

zkSNARKs in the ROM with Unconditional UC-Security

TL;DR Micali and BCS are UC-secure in the GROM

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eprint.iacr.org/2024/724

Joint work with Alessandro Chiesa

EPFL

Motivation

zkSNARKs are deployed in the real world

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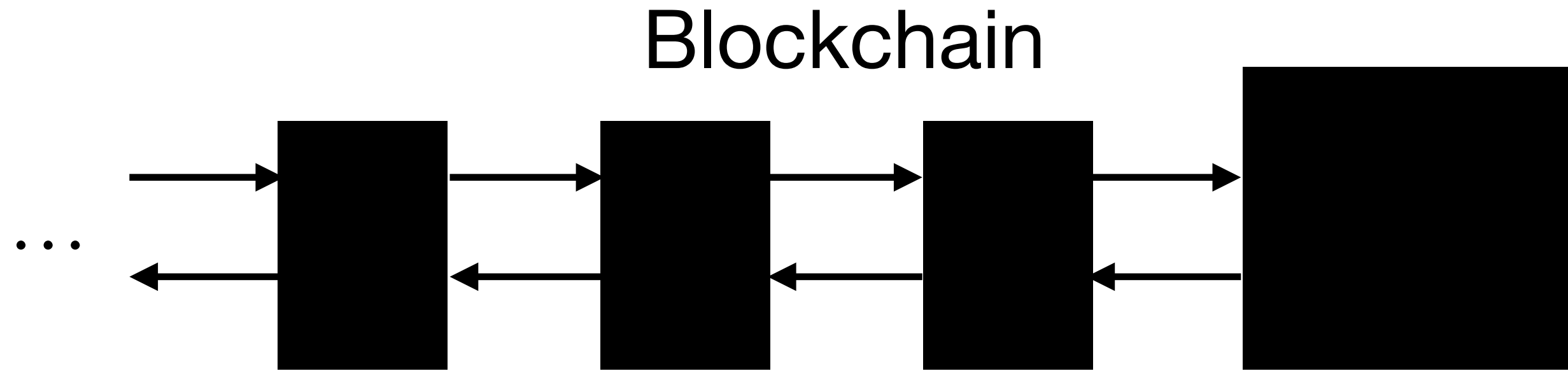
zkSNARKs are ZKPs where verification is **exponentially** faster than execution.

zkSNARKs are deployed in the real world

E.g.: proof based rollups
to improve scalability

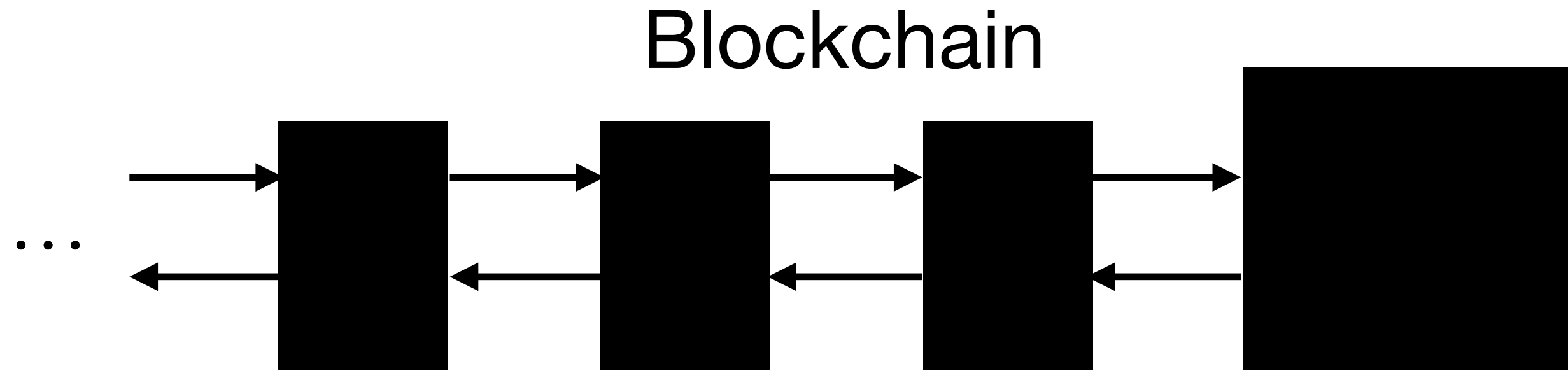
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Rollup Users

u_1

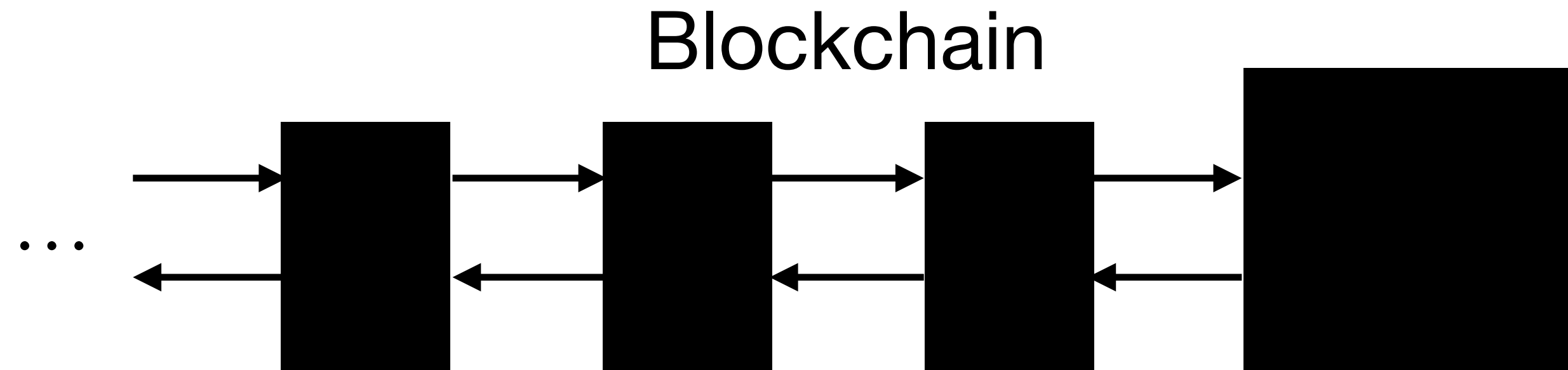
u_2

u_3

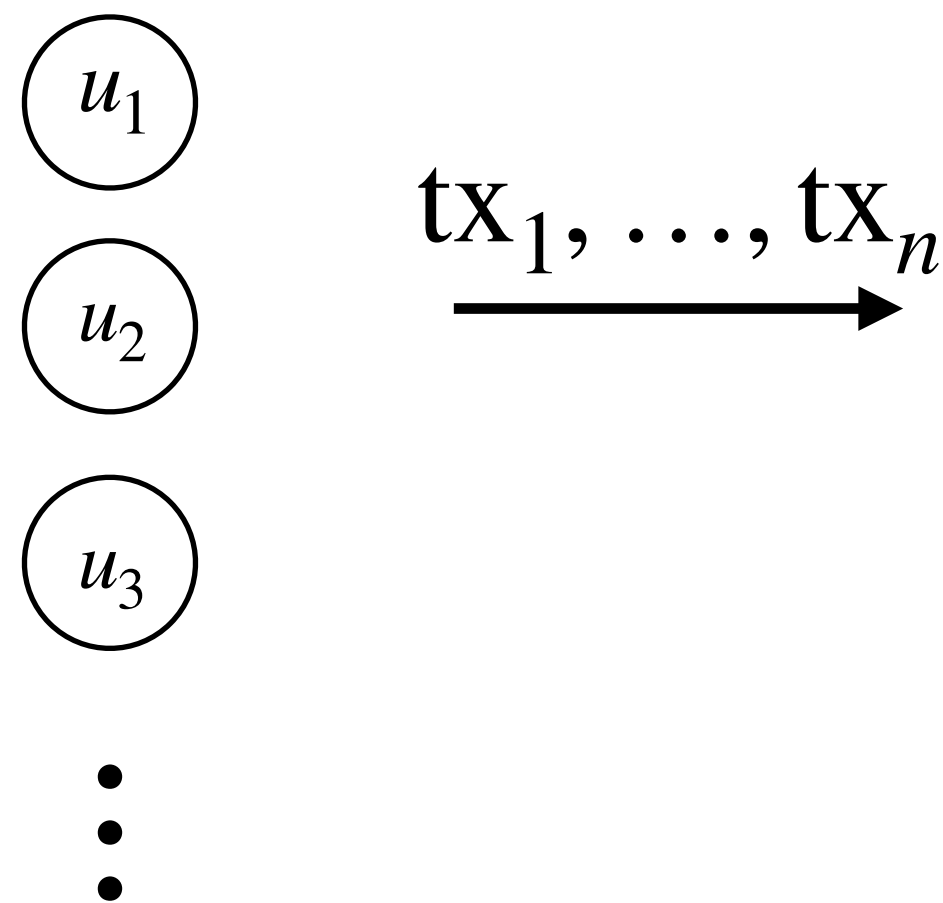
⋮

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E.g.: proof based rollups to improve scalability



Rollup Users

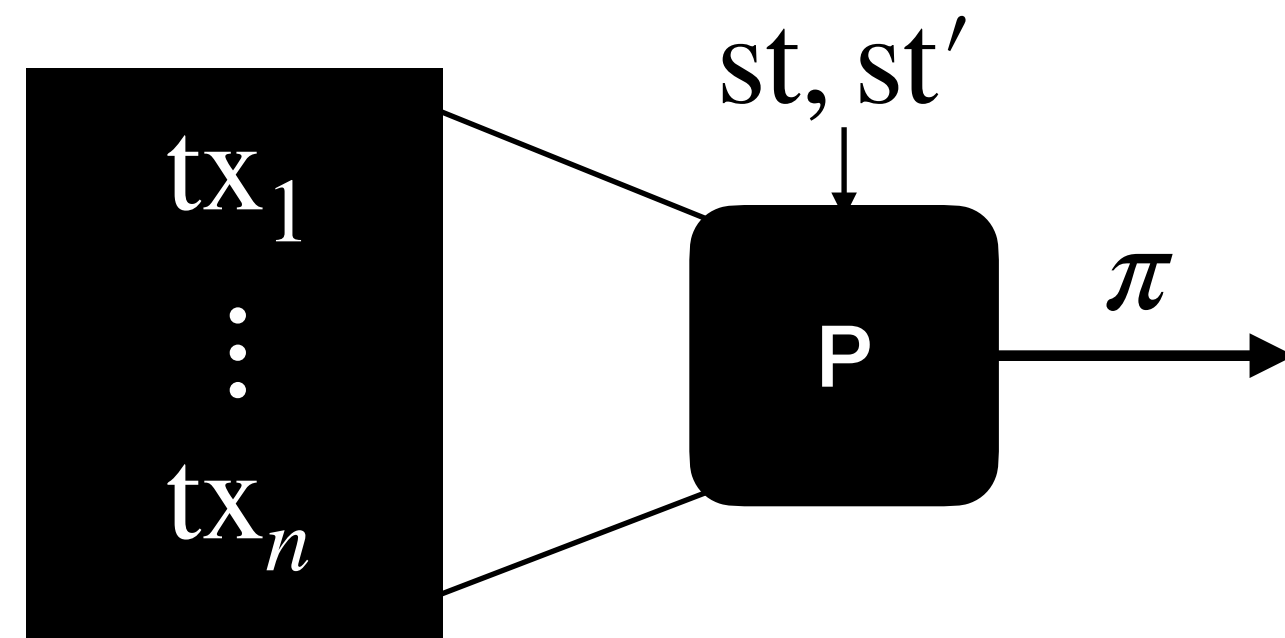


tx_1, \dots, tx_n

A horizontal arrow pointing from the rollup users towards the service operator, with the label tx_1, \dots, tx_n above it.

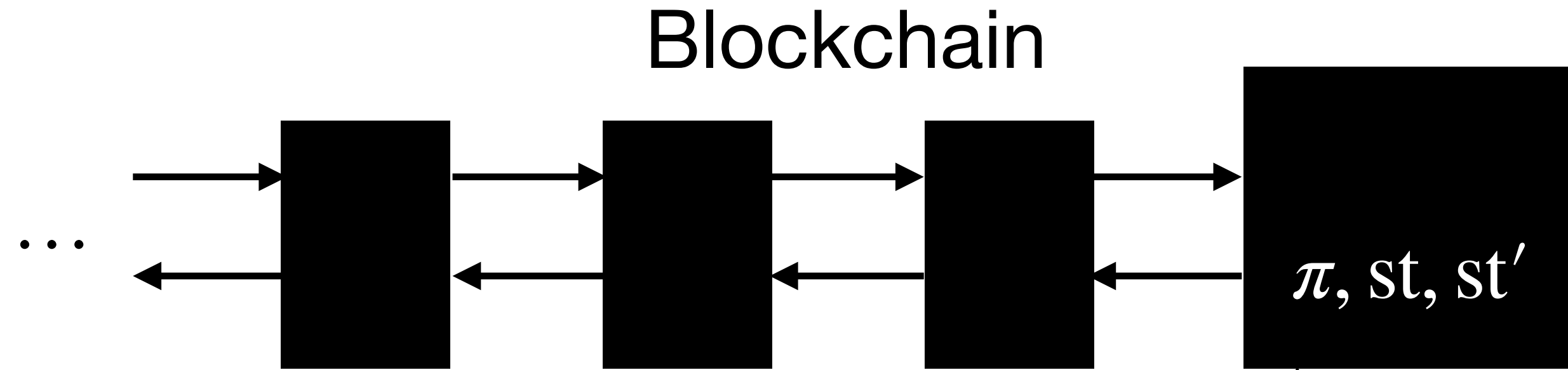
Service operator

$st' := \text{Update}(st, tx_1, \dots, tx_n)$



zkSNARKs are deployed in the real world

E.g.: proof based rollups to improve scalability



Rollup Users

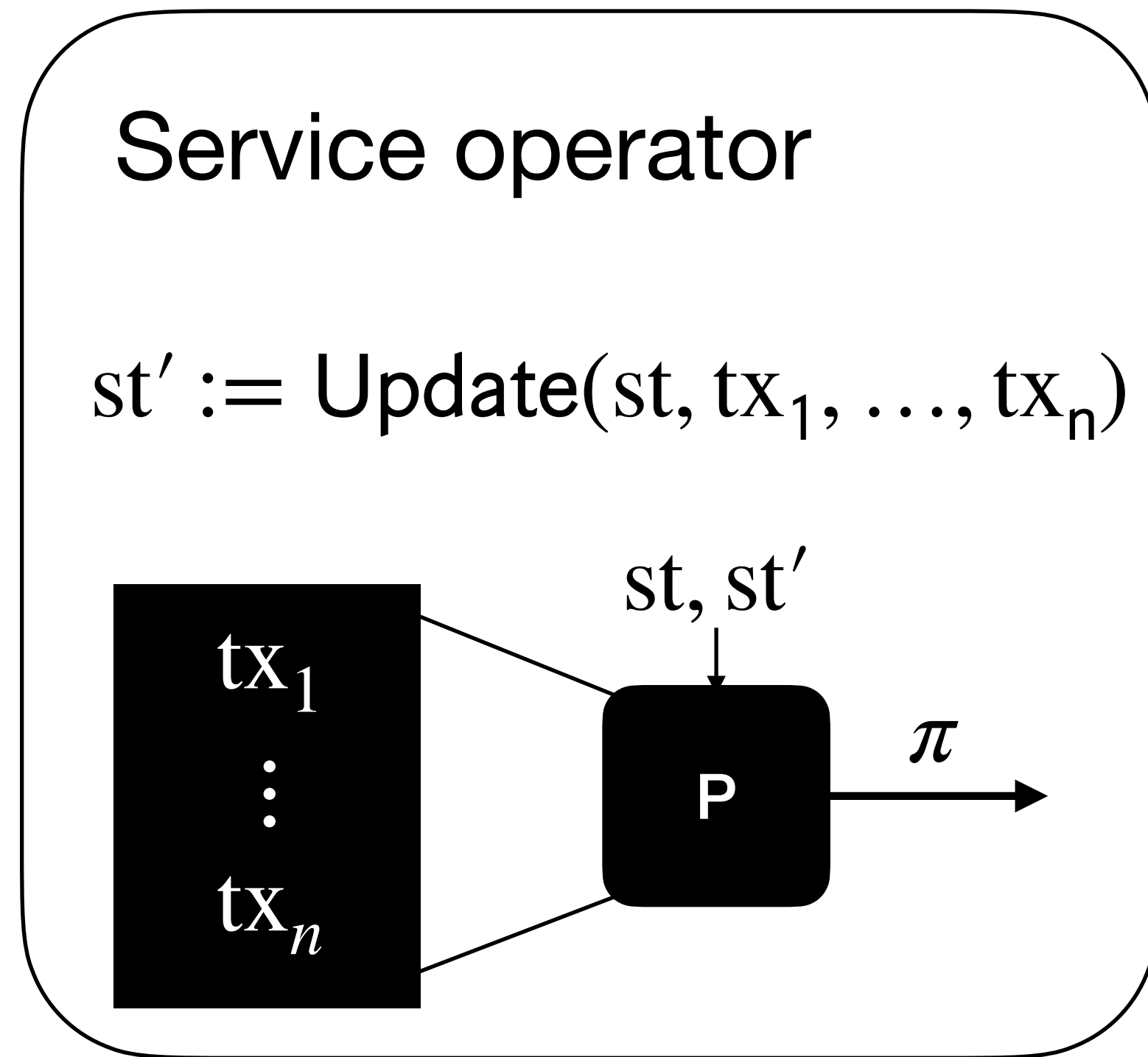
u_1

u_2

u_3

⋮

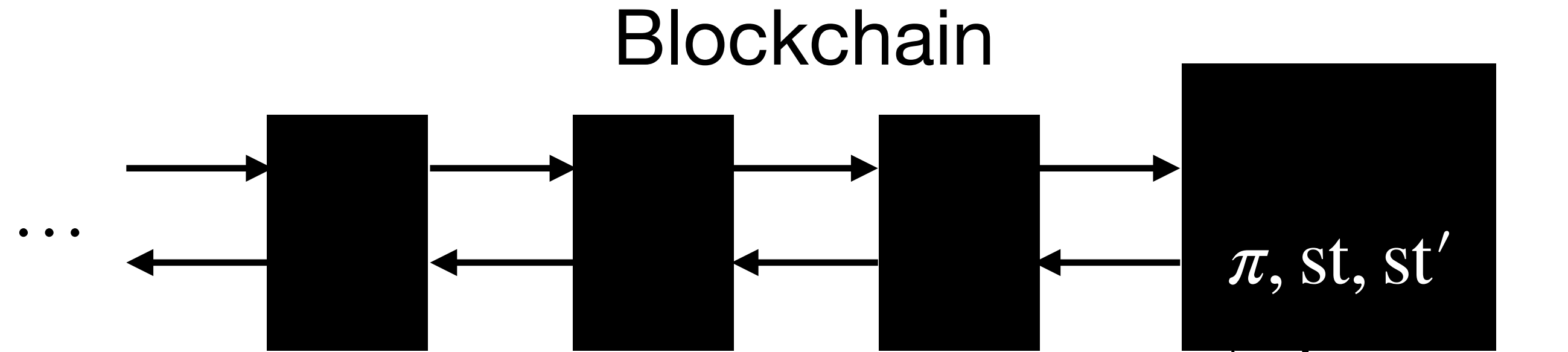
tx_1, \dots, tx_n



π, st, st'

zkSNARKs are deployed in the real world

E.g.: proof based rollups to improve scalability



Rollup Users

u_1

u_2

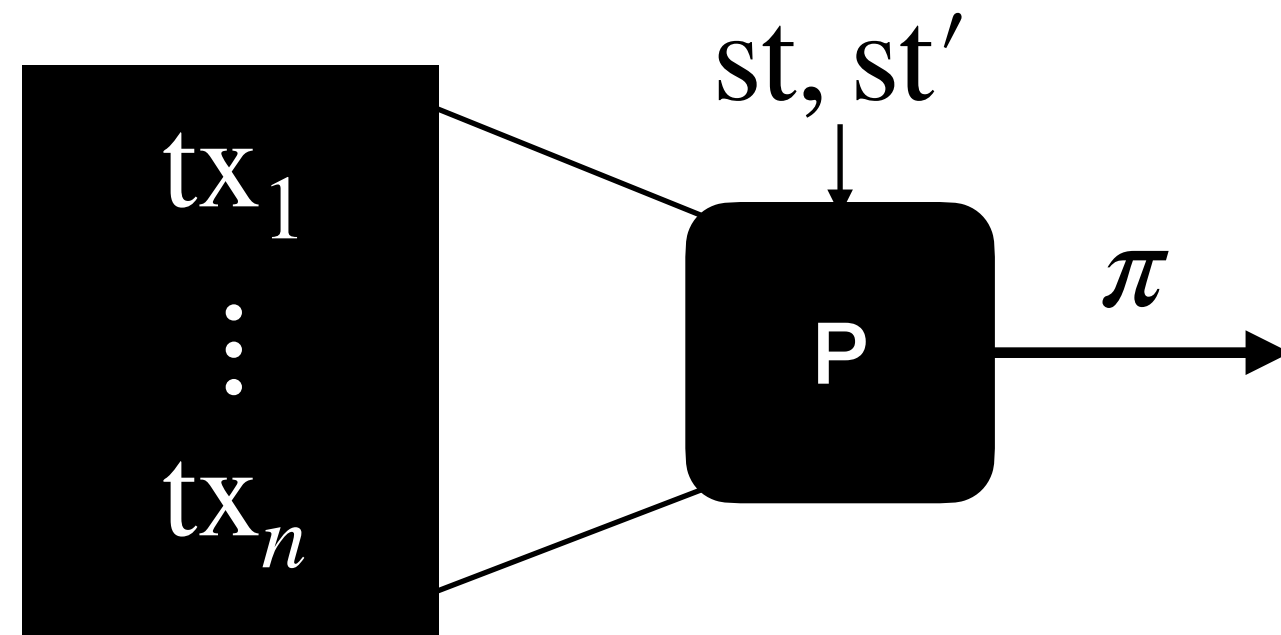
u_3

⋮

tx_1, \dots, tx_n

Service operator

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π, st, st'

π, st, st'

Validator(s)

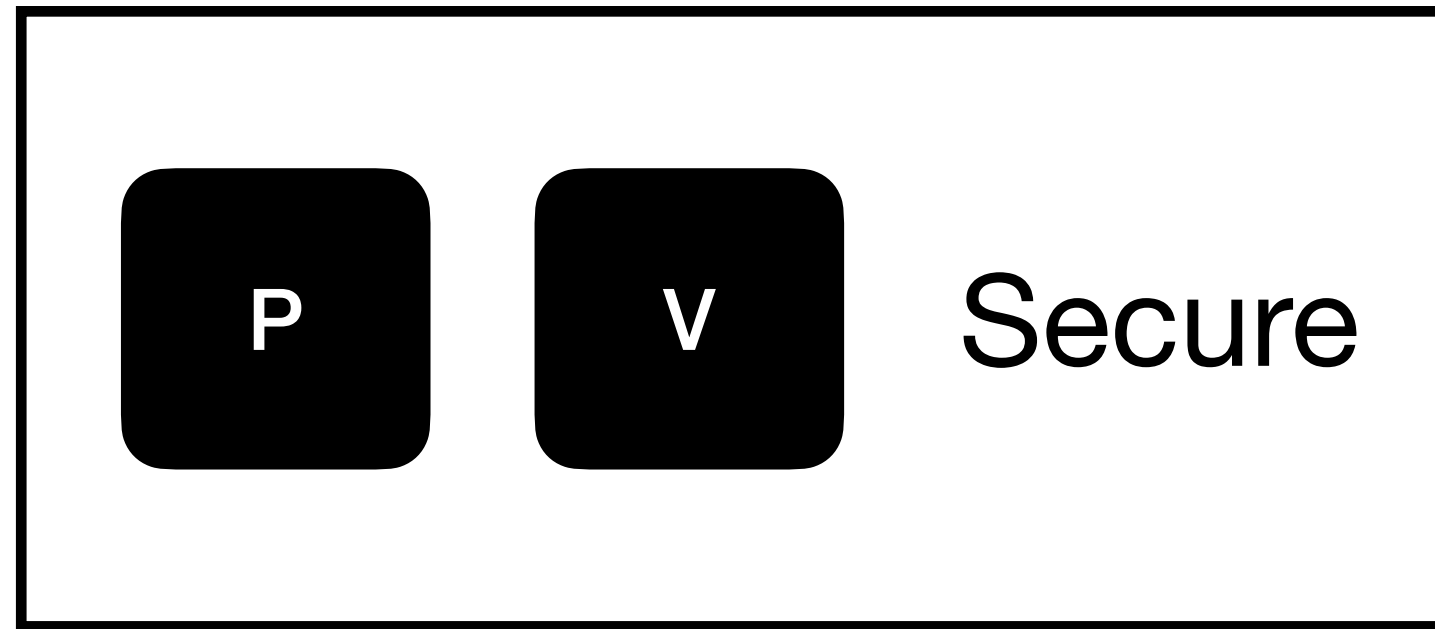
Check π

v

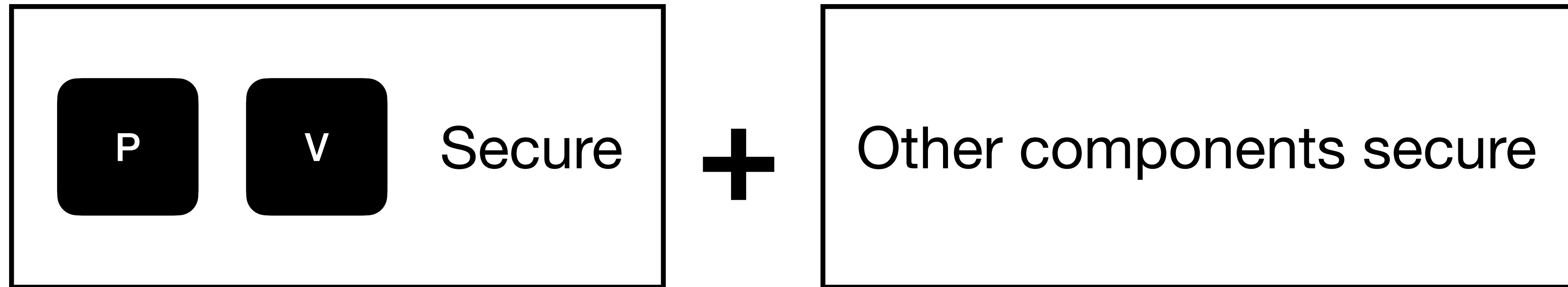
0/1

Goal: Modular Security Analysis

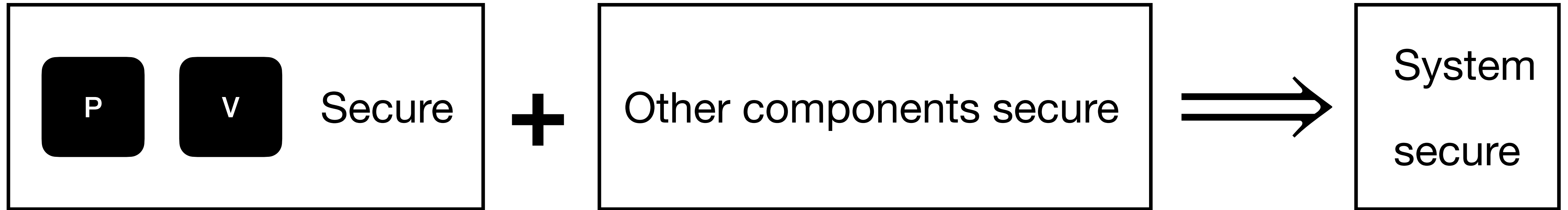
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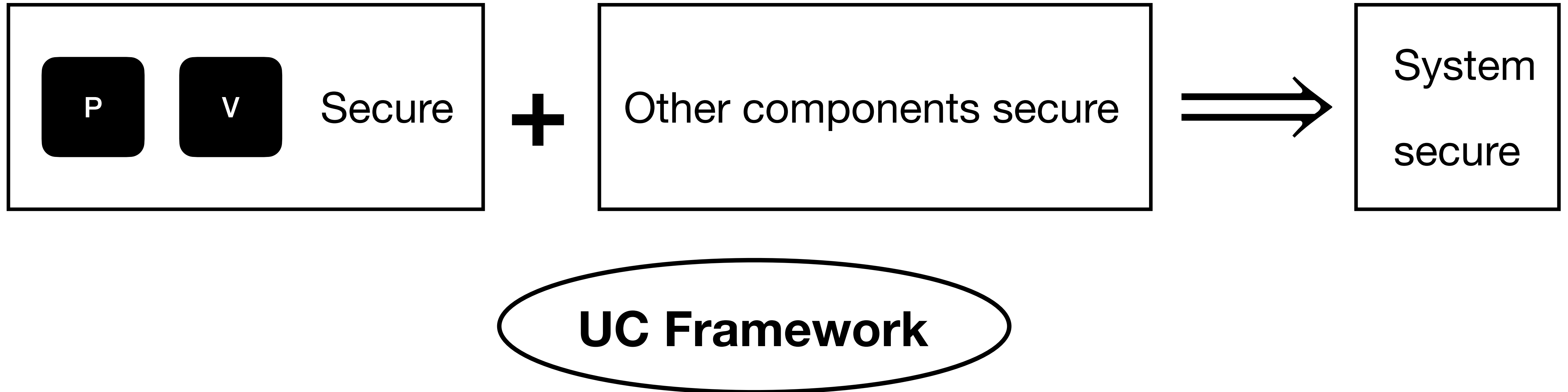
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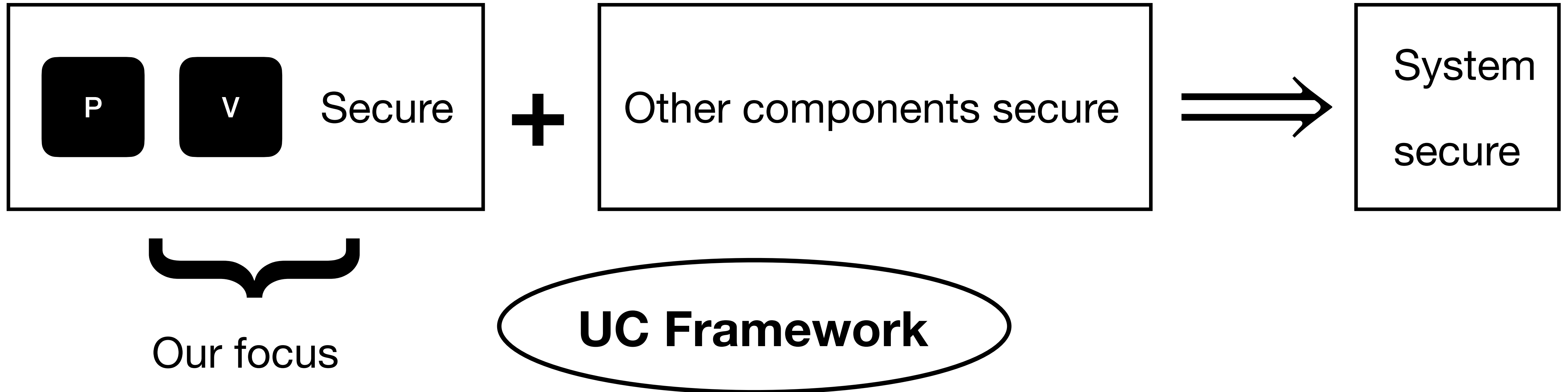
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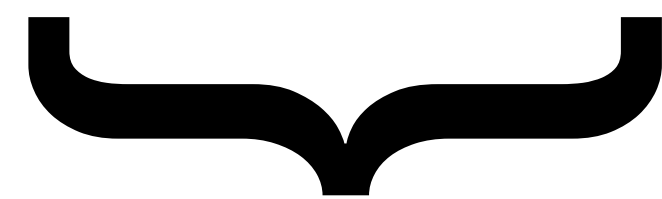
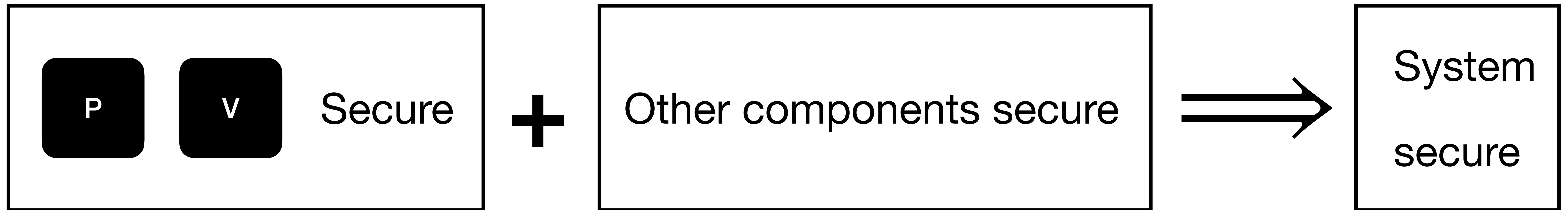
Goal: Modular Security Analysis



Goal: Modular Security Analysis



Goal: Modular Security Analysis



Our focus

UC Framework

Which zkSNARKs are UC-secure?

This work

zkSNARKs in the ROM with Unconditional UC-Security

Alessandro Chiesa

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Show **existing** zkSNARKs are UC-secure
(including deployed ones)

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Succinct

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ROM **only**: transparent, post-quantum,
unconditional security

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Show **existing** zkSNARKs are UC-secure
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Succinct

ROM **only**: transparent, post-quantum,
unconditional security

Concrete security bounds:
useful for practitioners

Our results

Main Thm.

There exists a zkSNARK that is unconditionally UC-secure in the GROM

Lemma

Let ARG be a “UC-friendly” argument in the ROM.

Then, $\Pi[\text{ARG}]$ is UC-secure in the GROM

Theorem

The Micali construction is “UC-friendly” in the ROM, provided that the underlying PCP is honest-verifier zero knowledge and knowledge sound.

Corollary

The Micali construction is UC-secure in the GROM, when instantiated as above.

Theorem

The Micali construction is “UC-friendly” in the ROM, provided that the underlying PCP is honest-verifier zero knowledge and knowledge sound.

Same conditions required for KS of Micali in the ROM

Corollary

The Micali construction is UC-secure in the GROM, when instantiated as above.

Theorem

*The **BCS** construction is “UC-friendly” in the ROM, provided that the underlying **IOP** is honest-verifier zero knowledge and (**state-restoration**) knowledge sound.*

Corollary

*The **BCS** construction is UC-secure in the GROM, when instantiated as above.*

Theorem

*The **BCS** construction is “UC-friendly” in the ROM, provided that the underlying **IOP** is honest-verifier zero knowledge and (**state-restoration**) knowledge sound.*

Same conditions required for KS of BCS in the ROM

Corollary

*The **BCS** construction is UC-secure in the GROM, when instantiated as above.*

Techniques

GROM

[CDGLN18]

GROM

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Goal: ROM-like interface shared by **all** parties in the security experiment

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Flavor: restricted **p**rogrammable and **o**bservable **g**lobal **r**andom **o**racle

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- Query(x): as in ROM



GRO

GROM

[CDGLN18]

Goal: ROM-like interface shared by **all** parties in the security experiment

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- Observe(s): get all queries with prefix s from adversary or from parties with $\text{sid} \neq s$



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GROM

[CDGLN18]

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- Program(x, y): Program the GRO (maintaining consistency)



GRO

GROM

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- $\text{IsProgrammed}(x)$: allows parties in session sid to check if a $x = \text{sid} \circ x'$ has been programmed



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GRO

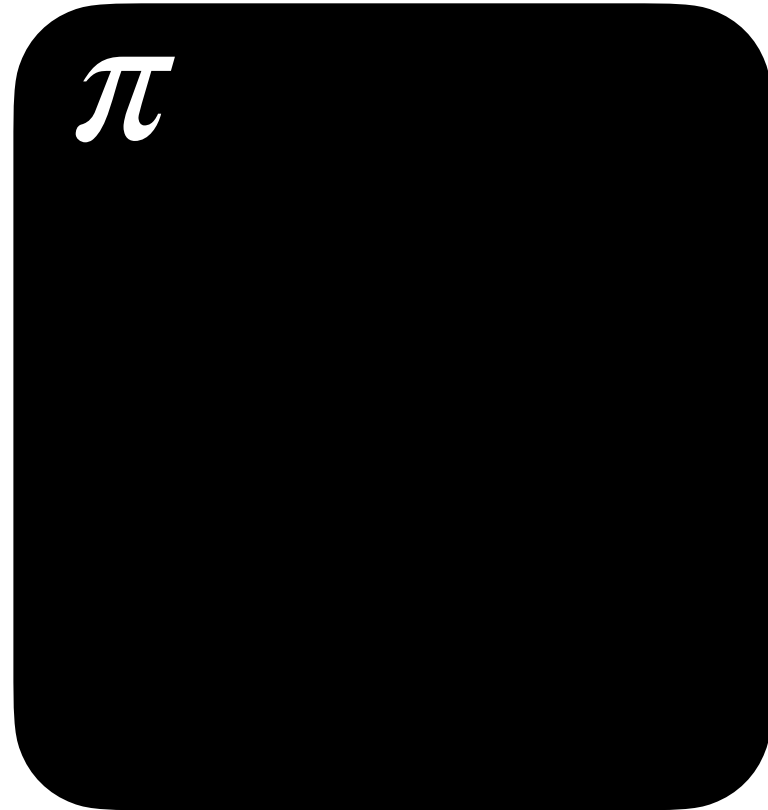
Crucial: Simulator can program points without being detected!

UC with Budgets

Plain UC only models
adversaries that are
computationally bounded
using import

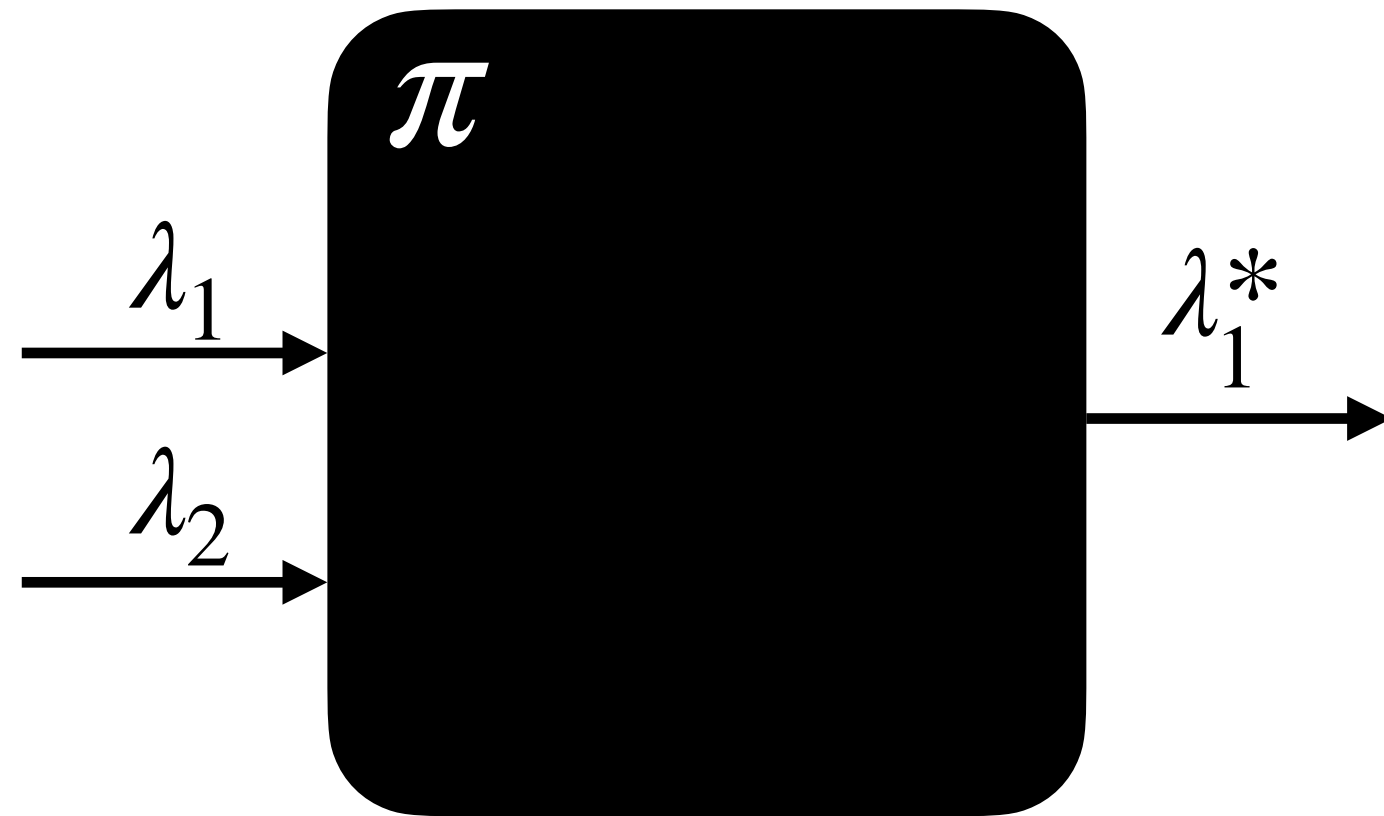
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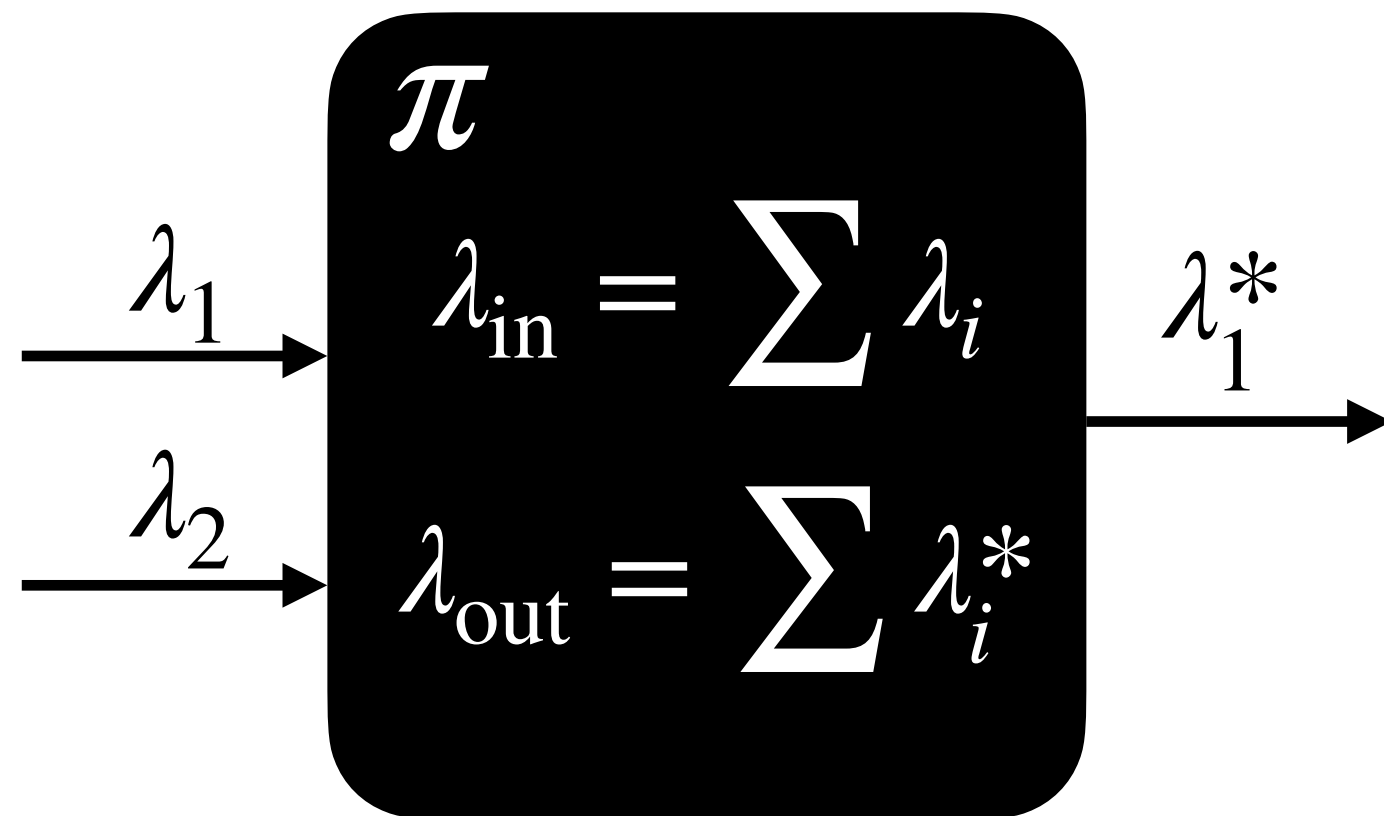
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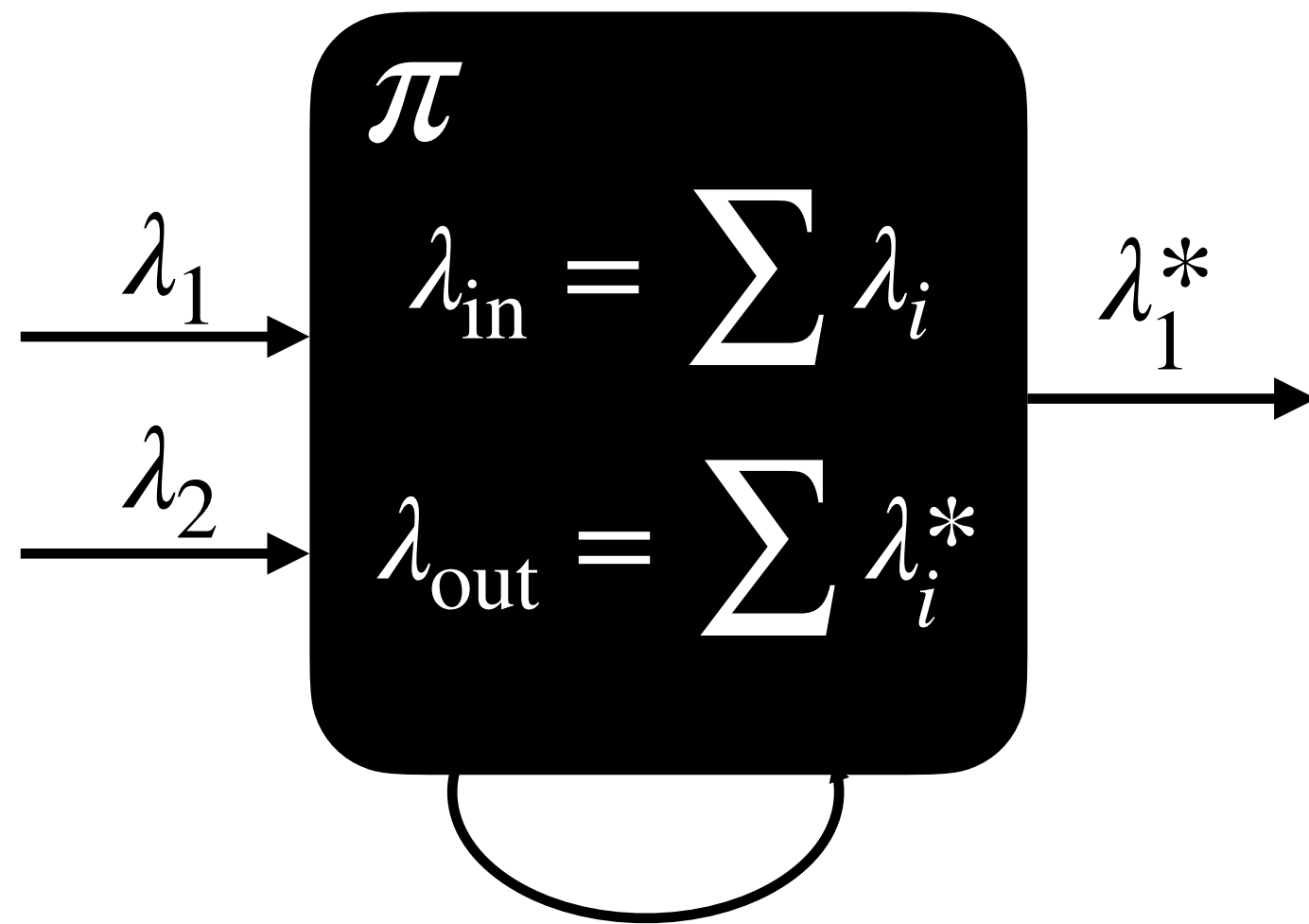
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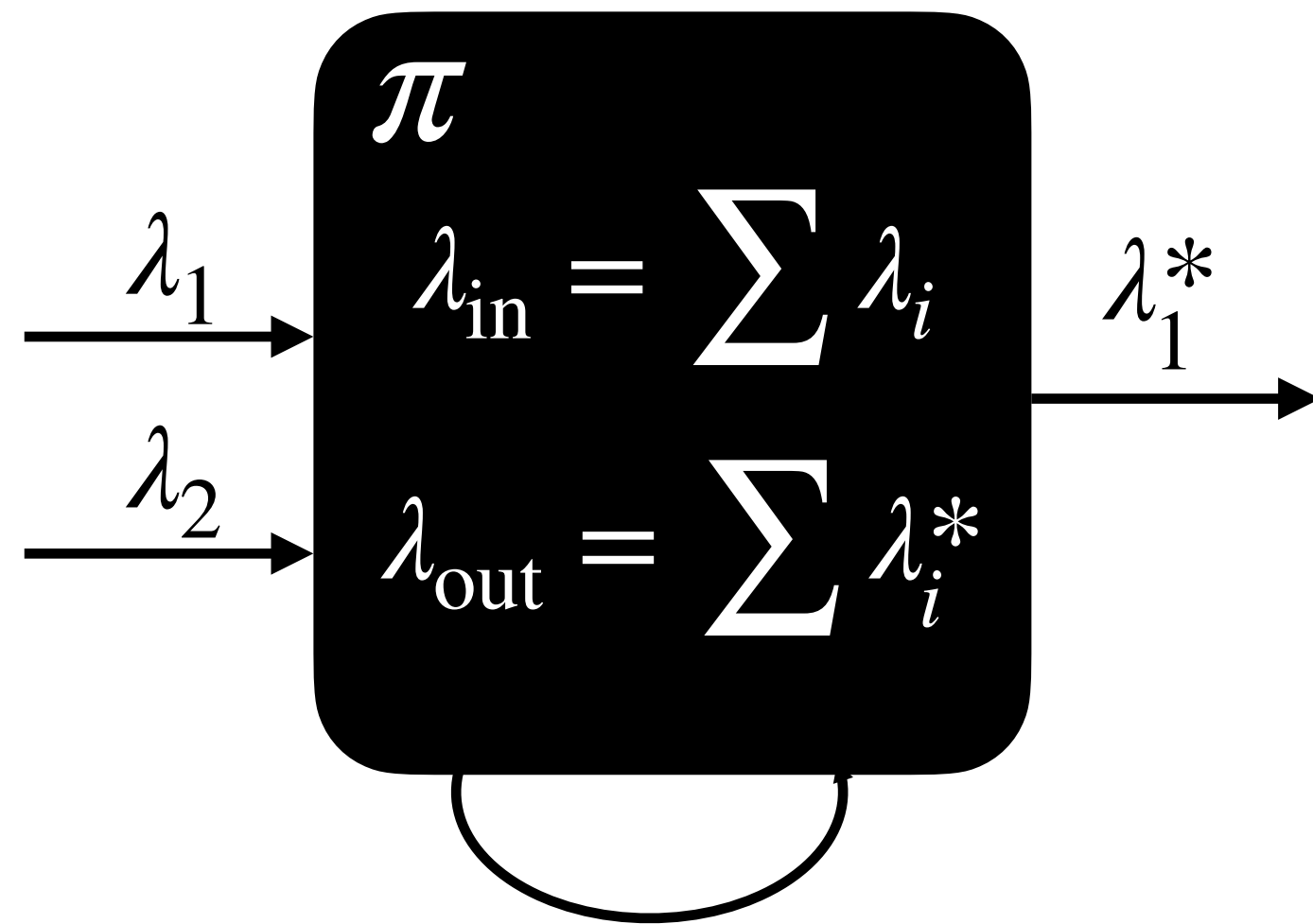


$$\text{time}(\pi) \leq p(\lambda_{\text{in}} - \lambda_{\text{out}})$$

UC with Budgets

Plain UC only models adversaries that are **computationally** bounded using import

We consider adversaries that are **resource** bounded and computationally **unbounded**. We model this introducing budgets

