Contention in Cryptoland: Obfuscation, Leakage and UCE

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Point-Function Obfuscation: A Framework and Generic Constructions

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Obfuscation

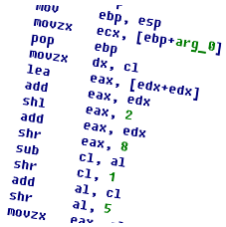
Correctness: $\mathbf{P} \equiv \mathbf{P}^*$

Functionally equivalent.

$\mathbf{P}(x) = \mathbf{P}^*(x)$ for all x.

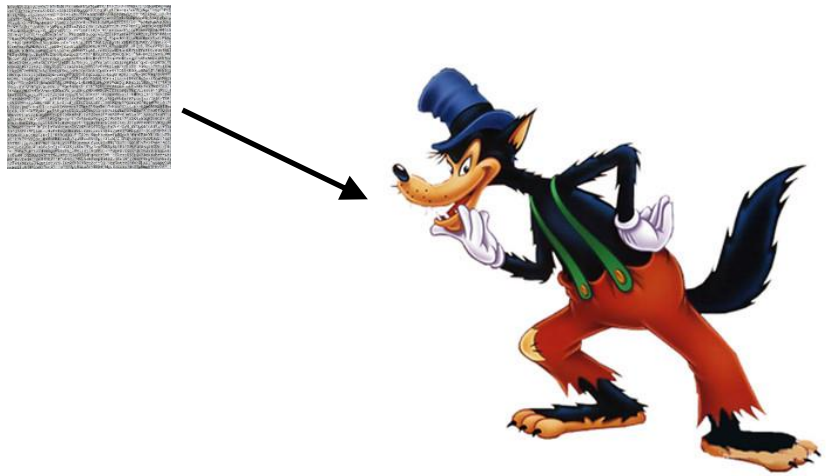
Security:

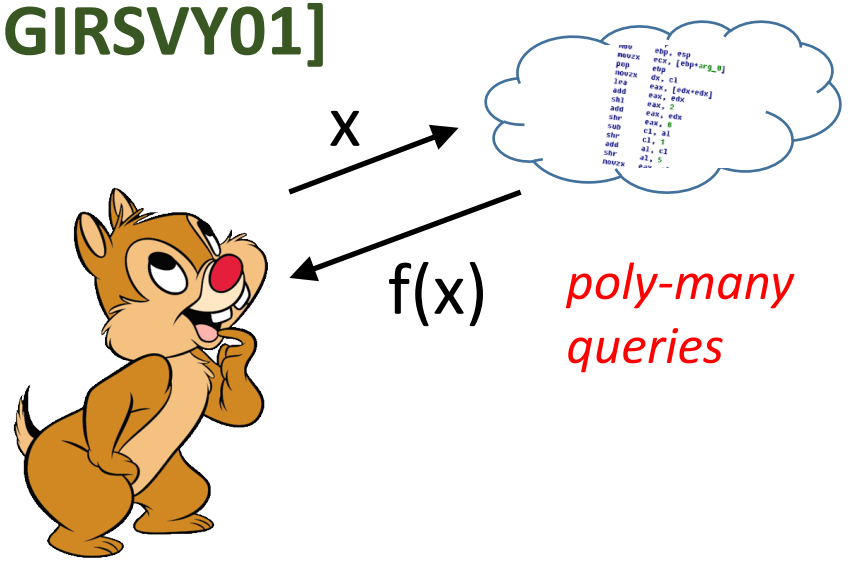
no more useful than an oracle for



Obfuscation

Virtual Black Box Security [BGIRSVY01]





vs.

Polynomial time adversary

Polynomial time simulator

Obfuscation

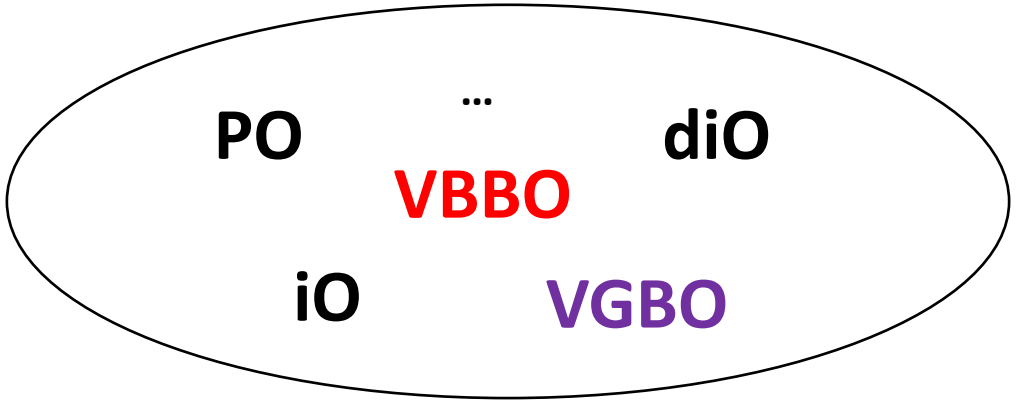
Virtual Black Box Security [BGIRSVY01]

... is not achievable!

Obfuscation

Are there special, weaker forms of obfuscation that are ...

