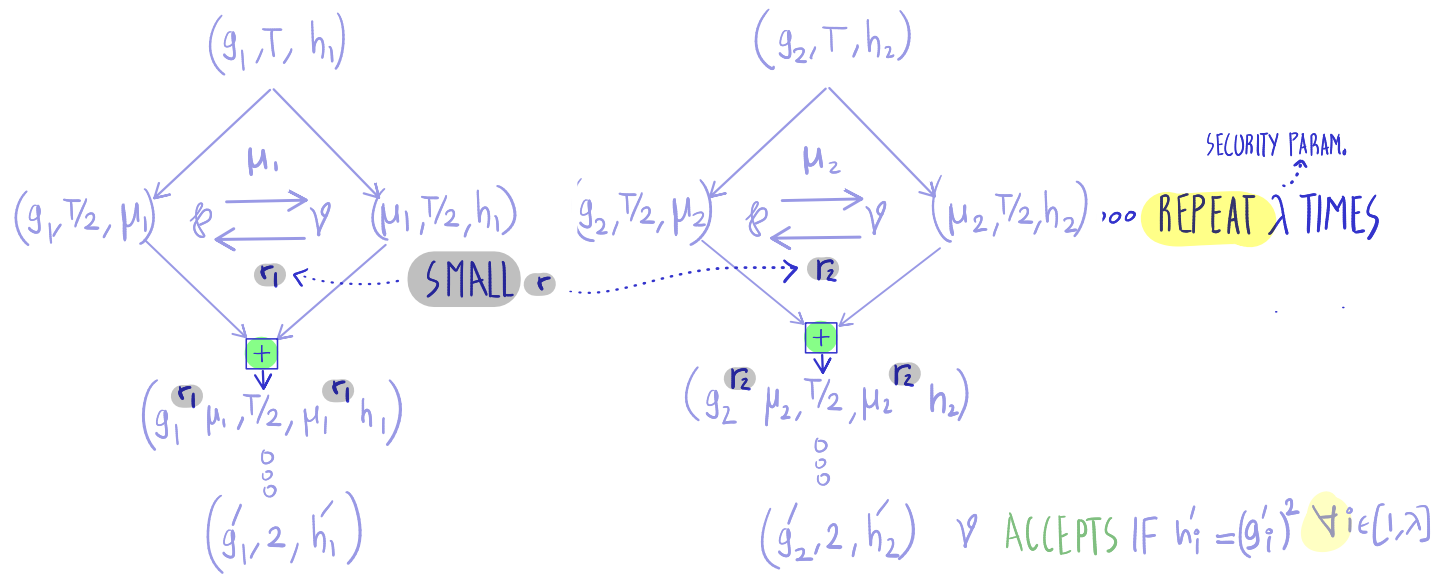
+UNIQUE?

