

# Distributed Zero Knowledge & Applications to Secure Computation

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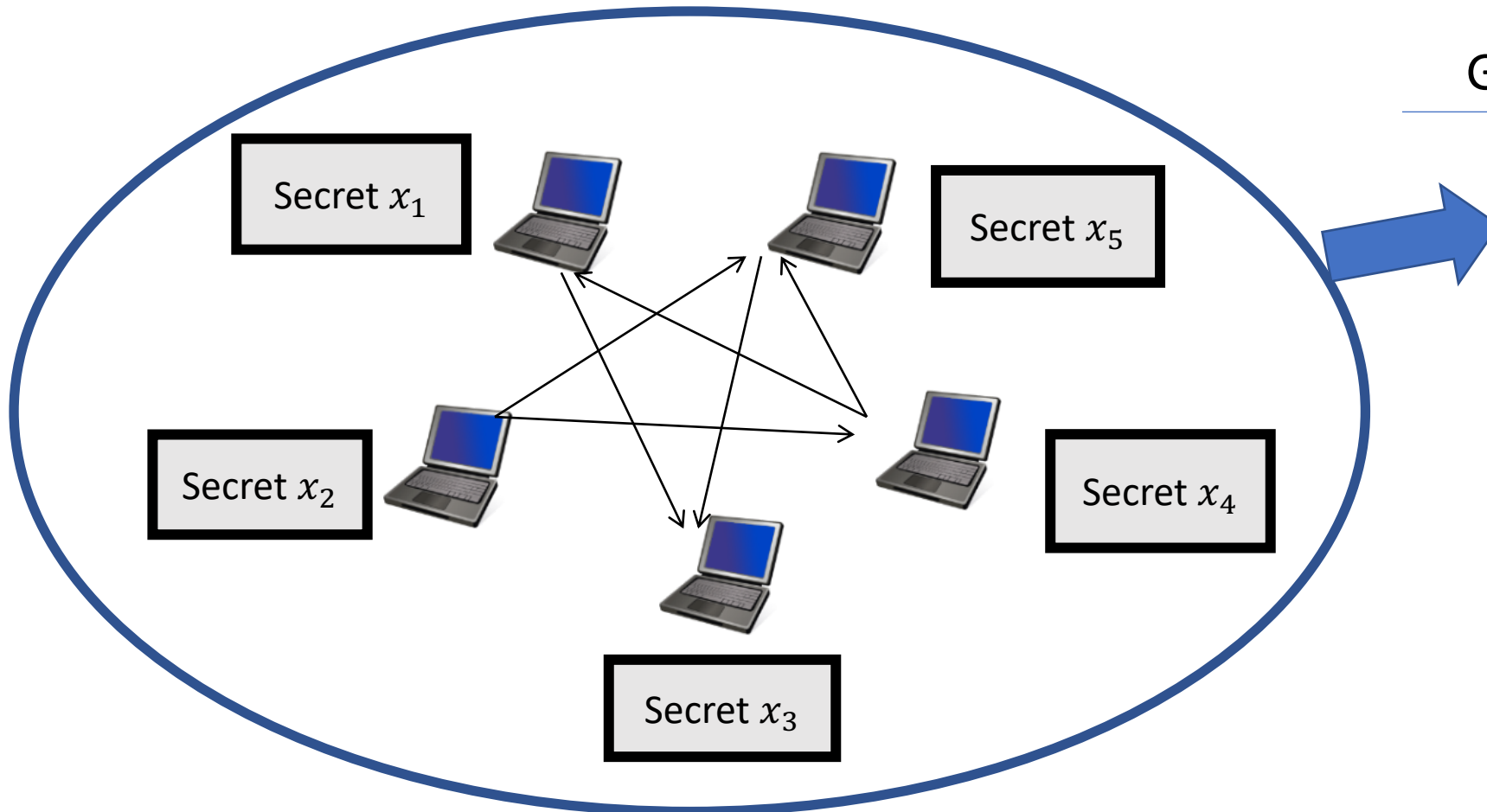


Based on joint works with: Dan Boneh, Henry Corrigan-Gibbs, Niv Gilboa, Yuval Ishai, and Ariel Nof

# Secure Multi-Party Computation (MPC)

[Yao82, GMW87,  
BGW88, CCD88]

**Jointly compute** on secret data, **without revealing the data**



Given public function  $f$  :

Learn  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_5)$

And learn *nothing else*  
about  $x_1, \dots, x_5$

Even given a subset of  
*adversarial* parties

# Classic “Killer App” of Zero Knowledge (ZK)



(Standard) active security



Force passive behavior via  
Zero Knowledge [GMW86,GMW87]



