

# Magic Adversaries VS Individual Reduction --- “ Science Wins Either Way ”

Yi Deng

deng@iie.ac.cn

State Key Lab. of Information security, CAS

An annoying situation in crypto: for lots of earlier simple and elegant constructions:

An annoying situation in crypto: for lots of earlier simple and elegant constructions:

- No concrete attack;

An annoying situation in crypto: for lots of earlier simple and elegant constructions:

- No concrete attack;
- No security proof (under standard assumption) ;

An annoying situation in crypto: for lots of earlier simple and elegant constructions:

- No concrete attack;
- No security proof (under standard assumption) ;
- **But black-box lower bounds**

Impagliazzo and Rudich make  
us feel less embarrassed

An annoying situation in crypto: for lots of earlier simple and elegant constructions:

- No concrete attack;
- No security proof (under standard assumption) ;
- **But black-box lower bounds**

Impagliazzo and Rudich make us feel less embarrassed

A few black box barriers have been bypassed ( e.g., Barak's public coin arguments)

An annoying situation in crypto: for lots of earlier simple and elegant constructions:

- No concrete attack;
- No security proof (under standard assumption) ;
- **But black-box lower bounds**

Impagliazzo and Rudich make us feel less embarrassed

A few black box barriers have been bypassed ( e.g., Barak's public coin arguments)

But for most of them, it is unclear whether the BB lower bounds are **fundamental** barriers.

An annoying situation in crypto: for lots of earlier simple and elegant constructions:

- No concrete attack;
- No security proof (under standard assumption) ;
- **But black-box lower bounds**

Impagliazzo and Rudich make us feel less embarrassed

A few black box barriers have been bypassed ( e.g., Barak's public coin arguments)

But for most of them, it is unclear whether the BB lower bounds are **fundamental** barriers.

We show that there must be a new way to get around some of known BB lower bounds.



Specifically, we prove:

Specifically, we prove:

if  $\exists$  injective OWF  $f$ , then one of the following statements must be true:

1. (infinitely-often) public key encryption/KE exist.
2. The 4-round Feige-Shamir protocol is distributional concurrent ZK for OR-NP statements with small indist. gap.

Specifically, we prove:

if  $\exists$  injective OWF  $f$ , then one of the following statements must be true:

1. (infinitely-often) public key encryption/KE exist.

- Impossible for BB construction [IR 89]
- All known results are negative [DS16...]

2. The 4-round Feige-Shamir protocol is distributional concurrent ZK for OR-NP statements with small indist. gap.

Specifically, we prove:

if  $\exists$  injective OWF  $f$ , then one of the following statements must be true:

1. (infinitely-often) public key encryption/KE exist.

- Impossible for BB construction [IR 89]
- All known results are negative [DS16...]

2. The 4-round Feige-Shamir protocol is distributional concurrent ZK for OR-NP statements with small indist. gap.

- [DNS90] observed that FS may not be bbCZK;

Specifically, we prove:

if  $\exists$  injective OWF  $f$ , then one of the following statements must be true:

1. (infinitely-often) public key encryption/KE exist.

- Impossible for BB construction [IR 89]
- All known results are negative [DS16...]

2. The 4-round Feige-Shamir protocol is distributional concurrent ZK for OR-NP statements with small indist. gap.

- [DNS90] observed that FS may not be bbCZK;
- Impossible for BB simulation [CKPR01];

# Specifically, we prove:

if  $\exists$  injective OWF  $f$ , then one of the following statements must be true:

1. (infinitely-often) public key encryption/KE exist.

- Impossible for BB construction [IR 89]
- All known results are negative [DS16...]

2. The 4-round Feige-Shamir protocol is distributional concurrent ZK for OR-NP statements with small indist. gap.

- [DNS90] observed that FS may not be bbCZK;
- Impossible for BB simulation [CKPR01];
- Generate a lone line of research [CLOS02, PR03, Lin03b, PR05, Pas04, Lin08, GGJ13, GGJS12, GGS15, GLP+15...];

# Specifically, we prove:

if  $\exists$  injective OWF  $f$ , then one of the following statements must be true:

1. (infinitely-often) public key encryption/KE exist.

- Impossible for BB construction [IR 89]
- All known results are negative [DS16...]

2. The 4-round Feige-Shamir protocol is distributional concurrent ZK for OR-NP statements with small indist. gap.

- [DNS90] observed that FS may not be bbCZK;
- Impossible for BB simulation [CKPR01];
- Generate a lone line of research [CLOS02, PR03, Lin03b, PR05, Pas04, Lin08, GGJ13, GGJS12, GGS15, GLP+15...];
- Known constant-round CZK protocols rely on much stronger assumption [CLP15, PPS15]

Specifically, we prove:

if  $\exists$  injective OWF  $f$ , then one of the following statements must be true:

1. (infinitely-often) PKE/KE exists.
2. The 4-round Feige-Shamir protocol is distributional concurrent ZK for OR-NP statements with small indist. gap.

Proof idea.

Given a magic adv  $V^*$  that breaks the dist. CZK of Feige-Shamir, we construct PKE/KE from  $V^*$  (based on injective OWF).

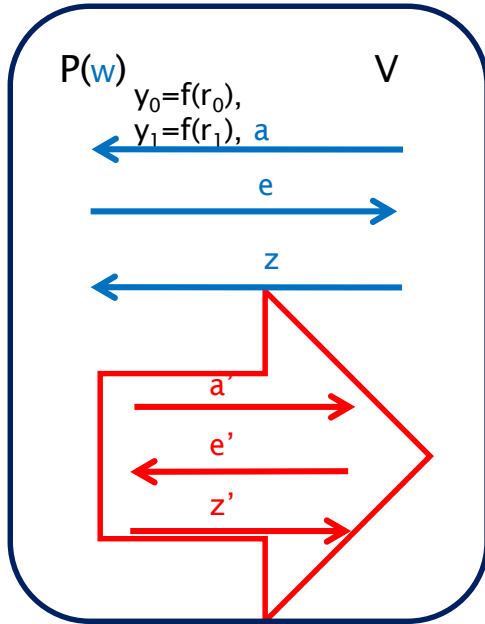


# The classic Feige-Shamir Argument

# The classic Feige-Shamir Argument

In Standalone setting

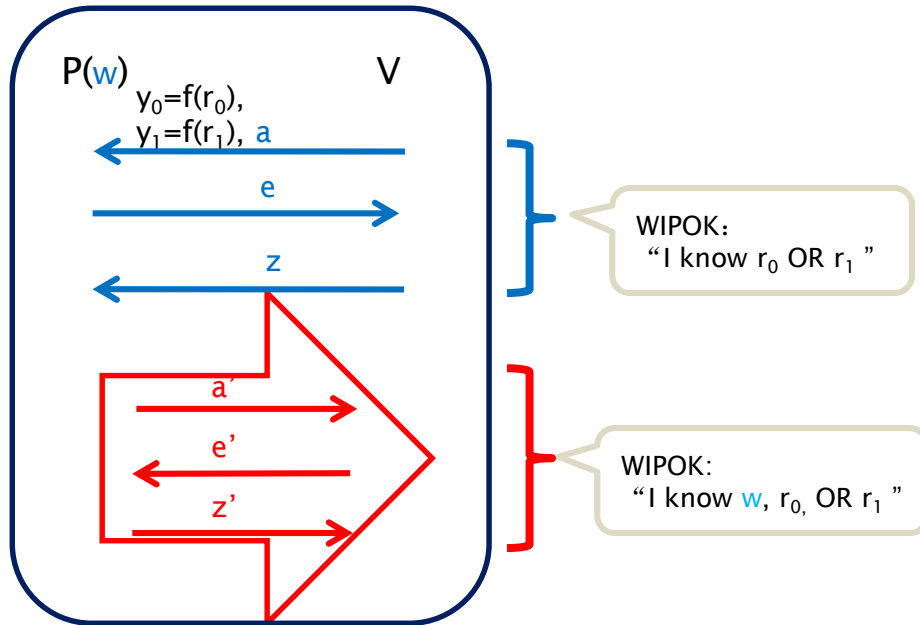
$x \in L$



# The classic Feige-Shamir Argument

In Standalone setting

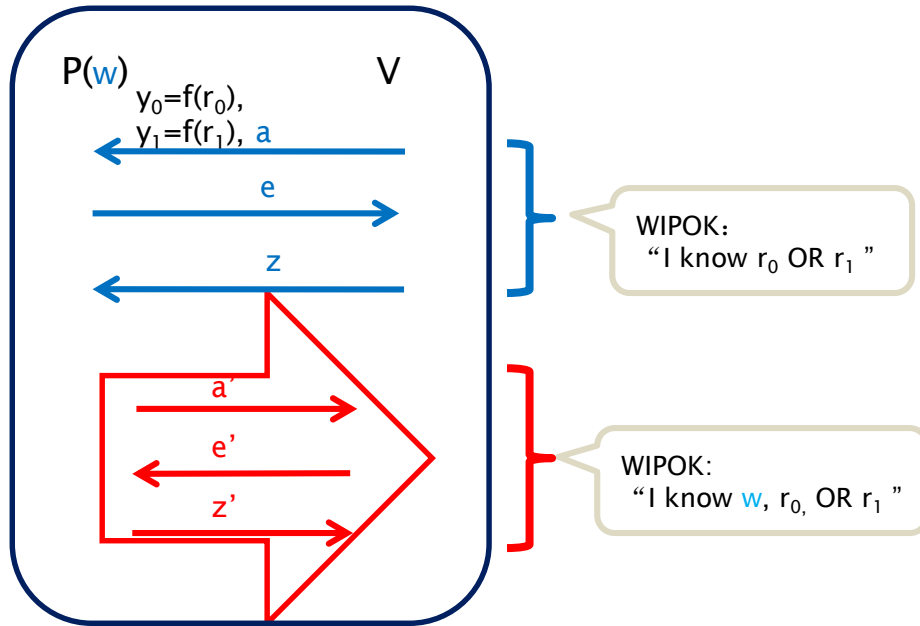
$x \in L$



# The classic Feige-Shamir Argument

In Standalone setting

$x \in L$

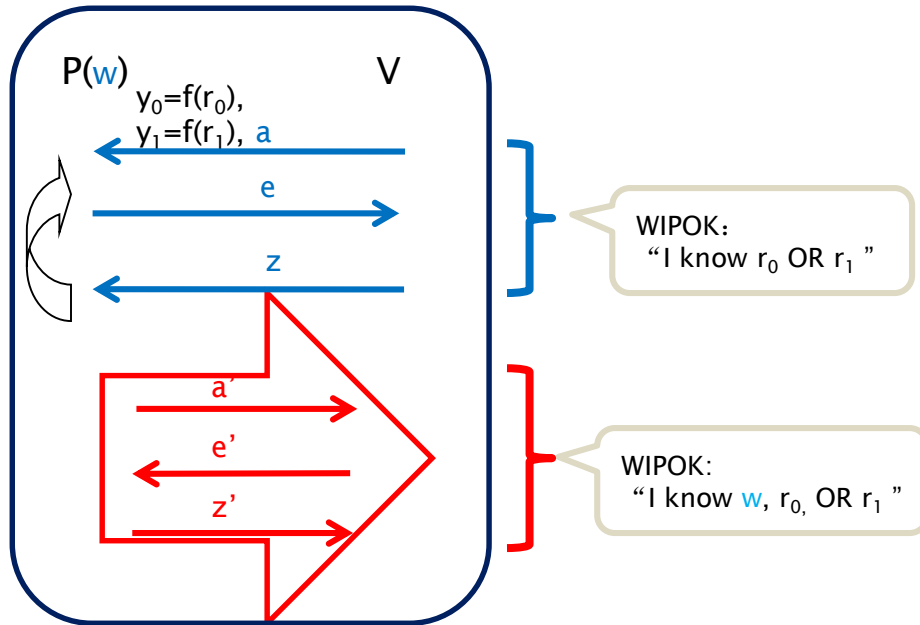


- Completeness;
- Soundness;

