

# RANDOMNESS CONDENSERS FOR EFFICIENTLY SAMPLABLE, SEED-DEPENDENT SOURCES



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# Imperfect Random Sources



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- Ideal randomness is crucial in many areas
  - ▣ Especially **cryptography** (i.e., secret keys) [MP91, DOPS04, BD07]
- However, often deal with **imperfect randomness**
  - ▣ physical sources, biometric data, partial knowledge about secrets, extracting from group elements (DH key exchange),...
- Necessary assumption: must have **(min-)entropy**
  - ▣  $H_\infty(X) \geq k$  if  $\Pr[X=x] \leq 2^{-k}$ , for all  $x$
- **Can we extract (nearly) perfect randomness from such realistic, imperfect sources?**

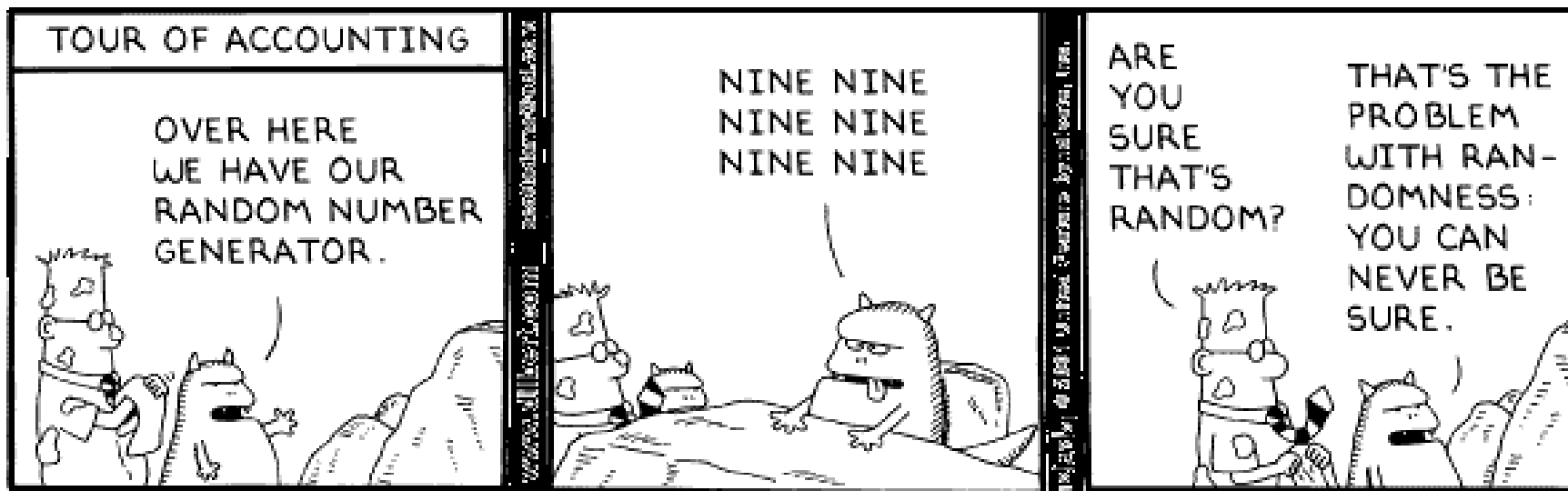
# Extractors



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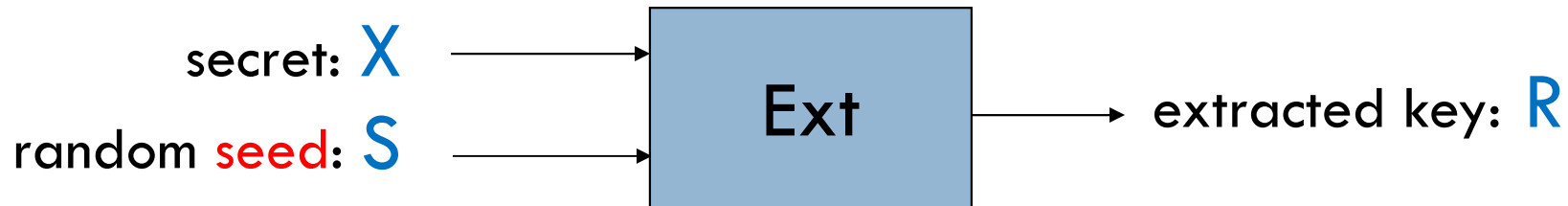
- Problem: can't handle general entropy sources
  - Let  $X \leftarrow \text{Ext}^{-1}(\text{const})$ . High entropy, but  $\text{Ext}(X) = \text{const}$



