

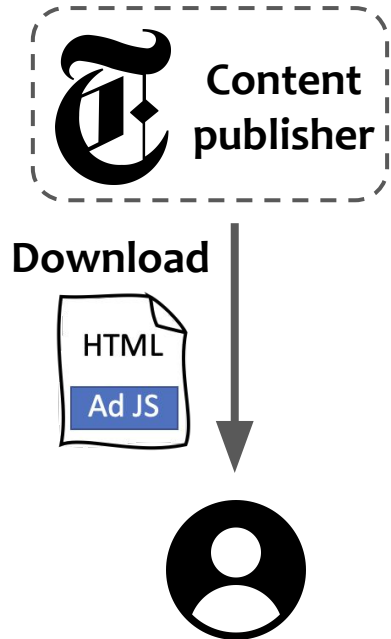


Addax: A fast, private, and accountable ad exchange infrastructure

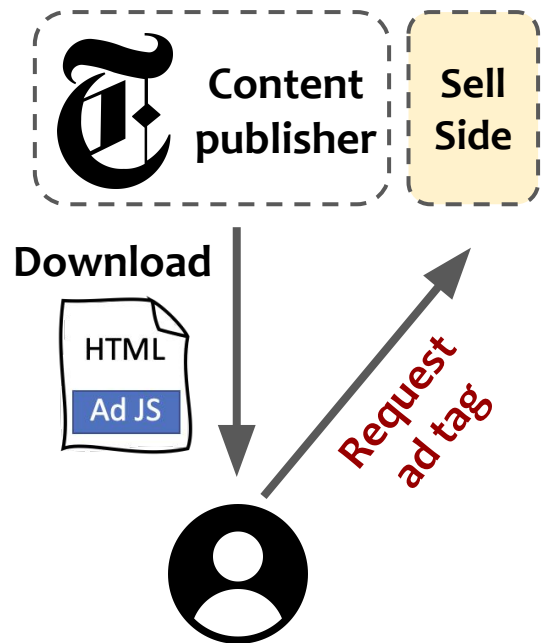
Ke Zhong¹, Yiping Ma¹, Yifeng Mao¹, Sebastian Angel^{1,2}

¹University of Pennsylvania ²Microsoft Research

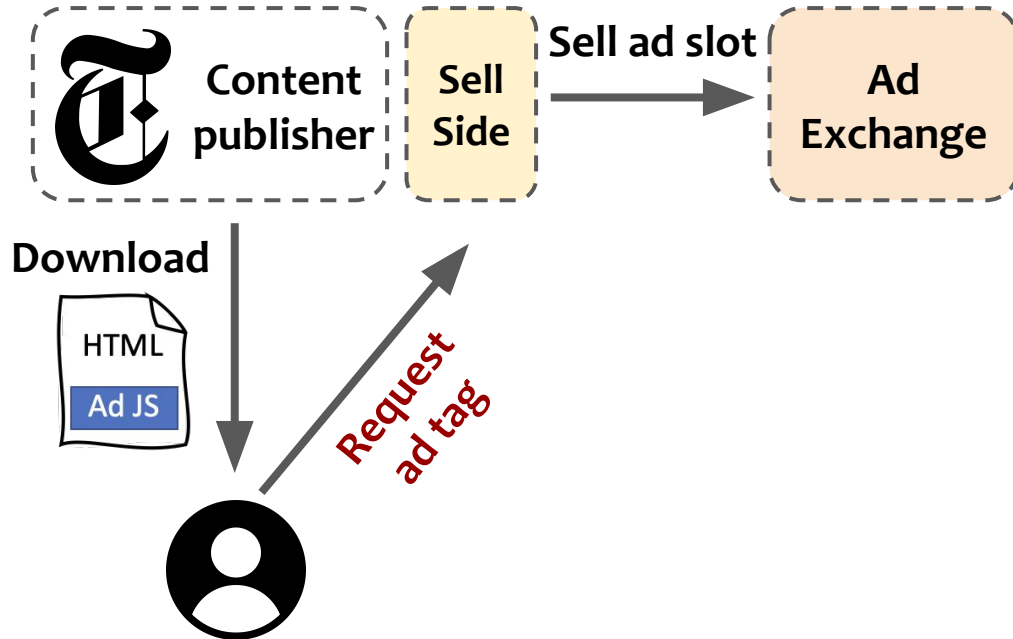
Current ads architecture



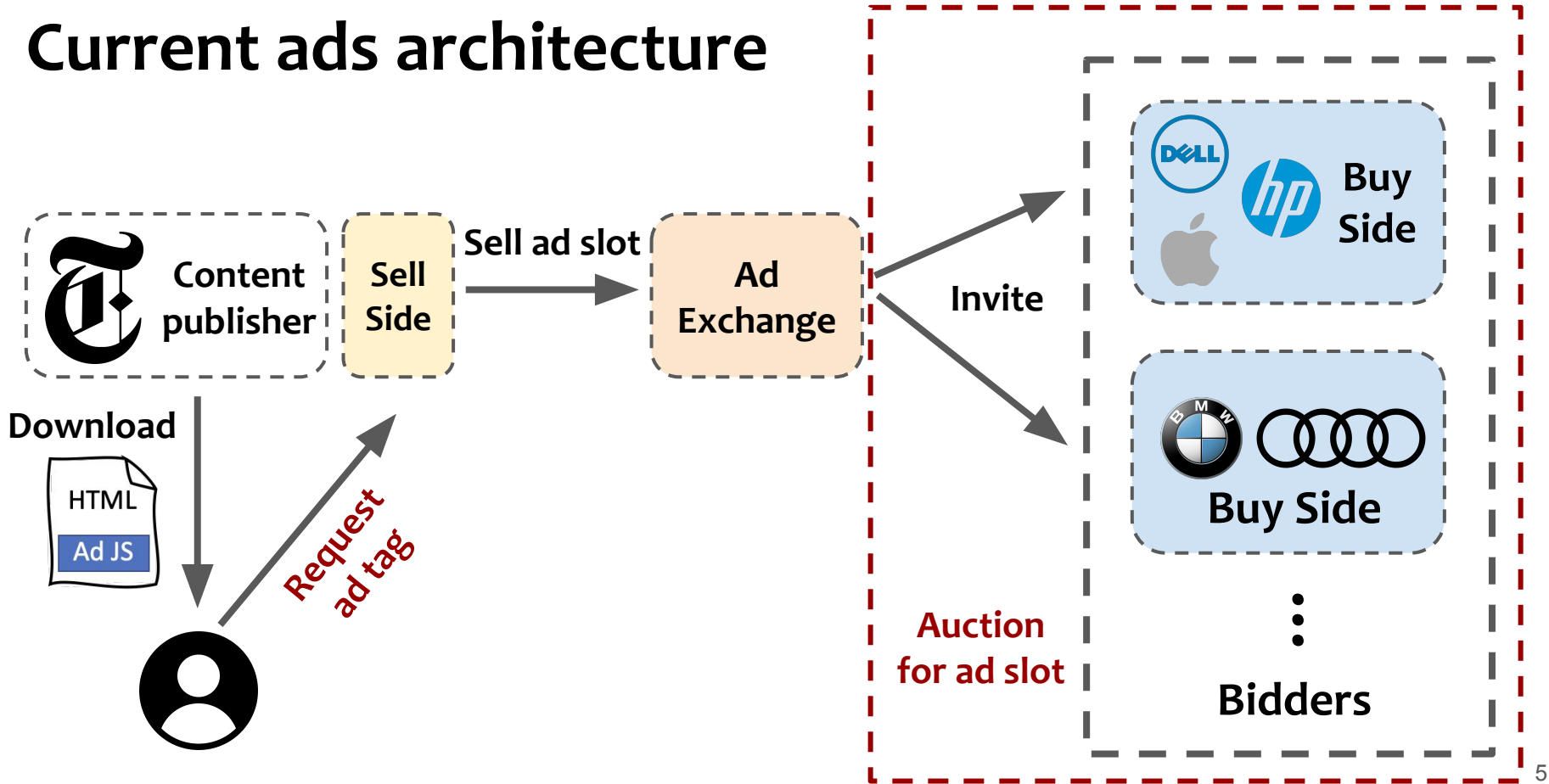
Current ads architecture



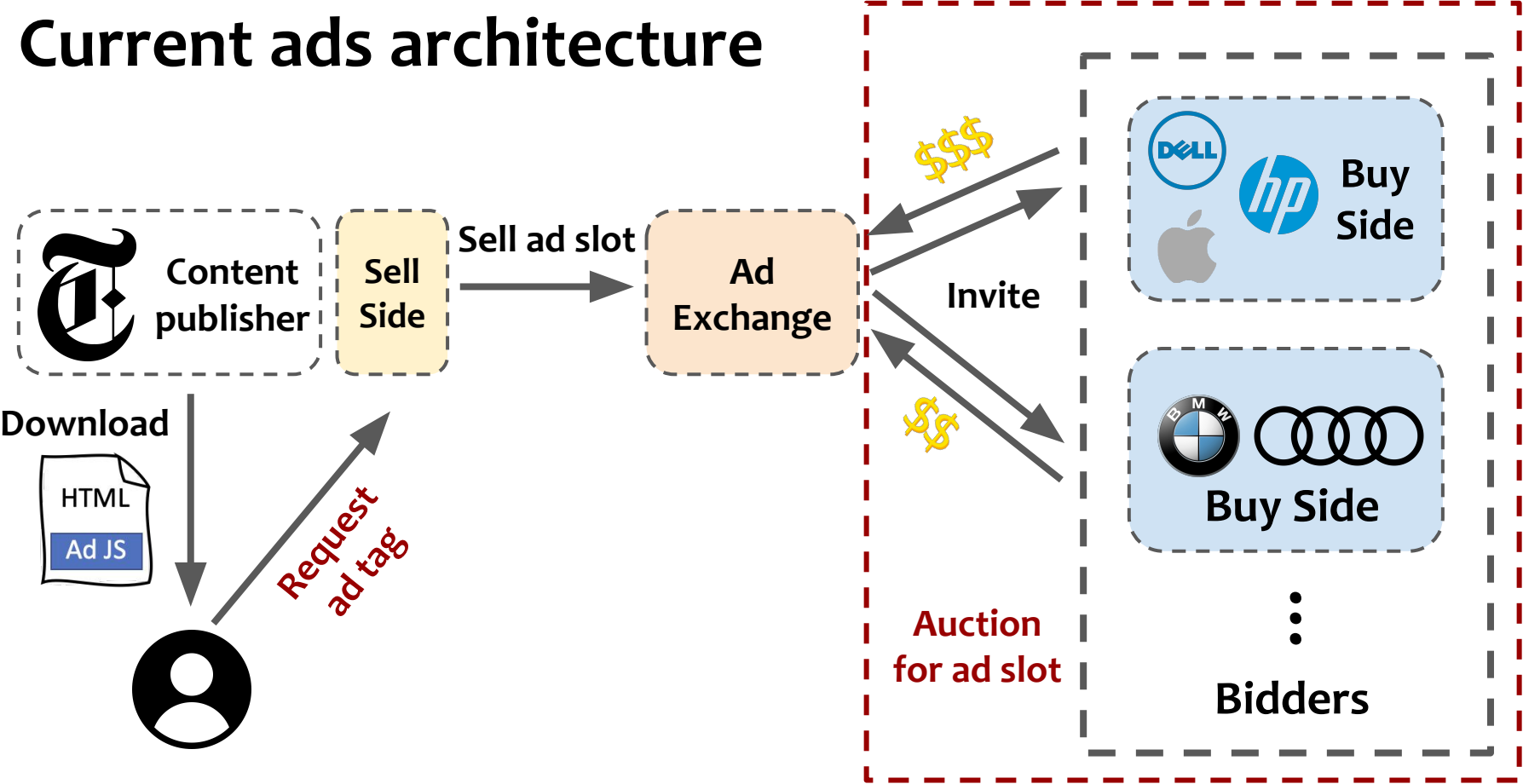
Current ads architecture



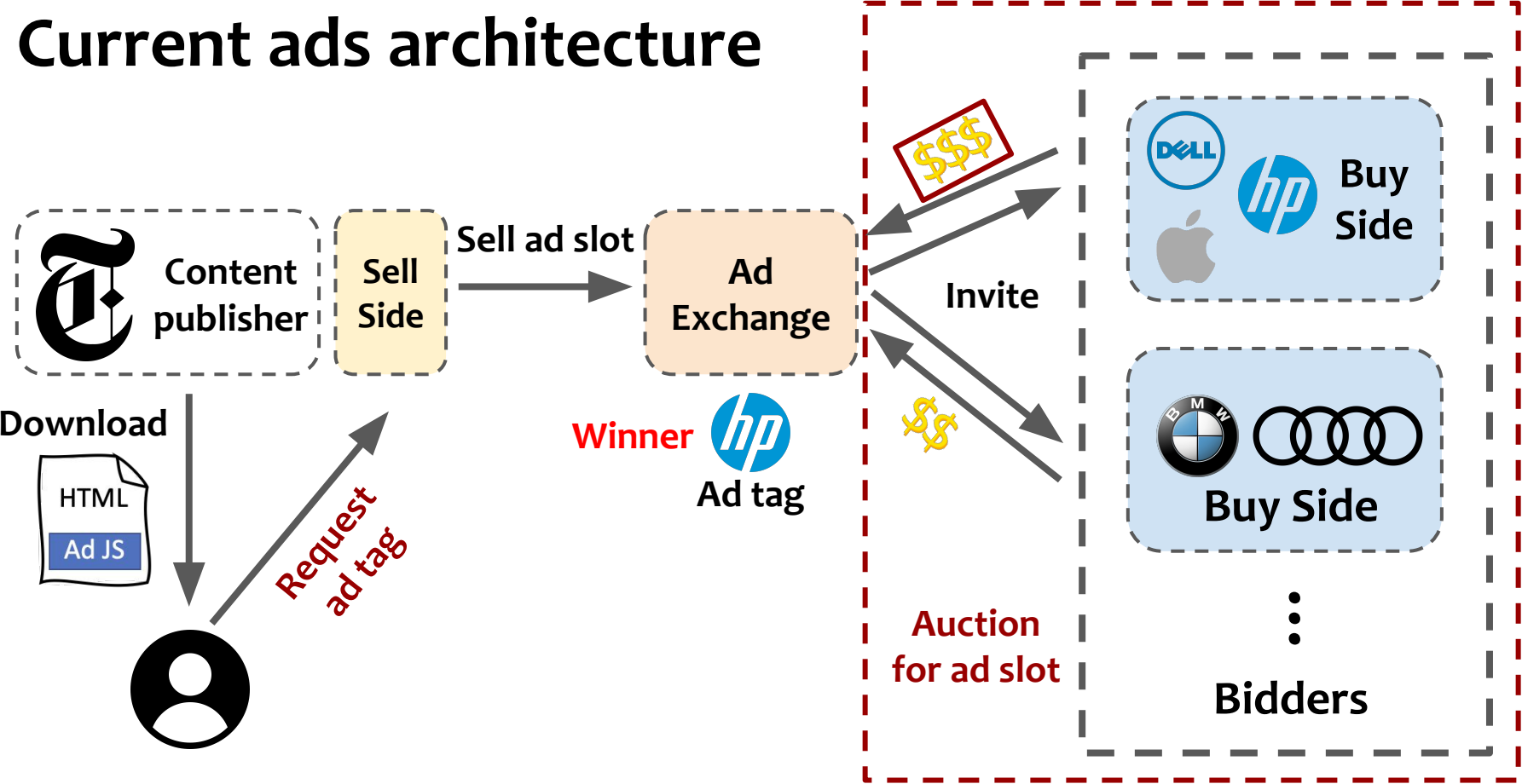
Current ads architecture



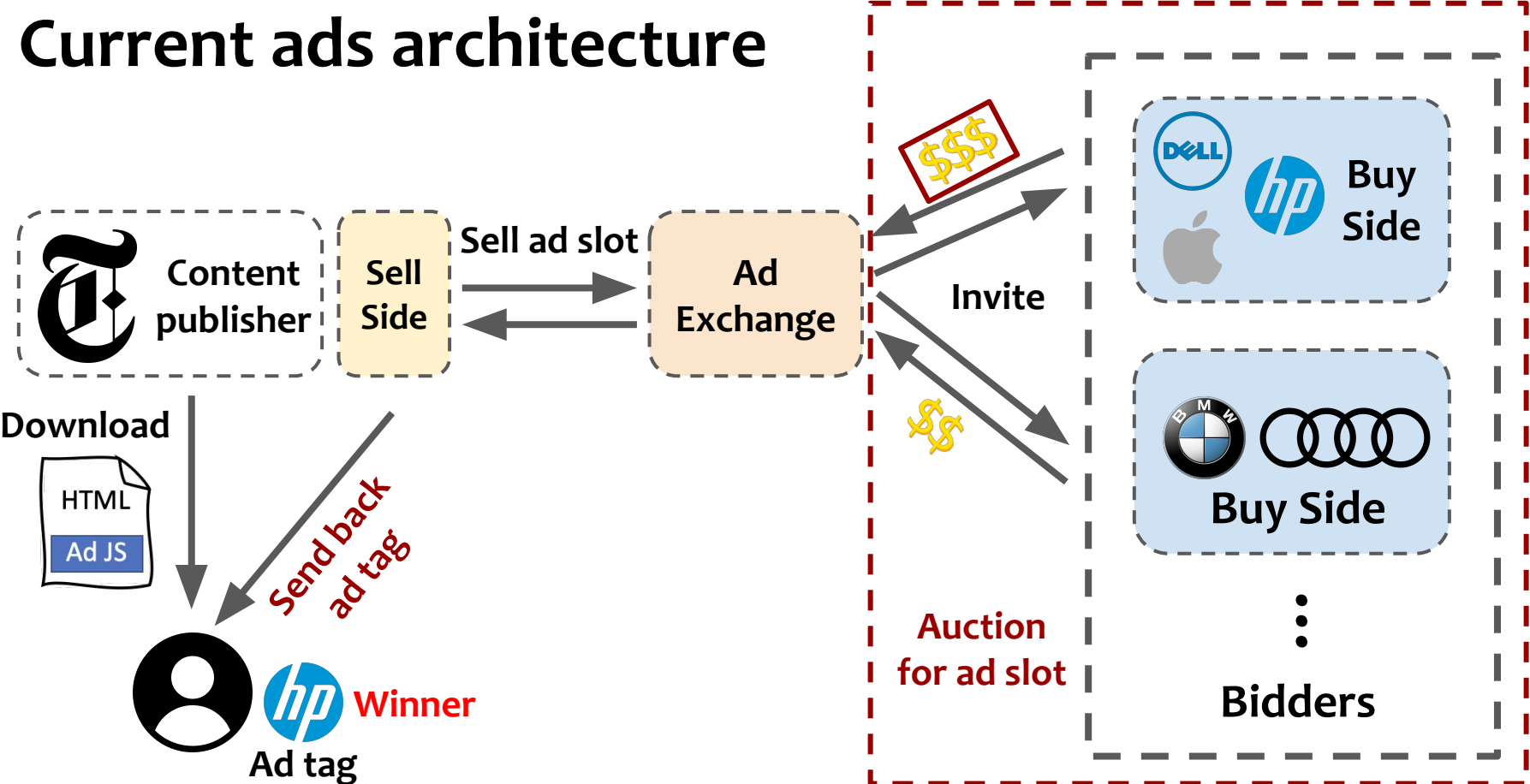
Current ads architecture



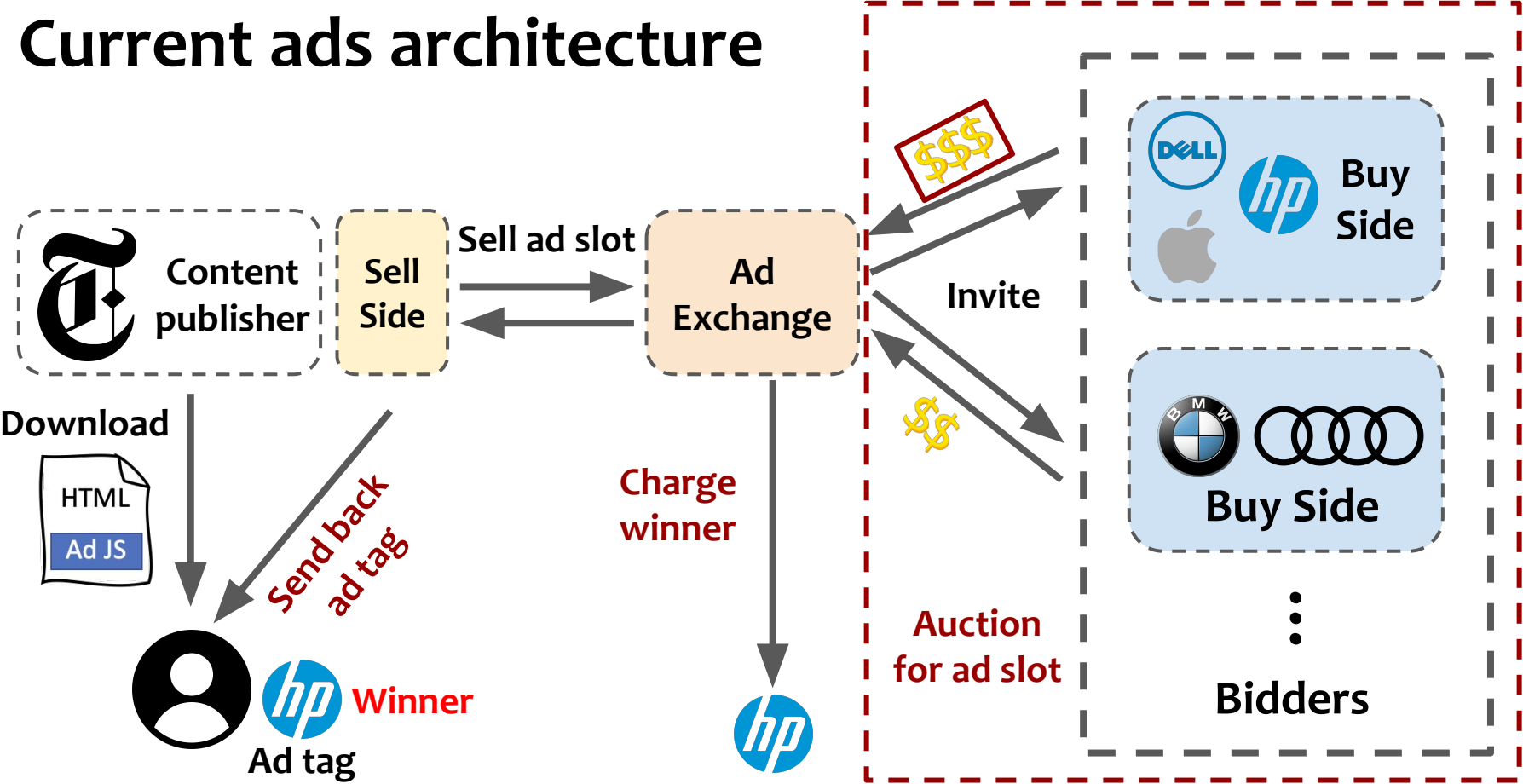
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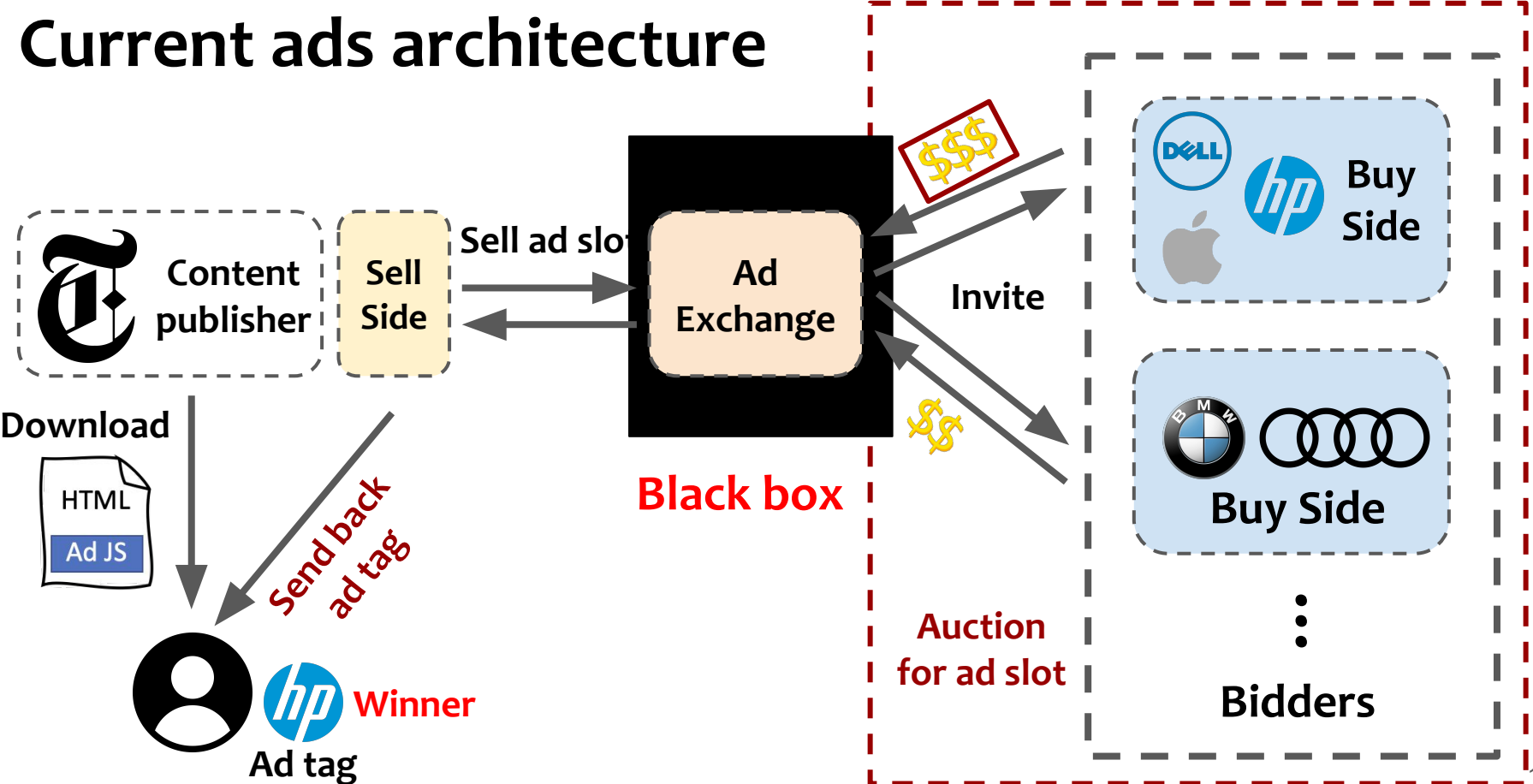
Current ads architecture



