A Note on Adaptive Security in Hierarchical Identity-Based Encryption

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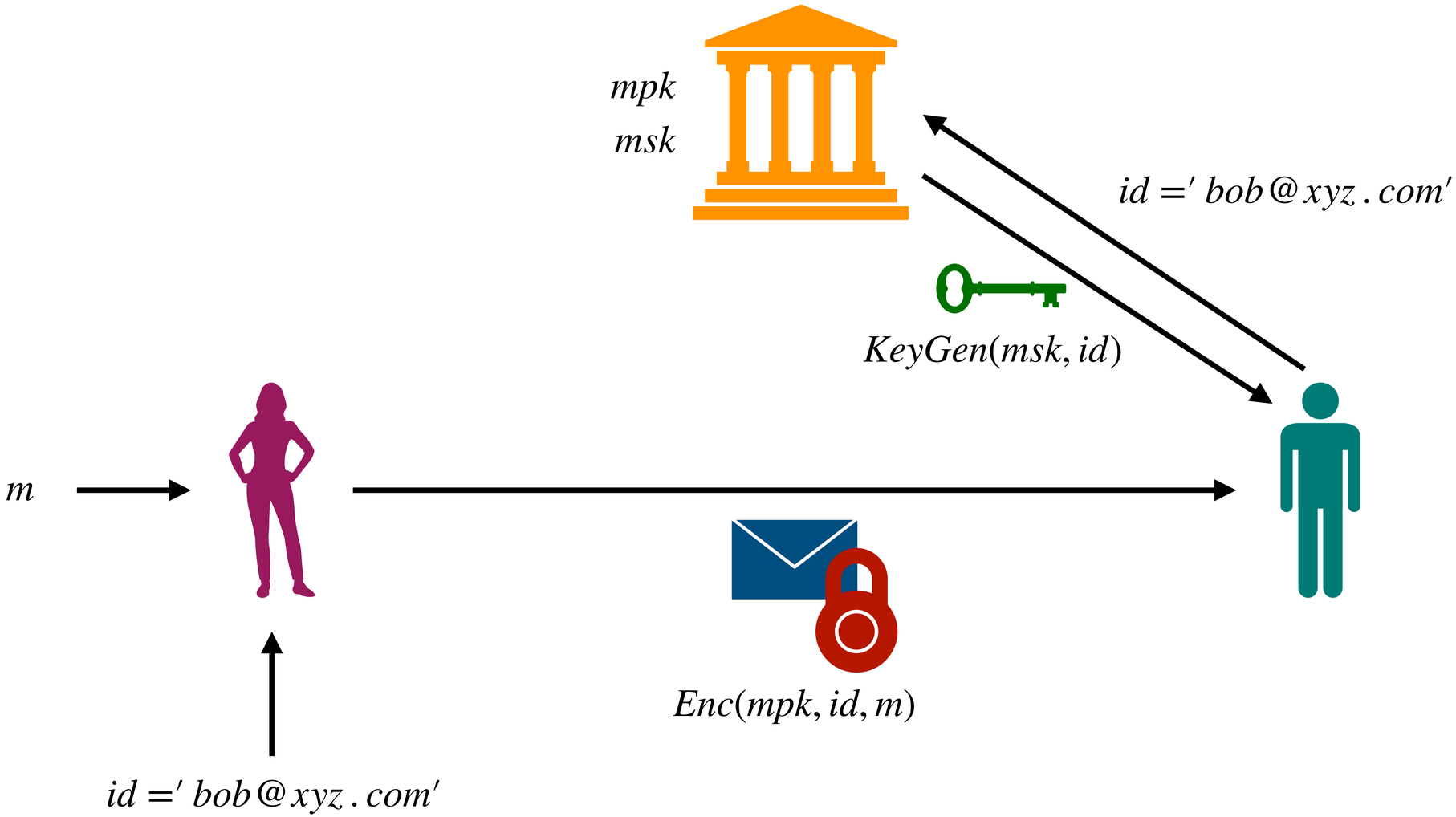
CISPA Helmholtz

CRYPTO 2025

Identity Based Encryption

[Shamir'85]



Hierarchical Identity Based Encryption

[Horwitz-Lynn’02,Gentry-Silverberg’02]

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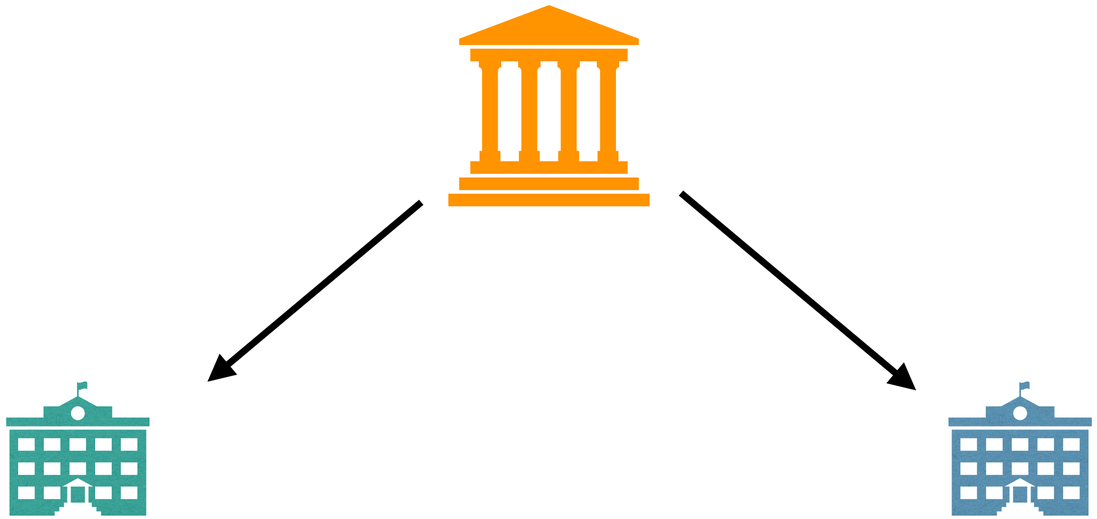

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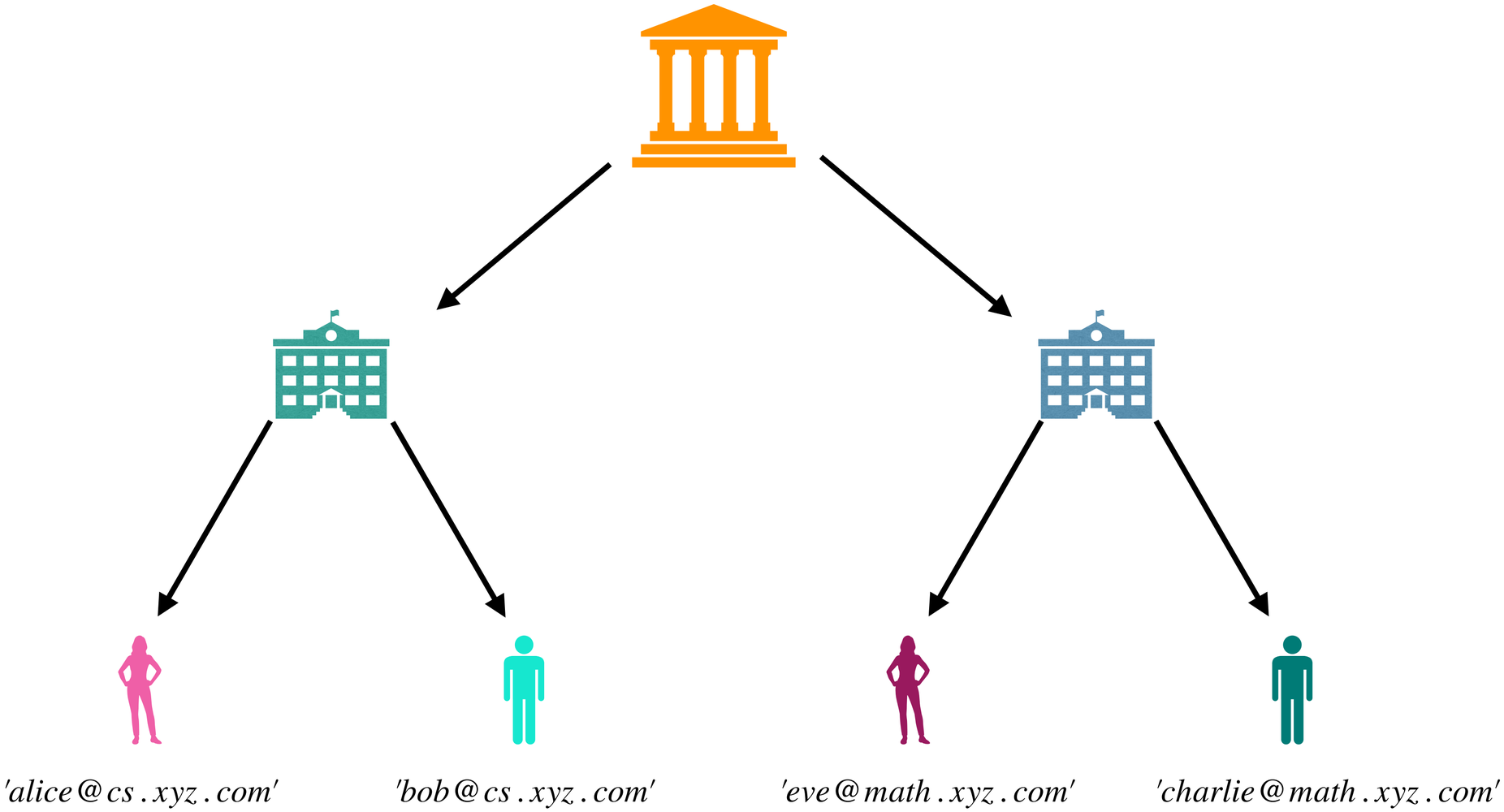

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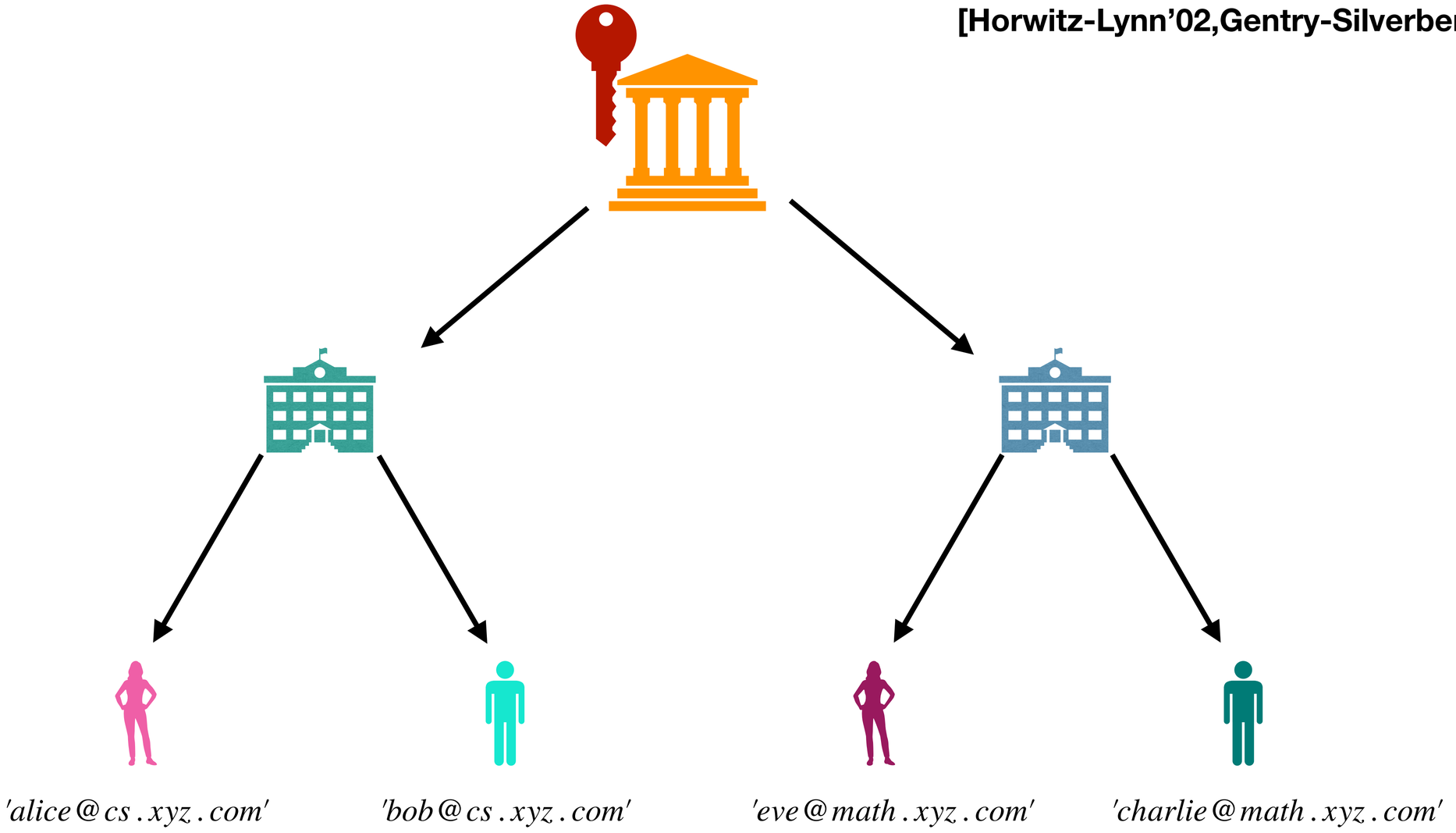

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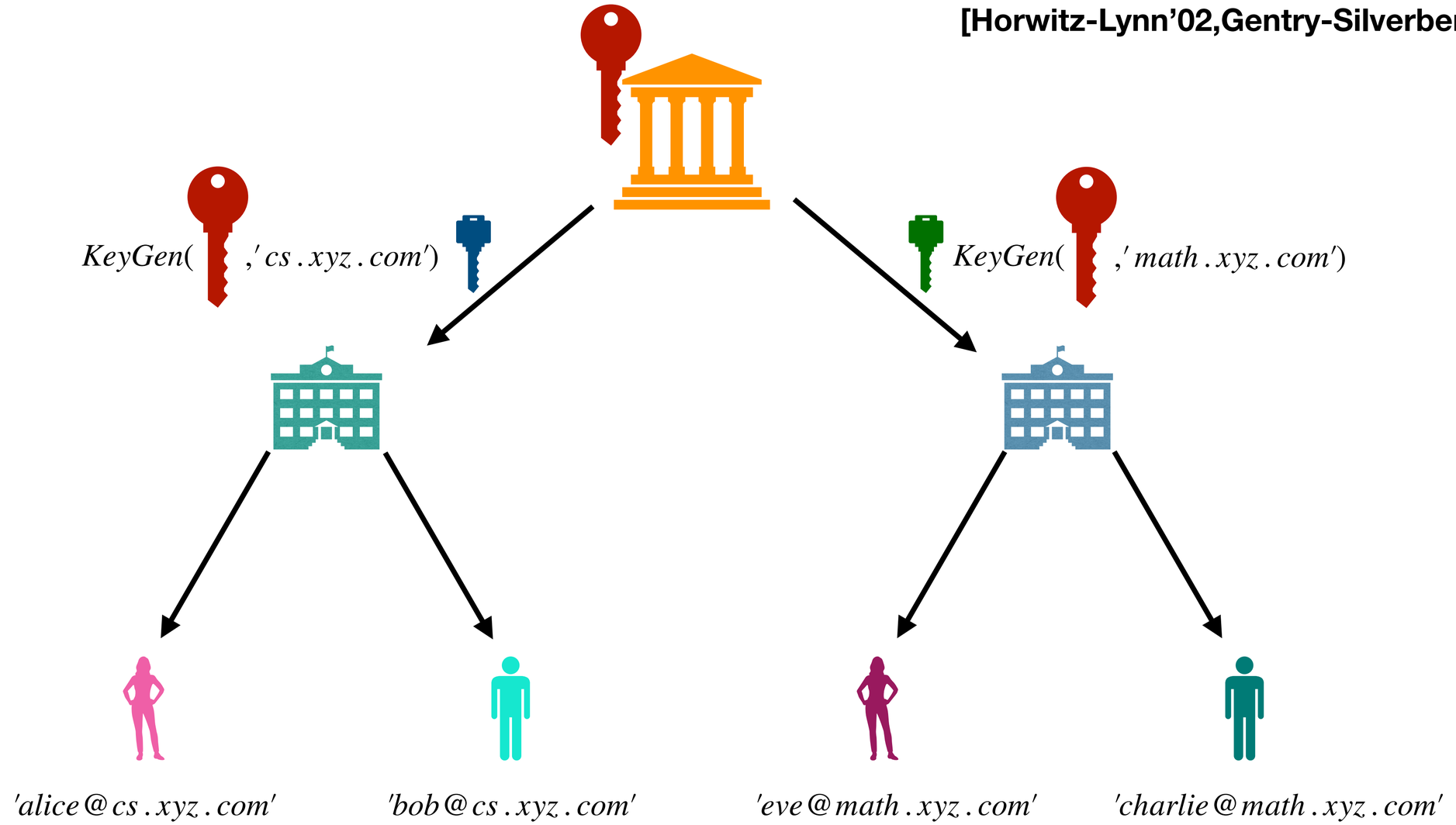

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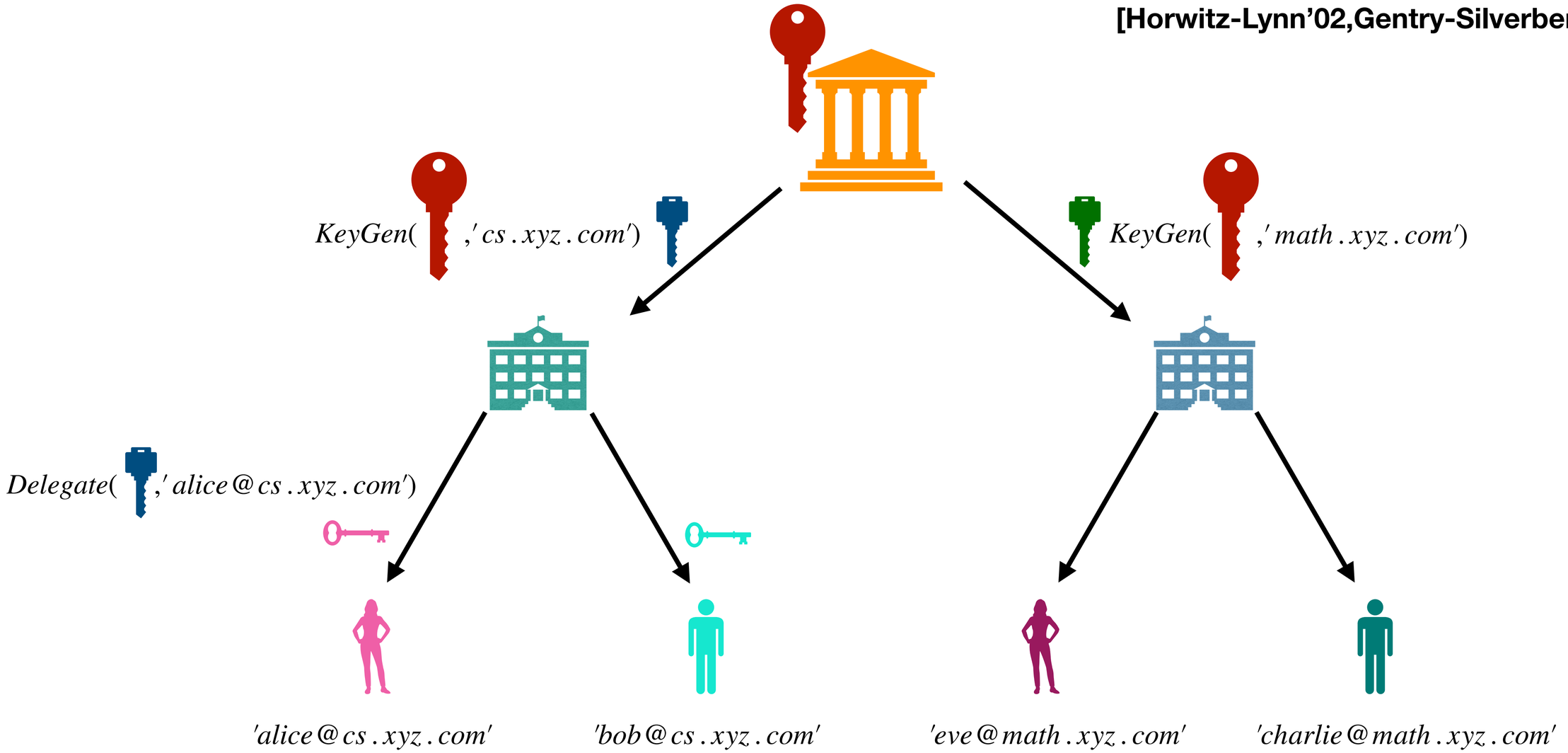

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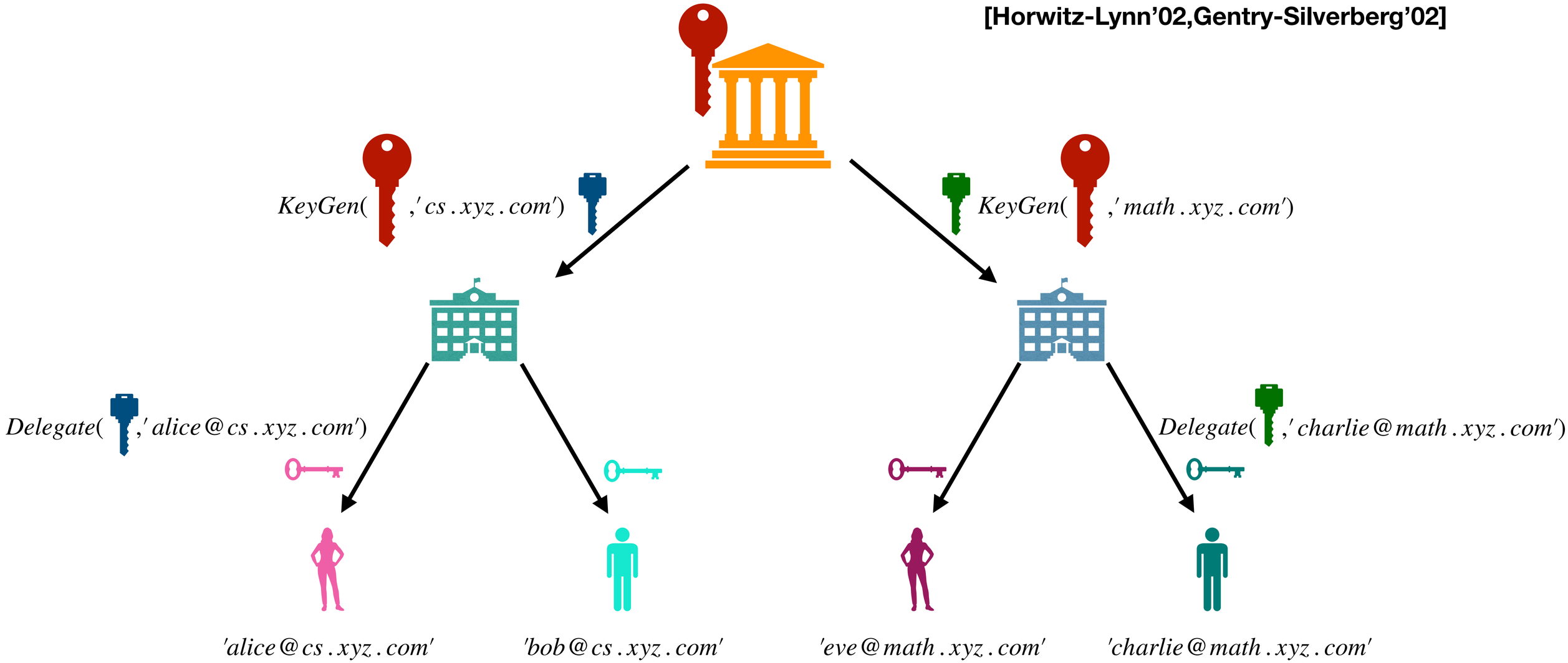

Syntax

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$(mpk, msk) \leftarrow Setup(1^\lambda)$

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$sk_{id} \leftarrow KeyGen(msk, id)$

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Syntax

$(mpk, msk) \leftarrow Setup(1^\lambda)$

$sk_{id} \leftarrow KeyGen(msk, id)$

$sk_{id\|id'} \leftarrow Delegate(sk_{id}, id')$

$ct \leftarrow Enc(mpk, id, m)$

$m \leftarrow Dec(sk_{id}, ct)$

Security

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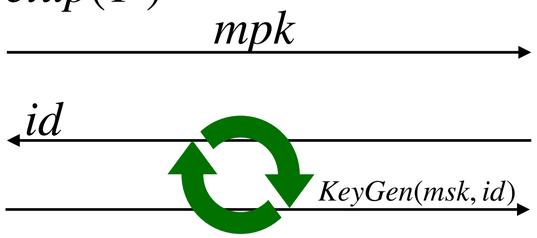

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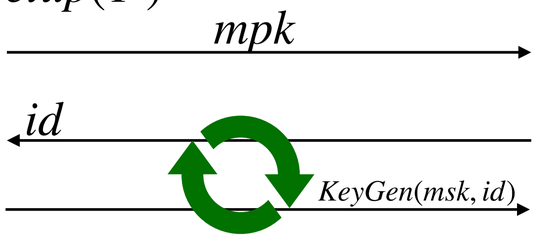

$id \not\preceq id^*$

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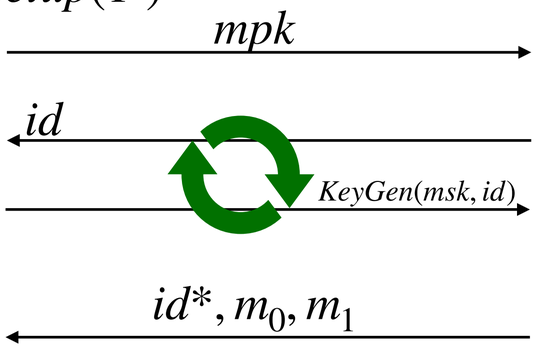

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Adversary wins if $b' = b$

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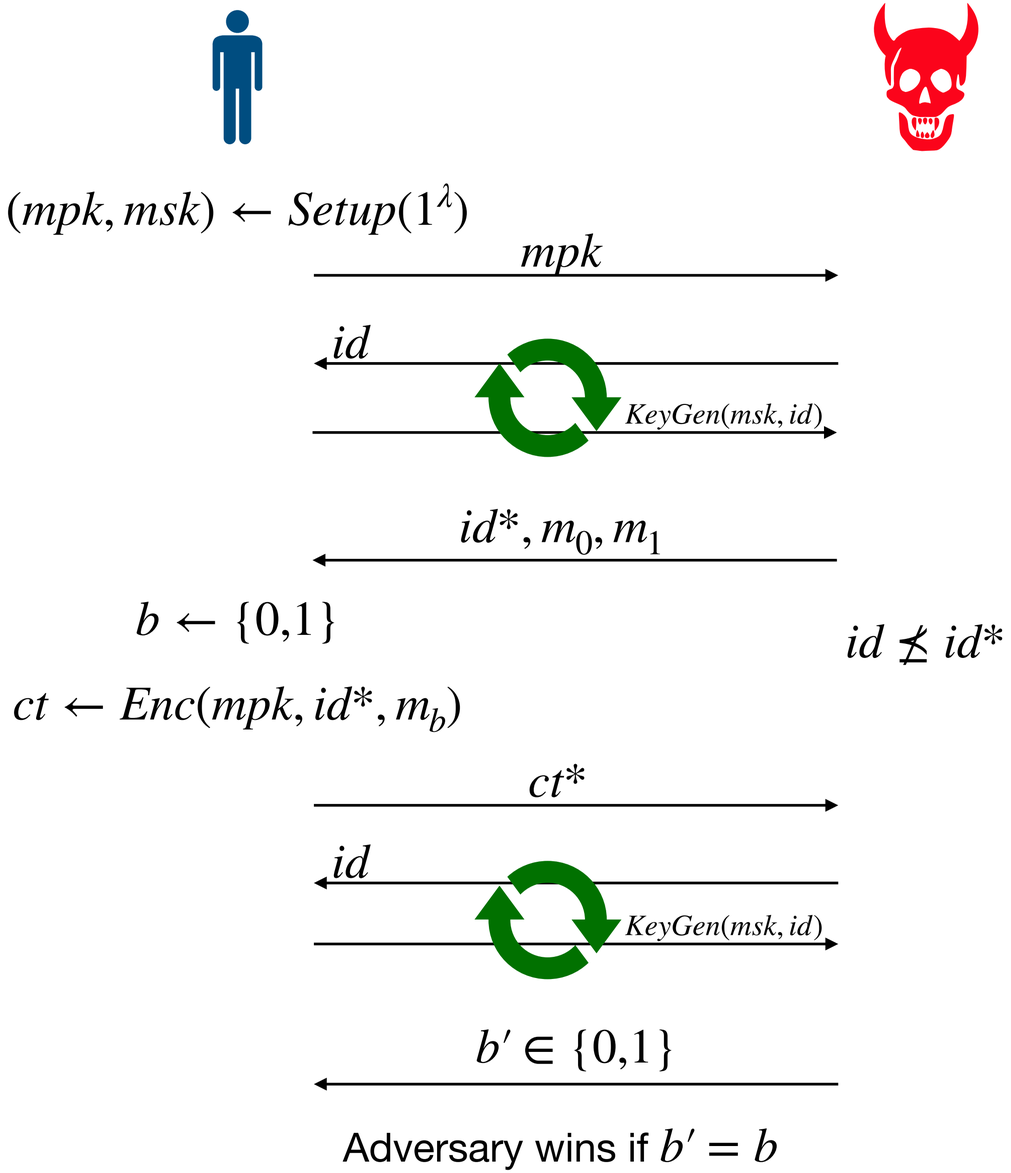

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  - ENC : $\{ct_i \leftarrow IBE.Enc(mpk_i, id[1;i], m)\}_{i \in [|id|]}$

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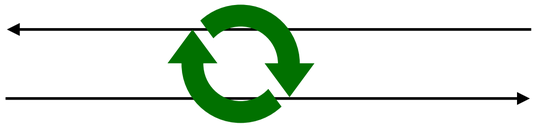
  - DELEGATE : Return sk_{id}
- Immediately broken if adversary is allowed to obtain delegated keys!

Security

[Shi-Waters'08]

$(mpk, msk) \leftarrow Setup(1^{\lambda})$

mpk



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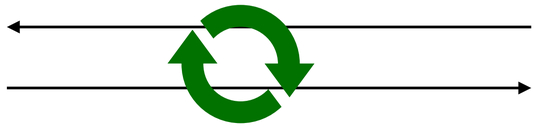
$b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$

$ct \leftarrow Enc(mpk, id^*, m_b)$

ct^*



$b' \in \{0,1\}$

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Security

[Shi-Waters'08]

$(mpk, msk) \leftarrow Setup(1^{\lambda})$

mpk

query

response

id^*, m_0, m_1

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query

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mpk →

$query$ ←

$response$ →

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Adversary wins if $b' = b$

- $query = initialize(id)$:
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- $query = corrupt(id)$:
  Returns sk_{id} $\quad id \not\preceq id^*$

Selective Security

$(mpk, msk) \leftarrow Setup(1^{\lambda})$

mpk

$query$

$response$

$b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$

$id \neq id^*$

$ct \leftarrow Enc(mpk, id^*, m_b)$

ct^*

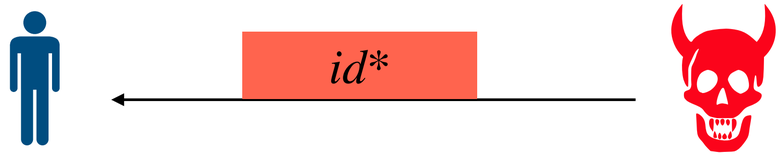
$query$

$response$

$b' \in \{0,1\}$

Adversary wins if $b' = b$

Selective Security



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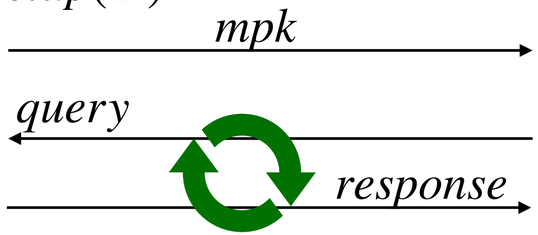
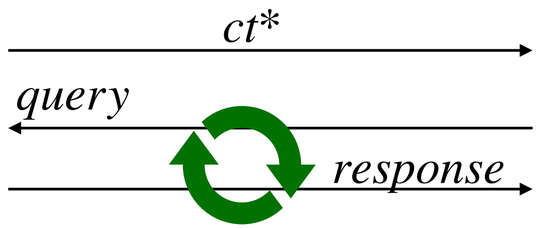


$b \leftarrow \{0,1\}$

$id \neq id^*$

$ct \leftarrow Enc(mpk, id^*, m_b)$



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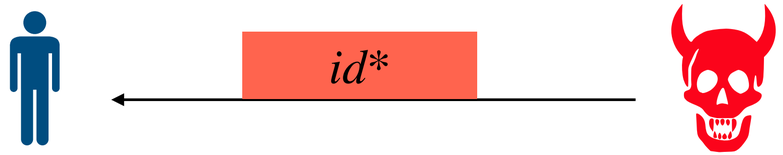

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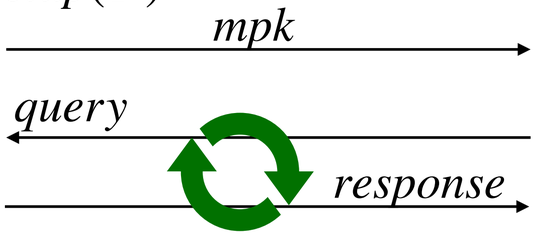

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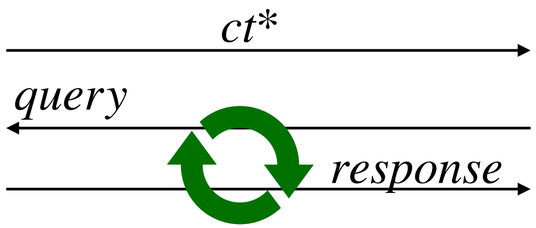

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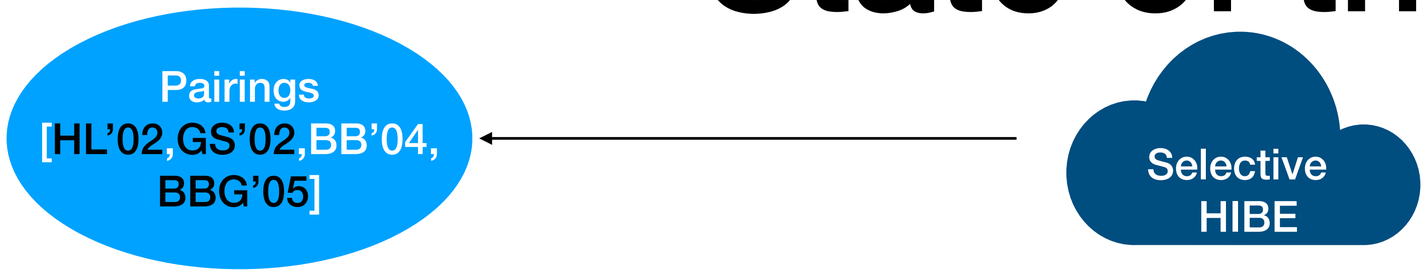

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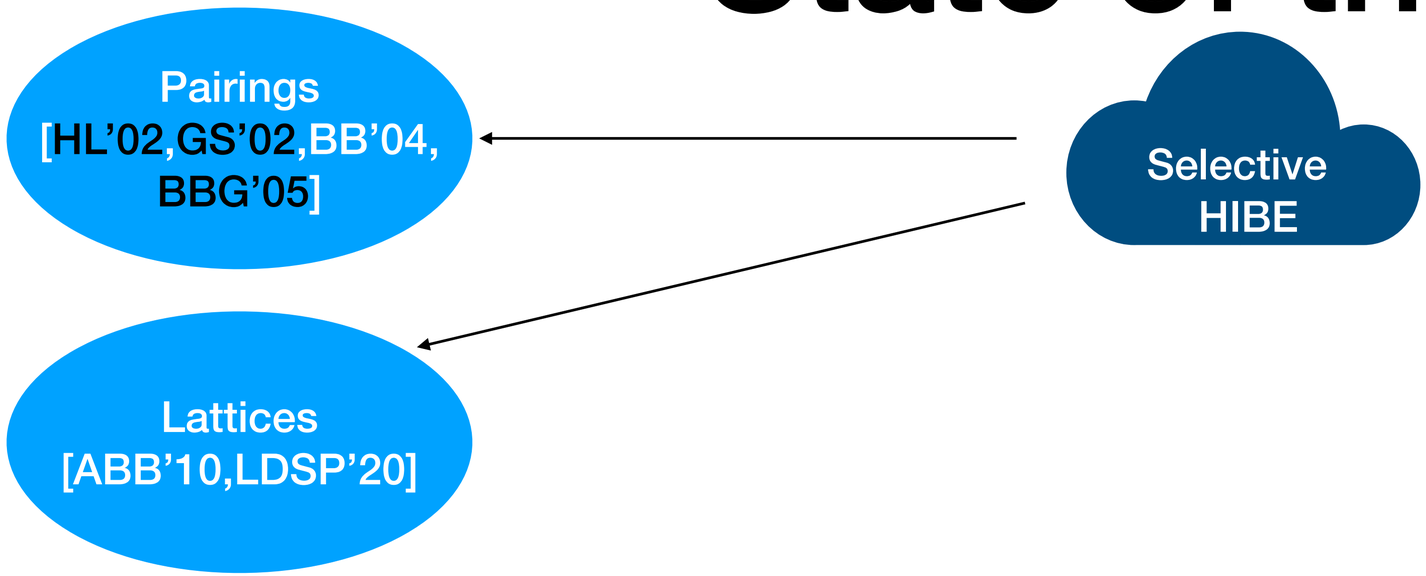

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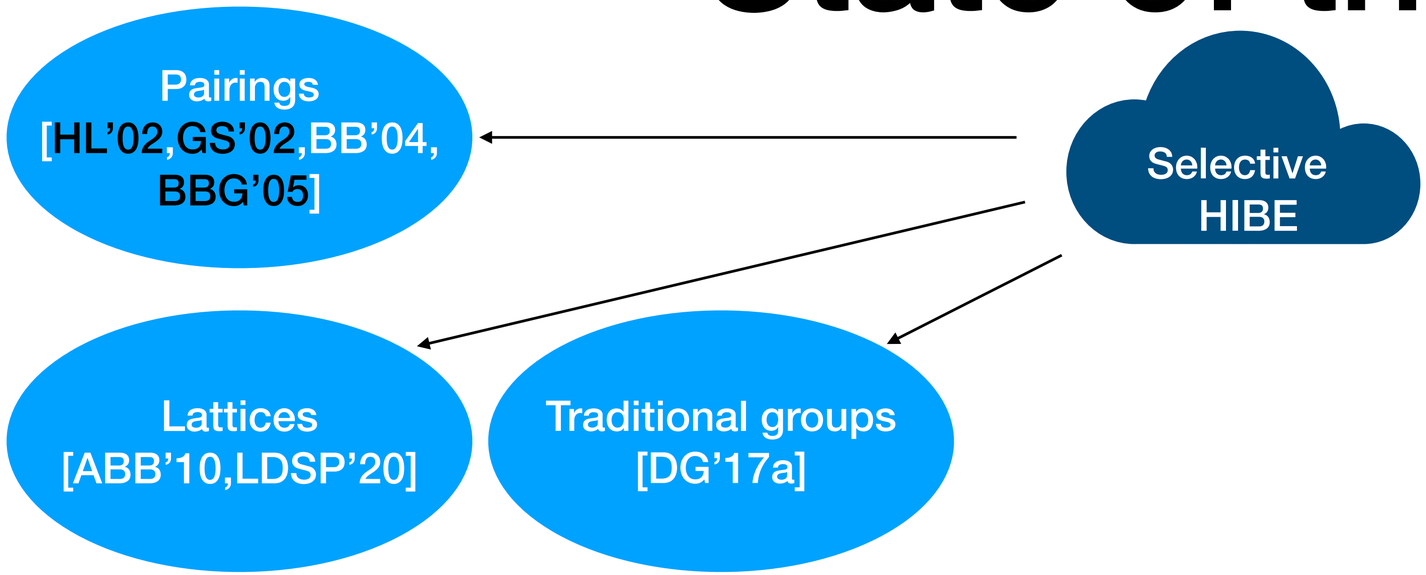

