

# New Proof Methods for Attribute-Based Encryption: Achieving Full Security through Selective Techniques

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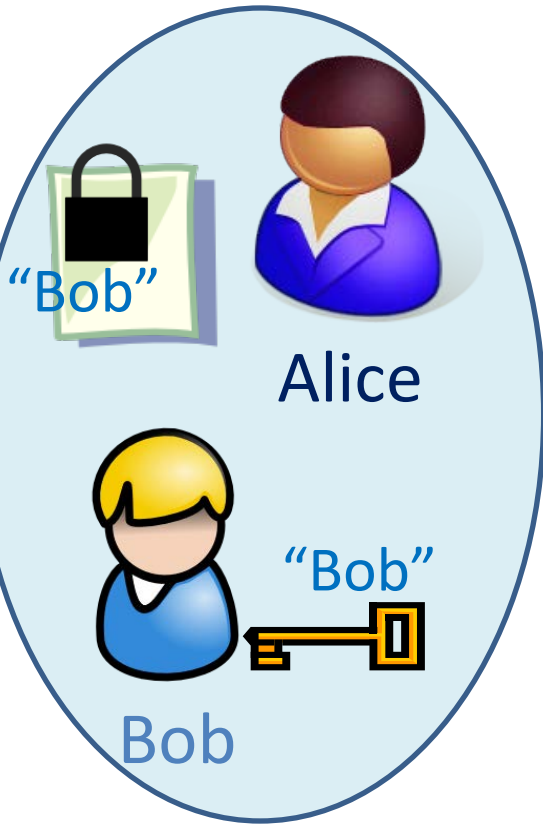
Microsoft  
**Research**

Brent Waters

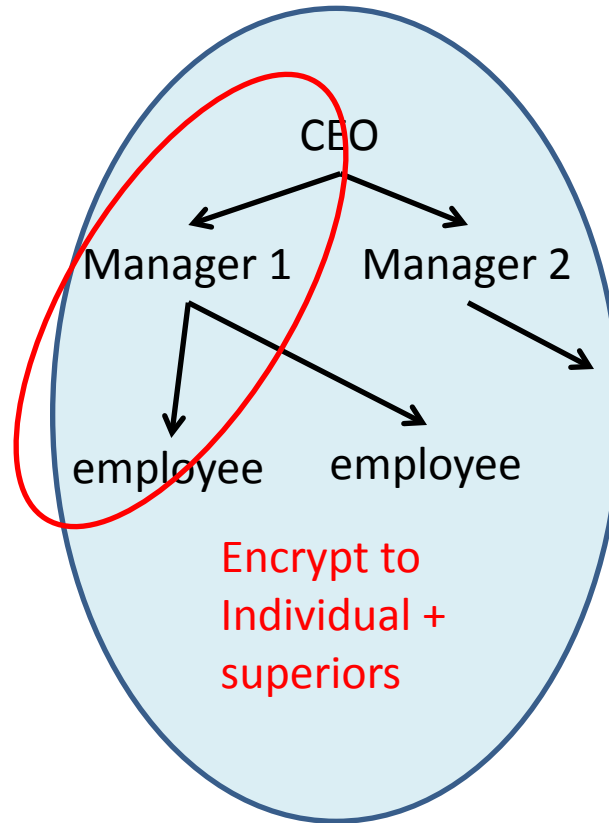
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# Roots of Attribute-Based Encryption

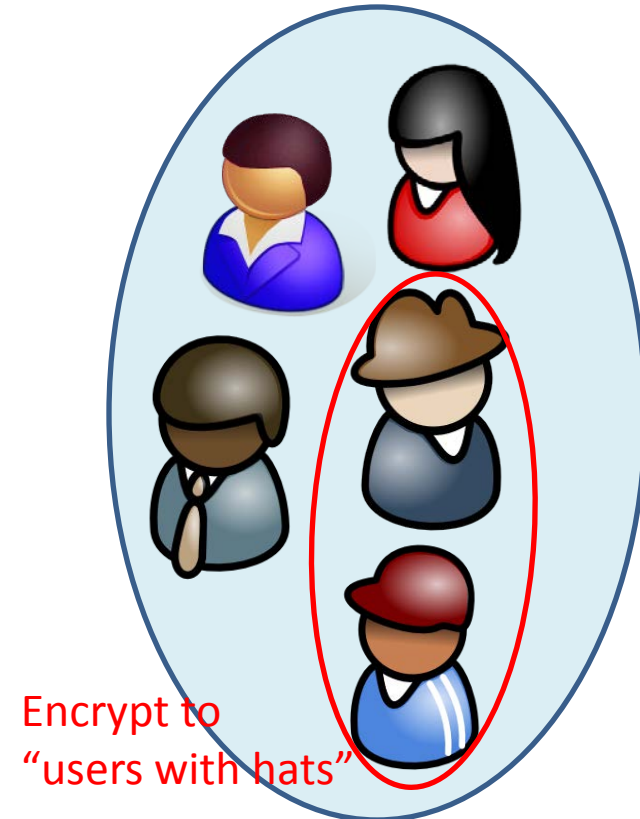
*Moving beyond Public Key Encryption:*



Identity-based  
Encryption [S84,BF01,C01]



Hierarchical  
Identity-based  
Encryption [HL02,GS02]



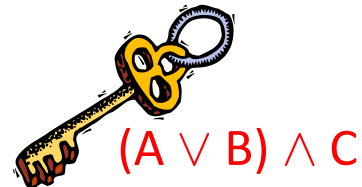
Attribute-based  
Encryption [SW05]

