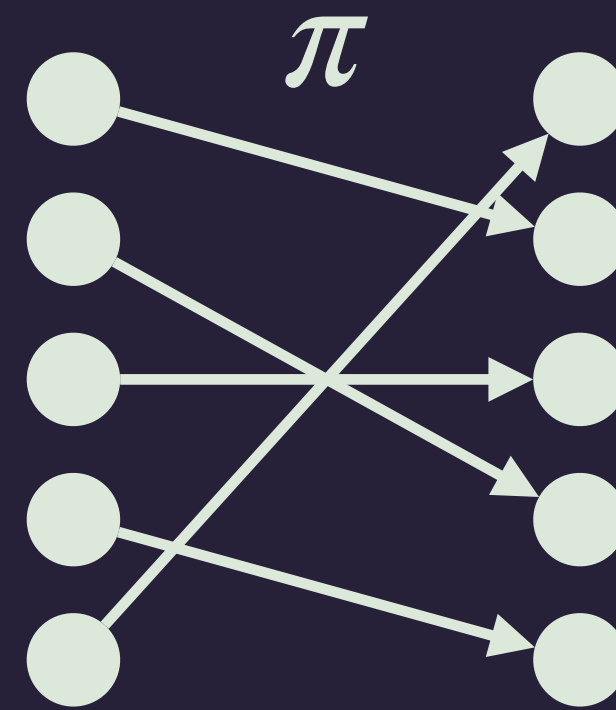


CRYPTO 2026 | AUGUST 19, 2026



Linear-time Shuffling With Malicious Security

begone selective failure attacks!

Rohit Nema (Stanford)

joint work with



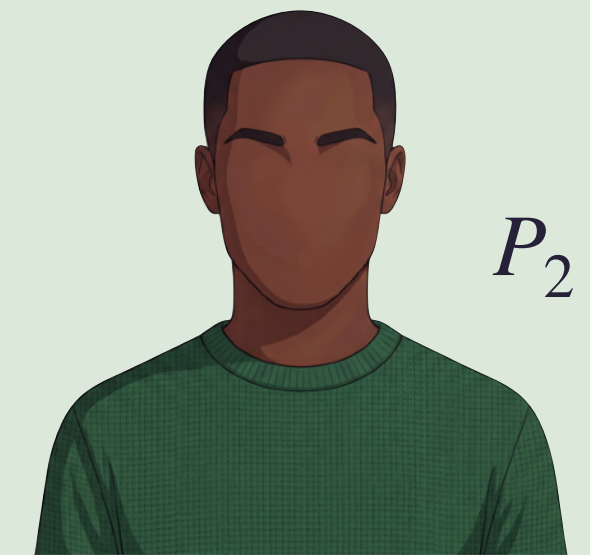
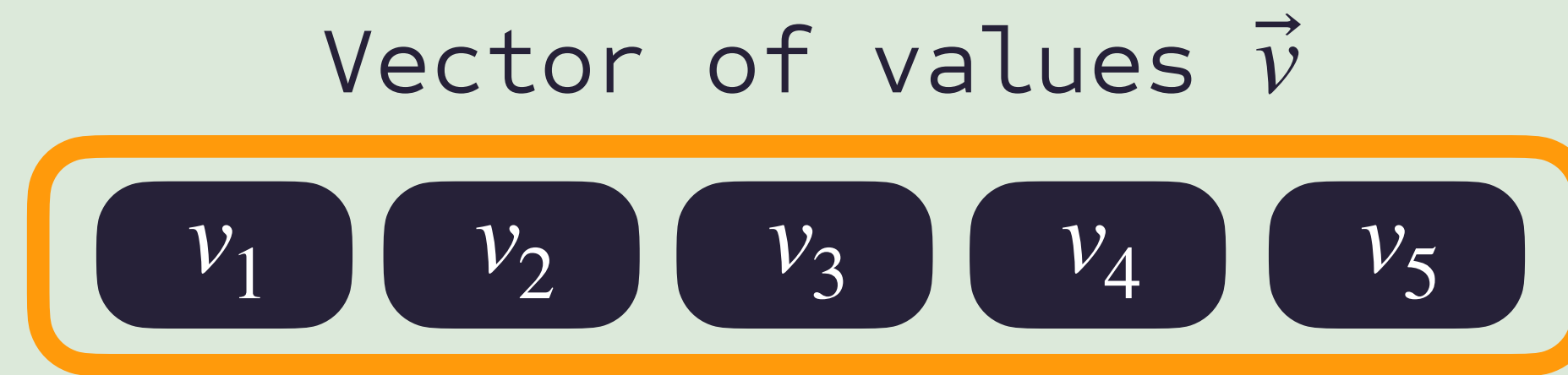
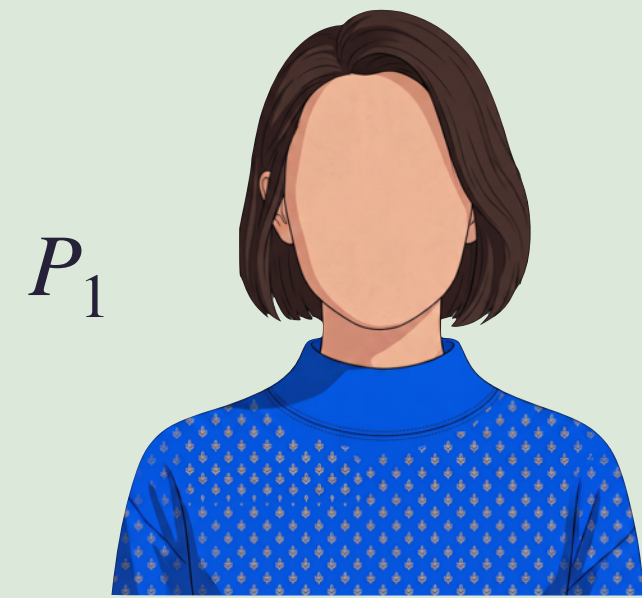
Samuel Dittmer
(Stealth Software Technologies)



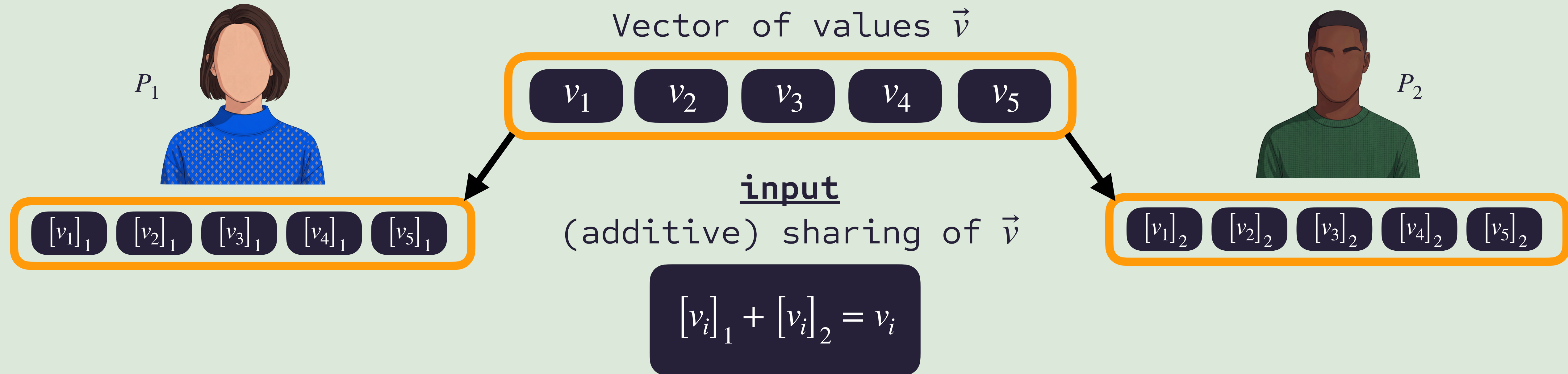
Rafail Ostrovsky
(UCLA)

Paper: ia.cr/2025/2137

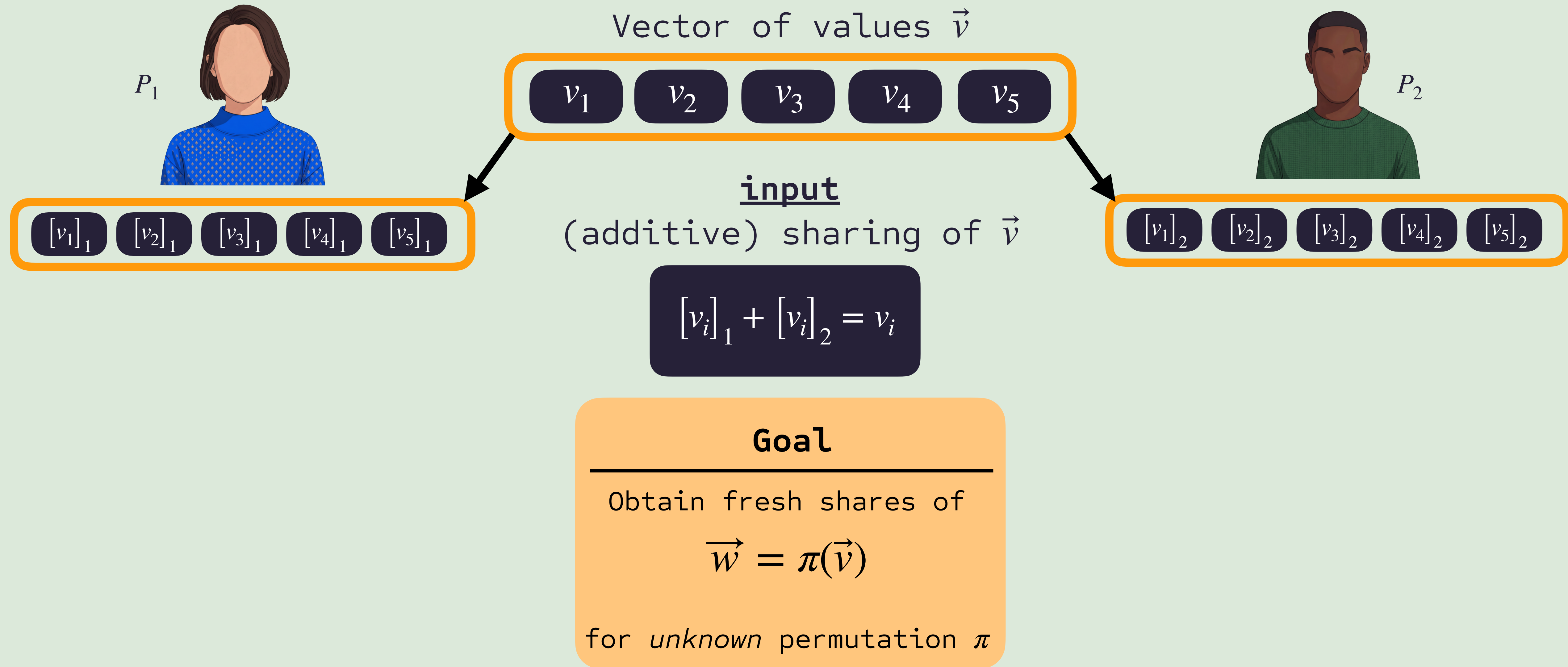
The Problem: Shuffling Secret-shared Values



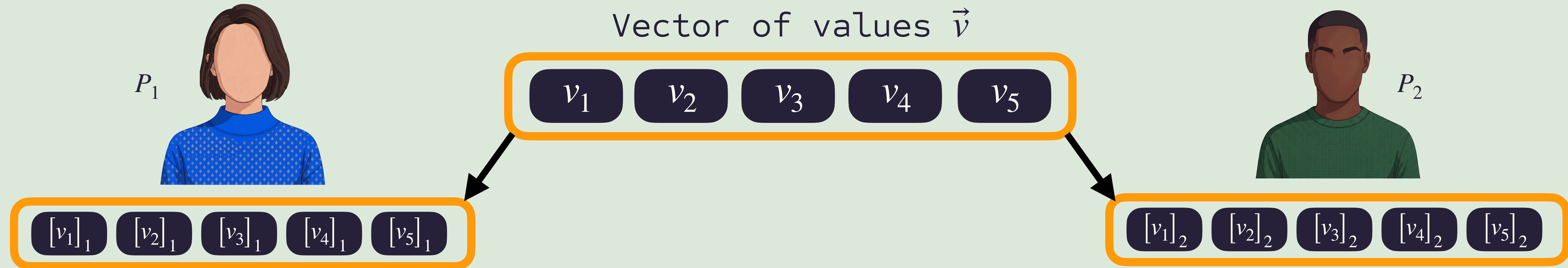
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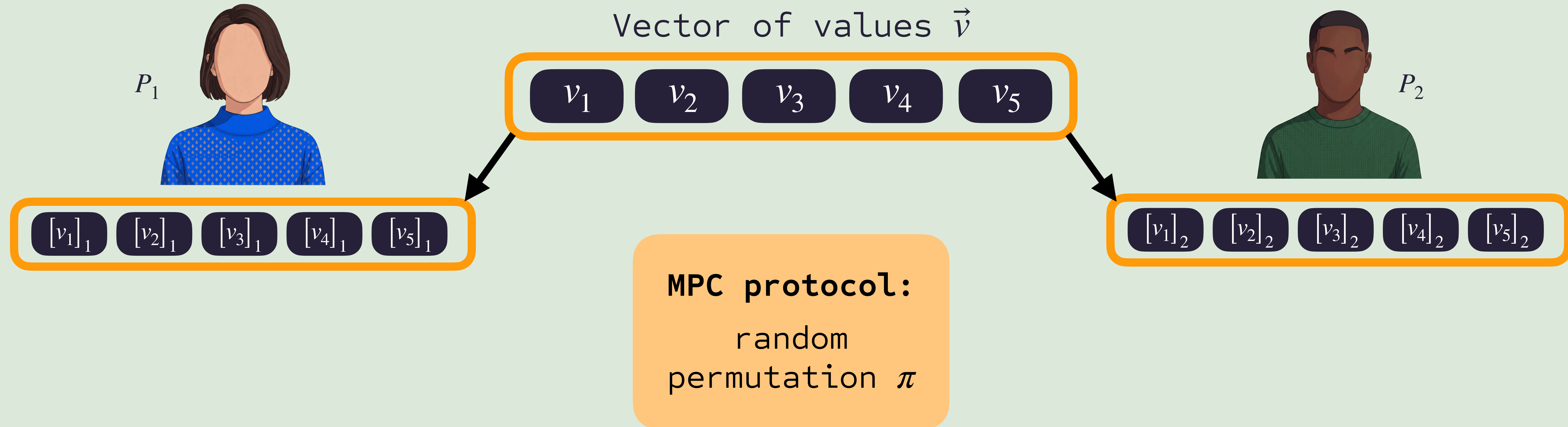
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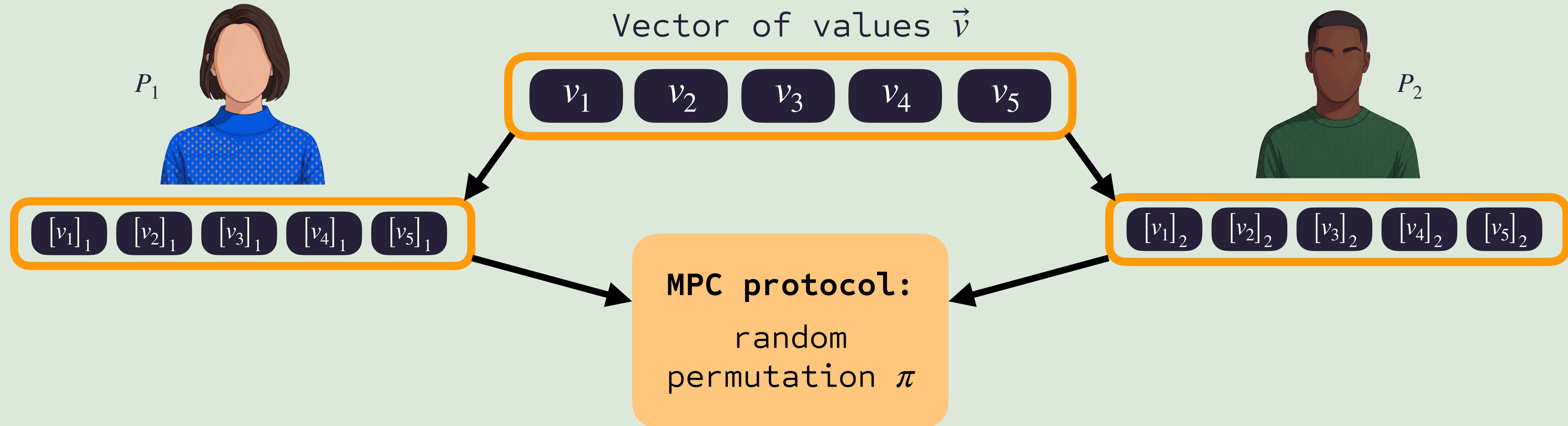
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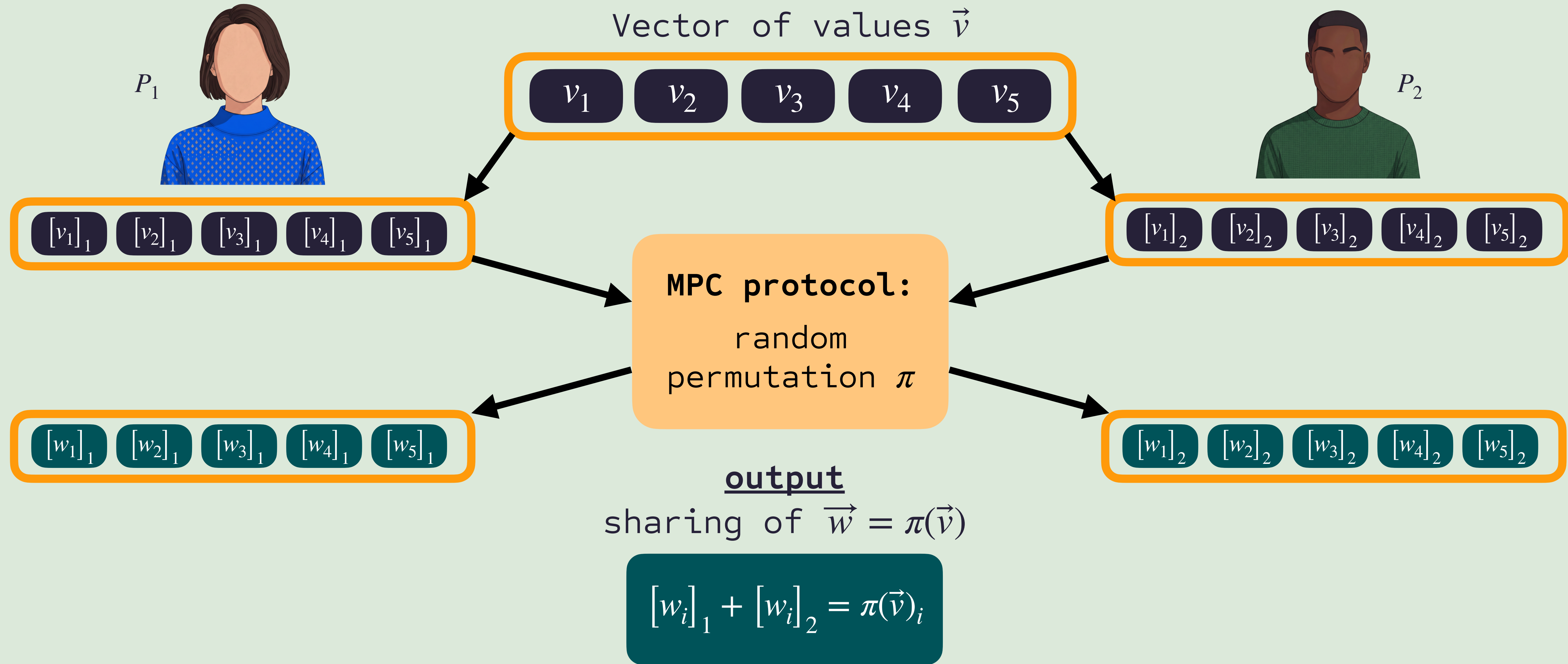
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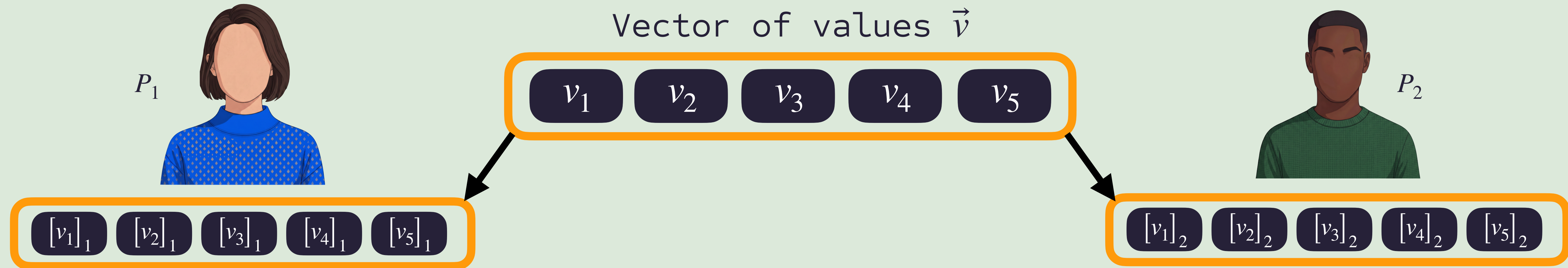
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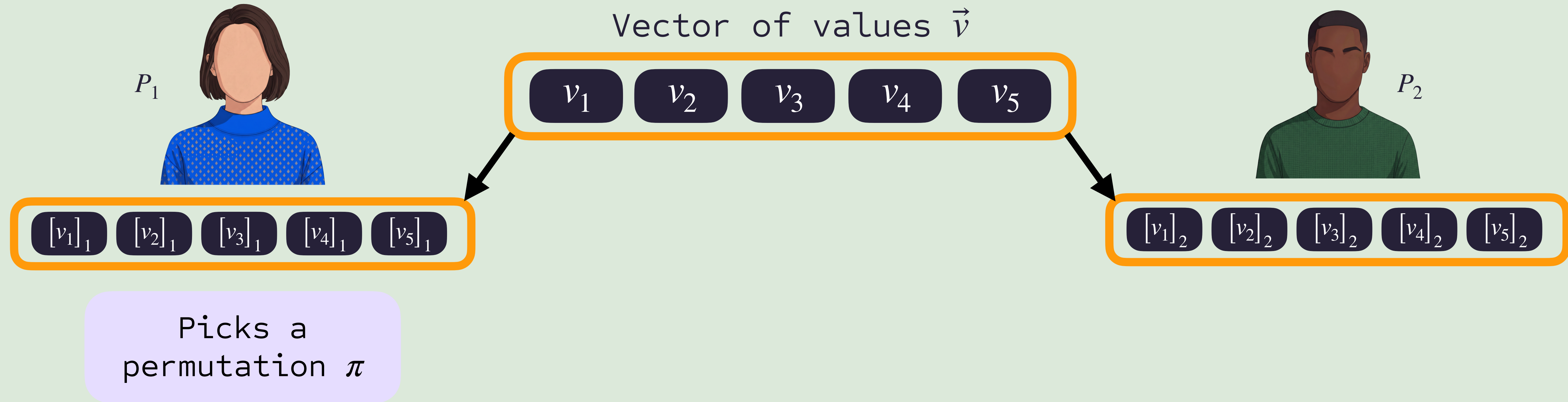
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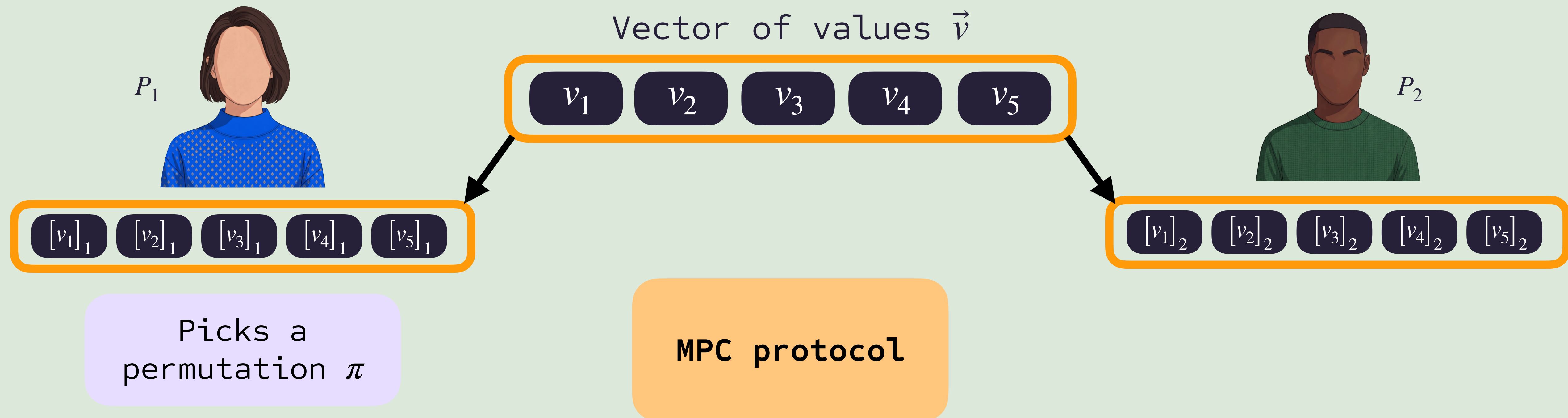
Relaxation: “Half” Shuffle



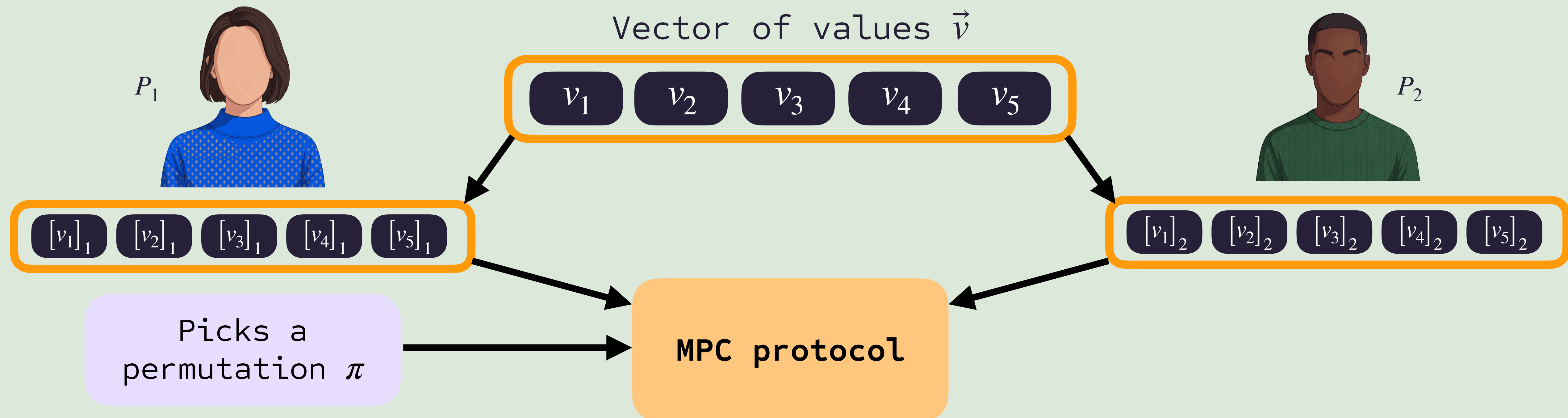
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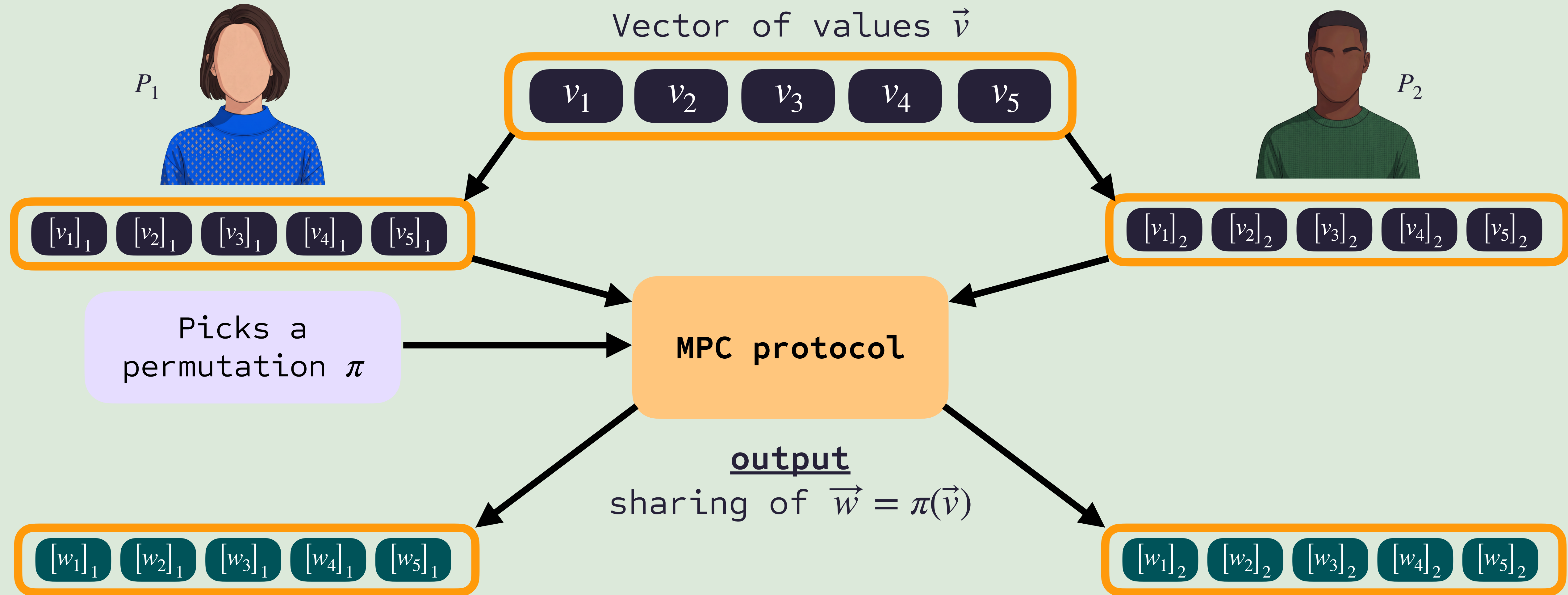
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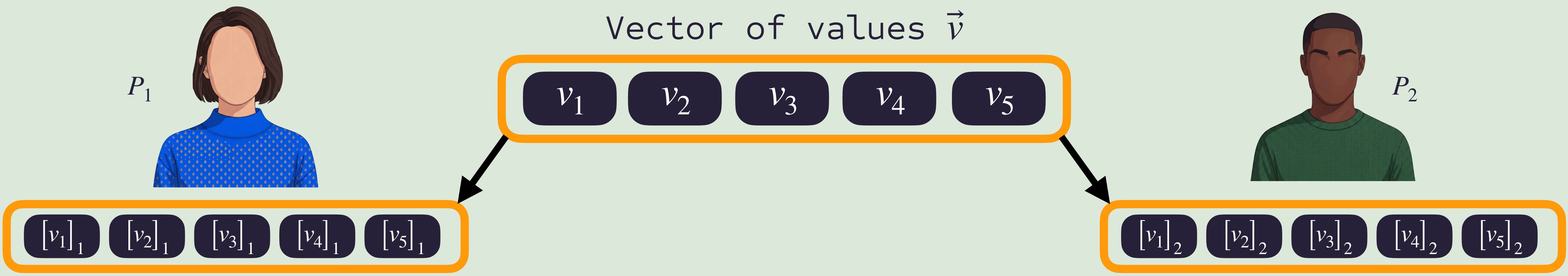
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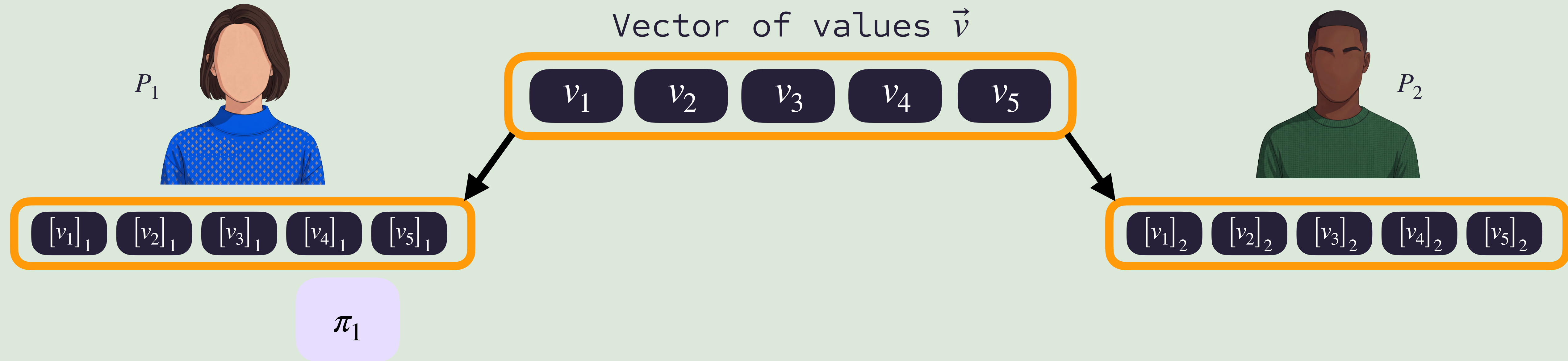
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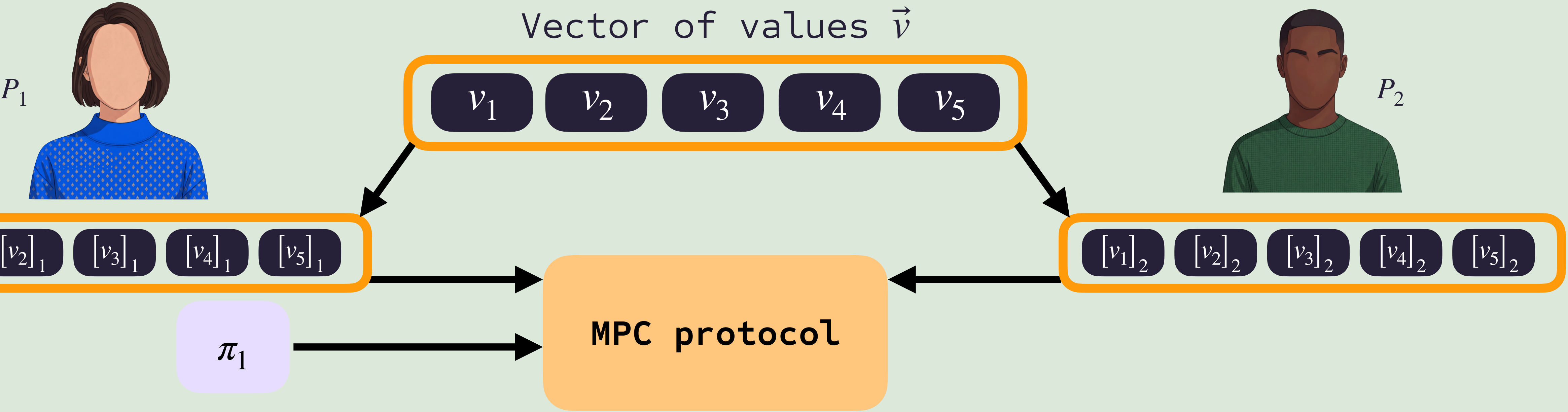
Shuffle = Two Half-Shuffles



