

zk-snark in real world

: Tornado Cash with circom code

23.04.06

zk-school: beginner class

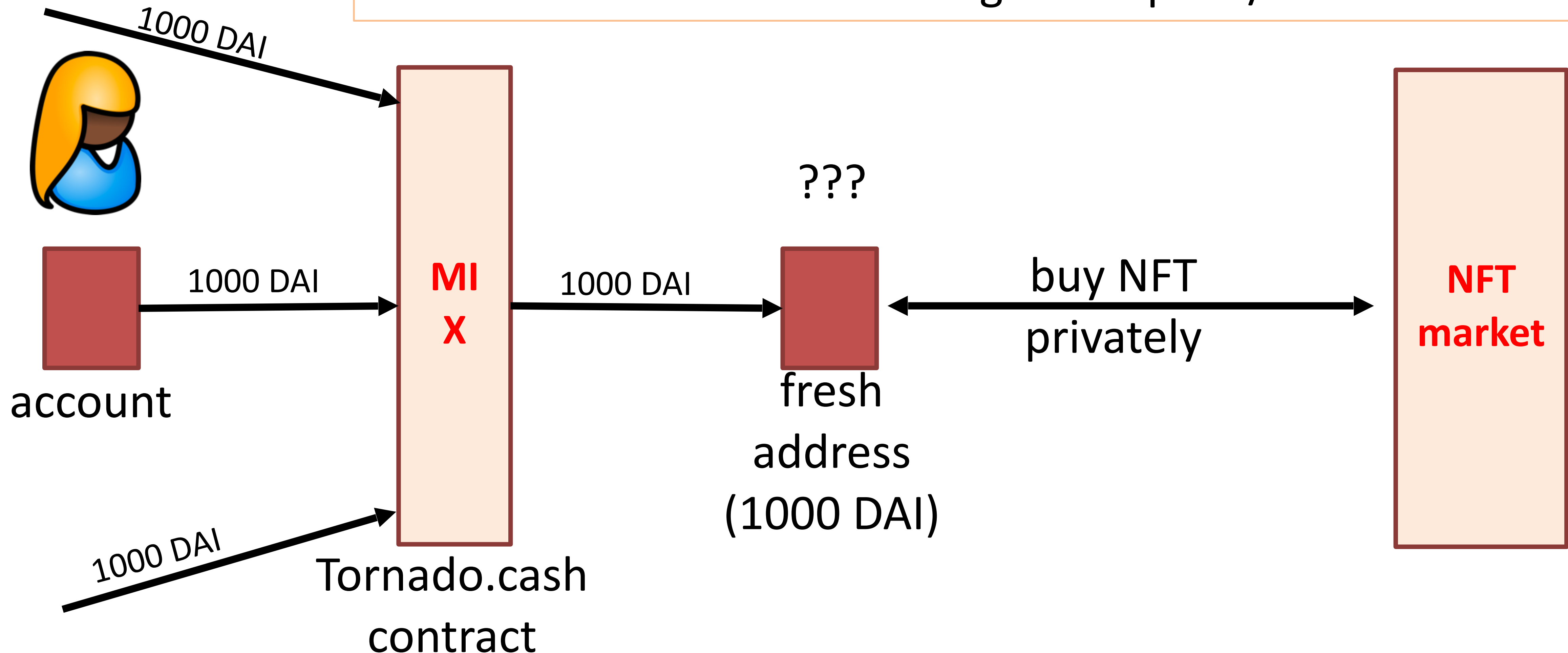
Seohee Park

Tornado cash: a zk-based mixer

Launched on the Ethereum blockchain on May 2020 (v2)

Tornado Cash: a ZK-mixer

A common denomination (1000 DAI) is needed to prevent linking Alice to her fresh address using the deposit/withdrawal amount



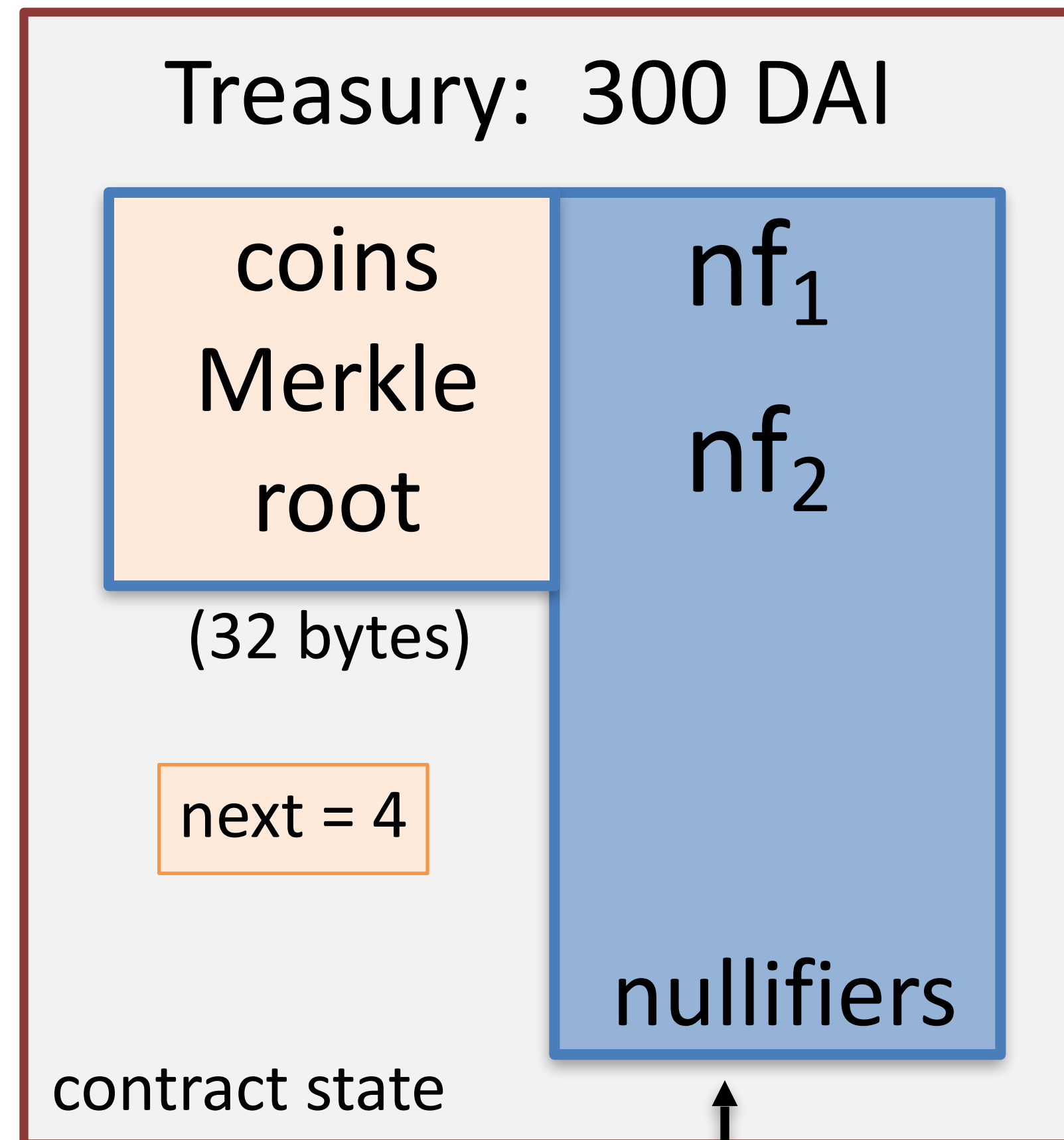
The tornado cash contract (simplified)