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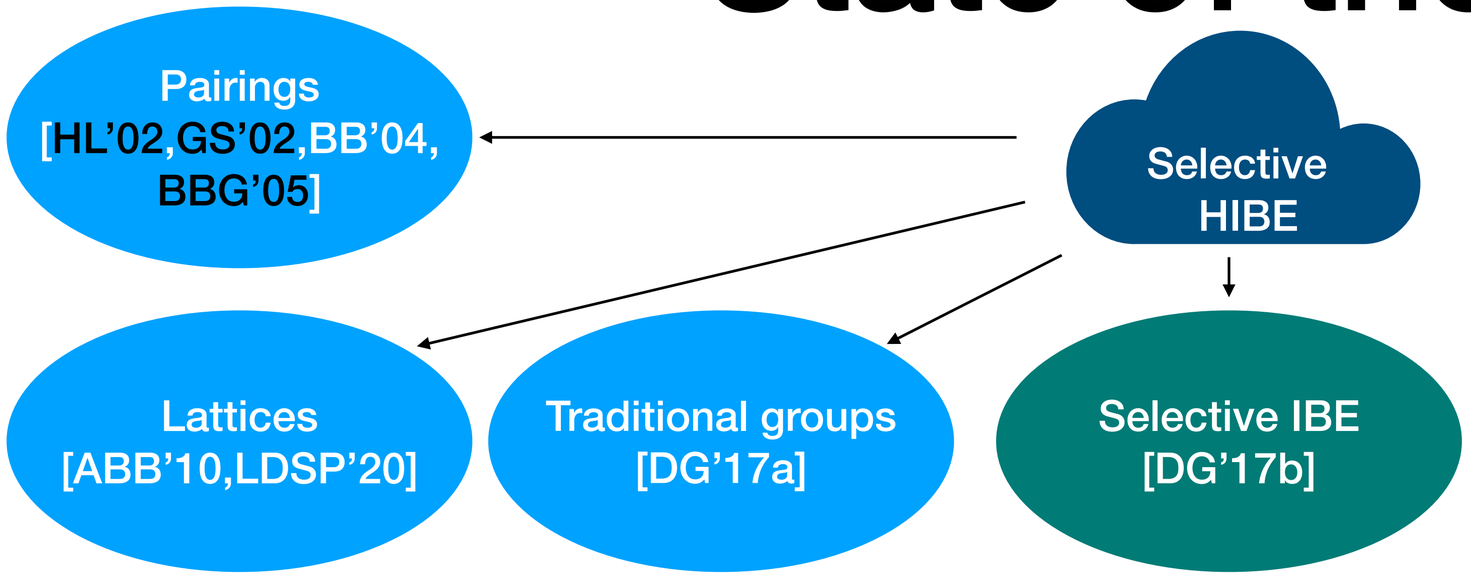

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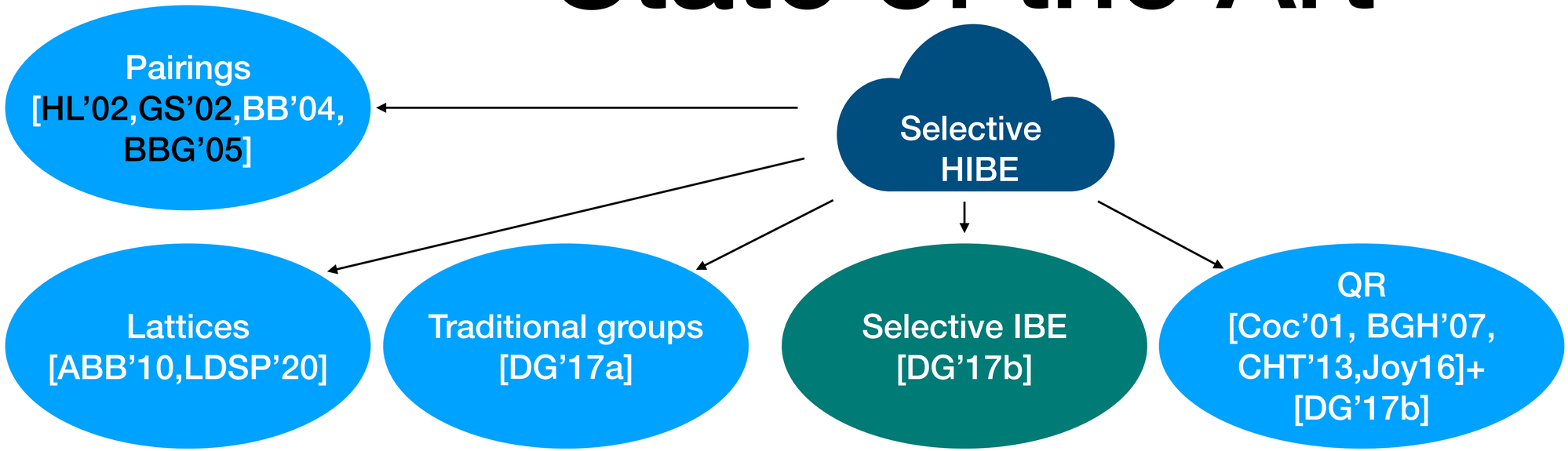

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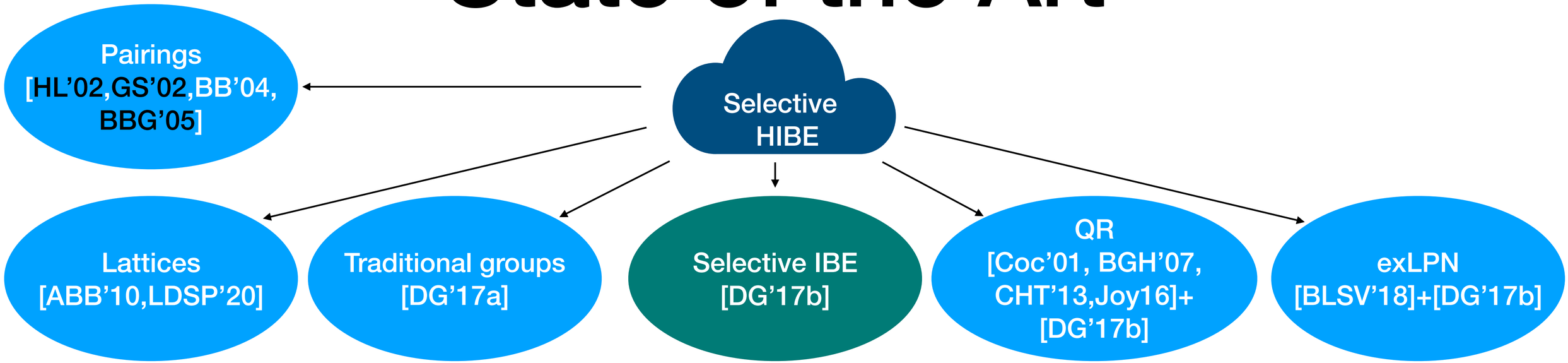

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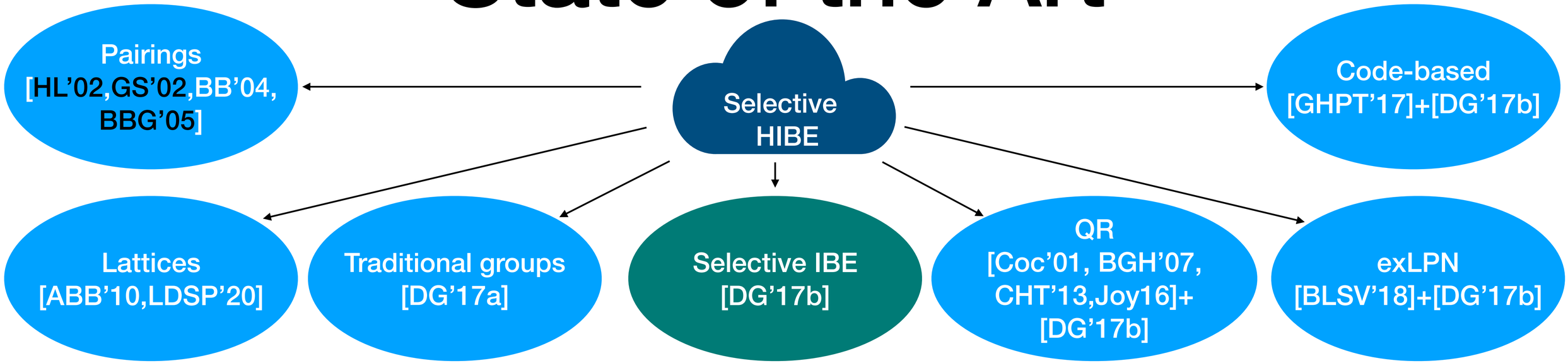

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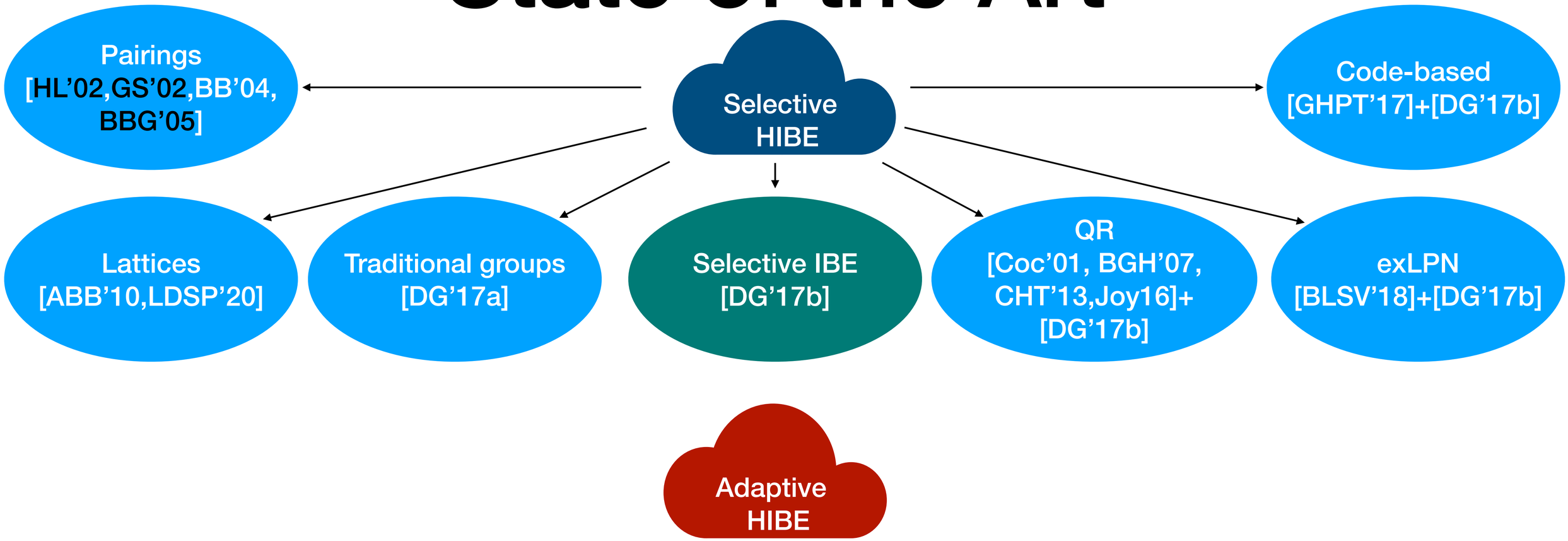

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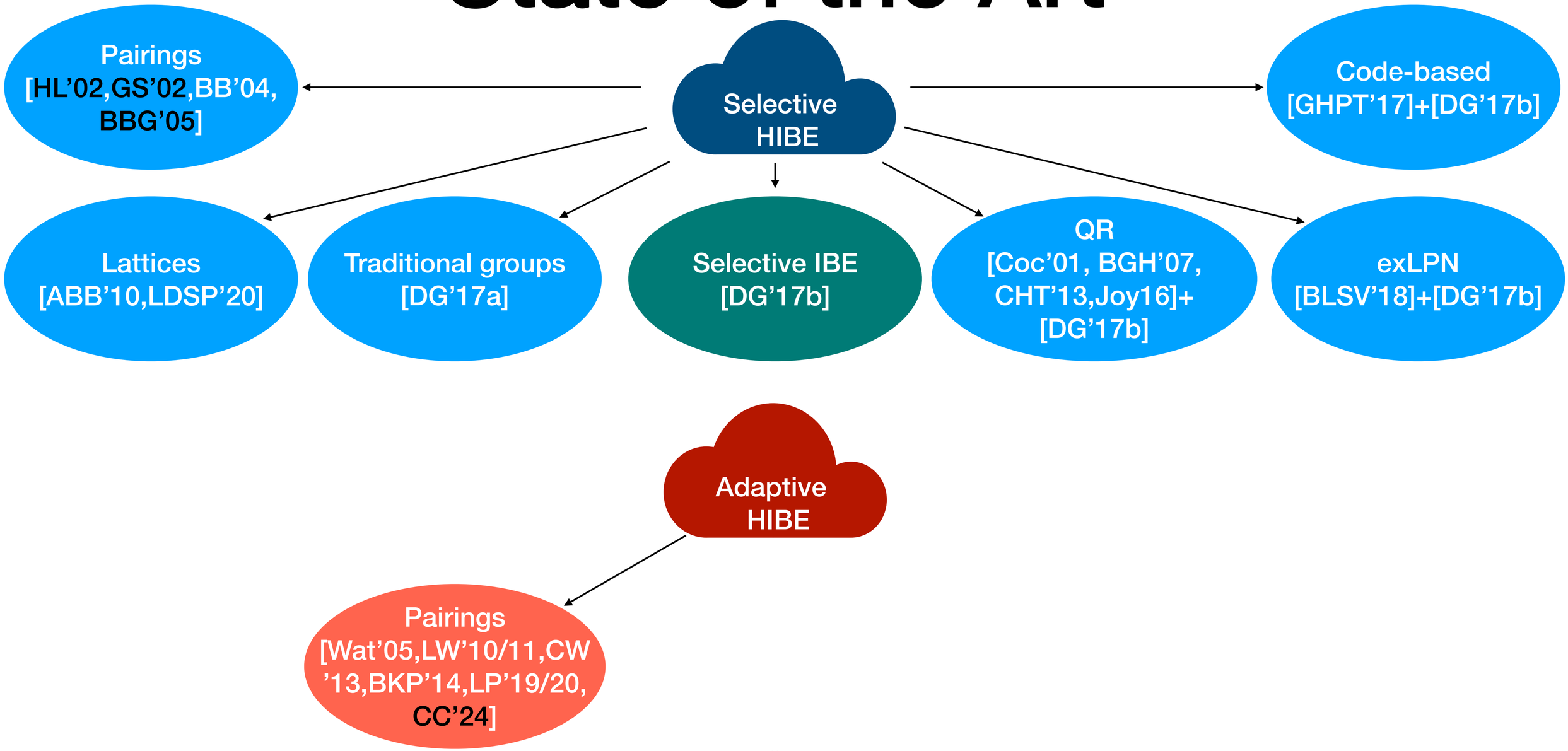

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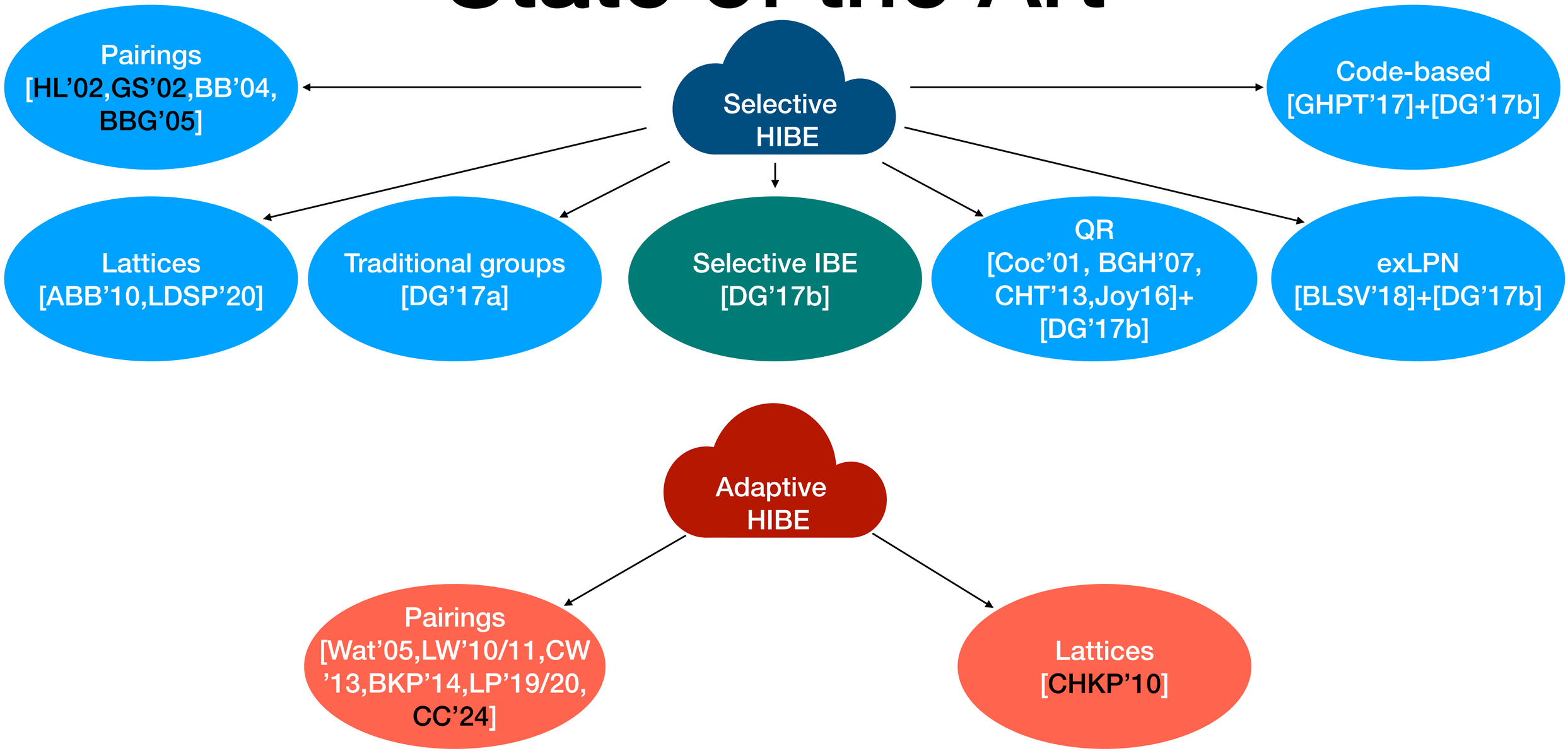

Challenges

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- Despite various heuristic approaches, achieving *adaptive secure* HIBE **in the standard model** without relying on strong or non-standard assumptions remains an open challenge.

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- Lewko-Waters'14, Brakerski-Medina'24 demonstrate that HIBE schemes satisfying "checkable" or partition-based proof conditions (and many early constructions) cannot be adapted to full security.

Security

Attacker

1. Obtains mpk
2. Adaptively makes queries
3. Sends id^*, m_0, m_1
4. Obtains challenge ciphertext ct^*
5. Adaptively makes queries
6. Outputs $b' \in \{0,1\}$

Security

Attacker

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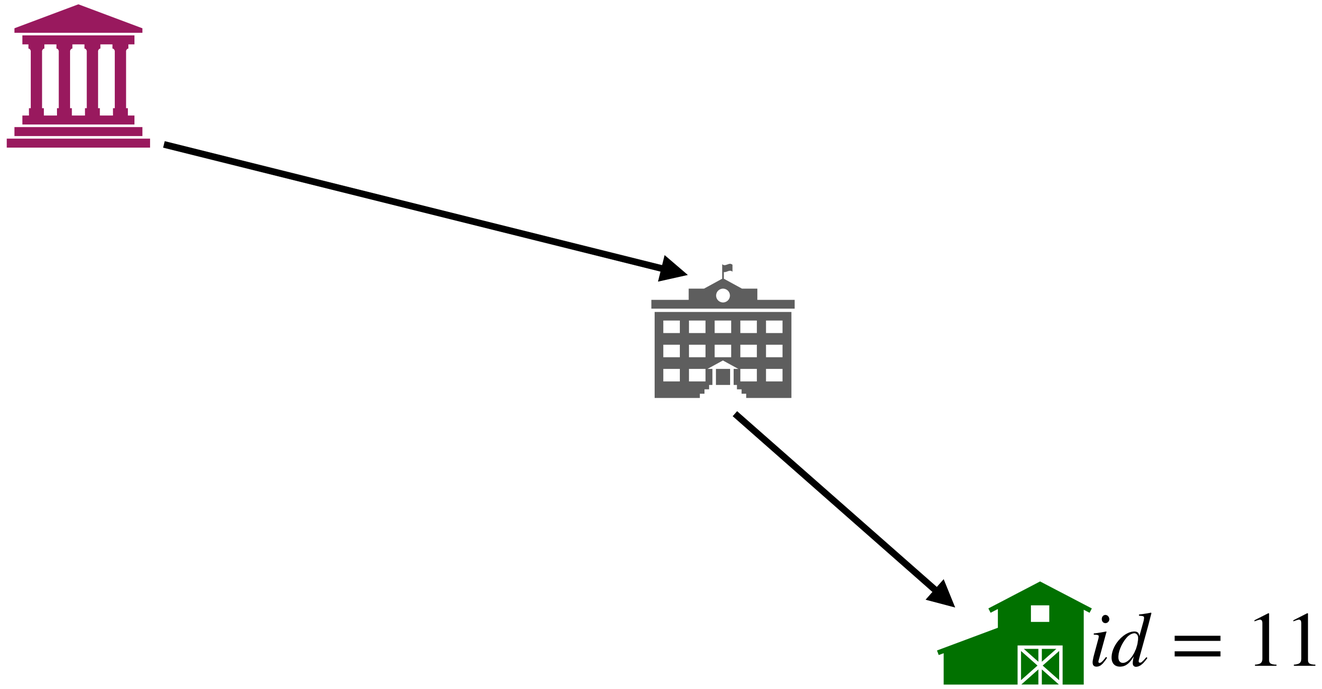

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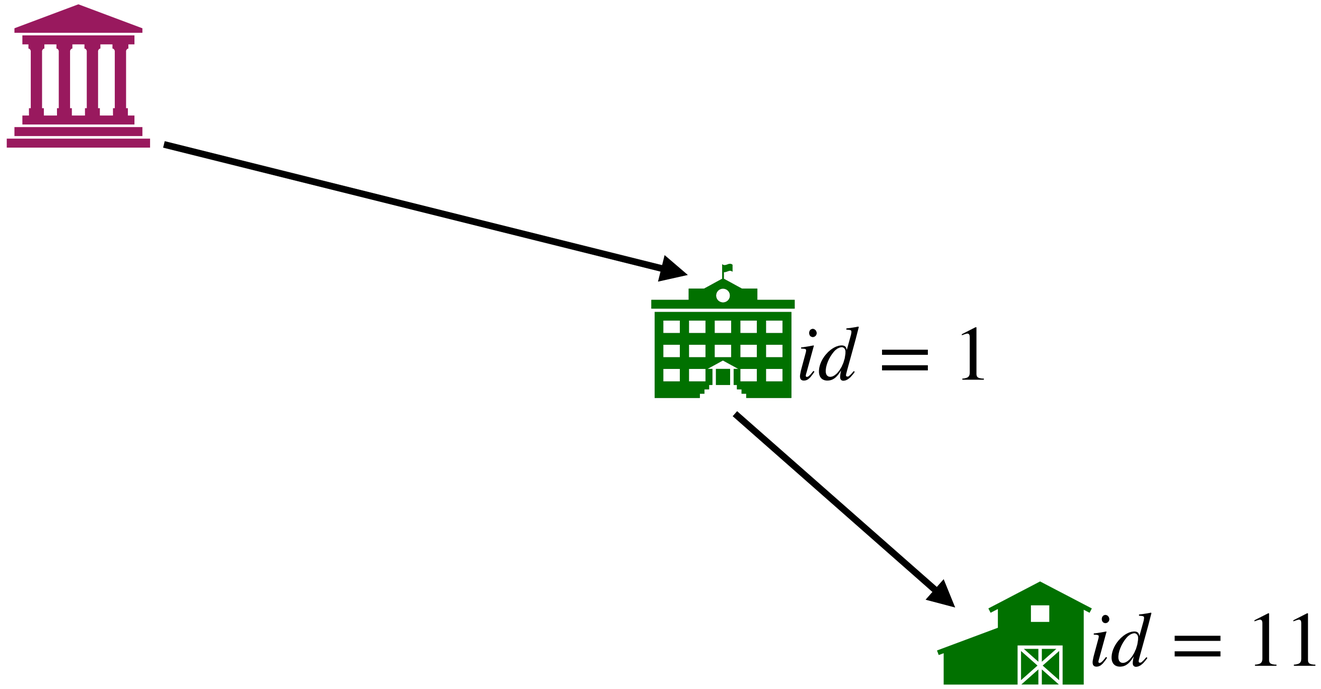

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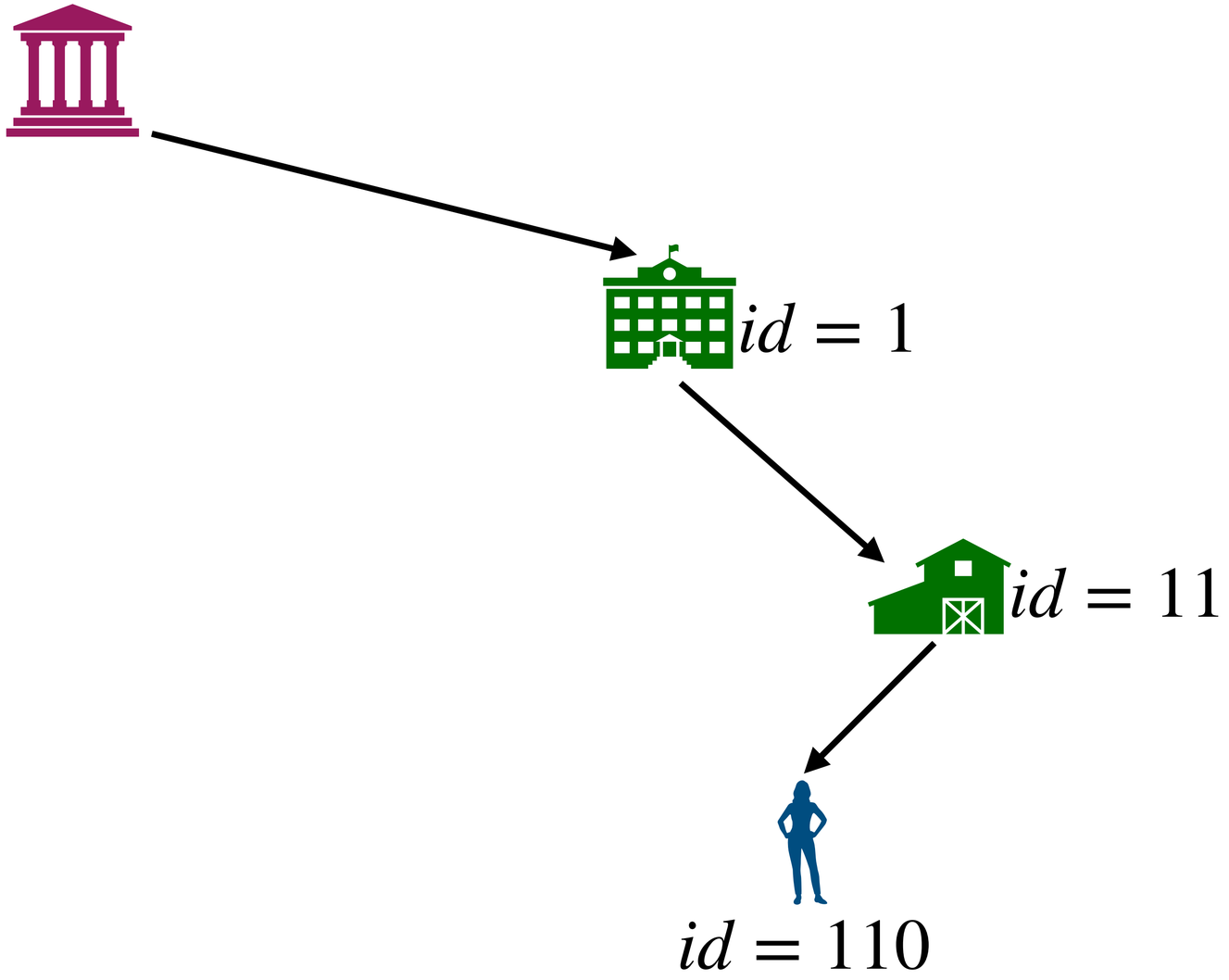

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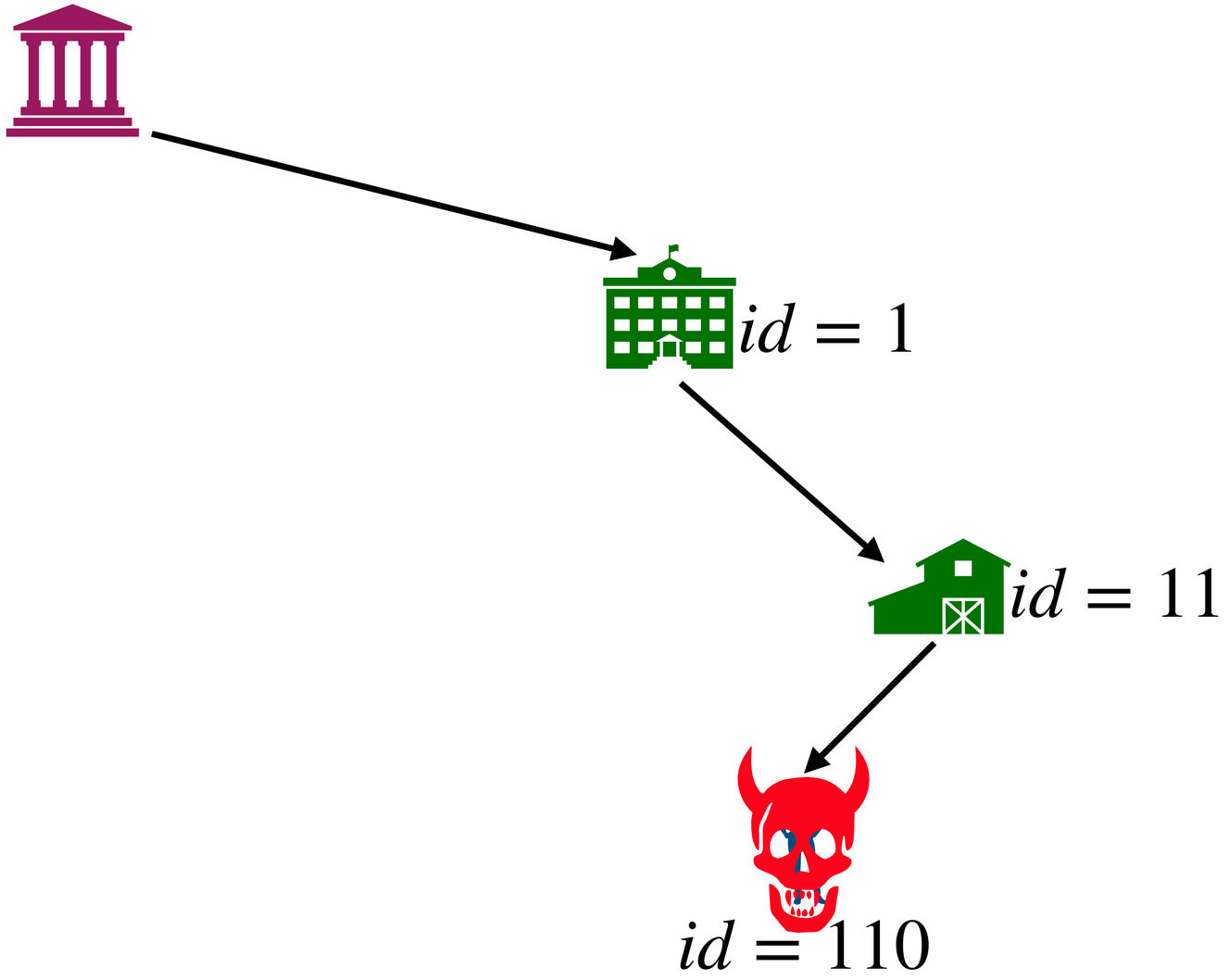

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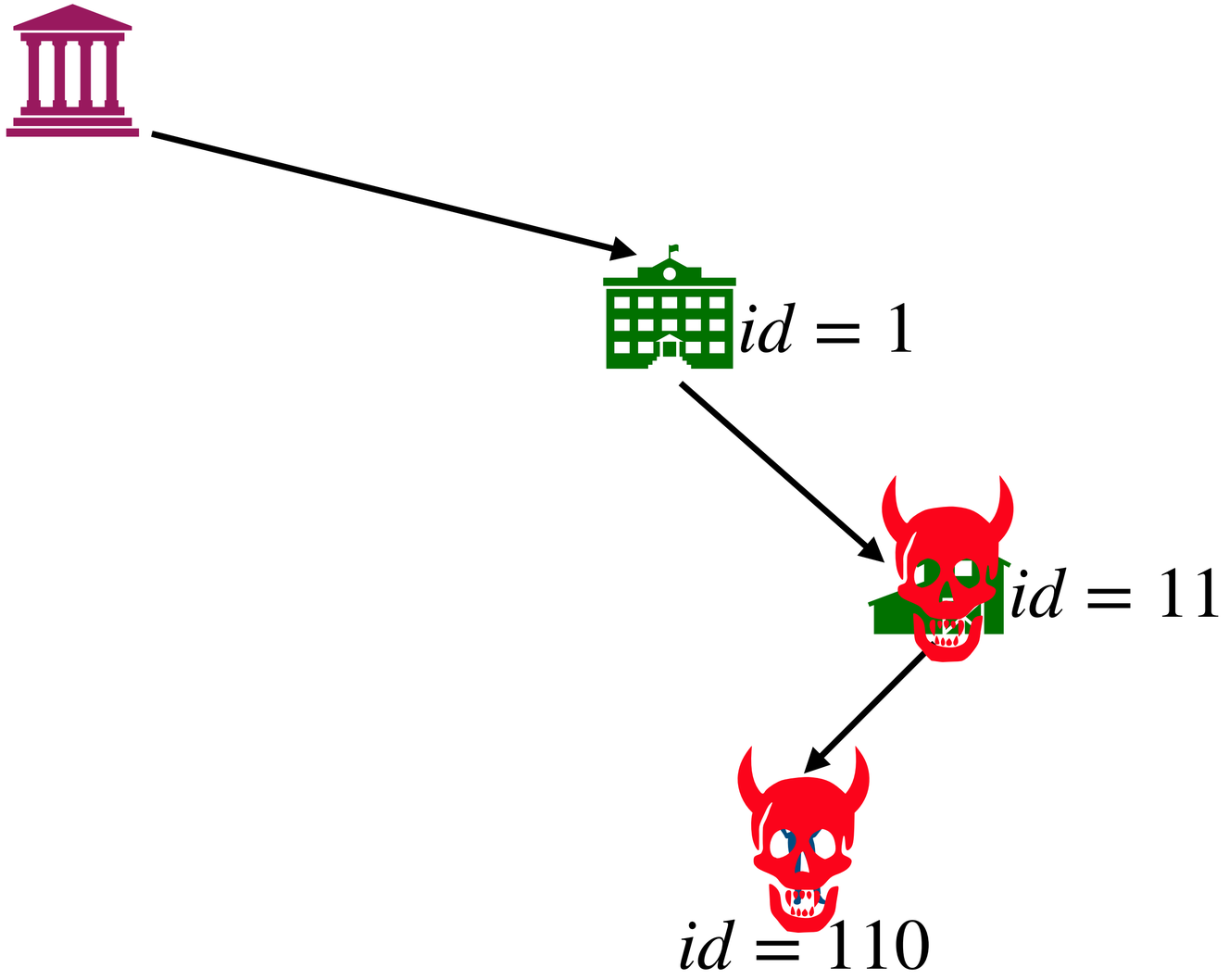

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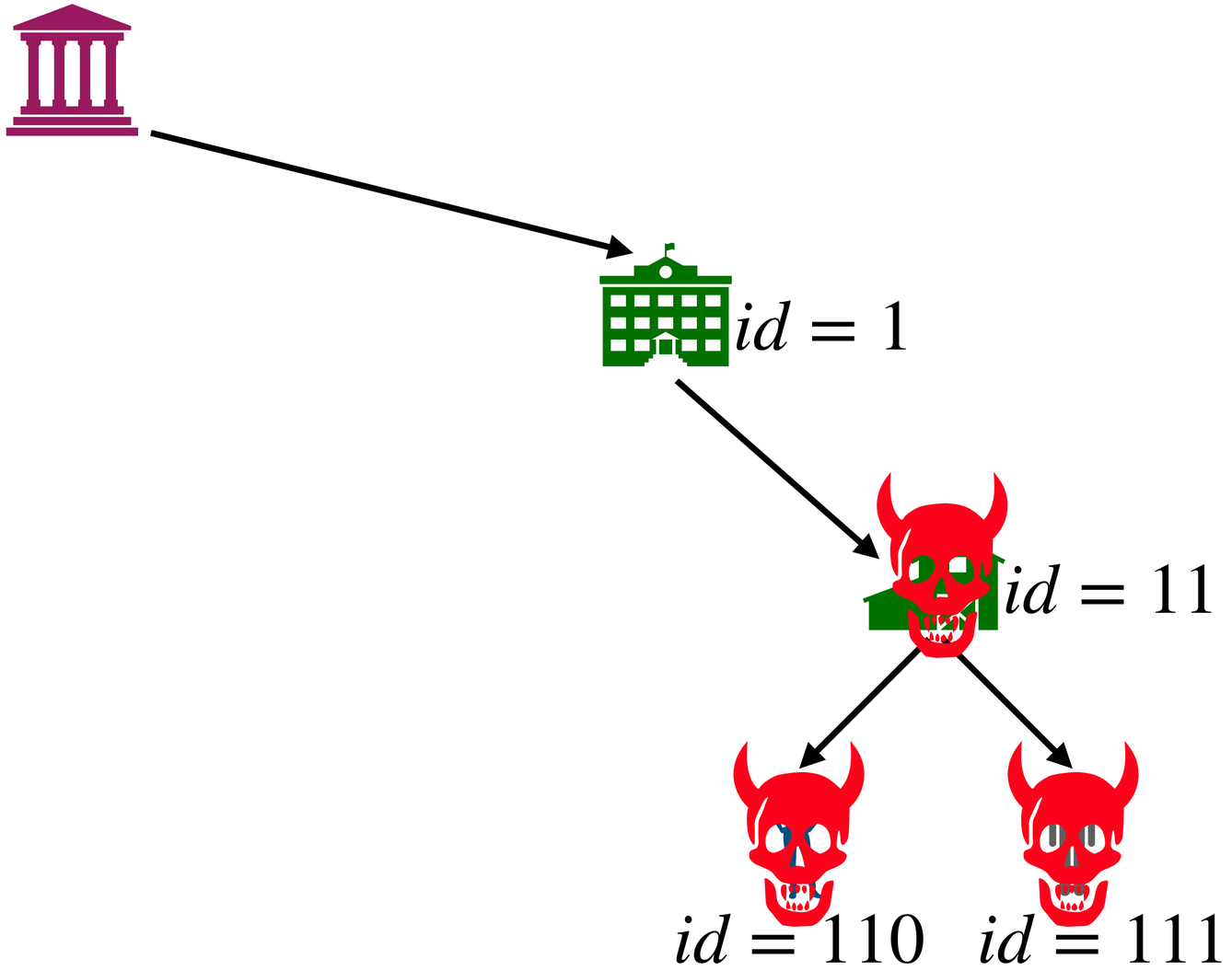

