

*07 December 2021 : Vivek Arte*

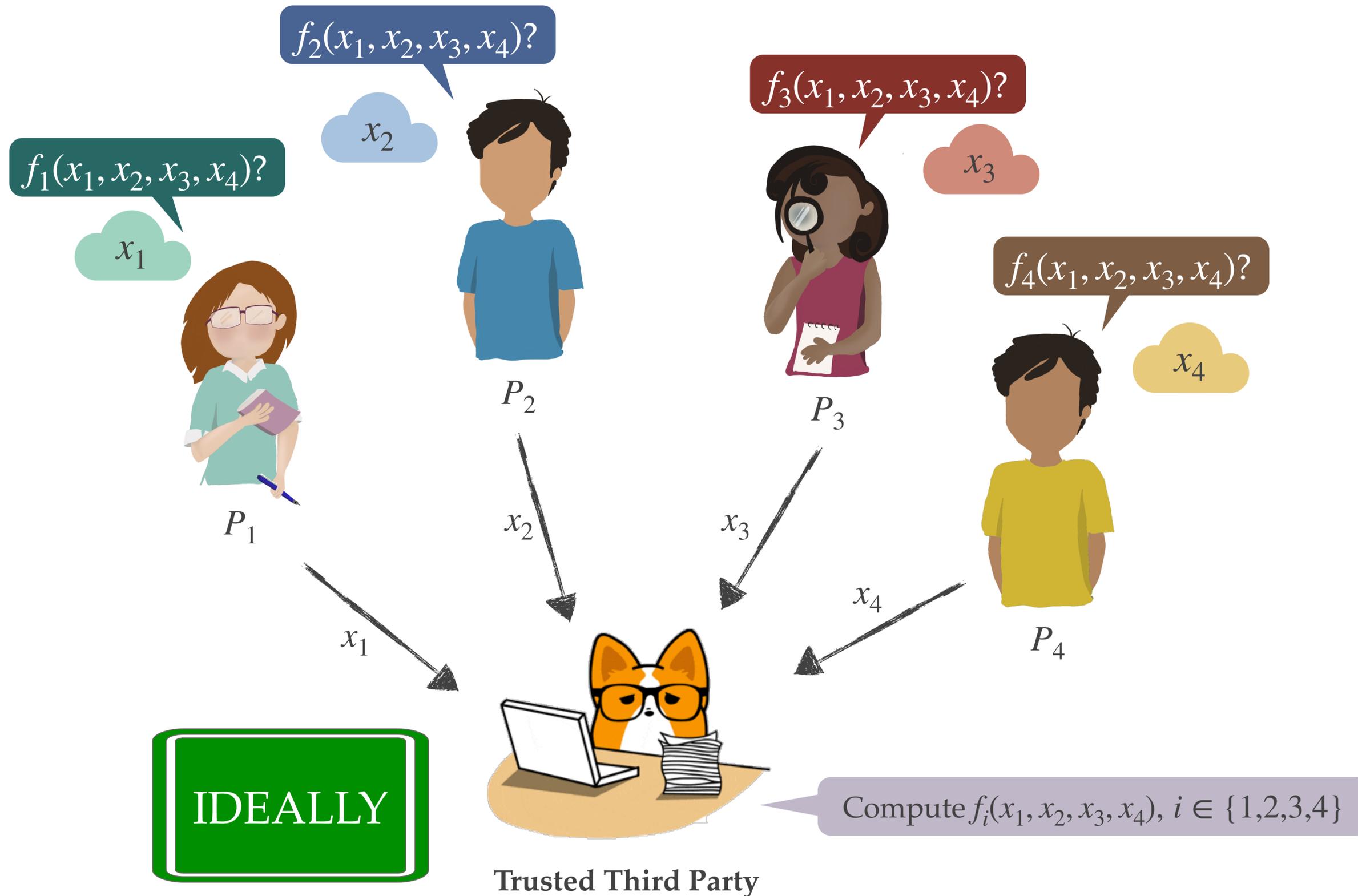
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# What are we PSIgning up for?

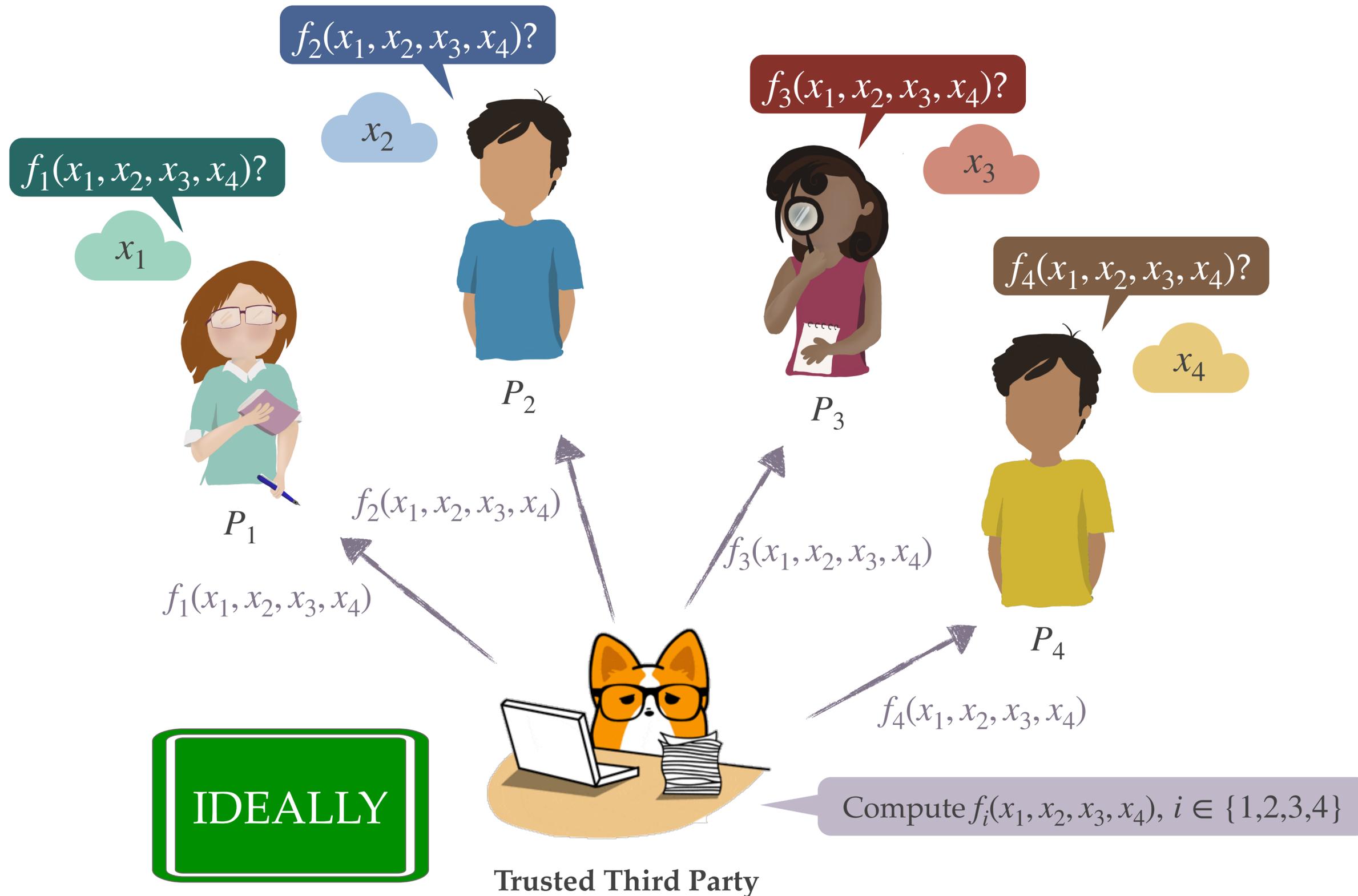
Analyzing Applications of  
Two-Party Private Set  
Intersection

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# Interactions between multiple parties

