

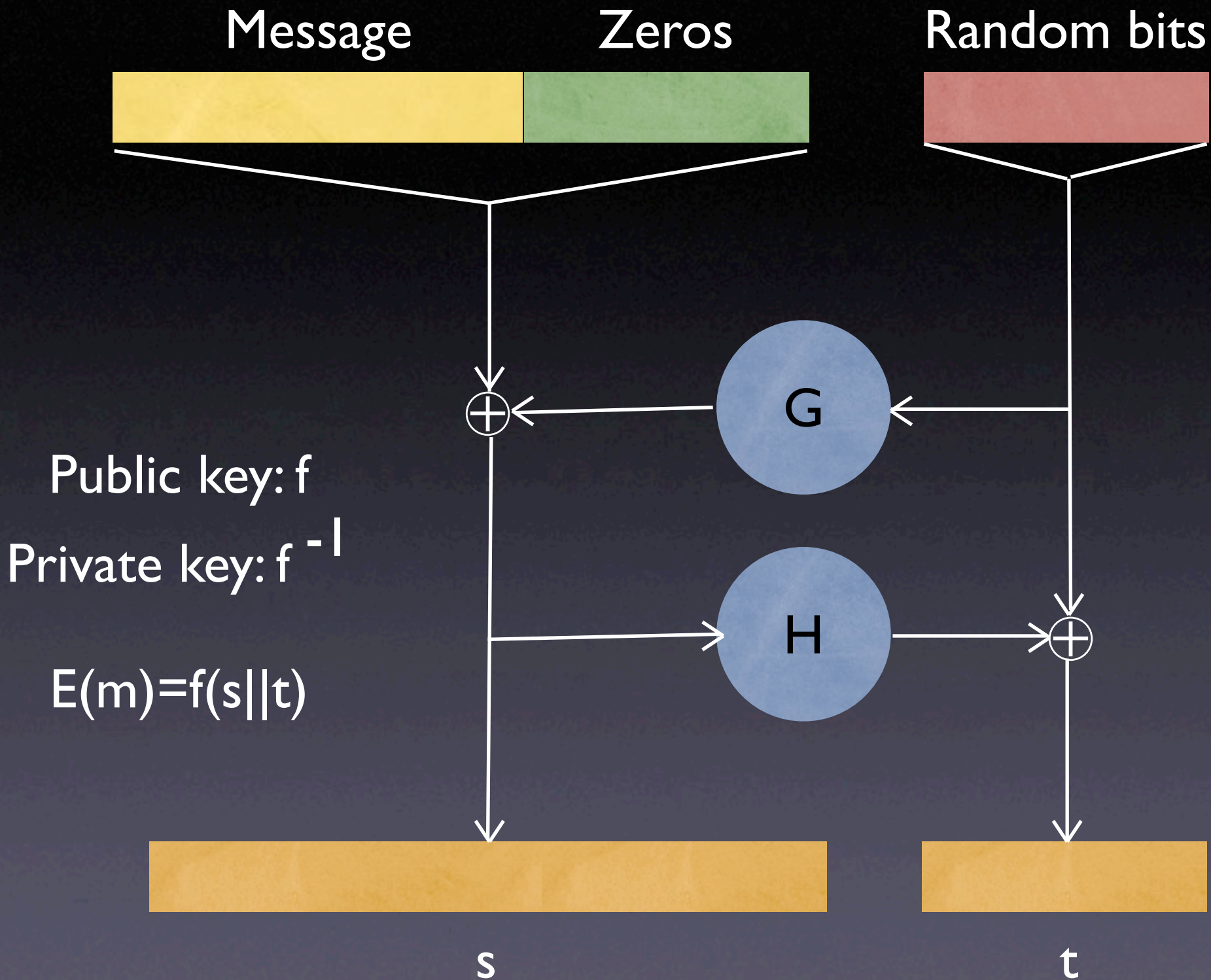
Your Suggestions

Given one random oracle  $R(x)$  how can we make two random oracles  $H(x)$  and  $G(x)$

