

Categories for Cryptographic Composability

Riley Shahar

Advised by Angélica Osorno (Math) and Adam Groce (CS)

Cryptography is *the mathematical study of secure computation*.

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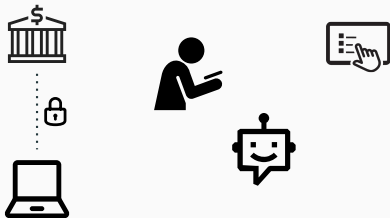
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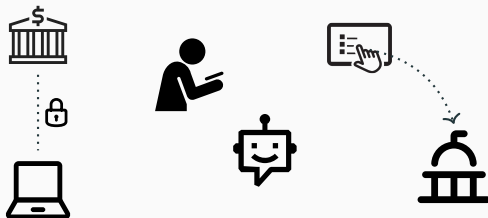
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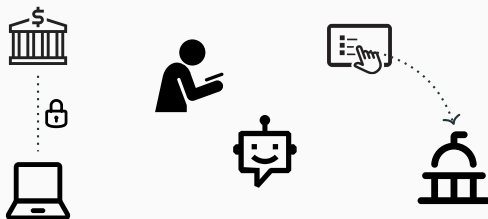
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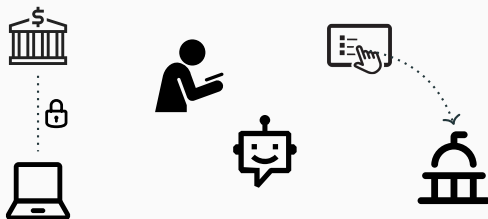
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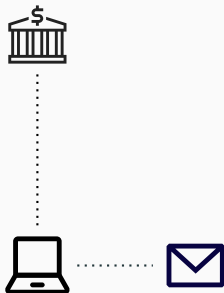
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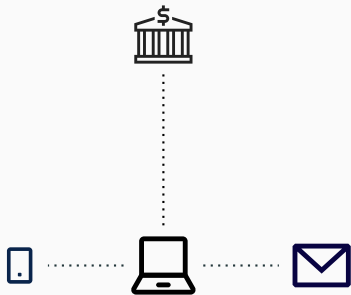
We want *proofs* that these things are secure.