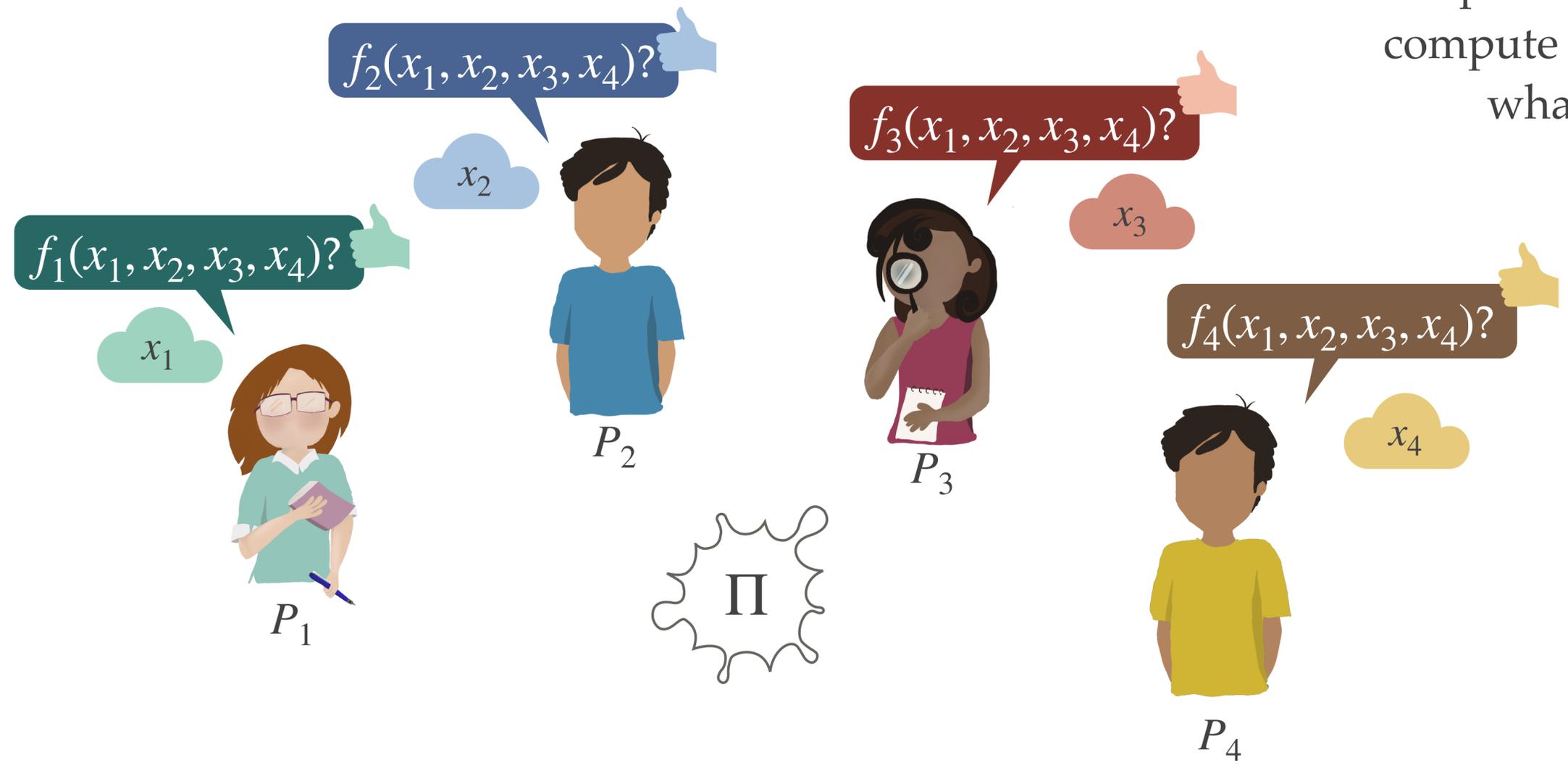


# Interactions between multiple parties



# Multiparty Computation (MPC)

A protocol  $\Pi$  that describes how the parties compute and communicate in order to achieve what they want from the interaction



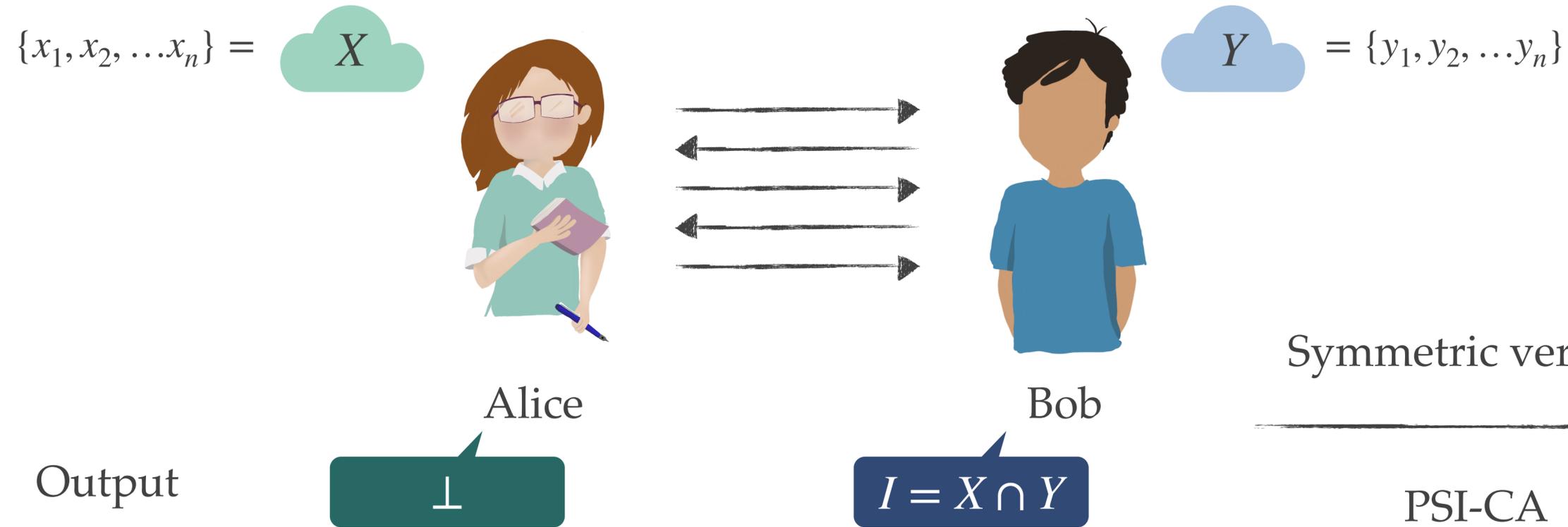
- Partisia
- Surveys
- Auctions
- Contract exchange
- Google
- Password checkup
- Data aggregation

## LIBRARIES



# Two-party Private Set Intersection (PSI)

A special case of multi-party computation



There are different choices here: Alice receives the intersection too, Bob receives only some function of the intersection, etc.

## Variants

Symmetric version:

$f(X \cap Y)$

$f(X \cap Y)$

PSI-CA

$\perp$

$|X \cap Y|$

PSI-Sum

$\perp$

$\text{sum}(X \cap Y)$

$f$ -PSI

$\perp$

$f(X \cap Y)$

Authorized - PSI

# When is a protocol secure?

Correctness

Party  $P_i$  should receive the value of  $f_i(x_1, x_2)$

Privacy

Party  $P_i$  should not learn anything more than its input and  $f_i(x_1, x_2)$

Independence of inputs

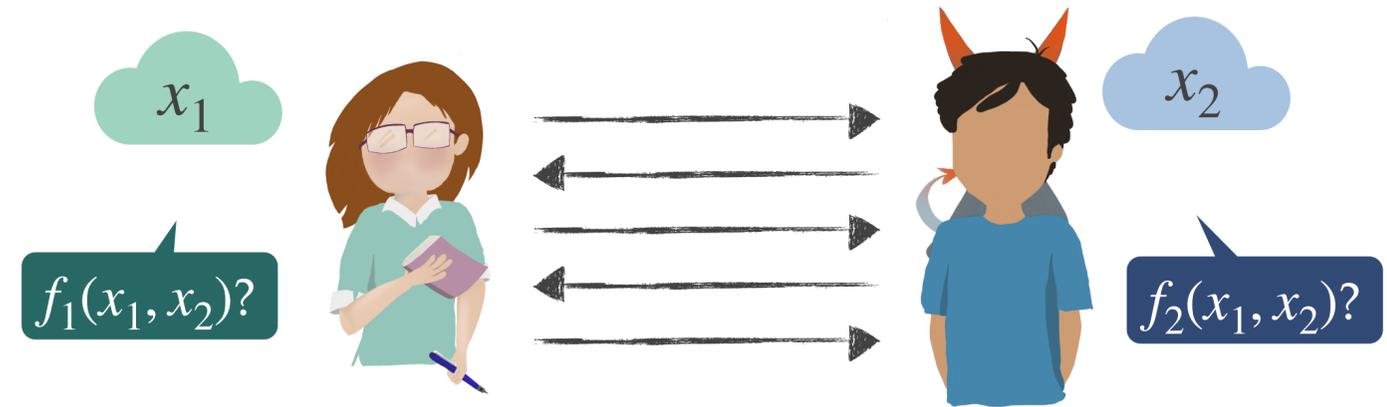
Corrupted party's inputs should be independent of the honest party's inputs

