

Constructions for digital signatures - Part III: Threshold Computation in the Head

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NIST PQC Seminars

2 July, 2024



Threshold Computation in the Head

Joint work with Thibauld Feneuil



<https://ia.cr/2022/1407>

Original TCitH
framework
(Asiacrypt'23)



<https://ia.cr/2023/1573>

Improved TCitH
framework
(preprint)

Roadmap

- MPC-in-the-Head paradigm
- TC-in-the-Head framework (and application to PQ signatures)
 - 🌲 TCitH with Merkle trees
 - 🌲 TCitH with GGM trees
 - ✖ TCitH using multiplication homomorphism
 - 📦 TCitH using packed secret sharing
- Application: post-quantum ring signatures
- Relation to other proof systems

MPC-in-the-Head paradigm

MPC-in-the-Head paradigm

One-way function

$$F : x \mapsto y$$

E.g. AES, MQ system,
Syndrome decoding

MPC-in-the-Head paradigm

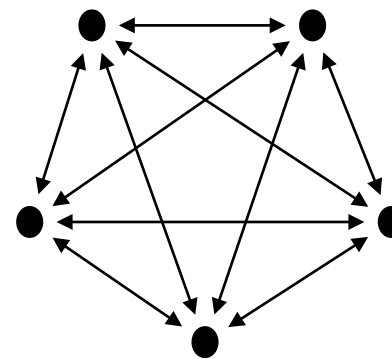


One-way function

$$F : x \mapsto y$$

E.g. AES, MQ system,
Syndrome decoding

Multiparty computation (MPC)



Input sharing $\llbracket x \rrbracket$

Joint evaluation of:

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \text{Accept} & \text{if } F(x) = y \\ \text{Reject} & \text{if } F(x) \neq y \end{cases}$$

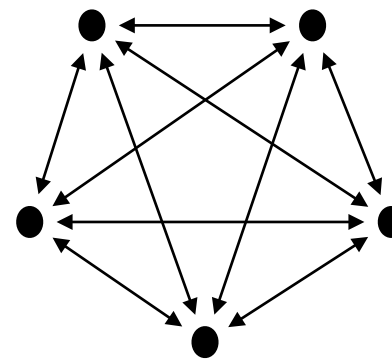
MPC-in-the-Head paradigm

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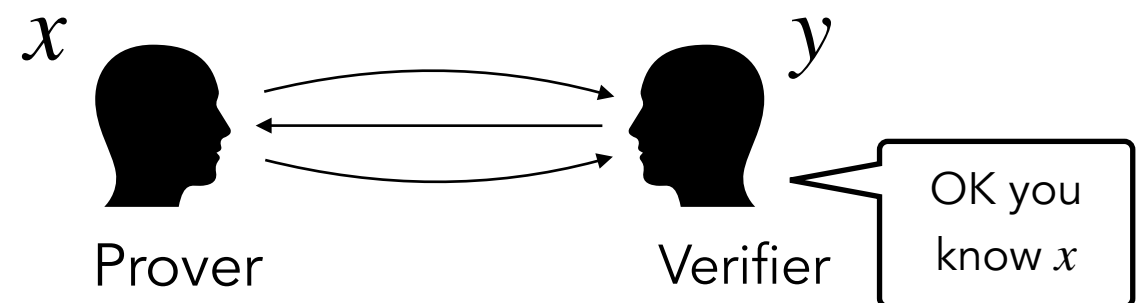


Input sharing $\llbracket x \rrbracket$

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Zero-knowledge proof



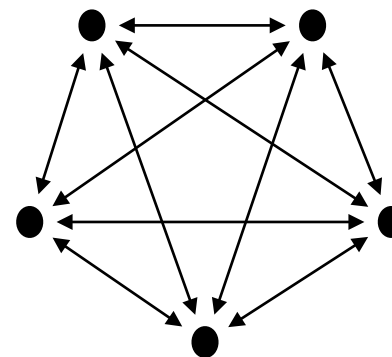
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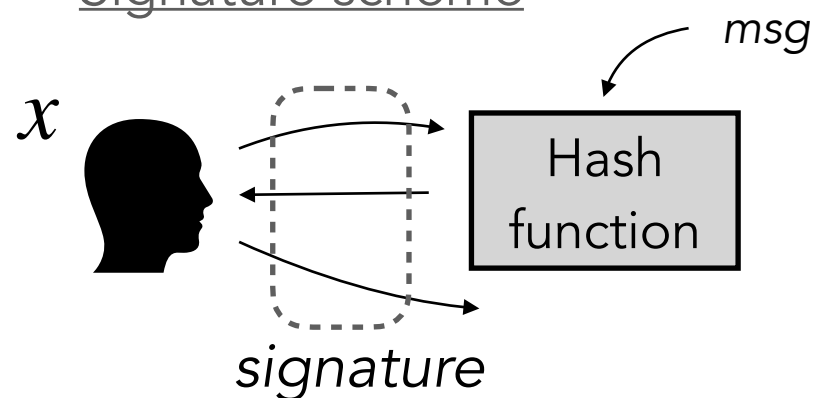


Input sharing $\llbracket x \rrbracket$

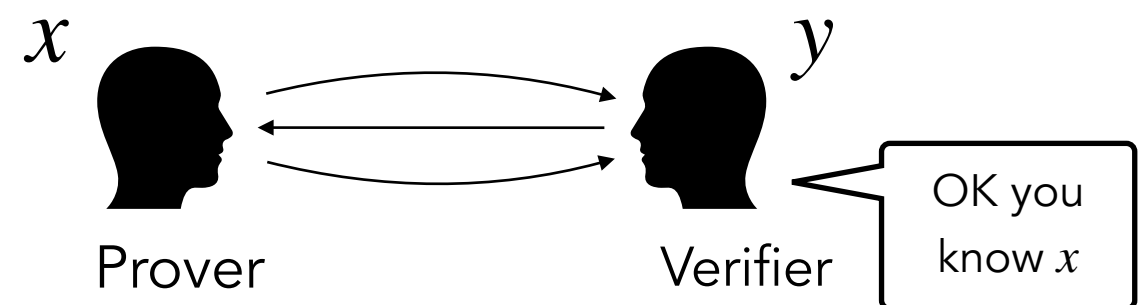
Joint evaluation of:

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Signature scheme



Zero-knowledge proof



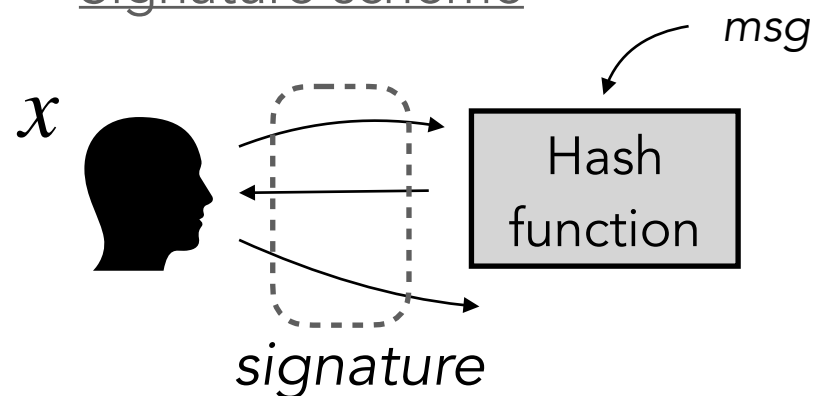
MPC-in-the-Head paradigm

One-way function

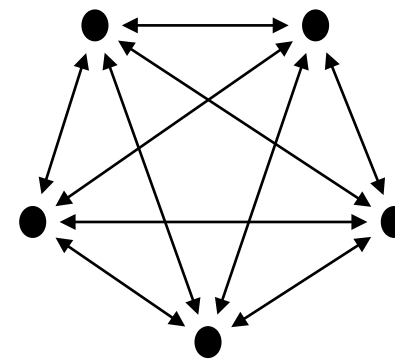
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E.g. AES, MQ system,
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Multiparty computation (MPC)



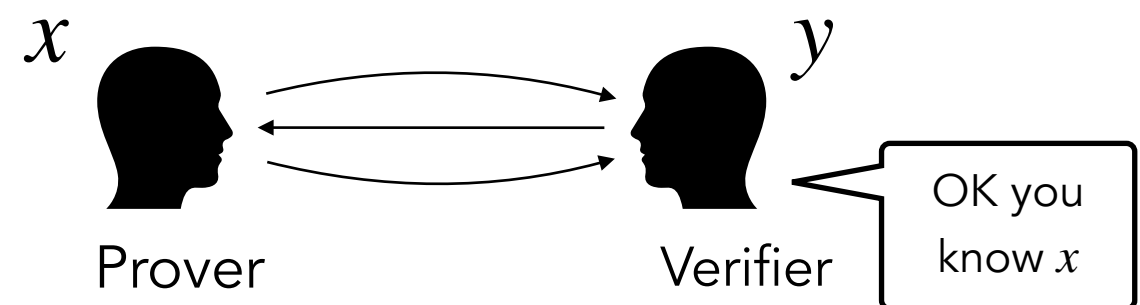
Input sharing $\llbracket x \rrbracket$

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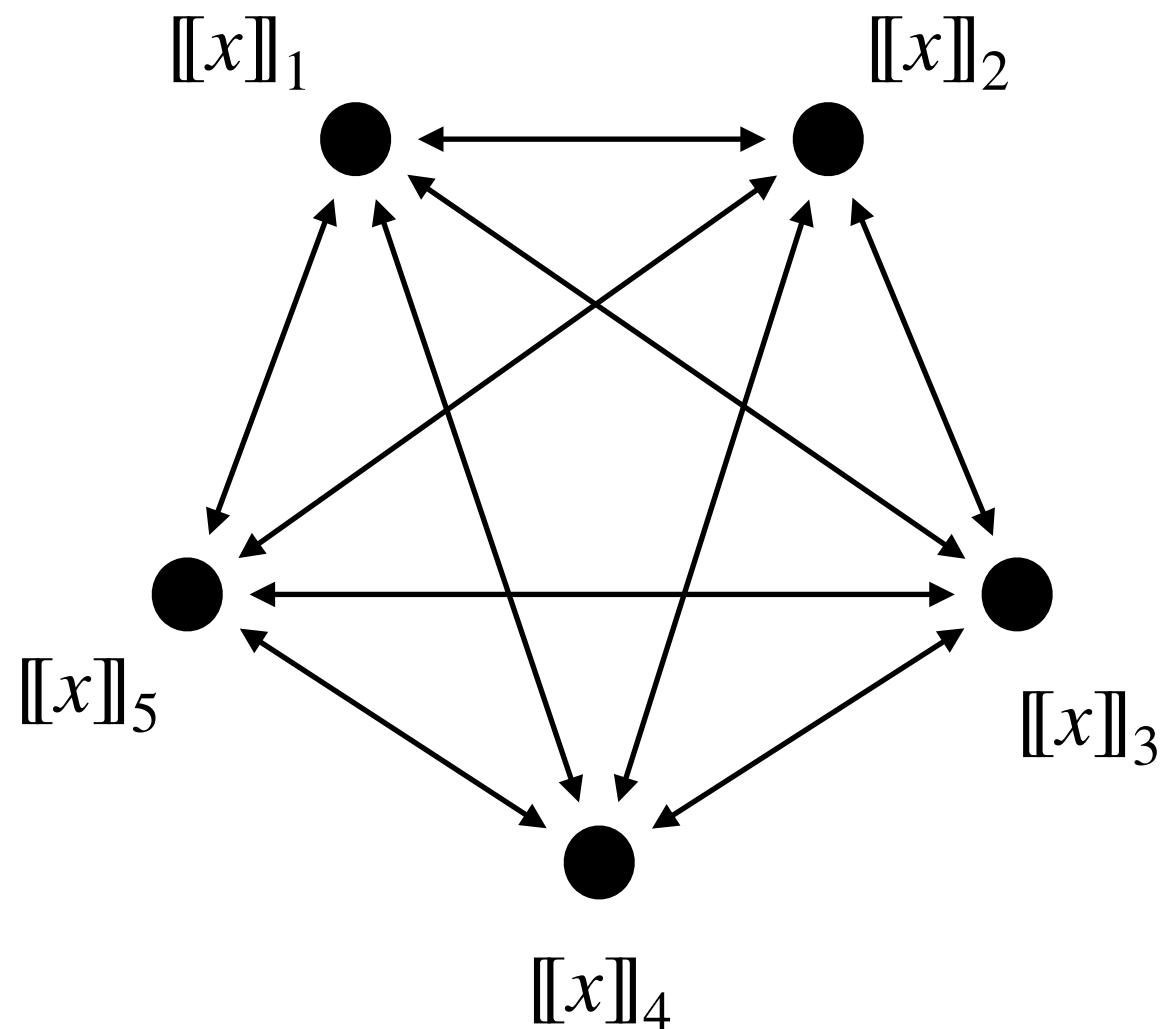
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MPC-in-the-Head

Zero-knowledge proof



MPC model



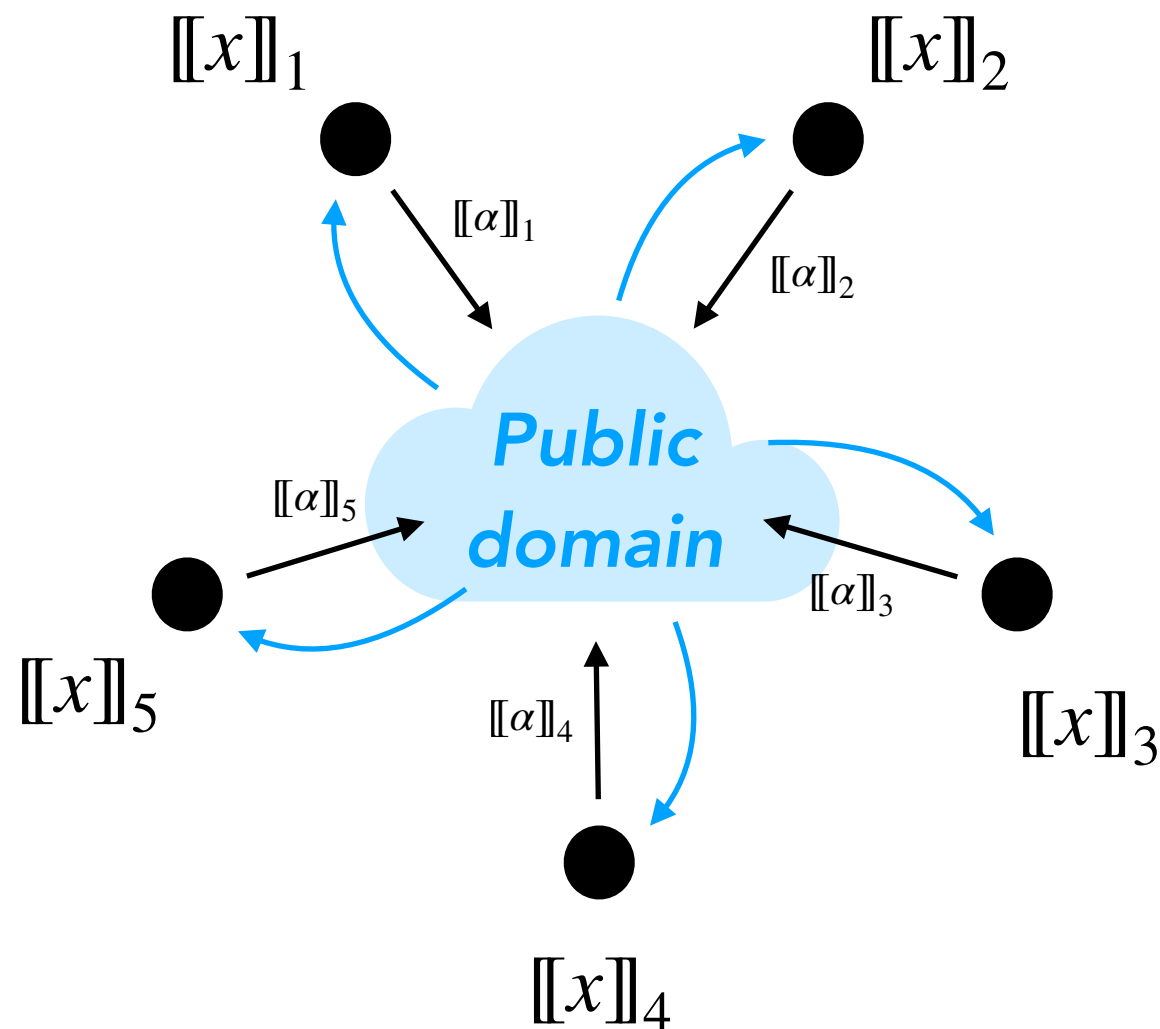
$[[x]]$ is a linear secret sharing of x

- Jointly compute

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \text{Accept} & \text{if } F(x) = y \\ \text{Reject} & \text{if } F(x) \neq y \end{cases}$$