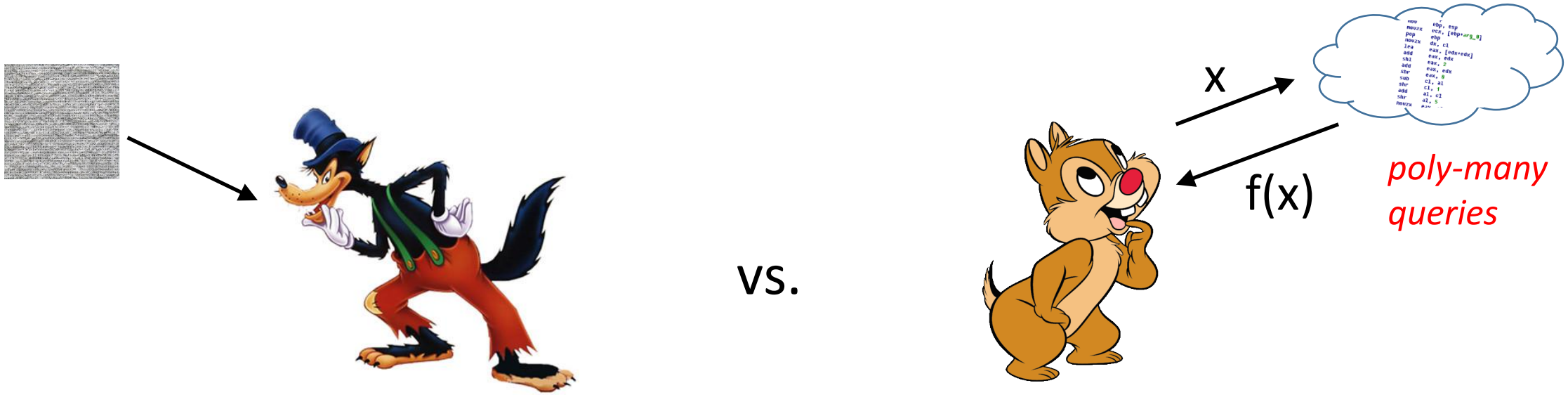
- **achievable?**
- **interesting or useful?**



PO – point-function obfuscation [C97, CMR98, LPS04, ...]
VBBO – virtual black box obfuscation [BGIRSVY01]
iO – indistinguishability obfuscation [BGIRSVY01, GGHRSW13, SW13, ...]
diO – differing-inputs obfuscation [BGIRSVY01, BCP13, ABGSZ13, ...]
VGBO – virtual grey box obfuscation [BC10, ...]

Virtual Grey Box Obfuscation (VGBO)

[Bitansky-Canetti-10]



VGBO evades the negative results of [BGIRSVY01].

Is VGBO Achievable?

[BCKP14] "existing **candidate** indistinguishability **obfuscators** for all circuits may also be considered as **candidates for VGB obfuscation**"

How can we verify this conjecture?

Cryptoanalysis: analyze the used assumptions (multilinear maps, …)

Contentions: find an assumption or a primitive **X** s.t. **VGBO** $\not\longleftrightarrow$ **X**

*We focus on **contentions**.*

Directly reason about the **achievability of our goals**,

sidestepping an **involved analysis of assumptions**.

Past Work on Contentions

Contentions: find another assumption **X** such that **VGBO** $\not\leftrightarrow$ **X**

Past work:

[BCPR14]: iO $\not\leftrightarrow$ extractable one-way functions

[BM14]: iO $\not\leftrightarrow$ multi-bit auxiliary-input PO

[GGHW14]: diO $\not\leftrightarrow$ "special-purpose obfuscation"

Takeaways?

Different feelings are possible…

Perception may evolve over time.

How plausible is iO?

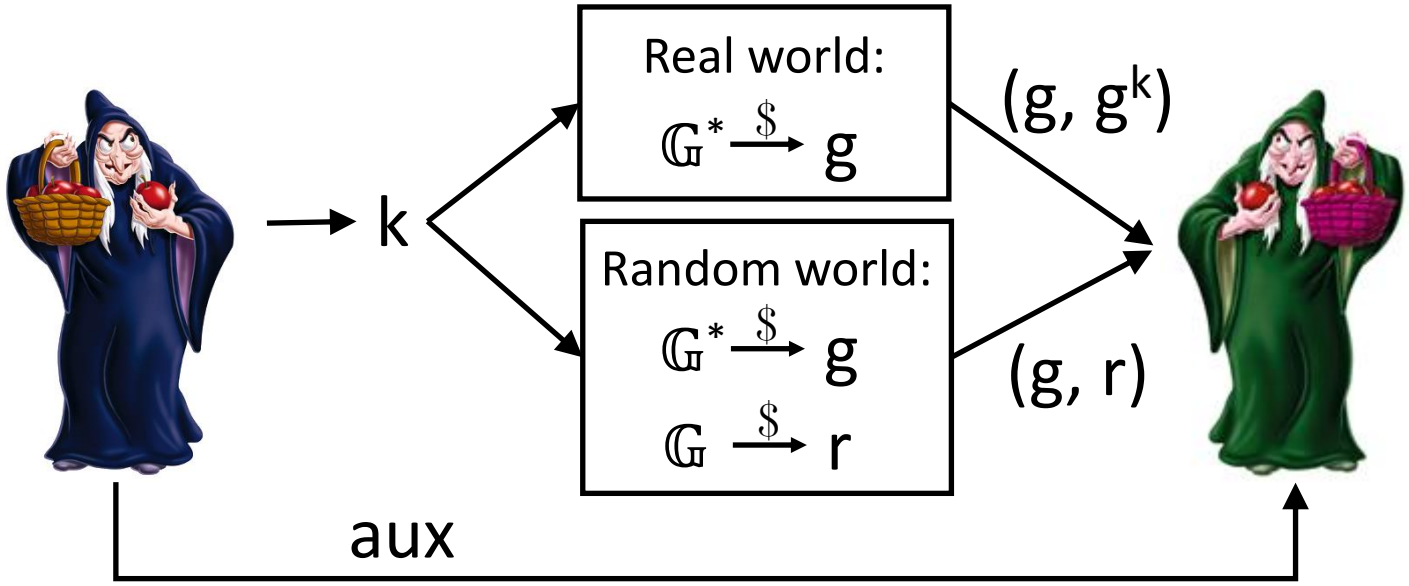
Auxiliary-Input DH Inversion (AI-DHI) [Canetti '97]