Guaranteed output delivery

Corrupted party should be unable to stop the honest party from receiving its result

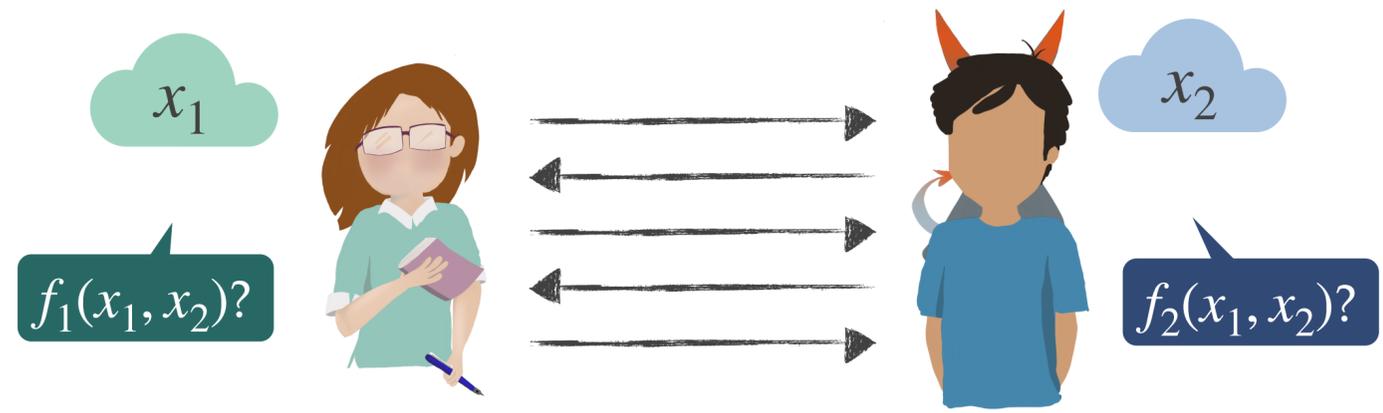
Fairness

Corrupted party should get their result iff the honest party receives their result



**We assume the adversary corrupts exactly one party**

# When is a protocol secure?



**Correctness** Party  $P_i$  should receive the value of  $f_i(x_1, x_2)$

**Privacy** Party  $P_i$  should not learn anything more than its input and  $f_i(x_1, x_2)$

**We assume the adversary corrupts exactly one party**

**Independence of inputs** Corrupted party's inputs should be independent of the honest party's inputs

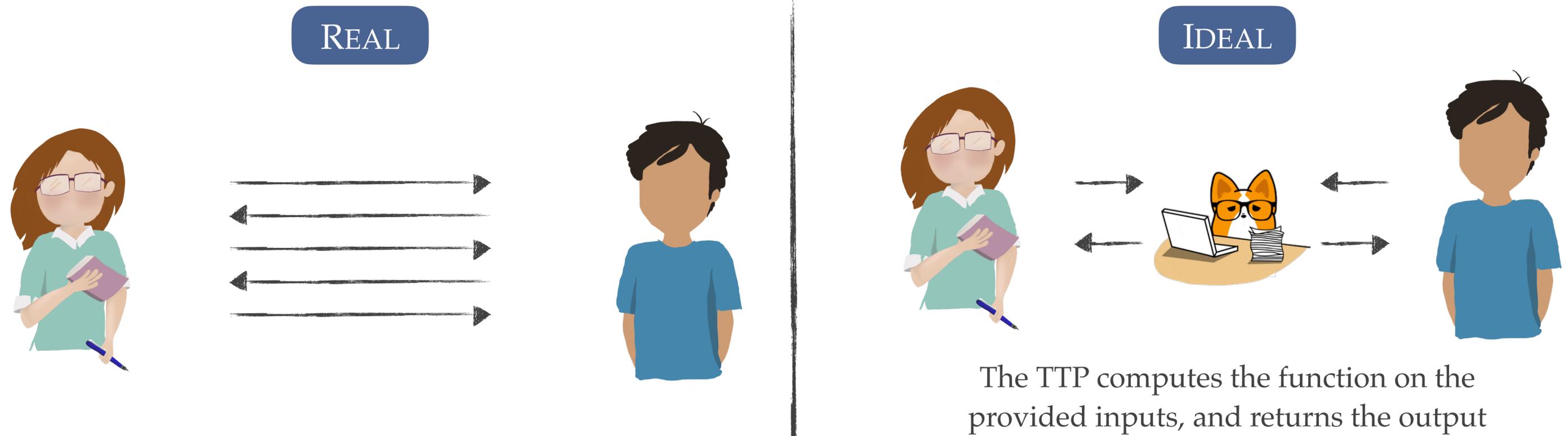
~~**Guarantee output delivery**~~ Corrupted party should be unable to stop the honest party from receiving its result

~~**Corruption**~~ Corrupted party should get their result iff the honest party receives their result

... and so on

*In general, impossible for the two-party setting*

# The REAL/IDEAL Paradigm



Informally, security is achieved when any attack on the real world can also be carried out in the ideal world

There are different variants of security, based on the power of the adversary

Semi-honest

Malicious

Covert

Two-party protocols  $\Rightarrow$  we need only focus on the case where the adversary corrupts a single party

# Security Notions

[AL07, HL10]

Semi-honest

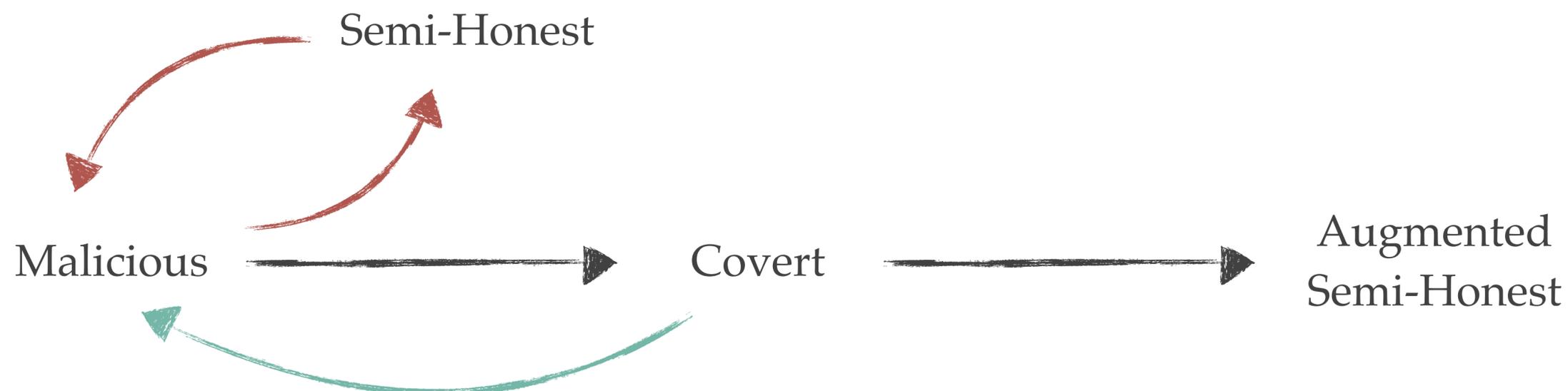
Even the party corrupted by the adversary must follow the protocol and use its local input

Malicious

The party corrupted by the adversary can deviate from the protocol and change the input it uses