- ℓ -private
- Semi-honest model

MPC model



$[[x]]$ is a linear secret sharing of x

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- ℓ -private
- Semi-honest model
- *Broadcast model*

MPCitH transform

Prover

Verifier

MPCitH transform

- ① Generate and commit shares
 $\llbracket x \rrbracket = (\llbracket x \rrbracket_1, \dots, \llbracket x \rrbracket_N)$

$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_1)$
 \dots
 $\text{Com}^{\rho_N}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_N)$

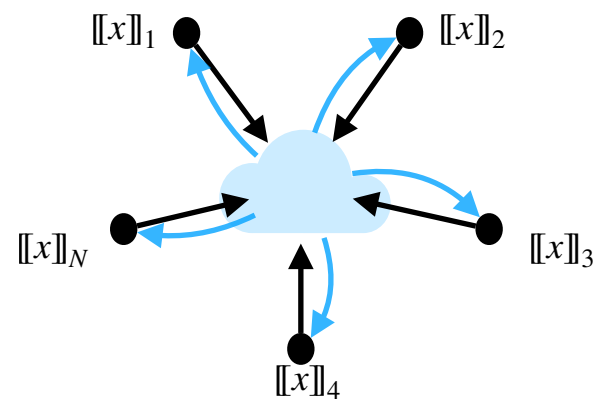
Prover

Verifier

MPCitH transform

- ① Generate and commit shares
 $\llbracket x \rrbracket = (\llbracket x \rrbracket_1, \dots, \llbracket x \rrbracket_N)$

- ② Run MPC in their head



Prover

$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_1)$
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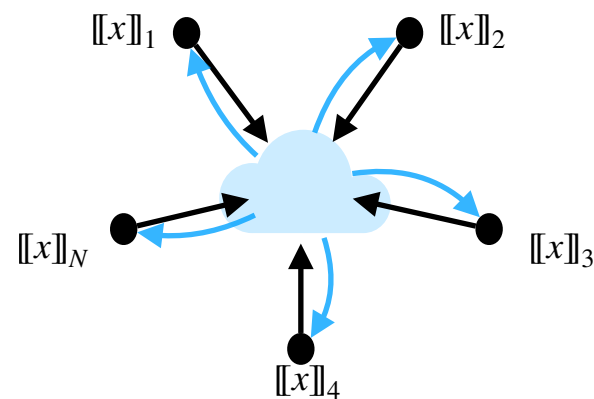
send broadcast
 $\llbracket a \rrbracket_1, \dots, \llbracket a \rrbracket_N$

Verifier

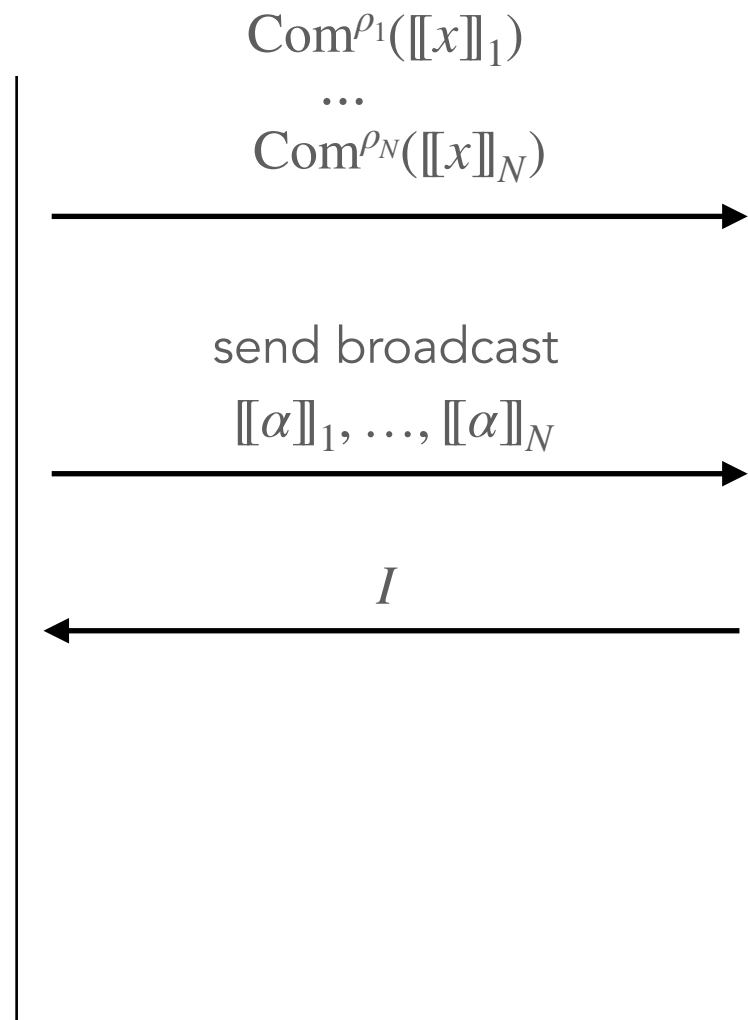
MPCitH transform

- ① Generate and commit shares
 $\llbracket x \rrbracket = (\llbracket x \rrbracket_1, \dots, \llbracket x \rrbracket_N)$

- ② Run MPC in their head



Prover



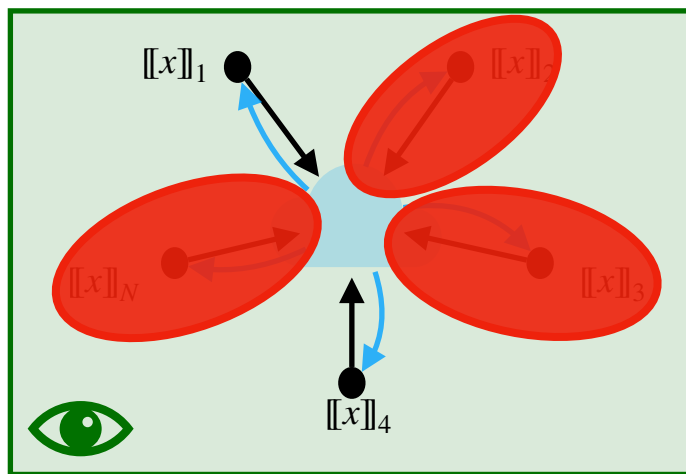
- ③ Choose a random set of parties
 $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}$, s.t. $|I| = \ell$.

Verifier

MPCitH transform

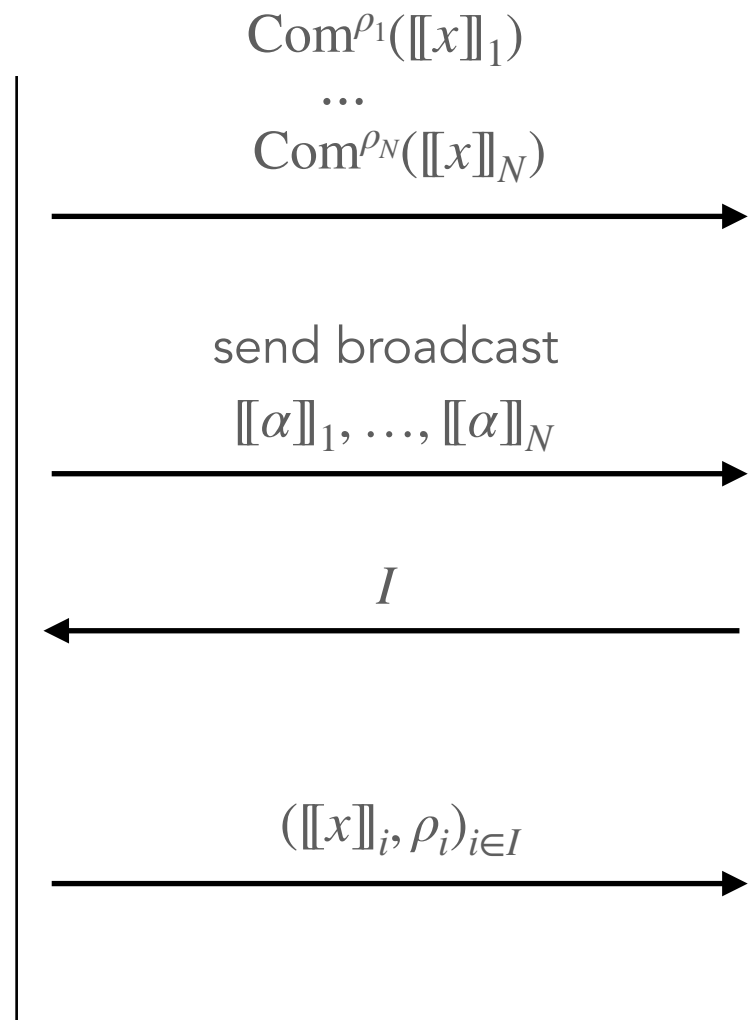
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② Run MPC in their head



④ Open parties in I

Prover



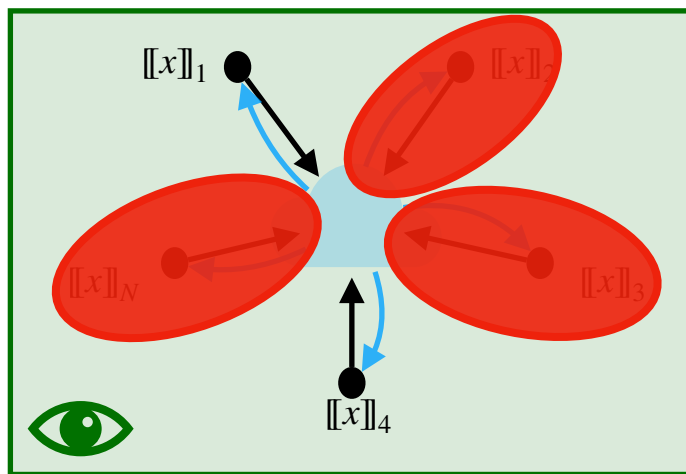
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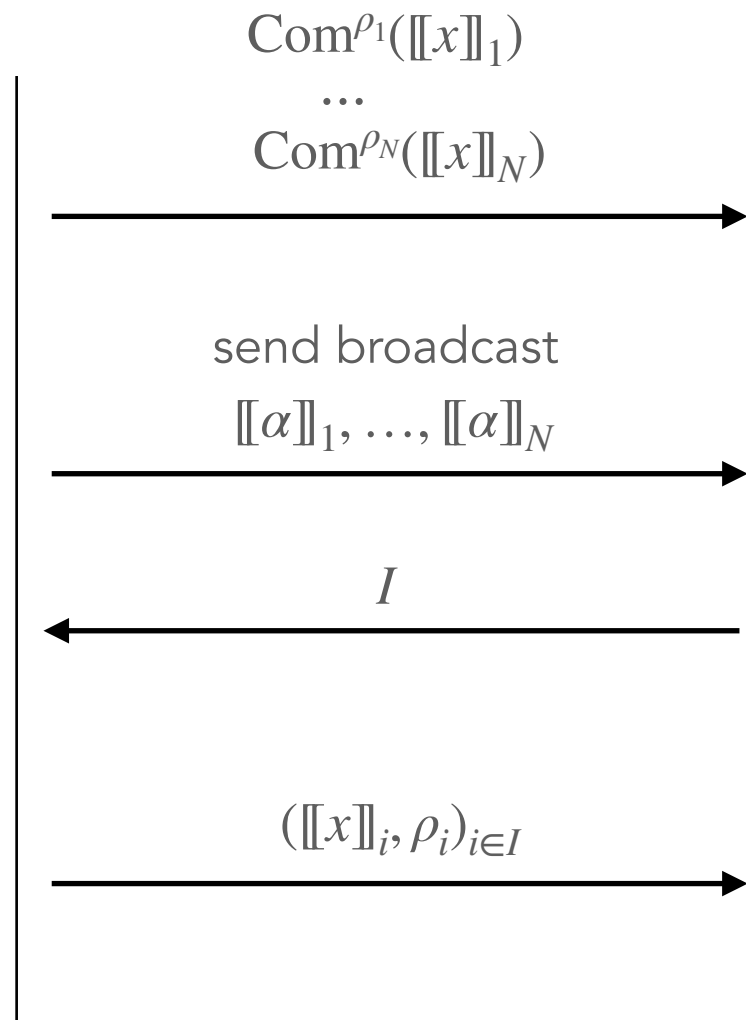
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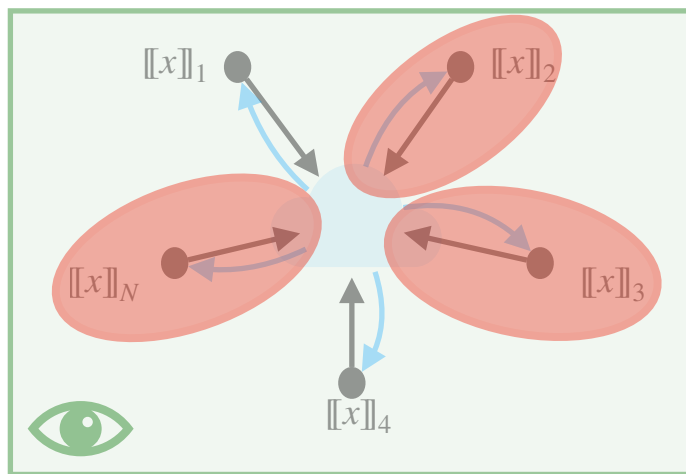
- ⑤ Check $\forall i \in I$
 - Commitments $\text{Com}^{\rho_i}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i)$
 - MPC computation $\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_i = \varphi(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i)$
 Check $g(y, \alpha) = \text{Accept}$

Verifier

MPCitH transform: with additive sharing

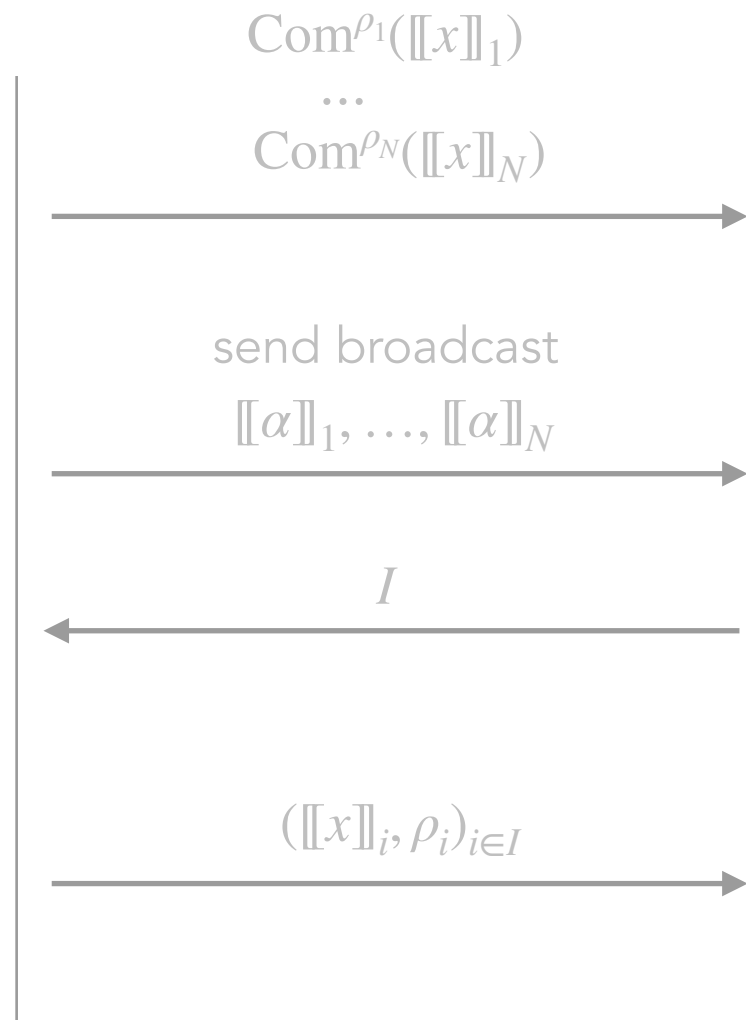
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④ Open parties in I

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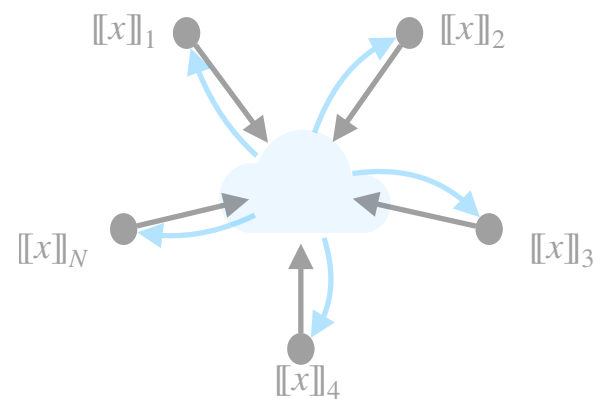
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Verifier

MPCitH transform: with additive sharing

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 $\llbracket x \rrbracket = (\llbracket x \rrbracket_1, \dots, \llbracket x \rrbracket_N)$

- ② Run MPC in their head



- ④ Open parties in I

Prover

$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_1)$

\dots
 $\text{Com}^{\rho_N}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_N)$

send broadcast

Additive sharing:
 $x = \llbracket x \rrbracket_1 + \dots + \llbracket x \rrbracket_N$

$(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i, \rho_i)_{i \in I}$

Choose a random set of parties
 $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}$, s.t. $|I| = \ell$.

