

# Multi-Holder Anonymous Credentials from BBS Signatures

Andrea Flamini



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# Anonymous Credentials (ACs)<sub>[Cha83, CL01]</sub>

Privacy preserving digital credentials whose authorship can be cryptographically verified

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**Verifier**  
(Service Provider)



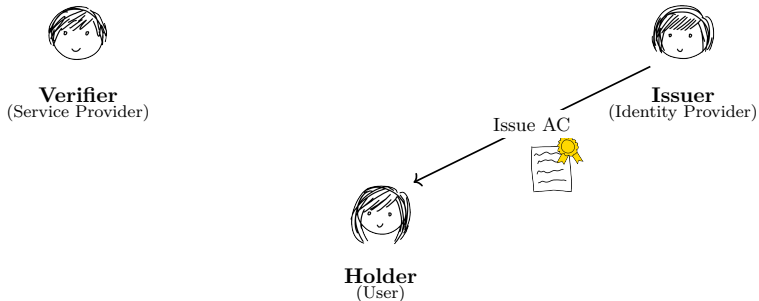
**Issuer**  
(Identity Provider)



**Holder**  
(User)

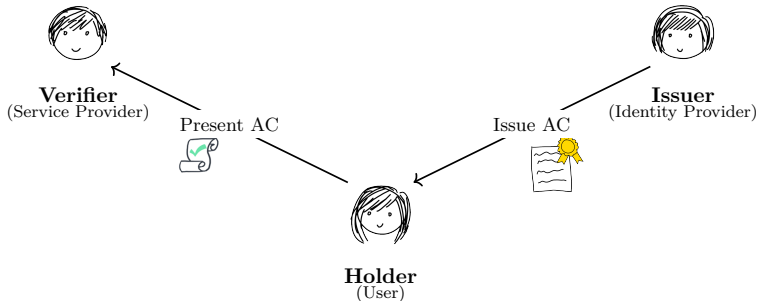
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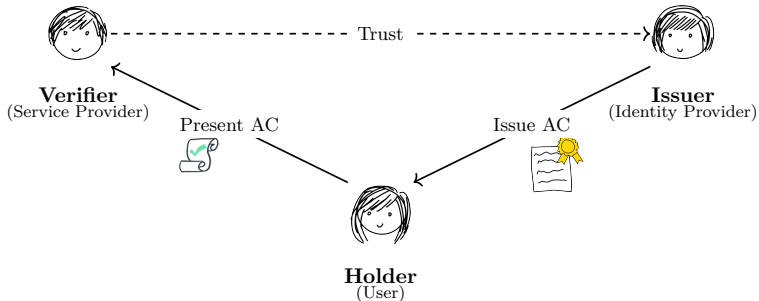
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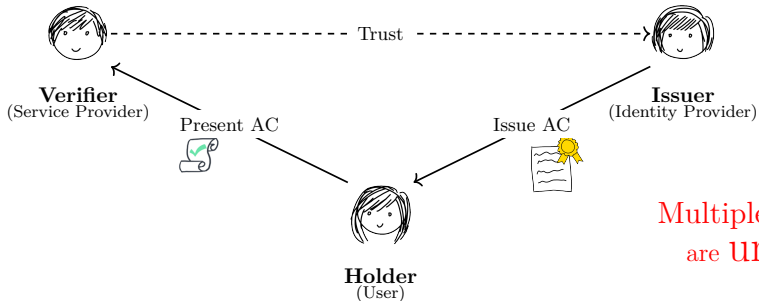
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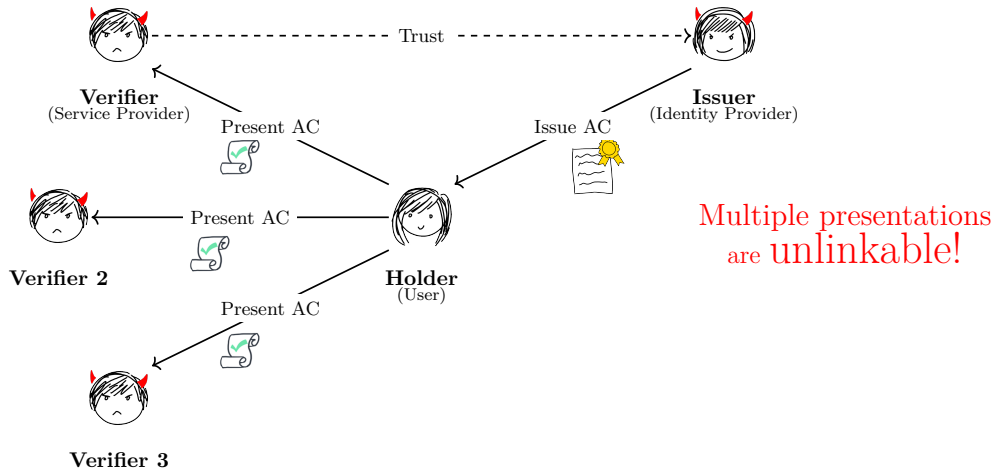
Privacy preserving digital credentials whose authorship can be cryptographically verified



Multiple presentations  
are **unlinkable!**

# Anonymous Credentials (ACs) [Cha83, CL01]

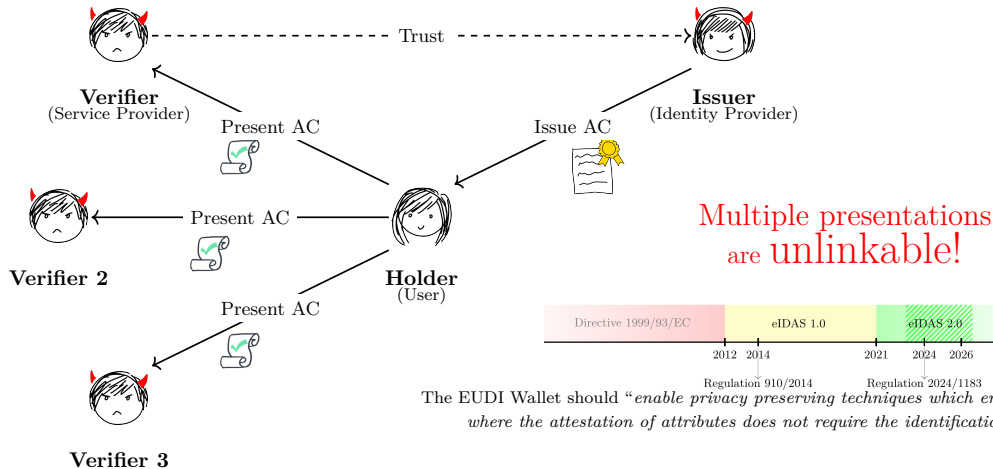
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# Anonymous Credentials (ACs) [Cha83, CL01]

Privacy preserving digital credentials whose authorship can be cryptographically verified



# The CL Framework [CL02]



A signature scheme with efficient NIZKPoK

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A signature scheme with efficient NIZKPoK



**Verifier**



**Issuer** ( $sk_{iss}, pk_{iss}$ )



**Holder**

# The CL Framework [CL02]



A signature scheme with efficient NIZKPoK



**Verifier**



**Issuer** ( $sk_{\text{Iss}}, pk_{\text{Iss}}$ )

$$\sigma \xleftarrow{\$} \text{Sign}((a_1, \dots, a_m), sk_{\text{Iss}})$$



$$\text{cred} = \sigma, \{a_i\}_{i \in [m]}$$



**Holder**

# The CL Framework [CL02]



A signature scheme with efficient NIZKPoK



Verifier



Issuer ( $sk_{\text{Iss}}, pk_{\text{Iss}}$ )

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A signature scheme with efficient NIZKPoK



Verifier



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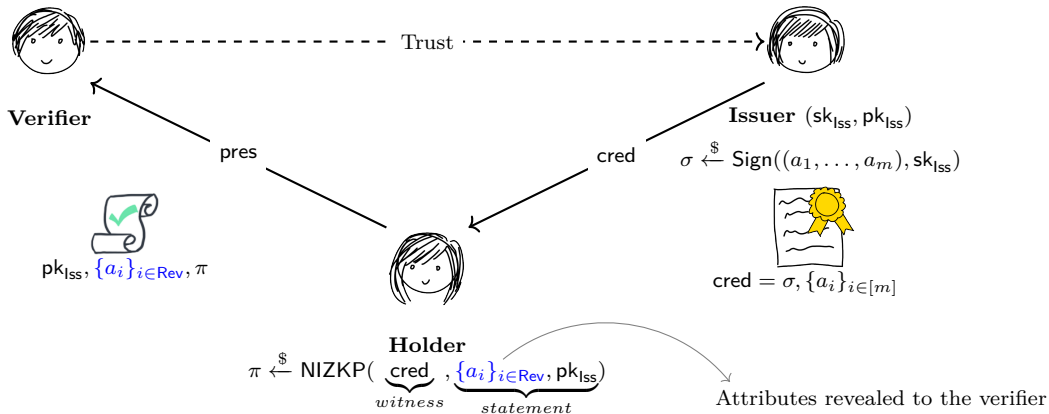
$$\pi \xleftarrow{\$} \text{NIZKP}(\underbrace{\text{cred}}_{\text{witness}}, \underbrace{\{a_i\}_{i \in \text{Rev}}}_{\text{statement}}, pk_{Iss})$$

Attributes revealed to the verifier

# The CL Framework [CL02]



A signature scheme with efficient NIZKPoK



# Multi-Holder Anonymous Credentials (MHAC)

(Our first contribution)

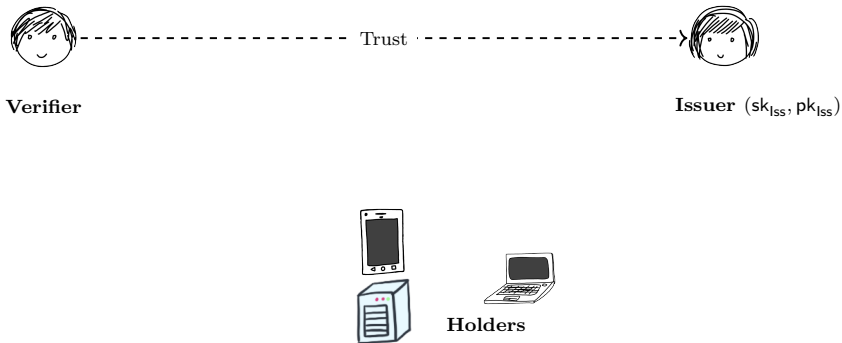


# Motivation and Intuition

Increase the security of storage of anonymous credentials to prevent identity theft