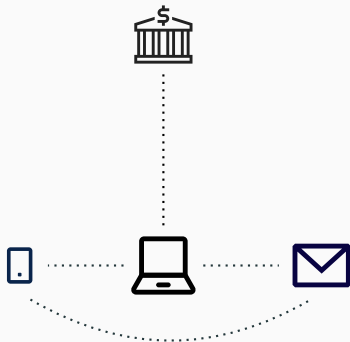
Cryptographic Composability



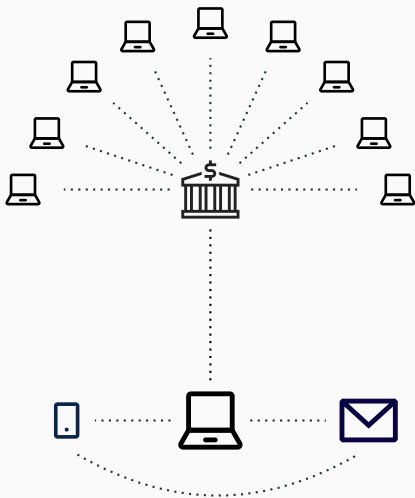
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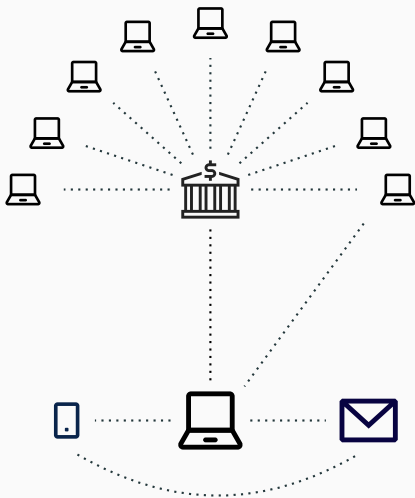
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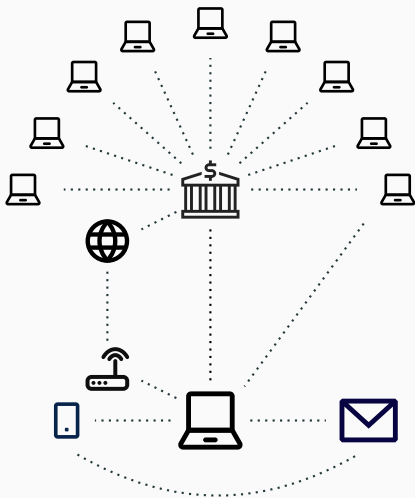
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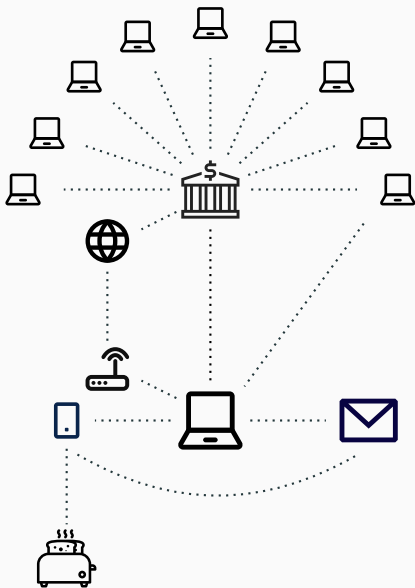
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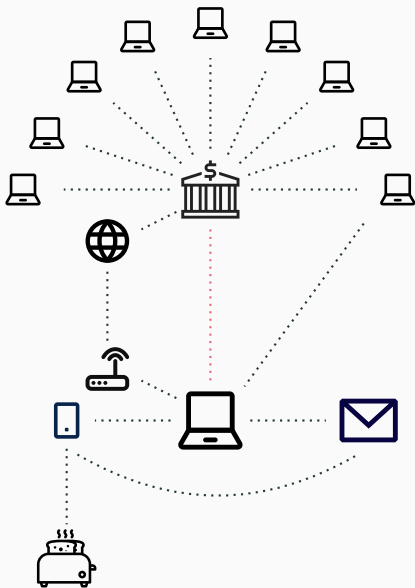
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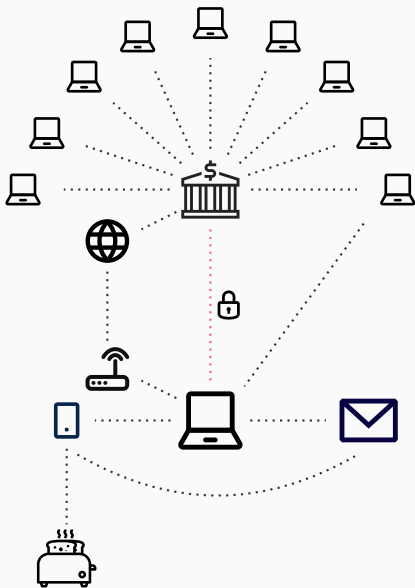




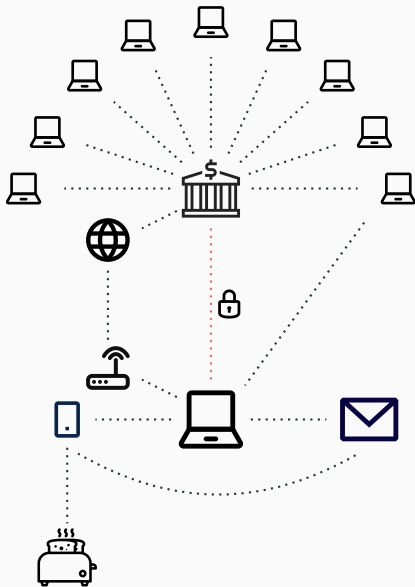
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Cryptographic Composability



What do we need to prove about a computation in a vacuum so that it's still secure no matter what else is going on?