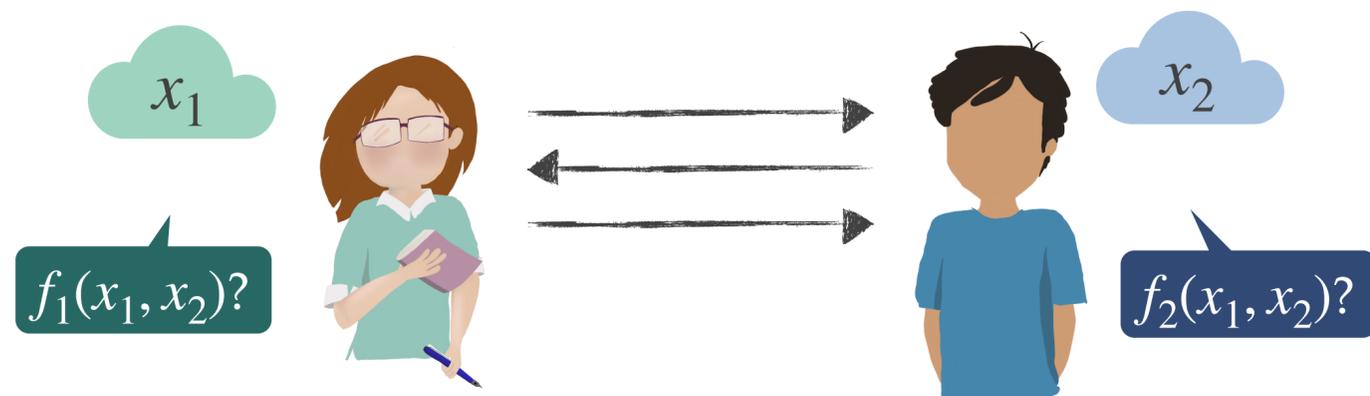
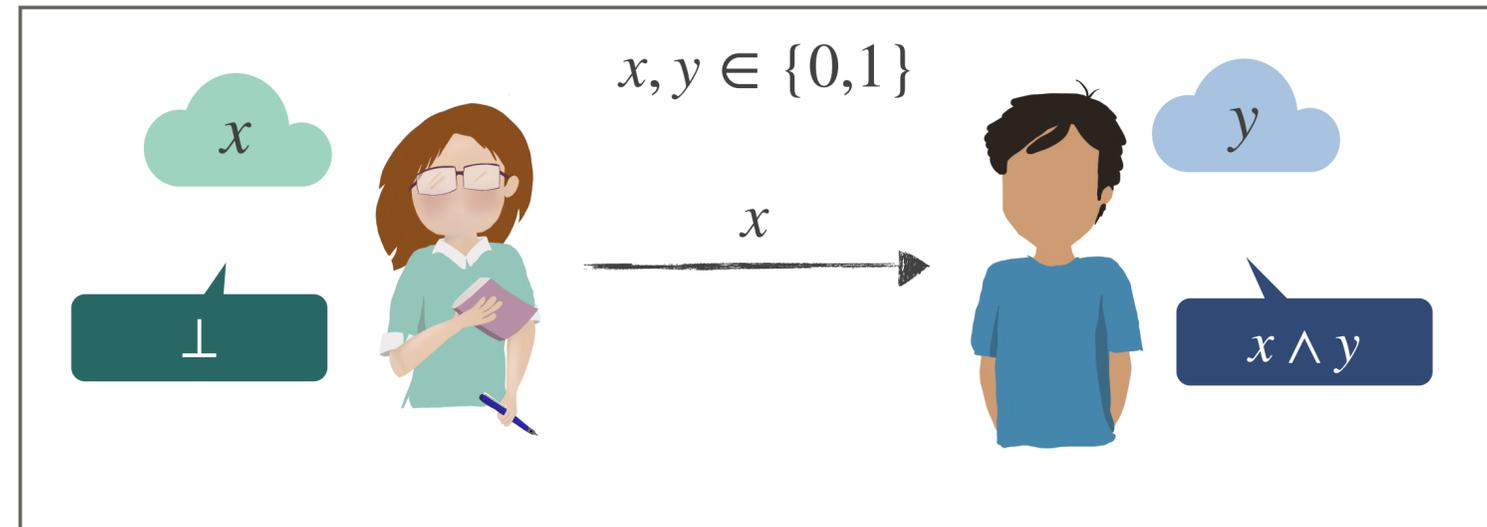
Covert

The party corrupted by the adversary can deviate from the protocol and change the input it uses. Deviations will be detected by the honest party with some given probability  $\epsilon$



# Security Notions

Achieving security against malicious adversaries is great, but what that really means is complicated!



Suppose  $f_1(x_1, x_2) = x_2$  and  $f_2(x_1, x_2) = x_1$

Then there really is no privacy being maintained in real terms, yet it satisfies the notion of privacy we considered

# Applications using PSI

# Ad-conversion

[IKNPSSSY17, IKNPRSSSY19]



Google Ads



Set of people ads were shown to

would like to know more about how well the ads are working

Revealing the input set:

- other party can use the set to contact users directly, and stop using ads

amazon

Details of people who bought something



would like to know more about people who bought things after seeing ads

Revealing the input set:

- other party can use the set to advertise to more prolific buyers, and command higher prices



*Private Intersection Sum with Cardinality*

# Private contact discovery



List of people stored as contacts



# Signal



List of people who are registered on the app

**Revealing the input set:**

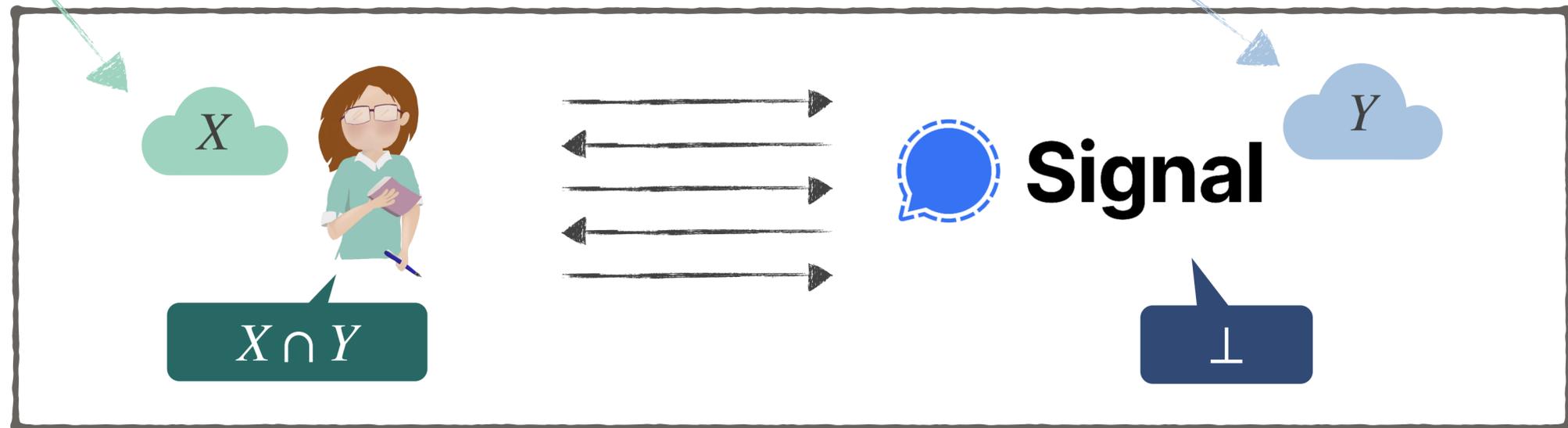
- Loss of reputation as a privacy-conscious app
- Allows rivals to piggy-back on the network

would like to start talking to contacts who are on Signal

would like to make it easy for new users to start using Signal for conversations

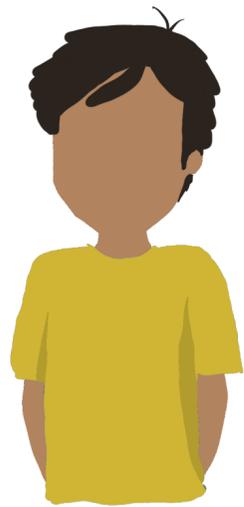
**Revealing the input set:**

- The service provider could use this information to spam contacts that are not registered
- could be used to build a relationship graph for the user, followed by enhanced tracking and targeting