(Weak) passive security

# Passive-to-Active Compilers: Now

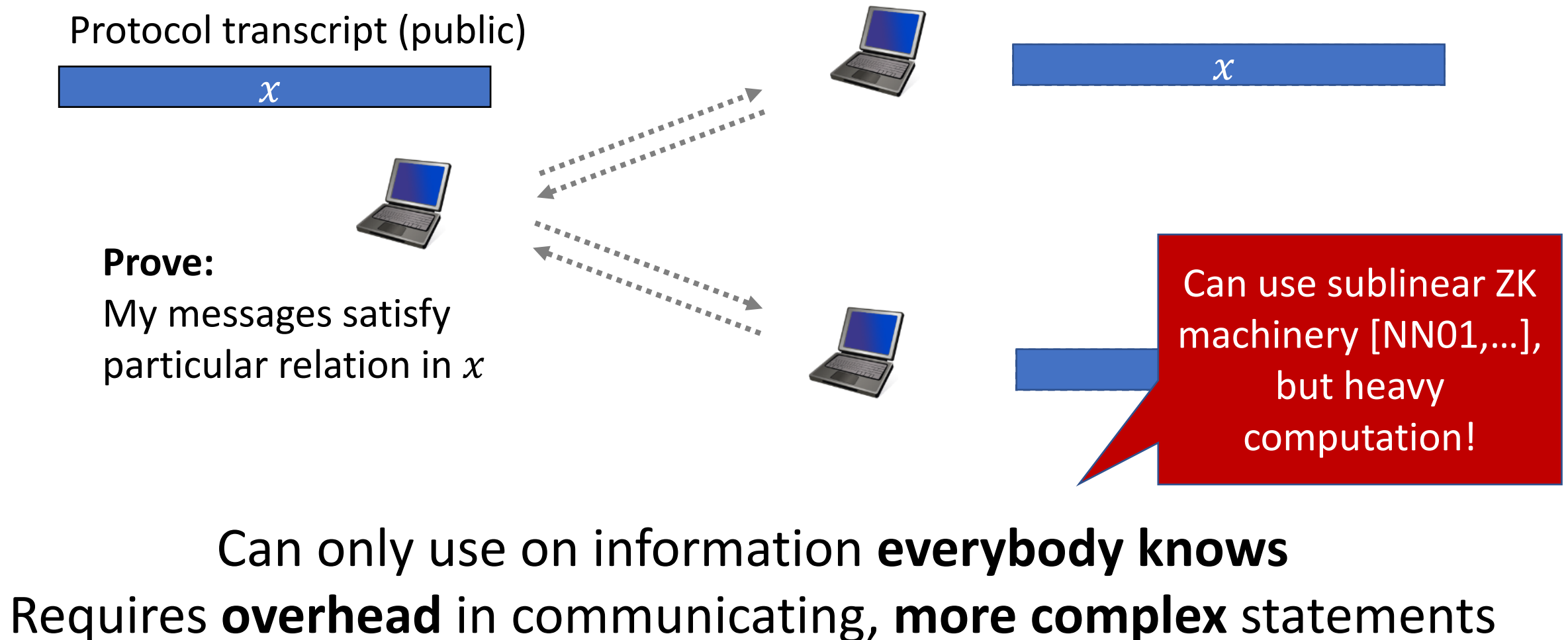
- Several approaches
  - ZK with each message [GMW87]
  - IPS compiler [IPS08]
  - Cut and choose [MF06,LP07]
  - AMD Circuits [GIPST14]
  - Targeted “Authenticated Beaver triple” generation [BDOZ11,DPSZ12,...]
  - ...
- Still important area of research – working to minimize induced overhead

