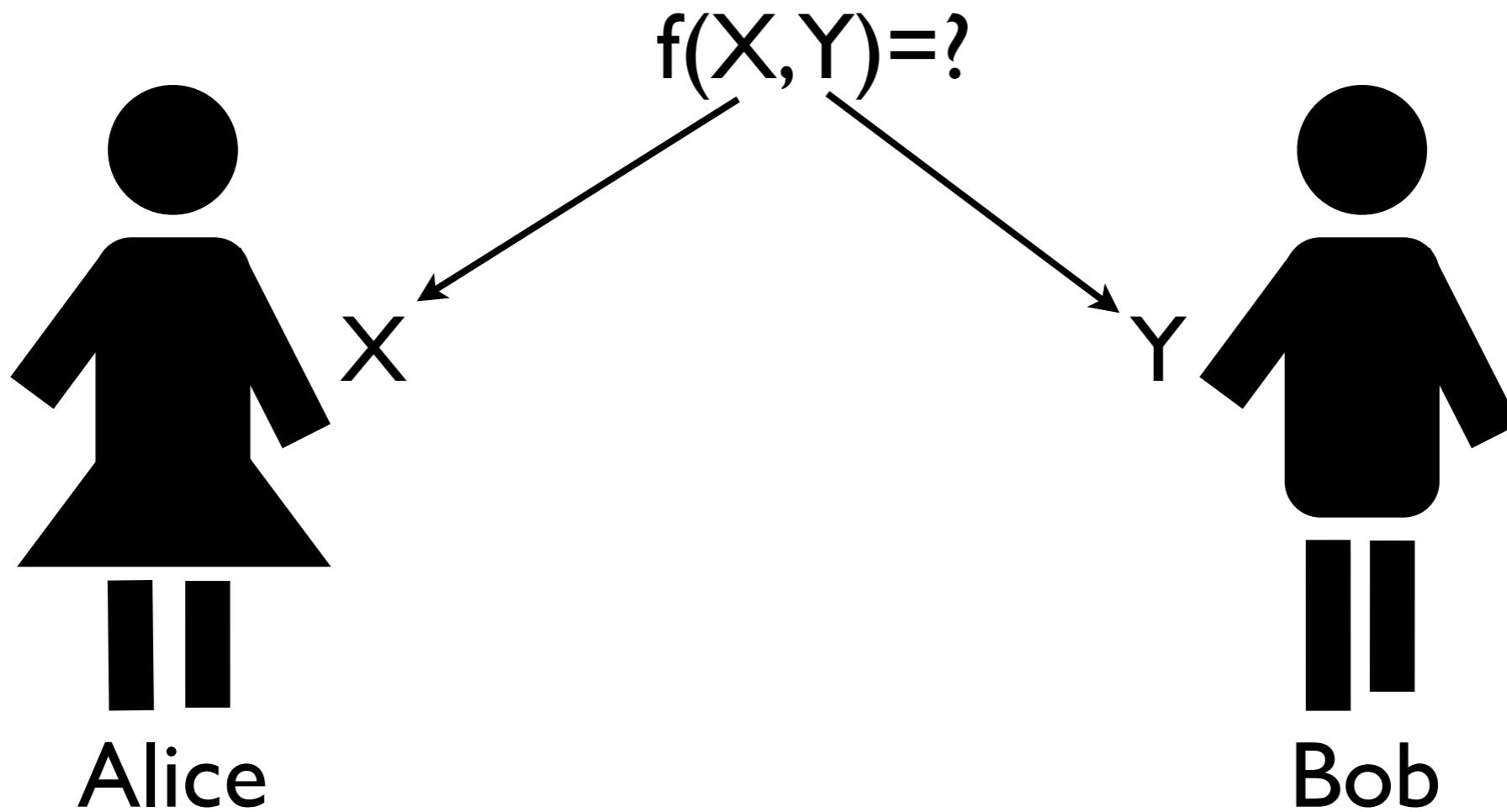


# On the communication complexity of sparse set disjointness and exists-equal problems

Mert Saglam  
University of Washington

Joint work with Gábor Tardos

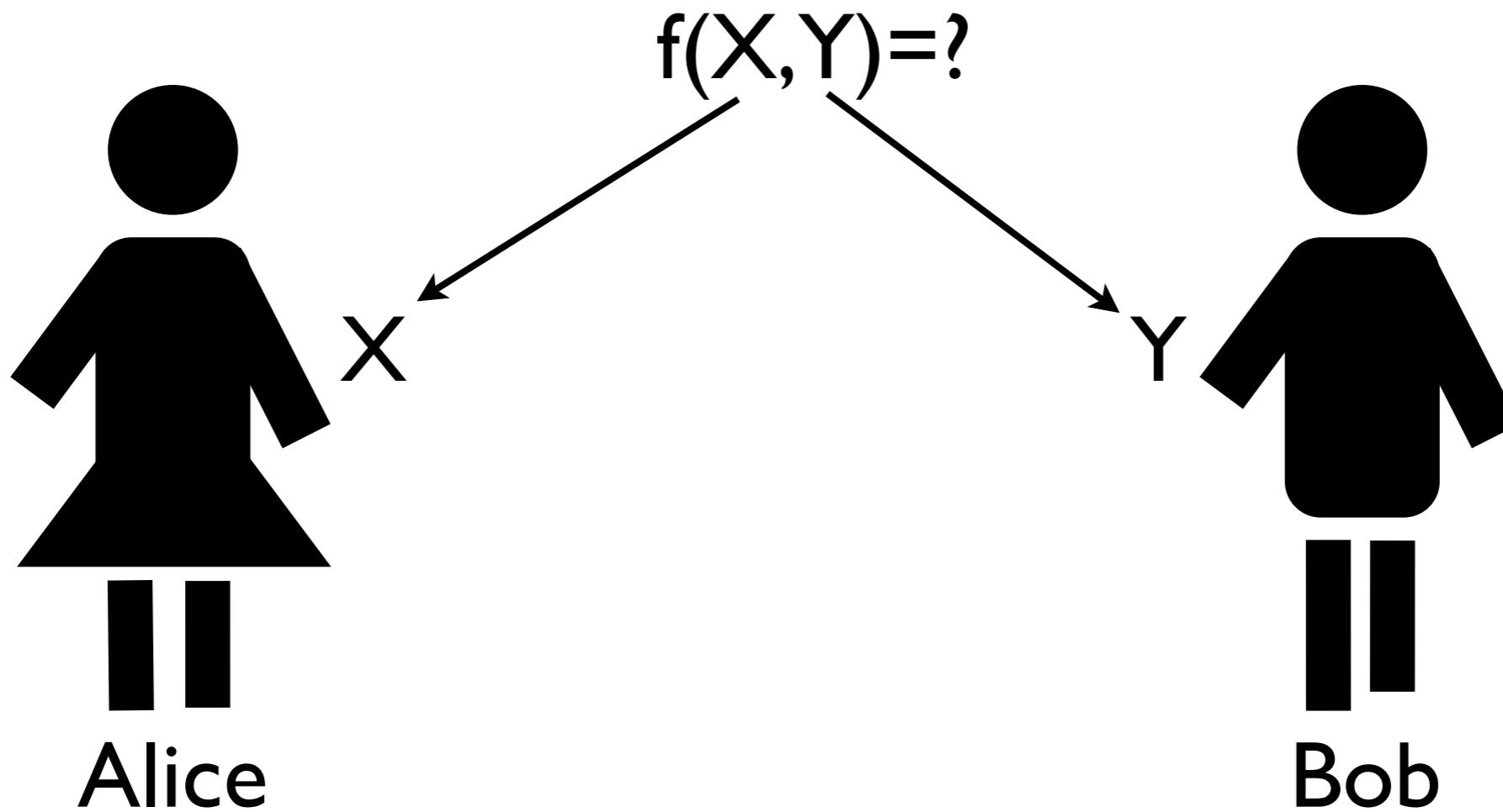
# Communication complexity





R: Shared random source

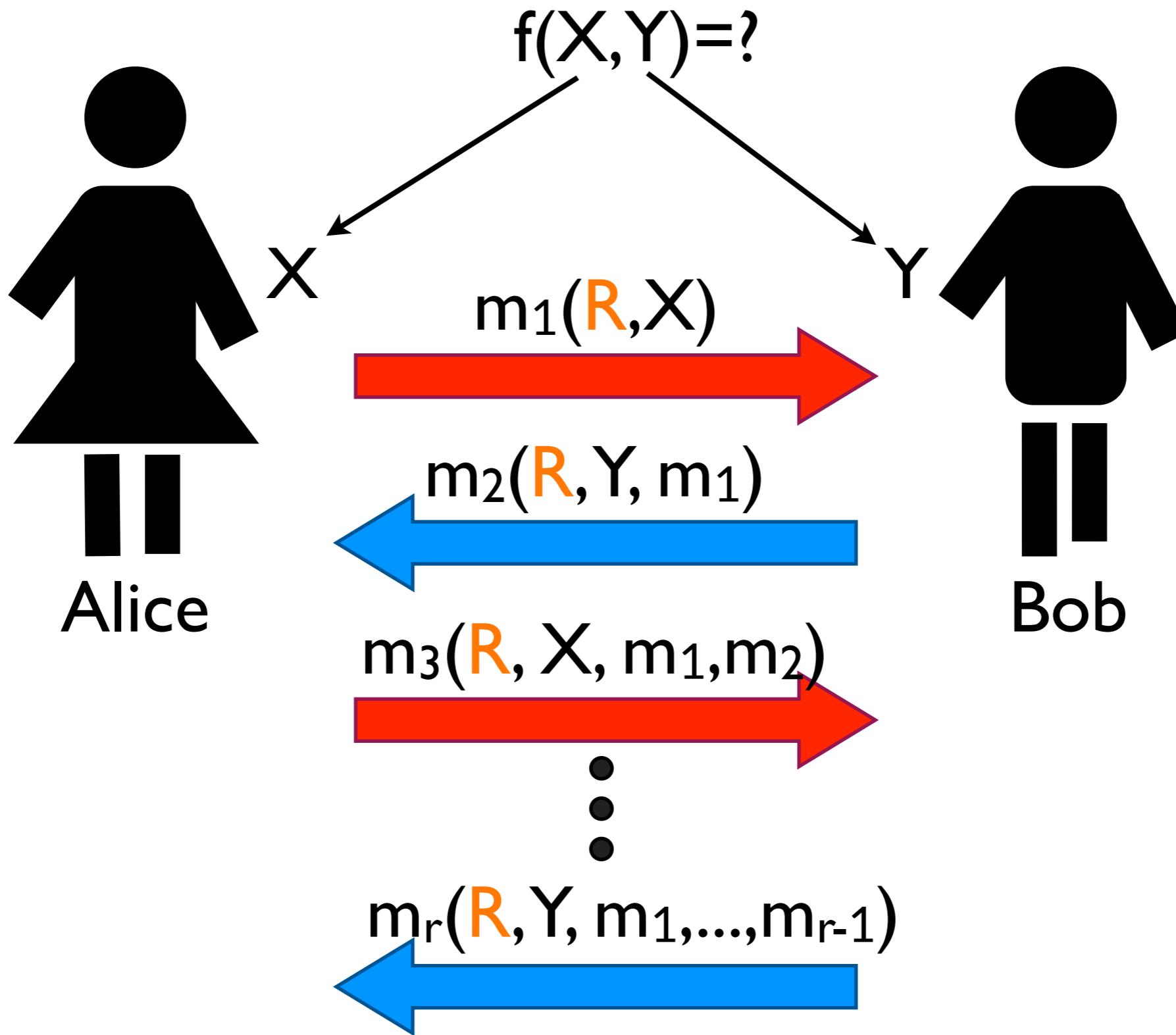
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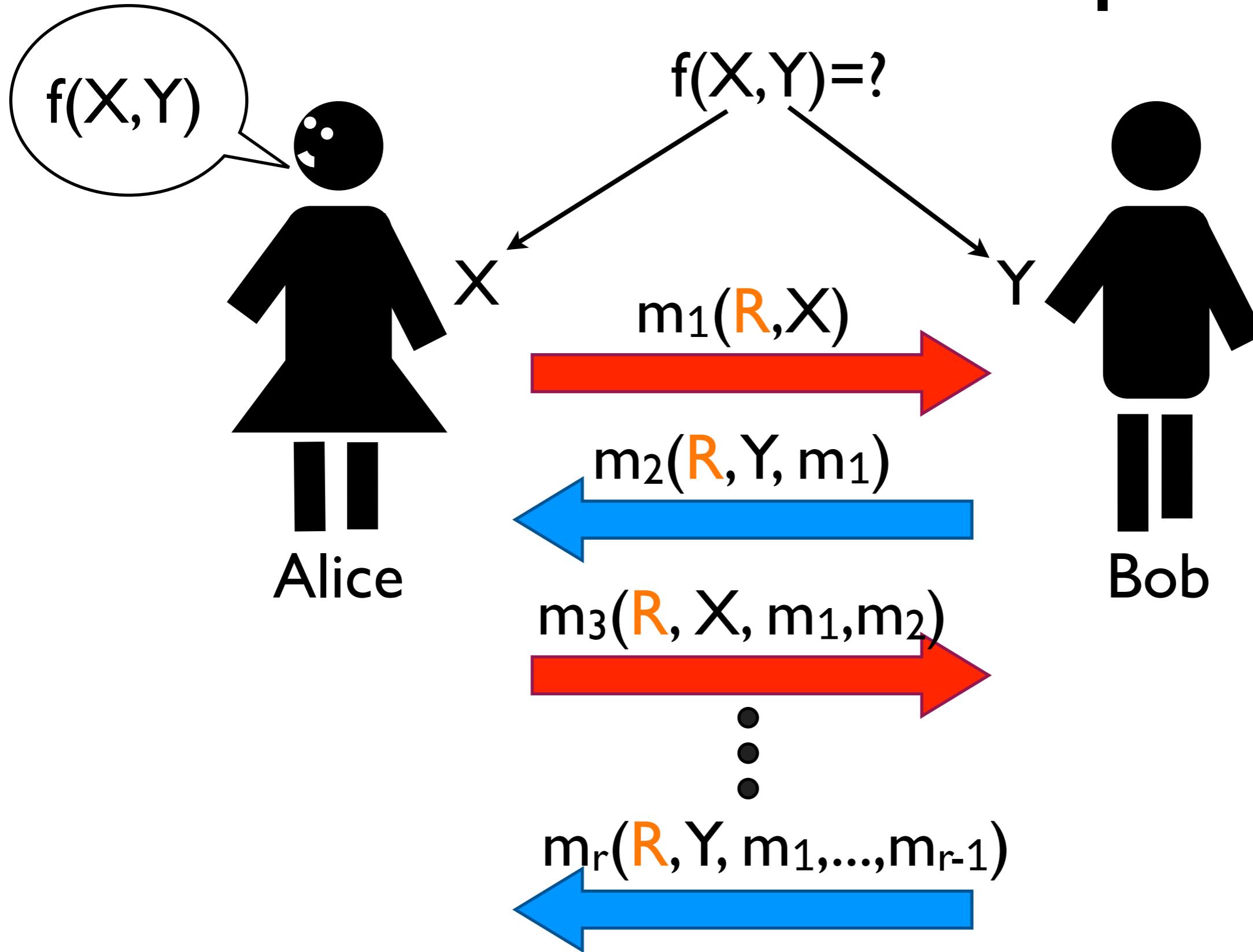
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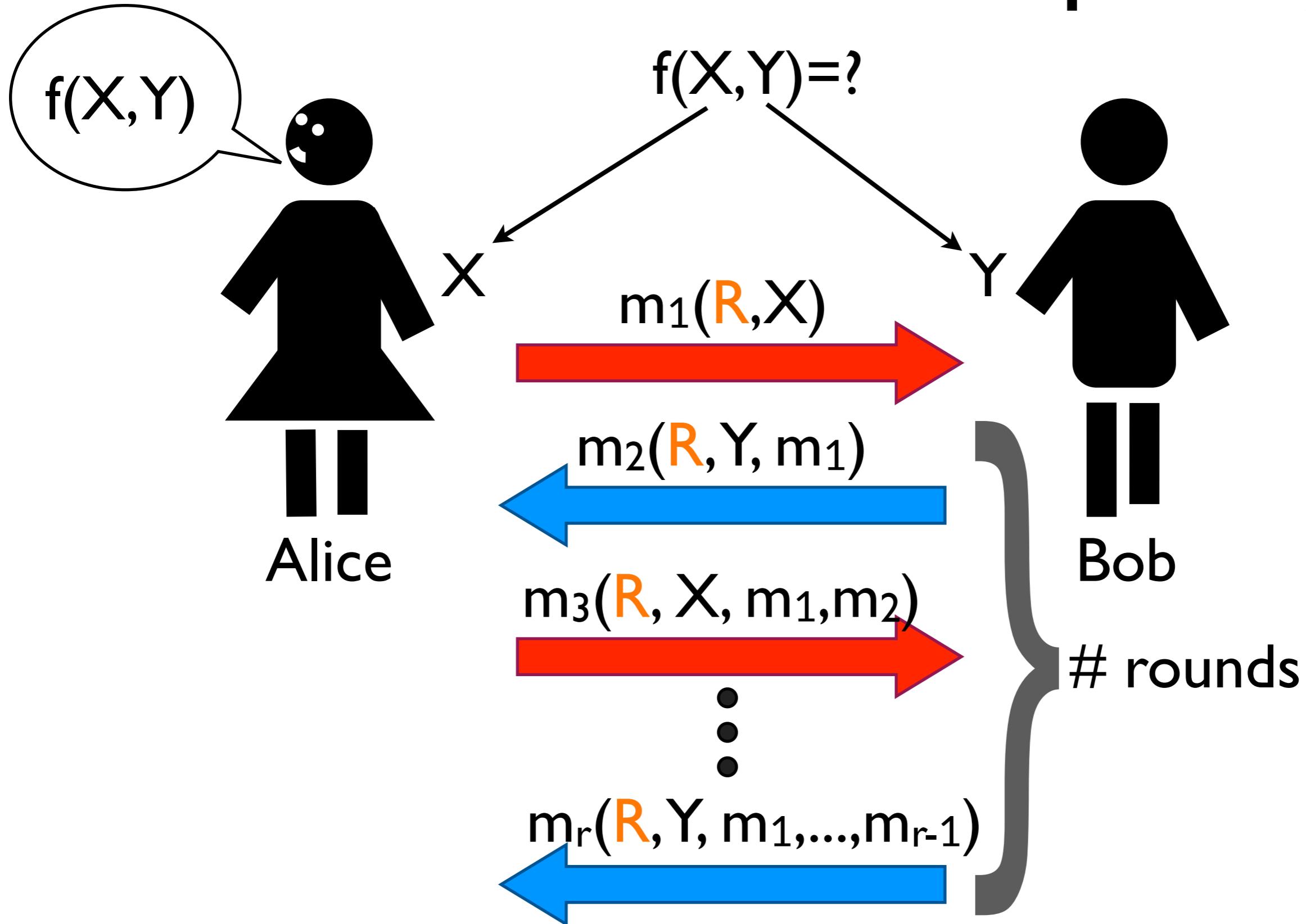
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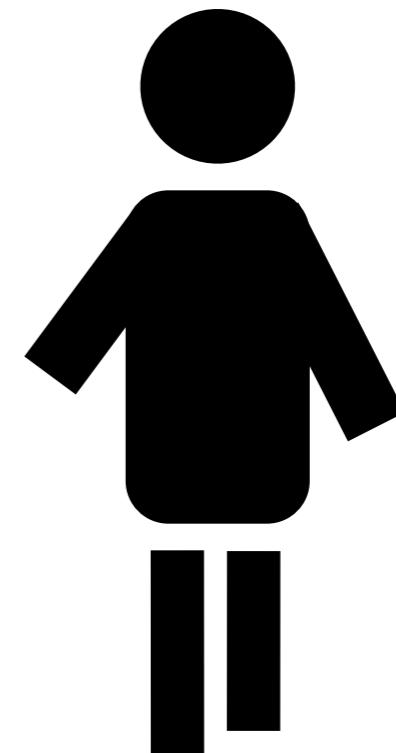
# Communication complexity



# Disjointness problem



$S = \{3, 7, 8, 11\}$



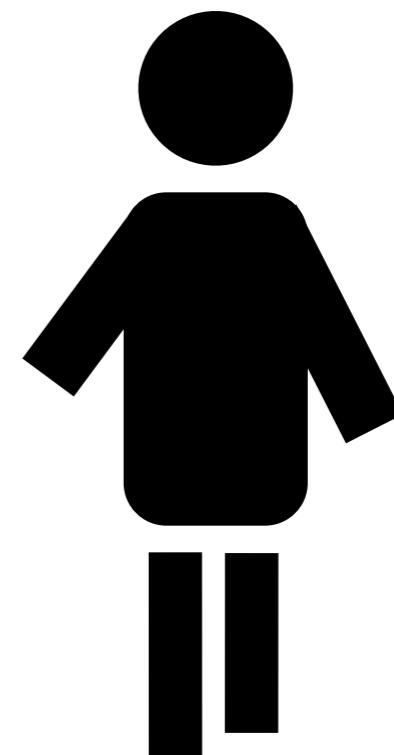
$T = \{2, 5, 8, 14\}$

$S, T \subseteq [m]$

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$$|S \cap T| \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$



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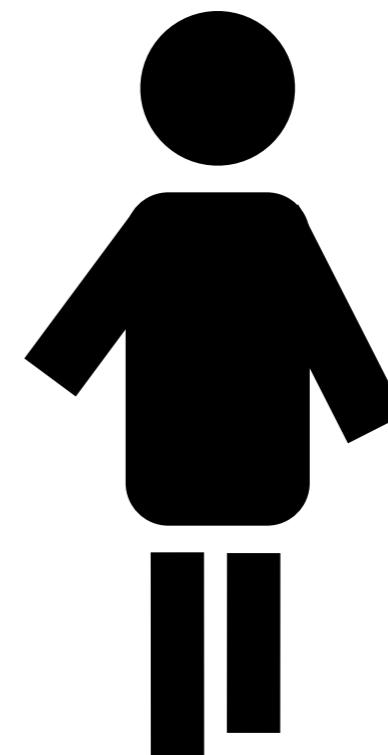
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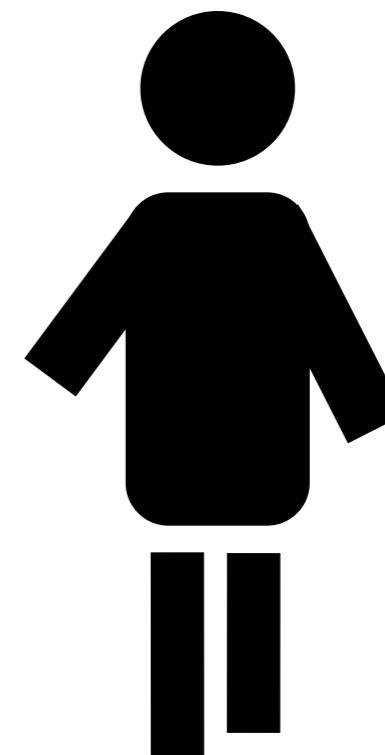
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In Sparse Set Disjointness  $\text{DISJ}_k^m$   $|T|, |S| \leq k$

# Previous work

Total Bits	Rounds	Error	
$\Omega(k)$ , $m \geq k^2$	Arbitrary	1/3	Babai, Frankl, Simon 86
$\Omega(k)$	Arbitrary	1/3	Kalyanasundaram, Schnitger 92, Razborov 92, Bar-Yossef et al. 02
$O(k \log k)$	1	1/k	Folklore
$\Omega(k \log k)$	1	1/3	Folklore, Buhrman et al. 13, Woodruff 08
$O(k)$	$O(\log k)$	0.01	Håstad, Wigderson 93

# Our contributions

Bits	Rounds	Error	Best Previous
$O(k \log^{(r)} k)$	$r$	$1/\exp^{(r)}(c \log^{(r)} k)$	$O(k \log k)$ , for $r=1$
$O(k)$	$\log^* k$	$\exp(-k^{1-\varepsilon})$	$O(\log k)$ rounds, 0.01 error
$\Omega(k \log^{(r)} k)$	$r$	$1/3$ error	$\Omega(k)$ $\Omega(k \log k)$ , for $r=1$

$\therefore 2^x$   
 Defn:  $\exp^{(r)}(x) = 2^x$

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Holds for any  
 $r \leq \log^* k$

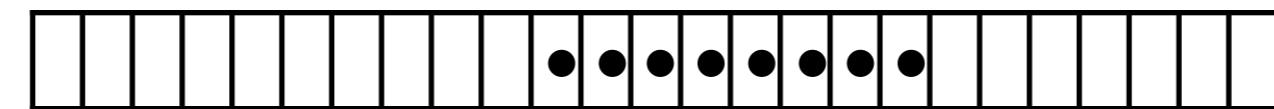
$\dots \cdot 2^x$   
 Defn:  $\exp^{(r)}(x) = 2^{2^{\dots^{2^x}}}$

# The upper bound

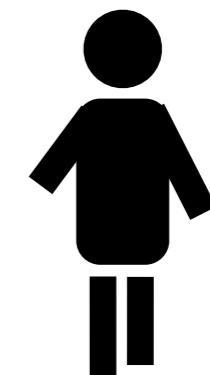
# Håstad-Wigderson protocol



S:



:T



$Z_1 \ Z_2 \ Z_3$

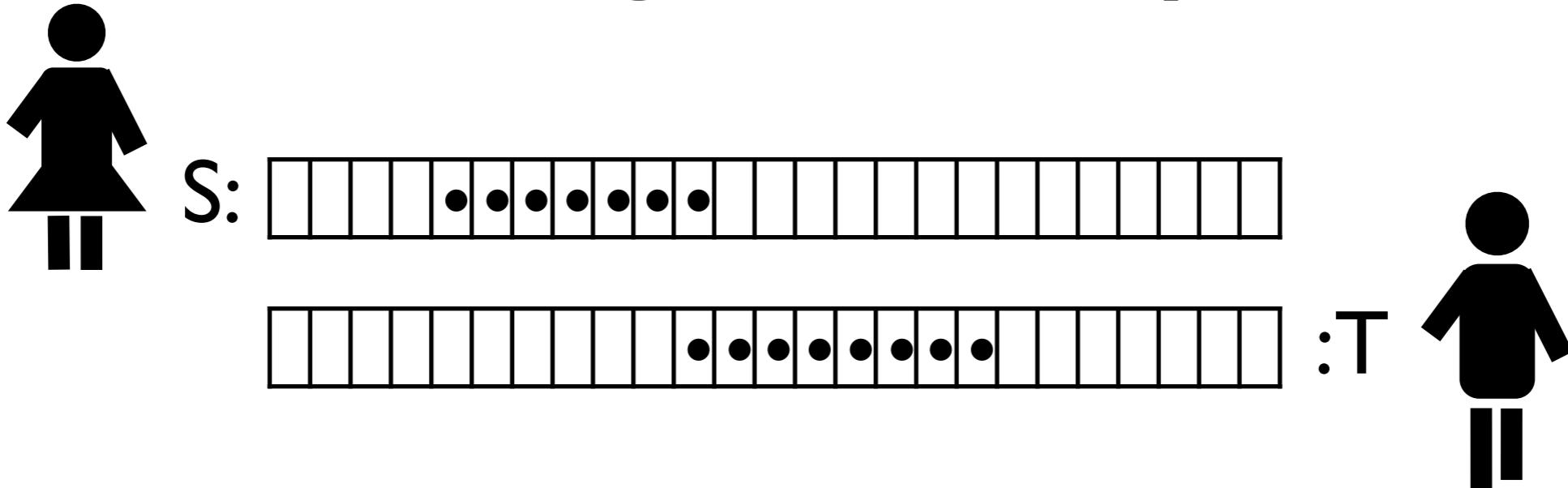
...