100 DAI pool:

each coin = 100 DAI

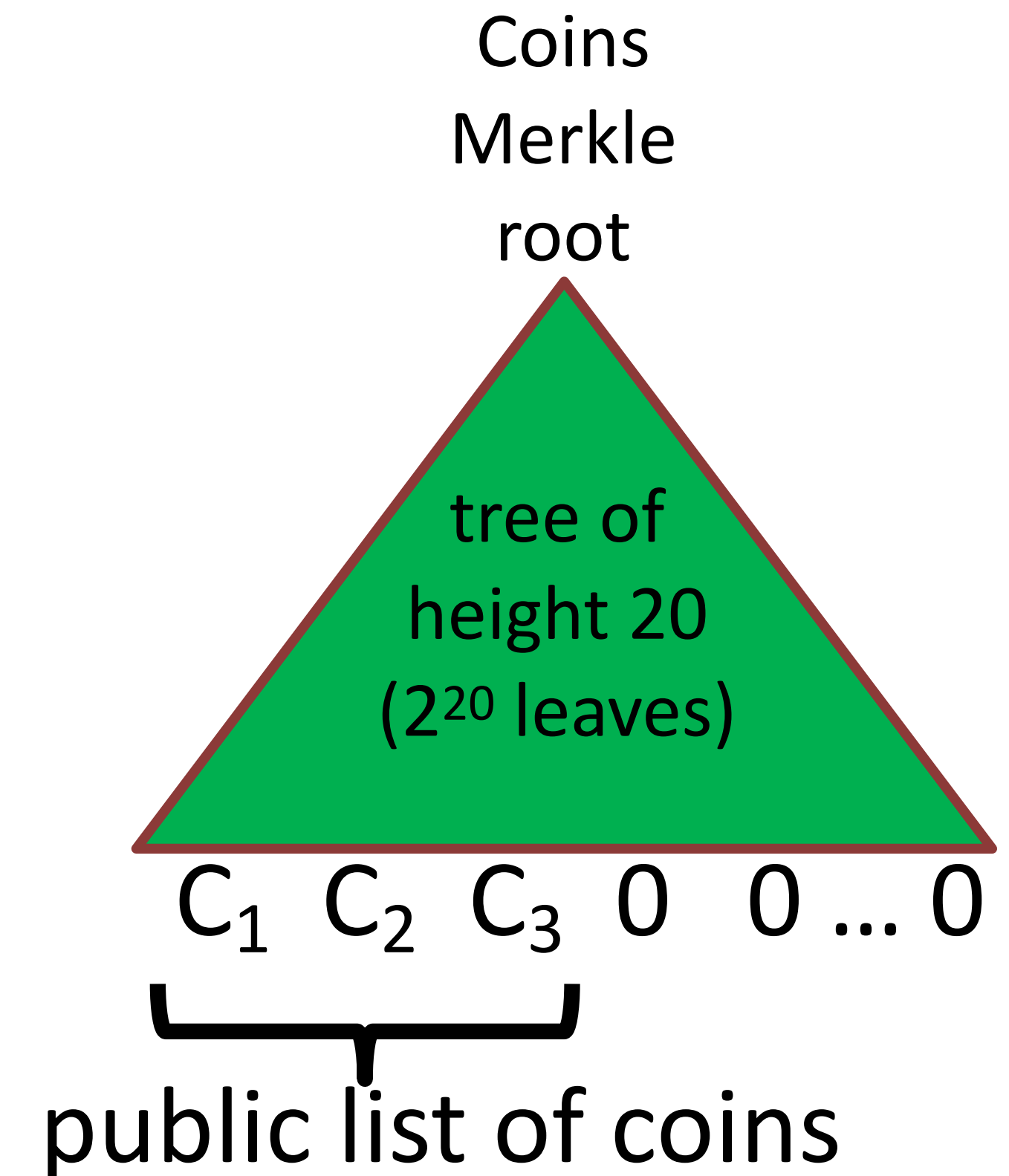
Currently:

- three coins in pool
- contract has 300 DAI
- two nullifiers stored



$H_1, H_2: R \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{256}$

CRHF



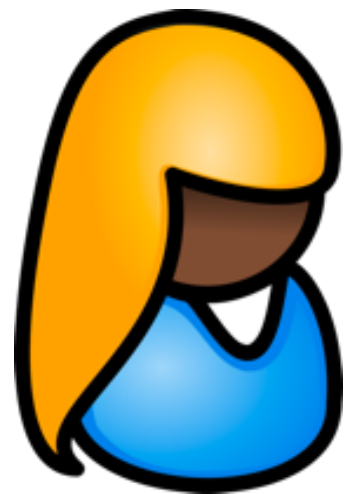
explicit list:
one entry per **spent coin**

Tornado cash: deposit (simplified)

100 DAI pool:

each coin = 100 DAI

Alice deposits 100 DAI:



100 DAI

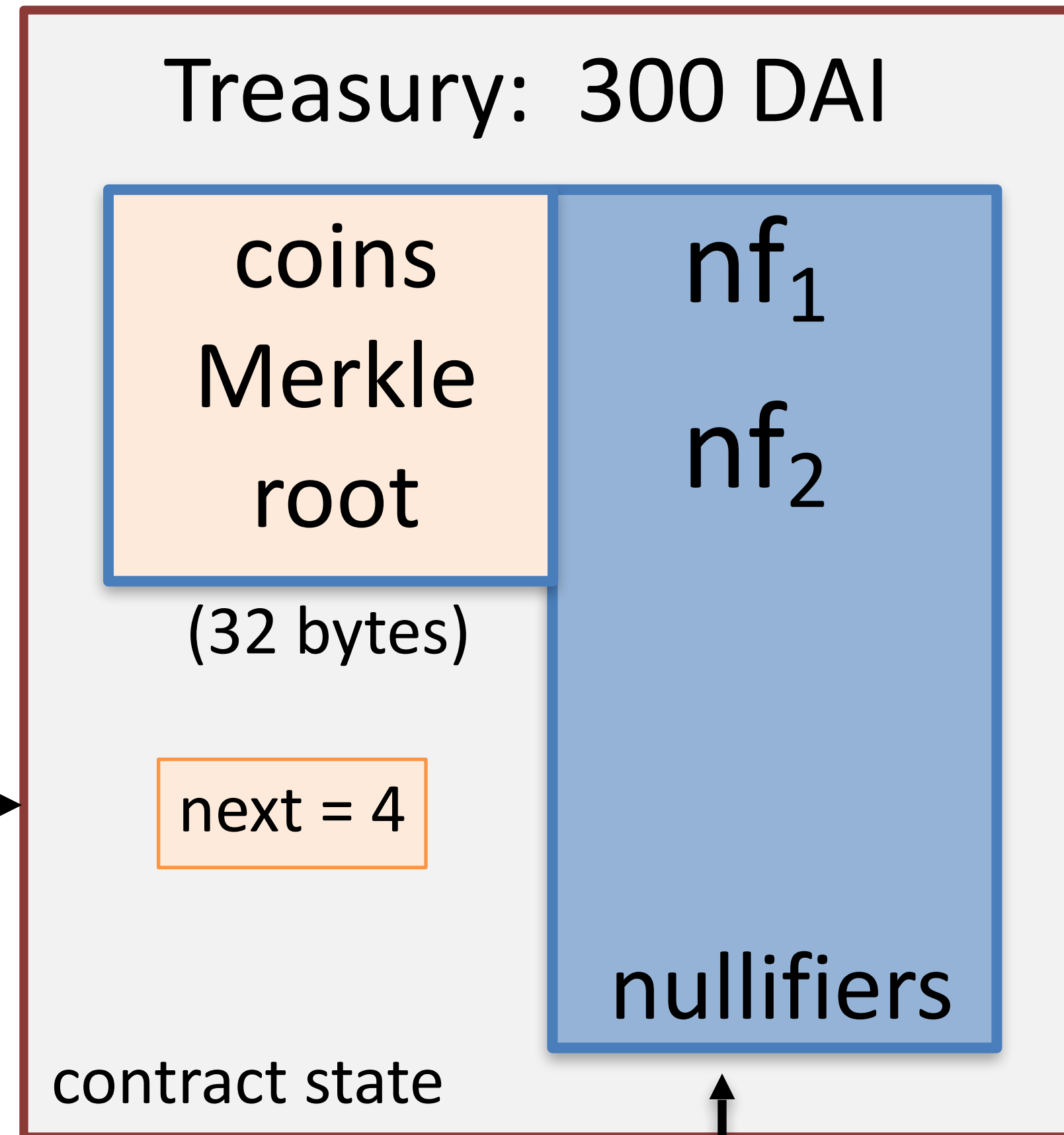
C_4 , MerkleProof(4)

Build Merkle proof for leaf #4:

MerkleProof(4) (leaf=0)