# Two Kinds of ABE

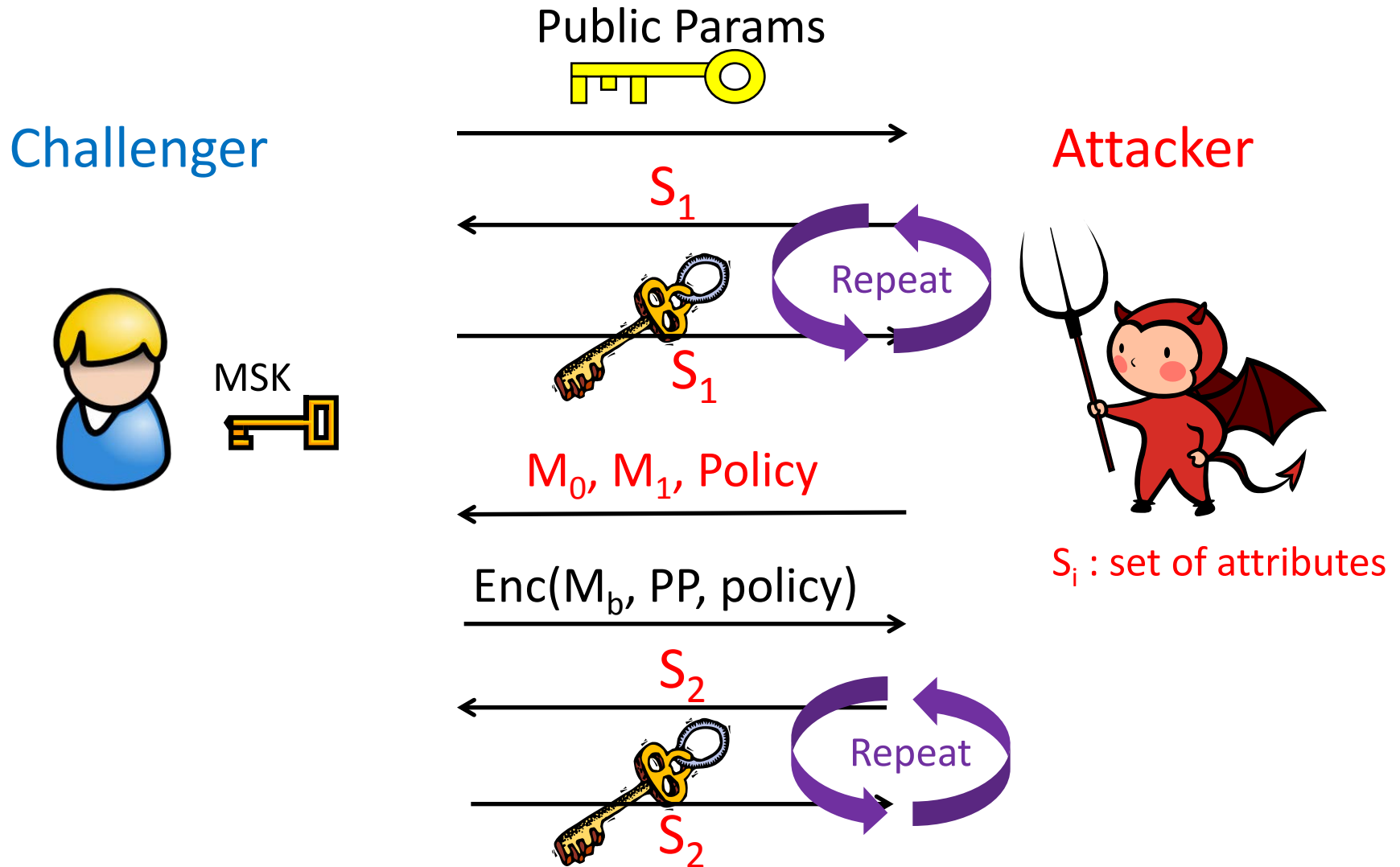
Ciphertext Policy ABE:



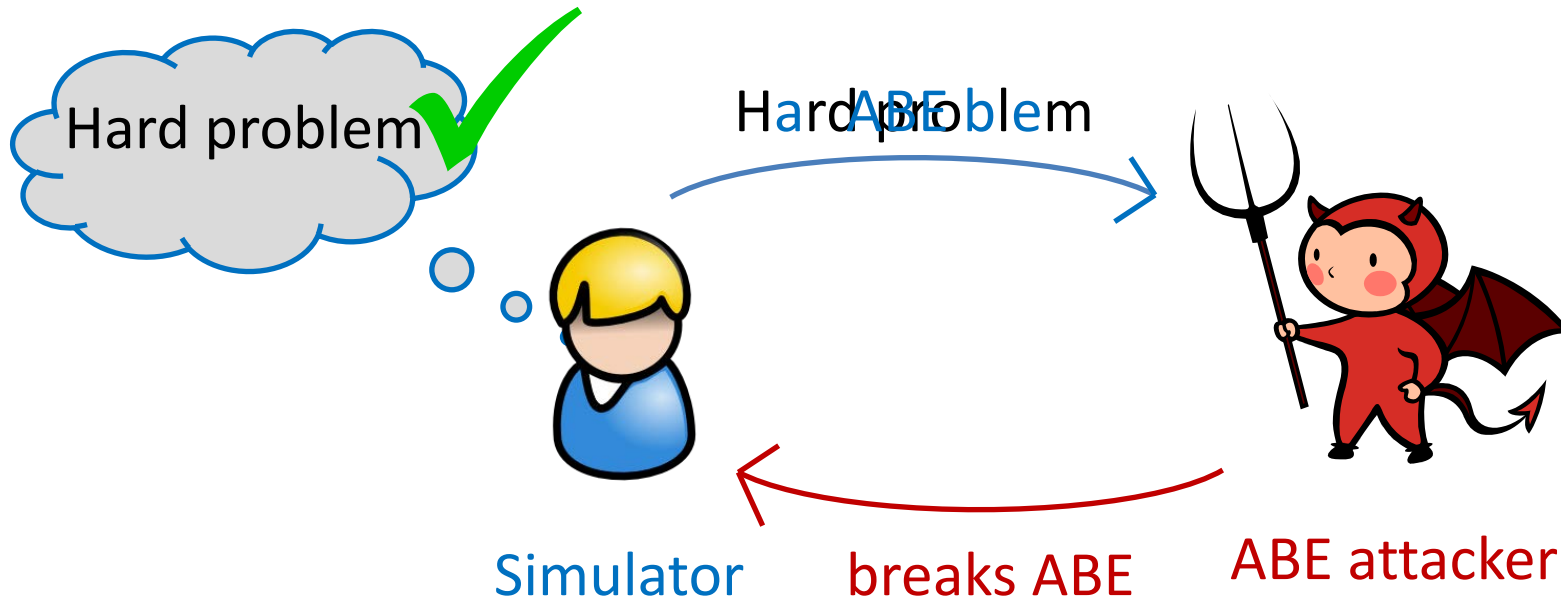
Key Policy ABE:



# Security Goal for ABE



# Proof Challenges



Challenge: simulator must:

- respond to key requests
- leverage attacker's success on challenge

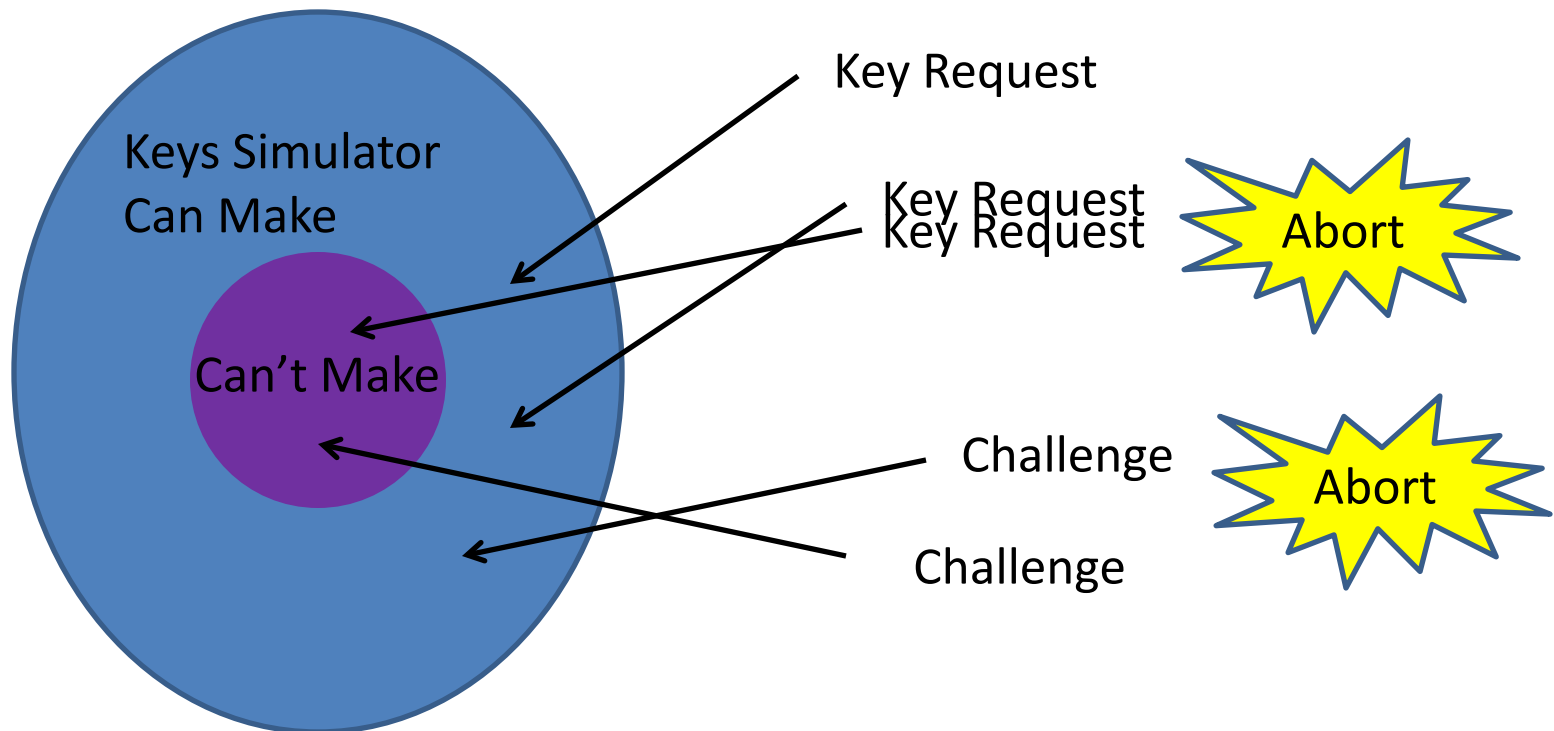


# Partitioning Proofs

Previous approach – Partitioning [BF01, BB04, W05, GPSW06]

Key Space

We Need:



# Problem: Why Should Attacker Respect the Partition?

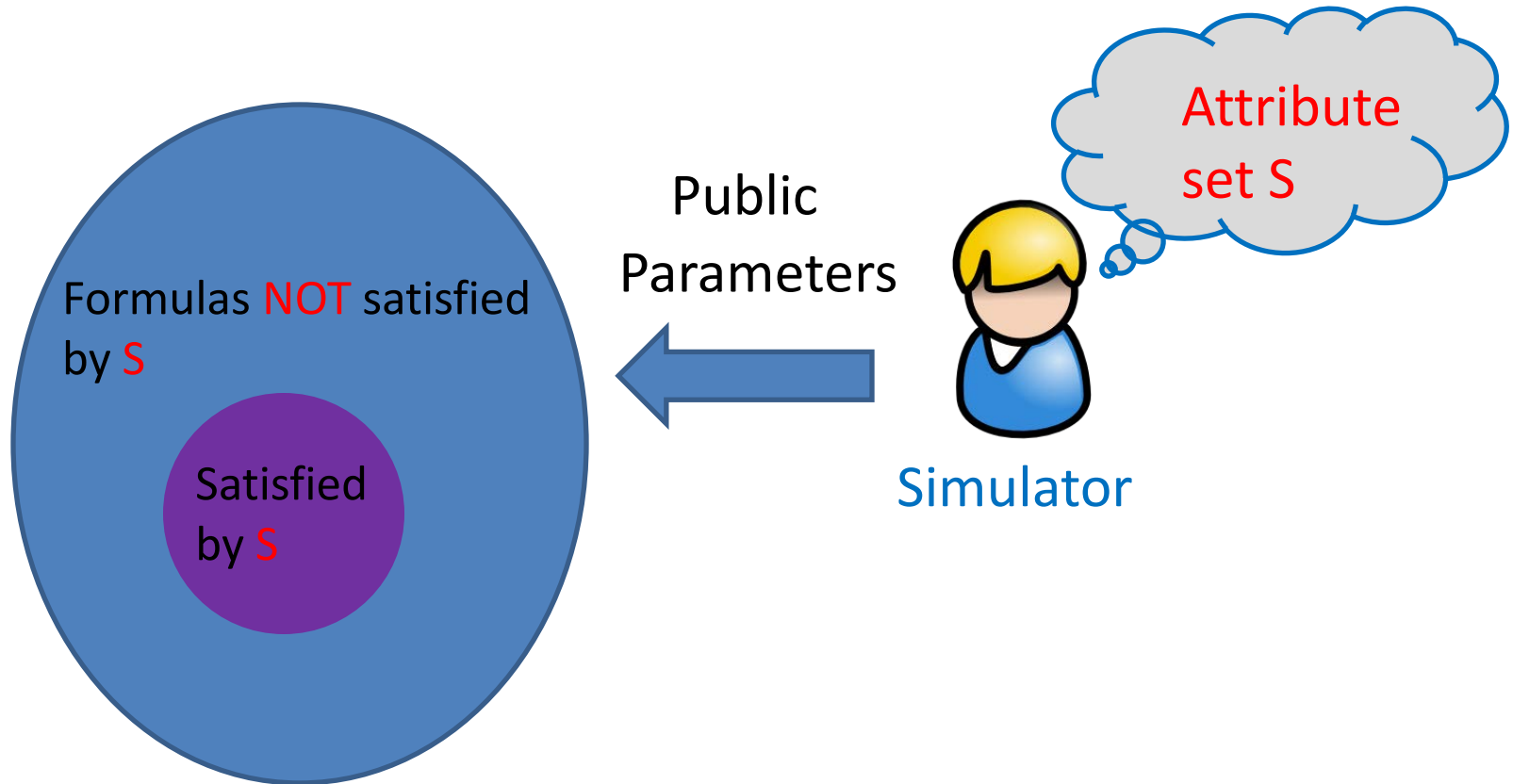
*Two Approaches:*

- 1. Make Attacker Commit  
(weaker) selective security*
- 2. Guess and quit when wrong*



# Selectively Secure ABE [GPSW06, W11]

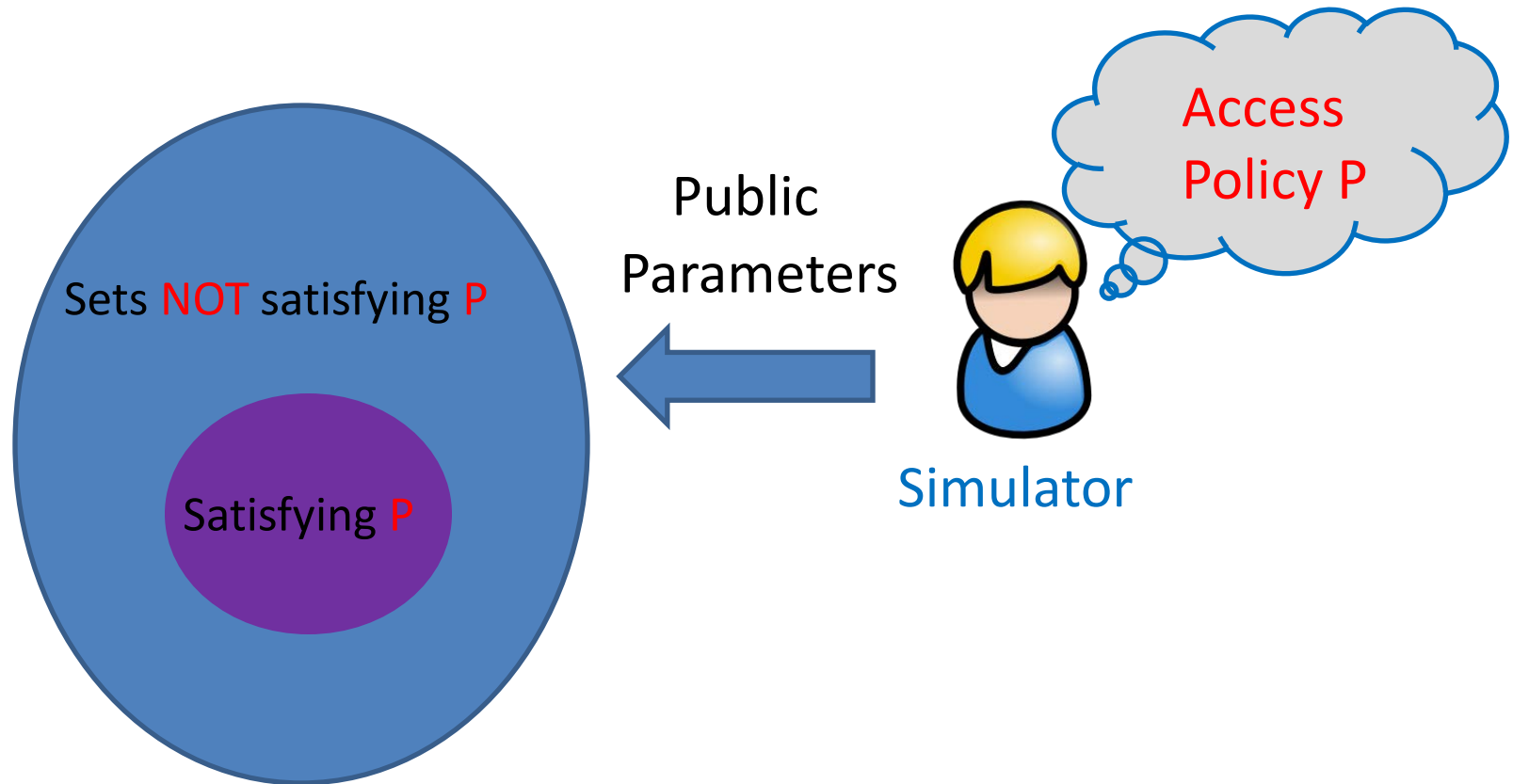
Selectively Secure KP-ABE [GPSW06]:





# Selectively Secure ABE [GPSW06, W11]

Selectively Secure CP-ABE [W11]:



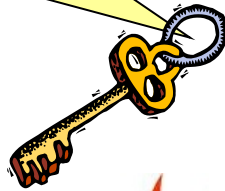
# Dual System Encryption [w09]

Used in real system

Normal



Normal



Semi-Functional



✓	✓
✓	💣

# A Dual System Encryption Proof

Reliability Argument:



Hardest step previously done  
With info-theoretic argument  
- Efficiency drawbacks



Regardless of  
Compatibility!

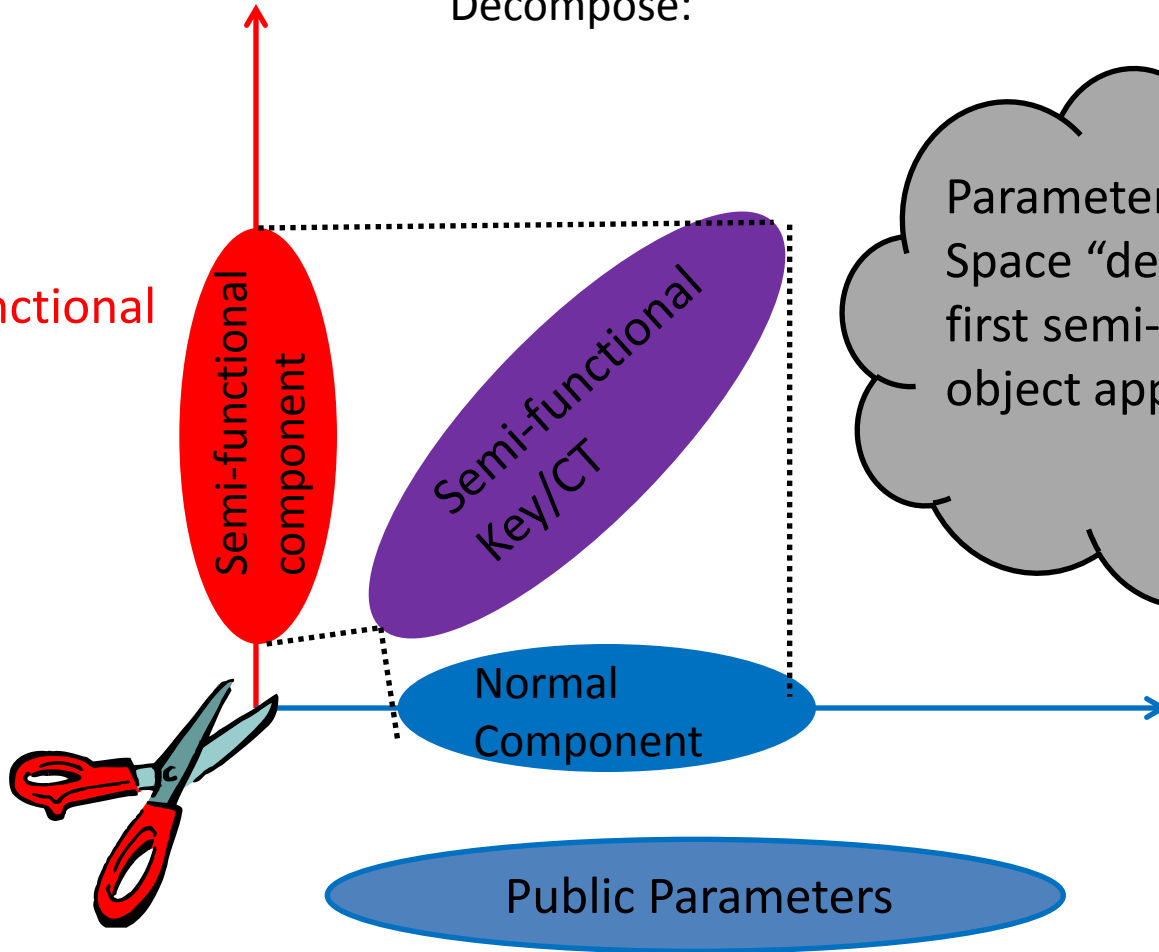
Incompatibility of key/CT  $\longrightarrow$  High probability decryption failure

Decryption failure  $\longrightarrow$  Message independent CT

# Dual System Encryption Reimagined

Decompose:

Semi-functional  
Space

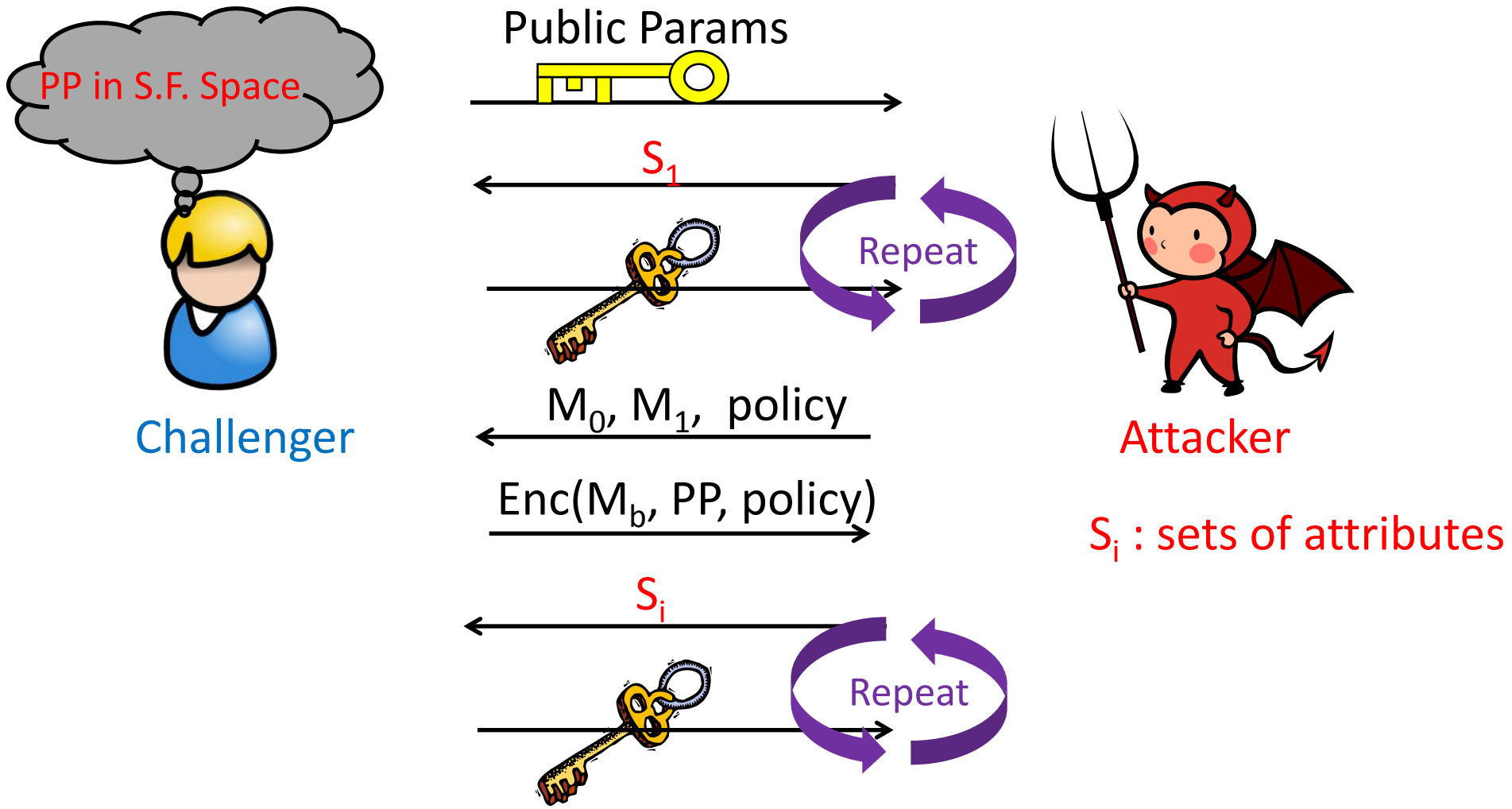


Parameters in S.F.  
Space "delayed" until  
first semi-functional  
object appears!

Separated from PP

Normal Space

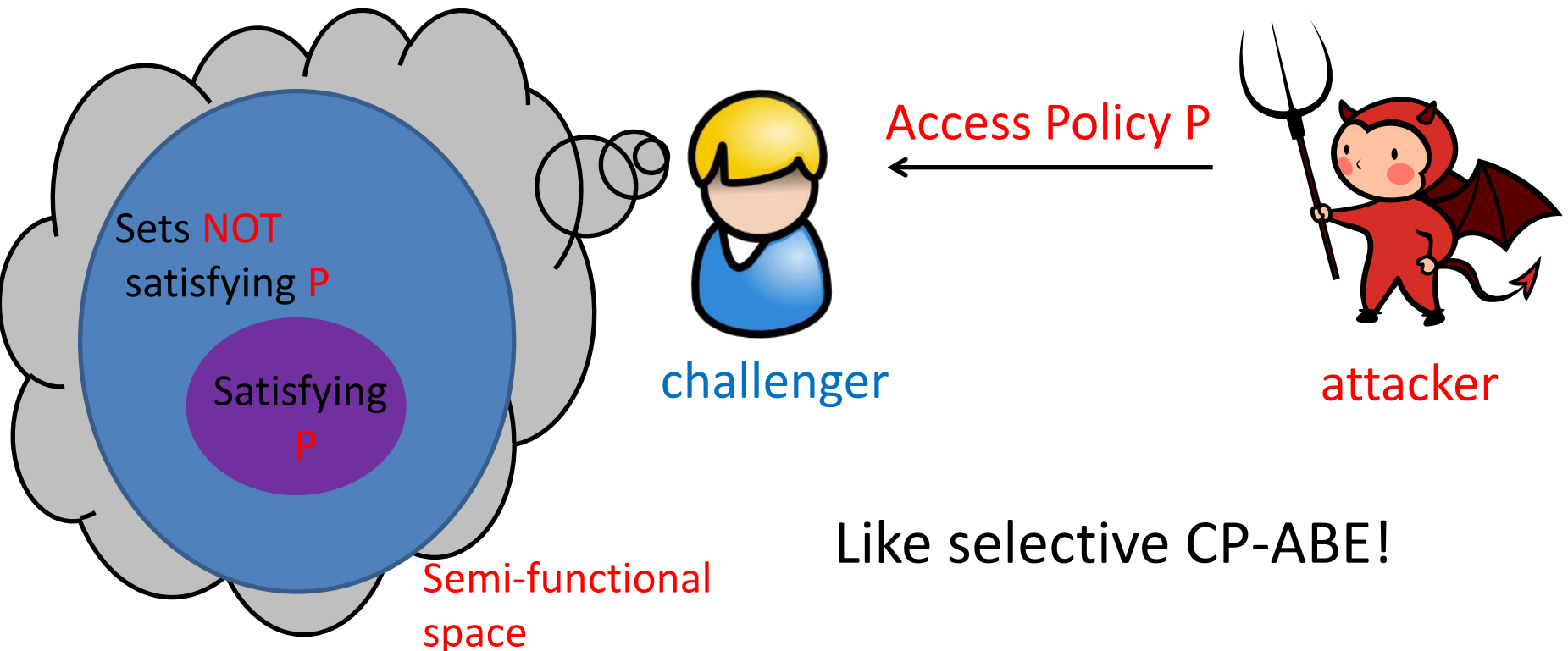
# The Security Game in S.F. Space



# Dividing the Proof: Two Cases

Thought experiment: consider attacker requesting one key  
(generalize to many keys via hybrid argument)

