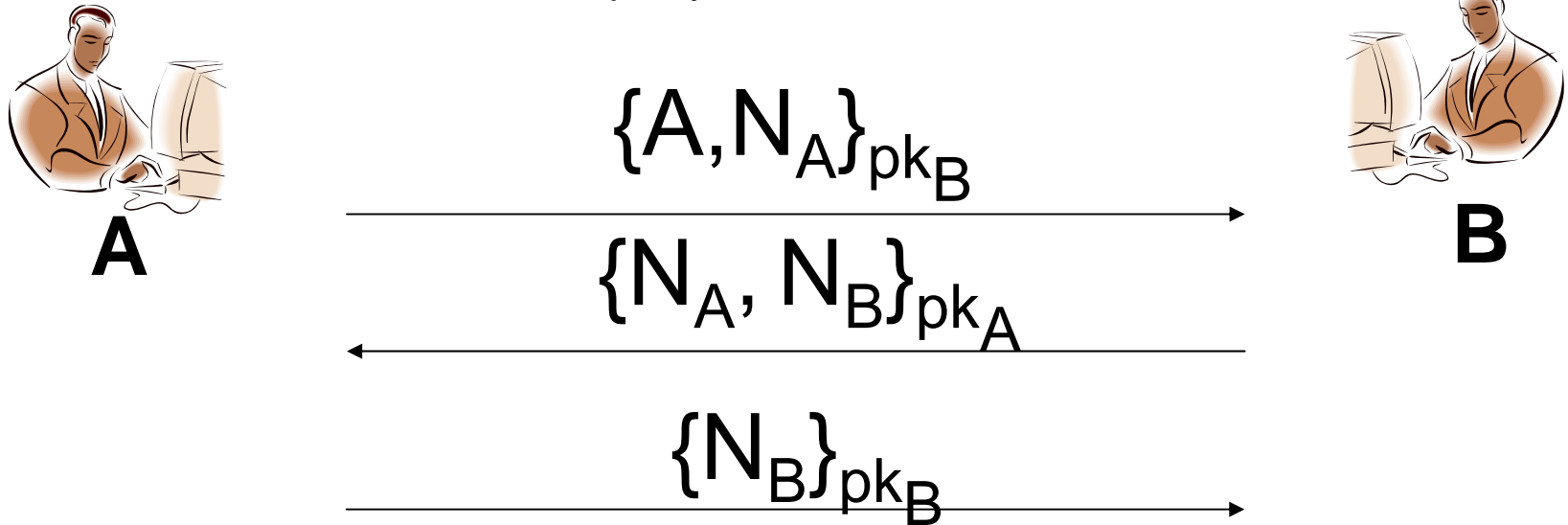


# Introduction to Computational Soundness (II)

Bogdan Warinschi

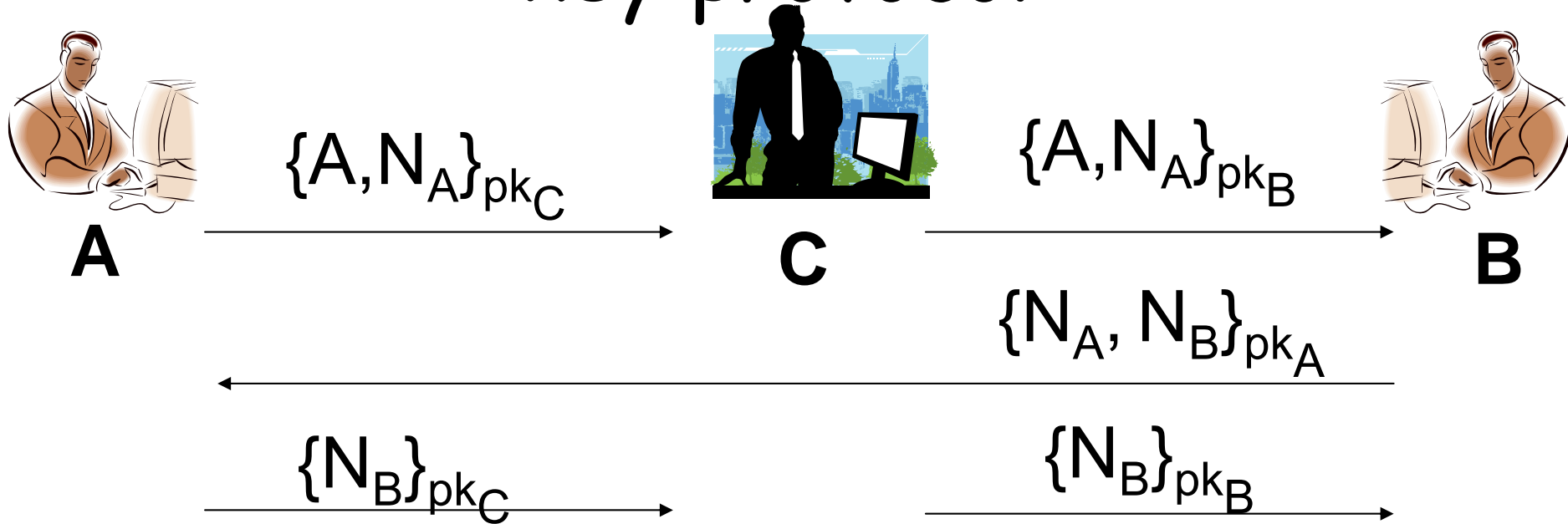
- University of Bristol -

# The Needham-Schroeder public key protocol



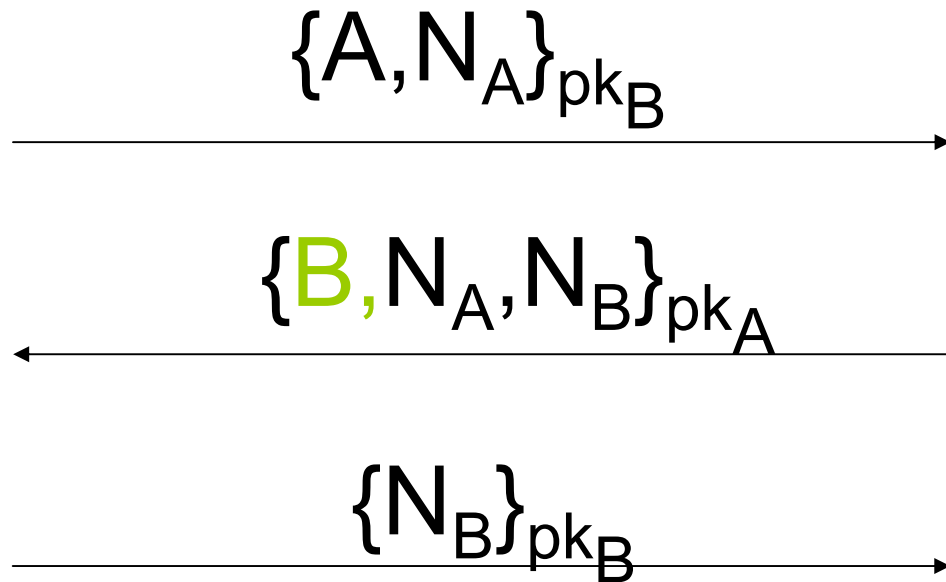
- Nonce  $N_B$  sent in the second message:
  - is intended for A (identity received in the first message)
  - should be secret to any other party but A
- A and B should have matching conversations

# The Needham-Schroeder public key protocol



- $N_B$  is secret if the adversary is passive
- $N_B$  is not secret if the adversary is active
- Matching conversations does not hold

# Lowe's fix - Secure Version of NS



**No more “logical” attacks; protocol secure**

... or is it?

Implement the protocol with an (IND-CPA) secure encryption scheme "

$\text{Adv}(\Pi, A)(\epsilon) =$

$\Pr[(pk, sk) \leftarrow K(\epsilon): A^{E(pk, \cdot)} = 1] -$

$\Pr[(pk, sk) \leftarrow K(\epsilon): A^{E(pk, 0^{\lceil \ell \rceil})} = 1]$

# Another gap

- There exist IND-CPA secure encryption scheme and a deterministic polynomial time algorithm such that

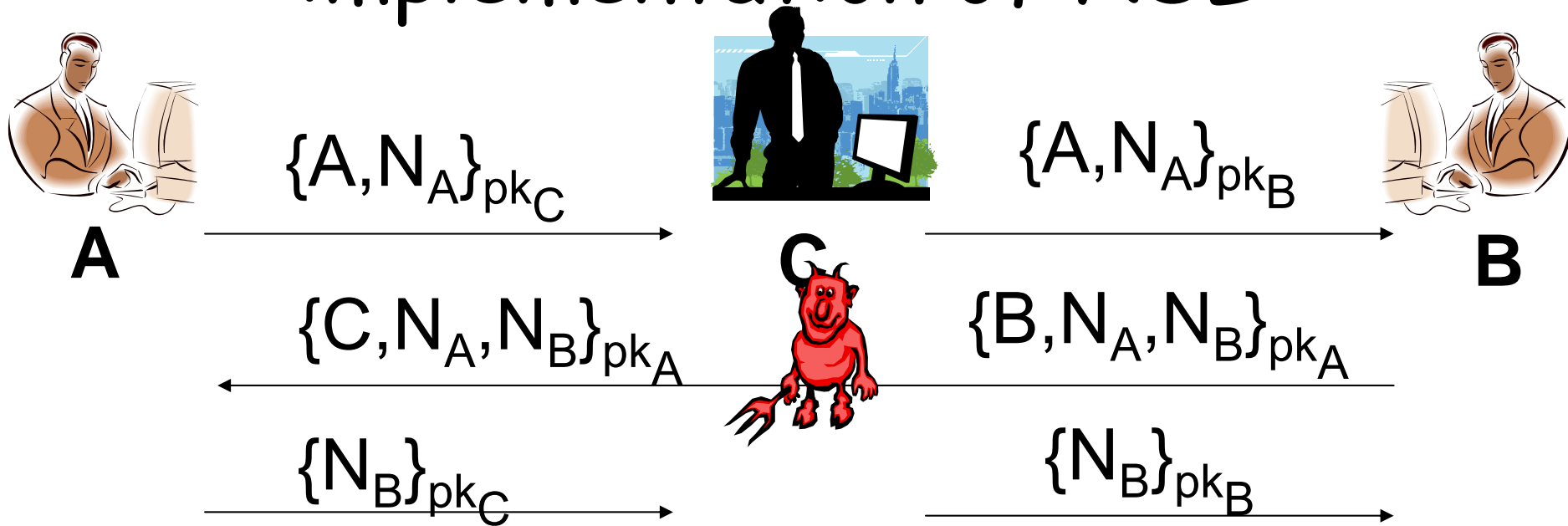


$E(pk_A, (B, N_A N_B))$



$E(pk_A, (C, N_A N_B))$

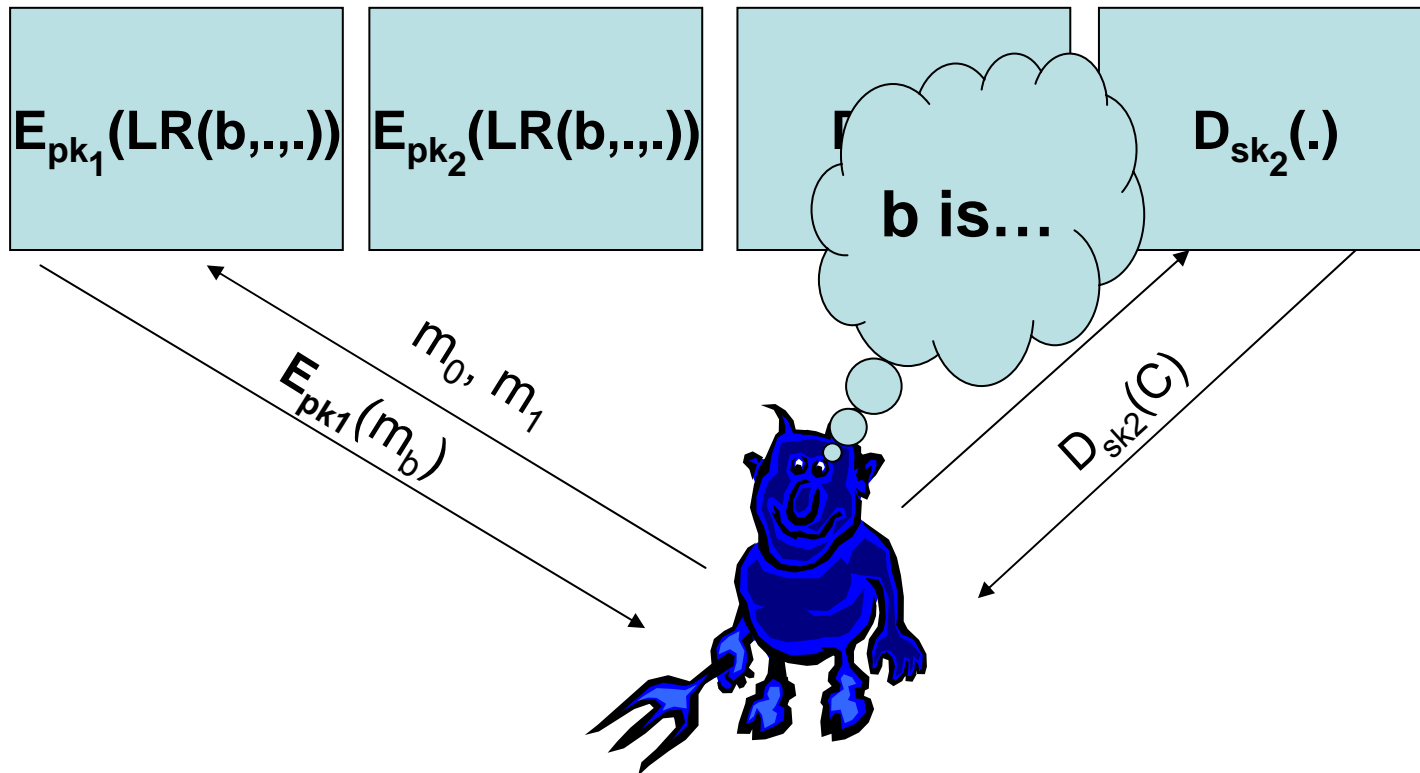
# An attack against an implementation of NSL