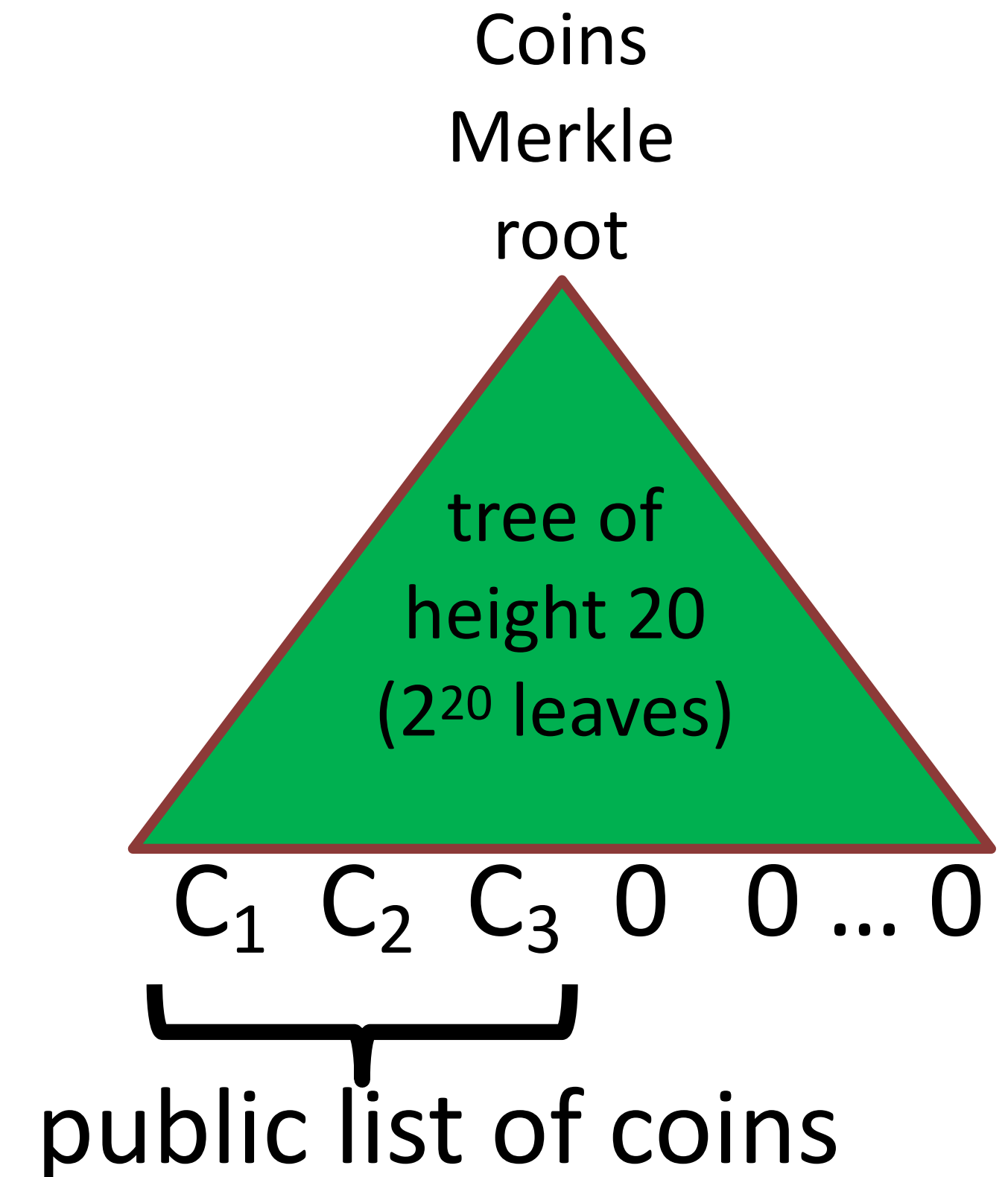
choose random k, r in R

set $C_4 = H_1(k, r)$

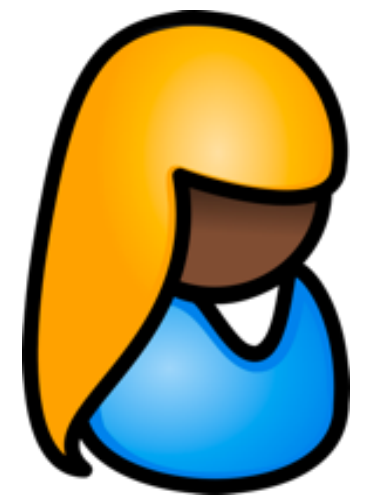


explicit list:
one entry per **spent coin**

$H_1, H_2: R \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{256}$



Tornado cash: deposit (simplified)

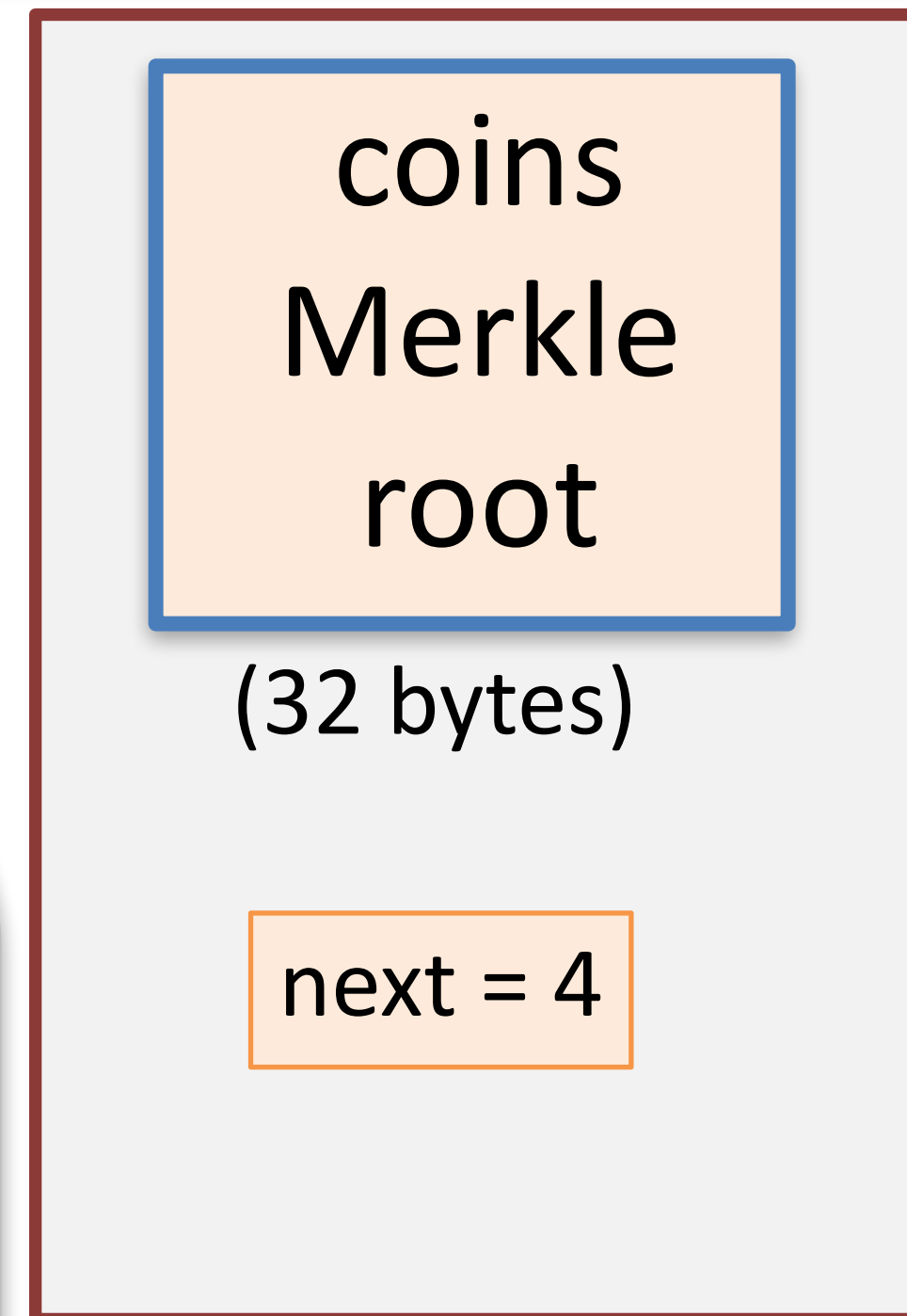


100 DAI

C_4 , MerkleProof(4)

Tornado contract does:

- (1) verify $\text{MerkleProof}(4)$ with respect to current stored root
- (2) use C_4 and $\text{MerkleProof}(4)$ to compute updated Merkle root
- (3) update state



Tornado contract

$H_1, H_2: R \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{256}$

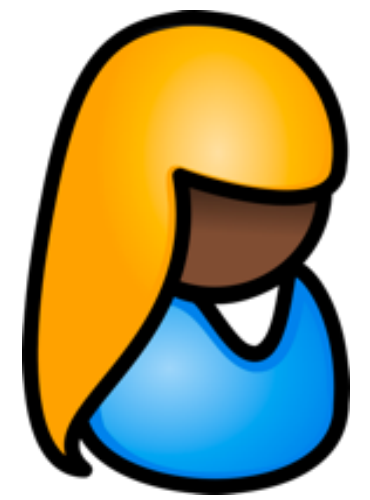
Coins
Merkle
root

tree of
height 20
(2^{20} leaves)