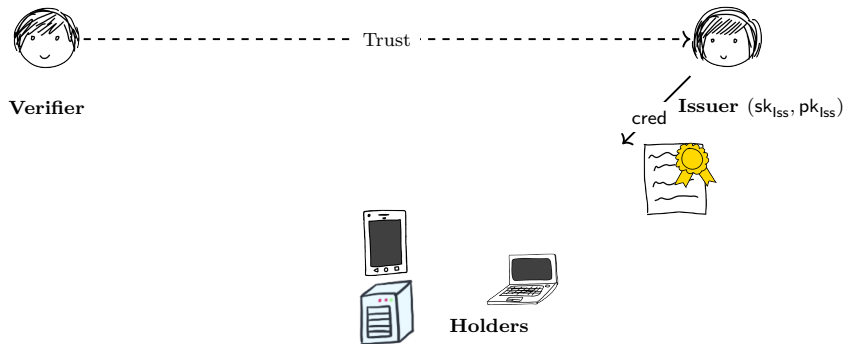
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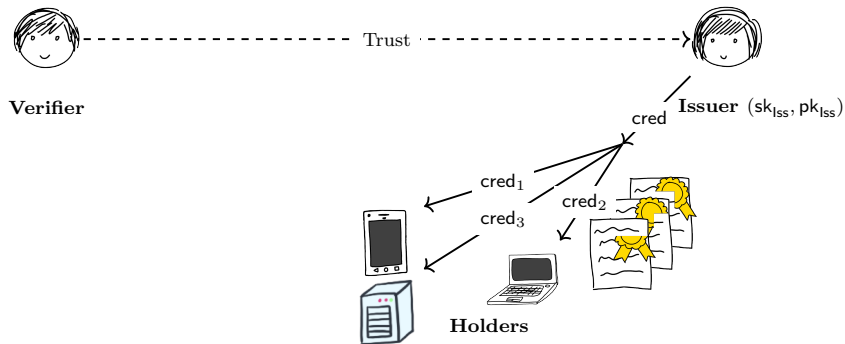
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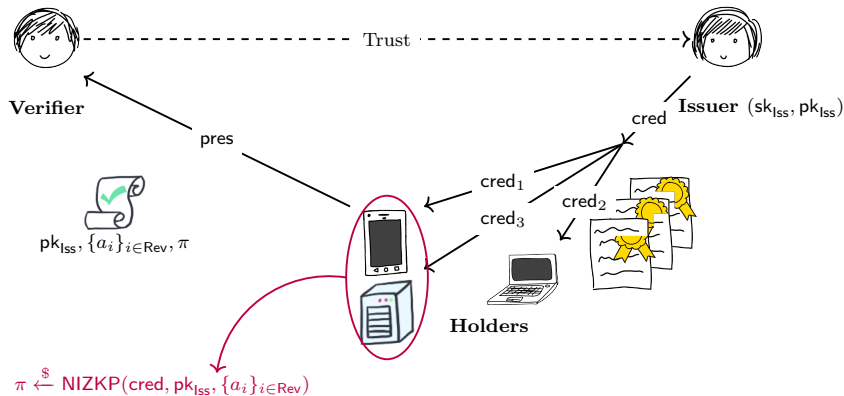
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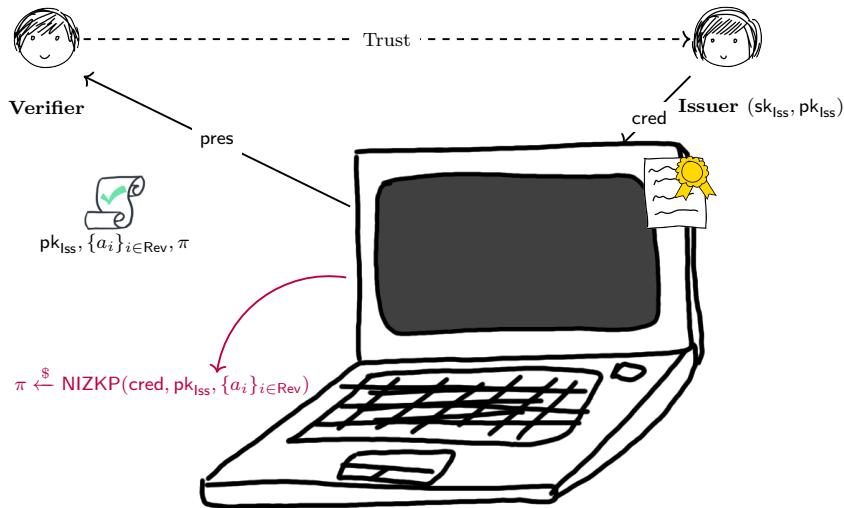
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# Security and Privacy Properties

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Correctness



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Unforgeability of presentations

# Security and Privacy Properties

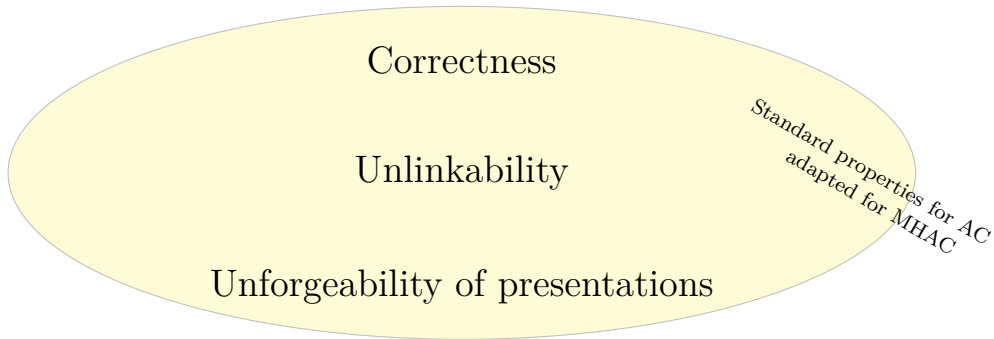


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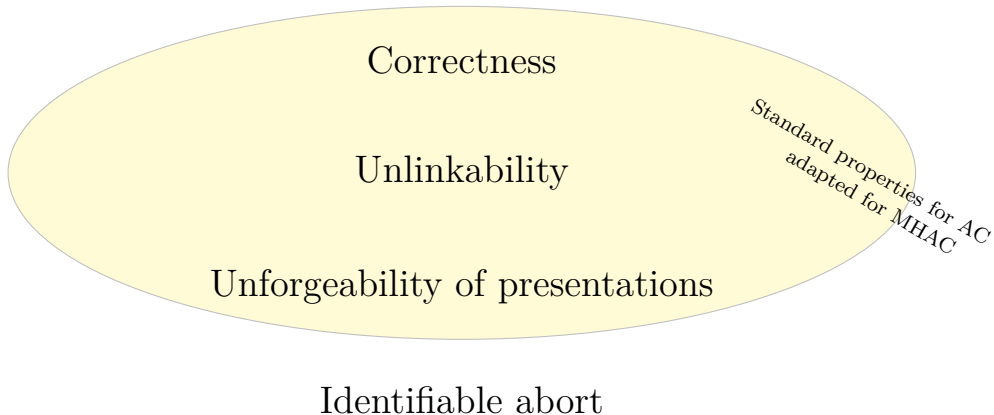
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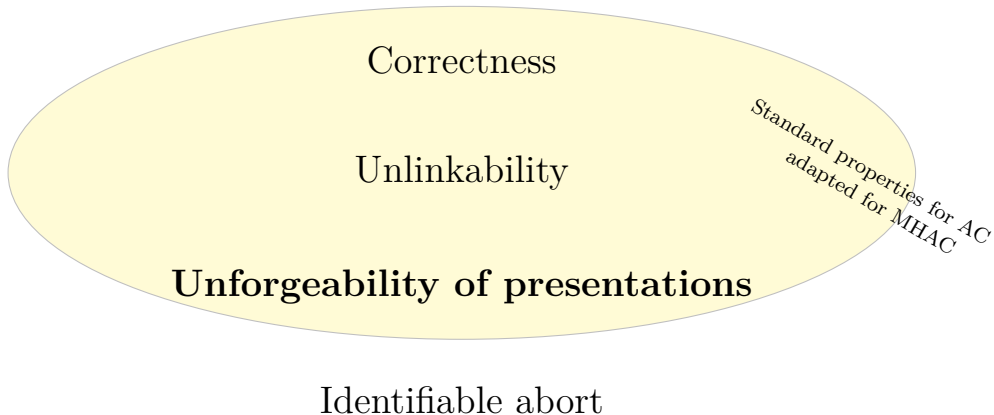
# Security and Privacy Properties