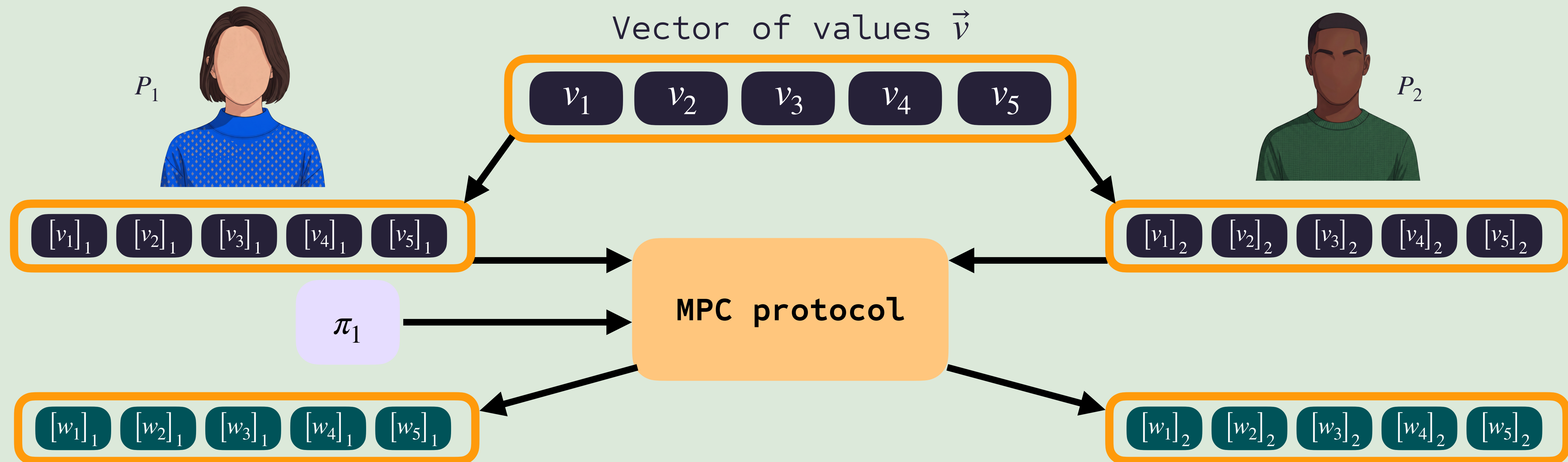
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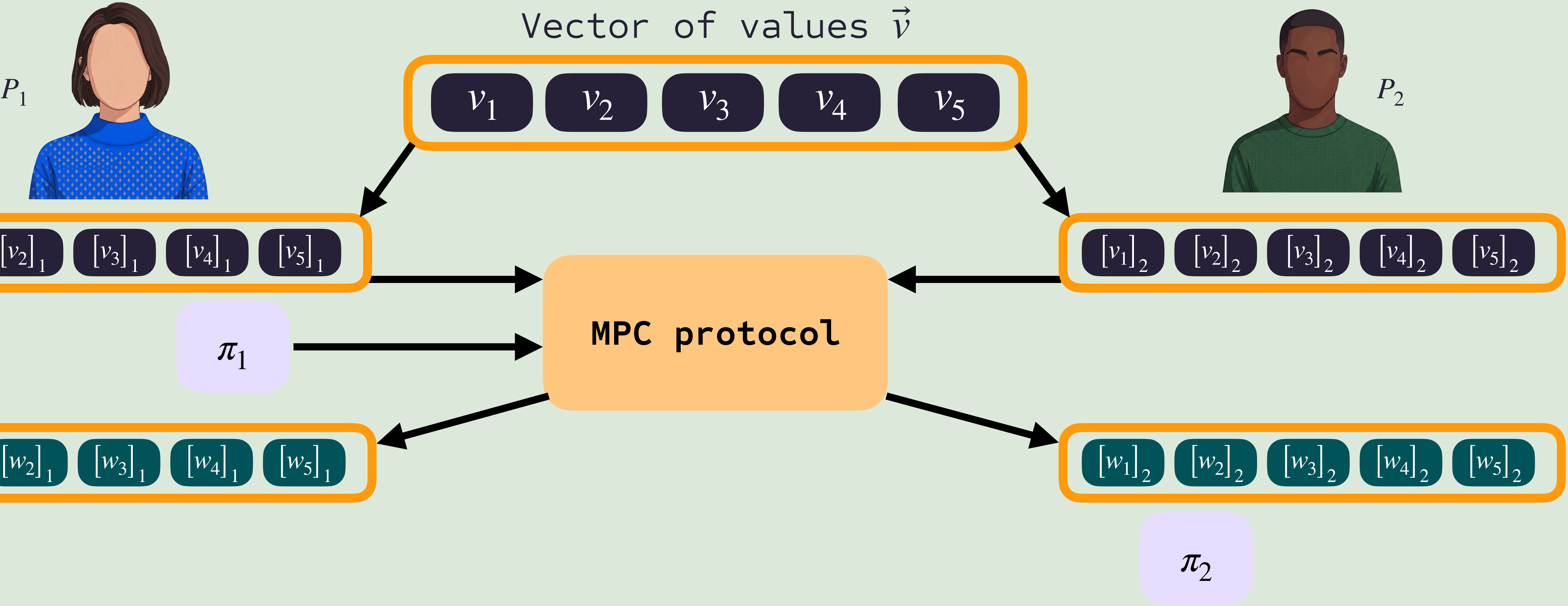
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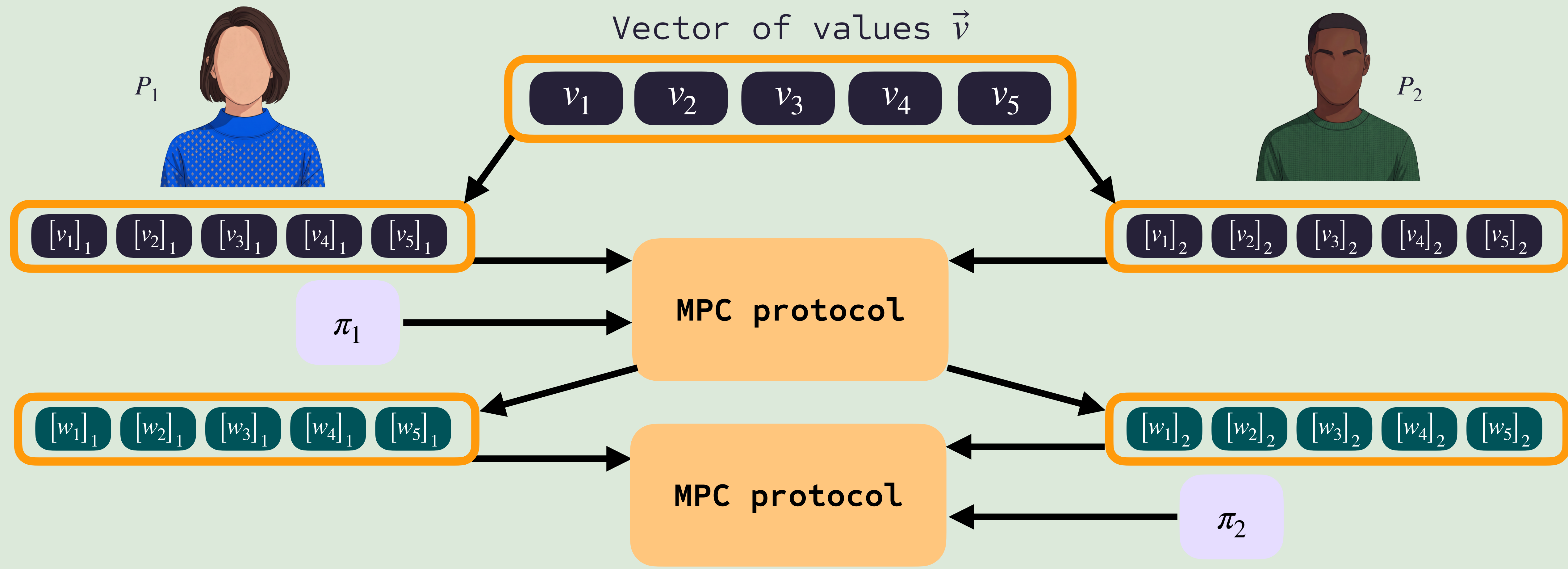
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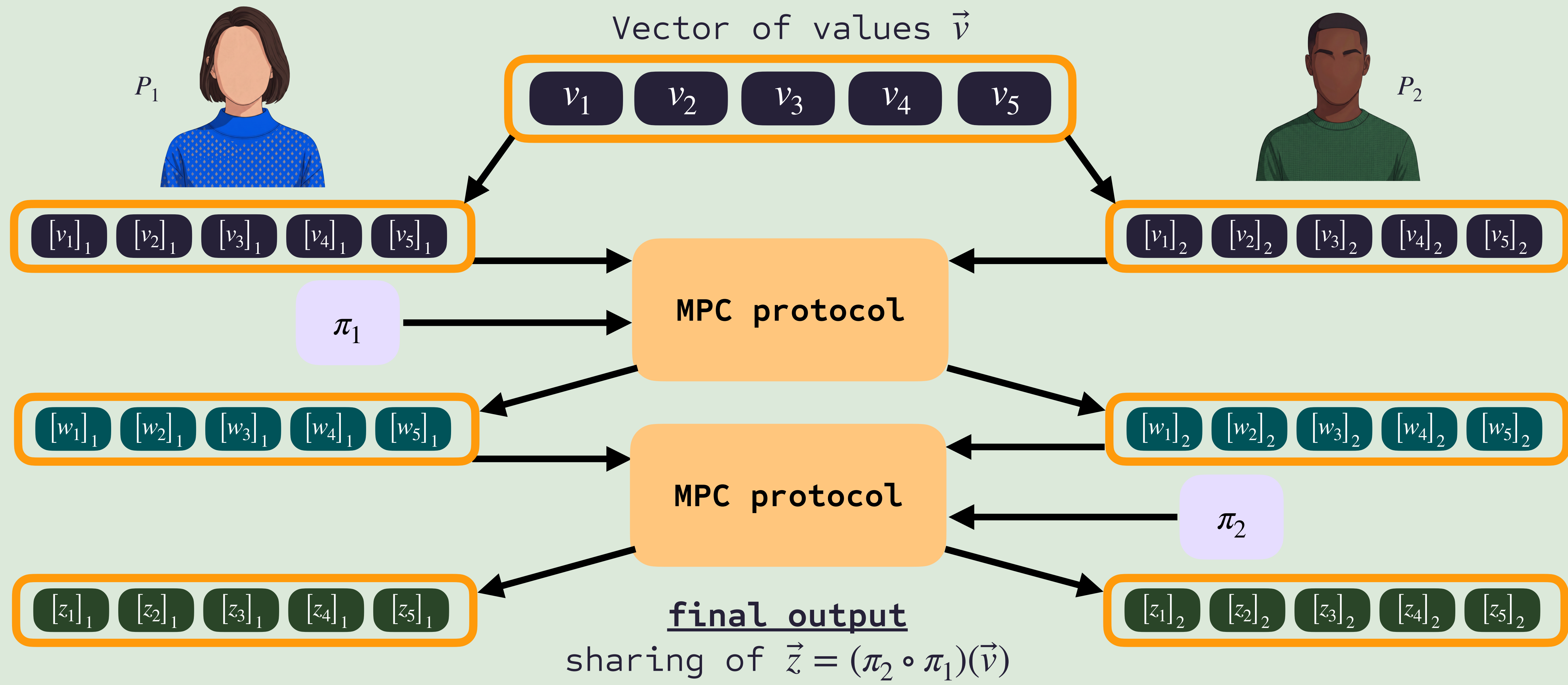
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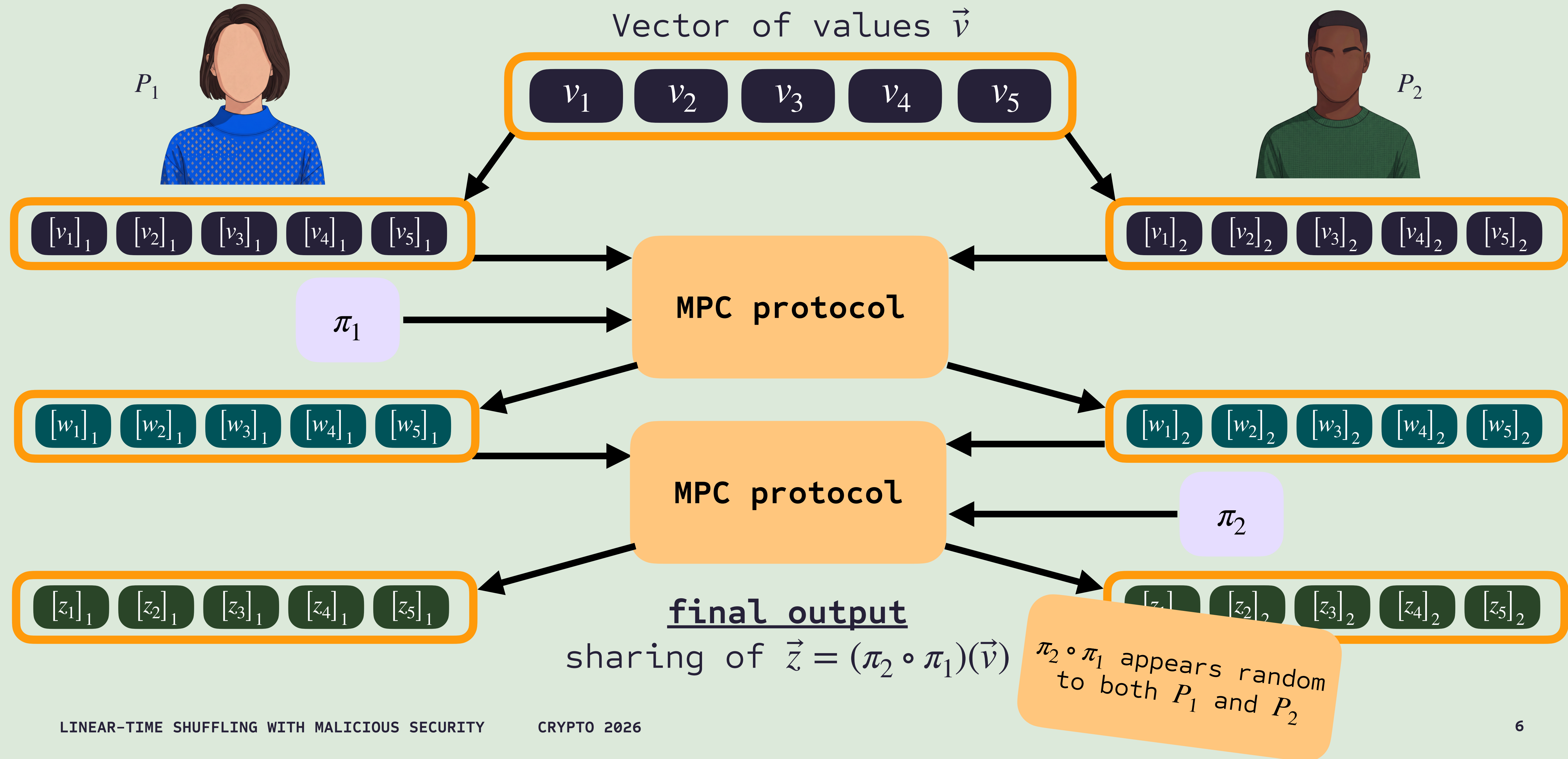
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Oblivious Shuffling

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Highly active area of research

Loads of work on this in various settings:

Permutation matrix: [CDI+24]

Homomorphic encryption-based (folklore): [HEK12, GHJ+15, F021]

Offline-online:
[CGP20, Lau21, EB22, SYB+24, CNO+26]

Verifiable computation: [CF13, GW13, LWZ18, FNP20, BCF+21, GNS23, KVM+24, ACG+25, CCC+25, ...]

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either **only semi-honest security** or **super-linear** in offline or online computation/communication

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Applications

Essential building block for privacy-preserving protocols e.g. in

(1) analytics

(2) messaging

(3) RAM computations

and many more...

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Asymptotically linear

Linear-time and space protocol
by dealing with the RAM
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A new assumption

We introduce a **novel weakening of the “linear-only” assumption** on encryption schemes that
limits operations on ciphertexts to that of
“weak predicates”

Our Construction: Roadmap

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Folklore semi-honest protocol using
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- (1) Set equality test
- (2) Prevent tampering of shares

Security against malicious “Shuffler” P_2

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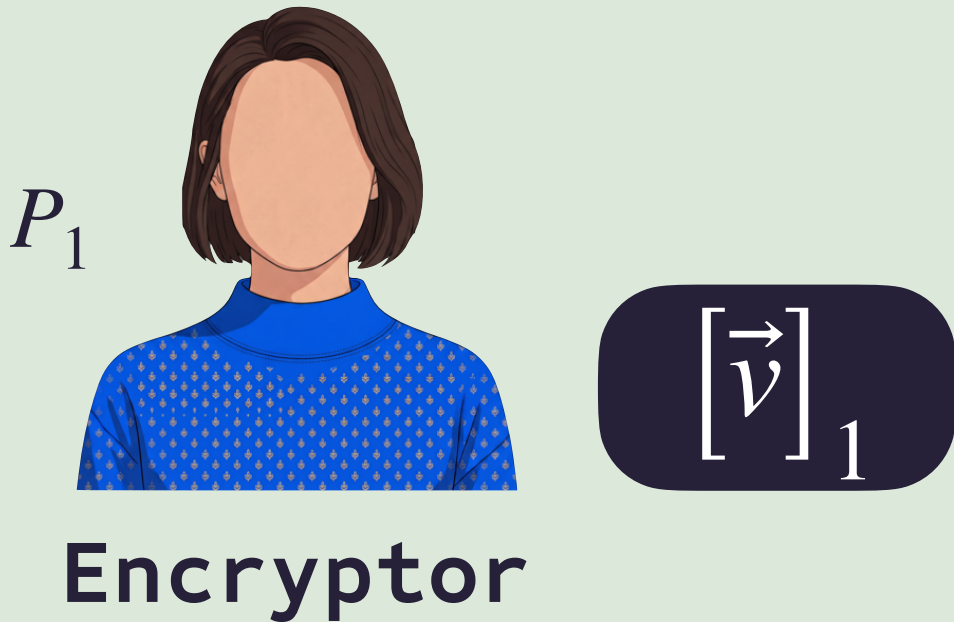
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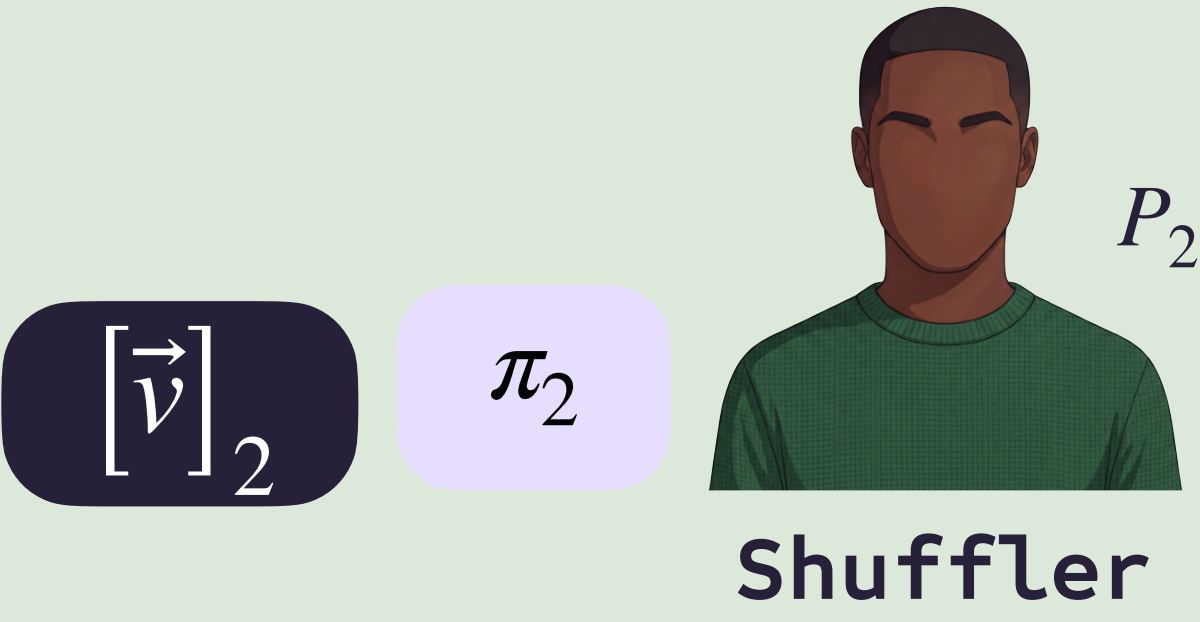
Lightweight correlation checks

Security against malicious “Encryptor” P_1

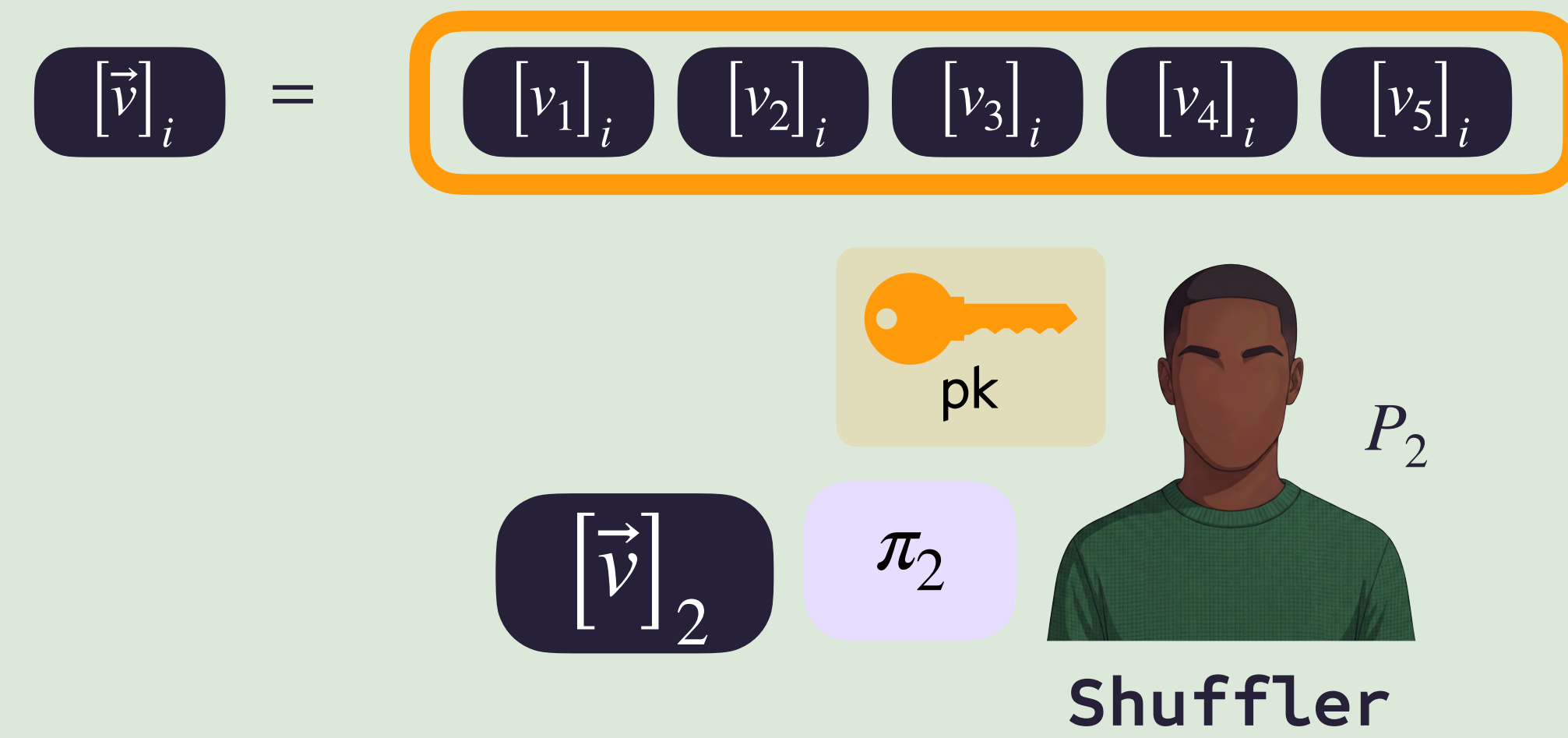
Folklore Approach Using LHE



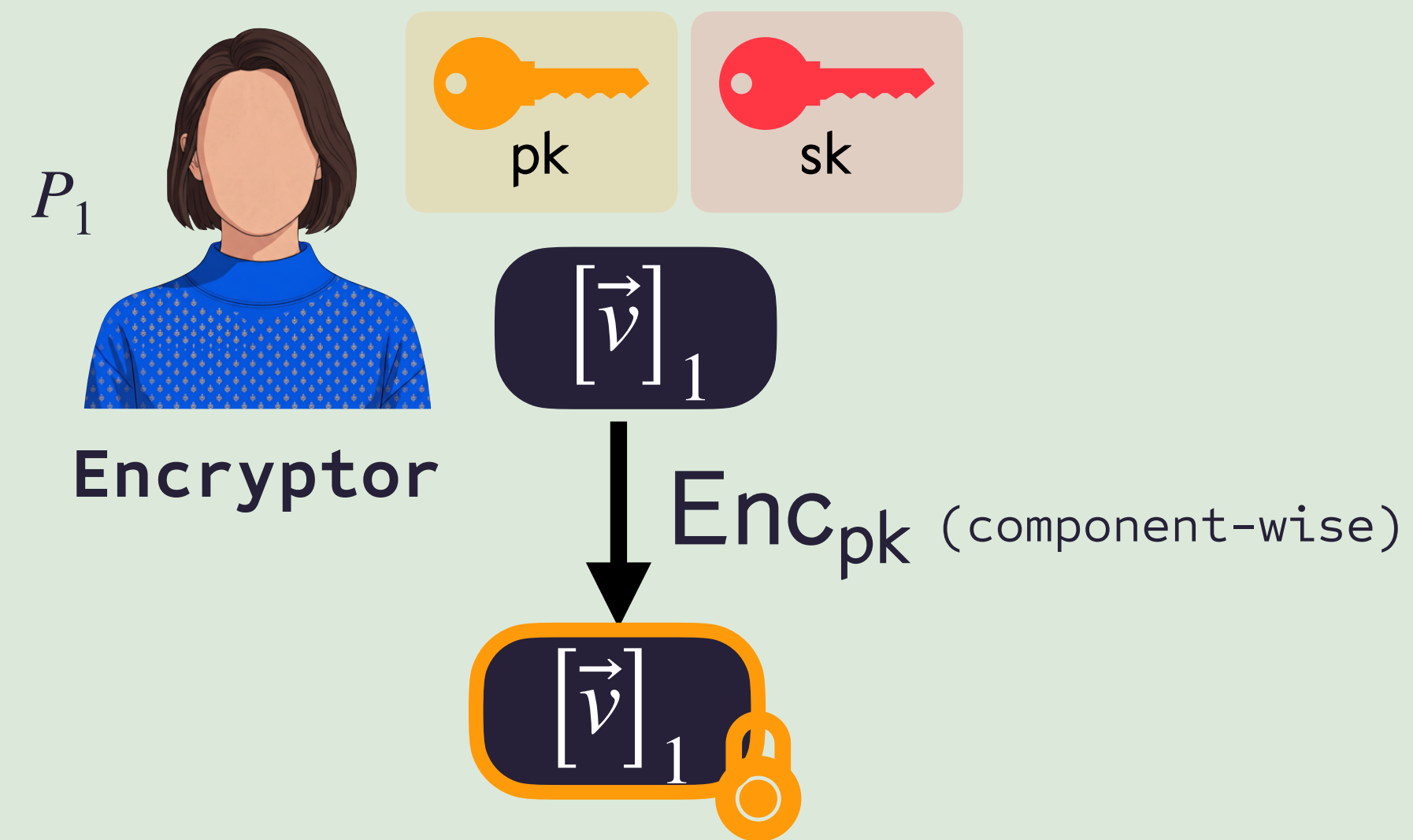
$$[\vec{v}]_i = [v_1]_i [v_2]_i [v_3]_i [v_4]_i [v_5]_i$$



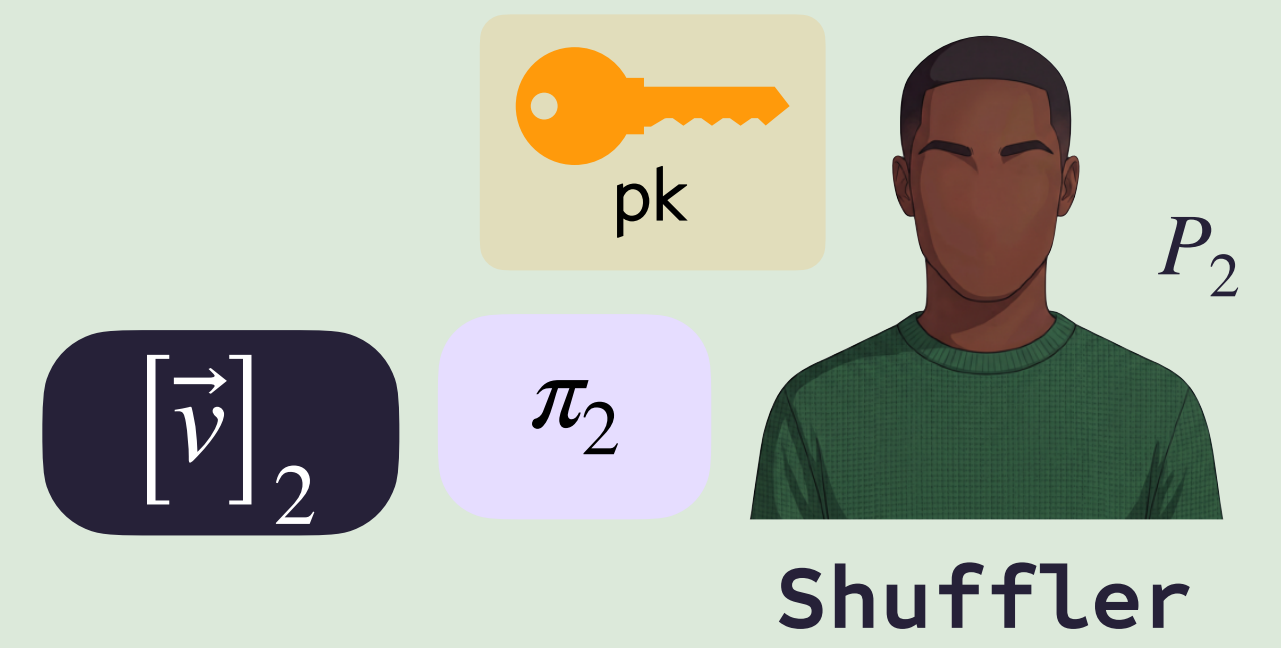
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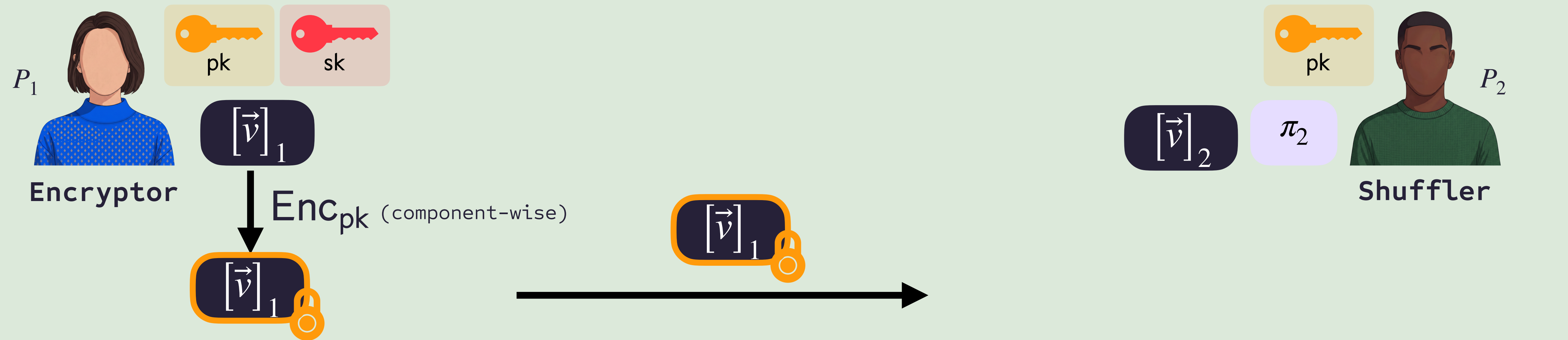
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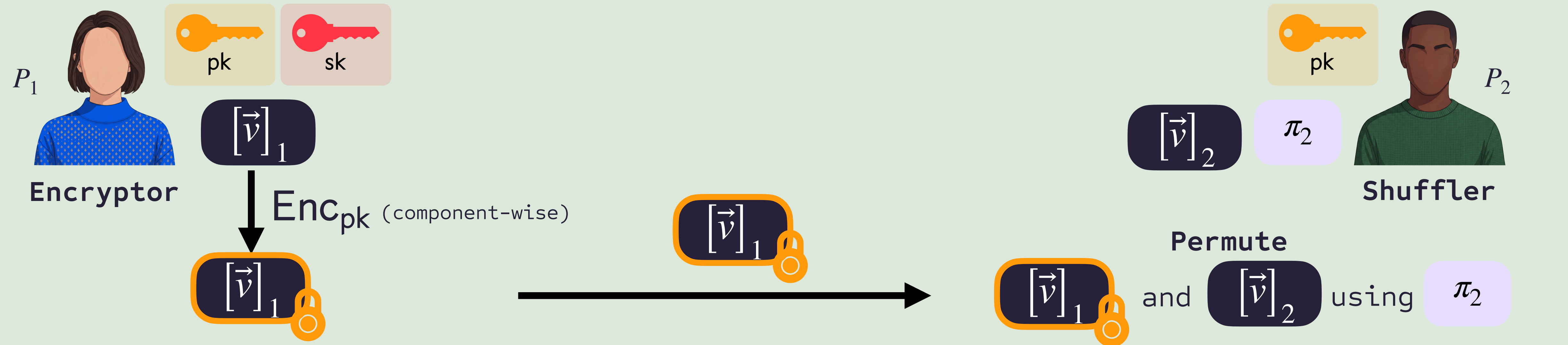
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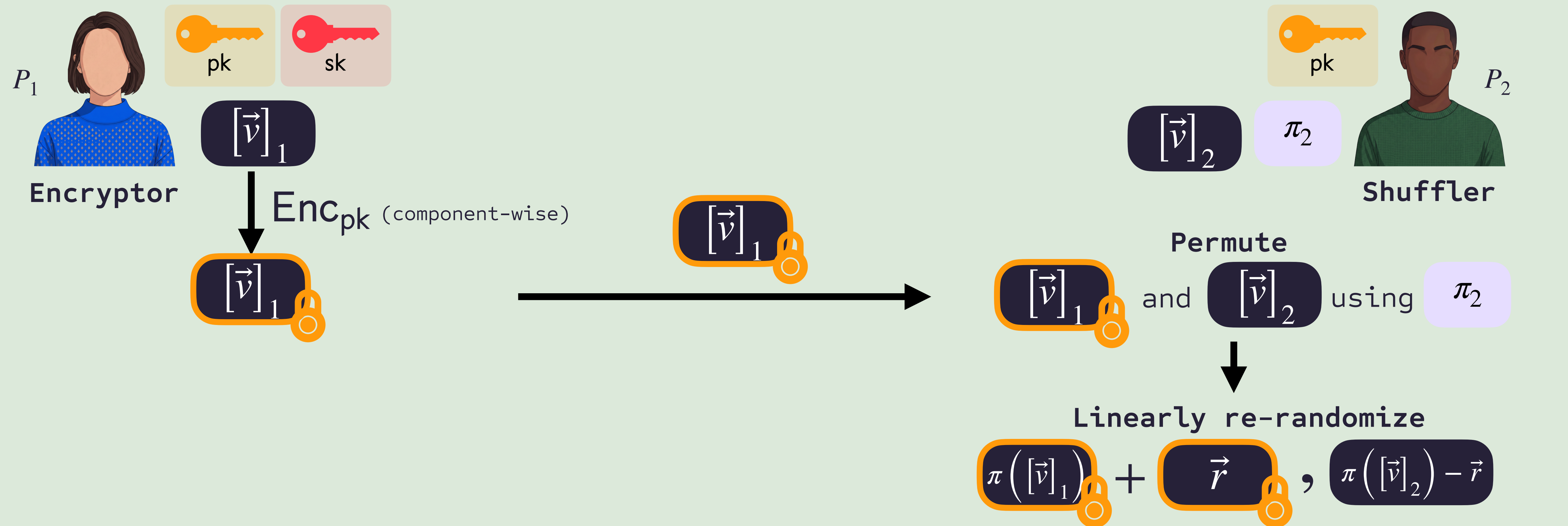
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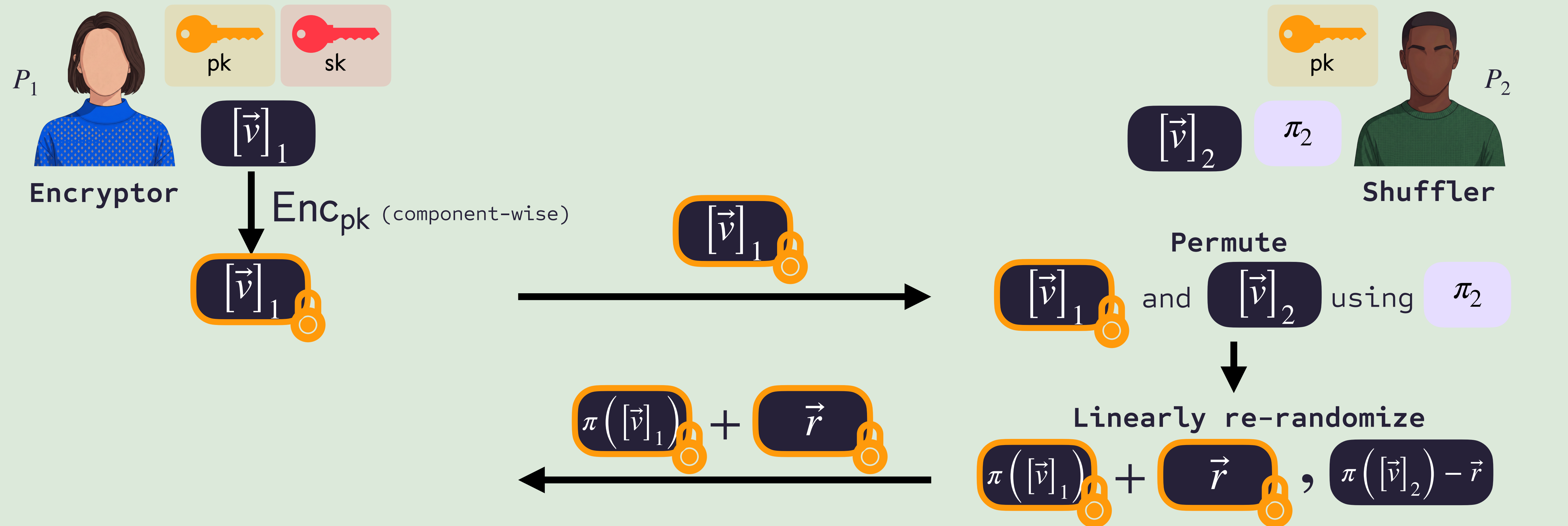
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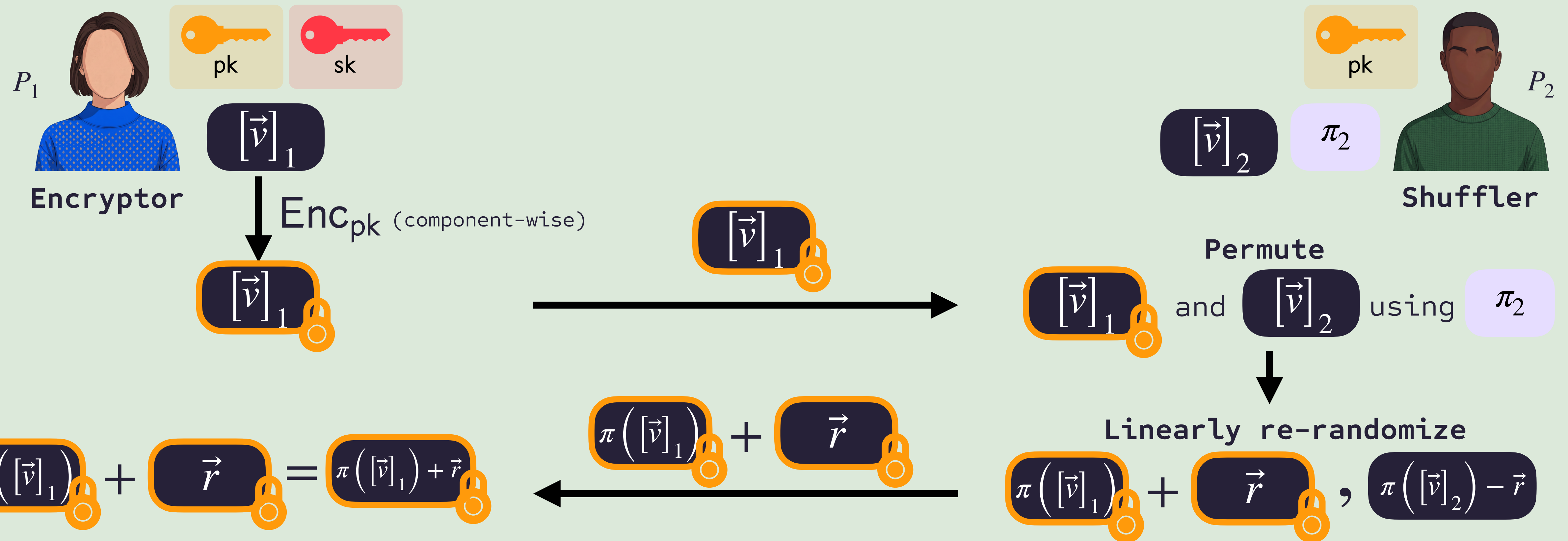