$$H(x) = R(0 \parallel x)$$

$$G(x) = R(I \parallel x)$$





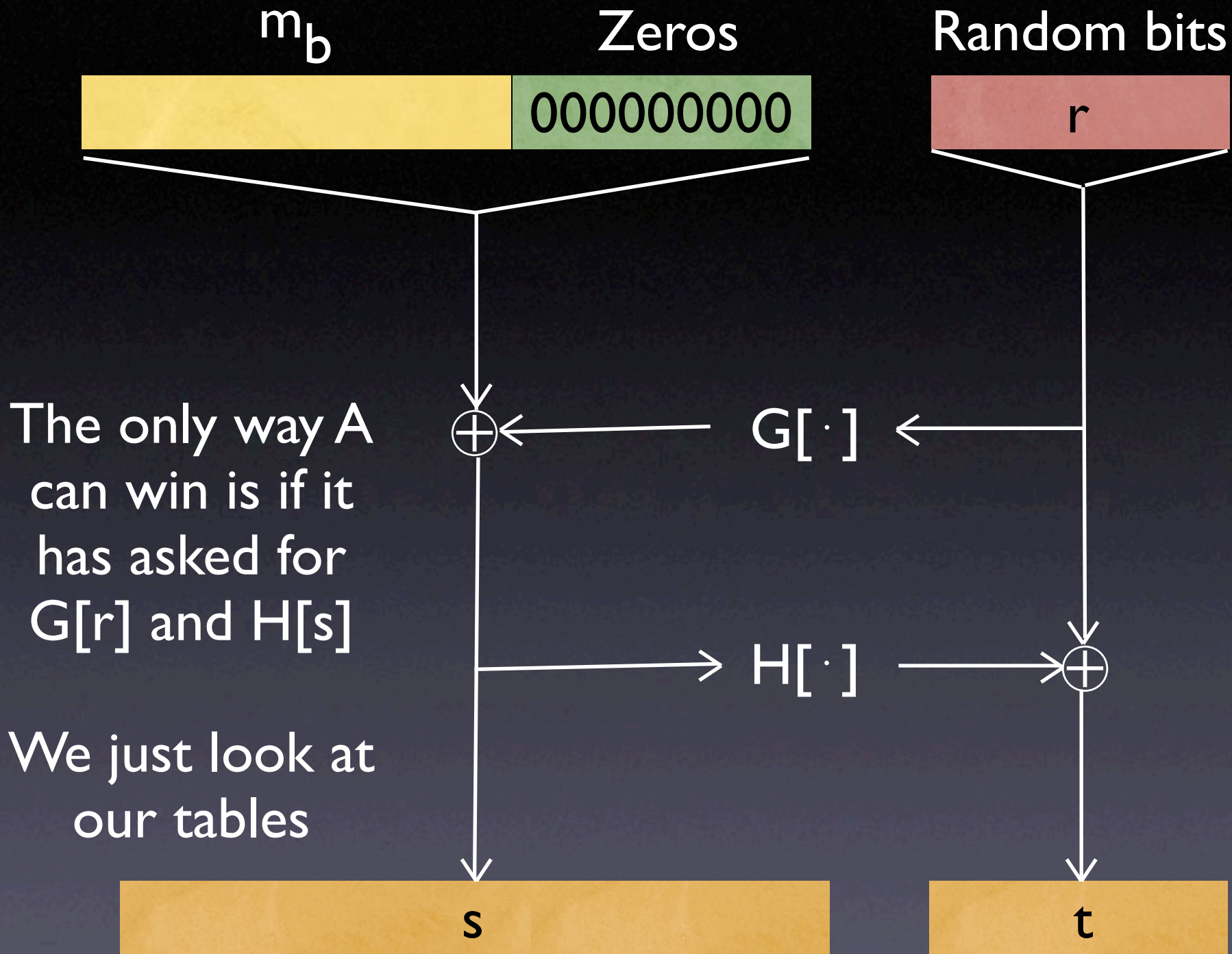
# Security of OAEP

- Construction and proof published in *Eurocrypt '94*
- Included in standards like SET (payment system proposed by Visa and Mastercard)

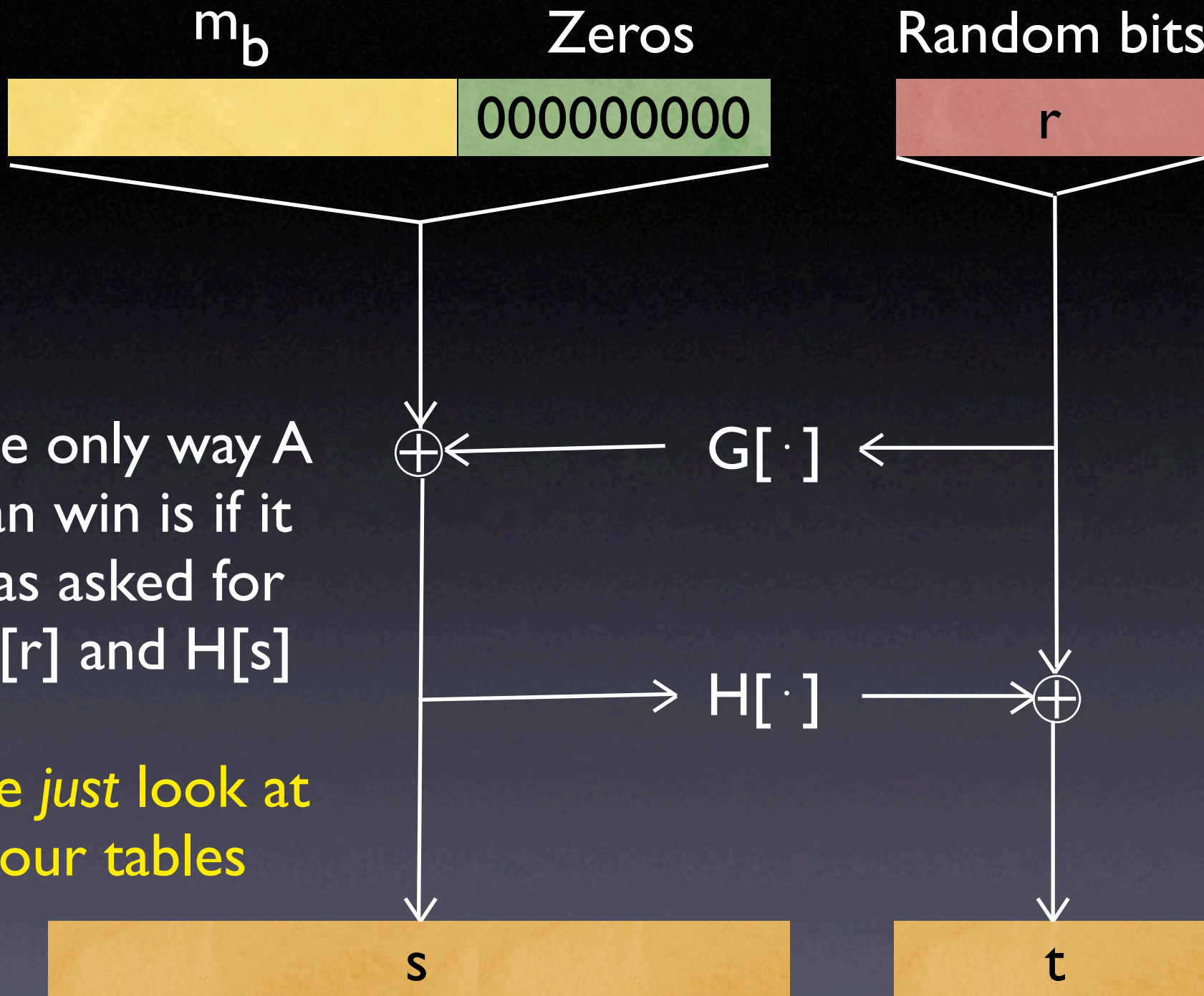
# Early Objections

- Use random oracles, not really proving anything
- *Security bound* not tight enough
  - Proof says that if someone can break OAEP, can invert trapdoor permutation
  - Also tells how long it will take





$$y = f(x) = f(s || t)$$



The only way A can win is if it has asked for  $G[r]$  and  $H[s]$

We just look at our tables

$$y = f(x) = f(s || t)$$



# Cost of Attack

- If adversary that breaks OAEP takes  $n$  steps:
  - He could ask for  $n$  different encryptions
  - Each encryption uses 2 oracle queries, i.e. one entry in each table
  - Trying all the combinations to break OWTP takes  $O(n^2)$  operations

# Cost of Attack

- If we want the attack on OAEP to take  $2^{80}$  steps, we need the attack on the OWTP (e.g. RSA) to take at least  $2^{160}$  steps
- With our best current attack on RSA, we'd need to use really big and inefficient keys (~5000 bit keys)

# But...

- The proof is wrong
  - There's a hole in the argument
- There is a counter example
  - What we were trying to prove isn't even true



