



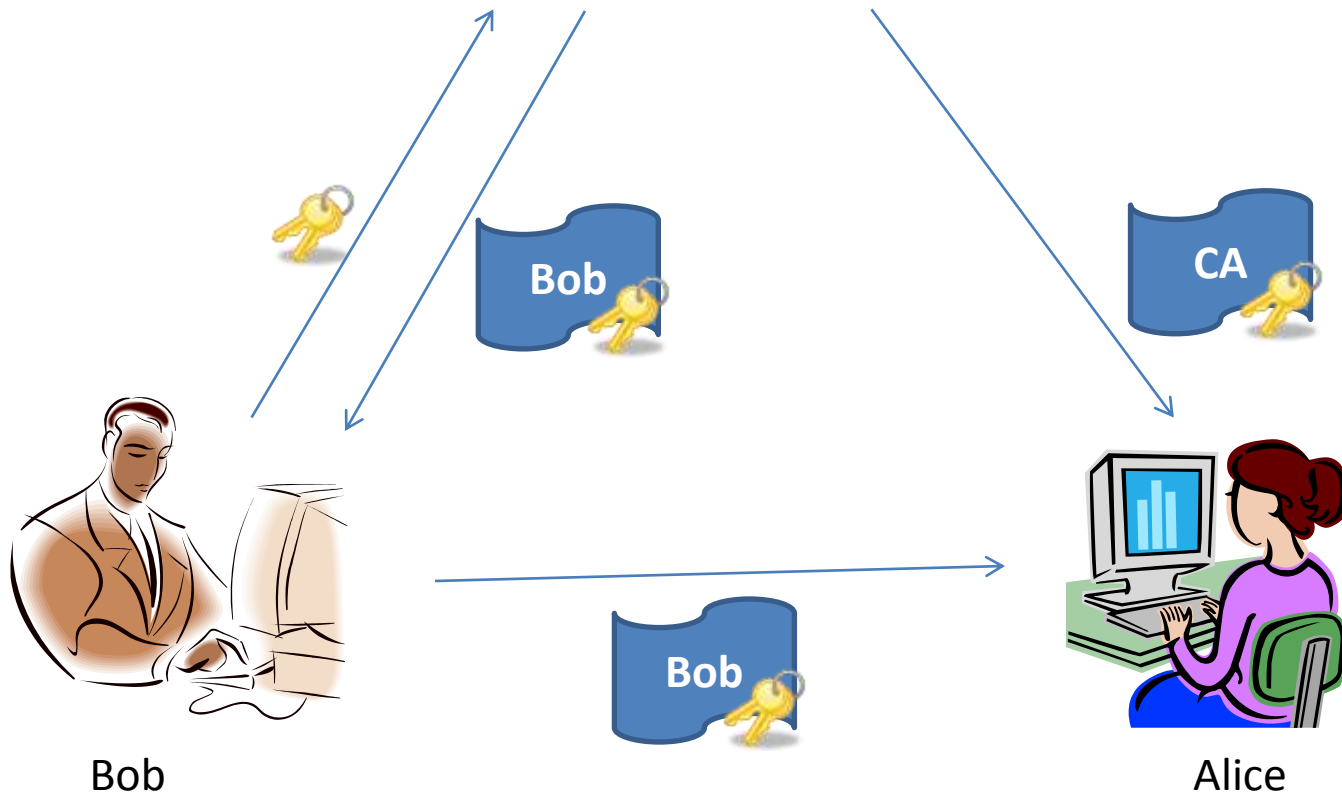
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# On the Impossibility of Batch Update for Cryptographic Accumulators

