

CSCI 1515 Applied Cryptography

Course Homepage: <https://cs.brown.edu/courses/csci1515/spring-2025/>

This Lecture:

- Introduce Staff
- Syllabus
- Introduction & Overview
- Q & A

Logistics

- **Lectures:** Salomon 001 & Zoom (recorded)
- **Office Hour:** 4:30-5:30pm Mondays, CIT 511 & Zoom,
or by appointment
- **TA Hours:** See course website (calendar)
- **EdStem / Gradescope / Course Website**
- **Prerequisites / Override:**
CSCI 190/200 & 300/300, 220 highly recommended
Basic algorithms & Programming in C/C++
- **Textbooks:** See course website

Assignments

- **Projects:** Warm-up + 5 + Final
 - Only final project will be done in pairs
 - Capstone option for final project
- **Written Homeworks:** 5
- **Collaboration / Google / ChatGPT:**
 - Write up your own solution
 - Acknowledge everyone you've worked with
 - Credit all resources you've looked at
- **Late Policy:**
 - Projects 0-5: 2 late days for free per project
Beyond that: 40% penalty per day
 - Homeworks: No extension
 - Final Project: No extension

Grading

- 1% Self Introduction
- 5% Project 0 (Cipher)
- 30% Projects 1 (Signal), 2 (Auth), 4 (PIR)
- 24% Projects 3 (Vote), 5 (Yaos)
- 25% Homeworks 1-5
- 15% Final Project

What is Cryptography (used for)?

Study of techniques for protecting (sensitive/important) information.

Where is Cryptography used in practice?

What guarantees do we want in these scenarios?

