

# CS 591: Formal Methods in Security and Privacy

Probabilistic relational Hoare Logic

Marco Gaboardi  
gaboardi@bu.edu

Alley Stoughton  
stough@bu.edu

# CS 591: Formal Methods in Security and Privacy

Probabilistic relational Hoare Logic

Marco Gaboardi  
gaboardi@bu.edu

Alley Stoughton  
stough@bu.edu

Zoom  
Participants Cameras

# Projects

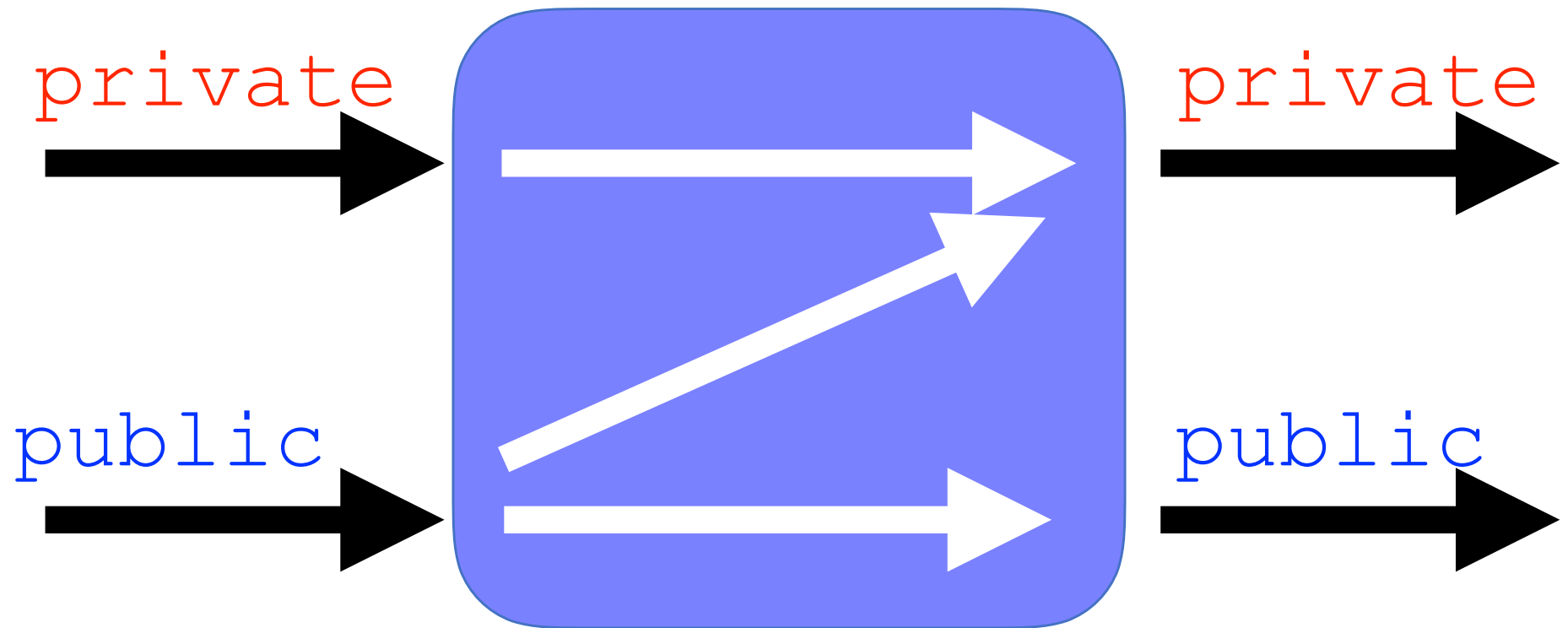
By the end of the week, everyone should know what to work on for the project.

If you don't know yet what you want to work on, let's schedule a time by email to zoom with Alley and me about projects ideas.

From the previous classes

# Information Flow Control

We want to guarantee that **confidential inputs** do not flow to **nonconfidential outputs**.



# Does this program satisfy noninterference?

```
s1:public
s2:private
r:private
i:public

proc Compare (s1:list[n] bool,s2:list[n] bool)
i:=0;
r:=0;
while i<n do
  if not(s1[i]=s2[i]) then
    r:=1
  i:=i+1
```