# Seeded Extractors [NZ96]



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- $R$  is uniformly random even conditioned on the seed  $S$

$$(\text{Ext}(X; S), S) \approx (\text{Uniform}, S)$$

- Advantages:



- Can extract (almost) **all** entropy from **all**  $k$ -sources
- **Efficient** constructions (leftover hash lemma, no “crypto”)
- Seed can be **reused**
- In theory, can make seed very **short** (often not critical)

# Disadvantages



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- **Need a (truly random!) seed in the first place**
  - ▣ Defenses: can arrange in most settings, can be reused
- **Must lose some entropy due to extraction**
  - ▣ Defenses: pretty small, can use PRG to stretch, provably less than we thought for many applications [BDK<sup>+</sup>11]
- **This work: seed must be independent from the source**
  - ▣ Main Defense: OK for many applications (e.g., DH exchange)
    - But not all (e.g., RNG computation affects physical source it uses)
    - May find new unexpected applications (stay tuned!)
    - The question is obviously intriguing, let's move on !

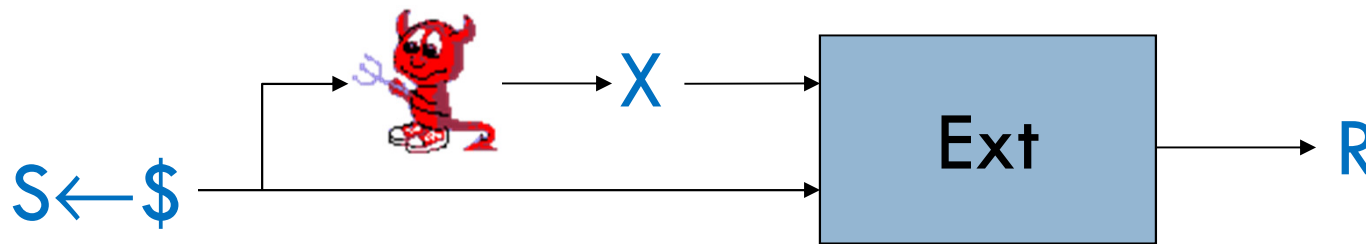
# Seed-Dependent Extractors





"The tax man says you can't claim your inner child as a dependent."

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- $(\text{Ext}(X; S), S) \approx (\text{Uniform}, S)$ , as long as  $H_\infty(X | S) \geq k$
- Impossible ☹️: same  $X \leftarrow \text{Ext}^{-1}(\text{const}; S)$  argument
- What if  $X$  is **efficiently samplable** (+  $\text{Ext}^{-1}$  is “hard”)?



- [TV00]: only possible if complexity of  is (roughly) **less** than that of the extractor ☹️
  -  : keep picking random  $X$  until first bit of  $\text{Ext}(X; S)=0$

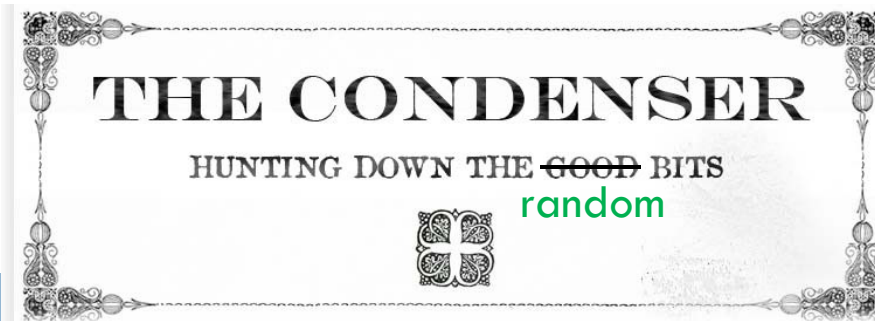
# The Attack is Not So Bad !!