C_1 C_2 C_3 0 0 ... 0

public list of coins

Tornado cash: deposit (simplified)

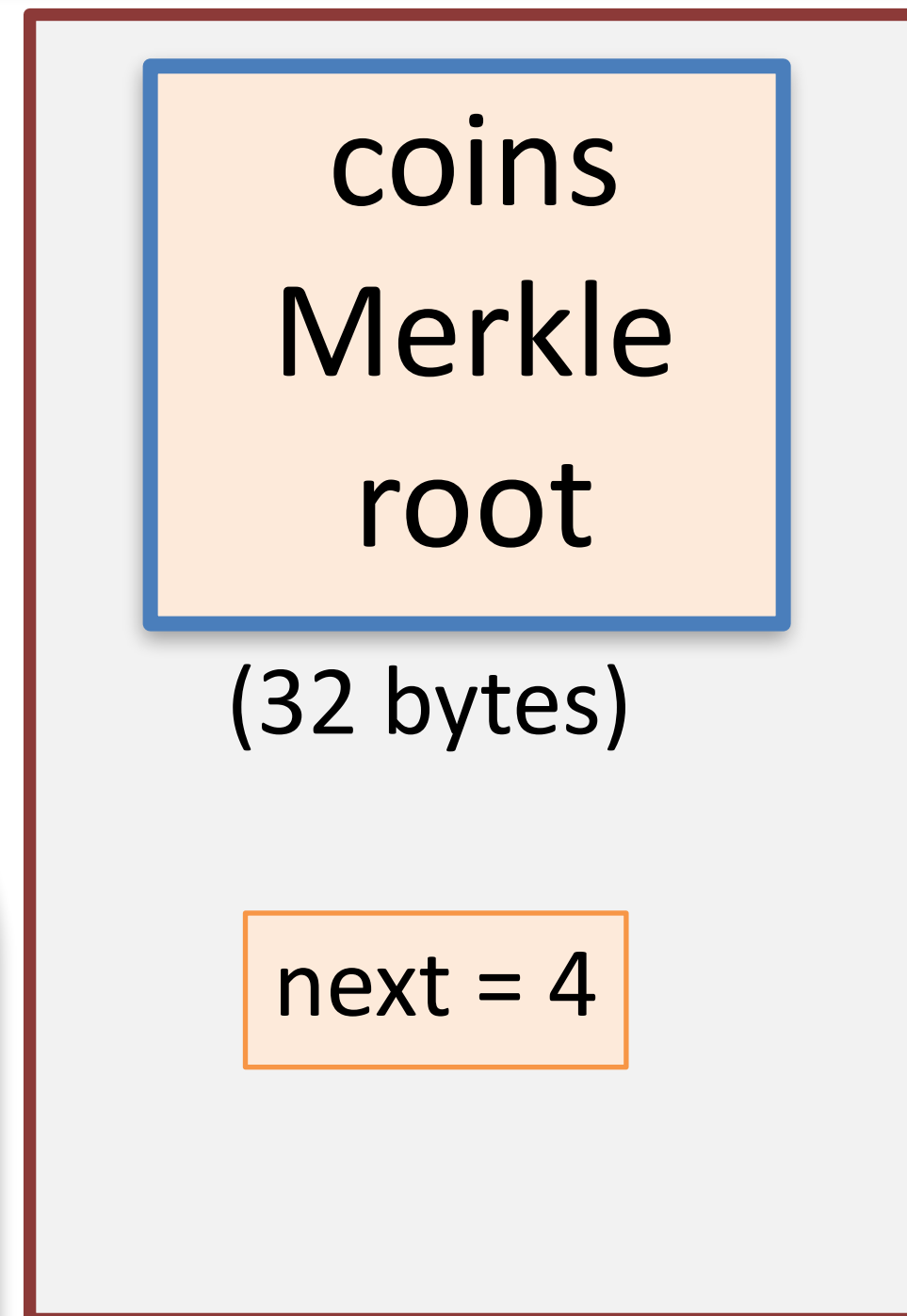


100 DAI

C_4 , MerkleProof(4)

Tornado contract does:

- (1) verify $\text{MerkleProof}(4)$ with respect to current stored root
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Tornado contract

$H_1, H_2: R \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{256}$

updated
Merkle
root

tree of
height 20
(2^{20} leaves)

C_1 C_2 C_3 C_4 0 ... 0

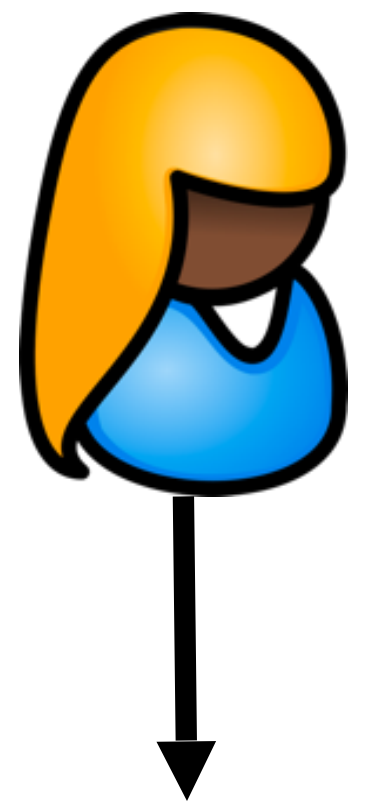
public list of coins

Tornado cash: deposit (simplified)

100 DAI pool:

each coin = 100 DAI

Alice deposits 100 DAI:



100 DAI

C_4 , MerkleProof(4)

note: (k, r)

Alice keeps secret
(one note per coin)

Treasury: **400** DAI

updated
Merkle
root

(32 bytes)

next = **5**

nf_1
 nf_2

nullifiers

updated contract state

Every deposit: new Coin
added sequentially to tree

updated
Merkle
root

tree of
height 20
(2^{20} leaves)

C_1 C_2 C_3 **C_4** 0 ... 0

public list of coins

an observer sees who
owns which leaves

Tornado cash: withdrawal (simplified)

100 DAI pool:

each coin = 100 DAI

Withdraw coin #3
to addr A:



has note = (k', r')

set **nf** = $H_2(k')$

Treasury: **400** DAI

coins
Merkle
root

(32 bytes)

next = 5

contract state

nf_1
 nf_2

nullifiers

$H_1, H_2: R \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{256}$

Merkle
root

tree of
height 20
(2^{20} leaves)

C_1 C_2 **C_3** C_4 0 ... 0

public list of coins

Bob proves “I have a note for some leaf in the coins tree, and its nullifier is **nf**”
(without revealing which coin)

Tornado cash: withdrawal (simplified)

Withdraw coin #3 to addr A:



has note = (k', r') set **nf** = $H_2(k')$

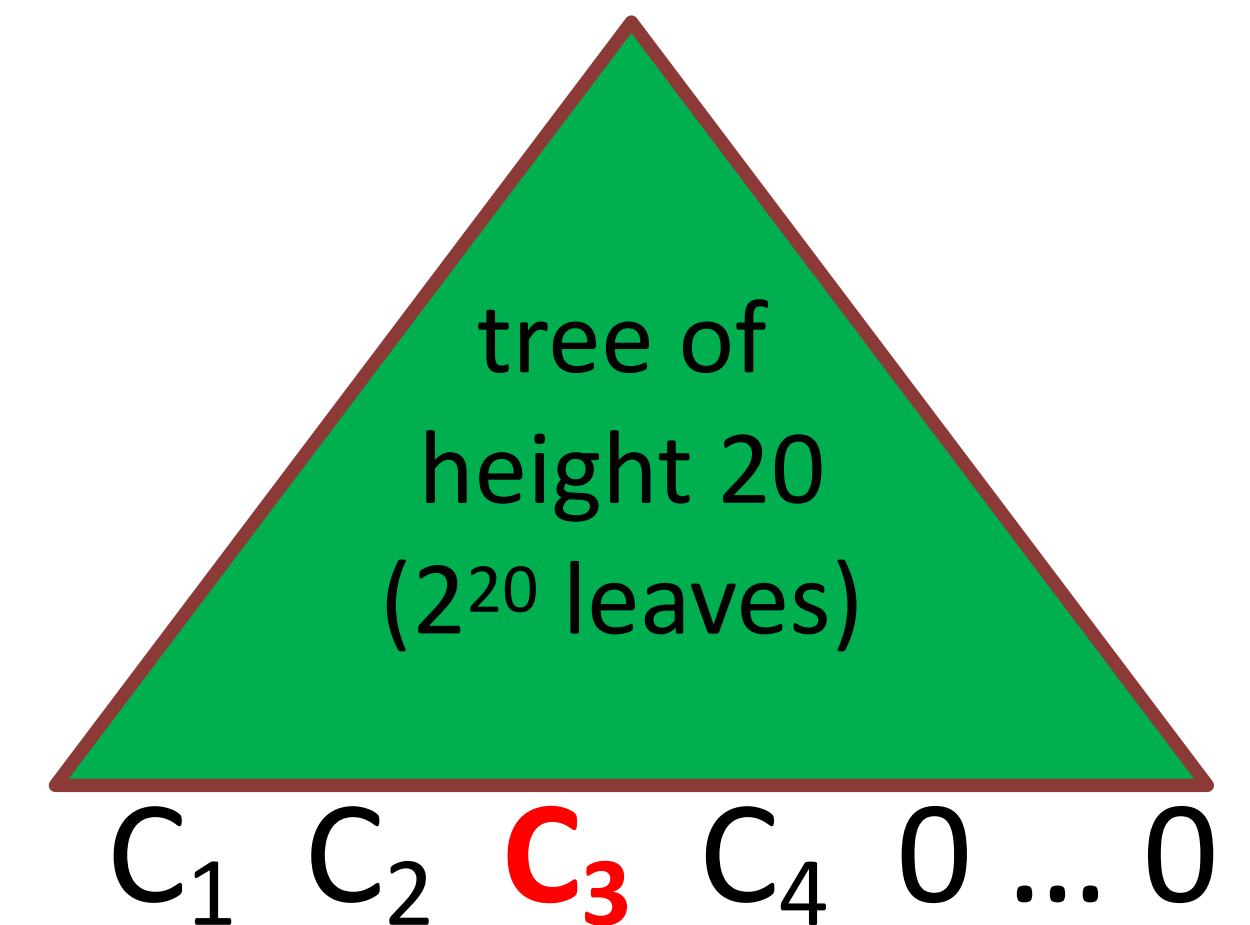
Bob builds zk-SNARK proof π for
public statement $x = (\text{root}, \text{nf}, A)$
secret witness $w = (k', r', C_3, \text{MerkleProof}(C_3))$

where $\text{Circuit}(x, w) = 0$ iff:

- (i) $C_3 = (\text{leaf \#3 of root})$, i.e. $\text{MerkleProof}(C_3)$ is valid,
- (ii) $C_3 = H_1(k', r')$, and
- (iii) **nf** = $H_2(k')$.

$$H_1, H_2: R \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{256}$$

Merkle
root



(address A not used in Circuit)

Tornado cash: withdrawal (simplified)

Withdrawal



$H_1, H_2: R \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{256}$

The address A is part of the statement to ensure that a miner cannot change A to its own address and steal funds

Assumes the SNARK is **non-malleable**:

adversary cannot use proof π for x to build a proof π' for some “related” x' (e.g., where in x' the address A is replaced by some A')

C_1 C_2 **C_3** C_4 0 ... 0

Bob builds zk-SNARK proof π for
public statement $x = (\text{root}, \text{nf}, A)$
secret witness $w = (k', r', C_3, \text{MerkleProof}(C_3))$

Tornado cash: withdrawal (simplified)

100 DAI pool:

each coin = 100 DAI

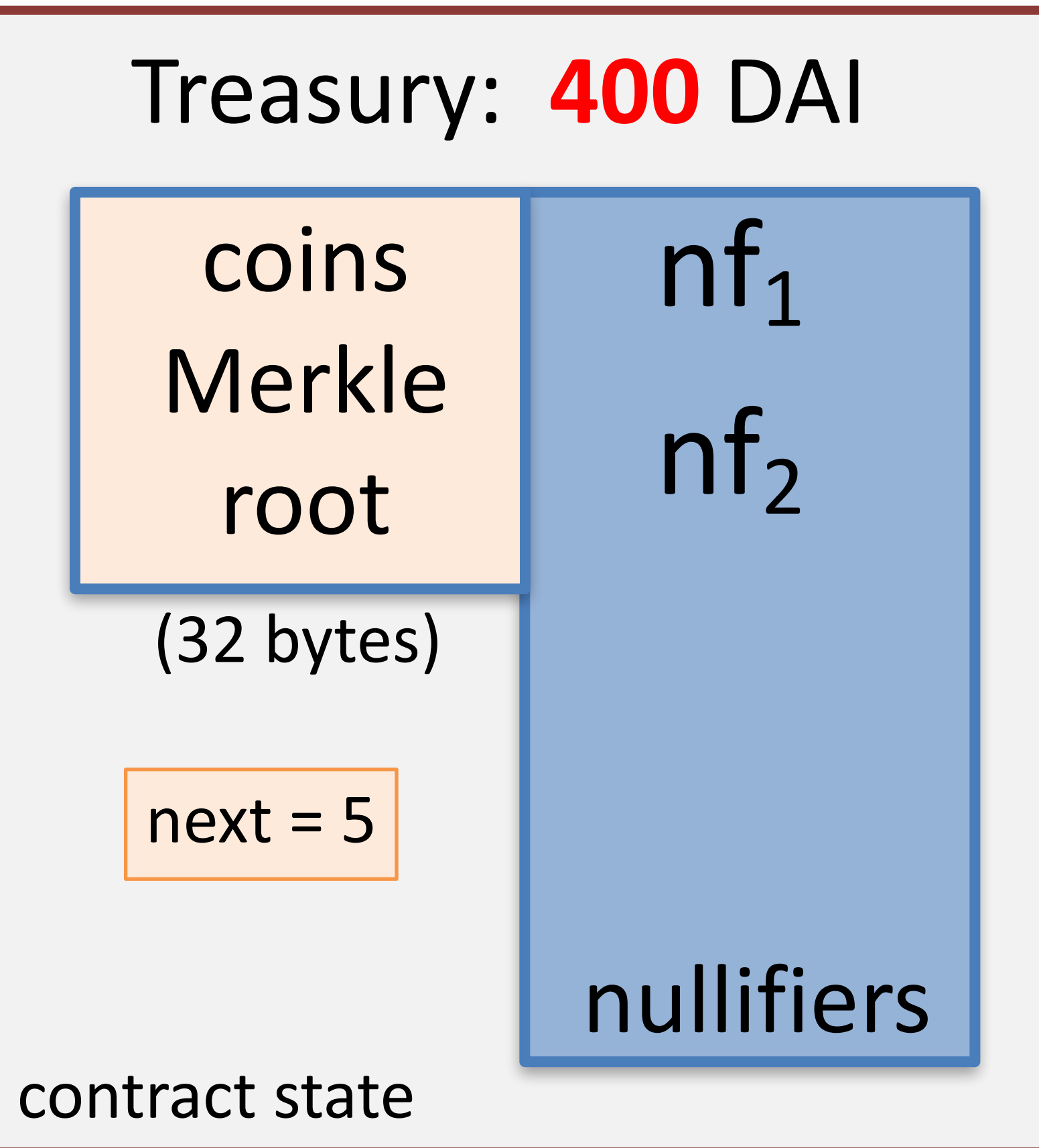
Withdraw coin #3
to addr A:



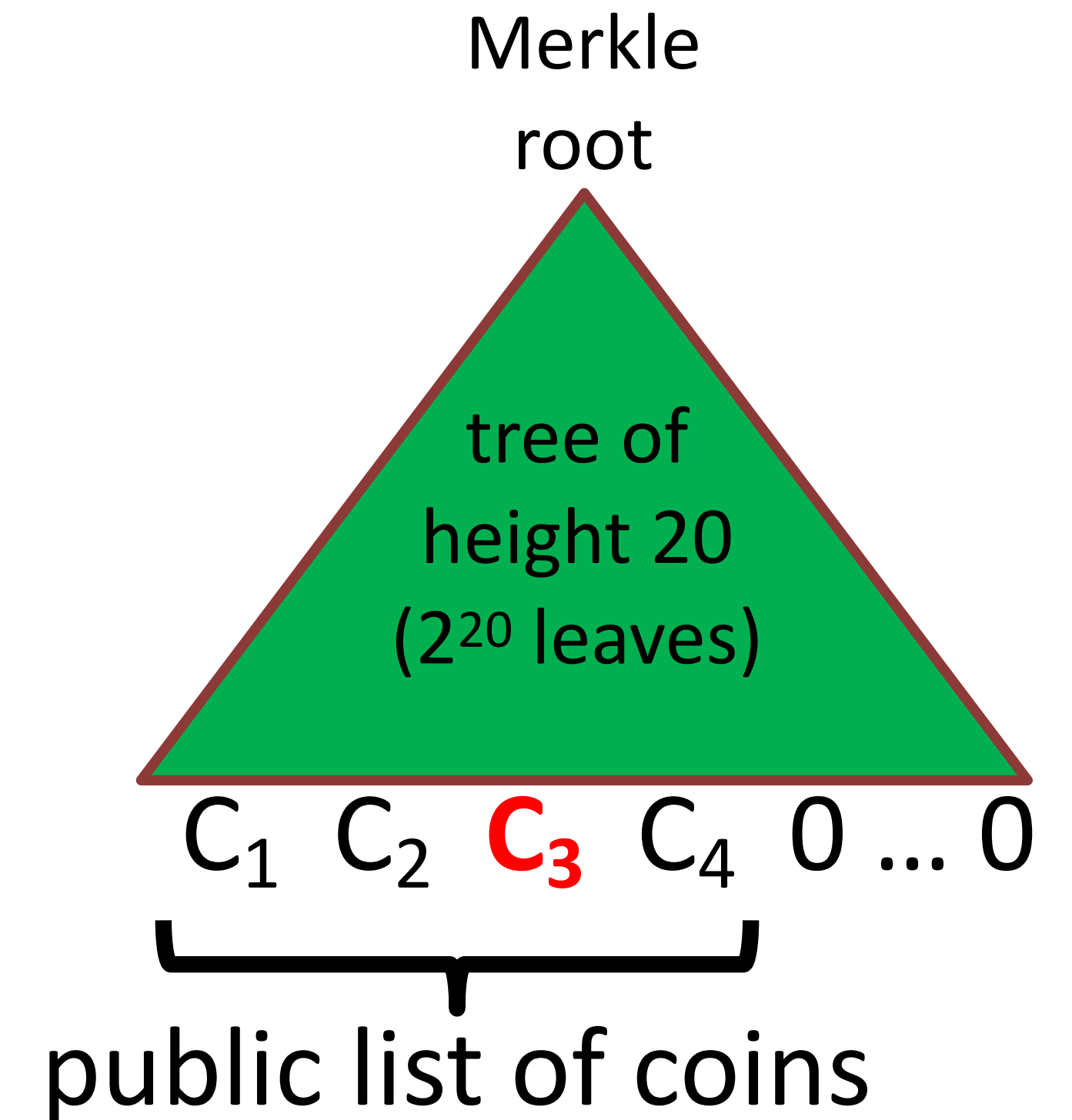
nf, proof π , **A**

(over Tor)

Bob's ID and coin C_3
are not revealed



$H_1, H_2: R \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{256}$



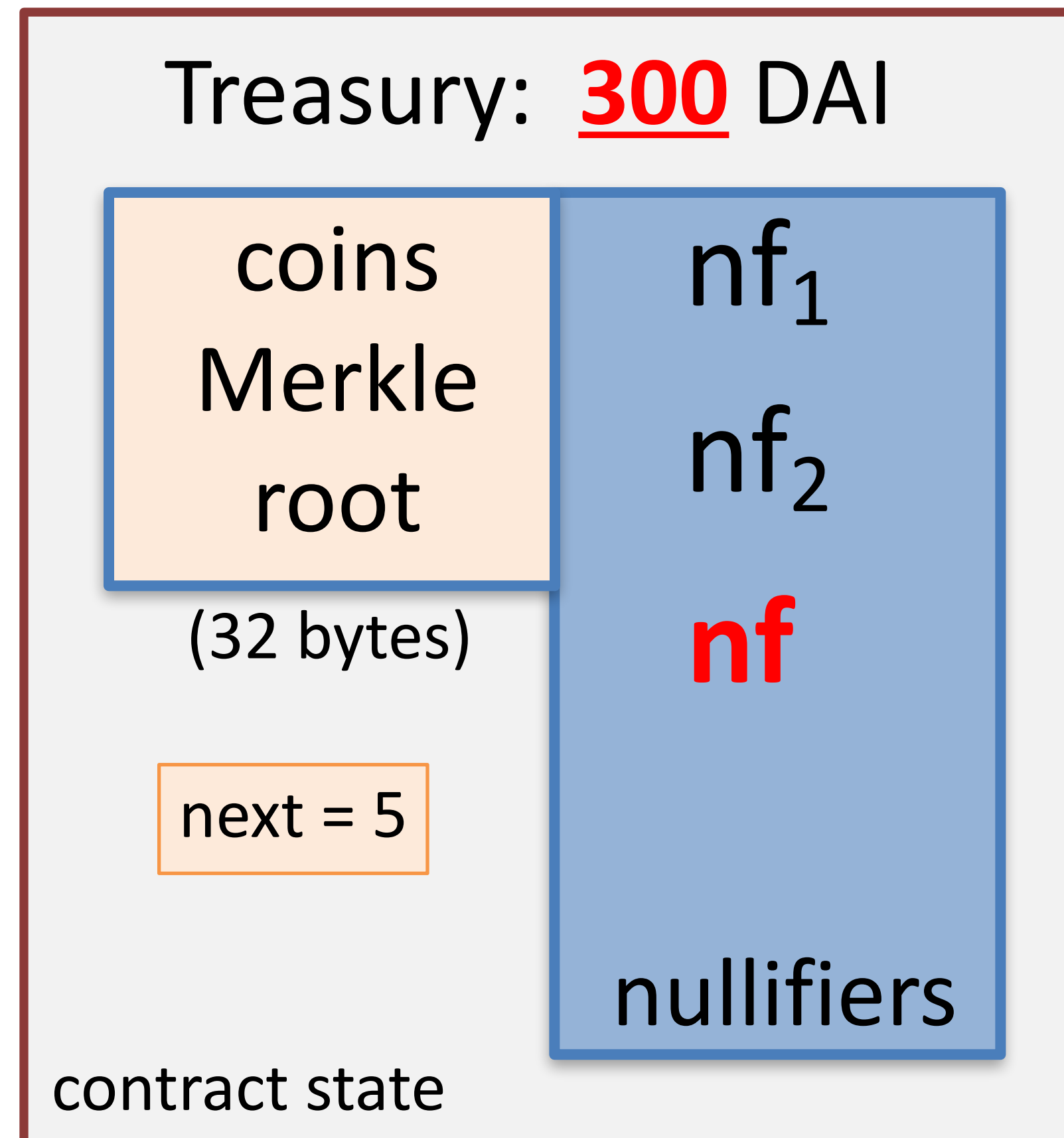
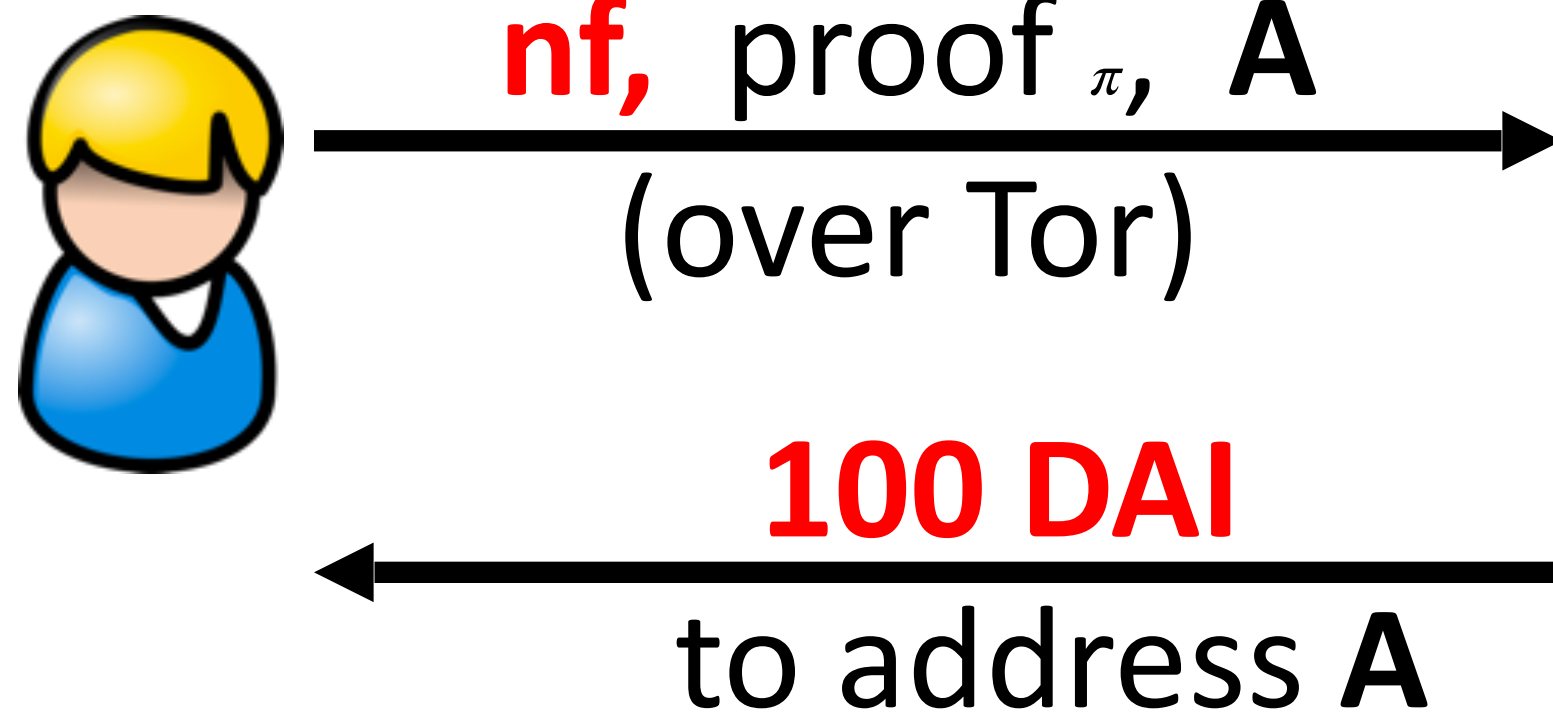
Contract checks (i) proof π is valid for (root, **nf**, **A**), and
(ii) **nf** is not in the list of nullifiers