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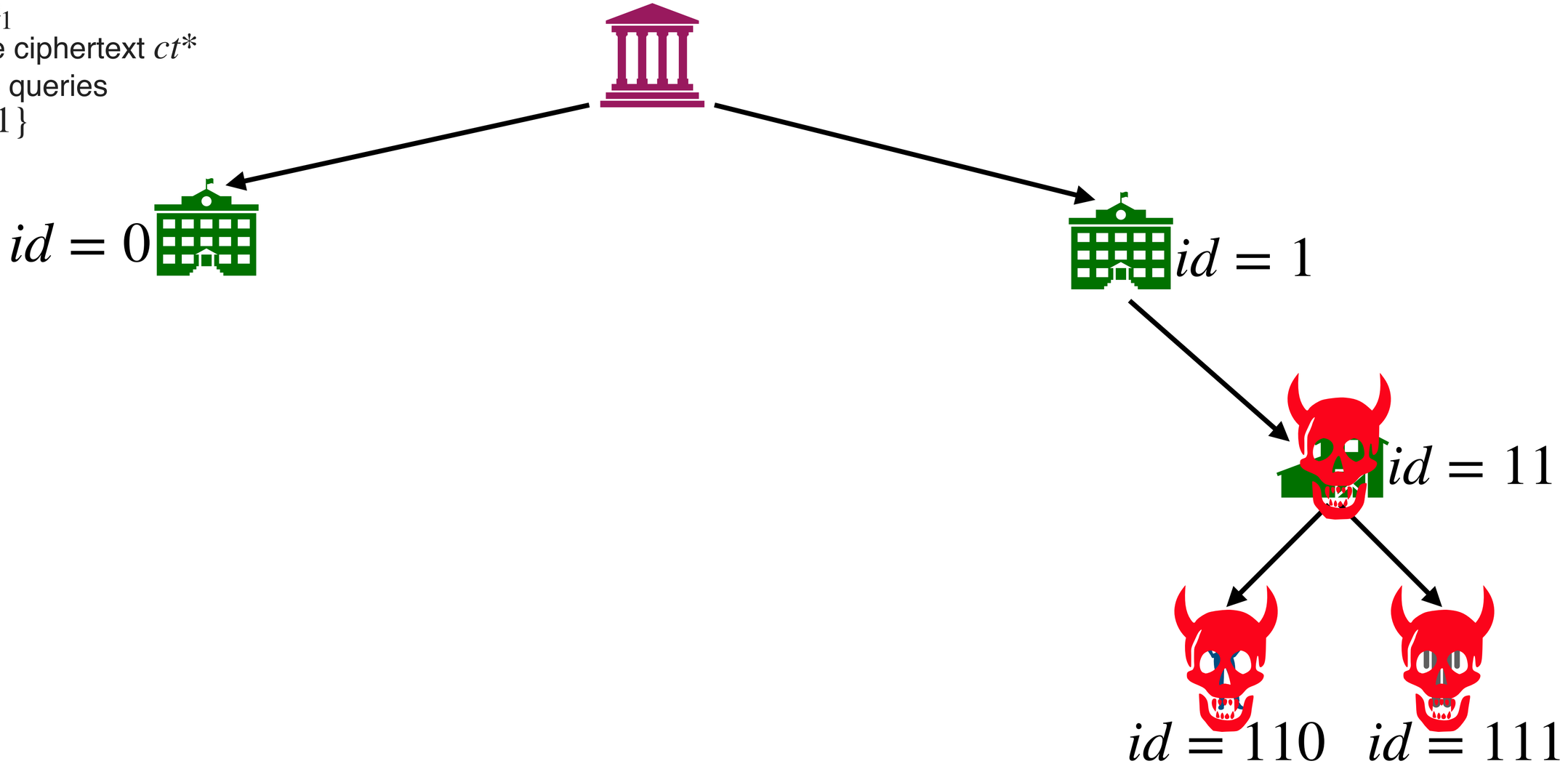

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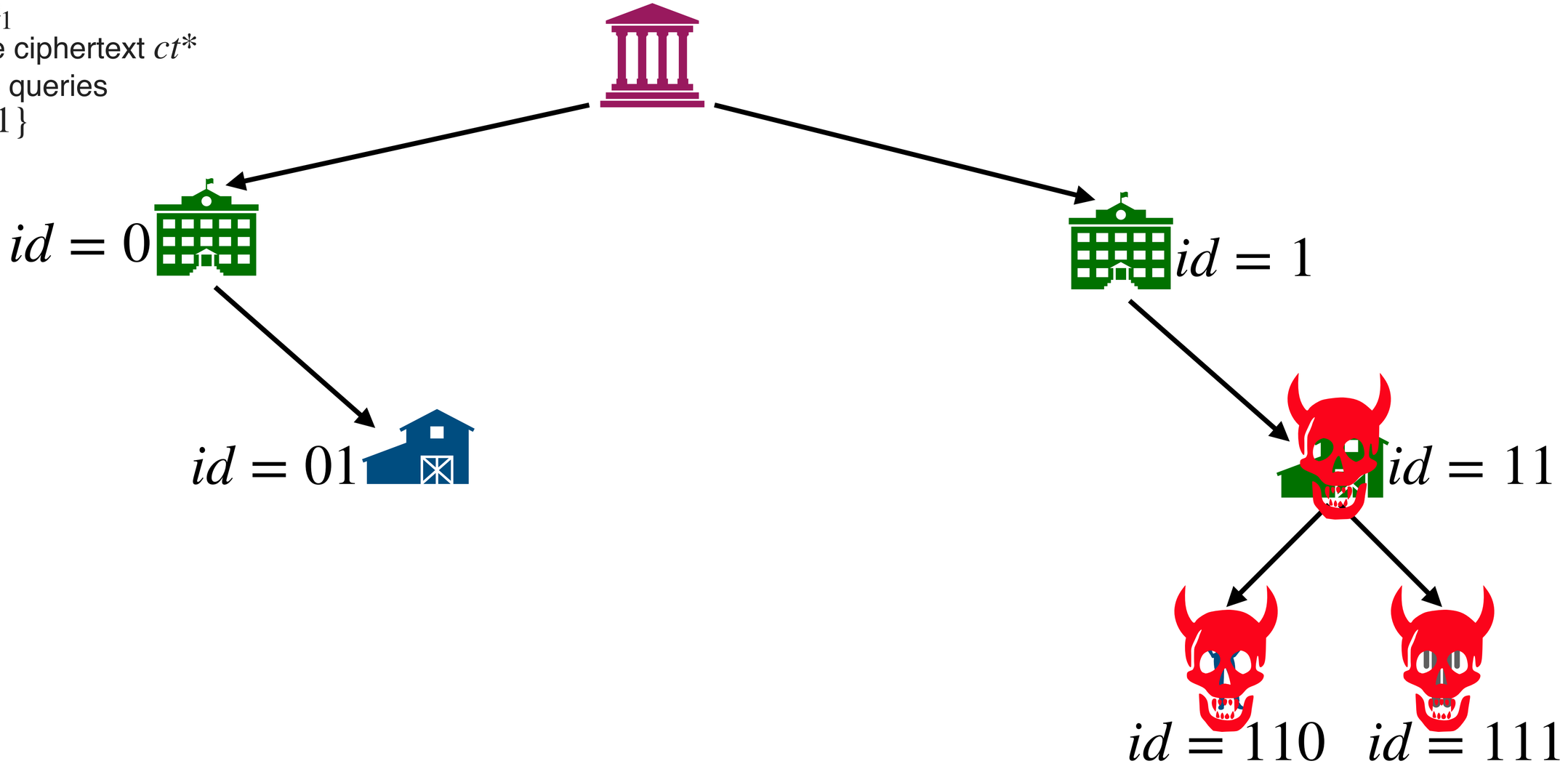

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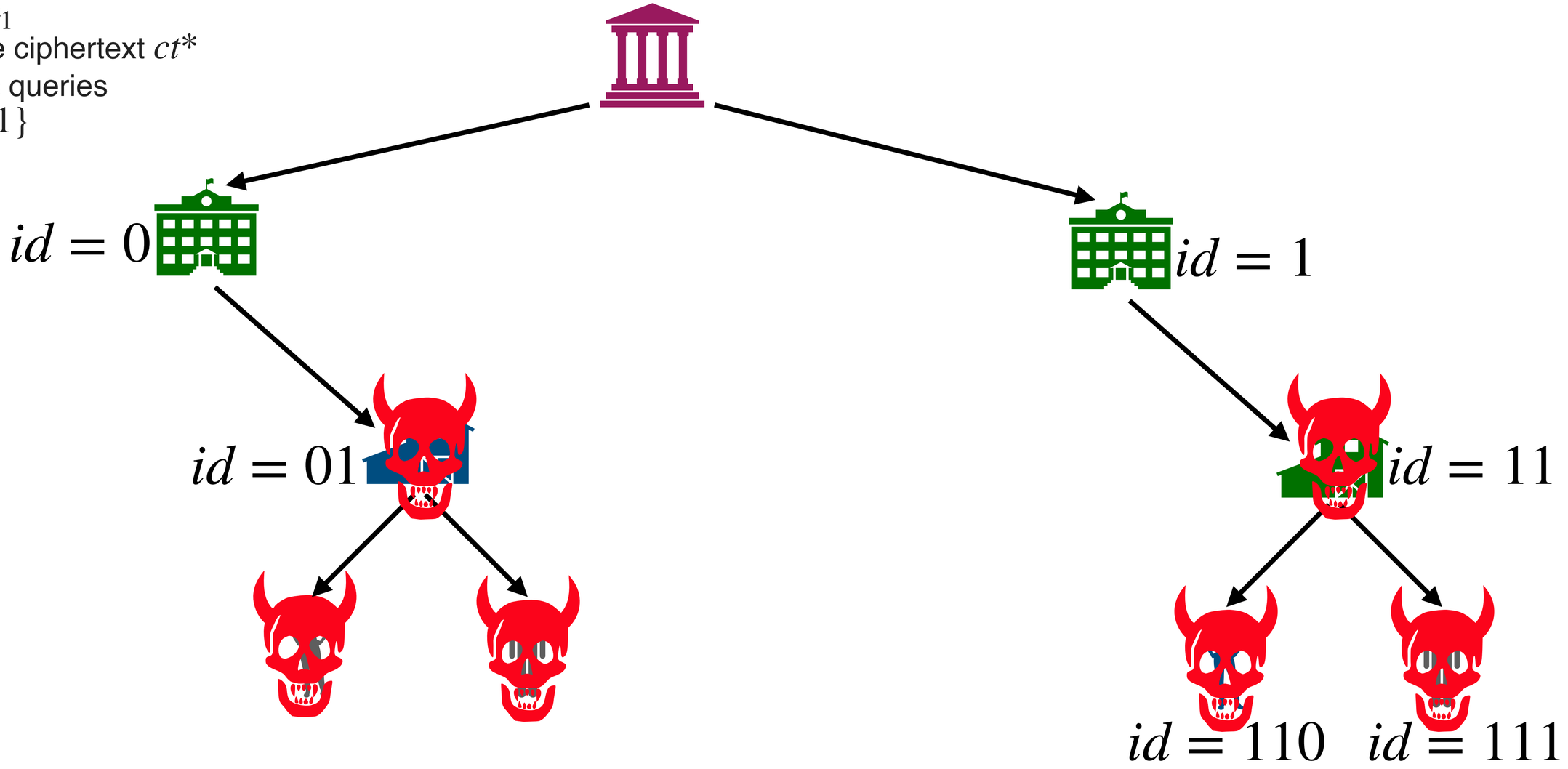

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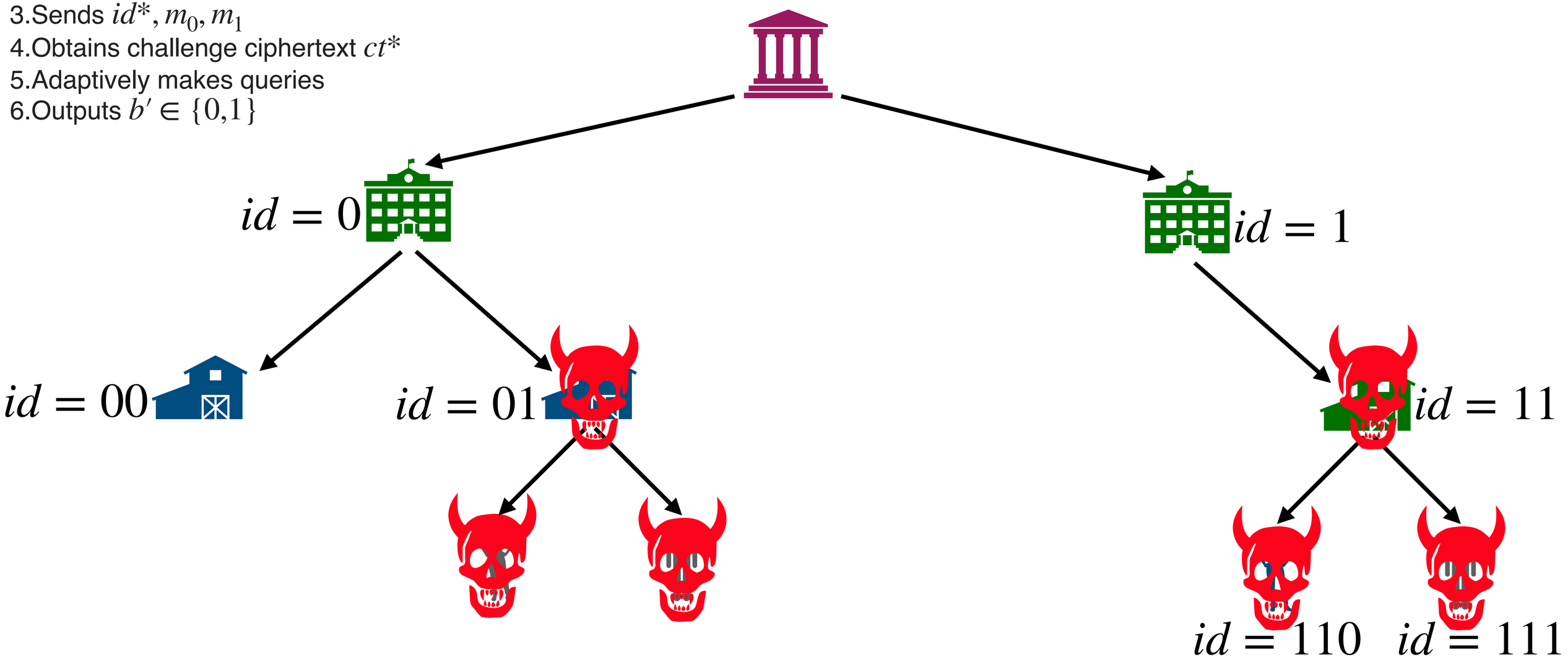

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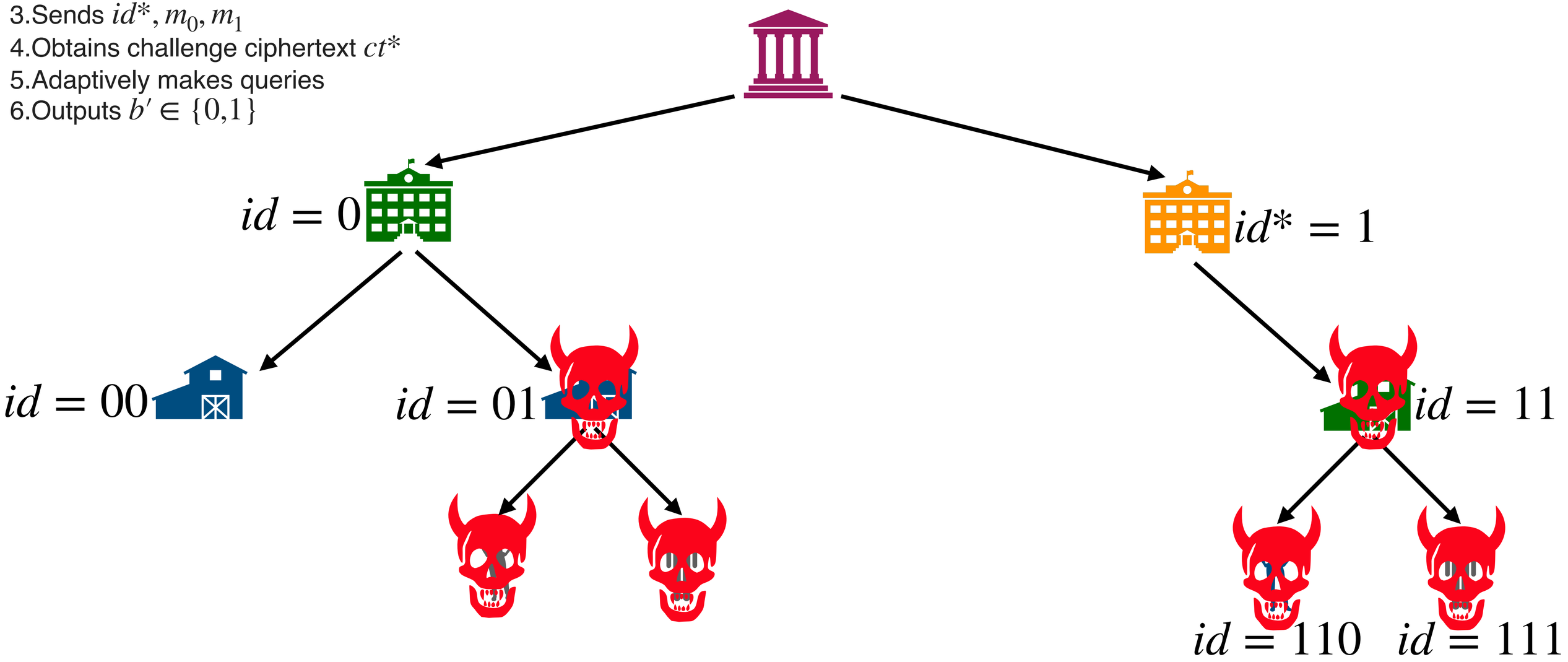

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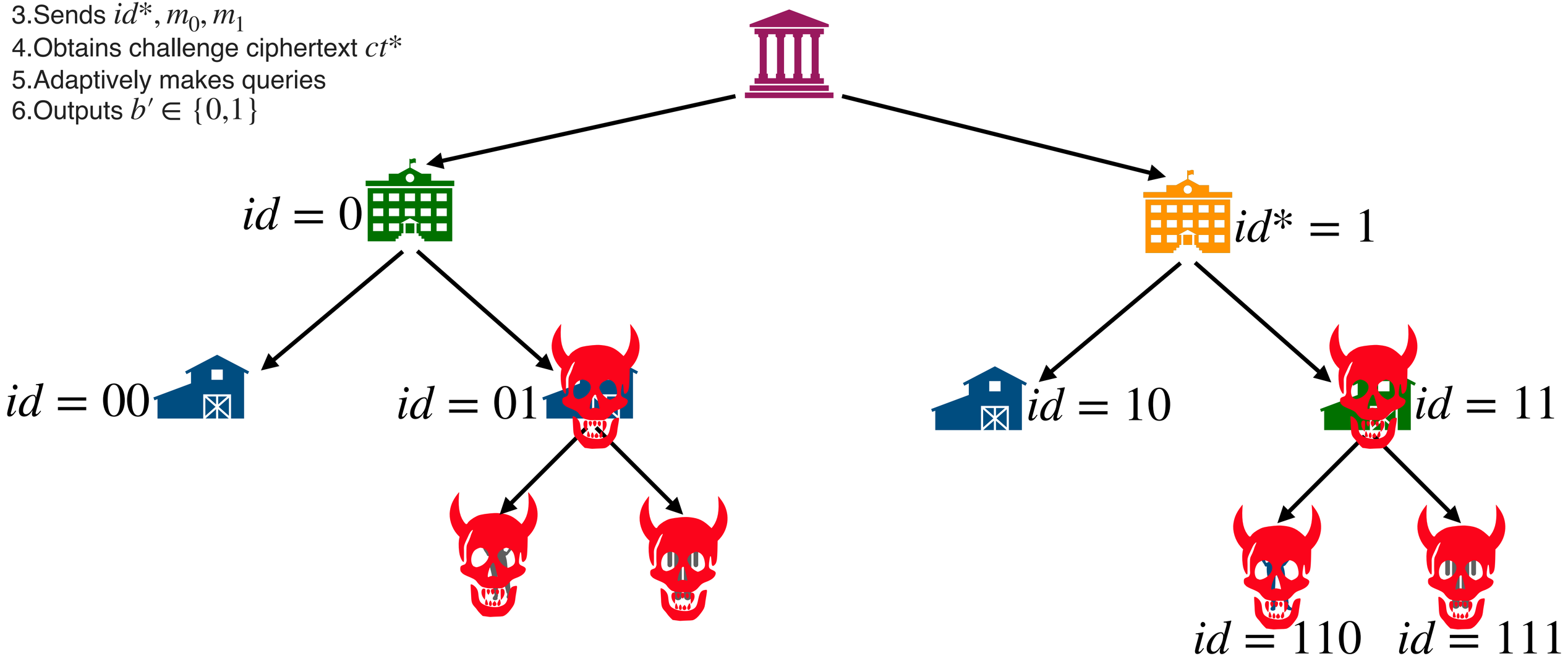

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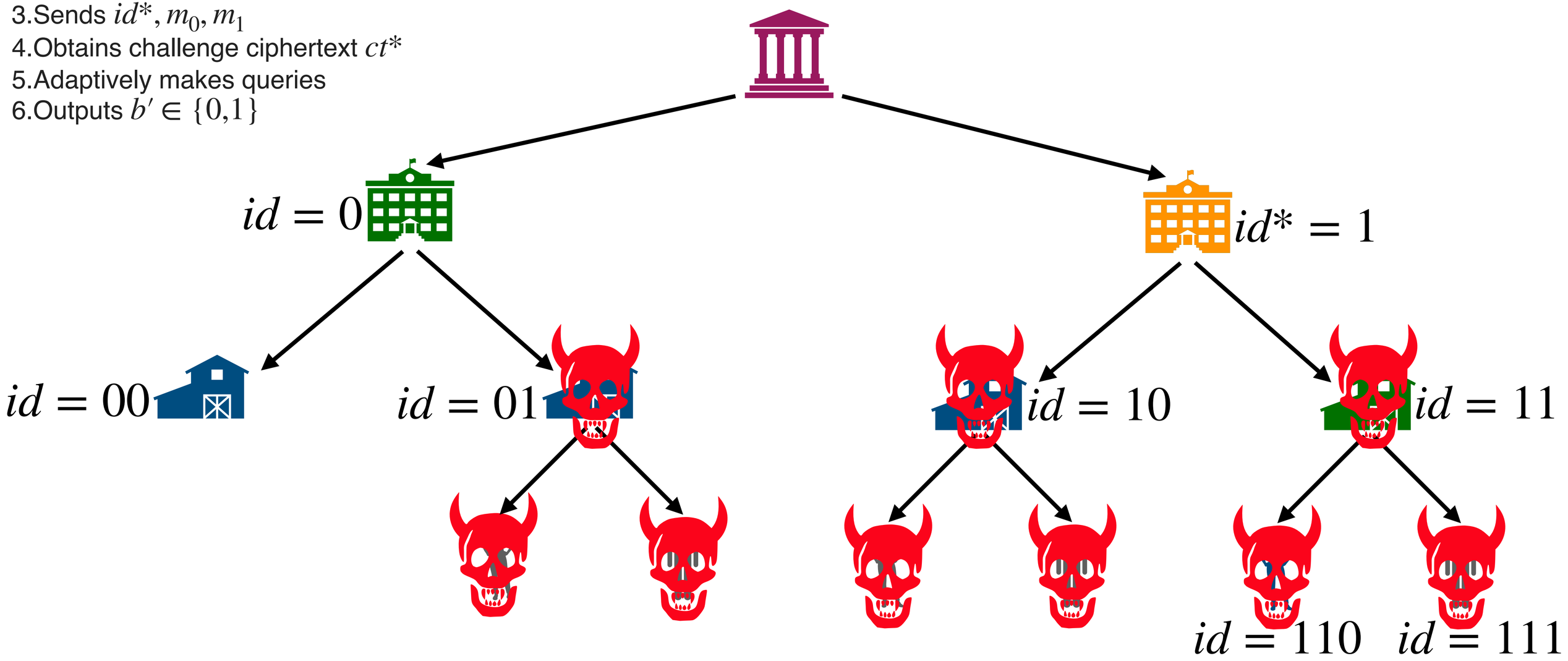

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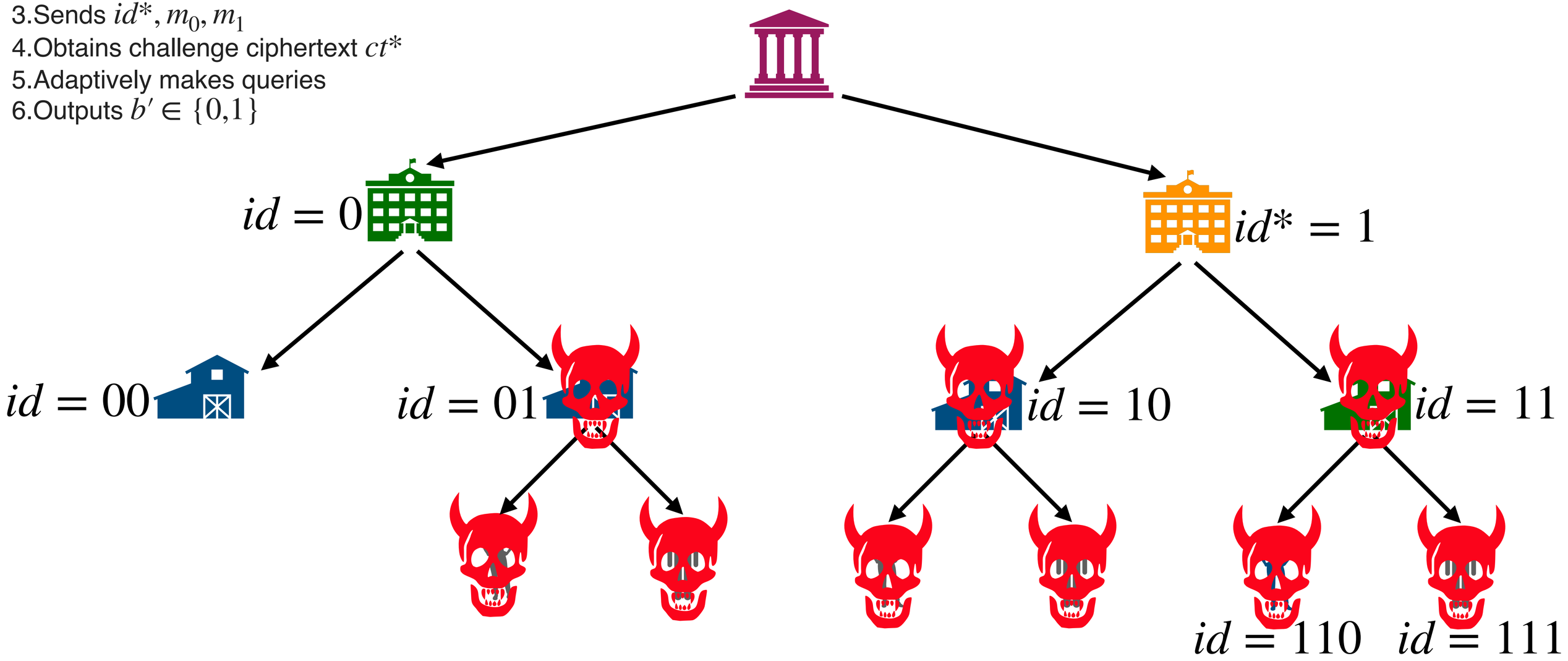

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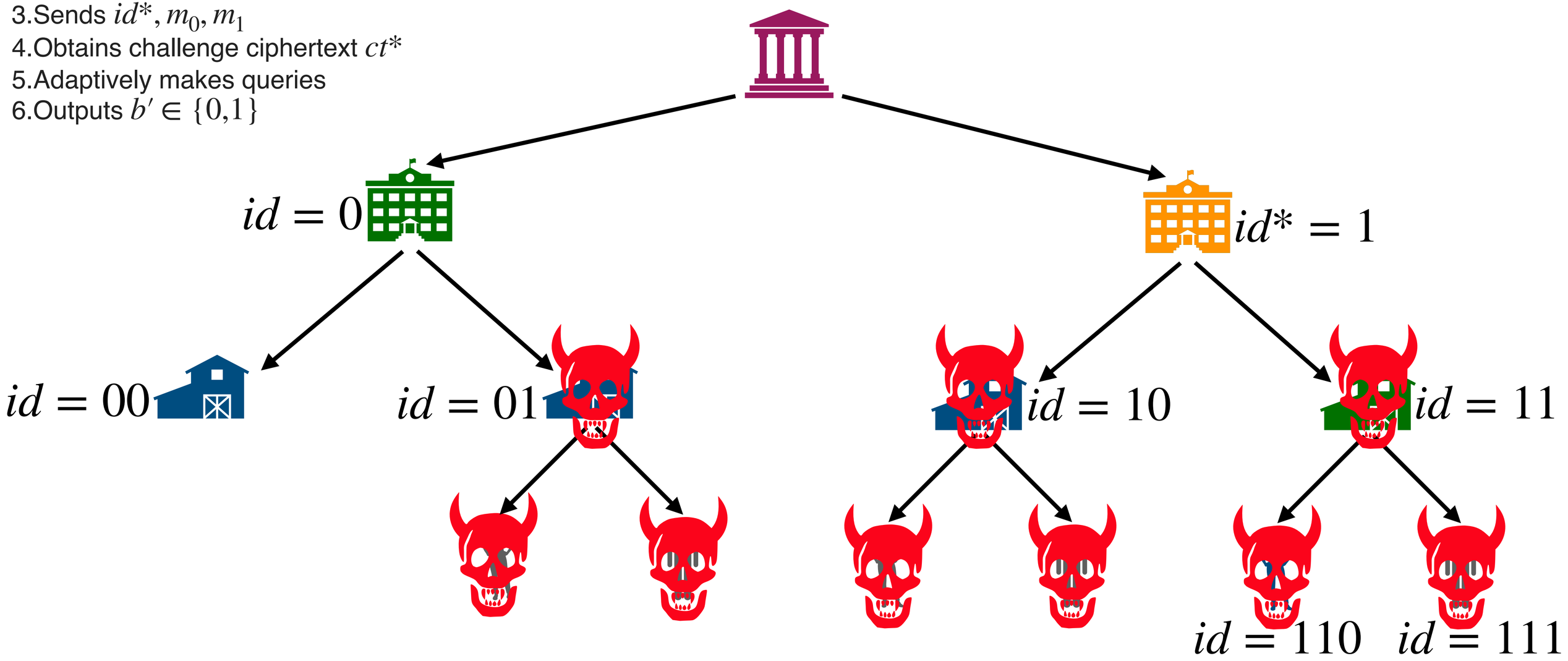

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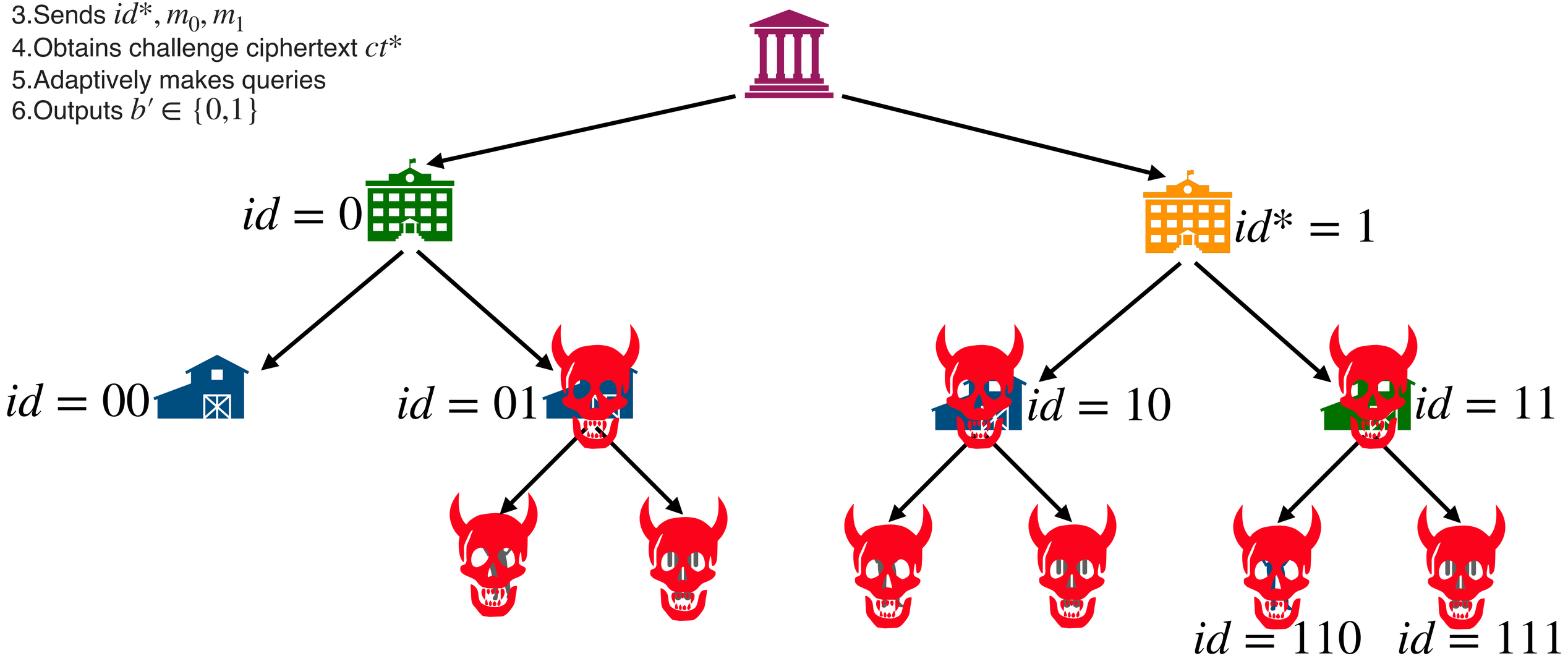

Our Work

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Theorem 2: Assuming hardness of CDH or LWE, there exists a ***fully*** *secure* ***anonymous*** *HIBE* system.

DG17 Construction

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Building blocks

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- Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

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Delegatable PRF

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$Eval(k, x) \rightarrow y_x$

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Correctness: For all x, x'

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$$(x^*, \{Eval(k, x')\}_{x' \leq x^*}, \{x, Eval(k, x)\}, \{x, Delegate(k, x)\}) \approx_c (x^*, \{y_i^*\}_{i \in [|x^*|]}, \{x, Eval(k, x)\}, \{x, Delegate(k, x)\})$$

Garbling Scheme

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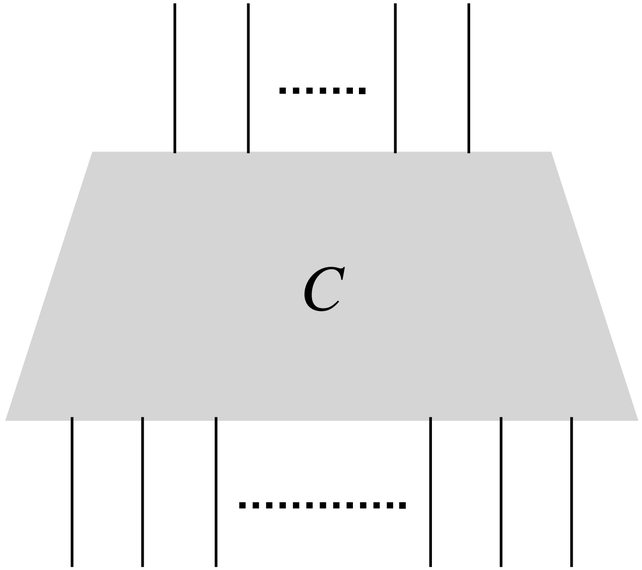

$C : \{0,1\}^k \rightarrow \{0,1\}^n$

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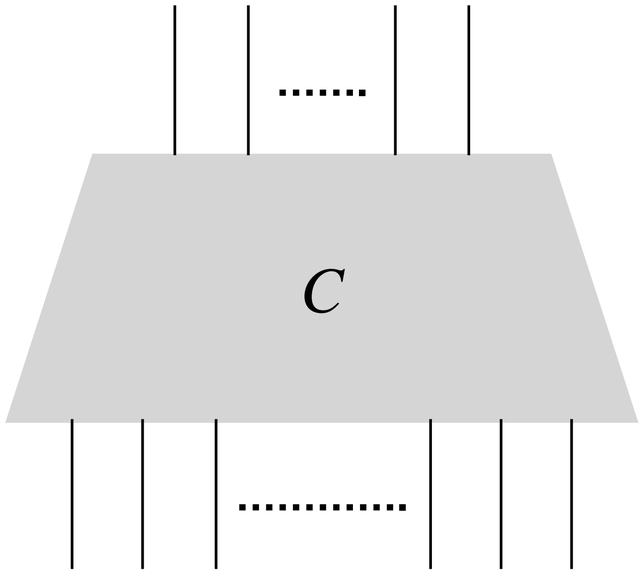

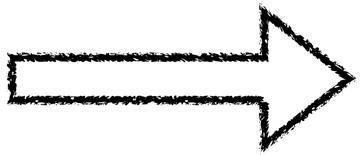

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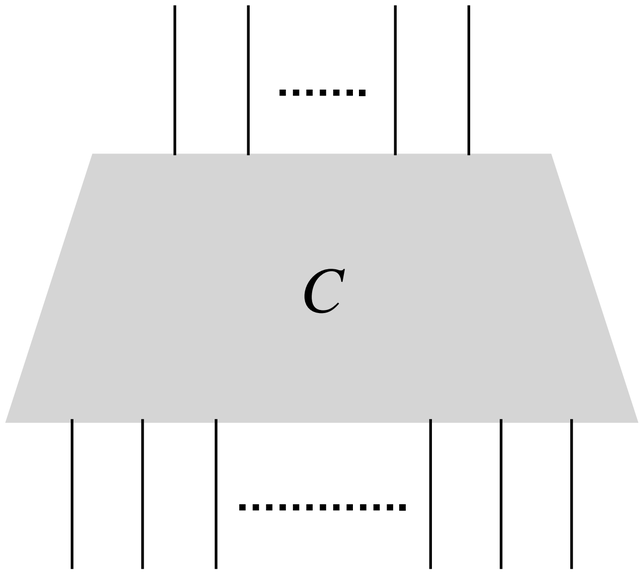

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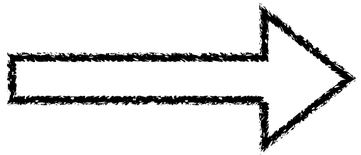

Garbled Circuit

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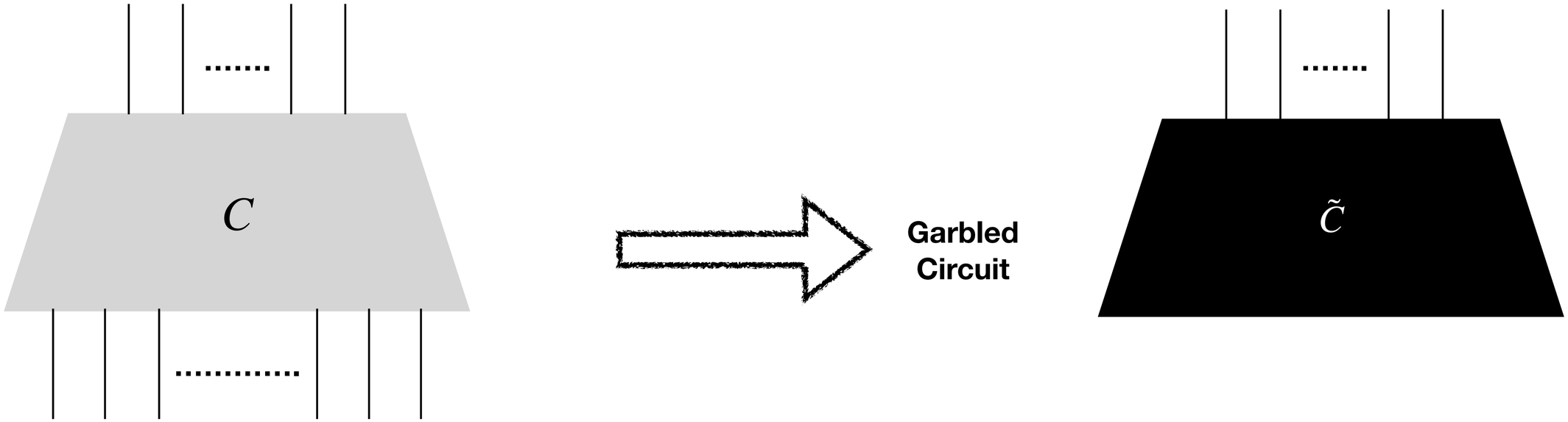

