

Student Seminar - Crypto Group - CWI - 18/12/20

On the security of
Subspace Subcodes
of Reed-Solomon codes

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joint work with

Alain COUVREUR (Inria Saclay)

Post-quantum
crypto

Isogenies

Multivariate

Hash

Codes

Lattices

Post-quantum
crypto

Isogenies

Multivariate

Hash

Lattices

Codes

Mc Eliece
1978

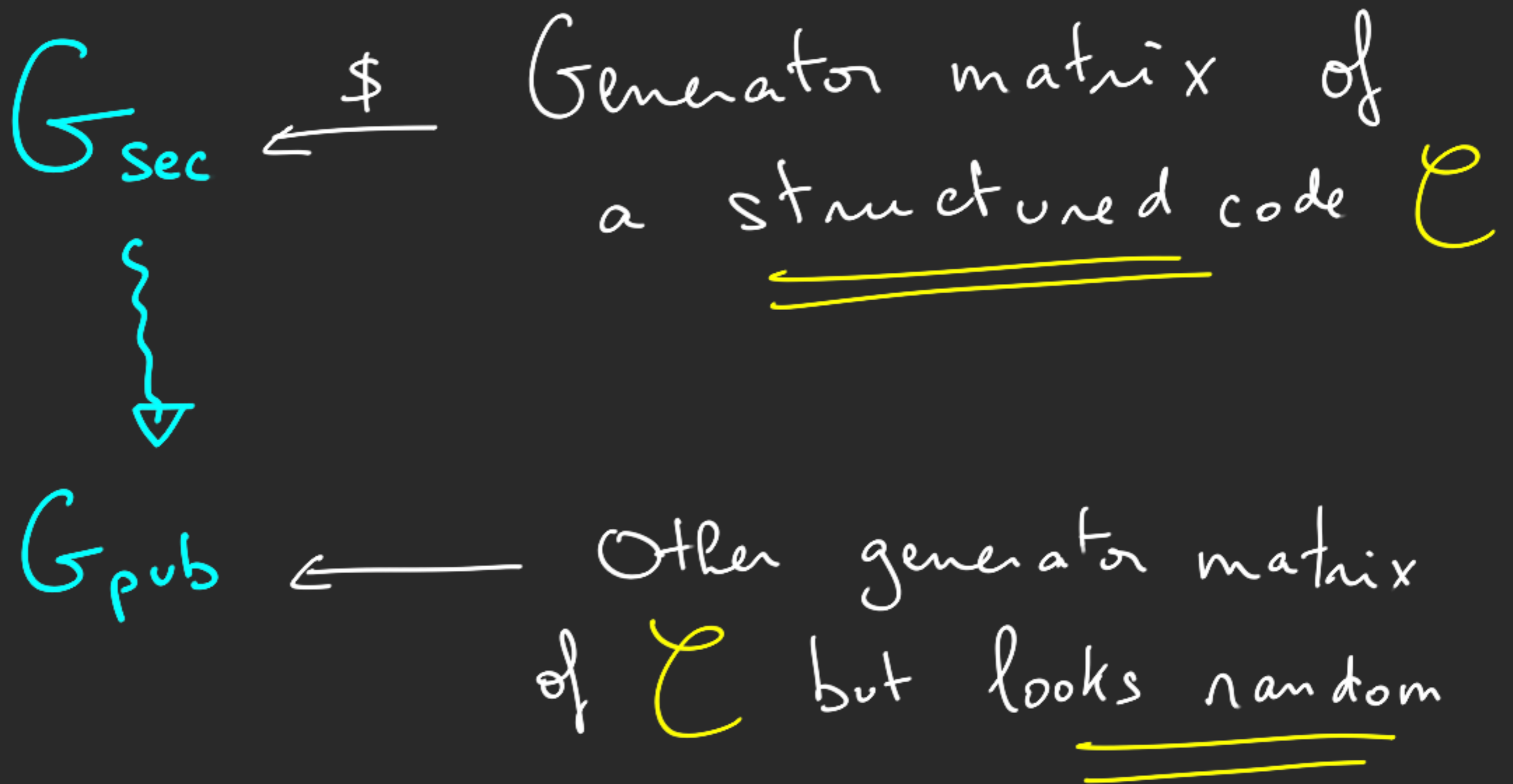
Mc Eliece's scheme (in a nutshell)

Key Generation:

$G_{\text{sec}} \xleftarrow{\$}$ Generator matrix of
a structured code \mathcal{C}

Mc Eliece's scheme (in a nutshell)

Key Generation:



Mc Eliece's scheme (in a nutshell)

Key Generation:

PUBLIC KEY

$$= G_{\text{sec}}$$

← \$

Generator matrix of
a structured code \mathcal{C}



PRIVATE KEY

$$= G_{\text{pub}}$$

←

Other generator matrix
of \mathcal{C} but looks random

Trapdoor:

An efficient algorithm
to correct up to t errors
in \mathcal{C}

↳ only if we know
the structure of the code

The Eliece's scheme

Enc (m, G_{pub})

$$e \xleftarrow{\$} \mathbb{F}_{q^n} \text{ s.t. } |e| = t$$

$$c = m \cdot G_{\text{pub}} + e$$

Return c

Dec (c, G_{sec})

$$m = \text{Decode}(c, G_{\text{sec}})$$

Return m

Security?

$$C = m G_{pub} + e$$

$$|e| = t$$

Q: How to find m ?

Security?

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① Given G_{pub} , find the structure of the code and use the efficient decoding algorithm

Security?

$$C = m G_{pub} + e \quad |e| = t$$

Q: How to find m ?

① Given G_{pub} , find the structure of the code and use the efficient decoding algorithm

OR

② Find an efficient way to correct t errors in a random code

Security hypothesis

- ① The public matrix G_{pub} is (computationally) indistinguishable from a random matrix

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② Correcting t errors in a random code is hard

Security hypothesis

① The public matrix G_{pub} is (computationally) indistinguishable from a random matrix

↳ Depends on the choice of structured code \mathcal{C}

② Correcting t errors in a random code is hard

↳ Generic problem of code-based crypto

Instantiation

Q: Which "structured" code to use?

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→ Goppa codes, alternant codes

→ Generalised Reed-Solomon codes

→ MDPC codes

→ Rank-metric codes

→ etc.

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→ etc.

Reed-Solomon (RS) codes

$$\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_q^n \quad \alpha_i \neq \alpha_j$$

$$RS_k(\alpha) := \left\{ \left(f(\alpha_1), f(\alpha_2), \dots, f(\alpha_n) \right) \right\} \\ f \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_q[X]_{<k}$$

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$f \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_q[X]_{<k}$

→ length = n

→ dimension = k

Generalised Reed-Solomon (GRS) codes

$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n \quad x_i \neq x_j$$
$$y = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n \quad y_i \neq 0$$

$$\text{GRS}_k(x, y) := \left\{ (y_1 f(x_1), y_2 f(x_2), \dots, y_n f(x_n)) \right\}$$
$$f \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}[X]_{<k}$$

$$\longrightarrow \text{length} = n$$

$$\longrightarrow \text{dimension} = k$$

Mc Eliece with GRS codes?

→ Niederwiter 86 → ATTACK

Thm [SS92]

Given any parity-check matrix of a GRS code \mathcal{C} , it is possible to find x, y

st. $\mathcal{C} = \text{GRS}(x, y)$ in polynomial time.

Mc Eliece with GRS codes?

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Given any parity-check matrix of a GRS code \mathcal{C} , it is possible to find x, y st. $\mathcal{C} = \text{GRS}(x, y)$ in polynomial time.

→ Variants of GRS codes

→ Berger-Liduan 05

→ Wiederhink 06

→ Wang RLCE 17

) ATTACKS

Alternant codes (2 Goppa codes)

$$m \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$$

$$y = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$$

$$A_k(x, y) := \text{GRS}_k(x, y) \cap \mathbb{F}_q^n$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \hookrightarrow \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q^n \\ \hookrightarrow \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n \end{array}$$

Mc Eliece with alternant codes?

→ Original proposal [McE78]

↳ Goppa codes \subseteq Alternant codes

↳ Still considered secure
after 40 years!

"Original McEliece" NIST proposal
Round 3

BUT ... huge public key size ...



Alternant codes
(Goppa)

SECURE

GRS codes

INSECURE

Large public
key size

Medium
public key
size



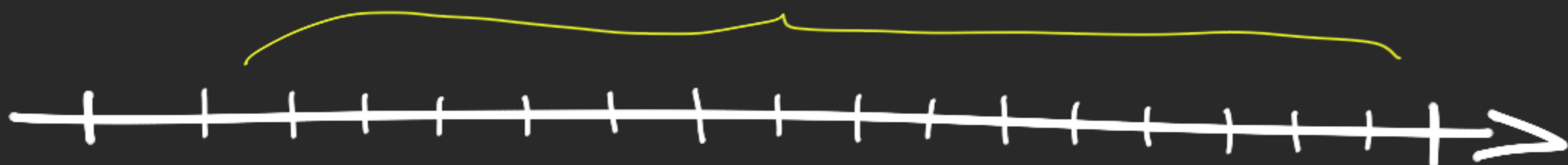
Alternant codes
(Goppa)

GRS codes

SECURE

INSECURE

?



Alternant codes
(Goppa)

SECURE

GRS codes

INSECURE

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Alternant codes
(Goppa)

SECURE

GRS codes

INSECURE

$$\text{GRS}_k(x, y) \cap \mathbb{F}_q^n$$

$$\begin{aligned} q & \text{ prime power} \\ m & \in \mathbb{N} \\ x &= (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n \\ y &= (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{GRS}_k(x, y)$$

$$\mathcal{C} := \text{GRS}_k(x, y) \cap \mathbb{F}_q^n$$

$1 \leq \lambda \leq m$



Alternant codes
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GRS codes

INSECURE

SECURE

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Alternant codes
(Goppa)

SECURE

GRS codes

INSECURE

$$\text{GRS}_k(x, y) \cap \mathbb{F}_{q^2}^n$$

$$\text{GRS}_k(x, y) \cap \mathbb{F}_q^n$$

$$\mathcal{C} := \text{GRS}_k(x, y) \cap \mathbb{F}_{q^1}^n$$

$1 \leq \lambda \leq m$



Alternant codes
(Goppa)

SECURE

INSECURE

GRS codes

INSECURE

$$\text{GRS}_k(x, y) \cap \mathbb{F}_{q^2}^n$$

THIS WORK

$$\text{GRS}_k(x, y) \cap \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$$

Subspace Subcodes : definition

Let $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q^n$

and $S \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q$ be an \mathbb{F}_q -subspace,

then,

$$\mathcal{C}|_S := \mathcal{C} \cap S^n$$

$$= \{c \in \mathcal{C}, \forall i \in [1, n], c_i \in S\}$$

Subspace Subcodes : definition

$$\text{Let } \mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q^n$$

and $(S_i) \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q^n$ be \mathbb{F}_q -subspaces,

then,

$$\mathcal{C}_{|(S_i)} := \mathcal{C} \cap (S_1 \times \dots \times S_n)$$

$$= \{c \in \mathcal{C}, \forall i \in [1, n], c_i \in S_i\}$$

Generalisation: different subsets for each coordinate

Subspace Subcodes: definition

Let $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q^n$

and $(S_i) \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q^n$ be an \mathbb{F}_q -subspaces,

then,

$$\mathcal{C} \cap (S_i) ::= \mathcal{C} \cap (S_1 \times \dots \times S_n)$$

for us:

$$\forall i, \dim S_i = \lambda$$

$$= \{c \in \mathcal{C}, \forall i \in [1, n], c_i \in S_i\}$$

Generalisation: different subsets for each coordinate

$$\mathcal{C}_{(S_1, \dots, S_n)} := \{ (c_1, \dots, c_n) \in \mathcal{C} \mid \forall i, c_i \in S_i \}$$

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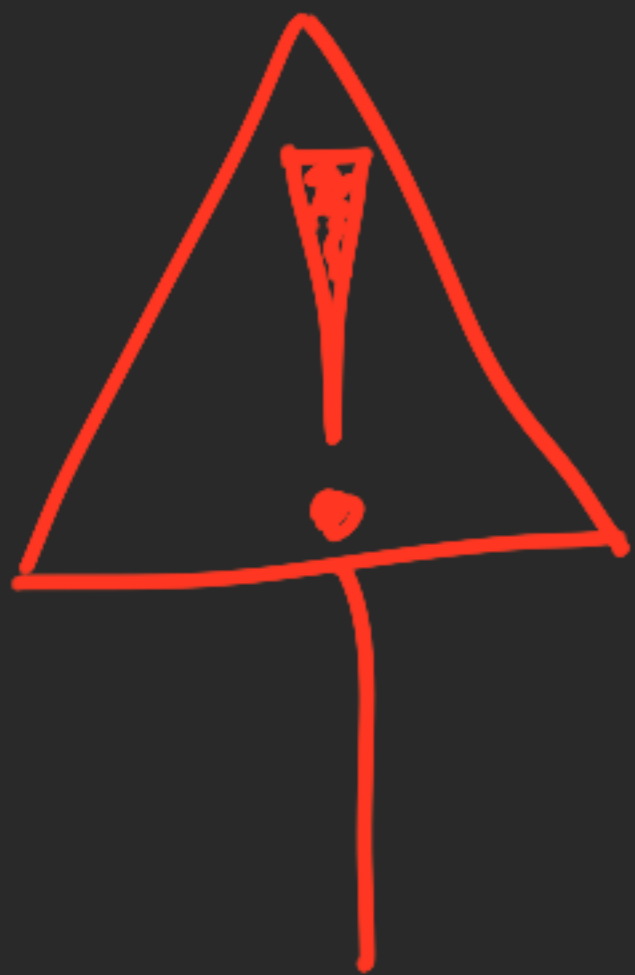
\mathbb{F}_q^m - linear
code

\mathbb{F}_q - subspace of \mathbb{F}_q^m
of dimension λ

$$\mathcal{C} \mid (S_1, \dots, S_n) := \{ (c_1, \dots, c_n) \in \mathcal{C} \mid \forall i, c_i \in S_i \}$$

\mathbb{F}_{q^m} -linear code

\mathbb{F}_q -subspace of \mathbb{F}_{q^m}
of dimension k



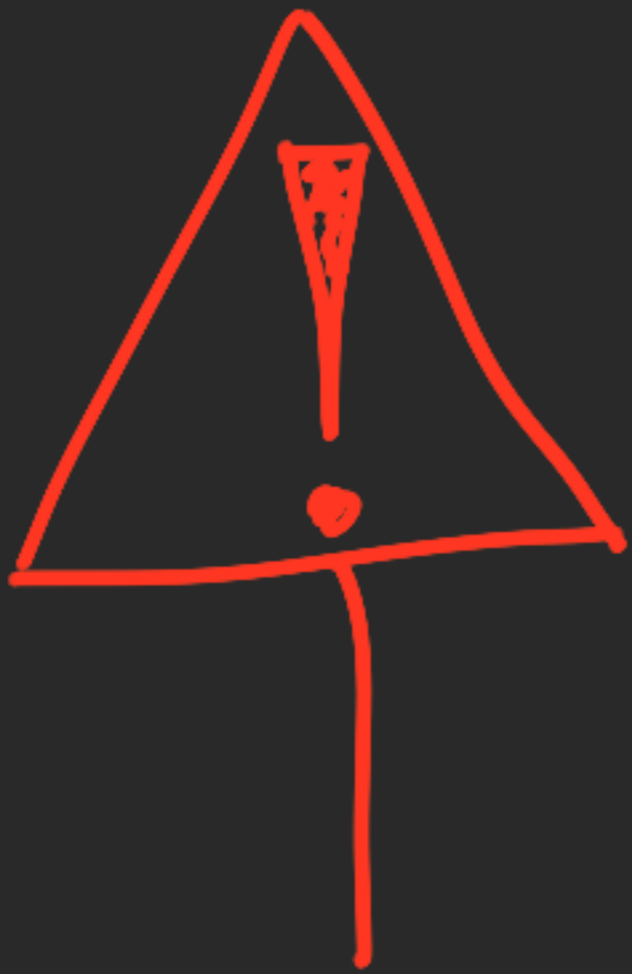
\mathbb{F}_q -linear code

NOT \mathbb{F}_{q^m} -linear!

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\mathbb{F}_{q^m} -linear code

\mathbb{F}_q -subspace of \mathbb{F}_{q^m} of dimension k



\mathbb{F}_q -linear code

NOT

\mathbb{F}_{q^m} -linear!

NOR

" \mathbb{F}_{q^2} -linear" not a subfield in general

How to represent Subspace Subcodes?

Let S_1, \dots, S_n be \mathbb{F}_q -subspaces of \mathbb{F}_q^m
and B_1, \dots, B_n be \mathbb{F}_q -bases for these spaces.

For $c \in S_1 \times \dots \times S_n$, define

$$\text{Exp}_{(B_i)}(c) := (c_{11}, \dots, c_{1\lambda}, c_{21}, \dots, c_{2\lambda}, \dots, c_{n\lambda}) \\ \in \mathbb{F}_q^{\lambda n}$$

How to represent Subspace Subcodes?

Let S_1, \dots, S_n be \mathbb{F}_q -subspaces of \mathbb{F}_q^m
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Then,

$$E_{\text{Exp}_{(B_i)}}(\mathcal{C}|_{S_i}) = \{ E_{\text{Exp}_{(B_i)}}(c) \mid c \in \mathcal{C}|_{S_i} \}$$

How to represent Subspace Subcodes?