Current ads architecture



Current ads architecture



Justice Department Sues Google for Monopolizing Digital Advertising Technologies

“Manipulating auction mechanics across several of its products to insulate Google from competition, deprive rivals of scale, and halt the rise of rival technologies.”, 2023

Department of Justice



Justice Department Sues Google for Monopolizing Digital Advertising Technologies

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“Google used insider knowledge of past bids submitted by advertisers to gain unfair advantages whenever its subsidiaries participated in auctions” 2021

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

*Justice Department Sues Google for Monopoly
Advertising Technologies*

“Manipulating auction mechanics and
products to insulate Google from competition
of scale, and halt t

De

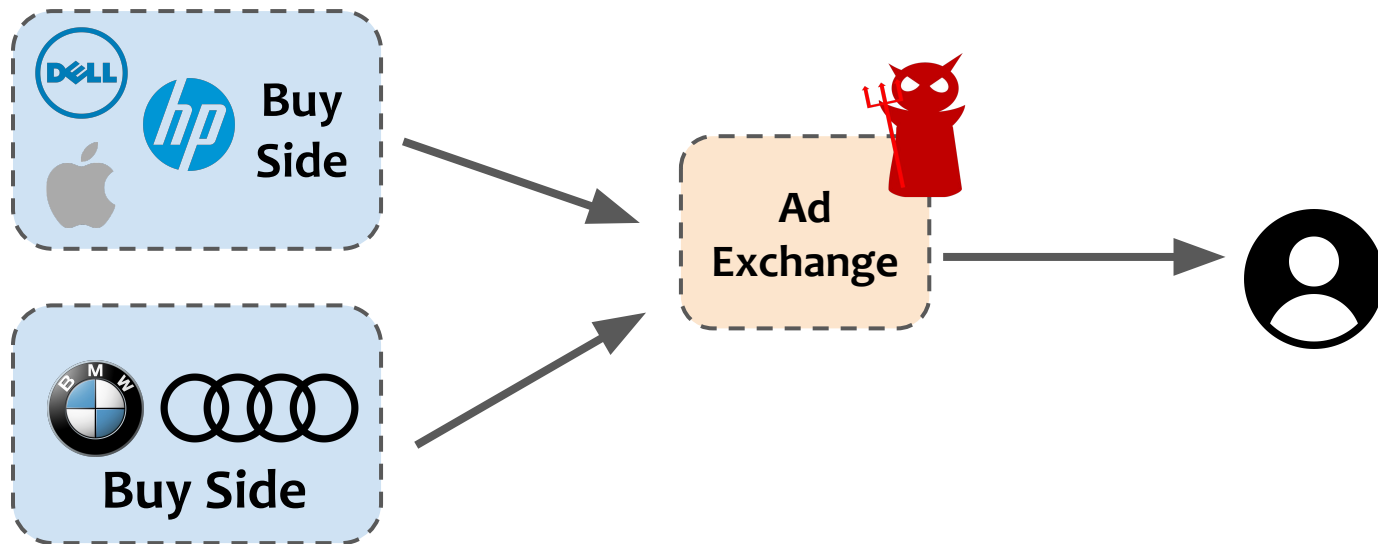


**Not sure whether these
claims are true or not, but
they make the ad exchanges
look untrustworthy.**

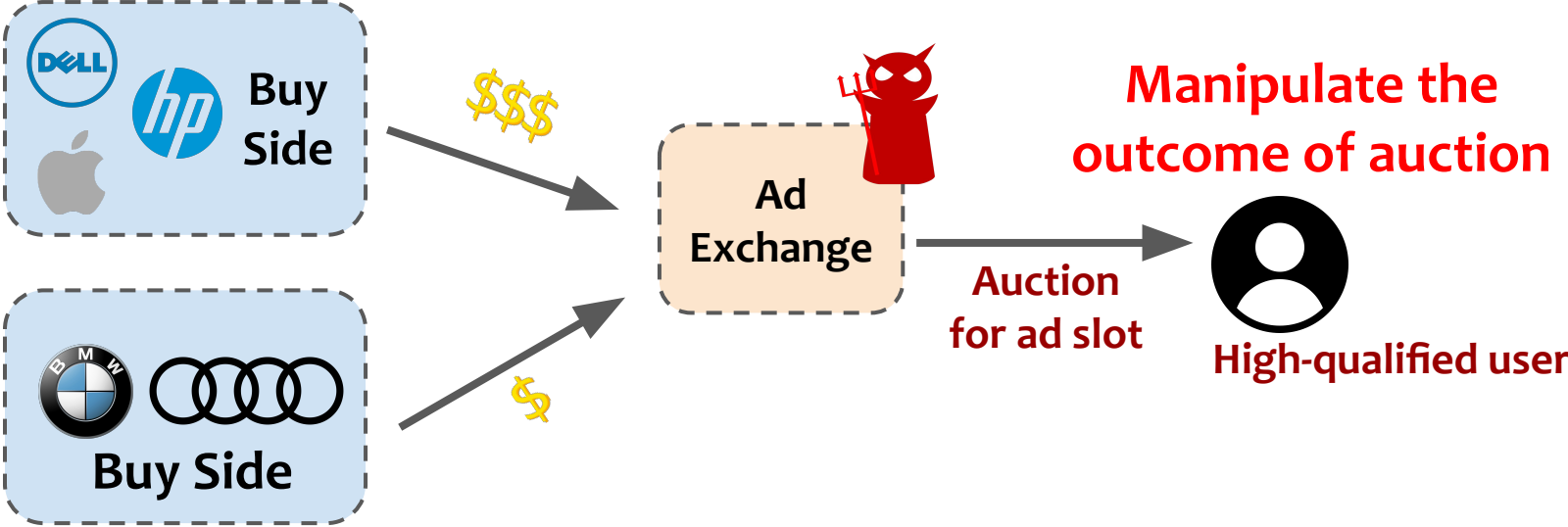
insider knowledge of past bids submitted
to gain unfair advantages whenever its
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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

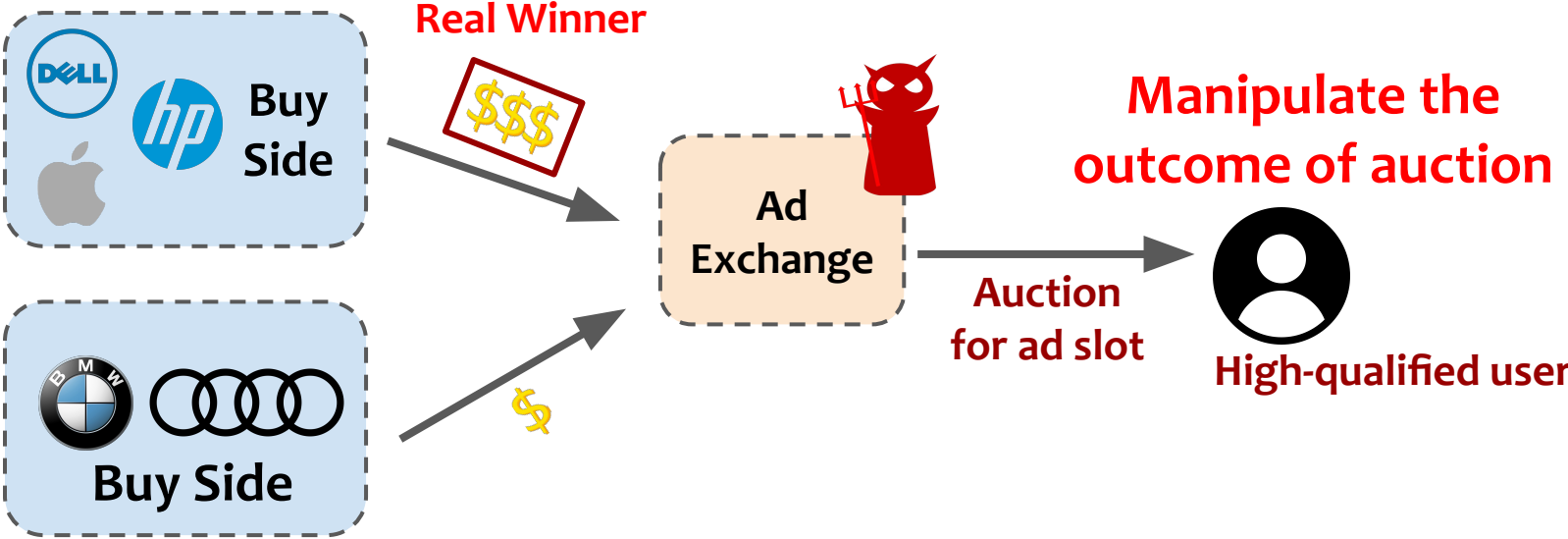
Distrust of current ad exchanges



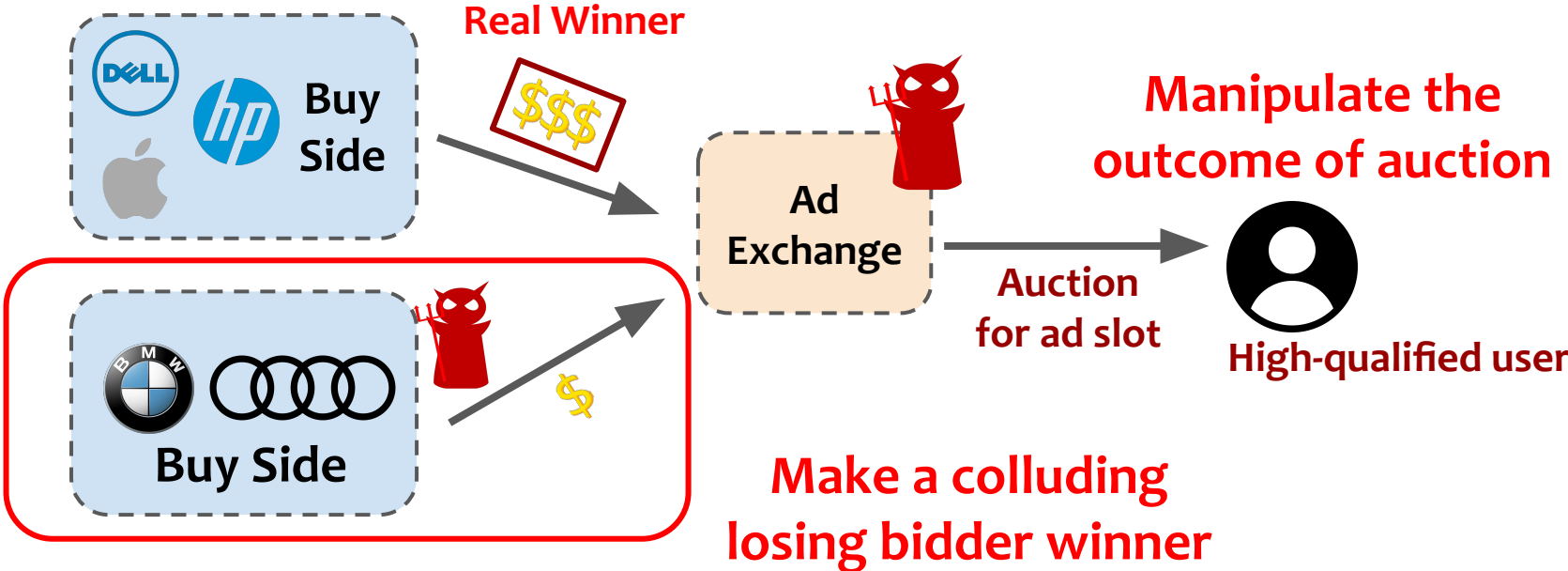
Distrust of current ad exchanges



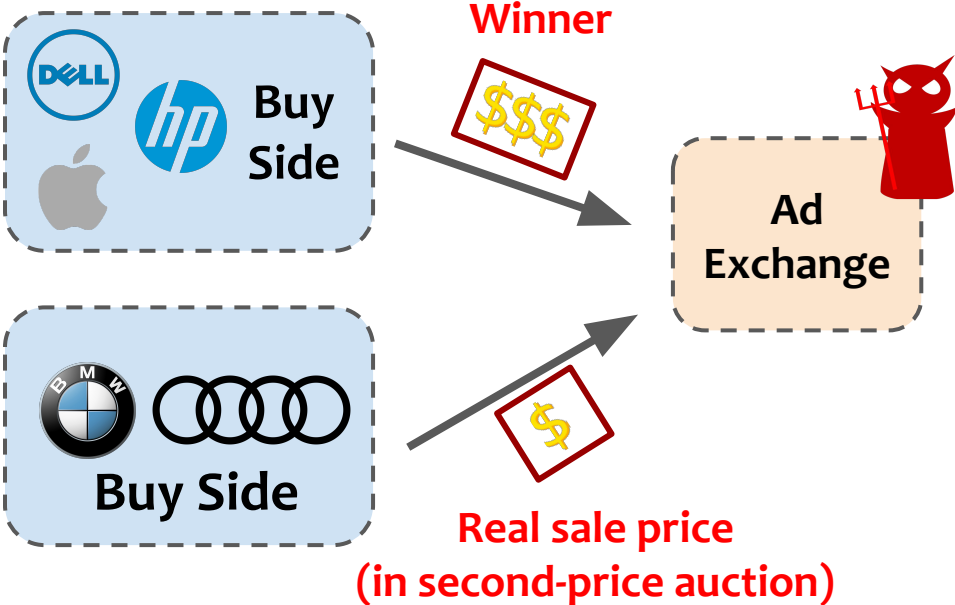
Distrust of current ad exchanges



Distrust of current ad exchanges

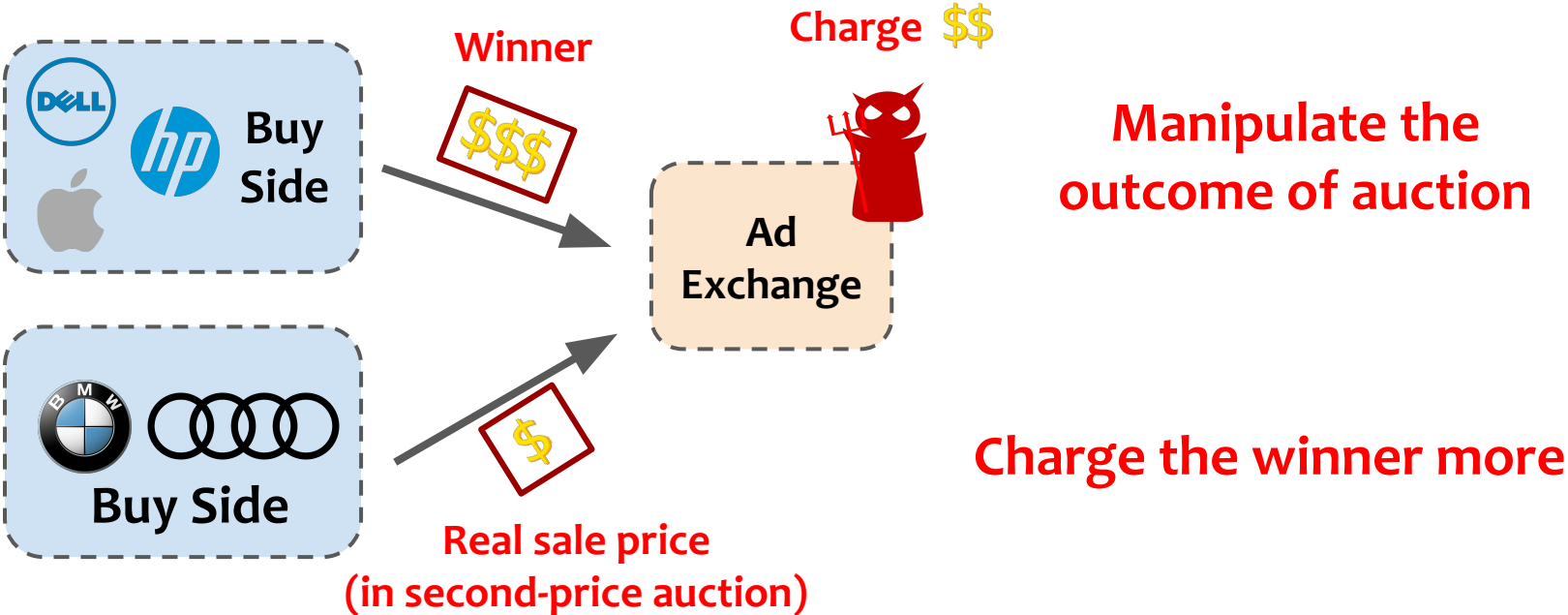


Distrust of current ad exchanges

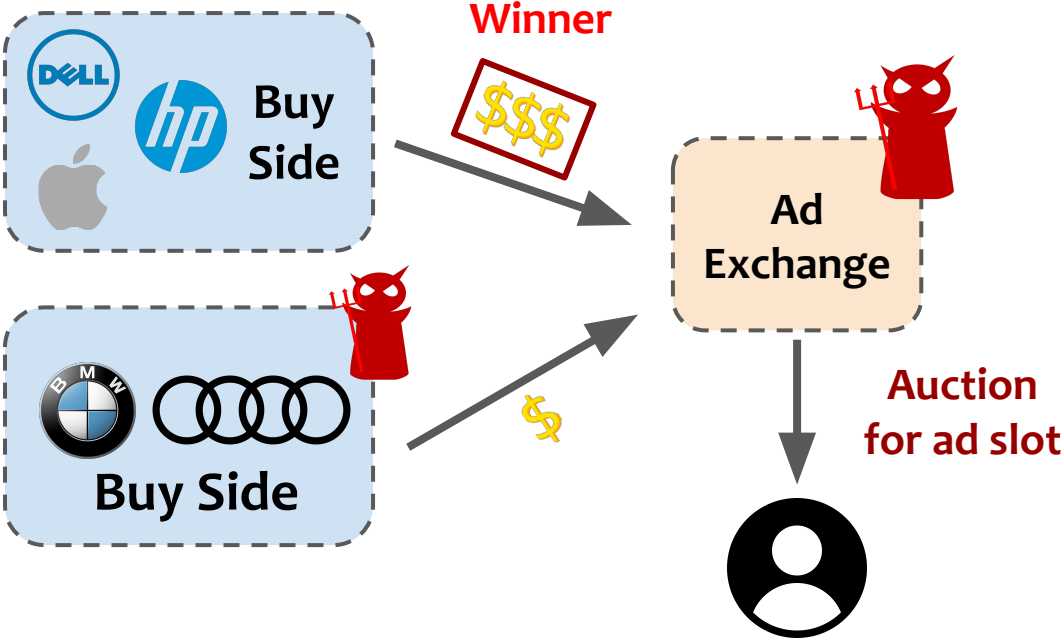


**Manipulate the
outcome of auction**

Distrust of current ad exchanges

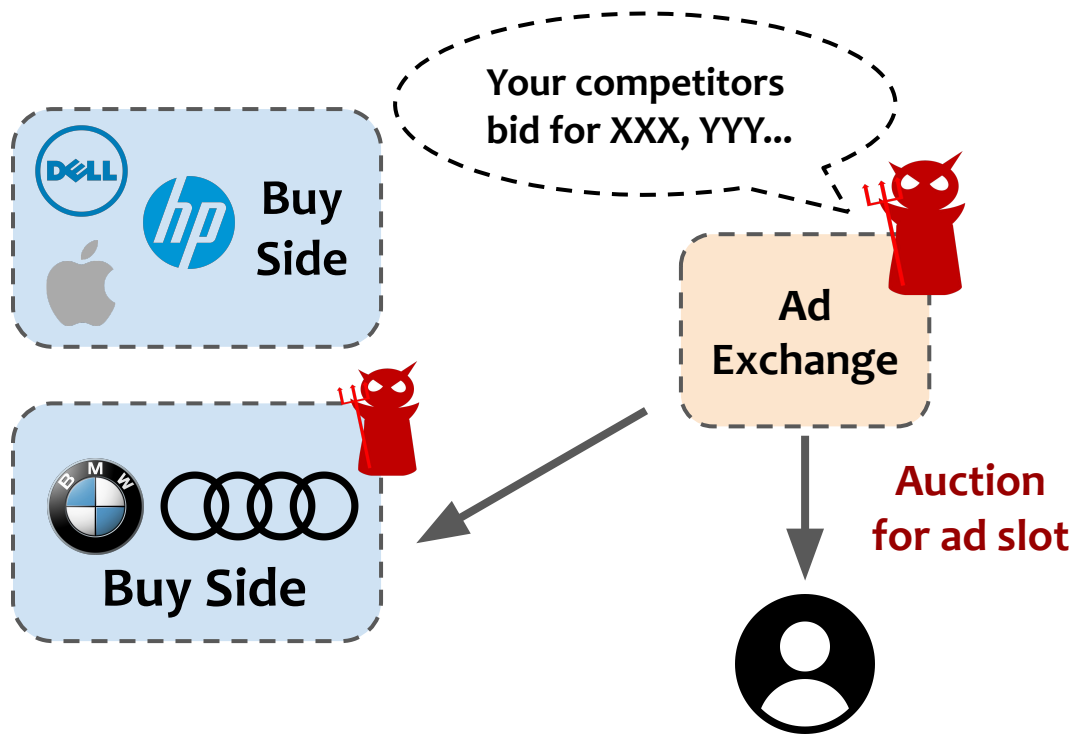


Distrust of current ad exchanges



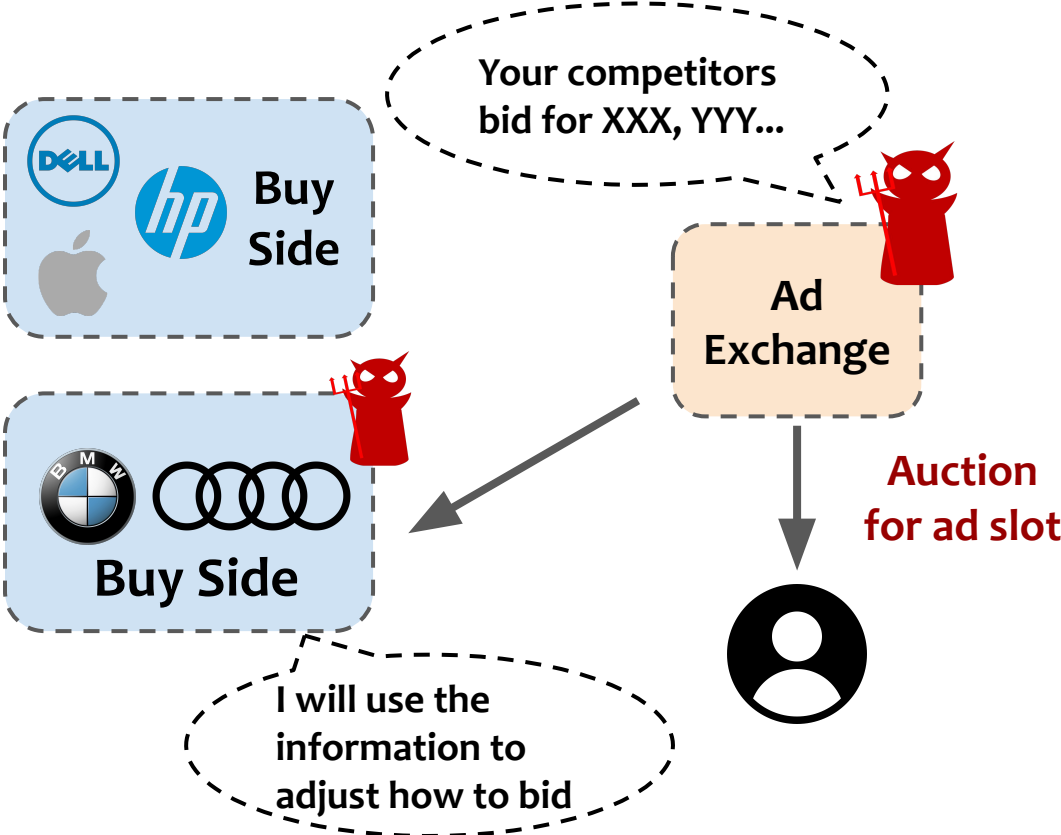
Gain all bidders' bid information

Distrust of current ad exchanges



Gain all bidders' bid information

Distrust of current ad exchanges

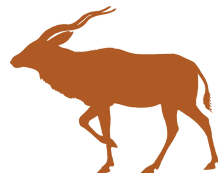


Gain all bidders' bid information

Crux of the distrust

- **Lack ways to prove that ad exchanges conduct auctions correctly.**
- **Lack ways to prove that ad exchanges are not misusing additional bid information.**

Crux of the distrust



We propose Addax to provide mechanisms to help ad exchange companies to *build up trust* again!