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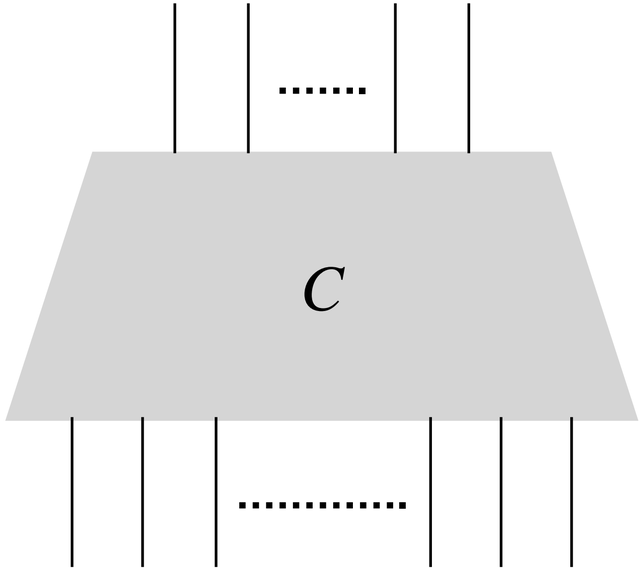

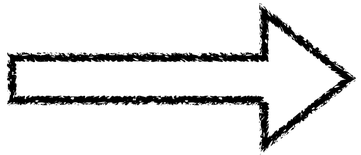

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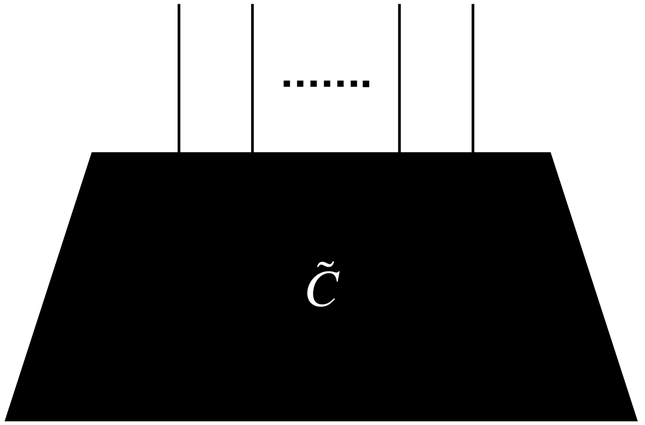

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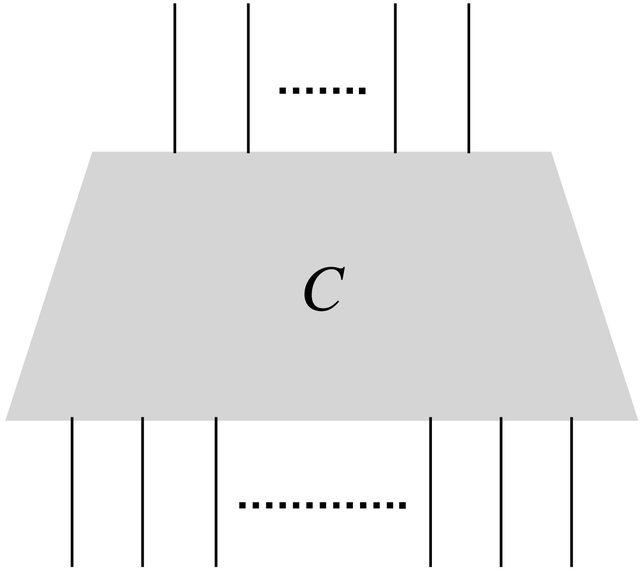

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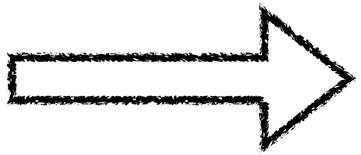

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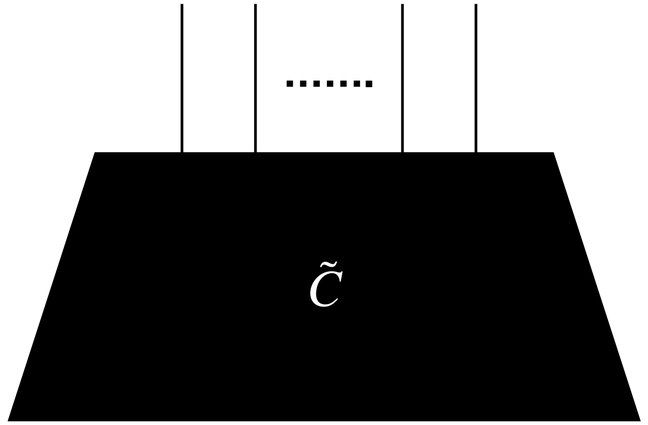

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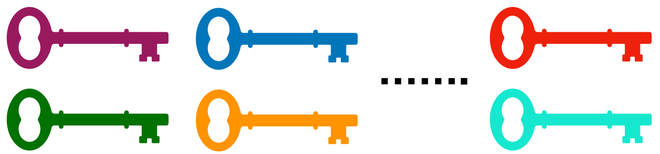

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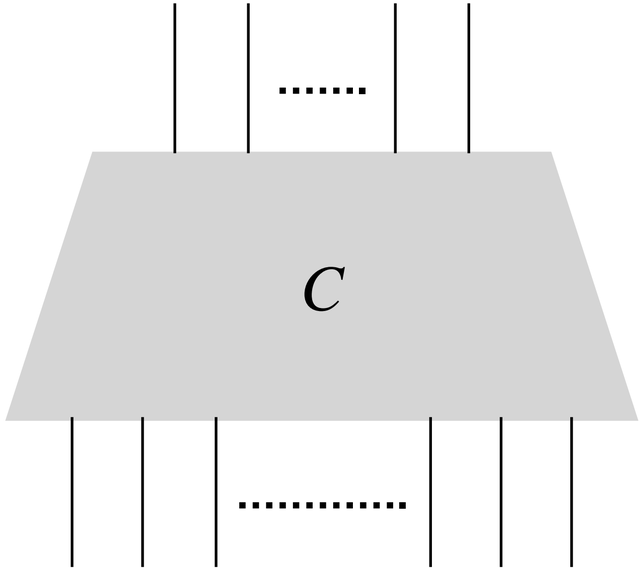

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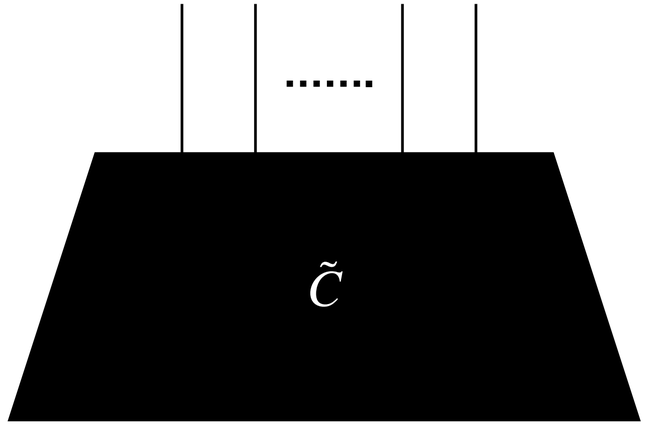

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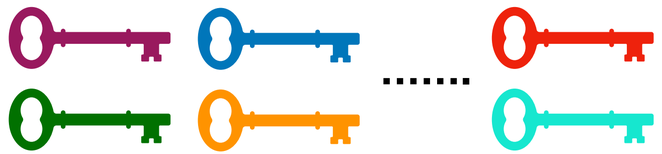
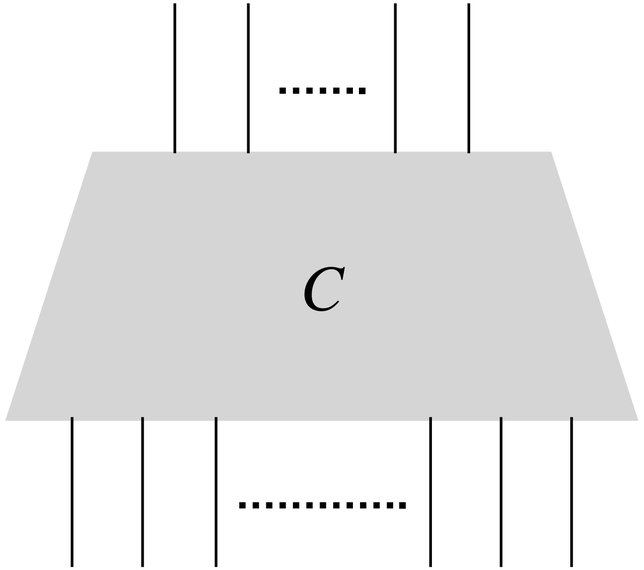


$2k$ keys

Garbling Scheme



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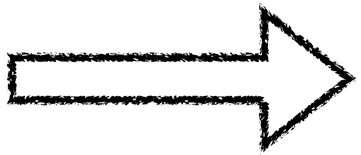

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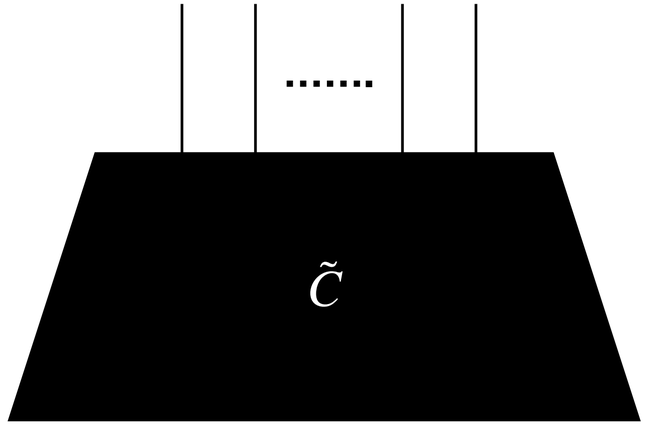

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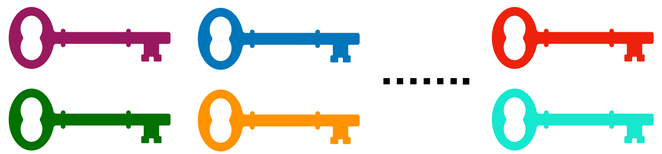
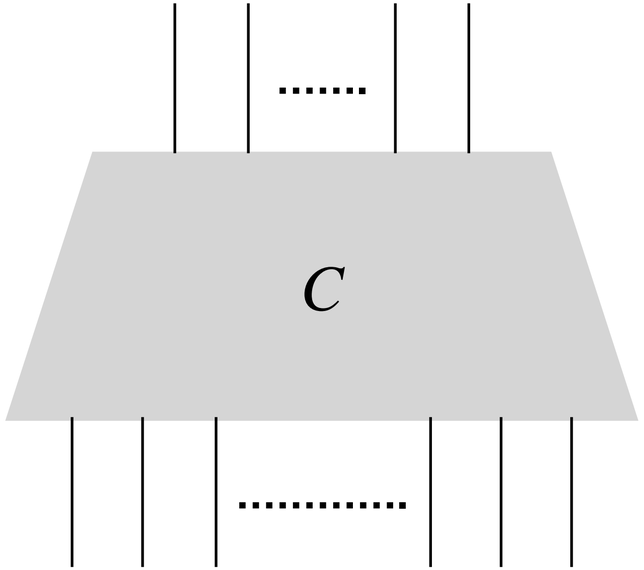


$2k$ keys

Correctness - For any x, $C(x) = \tilde{C}($ ..... $)$

Garbling Scheme



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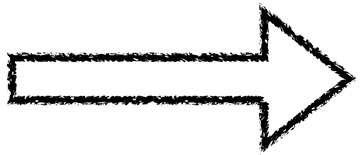
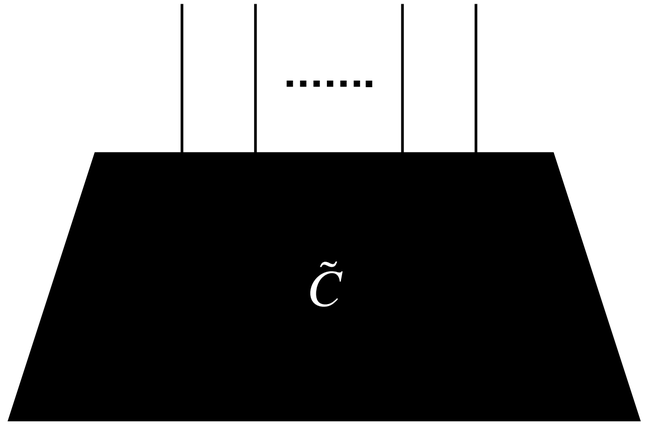
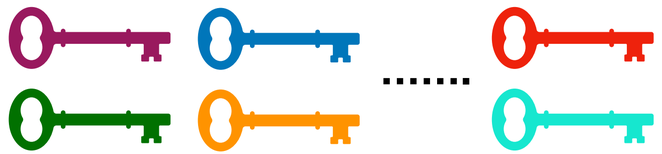


Garbled Circuit



Labels



$2k$ keys

Correctness - For any x, $C(x) = \tilde{C}($  $)$

Security - $\tilde{C}$ and $\{$  $\}$ reveals $C(x)$ and nothing more.

[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF	(S, E, D)
Garbling scheme	$(Garb, Eval)$
IBE	(Gen, KG, Enc, Dec)

Setup

[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

Garbling scheme $(Garb, Eval)$

IBE (Gen, KG, Enc, Dec)

Setup

$\leftarrow S(1^\lambda)$

[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

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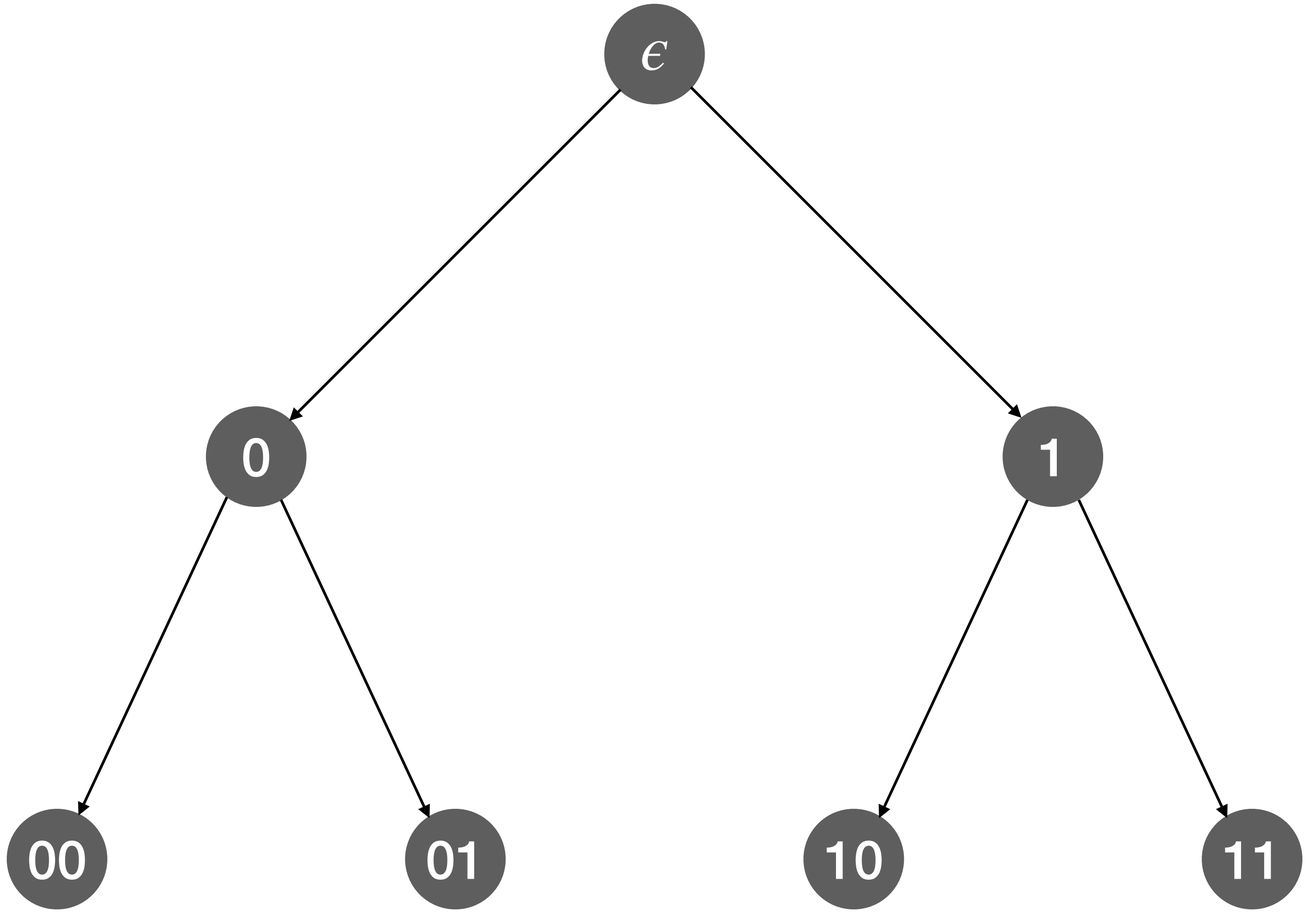
Setup



$\leftarrow S(1^\lambda)$

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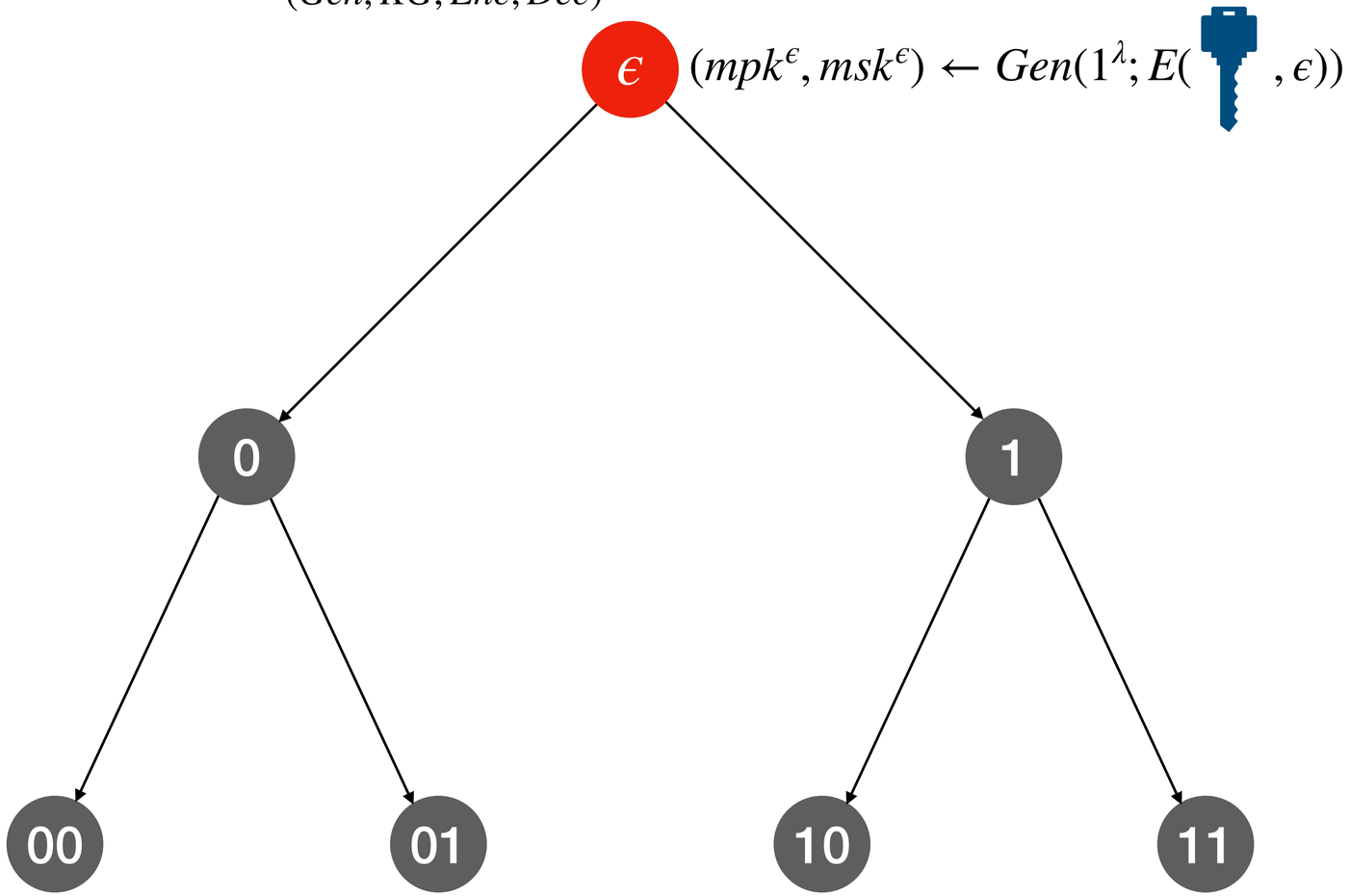

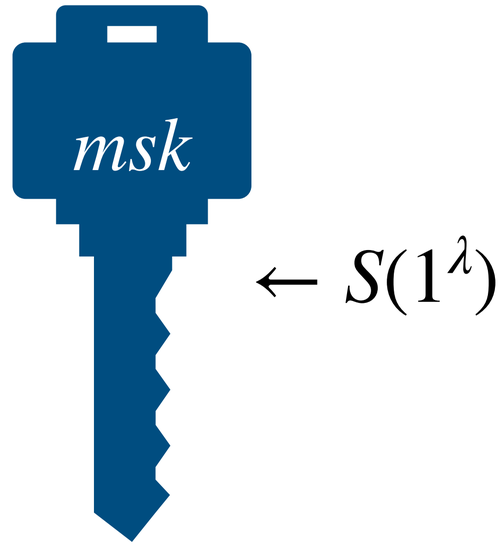

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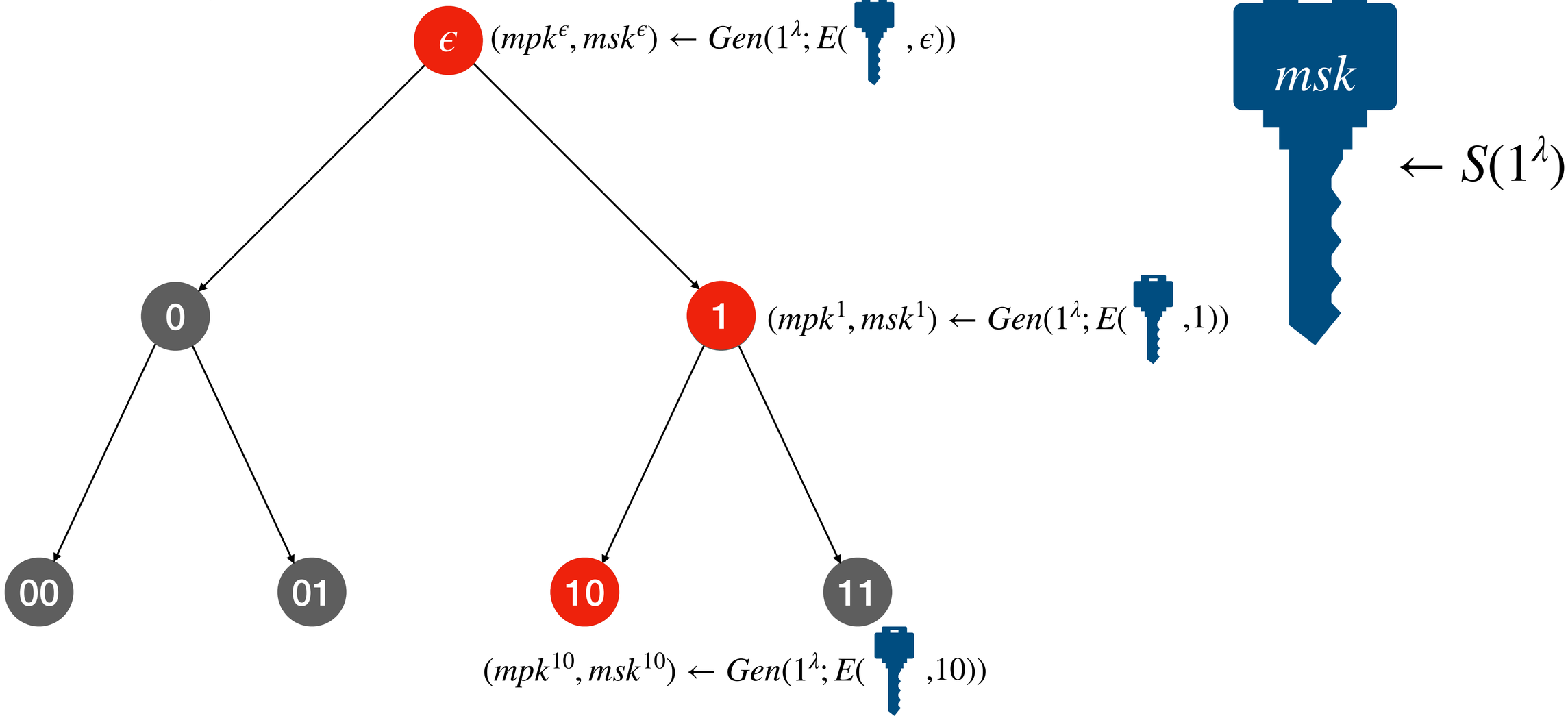

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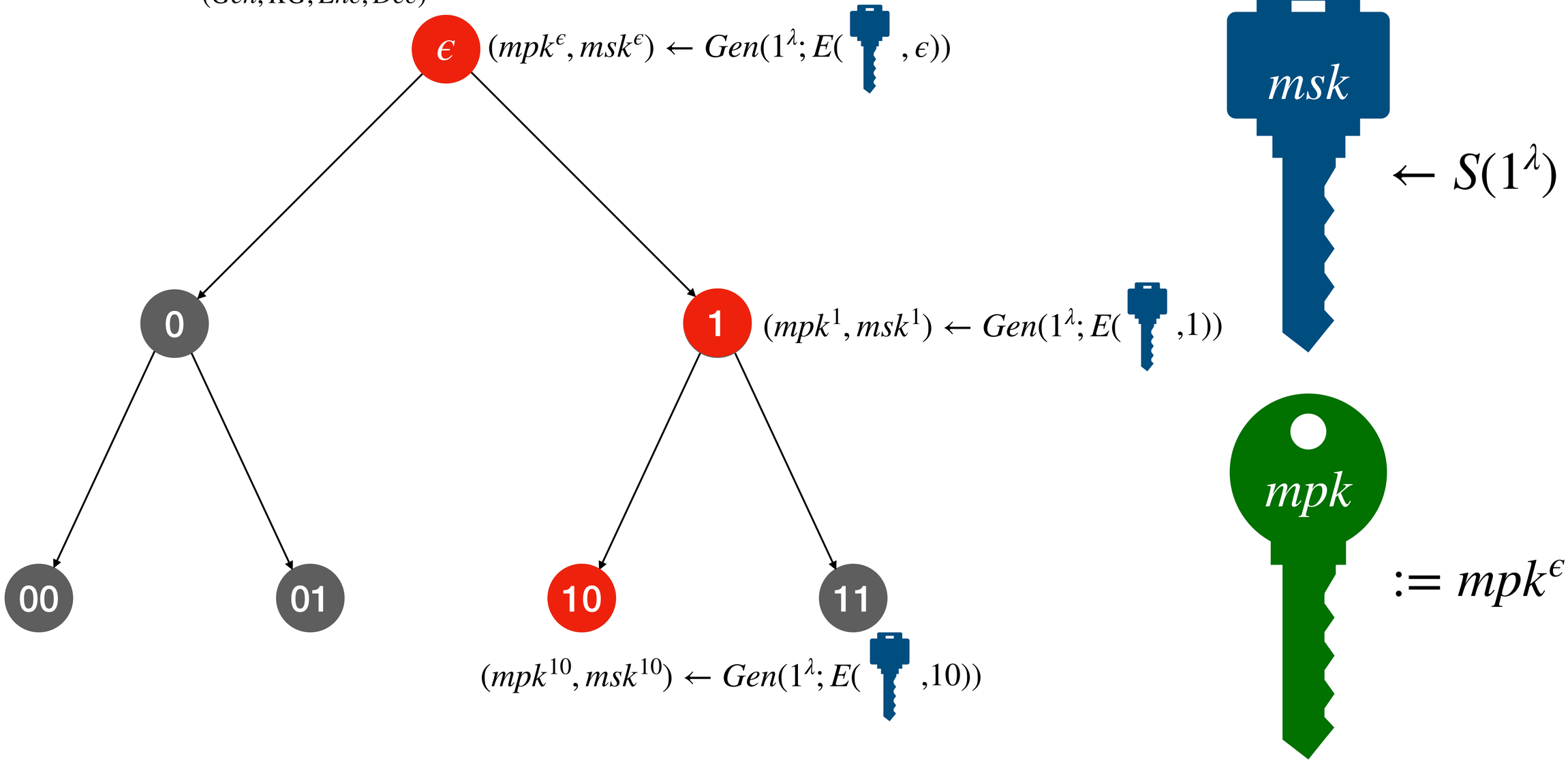


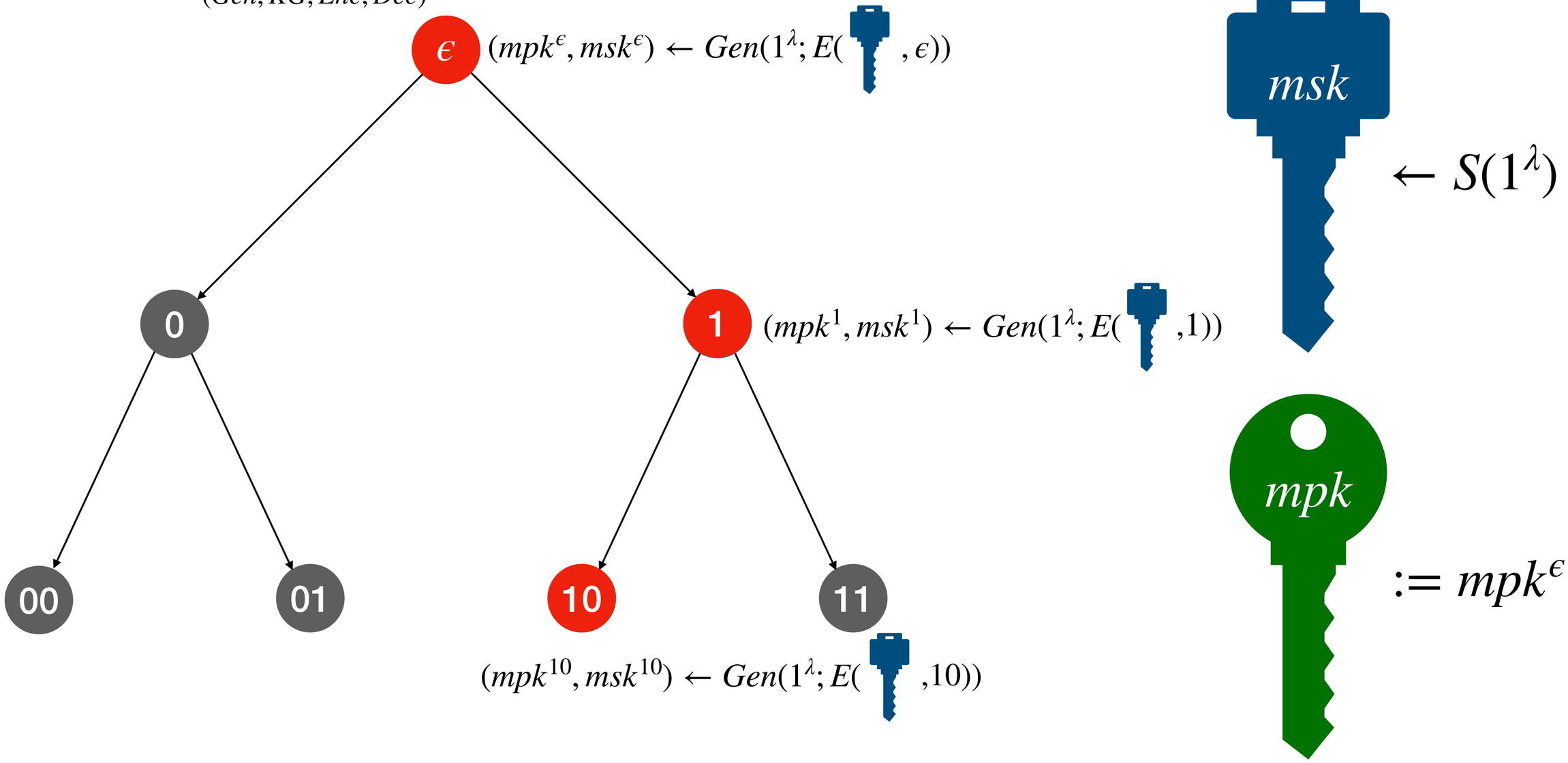
[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

Garbling scheme $(Garb, Eval)$

IBE (Gen, KG, Enc, Dec)

KeyGen



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Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

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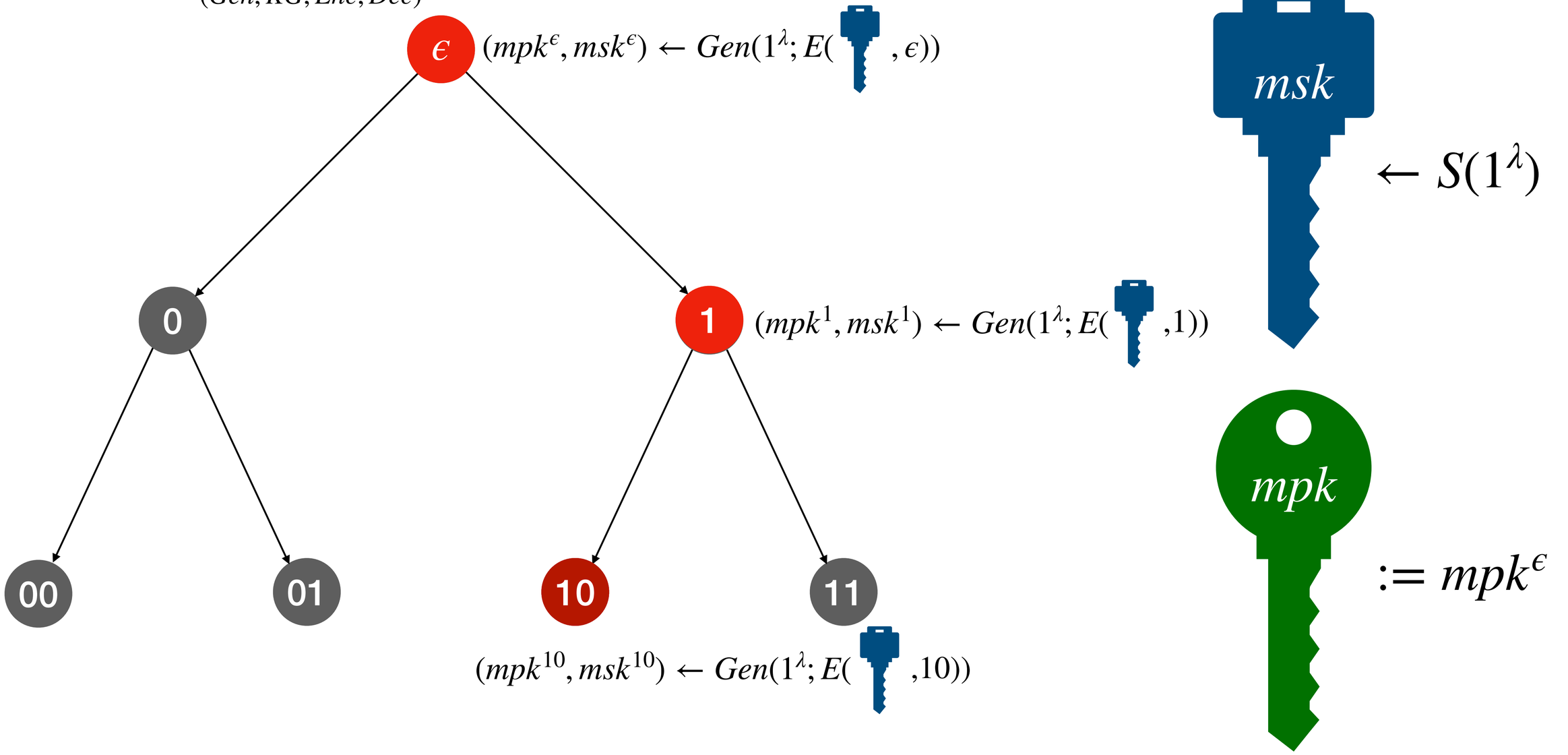
KeyGen



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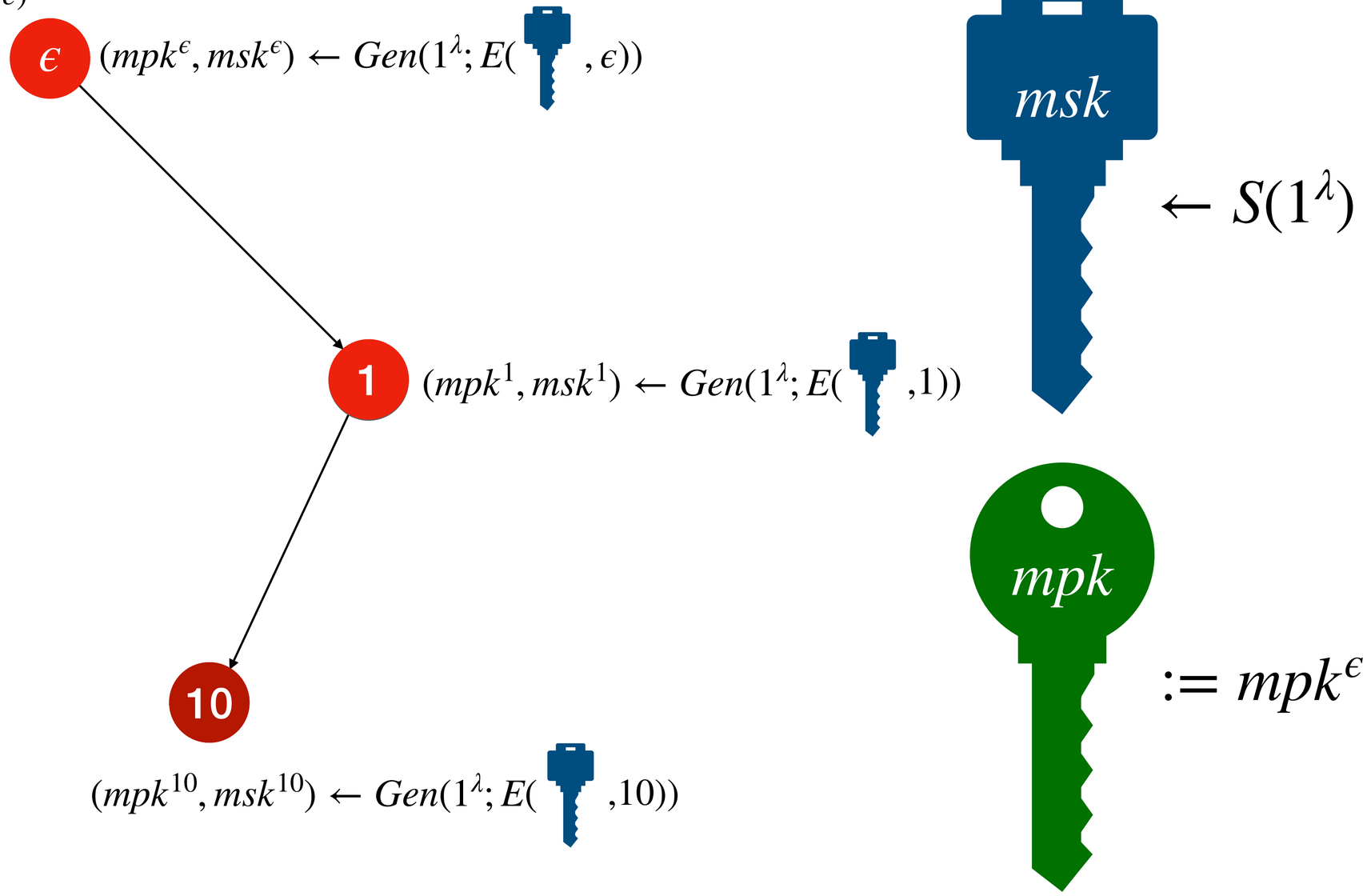