- $N_B$  may not be secret even if encryption is IND-CPA
- Matching conversations does not hold
- ... use stronger encryption

# IND-CCA security for multi-users

- Implement encryption with a scheme  $(K, E, D)$  that is IND-CCA secure





## ...back to NSL

- If NSL is implemented with an encryption scheme that is IND-CCA secure then:
  - $N_B$  is secret
  - Matching conversations holds

# A gap

- Security of primitives is
  - *axiomatized* (in the symbolic approach)
  - *defined* (in the computational approach)
- Question:
  - Symbolically: not possible to calculate  $\{C, N_A, N_B\}_{pk_A}$  out of  $\{B, N_A, N_B\}_{pk_A}$
  - Computationally: is it possible to enforce the above?

# Computational soundness

- The goal is to find sufficient security conditions on the primitives used in the implementation such that a protocol **secure in the symbolic setting** is also **secure in the computational setting**...
- ...but what is a protocol, what does secure mean?

# Protocols

- A sequence of message exchanges
- Messages constructed from constants, variables, and cryptographic operations



Send  $\{A, N_A\}_{pk_B}$

Receive  $\{B, N_A, X\}_{pk_A}$

Send  $\{X\}_{pk_B}$

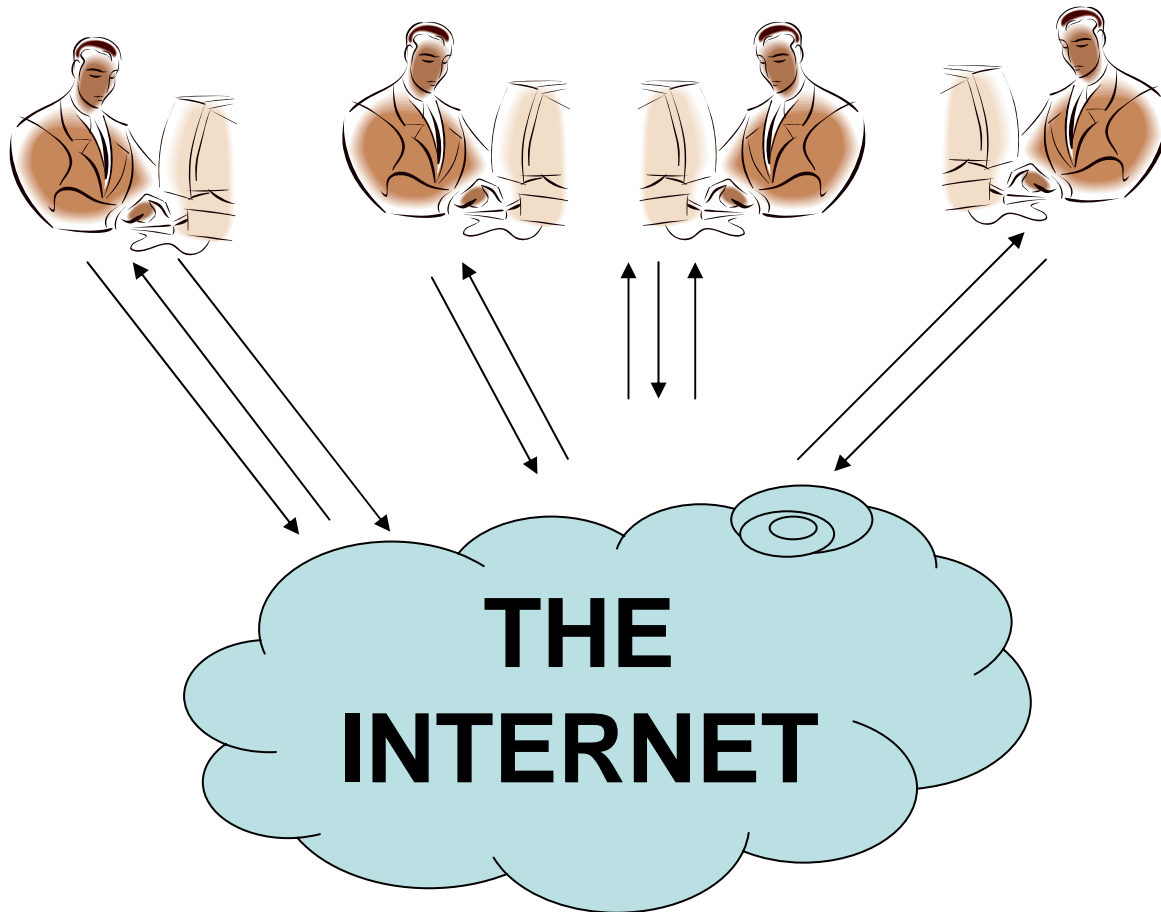


Receive  $\{A, Y\}_{pk_B}$

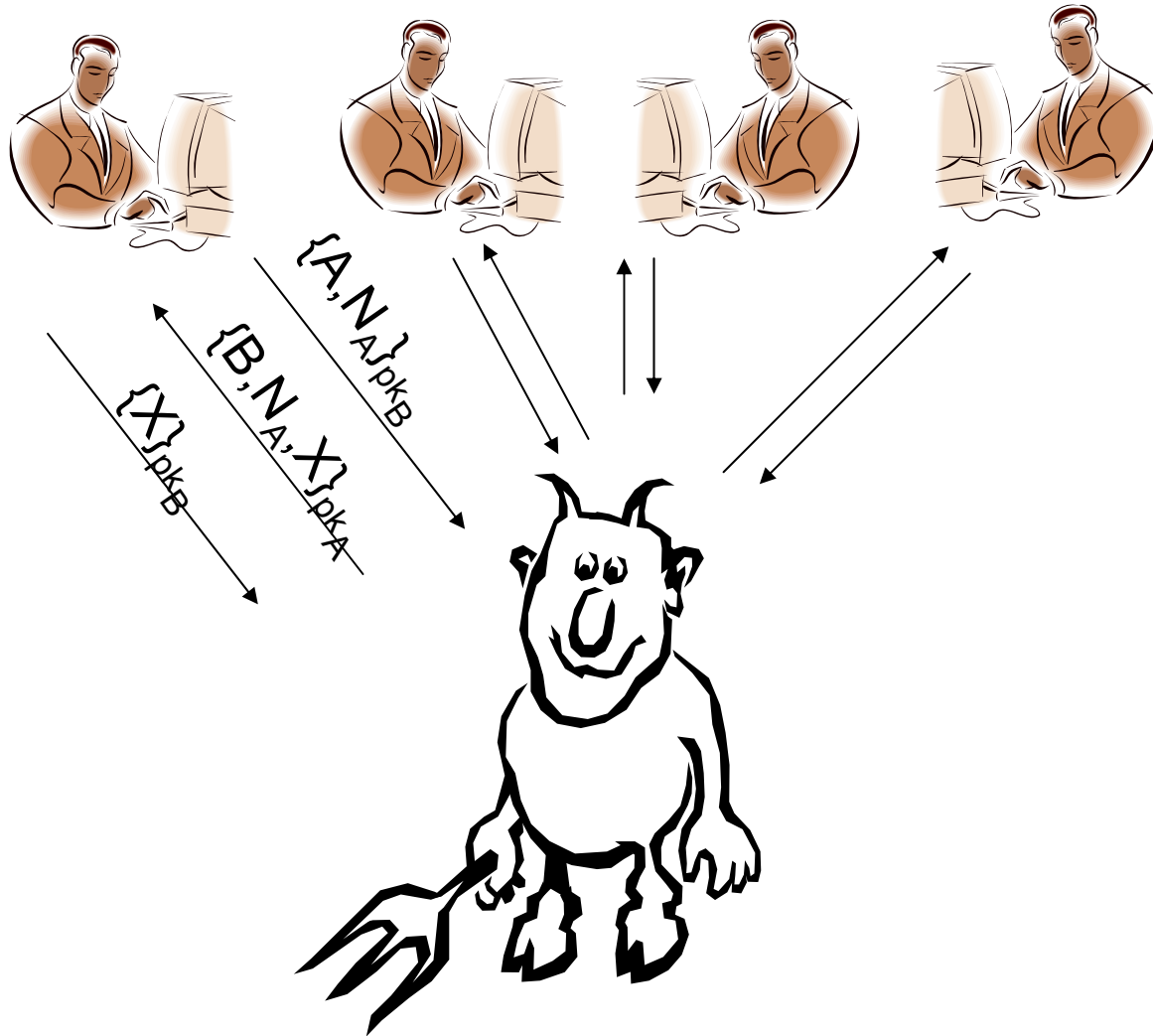
Send  $\{B, Y, N_B\}_{pk_A}$