$Z_k$

...

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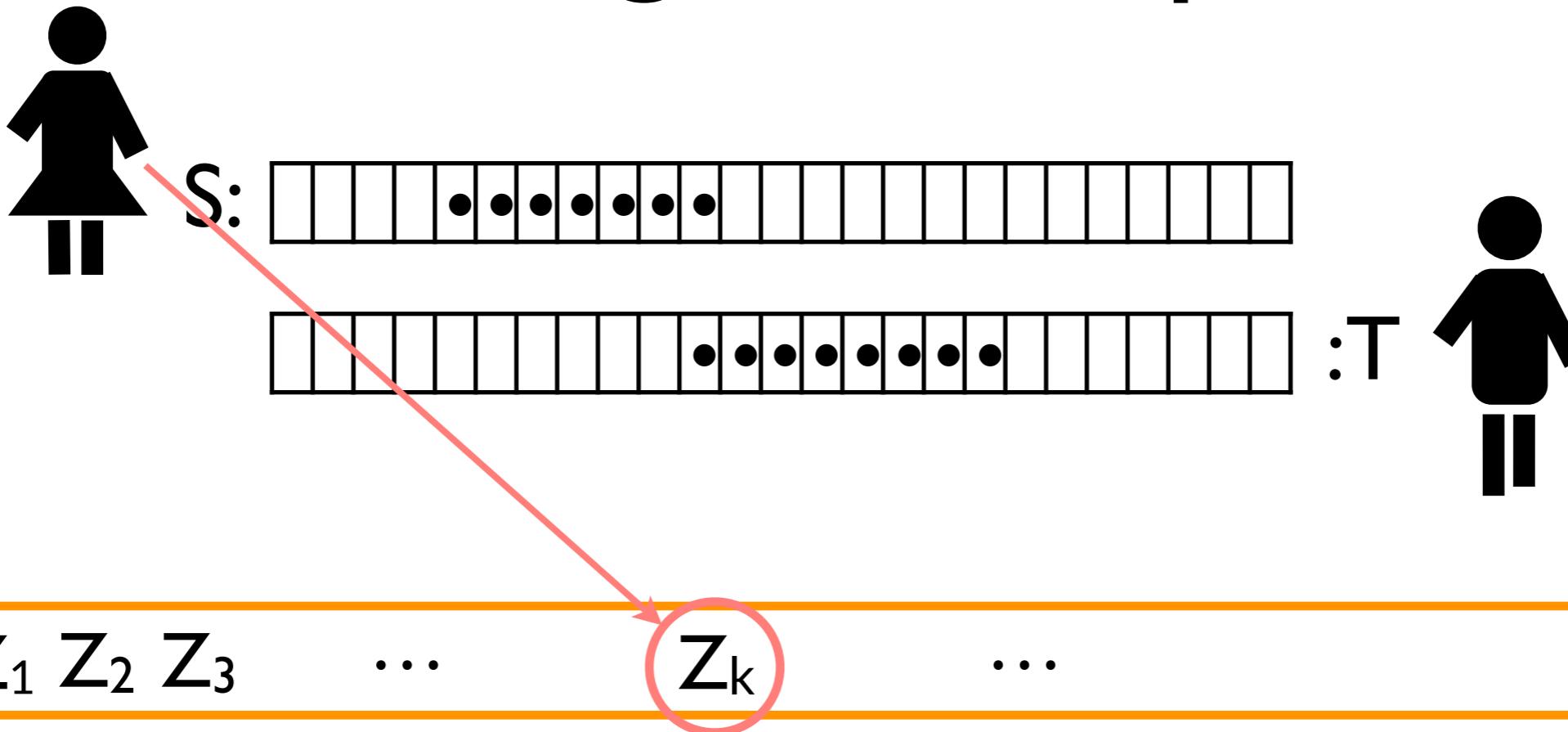
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$Z_1 \ Z_2 \ Z_3 \ \dots \ Z_k \ \dots$

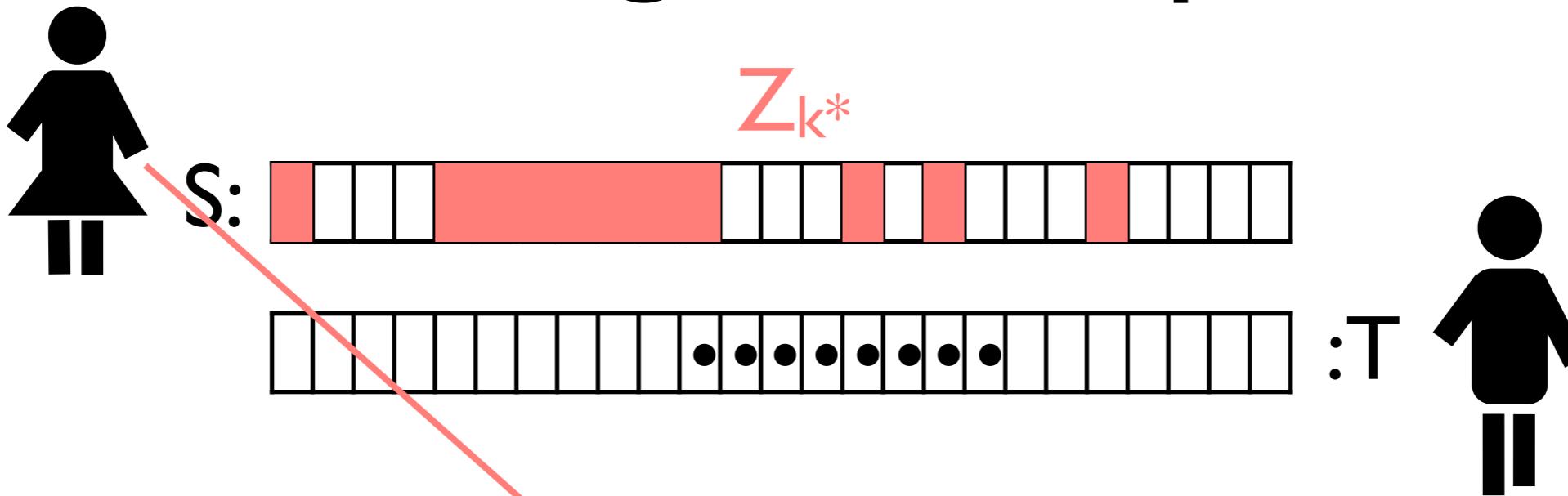
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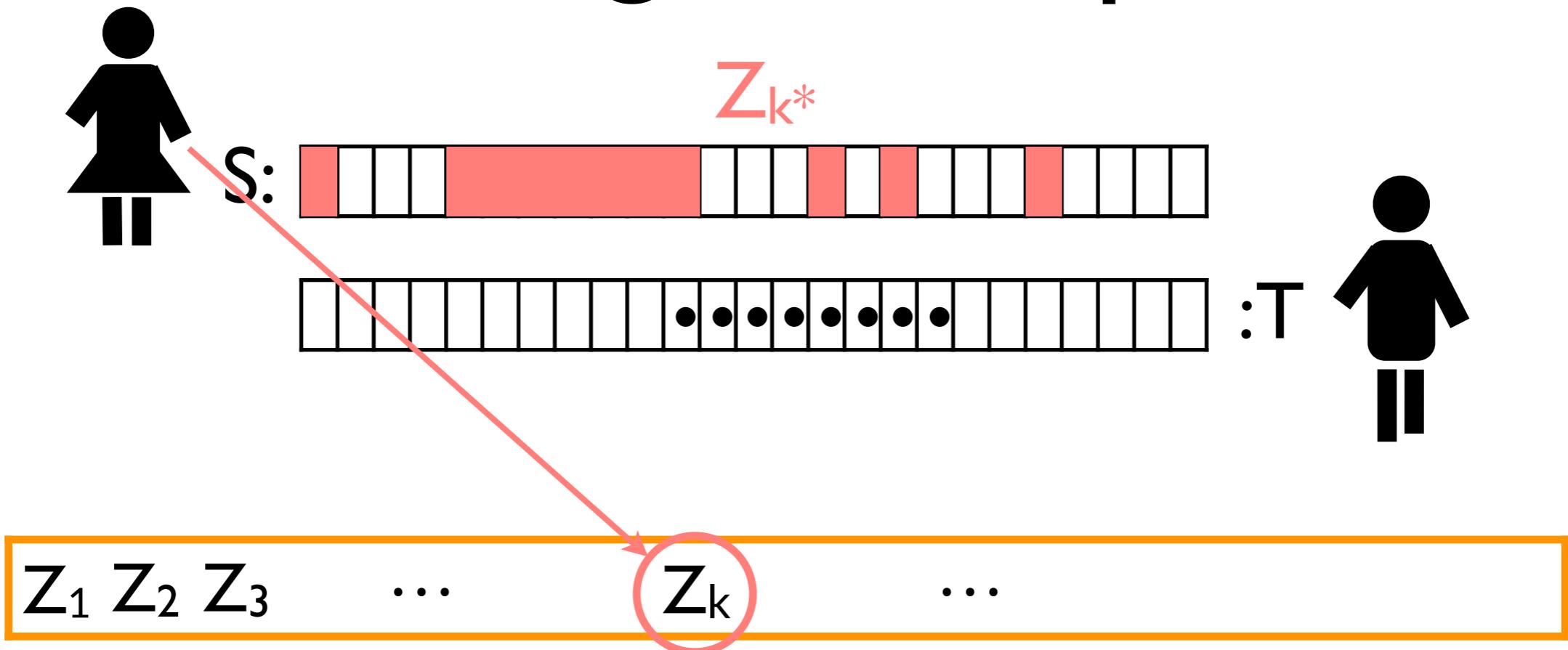
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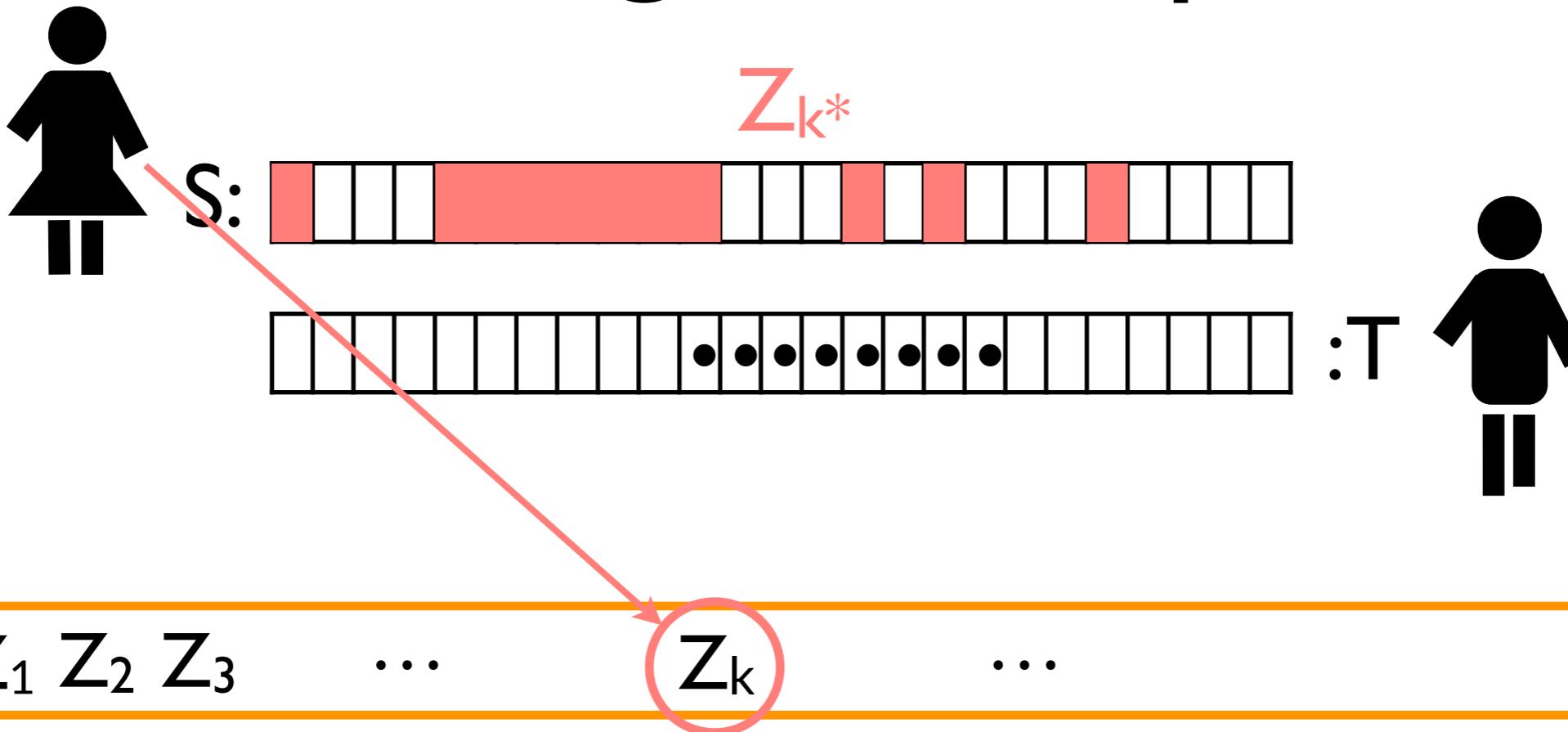
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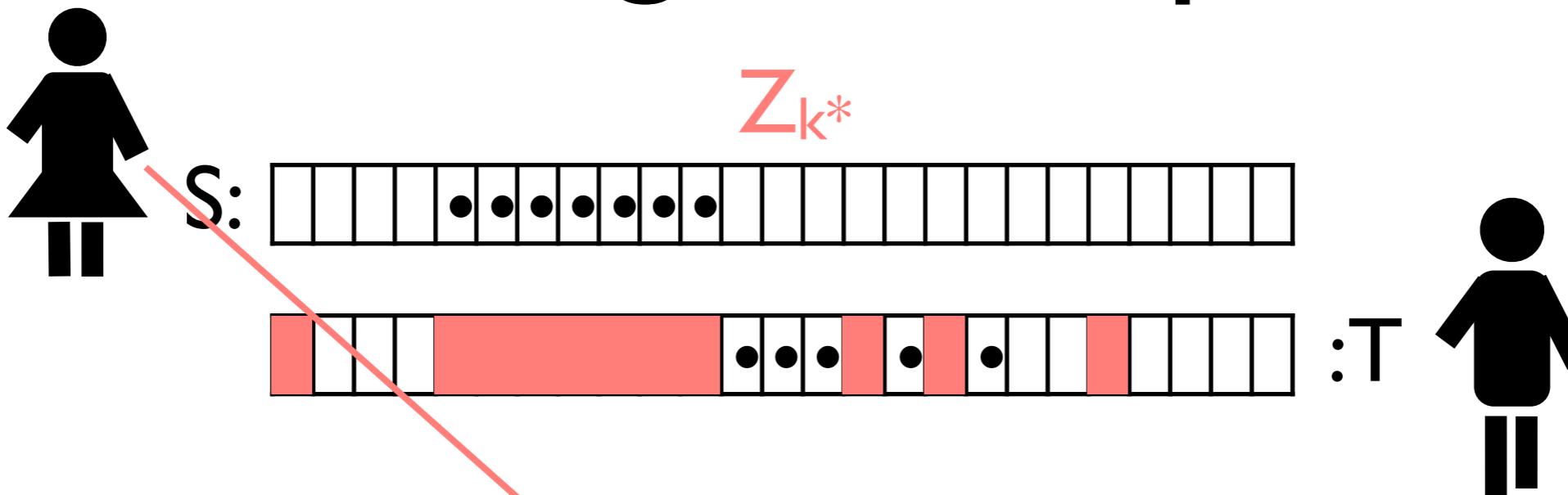
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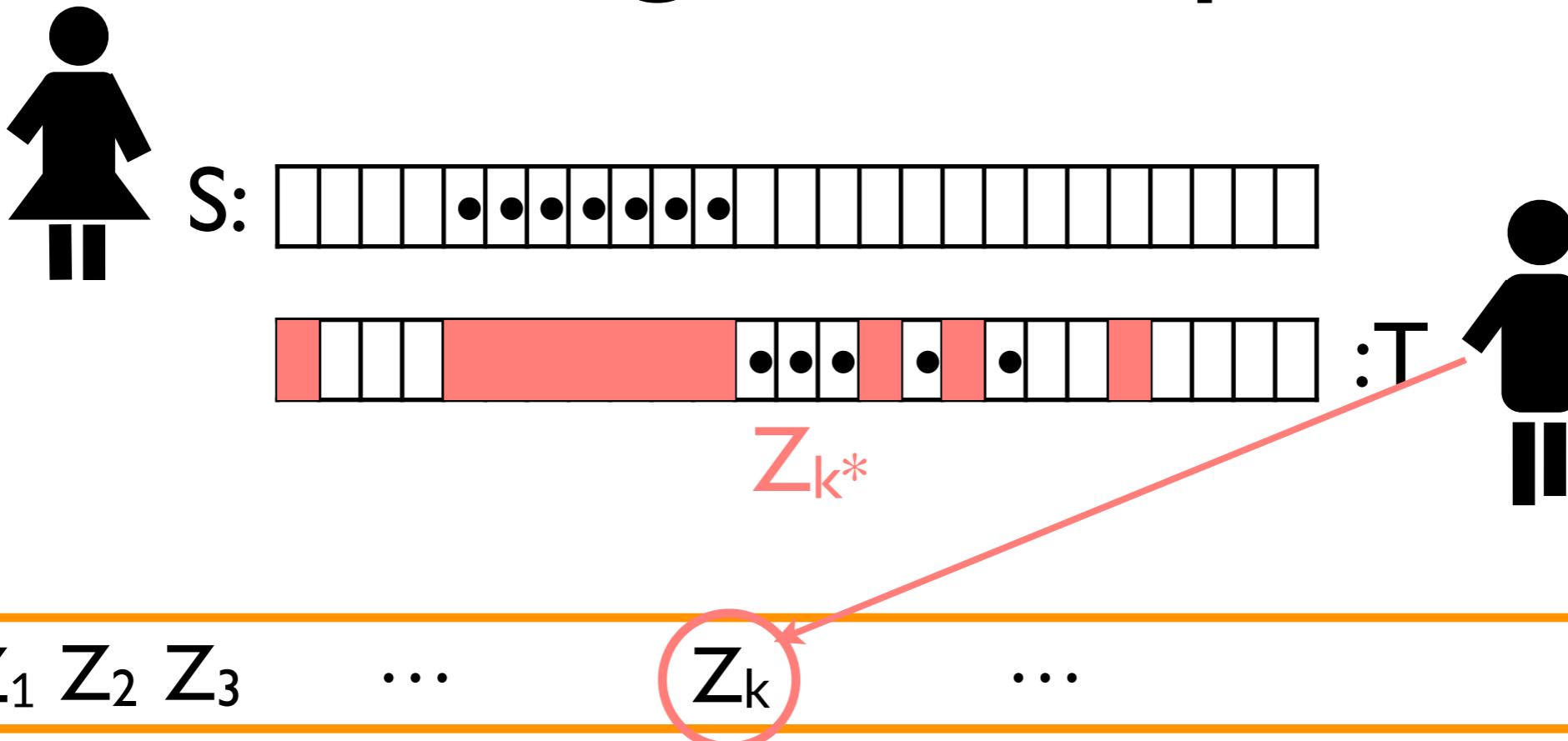
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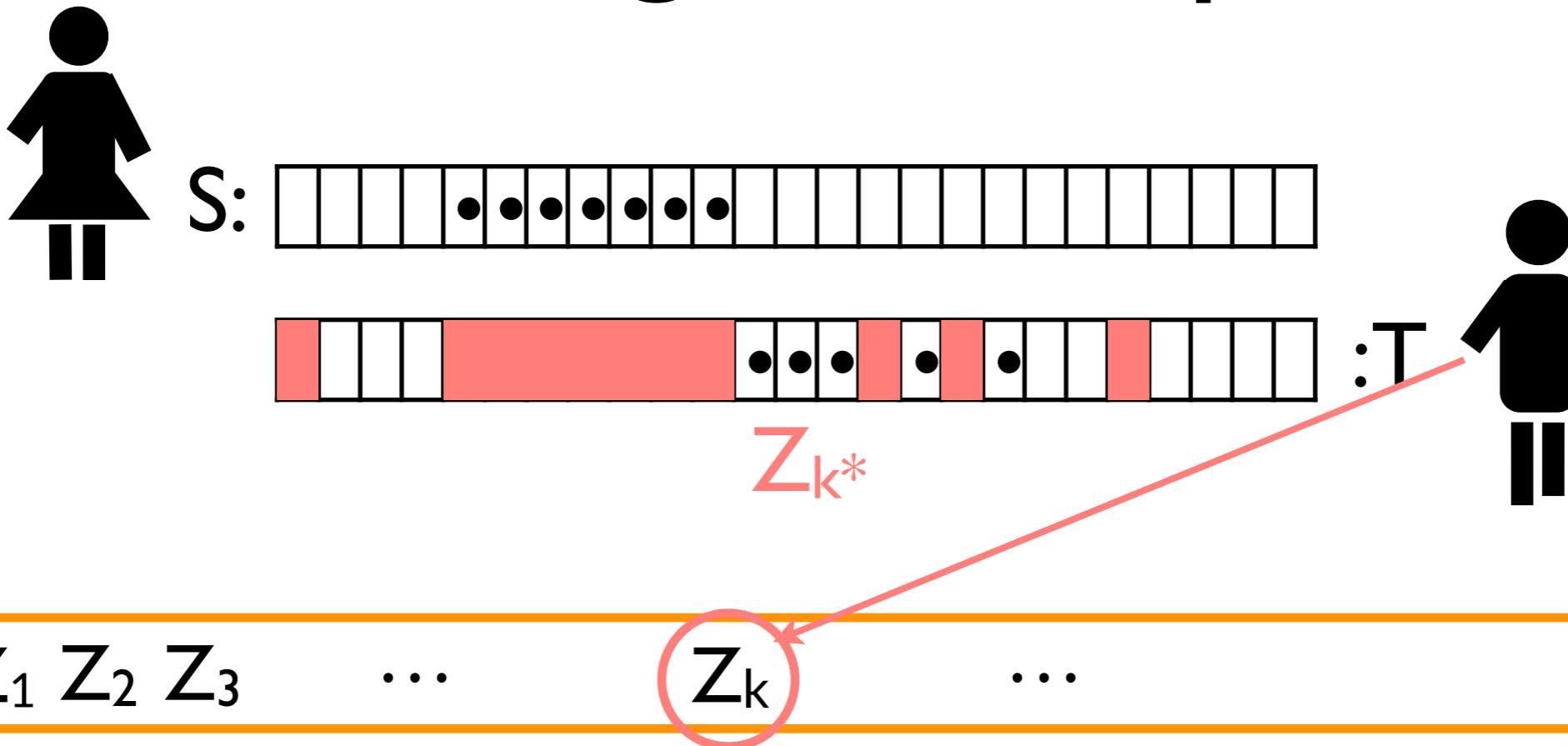
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- Send  $k^*$  to Bob:  $|S| \log 1/p$  bits

# Håstad-Wigderson protocol



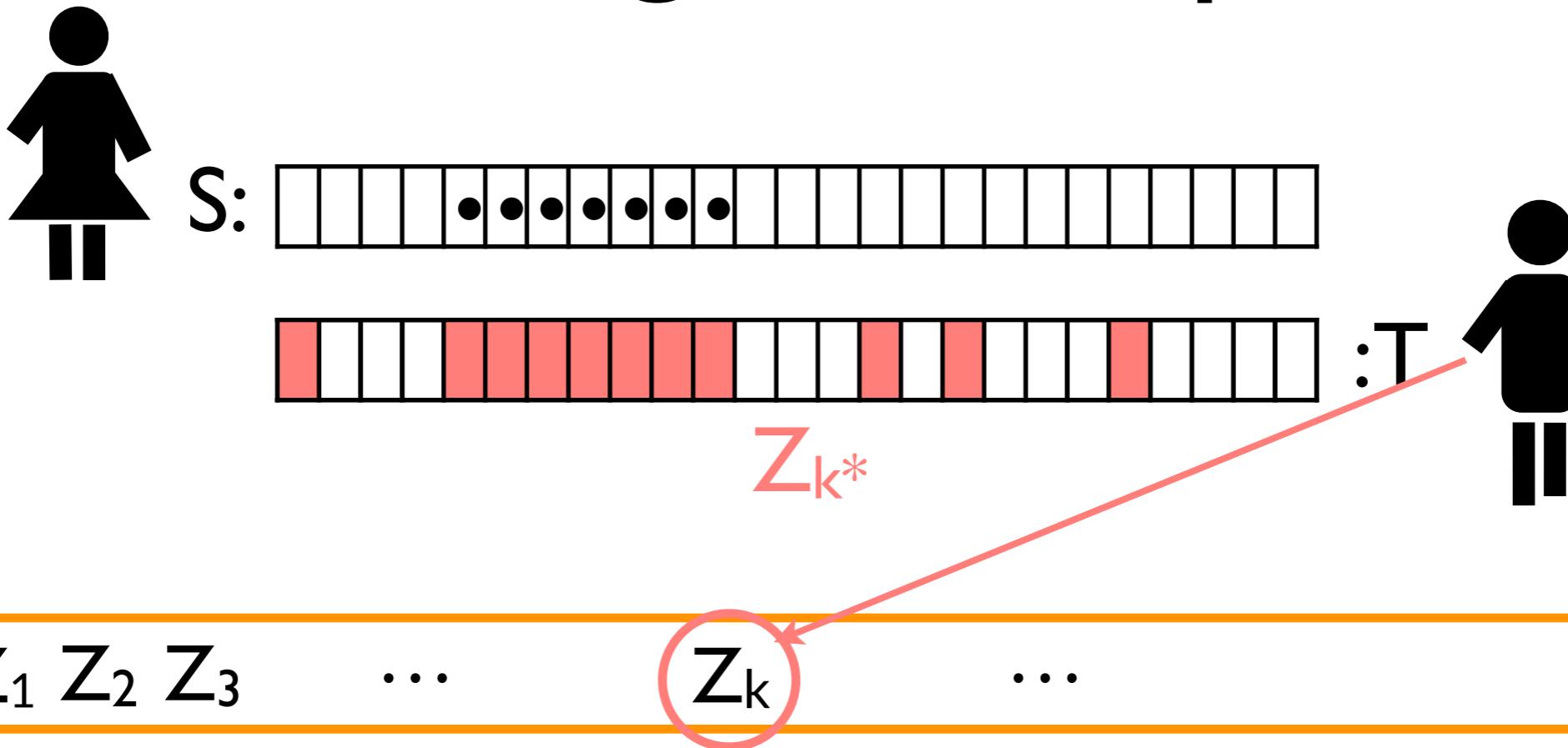
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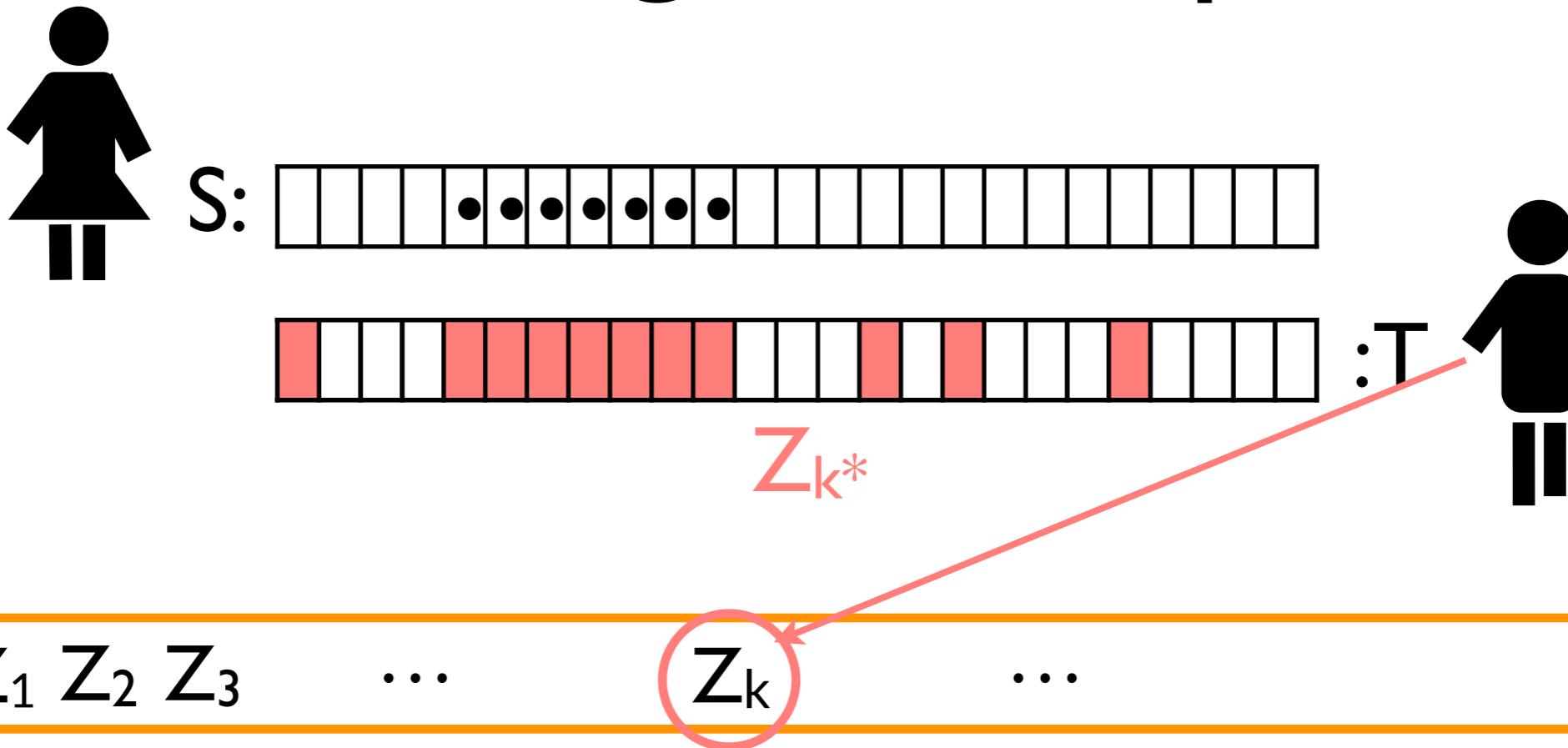
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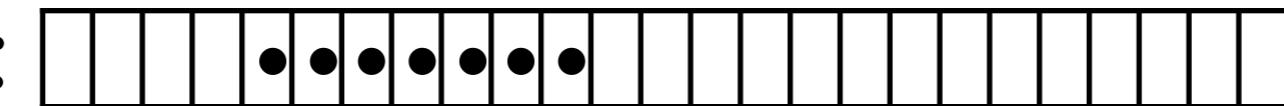