# Proof of Security

- Similar game to before:
  - Adversary given access to encryption and decryption oracles
  - Also given access to the random oracles  $G$  and  $H$
  - Given the encryption of either  $m_0$  or  $m_1$ , has to decide which it is

# Break OAEP, you've broken the OWTP

- Use the adversary that breaks OAEP to break the underlying one-way trapdoor permutation
- If the adversary can win at the  $m_0$  or  $m_1$  game, we can invert  $f$  (i.e. given a  $y$ , come up with  $x$  s.t.  $f(x) = y$ )

Adversary  $B(f, y)$

// Wants to find  $x$  s.t.  $f(x) = y$

Run A

When A asks for  $G(x)$ :

See if  $G[x]$  exists, if so return it

Generate  $G[x]$  at random, return it

When A asks for  $H(x)$ :

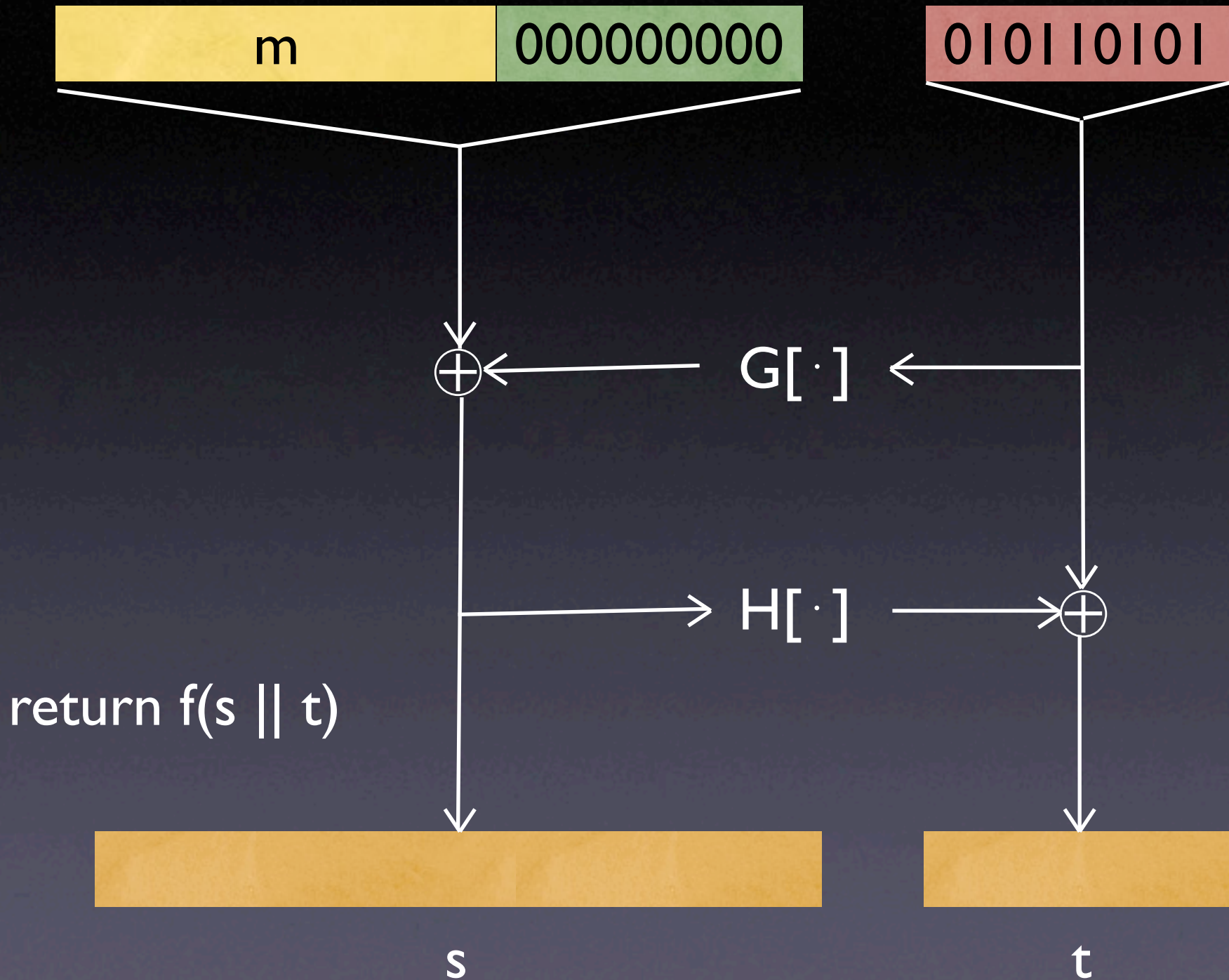
See if  $H[x]$  exists, if so return it

Generate  $H[x]$  at random, return it

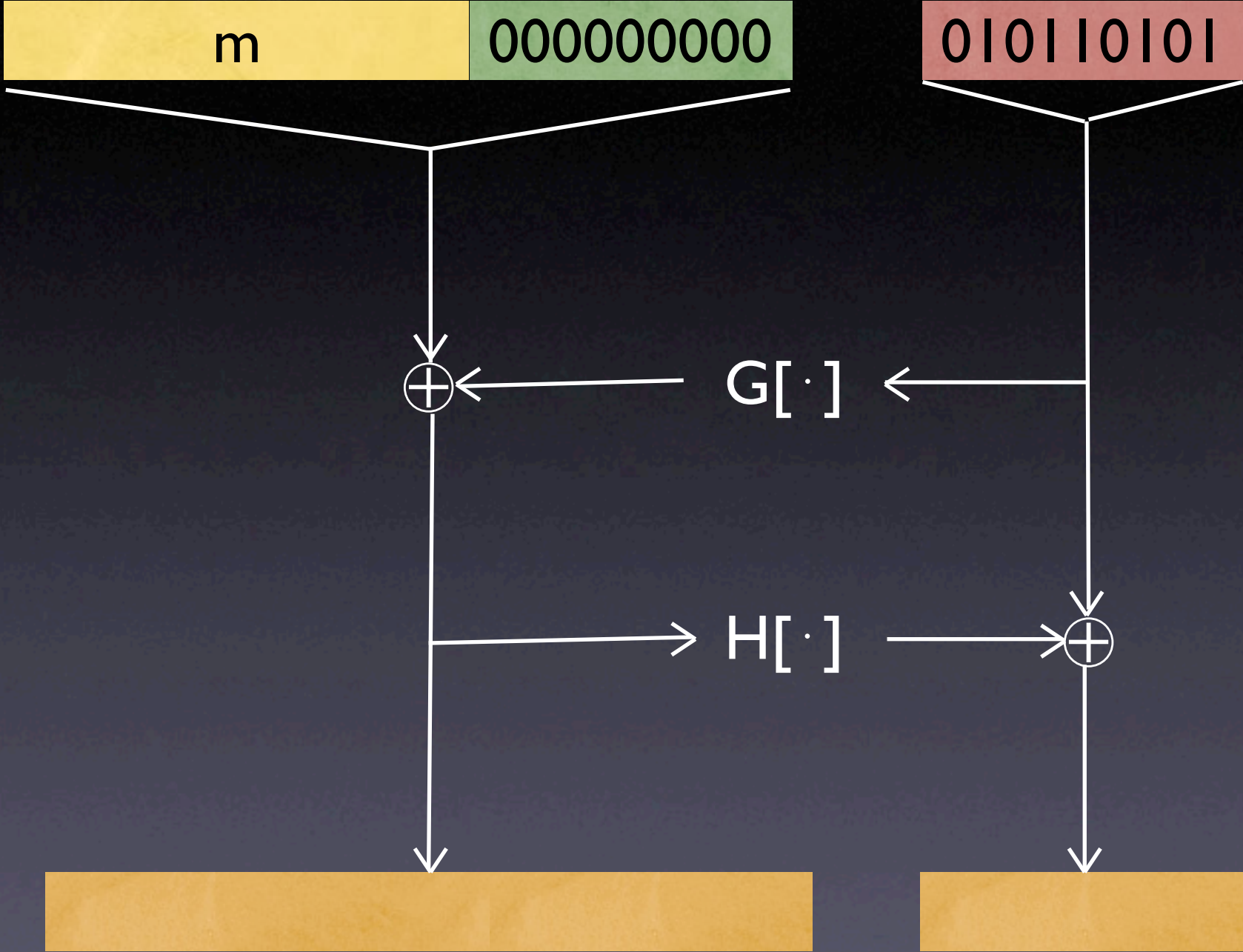
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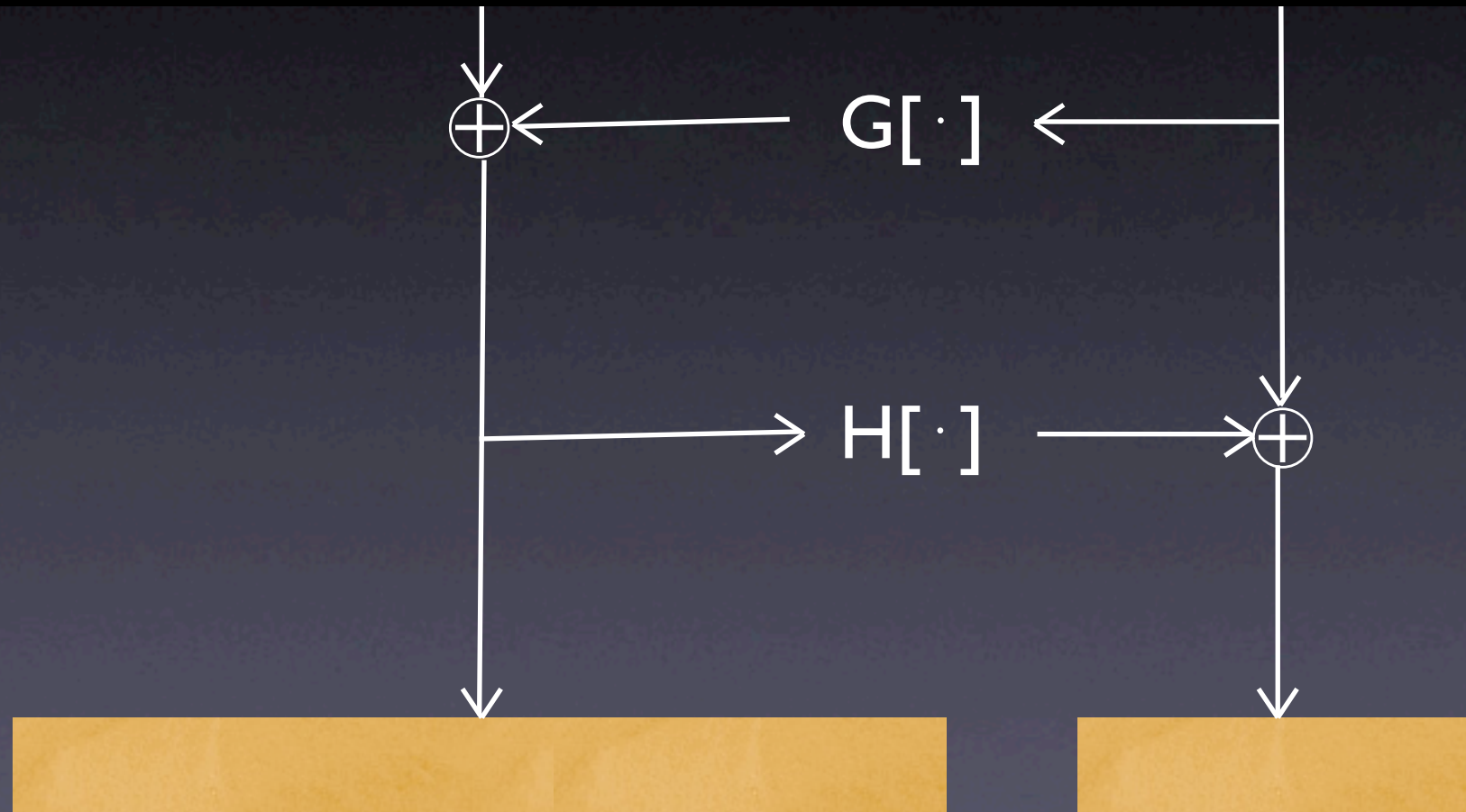
When A asks for  $E(m)$ :



When A asks for  $D(c)$ :