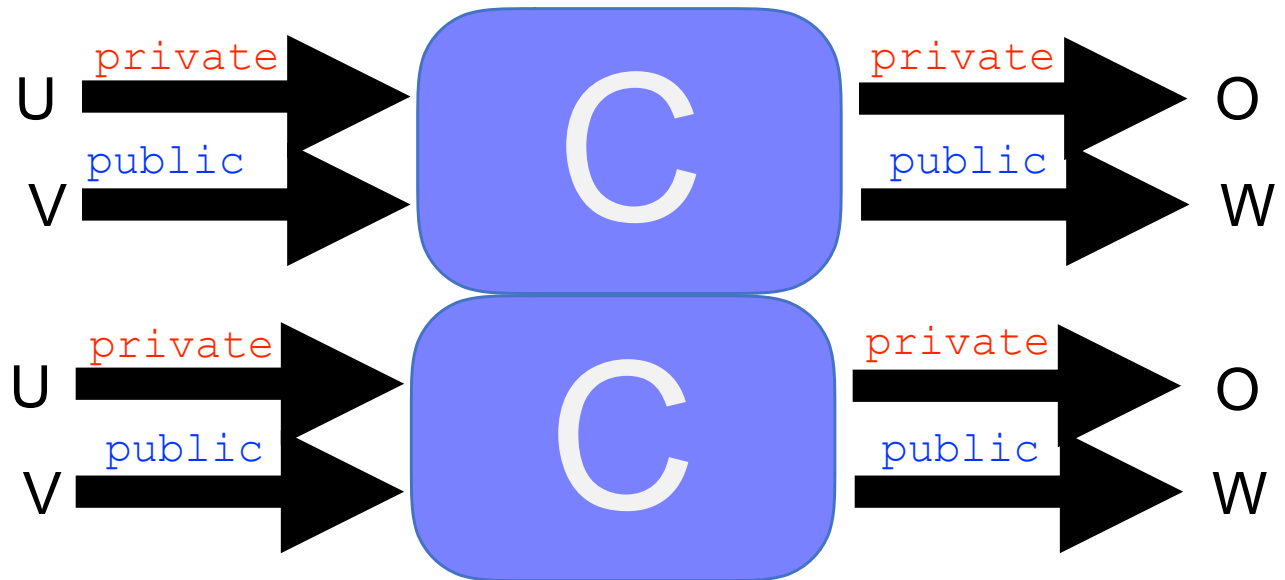
# Noninterference as a Relational Property

In symbols,  $c$  is **noninterferent** if and only if

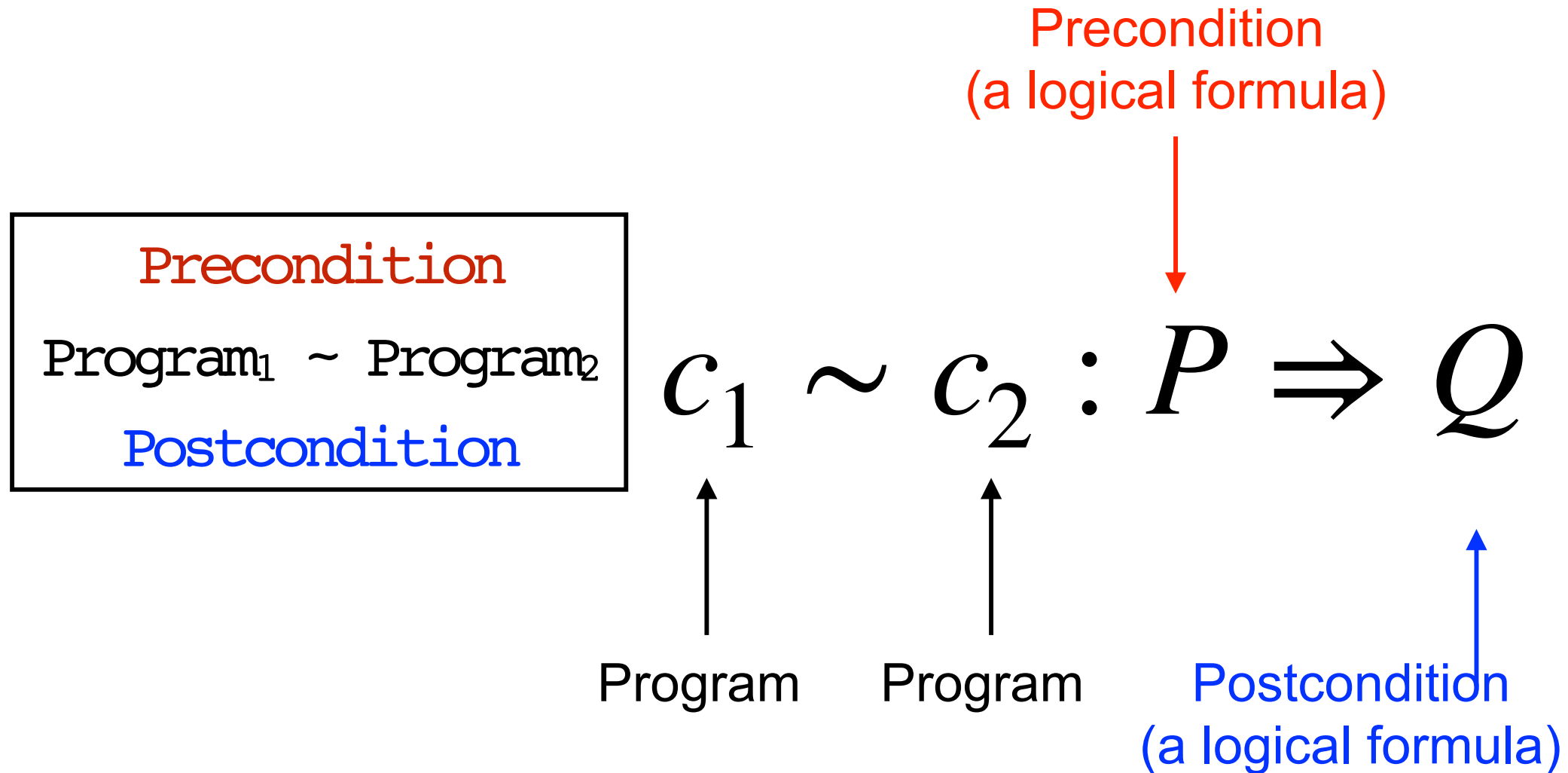
for every  $m_1 \sim_{\text{low}} m_2$  :