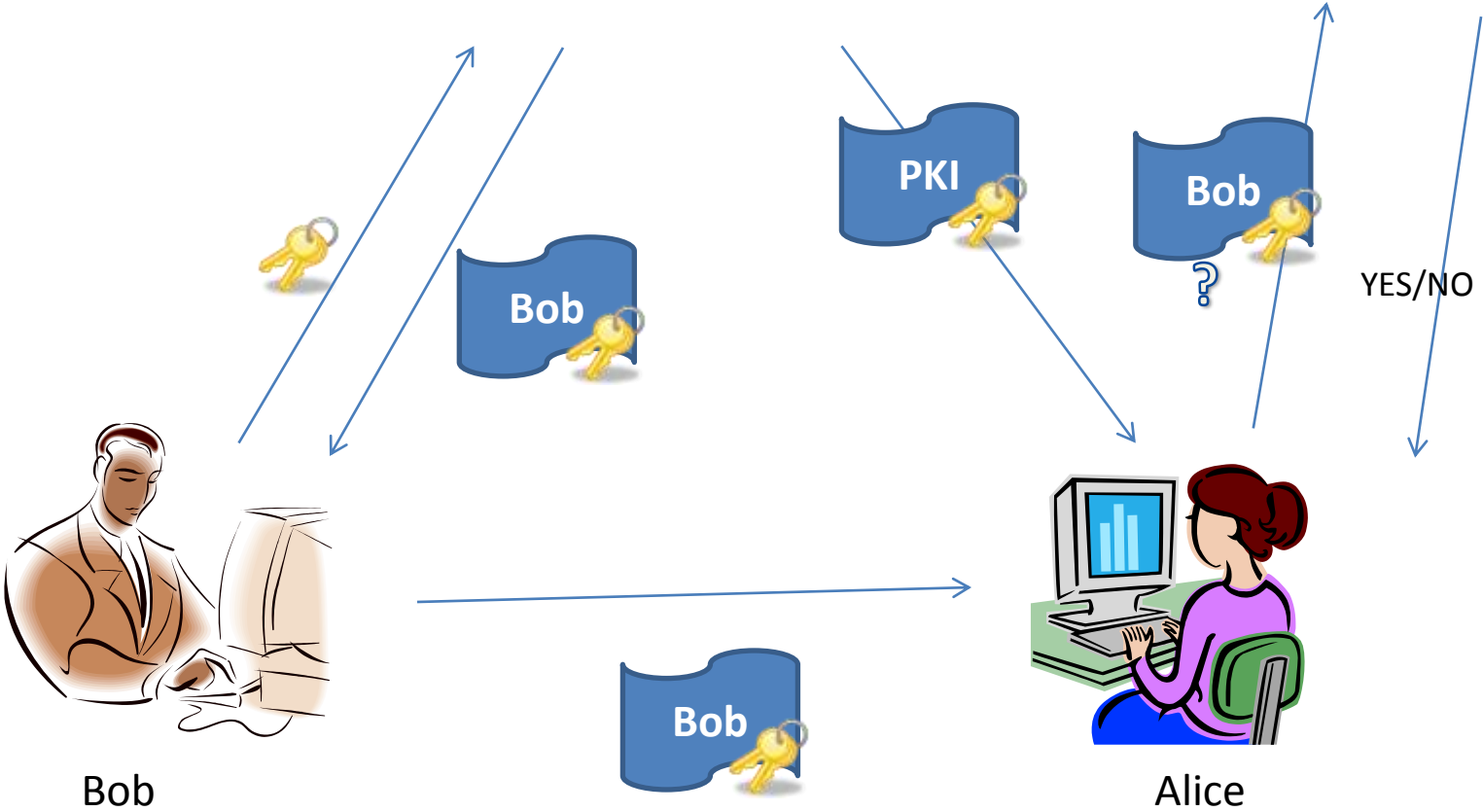
*Philippe Camacho and Alejandro Hevia*  
*University of Chile*

# Certificate Authority



# Certificate Authority

# CRL/OSCP



# Central Authority

Owns a **Set** of valid certificates  
 $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$

