



# Quantum Key Distribution

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BIU Winter School on Quantum Cryptography | February 15, 2021

**Rotem Arnon-Friedman | Weizmann Institute of Science**

# Quantum Cryptography

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**Quantum cryptography**

**Post-quantum cryptography**

# Quantum Key Distribution (QKD)

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Quantum cryptography



Post-quantum cryptography

# Quantum Key Distribution (QKD)

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- ▶ Quantum protocol
- ▶ Quantum adversary (information theoretic)
- ▶ Composable quantum security definition
- ▶ Security proofs based on the laws of quantum physics

We have a lot to learn.... :)

# Outline

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- ▶ Lecture 1:

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ BB84 and Ekert91 protocols

- ▶ Lecture 2:

- ▶ QKD security definition
- ▶ Quantum-proof randomness extractors

- ▶ Lecture 3:

- ▶ Security proof (the main parts)
- ▶ Device-independent quantum key distribution

1. The task
2. It's alive

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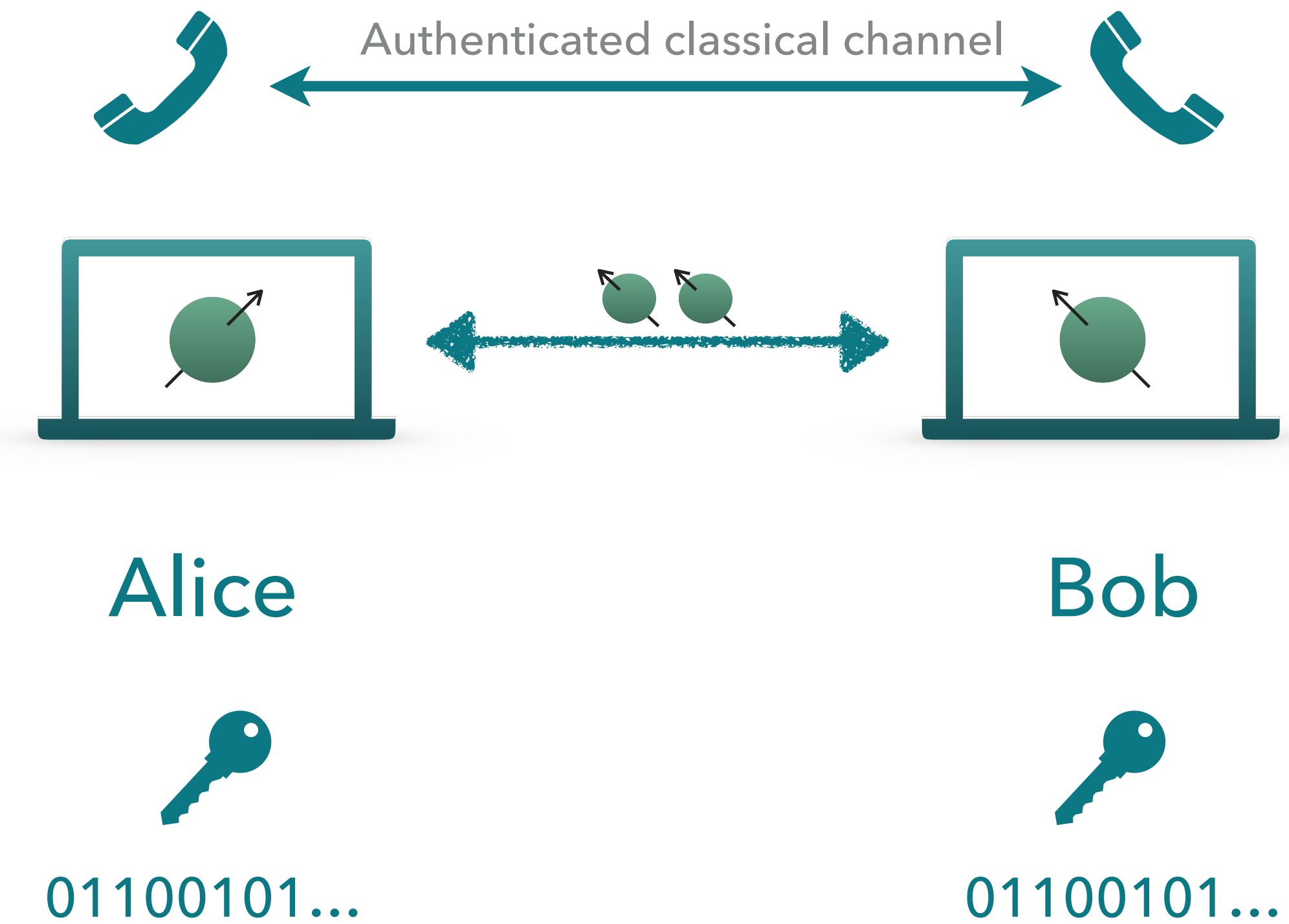
# Introduction

# The Task

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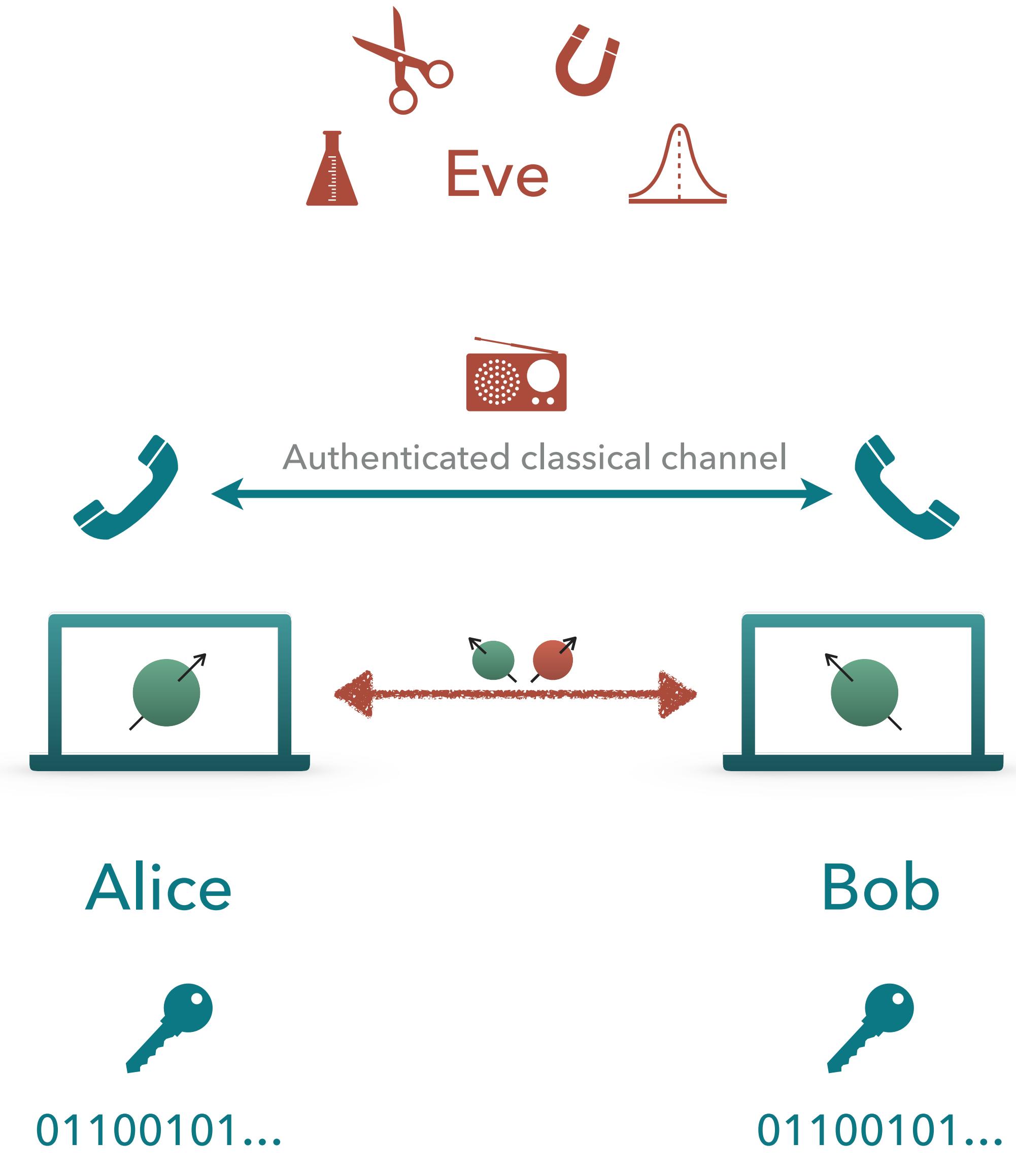
- ▶ Two honest parties: Alice and Bob
- ▶ Goal: Create a secret key
- ▶ Resources:
  - ▶ Local quantum devices
  - ▶ Public quantum communication channel
  - ▶ Public authenticated classical communication channel

*(Not a quantum computer)*



# The Task

- ▶ Two honest parties: Alice and Bob
- ▶ Goal: Create a secret key
- ▶ One dishonest party: Eve
- ▶ Eve's goal: gain as much information as possible about the key
- ▶ Information theoretic security
- ▶ High key rate
- ▶ Expansion rather than distribution
- ▶ “Everlasting security”

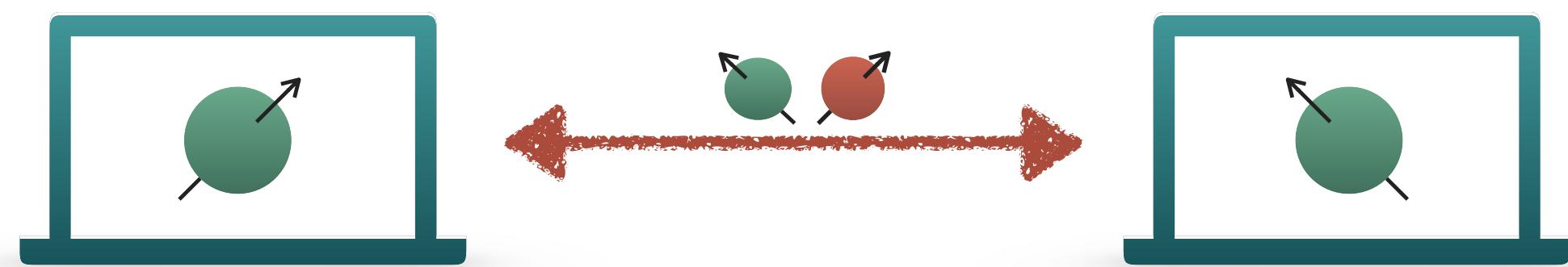


# The Task

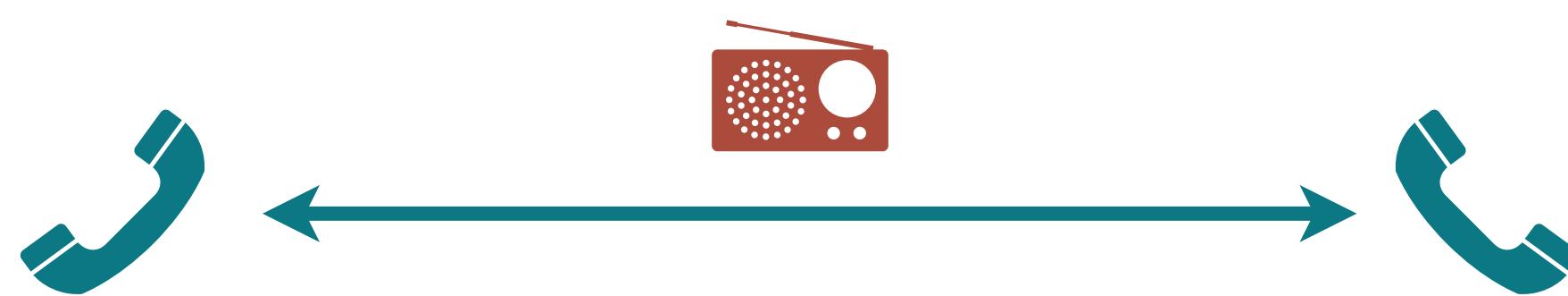
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## ► Structure of a general QKD protocol:

### 1. Generation of the classical raw data using the quantum devices



### 2. Classical processing of the data (post-quantum cryptography)



# It's Alive

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## ► Types of protocols:

- Prepare and measure protocols
- Entanglement based protocols
- Discrete-variable protocols
- Continues-variable protocols
- Device-independent protocols
- Semi-device-independent
- One-way classical processing
- Two-way classical processing
- ...

## ► Some examples:

- BB84 protocol
- Six-state protocol
- Ekert 91 protocol
- COW protocol
- Satellite-based protocols
- Ping-pong protocol
- Twin-field protocol
- ...
- Quantum hacking 

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## Quantum Key Distribution

### Cerberis<sup>3</sup> QKD System

- Complex network topologies (ring, hub and spoke)
- Interoperability with major Ethernet and OTN encryptors
- Easy integration in any data centre
- Centrally monitored solution
- Multiplexing of all channels on single fibre for metropolitan area

PRODUCT DETAILS

### Clavis<sup>3</sup> QKD Platform

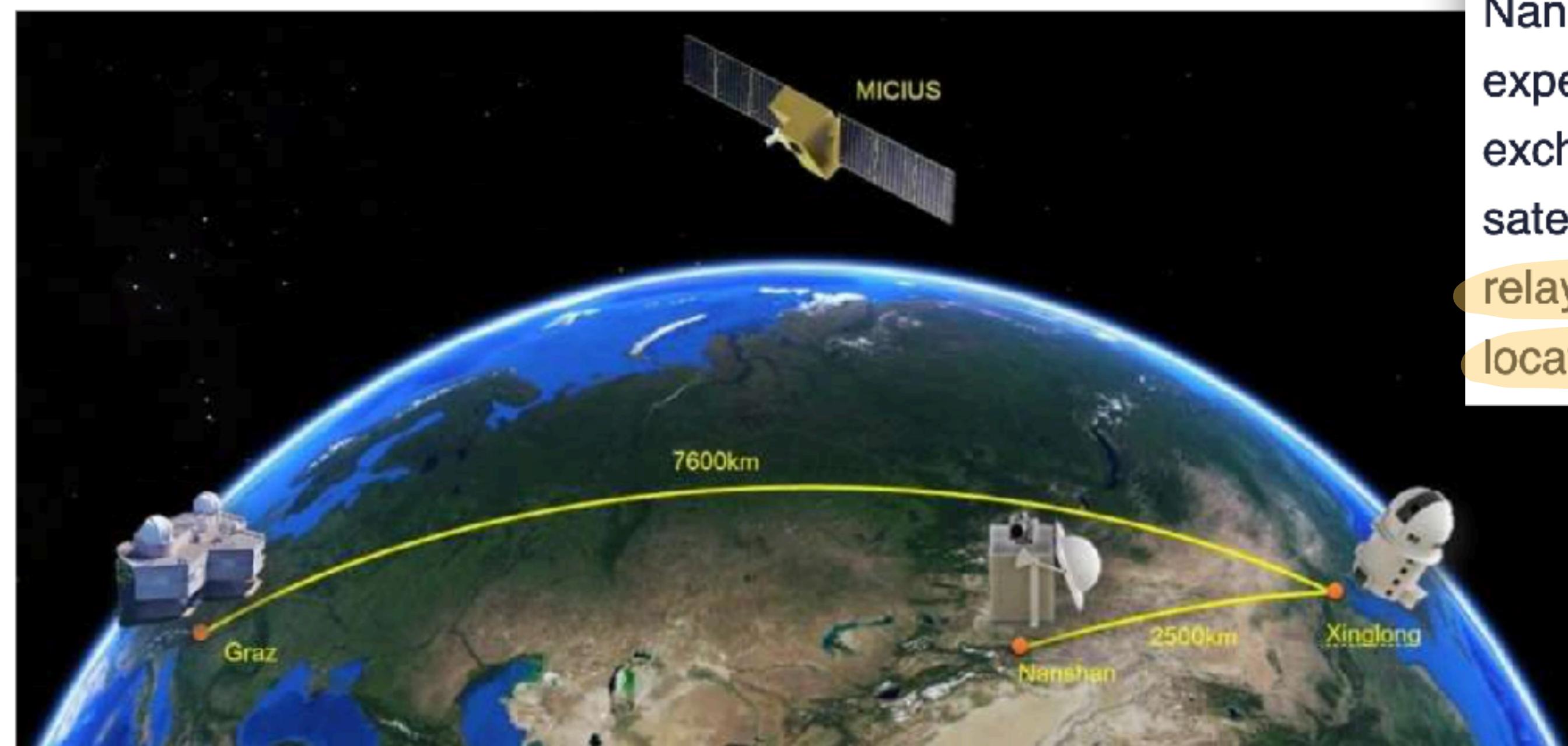
- Open QKD platform for R&D applications
- Interface to external detectors
- Interface to external encryptors
- User interface for technology evaluation and testing

PRODUCT DETAILS

Contact Us

## Real-world intercontinental quantum communications enabled by the Micius satellite

by University of Science and Technology of China



A joint China-Austria team has performed quantum key distribution between the quantum-science satellite Micius and multiple ground stations located in Xinglong (near Beijing), Nanshan (near Urumqi), and Graz (near Vienna). Such experiments demonstrate the secure satellite-to-ground exchange of cryptographic keys during the passage of the satellite Micius over a ground station. Using Micius as a trusted relay, a secret key was created between China and Europe at locations separated up to 7,600 km on the Earth.

1. BB84 protocol
2. Intuition
3. Ekert 91 protocol
4. Intuition

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# Getting Started

# BB84: Prepare and Measure

1. Alice prepares one of the 4 states

$$\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle, |+\rangle, |-\rangle\}$$

at random and sends to Bob.

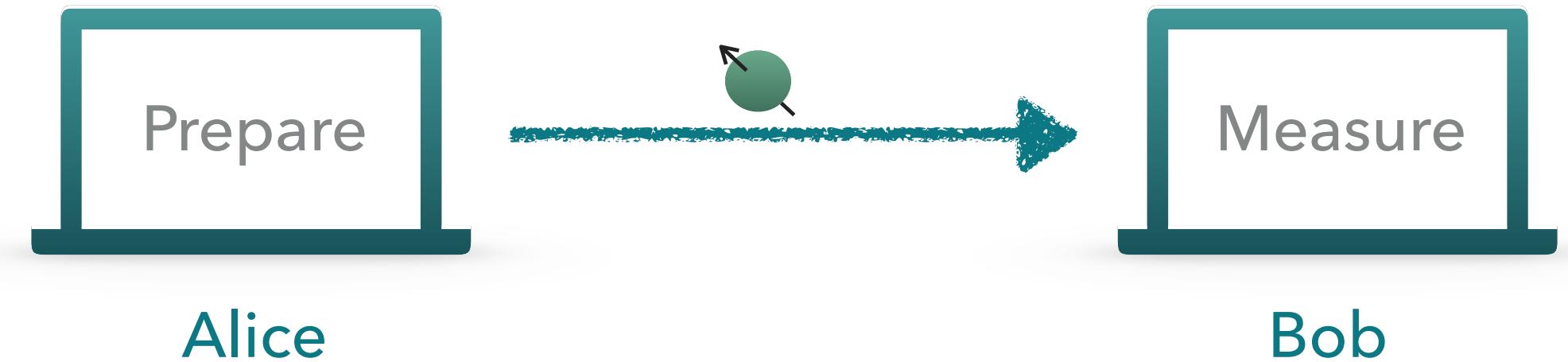


Same as choosing a basis  $Z/X$   
and an eigenstate in that basis

$Z$  : standard basis  $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$

$X$  : diagonal basis  $\{|+\rangle, |-\rangle\}$

(Honest and noiseless case)



$Z \quad |0\rangle$

# BB84: Prepare and Measure

1. Alice prepares one of the 4 states

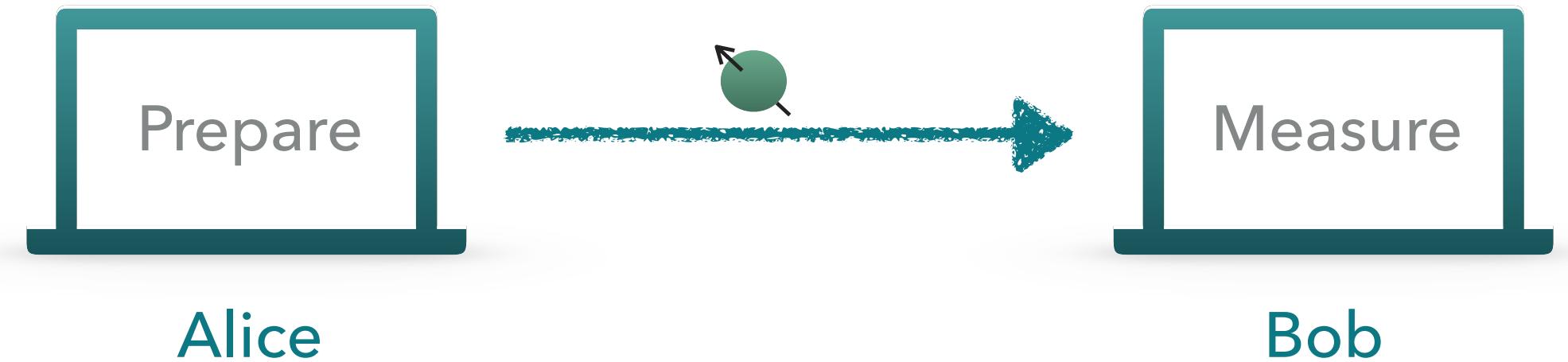
$$\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle, |+\rangle, |-\rangle\}$$

at random and sends to Bob.

2. Bob chooses at random whether to measure the received qubit at the  $Z$  or  $X$  basis.

- ▶ He measures and records the outcome.

(Honest and noiseless case)



|     |             |     |             |
|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|
| $Z$ | $ 0\rangle$ | $Z$ | $ 0\rangle$ |
| $X$ | $ -\rangle$ | $X$ | $ -\rangle$ |
| $X$ | $ +\rangle$ | $Z$ | $ 1\rangle$ |

Reminder:  $|+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle + |1\rangle)$  (w.p. 1/2)

# BB84: Prepare and Measure

1. Alice prepares one of the 4 states

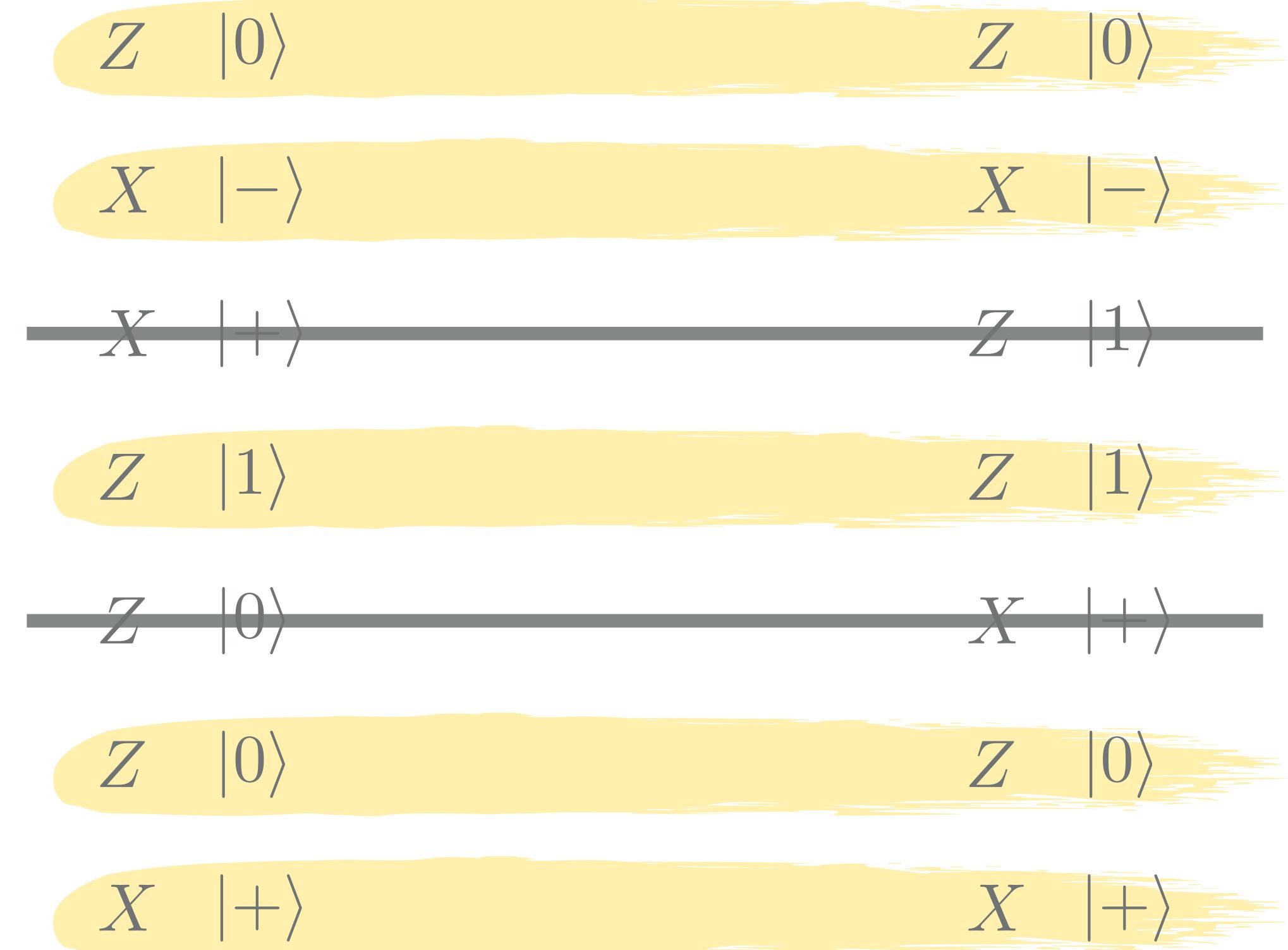
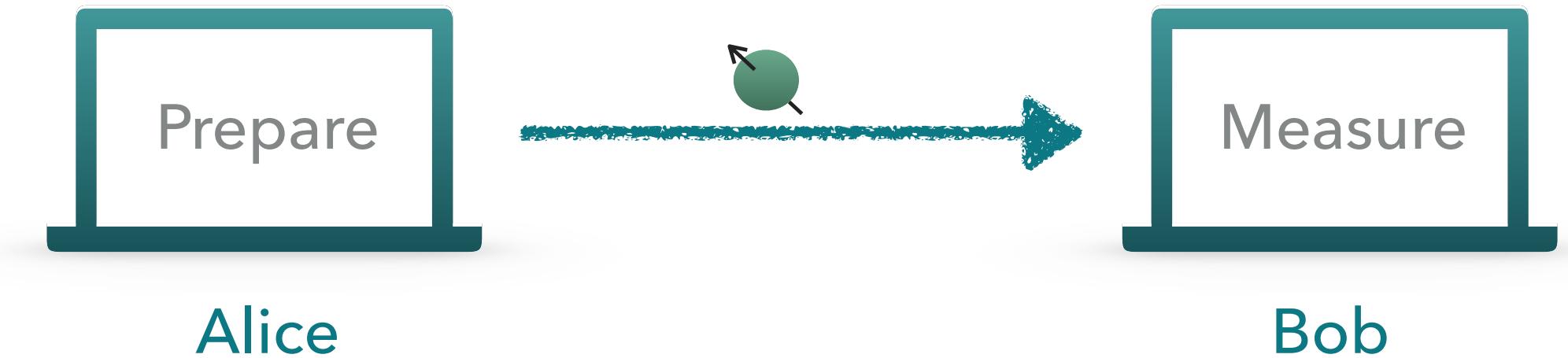
$$\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle, |+\rangle, |-\rangle\}$$

at random and sends to Bob.

2. Bob chooses at random whether to measure the received qubit at the  $Z$  or  $X$  basis.

3. Alice and Bob publicly announce their chosen bases.

(Honest and noiseless case)



# BB84: Prepare and Measure

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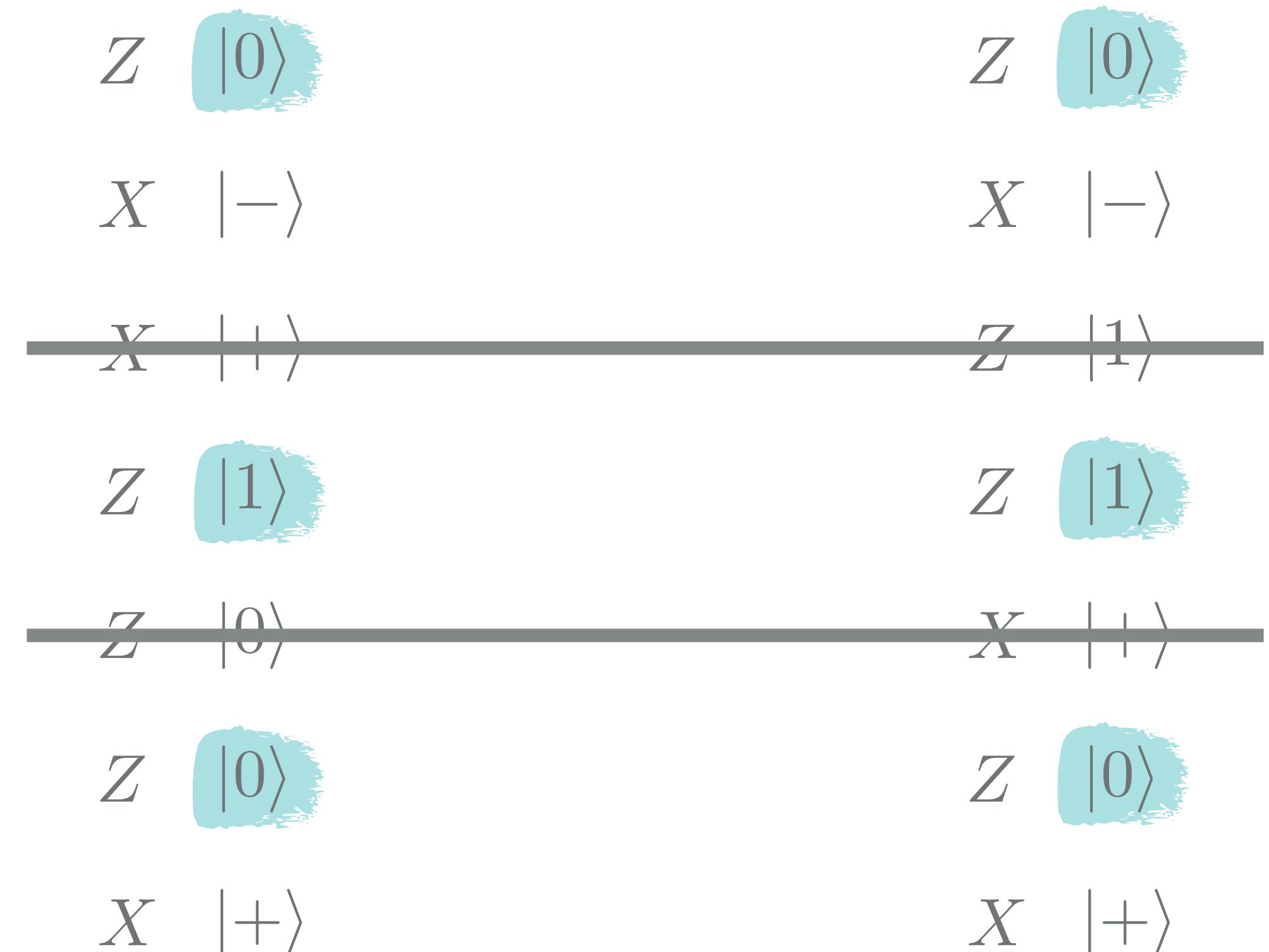
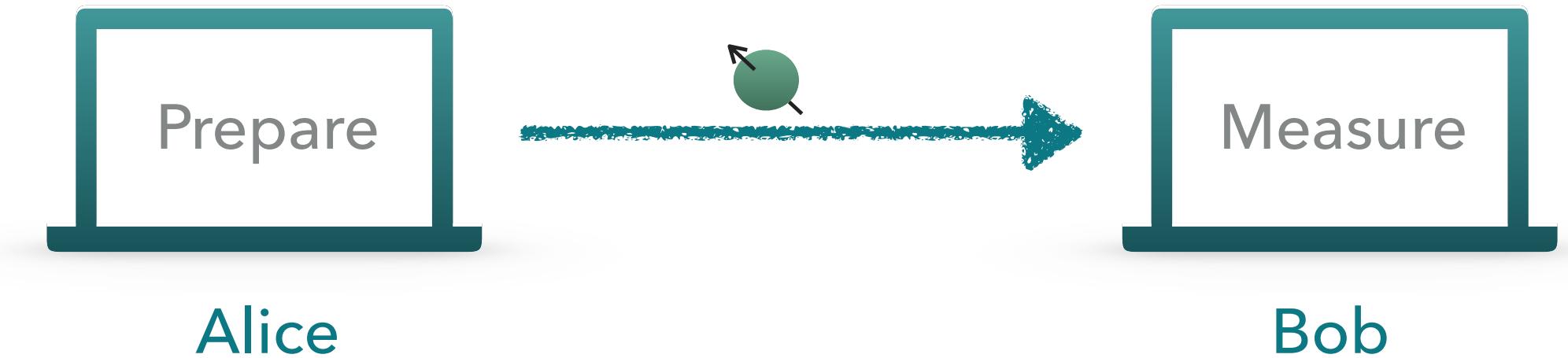
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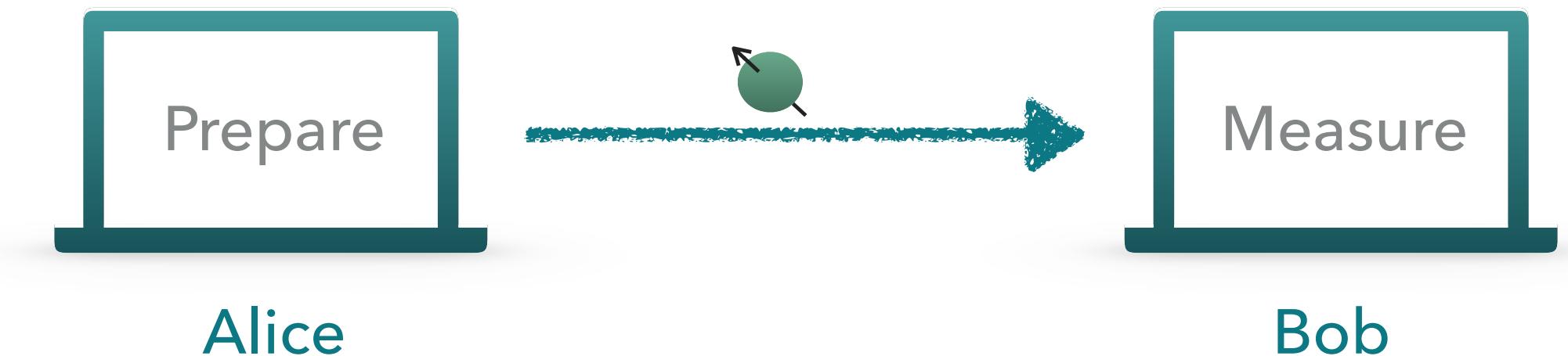
4. The “ $Z$ -outputs” construct the key.