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# Unforgeability Experiment



**Adversary**



**Challenger**

# Unforgeability Experiment

Setup



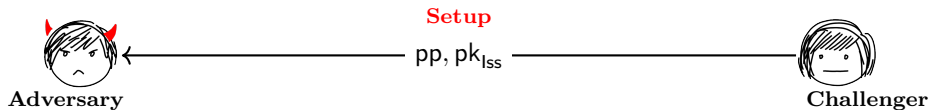
Adversary



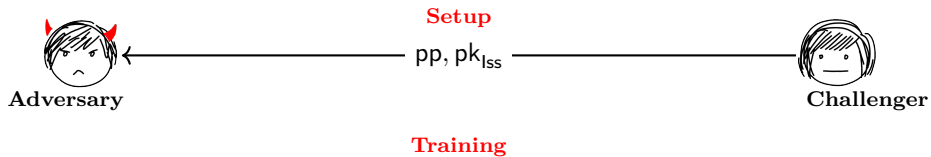
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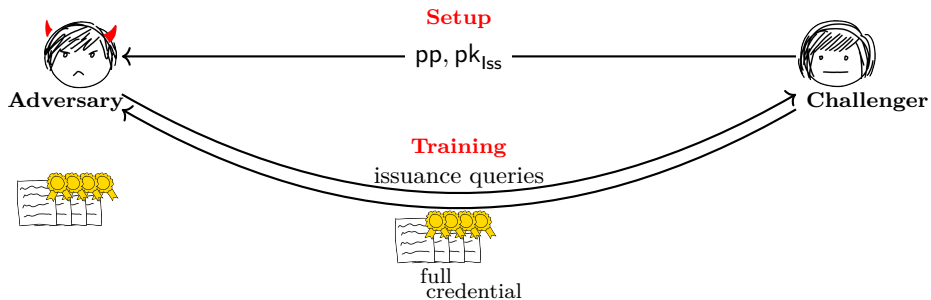
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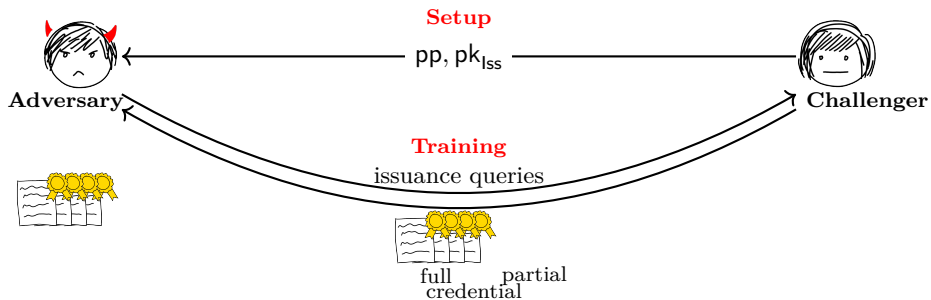
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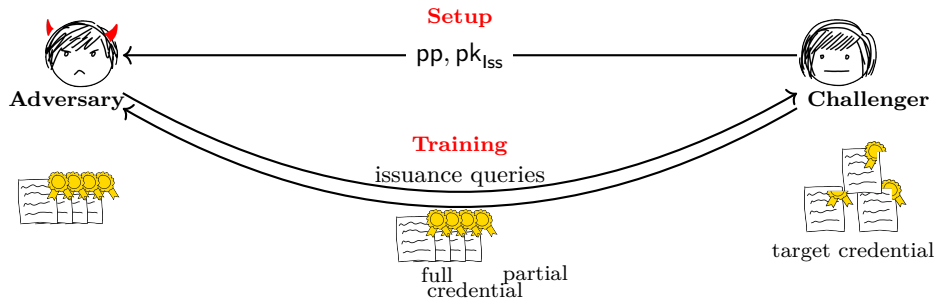
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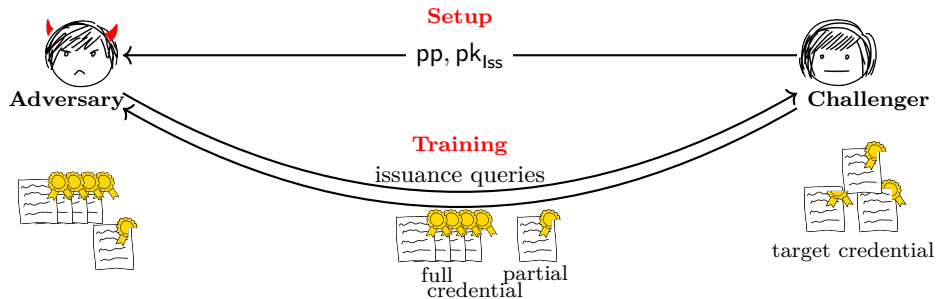
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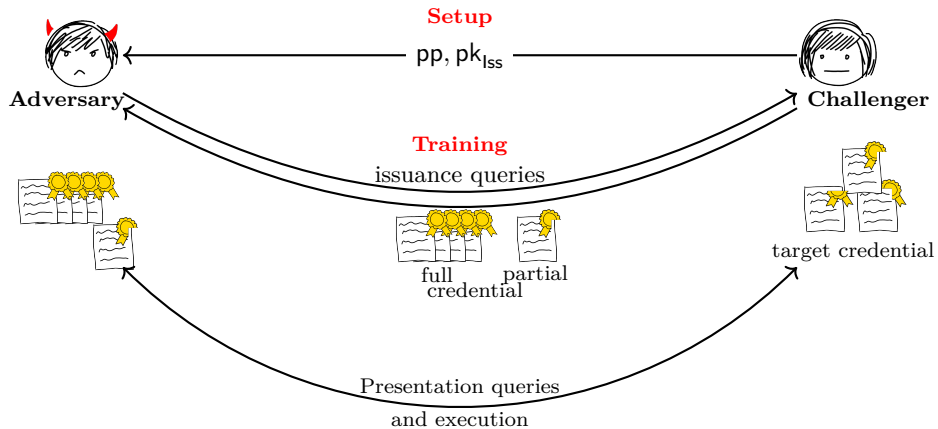
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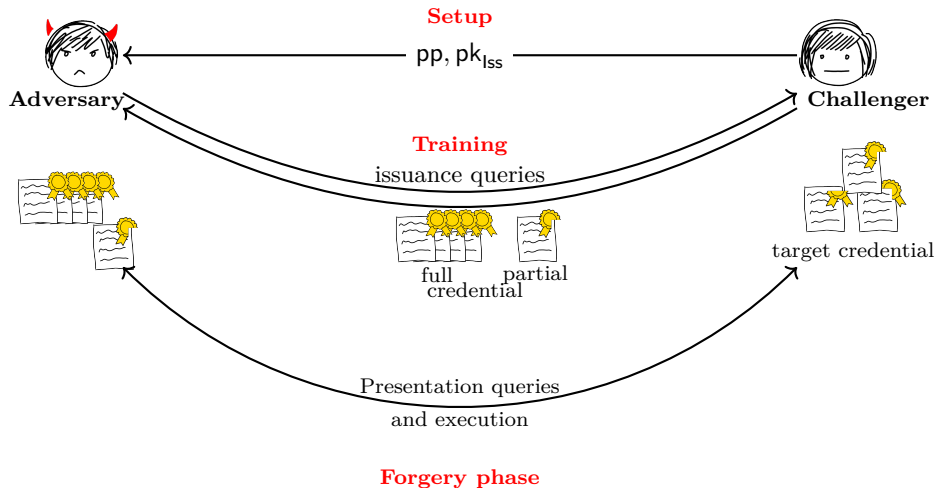
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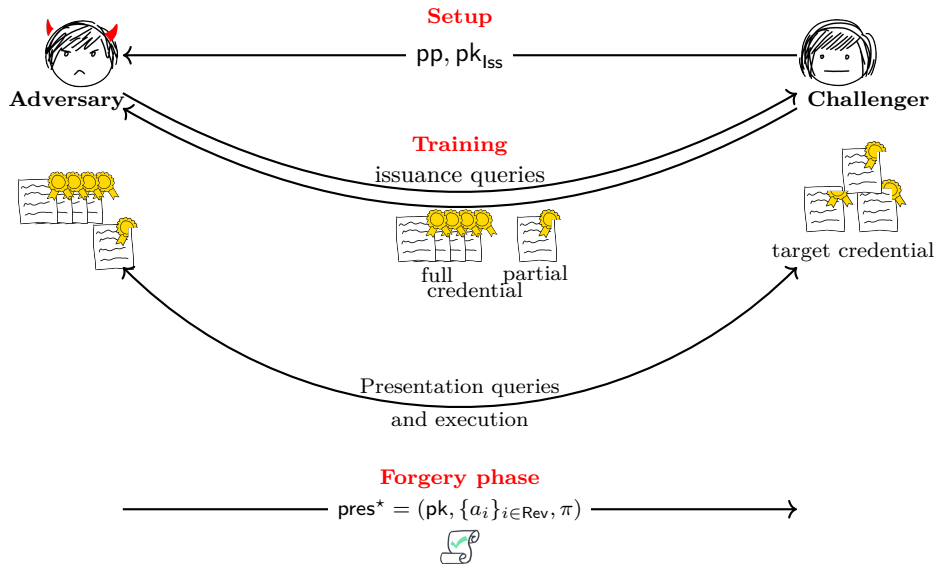


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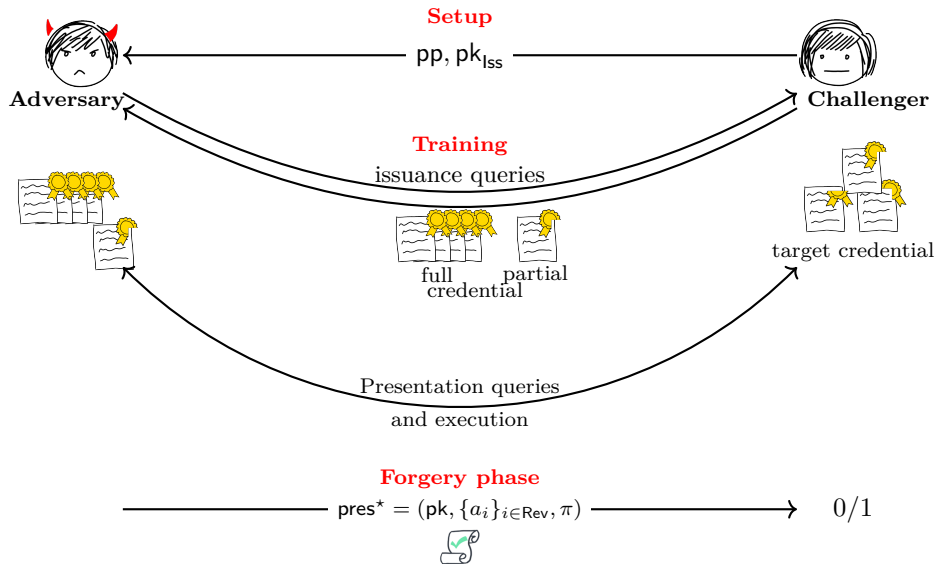




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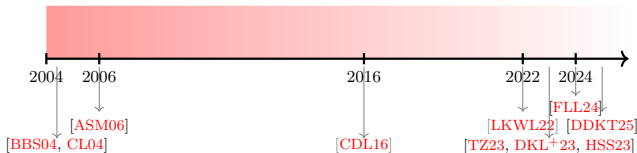


# BBS Anonymous Credentials

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## Why BBS?

- multi-message signature
- compact public keys
- efficient signature and NIZKP



## Standardization effort by DIF and IRTF

Workgroup: CFRG  
Internet-Draft: draft-irtf-cfrg-bbs-signatures-latest  
Published: 3 March 2025  
Intended Status: Informational  
Expires: 4 September 2025  
Authors: T. Looker V. Kalos A. Whitehead M. Lodder  
MATTR MATTR Portage CryptID

## The BBS Signature Scheme

# BBS Issuance

(For a single attribute  $a_1$ )

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## Setup

$p$ -order groups  $\mathbb{G}_1 = \langle g_1 \rangle$ ,  $\mathbb{G}_2 = \langle g_2 \rangle$ ,  $\mathbb{G}_T$ , and pairing  $\mathbf{e} : \mathbb{G}_1 \times \mathbb{G}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_T$

$$\mathbf{pp} = h_1 \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{G}_1 \quad x \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p \quad (\mathbf{sk}_{\text{Iss}}, \mathbf{pk}_{\text{Iss}}) \leftarrow (x, g_2^x)$$

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## Issuance

$$C(a_1) \leftarrow g_1 h_1^{a_1} \quad e \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p \quad A \leftarrow (C(a_1))^{\frac{1}{x+e}}$$

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(For a single attribute  $a_1$ )

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$\text{cred} \leftarrow \left( \underbrace{(A, e)}_{\text{BBS signature}}, a_1 \right)$



# BBS Presentation<sub>[TZ23]</sub>

(full disclosure)

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Presentation for  $(pk_{\text{ISS}}, a_1)$  of  $\text{cred} = ((A, e), a_1)$



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$pk_{\text{ISS}}, a_1$

—  $\overline{A}, \overline{B}, U$  —→

← ch —

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- $\pi \leftarrow (\overline{A}, \overline{B}, U, \text{ch}, z_r, z_e)$

$$C(a_1) = g_1 h_1^{a_1} \leftarrow$$



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$$C(a_1) = g_1 h_1^{a_1} \leftarrow$$

$$\text{pres} \leftarrow (\pi, \underbrace{a_1, pk_{\text{ISS}}}_{\text{statement}})$$



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# A MHAC compatible with BBS

(Our second contribution)

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*Crucial observation: giving to each holder  $A^e$  is just fine!*

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enables the identifiable abort property

simplifies the presentation protocol

can be made constant size

# BBS MHAC Presentation protocol



$$\text{cred}_i \leftarrow (A, e_i, A^e, \{A^{e_j}\}_{j \in [n]}, a_1)$$



$$\text{cred} \leftarrow ((A, e), a_1)$$



Multi-holder case  
Centralised case

$$\text{cred}_i \leftarrow (A, e_i, A^e, \{A^{e_j}\}_{j \in [n]}, a_1)$$



$$r \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$$



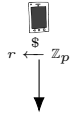
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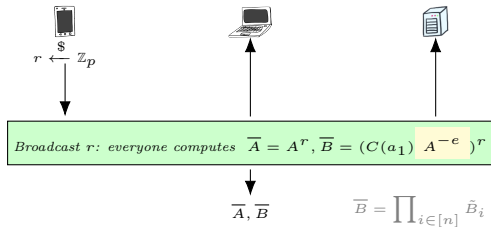
Broadcast  $r$ : everyone computes  $\bar{A} = A^r, \bar{B} = (C(a_1) \text{ } A^{-e})^r$

Multi-holder case  
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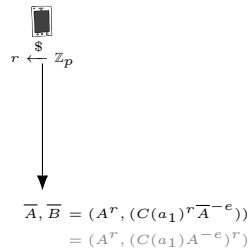


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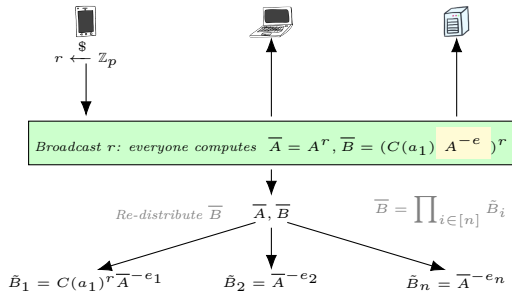