(Standard) active security

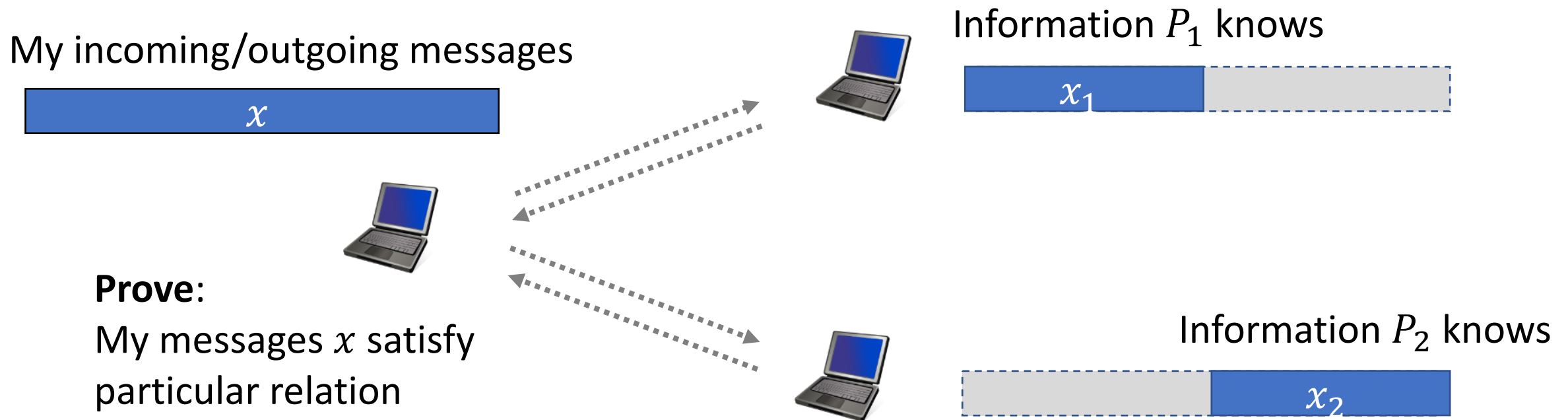


(Weak) passive security

# Original GMW Compiler [GMW87]



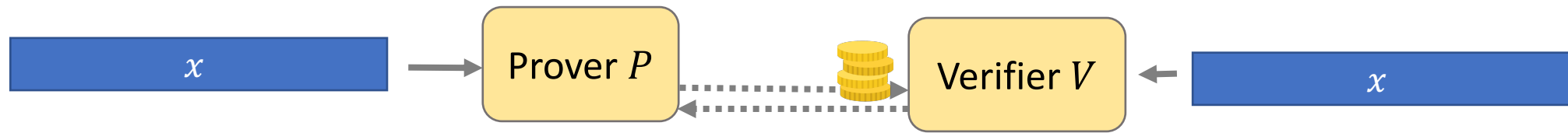
# Our Motivation: A Lighter Approach



Simple relations, minimal additional communication

Wanted: Method to **prove statements held distributedly across verifiers**

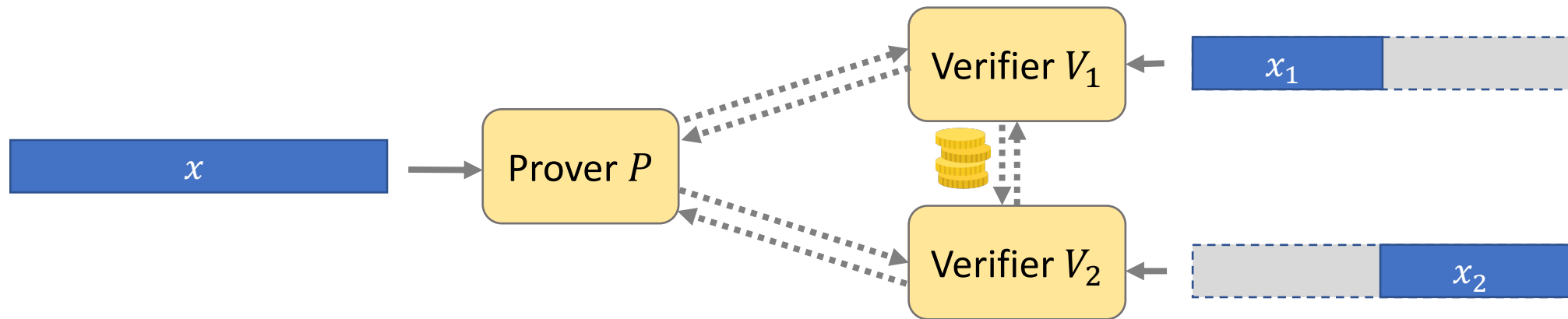
# Zero Knowledge [GMR85]



Zero Knowledge:  
Verifier learns nothing beyond  
 $(x, x \in L)$

# <sup>-Verifier</sup> Distributed Zero Knowledge [BBCGI19]

- Zero-Knowledge Proofs on (secret-shared / committed / distributed) data



Zero Knowledge:  
 $V_i$  learns nothing beyond  
 $(x_i, x \in L)$



# New motivated settings & metrics

- No verifier knows  $x \Rightarrow$  nontrivial even for simple languages  $L$
- New applications with different complexity goals
  - Care about proof size

# Similar-Sounding (But Different) Notions

- “DIZK: Distributed Zero Knowledge” (& related) [WZCPS18,EFKP20]
  - Distributes proof generation across cluster / parallel threads, for efficiency
- Interactive Distributed Proofs [KOS18,CFP19,NPY20]
  - Verifier = nodes of a communication graph
  - Prove properties of the graph

# Today: Brief Survey of D-ZK

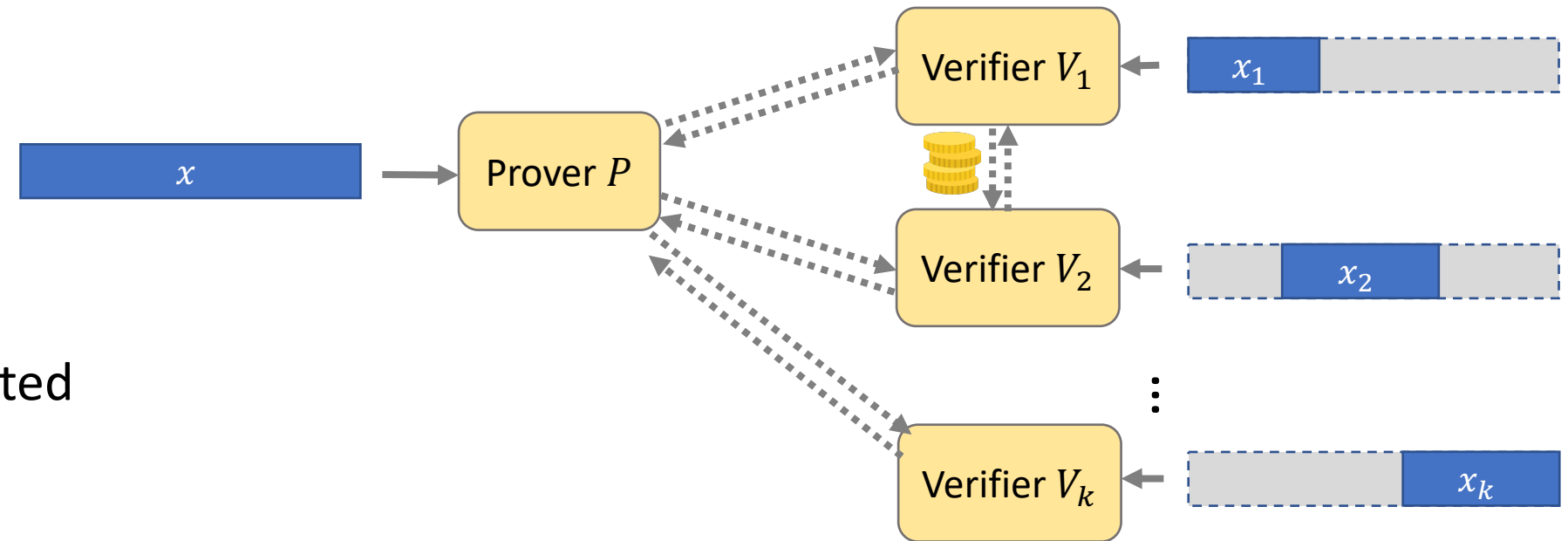
- Few More Words on Definition
- Construction Approach
  - via “**Fully Linear** PCP/IOP”
- Applications to Secure Computation