Goals

- **Public verifiability for auction**
 - **Ad exchanges can prove that they conduct auctions correctly.**

Goals

- **Public verifiability for auction**
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- **Bids privacy for losing bidders**
 - Ad exchanges cannot learn values of losing bidders' bids.

Goals

- **Public verifiability for auction**
 - Ad exchanges can prove that they conduct auctions correctly.
- **Bids privacy for losing bidders**
 - Ad exchanges cannot learn values of losing bidders' bids.
- **Practicability for real-time bidding**
 - Low latency (hundreds of ms) and high throughput.

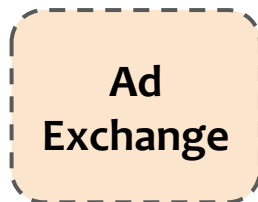
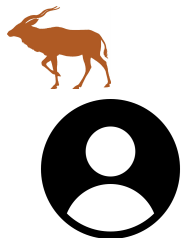
Rest of this talk

- **Overview of Addax**
- **Private auction protocol**
- **Make auction verifiable**
- **Experimental evaluation**

Rest of this talk

- **Overview of Addax**
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Architecture of Addax



Bidder



Bidder

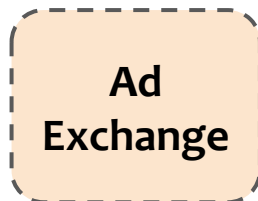


Bidder

Architecture of Addax



Public append-only ledger



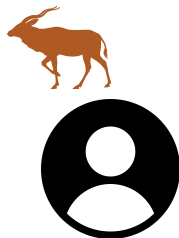
Bidder



Bidder



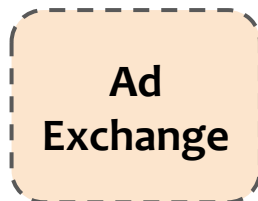
Bidder



Architecture of Addax



For storage purposes



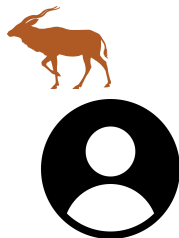
Bidder



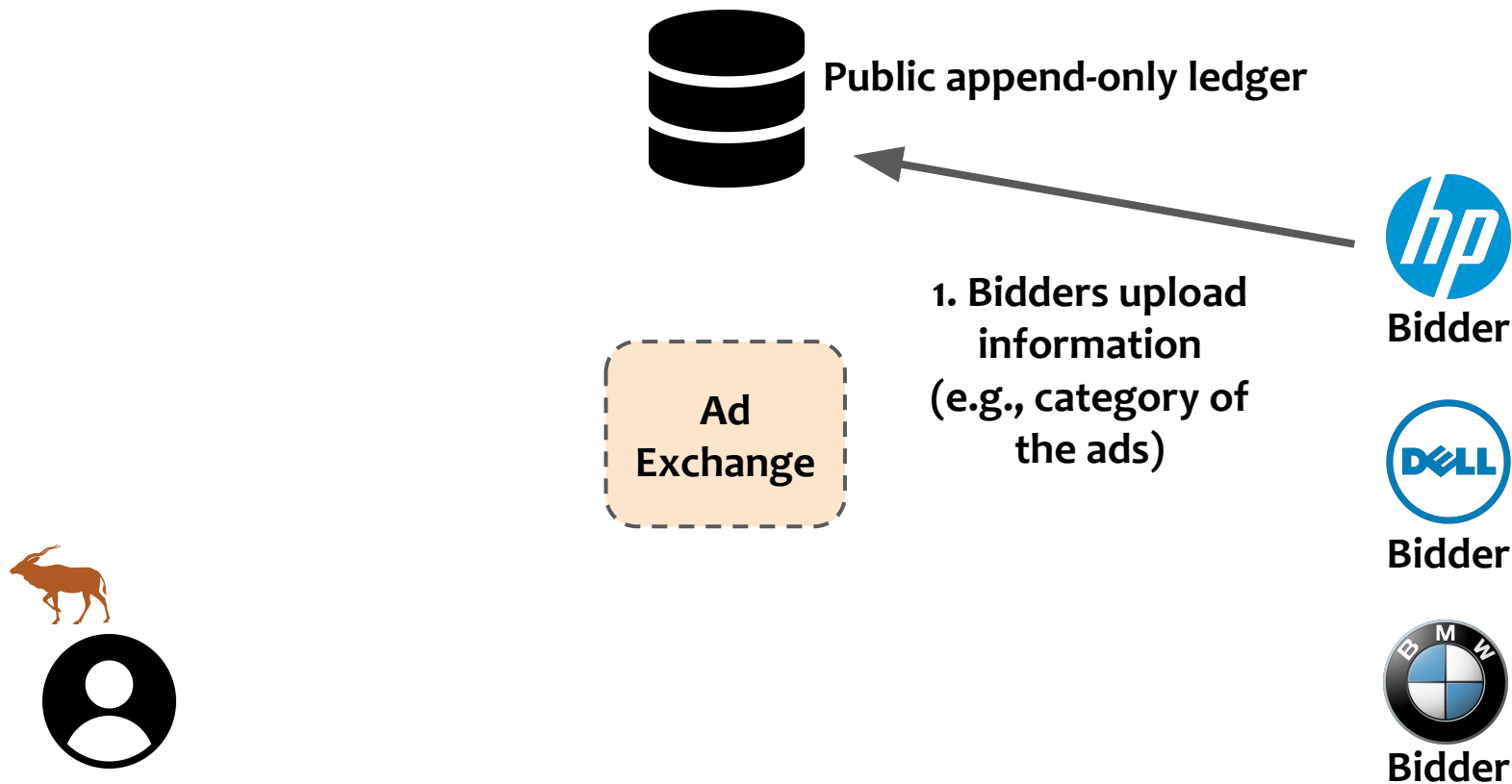
Bidder



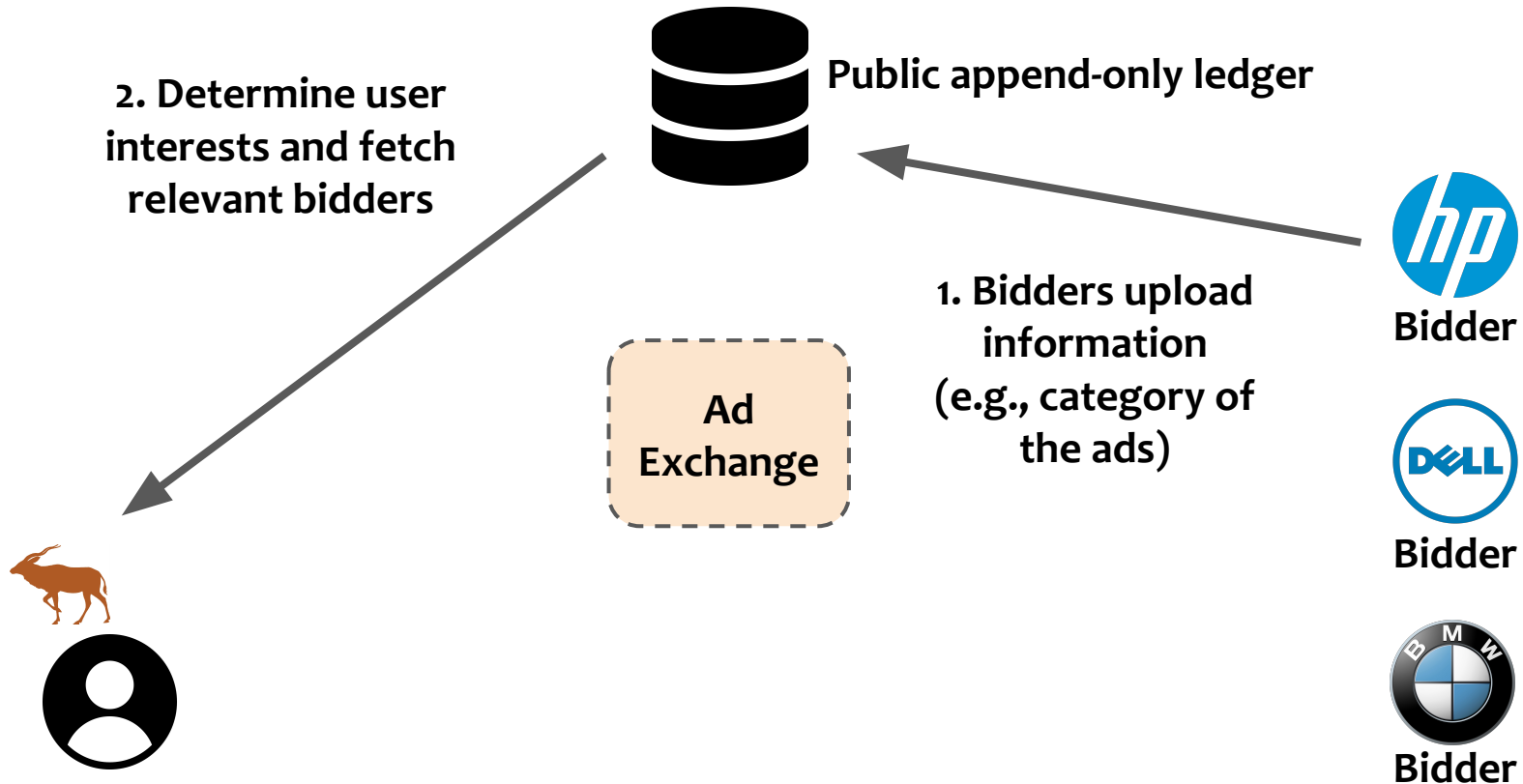
Bidder



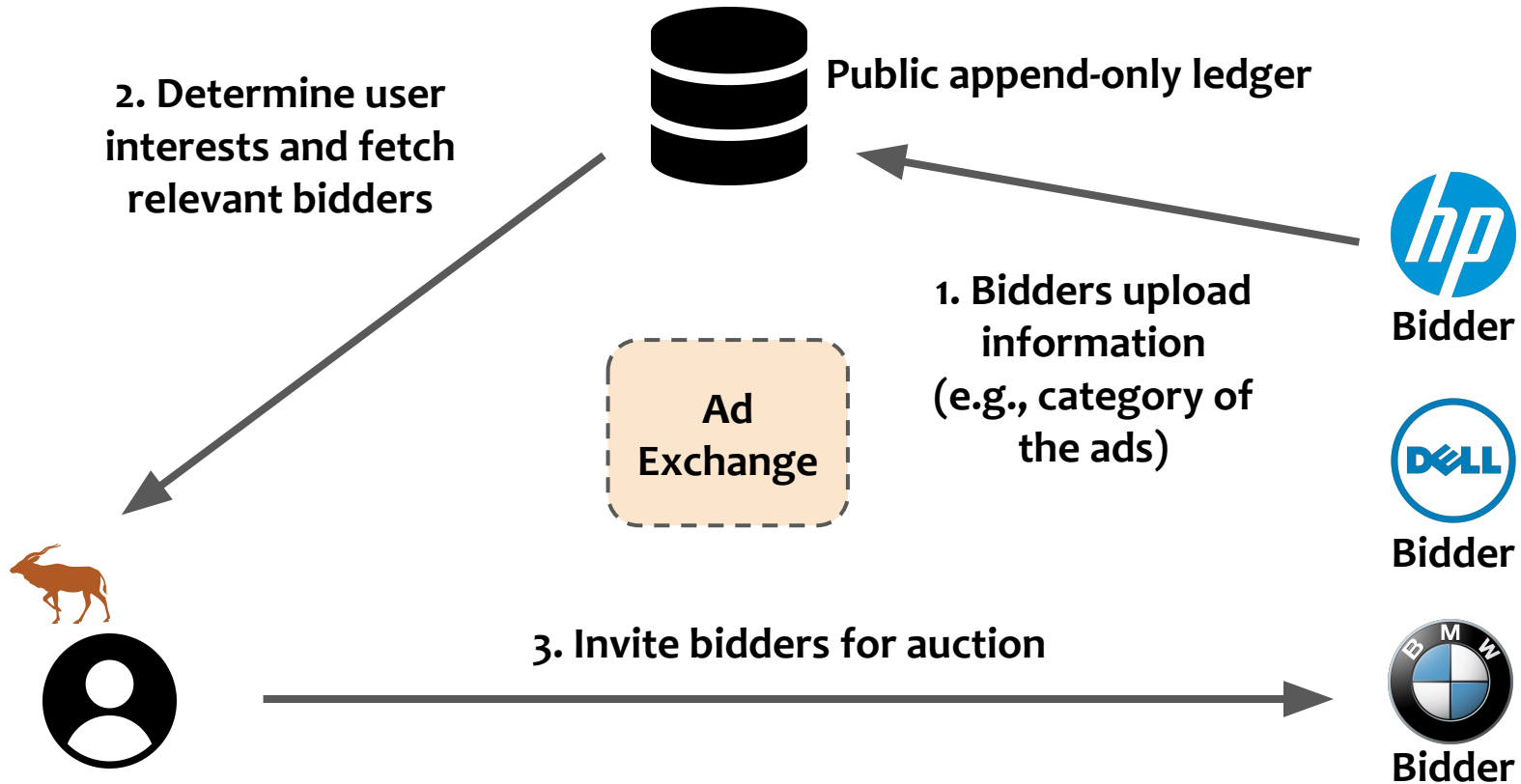
Architecture of Addax



Architecture of Addax



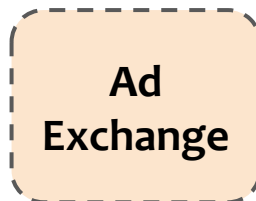
Architecture of Addax



Architecture of Addax



Public append-only ledger



4. Submit bids



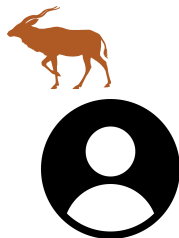
Bidder



Bidder



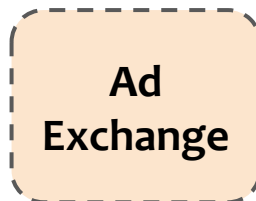
Bidder



Architecture of Addax



Public append-only ledger



4. Submit bid shares



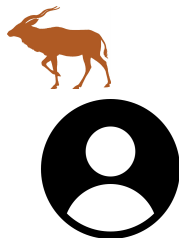
Bidder



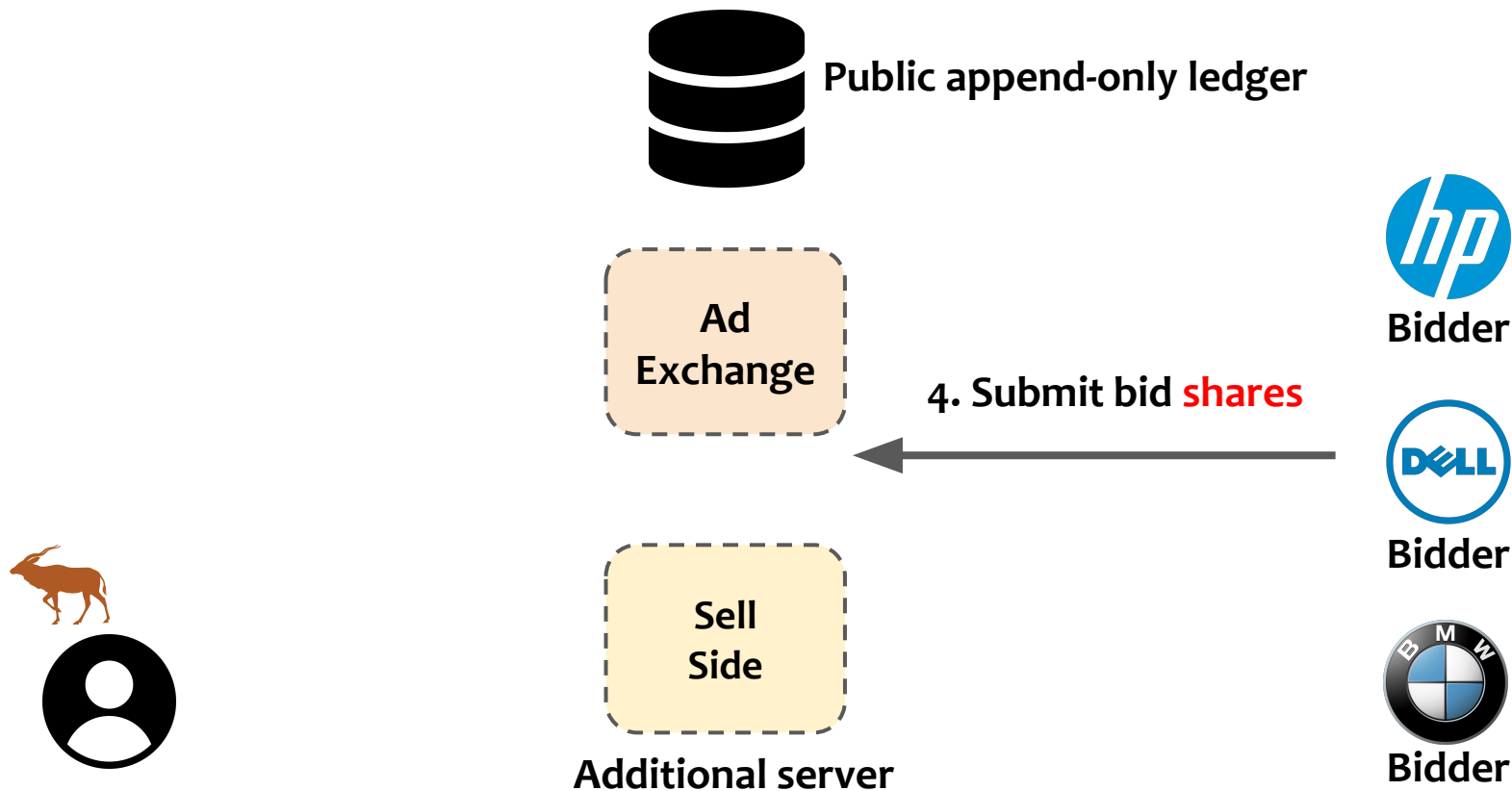
Bidder



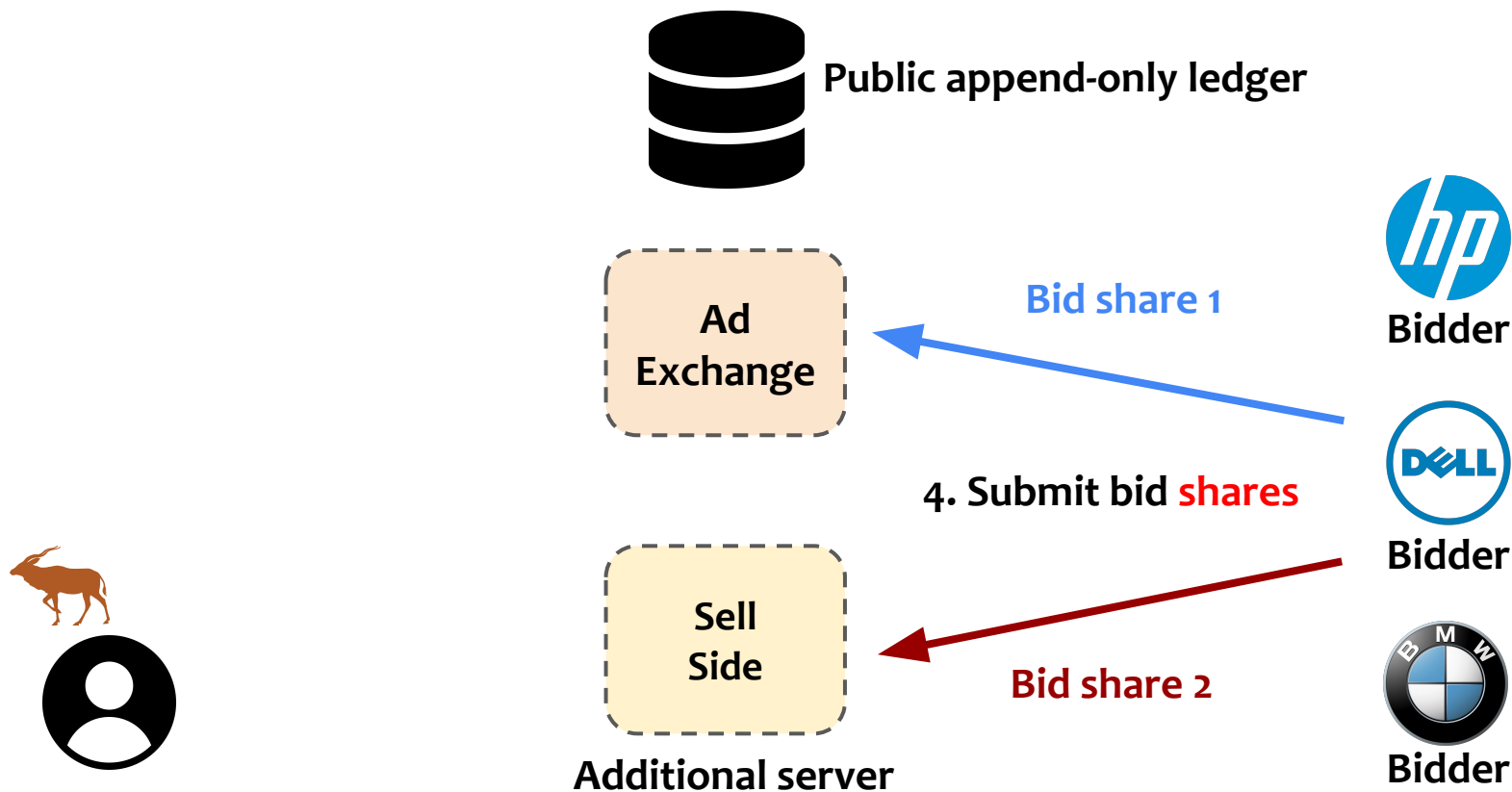
Bidder



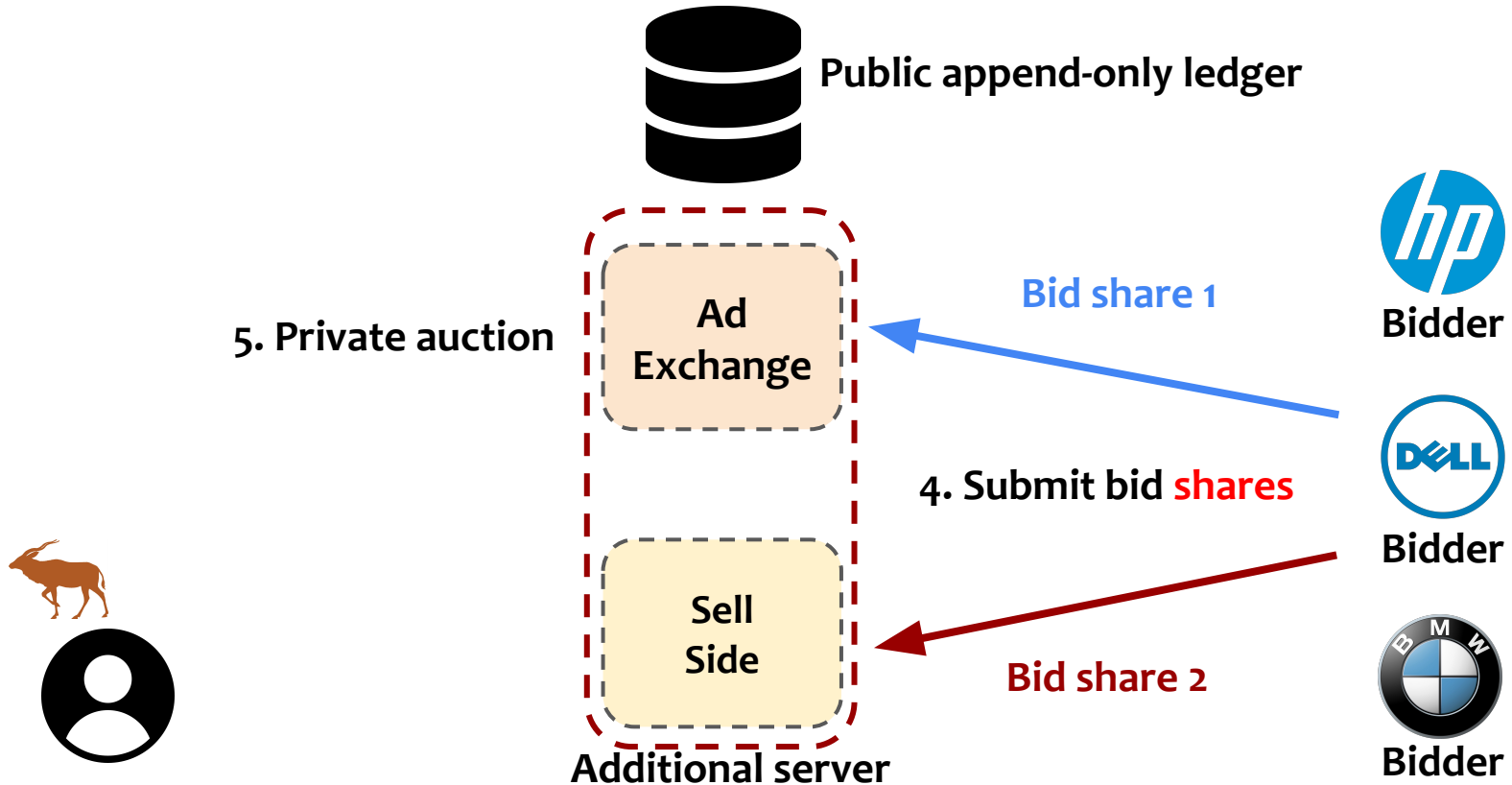
Architecture of Addax



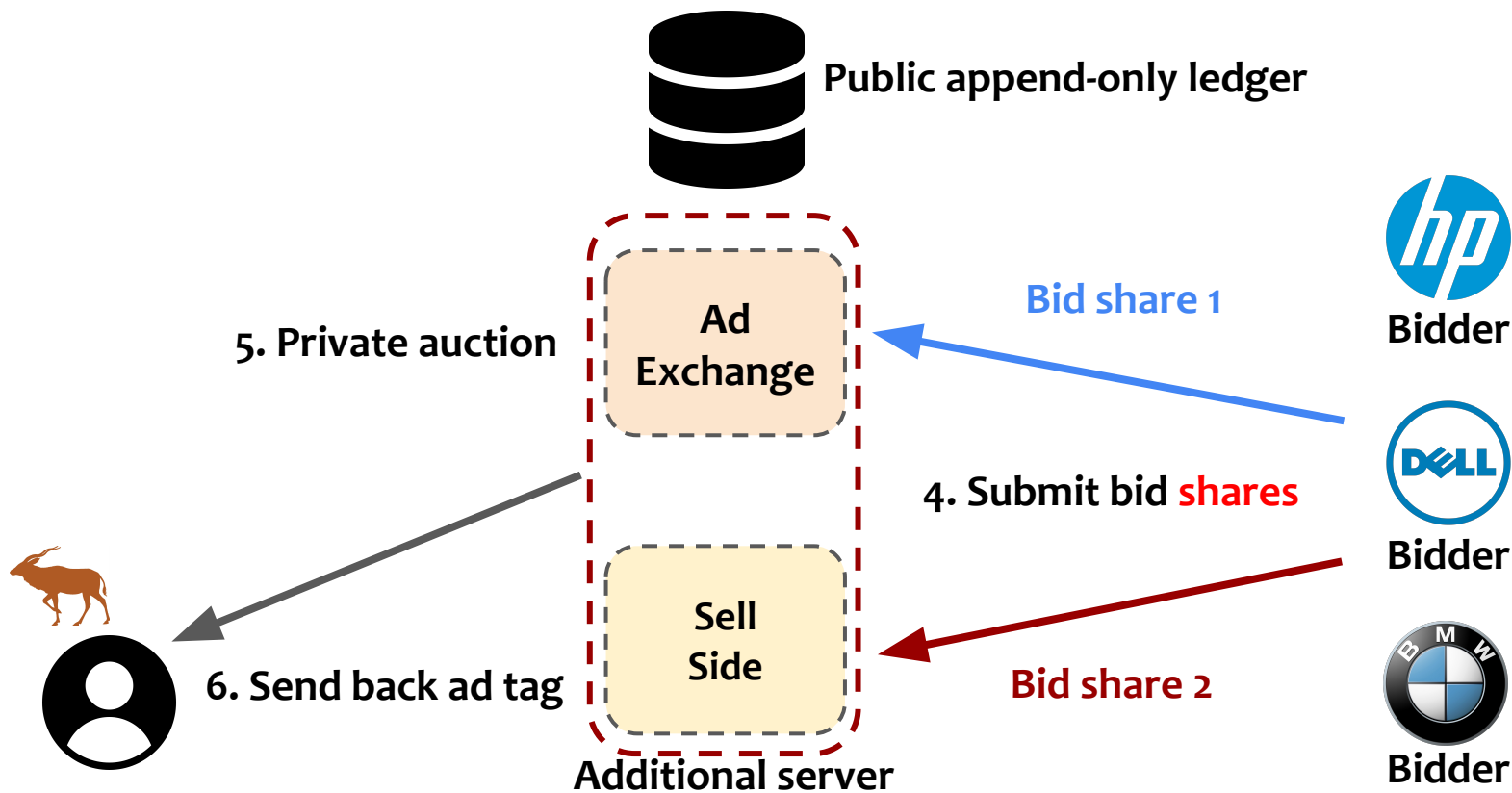
Architecture of Addax



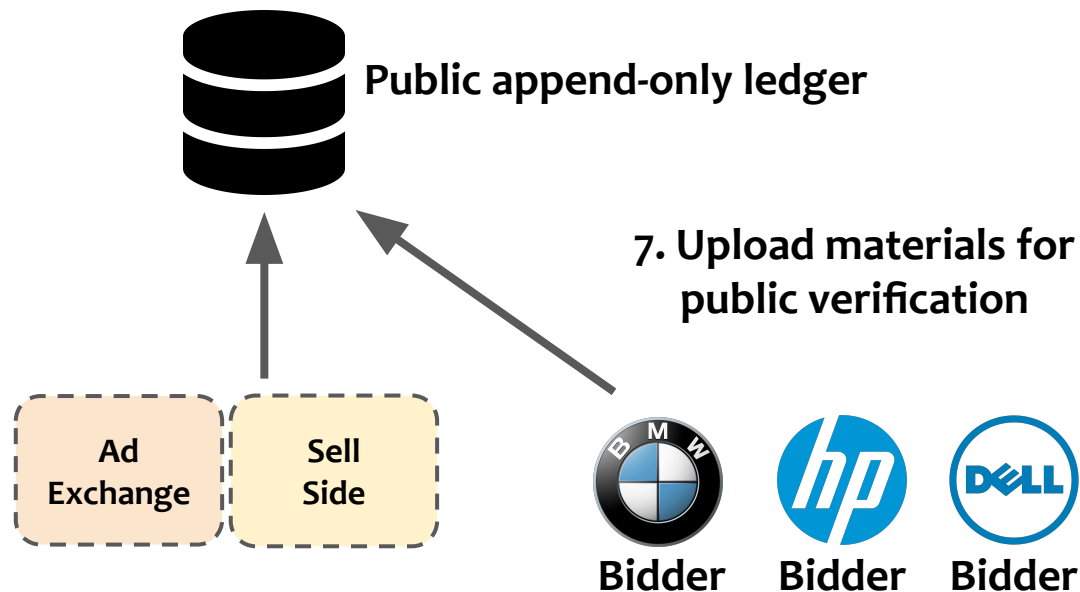