- If  $a \in S \cap T \Rightarrow a \in Z_{k^*}$ , so set  $T' = T \cap Z_{k^*}$
- If  $S \cap T = \emptyset$ ,  $E[|T'|] = p|T|$

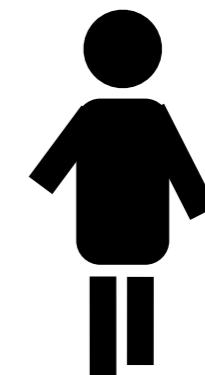
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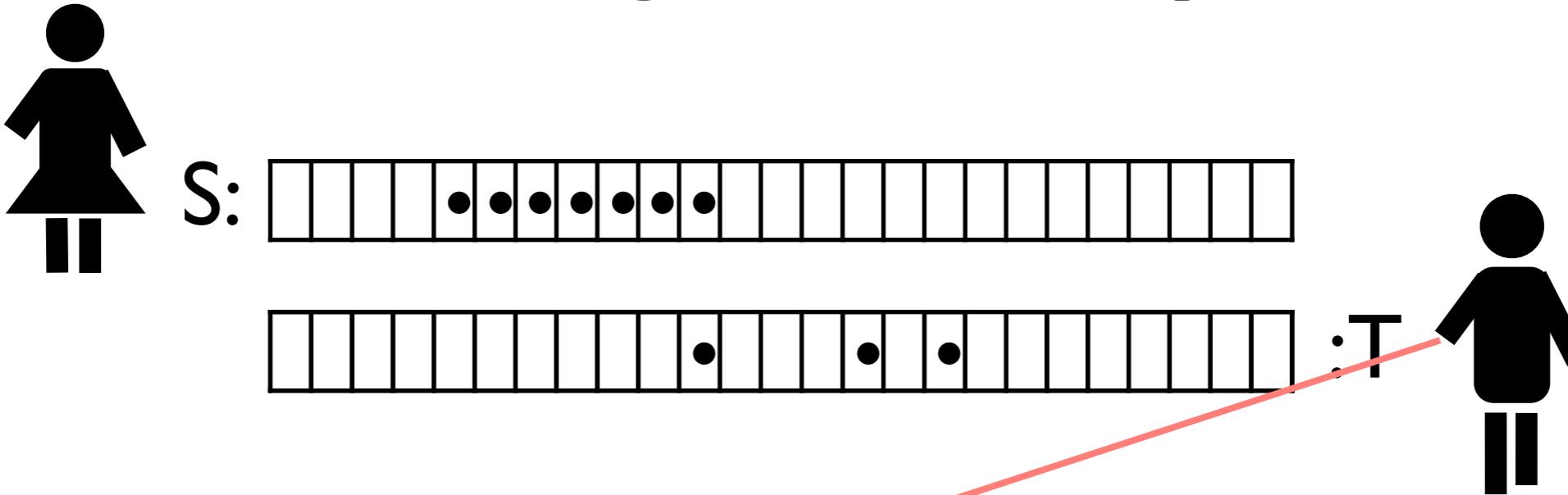
:T



$Z_1 \ Z_2 \ Z_3 \ \dots \ Z_k \ \dots$

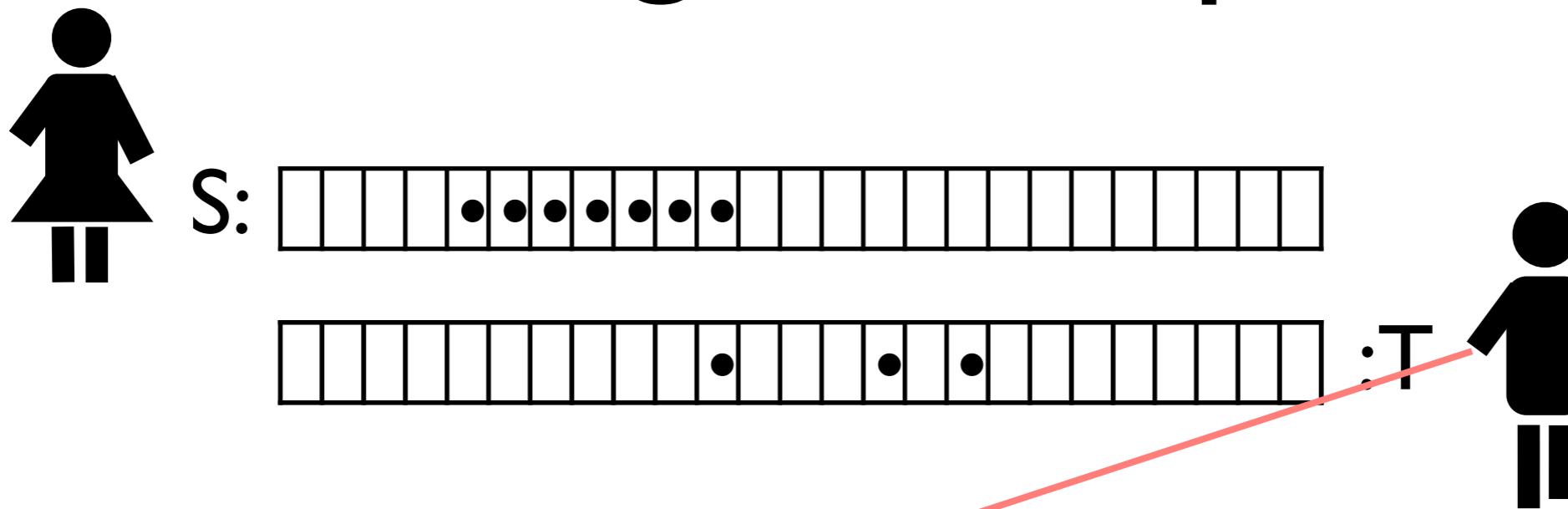
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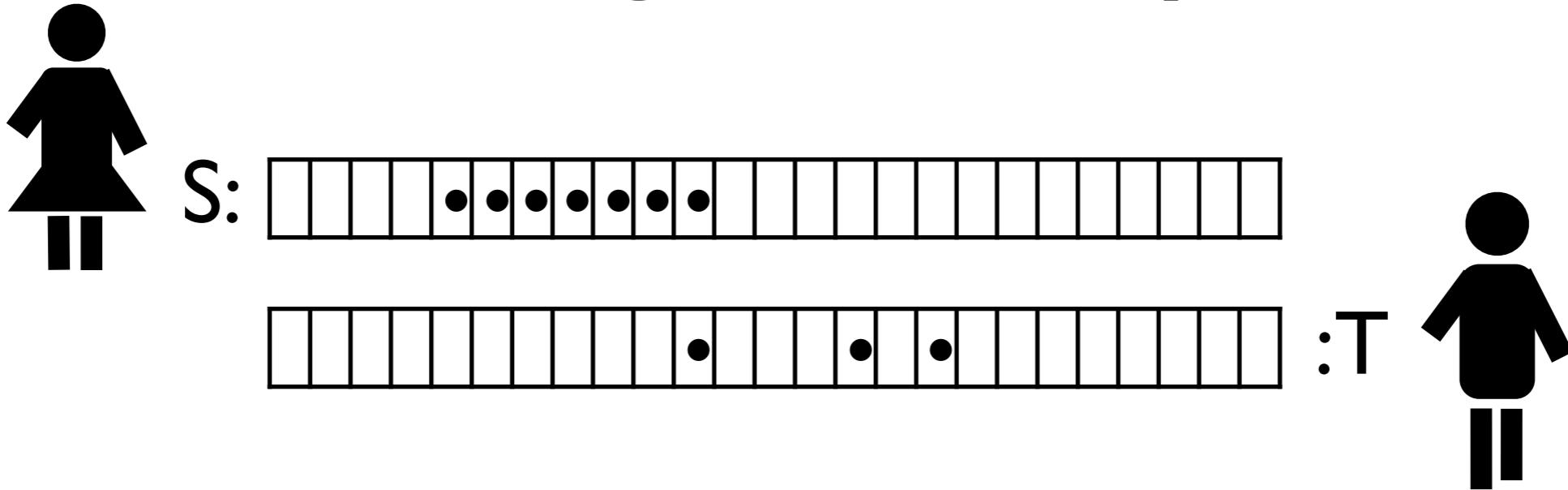
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  - Bob repeats for  $T' \subseteq Z_{h^*} \supseteq T'$
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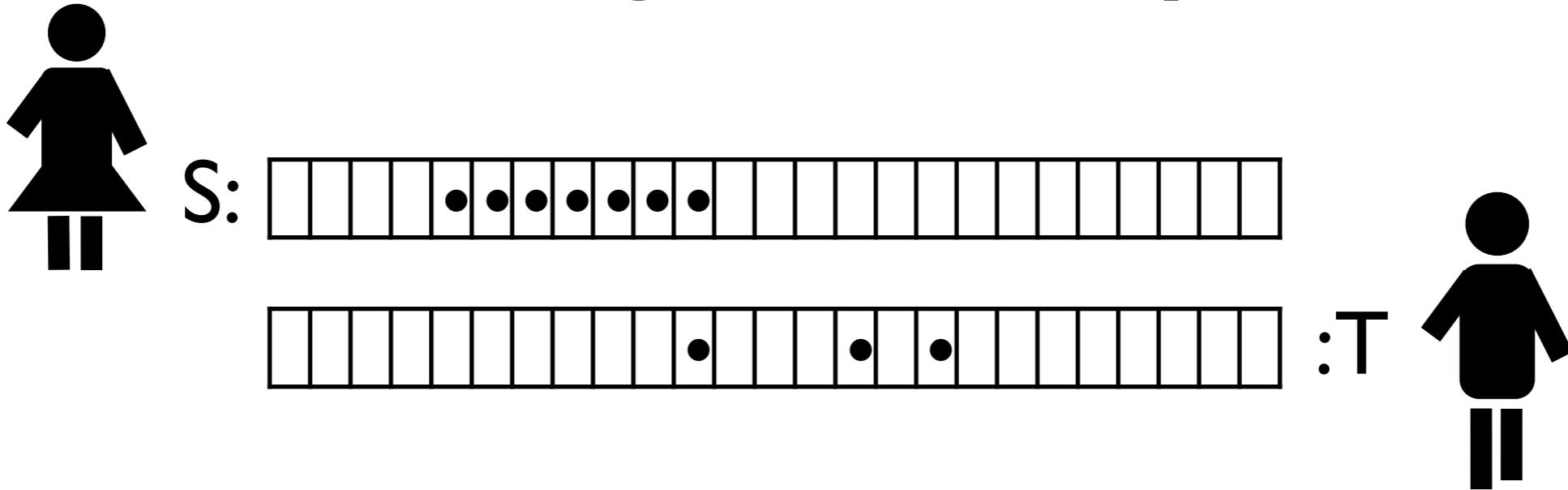
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Run  $O(\log k)$  rounds

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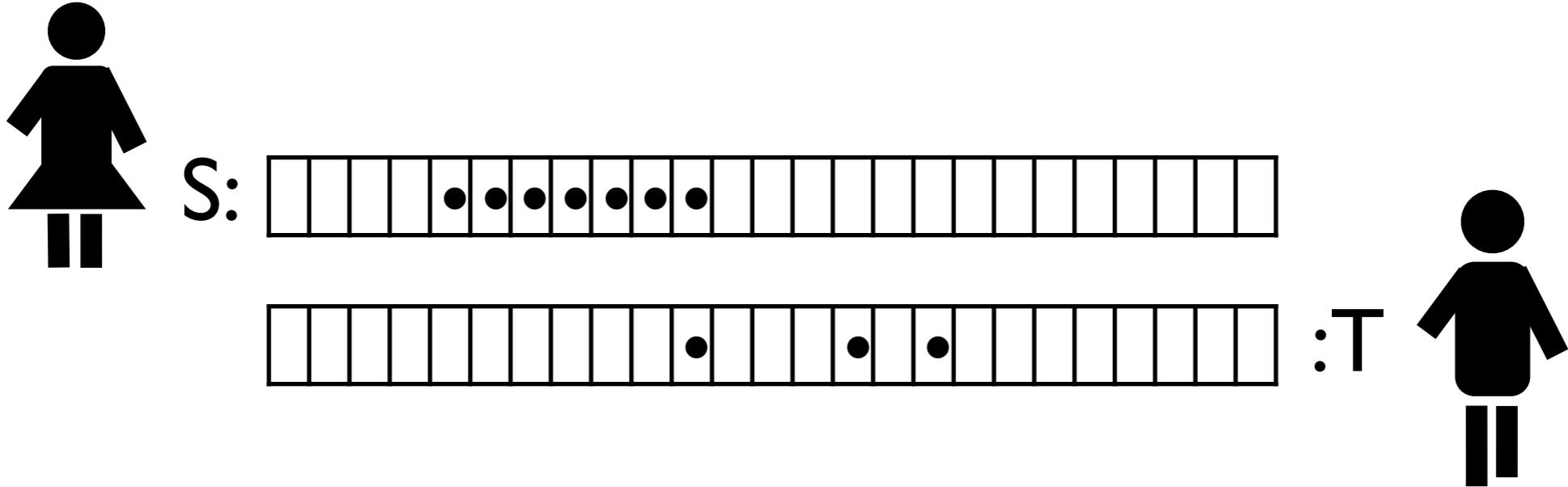


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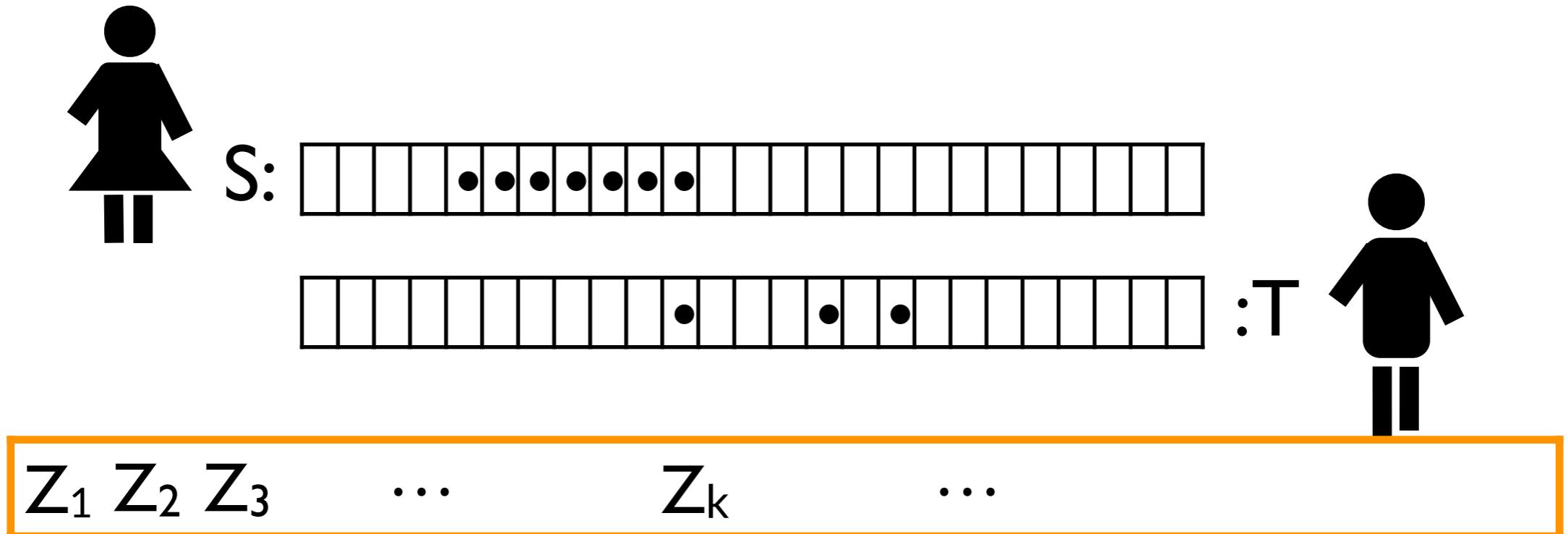
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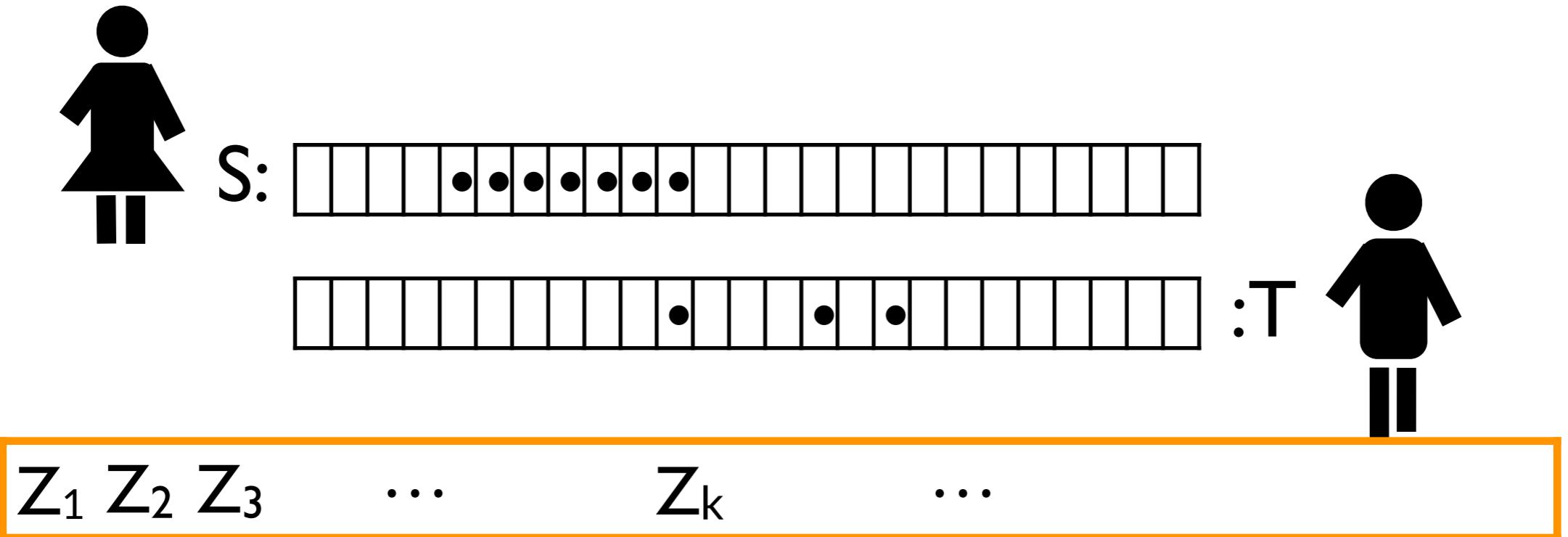
$$\text{Total} = k + k/2 + k/4 + \dots = O(k)$$

Our bound:  $R^r(\text{DISJ}_k) \leq O(k \log^{(r)} k)$



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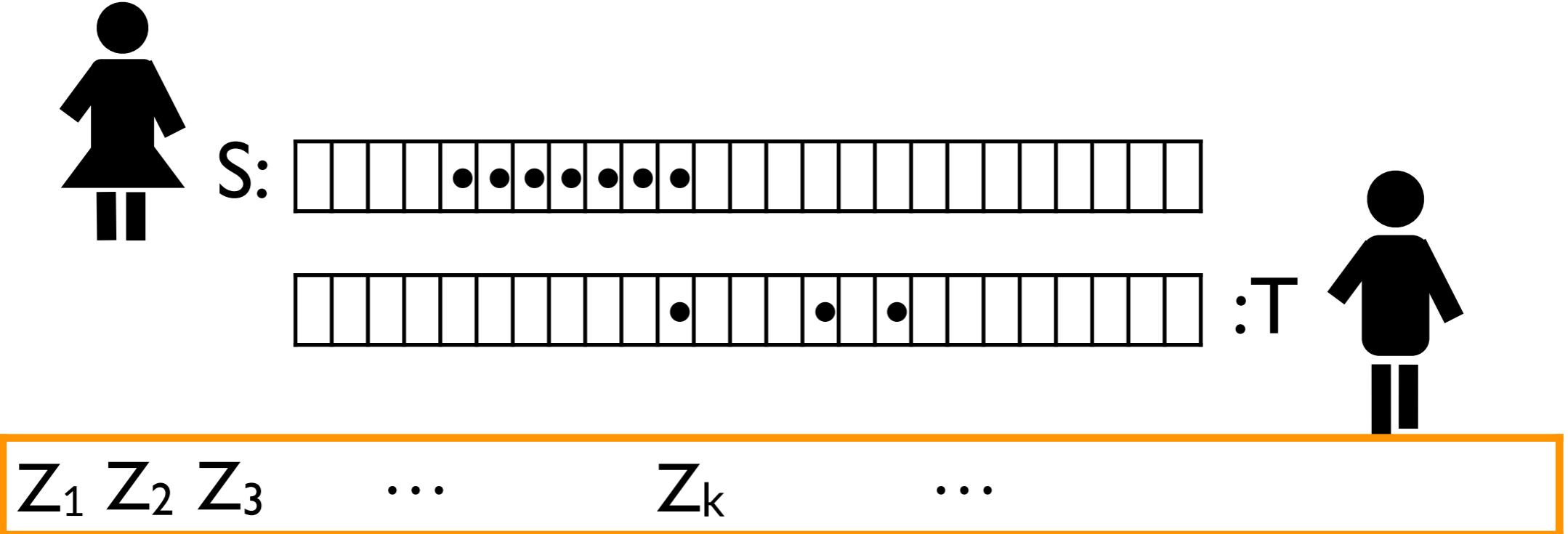
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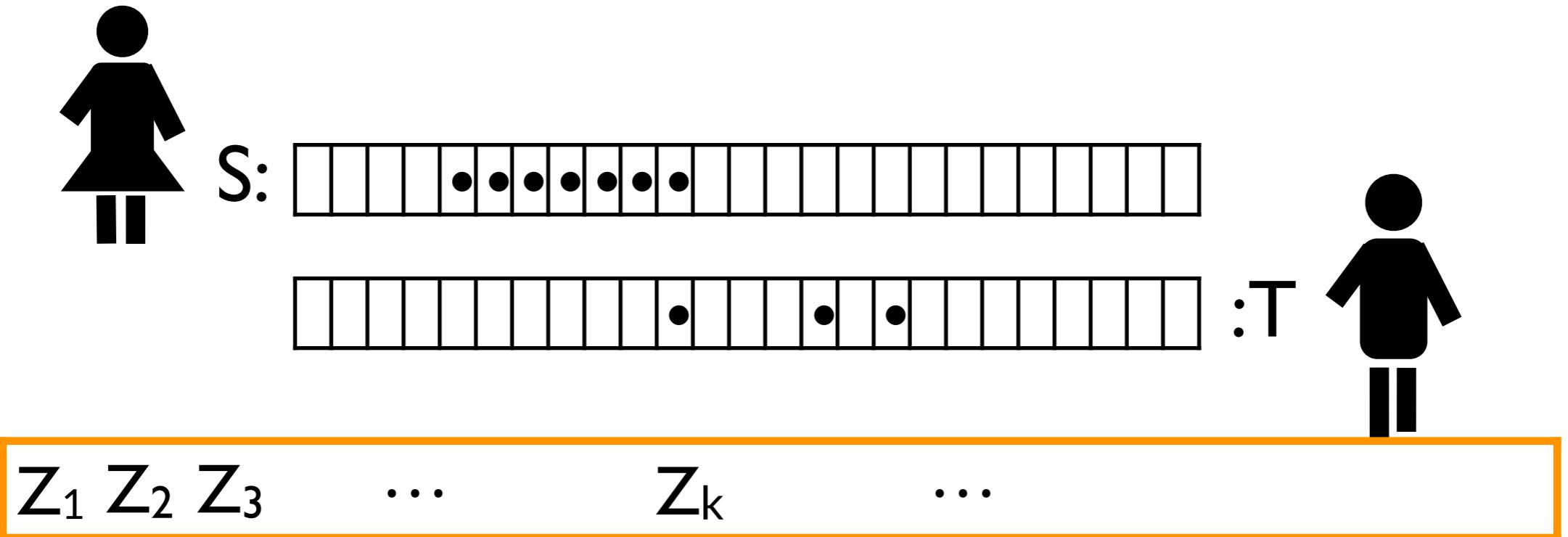