SOUND? ✓ PARALLEL REP. AMPLIFIES SOUNDNESS

FIAT-SHAMIR? ✓ [HLR2] HASH FOR PARELLEL-REPEATED IP FROM LWE

++NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^2 = h\}$

ATTEMPT 2: PIETRZAK'S IP W/ "SMALL"  $r$  & PARALLEL REPETITION



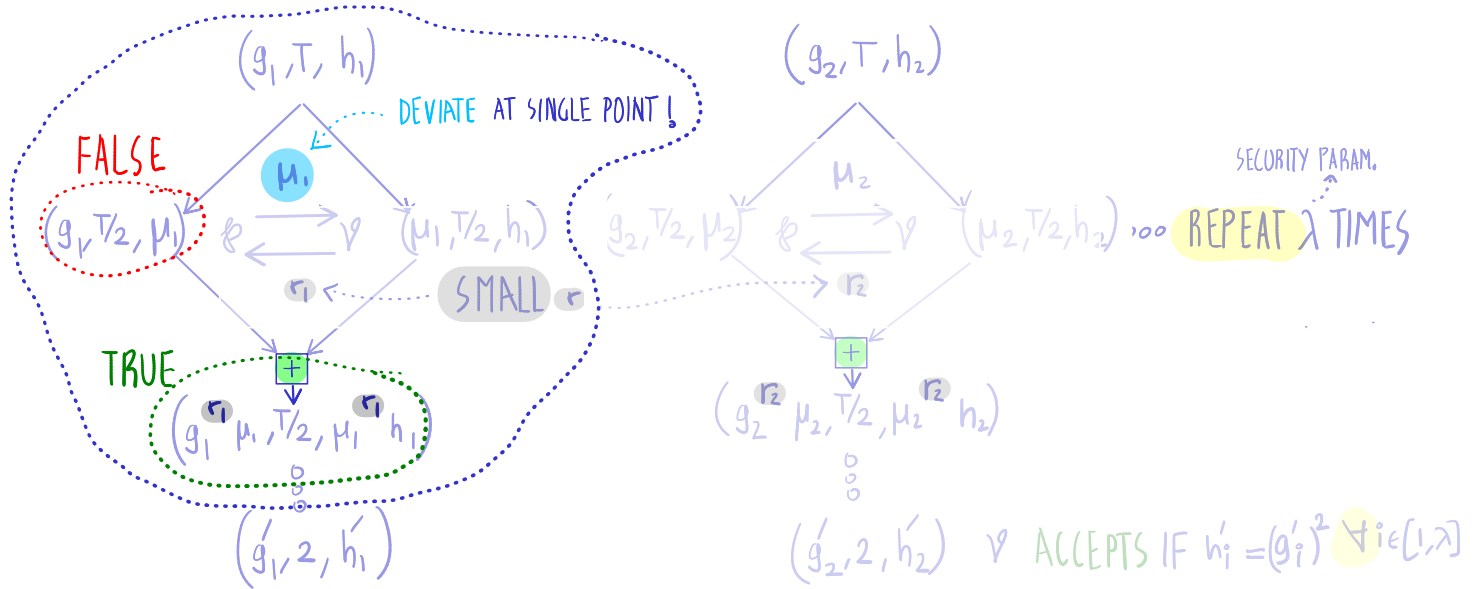
+UNIQUE? ✗ PARALLEL REP. DOESN'T PRESERVE UNIQUENESS! [RRR16]

SOUND? ✓ PARALLEL REP. AMPLIFIES SOUNDNESS

FIAT-SHAMIR? ✓ [HLR2] HASH FOR PARALLEL-REPEATED IP FROM LWE

++NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^2 = h\}$

ATTEMPT 2: PIETRZAK'S IP W/ "SMALL"  $r$  & PARALLEL REPETITION



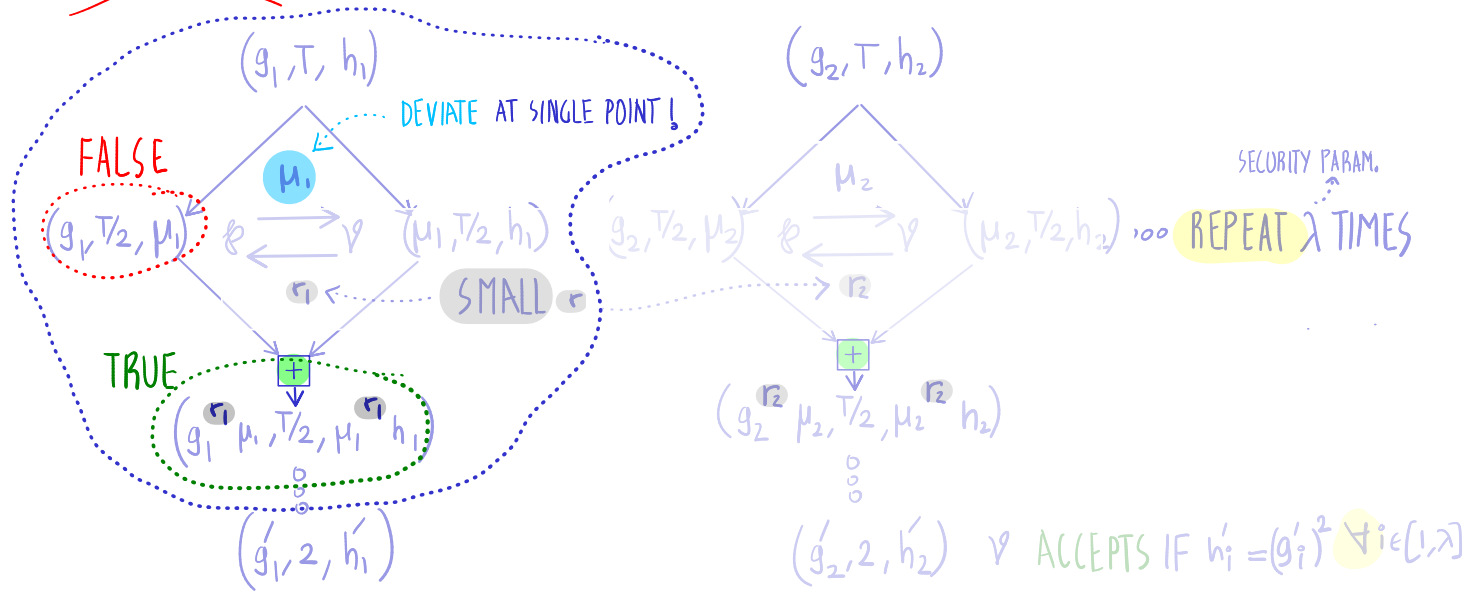
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SOUND?  PARALLEL REP. AMPLIFIES SOUNDNESS