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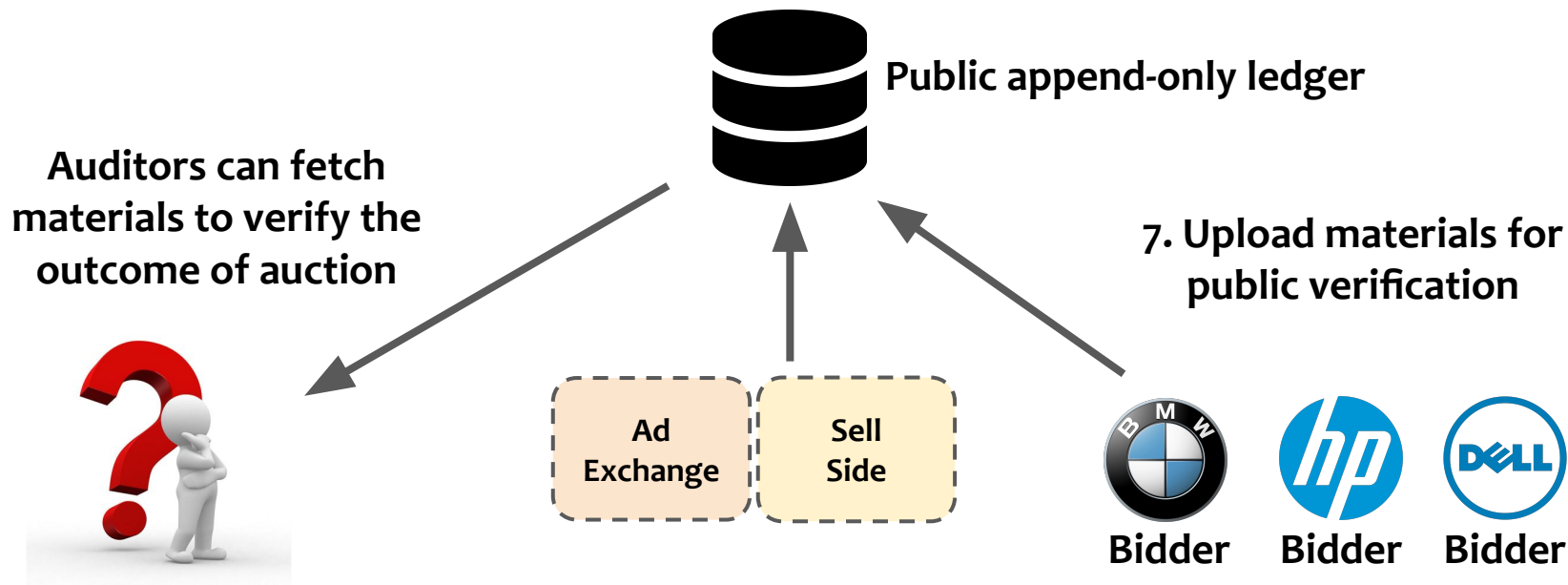
Architecture of Addax



Architecture of Addax



Architecture of Addax



Rest of this talk

- Overview of Addax
- **Private auction protocol**
- Make auction verifiable
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Threat model

Auction servers

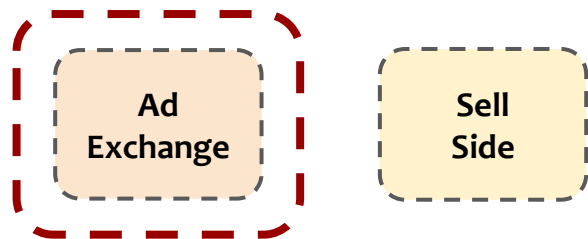


Bidders



Threat model

Auction servers



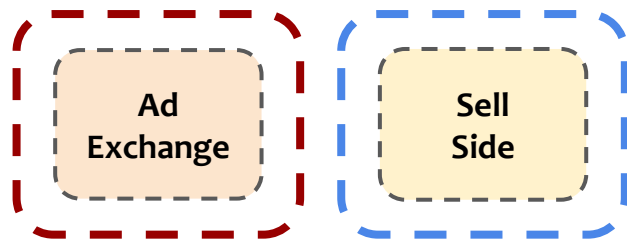
One server could **deviate arbitrarily**

Bidders



Threat model

Auction servers



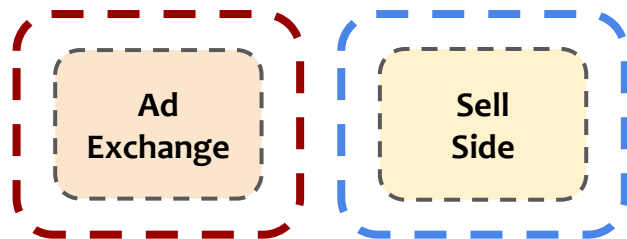
One server could **deviate arbitrarily**
but another server is **honest**

Bidders



Threat model

Auction servers



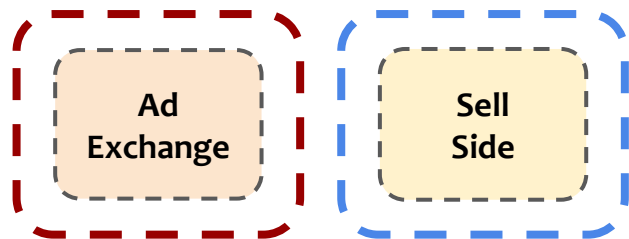
One server could **deviate arbitrarily**
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Bidders



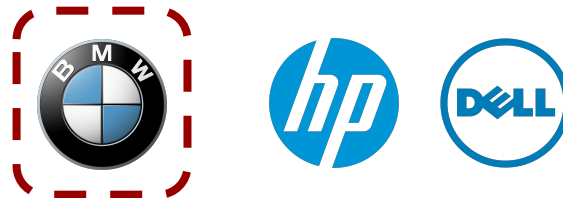
Threat model

Auction servers



One server could **deviate arbitrarily**
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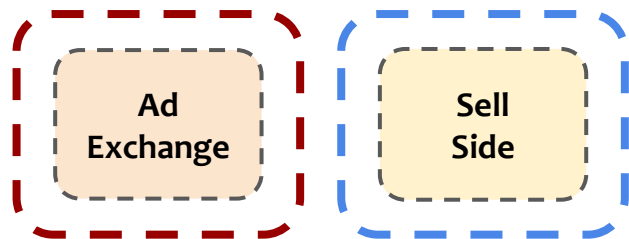
Bidders



Some Bidders can **deviate arbitrarily**

Threat model

Auction servers



One server could **deviate arbitrarily**
but another server is **honest**
(the honest server can be any one)

Bidders



Some Bidders can **deviate arbitrarily**
and the others are **honest**

A non-private auction (strawman)

Bids



3

Bidder



2

Bidder





1


Bidder

A non-private auction (strawman)

Bids

 3
Bidder

 2
Bidder

 1
Bidder

$\ell=4$ in this example



Given the upper bound of bids ℓ

A non-private auction (strawman)



Bidder

Bids Bit vectors

3 →



Bidder

2 →



Bidder

1 →



$\ell=4$ in this example



Given the upper bound of bids ℓ

A non-private auction (strawman)



Bidder

Bids Bit vectors
3 →

1	1	1	0
---	---	---	---



Bidder

2 →

1	1	0	0
---	---	---	---



Bidder

1 →

1	0	0	0
---	---	---	---

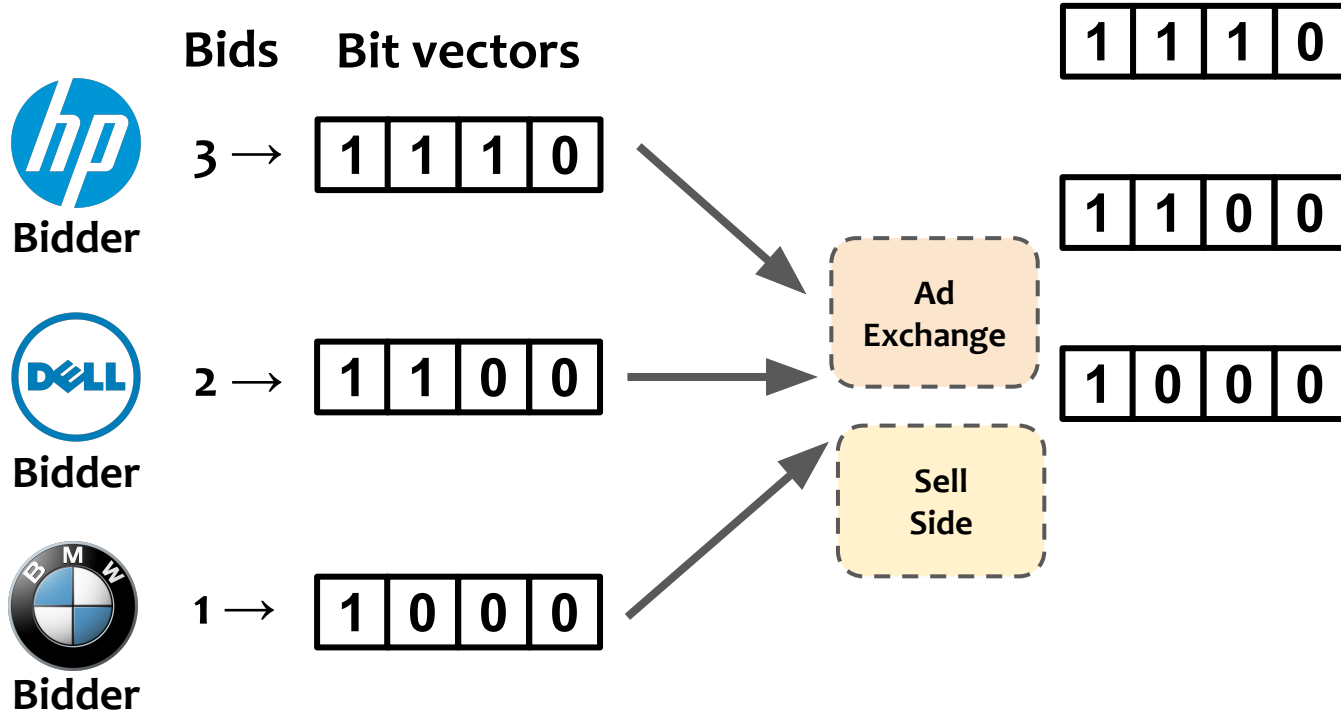
For a bid x , the first
 x bits are set to 1

$\ell=4$ in this example

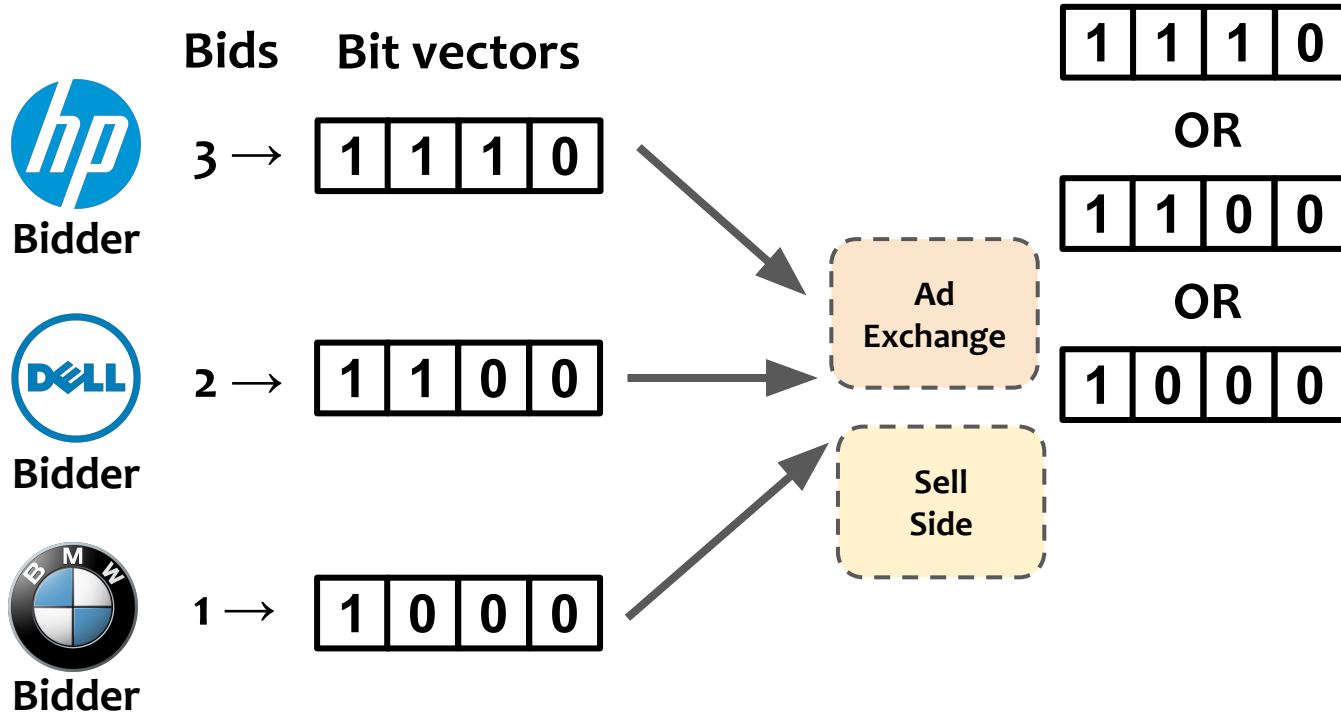


Given the upper bound of bids ℓ

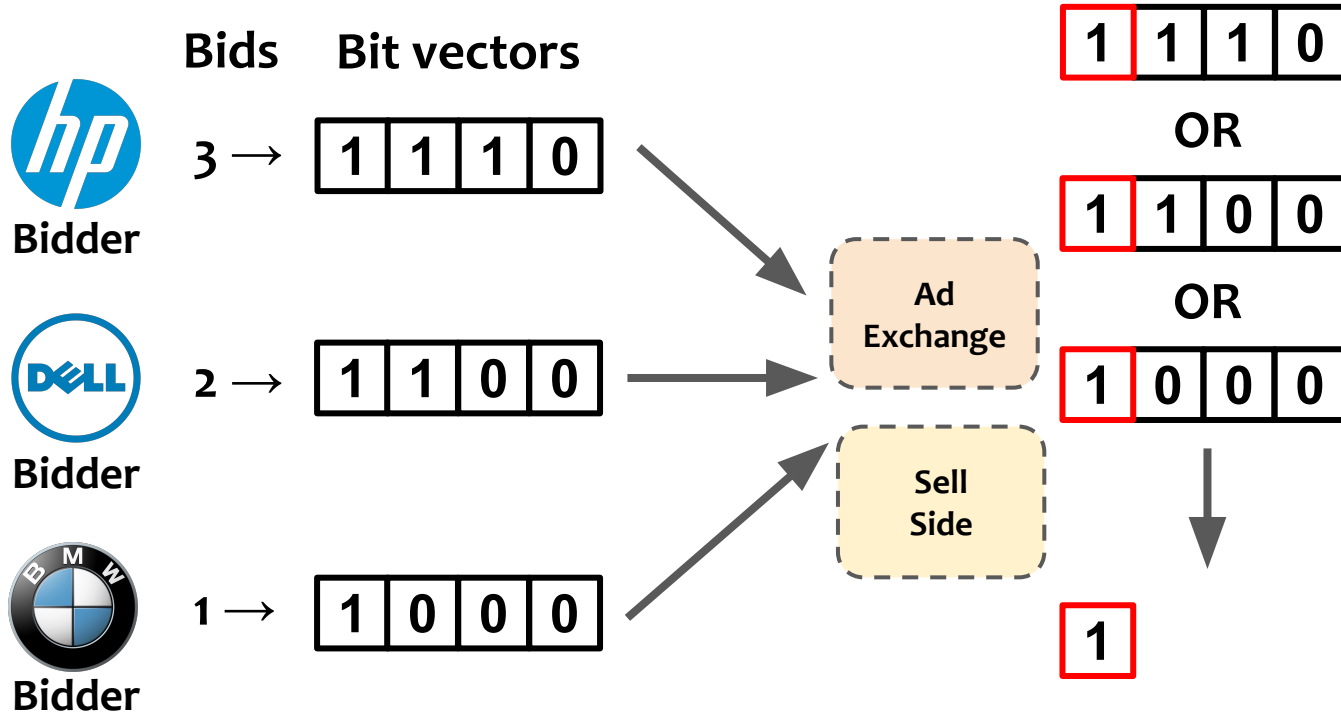
A non-private auction (strawman)