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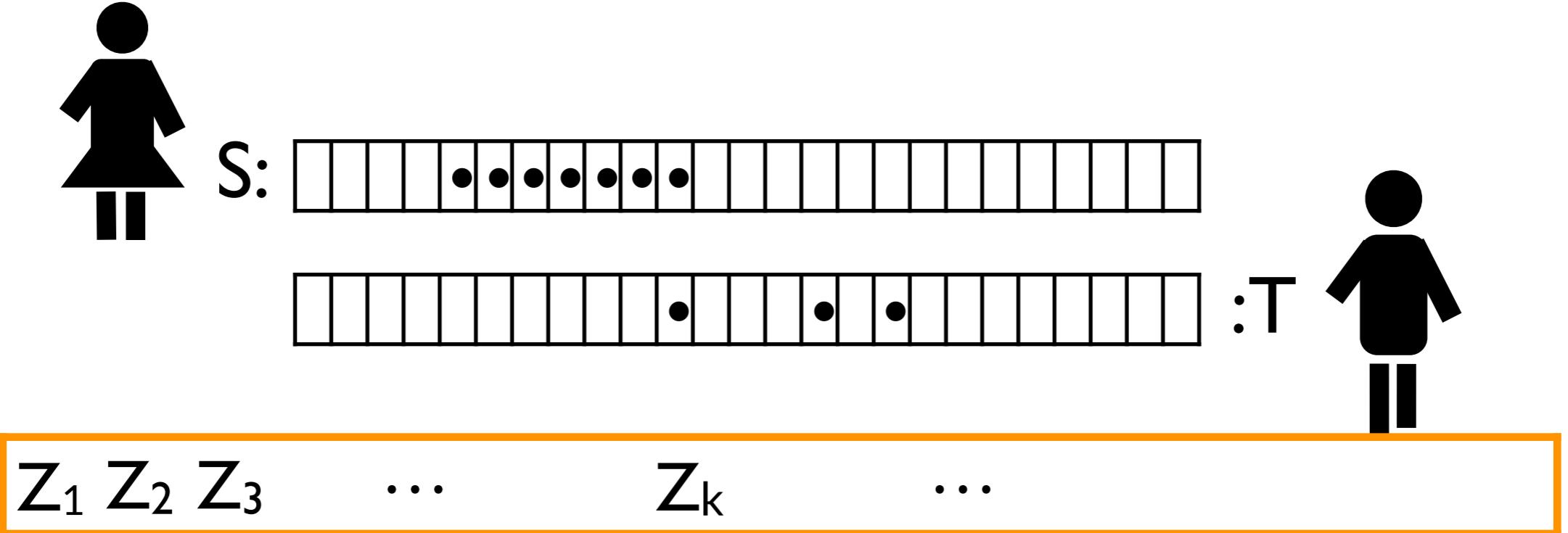
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### Fact 1

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{For } i > 3, \quad |\text{message}_i| &\leq \prod_{t=1}^{i/2} p_{i-2t+1} |S| \log 1/p_i \\ &\leq \frac{k}{\exp^{(i-1)} \exp^{(i-3)}} \log \exp^{(i)} \leq k / 2^i \end{aligned}$$

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So  $\text{EE}(x, y) = 1$

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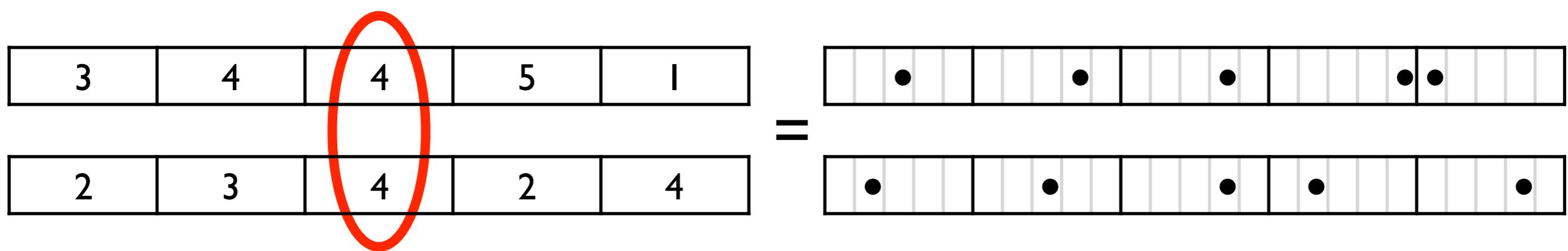
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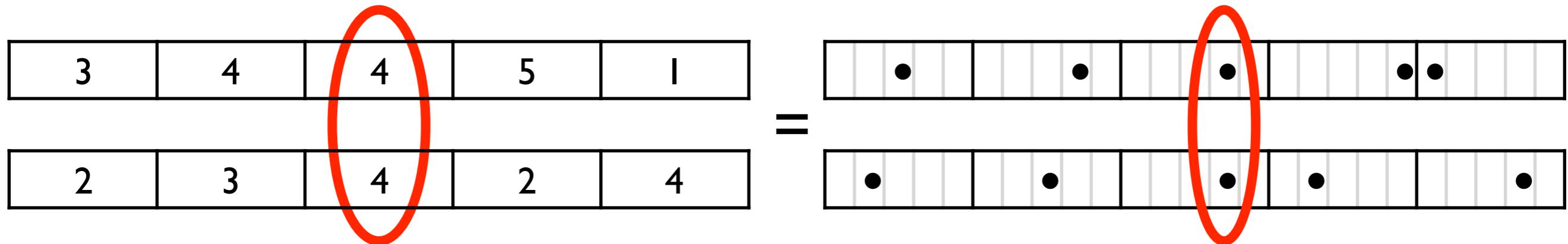
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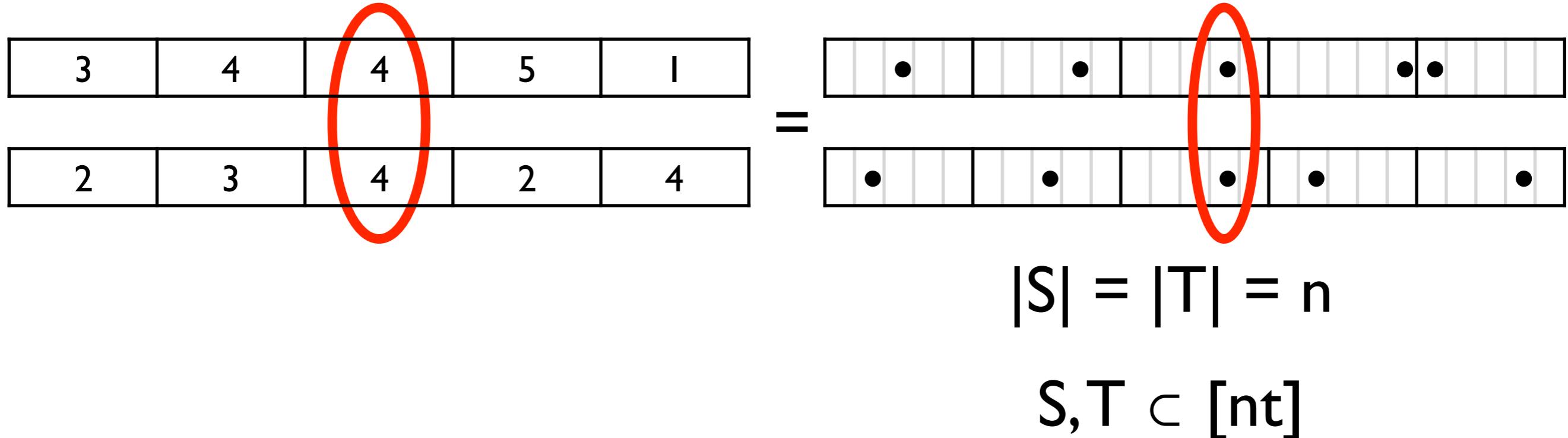
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- We get **super-linear** increase in complexity!

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- $\Rightarrow$  Any 0-round protocol has 0.22 error

# Round elimination

**Thm:** No  $r$ -round  $C = O(n \log^{(r)} n)$ -bits protocol for  $\text{EE}_n^t$

Induction on  $r$ :

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$r$ -round  $C = \Theta(n \log^{(r)} n)$ -bits  
protocol for  $\text{EE}_n^t$

# Round elimination

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Induction on  $r$ :

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construct  
 $\Rightarrow$

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construct  
⇒

$(r-1)$ -round  $10C$ -bits protocol for  $\text{EE}_n^{t'}$ , where  
 $n' = n/B$  and  $t' = t/B$

$$B = 2C/n$$

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Contradicts induction hypothesis!

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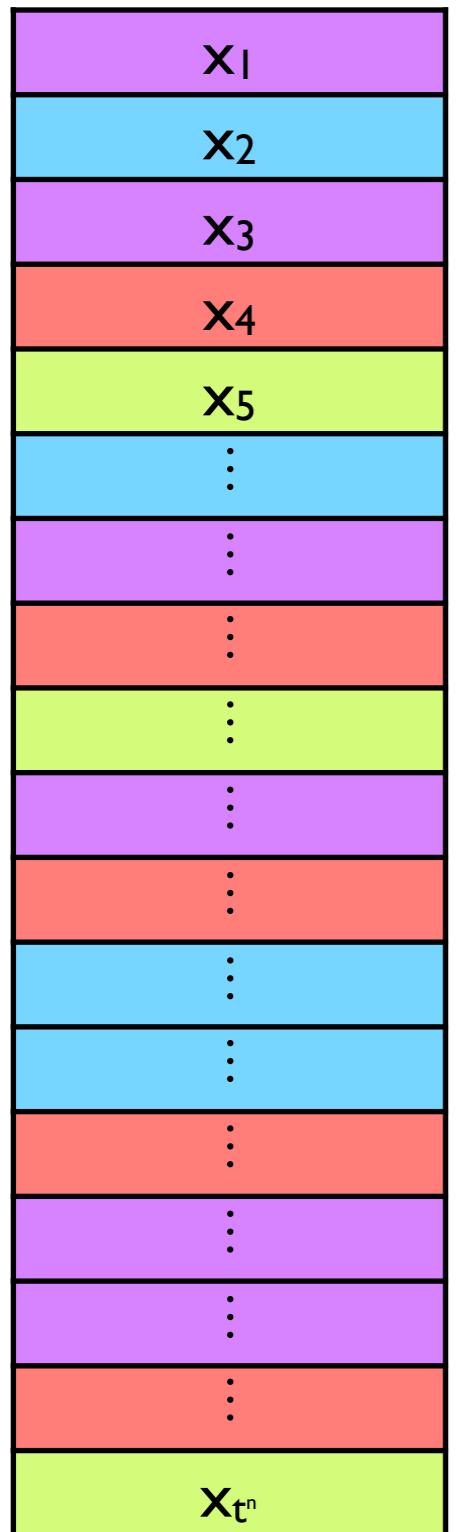
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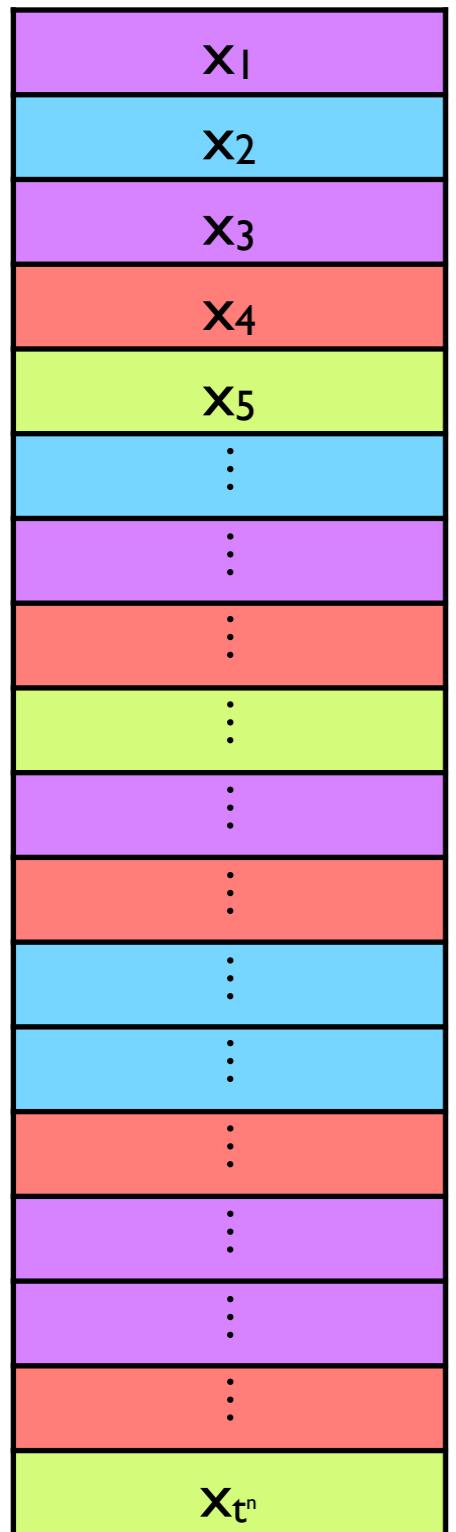
Contradicts induction hypothesis!

Note:  
 $t' = 4n'$

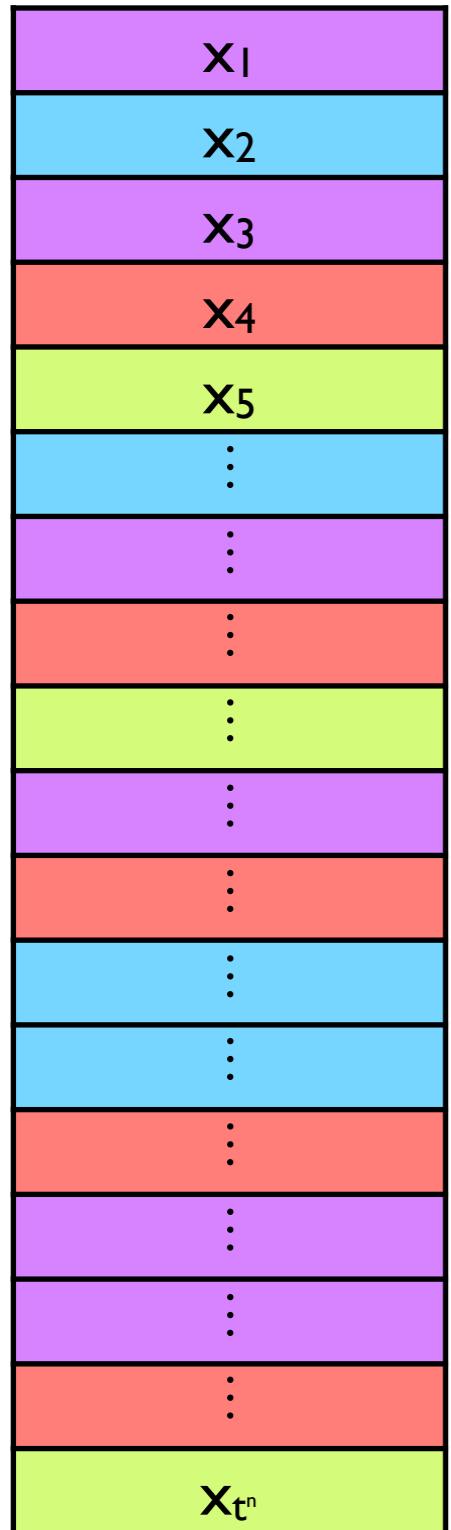
# Fixing the first message



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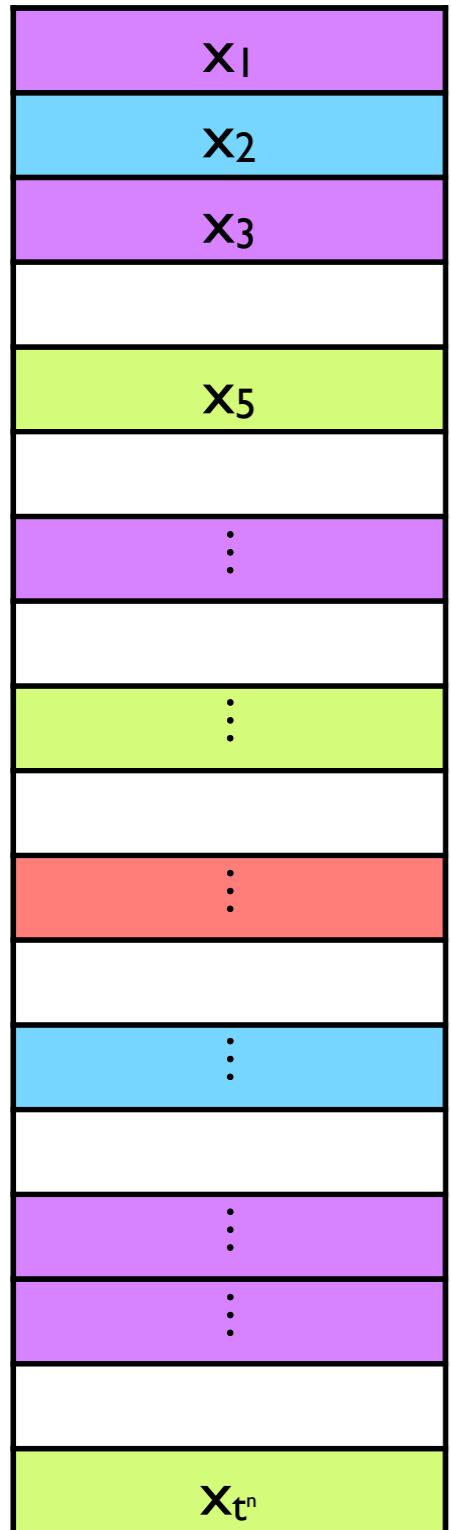


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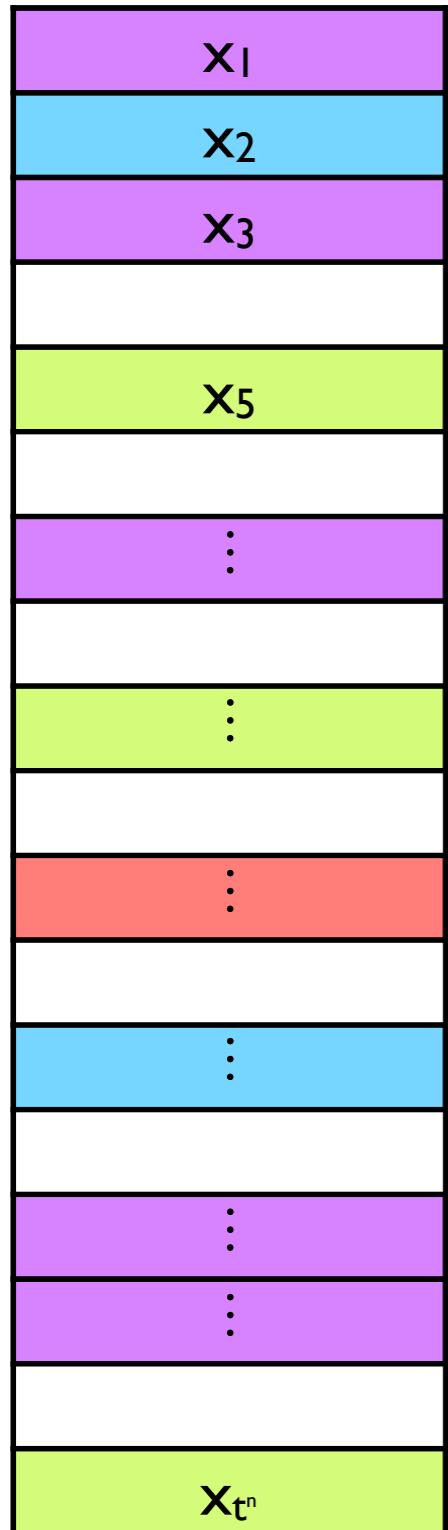
- Throw  $x_0$ ,  $\Pr_y[P(x_0, y) \neq Ee(x_0, y)] \geq 2\delta$

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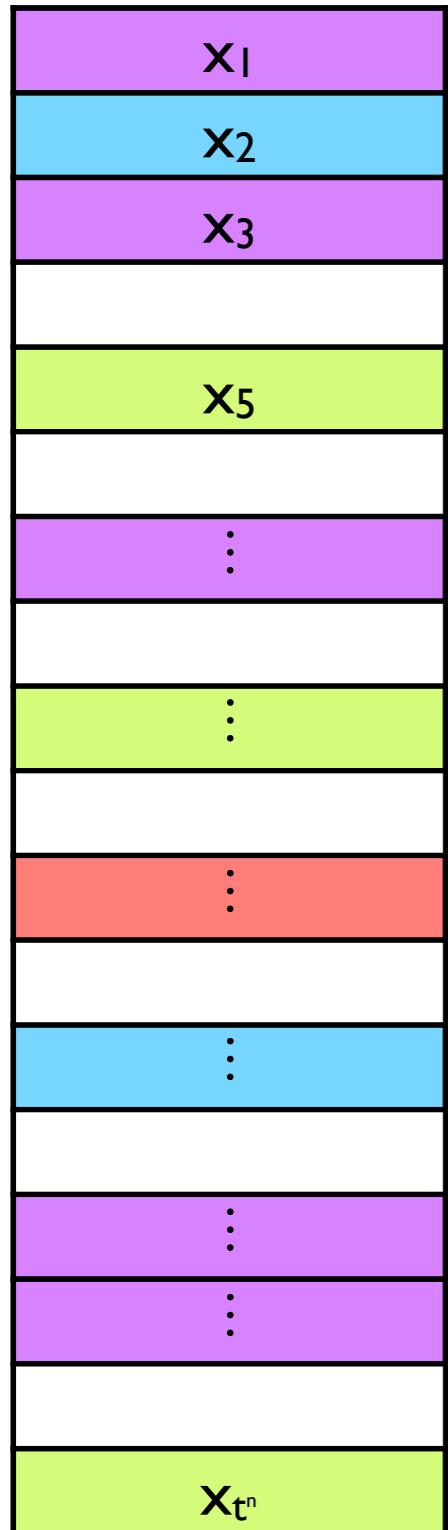
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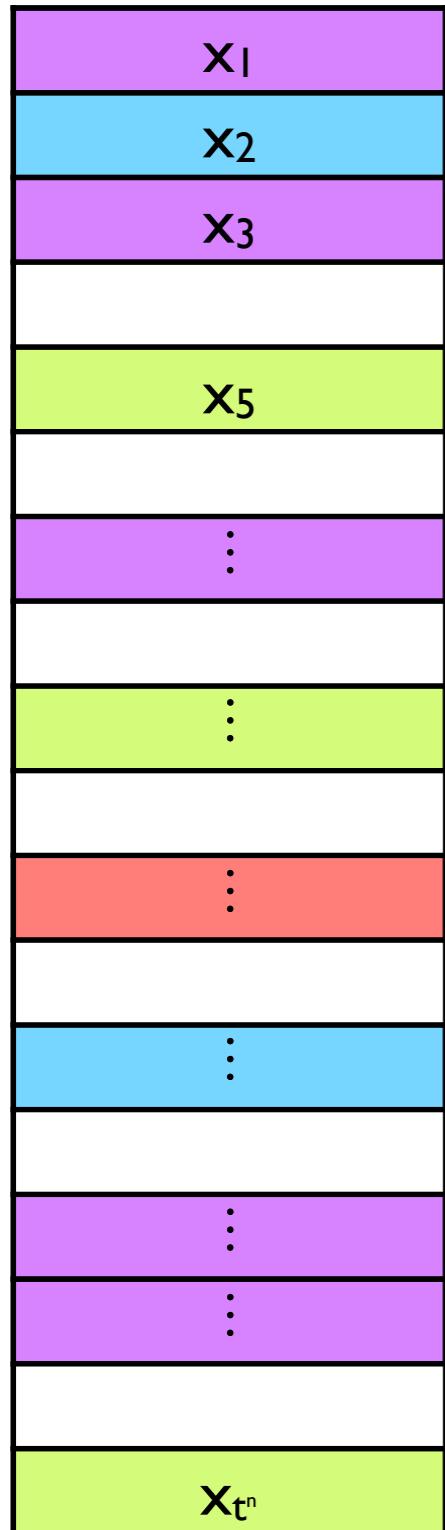
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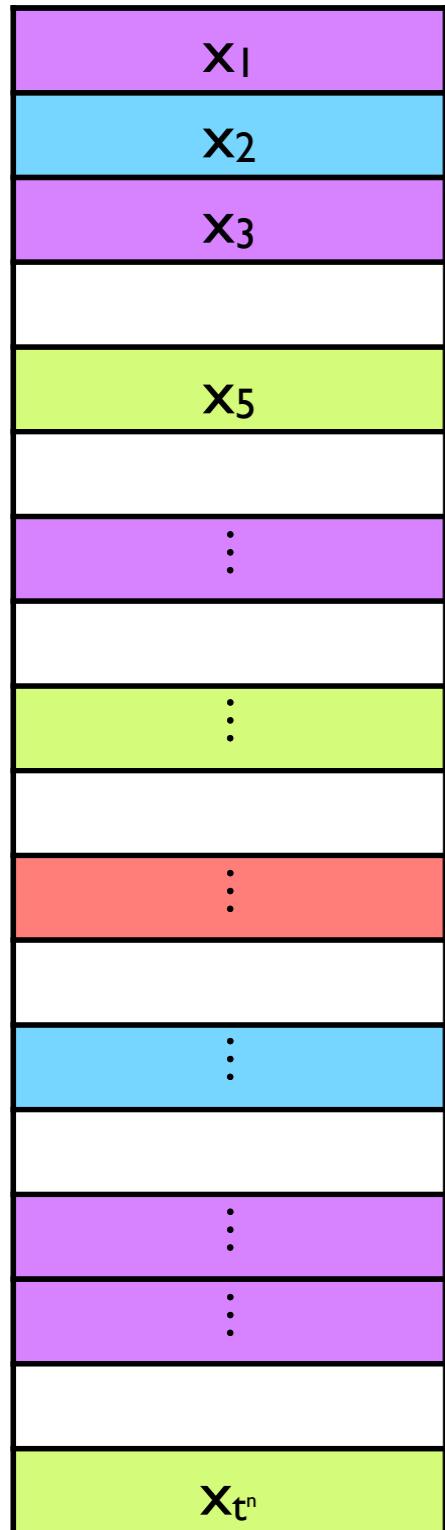
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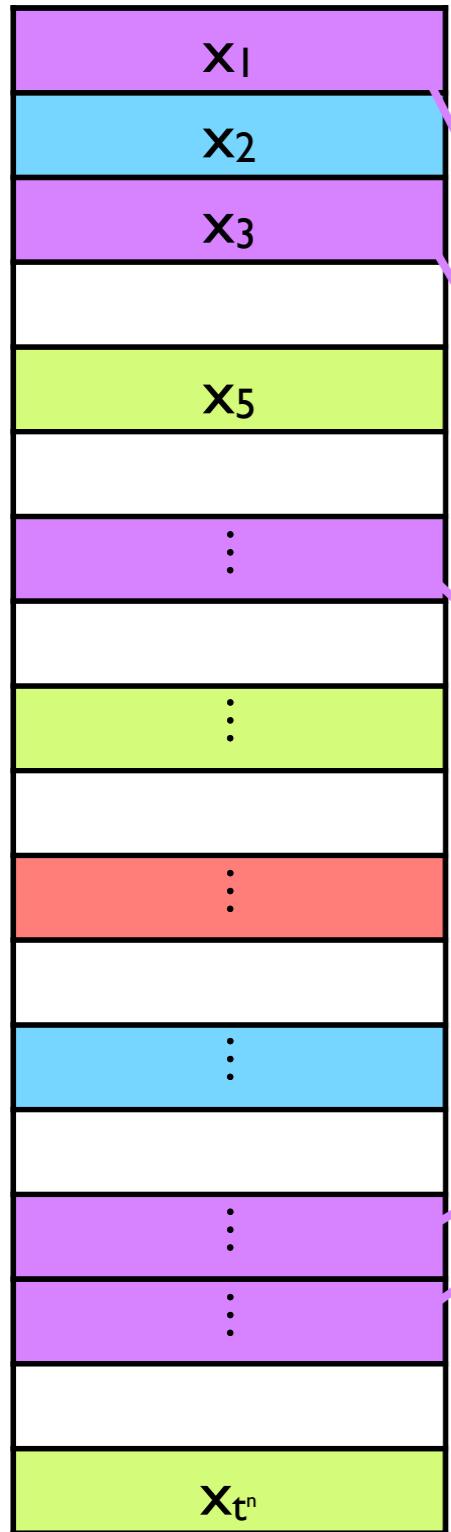
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- Let  $S \subseteq [t]^n$  be inputs on which  $m^*$  is sent