Secure Communication

Alice



"Let's meet @ 9am" →

Bob

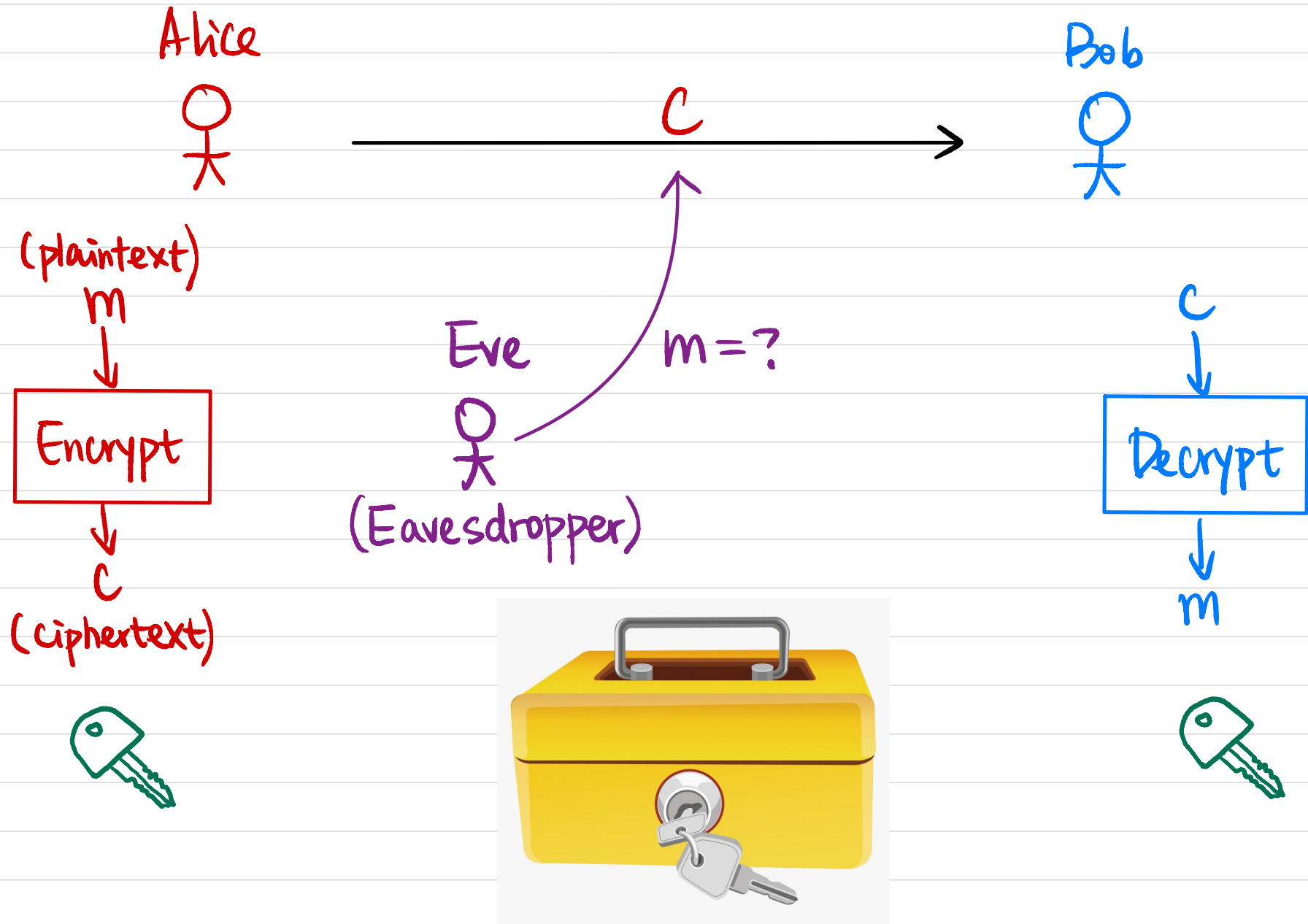