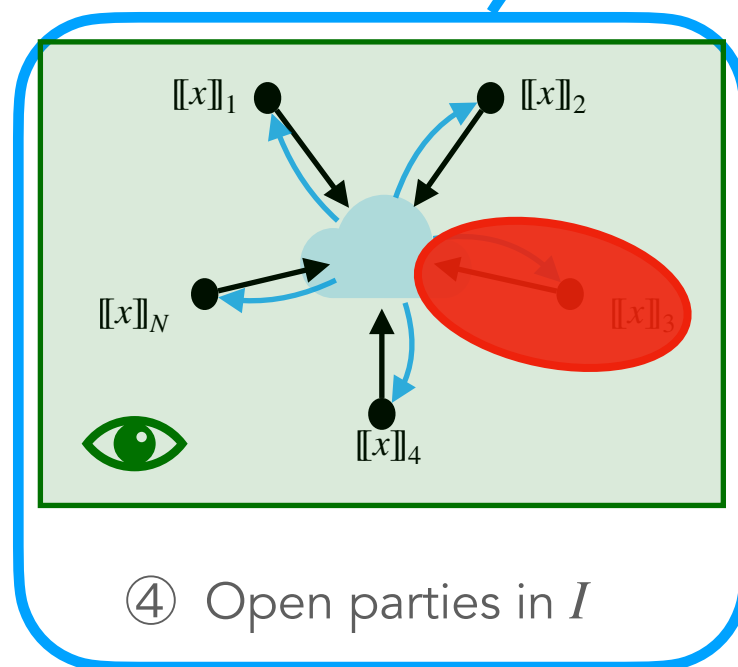
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② Run MPC in their head



④ Open parties in I

Prover

Sharing / MPC protocol
 $(N - 1)$ -private

$(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i, \rho_i)_{i \in I}$

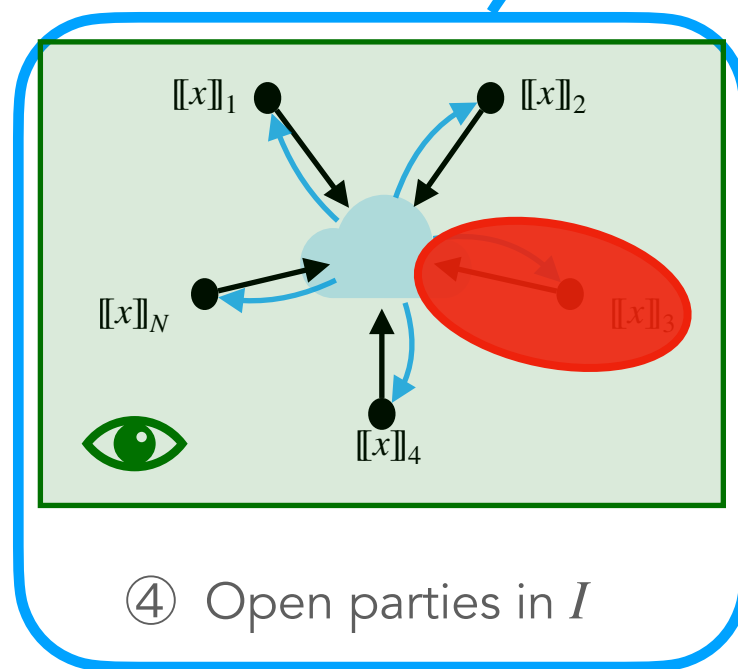
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Prover

Sharing / MPC protocol
 $(N - 1)$ -private

\Rightarrow soundness error = $\frac{1}{N}$

$(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i, \rho_i)_{i \in I}$

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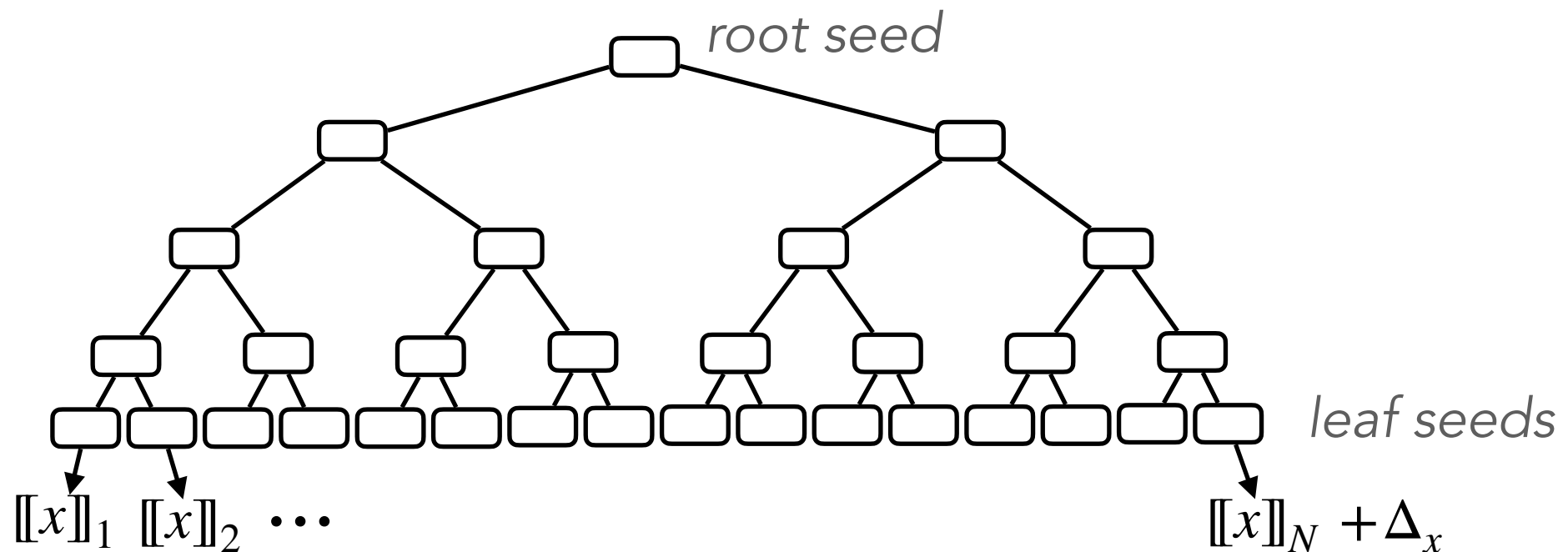
$$[[x]] = ([x]_1, \dots, [x]_N)$$

$$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}([x]_1)$$

$$\dots$$
$$\text{Com}^{\rho_N}([x]_N)$$



Generated using a GGM seed tree [KKW18]:



MPCitH transform: with additive sharing

① Generate and commit shares

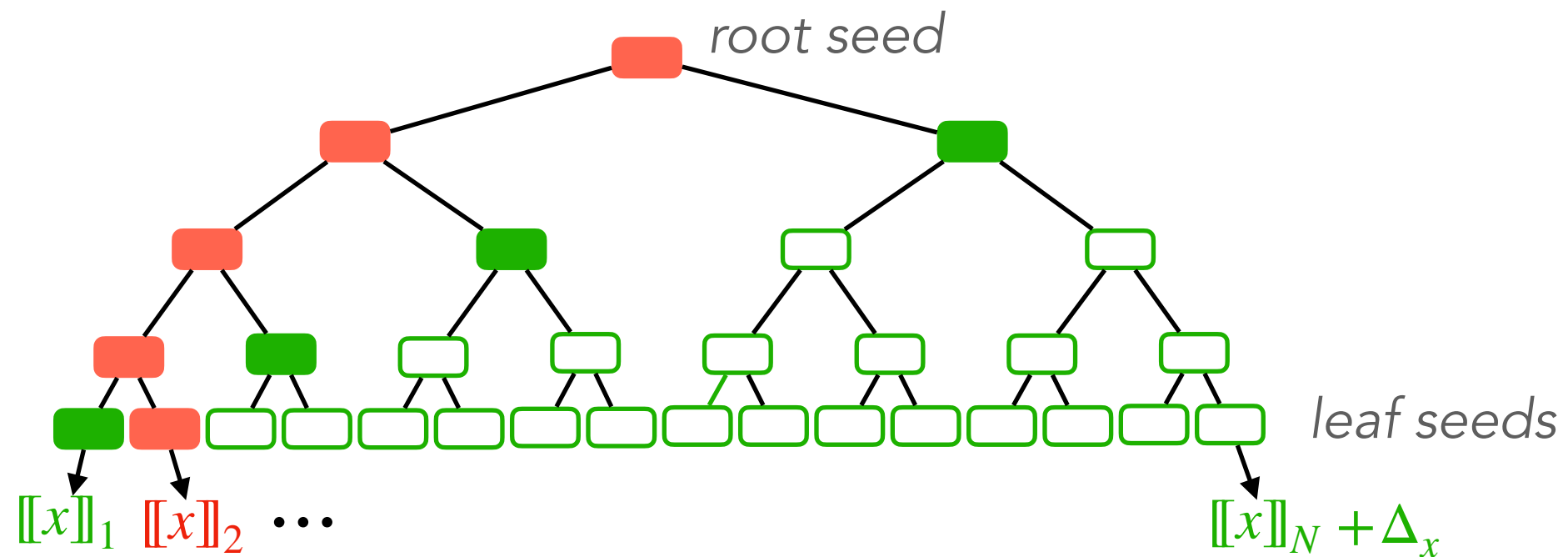
$$[[x]] = ([x]_1, \dots, [x]_N)$$

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Only $\log_2 N$ seeds to be revealed:

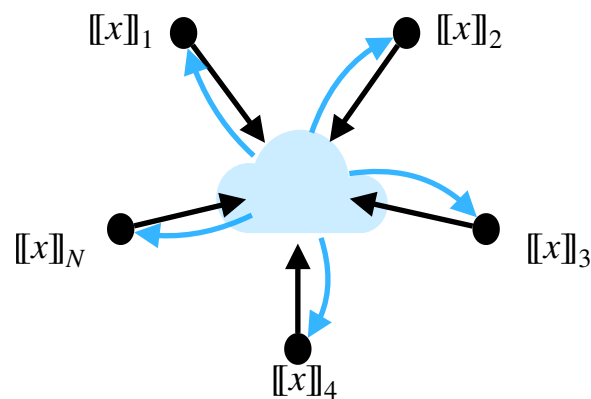


TC-in-the-Head framework (with Merkle trees)

Threshold Computation in the Head

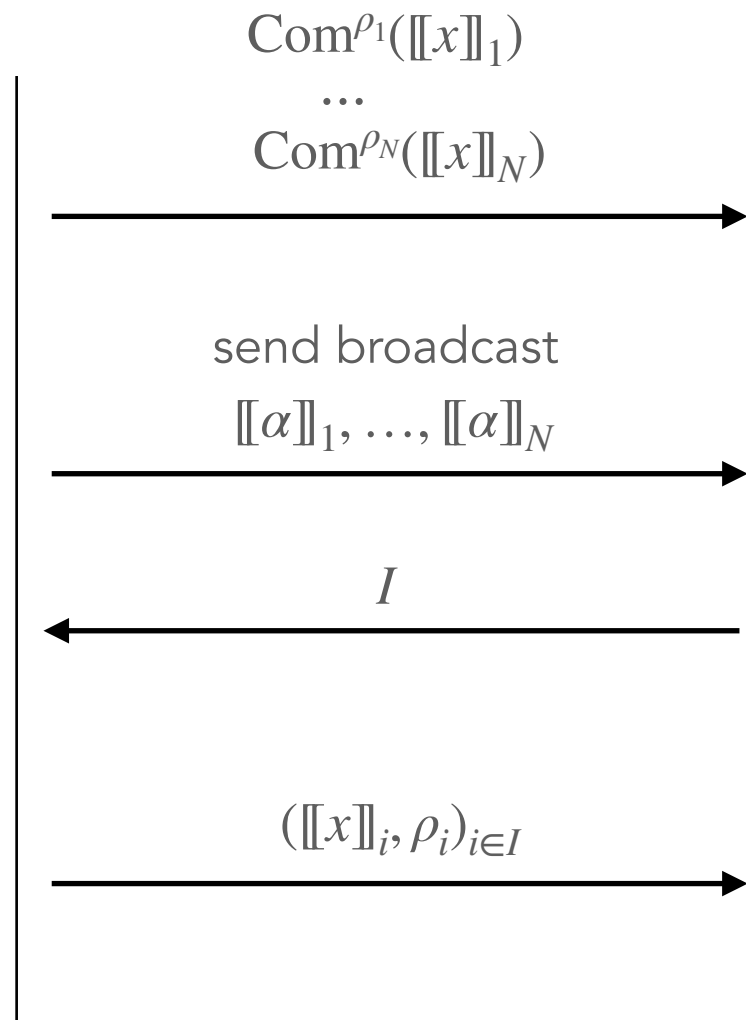
- ① Generate and commit shares
 $\llbracket x \rrbracket = (\llbracket x \rrbracket_1, \dots, \llbracket x \rrbracket_N)$

- ② Run MPC in their head



- ④ Open parties in I

Prover



- ③ Choose a random set of parties
 $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}, \text{ s.t. } |I| = \ell.$

- ⑤ Check $\forall i \in I$
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Threshold Computation in the Head

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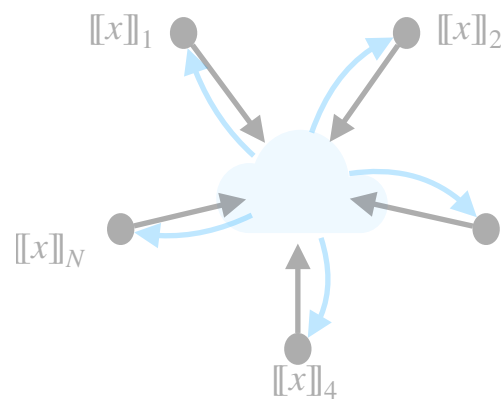
$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_1)$
 \dots
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- ② Run MPC in their head

Shamir secret sharing:

$$\llbracket x \rrbracket_i := P(e_i) \quad \forall i$$

$$\text{for } P(X) := x + r_1 \cdot X + \dots + r_\ell \cdot X^\ell$$



- ④ Open parties in I

a set of parties
 s.t. $|I| = \ell$.