(Honest and noiseless case)



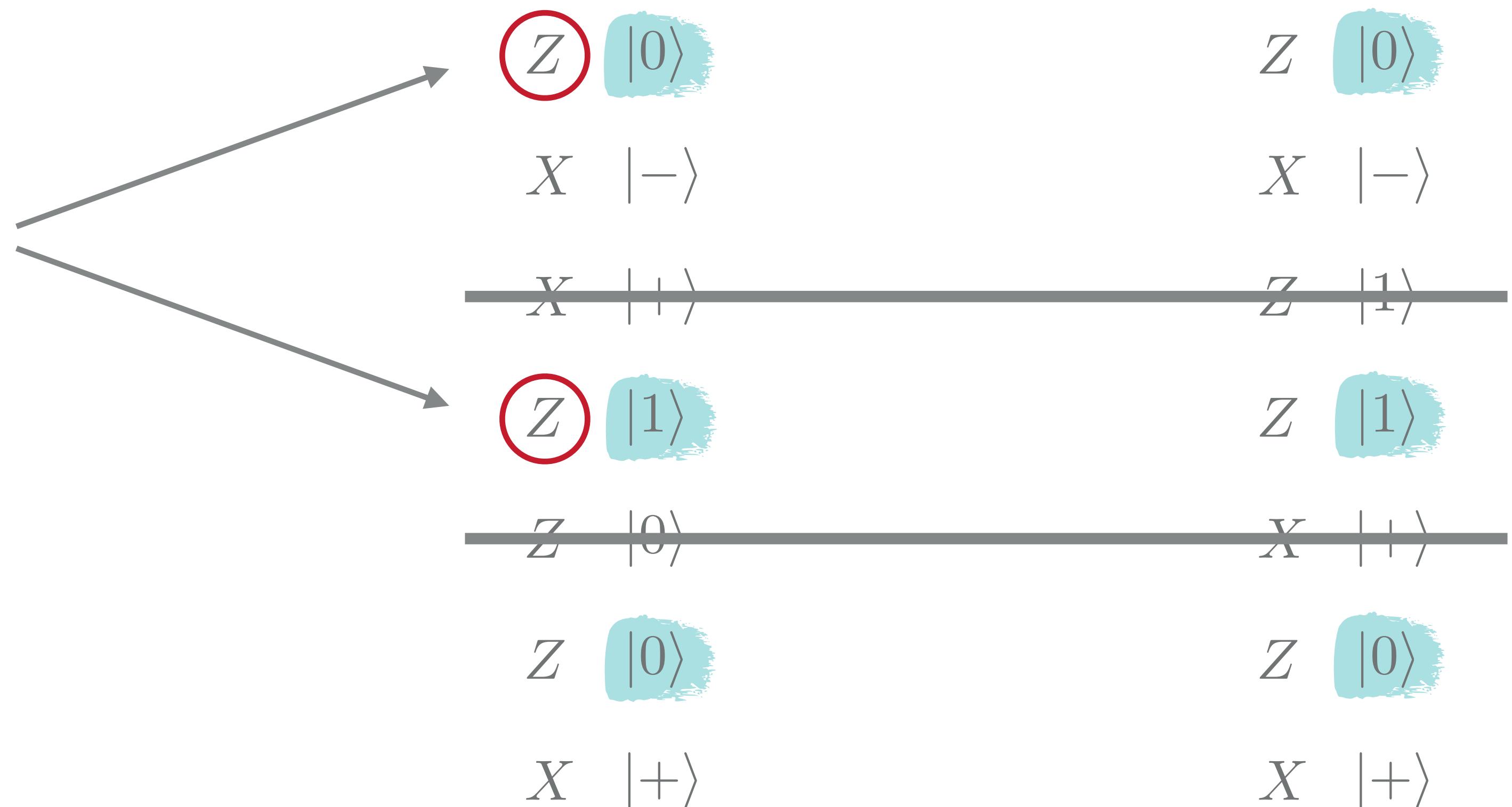
# BB84: Prepare and Measure

(Honest and noiseless case)



## Notice:

The measurement basis does not reveal any information about the key bit!



## Questions?

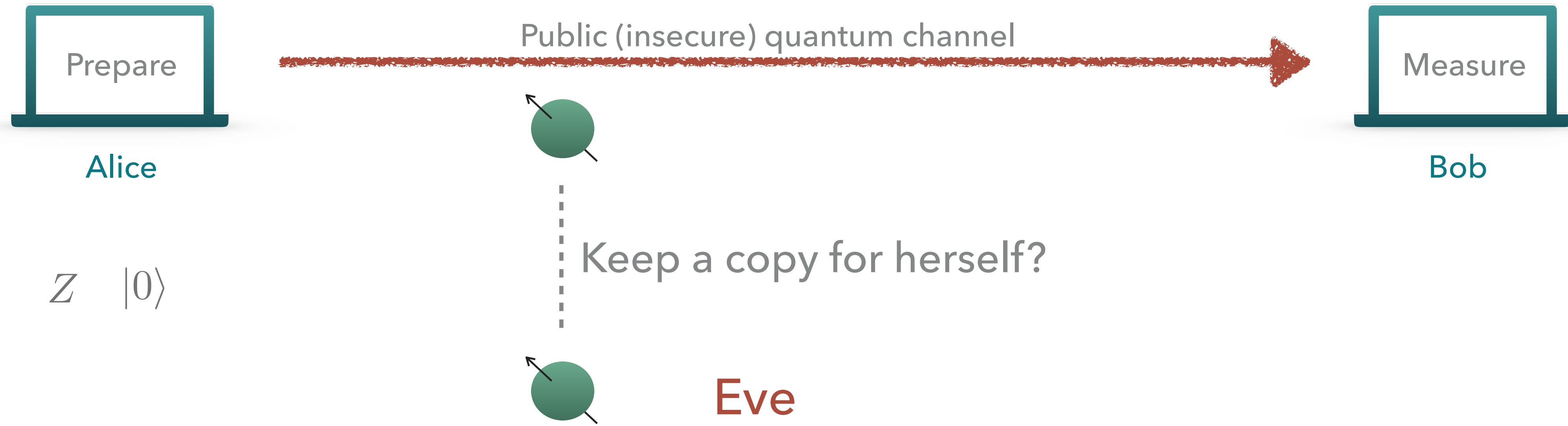
## BB84: Prepare and Measure

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Let's add the **adversary** (and/or noise) into the picture!

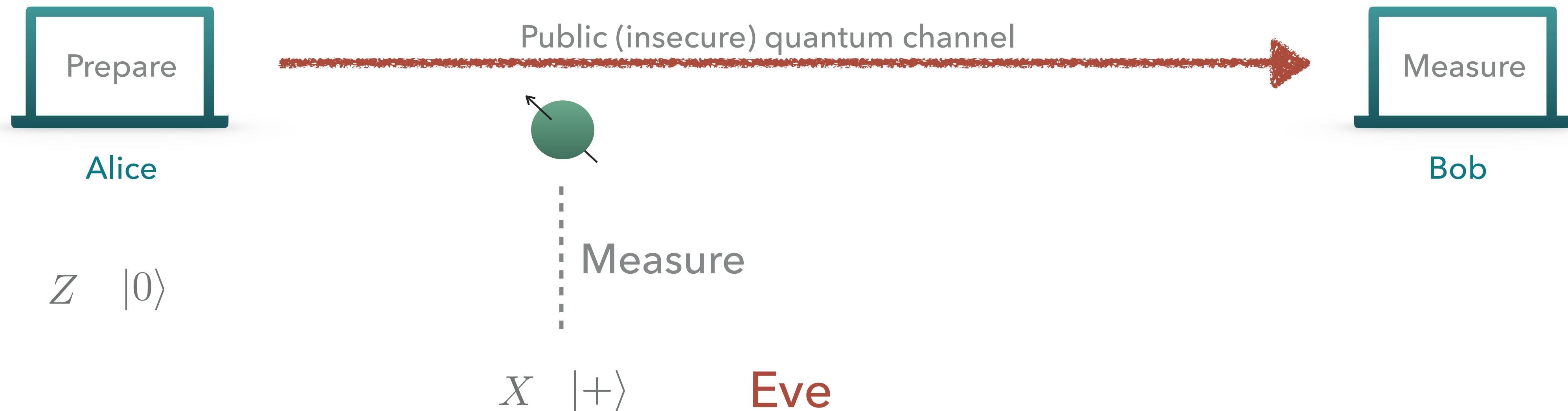
- ▶ Eve's goal: gain as much information as possible about the key
  - ▶ ... without being detected
- ▶ The protocol should **abort** when detecting too much interference/noise

# BB84: Intuition



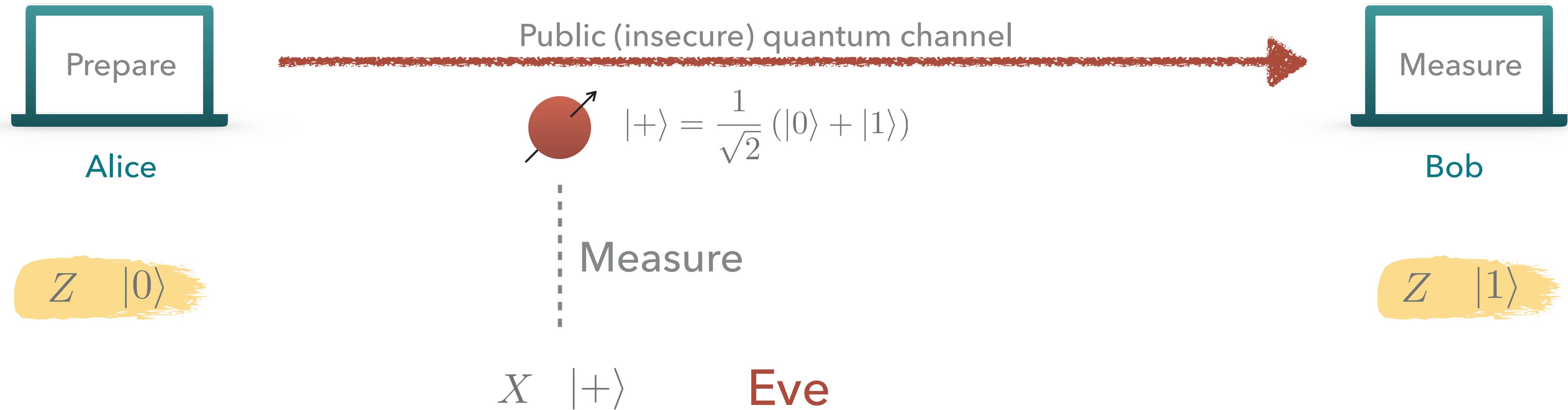
- ▶ There are **many** ways for Eve to interact with the state on the channel but...
- ▶ No-cloning

# BB84: Intuition



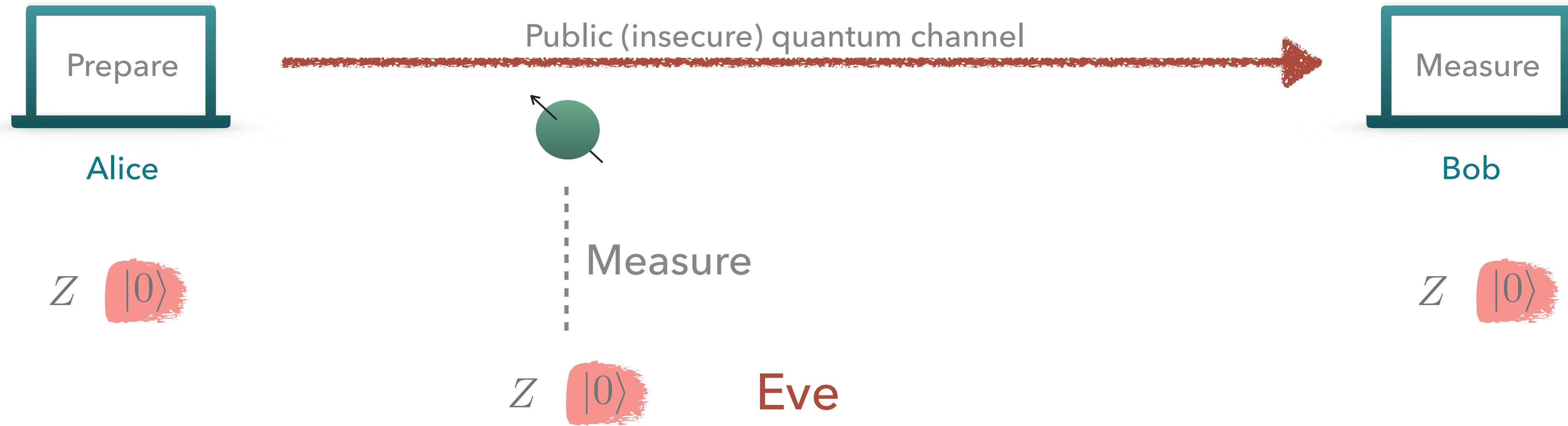
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# BB84: Intuition



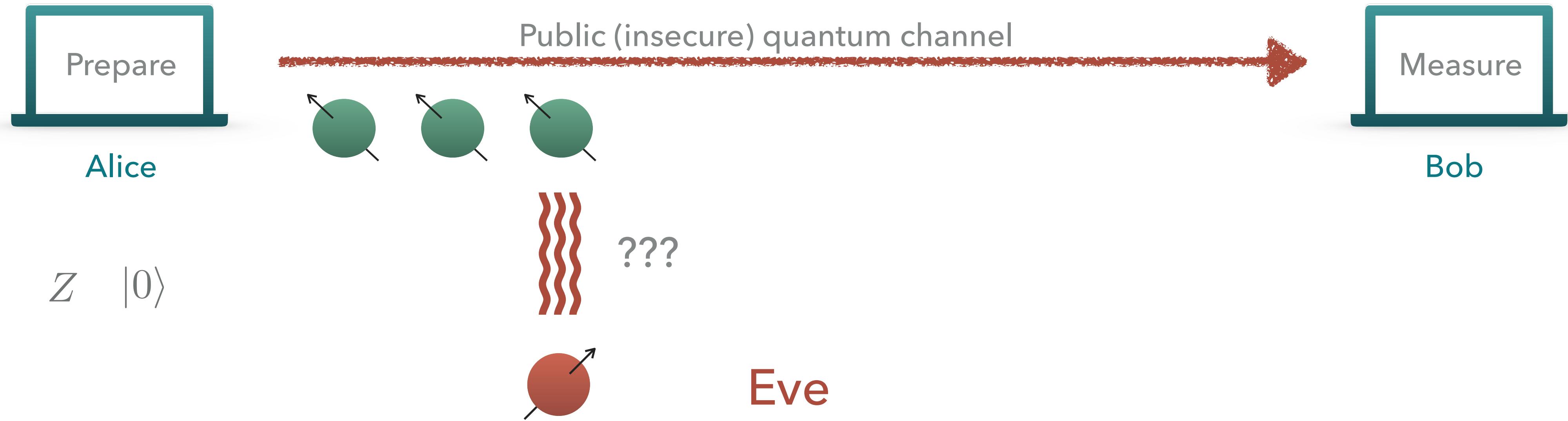
- ▶ There are **many** ways for Eve to interact with the state on the channel but...
- ▶ Measurement disturbance  $\Rightarrow$  Introduction of errors
- ▶ The protocol needs to include a **test** for errors and **abort** if too many are observed (and otherwise correct them)

# BB84: Intuition



- ▶ There are many ways for Eve to interact with the state on the channel but...
- ▶ The protocol needs to include a privacy amplification step

# BB84: Intuition

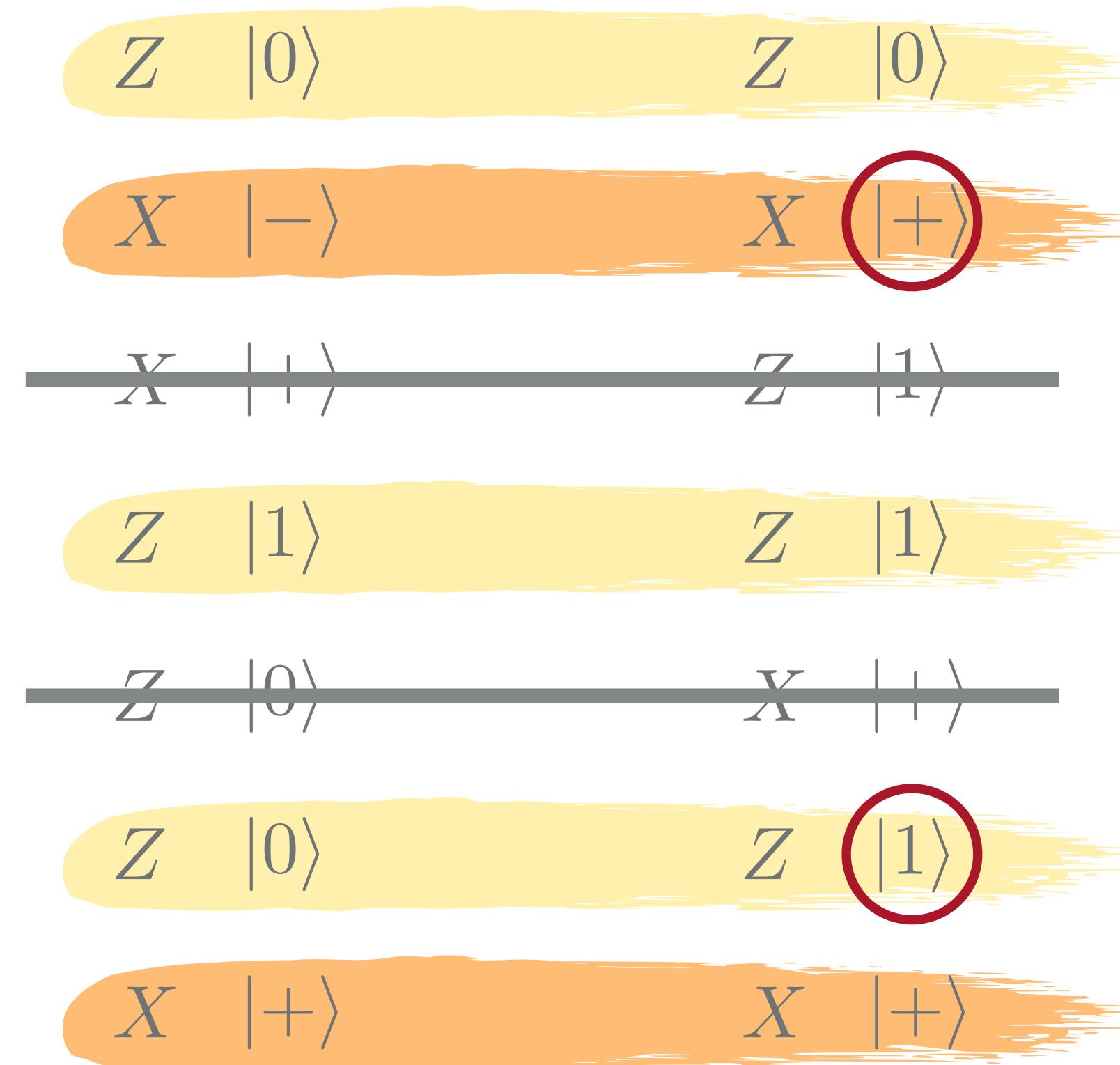


- ▶ Eve can do a lot more, e.g., entangle the qubit to her qubits...
- ▶ Think many rounds :o
- ▶ We'll need to deal with all of this

Questions?

## BB84: Prepare and Measure

1. Alice prepares one of the 4 states  $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle, |+\rangle, |-\rangle\}$  at random and sends to Bob.
2. Bob chooses at random a basis to measure and records the outcome.
3. **Sifting:** Alice and Bob publicly announce their chosen bases and keep only the rounds in which they chose the same basis.
4. **Testing for errors:** Alice and Bob check on how many of the rounds in which they both chose the  $X$ -basis their outcomes are not identical.  
If the error rate is too high they abort.
5. **Classical post-processing:** Alice and Bob apply error correction and privacy amplification on the remaining bits.



Questions?

1. BB84 protocol
2. Intuition
3. Ekert 91 protocol
4. Intuition

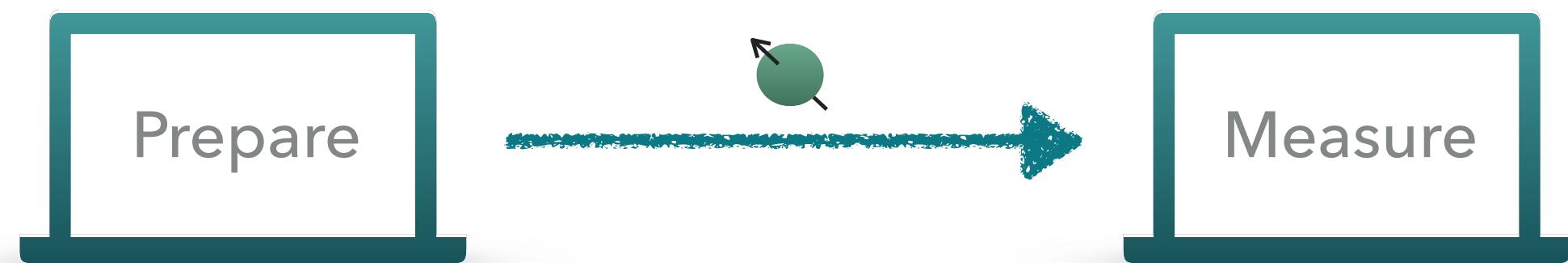
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# Getting Started

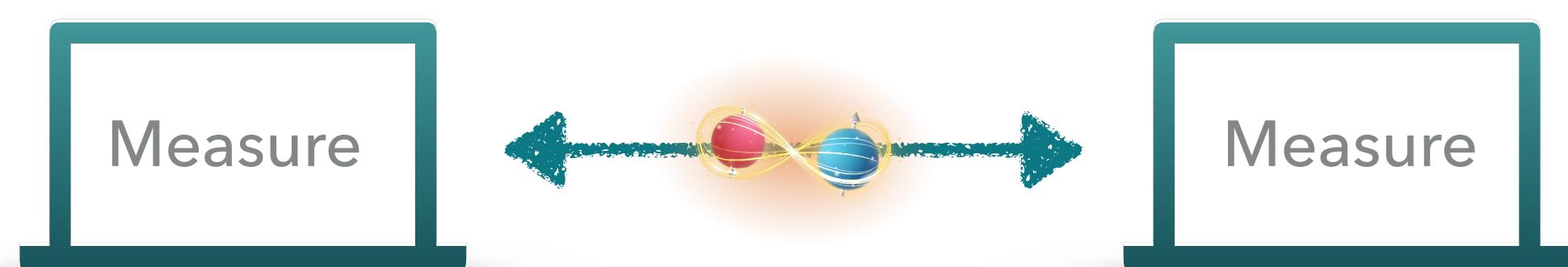
# Entanglement-Based Protocols

- ▶ The BB84 protocol is a “prepare and measure protocol”



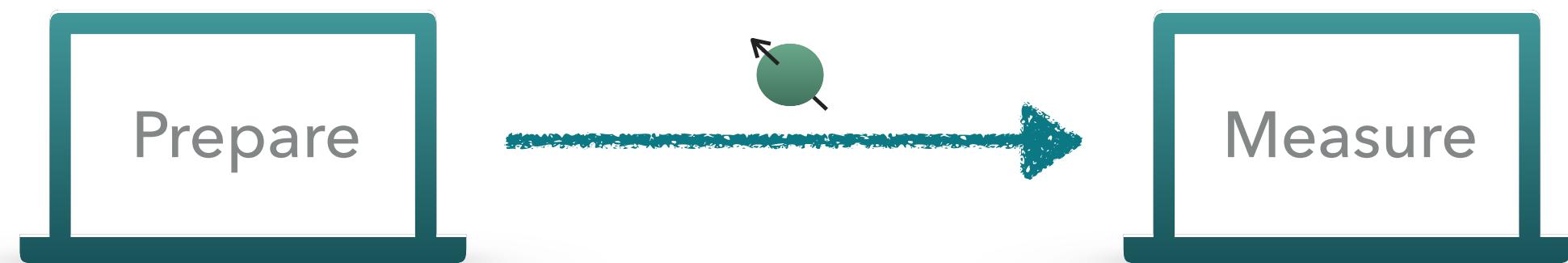
- ▶ Entanglement based protocols:

- ▶ Instead of sending quits over a channel Alice and Bob use entangled states



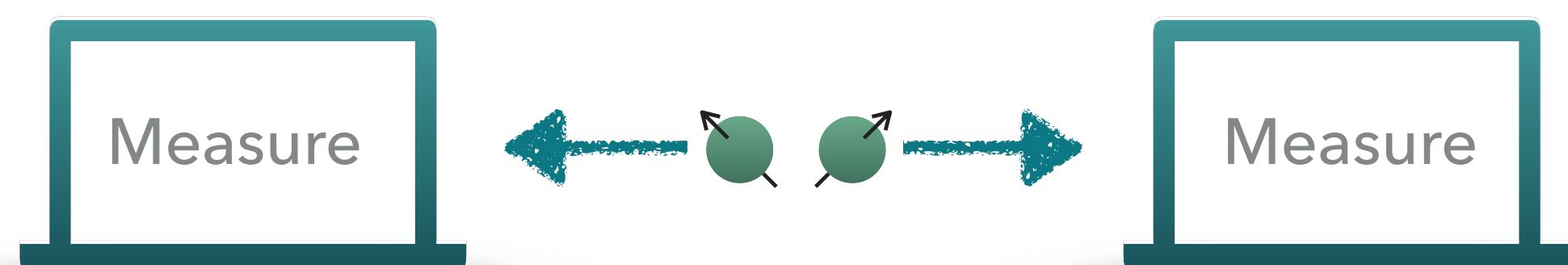
# Entanglement-Based Protocols

- ▶ The BB84 protocol is a “prepare and measure protocol”



- ▶ Entanglement based protocols:

- ▶ Instead of sending quits over a channel Alice and Bob use entangled states



- ▶ Gives us a different point of view

# Entanglement-Based Protocols

- ▶ Maximally entangled state (EPR state) shared between Alice and Bob

$$|\Phi^+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|00\rangle + |11\rangle) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|--\rangle + |++\rangle)$$

- ▶ When measuring in the same basis, Alice and Bob get the same outcomes

Z  $|0\rangle$

X  $|-\rangle$

X  $|+\rangle$

Z  $|1\rangle$

Z  $|0\rangle$

Z  $|0\rangle$

X  $|-\rangle$

Z  $|1\rangle$

Z  $|1\rangle$

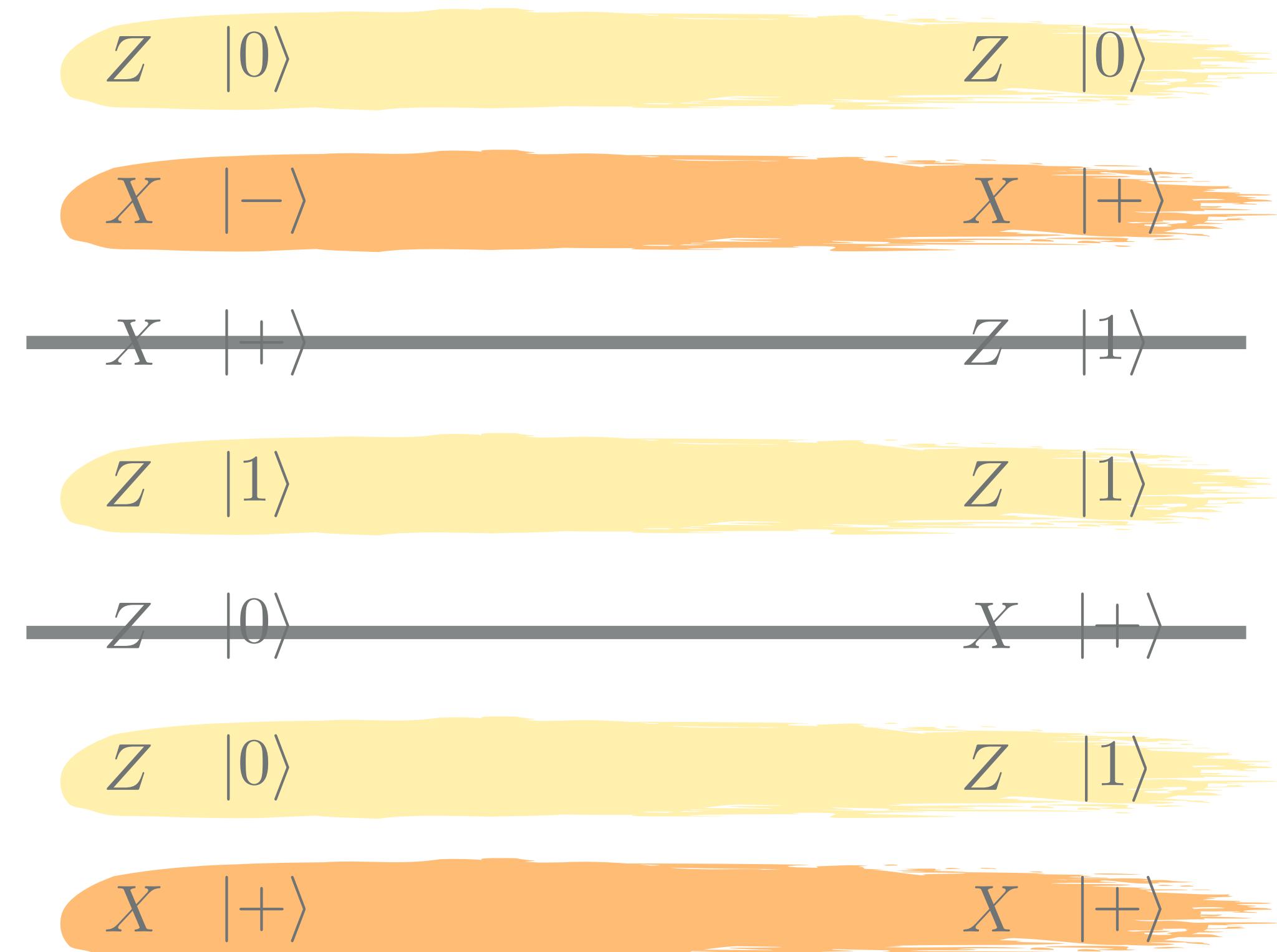
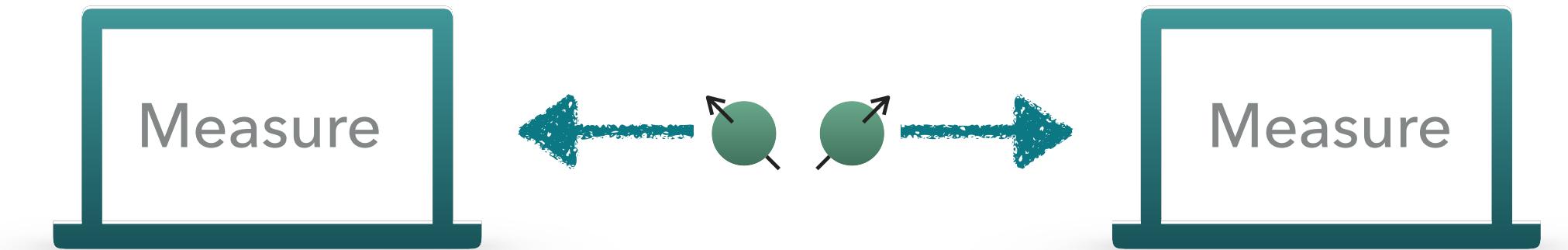
X  $|+\rangle$