Receive  $\{N_B\}_{pk_B}$

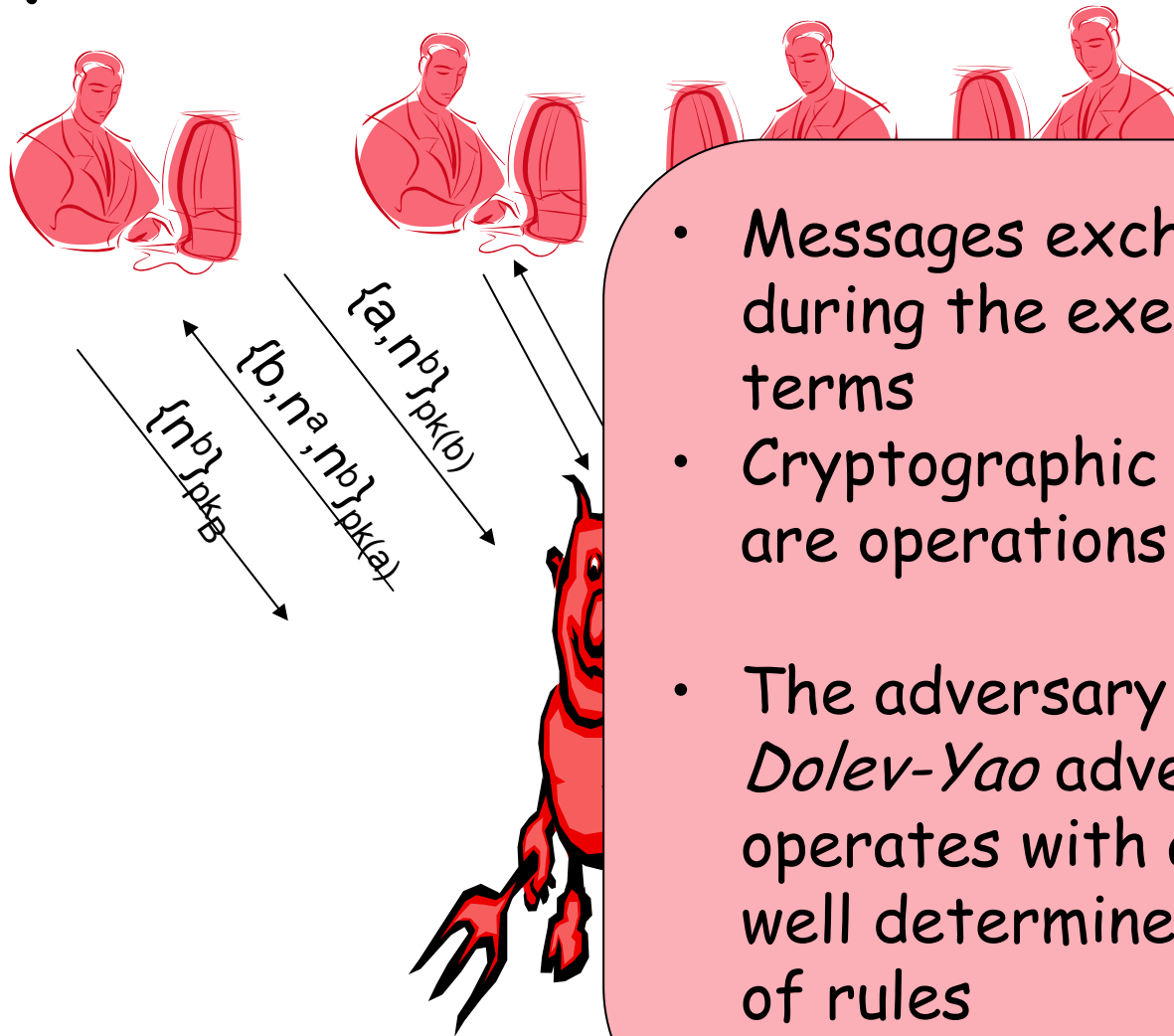
# Communication is over a network



# (Generic) Execution model

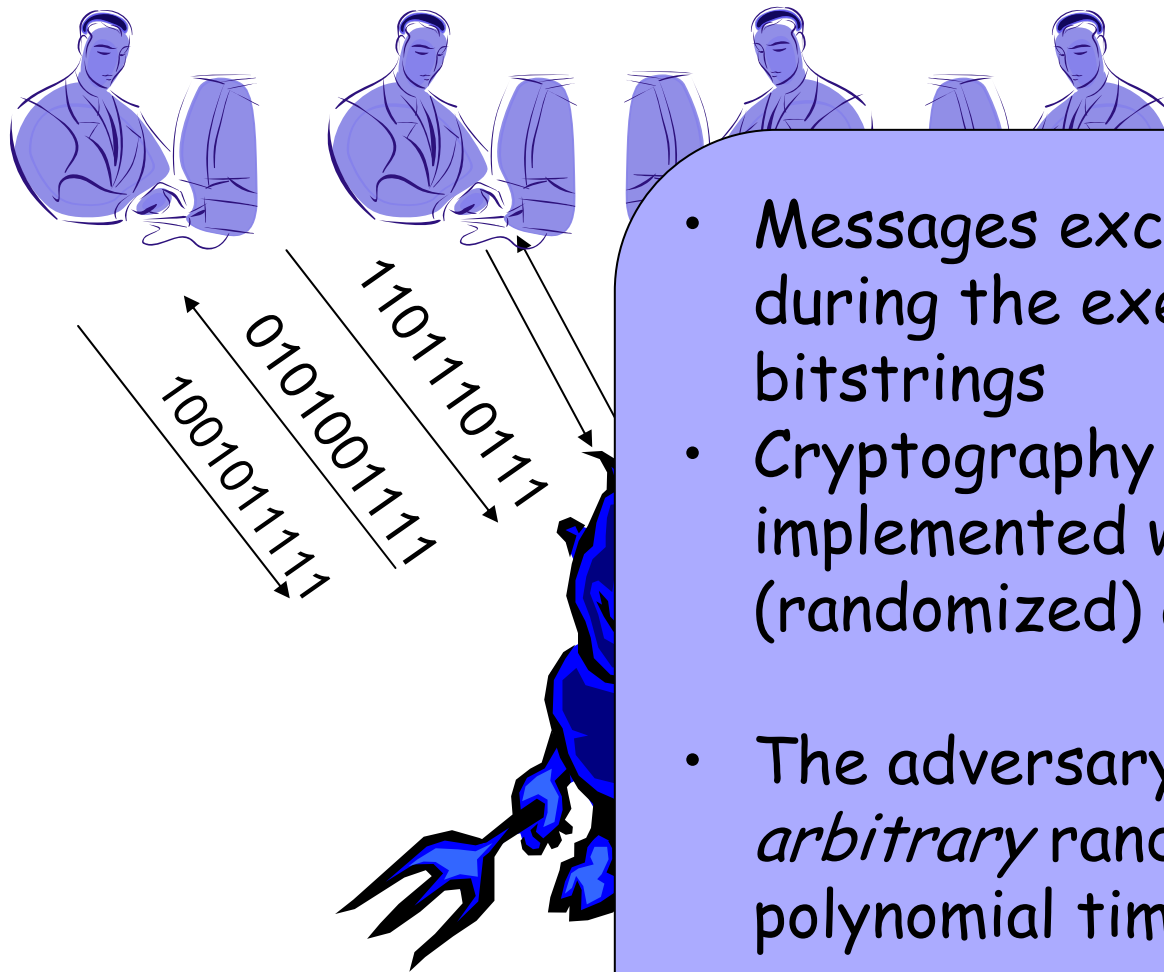


# Symbolic execution model



- Messages exchanged during the execution are terms
- Cryptographic operations are operations on terms
- The adversary is a *Dolev-Yao* adversary who operates with a finite, well determined number of rules

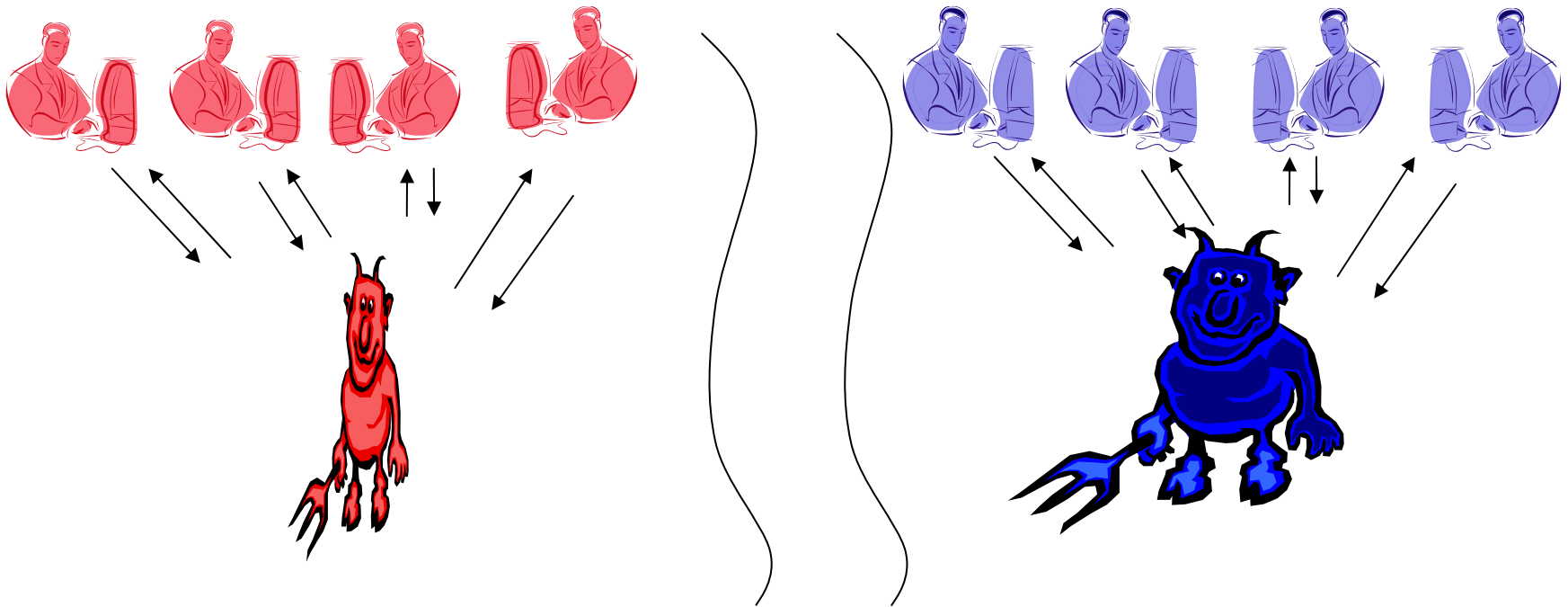
# Computational execution model



- Messages exchanged during the execution are bitstrings
- Cryptography implemented with actual (randomized) algorithms
- The adversary is an *arbitrary* randomized polynomial time algorithm



# Back to the gap

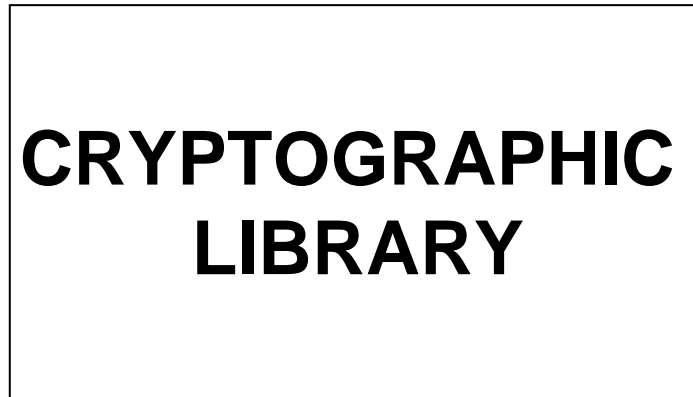


- Security properties are statements about two very different executions
  - Non-deterministic executions (symbolically)
  - Randomized executions (computationally)

Computational soundness  
via  
black-box reactive simulation

# The simulation approach

[Backes, Pfitzmann, Waidner]



Nonce generation, Encryption,  
Decryption, Signing, MACs, etc

# The simulation approach

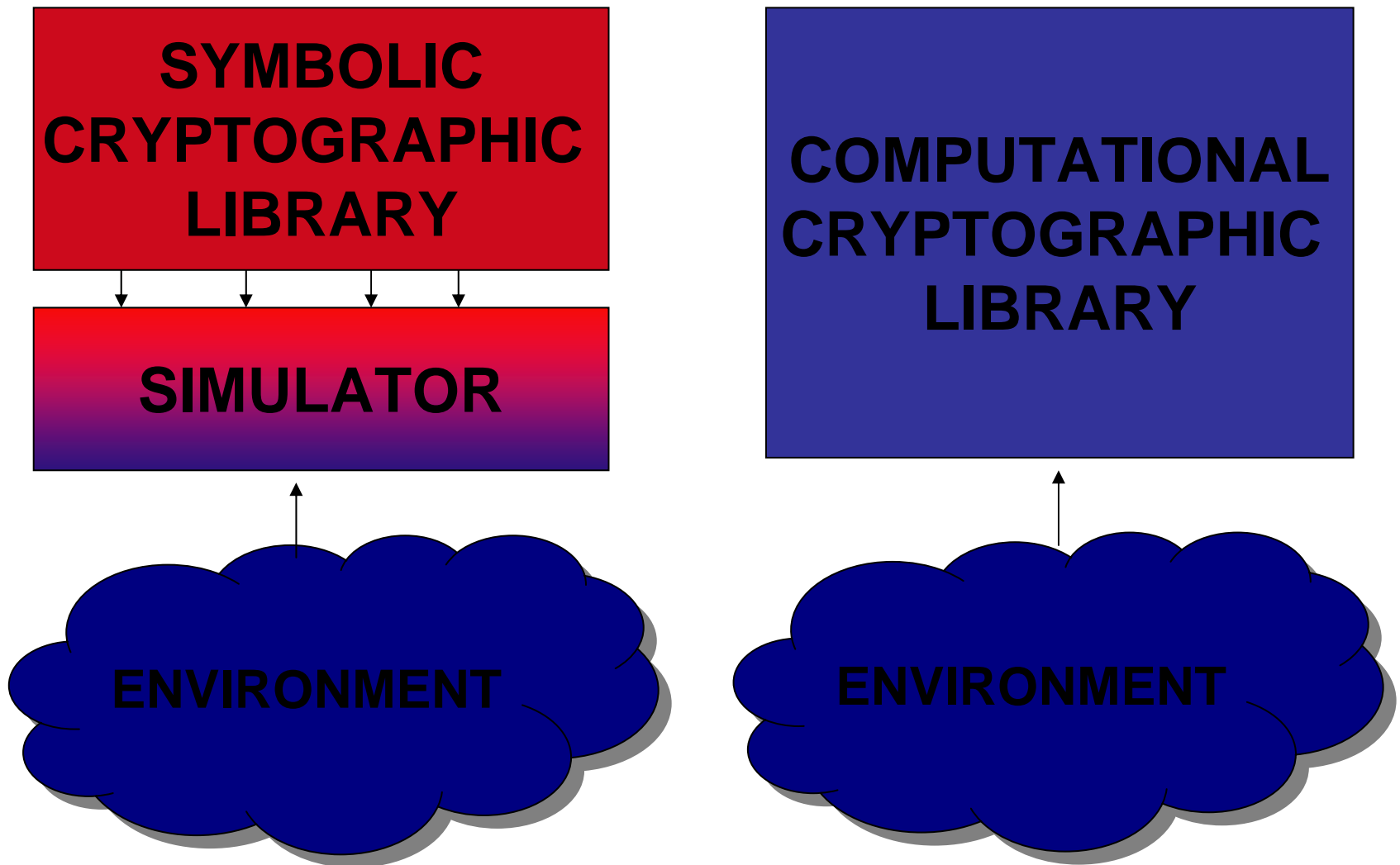
[Backes, Pfitzmann, Waidner]

## **SYMBOLIC CRYPTOGRAPHIC LIBRARY**

Internally the library  
operates with terms and  
enforces Dolev-Yao  
behaviours