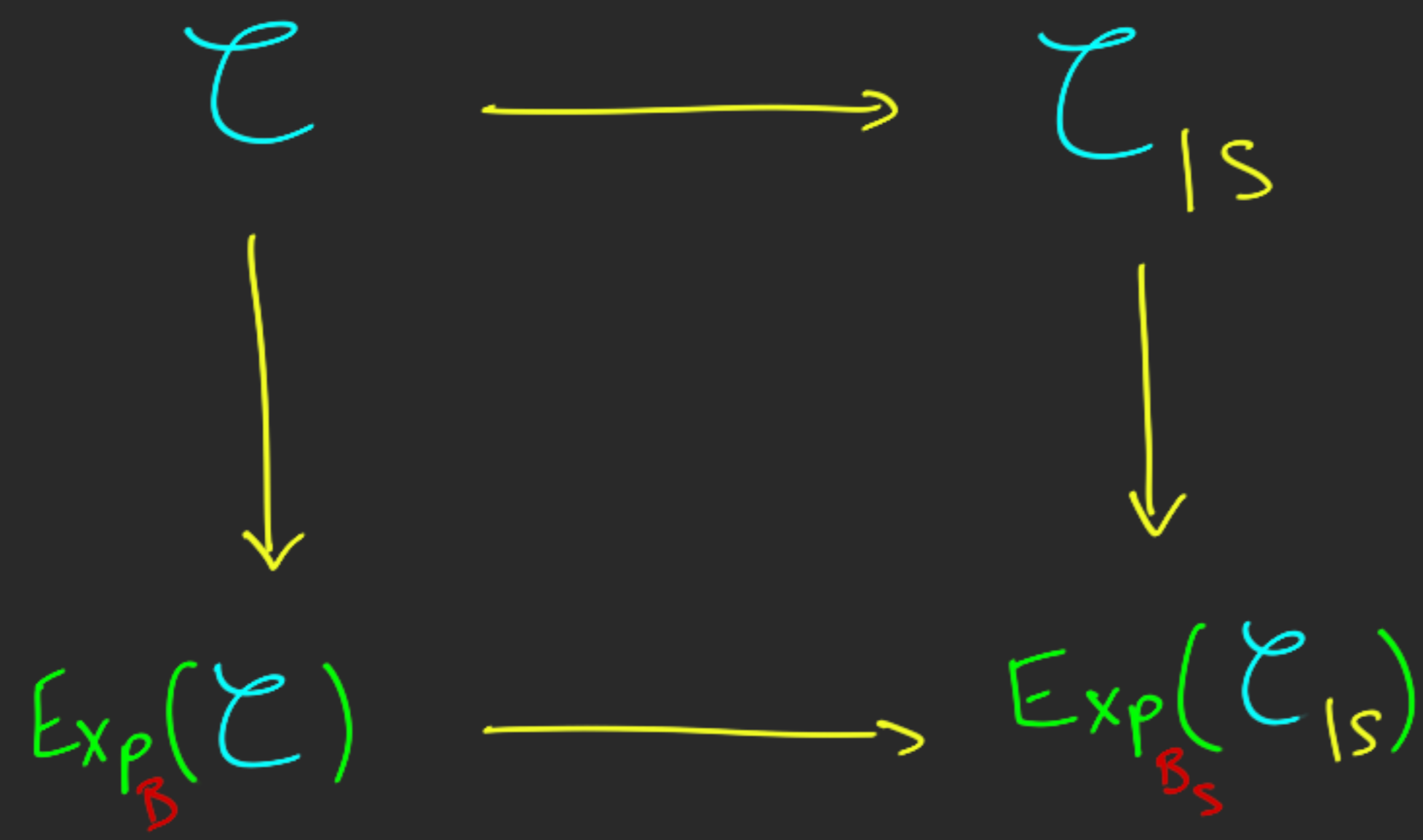
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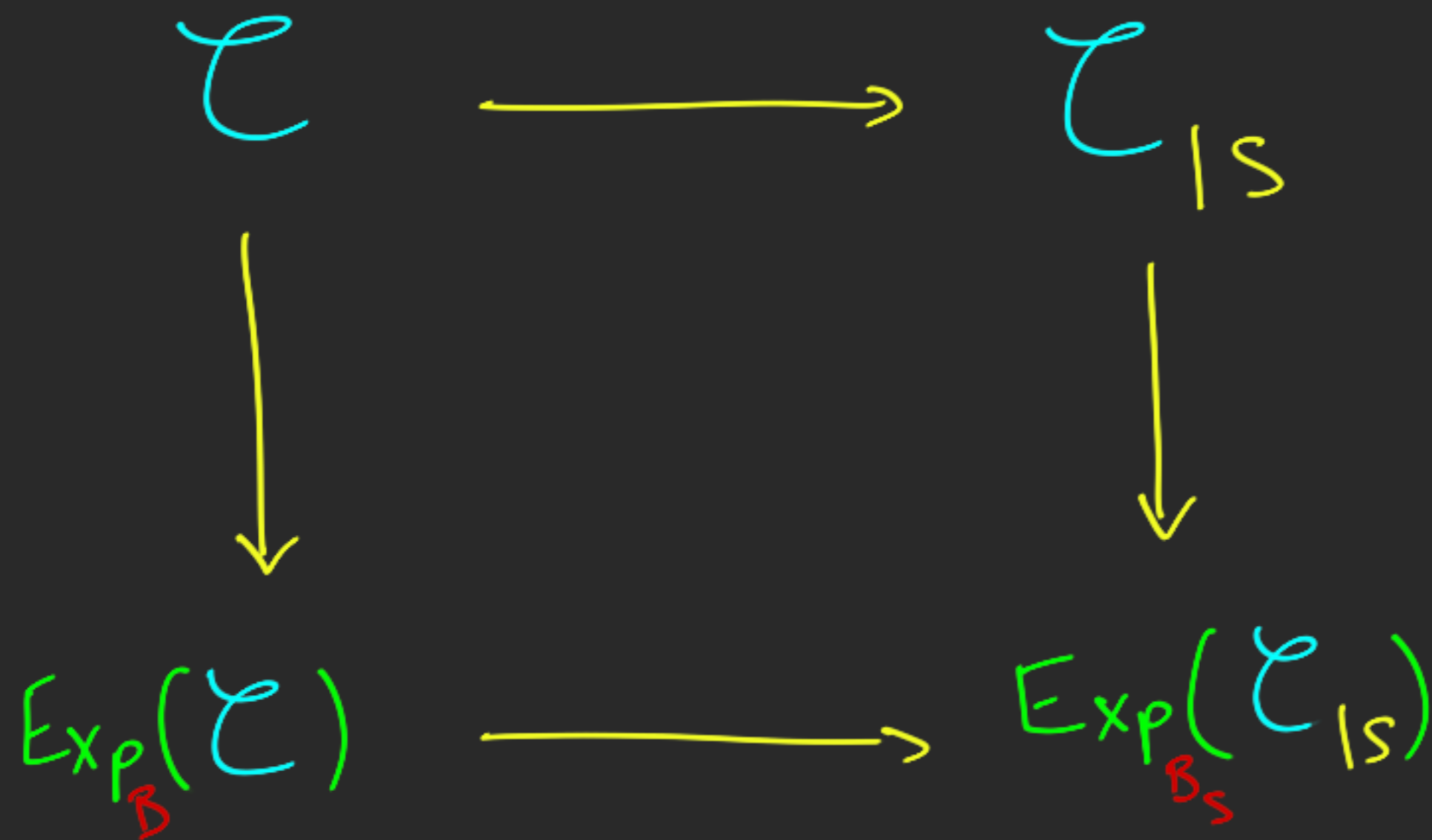
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\mathbb{F}_q -linear code of $\begin{cases} \text{length } \lambda n \\ \text{dimension } \geq km - n(m-\lambda) \end{cases}$

Shortened Expanded codes representation



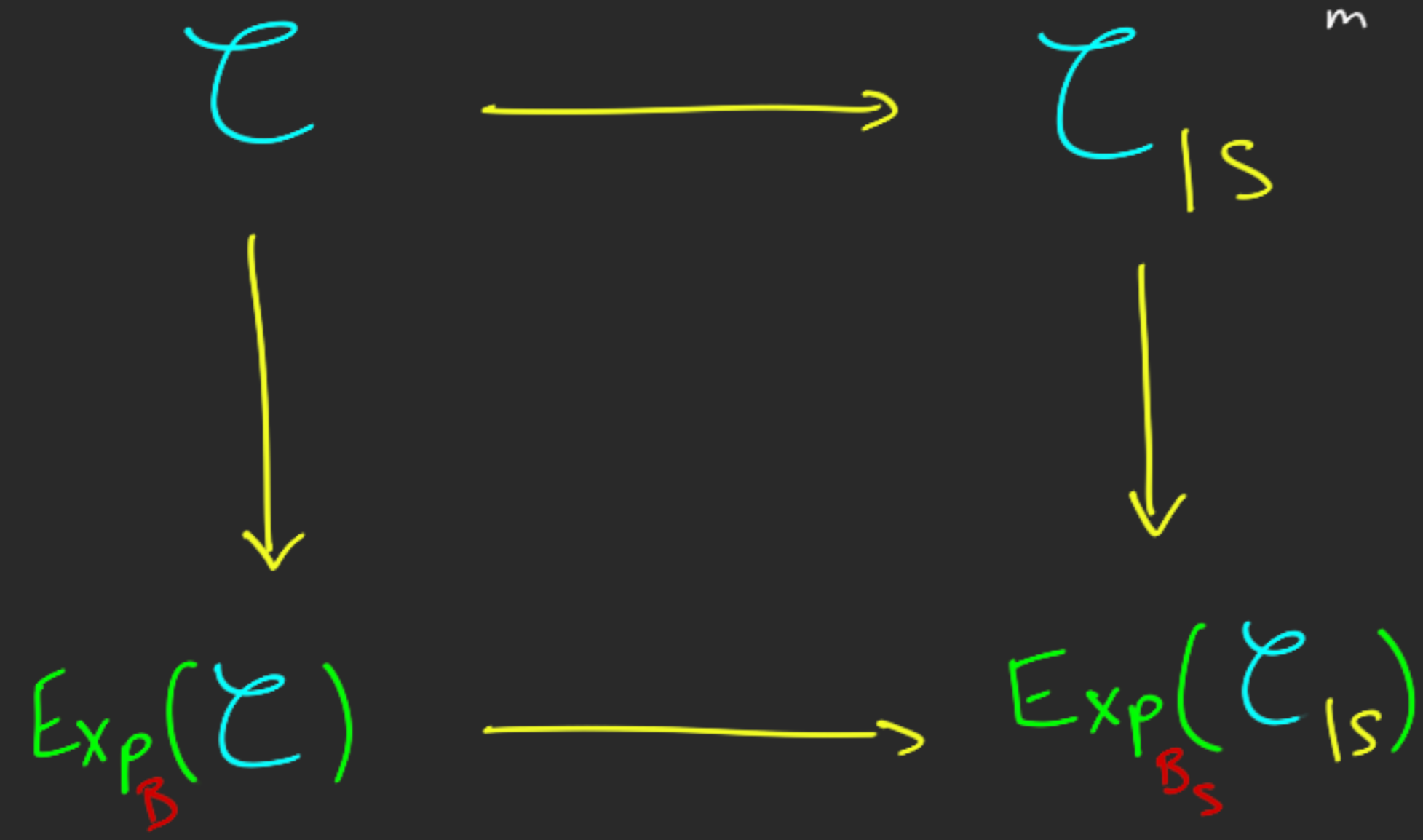
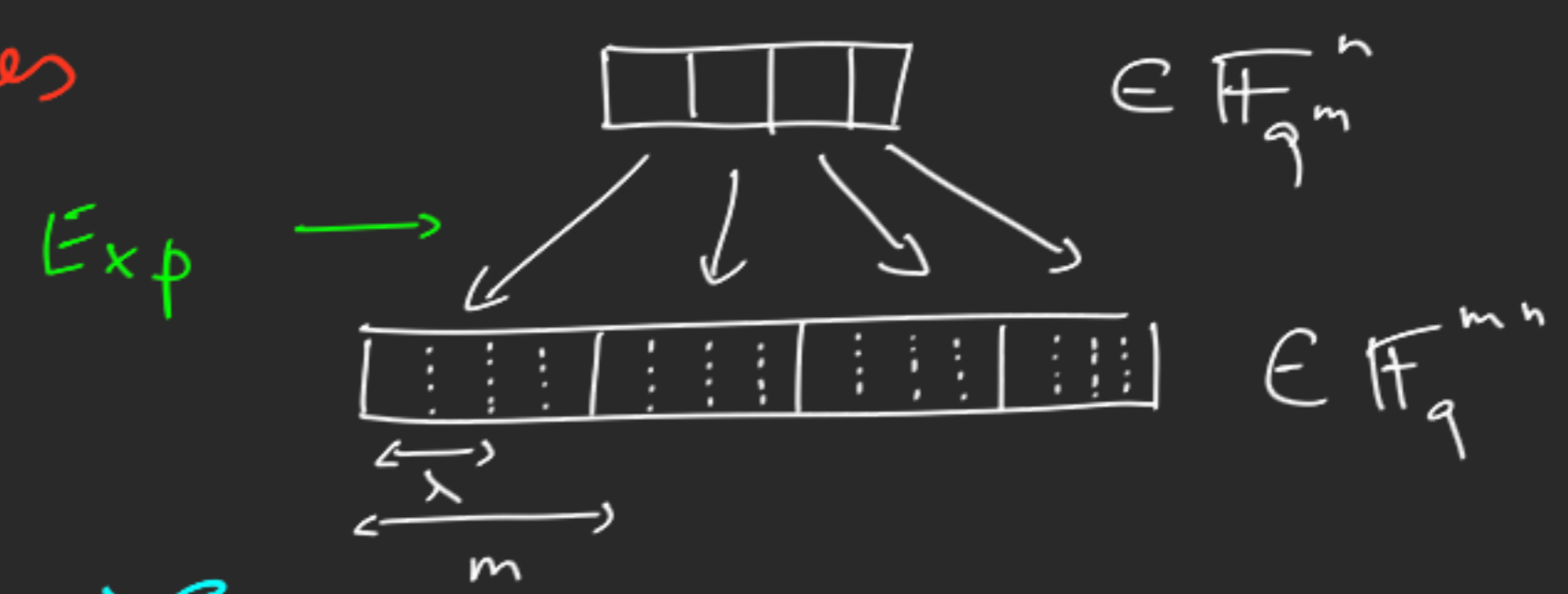
Shortened Expanded codes representation



where $B = (b_1, \dots, b_m)$ is an \mathbb{F}_q -basis of \mathbb{F}_{q^m}

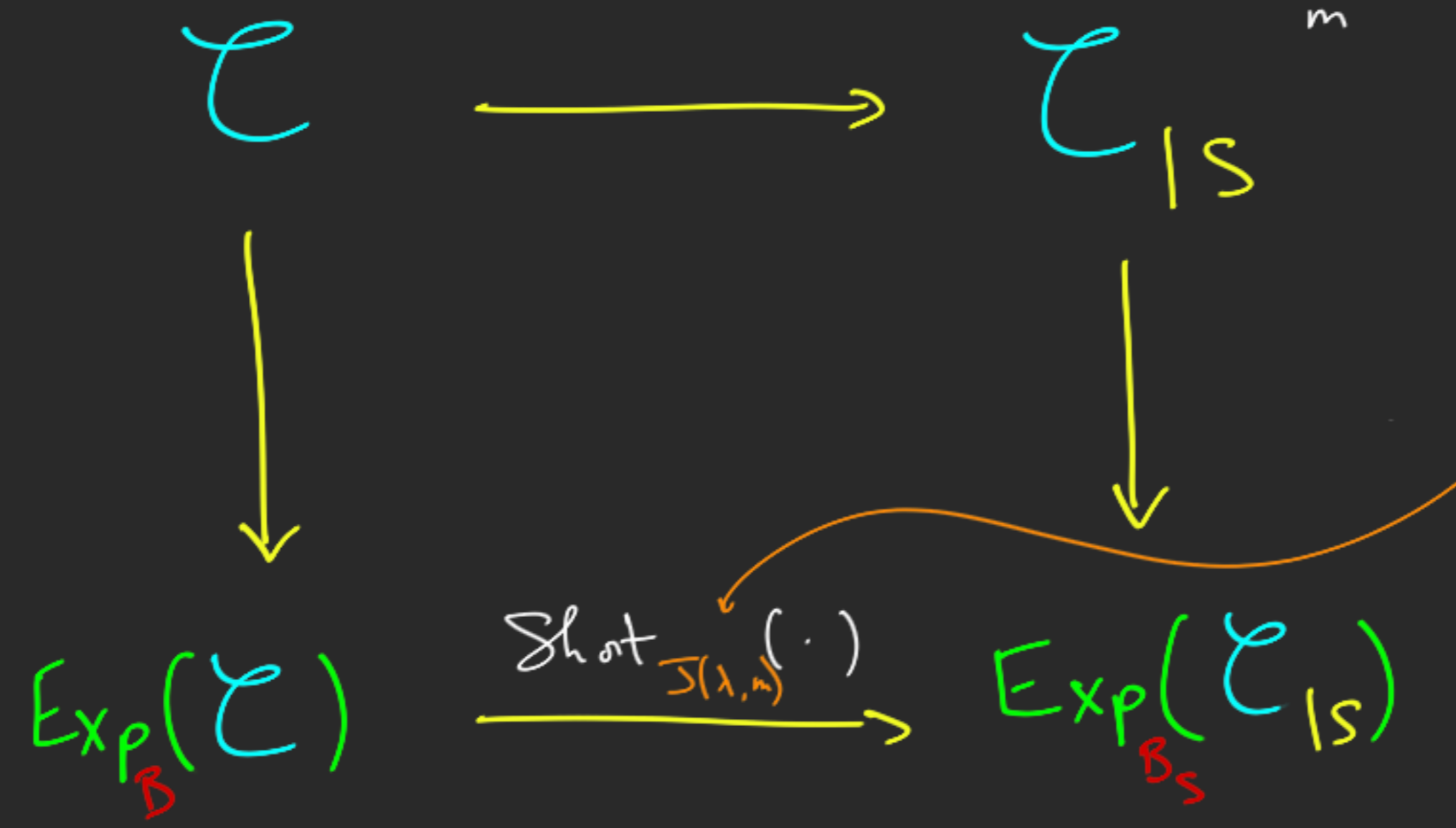
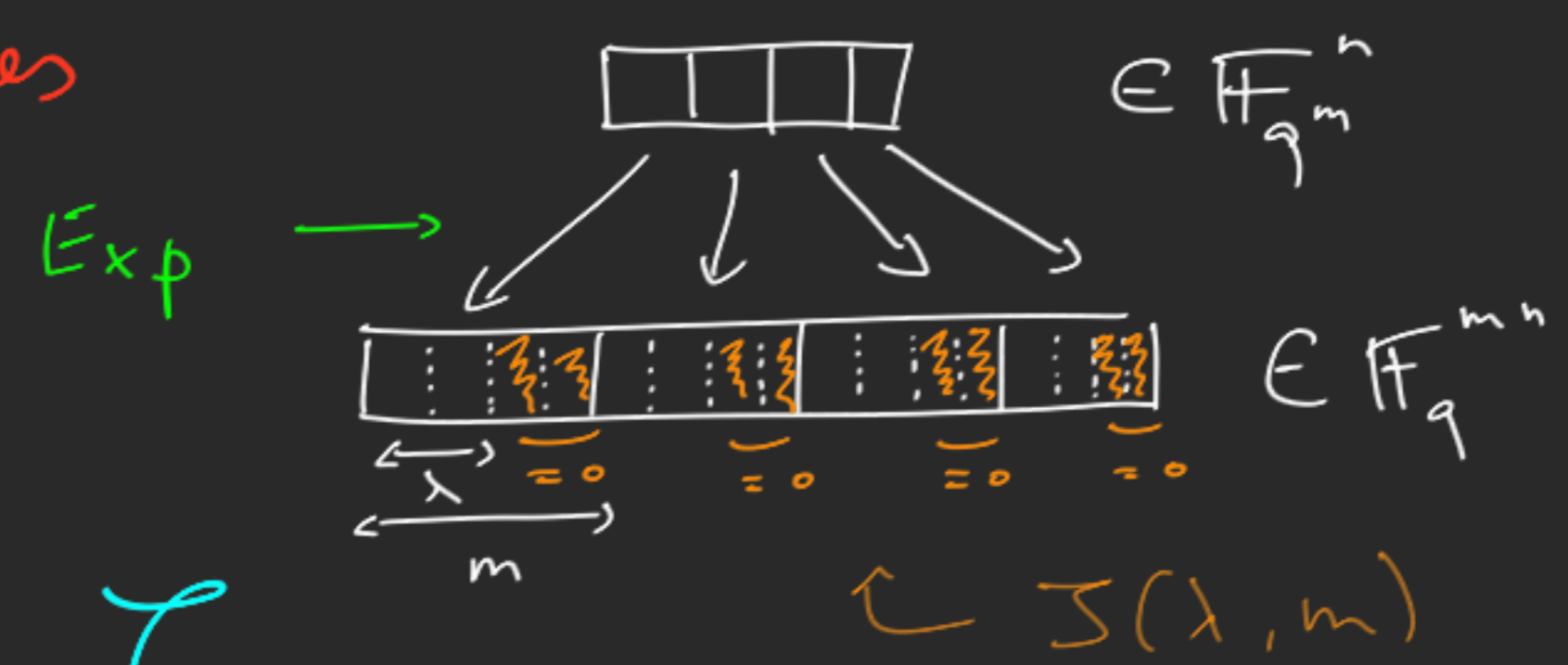
st. $S = \langle b_1, \dots, b_x \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_q}$.

Shortened Expanded codes representation



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Shortened Expanded codes representation



Shorten the last $(m - \lambda)$ columns of each block

where $B = (b_1, \dots, b_m)$ is an \mathbb{F}_q -basis of \mathbb{F}_q^m
 st. $S = \langle b_1, \dots, b_\lambda \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_q}$.

RS or GRS codes?