FIAT-SHAMIR?  [HLR2] HASH FOR PARALLEL-REPEATED IP FROM LWE

++NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^2 = h\}$

~~ATTEMPT 2: PIETRZAK'S IP W/ "SMALL"  $r$  & PARALLEL REPETITION~~



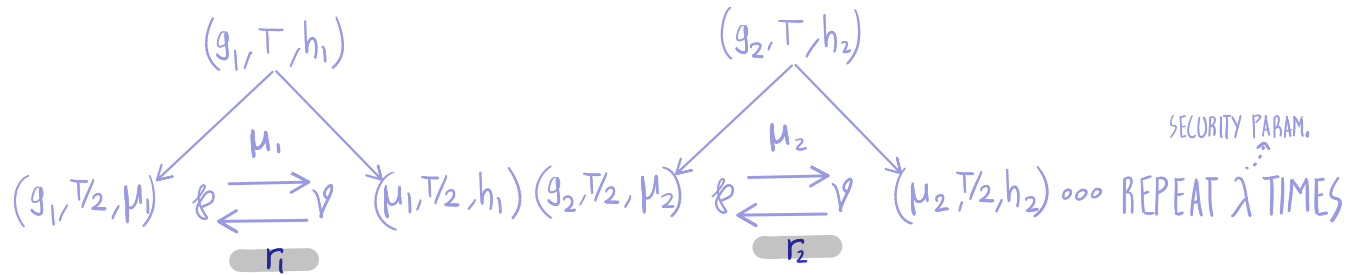
+UNIQUE?  PARALLEL REP. DOESN'T PRESERVE UNIQUENESS! [RRR16]

SOUND?  PARALLEL REP. AMPLIFIES SOUNDNESS

FIAT-SHAMIR?  [HLR2] HASH FOR PARALLEL-REPEATED IP FROM LWE

++ NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{15} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^2 = h\}$

OUR SOLUTION: MIX THE REPETITIONS! [BHARRS21]



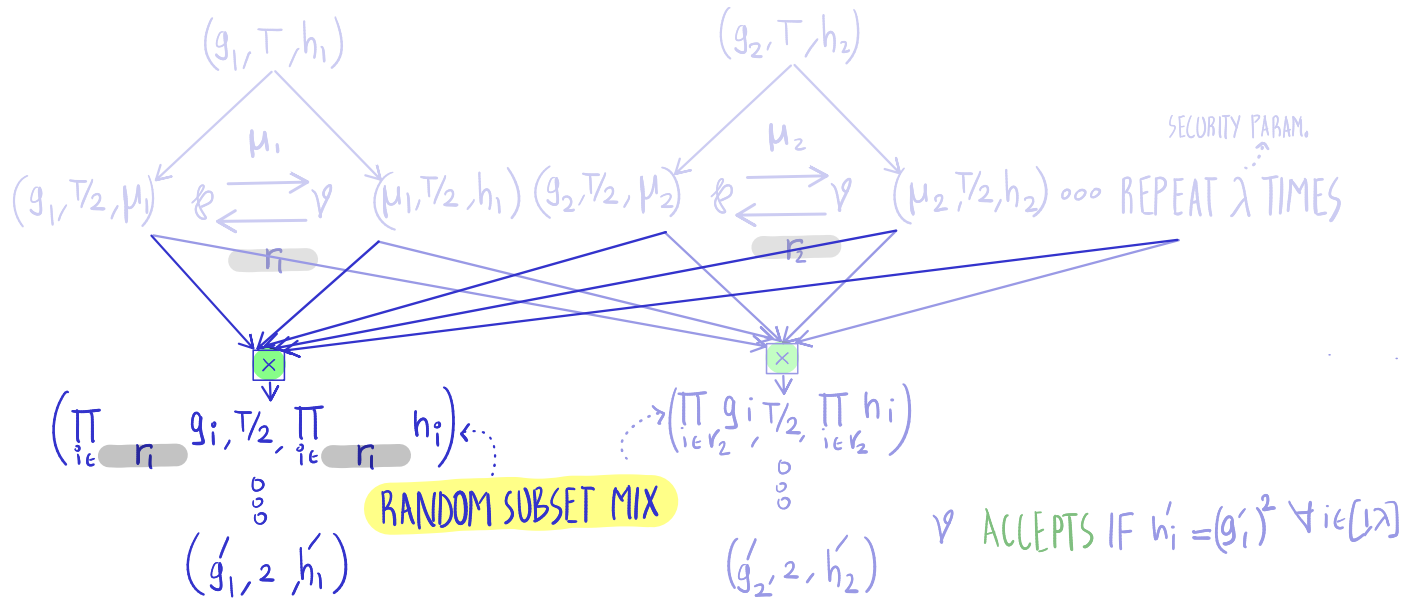
+ UNIQUE ?