# The classic Feige-Shamir Argument

In Standalone setting

$x \in L$

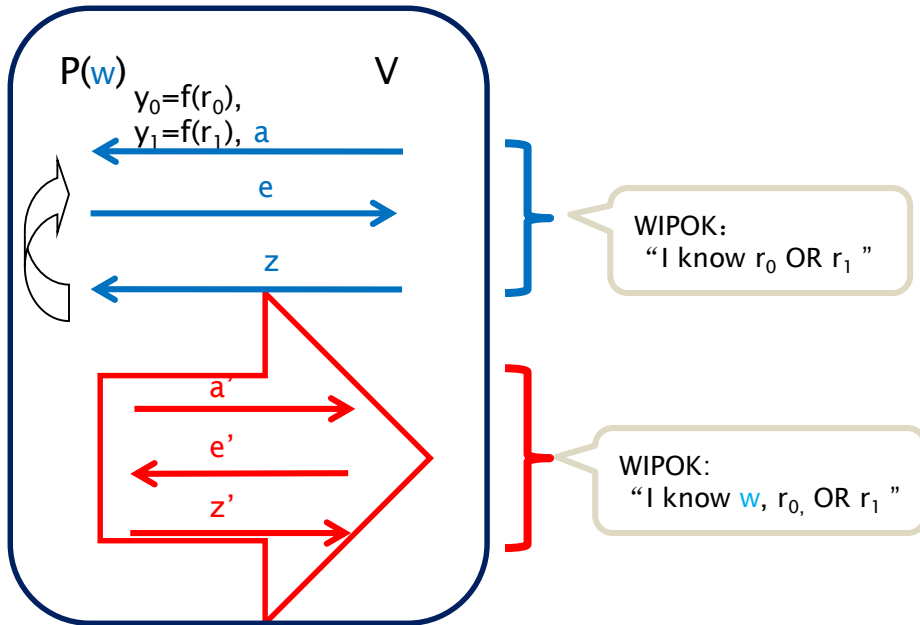


- Completeness;
- Soundness;
- Standalone ZK

# The classic Feige-Shamir Argument

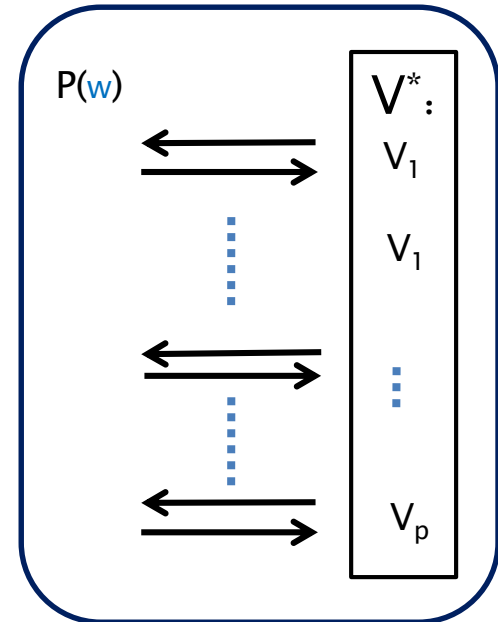
In Standalone setting

$x \in L$



- Completeness;
- Soundness;
- Standalone ZK

In concurrent setting

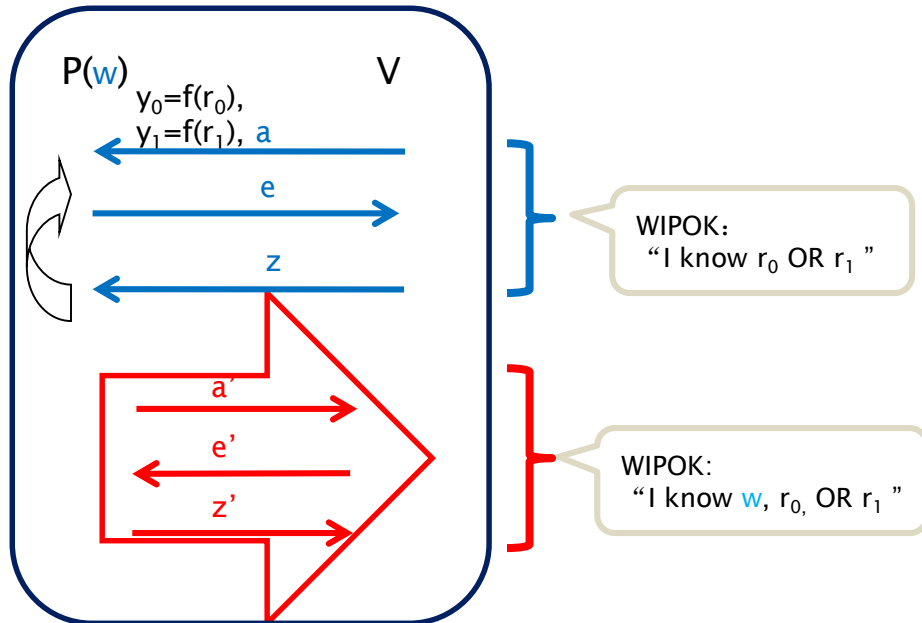


$V^*$  controls all msgs scheduling.

# The classic Feige-Shamir Argument

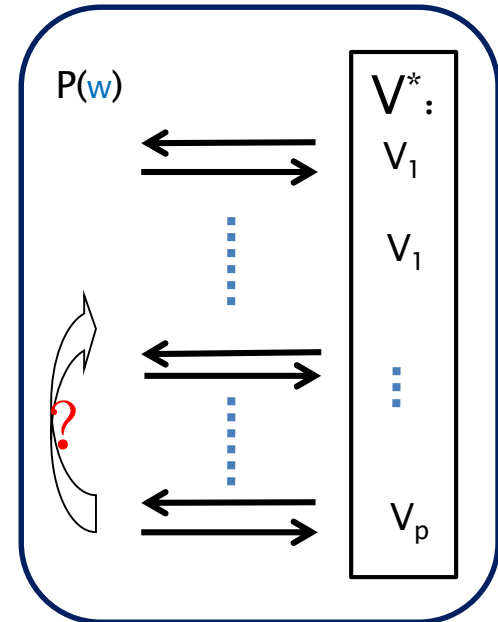
In Standalone setting

$x \in L$



- Completeness;
- Soundness;
- Standalone ZK

In concurrent setting

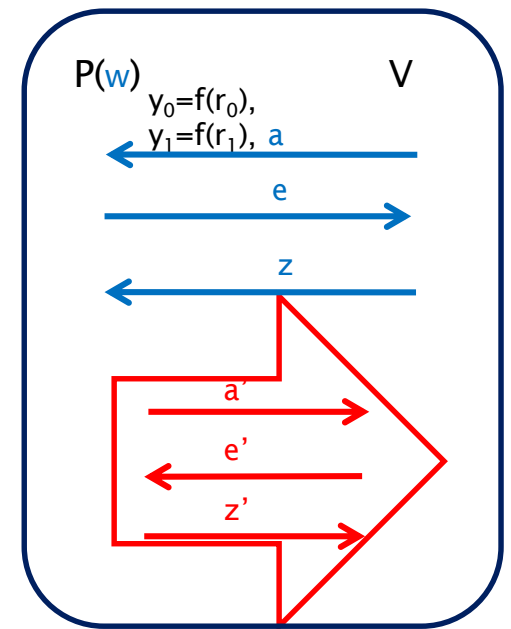


$V^*$  controls all msgs scheduling.  
BB simulator fails: Nesting effect

In fact

F-S in Standalone setting

$x \in L$





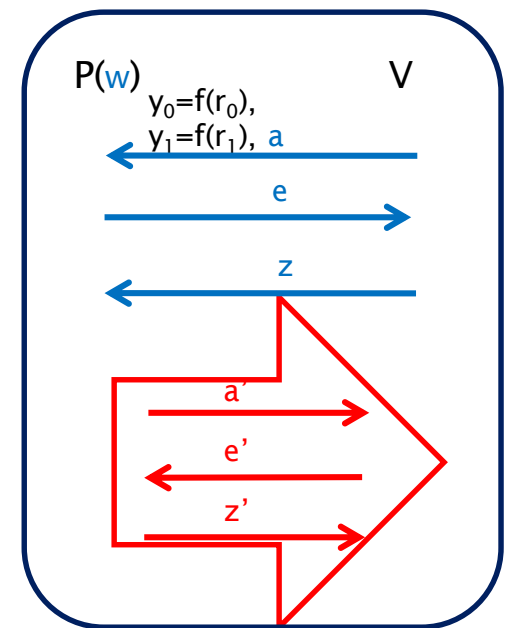
# In fact

- For any  $o(\log n / \log \log n)$ -round protocol (e.g. Feige-Shamir), there is a class  $C$  of concurrent verifiers for which BB simulator fails [CKPR01]:

$$\nexists \text{ (bb) } S \forall \mathcal{V} \in C$$

F-S in Standalone setting

$x \in L$



# In fact

- For any  $o(\log n / \log \log n)$ -round protocol (e.g. Feige-Shamir), there is a class  $C$  of concurrent verifiers for which BB simulator fails [CKPR01]:

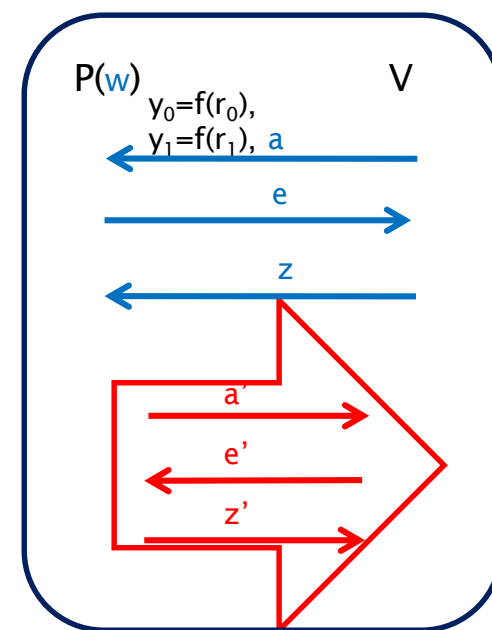
$$\nexists (bb) S \forall \mathcal{V} \in C$$

- We observe that for every  $\mathcal{V} \in C$ , there is a simulator that works well:

$$\forall \mathcal{V} \in C \exists S_{\mathcal{V}}$$

F-S in Standalone setting

$x \in L$



# In fact

- For any  $o(\log n / \log \log n)$ -round protocol (e.g. Feige-Shamir), there is a class  $C$  of concurrent verifiers for which BB simulator fails [CKPR01]:

$$\not\exists \text{ (bb) } S \forall \mathcal{V} \in C$$

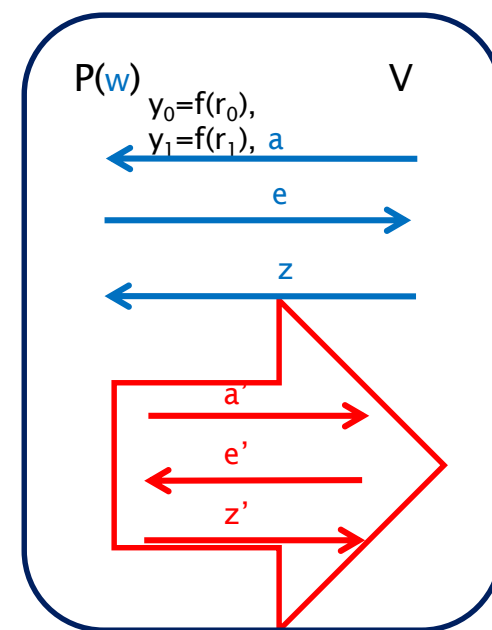
- We observe that for every  $\mathcal{V} \in C$ , there is a simulator that works well:

$$\forall \mathcal{V} \in C \exists S_{\mathcal{V}}$$

$S_{\mathcal{V}}$  takes the randomness and functionality of  $\mathcal{V}$  as input.