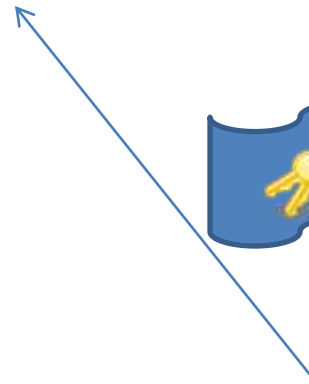
Insert/  
Delete



Bob



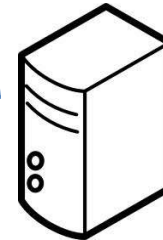
Alice



# Central Authority

Owens a Set  
 $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$

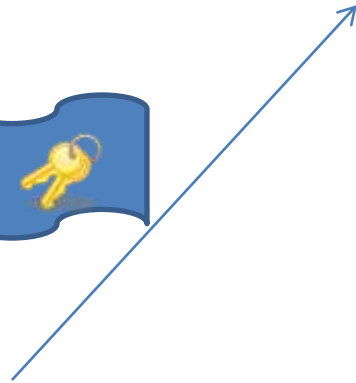
INSERT/  
DELETE



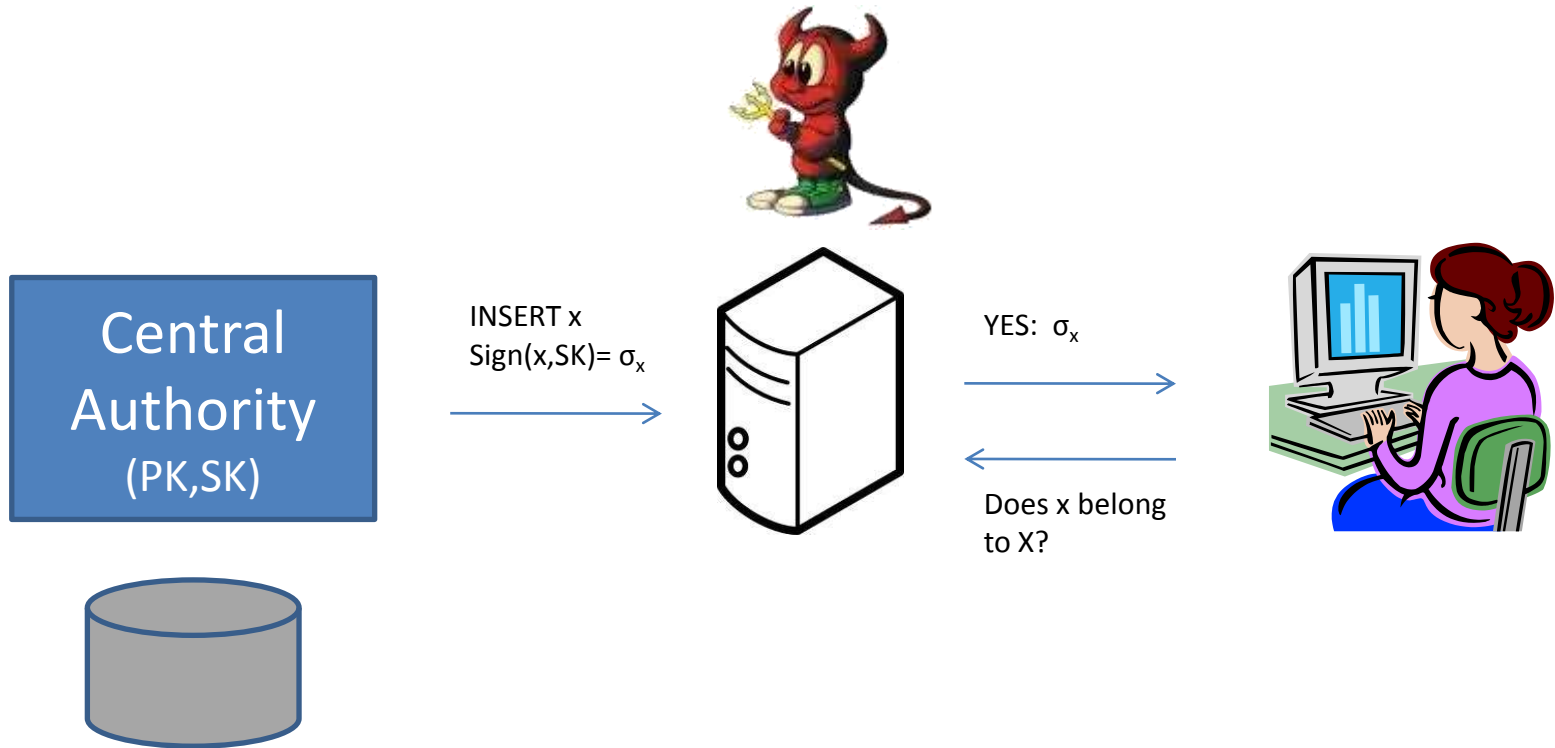
Bob



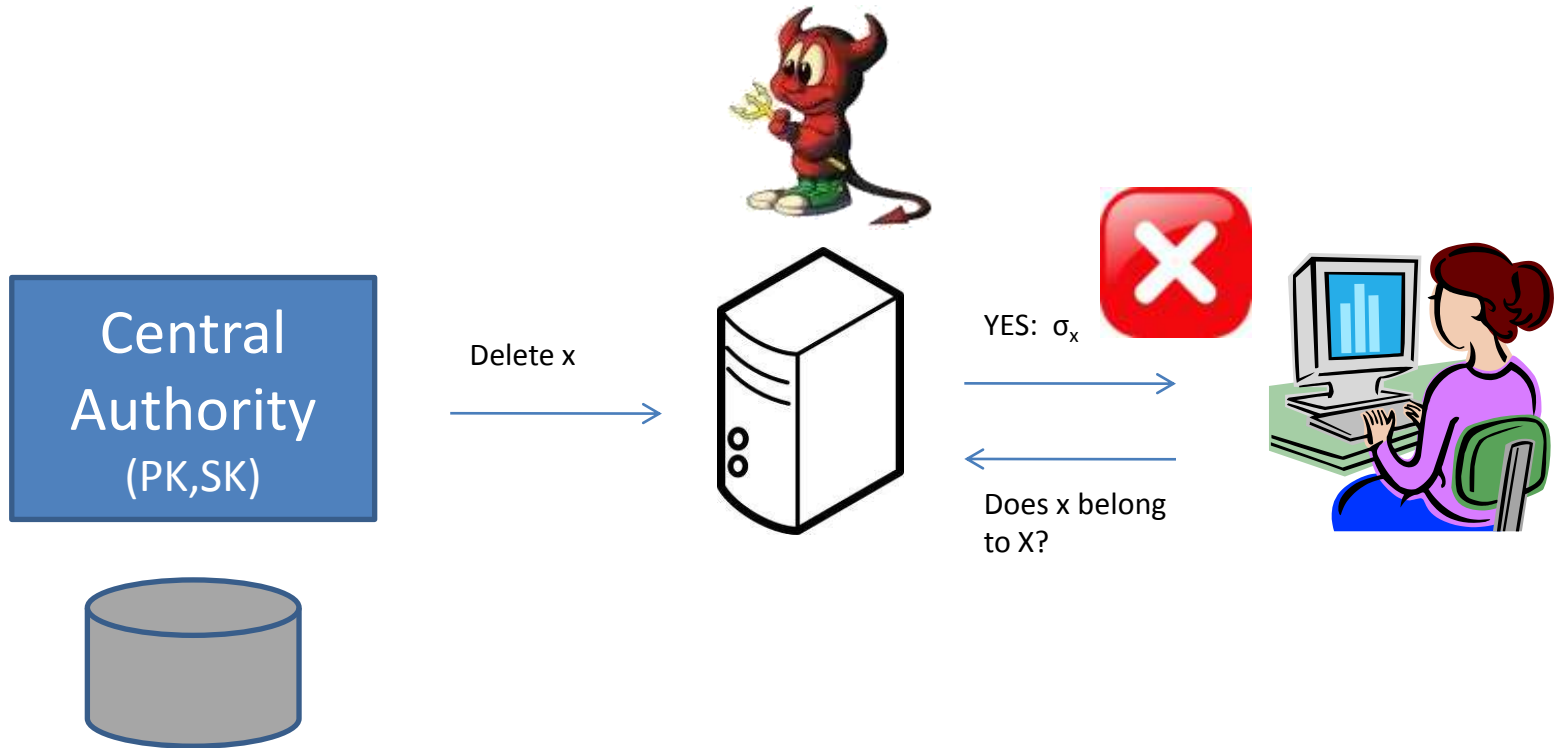
Alice



# Replay Attack



# Replay Attack



Manager

$Acc_1, Acc_2, Acc_3$

Insert(x)



Witness



Bob

$(x, \text{Witness})$



Alice

$Verify(x, \text{Witness}, Acc_3) = \text{YES}$



# Manager

Acc<sub>1</sub>, Acc<sub>2</sub>, Acc<sub>3</sub>, **Acc<sub>4</sub>**

Delete(x)

OK



Bob



Alice

Verify( x , , Acc<sub>4</sub>) = **FAIL**

Manager


Acc<sub>1</sub>, Acc<sub>2</sub>, **Acc<sub>3</sub>**, ...