SOUND ?

FIAT-SHAMIR ?

# ++ NI-ARG FOR $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^2 = h\}$

OUR SOLUTION: MIX THE REPETITIONS! [BHARRS21]



+ UNIQUE ?

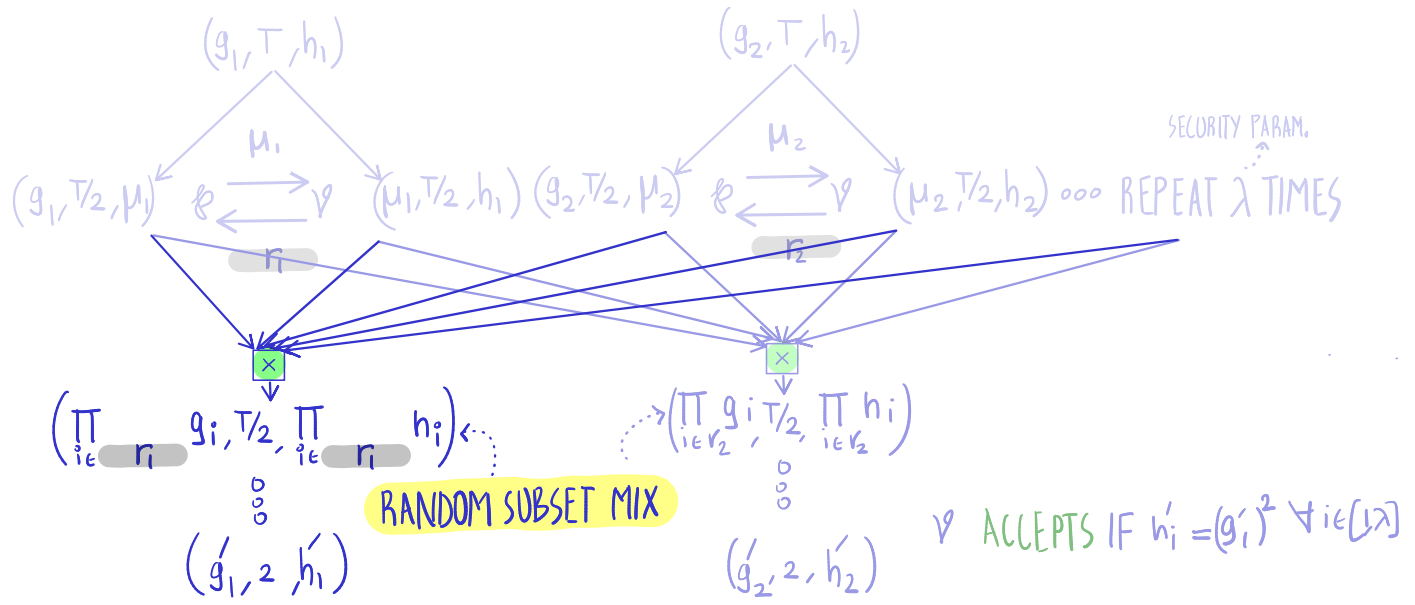
SOUND ?

FIAT-SHAMIR ?