[BST16] **VGBO** ⟷ **AI-DHI** — an assumption used to build point-function obfuscation (**PO**).

[Canetti '97] Introduced **AI-DHI** for oracle hashing.

Let $\mathbb{G}$ be a group of prime order.

Let $\mathbb{G}^*$ be the set of generators of $\mathbb{G}$.



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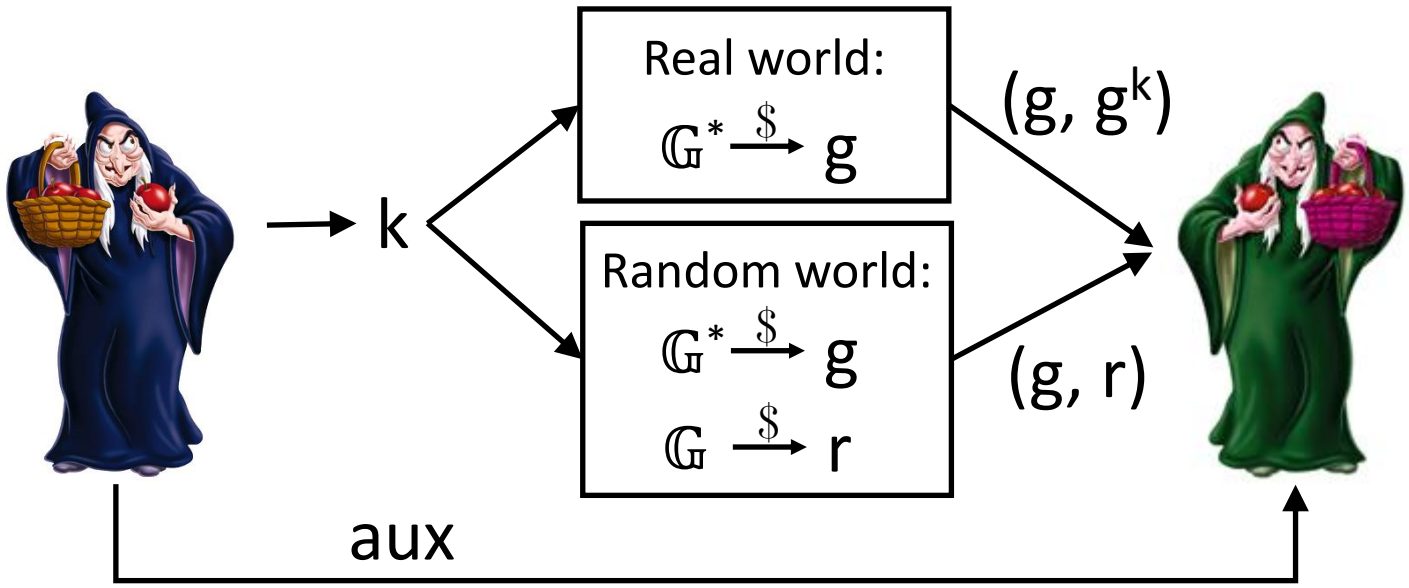
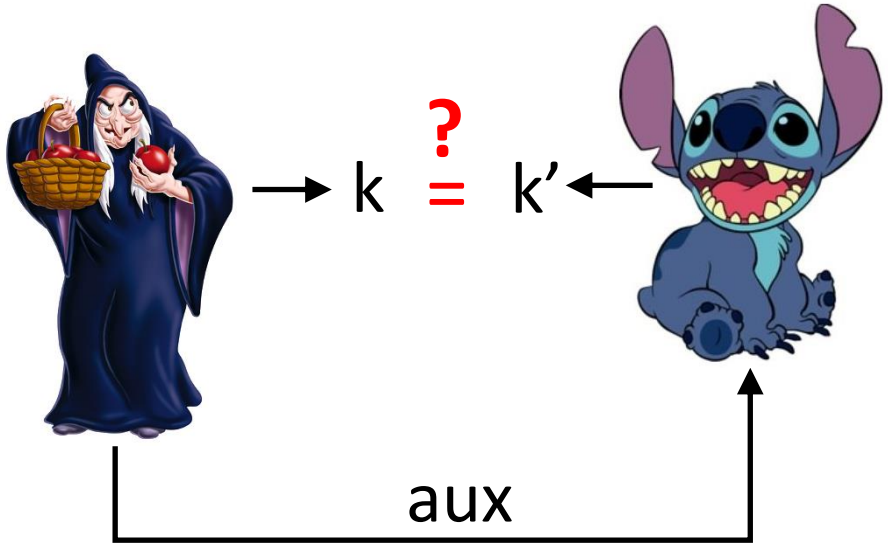


It should be hard to recover k from auxiliary information aux:

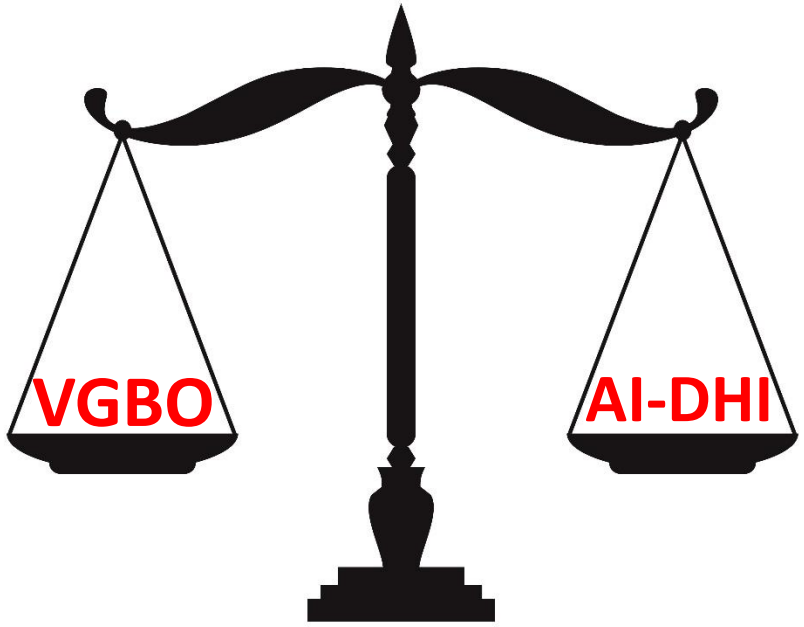


VGBO vs. AI-DHI: Interpretation

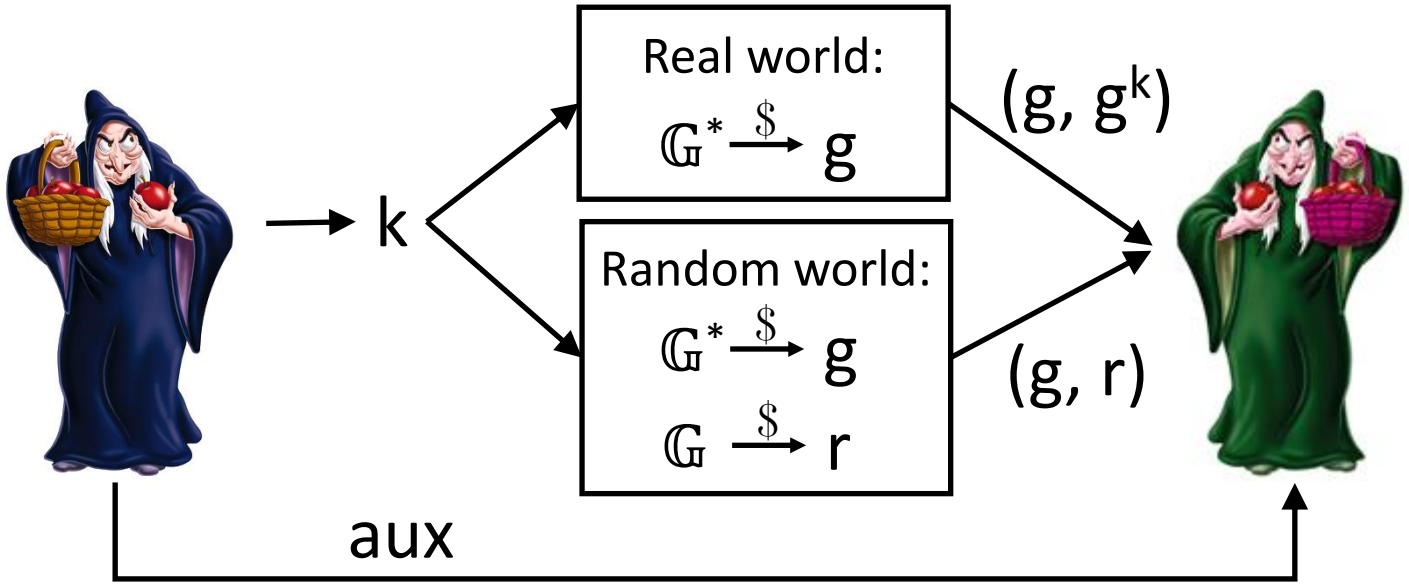
[BST16] **VGBO** ⟷ **AI-DHI**

VGBO and **AI-DHI** cannot co-exist. At least **one does not exist**.

Which one is more plausible?... *Different feelings are possible…*



VGBO vs. AI-DHI: The Attack



Idea: use VGBO to break AI-DHI.

