

# **Leakage Resilient Circuits**

**(or: Leakage models for masking)**

**Sebastian Faust**  
**EPFL, Switzerland**

# Cryptodevices

cryptographic device

## very secure

- well-defined mathematical object
- often proof-driven security analysis



## much less secure!

- many ways of implementing: details matter!
- new attacks possible on crypto implementations

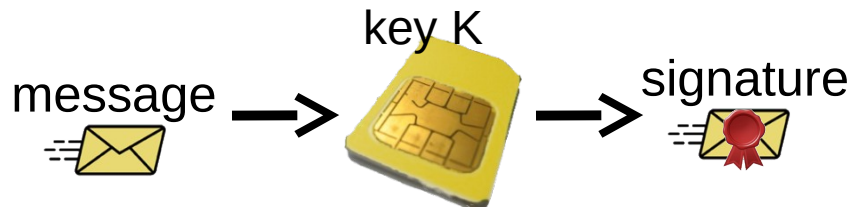
Goal of Leakage resilient crypto:

Proof-driven security analysis for implementations

# Provable Security

## 1. Define model & security notion

Example: Digital signatures




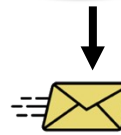
# Provable Security

## 1. Define model & security notion

Example: Digital signatures



Forgery for new message 



Scheme is secure: no adversary can output a valid forgery!

# Provable Security

1. Define model & security notion

2. Design cryptoscheme

Usually described in mathematical language



3. Prove security

Reduce security of complex scheme to **simple** assumption, e.g., factoring

Information-theoretic proofs: information is “useless” to the adversary

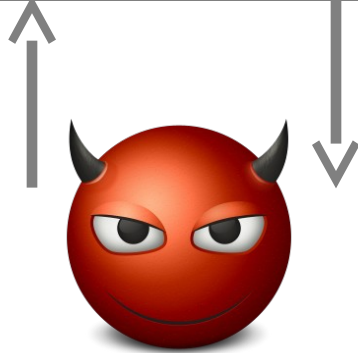
- Shows security not only against **one specific attack**, but **any** attack within the model (if assumption holds)

Security proven but in what model?

# Theory vs. Reality

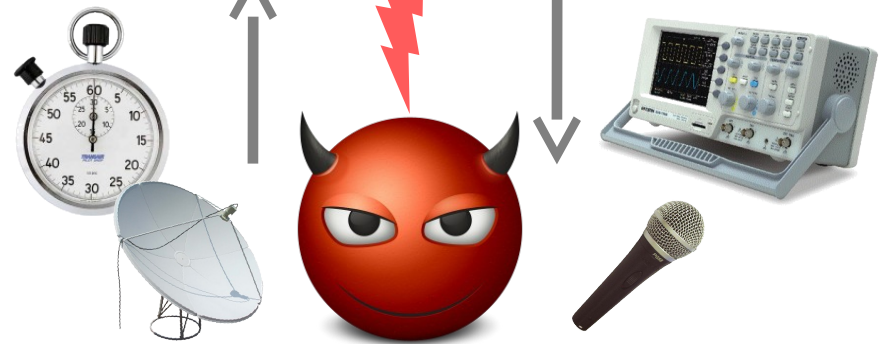
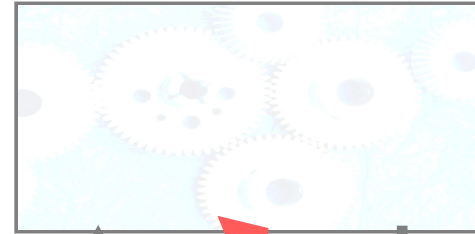
Attack algorithm:

KEY



implement

Attack Implementation:



Controls inputs /outputs but  
internals stay hidden

Devices **leak** about internals

Best attack for AES:  
**2126.1**

Can break AES within hours  
with side-channel analysis

# Goals of leakage resilience

**Incorporate leakage into model**



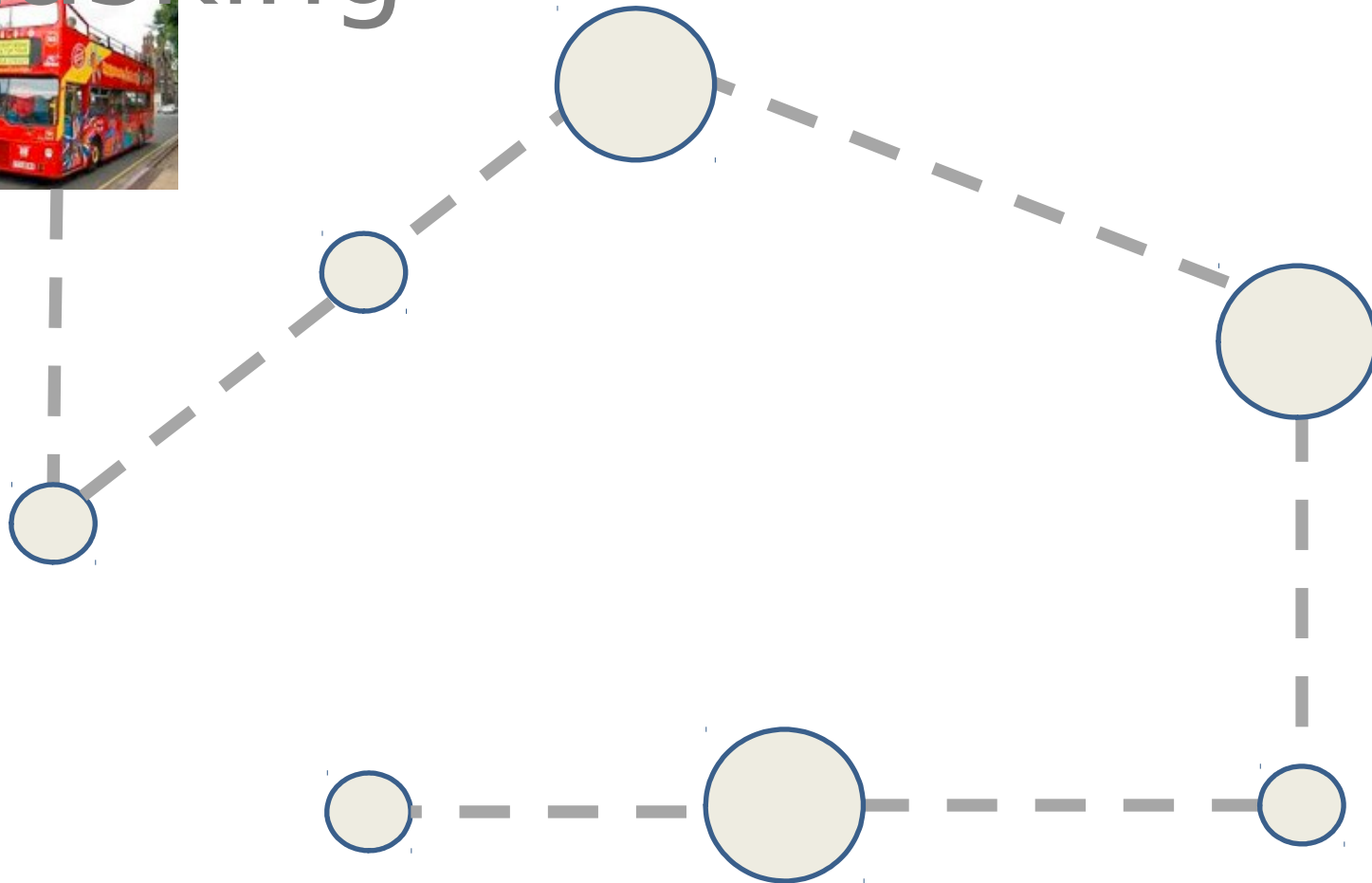
**Develop new countermeasures**



**Provably secure implementations ?**

**Best answered by looking at examples**

# Leakage models for masking

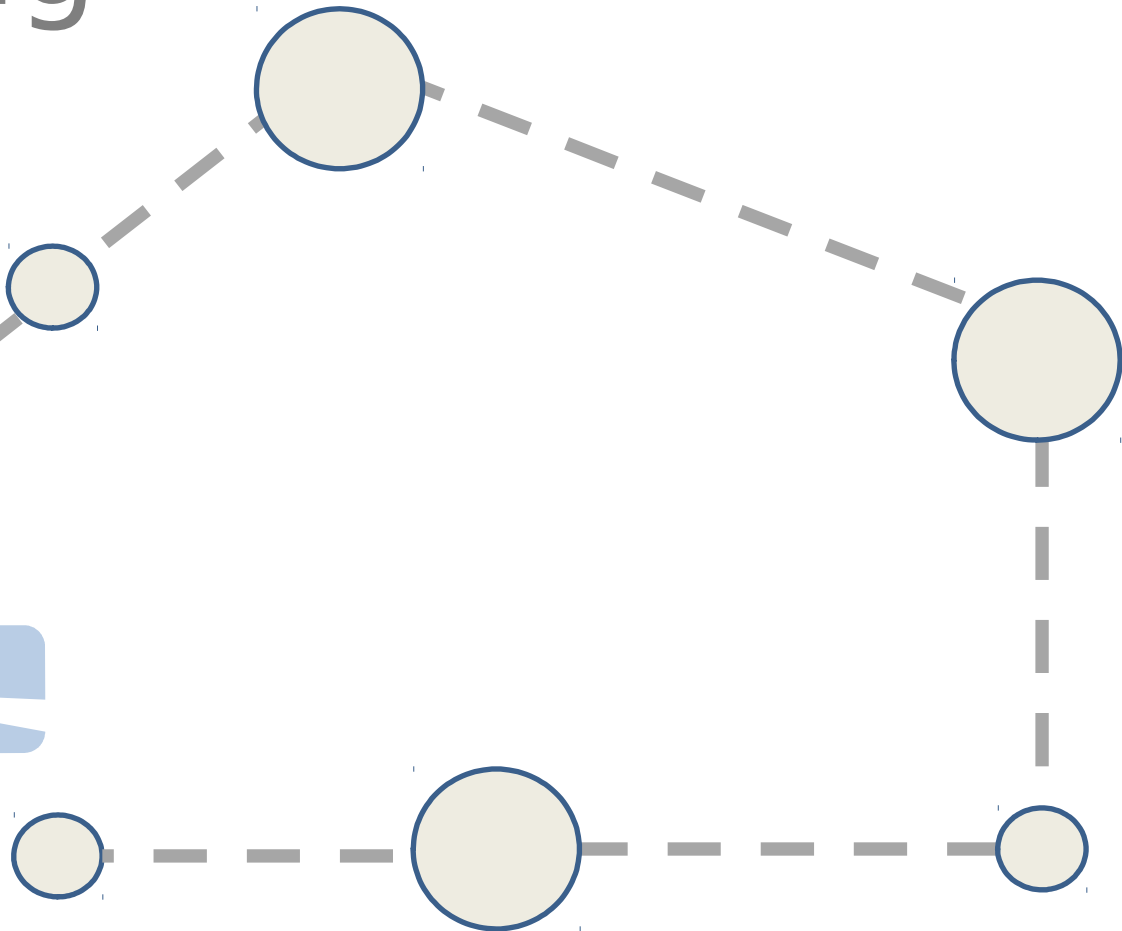




# Leakage models for masking



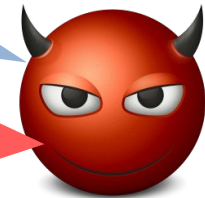
Masking



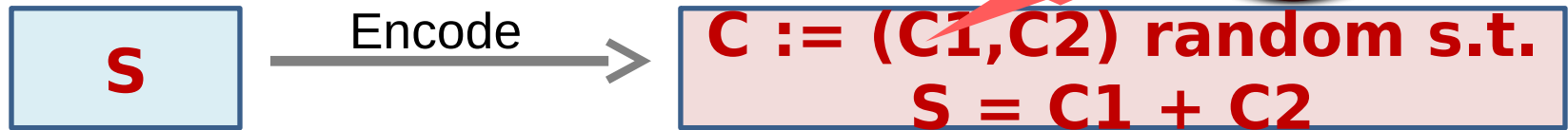
# Basic idea of masking

Commonly used in secure hardware analysis  
Idea: process leakage depends only on randomized  
encoding of one element