Prop:

$$\text{GRS}_k(x, y) \mid (s_1, \dots, s_n) = \text{RS}_k(x) \mid (y_1^{-1}s_1, \dots, y_n^{-1}s_n)$$

McEliece with Subspace Subcodes Reed-Solomon codes (SSRS)

Secret key:

$$\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}^n$$

S_1, \dots, S_n subspaces of \mathbb{F}_{q^m} of $\dim = \lambda$
↳ defined by bases B_1, \dots, B_n

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Public key:

G_{pub}

a generator matrix of
 $\text{Exp}_{(B_i)}(RS_n(x) | S_i)$

McEliece with Subspace Subcodes Reed-Solomon codes (SSRS)

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Encryption:

$$m \in \mathbb{F}_q^{n\lambda}$$

→

$$m \cdot G_{pub} + e$$

random vector
of "block-weight"
 $\lfloor \frac{n-k}{2} \rfloor$

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Encryption: $m \in \mathbb{F}_q^{n\lambda} \mapsto m \cdot G_{pub} + e$
random vector of "block-weight" $\lfloor \frac{n-k}{2} \rfloor$

Decryption: Use B_i to express in \mathbb{F}_{q^m} and decode.

Parameters?

\mathbb{F}_m 256 security bits,

from Khathuria, Rosenthal, Weger 2019:

$$q = 13$$

$$m = 3$$

$$\lambda = 2$$

$$n = 1258$$

$$k = 1031$$

$$pk: 579 \text{ kB}$$

$$q = 7$$

$$m = 4$$

$$\lambda = 2$$

$$n = 1972$$

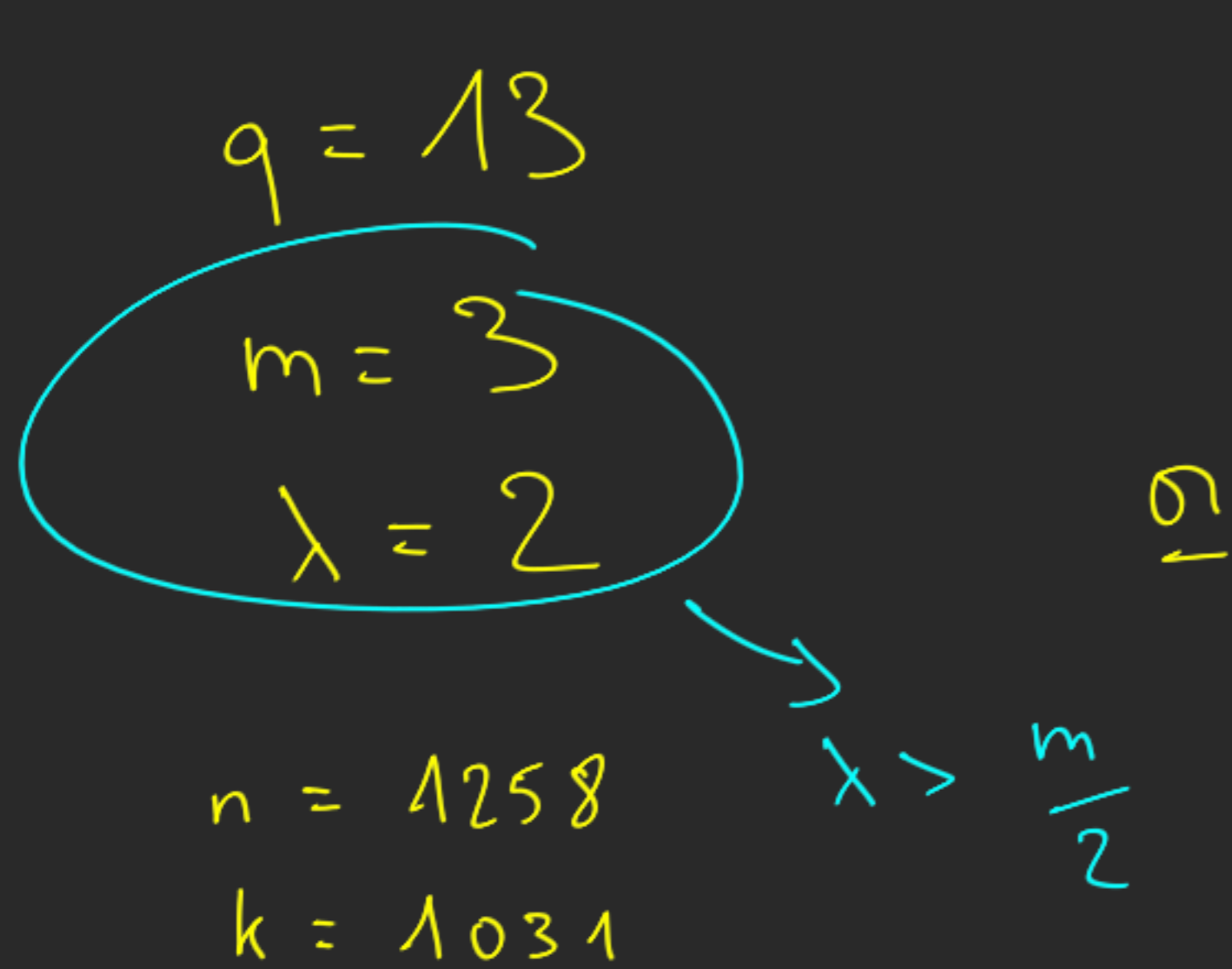
$$k = 1666$$

$$pk: 844 \text{ kB}$$

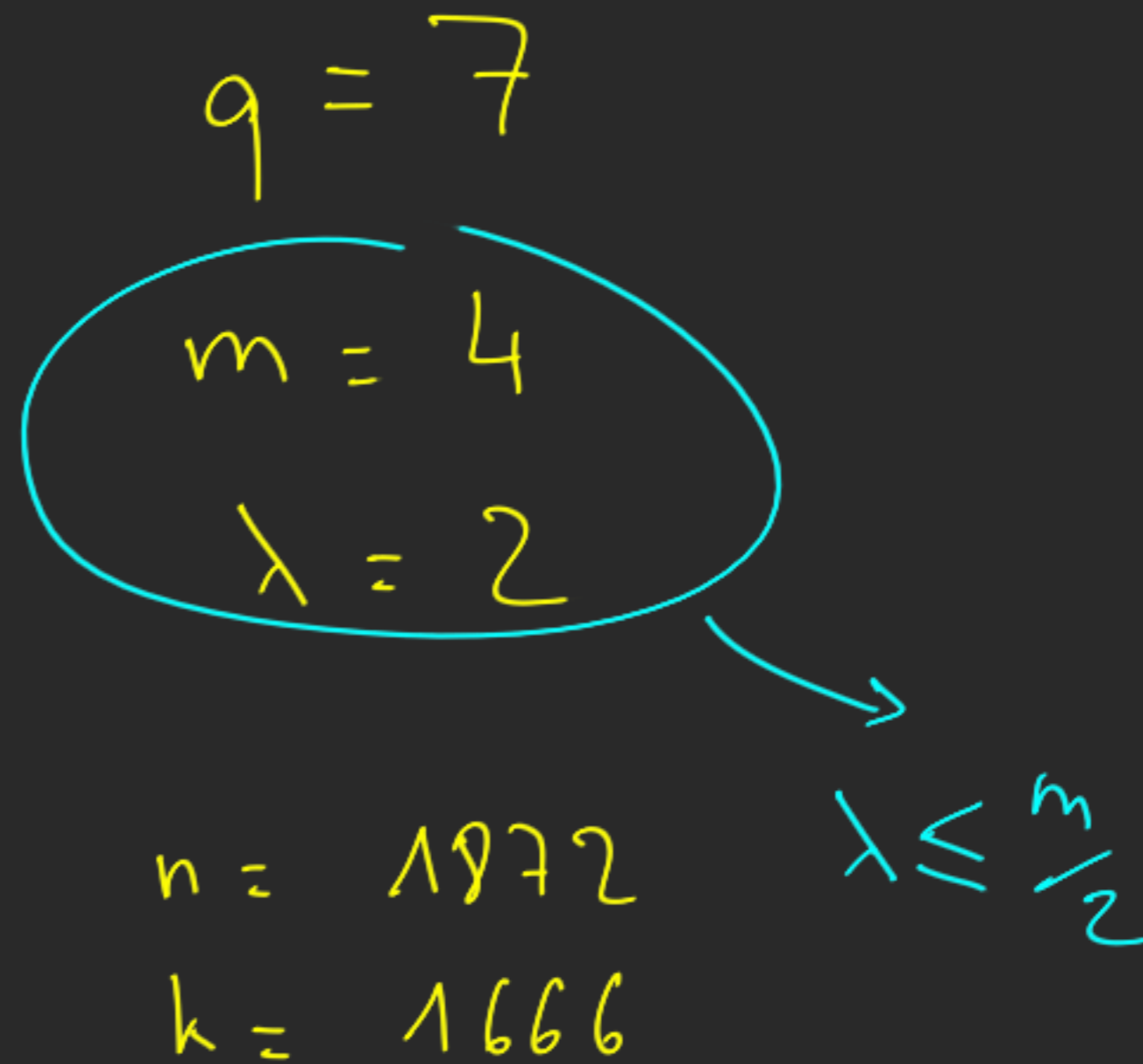
Parameters?

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Bergen, Gueye, Klanti 2019:

→ If $\lambda = m$

ie. $S_1 = S_2 = \dots = S_n$

ie $C_{pub} = \text{Exp}_{\mathcal{B}_1, \dots, \mathcal{B}_n} (RS(x))$

↳ UNKNOWN

\mathbb{F}_q -basis of \mathbb{F}_{q^m}

it is possible

to adapt Sidelnikov-Shedakov's classical attack

on GRS codes

→ Recover $(x, \mathcal{B}_1, \dots, \mathcal{B}_n)$

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→ Recover $(x, \mathcal{B}_1, \dots, \mathcal{B}_n)$

→ If $\lambda < m$? \implies Brute force search S_1, \dots, S_n

Bergen, Gueye, Klanti 2019:

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→ If $\lambda < m$?

EXPONENTIAL
⇒ ~~Bruteforce search S_1, \dots, S_n~~

Square-code distinguisher
for GRS codes

Wieschebrink
2006

For $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ and $b = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$
denote $a * b := (a_1 b_1, \dots, a_n b_n)$.

Square-code distinguisher for GRS codes

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For $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ and $b = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$
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Given A and B two codes over \mathbb{K}
denote $A * B = \left\langle a * b \mid \begin{array}{l} a \in A \\ b \in B \end{array} \right\rangle_{\mathbb{K}}$

Square-code distinguisher for GRS codes

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Given A and B two codes over \mathbb{K}
denote $A * B = \langle a * b \mid \begin{matrix} a \in A \\ b \in B \end{matrix} \rangle_{\mathbb{K}}$

$$\hookrightarrow \mathcal{C}^{*2} := \mathcal{C} * \mathcal{C}$$

Square-code distinguisher
for GRS codes

Wieschebrink
2006

Question: Let \mathcal{C} be an $[n, k]$ -code.
What is $\dim \mathcal{C}^{\otimes 2}$?

Square-code distinguisher for GRS codes

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→ if \mathcal{C} is RANDOM:

$$\dim \mathcal{C}^{*2} = \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$$

Square-code distinguisher for GRS codes

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→ if \mathcal{C} is GRS:

$$\dim \mathcal{C}^{*2} = 2k - 1$$

Square-code distinguisher for GRS codes

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⇒ DISTINGUISHER!

Square-code distinguisher for GRS codes

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2006

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What is $\dim \mathcal{C}^{*2}$?

→ if \mathcal{C} is RANDOM:

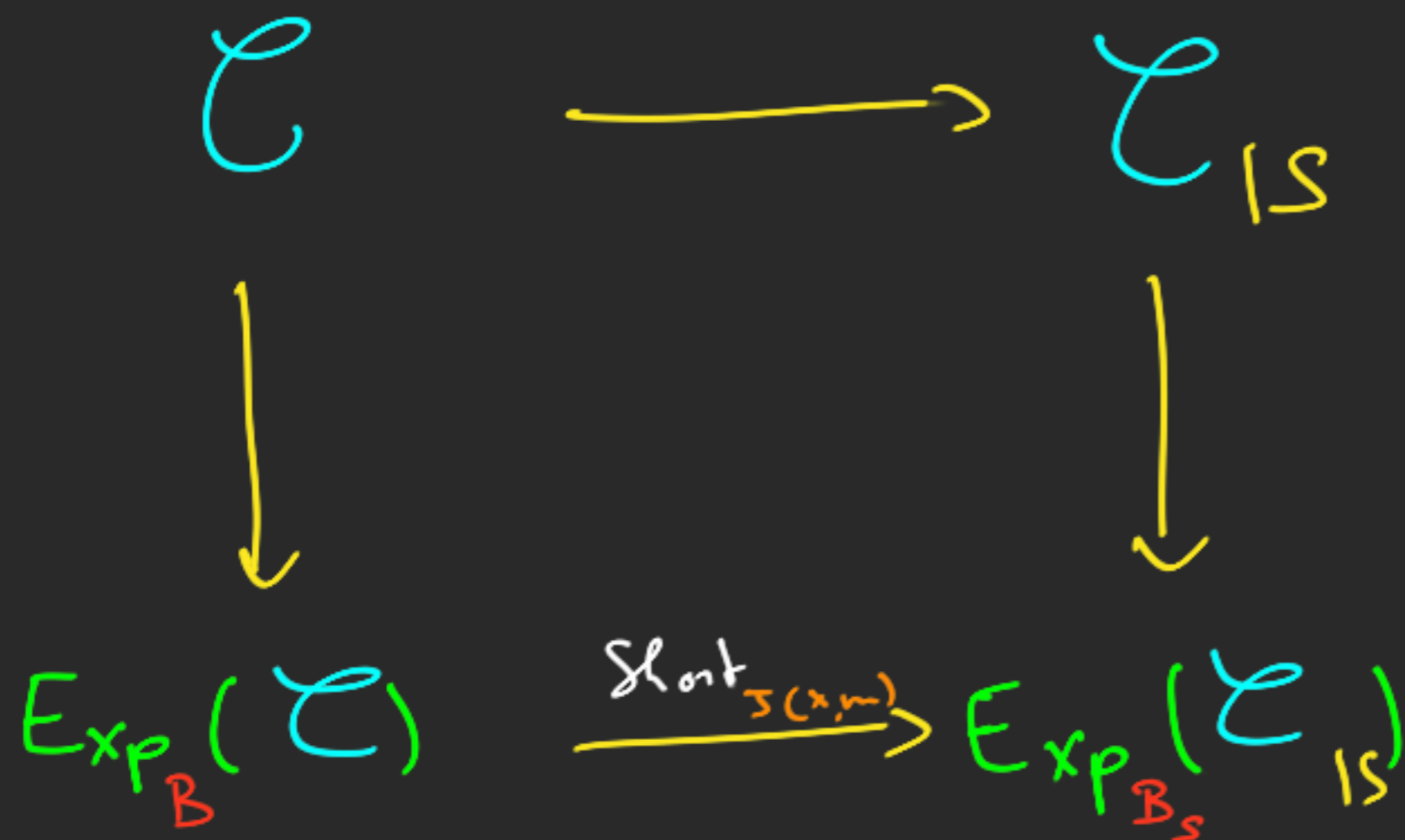
$$\dim \mathcal{C}^{*2} = \min\left(\frac{k(k+1)}{2}, n\right)$$

→ if \mathcal{C} is GRS:

$$\dim \mathcal{C}^{*2} = \min(2k-1, n)$$

⇒ DISTINGUISHER! : \rightsquigarrow if $2k-1 < n$

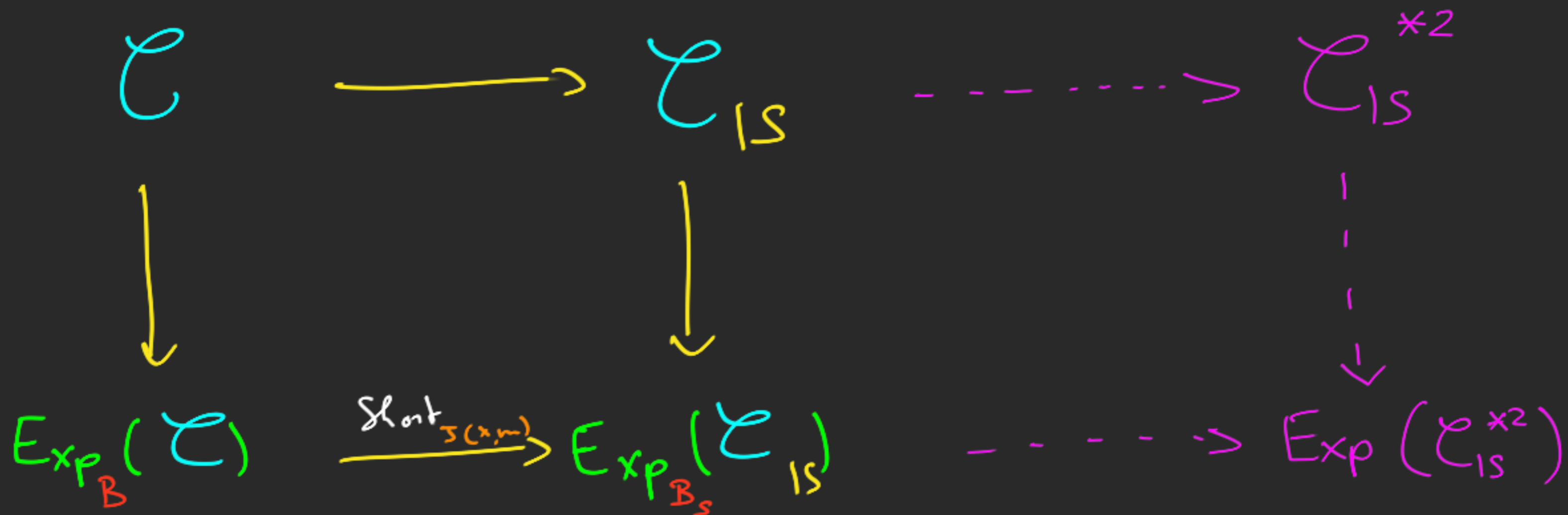
Back to Subspace Subcodes.