# ++ NI-ARG FOR $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^2 = h\}$

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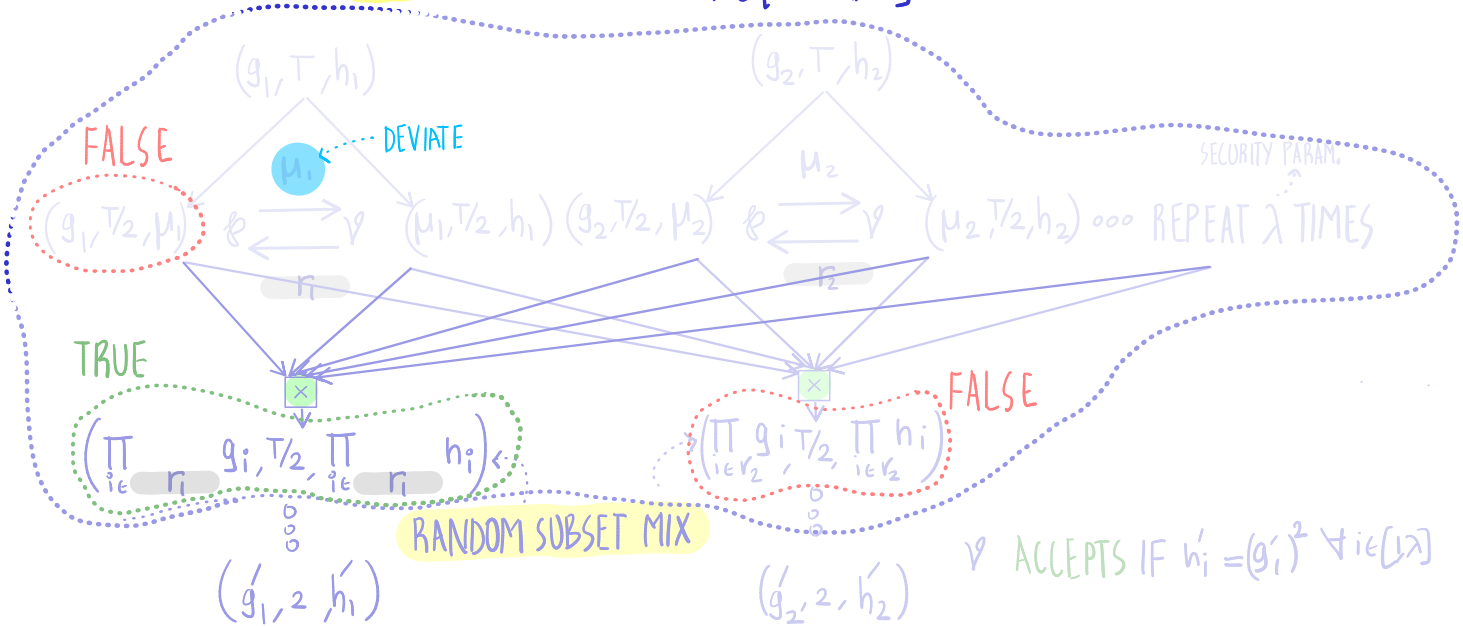
+UNIQUE ?

SOUND ?  ~PARALLEL AMPLIFICATION: SEE [BHRRS21]

FIAT-SHAMIR ?

++ NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

OUR SOLUTION: MIX THE REPETITIONS! [BHRRS21]



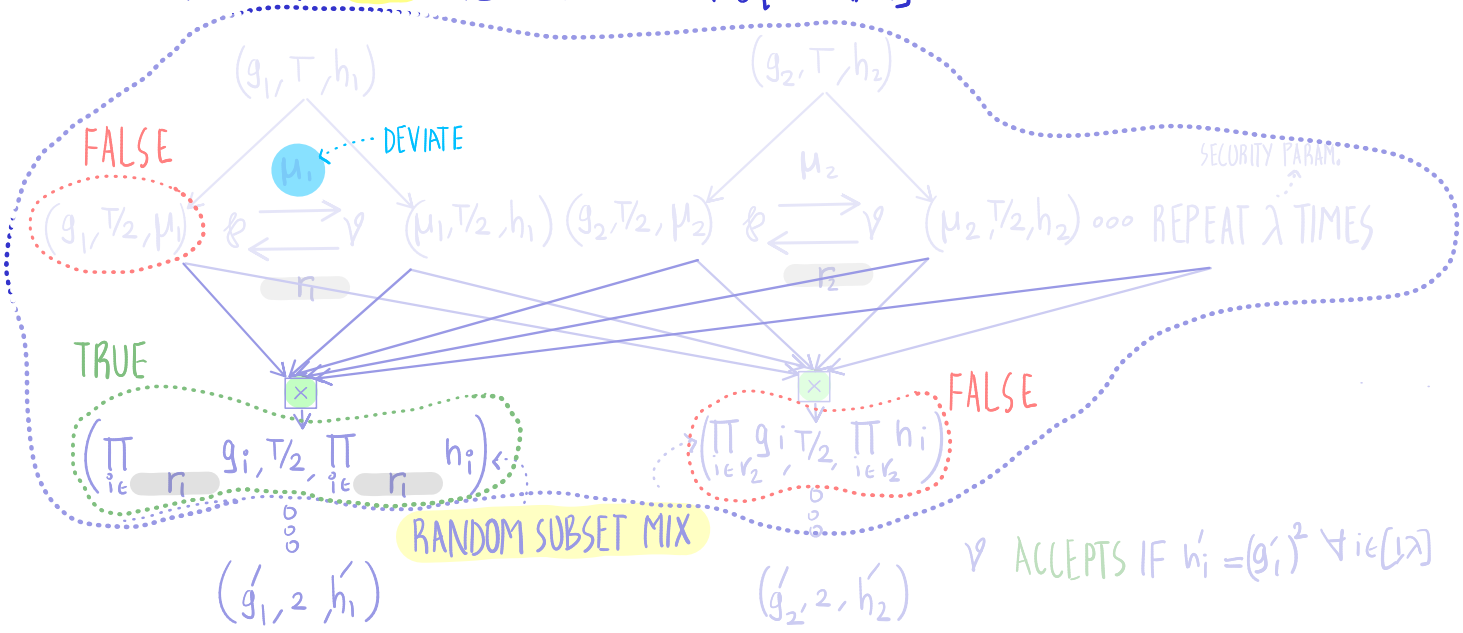
+UNIQUE?  MIXING  $\Rightarrow$  DEVIATING LEADS TO  $\forall$  EVENTUALLY REJECTING