Learns nothing about  $S$ , if  
leakage depends only on  
one element

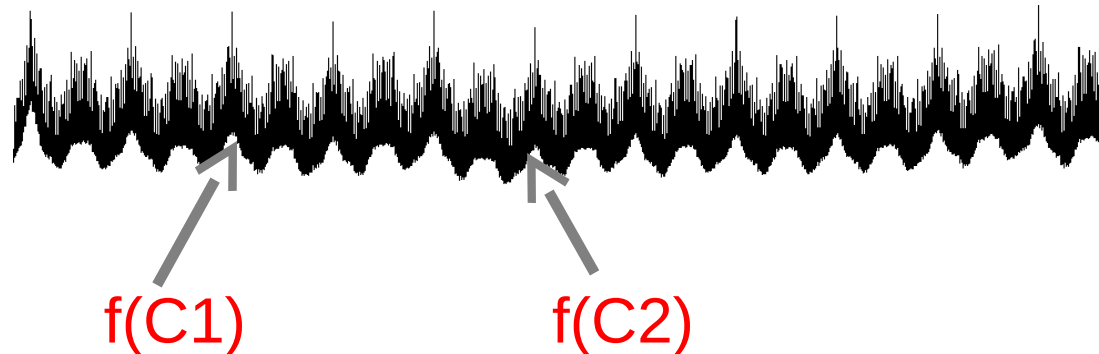


Additive secret sharing:



Can protect against univariate attacks

Insecure when considering multivariate distributions



# Basic idea of masking

Use  $n$  shares to protect against  $(n-1)$ -variate attacks



Learns nothing about  $S$ , if leakage depends only on  $n-1$  shares



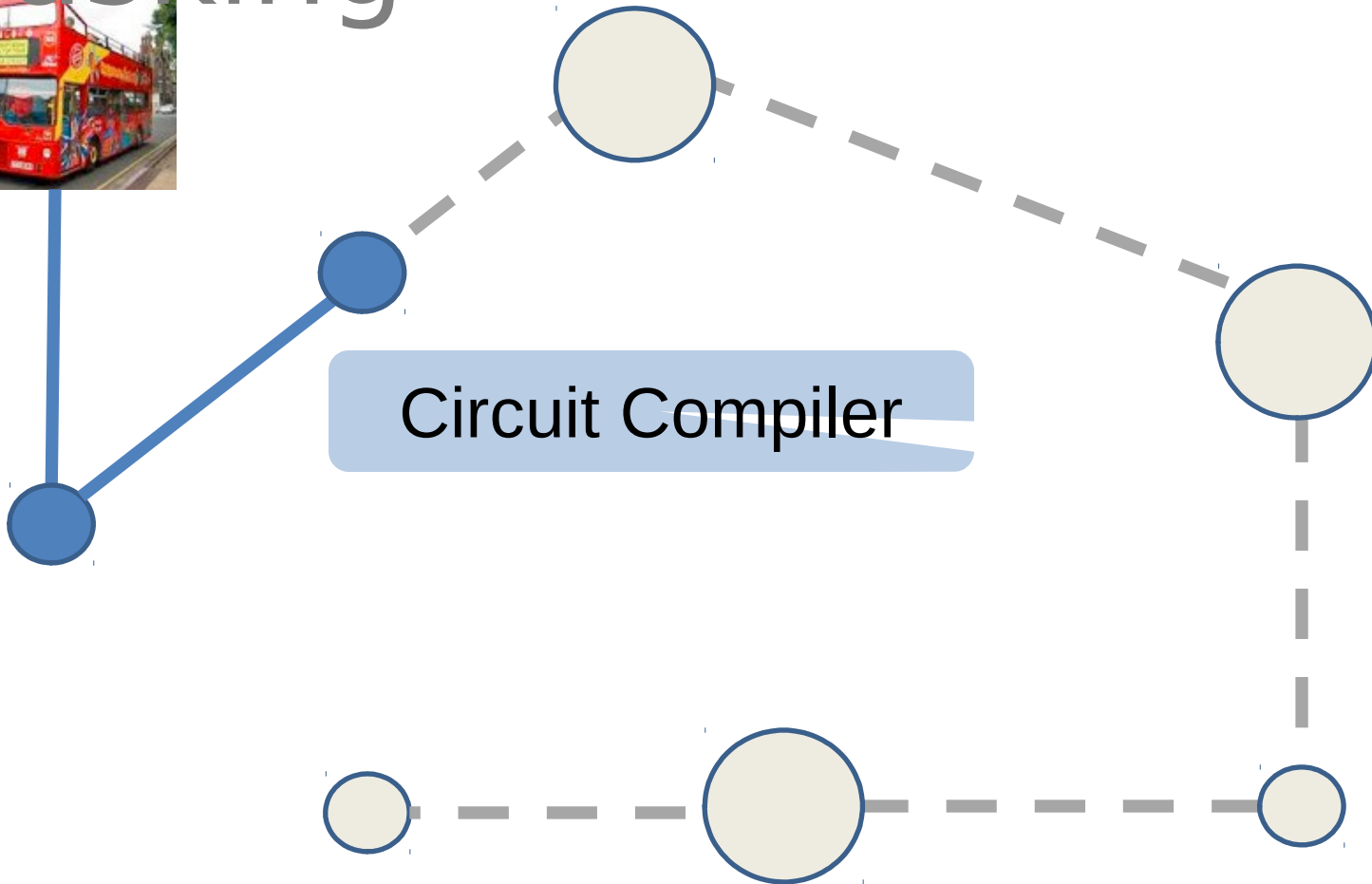
Increasing number of shares:

- Increases attack order
- Increases attack difficulty

Two main questions:

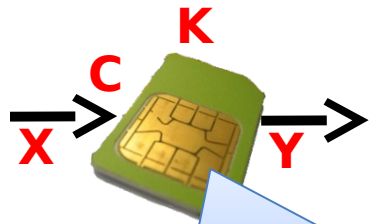
- How to use shared secrets to protect cryptoscheme
- How to model security of complex algorithms

# Leakage models for masking



# Leakage resilient circuits

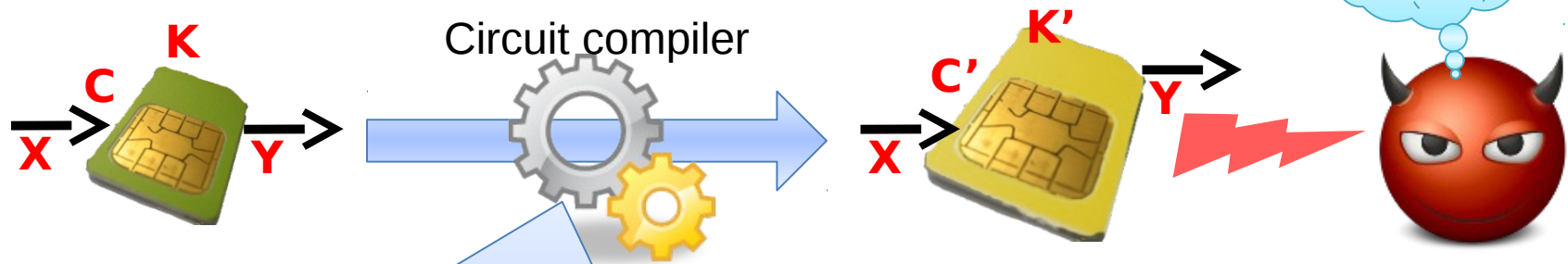
Formalization of masking by Ishai-Sahai-Wagner-03



Arbitrary computation modeled as a circuit  
Only abstraction to describe „arbitrary  
computation“ □ can also be software...

# Leakage resilient circuits

Formalization of masking by Ishai-Sahai-War



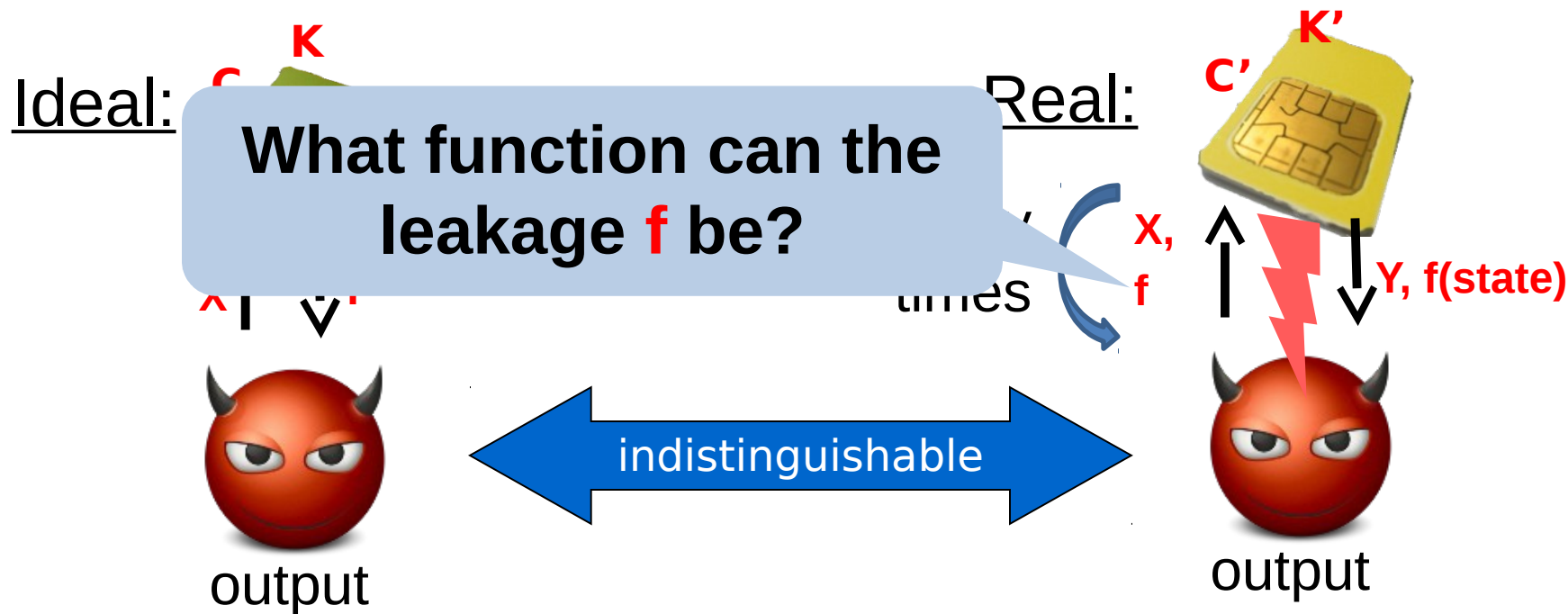
**Circuit Compiler:** Run once at production time  
Input: Description of circuit  $C$  with key  $K$  (e.g., circuit for AES)  
Output: Description of circuit  $C'$  with key  $K'$  ( $C'$  is probabilistic)  
**Correctness:**  $C[K]$  and  $C'[K']$  have same functionality  
**Additionally:**  $C'[K']$  **leakage resilient** for many executions