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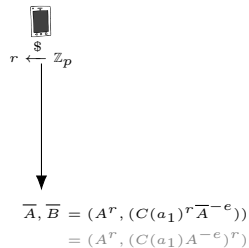


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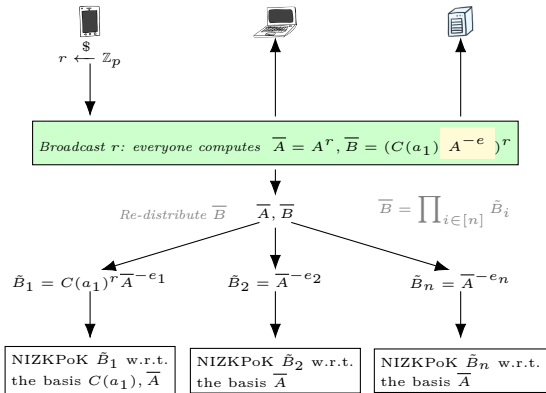


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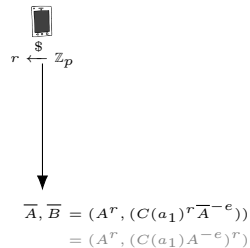


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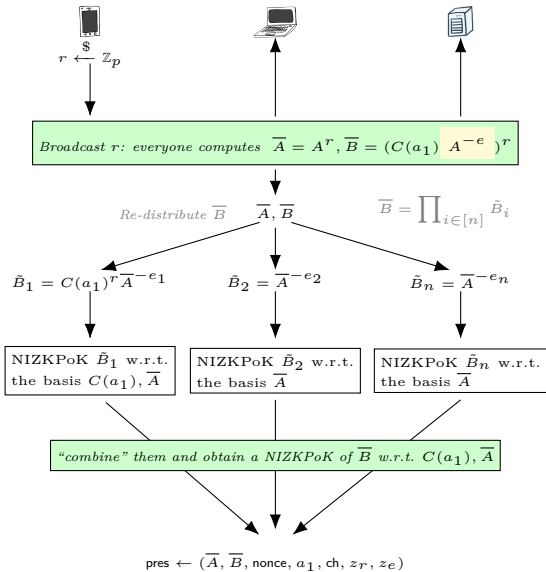


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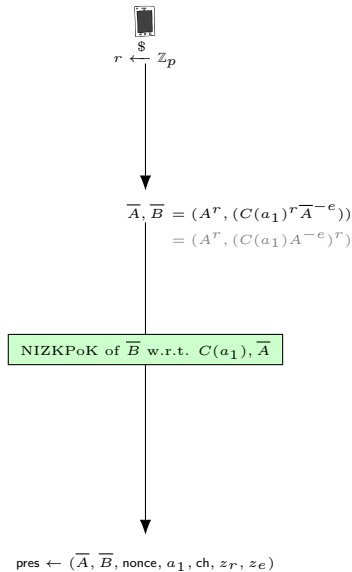


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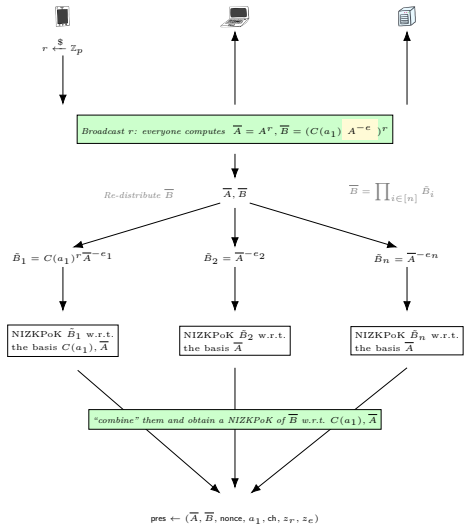


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# Unforgeability reduces to DL assumption

(When the adversary forges the target credential)

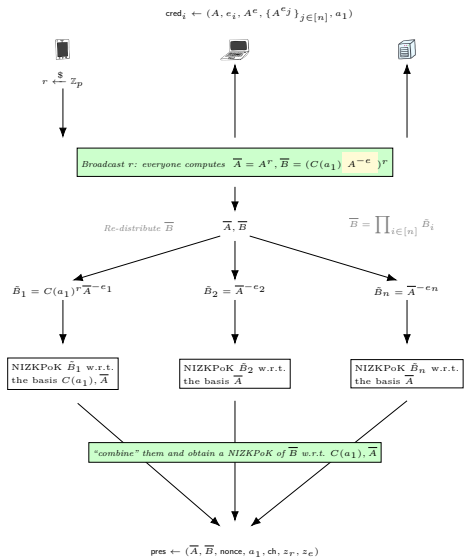


Reduction



DL challenger

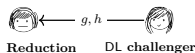


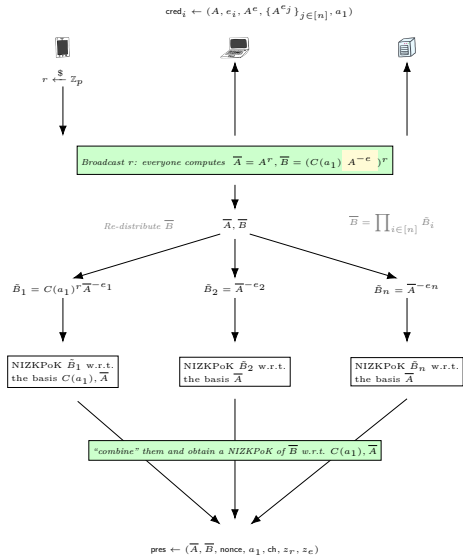


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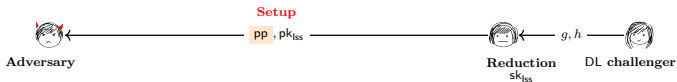
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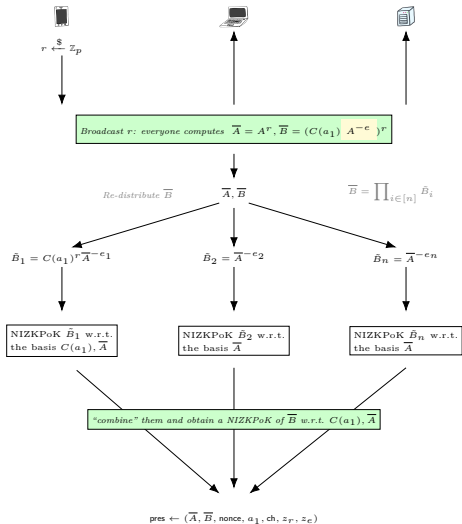




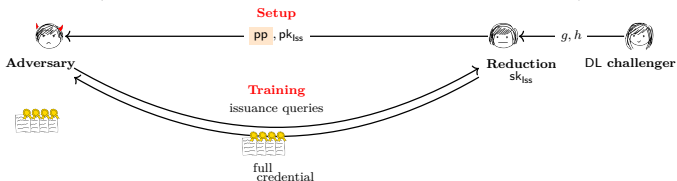
## Unforgeability reduces to DL assumption (When the adversary forges the target credential)

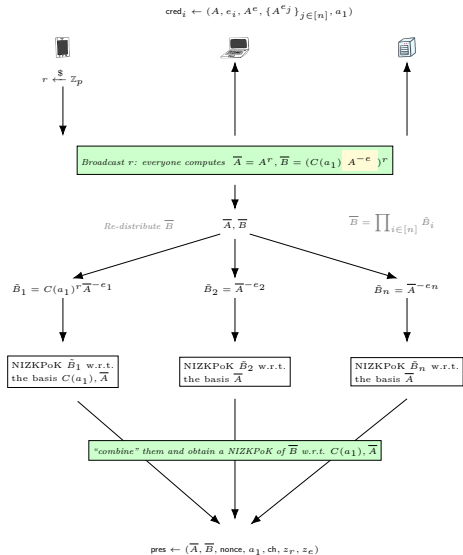


$$\text{cred}_i \leftarrow (A, e_i, A^e, \{A^{e_j}\}_{j \in [n]}, a_1)$$

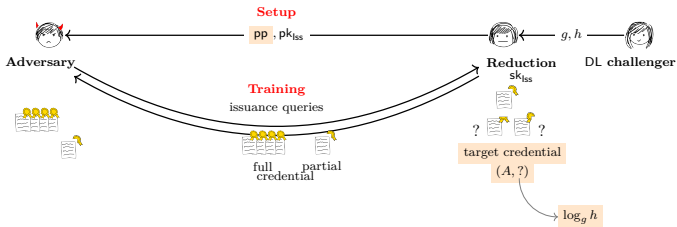


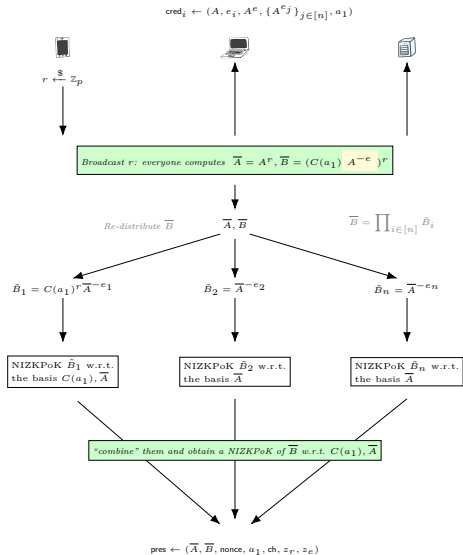
## Unforgeability reduces to DL assumption (When the adversary forges the target credential)



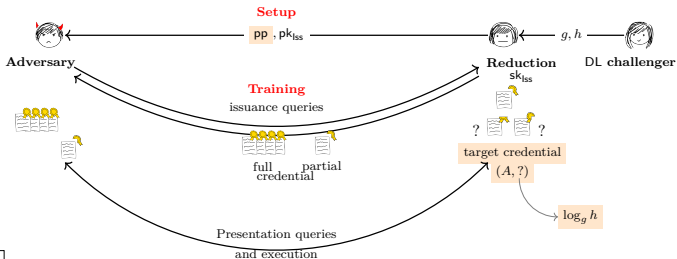


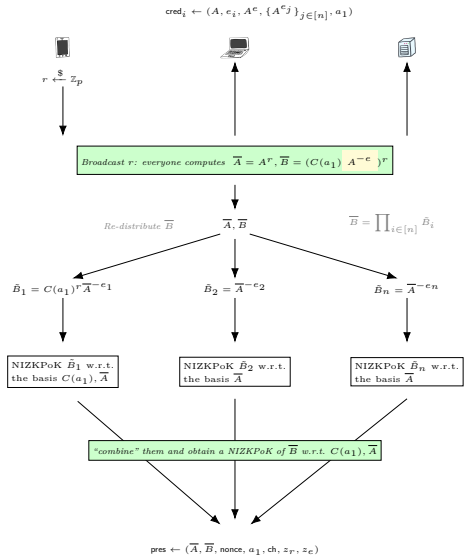
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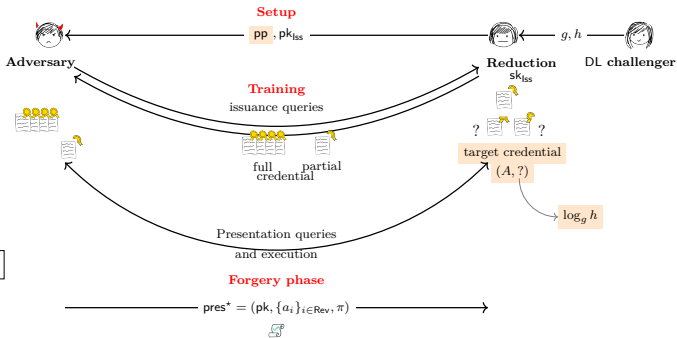