Eve



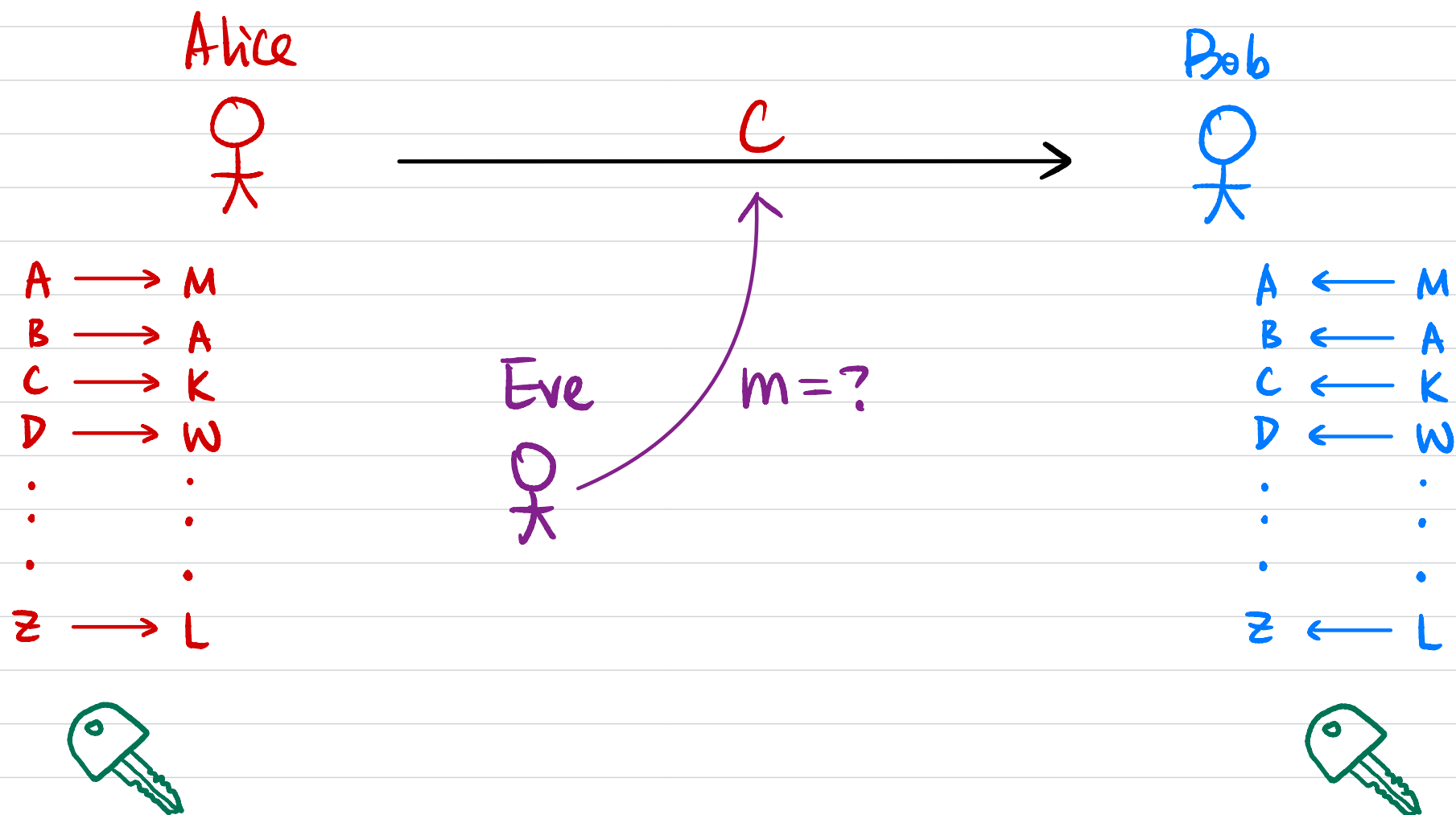
What security guarantee(s) do we want?

