

Building Succinct Arguments From Ideal Hash Functions

Alessandro Chiesa

EPFL

StarkWare

Succinct Arguments

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Cryptographic proofs for computation integrity that are **super short** and are **super fast to verify**.

Succinct Arguments

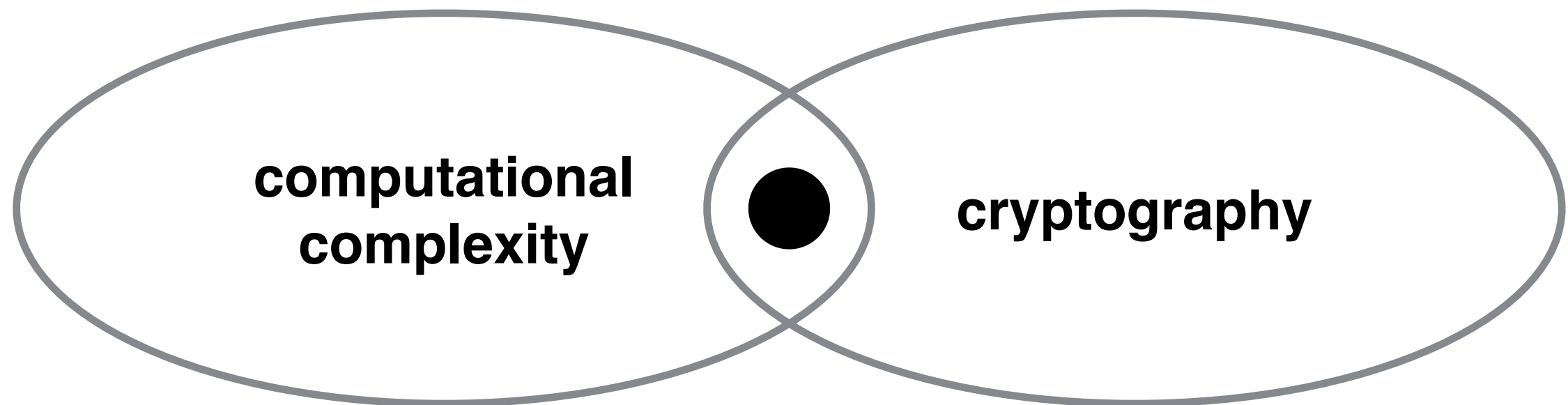
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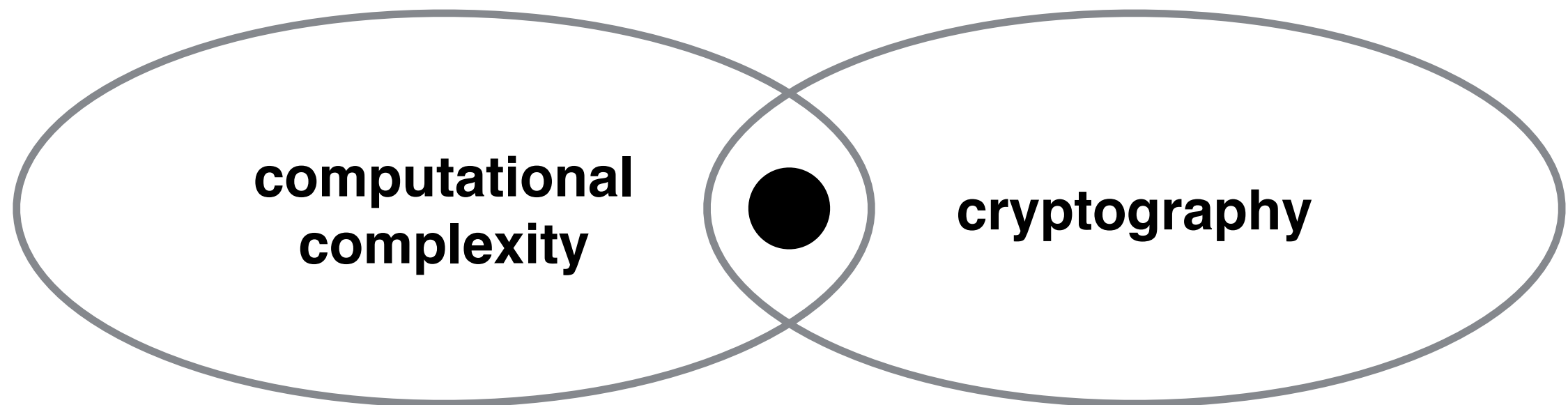
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In last 15 years, extraordinary progress in:

- cryptographic foundations
- efficient constructions
- implementations
- applications
- ...

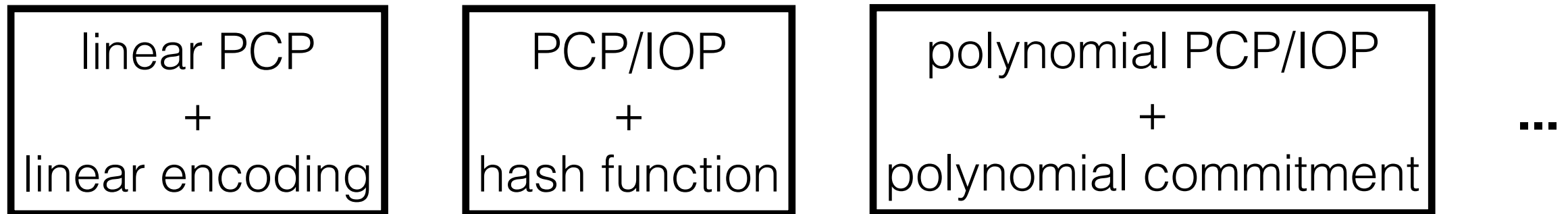
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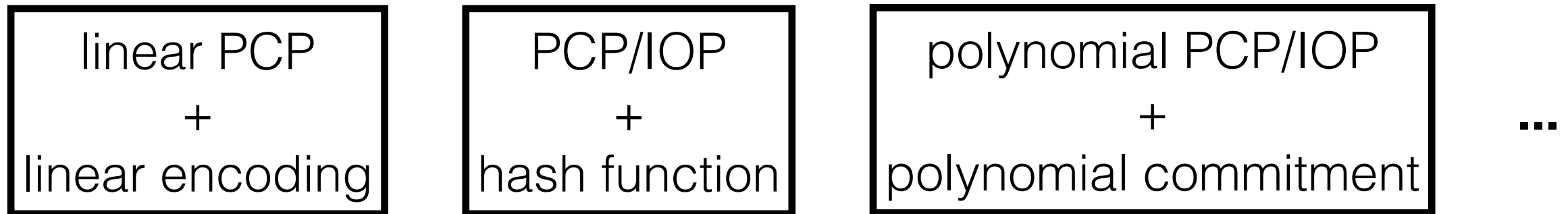
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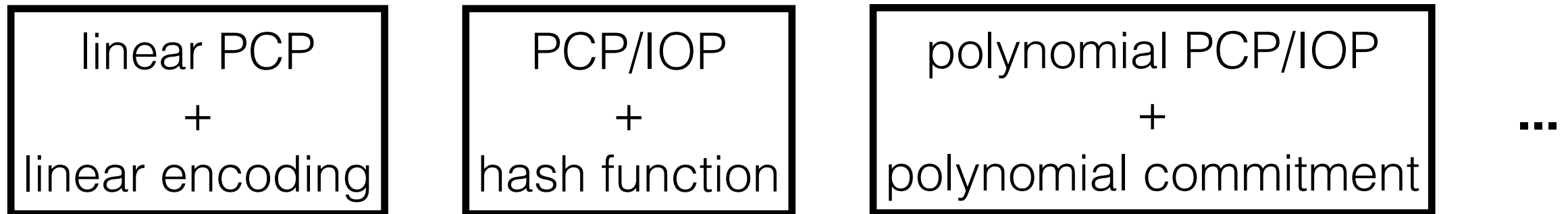
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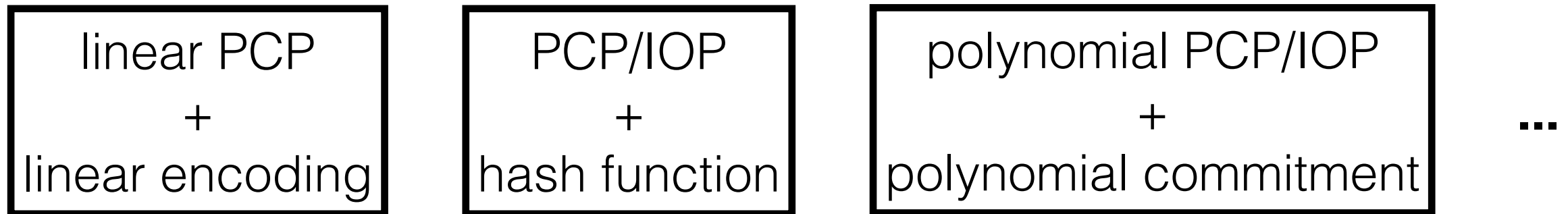


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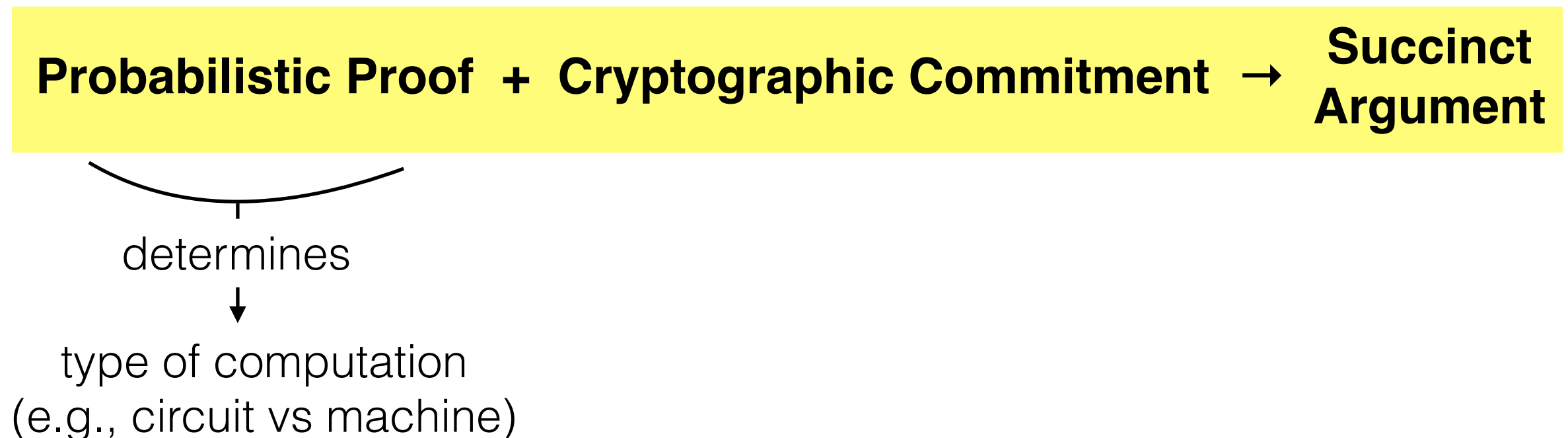
Probabilistic Proof + Cryptographic Commitment → Succinct Argument

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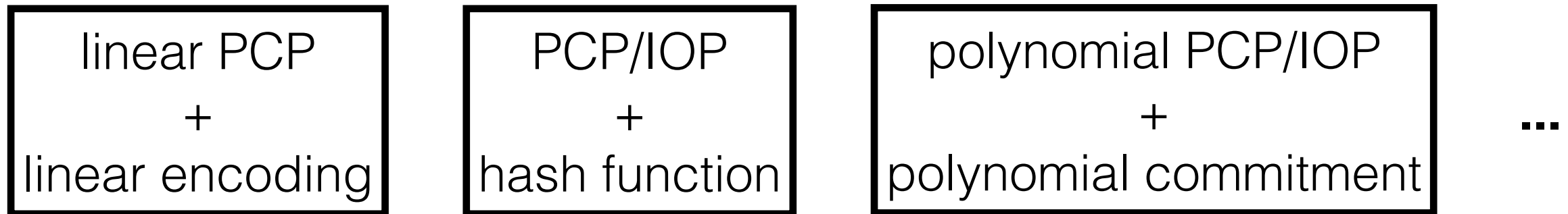


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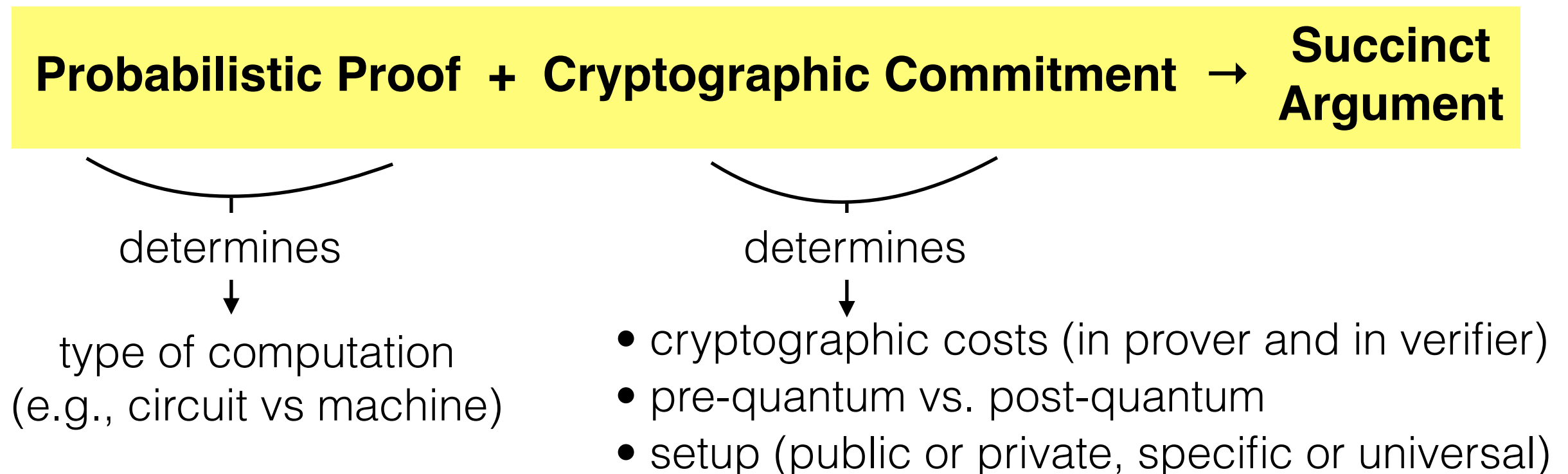


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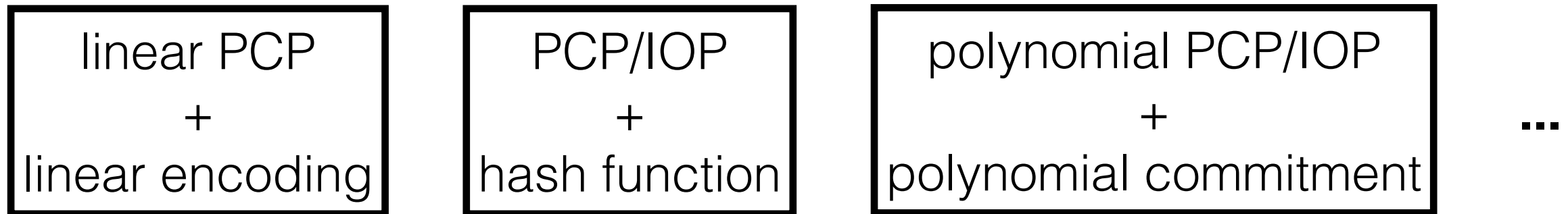


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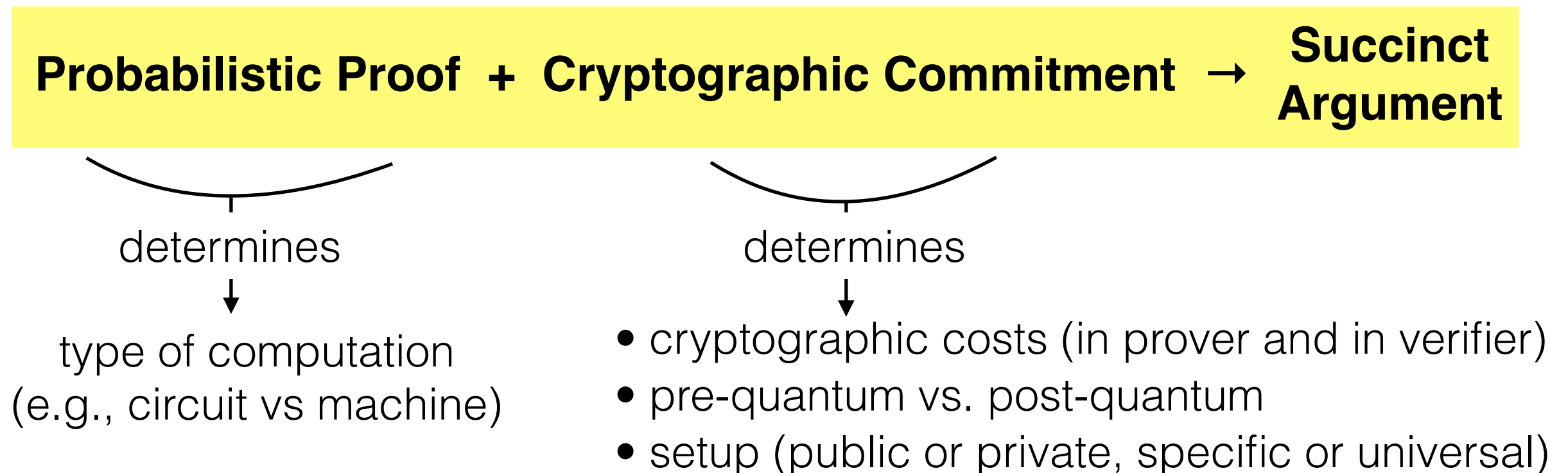


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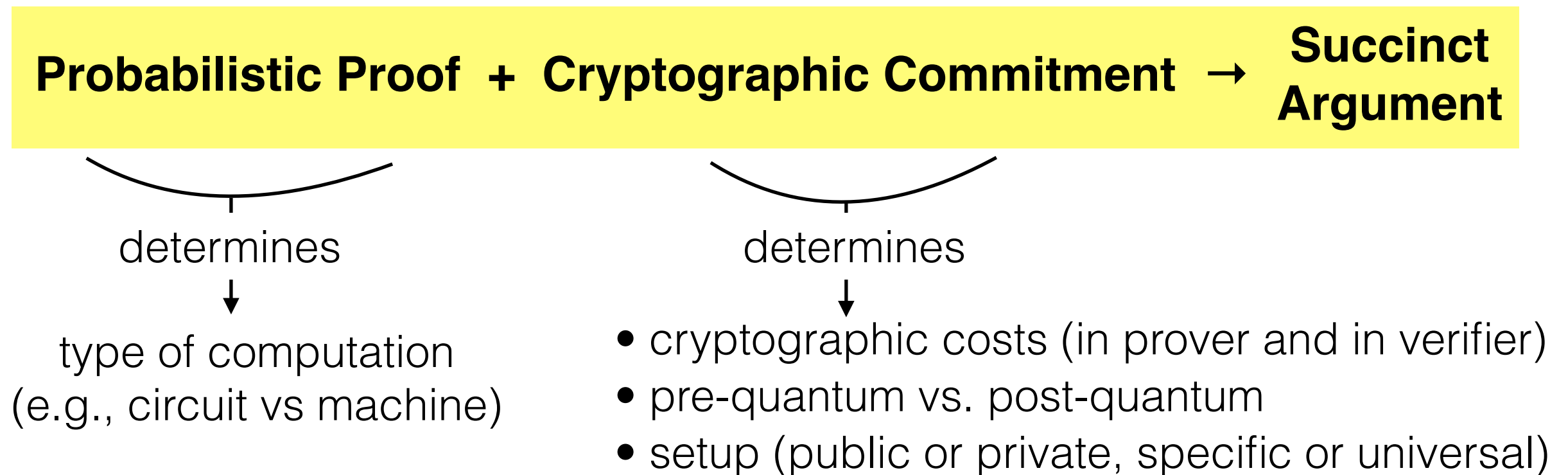
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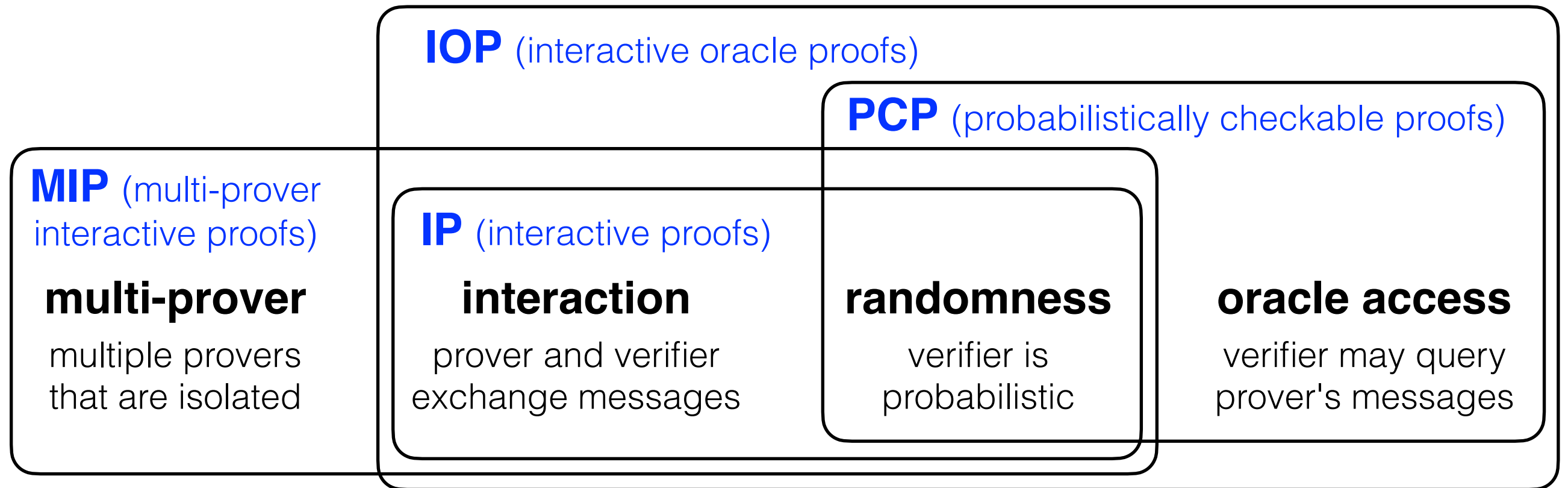
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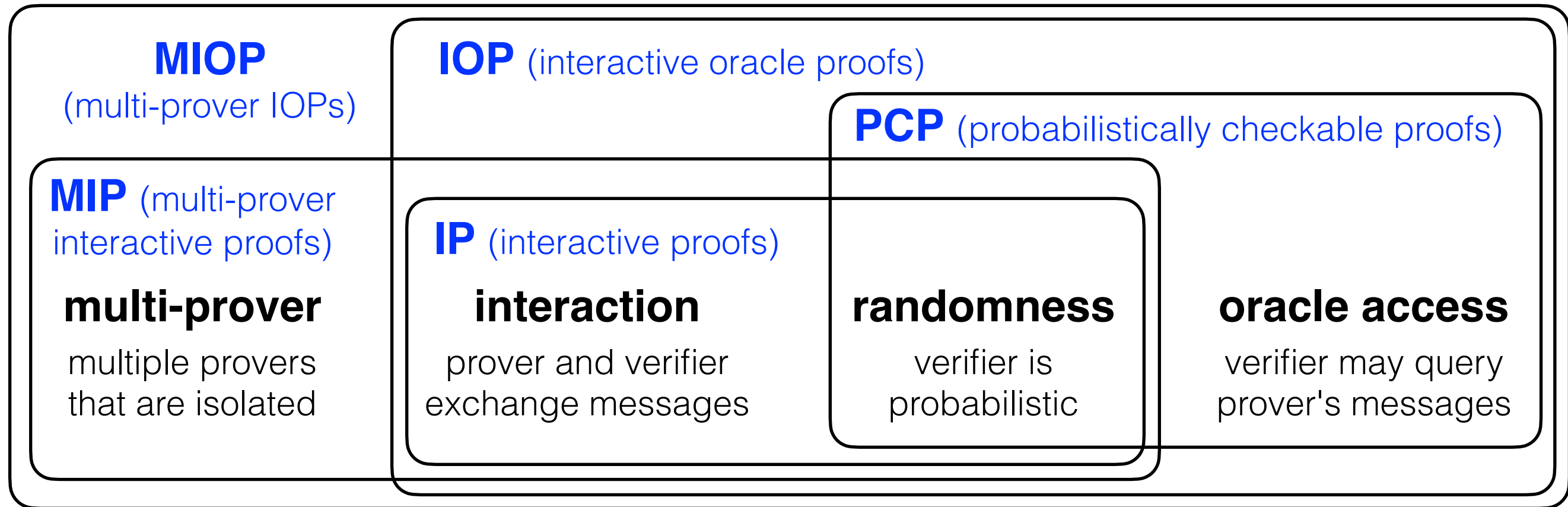
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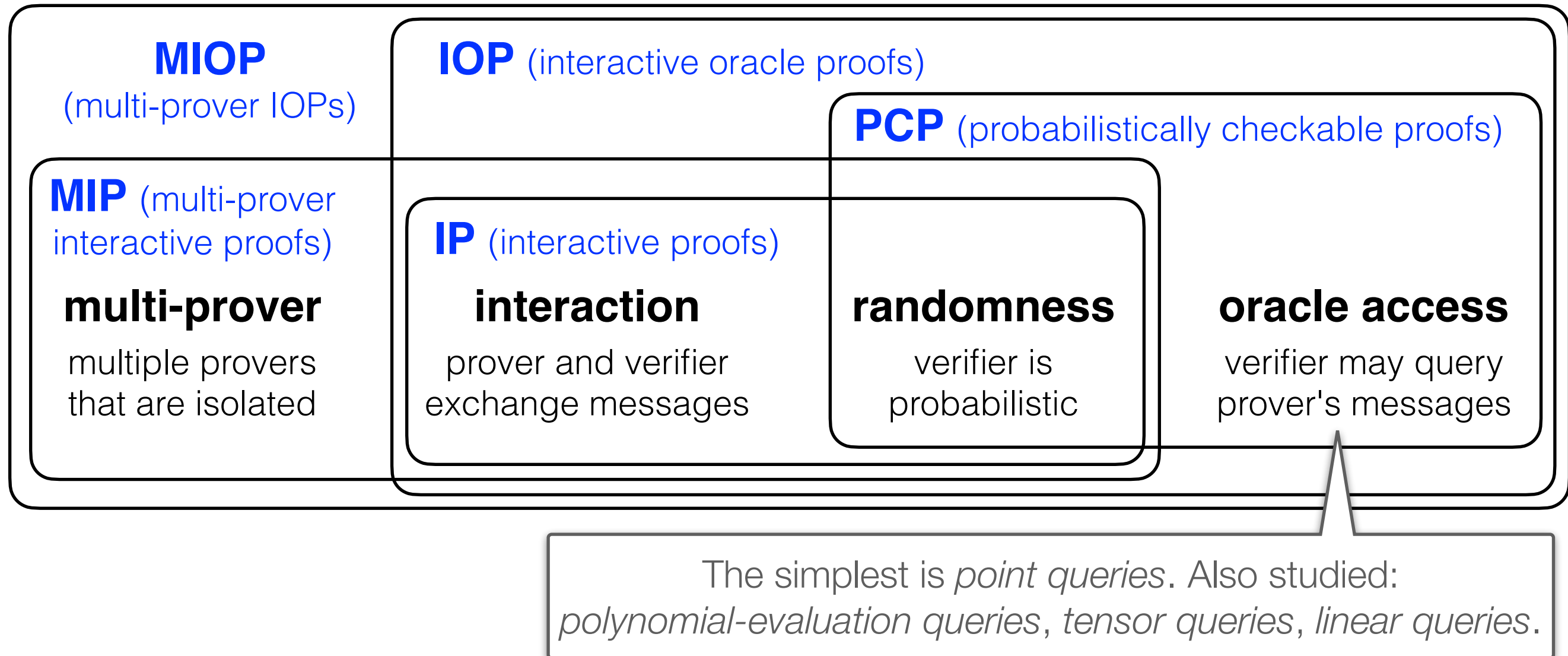
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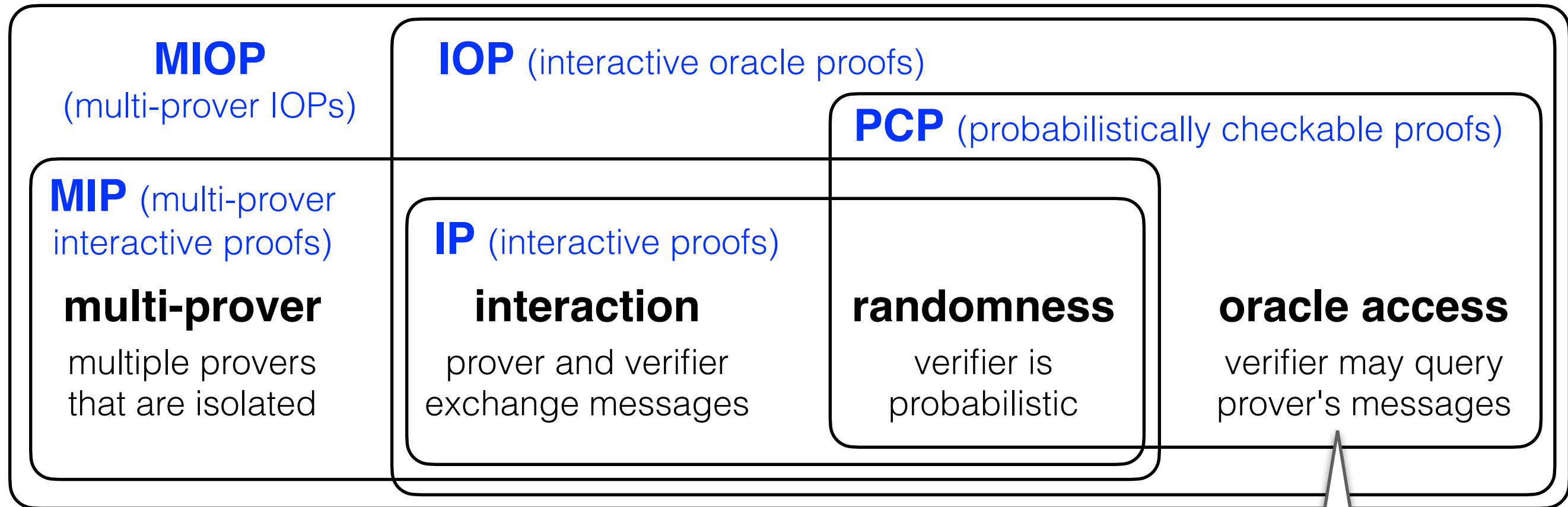
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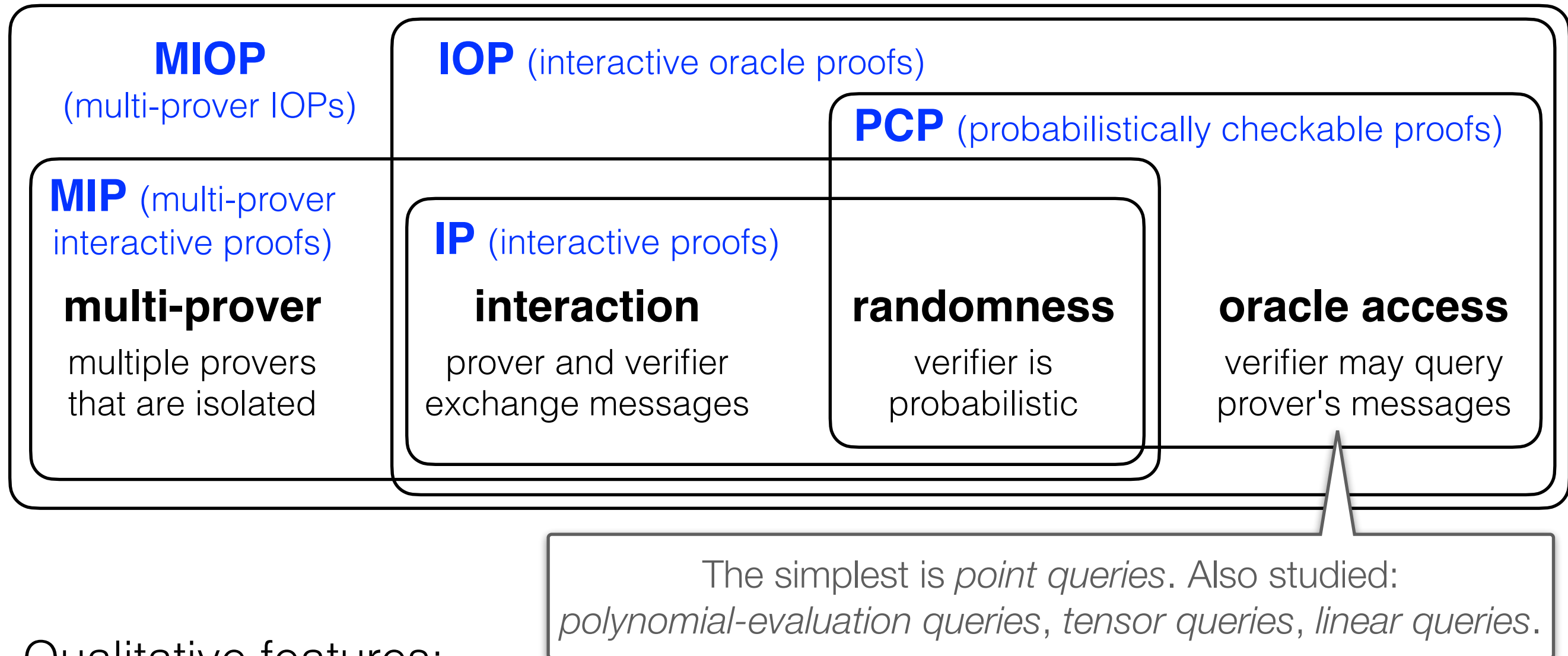


The simplest is *point queries*. Also studied:
polynomial-evaluation queries, tensor queries, linear queries.

Qualitative features:

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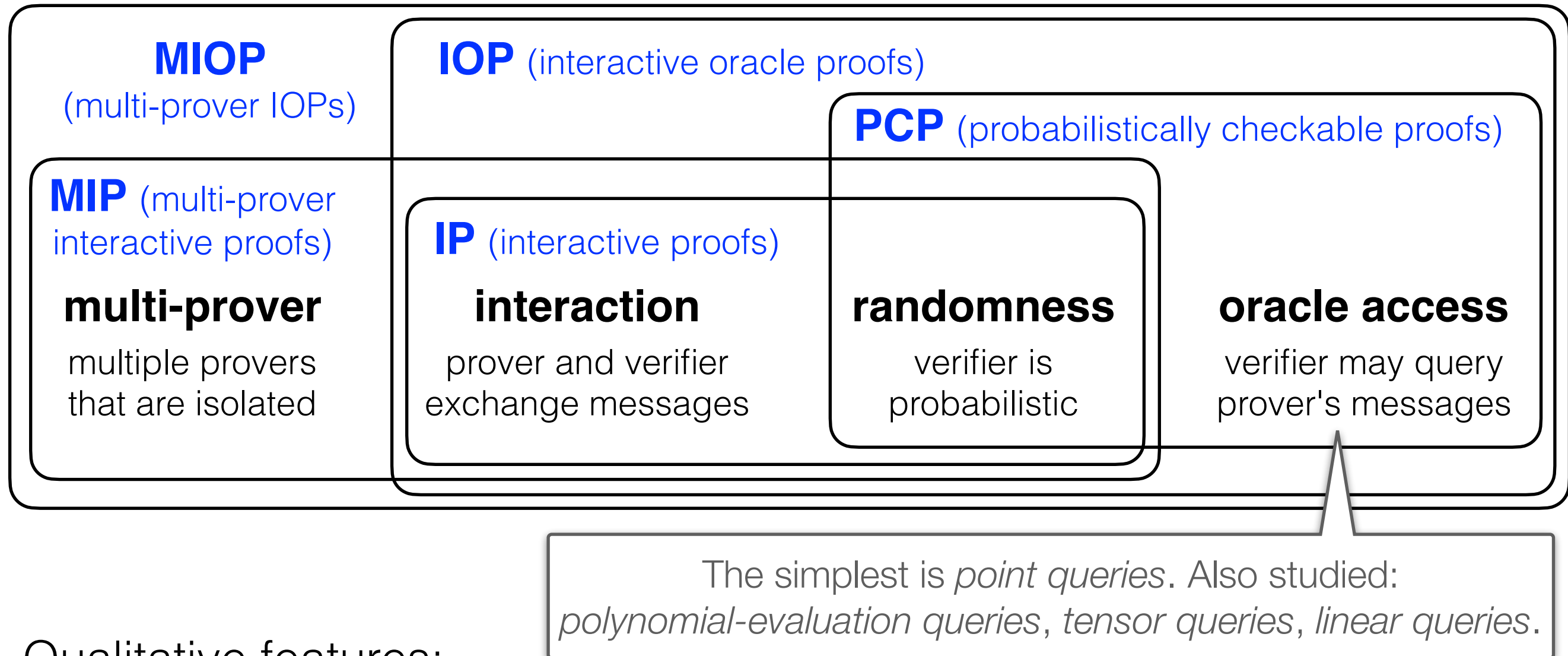


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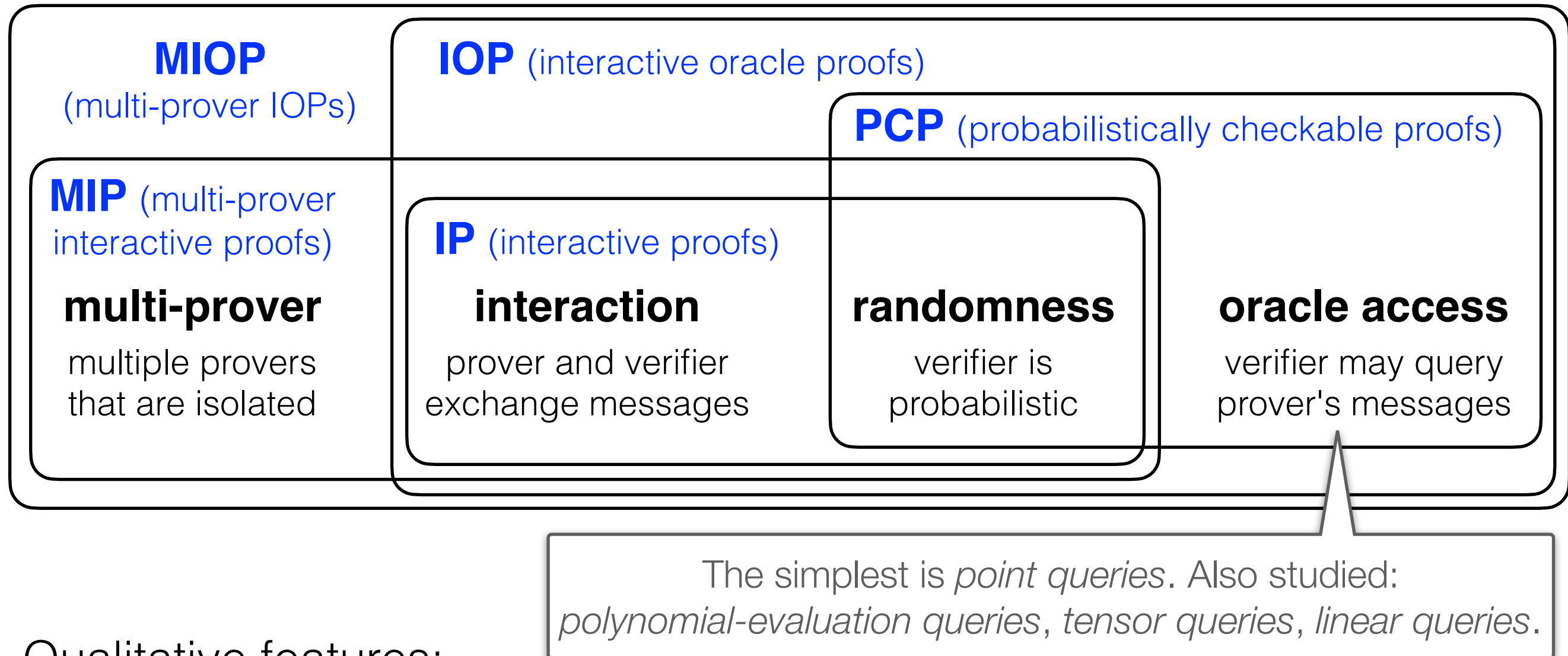


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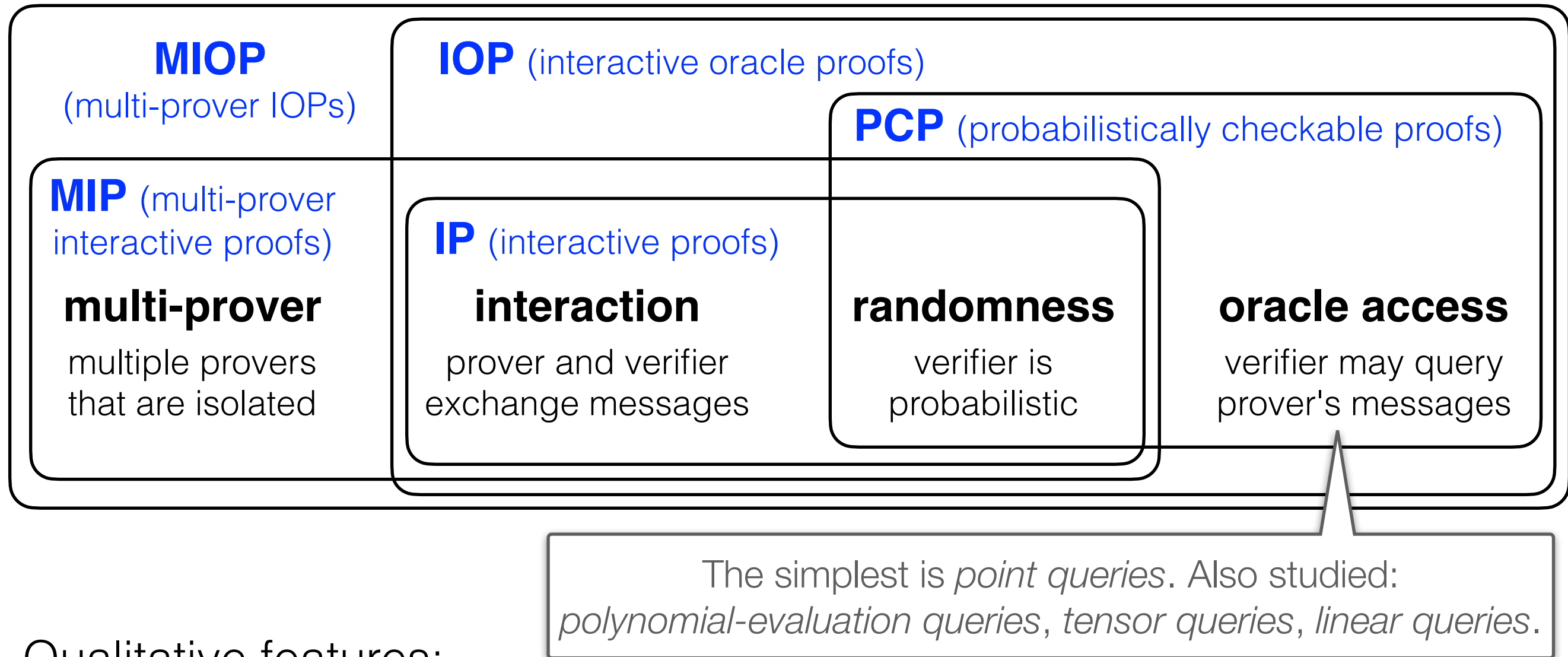