Tornado cash: withdrawal (simplified)

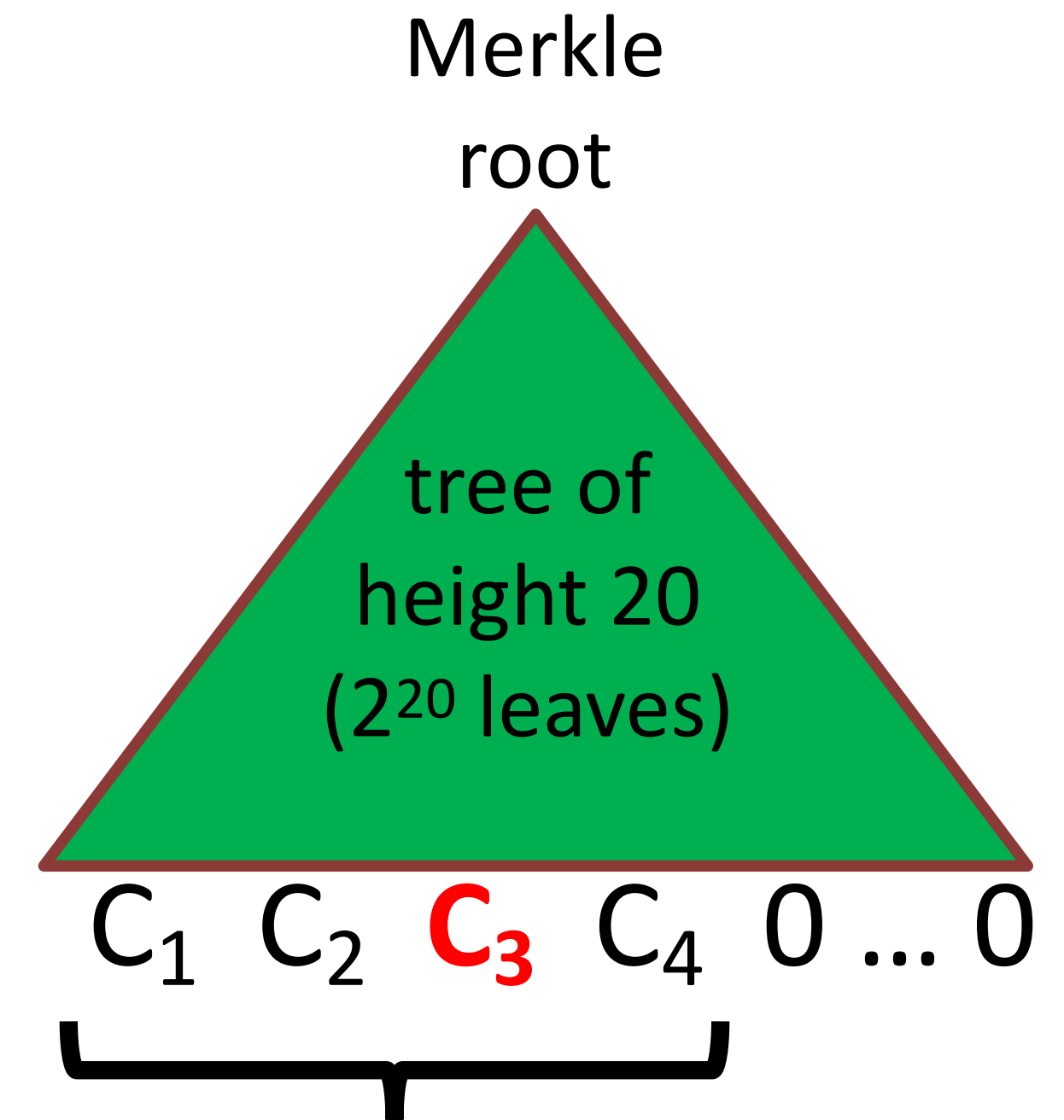
100 DAI pool:

each coin = 100 DAI

Withdraw coin #3
to addr A:



$$H_1, H_2: R \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{256}$$



public list of coins
... but observer does not
know which are spent

nf and π reveal nothing about which coin was spent.

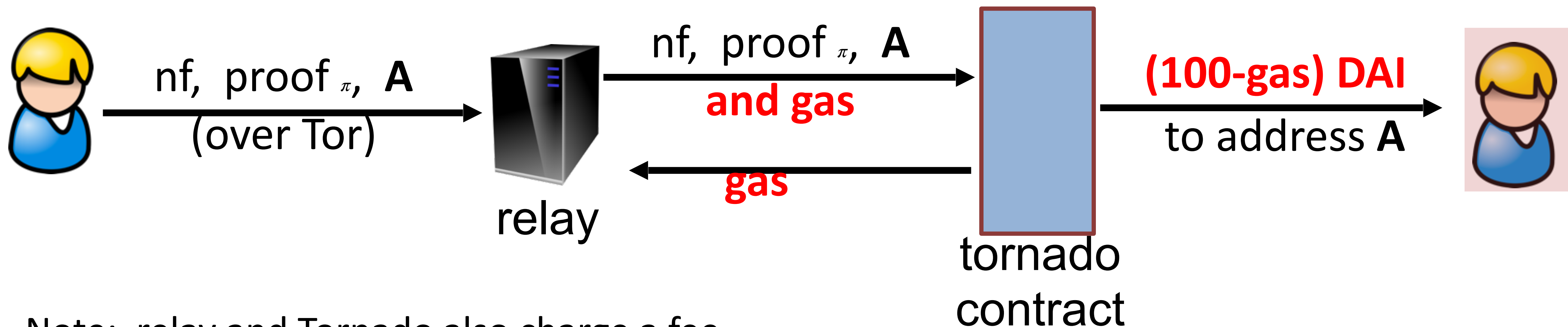
But, coin #3 cannot be spent again, because $nf = H_2(k')$ is now nullified.

Who pays the withdrawal gas fee?

Problem: how does Bob pay for gas for the withdrawal Tx?