1)  $\{c\}_{m_1} = \perp$  iff  $\{c\}_{m_2} = \perp$

2)  $\{c\}_{m_1} = m_1'$  and  $\{c\}_{m_2} = m_2'$  implies  $m_1' \sim_{\text{low}} m_2'$



# Relational Hoare Quadruples





# Soundness

If we can derive  $\vdash C_1 \sim C_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$  through the rules of the logic, then the quadruple  $C_1 \sim C_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$  is valid.

# Relative Completeness

If a quadruple  $C_1 \sim C_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$  is valid, and we have an oracle to derive all the true statements of the form  $P \Rightarrow S$  and of the form  $R \Rightarrow Q$ , then we can derive  $\vdash C_1 \sim C_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$  through the rules of the logic.

# Soundness and completeness with respect to Hoare Logic

$$\vdash_{\text{RHL}} C_1 \sim C_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$$

iff

$$\vdash_{\text{HL}} C_1; C_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$$

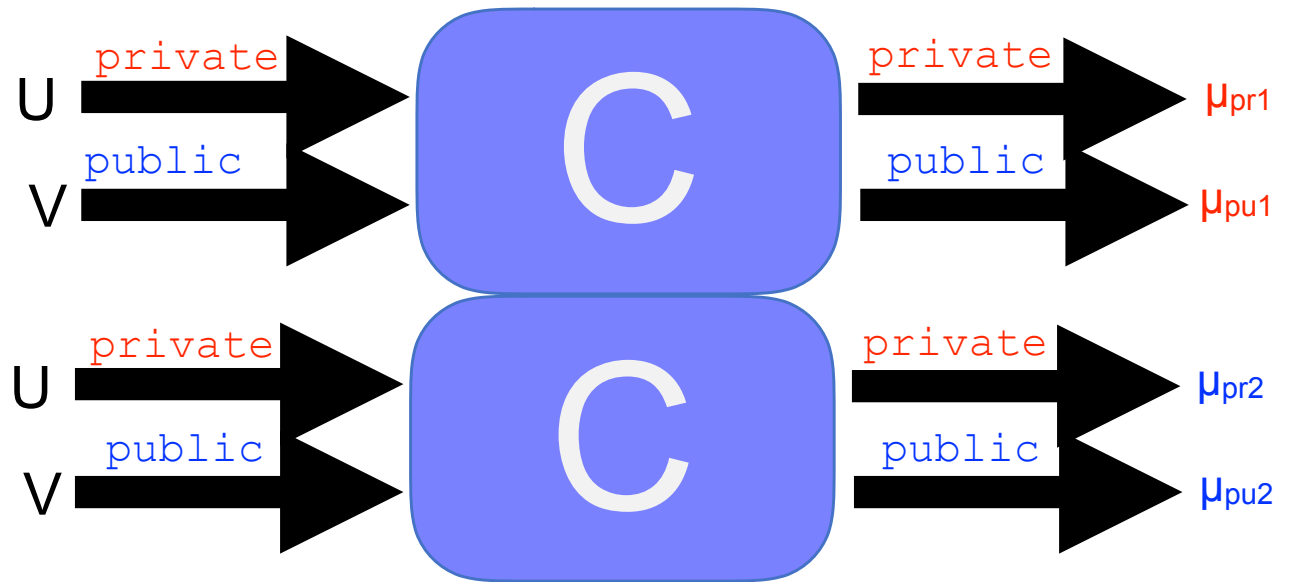
Under the assumption that we can partition the memory adequately, and that we have termination.