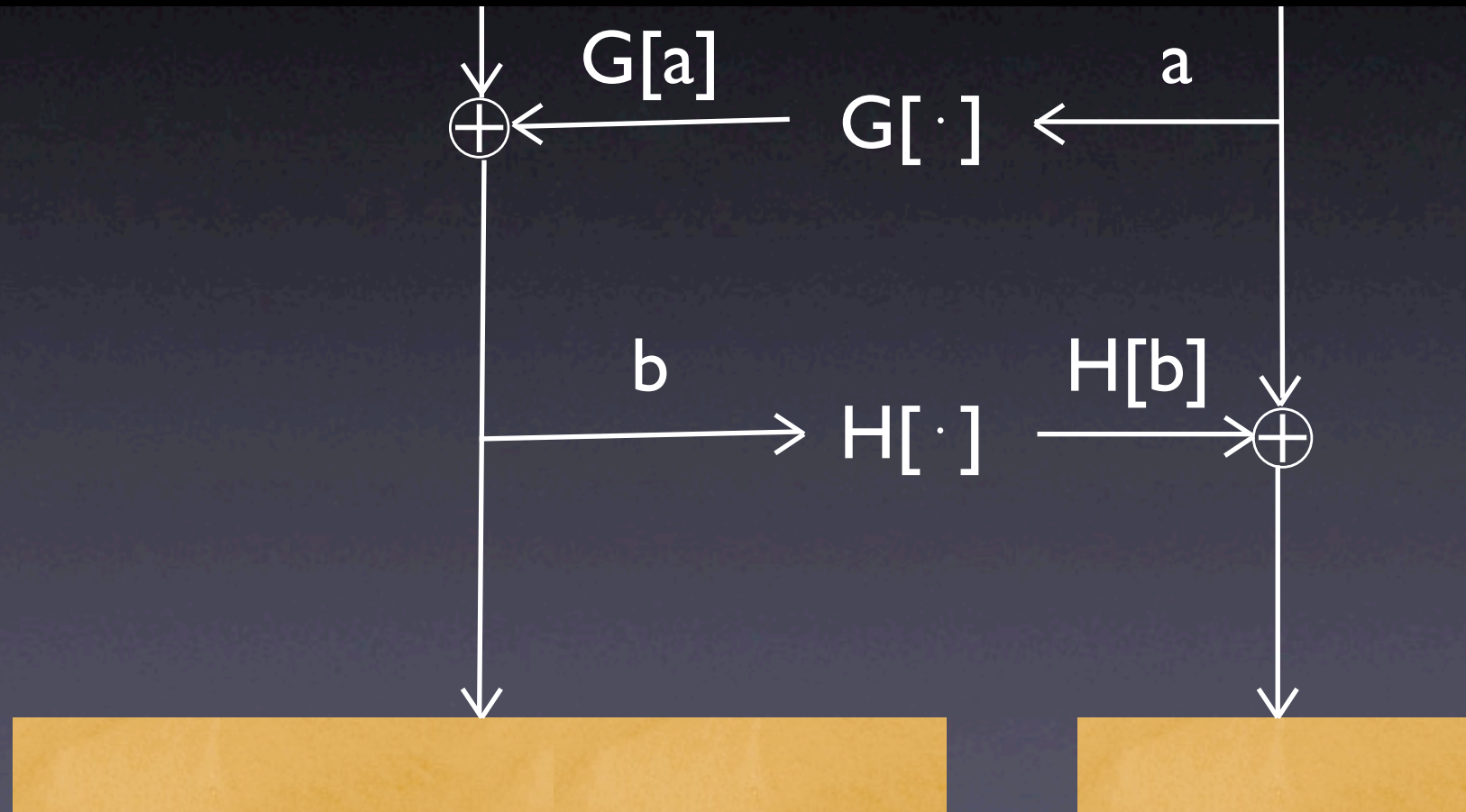


When A asks for  $D(c)$ :

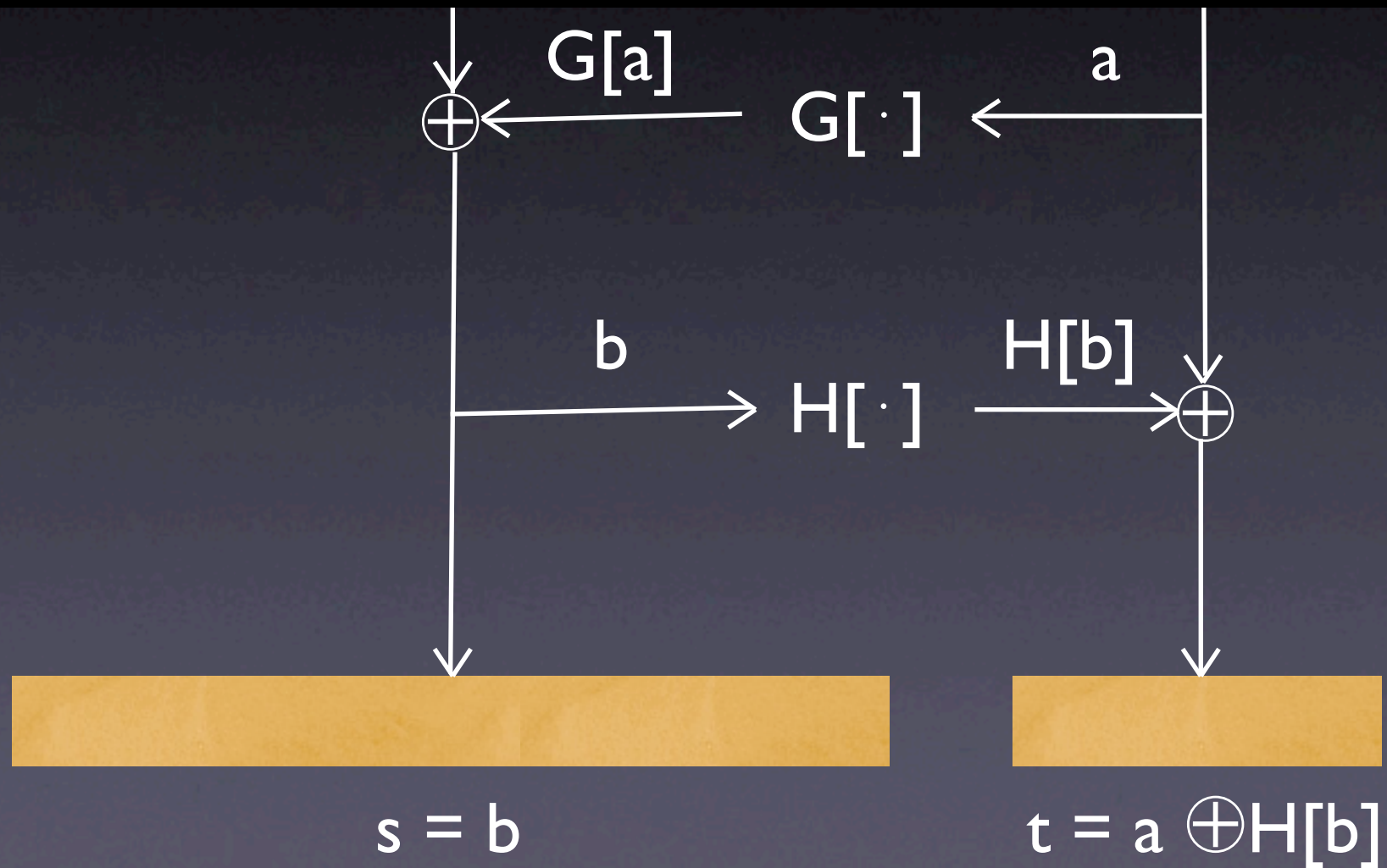




When A asks for  $D(c)$ :