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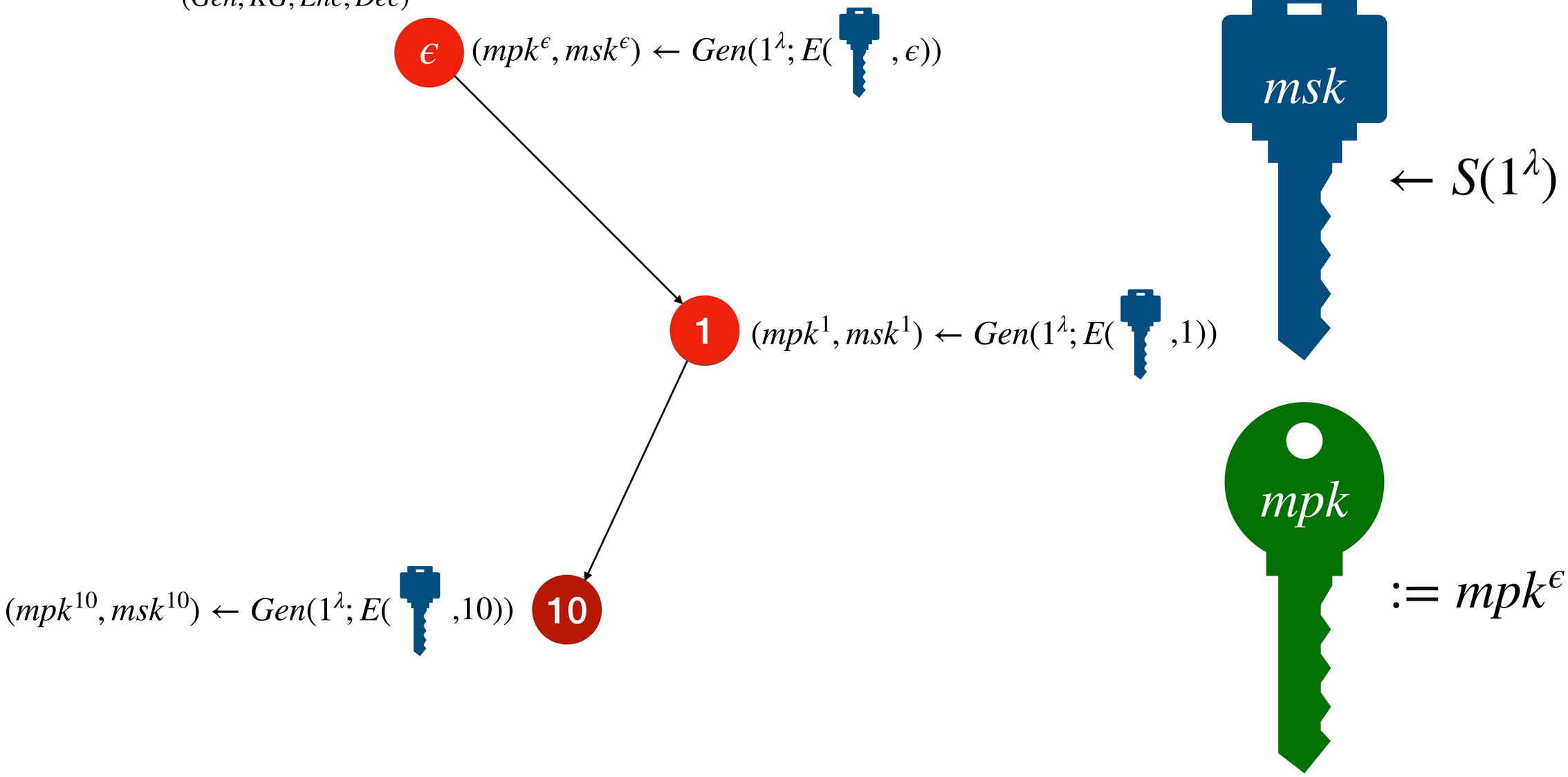

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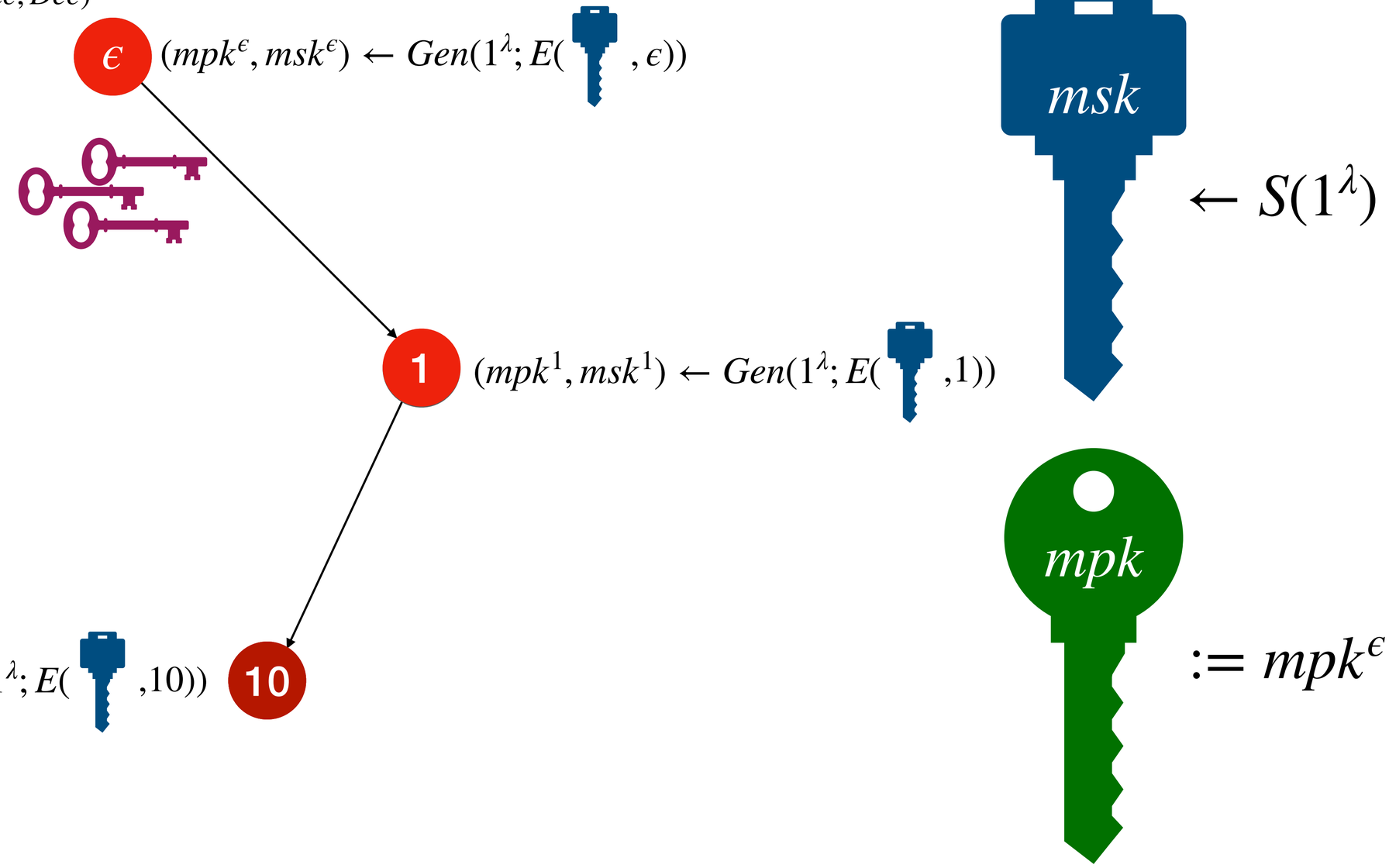

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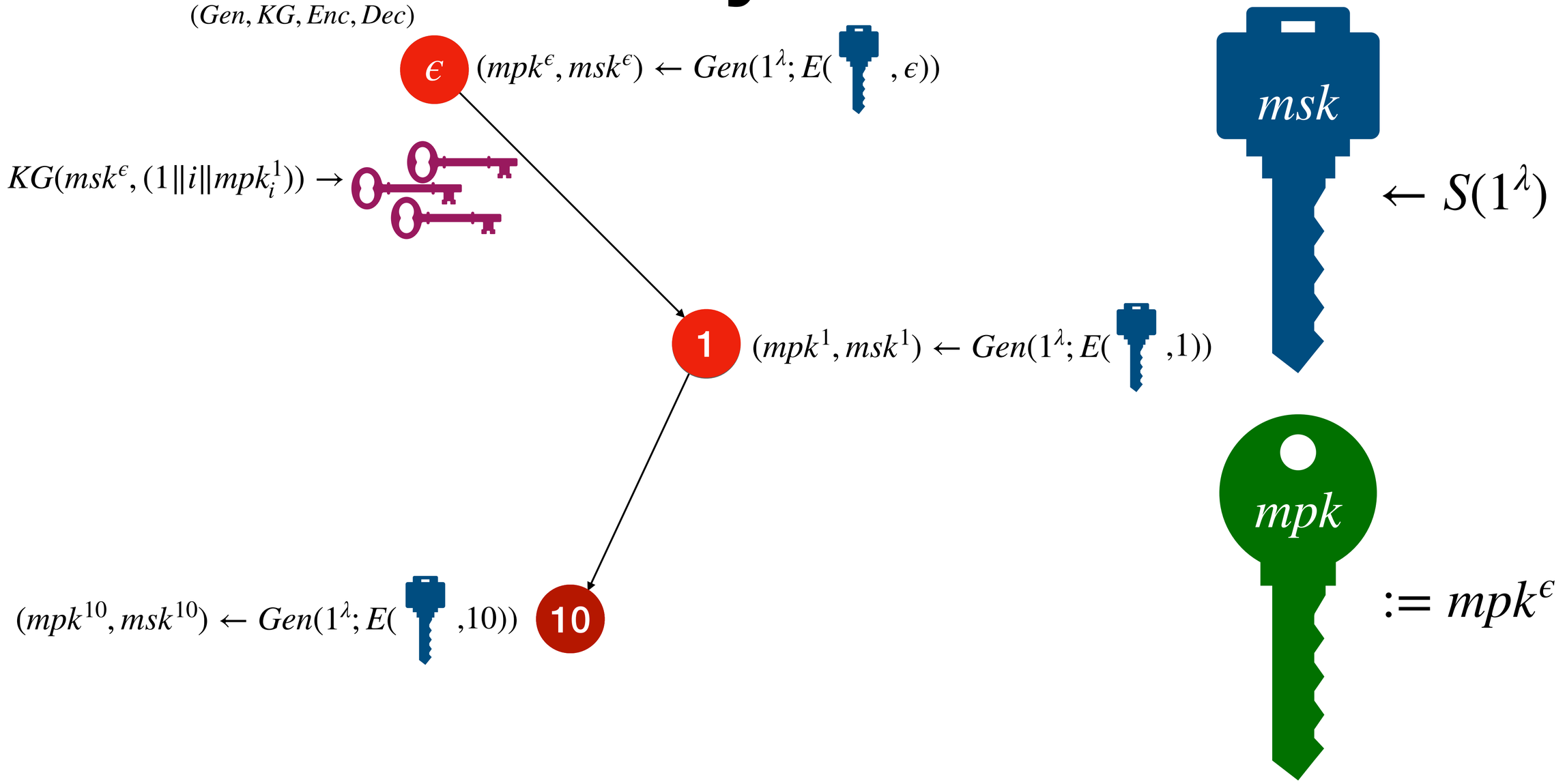

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Garbling scheme $(Garb, Eval)$

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KeyGen

ϵ $(mpk^{\epsilon}, msk^{\epsilon}) \leftarrow Gen(1^{\lambda}; E(\text{🔑} , \epsilon))$

Parent's msk

$KG(msk^{\epsilon}, (1 \| i \| mpk_i^1)) \rightarrow$ 🔑🔑🔑

1 $(mpk^1, msk^1) \leftarrow Gen(1^{\lambda}; E(\text{🔑} , 1))$

$(mpk^{10}, msk^{10}) \leftarrow Gen(1^{\lambda}; E(\text{🔑} , 10))$

10

$\leftarrow S(1^{\lambda})$

$:= mpk^{\epsilon}$

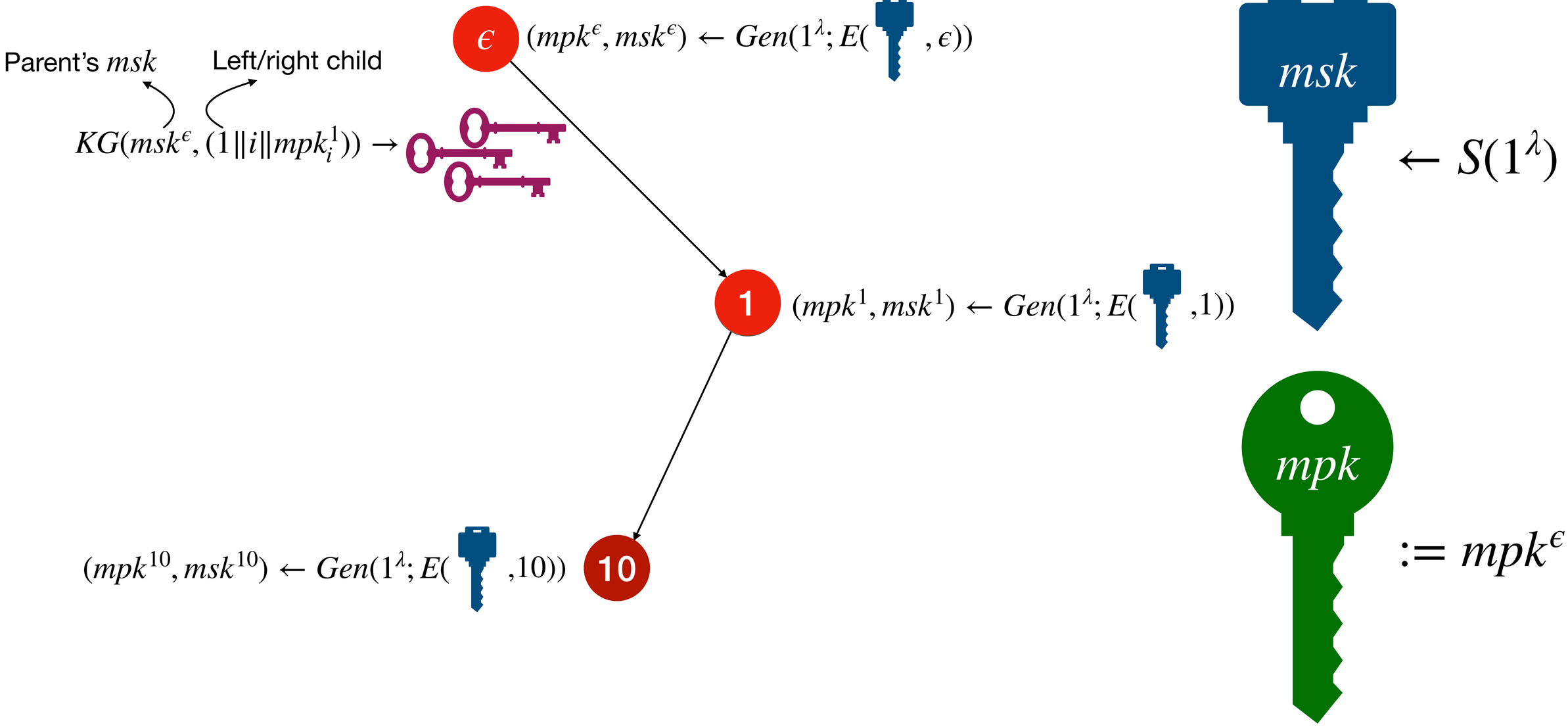
KeyGen

[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

Garbling scheme $(Garb, Eval)$

IBE (Gen, KG, Enc, Dec)



KeyGen

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Garbling scheme	$(Garb, Eval)$
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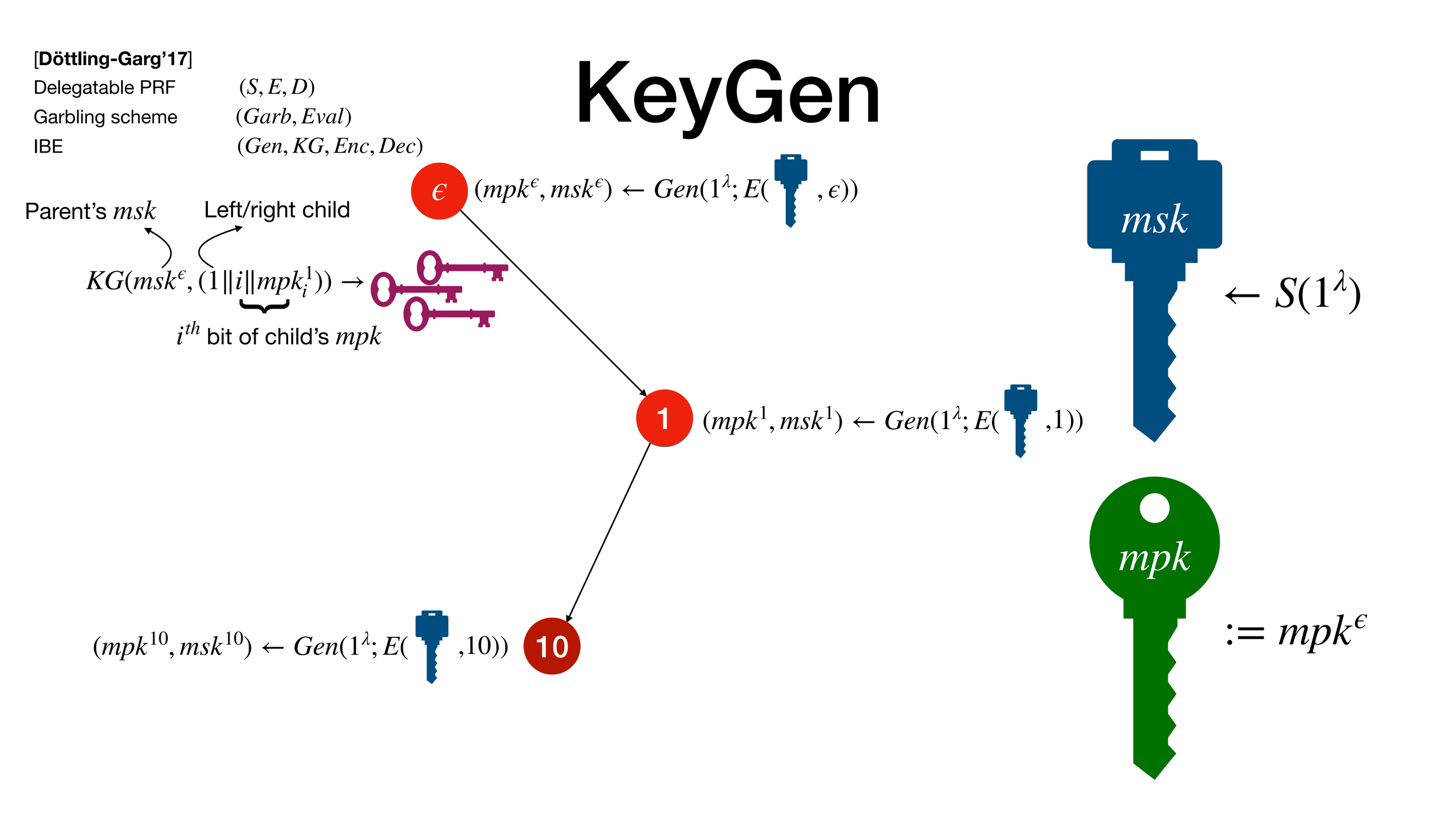

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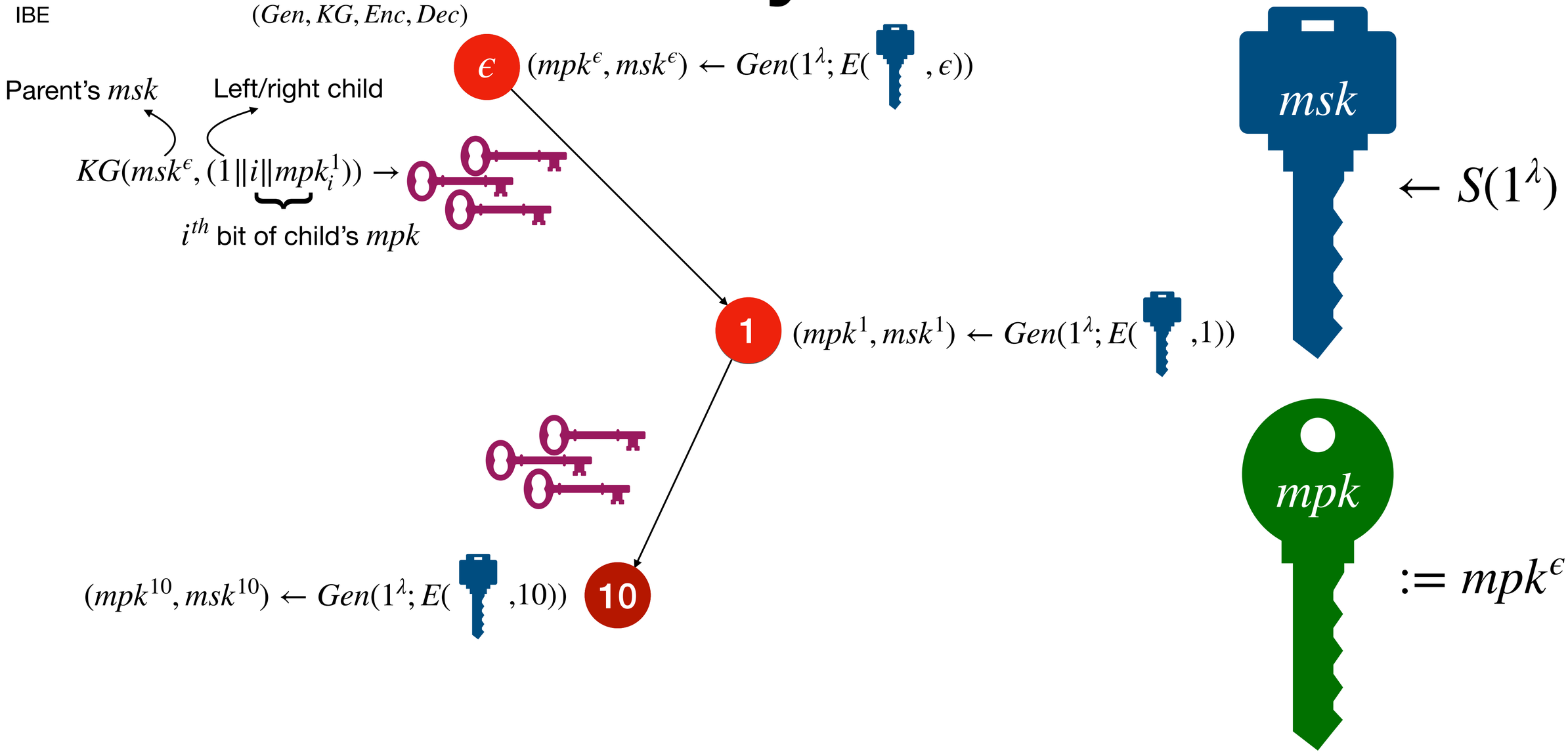

KeyGen

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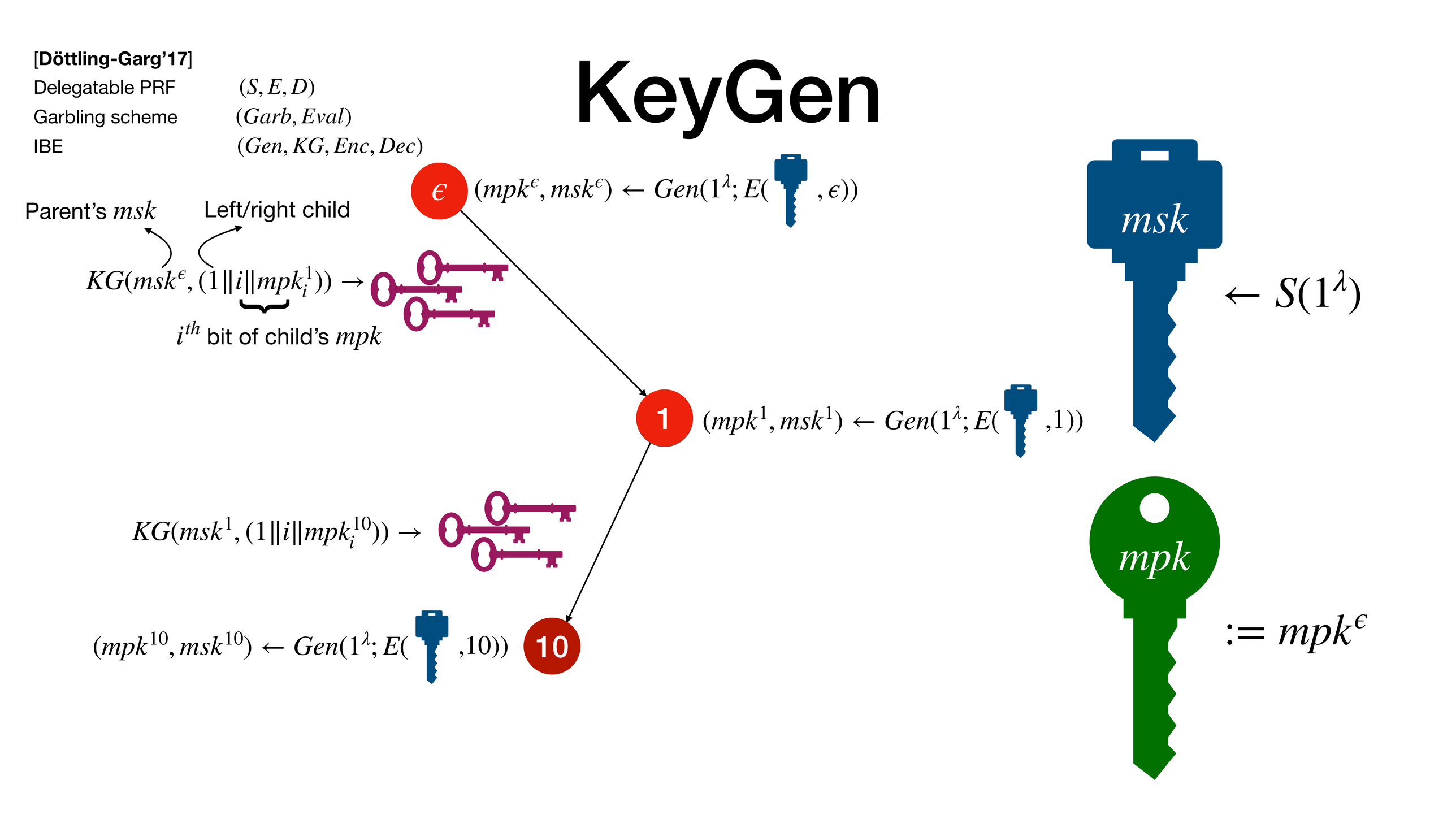

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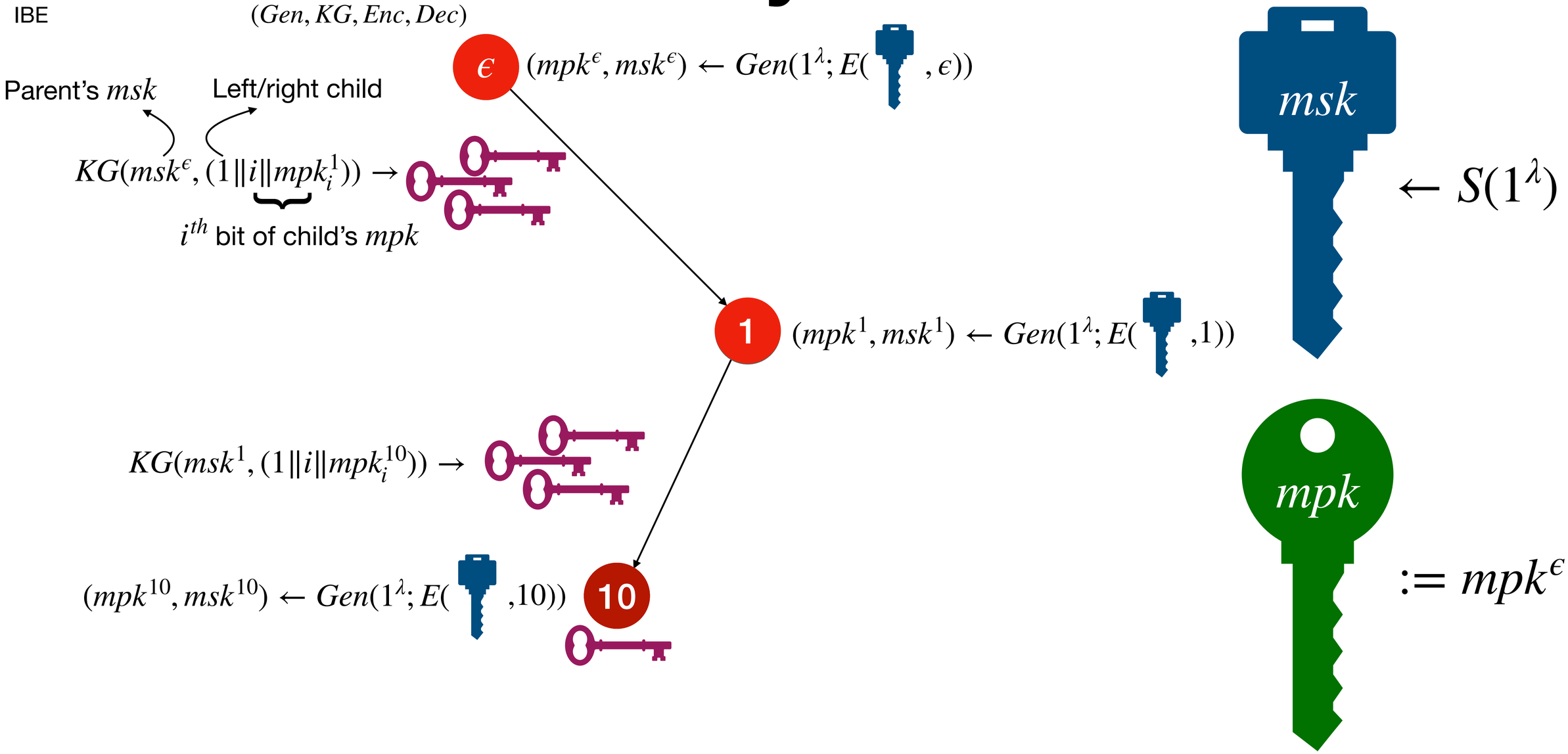

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Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

Garbling scheme $(Garb, Eval)$

IBE (Gen, KG, Enc, Dec)

KeyGen

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Parent's msk Left/right child

$KG(msk^{\epsilon}, (1 \| i \| mpk_i^1)) \rightarrow$

i^{th} bit of child's mpk

1 $(mpk^1, msk^1) \leftarrow Gen(1^{\lambda}; E(\ \ , 1))$

$KG(msk^1, (1 \| i \| mpk_i^{10})) \rightarrow$

$(mpk^{10}, msk^{10}) \leftarrow Gen(1^{\lambda}; E(\ \ , 10))$

10

$KG(msk^{10}, \epsilon) \rightarrow$

msk $\leftarrow S(1^{\lambda})$

mpk $:= mpk^{\epsilon}$

KeyGen

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Delegatable PRF	(S, E, D)
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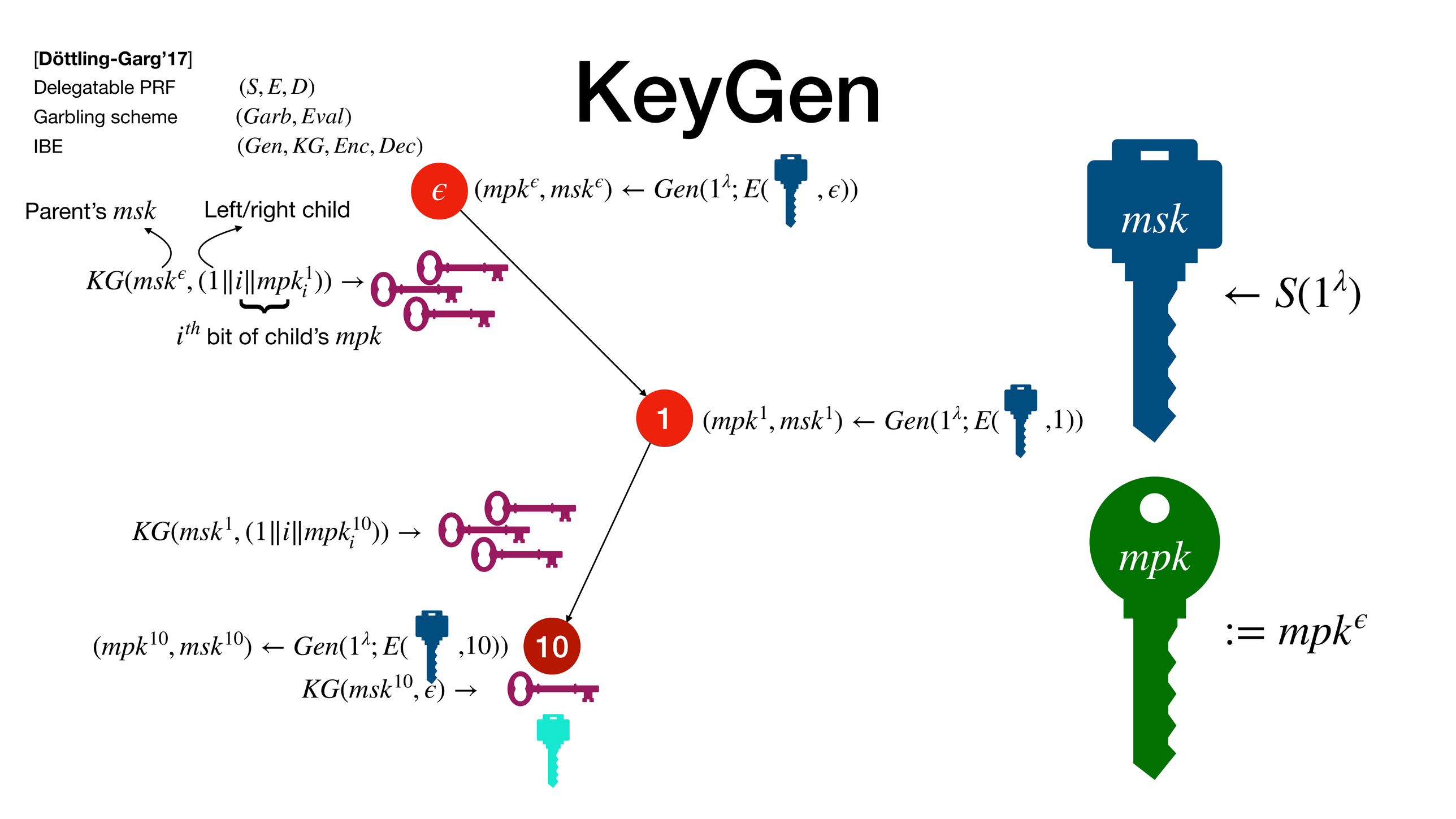

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i^{th} bit of child's mpk

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$(mpk^{10}, msk^{10}) \leftarrow Gen(1^{\lambda}; E(\ \ , 10))$

10

$KG(msk^{10}, \epsilon) \rightarrow$

$D(\ \ , 10)) \rightarrow$

msk $\leftarrow S(1^{\lambda})$

mpk $:= mpk^{\epsilon}$

[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

Garbling scheme $(Garb, Eval)$

IBE (Gen, KG, Enc, Dec)

Encryption

[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

Garbling scheme $(Garb, Eval)$

IBE (Gen, KG, Enc, Dec)

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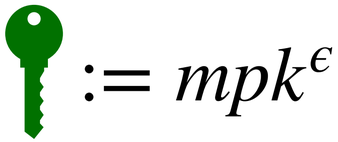

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Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

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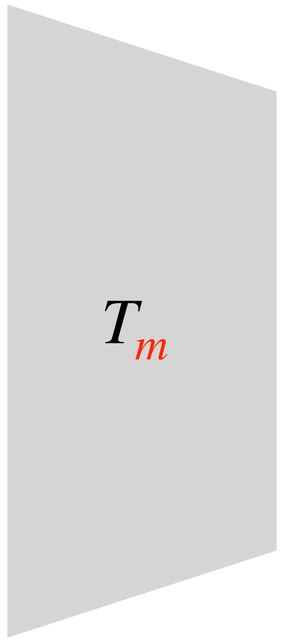

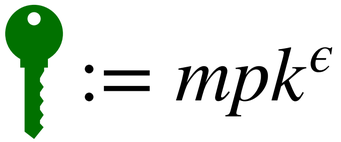

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Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

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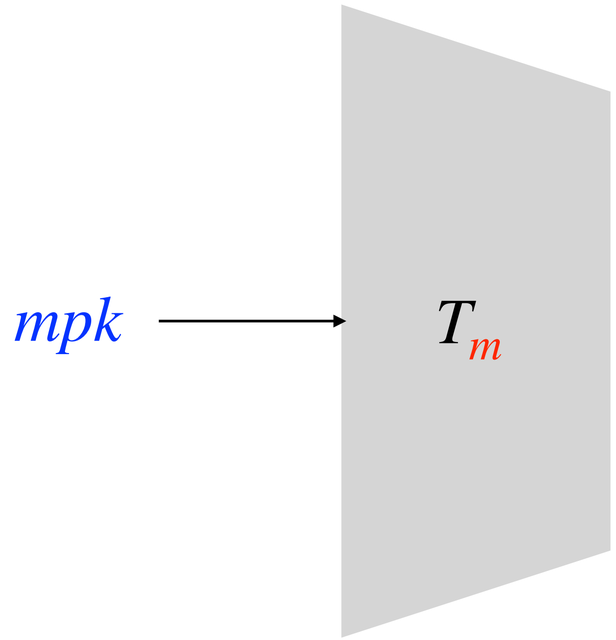

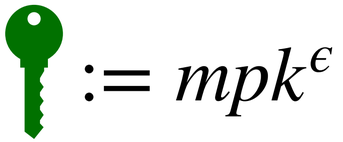

[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF	(S, E, D)
Garbling scheme	$(Garb, Eval)$
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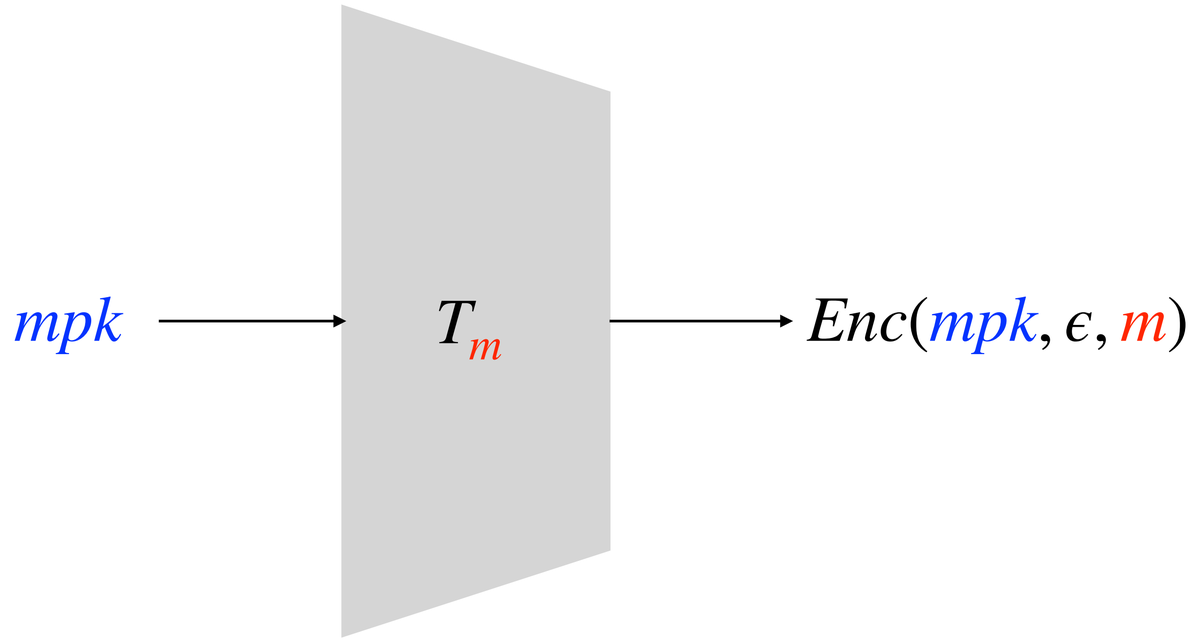
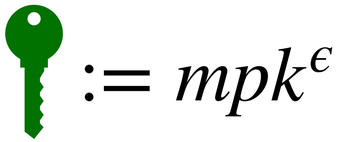
Encryption