Same statistics as in  
the BB84 protocol!  
Can't be done without entanglement

# Ekert 91 Protocol

- Ekert 91 protocol: same as BB84 but using **distribution of entanglement**

1. Alice and Bob get their share of the entangled state
2. They each choose a basis to measure at random
3. Sifting
4. Testing for errors
5. Classical post-processing



# Ekert 91: Intuition

- ▶ Honest noiseless case:

- ▶ Distribution of the maximally entangled state  $|\Phi^+\rangle_{AB}$

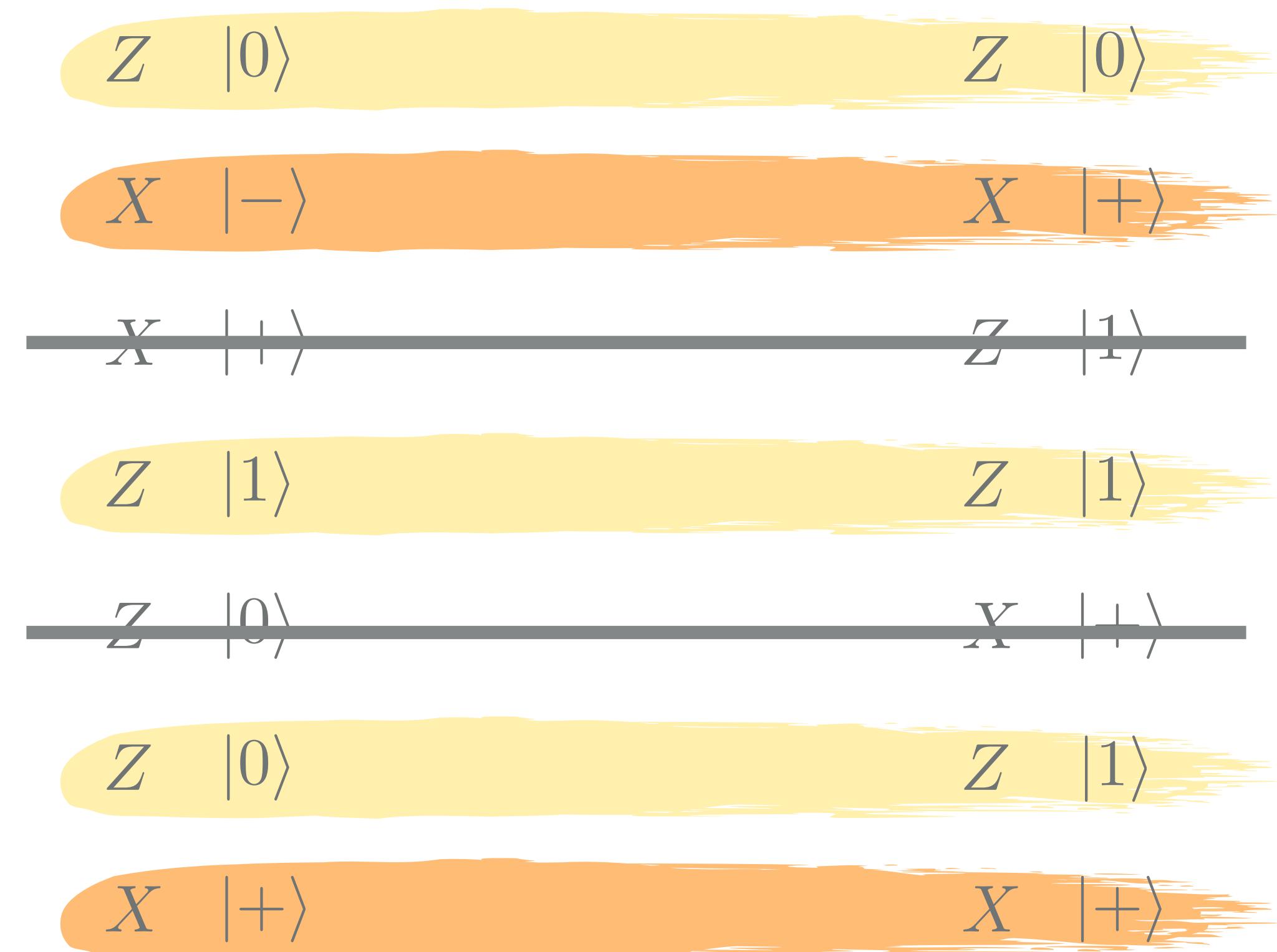
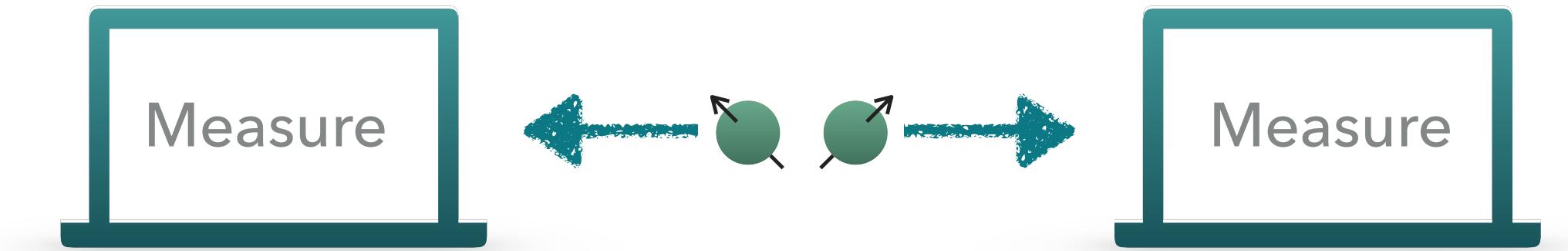
- ▶ Each outcomes achieved w.p. 0.5

- ▶ Pure state

- ▶  $\Rightarrow$  Any purification takes the form

$$|\Phi^+\rangle_{AB} \otimes |\psi\rangle_E$$

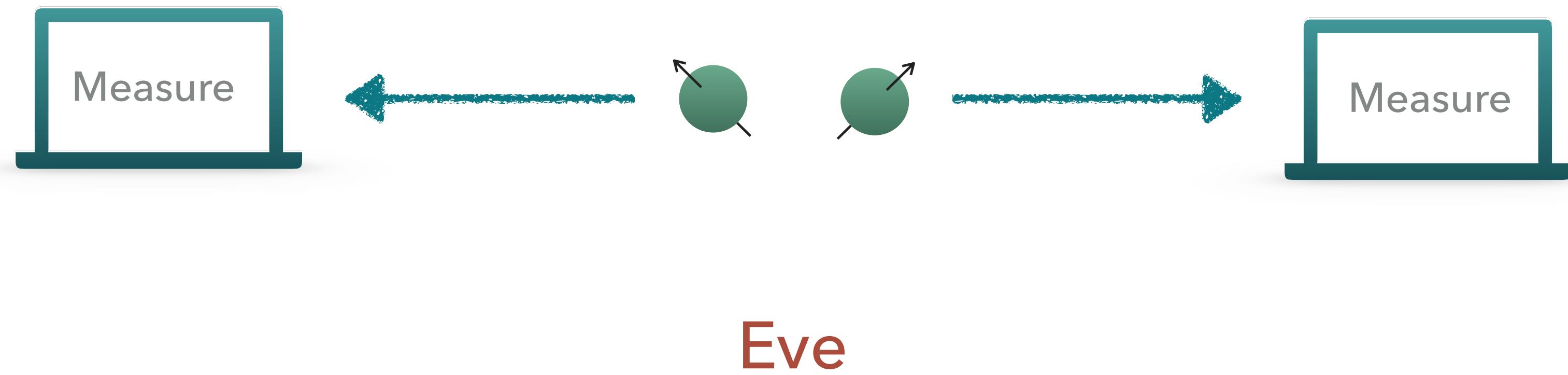
- ▶  $\Rightarrow$  Completely independent of the rest of the world (including Eve)



# Ekert 91: Intuition

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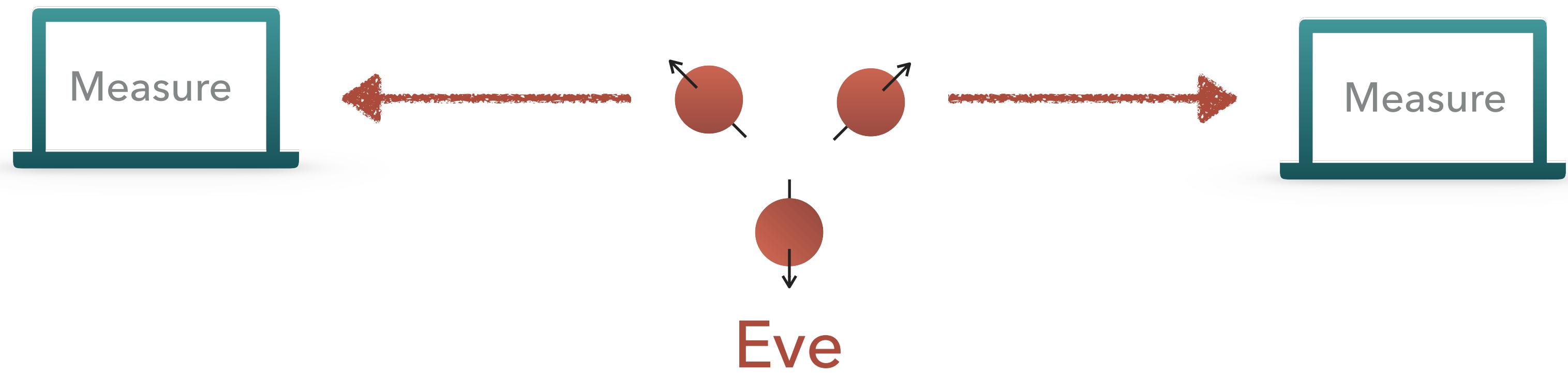
► Let's bring Eve into the picture



# Ekert 91: Intuition

- ▶ Let's bring Eve into the picture

Questions?



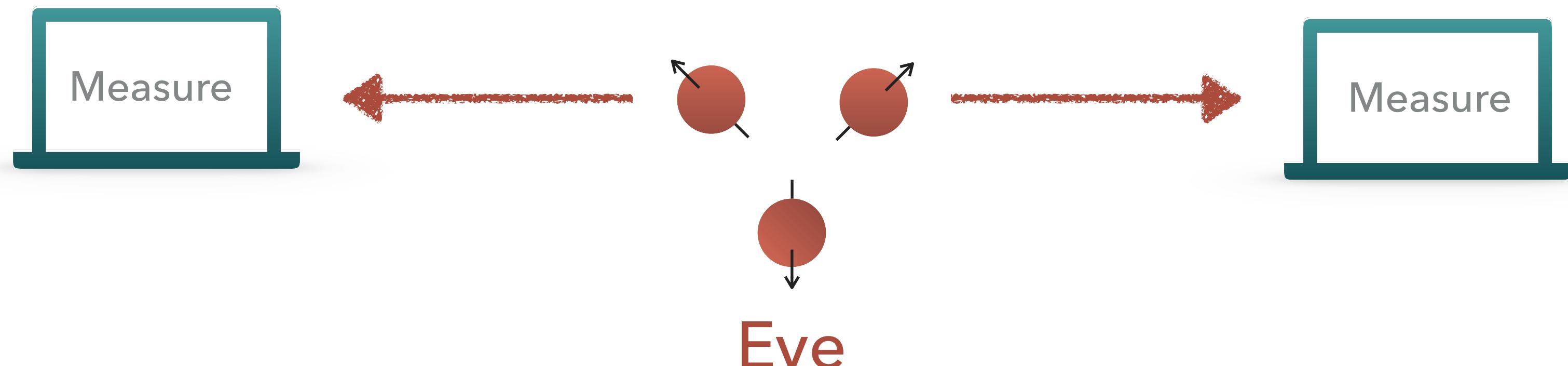
- ▶ Alice, Bob and Eve share a tripartite state  $|\psi\rangle_{ABE}$
- ▶ Alice and Bob's state  $\rho_{AB} = \text{Tr}_E (|\psi\rangle_{ABE})$  (density matrix; partial trace)
- ▶ Eve is holding the purification = most powerful adversary

Compare to:  
 $|\Phi^+\rangle_{AB} \otimes |\psi\rangle_E$

## Ekert 91: Intuition

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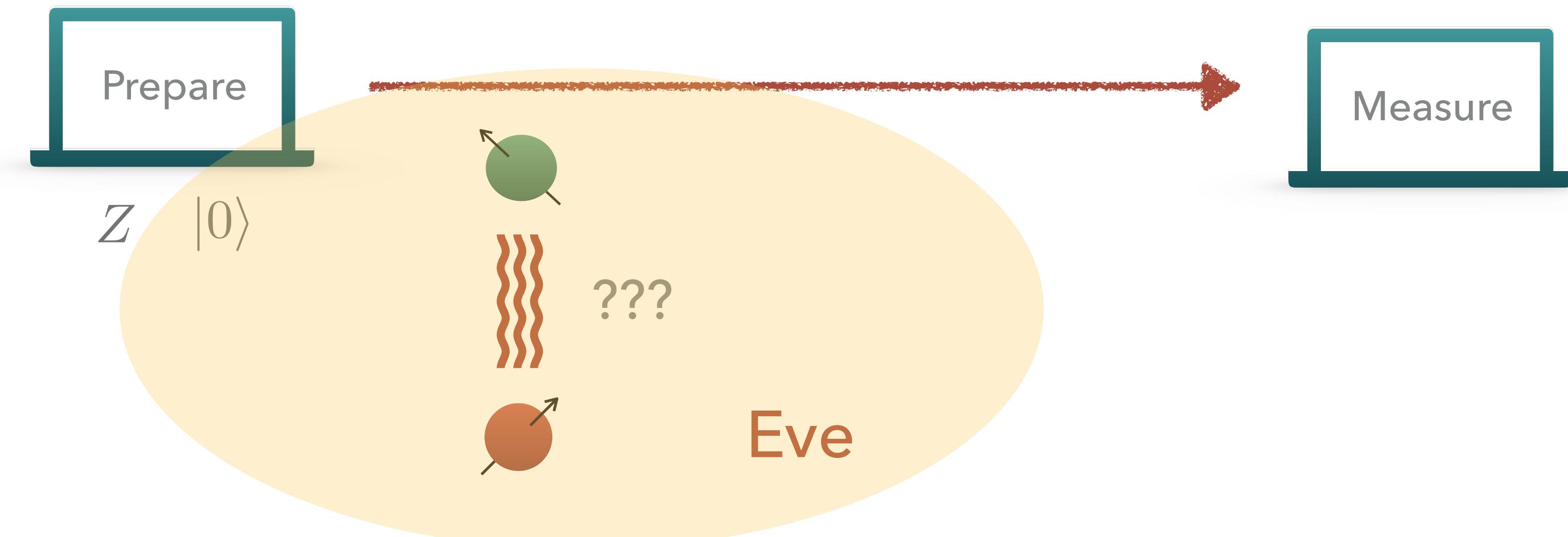
- ▶ Alice, Bob and Eve share a tripartite state  $|\psi\rangle_{ABE}$
- ▶ Ideally  $|\Phi^+\rangle_{AB} \otimes |\psi\rangle_E$
- ▶ Quantum “features” of entanglement:
  - ▶ Monogamy of entanglement
  - ▶ Uncertainty relations (third lecture)



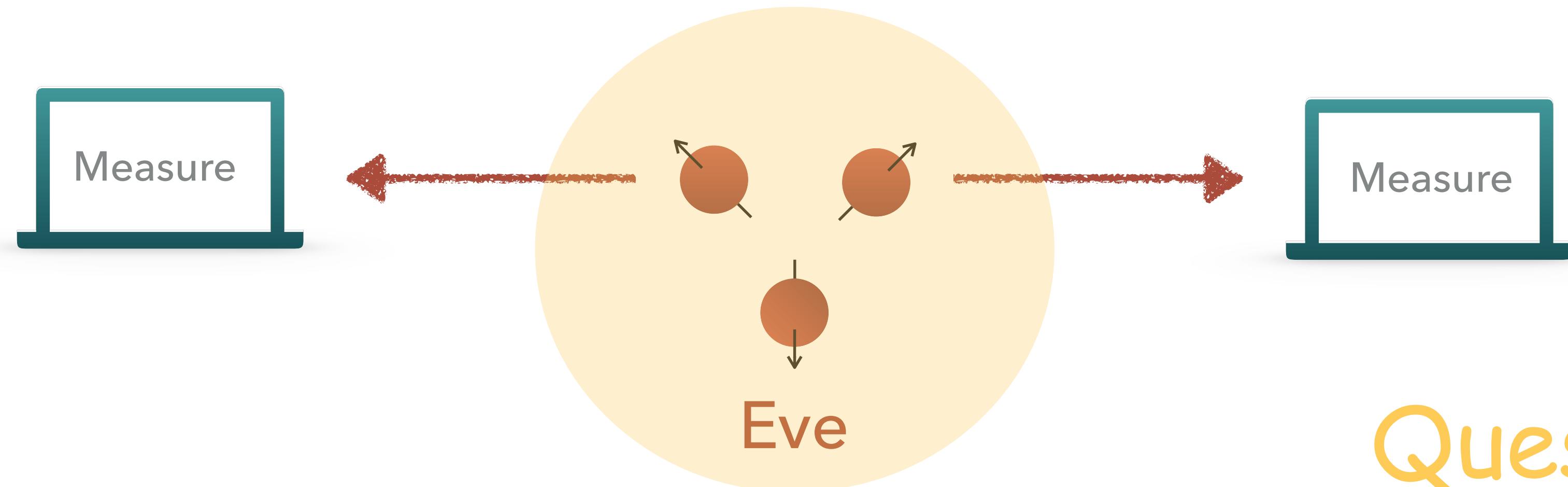
# Security Reduction

BB84

Security reduction



Ekert 91



- ◆ Adversary is stronger
- ◆ Mathematically cleaner

Eve

Questions?

## In the Following Lectures

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- ▶ QKD security definition
  - ▶ What does it mean to prove security?
  - ▶ Quantum abstract cryptography framework
- ▶ Security proof
  - ▶ Quantum-proof extractors
  - ▶ Where the laws of quantum physics help us
- ▶ A different model for QKD – device-independent QKD (stronger adversary)



# Quantum Key Distribution

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- ▶ Lecture 1:

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ BB84 and Ekert91 protocols

- ▶ Lecture 2:

- ▶ QKD security definition
- ▶ Quantum-proof randomness extractors

- ▶ Lecture 3:

- ▶ Security proof (the main parts)
- ▶ Device-independent quantum key distribution

# Security Definition (Informal)

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## ► What does it mean to prove security?

- If “things go sufficiently well” – we would like to produce a key:
  - Identical keys for Alice and Bob
  - Unknown to Eve
  - If “things don’t go well” (too much noise / too active adversary) – we would like to detect it and abort
- The protocol can be implemented

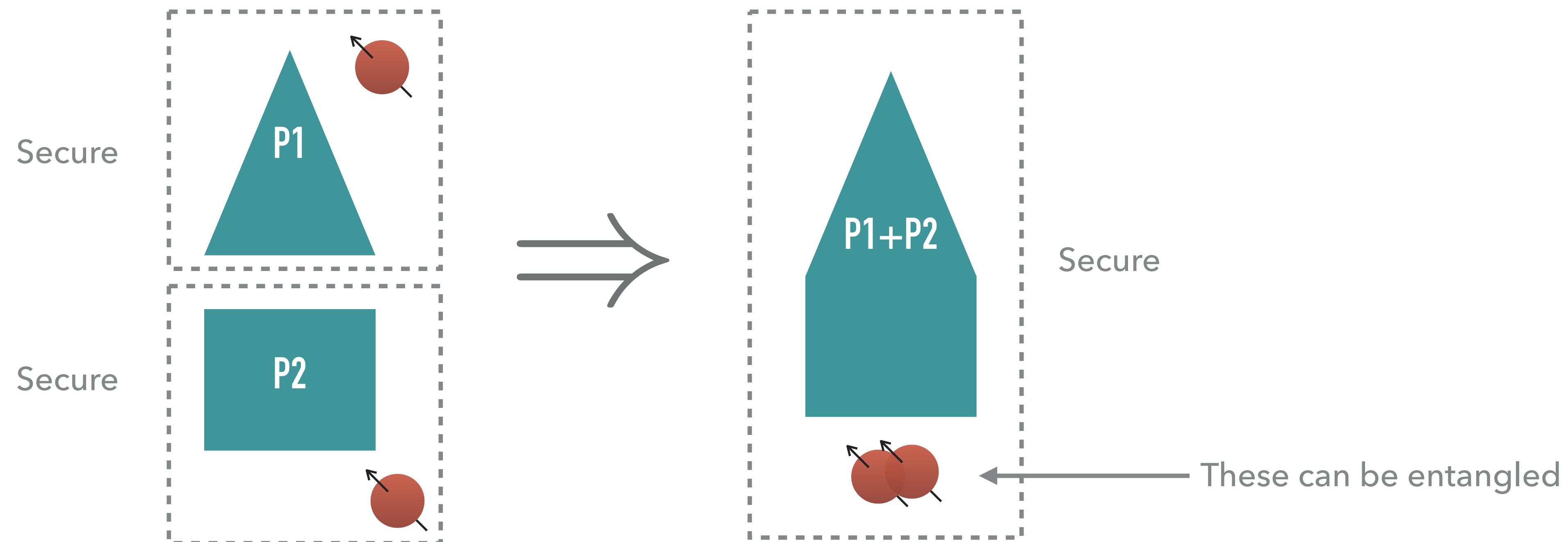
The diagram illustrates the four properties of a secure protocol:

- Correctness:** Associated with the condition of producing identical keys for Alice and Bob.
- Secrecy:** Associated with the condition of the key being unknown to Eve.
- Soundness:** Associated with the condition of detecting and aborting if things don't go well (noise or active adversary).
- Completeness (noise-tolerance):** Associated with the condition of being able to implement the protocol.

# Security Definition (Informal)

How do we make this formal?

Quantum compassable security



1. Composable security
2. Equivalence to trace distance definition

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# Security Definition

# Composable Security

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- ▶ Abstract cryptography framework
- ▶ Complete mathematical framework
- ▶ Important “steps”:
  1. Model the ideal system
  2. Identify the resources and model the real system
  3. Quantum distinguisher—try to distinguish the real from ideal
- ▶ Gives a precise description of what we achieve
- ▶ (In the past a weaker security definition was used without anyone noticing!)

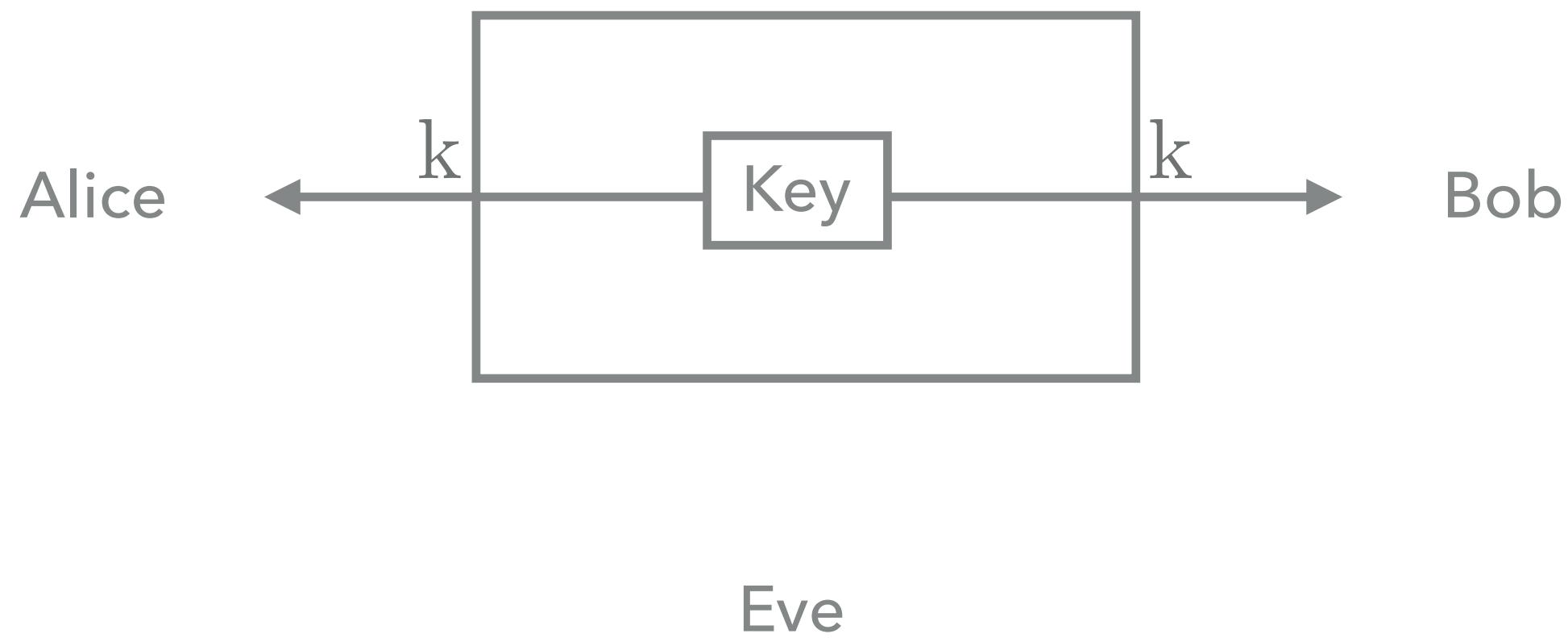
# Ideal System

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Ideal key distribution resource

$$|K| = \ell$$

$$K \sim U_\ell$$



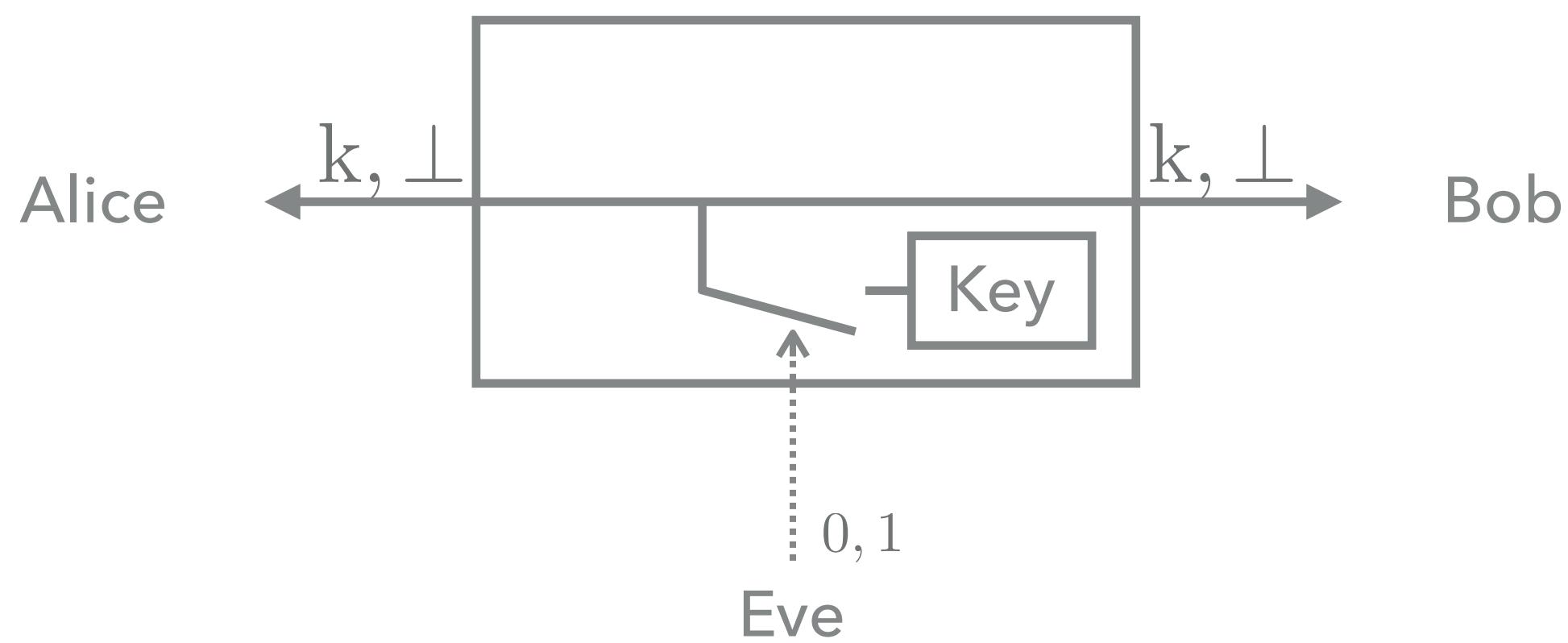
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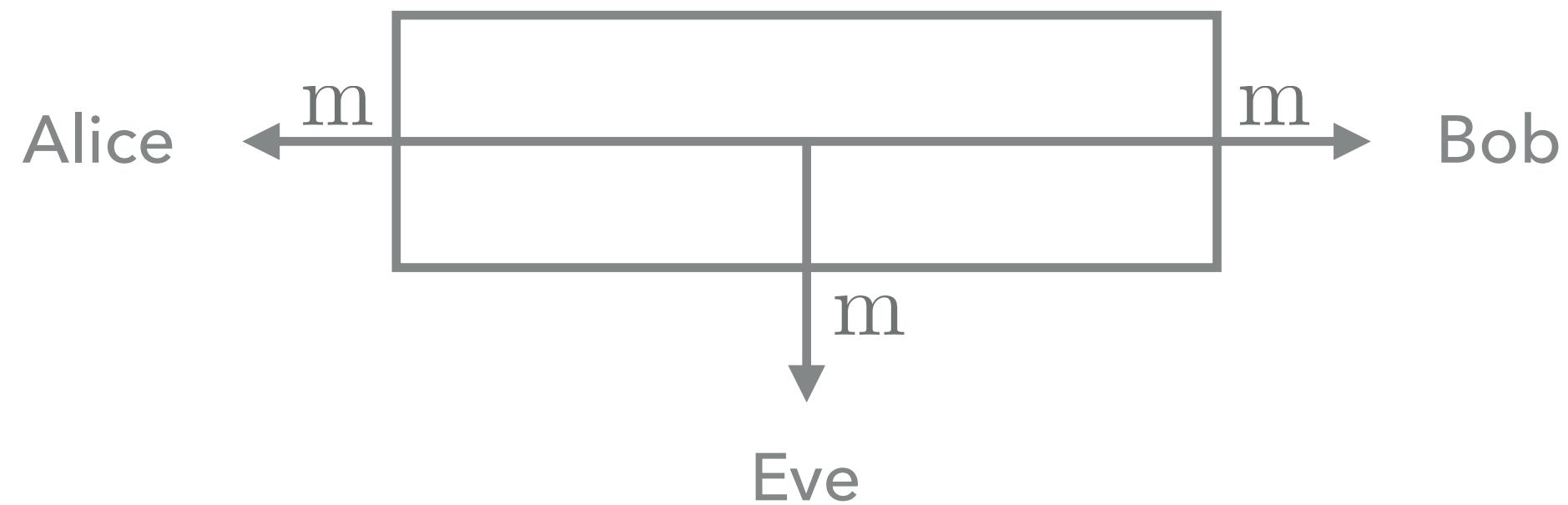