## **Punchlines:**

Low-cost D-ZK protocols  
for simple languages

Compilers to malicious security with  
sublinear communication overhead

# Distributed Zero Knowledge [BBCGI19]



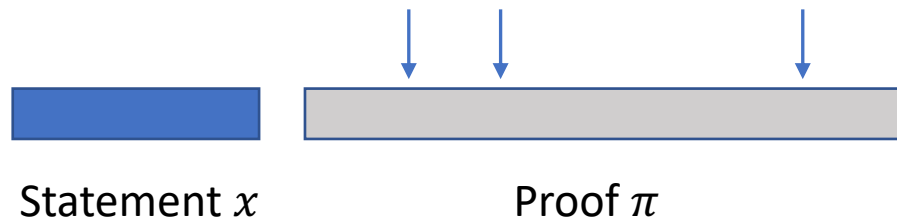
- Completeness
  - Honest  $P$  accepted
- Zero Knowledge
  - Corrupt  $\{V_i\}_{i \in S}$  learn nothing beyond  $(\{x_i\}_{i \in S}, x \in L)$
- Soundness
  - Corrupt  $P$  (no  $V_i$ ): Honest  $V_i$  accepts  $\Rightarrow x \in L$
  - Corrupt  $P + V_i$ 's : More subtle... need robustness of  $x$  across Verifiers

# Constructions:

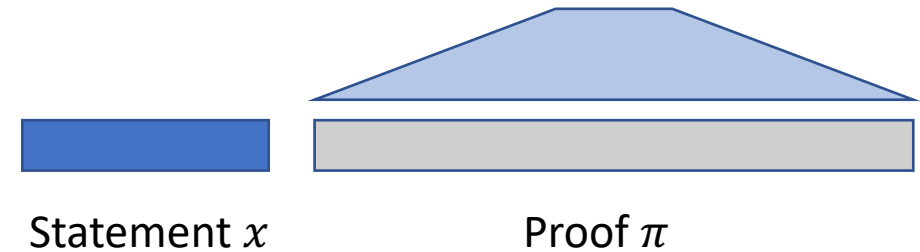
A Jaunt Through “Fully Linear PCP/IOPs”

# Core Tool: “Fully Linear PCP”

Probabilistically Checkable Proof (PCP)  
[AS90,ALMSS91]

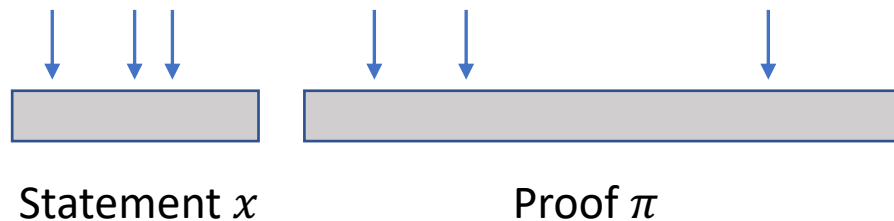


Linear PCP [IKO07,BCIOP13]



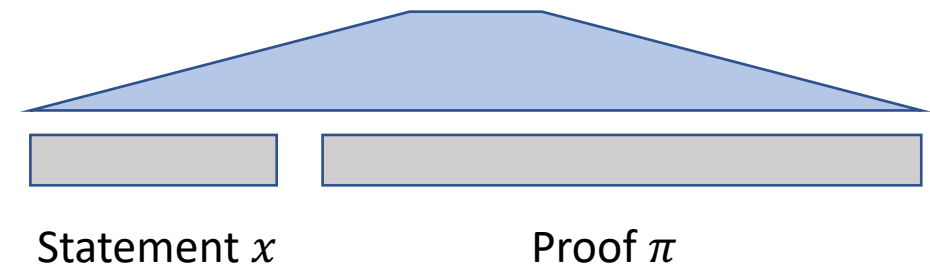
PCP of Proximity [BGHSV14,DR14]

Verify:  $x$  is close to  $L$



**zk-Fully Linear PCP** [BBCGI'19]

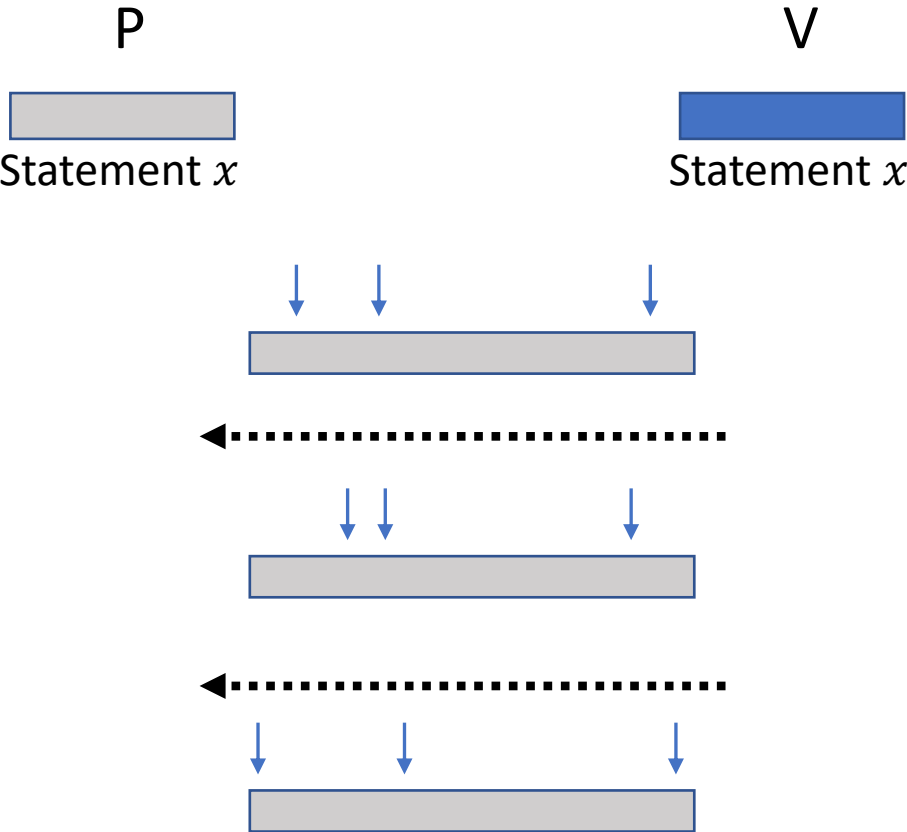
$\mathcal{V}$  learns only  $x \in L$   
Verify:  $x \in L$