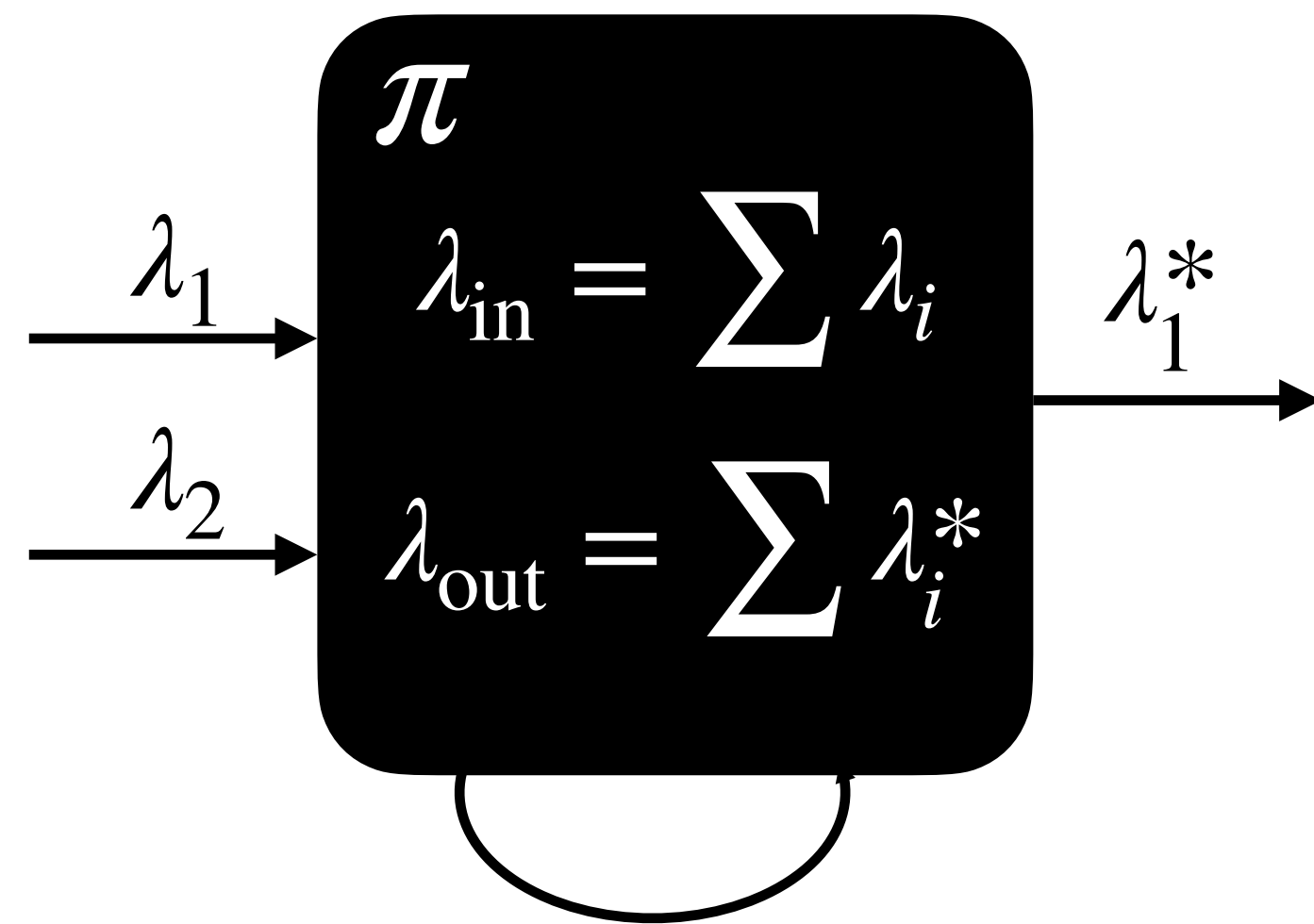


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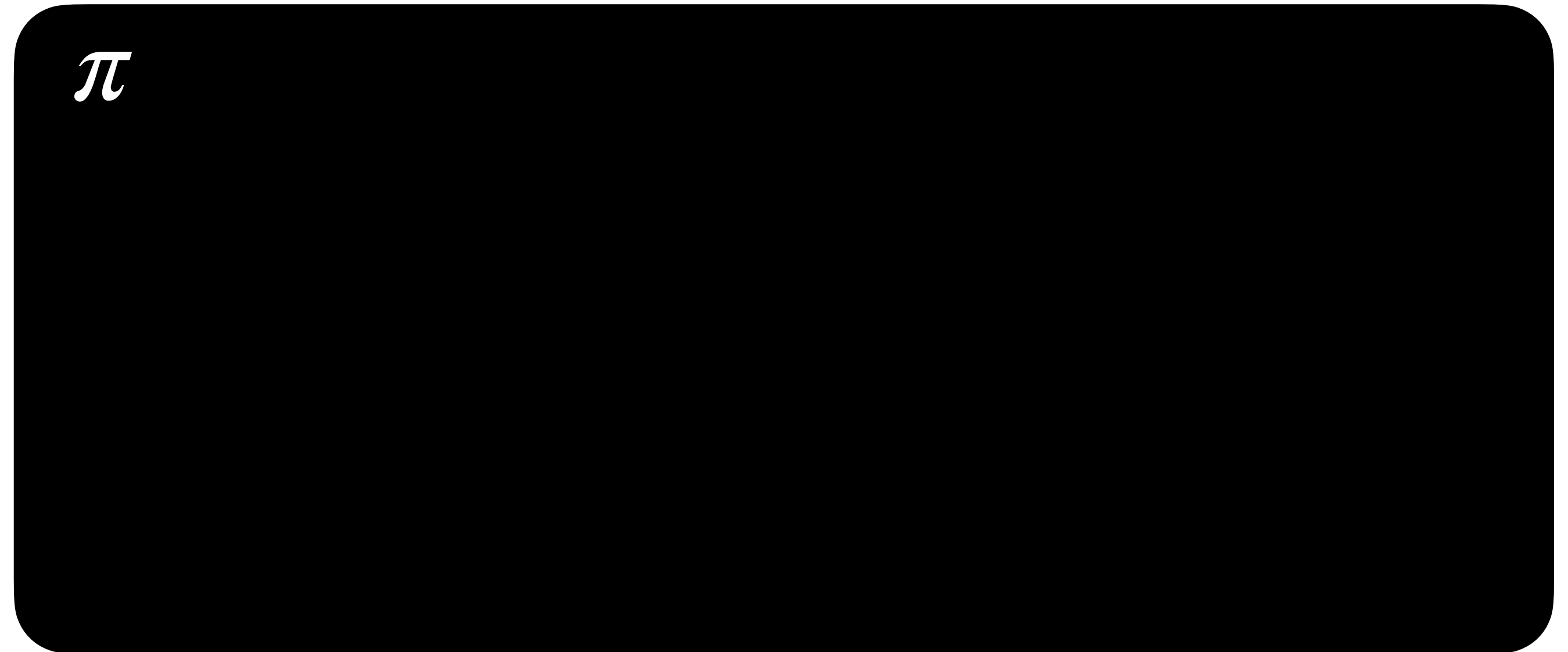
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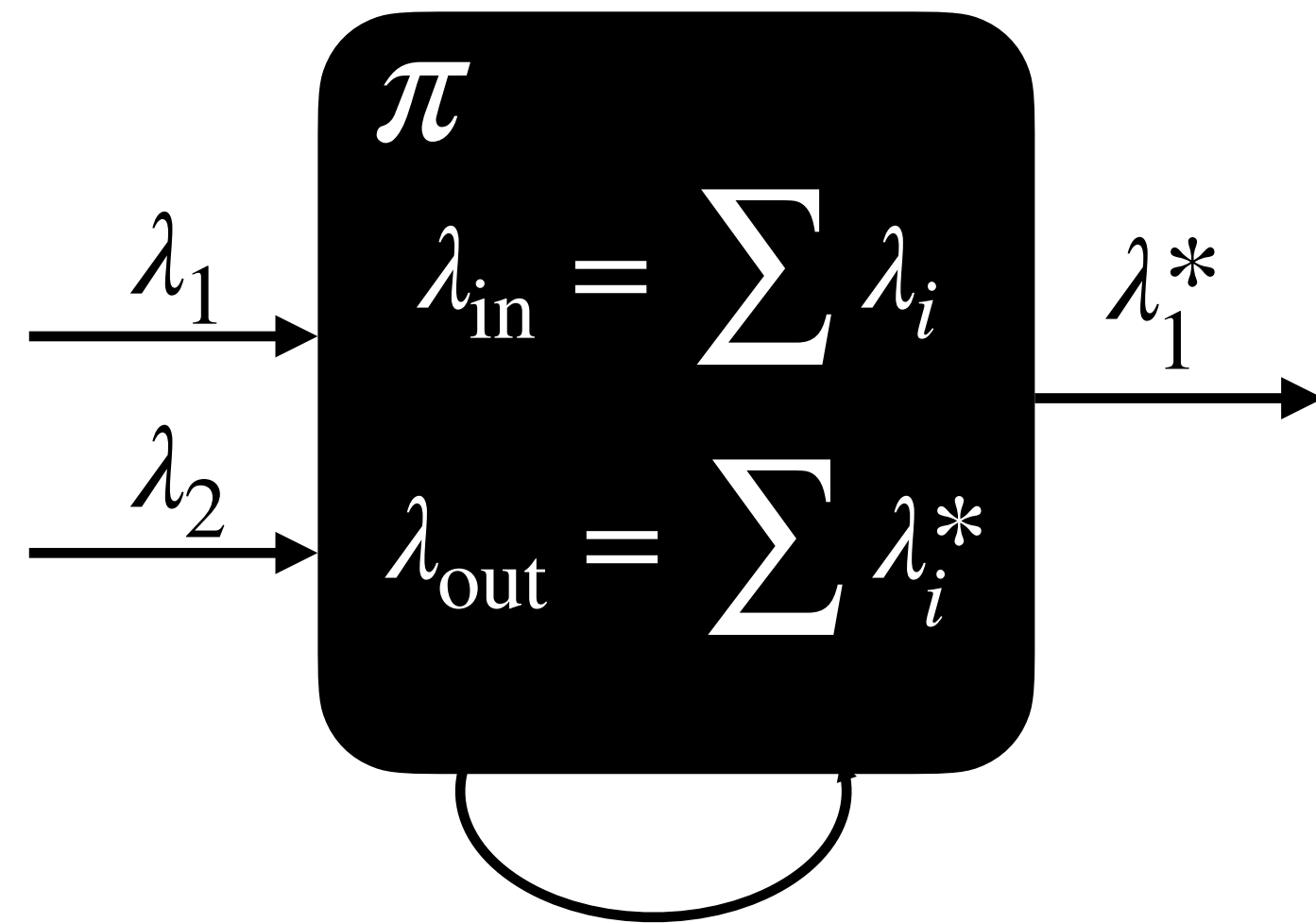
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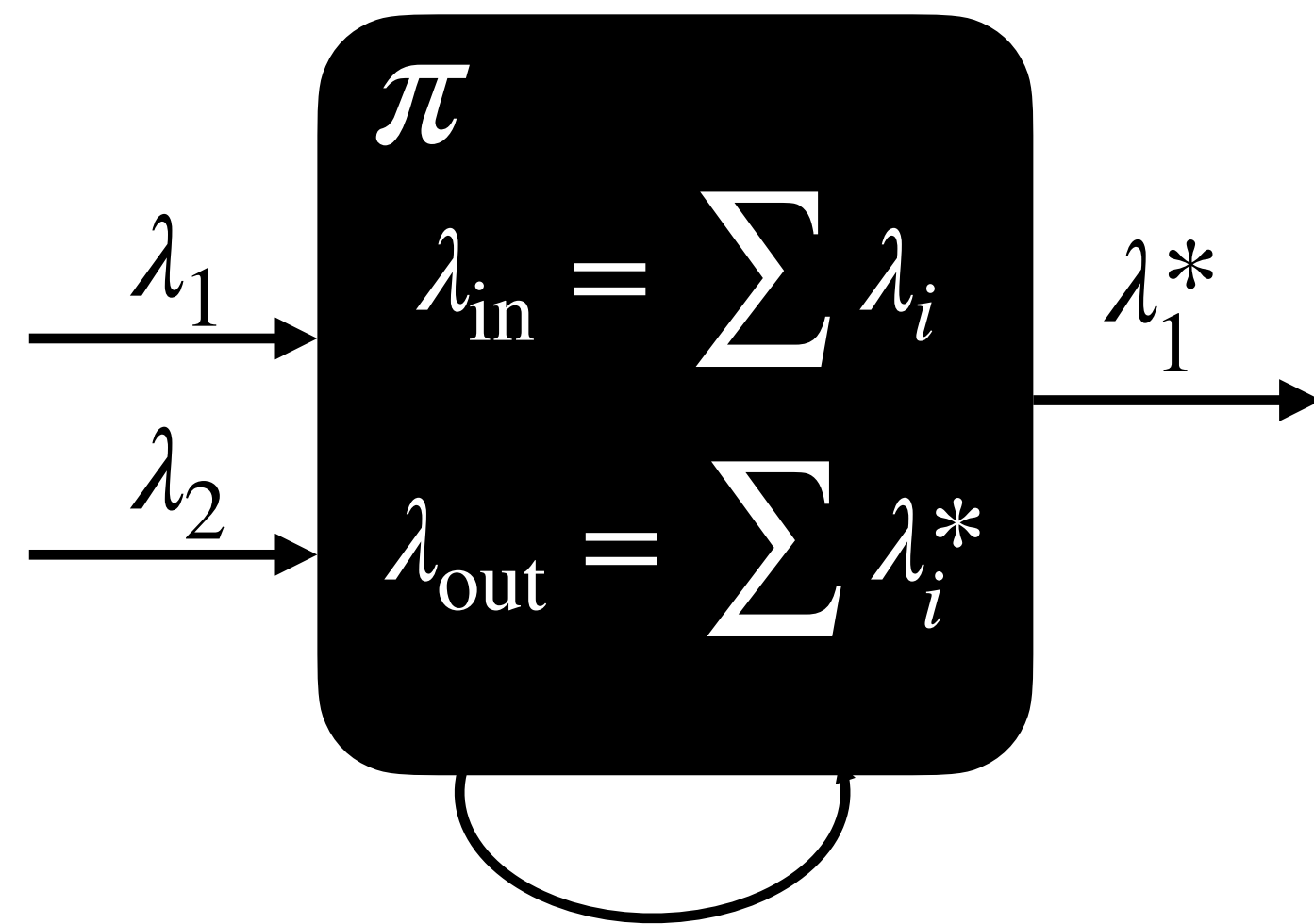
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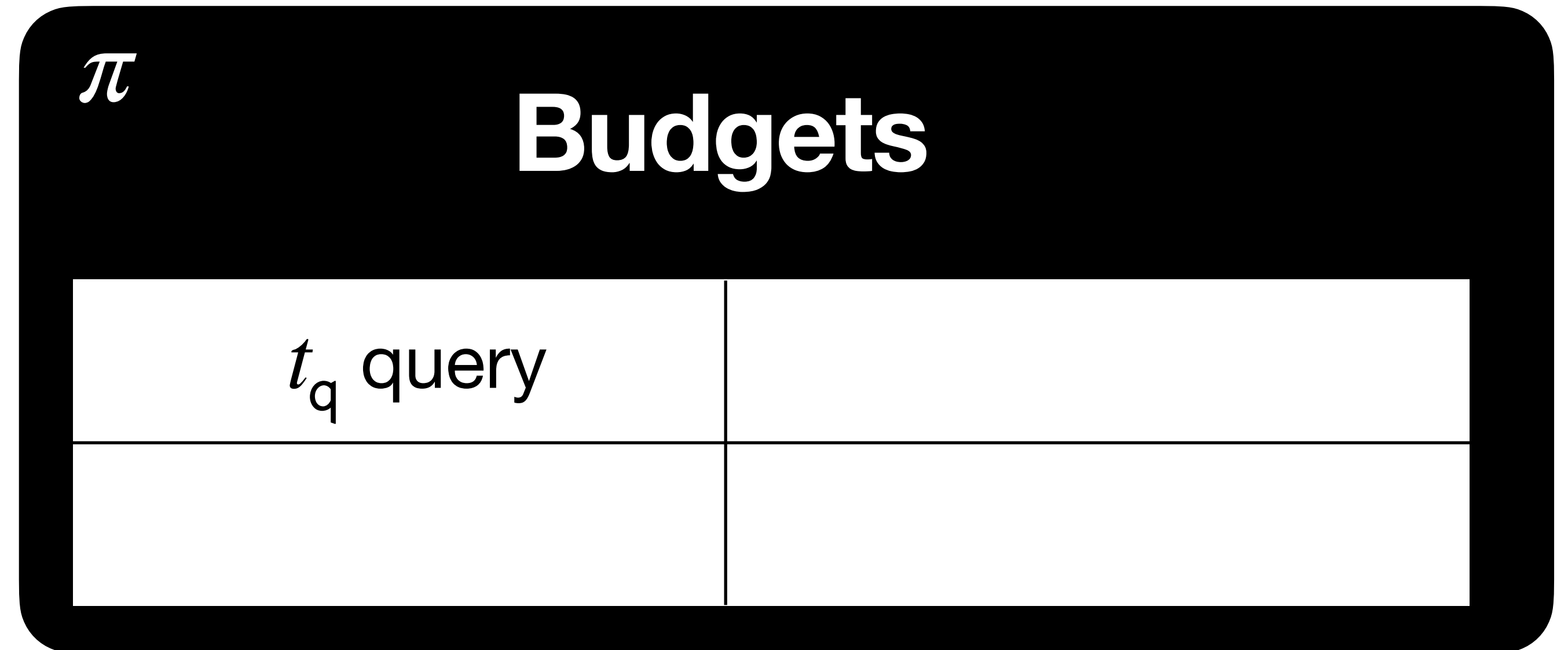
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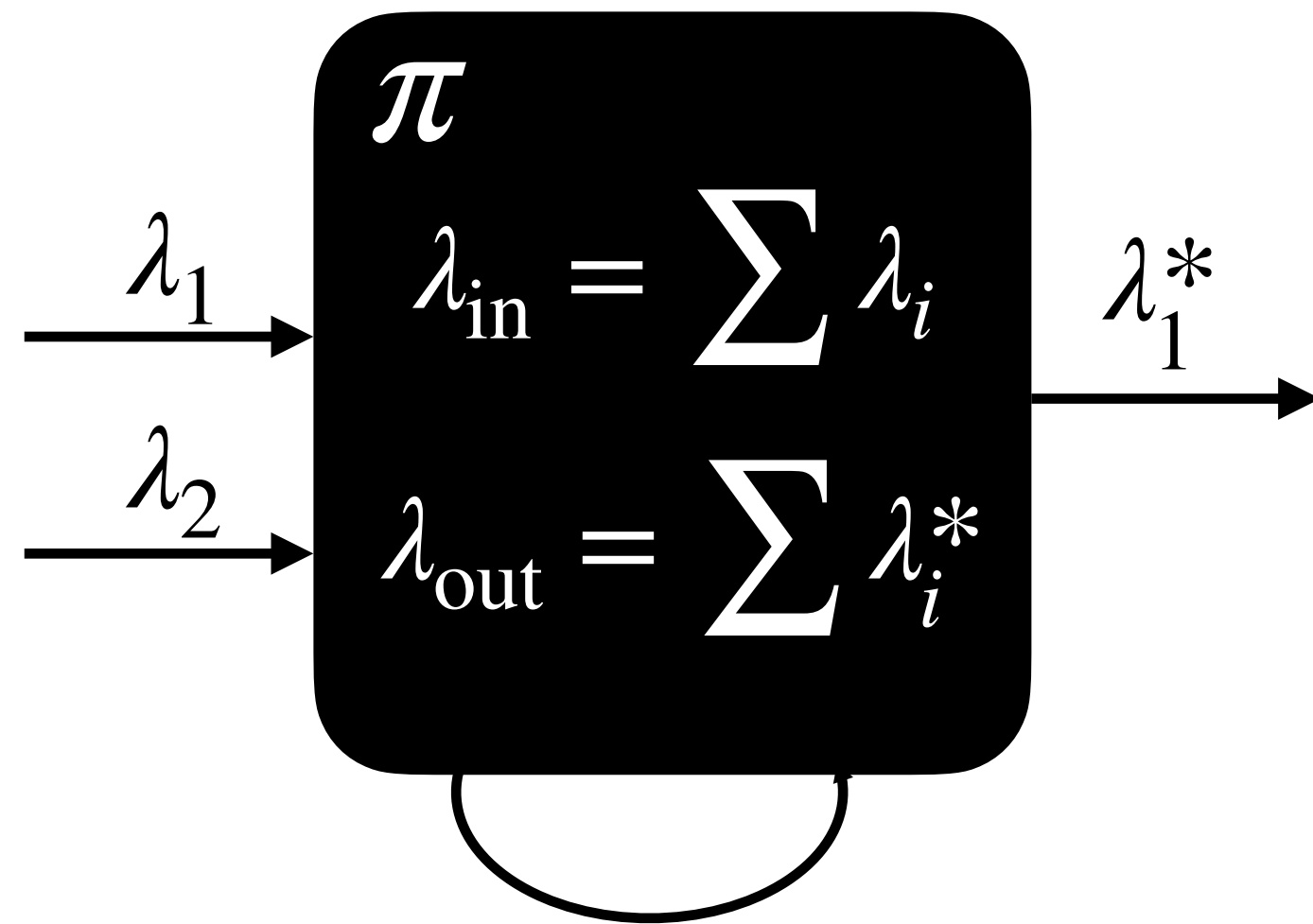
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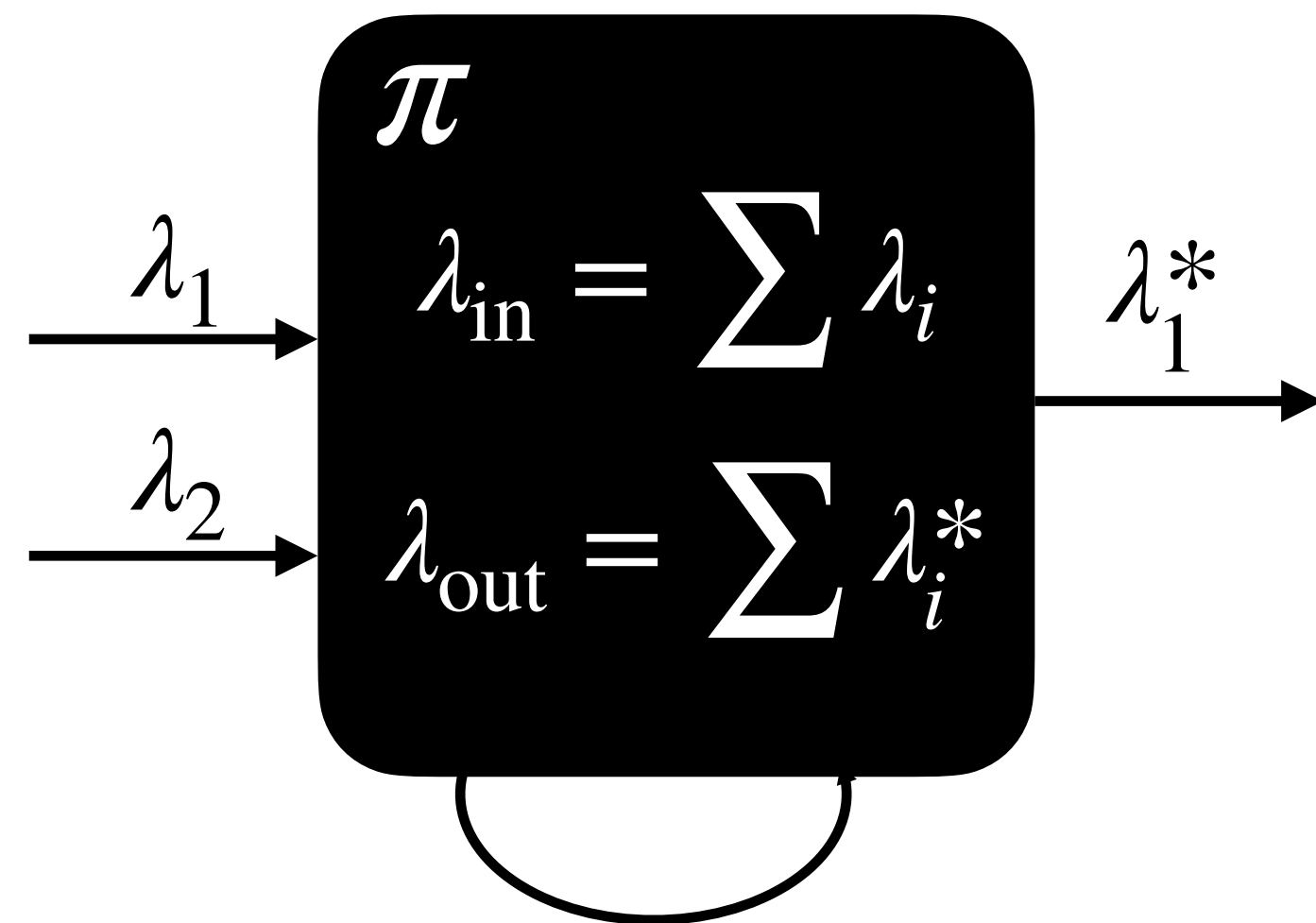
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π Budgets	
t_q query	
t_p programming	

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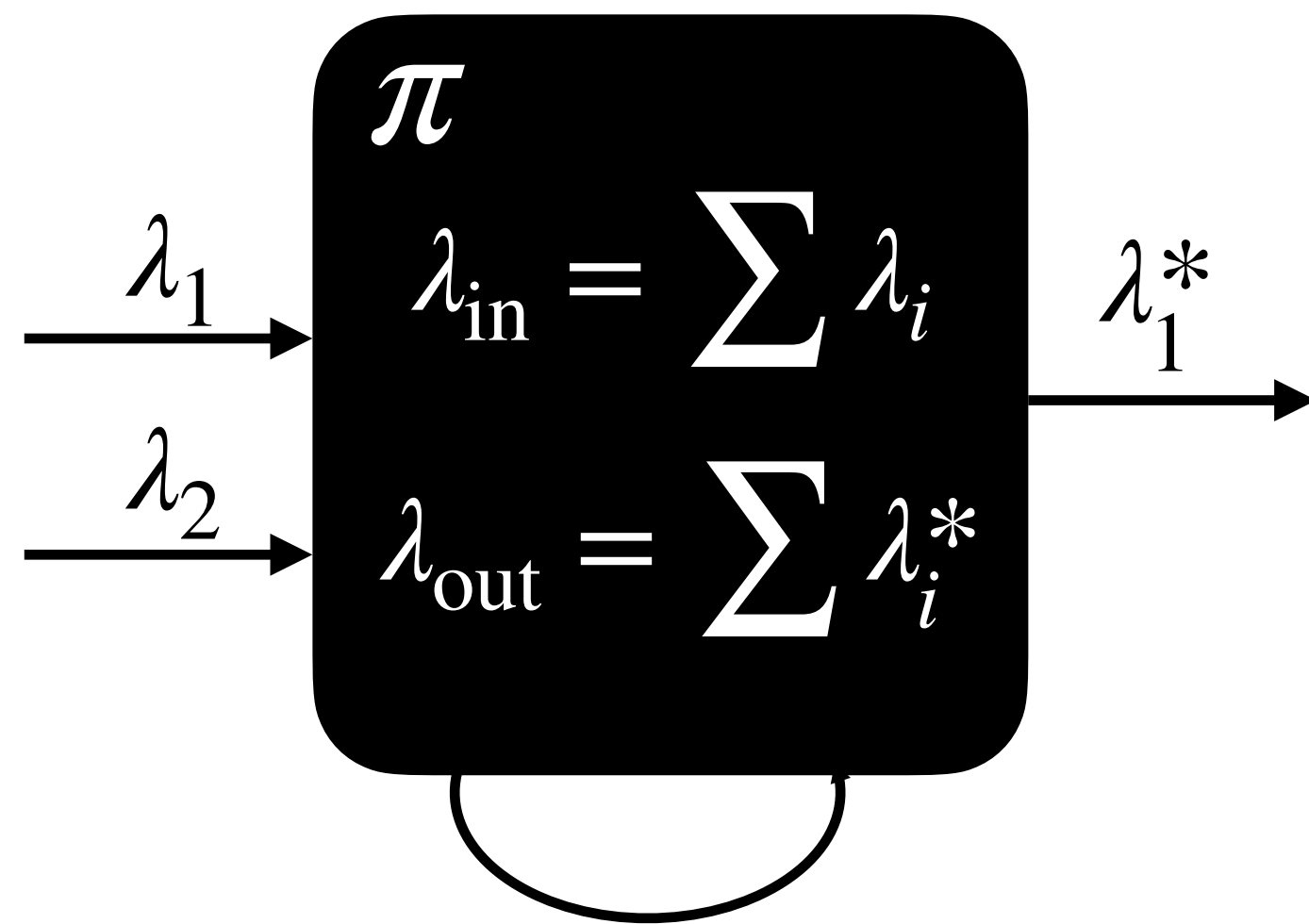
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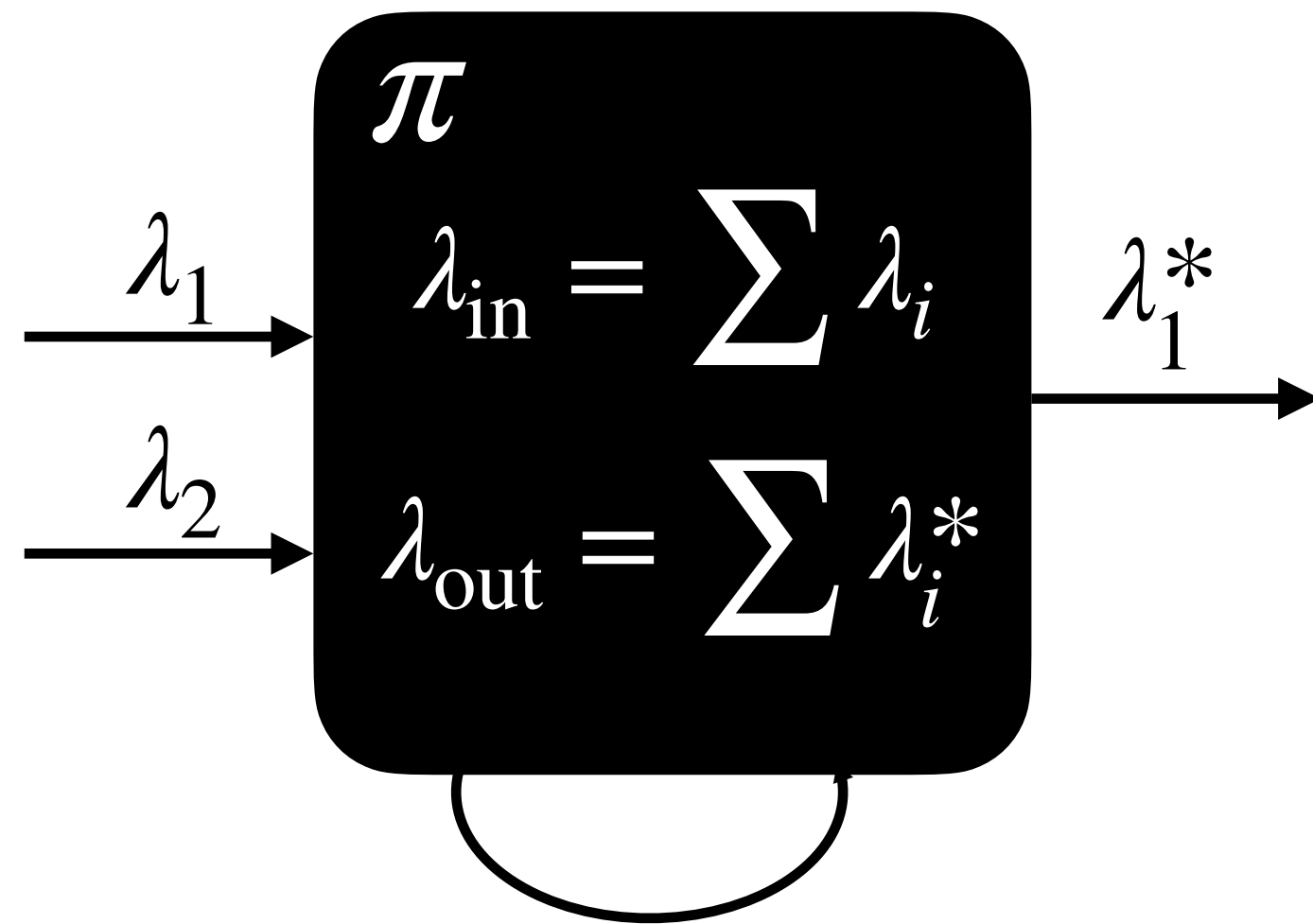
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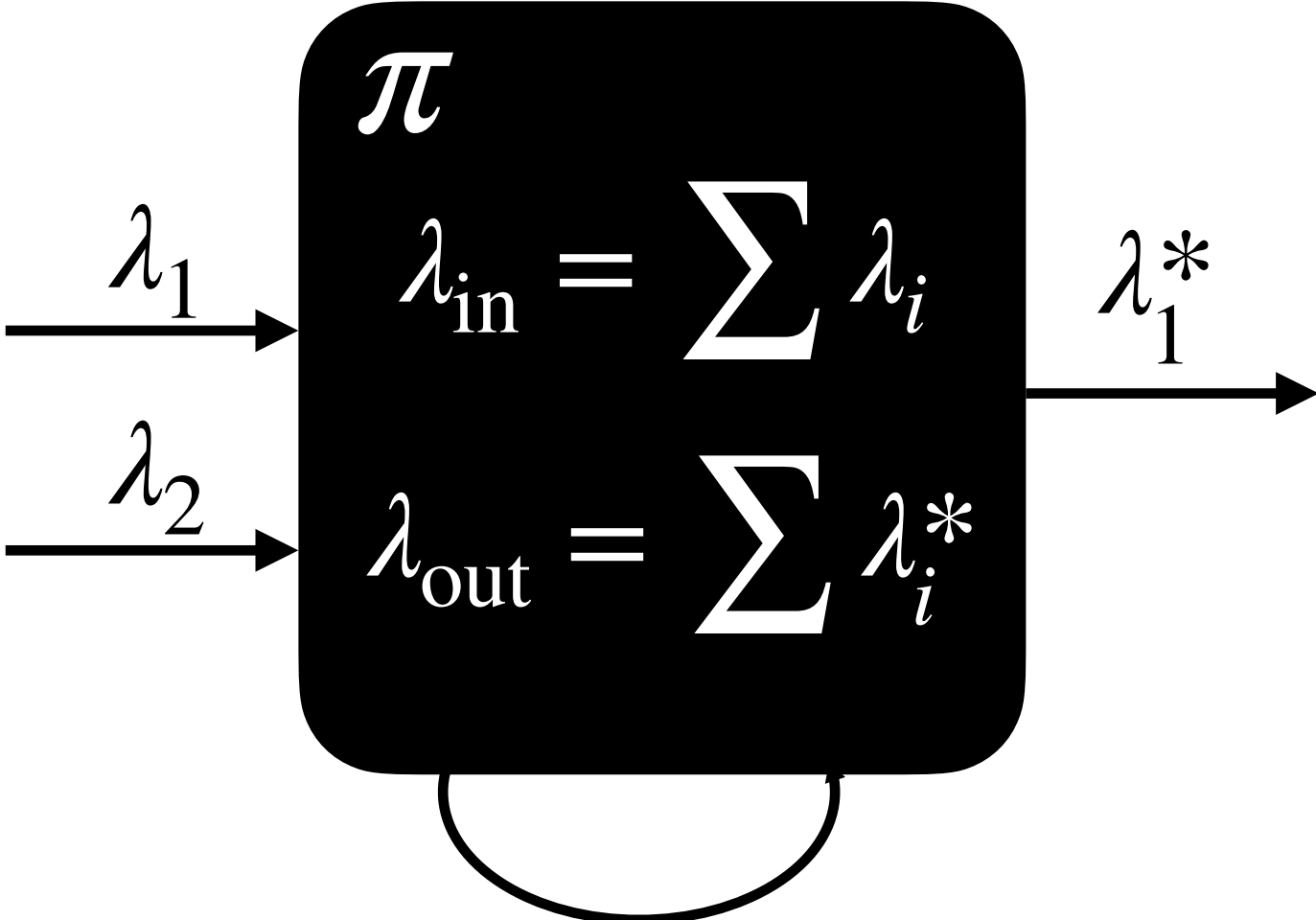
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Budget can then be spent on:

UC with Budgets

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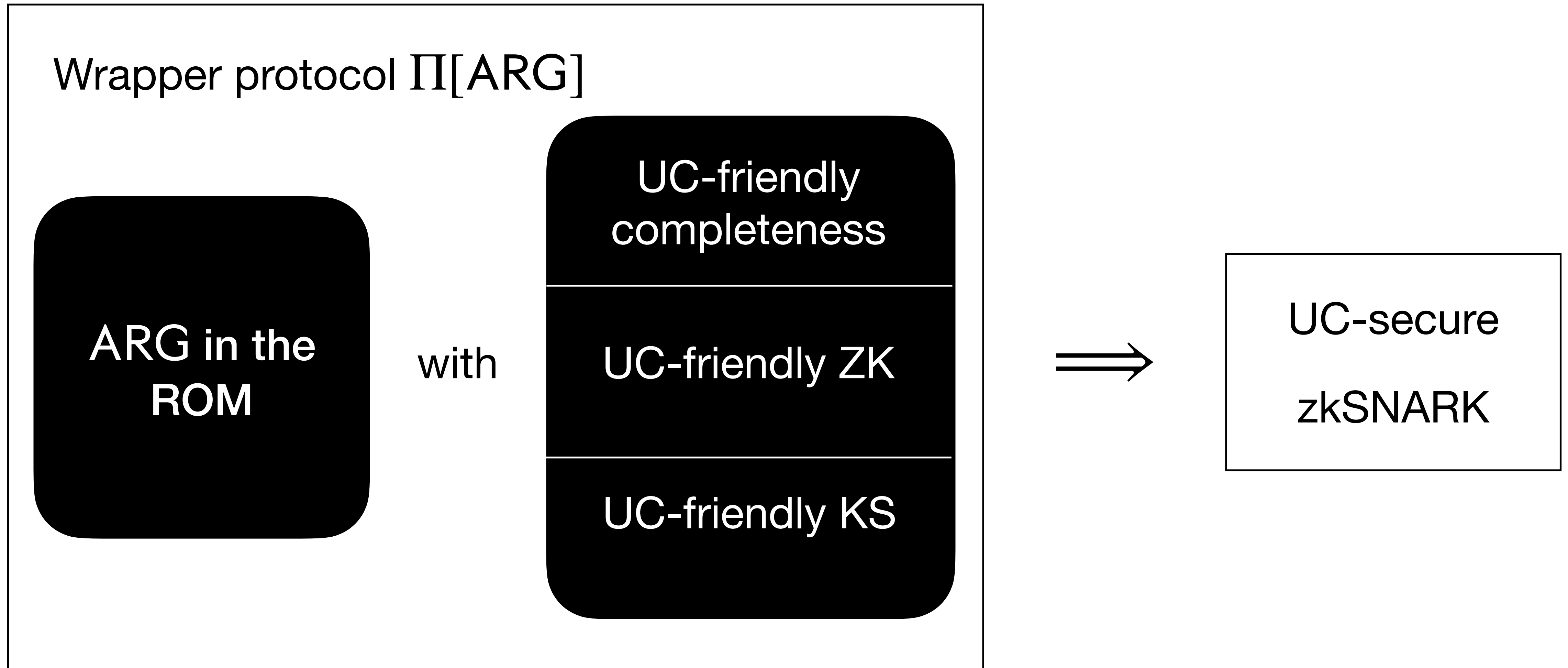
Budget can then be spent on:

GRO

Prove

Verify

Our main lemma



UC-friendly \implies UC-secure

UC-friendly \implies UC-secure

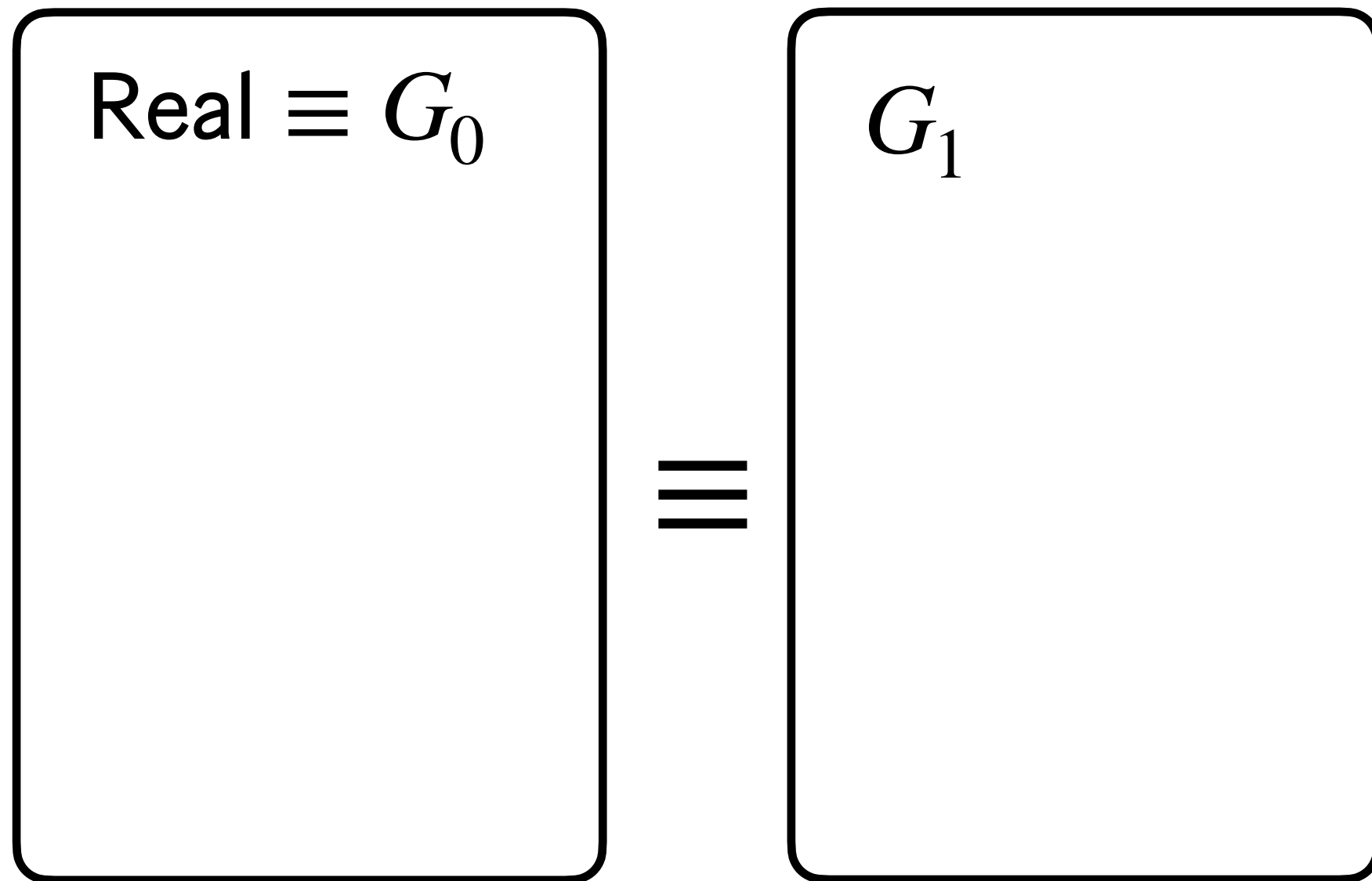
Real $\equiv G_0$

UC-friendly \implies **UC-secure**

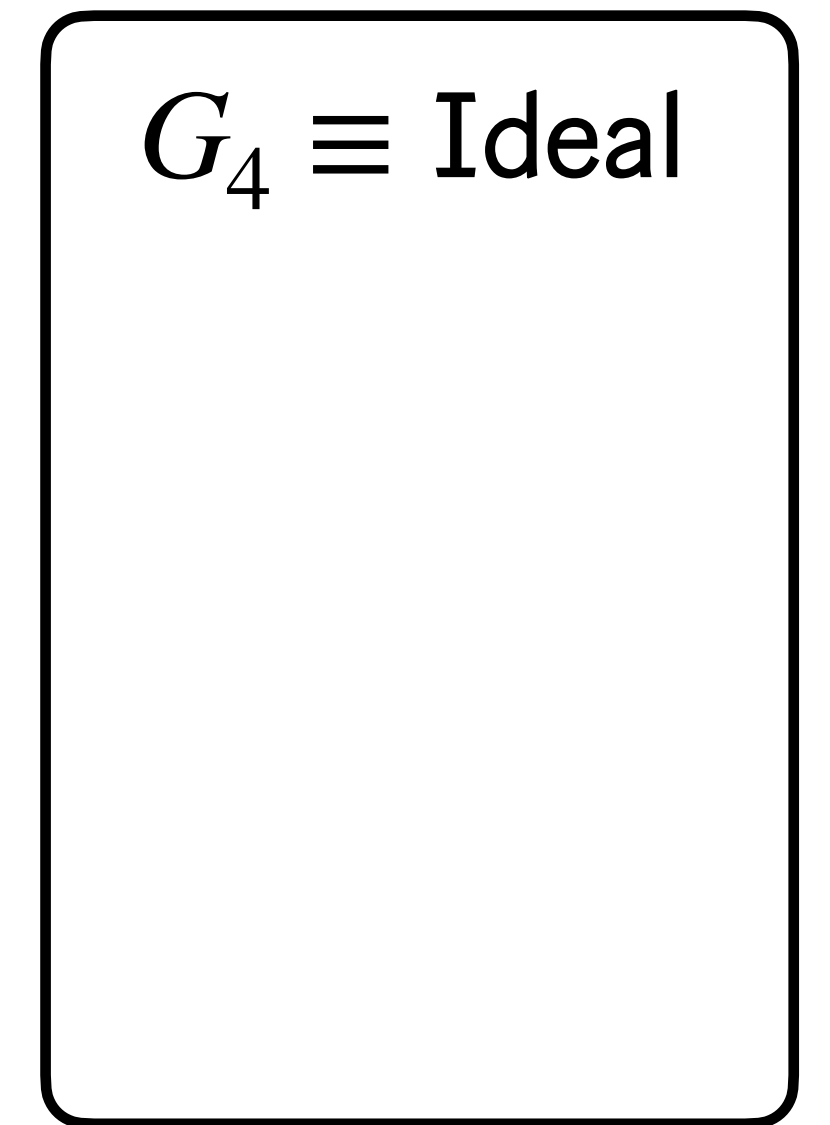
Real $\equiv G_0$

$G_4 \equiv$ Ideal

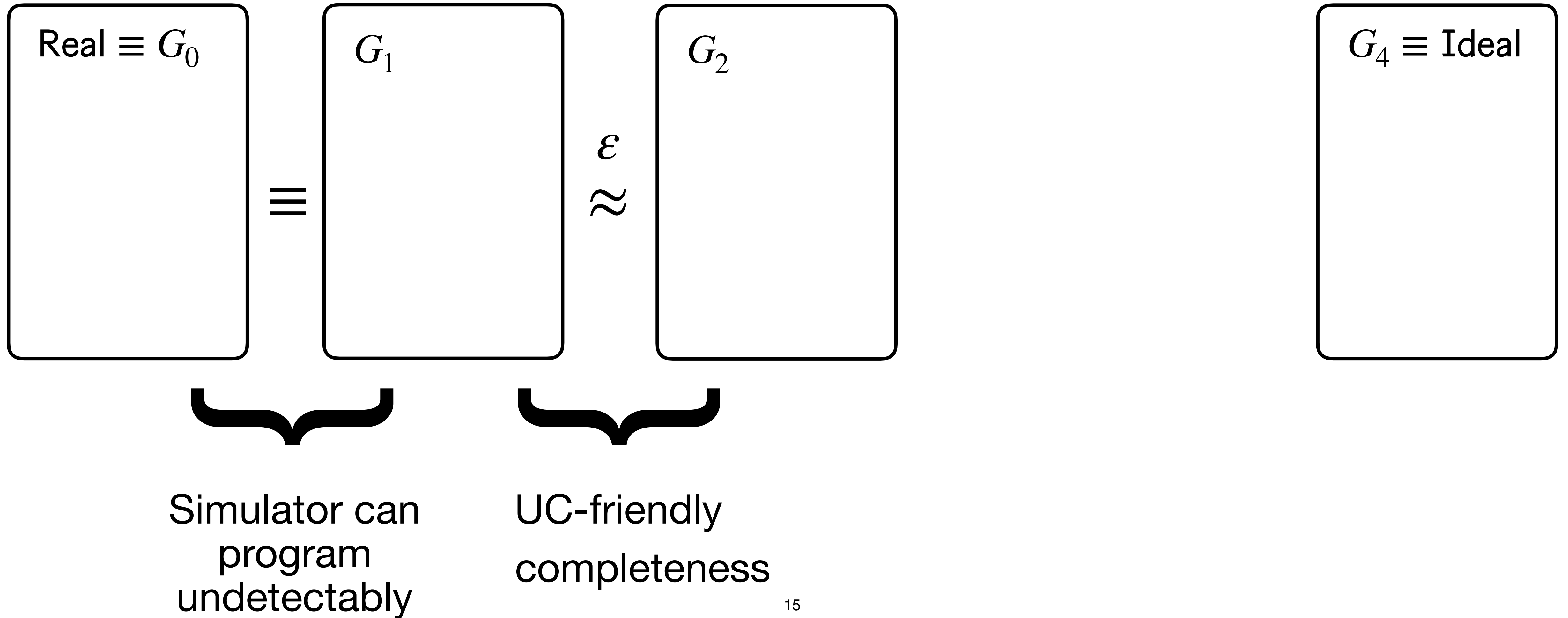
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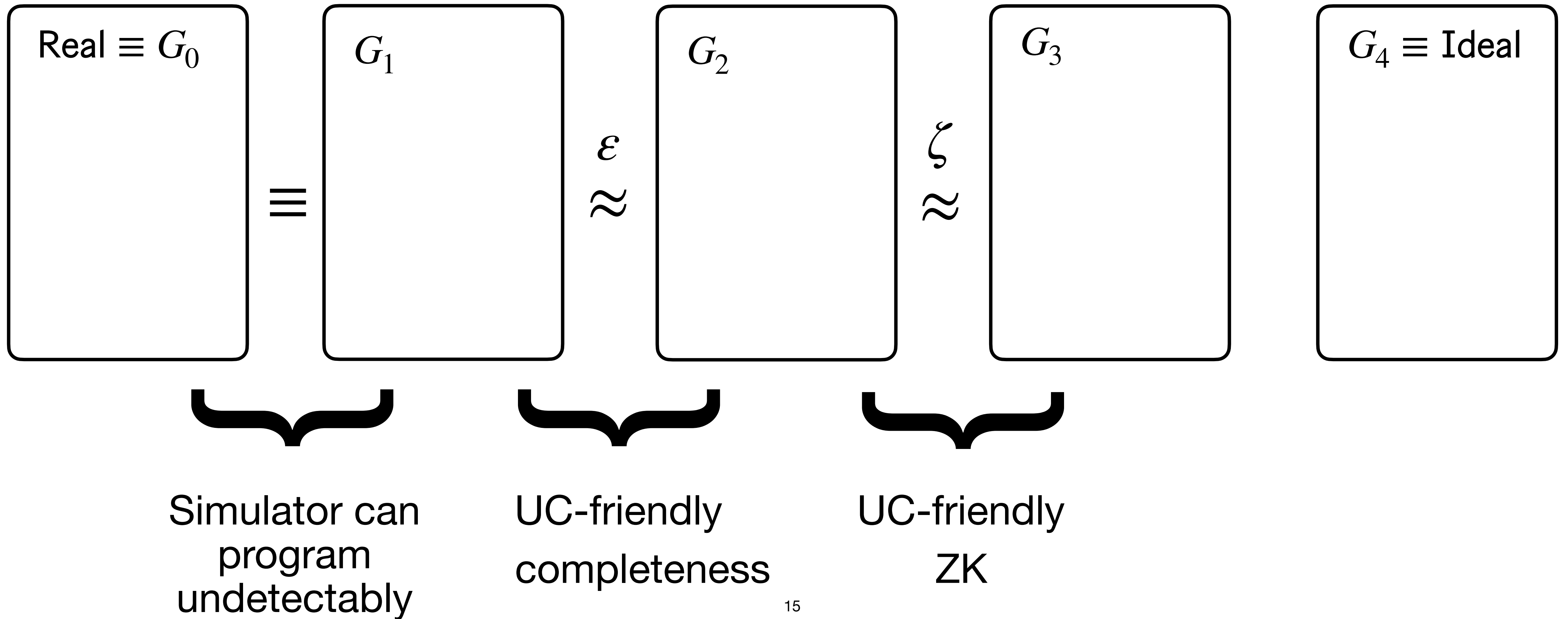
Simulator can
program
undetectably



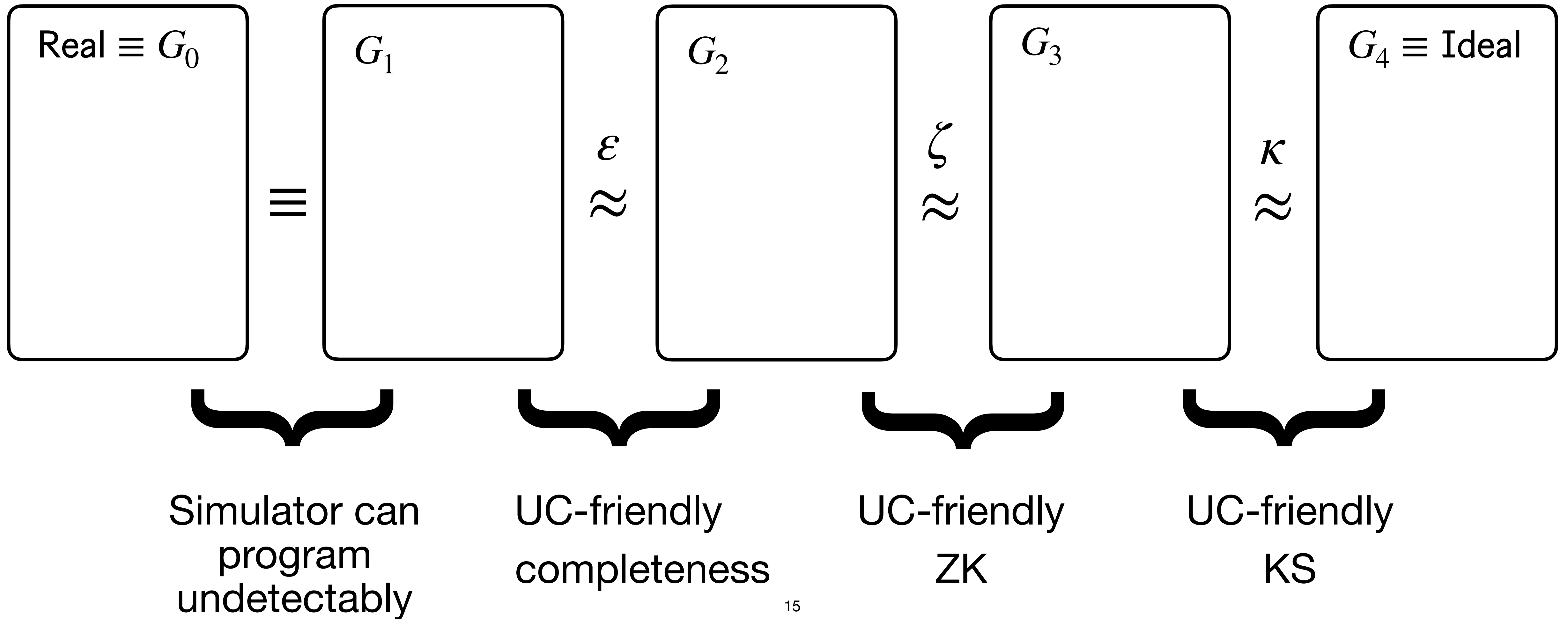
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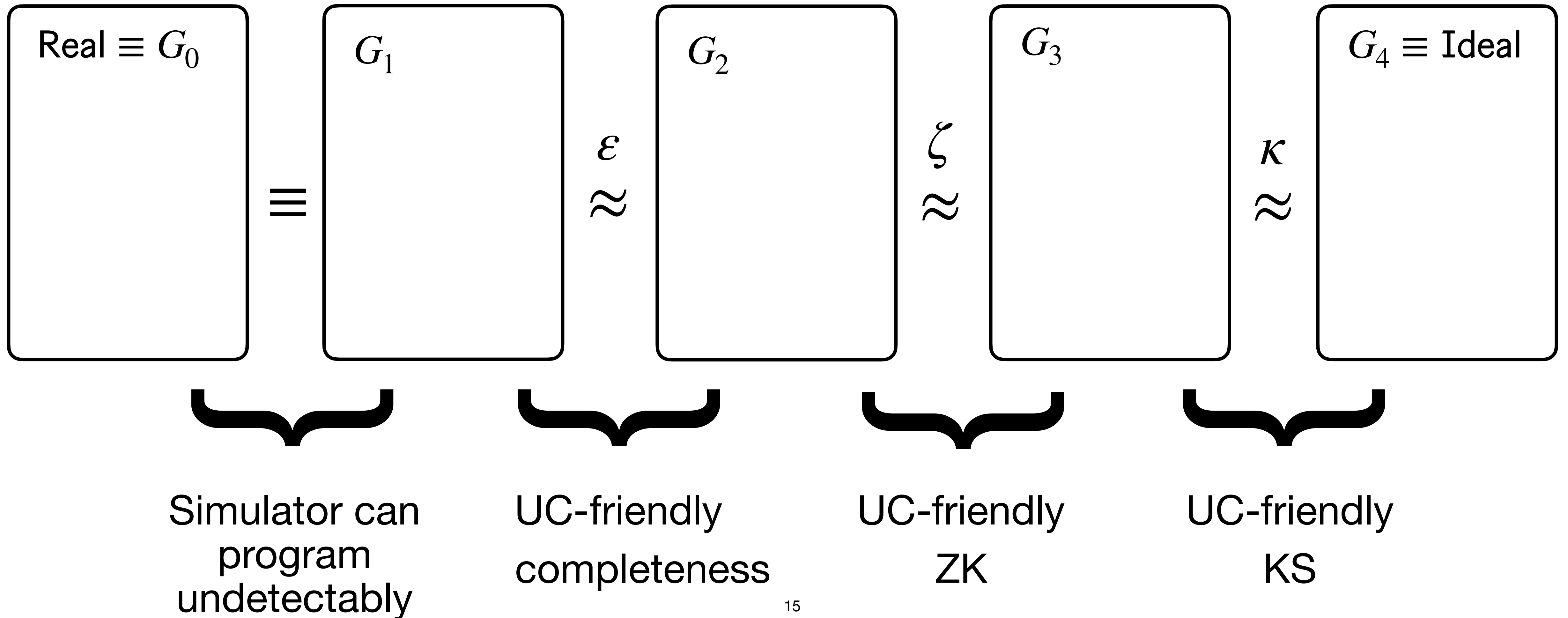


UC-friendly \implies UC-secure



UC-friendly \implies UC-secure

UC-friendly properties exactly defined for these game hops

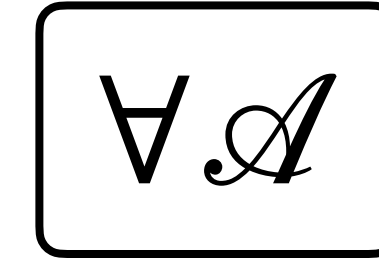


UC-friendly completeness

Adversary should not be able to make honestly generated proofs fail to verify.

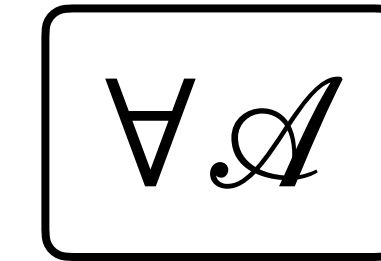
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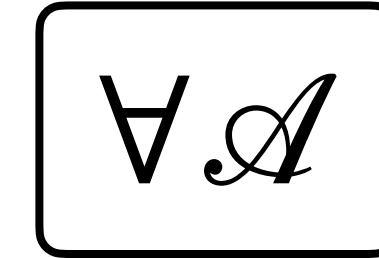
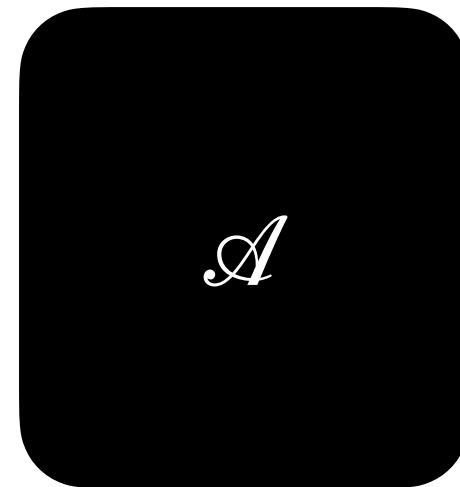
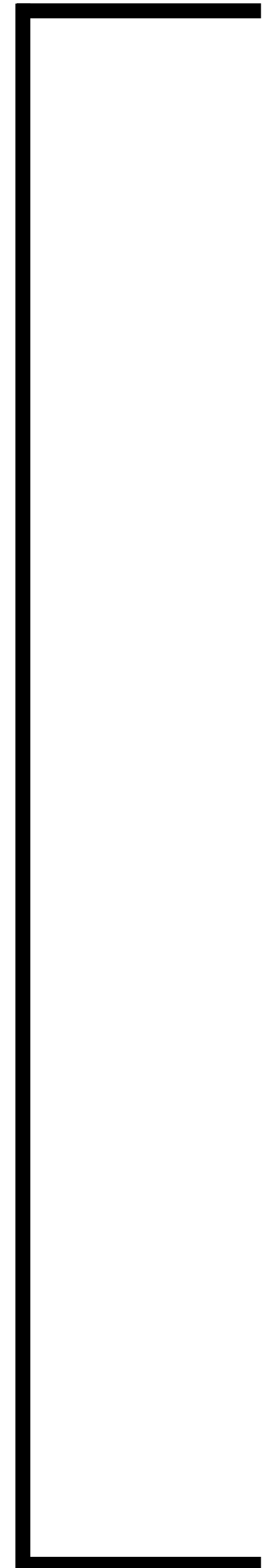


Pr

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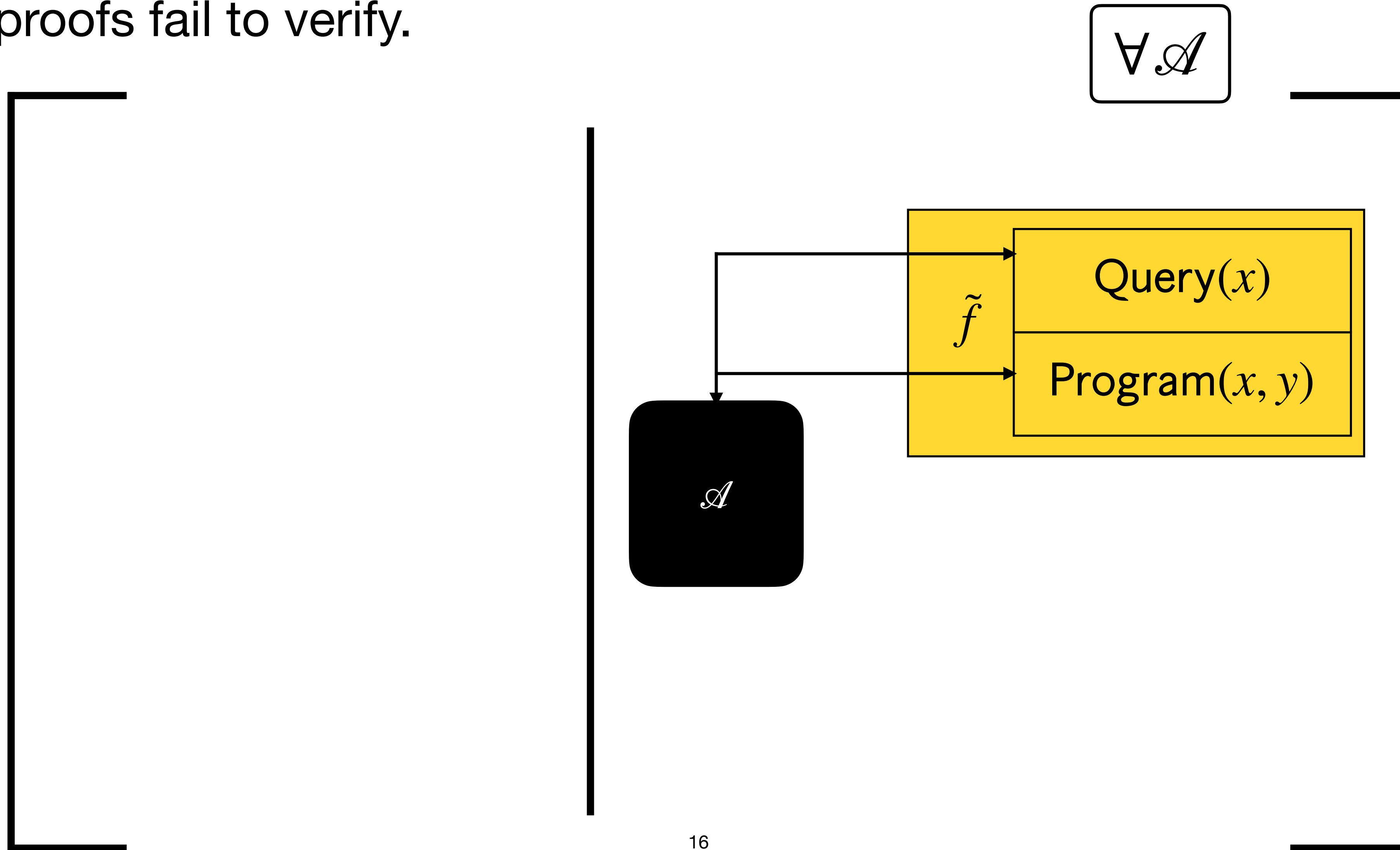
Pr



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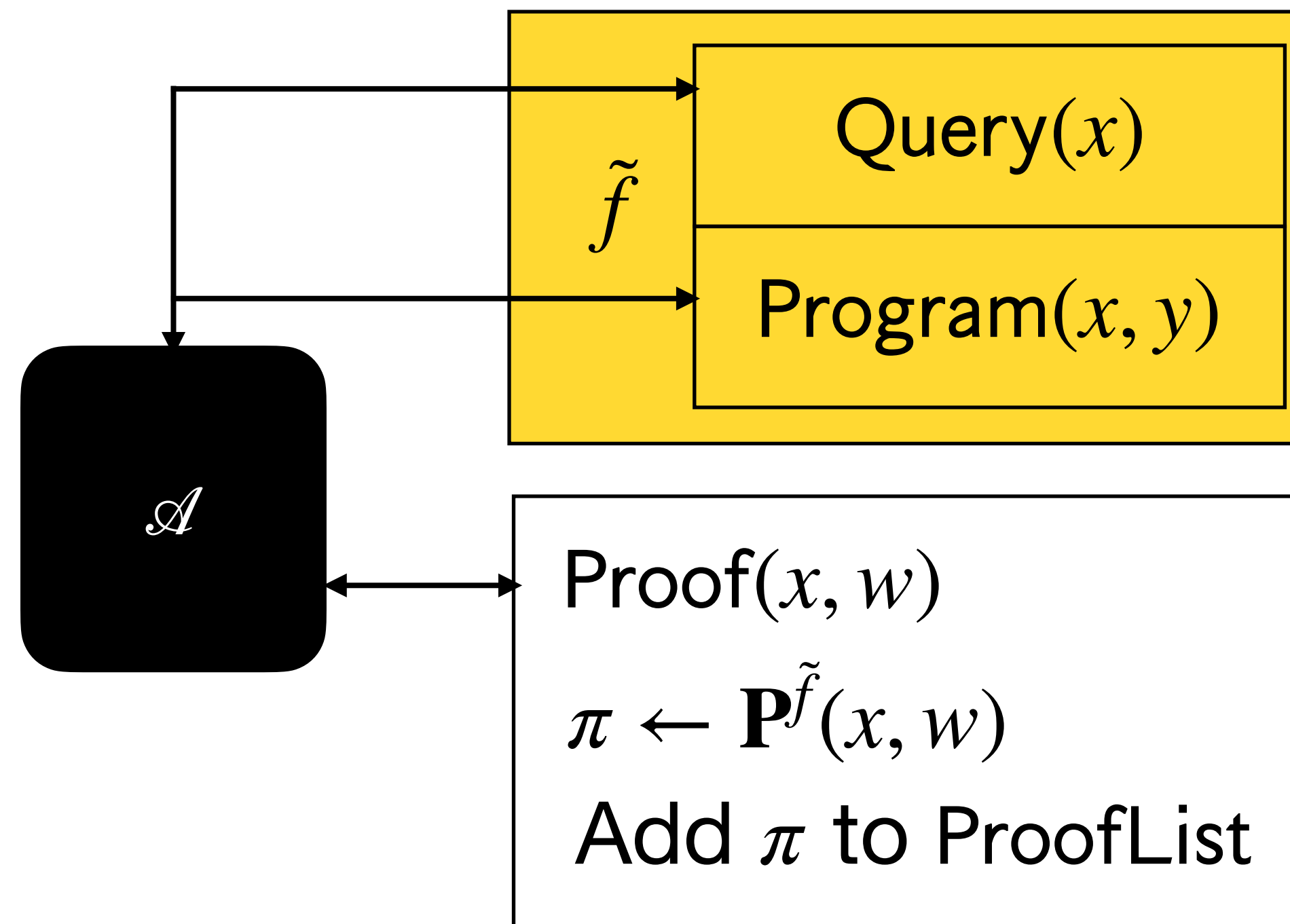


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$\forall \mathcal{A}$

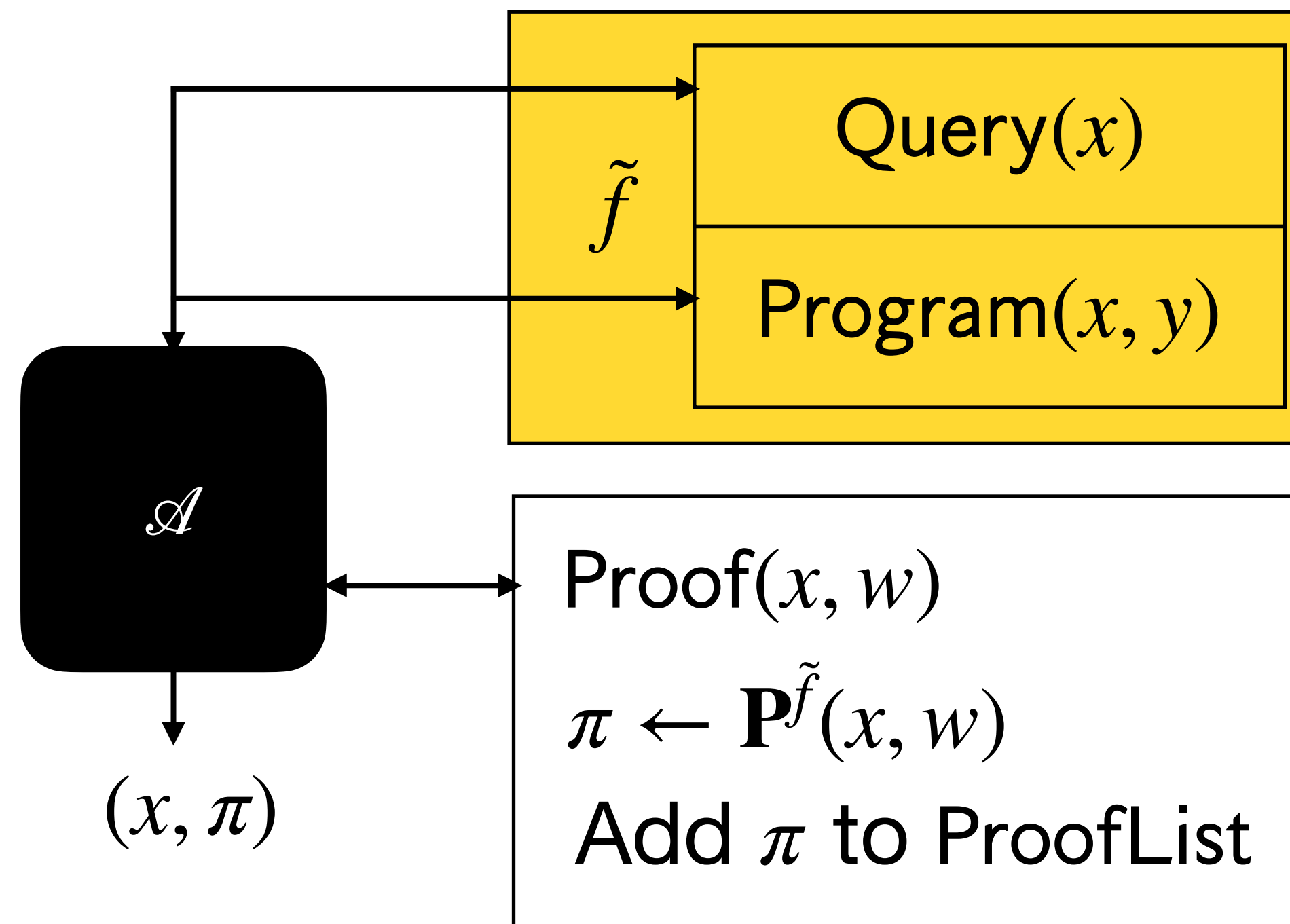


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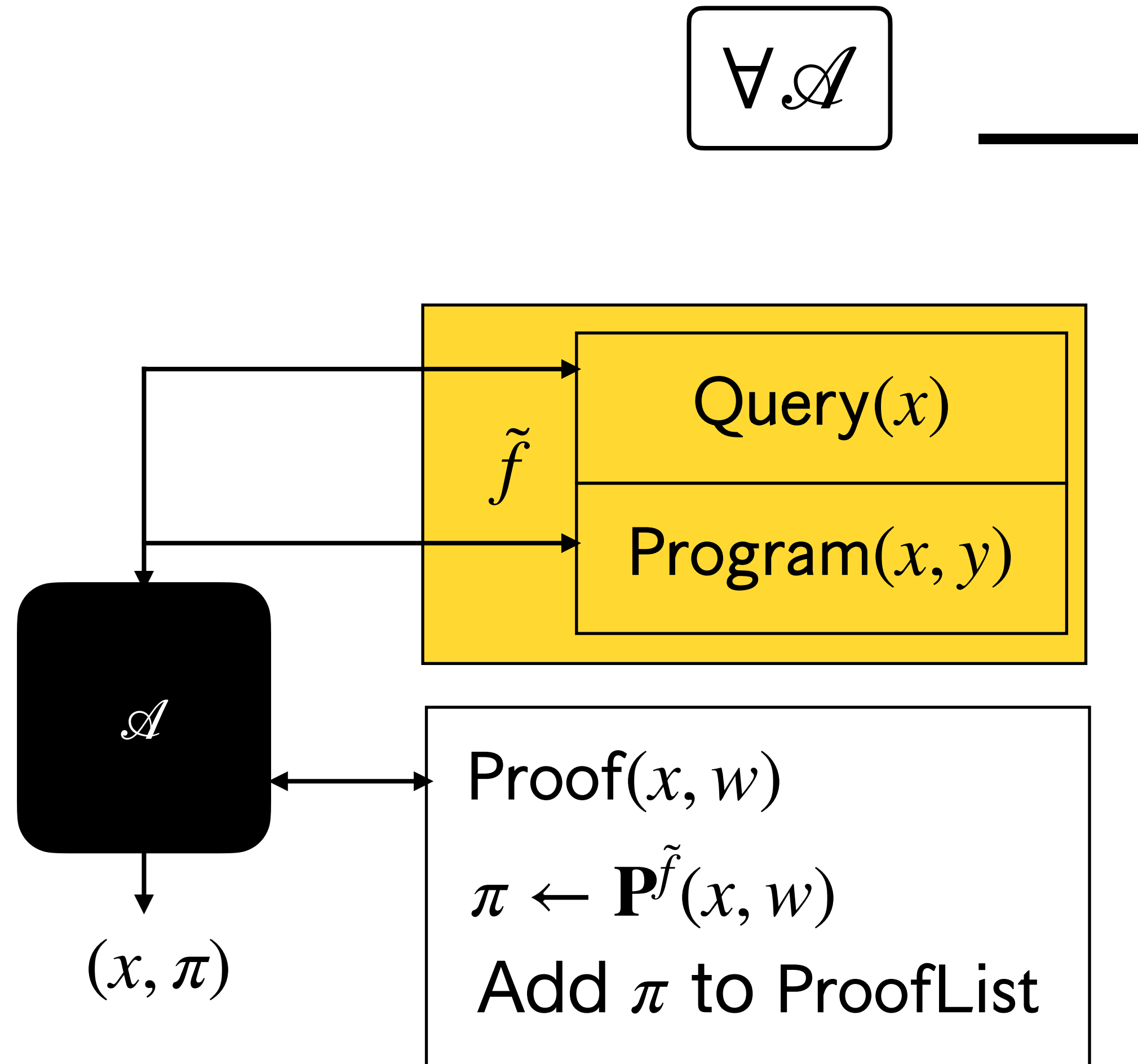


