Definition (Trace of a design problem). Given a design problem $f: C \times A \longrightarrow$ $\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{B}$, we can define its *trace* $\operatorname{Tr}_{A,\mathbb{B}}^{\mathbb{C}}(f) : A \longrightarrow \mathbb{B}$ as follows:

 $\operatorname{Tr}_{AB}^{C}(f): A^{\operatorname{op}} \times B \longrightarrow_{\operatorname{Pos}} \operatorname{Bool}$

 $\langle a^*, \mathbf{b} \rangle \mapsto \sqrt{f(\langle a^*, \mathbf{c} \rangle, \langle b^*, \mathbf{c} \rangle)}.$