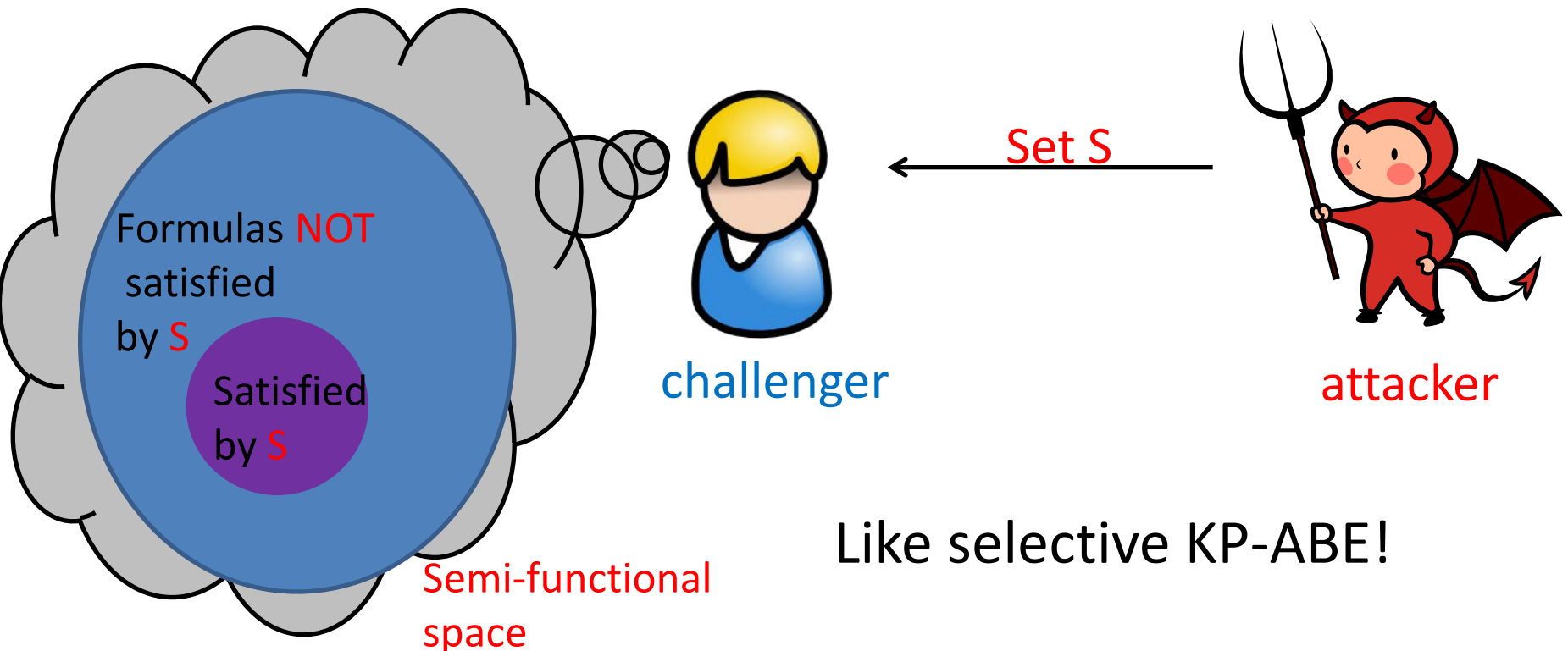
Case 1: CT request comes before key



# Dividing the Proof: Two Cases

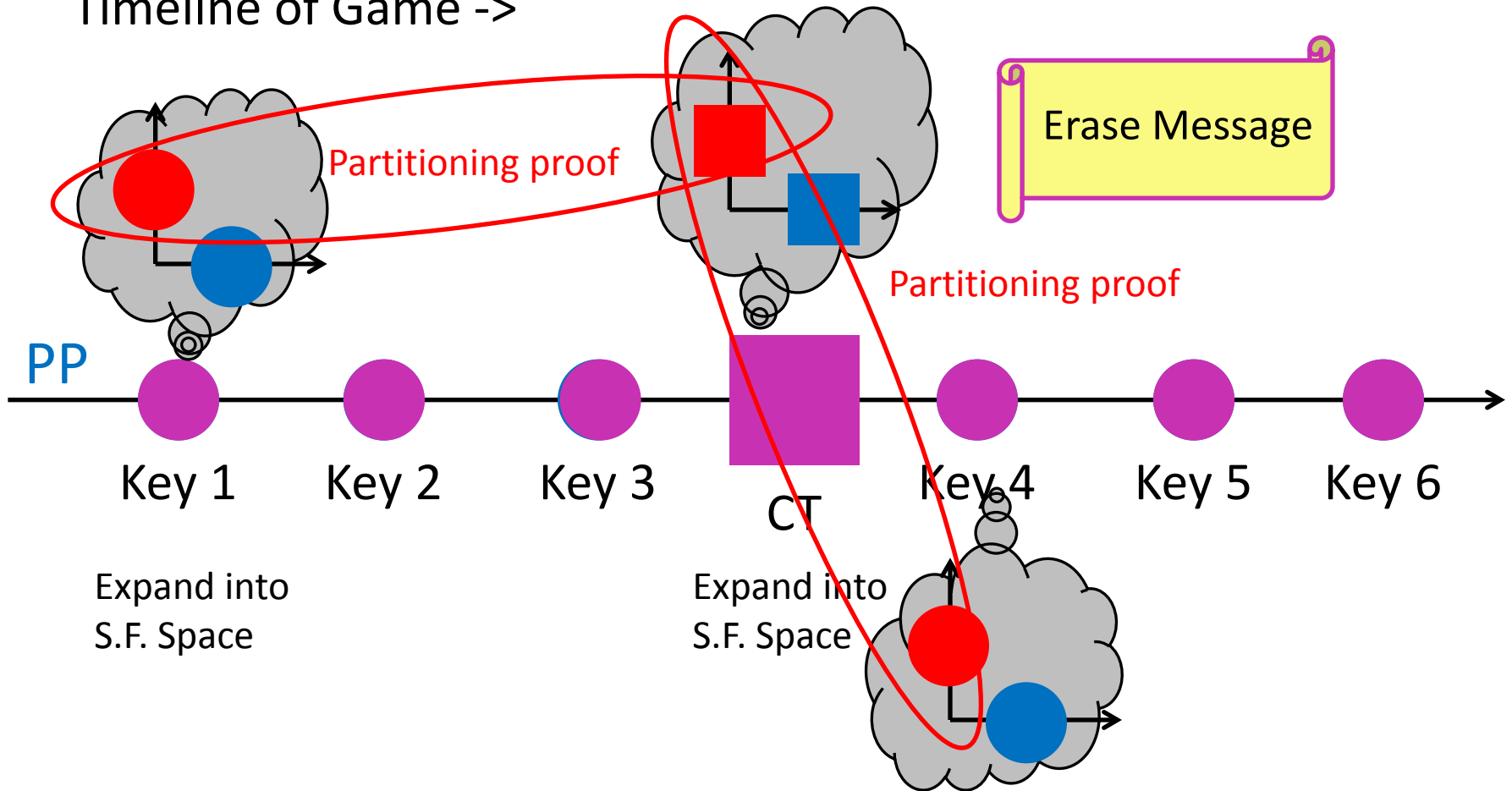
Thought experiment: consider attacker requesting one key  
(generalize to many keys via hybrid argument)