# Real System

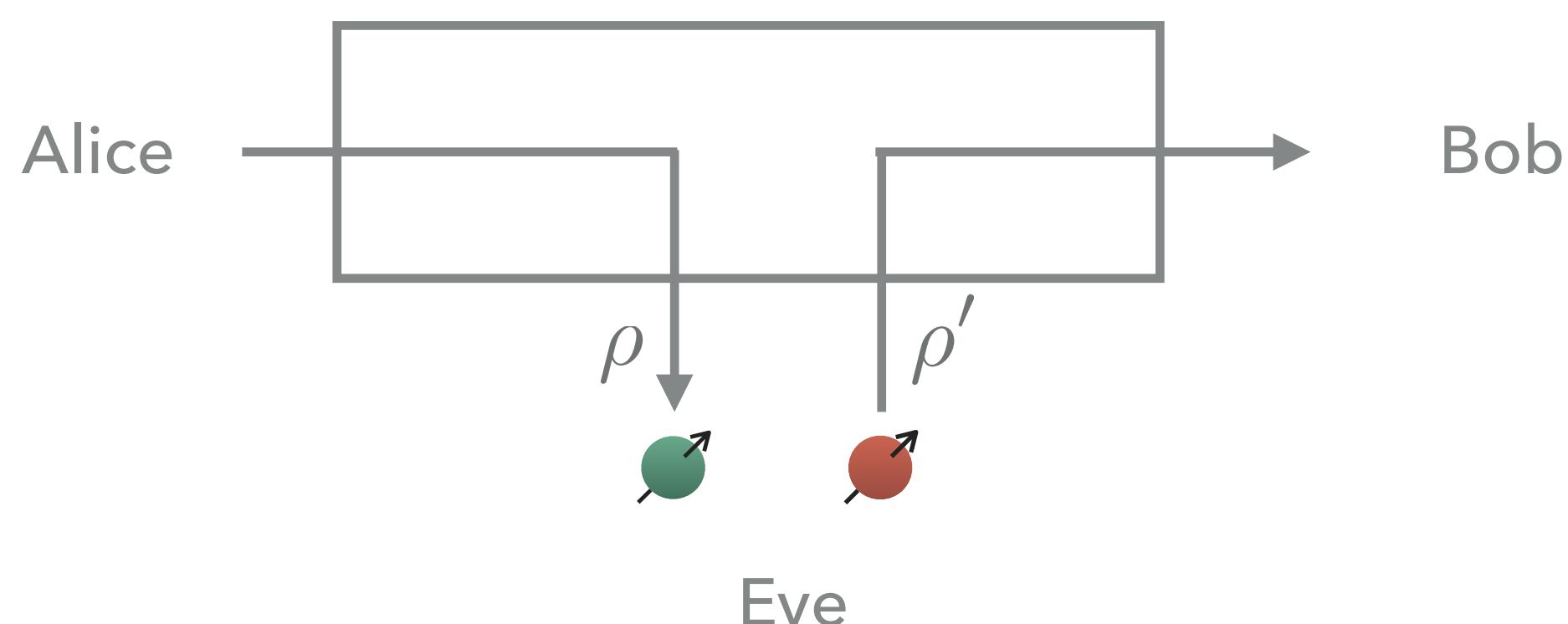
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- ▶ Resources (our building blocks):

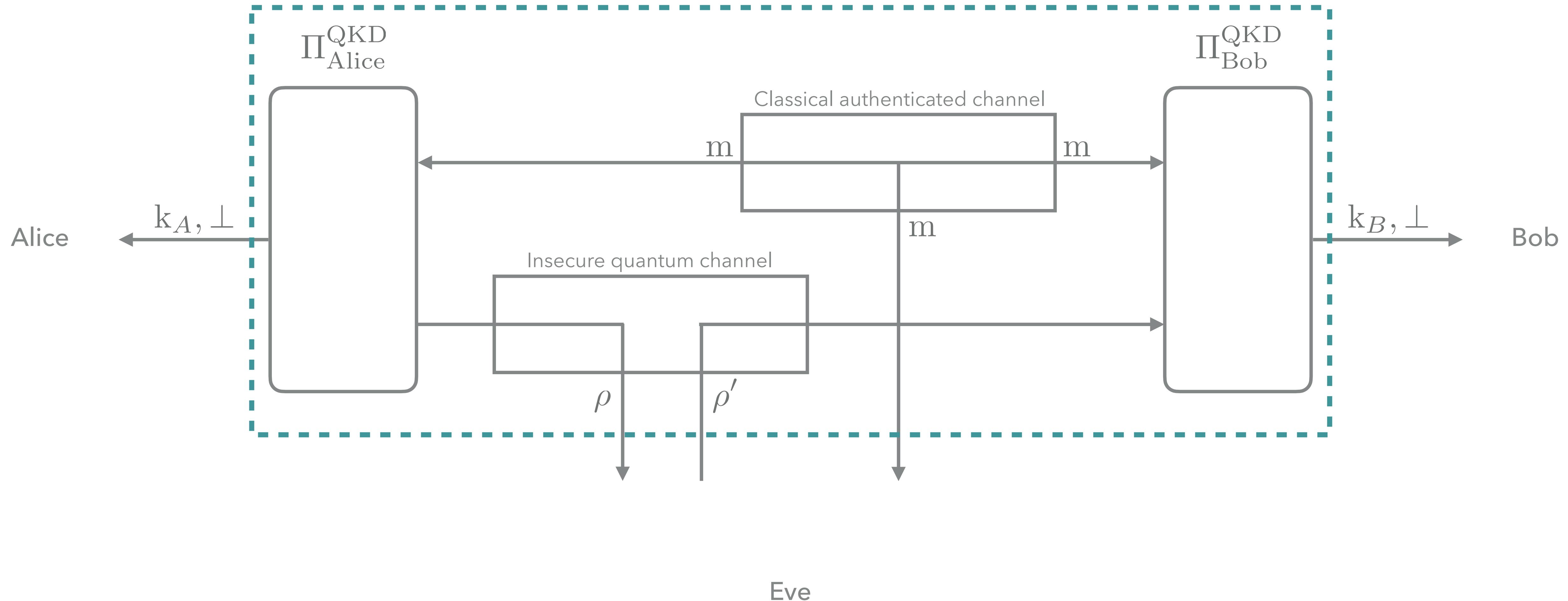
- ▶ Authenticated classical channel



- ▶ Insecure quantum channel



# Real System



# Distinguisher

- ▶ The real system is secure if it's indistinguishable from the ideal system



- ▶ Distinguishing advantage  $d(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{R}) = \sup_D |\Pr[D(\mathcal{I}) = 1] - \Pr[D(\mathcal{R}) = 1]|$



1. Quantum distinguisher ("quantum combs")
2. No "division" to parties (crucial for composability)
3. Everything is finite (no "poly", "neg"...)

# Distinguisher

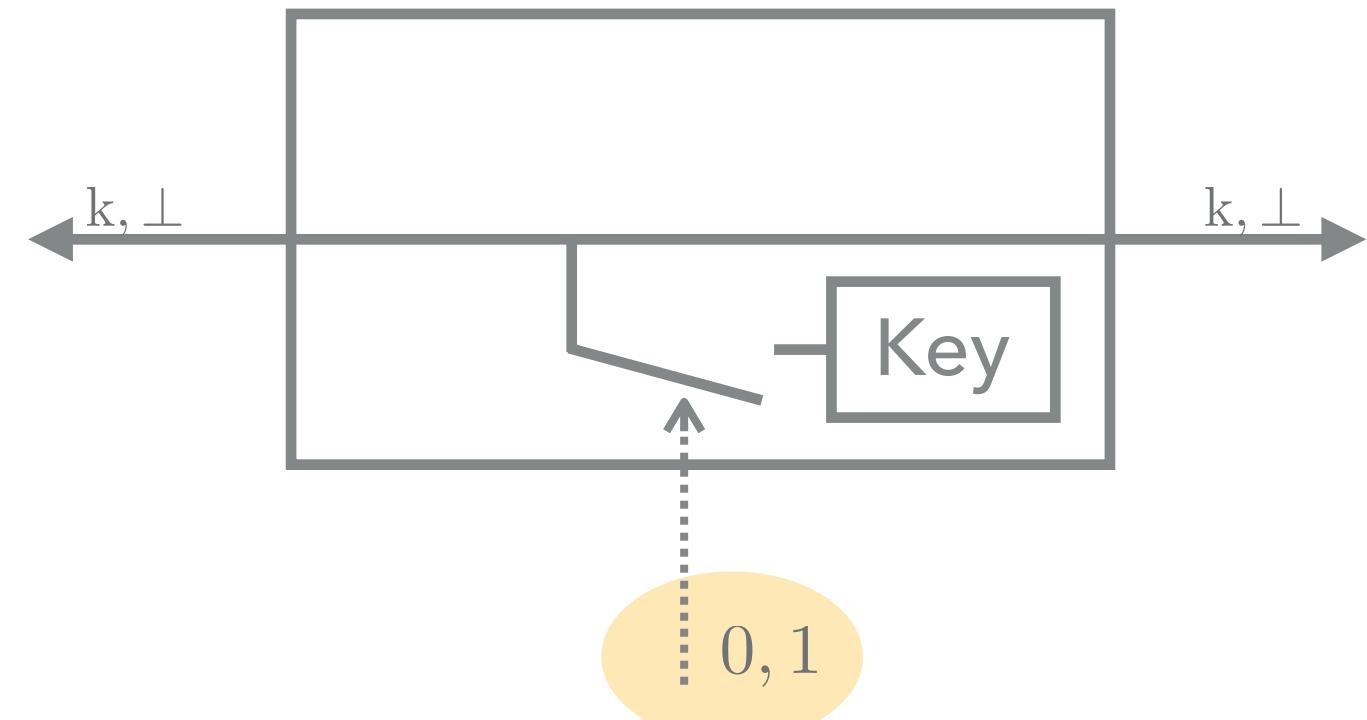
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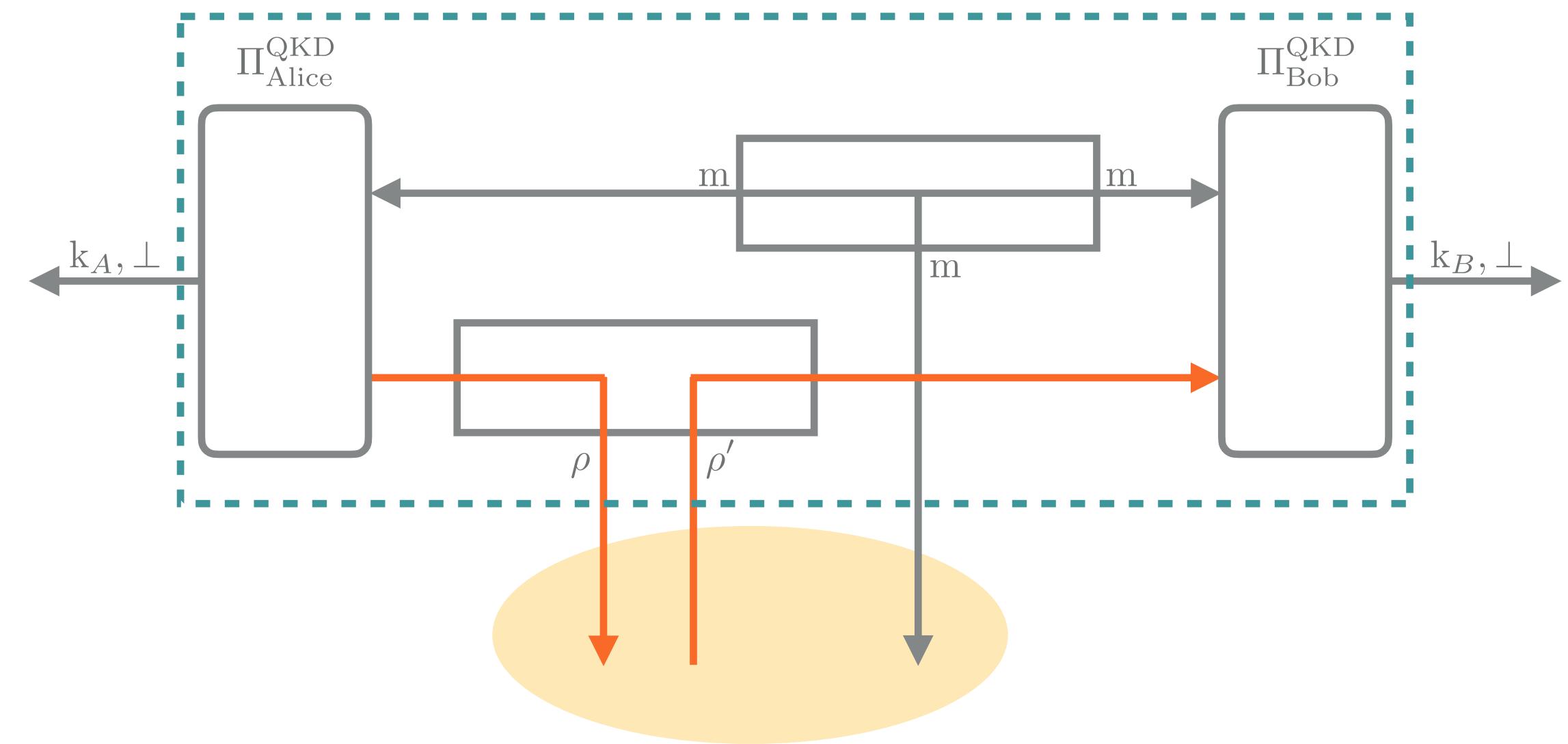
- ▶ Distinguishing advantage  $d(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{R}) = \sup_D |\Pr[D(\mathcal{I}) = 1] - \Pr[D(\mathcal{R}) = 1]|$
- ▶ Security:  $d(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{R}) \leq \varepsilon$
- ▶ (Sort of...)

# Distinguisher

Ideal system

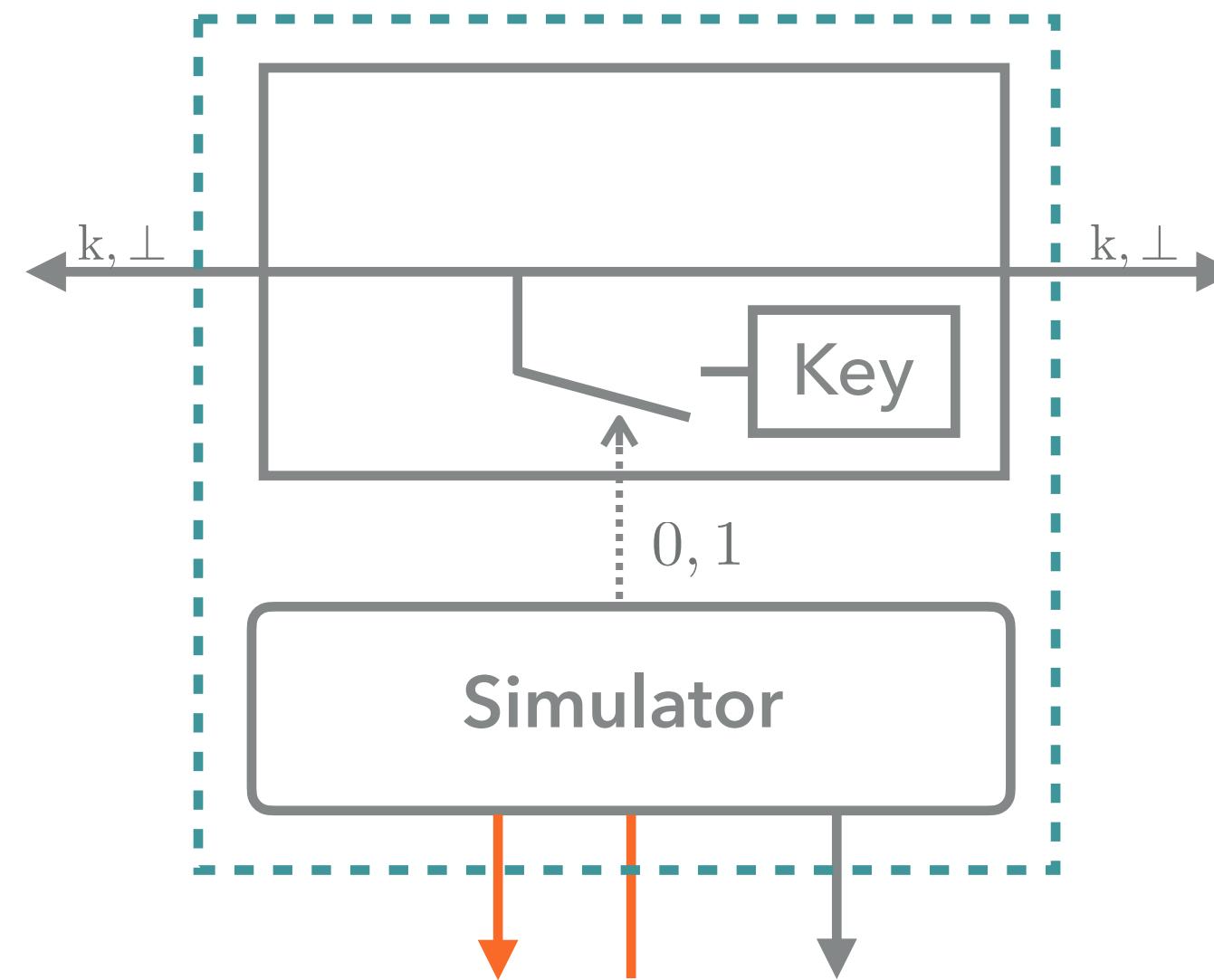


Real system

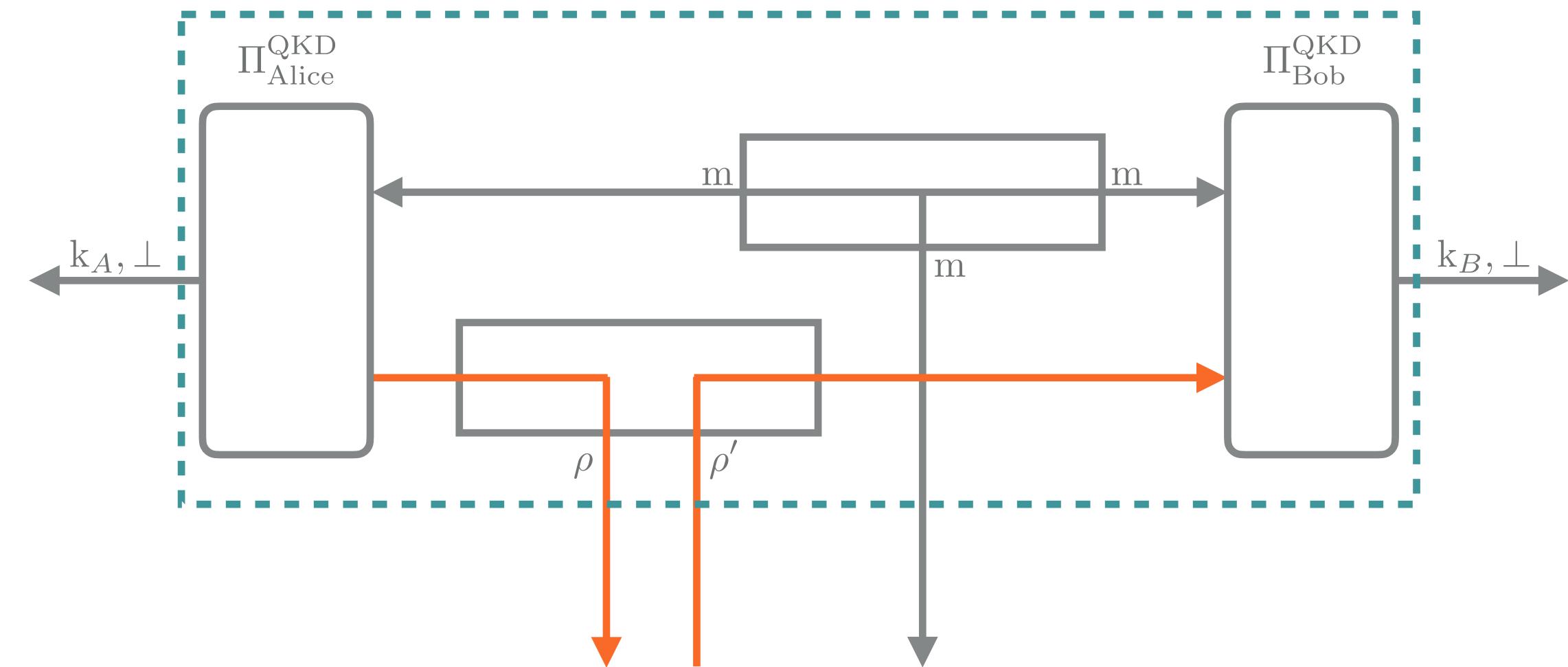


# Distinguisher

Ideal system



Real system



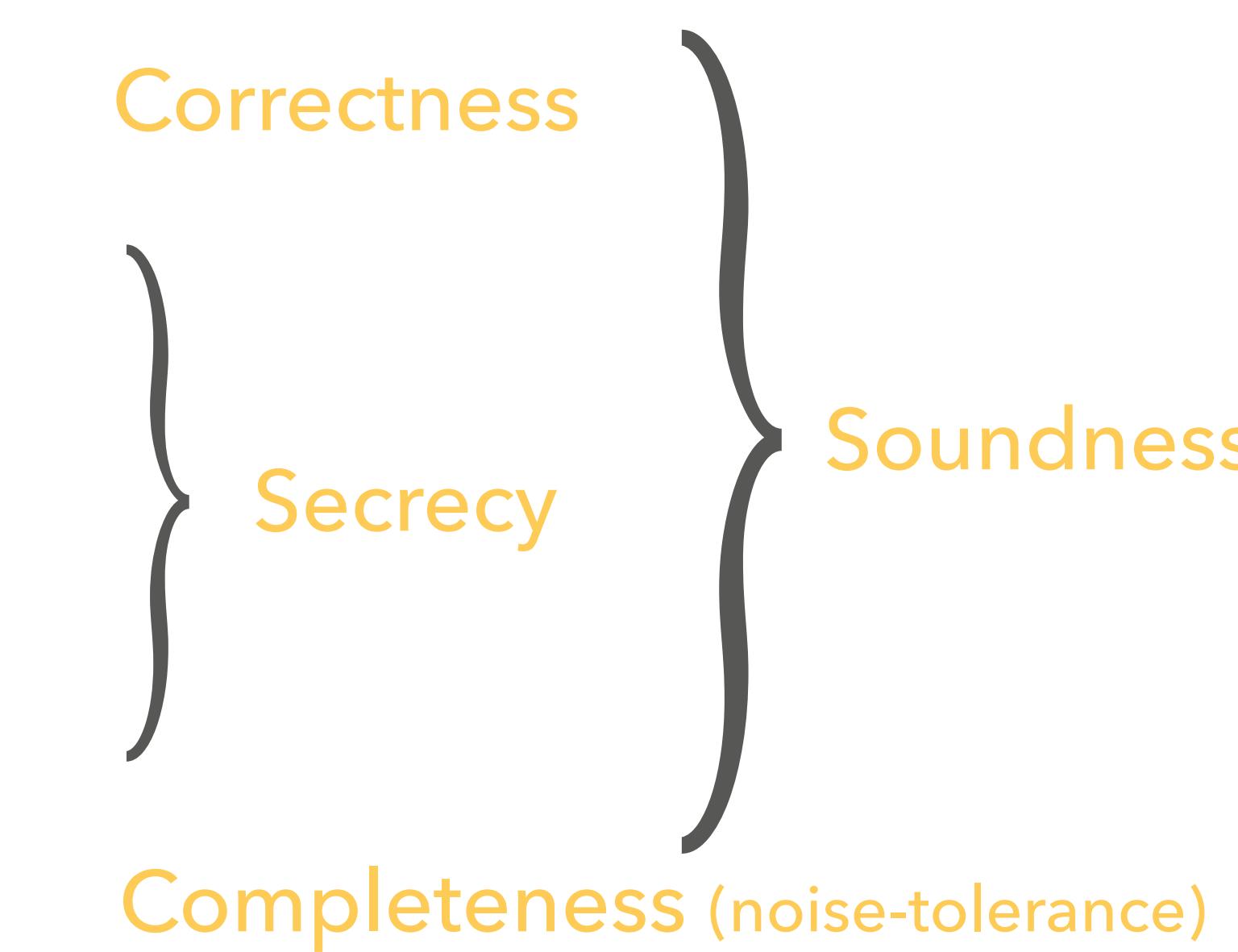
- ▶ The protocol is secure if there exists a simulator such that  $d(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{R}) \leq \varepsilon$
- ▶ It's clear what we're proving
- ▶ As it turns out, it's equivalent to another statement

Questions?

# Security Definition

---

- ▶ The definitions that arise from the composable security framework were shown to be equivalent to another widely-used definition
- ▶ Recall our informal definition:
  - ▶ If “things go sufficiently well” – we would like to produce a key:
    - ▶ Identical keys for Alice and Bob
    - ▶ Unknown to Eve
    - ▶ If “things don’t go well” we would like to detect it and abort
    - ▶ The protocol can be implemented



The diagram illustrates the equivalence between the composable security framework and the informal definition. The informal definition is broken down into four components, each represented by a bracket:

- Correctness:** Identical keys for Alice and Bob
- Secrecy:** Unknown to Eve
- Soundness:** If “things don’t go well” we would like to detect it and abort
- Completeness (noise-tolerance):** The protocol can be implemented

# Security Definition

---

- ▶ Def. [Correctness]: A protocol is  $\varepsilon_{\text{corr}}$ -correct, if  $\Pr(K_A \neq K_B) \leq \varepsilon_{\text{corr}}$
- ▶ Def. [Secrecy]: A protocol is  $\varepsilon_{\text{sec}}$ -secret if

$$(1 - \Pr(\text{abort})) \|\rho_{K_A E} - \rho_{U_\ell} \otimes \rho_E\| \leq \varepsilon_{\text{sec}} \quad |K| = \ell$$


If we almost always  
abort, the key is  
trivially secret

# Security Definition

---

- ▶ Def. [Correctness]: A protocol is  $\varepsilon_{\text{corr}}$ -correct, if  $\Pr(K_A \neq K_B) \leq \varepsilon_{\text{corr}}$
- ▶ Def. [Secrecy]: A protocol is  $\varepsilon_{\text{sec}}$ -secret if

$$(1 - \Pr(\text{abort})) \|\rho_{K_A E} - \rho_{U_\ell} \otimes \rho_E\| \leq \varepsilon_{\text{sec}}$$

$$|K| = \ell$$



Trace distance between  
states: the real and ideal  
(want this to be small)

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Real state of Alice and Eve at the end of the protocol (when not aborting)

Uniform key

Eve's quantum state

# Security Definition

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$$(1 - \Pr(\text{abort})) \|\rho_{K_A E} - \rho_{U_\ell} \otimes \rho_E\| \leq \varepsilon_{\text{sec}} \quad |K| = \ell$$

► If a protocol is  $\varepsilon_{\text{corr}}$ -correct and  $\varepsilon_{\text{sec}}$ -secret, then it is  $(\varepsilon_{\text{corr}} + \varepsilon_{\text{sec}})$ -correct-and-secret

► Def. [Security]: A protocol is  $(\varepsilon_{\text{QKD}}^s, \varepsilon_{\text{QKD}}^c, \ell)$ -secure if:

1. (Soundness) The protocol is  $\varepsilon_{\text{QKD}}^s$ -correct-and-secret

2. (Completeness) There exists a quantum apparatus that implements the protocol such that the probability of aborting is at most  $\varepsilon_{\text{QKD}}^c$

# Security Definition

- ▶ Def. [Correctness]: A protocol is  $\varepsilon_{\text{corr}}$ -correct, if  $\Pr(K_A \neq K_B) < \varepsilon_{\text{corr}}$
- ▶ Def. [Security]:
  - ▶ This security definition of QKD was proven to be equivalent to the composable security definition we've seen before
  - ▶ Justifies using this definition
- ▶ Def. [Completeness]:
  - ▶ Things can go wrong otherwise...
- 1. (Security):
  - ▶ Completeness, the protocol is guaranteed to produce the key  $K$  of size  $|K| = \ell$
- 2. (Completeness):
  - ▶ Completeness, the protocol is guaranteed to produce the key  $K$  of size  $|K| = \ell$

# Security Definition

---

- ▶ Def. [Secrecy]: A protocol is  $\varepsilon_{\text{sec}}$ -secret if

$$(1 - \Pr(\text{abort})) \|\rho_{K_A E} - \rho_{U_\ell} \otimes \rho_E\| \leq \varepsilon_{\text{sec}}$$

$$|K| = \ell$$



Trace distance between two  
states: the real and ideal  
(want this to be small)

- ▶ To make this small we use a privacy amplification step in the protocols

Questions?

**Post-quantum cryptography**  
Information-theoretic

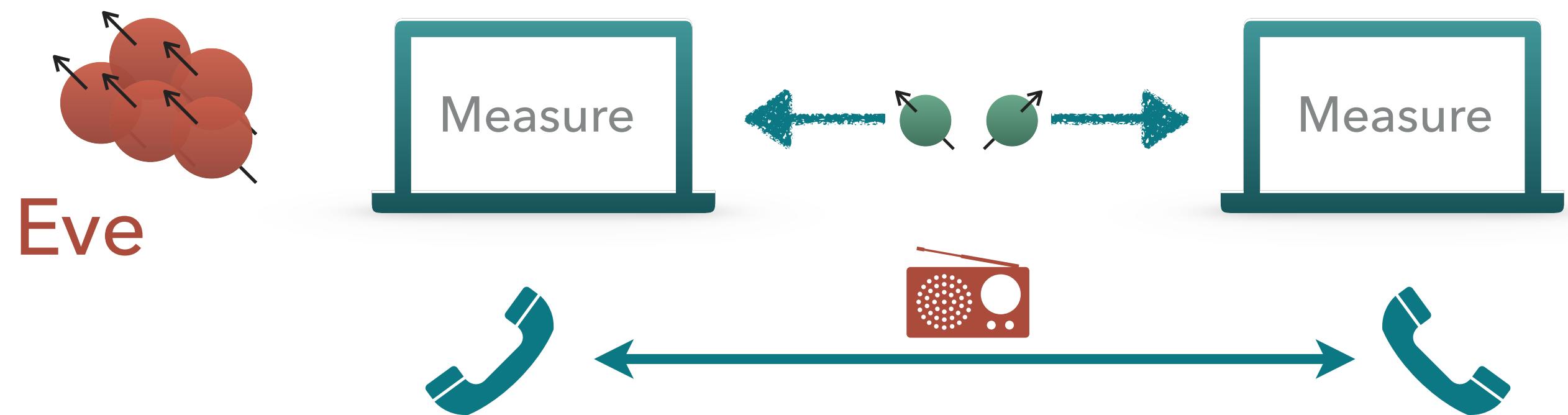
## Privacy Amplification

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# Quantum-Proof Randomness Extractors

# QKD

► Data generation



► Measuring the quantum states

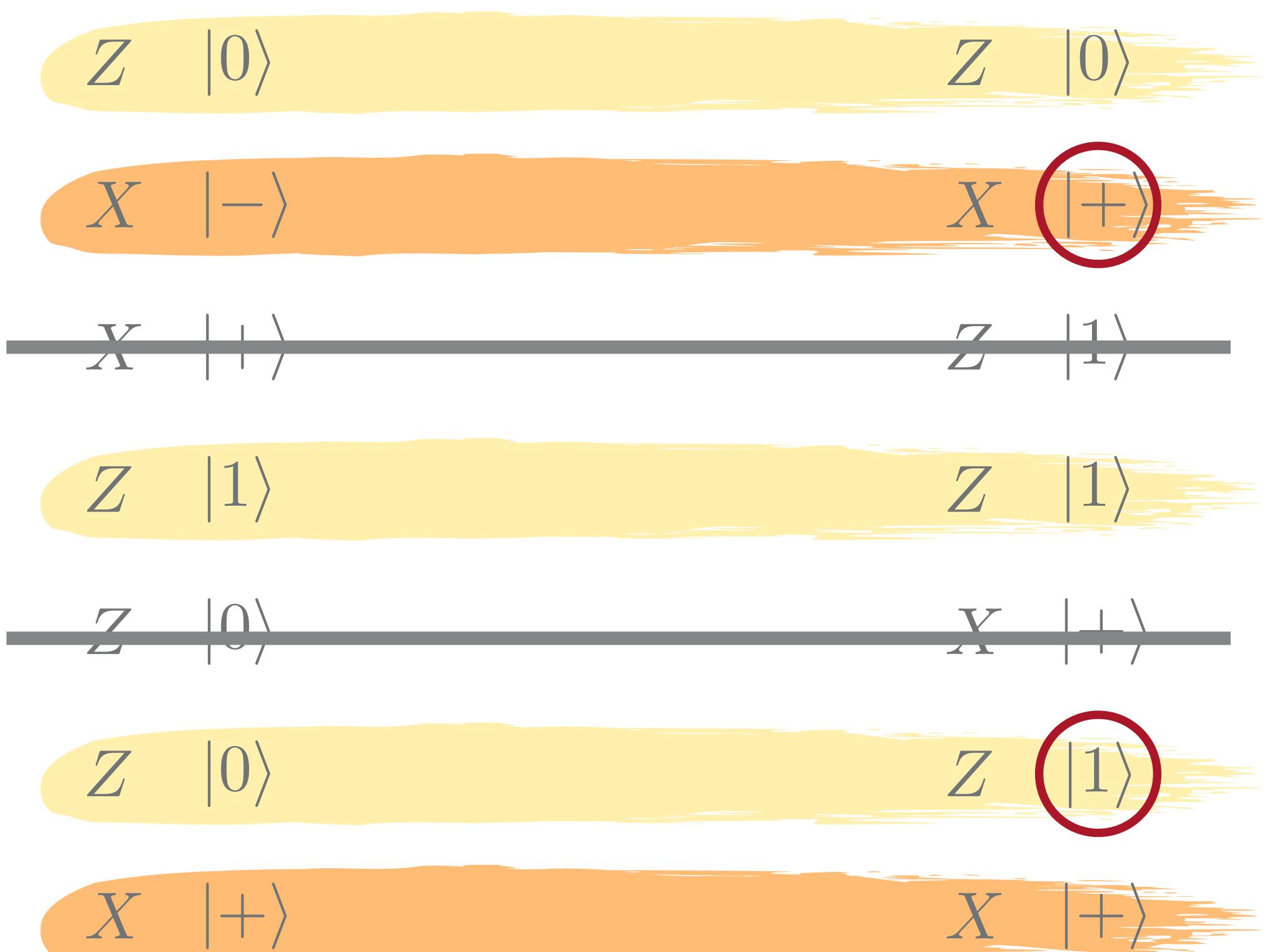
► Sifting

► Test (check for errors) and abort if needed

► Classical post-processing

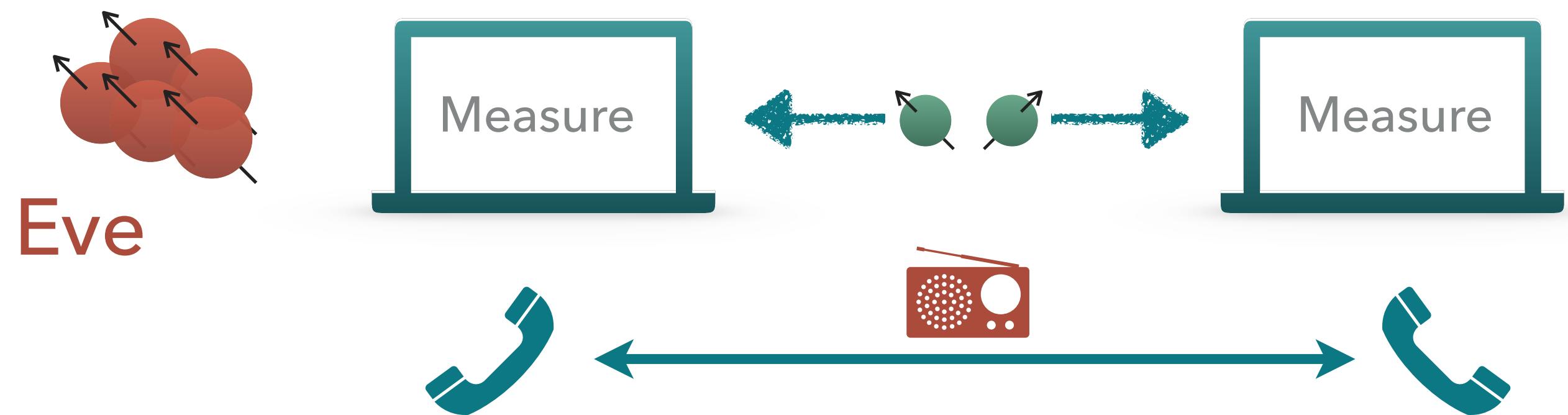
► Classical error correction

► Privacy amplification



# QKD

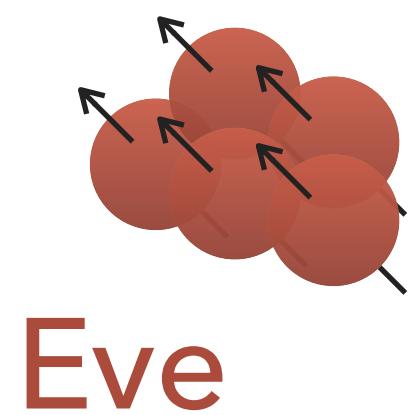
- ▶ Data generation
- ▶ Measuring the quantum states
- ▶ Sifting
- ▶ Test (check for errors) and abort if needed
- ▶ Classical post-processing
- ▶ Classical error correction
- ▶ Privacy amplification



Alice and Bob are exchanging  
classical information in the presence  
of a quantum adversary

# Privacy Amplification

Alice's raw key: 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 0 ...