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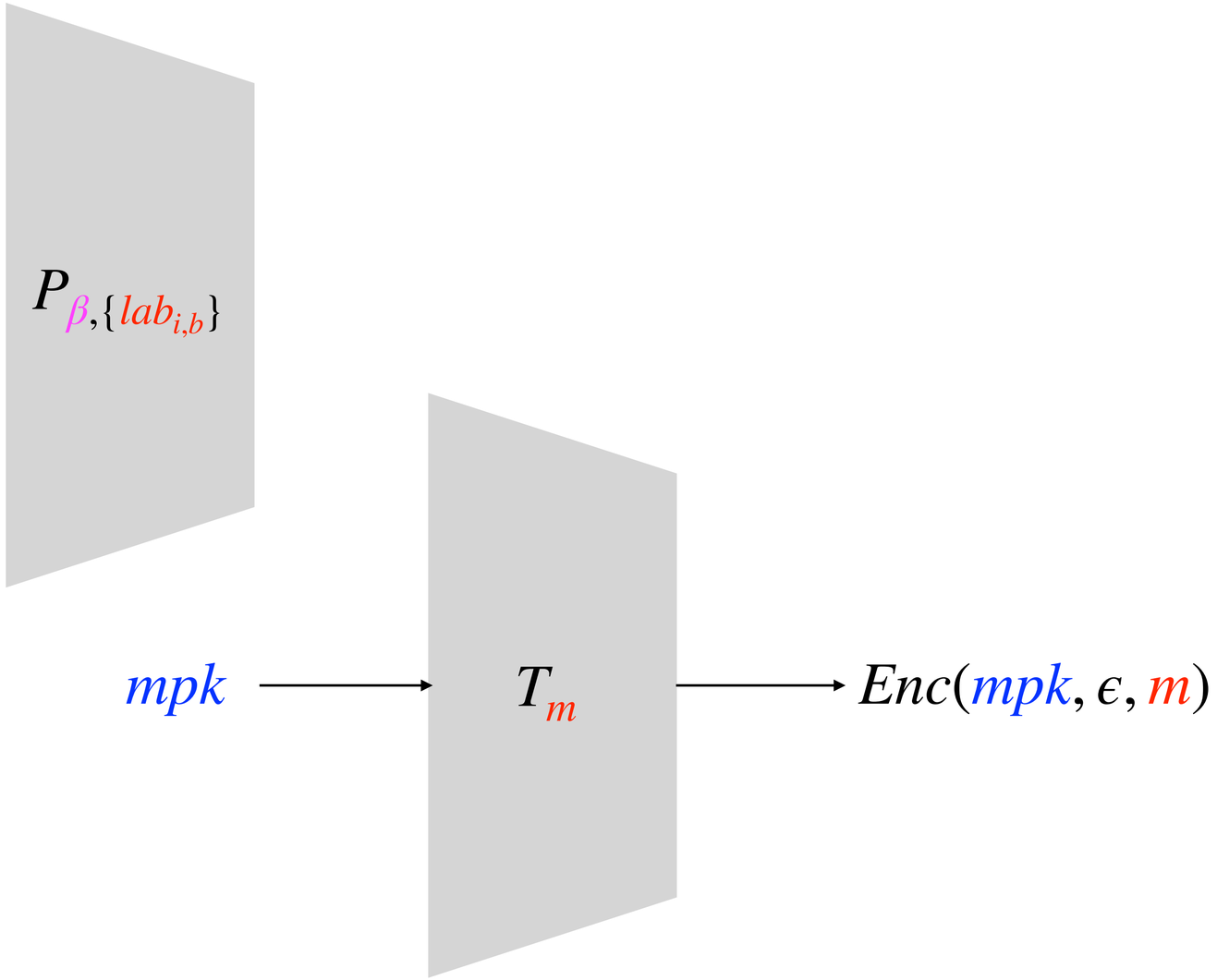

$:= mpk^{\epsilon}$

[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF	(S, E, D)
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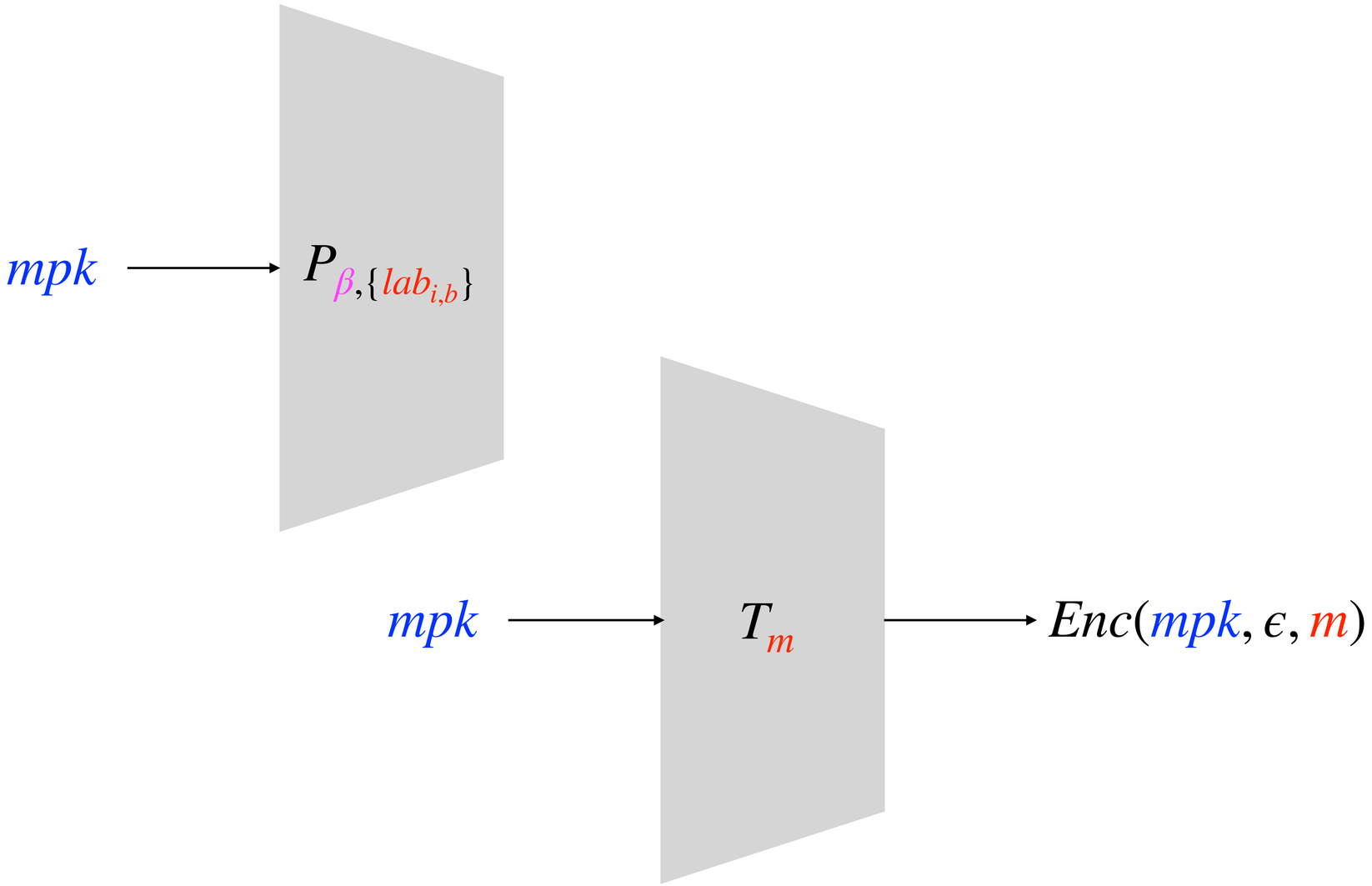
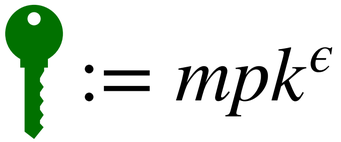
IBE	(Gen, KG, Enc, Dec)

Encryption





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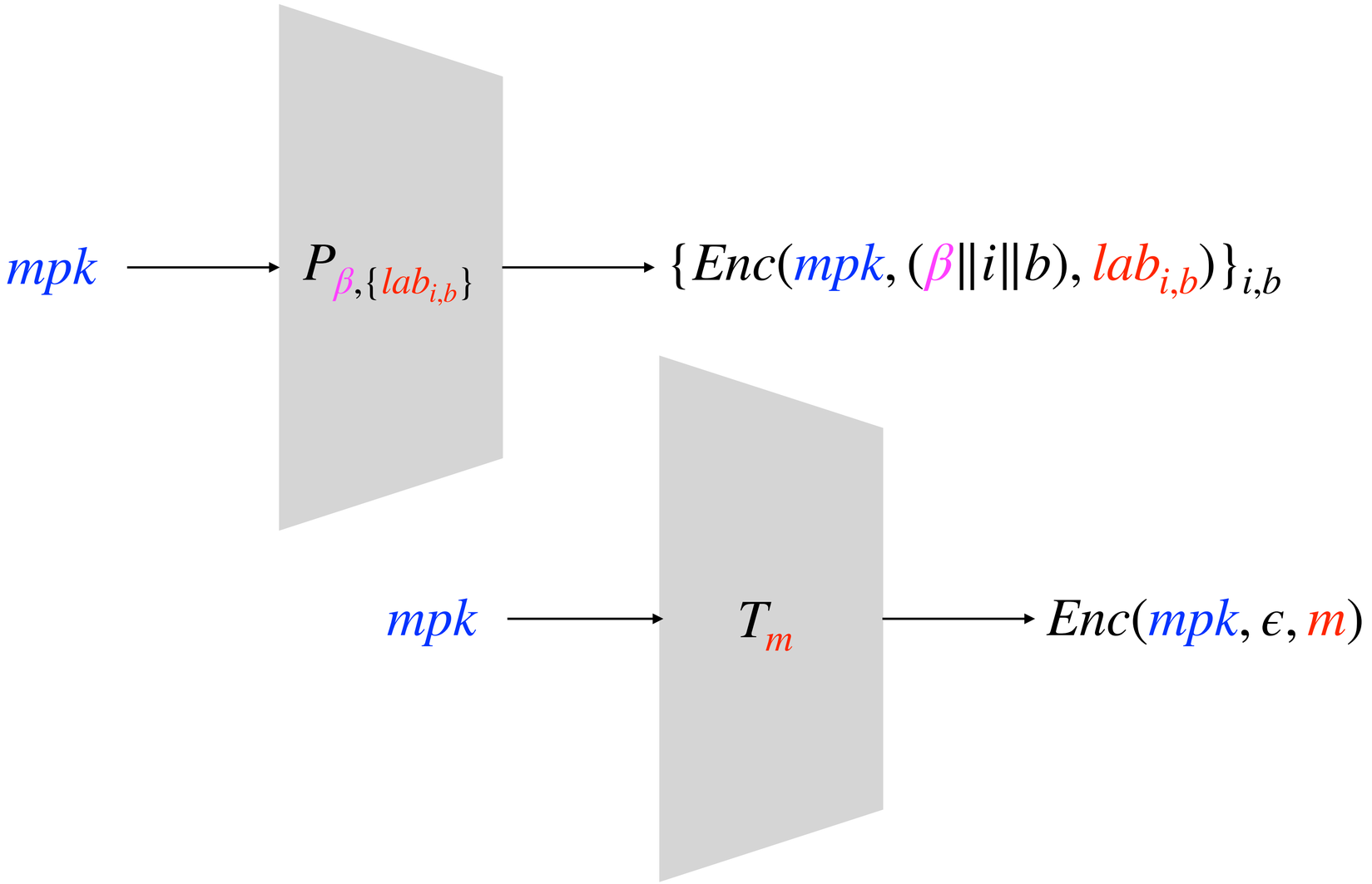

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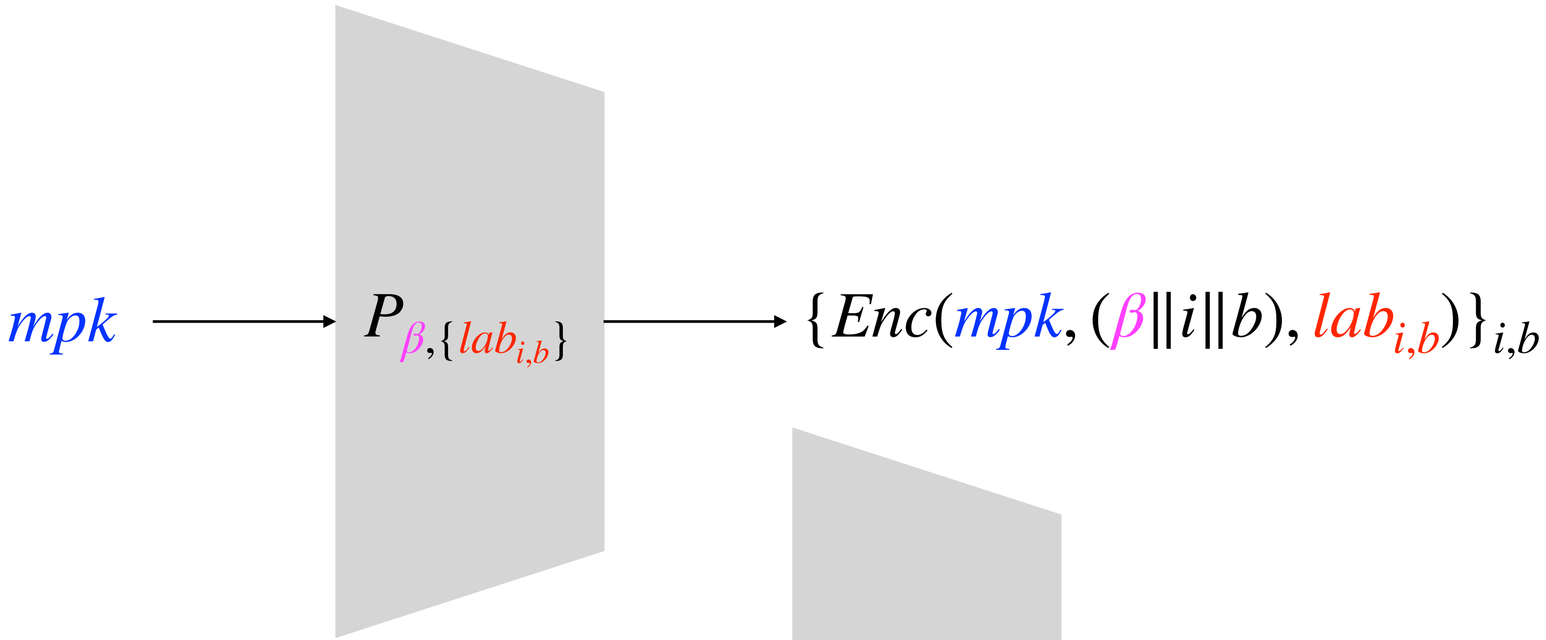

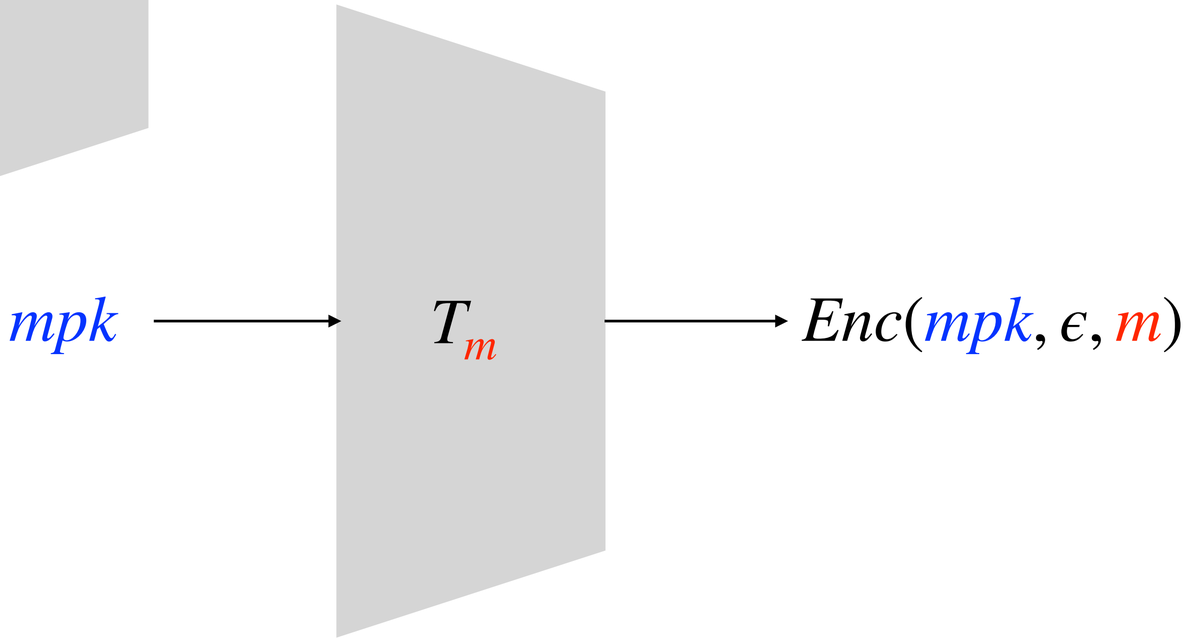

$id = 10,$  $:= mpk^{\epsilon}$

[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF	(S, E, D)
Garbling scheme	$(Garb, Eval)$
IBE	(Gen, KG, Enc, Dec)

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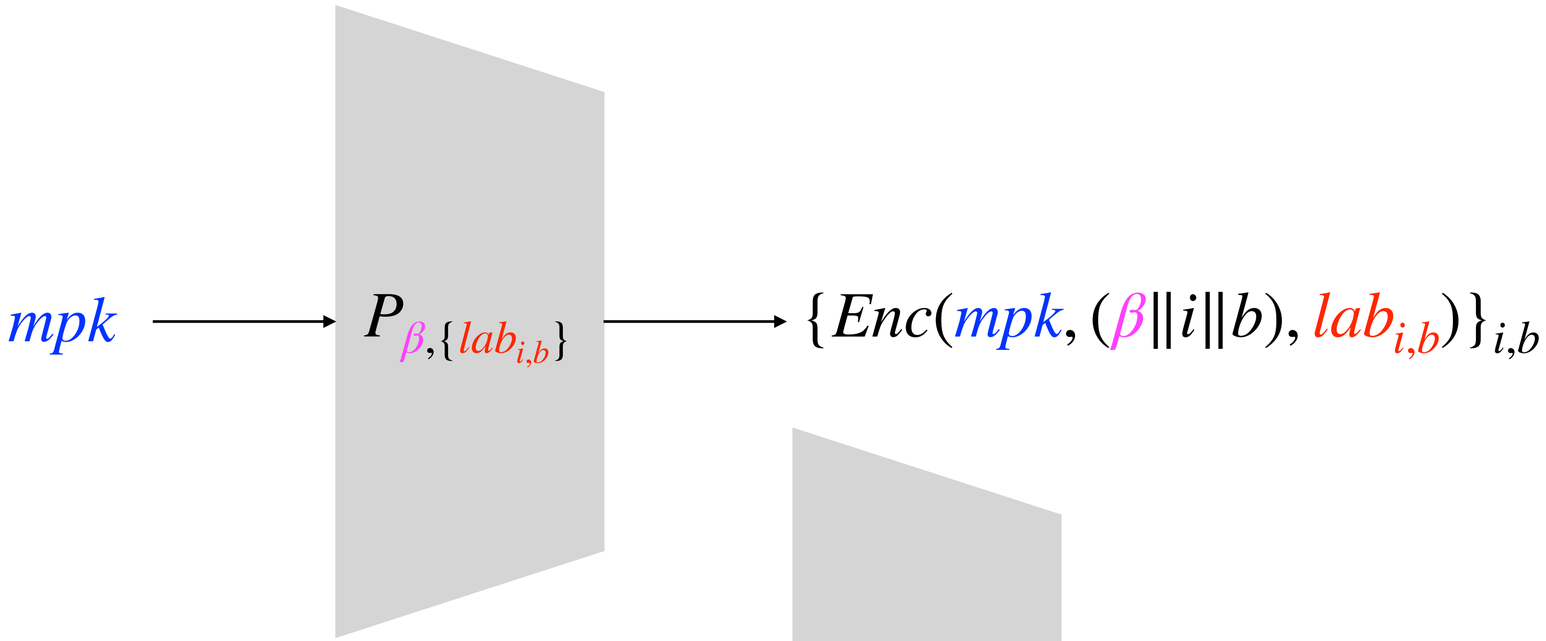
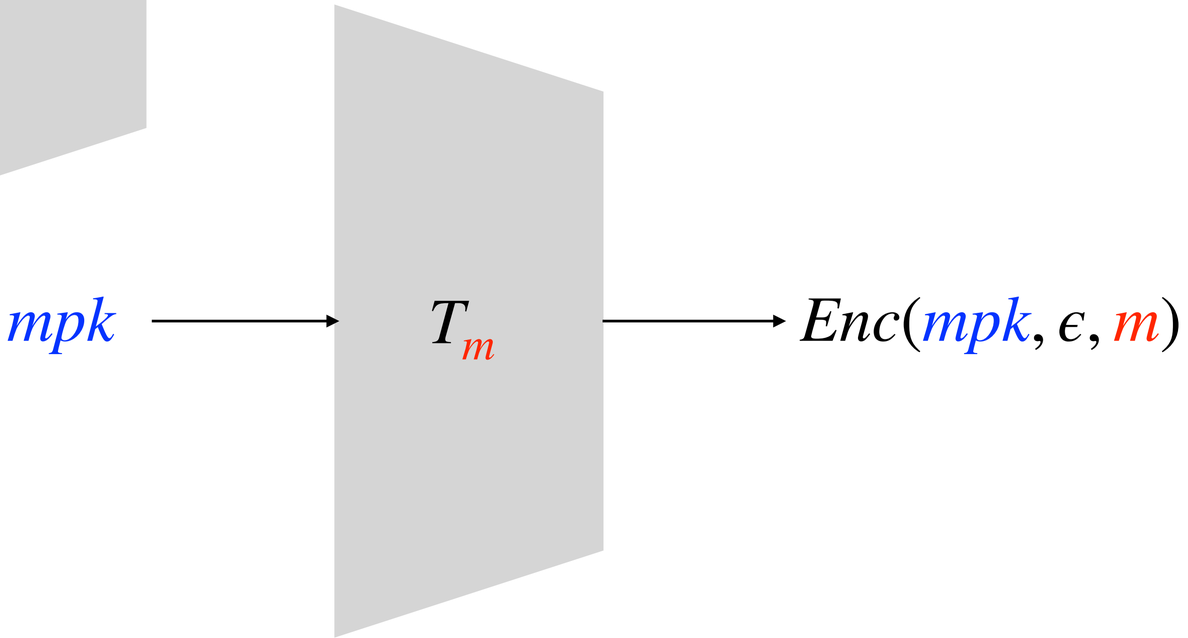




$\tilde{T}, \{lab_{i,b}\} \leftarrow Garb(T_m)$

$id = 10,$  $:= mpk^{\epsilon}$

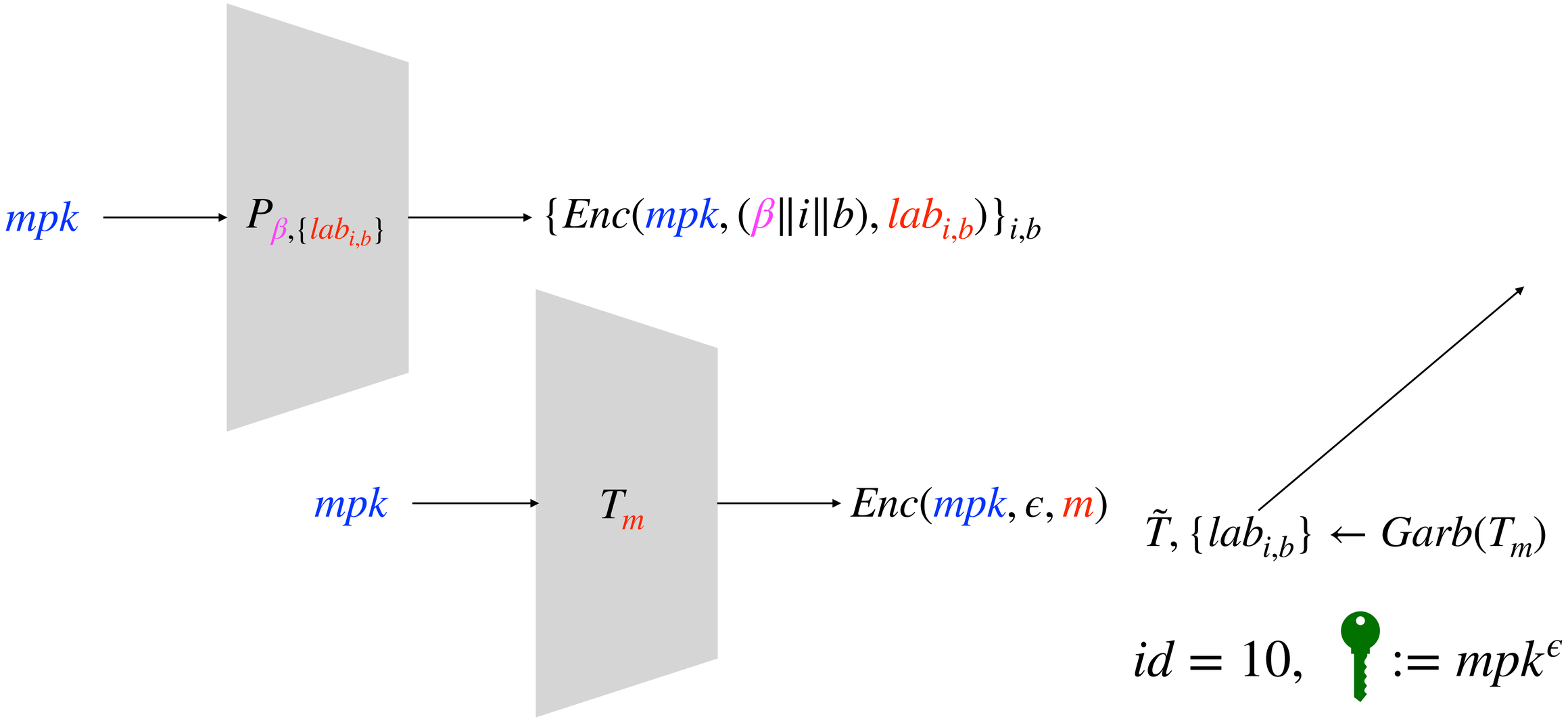
[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

Garbling scheme $(Garb, Eval)$

IBE (Gen, KG, Enc, Dec)

Encryption



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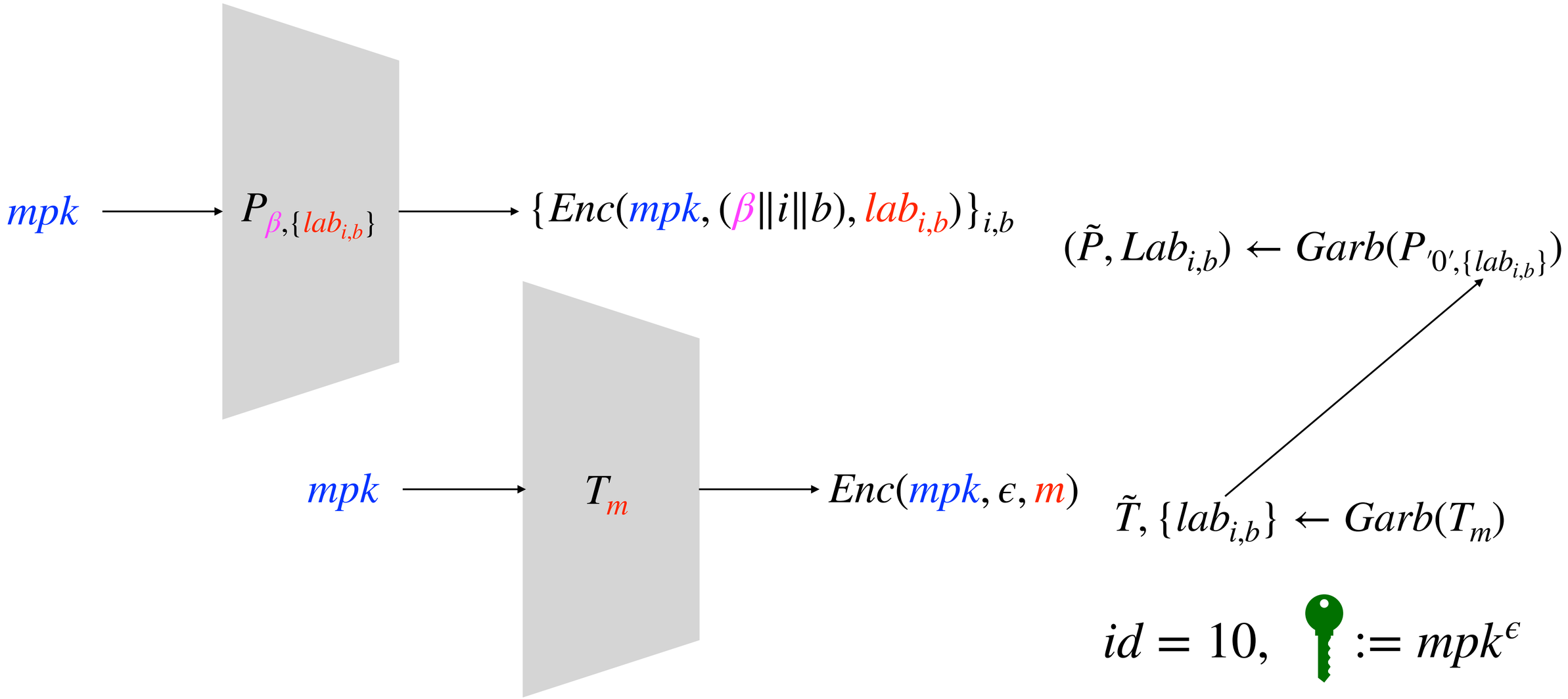

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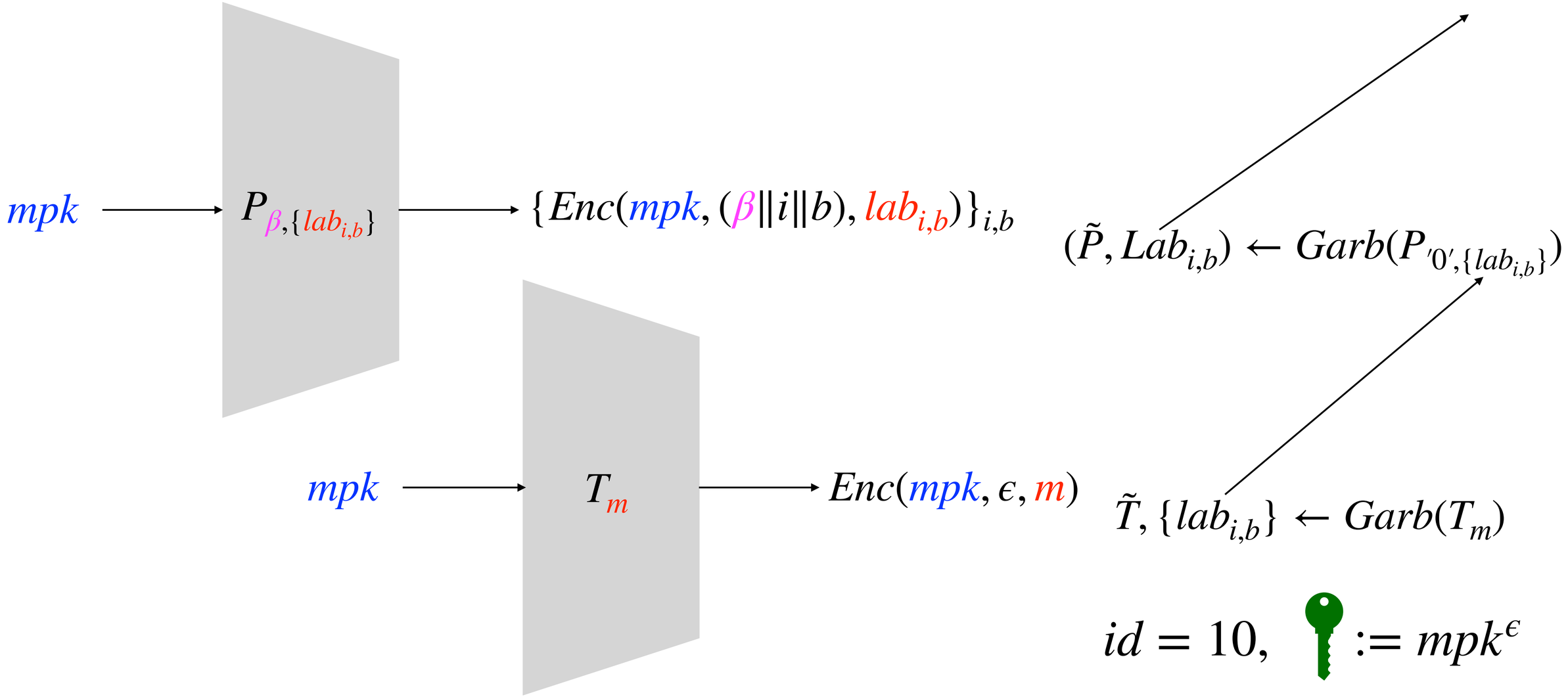

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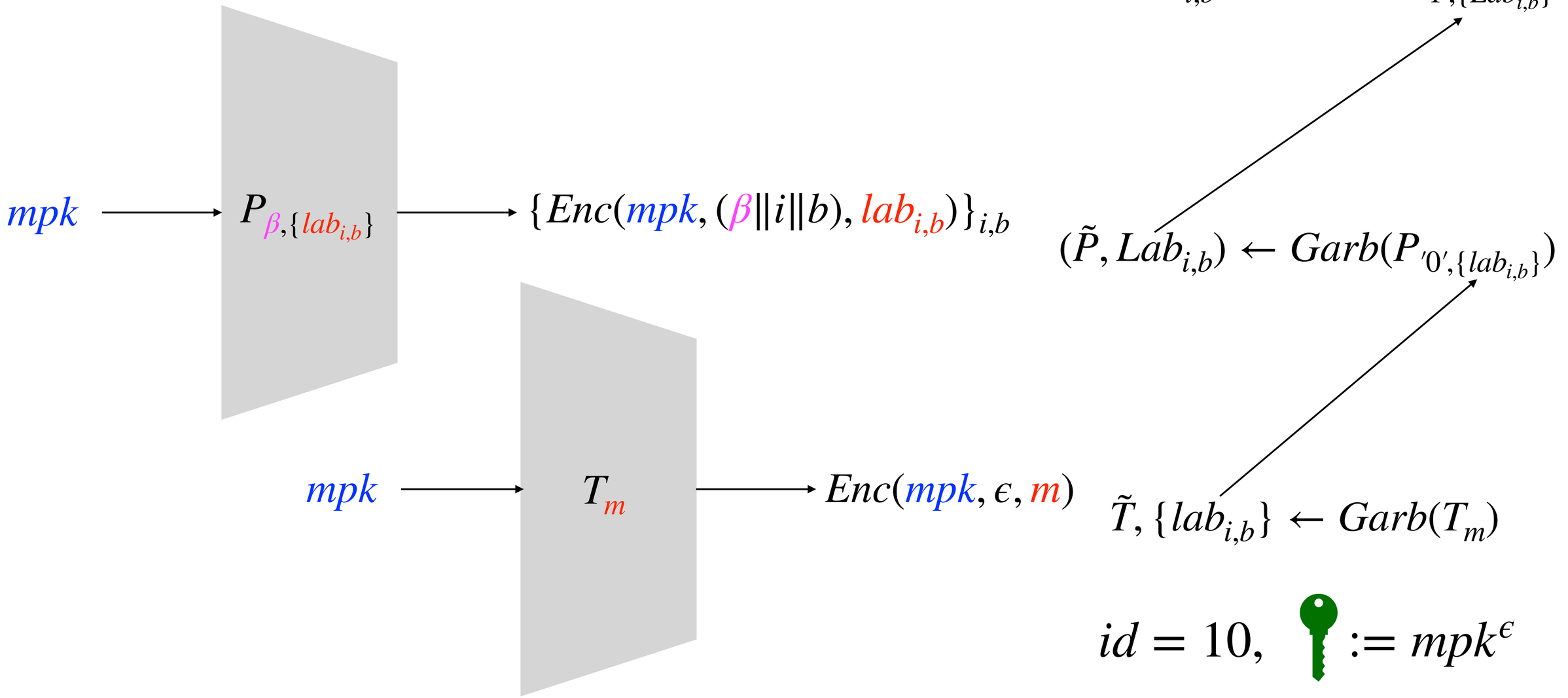

[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF	(S, E, D)
Garbling scheme	$(Garb, Eval)$
IBE	(Gen, KG, Enc, Dec)

Encryption

$Return(\tilde{T}, \tilde{P}, \tilde{Q}, \{LAB_{i,mpk_i^\epsilon}\})$

$(\tilde{Q}, LAB_{i,b}) \leftarrow Garb(P_{'1',\{Lab_{i,b}\}})$

$mpk \longrightarrow P_{\beta,\{lab_{i,b}\}} \longrightarrow \{Enc(mpk, (\beta \| i \| b), lab_{i,b})\}_{i,b}$

$(\tilde{P}, Lab_{i,b}) \leftarrow Garb(P_{'0',\{lab_{i,b}\}})$

$mpk \longrightarrow T_m \longrightarrow Enc(mpk, \epsilon, m)$

$\tilde{T}, \{lab_{i,b}\} \leftarrow Garb(T_m)$

$id = 10,$  $:= mpk^\epsilon$

[**Döttling-Garg'17**]

Delegatable PRF (S, E, D)

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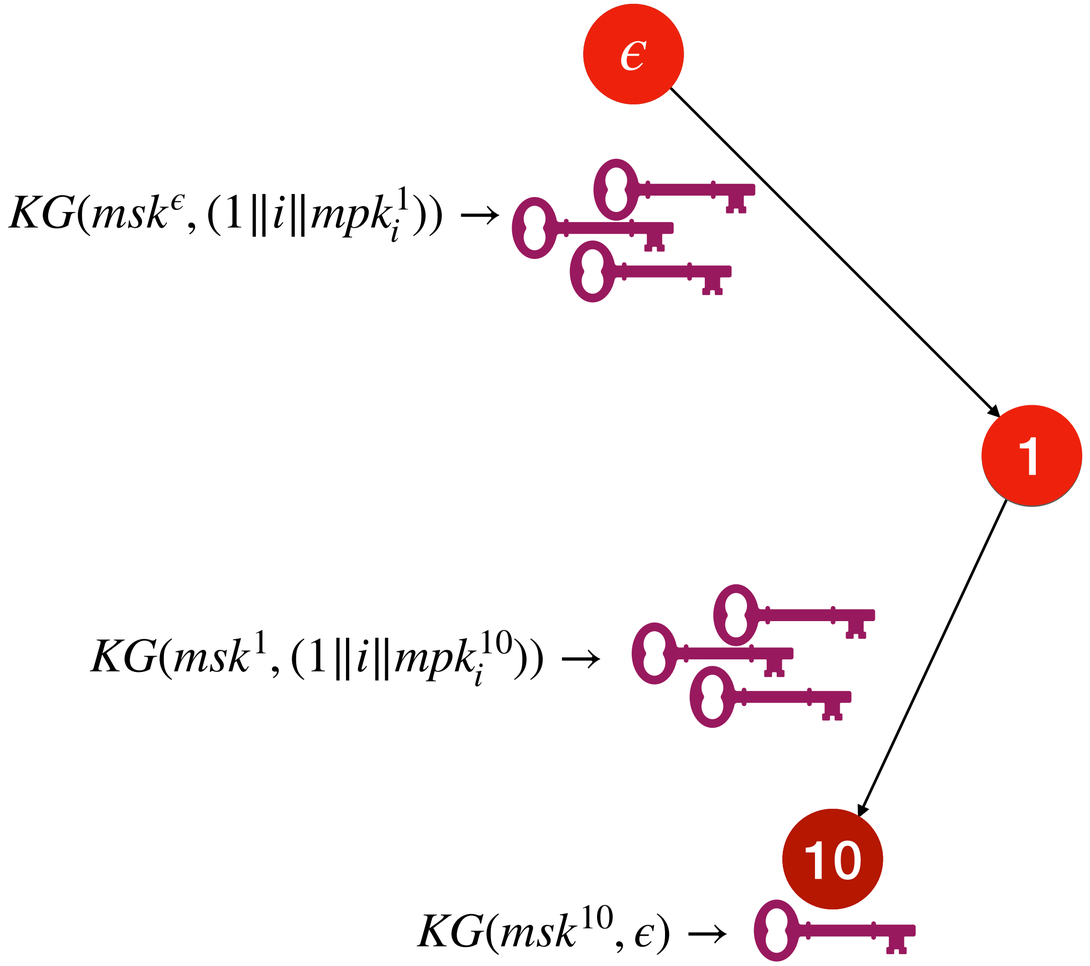