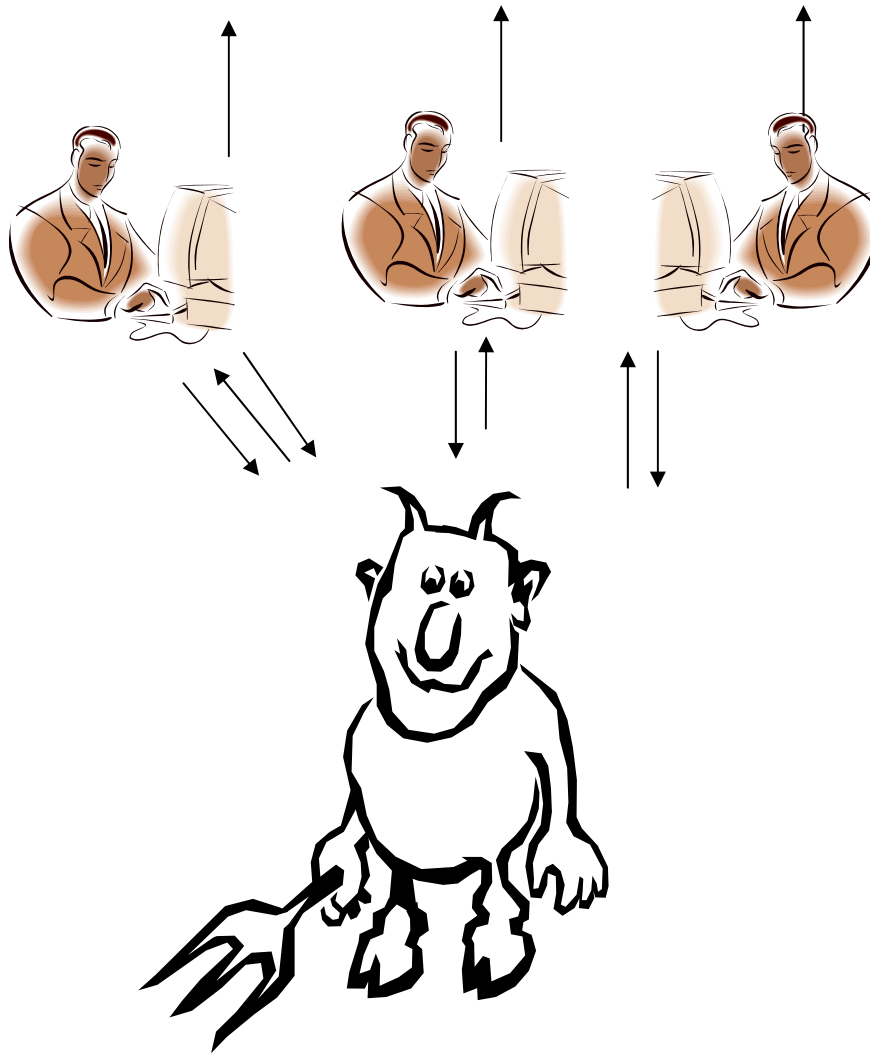
## **COMPUTATIONAL CRYPTOGRAPHIC LIBRARY**

Internally the library  
operates with bitstrings  
and actual cryptographic  
algorithms

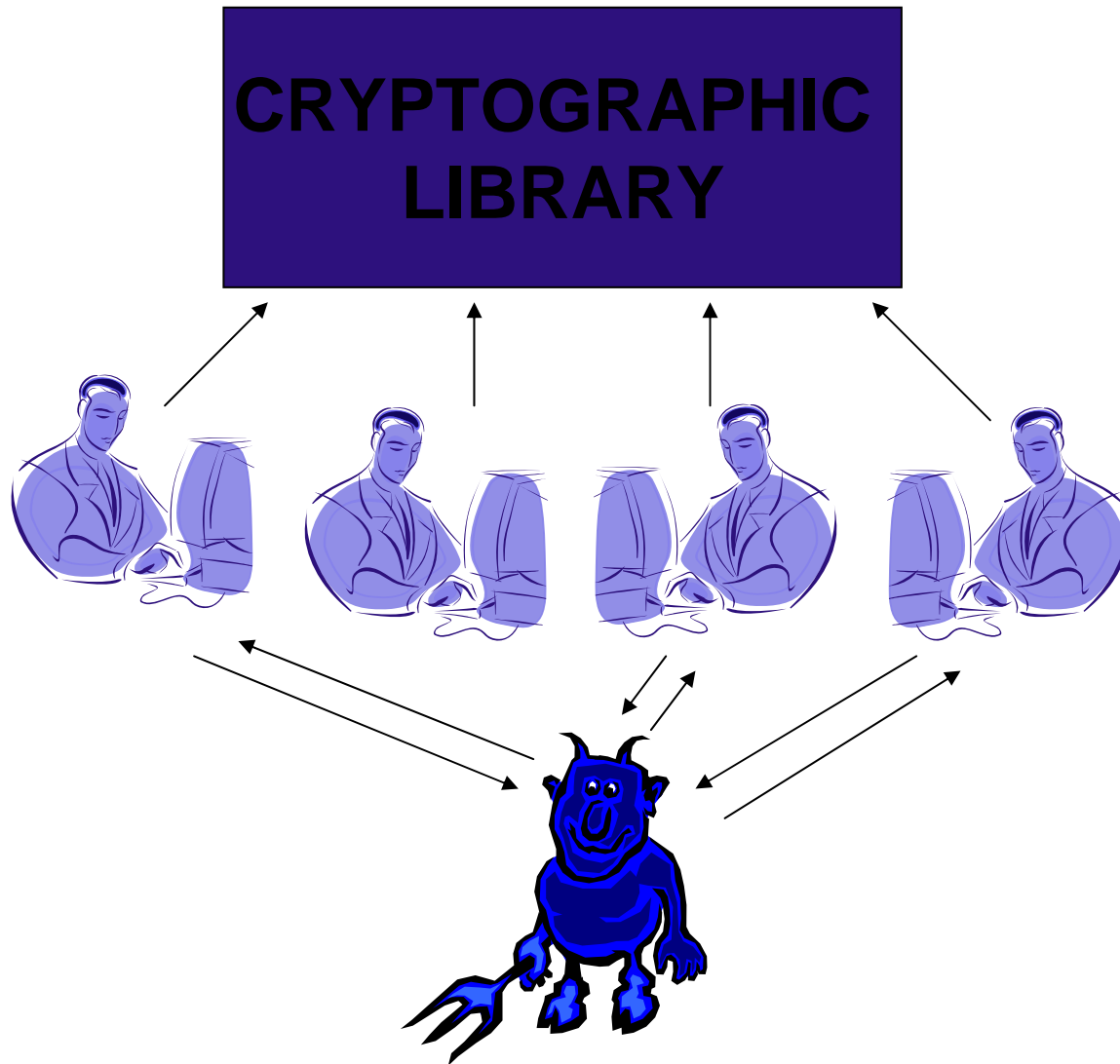


**THEOREM:** If cryptographic primitives are secure in the computational cryptographic library, then there exists a simulator such that no probabilistic polynomial time environment can distinguish between the two worlds