1. Sample k uniformly at random.
2. Set aux := $\mathrm{Obf}_{\mathrm{VGB}}(\mathrm{C}_k)$ for C_k defined as follows:

$$\mathrm{C}_k(g, u) = 1 \quad \text{if } g^k = u$$
$$\mathrm{C}_k(g, u) = 0 \quad \text{if } g^k \neq u$$

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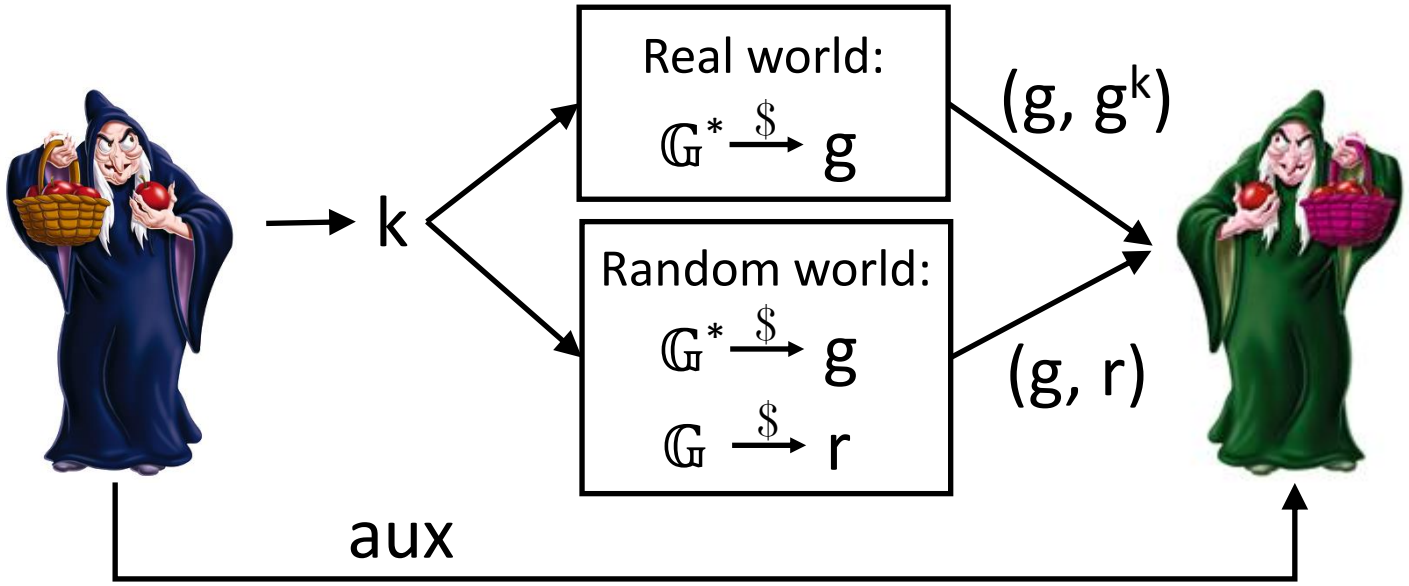

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(1) Can distinguish between worlds:

Real world: $\mathrm{C}_k(g, g^k) = 1$
Random world: $\mathrm{C}_k(g, r) = 0$ (w.h.p.)

(2) Hard to extract k from $\text{Obf}_{\text{VGB}}(\mathrm{C}_k)$:

We show that $\text{Obf}_{\text{VGB}}(\mathrm{C}_k)$ is indistinguishable from $\text{Obf}_{\text{VGB}}(\mathrm{C}^0)$ for

$$\mathrm{C}^0(g, u) = 0$$

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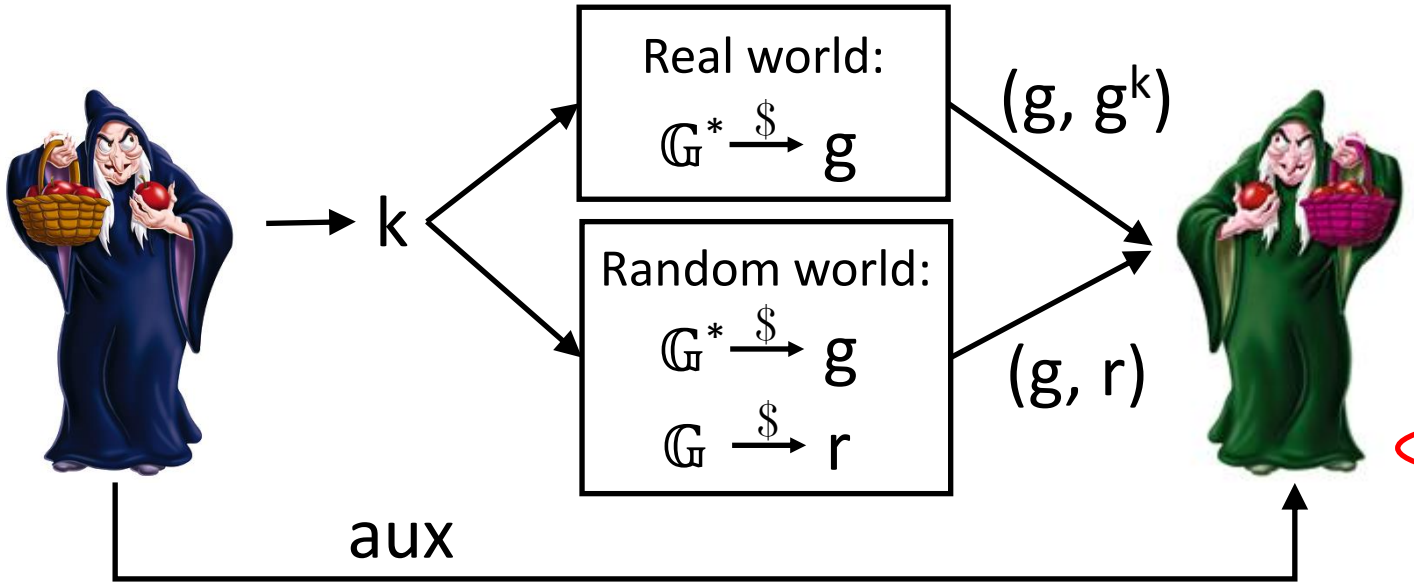

Idea: use VGBO to break AI-DHI.