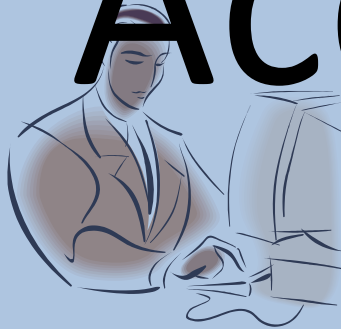
Insert(x)

# Cryptographic

# Accumulator

Witness

( x ,  )



Bob



Alice

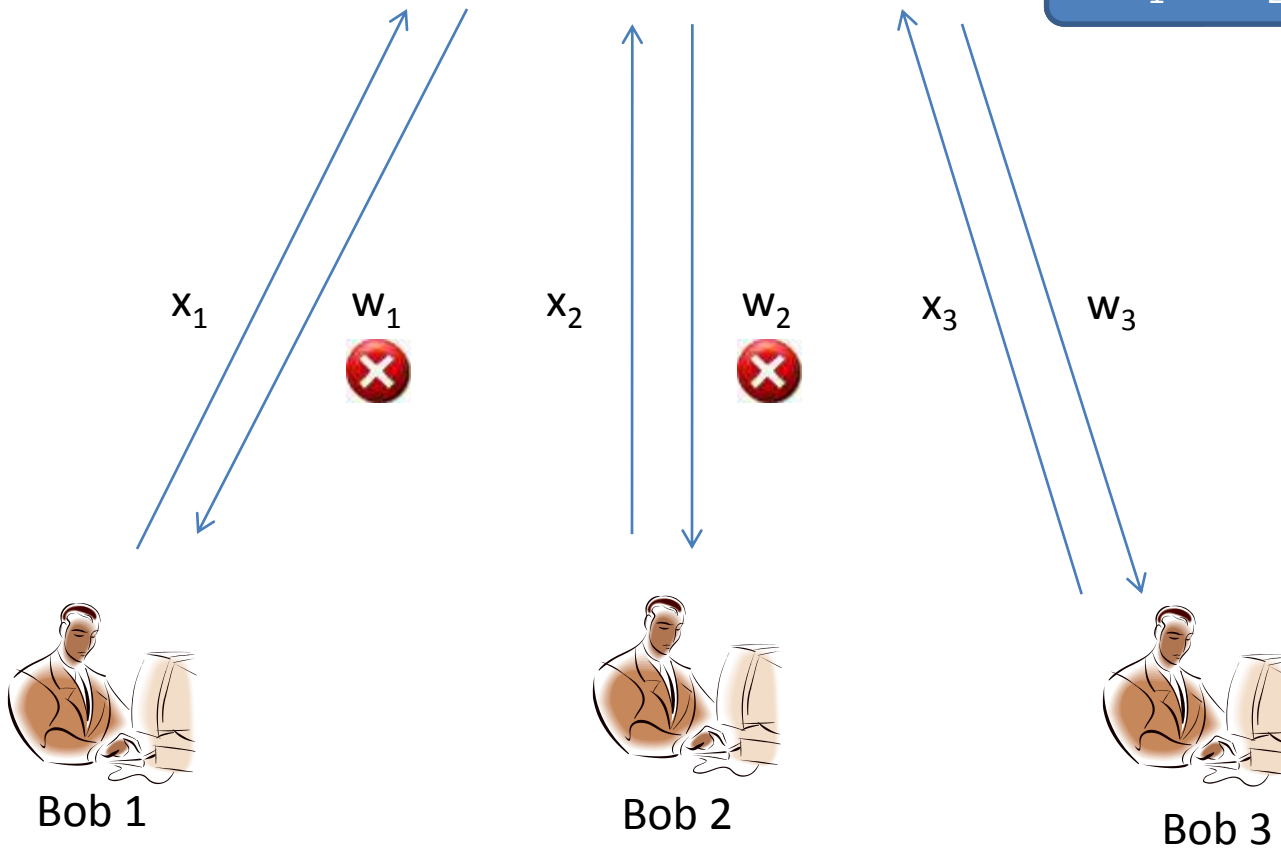
Verify( x ,  , Acc<sub>3</sub> ) = **YES**

# Main constructions

	Security	Note
[BeMa94]	RSA + RO	First definition
[BarPfi97]	Strong RSA	-
[CamLys02]	Strong RSA	First dynamic accumulator
[LLX07]	Strong RSA	First universal accumulator
[Ngu05]	Pairings	E-cash, ZK-Sets,...
[WWP08]	eStrong RSA Paillier	Batch Update
[CHKO08]	Collision-Resistant Hashing	Untrusted Manager
[CKS09]	Pairings	Group multiplication