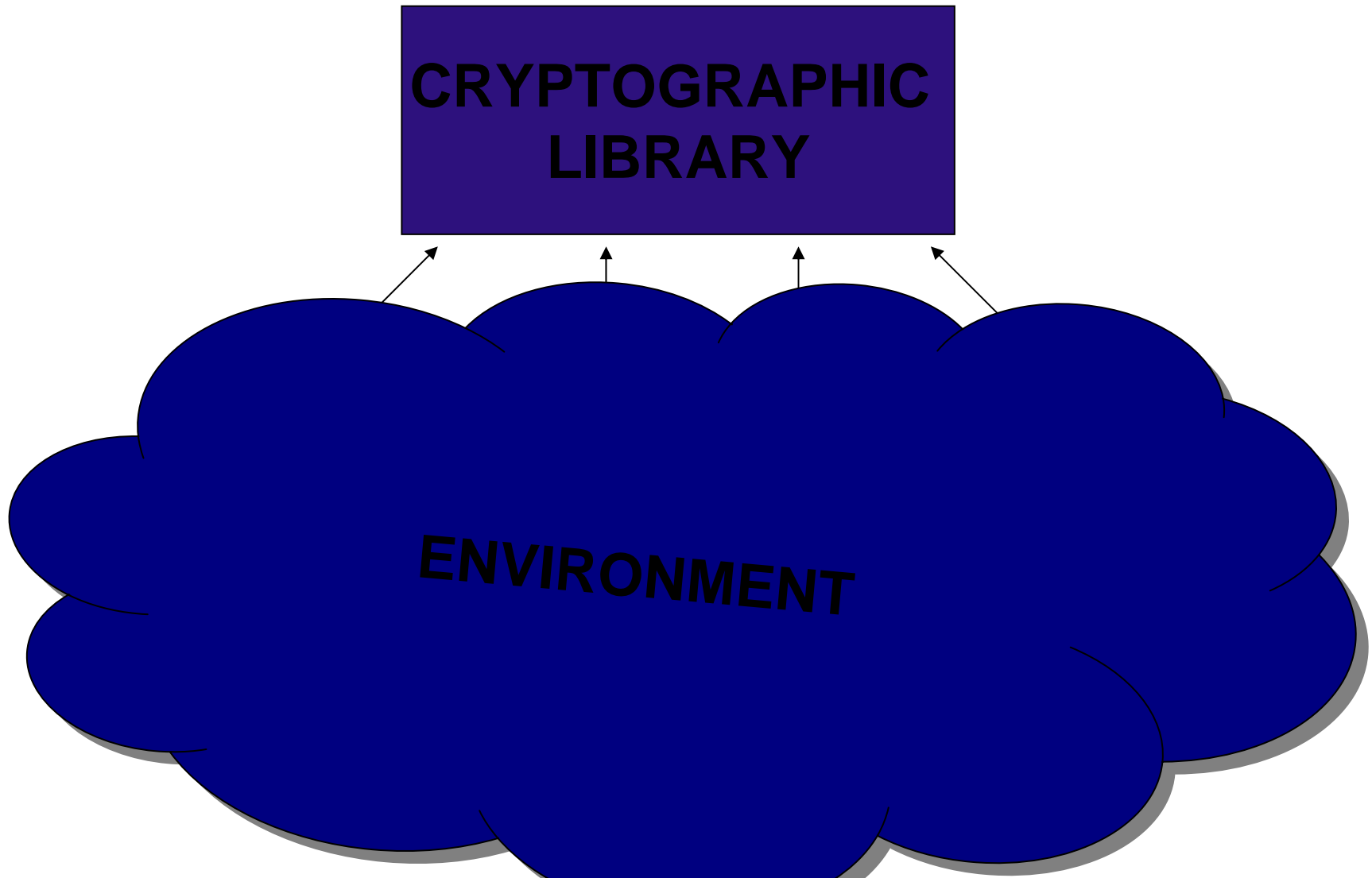
# CRYPTOGRAPHIC LIBRARY



# Protocol execution with a cryptographic library



# Protocol execution with a cryptographic library

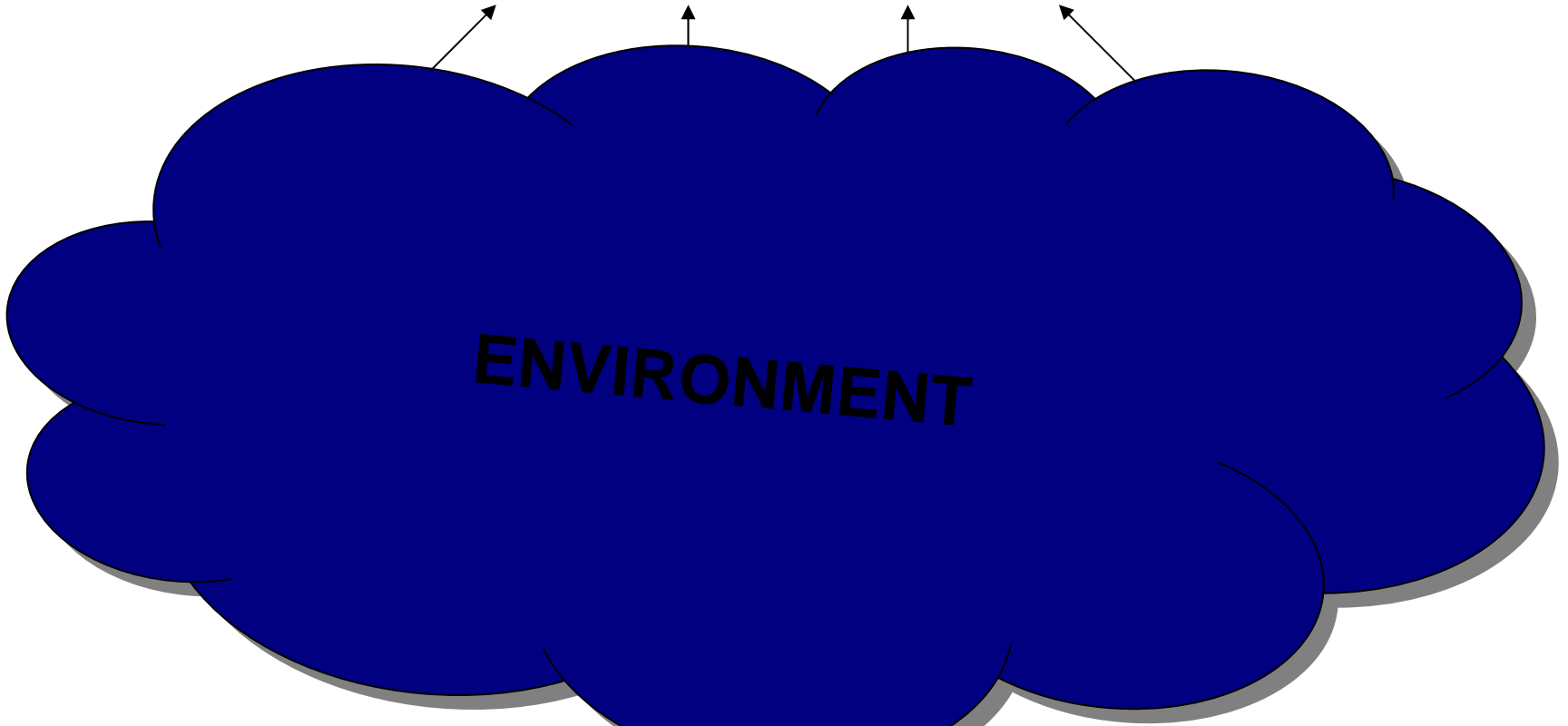




**SYMBOLIC  
CRYPTOGRAPHIC  
LIBRARY**

**SIMULATOR**

**ENVIRONMENT**



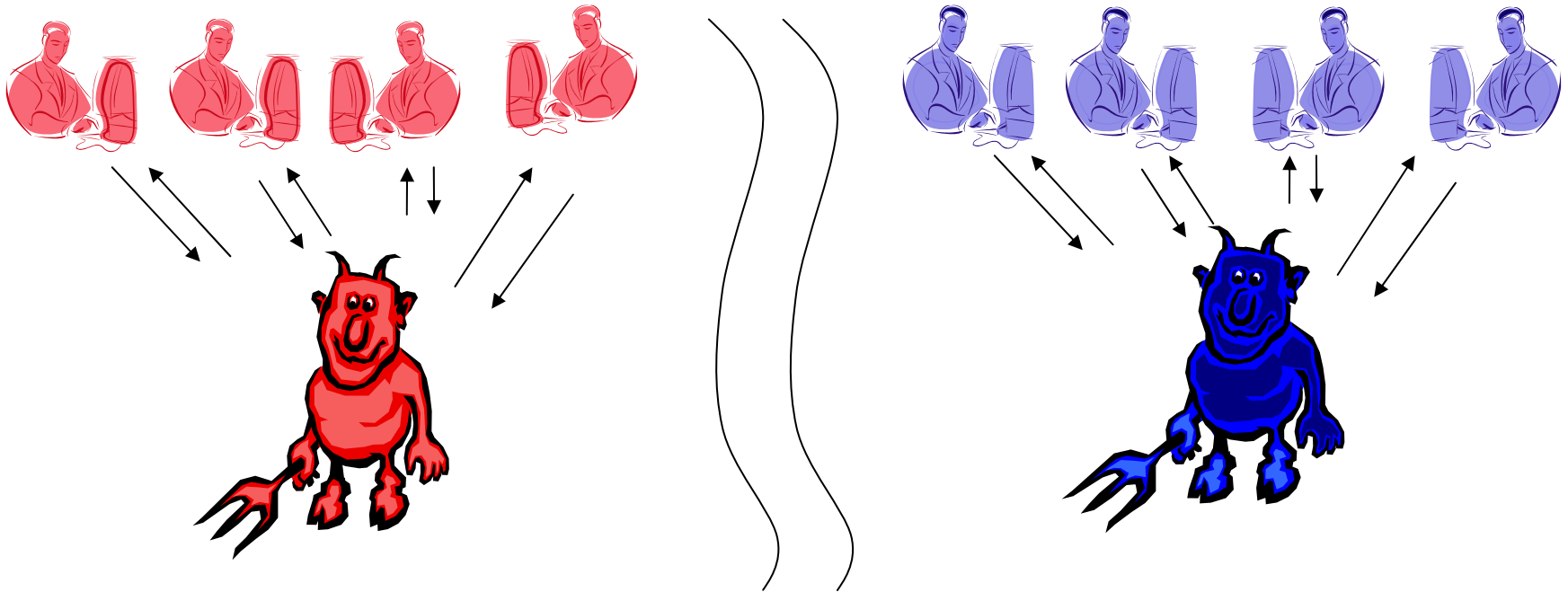
# Soundness with a cryptographic library

- Security of protocols can be analyzed in a world where cryptography is idealized in the Dolev-Yao style

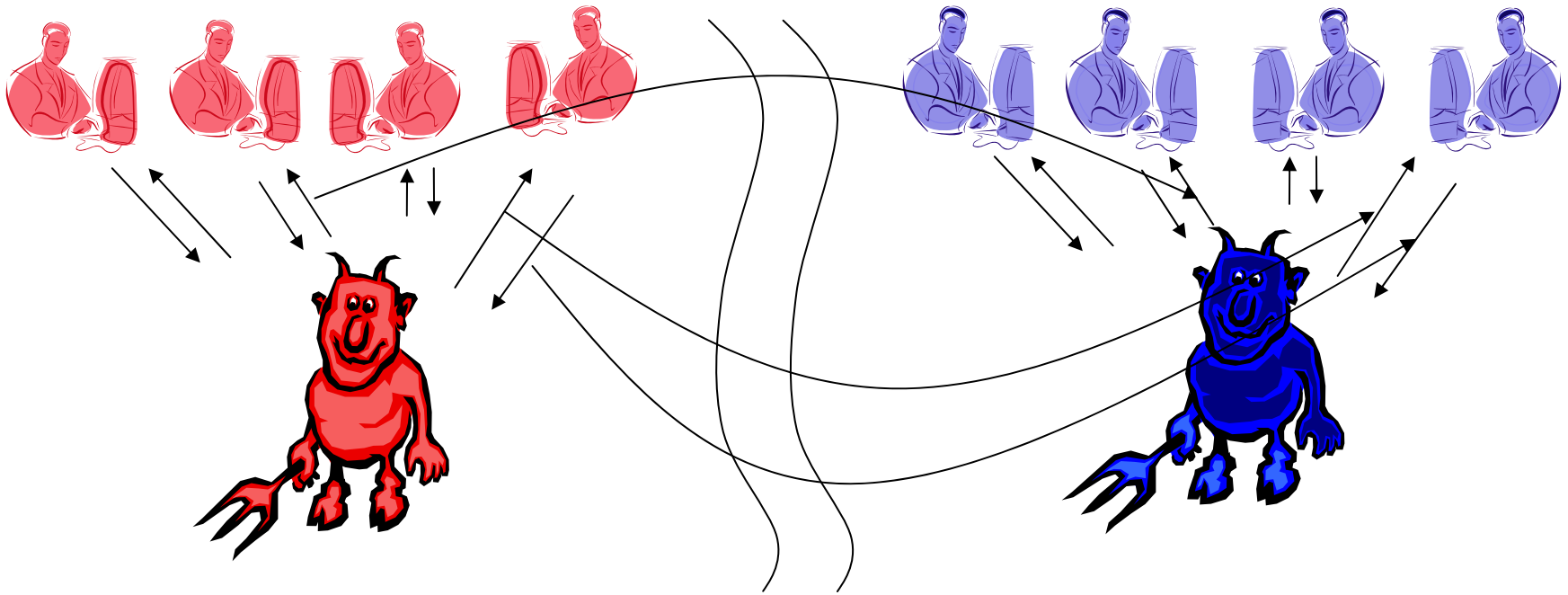
# Computational soundness via trace mapping

# Trace mapping

[Micciancio, Warinschi]



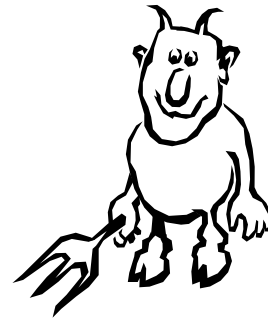
# The trace mapping approach



Symbolic execution of a protocol

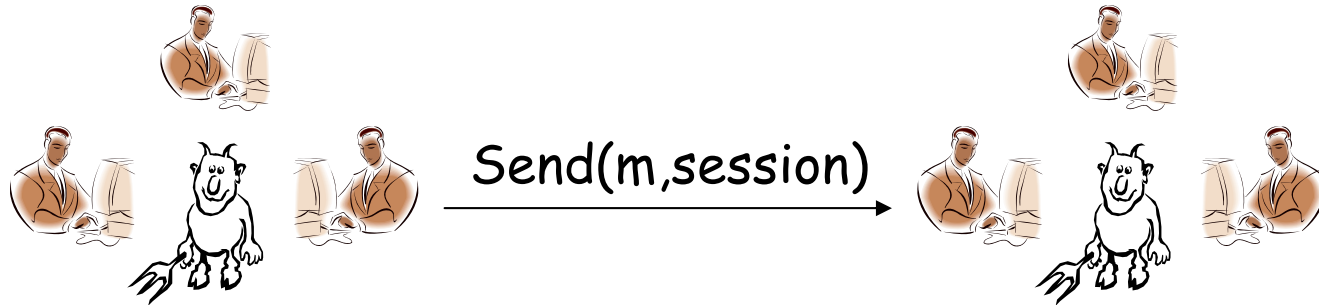
Real execution of a protocol

# A bit more precisely

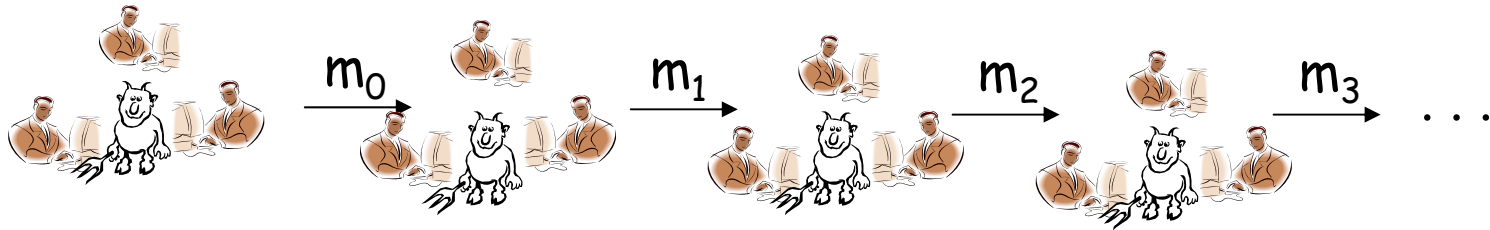


- The adversary may be able to corrupt parties
- The adversary may send any message it wants to a session and receives the answer calculated by the session

# Execution traces



Execution trace:

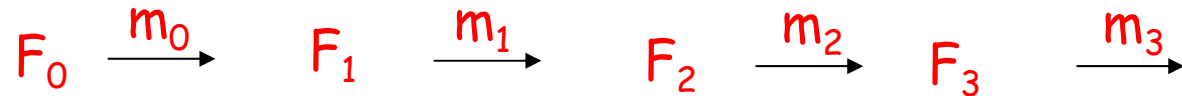


Formally

$$F_0 \xrightarrow{m_0} F_1 \xrightarrow{m_1} F_2 \xrightarrow{m_2} F_3 \xrightarrow{m_3} \dots$$

$F_i$ : Local variables of sessions  $\rightarrow$  Values

# Symbolic executions



- Messages, values etc... are terms

$F_i$  : Local variables of sessions  $\rightarrow$  **Terms**

- 

Adversary can only send messages that he can compute according to the Dolev Yao rules

- Nondeterministic executions
- For protocol " $\pi$ " and adversary  $A$ , write  $\text{Tr}_s(\pi, A)$  for the trace determined by  $A$



# Computational executions

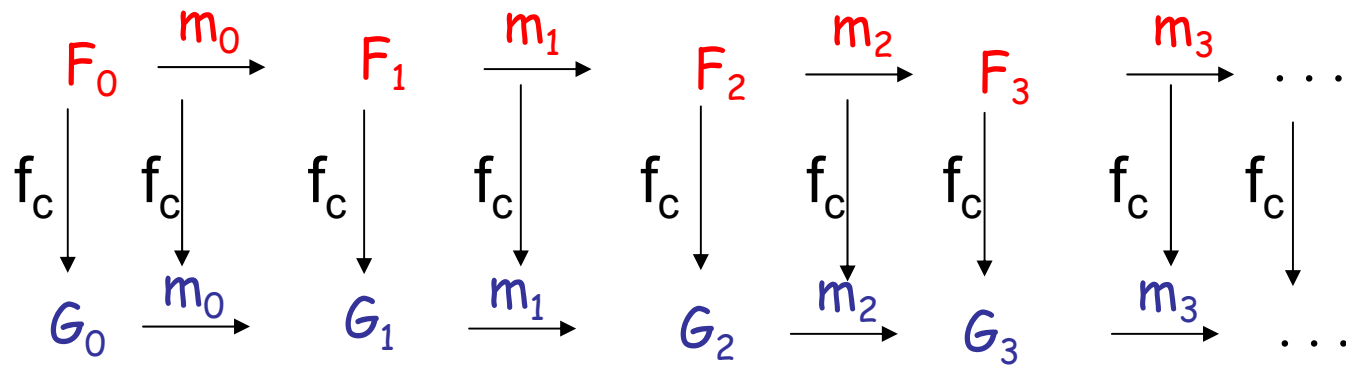


- Messages, values etc... are bitstrings

$G_i$  : Local variables of sessions  $\rightarrow$  Bitstrings

- Adversary can only send any polynomial-time computable message
- Executions are randomized
- $\text{Tr}_c(\pi(R_\pi), A(R_A))$  is the execution trace determined by adversary  $A$ , randomness  $R_\pi$  and  $R_A$

# Computational soundness result



- **“Mapping lemma”**: With overwhelming probability the computational trace is the image of a Dolev-Yao trace through an appropriate mapping  $f_c$ .
- **Interpretation**: The real adversary only performs Dolev Yao operations!!!