# Probabilistic Noninterference

A program  $\text{prog}$  is **probabilistically noninterferent** if and only if, whenever we run it on two **low equivalent** memories  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  we have that the **probabilistic distributions we get as outputs are the same on public outputs.**

# Probabilistic Noninterference as a Relational Property

$c$  is **probabilistically noninterferent** if and only if for every  $m_1 \sim_{\text{low}} m_2$  :  
 $\{c\}_{m_1} = \mu_1$  and  $\{c\}_{m_2} = \mu_2$  implies  $\mu_1 \sim_{\text{low}} \mu_2$



# An example

```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg  
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);  
  cipher := msg xor key;  
  return cipher
```

Learning a ciphertext does not change any a priori knowledge about the likelihood of messages.

# Semantics of Commands

This is defined on the structure of commands:

$$\{\text{abort}\}_m = \mathbf{0} \qquad \{\text{skip}\}_m = \text{unit}(m)$$

$$\{x := e\}_m = \text{unit}(m[x \leftarrow \{e\}_m])$$

$$\{x := \$ d\}_m = \text{let } a = \{d\}_m \text{ in } \text{unit}(m[x \leftarrow a])$$

$$\{c; c'\}_m = \text{let } m' = \{c\}_m \text{ in } \{c'\}_{m'}$$

$$\{\text{if } e \text{ then } c_t \text{ else } c_f\}_m = \{c_t\}_m \quad \mathbf{If} \ \{e\}_m = \text{true}$$

$$\{\text{if } e \text{ then } c_t \text{ else } c_f\}_m = \{c_f\}_m \quad \mathbf{If} \ \{e\}_m = \text{false}$$

$$\{\text{while } e \text{ do } c\}_m = \sup_{n \in \text{Nat}} \mu_n$$

$$\mu_n = \text{let } m' = \{(\text{while}^n e \text{ do } c)\}_m \text{ in } \{\text{if } e \text{ then abort}\}_{m'}$$

# Revisiting the example

```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg  
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);  
  cipher := msg xor key;  
  return cipher
```



# Revisiting the example

```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg  
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);  
  cipher := msg xor key;  
  return cipher
```

How can we prove that this is noninterferent?

# Revisiting the example

```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg  
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);  
  cipher := msg xor key;  
  return cipher
```

# Revisiting the example

```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg  
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);  
  cipher := msg xor key;  
  return cipher
```

$m_1$

$m_2$

# Revisiting the example

```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg  
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);  
  cipher := msg xor key;  
  return cipher
```