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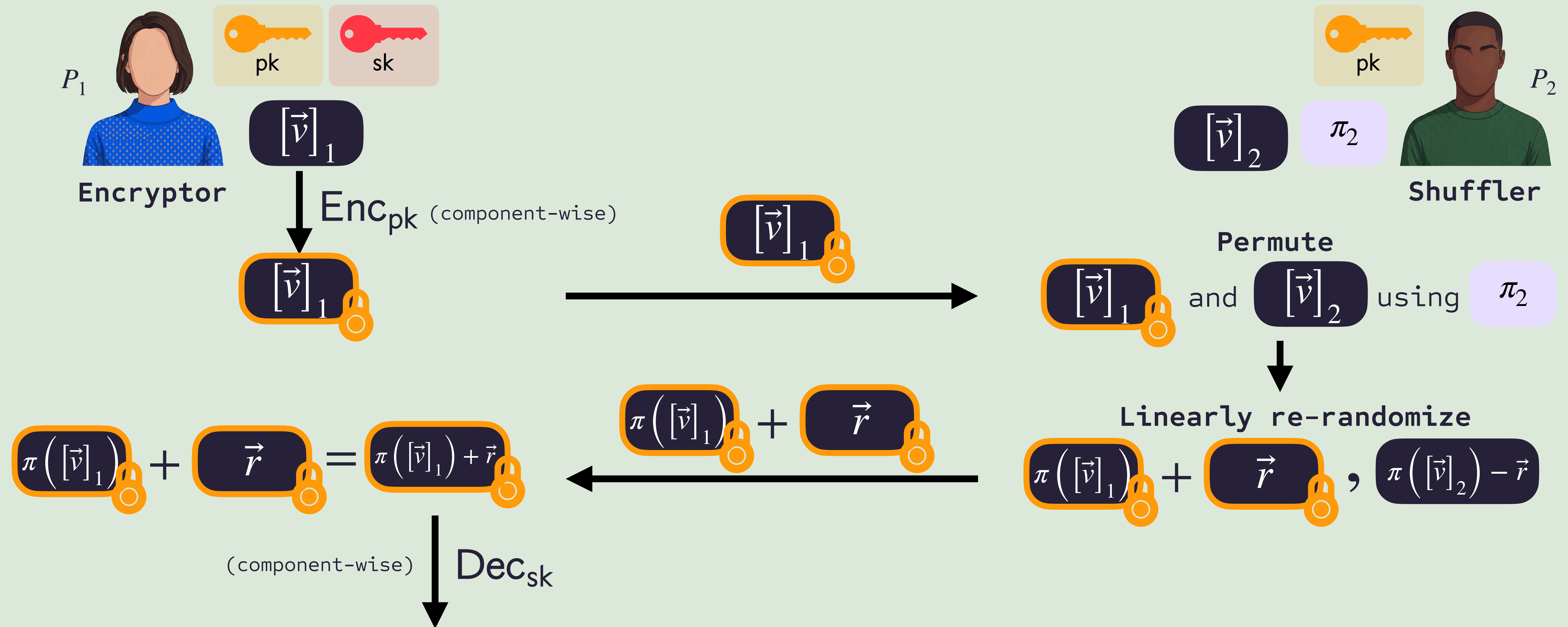
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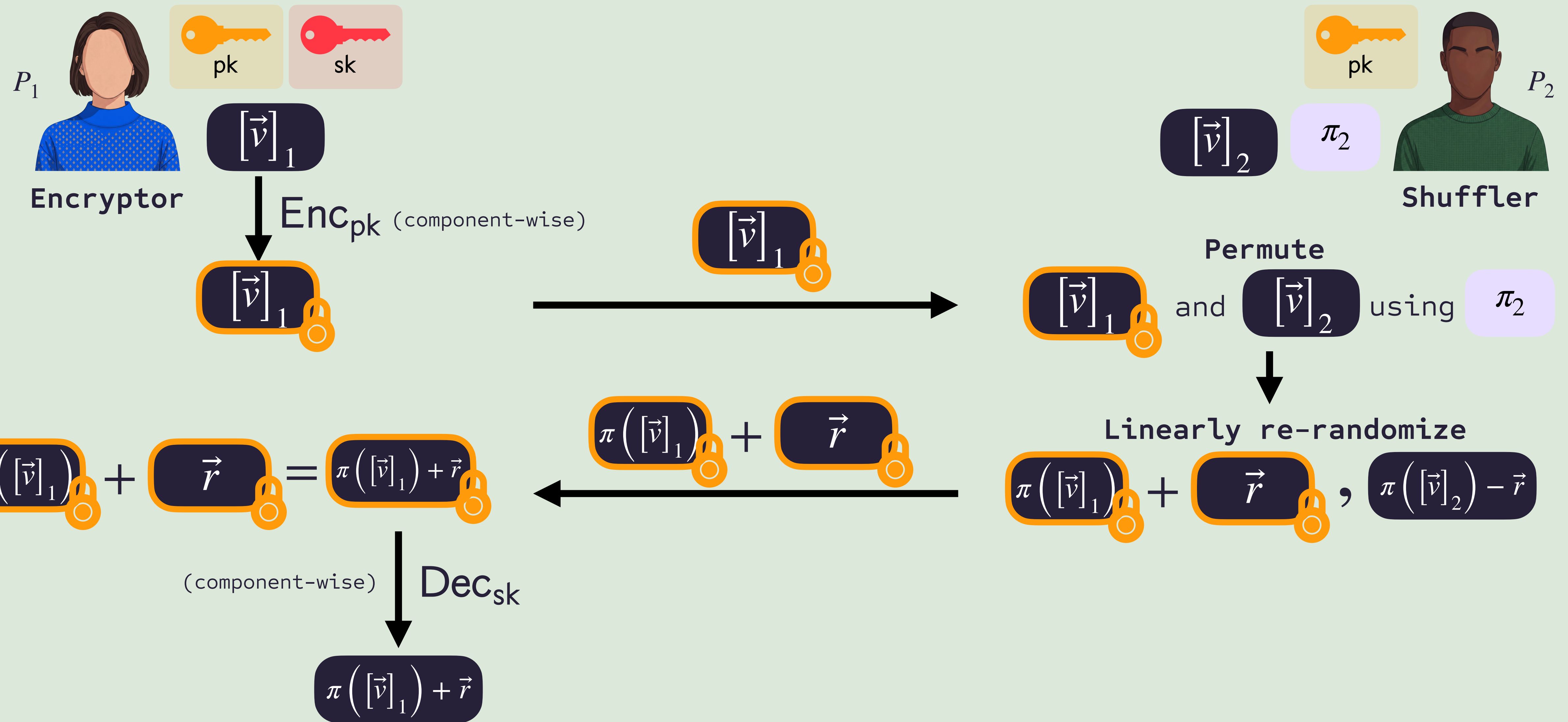
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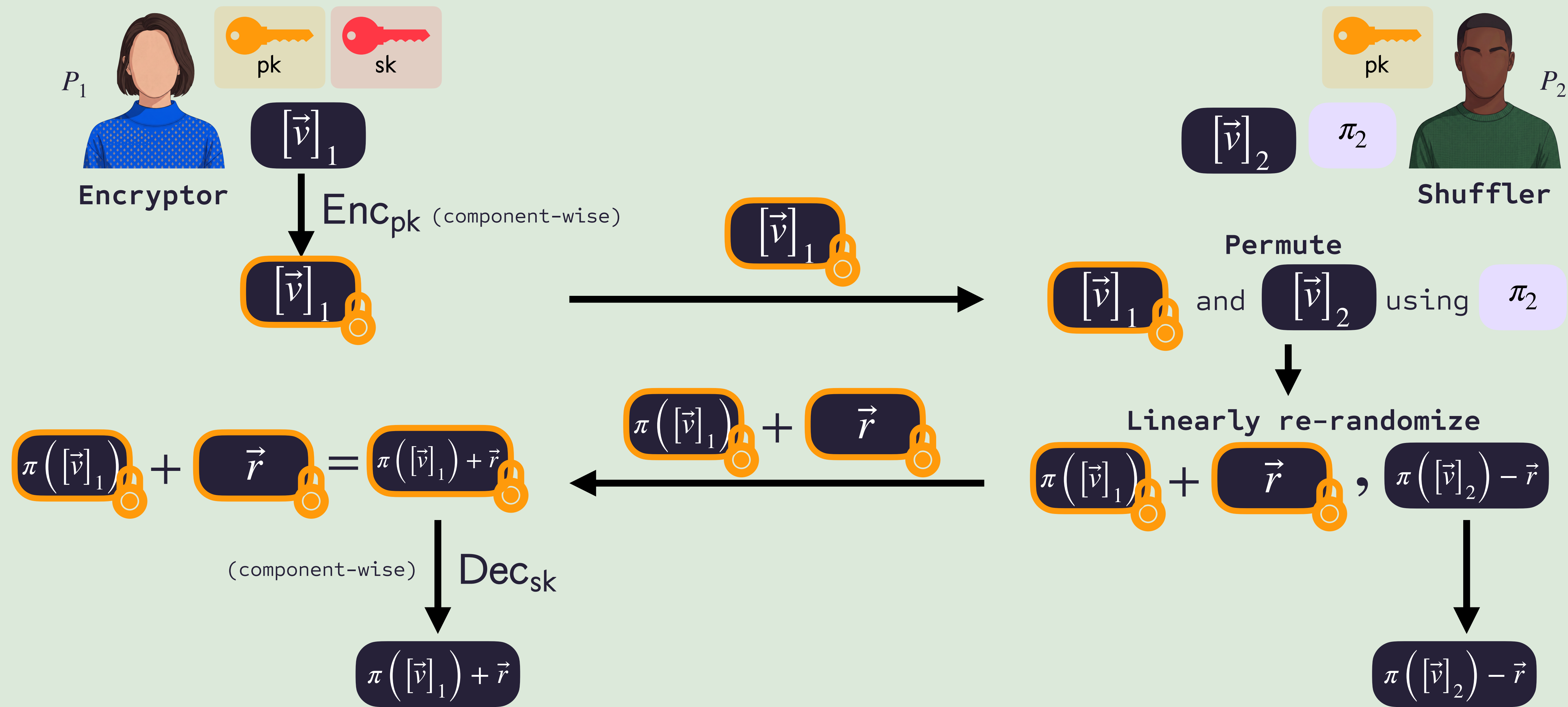
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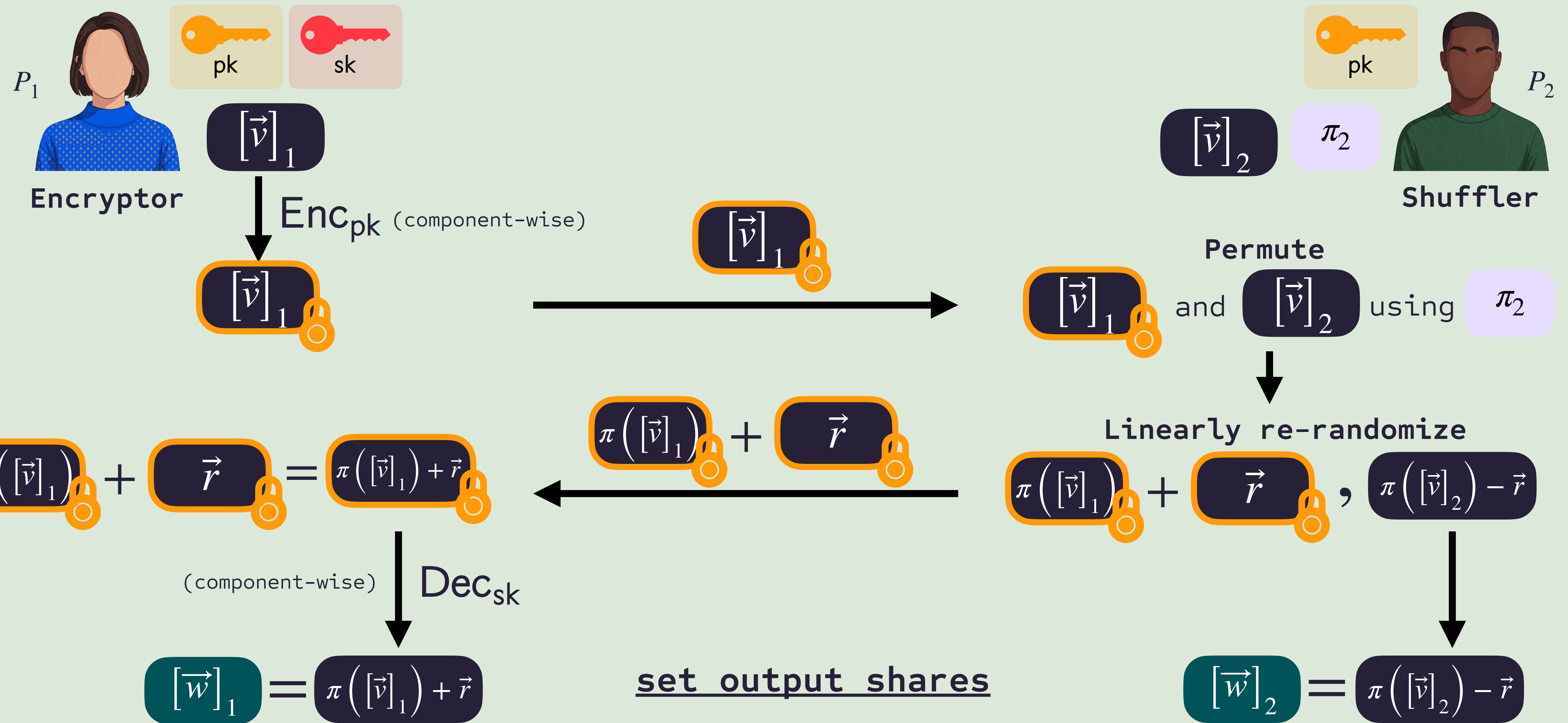
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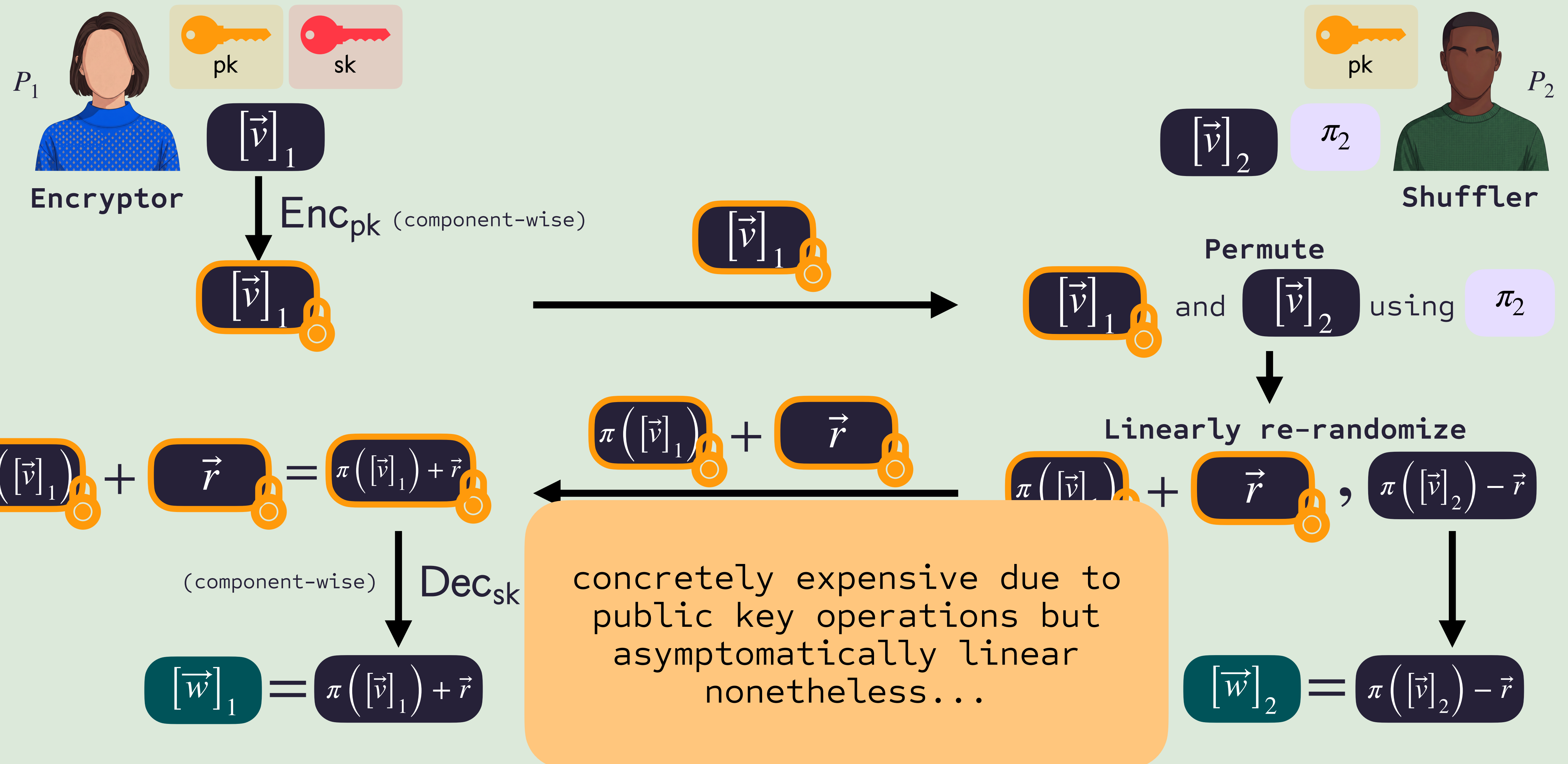
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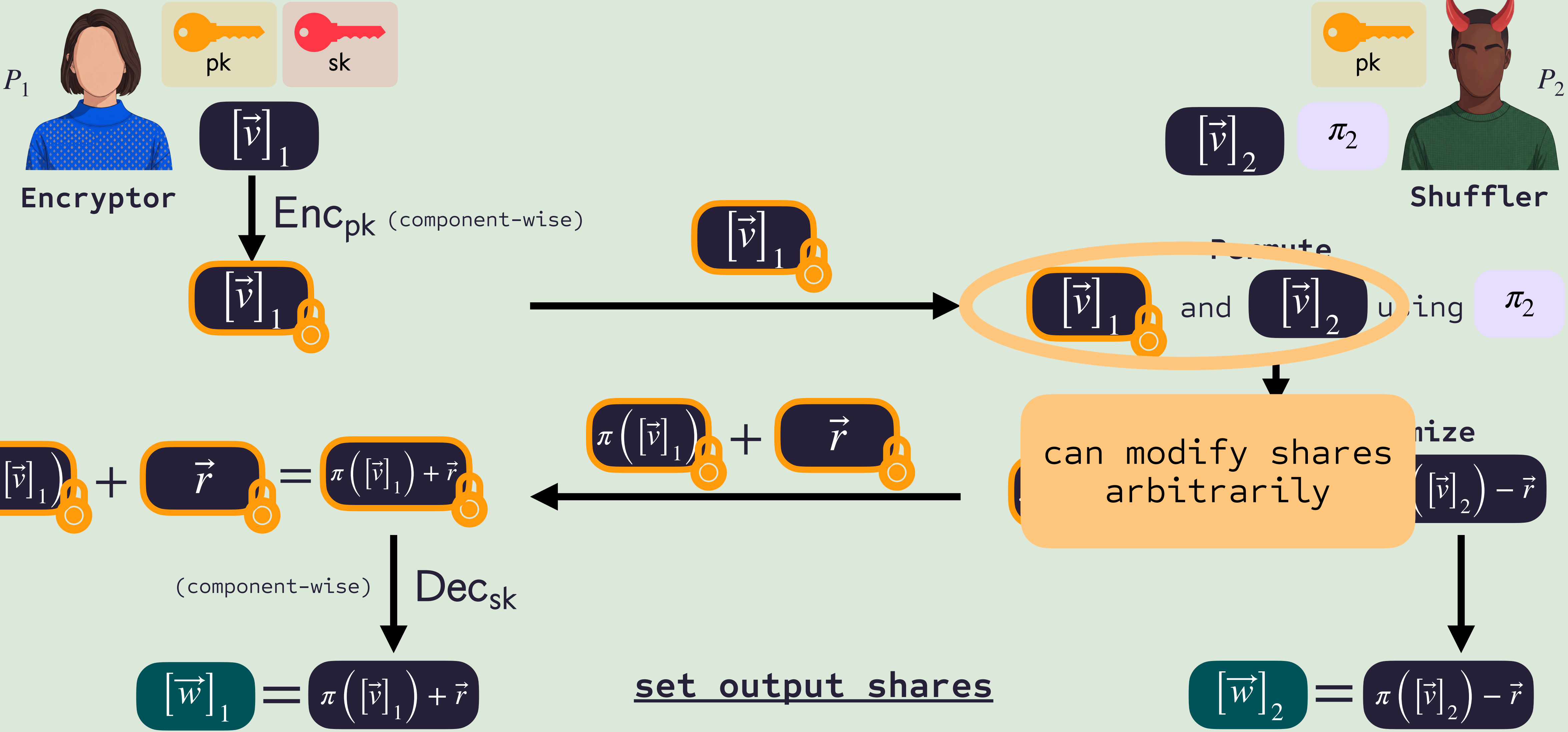
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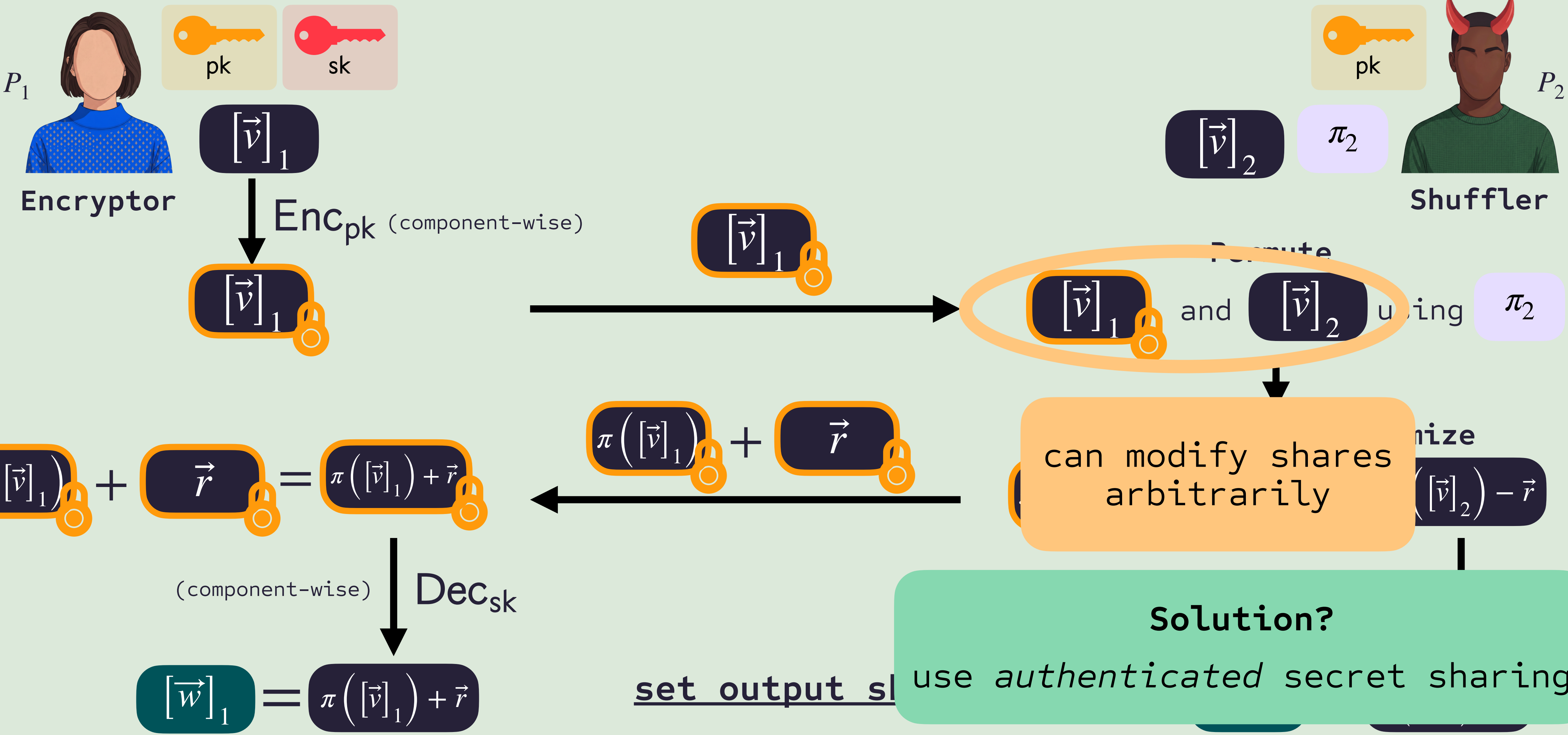
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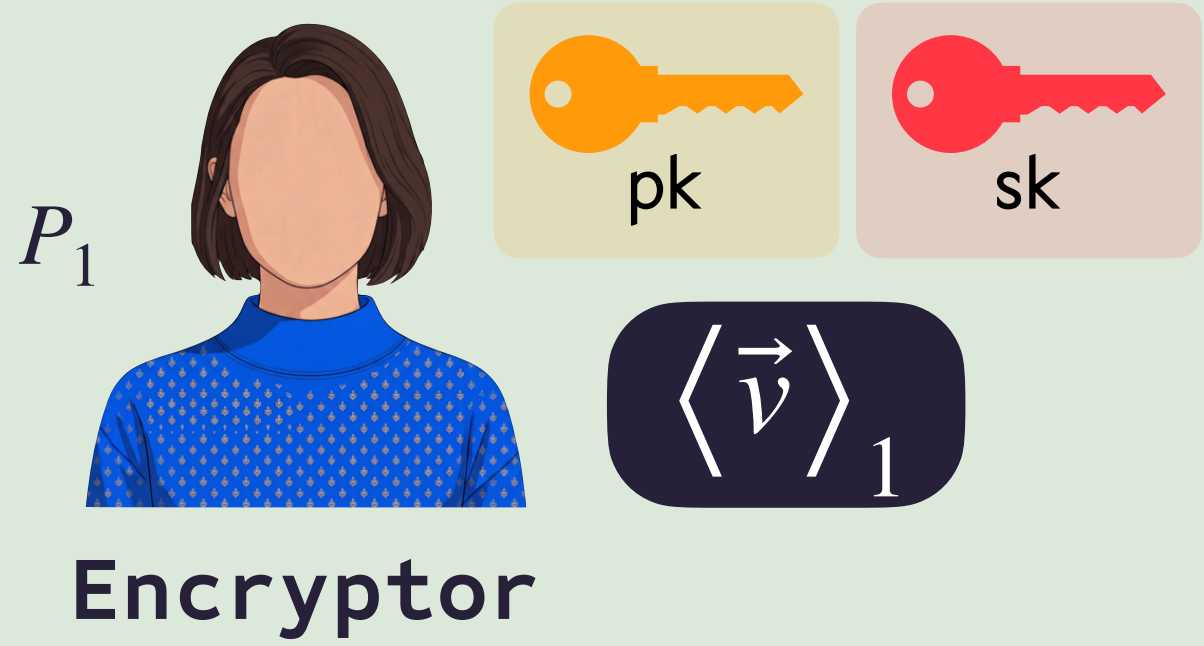


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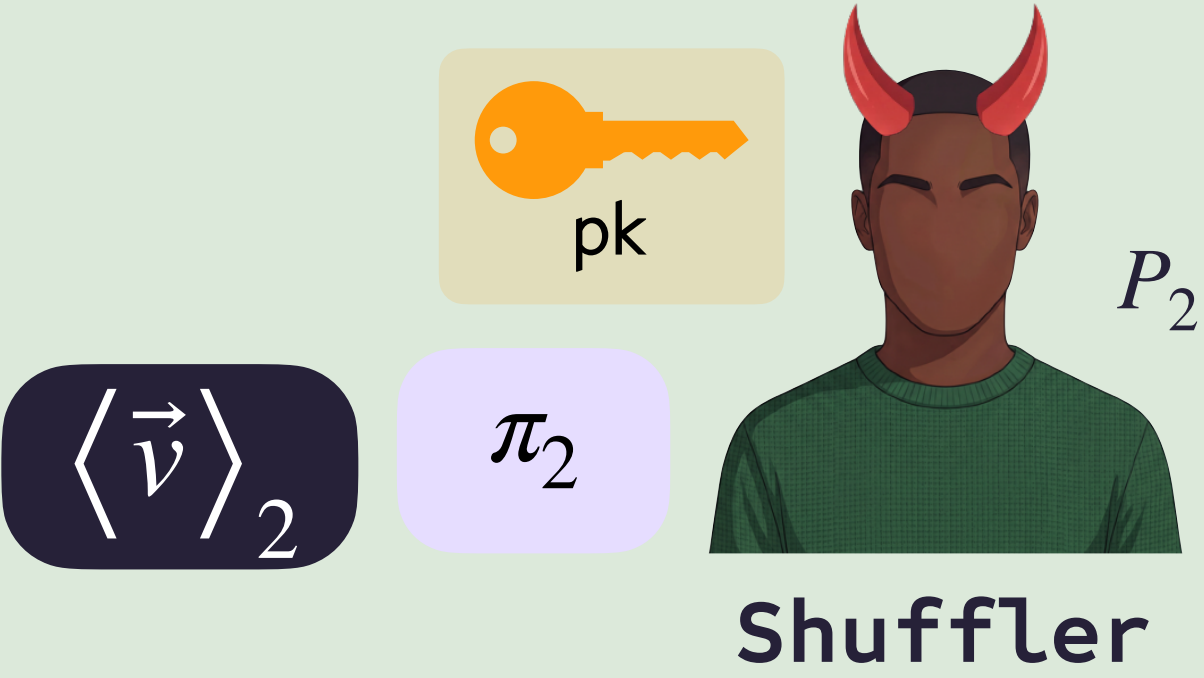
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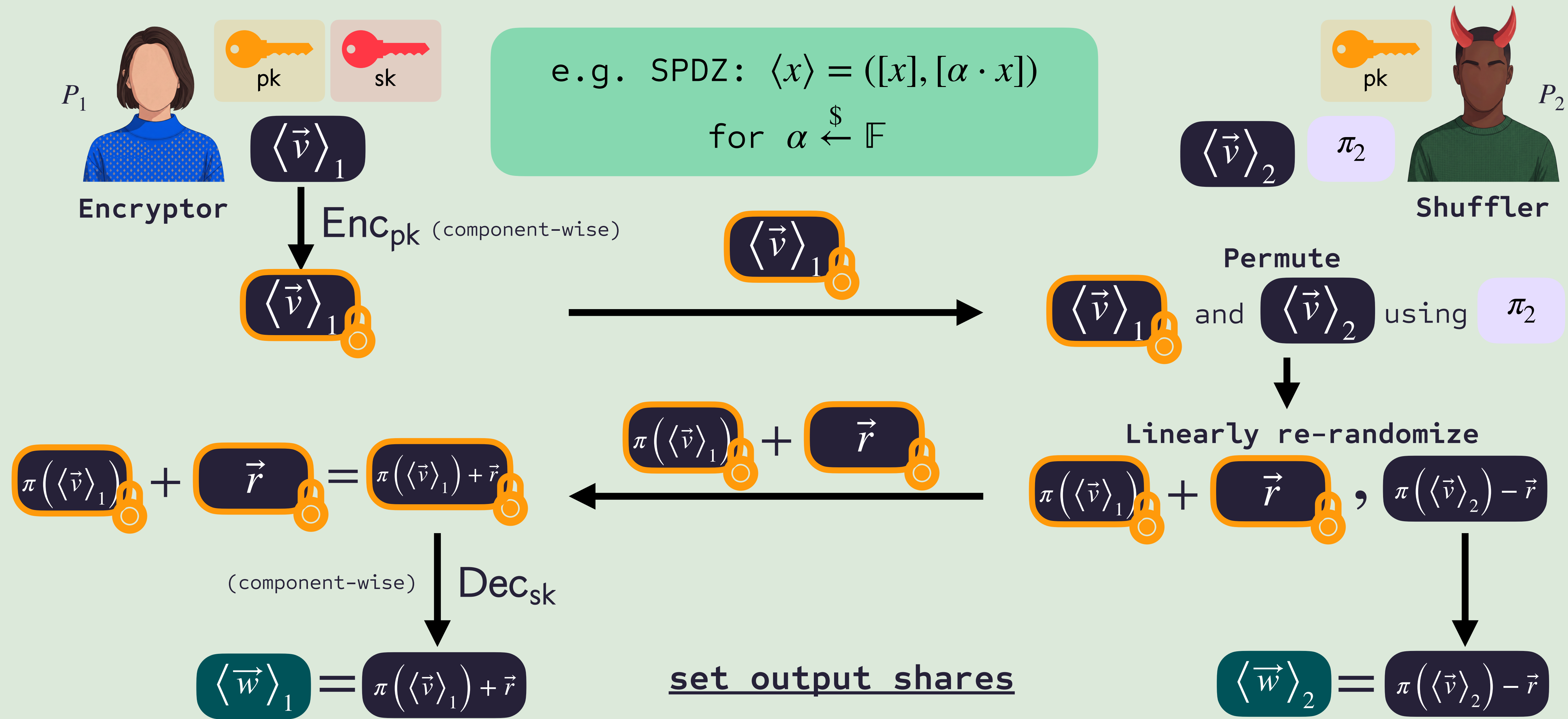
With Authentication