## Unforgeability reduces to DL assumption (When the adversary forges the target credential)

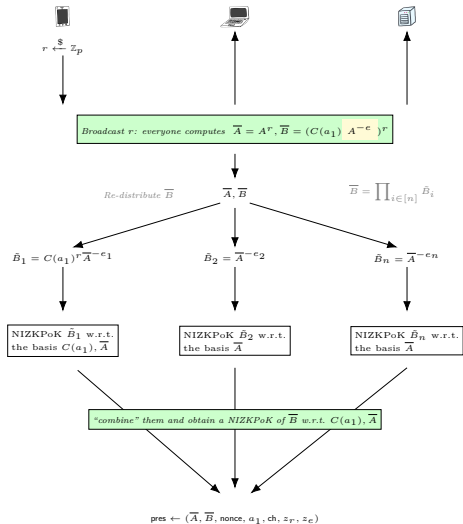




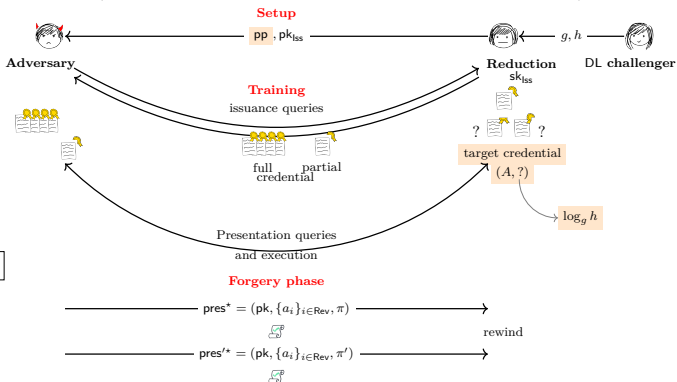
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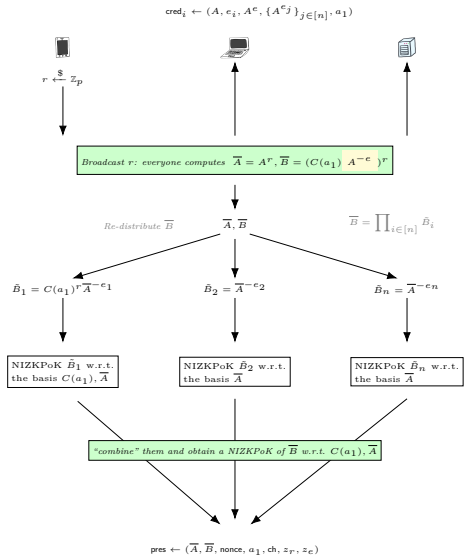


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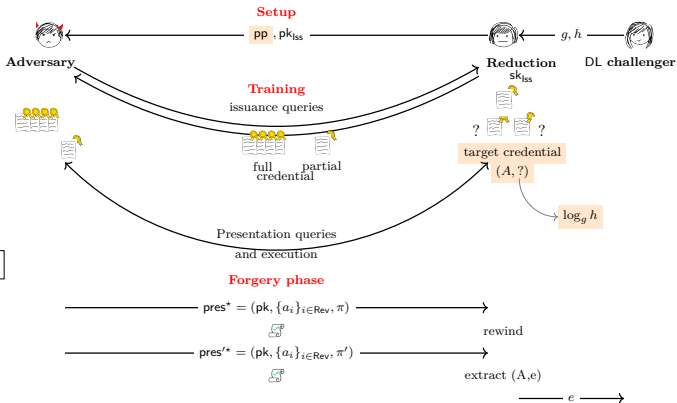


## Unforgeability reduces to DL assumption (When the adversary forges the target credential)





## Unforgeability reduces to DL assumption (When the adversary forges the target credential)





# Thank you for your attention!

to Eysa Lee for the Alice-and-Bobs illustrations

<https://github.com/eysalee/alice-and-bobs/tree/main>

and to the QUBIP European project for funding my trip here





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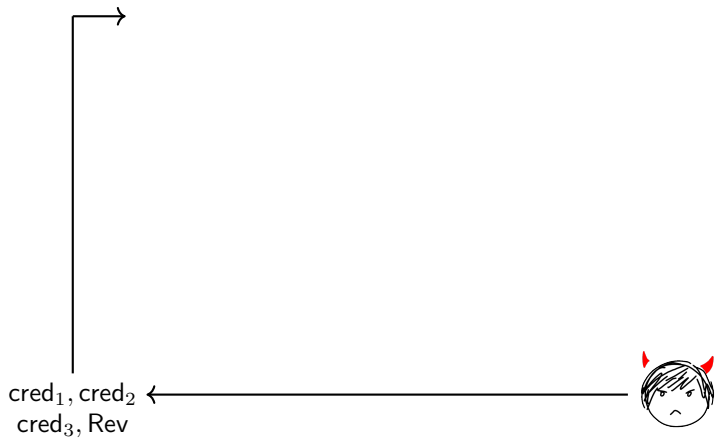


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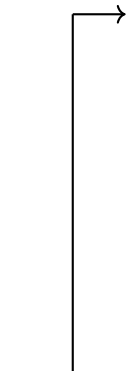
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# Unlinkability Experiment



# Unlinkability Experiment

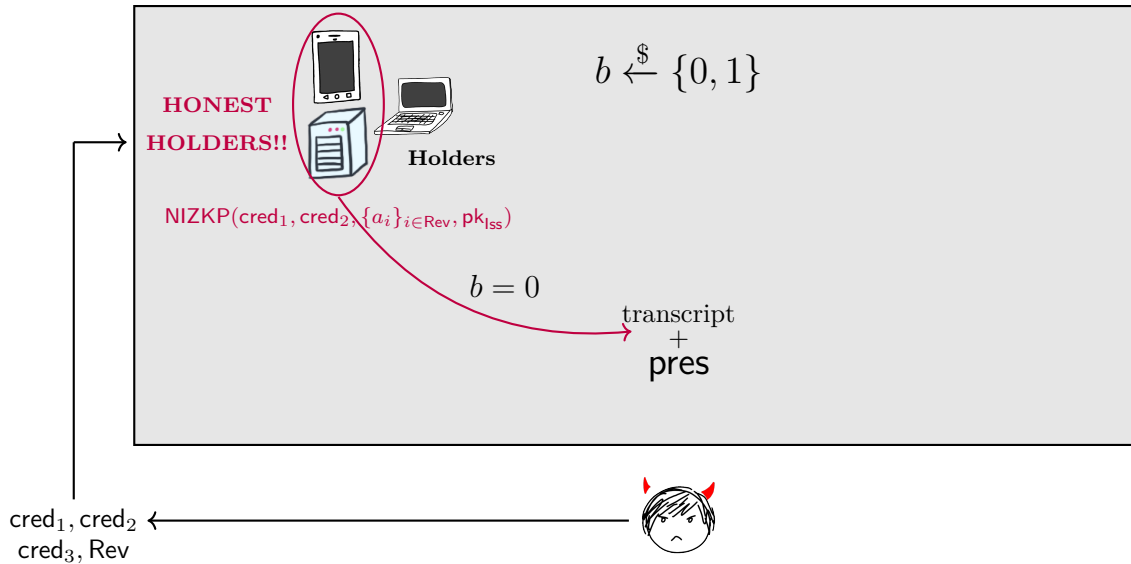
$$b \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \{0, 1\}$$



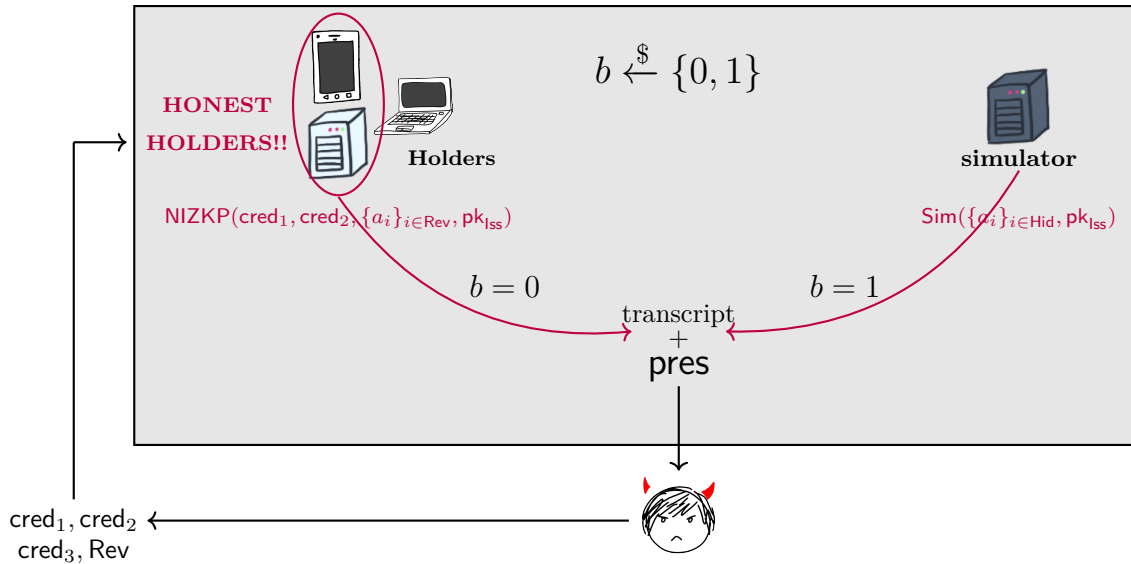
$\text{cred}_1, \text{cred}_2$   
 $\text{cred}_3, \text{Rev}$