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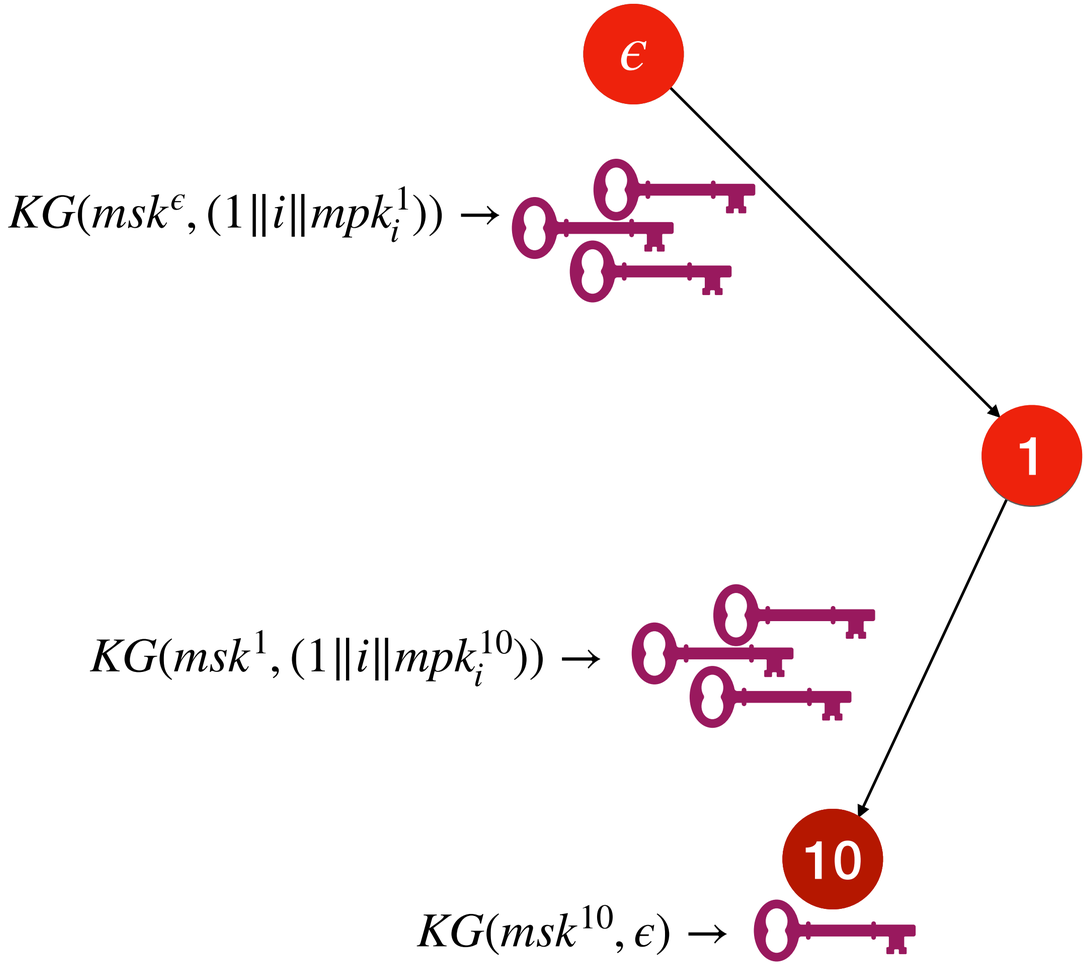

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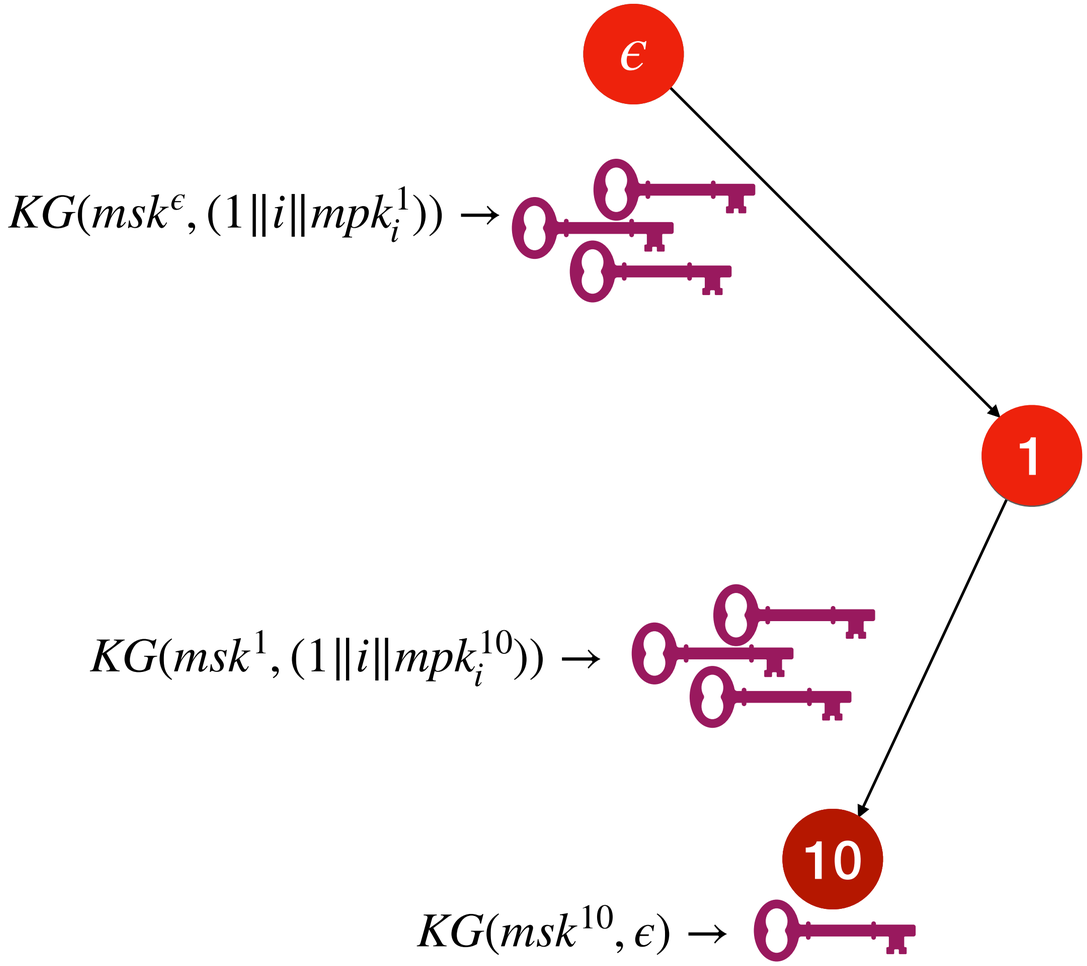

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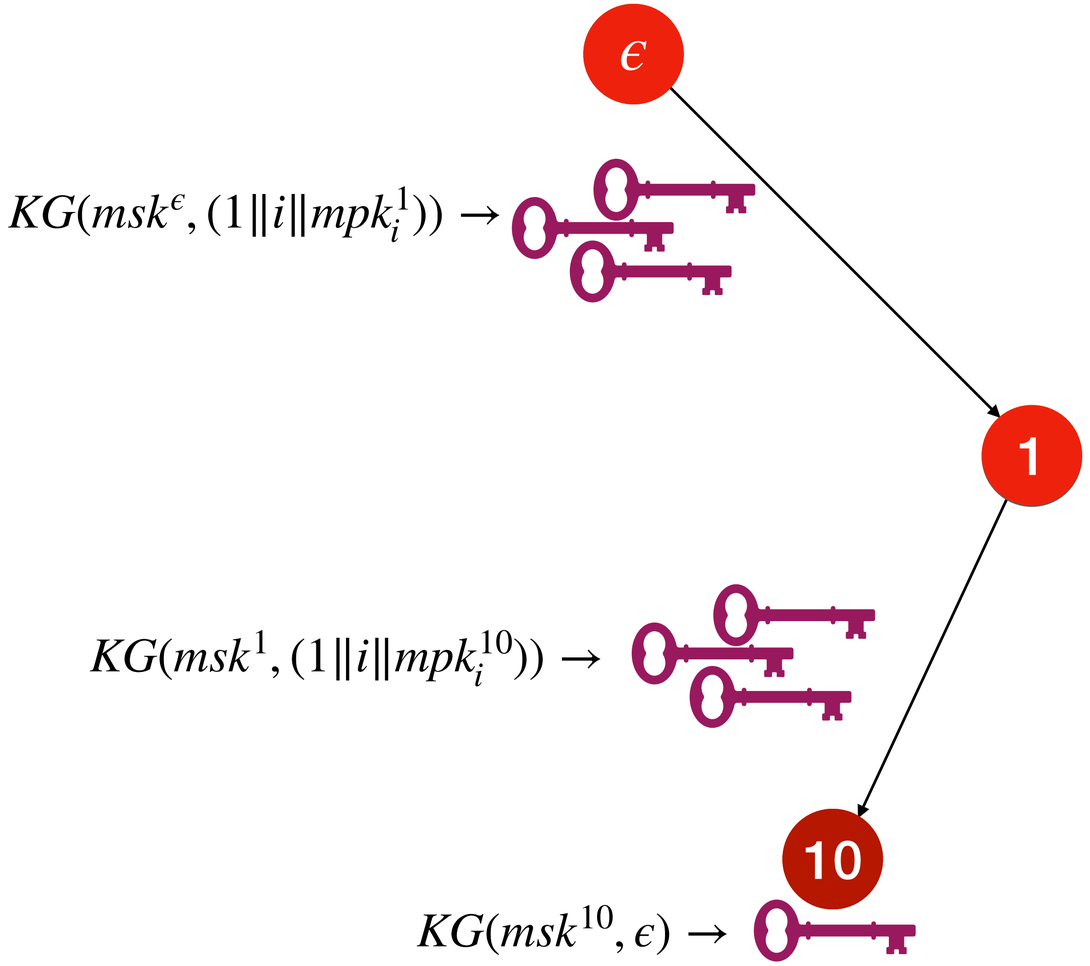

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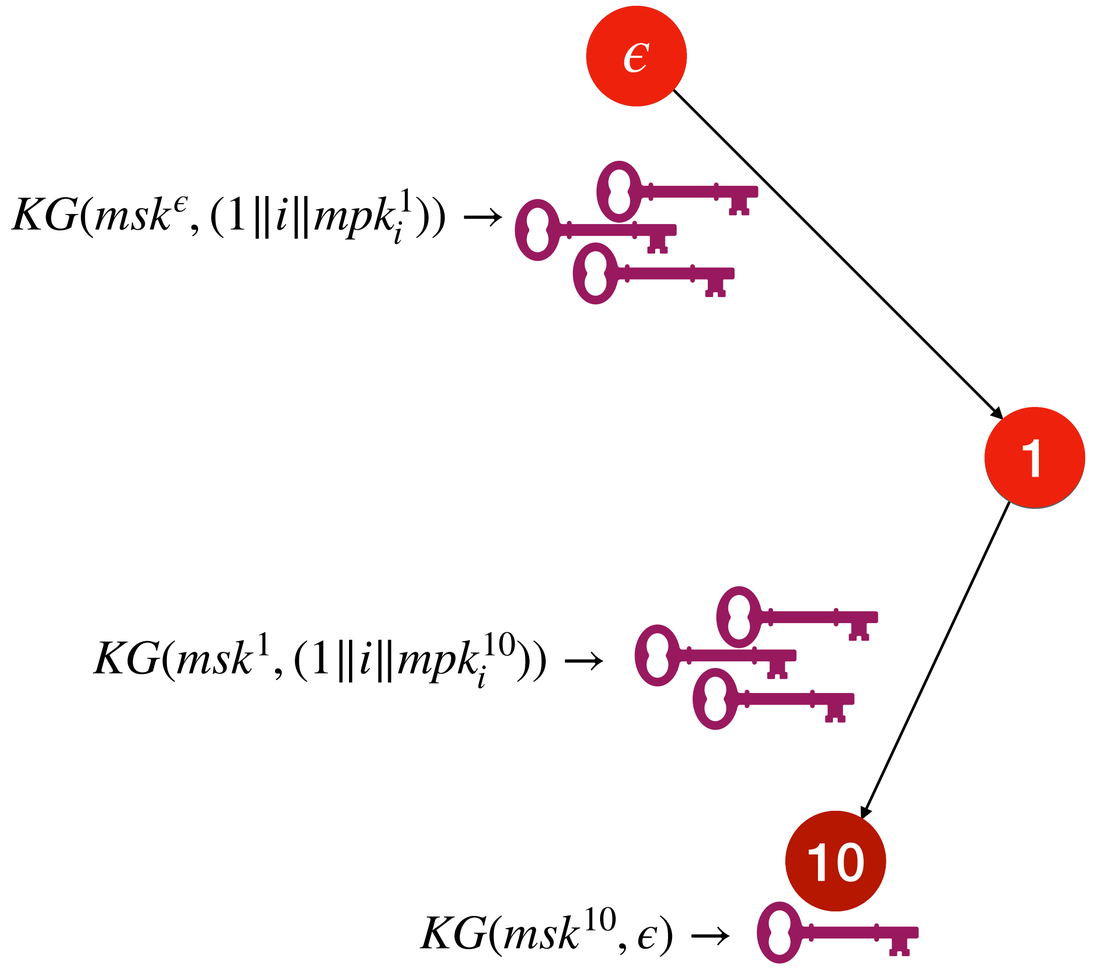
Eval

$CT = Enc(mpk^\epsilon, 1\|i\|b, Lab_{i,b})$



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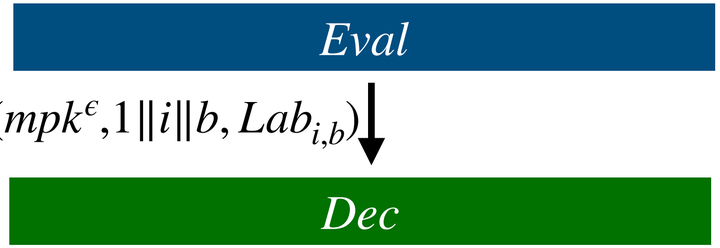

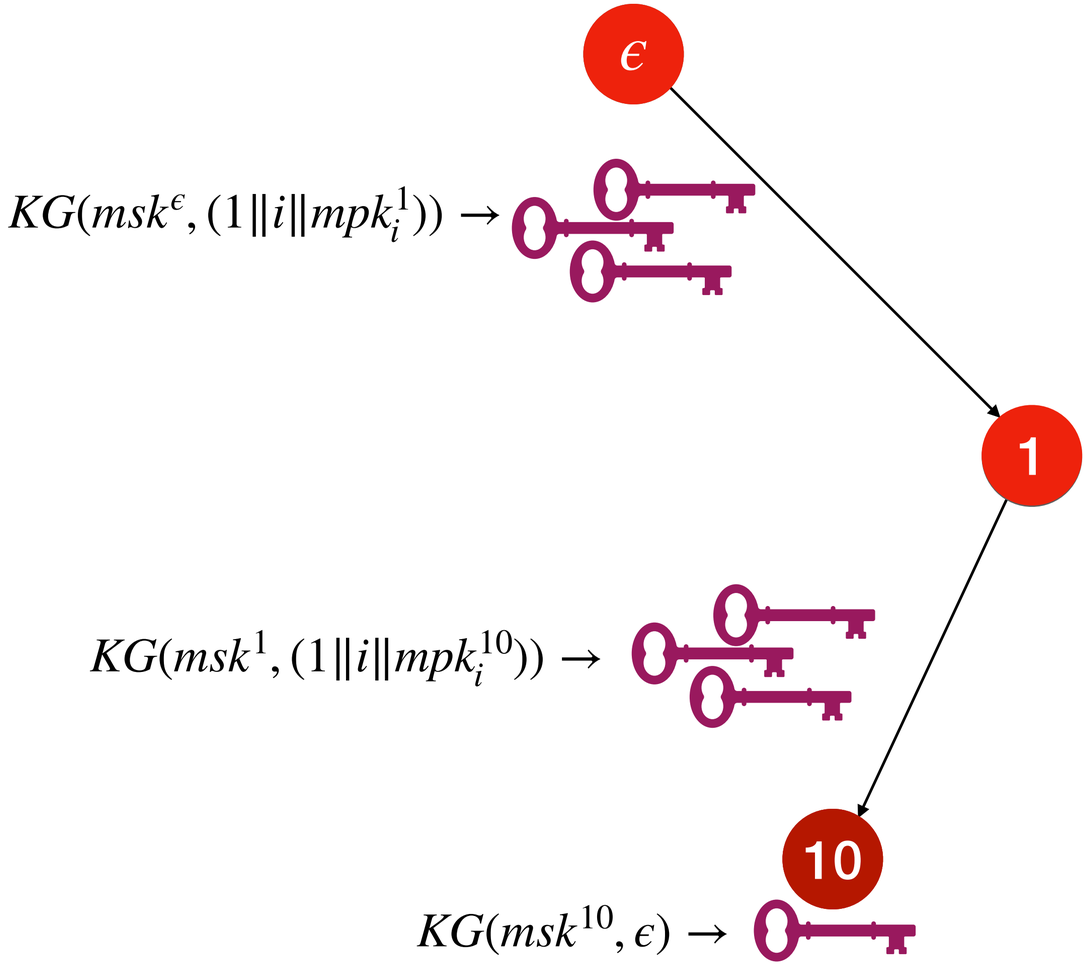

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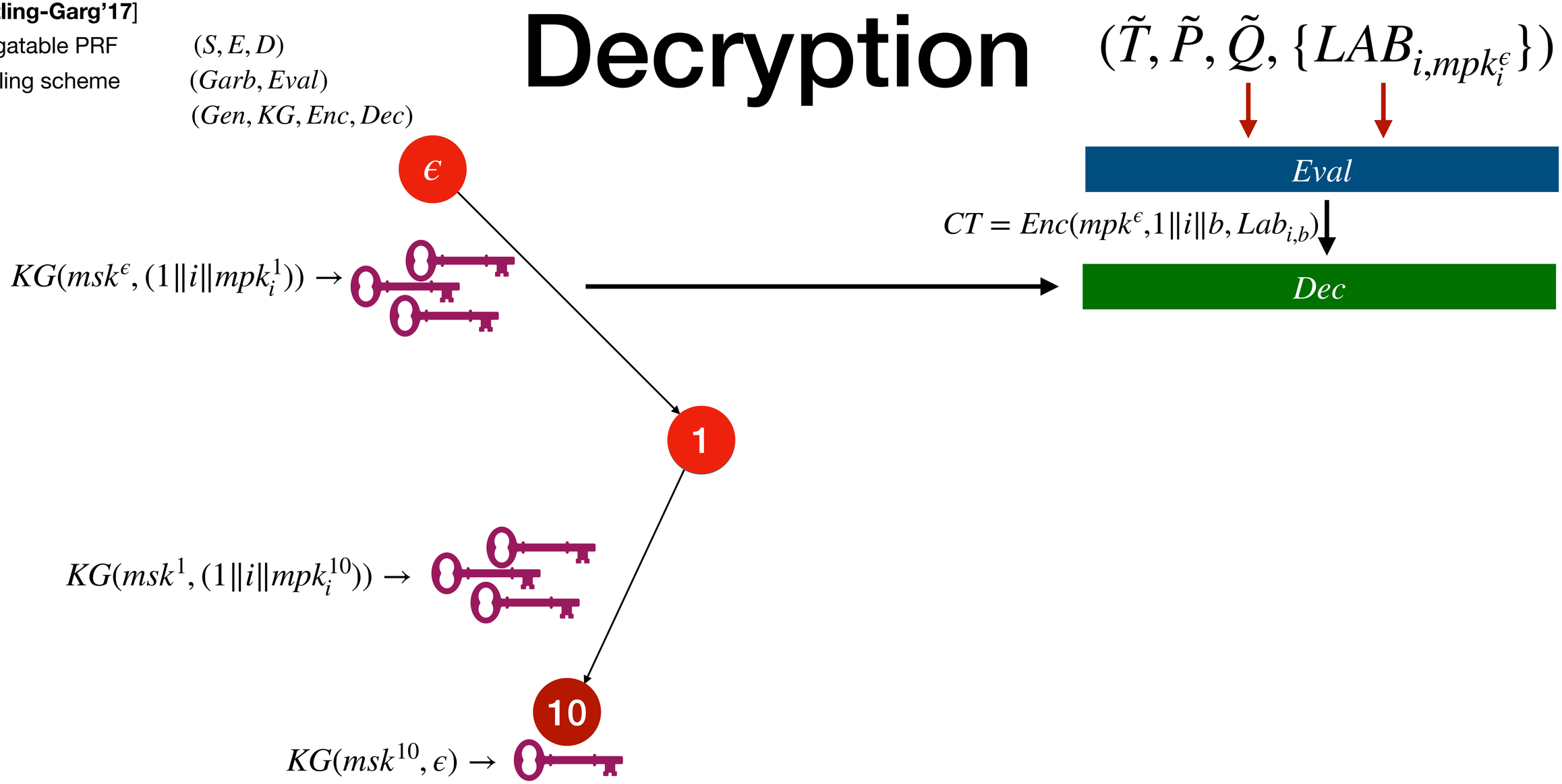

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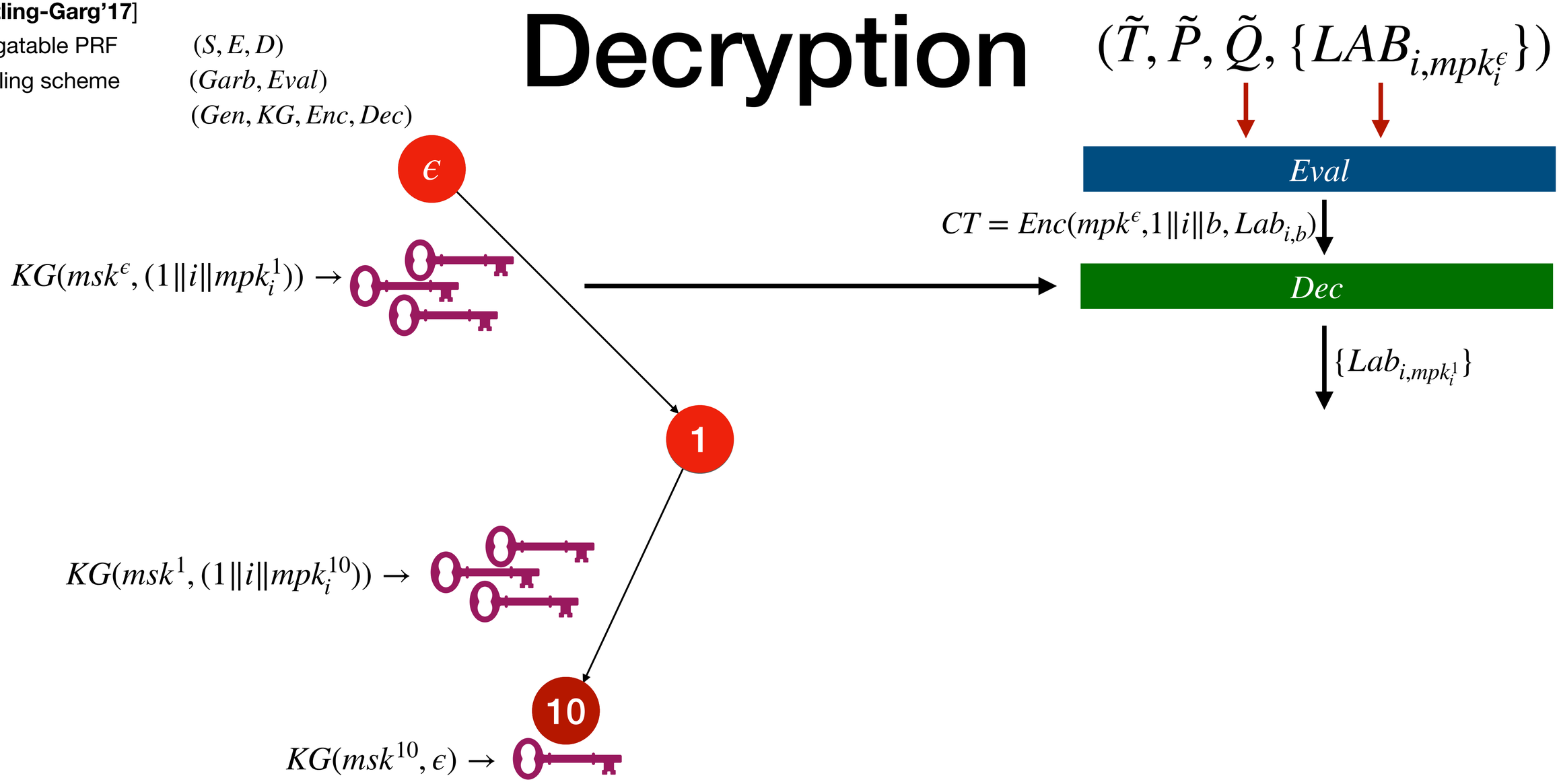

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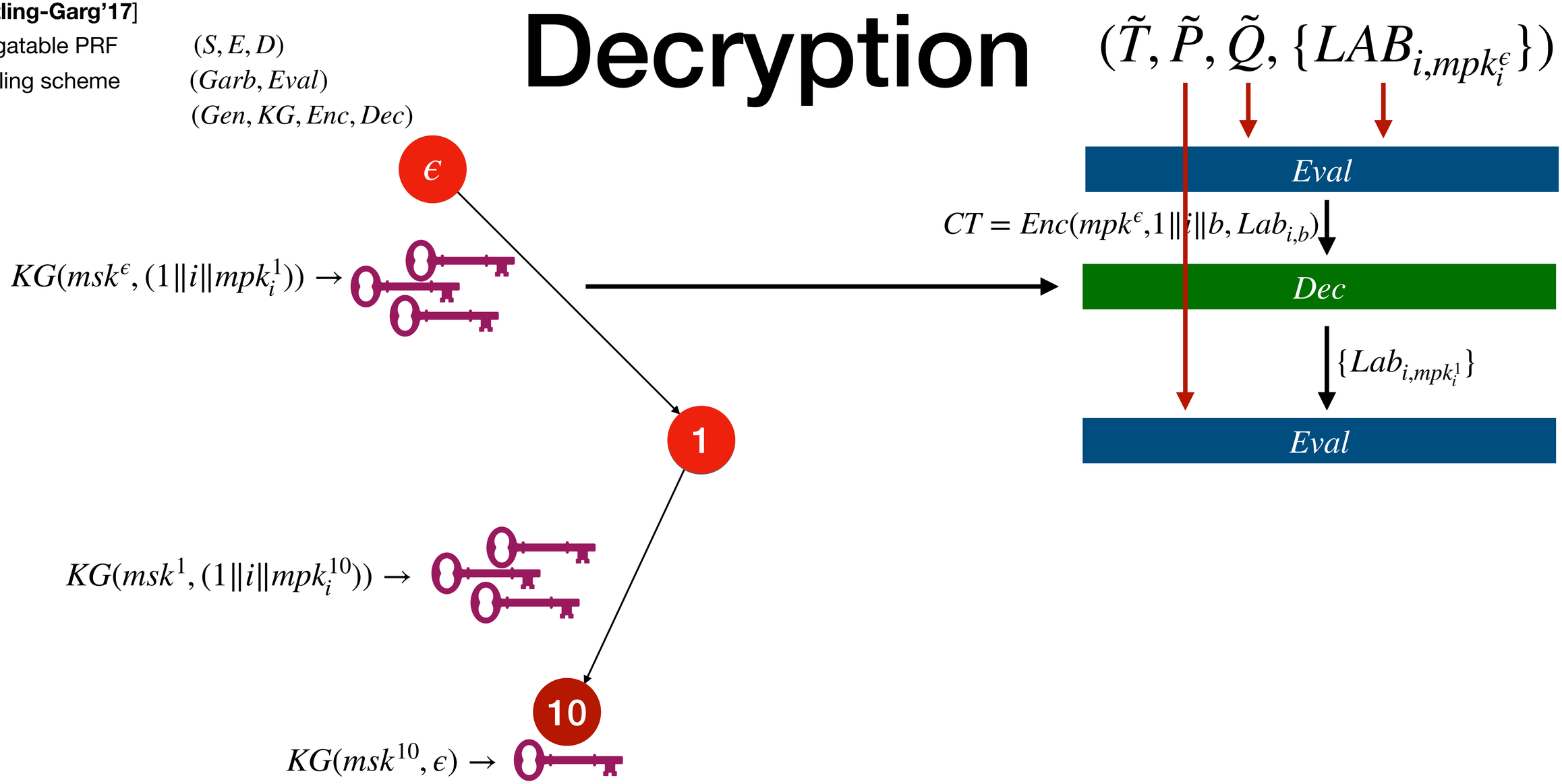

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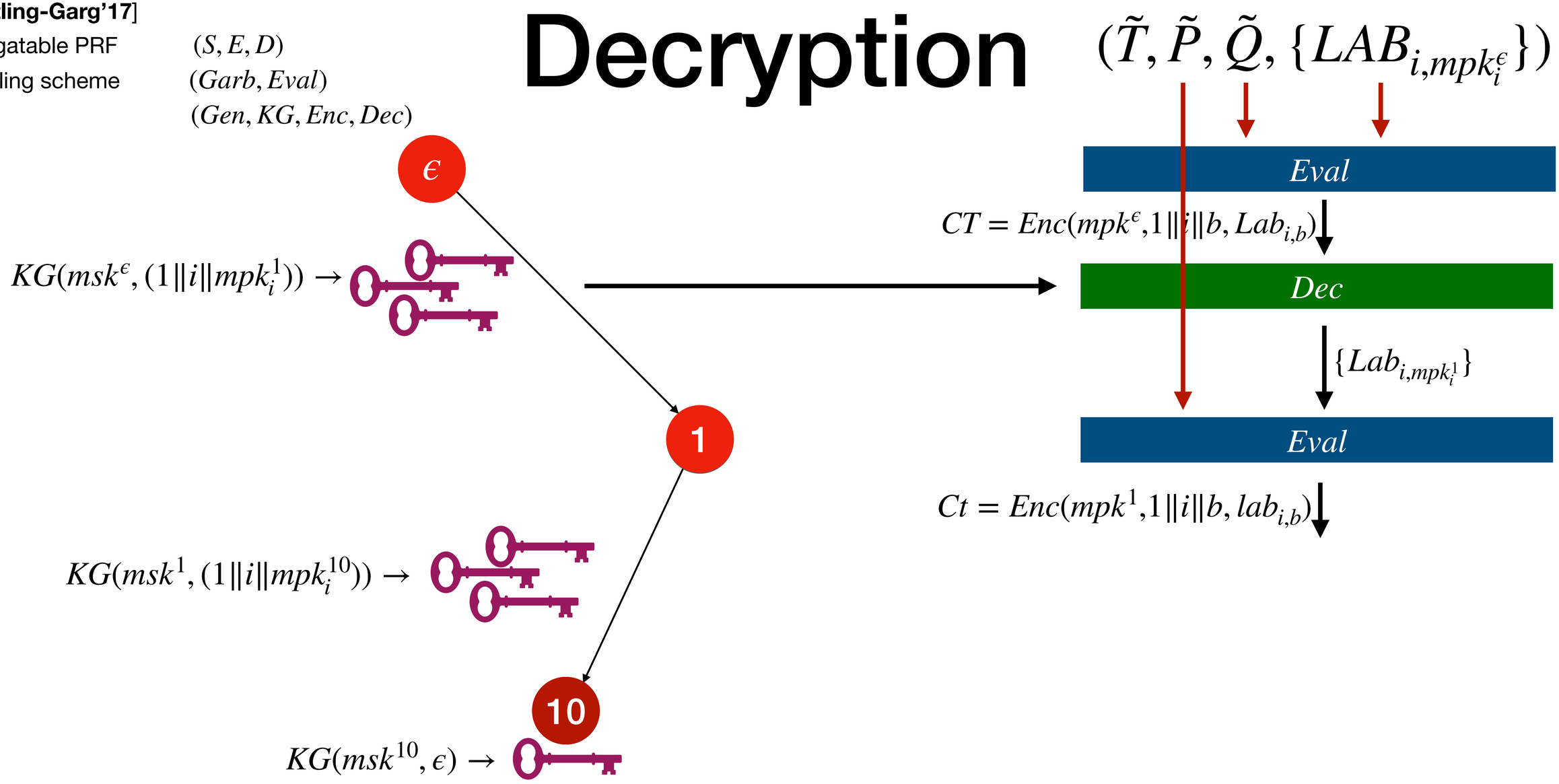

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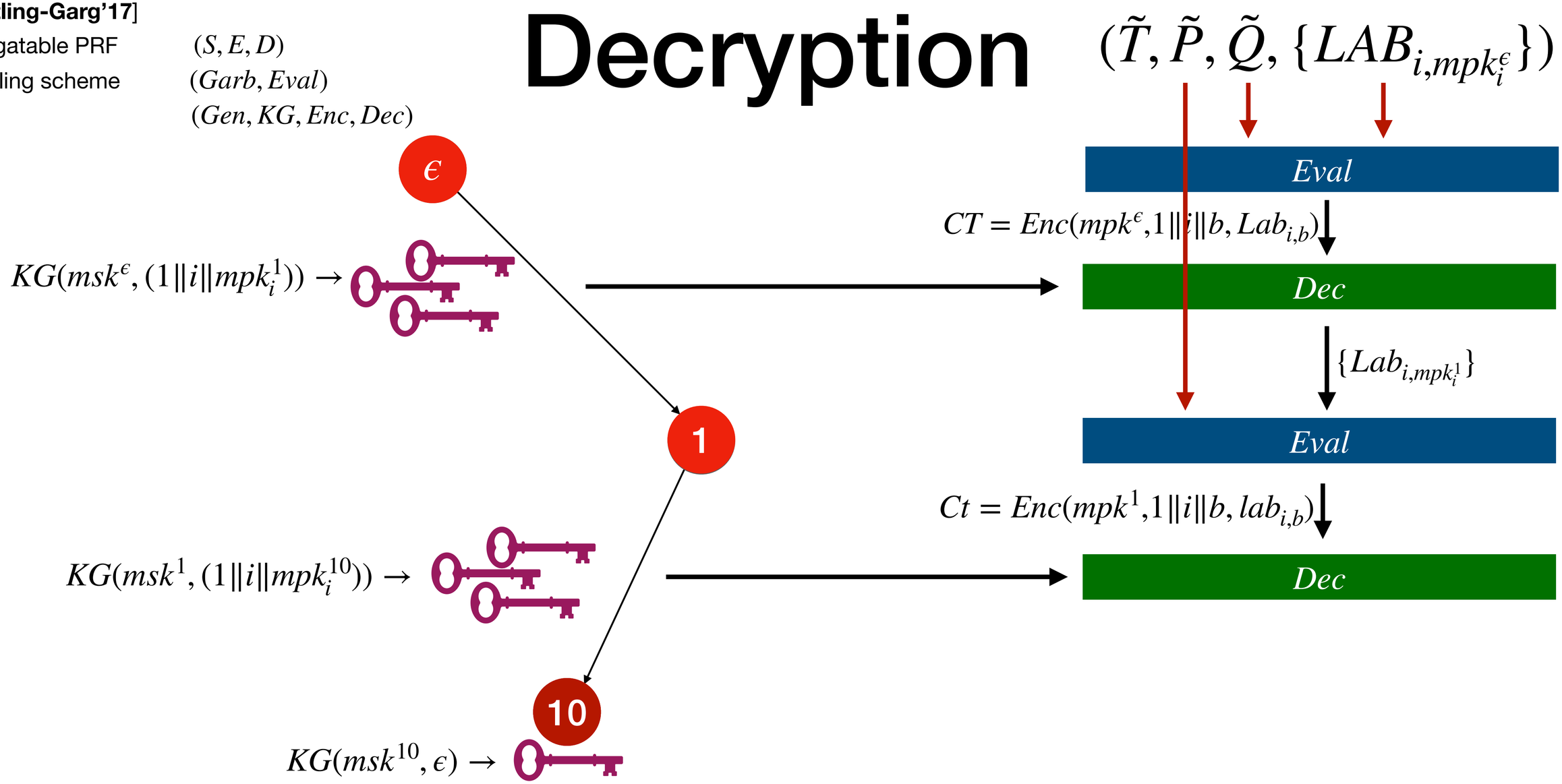

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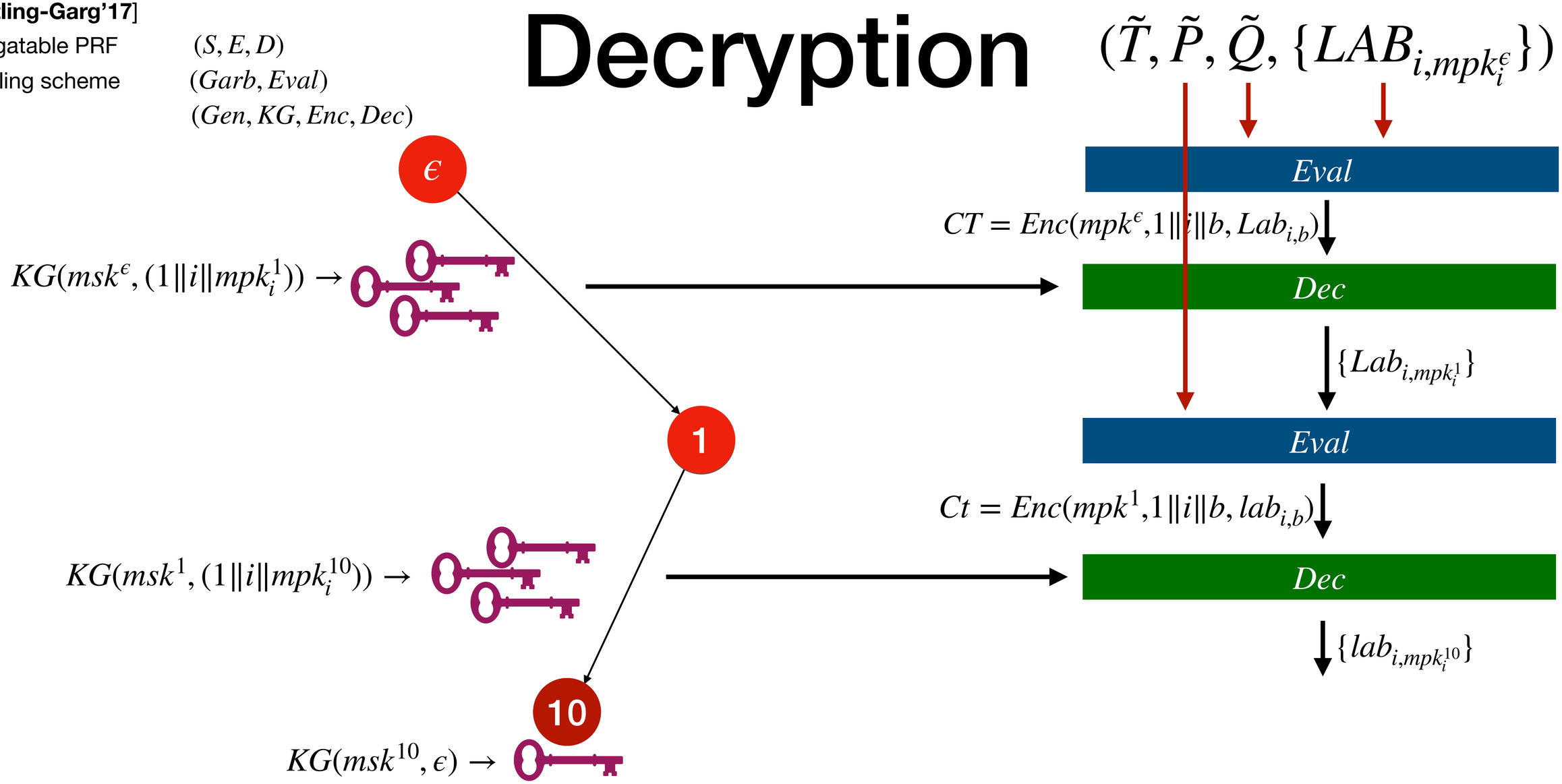