$\text{Com}^{\rho_i}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i)$
 decommitment $\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_i = \varphi(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i)$
 accept

Prover

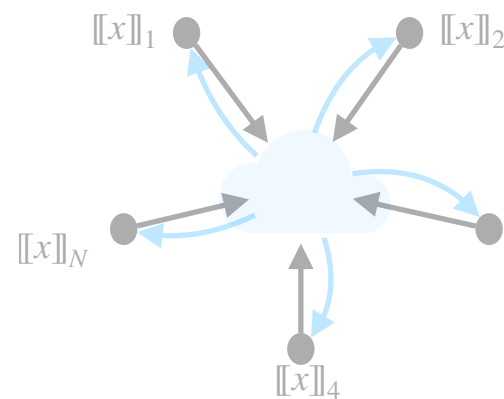
Verifier

Threshold Computation in the Head

- ① Generate and commit shares
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$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_1)$
 \dots
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- ② Run MPC in their head



Shamir secret sharing:

$$\llbracket x \rrbracket_i := P(e_i) \quad \forall i$$

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$\Rightarrow \ell$ -privacy

- ④ Open parties in I

Prover

Verifier

in set of parties
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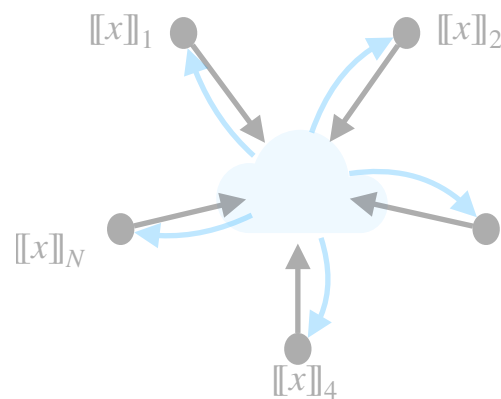
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Shamir secret sharing:

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$$\text{for } P(X) := x + r_1 \cdot X + \dots + r_\ell \cdot X^\ell$$

$\Rightarrow \ell$ -privacy

We use $\ell \ll N$ (e.g. $\ell = 1$)

in set of parties
 t. $|I| = \ell$.

$\text{Com}^{\rho_i}(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i)$
 ion $\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket_i = \varphi(\llbracket x \rrbracket_i)$
 ccept

- ④ Open parties in I

Prover

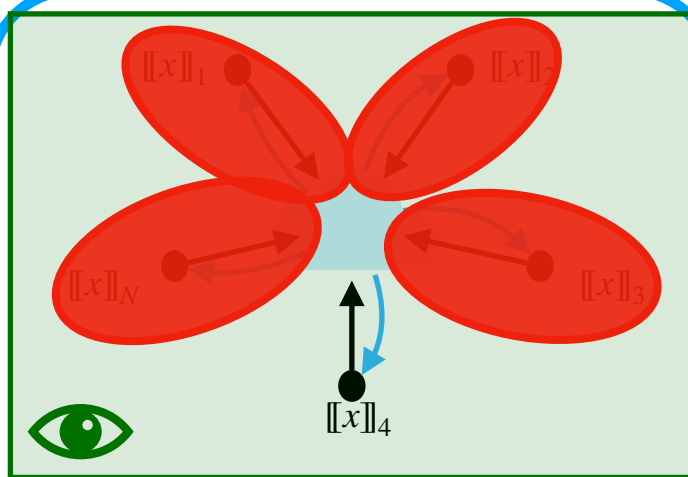
Verifier

Threshold Computation in the Head

① Generate and commit shares

$$[x] = ([x]_1, \dots, [x]_N)$$

② Run MPC in their head



④ Open parties in I

Sharing / MPC protocol ℓ -private

Prover

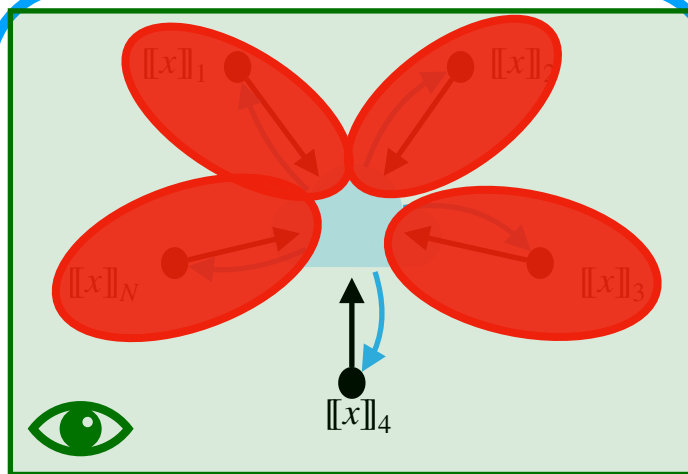
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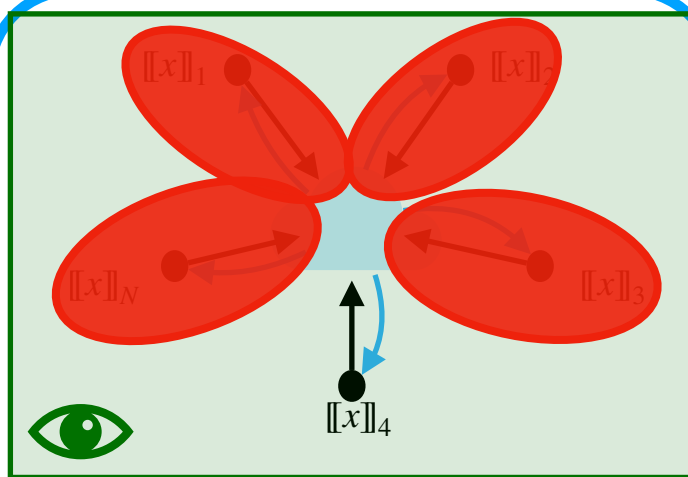
$$\Rightarrow \text{soundness error} = (N - \ell)/N \quad \text{🤔}$$

Verifier

Threshold Computation in the Head

① Generate and commit shares
 $[[x]] = ([[x]]_1, \dots, [[x]]_N)$

② Run MPC in their head



④ Open parties in I

Prover

Sharing / MPC protocol ℓ -private

\Rightarrow soundness error = $(N - \ell)/N$ 🤔

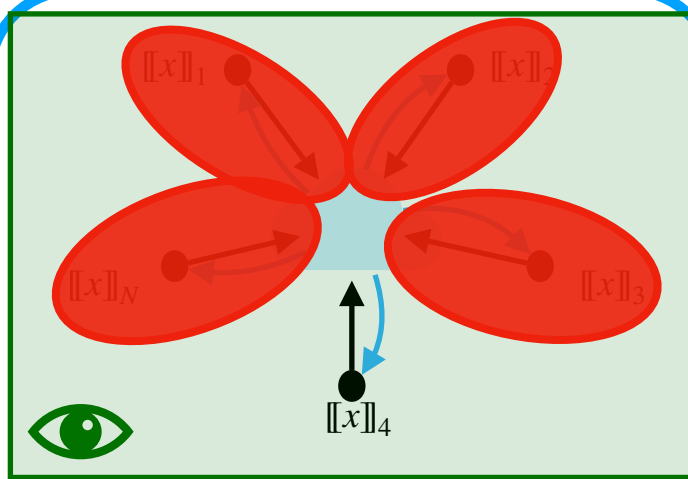
💡 broadcast messages must be
valid Shamir's sharings

Verifier

Threshold Computation in the Head

① Generate and commit shares
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④ Open parties in I

Prover

Sharing / MPC protocol ℓ -private

\Rightarrow ~~soundness error = $(N - \ell)/N$~~ 🤔

💡 broadcast messages must be valid Shamir's sharings

\Rightarrow soundness error = $\frac{1}{\binom{N}{\ell}}$ 😄

Verifier

Threshold Computation in the Head

① Generate and commit shares

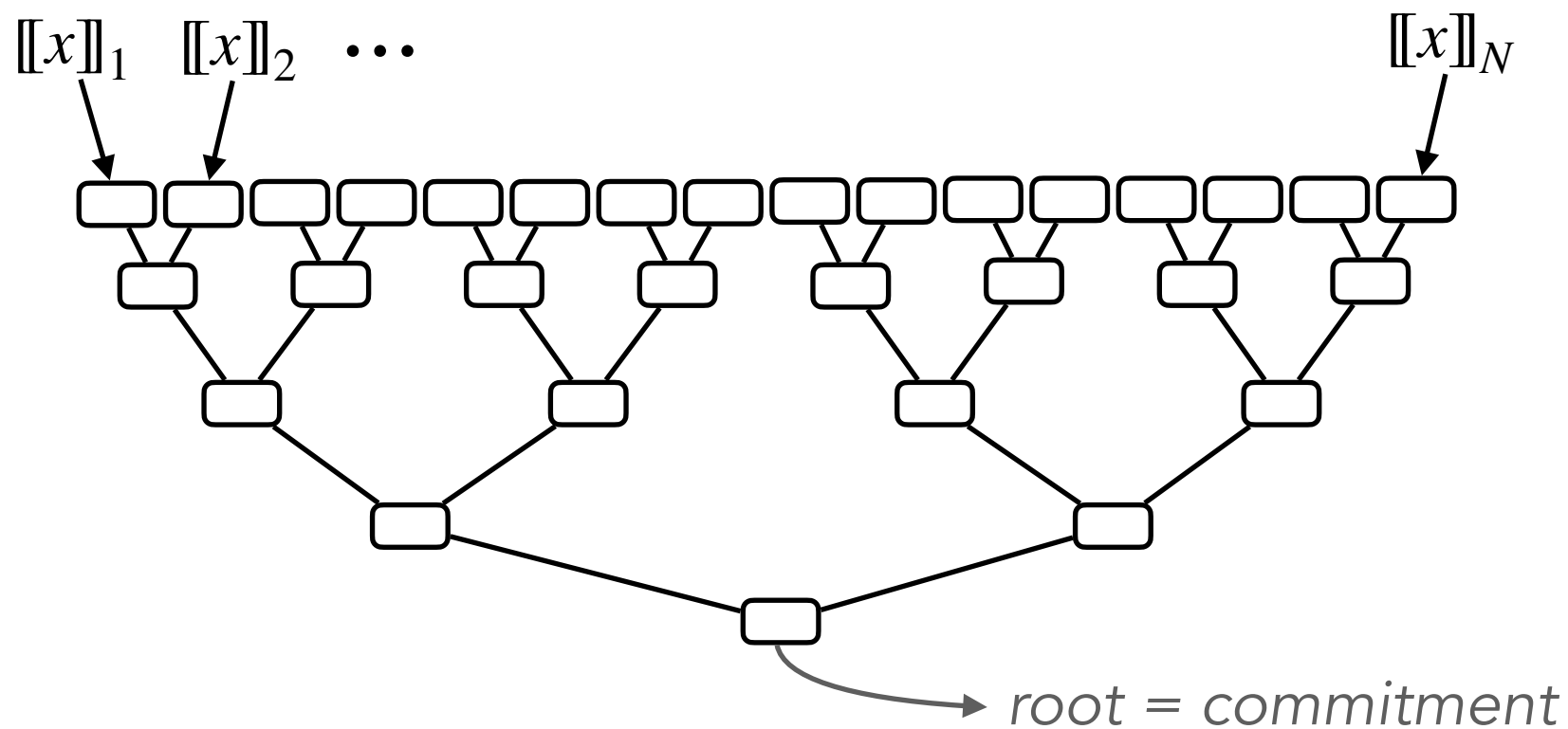
$$[[x]] = ([x]_1, \dots, [x]_N)$$

$$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}([x]_1)$$

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Committed using a Merkle tree:



Threshold Computation in the Head

① Generate and commit shares

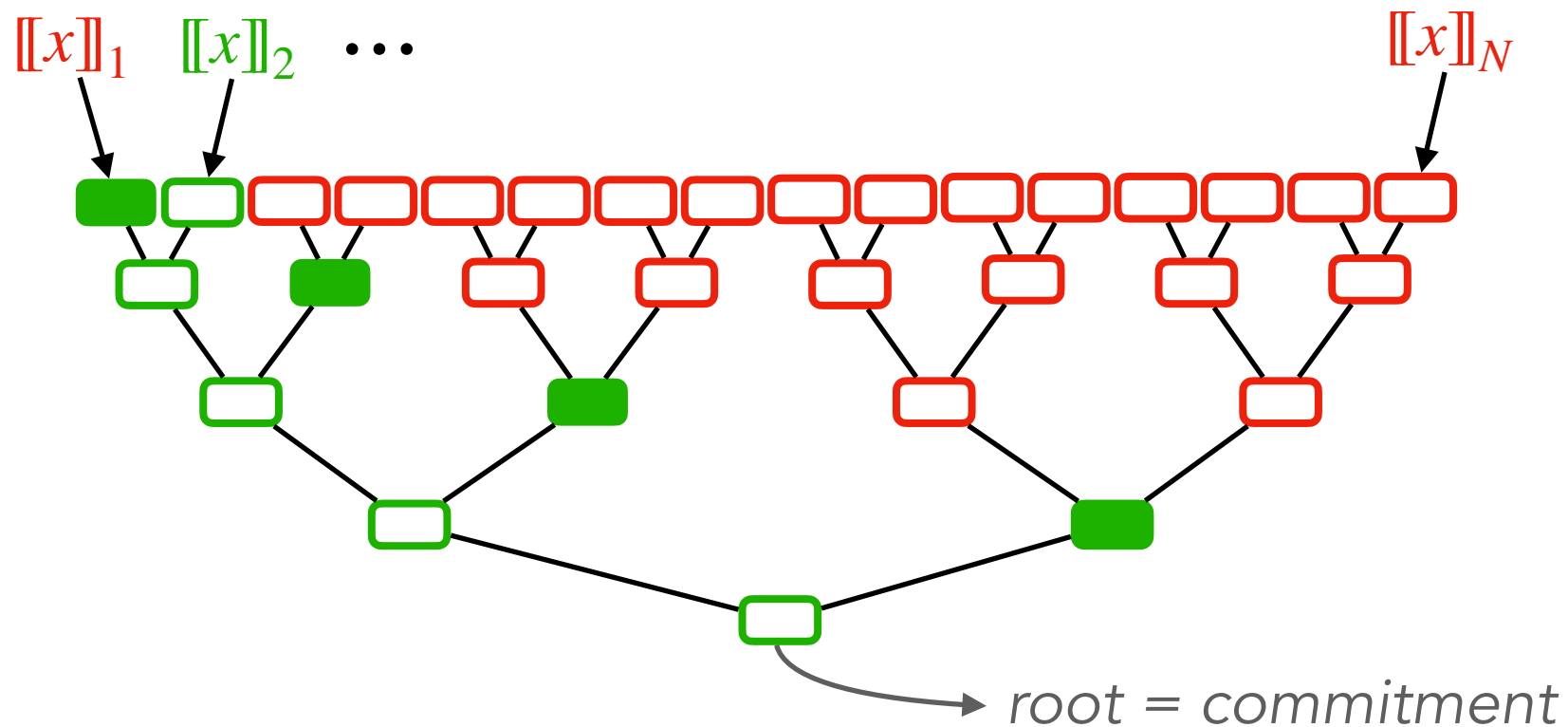
$$[[x]] = ([x]_1, \dots, [x]_N)$$

$$\text{Com}^{\rho_1}([x]_1)$$

$$\dots$$
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Only $\log_2 N$ labels to be revealed:



Soundness

$$\begin{aligned} p &= \text{"false positive probability"} \\ &= P[\text{MPC protocol accepts } \llbracket x \rrbracket \text{ while } f(x) \neq y] \end{aligned}$$