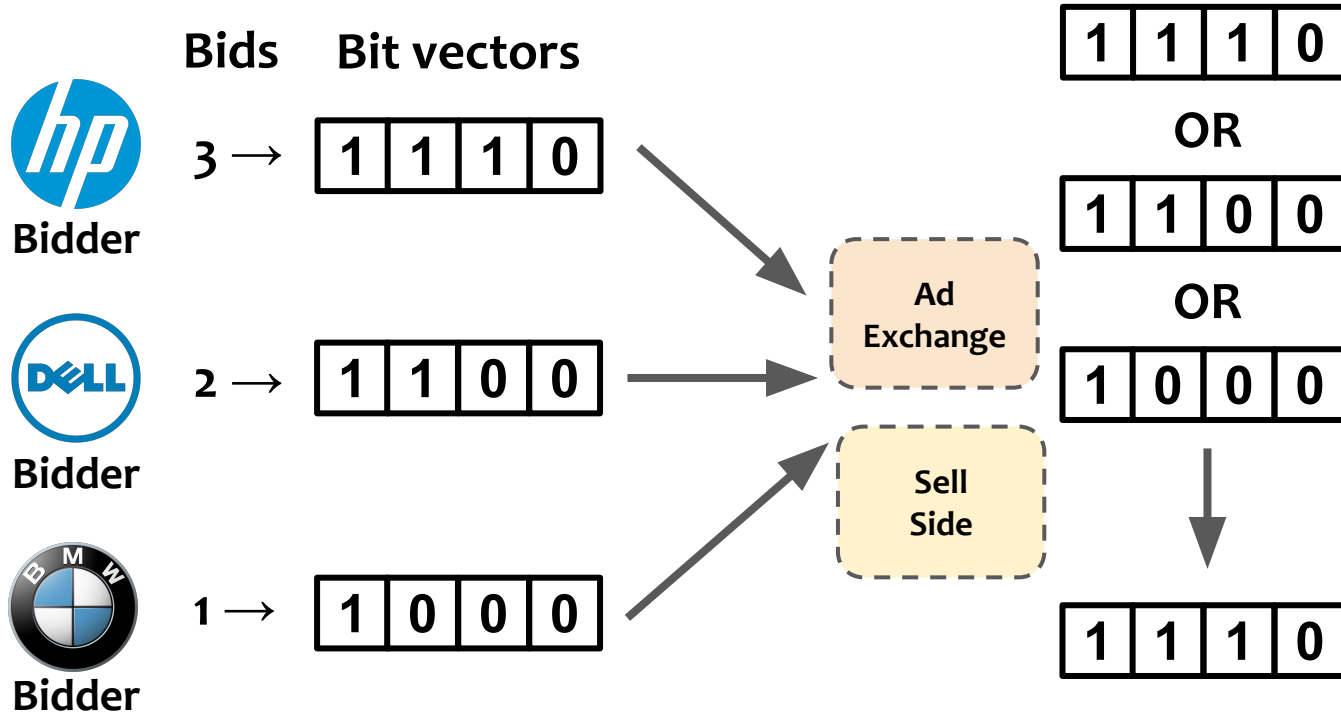
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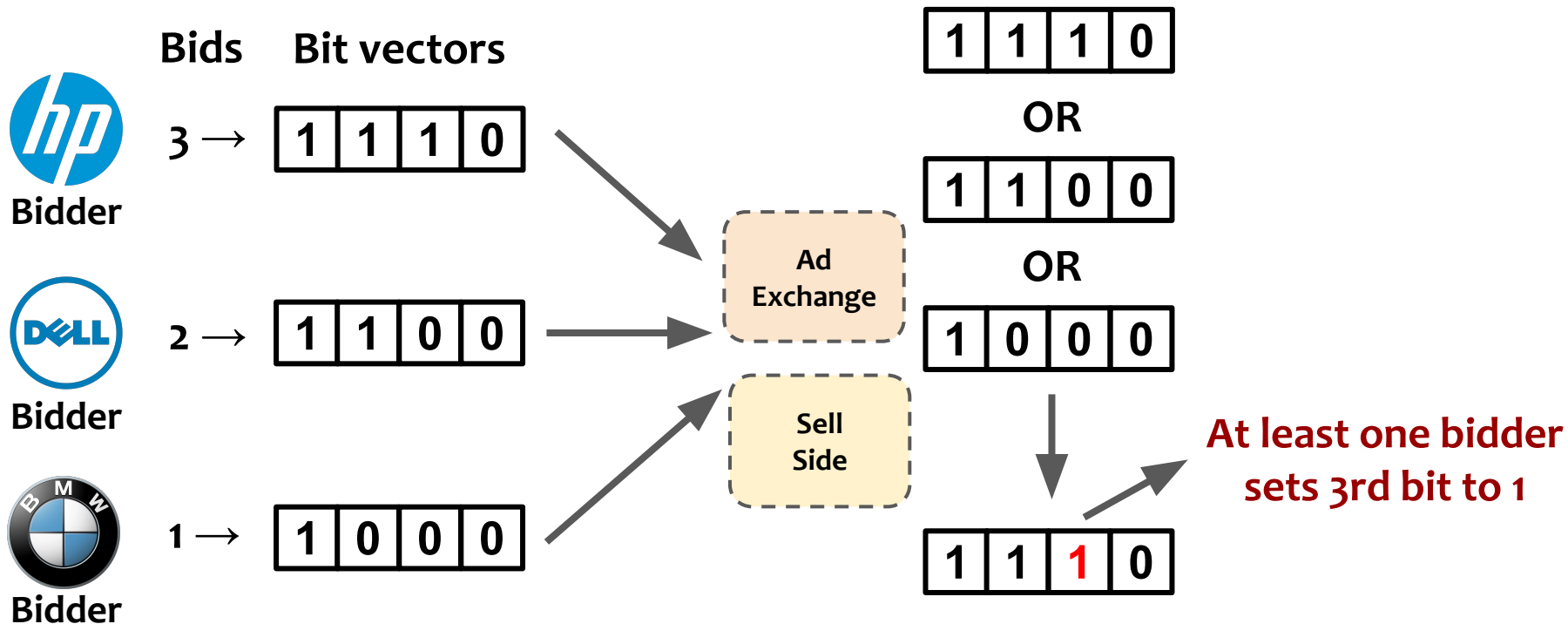
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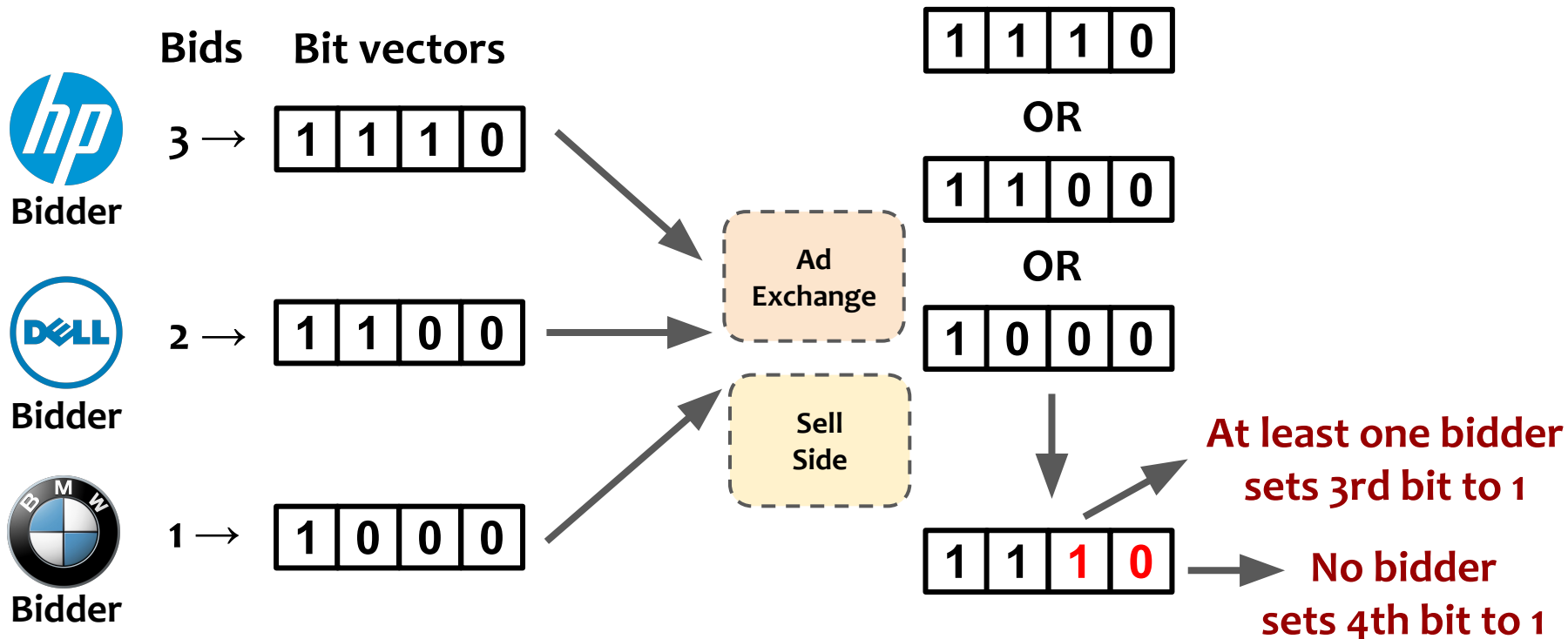
A non-private auction (strawman)



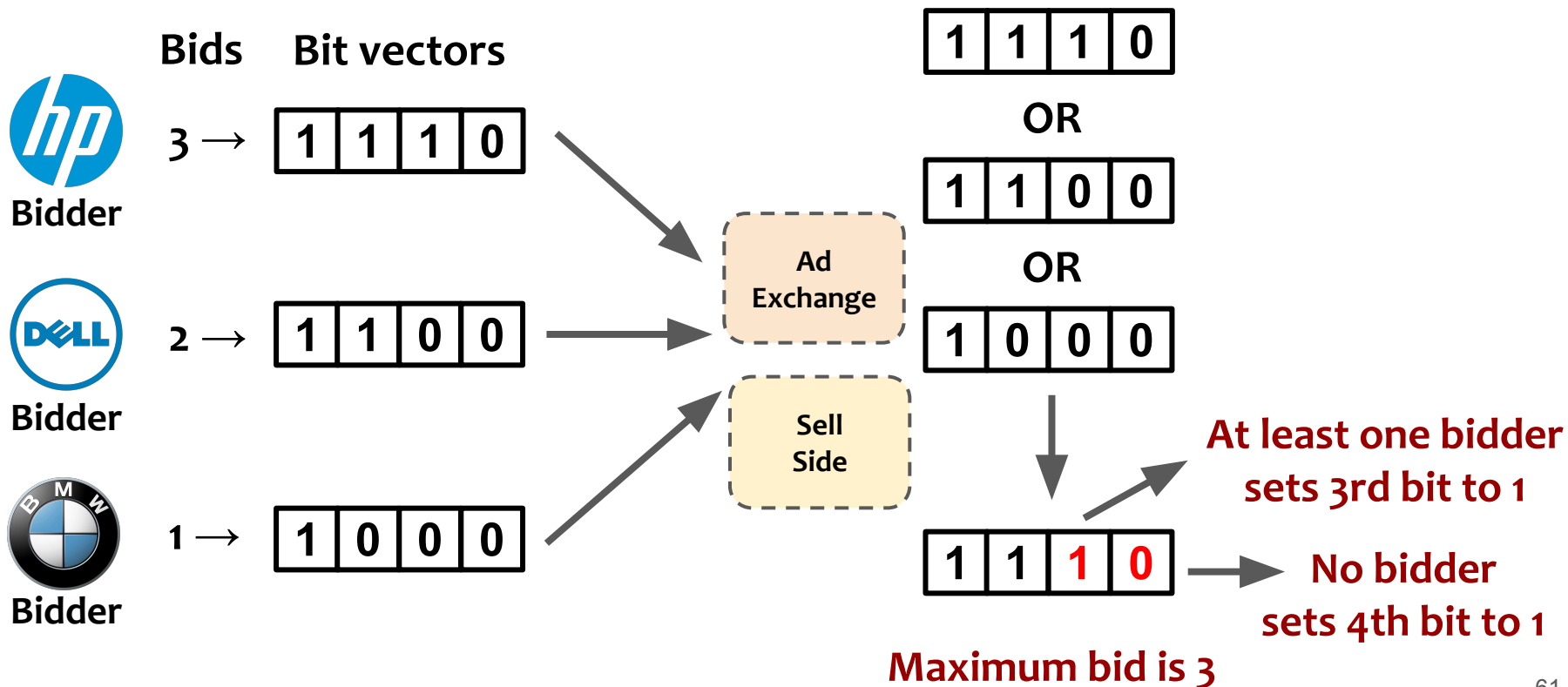
A non-private auction (strawman)



A non-private auction (strawman)



A non-private auction (strawman)



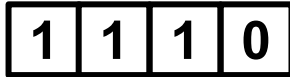
A non-private auction (strawman)



Bidder

Bids Bit vectors

3 →



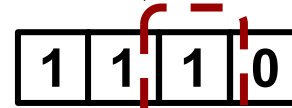
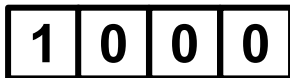
Bidder

2 →



Bidder

1 →



OR

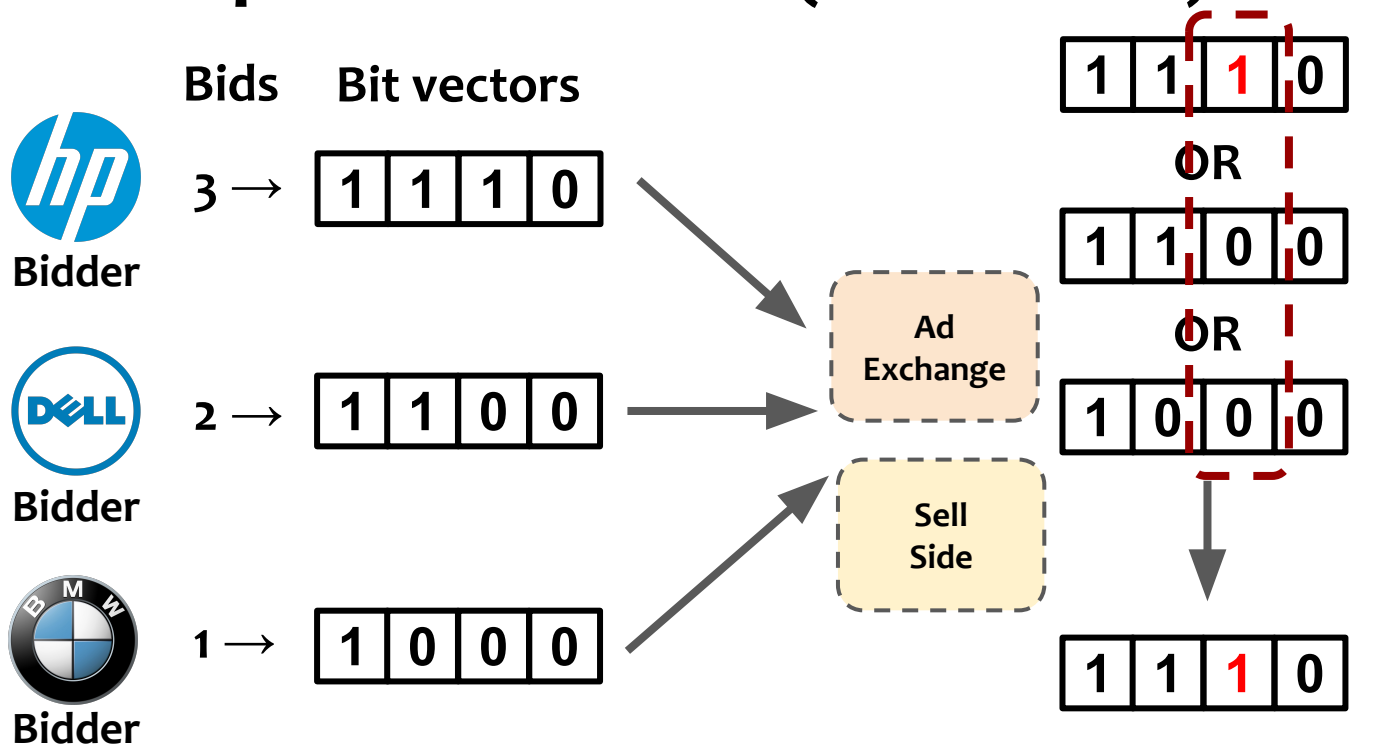


OR



Maximum bid is 3

A non-private auction (strawman)



Maximum bid is 3

A non-private auction (strawman)



Bidder

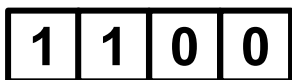
Bids Bit vectors

3 →



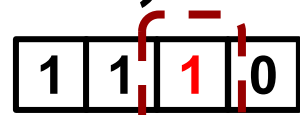
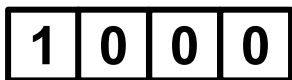
Bidder

2 →



Bidder

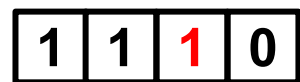
1 →



OR



OR



First bidder is winner

Maximum bid is 3

A non-private auction (strawman)

Key challenge to address:
privately compute bit-wise OR operations



Bidder

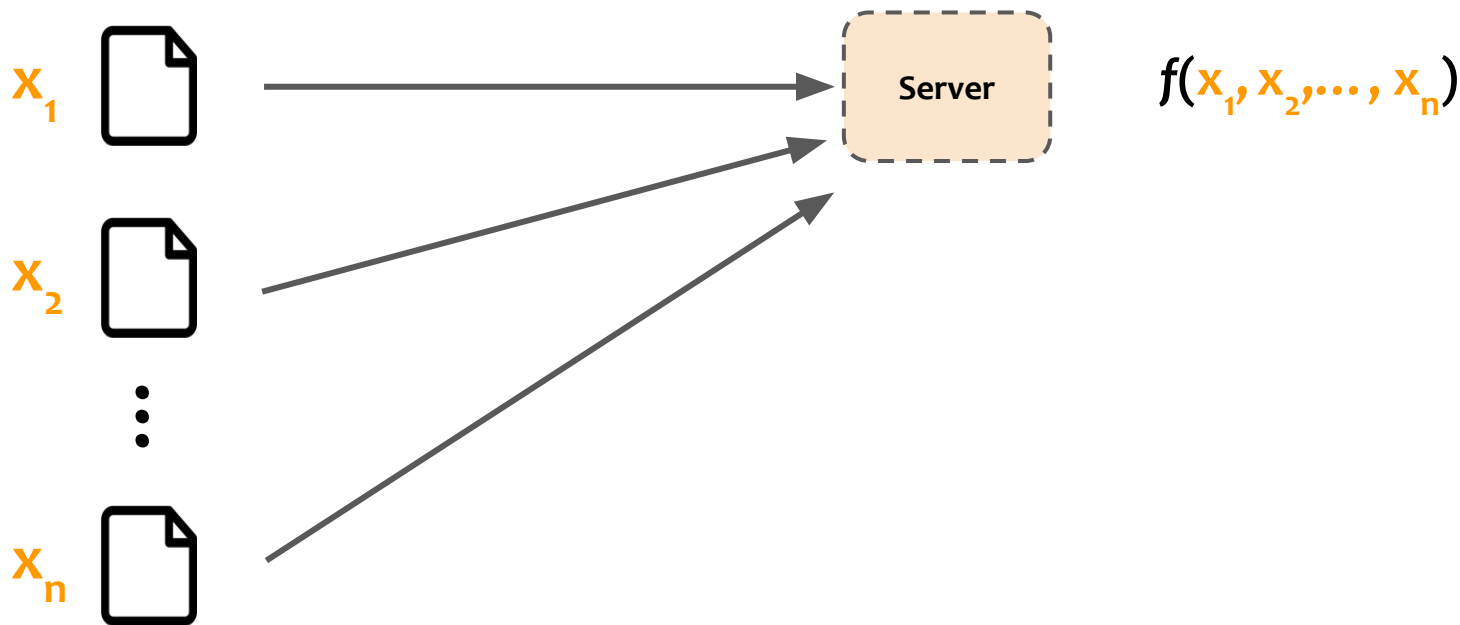


Maximum bid is 3

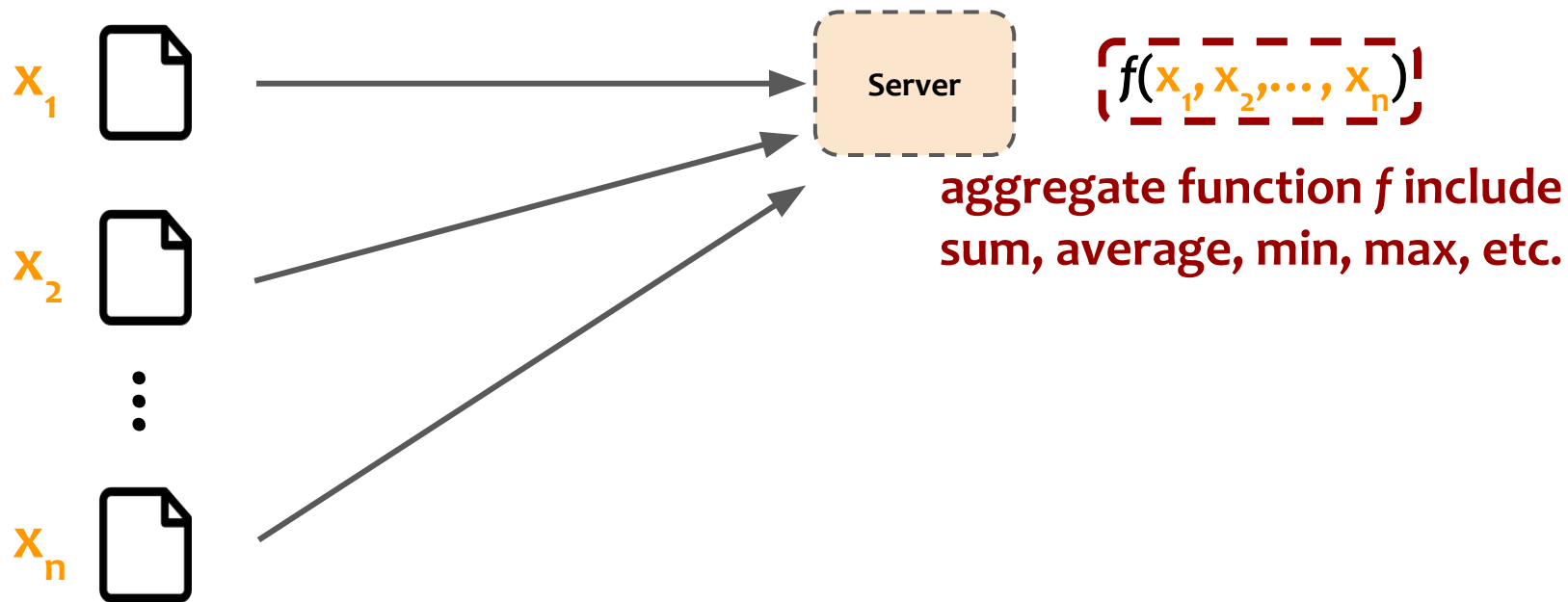
Affine Aggregatable Encodings [Prio, NSDI'17*]