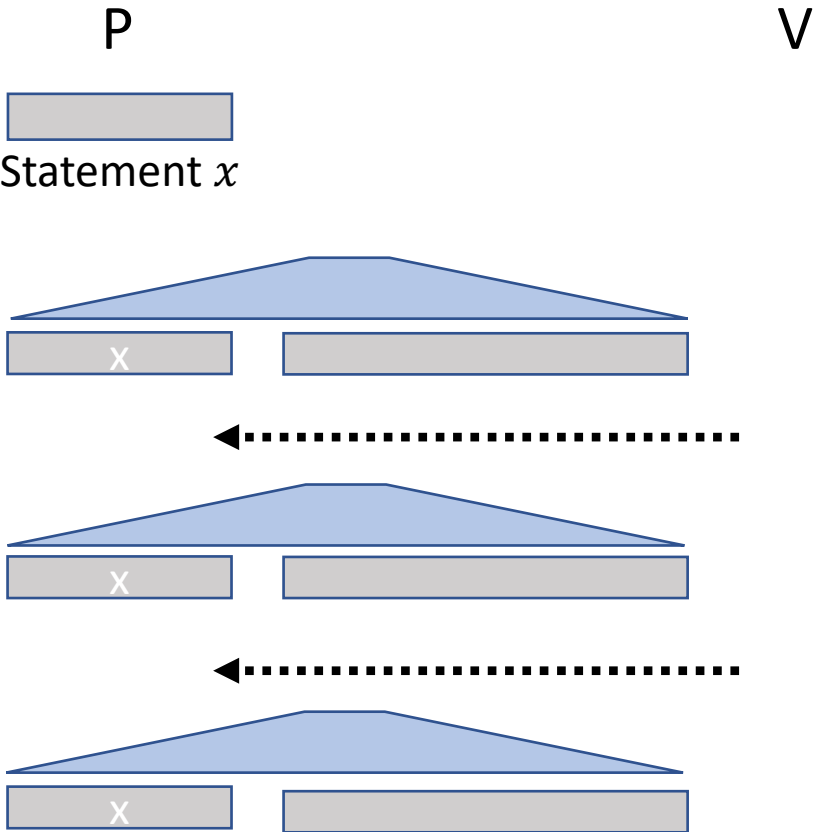
Both cases:  
Can use Fiat-Shamir to  
collapse to 1 round

# Core Tool: “Fully Linear IOP”

## Interactive Oracle Proof (IOP) [BCS16,RRR16]

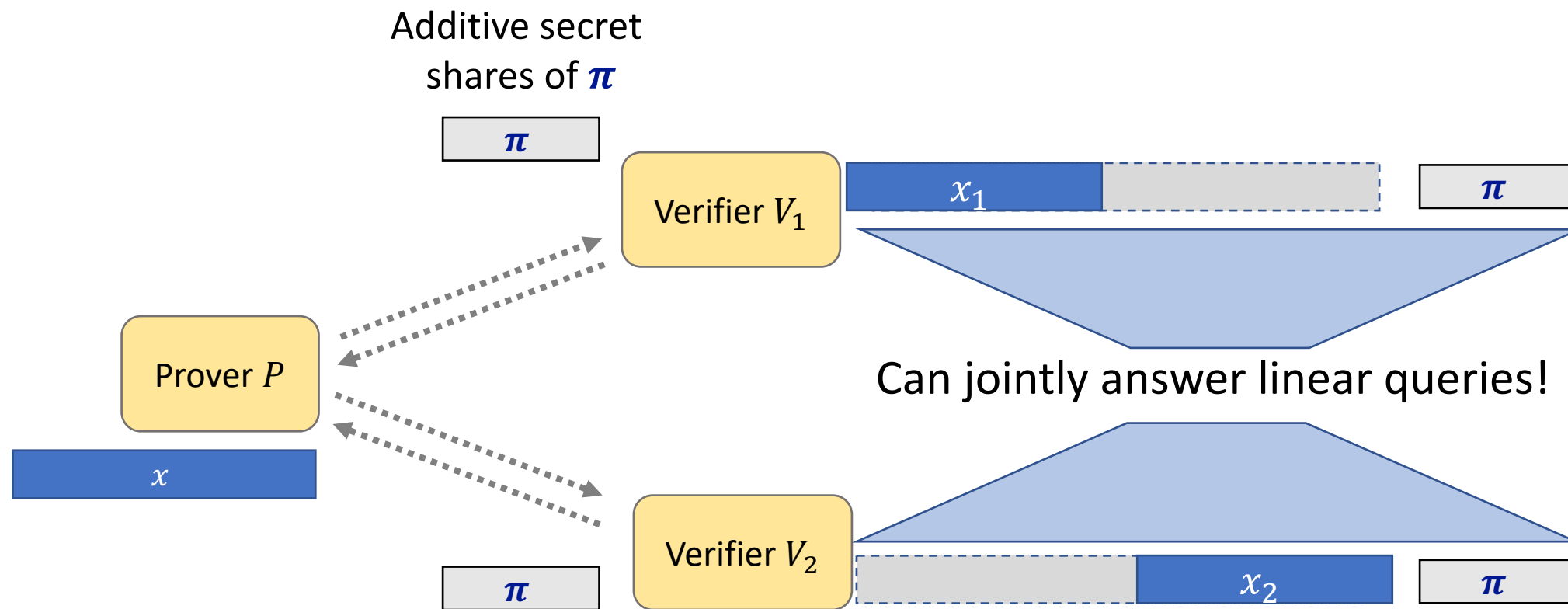


## zk-Fully Linear IOP [BBCGI'19]



$V$  learns only  $x \in L$

# Distributed-ZK from zk-Fully Linear PCP/IOP





# Building zk-Fully Linear PCP/IOP

Many FL-PCP implicit in literature (eg [GKR08,CMT12,GGPR13,RRR16,...])