$m_1$

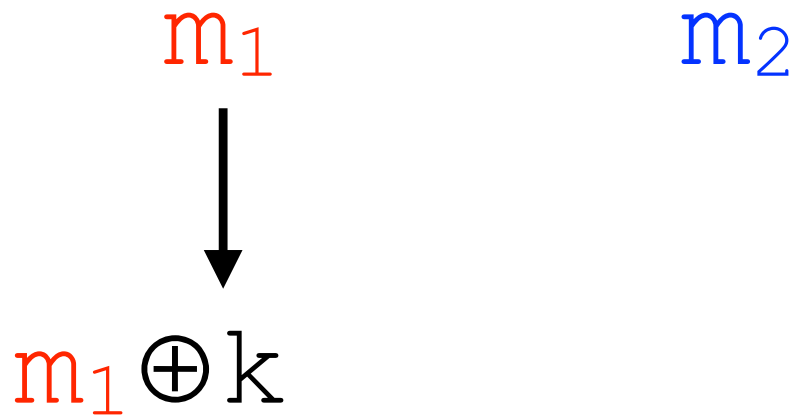
$m_2$



$m_1 \oplus k$

# Revisiting the example

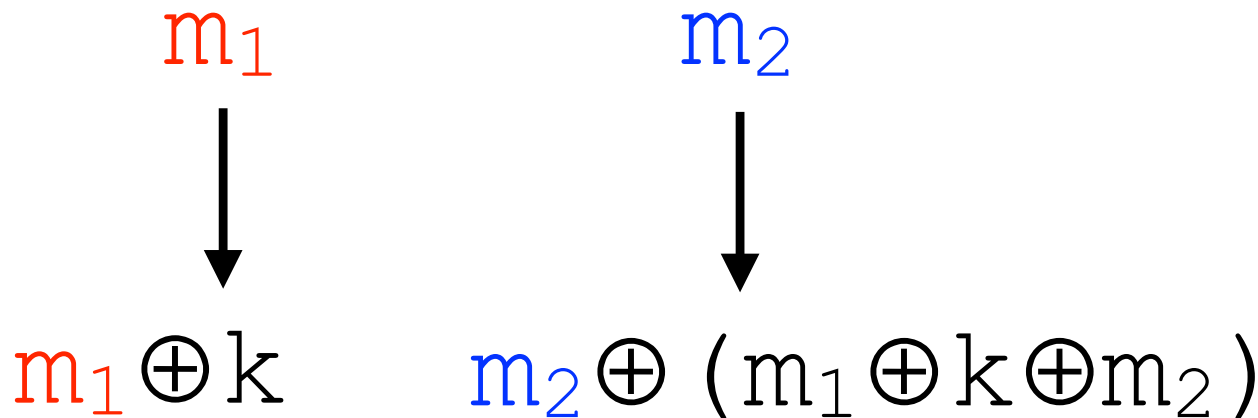
```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg  
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);  
  cipher := msg xor key;  
  return cipher
```



Suppose we can now chose the key for  $m_2$ . What could we choose?

# Revisiting the example

```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg  
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);  
  cipher := msg xor key;  
  return cipher
```



Suppose we can now choose the key for  $m_2$ . What could we choose?

# Properties of xor

$$c \oplus (a \oplus c) = a$$

# Properties of xor

$$c \oplus (a \oplus c) = a$$

**Example:**

$$100 \oplus (101 \oplus 100) =$$

$$100 \oplus 001 = 101$$



# Revisiting the example

```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg  
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);  
  cipher := msg xor key;  
  return cipher
```

Applying the  
property above

# Revisiting the example

```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);
  cipher := msg xor key;
  return cipher
```

$m_1$

$m_2$

Applying the  
property above

# Revisiting the example

```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg  
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);  
  cipher := msg xor key;  
  return cipher
```

$m_1$

$m_2$

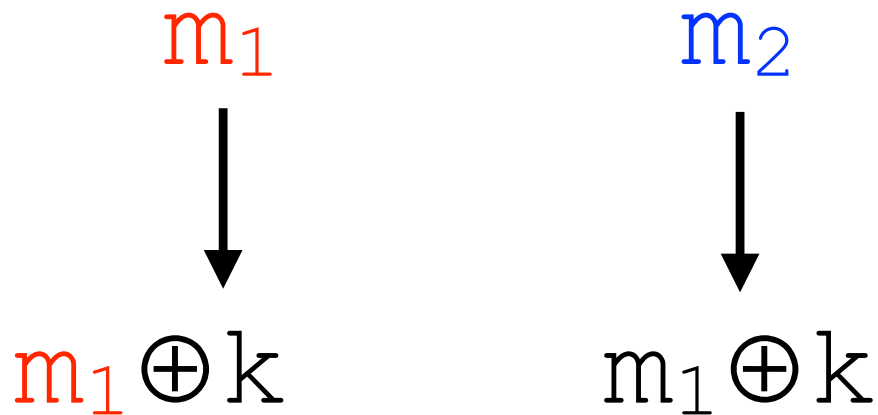


$m_1 \oplus k$

Applying the  
property above

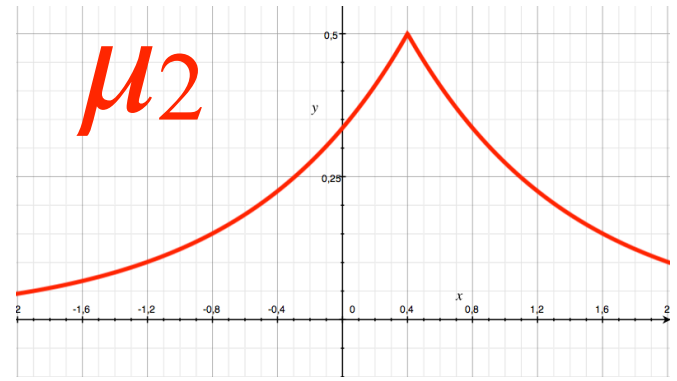
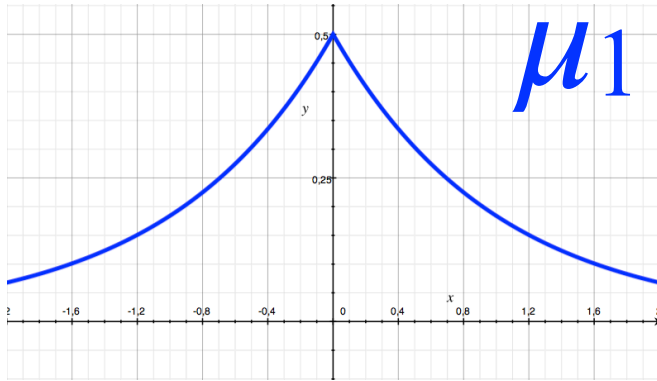
# Revisiting the example

```
OneTimePad(m : private msg) : public msg  
  key := $ Uniform({0,1}n);  
  cipher := msg xor key;  
  return cipher
```