# Fixing the first message



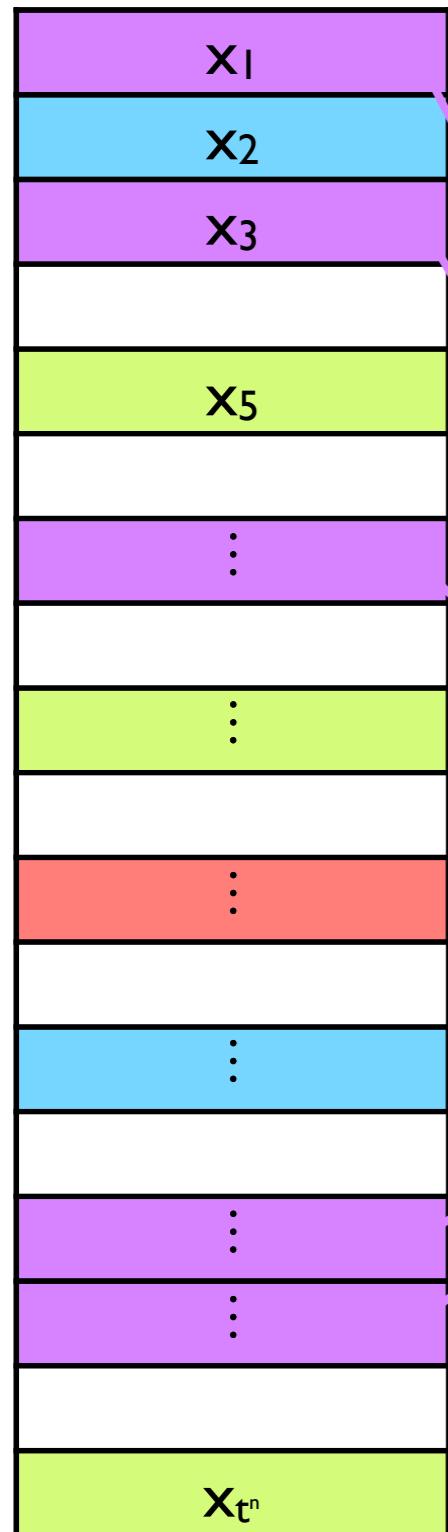
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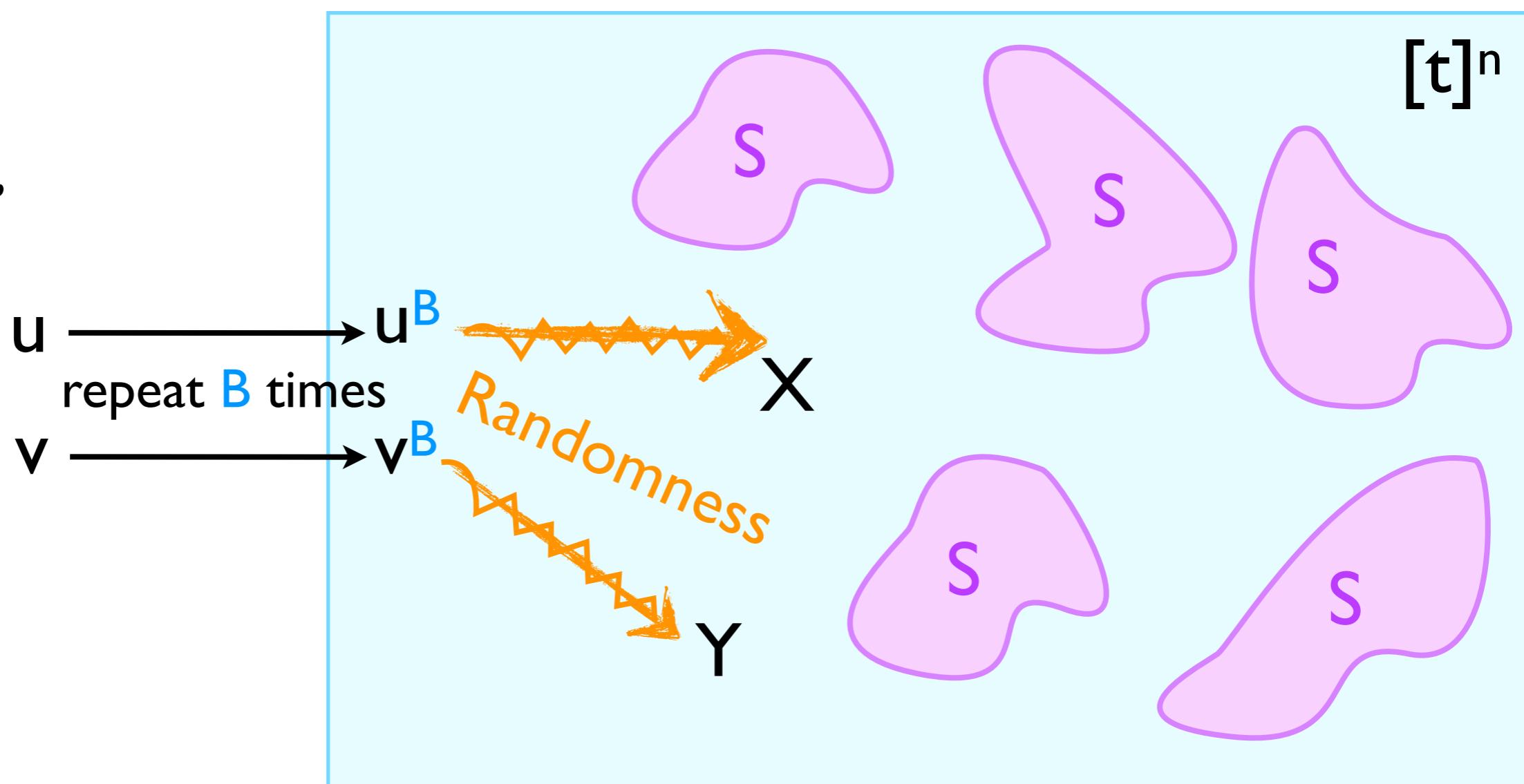
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- Let  $S \subseteq [t]^n$  be inputs on which  $m^*$  is sent
- C-bits protocol  $\Rightarrow \leq 2^C$  different messages
- $|S| \geq t^n / 2^{C+1}$

r-round protocol for  $\text{EE}_n^t \Rightarrow$   
(r-1)-round protocol for  $t'$

$$B = 2C/n$$

$$n' = n/B$$

$$u, v \in [t']^{n'}$$

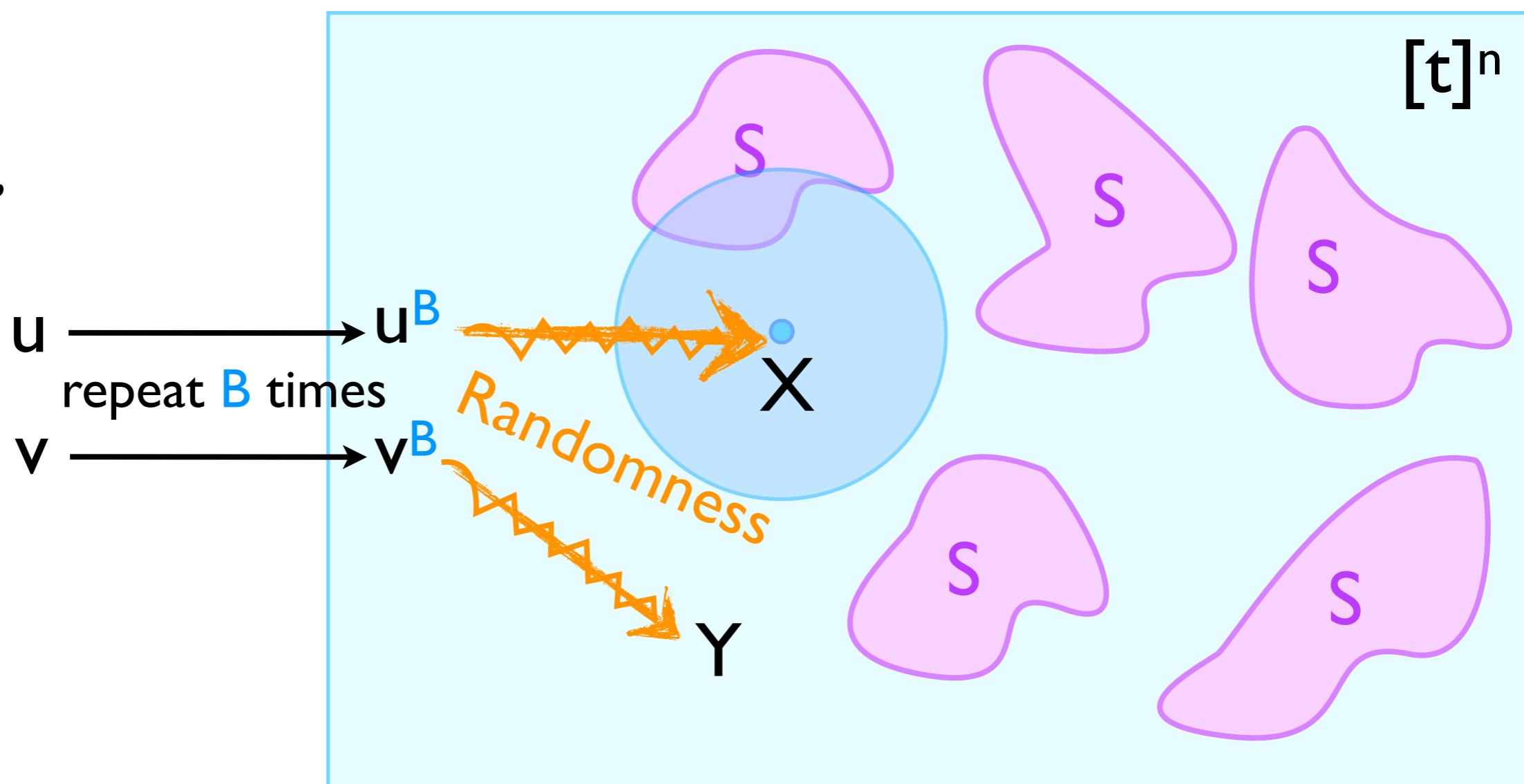


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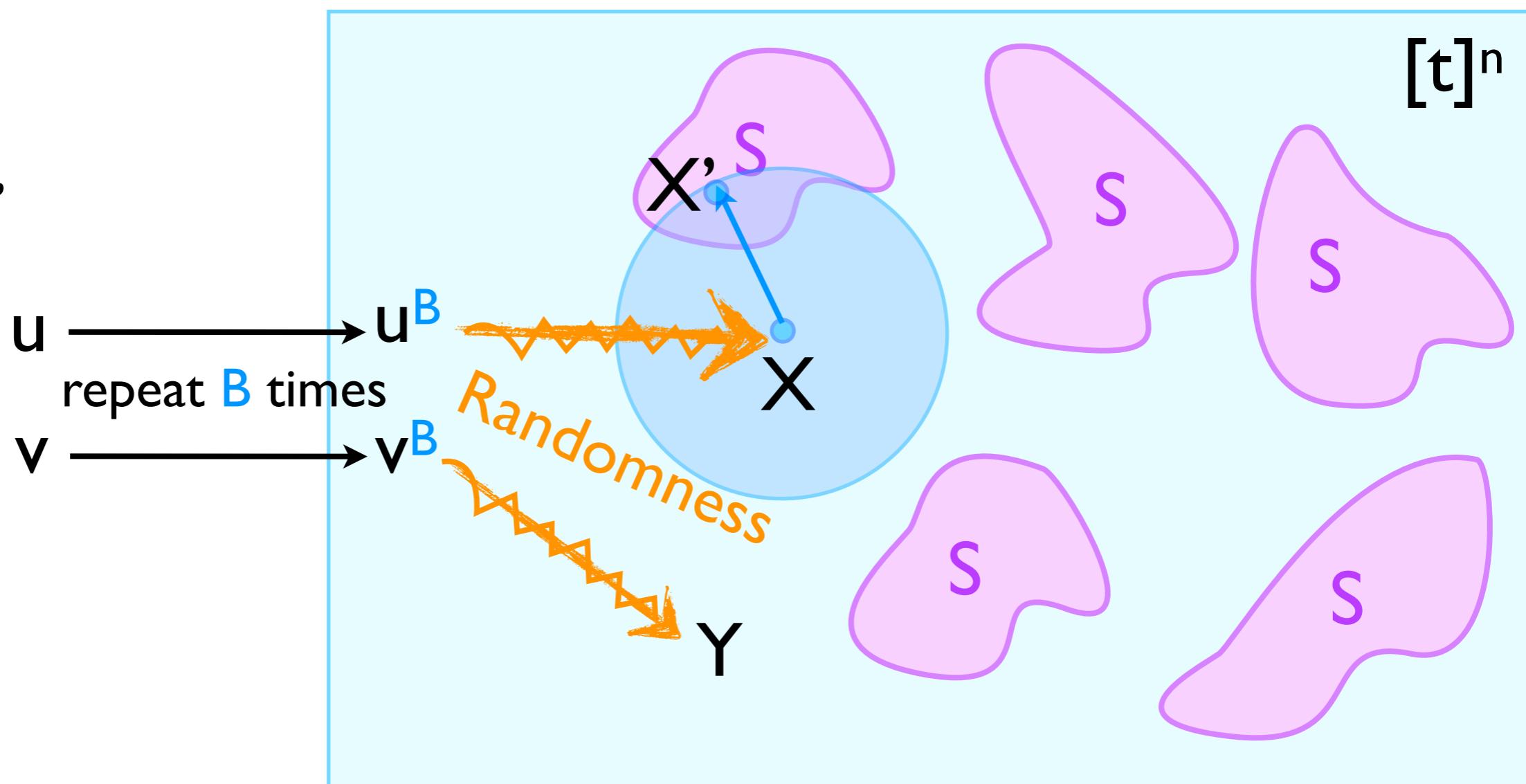


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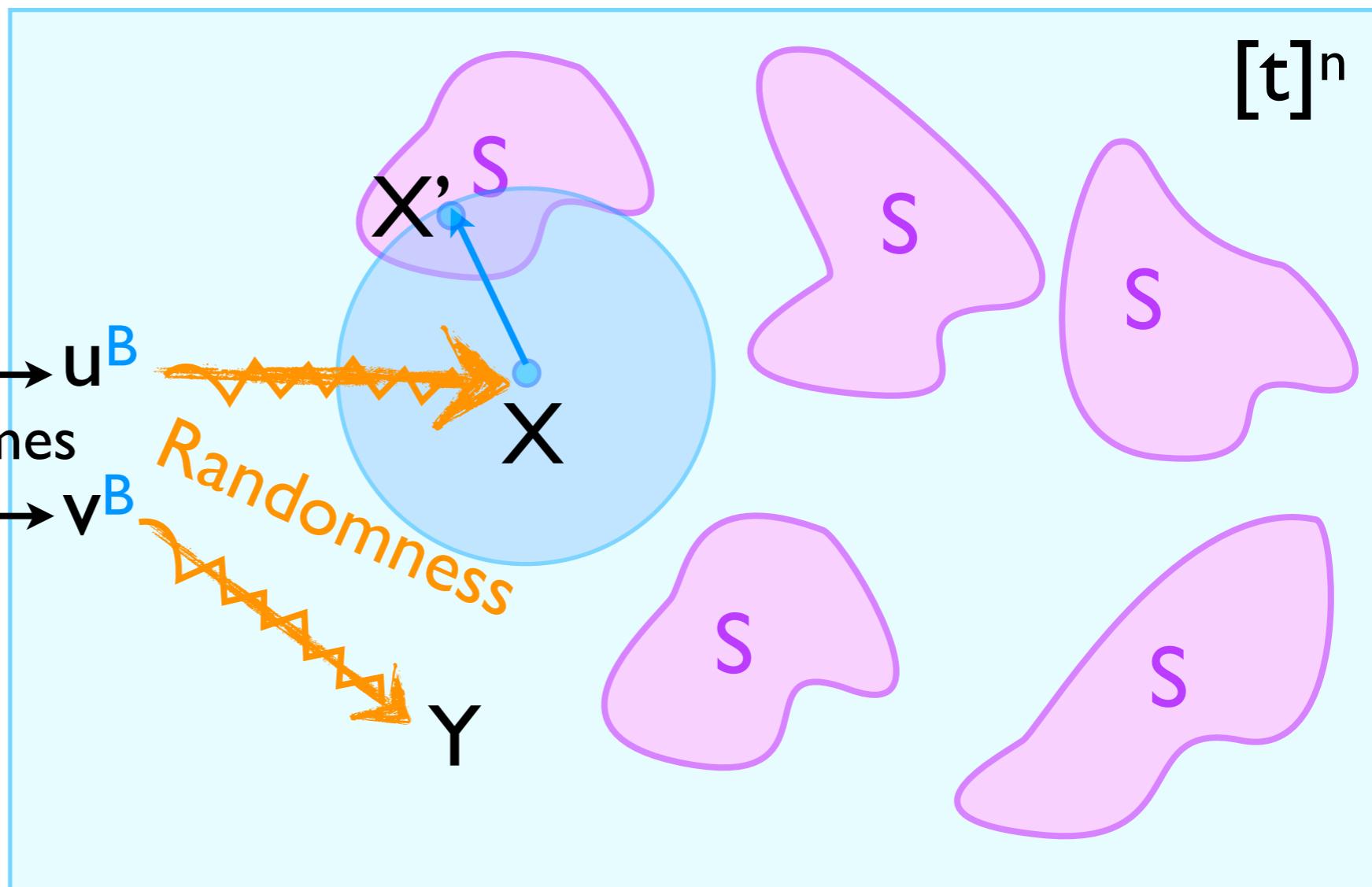
$$n' = n/B$$

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$$\begin{aligned} u &\longrightarrow u^B \\ v &\longrightarrow v^B \end{aligned}$$

repeat  $B$  times

①  $\text{EE}(u, v) \approx \text{EE}(X', Y)$



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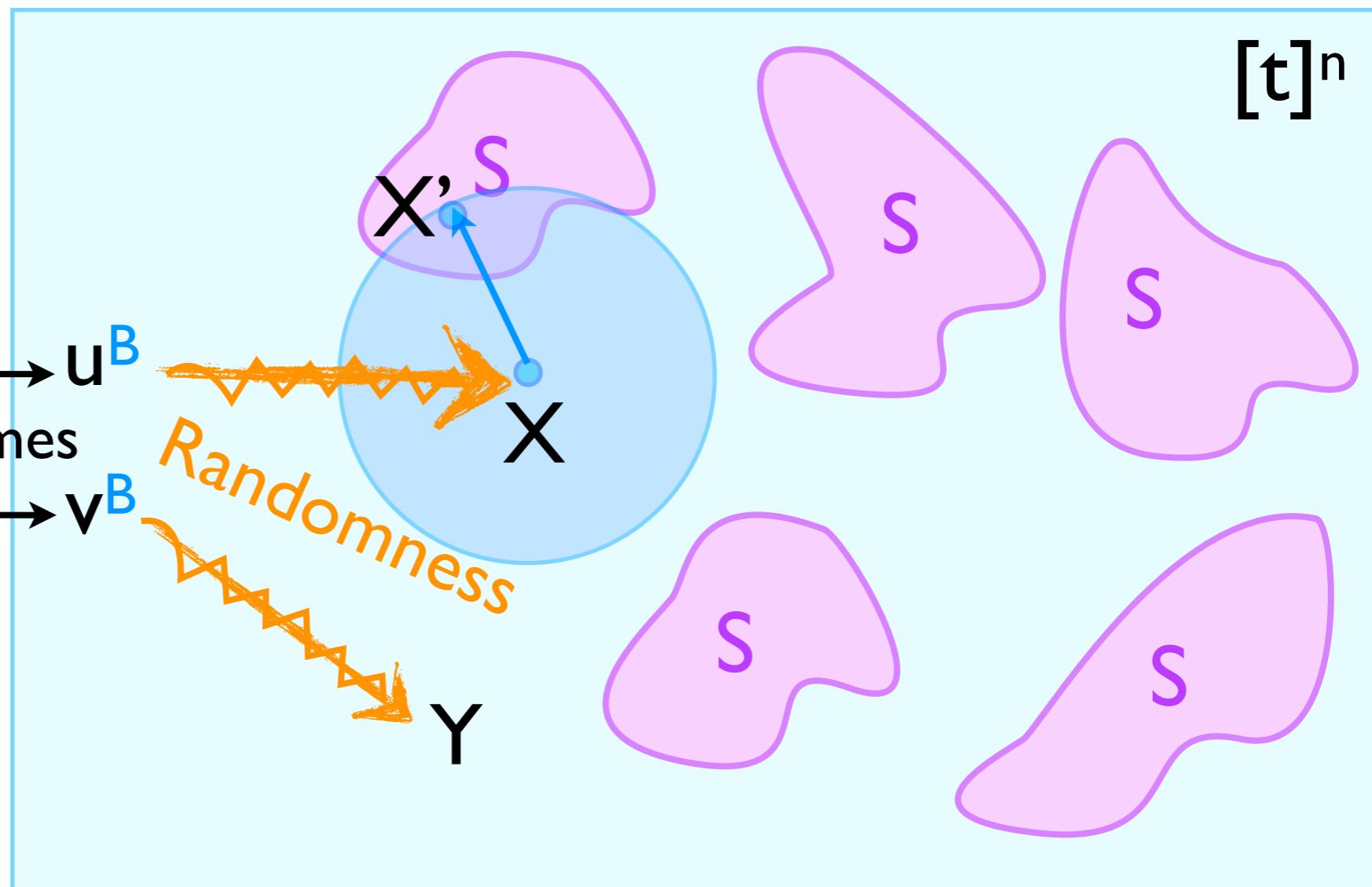
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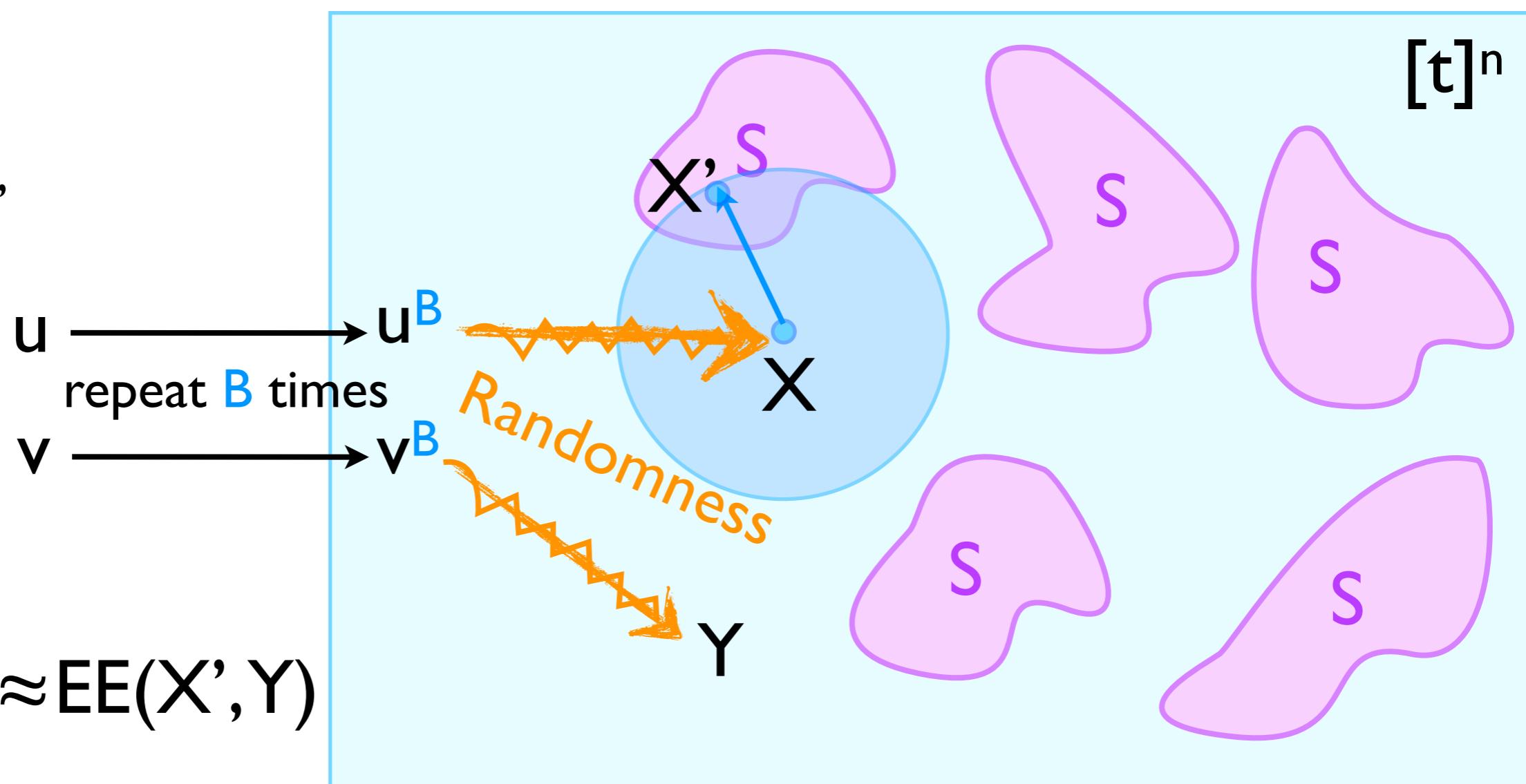
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# Protocol for $EE_n^{t'}$ :

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Given  $u, v \in [t']^n$

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$u:$ 

2	3	1	4	2	1
---	---	---	---	---	---

$v:$ 

4	2	3	4	1	3
---	---	---	---	---	---

Protocol for  $\text{EE}_n^{t'}$ :

Recall  $n' = n/B$

$$B=2C/n$$

Given  $u, v \in [t']^{n'}$

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2	3	1	4	2	1
---	---	---	---	---	---

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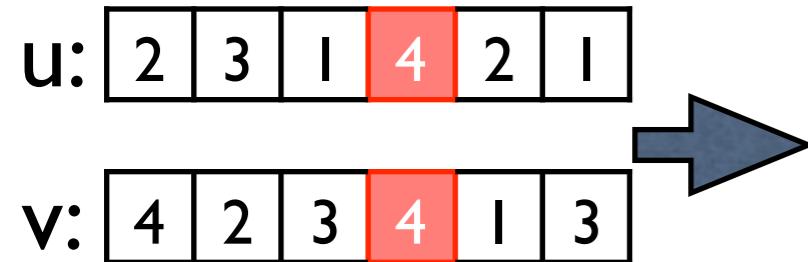
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Given  $u, v \in [t']^n$