# Trace mapping lemma

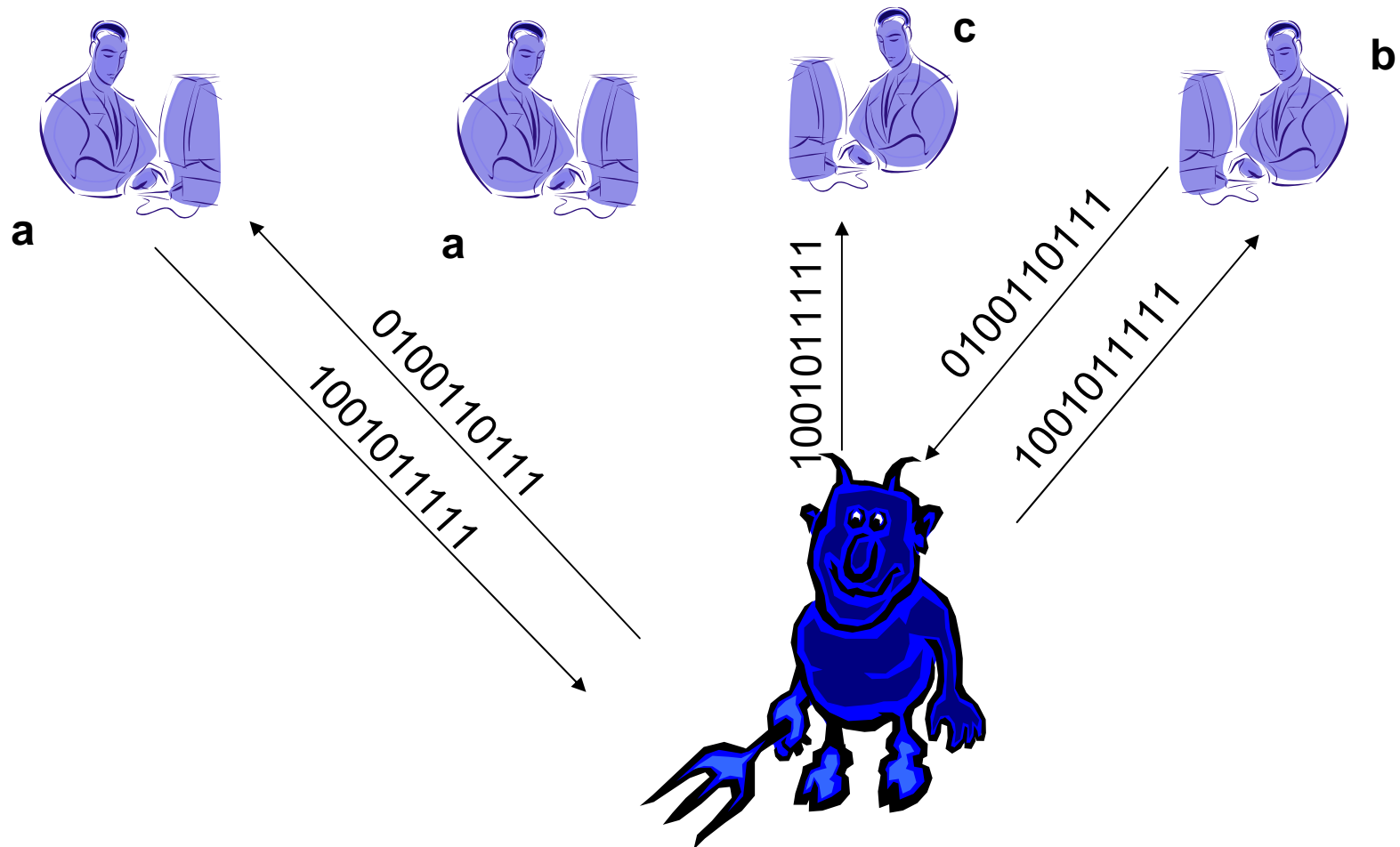
- Let  $\pi$  be a protocol and  $A$  a computational adversary. If  $\pi$  is implemented with secure primitives then almost all of the computational traces of  $\pi$  are images of symbolic Dolev-Yao traces.

$\text{Prob}[ \epsilon < B, \epsilon < f_c : \text{Tr}_c(\pi(R_\pi), A(R_A)) = f_c(\text{Tr}_s(\pi, B)) ]$   
is overwhelming

# Proof idea

1. Fix an adversary  $A$
2. Any concrete execution can be mapped to a symbolic execution
3. Show that this symbolic execution is that of a Dolev-Yao adversary (with overwhelming probability)  
... or otherwise one can use  $A$  to break the underlying primitives