Our setting (ZK + short proofs): Builds on Ideas of Sum Check

Theorem [BGCI19]: For  $L \subseteq \mathbb{F}^n$

- Degree 2 over  $\mathbb{F}$ : **FL-PCP** of proof size  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{n})$ , error  $\mathbb{F}^{-1}$
- Degree  $O(1)$  over  $\mathbb{F}$ : **FL-IOP** of proof size  $\tilde{O}(\log n)$ , rounds  $\log n$ , error  $\mathbb{F}^{-1}$

Remarks:

- No computational assumptions!
- Extends simply to small fields, rings via extension

# Applications:

Back to Multi-Party Computation (MPC)

# Secure Multi-Party Computation (MPC)

What is the **communication** complexity of **securely** evaluating  $f$ ?

- **In theory:**  $\tilde{O}(|\text{inputs}| + |\text{outputs}|)$  [G09,BGI16a]
  - Based on heavy cryptographic tools (FHE, HSS, ...)

(Black-box use of PRG)

- **In practice:**  $(\alpha \cdot |C|)$  elements/party, small const  $\alpha \geq 2$ 
  - Long line of work improving  $\alpha$  in various settings

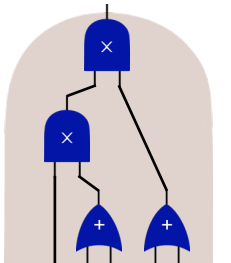
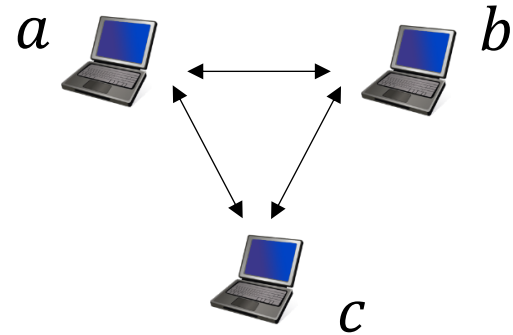
$\alpha \geq 2$