Classical-quantum state:  $\rho_{AE} = \sum_a p(a) |a\rangle\langle a|_A \otimes \rho_E^a$

- We have some correlations between Alice's raw key  $A$  and Eve's quantum system  $E$
- Privacy amplification: get rid of these correlations!

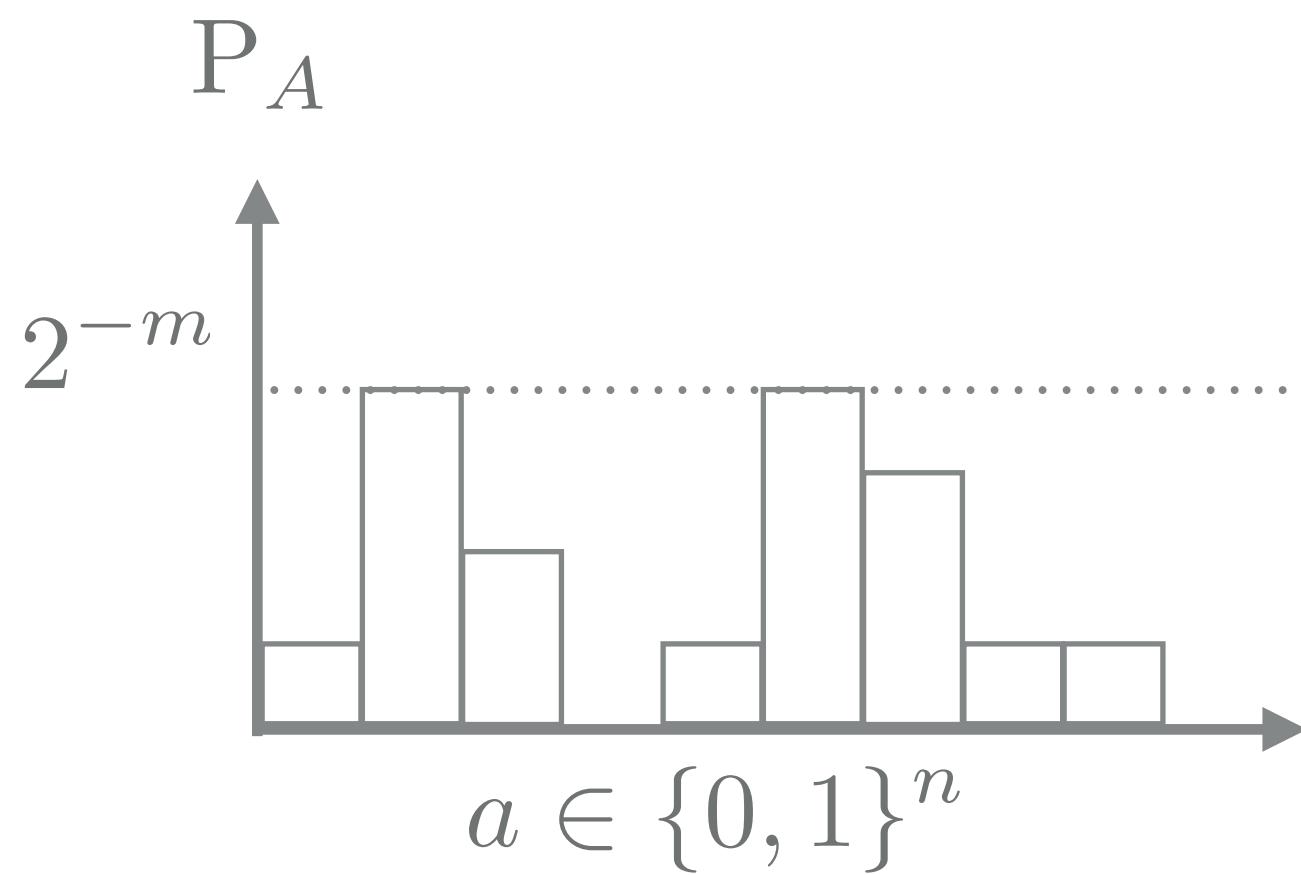
Want to get:  $\rho_{U_\ell} \otimes \rho_E = \sum_k 2^{-\ell} |k\rangle\langle k|_{K_A} \otimes \rho_E$  Perfect (ideal) key

- Tool: Quantum-proof randomness extractors

# Randomness Extractors

- Want to transform a large but weak source of randomness into a shorter uniform distribution
- Cryptography; Pseudo-randomness; Combinatorics

Weak source of randomness



Min-entropy:

$$H_{\min}(A) = -\log \left( \max_a \Pr[a] \right)$$

$H_{\min}(A) \geq m$  :

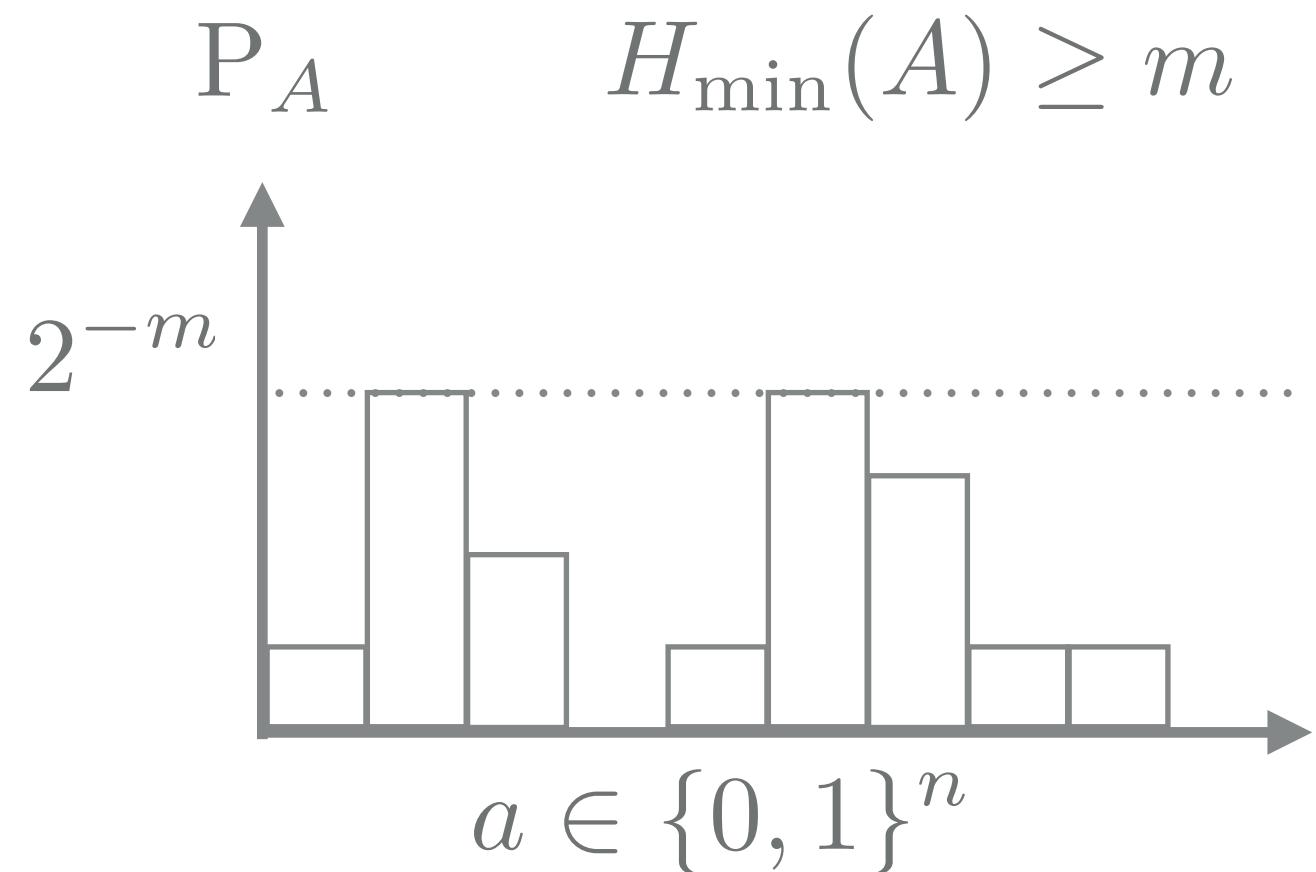
$$\forall a \in \{0, 1\}^n, \quad \Pr[a] \leq 2^{-m}$$

$p_{\text{guess}}(A)$

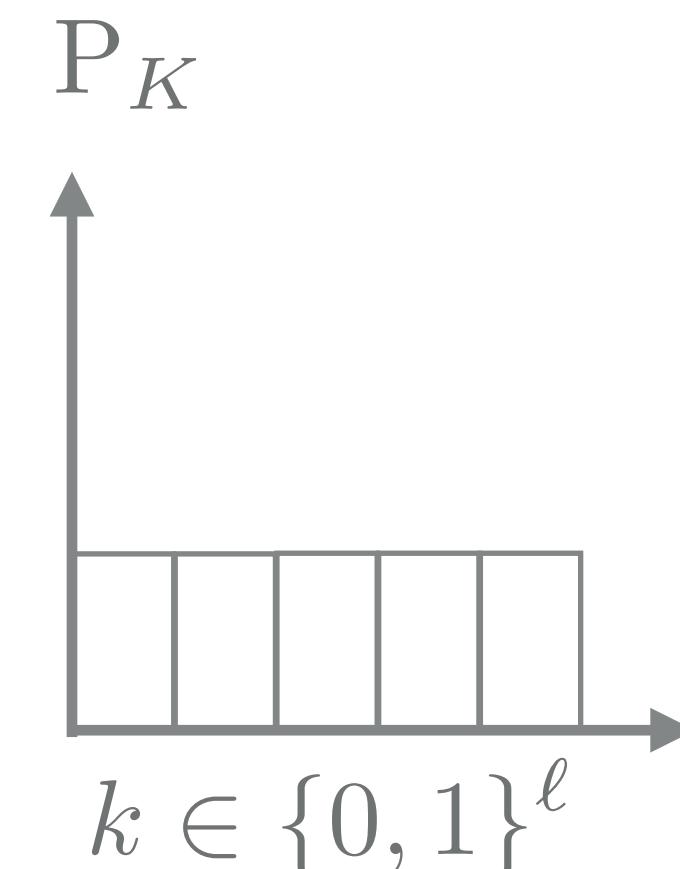
# Randomness Extractors

- Want to transform a large but weak source of randomness into a shorter uniform distribution
- Impossible to achieve deterministically

Weak source of randomness

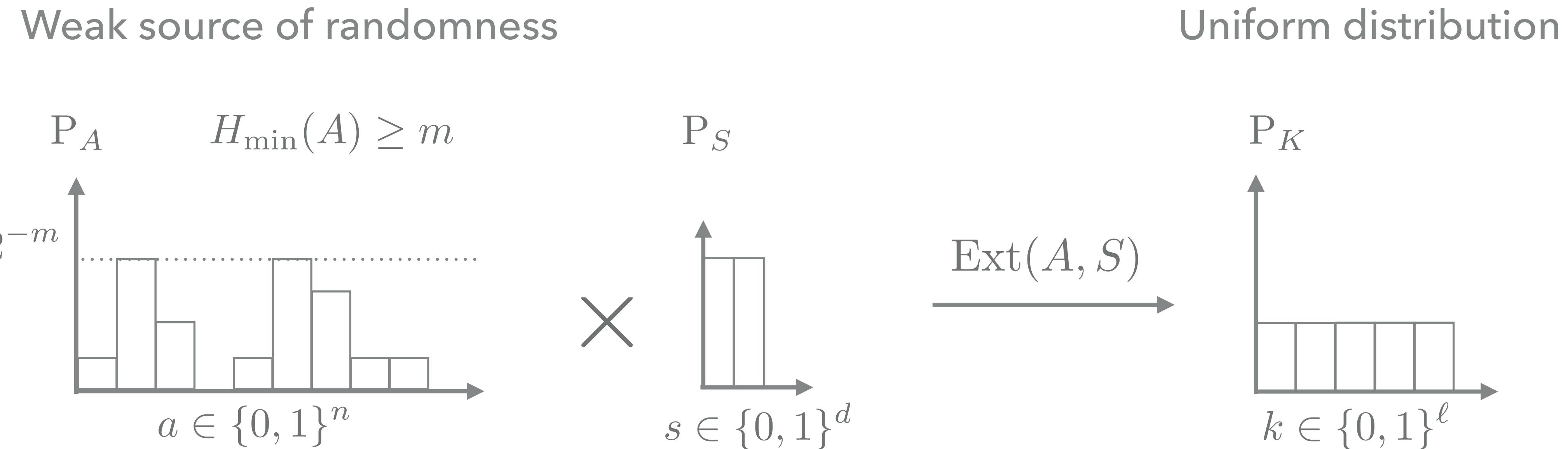


Uniform distribution



# Randomness Extractors

- Want to transform a large but weak source of randomness into a shorter uniform distribution
- Impossible to achieve deterministically
- Possible with an additional short random seed



# Randomness Extractors

► Def. [Randomness extractor]: A function  $\text{Ext}(A, S) : \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^d \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\ell$  is called a **strong**  $(m, \varepsilon)$ -randomness extractor if for

1.  $S = U_d$
2. any  $P_A$  with  $H_{\min}(A) \geq m$

we have

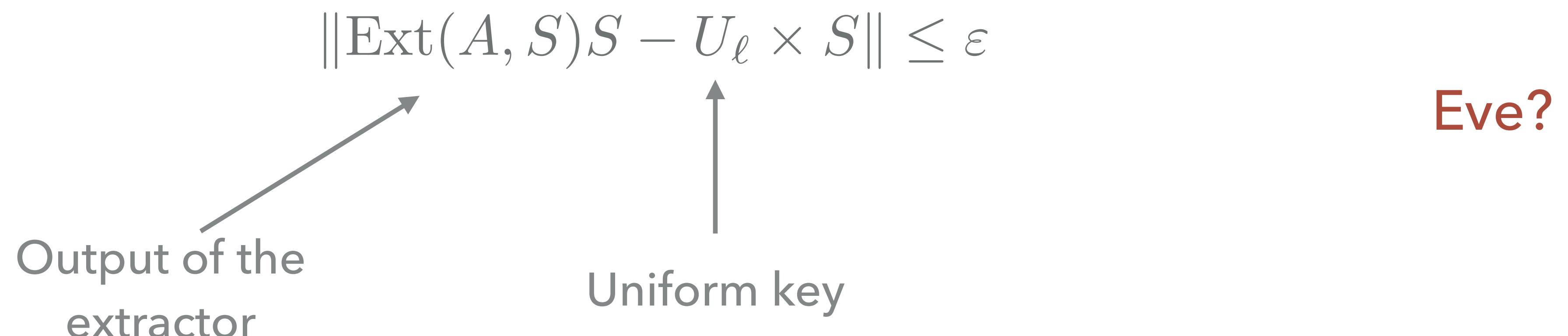
$$\|\text{Ext}(A, S)S - U_\ell \times S\| \leq \varepsilon$$

↑

Output of the extractor

Uniform key

Eve?



(Strong extractor: the seed is made public during the QKD protocol)

# “Classical-Proof” Randomness Extractors

► Def. [Randomness extractor]: A function  $\text{Ext}(A, S) : \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^d \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\ell$  is called a **classical-proof strong  $(m, \varepsilon)$ -randomness extractor** if for

1.  $S = U_d$

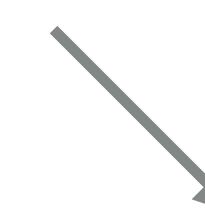
$$H_{\min}(A|E) = -\log p_{\text{guess}}(A|E)$$

2. any  $P_{AE}$  with  $H_{\min}(A|E) \geq m$

$$p_{\text{guess}}(A|E) = \mathbb{E}_e p_{\text{guess}}(A|E=e) = \mathbb{E}_e \max_a \Pr[a|e]$$

we have

$$\|\text{Ext}(A, S)S|E - U_\ell \times S|E\| \leq \varepsilon$$



$$= \mathbb{E}_e \|\text{Ext}(A|E=e, S)S - U_\ell \times S\|$$

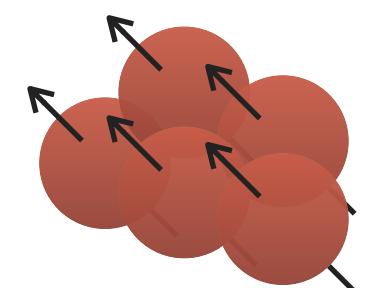
Eve?

Classical side information (E) is kind of trivial when considering extractors...

# Quantum-Proof Randomness Extractors

► Def. [Randomness extractor]: A function  $\text{Ext}(A, S) : \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^d \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\ell$  is called a **quantum-proof** strong  $(m, \varepsilon)$ -randomness extractor if for

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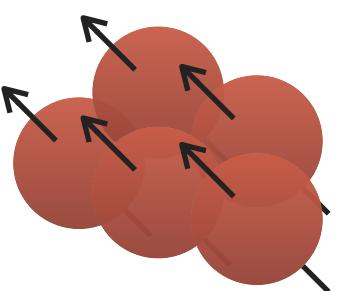
Eve?

$$H_{\min}(A|E) = -\log p_{\text{guess}}(A|E)$$

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Eve?

$$H_{\min}(A|E) = -\log p_{\text{guess}}(A|E)$$

$$p_{\text{guess}}(A|E) = \max_{\{M_E^a\}_a} \sum_a p(a) \text{Tr}(M_E^a \rho_E^a)$$

Guessing prob. with access to a quantum system

# Quantum-Proof Randomness Extractors

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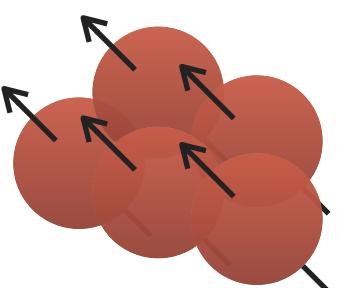
we have

$$\|\rho_{\text{Ext}(A, S)SE} - \rho_{U_\ell} \otimes \rho_{SE}\| \leq \varepsilon$$

Eve's system is kept quantum!  
Crucial for composability!

► The quantum case doesn't follow from the classical one... :( / :)

Questions?



Eve?

$$H_{\min}(A|E) = -\log p_{\text{guess}}(A|E)$$

$$p_{\text{guess}}(A|E) = \max_{\{M_E^a\}_a} \sum_a p(a) \text{Tr}(M_E^a \rho_E^a)$$

Guessing prob. with an access to a quantum system

Why did I tell you all of that...?

## Security Definition

- ▶ Def. [Secrecy]: A protocol is  $\varepsilon_{\text{sec}}$ -secret if

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Trace distance between two states: the real and ideal (want this to be small)

## QKD

- ▶ Data generation
- ▶ Measuring the quantum states
- ▶ Sifting
- ▶ Test (check for errors) and abort if needed
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← Using an extractor

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- ▶ For the extractor to work we need to have a sufficiently high min-entropy in Alice's outputs
- ▶ The main challenge in proving the security of QKD protocols is to lower-bound the min-entropy
- ▶ This is what we're going to look at next



# Quantum Key Distribution

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BIU Winter School on Quantum Cryptography | February 15, 2021

**Rotem Arnon-Friedman | Weizmann Institute of Science**

# Outline

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- ▶ Lecture 1:

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ BB84 and Ekert91 protocols

- ▶ Lecture 2:

- ▶ QKD security definition
- ▶ Quantum-proof randomness extractors

- ▶ Lecture 3:

- ▶ Security proof (the main parts)
- ▶ Device-independent quantum key distribution

## Security Definition

- ▶ Def. [Secrecy]: A protocol is  $\varepsilon_{\text{sec}}$ -secret if

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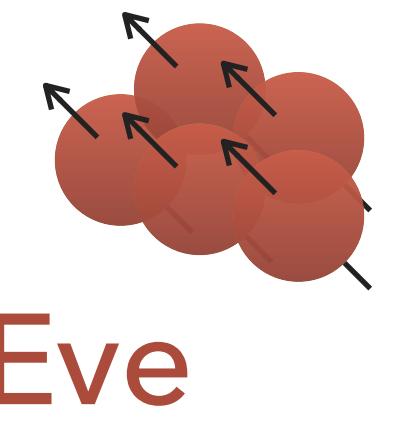
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- ▶ The main challenge in proving the security of QKD protocols is to lower-bound the min-entropy
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# Recap

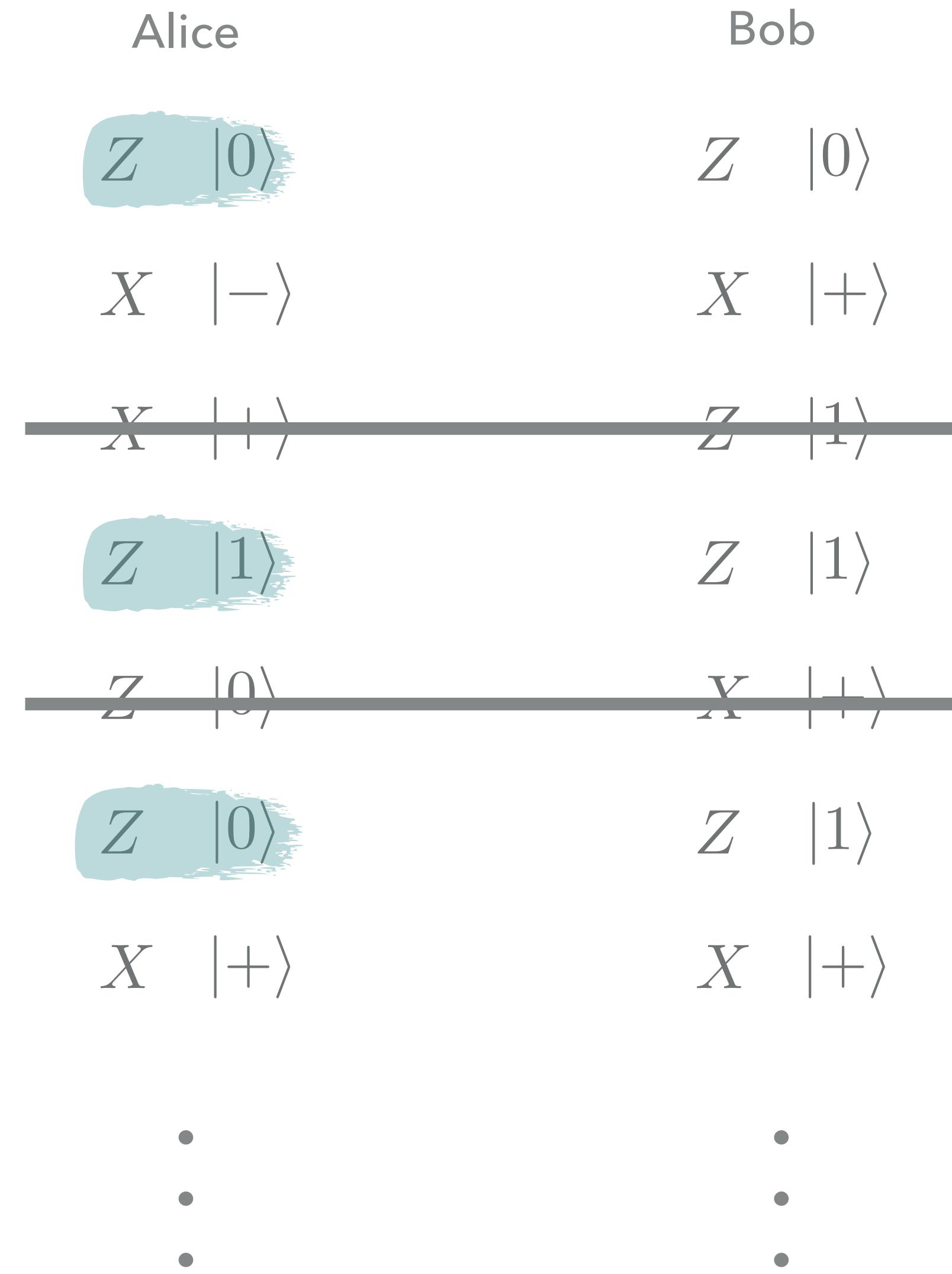
- We need to lower-bound  $H_{\min}(A|E) \geq m$  of the state in the end of the execution of the protocol:

$$\rho_{AE} = \sum_a p(a) |a\rangle\langle a|_A \otimes \rho_E^a$$

Alice's raw key : 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 ...