F-S in Standalone setting

$x \in L$



# In fact

- For any  $o(\log n / \log \log n)$ -round protocol (e.g. Feige-Shamir), there is a class  $\mathcal{C}$  of concurrent verifiers for which BB simulator fails [CKPR01]:

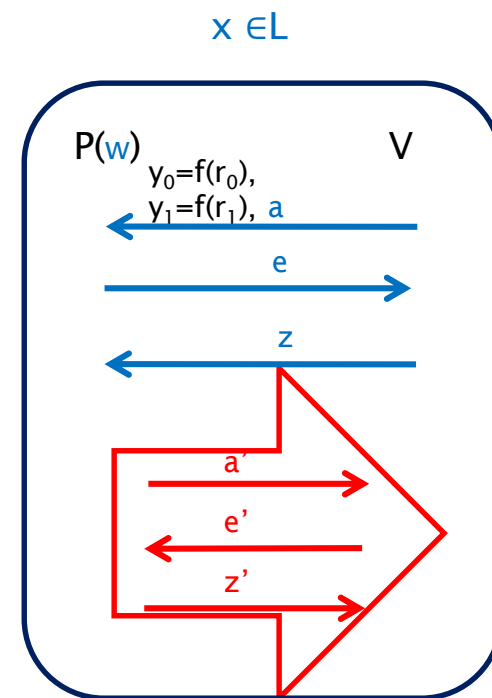
$$\not\exists \text{ (bb) } S \forall \mathcal{V} \in \mathcal{C}$$

- We observe that for every  $\mathcal{V} \in \mathcal{C}$ , there is a

Natural security definitions only require the *existence* of reduction/simulation.

$$\forall \mathcal{V} \in \mathcal{C} \exists S_{\mathcal{V}}$$

F-S in Standalone setting



# In fact

- For any  $o(\log n / \log \log n)$ -round protocol (e.g. Feige-Shamir), there is a class  $\mathcal{C}$  concurrent verifiers for which BB simul fails [CKPR01]:

$$\not\exists (\text{bb}) S \forall \mathcal{V} \in \mathcal{C}$$

- We observe that for every  $\mathcal{V} \in \mathcal{C}$ , there is a

Natural security definitions only require the *existence* of reduction/simulation.

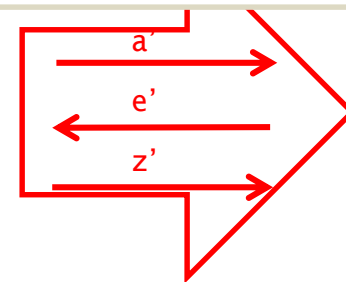
$$\forall \mathcal{V} \in \mathcal{C} \exists S_{\mathcal{V}}$$

This reveals a gap between the *universal* simulation

$$\exists S \forall \mathcal{V}$$

and *individual* simulation

$$\forall \mathcal{V} \exists S$$



# In fact

- For any  $o(\log n / \log \log n)$ -round protocol (e.g. Feige-Shamir), there is a class  $C$  of concurrent verifiers for which BB simulator fails [CKPR01]:

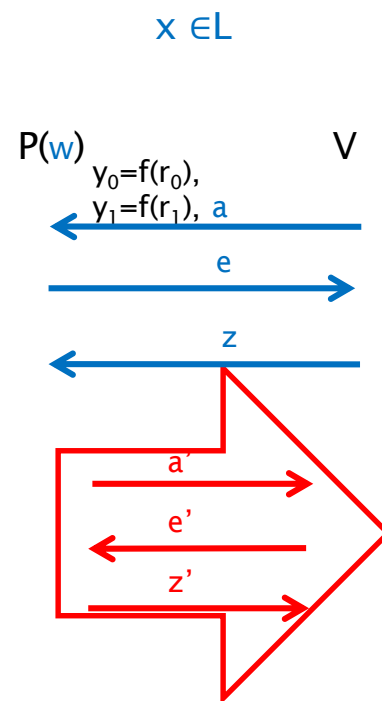
$$\not\exists \text{ (bb) } S \forall \mathcal{V} \in C$$

- We observe that for every  $\mathcal{V} \in C$ , there is a simulator that works well:

$$\forall \mathcal{V} \in C \exists S_{\mathcal{V}}$$

Any magic adv  $V^*$  (not in  $C$ ) that breaks CZK of Feige-Shamir (i.e., no efficient alg can simulate its view) ?

F-S in Standalone setting



Consequence of a magic adv  $V^*$  (*oversimplified*)

# Consequence of a magic adv $V^*$ (*oversimplified*)

Fix  $n$ , and assume  $V^*$  runs in  $\text{poly}(n)$  steps in a real interaction.

We prove:

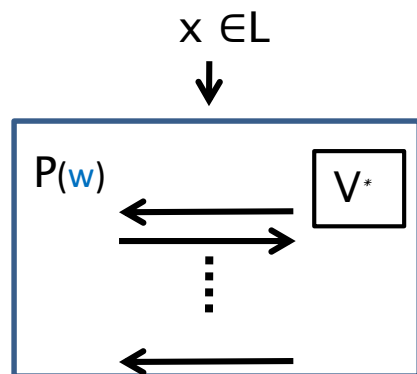


# Consequence of a magic adv $V^*$ (oversimplified)

Fix  $n$ , and assume  $V^*$  runs in  $\text{poly}(n)$  steps in a real interaction.

We prove:

$\exists V^*$ , step  $i$ :



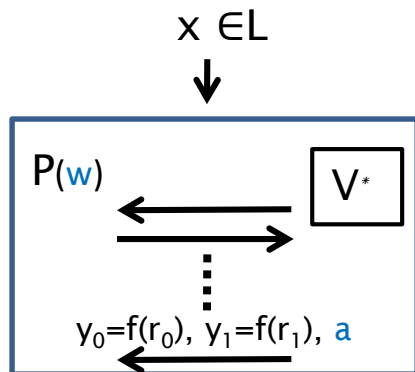
# Consequence of a magic adv $V^*$ (oversimplified)

Fix  $n$ , and assume  $V^*$  runs in  $\text{poly}(n)$  steps in a real interaction.

We prove:

$\exists V^*$ , step  $i$ :

1. At step  $i$ ,  $V^*$  outputs the first message  $(y_0, y_1, a)$  of a session;



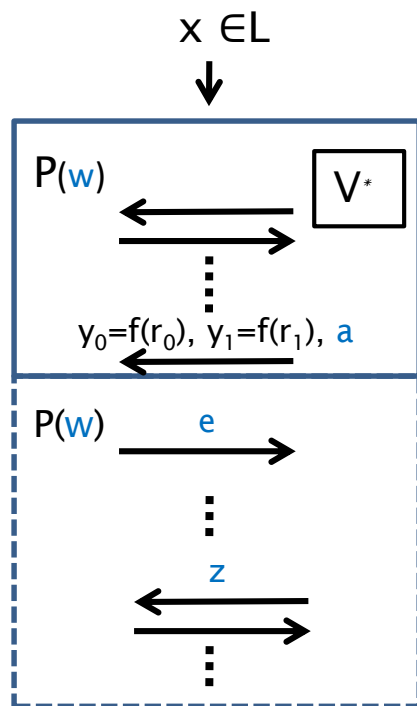
# Consequence of a magic adv $V^*$ (oversimplified)

Fix  $n$ , and assume  $V^*$  runs in  $\text{poly}(n)$  steps in a real interaction.

We prove:

$\exists V^*$ , step  $i$ :

1. At step  $i$ ,  $V^*$  outputs the first message  $(y_0, y_1, a)$  of a session;
2.  $V^*$  will complete its proof of “I know one of preimages” at a later time.



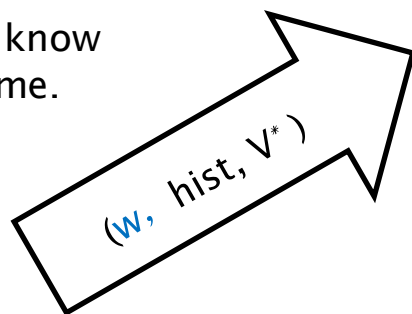
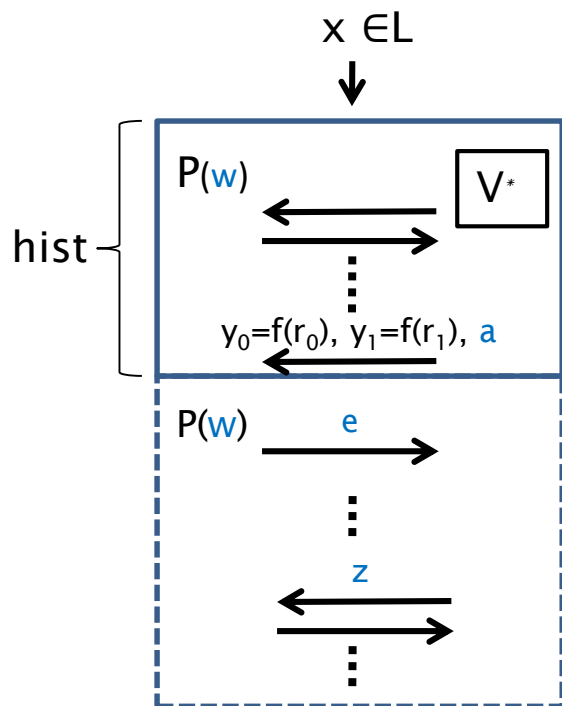
# Consequence of a magic adv $V^*$ (oversimplified)

Fix  $n$ , and assume  $V^*$  runs in  $\text{poly}(n)$  steps in a real interaction.

We prove:

$\exists V^*$ , step  $i$ :

1. At step  $i$ ,  $V^*$  outputs the first message  $(y_0, y_1, a)$  of a session;
2.  $V^*$  will complete its proof of “I know one of preimages” at a later time.