$B = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$ \mathbb{F}_q -basis of \mathbb{F}_{q^n}

st. $S = \langle b_1, \dots, b_x \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_q}$

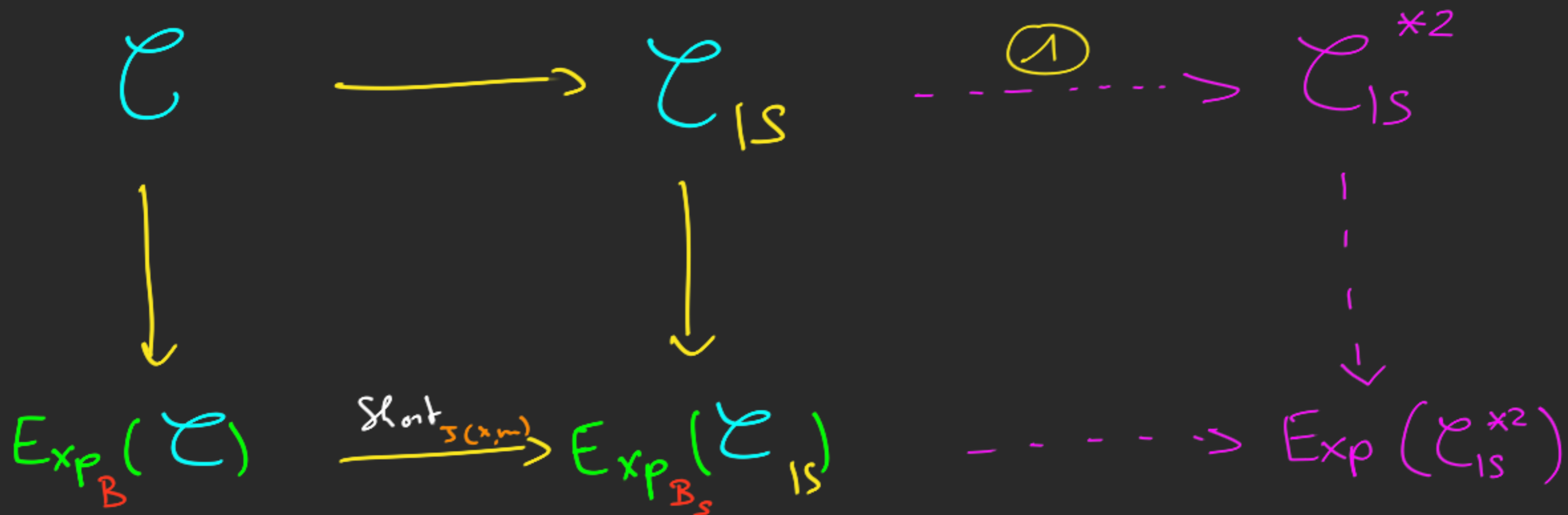
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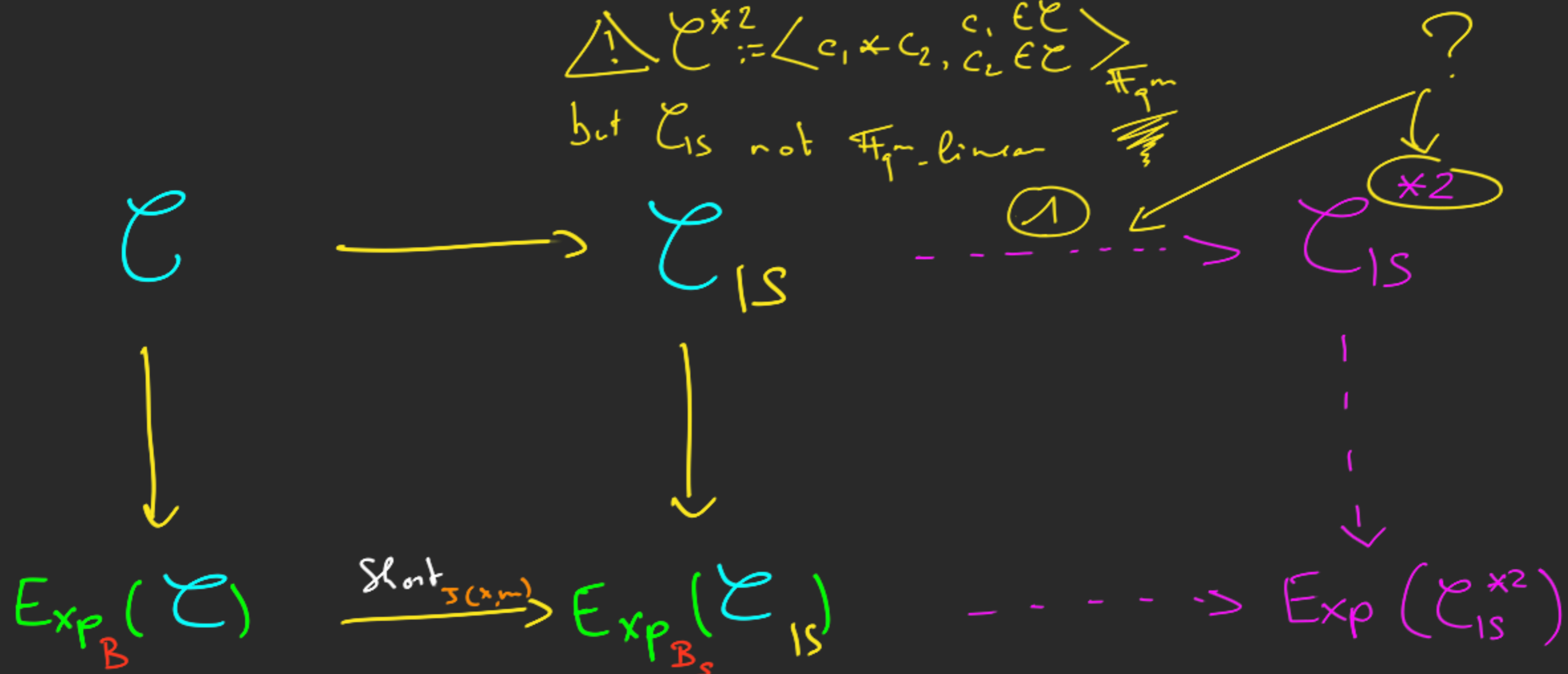


$B = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$ \mathbb{F}_q -basis of \mathbb{F}_{q^n}

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Back to Subspace Subcodes.

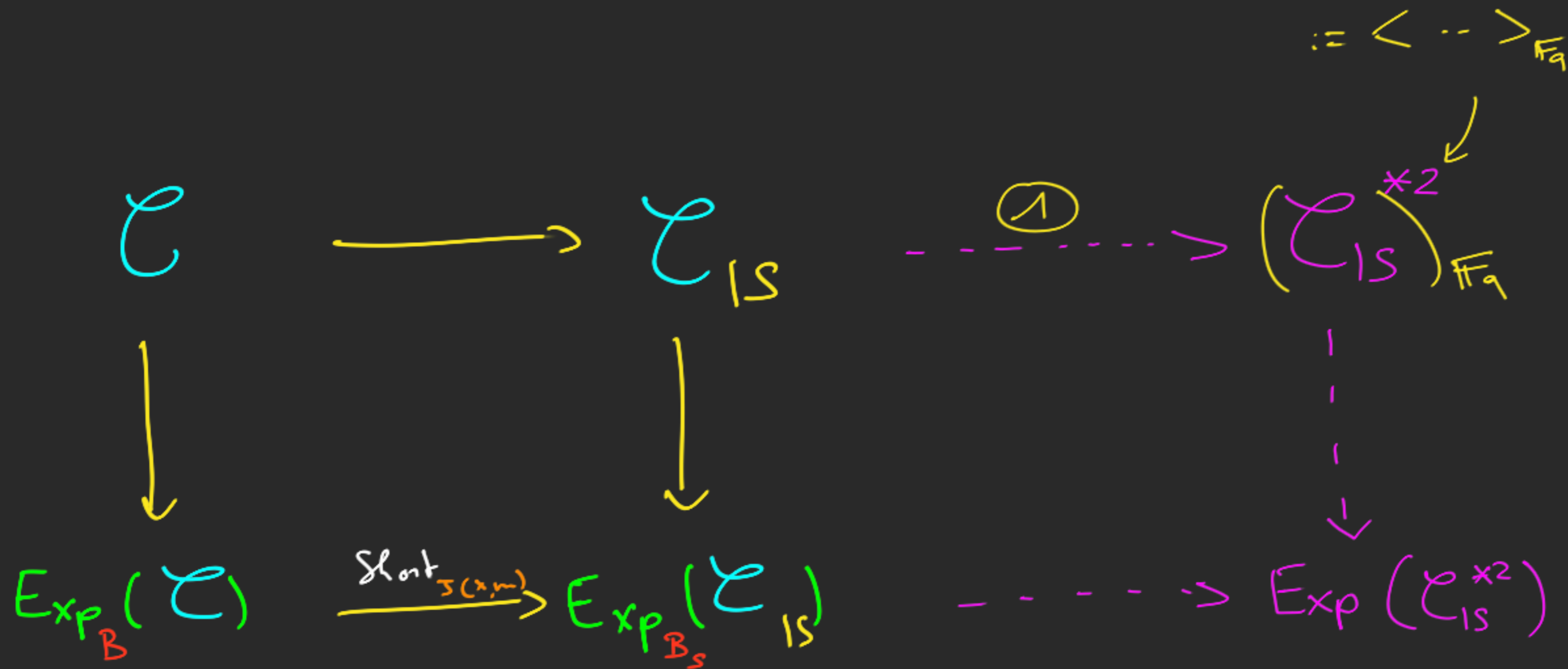
$\Delta \mathcal{C}^{*2} := \langle c_1 * c_2, c_2 \in \mathcal{C} \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_q^n}$
 but \mathcal{C} is not \mathbb{F}_q -linear



$B = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$ \mathbb{F}_q -basis of \mathbb{F}_q^n

st. $S = \langle b_1, \dots, b_s \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_q}$

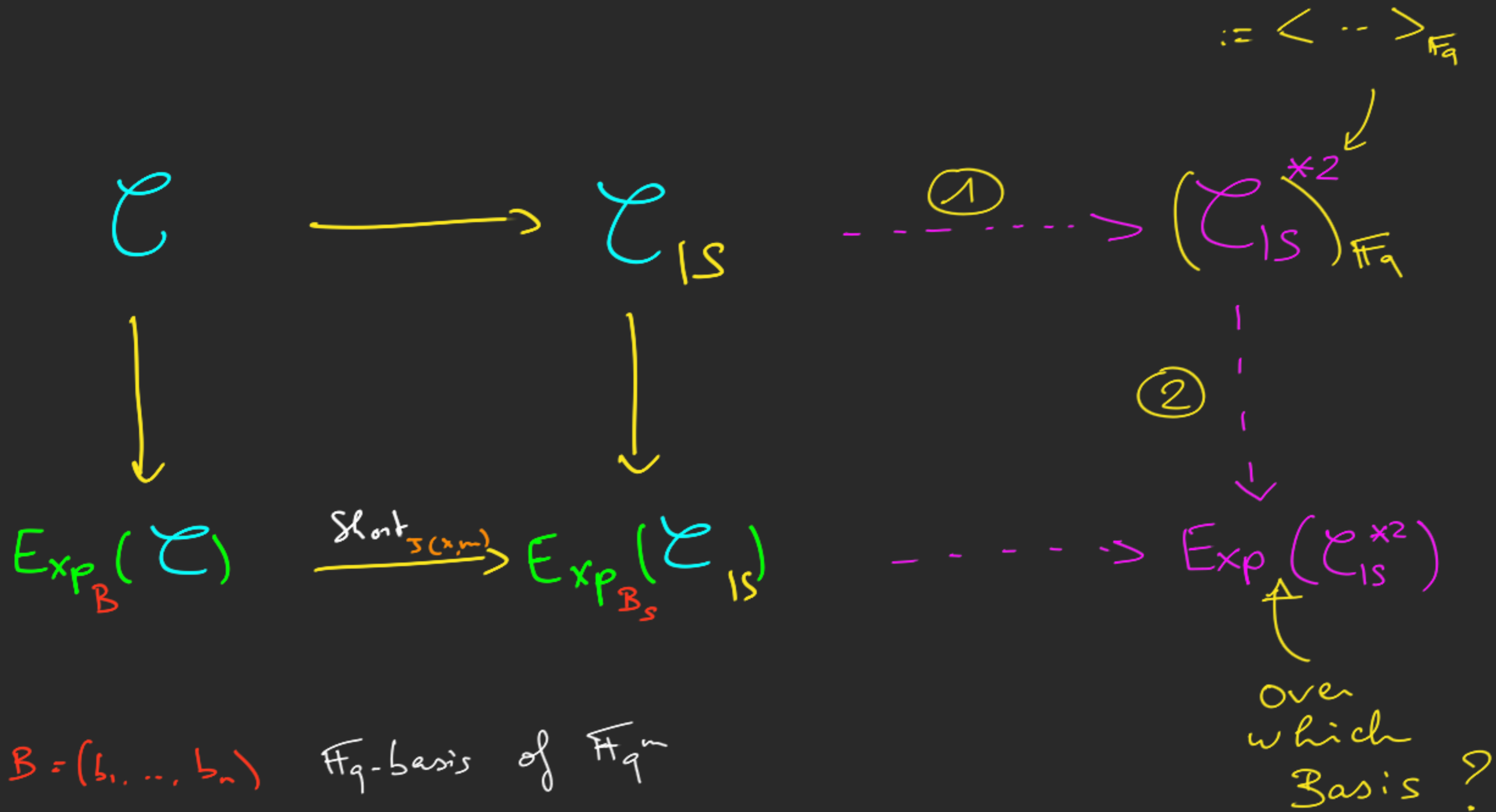
Back to Subspace Subcodes.



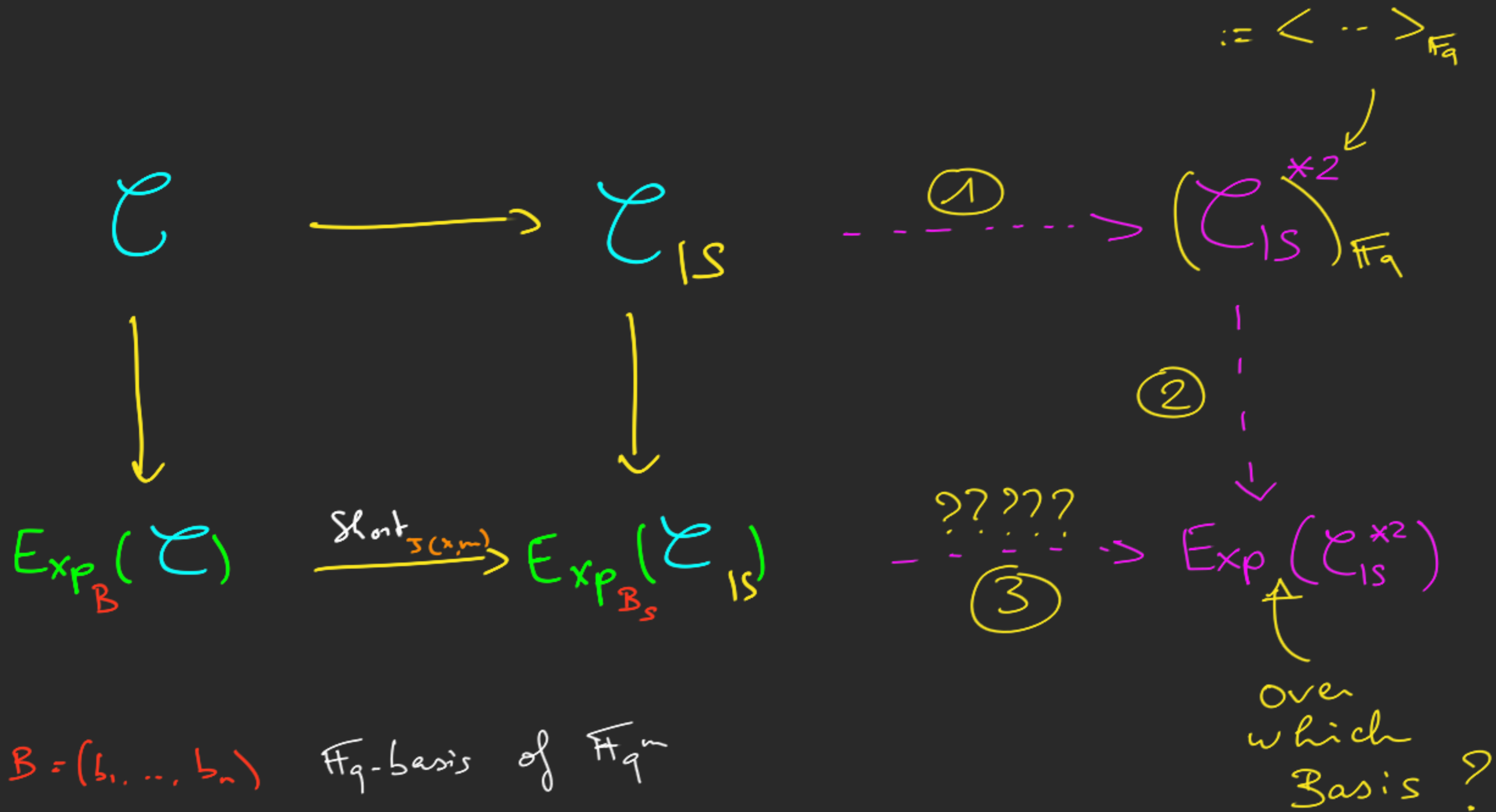
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From now on,

$$m = 3$$

$$\lambda = 2$$

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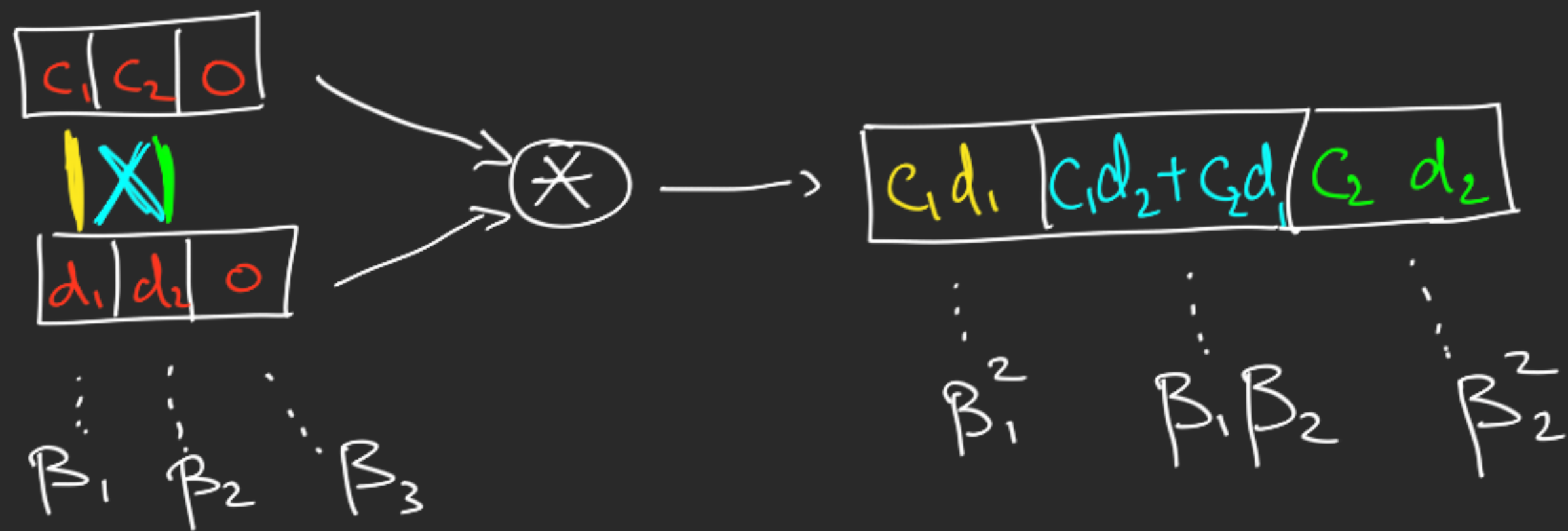
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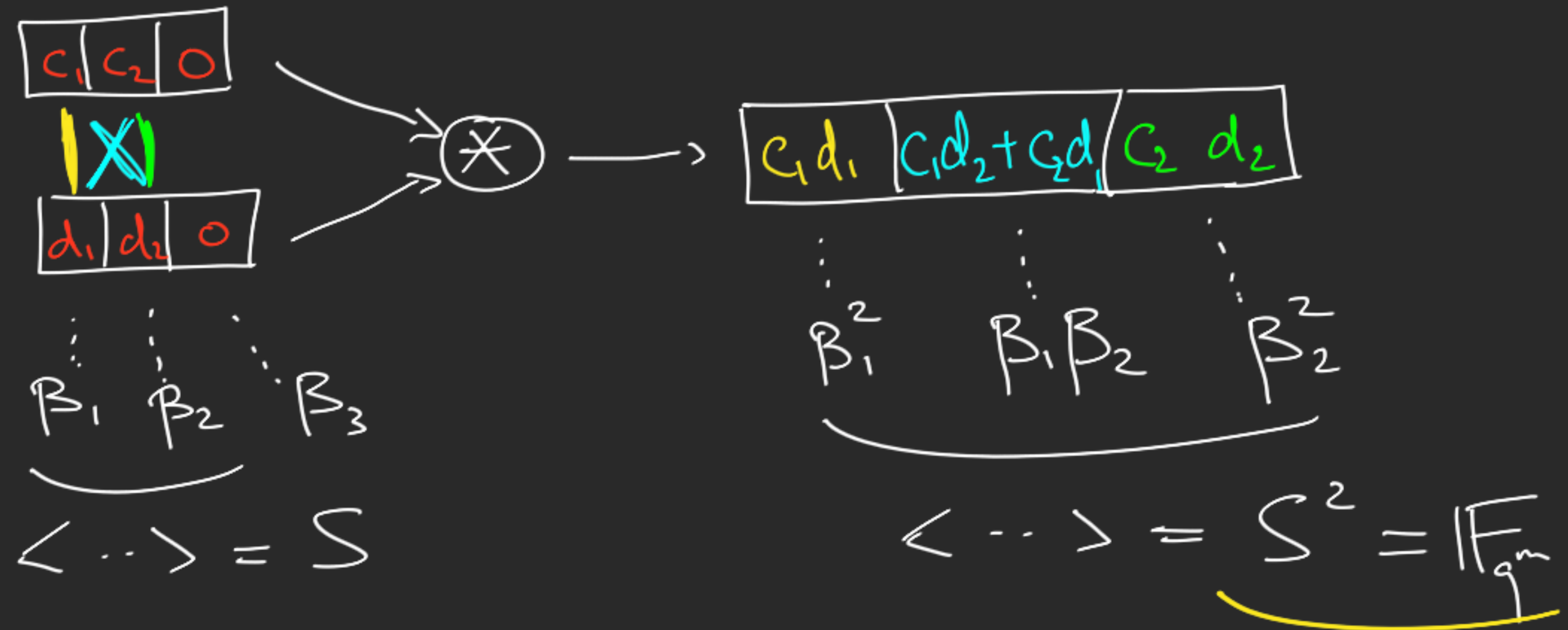
$$\text{Exp}_{(\beta_1^2, \beta_1 \beta_2, \beta_2^2)}(c * d) =$$