Case 2: key request comes before CT



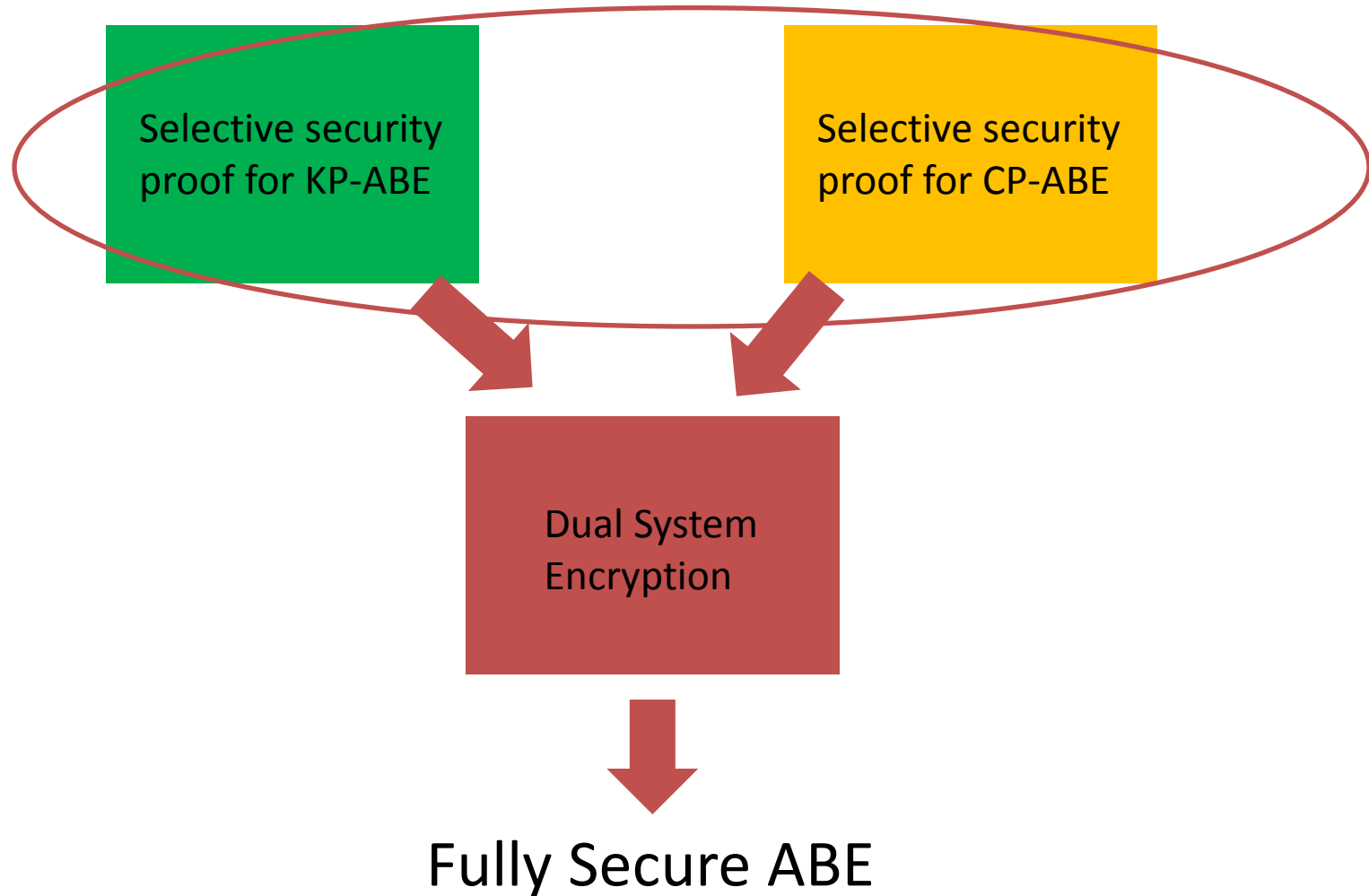
# Proof Schematic

Timeline of Game ->





# Summary of Techniques



# Open Problems

- Selectively secure CP-ABE from a non-“q-type” assumption
- ABE for more general policies (ideally, circuits)
  - Progress to be reported later in this session

# Thanks for your attention!

Questions?