Message Secrecy

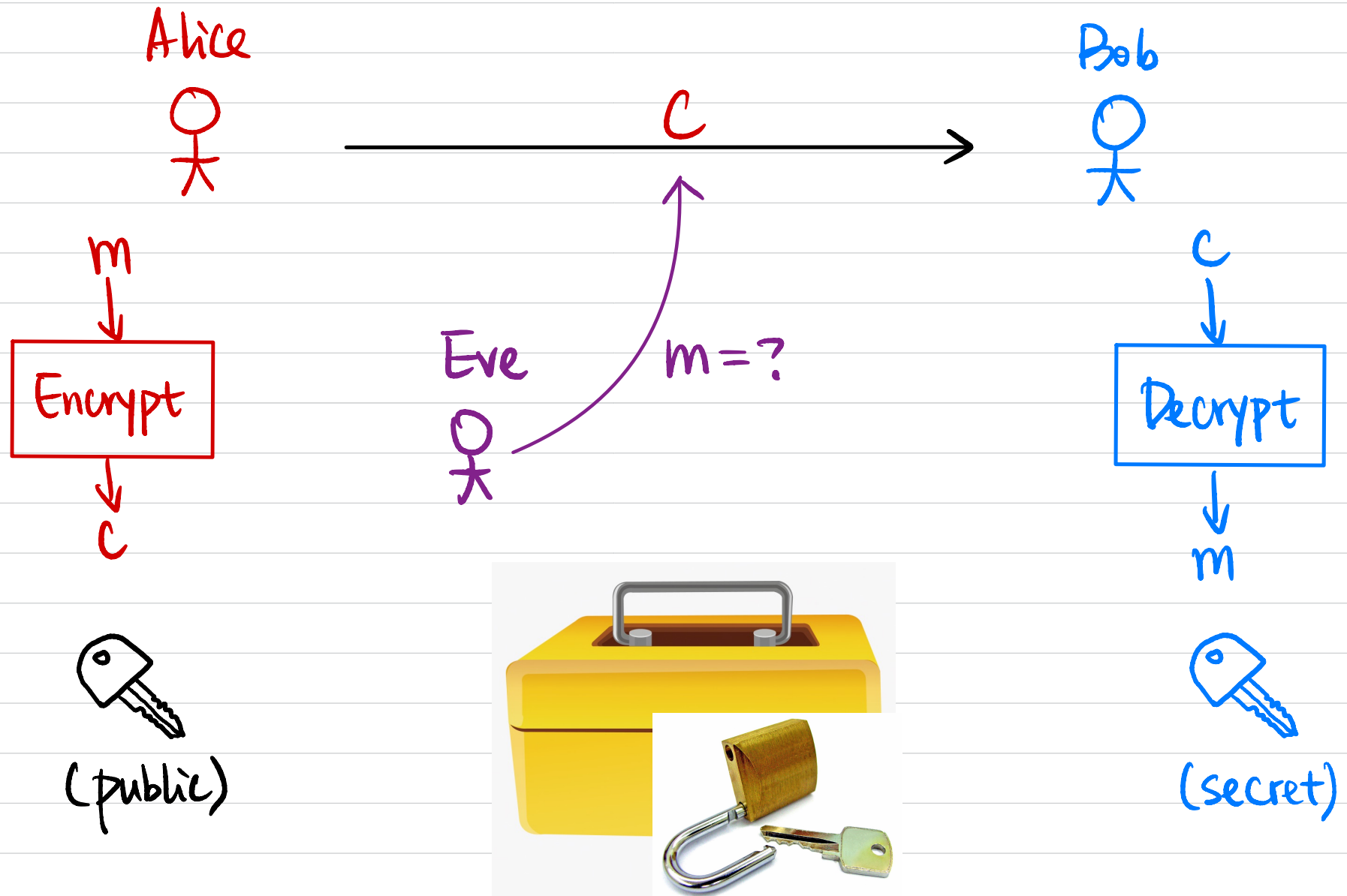


Historical Ciphers

Ex: Substitution Cipher



Public-Key Encryption



Message Integrity

Alice



"Let's meet @ 9am" →

Bob



Is it from Alice?

tamper with

Eve



Secure Authentication

Alice



Login

Google



Is it from Alice?

Password-based Authentication
Two-Factor Authentication

Search/Gmail/...

Is it from Google?

http vs. https

Projects Overview

Project 0 (Cipher): Basic Schemes

Project 1 (Signal): Secure Messaging

Project 2 (Auth): Secure Authentication

Project 3 (Vote): Zero-Knowledge Proofs

Project 4 (PIR): Fully Homomorphic Encryption (Post-Quantum Crypto)

Project 5 (Yaos): Secure Multi-Party Computation

Project 3: Zero-Knowledge Proofs

Alice



Bob



[There is a bug in your code]

[I have the secret key
for this ciphertext]

[There is enough balance
in my Bitcoin account]

[  have different colors]

Example: Red & Green Balls

Alice



[○ ○ have different colors]

(Color-blind)