# Unlinkability Experiment

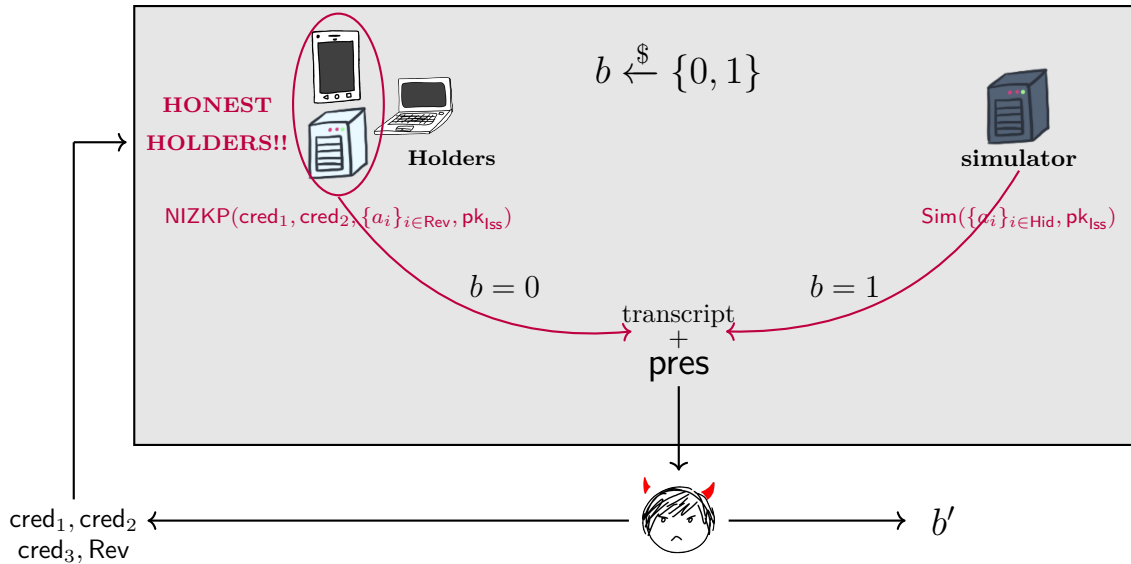


# Unlinkability Experiment





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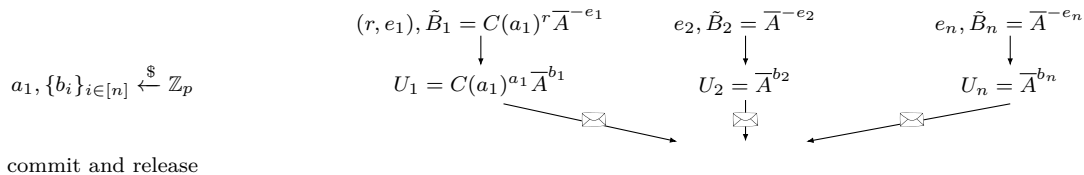
# How does the combined NIZKP works?

$$(r, e_1), \tilde{B}_1 = C(a_1)^r \overline{A}^{-e_1} \qquad e_2, \tilde{B}_2 = \overline{A}^{-e_2} \qquad e_n, \tilde{B}_n = \overline{A}^{-e_n}$$

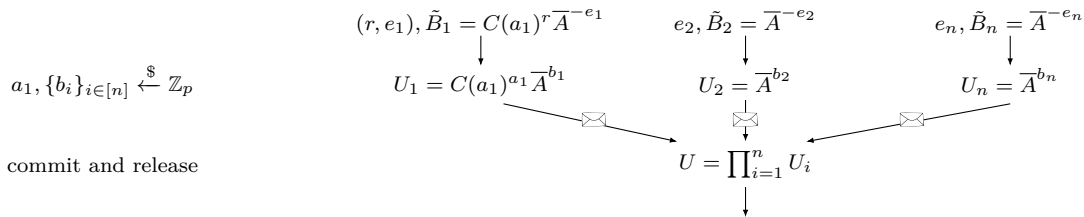
# How does the combined NIZKP works?

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & (r, e_1), \tilde{B}_1 = C(a_1)^r \overline{A}^{-e_1} & e_2, \tilde{B}_2 = \overline{A}^{-e_2} & e_n, \tilde{B}_n = \overline{A}^{-e_n} \\ & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ a_1, \{b_i\}_{i \in [n]} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Z}_p & & & \end{array}$$

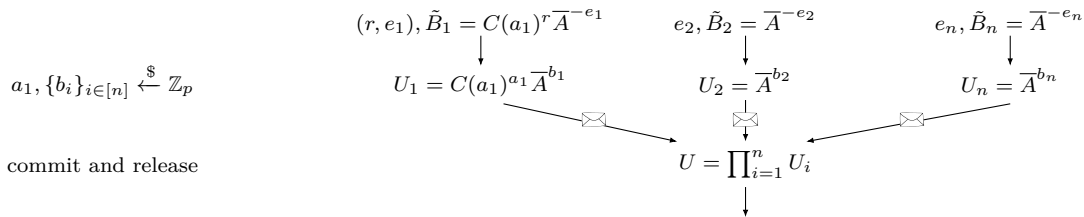
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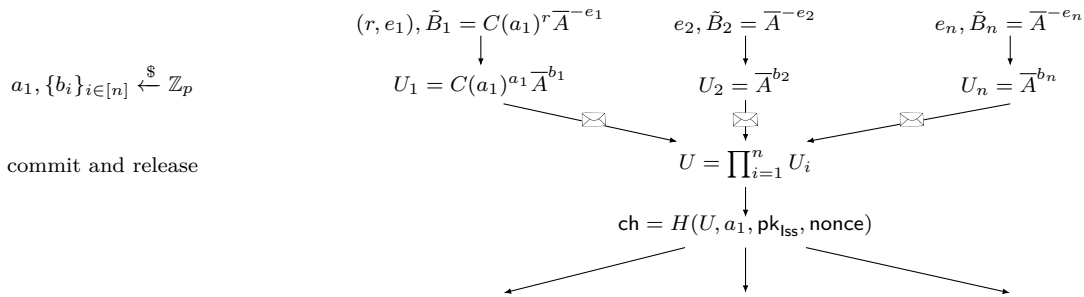
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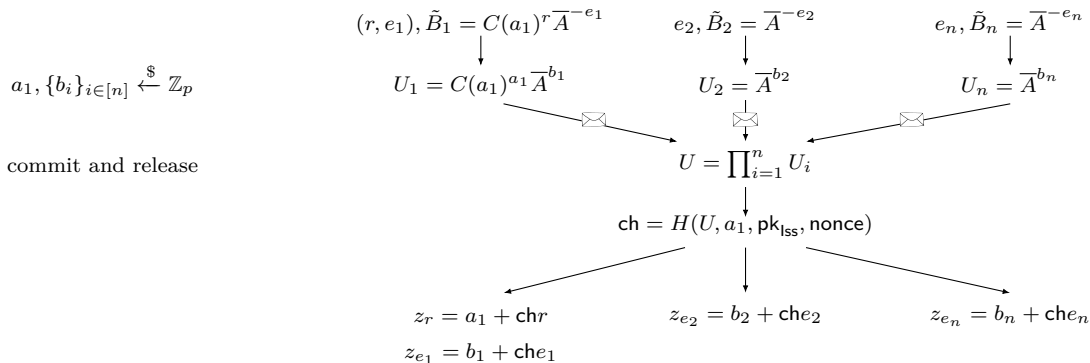
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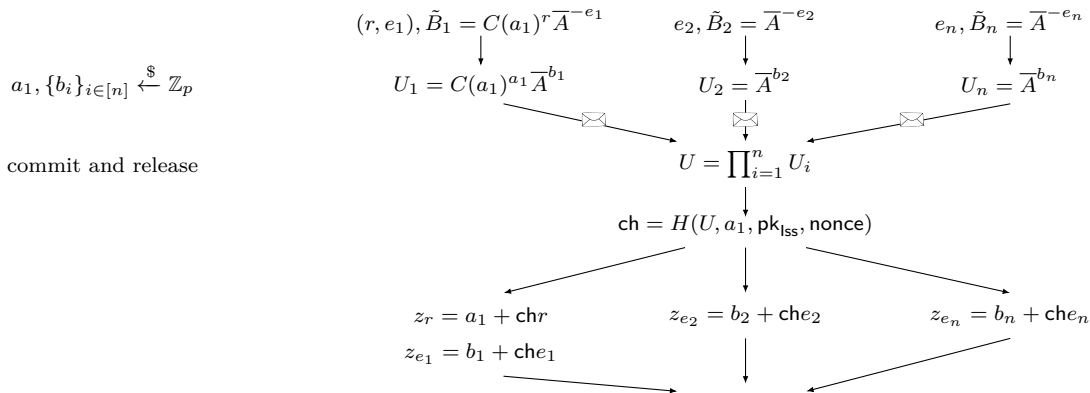


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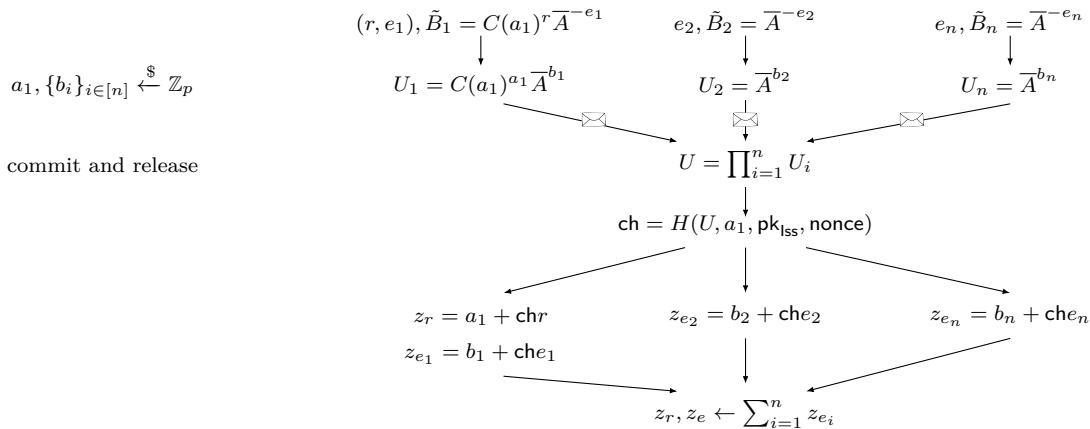




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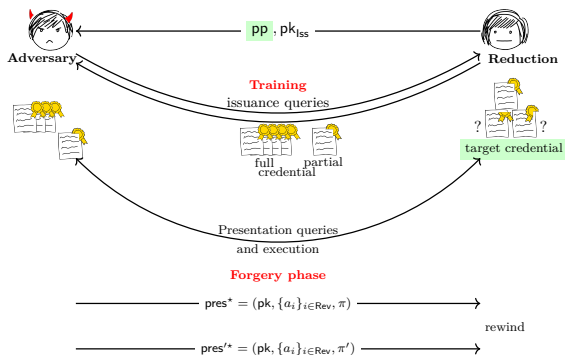
# How does the combined NIZKP works?



# Unforgeability of BBS MHAC

# How to prove Unforgeability of Presentations?

Via a reduction to DL assumption (and the unforgeability of BBS)



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Via a reduction to DL assumption (and the unforgeability of BBS)