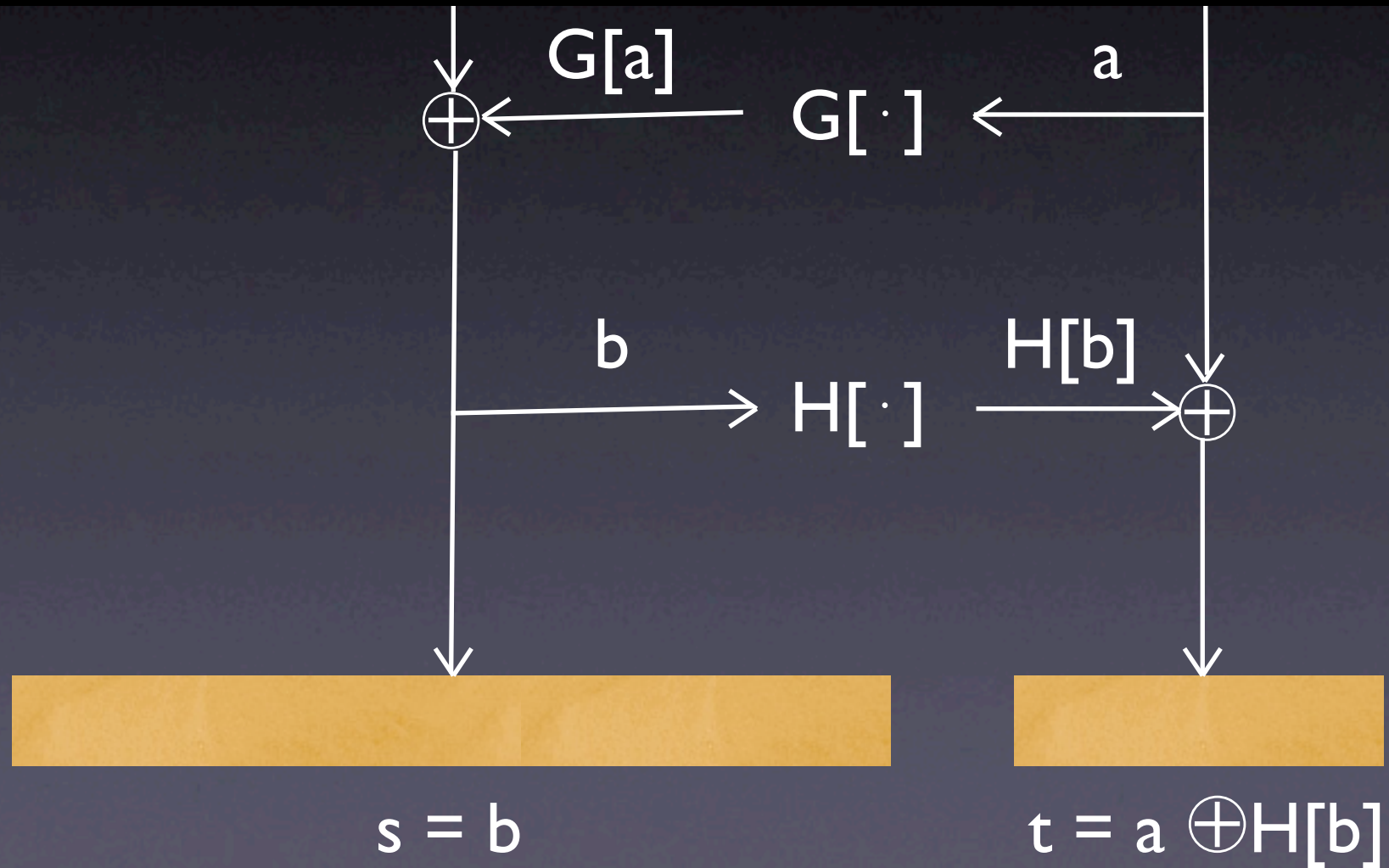
When A asks for  $D(c)$ :



When A asks for  $D(c)$ :

$$G[a] \oplus b$$

a



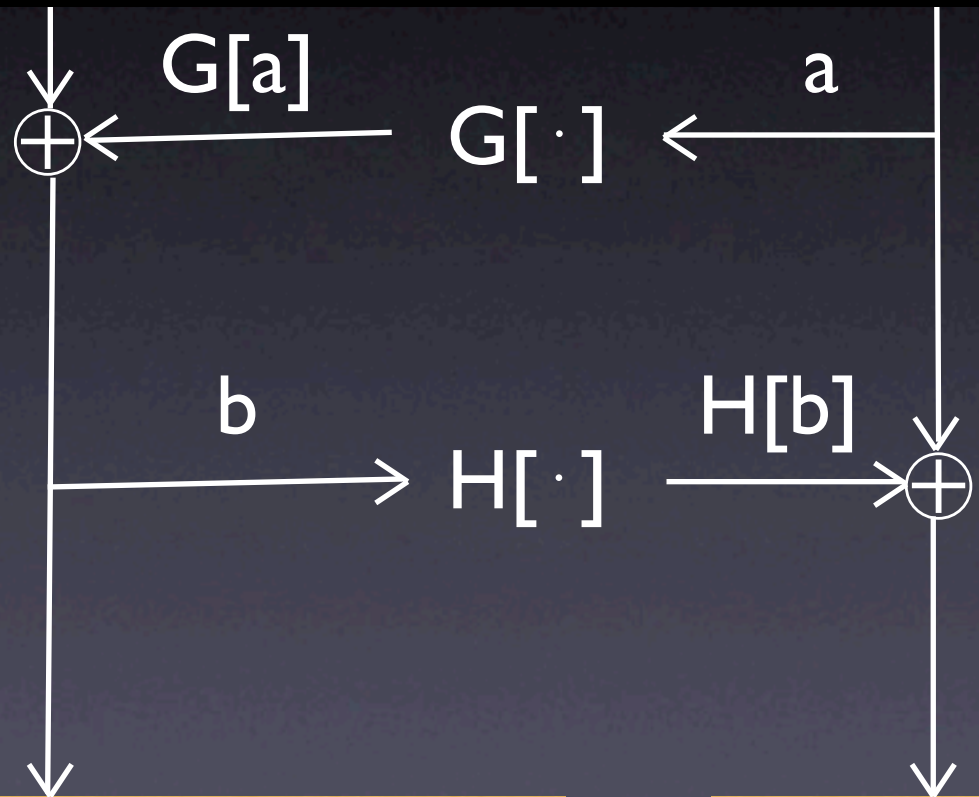


When A asks for  $D(c)$ :

$$G[a] \oplus b$$

a

For index a of  $G[\cdot]$   
For index b of  $H[\cdot]$   
if  $f(b \parallel a \oplus H[b]) = c$   
if  $G[a] \oplus b$  has Zeros  
return  $G[a] \oplus b$   
return  $\perp$