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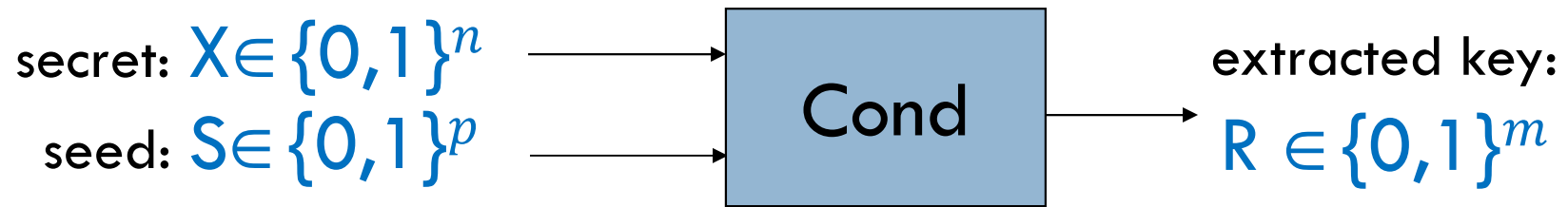
- Assume use  $R = \text{Ext}(X; S)$  as a secret key
  - If  $R=0$  | random, then only lost factor of 2 in security!
- Generalization: pick  $X \leftarrow \$$  until  $\text{Ext}(X; S)$  is “weak”
  - Sampling time  $t \approx \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ , where  $\epsilon$  = fraction of weak keys
  - **Super-polynomial** if  $\epsilon$  = **negligible** !
- Is this the best attack?
- Can we formalize a **sufficient** security notion?

## RANDOMNESS CONDENSERS!



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- Same syntax as Extractor:



- **Standard Definition:** Cond is  $(\frac{k}{n} \rightarrow \frac{v}{m})_\infty$ -condenser if

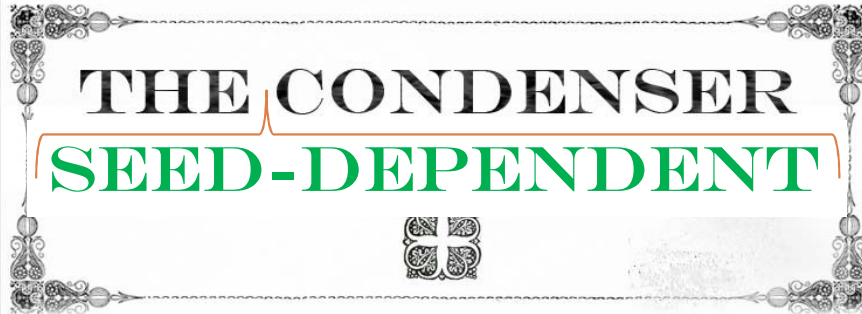
$$H_\infty(X) \geq k \Rightarrow H_\infty(\text{Cond}(X; S) | S) \geq v$$

- Note: no restriction on  $X$  being efficiently samplable
- Non-triviality: want entropy deficiency  $m - v \ll n - k$



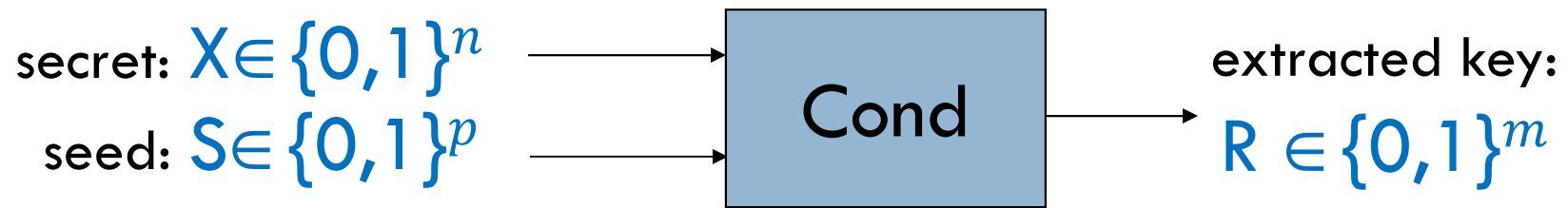
# THE CONDENSER

## SEED-DEPENDENT



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- Same syntax as Extractor:



- **Definition:** Cond is  $(\frac{k}{n} \rightarrow \frac{v}{m}, t)_\infty$ -seed-dependent (SD) condenser, if for all  $A$  producing  $X \leftarrow A(S)$  in time  $t$ ,

$$H_\infty(X | S) \geq k \Rightarrow H_\infty(\text{Cond}(X; S) | S) \geq v$$

- As before, want entropy deficiency  $d = m - v \ll n - k$
- Unlike Extractors, Cond can be much faster than  $A$  !



# Condensers and Key Derivation

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- Setting: application  $P$  needs a  $m$ -bit secret key  $R$ 
  - ▣ **Ideal Model**:  $R \leftarrow U_m$  is uniform
  - ▣ **Real Model**:  $R \leftarrow \text{Cond}(X; S)$ , where  $H_\infty(X | S) \geq k$
- Assumption:  $P$  is  $\epsilon$ -secure in the **ideal** model
- Desired Conclusion:  $P$  is  $\epsilon'$ -secure in the **real** model
- Observation: if  $\text{Cond}$  is  $(\frac{k}{n} \rightarrow \frac{v}{m}, t)_\infty$ -SD-condenser and  $X \leftarrow A(S)$  is sampled in time at most  $t$ , then
  - ▣  $\epsilon' \leq [ \text{security of } P \text{ with key } R \text{ s.t. } H_\infty(R) \geq v ]$
  - ▣ Reduces key derivation to analysis of  $P$  **under weak keys!**
  - ▣ Ahead: **generic** bounds on  $\epsilon'$  from  $\epsilon$  and  $2^{m-v} = 2^d$

# Pedantic Viewpoint

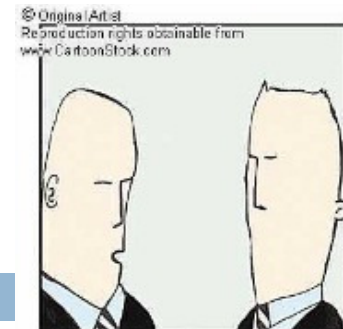
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- Fix  $P$  and any “legal” attacker  $B$
- Let  $f(r) = [\text{Advantage of } B \text{ on key } r]$ 
  - ▣ Unpredictability apps:  $f(r) \in [0, 1]$
  - ▣ Indistinguishability apps:  $f(r) \in [-1/2, 1/2]$
- Ideal adv. of  $B = |\mathbb{E}[f(U_m)]| = \left| \sum_r \frac{1}{2^m} \cdot f(r) \right|$
- Real adv. of  $B = |\mathbb{E}[f(R)]| = \left| \sum_r p(r) \cdot f(r) \right|$
- Goal: upper bound real advantage of  $B$

# Unpredictability Applications

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"Massive unpredictability is absolutely certain, maybe."

- **Lemma 1:** If  $f(r) \geq 0$  and  $H_\infty(R) \geq m - d$  then

$$\mathbb{E}[f(R)] \leq 2^d \cdot \mathbb{E}[f(U_m)]$$

- **Proof:**  $\sum p(r) \cdot f(r) \leq 2^m \cdot \max_r(p(r)) \cdot \left(\sum \frac{1}{2^m} \cdot f(r)\right)$  ■
- **Corollary:** any  $(T, \epsilon)$ -secure *unpredictability* app.  $P$  in the **ideal** model is also  $(T, \epsilon')$ -secure in the  $(m - d)$ -**real** $_\infty$  model, where  $\epsilon' \leq 2^d \cdot \epsilon$
- Exponential loss: OK if **negl.**  $\epsilon$  and **polyn.**  $2^d$