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Pr

$(x, \pi) \in \text{ProofList}$
and



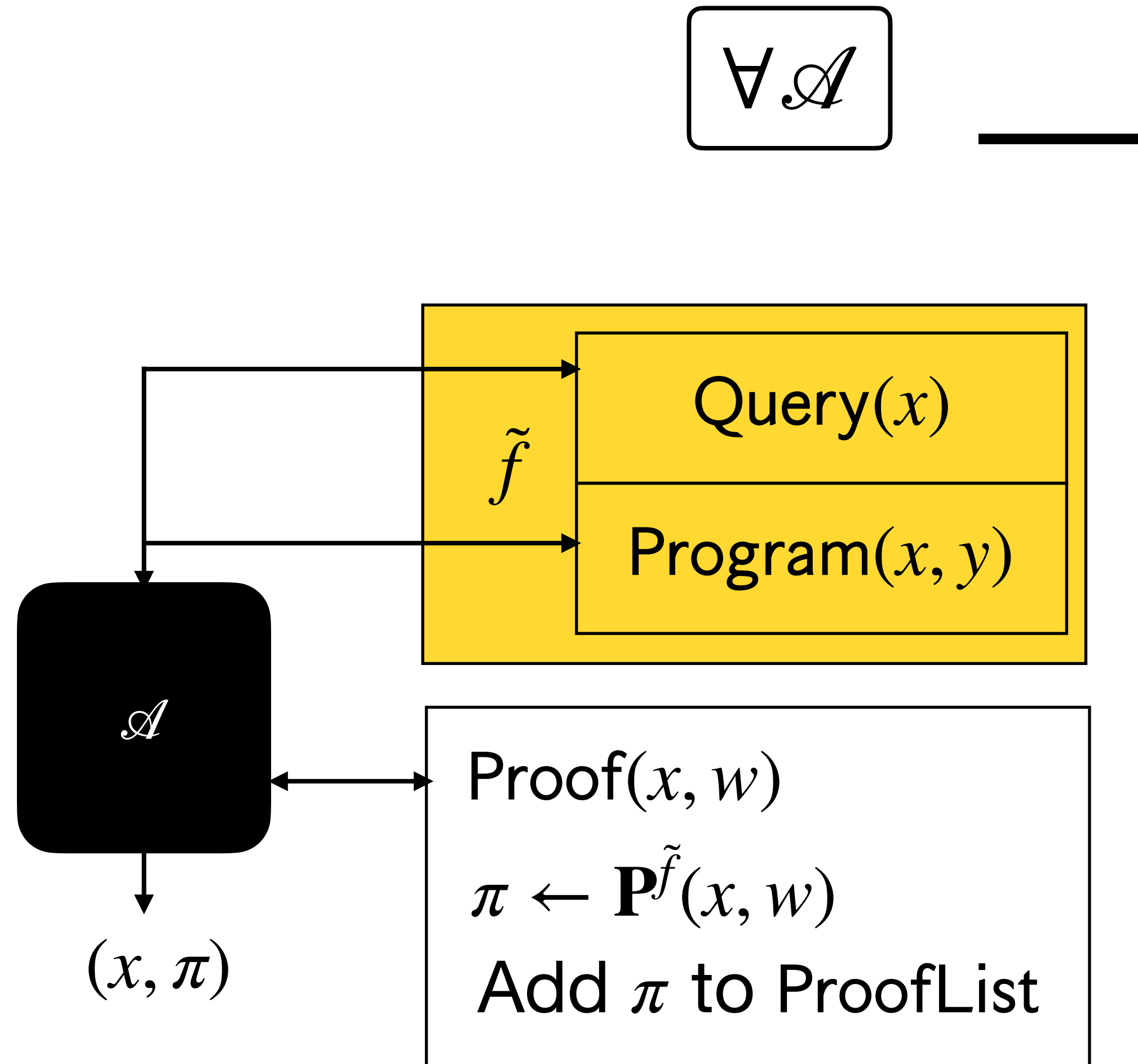
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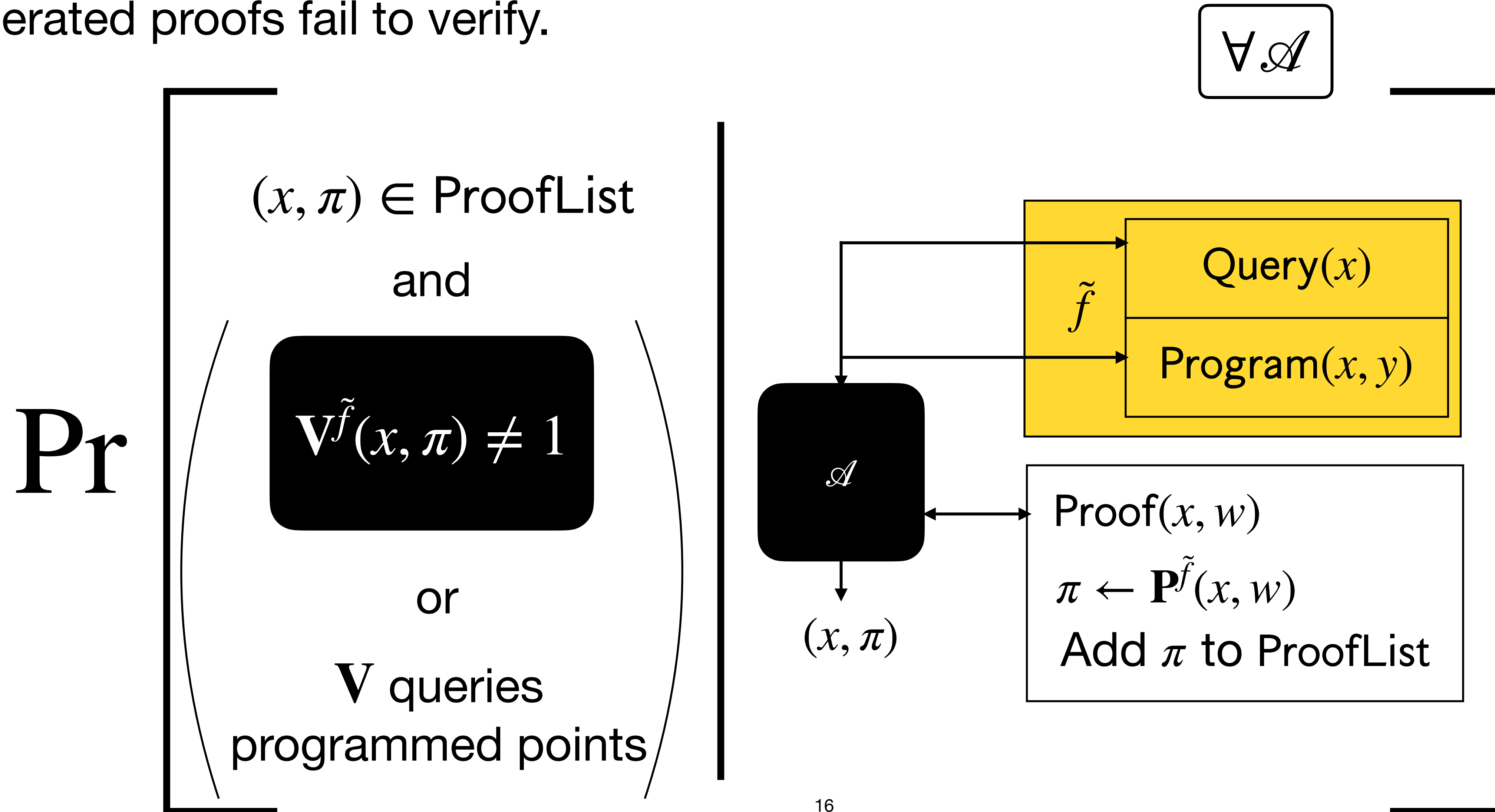
$(x, \pi) \in \text{ProofList}$
and

$$\forall \tilde{f} (x, \pi) \neq 1$$



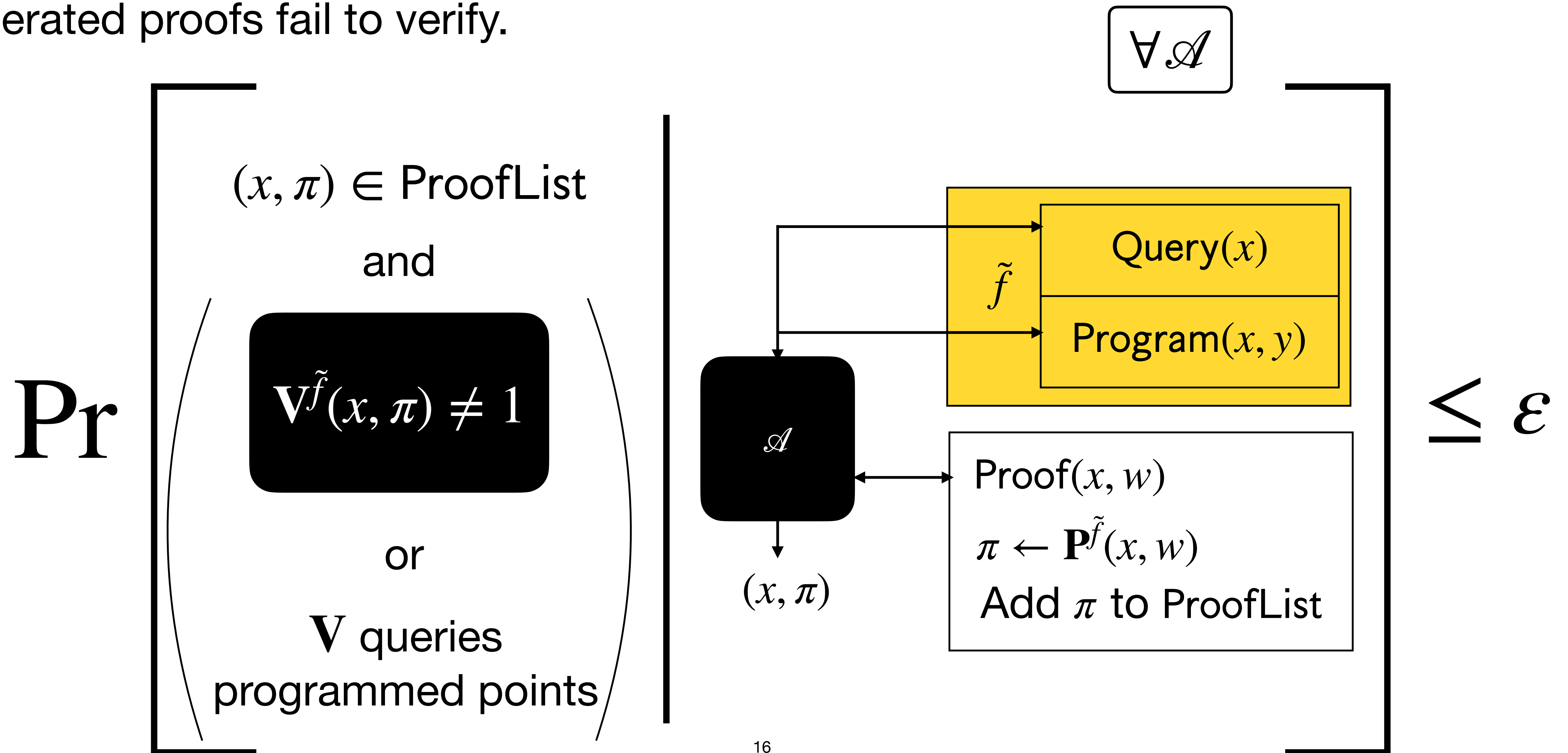
UC-friendly completeness

Adversary should not be able to make honestly generated proofs fail to verify.



UC-friendly completeness

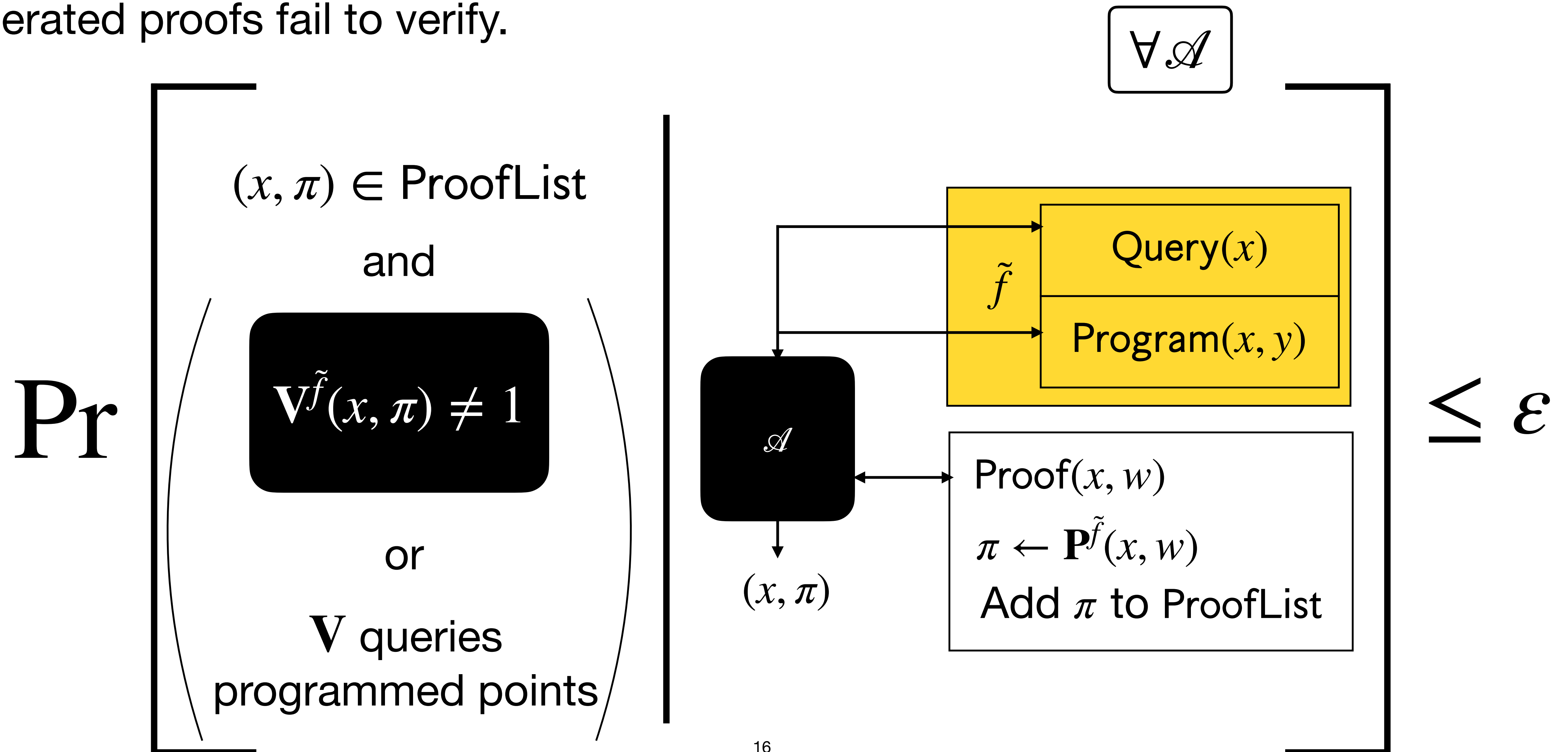
Adversary should not be able to make honestly generated proofs fail to verify.



UC-friendly completeness

Adversary should not be able to make honestly generated proofs fail to verify.

Micali has UC-friendly completeness because queries to GROM are unpredictable!



UC-friendly ZK

Adversary should not be able to distinguish real and simulated proofs, even with access to a programming oracle.

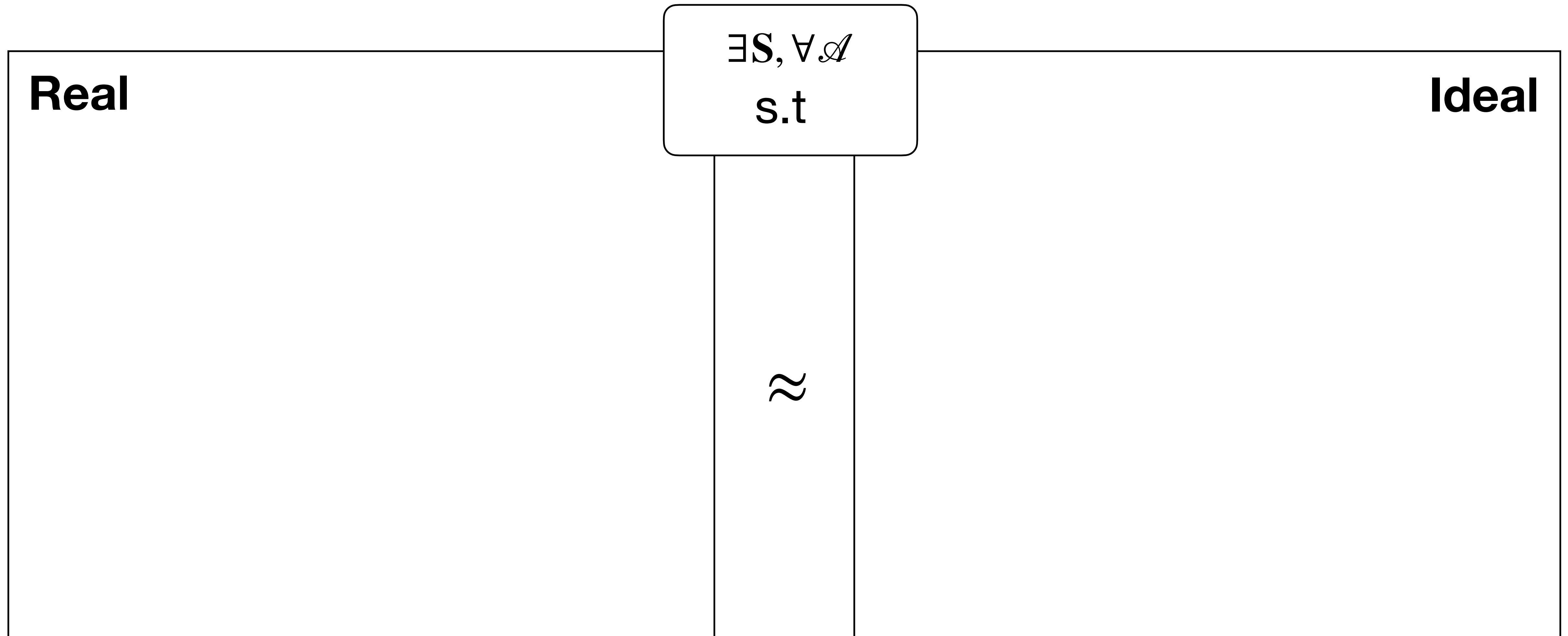
UC-friendly ZK

Adversary should not be able to distinguish real and simulated proofs, even with access to a programming oracle.

$$\exists S, \forall \mathcal{A}$$
$$\text{s.t.}$$

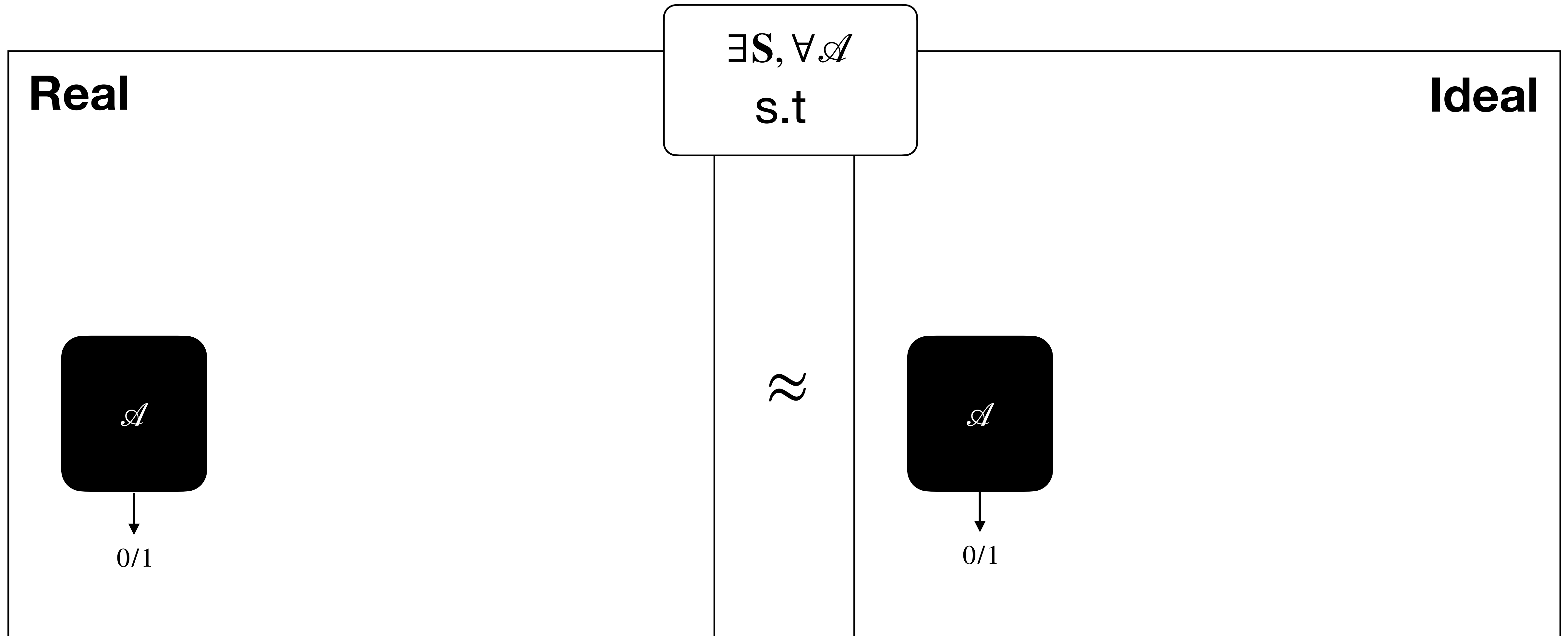
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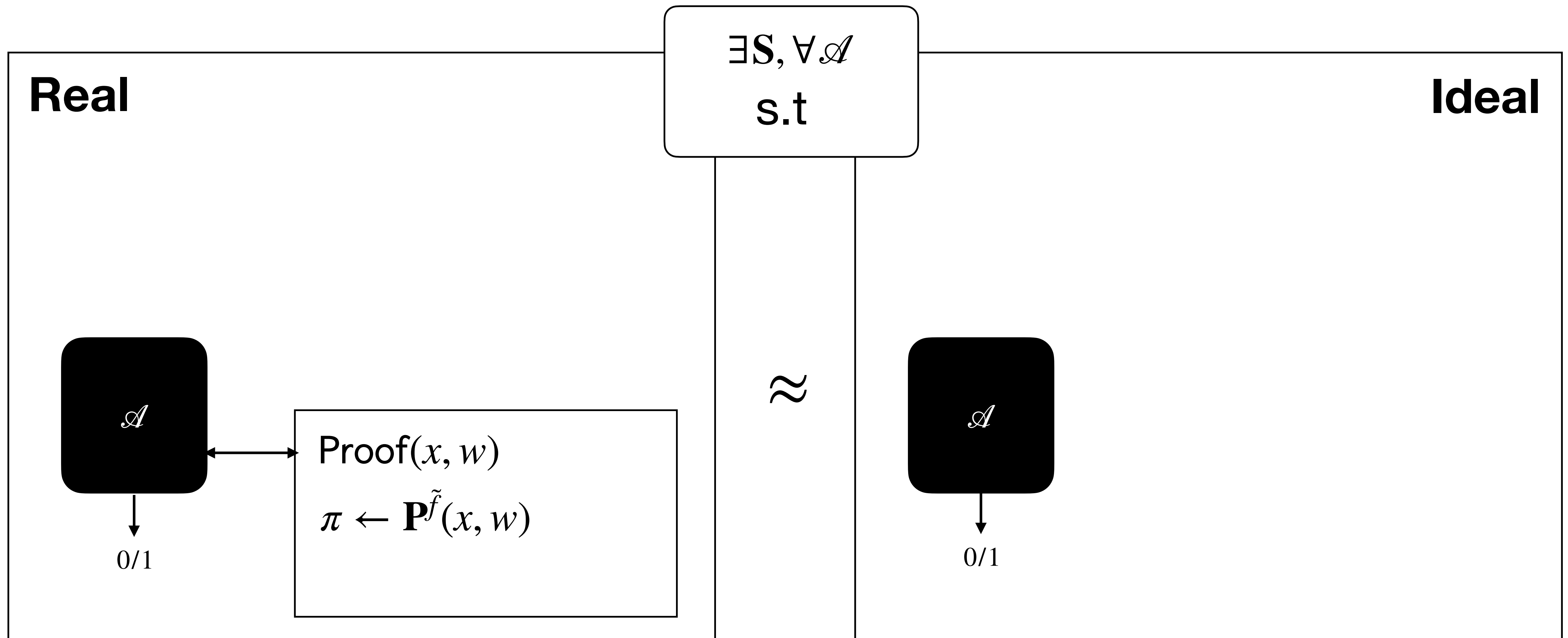
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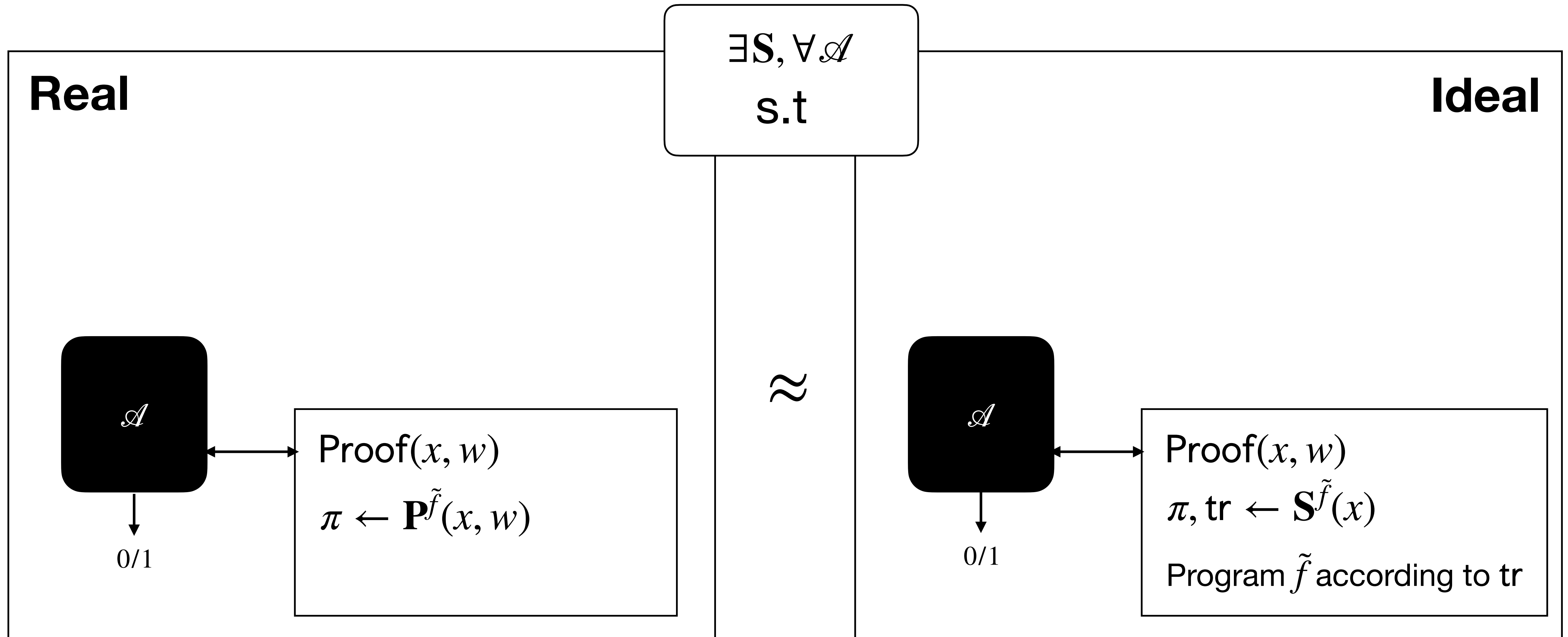
UC-friendly ZK

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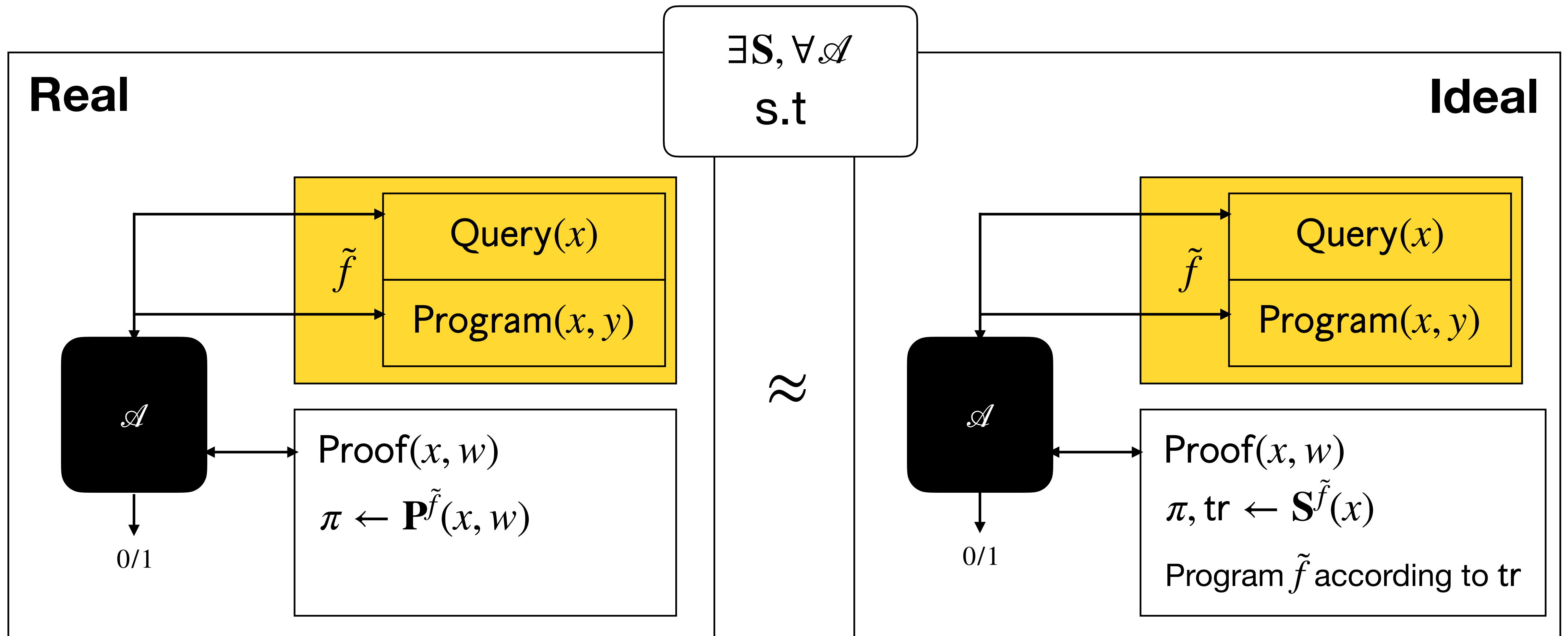
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UC-friendly ZK

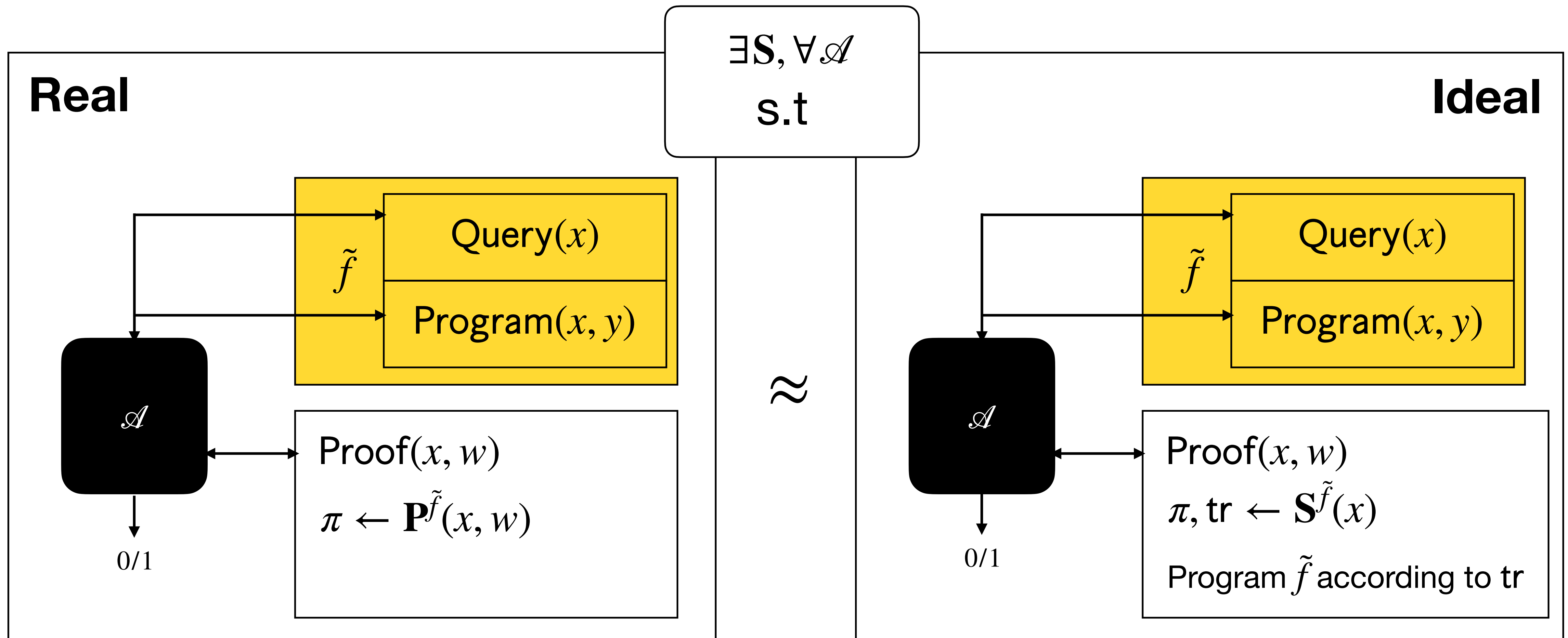
Adversary should not be able to distinguish real and simulated proofs, even with access to a programming oracle.



UC-friendly ZK

Adversary should not be able to distinguish real and simulated even with access to a programming oracle.

Micali has UC-friendly zero knowledge, more involved but follows closely zero-knowledge of Micali in the ROM

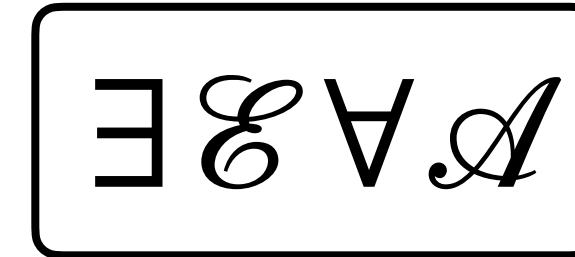


UC-friendly knowledge soundness

Adversary should not be able to generate fresh proofs that the extractor cannot extract a witness from

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UC-friendly knowledge soundness

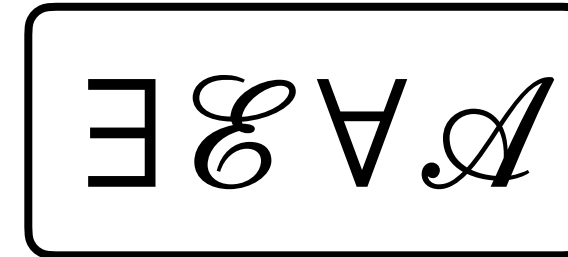
Adversary should not be able to generate fresh proofs that the extractor cannot extract a witness from

$\exists \mathcal{A} \exists \mathcal{E}$

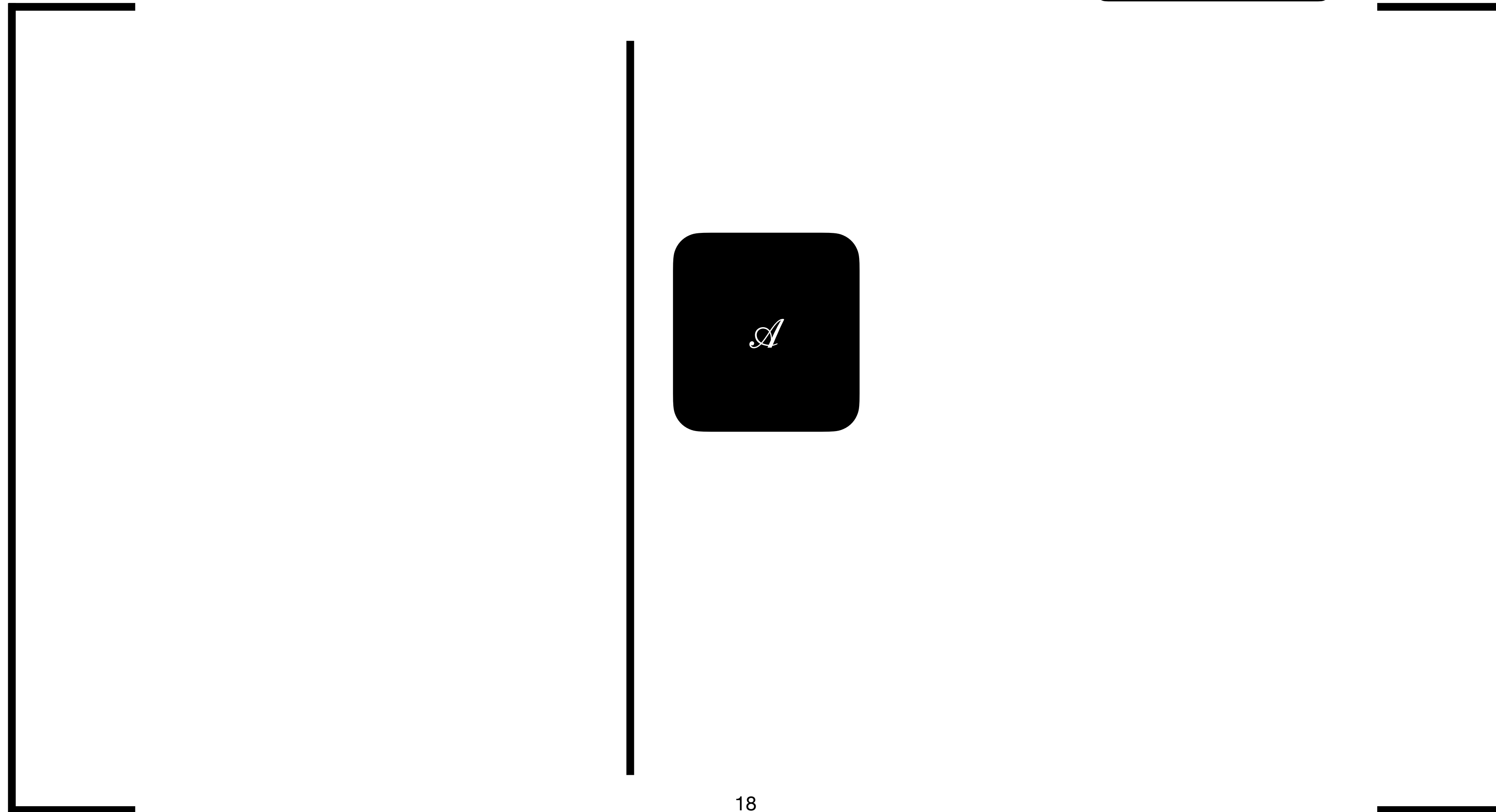
Pr

UC-friendly knowledge soundness

Adversary should not be able to generate fresh proofs that the extractor cannot extract a witness from



Pr

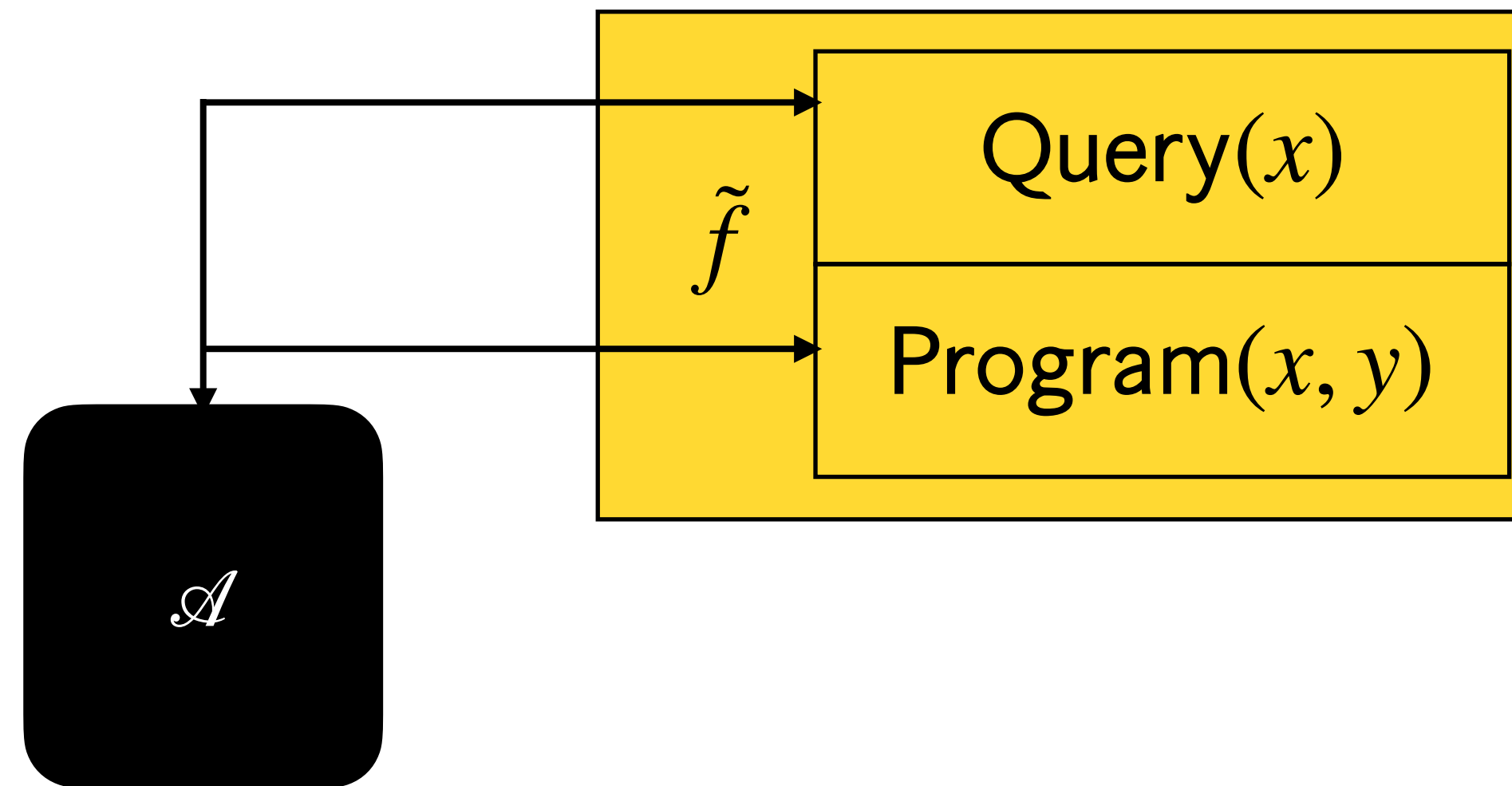


UC-friendly knowledge soundness

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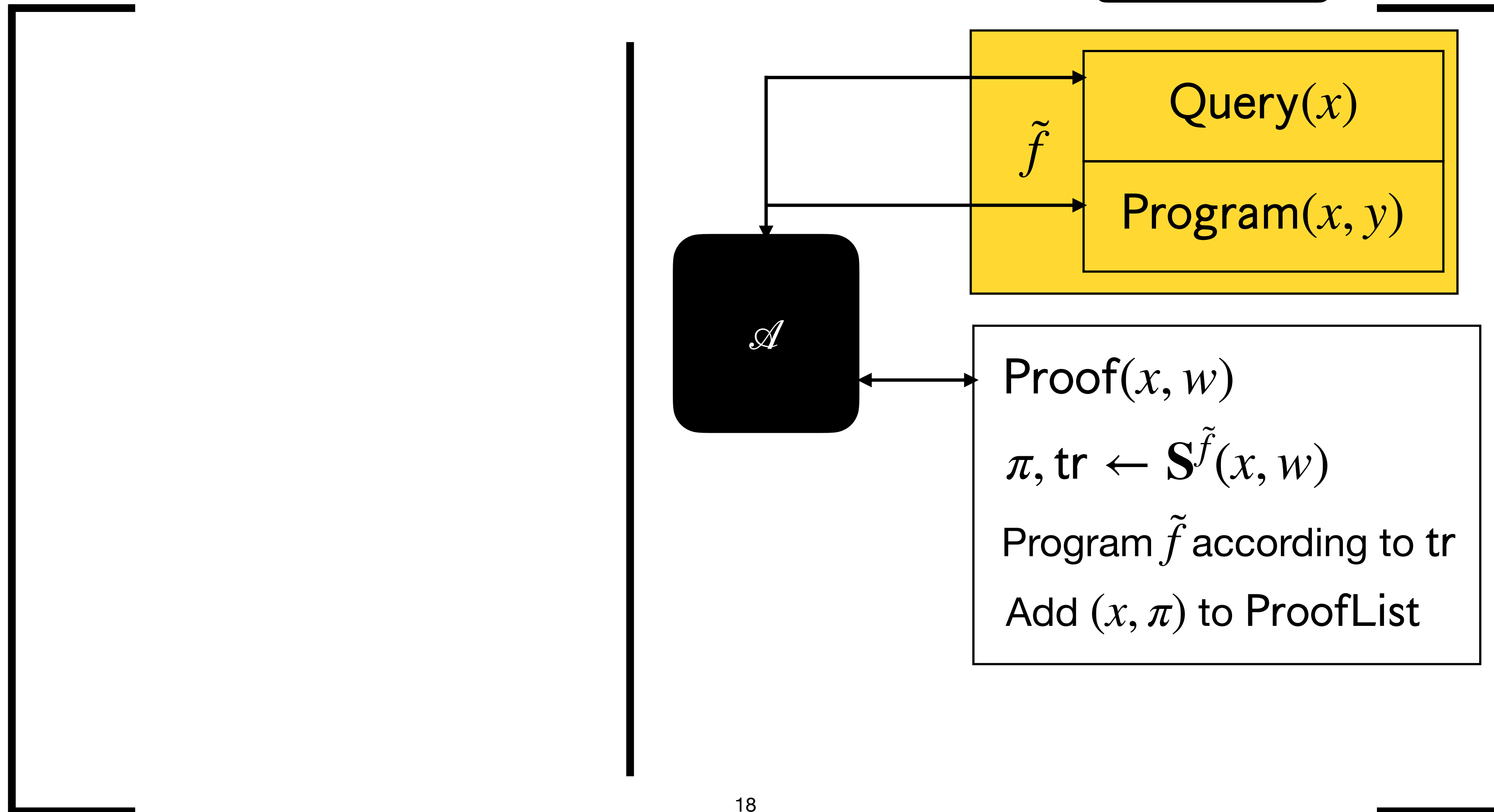


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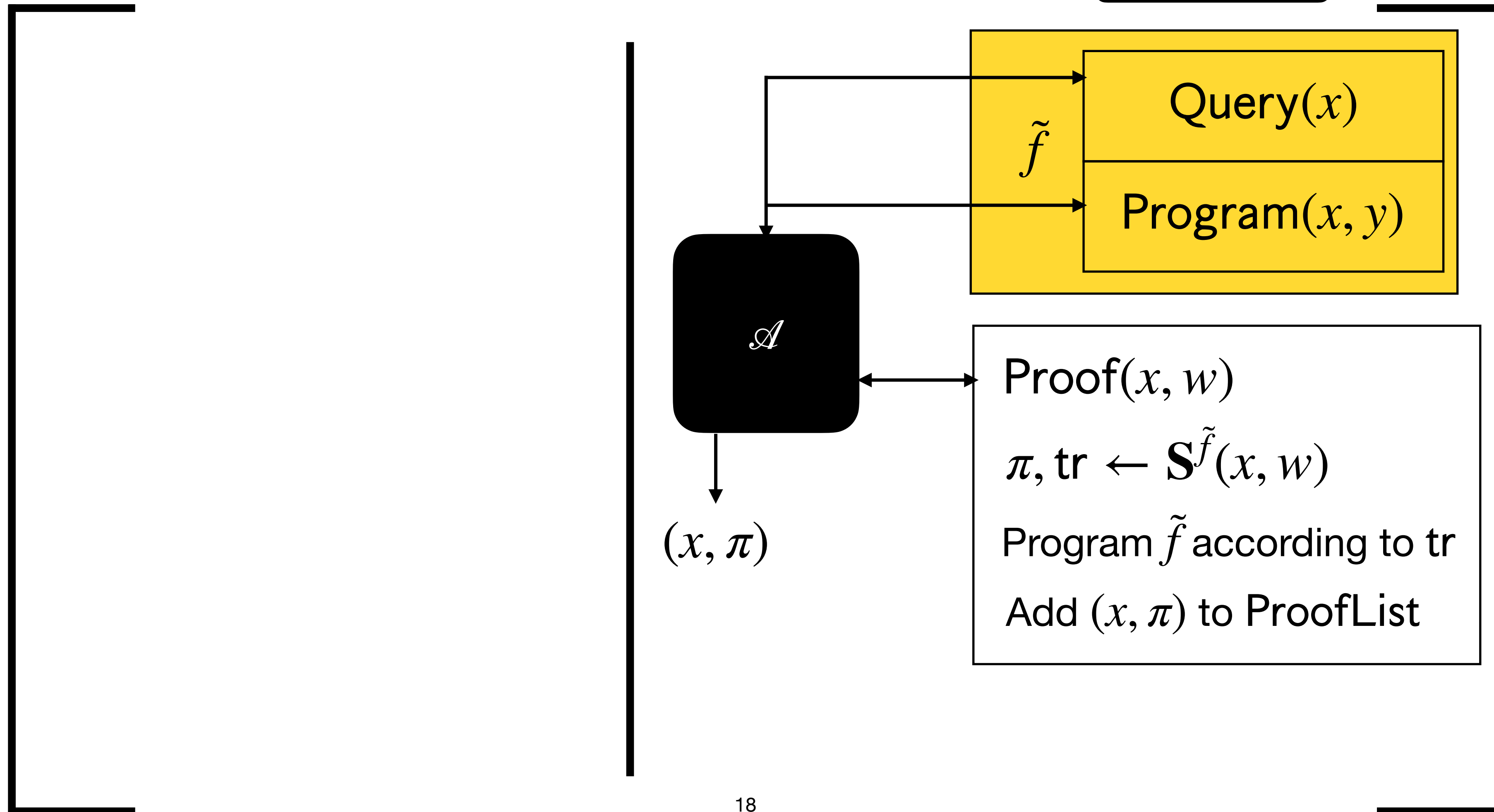


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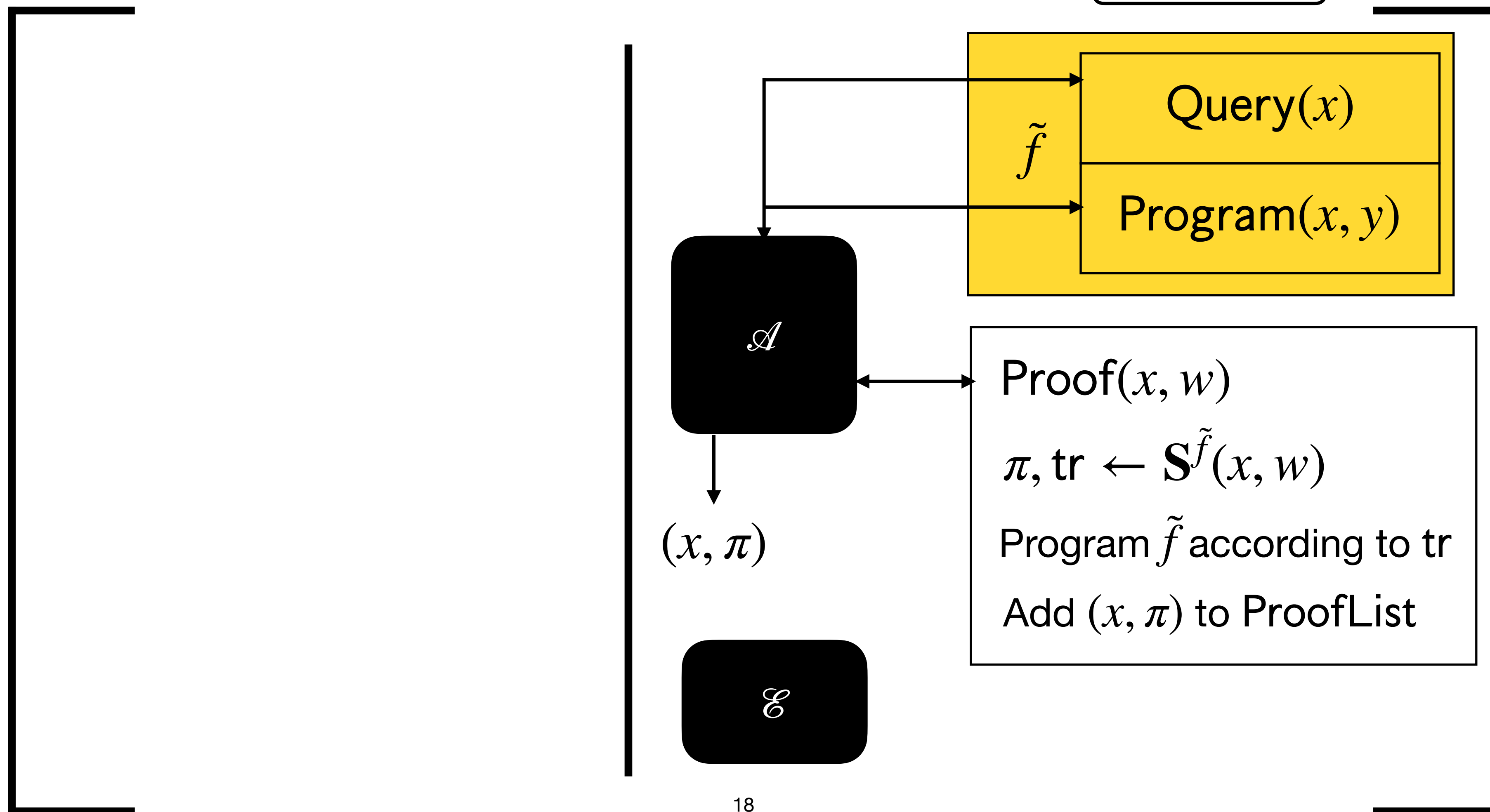


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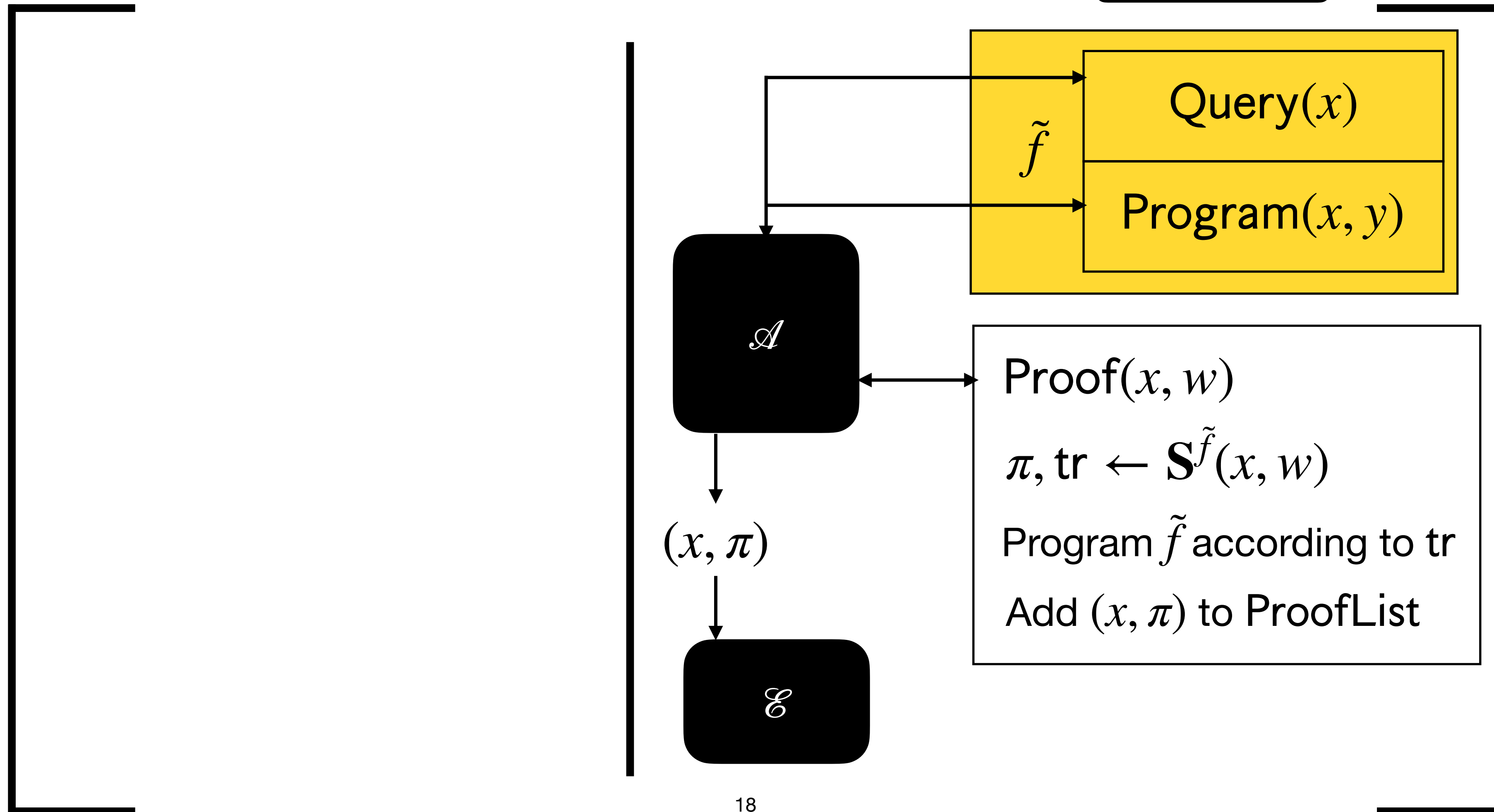