Due to Canetti 2000.

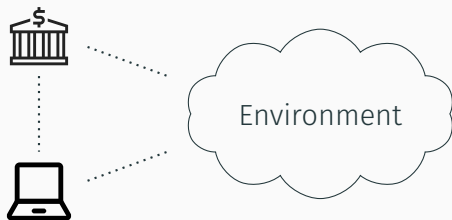
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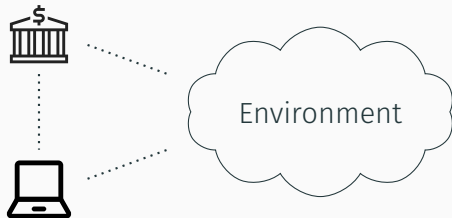
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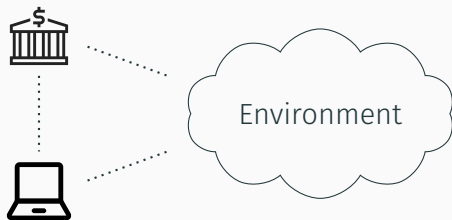


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Informal survey of CRYPTO*
2023:



*Cryptography, not cryptocurrency!

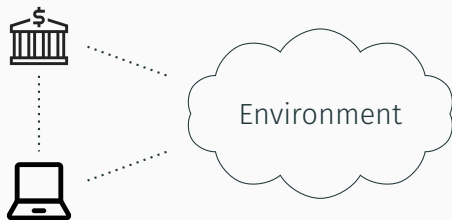
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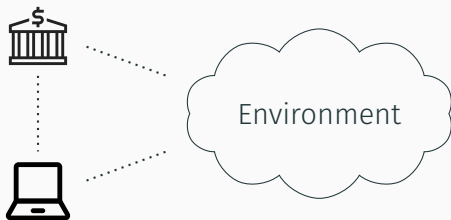
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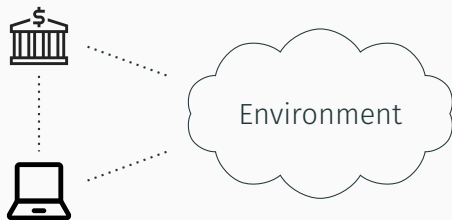
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2023:

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- 9 address general composition of their work
- 1 uses UC
(Davies et al. 2023)



*Cryptography, not cryptocurrency!

It is necessary that execution preserve security guarantees under composition. We refrain from proving UC security ... since such an analysis will be cumbersome. Instead, we prove the security of our protocols by constructing simulators.

–David et al. 2023

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...**category theory** is an excellent candidate for such a theory.

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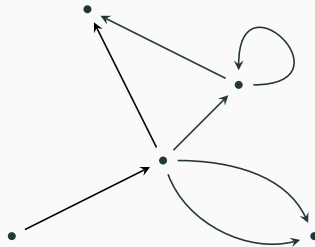
Categories are to composition as calculus is to change.

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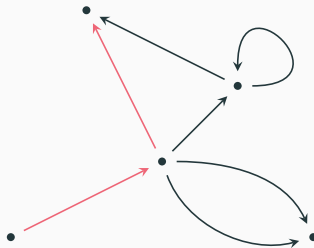


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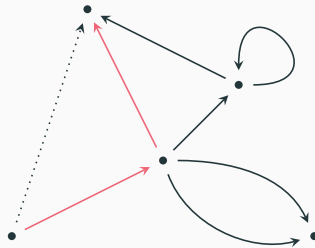