*Asymmetric Private Set Intersection*

# Contact tracing



List of people in close proximity in past 14 days



List of people who have tested positive



## Revealing the input set:

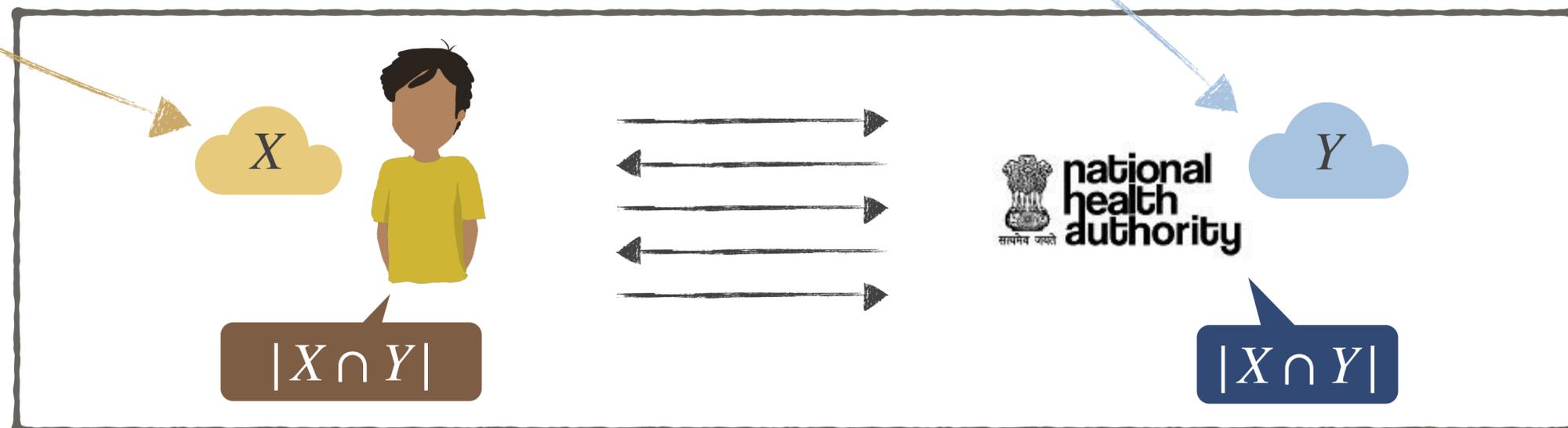
- Stigma associated with being diagnosed positive
- Healthy residents might harm those who have tested positive

would like to know if testing / quarantine is needed

would like to be able to follow-up to see if users have taken the test

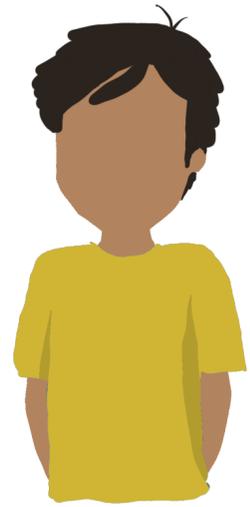
## Revealing the input set:

- Surveillance concerns — both about who one meets and where one travels



*Symmetric PSI-CA*

# Genomics



Fully sequenced genome



Fully sequenced genome



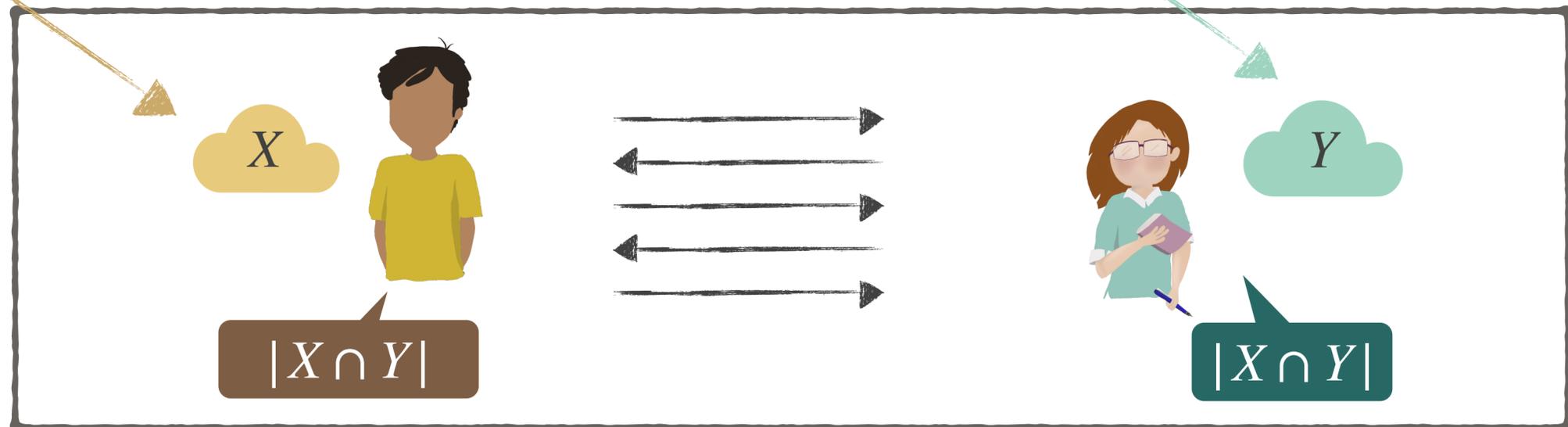
Revealing the input set:

- Disclosure of sensitive personal and medical information

would like to know the result of a paternity test (for example)

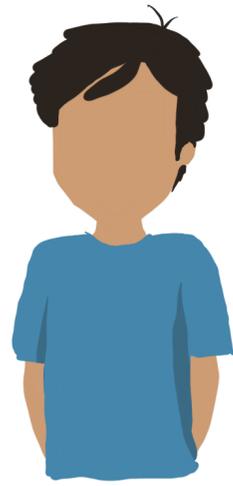
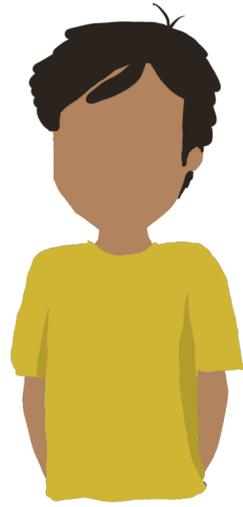
Revealing the input set:

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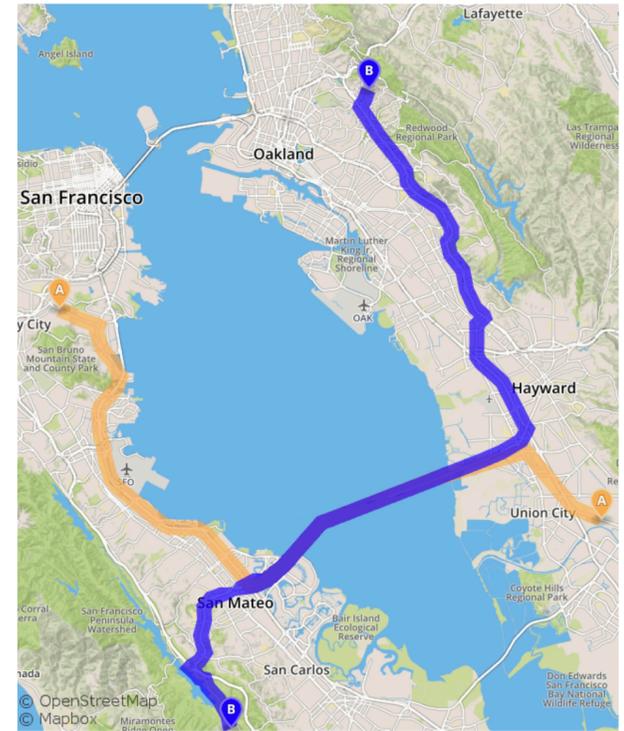
*Symmetric PSI-CA*