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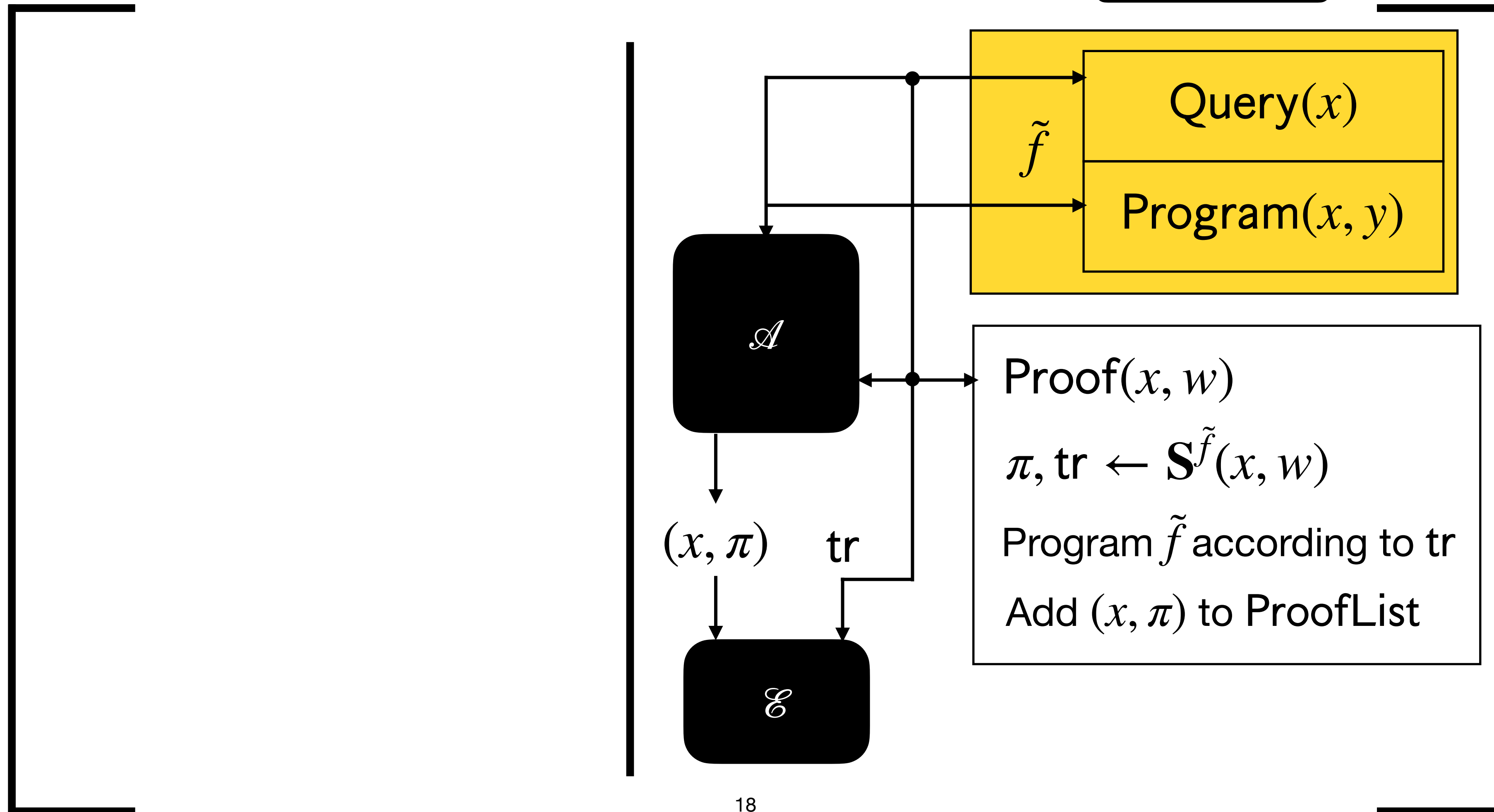


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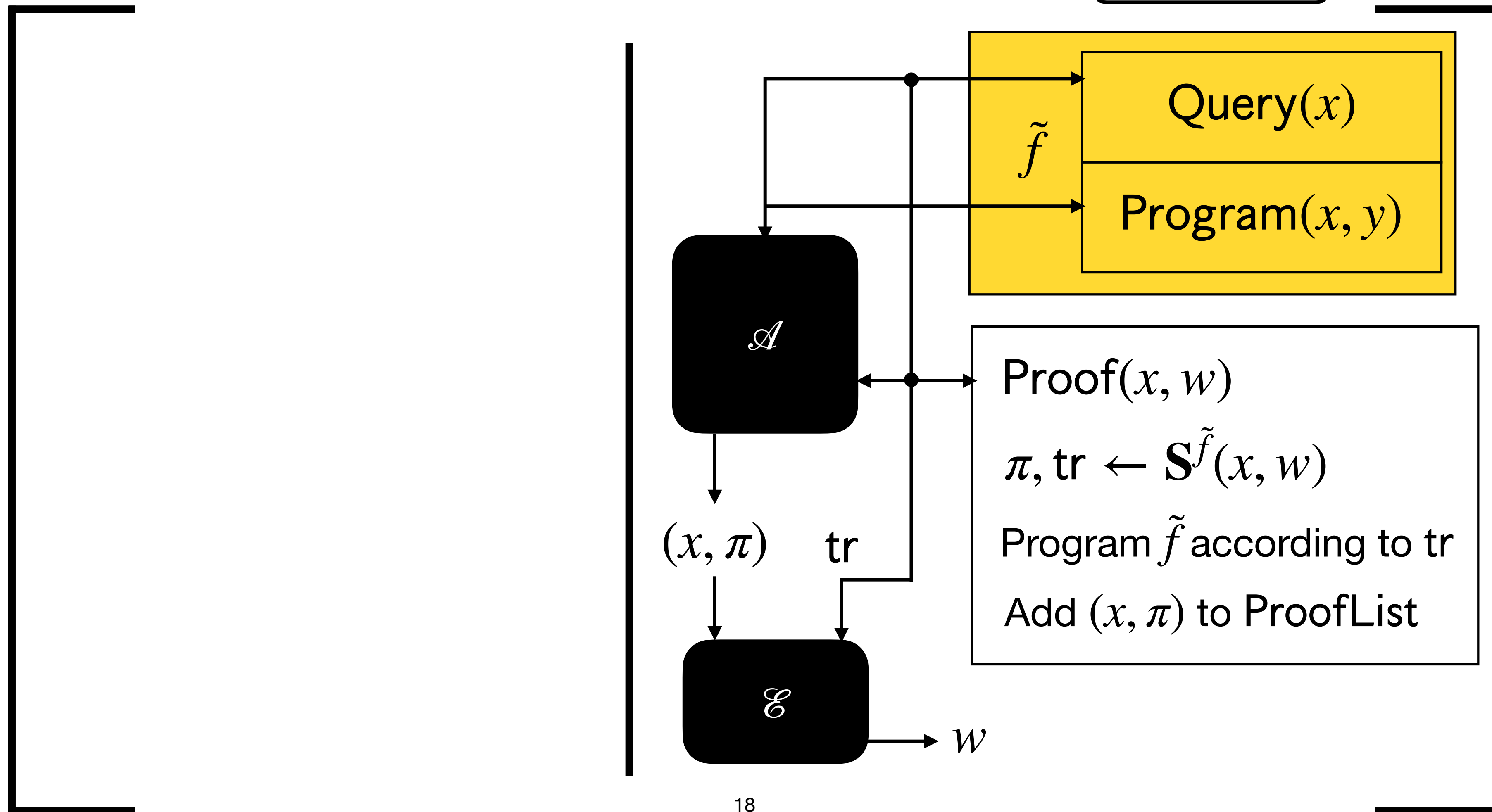


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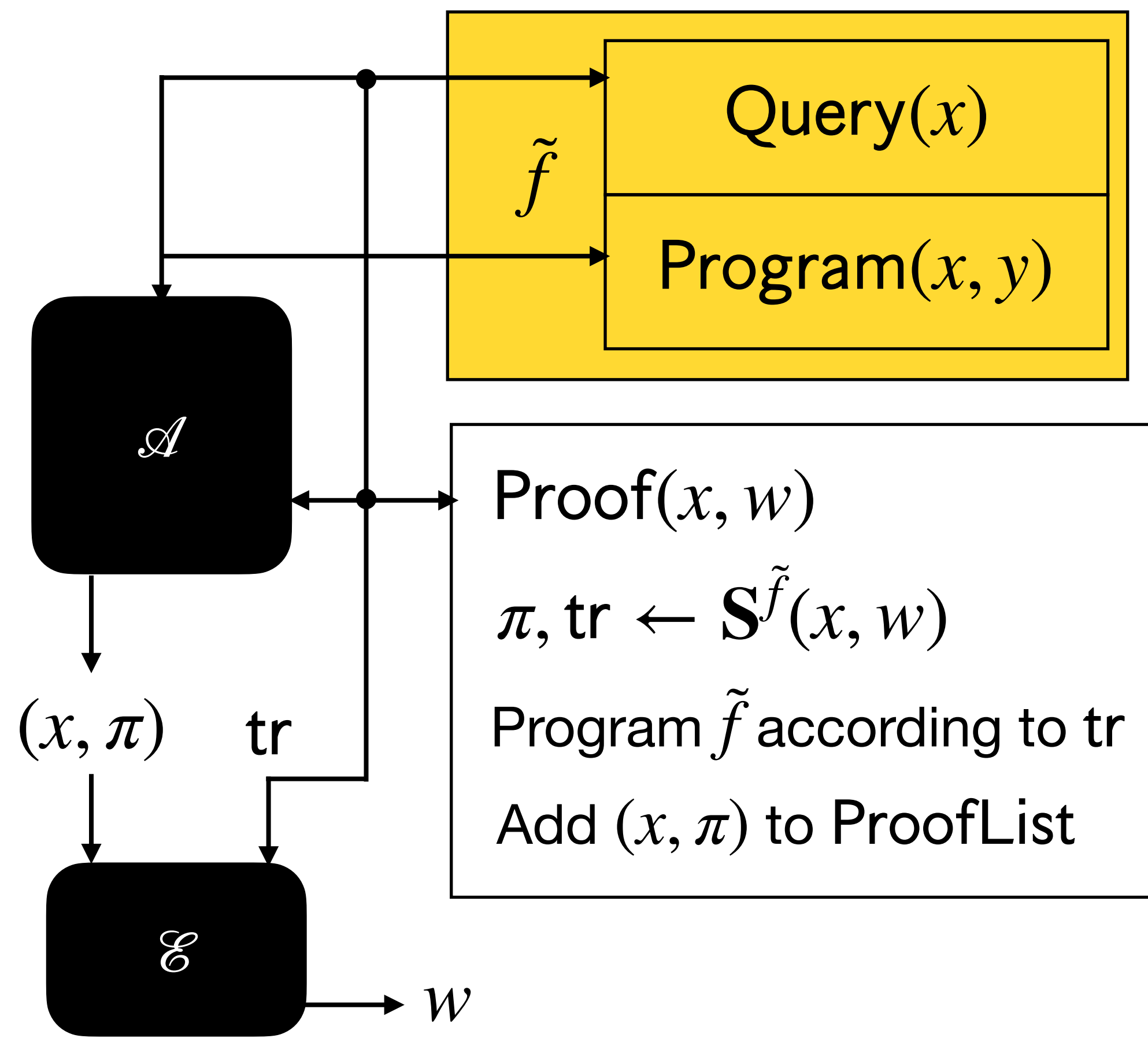
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$$\forall \tilde{f}(x, \pi) = 1$$



UC-friendly knowledge soundness

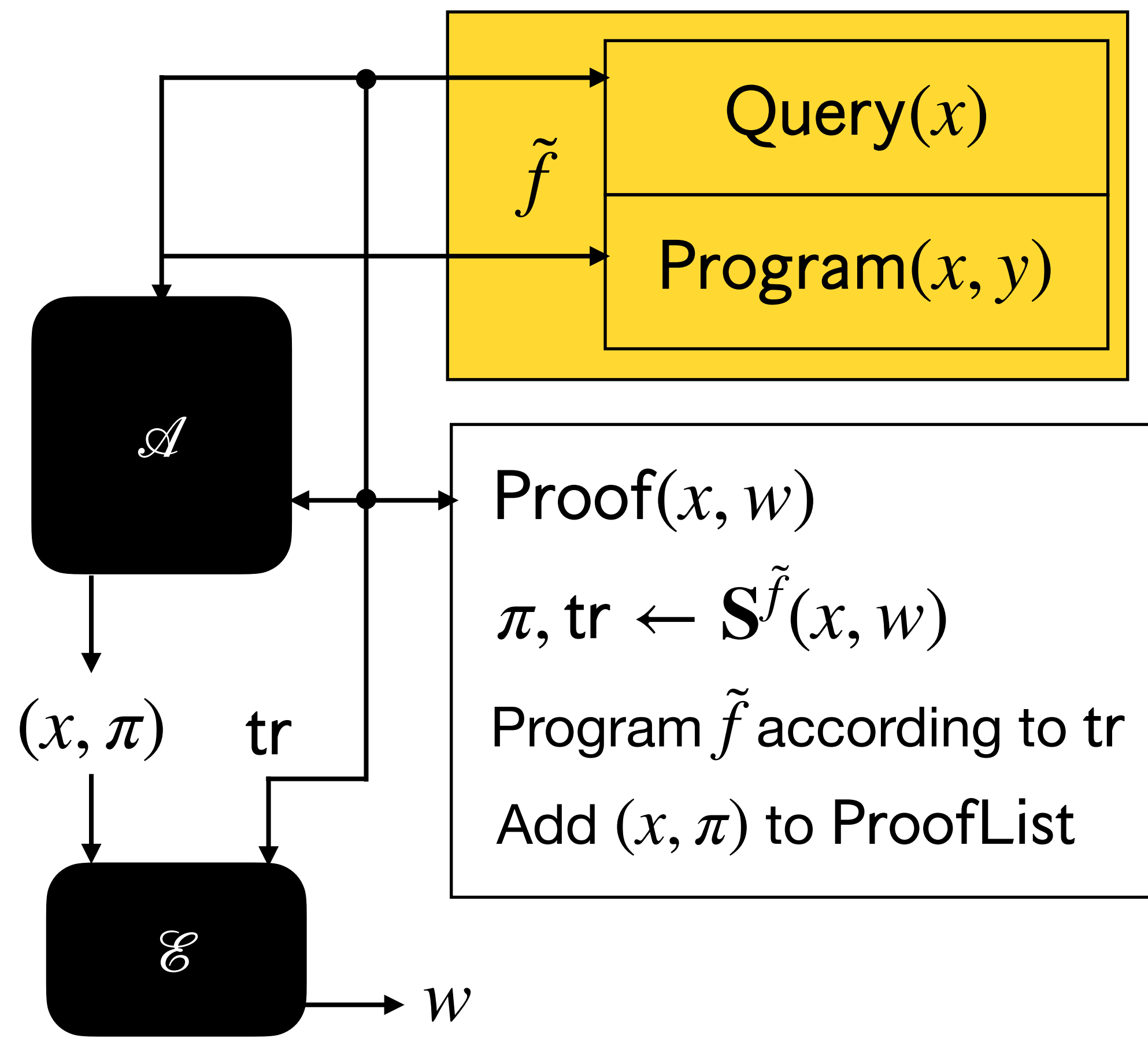
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\mathcal{V} does not query programmed points



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Adversary should not be able to generate fresh proofs that the extractor cannot extract a witness from

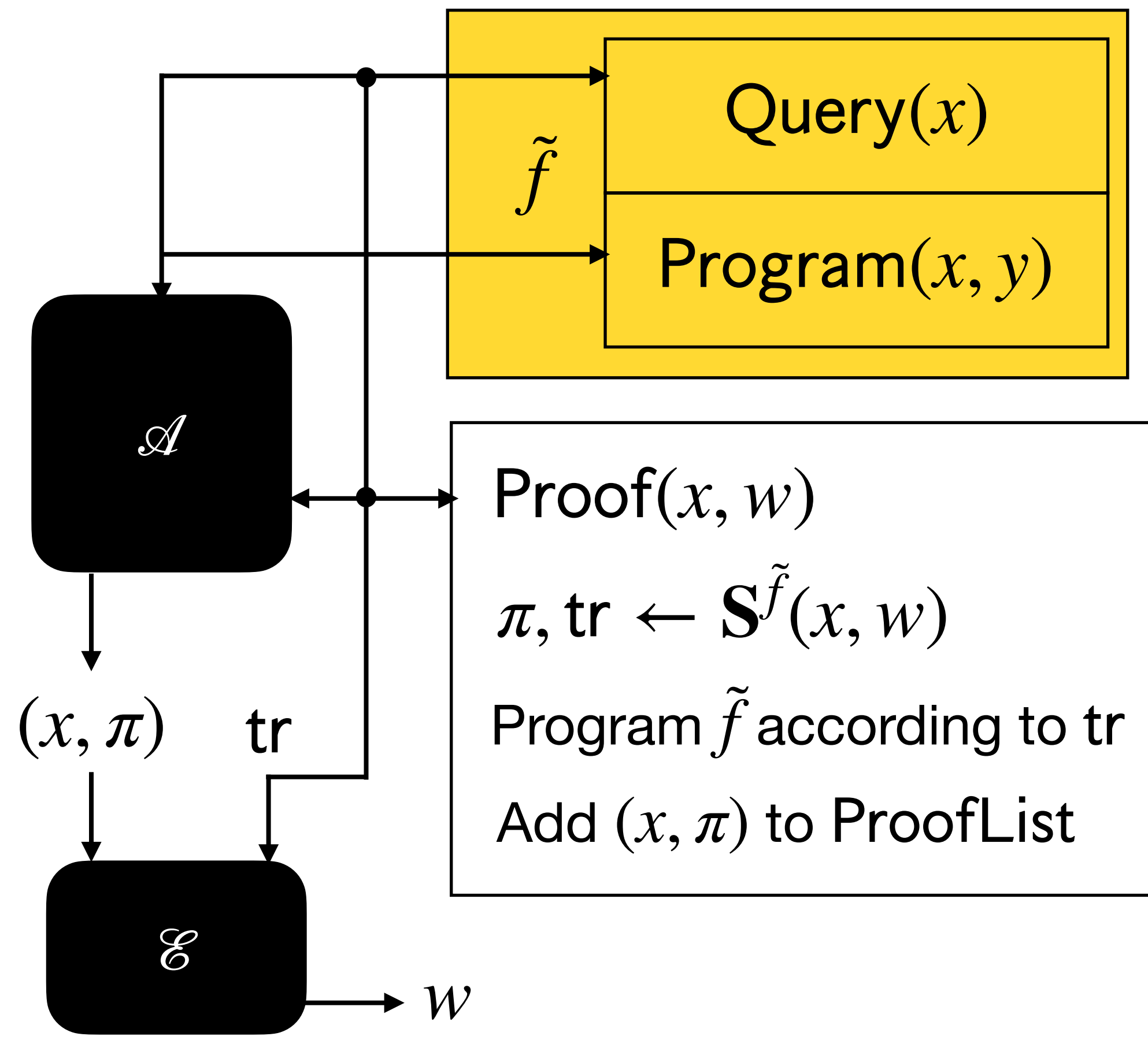
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$$\forall \tilde{f}(x, \pi) = 1$$

\mathcal{V} does not query programmed points

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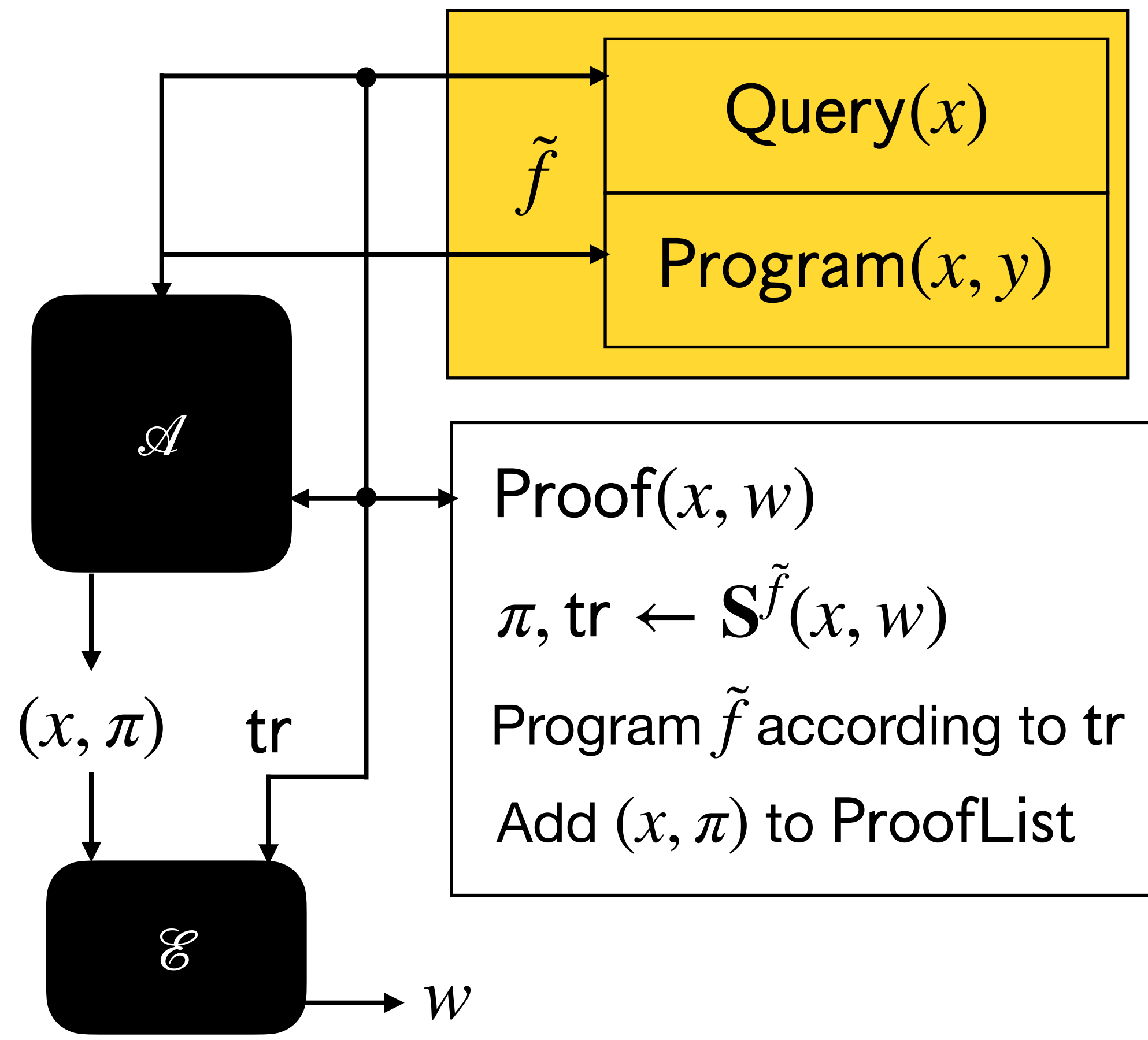
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$$\forall \tilde{f}(x, \pi) = 1$$

\mathcal{V} does not query programmed points

$(x, \pi) \notin \text{ProofList}$

$(x, w) \notin R$



UC-friendly knowledge soundness

Adversary should not be able to generate fresh proofs that the extractor cannot extract a witness from

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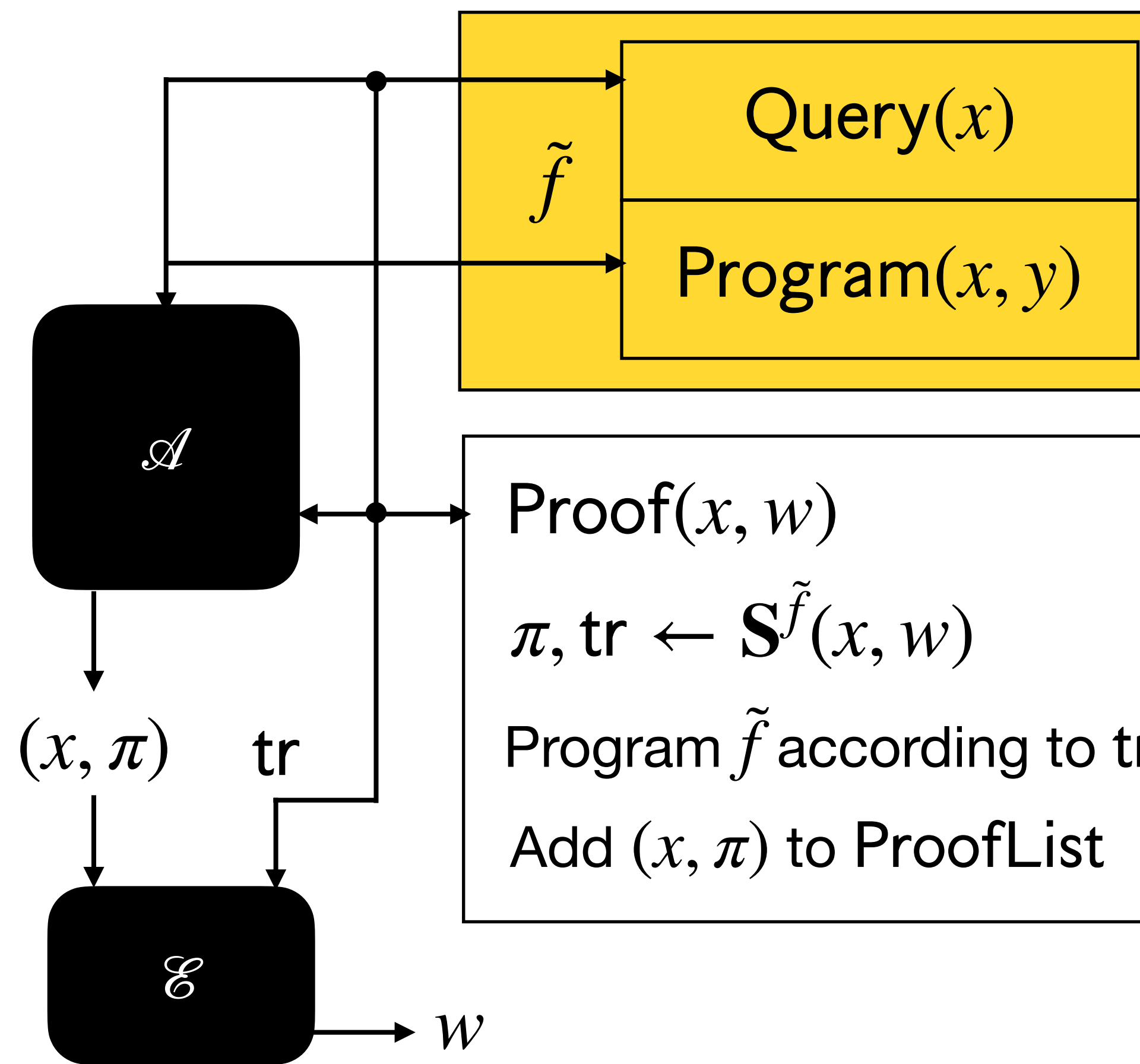
Pr

$$\forall \tilde{f}(x, \pi) = 1$$

\mathcal{V} does not query programmed points

$(x, \pi) \notin \text{ProofList}$

$(x, w) \notin R$



$\leq \kappa$

UC-friendly knowledge soundness

Adversary should not be able to generate fresh proofs that the extractor cannot extract a witness from

Similar to simulation-extractability: in Micali it holds because Merkle trees have strong extraction properties in the ROM, and programming does not help the adversary

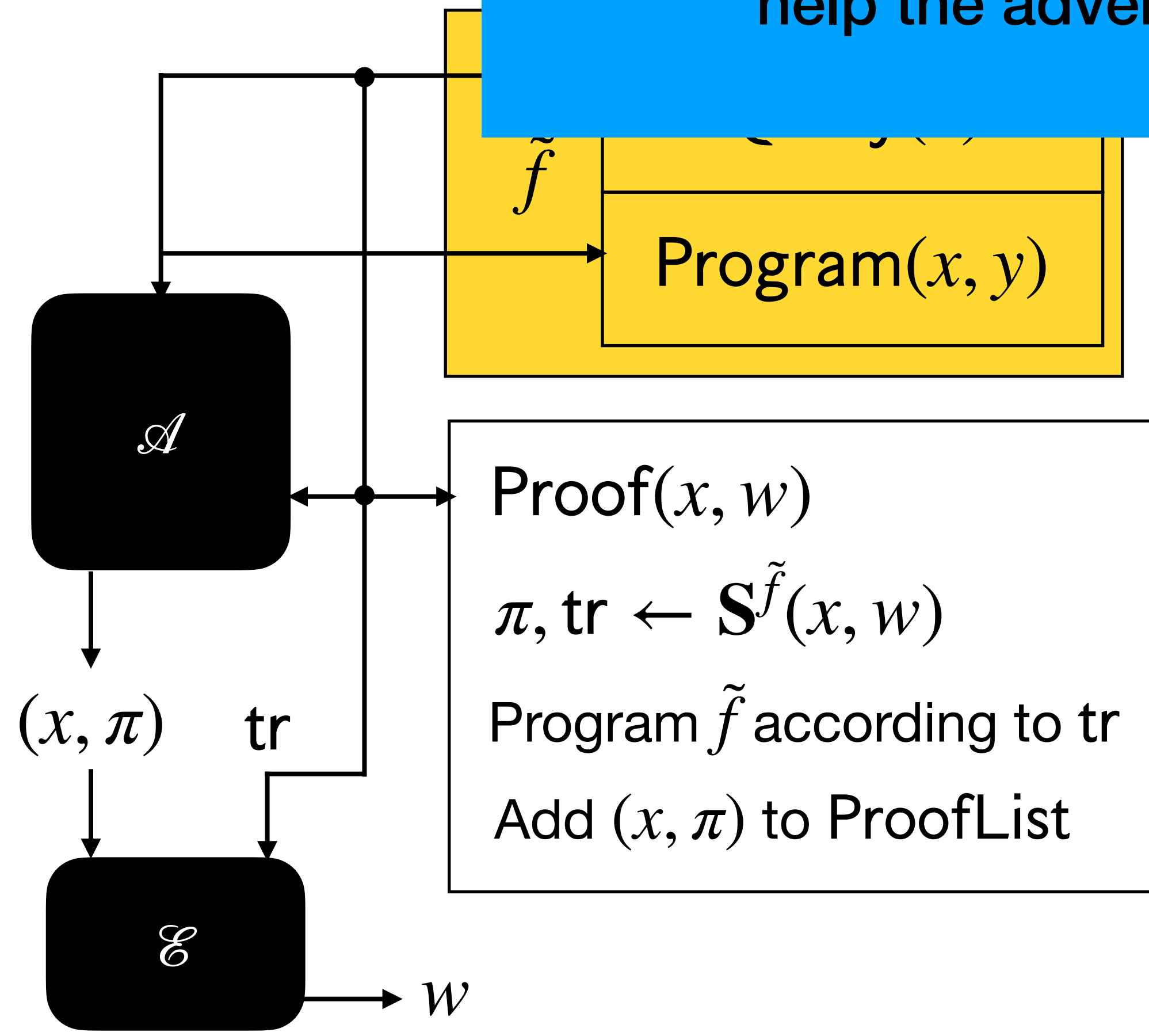
Pr

$$\forall \tilde{f}(x, \pi) = 1$$

V does not query programmed points

$(x, \pi) \notin \text{ProofList}$

$(x, w) \notin R$



$\leq \mathcal{K}$

Conclusion

Recap:

What we talked about

Recap:

What we talked about

- UC with budgets

Recap:

What we talked about

- UC with budgets
- UC-friendly security properties imply UC-security

Recap:

What we talked about

- UC with budgets
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 - UC-friendly completeness

Recap:

What we talked about

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 - UC-friendly zero knowledge

Recap:

What we talked about

- UC with budgets
- UC-friendly security properties imply UC-security
 - UC-friendly completeness
 - UC-friendly zero knowledge
 - UC-friendly knowledge soundness

There is more!

What we did not talk about

There is more!

What we did not talk about

- Concrete security bounds

There is more!

What we did not talk about

- Concrete security bounds
- UC-security of Micali & BCS (leads to UC-security of **deployed** zkSNARKs)

There is more!

What we did not talk about

- Concrete security bounds
- UC-security of Micali & BCS (leads to UC-security of **deployed** zkSNARKs)
- UC-friendly properties are **necessary**

There is more!

What we did not talk about

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- UC-security of Micali & BCS (leads to UC-security of **deployed** zkSNARKs)
- UC-friendly properties are **necessary**
- We can handle adaptive corruptions with **strong** UC-friendly properties

There is more!

What we did not talk about

- Concrete security bounds
- UC-security of Micali & BCS (leads to UC-security of **deployed** zkSNARKs)
- UC-friendly properties are **necessary**
- We can handle adaptive corruptions with **strong** UC-friendly properties
- Merkle trees have (strong) UC-friendly hiding

There is more!

What we did not talk about

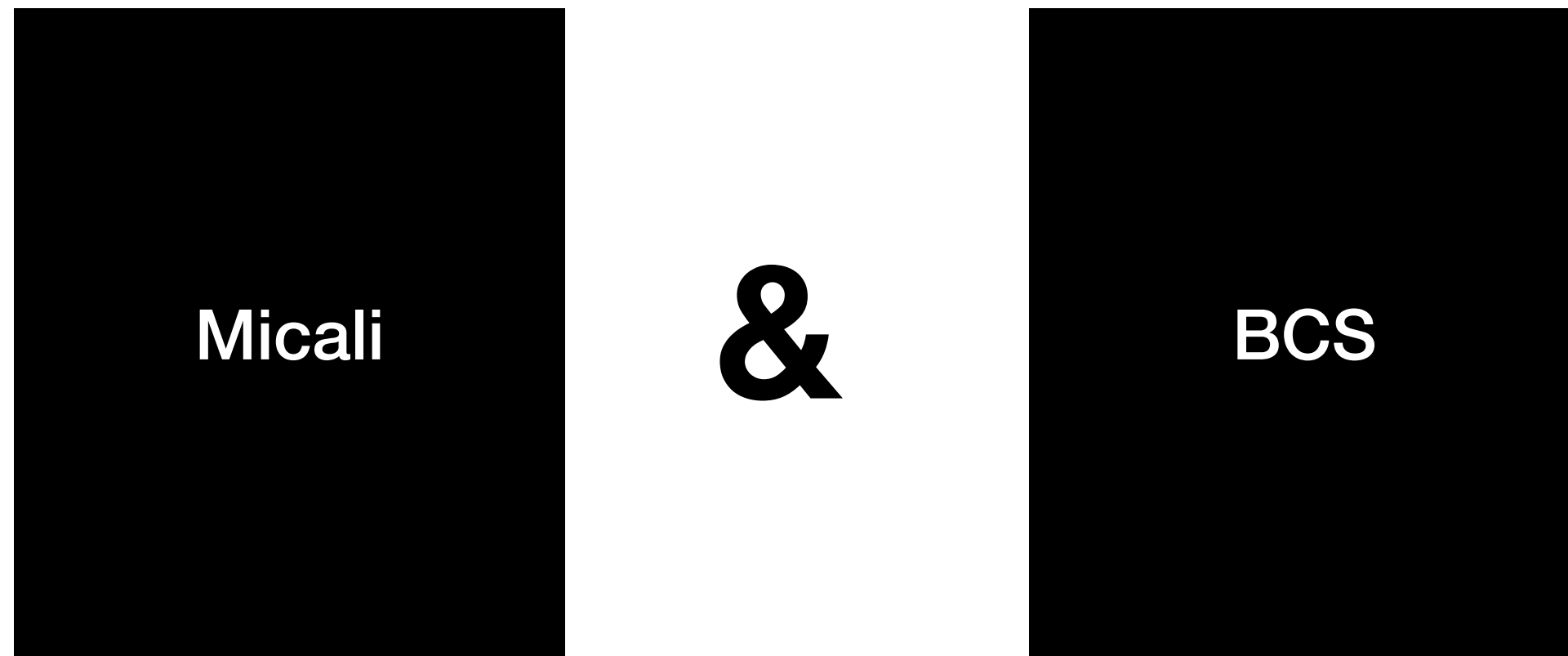
- Concrete security bounds
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- Merkle trees have (strong) UC-friendly hiding
- Merkle trees have (strong) UC-friendly extraction

There is more!

What we did not talk about

- Concrete security bounds
- UC-security of Micali & BCS (leads to UC-security of **deployed** zkSNARKs)
- UC-friendly properties are **necessary**
- We can handle adaptive corruptions with **strong** UC-friendly properties
- Merkle trees have (strong) UC-friendly hiding
- Merkle trees have (strong) UC-friendly extraction
- **Open question:** extend the result to IOPs without straightline KS

Conclusion



These zkSNARKs are UC-secure in the GROM

8.6 UC-secure zkSNARKs from Micali

We combine the results in Sections 8.3 to 8.5 to show that, when instantiated with a suitable PCP, the Micali construction yields a UC-secure zkSNARK.

Theorem 8.14. *Let PCP be a probabilistically checkable proof with:*

- (*resp. strong*) *honest-verifier zero knowledge (Definition 8.3) with error ζ_{PCP} .*
- *knowledge soundness (Definition 8.2) with error κ_{PCP} .*

Set $\text{MT} := \text{MT}[\lambda, \Sigma, l, r_{\text{MT}}]$ and $\text{ARG} := \text{Micali}[\text{PCP}, r]$. Then $\Pi_a[\text{ARG}] (t_q, t_p, \ell_p, \ell_v)$ -UC-realizes $\mathcal{F}_{a\text{ARG}}$ in the GRO-hybrid model with simulation overhead $\ell_p \cdot (l(n), l(n) \cdot q(n) + 1)$ and error

$$z_{\text{UC}}(\epsilon_{\text{ARG}}, \zeta_{\text{ARG}}, \kappa_{\text{ARG}}, \lambda, n, t_q, t_p, \ell_p, \ell_v)$$

In the above we let:

- $z_{\text{UC}}(\epsilon_{\text{ARG}}, \zeta_{\text{ARG}}, \kappa_{\text{ARG}}, \lambda, n, t_q, t_p, \ell_p, \ell_v) := \epsilon_{\text{ARG}}(\lambda, n, t_q, t_p, \ell_p, \ell_v) + \zeta_{\text{ARG}}(\lambda, n, t_q, t_p, \ell_p) + \kappa_{\text{ARG}}(\lambda, n, t_q, t_p, \ell_p, \ell_v)$ as in Theorem 6.1,
- $\epsilon_{\text{ARG}}(\lambda, n, t_q, t_p, \ell_p, \ell_v)$ as in Lemma 8.7,
- $\zeta_{\text{ARG}}(\lambda, n, t_q, t_p, \ell_p, \ell_v)$ as in Lemma 8.11,
- $\kappa_{\text{ARG}}(\lambda, n, t_q, t_p, \ell_p, \ell_v)$ as in Lemma 8.13.

Concrete security bounds!

Thank you!

Extra slides

Modelling shared functionalities

[BCHTZ22]

Modelling shared functionalities

[BCHTZ22]

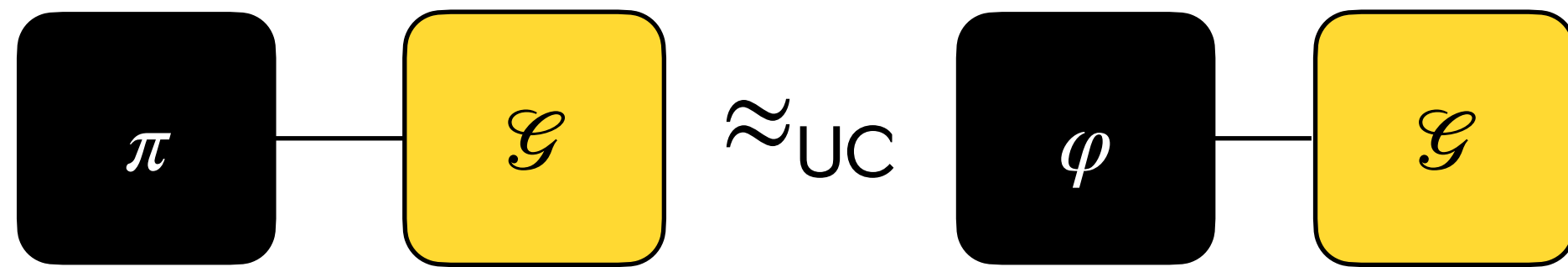
Plain UC security **not enough** for **shared** setups

Modelling shared functionalities

[BCHTZ22]

Plain UC security **not enough** for **shared** setups

Plain UC:

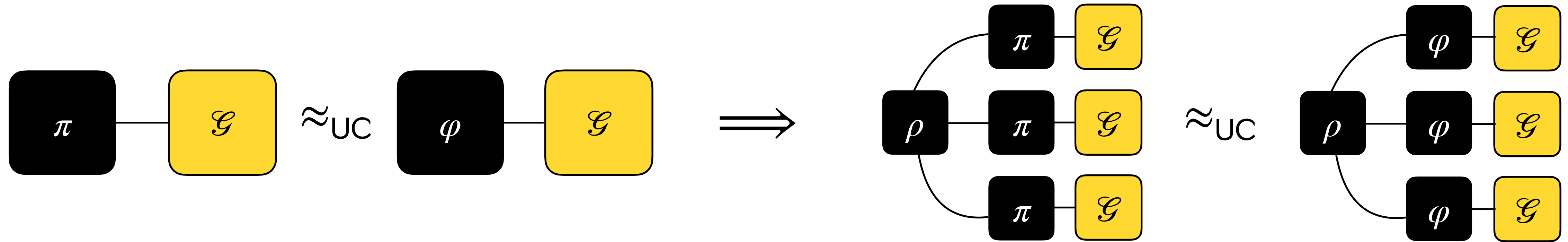


Modelling shared functionalities

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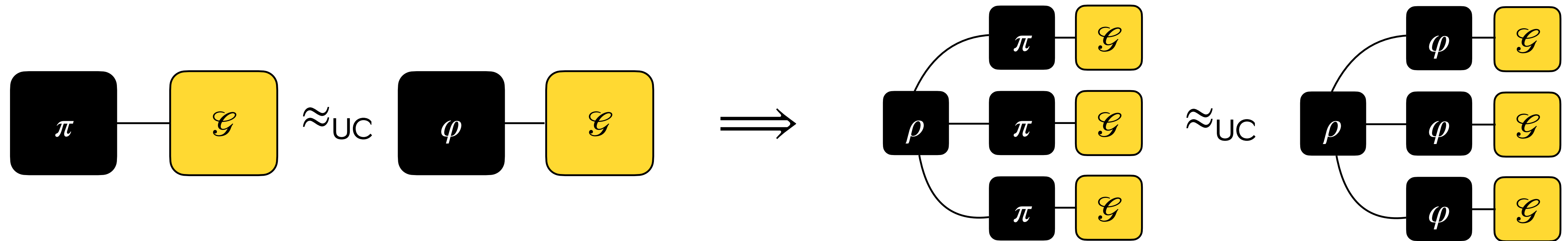


Modelling shared functionalities

[BCHTZ22]

Plain UC security **not enough** for **shared** setups

Plain UC:



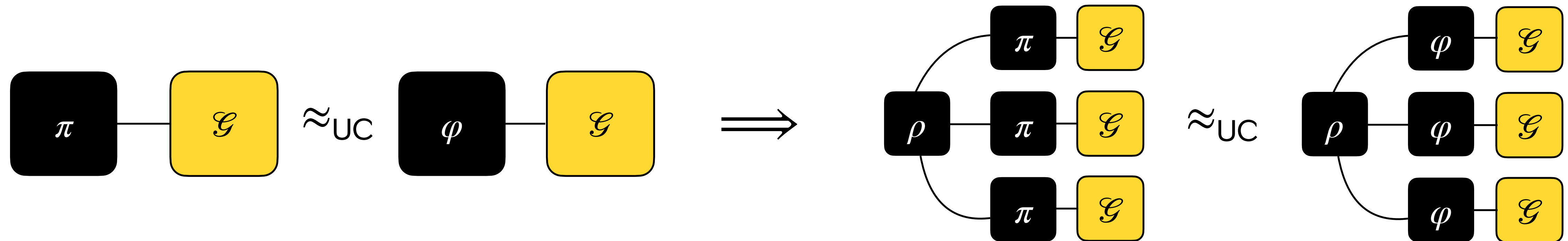
Solution: UC with Global Subroutines!

Modelling shared functionalities

[BCHTZ22]

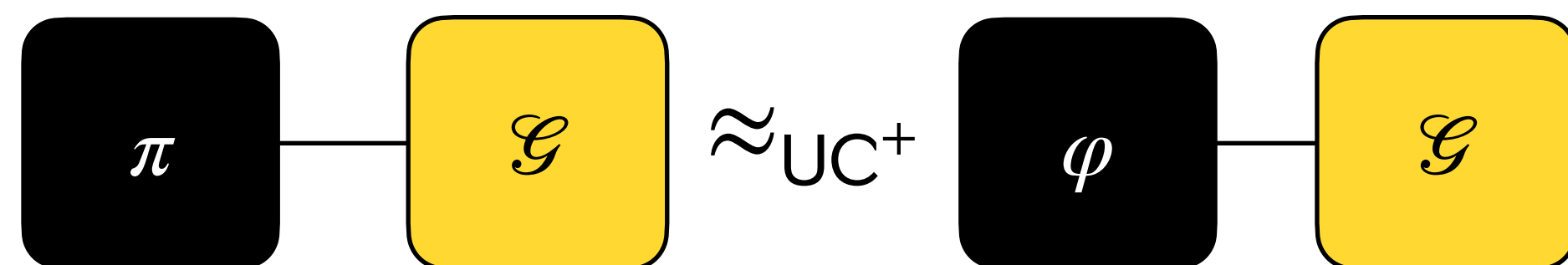
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Plain UC:



Solution: UC with Global Subroutines!

UCGS:

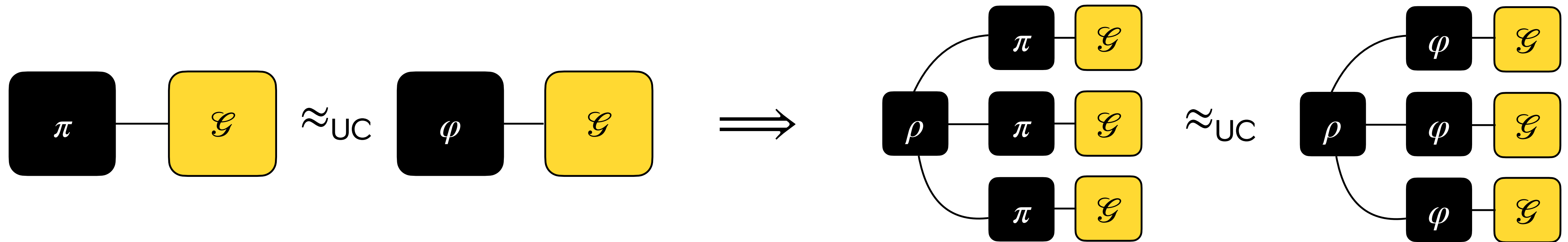


Modelling shared functionalities

[BCHTZ22]

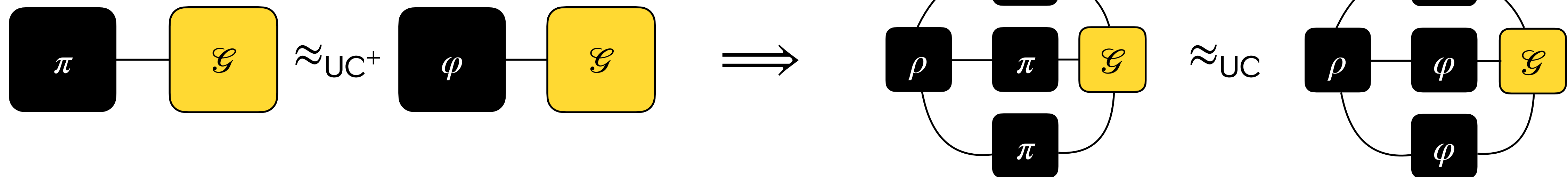
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Plain UC:



Solution: UC with Global Subroutines!

UCGS:



Micali has UC-friendly ZK

Micali has UC-friendly ZK

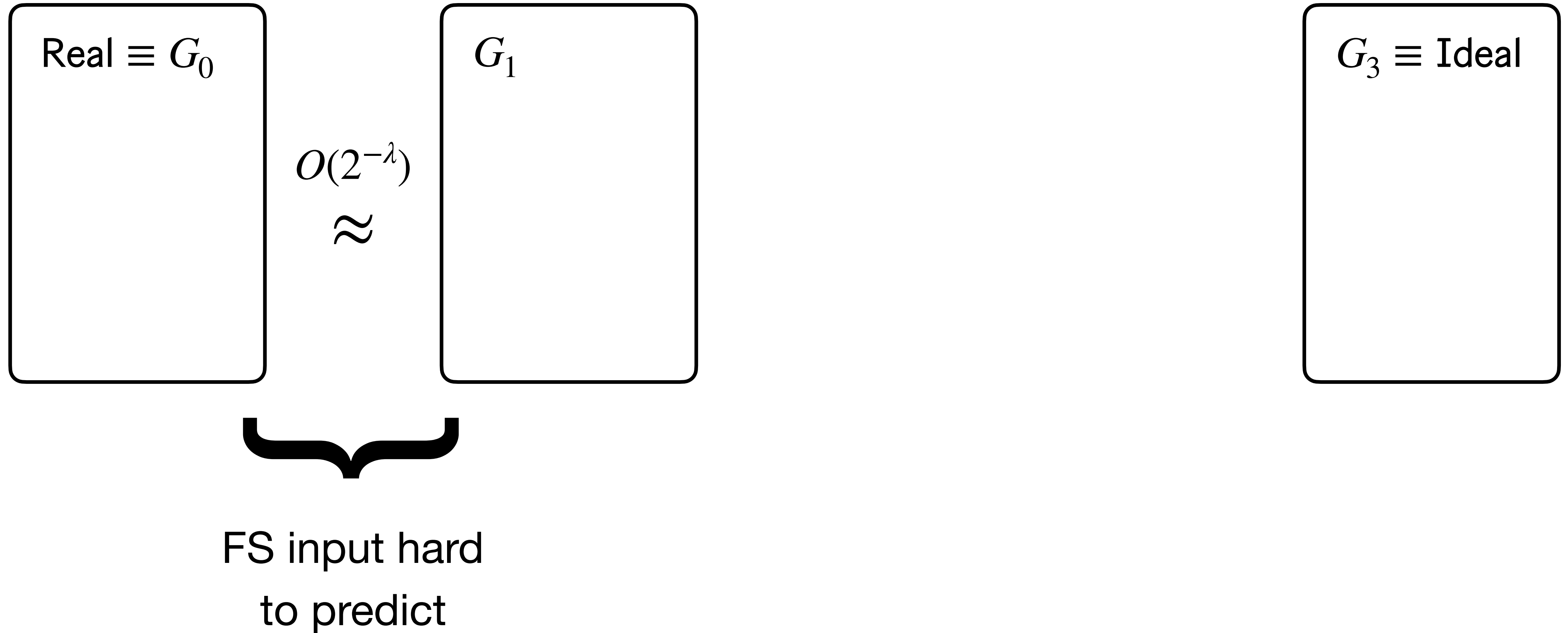
Real $\equiv G_0$

Micali has UC-friendly ZK

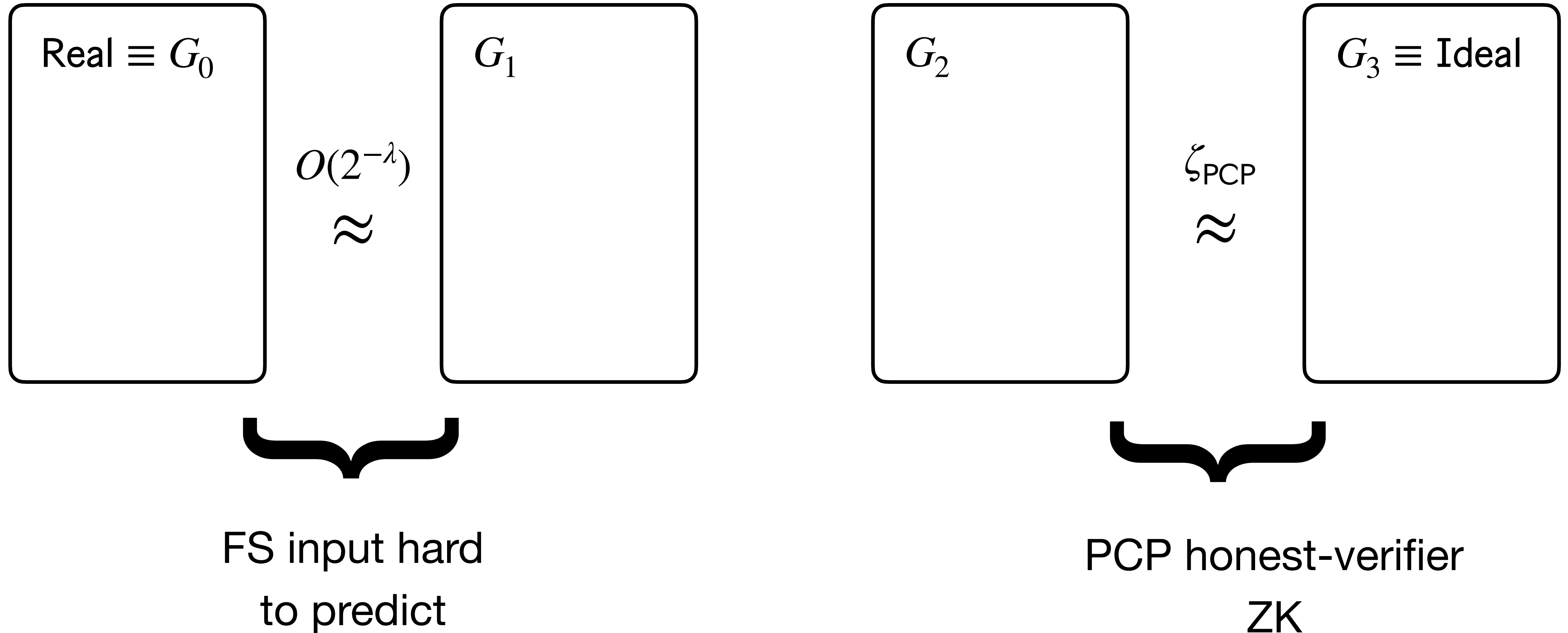
Real $\equiv G_0$

$G_3 \equiv \text{Ideal}$

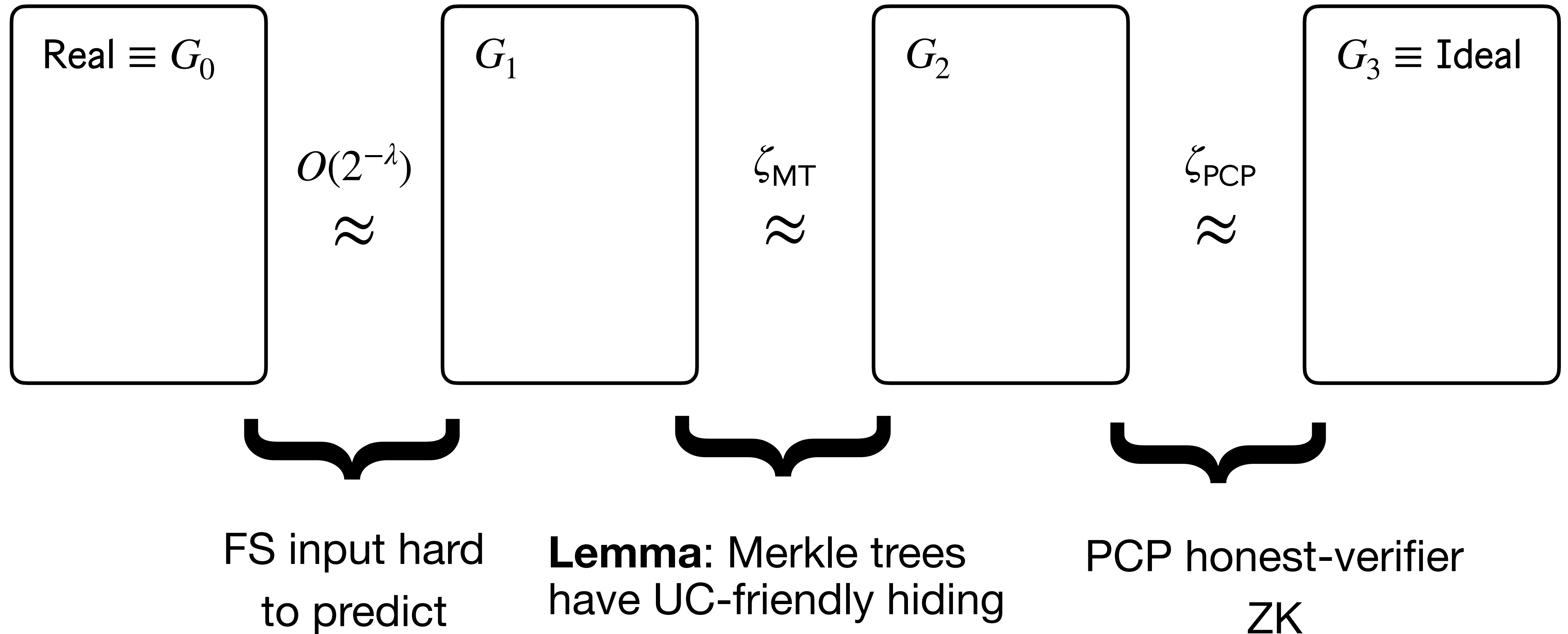
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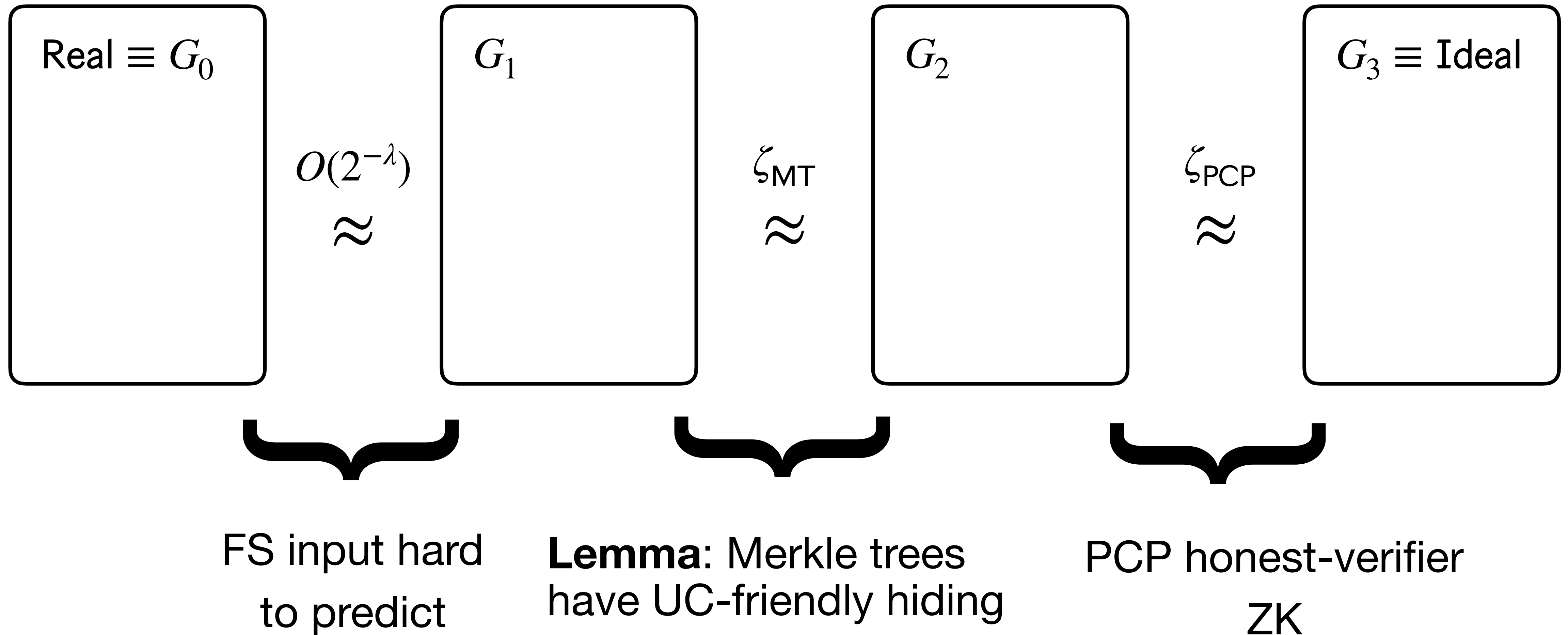


Micali has UC-friendly ZK



Micali has UC-friendly ZK

Follows similarly to standard Micali ZK + Merkle trees are UC-friendly.



Micali's construction I

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COMPUTATIONALLY SOUND PROOFS*

SILVIO MICALI†

Micali's construction I

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COMPUTATIONALLY SOUND PROOFS*

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Canonical construction of
zkSNARK in the ROM

Micali's construction I

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Canonical construction of
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Straightline black-box extractor:
compatible with UC!

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Straightline black-box extractor:
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Proofs are **non-malleable**:
also required for UC-security!