# Indistinguishability Apps



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- $\mathbf{Col}(R) = \Pr[R_1=R_2] = \sum p(r)^2$ 
  - Renyi:  $H_2(R) = -\log \mathbf{Col}(R) \geq H_\infty(R)$

- **Lemma2:** For **all**  $f$  and  $H_2(R) \geq m - d$ ,

$$|\mathbb{E}[f(R)]| \leq \sqrt{2^d \cdot \mathbb{E}[f(U_m)^2]}$$

- Proof:  $|\mathbb{E}[f(R)]| = |\sum_r p(r) \cdot f(r)|$

- Cauchy-Schwartz:

$$\leq \sqrt{2^m \sum p(r)^2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{2^m} \sum f(r)^2}$$



# Why is it Nice?



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- **Lemma2:** For all  $f$  and  $H_2(R) \geq m - d$ ,

$$|\mathbb{E}[f(R)]| \leq \sqrt{2^d \cdot \mathbb{E}[f(U_m)^2]}$$

- Works even if  $f(r)$  can be **negative**
- Renyi entropy  $H_2$  is better than  $H_\infty$
- Second term is for **uniform** distribution
- Question:  $\mathbb{E}[f(U_m)] = \varepsilon$ , what is  $\mathbb{E}[f(U_m)^2]$ ?
- Def ([BDK<sup>+</sup>11]):  $P$  is  $(T, \sigma)$ -**square** secure if for any  $T$ -bounded  $B$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[f_B(U_m)^2] \leq \sigma$

# Square Security?

Malevich

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- [BDK<sup>+</sup>11]: for many natural apps “ $\sigma \approx \varepsilon$ ” (unpredictability, CPA-encryption, weak PRF)
- **Corollary:** Assume  $P$  is  $(T, \varepsilon)$ -secure and “square-friendly”. Then  $P$  is  $(T, \varepsilon')$ -secure in the  $(m - d)$ -real<sub>2</sub> model, where  $\varepsilon' \leq \sqrt{2^d \cdot \varepsilon}$ 
  - lost sqrt, but more apps and better  $H_2$  entropy
- In fact, using  $H_\infty$ -condensers + Lemma1 got same bounds than  $H_2$ -condensers + Lemma2
  - so concentrate on  $H_2$  case

# Collisions and Condensers



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- **Theorem:** “Strong enough” collision-resistant hash functions  $\{h\}$  are “good”  $\mathbb{H}_2$ -SD-condensers!
  - ▣ Partially explains the use of **cryptographic** hash for KDF !
- **Formally:**  $(2t, \frac{A(t)}{2^m})$ -CRHF  $\mathcal{H} = \{h: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^m\}$  defines a *seed-dependent*  $(\frac{k}{n} \rightarrow \frac{m-d}{m}, t)_2$ -condenser  $\text{Cond}(x; h) = h(x)$ , where  $2^d = 2^{m-k} + A(t)$
- $\Pr[h(X_1) = h(X_2)] \leq \Pr[X_1 = X_2] + \Pr[h(X_1) = h(X_2) \ \& \ X_1 \neq X_2] \leq 2^{-k} + \epsilon_{\text{crhf}}$ 
  - ▣ Otherwise, find collisions by simply sampling  $X_1, X_2$  !



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  - E.g., if  $A(t) = O(t^2)$  and  $k \geq m \Rightarrow 2^d = O(t^2)$
- **Corollary:**  $\mathcal{H}$  is  $(2t, \frac{O(t^2)}{2^m})$ -CRHF  $\Rightarrow \epsilon' \leq O(t \cdot \sqrt{\epsilon})$  for all “square-friendly”  $\epsilon$ -secure applications  $\mathbb{P}$ , against any  $t$ -samplable  $X$  s.t.  $\mathbb{H}_2(X | h) \geq m$