□ adversary learns nothing “useful” from leakage

**How to formalize this?**

# Simulation-based security

Adversary learns no more than by black-box access



**Continuous leakage:** many observations are possible

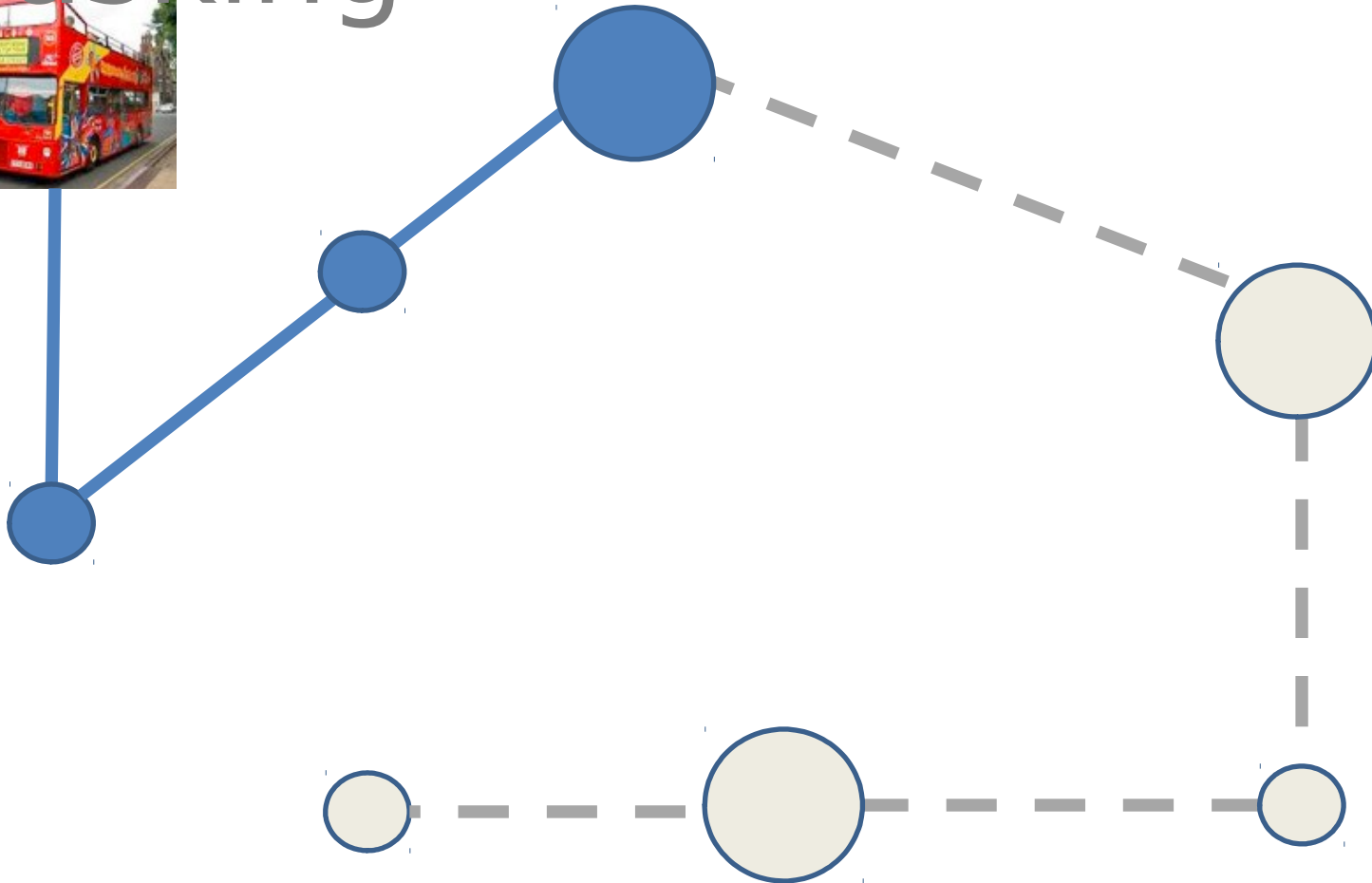
**What does it mean?**

For unbounded adversary:  $MI(K ; f(\cdot), \dots f(\cdot)) < \text{negl}$

Even more: Cannot break underlying security notion

# Leakage models for masking

n-probing model

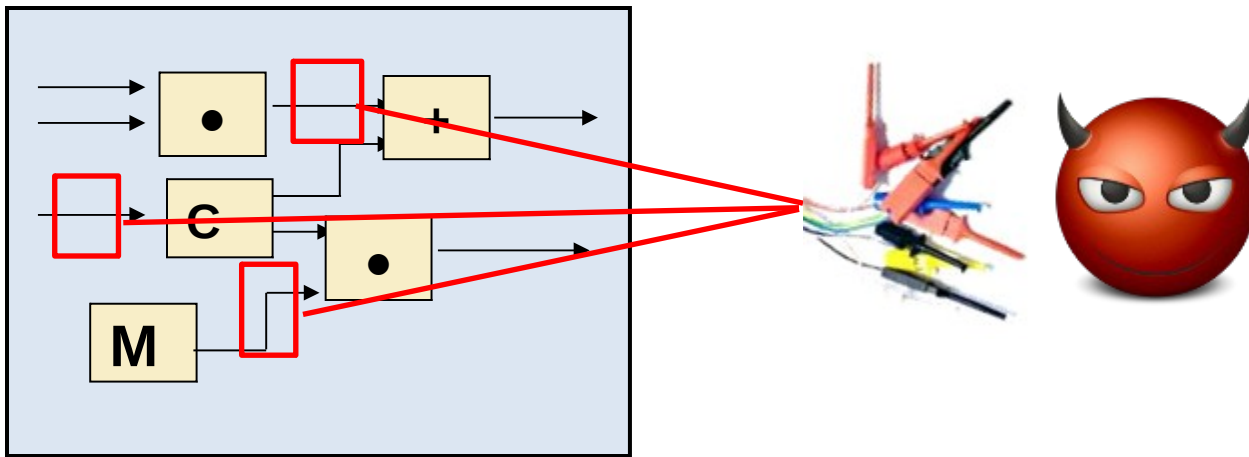




# n-Probing adversary (ISW03)

Adversary gets **n** intermediate values of computation

□ **L** = { values on **n** adversarial chosen wires }



**n**-probing attack formalization of **n**-variate attacks

**Basic ingredient:** encoding scheme



Insecure in continuous setting!

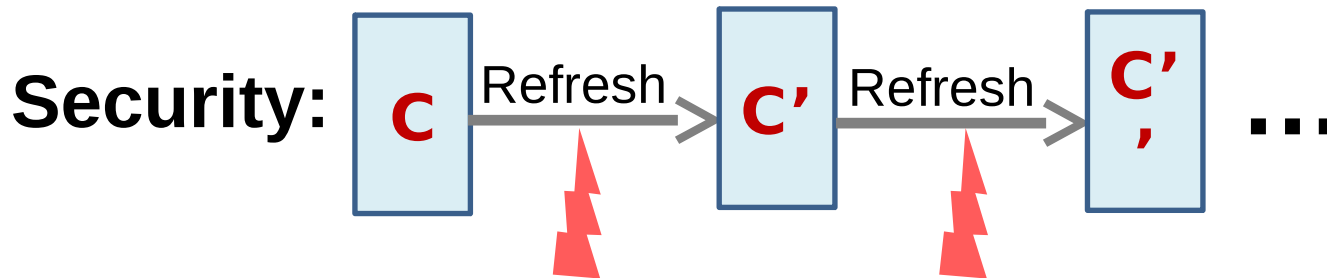
# Continuous leakage

**Idea:** Prob. algorithm to refresh additive encoding:

Input:  $C = \text{Enc}(s)$  □ Output: fresh encoding  $C' = \text{Enc}(s)$

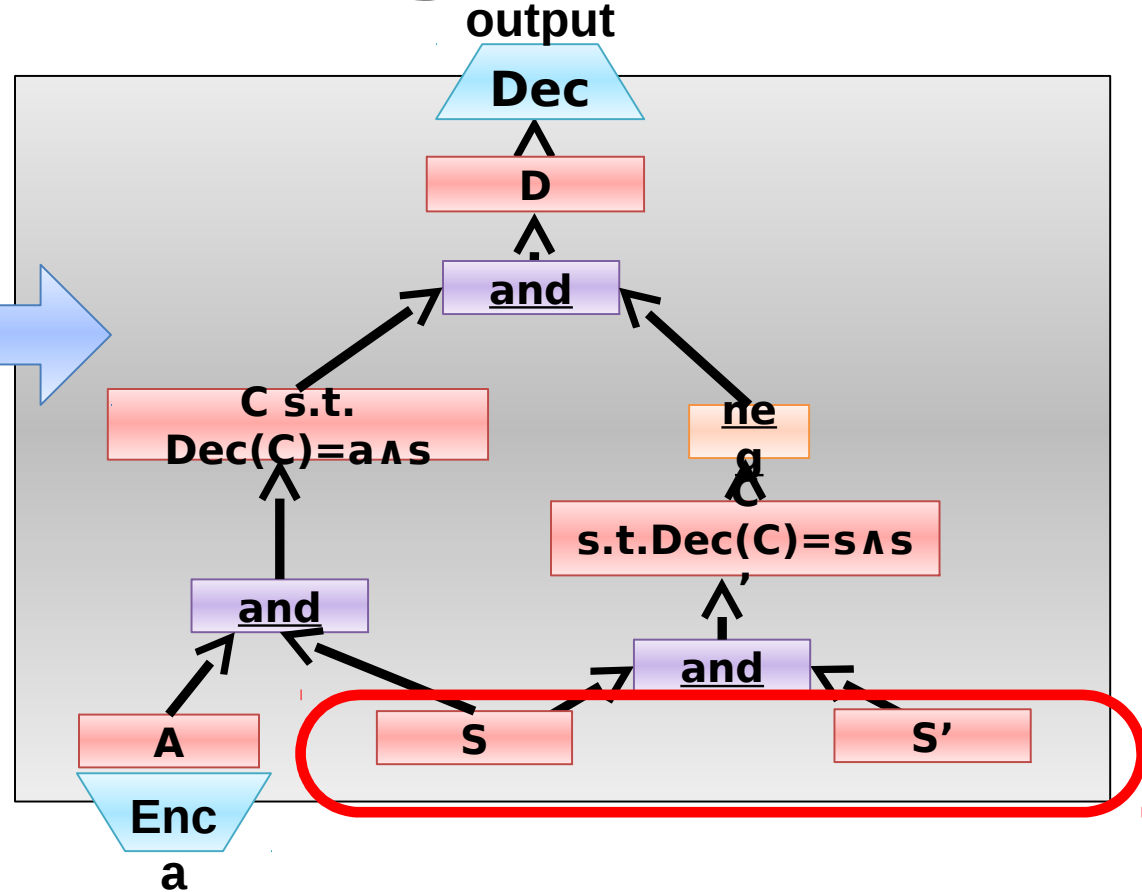
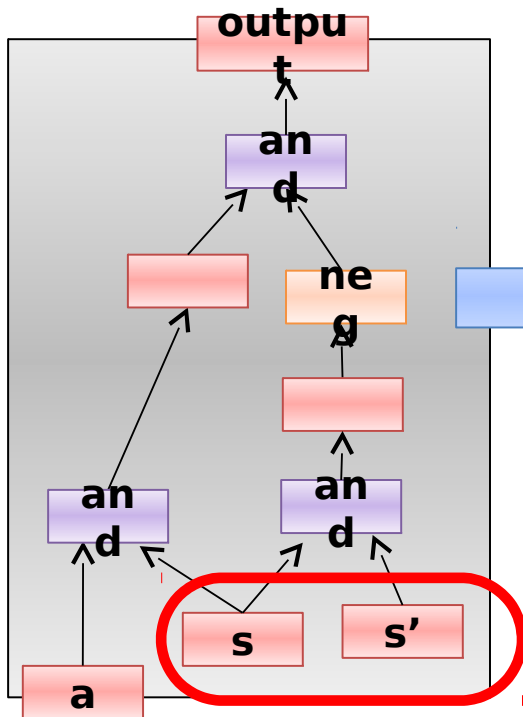
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \underbrace{\text{Enc}(s)} & \underbrace{\text{Enc}(0)} & \underbrace{\text{Enc}(s)} \\ \text{C1} & \text{R1} & \text{C'1} \\ \text{C2} & \text{R2} & \text{C'2} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \text{Cn} & \text{Rn} & \text{C'n} \\ +1 & +1 & +1 \end{array} \quad + \quad =$$