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Twisted star-product:

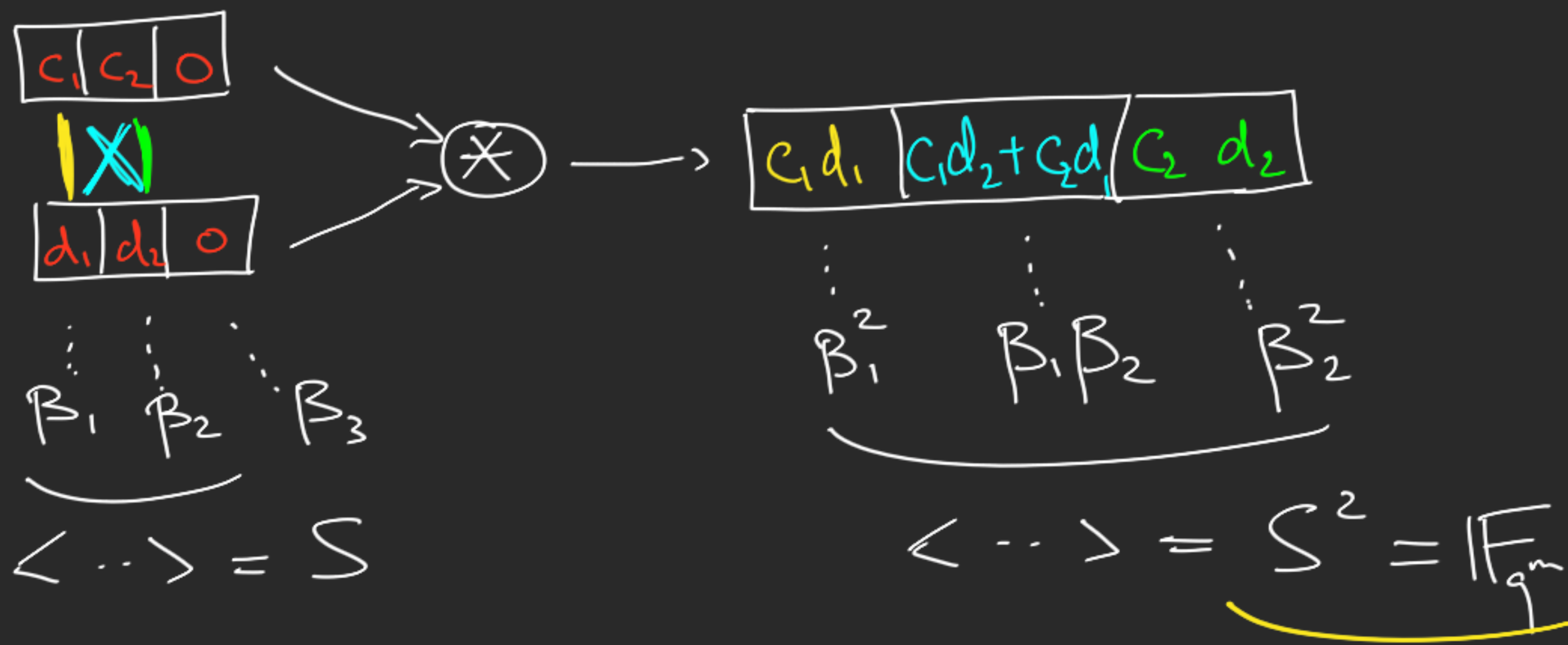


Twisted star-product:



Always true
for $\lambda=2, m=3$

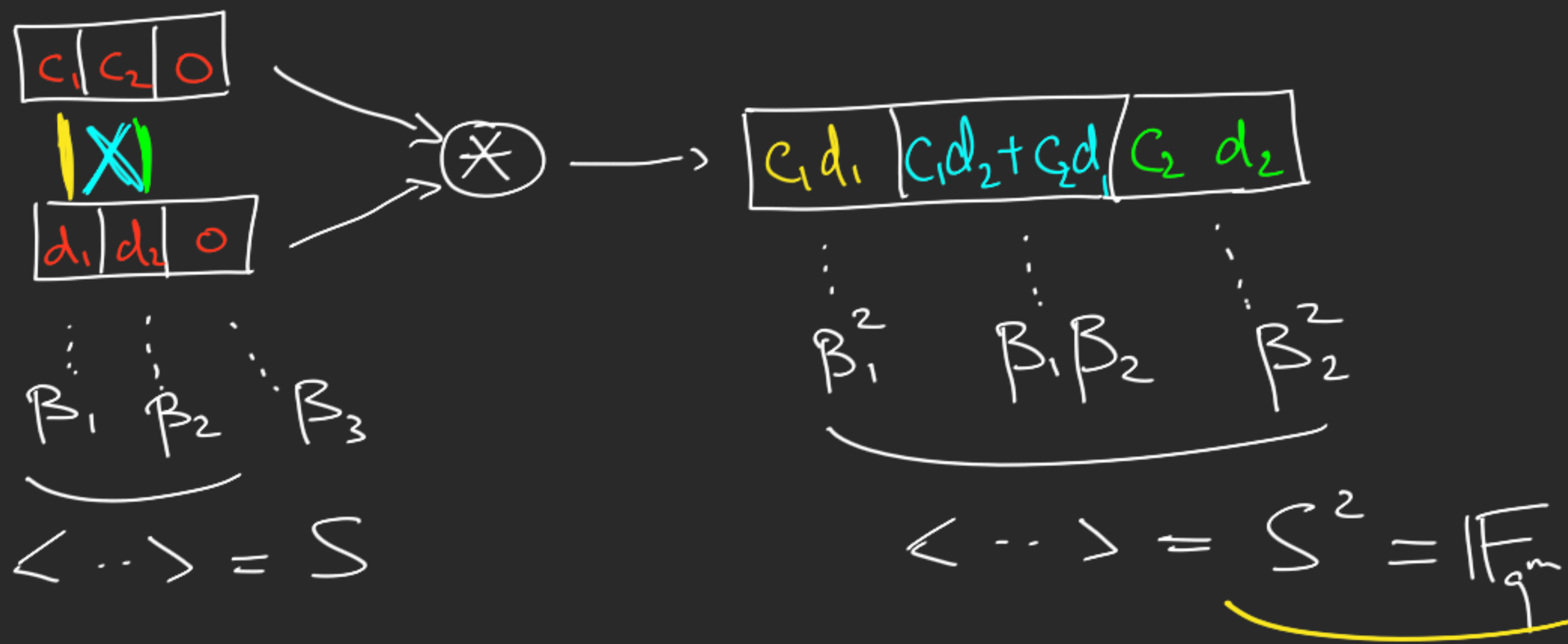
Twisted star-product:



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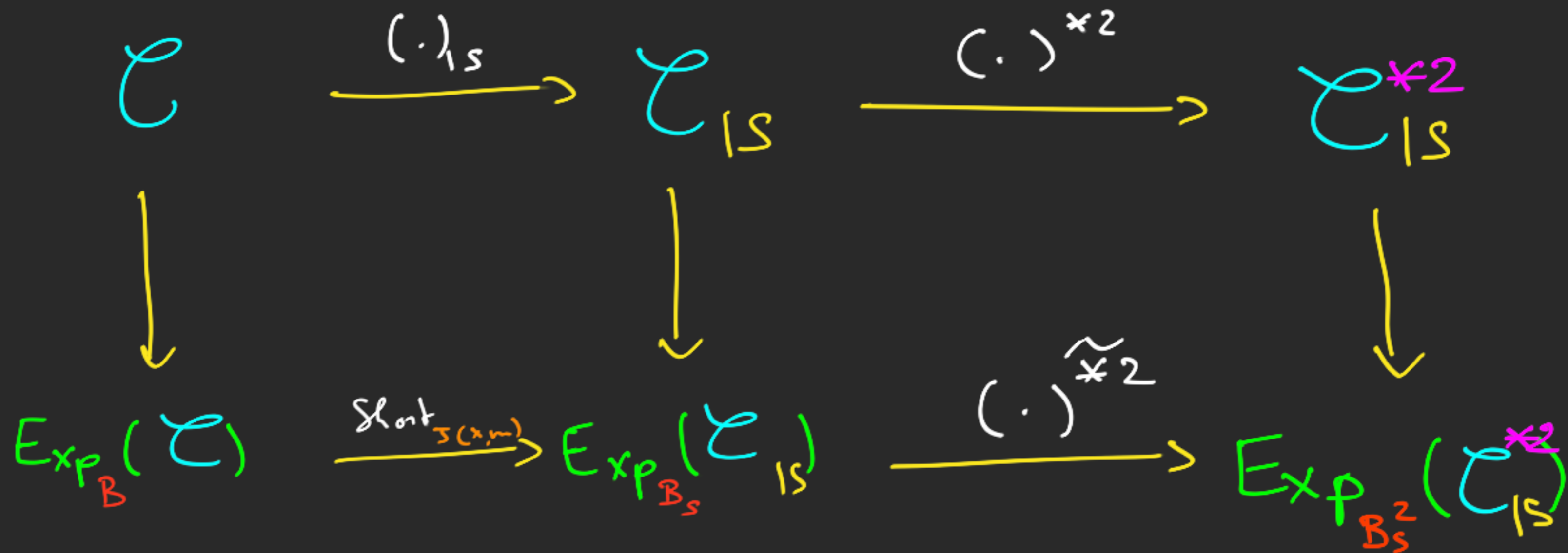


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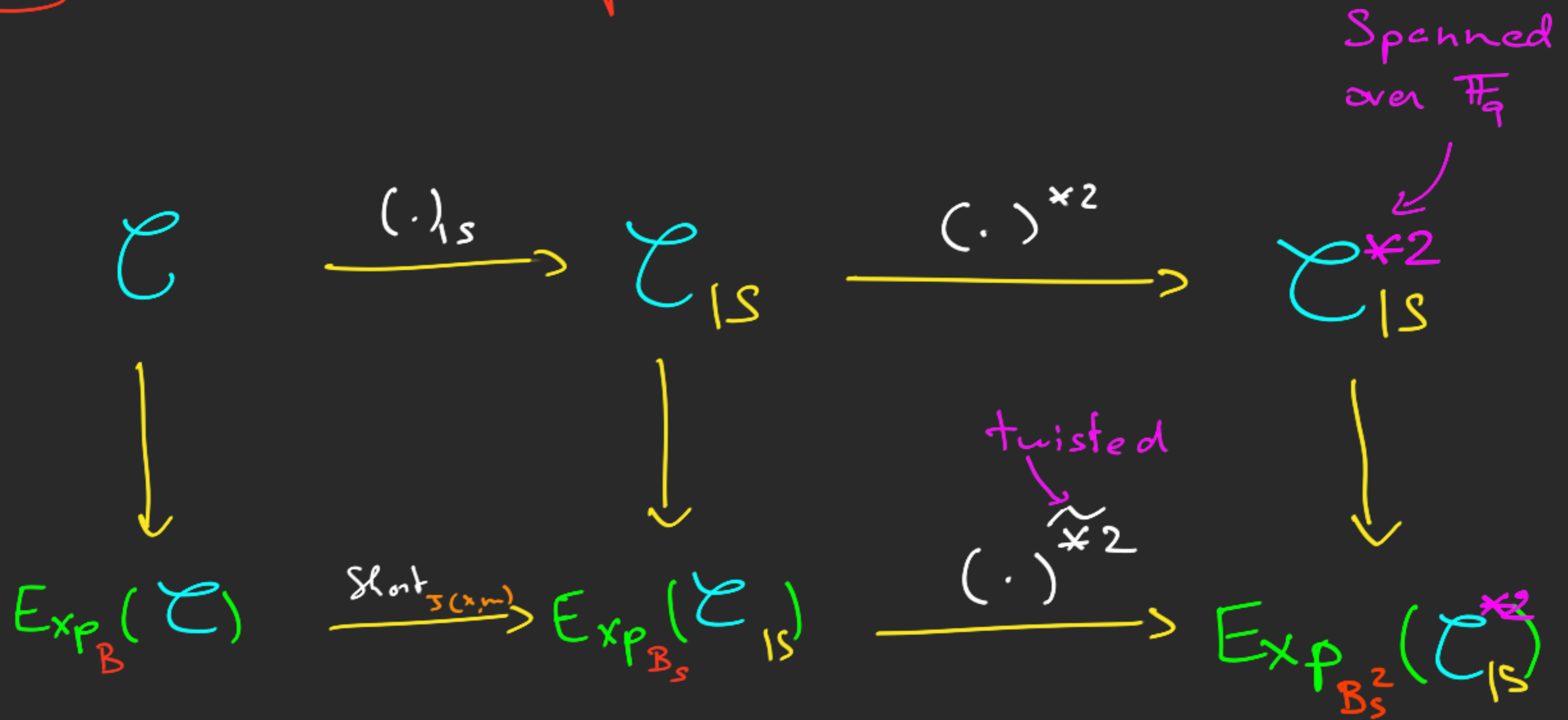
Back to Subspace Subcodes.



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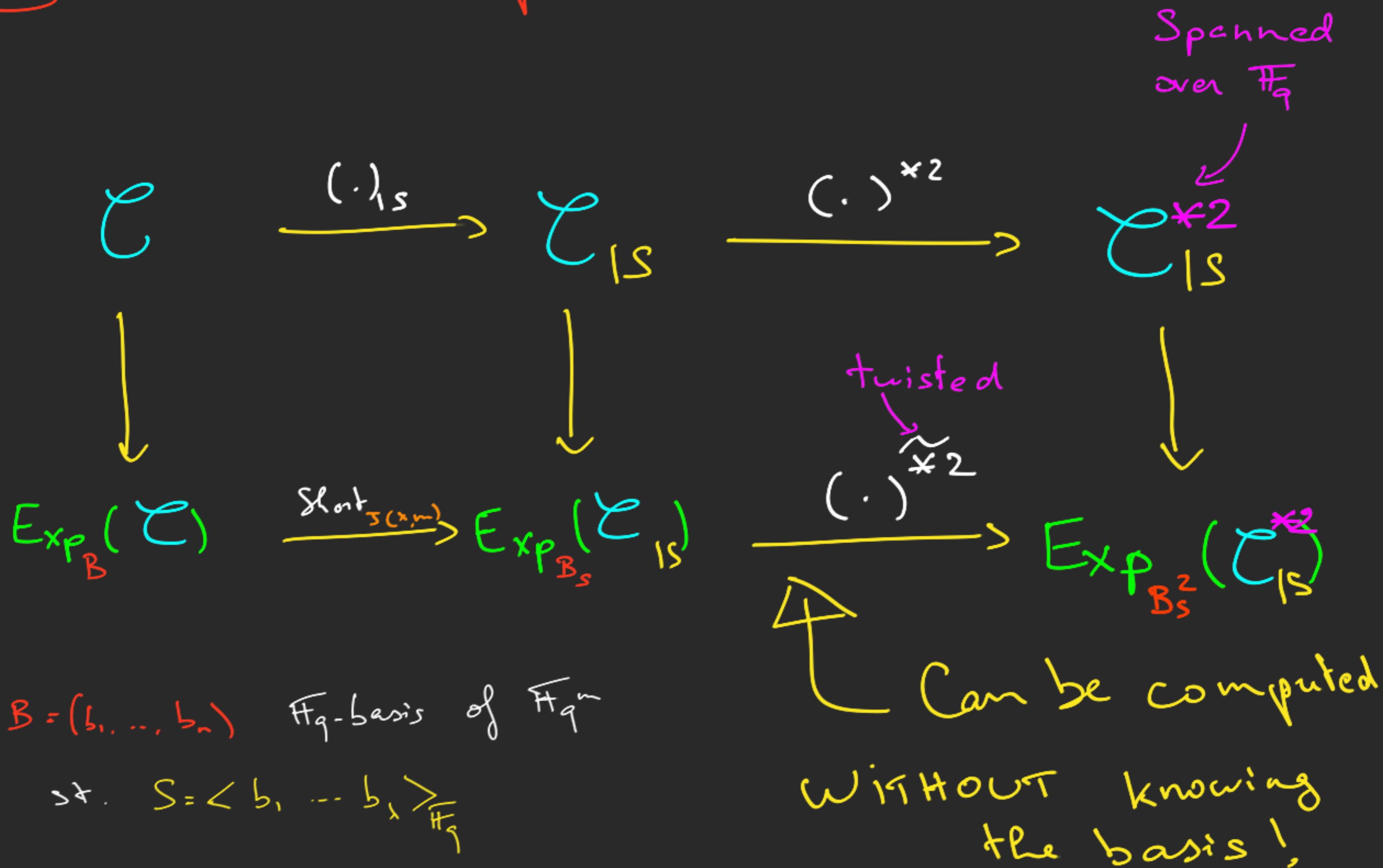
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Square of Subspace Subcodes



Square of Subspace Subcodes

$$\rightarrow \left(\mathcal{C}_{1S} \right)^{\times 2} \subseteq \mathcal{C}^{\times 2}$$

Spanned over \mathbb{F}_q (pointing to $\left(\mathcal{C}_{1S} \right)^{\times 2}$)