# Ride Sharing



Source, Destination and **Route for trip**

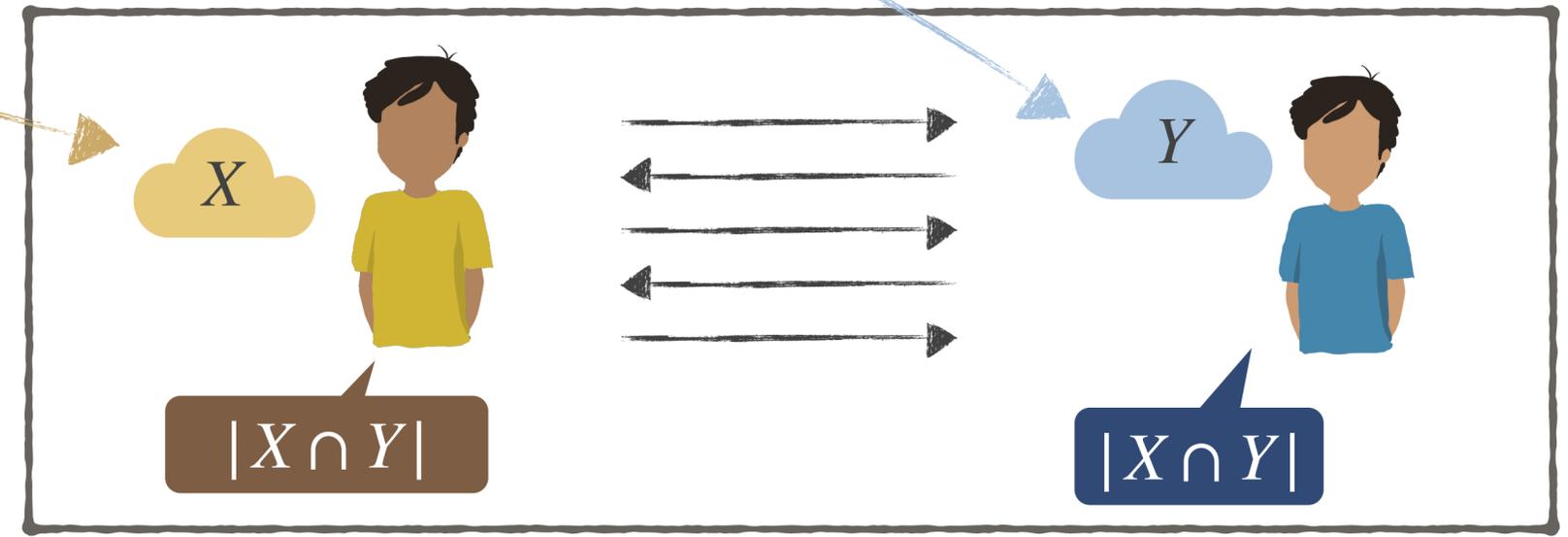
Source, Destination and **Route for trip**



would like to know if they can pool together for their respective trips

**Revealing the input set:**

- Snooping concerns - neither party would like to reveal their start and end points to the other user



*Symmetric PSI-CA*

# Roadmap

🚩 Multiparty Computation, Private Set Intersection and Variants

🚩 Notions of Security      🚩 Application Descriptions

Security is almost always only considered in the semi-honest model!  weak  
requires trust in parties

Is restricting to semi-honest security reasonable?

What are the reasons for this restriction?



Are there alternatives to malicious / covert security?

# Categorizing the participants



People

have access to devices like smartphones and computers

have small to medium-sized data sets



Power



have large servers with significant computational and storage capacity

data sets can be pretty large

# Categorizing the application protocols

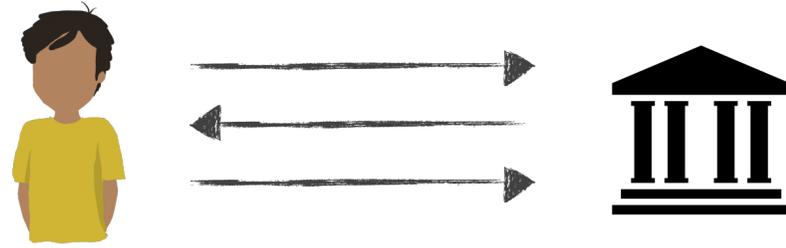


People - People

Genomics

Ride Sharing

Proximity Testing



People - Power

Private Contact Discovery

Contact Tracing



Power - Power

Ad-conversion Systems

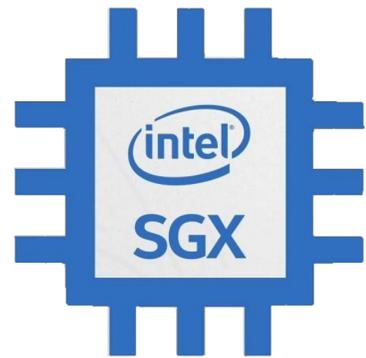
# People



Most users would just download the app and use it as is → then semi-honest is sufficient!

**However, some users might act maliciously** → maybe by personally tweaking the source code  
→ or by downloading the app from an untrustworthy source

[CD16, PST16]



Creates trusted execution environments  
code runs in a secure enclave, cannot be tampered with  
provides an attestation to the execution

improper partitioning into trusted and untrusted sections of code can cause leakage of information

side channels were not considered in Intel's threat model — developers are required to account for them



**The Foreshadow Attack**  
[VMWKGKPSWYS18]

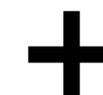
Malicious security



**BUT... inefficient!**



Covert security



Penalties

# Power



Have access to a larger pool of resources, and also have more **power**

Organizations

**Terms of Service**

Laws and the State

Public opinion

State

**ultimate coercing power**

strong separation of powers

Strong incentive to gather data on individuals

surveillance

profits

improvement of services

Malicious security



Code Audits



work mostly in the power-power protocol setting

[IKNPRSSSY19]

# Providing incorrect inputs

This is a limitation of the problem itself

**Incentives for providing incorrect inputs**

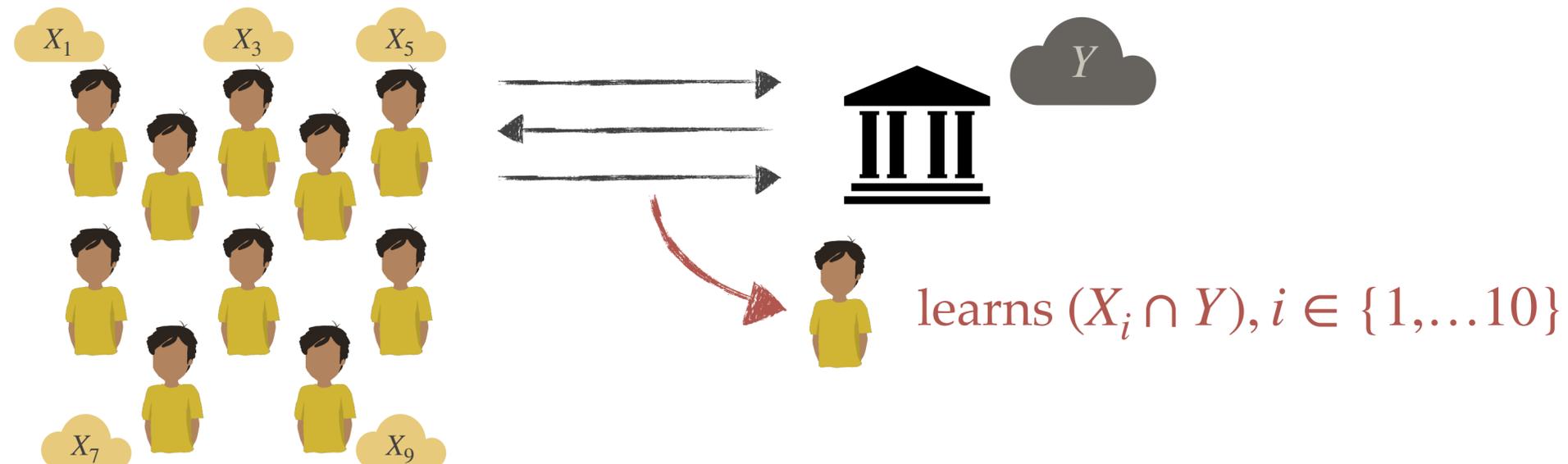
subvert correctness — make the output different

subvert privacy — learn more about the other party's input

[HWSDS21]