Given the witness  $w$  as input,  
there is a PPT inverting  $E$ ,  
 $E(w, \text{hist}, V^*) \rightarrow r_b$ .  
(by rewinding)

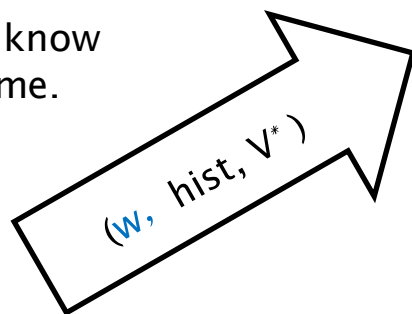
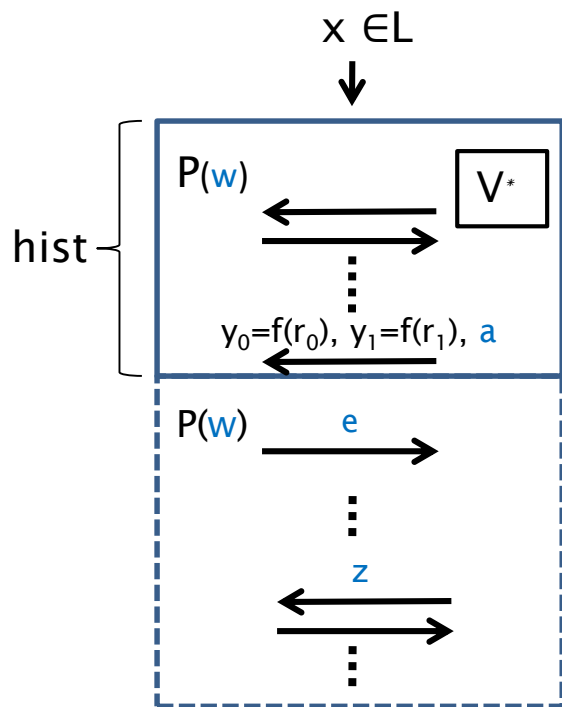
# Consequence of a magic adv $V^*$ (oversimplified)

Fix  $n$ , and assume  $V^*$  runs in  $\text{poly}(n)$  steps in a real interaction.

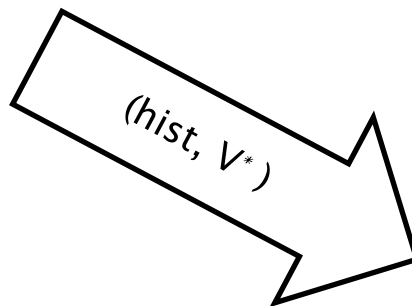
We prove:

$\exists V^*$ , step  $i$ :

1. At step  $i$ ,  $V^*$  outputs the first message  $(y_0, y_1, a)$  of a session;
2.  $V^*$  will complete its proof of “I know one of preimages” at a later time.



Given the witness  $w$  as input, there is a PPT inverting  $E$ ,  $E(w, \text{hist}, V^*) \rightarrow r_b$ .  
(by rewinding)



Without the witness  $w$ , no PPT  $T(\text{hist}, V^*)$  can invert any images  $y_0, y_1$ .  
(otherwise we will have a simulator for  $V^*$ )

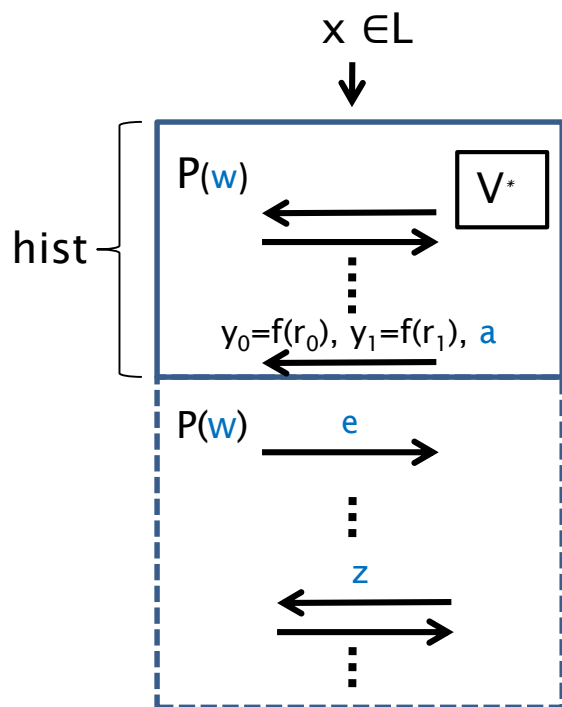
# Consequence of a magic adv $V^*$ (oversimplified)

Fix  $n$ , and assume  $V^*$  runs in  $\text{poly}(n)$  steps in a real interaction.

We prove:

$\exists V^*$ , step  $i$ :

1. At step  $i$ ,  $V^*$  outputs the first message  $(y_0, y_1, a)$  of a session;
2.  $V^*$  will complete its proof of “I know one of preimages” at a later time.



Given the witness  $w$  as input, there is a PPT inverting  $E$ ,  $E(w, \text{hist}, V^*) \rightarrow r_b$ . (by rewinding)

$V^*$  magically creates a **trapdoor** ( $w$ ) for the images of  $f$  output by  $V^*$  at its step  $i$ .

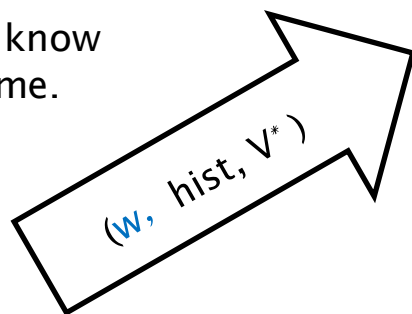
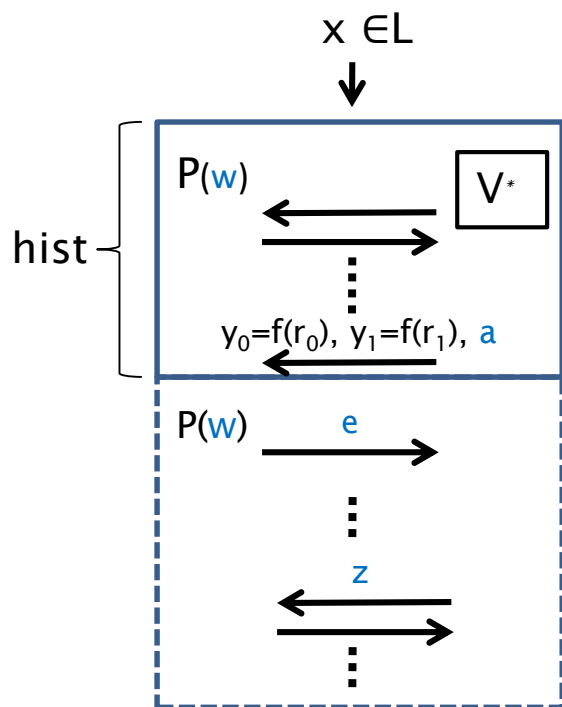
Without the witness  $w$ , no PPT  $T(\text{hist}, V^*)$  can invert any images  $y_0, y_1$ . (otherwise we will have a simulator for  $V^*$ )

# Consequence of a magic adv $V^*$ (oversimplified)

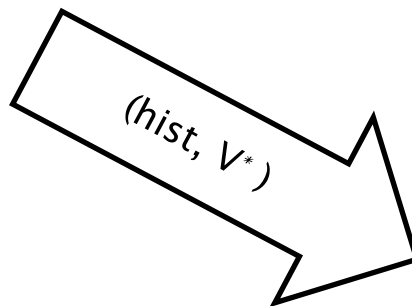
Actually, we prove that there are infinitely many  $n$ , for each  $n$

$\exists V^*$ , step  $i_n$ :

1. At step  $i$ ,  $V^*$  outputs the first message  $(y_0, y_1, a)$  of a session;
2.  $V^*$  will complete its proof of “I know one of preimages” at a later time.



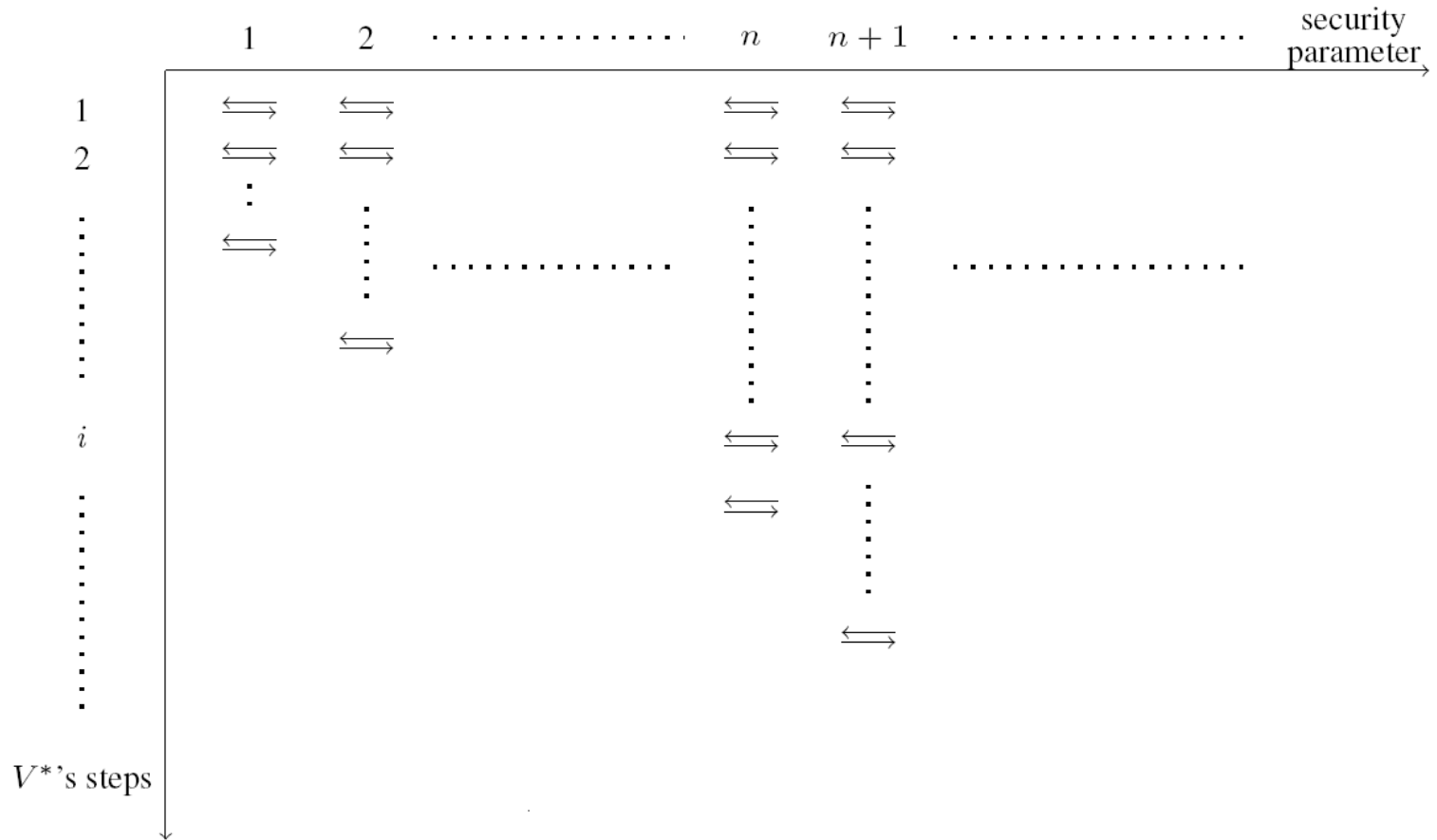
Given the witness  $w$  as input, there is a PPT extractor  $E$ ,  $E(w, \text{hist}, V^*)$  can extract  $r_b$ . (by rewinding)



Without the witness  $w$ , no PPT  $T$  can extract  $r_b$ . (otherwise we will have a simulator for  $V^*$ )