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Soundness error of
standard MPCitH

$$\frac{1}{N} + p$$

Soundness

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Soundness error of
standard MPCitH

$$\frac{1}{N} + p$$

hope 🙏

Soundness error
of TCitH

$$\frac{1}{\binom{N}{\ell}} + p$$

Soundness

$$\begin{aligned} p &= \text{"false positive probability"} \\ &= P[\text{MPC protocol accepts } \llbracket x \rrbracket \text{ while } f(x) \neq y] \end{aligned}$$

Soundness error of
standard MPCitH

$$\frac{1}{N} + p$$

hope 🙏

Soundness error
of TCitH

$$\frac{1}{\binom{N}{\ell}} + p$$

reality 😬

$$\frac{1}{\binom{N}{\ell}} + p \cdot \frac{\ell(N - \ell)}{\ell + 1}$$

Soundness

$$\begin{aligned} p &= \text{"false positive probability"} \\ &= P[\text{MPC protocol accepts } \llbracket x \rrbracket \text{ while } f(x) \neq y] \end{aligned}$$

Soundness error of
standard MPCitH

$$\frac{1}{N} + p$$

Soundness error
of TCitH

$$\frac{1}{\binom{N}{\ell}} + p$$

hope 🙏

reality 😬



$$\frac{1}{\binom{N}{\ell}} + p$$

$$\frac{1}{\binom{N}{\ell}} + p \cdot \frac{\ell(N - \ell)}{\ell + 1}$$

🔧 degree-enforcing commitment

TCitH vs. standard MPCitH

$\ell = 1 \Rightarrow$ Similar soundness: $\frac{1}{N} + p$



TCitH vs. standard MPCitH

$\ell = 1 \Rightarrow$ Similar soundness: $\frac{1}{N} + p$ 

	MPCitH + seed trees + hypercube [AGHHJY23]	TCitH $\ell = 1$
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TCitH vs. standard MPCitH

$\ell = 1 \Rightarrow$ Similar soundness: $\frac{1}{N} + p$ 

	MPCitH + seed trees + hypercube [AGHHJY23]	TCitH $\ell = 1$
Prover runtime	Party emulations: $\log N + 1$ Symmetric crypto: $O(N)$	Party emulations: 2 Symmetric crypto: $O(N)$

TCitH vs. standard MPCitH

$\ell = 1 \Rightarrow$ Similar soundness: $\frac{1}{N} + p$



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 *much less
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Size of tree	128-bit security: ~2KB 256-bit security: ~8KB	128-bit security: ~4KB 256-bit security: ~16KB



$\times 2$

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Number of parties	<p>Getting rid of these limitations</p> <p>→ TCitH with GGM tree $N \leq \mathbb{F}$</p>	

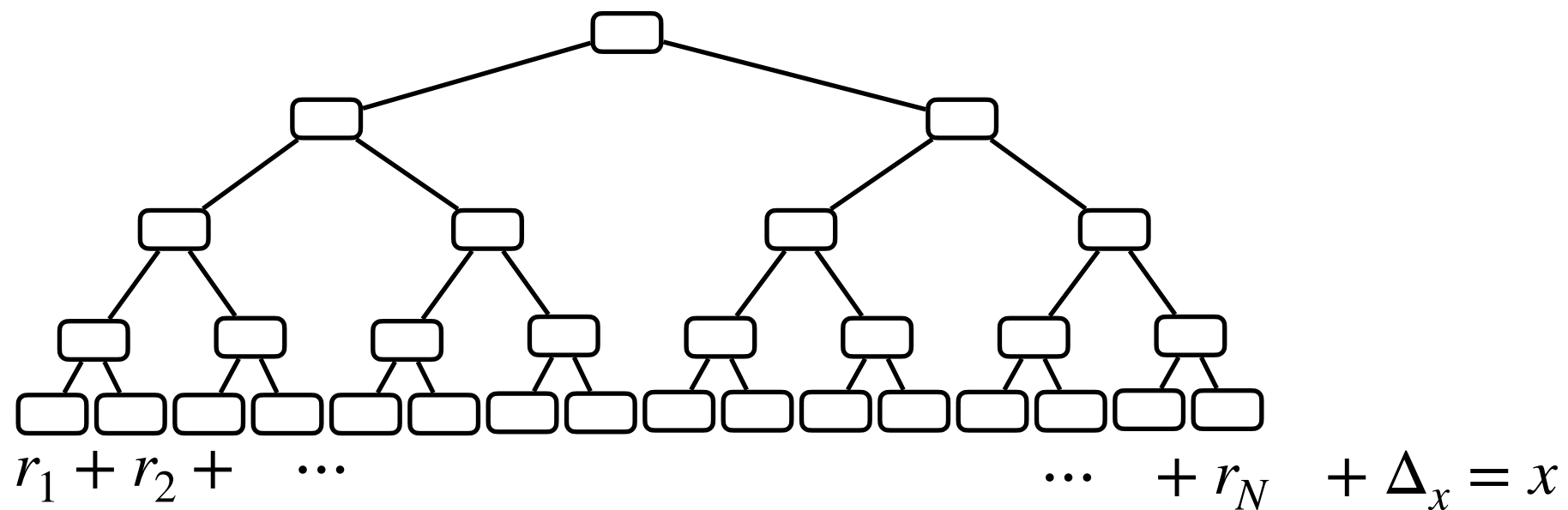


TC-in-the-Head framework with GGM trees

TCitH with GGM trees

Step 1: Generate a replicated secret sharing [ISN89]

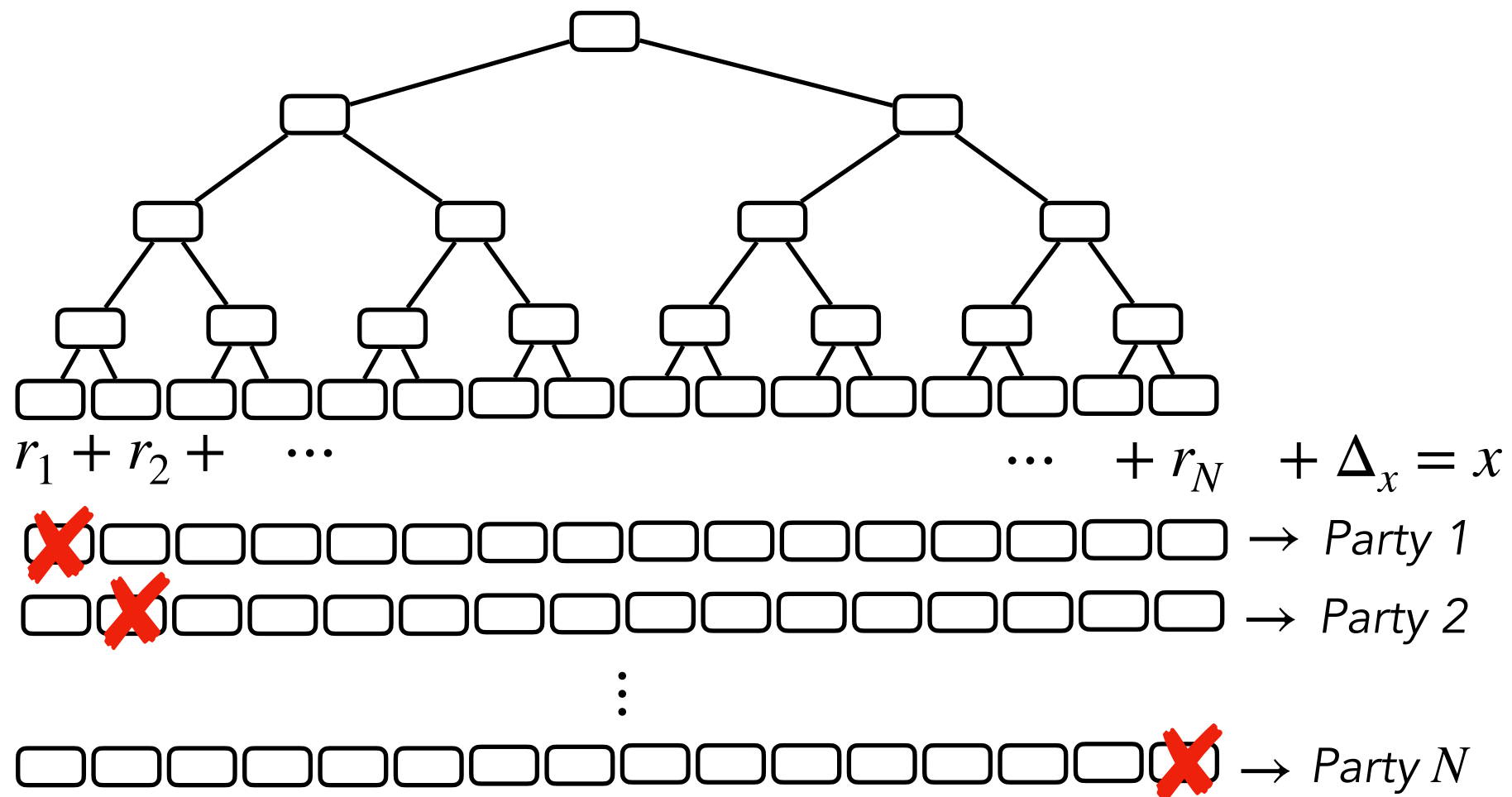
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TCitH with GGM trees

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TCitH with GGM trees

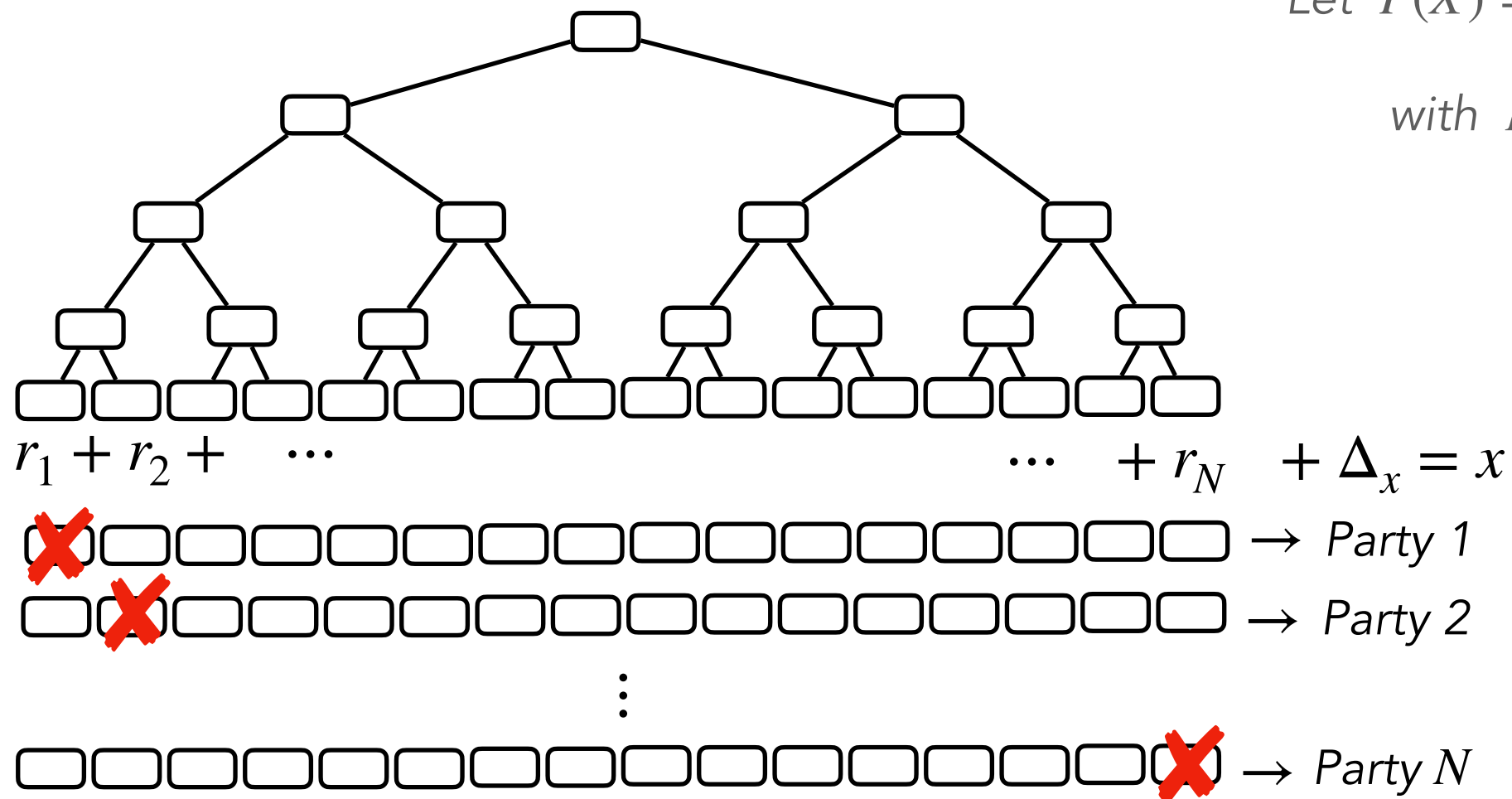
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Step 2: Convert it into a Shamir's secret sharing [CDI05]