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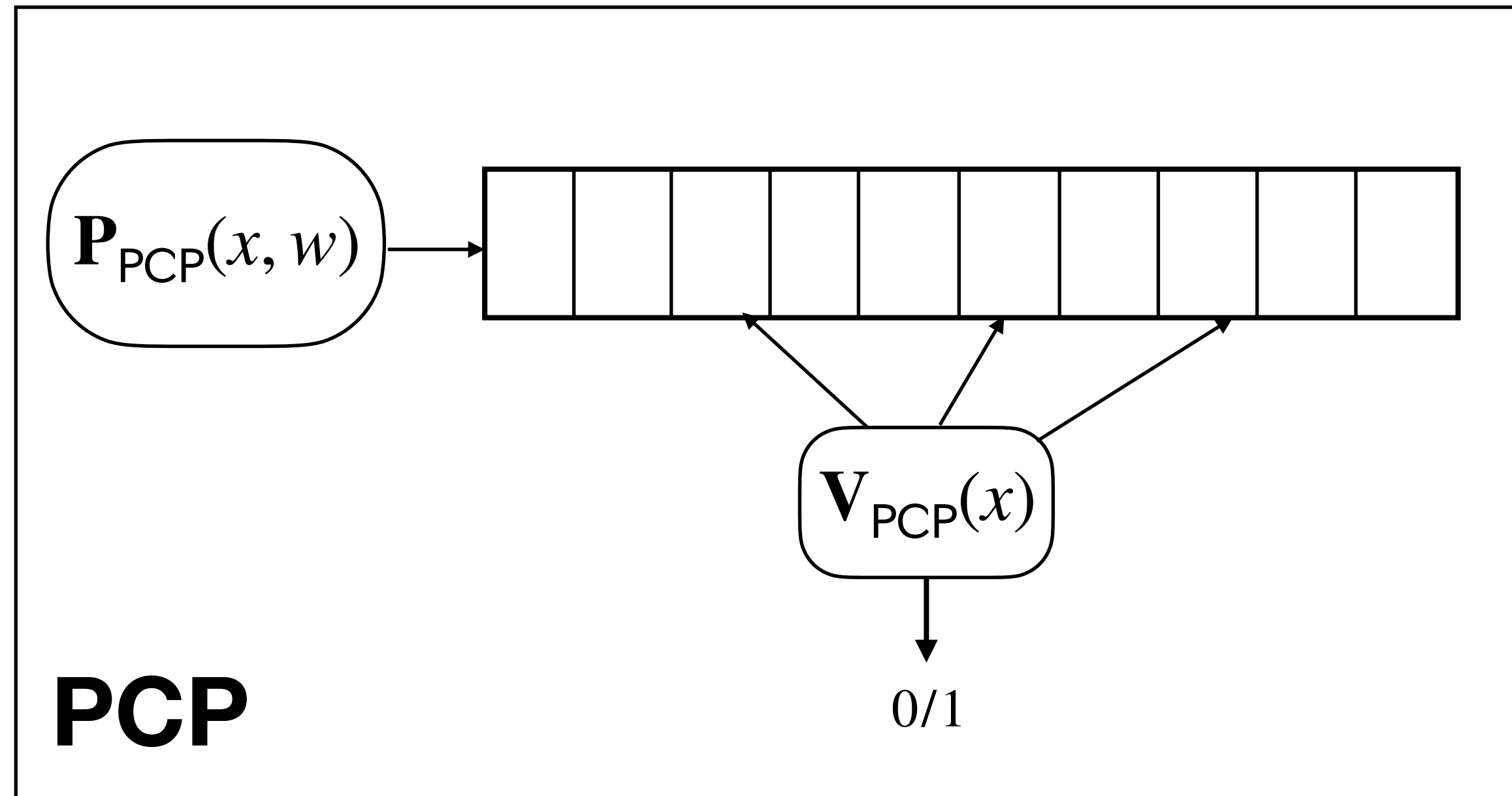
Straightline black-box extractor:
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Proofs are **non-malleable**:
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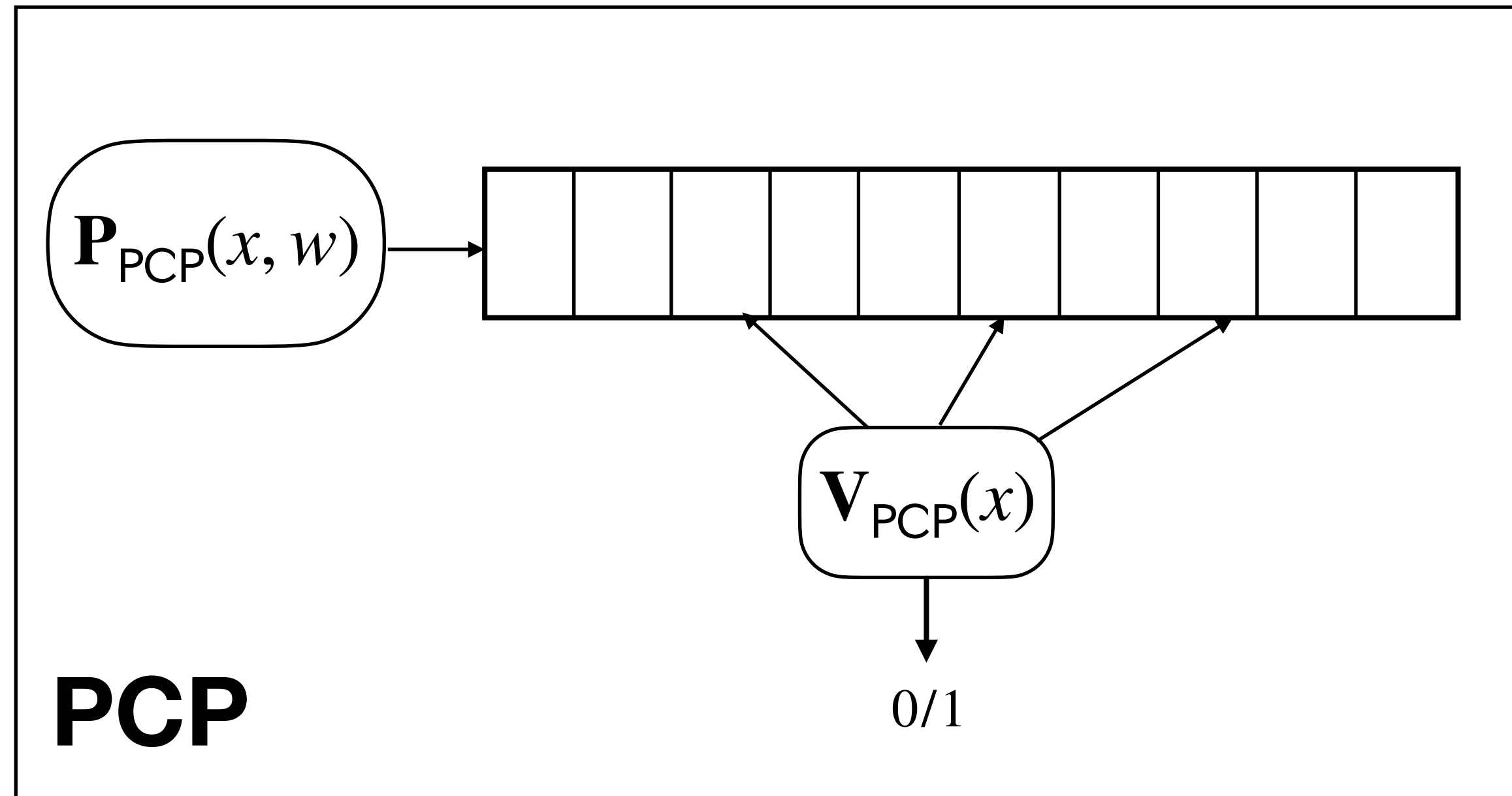
Stepping stone to BCS, which
underlies **deployed** zkSNARKs

Micali's construction II

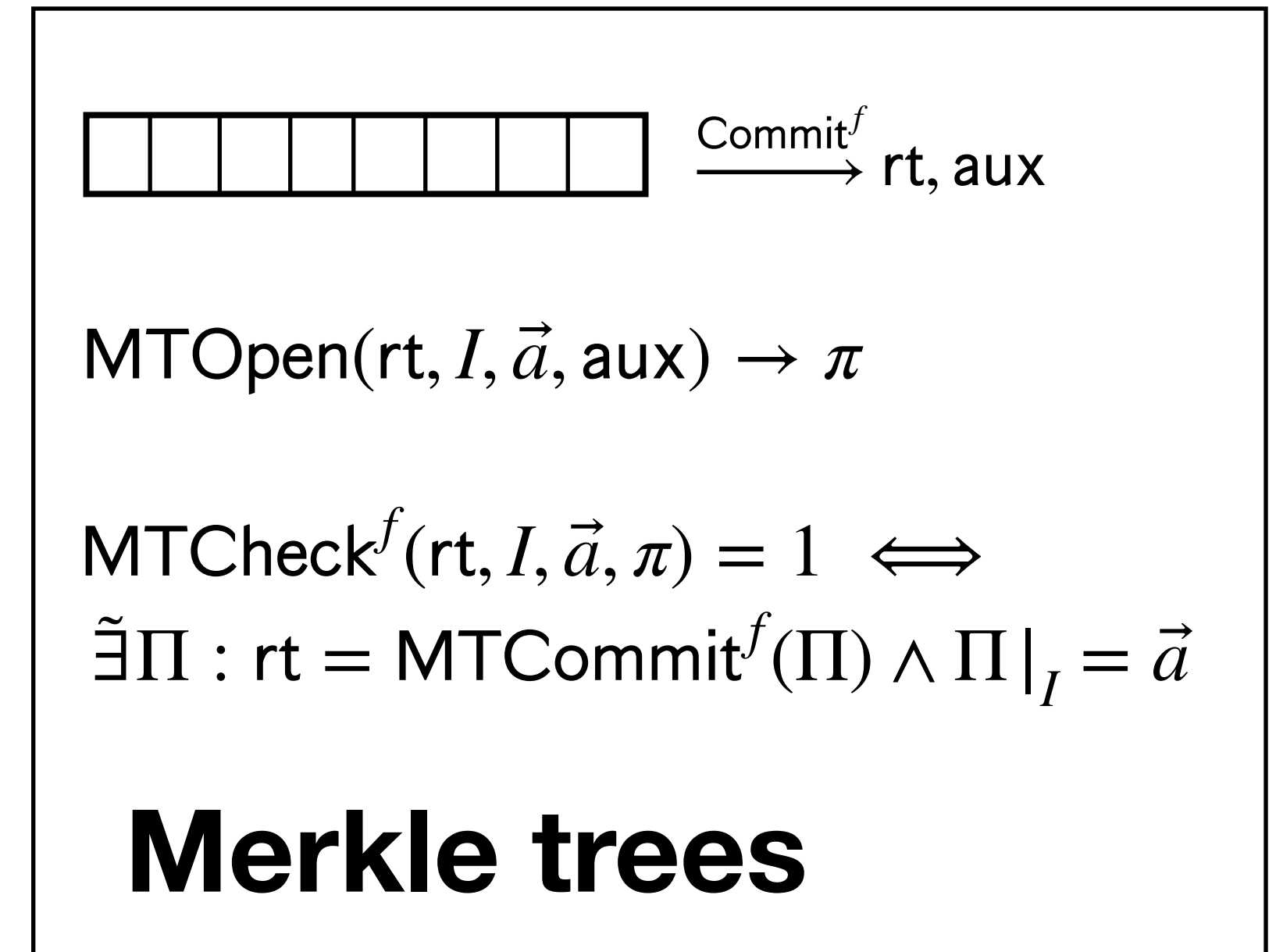
Micali's construction II



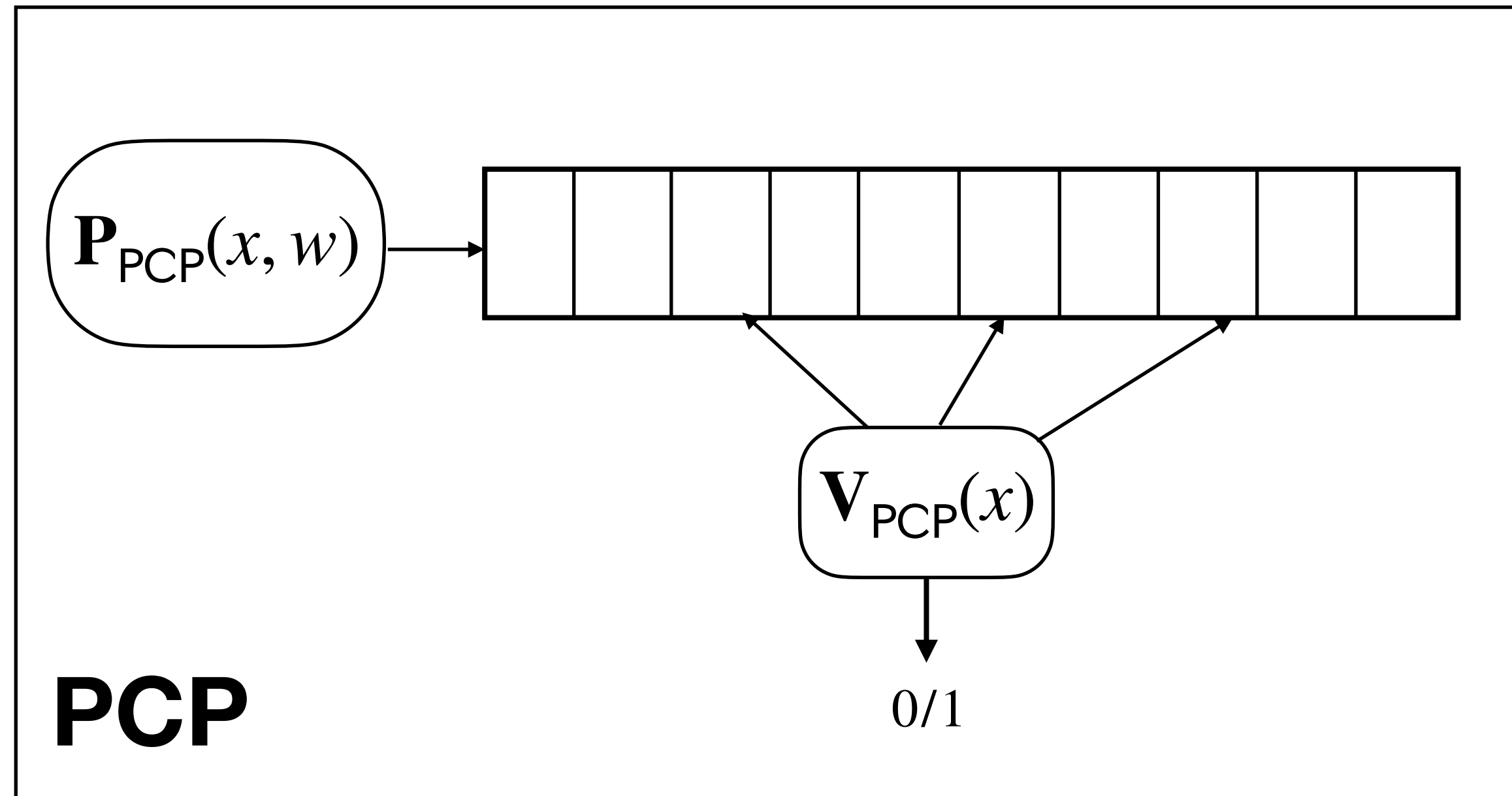
Micali's construction II



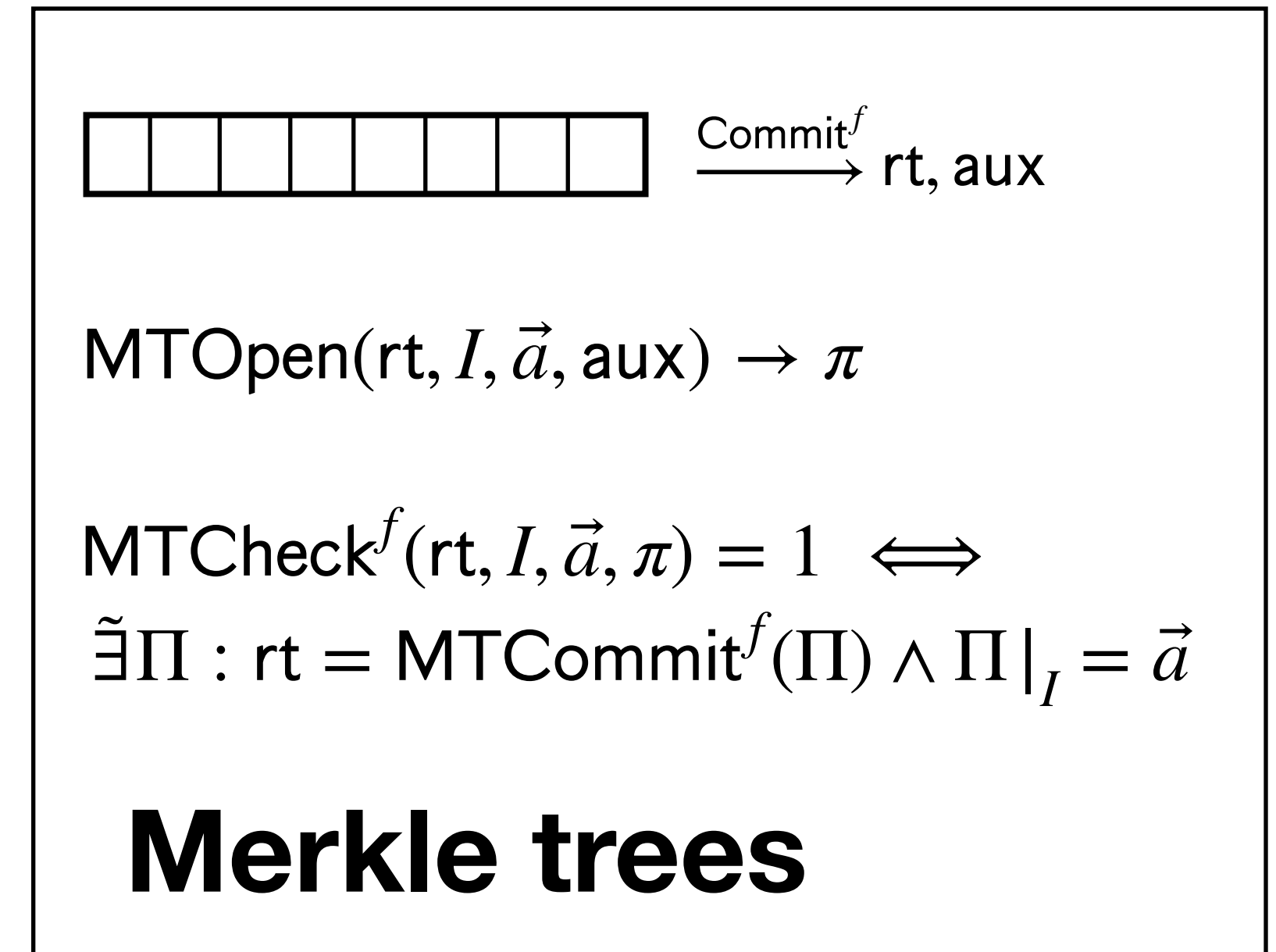
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Micali's construction II



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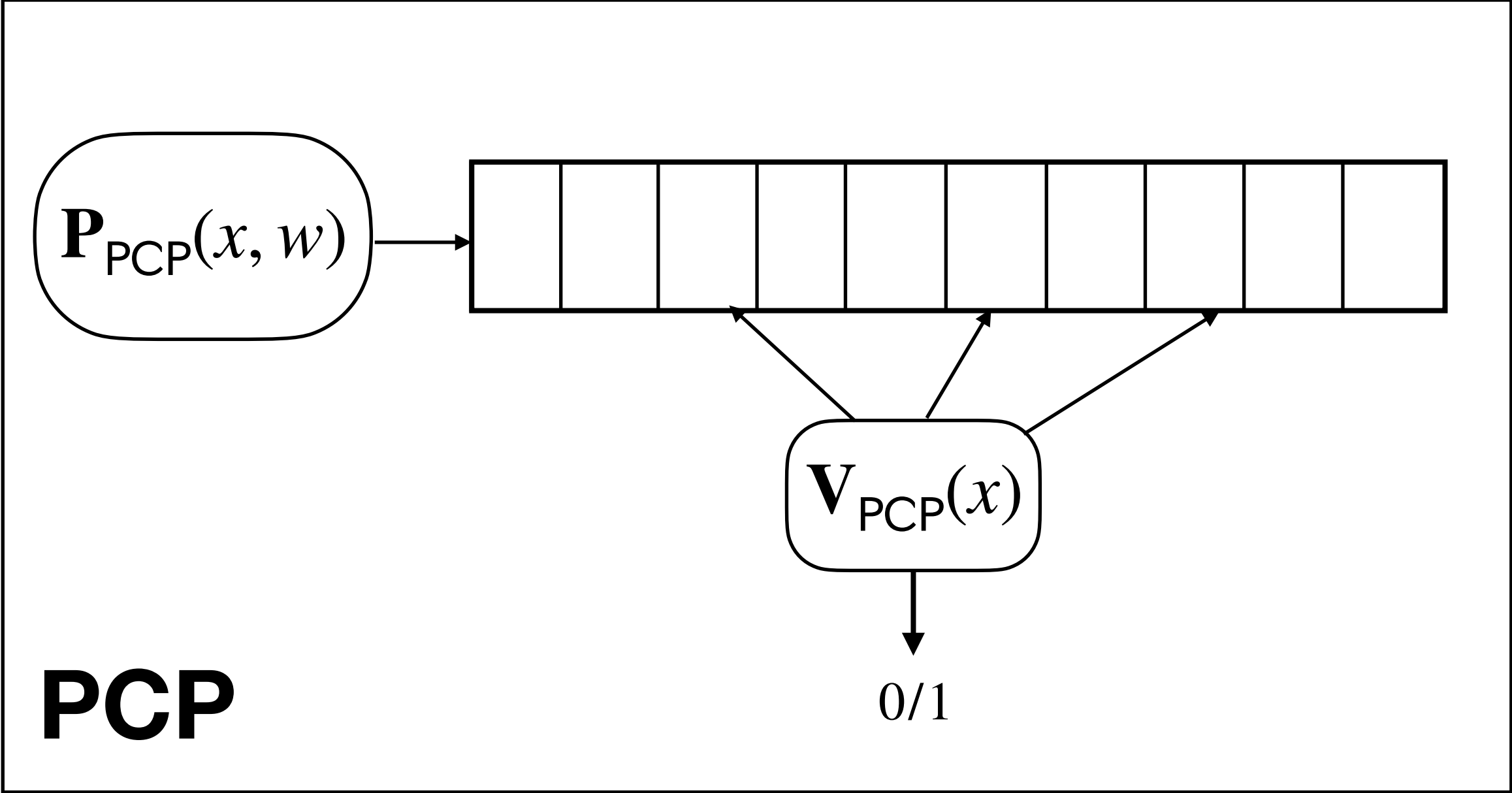


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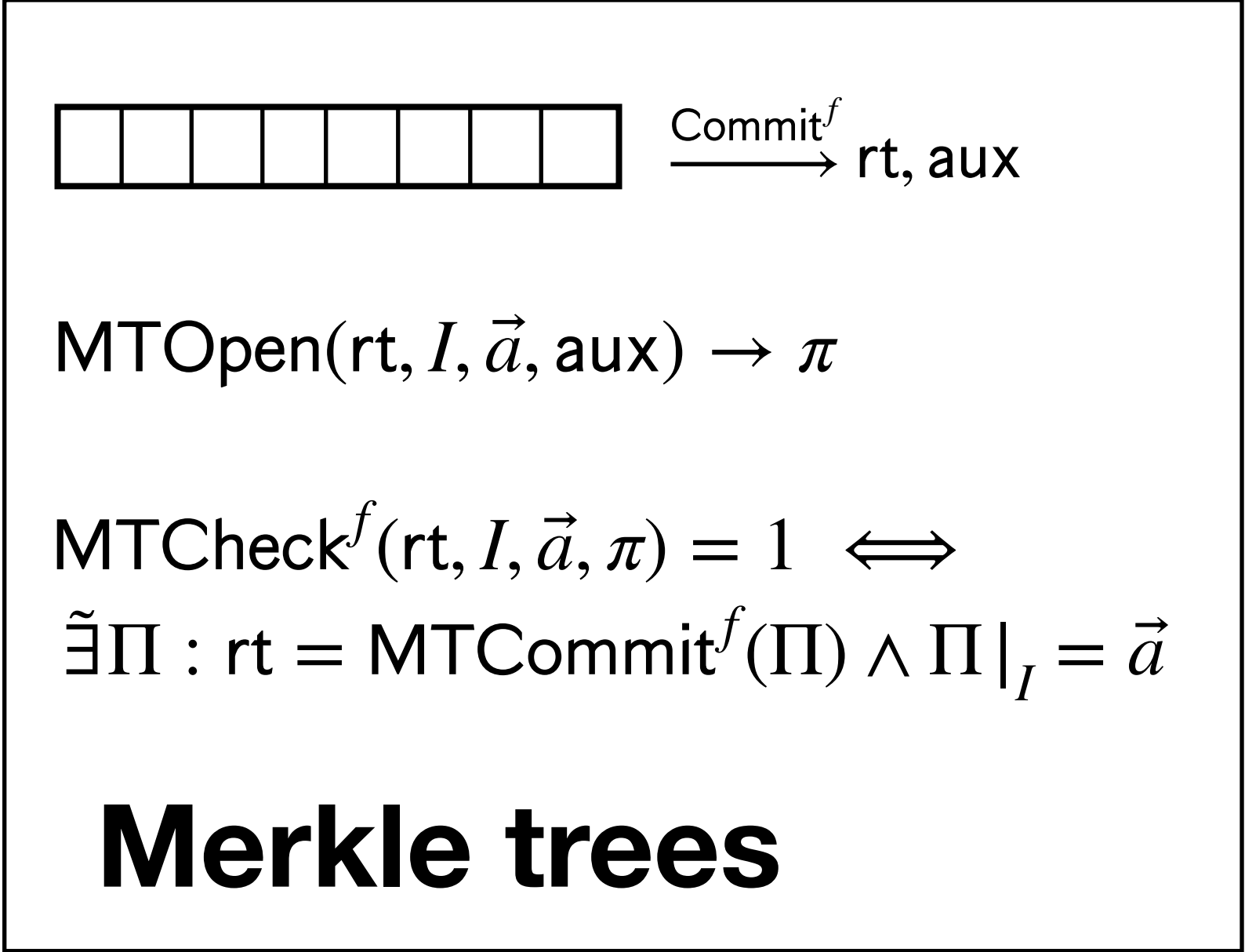
Fiat Shamir

=

Micali's construction II



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Fiat Shamir

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zkSNARK in the ROM

Micali's construction III

Commit to PCP string using MT,
then apply FS transform

Micali's construction III

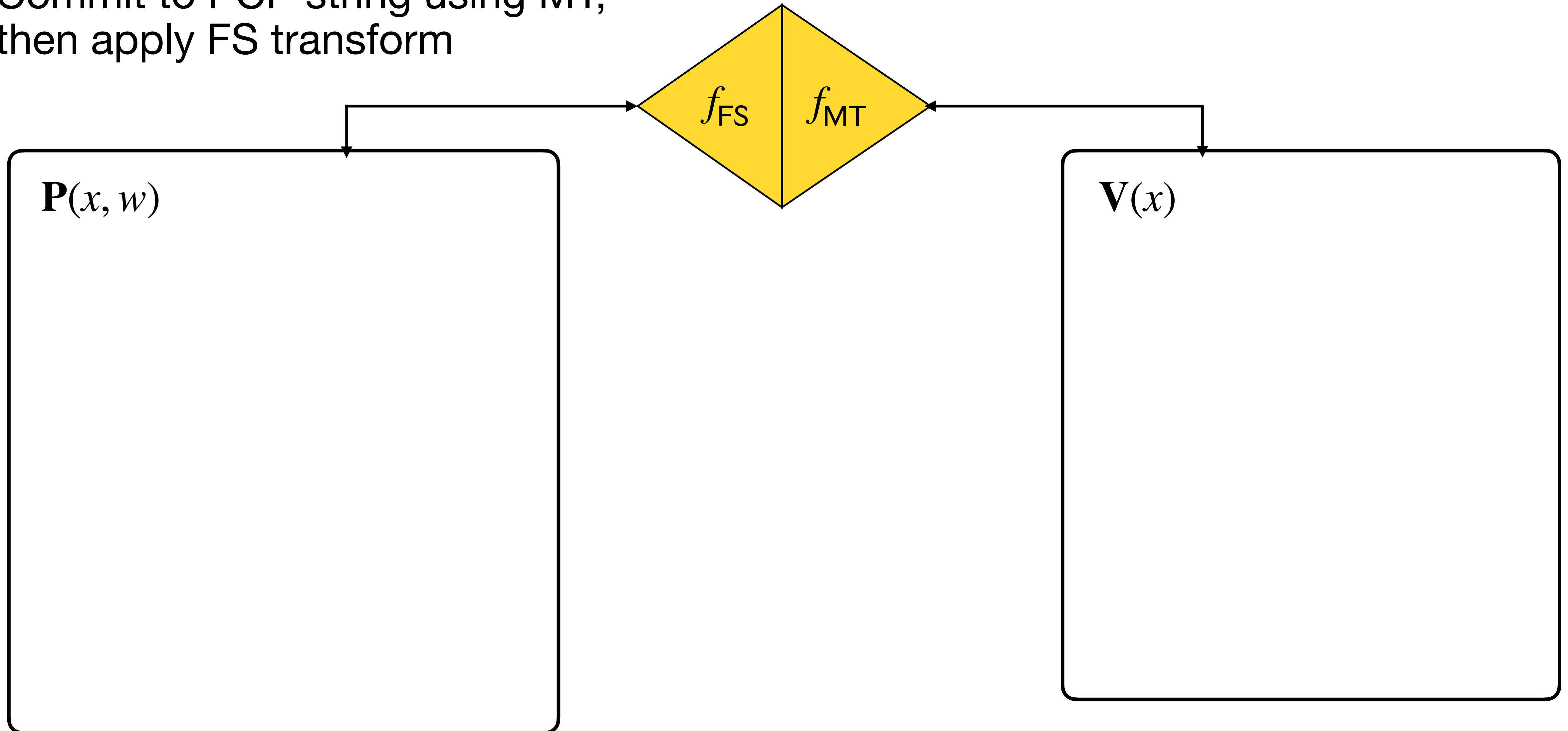
Commit to PCP string using MT,
then apply FS transform

$\mathbf{P}(x, w)$

$\mathbf{V}(x)$

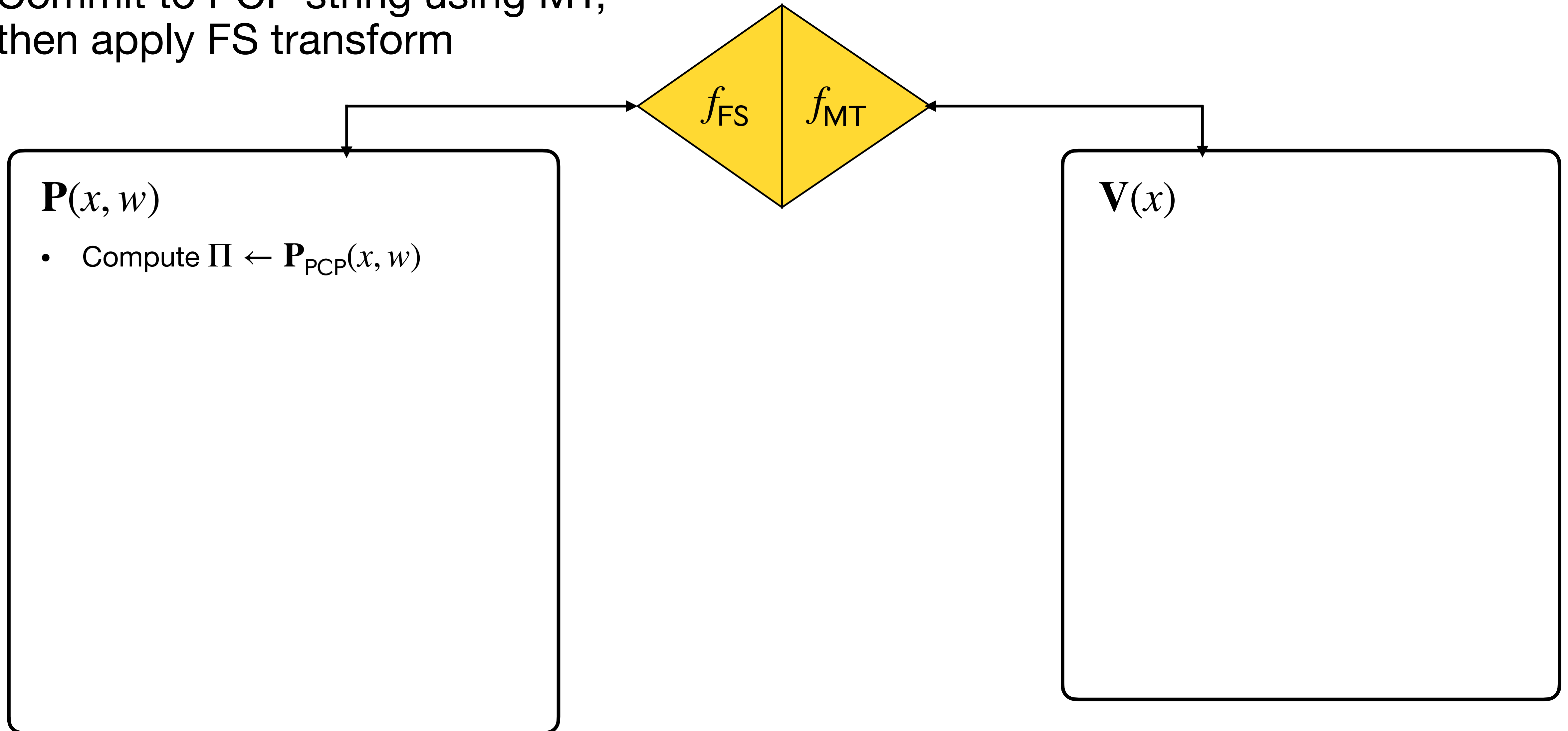
Micali's construction III

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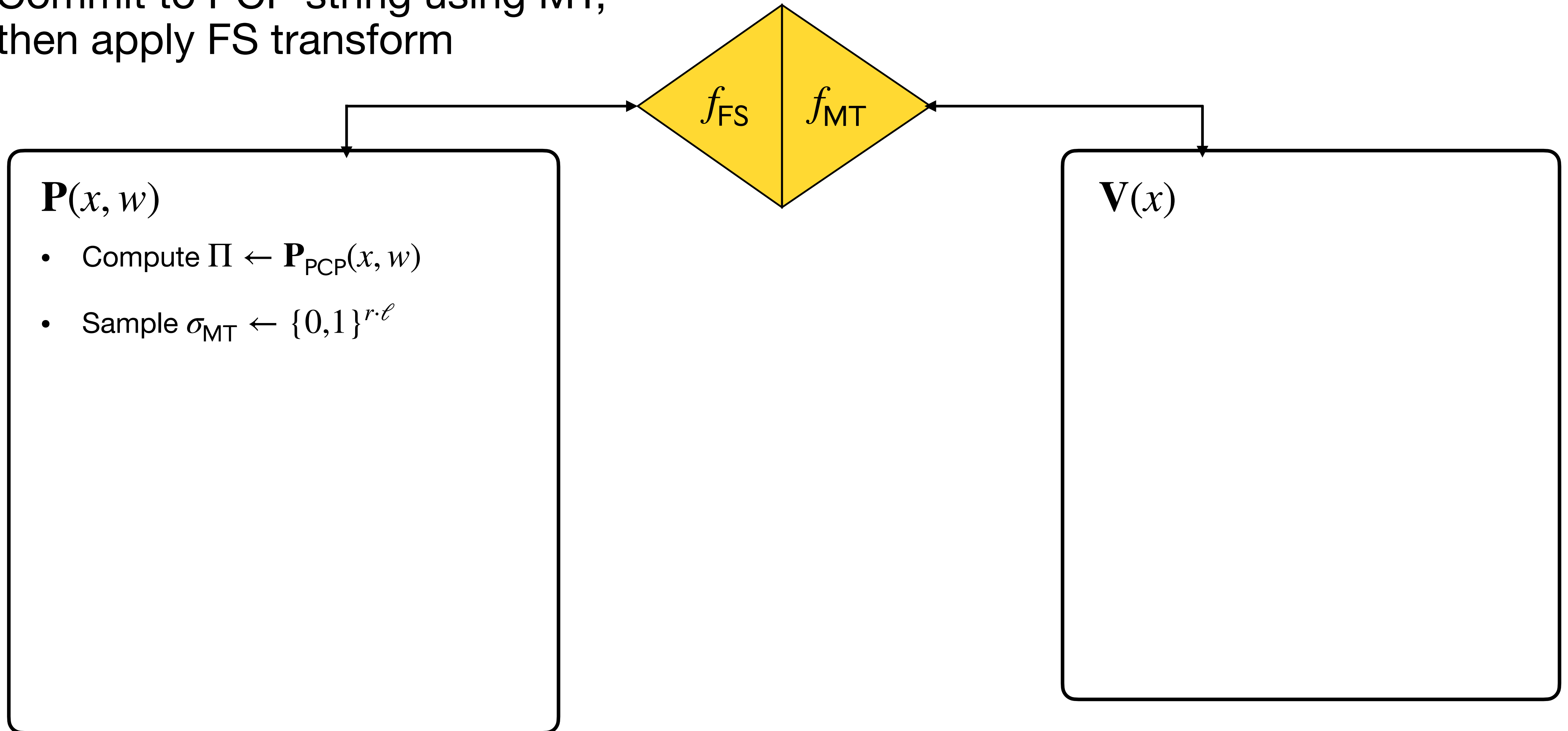
Micali's construction III

Commit to PCP string using MT,
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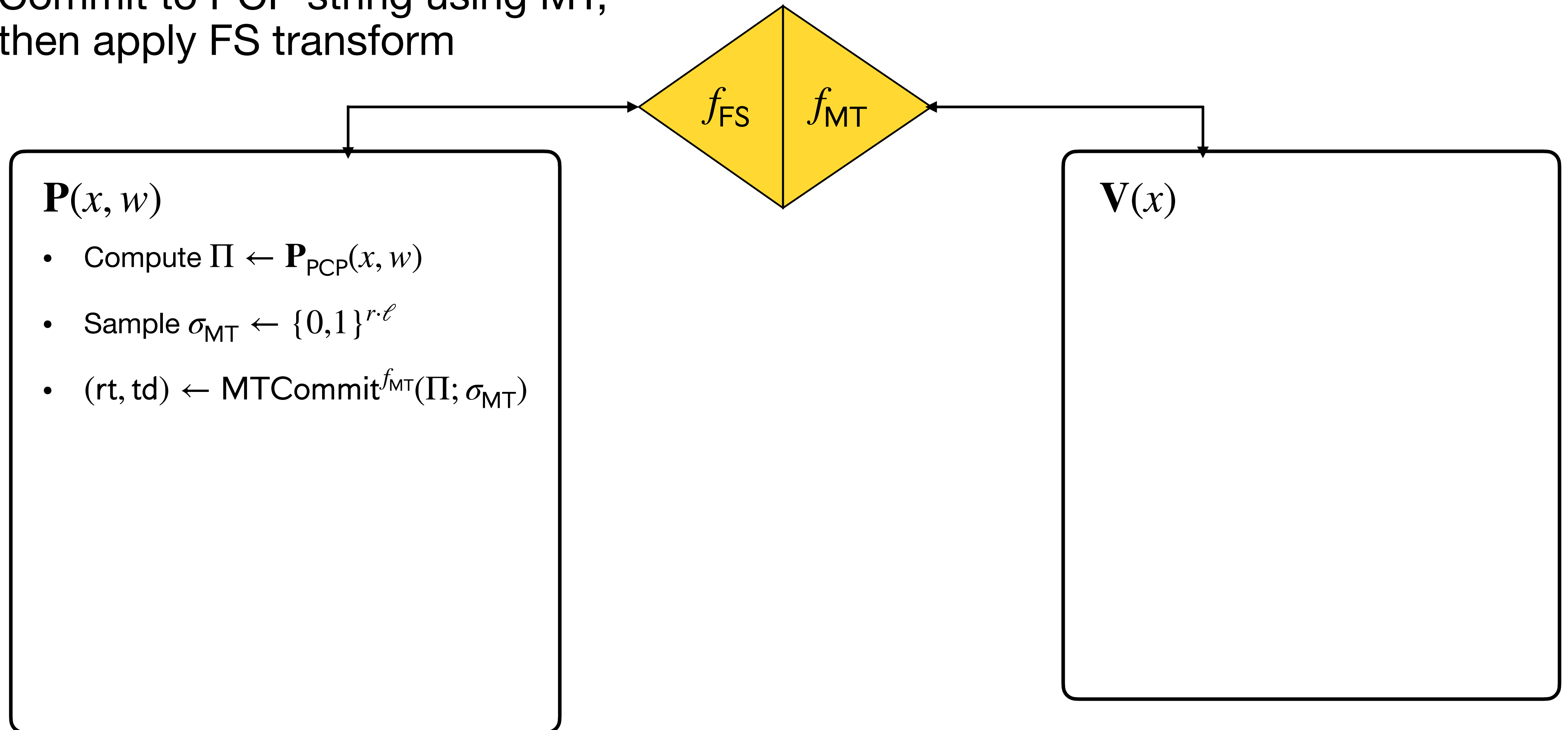
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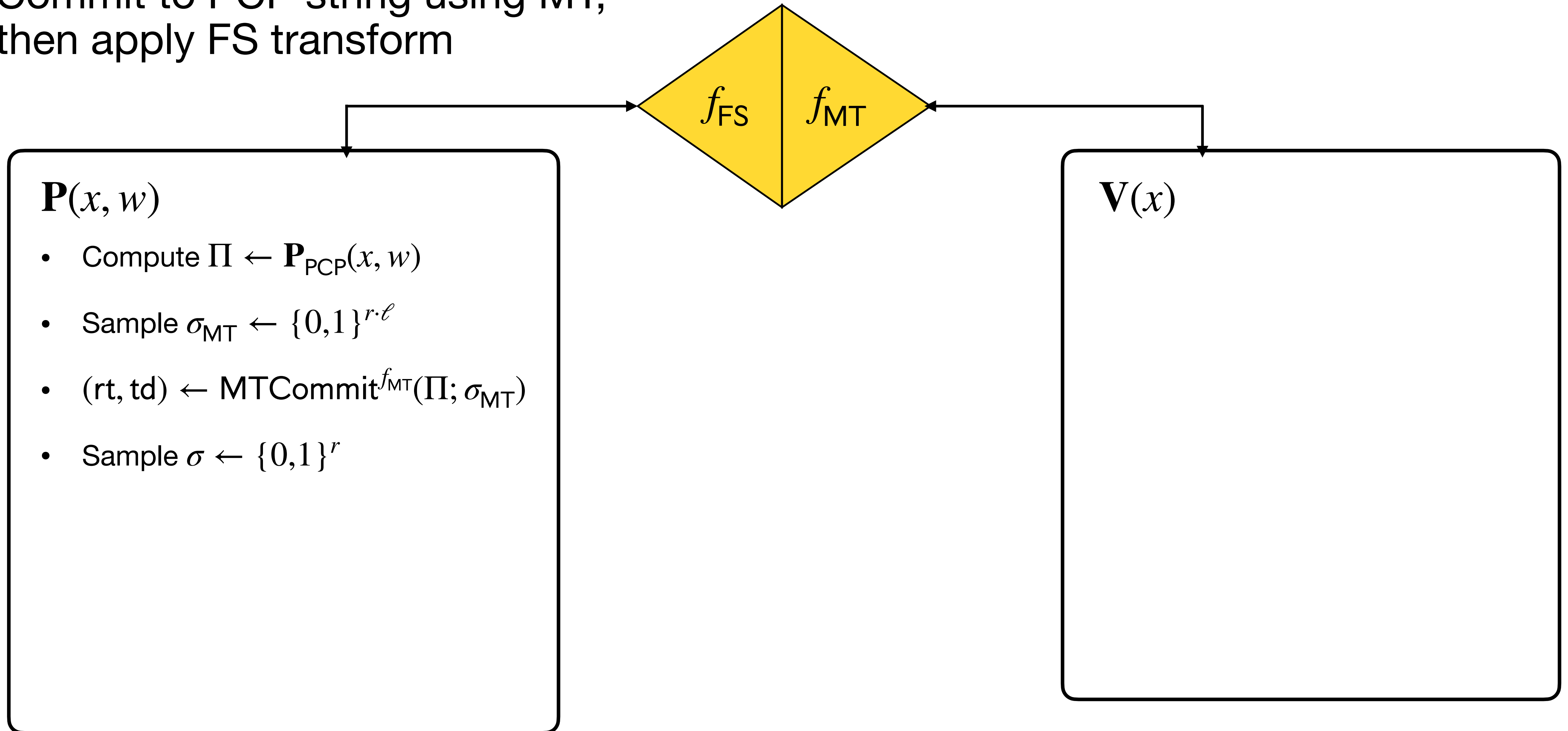
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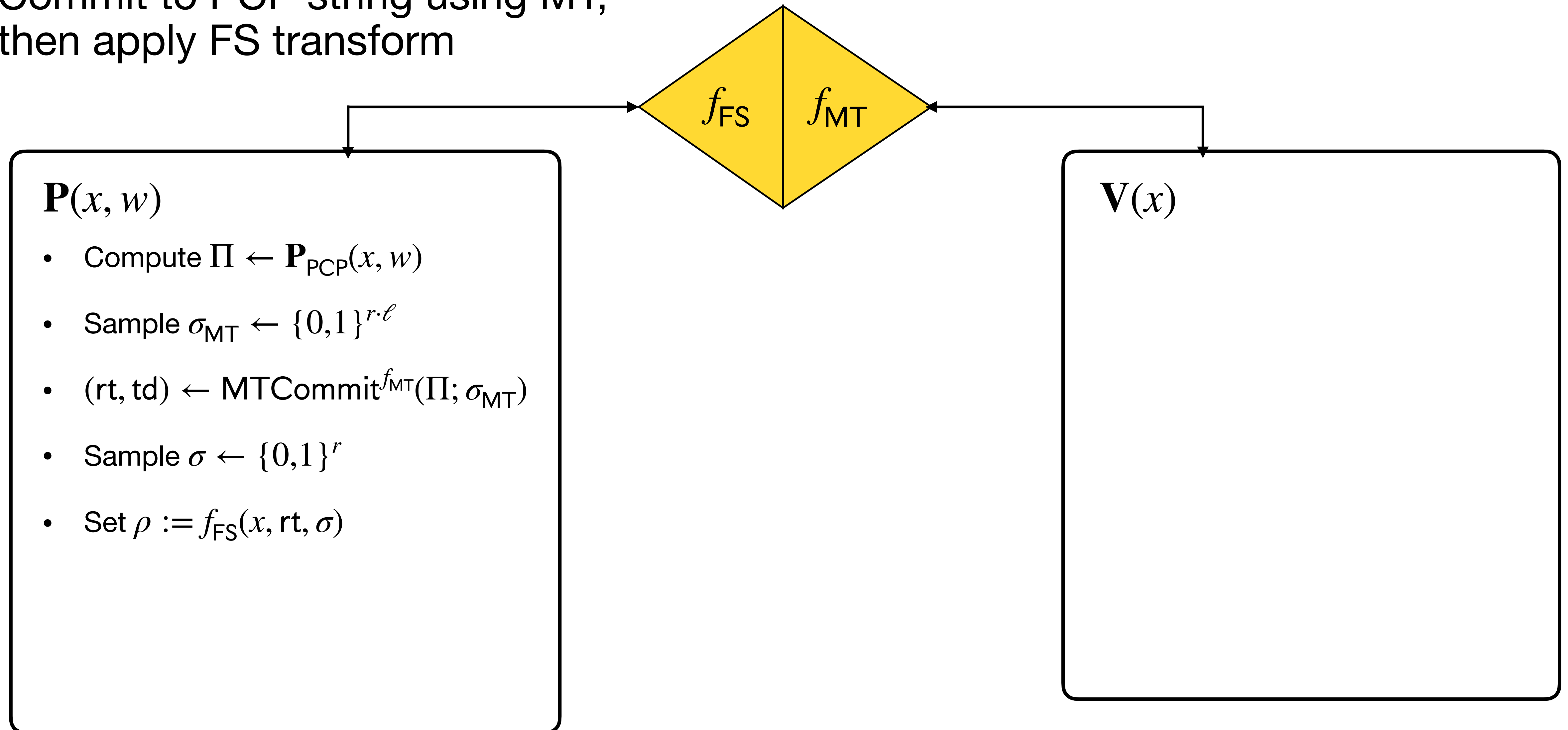
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then apply FS transform



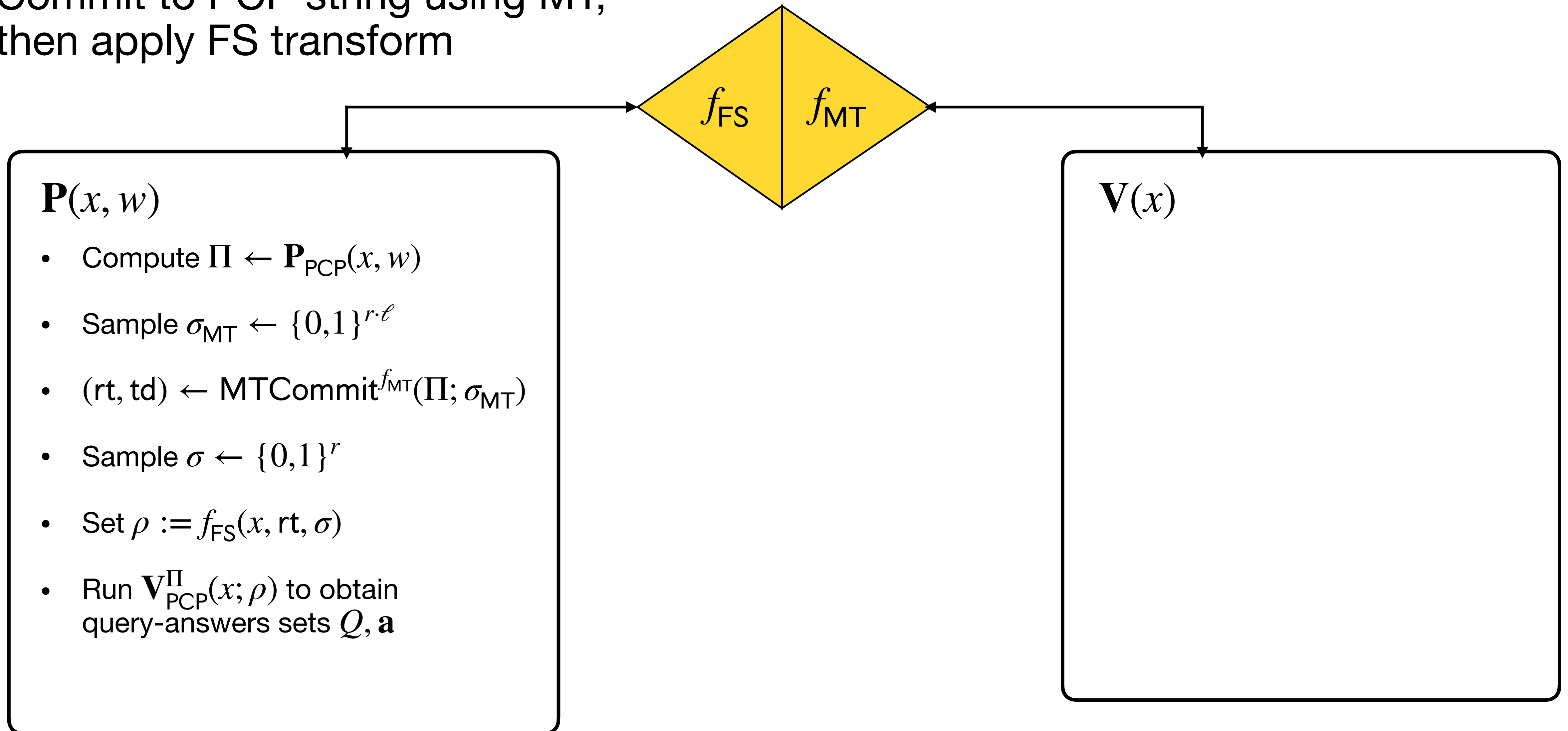
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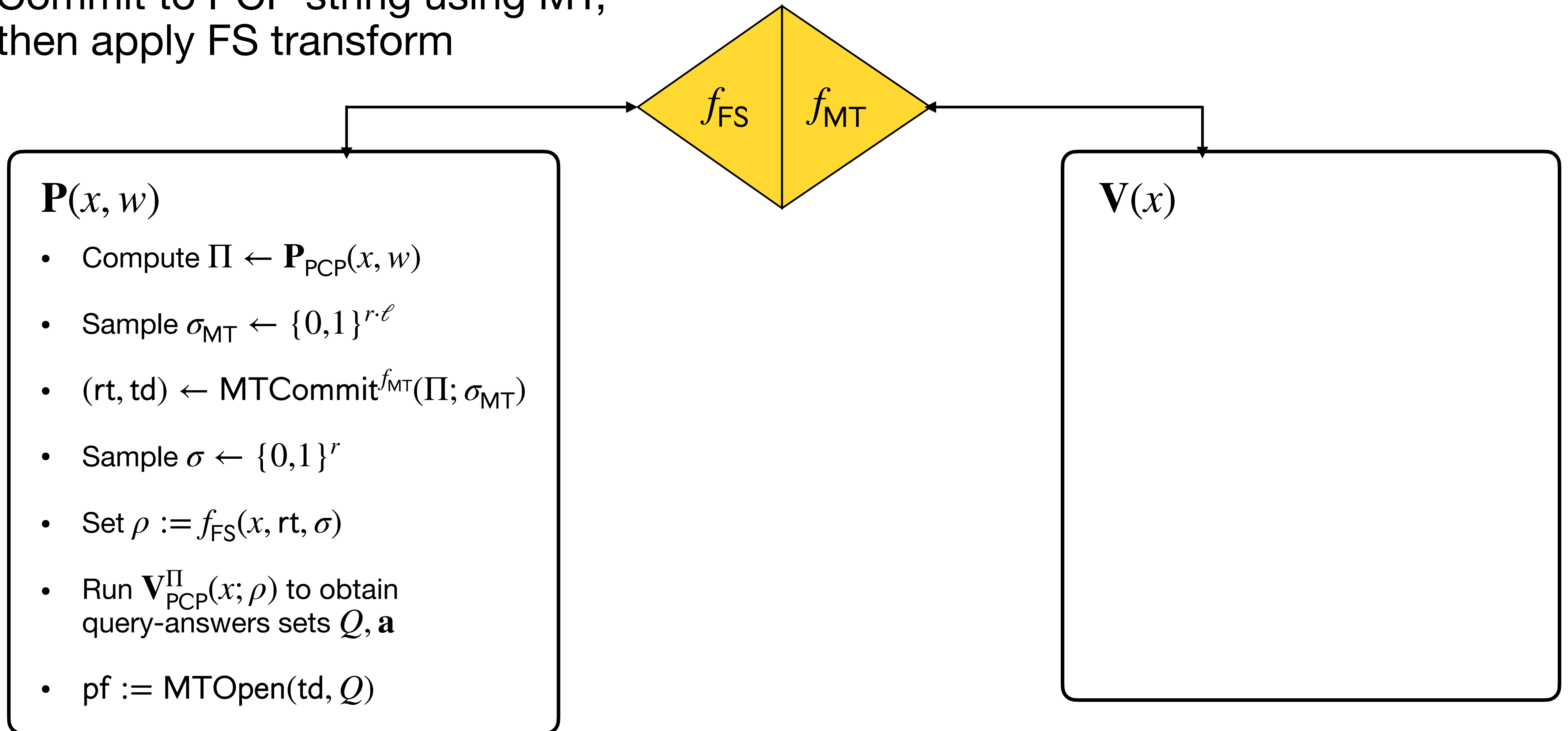
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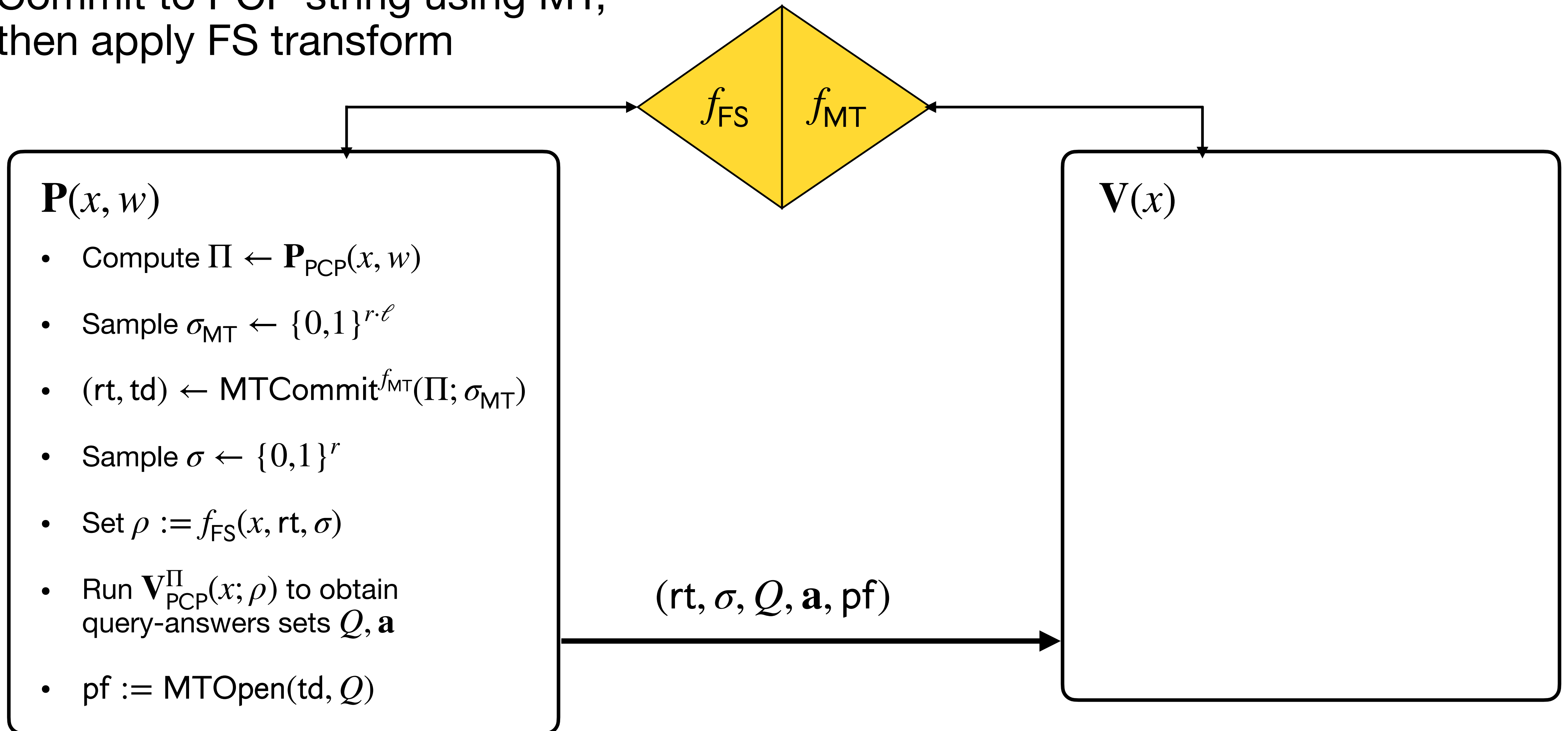
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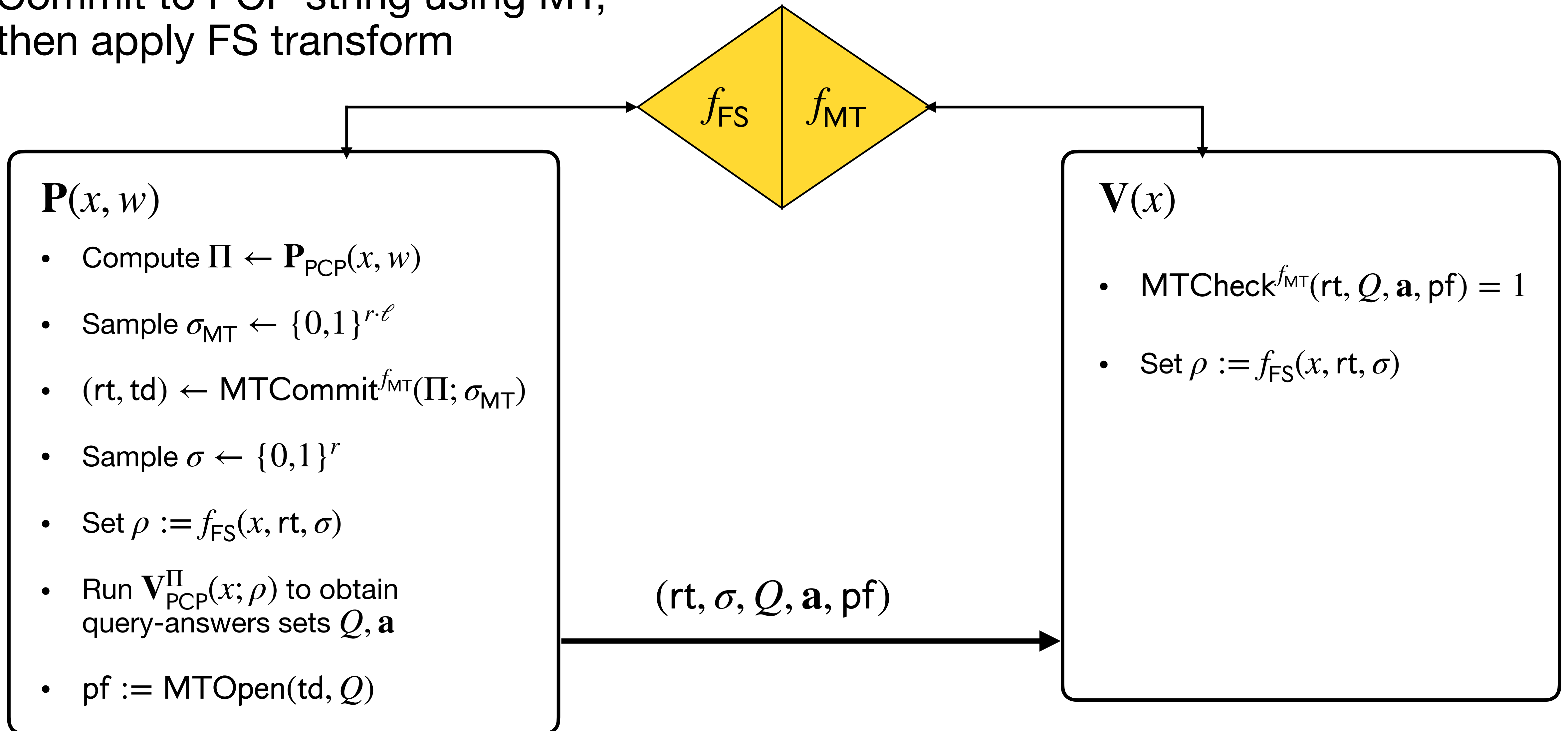
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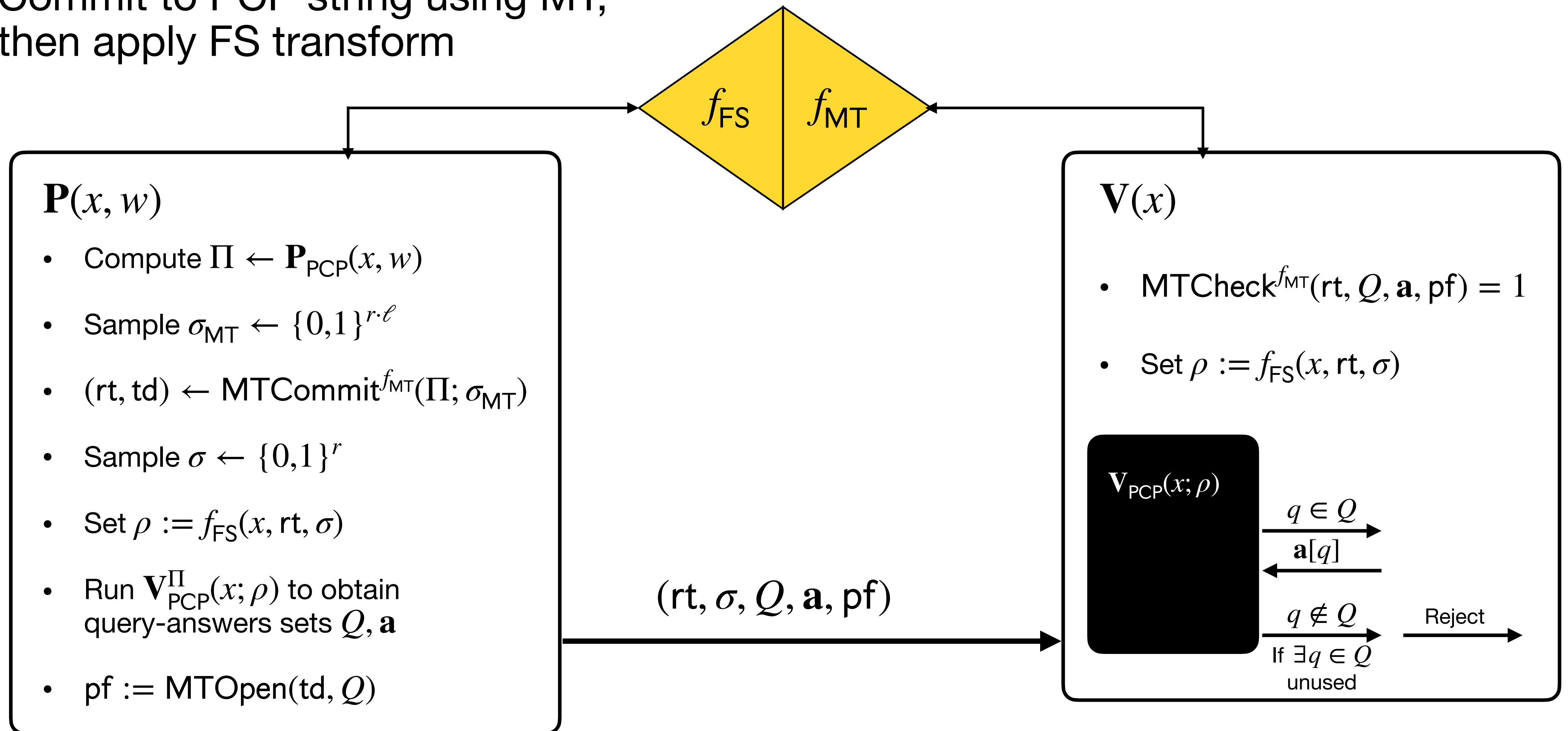
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UC Security I

[Canetti 2001]

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- Motivation: Modular security analysis of protocols

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Composition Theorem

A diagram consisting of a rounded rectangular box on the left containing the text 'Composition Theorem'. A horizontal line extends from the right side of this box to the top edge of a larger, empty rectangular frame that occupies the lower half of the slide.