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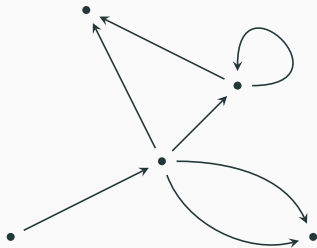
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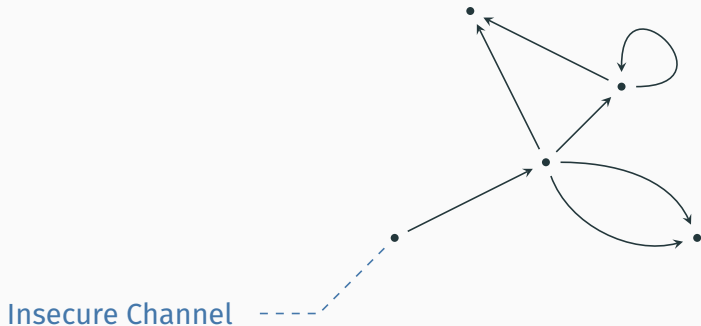


[Largely following Broadbent and Karvonen (2022)]



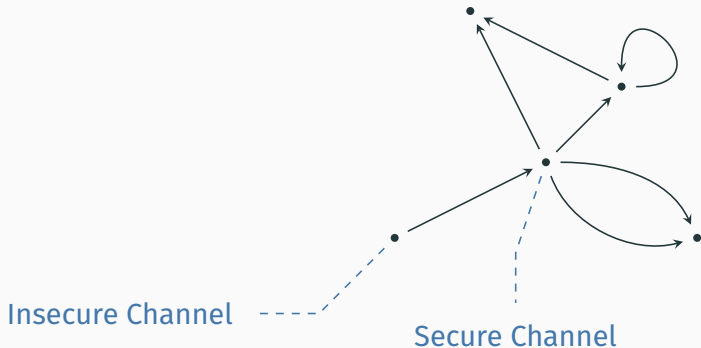
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Categories and Cryptography