$$\text{Let } P(X) = \Delta_x + \sum_j r_j P_j(X)$$

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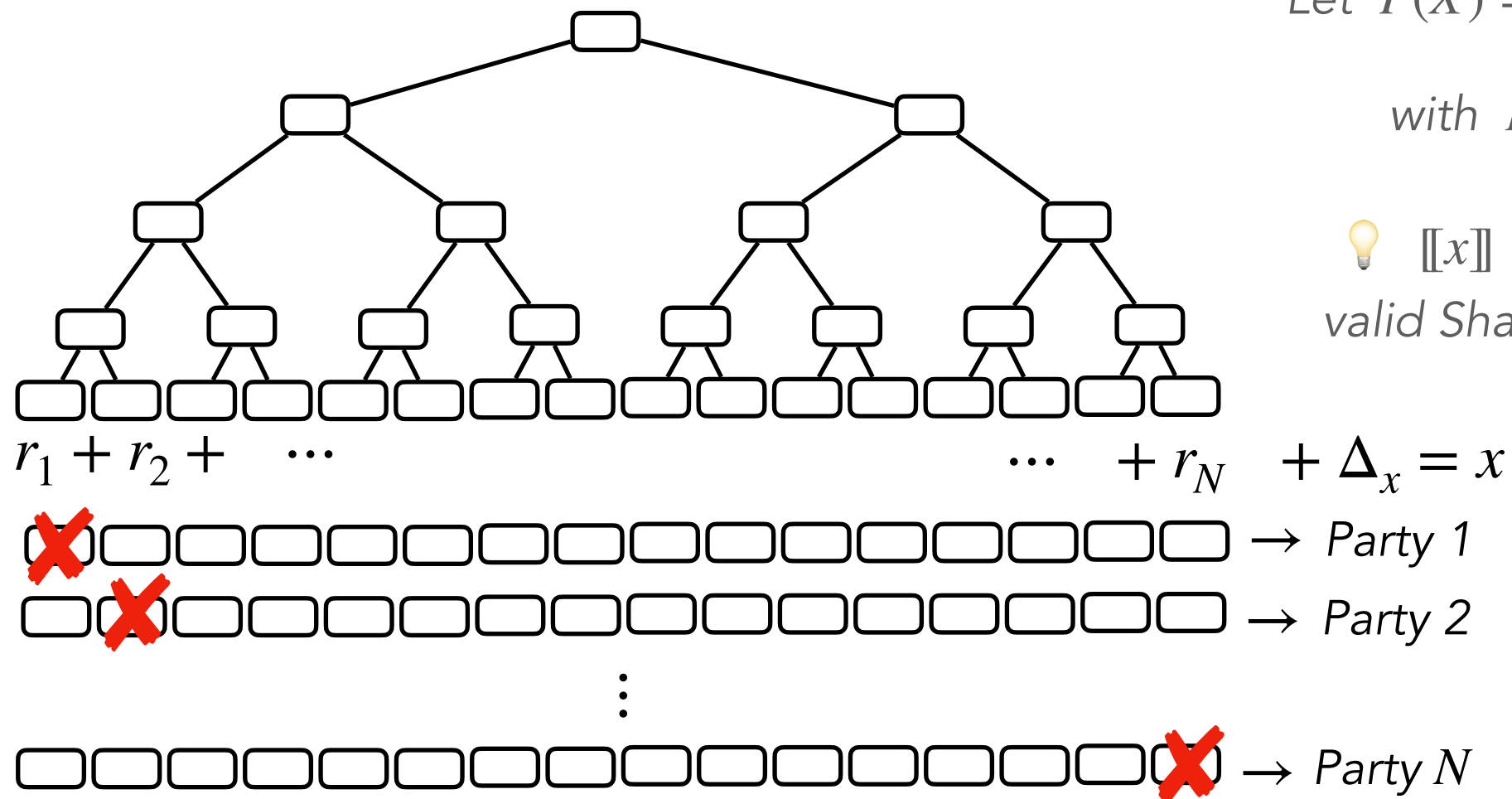
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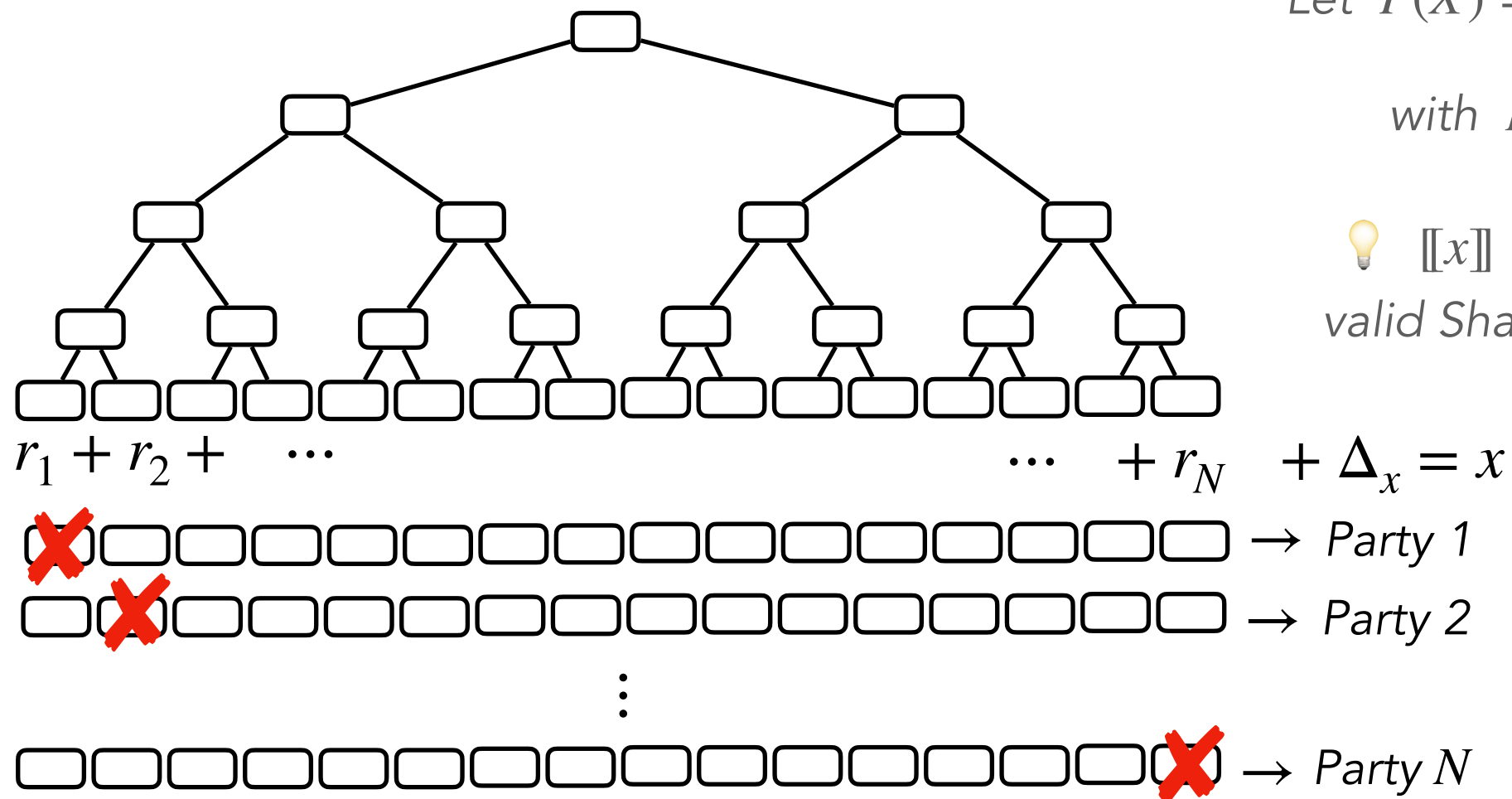
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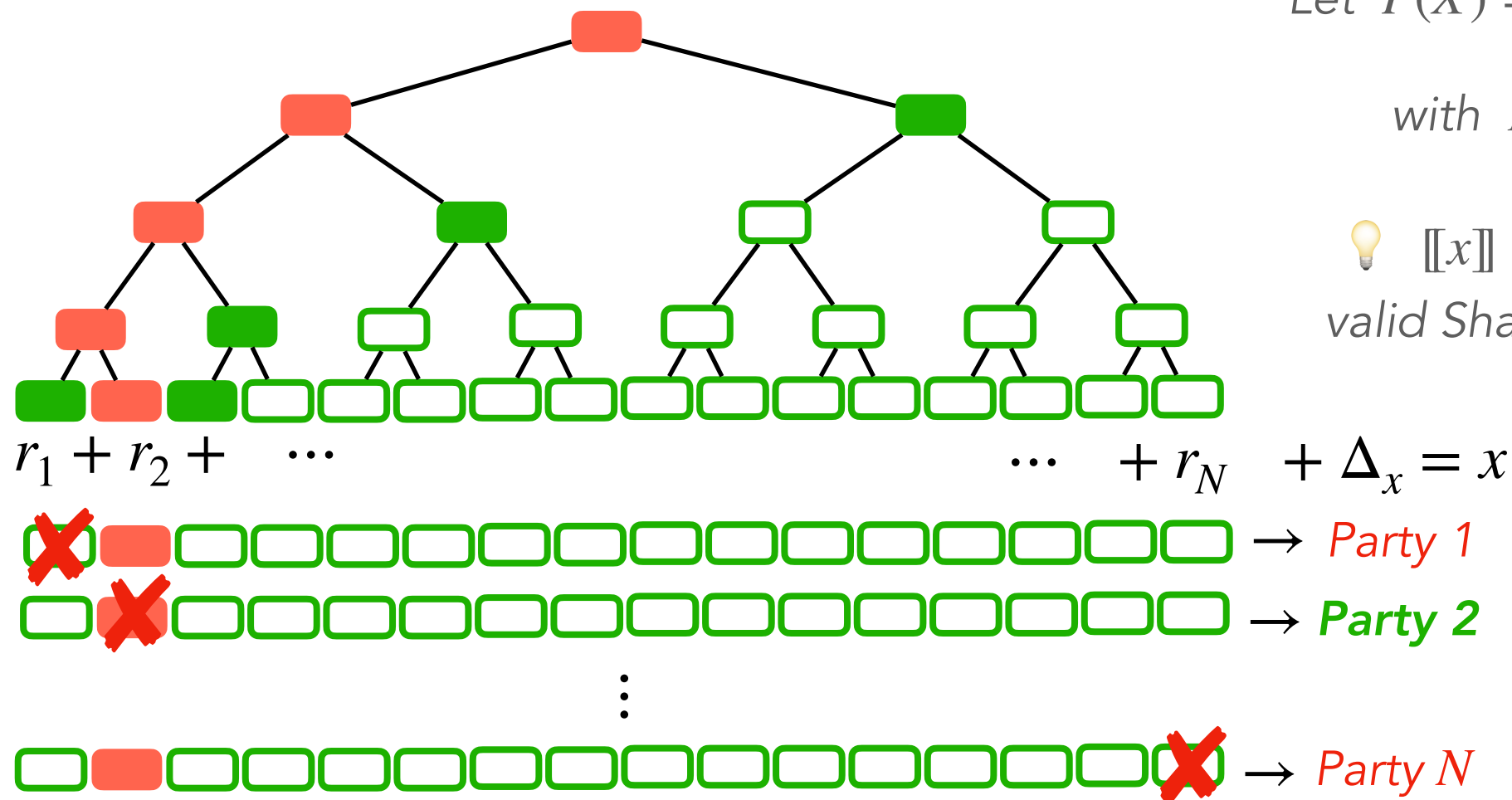
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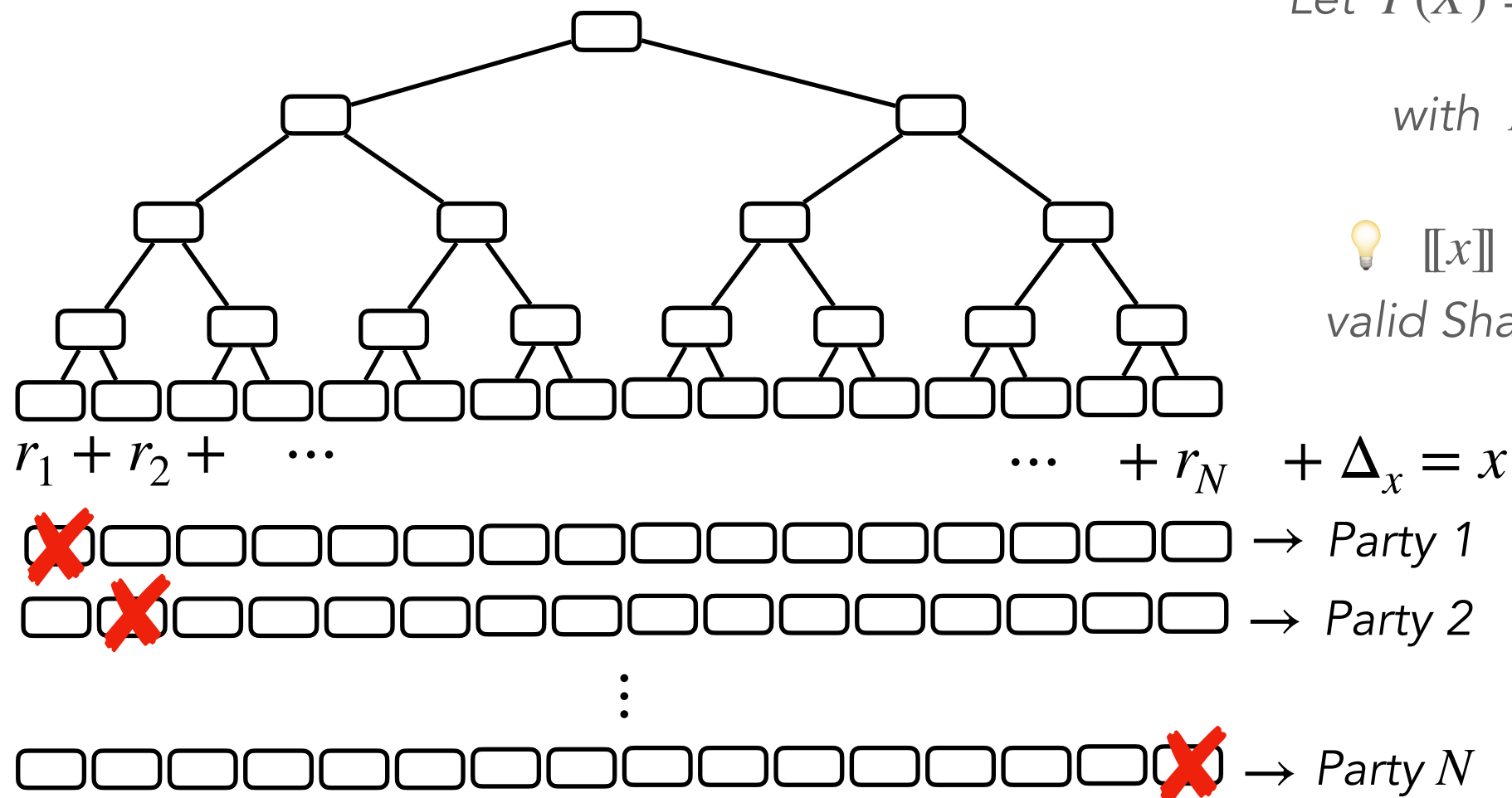
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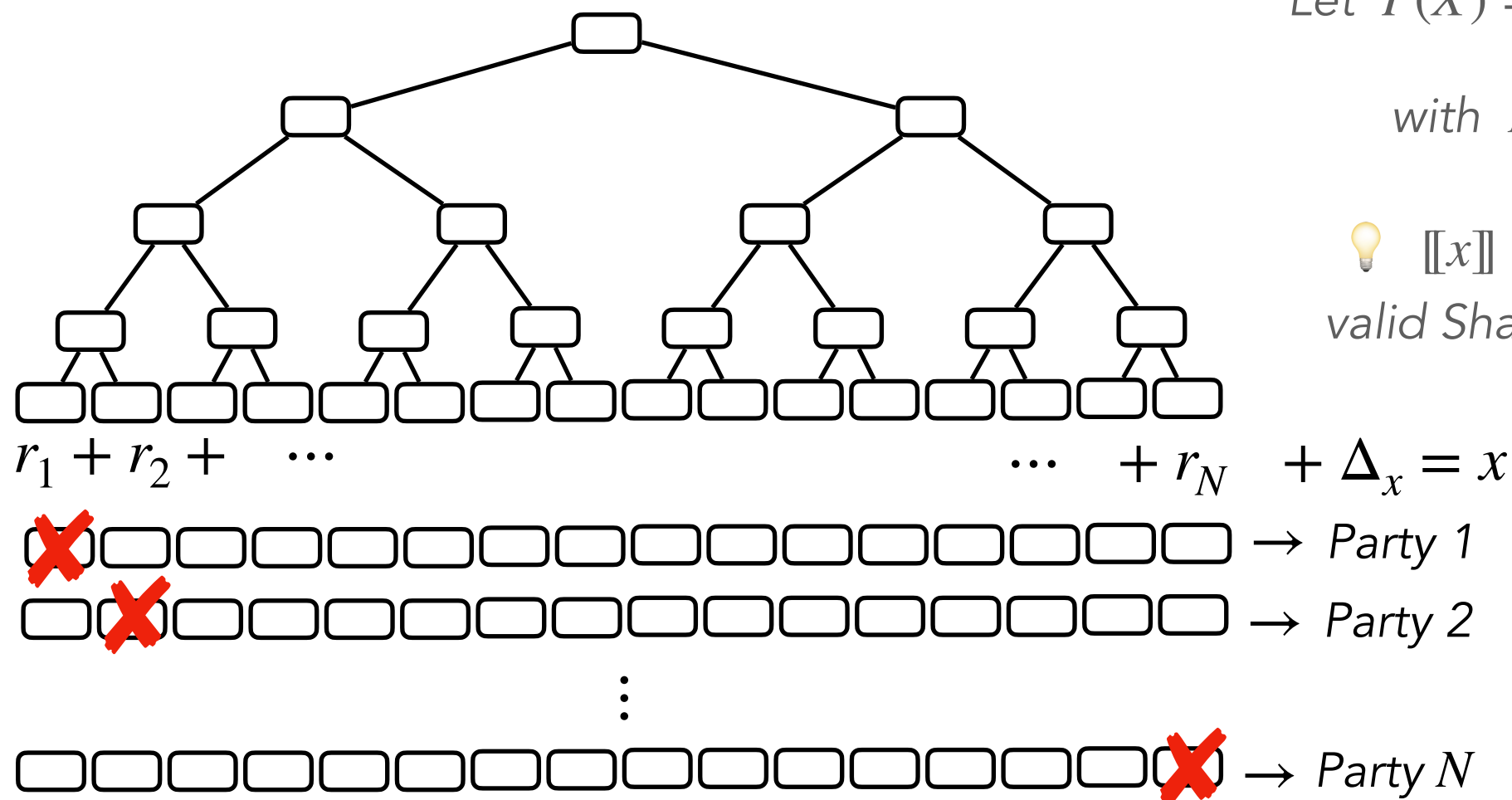
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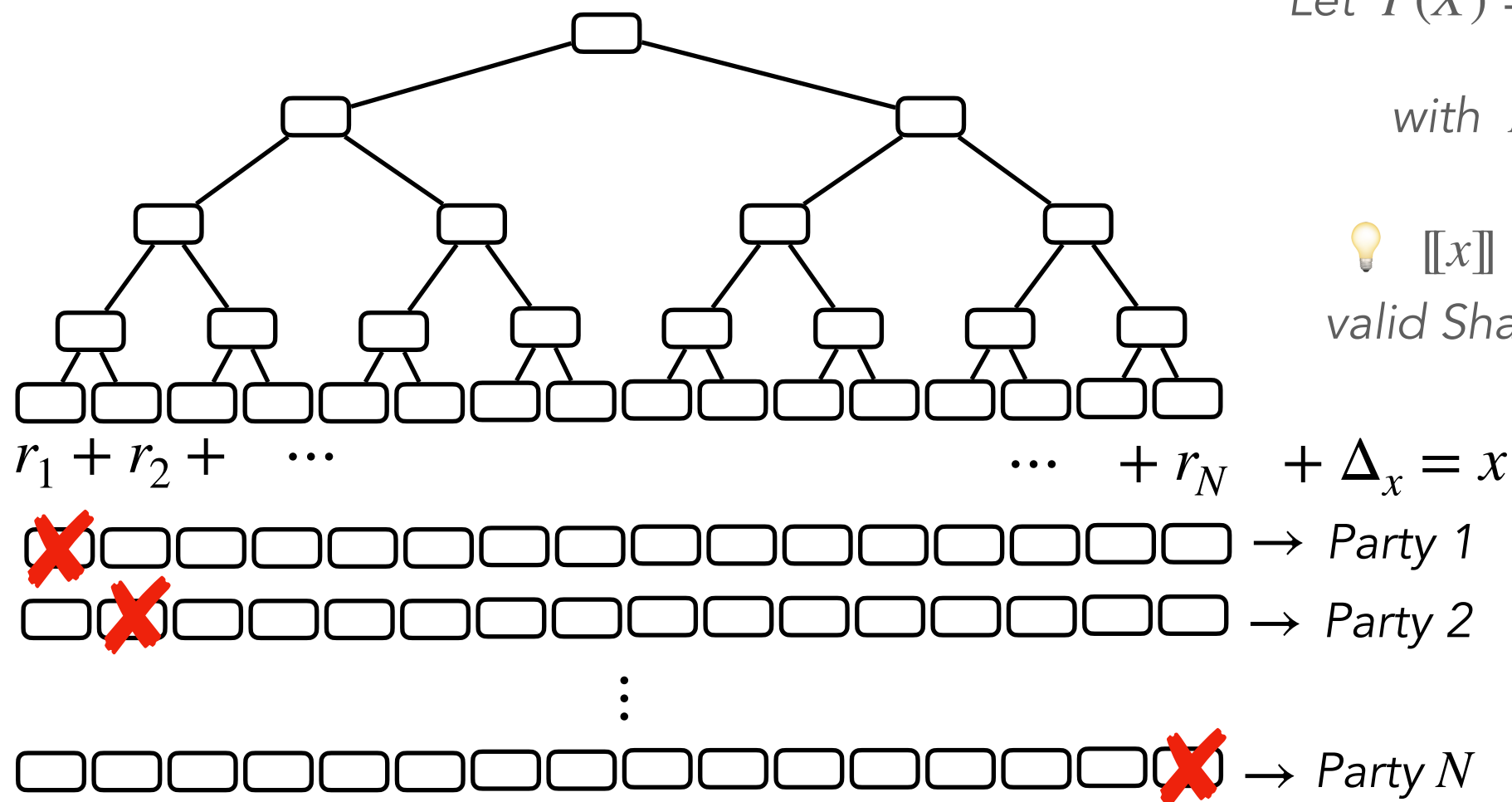
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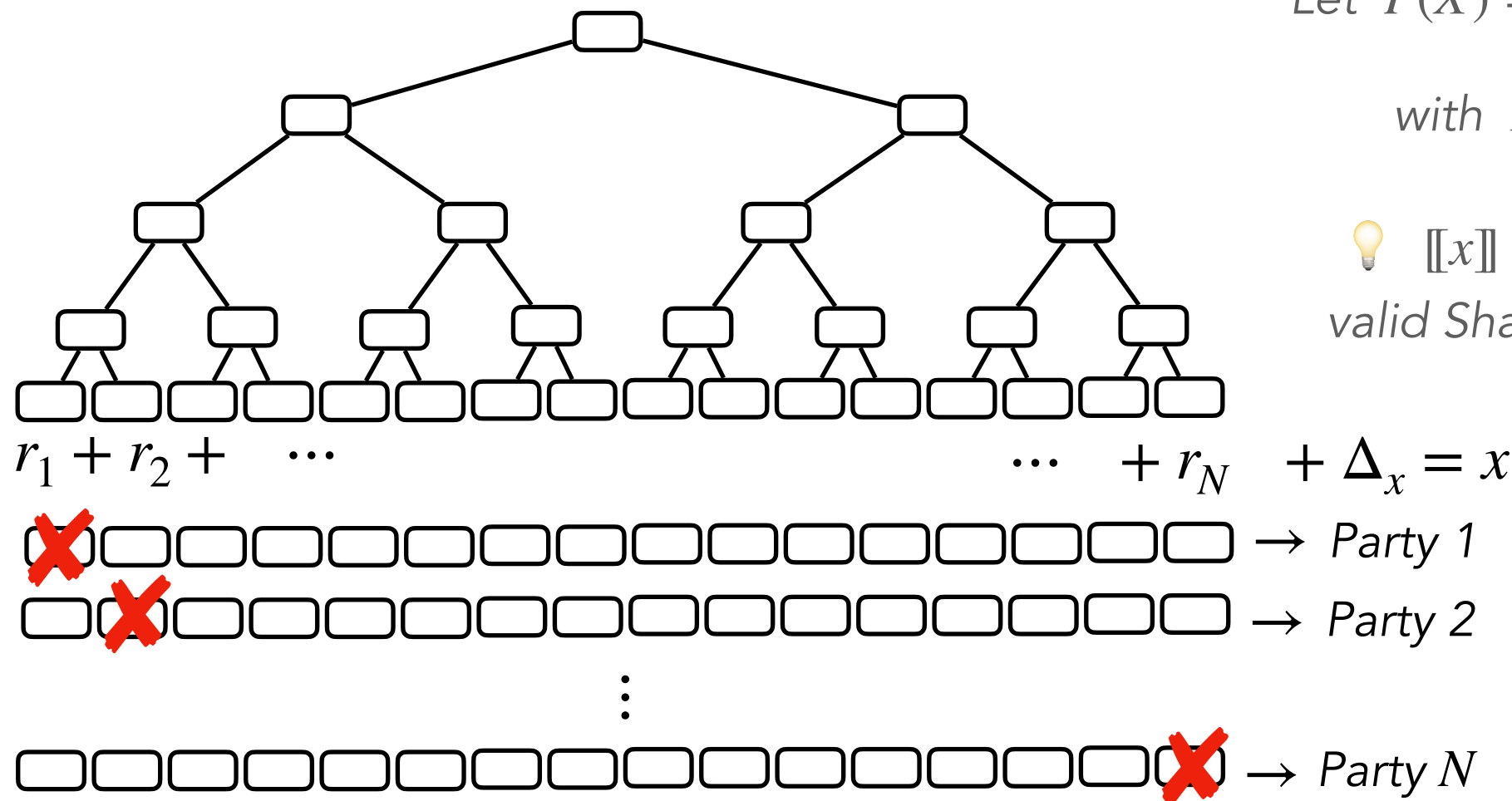
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🐌 Lose fast verification