UC Security I

- Motivation: Modular security analysis of protocols
- Why UC? ‘Gold-standard’ + vast literature

π : protocol

φ : ideal functionality

ρ : calling protocol

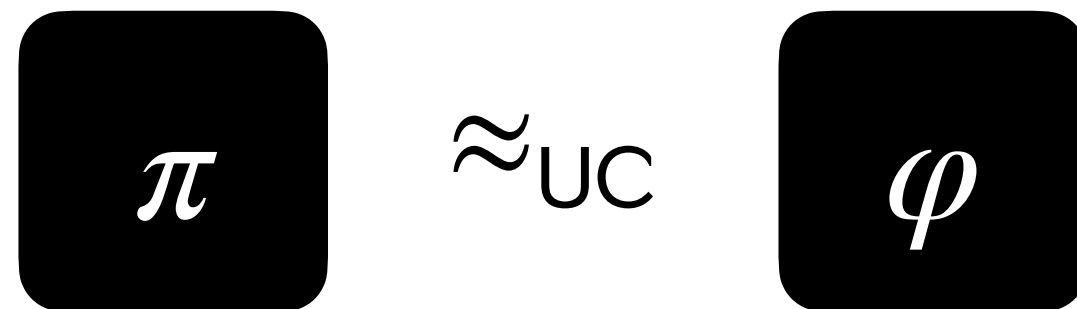
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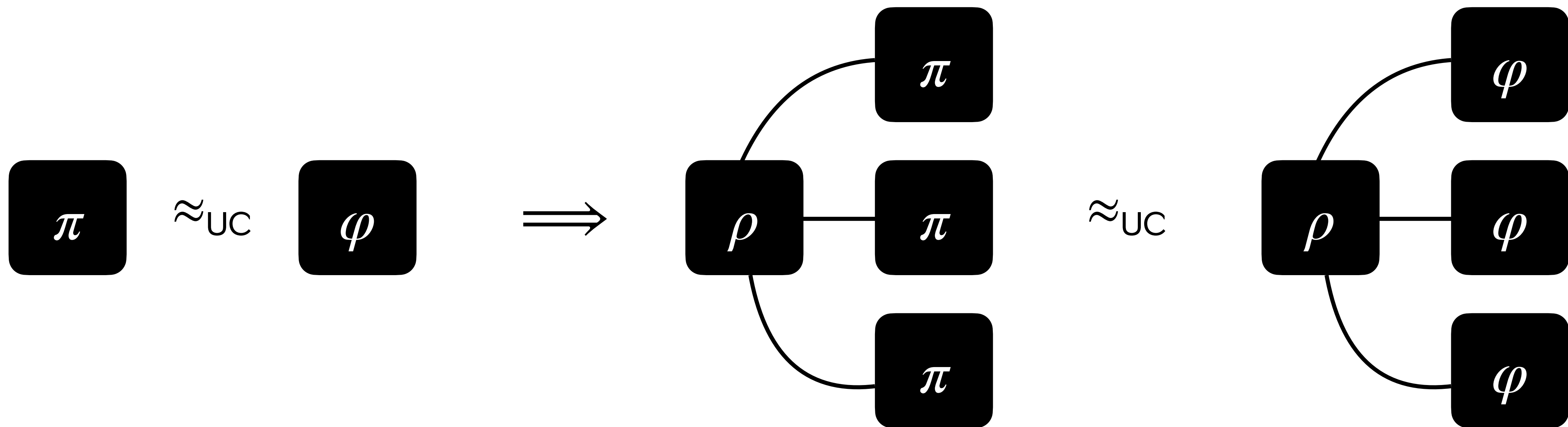


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UC Security II

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\mathcal{E} : environment

\mathcal{F} : ideal functionality

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$$\pi \approx_{\text{UC}} \mathcal{F}$$

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Goal: Cannot distinguish protocol from idealized version.

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$$\pi \approx_{\text{UC}} \mathcal{F}$$
$$\iff$$
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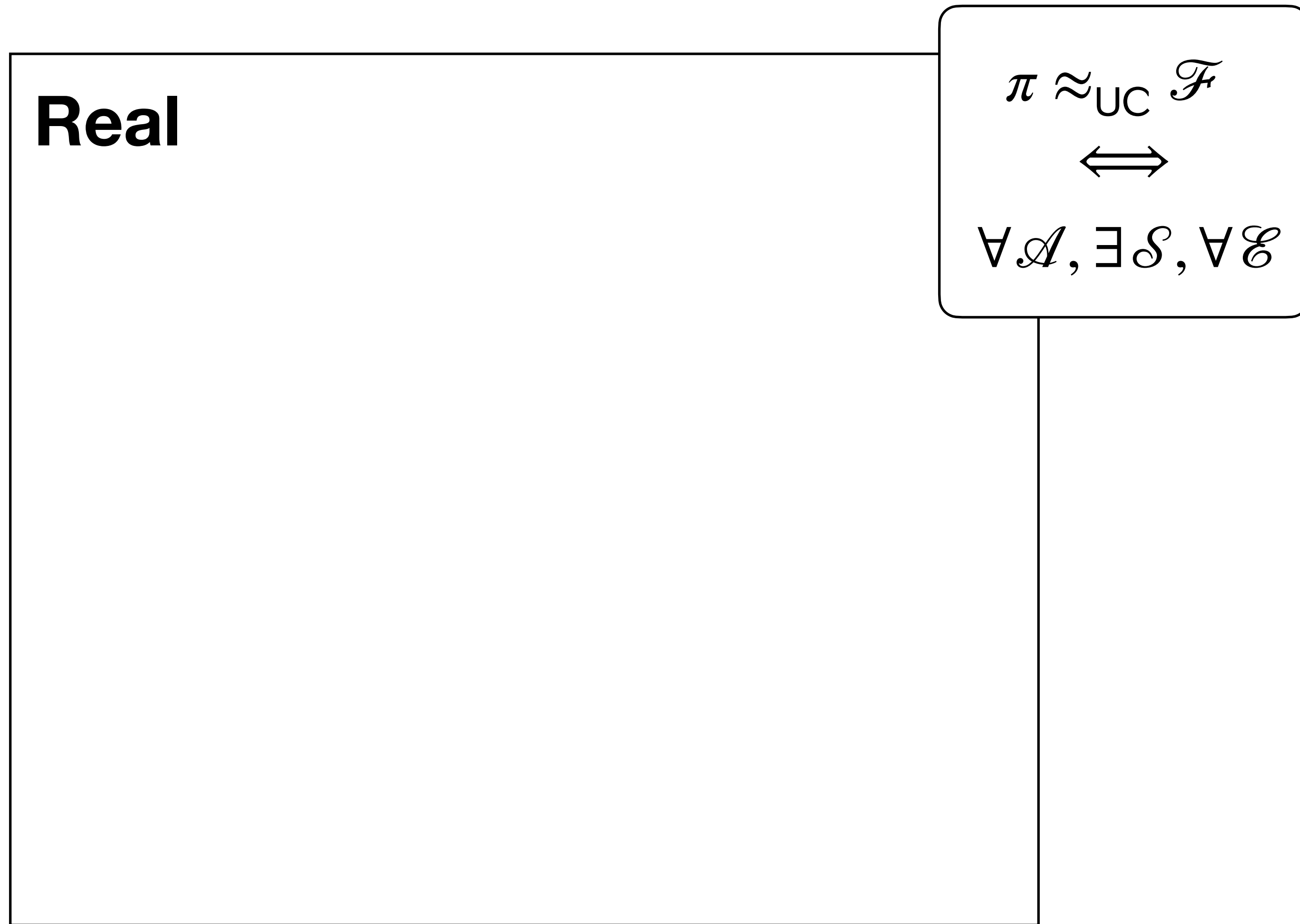
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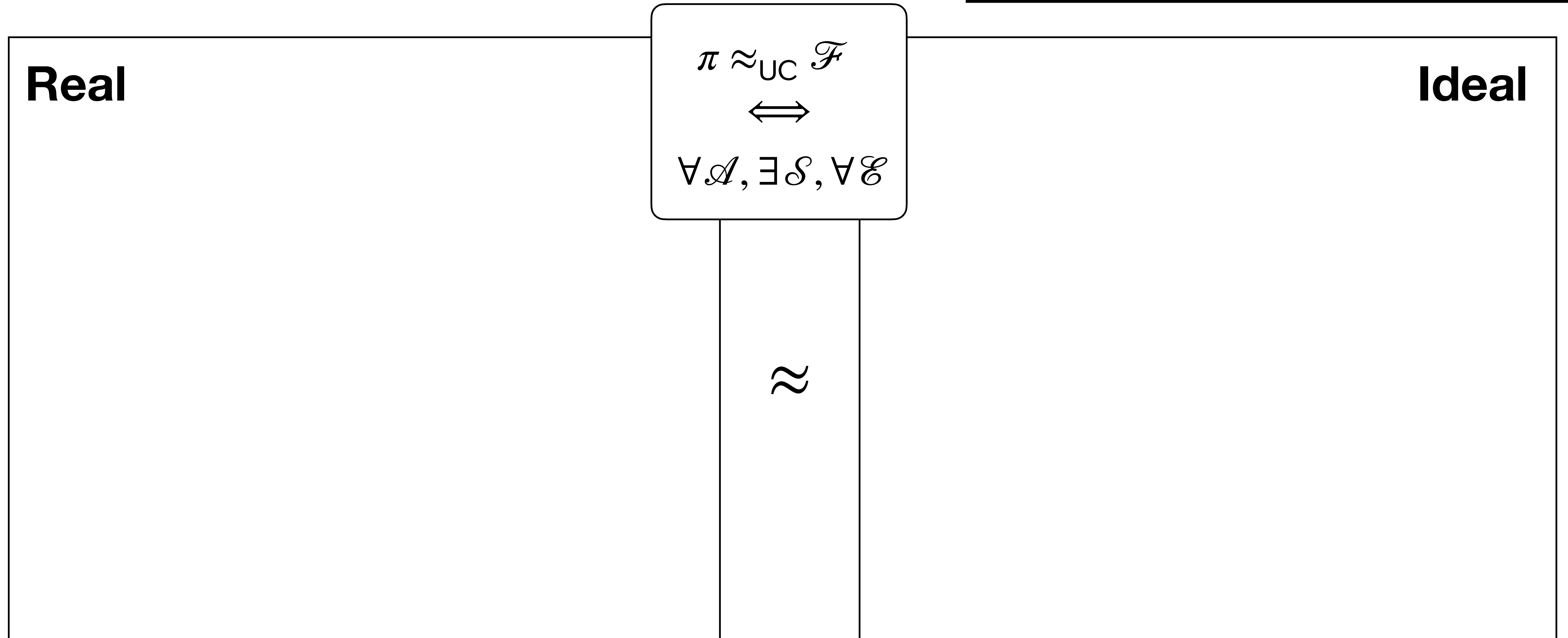
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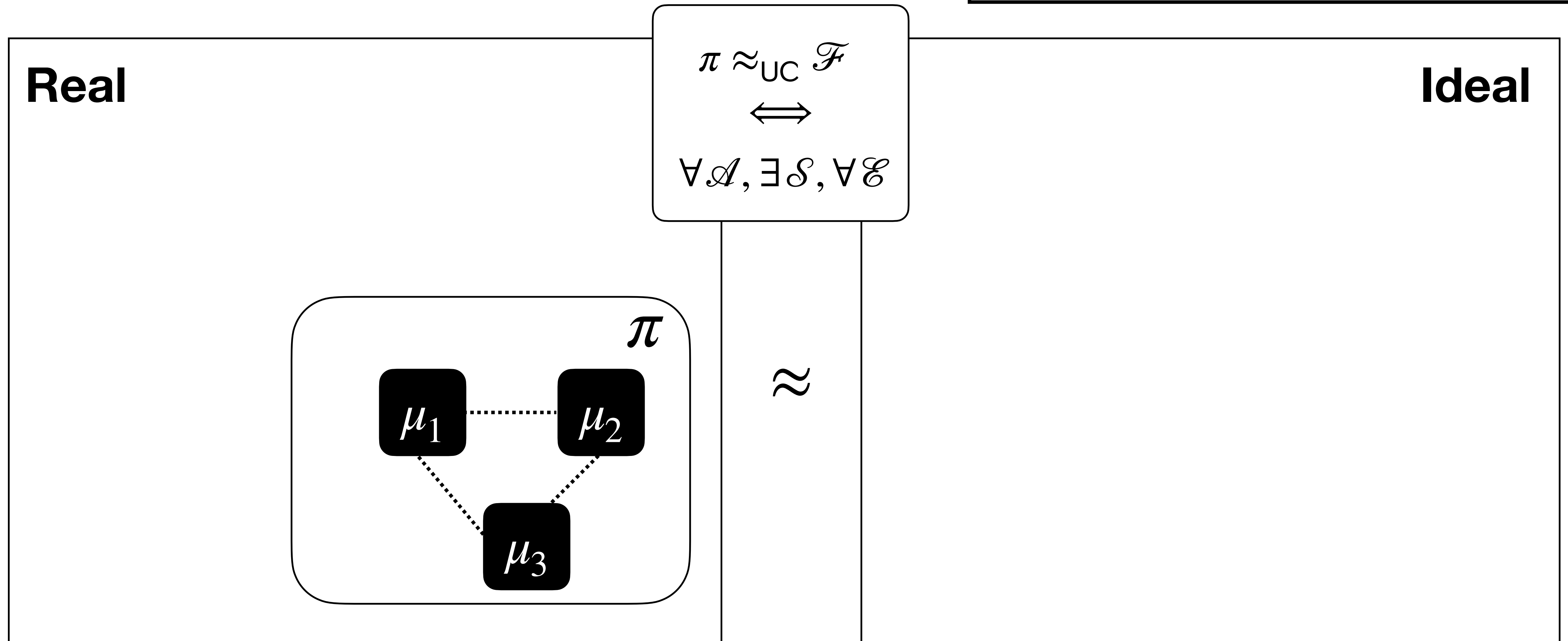
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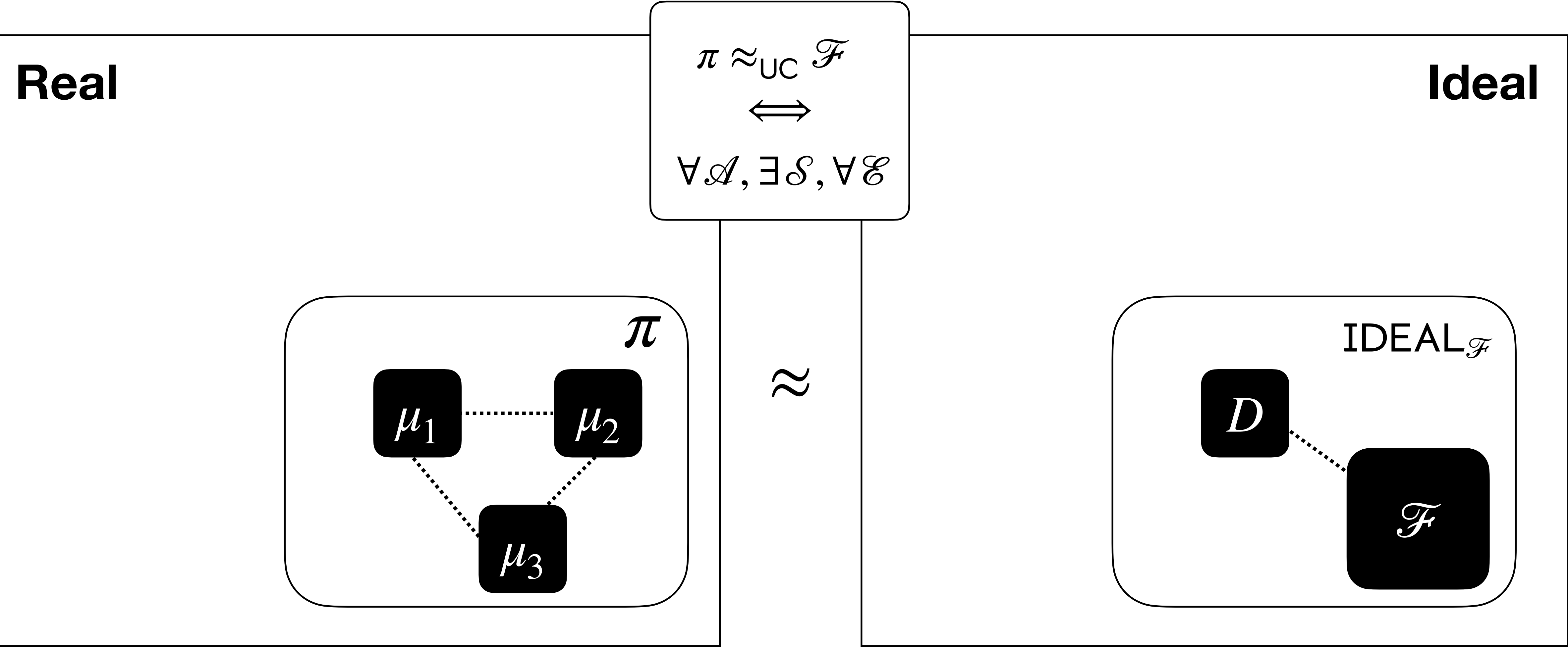
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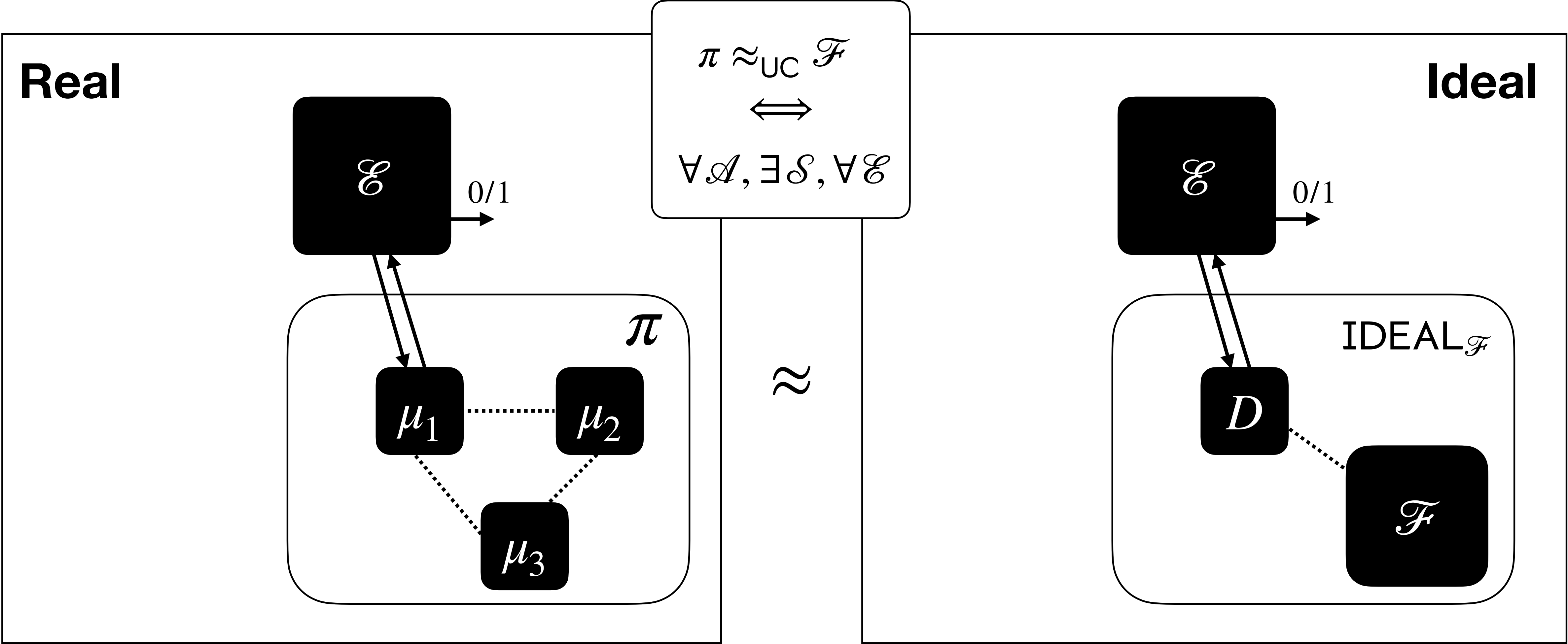
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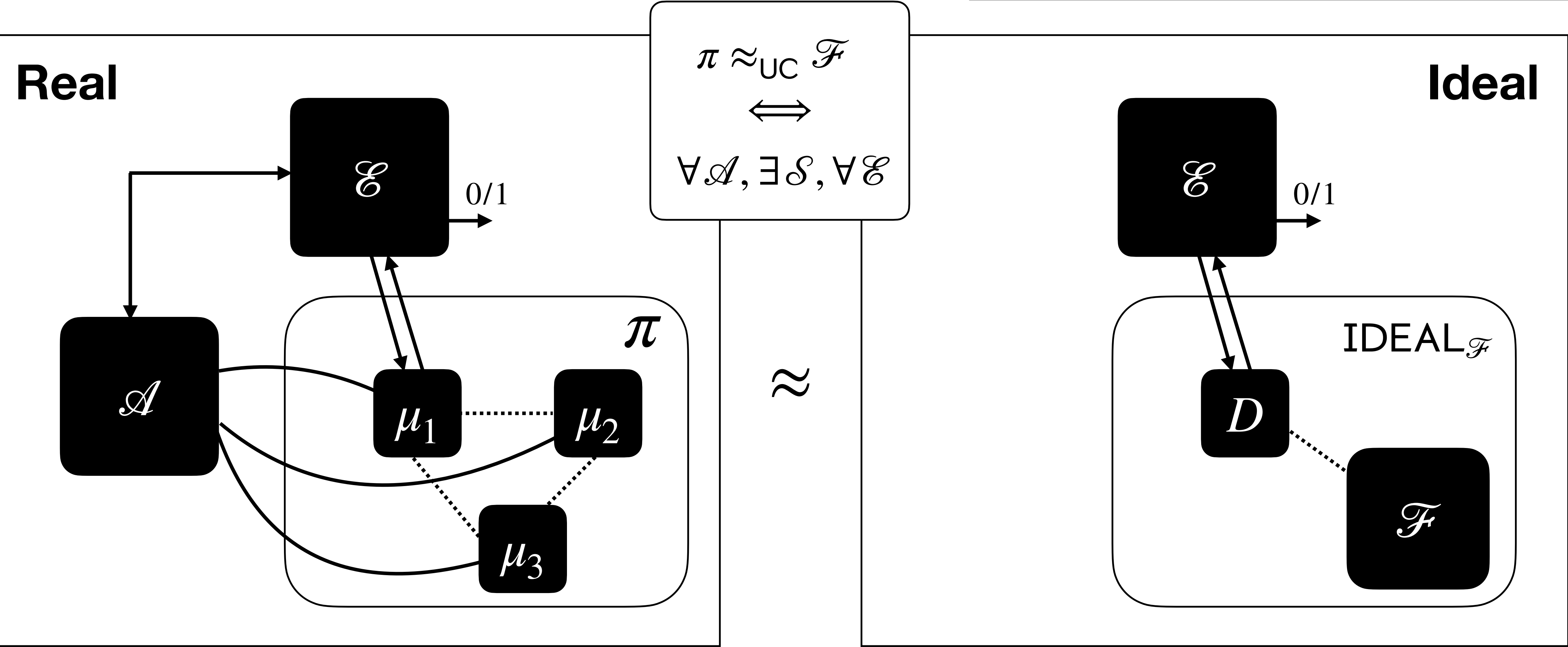
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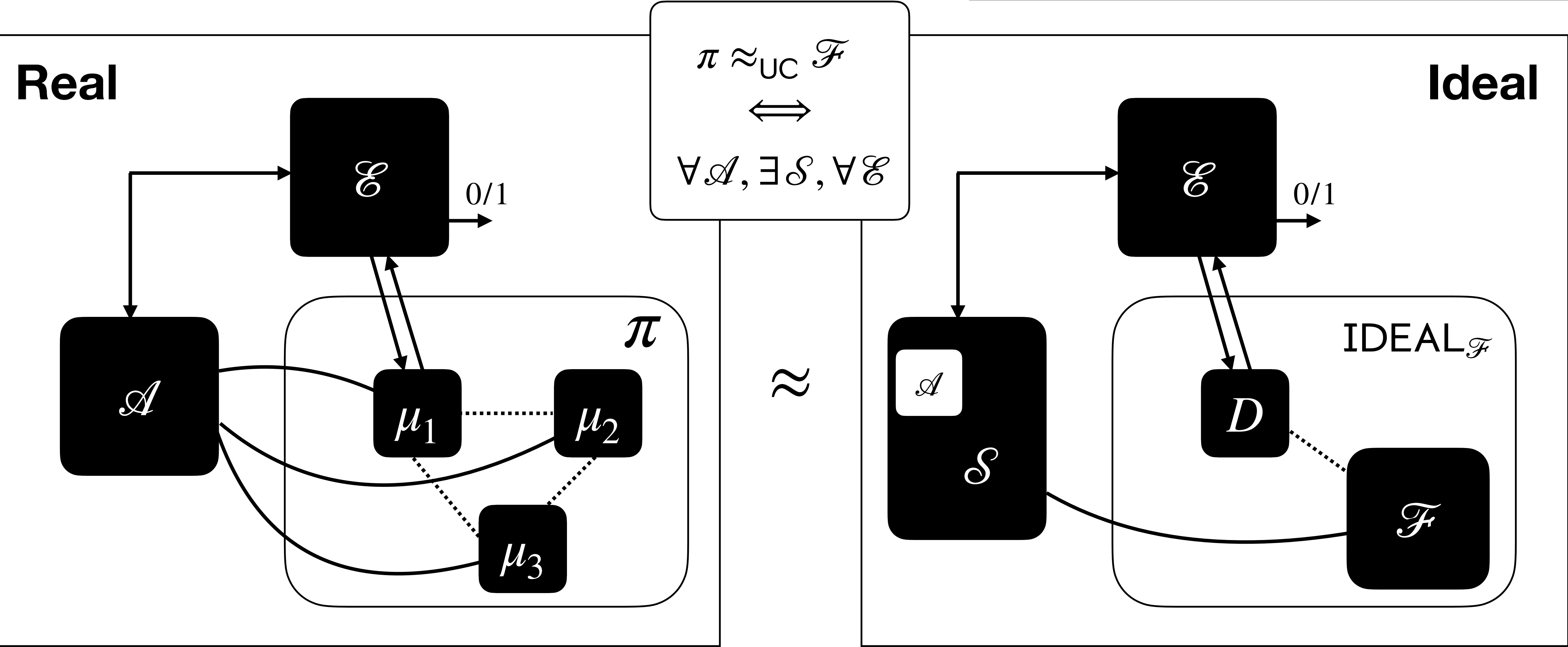
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[LR22]

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\mathcal{F}^\star

Setup(s)

- Get $\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{S}, \mathbf{E}$ from \mathcal{S}

Prove(x, w)

- Sim $\pi, \text{tr} \leftarrow \mathbf{S}^{\text{GRO}_s}(x)$
- Program GRO according to tr

Verify(x, π)

- $b \stackrel{\text{tr}_V}{\leftarrow} \mathbf{V}^{\text{GRO}_s}(x, \pi)$
- If π was generated by Prove, accept
- If $b = 0$ or any query in tr_V is programmed, reject.
- Obtain query-list Queries from GRO
- $w \leftarrow \mathbf{E}^{\text{GRO}_s}(x, \pi, \text{Queries})$
- If $(x, w) \notin R$ fail, else accept

\mathcal{S}

GRO

Wrapper protocol

Wrapper protocol

Converts an argument $ARG = (\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{V})$ in the ROM into a protocol in the GROM

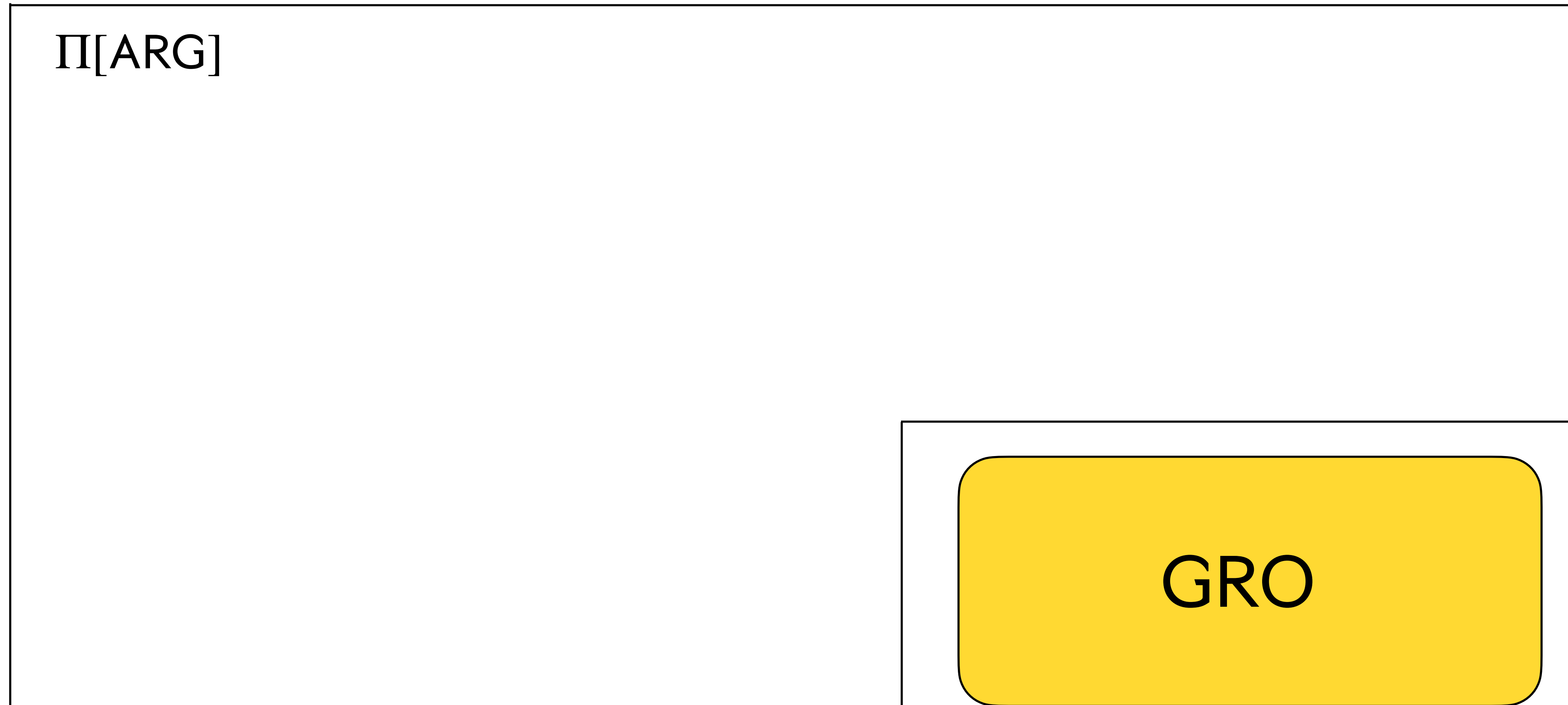
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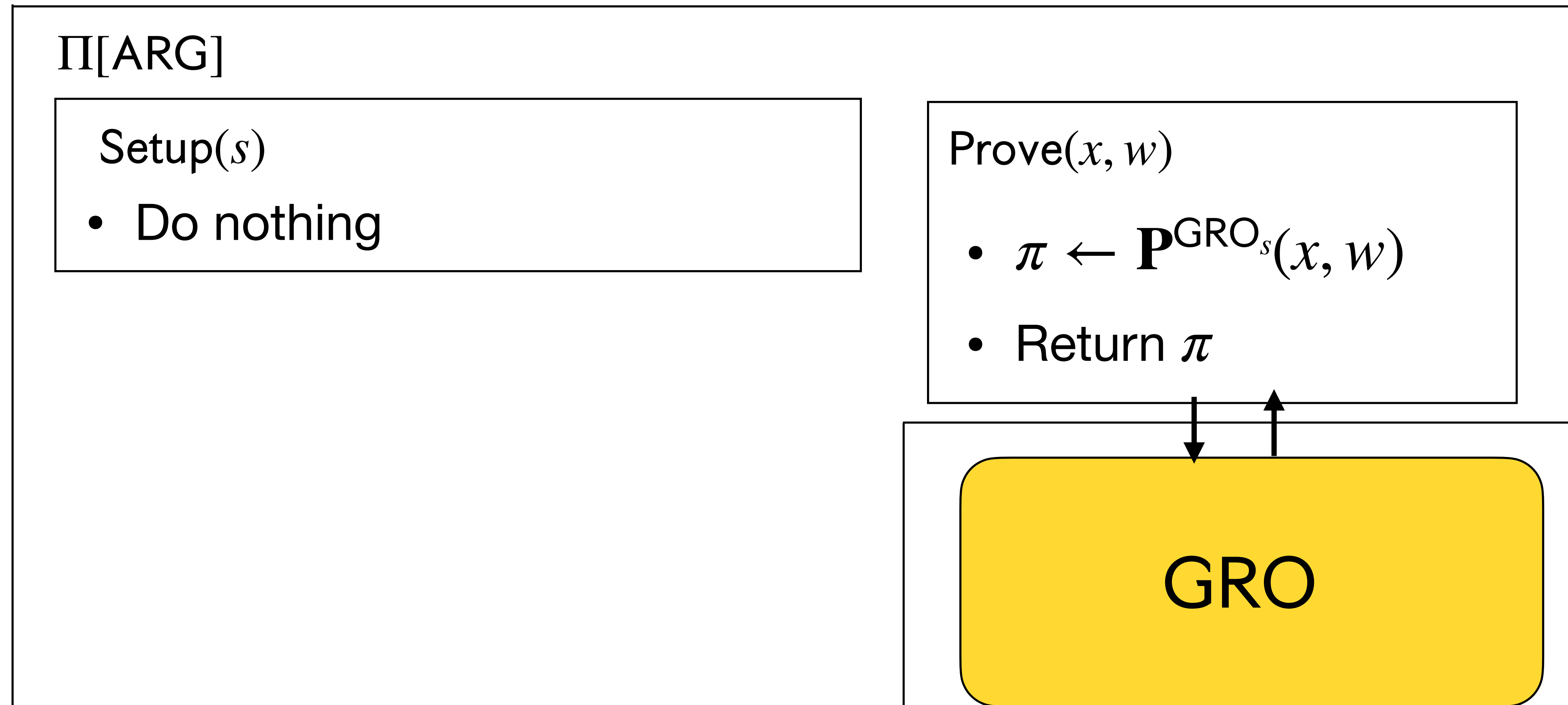
Setup(s)

- Do nothing

GRO

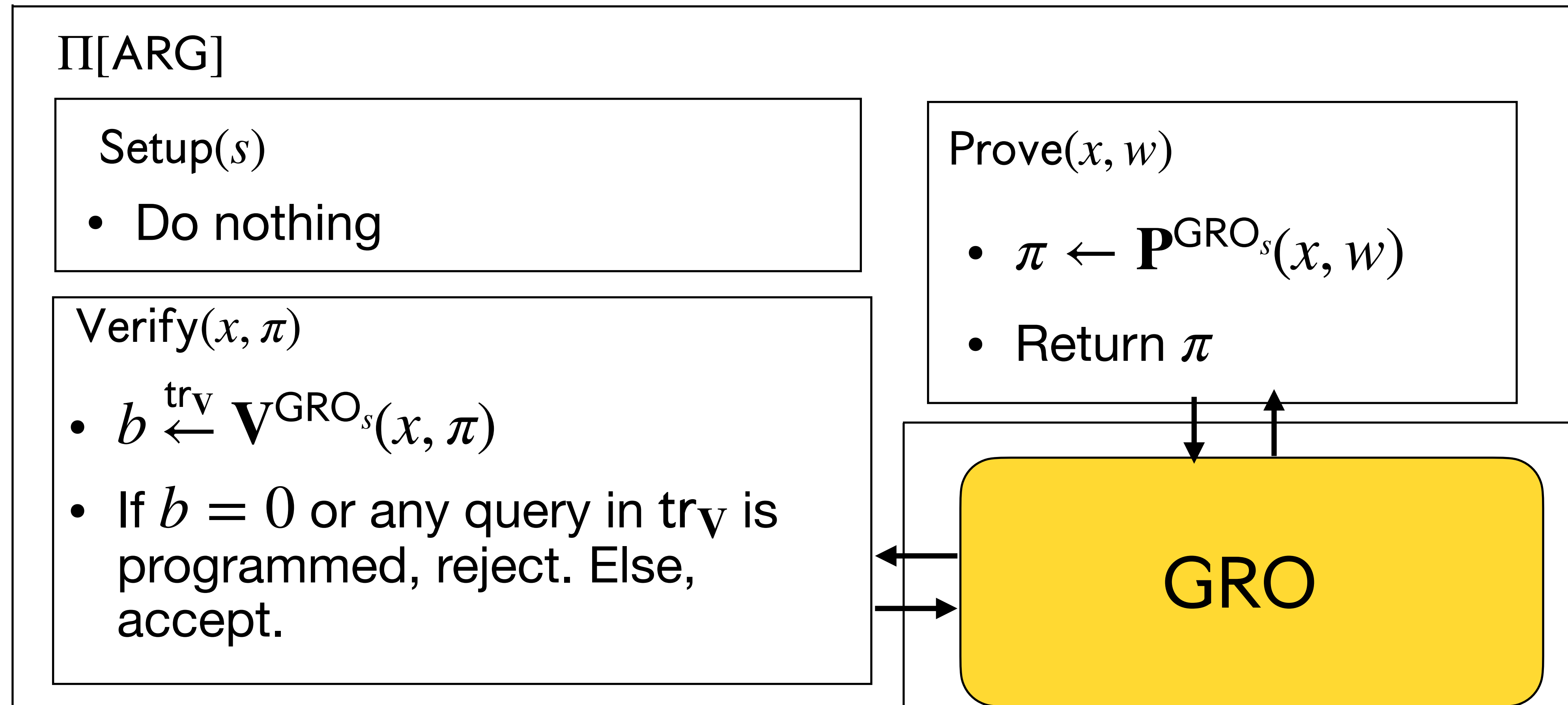
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Recap and Goal

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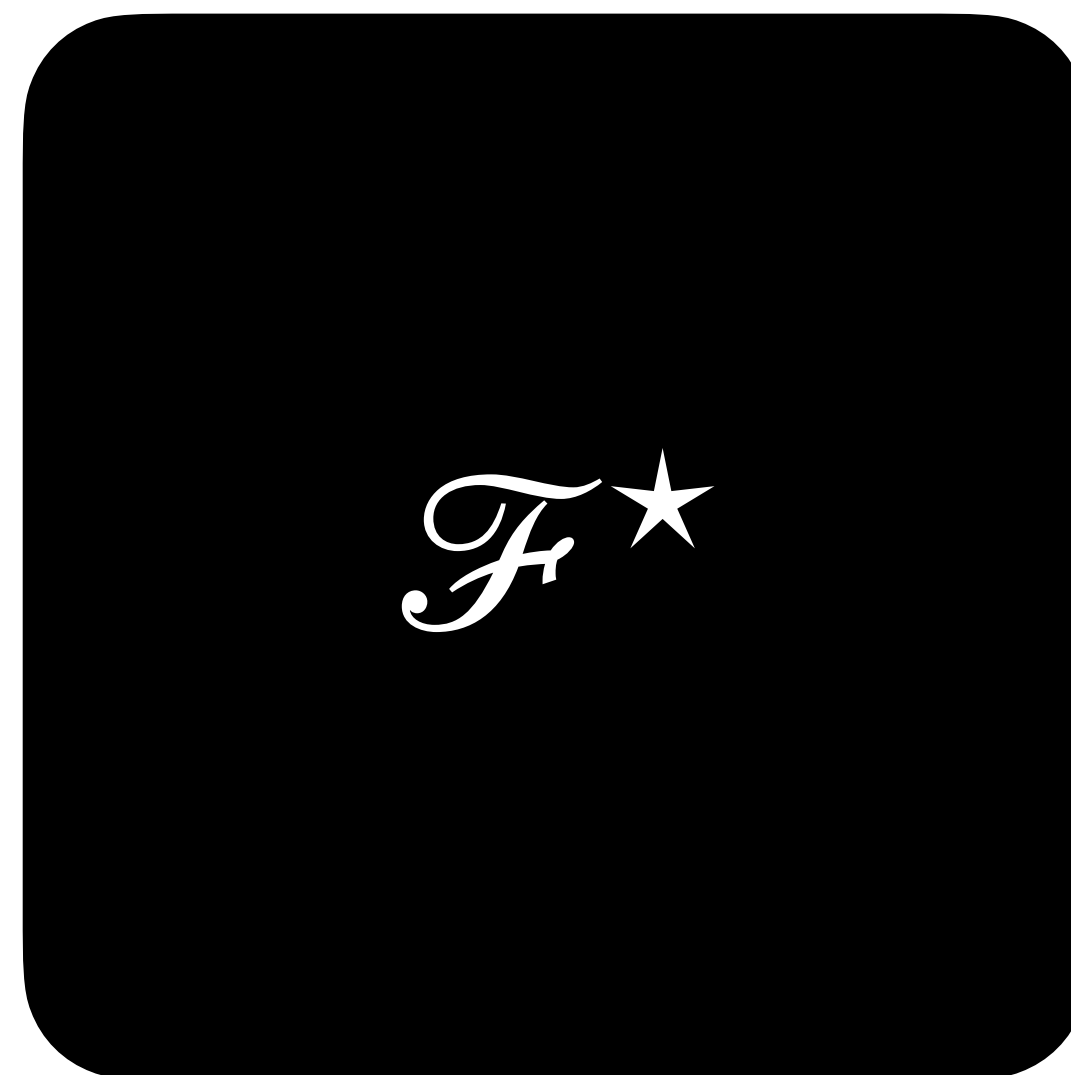


Recap and Goal

Find an ARG in the ROM such that



\approx_{UC}



in the



Related works

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Compile Σ -protocol into NIZK

+ Techniques inspired this work

- Not succinct

- Expensive compilation (non-FS)

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- Expensive non-standard construction
- Focuses on asymptotic security

zkSNARKs (in the ROM)

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$\mathbf{P}(x, w)$

zkSNARKs (in the ROM)

$\mathbf{P}(x, w)$

$\mathbf{V}(x)$

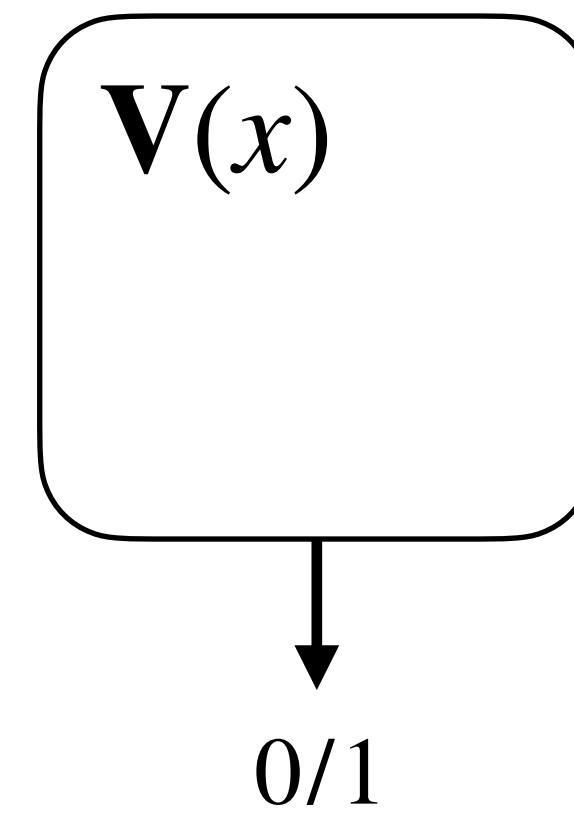
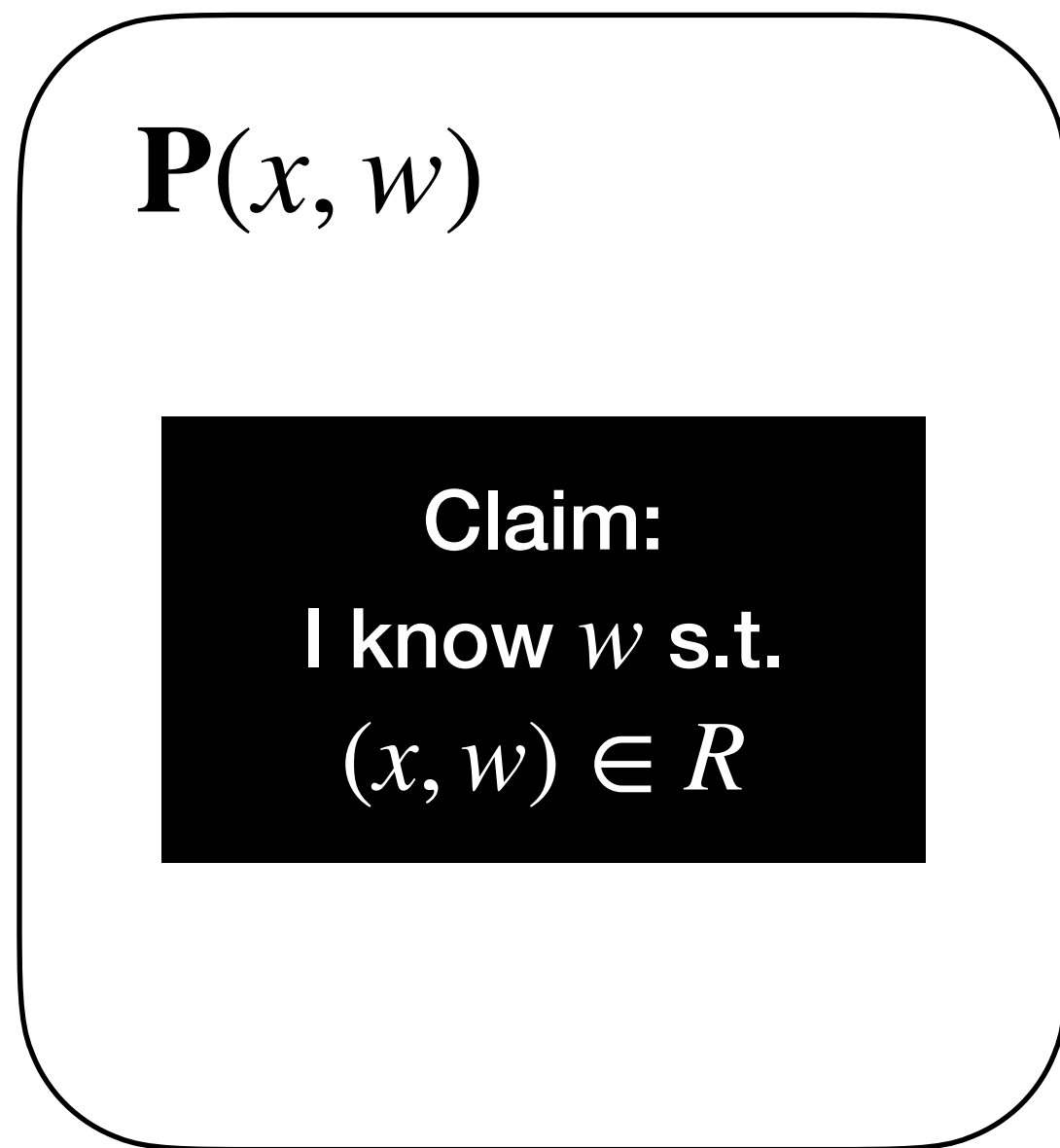
zkSNARKs (in the ROM)

$P(x, w)$

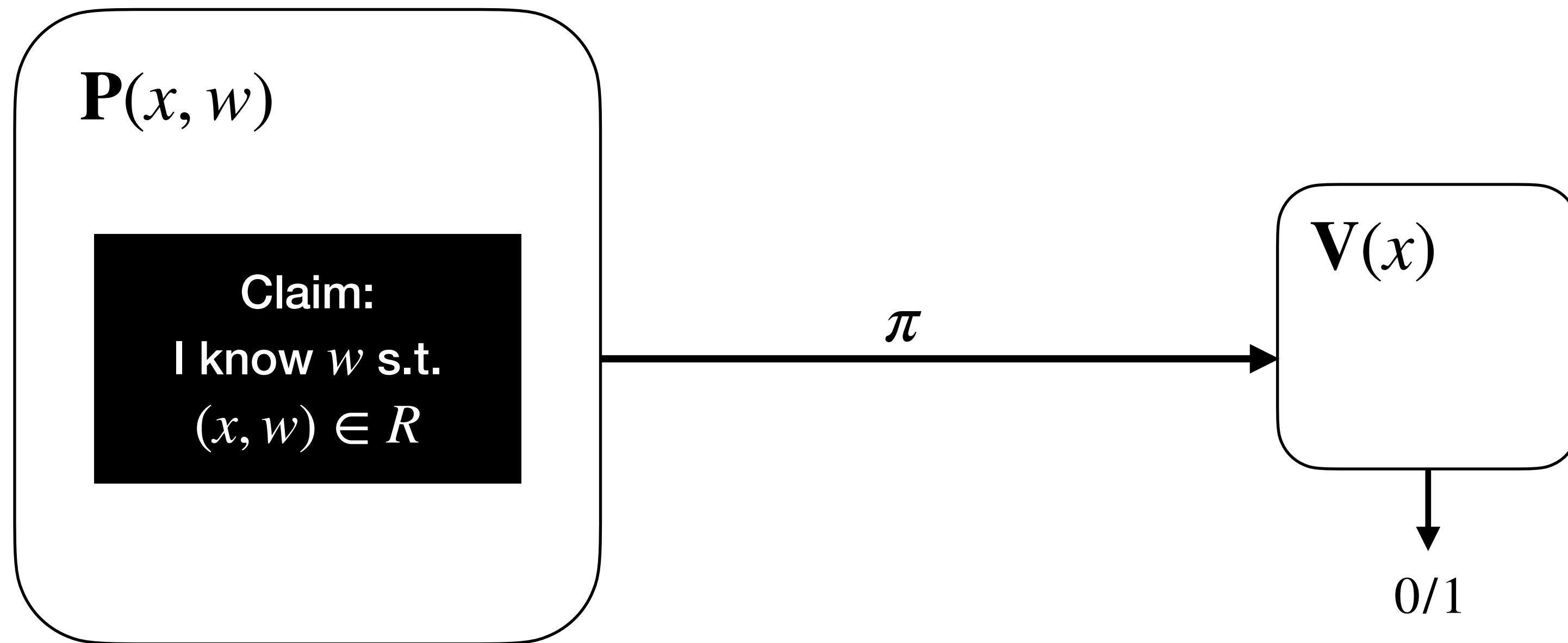
Claim:
I know w s.t.
 $(x, w) \in R$

$V(x)$

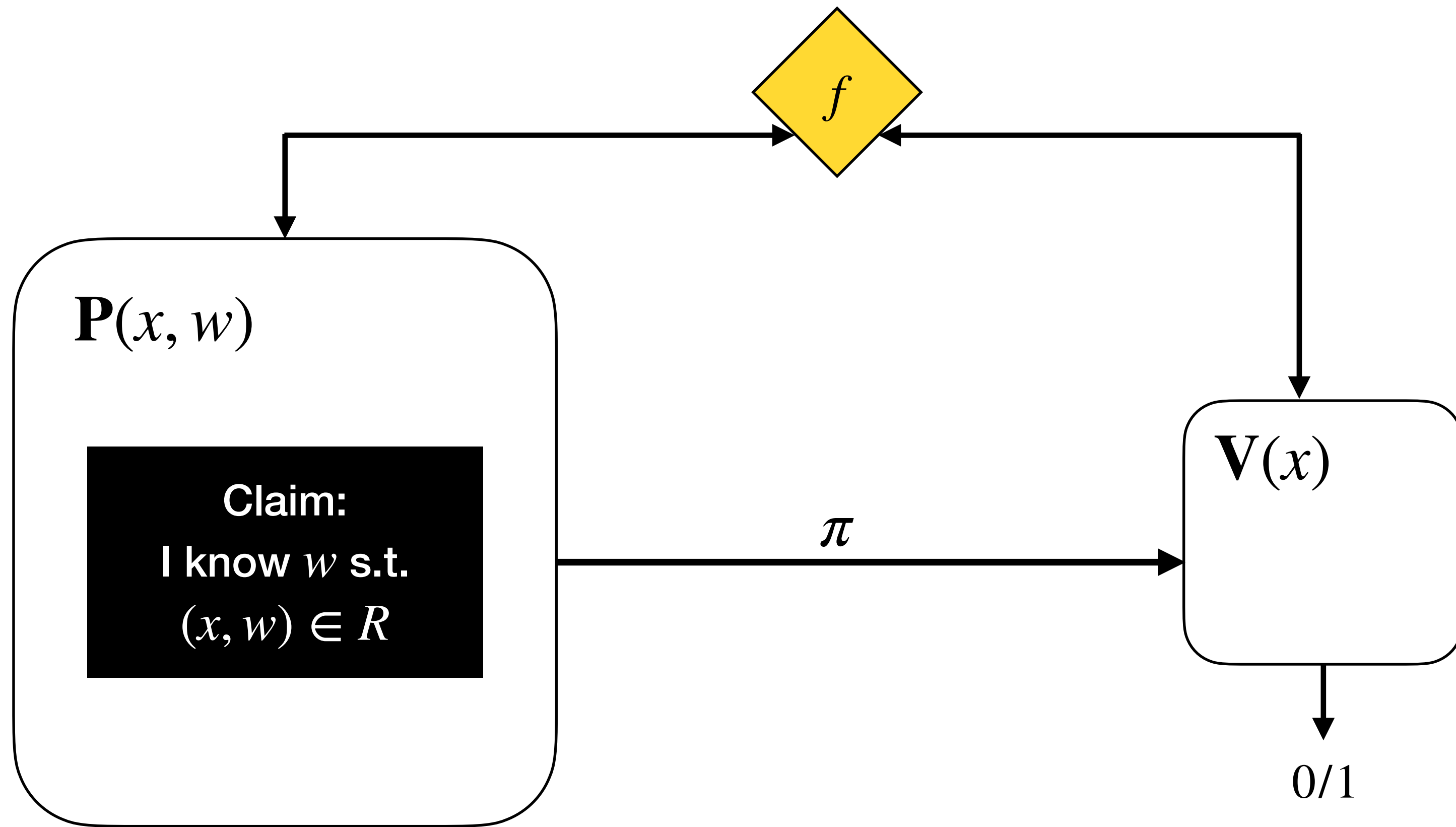
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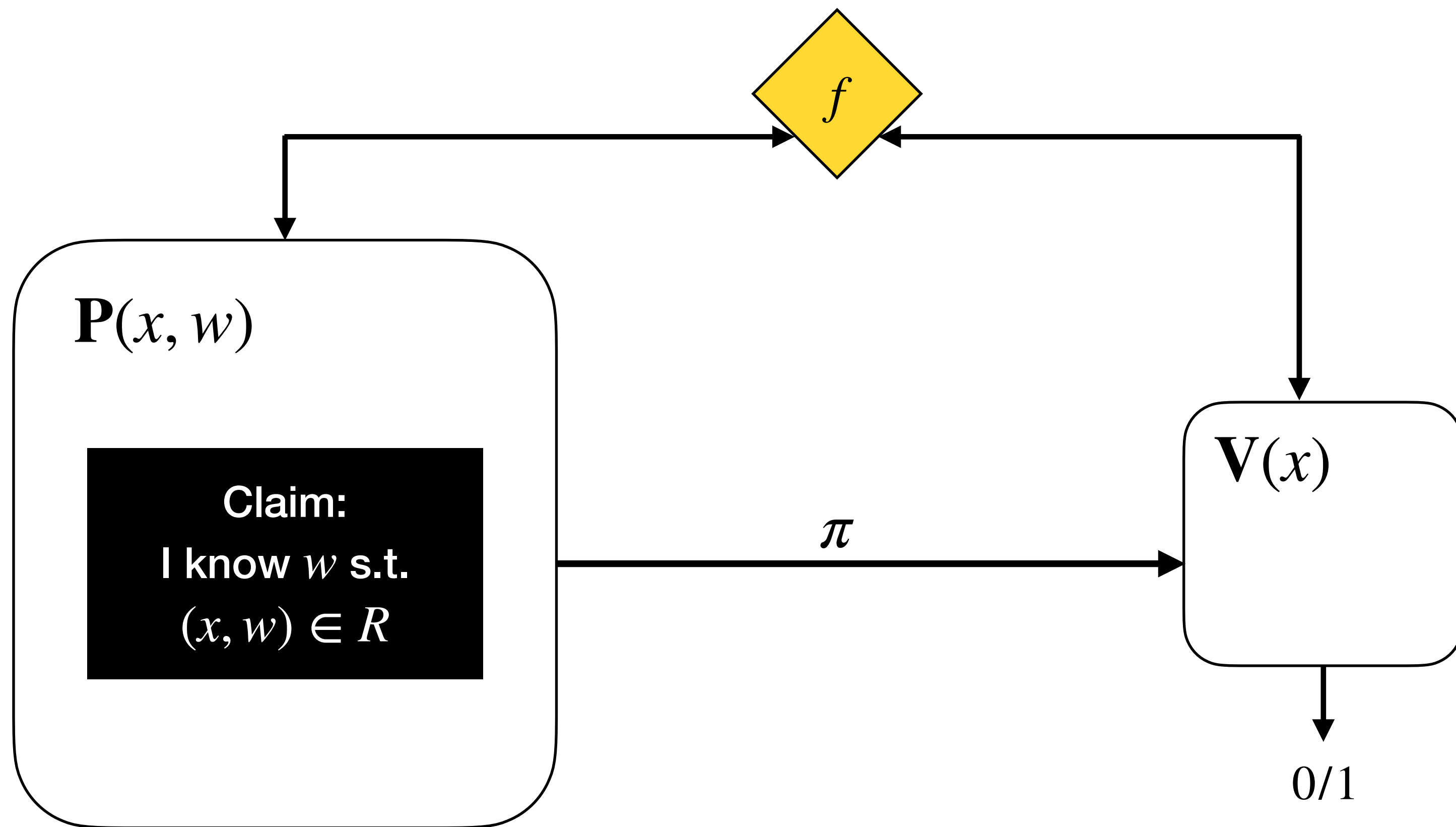
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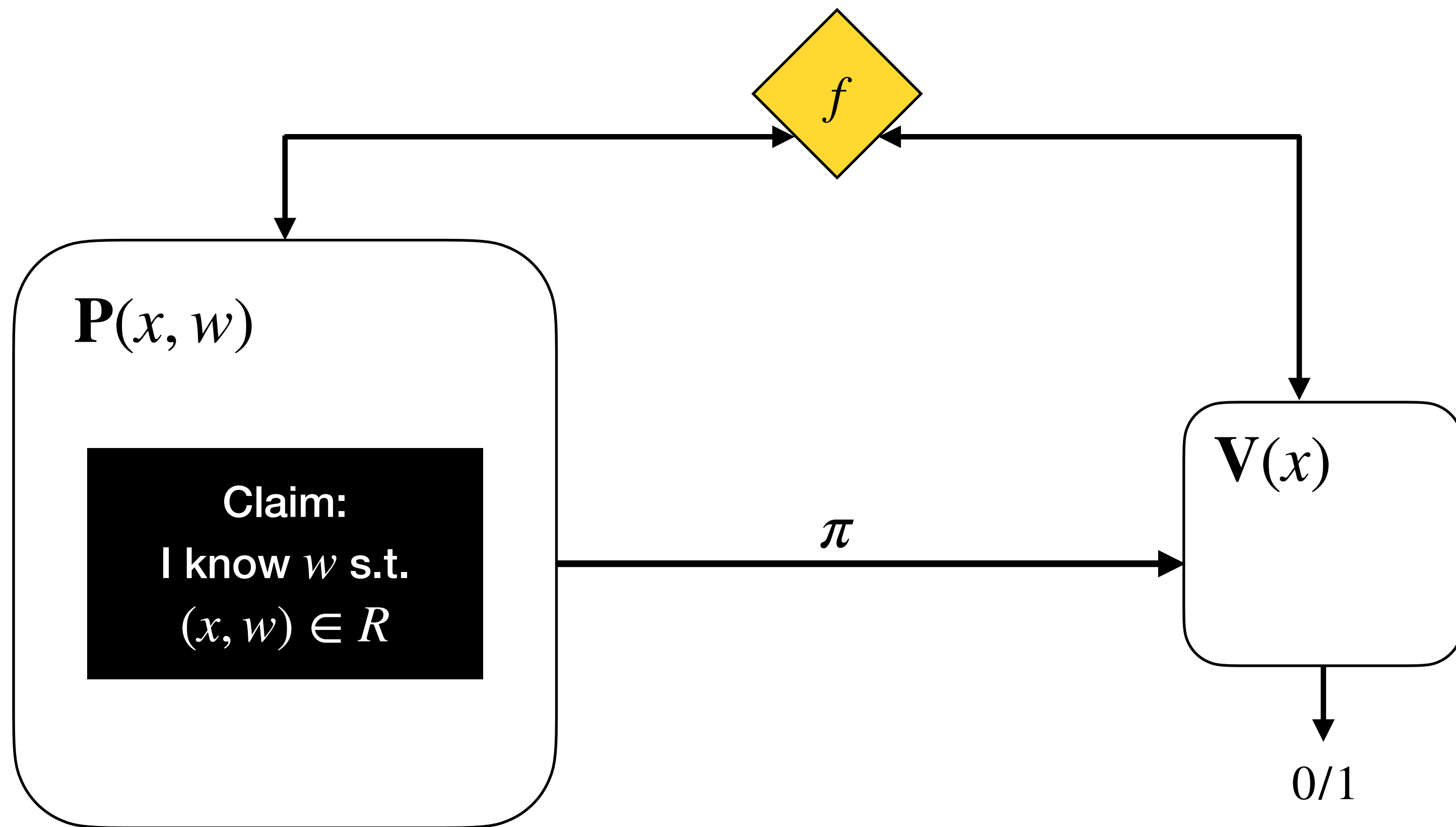