Setup



$g, h$



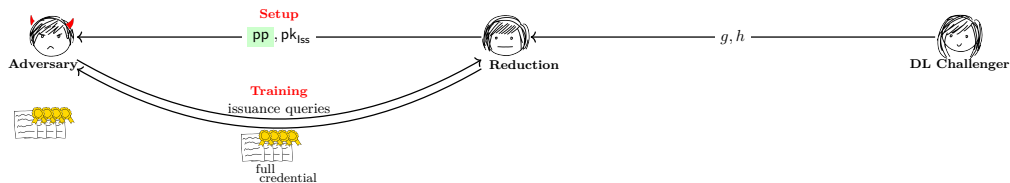
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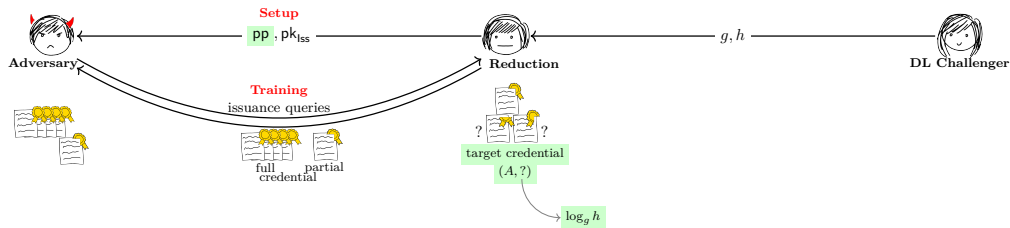
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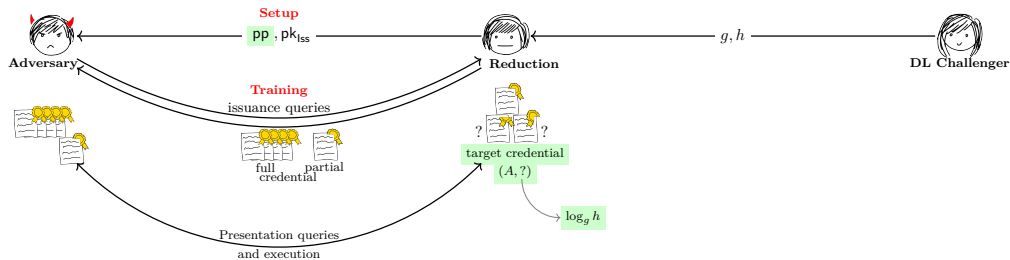
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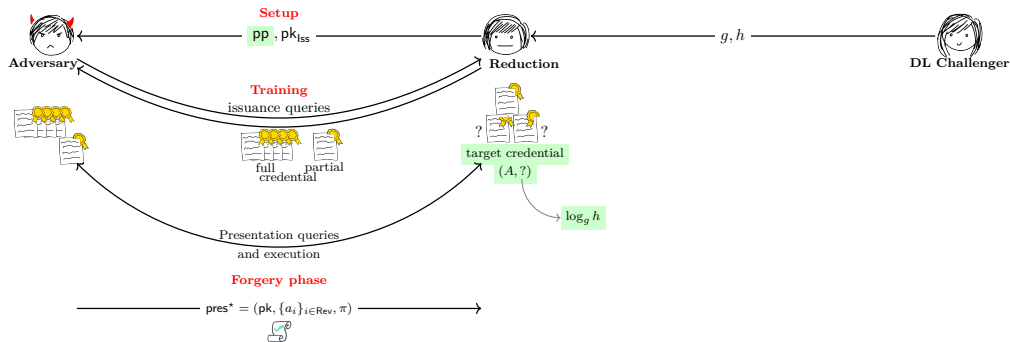
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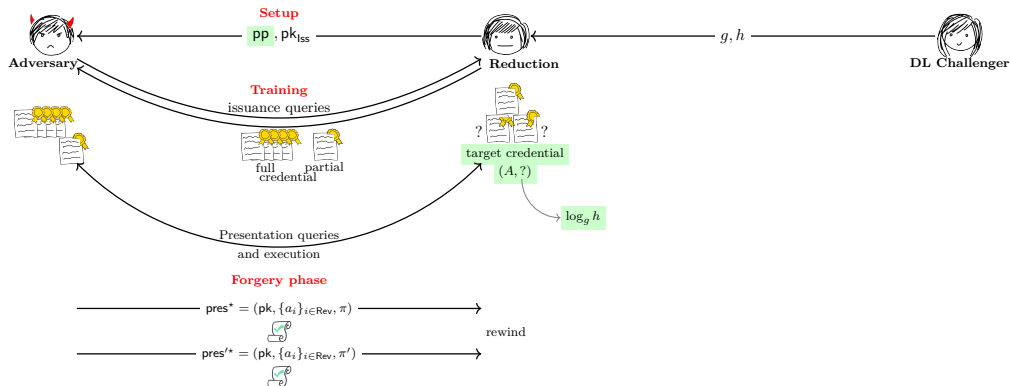
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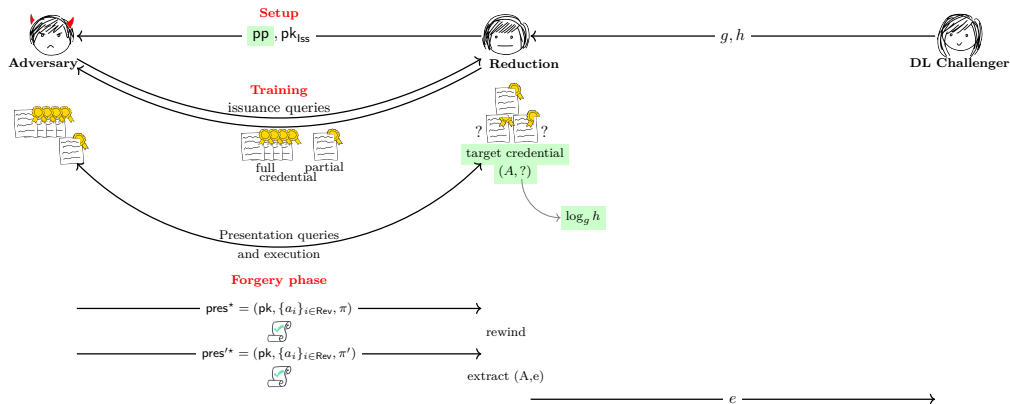
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# A technical challenge

target credential issuance



**Adversary**



**Reduction**



**DL Challenger**

# A technical challenge

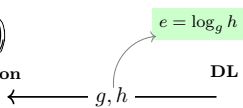
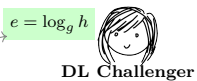
target credential issuance



←  $g, h$  →

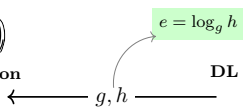
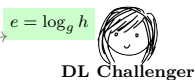
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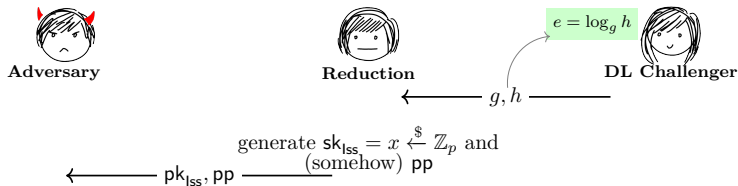


generate  $sk_{iss} = x \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  
(somehow)  $pp$



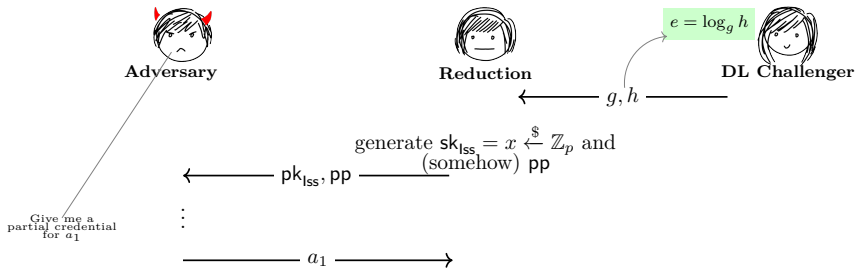
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target credential issuance



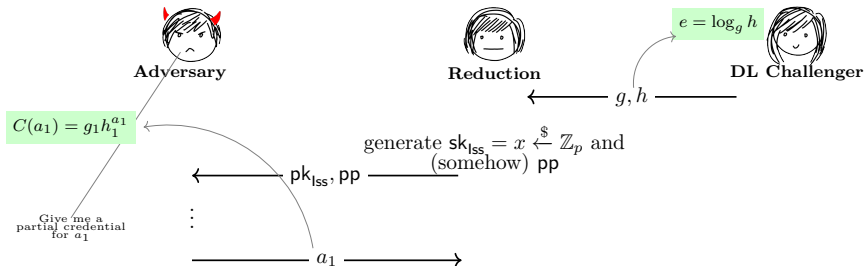
# A technical challenge

target credential issuance



# A technical challenge

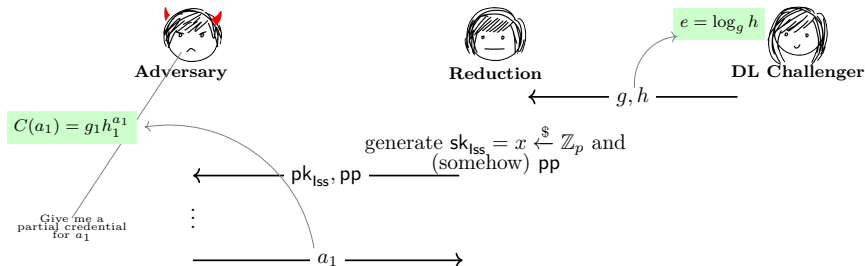
target credential issuance



$\text{cred} = ((A, e), a_1)$  is univocally determined! ( $A = C(a_1)^{\frac{1}{x+e}}$ )

# A technical challenge

## target credential issuance



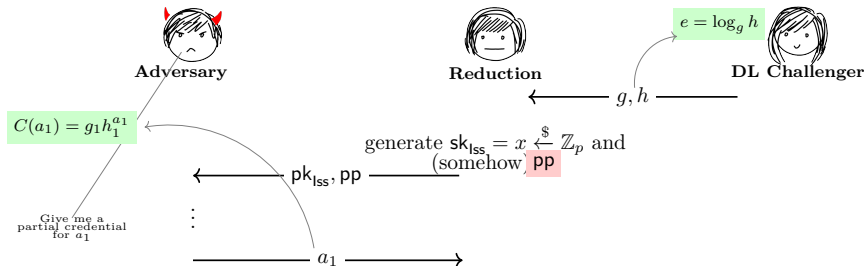
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The reduction must produce  $A, A^e$

recall:  $\text{cred}_i \leftarrow (A, e_i, \{A^{e_i}\}_{i \in [n]}, a_1)$

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# Our Solution



Adversary



Reduction



DL Challenger

# Our Solution



Adversary



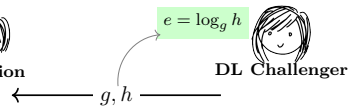
Reduction



DL Challenger

←  $g, h$  —

# Our Solution





# Our Solution



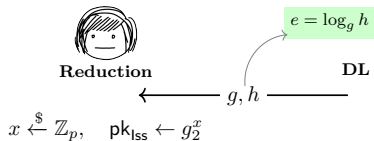
Adversary



Reduction



DL Challenger



# Our Solution



Adversary



Reduction



DL Challenger

$$e = \log_g h$$

$\longleftarrow g, h$

$$x \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p, \quad \text{pk}_{\text{Iss}} \leftarrow g_2^x$$

$$k \leftarrow hg^x = g^{x+e}$$

$$u, v \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p, \quad g_1 \leftarrow k^u, \quad h_1 \leftarrow k^v$$