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Asymptotic View: negligible ideal security  $\varepsilon$   
+ polynomial sampling time  $t \implies$   
negligible real security  $\varepsilon'$

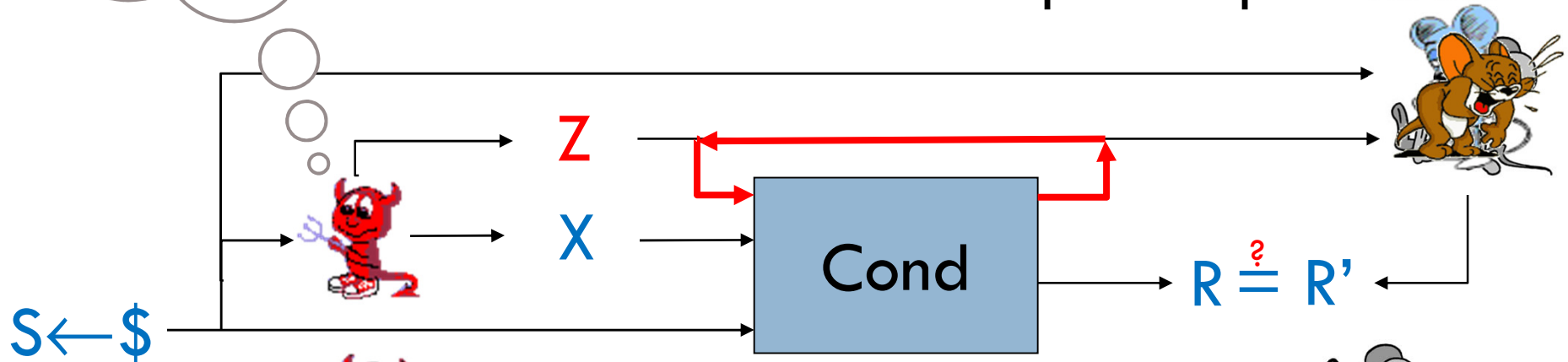
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# mation



- side information from sampler to predictor:



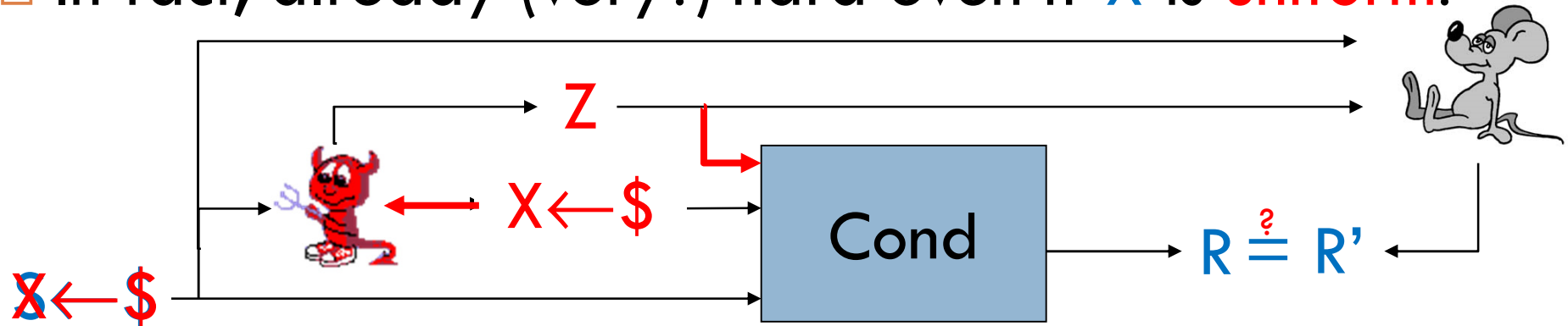
- What if  can pass side information  $Z$  to  ?
  - Require  $H_\infty(X | S, Z) \geq k$ ; natural in many settings
- **Problem:**  can now make  $Z = \text{Cond}(X; S)$  ☹️
- **“Solution”:** pass  $Z$  to condenser!  $R = \text{Cond}((X, Z); S)$ 
  - Why would  pass  $Z$  to  $\text{Cond}$ ? Stay tuned...