Lifting in a field extension

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- Evaluation points $\{e_j\}$ taken on an extension \mathbb{F}^η

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- TCitH-GGM can support $N > |\mathbb{F}|$
- Evaluation points $\{e_j\}$ taken on an extension \mathbb{F}^η
- No impact on communication: Δ_x still on \mathbb{F}
- (Virtually) increase # party emulations:

$$1 + \left\lceil \frac{\log_2 N}{\log_2 |\mathbb{F}|} \right\rceil = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } |\mathbb{F}| \geq N \\ \vdots & \\ 1 + \log_2 N & \text{if } |\mathbb{F}| = 2 \end{cases}$$

Speedups for MPCitH candidates

	Additive MPCitH		TCitH (GGM tree)	
	Traditional (ms)	Hypercube (ms)	TCitH (ms)	Saving
<i>Party emulations / repetition</i>	N	$1 + \log_2 N$	$1 + \left\lceil \frac{\log_2 N}{\log_2 \mathbb{F} } \right\rceil$	
AlMer	4.53	3.22	3.22	-0 %
Biscuit	17.71	4.65	4.24	-16 %
MIRA	384.26	20.11	9.89	-51 %
MiRitH-Ia	54.15	6.60	5.42	-18 %
MiRitH-Ib	89.50	8.66	6.66	-23 %
MQOM-31	96.41	11.27	8.74	-21 %
MQOM-251	44.11	7.56	5.97	-21 %
RYDE	12.41	4.65	4.65	-0 %
SDitH-256	78.37	7.23	5.31	-27 %
SDitH-251	19.15	7.53	6.44	-14 %

- Comparison based on a generic MPCitH library ( libmpcith)
- Code for MPC protocols fetched from the submission packages

Using multiplication
homomorphism
& packed secret sharing

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check $\alpha = 0$
false positive proba $1/|\mathbb{F}|$

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Soundness error

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Here: $\ell \cdot \deg f_j$ $\left(\frac{1}{|\mathbb{F}|}\right)^{\#\alpha}$

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Soundness error

Shorter signatures for MPCitH-based candidates

	<i>Original Size</i>	<i>Our Variant</i>	<i>Saving</i>
Biscuit	4 758 B	4 048 B	-15 %
MIRA	5 640 B	5 340 B	-5 %
MiRitH-Ia	5 665 B	4 694 B	-17 %
MiRitH-Ib	6 298 B	5 245 B	-17 %
MQOM-31	6 328 B	4 027 B	-37 %
MQOM-251	6 575 B	4 257 B	-35 %
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* $N = 256$

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Shorter signatures for MPCitH-based candidates

Two very recent works :

- Baum, Beullens, Mukherjee, Orsini, Ramacher, Rechberger, Roy, Scholl. *One Tree to Rule Them All: Optimizing GGM Trees and OWFs for Post-Quantum Signatures*. <https://ia.cr/2024/490>
 - General techniques to reduce the size of GGM trees
 - **Apply to TCitH-GGM** (gain of ~500 B at 128-bit security)
- Bidoux, Feneuil, Gaborit, Neveu, Rivain. *Dual Support Decomposition in the Head: Shorter Signatures from Rank SD and MinRank*. <https://ia.cr/2024/541>
 - New MPC protocols for TCitH / VOLEitH signatures based on **MinRank & Rank SD**

Using packed secret sharing

- Shamir's secret sharing can be packed
 - $P(\omega_1) = x_1, \dots, P(\omega_s) = x_s$
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\Rightarrow interesting for statements with "medium size" witness

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- E.g. an ISIS statement $\vec{t} = A \cdot \vec{e}$ with $\|\vec{e}\|_\infty \leq \beta$

Here: $(\ell + s - 1) \cdot \deg f_j$





$$\frac{\binom{d_\alpha}{\ell}}{\binom{N}{\ell}} + p$$

Soundness error







TCitH-GGM vs. TCitH-MT

<i>TCitH-GGM</i>	<i>TCitH-MT</i>
 Smaller tree	 Larger tree (~x2)









TCitH-GGM vs. TCitH-MT

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 Better for "small-size" statements	 Better for "medium-size" statements

**Application: post-quantum
ring signatures**

Post-quantum ring signatures

- Secret key w
- One-way function f
- Public key $y = f(w)$
- MPC protocol $\Pi : \llbracket w \rrbracket \mapsto 0/1$

$TCitH$
 $\xrightarrow{\quad}$
 FS

 signature
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- Public keys y_1, \dots, y_r
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scheme



- Secret keys w_1, \dots, w_r
- Public keys y_1, \dots, y_r
- MPC protocol
 $\Pi' : \llbracket w_{j^*} \rrbracket, \llbracket j^* \rrbracket \mapsto 0/1$

$TCitH$
 $\xrightarrow{\quad}$
 FS

  ring
signature
scheme

Post-quantum ring signatures

💡 Idea:

- ▶ One-hot encoding of j^*

$$s = (0, \dots, 0, s_{j^*} := 1, 0, \dots, 0)$$

Post-quantum ring signatures

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🔧 Solution: $\llbracket s^{(1)} \rrbracket, \dots, \llbracket s^{(d)} \rrbracket$ s.t. $s = s^{(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes s^{(d)}$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(d \sqrt[d]{r}) \text{ signature size } \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\log r)$$

Post-quantum ring signatures

Protocol Π'

Input: $[[w_{j^*}]], [[s^{(1)}]], \dots, [[s^{(d)}]]$

Post-quantum ring signatures

Protocol Π'

Input: $\llbracket w_{j^*} \rrbracket, \llbracket s^{(1)} \rrbracket, \dots, \llbracket s^{(d)} \rrbracket$

1. Locally compute $\llbracket s \rrbracket = \llbracket s_1 \rrbracket \otimes \dots \otimes \llbracket s_d \rrbracket$

Post-quantum ring signatures

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Post-quantum ring signatures

Protocol Π'

Input: $[[w_{j*}]], [[s^{(1)}]], \dots, [[s^{(d)}]]$

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Post-quantum ring signatures

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 Simple
MPC protocol

Post-quantum ring signatures

Protocol Π'

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 Simple
MPC protocol

⚠ Π must be adapted to
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⚠ Sharing degrees
increase

Post-quantum ring signatures

Protocol Π'

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TCitH / FS

  ring
signature
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 Simple
MPC protocol



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Post-quantum ring signatures

#users		2^3	2^6	2^8	2^{10}	2^{12}	2^{20}	Assumption	Security
Our scheme	2023	4.41	4.60	4.90	5.48	5.82	8.19	MQ over \mathbb{F}_{251}	NIST I
Our scheme	2023	4.30	4.33	4.37	4.45	4.60	5.62	MQ over \mathbb{F}_{256}	NIST I
Our scheme	2023	7.51	8.40	8.72	9.36	10.30	12.81	SD over \mathbb{F}_{251}	NIST I
Our scheme	2023	7.37	7.51	7.96	8.24	8.40	10.09	SD over \mathbb{F}_{256}	NIST I
Our scheme	2023	7.87	7.90	7.94	8.02	8.18	9.39	AES128	NIST I
Our scheme	2023	6.81	6.84	6.88	6.96	7.12	8.27	AES128-EM	NIST I
KKW [KKW18]	2018	-	250	-	-	456	-	LowMC	NIST V
GGHK [GGHAK22]	2021	-	-	-	56	-	-	LowMC	NIST V
Raptor [LAZ19]	2019	10	81	333	1290	5161	-	MSIS / MLWE	100 bit
EZSLL [EZS ⁺ 19]	2019	19	31	-	-	148	-	MSIS / MLWE	NIST II
Falafel [BKP20]	2020	30	32	-	-	35	-	MSIS / MLWE	NIST I
Calamari [BKP20]	2020	5	8	-	-	14	-	CSIDH	128 bit
LESS [BBN ⁺ 22]	2022	11	14	-	-	20	-	Code Equiv.	128 bit
MRr-DSS [BESV22]	2022	27	36	64	145	422	-	MinRank	NIST I

Post-quantum ring signatures

Application to
MQ, SD, AES

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Size range: 5–13 kB
for $|ring|=2^{20}$