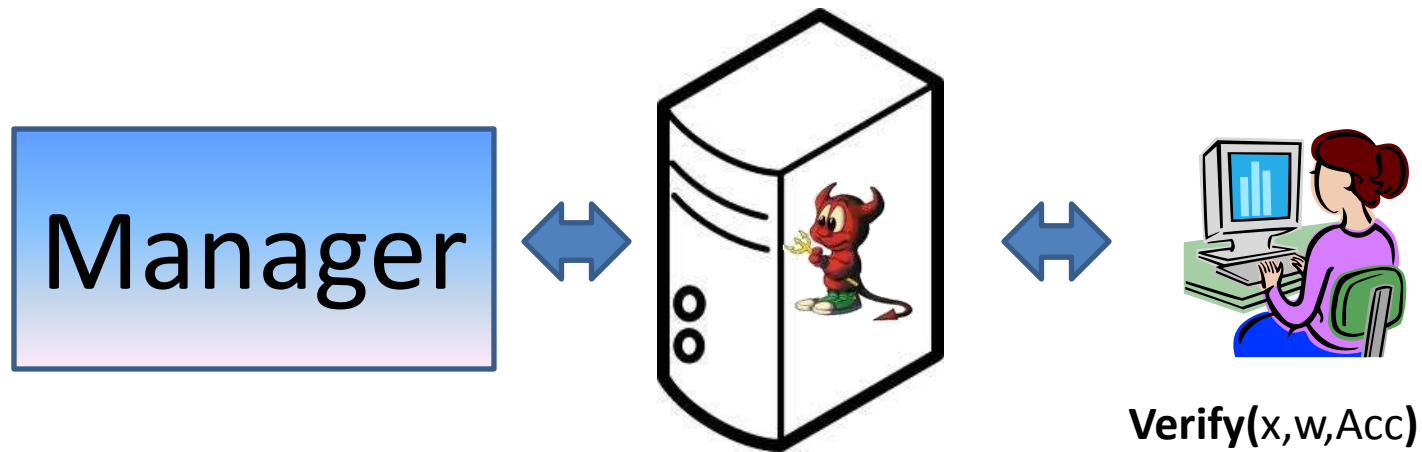
# Manager

Acc<sub>1</sub>, Acc<sub>2</sub>, Acc<sub>3</sub>



**Problem:** after each update of the accumulated value it is necessary to recompute all the witnesses.

# Delegate Witness Computation?



Constructions	Replica (Compute a <b>single</b> witness)	User (Verify)
[CL02]	$O( X )$	$O(1)$
[GTT09]	$O( X ^{1/\epsilon})$	$O(\epsilon)$
[CHK08]	$O(\log  X )$	$O(\log  X )$

# Batch Update [FN02]



...,  $Acc_{99}$ ,  $Acc_{100}$ ,  $Acc_{101}$ , ...,  $Acc_{200}$ , ...

Upd<sub>100,200</sub>

Bob 1

Bob 2

Bob 29

Bob 42



$(x_1, w_1, Acc_{100})$   
 $(x_2, w_2, Acc_{100})$   
 $(x_6, w_6, Acc_{100})$

$(x_{36}, w_{36}, Acc_{100})$   
 $(x_{87}, w_{87}, Acc_{100})$

$(x_1, w_1, Acc_{100})$   
 $(x_{20}, w_{20}, Acc_{100})$   
 $(x_{69}, w_{68}, Acc_{100})$   
 $(x_{64}, w_{64}, Acc_{100})$

$(x_1, w_1, Acc_{100})$   
 $(x_2, w_2, Acc_{100})$   
 $(x_6, w_6, Acc_{100})$

...

...

# Batch Update [FN02]

Manager

...,  $\text{Acc}_{99}$ ,  $\text{Acc}_{100}$ ,  $\text{Acc}_{101}$ , ...,  $\text{Acc}_{200}$ , ...

Bob 1



$(x_1, w_1', \text{Acc}_{200})$   
 $(x_2, w_2', \text{Acc}_{200})$   
 $(x_6, w_6', \text{Acc}_{200})$

Bob 2



$(x_{36}, w_{36}', \text{Acc}_{200})$   
 $(x_{87}, w_{87}', \text{Acc}_{200})$

Bob 29



$(x_1, w_1', \text{Acc}_{200})$   
 $(x_{20}, w_{20}', \text{Acc}_{200})$   
 $(x_{69}, w_{68}', \text{Acc}_{200})$   
 $(x_{64}, w_{64}', \text{Acc}_{200})$

Bob 42



$(x_1, w_1', \text{Acc}_{200})$   
 $(x_2, w_2', \text{Acc}_{200})$   
 $(x_6, w_6', \text{Acc}_{200})$   
....

...



# Batch Update [FN02]

Trivial solution:

$$\text{Upd}_{x_i, x_j} = \{\text{list of all witnesses for } X_j\}$$

More interesting:

$$|\text{Upd}_{x_i, x_j}| = O(1)$$

# What happens with [CL02]?

- $PK=(n,g)$  with  $n=pq$  and  $g \in \mathbf{Z}_n^*$
- $Acc_\emptyset := g \bmod n$
- **Insert** $(x,Acc) := Acc^x \bmod n$  /\*  $x$  prime \*/
- **Delete** $(x,Acc) := Acc^{1/x} \bmod n$
- **WitGen** $(x,Acc) \stackrel{?}{:=} Acc^{1/x} \bmod n$
- **Verify** $(x,w,Acc): w^x = Acc$
- $|Upd_{x_i,x_j}| = O(|\{\text{list of insertions / deletions}\}|)$