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- **MIP** (& **MIOP**): attractive features (e.g. space efficiency) but hard to use
- **IOP**: underlie most efficient succinct arguments

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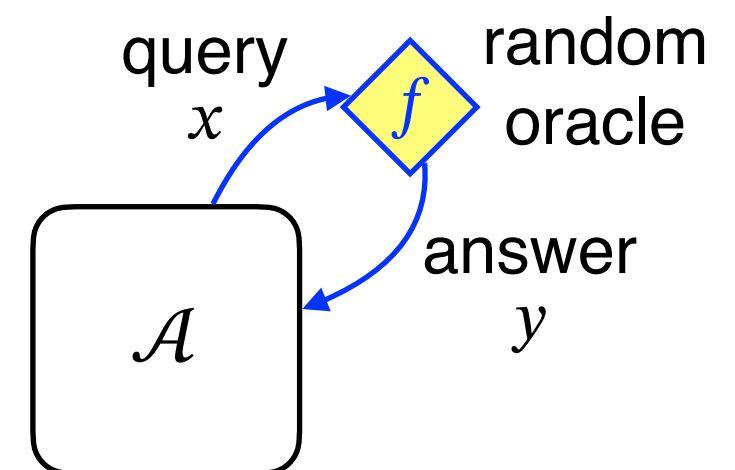
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Warm-Up: Succinct Arguments from PCPs


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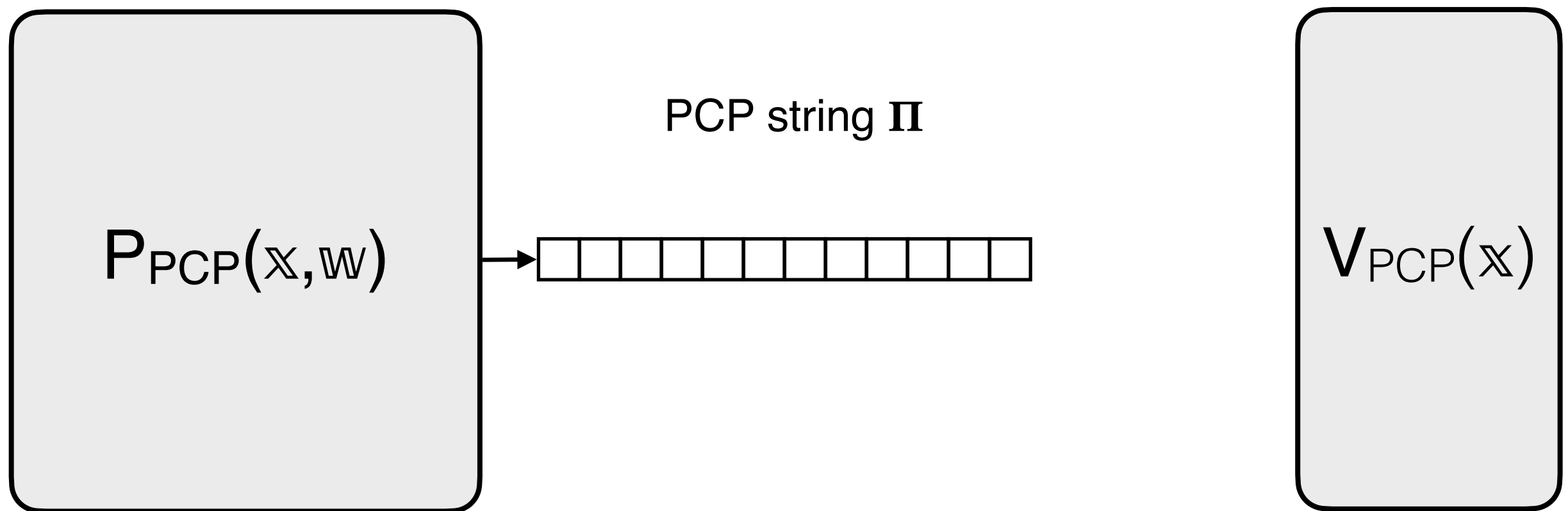


The diagram illustrates a Probabilistically Checkable Proof (PCP) system. It consists of two main components: a prover and a verifier. The prover is represented by a light gray rounded rectangle on the left, containing the text $P_{PCP}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{W})$. The verifier is represented by a light gray rounded rectangle on the right, containing the text $V_{PCP}(\mathbb{X})$. The rectangles are separated by a significant amount of space, emphasizing their distinct roles in the system.

$$P_{PCP}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{W})$$
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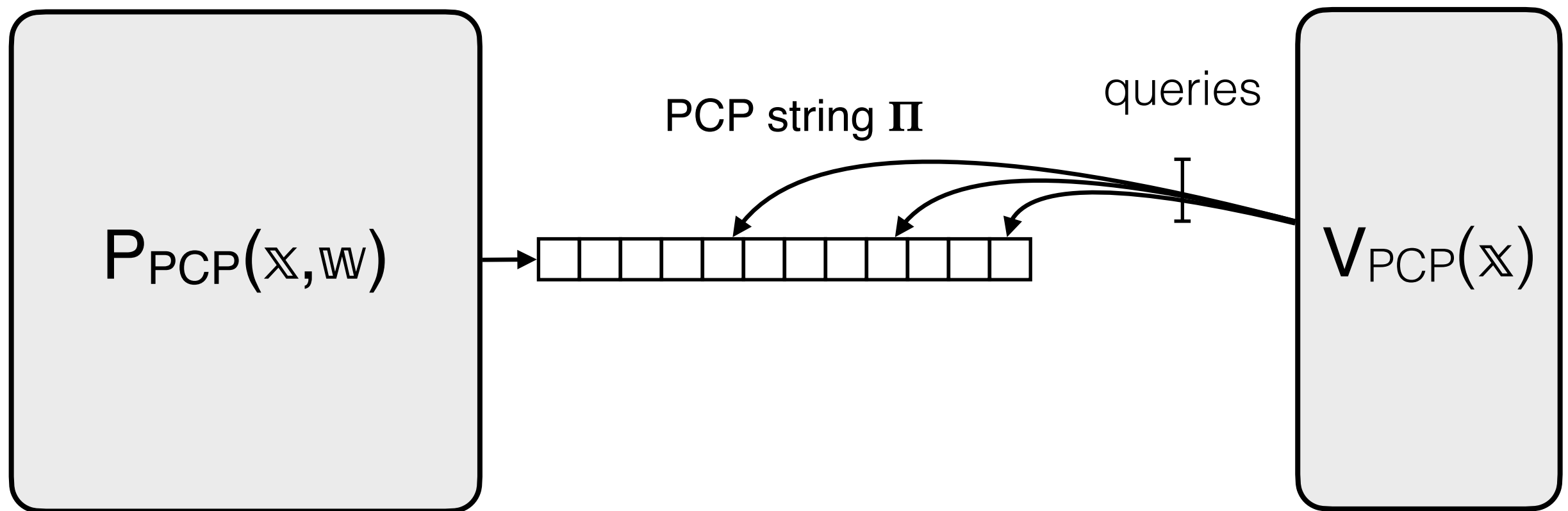
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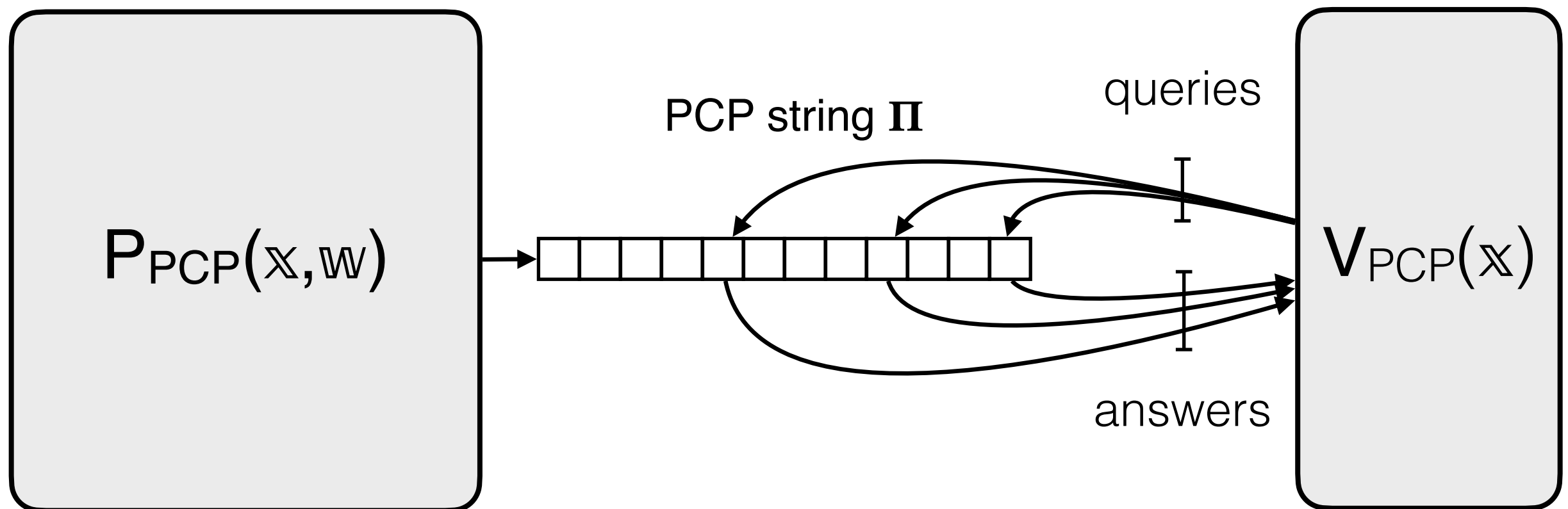
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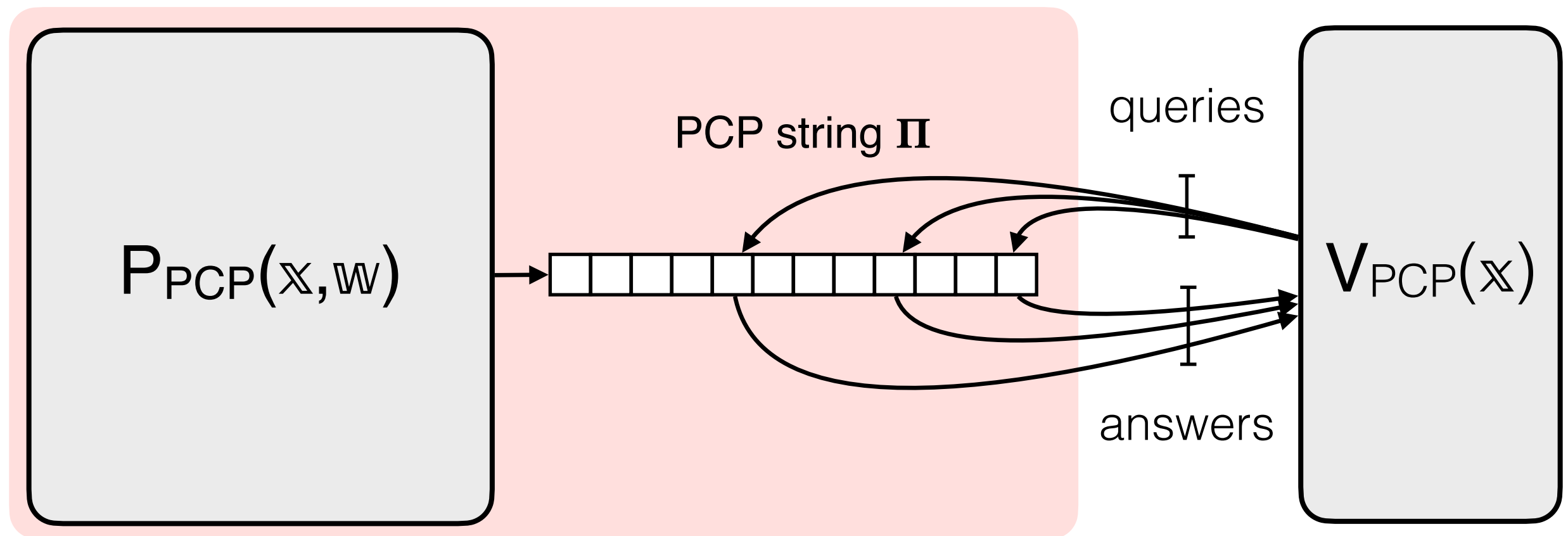
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Note: PCP \neq Succinct Argument!

It is insecure for the verifier to ask the prover to answer queries.

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Then reveal the queried locations of the PCP string.

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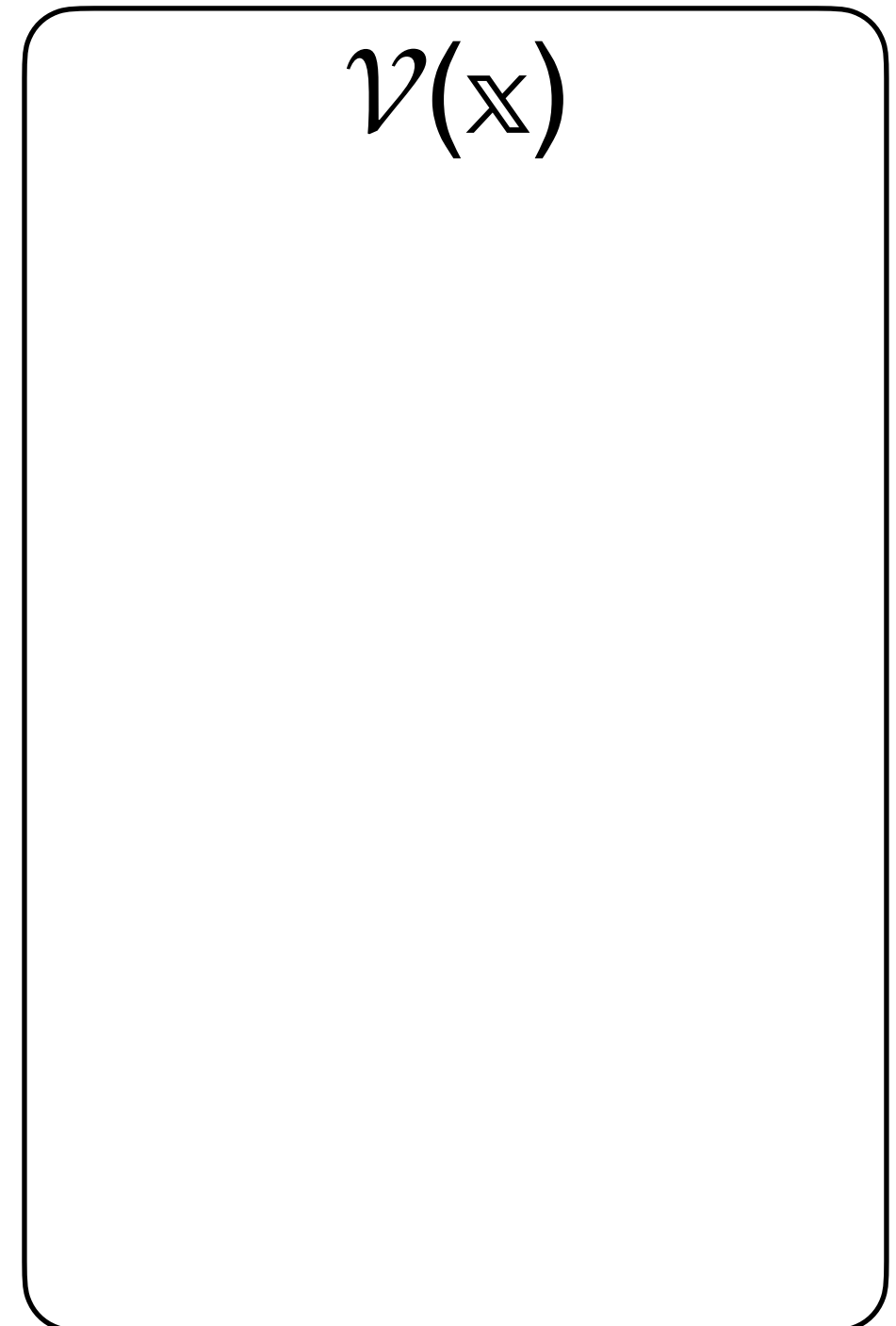
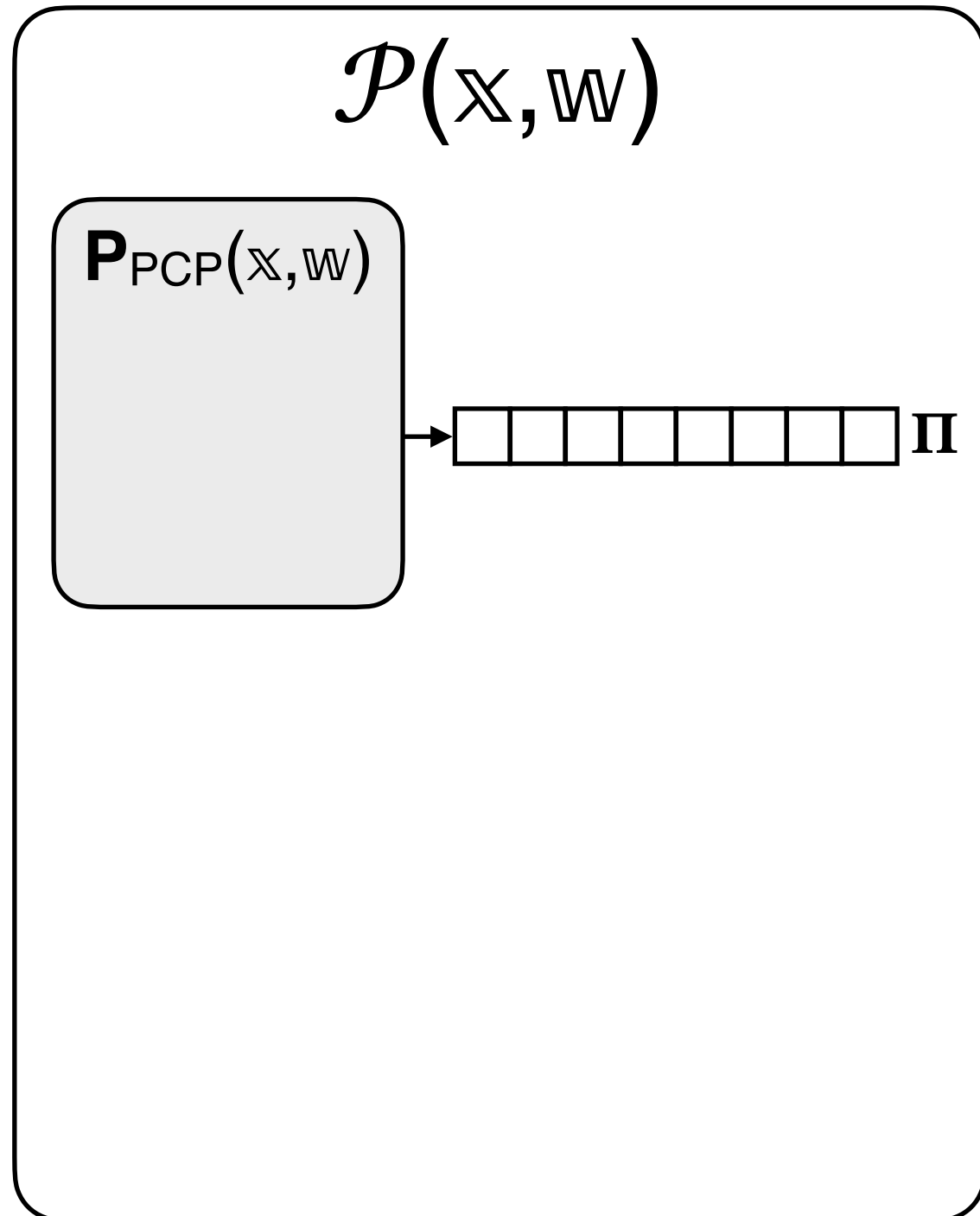
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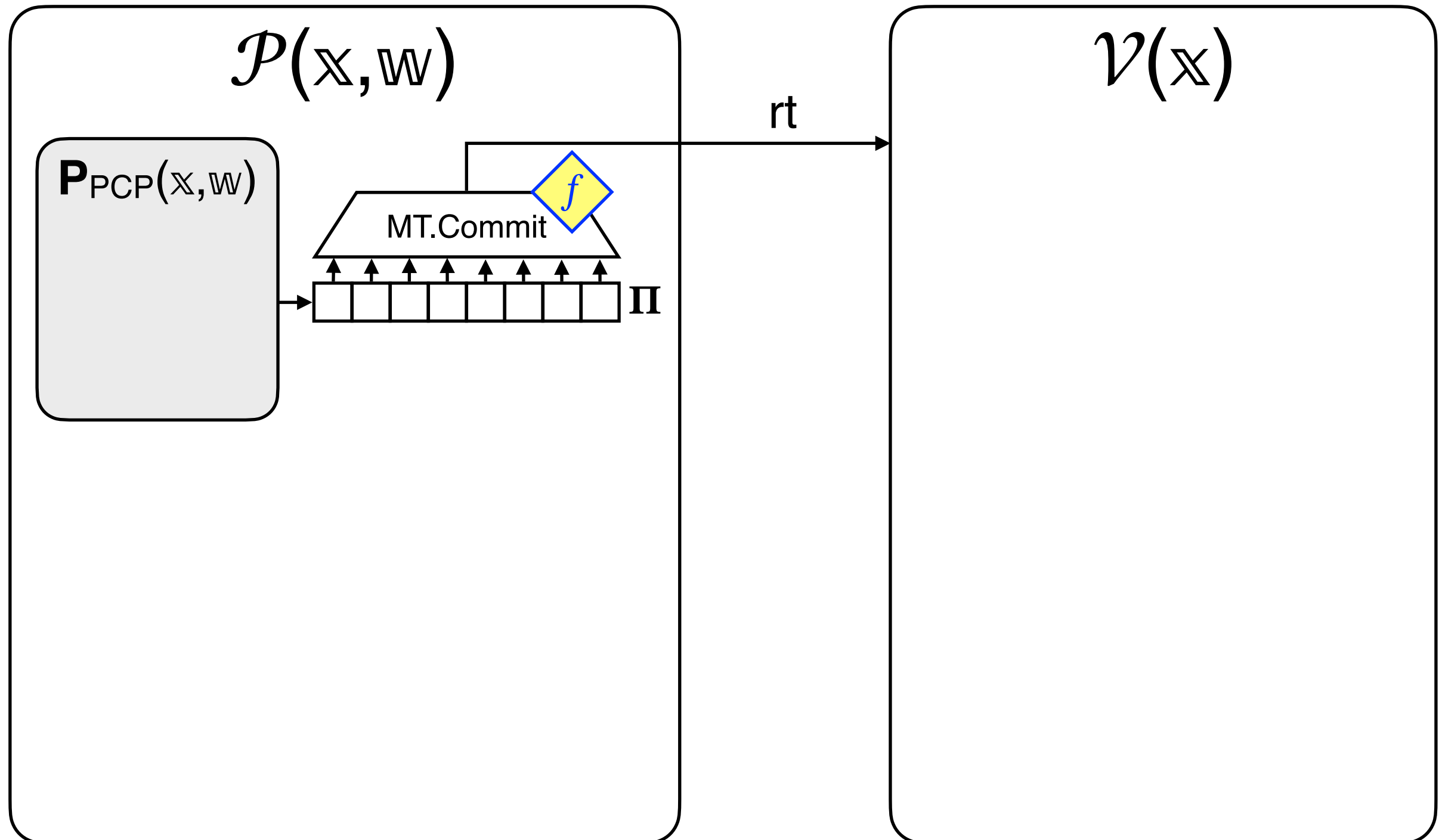
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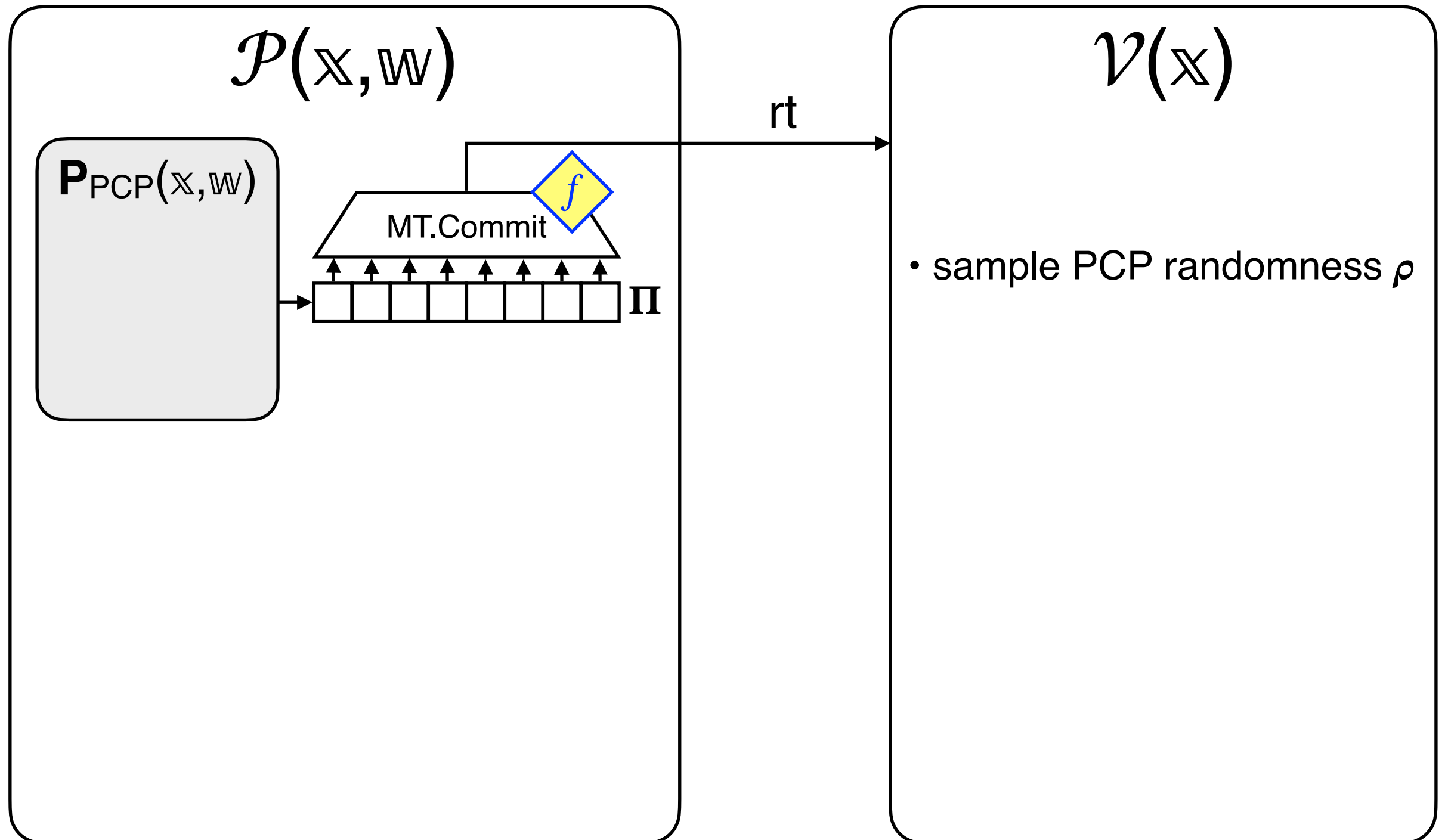
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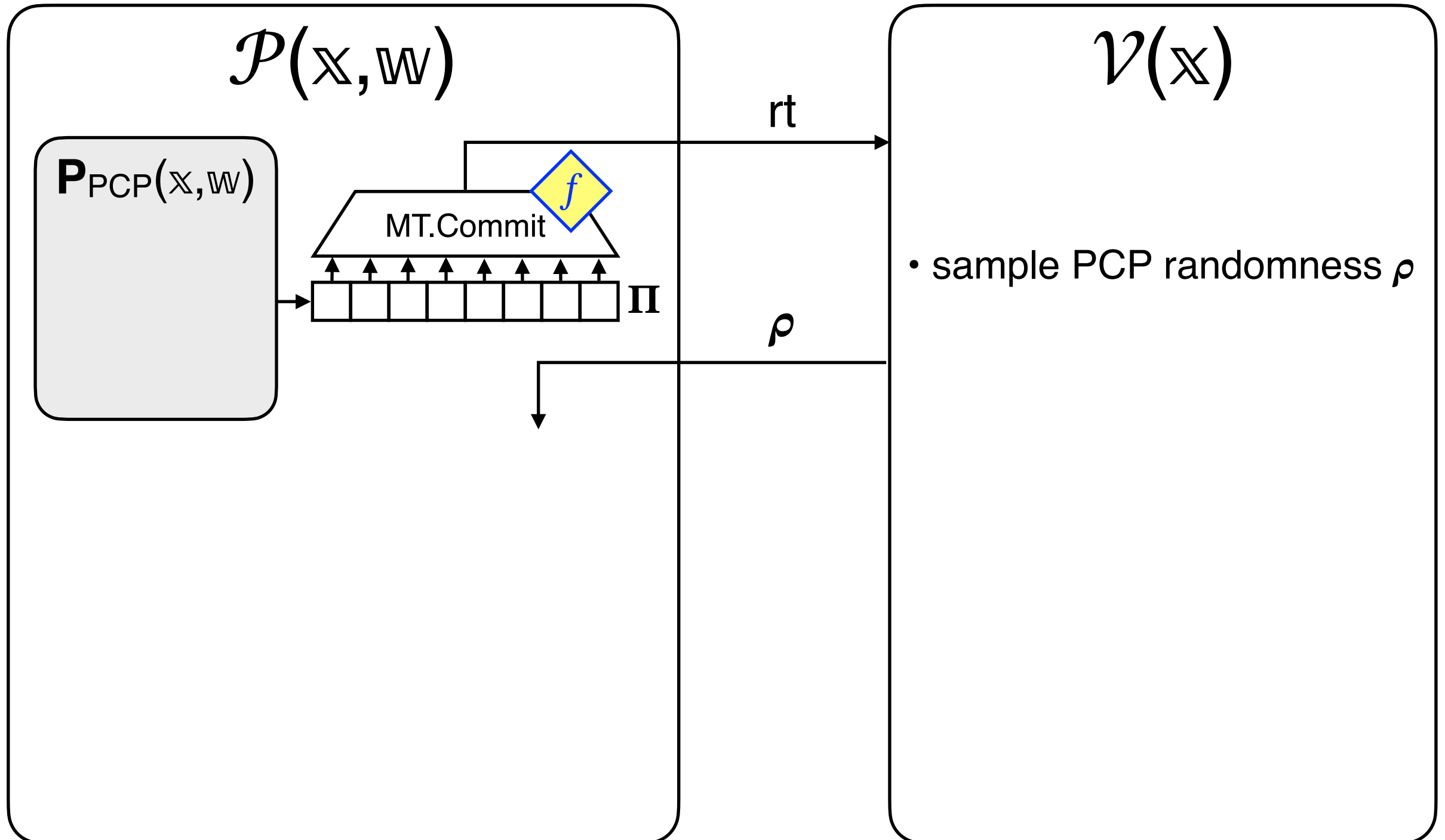
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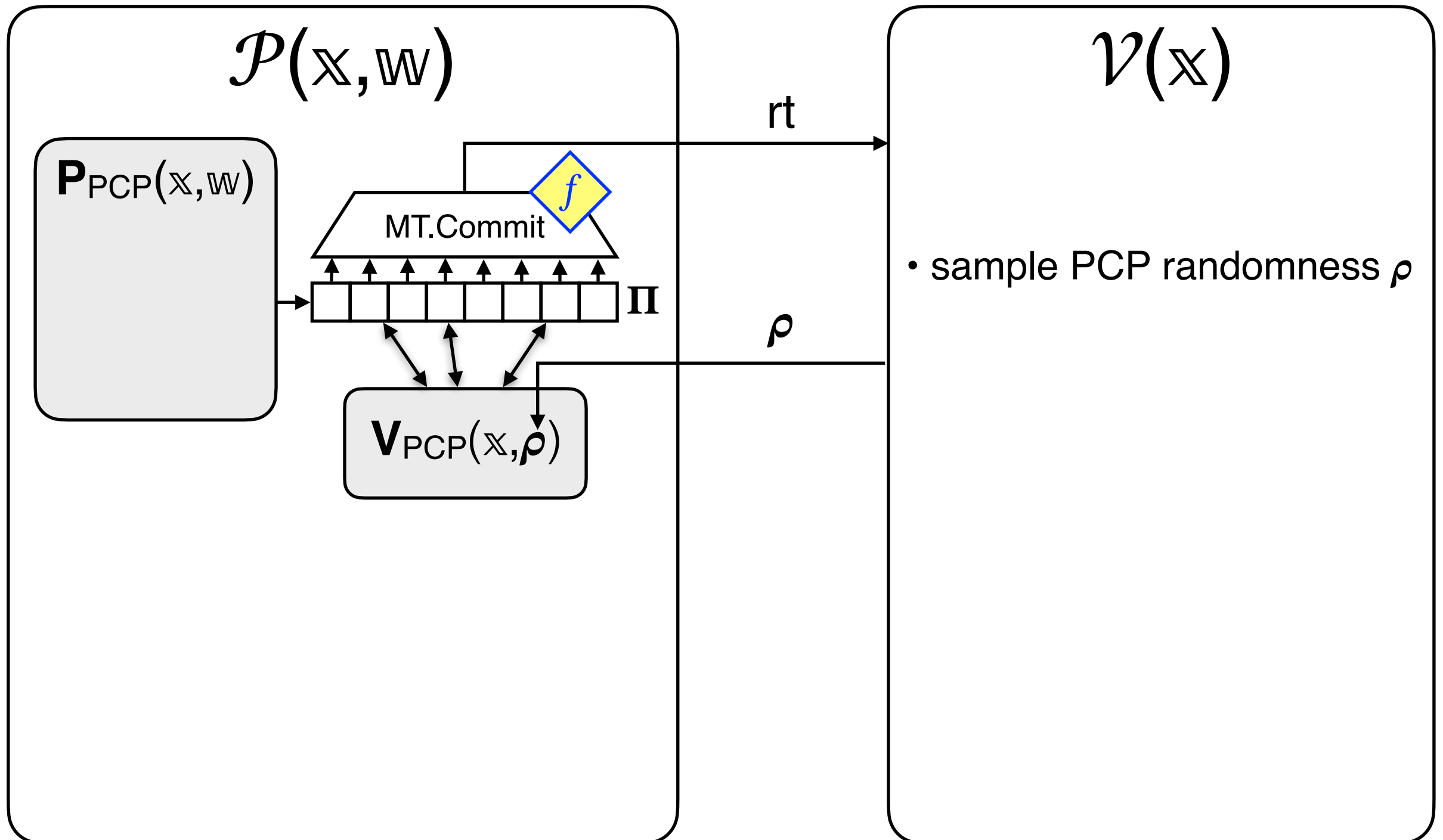
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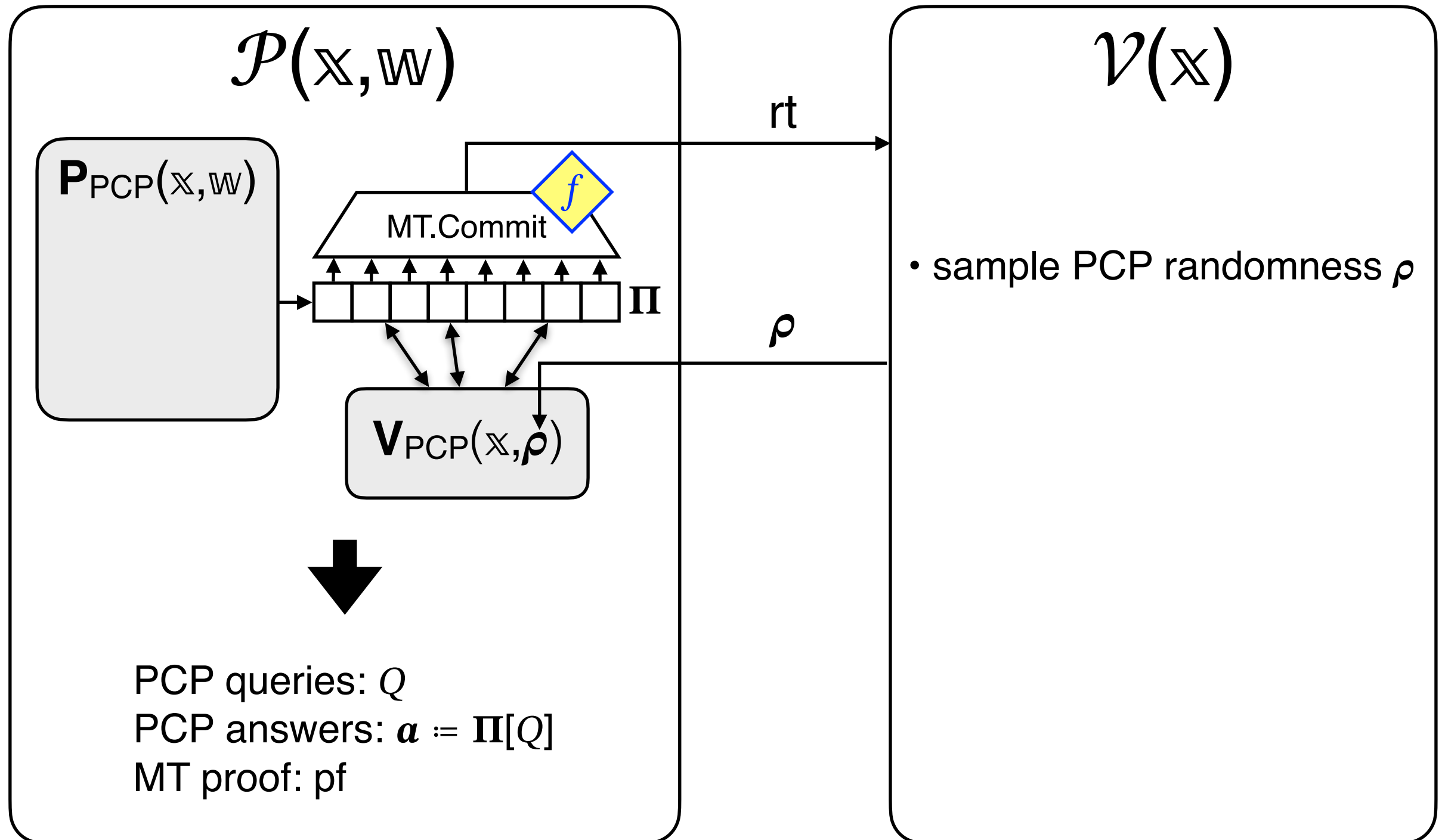
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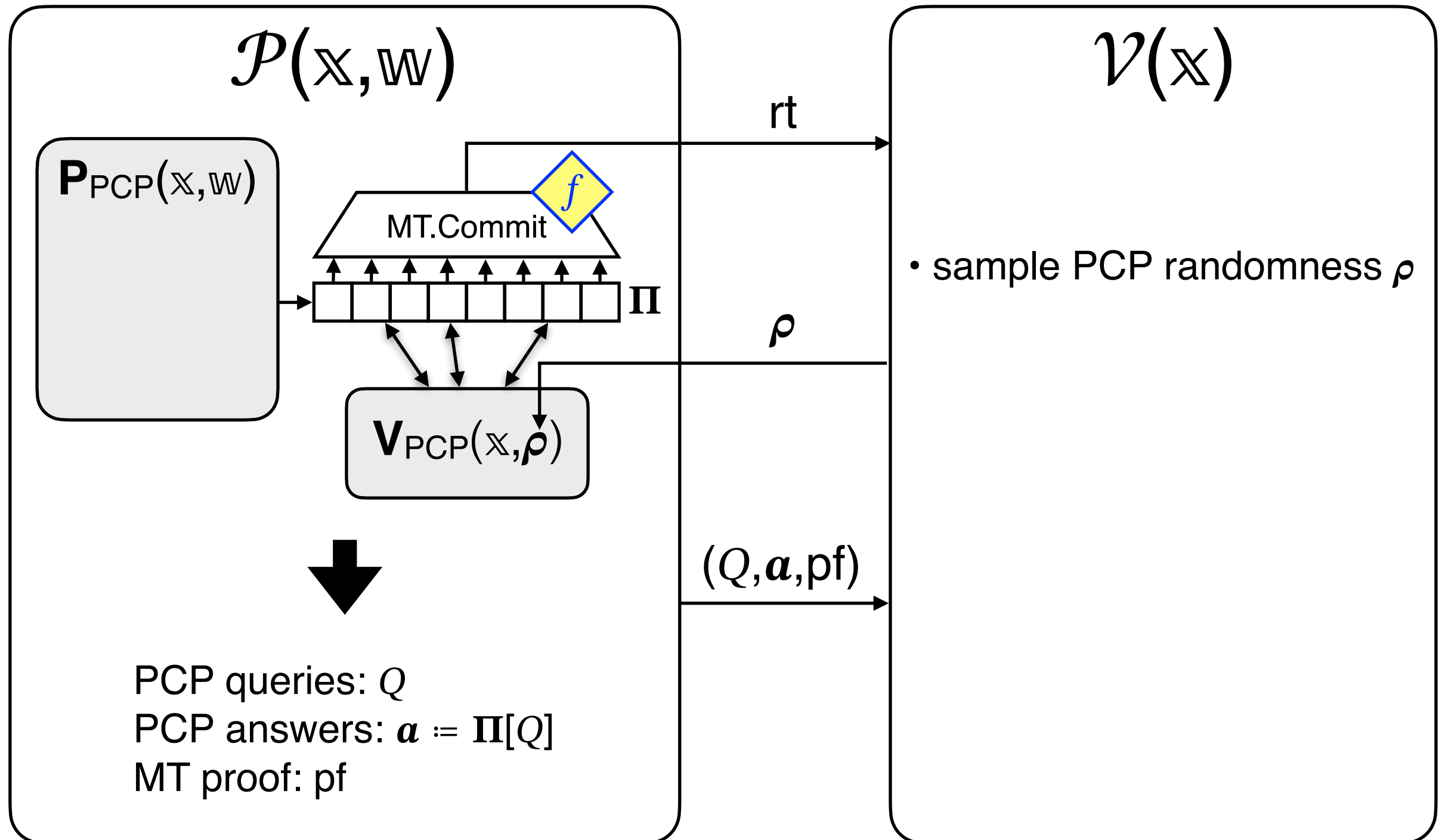
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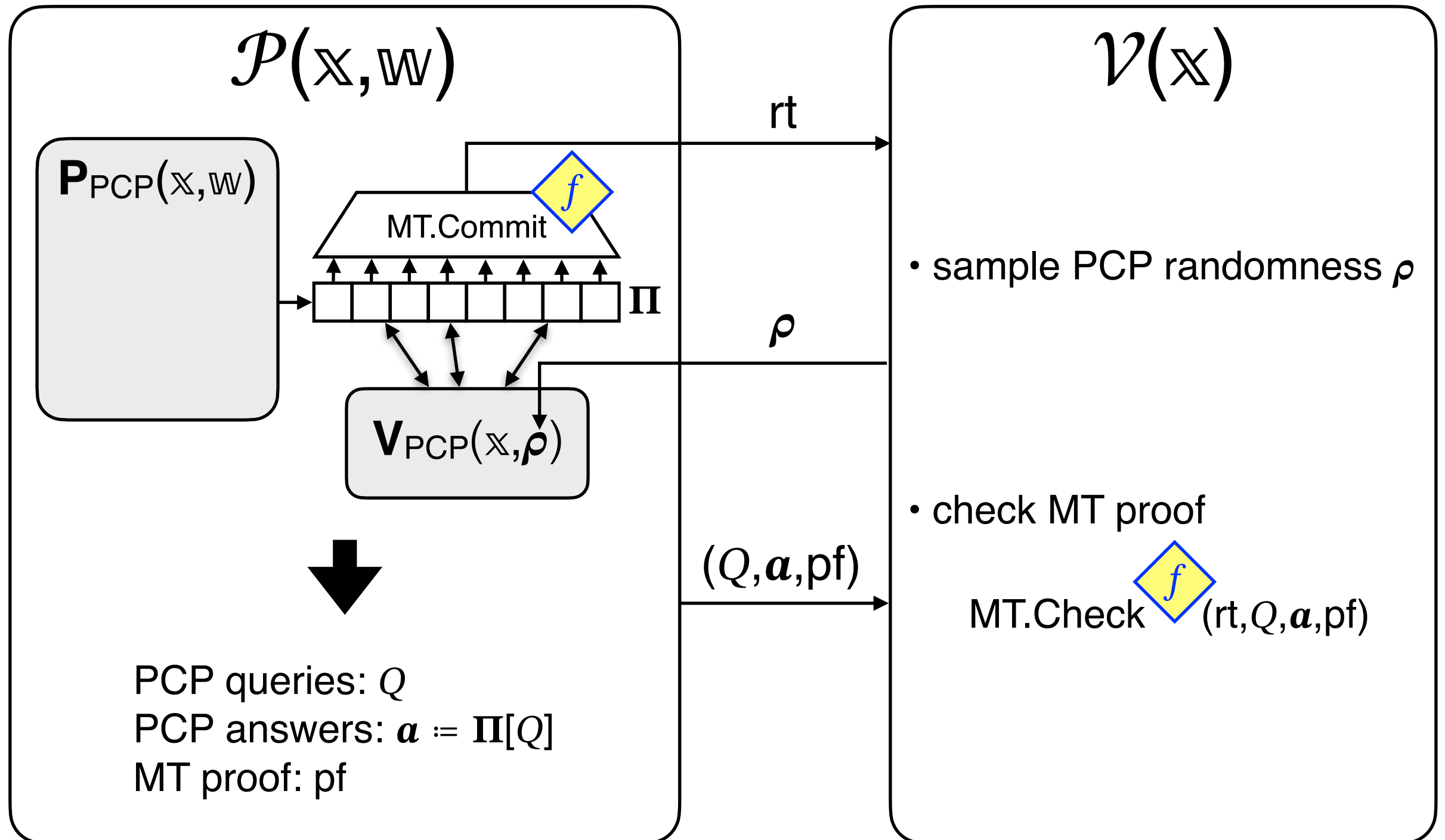
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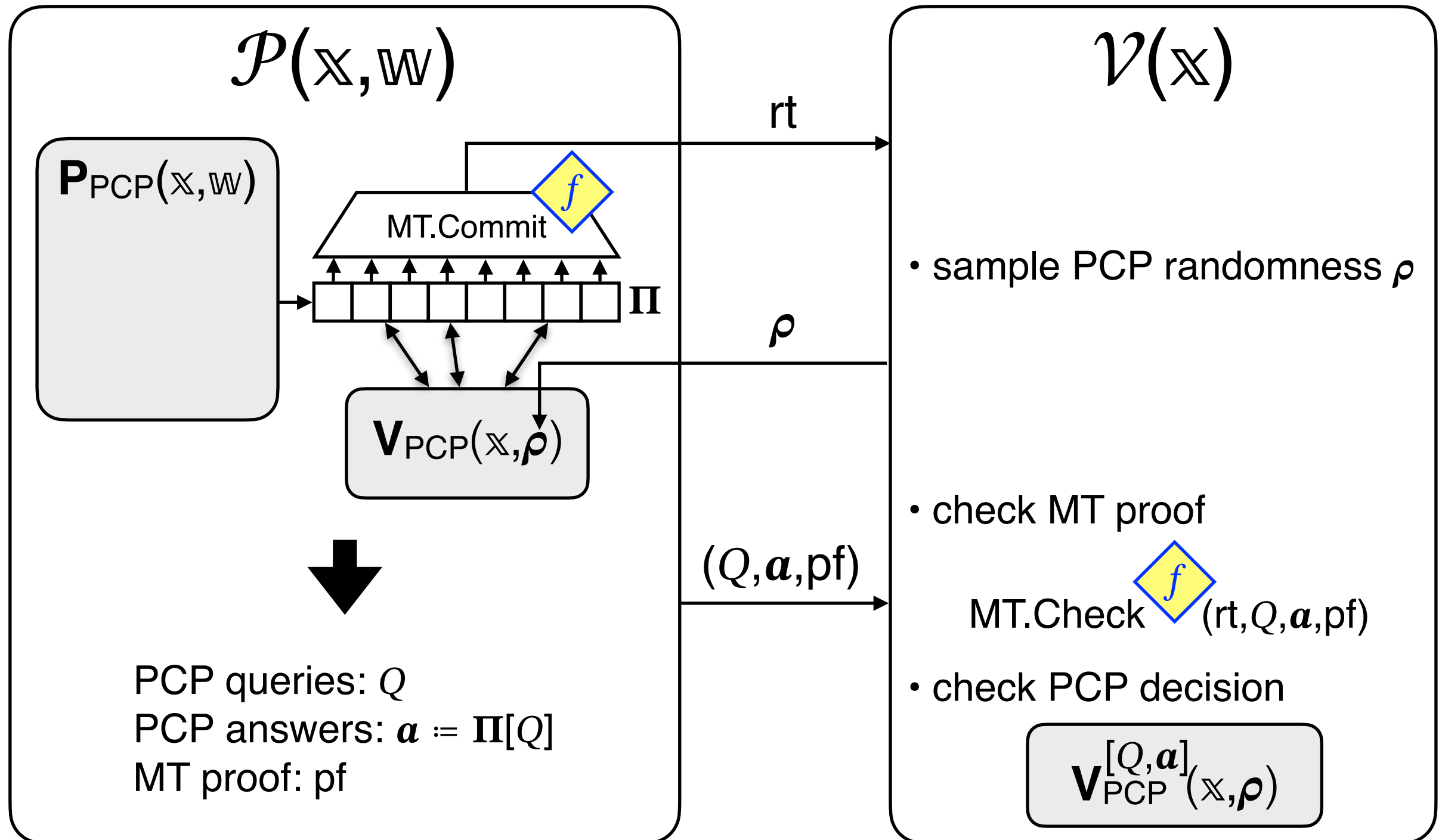
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Example:

Set $\epsilon_{\text{PCP}} = 1/4$ and $\lambda = 256 + 2 = 258$.

Every 2^{128} -query adversary breaks Kilian w.p. $\leq 1/4 + 1/4 = 1/2$.

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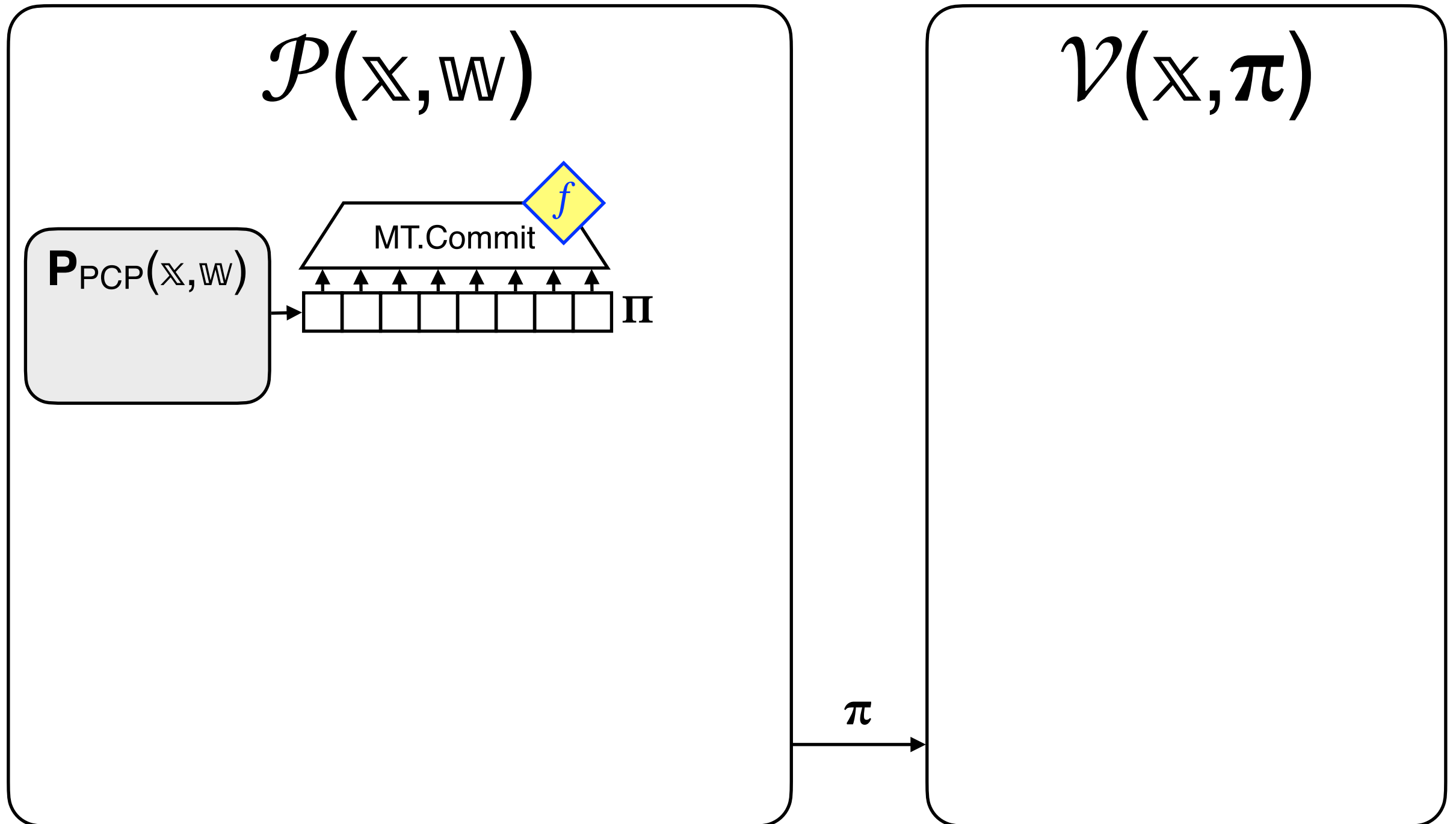
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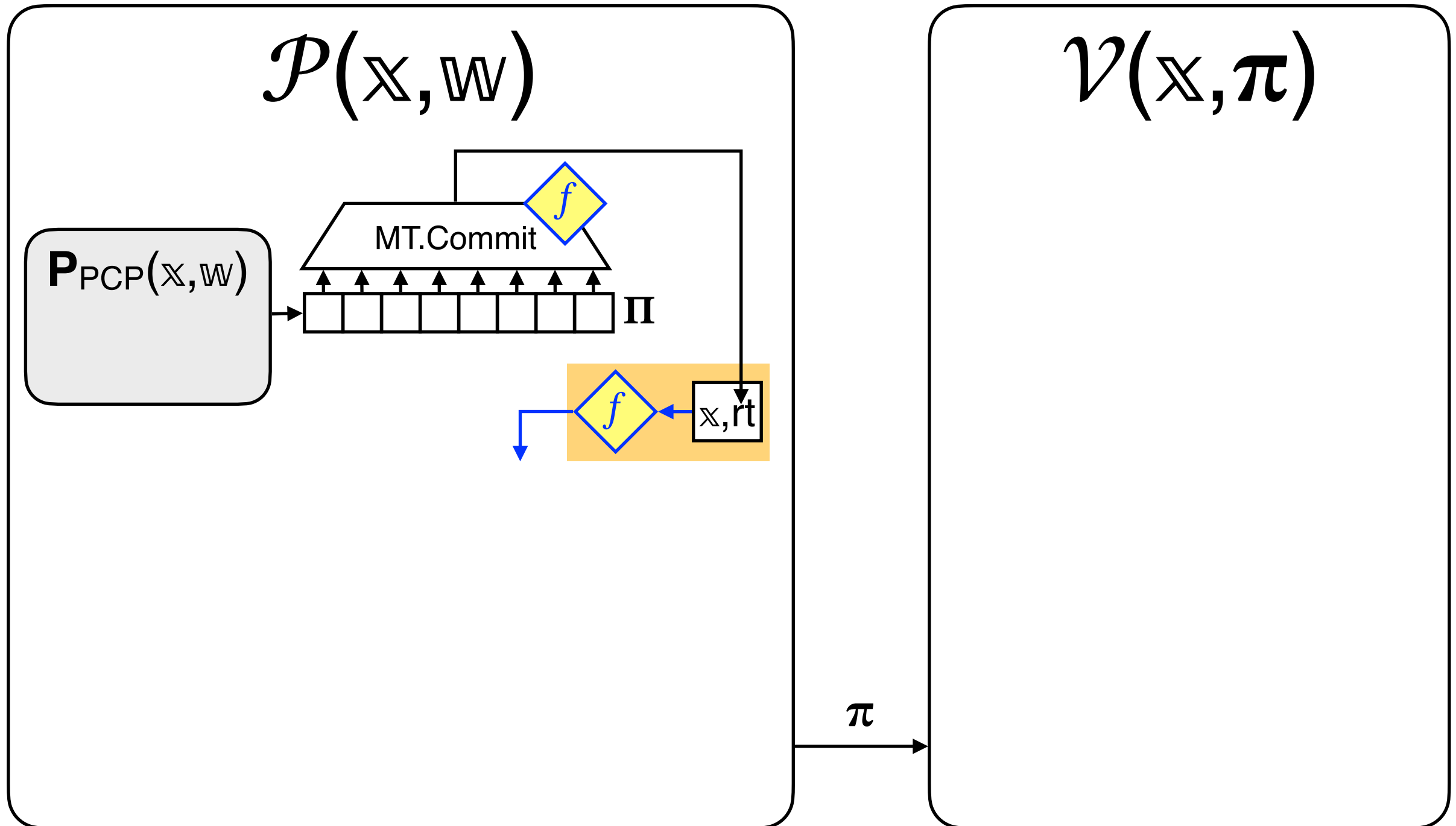
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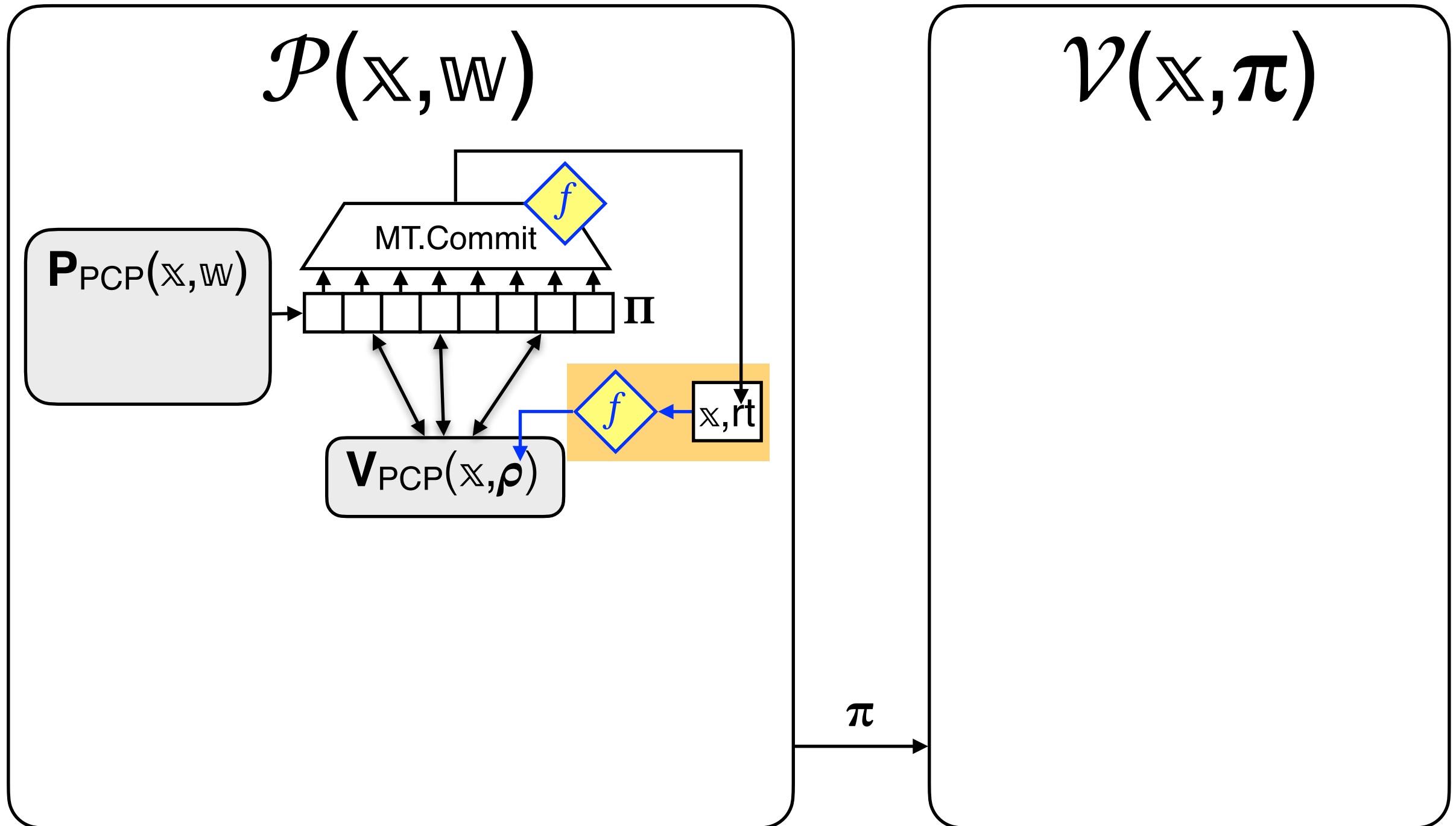
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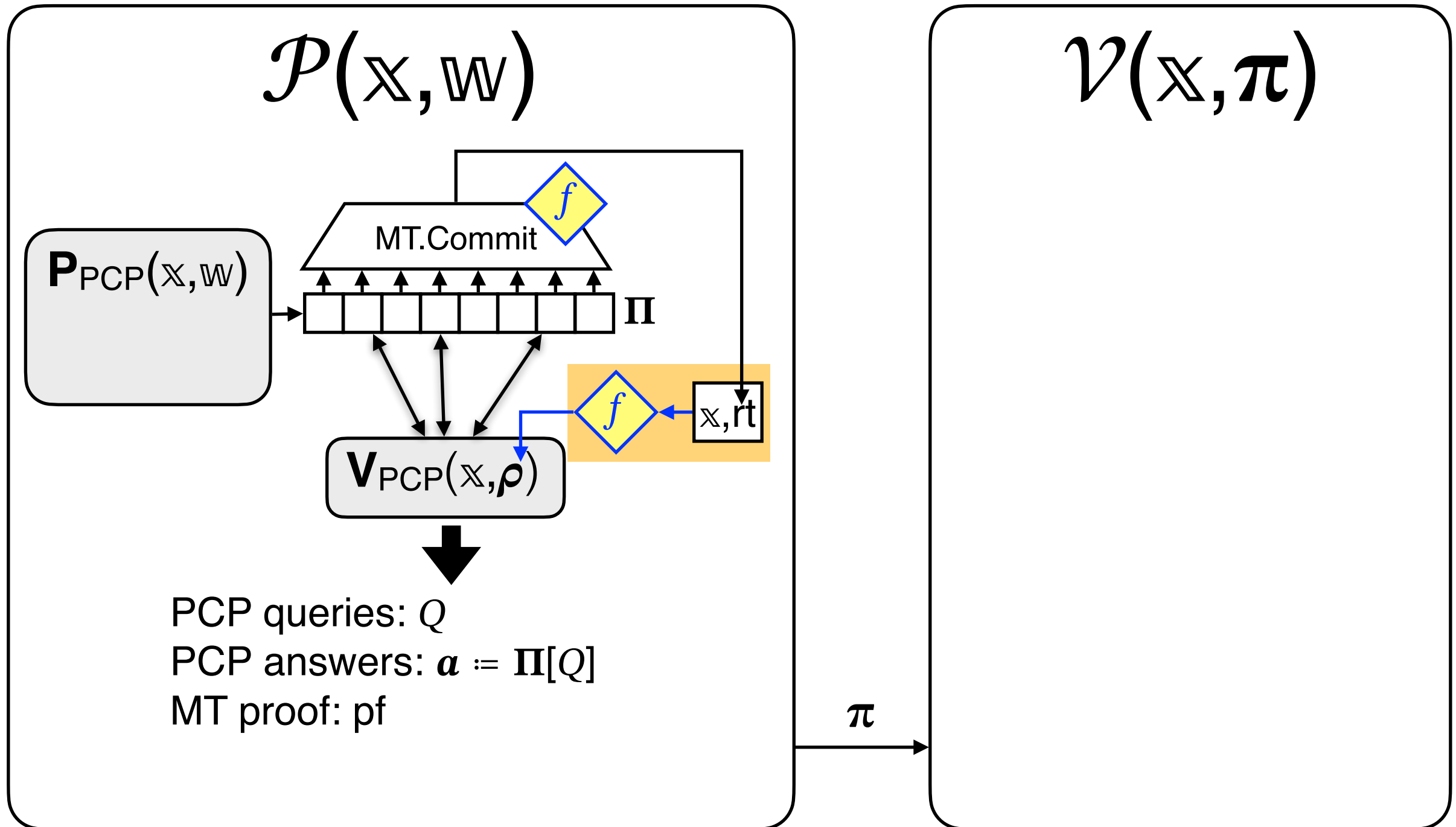
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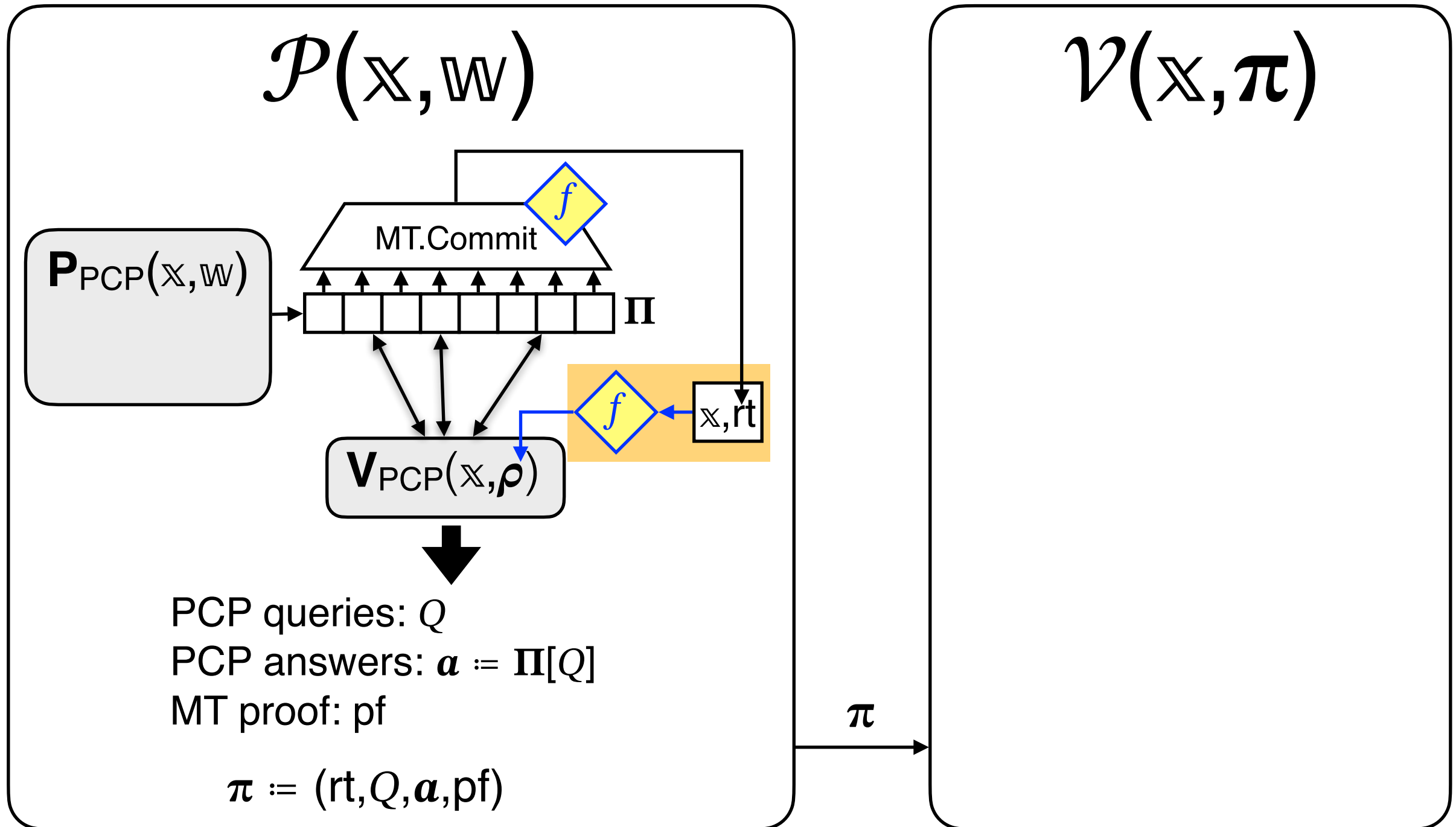
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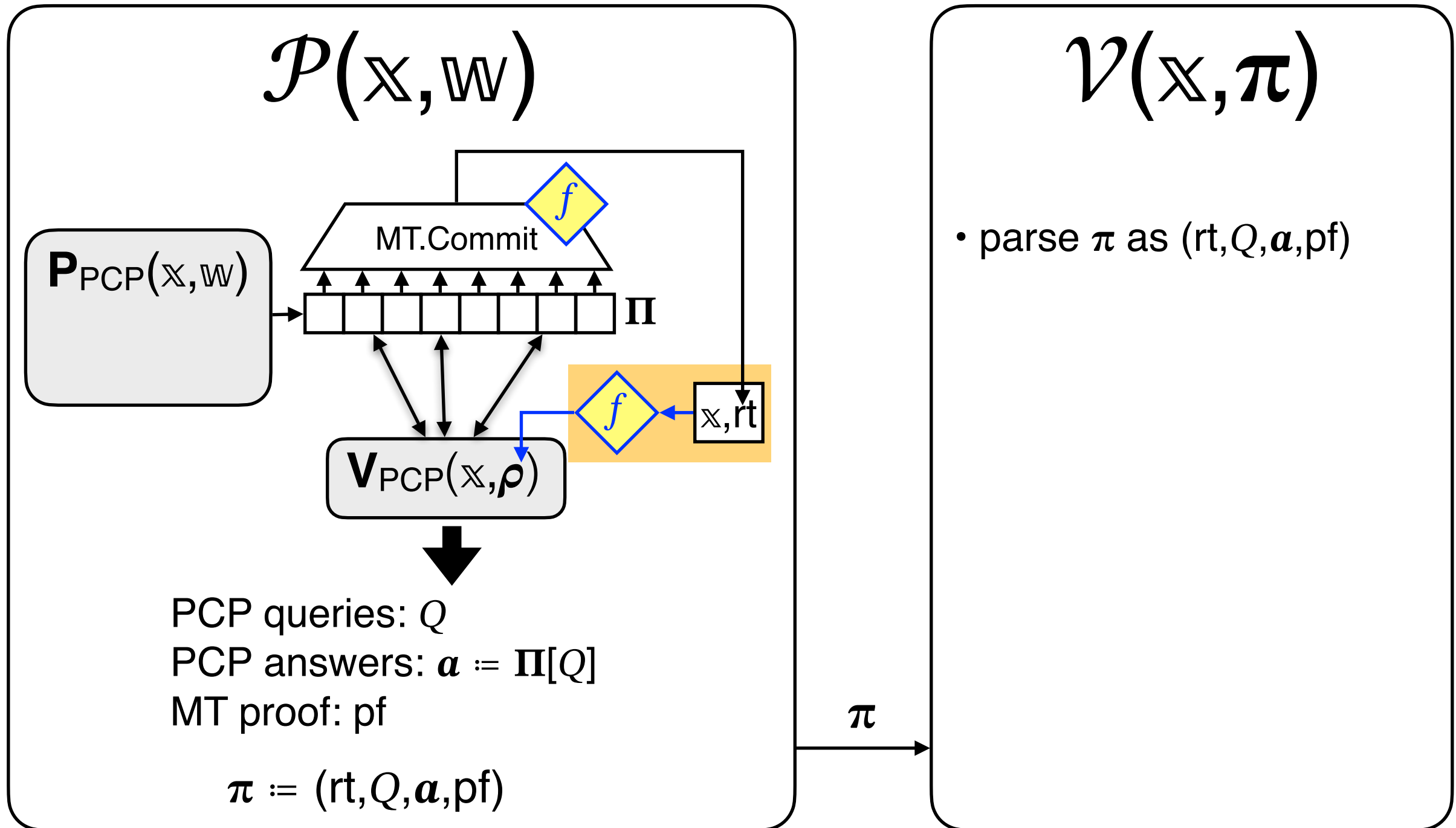
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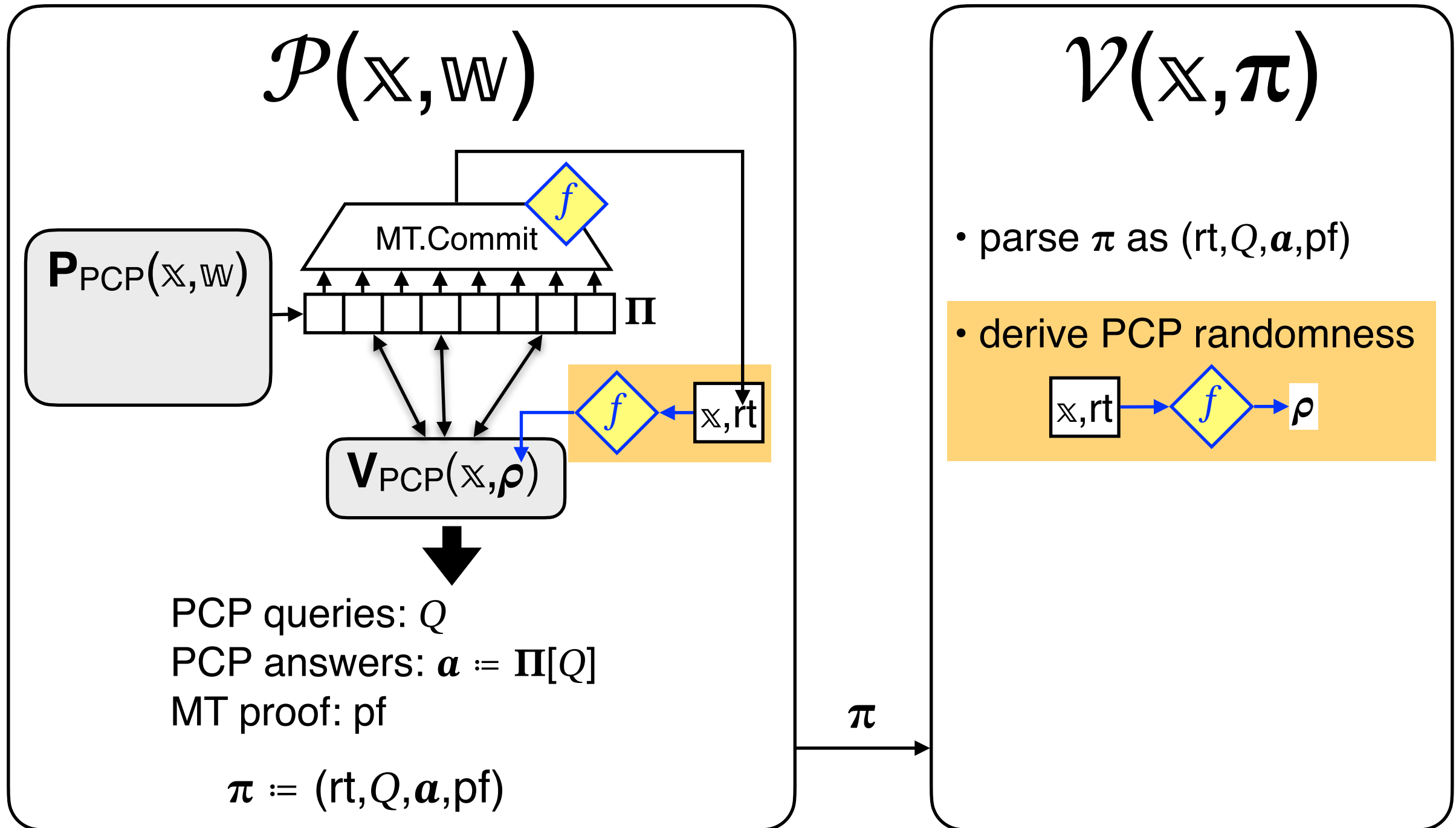
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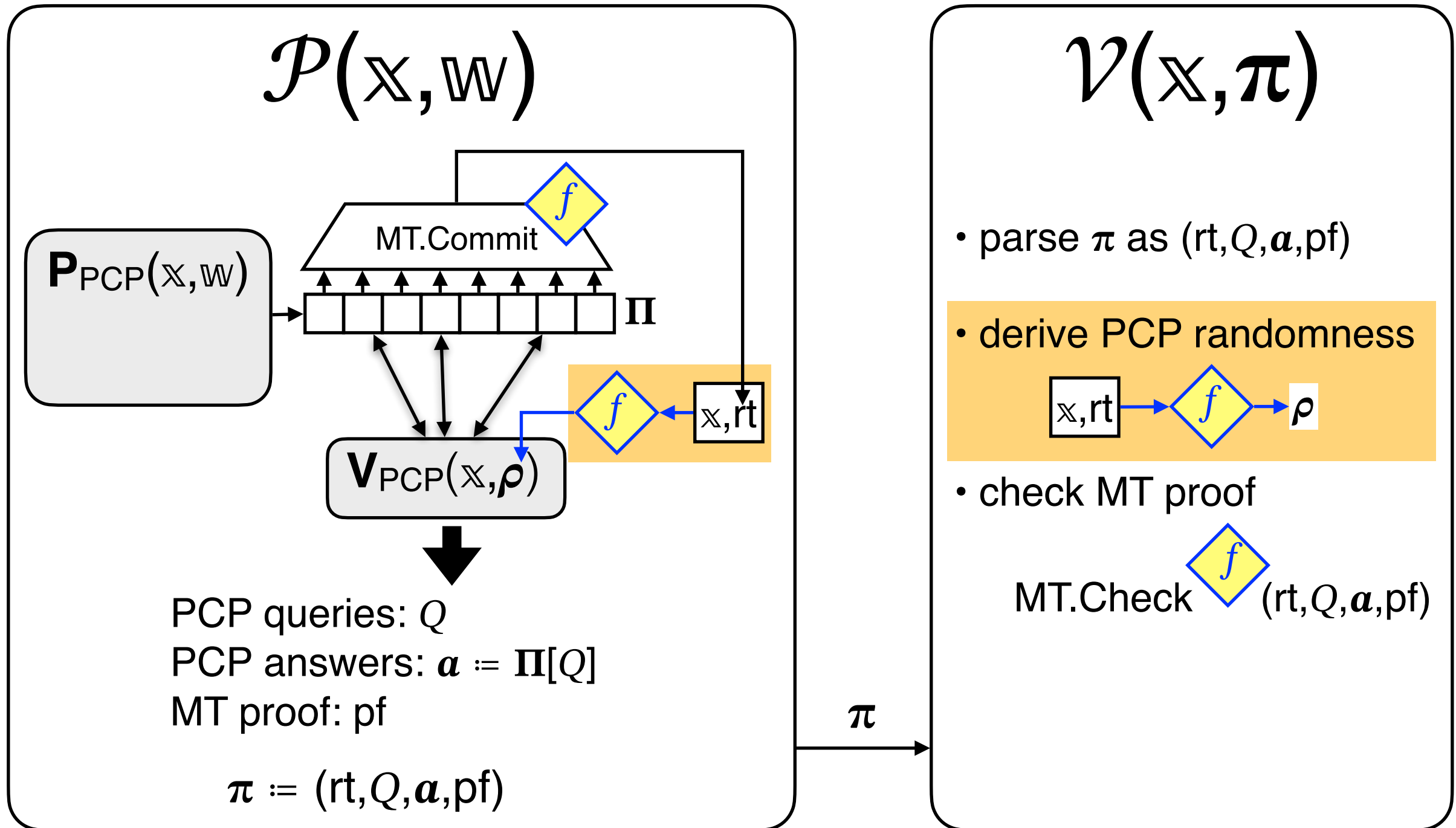
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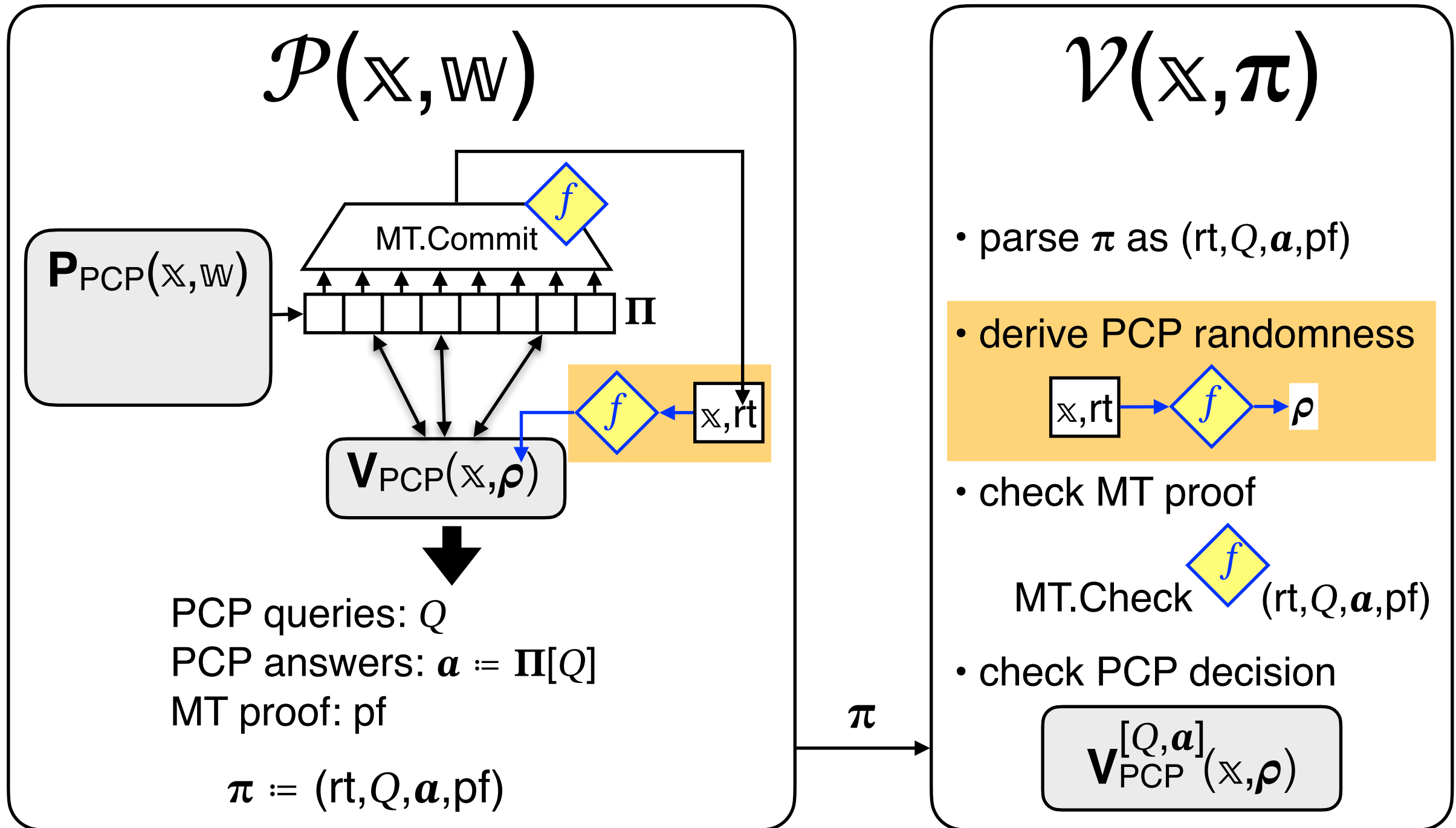
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Known PCPs are inefficient, so the Micali protocol is not used.