- If paid from Bob's address, then fresh address is linked to Bob

Tornado's solution: **Bob uses a relay**



Withdraw coin #3 to addr A:



has note = (k', r') set $nf = H_2(k')$

Bob builds zk-SNARK proof π for
public statement $x = (\text{root}, nf, A)$
secret witness $w = (k', r', C_3, \text{MerkleProof}(C_3))$

where $\text{Circuit}(x, w) = 0$ iff:

- (i) $C_3 = (\text{leaf \#3 of root})$, i.e. $\text{MerkleProof}(C_3)$ is valid,
- (ii) $C_3 = H_1(k', r')$, and
- (iii) $nf = H_2(k')$.

withdraw.circom

```
5 // computes Pedersen(nullifier + secret)
6 template CommitmentHasher() {
7     signal input nullifier;
8     signal input secret;
9     signal output commitment;
10    signal output nullifierHash;
11
12    component commitmentHasher = Pedersen(496);
13    component nullifierHasher = Pedersen(248);
14    component nullifierBits = Num2Bits(248);
15    component secretBits = Num2Bits(248);
16    nullifierBits.in <== nullifier;
17    secretBits.in <== secret;
18    for (var i = 0; i < 248; i++) {
19        nullifierHasher.in[i] <== nullifierBits.out[i];
20        commitmentHasher.in[i] <== nullifierBits.out[i];
21        commitmentHasher.in[i + 248] <== secretBits.out[i];
22    }
23
24    commitment <== commitmentHasher.out[0];
25    nullifierHash <== nullifierHasher.out[0];
26 }
```

```
28 // Verifies that commitment that corresponds to given secret and nullifier is included in the merkle tree of deposits
29 template Withdraw(levels) {
30     signal input root;
31     signal input nullifierHash;
32     signal input recipient; // not taking part in any computations
33     signal input relayer; // not taking part in any computations
34     signal input fee; // not taking part in any computations
35     signal input refund; // not taking part in any computations
36     signal private input nullifier;
37     signal private input secret;
38     signal private input pathElements[levels];
39     signal private input pathIndices[levels];
40
41     component hasher = CommitmentHasher();
42     hasher.nullifier <== nullifier;
43     hasher.secret <== secret;
44     hasher.nullifierHash == nullifierHash;
45
46     component tree = MerkleTreeChecker(levels);
47     tree.leaf <== hasher.commitment;
48     tree.root <== root;
49     for (var i = 0; i < levels; i++) {
50         tree.pathElements[i] <== pathElements[i];
51         tree.pathIndices[i] <== pathIndices[i];
52     }
53
54     // Add hidden signals to make sure that tampering with recipient or fee will invalidate the snark proof
55     // Most likely it is not required, but it's better to stay on the safe side and it only takes 2 constraints
56     // Squares are used to prevent optimizer from removing those constraints
57     signal recipientSquare;
58     signal feeSquare;
59     signal relayerSquare;
60     signal refundSquare;
61     recipientSquare <== recipient * recipient;
62     feeSquare <== fee * fee;
63     relayerSquare <== relayer * relayer;
64     refundSquare <== refund * refund;
65 }
66
67 component main = Withdraw(20);
```

withdraw.circom

public statement

secret witness

Withdraw coin #3 to addr A:



has note = (k', r') set **nf** = $H_2(k')$

Bob builds zk-SNARK proof π for
public statement $x = (\text{root}, \text{nf}, A)$
secret witness $w = (k', r', C_3, \text{MerkleProof}(C_3))$

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- (ii) $C_3 = H_1(k', r')$, and
- (iii) **nf** = $H_2(k')$.

mercleTree.circom

```
30 template MerkleTreeChecker(levels) {
31     signal input leaf;
32     signal input root;
33     signal input pathElements[levels];
34     signal input pathIndices[levels];
35
36     component selectors[levels];
37     component hashers[levels];
38
39     for (var i = 0; i < levels; i++) {
40         selectors[i] = DualMux();
41         selectors[i].in[0] <== i == 0 ? leaf : hashers[i - 1].hash;
42         selectors[i].in[1] <== pathElements[i];
43         selectors[i].s <== pathIndices[i];
44
45         hashers[i] = HashLeftRight();
46         hashers[i].left <== selectors[i].out[0];
47         hashers[i].right <== selectors[i].out[1];
48     }
49
50     root <== hashers[levels - 1].hash;
51 }
```

```
28 // Verifies that commitment that corresponds to given secret and nullifier is included in the merkle tree of deposits
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33     signal input relayer; // not taking part in any computations
34     signal input fee; // not taking part in any computations
35     signal input refund; // not taking part in any computations
36     signal private input nullifier;
37     signal private input secret;
38     signal private input pathElements[levels];
39     signal private input pathIndices[levels];
40
41     component hasher = CommitmentHasher();
42     hasher.nullifier <== nullifier;
43     hasher.secret <== secret;
44     hasher.nullifierHash <== nullifierHash;
45
46     component tree = MerkleTreeChecker(levels);
47     tree.leaf <== hasher.commitment;
48     tree.root <== root;
49     for (var i = 0; i < levels; i++) {
50         tree.pathElements[i] <== pathElements[i];
51         tree.pathIndices[i] <== pathIndices[i];
52     }
53
54     // Add hidden signals to make sure that tampering with recipient or fee will invalidate the snark proof
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64     refundSquare <== refund * refund;
65 }
66
67 component main = Withdraw(20);
```

withdraw.circom

public statement

secret witness

Withdraw coin #3 to addr A:



has note = (k', r') set **nf** = H₂(k')

Bob builds zk-SNARK proof π for
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mercleTree.circom

```
30 template MerkleTreeChecker(levels) {
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35
36     component selectors[levels];
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45         hashers[i] = HashLeftRight();
46         hashers[i].left <== selectors[i].out[0];
47         hashers[i].right <== selectors[i].out[1];
48     }
49
50     root == hashers[levels - 1].hash;
51 }
```

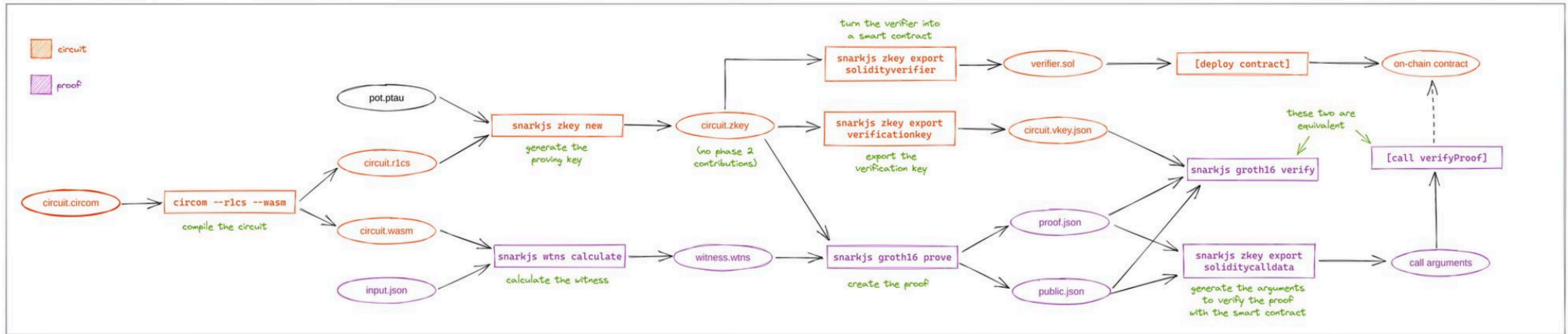
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34     signal input fee; // not taking part in any computations
35     signal input refund; // not taking part in any computations
36     signal private input nullifier;
37     signal private input secret;
38     signal private input pathElements[levels];
39     signal private input pathIndices[levels];
40
41     component hasher = CommitmentHasher();
42     hasher.nullifier <== nullifier;
43     hasher.secret <== secret;
44     hasher.nullifierHash == nullifierHash;
45
46     component tree = MerkleTreeChecker(levels);
47     tree.leaf <== hasher.commitment;
48     tree.root <== root;
49     for (var i = 0; i < levels; i++) {
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51         tree.pathIndices[i] <== pathIndices[i];
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65 }
66
67 component main = Withdraw(20);
```

withdraw.circom

public statement

secret witness

snarkjs



- made by fvictorio

Tornado.sol

```
68  /**
69   * @dev Withdraw a deposit from the contract. `proof` is a zkSNARK proof data, and input is an array of circuit public inputs
70   * `input` array consists of:
71   *   - merkle root of all deposits in the contract
72   *   - hash of unique deposit nullifier to prevent double spends
73   *   - the recipient of funds
74   *   - optional fee that goes to the transaction sender (usually a relay)
75   */
76  function withdraw(
77      bytes calldata _proof,
78      bytes32 _root,
79      bytes32 _nullifierHash,
80      address payable _recipient,
81      address payable _relayer,
82      uint256 _fee,
83      uint256 _refund
84  ) external payable nonReentrant {
85      require(_fee <= denomination, "Fee exceeds transfer value");
86      require(!nullifierHashes[_nullifierHash], "The note has been already spent");
87      require(isKnownRoot(_root), "Cannot find your merkle root"); // Make sure to use a recent one
88      require(
89          verifier.verifyProof(
90              _proof,
91              [uint256(_root), uint256(_nullifierHash), uint256(_recipient), uint256(_relayer), _fee, _refund]
92          ),
93          "Invalid withdraw proof"
94      );
95
96      nullifierHashes[_nullifierHash] = true;
97      _processWithdraw(_recipient, _relayer, _fee, _refund);
98      emit Withdrawal(_recipient, _nullifierHash, _relayer, _fee);
99  }
```

Verifier.sol

Thank you