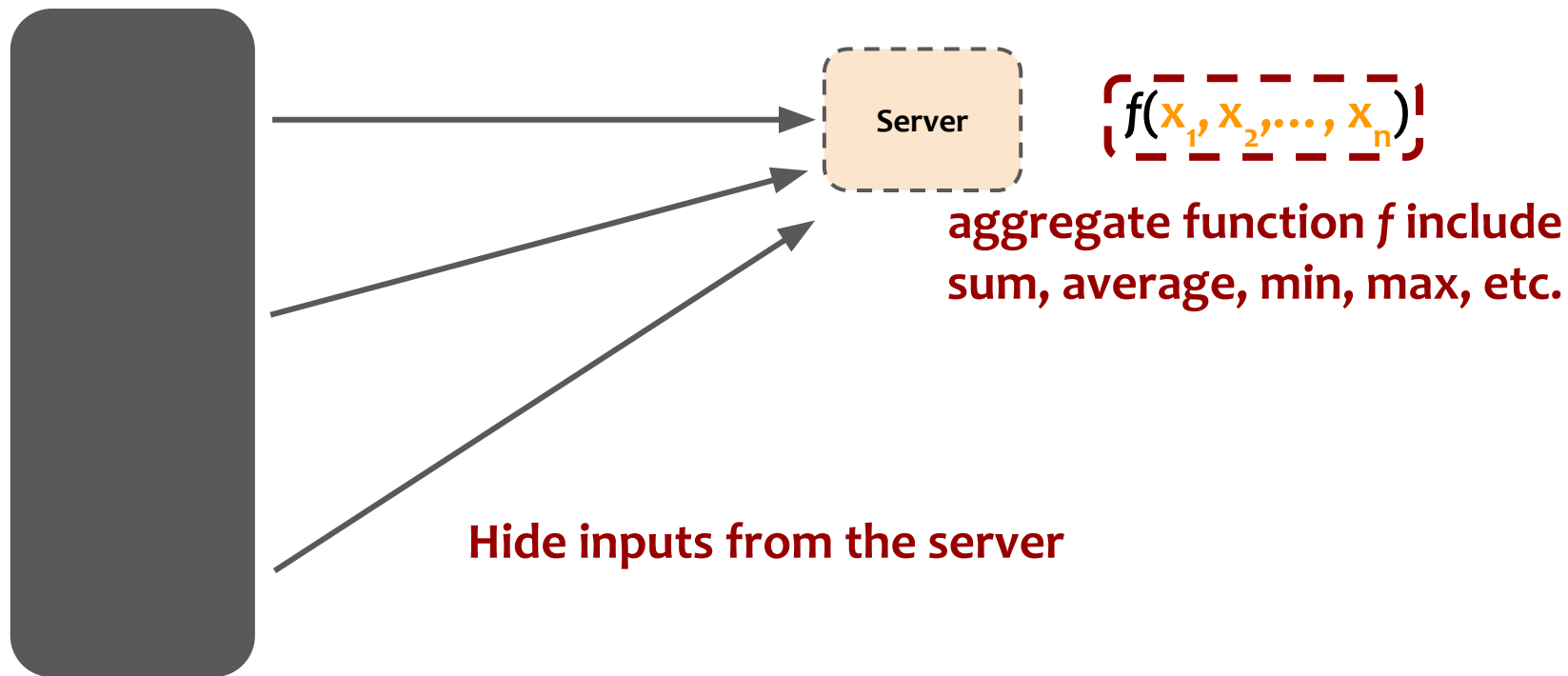
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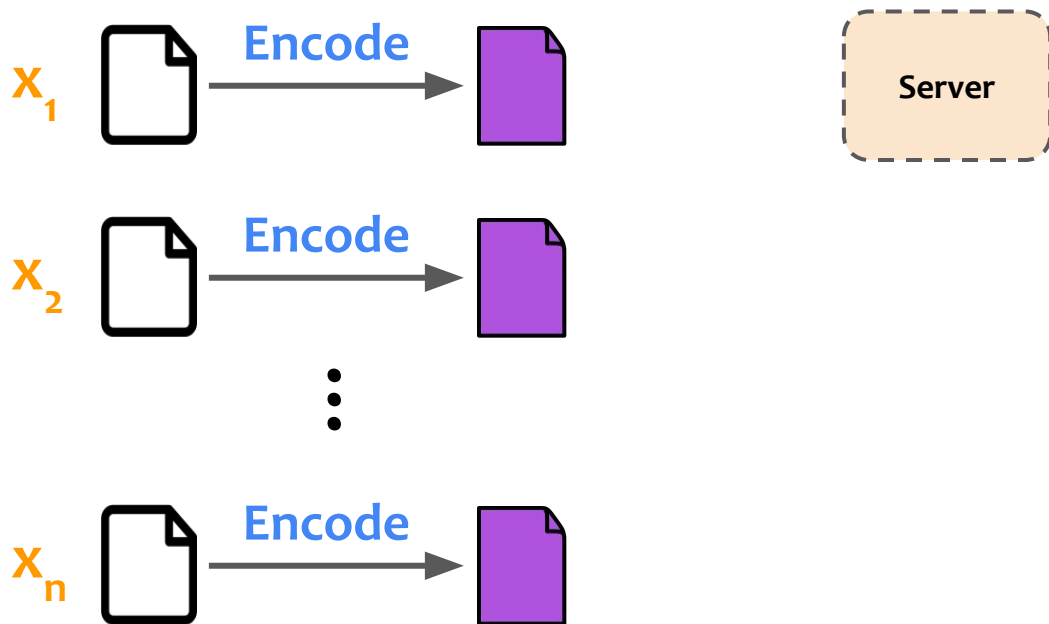
Affine Aggregatable Encodings [Prio, NSDI'17*]



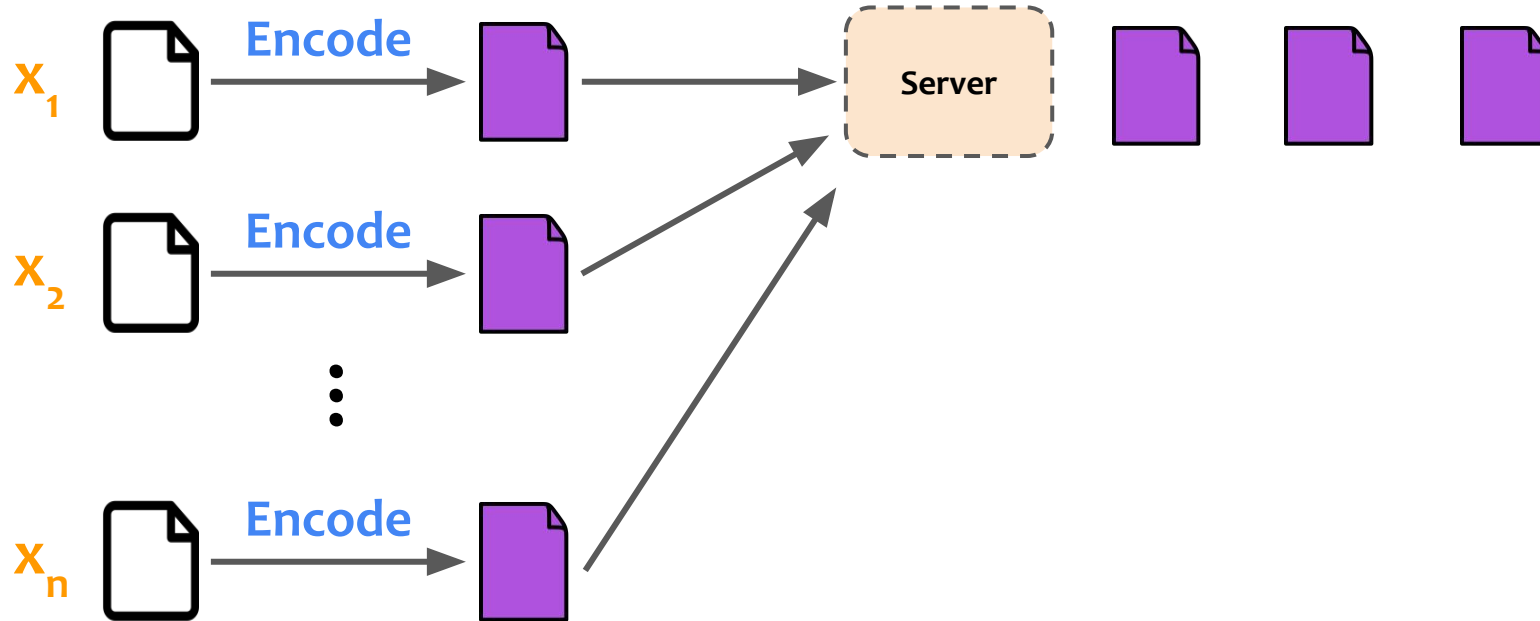
AFE* with a single server (non-private)



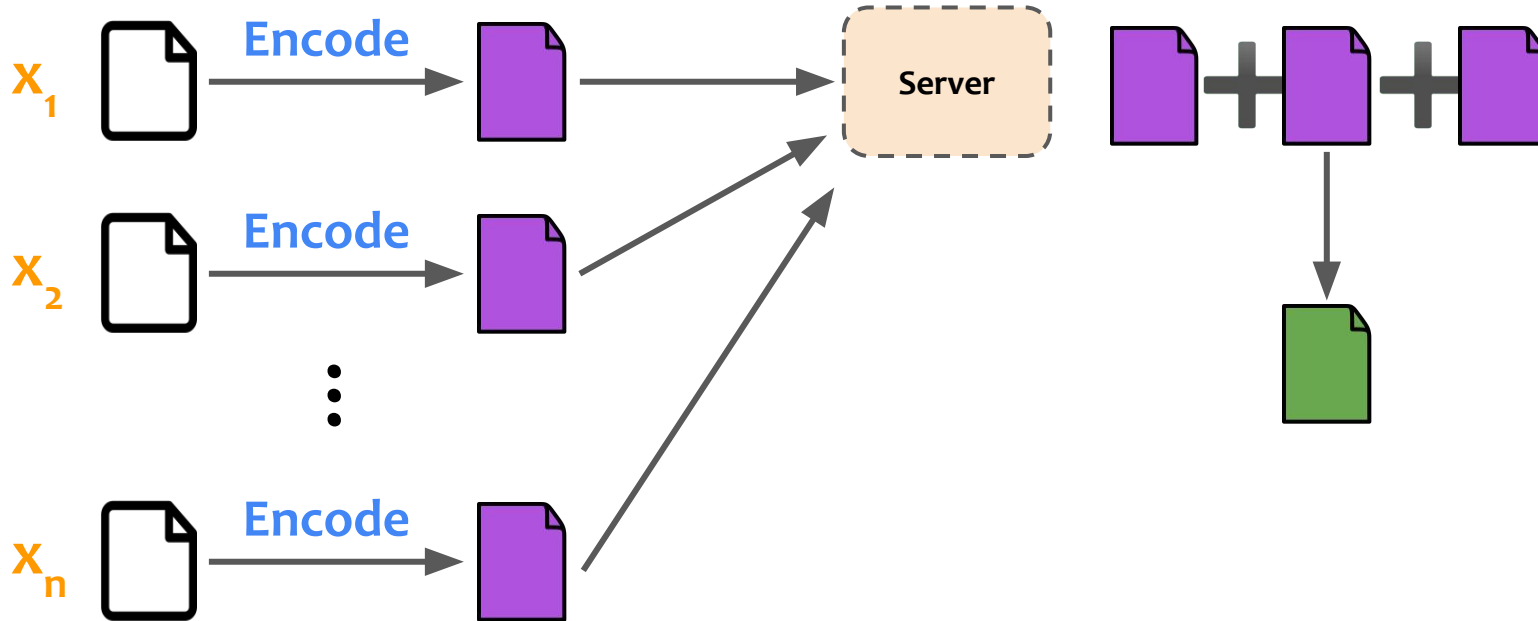
AFE* with a single server (non-private)



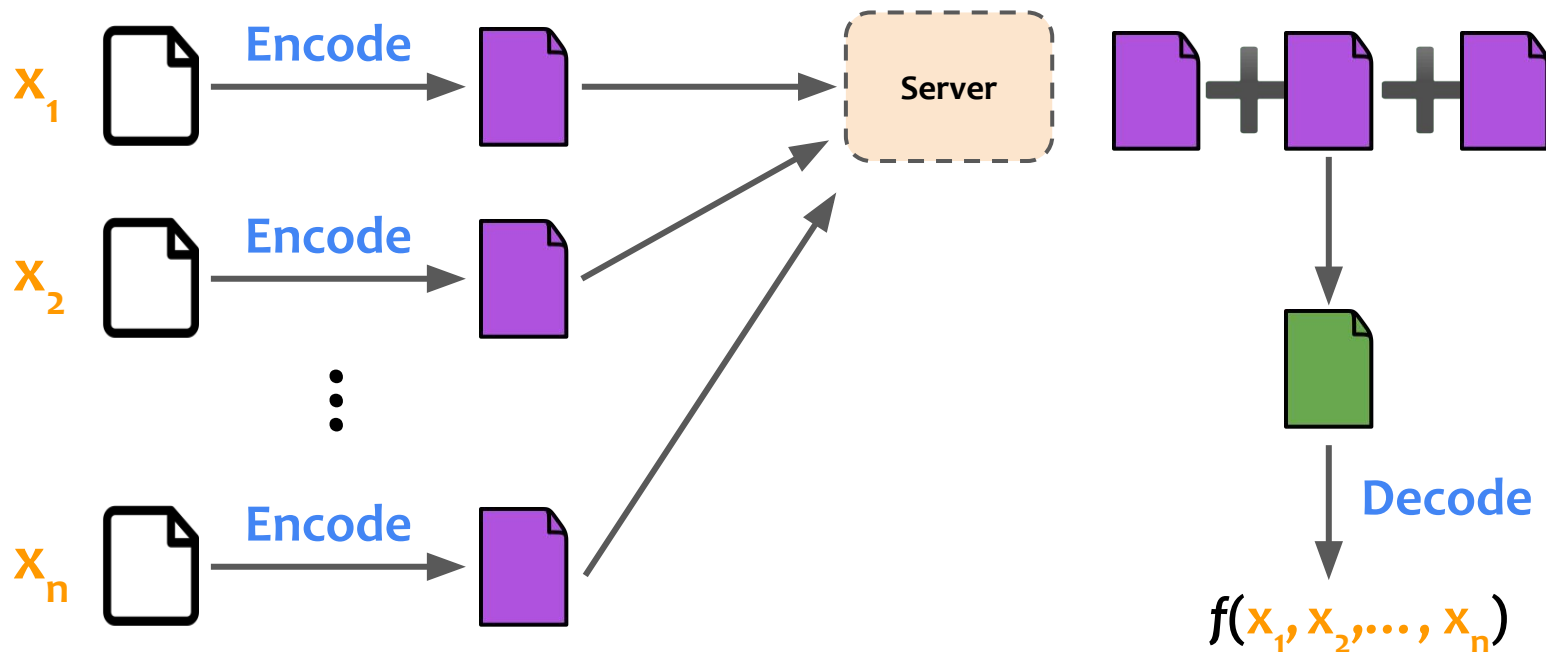
AFE* with a single server (non-private)



AFE* with a single server (non-private)



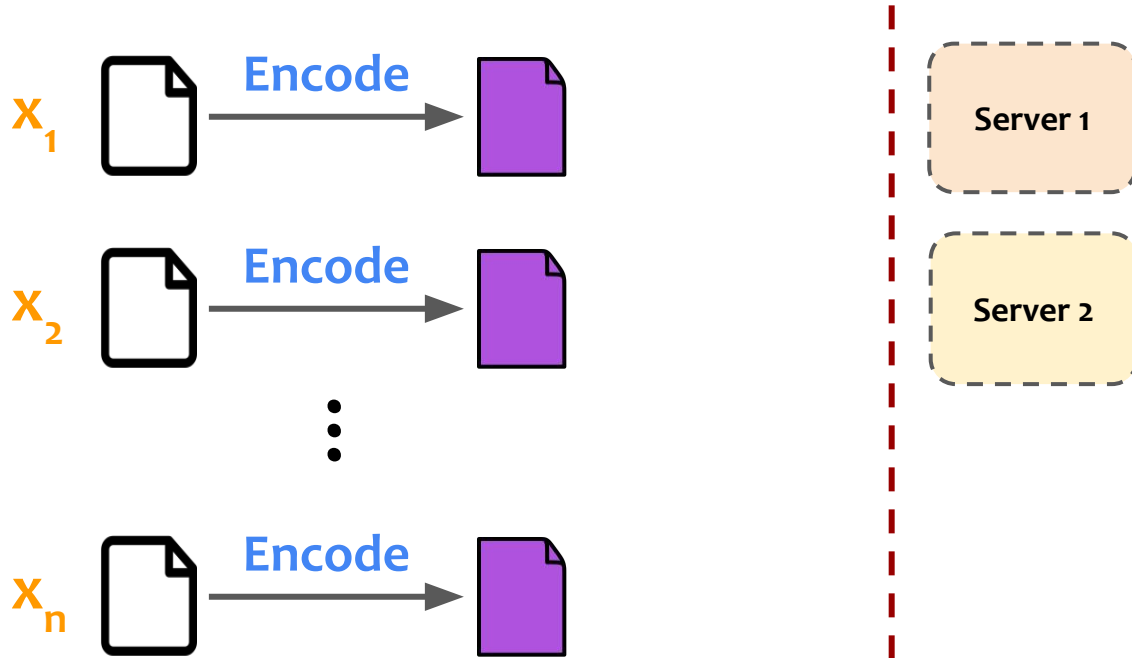
AFE* with a single server (non-private)



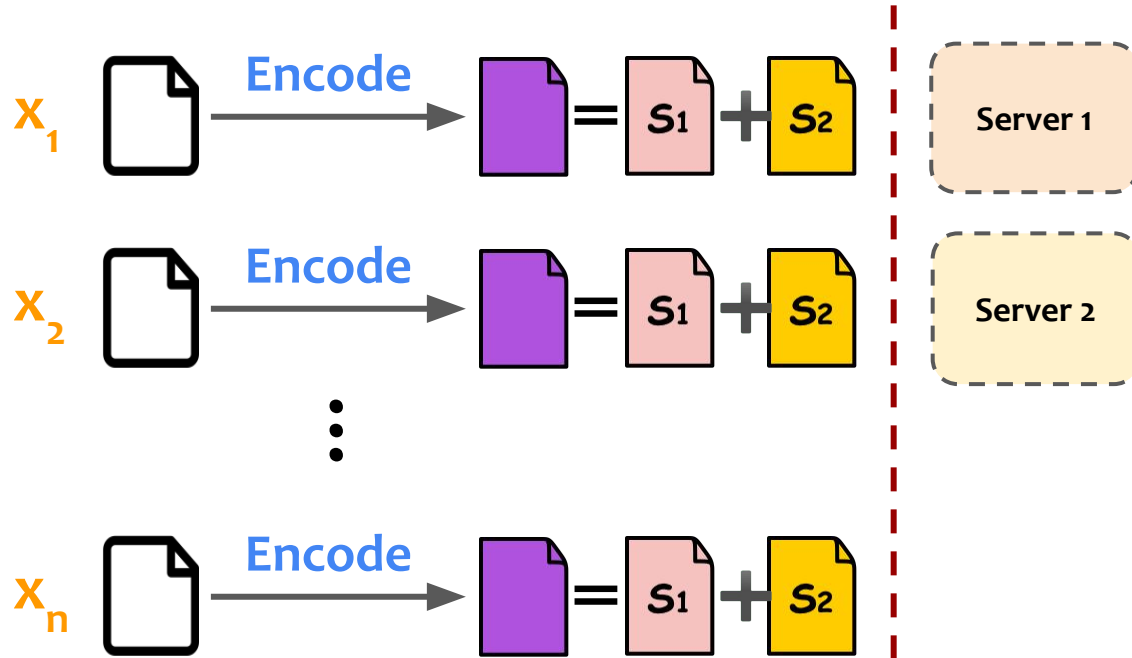
AFE* with multiple servers (private)



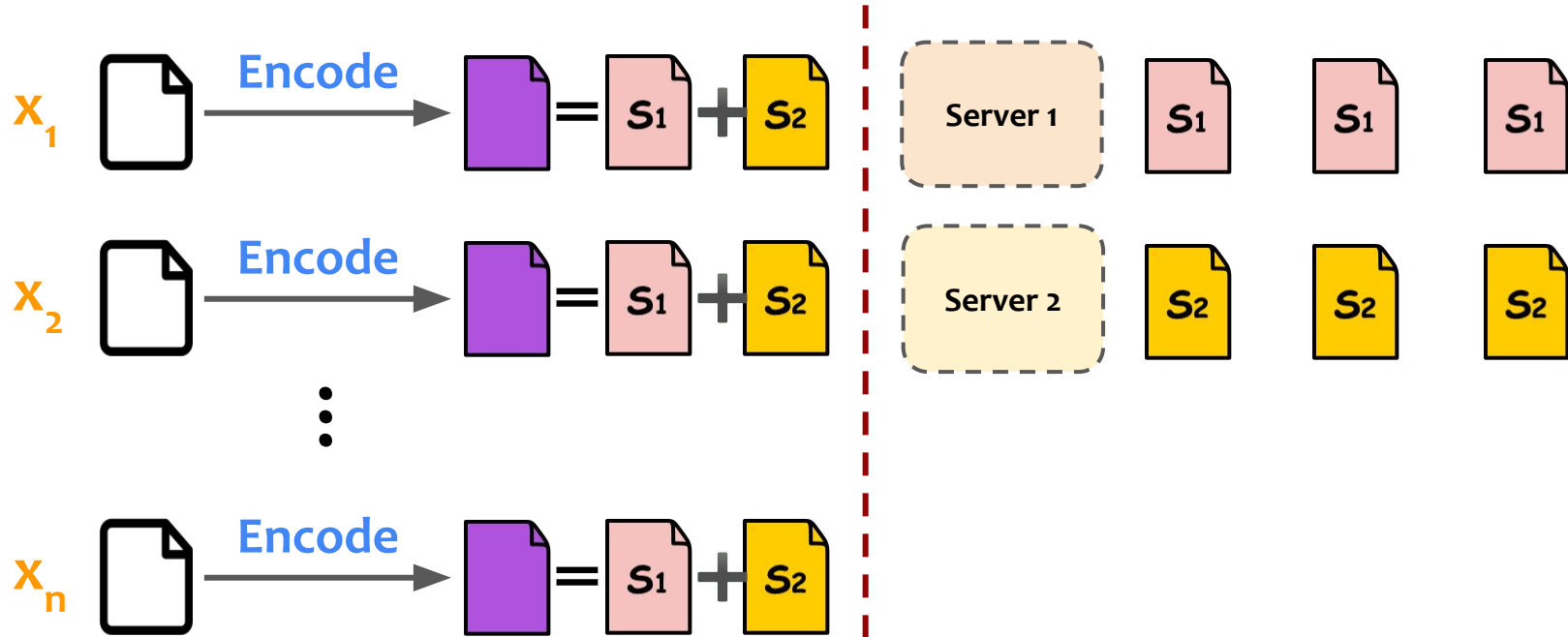
AFE* with multiple servers (private)