In Practice: Succinct Arguments from IOPs

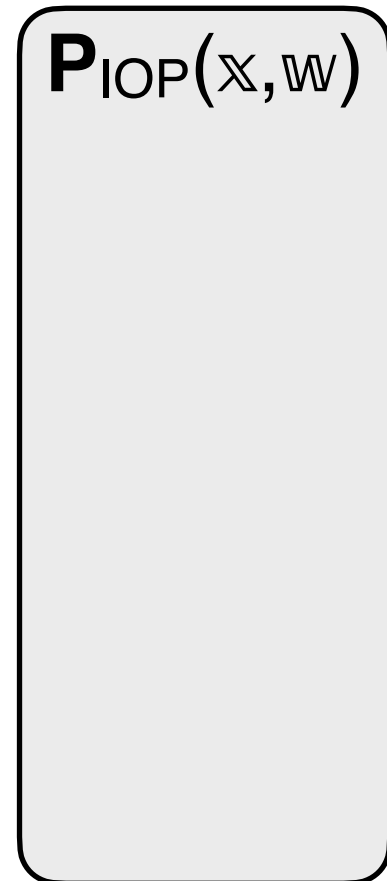
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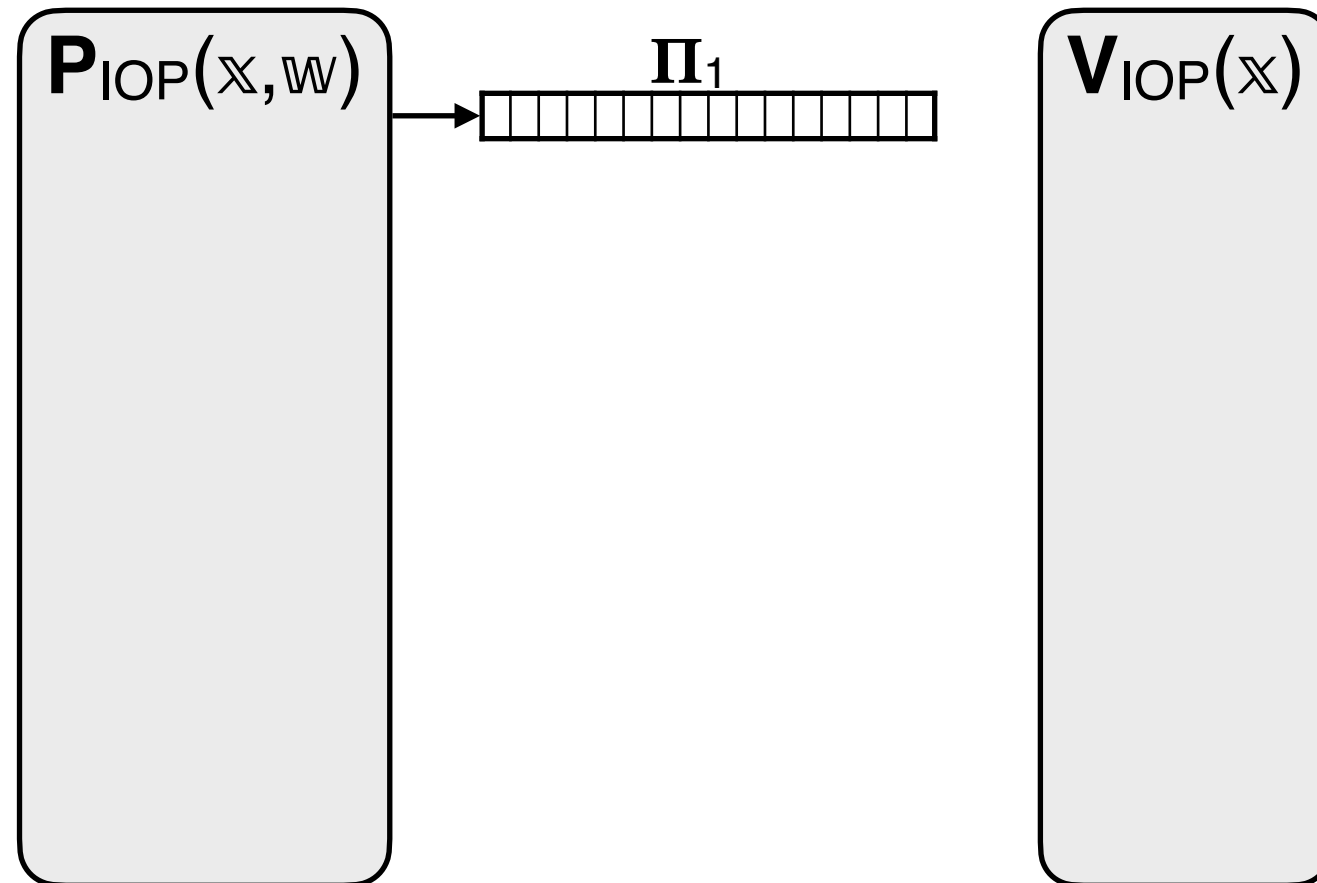
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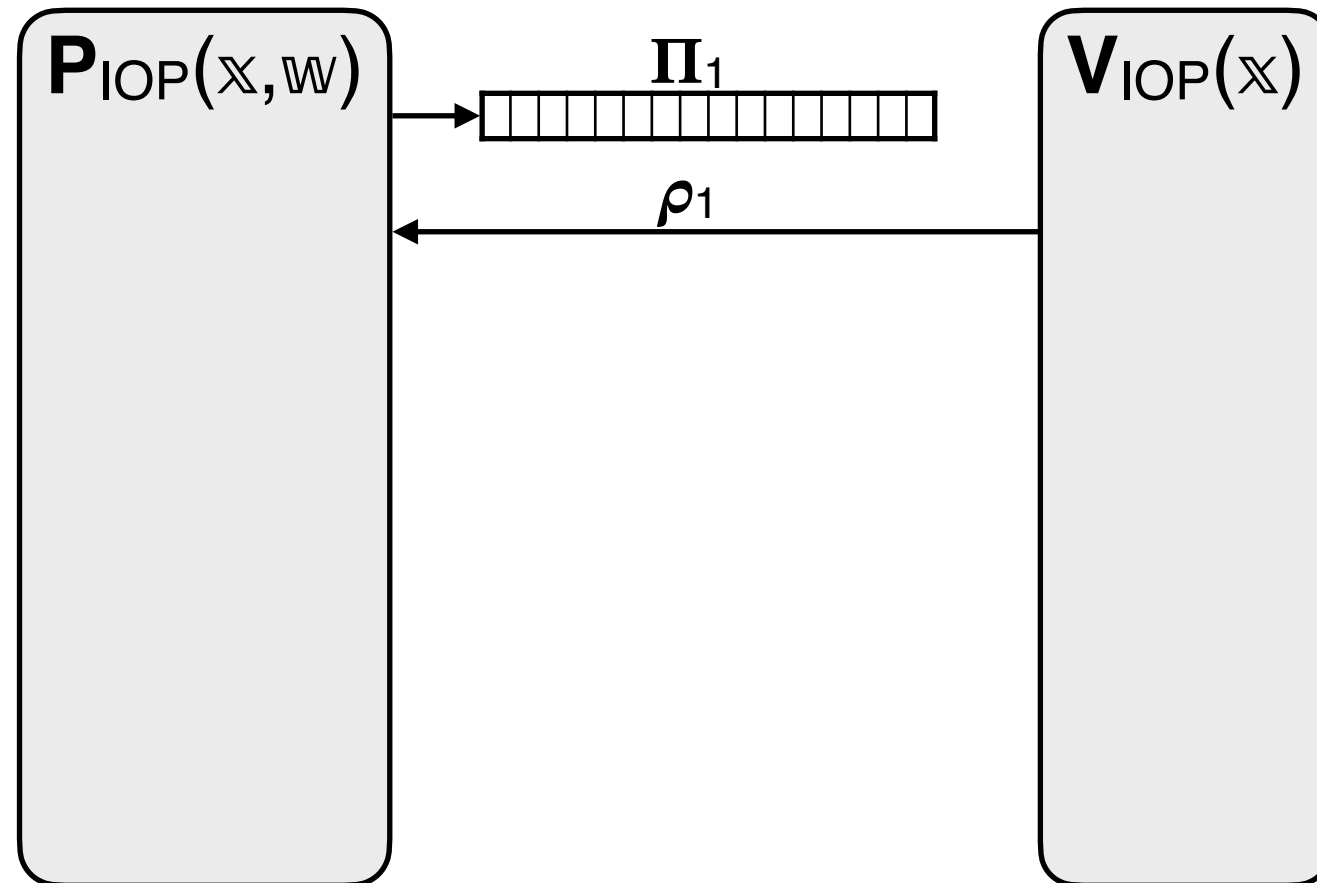
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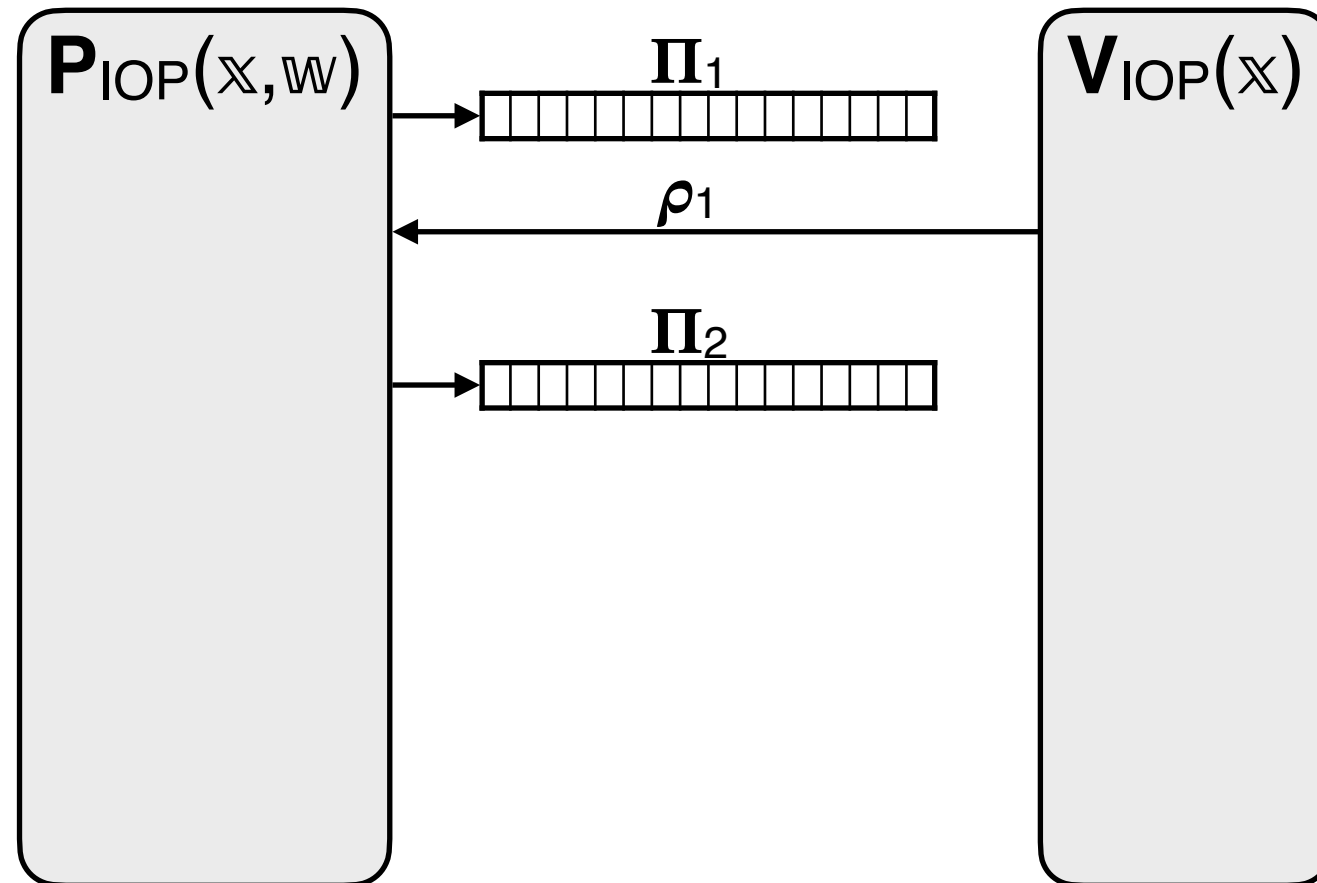
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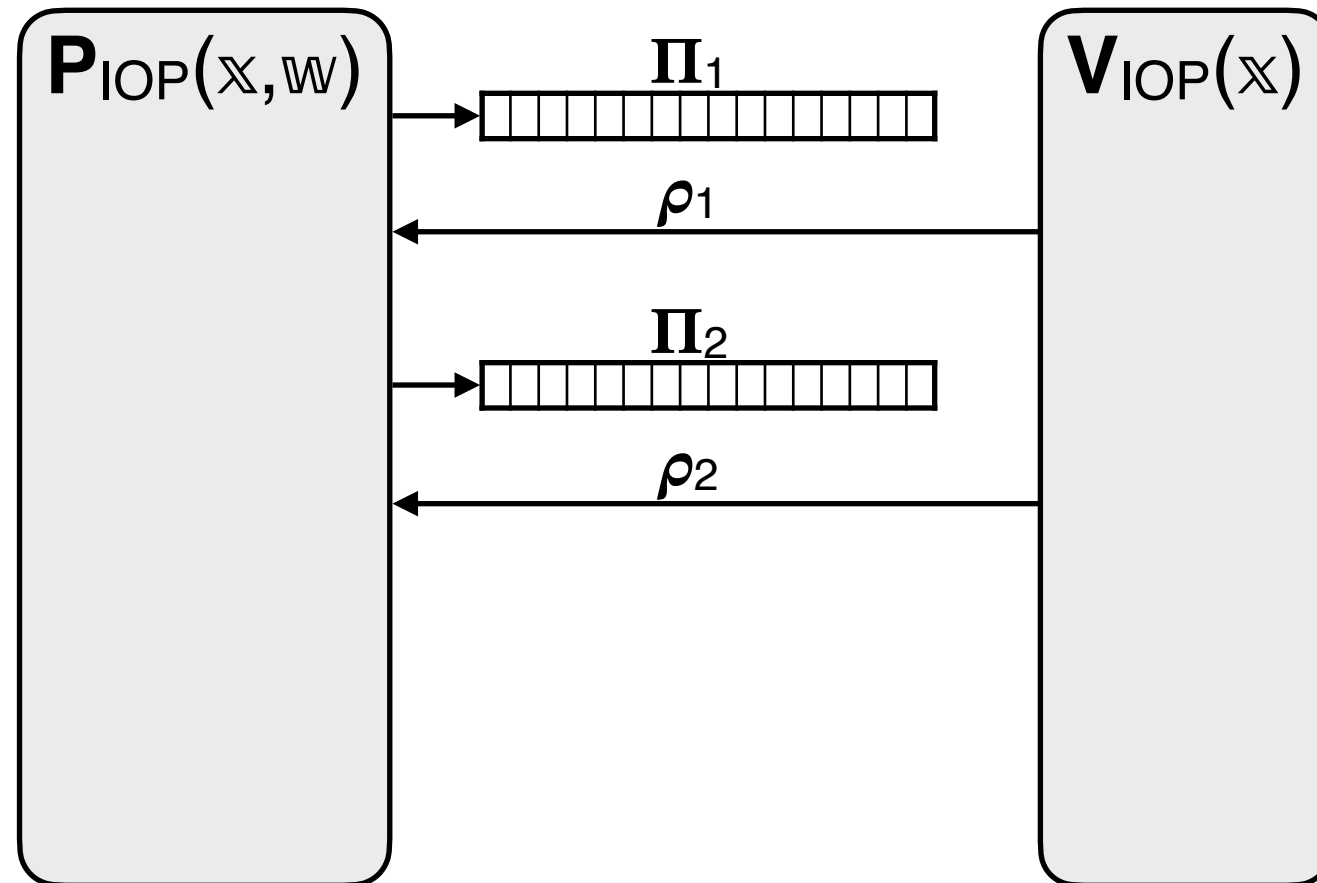
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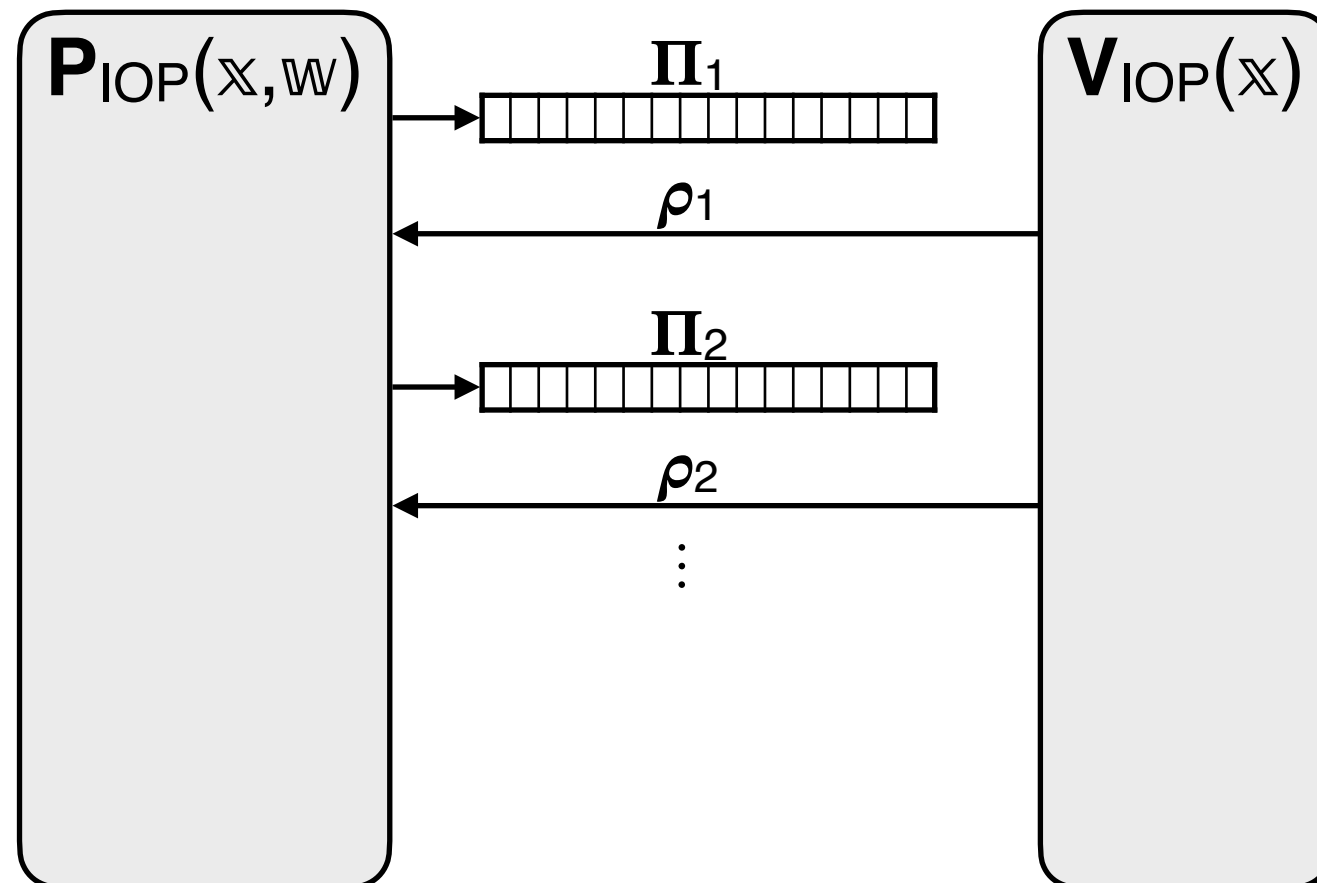
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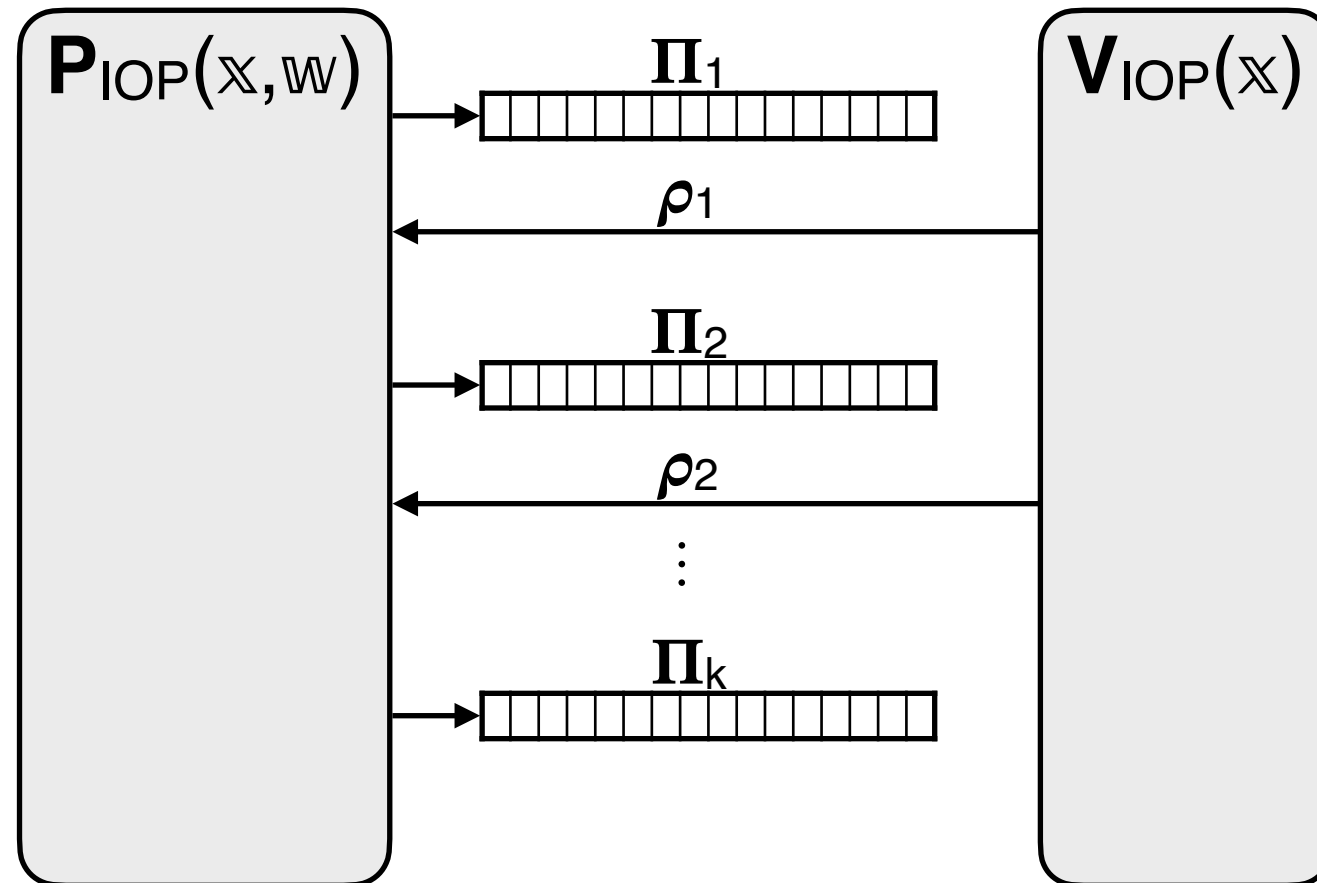
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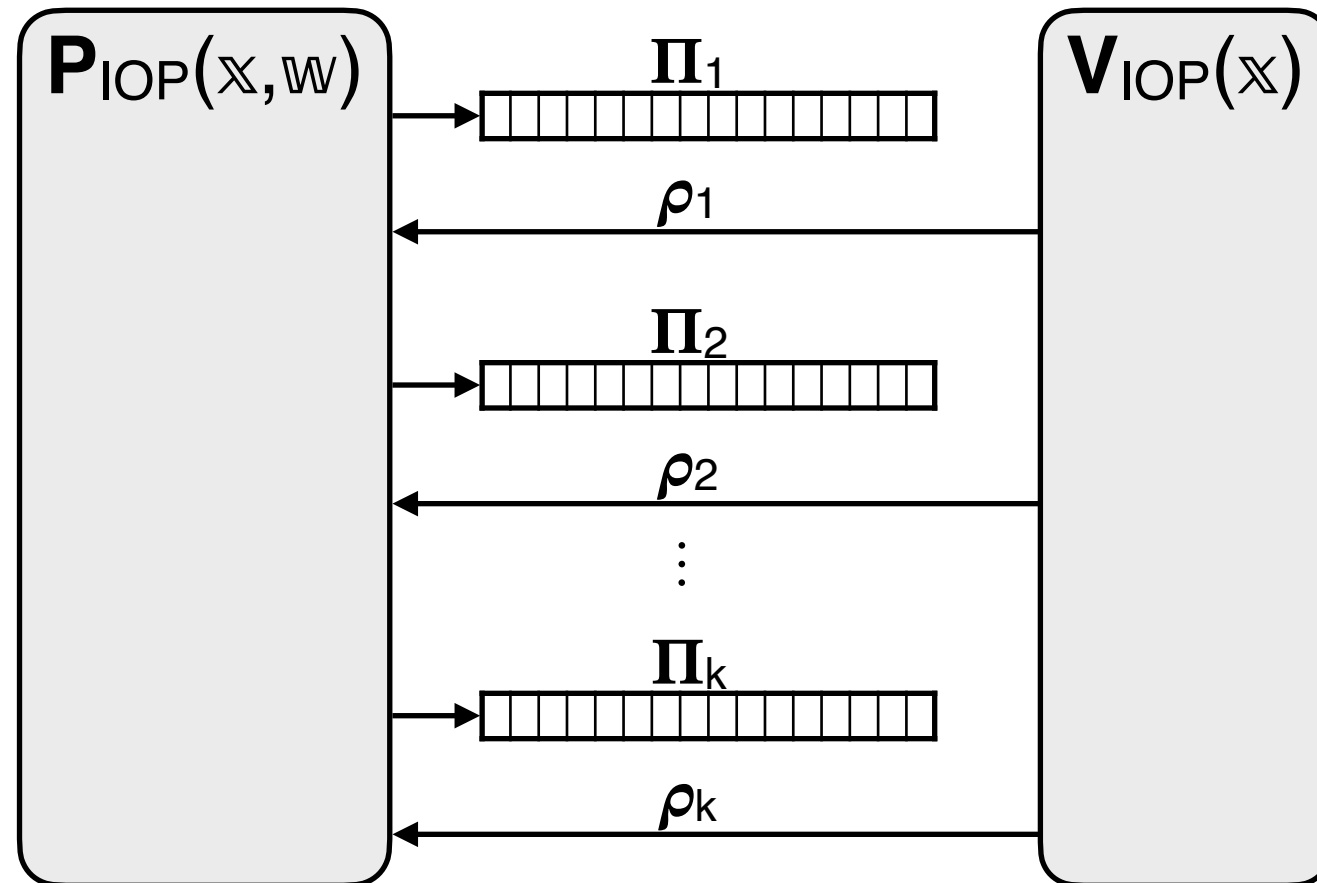
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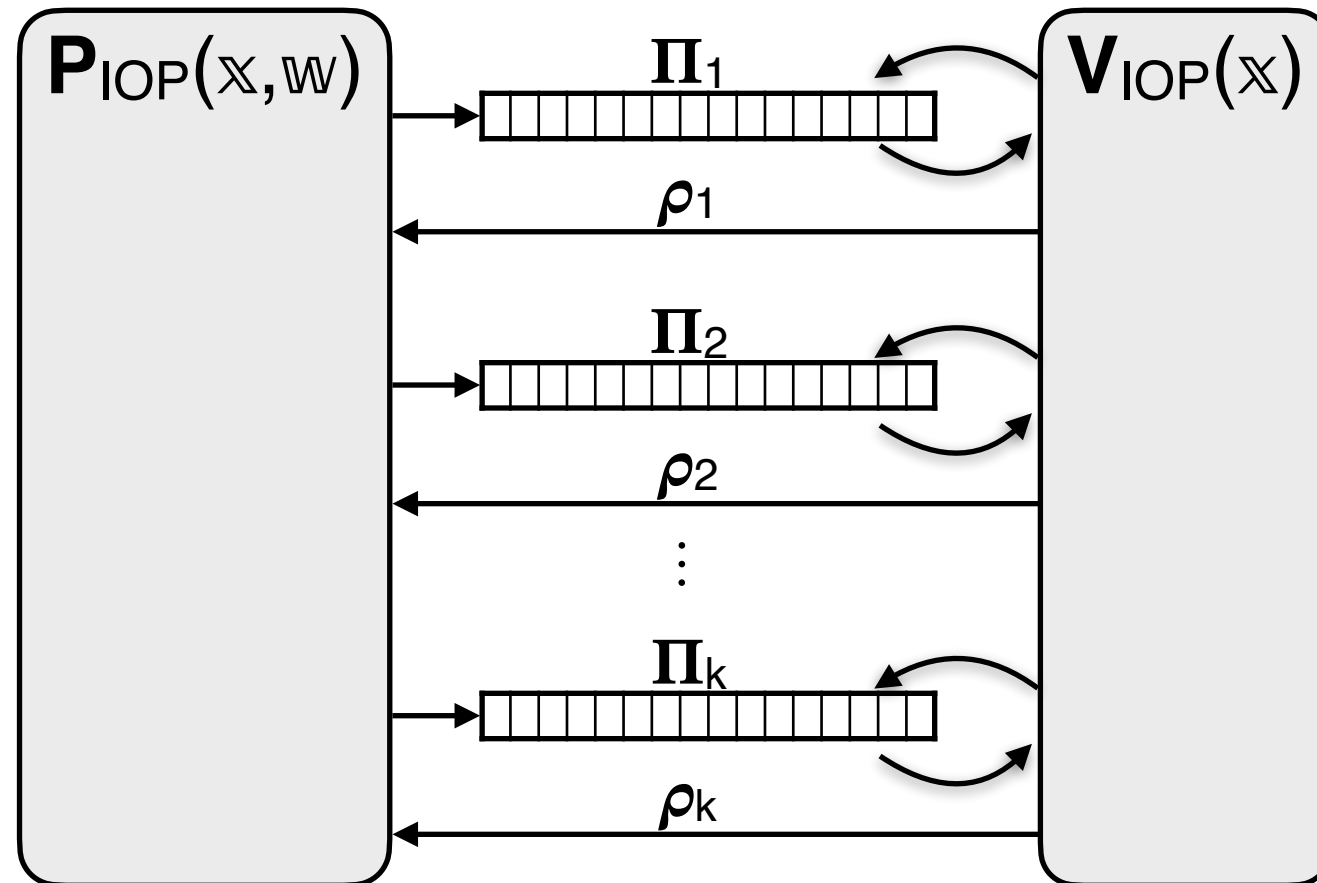
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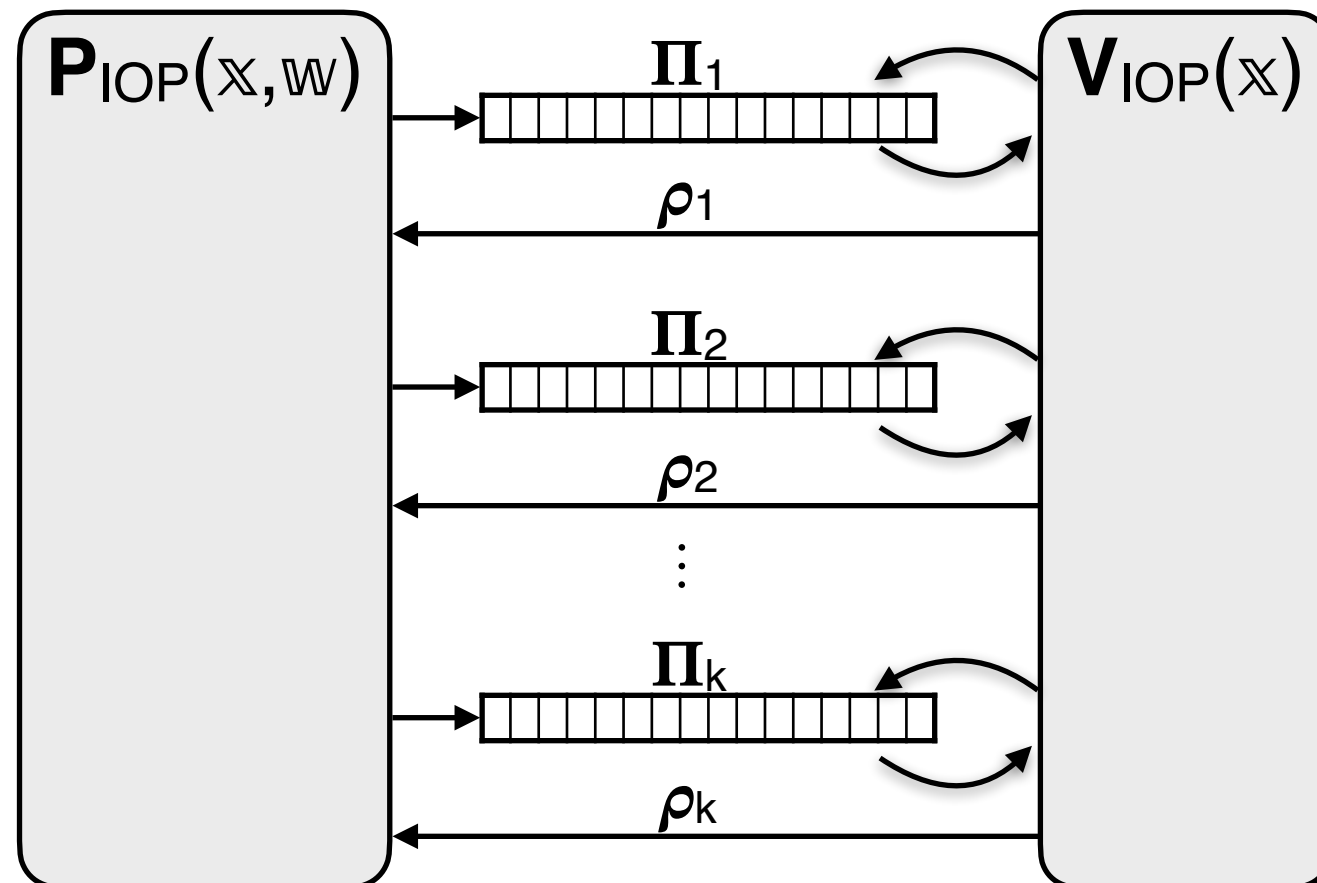
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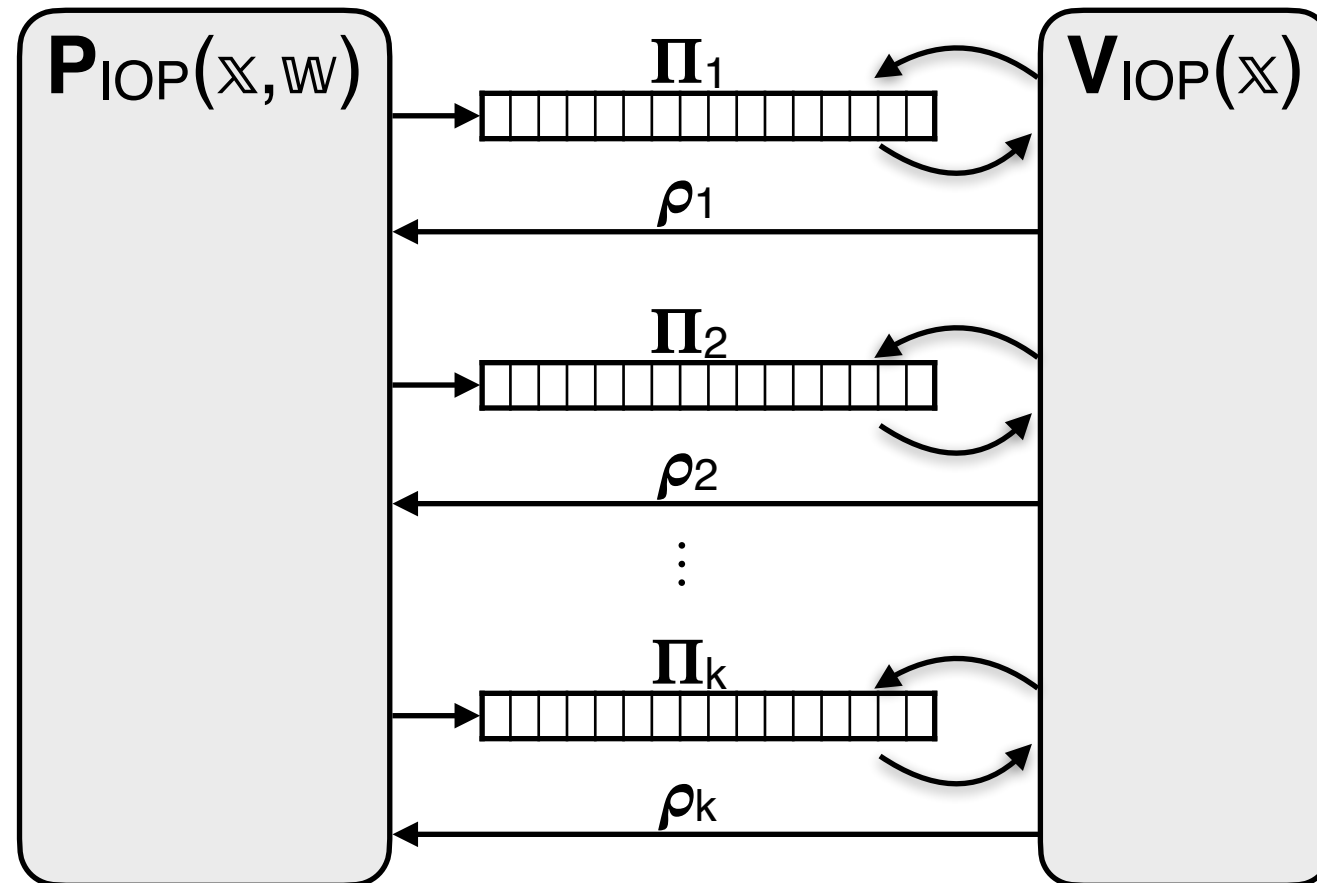
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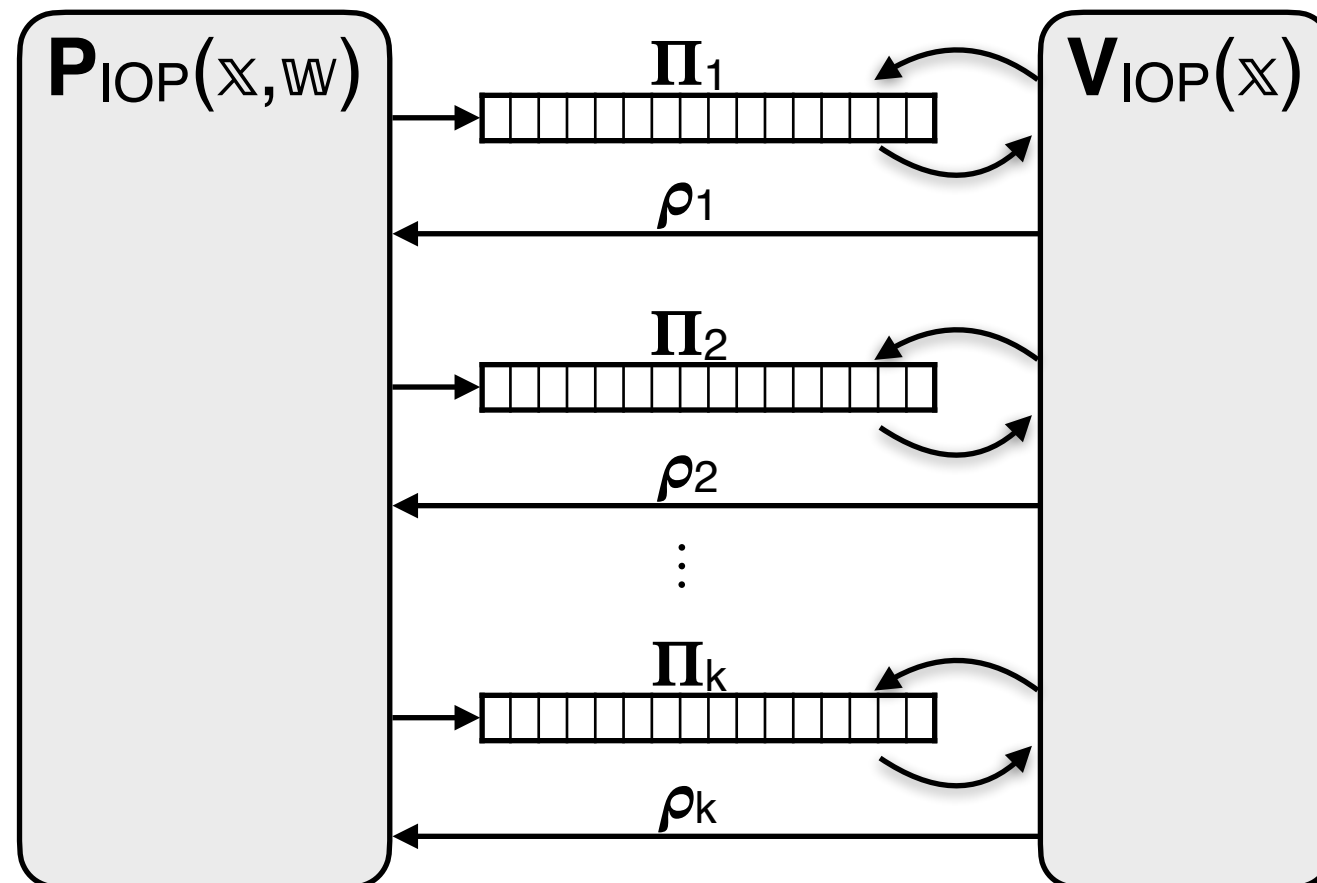


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IOPs underlie essentially all modern succinct arguments.