**Correctness:** By linearity  $\text{Enc}(s) + \text{Enc}(0) = \text{Enc}(s)$



Secure for  $n/2$  probes per execution

# ISW Compiler: High level



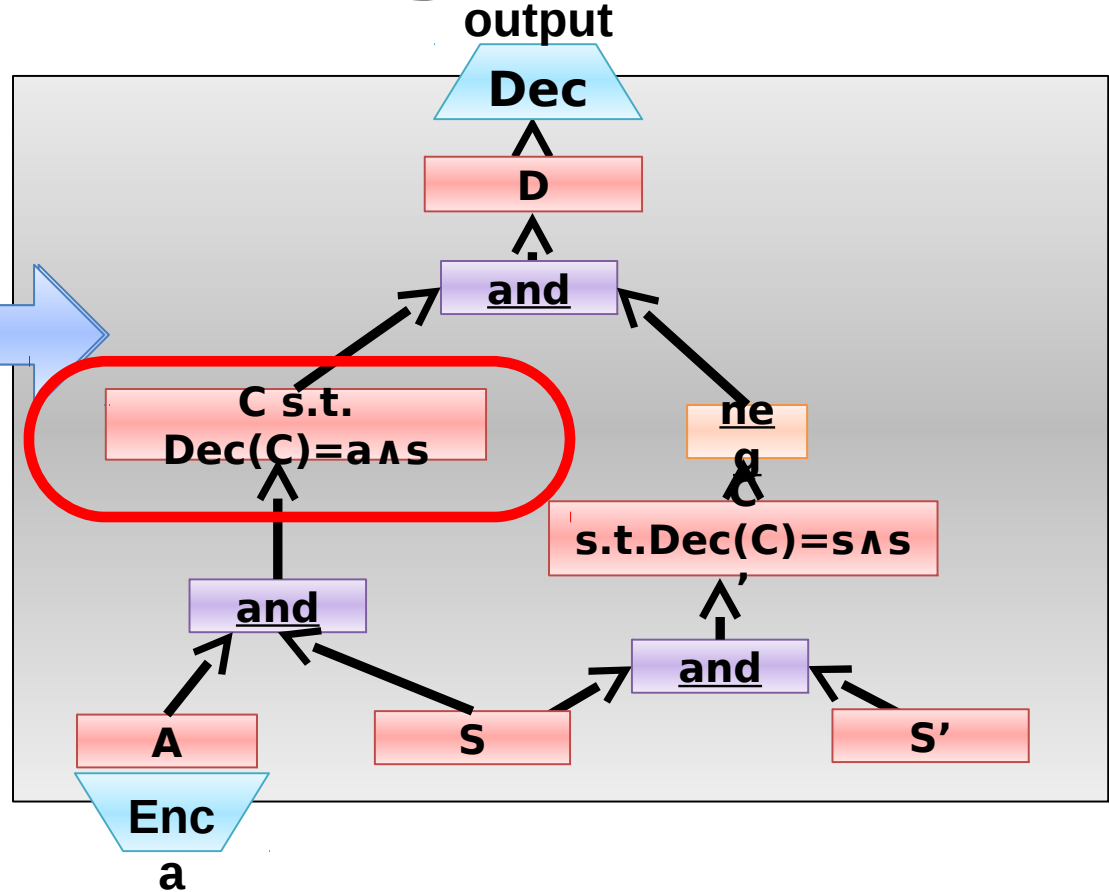
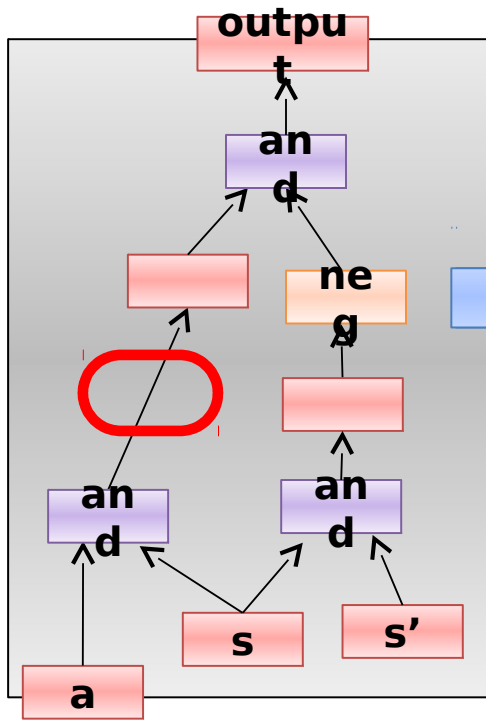
## 1. Memory:

A bit **s**



Encoded with Boolean masking, i.e.,  $\mathbf{S} = (\mathbf{S}_1 \dots \mathbf{S}_{n+1})$  such that  $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{S}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{S}_{n+1}$

# ISW Compiler: High level



## 2. Wires:

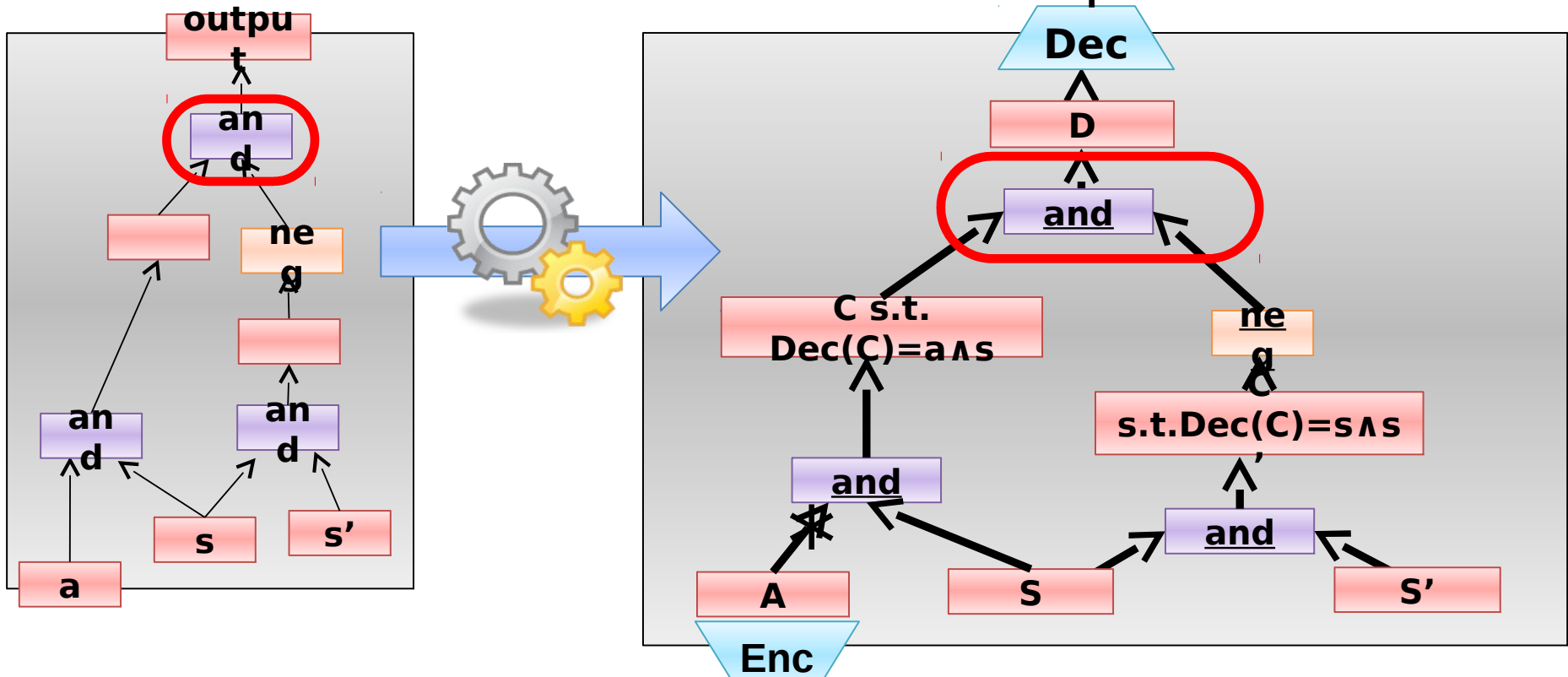
Each wire  
 $w = a \wedge b$



Wire bundle carrying encoding  
 $C$  such that  $w = Dec(C)$

**Main challenge:** computing on encoded inputs!

# ISW Compiler: High level



3. Gates:

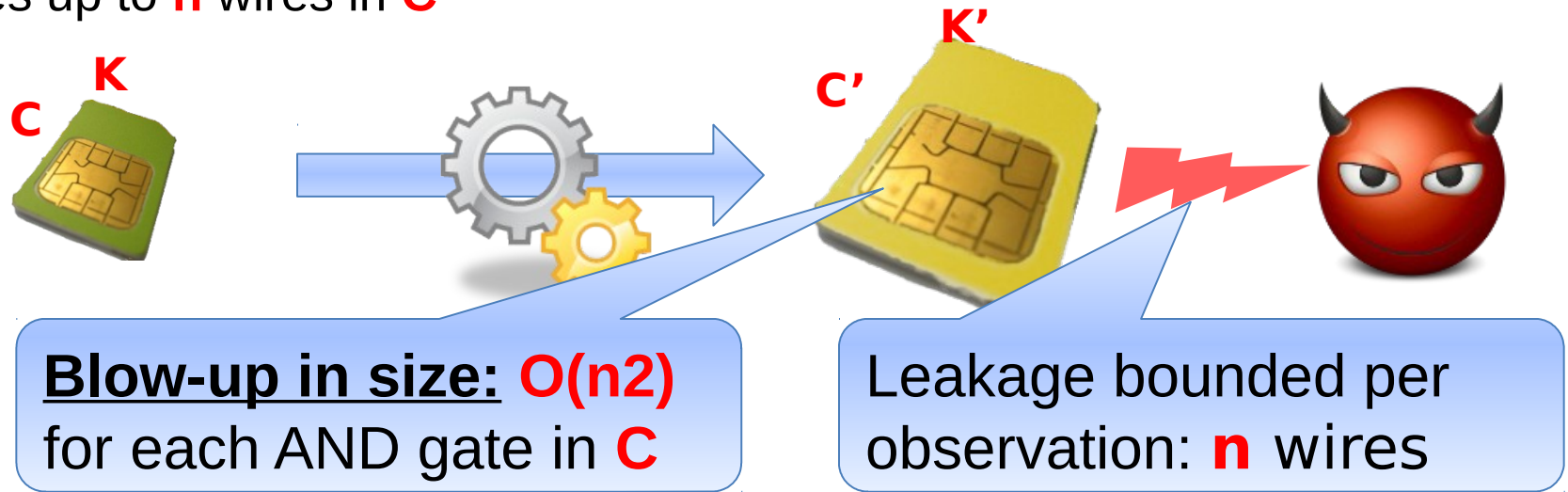
Uses refreshing protocol

built from standard gates operating on encodings

**Main challenge:** algorithm to securely compute AND!

# ISW Compiler: Results

**Theorem:** A compiler that makes **any circuit** resilient to adversary that probes up to  $n$  wires in  $C'$

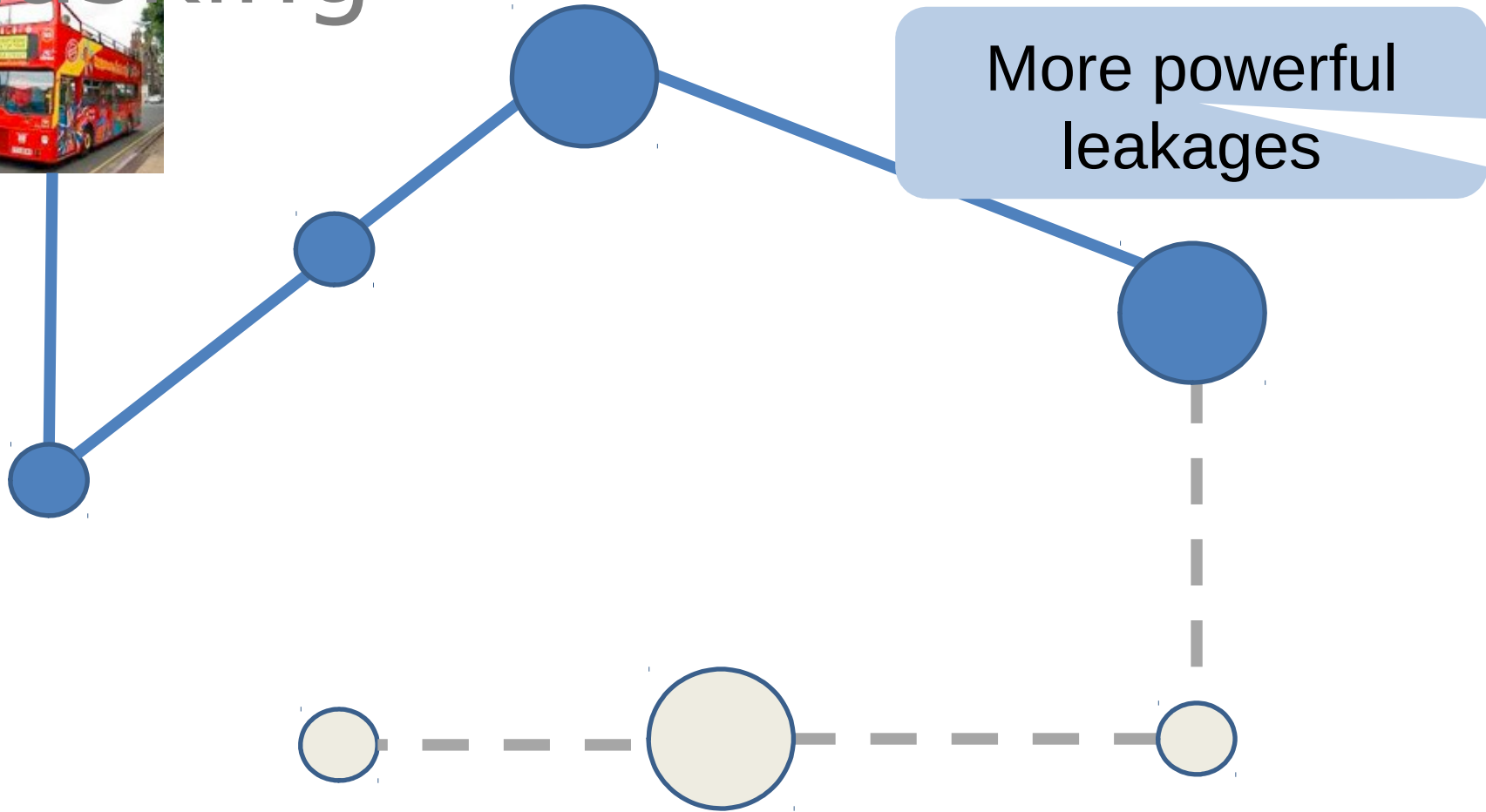


Proofs in  $n$ -probing model: Systematic and simple tool to find  $n$ -th variate flaws in masking schemes