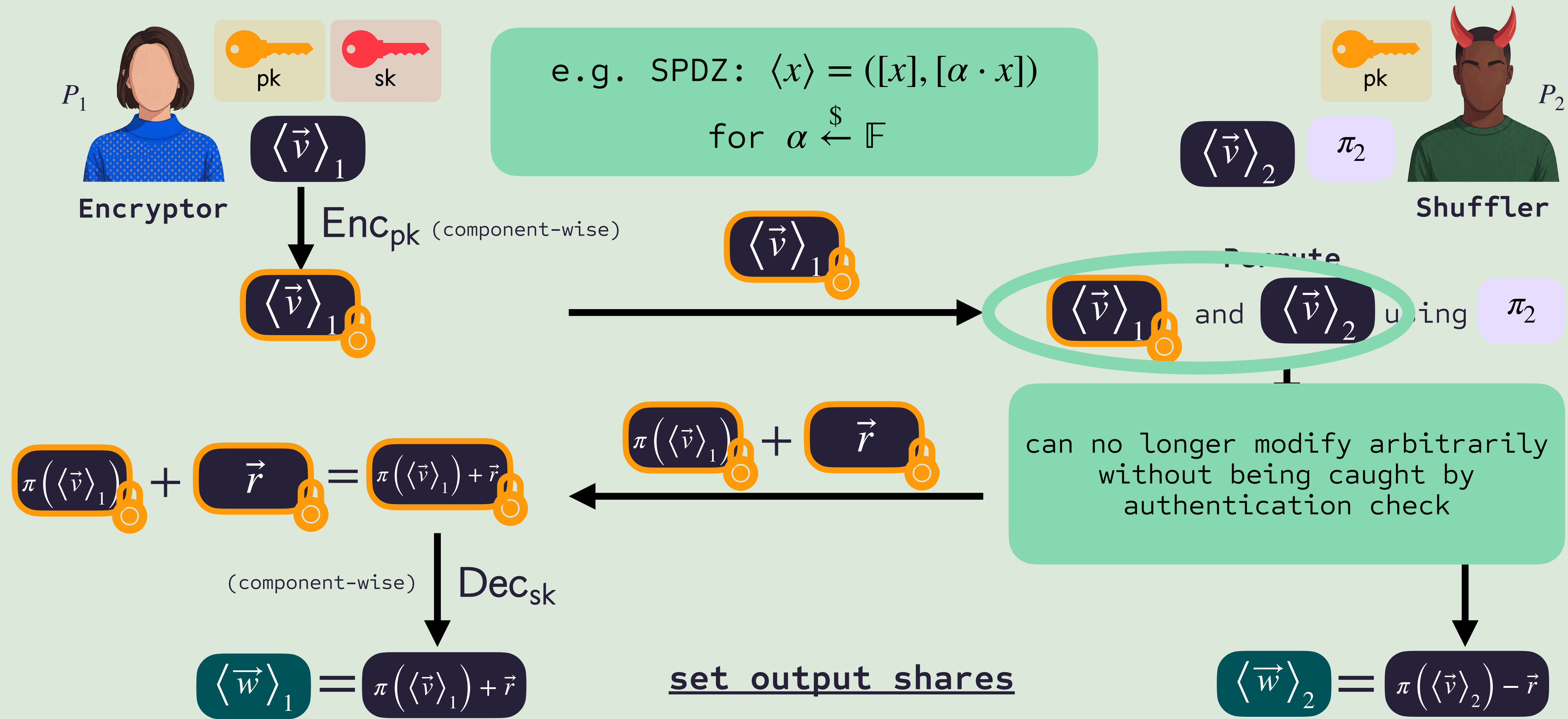
e.g. SPDZ: $\langle x \rangle = ([x], [\alpha \cdot x])$
for $\alpha \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{F}$



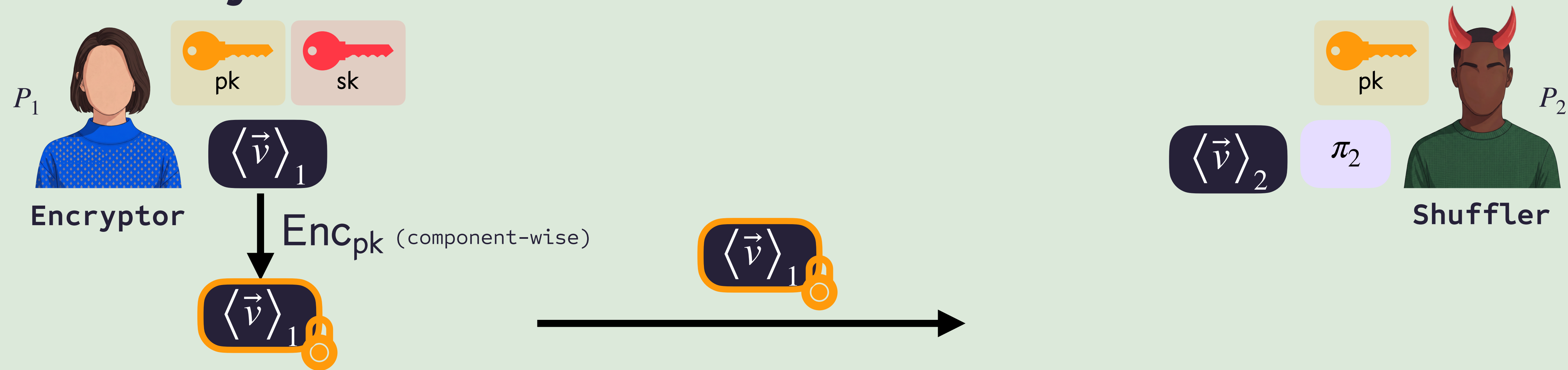
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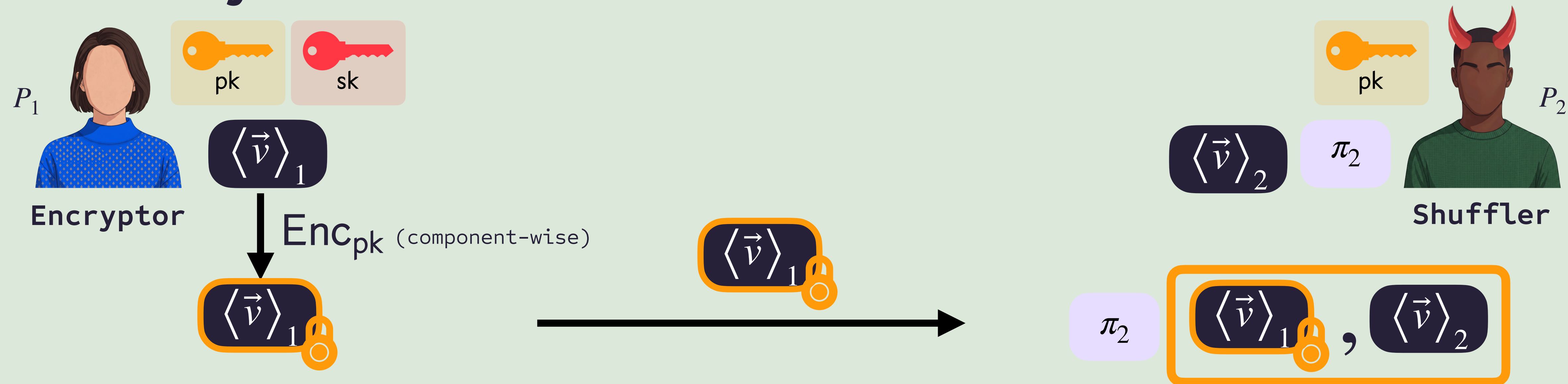
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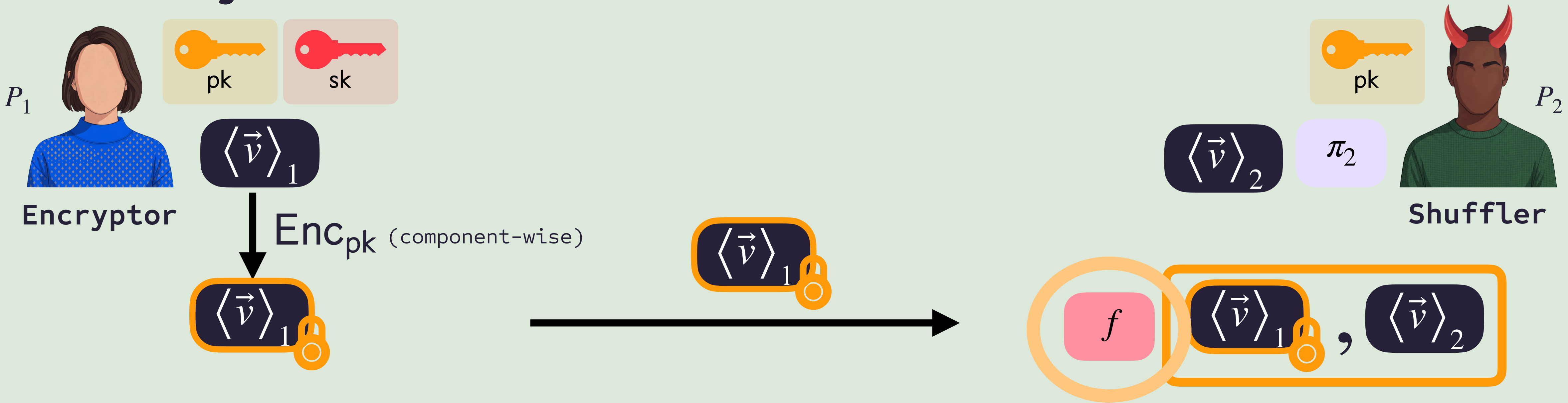
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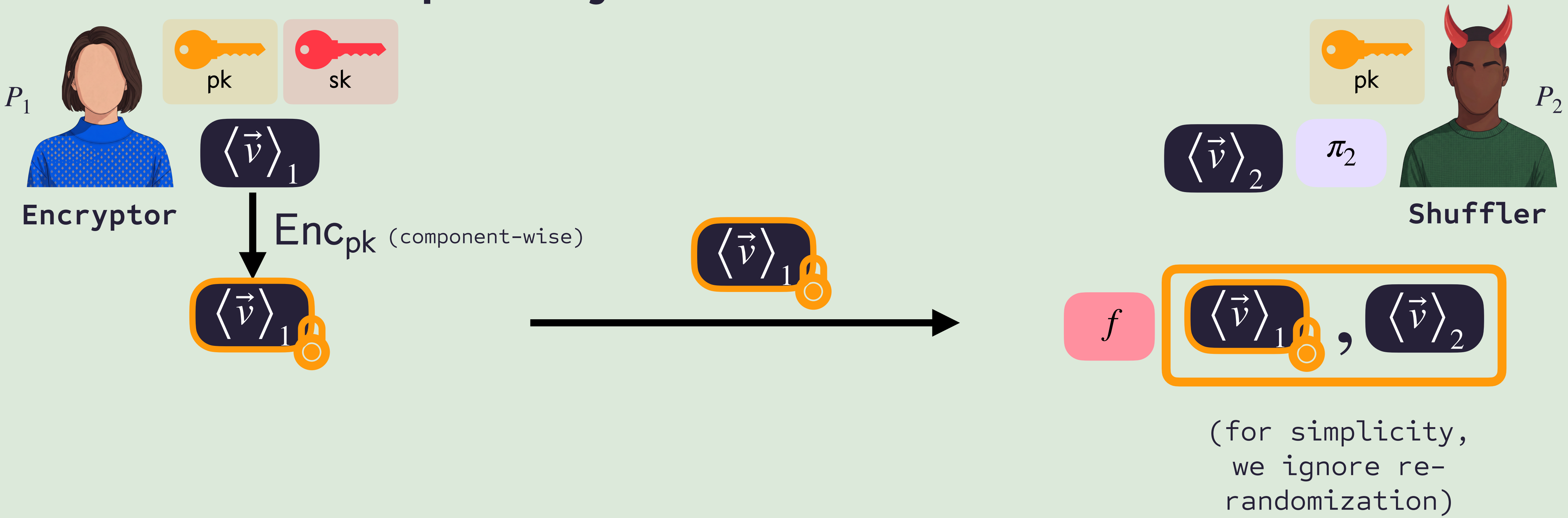


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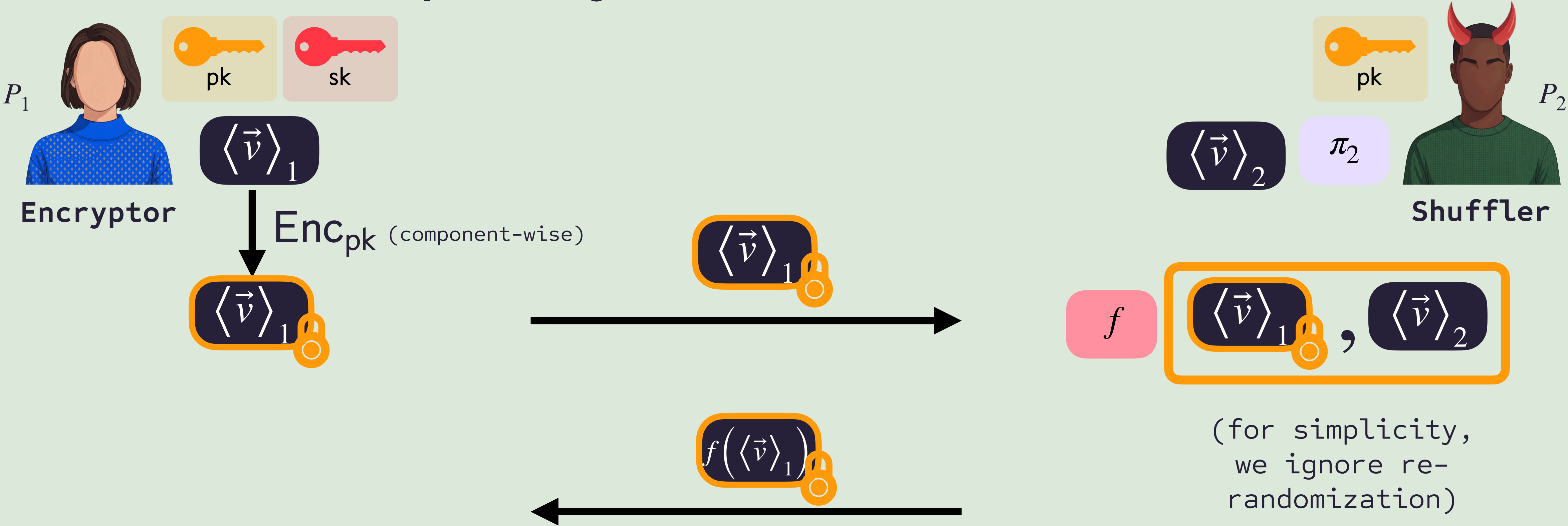


P_2 can cheat and use a function that is not a permutation (e.g. duplicate ciphertexts)

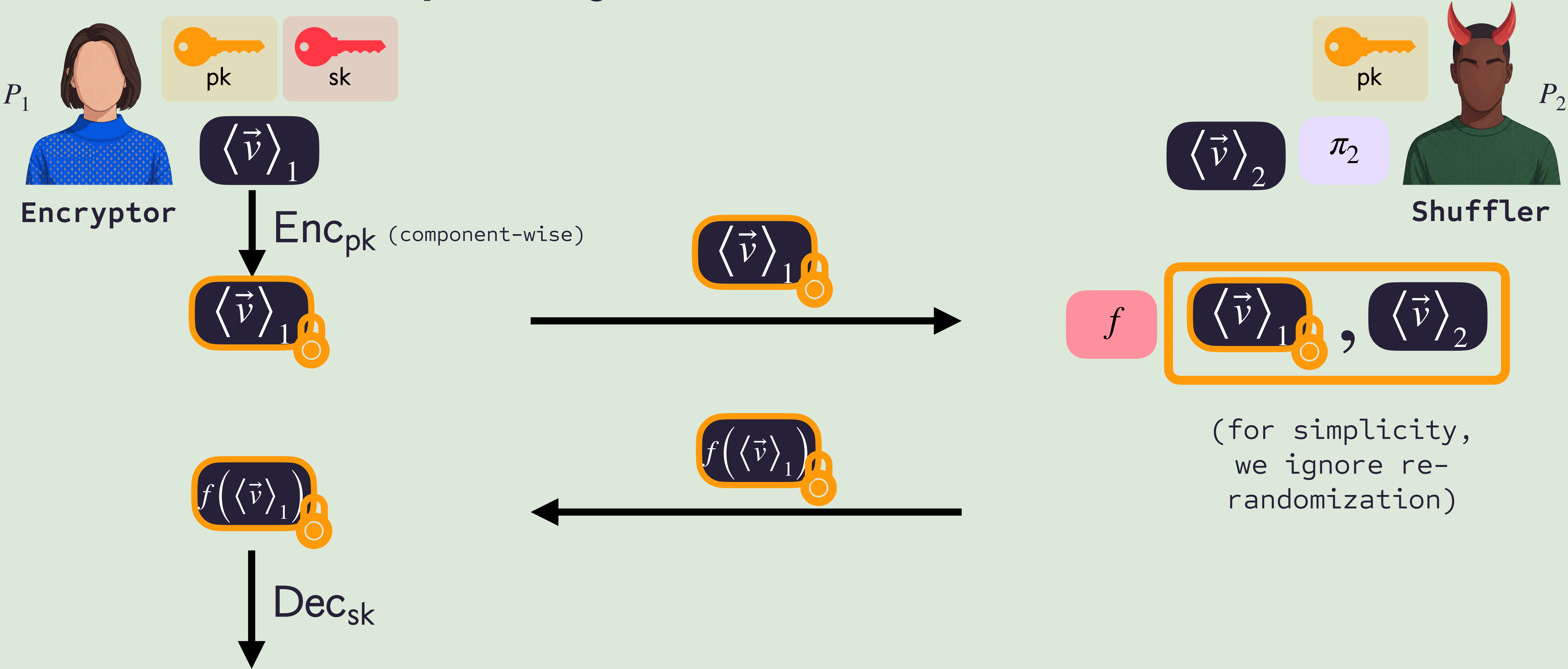
Idea 1: Set Equality Test



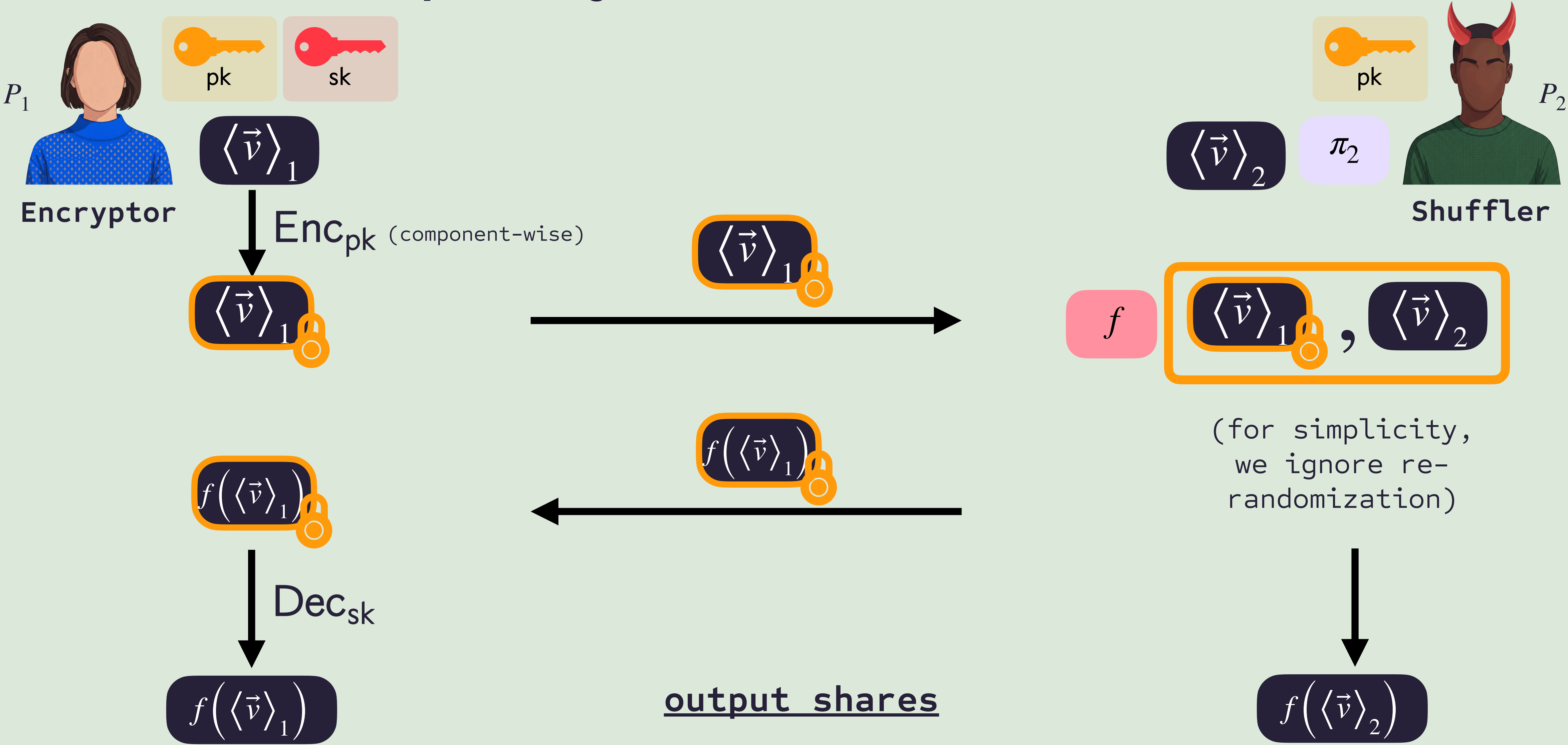
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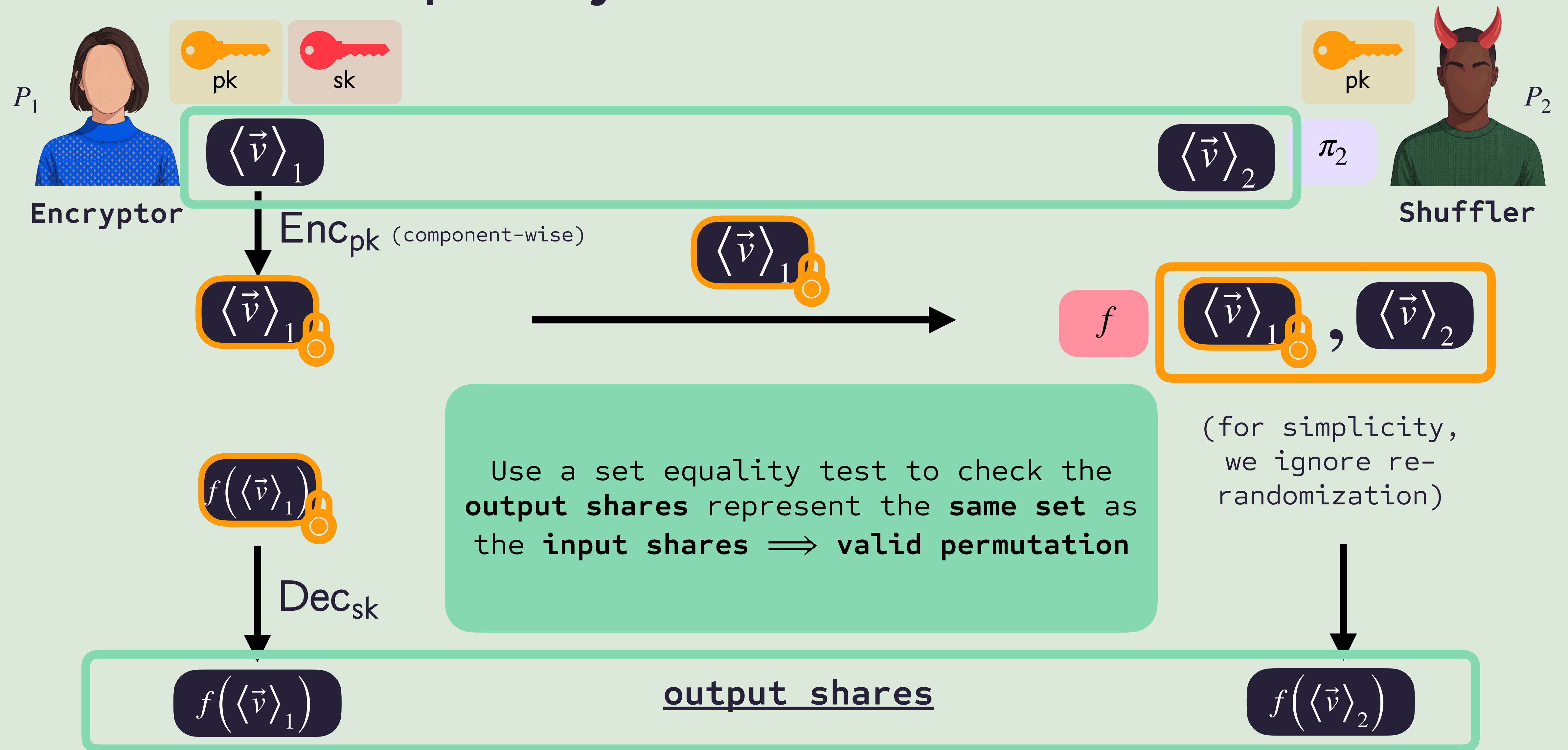
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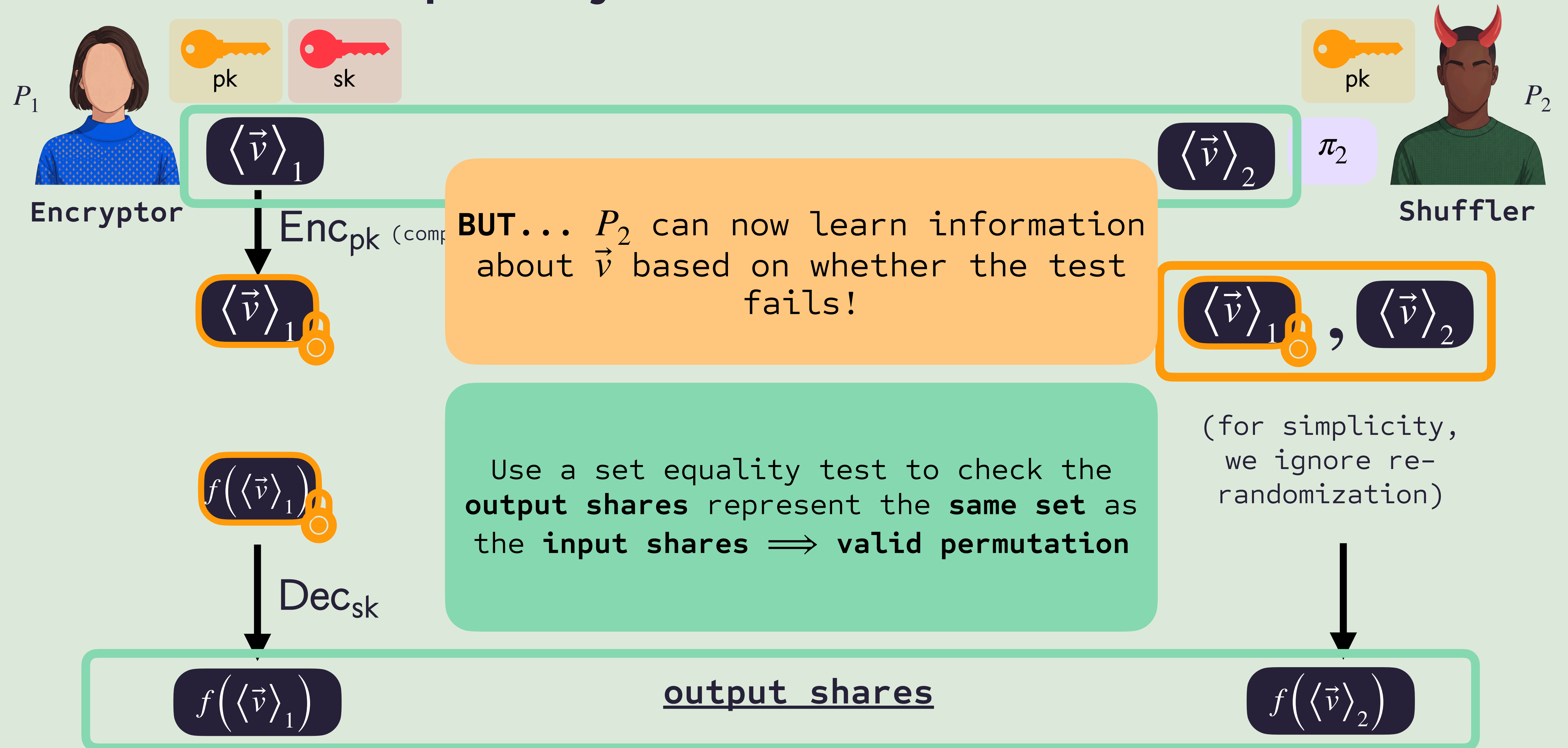
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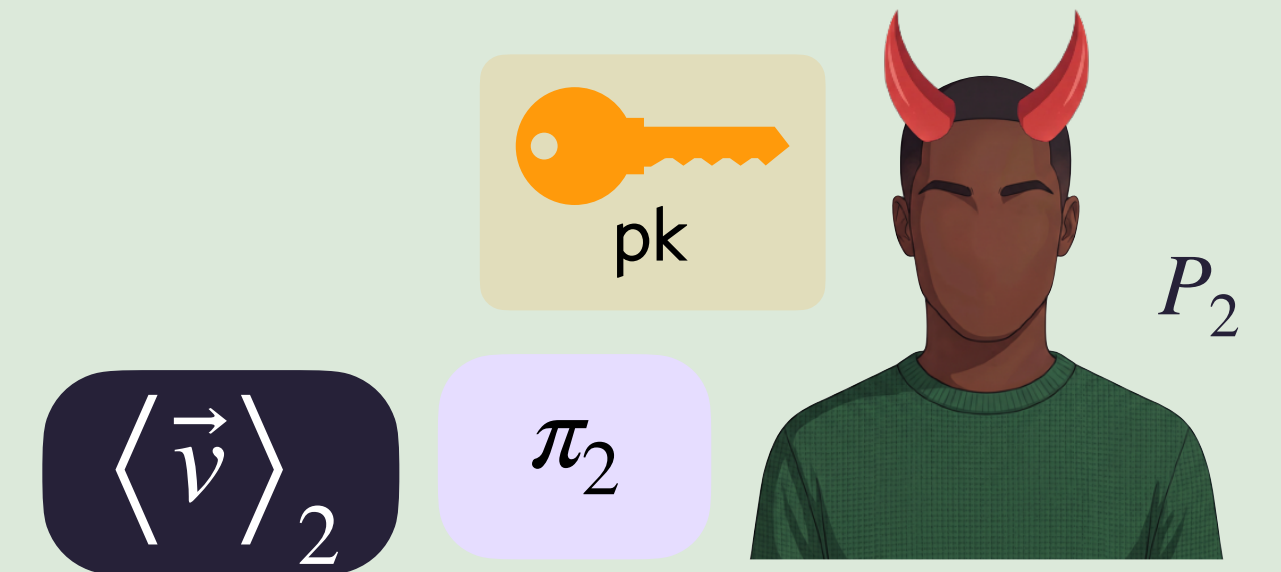
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Selective Failure Attack

Problem:

P_2 can exploit linearity
to test linear relations
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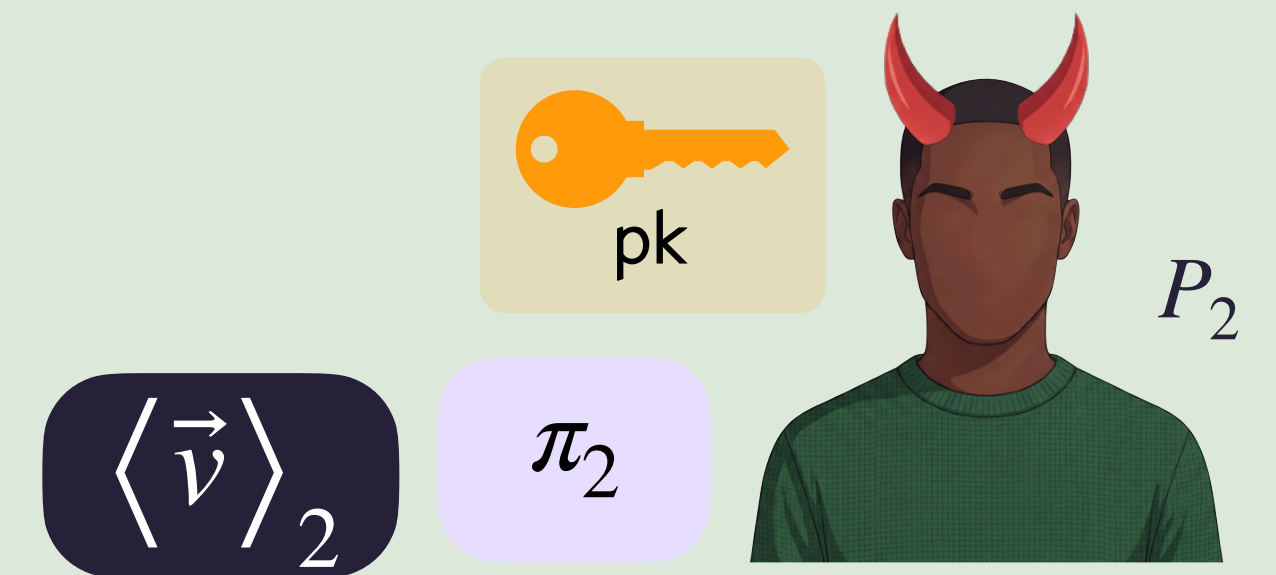
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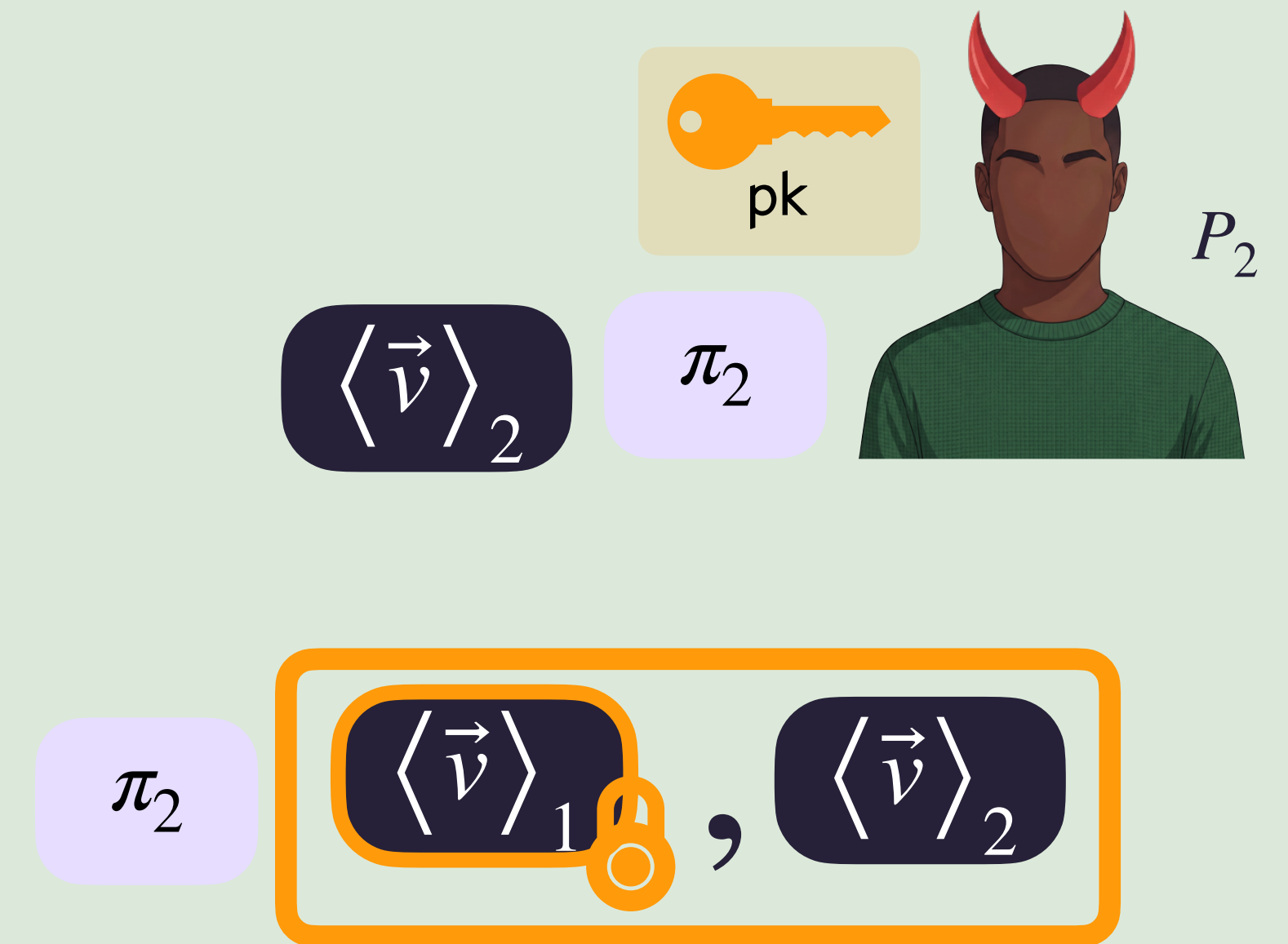
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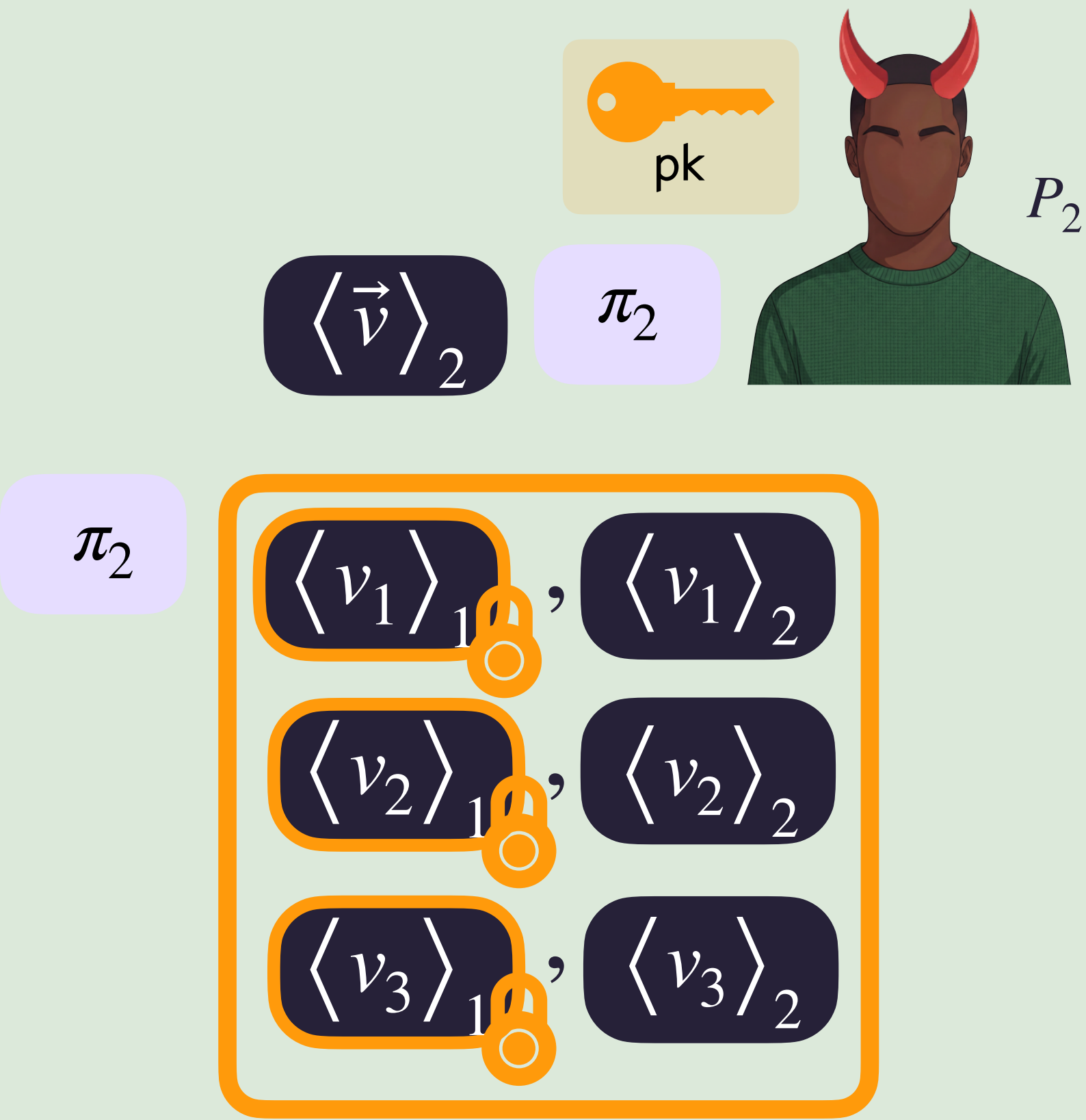
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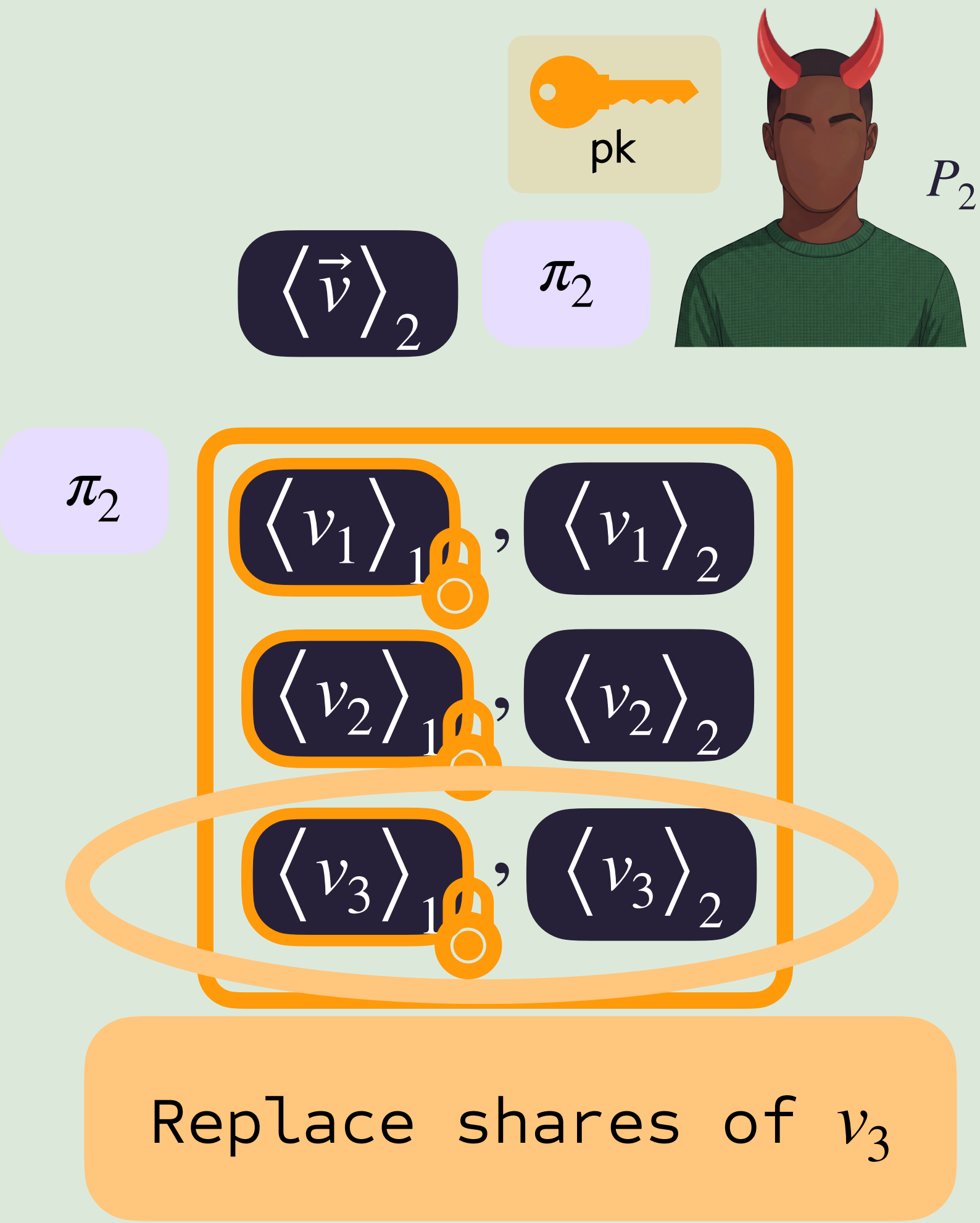
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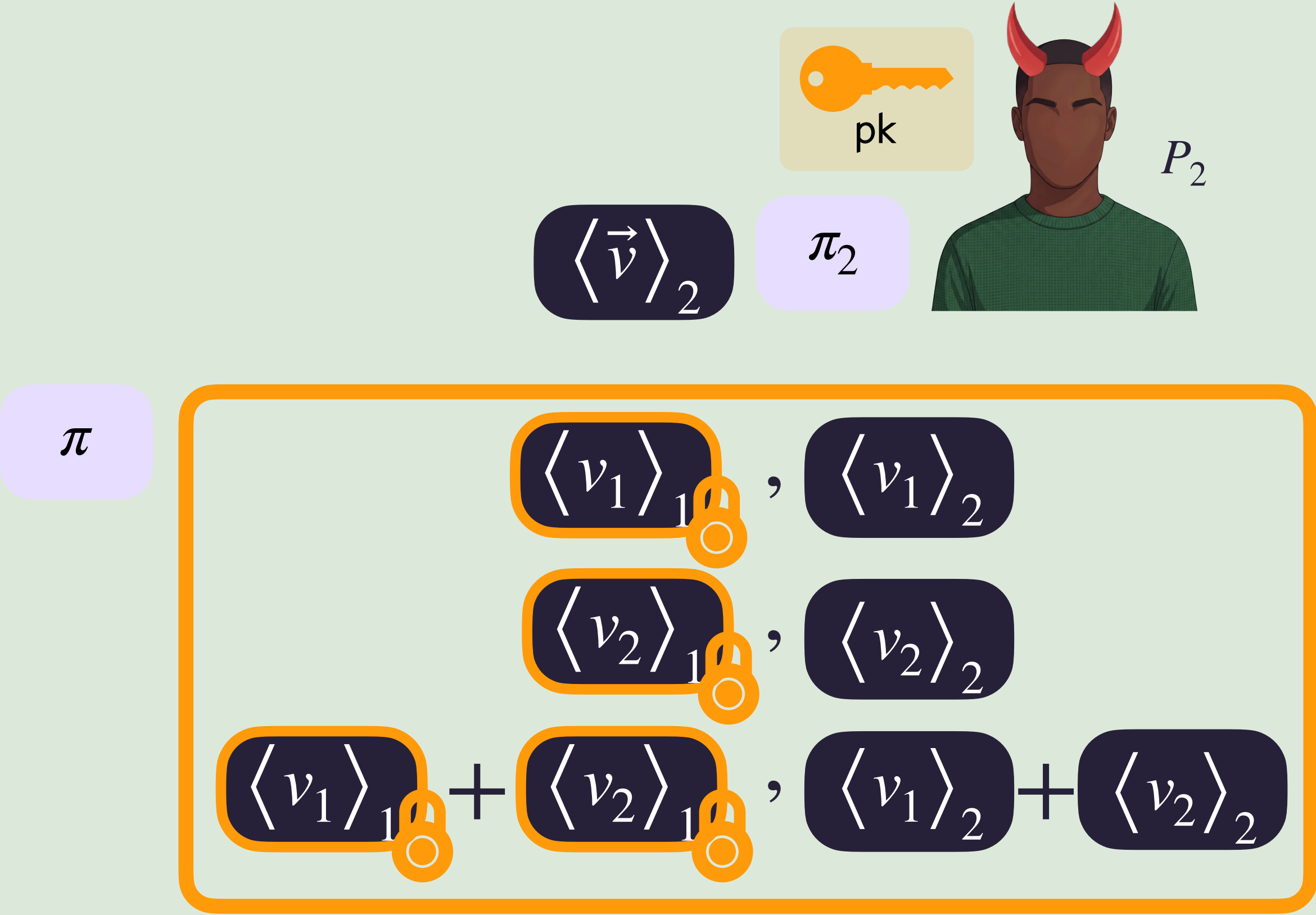
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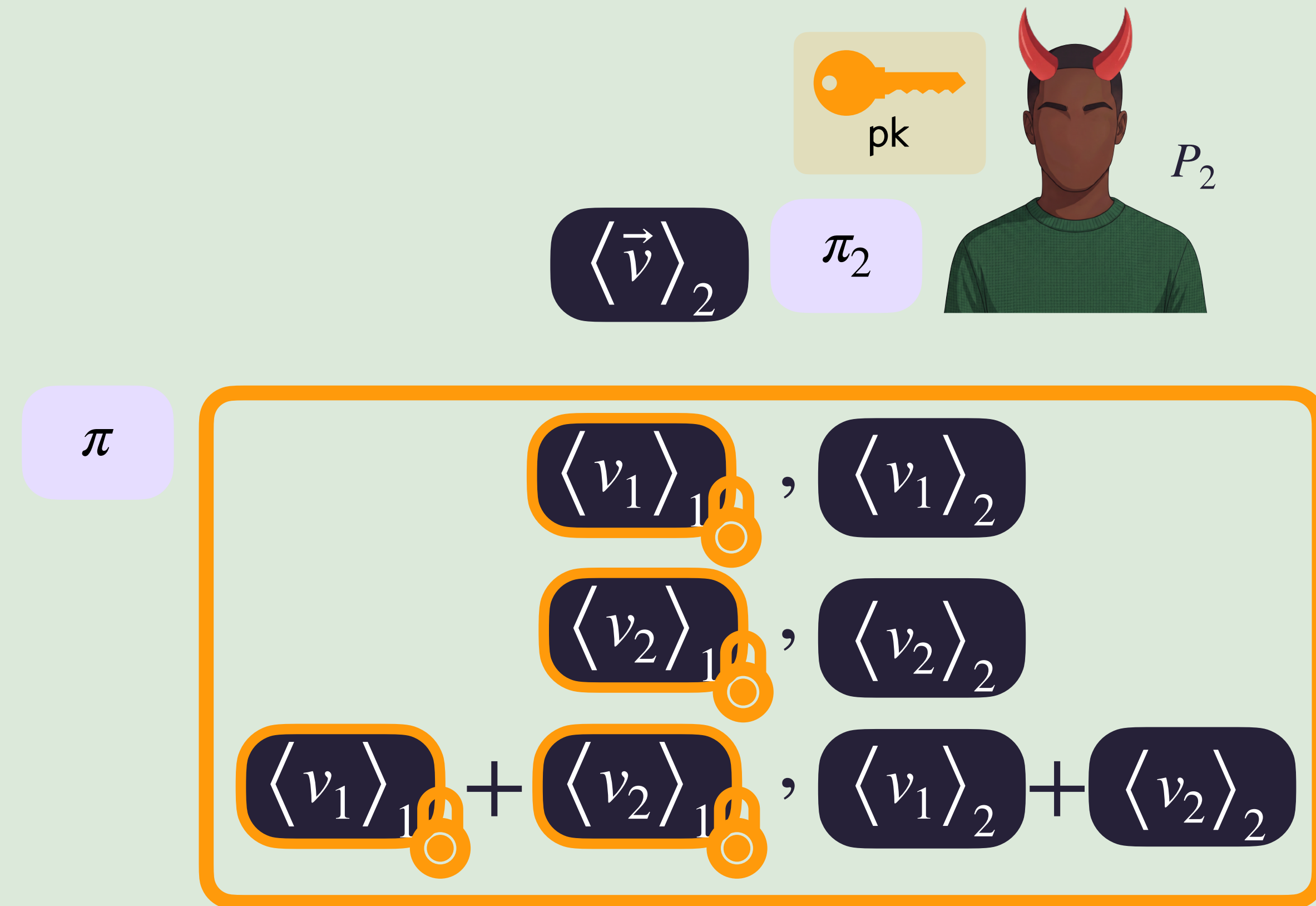
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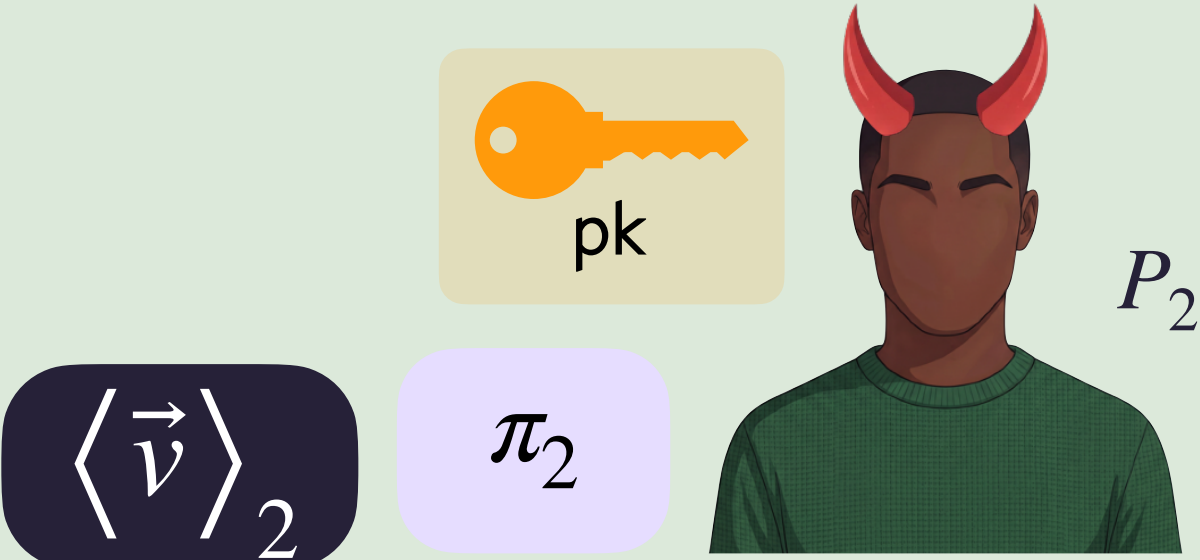
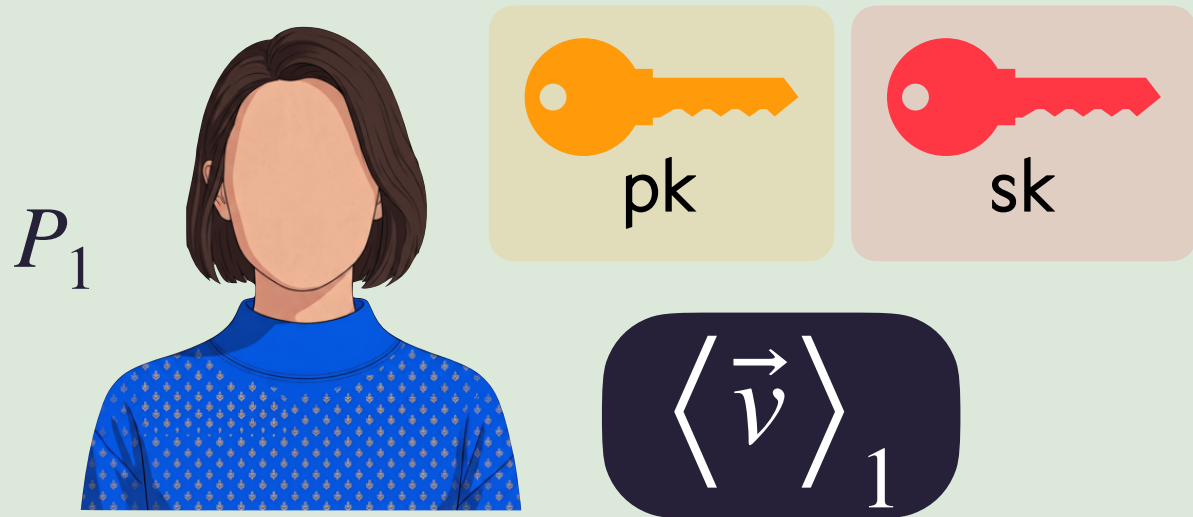
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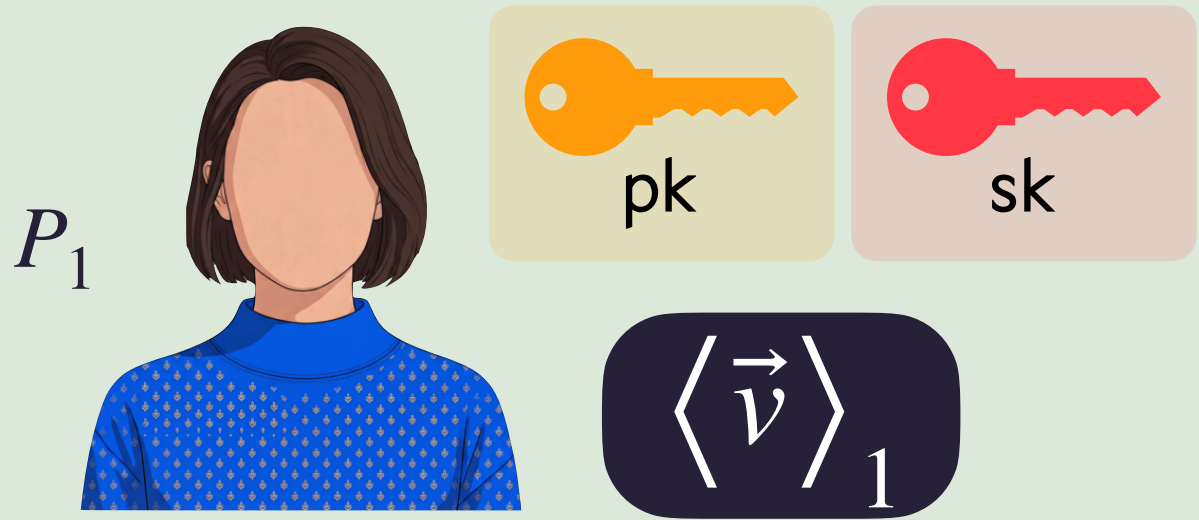
P_1 aborts set equality test $\implies v_1 + v_2 \neq v_3$

P_1 does not abort $\implies v_1 + v_2 = v_3$

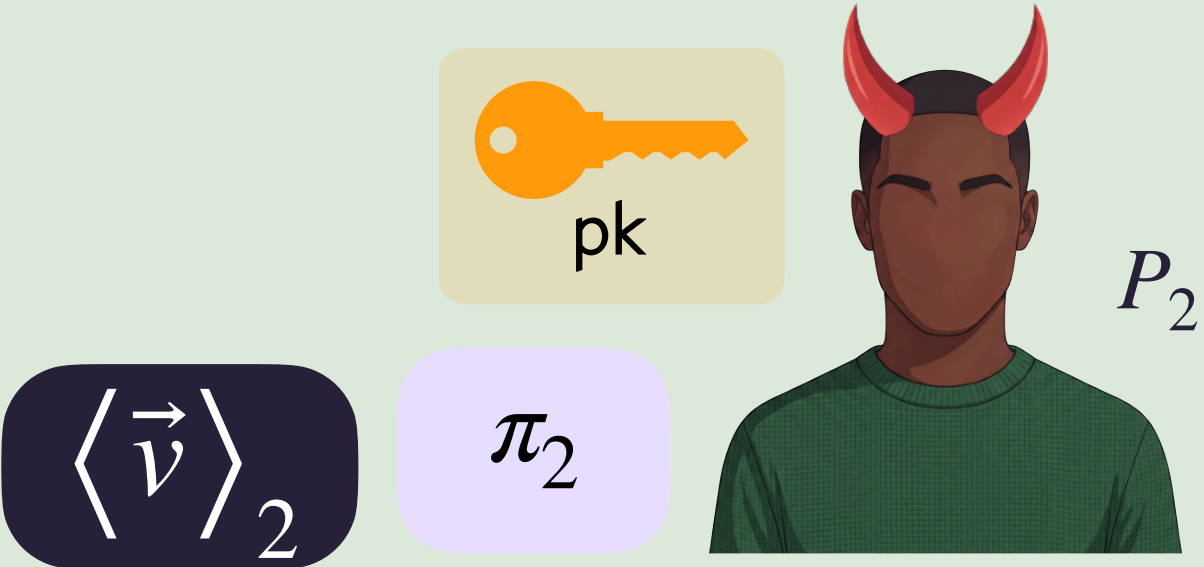
Idea 2: Split Shares Randomly



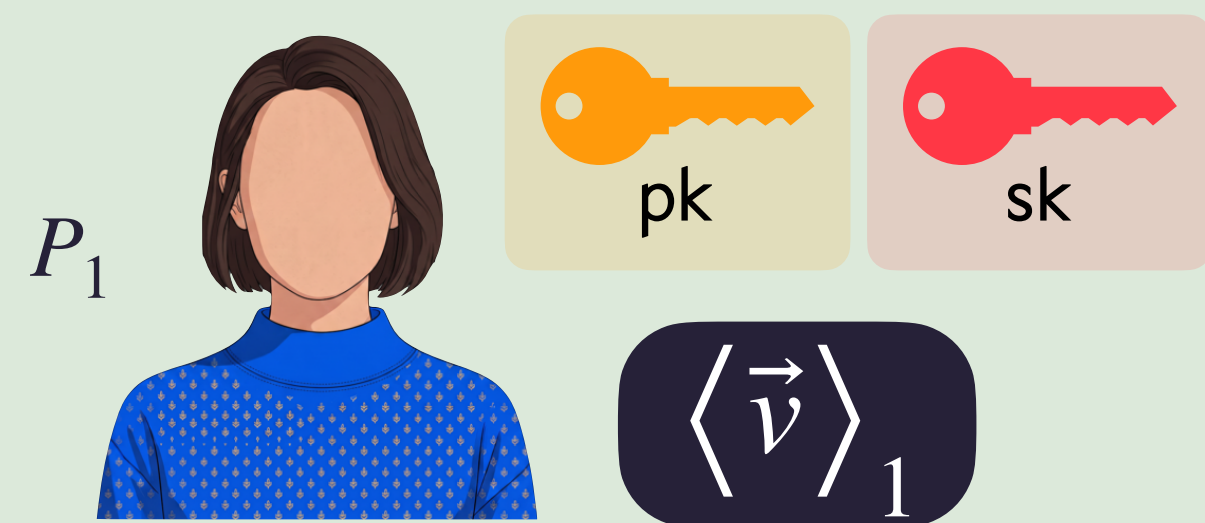
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Sample shares of a random masking vector $\langle \vec{m} \rangle$
e.g. using SPDZ preprocessing



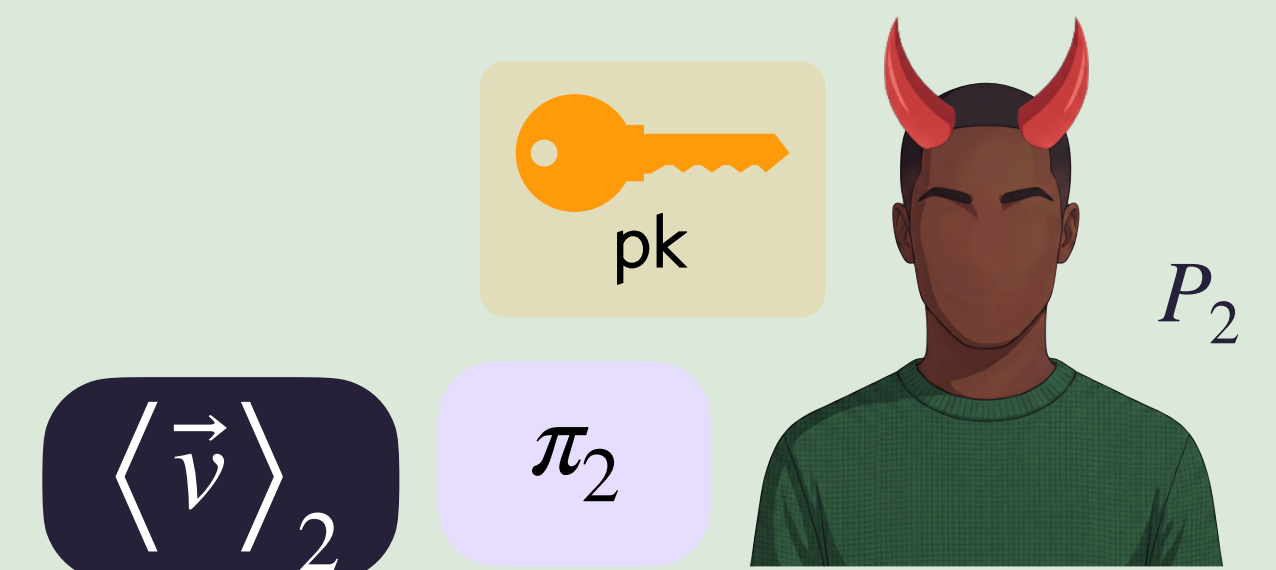
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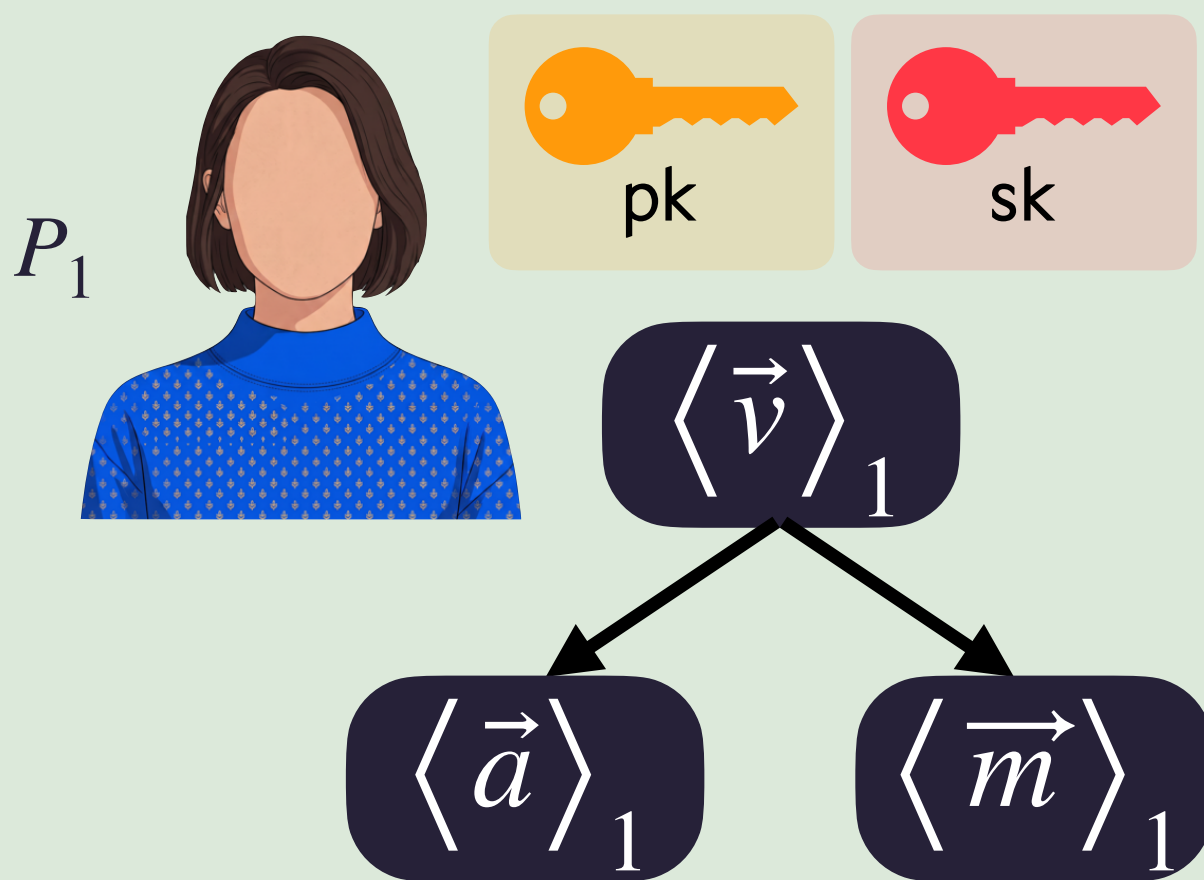
Sample shares of a **random masking vector** $\langle \vec{m} \rangle$

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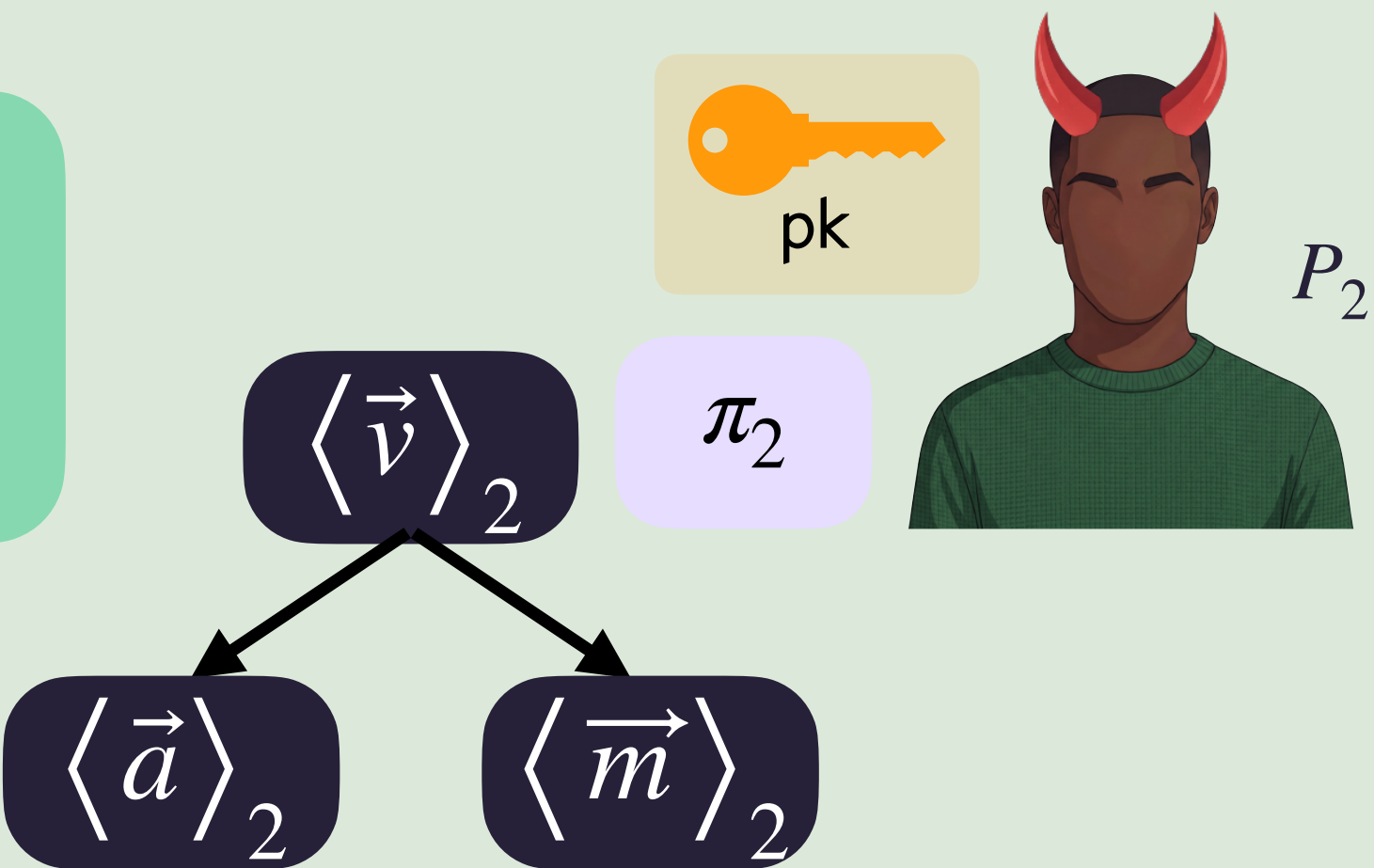


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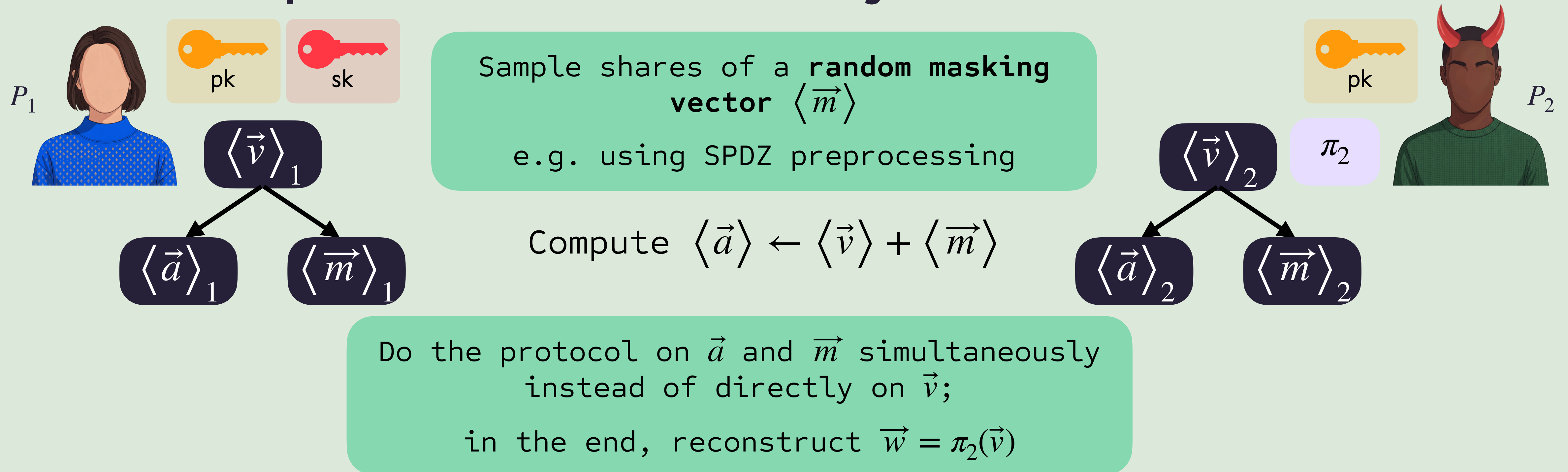