Eve



- After that, a quantum-proof extractor does the work

1. Quantum-proof extractors ✓  
(Computer science)
2. Reduction to IID  
(Information theory)
3. Uncertainty relation  
(Quantum physics)

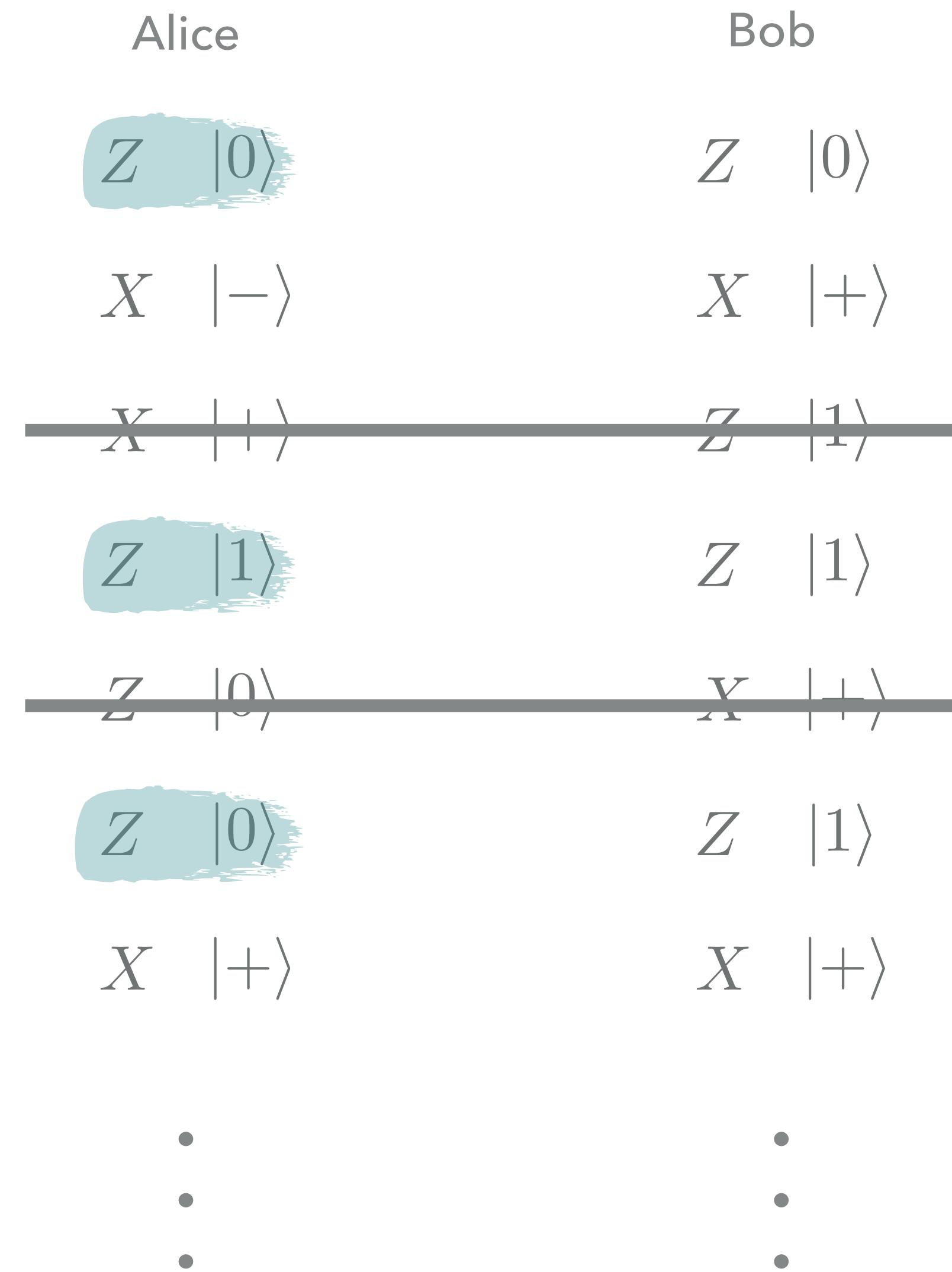
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# Security Proof

(Somewhat informal, just presenting the main statements)

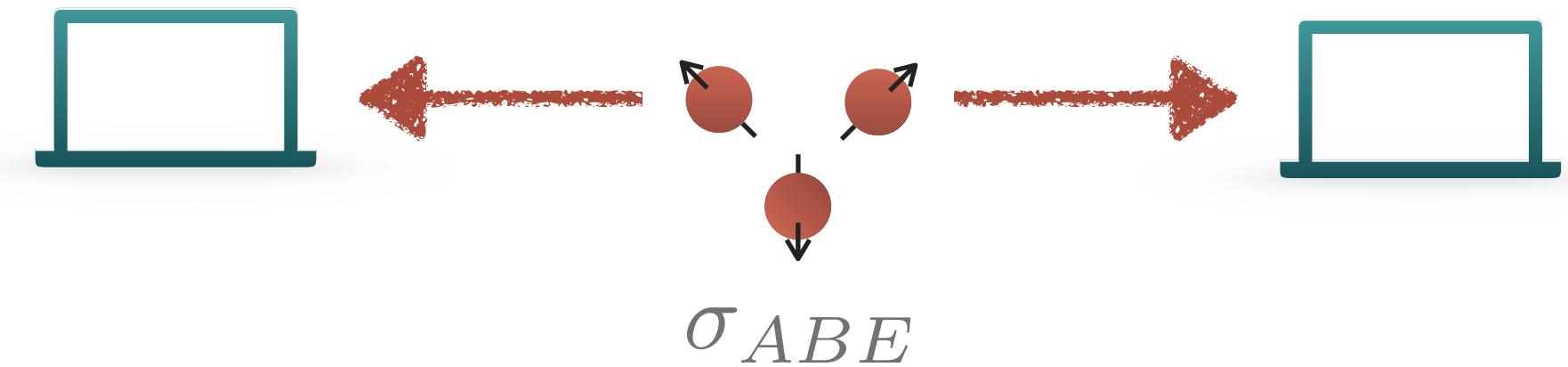
# Entropy Accumulation

- ▶ We need to lower-bound  $H_{\min}(\mathbf{A}|E) \geq m$  of the state in the end of the execution of the protocol
- ▶  $\mathbf{a} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , for  $n$  the number of rounds in the protocol
- ▶ How do we analyze Eve's actions over  $n$  rounds?
  - ▶ Adaptive strategies, global operation :(
  - ▶ Entropy doesn't need to be produced in every round



# Reduction to IID

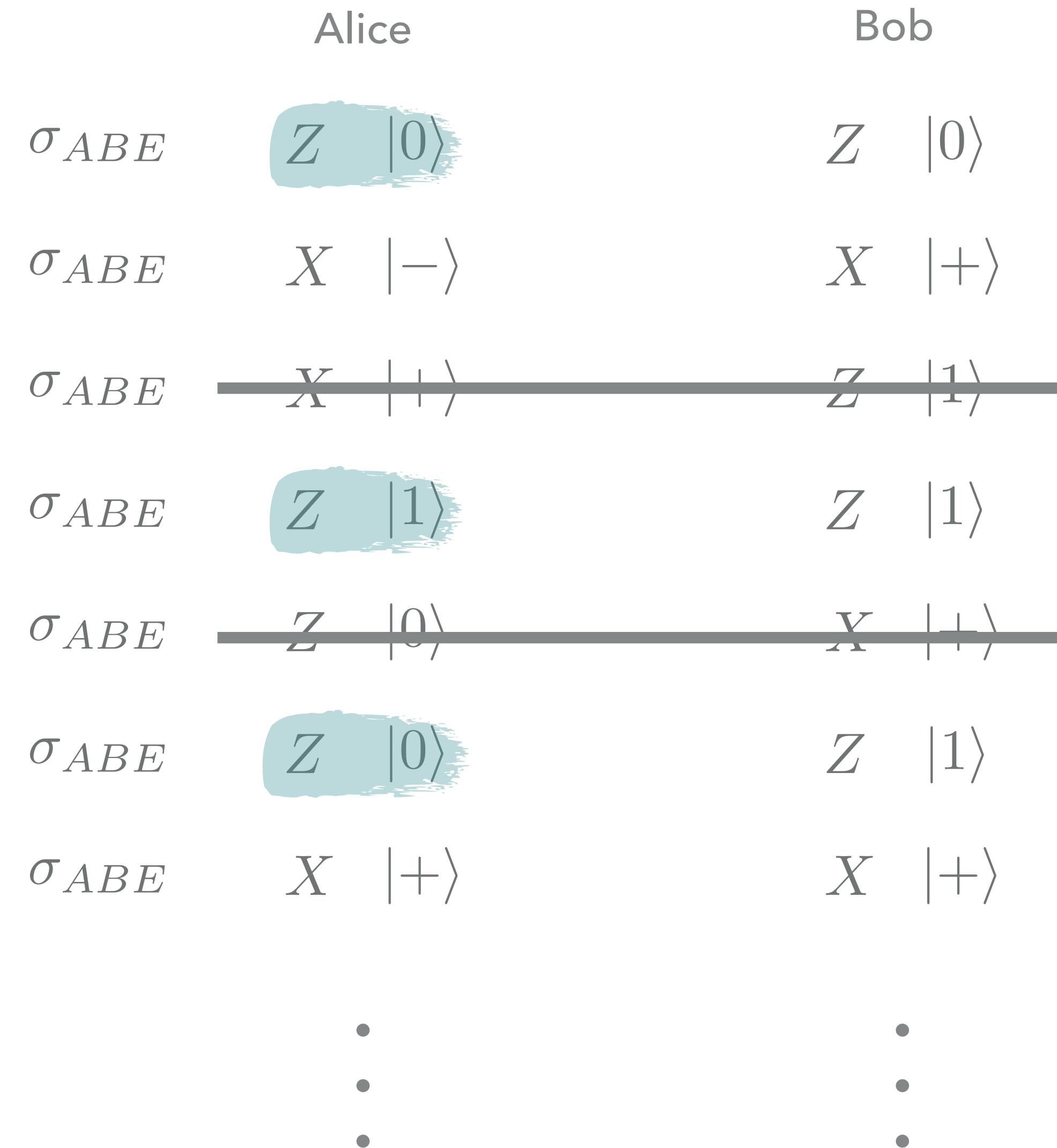
- ▶ Wishful thinking: Eve uses the same strategy in each round, independently of all other rounds



- ▶ The initial state is an “independently and identically distributed” (IID) state

$$\rho_{A|B|E} = \sigma_{A|B|E}^{\otimes n}$$

- ▶ Intuitively: we only need to understand what happens in one round



# (Quantum) Asymptotic Equipartition Property

---

- ▶ A property of entropy of IID states  $\rho_{\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{E}} = \sigma_{A B E}^{\otimes n}$ :

$$H_{\min}^{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{E})_{\rho} \geq nH(A|E)_{\sigma} - c_{\varepsilon}\sqrt{n}$$



Many different entropies...

All describe some form of uncertainty, lack of knowledge

# (Quantum) Asymptotic Equipartition Property

- ▶ A property of entropy of IID states  $\rho_{\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{E}} = \sigma_{A B E}^{\otimes n}$ :

$$H_{\min}^{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{E})_{\rho} \geq nH(A|E)_{\sigma} - c_{\varepsilon}\sqrt{n}$$

## Smooth min-entropy

- ◆ Closely related to the min-entropy
- ◆ Good for the extractors
- ◆ (Crucial and better)

## von Neumann entropy

- ◆ Quantum version of the Shannon entropy
- ◆ (Always larger than the min-entropy)

$$H(A)_{\sigma} = -\text{Tr}(\sigma \log \sigma)$$

$$H(A|E) = H(AE) - H(E)$$

- ▶ Tells us that for IID states we now need to find a single-round quantity  $H(A|E)_{\sigma}$

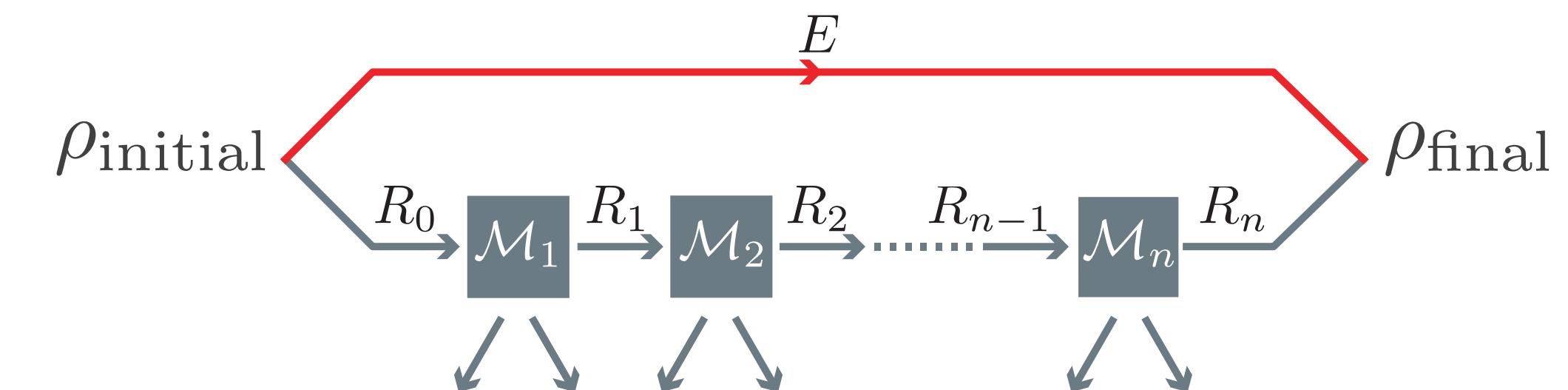
## Reduction to IID

- ▶ Of course, that was only a wishful thinking. But...
- ▶ A theorem called “the entropy accumulation theorem” tells us that under certain conditions

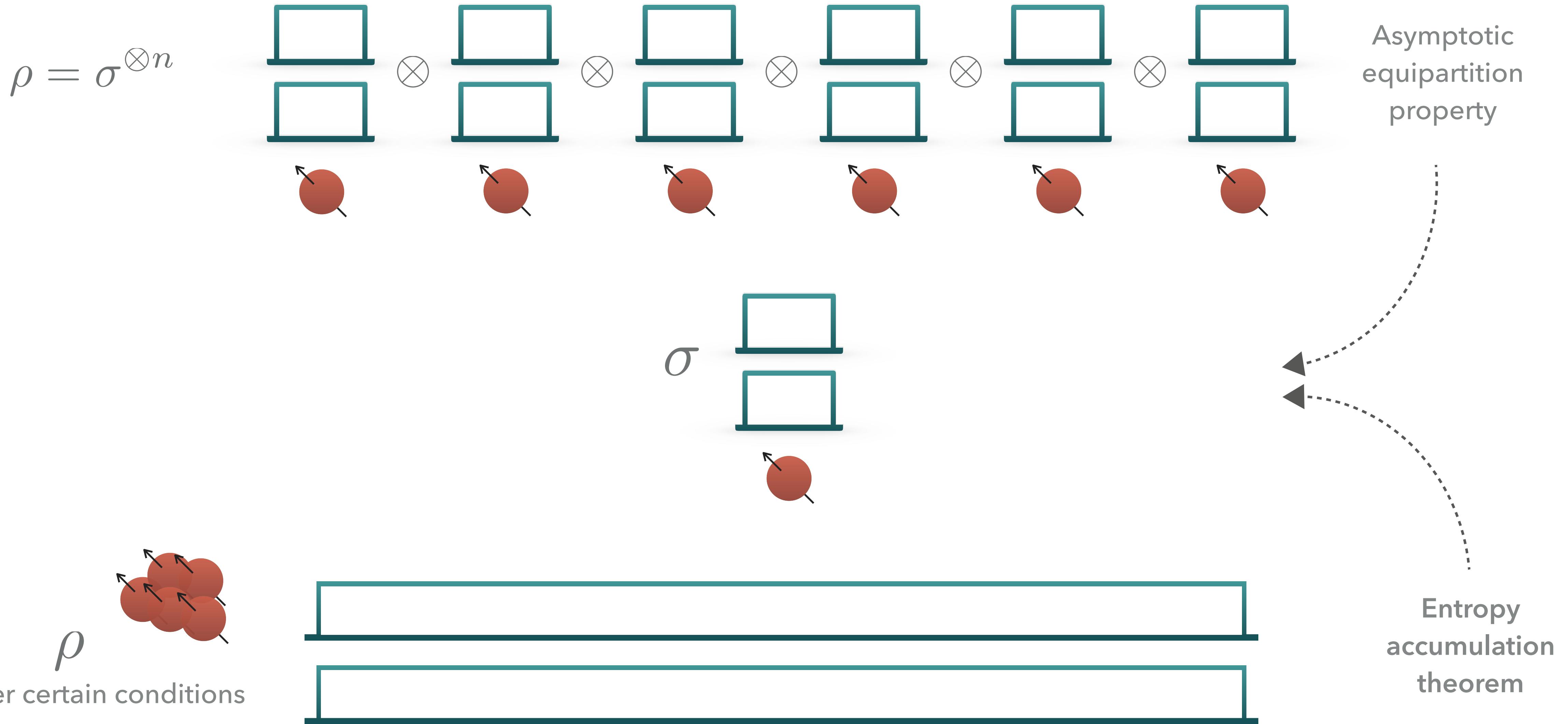
$$H_{\min}^{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{E})_{\rho} \geq nH(A|E)_{\sigma} - c_{\varepsilon}\sqrt{n}$$

still holds, with  $\sigma$  defined via some optimization problem

- ▶ (Roughly,  $\sigma$  is the state that minimizes  $H(A|E)_{\sigma}$  over all states that are compatible with the data that Alice and Bob observe throughout the execution of the protocol)
- ▶ Reduction to IID (not black box)

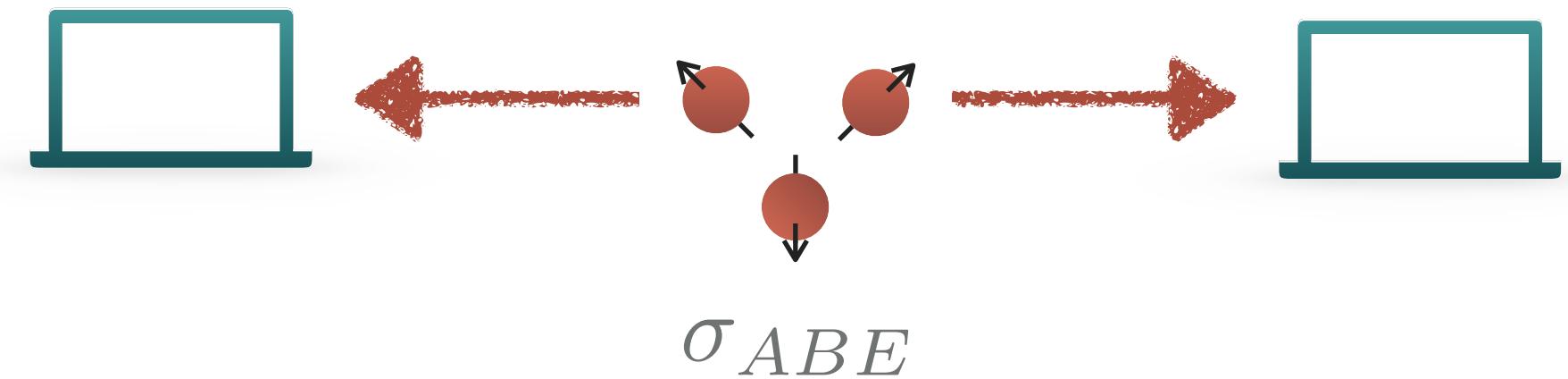


# Reduction to IID

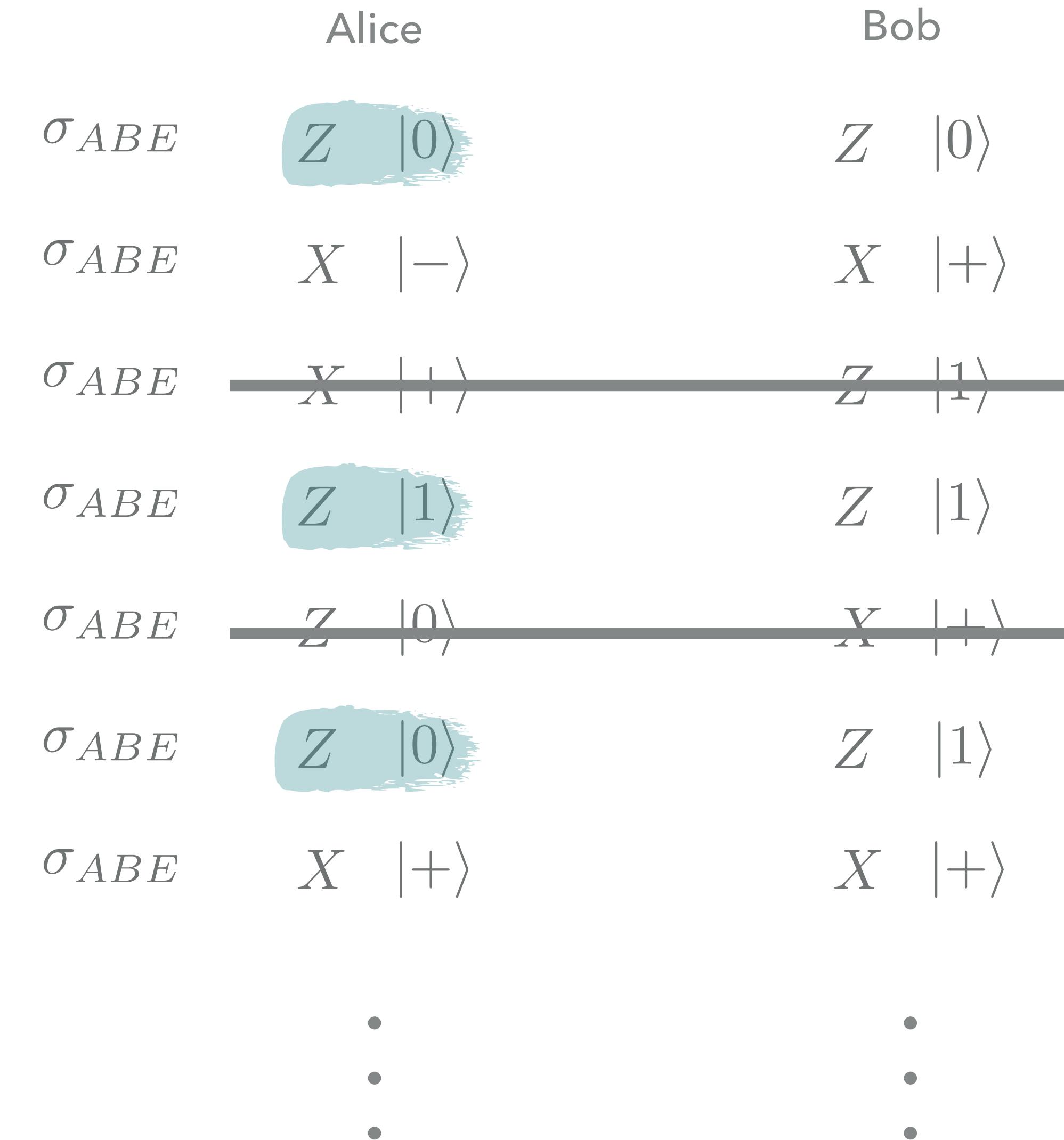


# Reduction to IID

- ▶ Eve uses the same strategy in each round, independently of all other rounds



- ▶  $H_{\min}^{\varepsilon}(A|E)_{\rho} \geq nH(A|E)_{\sigma} - c_{\varepsilon}\sqrt{n}$
- ▶ Our goal is now to lower-bound the amount of von Neumann entropy produced in one round



## Questions?

1. Quantum-proof extractors ✓ (Computer science)
2. Reduction to IID ✓ (Information theory)
3. Uncertainty relation (Quantum physics)

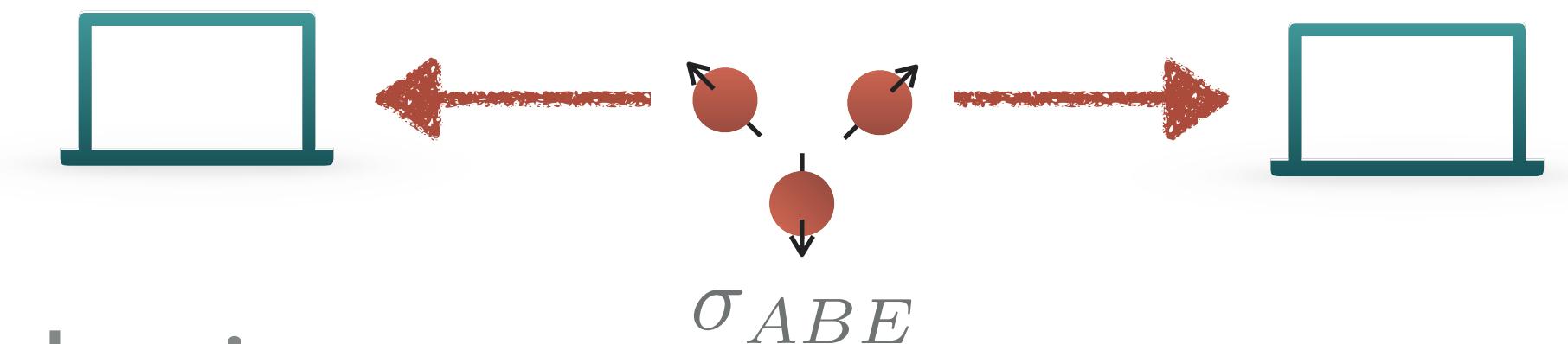
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# Security Proof

(Somewhat informal, just presenting the main statements)

# Uncertainty Relation

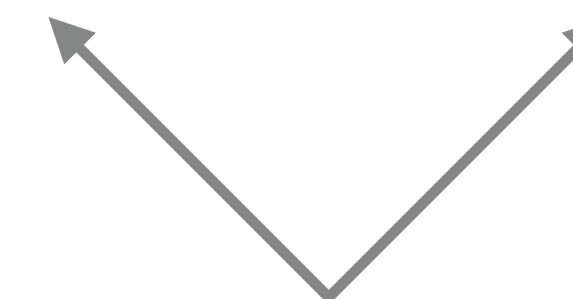
- ▶ Tripartite quantum state  $\sigma_{ABE}$



- ▶ Alice is measuring either in the  $Z$  basis or the  $X$  basis

- ▶ Incompatible bases— can't guess both outcomes with certainty

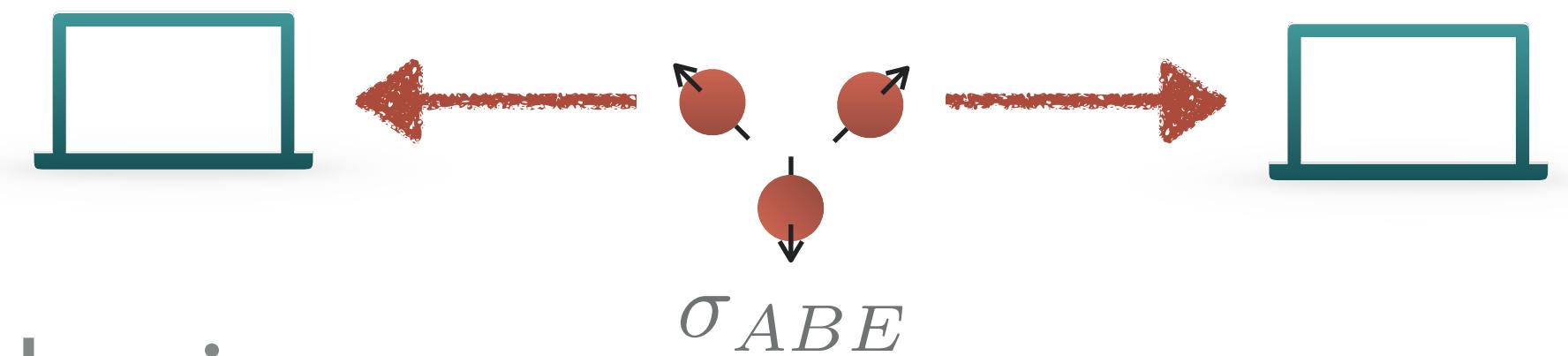
$$H(A_Z) + H(A_X) \geq 1$$



Notation: the outcome of measuring the system in the given basis

# Uncertainty Relation

- ▶ Tripartite quantum state  $\sigma_{ABE}$

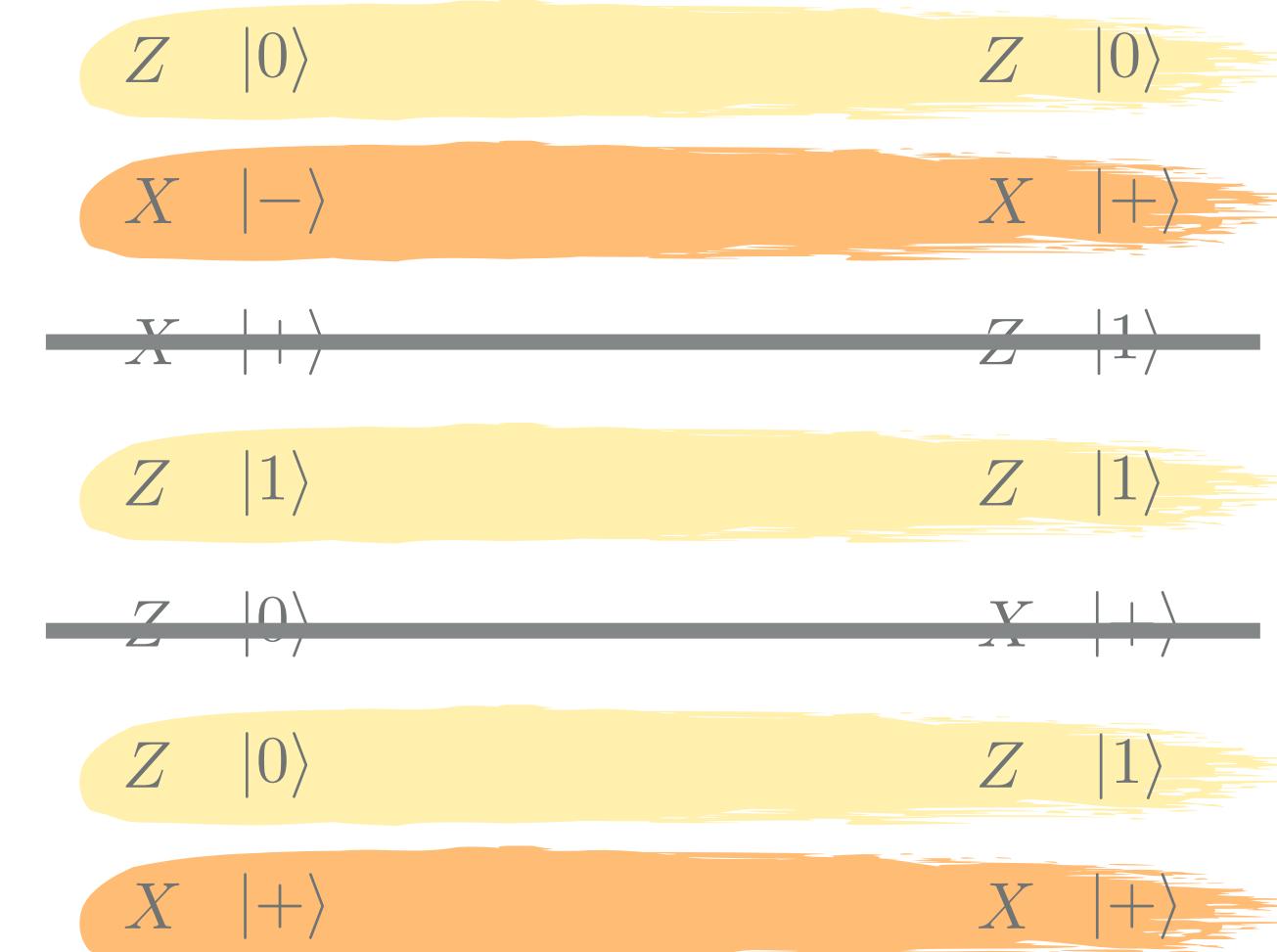


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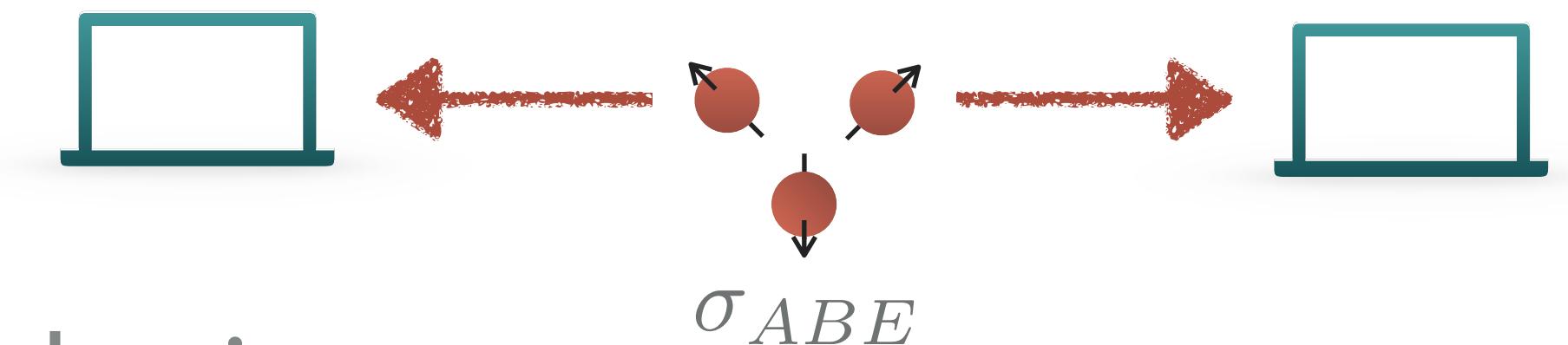
$$H(A_Z) + H(A_X) \geq 1$$

Raw key      Testing



# Uncertainty Relation

- ▶ Tripartite quantum state  $\sigma_{ABE}$



- ▶ Alice is measuring either in the  $Z$  basis or the  $X$  basis

- ▶ Incompatible bases— can't guess both outcomes with certainty

$$H(A_Z) + H(A_X) \geq 1$$

- ▶ Given access to Bob's state one can do better

$$H(A_Z|B) + H(A_X|B) \geq 1 + H(A|B)$$

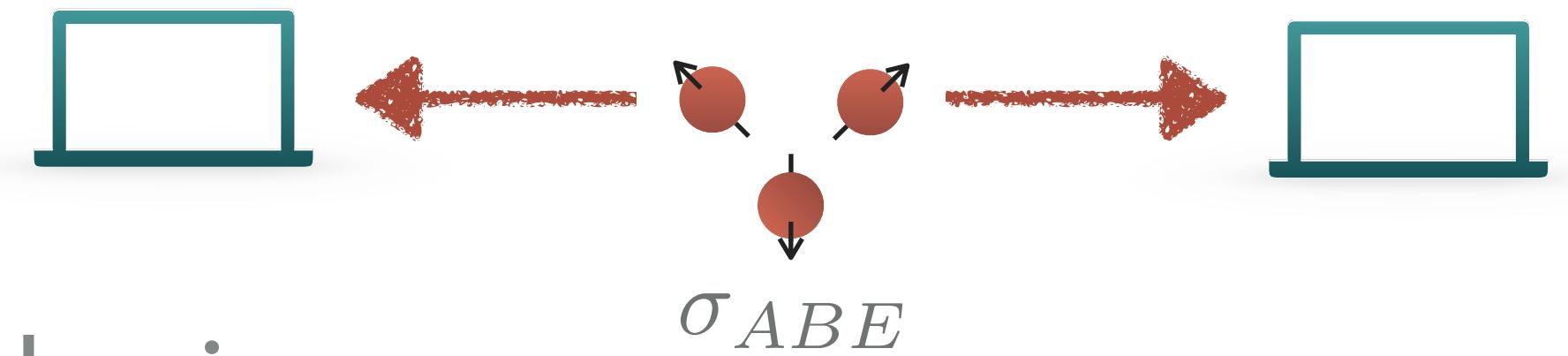


Negative when Alice and Bob are entangled!

$$|\Phi^+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|00\rangle + |11\rangle) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|--\rangle + |++\rangle)$$