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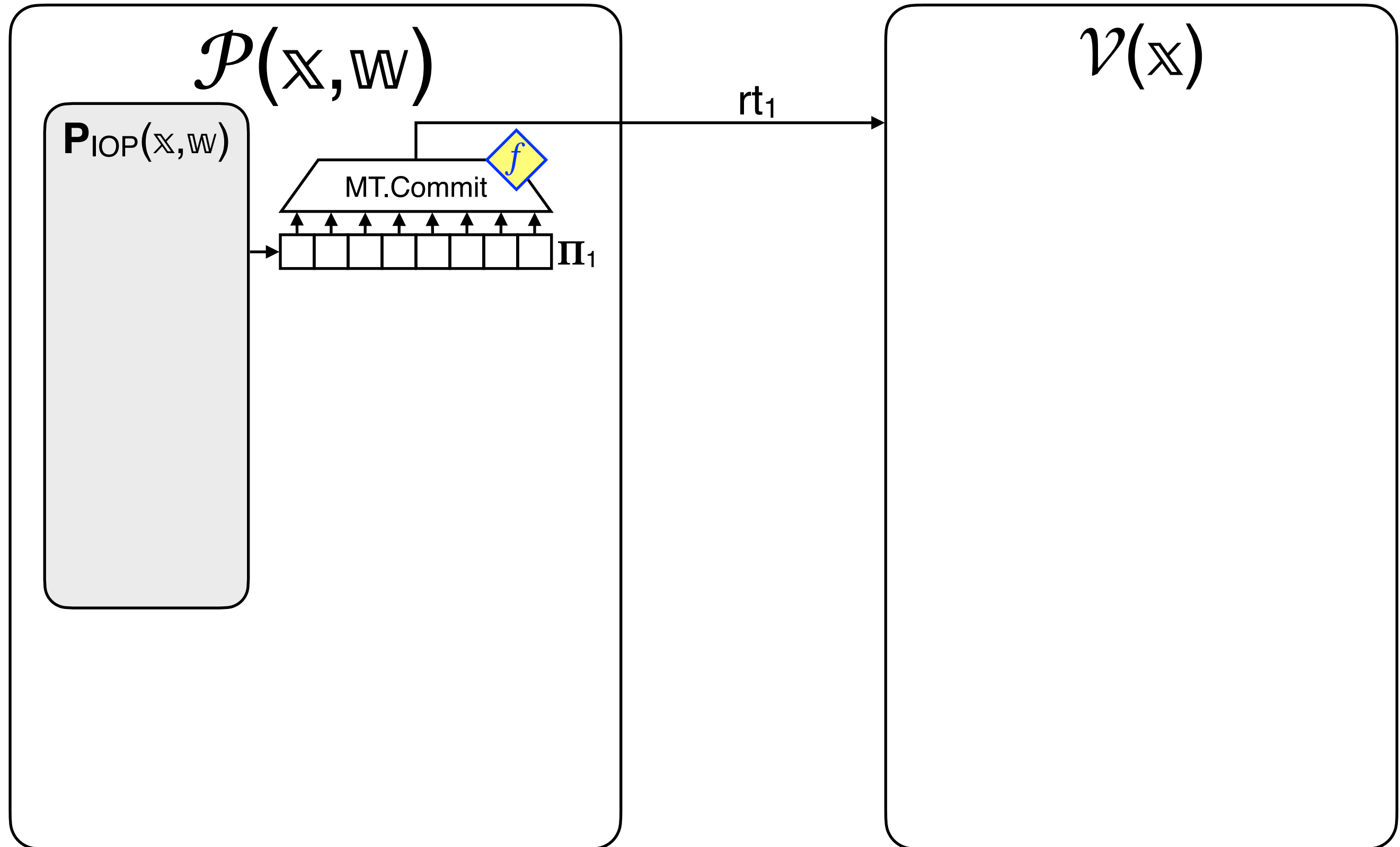
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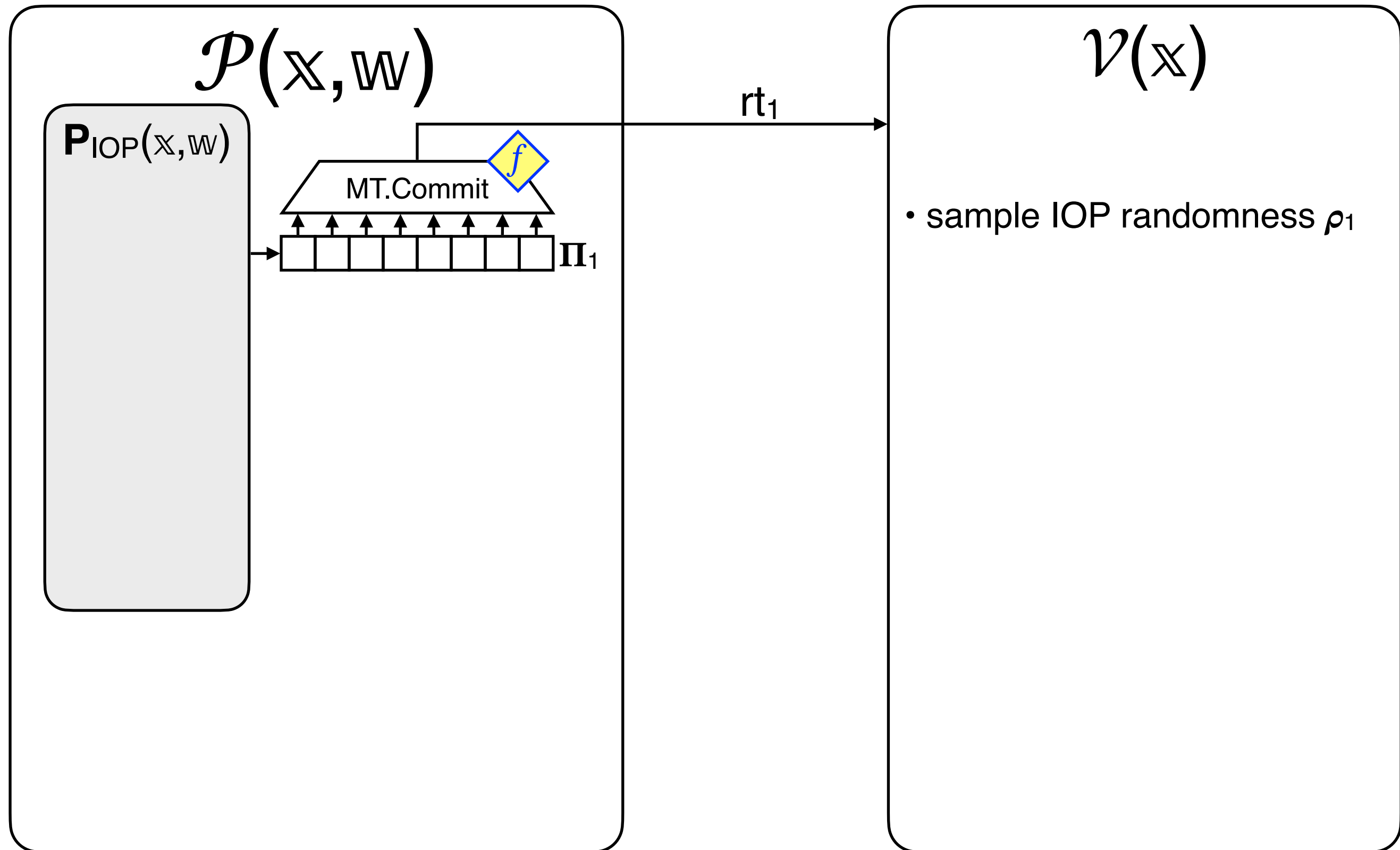
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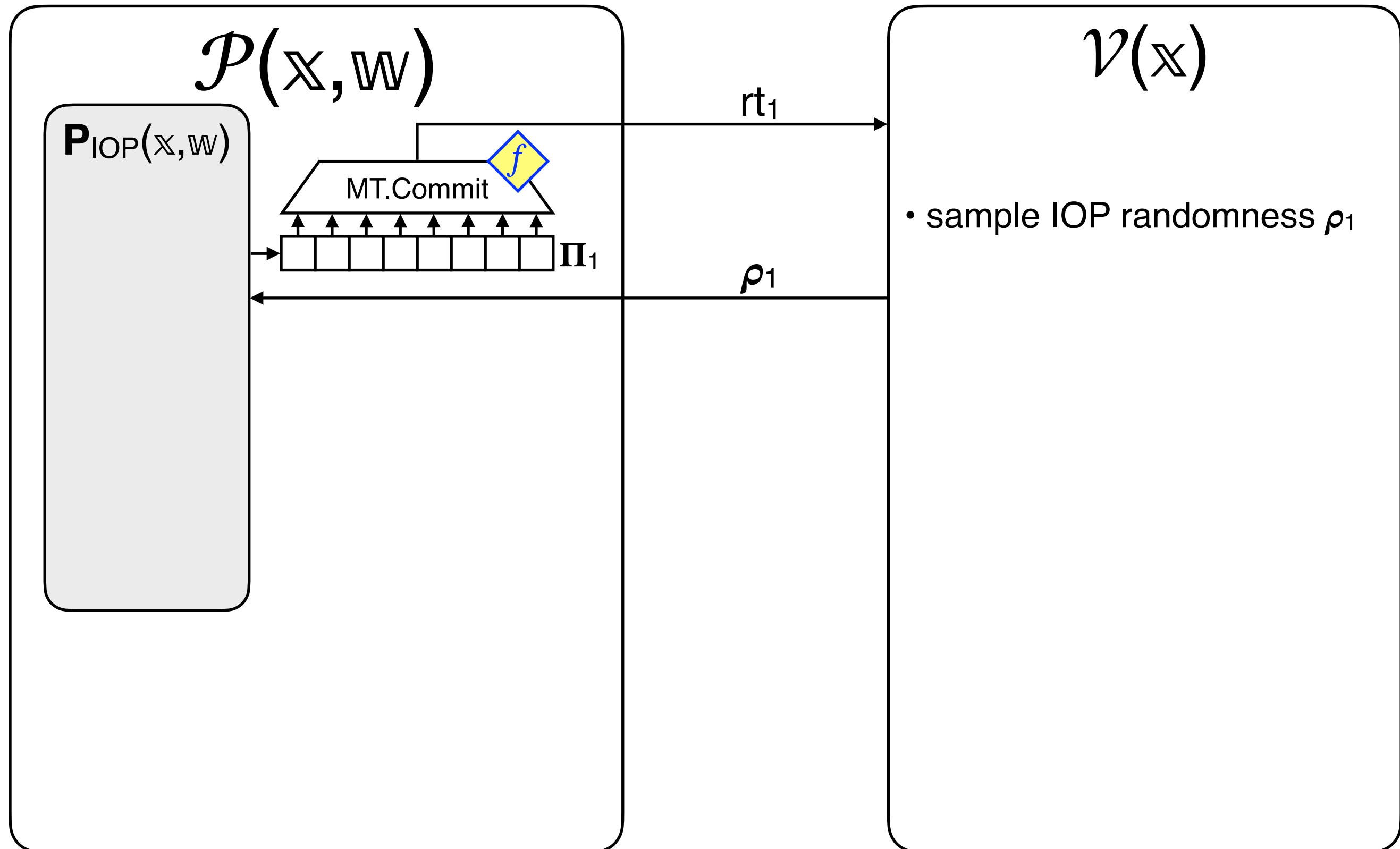
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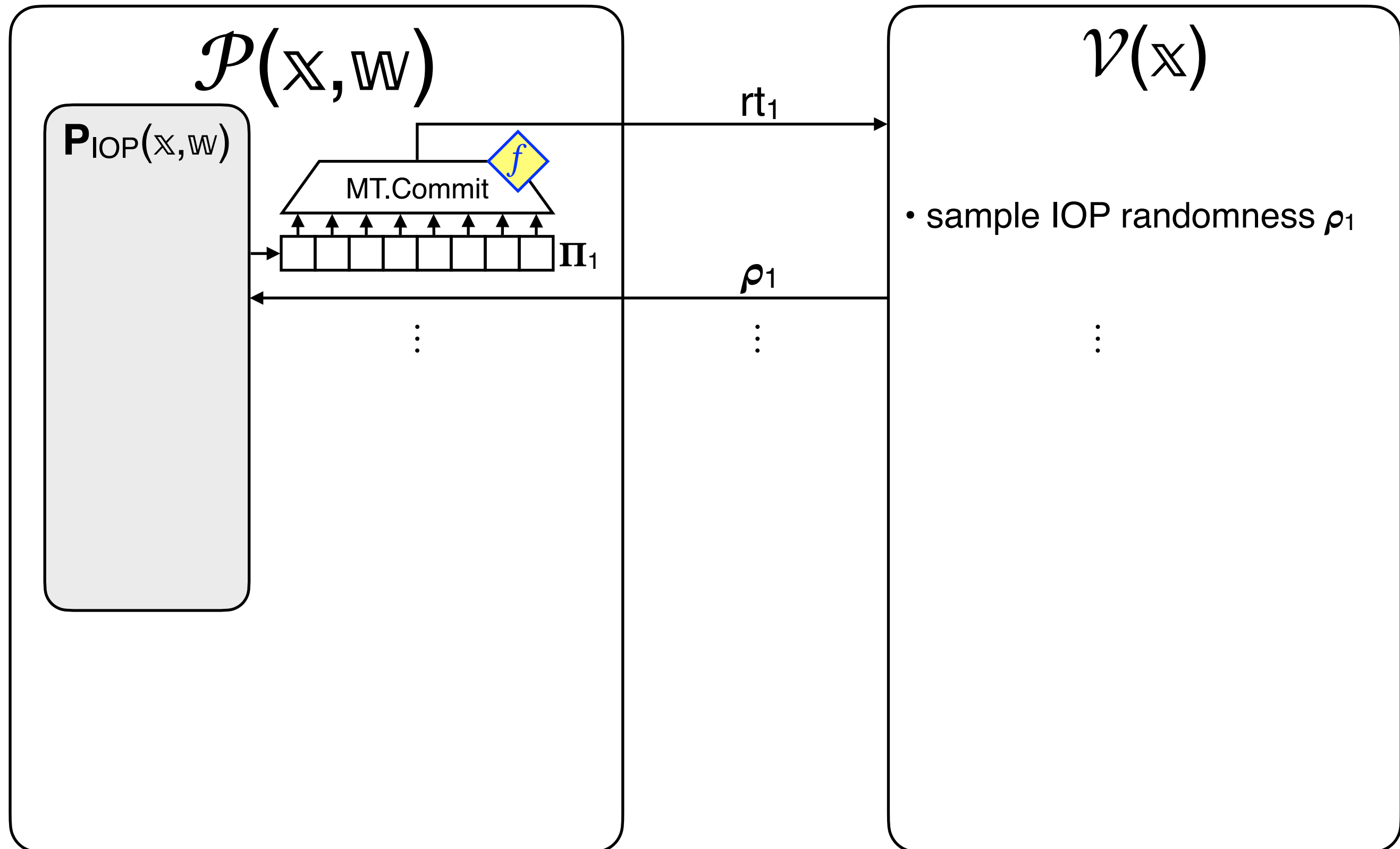
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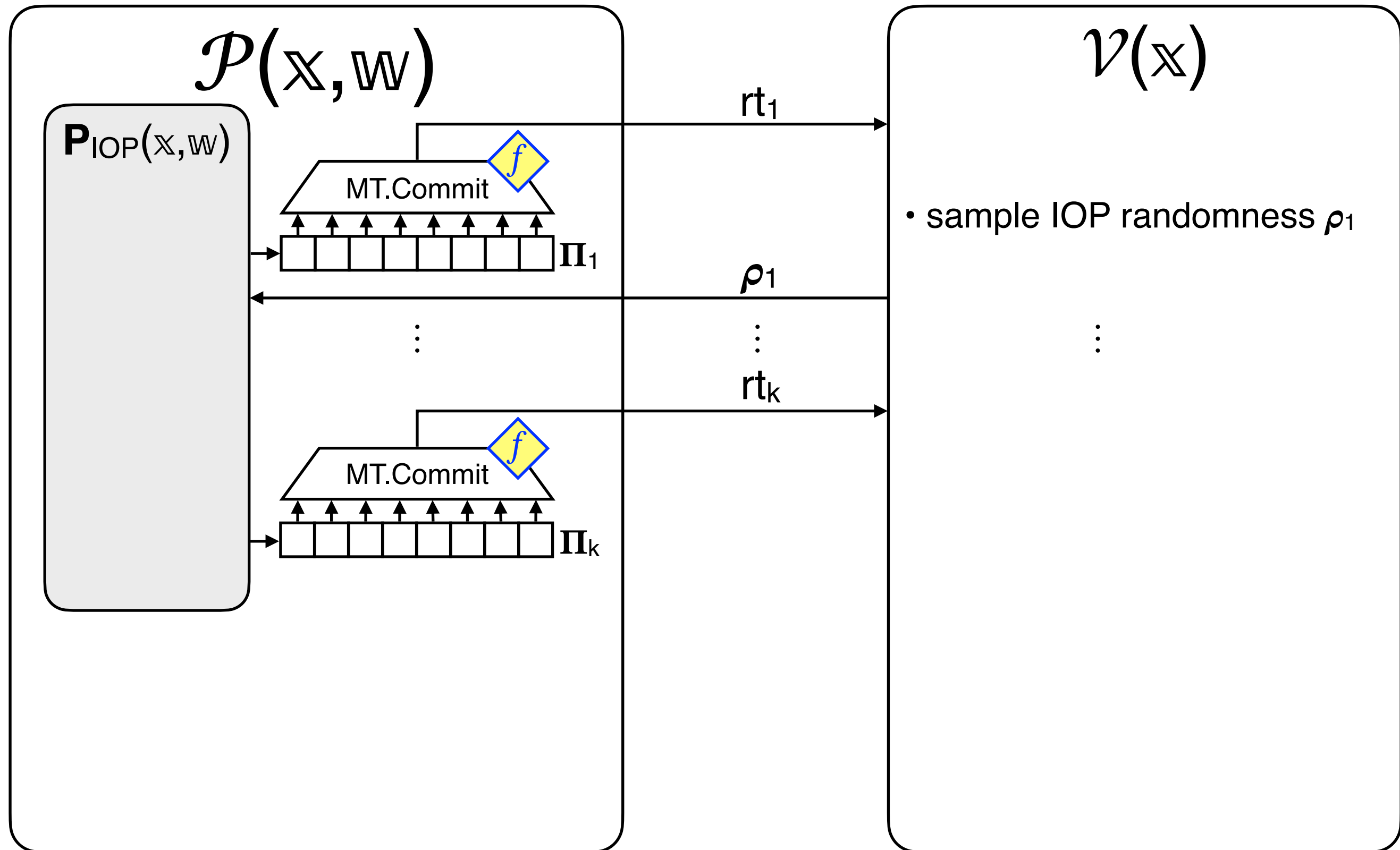
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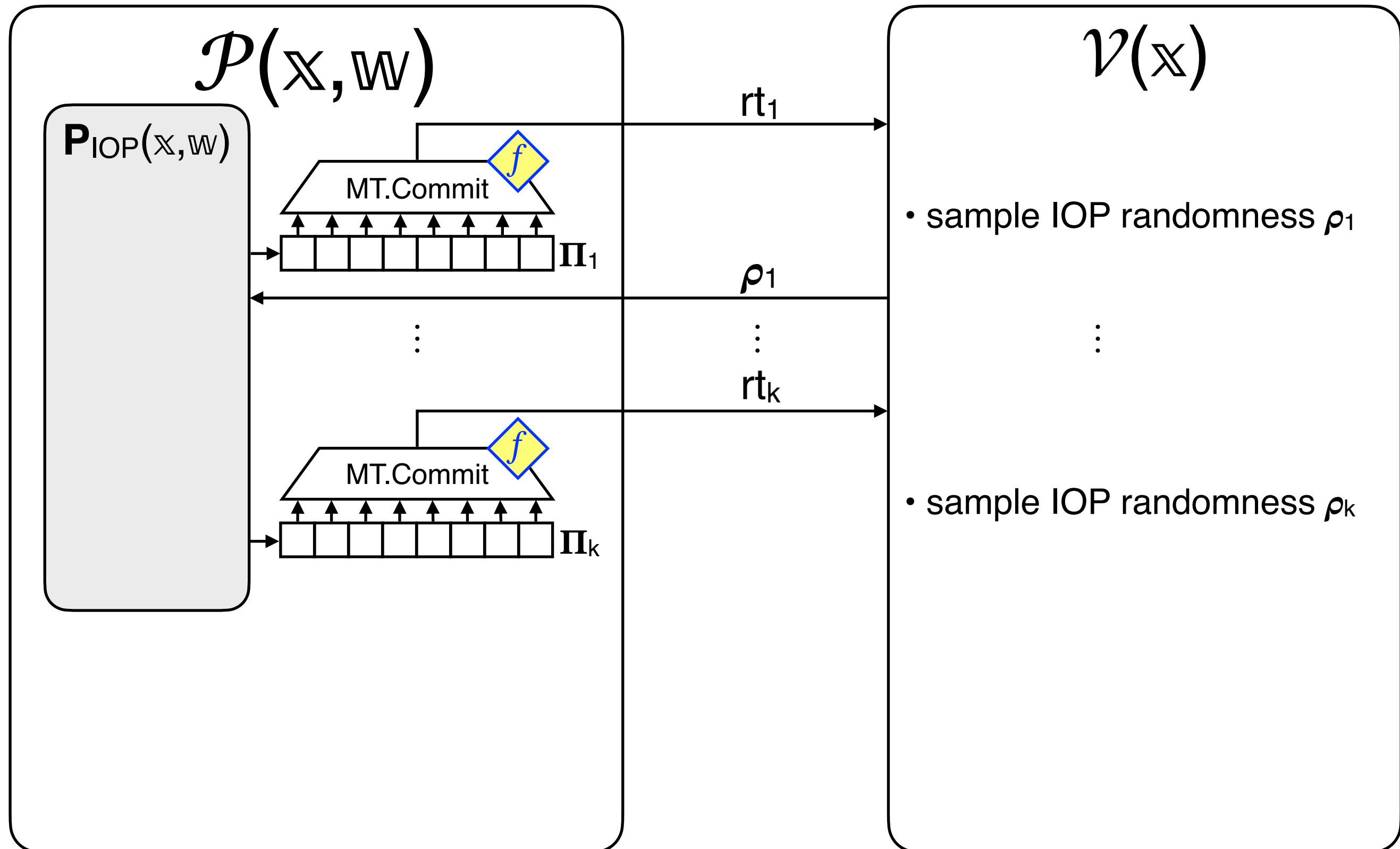
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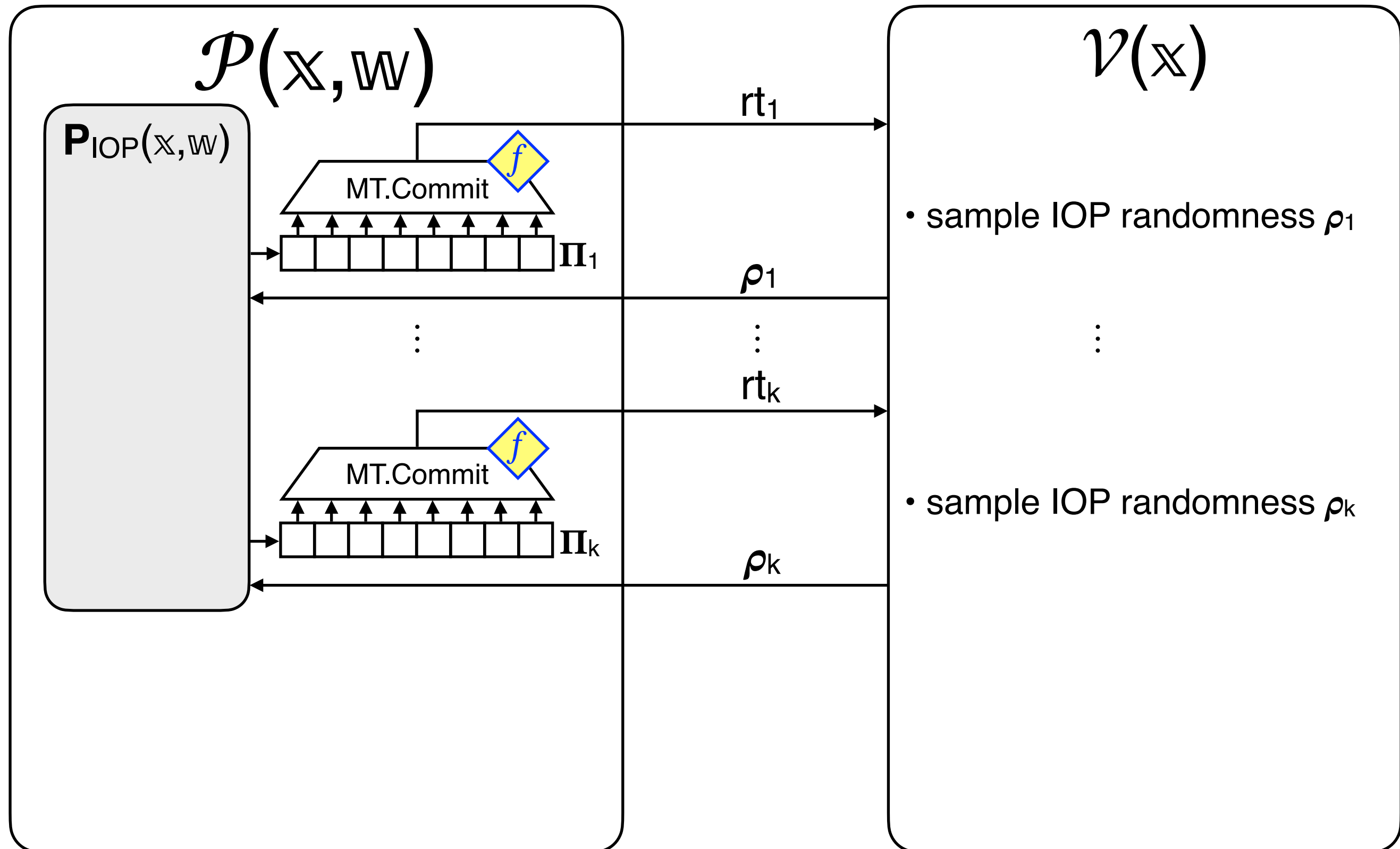
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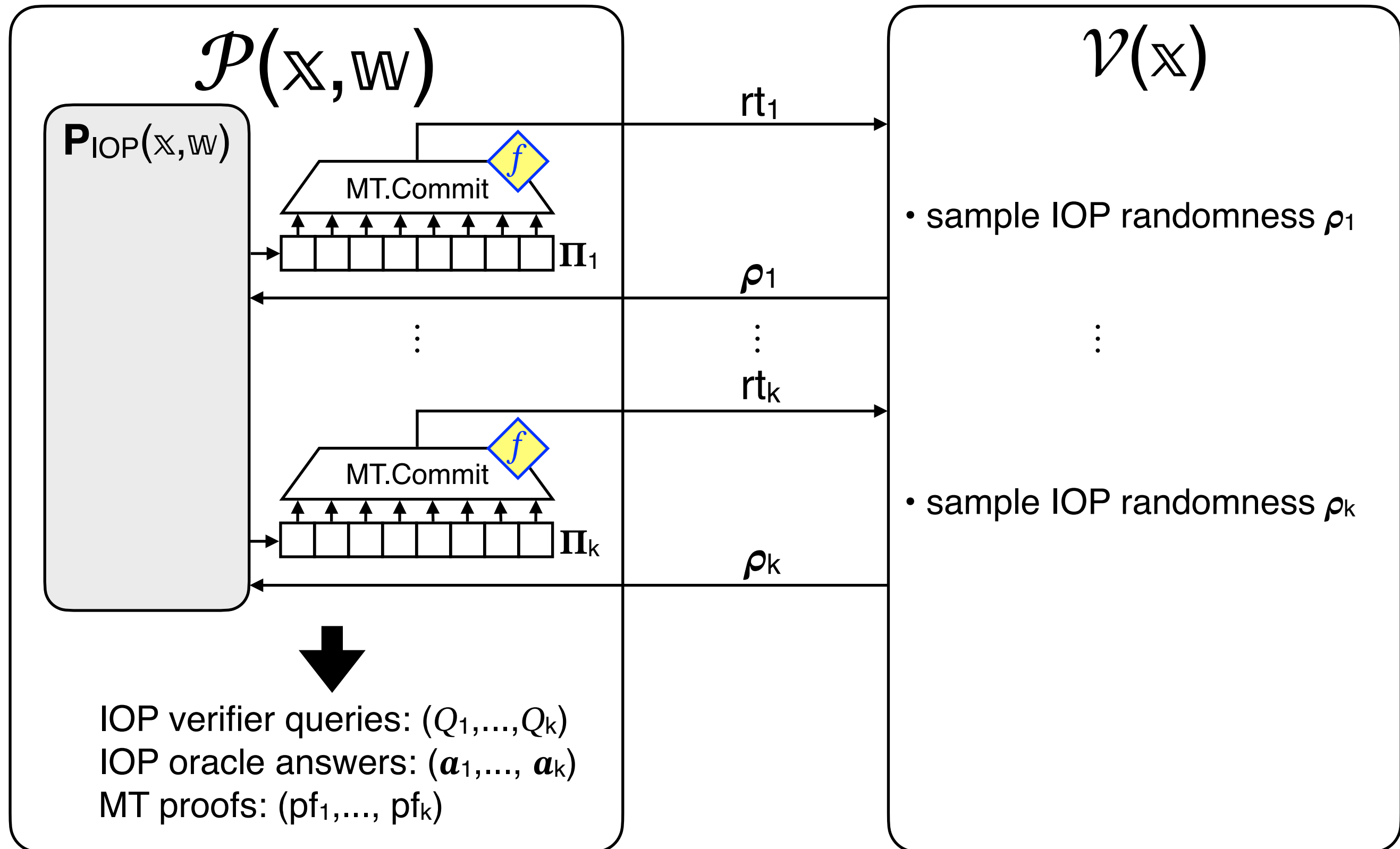
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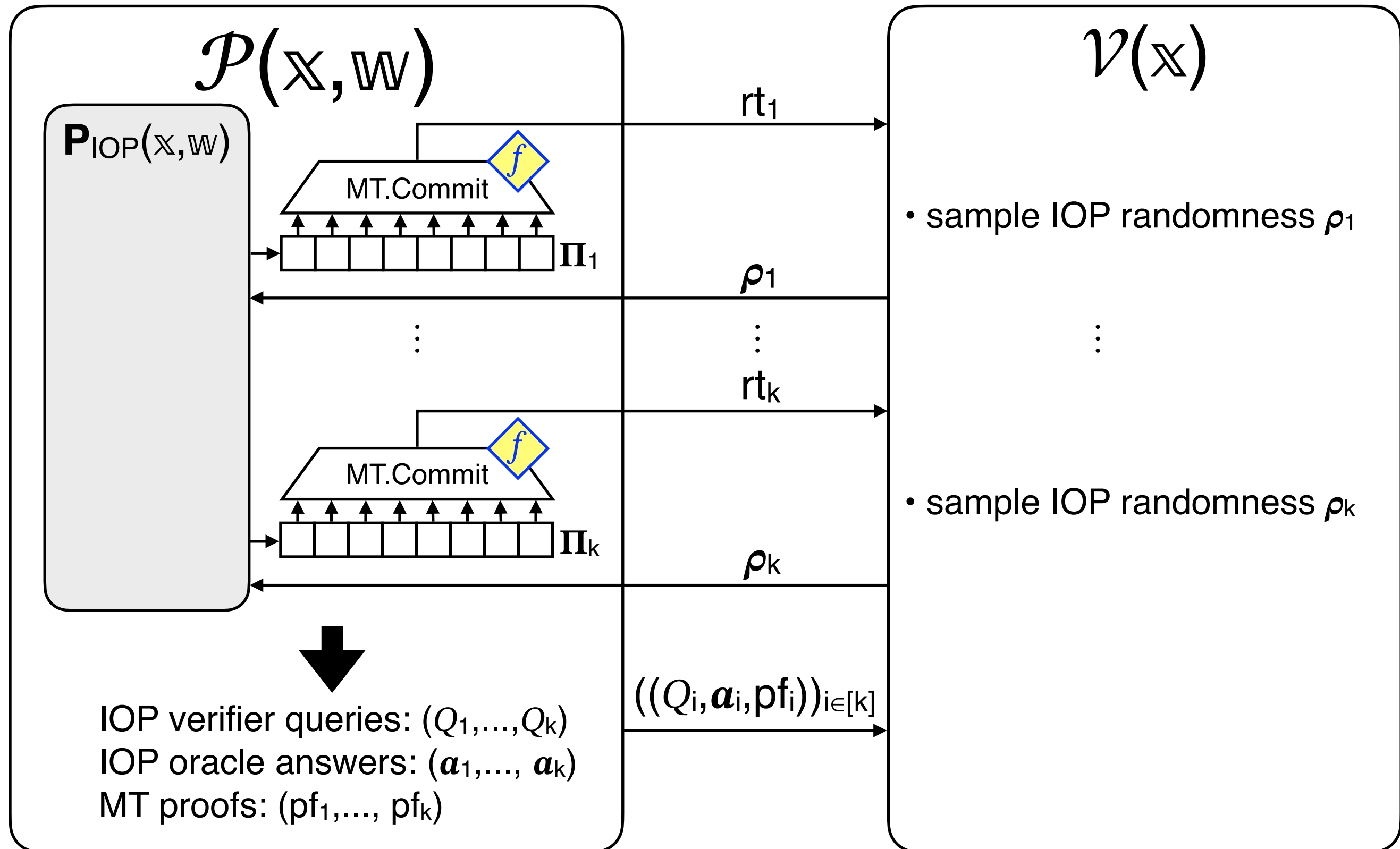
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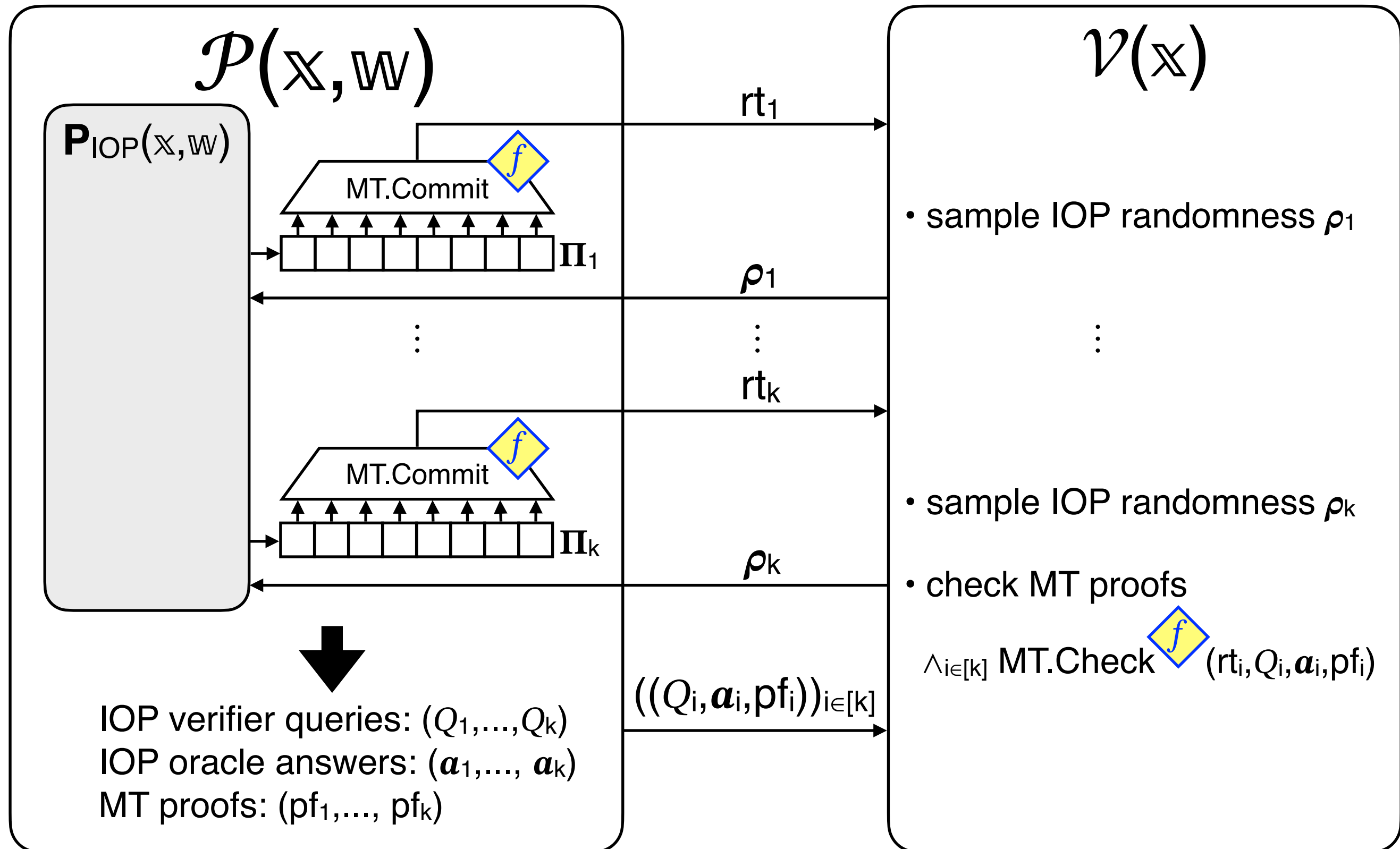
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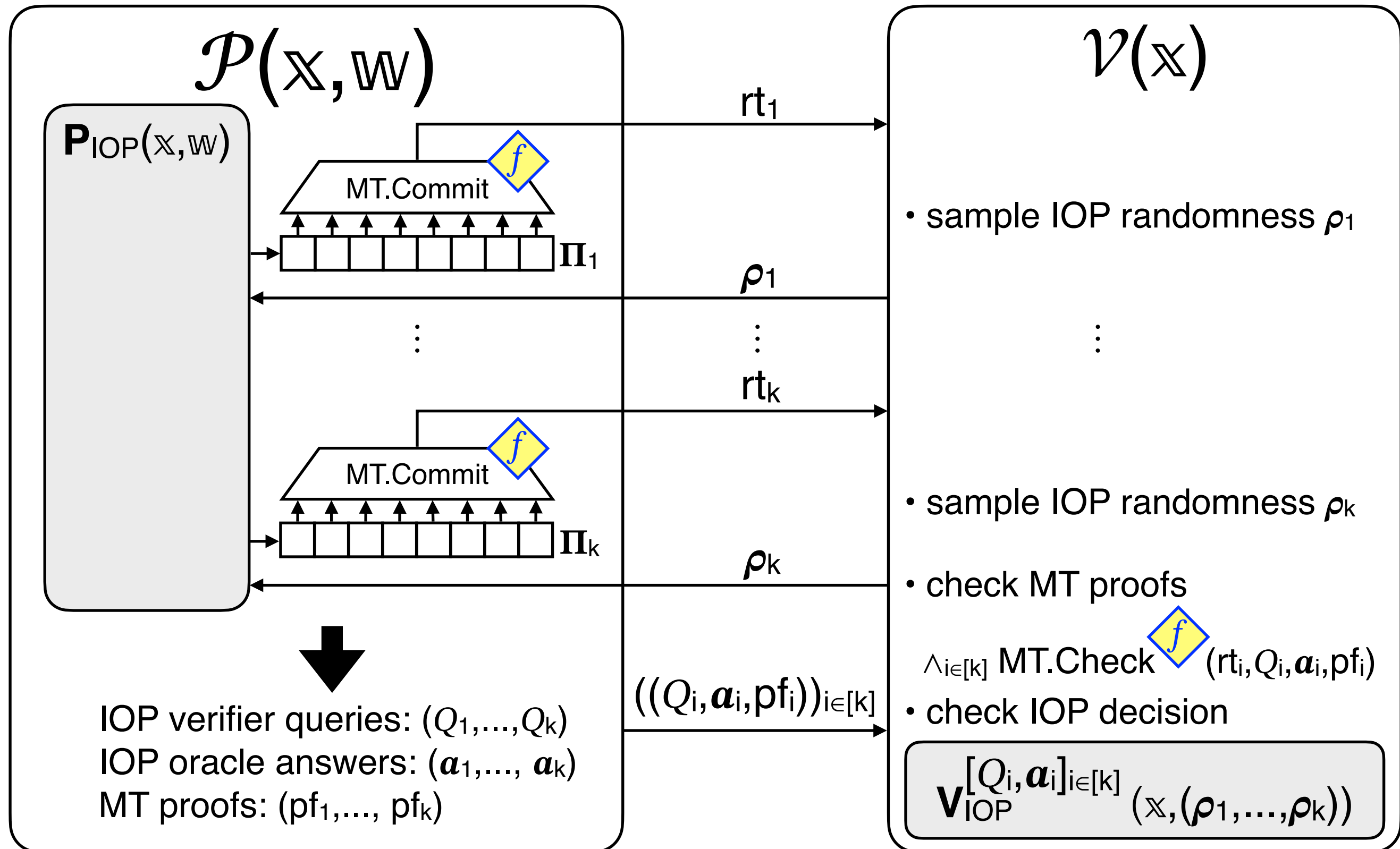
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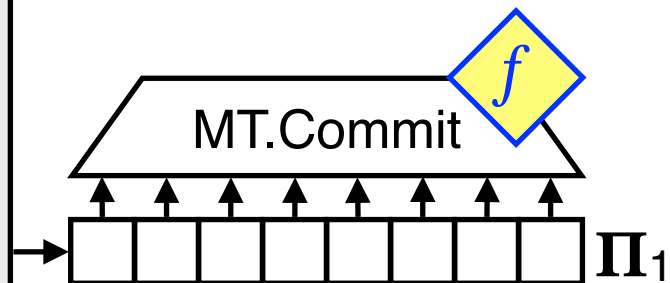
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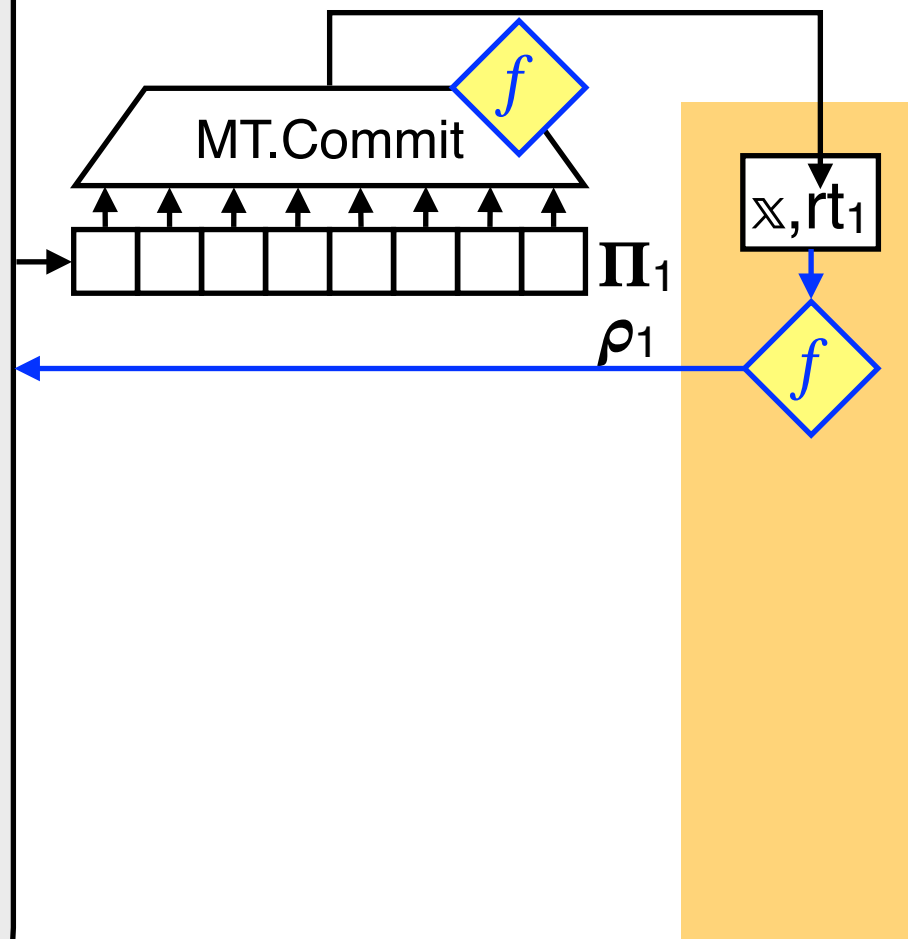
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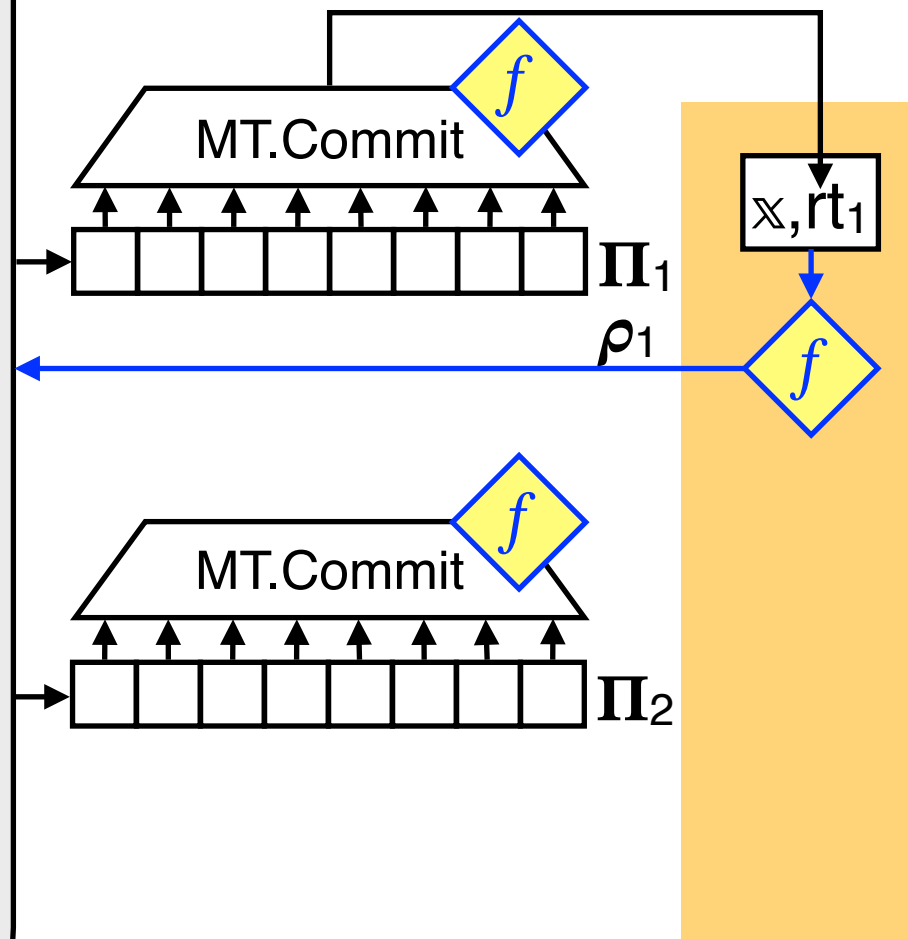
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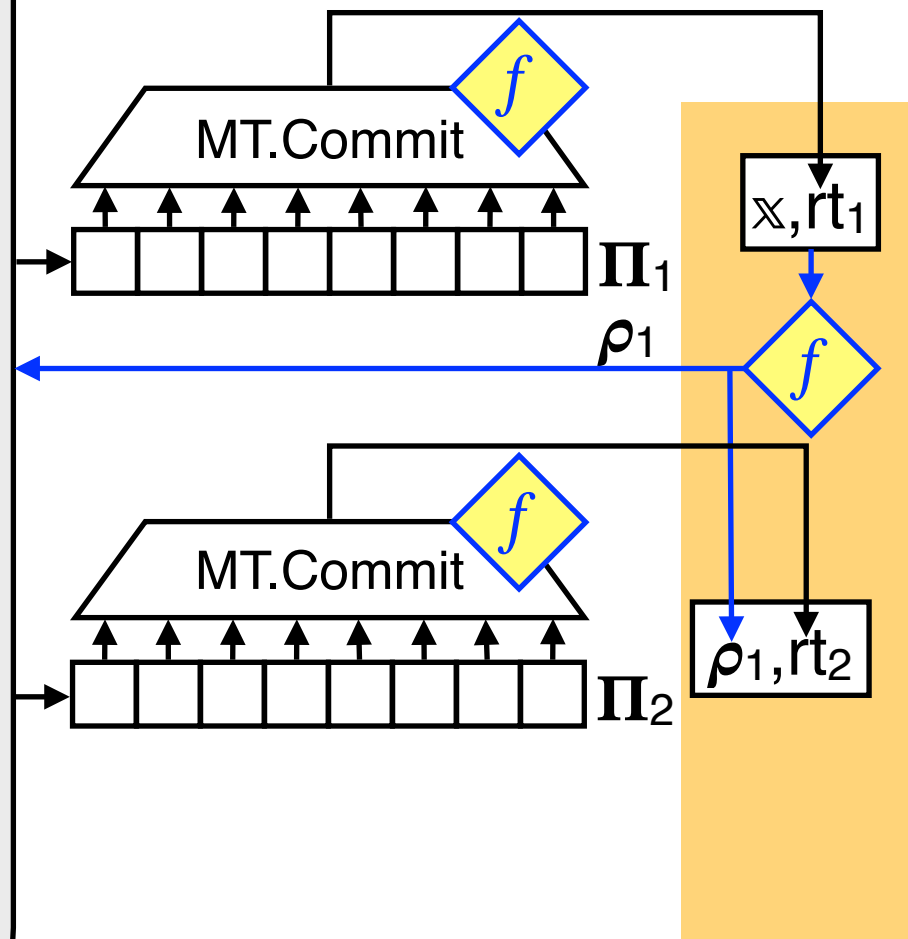
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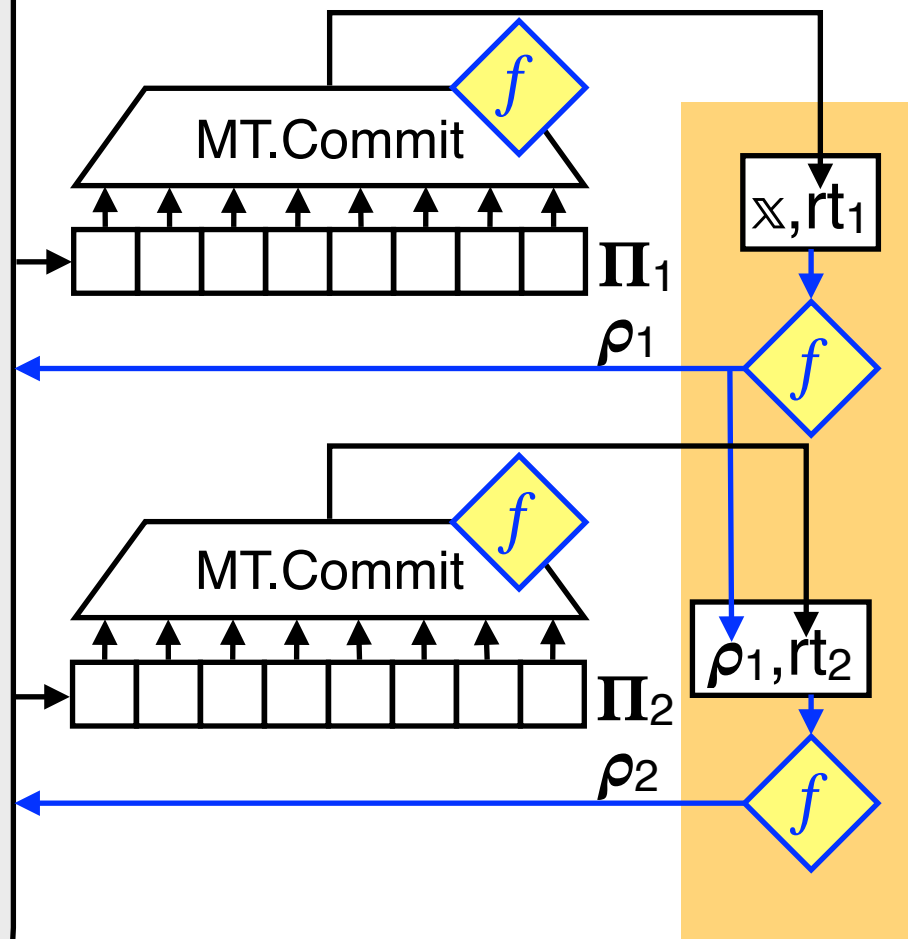
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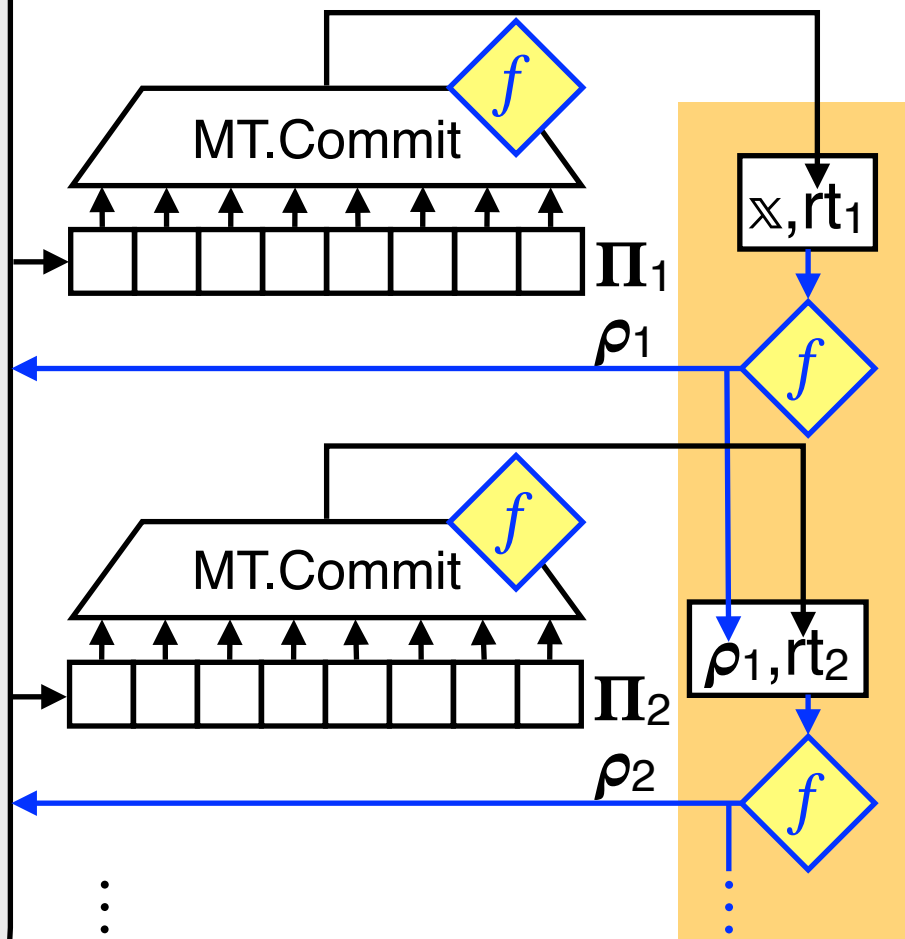
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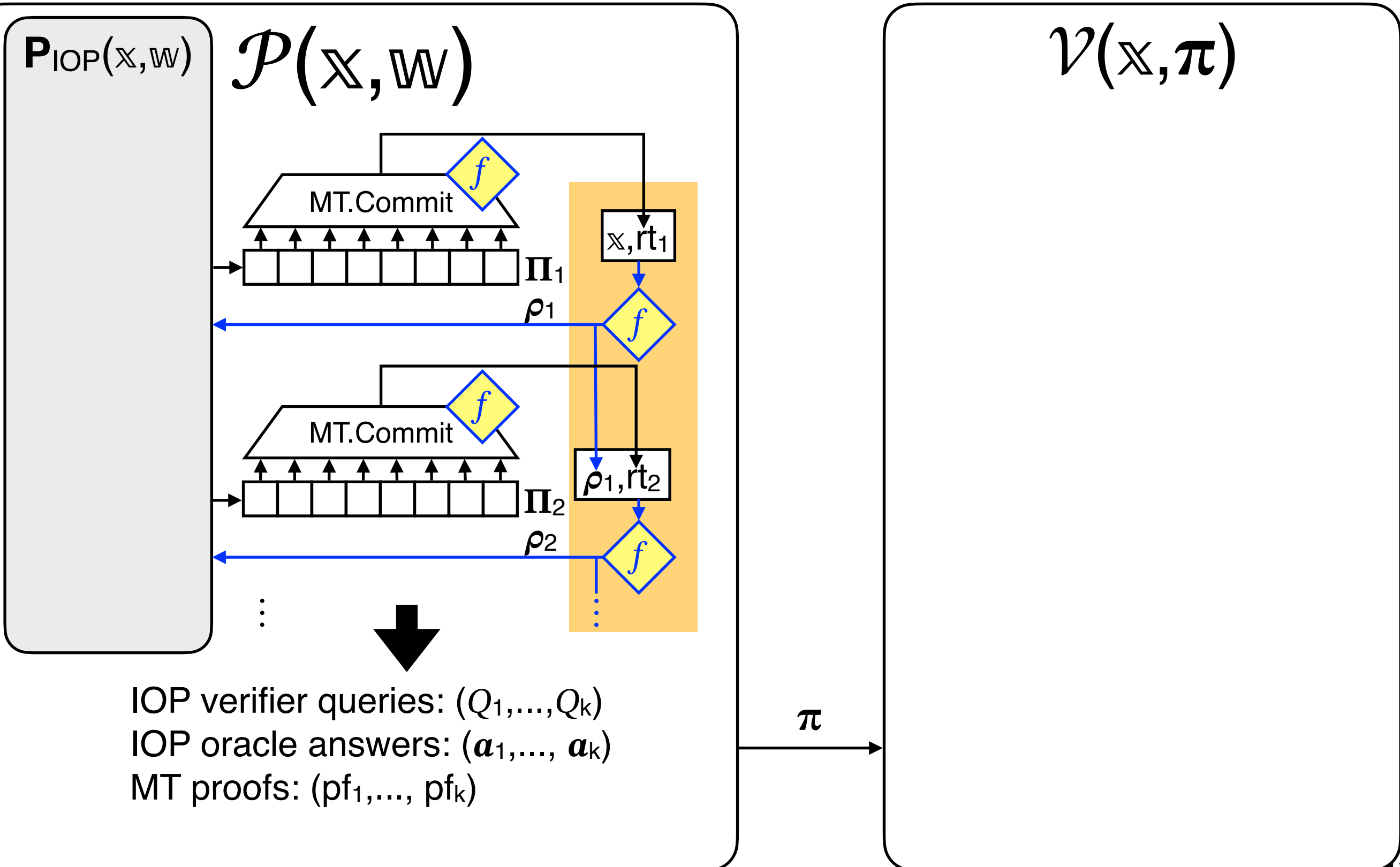
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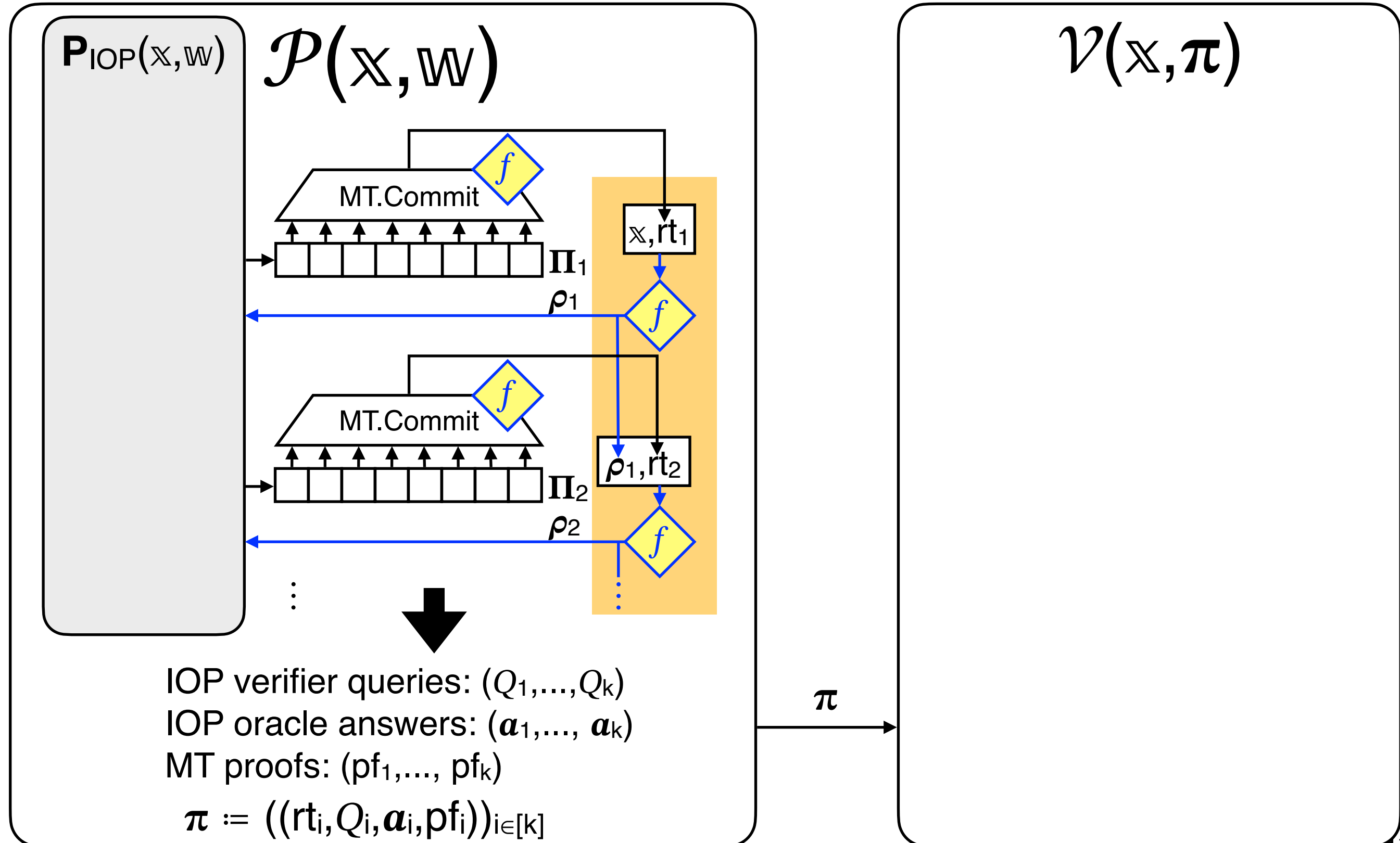
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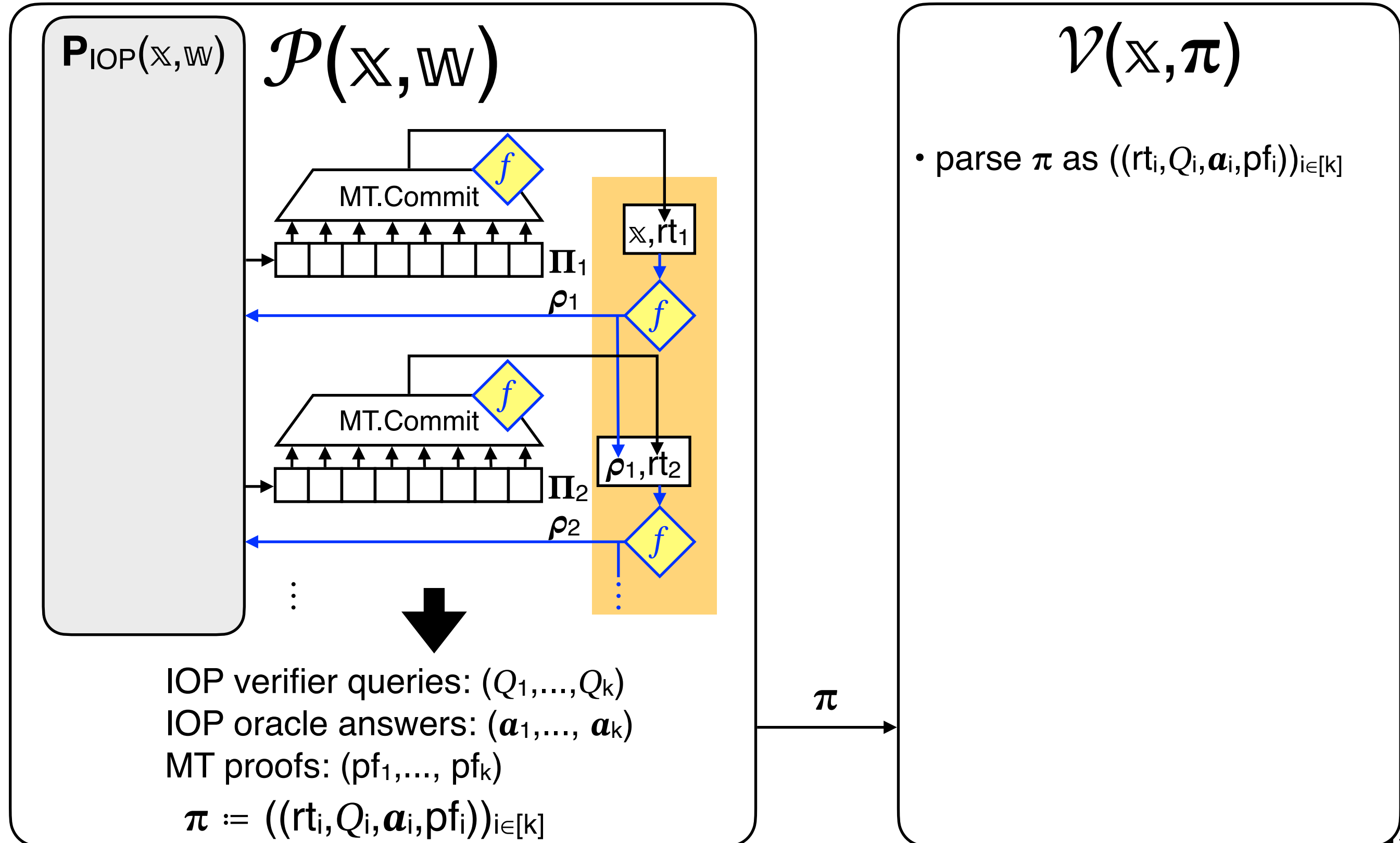
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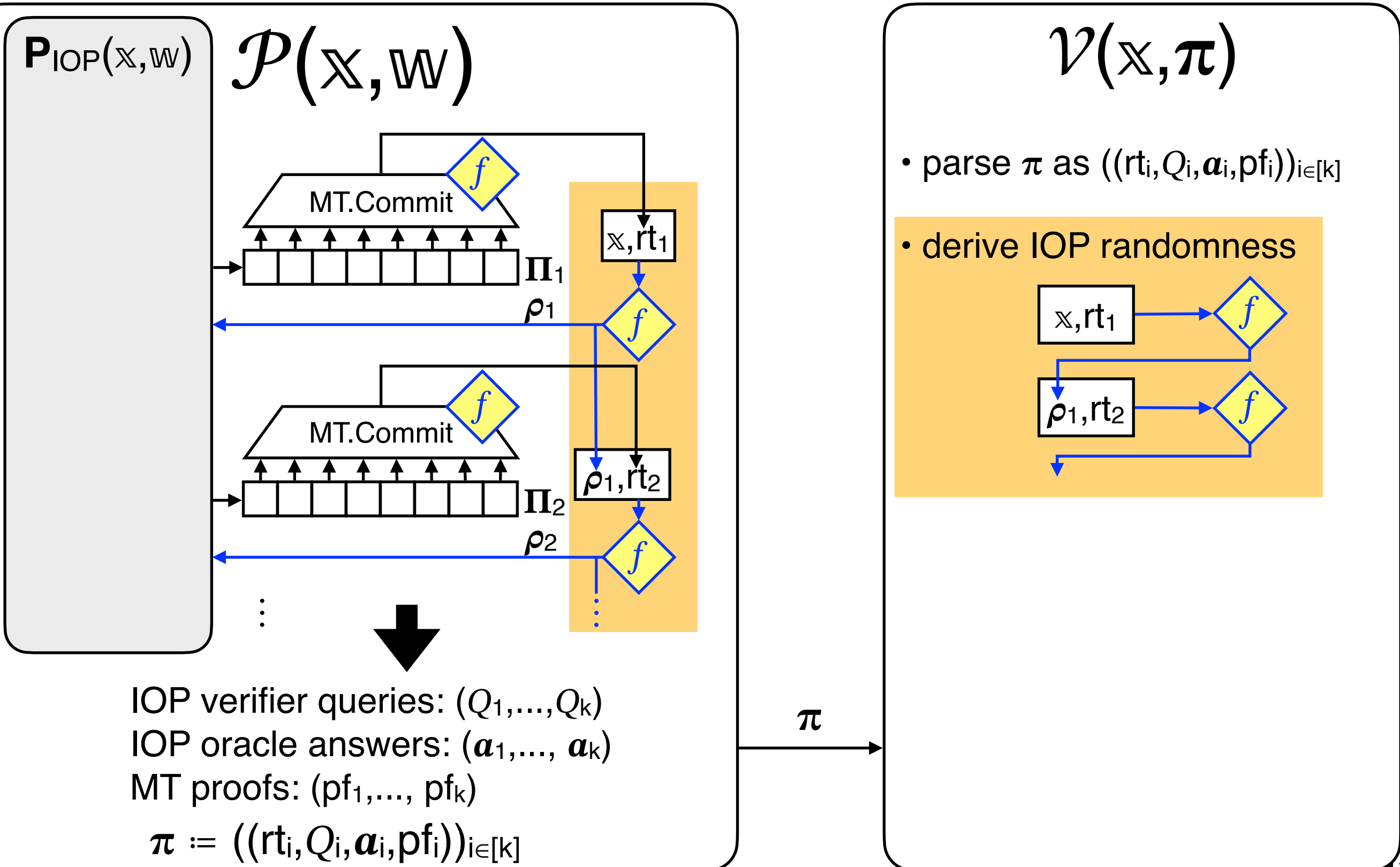
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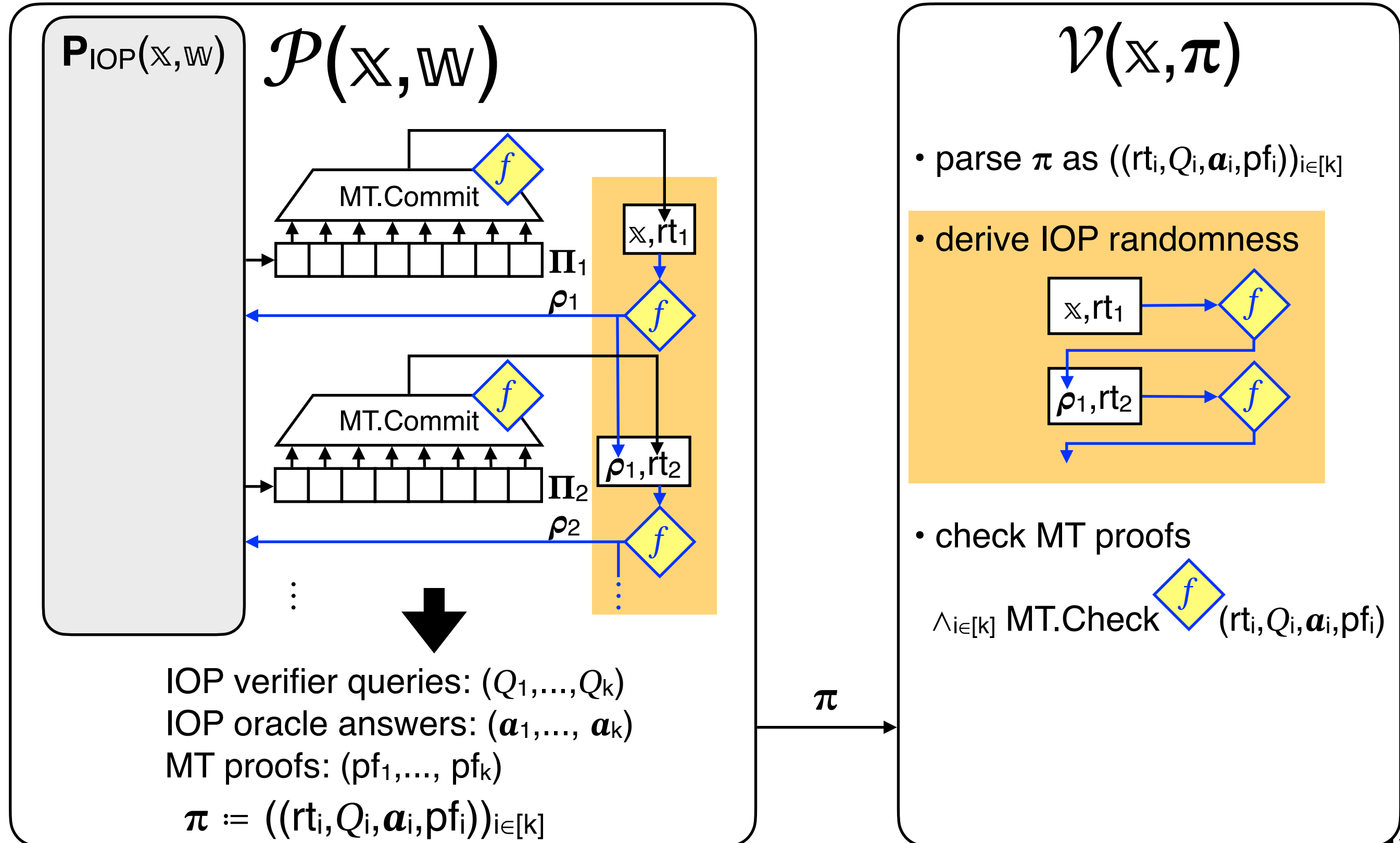
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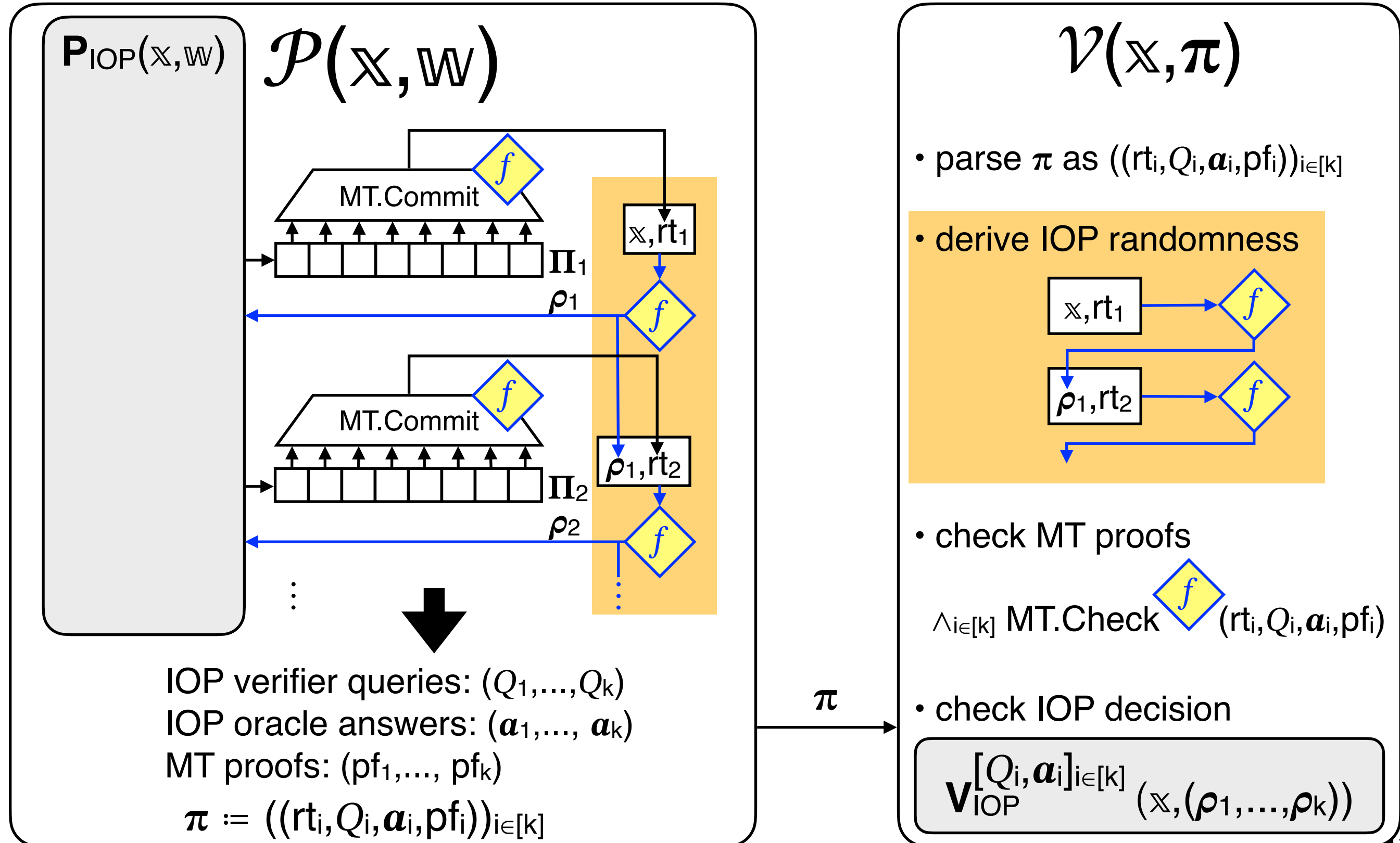
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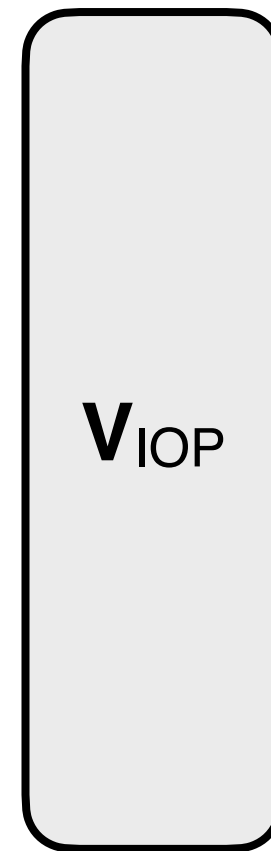
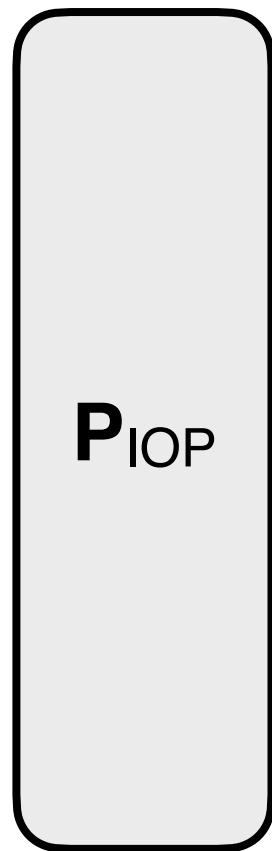
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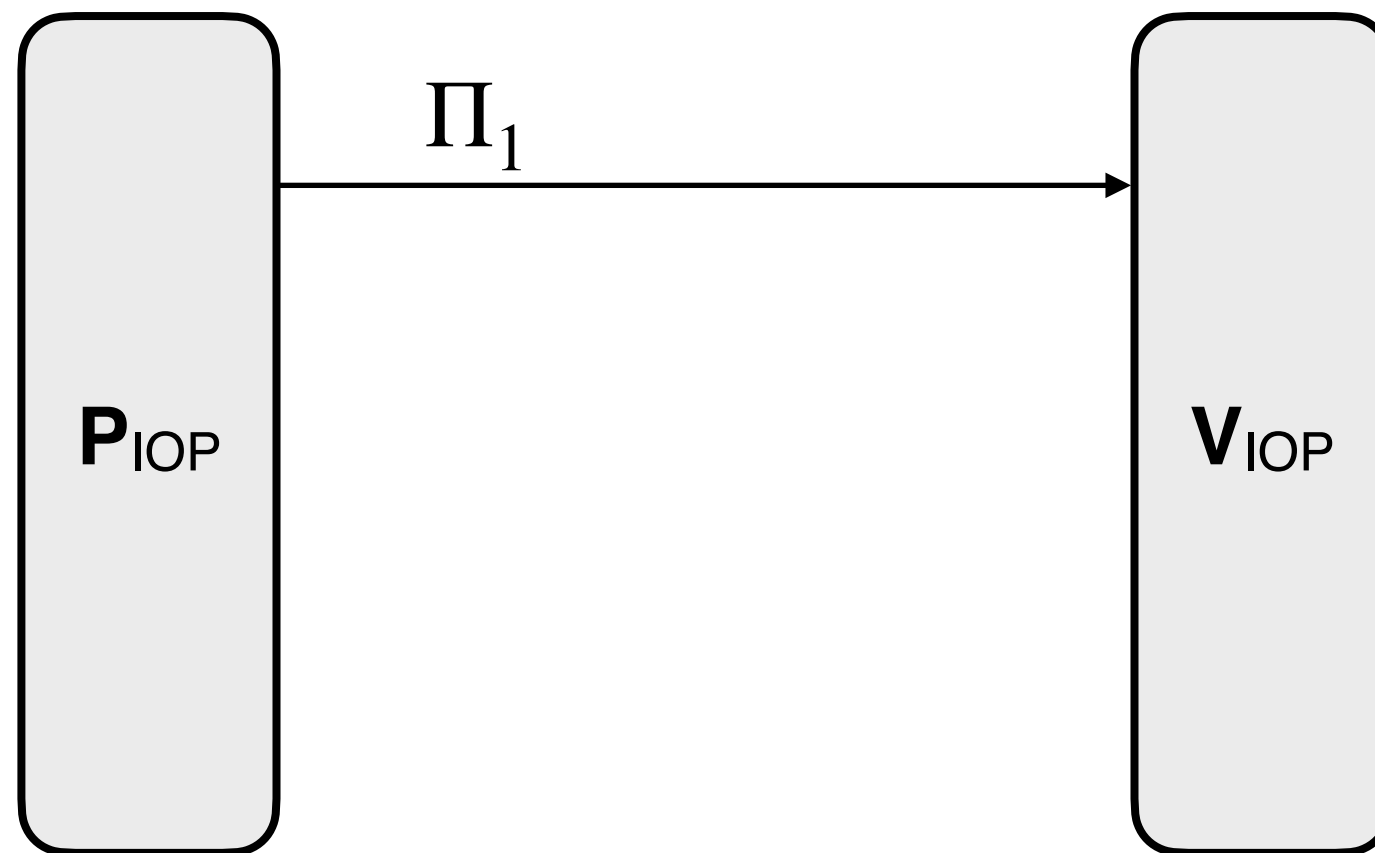