# Syntax of B.U. Accumulators

Algorithm	Returns	Who runs it
<b>KeyGen</b> ( $1^k$ )	<b>PK,SK,Acc<math>_{\emptyset}</math></b>	Manager
<b>AddEle</b> ( $x, Acc_x, SK$ )	<b>Acc<math>_{X \cup \{x\}}</math></b>	Manager
<b>DelEle</b> ( $x, Acc_x, SK$ )	<b>Acc<math>_{X \setminus \{x\}}</math></b>	Manager
<b>WitGen</b> ( $x, Acc_x, SK$ )	Witness <b>w</b> relative to <b>Acc<math>_x</math></b>	Manager
<b>Verify</b> ( $x, w, Acc_x, PK$ )	Returns <b>Yes</b> whether <b><math>x \in X</math></b>	User
<b>UpdWitGen</b> ( $X, X', SK$ )	<b>Upd<math>_{x,x'}</math></b> for elements <b><math>x \in X \cap X'</math></b>	Manager
<b>UpdWit</b> ( $w, Acc_x, Acc_{x'}, Upd_{x,x'}, PK$ )	New witness <b>w'</b> for <b><math>x \in X'</math></b>	User

# Correctness

- **Definition**

The scheme is correct iff:

$$w := \mathbf{WitGen}(x, \text{Acc}_x, \text{SK}) \Rightarrow \mathbf{Verify}(x, w, \text{Acc}_x, \text{PK}) = \text{Yes}$$

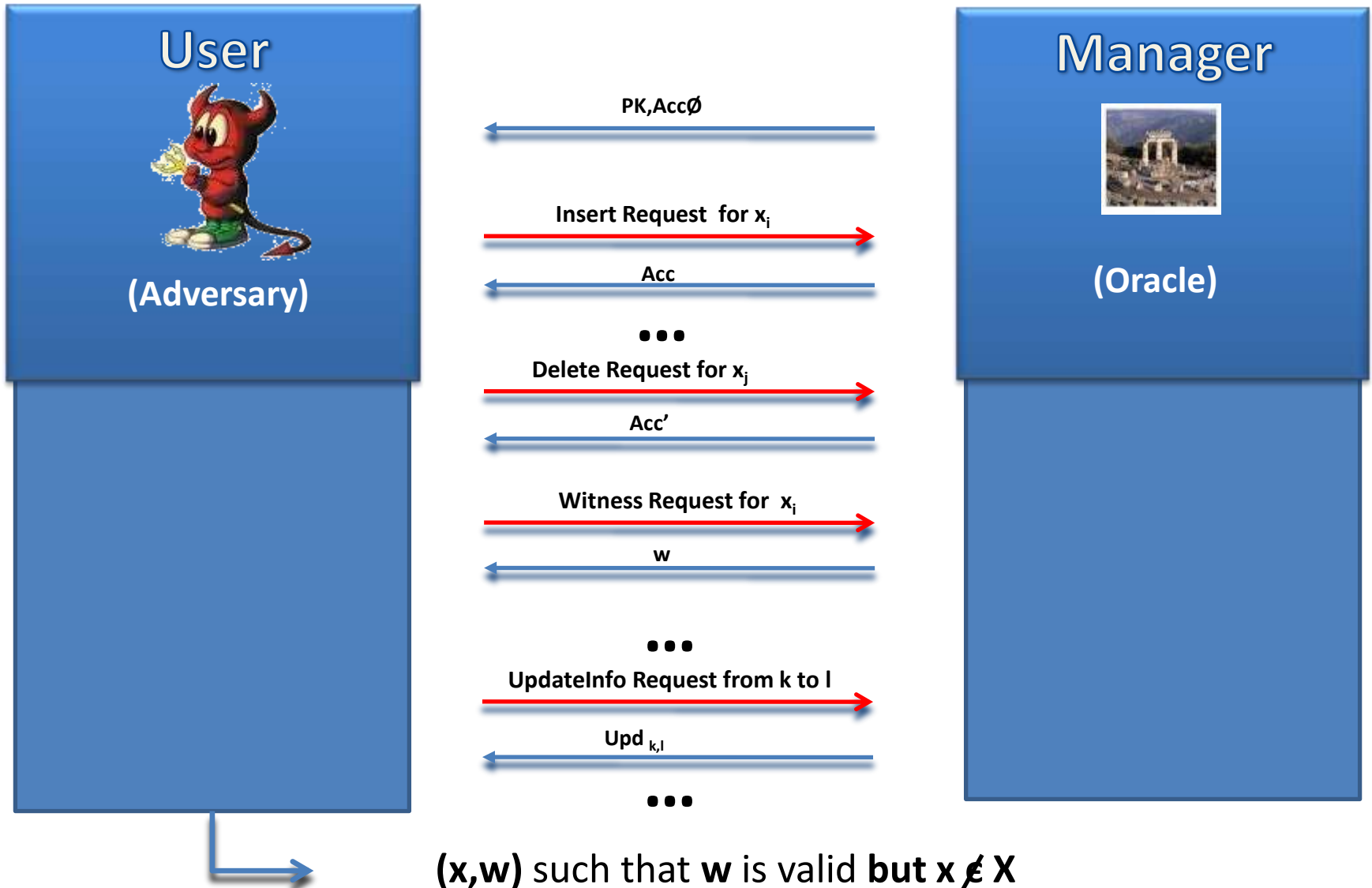
$$w := \mathbf{WitGen}(x, \text{Acc}_x, \text{SK})$$

$$\text{Upd}_{x,x'} := \mathbf{UpdWitGen}(X, X', \text{SK})$$

$$w' := \mathbf{WitGen}(w, \text{Acc}_x, \text{Acc}_{x'}, \text{Upd}_{x,x'}, \text{PK})$$


$$\mathbf{Verify}(x, w', \text{Acc}_x, \text{PK}) = \text{Yes}$$

# Security Model [CL02,WWP08]



# Batch Update Construction [WWP08]

CONSTRUCTION. Wang et al.'s accumulator relies on the Paillier cryptosystem [8] which we recall in Appendix A.2. In the following,  $\lambda$  will denote the value  $lcm(p-1, q-1)$  where  $n = pq$  is a product of large-enough safe primes  $p, q$ , and  $F : u \rightarrow \frac{u-1}{n}$  is Paillier's  $L$  function [8].