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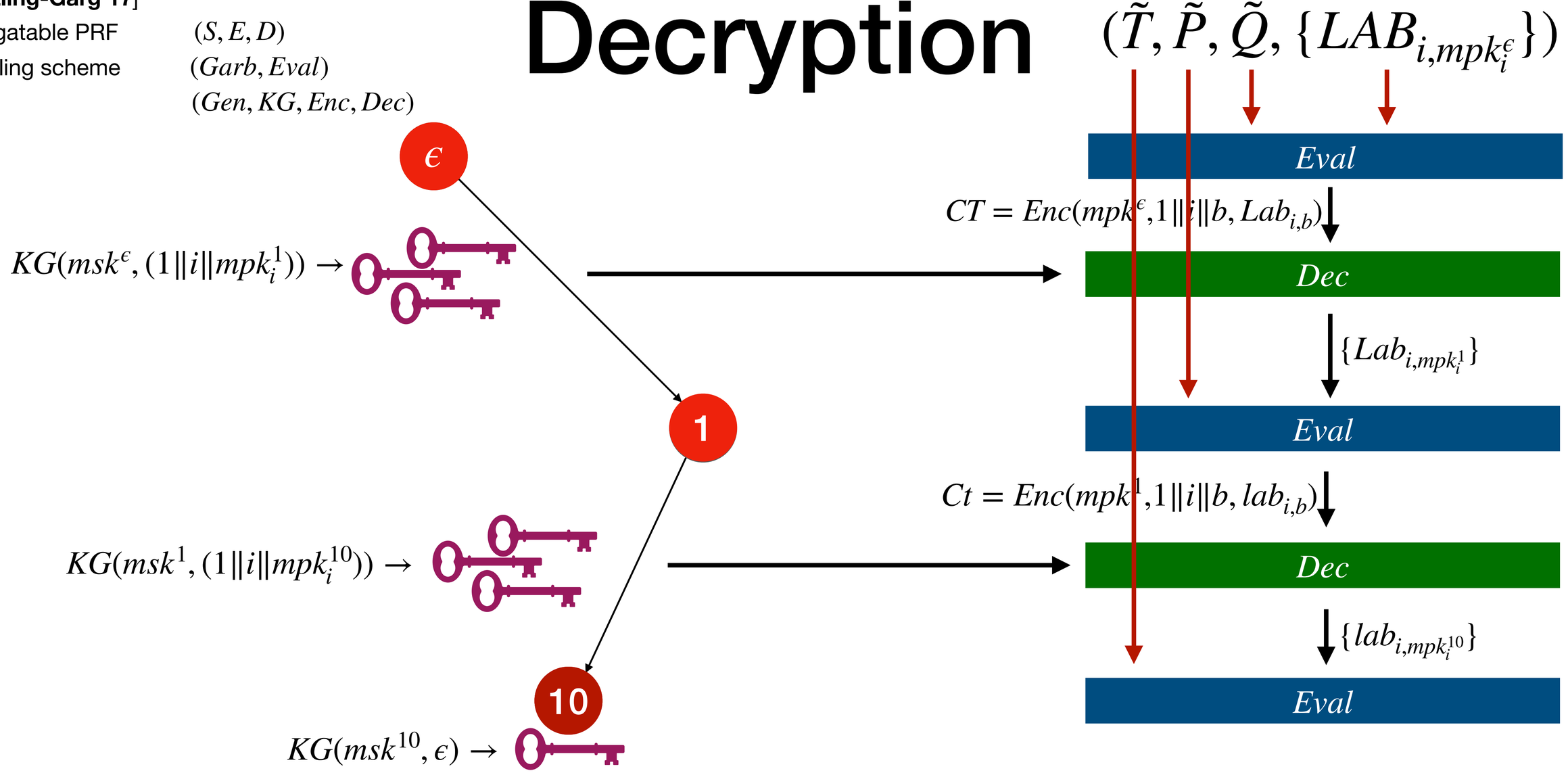

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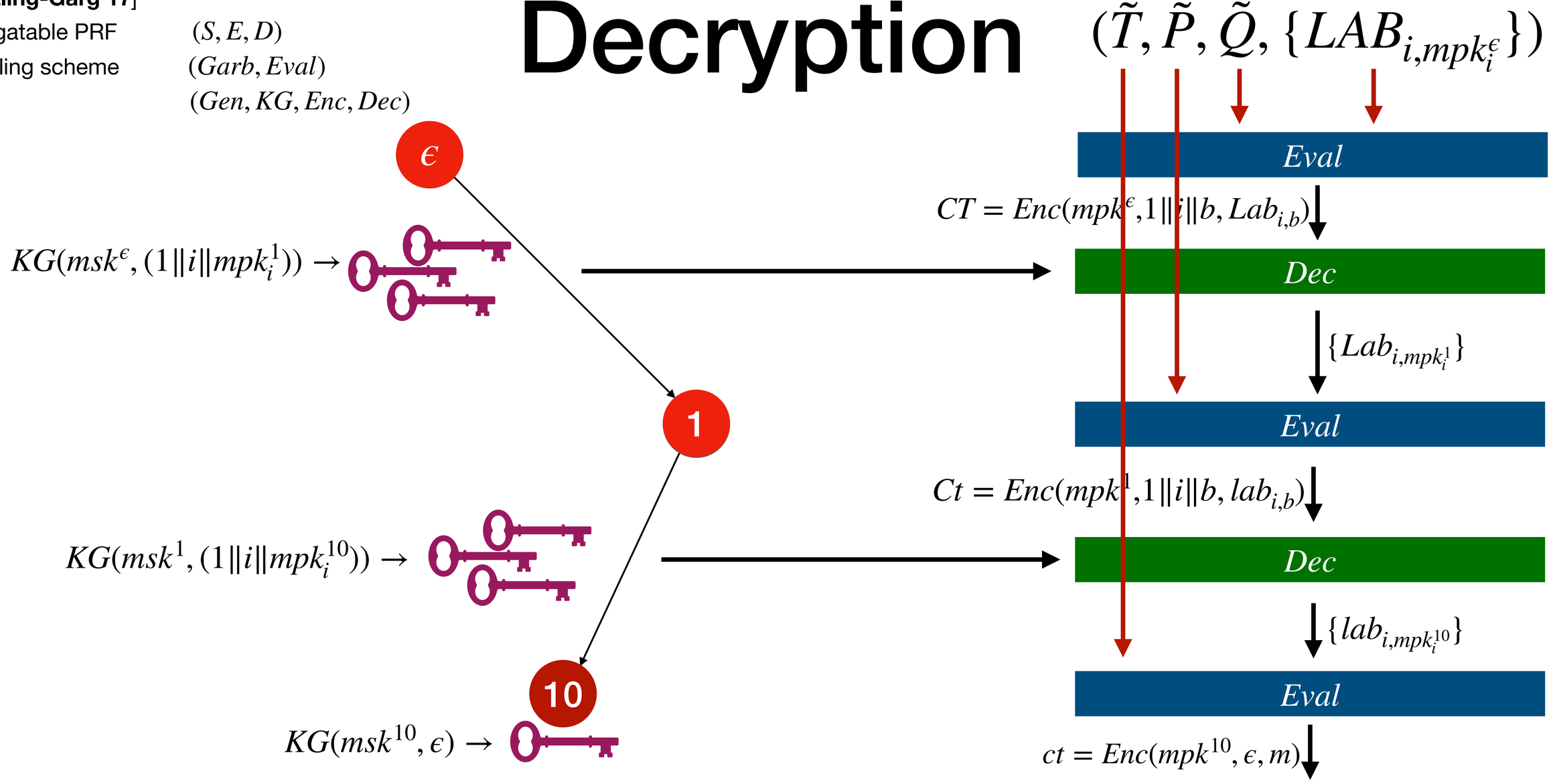

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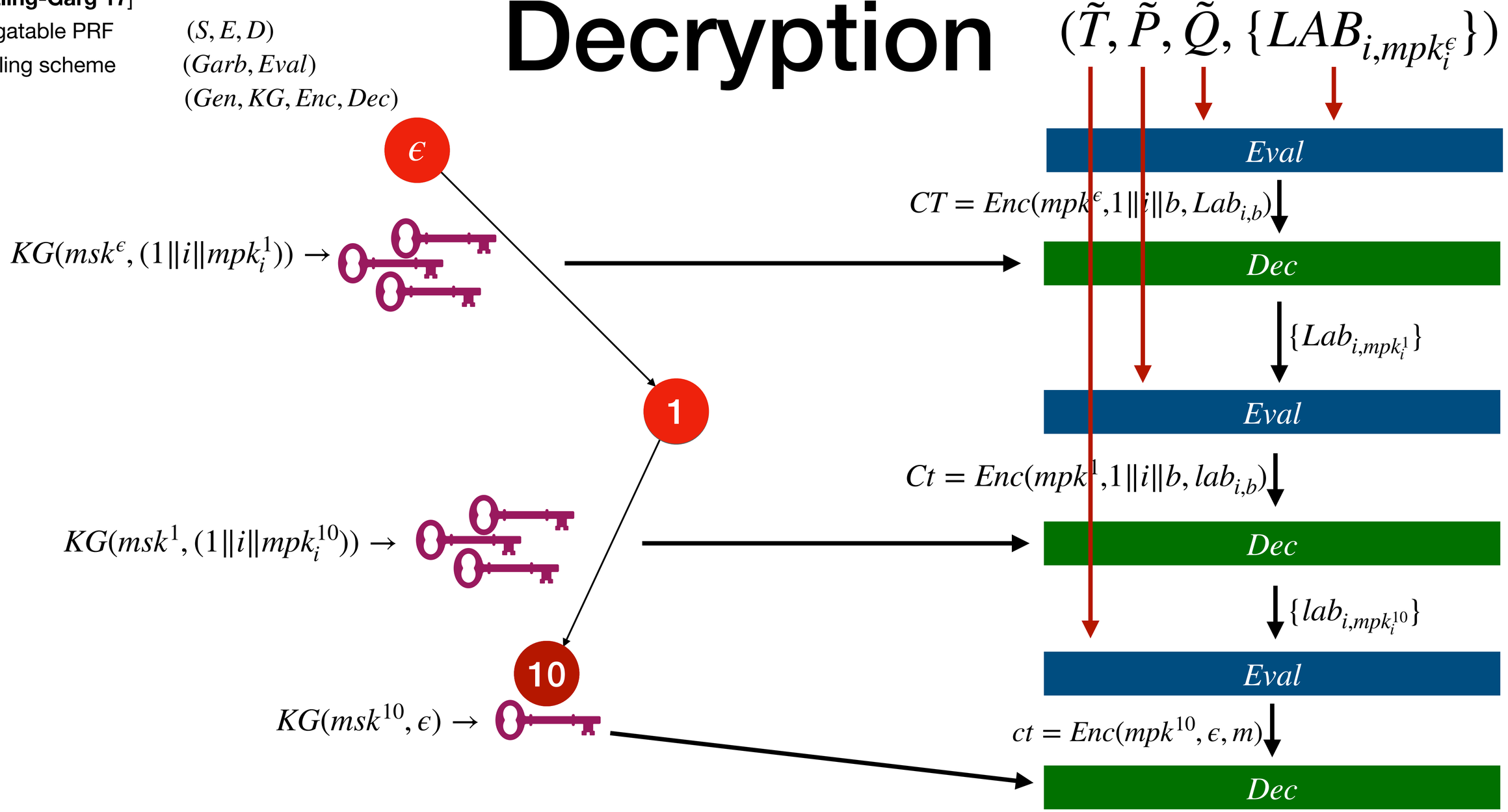

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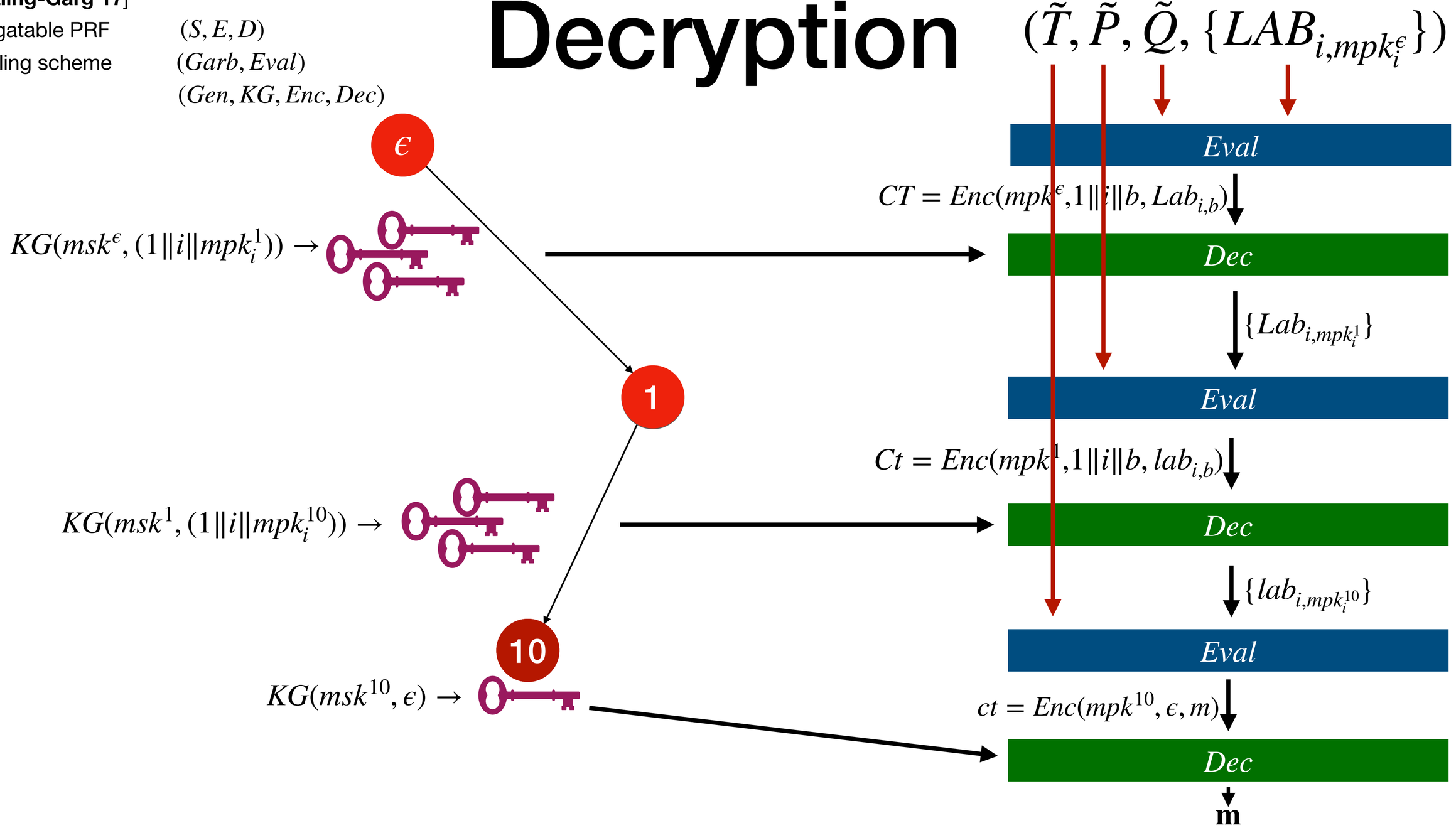

Selective Security of DG17 [Döttling-Garg'17]

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$$(\tilde{Q}, LAB_{i,b}) \leftarrow Garb(P_{'1'}, \{Lab_{i,b}\})$$

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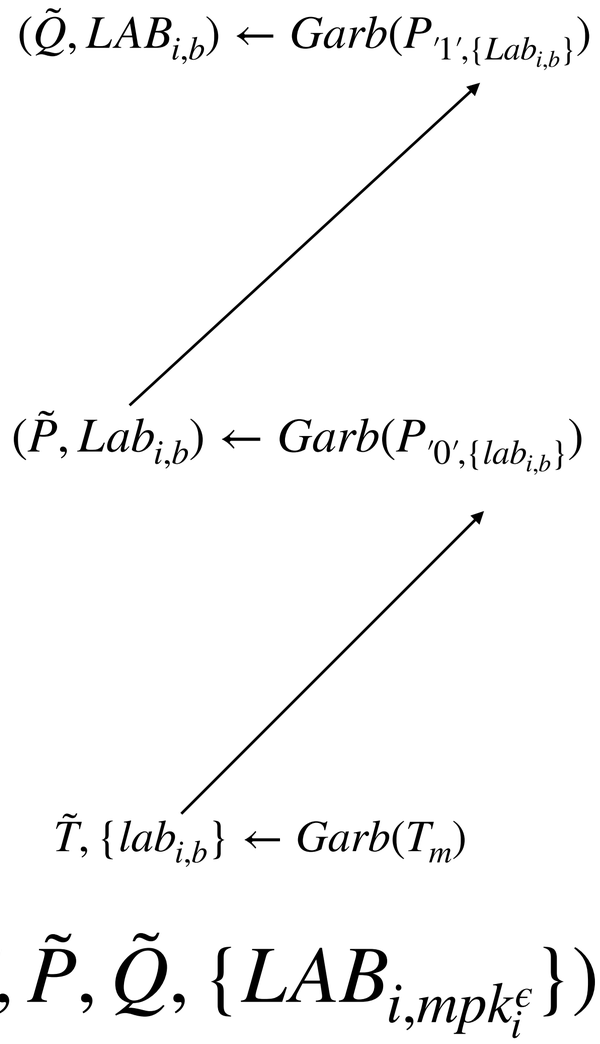

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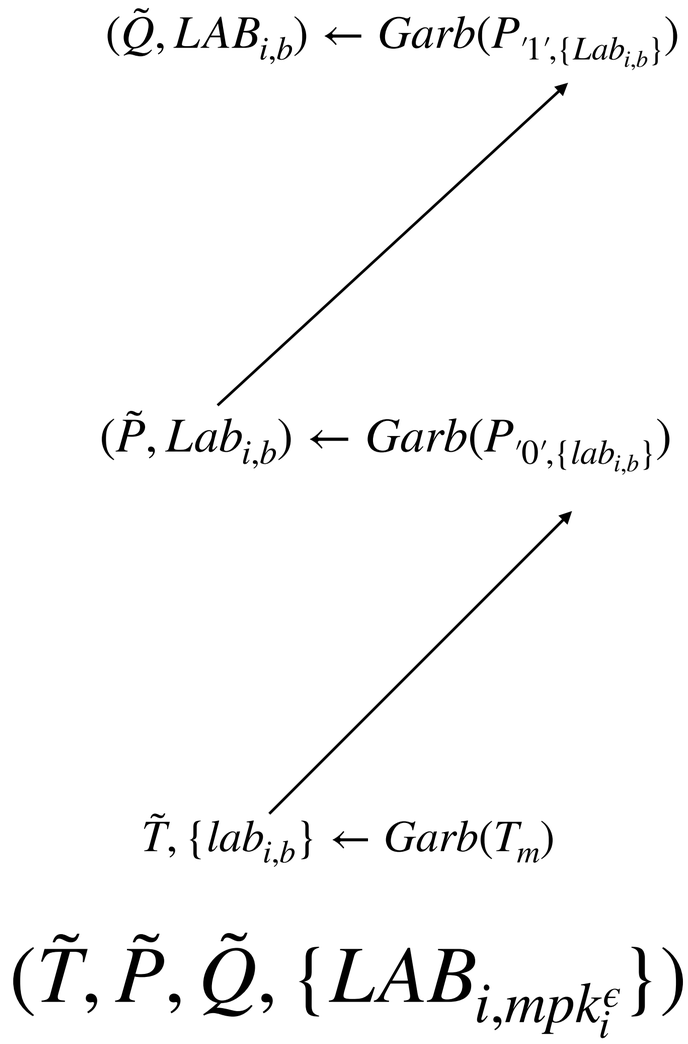

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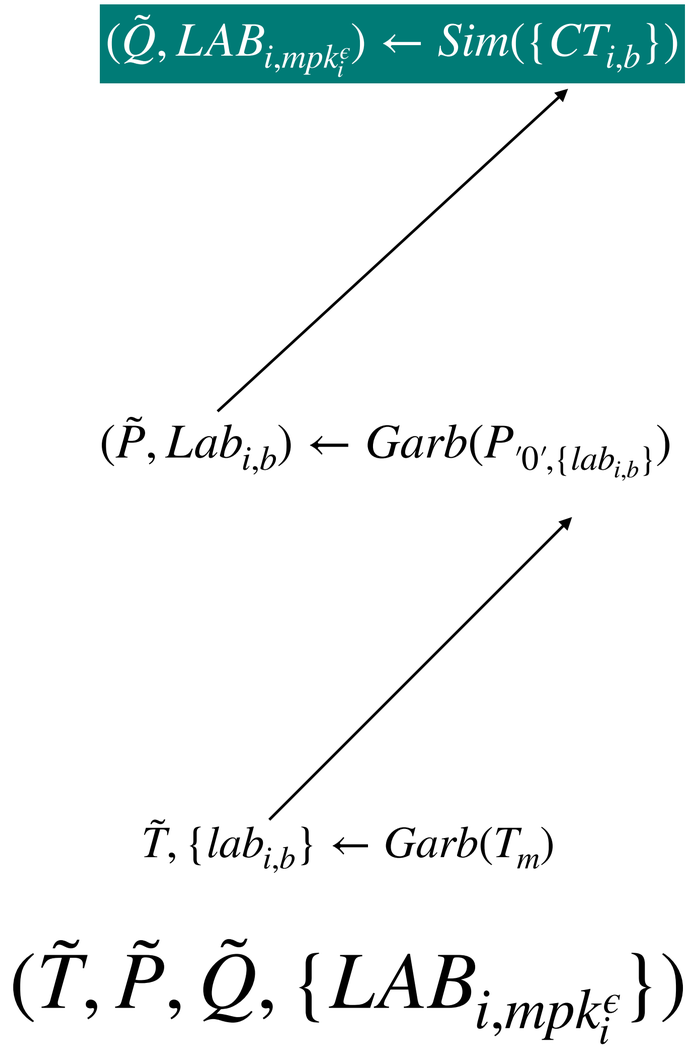

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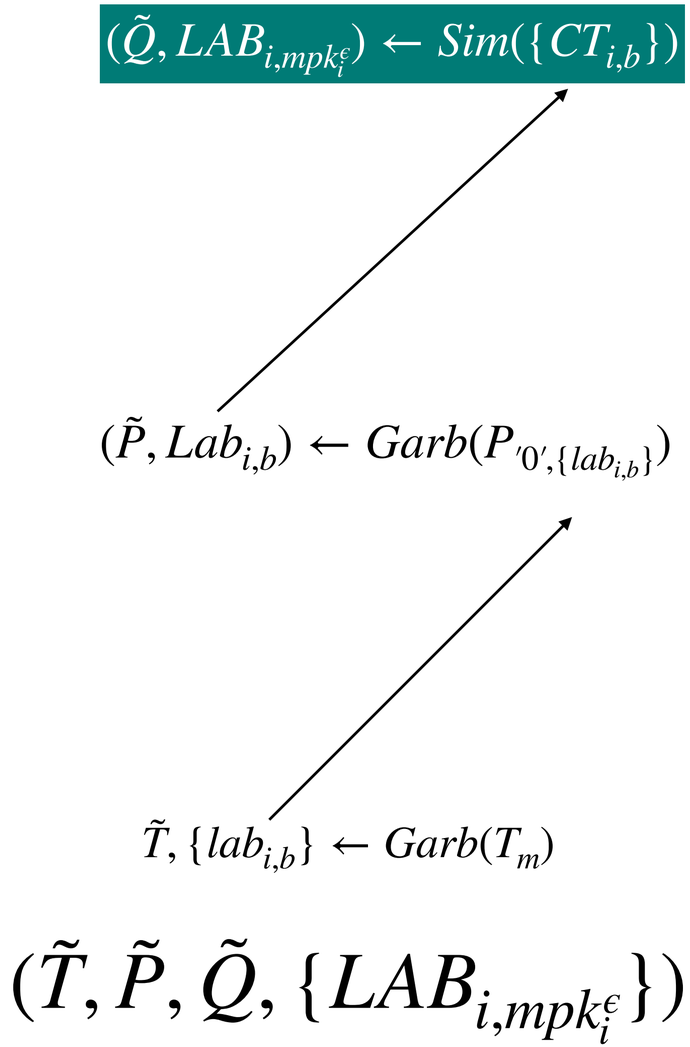

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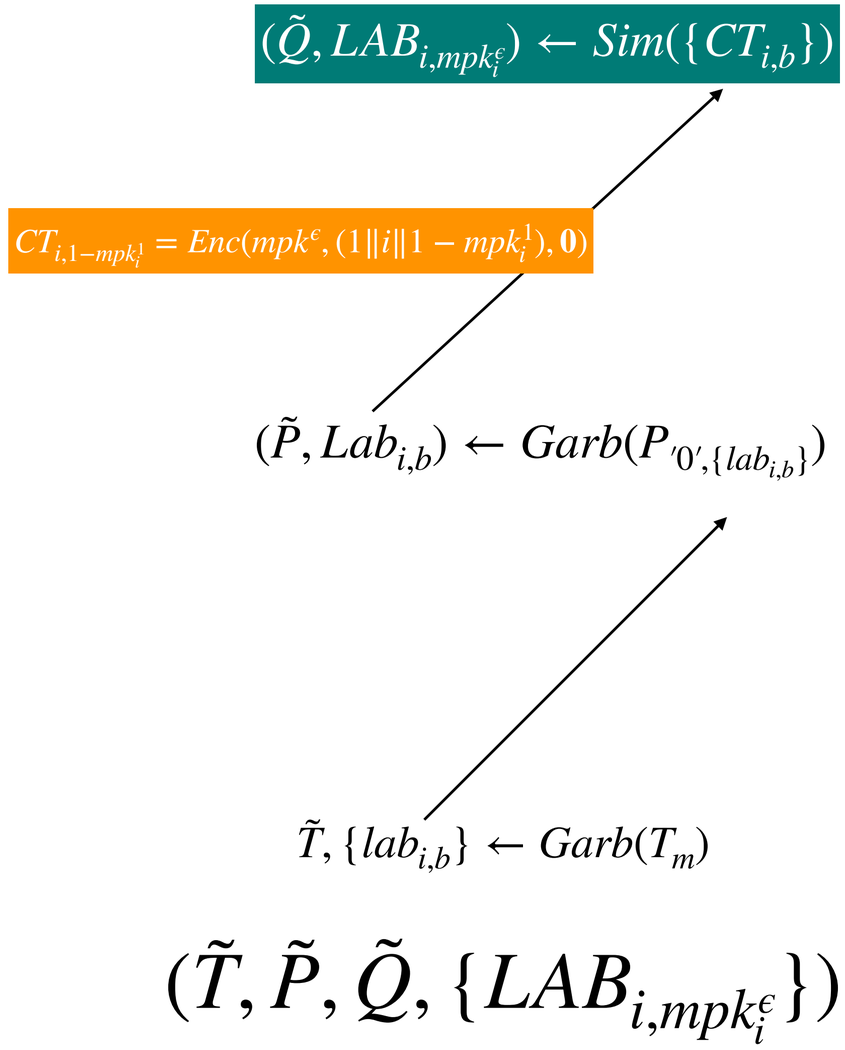

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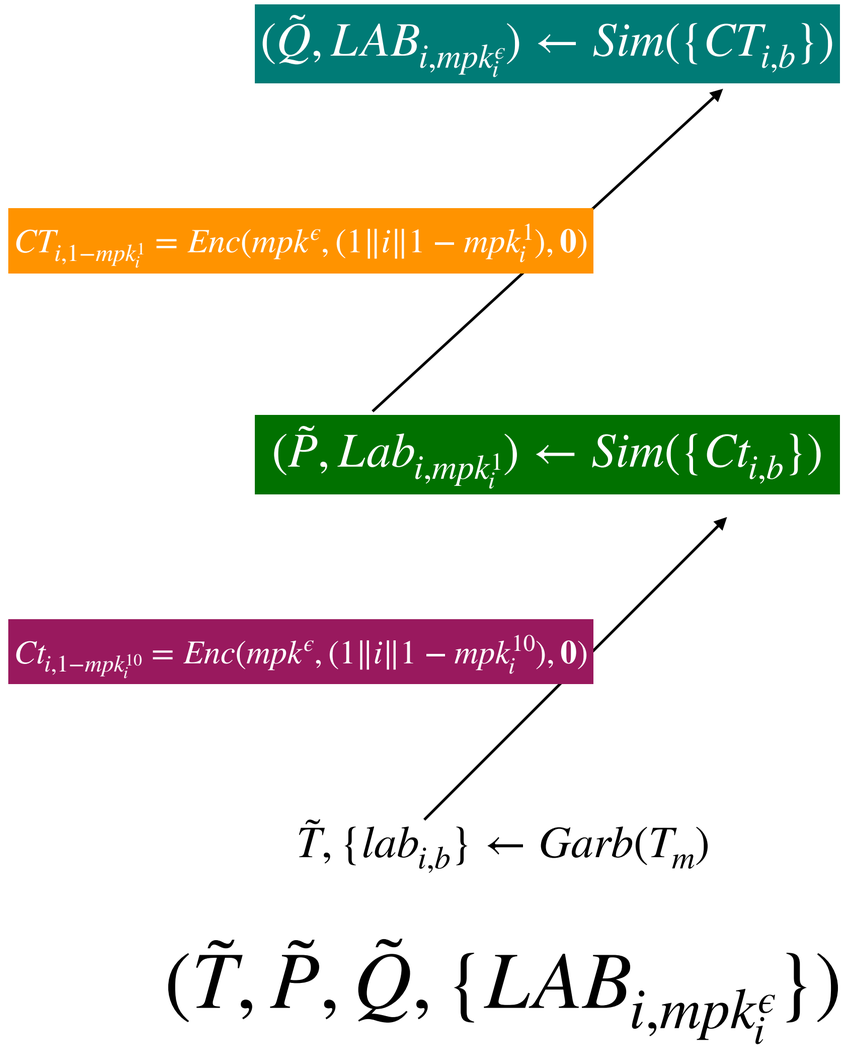

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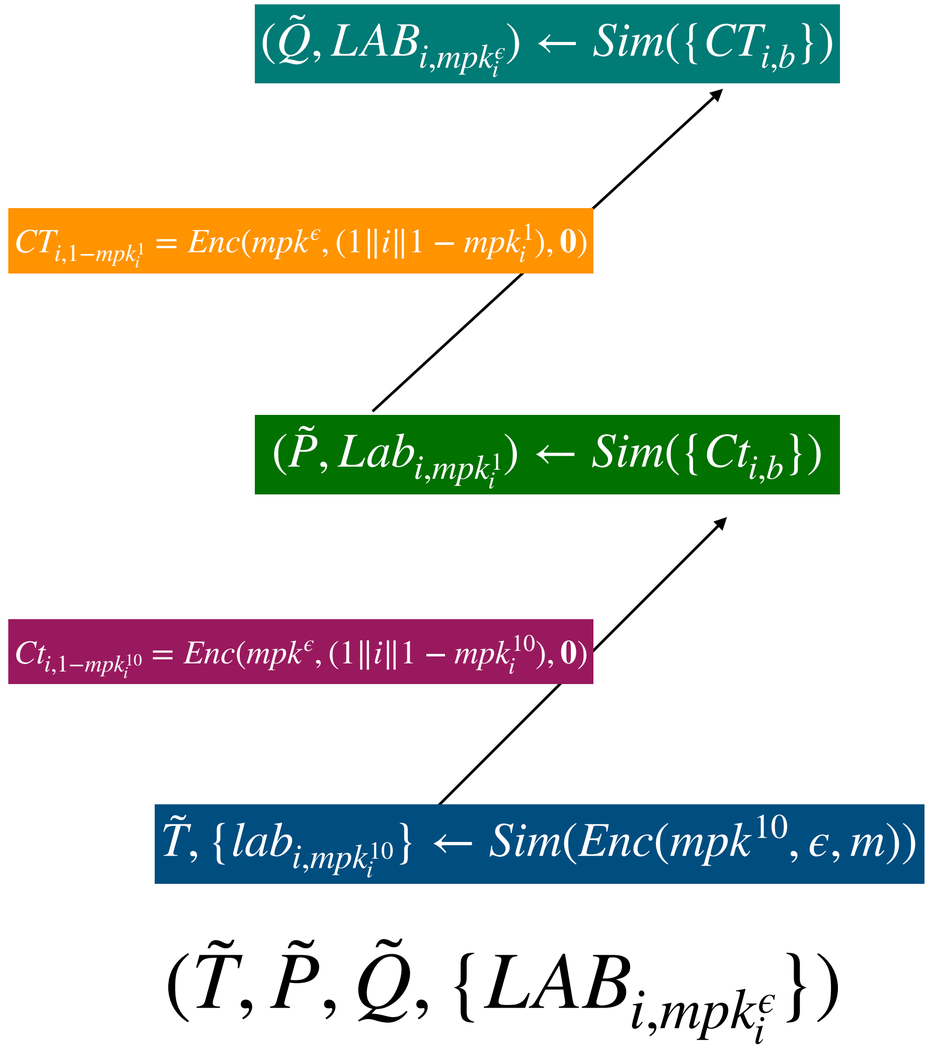

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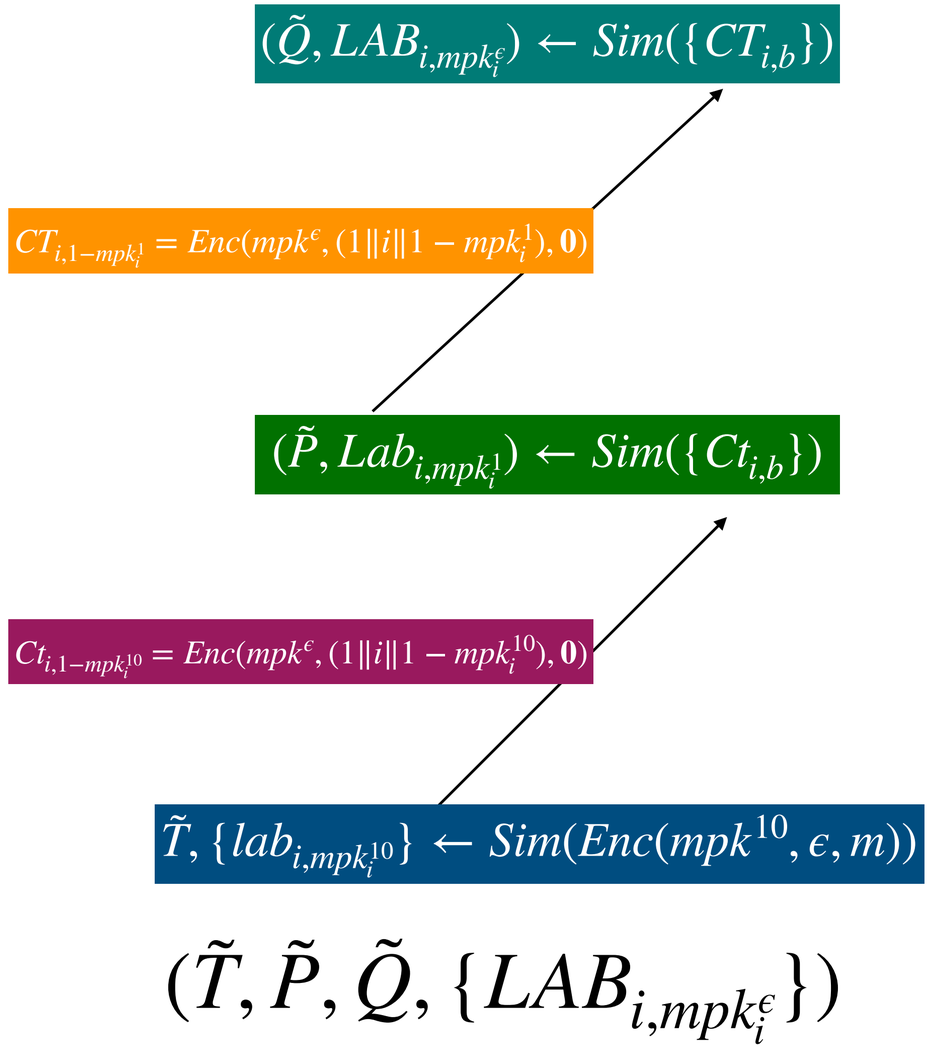

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  - Hofheinz, Kastner, and Klein used *rewinding-based* proof technique to prove adaptive security of GGM PRF.

Challenges for Adaptive Security

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  - Hofheinz, Kastner, a… … proof technique to prove adaptive security of dual PRF

Does this/similar techniques help us in building HIBE?

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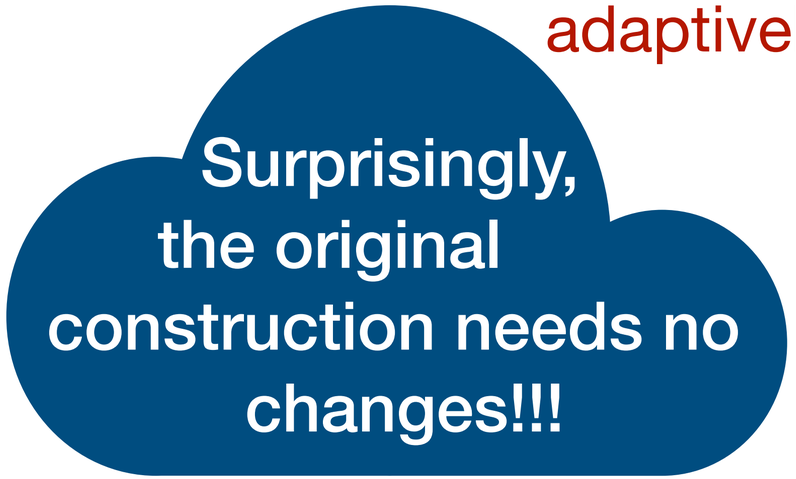

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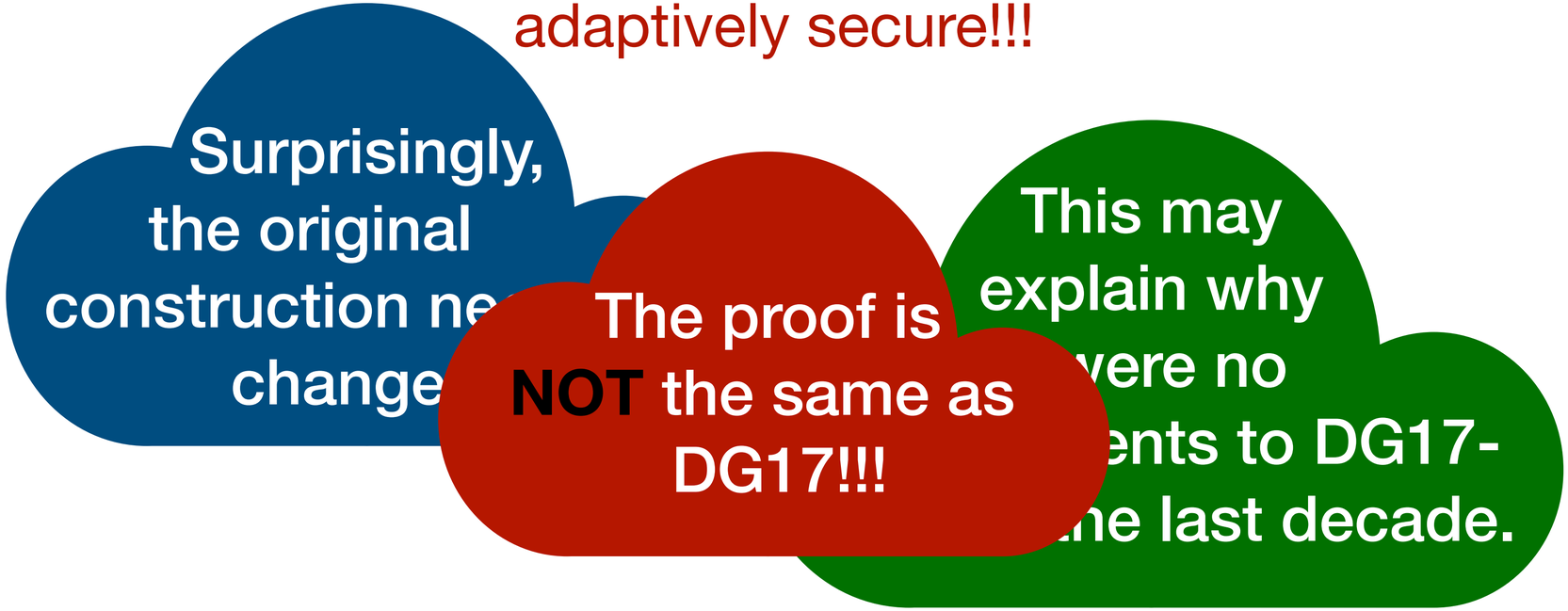

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Nested Hybrids & Pebbling-style strategy

New Proof Strategy – High Level Sketch

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Pebbling strategy
[Hemenway-Jafargholi-Ostrovsky-Scafuro-Wichs'16]
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[Hohenberger-Waters'10,Fuchsbauer-Konstantinov-Pietrzak-Rao'14,Fuchsbauer-Jafargholi-Pietrzak'15]

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Nested Hybrid → Depends on q - first key query that overlaps with $id^*[1:i]$

[Hohenberger-Waters'10,Fuchsbauer-Konstantinov-Pietrzak-Rao'14,Fuchsbauer-Jafargholi-Pietrzak'15]

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Current work by [Goyal-Yadugiri'25]

Thank You

https://mahe94.github.io

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