Step 2: (standard) “active” security



Lightweight  $\alpha = 1$

Step 1: (weak) “passive” security



$C = (\text{Boolean/arithmetic})$   
circuit representation of  $f$

# The Goal: Sublinear Additive Overhead

**Same** (amortized)  
 $\alpha$  elems/party/gate (Standard) active security

 +  $o(|C|)$  communication

$\alpha$  elems/party/gate (Weak) passive security

# High-Level Plan

Start with passive-secure protocol  
with useful “natural” structure

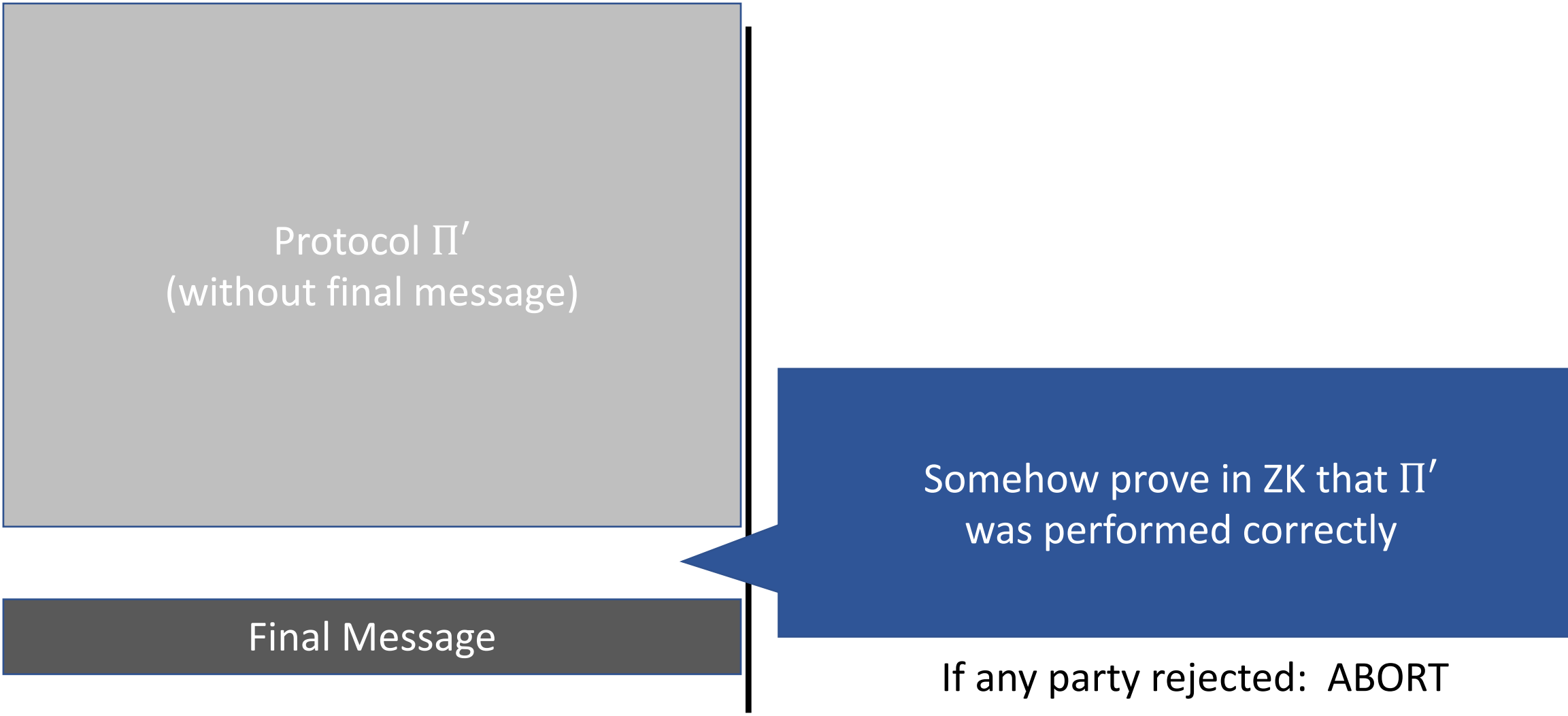


Protocol  $\Pi'$   
(without final message)

Final Message

# High-Level Plan

Start with passive-secure protocol  
with useful “natural” structure



Protocol  $\Pi'$   
(without final message)

Final Message

Somehow prove in ZK that  $\Pi'$   
was performed correctly

If any party rejected: ABORT

# D-ZK Compiler - Type 1 [BBCGI19, BGIN19, BGIN20]

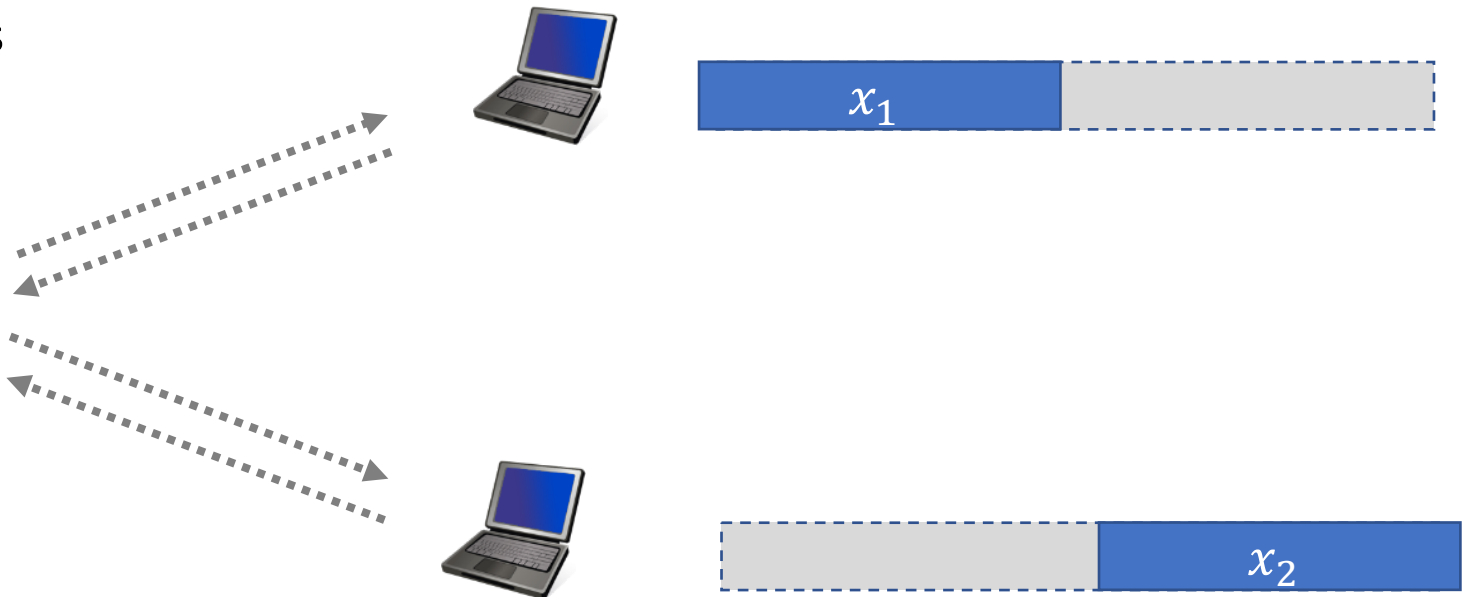
Each party proves its messages in  $\Pi'$  were computed correctly

Party's incoming/outgoing messages



**Need to assert:**

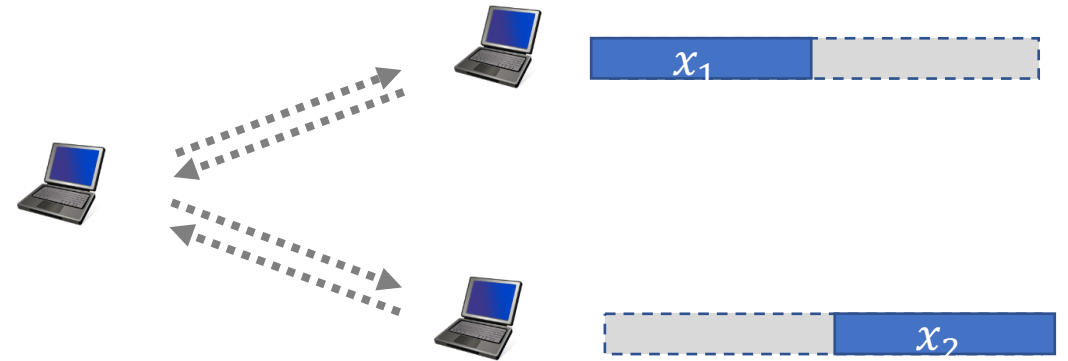
Messages  $x$  satisfy particular degree-2 relation