- **KeyGen**( $1^k$ ): given the security parameter  $k$  in unary, compute a safe-prime product  $n = pq$  that is  $k$ -bits long and create an empty set  $V$ . Let  $\mathcal{C} = \mathbb{Z}_{n^2}^* \setminus \{1\}$  and  $T' = \{3, \dots, n^2\}$ . Let  $\beta \xleftarrow{R} \mathbb{Z}_{\varphi(n^2)}^*$  and  $\sigma \xleftarrow{R} \mathbb{Z}^+$  be two random numbers. The public key  $PK$  is set to  $(n, \beta)$  and the private key  $SK$  to  $(\sigma, \lambda)$ . The output is the parameter  $\mathcal{P} = (PK, SK)$ .
- **AccVal**( $X, \mathcal{P}$ ): given a set  $X = \{c_1, \dots, c_m\}$  with  $X \subset \mathcal{C}$ , and the parameter  $\mathcal{P}$ , take  $c_{m+1} \xleftarrow{R} \mathcal{C}$  and compute

$$\begin{aligned} x_i &= F(c_i^\lambda \bmod n^2) \bmod n \quad (\text{for } i = 1, \dots, m+1) \\ Acc_X &= \sigma \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} x_i \bmod n \\ y_i &= c_i^{\lambda\sigma\beta^{-1}} \bmod n^2 \quad (\text{for } i = 1, \dots, m+1) \\ a_c &= \prod_{i=1}^{m+1} y_i \bmod n^2 \end{aligned}$$

Output the accumulated value  $Acc_X$  and the auxiliary information  $a_c$ .

- **WitGen**( $a_c, X, \mathcal{P}$ ): given the auxiliary information  $a_c$ , a set  $X = \{c_1, \dots, c_m\}$ , and the parameter  $\mathcal{P}$ , choose uniformly at random a set of  $m$  numbers  $T = \{t_1, \dots, t_m\} \subset T' \setminus \{\beta\}$  (for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ ) and compute

$$w_i = a_c c_i^{-t_i \beta^{-1}} \bmod n^2 \quad (\text{for } i = 1, \dots, m)$$

Output the witness  $W_i = (w_i, t_i)$  for  $c_i$  (for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ ).

- **AddEle**( $X^\oplus, a_c, Acc_X, \mathcal{P}$ ): given a set  $X^\oplus = \{c_1^\oplus, \dots, c_l^\oplus\}$  ( $X^\oplus \subseteq \mathcal{C} \setminus X$ ), to be inserted, the auxiliary information  $a_c$ , the accumulated value  $Acc_X$ , and the parameter  $\mathcal{P}$ , choose  $c_{l+1}^\oplus \xleftarrow{R} \mathcal{C}$  and a set of  $l$  numbers  $T^\oplus = \{t_1^\oplus, \dots, t_l^\oplus\} \xleftarrow{R} T' \setminus (T \cup \{\beta\})$ , and compute

$$\begin{aligned} x_i^\oplus &= F((c_i^\oplus)^\lambda \bmod n^2) \bmod n \quad (\text{for } i = 1, \dots, l+1) \\ Acc_{X \cup X^\oplus} &= Acc_X + \sigma \sum_{i=1}^{l+1} x_i^\oplus \bmod n \\ y_i^\oplus &= (c_i^\oplus)^{\lambda\sigma\beta^{-1}} \bmod n^2 \quad (\text{for } i = 1, \dots, l+1) \\ a_u &= \prod_{i=1}^{l+1} y_i^\oplus \bmod n^2 \\ w_i^\oplus &= a_c a_u (c_i^\oplus)^{-t_i^\oplus \beta^{-1}} \bmod n^2 \quad (\text{for } i = 1, \dots, l) \end{aligned}$$

Set  $a_c = a_c a_u \bmod n^2$ ,  $T = T \cup T^\oplus$ , and  $V = V \cup \{a_u\}$ . Then output the new accumulated value  $Acc_{X \cup X^\oplus}$  corresponding to the set  $X \cup X^\oplus$ , the witness

$W_i^\oplus = (w_i^\oplus, t_i^\oplus)$  for the new added elements  $c_i^\oplus$  (for  $i = 1, \dots, l$ ), and the auxiliary information  $a_u$  and  $a_c$ .