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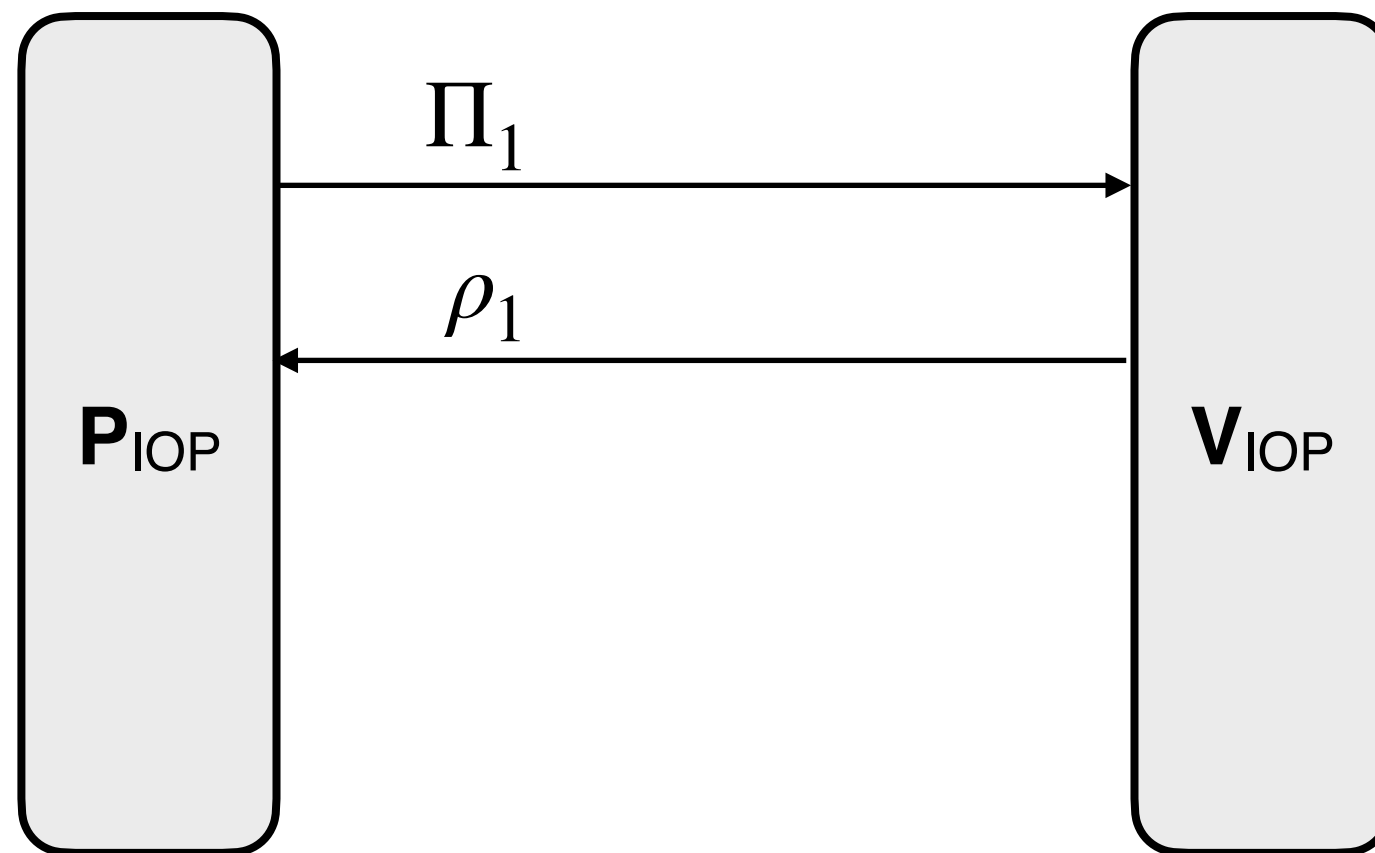