- Degree 2 = “simple” relation: We have sublinear-size proofs!
- Soundness  $\sim 1/(\text{field size})$ . But: amplify by embedding to larger space (still  $o(|C|)$ )

# D-ZK Compiler - Type 1 [BBCGI19, BGIN19, BGIN20]

- Works great for **3 parties, 1 corruption**
  - **Either** prover **or** verifier corrupt



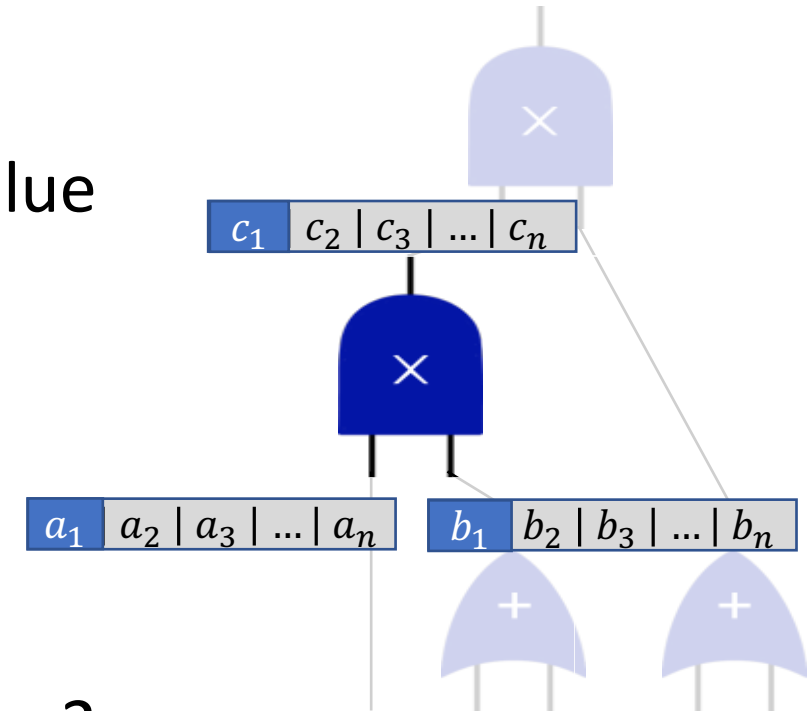
- Doesn't work directly for  **$n$  parties,  $t$  corruptions**,  $n = 2t + 1$ 
  - Challenges with colluding prover & verifiers...



# D-ZK Compiler - Type 2 [BBCGI19]

Parties jointly prove secret shared wire value are consistent

- Statement: Robust secret shares of each wire value
- Nobody knows the full statement!
- Parties **jointly emulate** Prover
- Prover of degree 2 relation computable in degree 2  
 $\Rightarrow$  can compute shares of proof  $\pi$  non-interactively

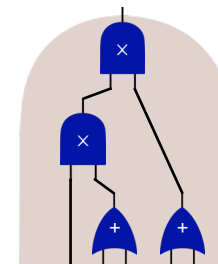


# Honest Majority MPC

- **3 parties, 1 corruption** (“3PC”)

- Motivated setting: “Minimal” across MPC settings  
eg: [MRZ15,AFLN+16,ABFL+17,LN17,FLNW17,CGHI+18,GR018,NV18,EnOP+19]

- Comparison:
  - Over large field:  $\alpha = 2$  [CGHIKLN18, NV18]
  - Over Boolean:  $\alpha = 7$  [ABFLLNOWW17]
  - Any field or  $\mathbb{Z}_N$   $\alpha = 1$  [BBCGI19,BGIN19]



Compiling eg, [AFLNO16,KKV18]

- **$n$  parties,  $t$  corruptions,  $n = 2t + 1$**

Over large field:  $\alpha = 3$  [CGHIKLN18]

Over Boolean/ $\mathbb{Z}_{2^k}$ :  $\alpha > 40$  [CGHIKLN18]

Any field or  $\mathbb{Z}_N$   $\alpha = 3t/(2t + 1) \leq 1.5$  [BBCGI19,GL20,BGIN20]

Compiling [DN07]

# *Dishonest Majority MPC...?*

Wait a second.

We expressly needed **robust** sharings across parties...

not possible with dishonest majority...

# D-ZK Compiler - Type 3



- Without an honest majority!
- MPC in Preprocessing Model
  - “Dealer” in preprocessing phase (emulated by all parties)

Preprocessing Phase  
(input independent)

Cheap online phase

Our idea: “Dealer” acts as an extra verifier **guaranteed to be honest**

# MPC with Preprocessing

Preprocessing Phase  
(input independent)

Cheap online phase

- Relevant metrics: (1) Size of preprocessing data  
(2) Online communication
- Prior solutions: Either (1) or (2) had at least linear  $\Omega(|C|)$  overhead  
[BDOZ11, NNOB12, DPSD12, DZ13, CDE+18, CG20, ...]
- Our solution: **Both (1) + (2) have sublinear  $o(|C|)$  overhead!**

# In Summary

- Distributed-Verifier ZK
- Constructions
  - Via Fully Linear PCPs / IOPs
  - Short (sublinear) proofs for simple languages!
  - No computational assumptions, over  $\mathbb{F}$  & rings  $\mathbb{Z}_N$
- Applications to MPC
  - Sublinear communication overhead (passive  $\rightarrow$  active)

# Open Questions

- Fully Linear PCP/IOP:
  - More efficient constructions for specific simple languages
- Alternative passive-to-active compilers
  - Better efficiency
  - Garbled circuit based passive protocols?
  - Other passive protocol structures, eg for mixed-mode computations?