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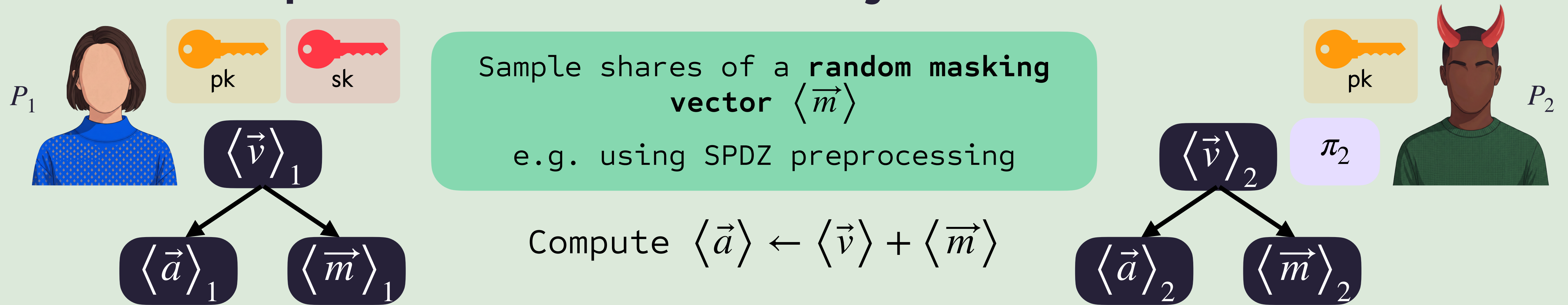
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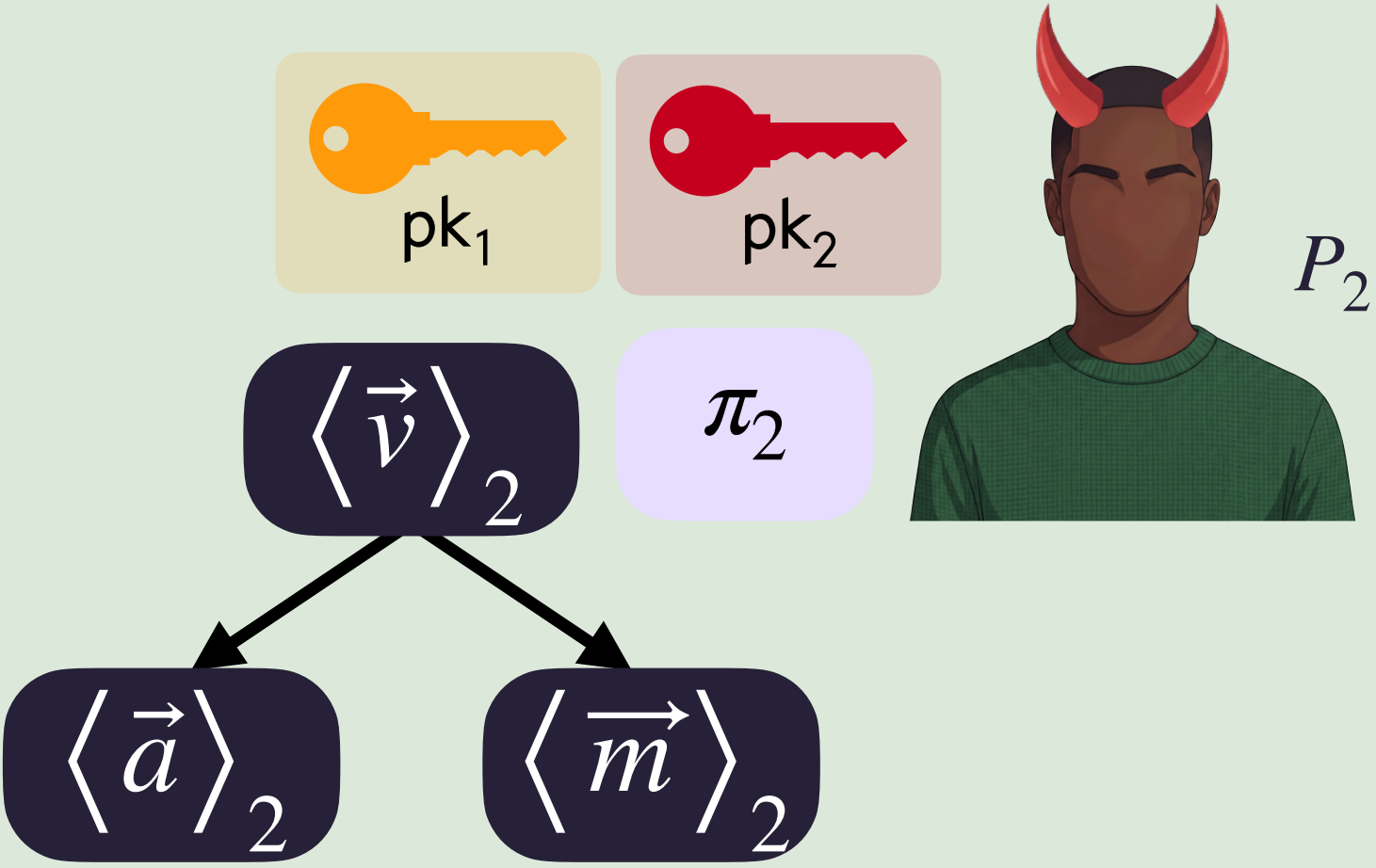
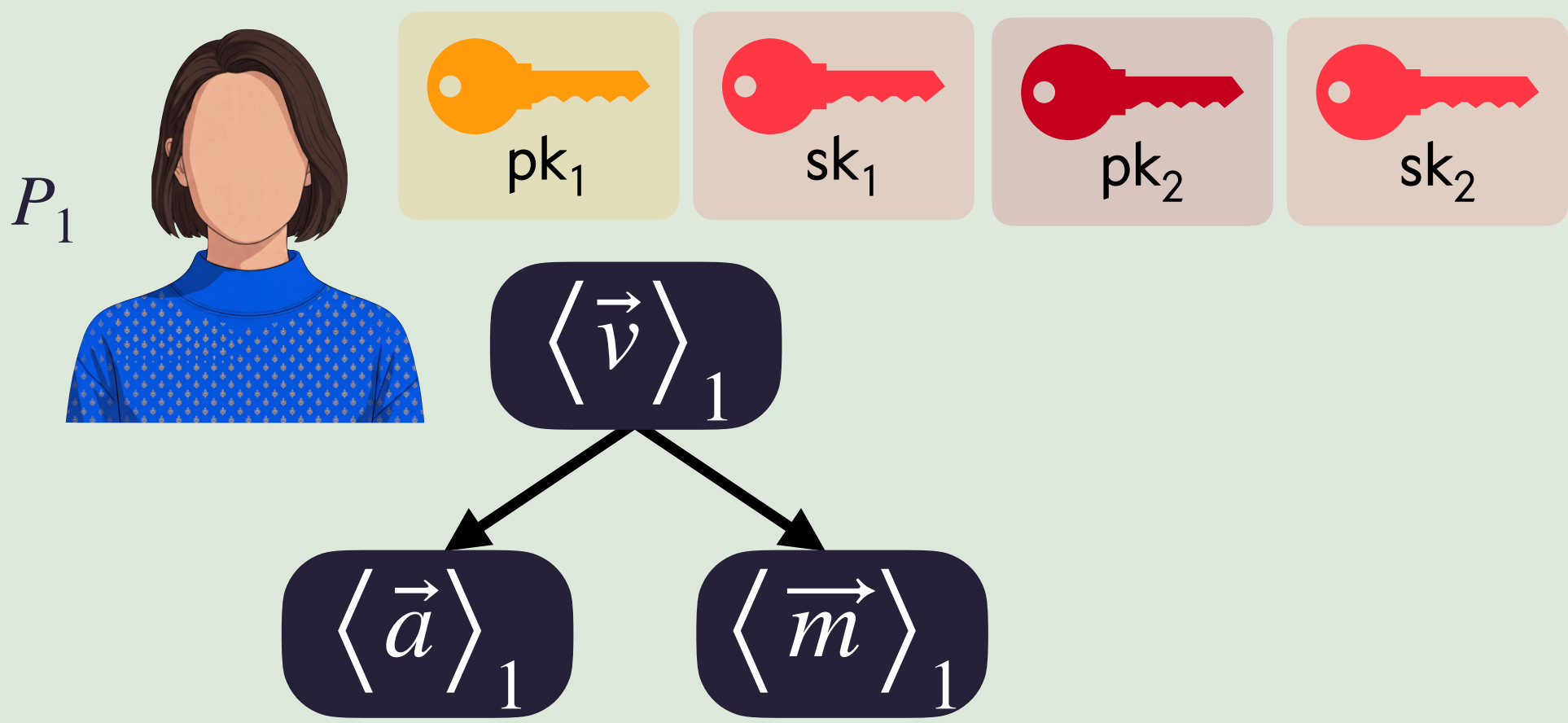
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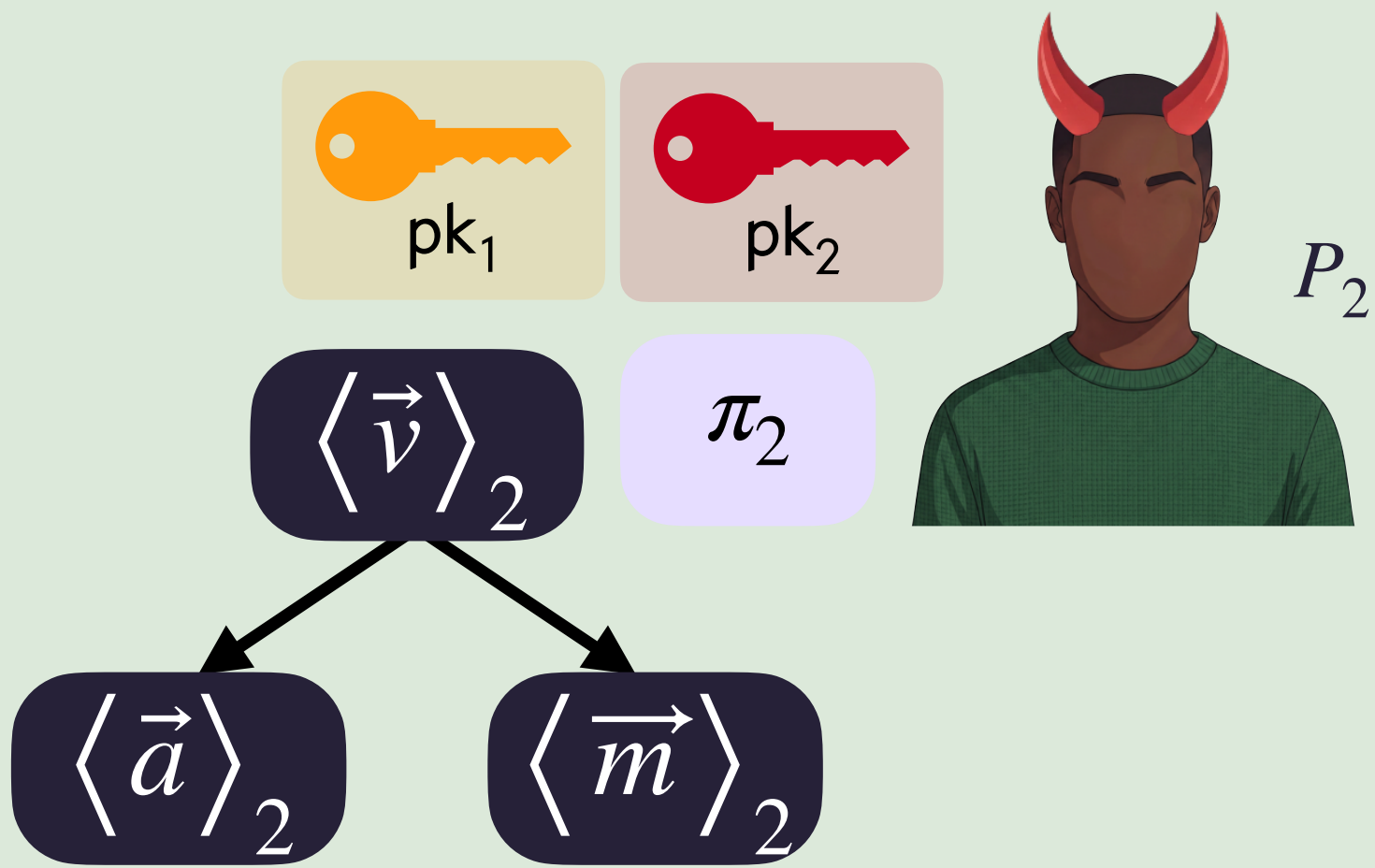
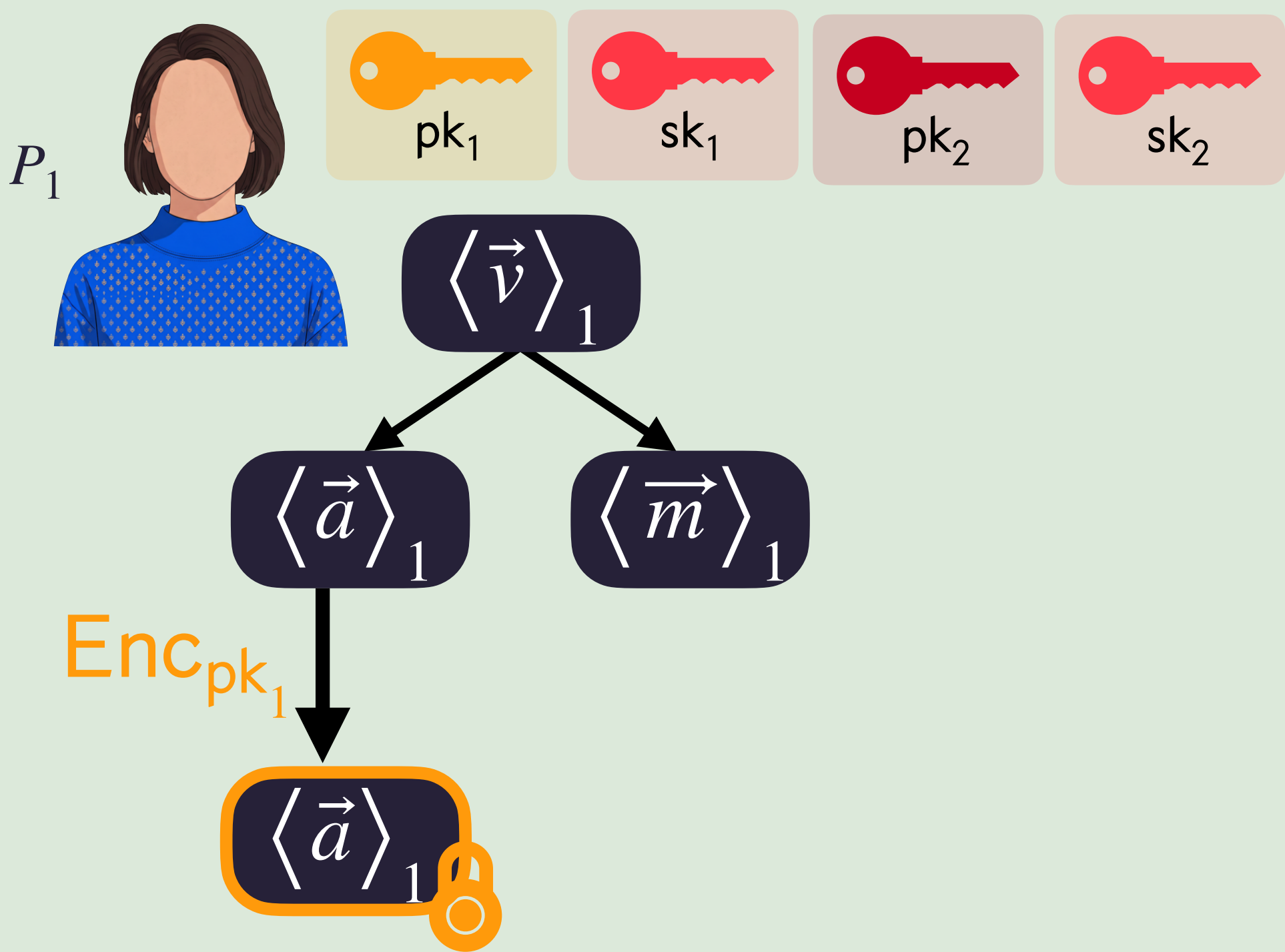
Do the protocol on $\vec{a}$ and $\vec{m}$ simultaneously
instead of directly on $\vec{v}$;
in the end, reconstruct $\vec{w} = \pi_2(\vec{v})$

To prevent linear attacks, encrypt
using **different public keys**

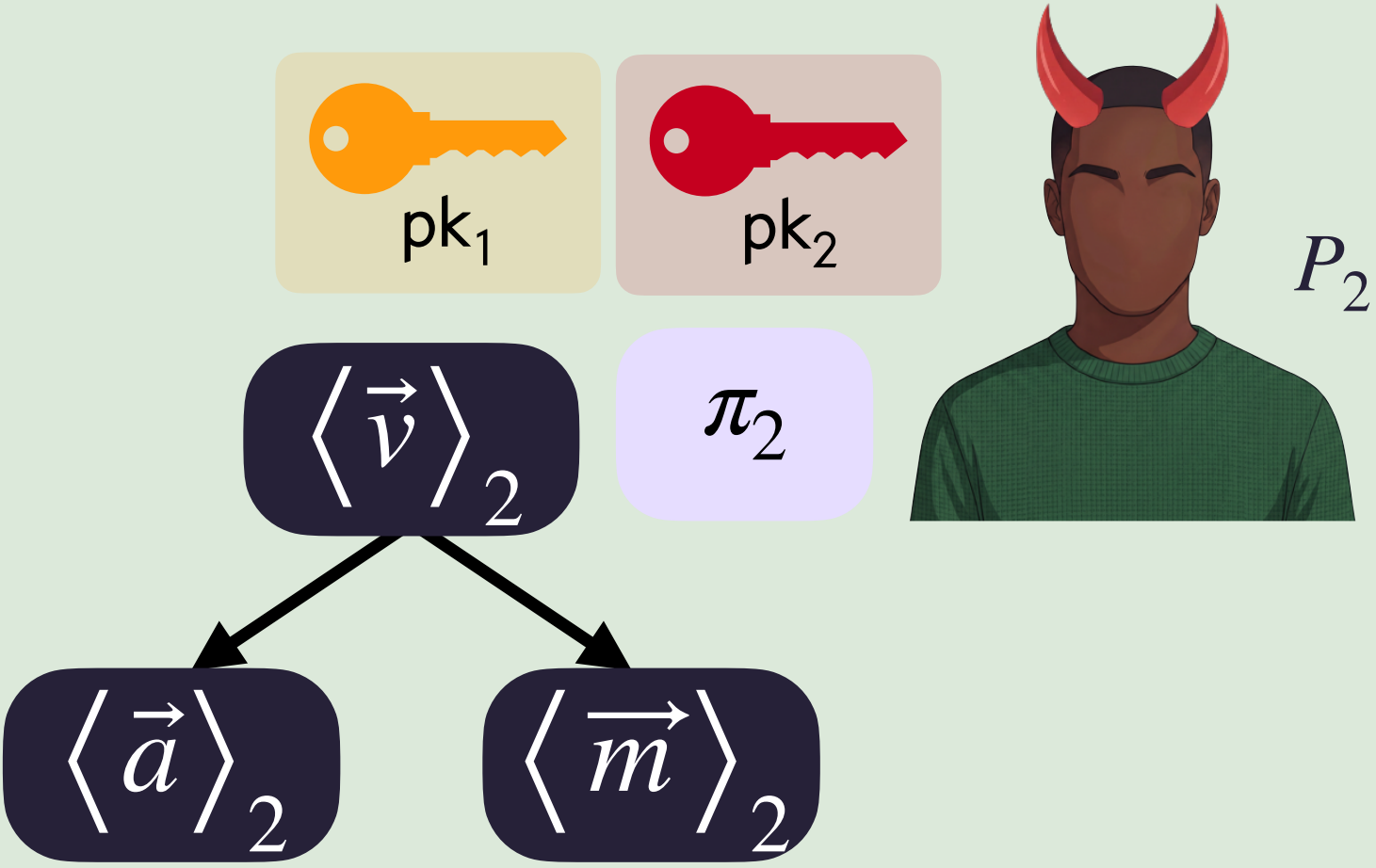
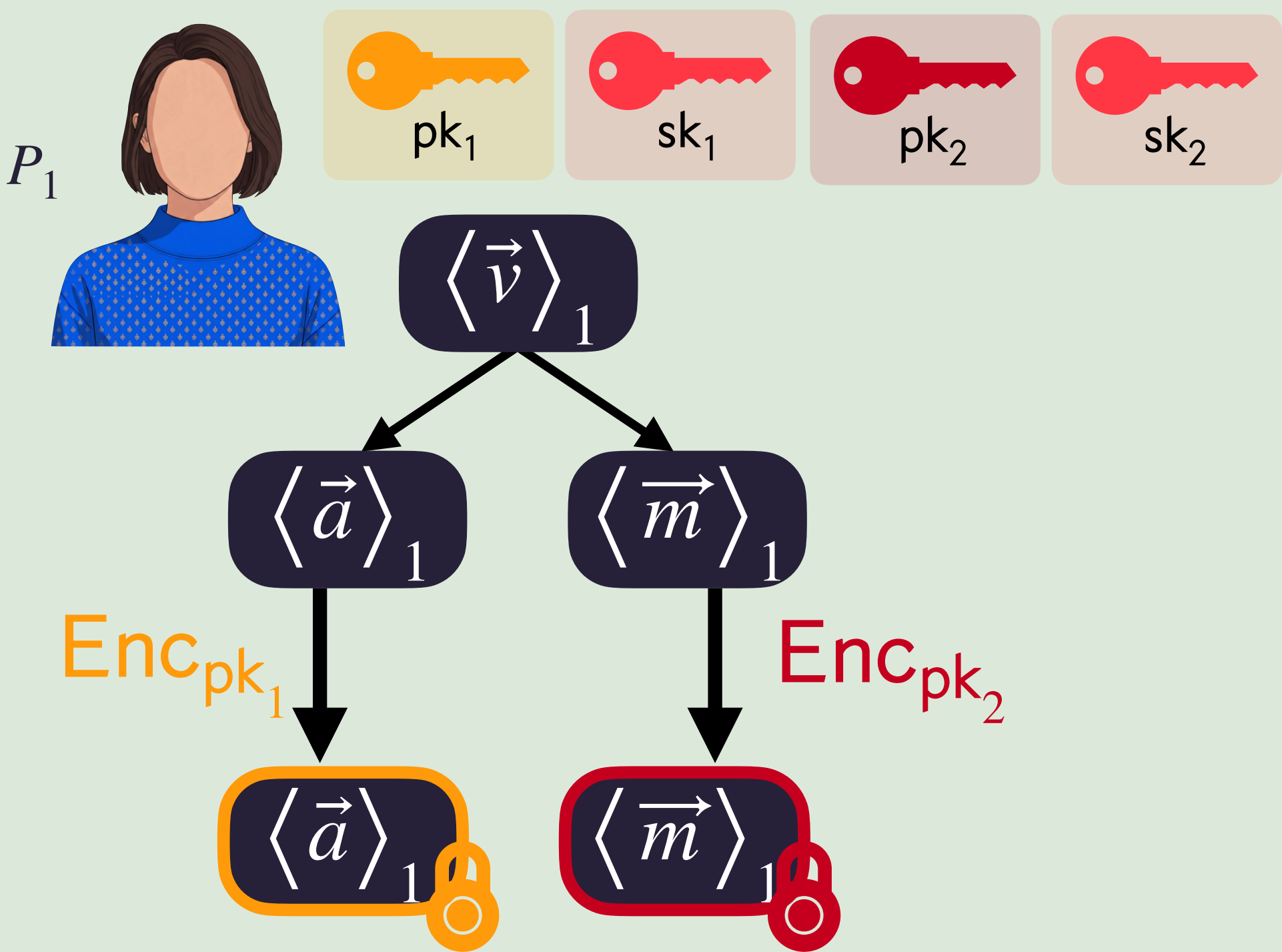
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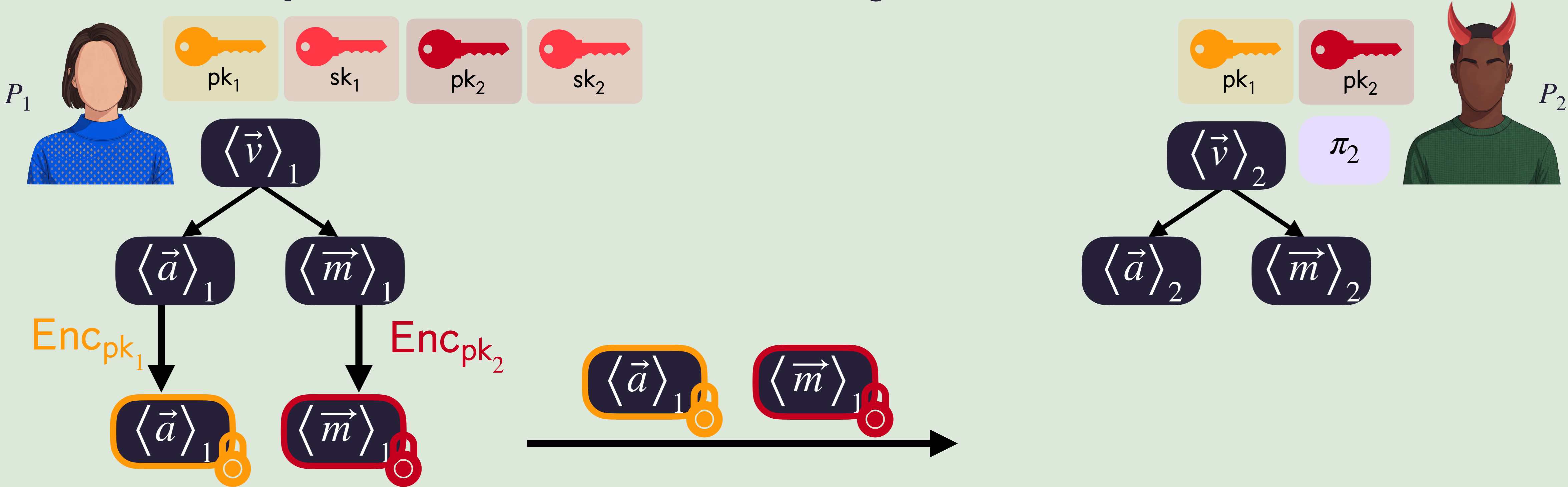
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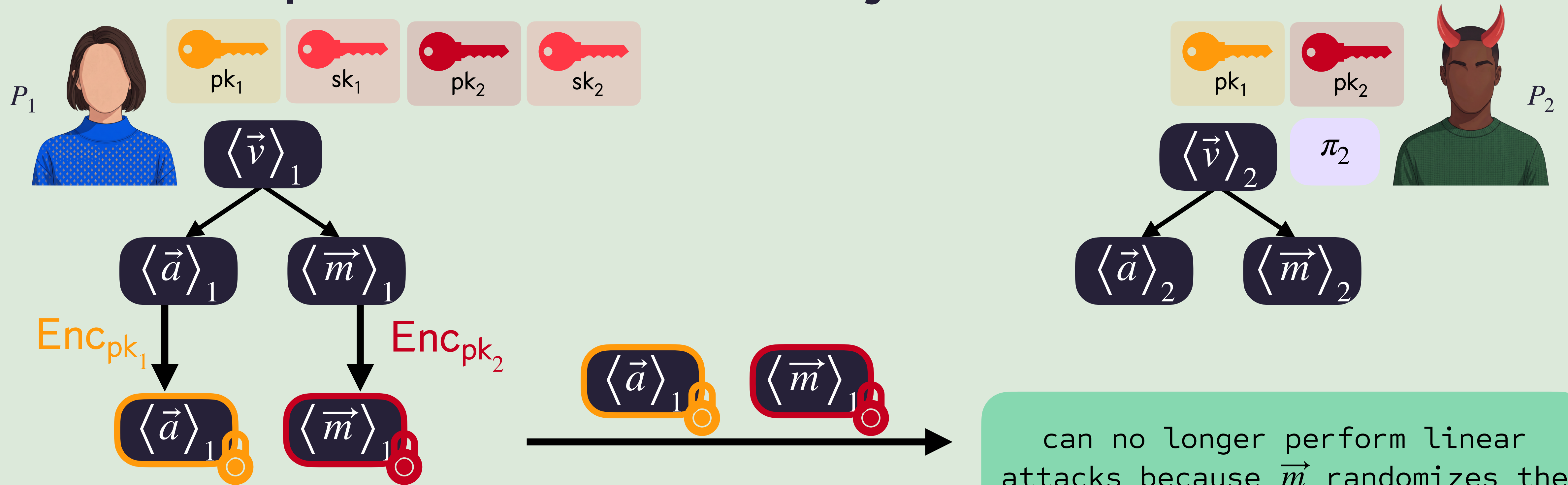
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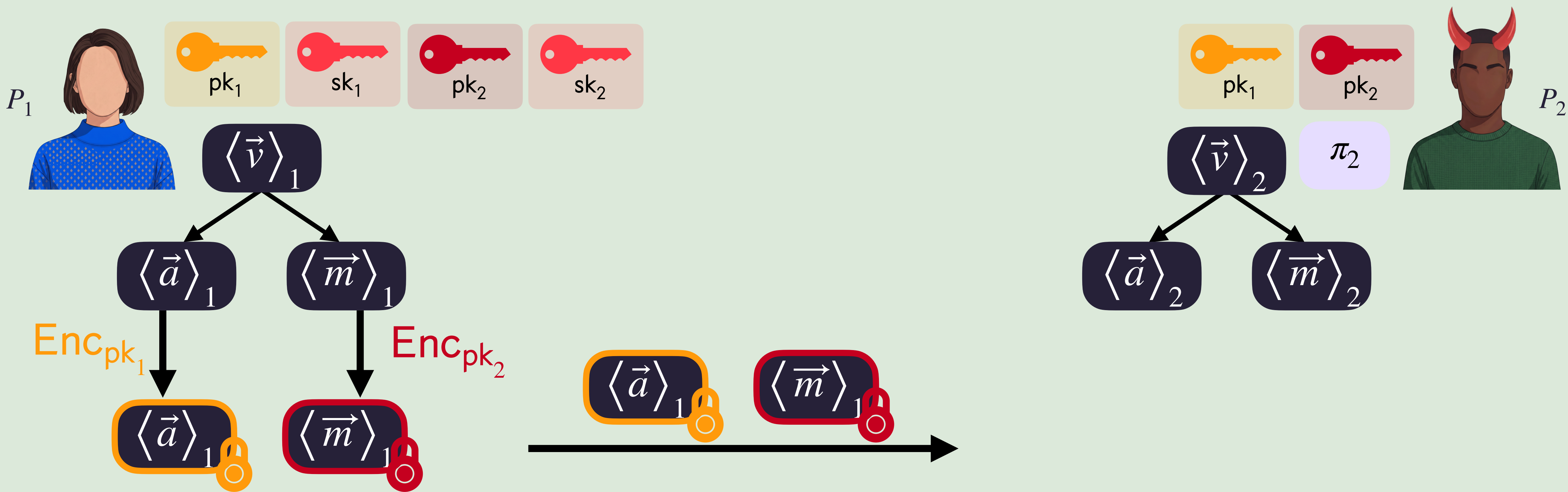


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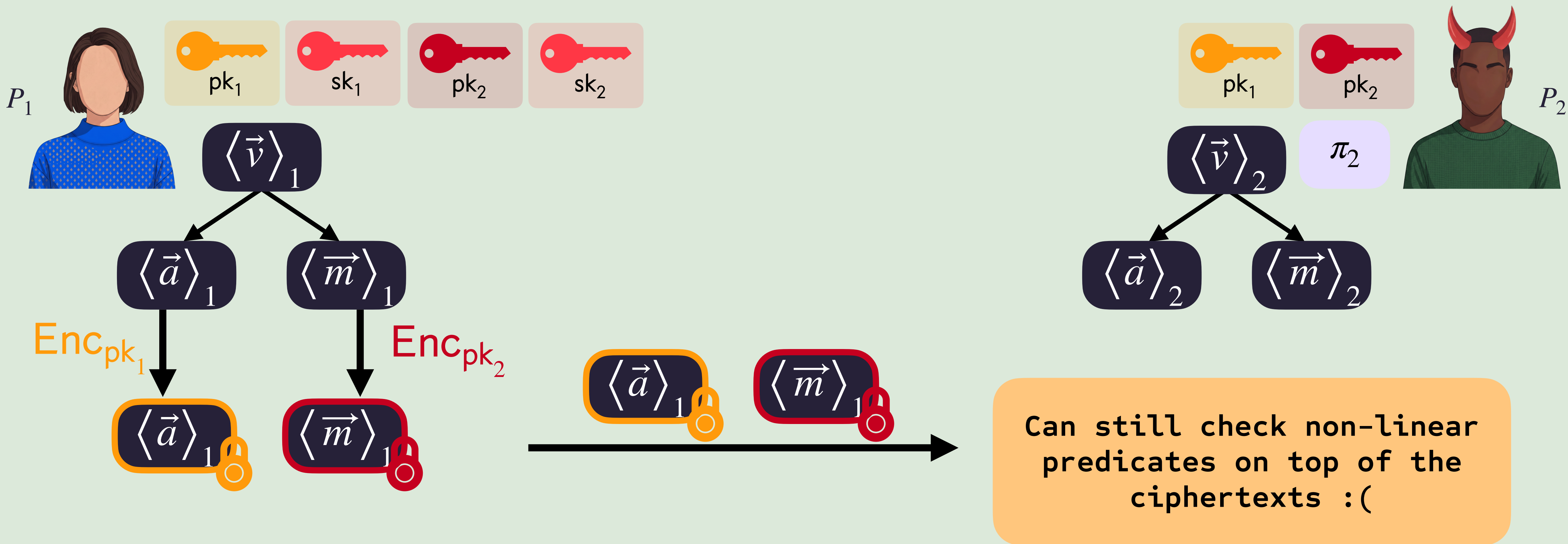


can no longer perform linear attacks because $\vec{m}$ randomizes the input $\vec{v}$, and ciphertexts of $\vec{a}$ and $\vec{m}$ are under different keys

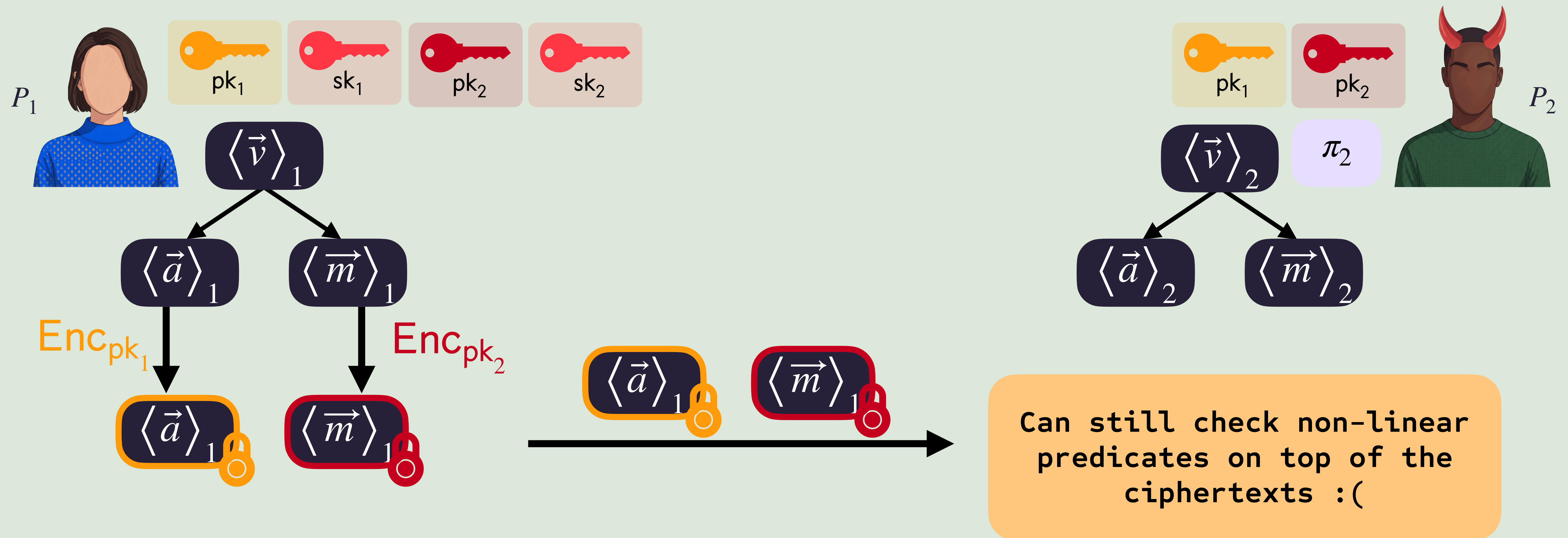
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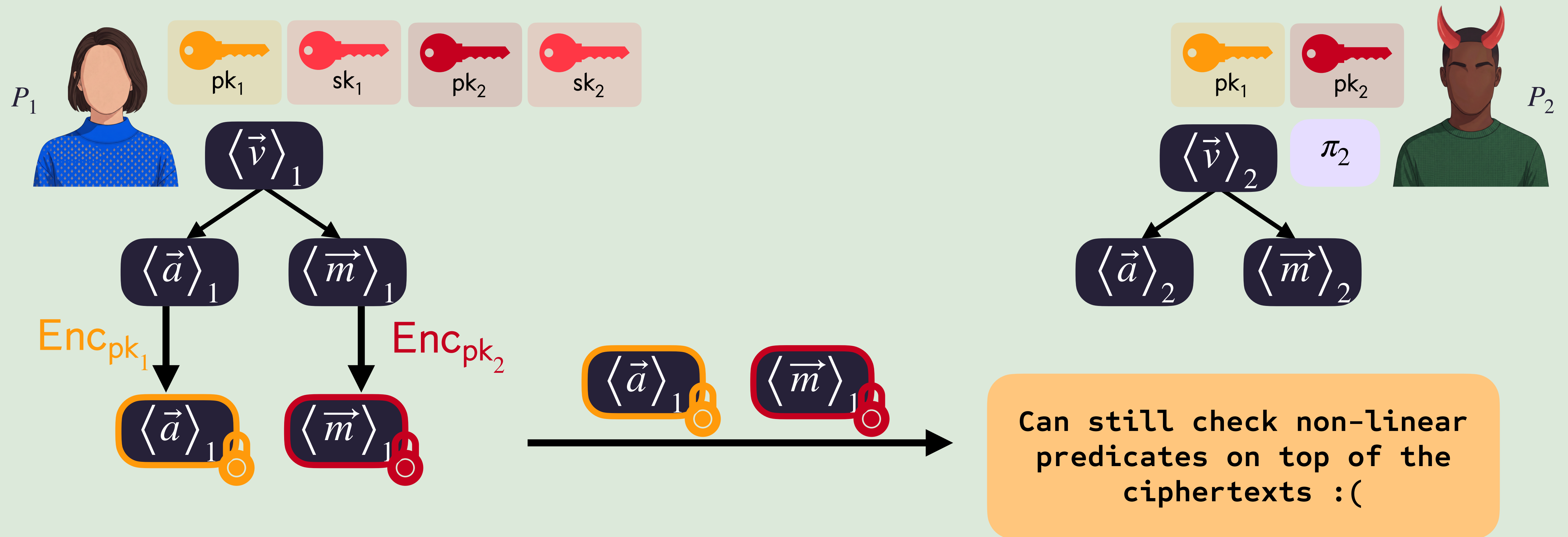


What about non-linear attacks?