Prouff-Rivain-2010: Larger fields & more efficient

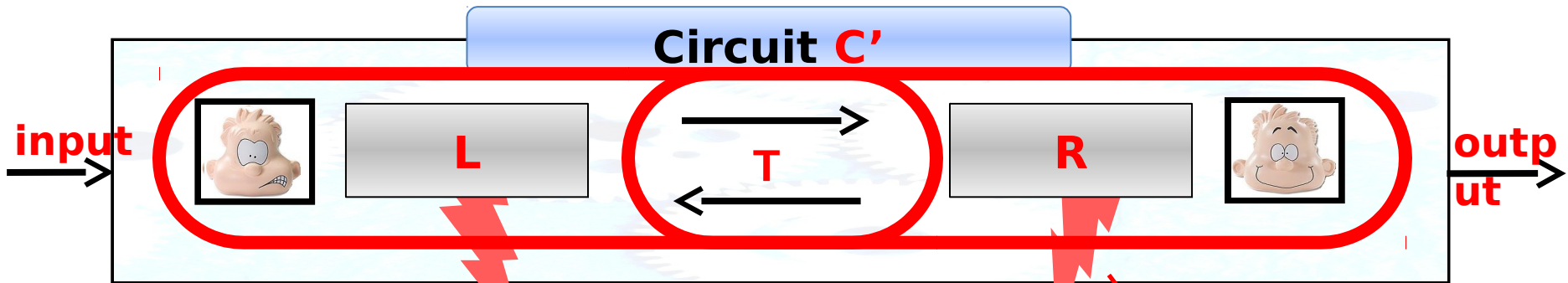
Drawback:  $L$  only probing  $\square$  oblivious of many wires

# Leakage models for masking

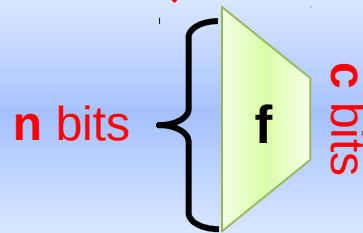


# New model for circuits

## Bounded independent leakages



**Processors can communicate with each other –**  
Think of it as a 2-party protocol



**Bounded leakage function:**

- Arbitrary efficient functions
- Only restriction: input shrinking, i.e.,  $c < n$

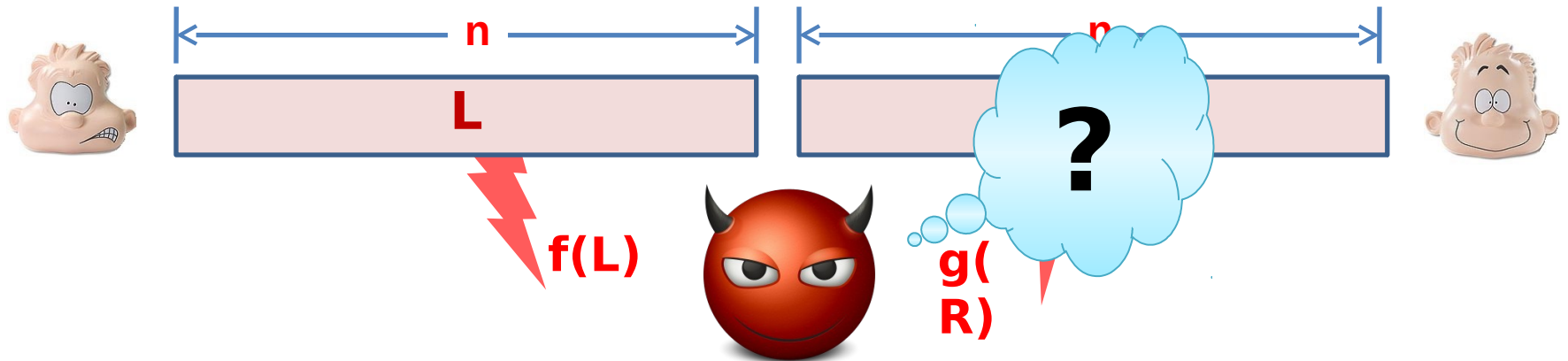
**Realistic?** Includes many functions, e.g. weighted sums

**Additive masking?** Insecure: learn parities of **L** & **R**

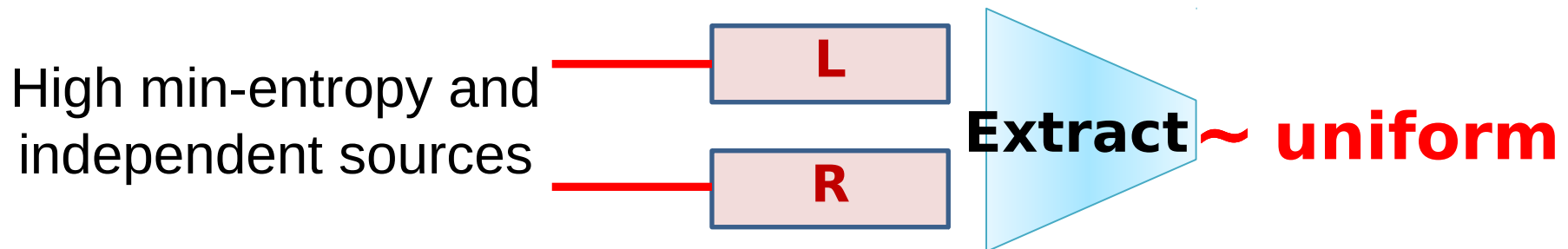


# Inner Product Masking

Sample  $L, R$  uniformly in  $\{0,1\}^n$  s.t.  $S = \langle L, R \rangle = \sum L_i \cdot R_i$  and store parts separately on two processors



**Thm [DDV10]:** if leakage is bounded in **total** to  $c$  bits then adversary learns nothing about  $S$

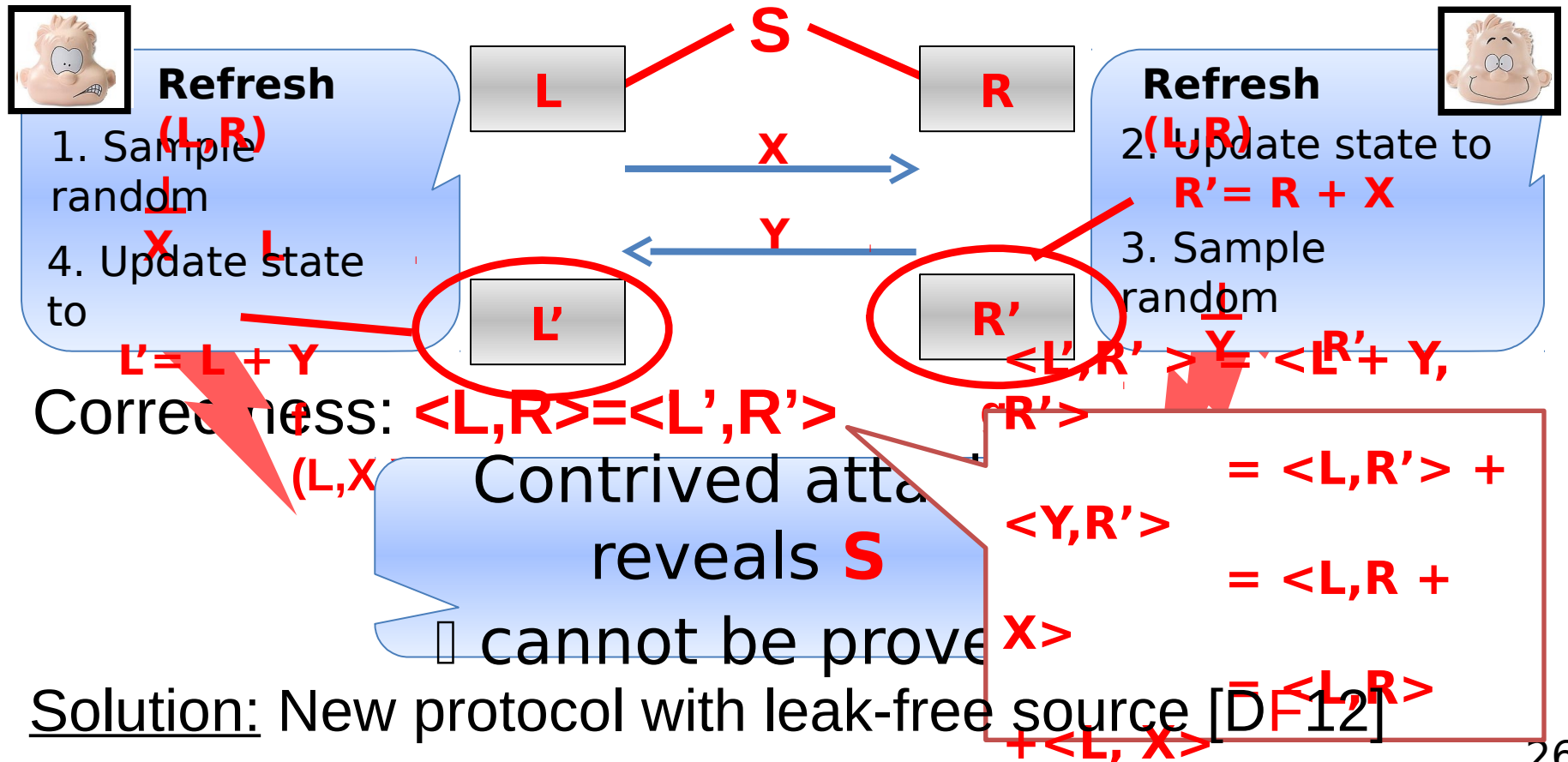


# Continuous setting?

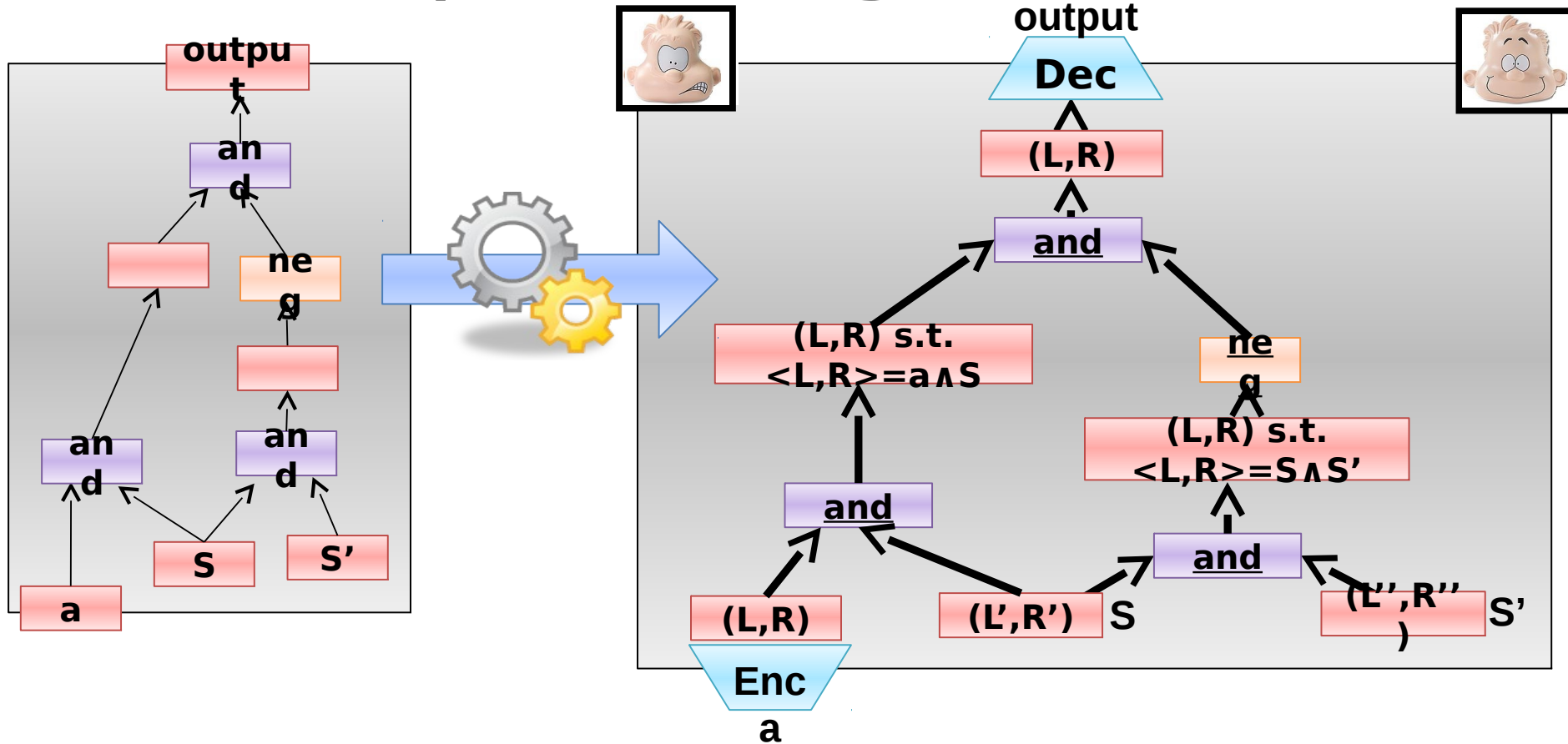
**Idea: refreshing protocol for IP maskings –**