1. Sample k uniformly at random.
2. Set aux := $\text{Obf}_{\text{VGB}}(C_k)$ for C_k defined as follows:

$C_k(g, u) = 0$ if $g \notin \mathbb{G}^*$ or $u \notin \mathbb{G}$

$C_k(g, u) = 1$ if $g^k = u$

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VGBO vs. AI-DHI: The Attack

Claim: $\mathrm{Obf}_{\mathrm{VGB}}(C_k)$ is indistinguishable from $\mathrm{Obf}_{\mathrm{VGB}}(C^0)$

1. k is uniformly random.
2. C_k is defined as follows:
   - $C_k(g, u) = 0$ if $g \notin \mathbb{G}^*$ or $u \notin \mathbb{G}$
   - $C_k(g, u) = 1$ if $g^k = u$
   - $C_k(g, u) = 0$ if $g^k \neq u$
3. C^0 is a zero-circuit:
   - $C^0(g, u) = 0$

$\mathrm{Obf}_{\mathrm{VGB}}(C_k)$

Polynomial time adversary

Indistinguishable output distribution by the security of VGBO.

poly-many queries

g, u → C_k

$C_k(g, u)$ →

Unbounded simulator

Information-theoretically indistinguishable.

g, u → C^0

poly-many queries

$C^0(g, u)$ →

Unbounded simulator

VGBO vs. AI-DHI: Implications

AI-DHI is the main assumption used to construct auxiliary-input point-function obfuscation (**AIPO**).

[BS16] **Can we recover constructions of point-function obfuscation from other assumptions?**

Point-Function Obfuscation (PO)

[Canetti'97, CMR98, LPS04, GK05, Wee'05, ...]

For any **target point** k, define a **point function** I_k:

$$I_k(x) = 1 \quad \text{if } x = k$$
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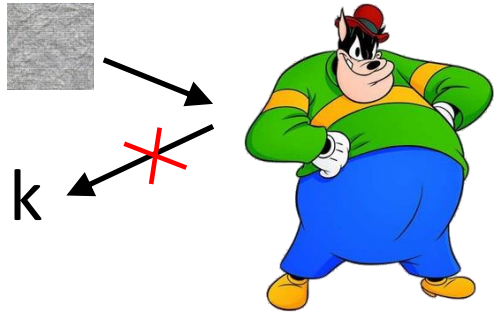
Obfuscation:

Correctness: same as before.

Security (informally):

*It should be **hard to extract any information about k**.*



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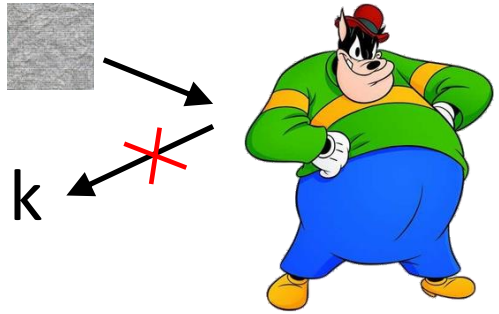


Definitional choices from prior work:

What is the distribution of k?

Is auxiliary information allowed? —Yes→ How unpredictable is the target point, given aux? (comp., sub-exp., exp.)

Can use multiple, correlated target points?

…

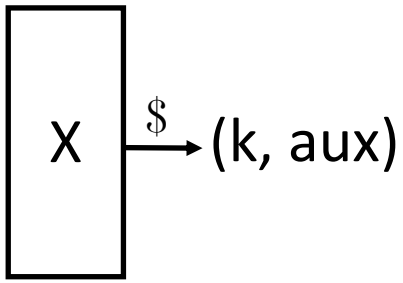
Framework for Point-Function Obfuscation

Propose **parameterized definitions** for point-function obfuscation (PO),
and show how to get **generic constructions** from a number of assumptions.

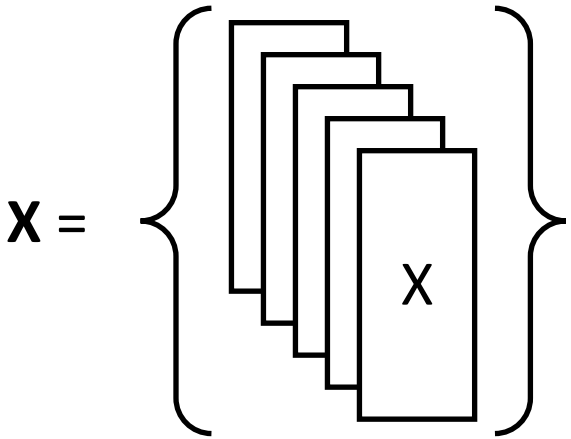
[BS16]

Similar to frameworks used for **UCE** [BHK13] and **(d)iO** [BST14].