Recall  $n' = n/B$

$$B=2C/n$$

Repeat each coordinate  $B$  times



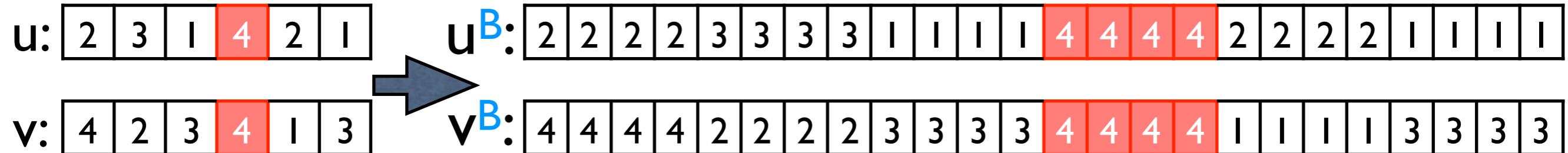
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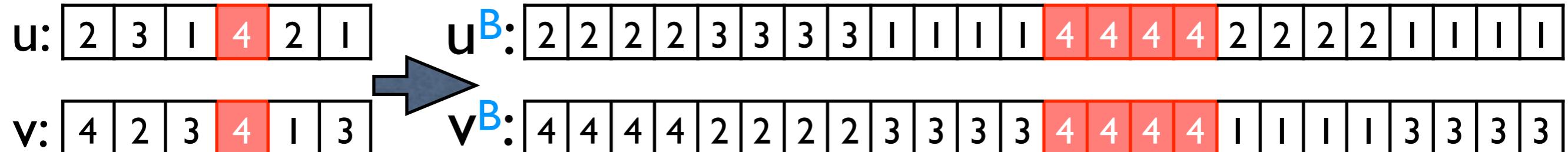
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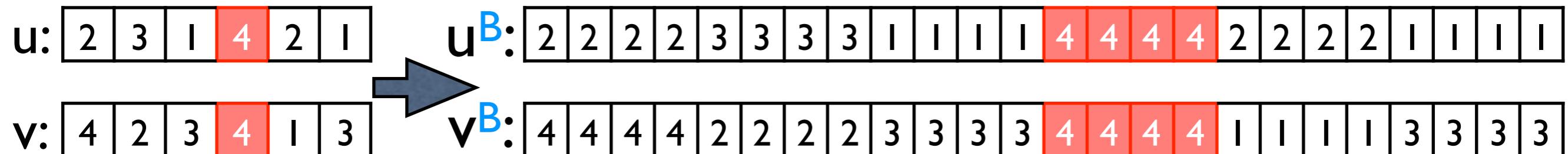
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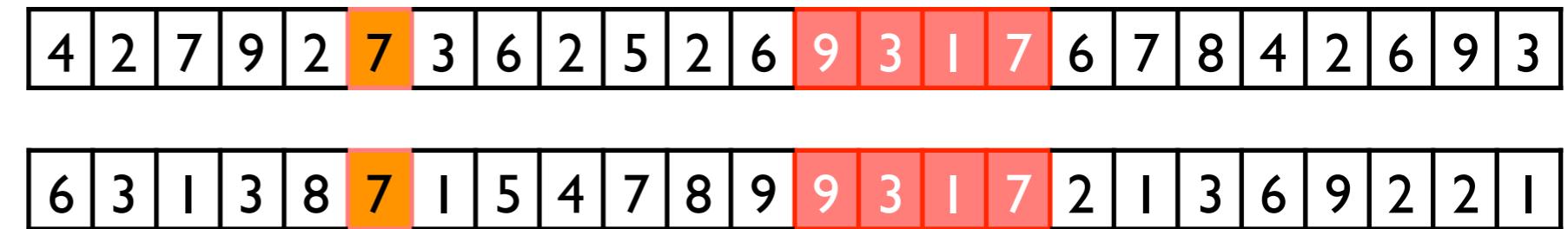
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• : Phantom match

Protocol for  $\text{EE}_n^{t'}$ :

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$$B=2C/n$$

Given  $u, v \in [t']^n'$

Repeat each coordinate  $B$  times

$u: [2|3|1|4|2|1]$

$u^B: [2|2|2|2|3|3|3|3|1|1|1|1|4|4|4|4|2|2|2|2|1|1|1]$

$v: [4|2|3|4|1|3]$

$v^B: [4|4|4|4|2|2|2|2|3|3|3|3|4|4|4|4|1|1|1|1|3|3|3|3]$

Pick a random function  $f_i: [t'] \mapsto [t]$  for each  $i \in [n]$

Permute coordinates randomly

$[4|2|7|9|2|7|3|6|2|5|2|6|9|3|1|7|6|7|8|4|2|6|9|3]$

$[6|3|1|3|8|7|1|5|4|7|8|9|9|3|1|7|2|1|3|6|9|2|2|1]$

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$u^B: [2|2|2|2|3|3|3|3|1|1|1|1|4|4|4|4|2|2|2|2|1|1|1]$

$v: [4|2|3|4|1|3]$

$v^B: [4|4|4|4|2|2|2|2|3|3|3|3|4|4|4|4|1|1|1|1|3|3|3|3]$

Pick a random function  $f_i: [t'] \mapsto [t]$  for each  $i \in [n]$

$[4|2|7|9|2|7|3|6|2|5|2|6|9|3|1|7|6|7|8|4|2|6|9|3]$

$[6|3|1|3|8|7|1|5|4|7|8|9|9|3|1|7|2|1|3|6|9|2|2|1]$

Permute coordinates randomly

$[3|2|8|1|5|9|2|3|3|7|6|3|9|7|6|9|7|7|4|2|5|9|5|8]$

$[1|8|3|1|7|3|9|3|1|1|2|1|2|7|5|3|1|7|6|3|7|9|7|3]$

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Protocol for  $\text{EE}_n^{t'}$ :

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$u: [2|3|1|4|2|1]$

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$v^B: [4|4|4|4|2|2|2|2|3|3|3|3|4|4|4|4|1|1|1|1|3|3|3|3]$

Pick a random function  $f_i: [t'] \mapsto [t]$  for each  $i \in [n]$

$[4|2|7|9|2|7|3|6|2|5|2|6|9|3|1|7|6|7|8|4|2|6|9|3]$

$[6|3|1|3|8|7|1|5|4|7|8|9|9|3|1|7|2|1|3|6|9|2|2|1]$

Permute coordinates randomly

$X: [3|2|8|1|5|9|2|3|3|7|6|3|9|7|6|9|7|7|4|2|5|9|5|8]$

$Y: [1|8|3|1|7|3|9|3|1|1|2|1|2|7|5|3|1|7|6|3|7|9|7|3]$

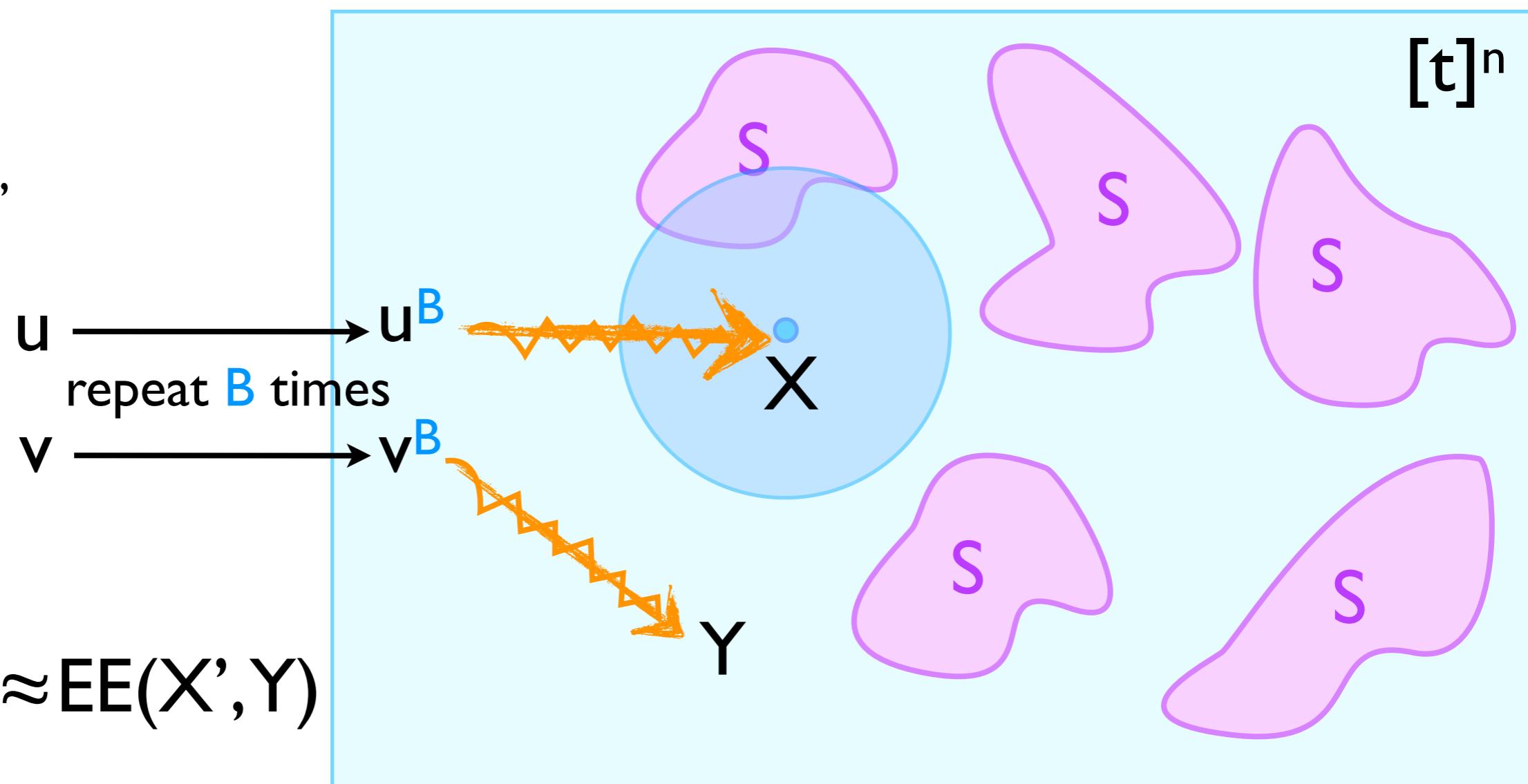
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# Step 2: Rounding to S

$$B = 2C/n$$

$$n' = n/B$$

$$u, v \in [t']^{n'}$$



①  $\text{EE}(u, v) \approx \text{EE}(X', Y)$

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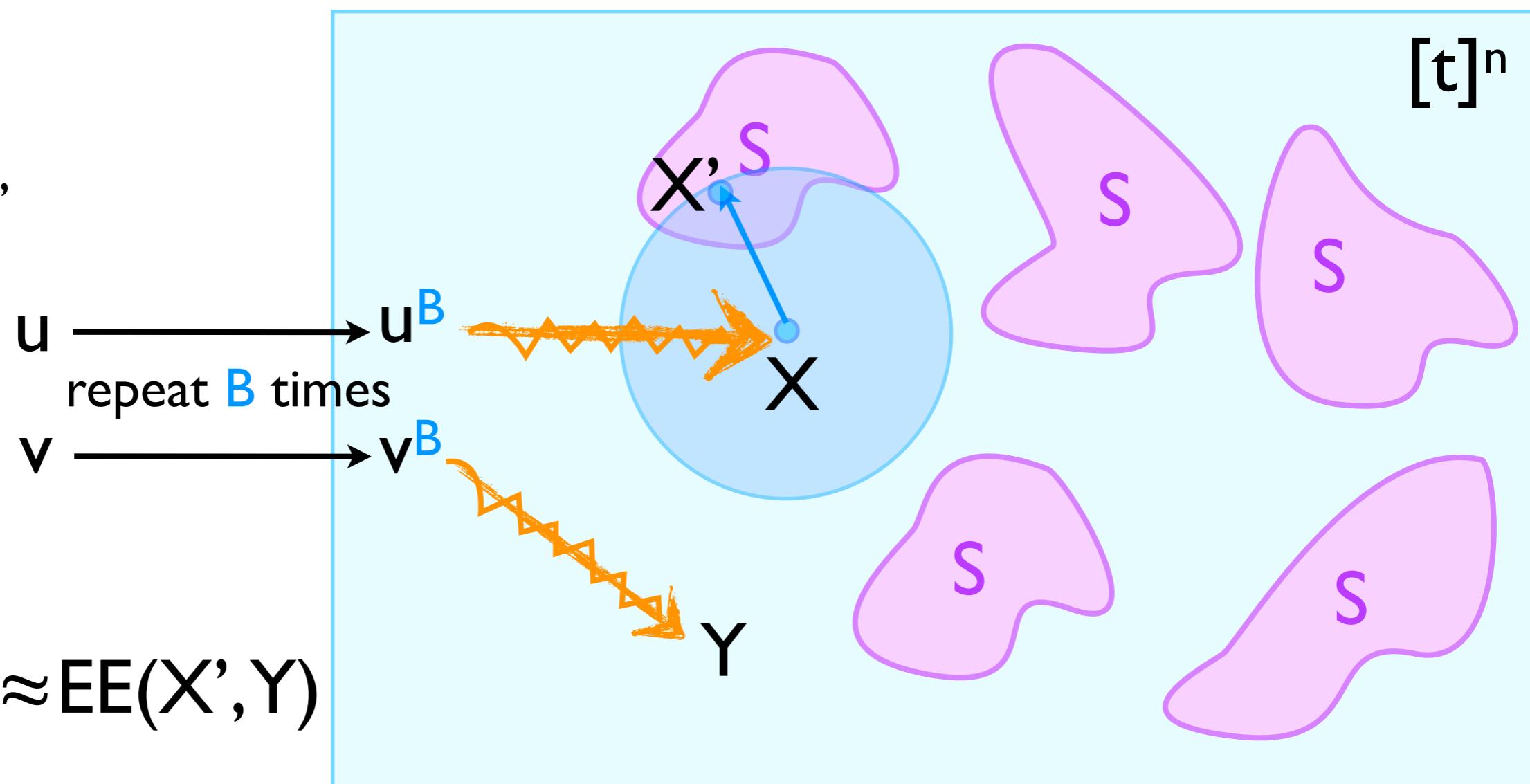
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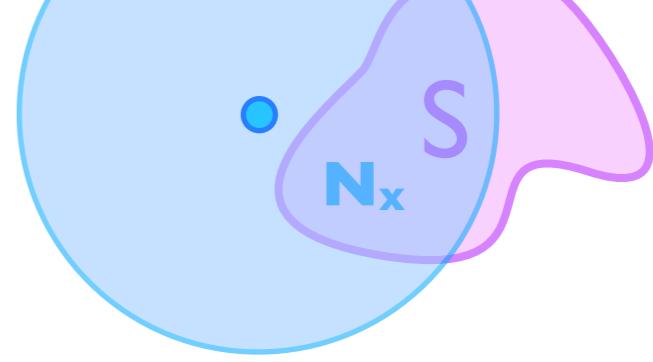
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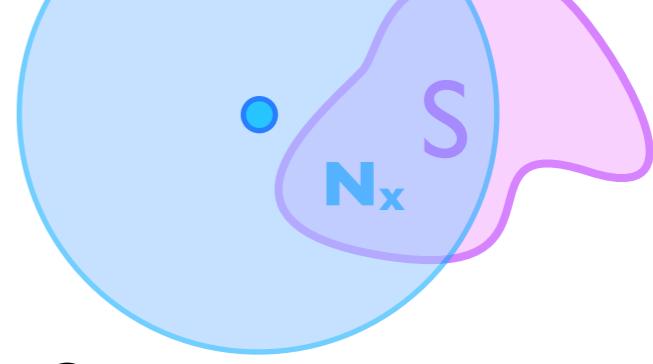
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- $N_x = S \cap \text{Ball}(X, n(1-1/B))$
- $X'$ : uniform in  $N_x$

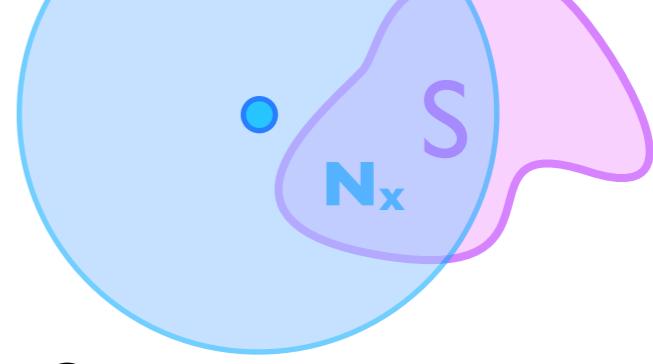


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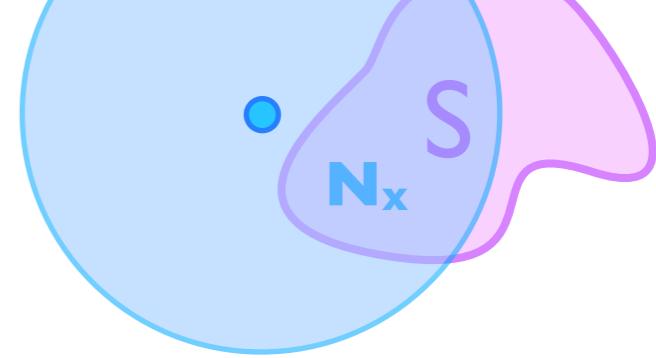
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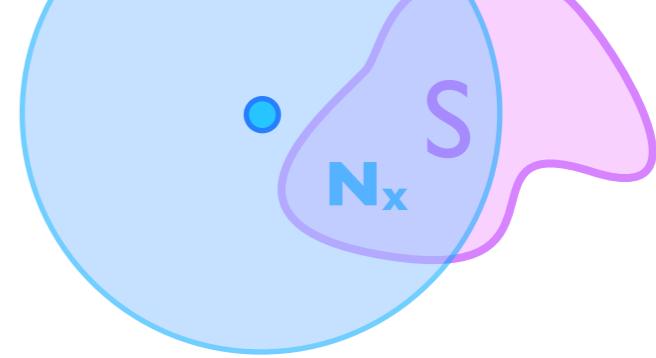
$X:$ 

3	2	8	1	5	9	2	3	3	7	6	3	9	7	6	9	7	7	4	2	5	9	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

$Y:$ 

1	8	3	1	7	3	9	3	1	1	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	7	6	3	7	9	7	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

- $N_x = S \cap \text{Ball}(X, n(1-1/B))$



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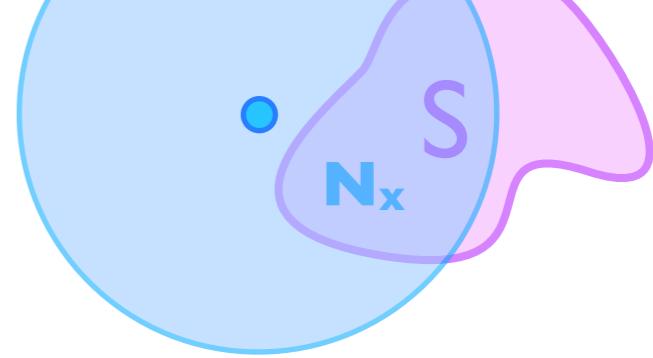
3	2	8	1	5	9	2	3	3	7	6	3	9	7	6	9	7	7	4	2	5	9	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

$Y:$ 

1	8	3	1	7	3	9	3	1	1	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	7	6	3	7	9	7	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



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---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

$Y:$ 

1	8	3	1	7	3	9	3	1	1	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	7	6	3	7	9	7	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



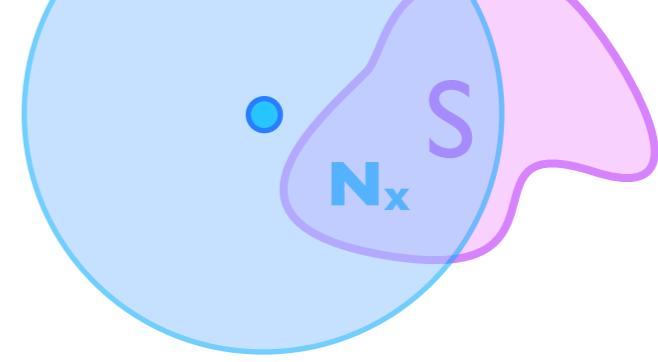
$X':$  Correlated randomness from  $N_x$ 

5	9	5	8
---	---	---	---

$Y:$ 

1	8	3	1	7	3	9	3	1	1	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	7	6	3	7	9	7	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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$X:$ 

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---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

$Y:$ 

1	8	3	1	7	3	9	3	1	1	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	7	6	3	7	9	7	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



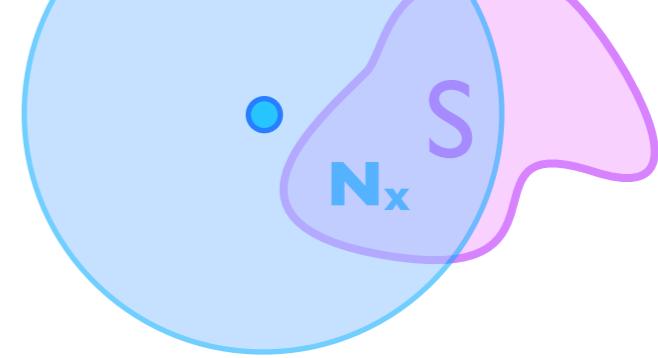
$X':$ 

2	4	7	2	5	1	4	6	3	7	2	1	8	3	3	8	2	9	6	2	5	9	5	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

$Y:$ 

1	8	3	1	7	3	9	3	1	1	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	7	6	3	7	9	7	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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1	8	3	1	7	3	9	3	1	1	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	7	6	3	7	9	7	3
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$X':$ 

2	4	7	2	5	1	4	6	3	7	2	1	8	3	3	8	2	9	6	2	5	9	5	8
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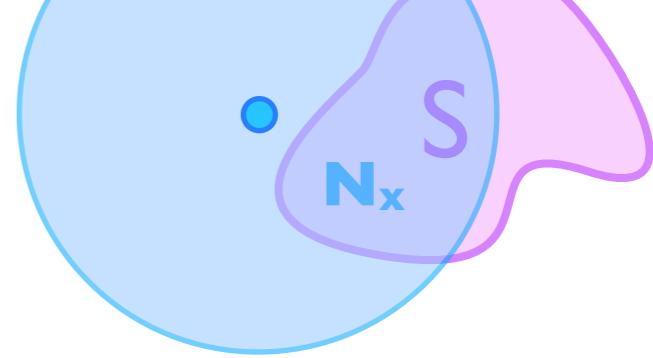
$Y:$ 

1	8	3	1	7	3	9	3	1	1	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	7	6	3	7	9	7	3
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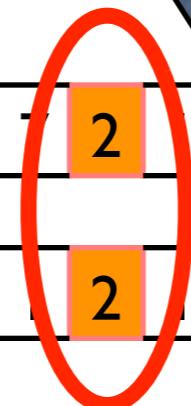


$X':$ 

2	4	7	2	5	1	4	6	3	7	2	8	3	3	8	2	9	6	2	5	9	5	8
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$Y:$ 

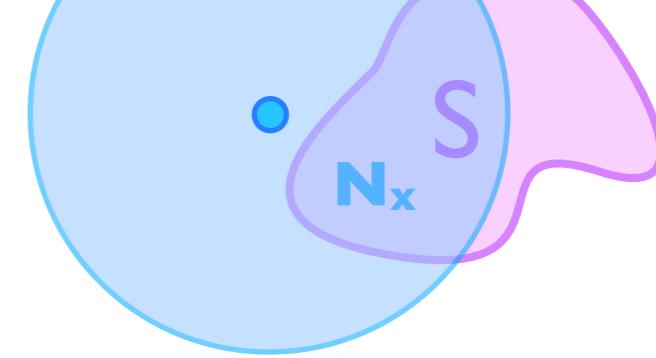
1	8	3	1	7	3	9	3	1	1	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	7	6	3	7	9	7	3
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1	8	3	1	7	3	9	3	1	1	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	7	6	3	7	9	7	3
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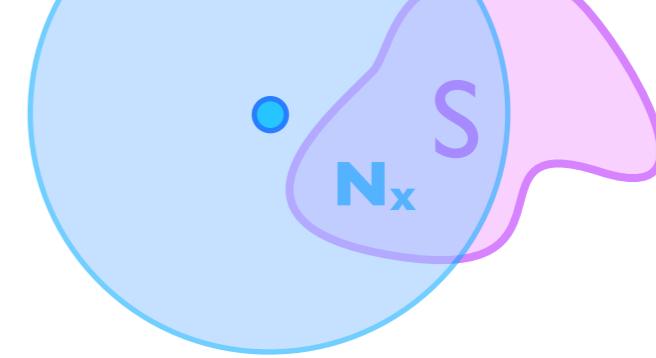
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1	8	3	1	7	3	9	3	1	1	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	7	6	3	7	9	7	3
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Show: ②  $Y | X'$  is  $\approx$ uniform

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We show  $H(Y | X') = n \log t - O(1)$

X: [3 2 8 1 5 9 2 3 3 7 6 3 9 7 6 9 7 7 4 2 5 9 5 8]

Y: [1 8 3 1 7 3 9 3 1 1 2 1 2 7 5 3 1 7 6 3 7 9 7 3]

L: Set of , intentional matches of X, Y

Entropy loss comes from coordinates in L

Entropy loss =  $|L| \log t - H(X_L | L, X')$

$\leq |L| \log t - (|L|/n) H(X | X')$

X: [3 2 8 1 5 9 2 3 3 7 6 3 9 7 6 9 7 7 4 2 5 9 5 8]