Prob. algorithm:  $(L,R) \square (L',R')$  fresh encoding of  $\langle L,R \rangle$

Simple attempt:



# IP Compiler: High level

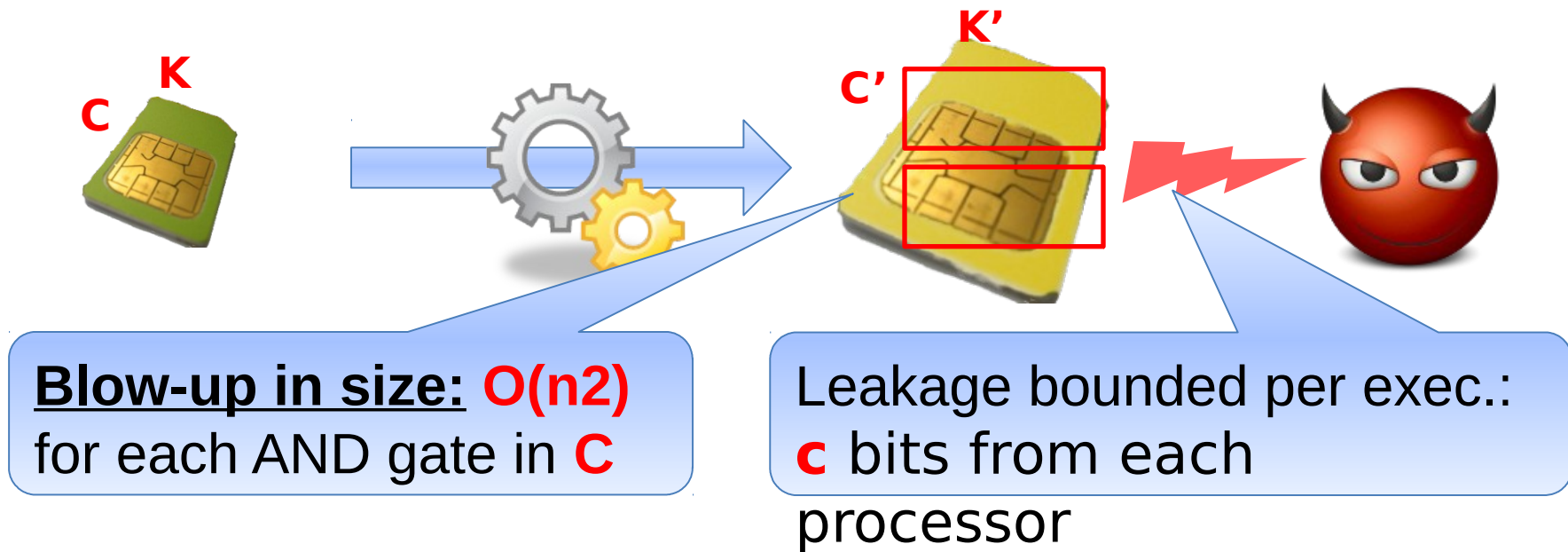


1. Wires and state is encoded using IP masking
  2. Gates are replaced by protocols working on IP masking
- **Most difficult:** protocol to compute AND (see DF12)

# The IP masking compiler

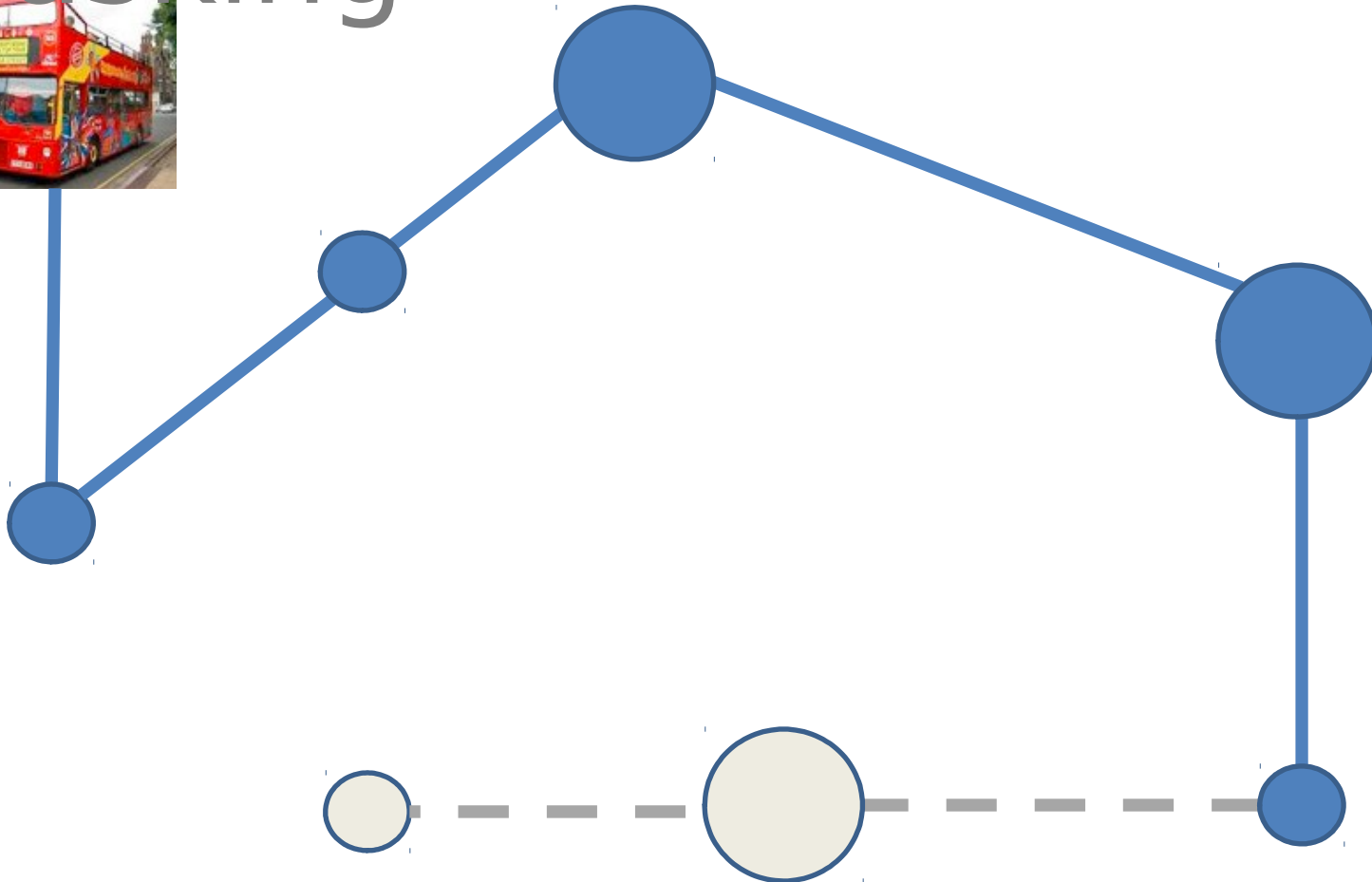
## Theorem [DF12]:

A new **information theoretic** secure compiler with security against **continuous independent leakage**



## IP masking in practice?

# Leakage models for masking



IP masking in practice

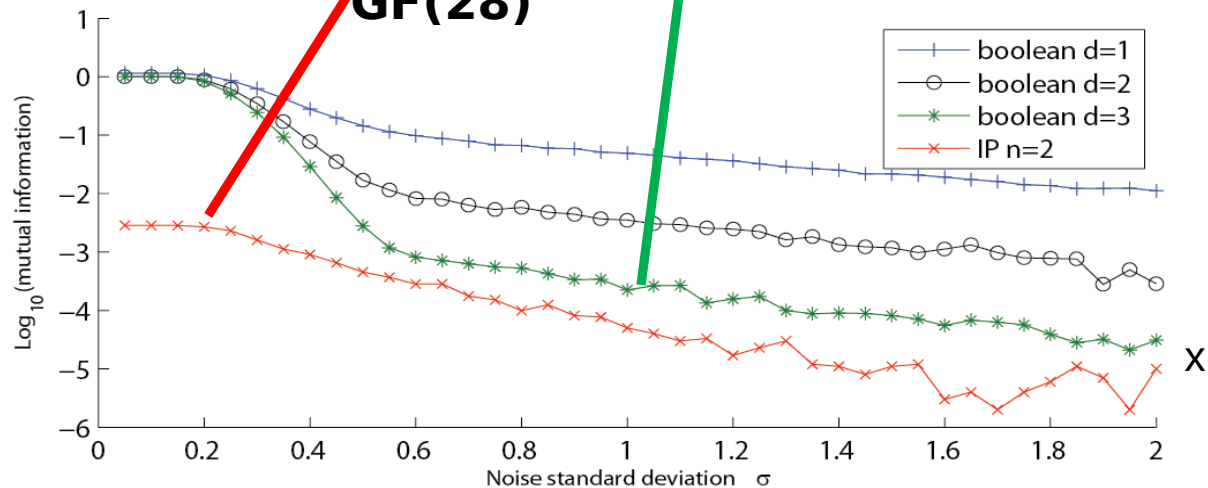
# IP Masking in practice?

(BFGV12)

Analyzed for small shares  
Security outperforms

**Green curve: Boolean masking with 3 random shares in GF(28)**  
**Red curve: IP masking with 3 random shares in GF(28)**

Mutual information between HW leakage and secret



Weaker dependency between leakage & secret for IP masking

**Main reason: Non-linear masking vs. linear masking**

# Implementation of AES



IP masked AES on 8-bit microcontroller  
IP Masking “lifted” to GF(28)

**Performance:** Runs in 1.9 Mio clock cycles for **n=2**

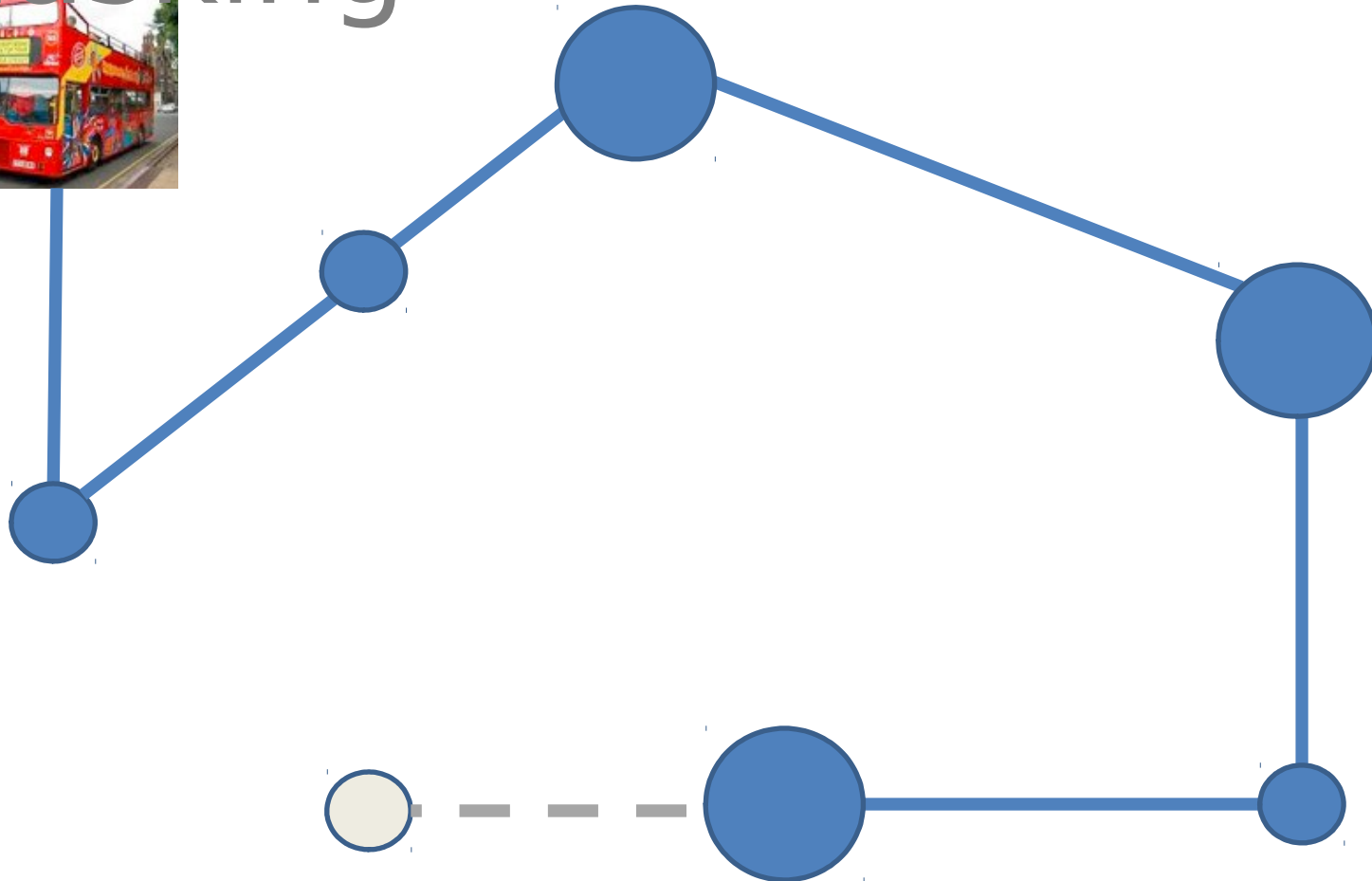
**Minimize costs for masked multiplication:**