# Proof of existence of an infinitely-many set $\{(n, i_n)\}$ : A dissection of a magic $V$

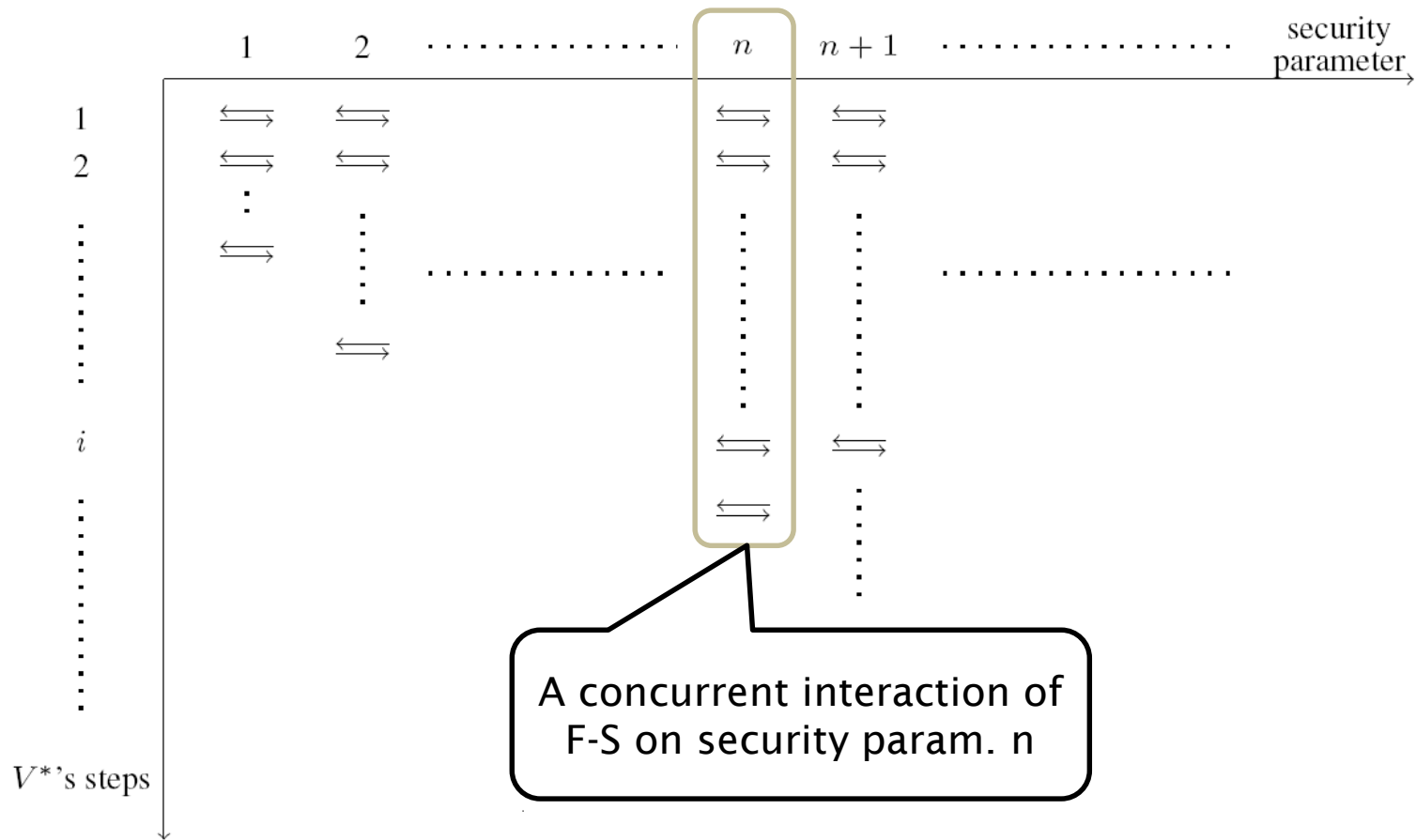
$(P(w), V^*)$





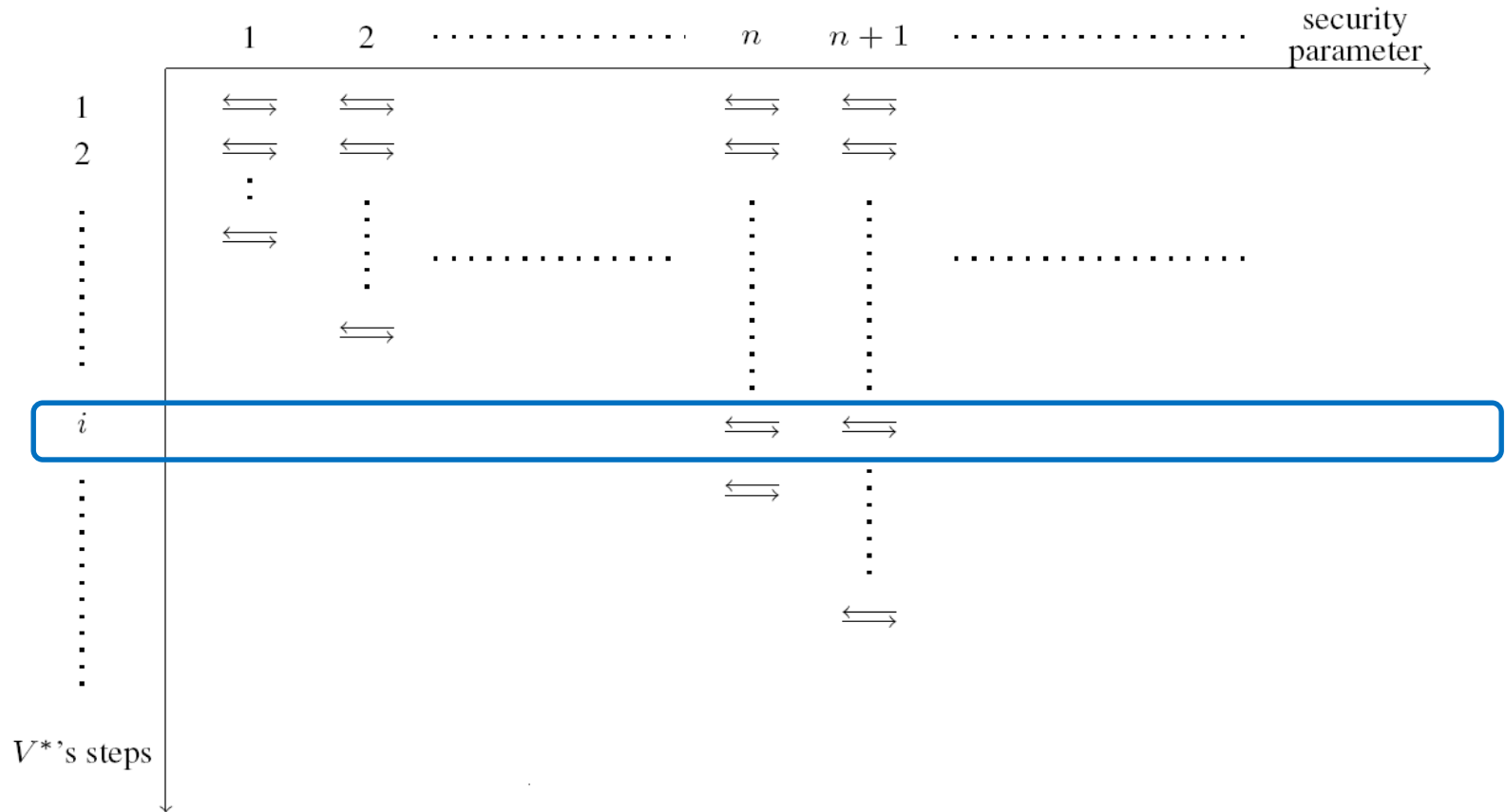
# Proof of existence of an infinitely-many set $\{(n, i_n)\}$ : A dissection of a magic $V$

$(P(w), V^*)$



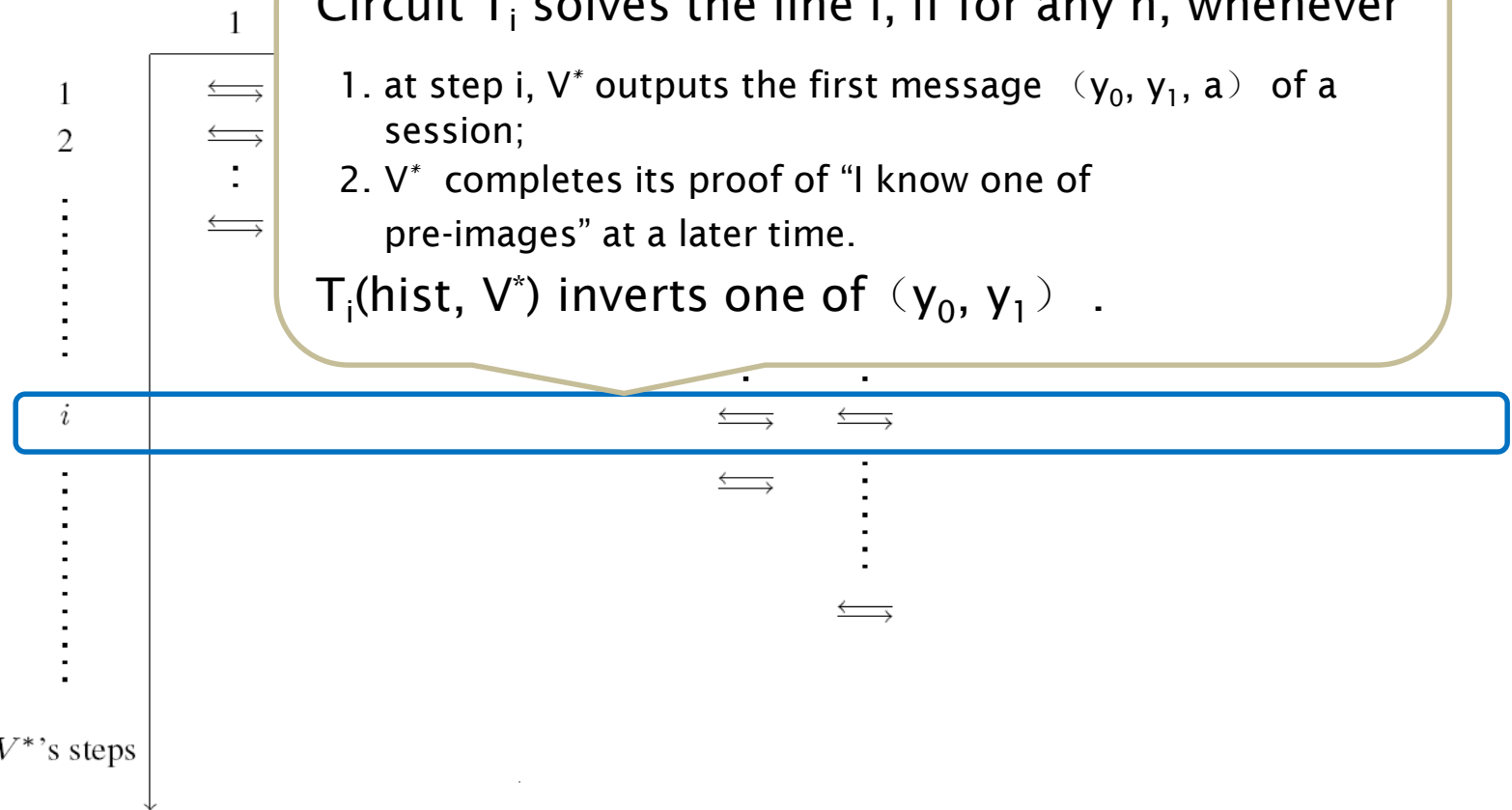
# Proof of existence of such an infinitely-many set $\{(n, i_n)\}$ : A dissection of a magic $V$