SOUND?   $\sim$  PARALLEL AMPLIFICATION: SEE [BHRRS21]

FIAT-SHAMIR?

++ NI-ARG FOR  $\mathcal{L}_{IS} \triangleq \{(g, T, h) : g^{2^T} = h\}$

OUR SOLUTION: MIX THE REPETITIONS! [BHRRS21]



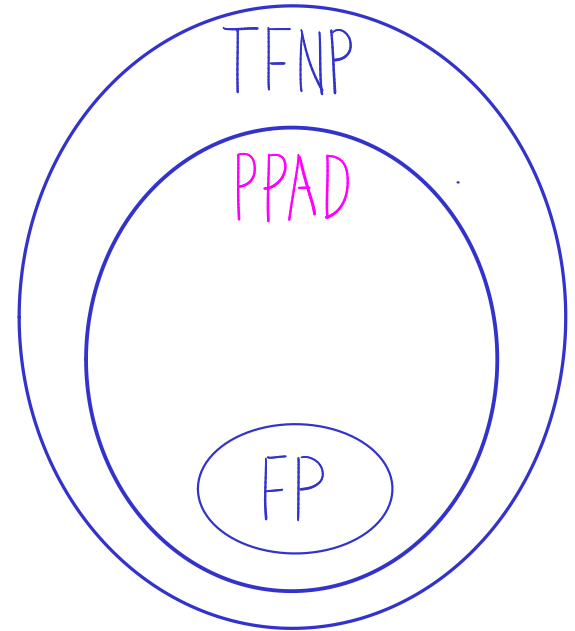
+UNIQUE?  MIXING  $\Rightarrow$  DEVIATING LEADS TO  $\varphi$  EVENTUALLY REJECTING

SOUND?   $\sim$  PARALLEL AMPLIFICATION: SEE [BHRRS21]

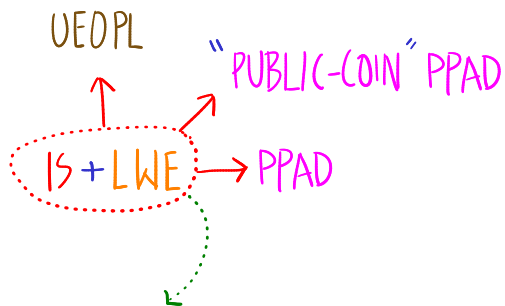
FIAT-SHAMIR?  [HLR2] HASH FROM LWE

IN CONCLUSION...