To prevent non-linear predicates, we assume our LHE scheme is “**linear-only**”: a well-known (non-falsifiable) assumption in proof systems

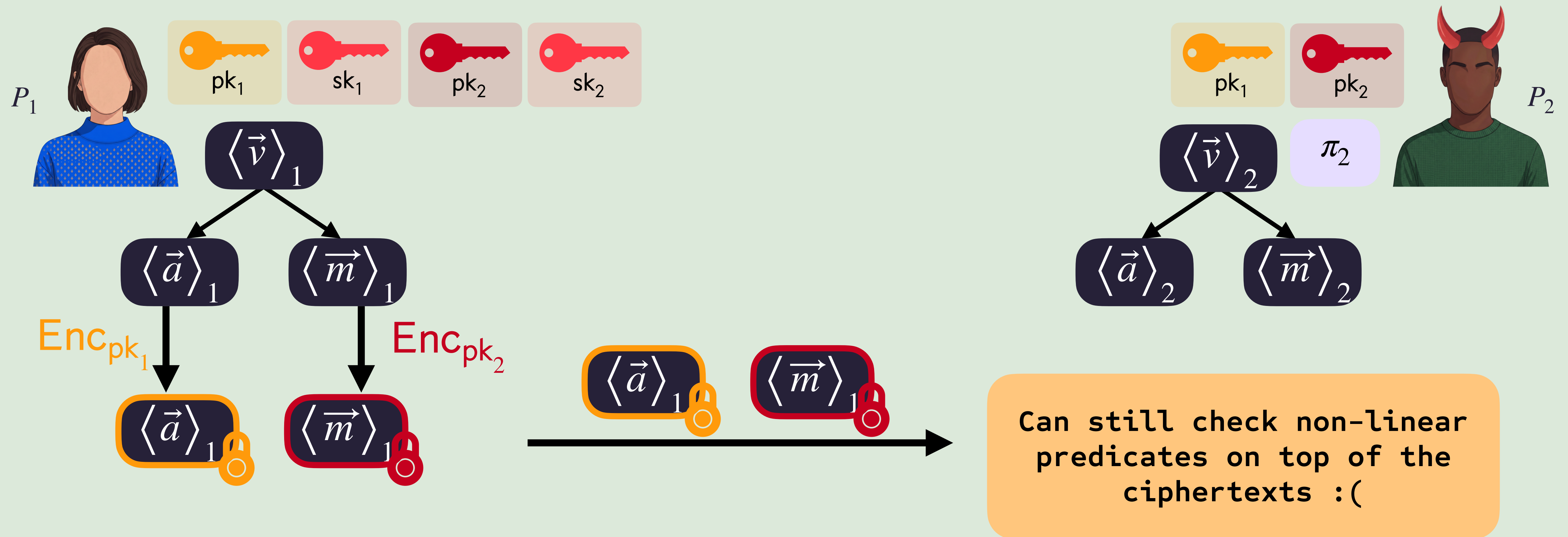
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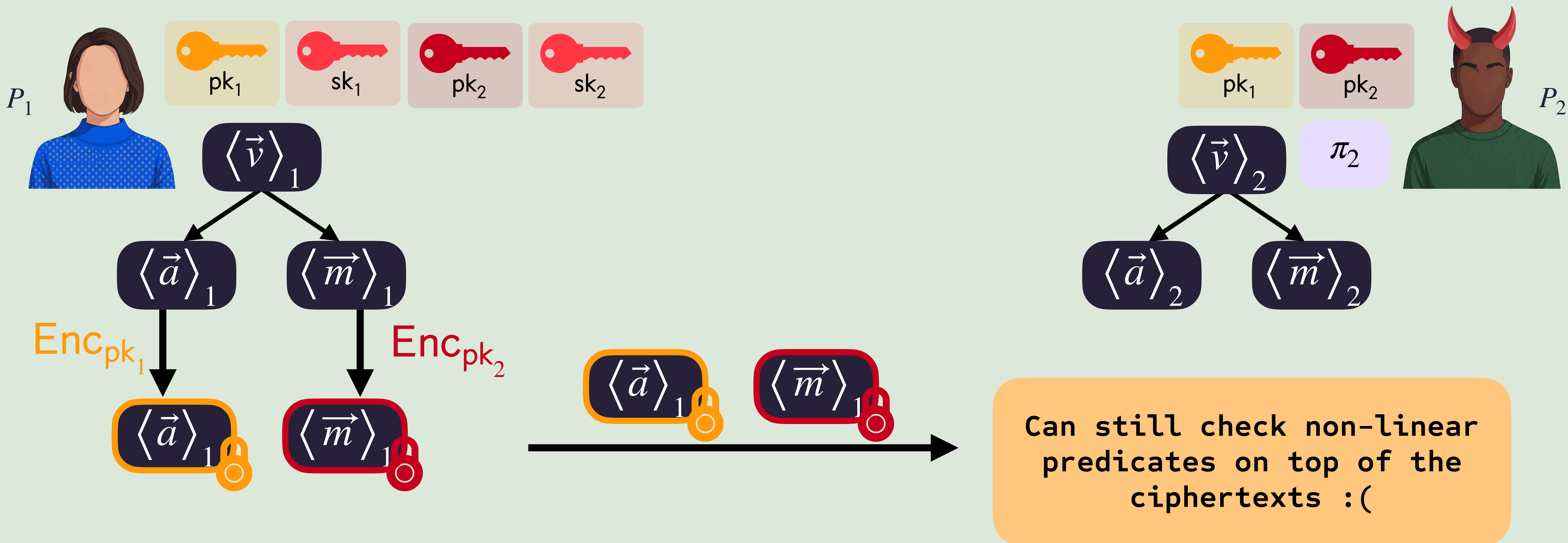


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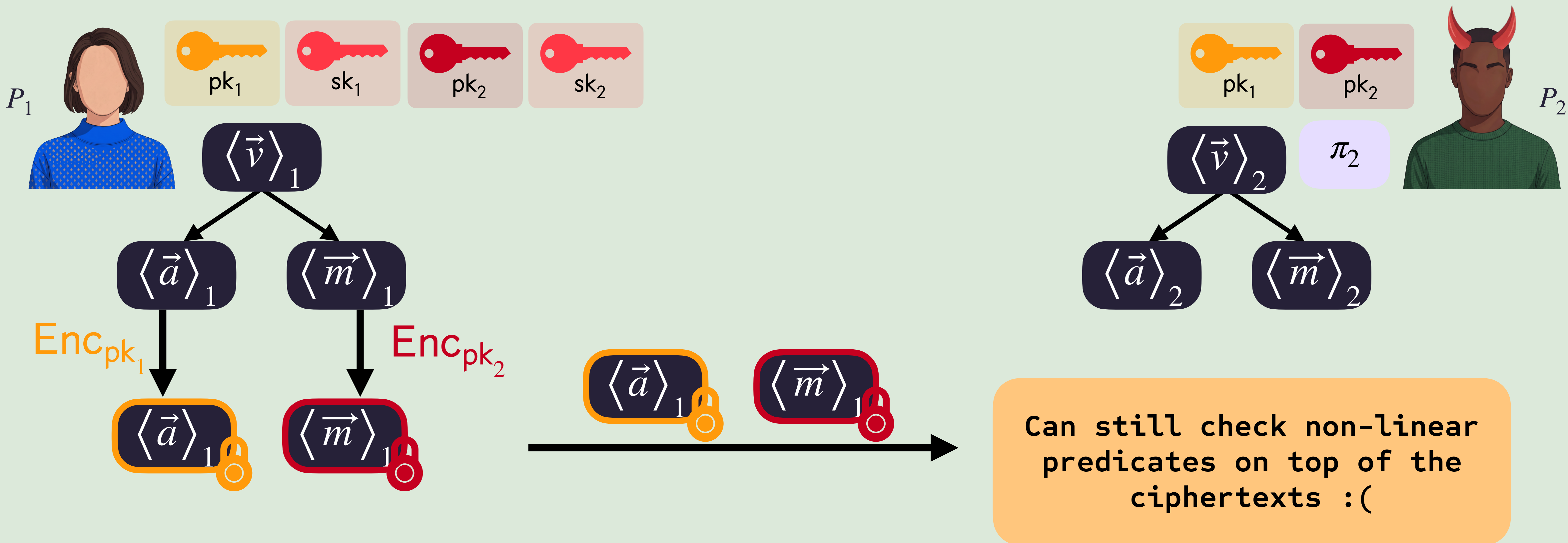
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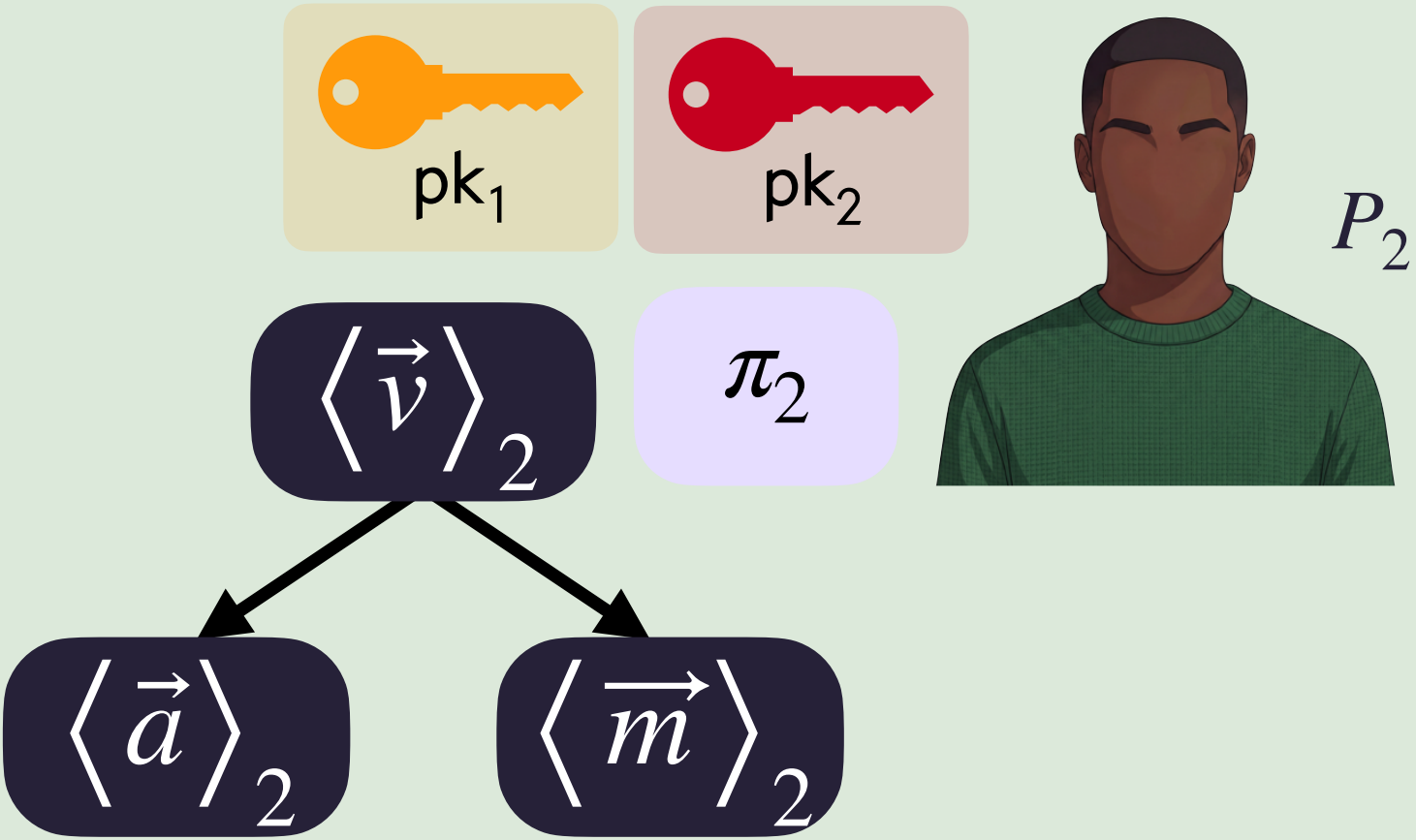
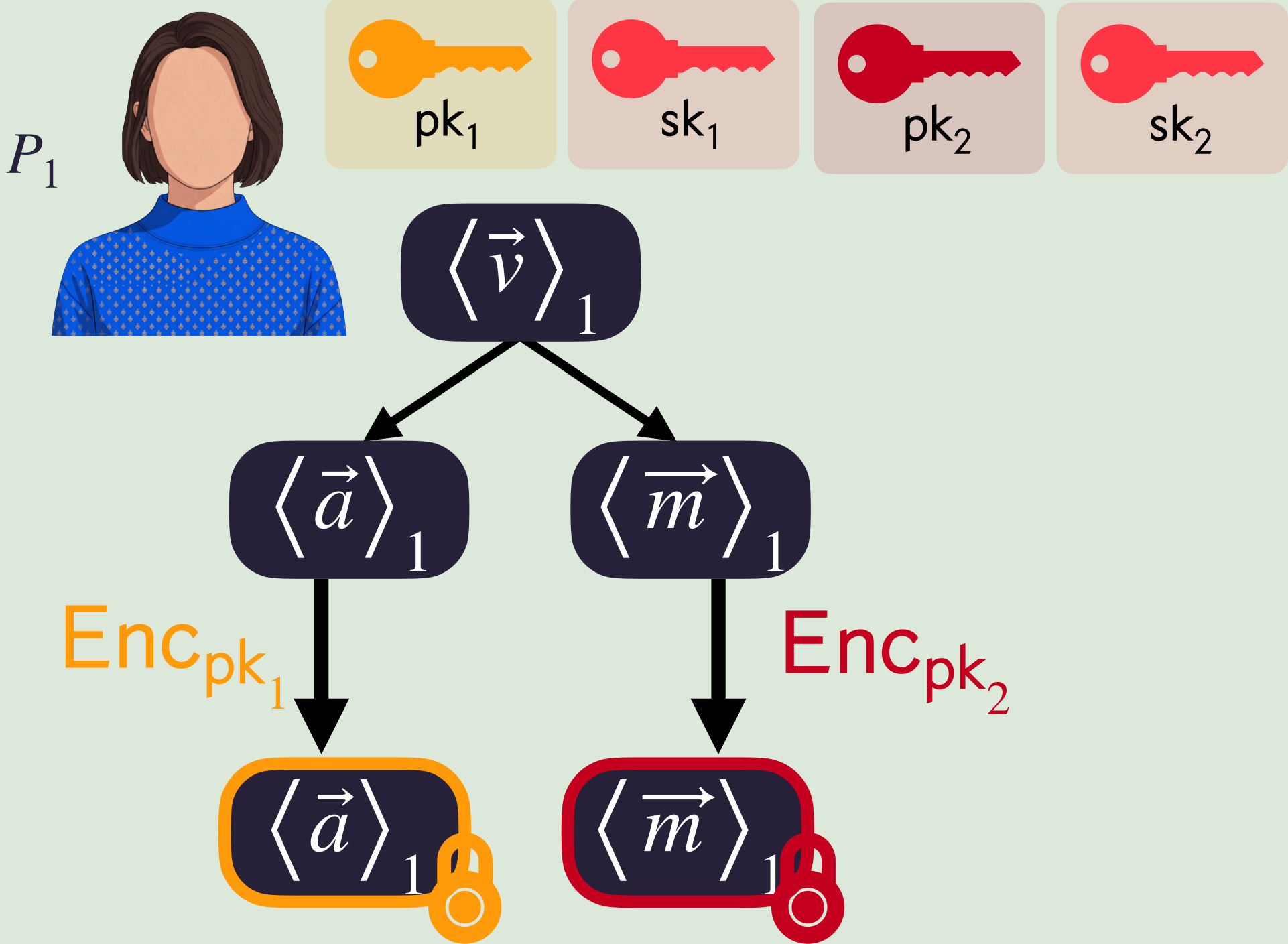
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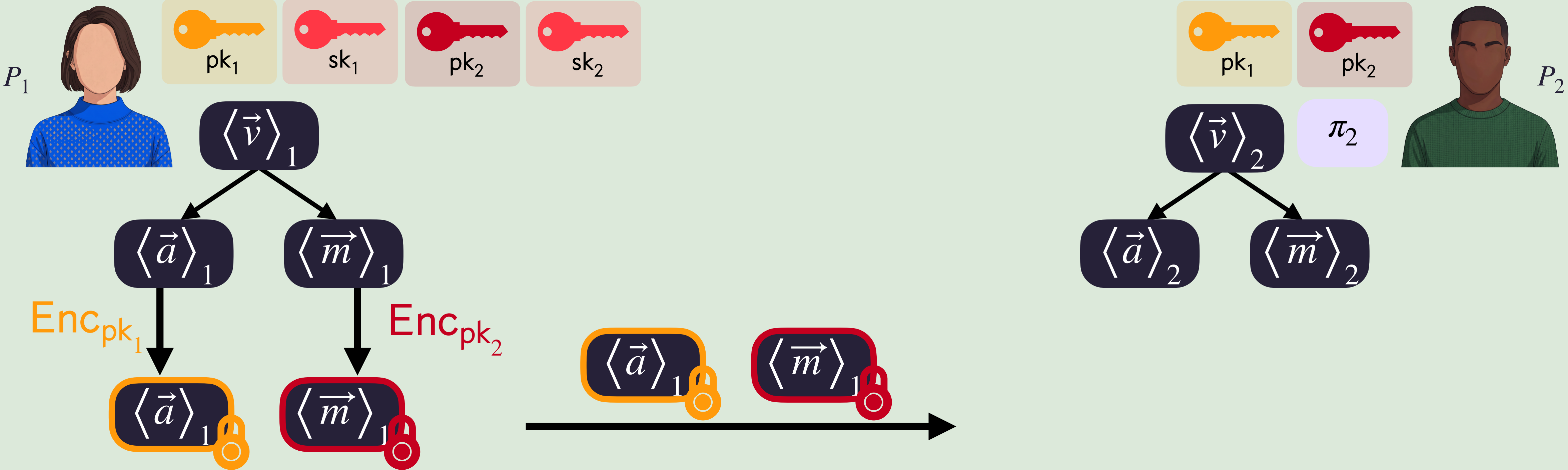
see paper for details!

weaker assumptions

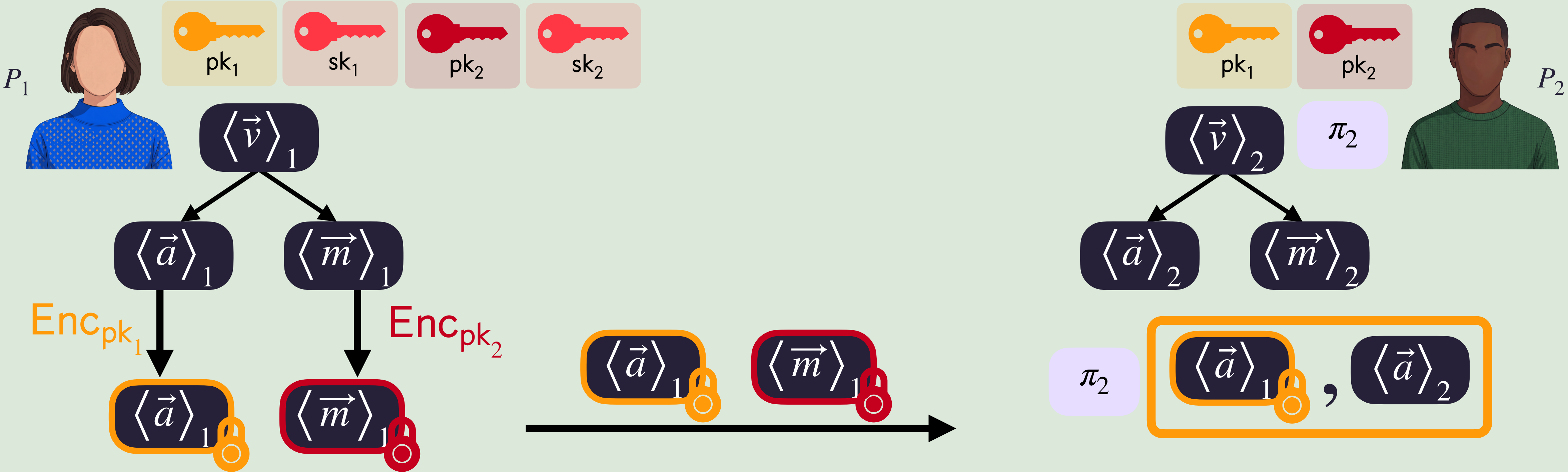
Protocol so far...