$(P(w), V^*)$



# Proof of existence of such an infinitely-many set $\{(n, i_n)\}$ : A dissection of a magic $V$

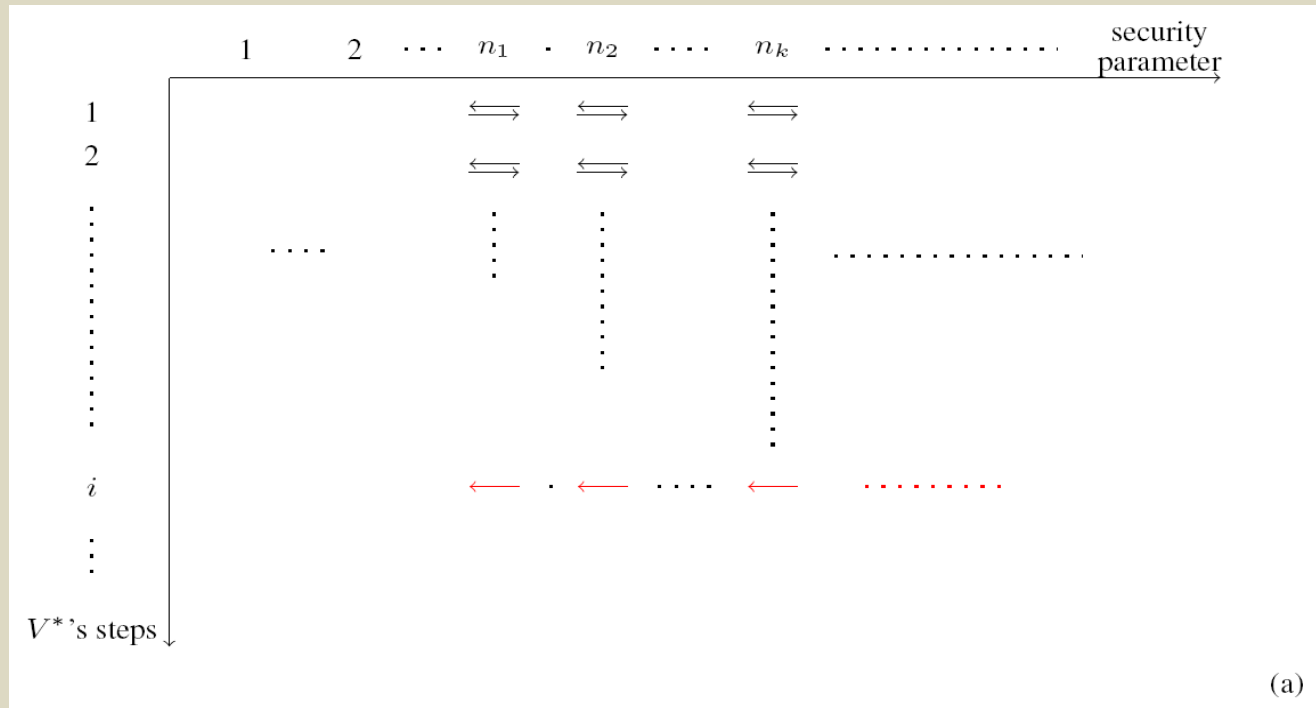
$(P(w), V^*)$







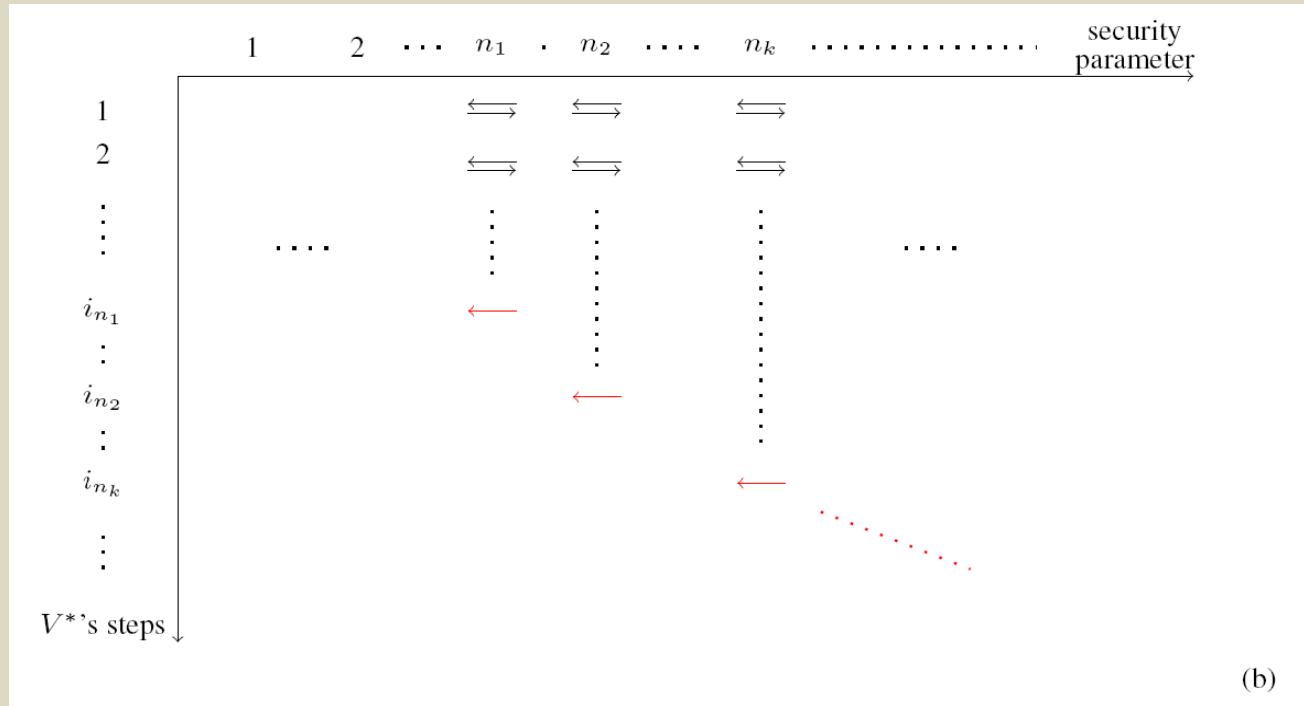
# Proof of existence of such an infinitely-many set $\{(n, i_n)\}$ : A dissection of a magic $V$



NO.  
We are done.



# Proof of existence of such an infinitely-many set $\{(n, i_n)\}$ : A dissection of a magic $V$

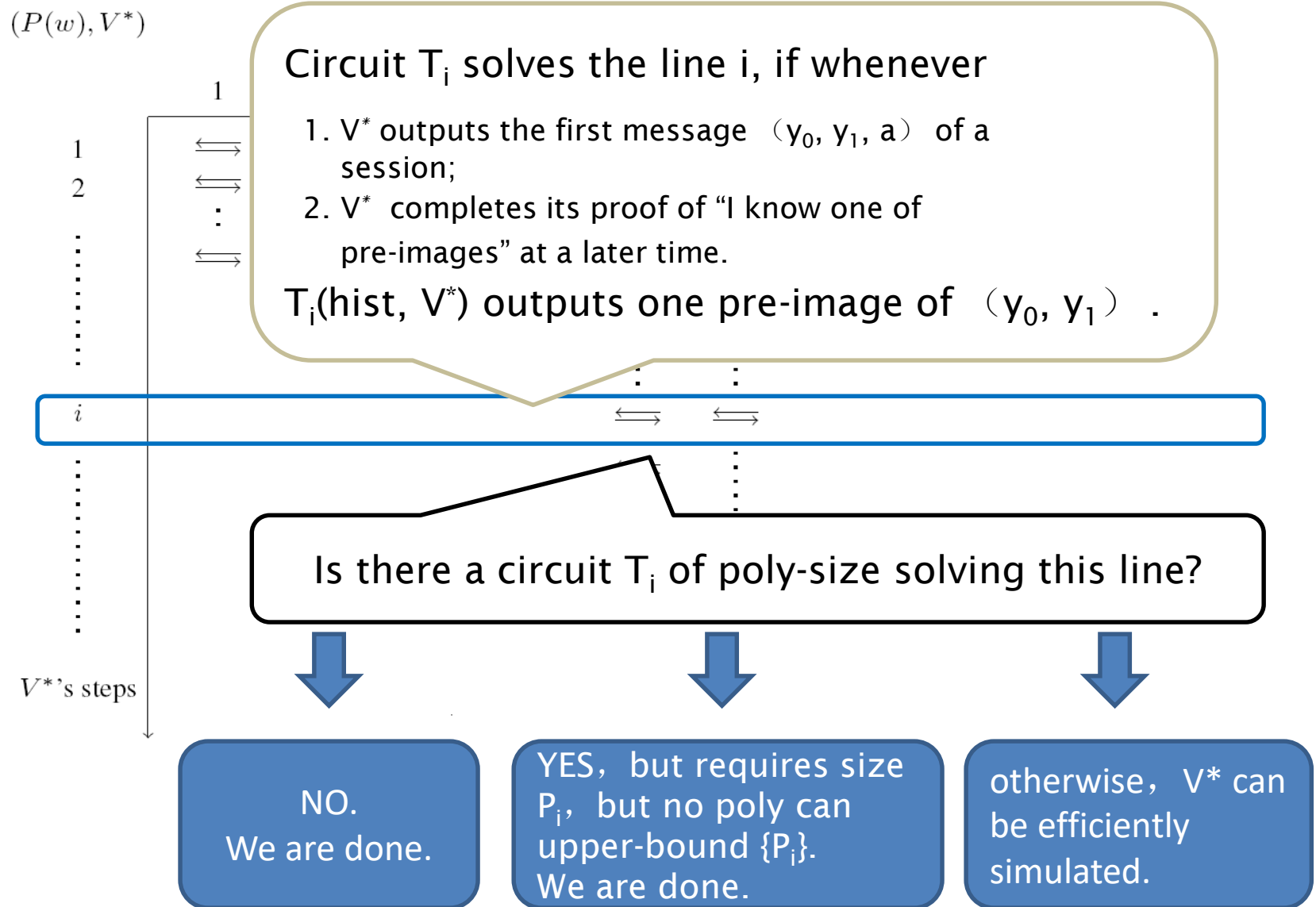


NO.  
We are done.

YES, but requires size  $P_i$ , and no poly can upper-bound  $\{P_i\}$ .  
We are done.