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Square of Subspace Subcodes

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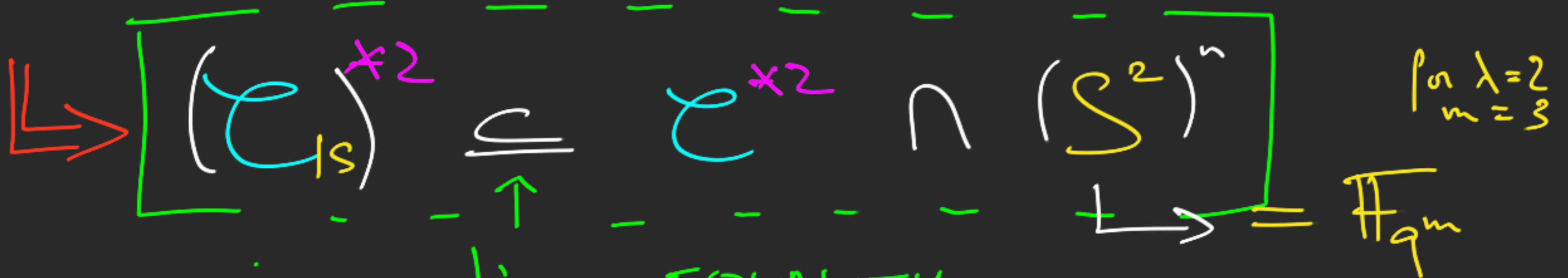
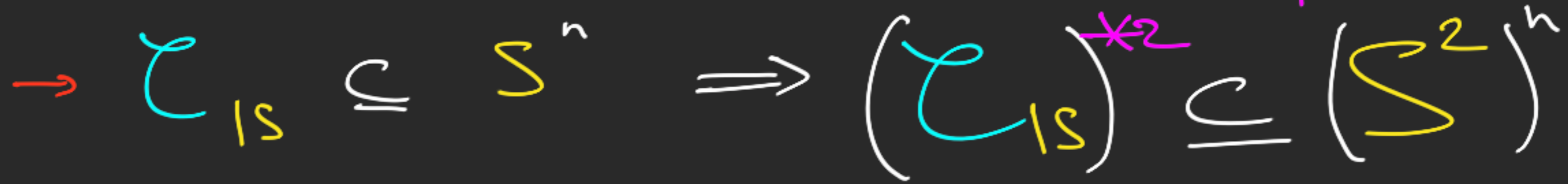
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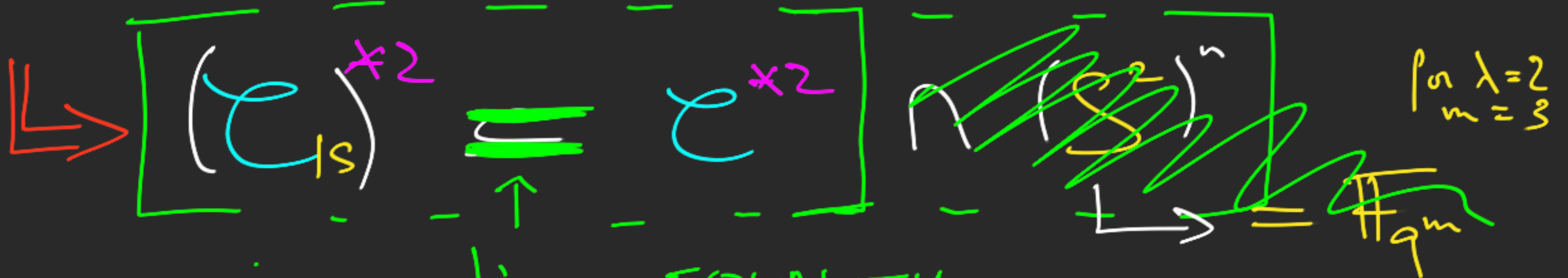
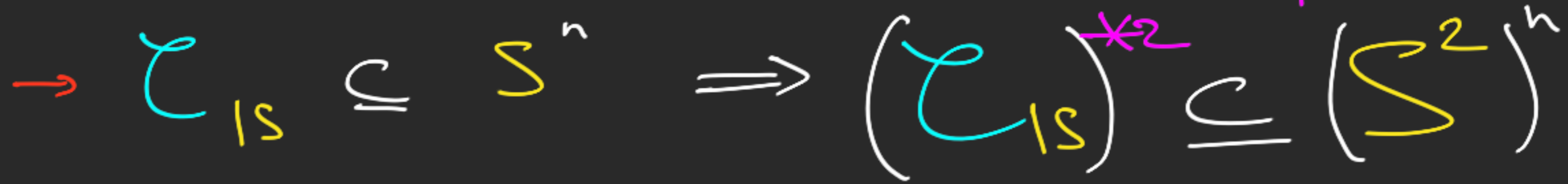
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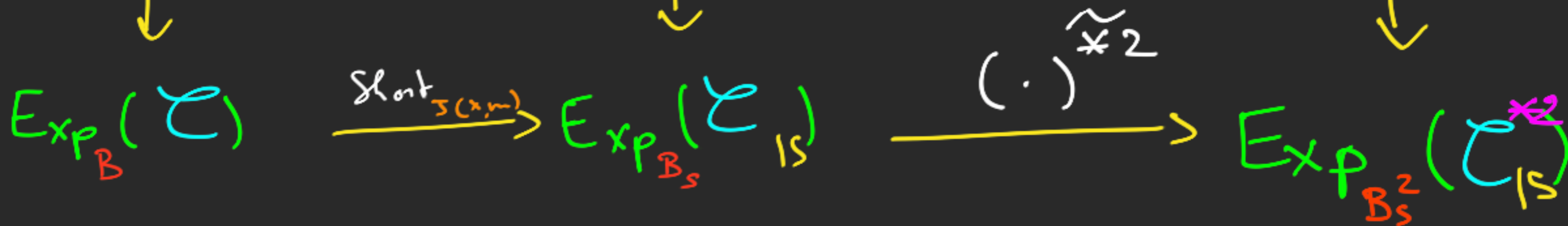


in practice: EQUALITY

Back to Subspace Subcodes.

$(\cdot)^{\times 2}$

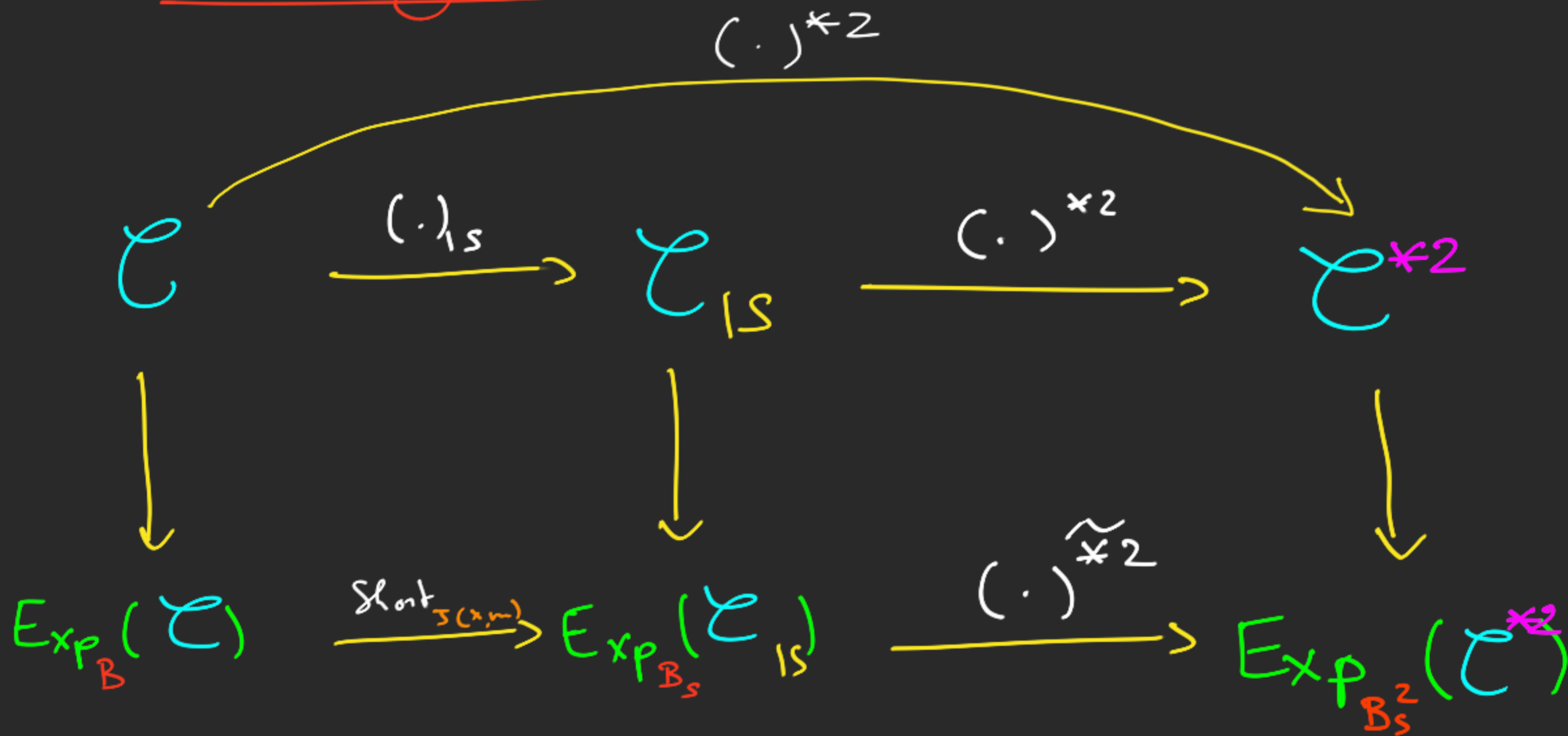
"usual" square over \mathbb{F}_q^m !



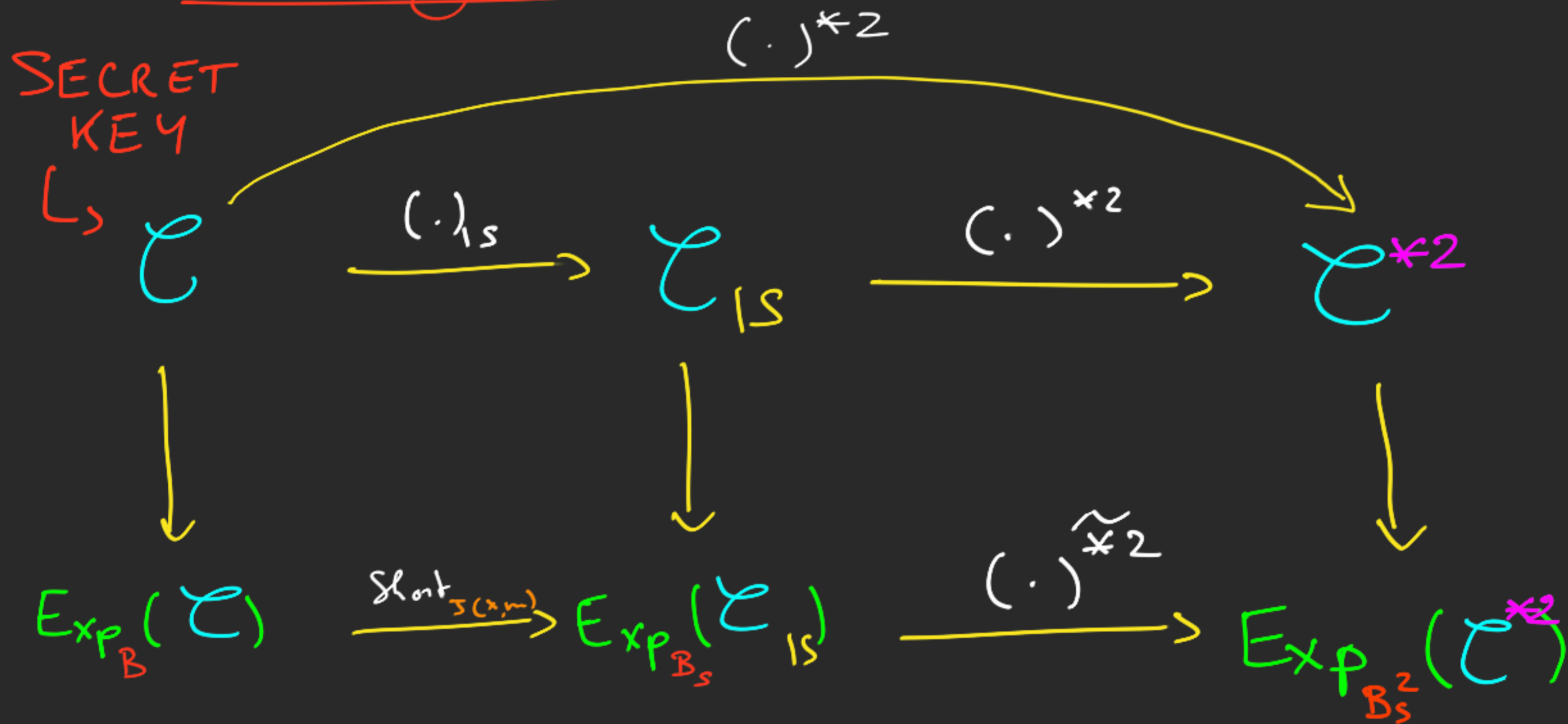
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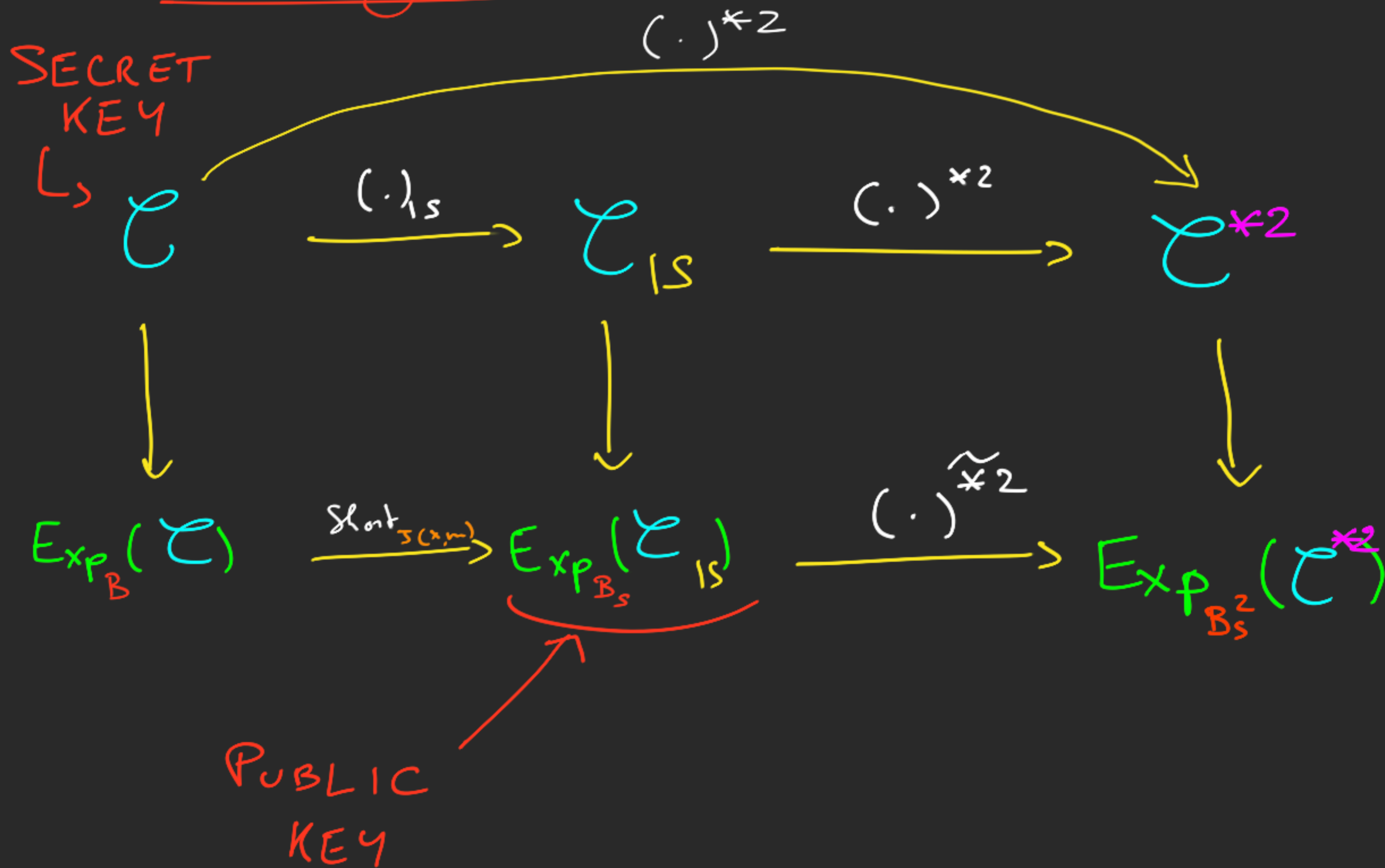
A Distinguisher