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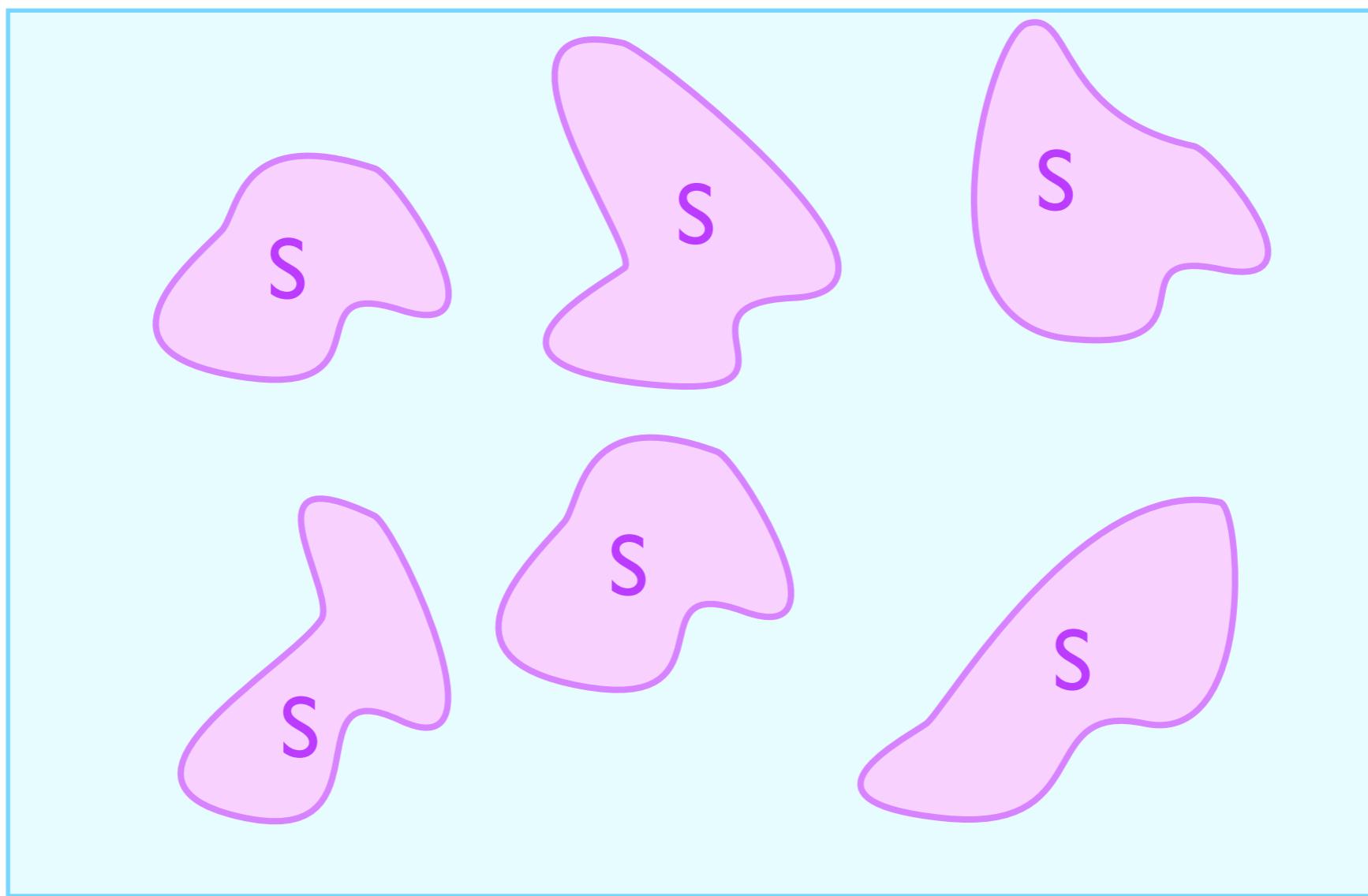
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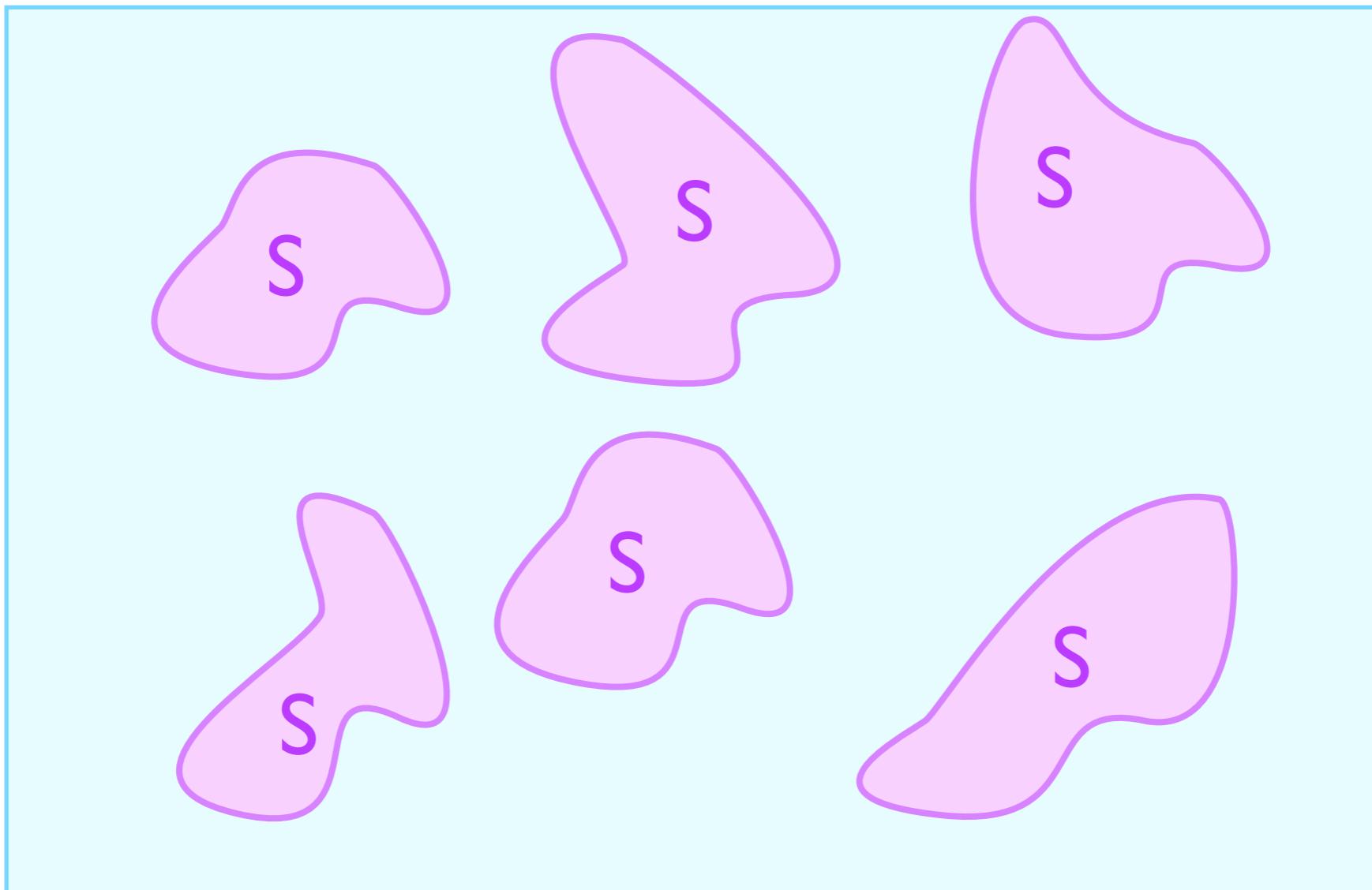
(Han-Shearer)

Want to lower bound  $H(x' | x)$



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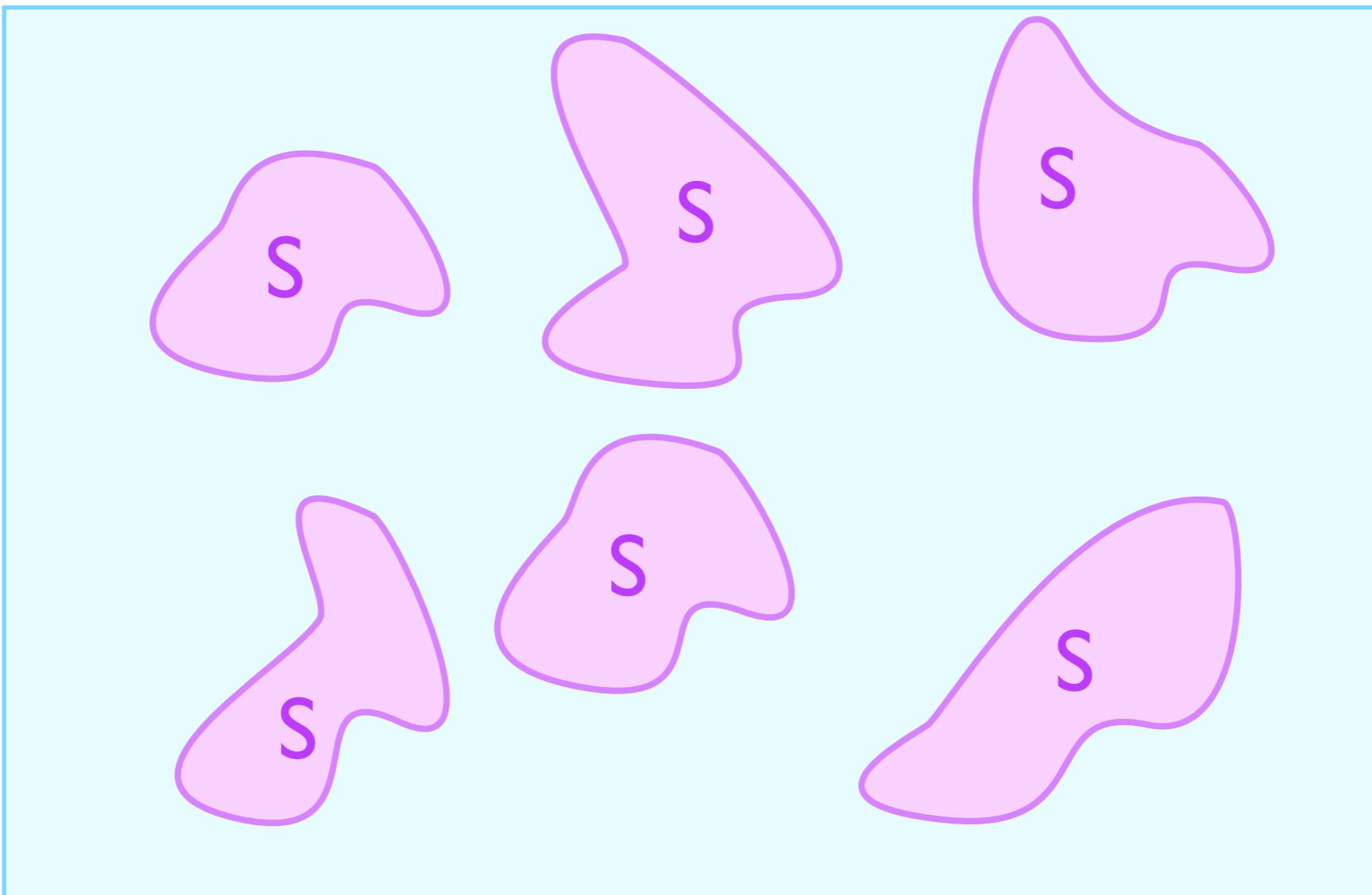
i.e.,  $\log |\mathbf{N}_x|$  for uniform random  $x$



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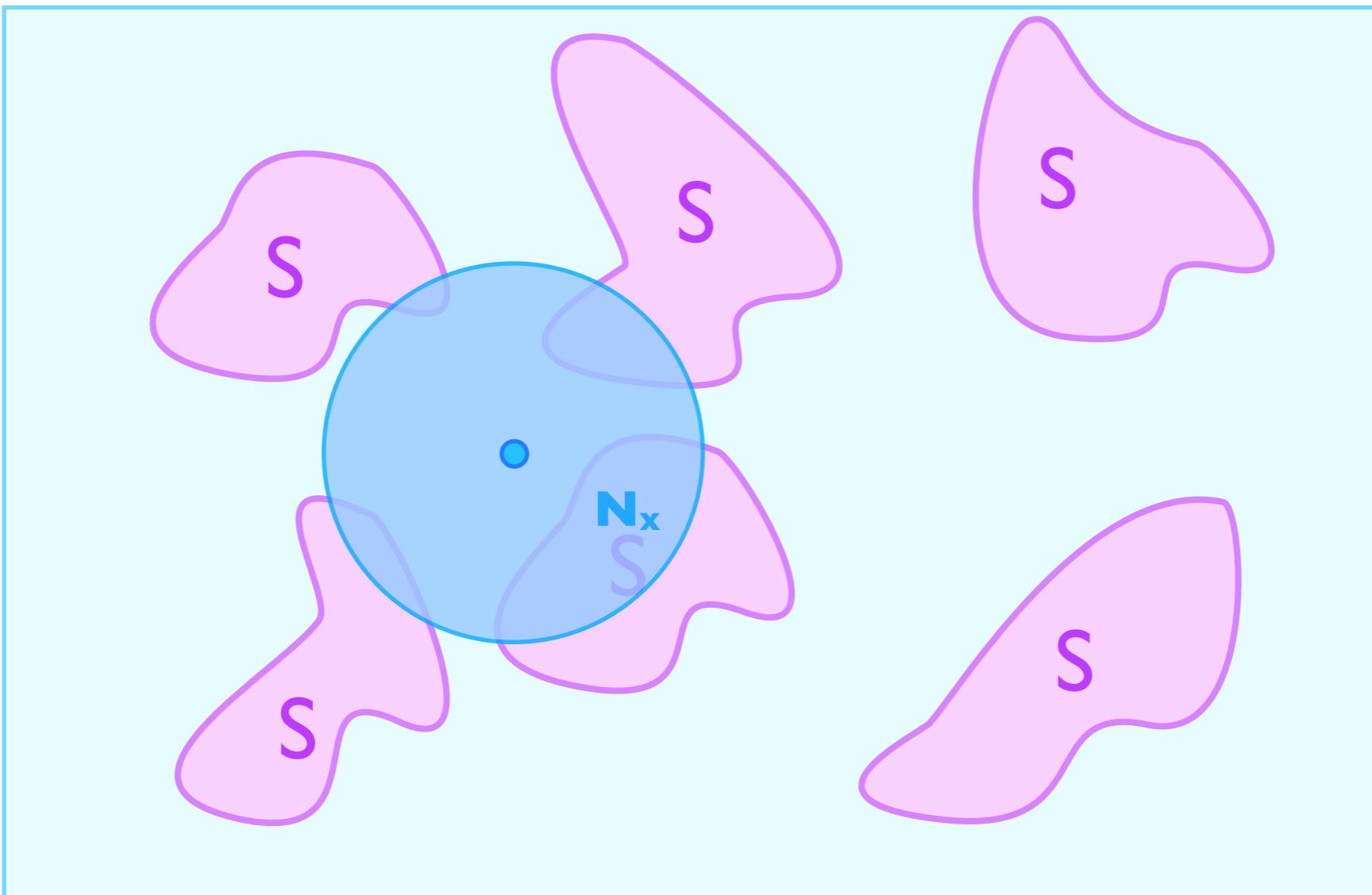
Recall  $\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{x}} = S \cap \text{Ball}(\mathbf{X}, n(1-1/B))$



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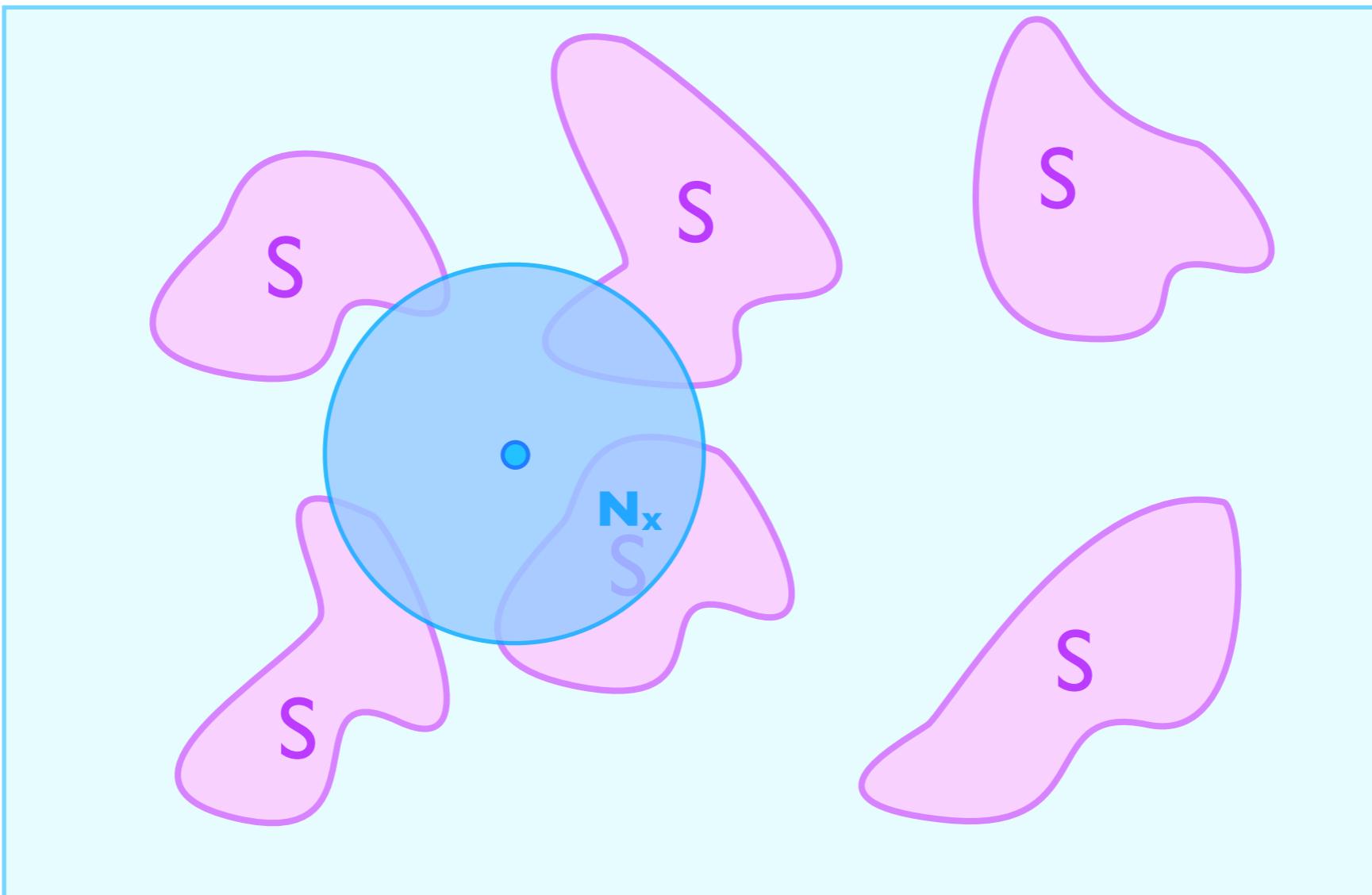
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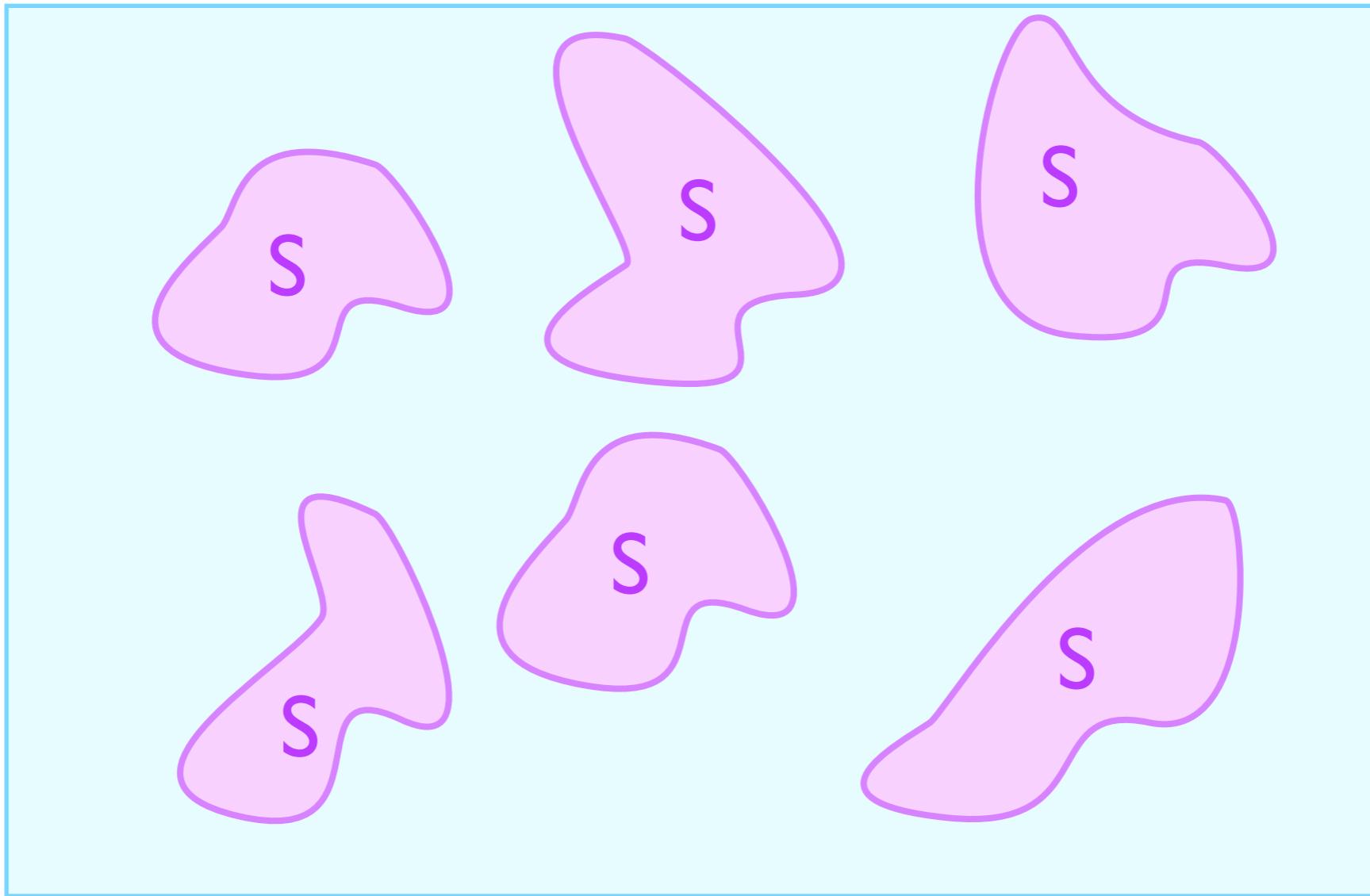
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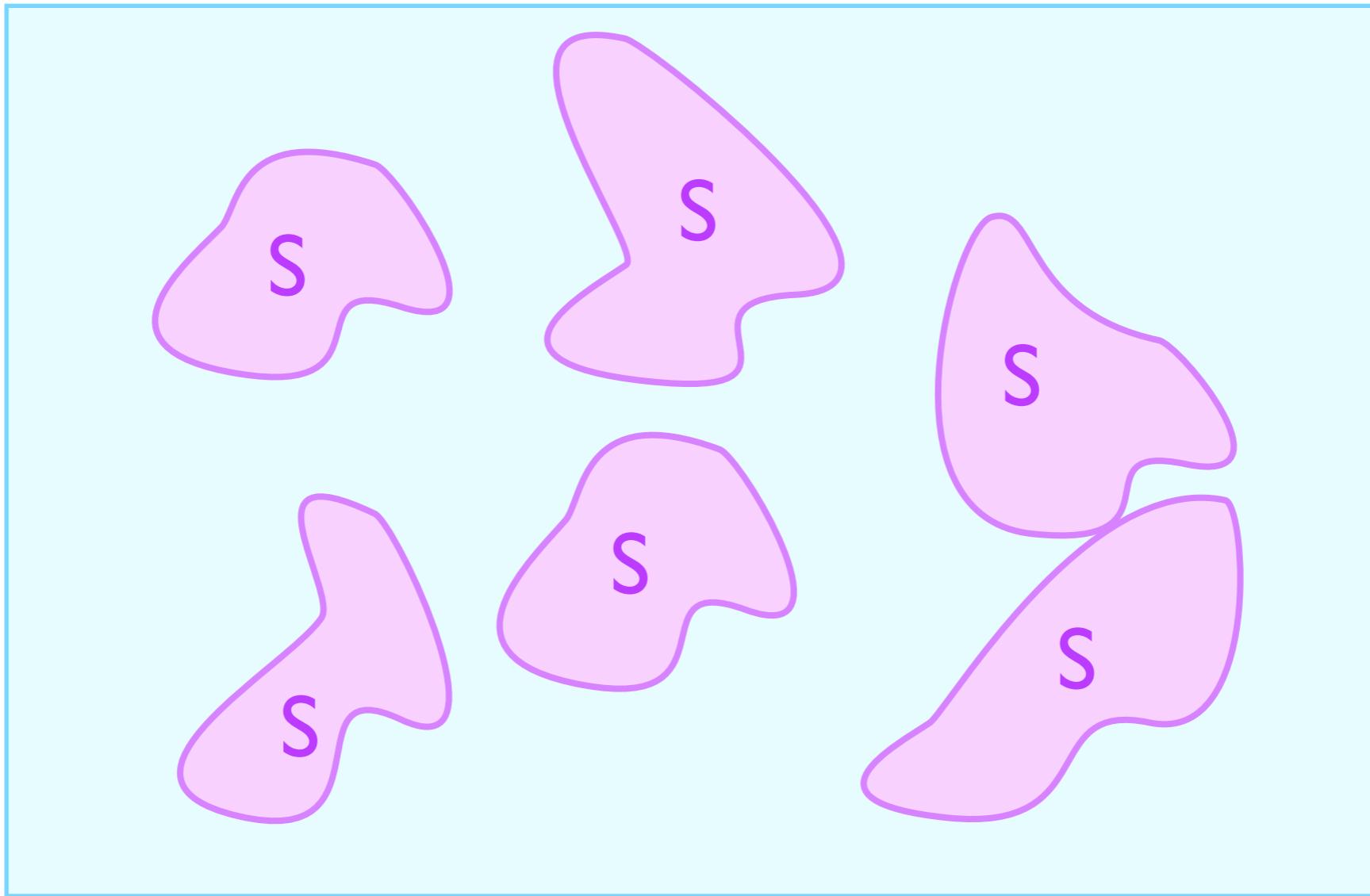
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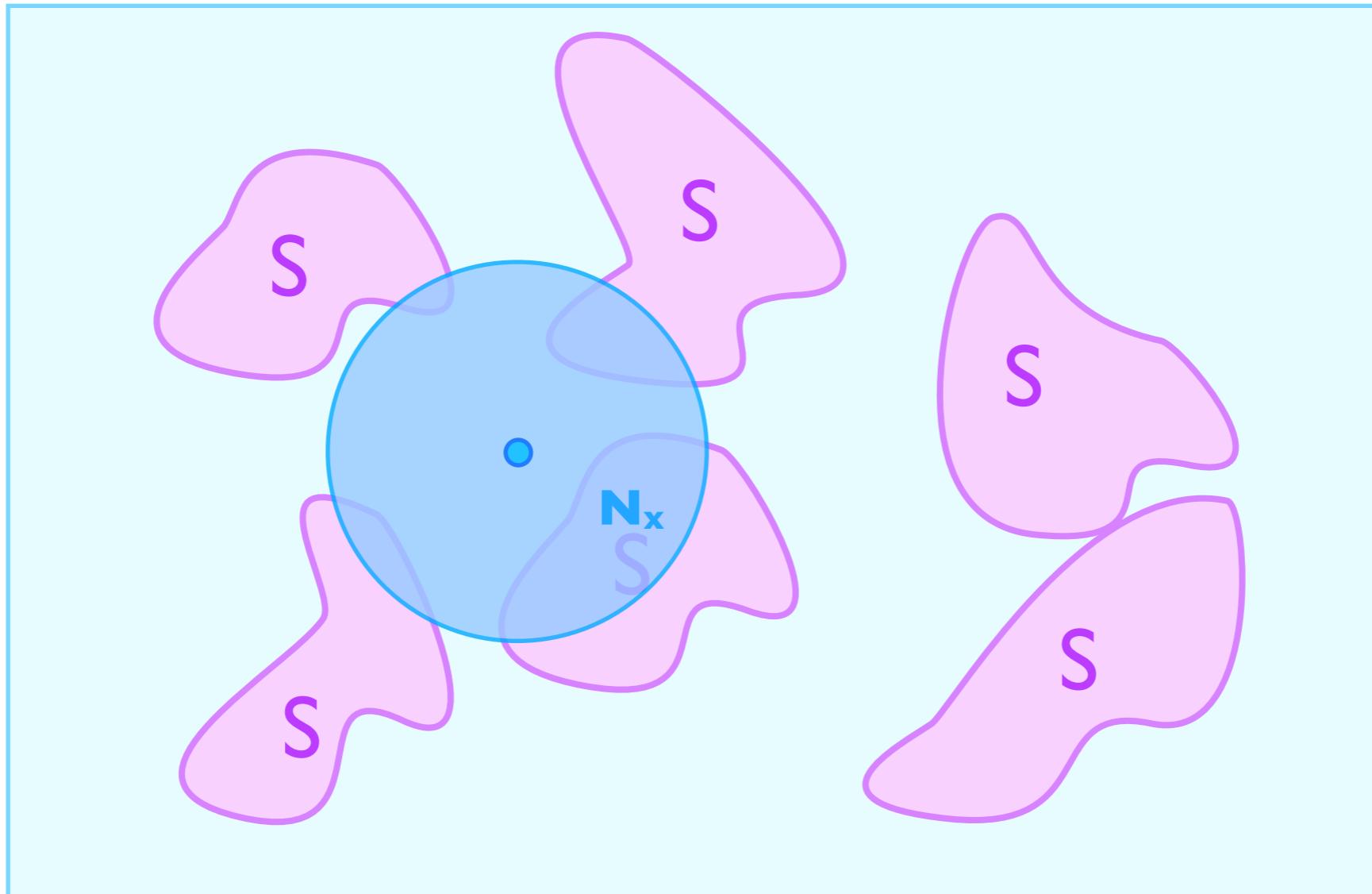
# What is the worst case S?