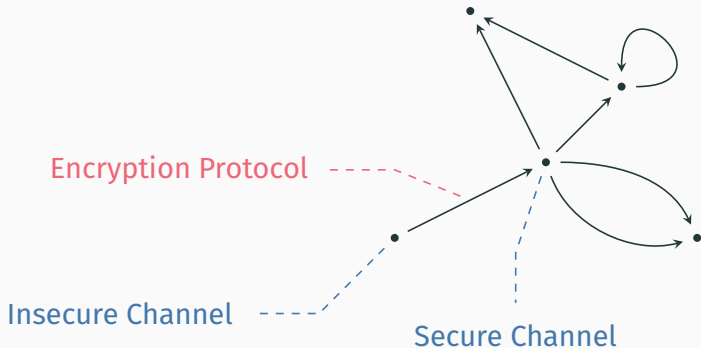
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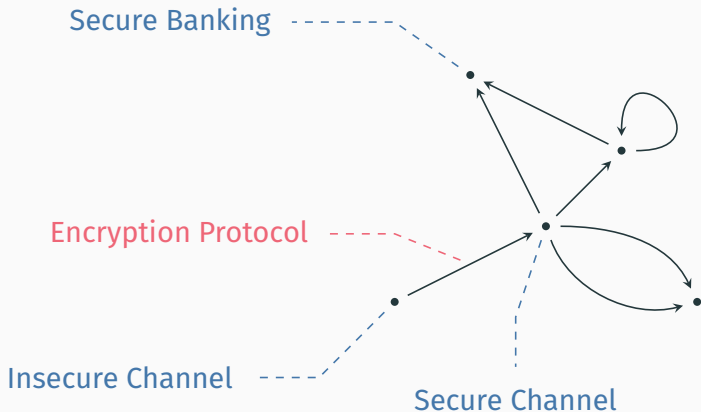
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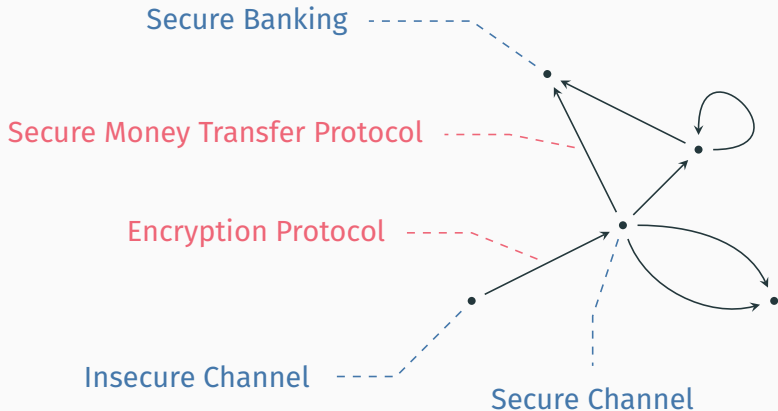
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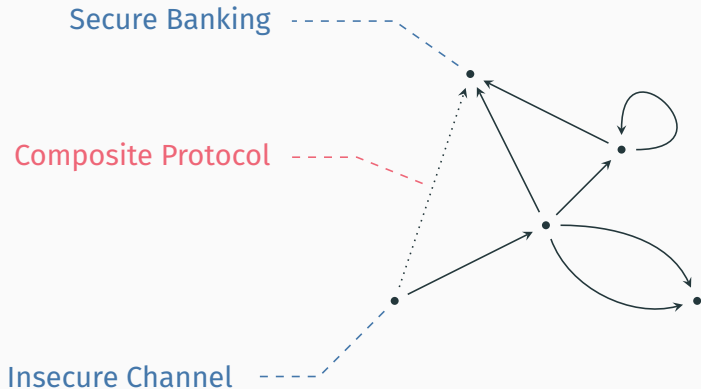
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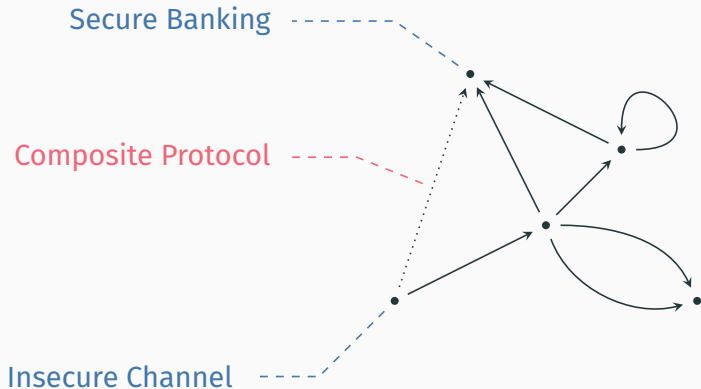
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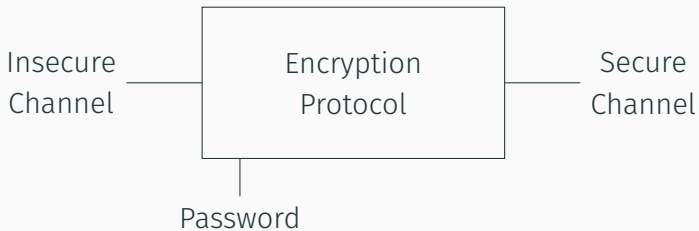


The challenge is to encode cryptographic objects as a category.