# Uncertainty Relation

- ▶ Tripartite quantum state  $\sigma_{ABE}$



- ▶ Alice is measuring either in the  $Z$  basis or the  $X$  basis

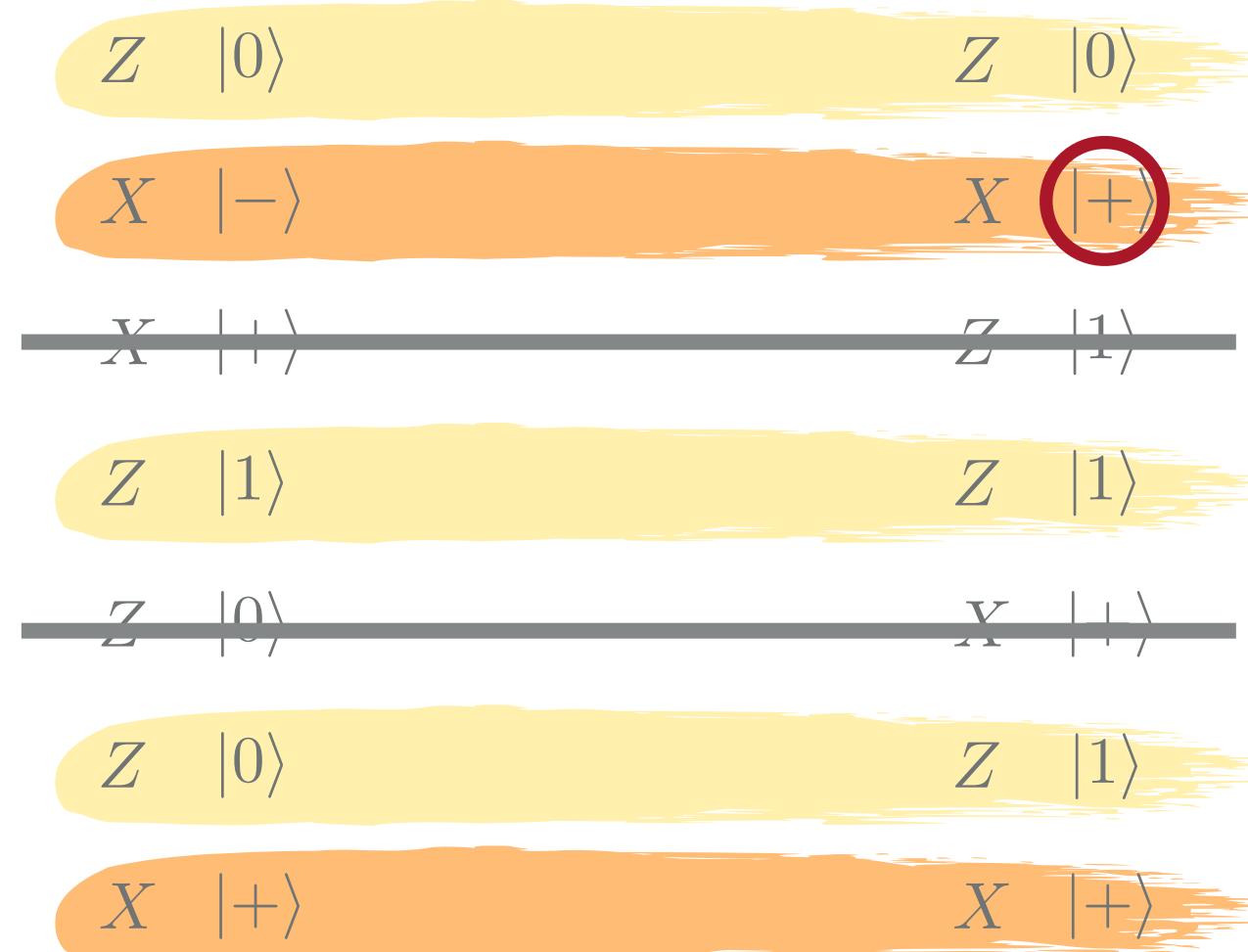
- ▶ Using some entropic relations,  $H(A_Z|B) + H(A_X|B) \geq 1 + H(A|B)$  can be rewritten as

$$\underbrace{H(A_Z|E)}_{\text{Eve's uncertainty}} \geq 1 - H(A_X|B_X)$$

regarding the raw key bit

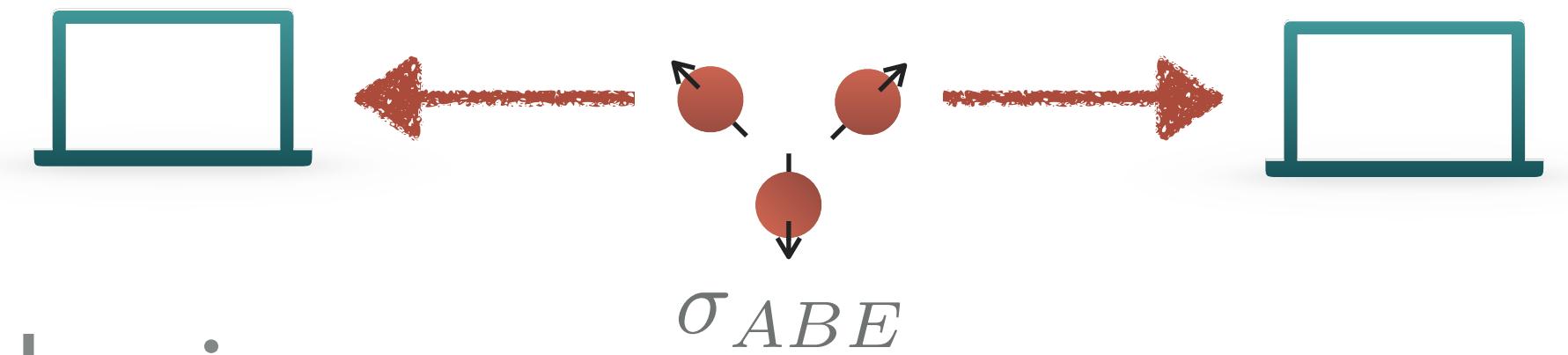
What we need in order to  
lower-bound the total  
amount of entropy

$$H_{\min}^{\varepsilon}(A_Z|E)$$



# Uncertainty Relation

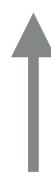
- ▶ Tripartite quantum state  $\sigma_{ABE}$



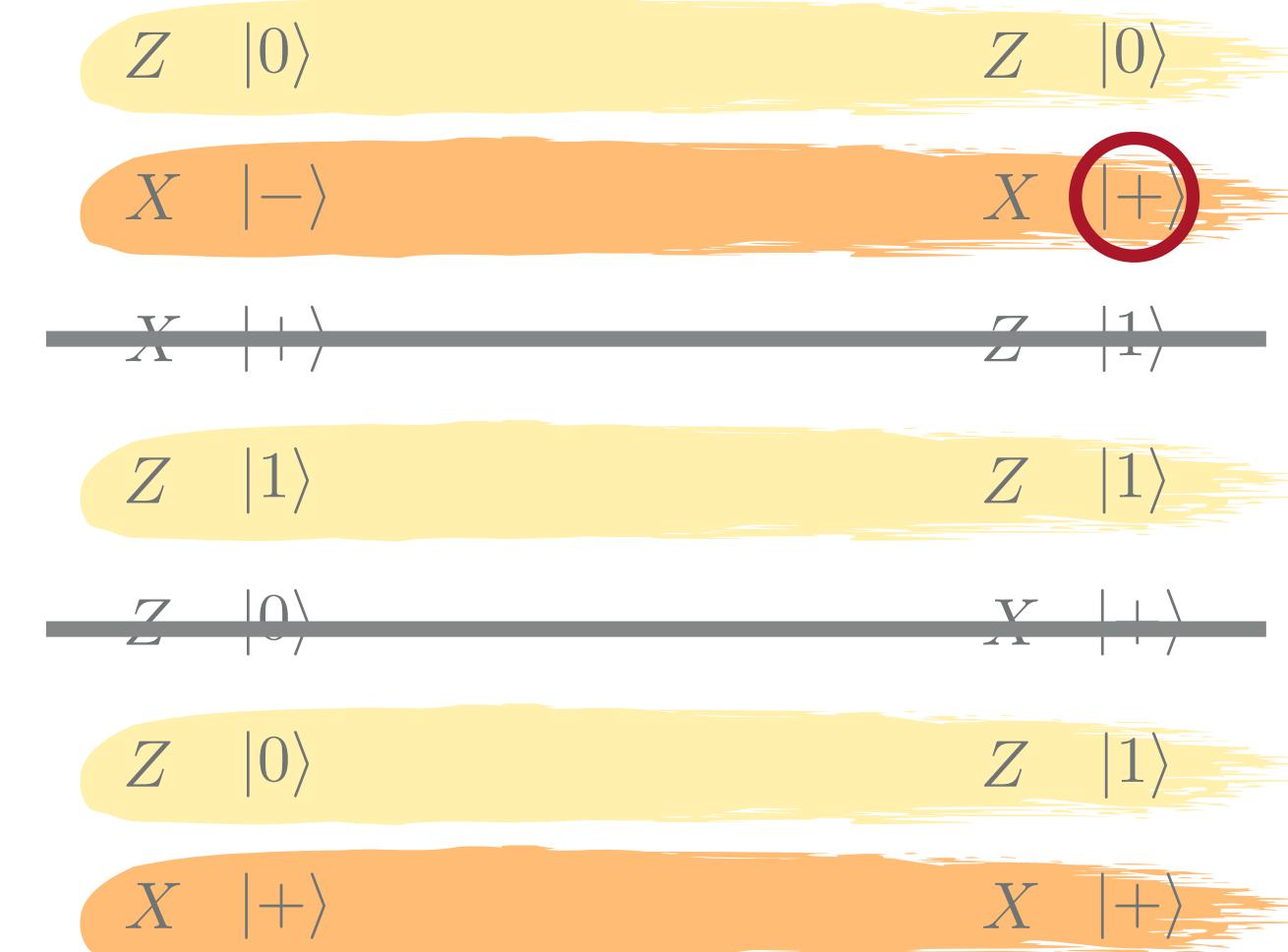
- ▶ Alice is measuring either in the  $Z$  basis or the  $X$  basis

- ▶ Using some entropic relations,  $H(A_Z|B) + H(A_X|B) \geq 1 + H(A|B)$  can be rewritten as

$$H(A_Z|E) \geq 1 - \underbrace{H(A_X|B_X)}_{\text{"Error rate"}}$$

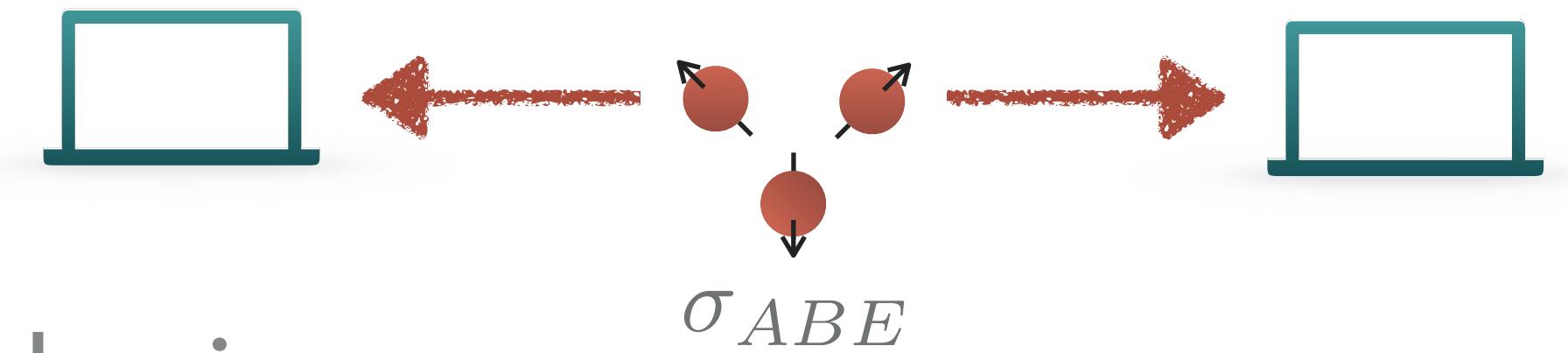


Can be estimated from the observed data during the execution of the protocol



# Uncertainty Relation

- ▶ Tripartite quantum state  $\sigma_{ABE}$



- ▶ Alice is measuring either in the  $Z$  basis or the  $X$  basis

- ▶ Using some entropic relations,  $H(A_Z|B) + H(A_X|B) \geq 1 + H(A|B)$  can be rewritten as

$$H(A_Z|E) \geq 1 - H(A_X|B_X)$$

Questions?

- ▶ Example: perfect correlations (no errors) imply 1 bit of entropy per round
- ▶ Take-home message: quantum physics allows us to bound **Eve's knowledge** using **Alice and Bob's observed data** (replaces computational assumptions)

# Security Proof

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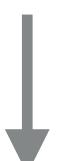
1. Uncertainty relation

$$H(A_Z|E) \geq 1 - H(A_X|B_X)$$



2. Entropy accumulation  
(Reduction to IID)

$$H_{\min}^\varepsilon(A|E)_\rho \geq nH(A|E)_\sigma - c_\varepsilon \sqrt{n}$$



3. Quantum-proof extractors

$$\|\rho_{\text{Ext}(A,S)SE} - \rho_{U_\ell} \otimes \rho_{SE}\| \leq \varepsilon$$



4. Secrecy

$$(1 - \Pr(\text{abort})) \|\rho_{K_A E} - \rho_{U_\ell} \otimes \rho_E\| \leq \varepsilon_{\text{sec}}$$



5. Security

(Secrecy + correctness + completeness)

Questions?

1. Motivation
2. Non-local games
3. Security

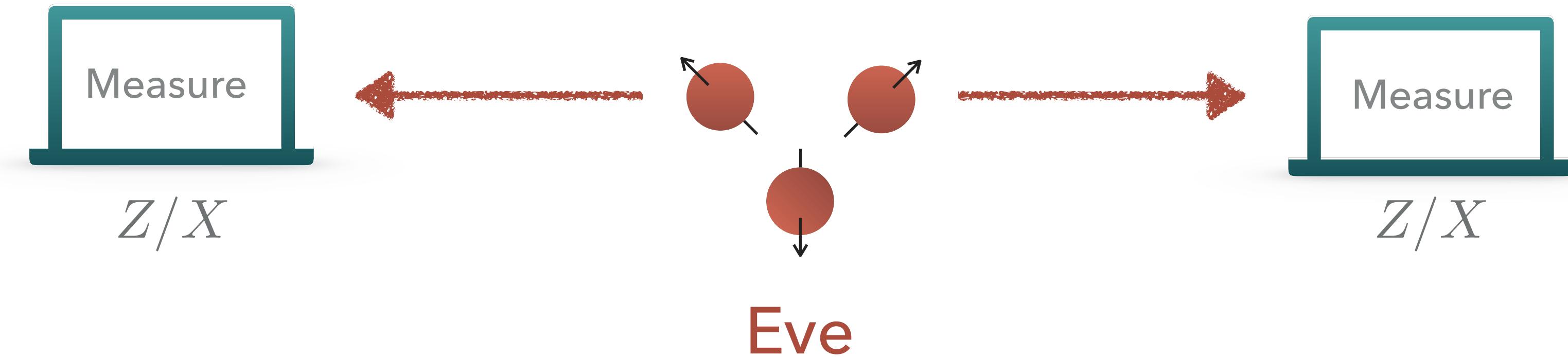
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# Device-Independent QKD

# Motivation

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## ► Ekert 91



## ► Uncertainty relation $H(A_Z|E) \geq 1 - H(A_X|B_X)$

► What if the measurements are not exact...?

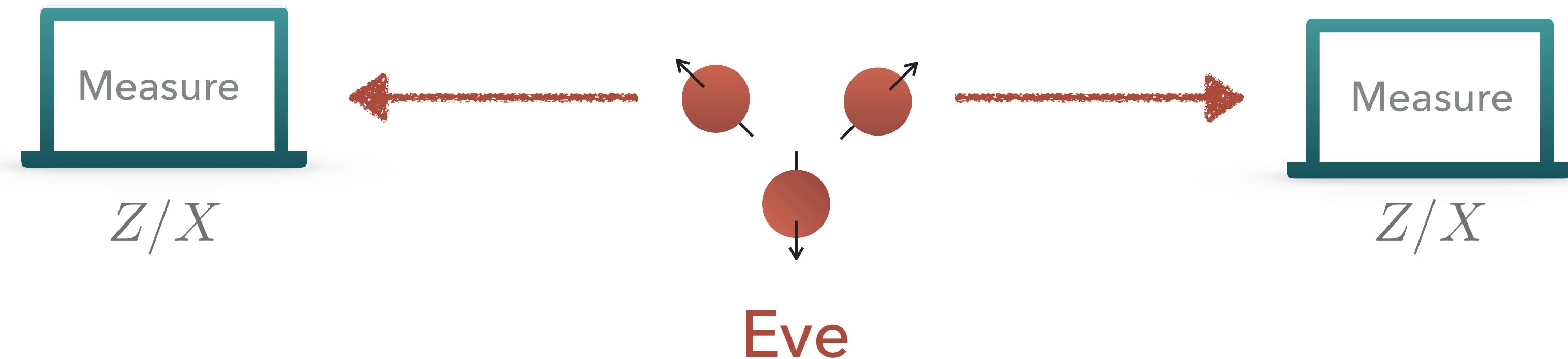
► What if we don't know the dimension...? (Side channels)

► What if...

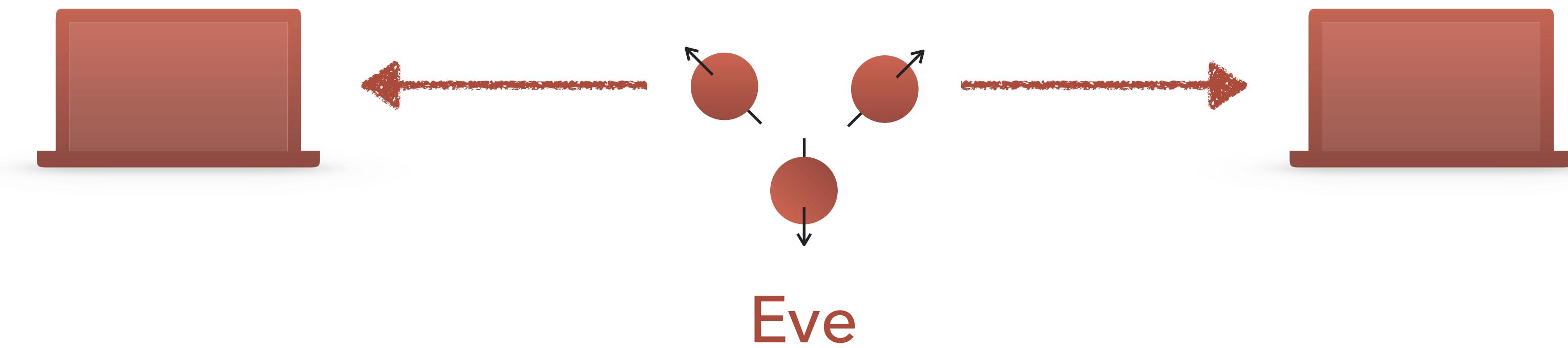
# Motivation

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- ▶ Ekert 91



- ▶ Device-independent

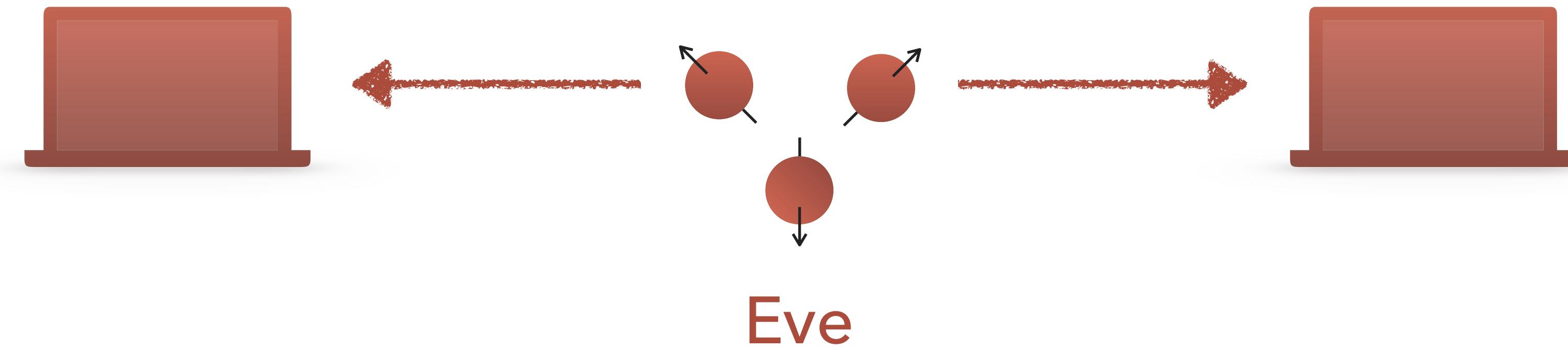


- ▶ Paranoid cryptographers;      Realistic physicists;      Fundamental physics

# How Can That Be?

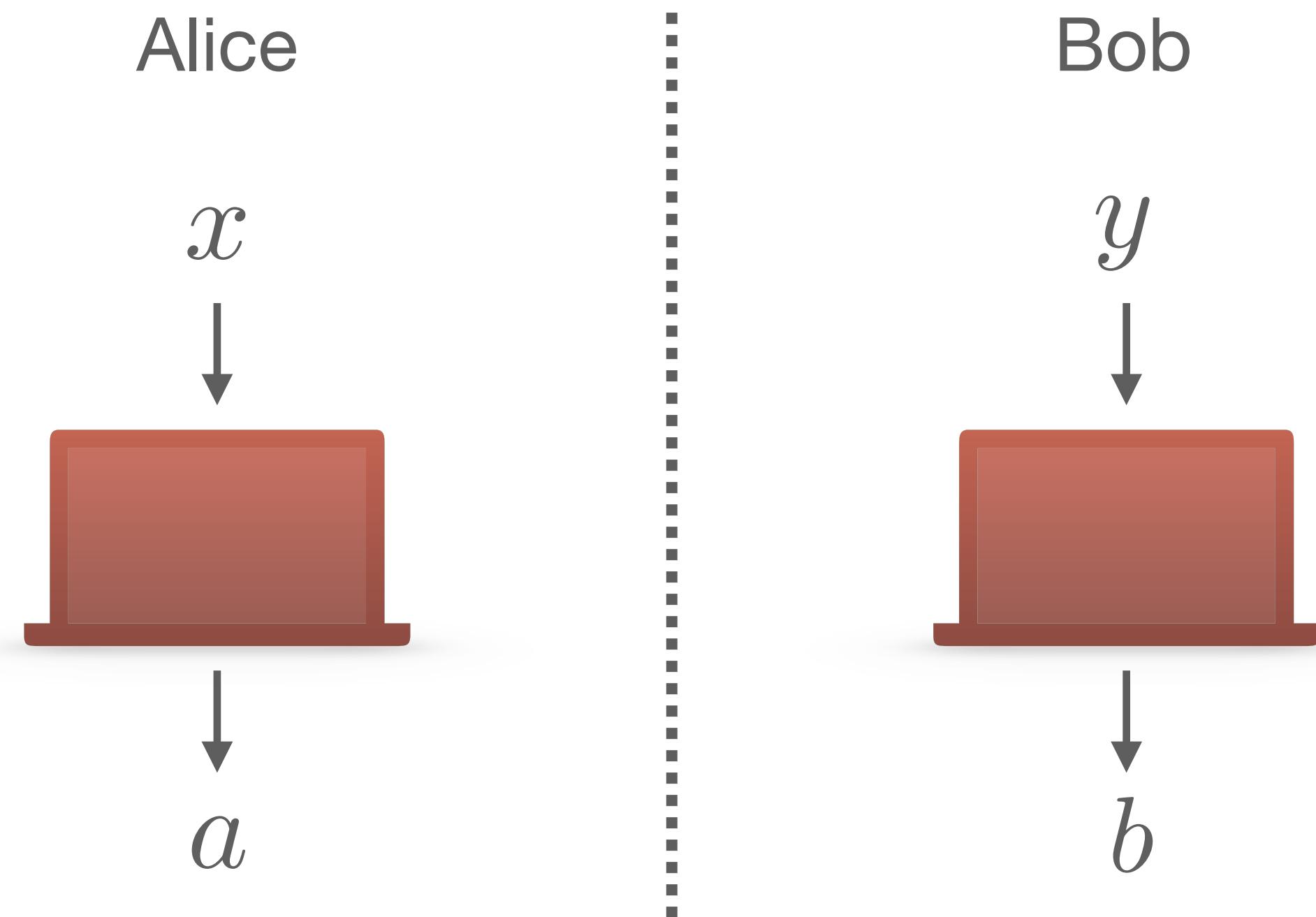
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- ▶ How can we create keys this way?



- ▶ There's one thing we do know (can enforce)– the partition to Alice and Bob
- ▶ Similar to a multi-prover setting

# Non-Local Games



(Multi-prover proof system)

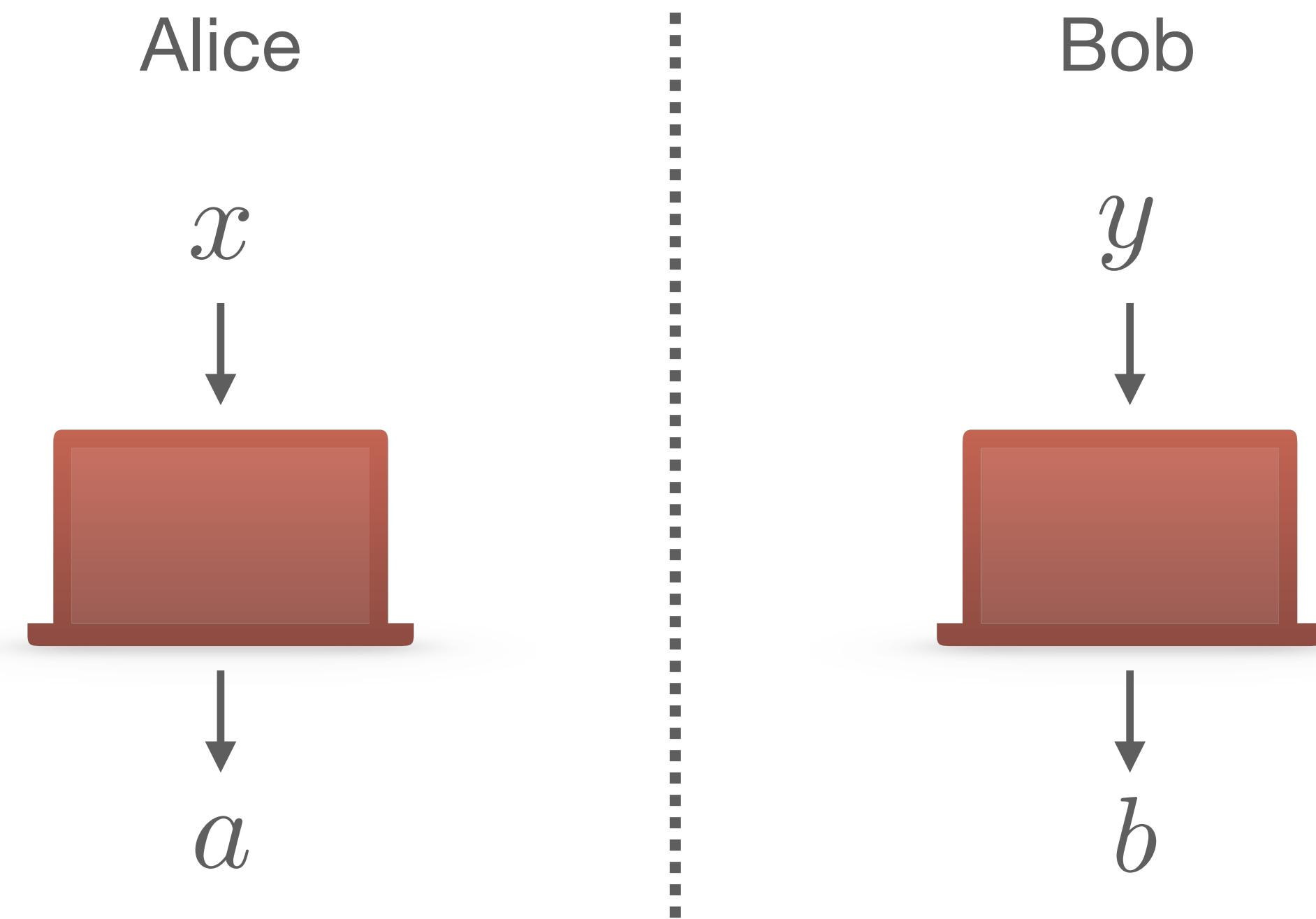
## CHSH Game:

|        |        |                  |
|--------|--------|------------------|
| Alice: | Input  | $x \in \{0, 1\}$ |
|        | Output | $a \in \{0, 1\}$ |
| Bob:   | Input  | $y \in \{0, 1\}$ |
|        | Output | $b \in \{0, 1\}$ |

Win:

$$a \oplus b = x \cdot y$$

# Non-Local Games



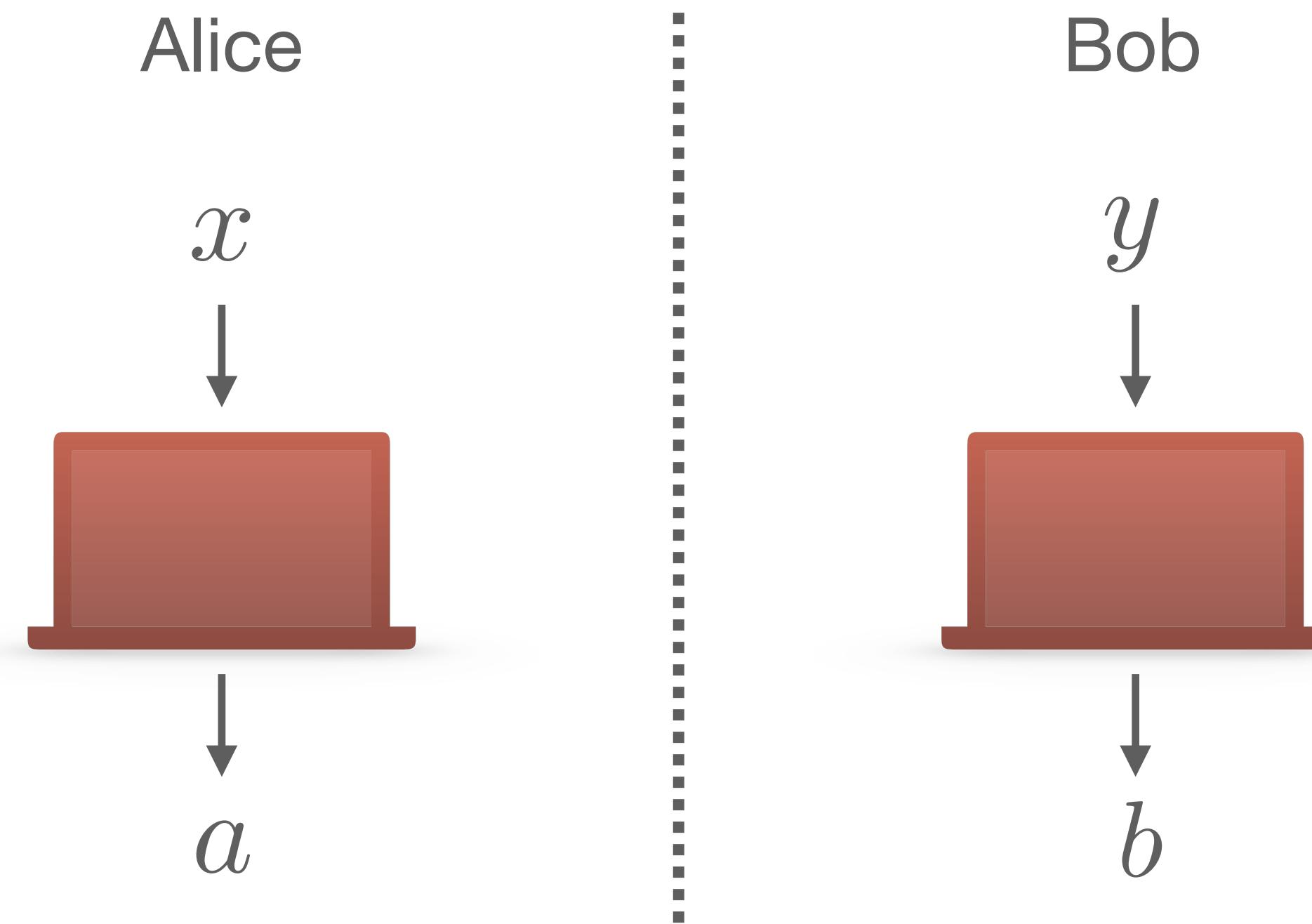
## CHSH Game:

|        |                          |                  |
|--------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Alice: | Input                    | $x \in \{0, 1\}$ |
|        | Output                   | $a \in \{0, 1\}$ |
| Bob:   | Input                    | $y \in \{0, 1\}$ |
|        | Output                   | $b \in \{0, 1\}$ |
| Win:   | $a \oplus b = x \cdot y$ |                  |

Shared randomness

- Best classical strategy: 75% winning probability  $p(ab|xy) = \sum_{\lambda} p(\lambda)p(a|x\lambda)p(b|y\lambda)$
- Best quantum strategy: ~85% winning probability  $|\Phi^+\rangle_{AB}$

# Non-Local Games



## CHSH Game:

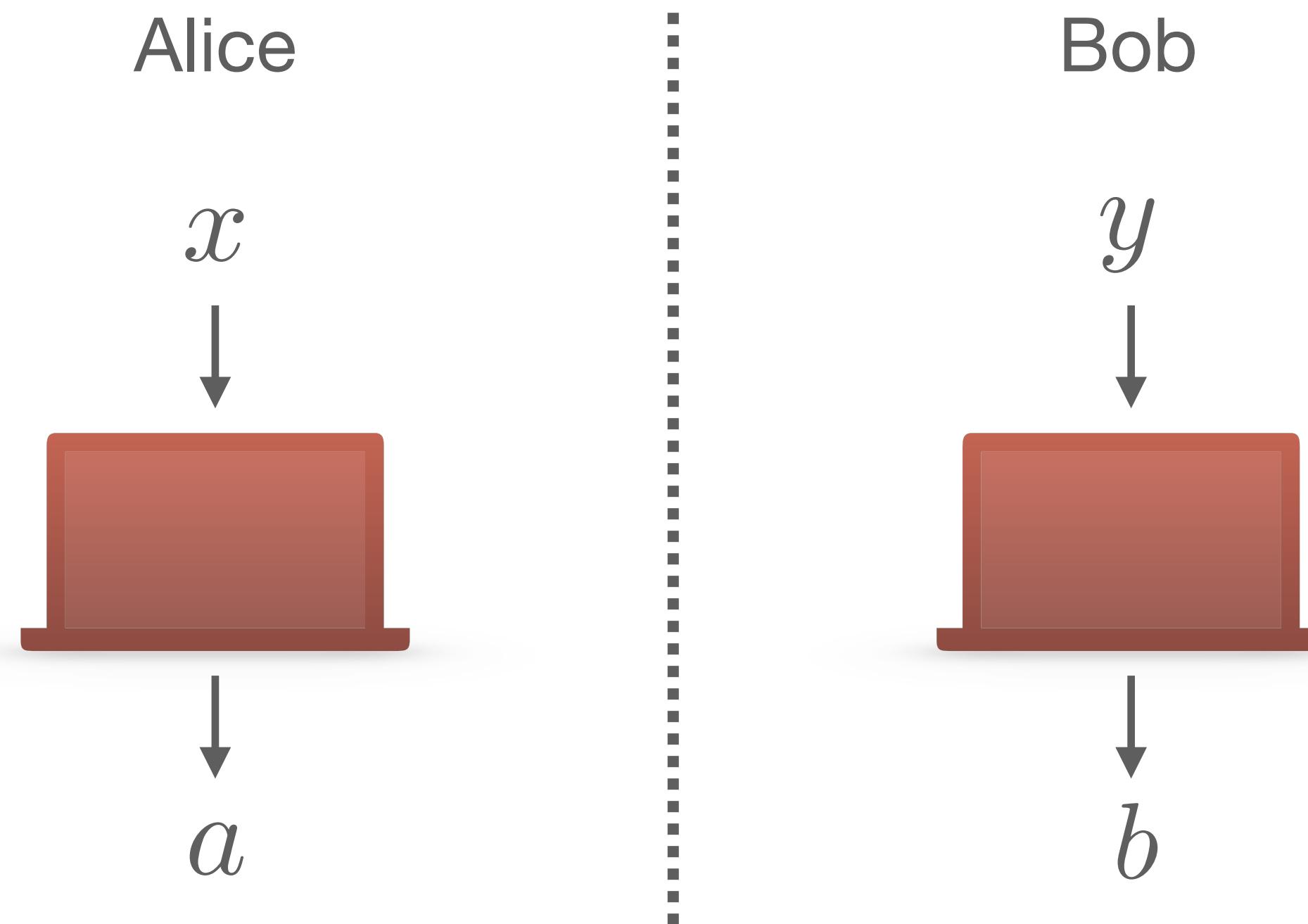
|        |                          |                  |
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| Win:   | $a \oplus b = x \cdot y$ |                  |

- ▶ Best classical strategy: 75% winning probability
- ▶ Best quantum strategy: ~85% winning probability

Quantum  
advantage

Cannot be simulated classically!