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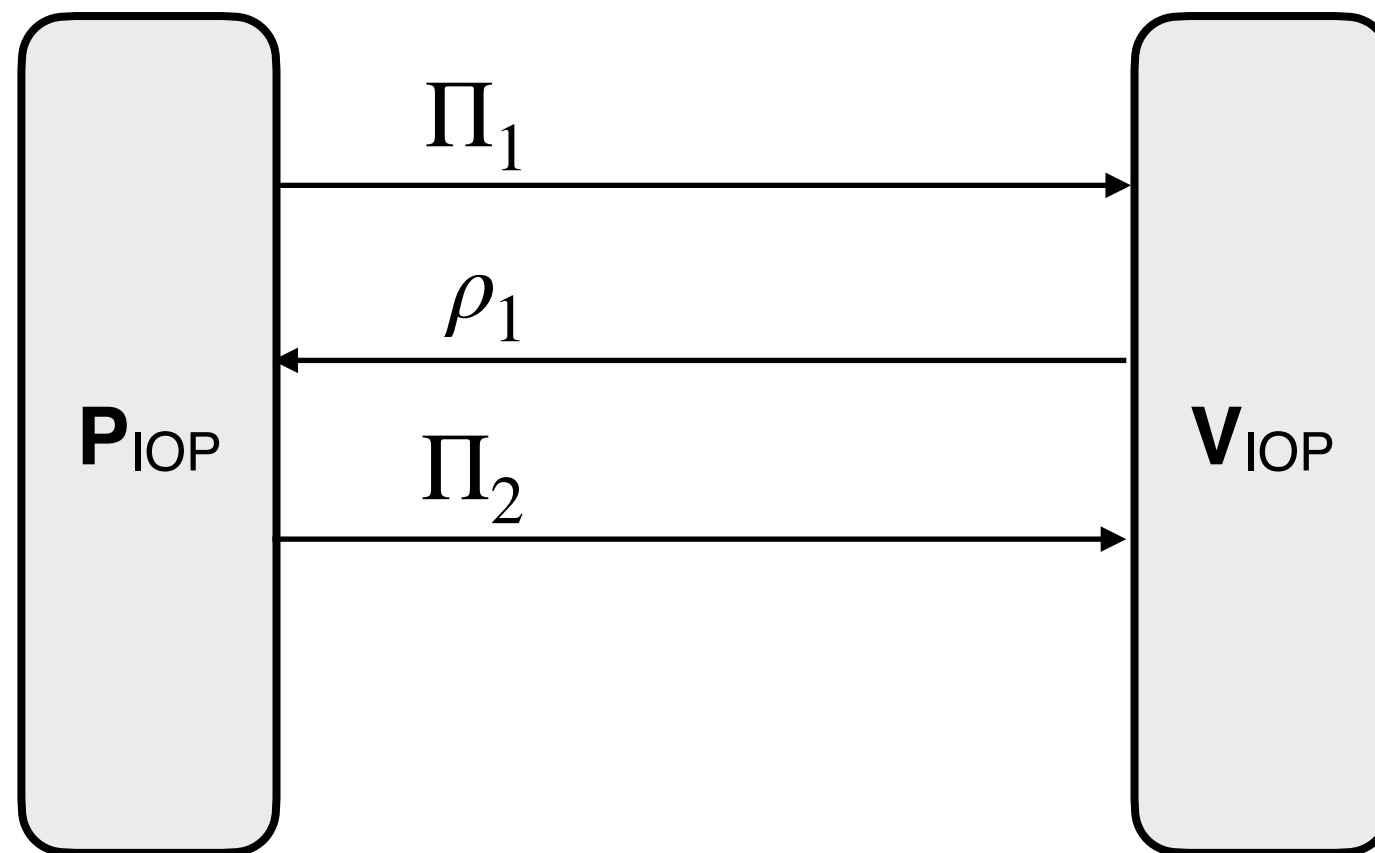


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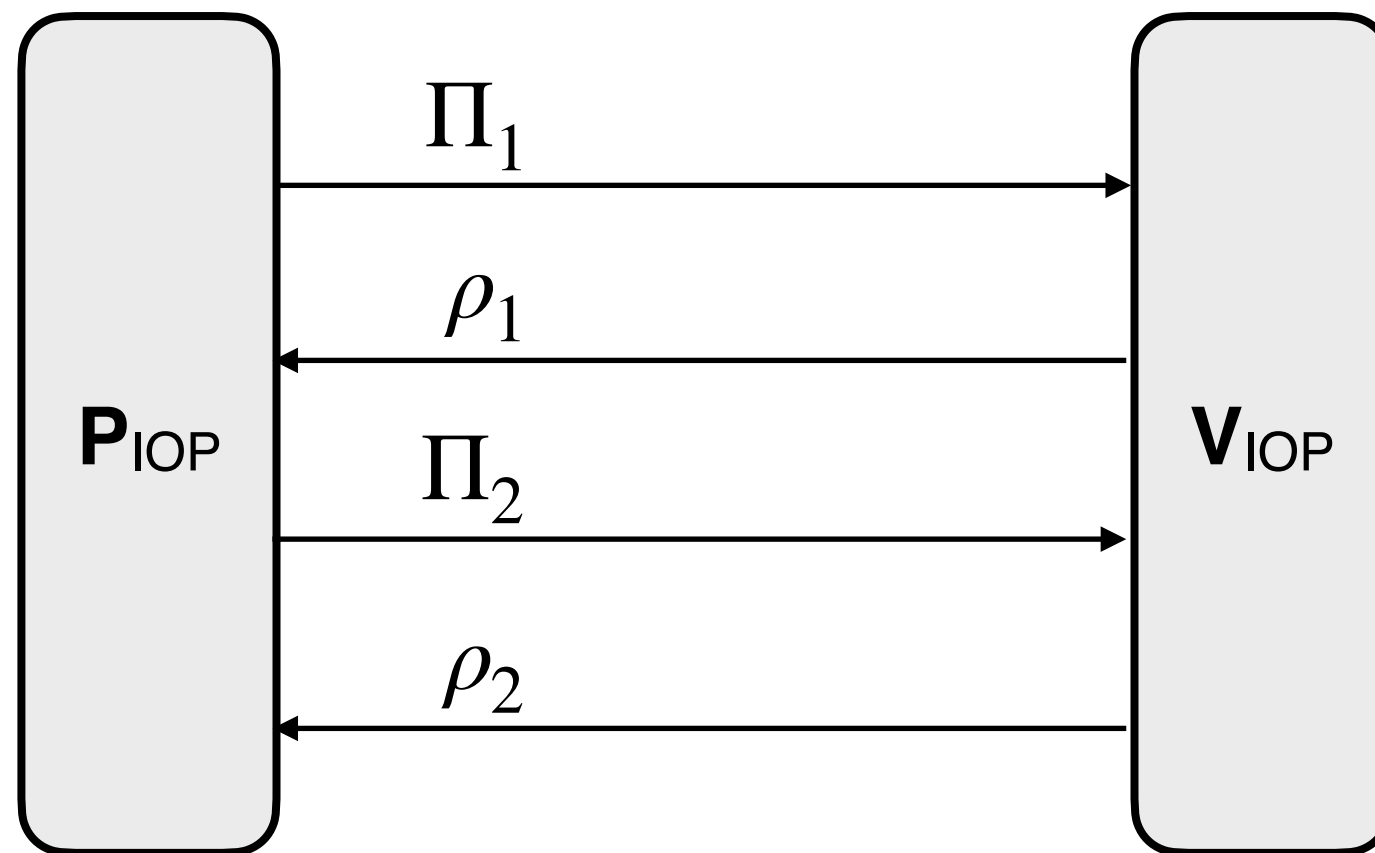


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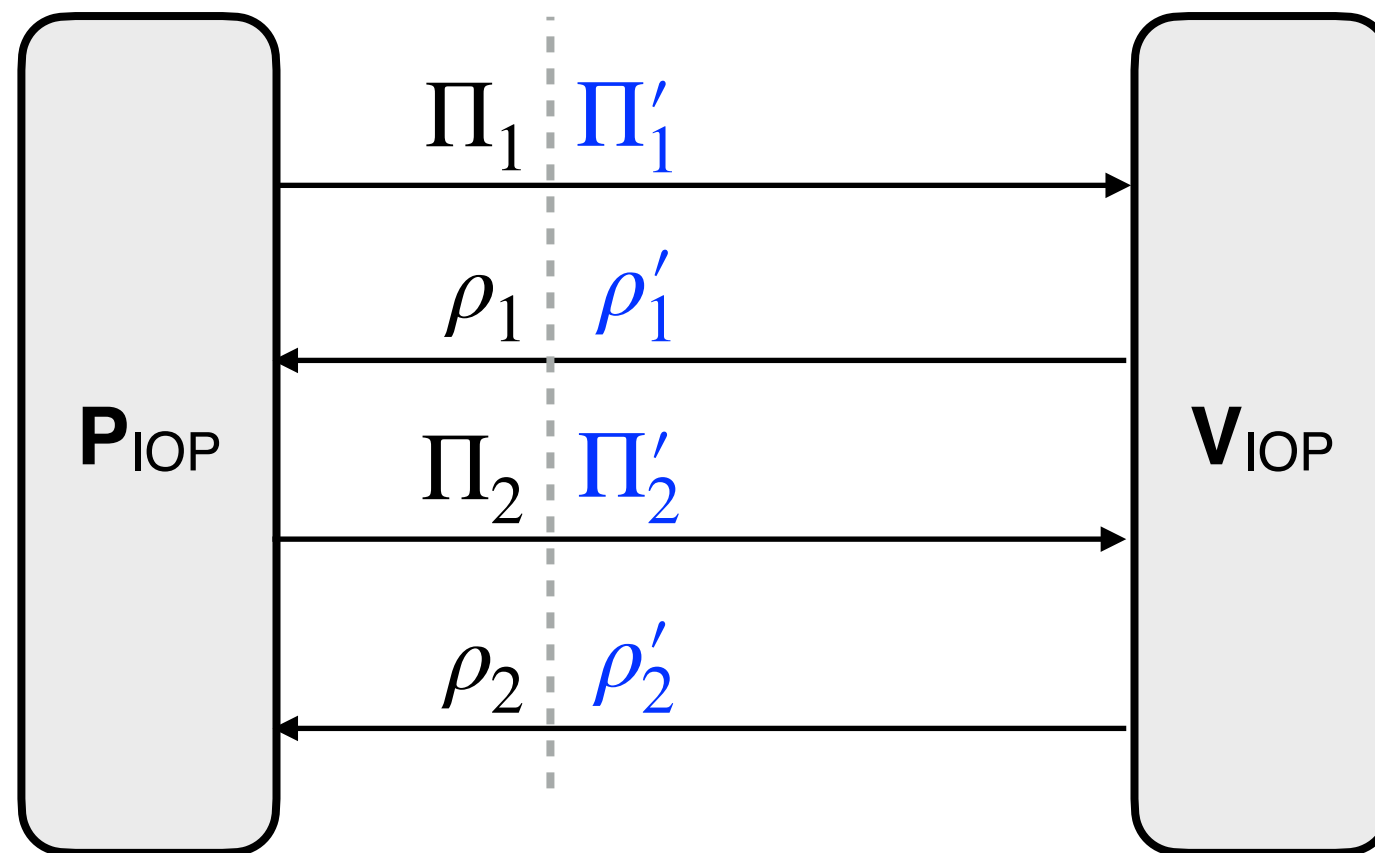


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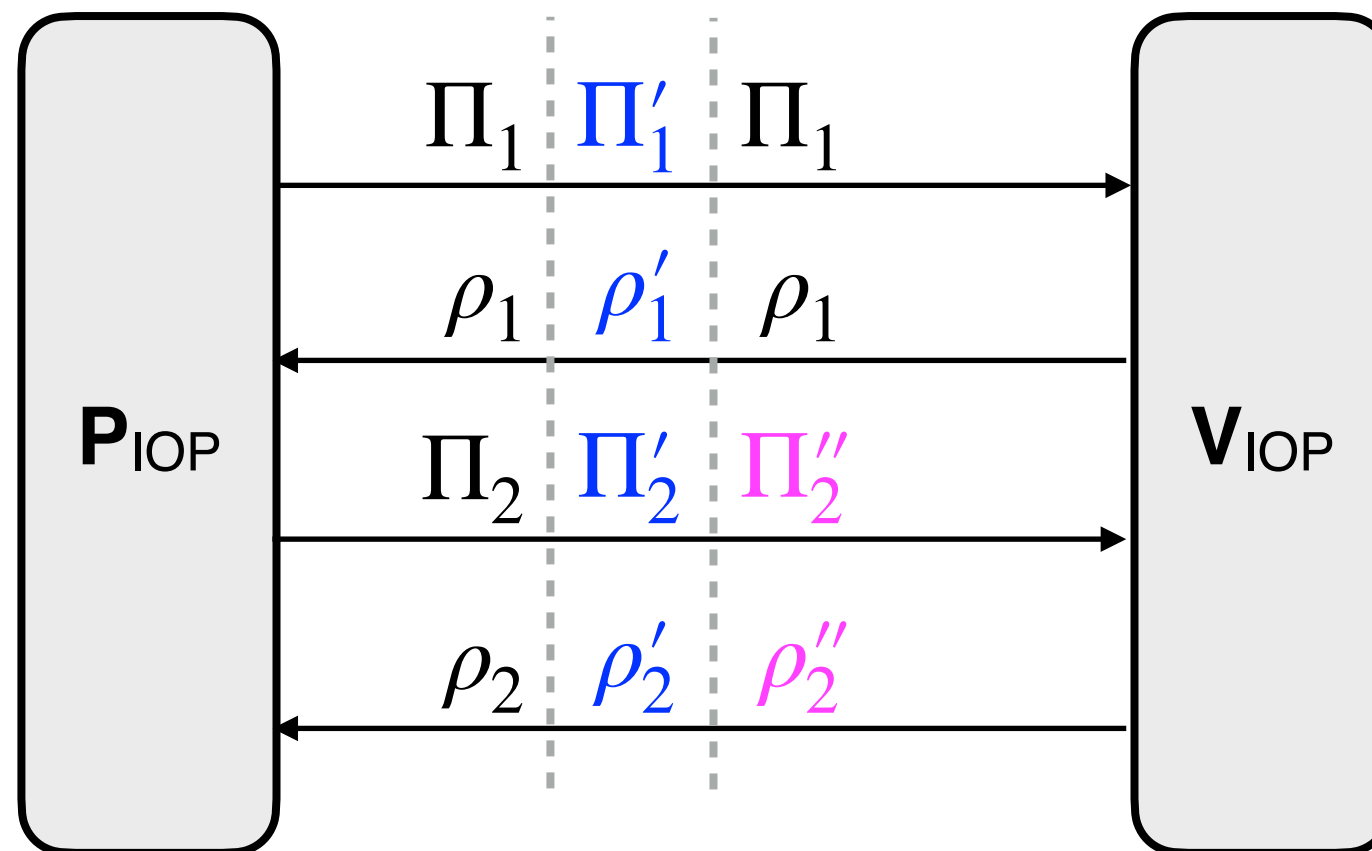


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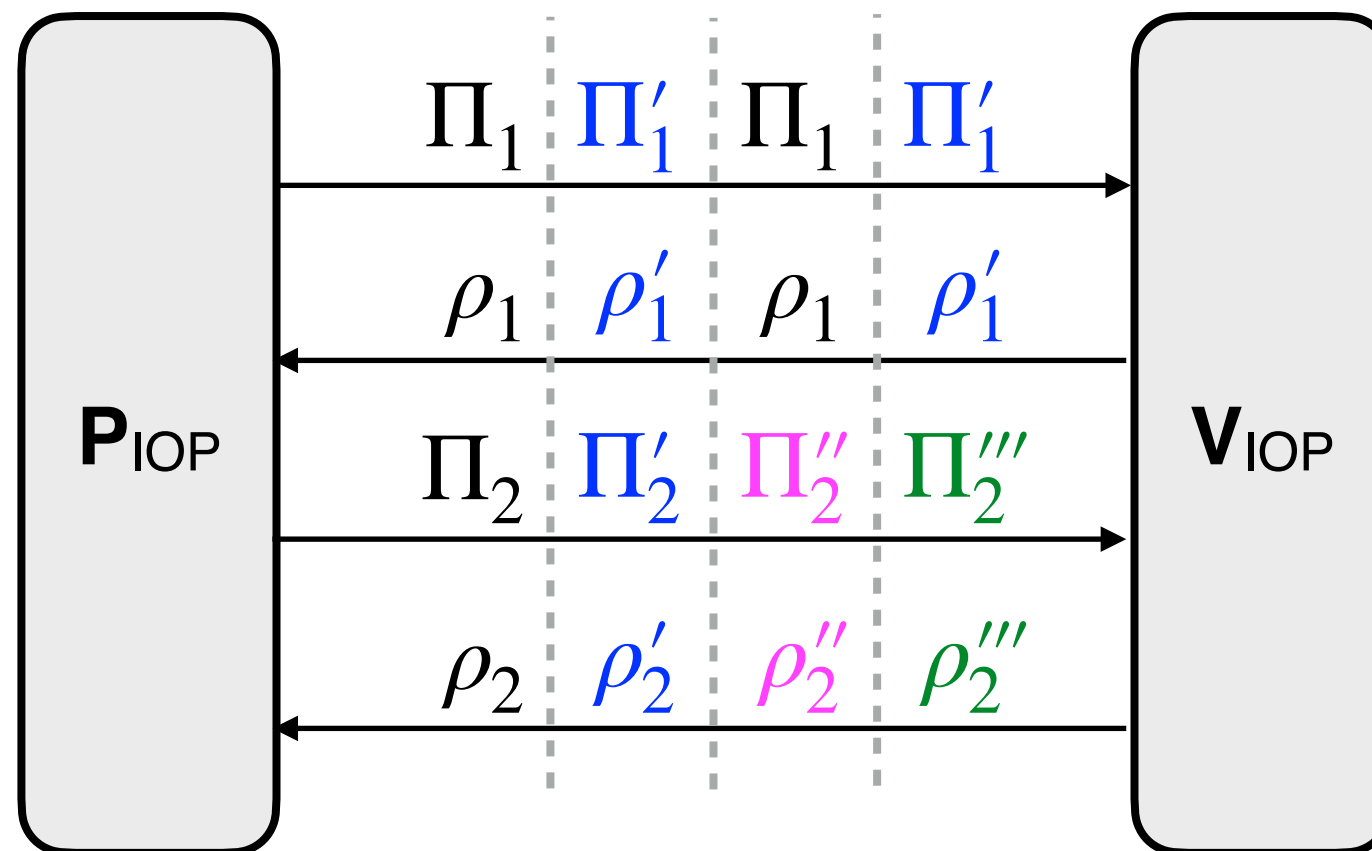


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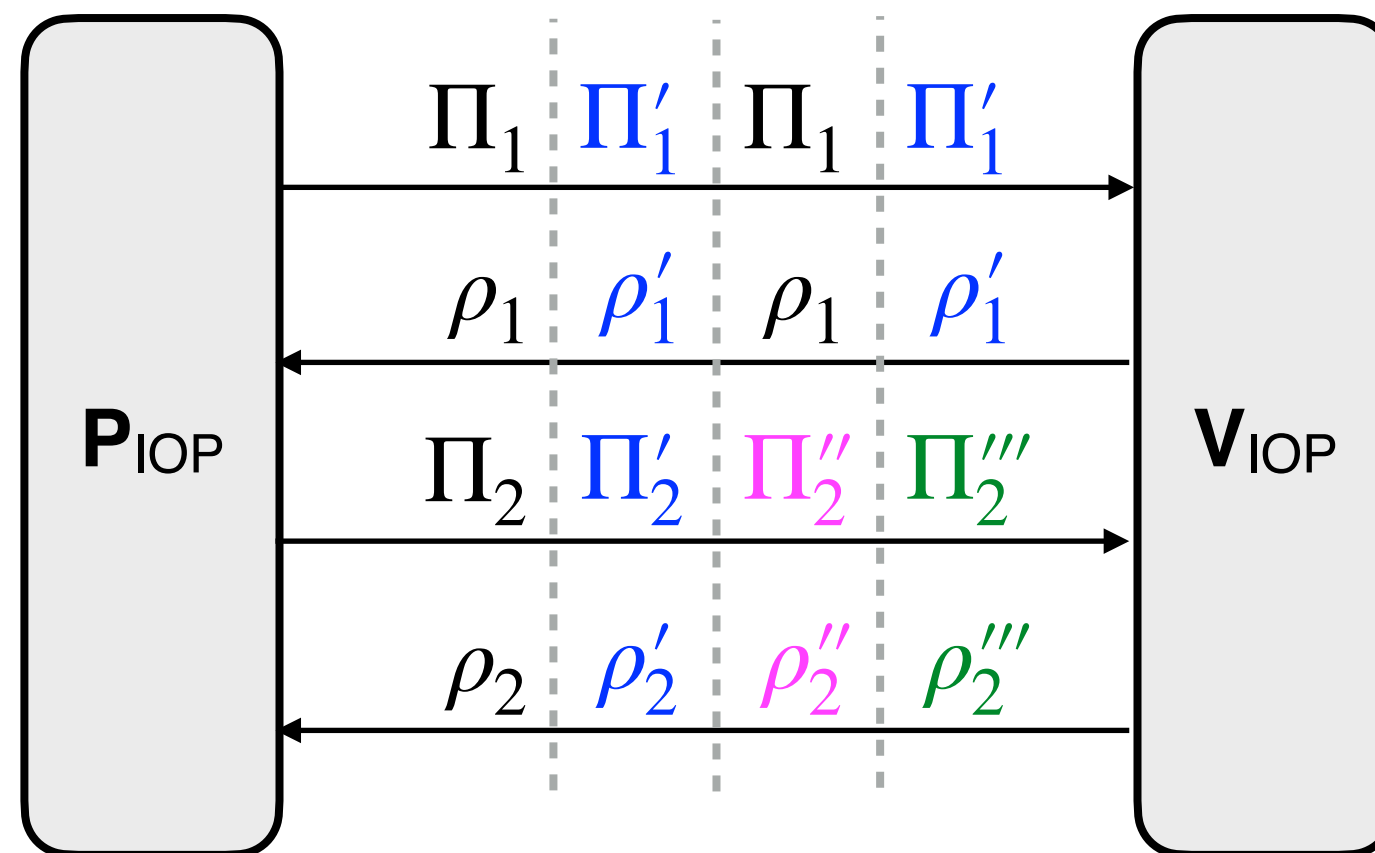


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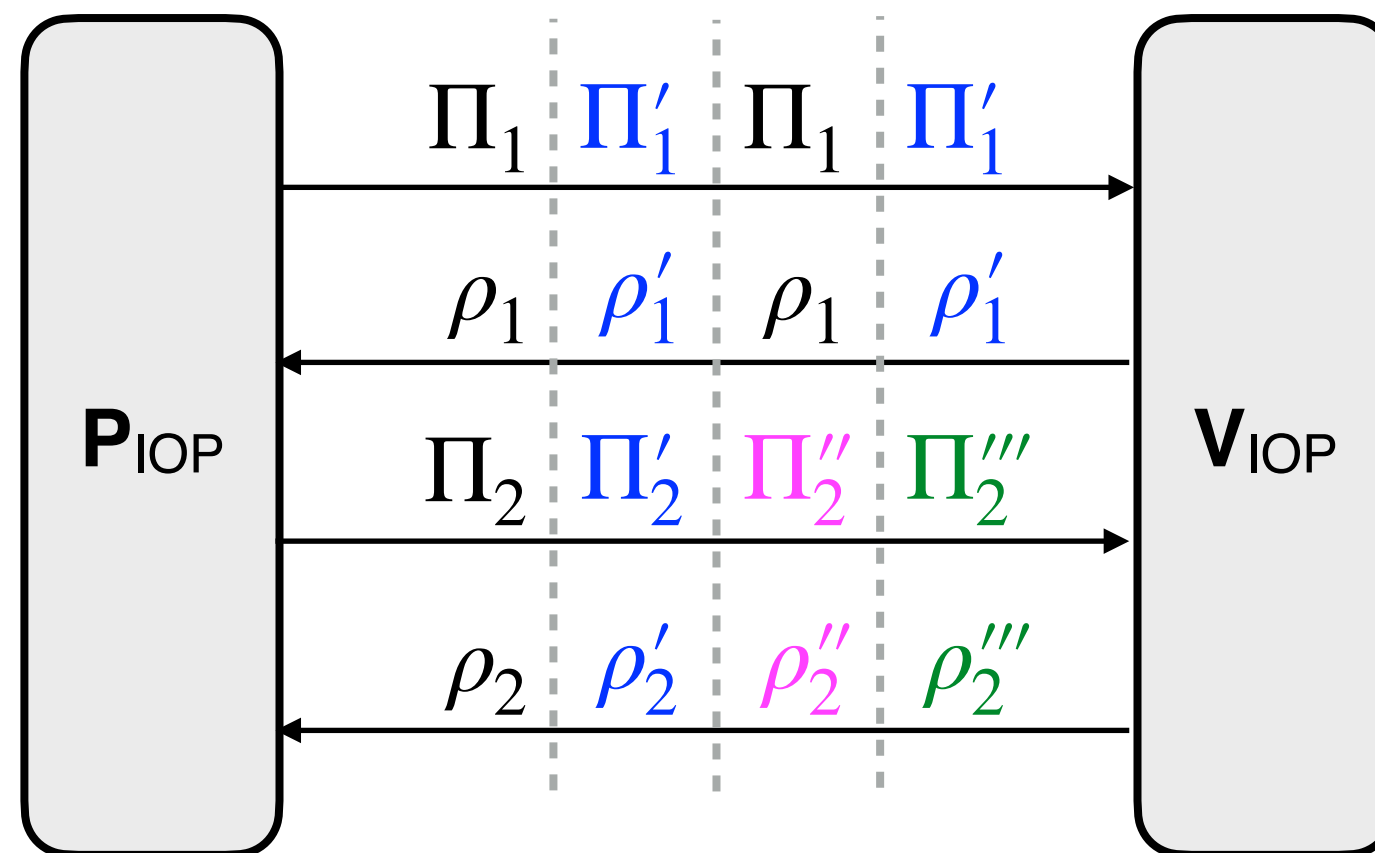
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This is known as a **state-restoration attack**.

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Remark: a PCP has state-restoration soundness error $t \cdot \epsilon_{\text{PCP}}$, explaining the error term that appears for the Micali construction.

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What about **Non-Malleability**?

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Theorem: Micali and BCS emulate \mathcal{F}_{ARG} in the $\mathcal{F}_{\text{GROM}}$ -hybrid model

zkSNARKs in the ROM with Unconditional UC-Security

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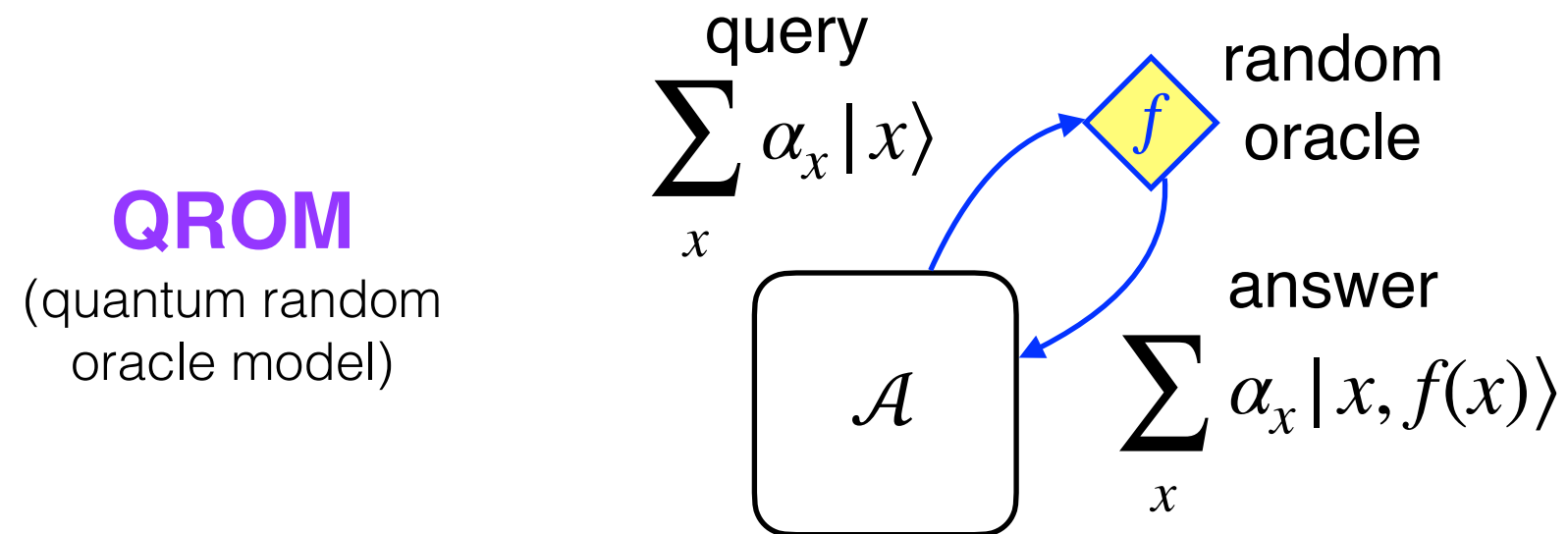
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QROM

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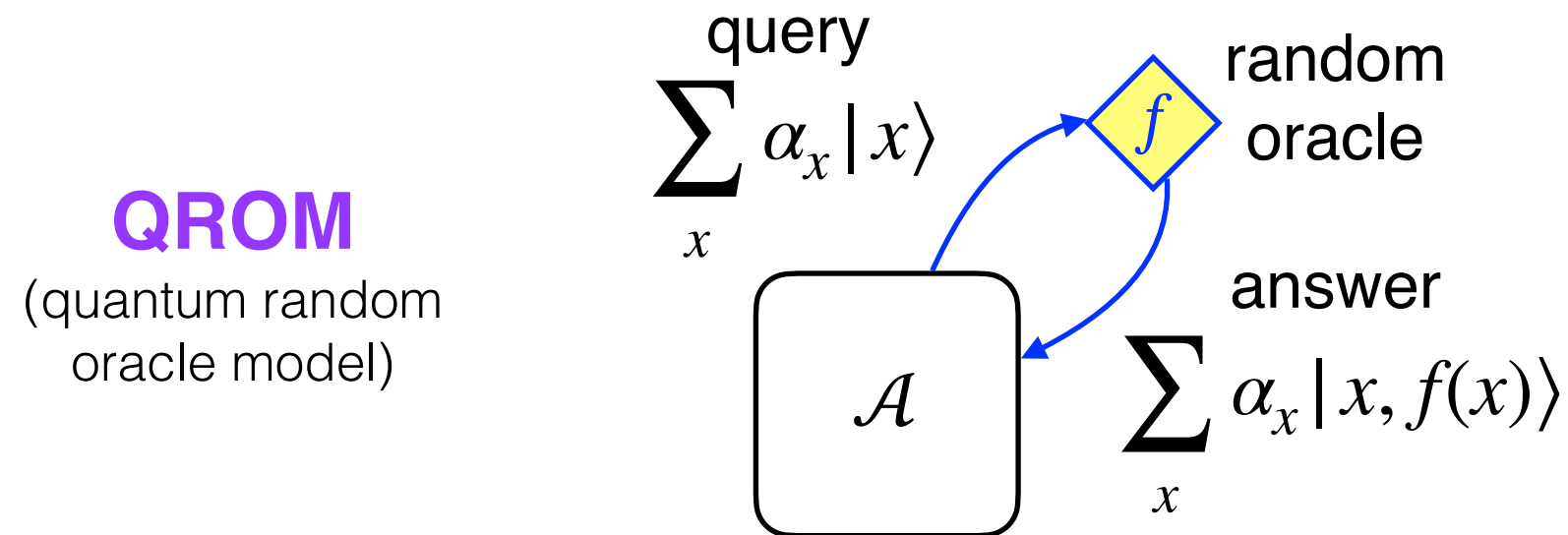
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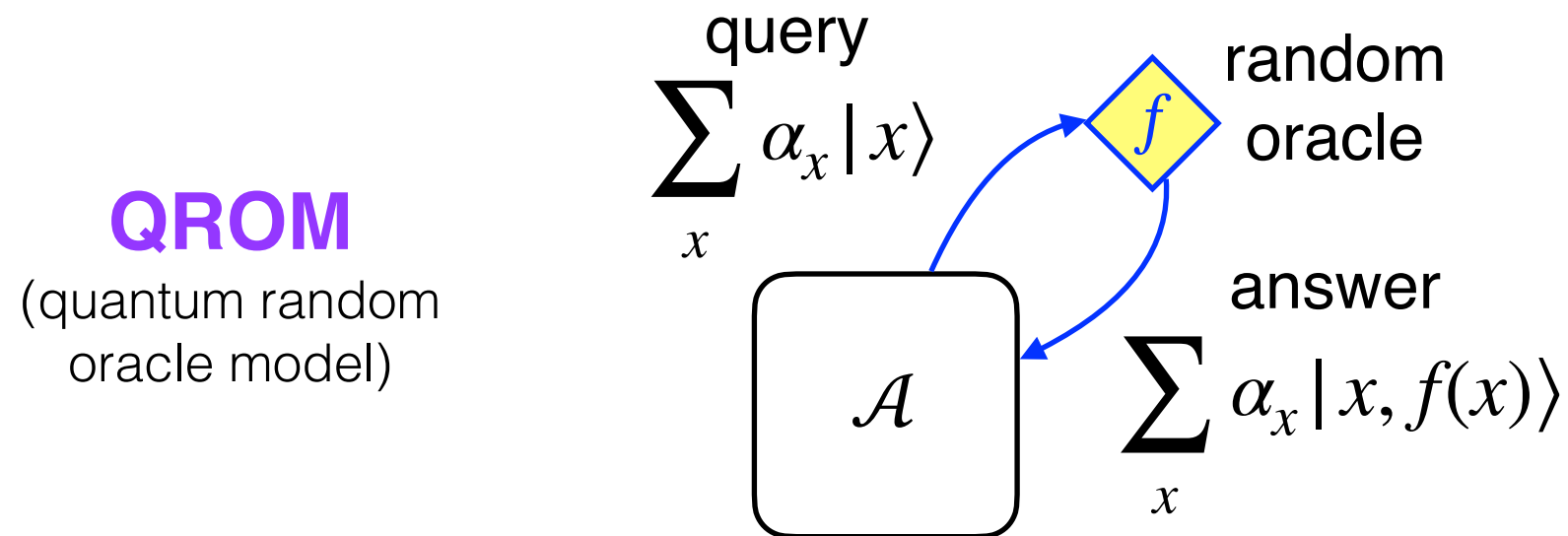
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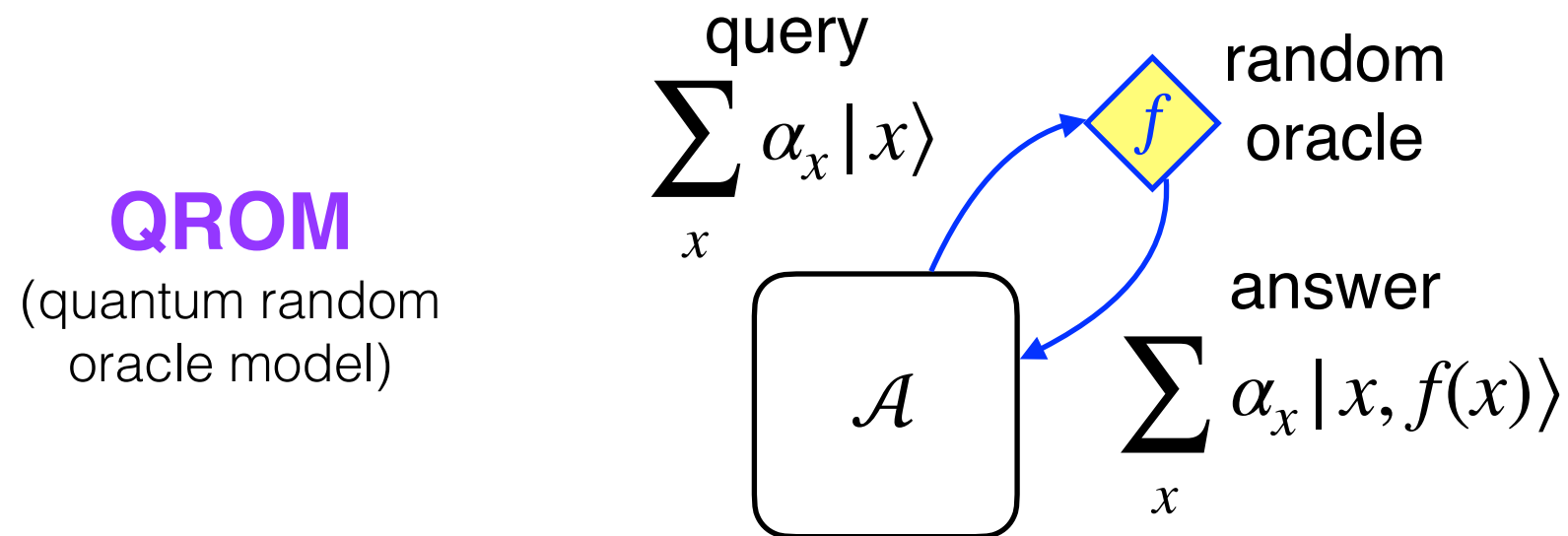


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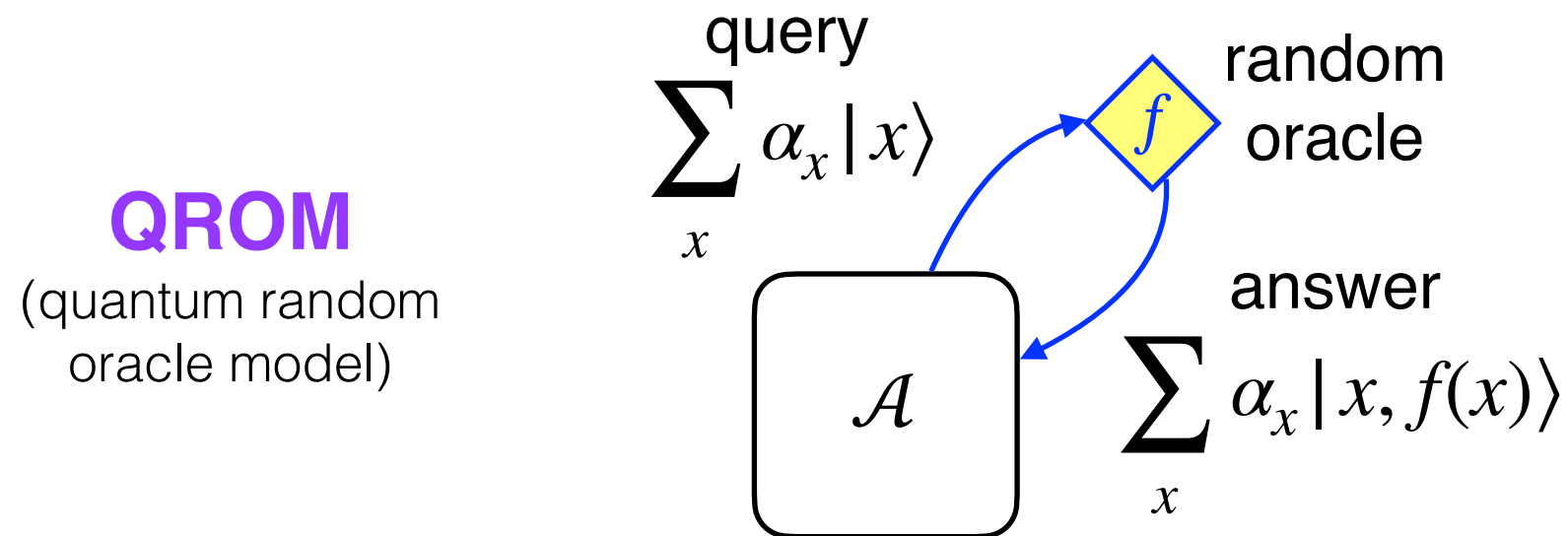
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IOPs are inherent: [CY20] shows a transformation \mathbf{T} such that