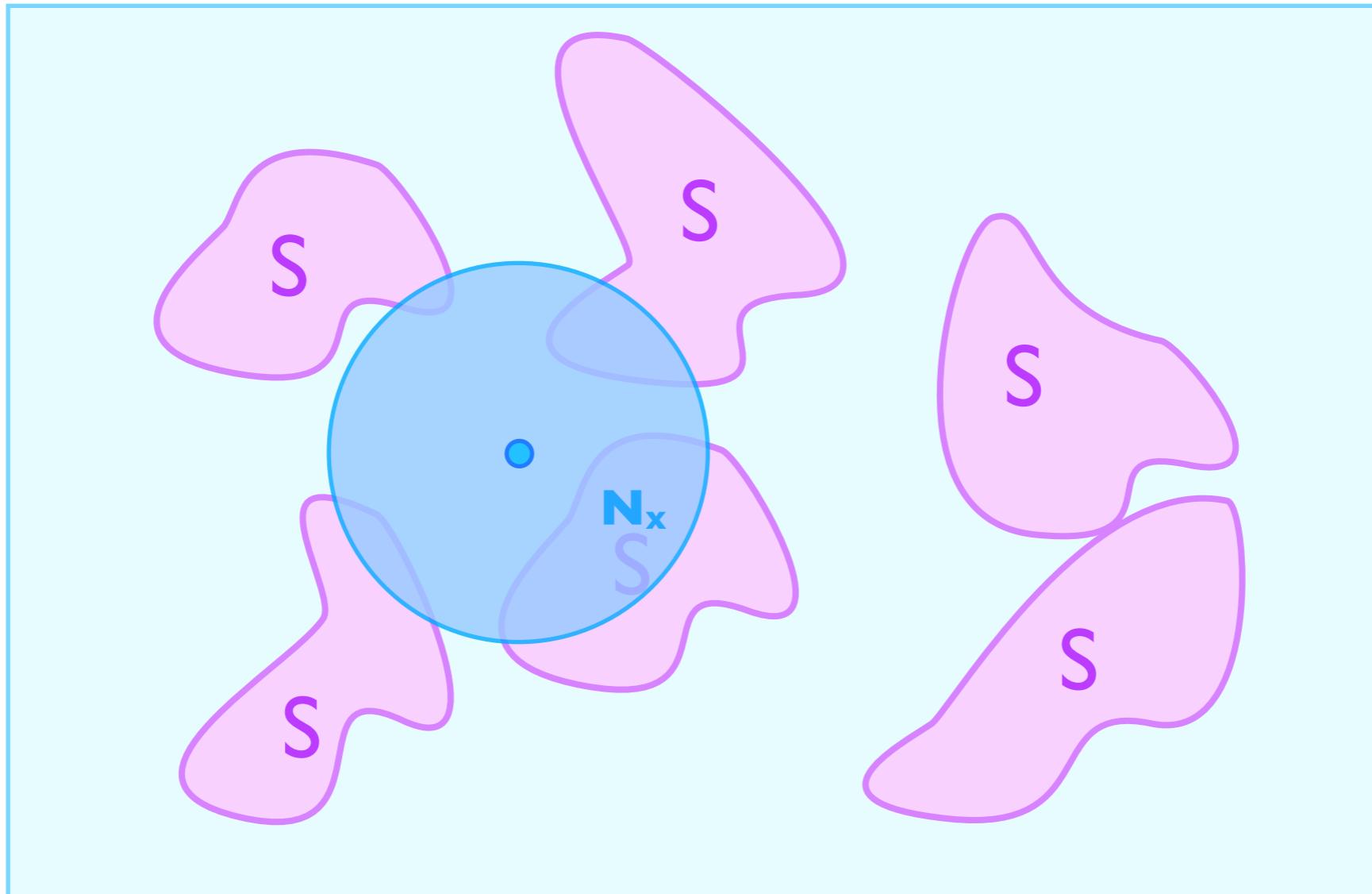
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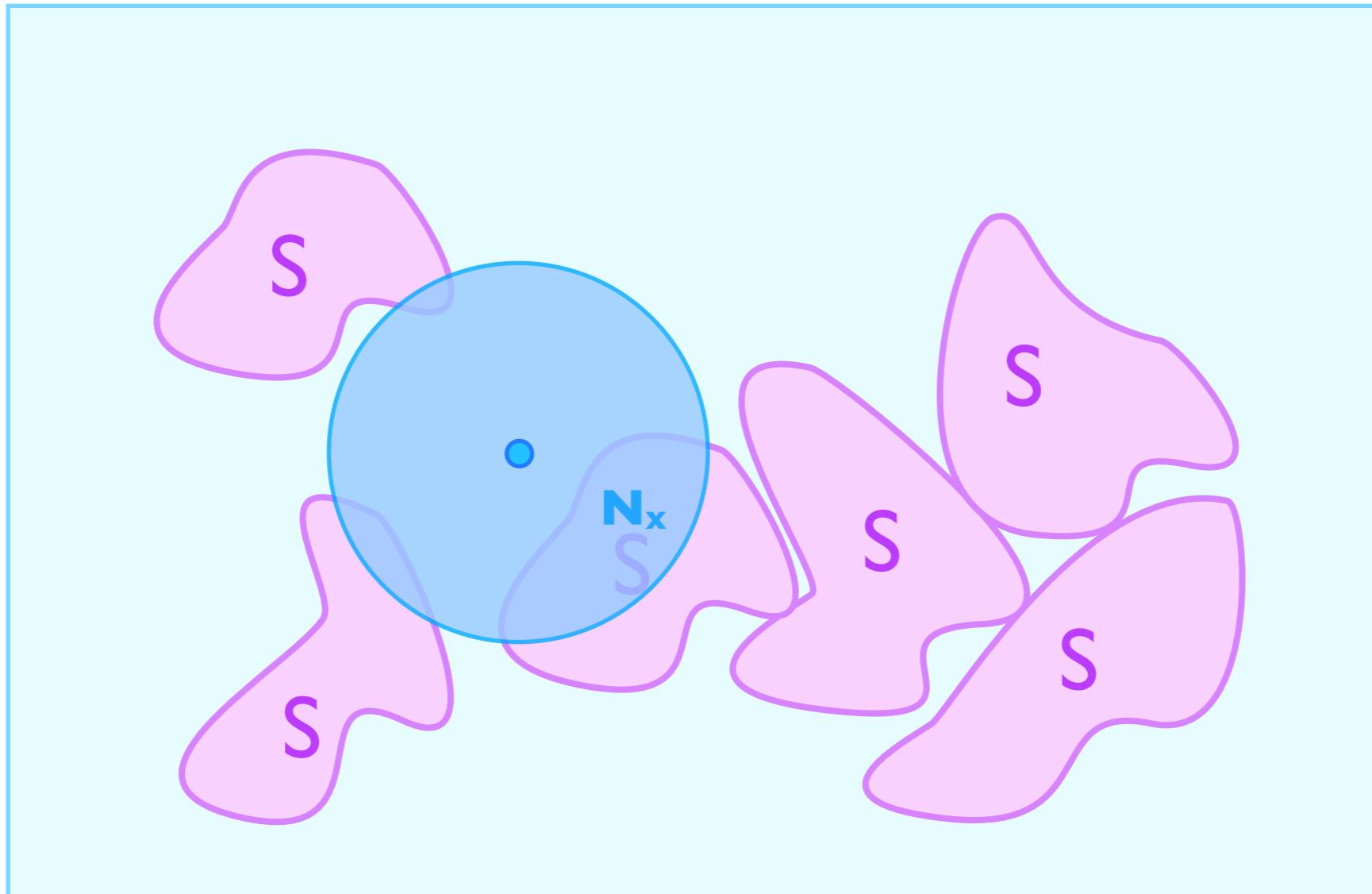
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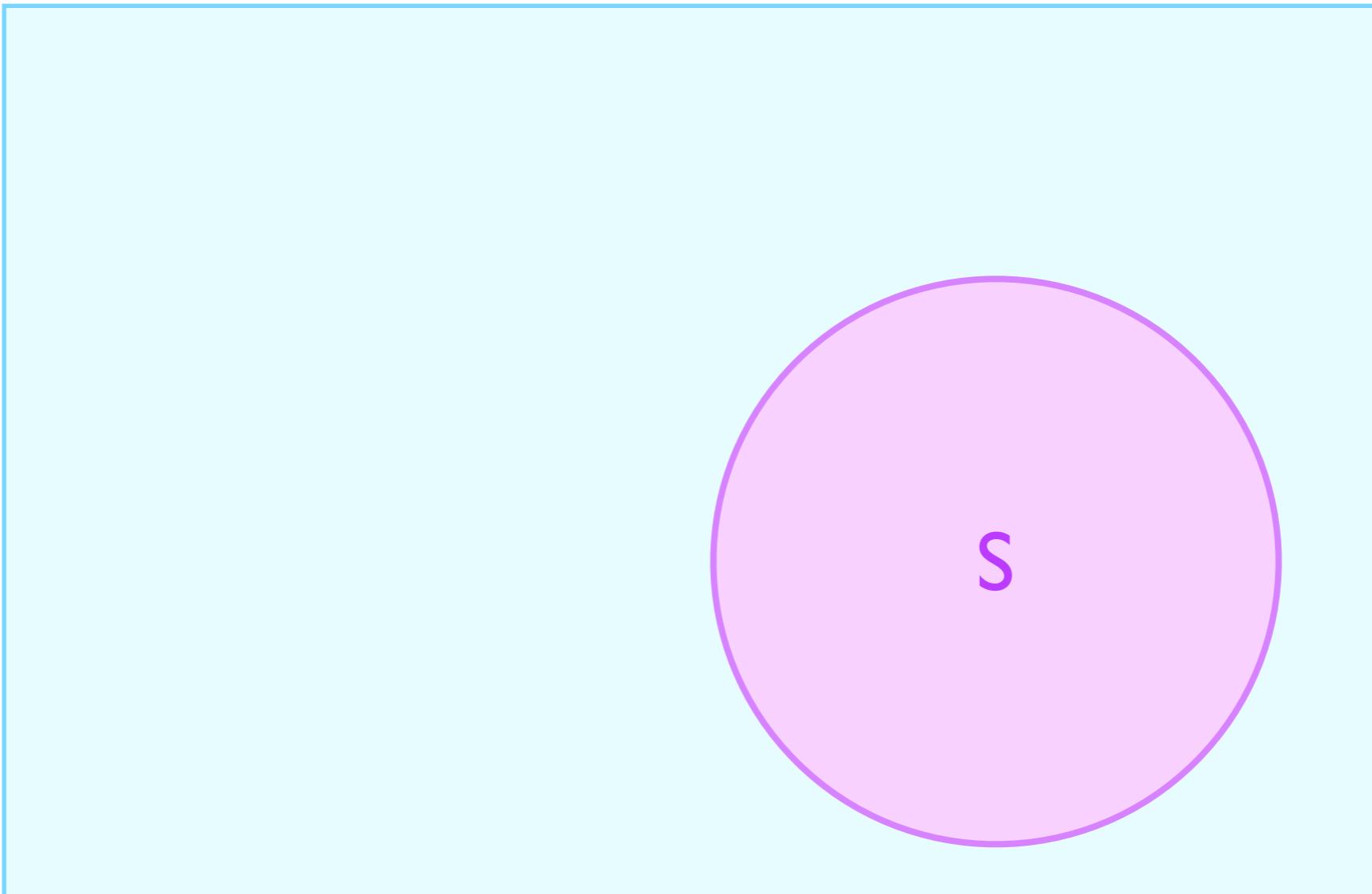
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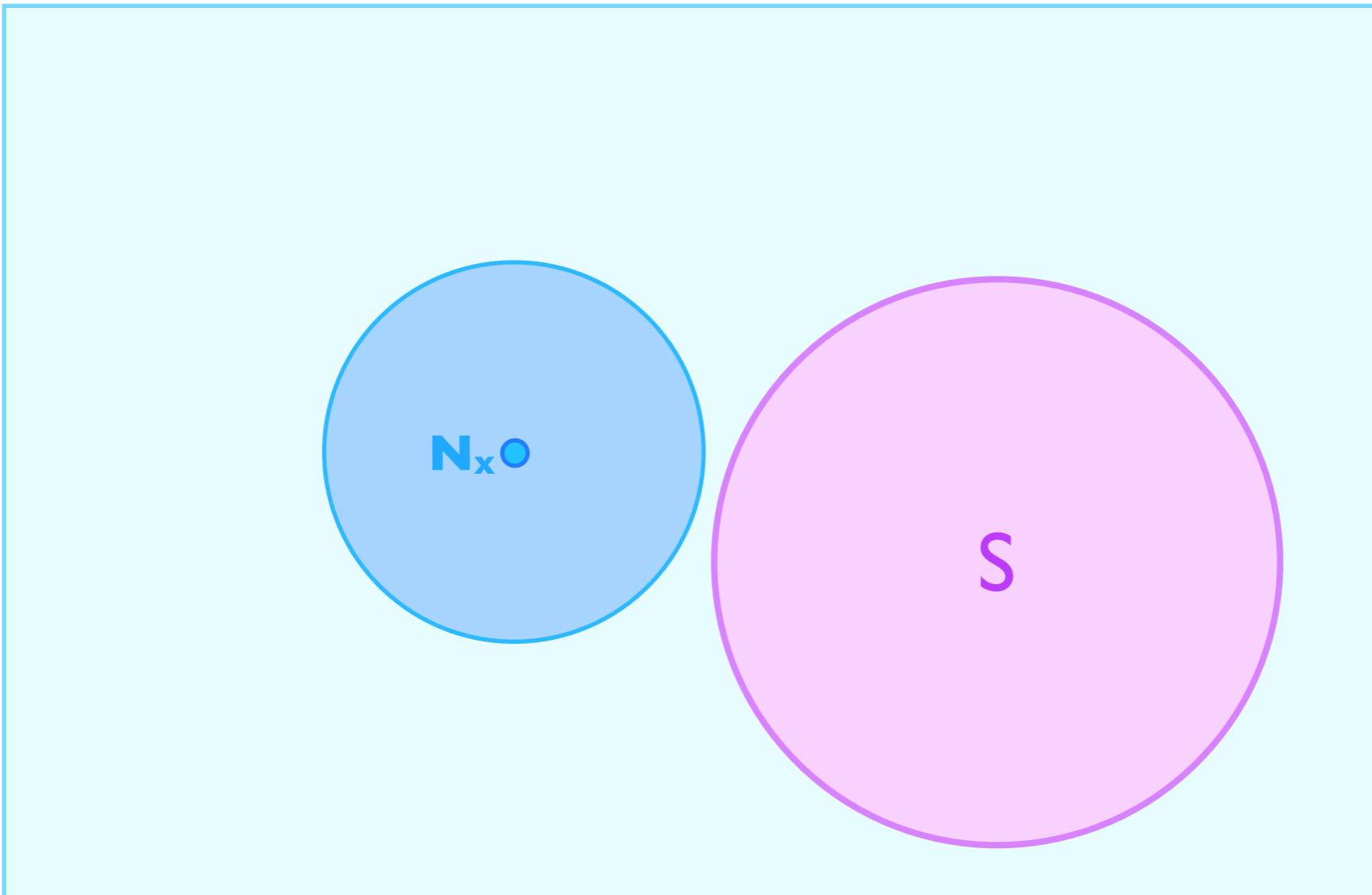
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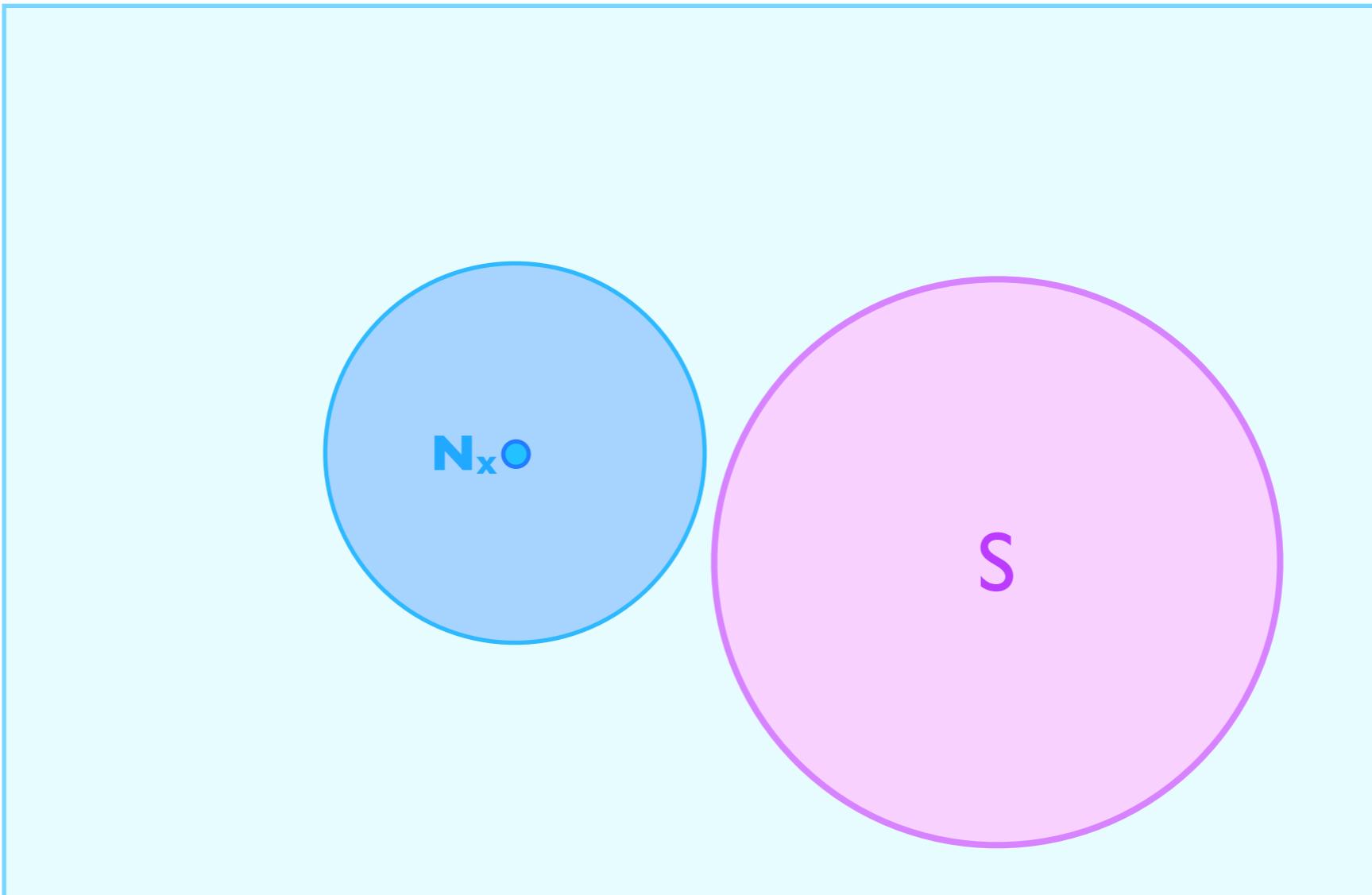
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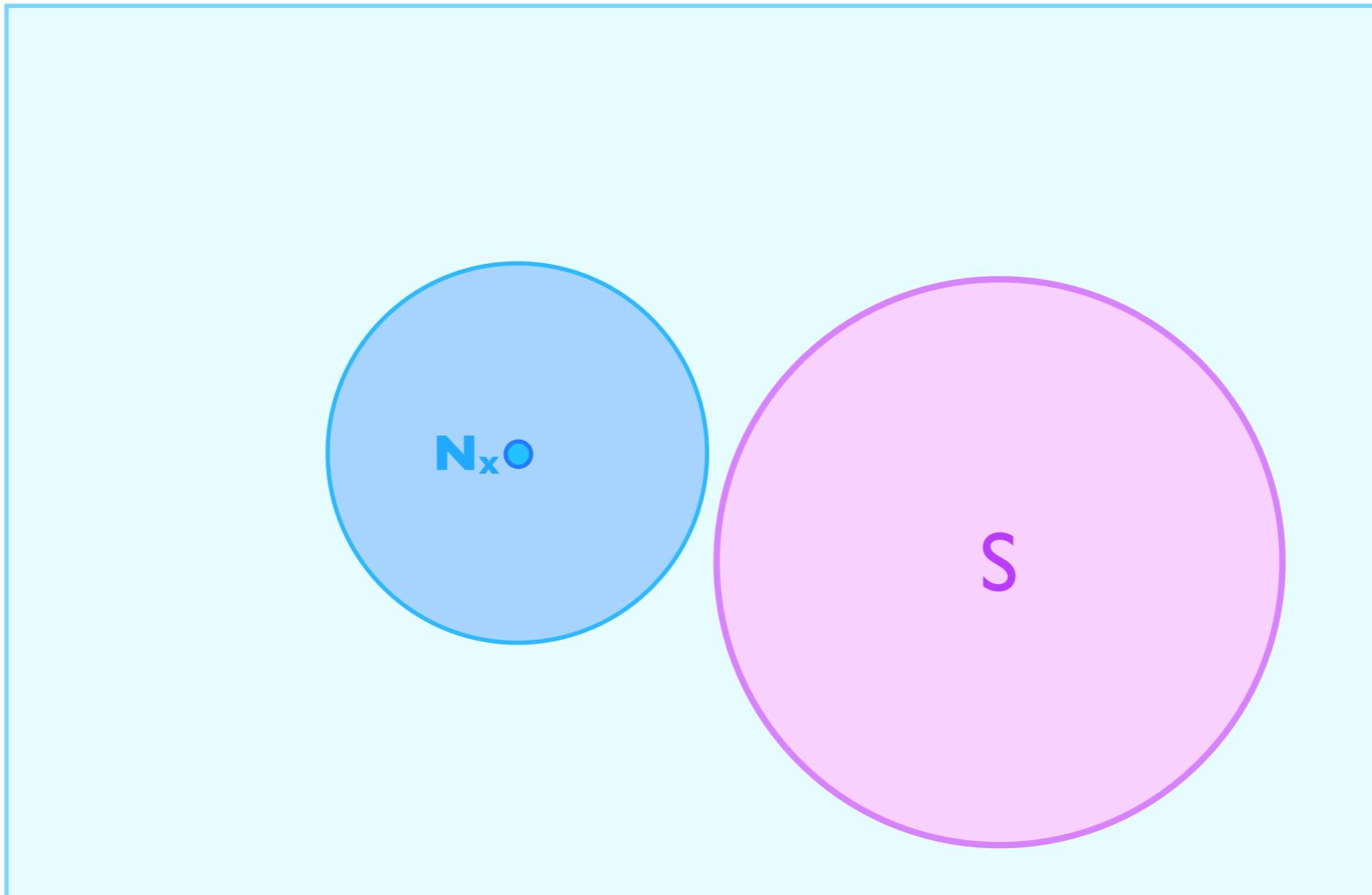


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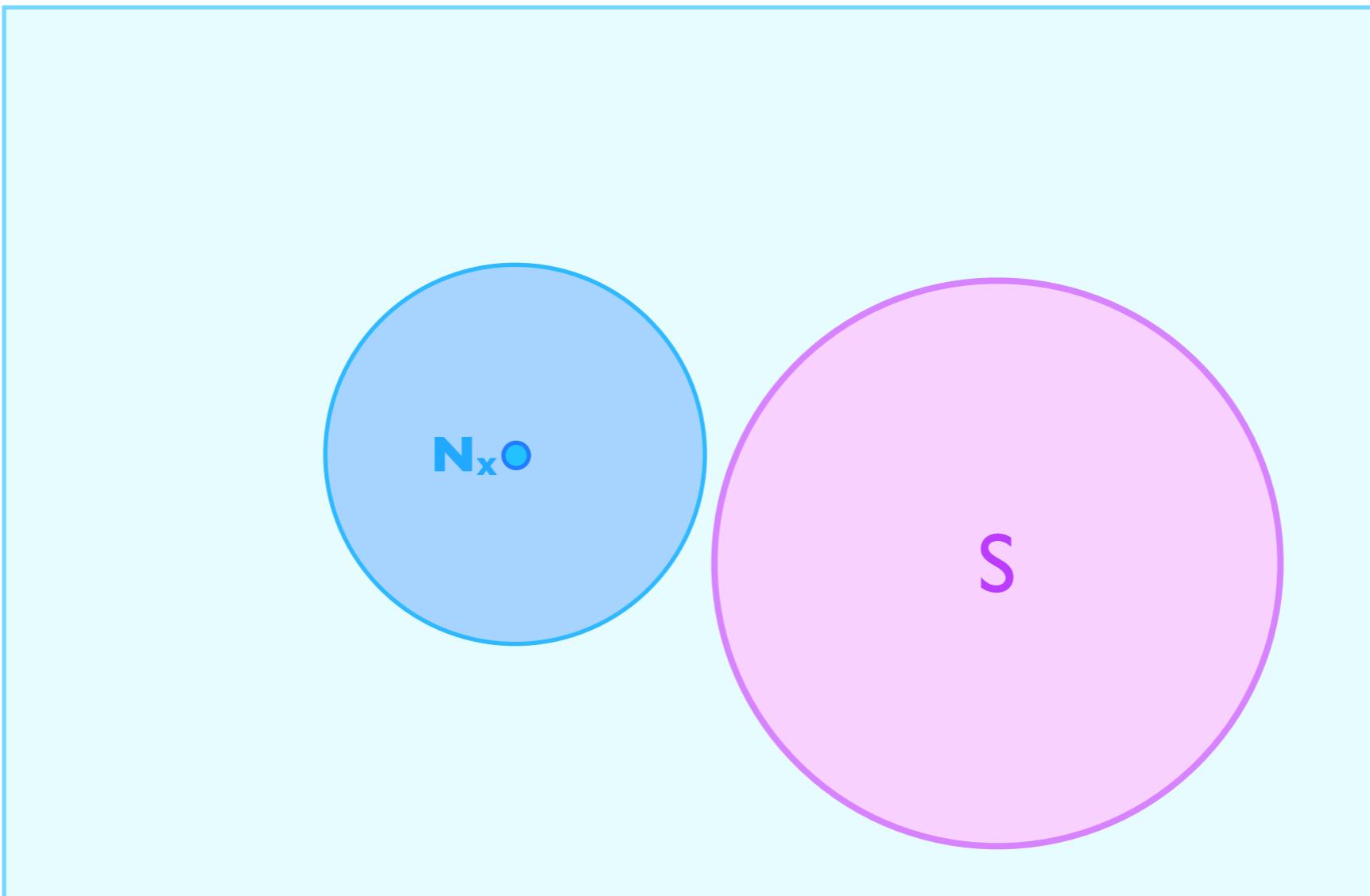
# What is the worst case $S$ ?

- This intuition is correct even in high dimensions



# What is the worst case S?

- This intuition is correct even in high dimensions
- Even for the Hamming distance



# An isoperimetric inequality on $[t]^n$

**Conjecture:** Let  $S \subseteq [t]^n$ ,  $|S| = k^n$  ( $k < t$ ). Then

$$E[\log |B(x, d) \cap S|] \geq E[\log |B(x, d) \cap [k]^n|]$$

where:

$x$ : uniform random

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**Theorem (informal):** For any  $S \subseteq [t]^n$ ,  
 $\exists I \subset [n], |I|=n/5$ , the conjecture is true in the  
projected space

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Thank You!