Post-quantum ring signatures

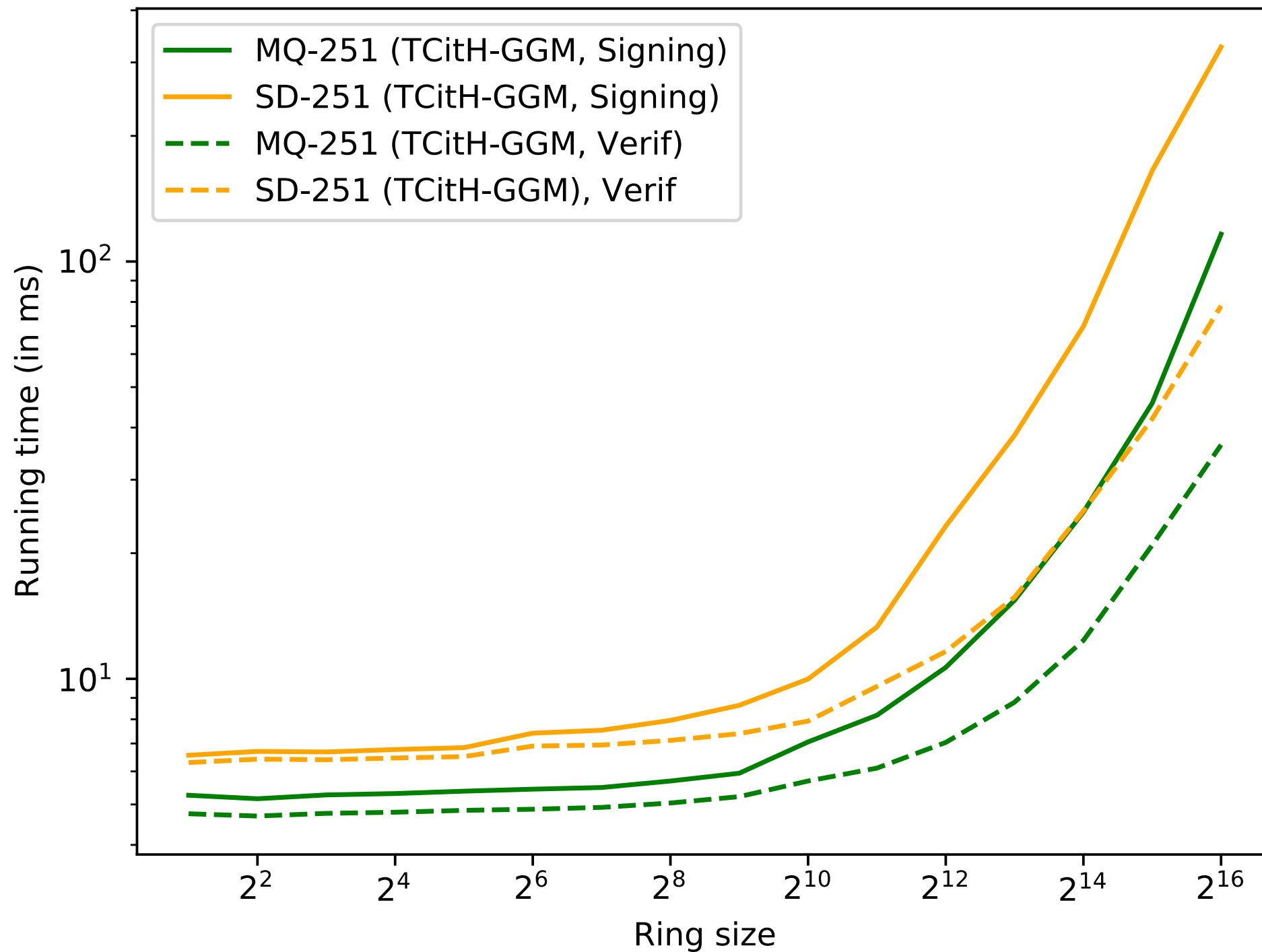
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Size range: 5–13 kB
for $|ring|=2^{20}$

Previous works:
 ≥ 14 kB for $|ring|=2^{10}$
no / slow implementations

Post-quantum ring signatures

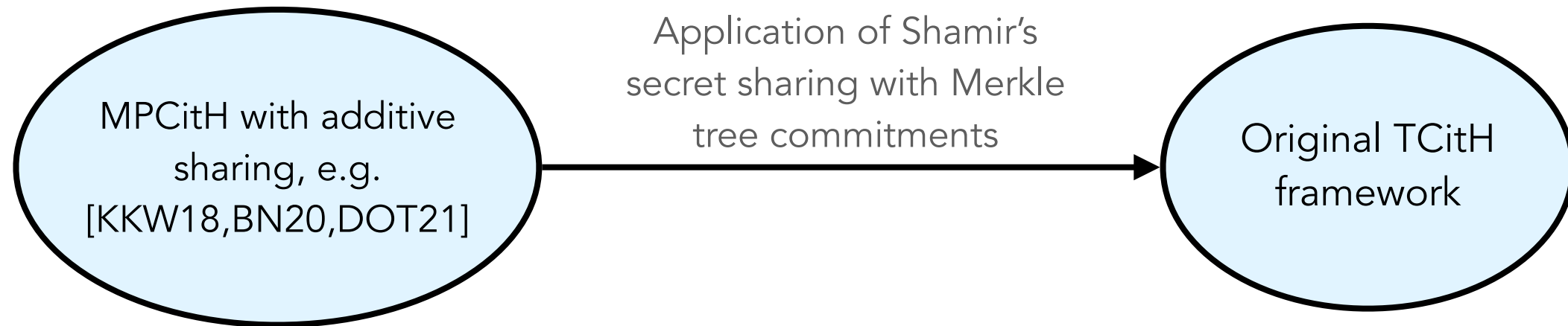


Relation to other proof systems

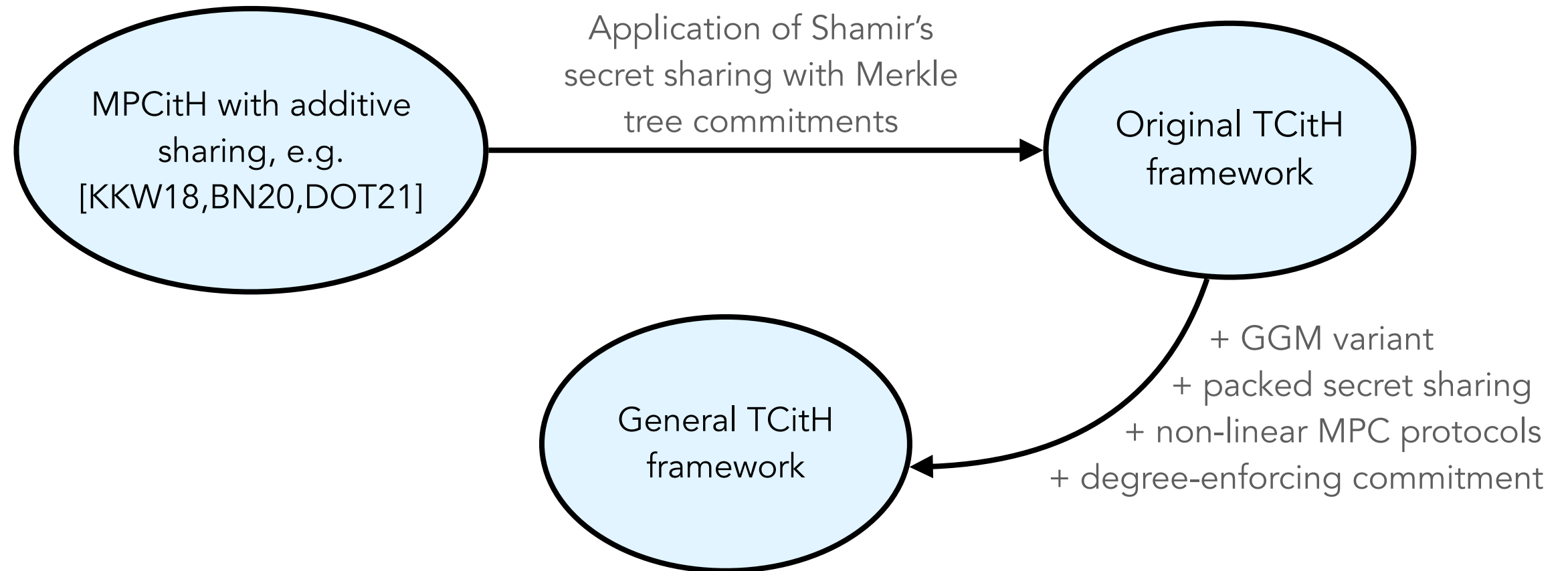
Connections to other proof systems

MPCitH with additive
sharing, e.g.
[KKW18,BN20,DOT21]

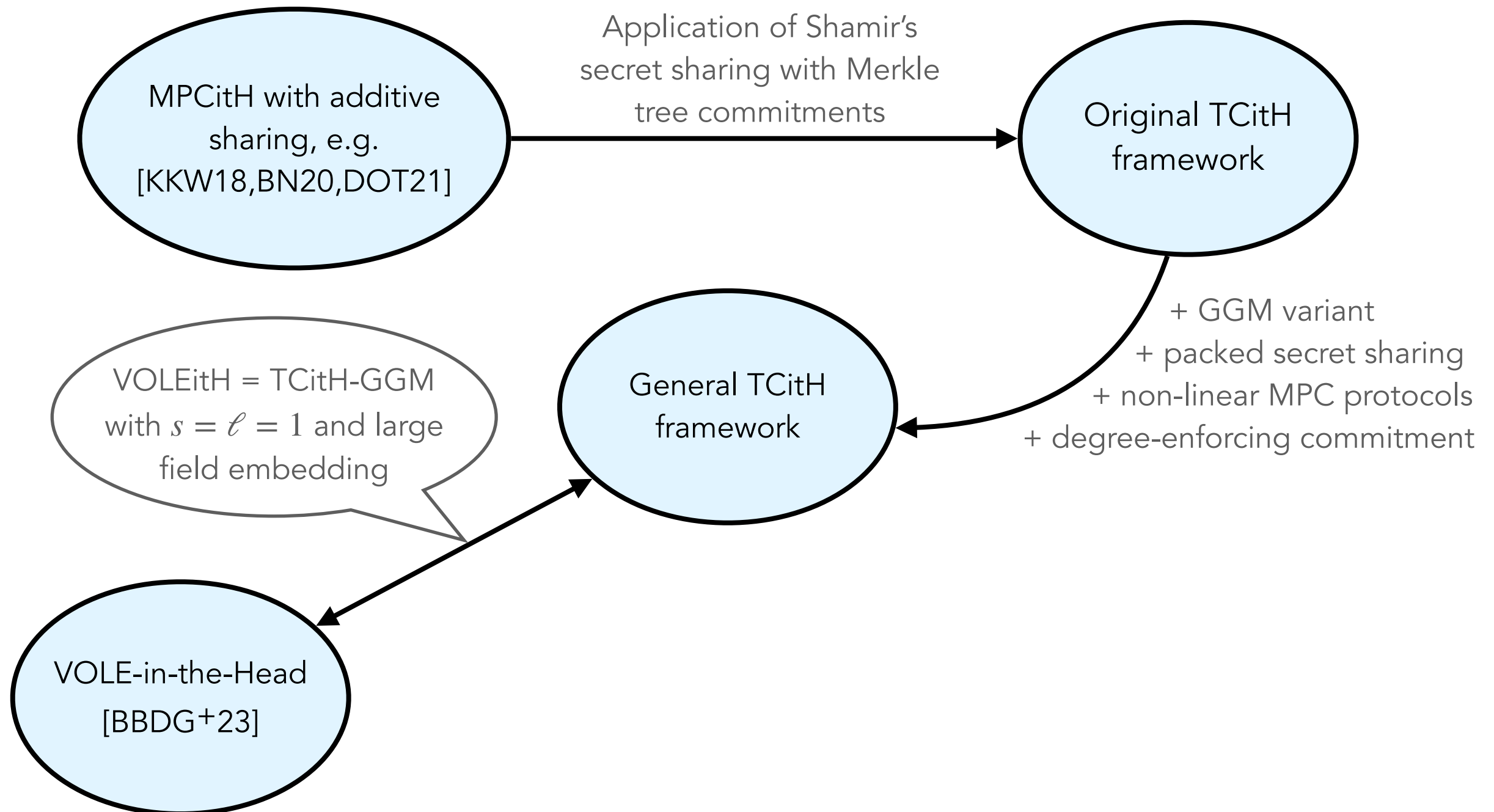
Connections to other proof systems



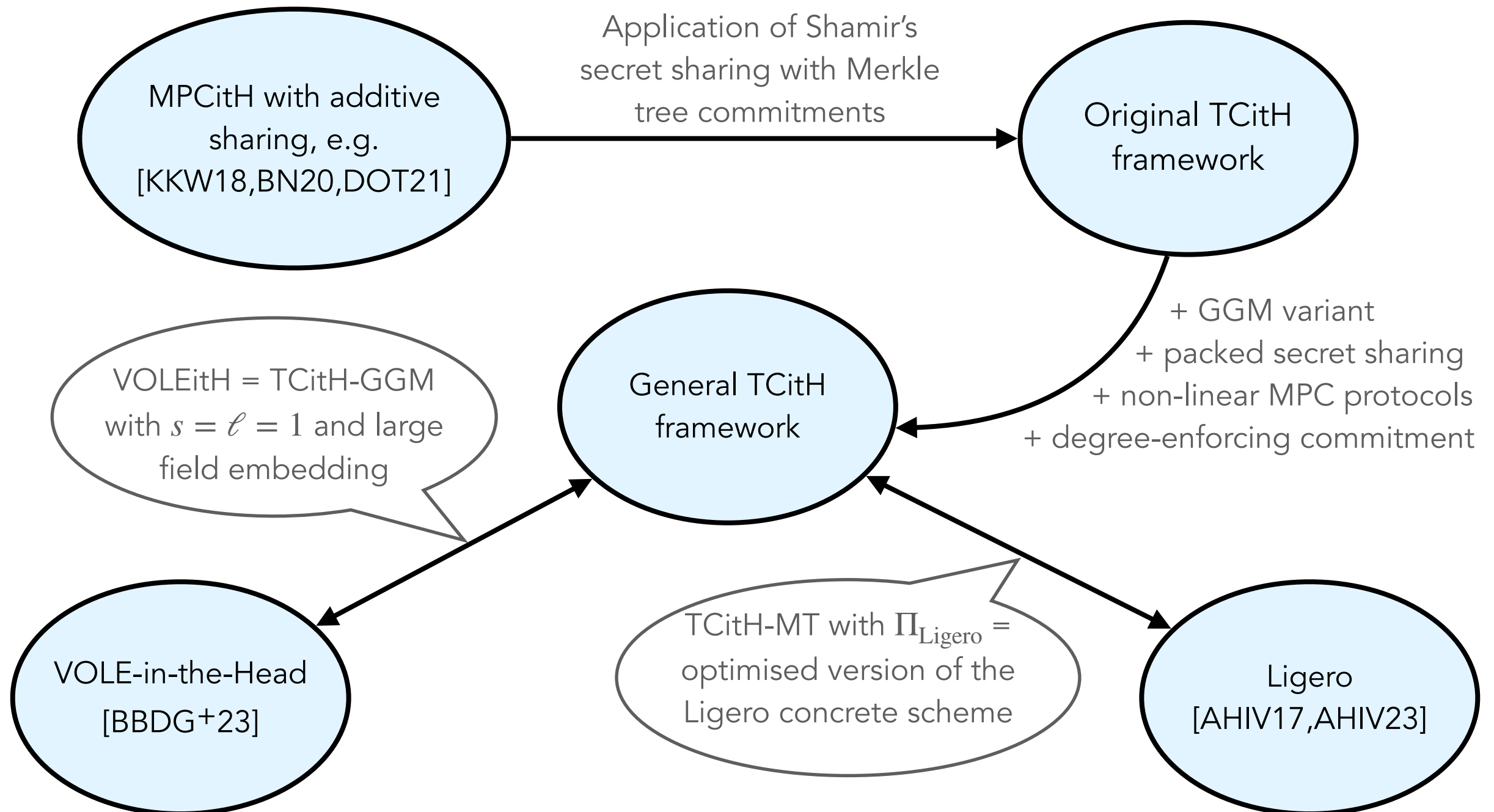
Connections to other proof systems



Connections to other proof systems



Connections to other proof systems



Thank you!

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