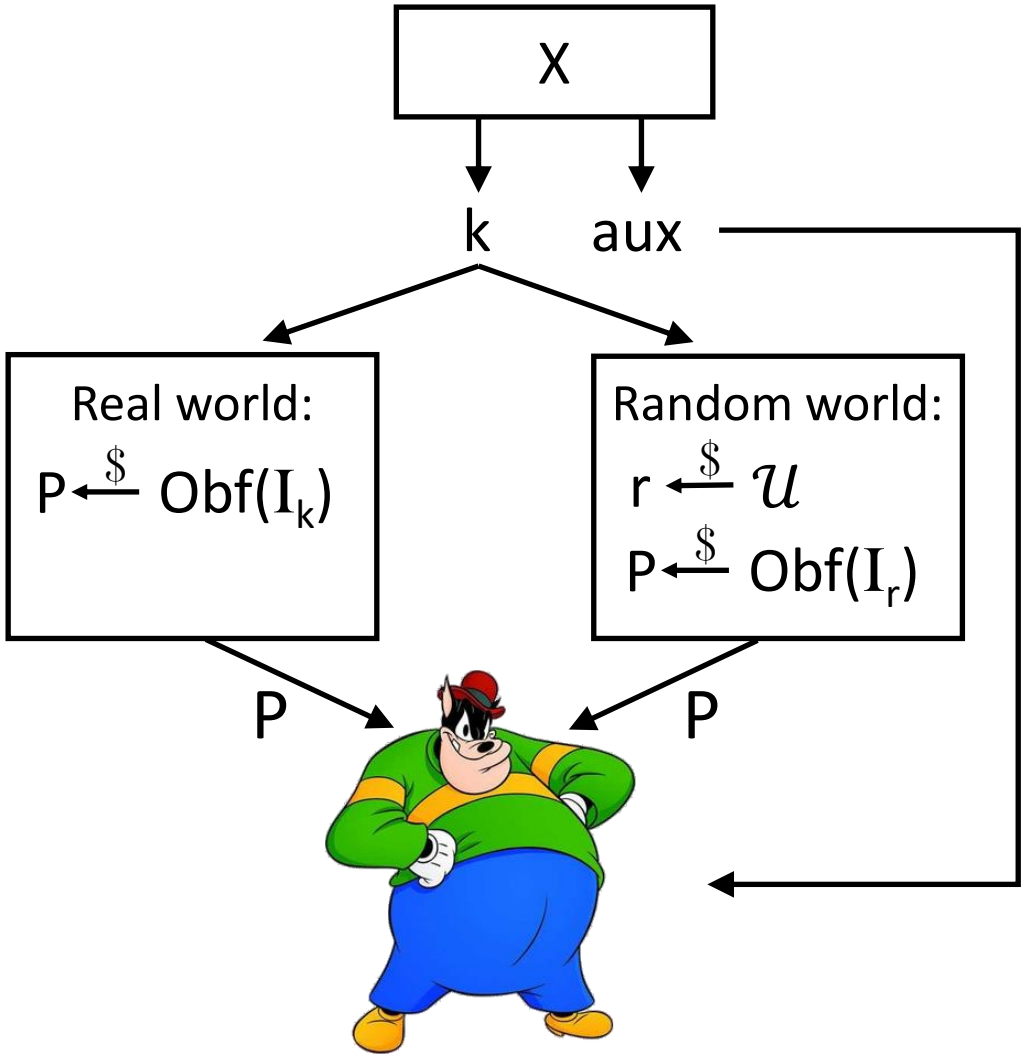
Target generator.



Class (set) of target generators.



IND[X]-secure Point-Function Obfuscators



Obf is **IND[X]-secure** if no adversary can distinguish between the two worlds.

Some classes of target generators:

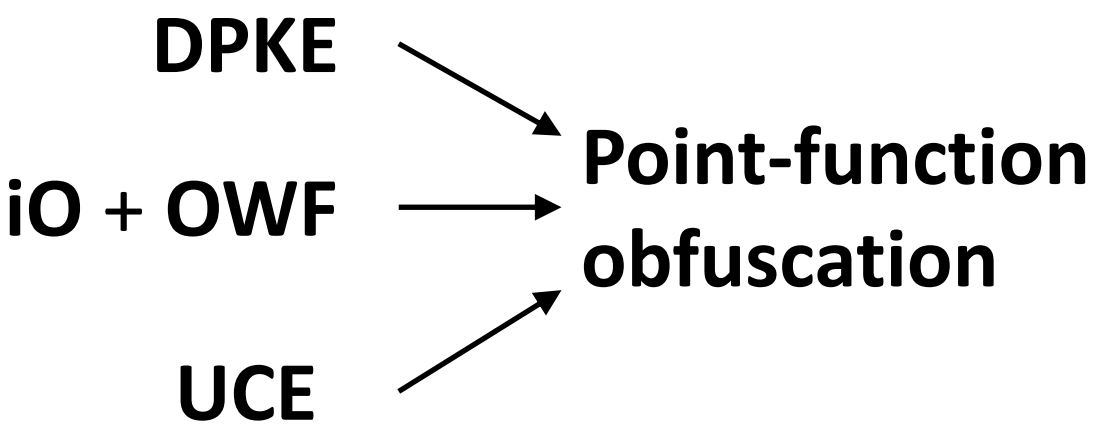
- $\mathbf{X}^{\varepsilon}$ – no auxiliary information
- $\mathbf{X}^{cup}$ – computationally unpredictable
- $\mathbf{X}^{seup}$ – sub-exponentially unpredictable
- $\mathbf{X}^{n}$ – n correlated target points

Some notions we recover:

- IND[$\mathbf{X}^{cup} \cap \mathbf{X}^{1}$] – AIPO [Canetti'97, GK05, BP14, ...]
- IND[$\mathbf{X}^{cup} \cap \mathbf{X}^{\varepsilon} \cap \mathbf{X}^{1}$] – basic PO [Canetti'97, ...]
- IND[$\mathbf{X}^{cup}$] – composable AIPO [CD08, ...]