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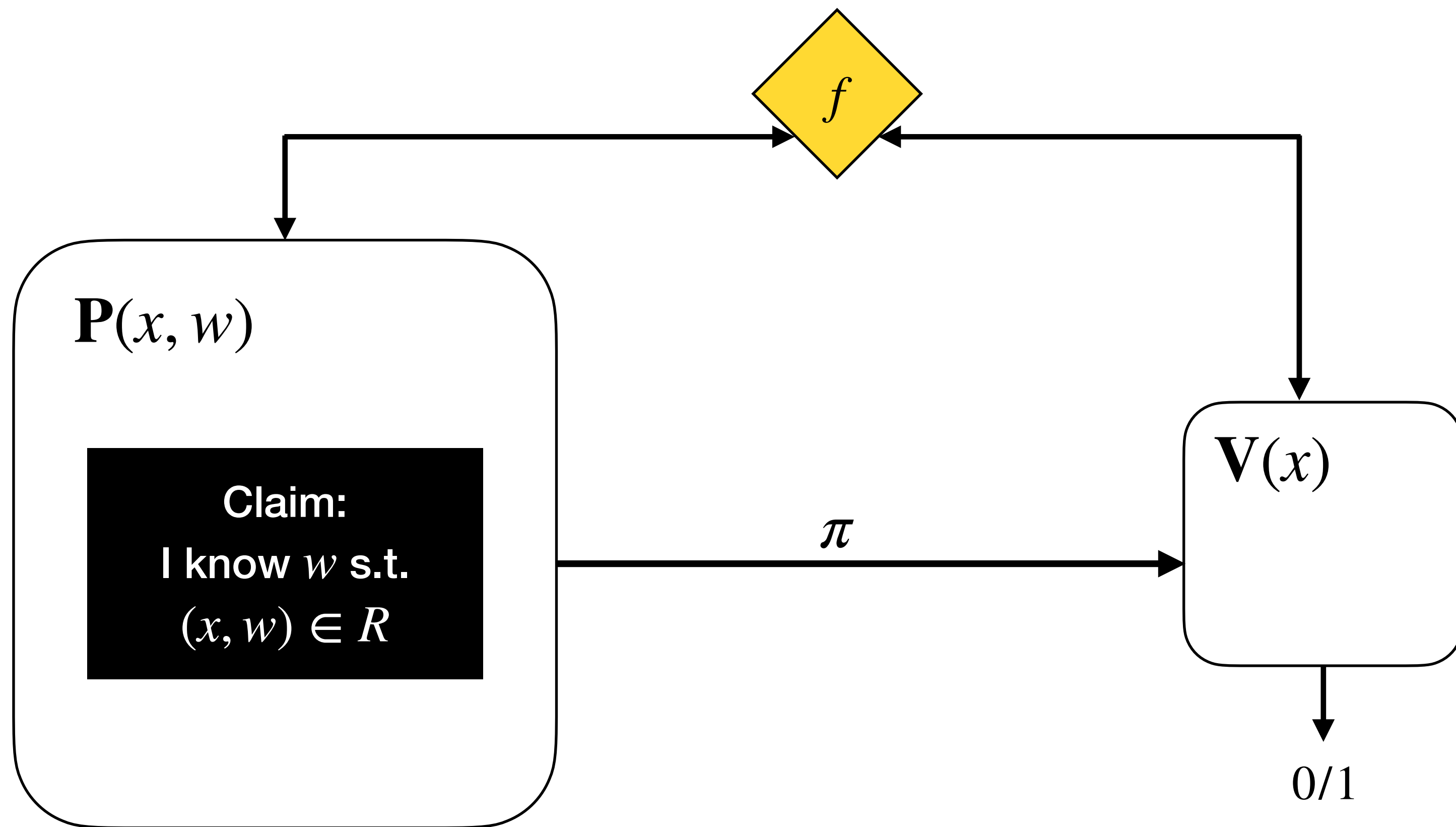
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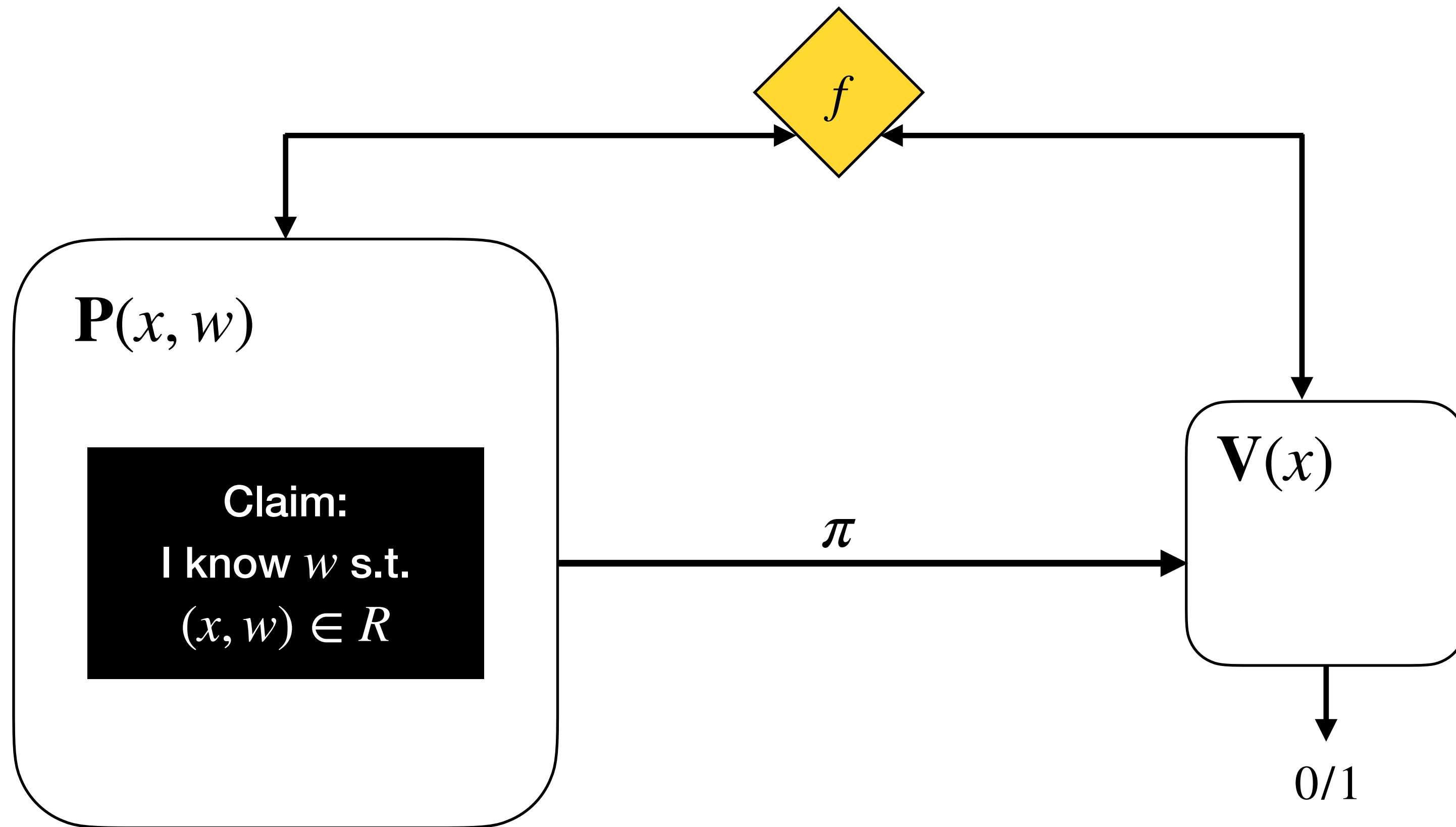
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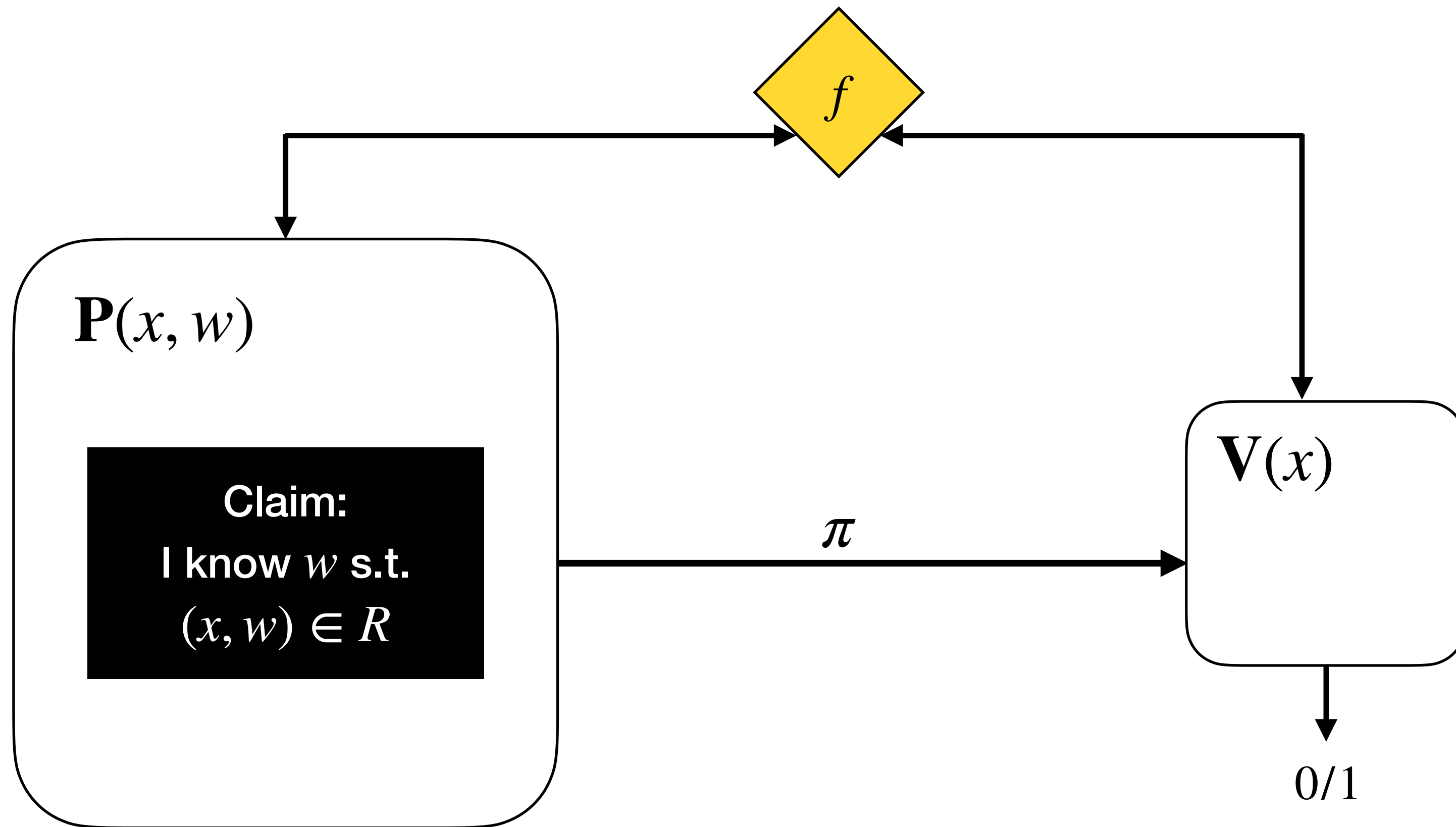
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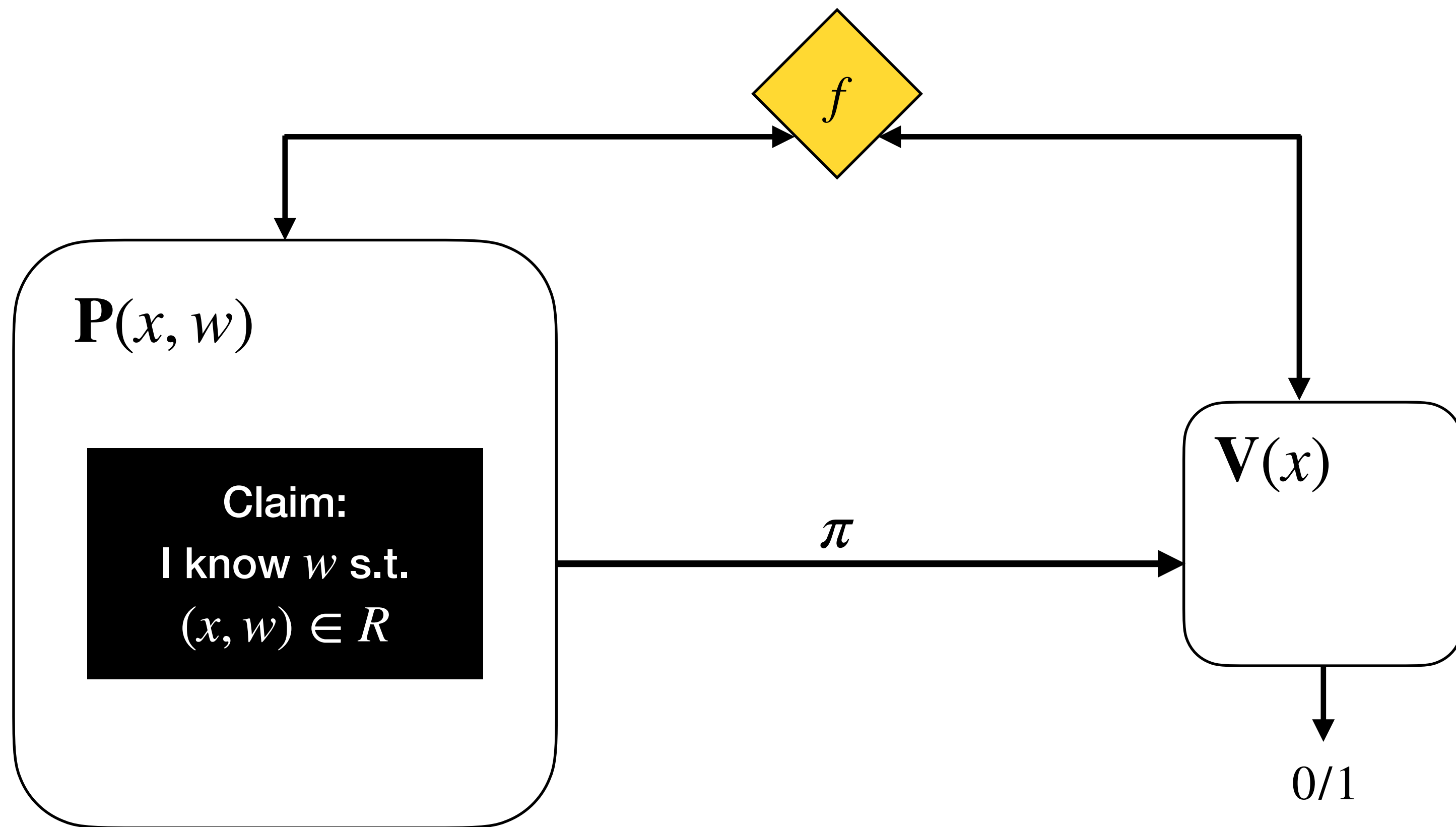
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 - $\exists E : V^f(x, \pi \leftarrow \tilde{P}) = 1$

zkSNARKs (in the ROM)



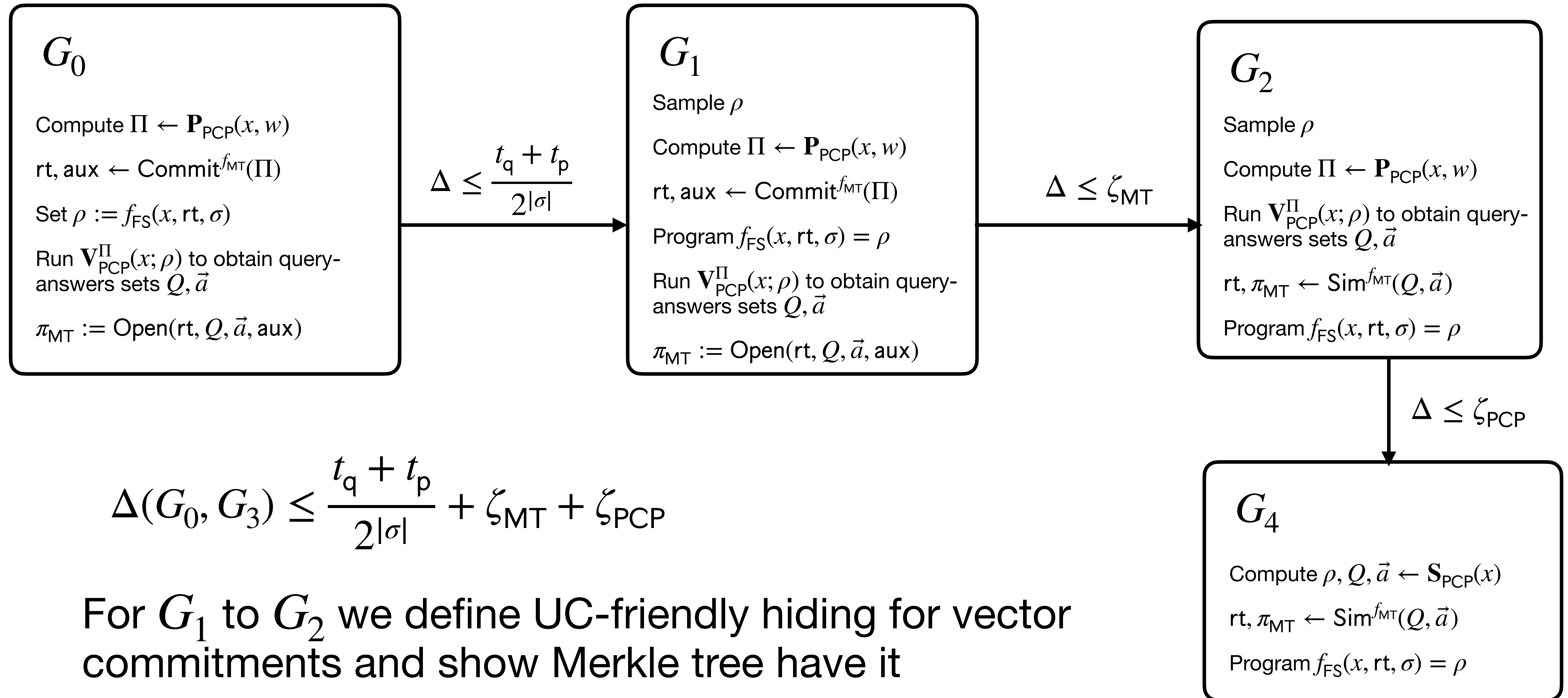
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 - $\exists E : V^f(x, \pi \leftarrow \tilde{P}) = 1 \implies (x, E(x, \pi, \text{tr}_{\tilde{P}})) \in R$

What if we only care about scalability?

Dropping ZK

- Often, SNARKs are deployed without ZK
- We consider this out of scope for this work but (at an high level) believe that:
 - The techniques here would still work and can be simplified.
 - Remove UC-friendly ZK and move to non-programmable GROM.
 - UC-completeness then reduces to perfect completeness.
 - Knowledge sound PCP/IOP suffices for Micali/BCS.

Micali has UC-friendly ZK



Micali has UC-friendly completeness

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UC-friendly completeness

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- Assuming **PCP perfect completeness**, honest proofs are rejected only if the verifier queries a previously programmed point.

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UC-friendly completeness

Perfect completeness
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- Disallow this attack with two natural properties:
 - **Monotone proofs** (verifier does not query points not previously queried by the prover)

UC-friendly completeness

Perfect completeness
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Micali has UC-friendly completeness

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Related works

Known UC-secure
zkSNARKs

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Non-Witness Succinct

Related works

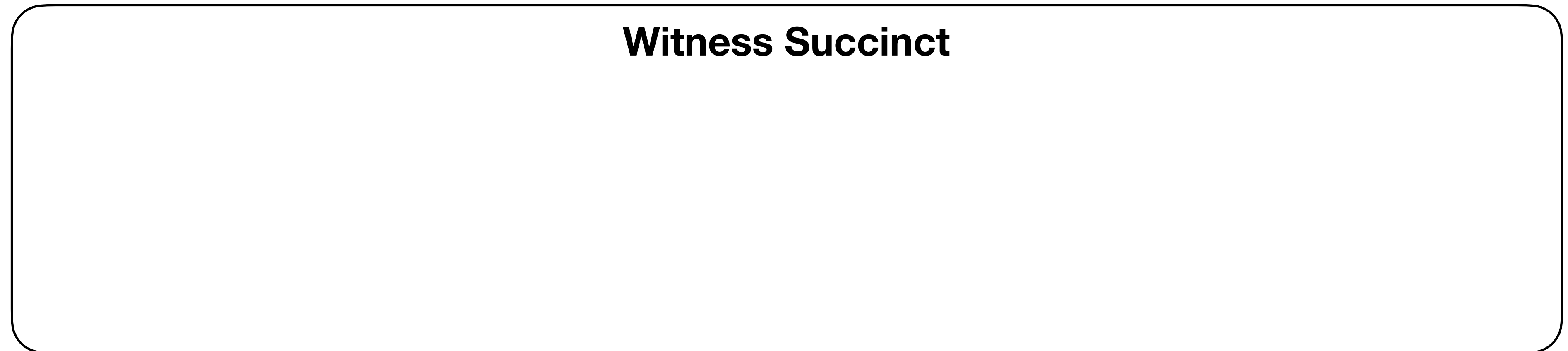
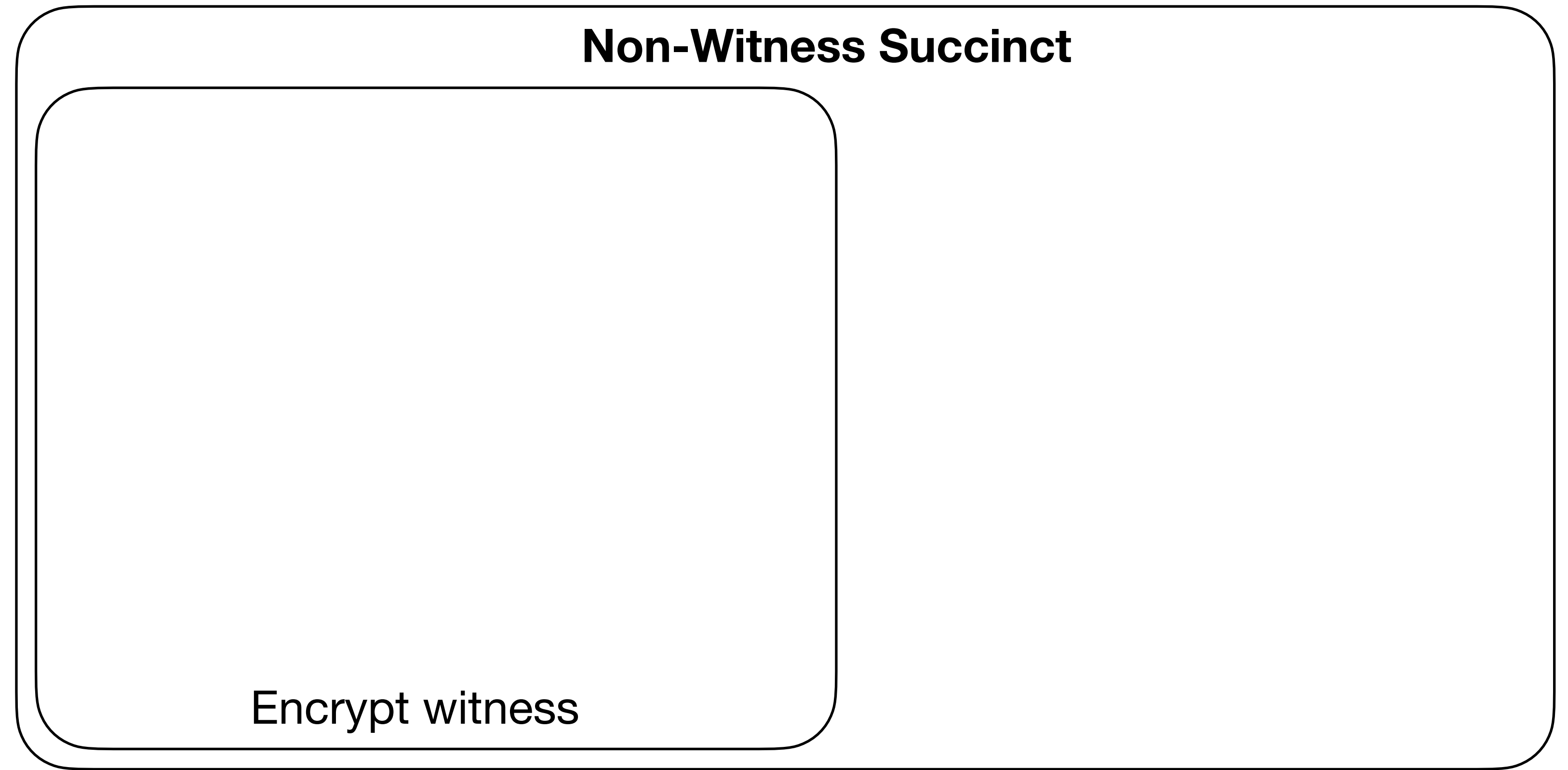
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CC0: A Framework for Building Composable Zero-Knowledge Proofs

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T-H. Hubert Chan^{*} Charalampos Papamanthou[†] Rafael Pass[†] abhi shelat^{*}
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Lift-and-Shift: Obtaining Simulation Extractable Subversion and Updatable SNARKs Generically*

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zkSNARKs in the ROM with Unconditional UC-Security

Alessandro Chiesa Giacomo Fenzi
alessandro.chiesa@epfl.ch giacomo.fenzi@epfl.ch
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This work!

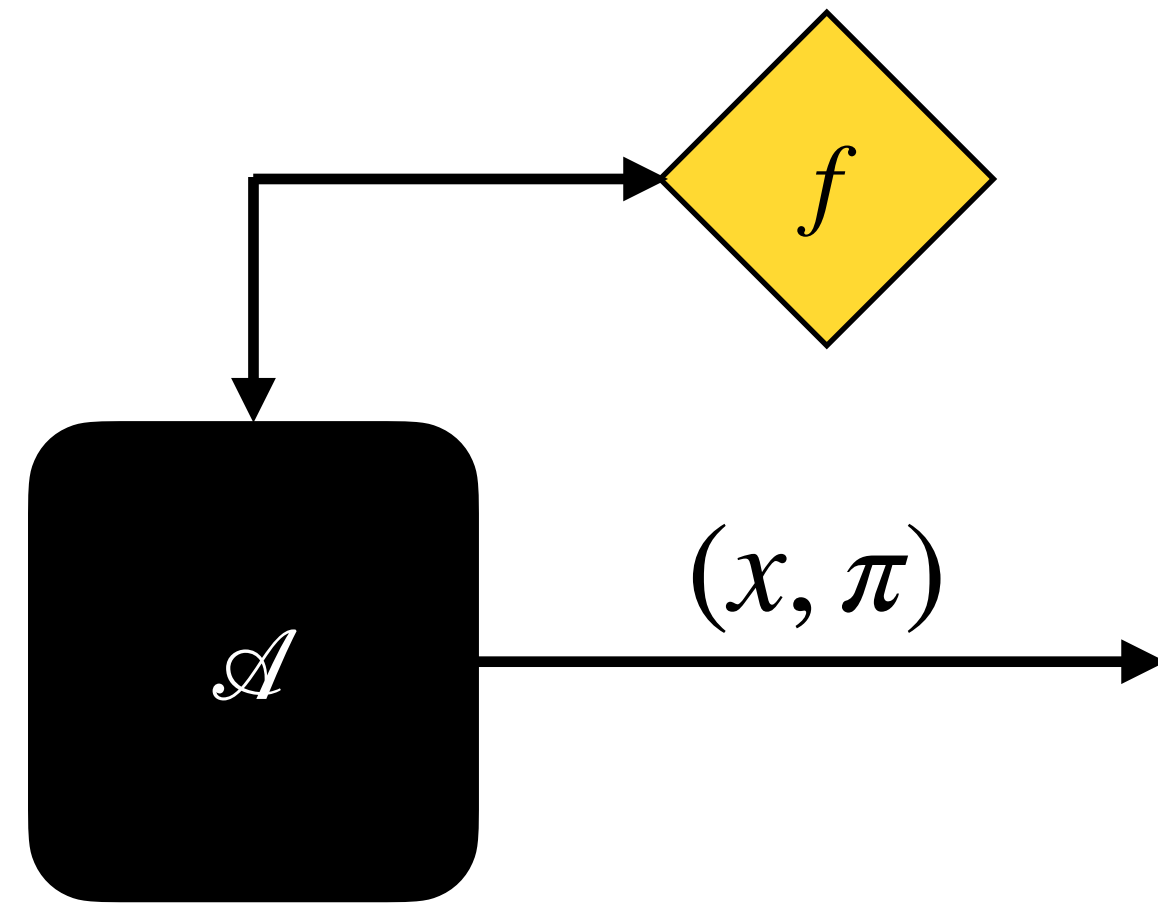
Challenge I

Challenge I

Rewinding
extractor

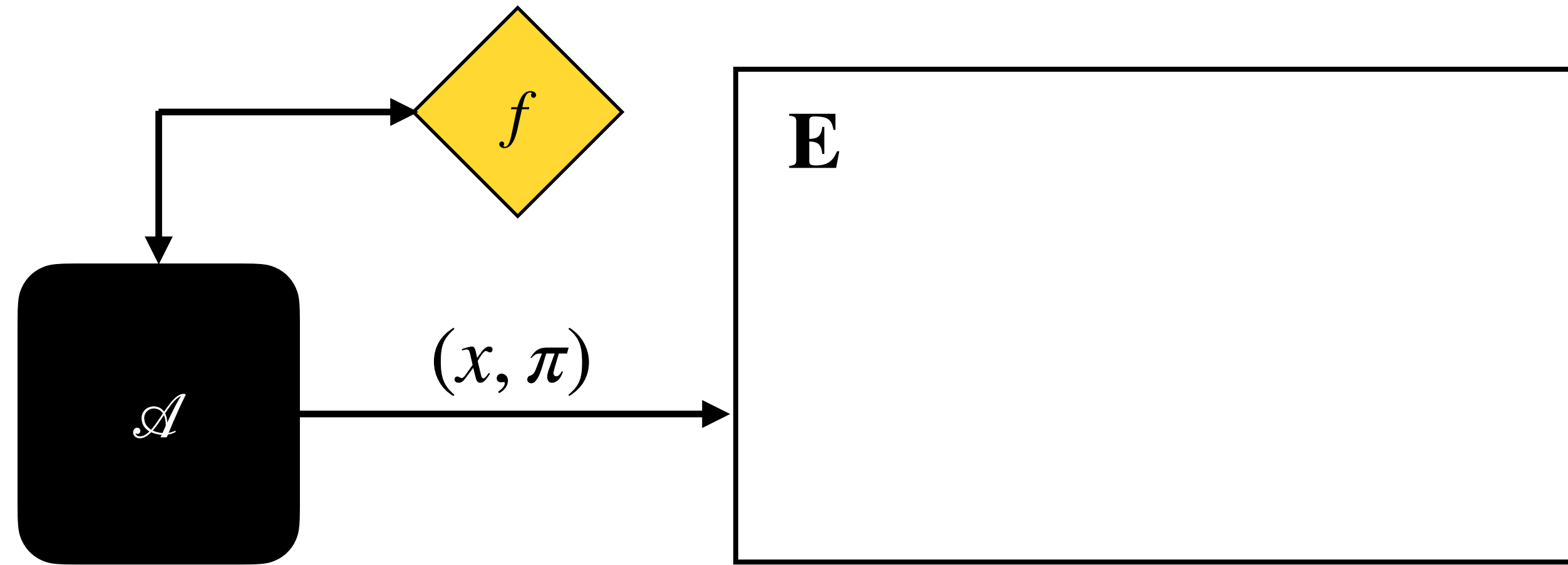
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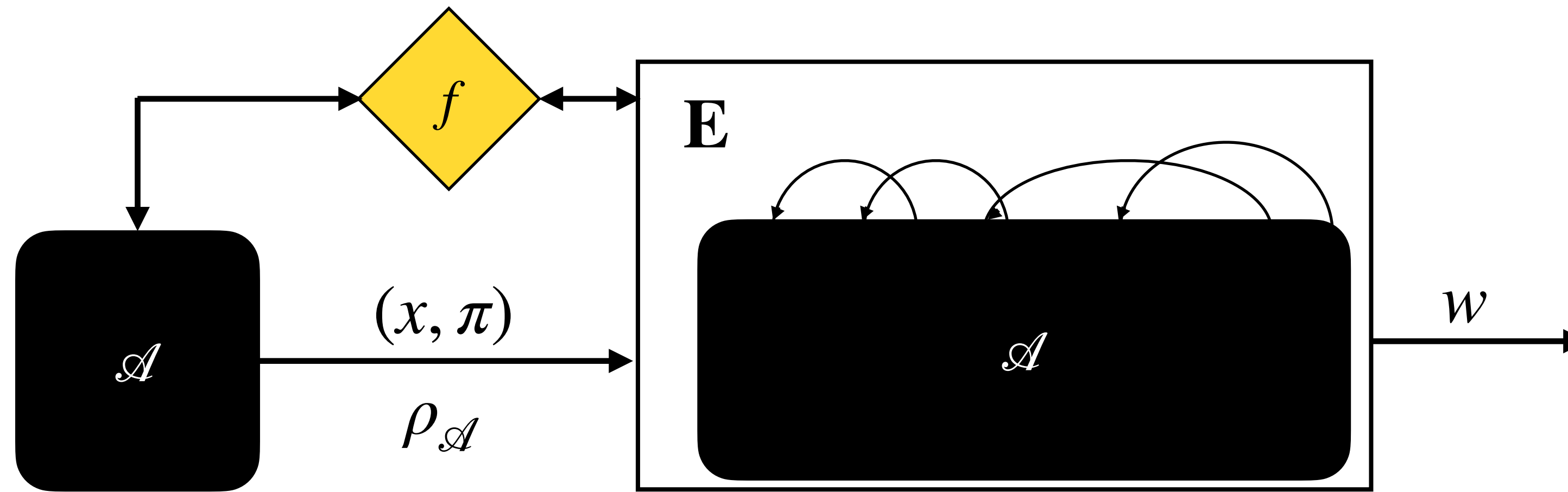
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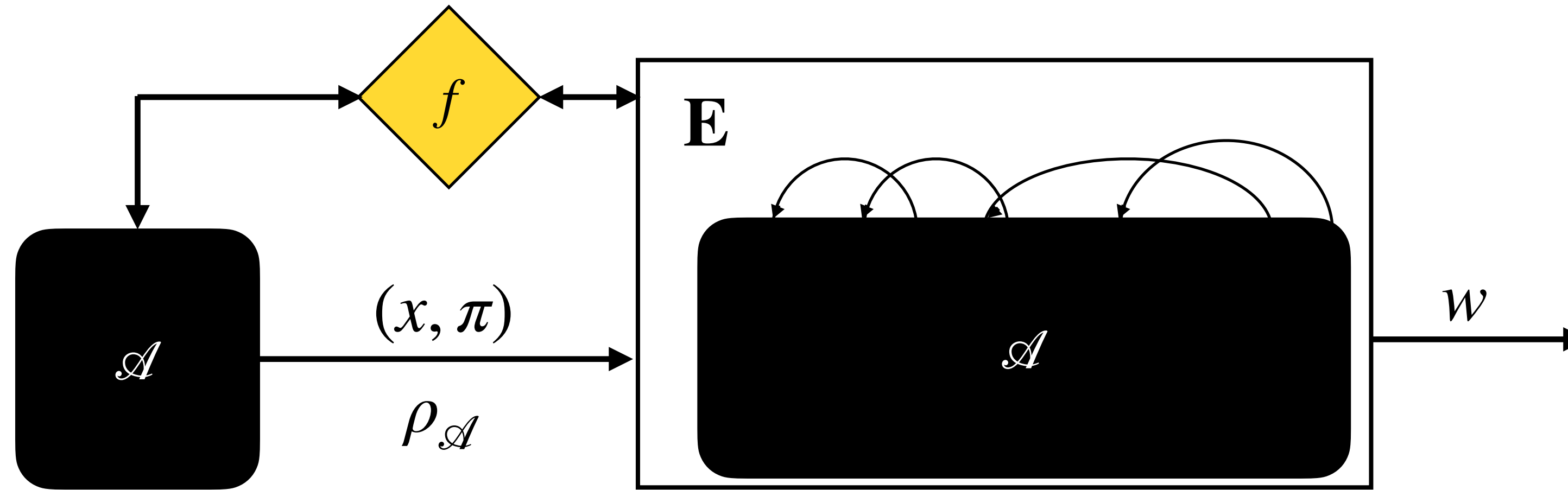
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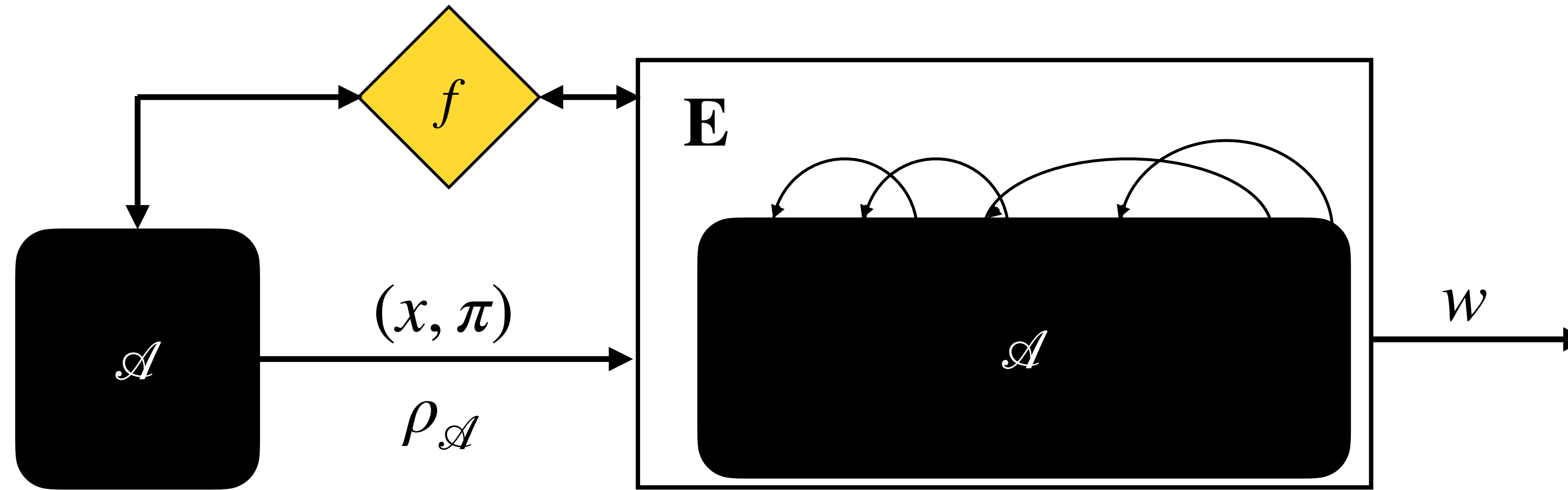
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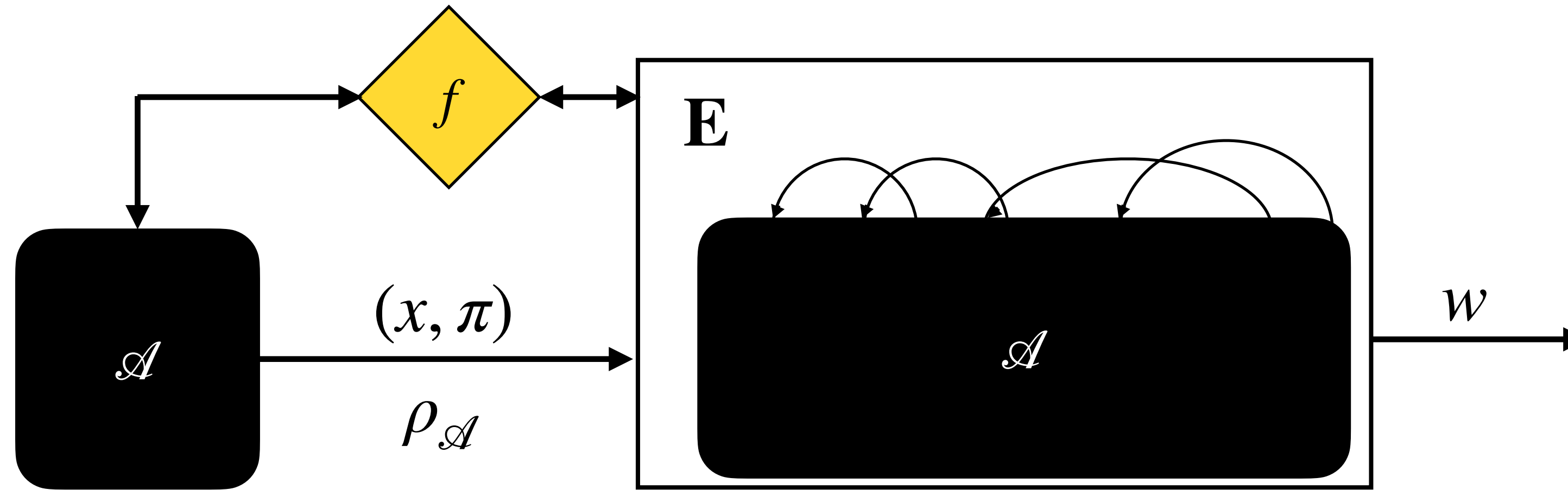


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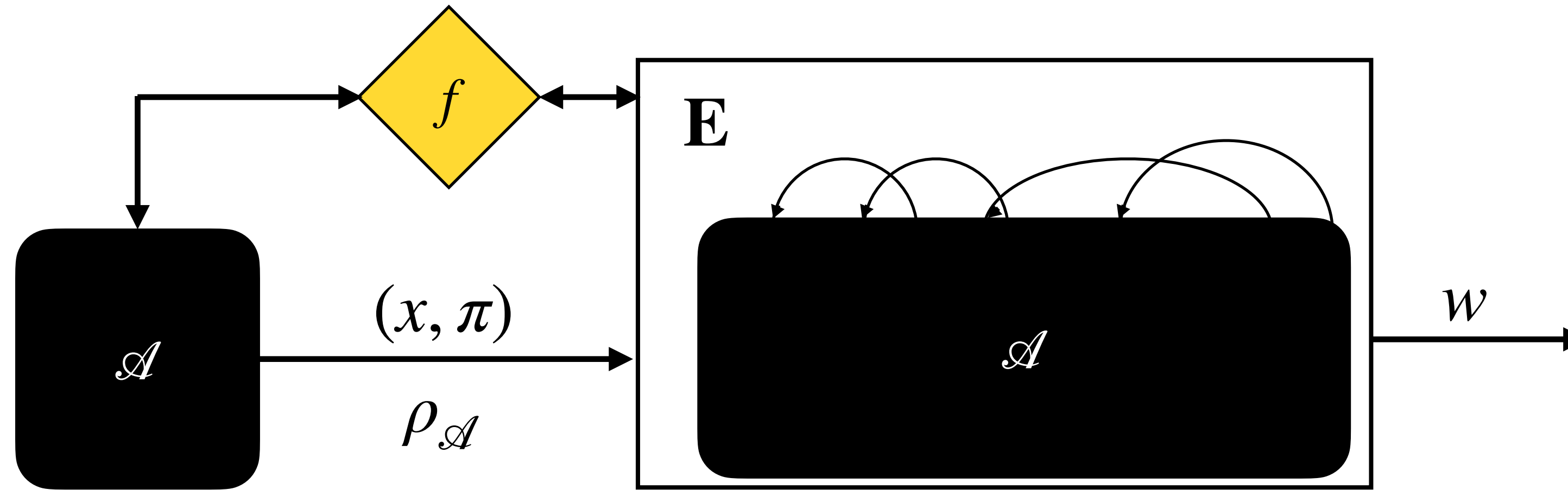
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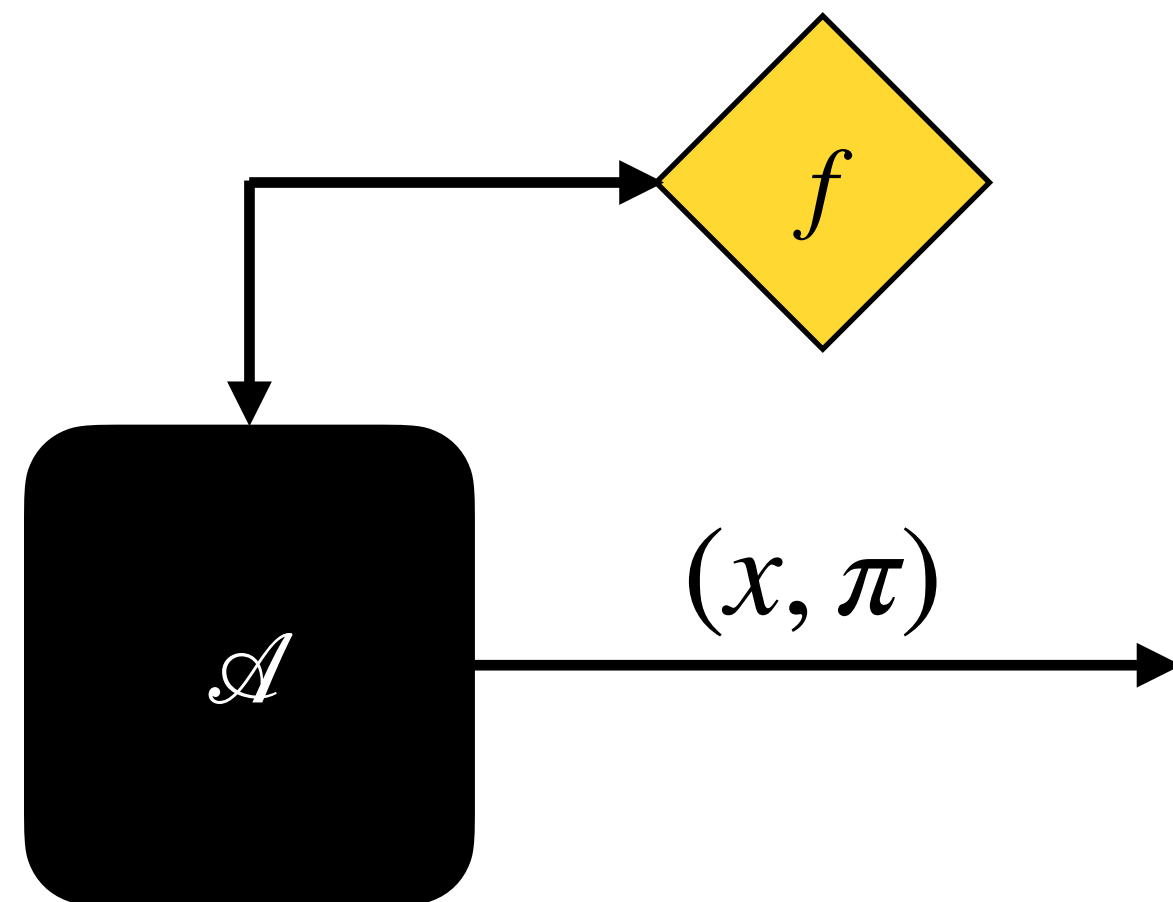
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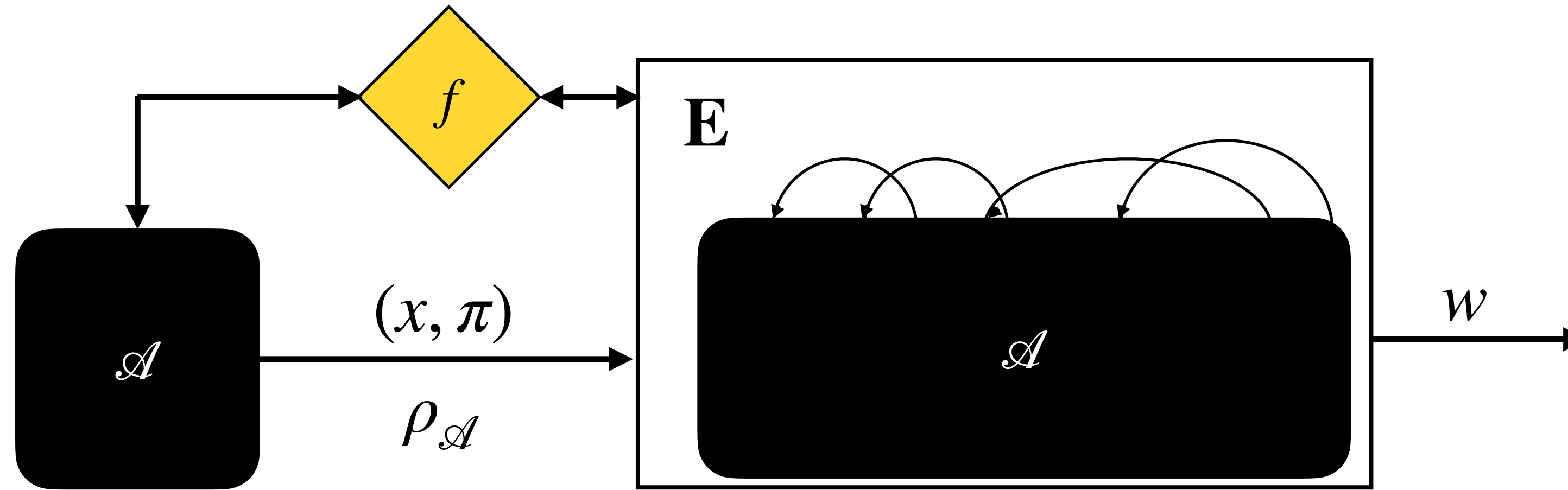
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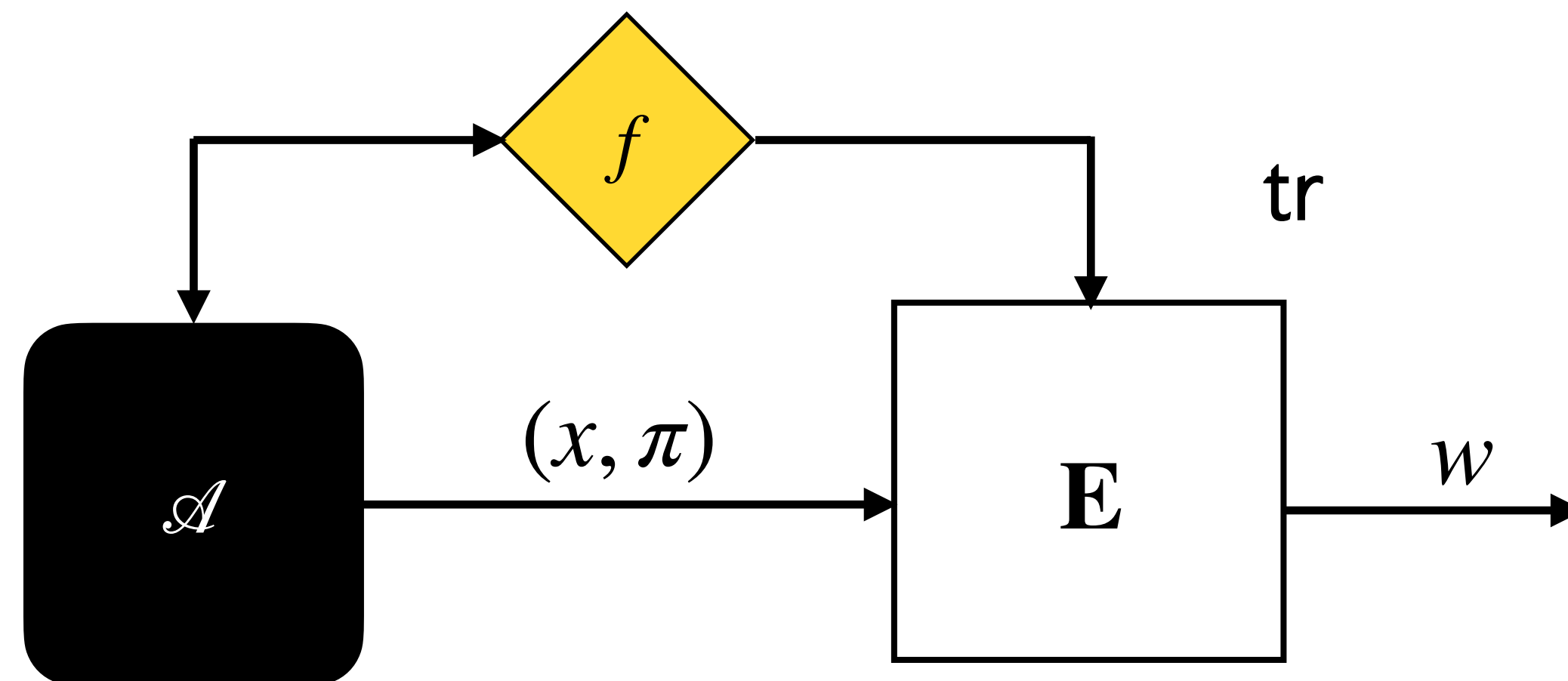
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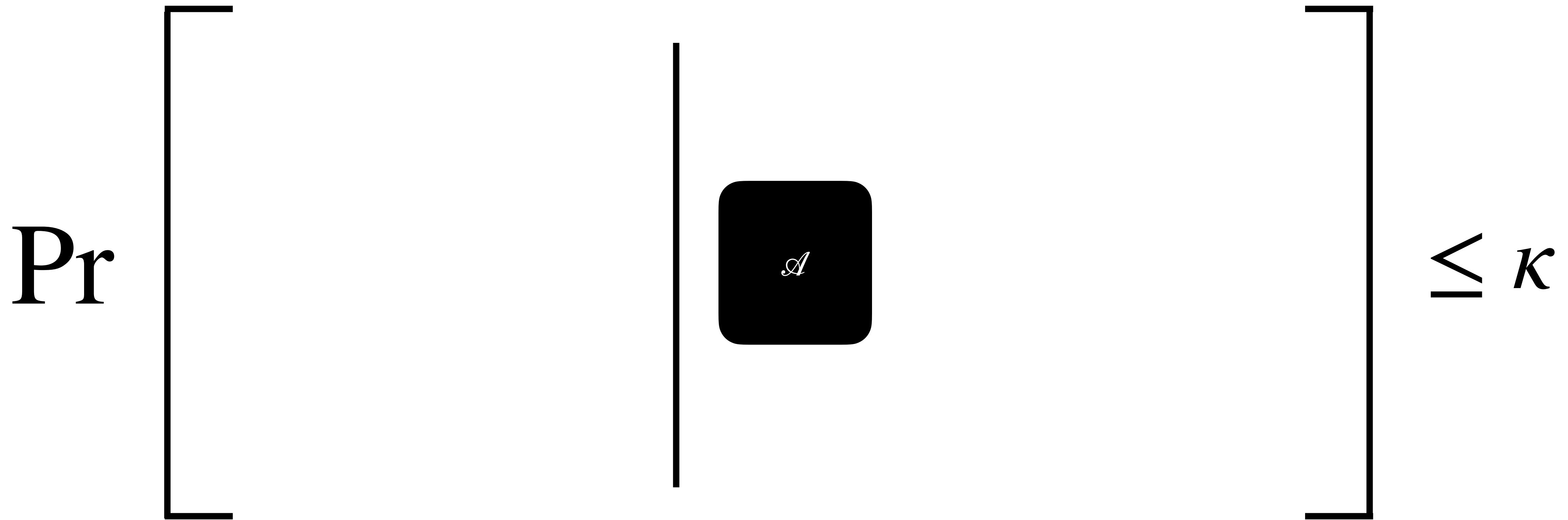
$$\Pr \left[\text{---} \right] \leq \kappa$$

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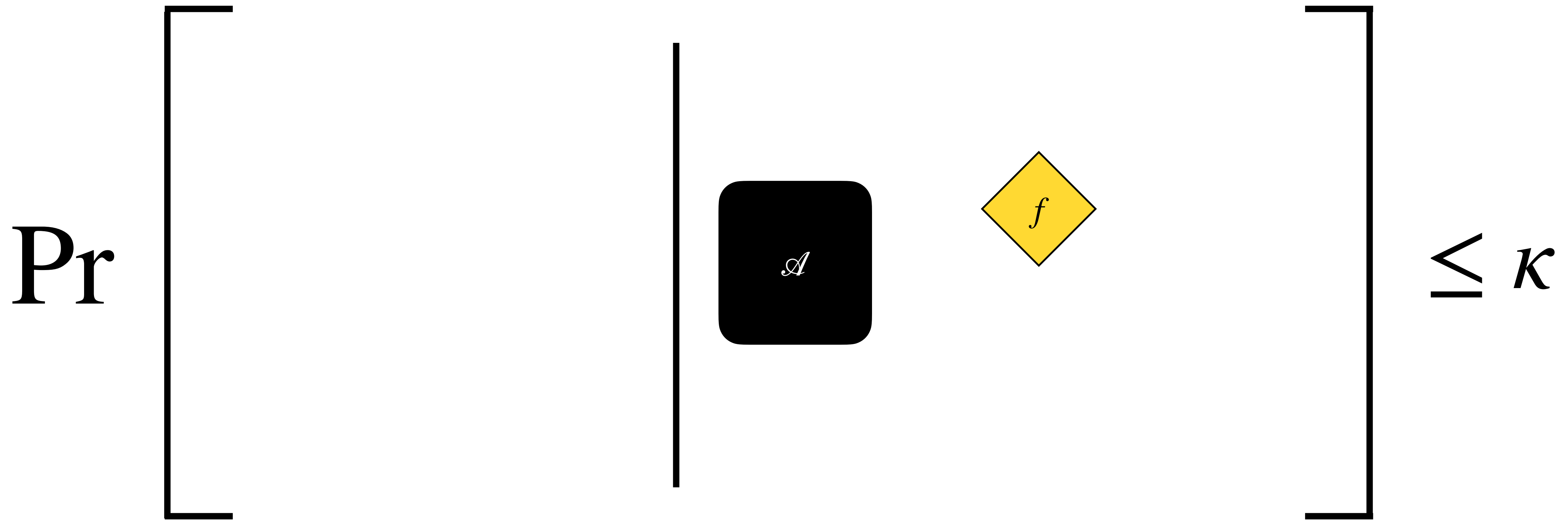


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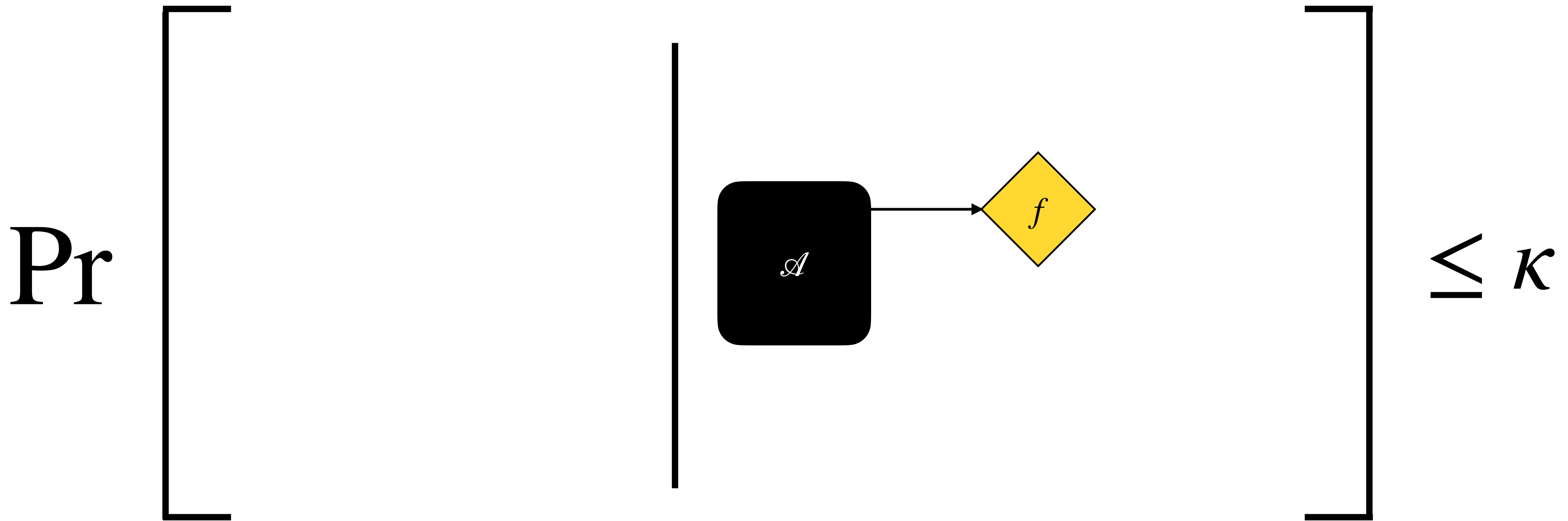