- Use squaring whenever possible □ it’s cheap!
- Minimize multiplications in SubBytes
- Refreshing with complexity **O(n)** instead **O(n<sup>2</sup>)**

**Unfortunately small univariate bias in IP-masking**  
[Prouff-Rivain-Roche-14]

**But:** Bias is small □ Future work: still exp. security?

# Leakage models for masking



Noisy leakages

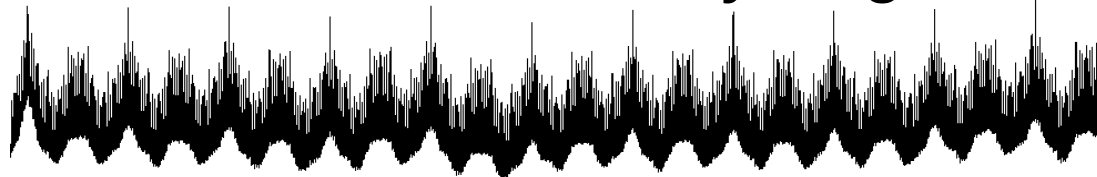


# Bounded leakage in

Theoretician's perspective: beautiful concept 

Are leakages bounded? Probably not...

- Measurements described by large data 



- Not clear how to guarantee/verify bounded leakages in practice 

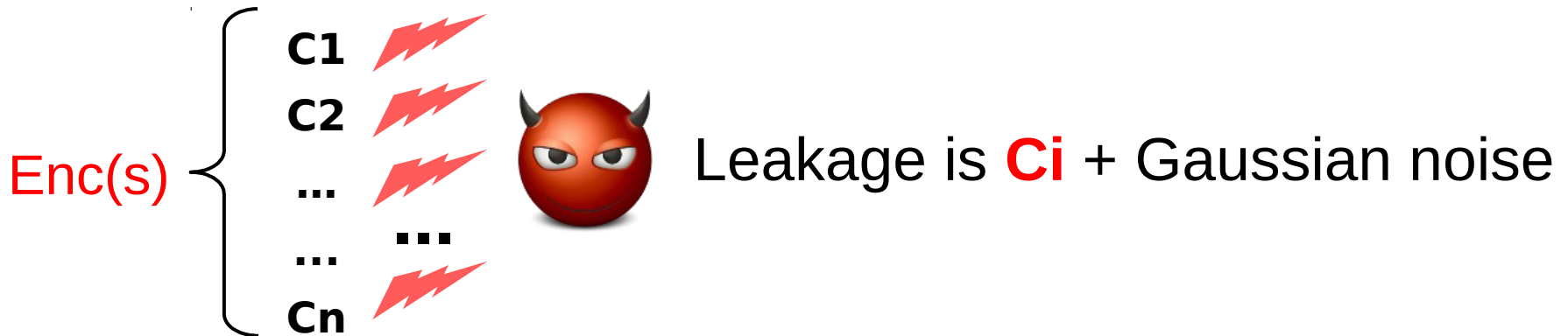
Physical leakages are inherently noisy

Difficulty in many attacks: how to eliminate the noise?

# Noisy leakages

Noisy leakage model: Chari et al. Crypto'99

No quantitative bound on leakage, but leakage is noisy




Chari et al. only consider security of a single masked secret

**Long-standing open question:** Generalize to computation

**Prouff-Rivain, Eurocrypt 13:**

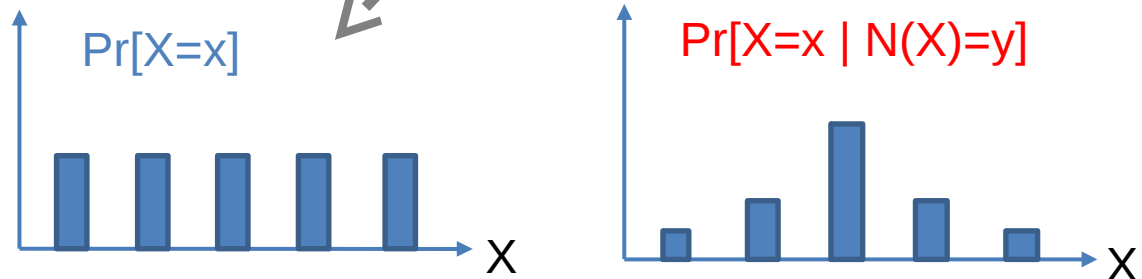
- Prove security of a masked implementation of the AES
- Generalized noise model (not only Gaussian noise)

# Noisy functions

$Enc(s)$  {  $C_1$   $C_2$  ...  $C_n$  }  Noisy function  $N$ : adv. learns  $N(C_i)$   
e.g.  $N(C_i)$ : compute Hamming weight and add Gaussian noise

All  $p$ -noisy functions  $N$  s.t.  $E N(X)=y$   $Dist(Pr[X=x] ; Pr[X=x | N(X)=y]) < p$

Weighted average over  
Noise distribution

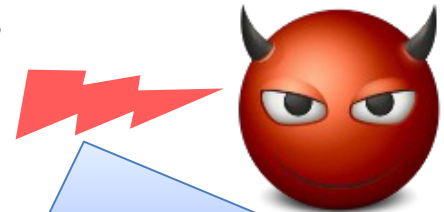
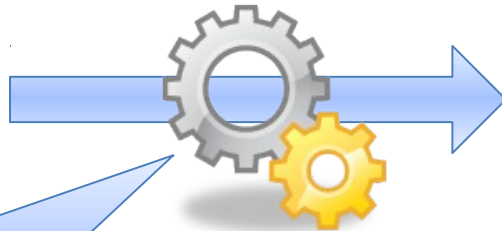


Alternative interpretation:  $MI(X, N(X)) < |X| p$

Example  $p = 0$ :  $N$  is very noisy = non-informative leakage

Example  $p \approx 1$ :  $N$  is identity = very informative leakage

# Circuits for noisy leakage



Compiler of ISW03  
with leak-free gates

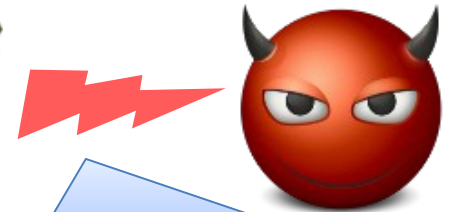
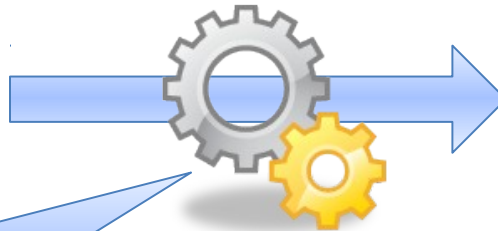
Adversary obtains noisy version of  
each wire:  $N(w_i)$

No quantitative bound on amount of leakage

Drawbacks of the analysis: 🙄

- Leak-free gates: no leakage from refreshing
- Security argument only for random-message attack
- Very technical proof

# Duc-Dziembowski-F 14:



Compiler of ISW03

Same noisy leakage model as PR13

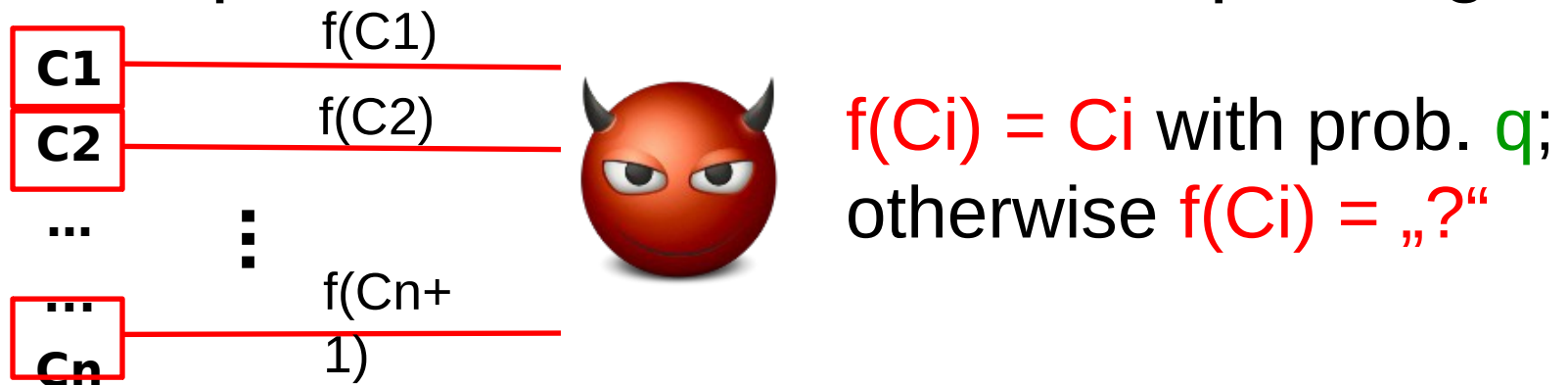
ISW03 is secure against noisy leakages

- No leak-free gates 😊
- Full simulation-based security analysis 😊
- Unifying leakage models: 😊  
**n**-probing security  $\square$  security against noisy leakage

↙ Nice tool: proofs in **n**-probing model  
much simpler than proofs in noisy model

# Proof idea

New simpler noise model: Random probing



Step 1: learn  $\mathbf{S}$  only if „lucky“ for each random probe  
secure in  $n$ -probing  $\square$  secure in random probing