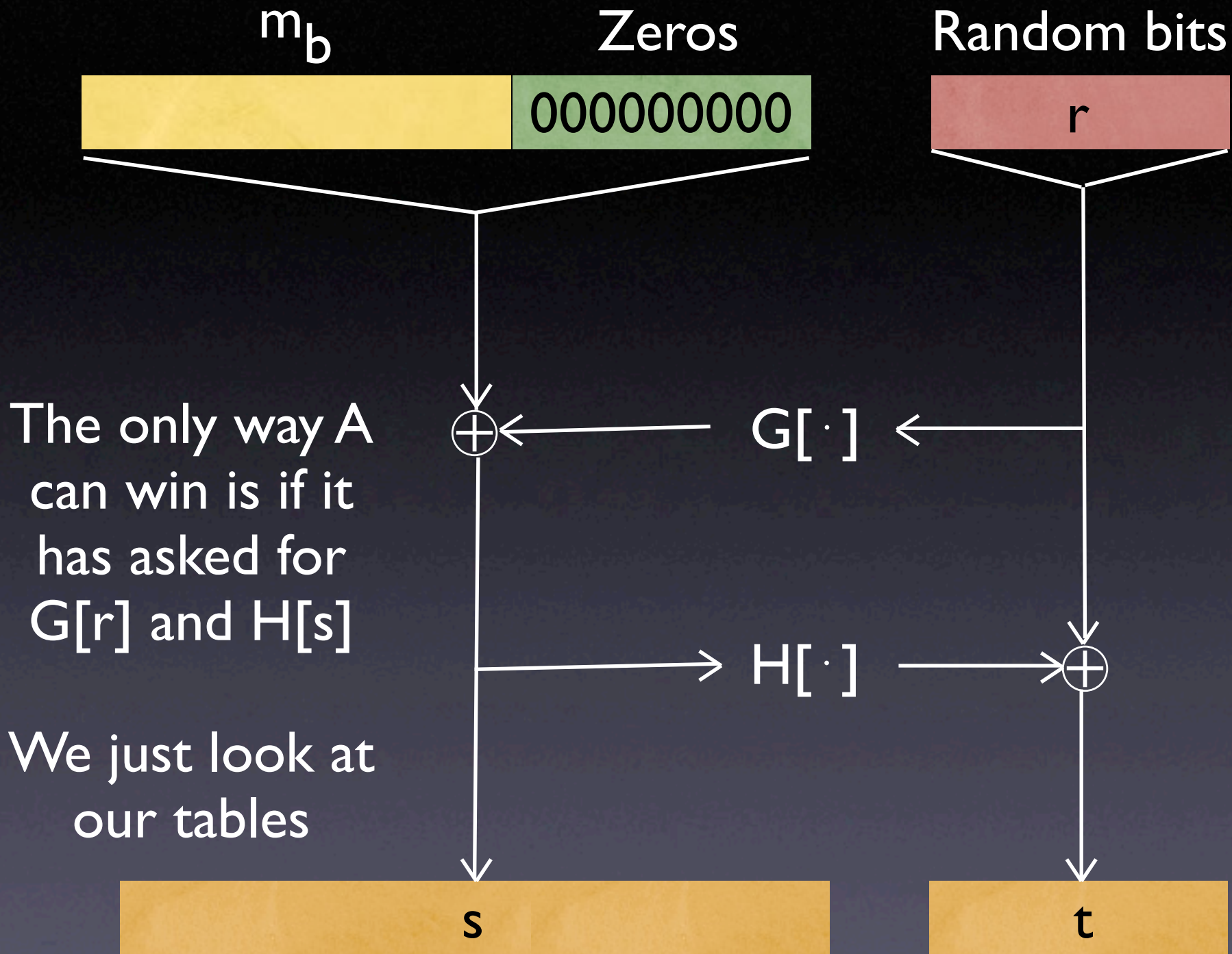


$$s = b$$

$$t = a \oplus H[b]$$

A gives us  $m_0$  and  $m_1$

No matter what, we say that  
the encryption is  $y$   
(remember that  $y$  is the thing  
we're trying to invert)



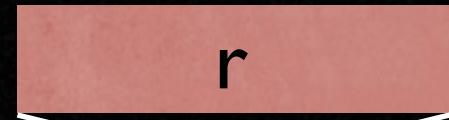
$$y = f(x) = f(s || t)$$



$m_b$

Zeros

Random bits



~~The only way A  
can win is if it  
has asked for  
 $G[r]$  and  $H[s]$~~



$G[\cdot]$

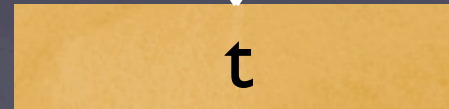
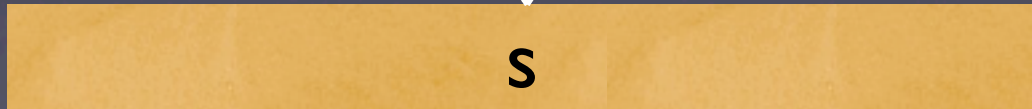


$H[\cdot]$



s

t



# A Weird OWTP

- Given  $y$  you *can* compute the first few bits of  $x$  s.t.  $y = f(x)$
- Given  $y$  you can compute some  $z$  s.t.  $x$  and  $w$  differ only in a few specific locations where  $y = f(x)$  and  $z = f(w)$  differ
- Don't know of any real examples, but can't rule it out

# We Want CCA

- OAEP paper proves that OAEP is plaintext aware (PA1)
- Few years later, another paper by Bellare et. al. show that:
  - Plaintext awareness implies CCA
  - This implies OAEP is IND-CCA