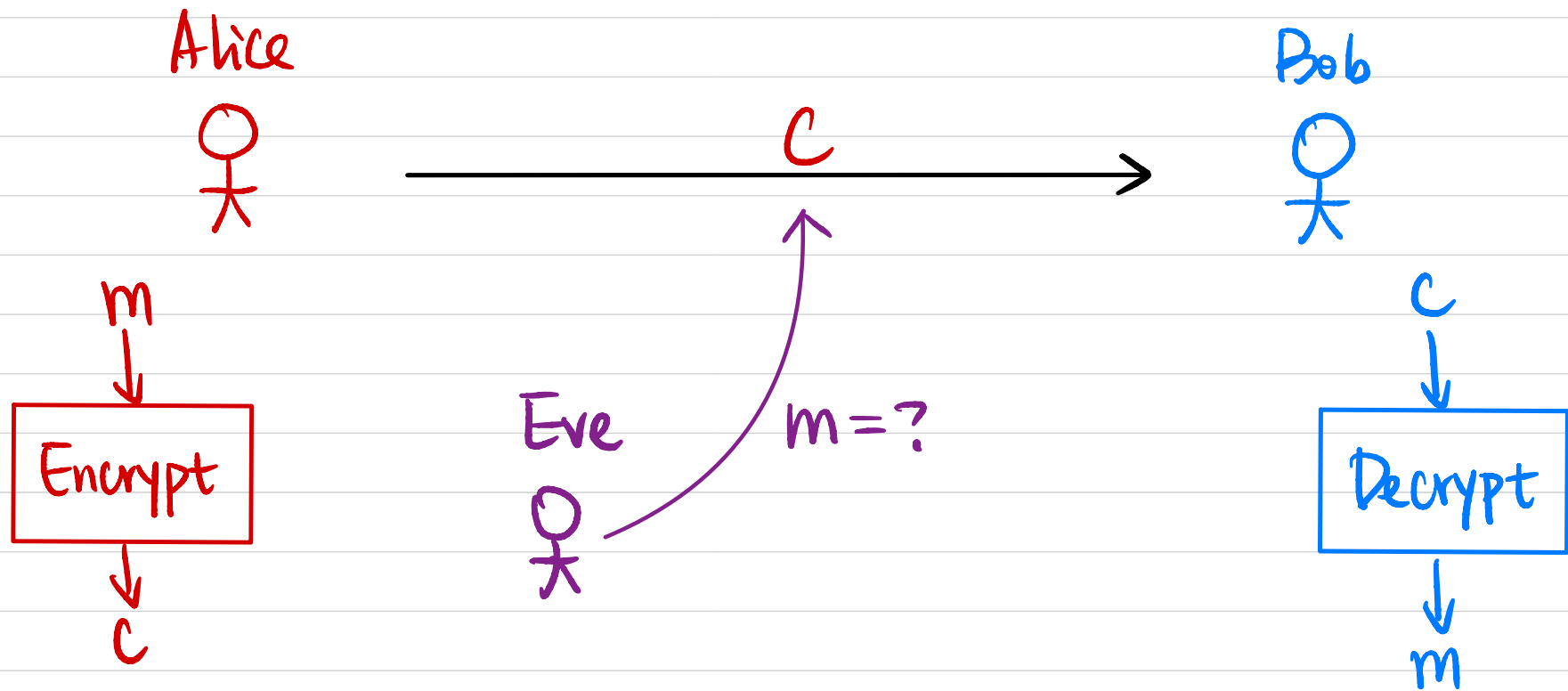
Bob



If statement is true:

If statement is false:

Project 4: Fully Homomorphic Encryption



$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &= \text{Enc}(m_1) \\ C_2 &= \text{Enc}(m_2) \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} C' &= \text{Enc}(m_1 + m_2) \\ C'' &= \text{Enc}(m_1 \cdot m_2) \end{aligned}$$

Example: Privacy-Preserving Query

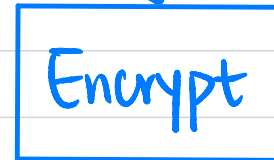
Server



Client



m



c



Search / ML / GPT / ...



$c' \leftarrow \text{Eval}(F, c)$



c'



$F(m)$

Project 5: Secure Multi-Party Computation

Alice



Second date?