# Non-Local Games

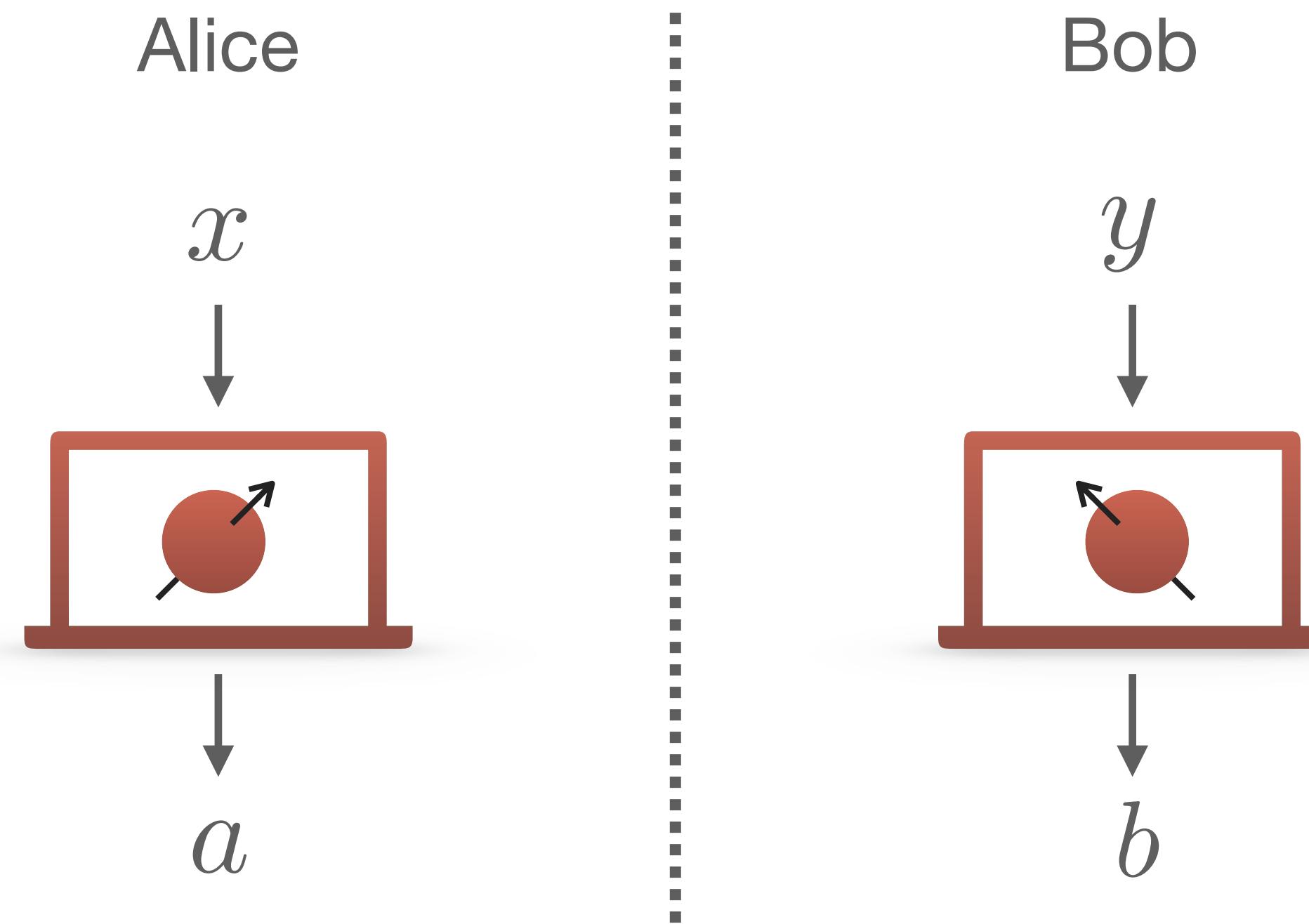


- ▶ Standard proof system:  
check if  $w \in L$

- ▶ Best classical strategy: 75% winning probability
- ▶ Best quantum strategy: ~85% winning probability

} Quantum advantage

# Non-Local Games



- ▶ Standard proof system:  
check if  $w \in L$
- ▶ Non-local game:  
check if the device is **quantum**
- ▶ In fact— a certification of the  
production of **entropy**
- ▶ Best classical strategy: 75% winning probability
- ▶ Best quantum strategy: ~85% winning probability

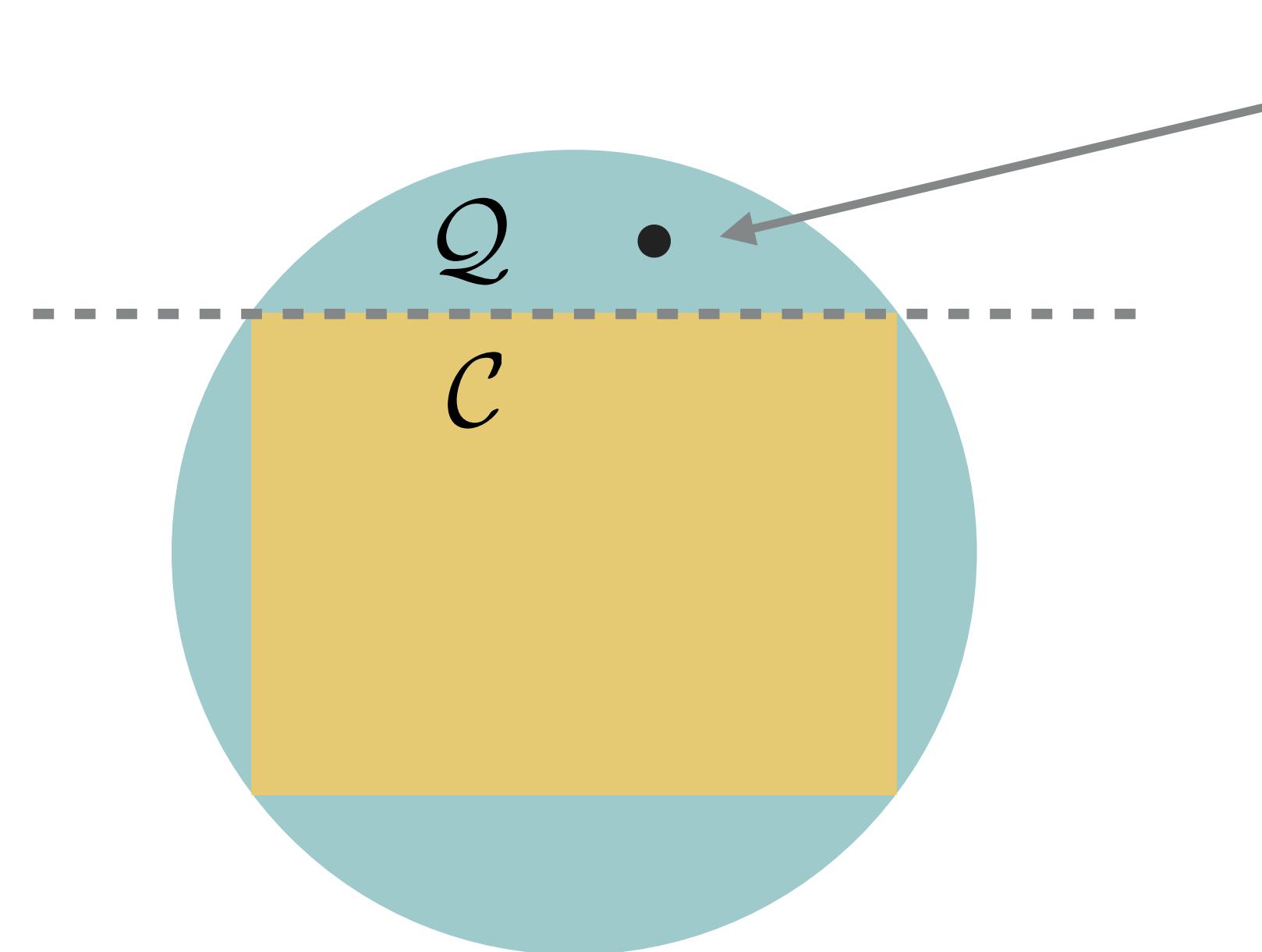
}

Quantum  
advantage

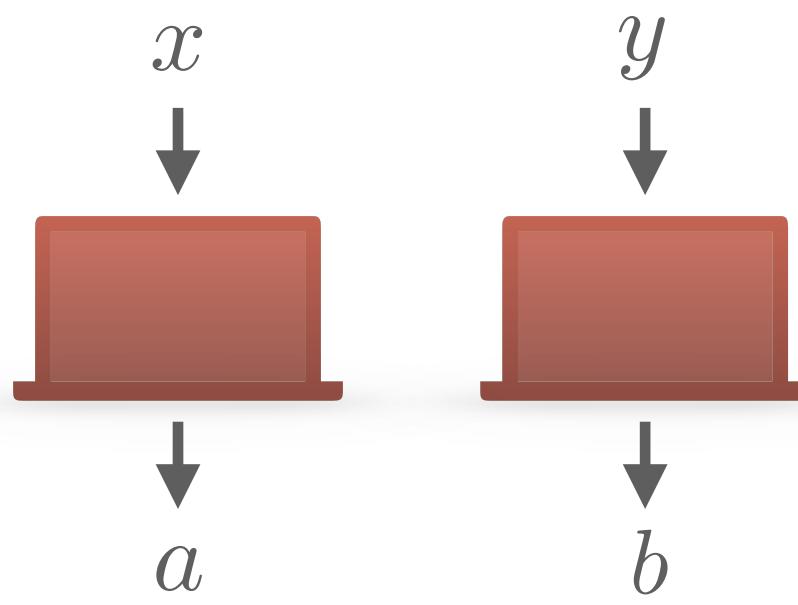
# Correlation Space

- ▶ The devices are described by a correlation  $p(ab|xy)$
- ▶ No assumption regarding the measurements/state/dimension
- ▶ Correlation space:

Non-local game  
(Bell inequality)



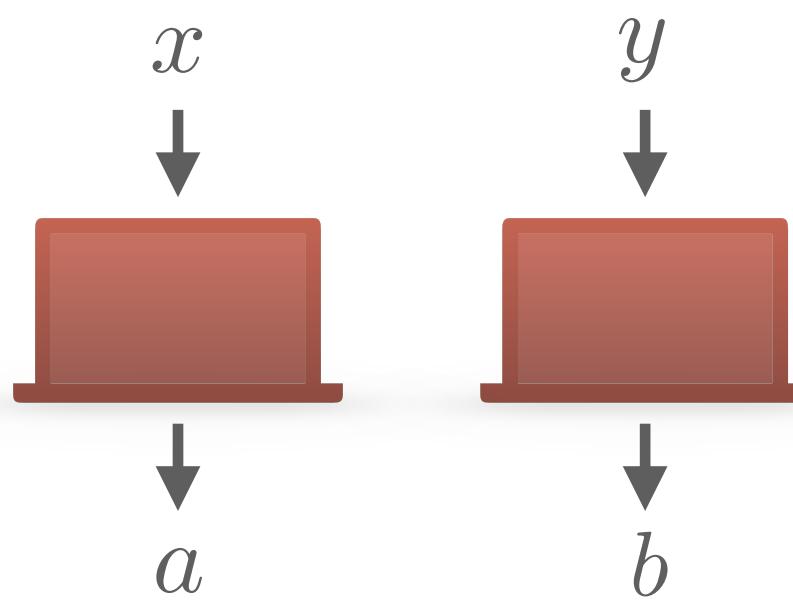
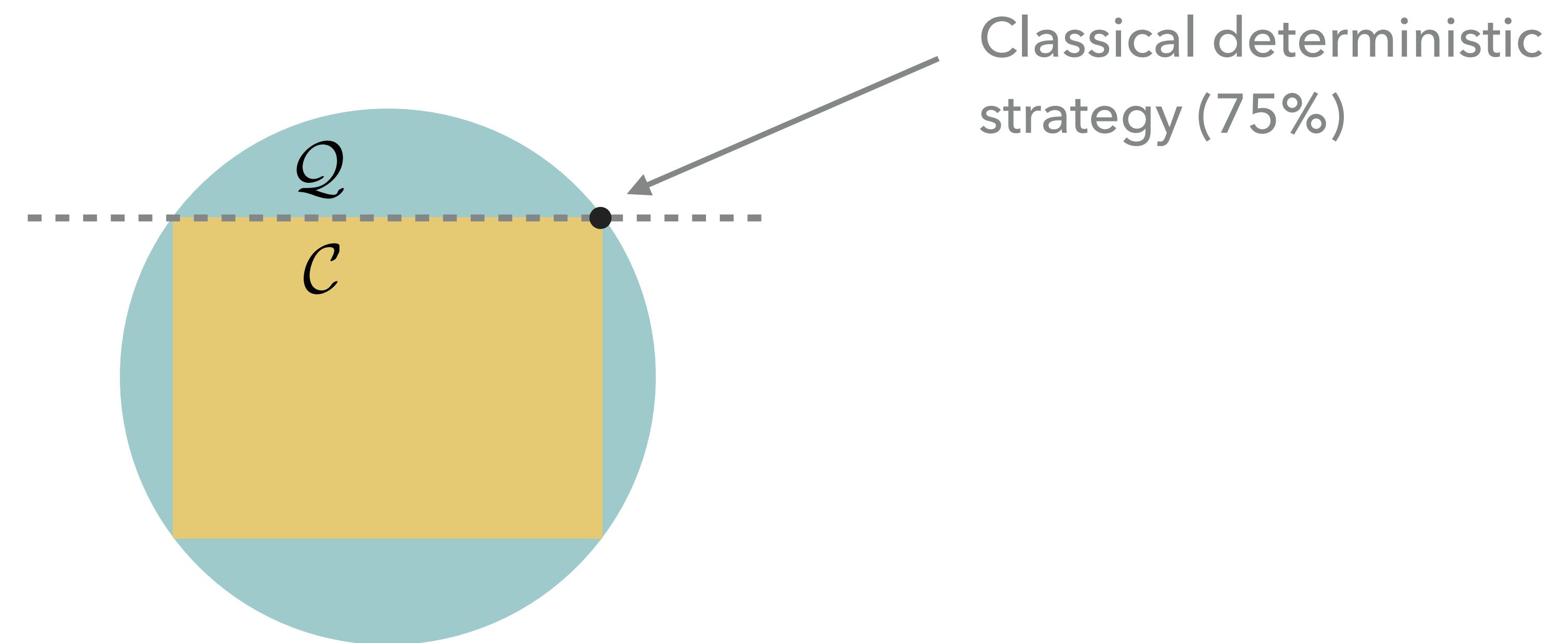
The membership in the quantum set problem is undecidable!



# Correlation Space

- ▶ The devices are described by a correlation  $p(ab|xy)$
- ▶ No assumption regarding the measurements/state/dimension
- ▶ Correlation space:

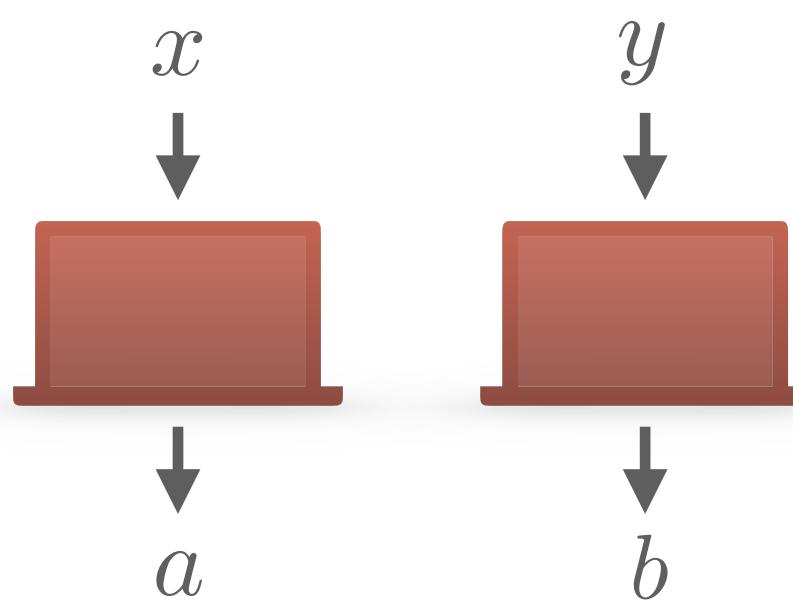
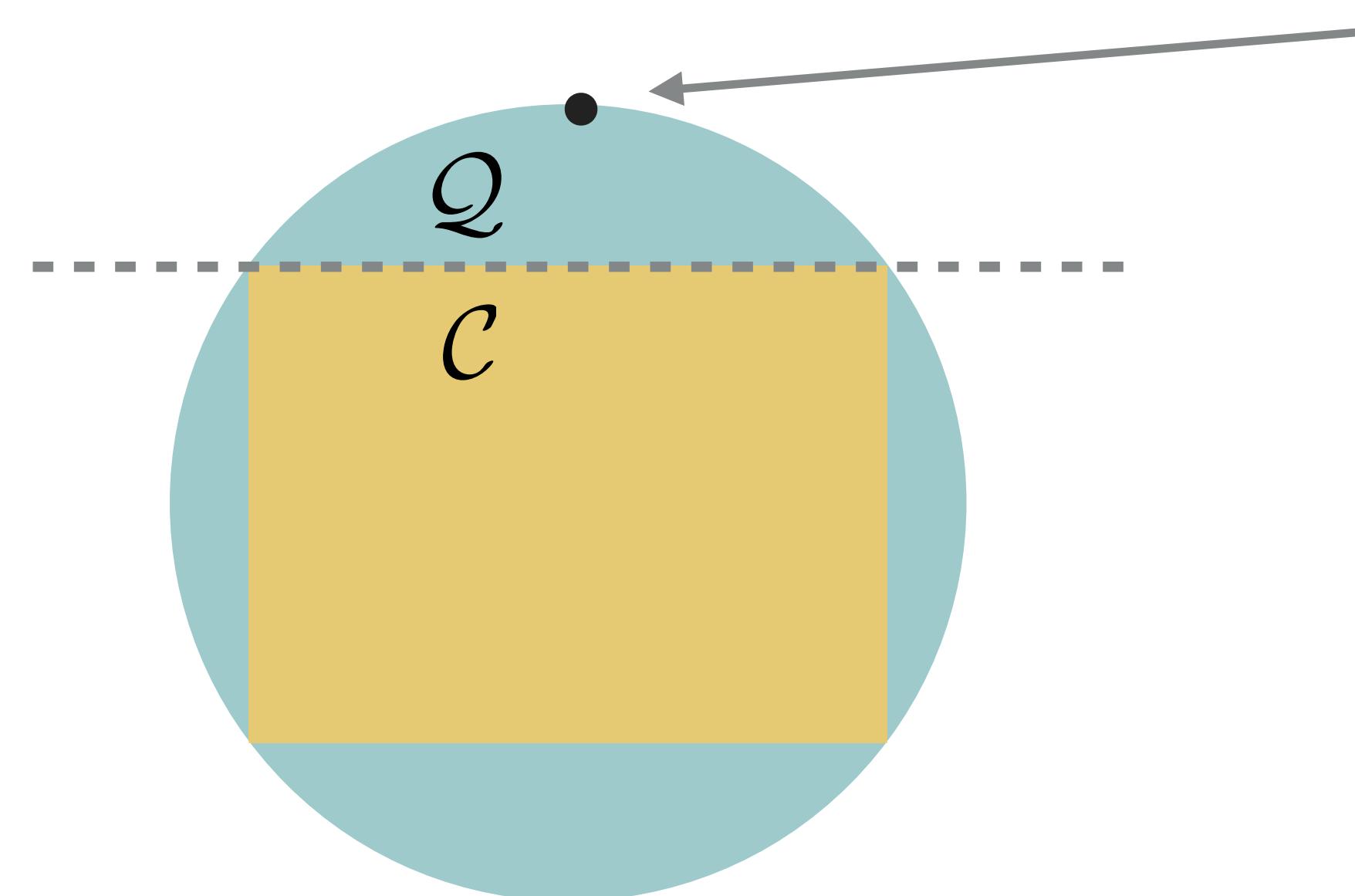
Non-local game  
(Bell inequality)



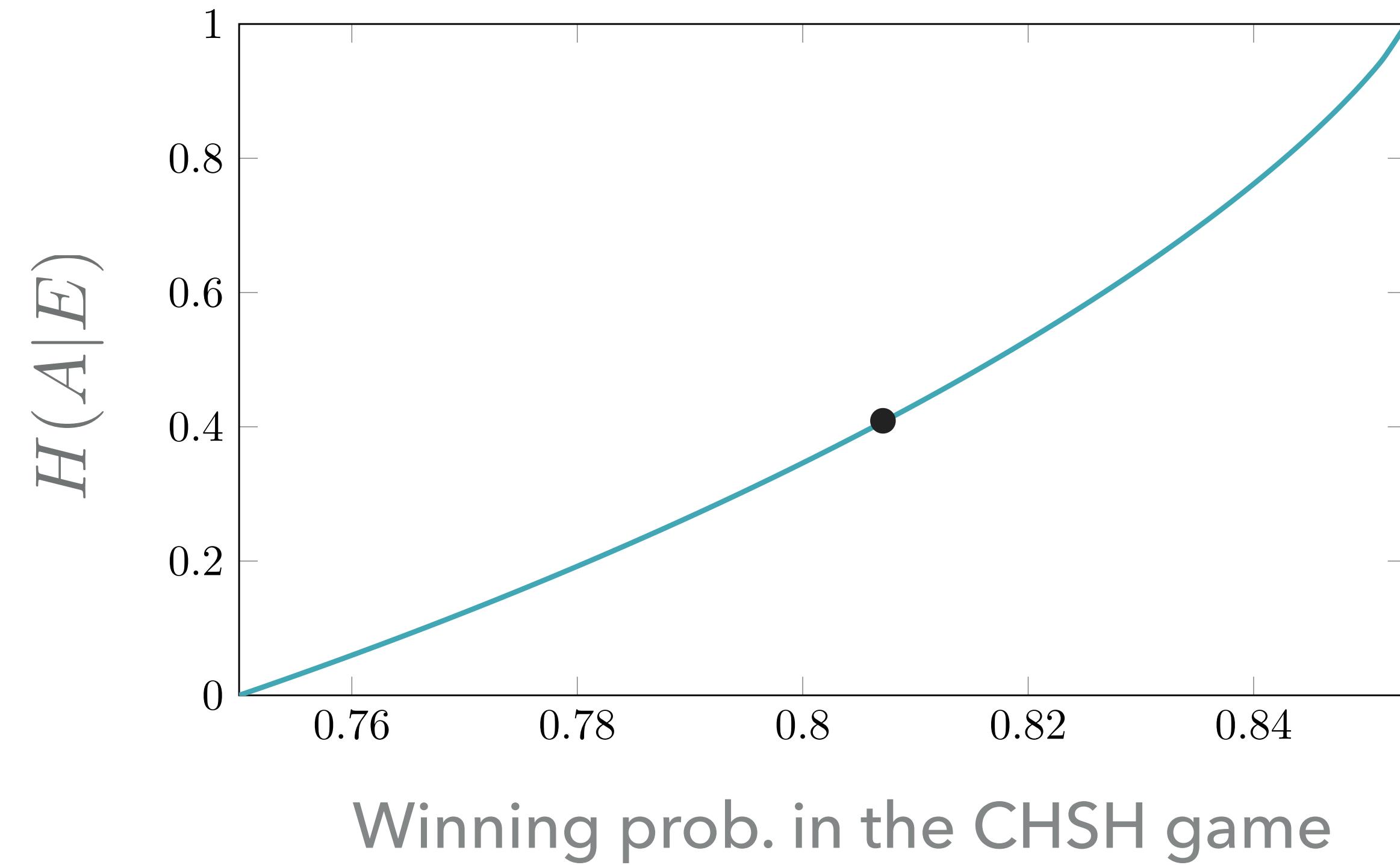
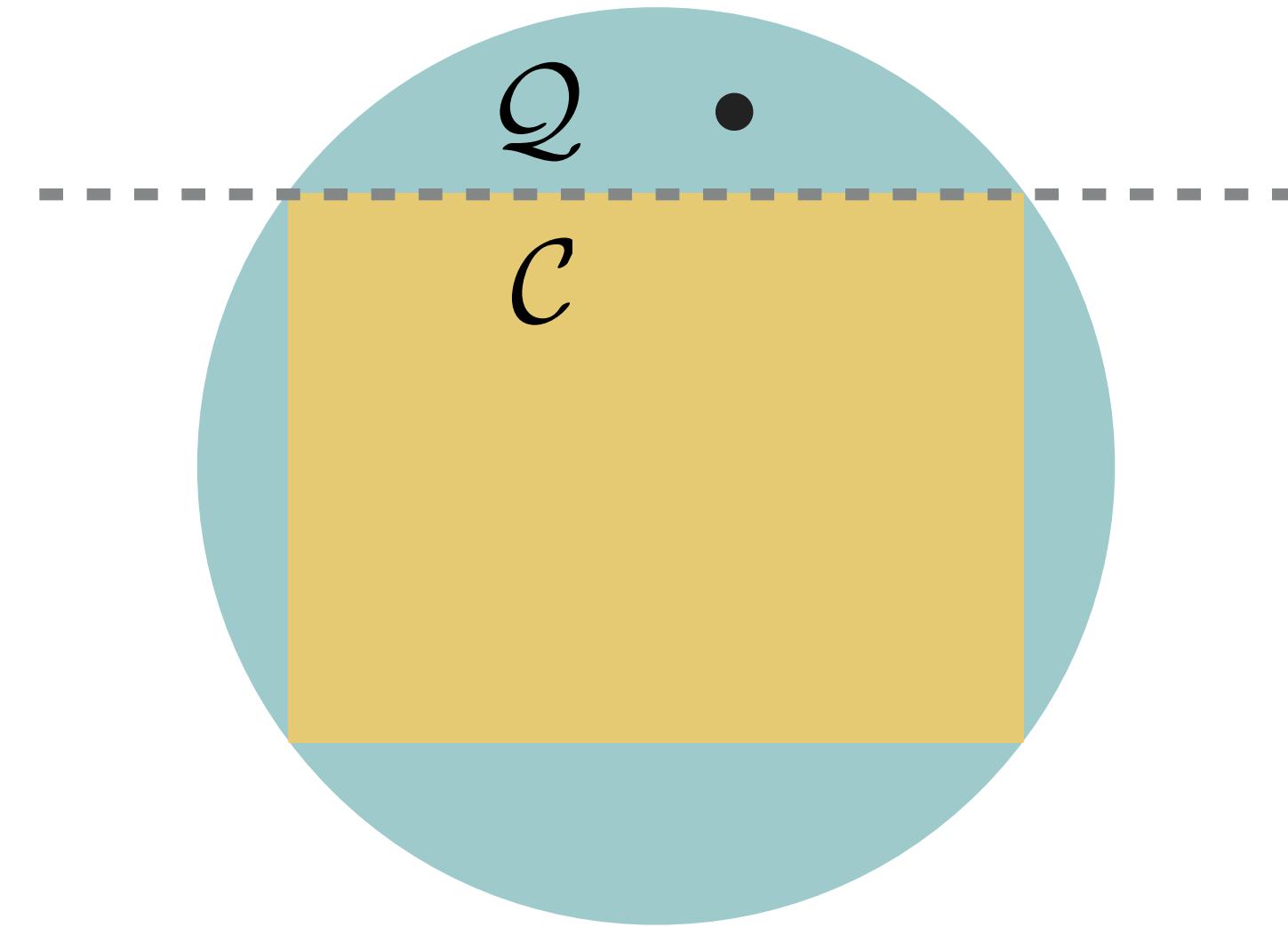
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Non-local game  
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# Certification of Entropy



## Questions?

- ▶ Take-home message: quantum physics allows us to bound Eve's knowledge using Alice and Bob's observed data

# DI Security Proof

---

1. Winning a non-local game

$$H(A|E) \geq f(\text{win prob.})$$



2. Entropy accumulation  
(Reduction to IID)

$$H_{\min}^{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{E})_{\rho} \geq nH(A|E)_{\sigma} - c_{\varepsilon}\sqrt{n}$$



3. Quantum-proof extractors

$$\|\rho_{\text{Ext}(A,S)SE} - \rho_{U_{\ell}} \otimes \rho_{SE}\| \leq \varepsilon$$



4. Secrecy

$$(1 - \Pr(\text{abort})) \|\rho_{K_A E} - \rho_{U_{\ell}} \otimes \rho_E\| \leq \varepsilon_{\text{sec}}$$



5. Security\*

(Secrecy + correctness + completeness)

## “Disclaimers”

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- ▶ This sequence of steps doesn't always work
- ▶ There are QKD protocols whose security we don't know how to prove
  - ▶ Among them protocols that are of high relevance in practice
- ▶ Looking for new protocols
  - ▶ **Two-way classical post-processing (“advantage distillation”)**
- ▶ Many “intermediate” models that we need to learn to analyze

# QKD Take-Home Messages



- ▶ In QKD everything goes quantum
- ▶ Composable security definitions (delicate!)
- ▶ Entropies (delicate!)
- ▶ Quantum-proof extractors (delicate!)
- ▶ The laws of quantum physics allow us to bound Eve's knowledge from the data that Alice and Bob observe during the execution of the protocol
- ▶ Quantitative bounds matter!

Thank you!