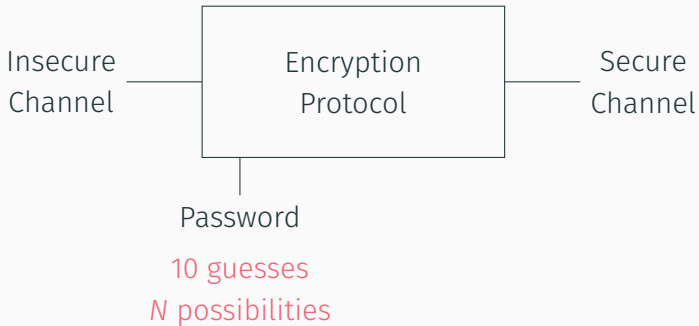
Security is Approximate



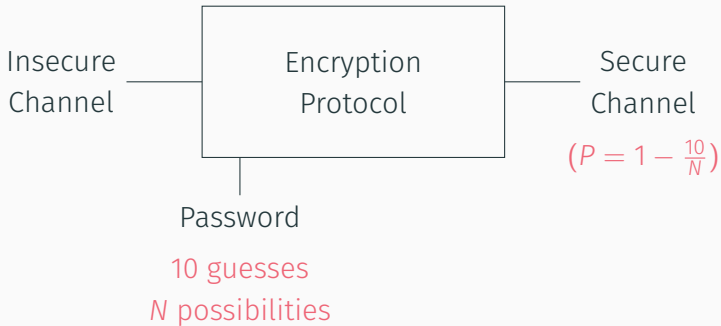
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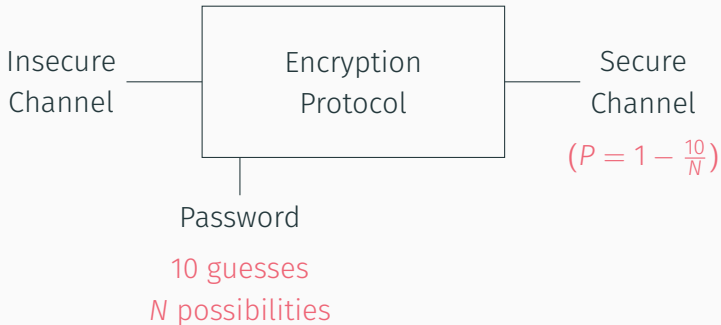
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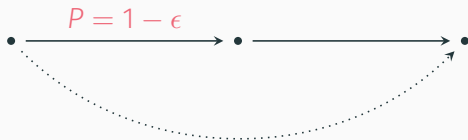


Cryptographers are very good at dealing with this.

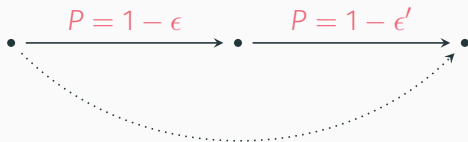
Approximate Composition



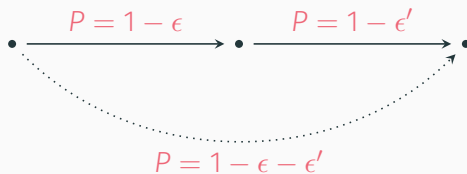
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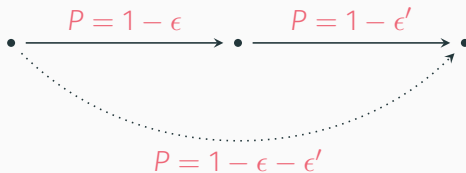
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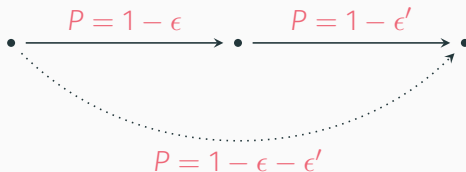


Approximate Composition



Small probabilities compound under composition.

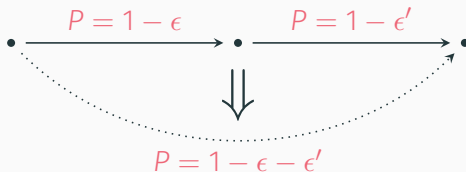
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Thanks for your time!

References

- Broadbent, Anne and Martti Karvonen (2022). **“Categorical composable cryptography”**. In: *Foundations of software science and computation structures*. Vol. 13242. Lecture Notes in Comput. Sci. Springer, Cham, pp. 161–183. ISBN: 9783030992538. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-030-99253-8_9](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-99253-8_9).
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