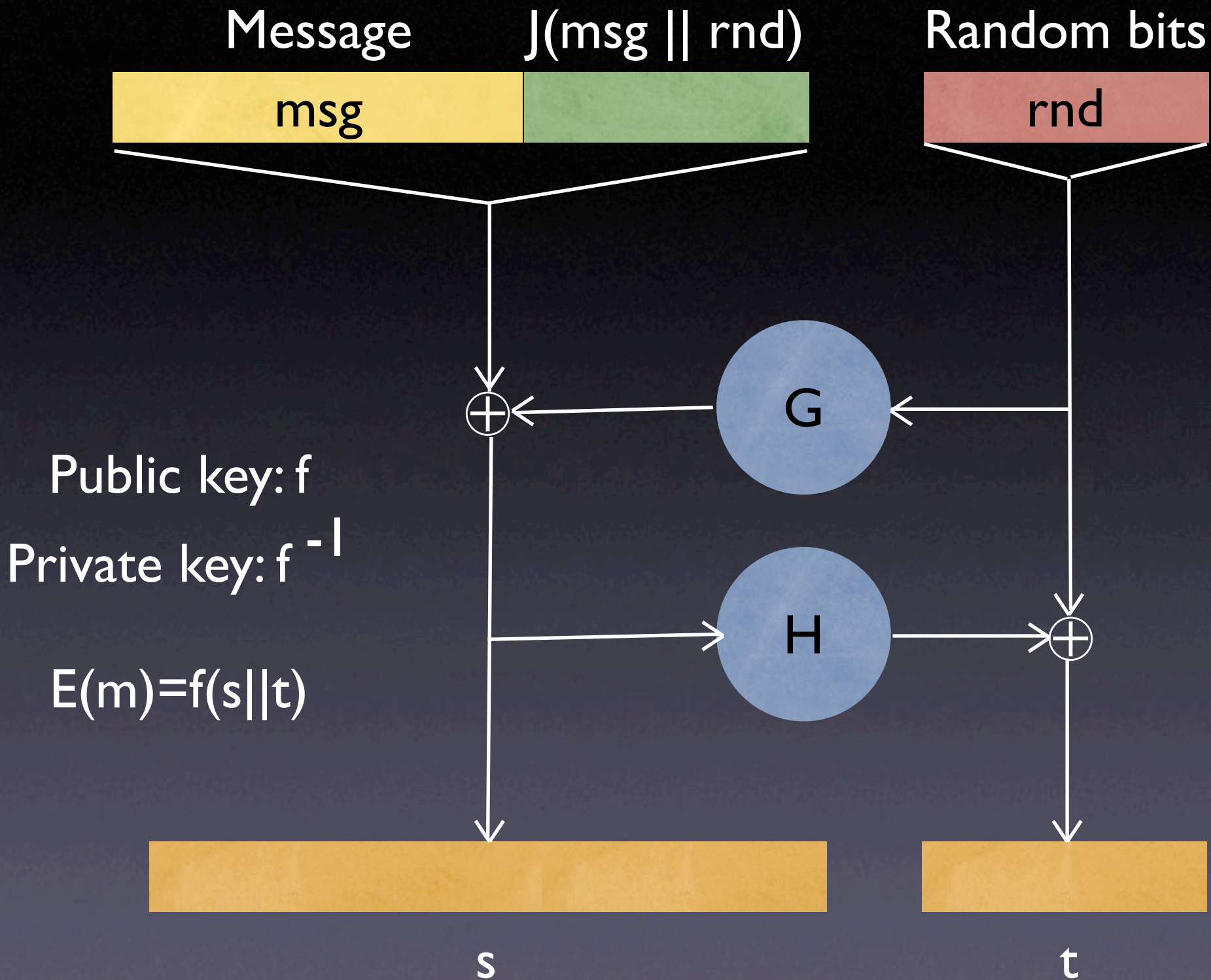


# We Want CCA

- OAEP paper proves that OAEP is plaintext aware (PA1)
- Few years later, another paper by Bellare et. al. show that:
  - Plaintext awareness (PA2) implies CCA
  - This *does not imply* OAEP is IND-CCA

# Some Good News

- OAEP is still secure when the OWTP is RSA (uses a special property of RSA)
- Easy to fix OAEP so that it works with *any* OWTP (OAEP+)
- For some OWTPs OAEP is overkill (SAEP)





# Lessons

- OAEP published in respected, peer-reviewed security conference by two top cryptographers
- PA  $\rightarrow$  CCA paper published is respected, peer-reviewed security conference by same top cryptographer (and students)
- Bug not found until seven years later when Shoup tried to prove that OAEP was IND-CCA directly

# Sources of Security Designs

- Commercial products
  - Truly revolutionary one million bit virtual matrix encryption

# Sources of Security Designs

- Standards
  - Reviewed by other members of the standards committee
  - What if the standards committee doesn't include any security people?



# Sources of Security Design

- “The Literature”
  - Peer reviewed academic conferences and journals

# Conferences

- Each program committee member given a stack of about 20 papers to review in a month
- Lead time to publication: 9 months

# Journals

- A couple of reviewers given a couple of months to review one paper
- Lead time to publication:  $> 2$  years



“The proof below spans more than 23 pages, and as much as I tried to simplify and to explain clearly, it is quite a pain to read.

Frankly, I don't believe that anyone will ever go through the trouble of reading and verifying it.”

# Fermat's Last Theorem

- Proof over 200 pages
- Subtle flaw found, able to be plugged before publication

# Best Practice?

- Use what everyone else uses
  - At least people will be looking at it
- Still have to make sure that your implementation is secure



# Our First Proof

- We want to prove that the following construction is a weakly unforgeable MAC on variable length messages in the R.O.M:
  - $\text{ROMAC}_{k_1, k_2}(m) = f_{k_1}(R(k_2 || m))$

If  $f_{k1}$  is a weakly unforgeable MAC on  $L$  bits and  $R$  is a random oracle with fixed  $L$  bit outputs then  $\text{ROMAC}_{k1, k2}$  is a weakly unforgeable MAC on variable length inputs.

Adversary given access  
to  $R$  and MAC and has  
to generate a valid new  
 $(m, t)$  pair



Given an adversary that  
forges ROMAC, come  
up with an adversary  
that forges  $f$

*Step 1:* Run A

*Step 2:* Show how to  
answer A's queries

*Step 3:* Show how to  
use A's forgery of  
ROMAC to forge f