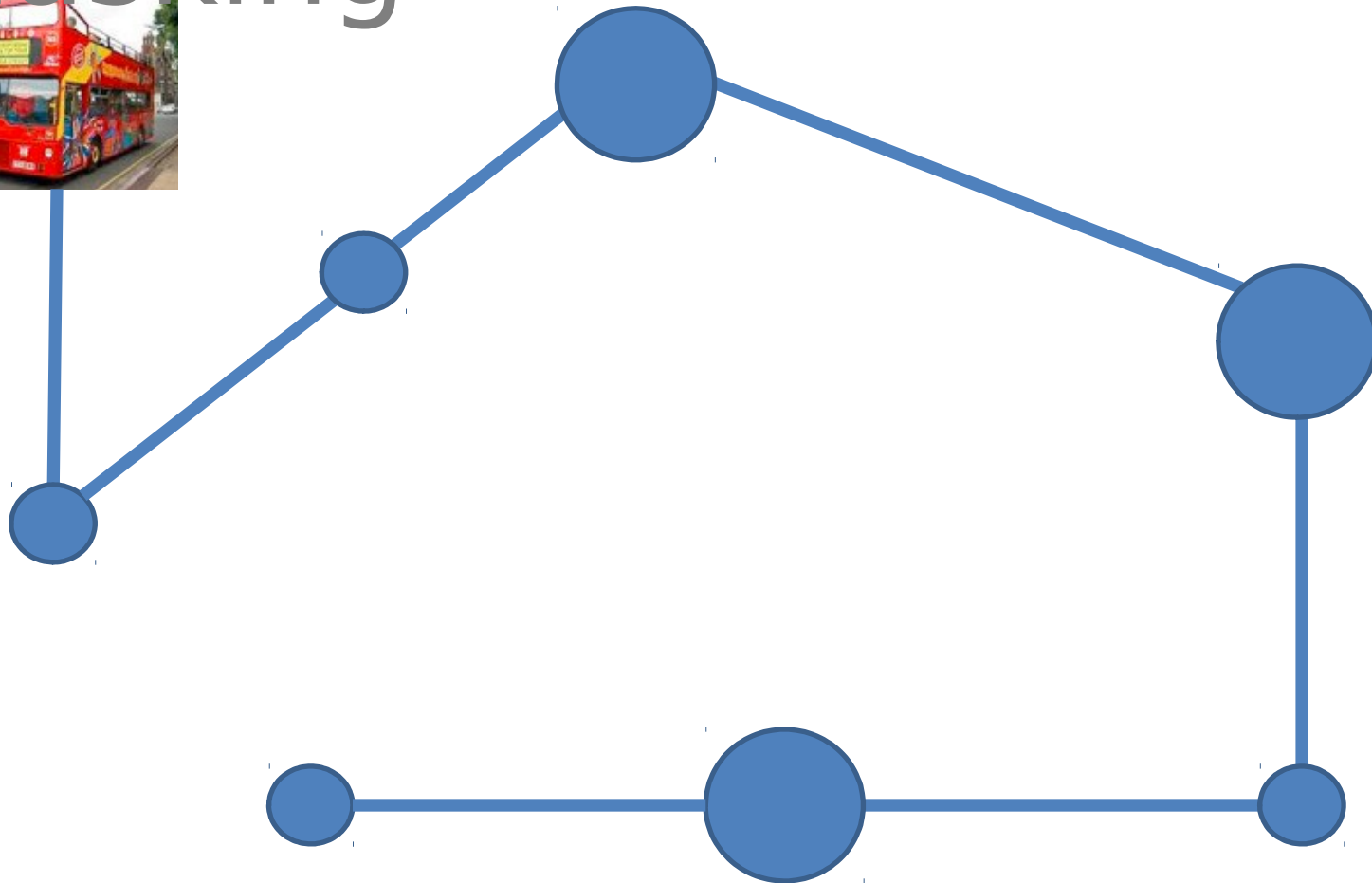
Step 2: noisy leakage = random probing (technical)

For any  $p$ -noisy function  $N$  there exists a simulated noise distribution  $N'$  s.t. for any  $x$ :  $N'(f(x)) = N(x)$

(  $f$  is a  $q$ -random probing function with  $q < p/|X|$  )

(1) + (2):  $n$ -probing  $\square$  secure against noisy leakages

# Leakage models for masking



Provably secure implementations?

Provably secure? **Probably not y**

## Why leakage resilient crypto?

*Theoretician's answer:* Beautiful & natural questions

Is cryptography possible with weak (= non-uniform) keys?

*Why to care in practice?* Proofs are **powerful** tool!

Systematic analysis to avoid flaws

- Proofs in n-probing model to check for n-th order flaws

New ideas and schemes

- IP masking an alternative for additive masking?

Formal requirements on hardware

- How much noise do I need to use masking?



# Thank you!

Thanks to the EU/FP7 for funding.

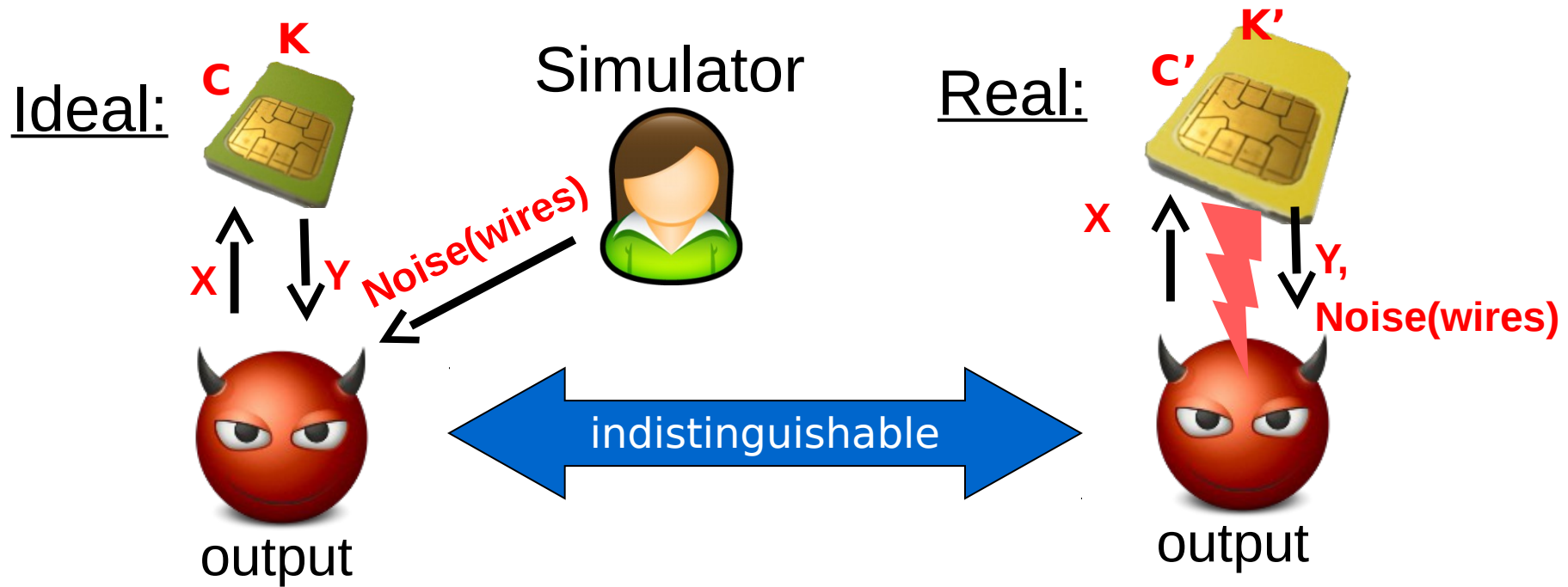
Thanks to organizers of COSADE for inviting me.

Thanks to co-authors for nice research questions and fun collaborations.

Thanks to Google for...  
Thanks to...  
Thanks to...

# Security notion

Adversary learns no more than by black-box access

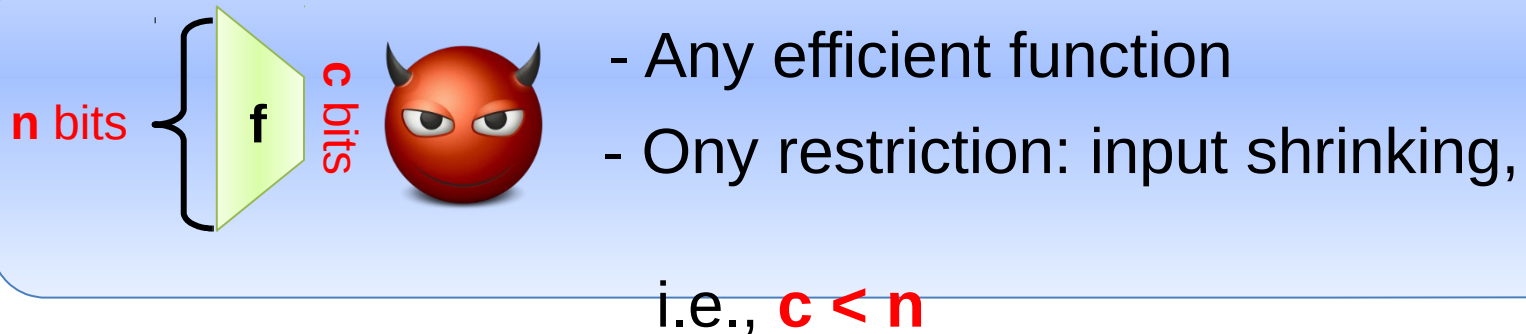
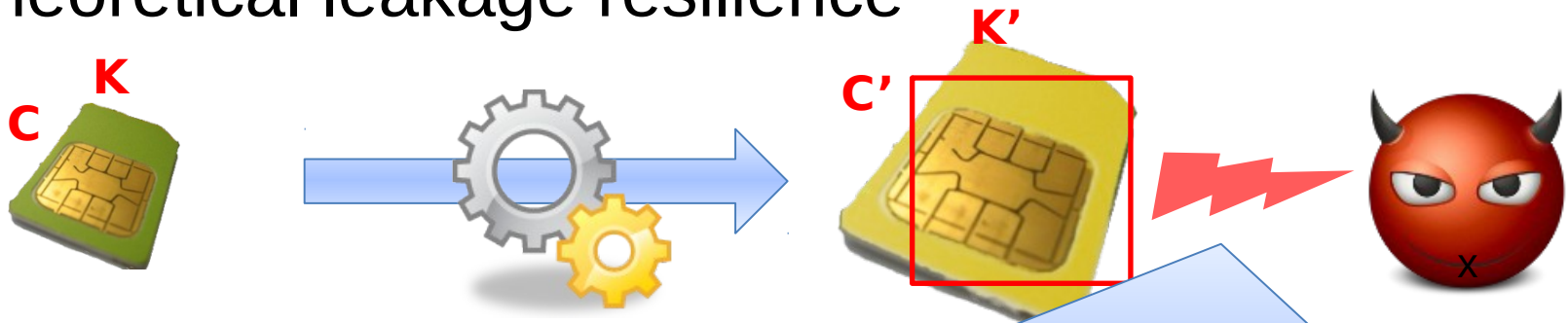


**Standard proof method:** build simulator that can simulate environment (=leakage) for adversary

- Adversary believes he is in real world
- Outputs are indistinguishable

# Prominent model in theory

**Bounded leakages:** used in most papers on theoretical leakage resilience



Bounded leakage: natural and clean abstraction

□ „everything leaks“

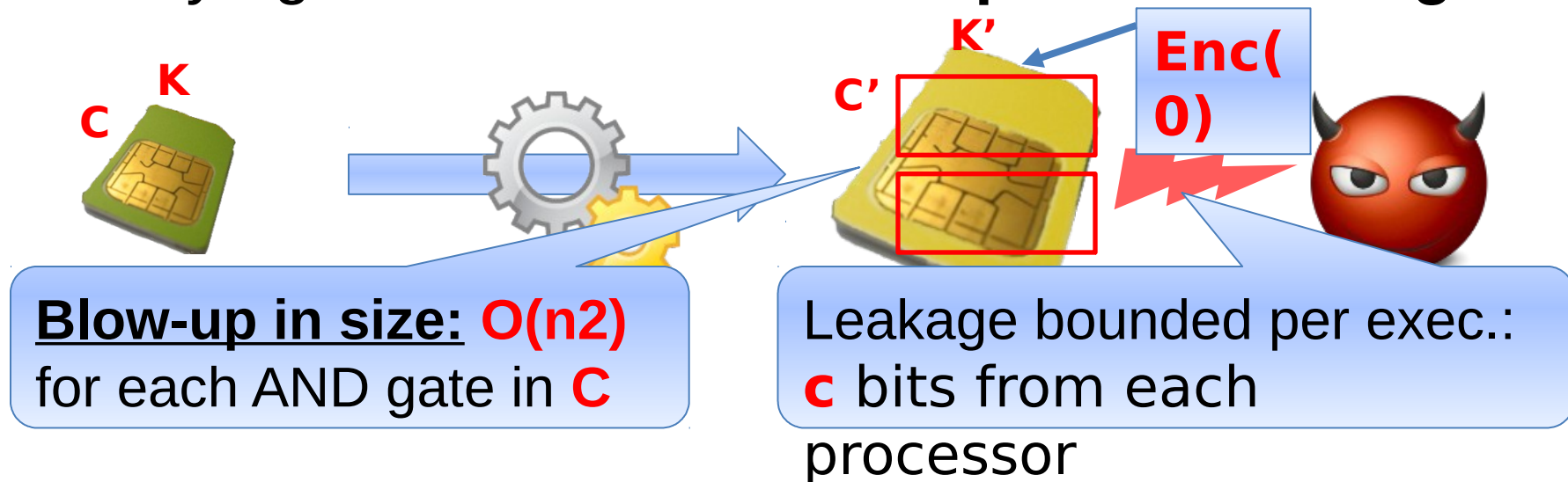
Impossible to build leakage resilient circuit compilers



# The IP masking compiler

## Theorem [DF12]:

A new **information theoretic** secure compiler with security against **continuous independent leakage**



**Leak-free gate:** leaks on inputs but not from internals

**Enc(0)**  $\rightarrow$   $(A, B)$  s.t.  $\langle A, B \rangle = 0$

**Goldwasser-Rothblum-2012:** Eliminate leak-free gates

□ Much less efficient!