# Step 2: From concrete executions...



Send  $\{A, N_A\}_{pk_B}$

Receive  $\{B, N_A, X\}_{pk_A}$

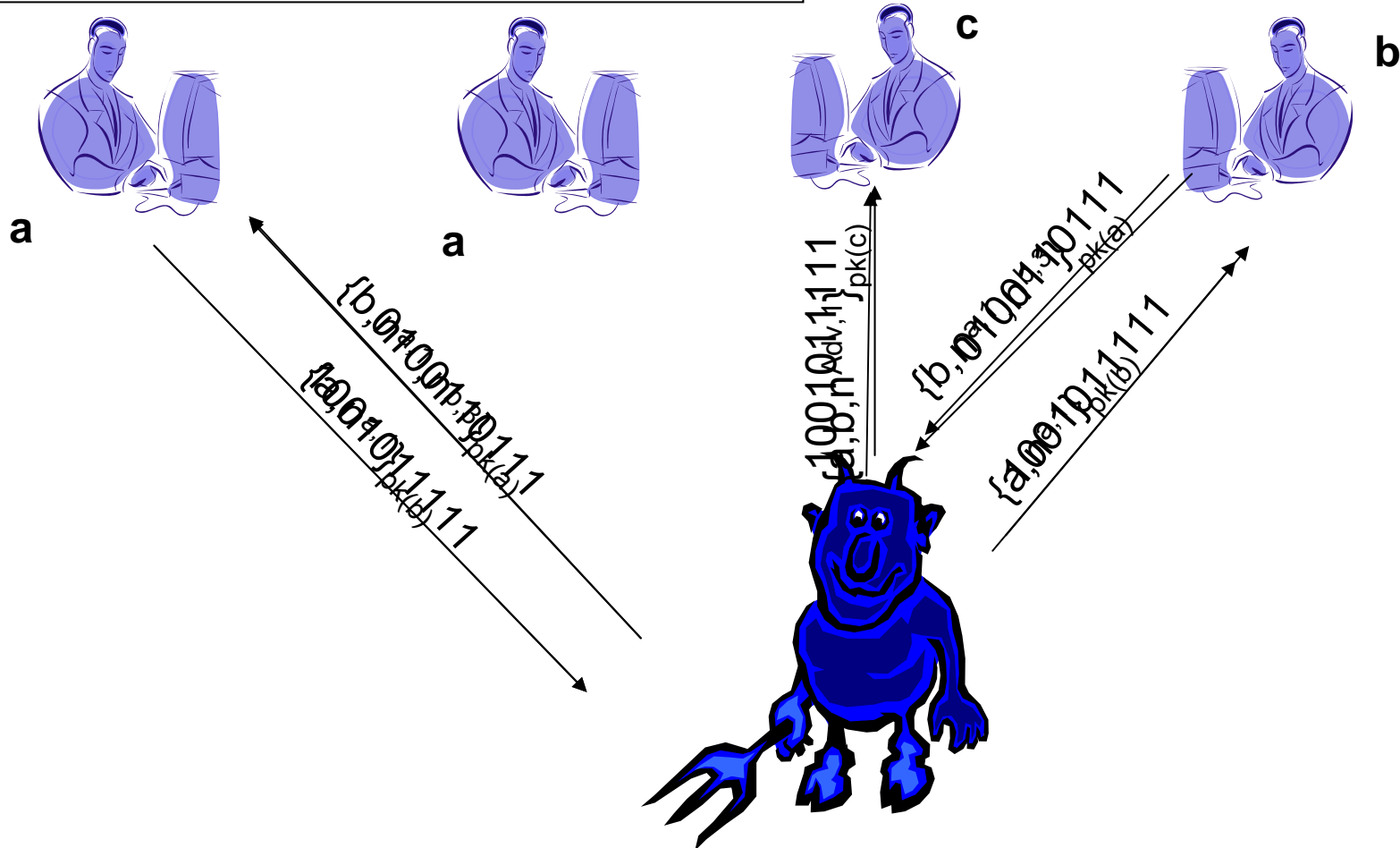
Send  $\{X\}_{pk_B}$

Receive  $\{A, Y\}_{pk_B}$

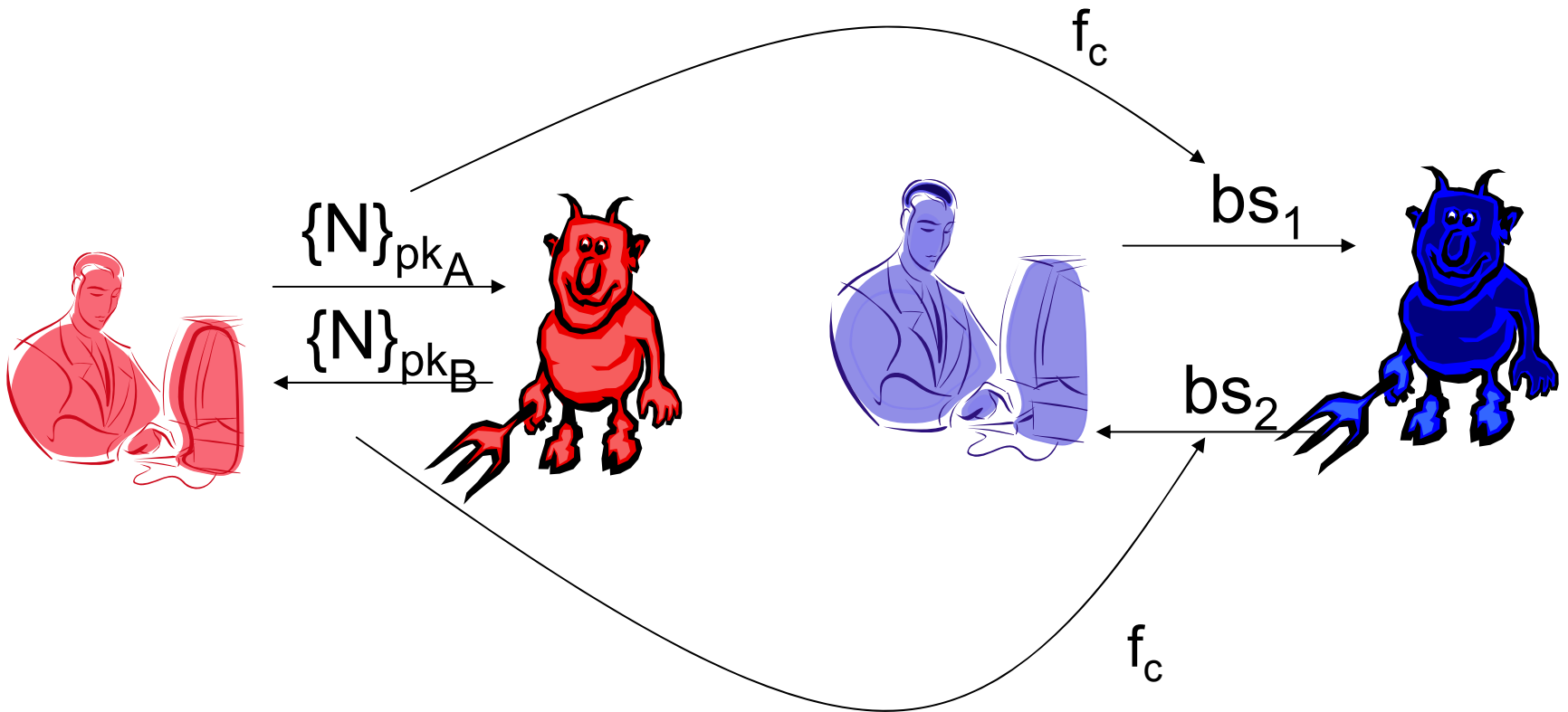
Send  $\{B, Y, N_B\}_{pk_A}$

Receive  $\{N_B\}_{pk_B}$

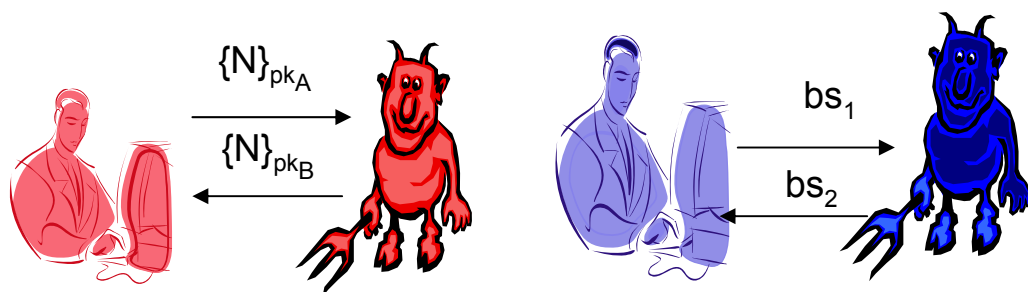
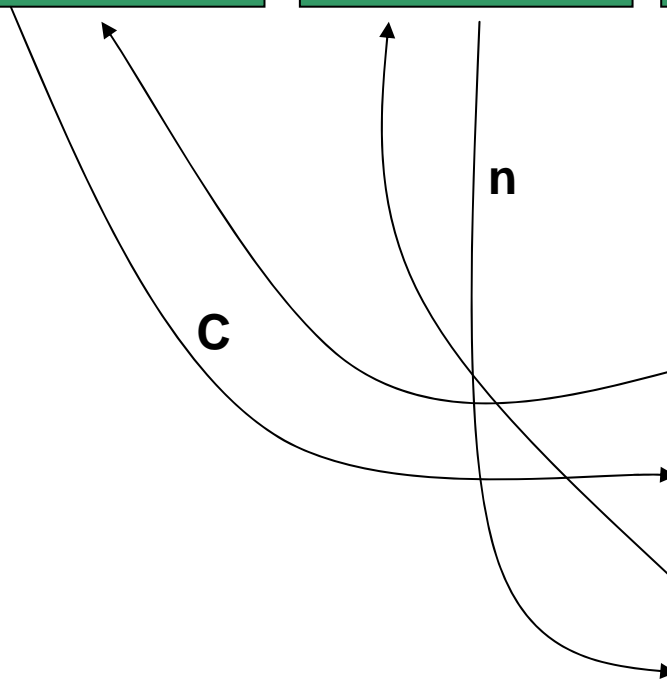
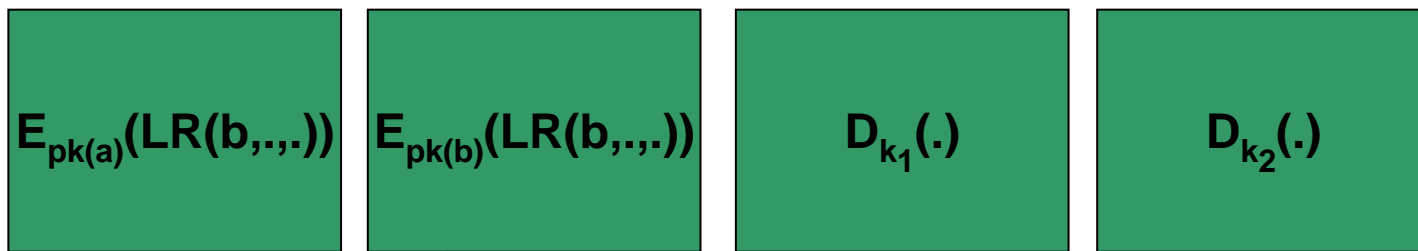
# Public executions



# Step 3: The symbolic trace is Dolev-Yao



Given an adversary that produces traces that are not Dolev-Yao, use that adversary to break the security of the basic primitive(s)





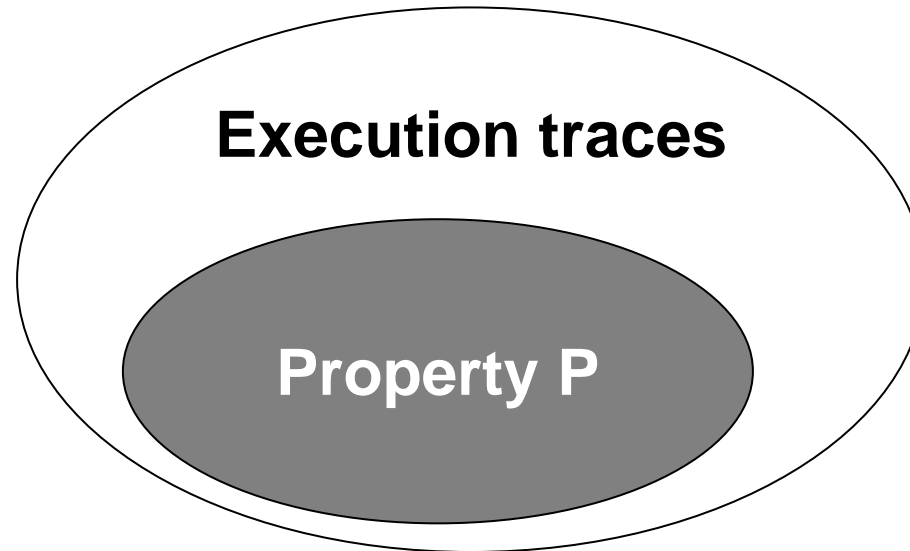
# Trace mapping lemma

- Let  $\pi$  be a protocol and  $A$  a computational adversary. If  $\pi$  is implemented with secure primitives then almost all of the computational traces of  $\pi$  are images of symbolic Dolev-Yao traces.

$\text{Prob}[ \epsilon < B, \epsilon < f_c : \text{Tr}_c(\pi(R_\pi), A(R_A)) = f_c(\text{Tr}_s(\pi, B)) ]$   
is overwhelming

# Computational soundness for trace properties

# Security properties

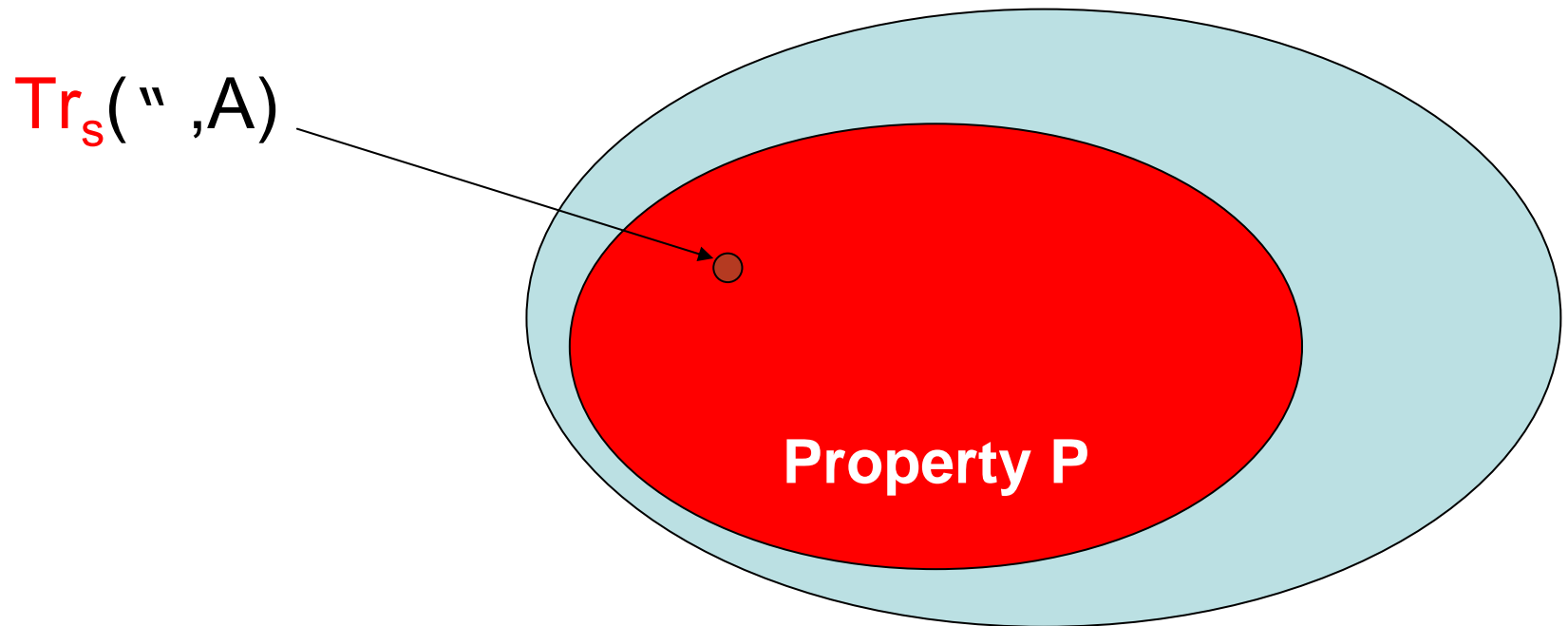


**A security property is a predicate on the set of possible traces**

**E.g.: Matching conversations: every session of user B (with A) that finishes successfully has a matching session of user A**

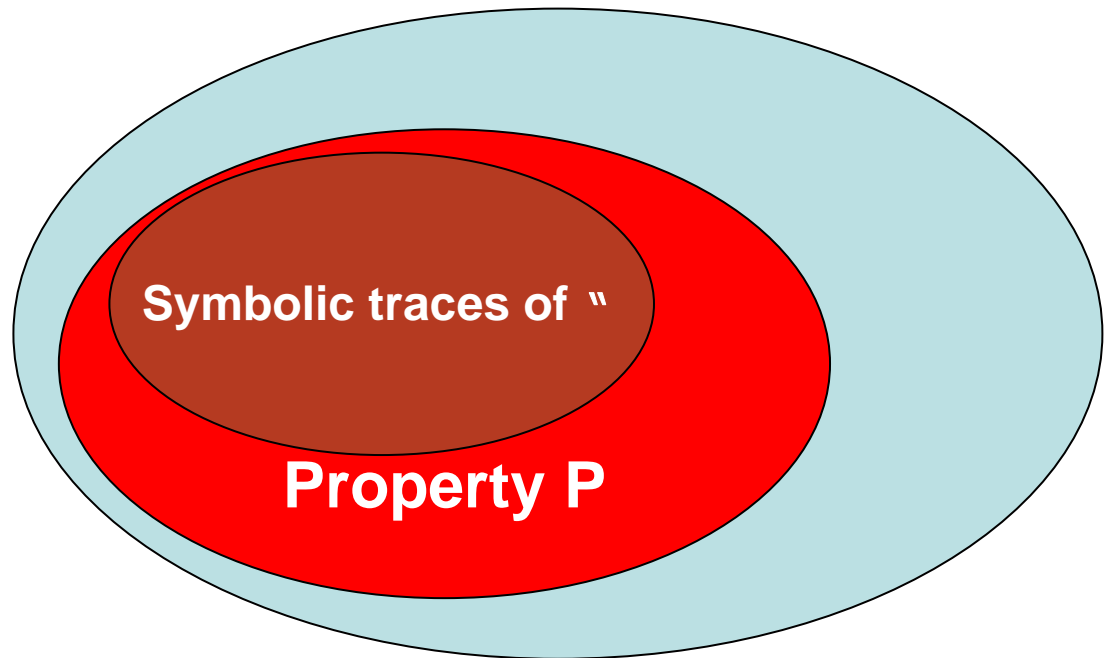
# Security Properties - symbolically

- Protocol  $\pi$  satisfies security property  $P_s$   
 $(\pi \models_s P_s)$  iff  $(\exists A) \text{Tr}_s(\pi, A) \models P_s$



# Security Properties - symbolically

- Protocol  $\pi$  satisfies security property  $P_s$   
 $(\pi \models_s P_s)$  iff  $(\exists A) \text{Tr}_s(\pi, A) \models P_s$