# Proof of existence of such an infinitely-many set $\{(n, i_n)\}$ : A dissection of a magic $V$





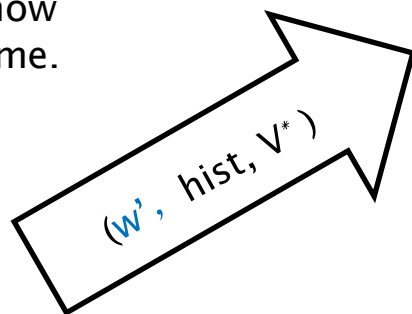
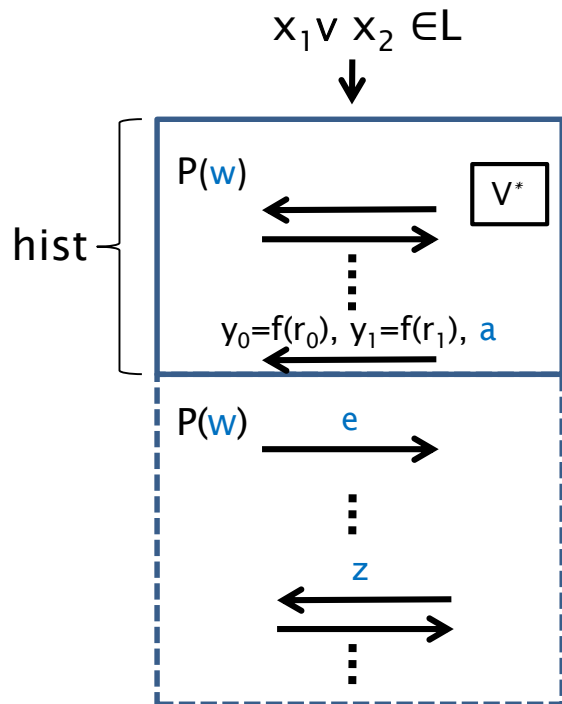
Now suppose that there is a magic  $V^*$  that breaks the CZK of Feige-Shamir on OR NP-statements  $(x_1 \vee x_2)$

# Consequence of a magic adv $V^*$ on $x_1 \vee x_2$ (oversimplified)

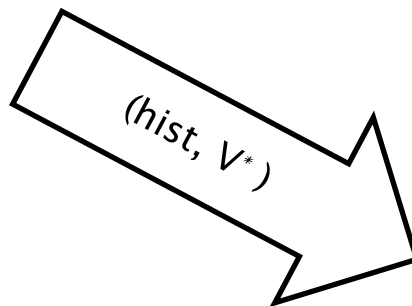
There are infinitely many  $n$ , for each  $n$

$\exists V^*$ , step  $i_n$

1. At setp  $i_n$ ,  $V^*$  outputs the first message  $(y_0, y_1, a)$  of a session;
2.  $V^*$  completes its proof of “I know one of preimages” at a later time.



Given the witness  $w'$  as input, there is a PPT extractor  $E$ ,  $E(w', \text{hist}, V^*)$  can extract  $r_b$ .  
(by rewinding)



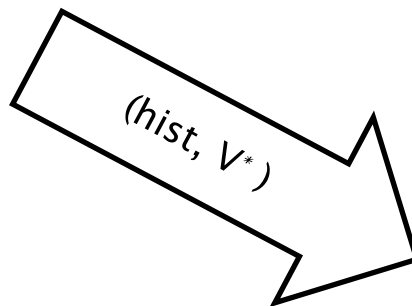
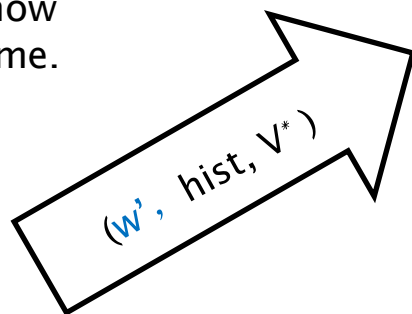
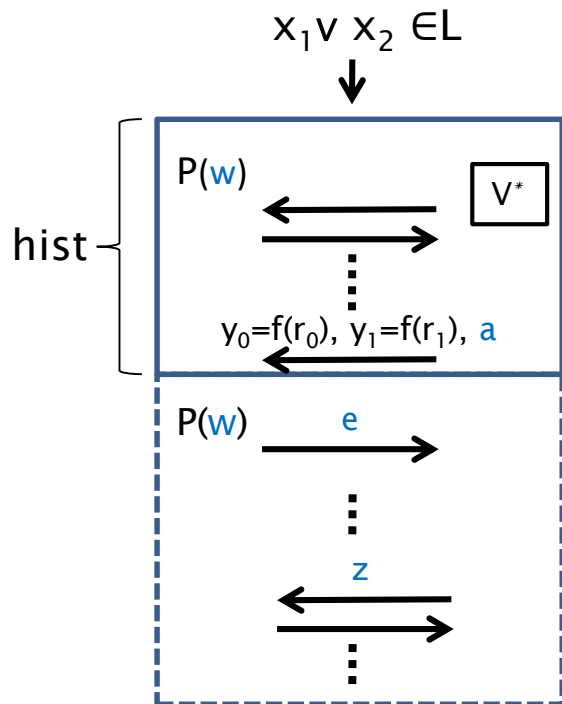
Without knowledge of any witness  $w$ , **NO** PPT  $T$  can extract  $r_b$ .  
(otherwise we will have a simulator for  $V^*$ )

# Consequence of a magic adv $V^*$ on $x_1 \vee x_2$ (oversimplified)

There are infinitely many  $n$ , for each  $n$

$\exists V^*$ , step  $i_n$

1. At setp  $i_n$ ,  $V^*$  outputs the first message  $(y_0, y_1, a)$  of a session;
2.  $V^*$  completes its proof of "I know one of preimages" at a later time.



Given the witness  $w'$  as input, there is a PPT extractor  $E$ ,  $E(w', \text{hist}, V^*)$  can extract  $r_b$ .  
(by rewinding)

Any valid witness to  $x_1 \vee x_2$  will work due to concurrent WI of the Feige-Shamir.

Without knowledge of any witness  $w$ , **NO** PPT  $T$  can extract  $r_b$ .  
(otherwise we will have a simulator for  $V^*$ )

# Consequence of a magic adv $V^*$ on $x_1 \vee x_2$ (oversimplified)

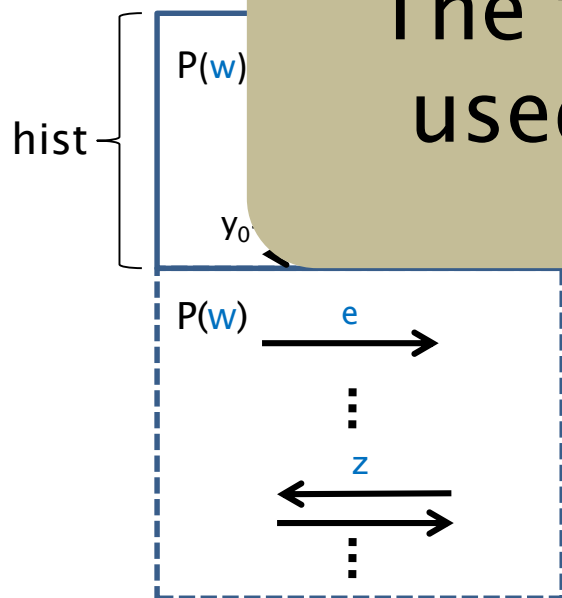
There are infinitely many  $n$ , for each  $n$

$\exists V^*$ , step  $i_n$

1. At setp  $i_n$ ,  $V^*$  outputs the first message  $(y_0, y_1, a)$  of a session;
2.  $V^*$  completes its proof of "I know one of preimages" at a later time.

Given the witness  $w'$  as input, there is a PPT extractor  $E$ ,  $E(w', \text{hist}, V^*)$  can extract  $r_b$ .

The functionality of  $V^*$  can be used to construct a PKE/KE.



Without knowledge of any witness  $w$ , **NO** PPT  $T$  can extract  $r_b$ .  
(otherwise we will have a simulator for  $V^*$ )

# PKE/KE from Injective OWF (high-level idea)

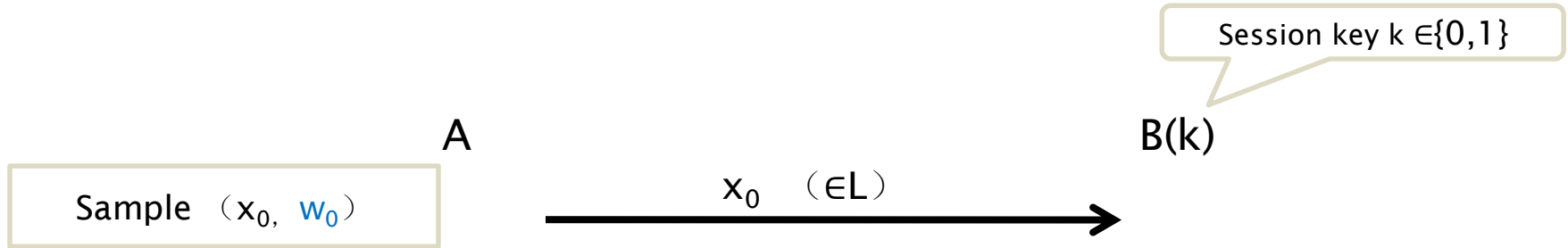
A

B(k)

Session key  $k \in \{0, 1\}$



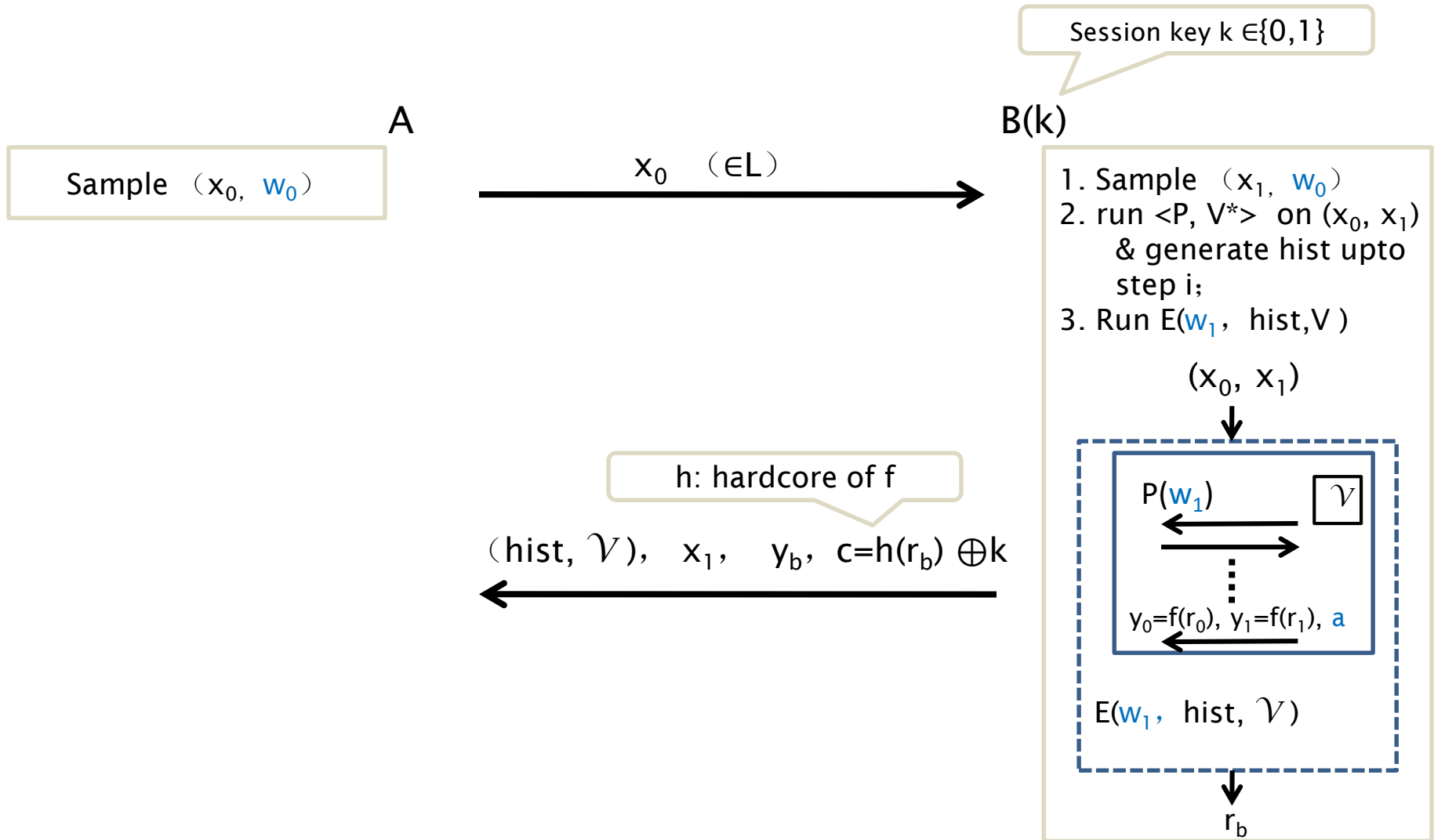
# PKE/KE from Injective OWF (high-level idea)