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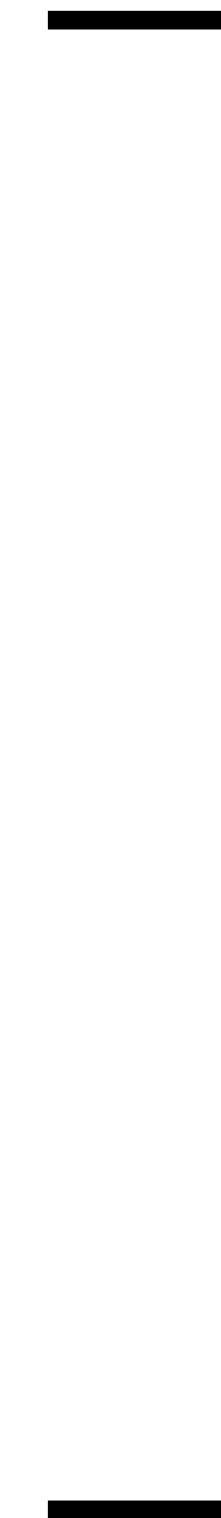
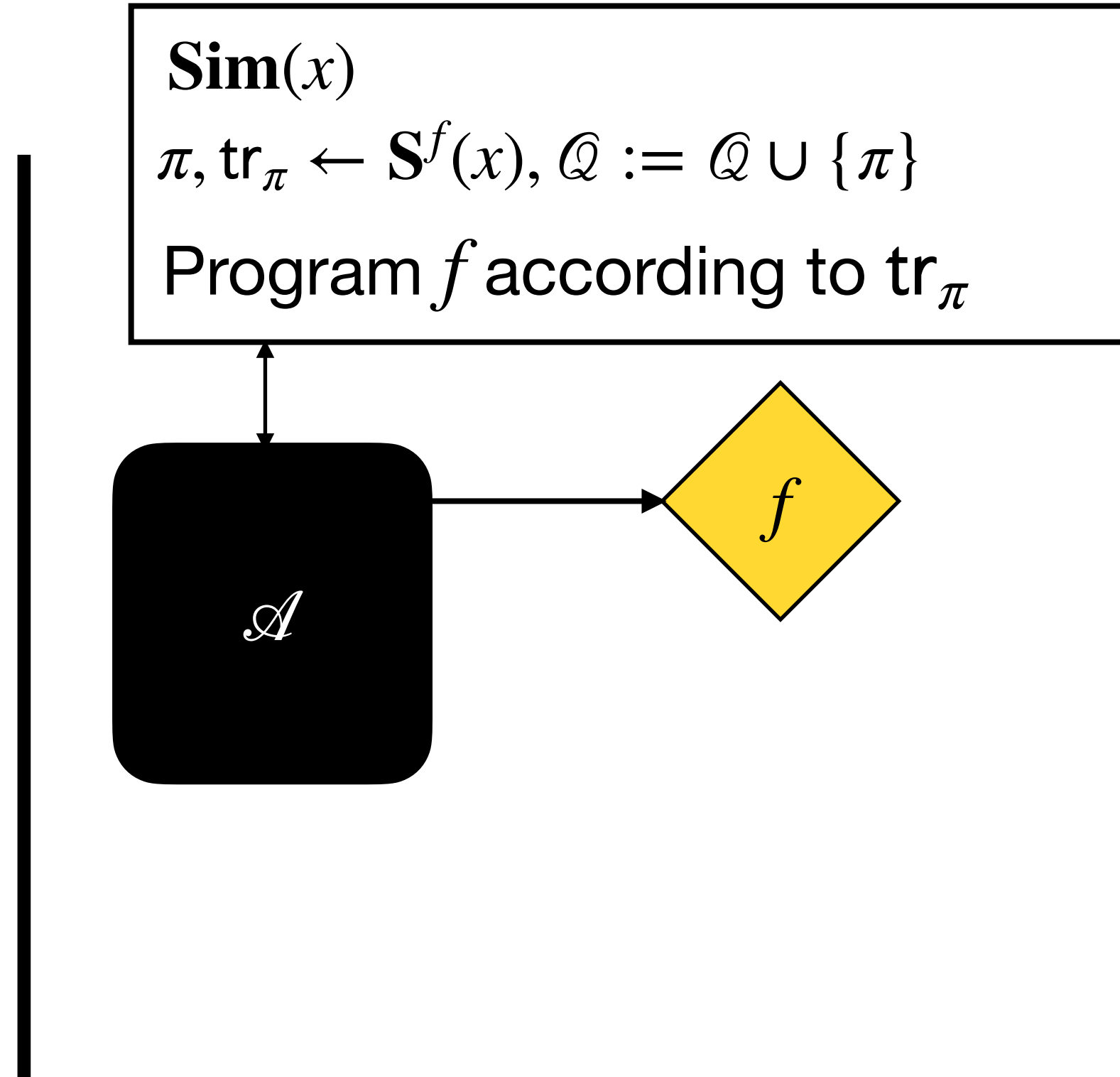
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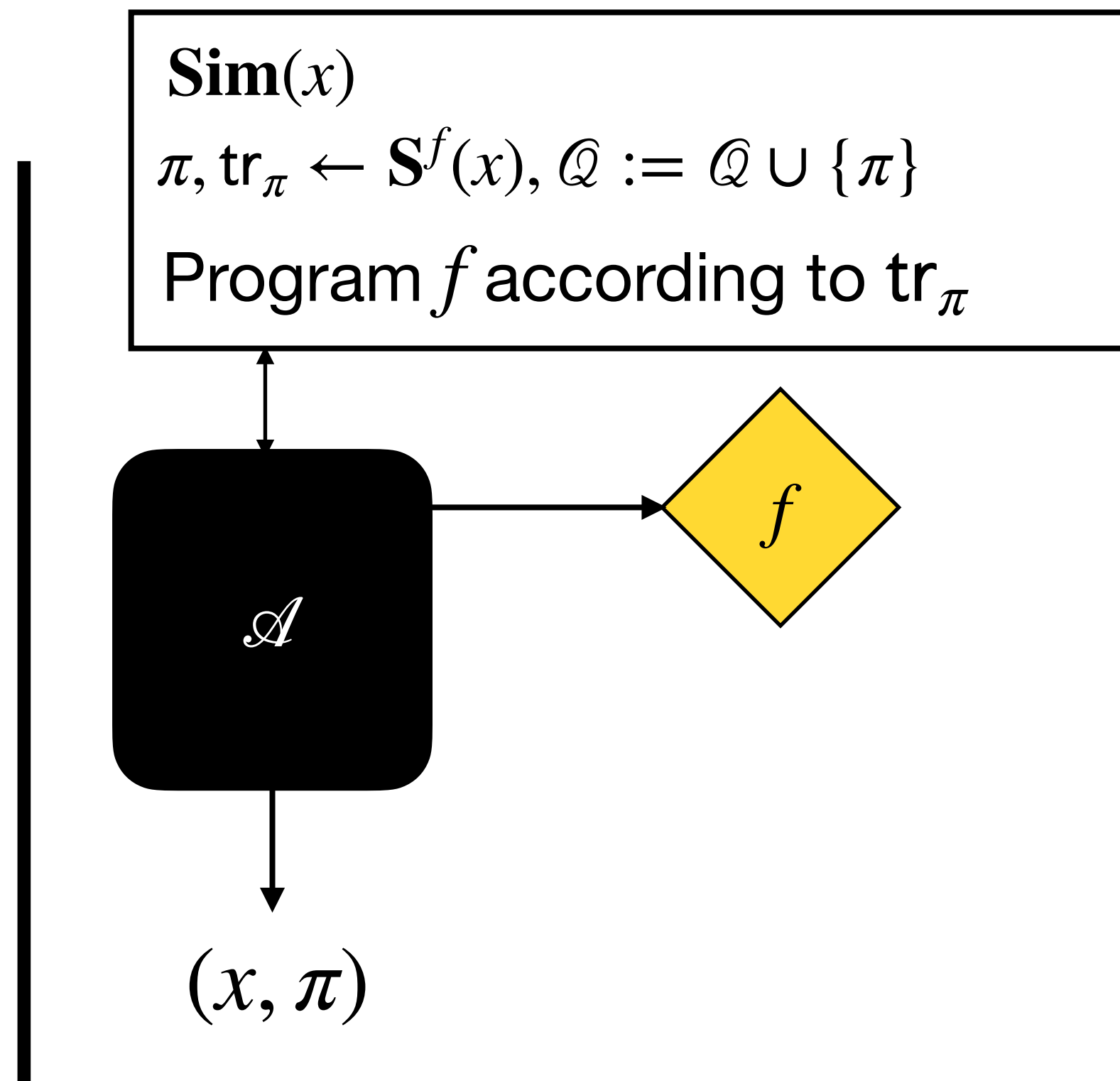
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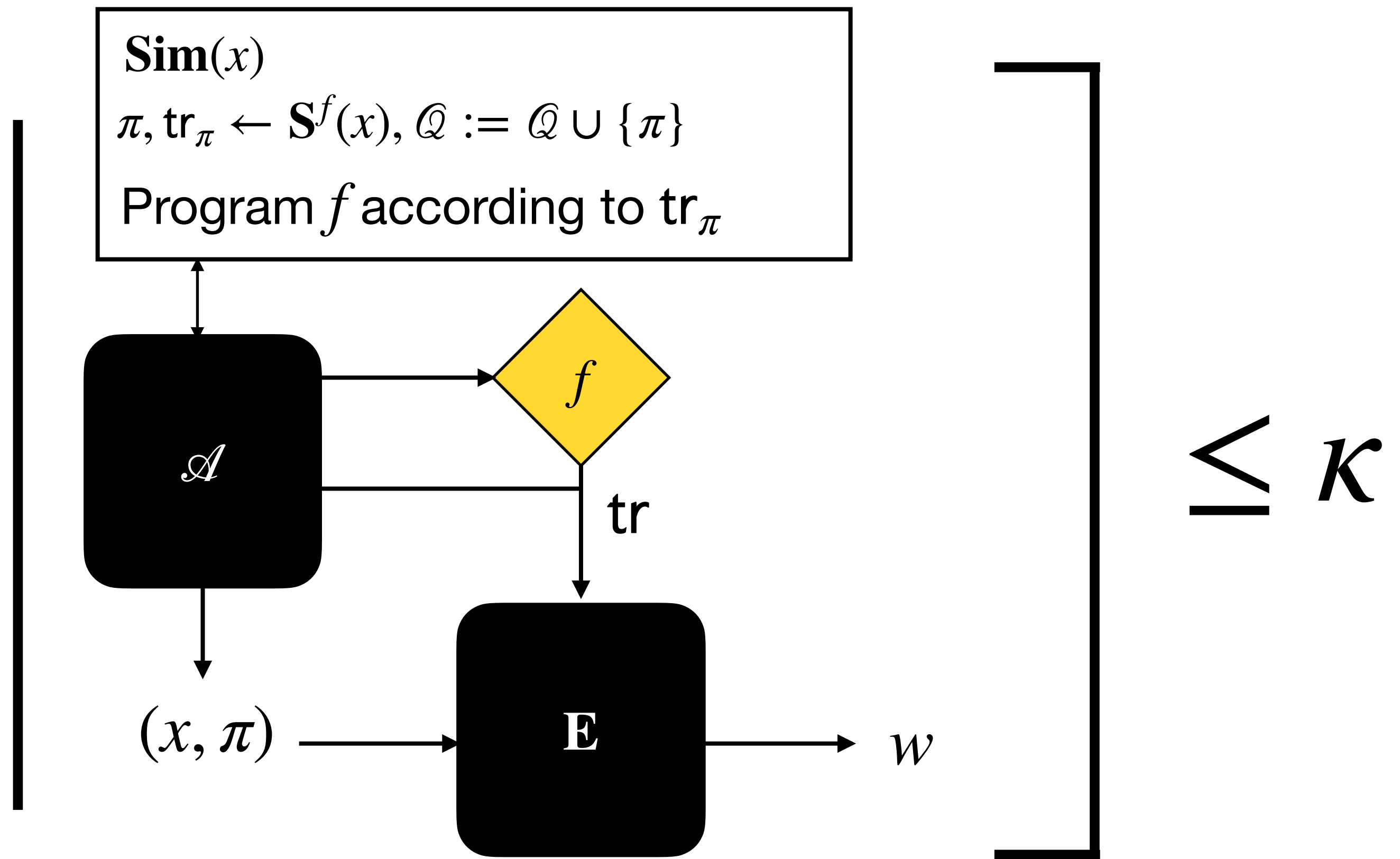
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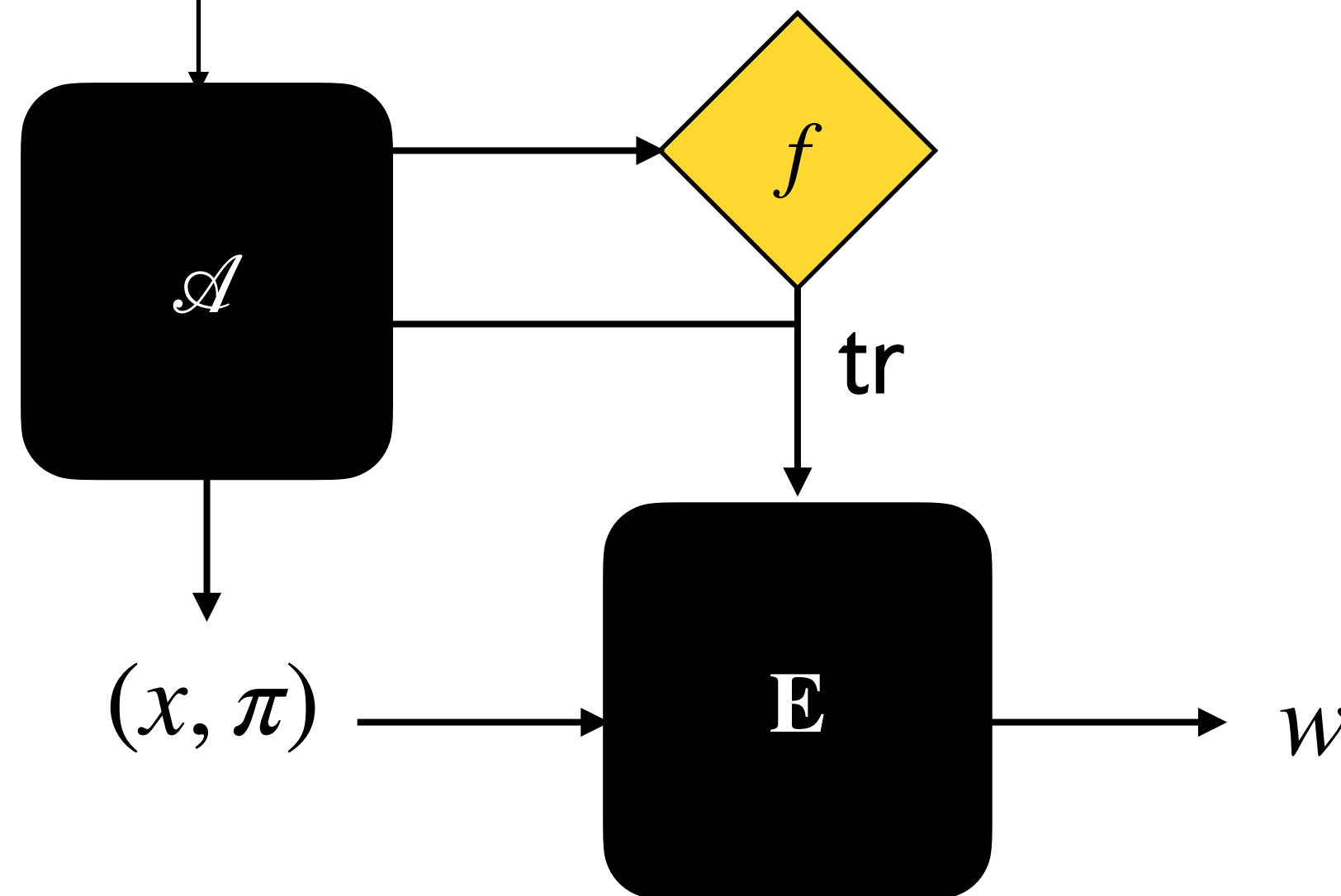
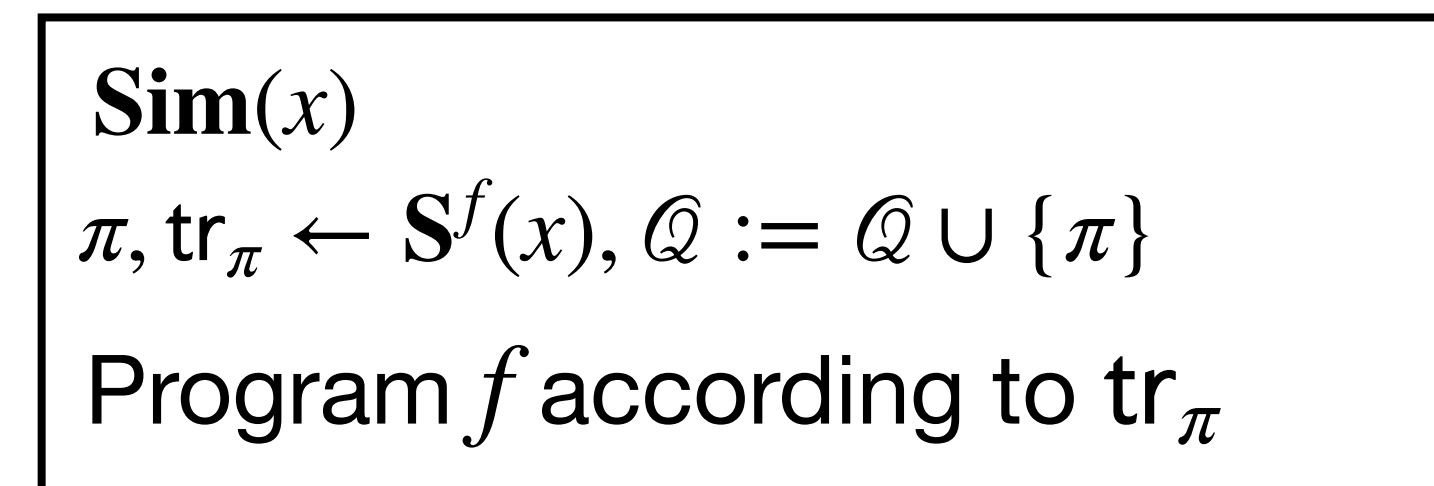
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Pr

$$\mathbf{V}^f(x, \pi) = 1$$

$$(x, w) \notin R$$

$$\pi \notin Q$$



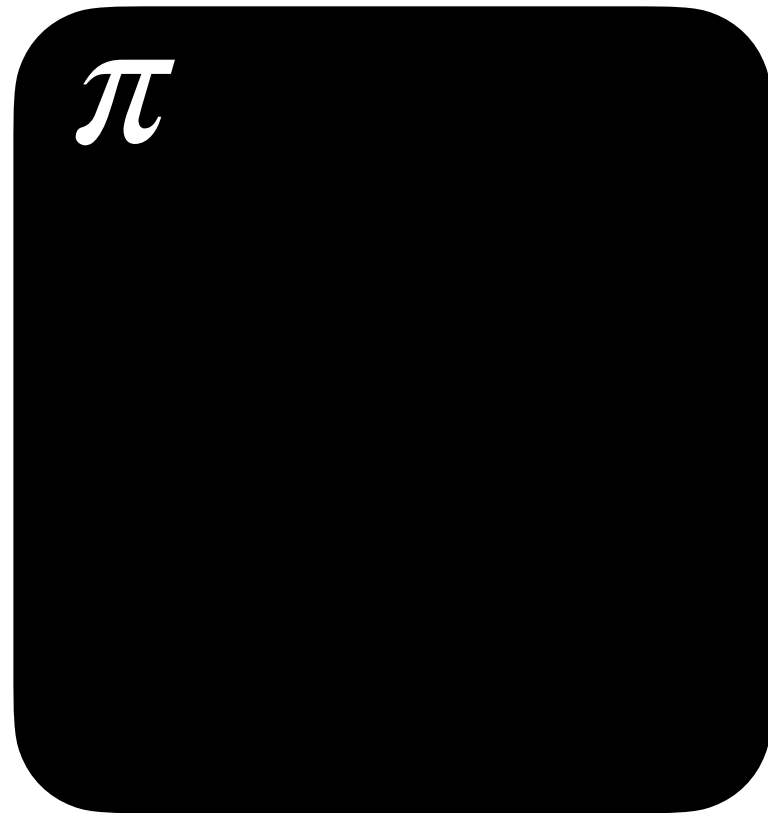
$\leq \kappa$

UC with Budgets

Plain UC only models
adversaries that are
computationally bounded

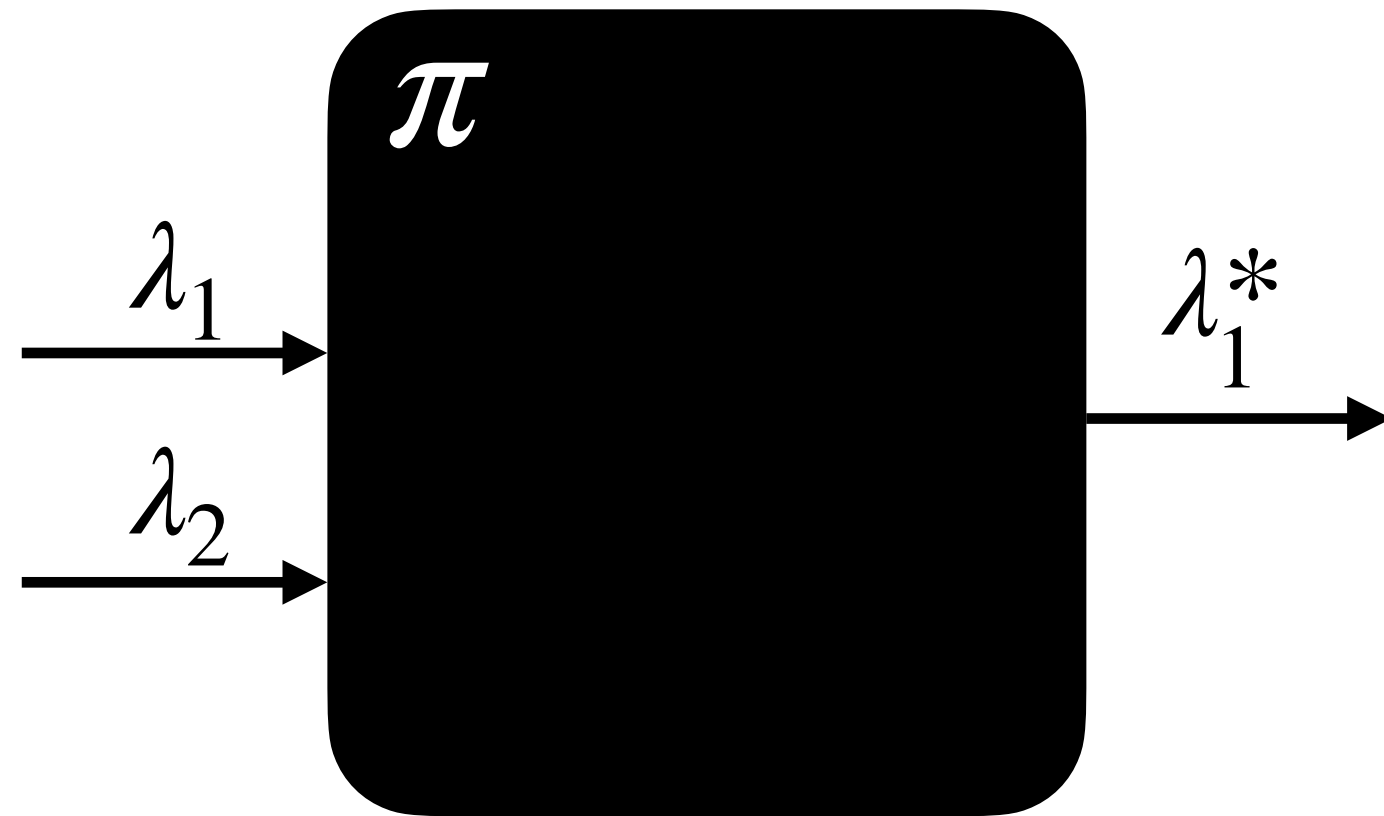
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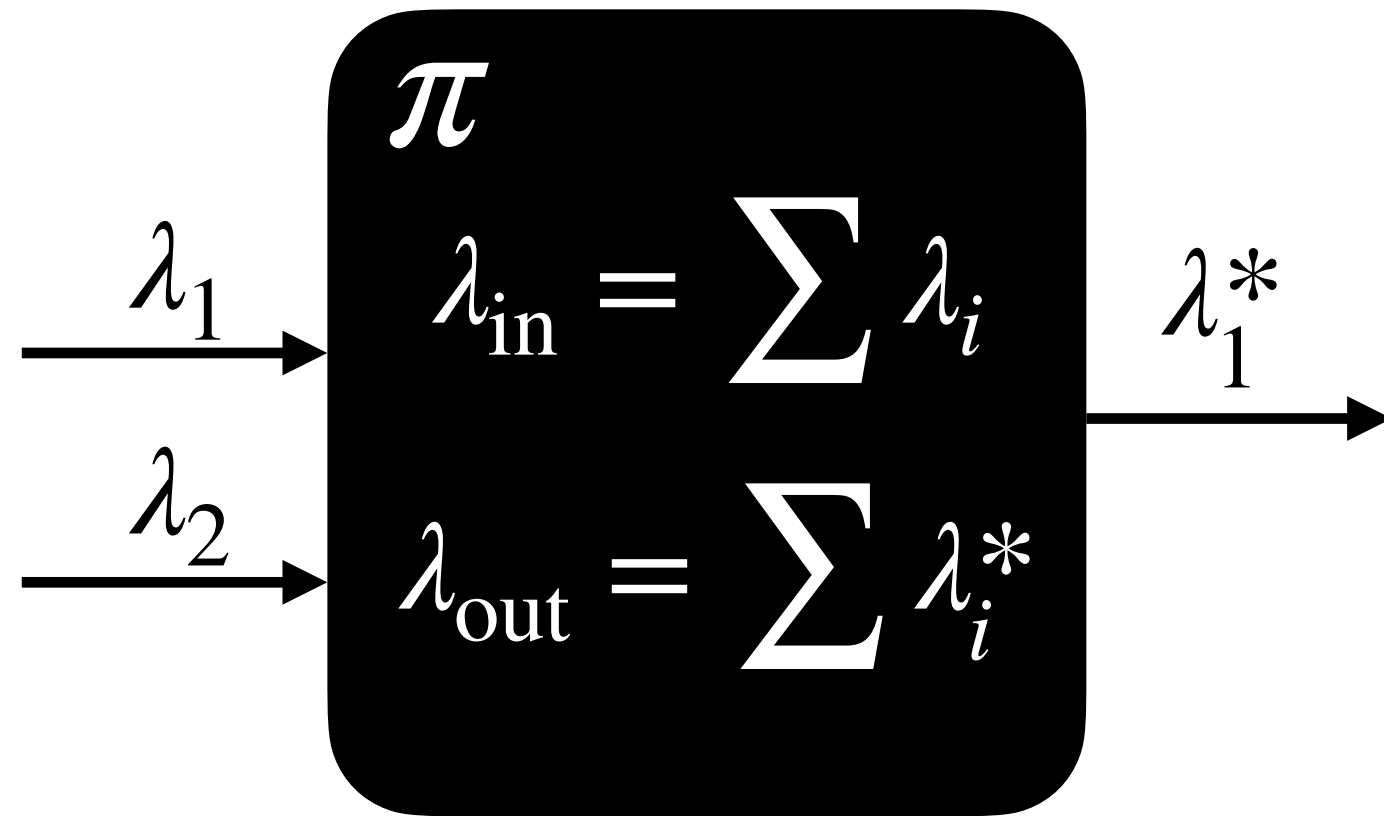
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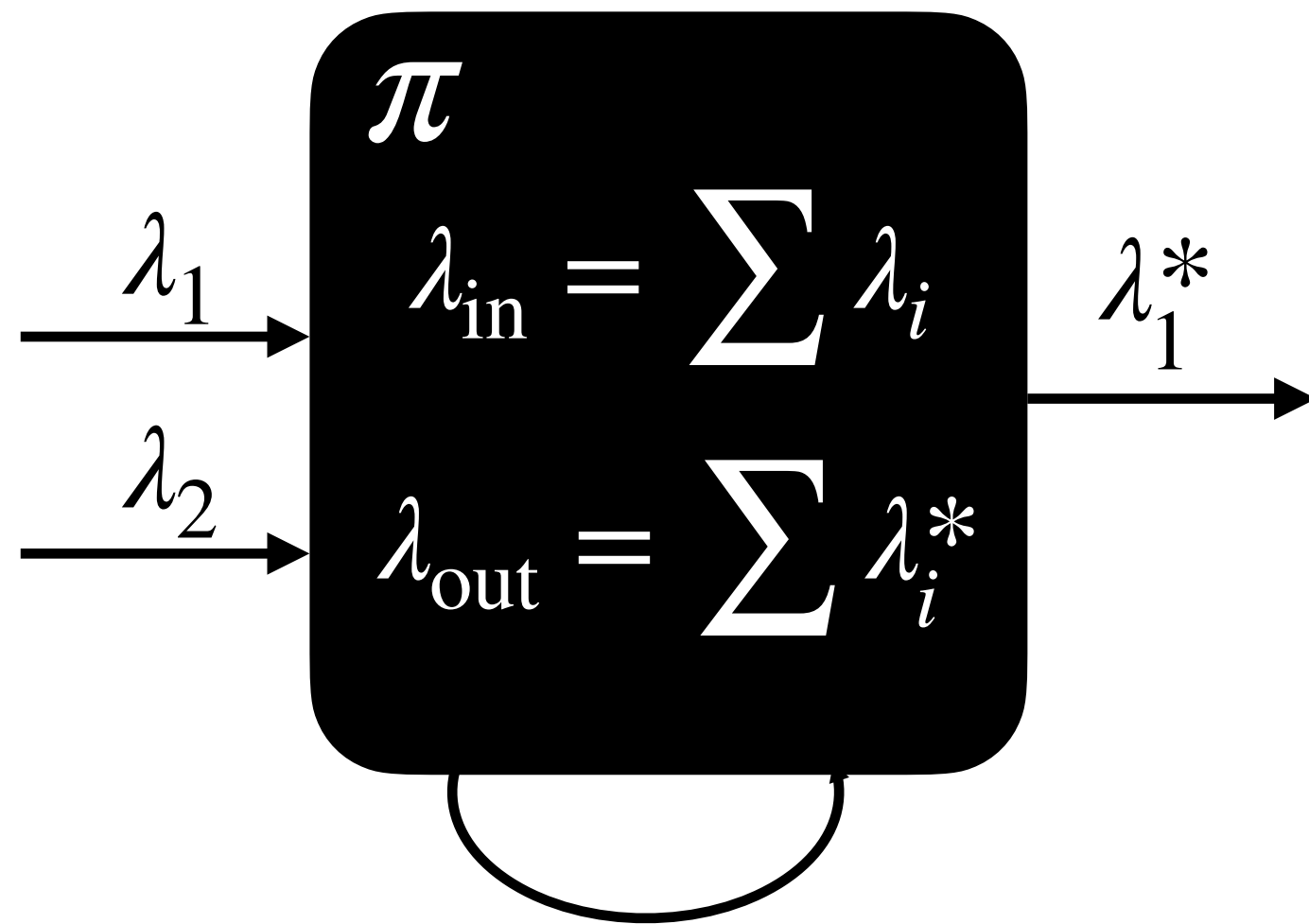
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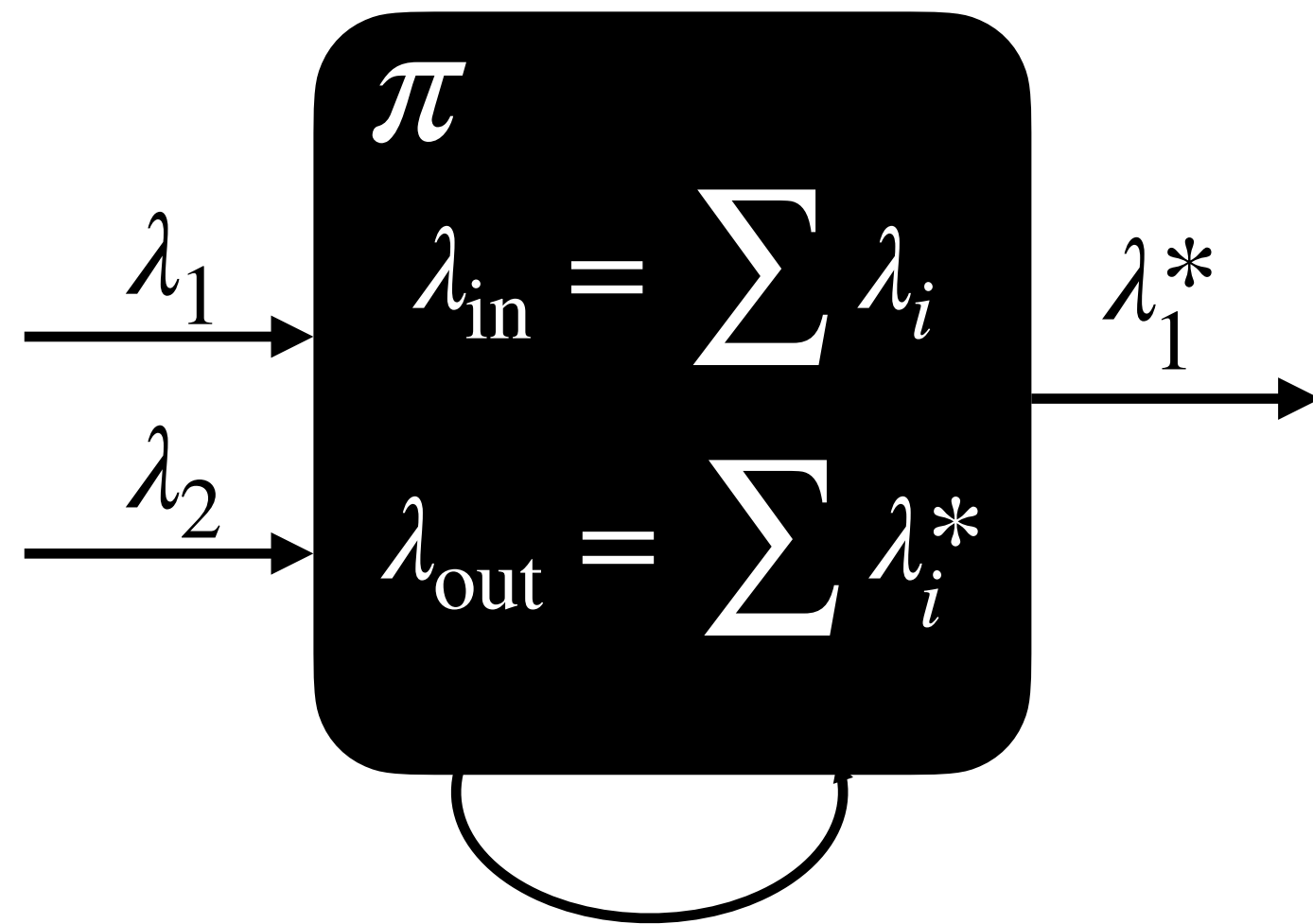


$$\text{time}(\pi) \leq p(\lambda_{\text{in}} - \lambda_{\text{out}})$$

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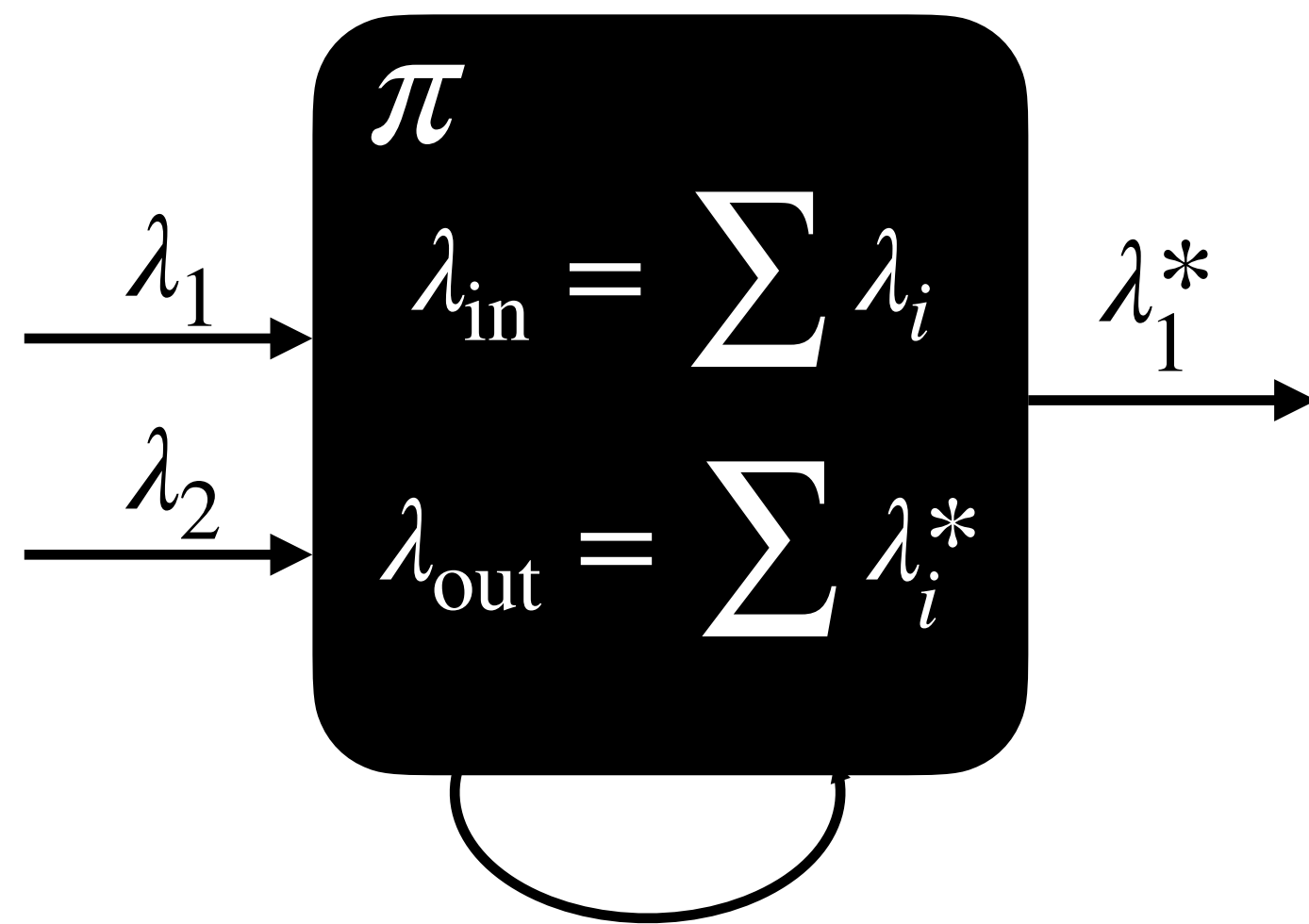
We consider adversaries that are
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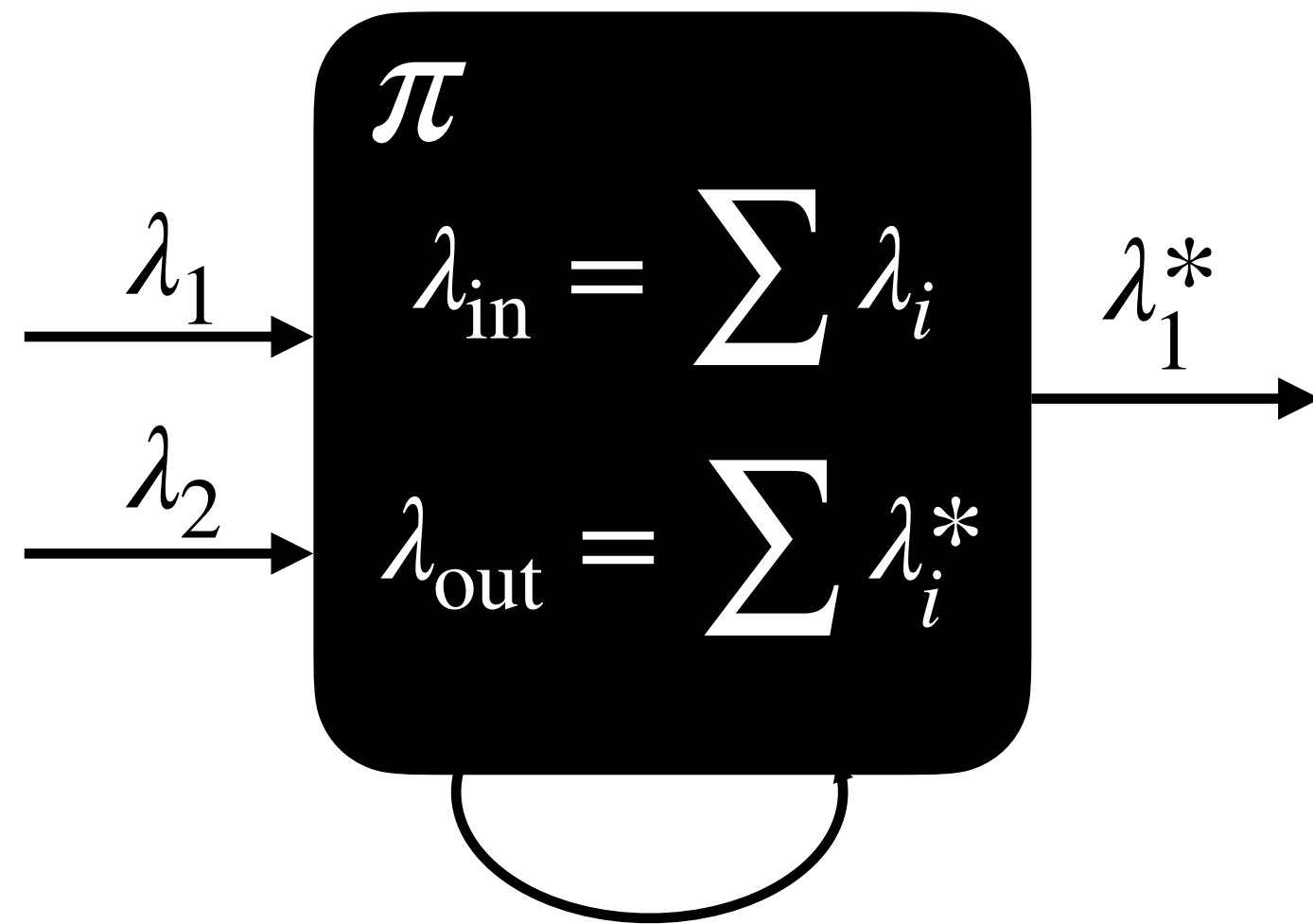
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$$\pi$$
$$\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}_{\text{start}} + \sum \mathcal{B}_{\text{in}}$$
$$\mathcal{B} = (t_q, t_p, \ell_p, \ell_v)$$

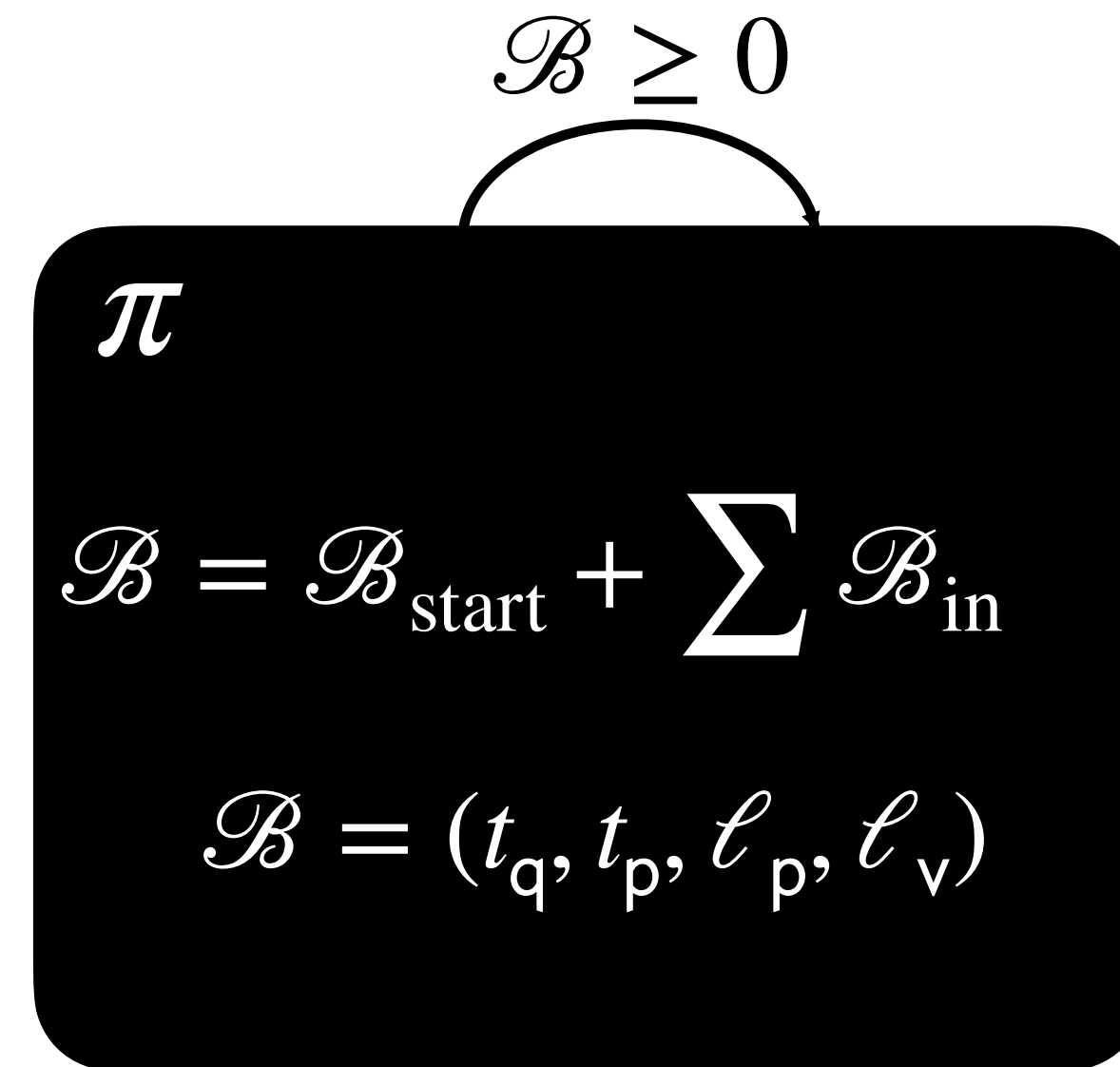
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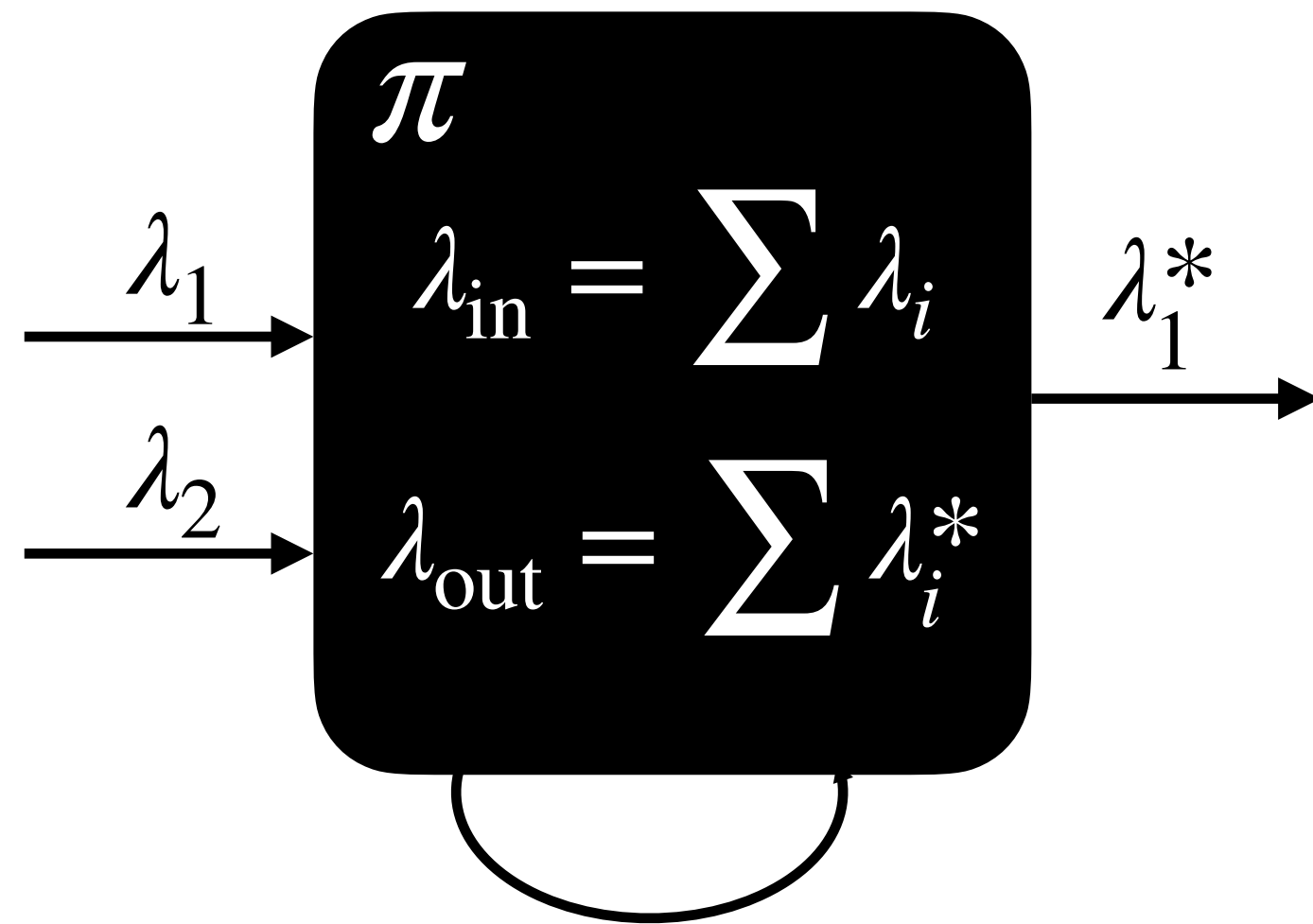
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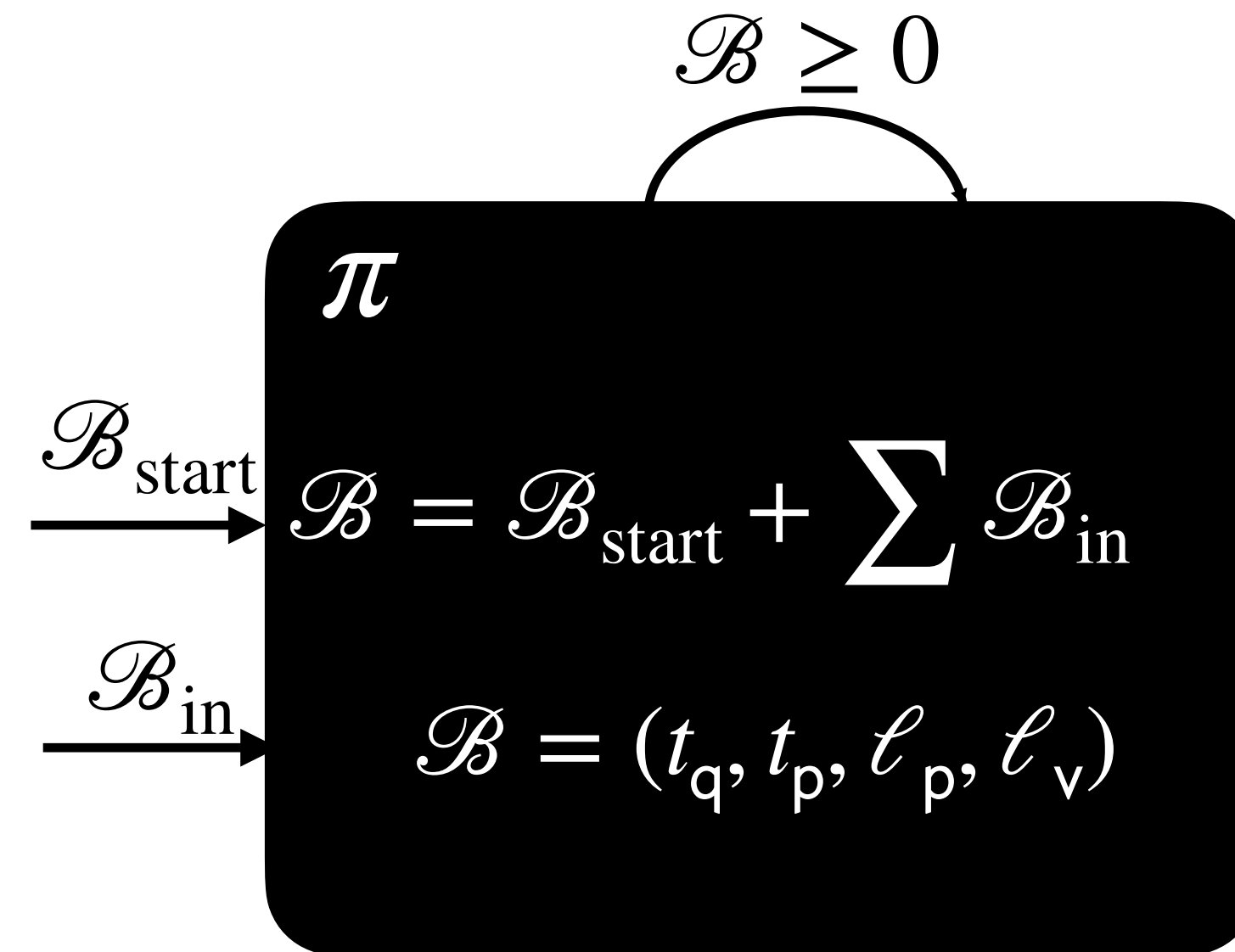
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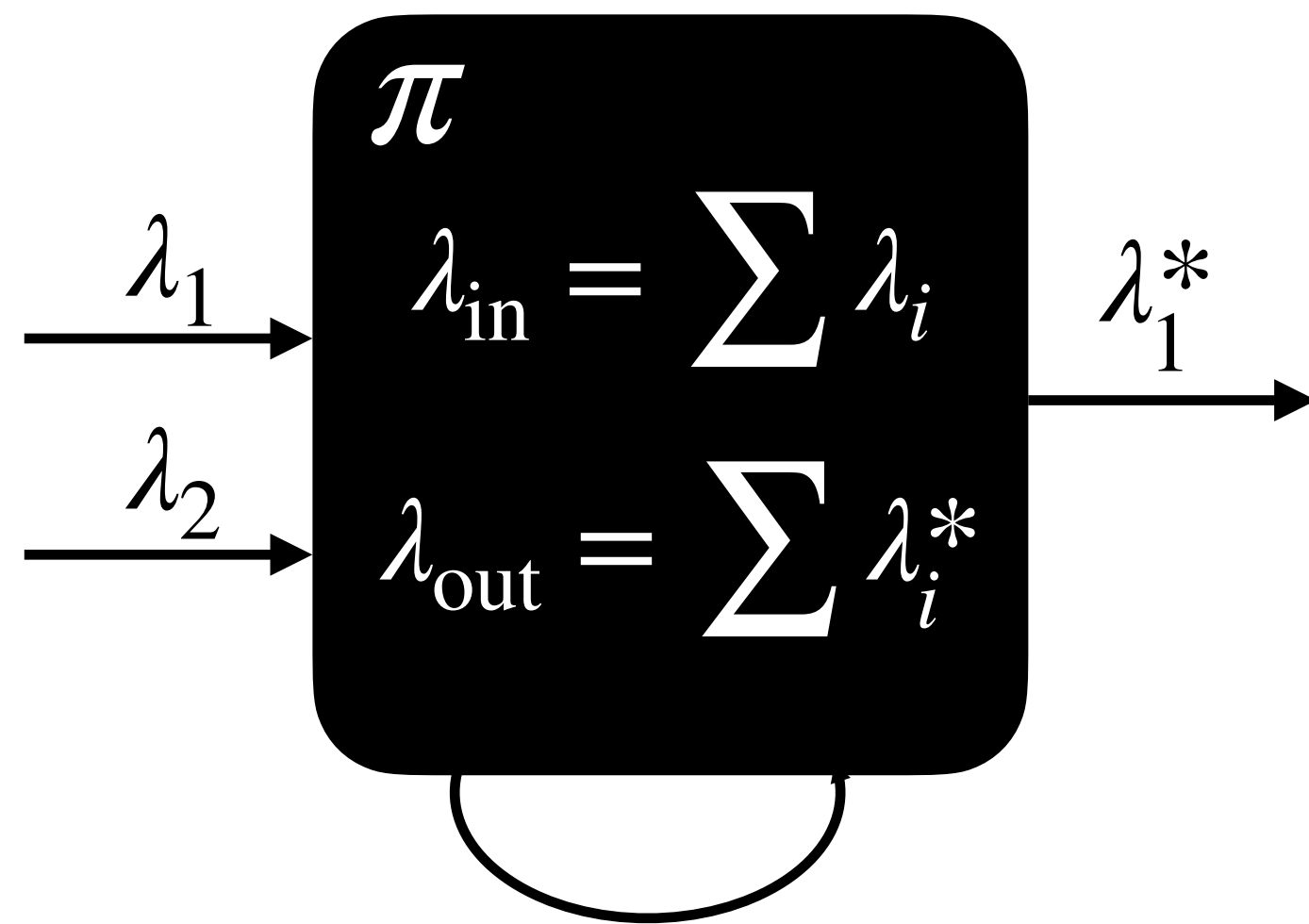
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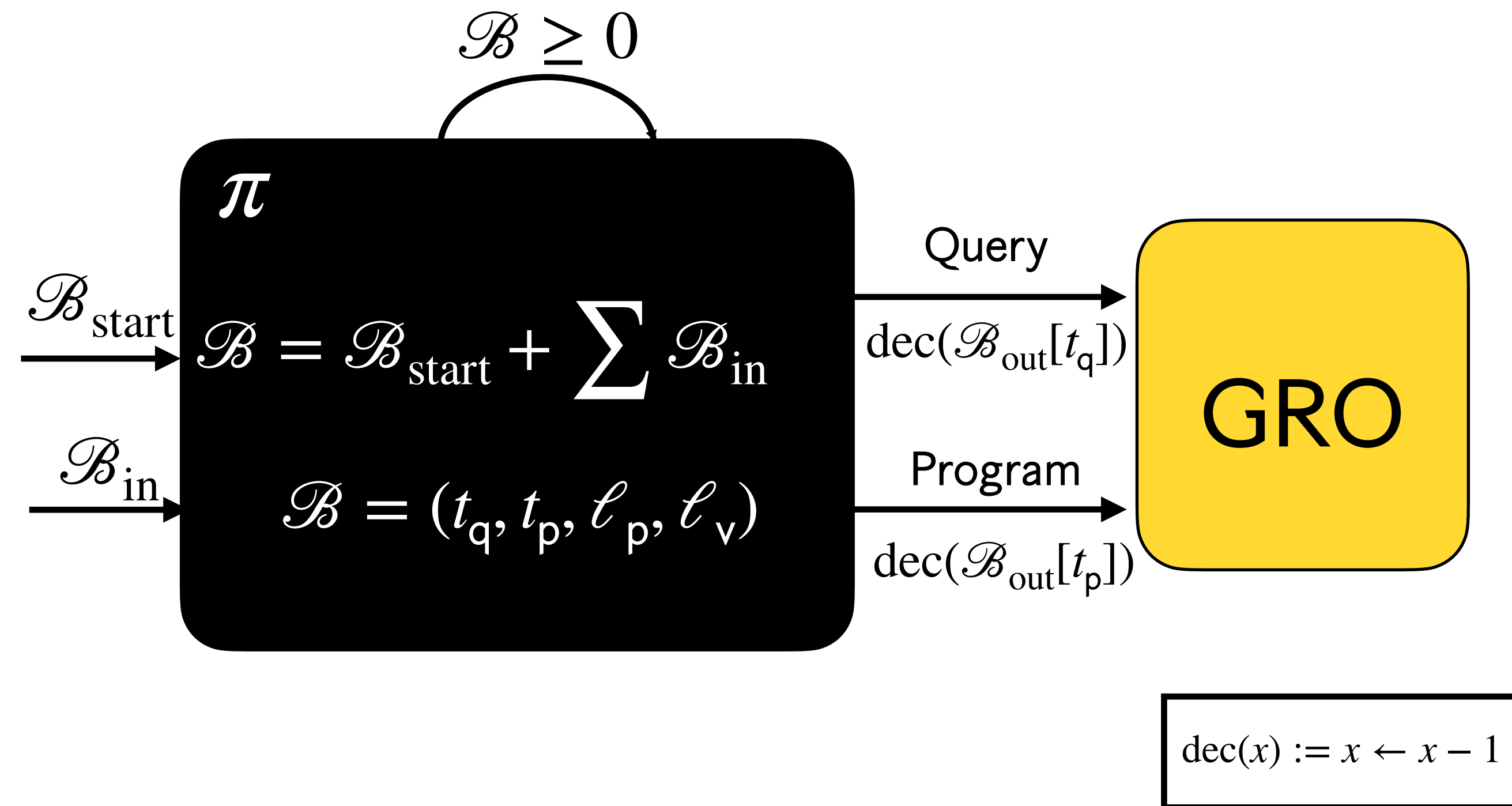
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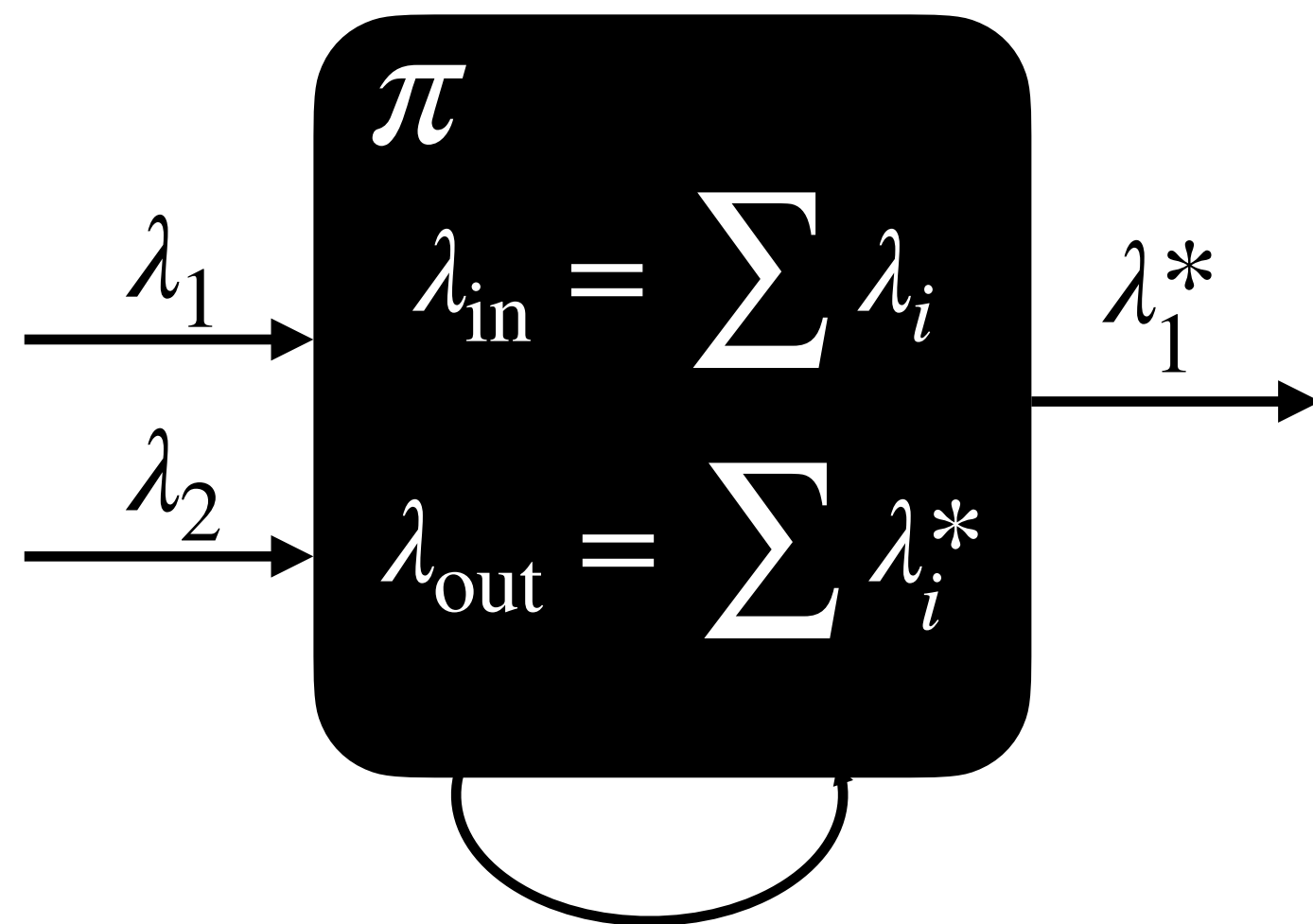
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