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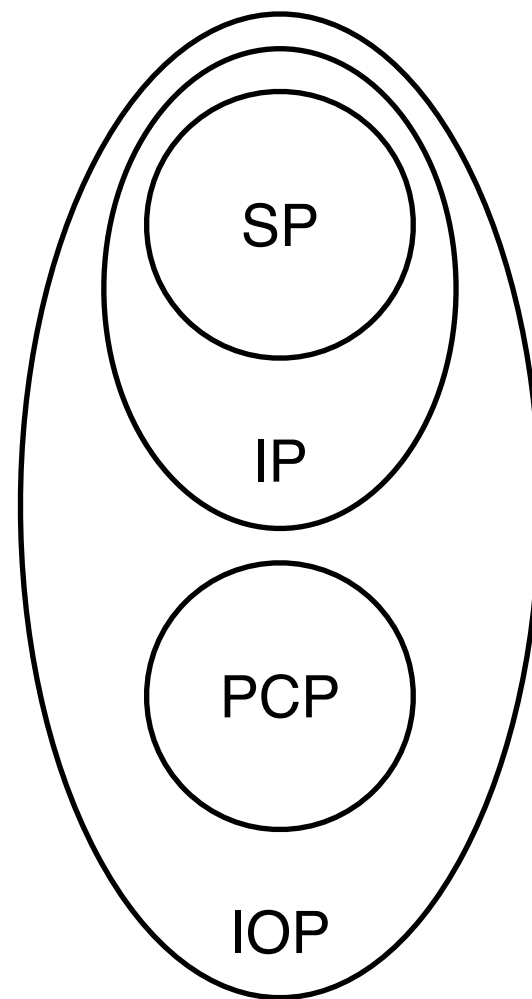
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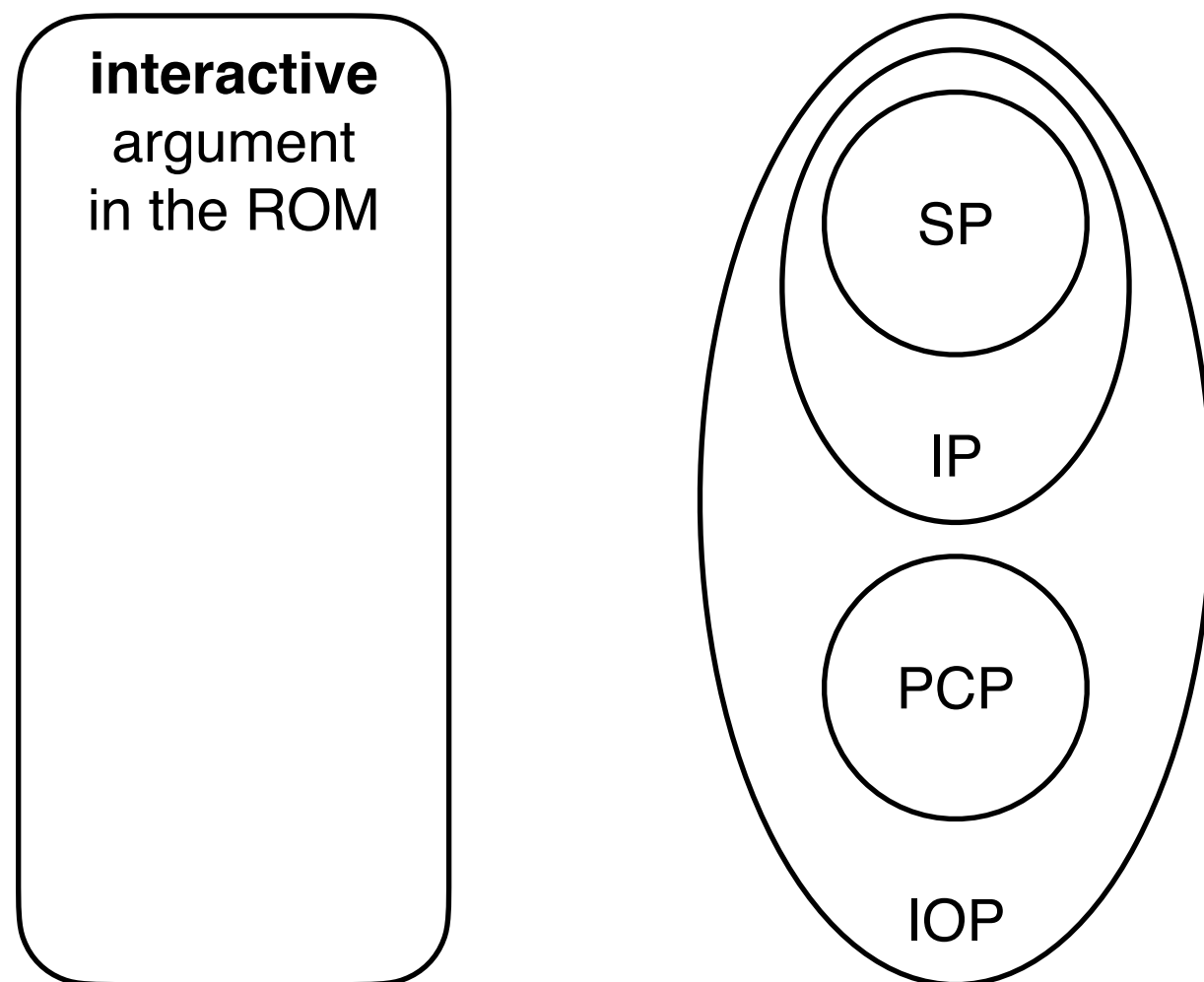


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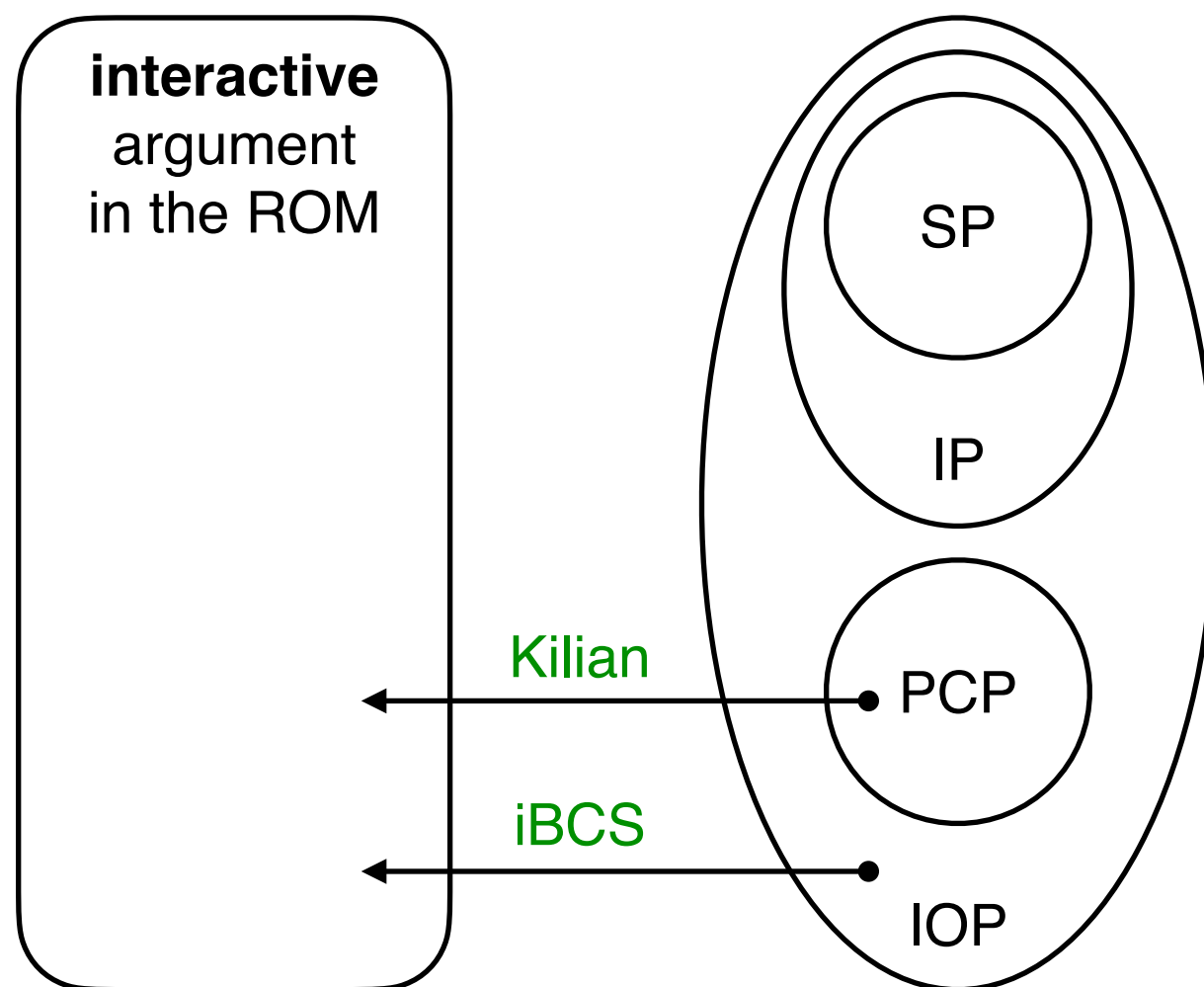


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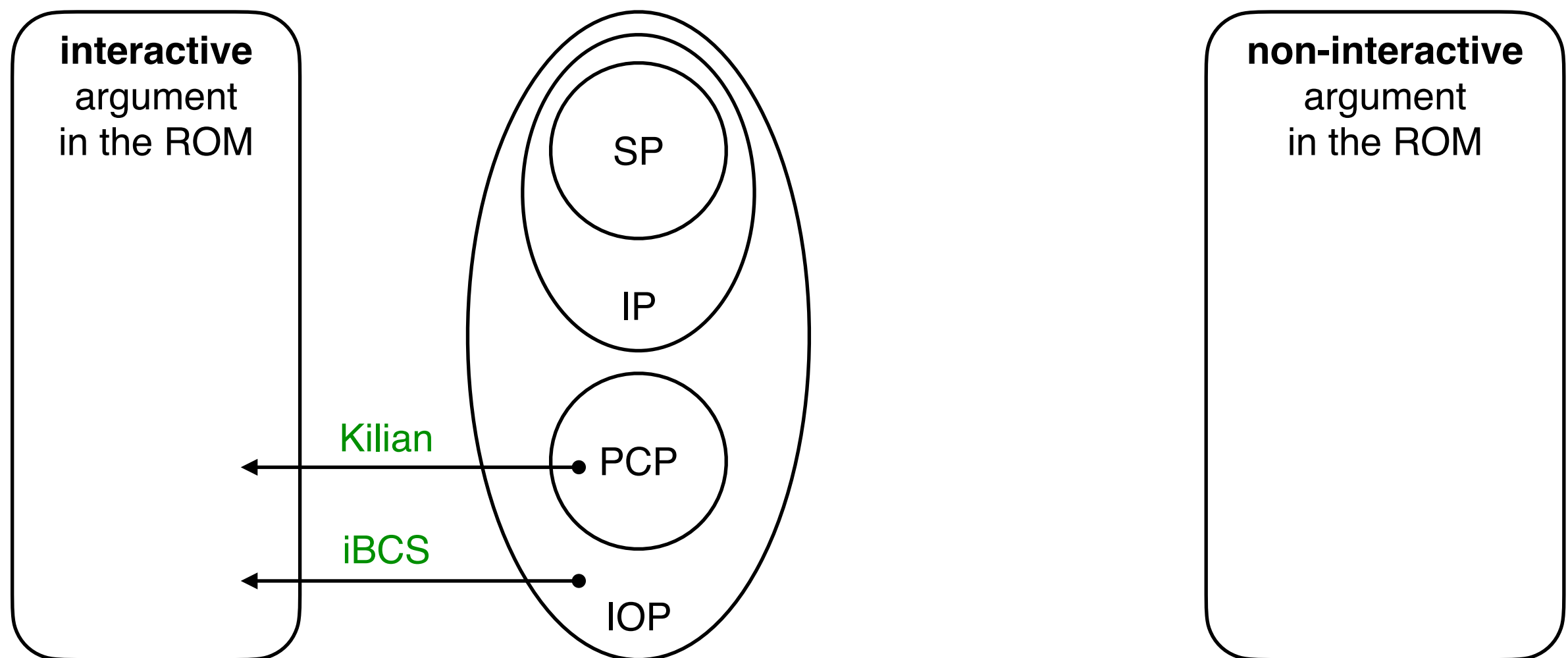


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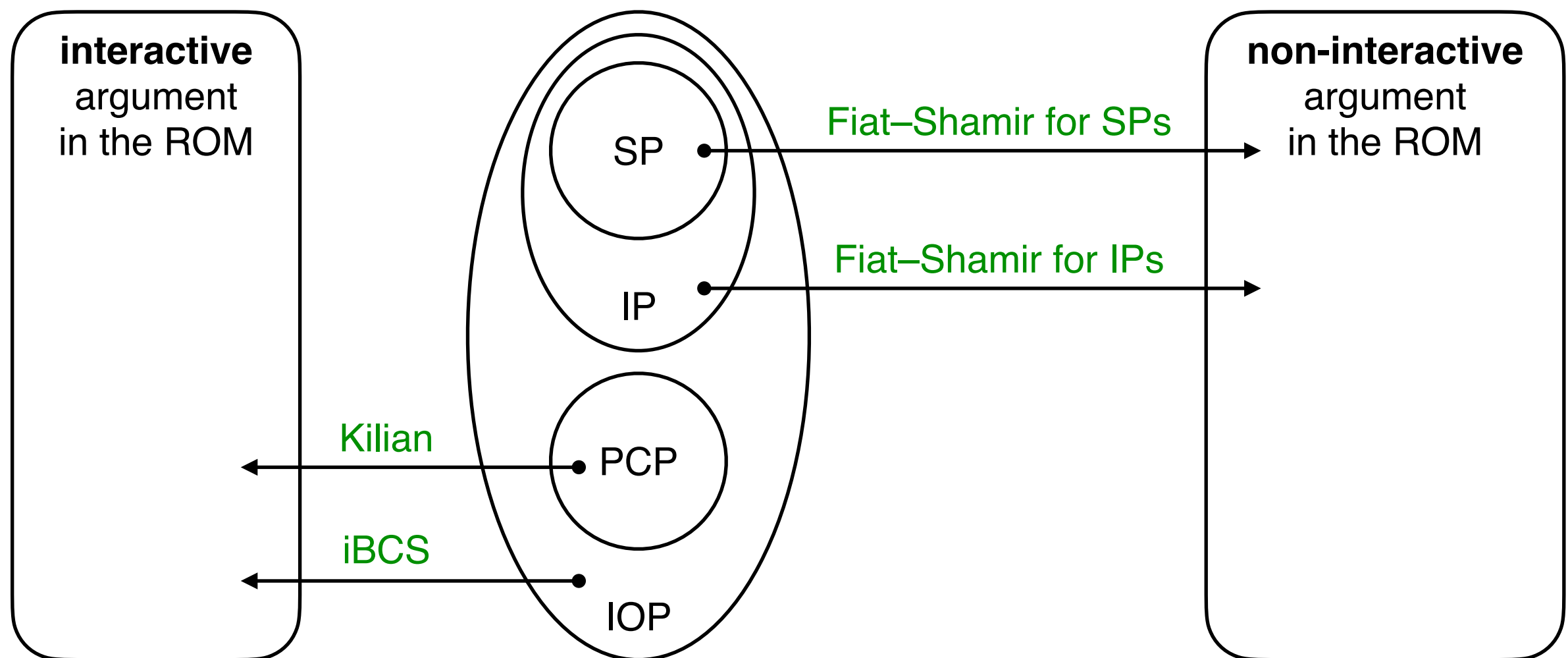


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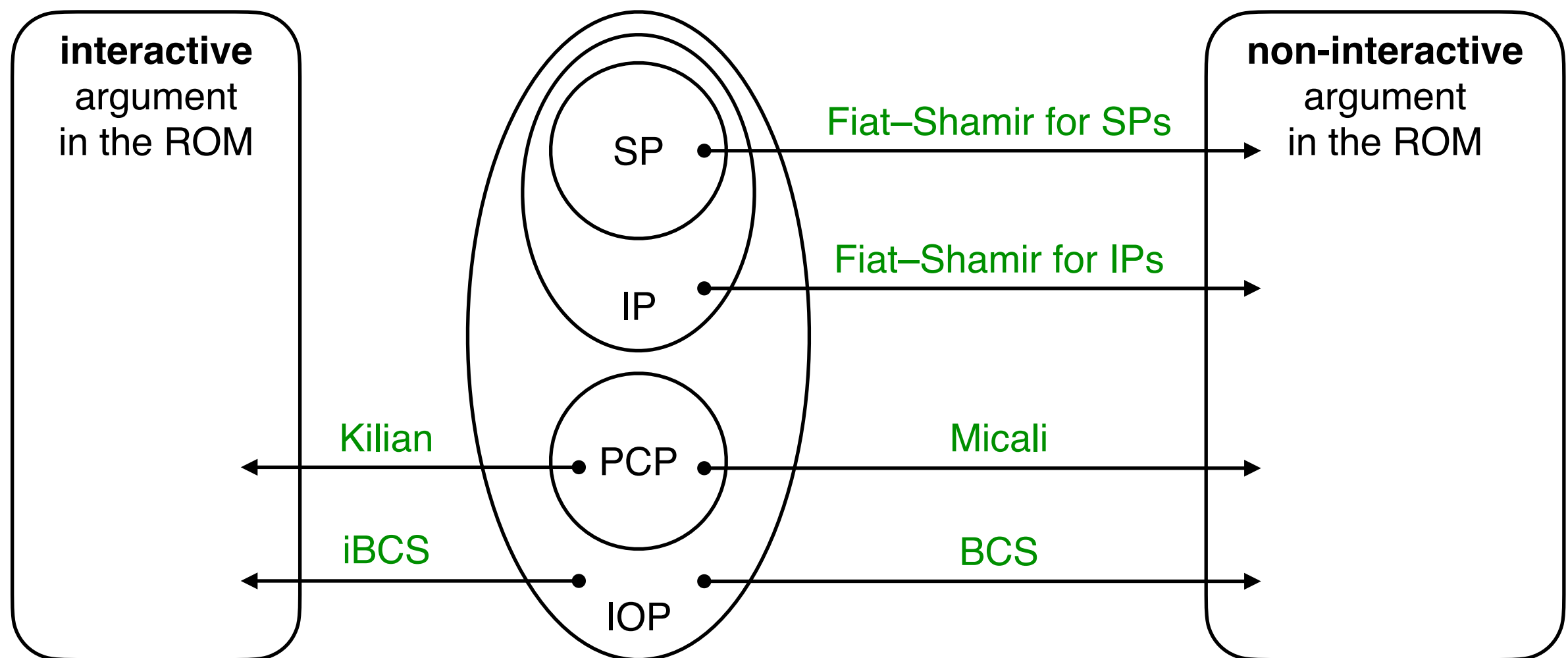


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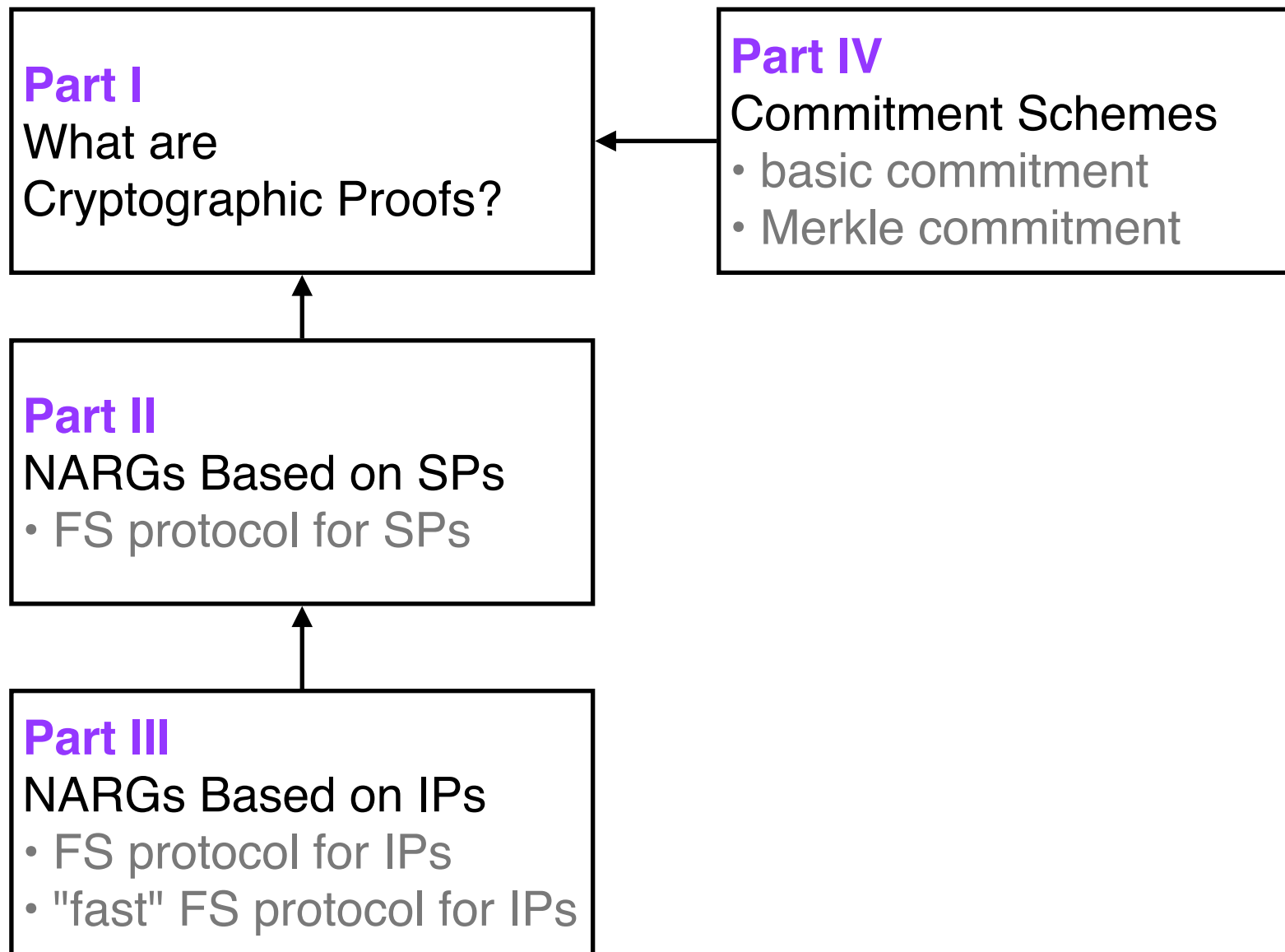
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• FS protocol for IPs
• "fast" FS protocol for IPs

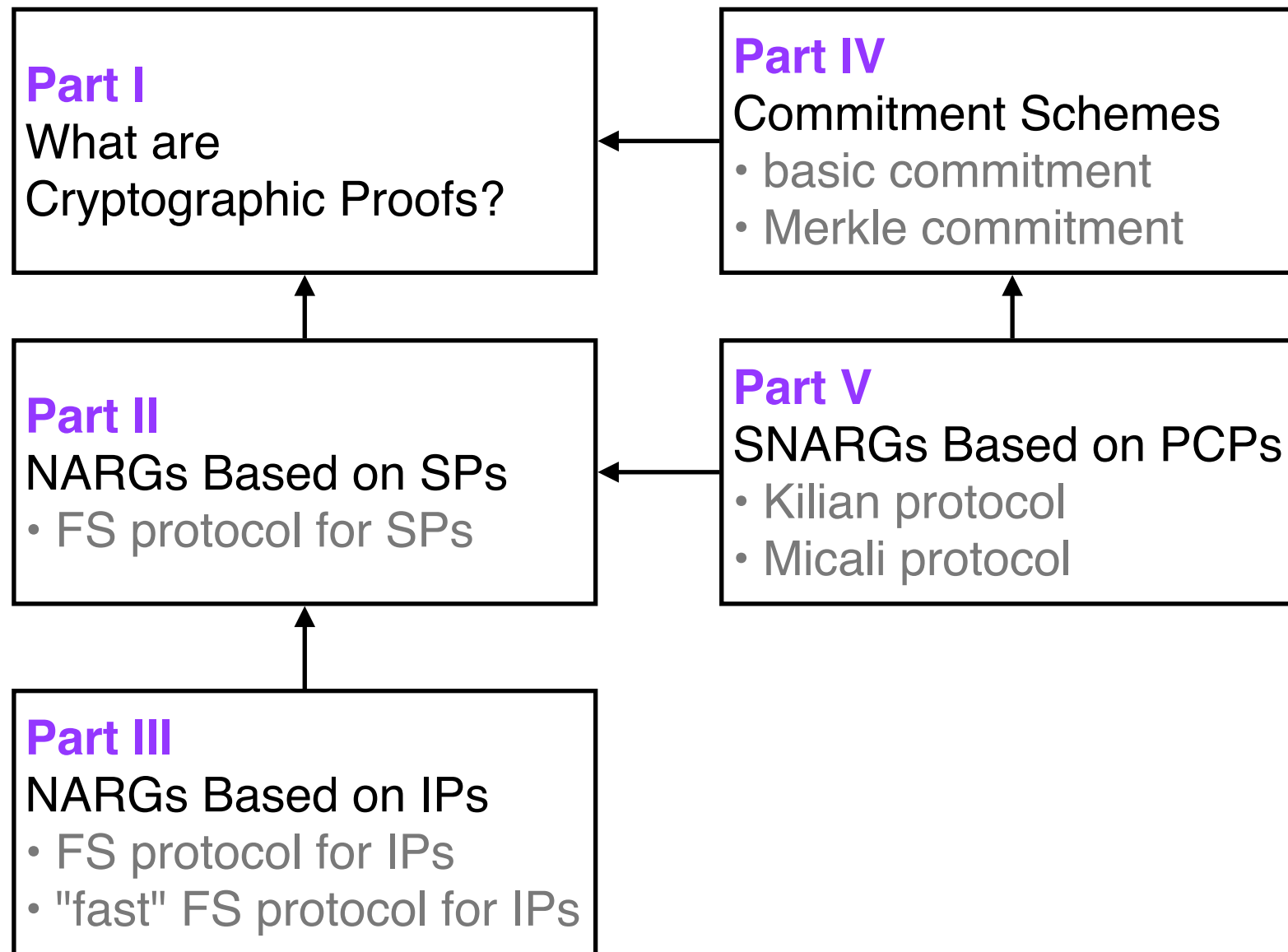
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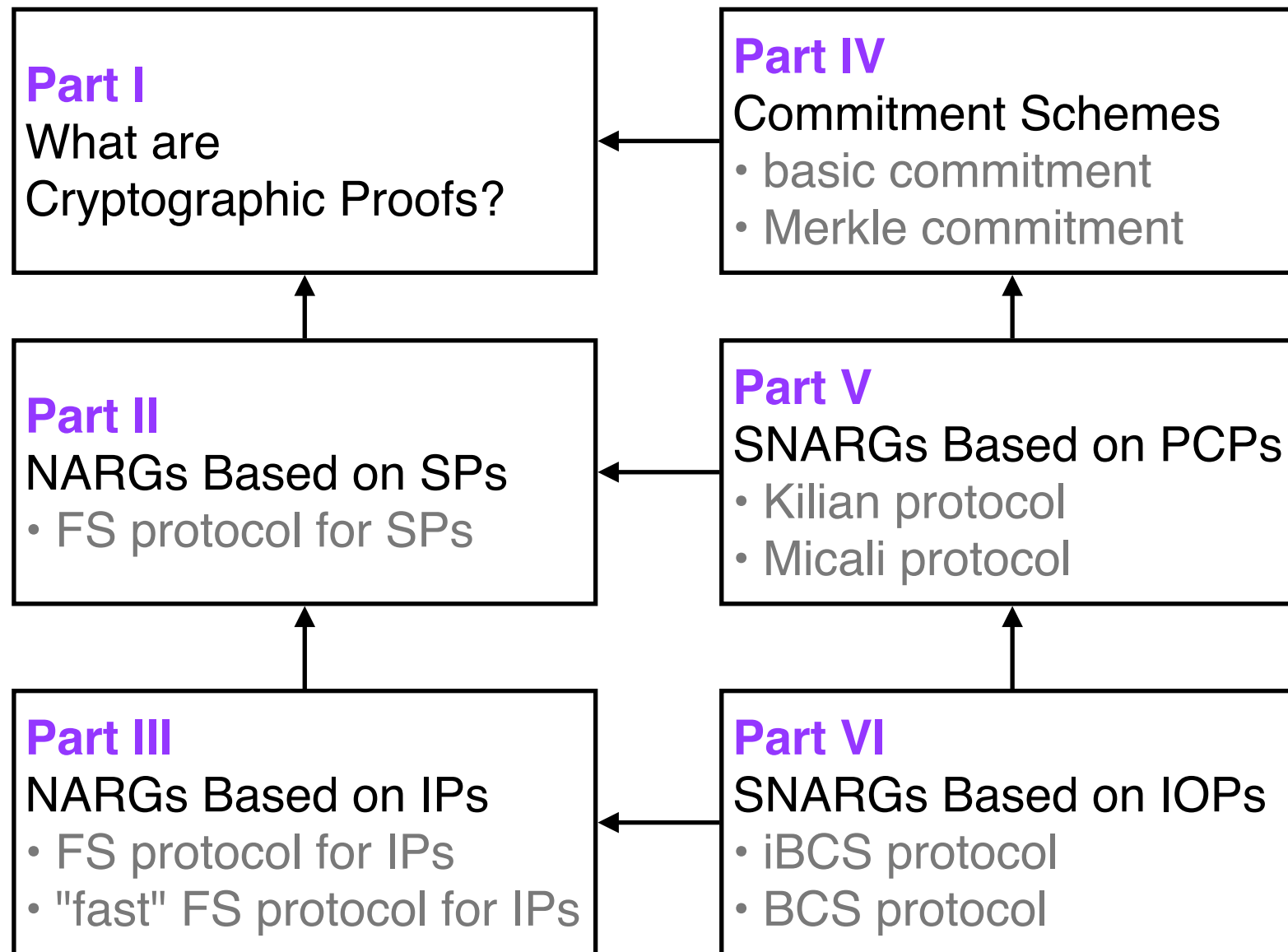
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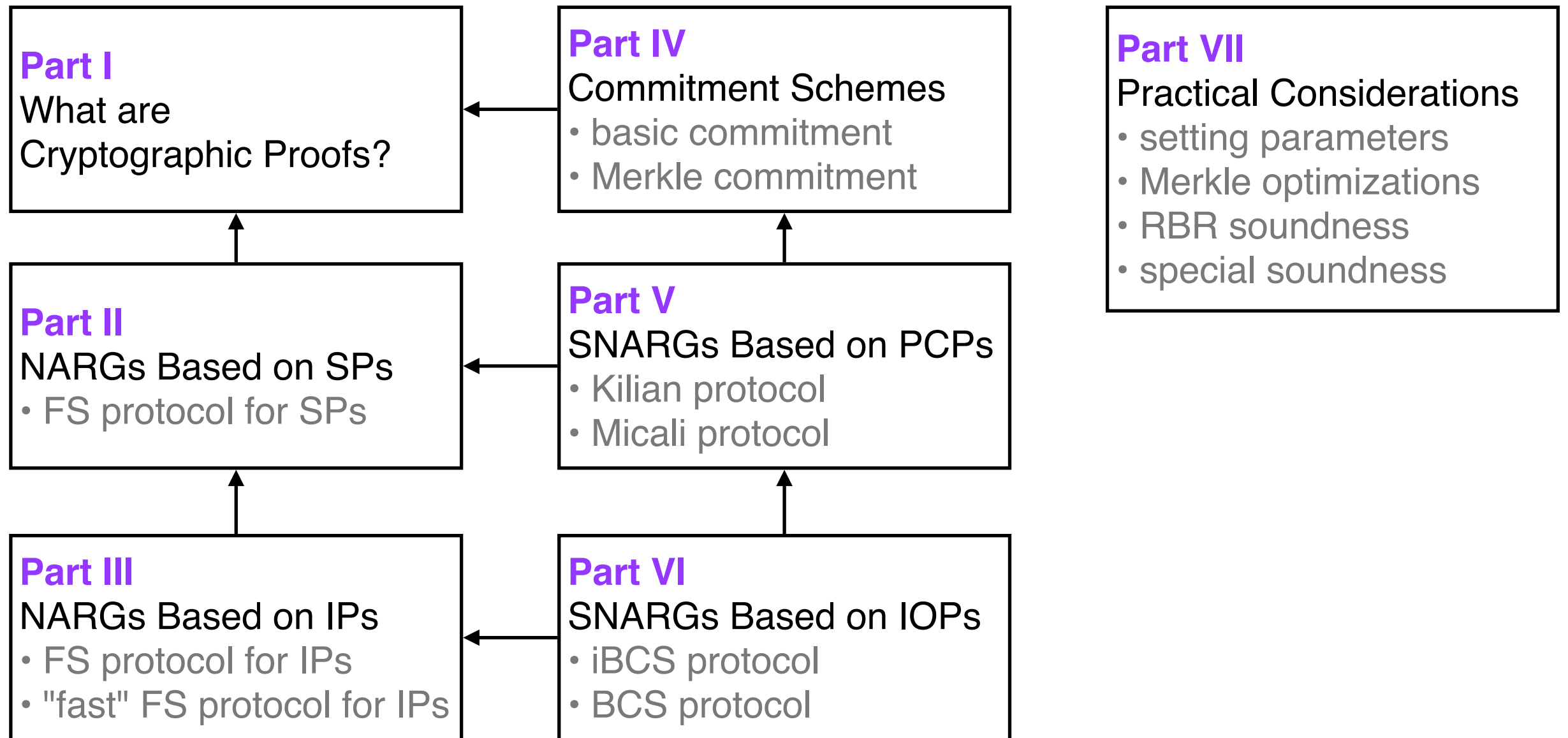
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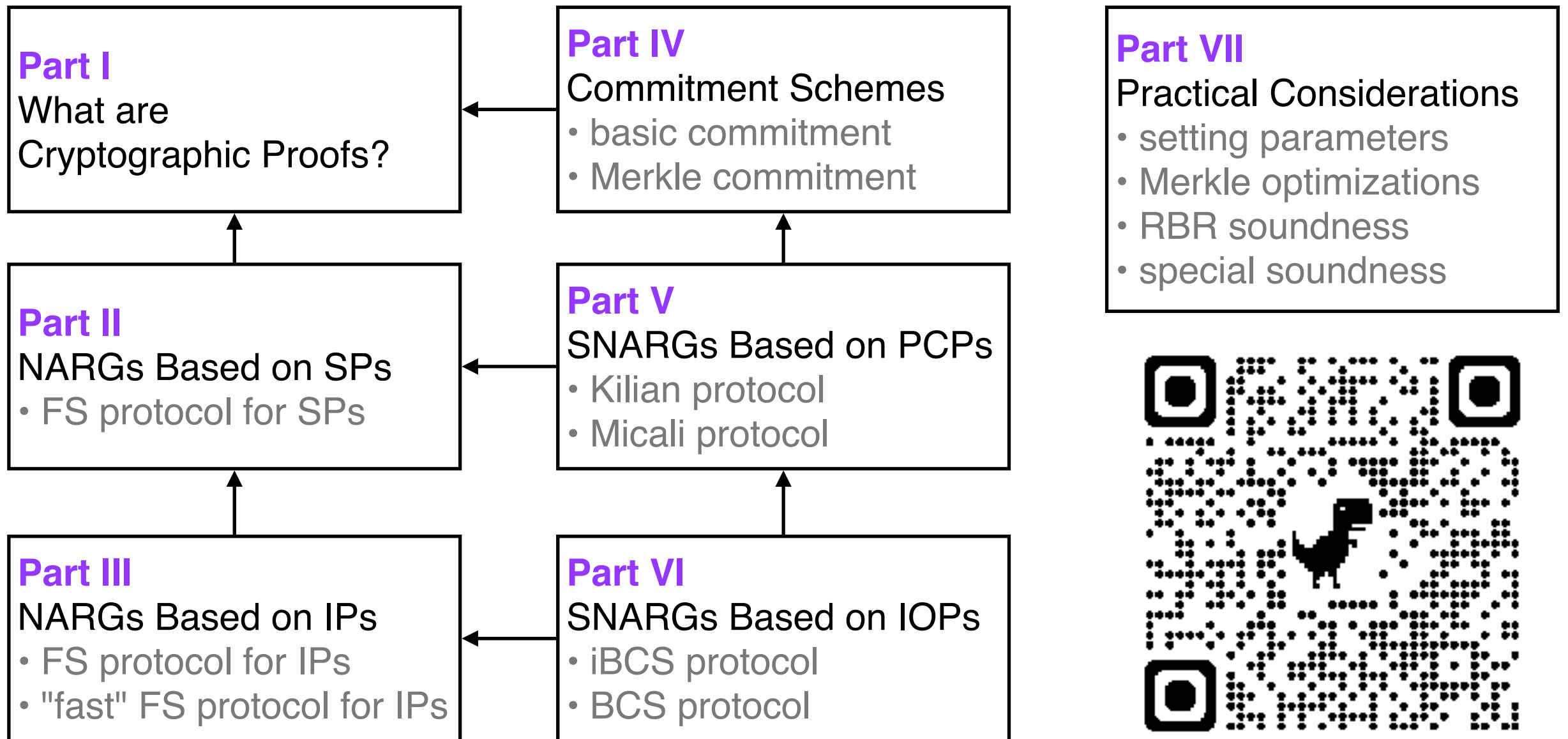
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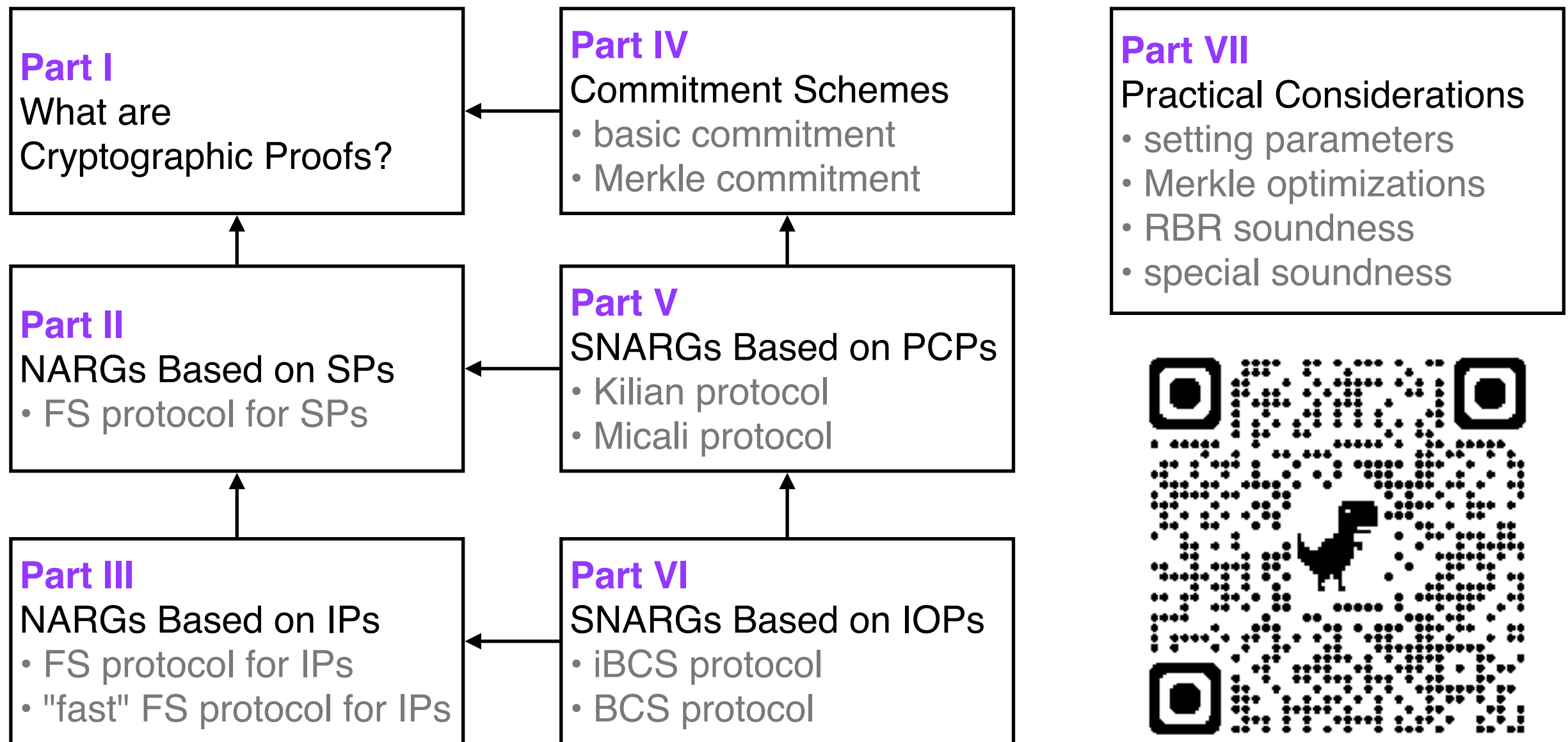
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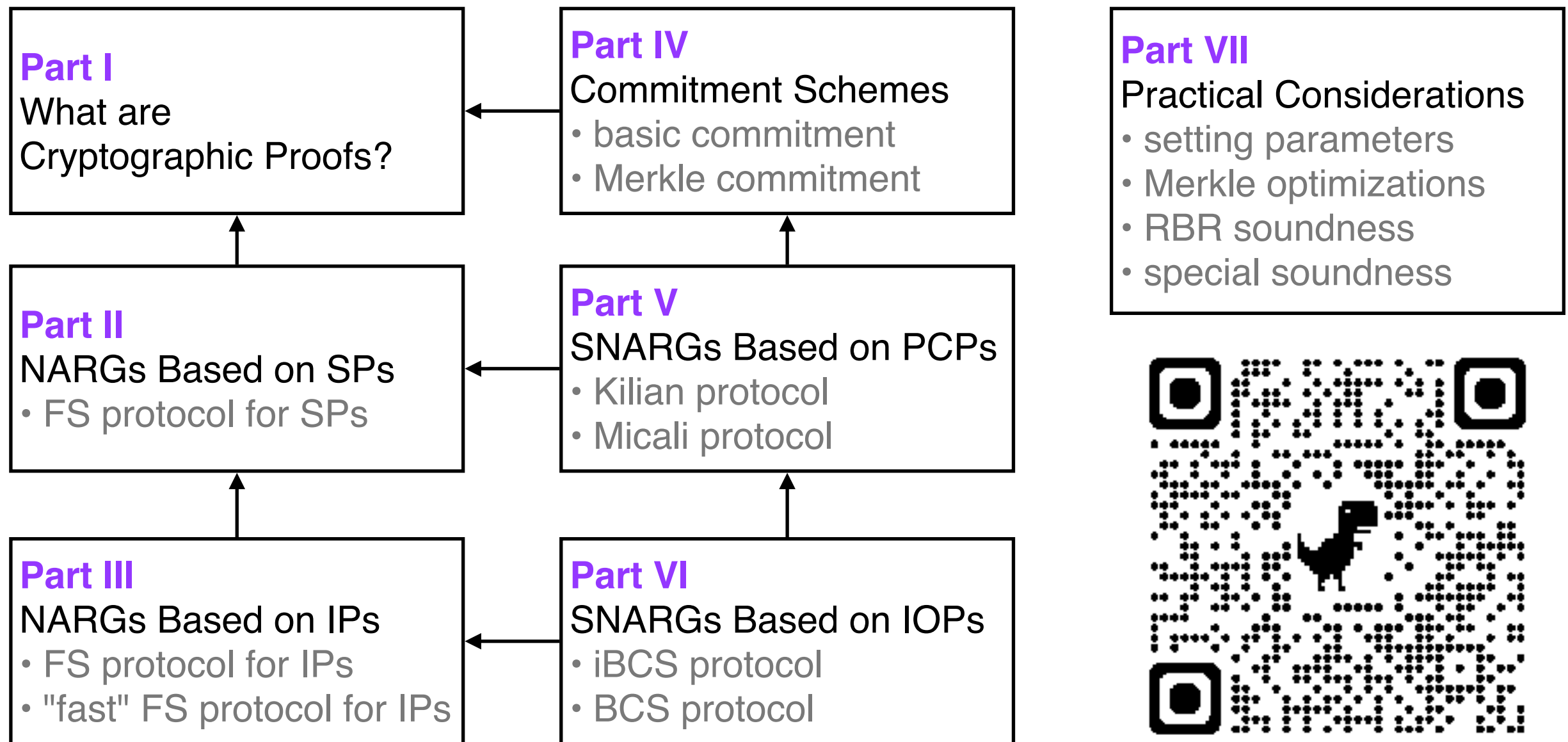


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Comments and suggestions are welcome.

Thanks!