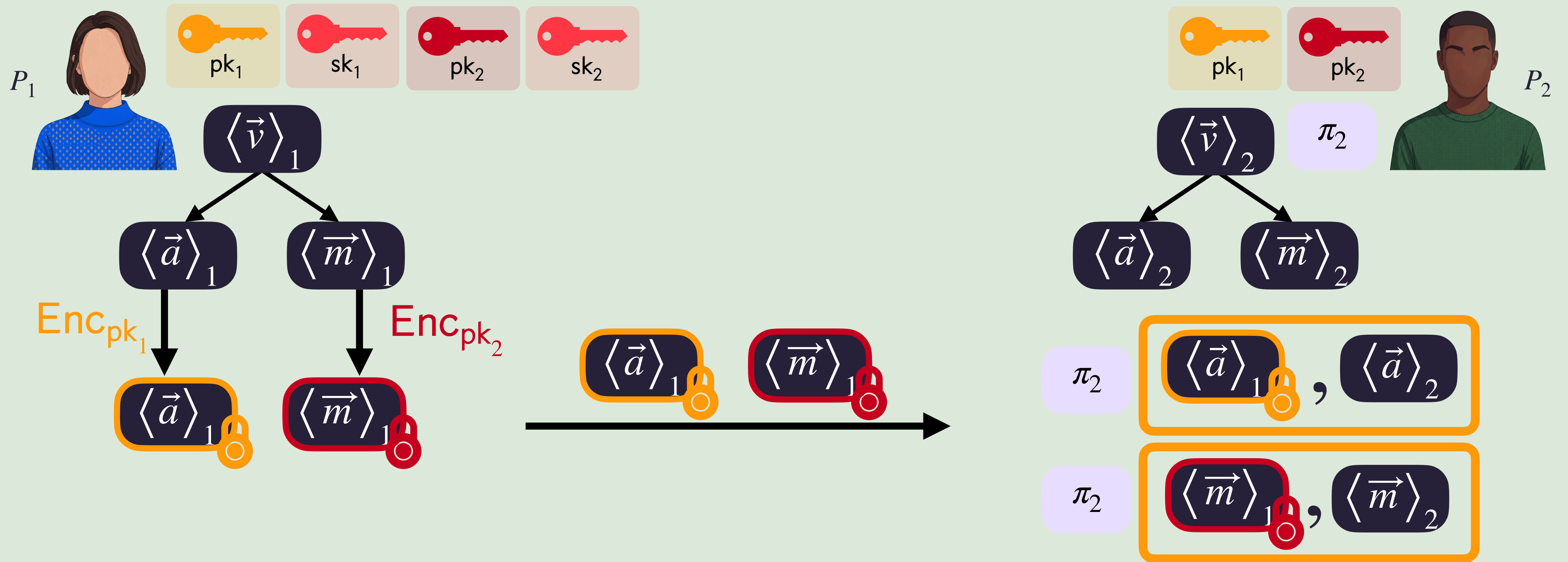
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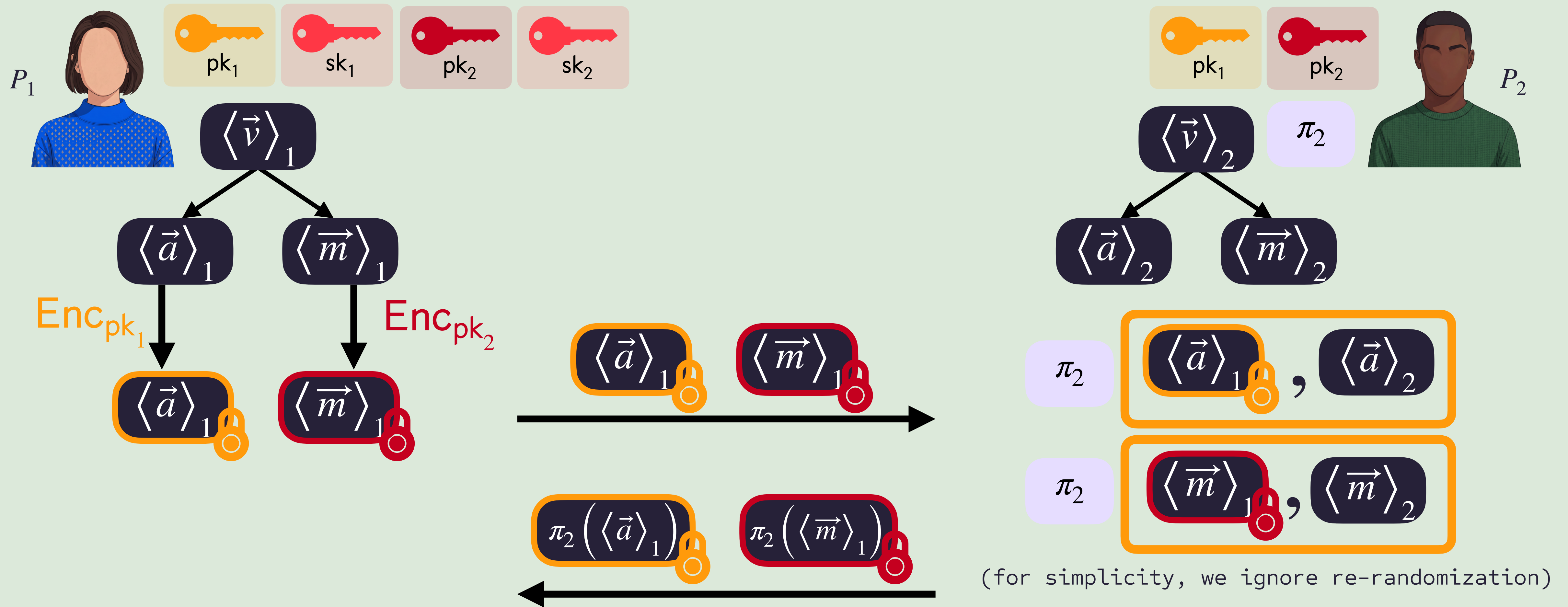
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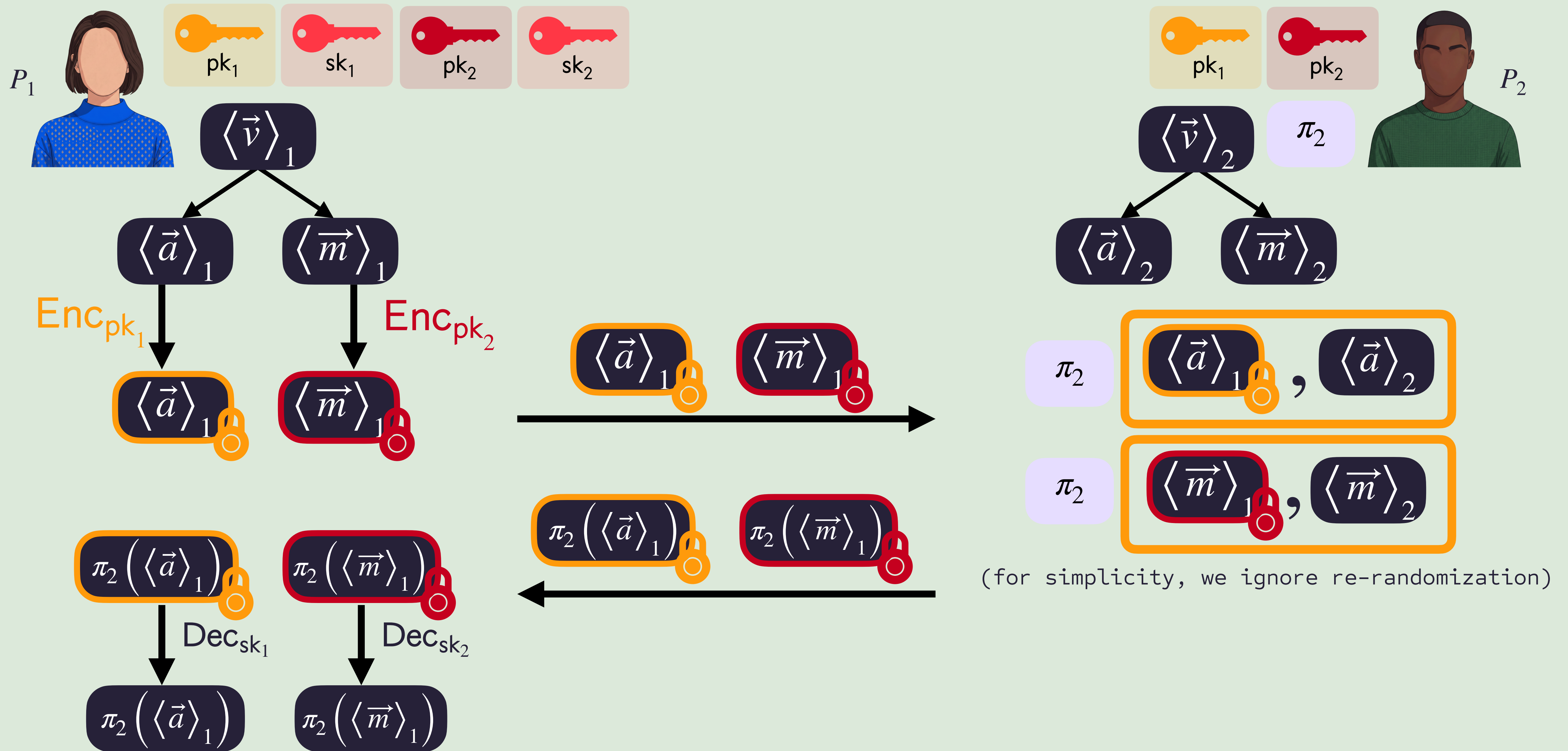
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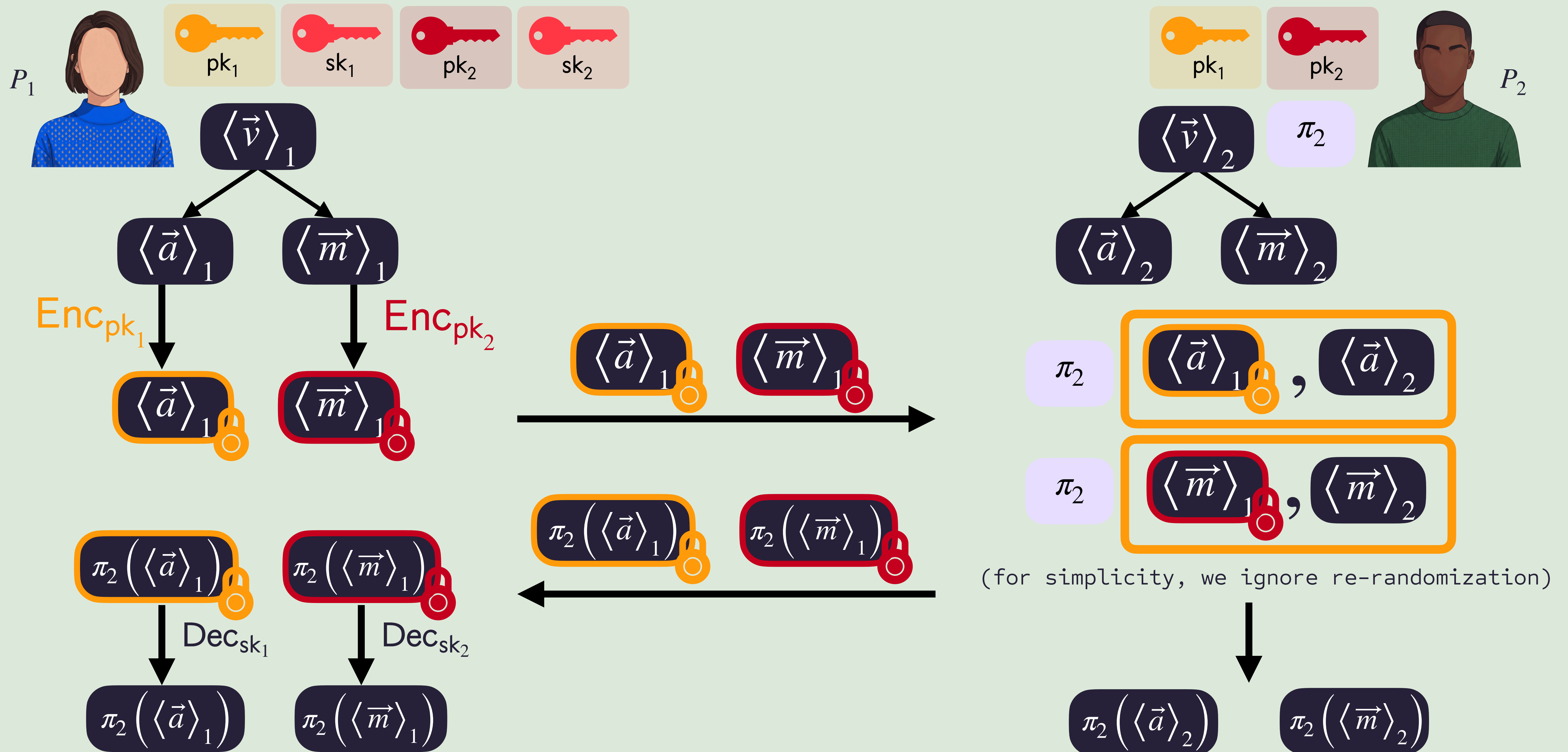
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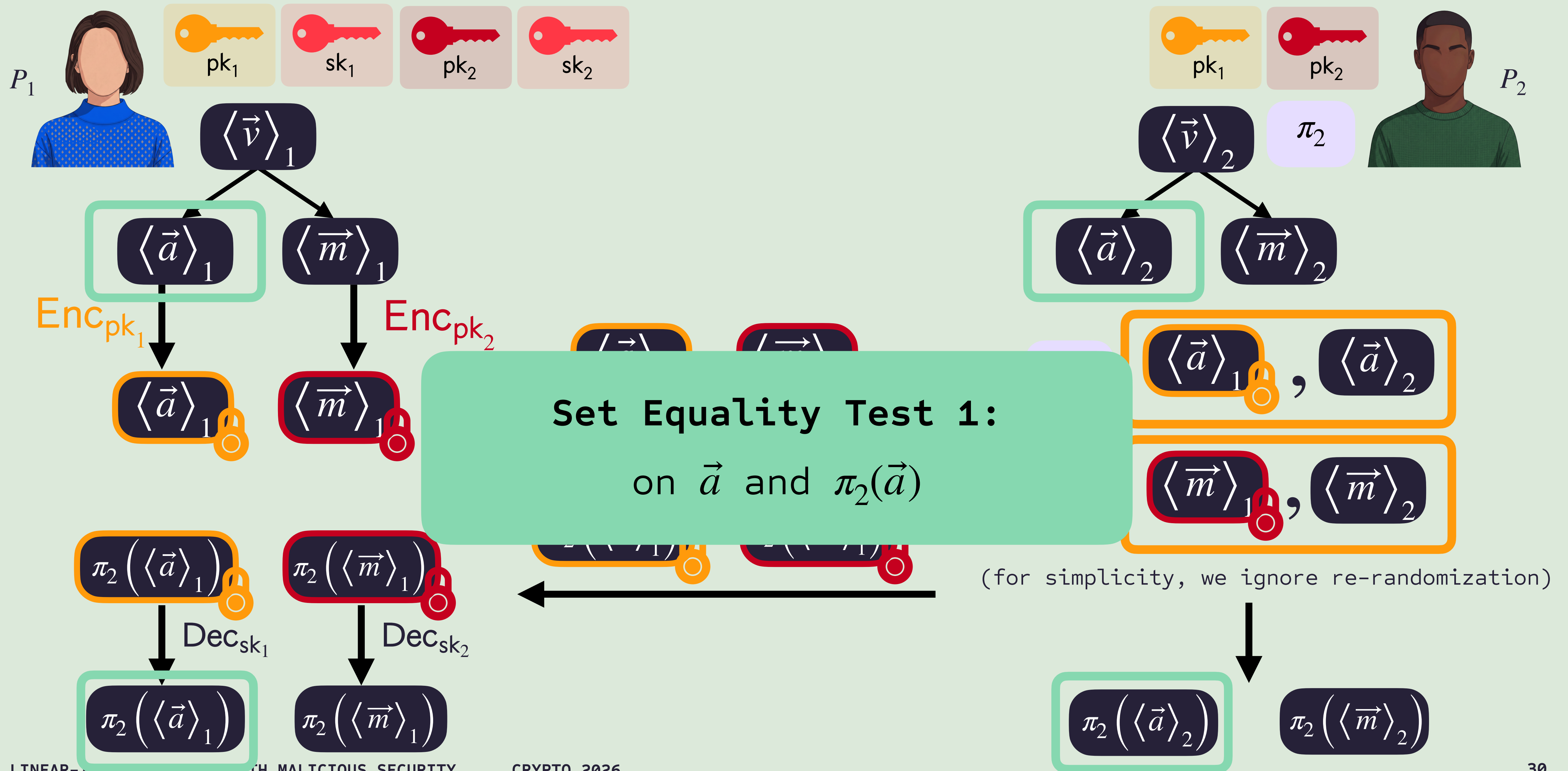
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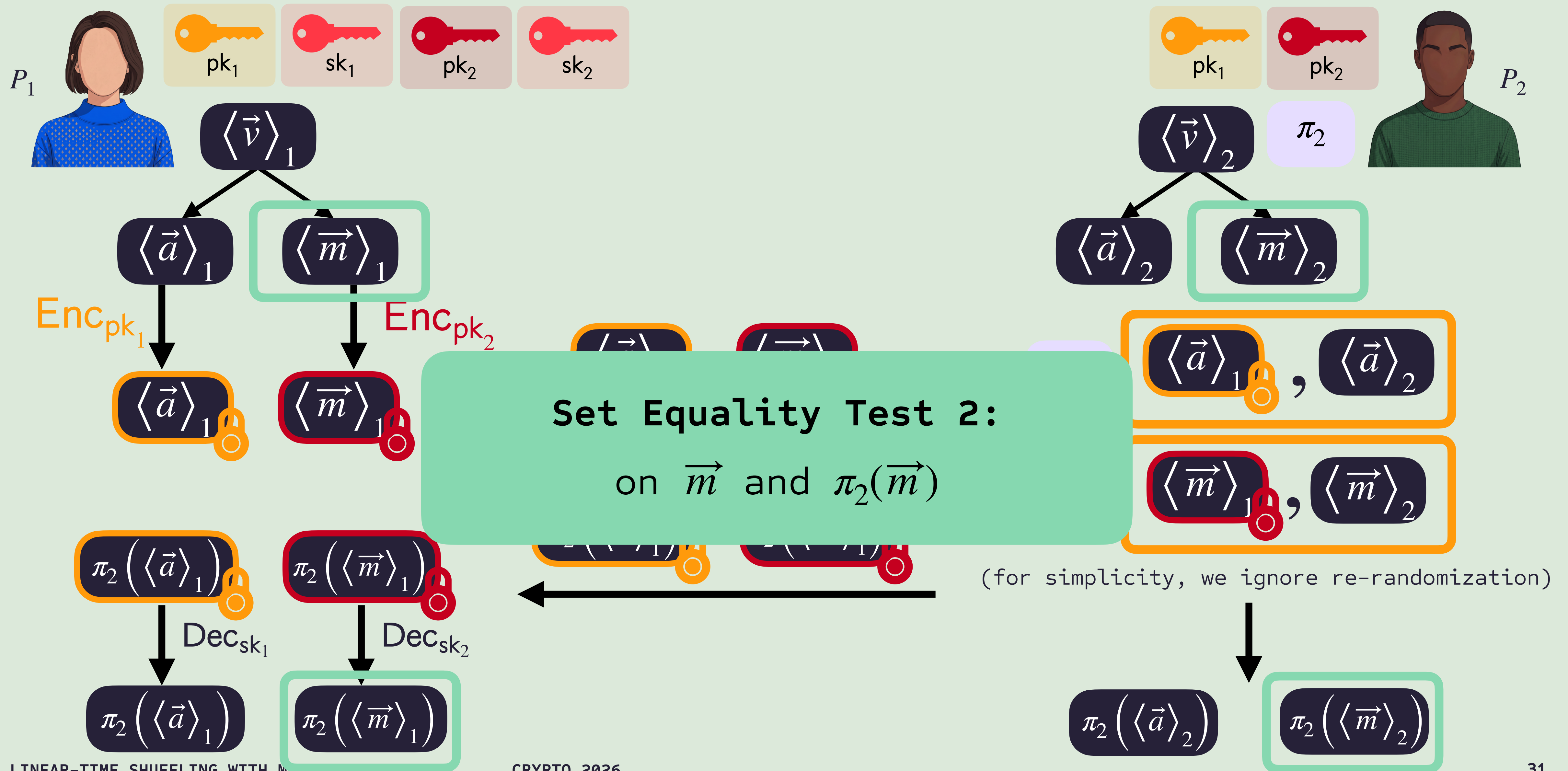
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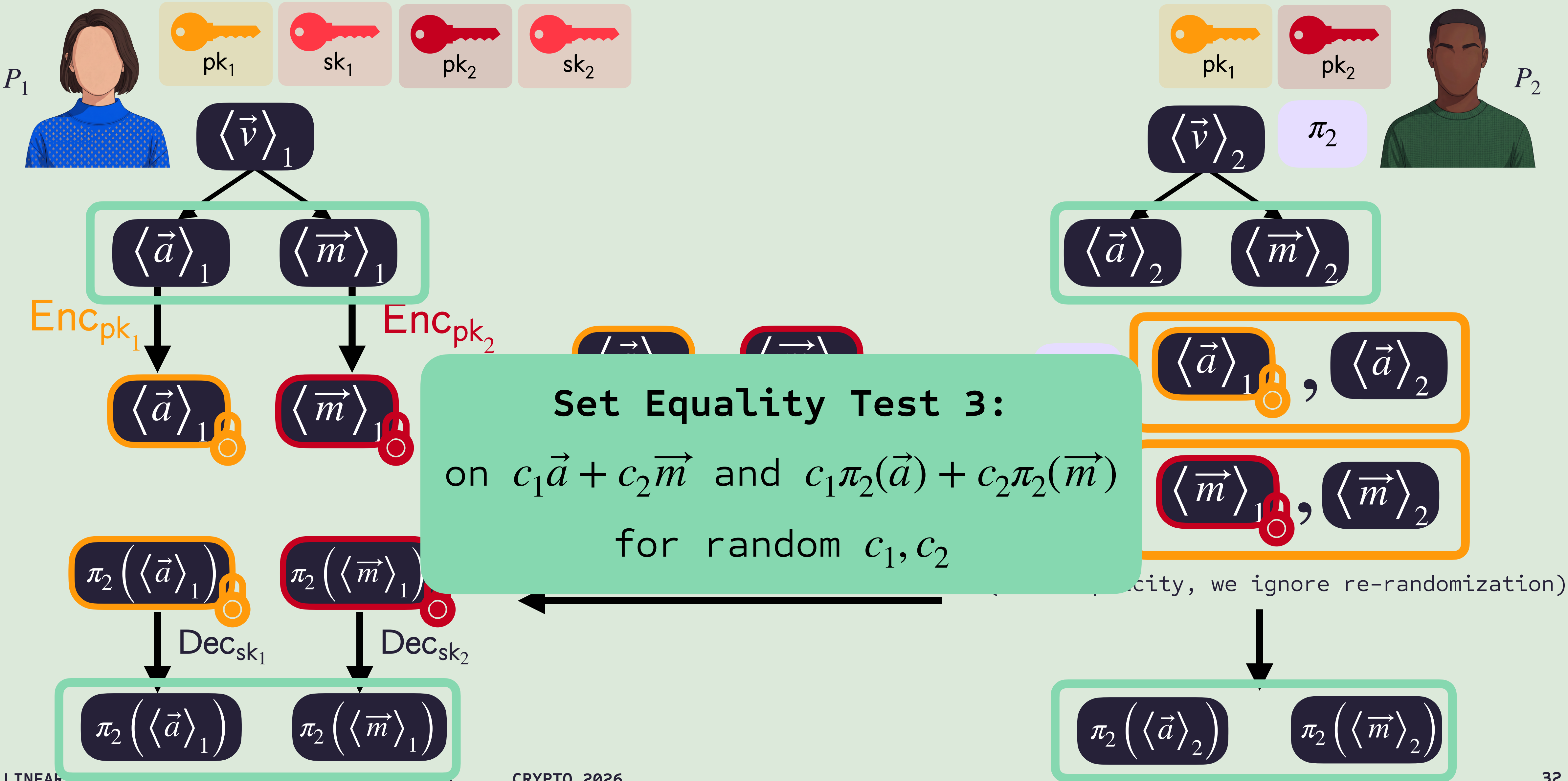
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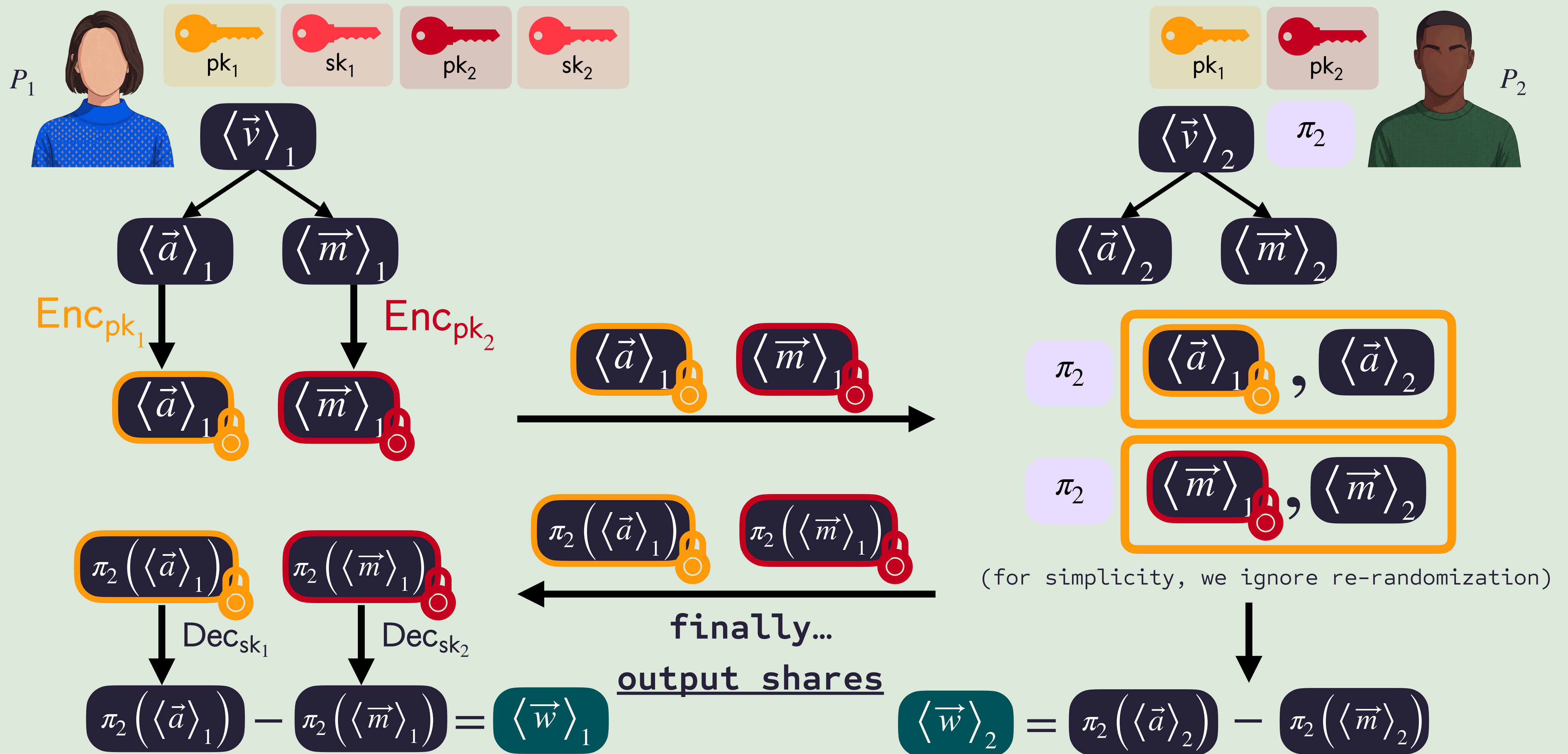
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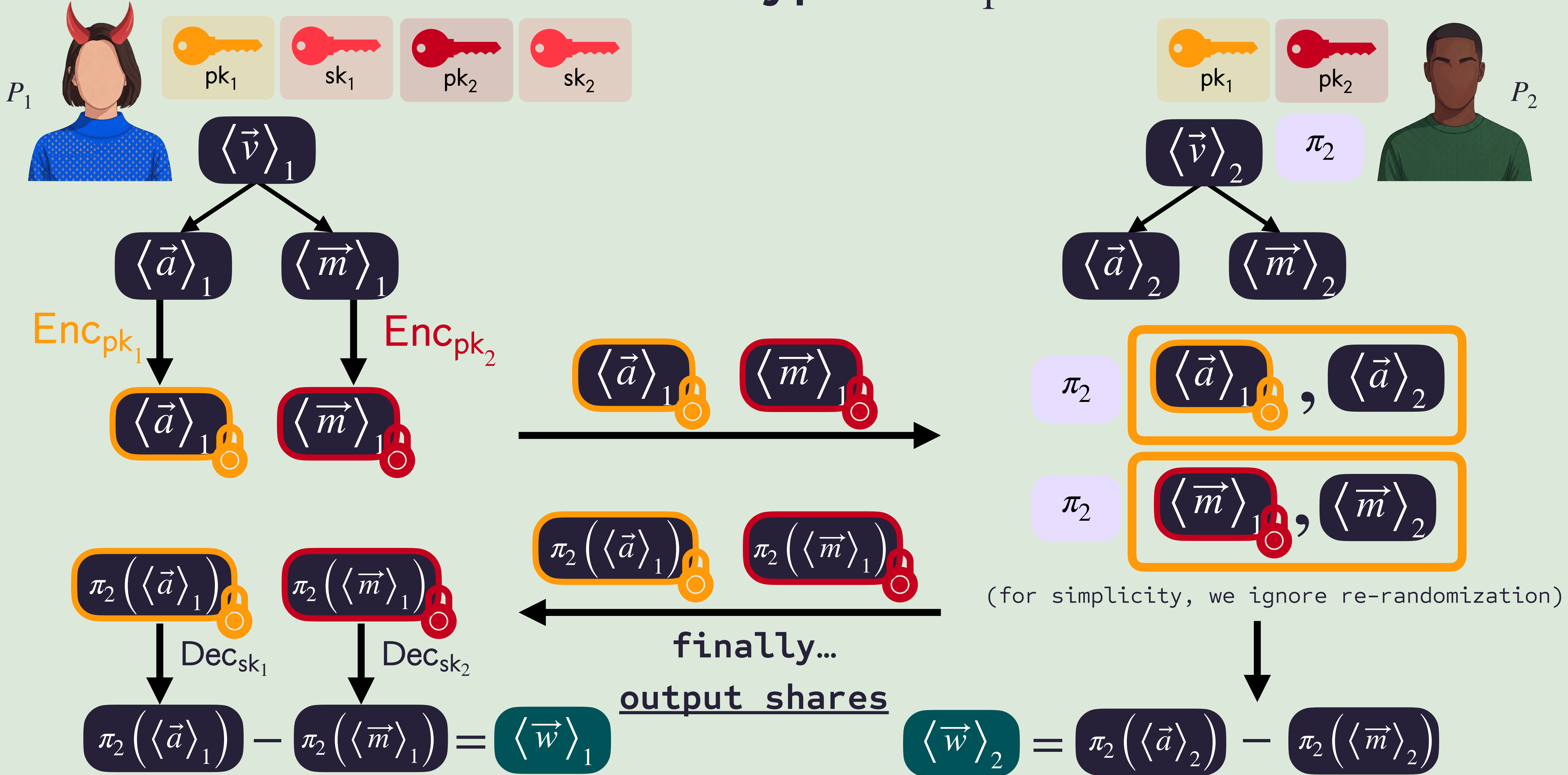
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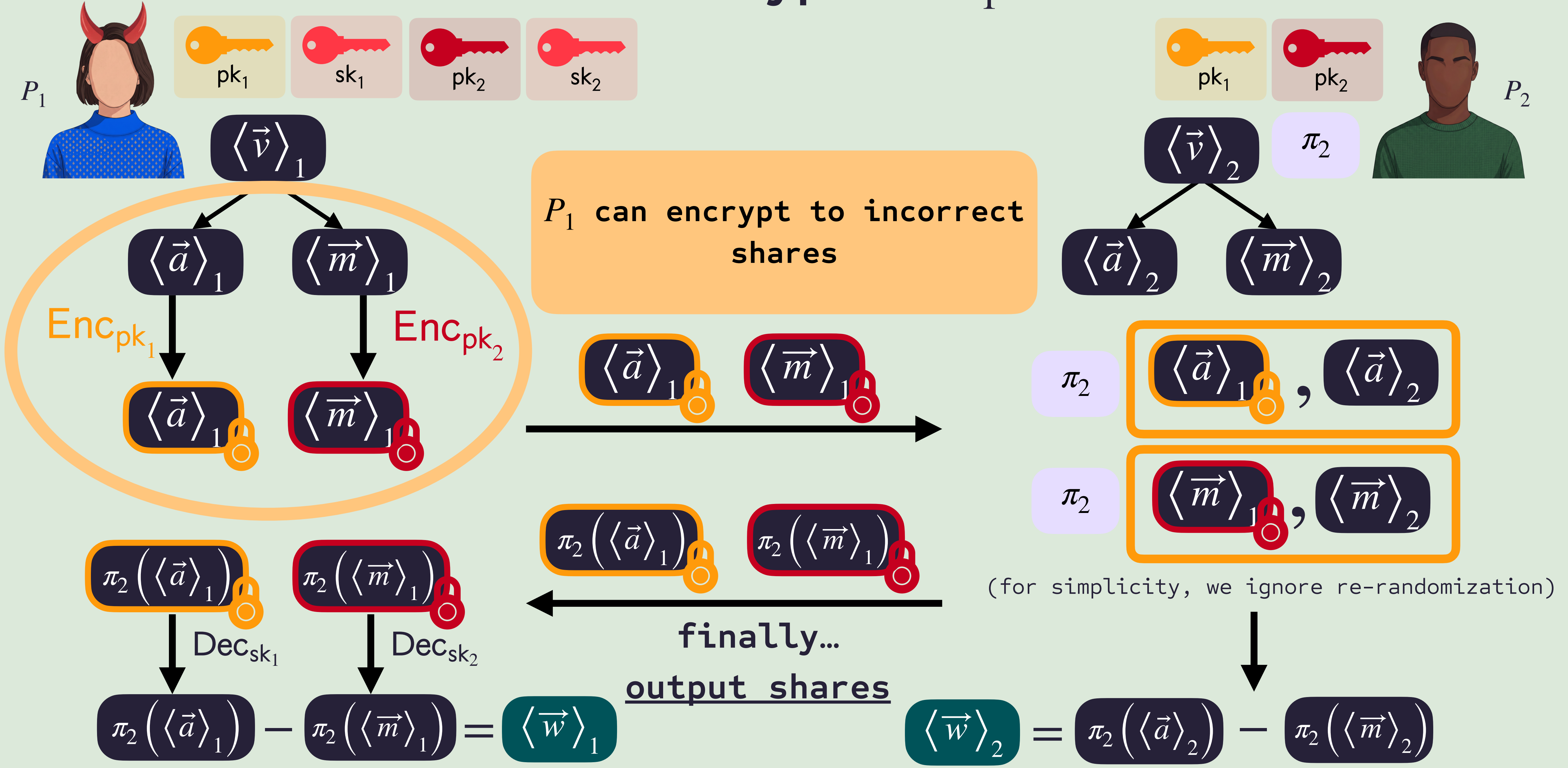
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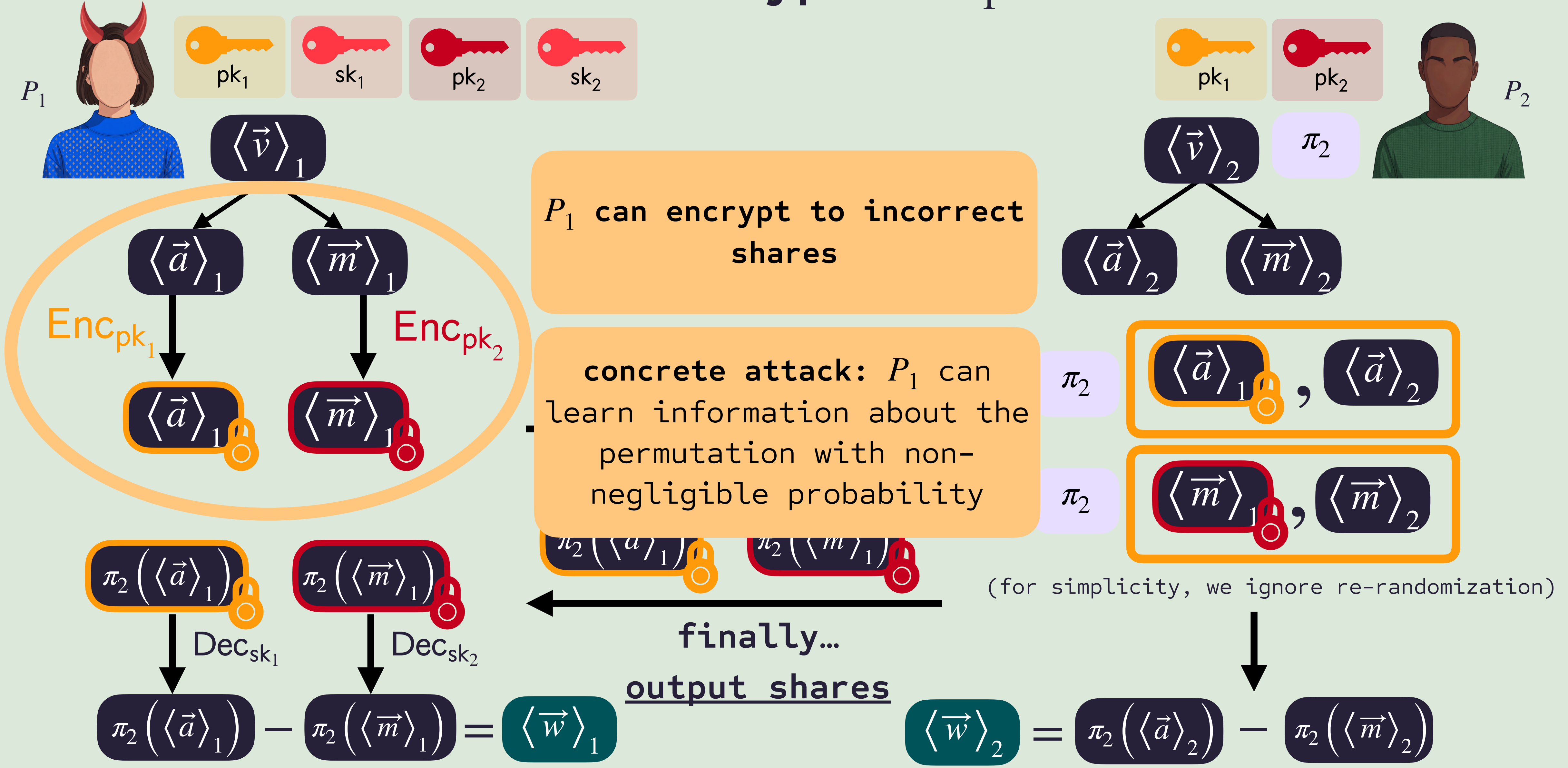
What about Malicious Encryptor P_1 ?



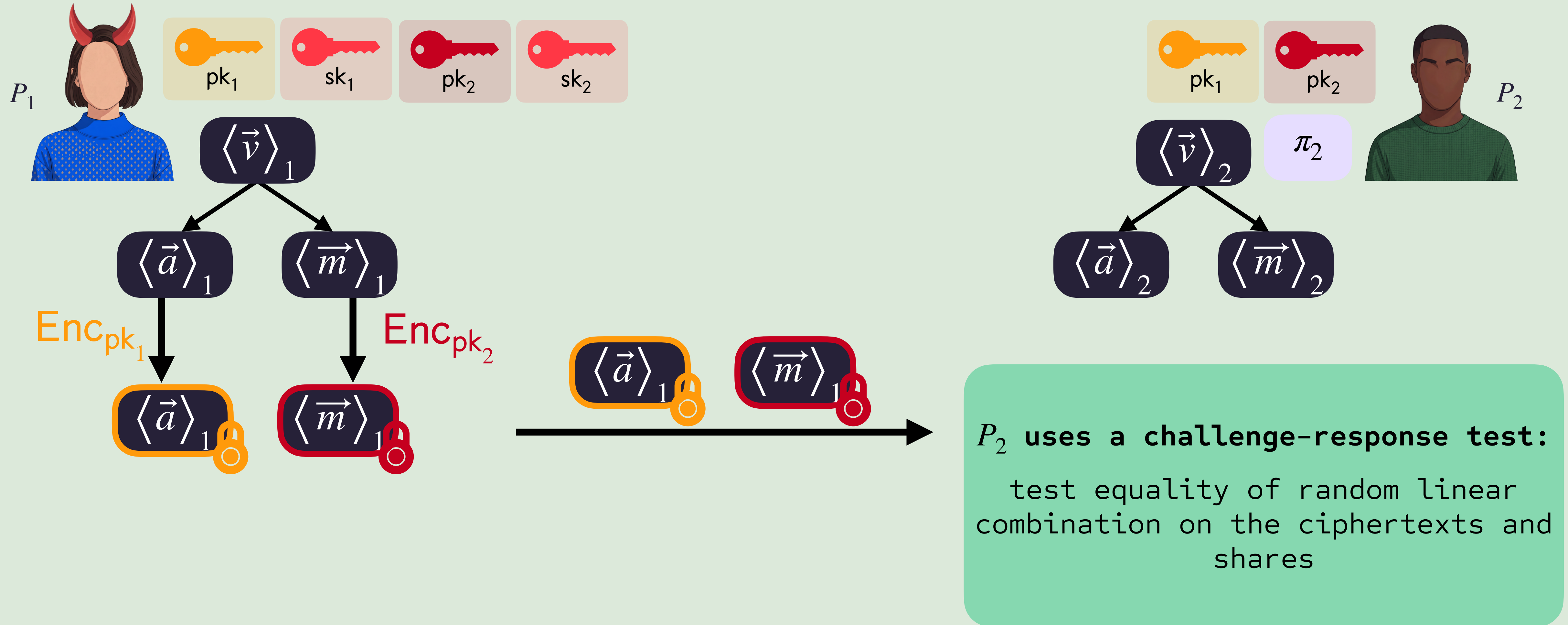
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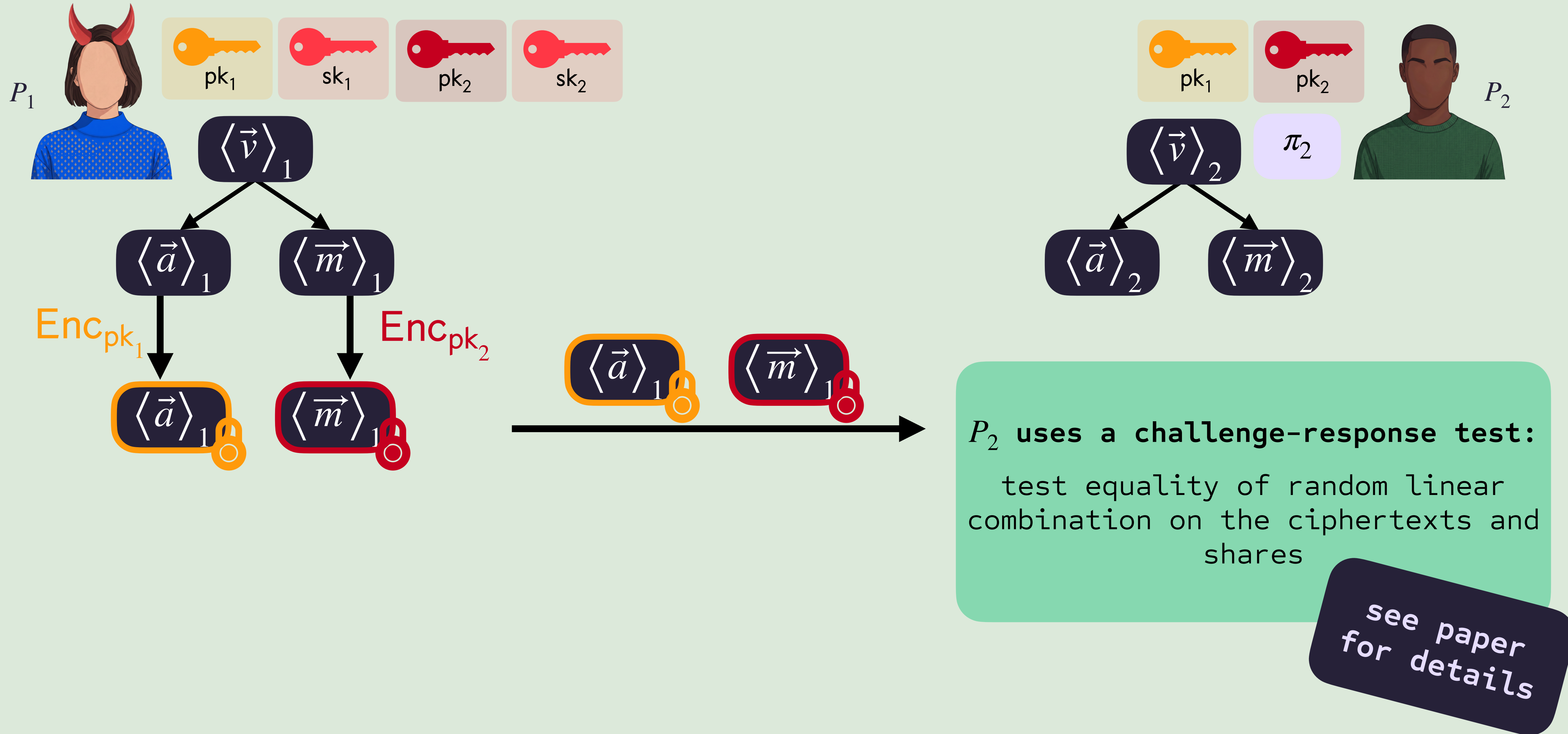
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Idea 3: Correlation Checks



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Recap

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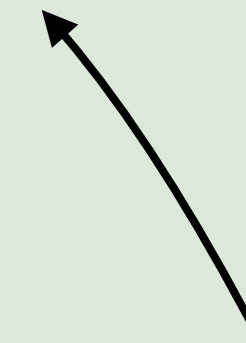
Folklore protocol using Linearly Homomorphic Encryption (LHE) and authenticated secret sharing

Recap

Folklore protocol using Linearly Homomorphic Encryption (LHE) and authenticated secret sharing



- (1) Set equality test
- (2) Prevent tampering of shares



- (a) using authenticated secret sharing,
- (b) splitting shares under different keys, and
- (c) *linear-only* assumption

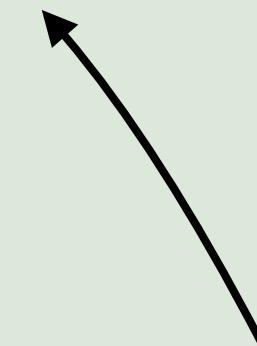
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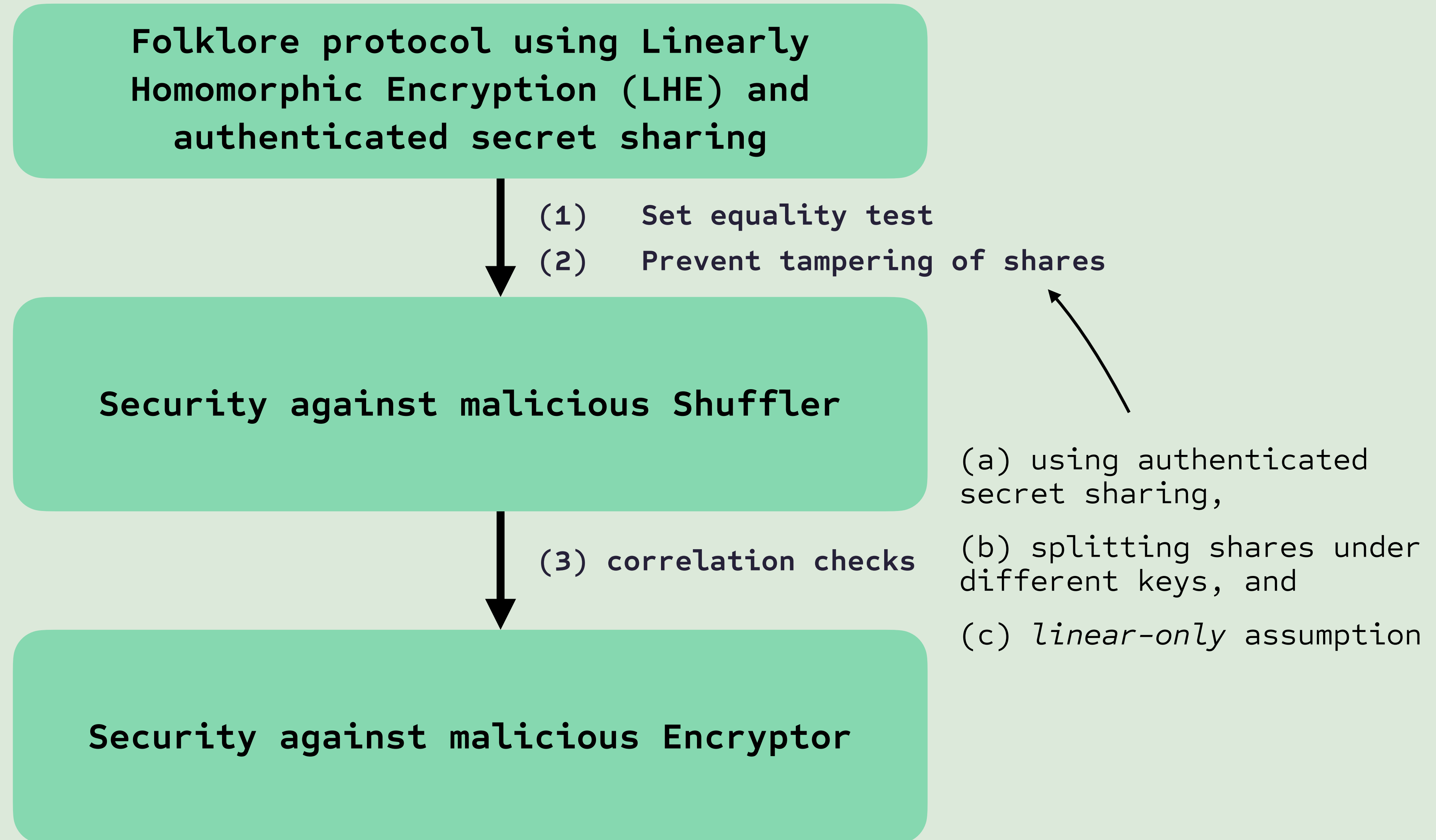
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Security against malicious Shuffler



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Recap



Additional Contributions

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3-party IT protocol

Present a maliciously secure
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Also present a more efficient protocol in which shares can be delegated in unauthenticated way with additional checks

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Constant-round set equality test

Construct a constant-round set equality test using logarithmic derivative of the standard polynomial root test

(pending paper update)

Thank you!

Folklore protocol using Linearly Homomorphic Encryption (LHE) and authenticated secret sharing

- (1) Set equality test
- (2) Prevent tampering of shares

Security against malicious Shuffler

- (3) correlation checks

Security against malicious Encryptor



Linear Secret-shared Shuffle
with Malicious Security
(ePrint 2025/2137)

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