# Security Properties - computationally

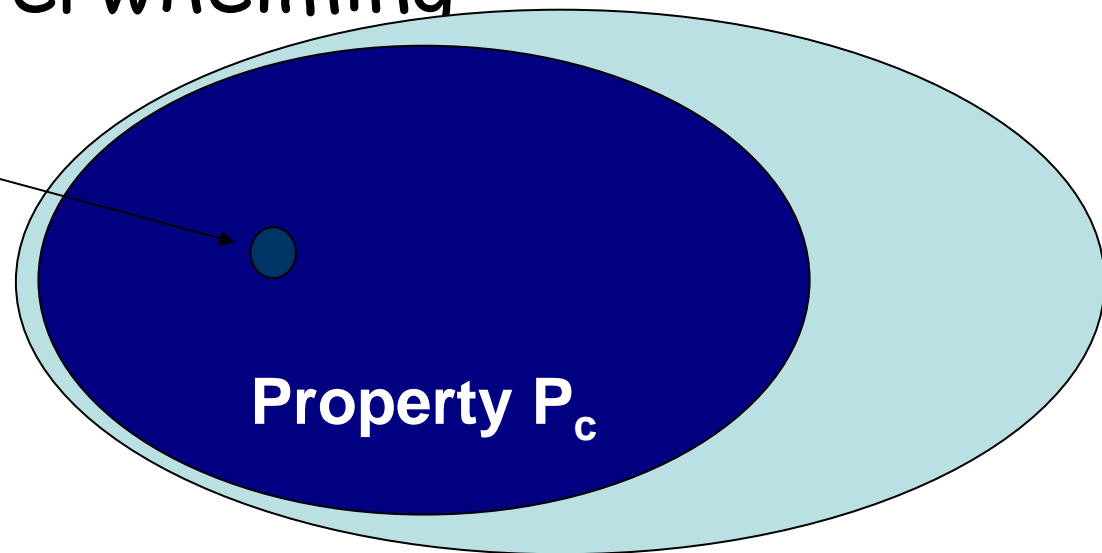
- Protocol  $\pi$  satisfies computationally property  $P_c$ :

$\pi \models_c P_c$  iff

$(\exists p.p.t A) \Pr [ \text{Tr}_c(\pi(R_{\pi}), A(R_A)) \models P_c ]$

is overwhelming

$\text{Tr}_c(\pi(R_{\pi}), A(R_A))$

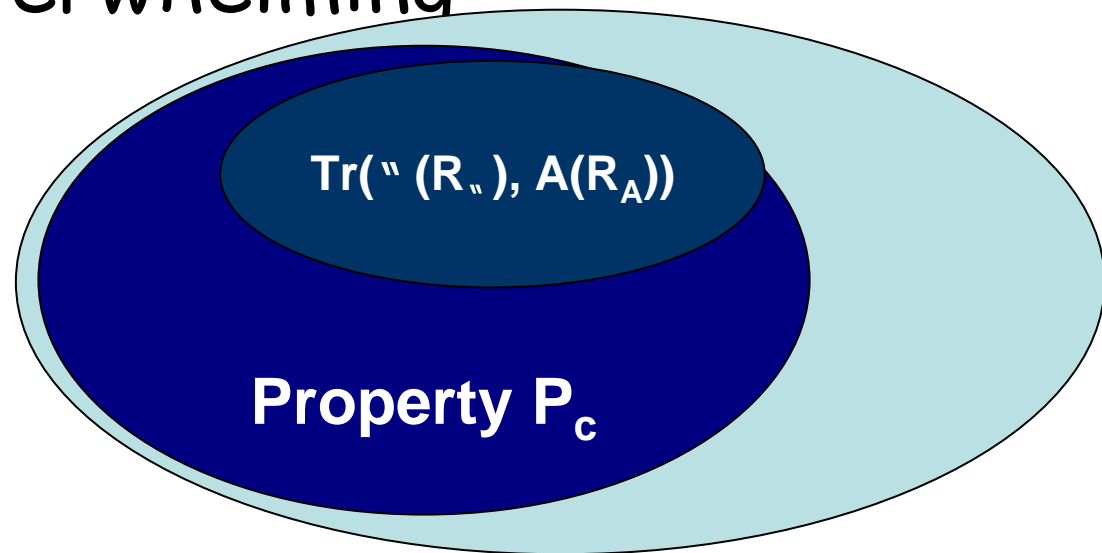


# Security Properties - computationally

- Protocol  $\pi$  satisfies computationally property  $P_c$ :

$\pi \models_c P_c$  iff

( $\exists$  p.p.t  $A$ )  $\Pr [ \text{Tr}_c(\pi(R_\pi), A(R_A)) \models P_c ]$   
is overwhelming



# Translation of trace properties

Let  $P_s$  be a symbolic security property and let  $P_c = \bigcup_f f(P_s)$  (the union is after all appropriate mappings  $f$ ). If the mapping lemma holds then:

**THEOREM:** Let  $\pi$  be a protocol. Then:

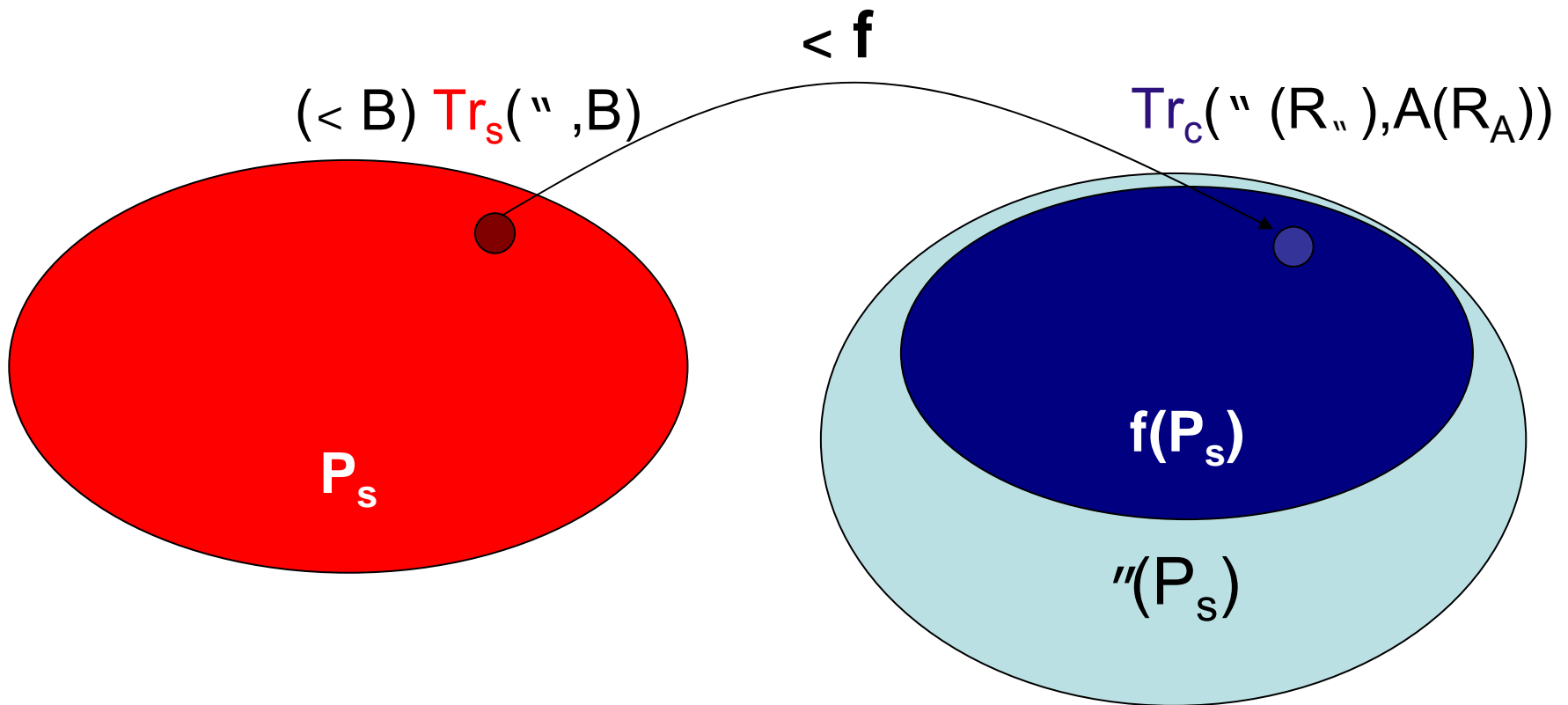
$$\pi \models_s P_s, \quad \pi \models_c P_c$$



# Proof

Let  $\pi$  be a protocol and  $A$  a computational adversary.

Pick  $R_\pi$  and  $R_A$ . Then (with overwhelming probability):



Soundness for secrecy properties

# Soundness for secrecy

[Cortier, Warinschi]

- For the Needham-Schroeder Lowe protocol:

NSL  $\Downarrow_s$  **Secret**( $N_B$ )

For any session  $t$  of  $B$  with an honest party  $A$ , the nonce  $n^t$  that instantiates  $N_B$  in session  $t$  is never sent by the adversary in clear over the network

Send  $\{A, Y\}_{pk_B}$

Receive  $\{B, N_A, X\}_{pk_A}$

Send  $\{X\}_{pk_B}$

Send  $\{B, Y, N_B\}_{pk_A}$

Receive  $\{N_B\}_{pk_B}$

# Soundness for secrecy

- The mapping lemma implies a notion of computational secrecy:
- (With overwhelming probability) the adversary cannot output any of the nonces that instantiate variable  $N_B$  in sessions of  $B$  with honest  $A$
- ...but this security notion - onewayness - is cryptographically unsatisfying

# Computational secrecy

- Computational secrecy for nonce  $N$  in session  $t$ : prior to the execution select  $n_0, n_1$ . Run the protocol with  $n_b$  as value for  $N_B$  in session  $t$ . Give  $n_0, n_1$  to the adversary and ask him to guess  $b$
- $\text{NSL} \uparrow_c \text{Secret}(N)$  if  $N$  is computationally secret in any session of  $B$  with an honest party

# Soundness for secrecy

- For any protocol  $\pi$  implemented with secure primitives (digital signatures, public key encryption, nonces)  
 $\pi \models_s \text{Secret}(N)$  ,  $\pi \models_c \text{Secret}(N)$
- The proof relies on the computational adversary to only perform Dolev-Yao operations

Soundness for hash functions

# Hash functions

[Cortier, Kremer, Küsters, Warinschi]

- The trace mapping lemma holds if hash functions are implemented by random oracles
  - Hash values can be interpreted as symbolic terms by observing the communication with the random oracle
- ... soundness holds for trace properties
- How about secrecy?



# Soundness for secrecy does not hold anymore

- Consider a protocol  $\pi$  where  $A$  sends to  $B$  the message  $h(N_A)$ , where  $N_A$  is a random nonce. Then
  - $\pi \models_s \text{Secret}(N_A)$  is true
  - $\pi \models \text{Secret}(N_A)$  is not true
- $\pi$  does not hold

Since given  $h(n_b)$ ,  $n_0, n_1$   
the adversary can  
easily recover  $b$

# ...but it can be recovered

- Define the pattern that the adversary can observe when *given*  $N$ . In particular:
  - $\text{pattern}_N(\{N\}_{pk}) = \square_{pk}$
  - $\text{pattern}_N(h(N)) = h(N)$
  - $\text{pattern}_N(h(N')) = h(\square)$

# Stronger notion of secrecy

- Stronger notion of secrecy for nonces:
  - “  $\models_s \text{SSecret}(N)$  if for any instantiation  $n^\dagger$  of nonce  $N$  and for any adversary  $A$ ,  $n^\dagger$  does not occur in  $\text{pattern}_{n^\dagger}(\text{Tr}_s(\ulcorner, A))$
- Computational soundness for secrecy holds:
  - “  $\models_s \text{SSecret}(N)$  ,   “  $\models_c \text{Secret}(N)$

*Additional results*

# Non-interactive zero-knowledge

[Backes,Unruh]

- Consider a specification language for protocols where non-interactive ZK statements can be used
- Identify the requirements needed to ensure that a mapping lemma holds

*(unpredictable non-interactive multi-theorem adaptive extraction zero-knowledge argument of knowledge with deterministic verification and extraction)*

- Extractability
- Non-malleability
- Unpredictability

# Computational soundness for a process calculus

[Cortier, Comon-Lundh]

- Protocols written in a subset of applied  $\lambda$ -calculus
  - Use symmetric key-encryption
- Define symbolic and computational executions for processes
- Soundness of observational equivalence: processes indistinguishable, symbolically, are indistinguishable by a computational attacker.

# Commitment schemes

[Galindo, Garcia, van Rosum]

- Soundness for non-malleable commitments
- Commitments are similar to encryption

Some observations



# Extractability

- Needed for interpreting uniquely each bitstring as a term
- Is ensured by either cryptographic security (e.g. integrity of encryption, collision resistance for hashes, extractability for ZK, message revealing signatures), extra randomization, and/or tagging of messages with types

# Executability (simulatability)

- Needed to ensure that the execution of the protocol can be simulated for the adversary
- Identify appropriate restrictions on the protocols to ensure execution is possible (at the very least “normal” executability but possibly more)

# Non-malleability

- Usually symbolic axiomatization implies non-malleability
- The Lowe-type attack on the NS implementation with IND-CPA scheme is permitted by non-malleability
- Seems to be a (the) useful property (soundness for non-malleable commitments and ZK )

# Some future directions

- Compositional soundness results
- Convincing applications
- Relevance to actual implementations

Thank you.