Generic constructions for PO

We provide three **generic constructions** of point-function obfuscation:



DPKE – Deterministic public-key encryption [BBO07, BFOR08, BS11, ...]
iO – Indistinguishability obfuscation [BGIRSVY01, GGHRSW13, SW13, ...]
OWF – One-way functions
UCE – Universal computational extractor [BHK13]

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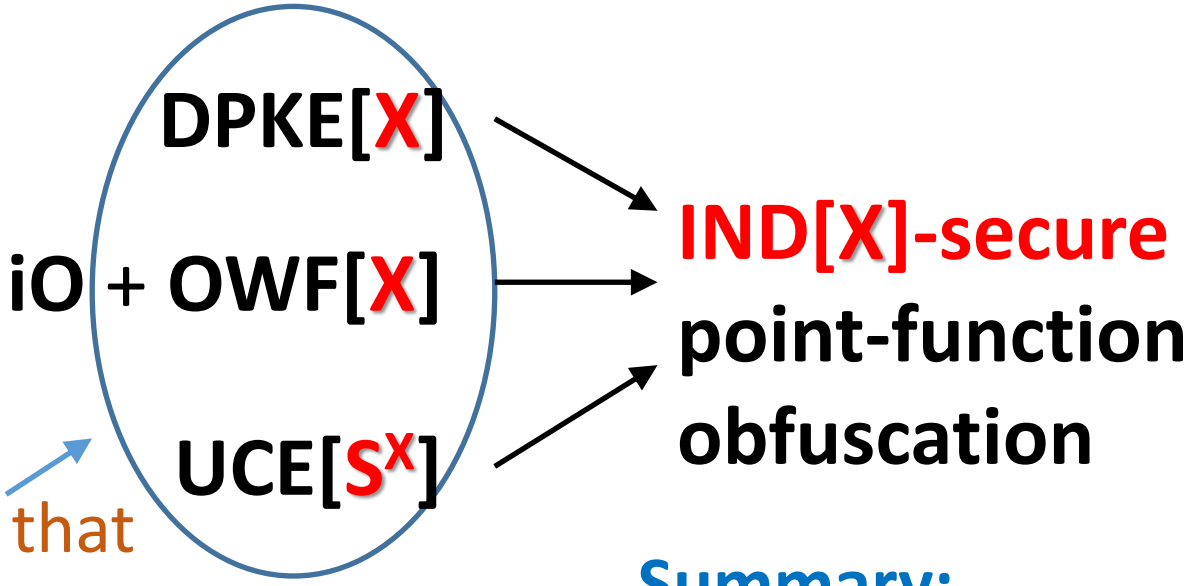

Extended definitions that are parameterized via **X**.

Brzuska-Mittelbach-15 concurrently showed a special case of our UCE construction.

Summary:

- We achieve new types of PO.
- We use standard assumptions in many cases.
- Negative results follow if IND[**X**] is known to be impossible (e.g. the case for IND[$\mathbf{X}^{cup}$]).

More impossibility results for UCE

[BST16]: 

Brzuska-Mittelbach-15 obtained a similar but weaker contention regarding UCE[$\mathbf{S}^{\text{s-cup}}$] in a **concurrent work**.

We **know no applications** of UCE[$\mathbf{S}^{\text{cup}} \cap \mathbf{S}^{\text{splt}}$].

More impossibility results for UCE

[BST16]: $iO \not\longrightarrow UCE[\mathbf{S}^{cup} \cap \mathbf{S}^{splt}]$

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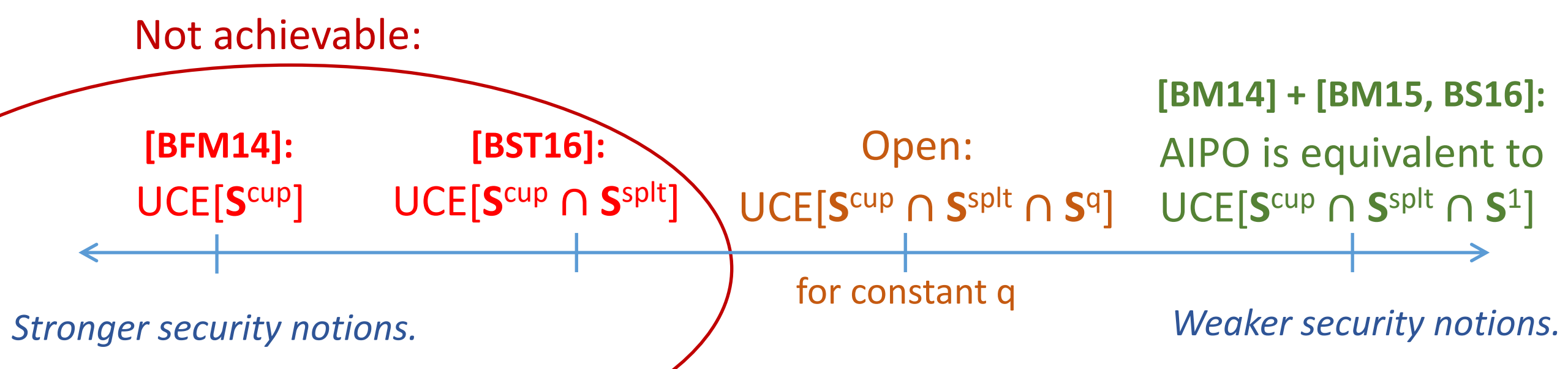
Current state of computationally unpredictable sources, assuming iO:



Thank you!