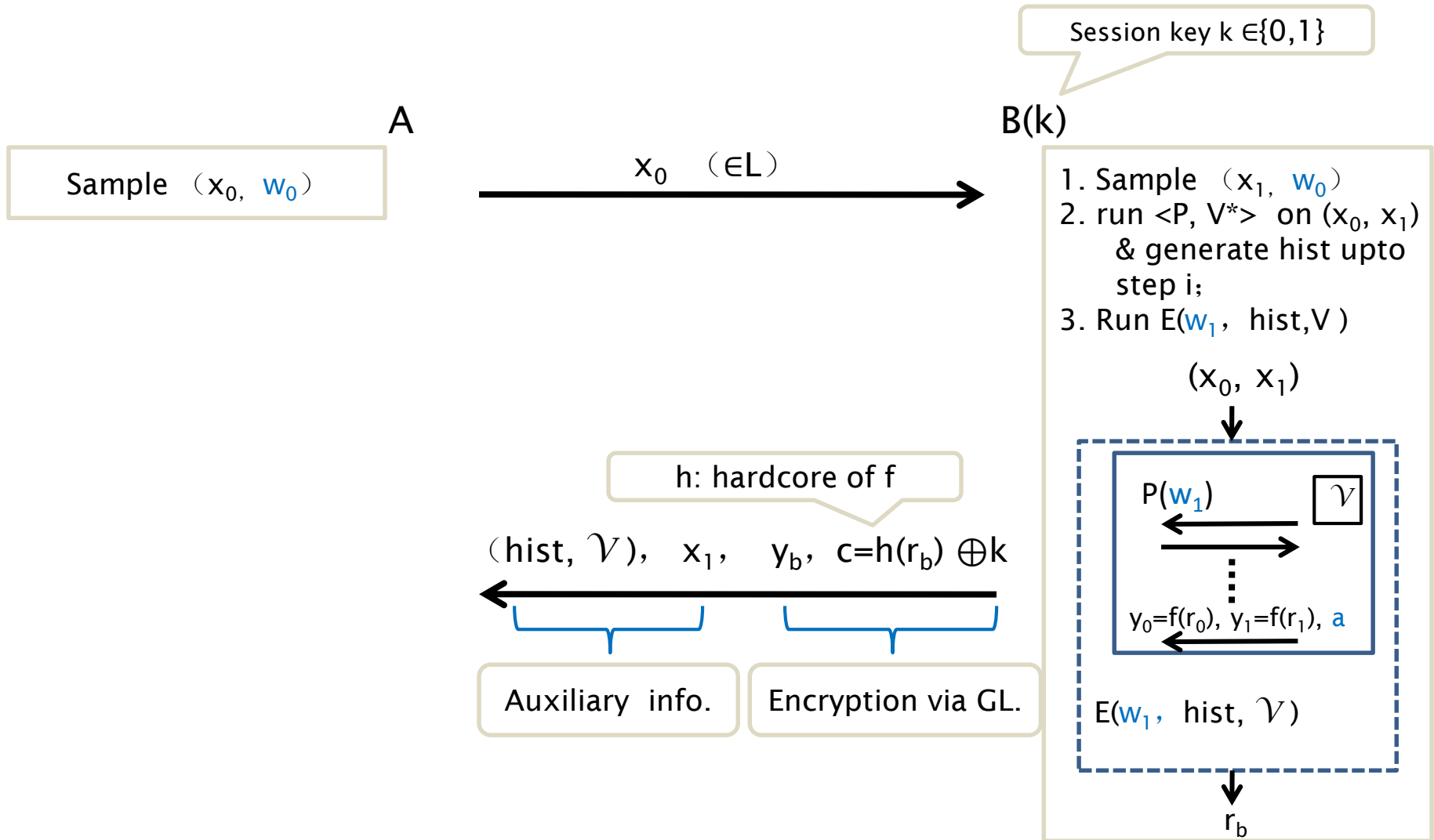




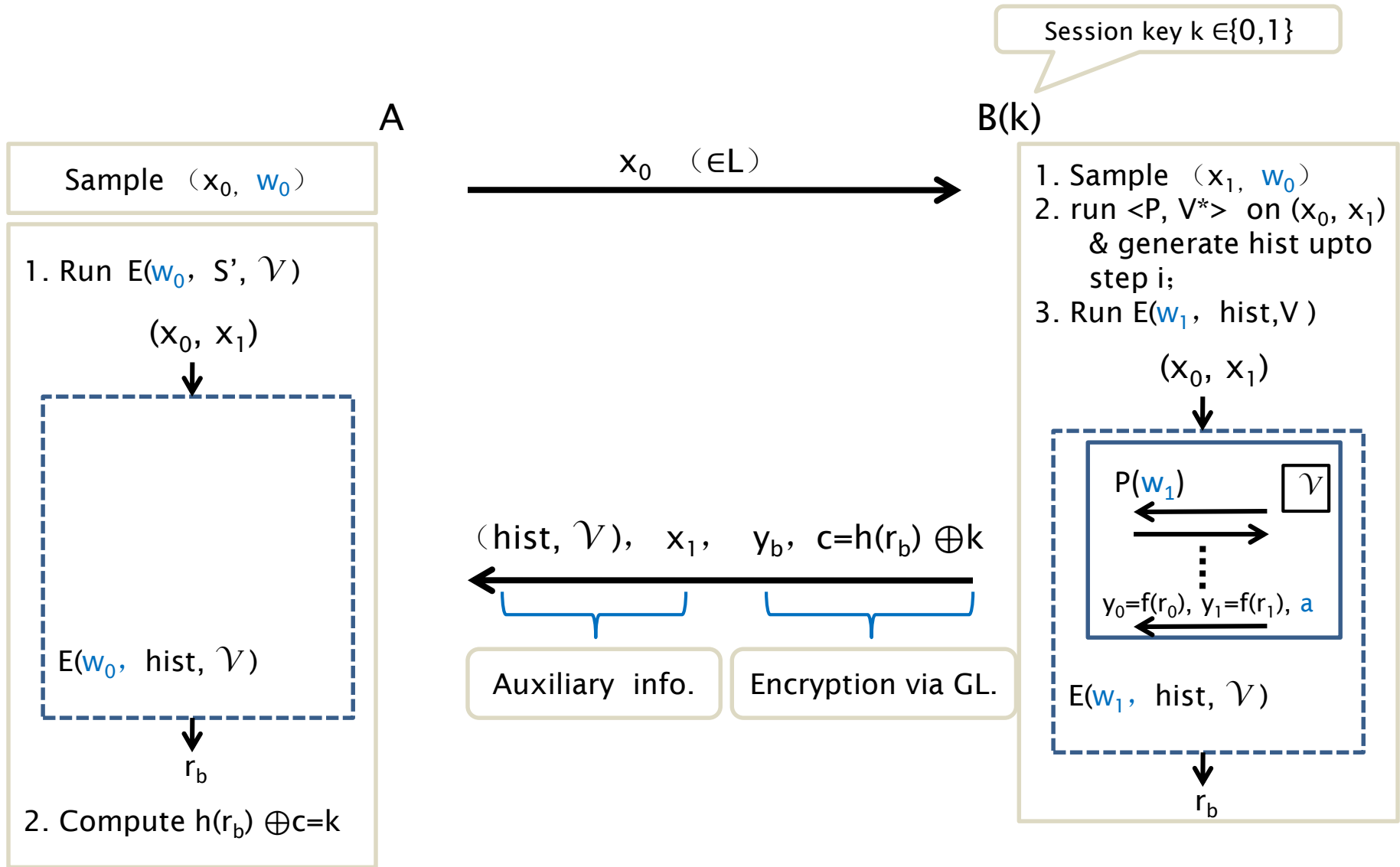
# PKE/KE from Injective OWF (high-level idea)



# PKE/KE from Injective OWF (high-level idea)



# PKE/KE from Injective OWF (high-level idea)



Caveats:

## Caveats:

- For the key gen algorithm of our encryption to work, we need a  $V^*$  that breaks *epsilon-Distributional* concurrent ZK;

## Caveats:

- For the key gen algorithm of our encryption to work, we need a  $V^*$  that breaks *epsilon-Distributional* concurrent ZK;
- $V^*$  may output the first msg (a pair of images of  $f$ ) at its step  $i$  (and complete the corresponding WI proof) *with some (non-negl) probability*  $< 1$ , which will introduce some error to our encryption and decryption algs.  
We use standard technique (parallel repetition) to reduce this kind of error.

# Summary



We prove an ugly theorem:

Assume one-way function exists, then one of the following statements must be true:

1. (infinitely-often) PKE/KE exist.

2. The 4-round Feige-Shamir protocol is distributional concurrent ZK for OR NP-statements with small dist. gap.

$\forall V^* \exists S$

$\exists S \forall V^*$

*Thank you!*

We prove an ugly theorem:

Assume one-way function exists, then one of the following statements must be true:

1. (infinitely-often) PKE/KE exist.

If this is true, we don't need trapdoor/algebraic structure for PKE anymore

2. The 4-round Feige-Shamir protocol is distributional concurrent ZK for OR NP-statements with small dist. gap.

$\forall V^* \exists S$

$\exists S \forall V^*$

*Thank you!*

We prove an ugly theorem:

Assume one-way function exists, then one of the following statements must be true:

1. (infinitely-often) PKE/KE exist.

If this is true, we don't need trapdoor/algebraic structure for PKE anymore

2. The 4-round Feige-Shamir protocol is distributional concurrent ZK for OR NP-statements with small dist. gap.

If this is true, then **standalone=concurrent** (self composition), and we have a new **individual** reduction (different from the traditional **universal** reduction)

$\forall V^* \exists S$

$\exists S \forall V^*$

*Thank you!*

We prove an ugly theorem:

Assume one-way function exists, then one of the following statements must be true:

1. (infinitely-often) PKE/KE exist.

If this is true, we don't need trapdoor/algebraic structure for PKE anymore

2. The 4-round Feige-Shamir protocol is distributional concurrent ZK for OR NP-statements with small dist. gap.

If this is true, then **standalone=concurrent** (self composition), and we have a new **individual** reduction (different from the traditional **universal** reduction)

$\forall V^* \exists S$

$\exists S \forall V^*$

*Thank you!*