# Warning: Strong Generalization!



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- Conjecture SD-condensers with side info exist, but...
- CRHF scheme no longer works with side information
  - Hard to sample  $X_1, X_2$  conditioned on the same  $Z$
- In fact, already (very?) hard even if  $X$  is **uniform!**



- Call this important special case **Leaky Condenser**
- **Leaky Condensers enough to instantiate Fiat-Shamir !**

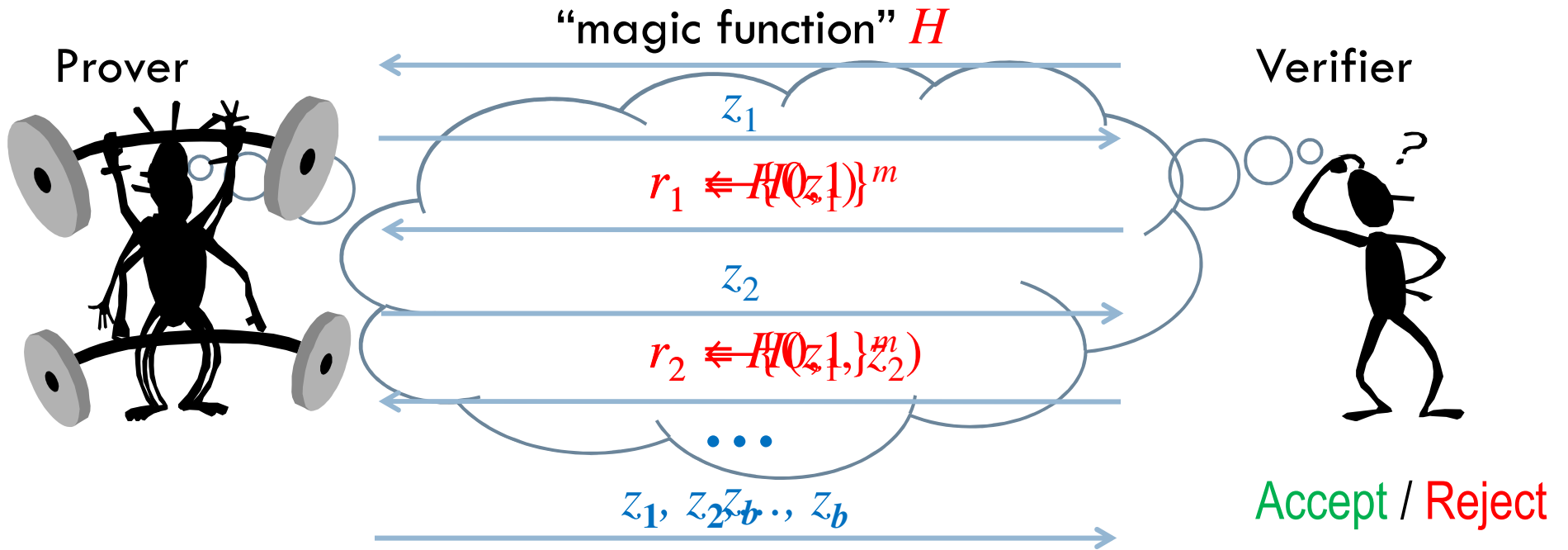


# Fiat-Shamir



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- Public-coin  $(2b+1)$ -round prot.  $\Rightarrow$  public-coin 2-round prot.



- Assume:  $\epsilon$ -sound against **unbounded** Prover (**proof**)
- Conclude:  $\epsilon'$ -sound against **bounded** Prover (**argument**)