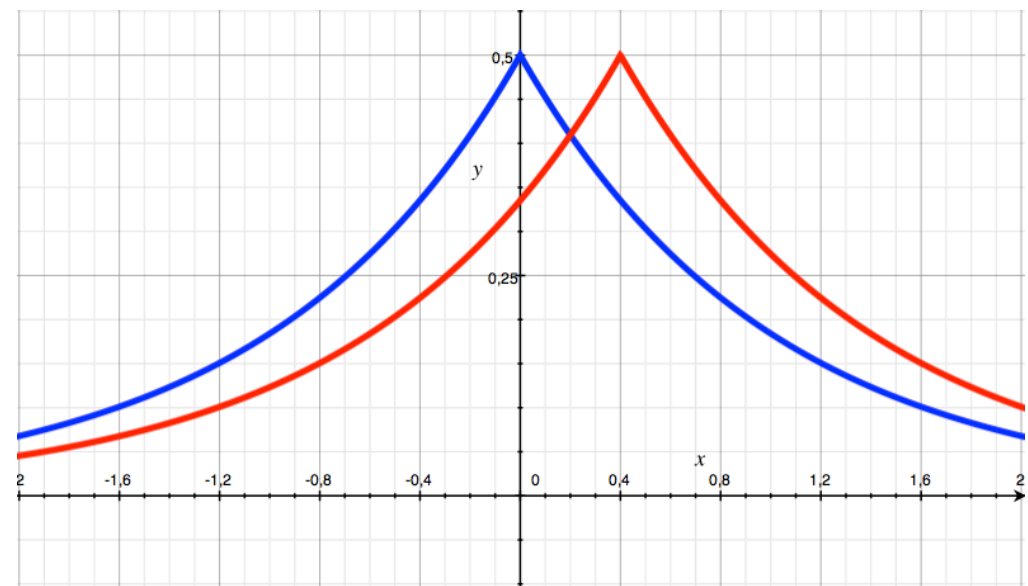
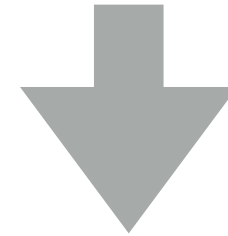
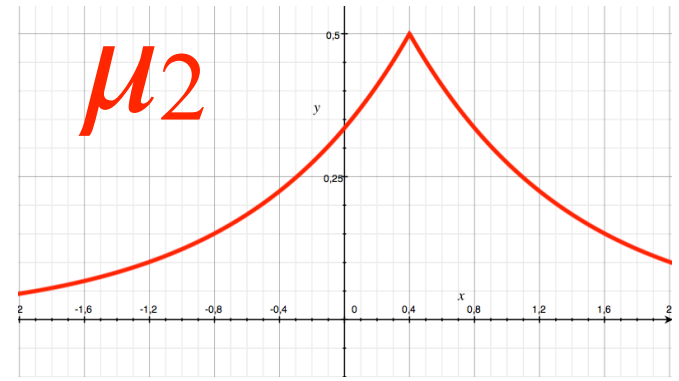
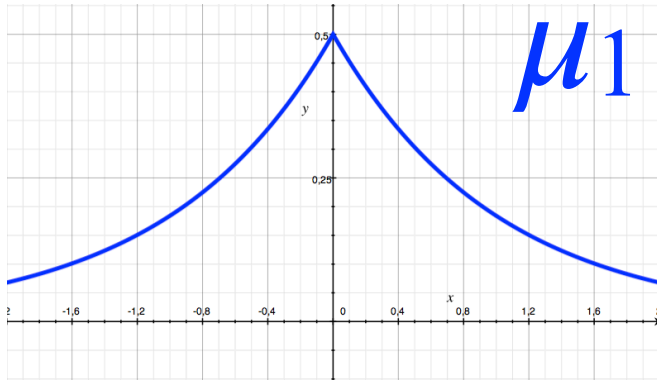