**Enumeration attacks**

when the domain the sets are from is small enough



**Mitigation : Rate-limiting**

# Providing incorrect inputs

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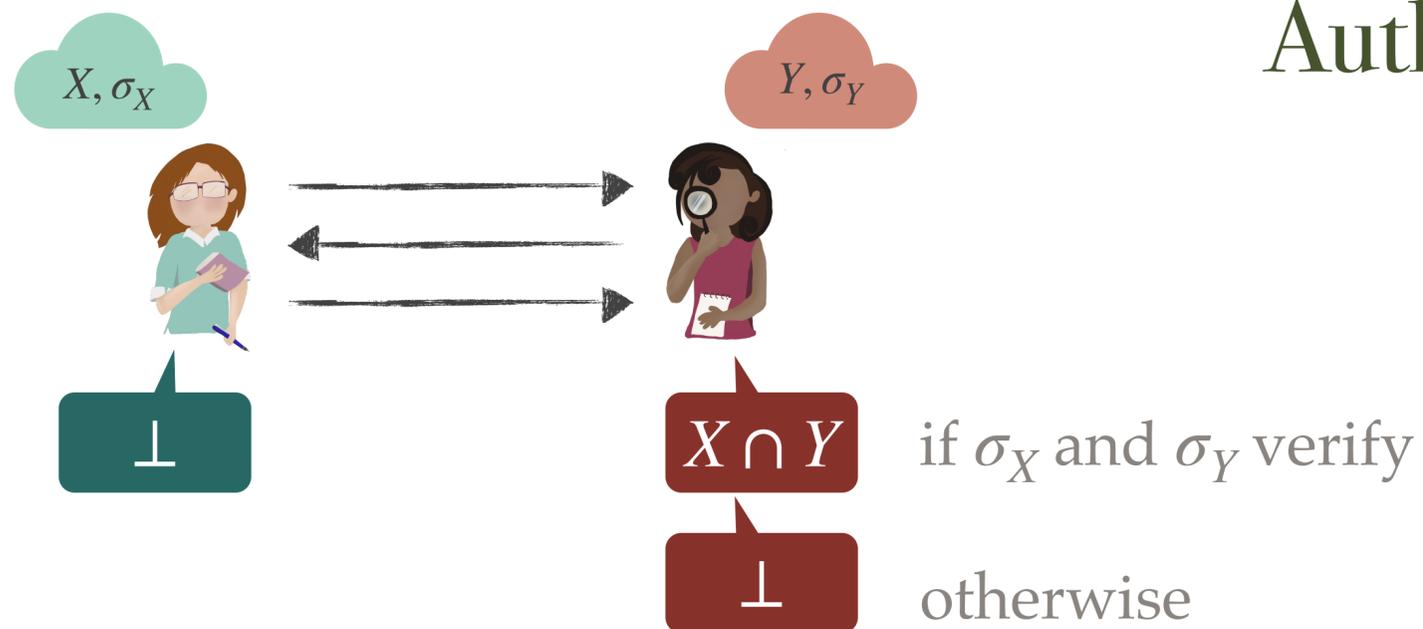
subvert privacy — learn more about the other party's input

[HWS21]

**Enumeration attacks**

when the domain the sets are from is small enough

**Mitigation : Rate-limiting**



## Authorized PSI

[DKT10]

**Requires trust in a Certificate Authority!**



Then why not just have a trusted party do the computation?

Trust — only that signatures are correctly generated

Can be done for other variants too

# Categorizing the application protocols

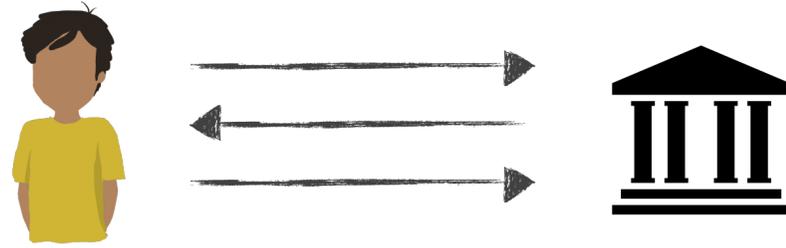


People - People

Genomics

Ride Sharing

Proximity Testing



People - Power

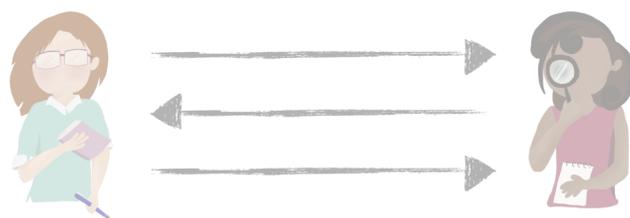
Private Contact Discovery

Contact Tracing



Power - Power

Ad-conversion Systems



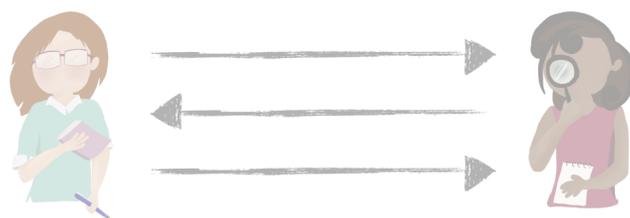
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Proximity Testing

- Incentive to subvert correctness
- Covert security to catch cheating — legal penalties?
- Authorized PSI could work for incorrect inputs



People - People

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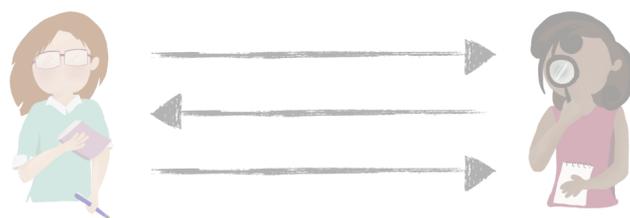
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- Incentive to subvert privacy
- Changing inputs — suboptimal results for ride share.
- Trusted execution would be useful
- Covert security — how to penalize?
- Malicious security — ideal, but efficiency?



People - People

Genomics

Ride Sharing

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- Incentives to subvert privacy as well as correctness
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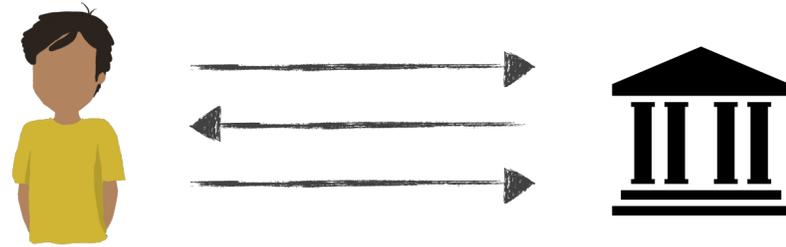


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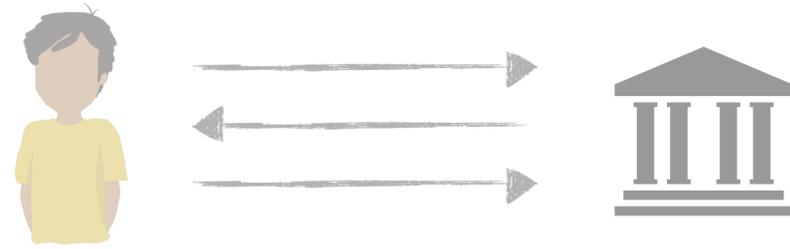
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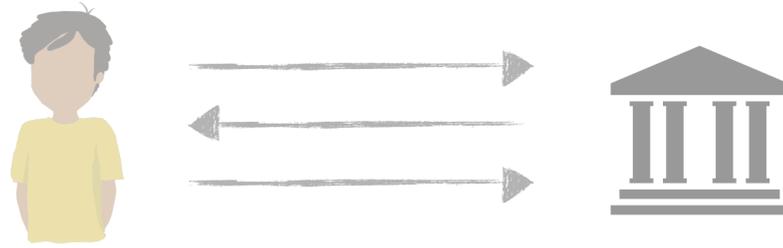


People - Power

Private Contact Discovery

Contact Tracing

- Incentive to subvert privacy
- Malicious or covert security could assure users their data is safe, and also guard from coercion by the State
- Trusted execution could work
- Enumeration attacks



People - Power

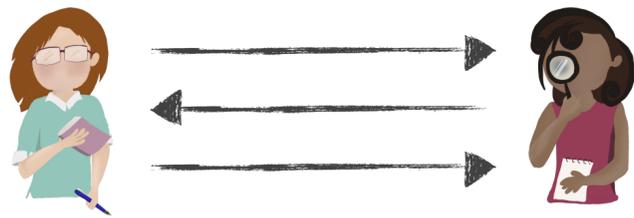
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Private Contact Discovery

- Incentive to subvert privacy
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- Trusted execution could work
- Enumeration attacks

- Incentives to subvert privacy as well as correctness
- Malicious security would give users confidence the government is not snooping
- Covert — how to penalize the State?

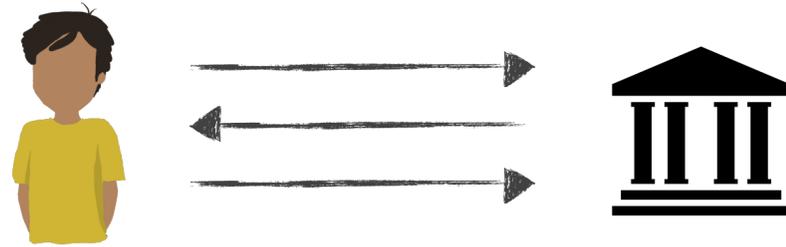


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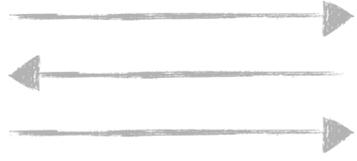
Private Contact Discovery

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Power - Power

Ad-conversion Systems



Power - Power

Ad-conversion Systems

- Incentive to subvert privacy
- Code audits
- Why not covert, or malicious security?
- How to prevent changing the input?