IS + LWE  $\rightarrow$  PPAD

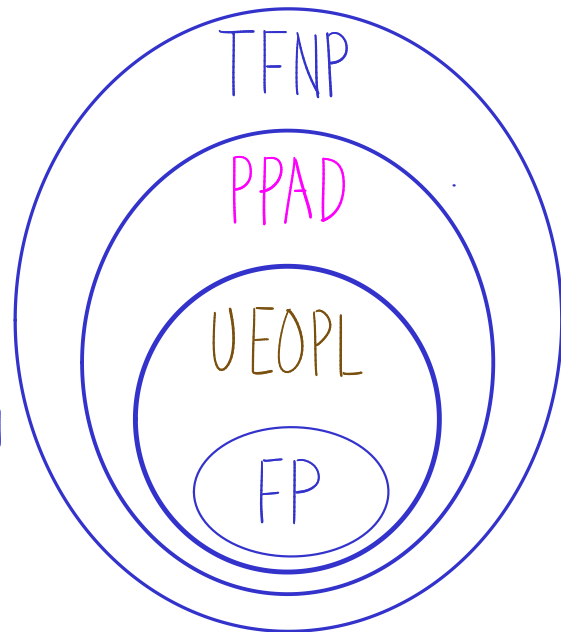


# IN CONCLUSION...

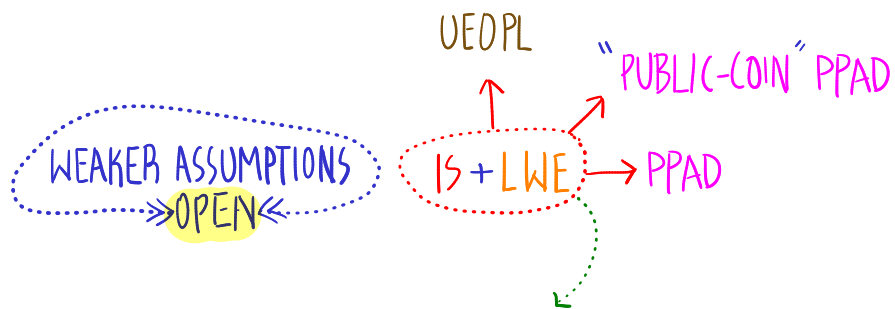


ABSTRACT BATCH-AND-OUTLINE PROTOCOL

CAPTURES PREVIOUS WORKS: [CHKPRR19<sub>a/b</sub>, EFKP19, LV20, JKKZ21]