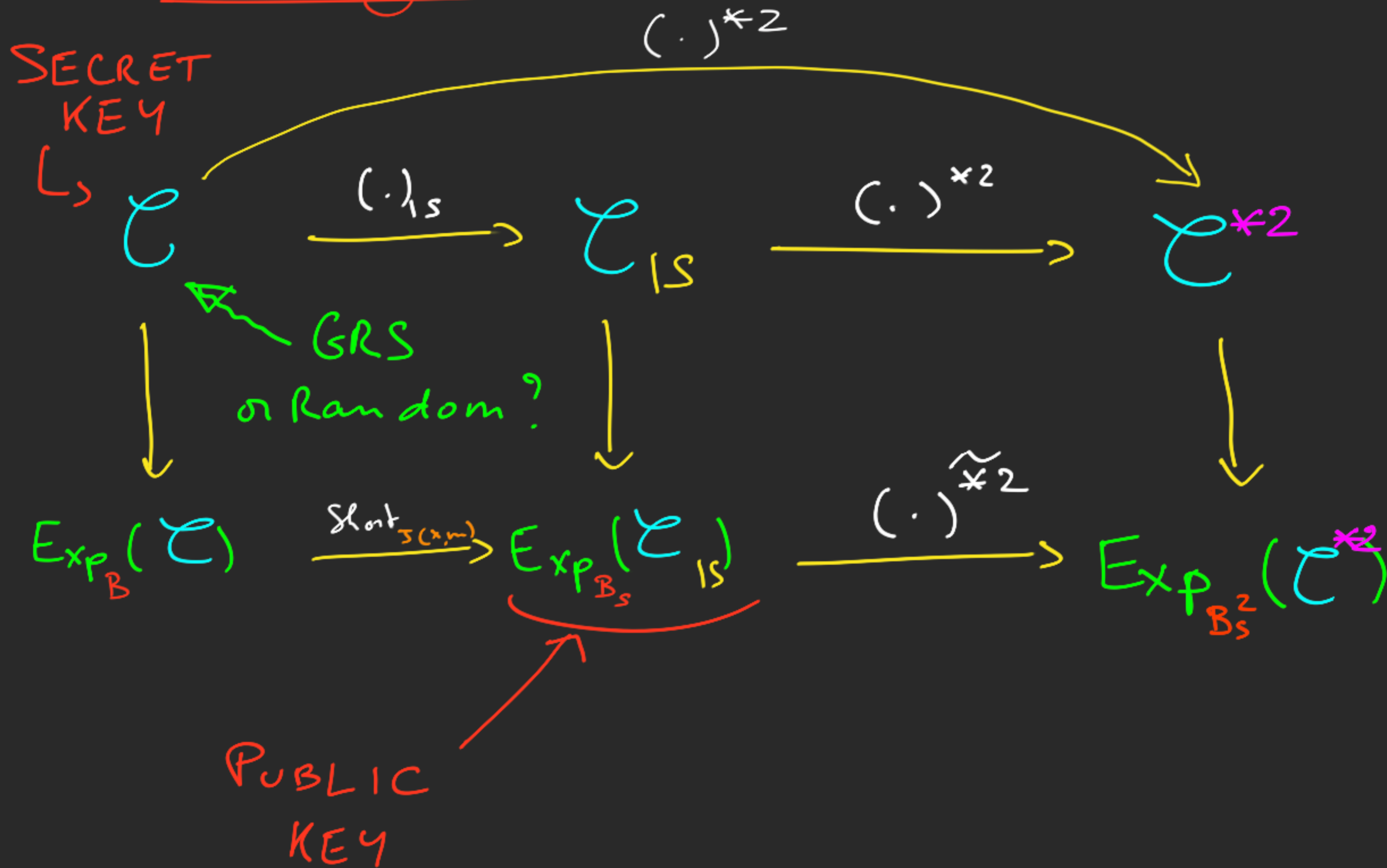
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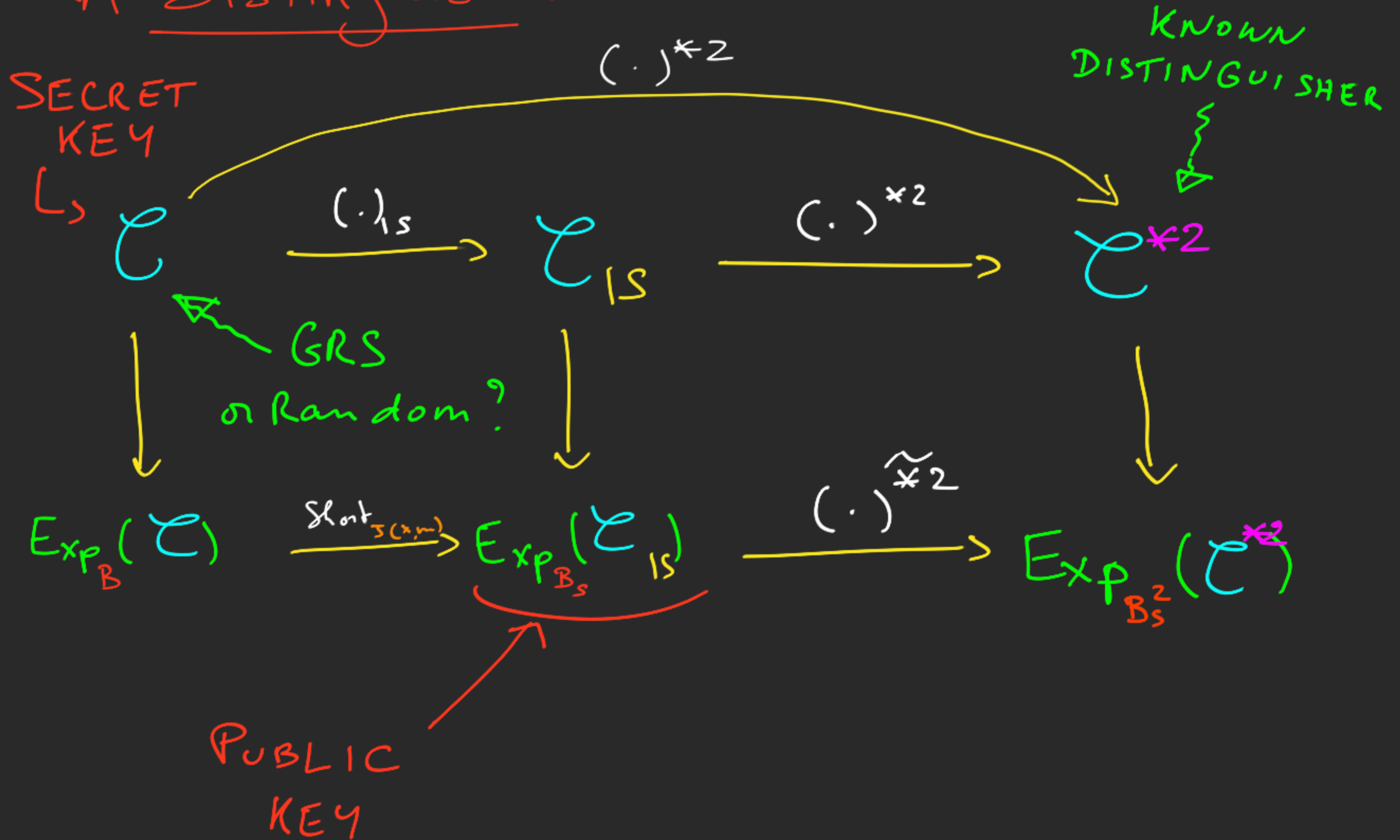
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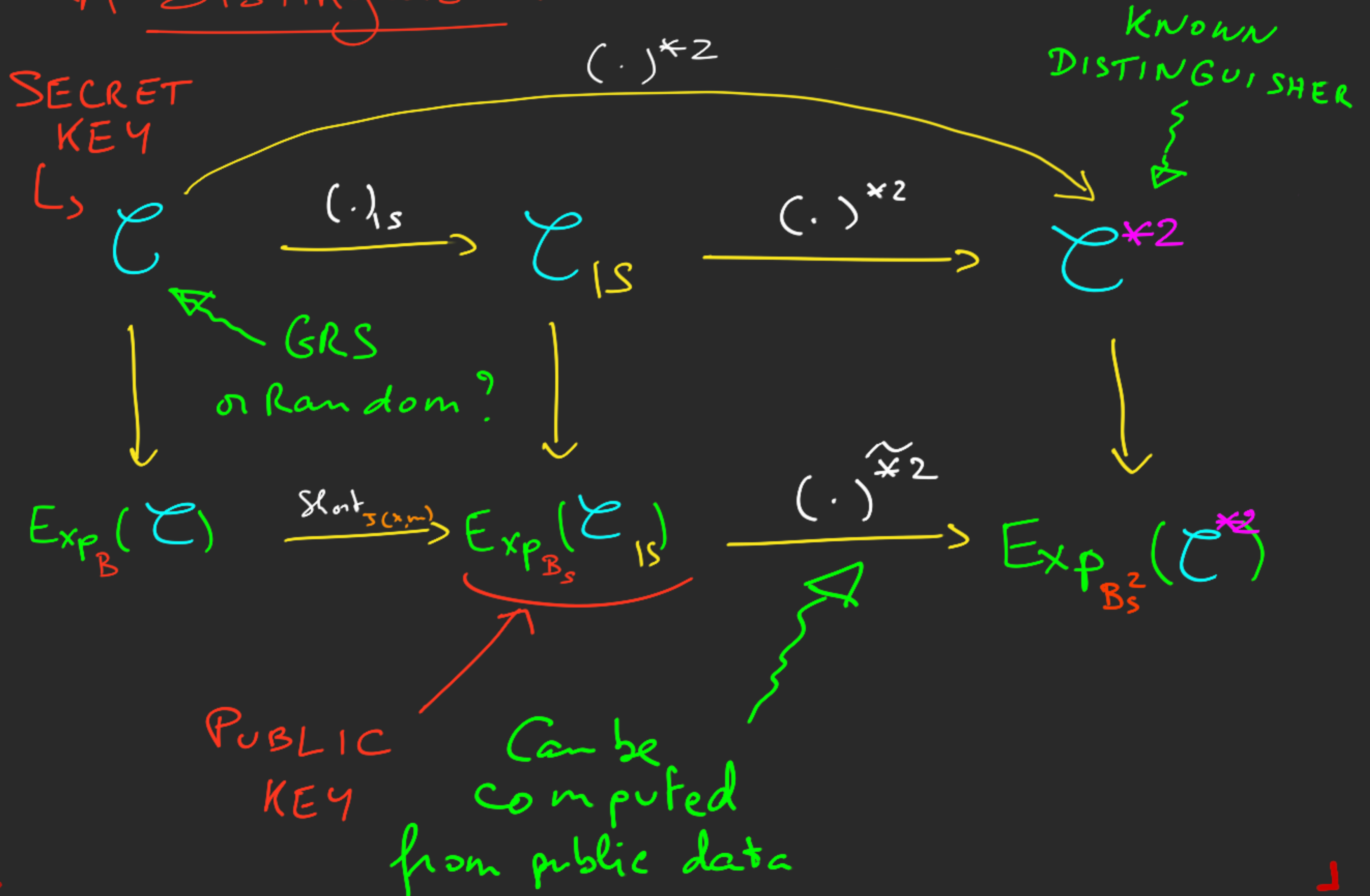
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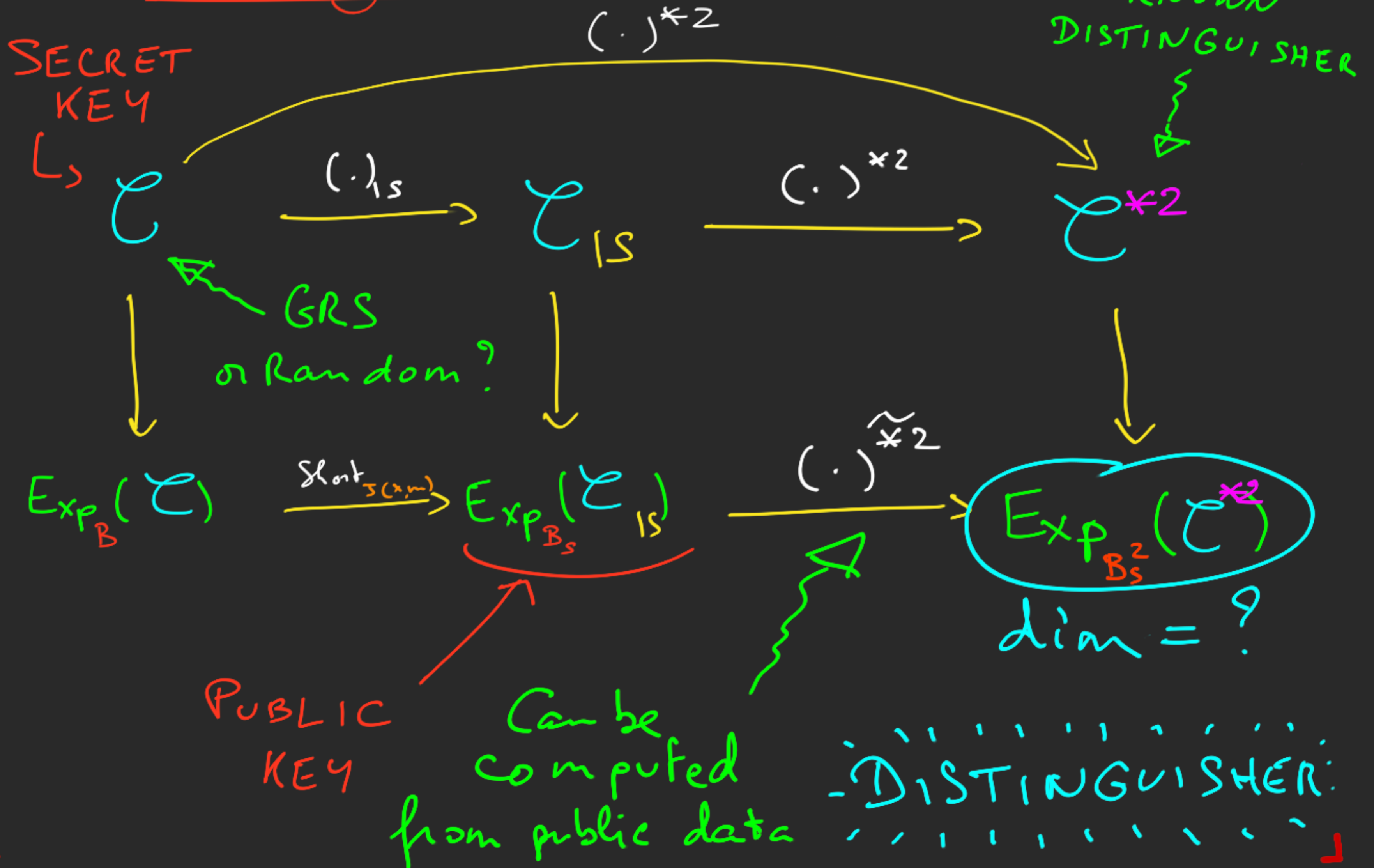
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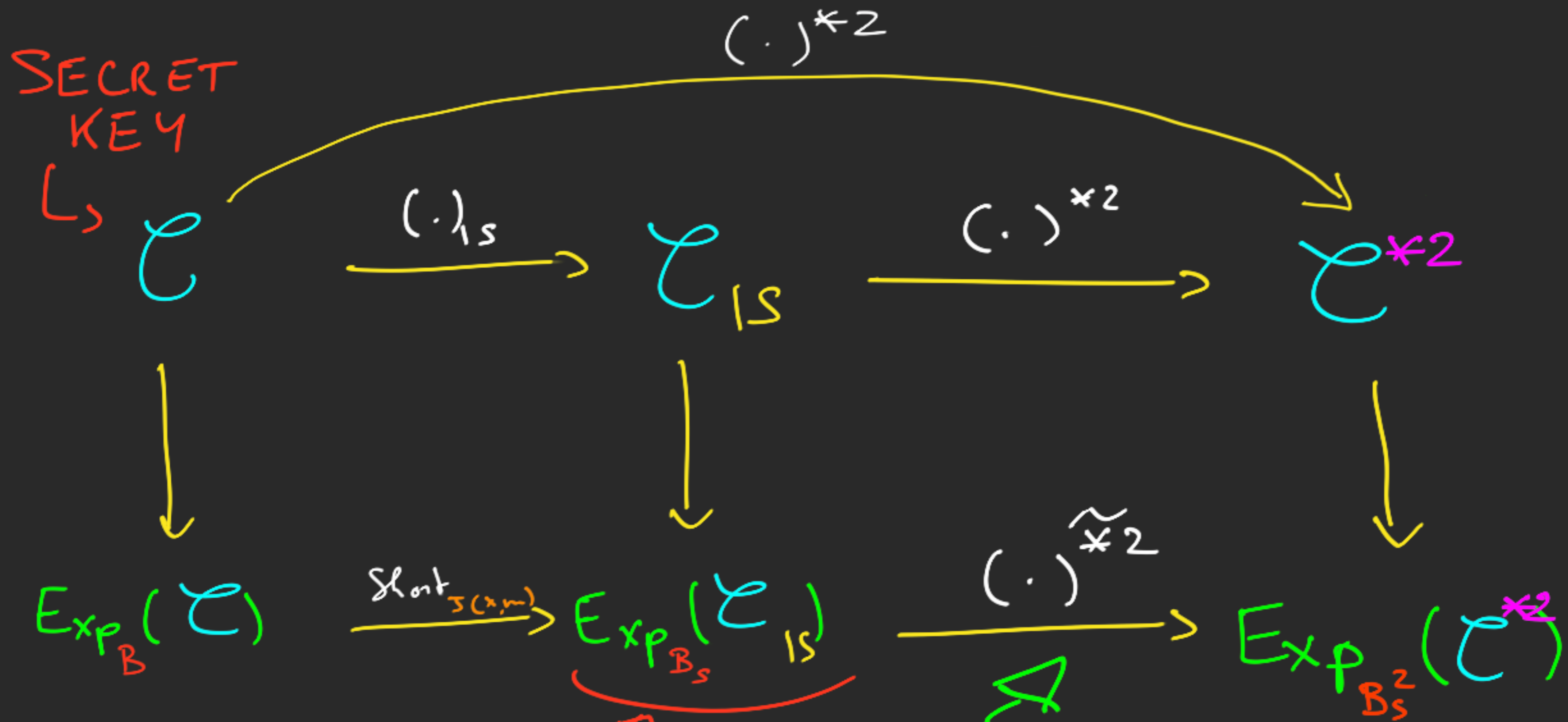
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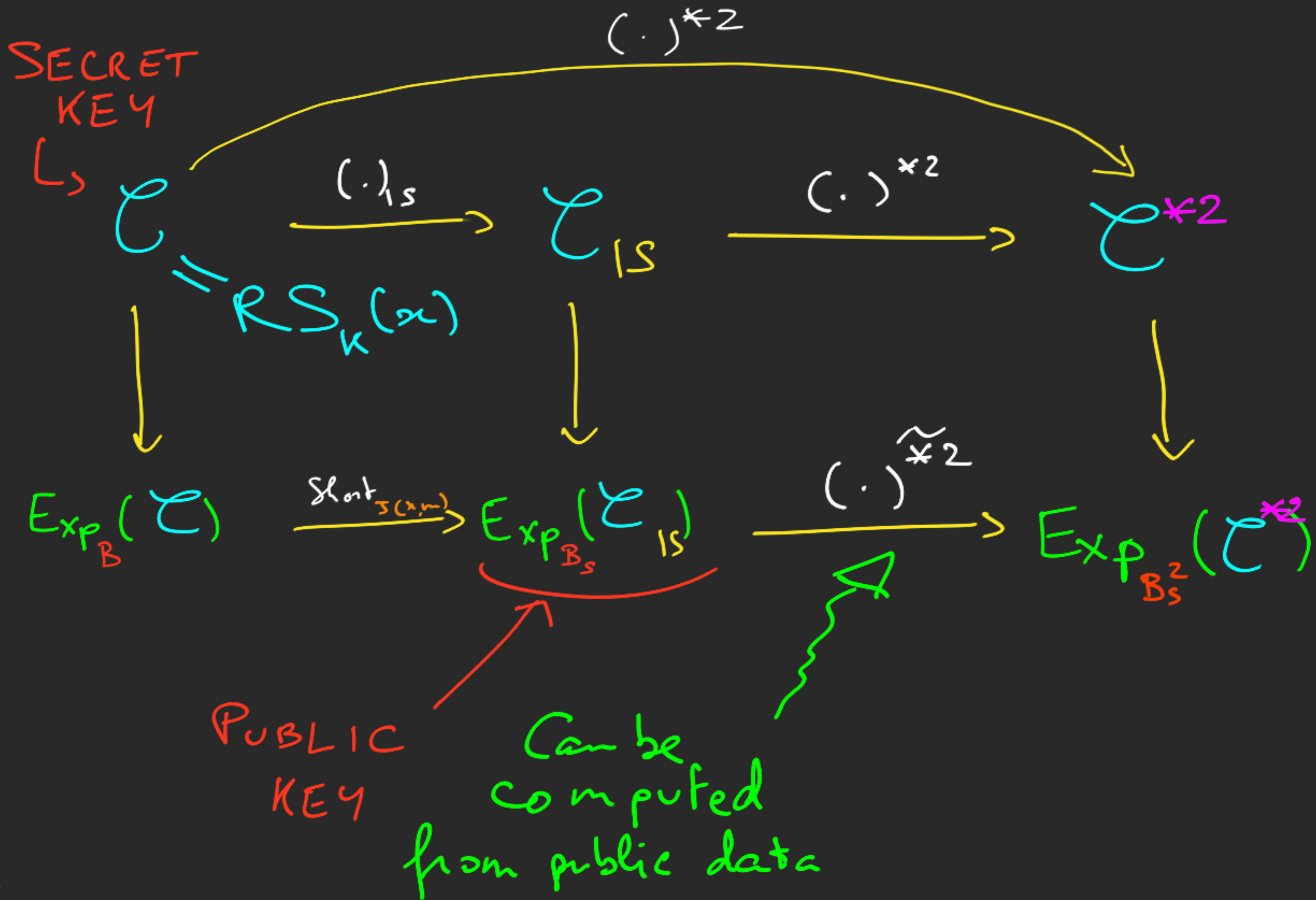
The Attack