# The [CM20] Protocol



Sender



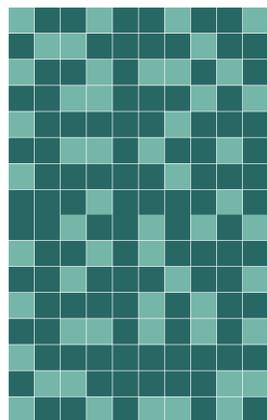
$$s \leftarrow \{0,1\}^w$$

one bit at a time

1-out-of-2 OT

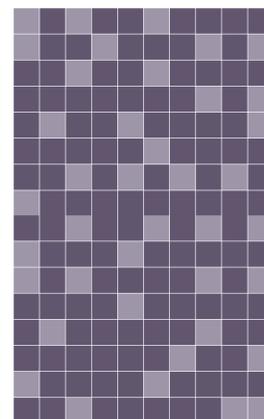
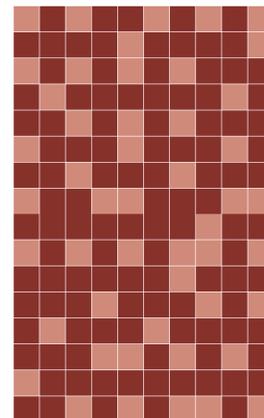
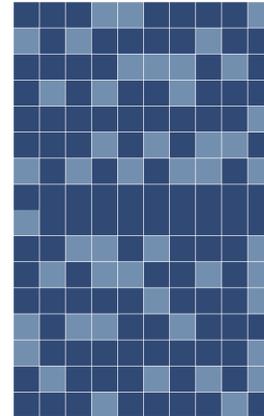
$$\text{OT}((A_i, B_i), s[i])$$

C



k

one column at a time



$$k \leftarrow \{0,1\}^\lambda$$

$$D \leftarrow 1^{m \times w}$$

For  $y \in Y$ :

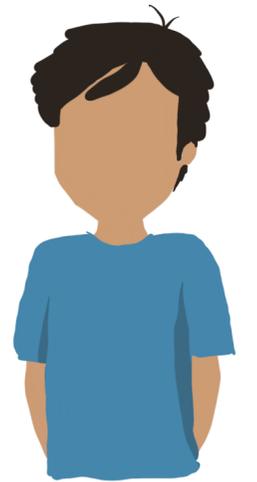
$$v \leftarrow F_k(H_1(y))$$

For  $I \in [w]$ :

$$D_i[v[i]] \leftarrow 0$$

$$A \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{m \times w}$$

$$B \leftarrow A \oplus D$$



Receiver



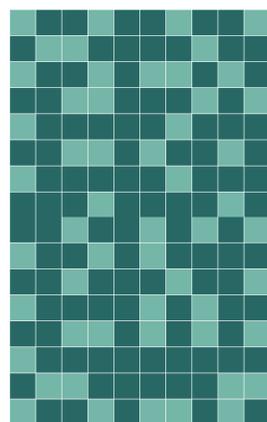
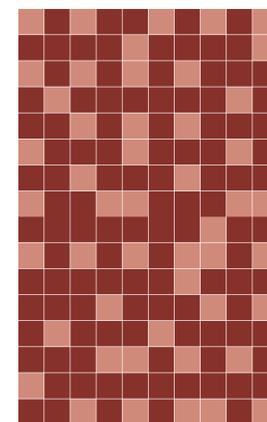
# The [CM20] Protocol



Sender

Set  $X$ 

$$s \leftarrow \{0,1\}^w$$

 $k$  $C$  $A$ 

$$k \leftarrow \{0,1\}^\lambda$$

$$A \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{m \times w}$$



Receiver

Set  $Y$ For  $x \in X$ :

$$v \leftarrow F_k(H_1(x))$$

$$Z \leftarrow Z \cup \left\{ H_2(C_1[v[1]] \parallel \dots \parallel C_w[v[w]]) \right\}$$

 $Z$ For  $y \in Y$ :

$$v \leftarrow F_k(H_1(y))$$

$$h \leftarrow H_2(A_1[v[1]] \parallel \dots \parallel A_w[v[w]])$$

If  $h \in Z$  thenReturn  $I$

# Attacking the [CM20] Protocol



Sender

Set X

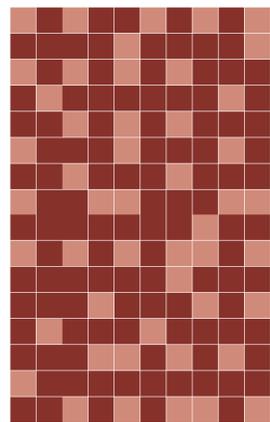
$s \leftarrow \{0,1\}^w$

one bit at a time

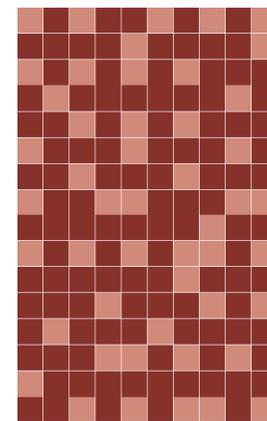
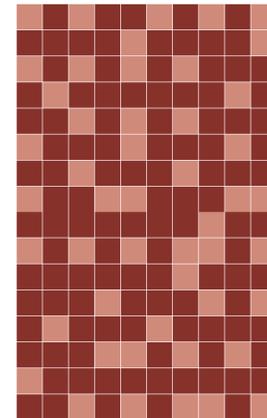
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$$\text{OT}((A_i, B_i), s[i])$$

$C$



one column at a time

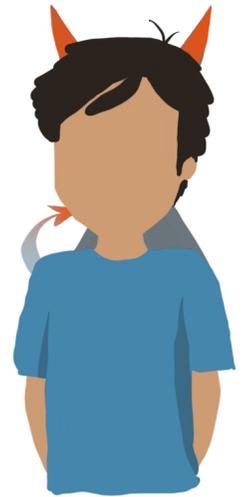


$k$

$$D \leftarrow 0^{m \times w}$$

$$A \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{m \times w}$$

$$B \leftarrow A \oplus D$$



Receiver

Set Y

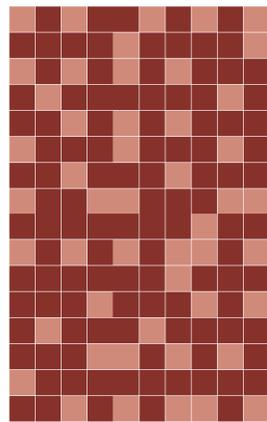
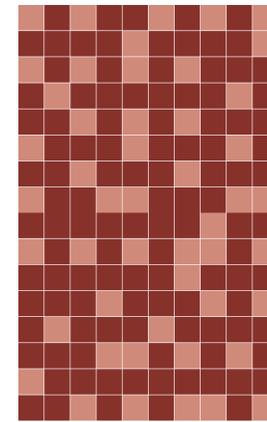
# Attacking the [CM20] Protocol



Sender

Set  $X$ 

$$s \leftarrow \{0,1\}^w$$

 $k$  $C$  $A$ 

$$k \leftarrow \{0,1\}^\lambda$$

$$A \leftarrow \{0,1\}^{m \times w}$$



Receiver

Set  $Y$ For  $x \in X$ :

$$v \leftarrow F_k(H_1(x))$$

$$Z \leftarrow Z \cup \left\{ H_2(C_1[v[1]] \parallel \dots \parallel C_w[v[w]]) \right\}$$

 $Z$ Receiver can extract all info about  $X$  from  $Z$ For  $y \in Y$ :

$$v \leftarrow F_k(H_1(y))$$

$$h \leftarrow H_2(A_1[v[1]] \parallel \dots \parallel A_w[v[w]])$$

If  $h \in Z$  thenReturn  $I$

# Conclusions

- ❖ Guarantees of privacy and security are essential for interactions between parties that involve the use of sensitive information.
- ❖ PSI protocols have the potential to be used for a number of different applications
  - ❖ Semi-honest security is insufficient
  - ❖ Malicious security is inefficient
- ❖ Trusted execution environments could allow semi-honest protocols to run as per the specifications
  - ❖ Currently no provable security guarantees
- ❖ The literature should be more objective about the use of semi-honest security in applications