$$\text{pp} \leftarrow (g_1, h_1)$$

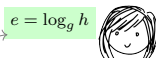
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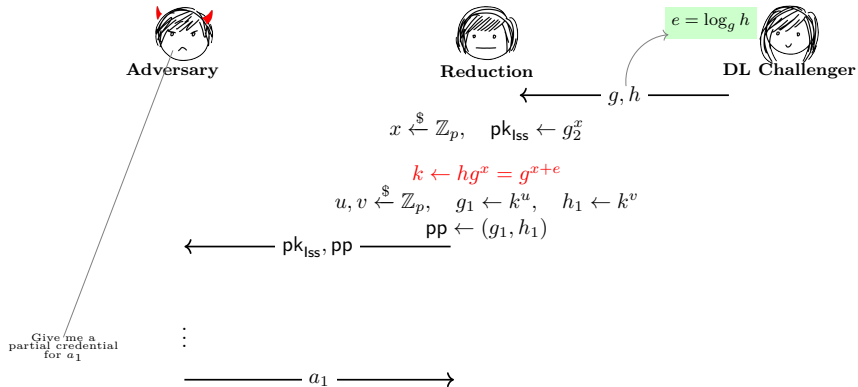
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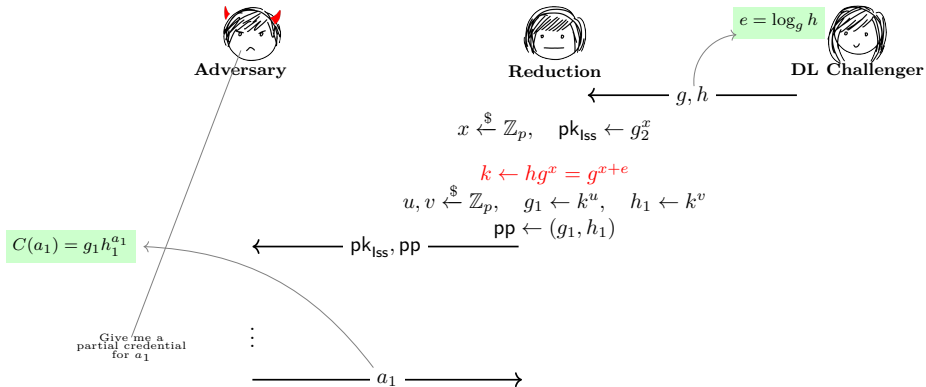
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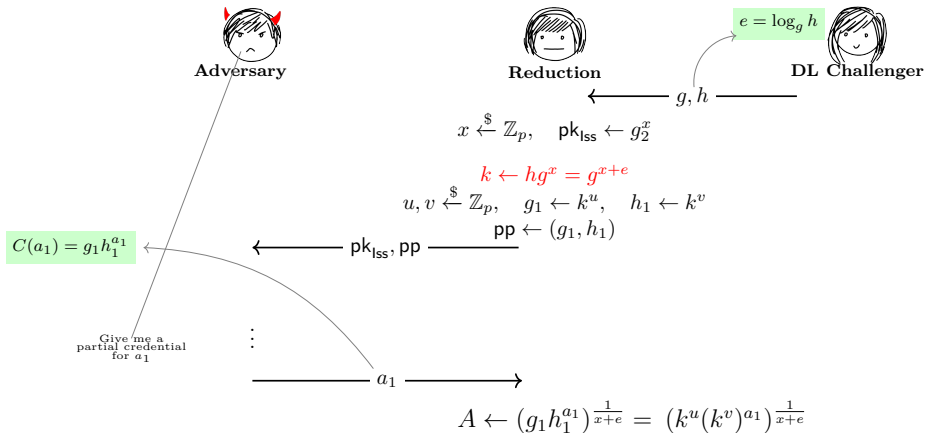
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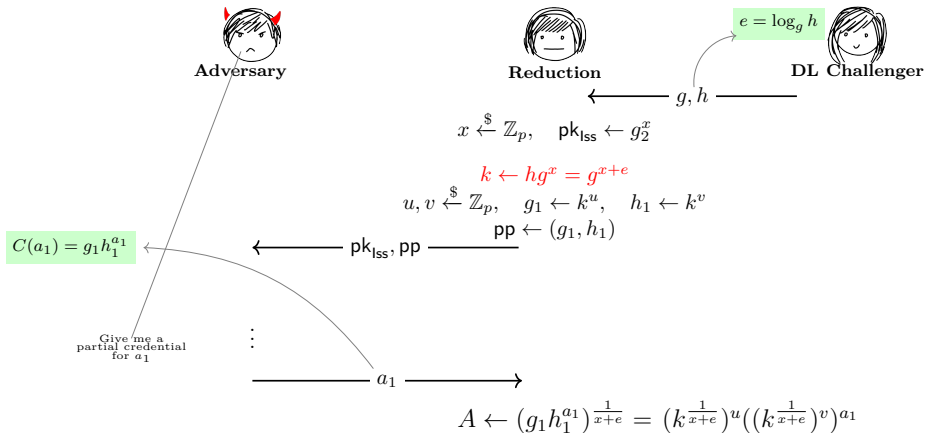
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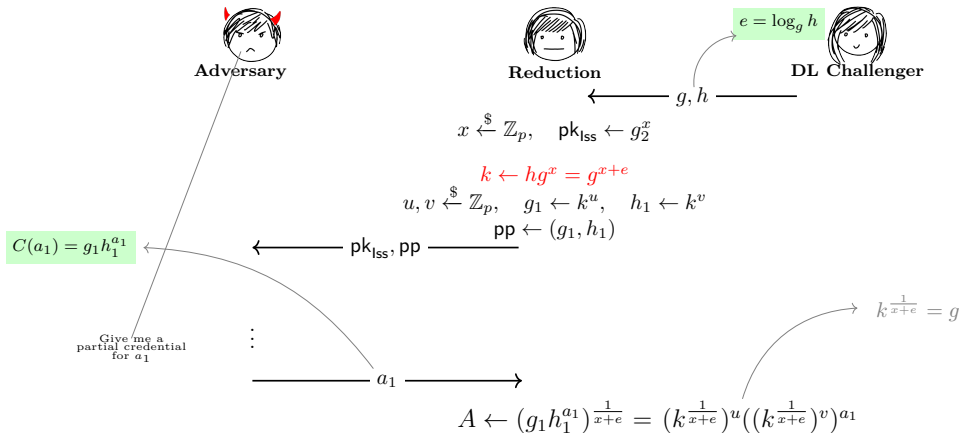
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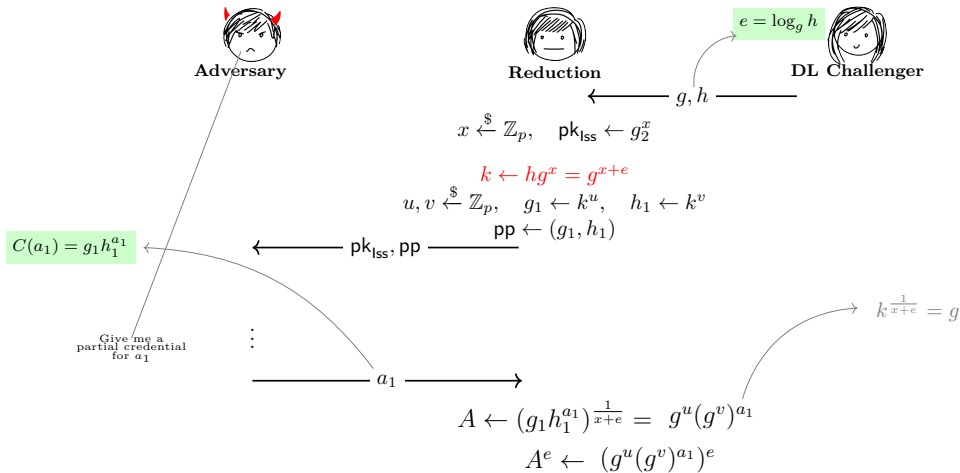


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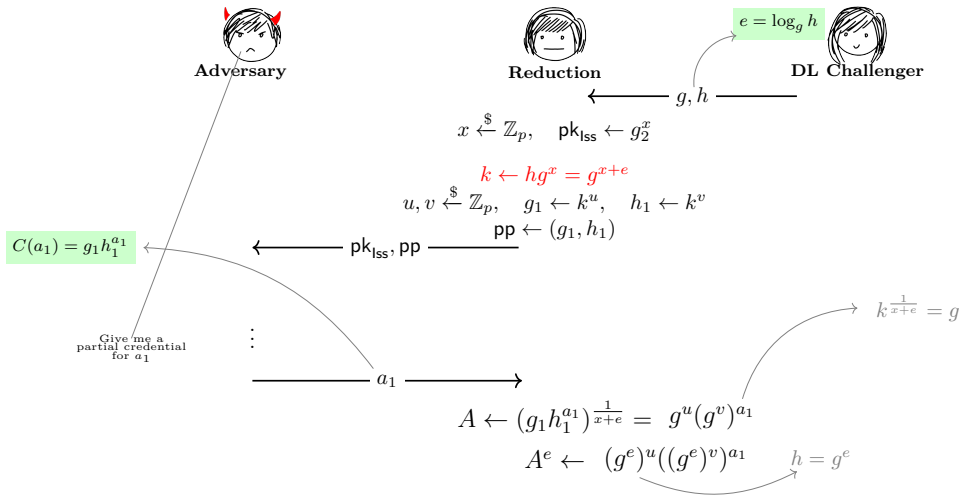




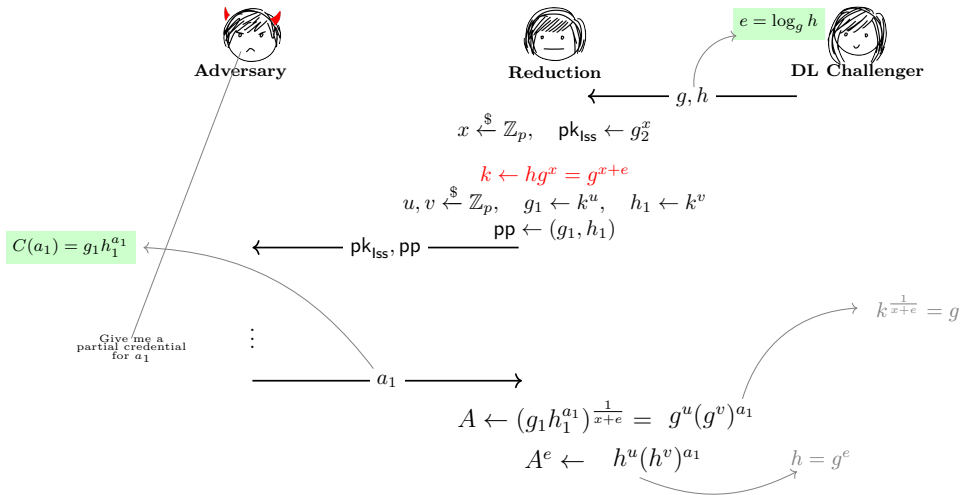
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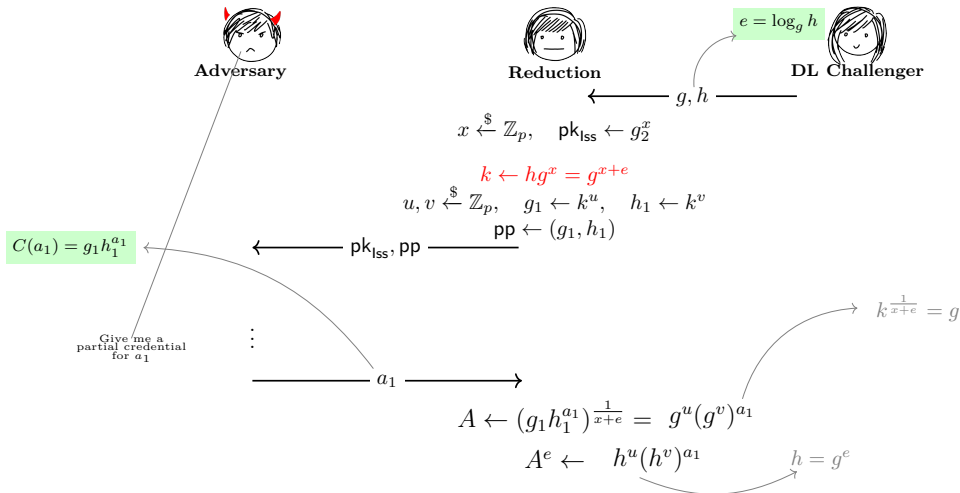
# Our Solution



# Our Solution



# Our Solution



The adversary shares are  $(A, \{e_i\}_{i \in \text{cor}}, \{A^{e_i}\}_{i \in [n]}, a_1)$