- **DelEle**( $X^\ominus, a_c, Acc_X, \mathcal{P}$ ): given a set  $X^\ominus = \{c_1^\ominus, \dots, c_l^\ominus\}$  ( $X^\ominus \subset X$ ) to be deleted, the auxiliary information  $a_c$ , the accumulated value  $Acc_X$ , and the parameter  $\mathcal{P}$ , choose  $c_{l+1}^\ominus \xleftarrow{R} \mathcal{C}$  and compute


$$\begin{aligned} x_i^\ominus &= F((c_i^\ominus)^\lambda \bmod n^2) \bmod n \quad (\text{for } i = 1, \dots, l+1) \\ Acc_{X \setminus X^\ominus} &= Acc_X - \sigma \sum_{i=1}^l x_i^\ominus + \sigma x_{l+1}^\ominus \bmod n \\ y_i^\ominus &= (c_i^\ominus)^{\lambda\sigma\beta^{-1}} \bmod n^2 \quad (\text{for } i = 1, \dots, l+1) \\ a_u &= y_{l+1}^\ominus \prod_{j=1}^l (y_j^\ominus)^{-1} \bmod n^2 \end{aligned}$$

Set  $a_c = a_c a_u \bmod n^2$  and  $V = V \cup \{a_u\}$ . Then output the new accumulated value  $Acc_{X \setminus X^\ominus}$  corresponding to the set  $X \setminus X^\ominus$  and the auxiliary information  $a_u$  and  $a_c$ .

- **Verify**( $c, W, Acc_X, PK$ ): given an element  $c$ , its witness  $W = (w, t)$ , the accumulated value  $Acc_X$ , and the public key  $PK$ , test whether  $\{c, w\} \subset \mathcal{C}$ ,  $t \in T'$  and  $F(w^\beta c^t \bmod n^2) \equiv Acc_X \pmod{n}$ . If so, output Yes, otherwise output  $\perp$ .
- **UpdWit**( $W_i, a_u, PK$ ): given the witness  $W_i$ , the auxiliary information  $a_u$  and the public key  $PK$ , compute  $w'_i = w_i a_u \bmod n^2$  then output the new witness  $W'_i = (w'_i, t_i)$  for the element  $c_i$ .

In the following section we show that Wang et al.'s construction is not secure.

# Attack on [WWP08]

 <b>User</b>		<div style="background-color: #4a7ebb; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Manager</div>
		$X_0 := \emptyset$
	Insert $x_1$ <span style="font-size: 2em;">→</span>	
	Delete $x_1$ <span style="font-size: 2em;">→</span>	$X_1 := \{x_1\}$
	Please send $\text{Upd}_{x_1, x_2}$ <span style="font-size: 2em;">→</span>	$X_2 := \emptyset$
	$\text{Upd}_{x_1, x_2}$ <span style="font-size: 2em;">←</span>	
With $\text{Upd}_{x_1, x_2}$ I can update my witness $w_{x_1}$		

**But  $x_1$  does not belong to  $X_2$ !** ✘

# Batch Update is Impossible

- **Theorem:**


Let **Acc** be a secure accumulator scheme with deterministic **UpdWit** and **Verify** algorithms.

For an update involving **m** delete operations in a set of **N** elements, the size of the update information **Upd<sub>x,x'</sub>** required by the algorithm **UpdWit** is  $\Omega(m \log(N/m))$ .


In particular if **m=N/2** we have  $|\mathbf{Upd}_{x,x'}| = \Omega(m) = \Omega(N)$



# Proof 1/3

 User		<div style="background-color: #4a7ebb; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">                     Manager                 </div>
$X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$		$X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$
	$\leftarrow \text{Acc}_X, \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_N\}$	<b>Compute</b> $\text{Acc}_X, \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_N\}$
		<b>Delete</b> $X_d := \{x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_m}\}$ $X' := X \setminus X_d$
	$\leftarrow \text{Acc}_{X'}, \text{Upd}_{X, X'}$	<b>Compute</b> $\text{Acc}_{X'}, \text{Upd}_{X, X'}$

# Proof 2/3



User

$X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$   
 $\{w_1, \dots, w_N\}$   
 $\text{Acc}_x, \text{Acc}_{x'}, \text{Upd}_{x, x'}$

## CASE 1

If  $x$  is not in  $X'$  =>

**Scheme insecure**

$x$  still in  $X'$

## CASE 2

If  $x$  is in  $X'$  =>

**Scheme incorrect**

$x$  not in  $X'$  anymore

For each element  
 $x \in X$

$x \rightarrow$

$w' :=$   
 $\text{UpdWit}(w, \text{Acc}_x, \text{Acc}_{x'}, \text{Upd}_{x, x'})$

$\rightarrow$

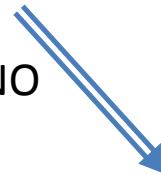
$w'$  valid?

YES



CASE 1

NO



CASE 2

User can reconstruct the set  $X_d$

# Proof 3/3

- There are  $\binom{N}{m}$  subsets of  $m$  elements in a set of  $N$  elements
- We need  $\log\left(\binom{N}{m}\right) \geq m \log(N/m)$  bits to encode  $X_d$

(See updated version at eprint soon for a detailed proof)

# Conclusion

- Batch Update is **impossible**.
- Batch Update for accumulators with *few* delete operations?
- Improve the lower bound in a factor of *k*.

# Thank you!



# Correction

- With negligible probability  
Bob could obtain a fake witness  
(and the scheme would still be secure)

=> The number of “good” subsets  $X_d$  is less than  $\binom{N}{m}$

# A more careful analysis

- $\Pr[X_d \text{ leads to a fake witness}] \leq \varepsilon(k)$

$$\Rightarrow \#\text{"Good } X_d \text{ sets"} \geq \binom{N}{m} (1 - \varepsilon(k))$$

$$\Rightarrow |U_{pd_{x,x'}}| \geq m \log(M/m) + \log(1 - \varepsilon(k))$$

$$\Rightarrow |U_{pd_{x,x'}}| \geq m \log(M/m) - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |U_{pd_{x,x'}}| = \Omega(m \log(M/m))$$