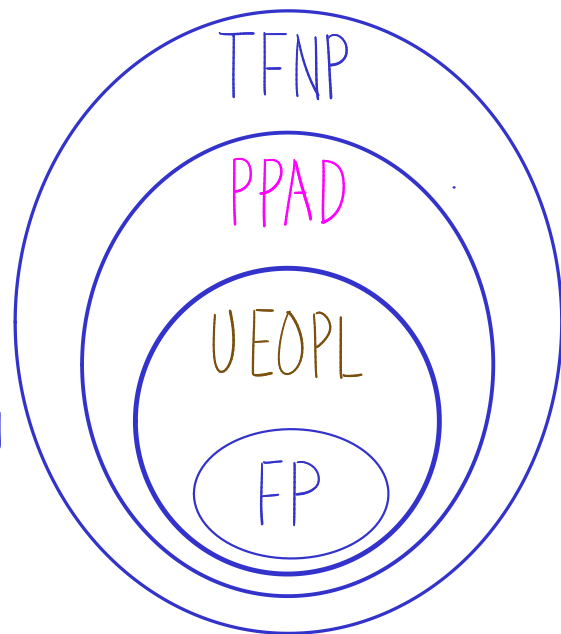


# IN CONCLUSION...

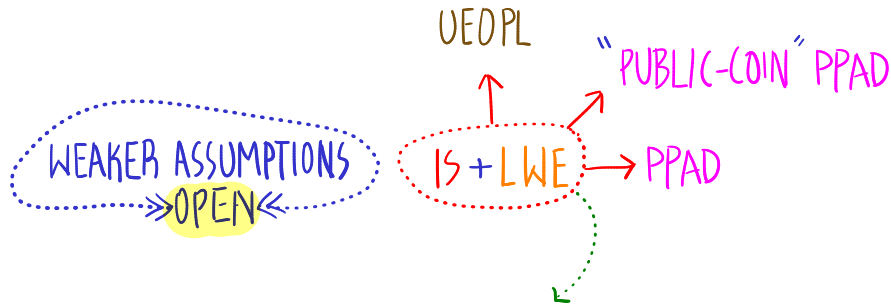


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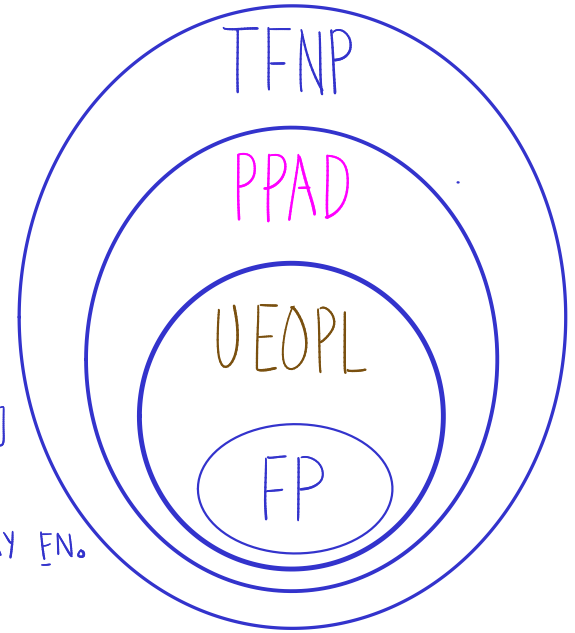
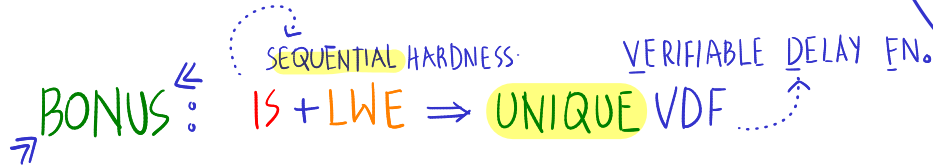


# IN CONCLUSION...

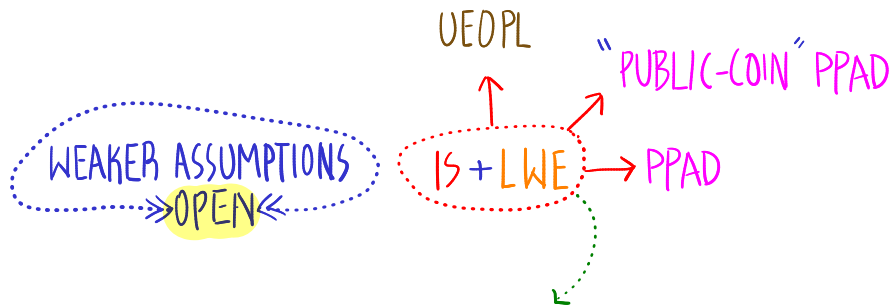


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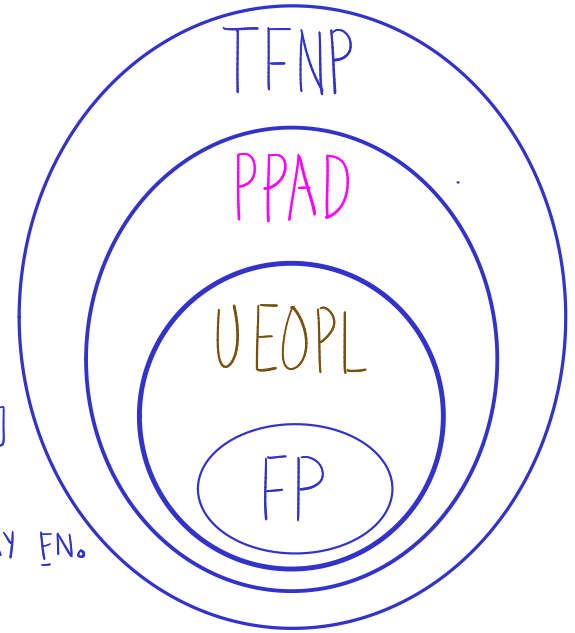


# IN CONCLUSION...



ABSTRACT BATCH-AND-OUTLINE PROTOCOL

CAPTURES PREVIOUS WORKS: [CHKPRR19a/b, EFKP19, LV20, JKKZ21]



↖ BONUS : SEQUENTIAL HARDNESS : VERIFIABLE DELAY FN.  
IS + LWE ⇒ UNIQUE VDF ↗

NEXT TALK: ANY SEQUENTIAL HARD FN. + LWE ⇒ VDF



THANK YOU!

THANK YOU! is written in a bubbly, hand-drawn font on a yellow cloud-like background. Each letter has a vertical word written next to it:

- T: TZITZIT
- H: HAS
- A: HAS
- N: FISHAMIR
- K: ASSUMPTION
- Y: PROPOS
- O: C
- U: LILSON
- !: PEOPLE



תוכנית עמיתי עזריאלי  
Azrieli Fellows Program