Applying the  
property above

# Coupling



# Coupling



# Example of Our Coupling

00	0.25
01	0.25
10	0.25
11	0.25

$$k = 10 \oplus k \oplus 00$$

00	0.25
01	0.25
10	0.25
11	0.25

# Example of Our Coupling

00	0.25
01	0.25
10	0.25
11	0.25

$$k = 10 \oplus k \oplus 00$$

00	0.25
01	0.25
10	0.25
11	0.25

	00	01	10	11
00			0.25	
01				0.25
10	0.25			
11		0.25		



# Coupling formally

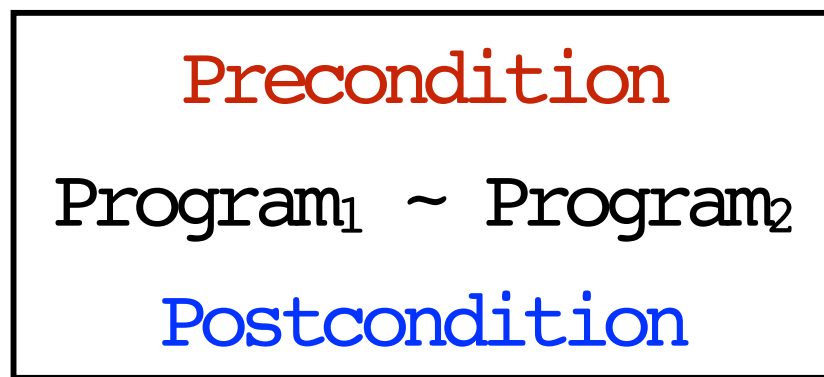
Given two distributions  $\mu_1 \in \mathcal{D}(A)$ , and  $\mu_2 \in \mathcal{D}(B)$ , a **coupling** between them is a joint distribution  $\mu \in \mathcal{D}(A \times B)$  whose marginal distributions are  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$ , respectively.

$$\pi_1(\mu)(a) = \sum_b \mu(a, b)$$

$$\pi_2(\mu)(b) = \sum_a \mu(a, b)$$

Today:  
Probabilistic Relational  
Hoare Logic

# Probabilistic Relational Hoare Quadruples



Precondition  
(a logical formula)

$$c_1 \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$$

Probabilistic  
Program

Probabilistic  
Program

Postcondition  
(a logical formula)

# Validity of Probabilistic Hoare quadruple

We say that the quadruple  $c_1 \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$  is **valid** if and only if for every pair of memories  $m_1, m_2$  such that  $P(m_1, m_2)$  we have:  
 $\{c_1\}_{m_1} = \mu_1$  and  $\{c_2\}_{m_2} = \mu_2$  implies  
 $Q(\mu_1, \mu_2)$ .


# Validity of Probabilistic Hoare quadruple

We say that the quadruple  $c_1 \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$  is **valid** if and only if for every pair of memories  $m_1, m_2$  such that  $P(m_1, m_2)$  we have:  
 $\{c_1\}_{m_1} = \mu_1$  and  $\{c_2\}_{m_2} = \mu_2$  implies  $Q(\mu_1, \mu_2)$ .

Is this correct?!?

# Relational Assertions

$$c_1 \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$$



logical formula      logical formula  
over pair of memories    over ????

(i.e. relation over memories)

# R-Coupling

Given two distributions  $\mu_1 \in D(A)$ , and  $\mu_2 \in D(B)$ , an  $R$ -coupling between them, for  $R \subseteq A \times B$ , is a joint distribution  $\mu \in D(A \times B)$  such that:

- 1) the marginal distributions of  $\mu$  are  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$ , respectively,
- 2) the support of  $\mu$  is contained in  $R$ . That is, if  $\mu(a, b) > 0$ , then  $(a, b) \in R$ .

# Relational lifting of a predicate

We say that two subdistributions  $\mu_1 \subseteq D(A)$  and  $\mu_2 \subseteq D(B)$  are in the relational lifting of the relation  $R \subseteq A \times B$ , denoted  $\mu_1 R^* \mu_2$  if and only if there exist a subdistribution  $\mu \subseteq D(A \times B)$  such that:

- 1) if  $\mu(a, b) > 0$ , then  $(a, b) \in R$ .
- 2)  $\pi_1(\mu) = \mu_1$  and  $\pi_2(\mu) = \mu_2$



# Relational lifting of a predicate

We say that two subdistributions  $\mu_1 \subseteq D(A)$  and  $\mu_2 \subseteq D(B)$  are in the relational lifting of the relation  $R \subseteq A \times B$ , denoted  $\mu_1 R^* \mu_2$  if and only if there exist a subdistribution  $\mu \subseteq D(A \times B)$  such that:

- 1) if  $\mu(a, b) > 0$ , then  $(a, b) \in R$ .
- 2)  $\pi_1(\mu) = \mu_1$  and  $\pi_2(\mu) = \mu_2$

Does it remind you something?

# Validity of Probabilistic Hoare quadruple

We say that the quadruple  $c_1 \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$  is **valid** if and only if for every pair of memories  $m_1, m_2$  such that  $P(m_1, m_2)$  we have:  
 $\{c_1\}_{m_1} = \mu_1$  and  $\{c_2\}_{m_2} = \mu_2$  implies  
 $Q^*(\mu_1, \mu_2)$ .