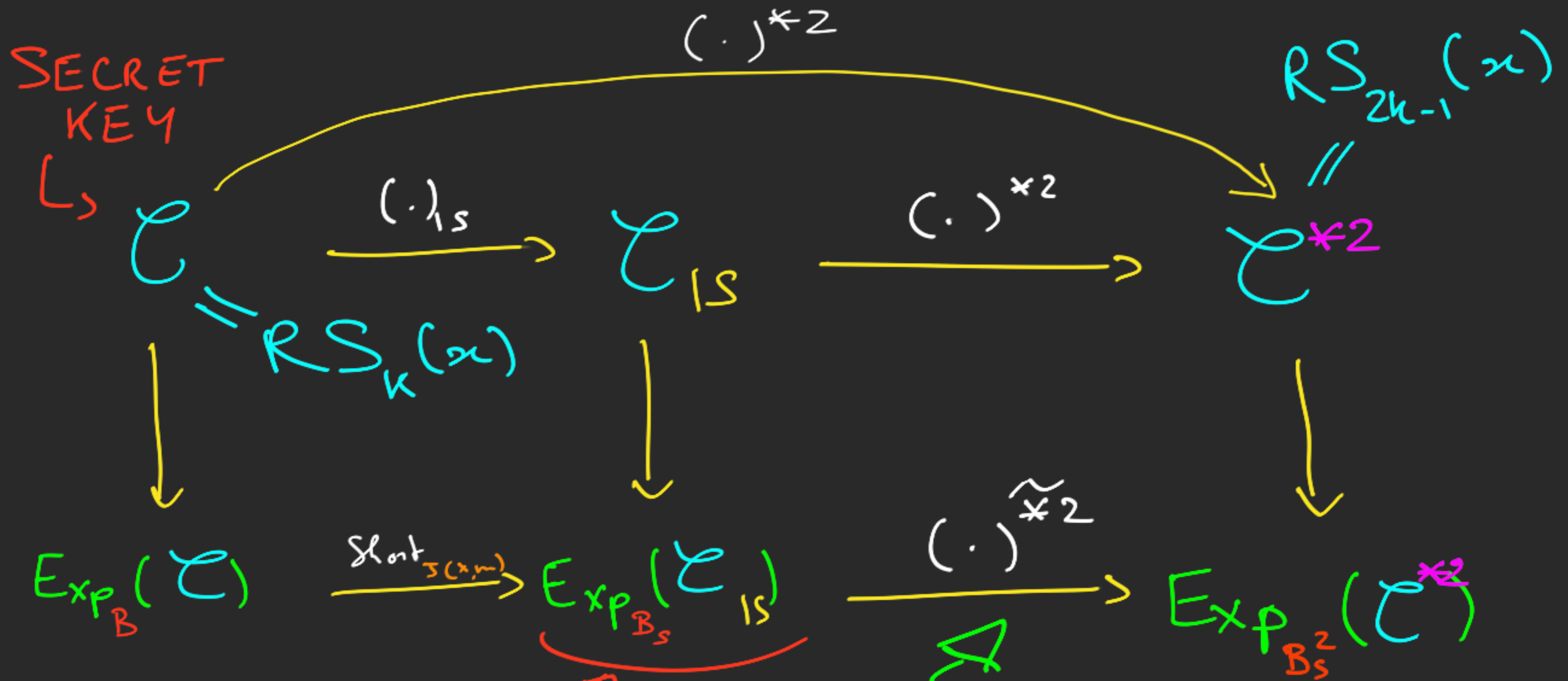
PUBLIC KEY

Can be computed from public data

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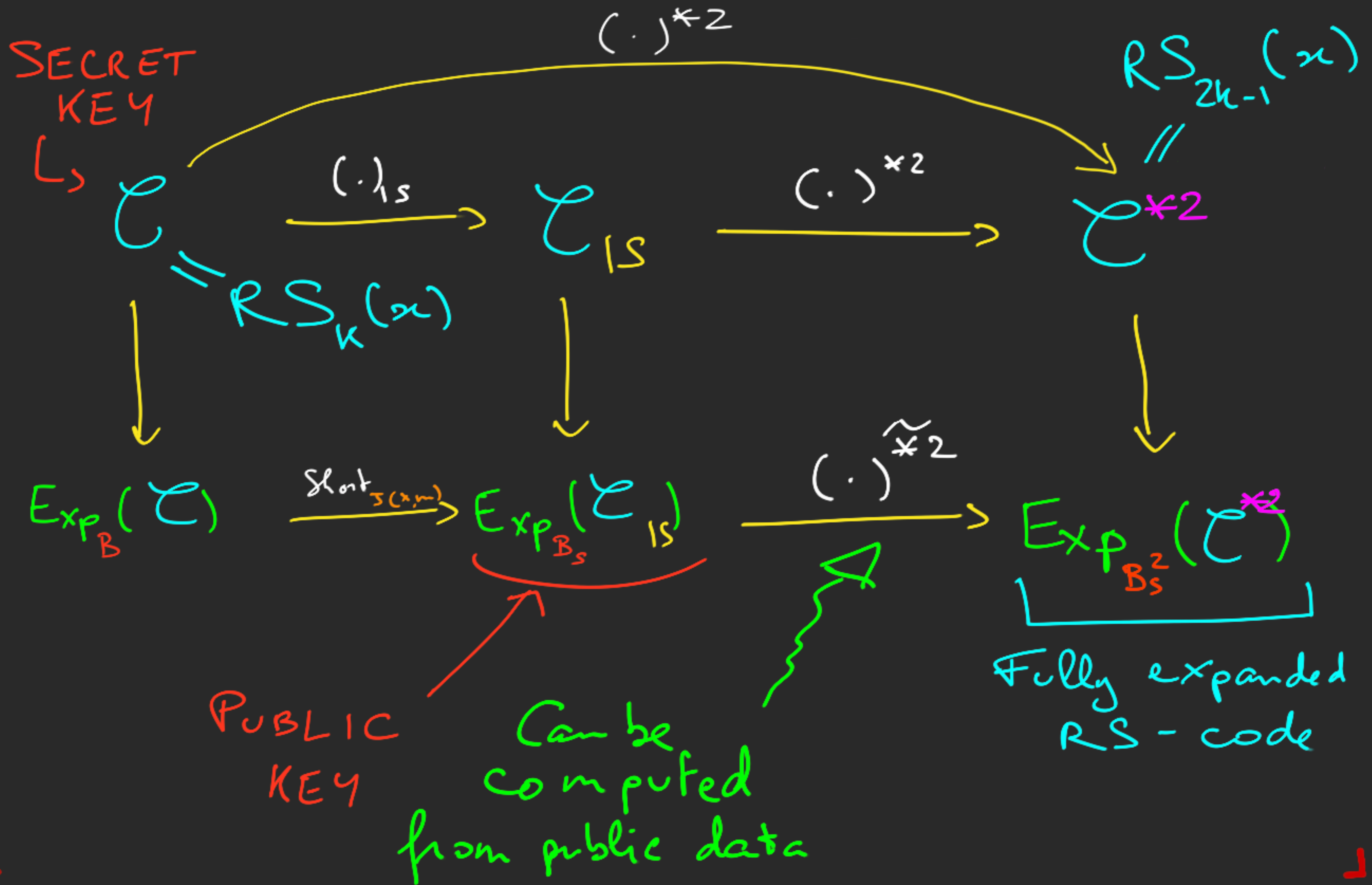
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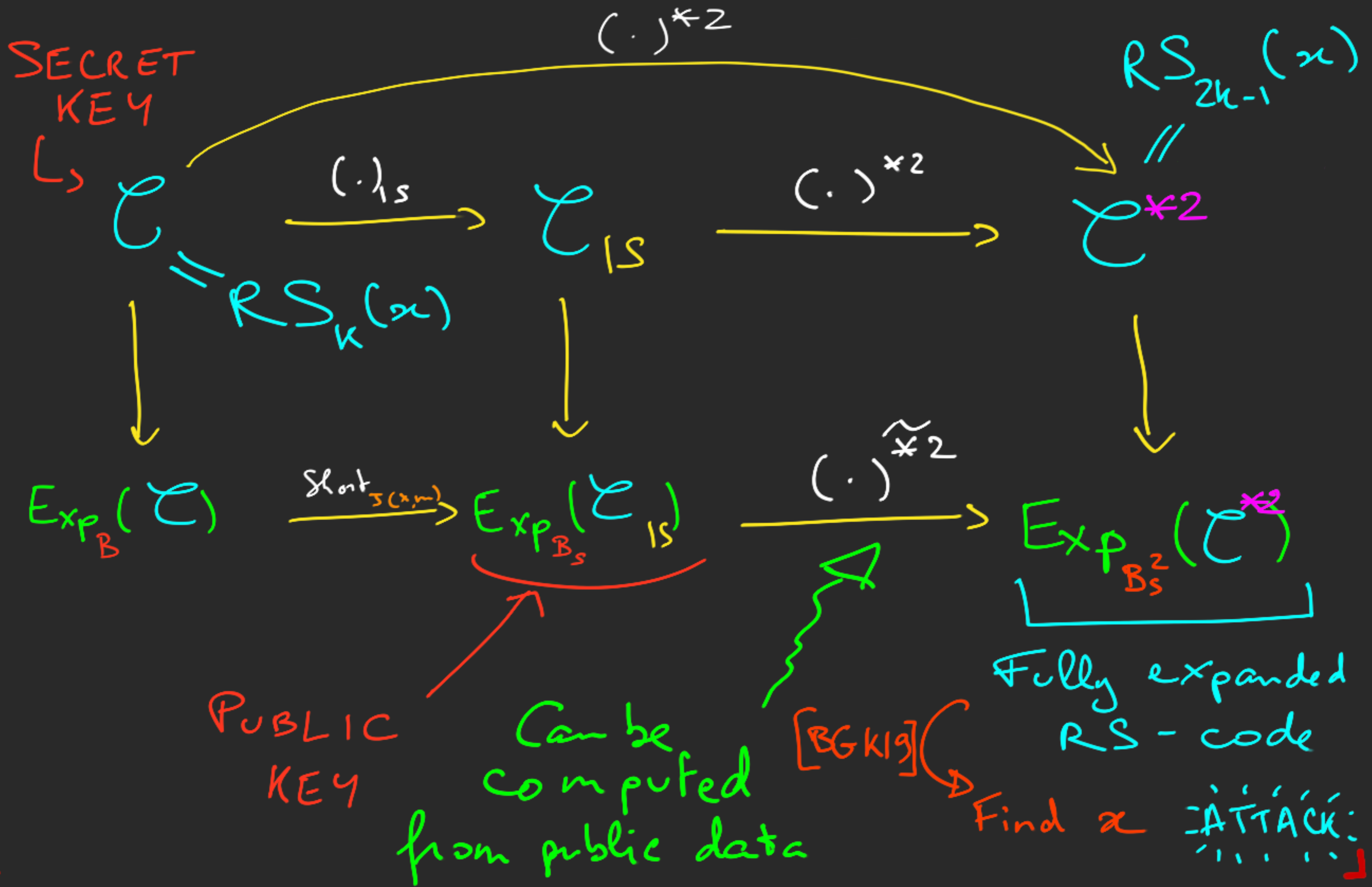
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The Attack



Generalisation to other values m, λ ?

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Important properties of the $\begin{cases} m=3 \\ \lambda=2 \end{cases}$ case:

① $S^2 = \mathbb{F}_{q^m}$

② $\binom{\lambda+1}{2} = m$
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If $\binom{\lambda+1}{2} > m$, B_s^2 (as defined) is not a basis of \mathbb{F}_{q^m}

\implies Shortening makes the basis decomposition unique.

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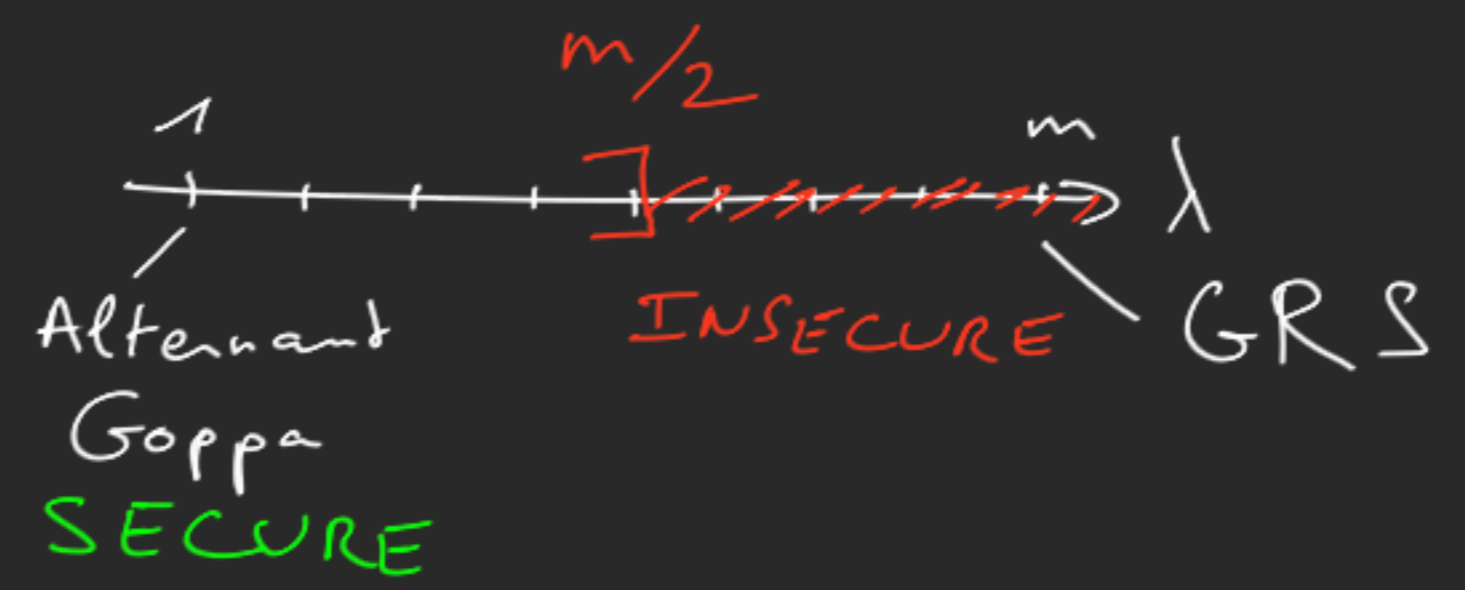
$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_q} \mathcal{L}_{IS} > 0 \implies k > n \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{m}\right) \geq \frac{n}{2}$$

[if $\lambda \leq \frac{n}{2}$

Hence $2k < n$. \square

Conclusion

→ New approach:



Conclusion



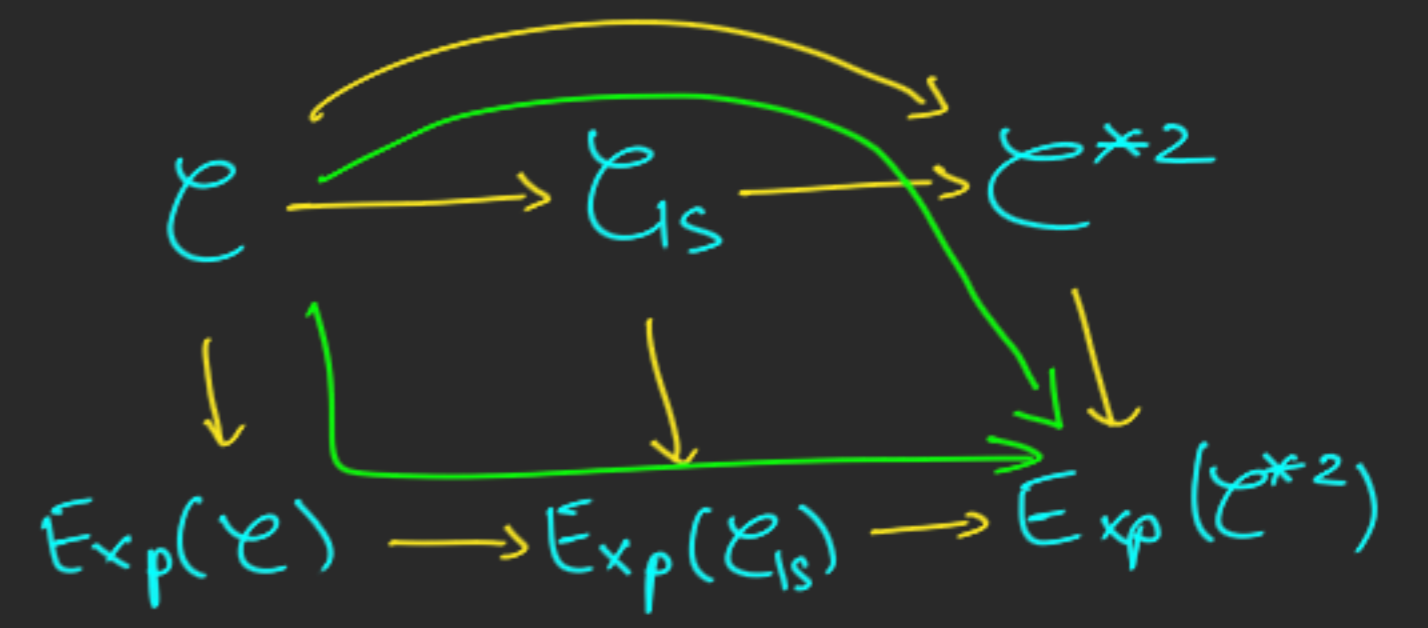
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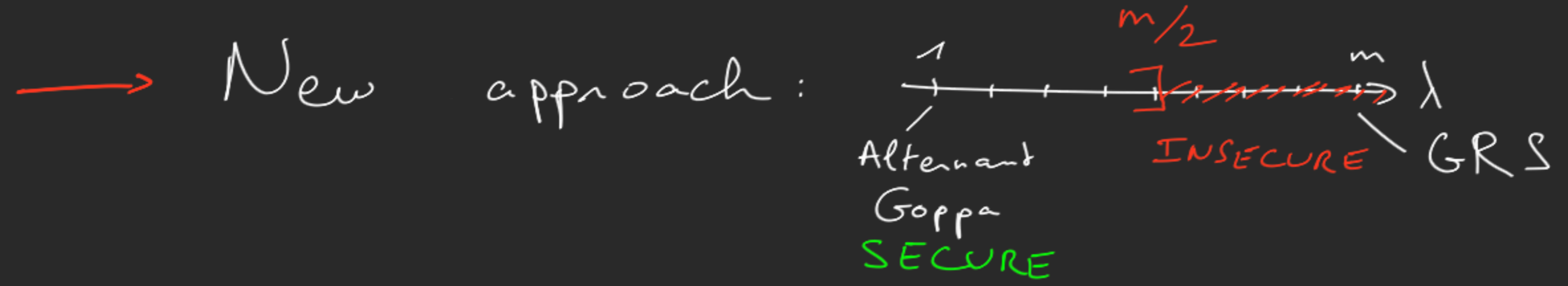


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→ Analysis,
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↳ DISTINGUISHER
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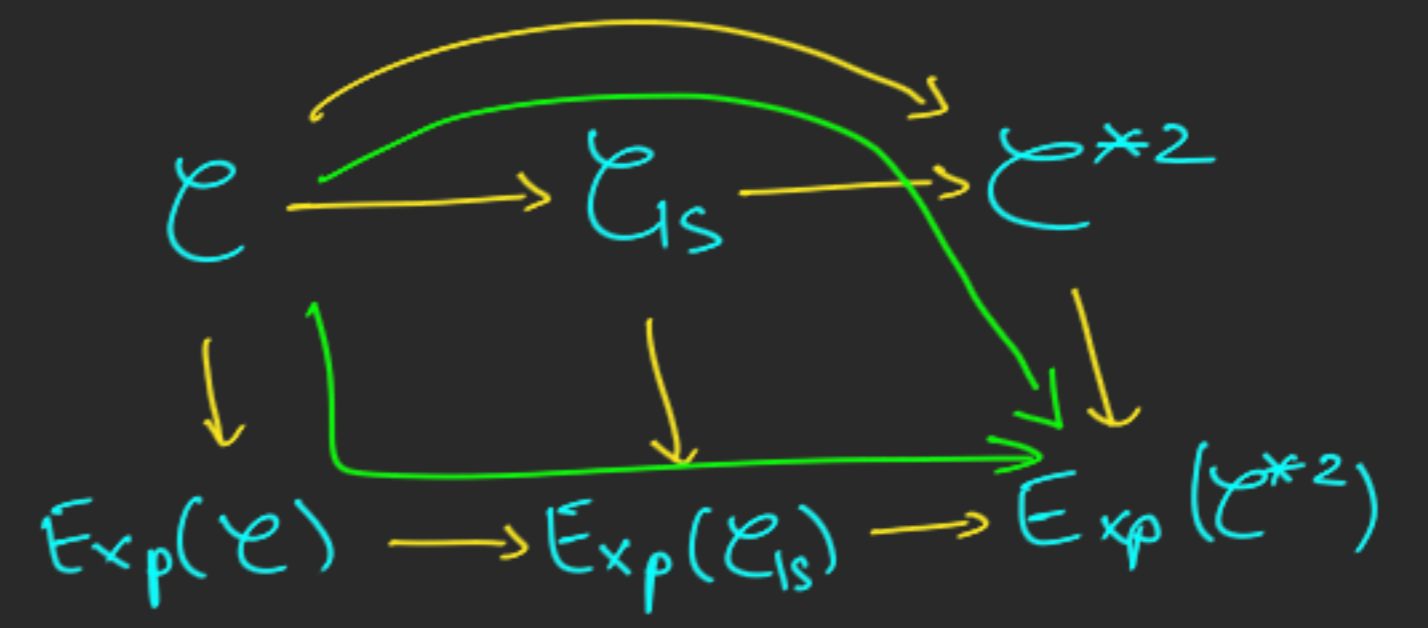


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Thank you for your attention!