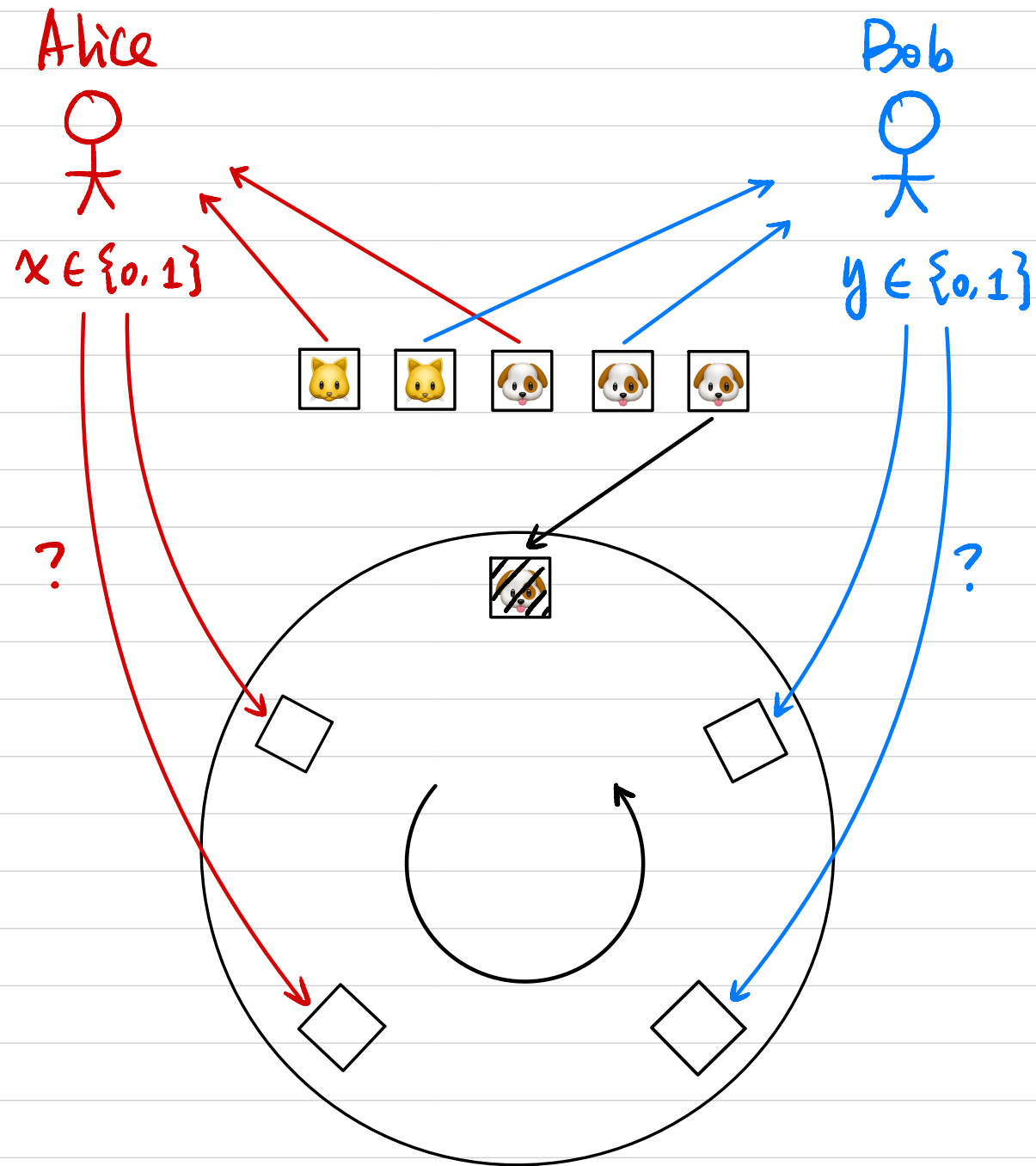
Bob



Who is richer?

Mutual friends?

Example: Private Dating



Q & A

- Crypto background?
- Readings before/after lecture?
- Why C++?
- Class Participation
- Remote-Only Students
- Another course with conflicting time?
- CSCI 1040 (The Basics of Cryptographic Systems) "Crypto for poets"
- MATH 1580 (Cryptography) Why is it correct?
- CSCI 1510 (Introduction to Cryptography and Computer Security) Why is it secure?
- CSCI 1515 (Applied Cryptography) How to use it?