# Probabilistic Relational Hoare Logic

## Skip

---

$$\vdash \text{skip} \sim \text{skip} : P \Rightarrow P$$

# Probabilistic Relational Hoare Logic Assignment

---

$\vdash x_1 := e_1 \sim x_2 := e_2 :$

$P [e_1 \langle 1 \rangle / x_1 \langle 1 \rangle, e_2 \langle 2 \rangle / x_2 \langle 2 \rangle] \Rightarrow P$

# Probabilistic Relational Hoare Logic Composition

$$\vdash C_1 \sim C_2 : P \Rightarrow R \quad \vdash C_1' \sim C_2' : R \Rightarrow S$$

---

$$\vdash C_1 ; C_1' \sim C_2 ; C_2' : P \Rightarrow S$$

# Probabilistic Relational Hoare Logic Consequence

$$\frac{P \Rightarrow S \quad \vdash C_1 \sim C_2 : S \Rightarrow R \quad R \Rightarrow Q}{\vdash C_1 \sim C_2 : P \Rightarrow Q}$$

We can **weaken**  $P$ , i.e. replace it by something that is implied by  $P$ .  
In this case  $S$ .

We can **strengthen**  $Q$ , i.e. replace it by something that implies  $Q$ .  
In this case  $R$ .

# Probabilistic Relational Hoare Logic

## If-then-else

$$P \Rightarrow (e_1 \langle 1 \rangle \Leftrightarrow e_2 \langle 2 \rangle)$$

$$\vdash c_1 \sim c_2 : e_1 \langle 1 \rangle \wedge P \Rightarrow Q$$

$$\vdash c_1' \sim c_2' : \neg e_1 \langle 1 \rangle \wedge P \Rightarrow Q$$

---

$$\vdash \begin{array}{l} \text{if } e_1 \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_1' \\ \sim \\ \text{if } e_2 \text{ then } c_2 \text{ else } c_2' \end{array} : P \Rightarrow Q$$

# Probabilistic Relational Hoare Logic

## While

$$P \Rightarrow (e_1 \langle 1 \rangle \Leftrightarrow e_2 \langle 2 \rangle)$$

$$\vdash c_1 \sim c_2 \quad : \quad e_1 \langle 1 \rangle \wedge P \Rightarrow P$$

---

$$\vdash \begin{array}{l} \text{while } e_1 \text{ do } c_1 \\ \sim \\ \text{while } e_2 \text{ do } c_2 \end{array} \quad : \quad P \Rightarrow P \wedge \neg e_1 \langle 1 \rangle$$



# Probabilistic Relational Hoare Logic

## If-then-else - left

$$\vdash c_1 \sim c_2 : e < 1 > \wedge P \Rightarrow Q$$

$$\vdash c_1' \sim c_2 : \neg e < 1 > \wedge P \Rightarrow Q$$

---

$$\vdash \text{if } e \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_1' \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$$

# Probabilistic Relational Hoare Logic

## If-then-else - right

$$\vdash c_1 \sim c_2 : e \langle 2 \rangle \wedge P \Rightarrow Q$$

$$\vdash c_1 \sim c_2' : \neg e \langle 2 \rangle \wedge P \Rightarrow Q$$

---

$$\vdash \text{if } e \text{ then } \begin{array}{c} c_1 \\ \sim \\ c_2 \end{array} \text{ else } c_2' : P \Rightarrow Q$$

# Probabilistic Relational Hoare Logic

## Assignment - left

---

$$\vdash x := e \sim \text{skip} :$$
$$P[e \langle 1 \rangle / x \langle 1 \rangle] \Rightarrow P$$

How about the random  
assignment?

# Probabilistic Relational Hoare Logic

## Random Assignment

---

$\vdash x_1 := \$ d_1 \sim x_2 := \$ d_2 : ??$

# We would like to have:

$P(m_1, m_2)$

$\Rightarrow$

$\text{let } a = \{d_1\}_{m_1} \text{ in unit}(m_1 [x_1 \leftarrow a])$

$Q^*$

$\text{let } a = \{d_2\}_{m_2} \text{ in unit}(m_2 [x_2 \leftarrow a])$

---

$\vdash x_1 := \$ d_1 \sim x_2 := \$ d_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$

# We would like to have:

$P(m_1, m_2)$

$\Rightarrow$

$\text{let } a = \{d_1\}_{m_1} \text{ in unit}(m_1 [x_1 \leftarrow a])$

$Q^*$

$\text{let } a = \{d_2\}_{m_2} \text{ in unit}(m_2 [x_2 \leftarrow a])$

---

$\vdash x_1 := \$ d_1 \sim x_2 := \$ d_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$

What is the problem with this rule?