# Soundness of Fiat-Shamir?



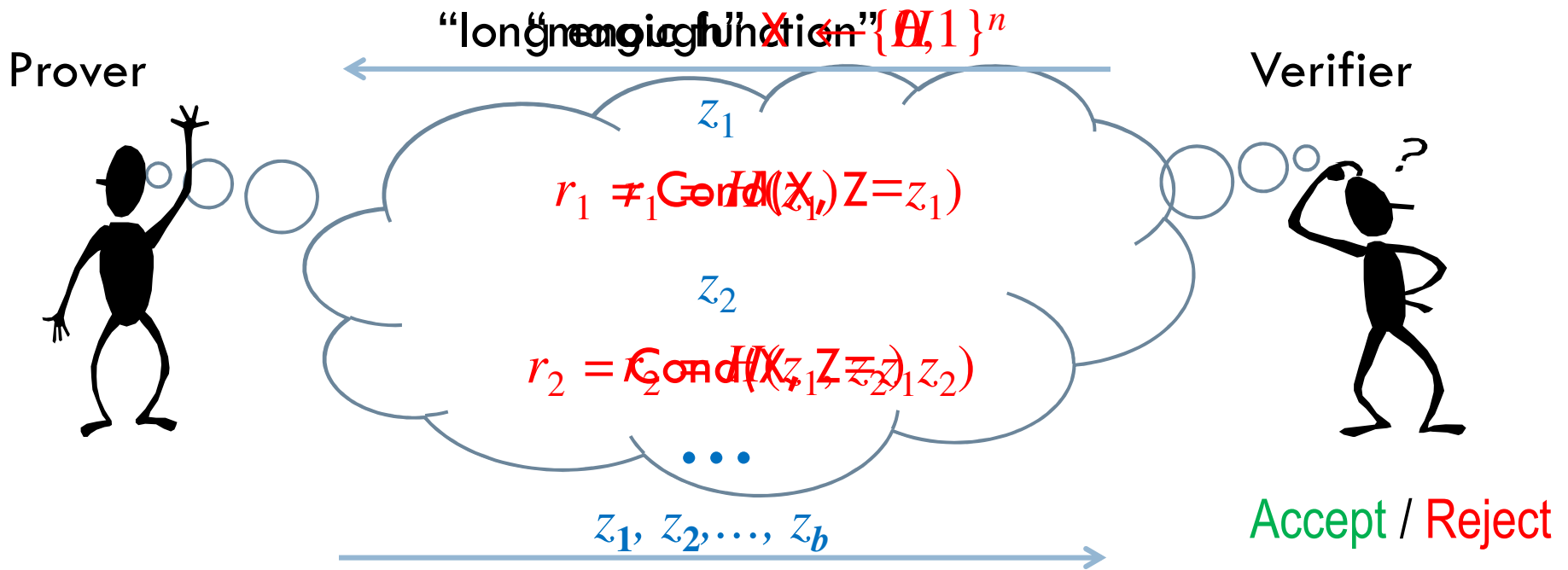
- True in random oracle model
- **Not necessarily true for arguments** [Bar01,GK03]
- **Conjecture** [BLV06]: **true for constant-round proofs**
  - ▣ Implies no constant-round, public-coin, ZK **proofs** outside BPP
- **Our result**: soundness of FS on interactive **proofs** almost equivalent to existence of non-trivial **Leaky** Condensers
  - ▣ Entropy deficiency  $d$  (for  $2b+1$  rounds)  $\Rightarrow$   $\epsilon' \leq 2^{db} \cdot \epsilon$
  - ▣ E.g.,  $2^d = \text{poly}(t)$  and  $b = O(1) \Rightarrow \epsilon' \leq \text{poly}(t) \cdot \epsilon$

# Leaky Condensers and Fiat-Shamir




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- Use **Leaky Condenser Cond** to implement  $H$



- Intuition:** view each  $z_1 \dots z_i$  as “short leakage” on  $X$
- Proof + Condenser: soundness increases by  $\leq 2^d$  per round

# Summary

- **Seed-Dependent** Condensers against **Efficiently Samplable** sources
  - ▣ Unlike extractors, can be **faster** than  !
- Application to **Key Derivation**
  - ▣ Importance of **Square Advantage**
  - ▣ **Generic** bounds on security degradation
- Simple construction from CRHF
- Generalization to **Side Information**
  - ▣ Application: Fiat-Shamir on **proofs**
  - ▣ Open: construction from standard assumptions





# Questions?