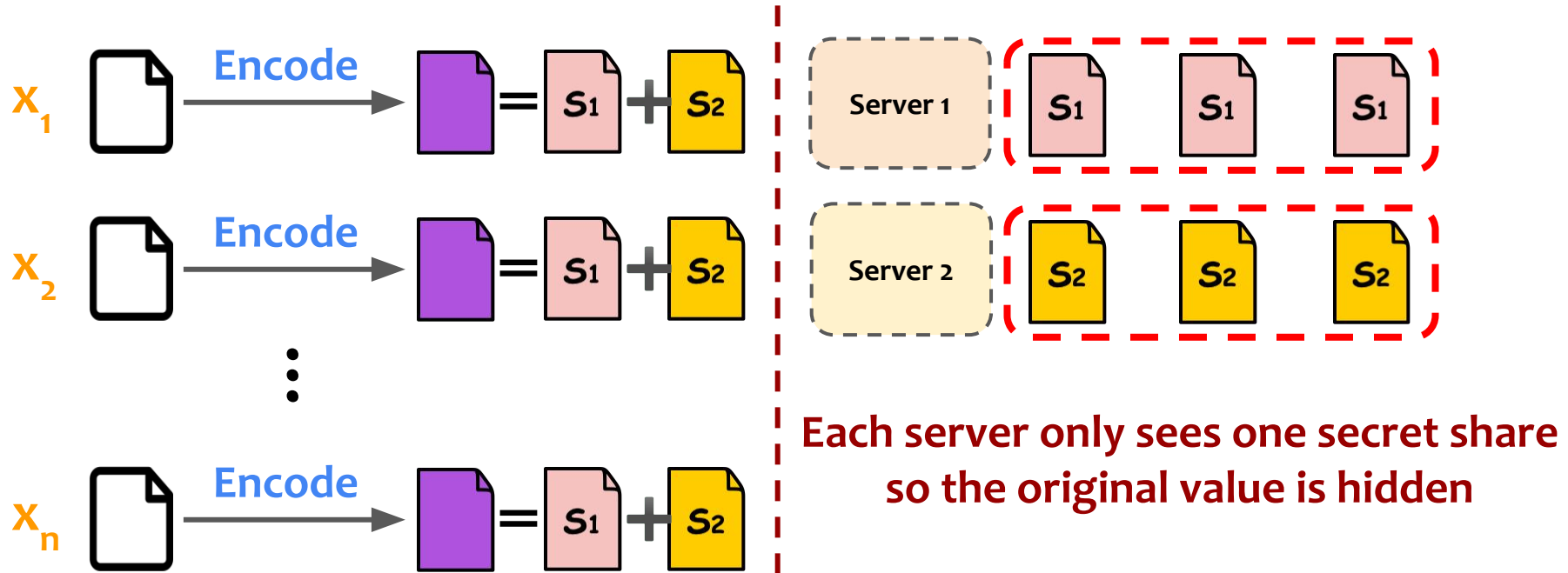
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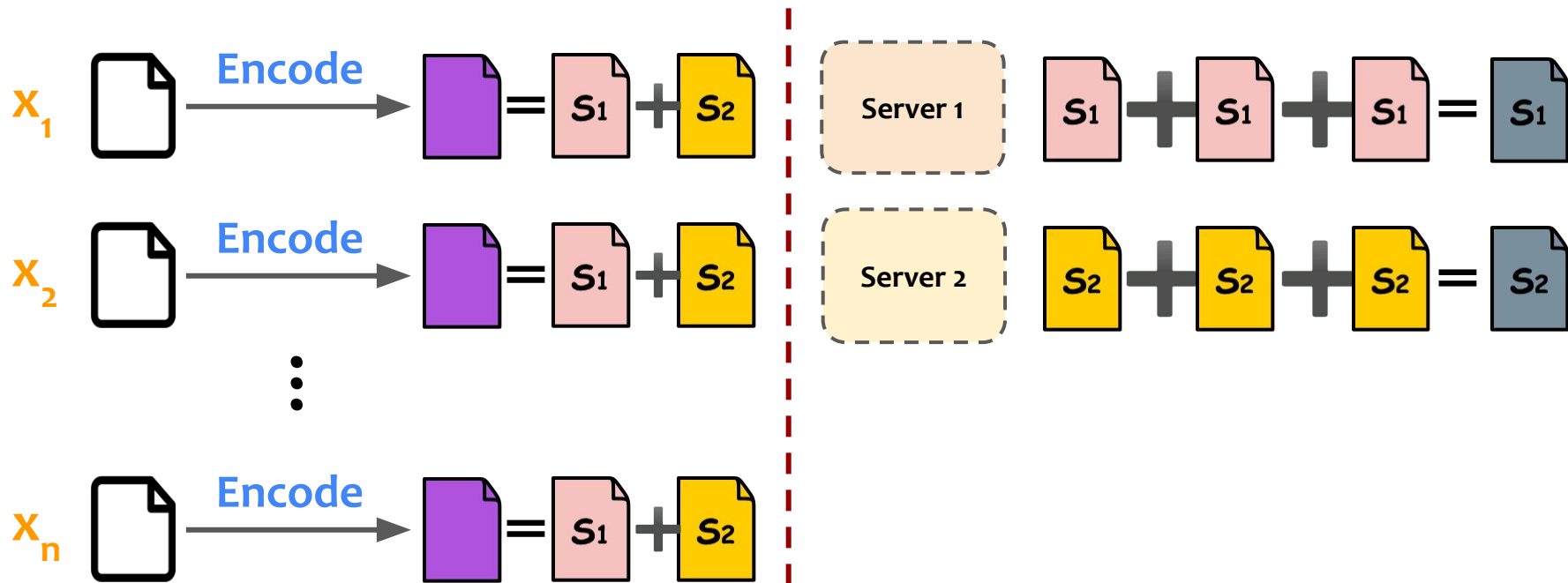
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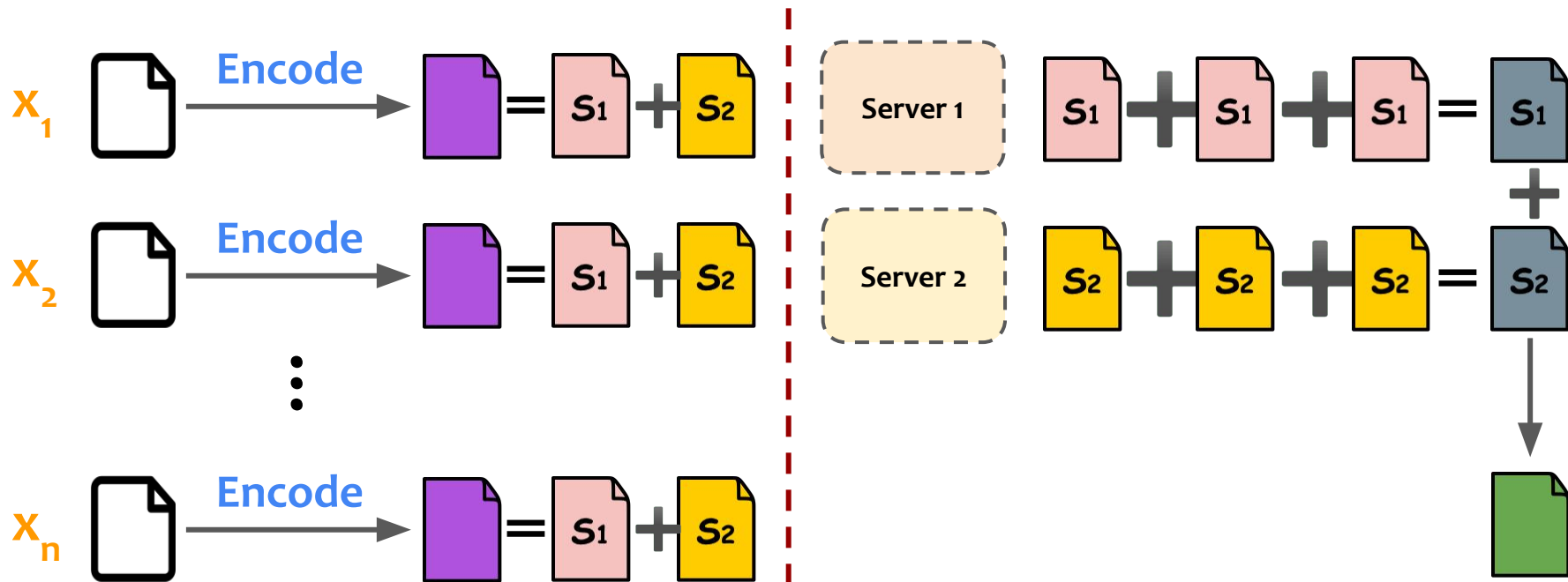
AFE* with multiple servers (private)



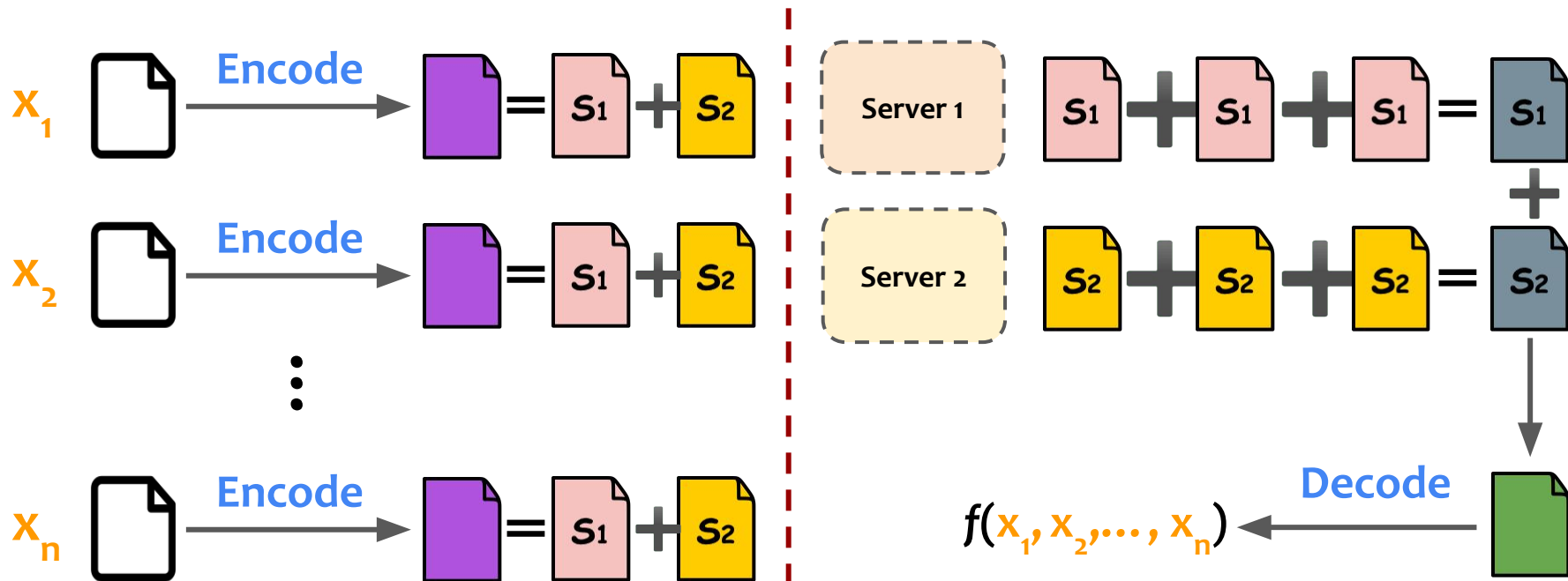
AFE* with multiple servers (private)



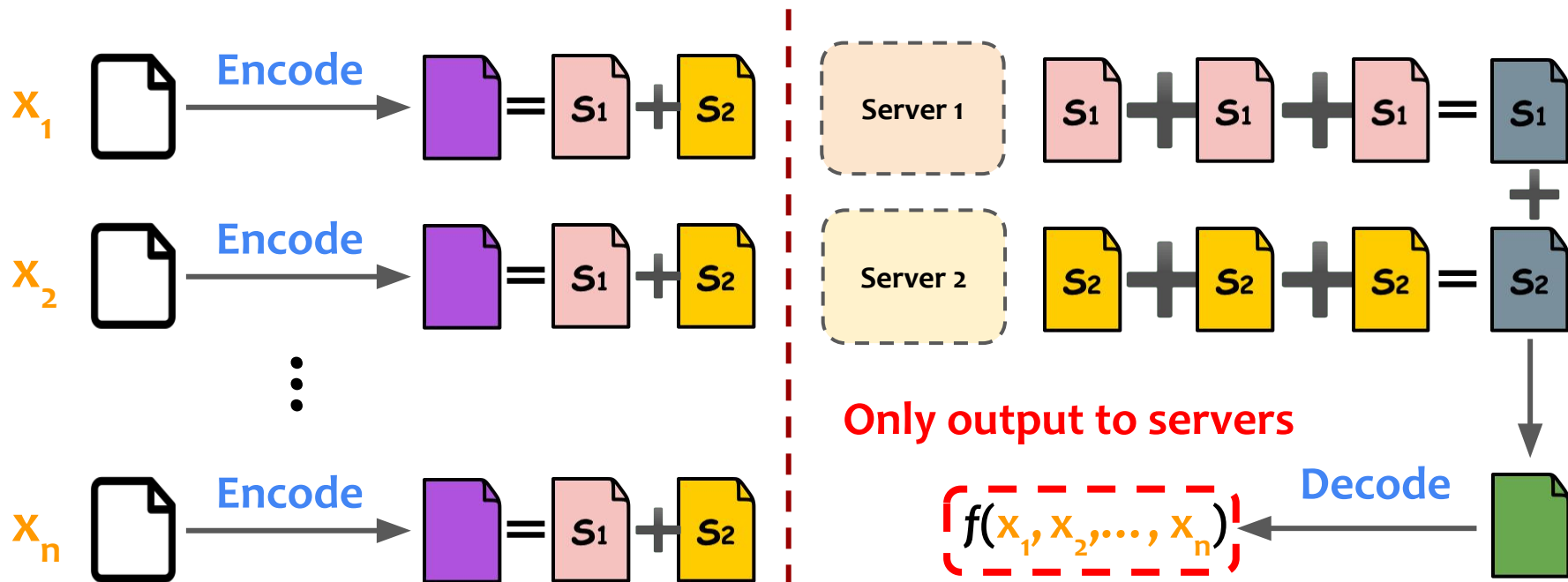
AFE* with multiple servers (private)



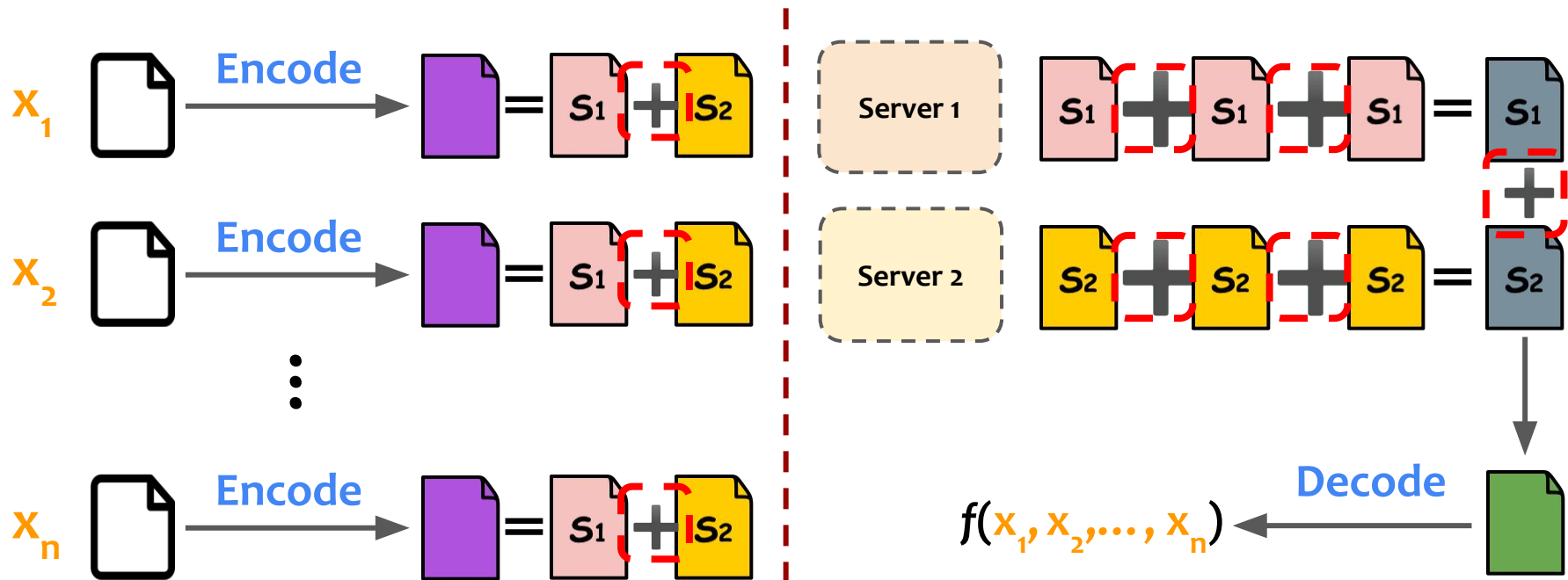
AFE* with multiple servers (private)



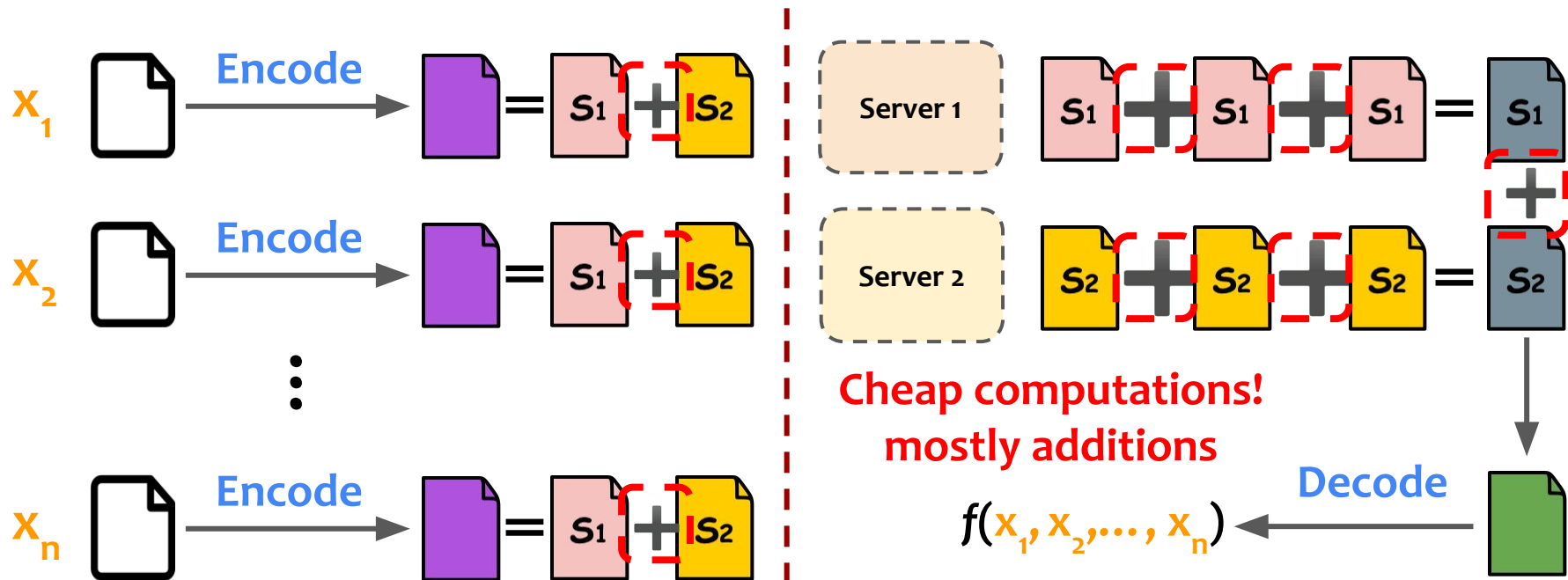
AFE* with multiple servers (private)



AFE* with multiple servers (private)



AFE* with multiple servers (private)



Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Input space: x in $\{0, 1\}$

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Input space: x in $\{0, 1\}$

Encoding output space: e in \mathbf{Z}_p

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Input space: x in $\{0, 1\}$

Encoding output space: e in \mathbf{Z}_p



Integers from 0 to $p-1$

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Input space: x in $\{0, 1\}$

Encoding output space: e in \mathbf{Z}_p

Encode-OR(x):

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Input space: x in $\{0, 1\}$

Encoding output space: e in \mathbf{Z}_p

Encode-OR(x):
return e

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Input space: x in $\{0, 1\}$

Encoding output space: e in \mathbb{Z}_p

Encode-OR(x):
return e $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0 \\ \end{array} \right.$ if $x = 0$

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Input space: x in $\{0, 1\}$

Encoding output space: e in \mathbb{Z}_p

Encode-OR(x):
return e $\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ \text{a random element in } \mathbb{Z}_p & \text{if } x = 1 \end{array} \right.$

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Input space: x in $\{0, 1\}$

Encoding output space: e in \mathbf{Z}_p

Encode-OR(x):
return e $\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ \text{a random element in } \mathbf{Z}_p & \text{if } x = 1 \end{array} \right.$

Decode-OR(S):

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Input space: x in $\{0, 1\}$

Encoding output space: e in \mathbb{Z}_p

Encode-OR(x):
return e $\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ \text{a random element in } \mathbb{Z}_p & \text{if } x = 1 \end{array} \right.$

Decode-OR(S):
return y

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Input space: x in $\{0, 1\}$

Encoding output space: e in \mathbf{Z}_p

Encode-OR(x):
return e $\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ \text{a random element in } \mathbf{Z}_p & \text{if } x = 1 \end{array} \right.$

Decode-OR(S):
return y $\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & \text{if } S = 0 \end{array} \right.$

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Input space: x in $\{0, 1\}$

Encoding output space: e in \mathbf{Z}_p

Encode-OR(x):
return e $\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ \text{a random element in } \mathbf{Z}_p & \text{if } x = 1 \end{array} \right.$

Decode-OR(S):
return y $\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & \text{if } S = 0 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right.$

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Toy example for $p = 5$:

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Toy example for $p = 5$:

**In reality, p should be large enough to ensure
a negligible decoding failure probability
(we experimented with p of 192 bits)**

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Toy example for $p = 5$:

Encode-OR(0) → 0

Encode-OR(0) → 0

Encode-OR(0) → 0

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Toy example for $p = 5$:

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Sum up encoding values

$$0+0+0 \pmod{5} = 0$$

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Toy example for $p = 5$:

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Sum up encoding values

$$0+0+0 \pmod{5} = 0$$

Decode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Toy example for $p = 5$:

$$\text{Encode-OR}(0) \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{Encode-OR}(0) \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{Encode-OR}(0) \rightarrow 0$$

Sum up encoding values

$$0+0+0 \pmod{5} = 0$$

$$\text{Decode-OR}(0) \rightarrow 0$$

$$0 \mid 0 \mid 0 = 0$$

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Toy example for $p = 5$:

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(1) \rightarrow 4

Encode-OR(1) \rightarrow 3

Sum up encoding values

$$0+0+0 \pmod{5} = 0$$

Decode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

$$0 \mid 0 \mid 0 = 0$$

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Toy example for $p = 5$:

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Sum up encoding values

$$0+0+0 \pmod{5} = 0$$

Decode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

$$0 \mid 0 \mid 0 = 0$$

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(1) \rightarrow 4

Encode-OR(1) \rightarrow 3

Sum up encoding values

$$0+4+3 \pmod{5} = 2$$

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Toy example for $p = 5$:

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Sum up encoding values

$$0+0+0 \pmod{5} = 0$$

Decode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

$$0 \mid 0 \mid 0 = 0$$

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(1) \rightarrow 4

Encode-OR(1) \rightarrow 3

Sum up encoding values

$$0+4+3 \pmod{5} = 2$$

Decode-OR(2) \rightarrow 1

Addax's AFE for OR over bits

Toy example for $p = 5$:

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Sum up encoding values

$$0+0+0 \pmod{5} = 0$$

Decode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

$$0 \mid 0 \mid 0 = 0$$

Encode-OR(0) \rightarrow 0

Encode-OR(1) \rightarrow 4

Encode-OR(1) \rightarrow 3

Sum up encoding values

$$0+4+3 \pmod{5} = 2$$

Decode-OR(2) \rightarrow 1

$$0 \mid 1 \mid 1 = 1$$

Addax's private auction using AFE

Bids



3

Bidder



2

Bidder



1

Bidder

Addax's private auction using AFE

Bids



Bidder

3 →

1	1	1	0
---	---	---	---



Bidder

2 →

1	1	0	0
---	---	---	---

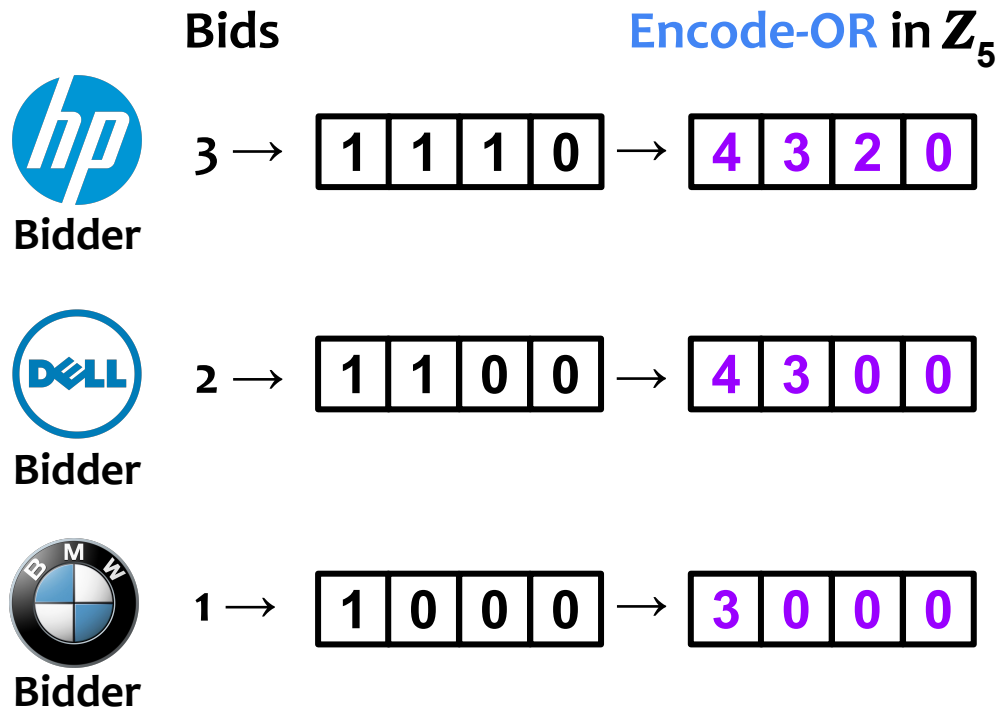


Bidder

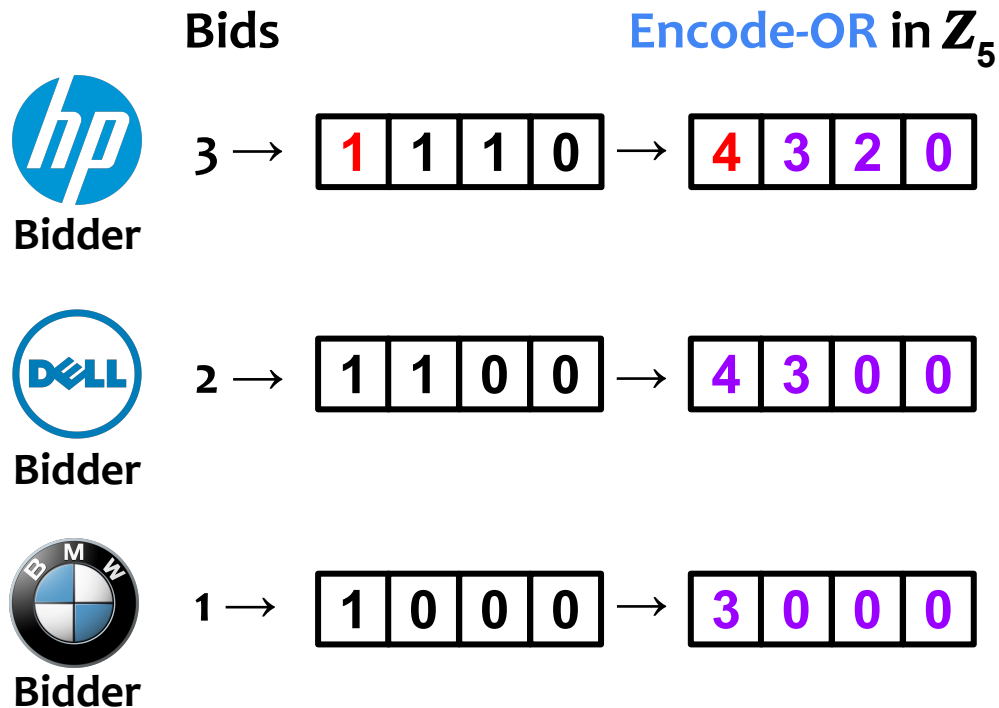
1 →

1	0	0	0
---	---	---	---

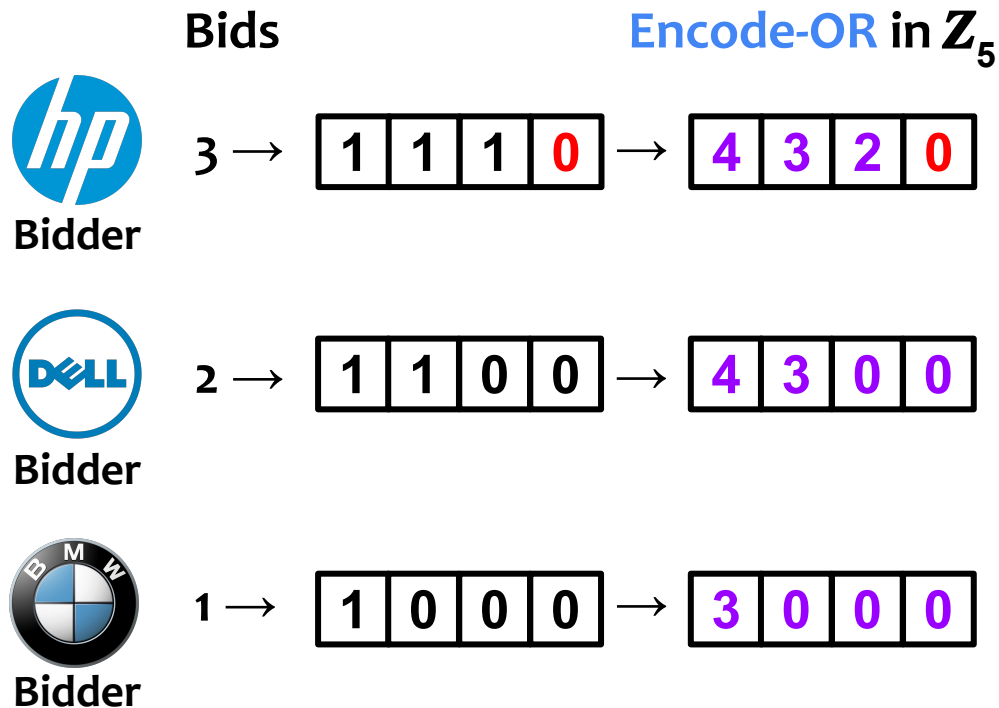
Addax's private auction using AFE



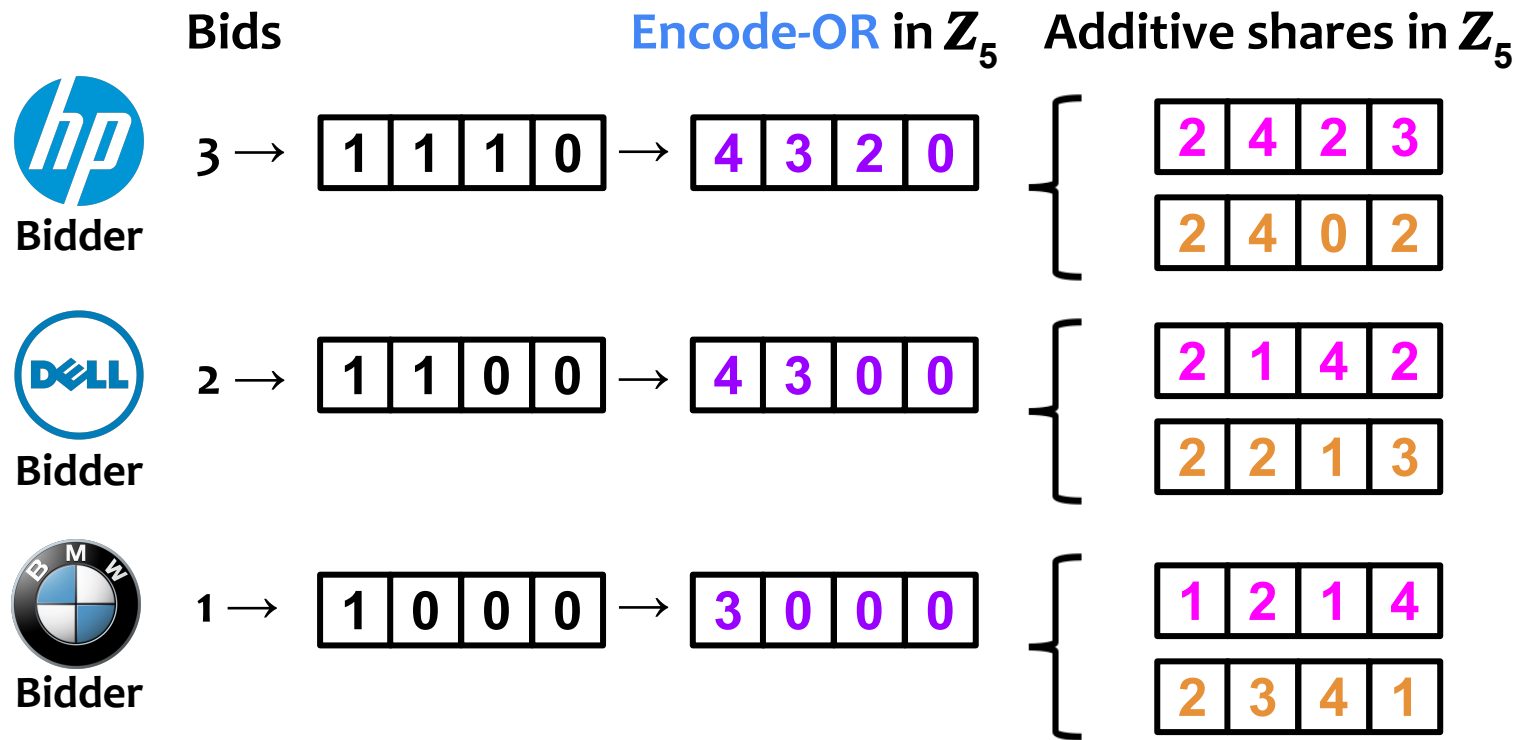
Addax's private auction using AFE



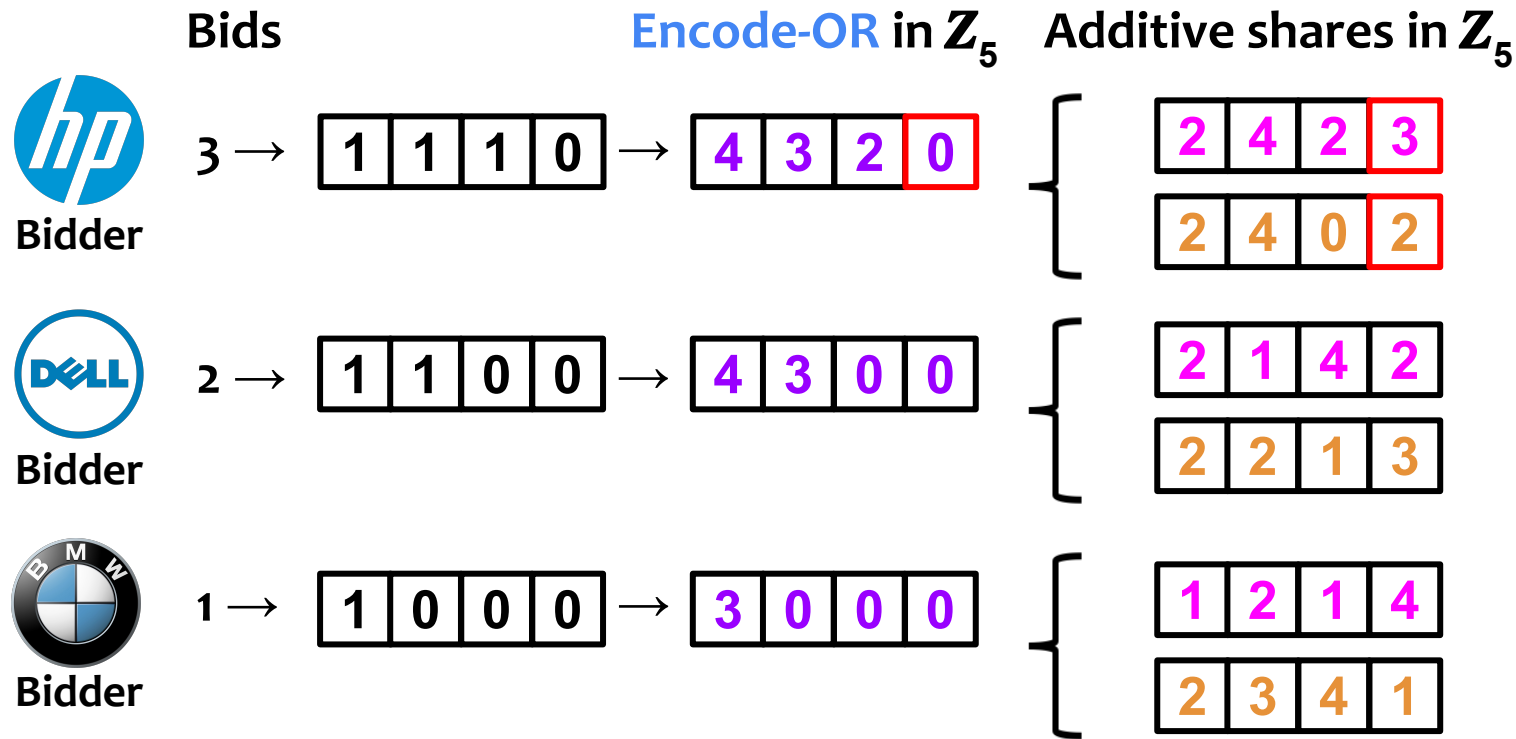
Addax's private auction using AFE



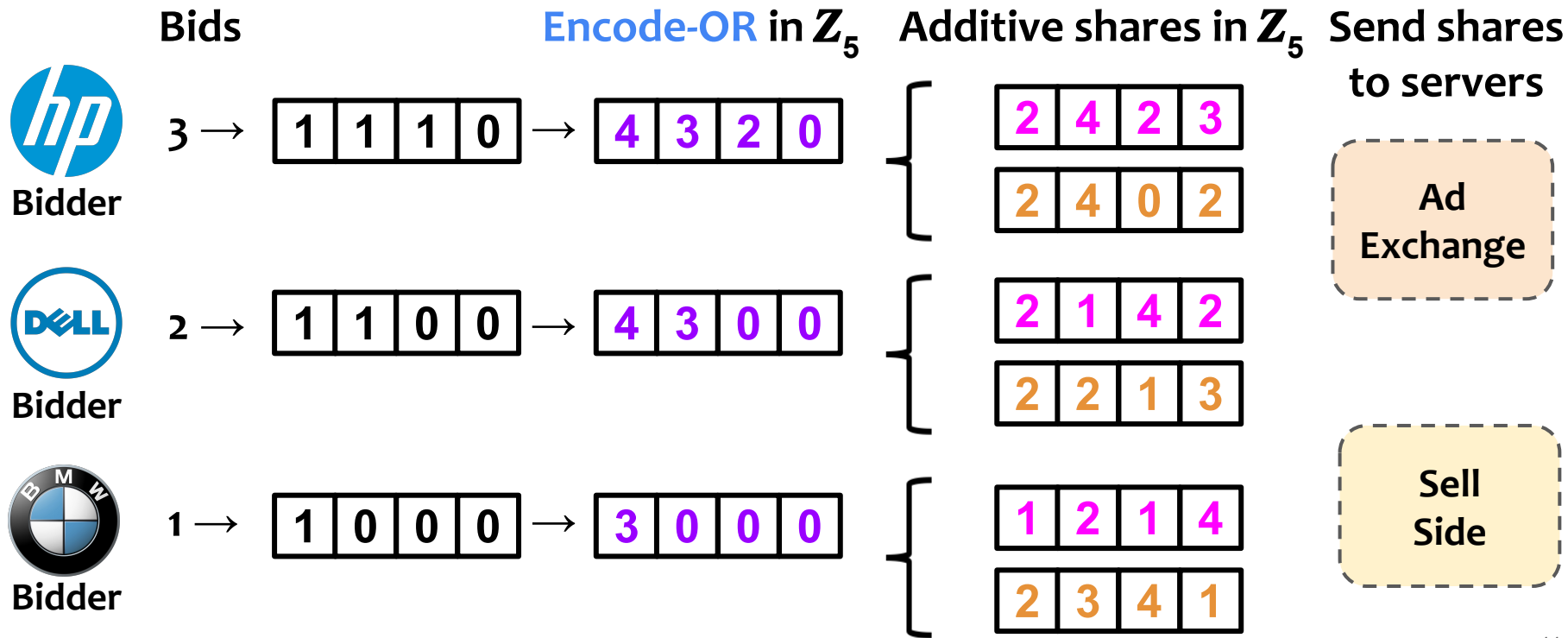
Addax's private auction using AFE



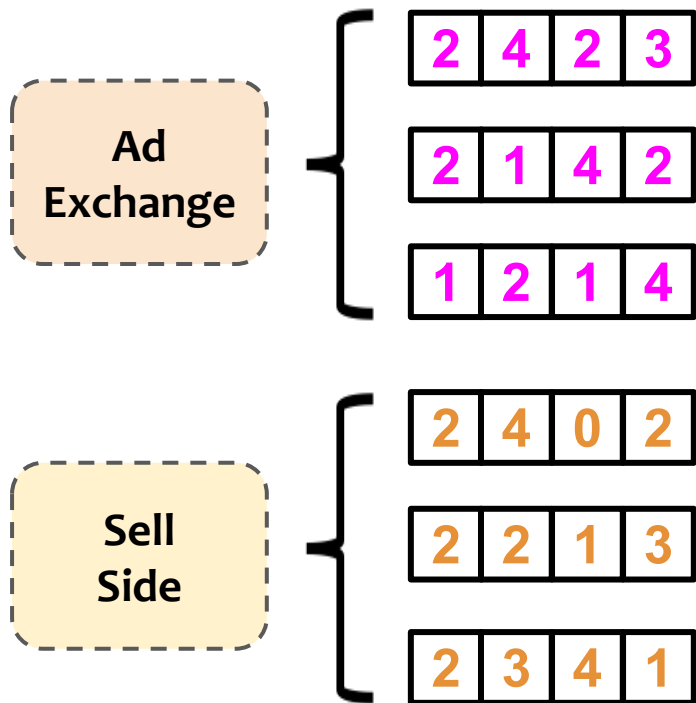
Addax's private auction using AFE



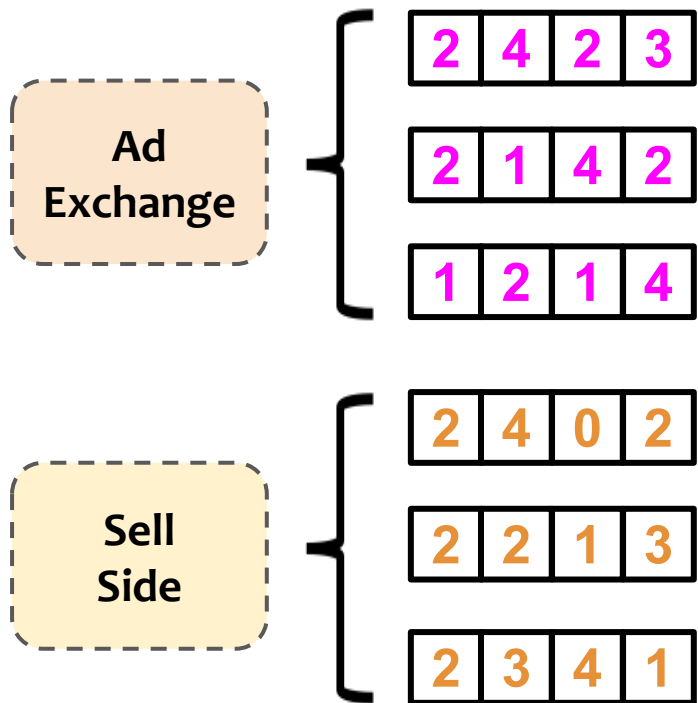
Addax's private auction using AFE



Addax's private auction using AFE

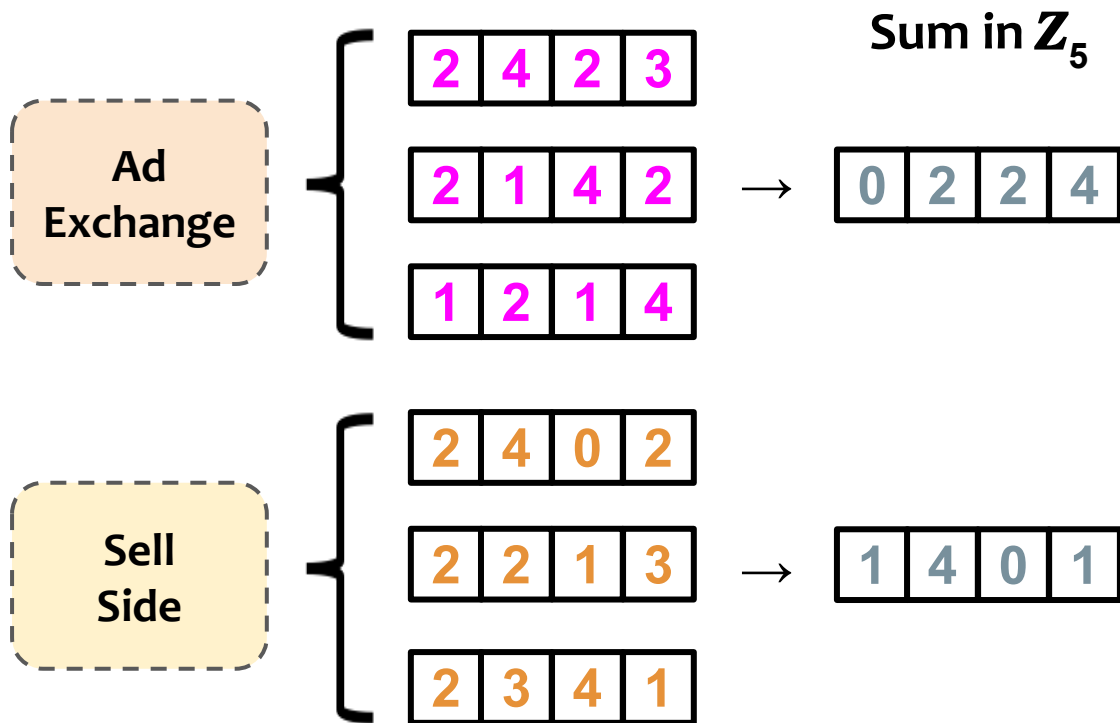


Addax's private auction using AFE

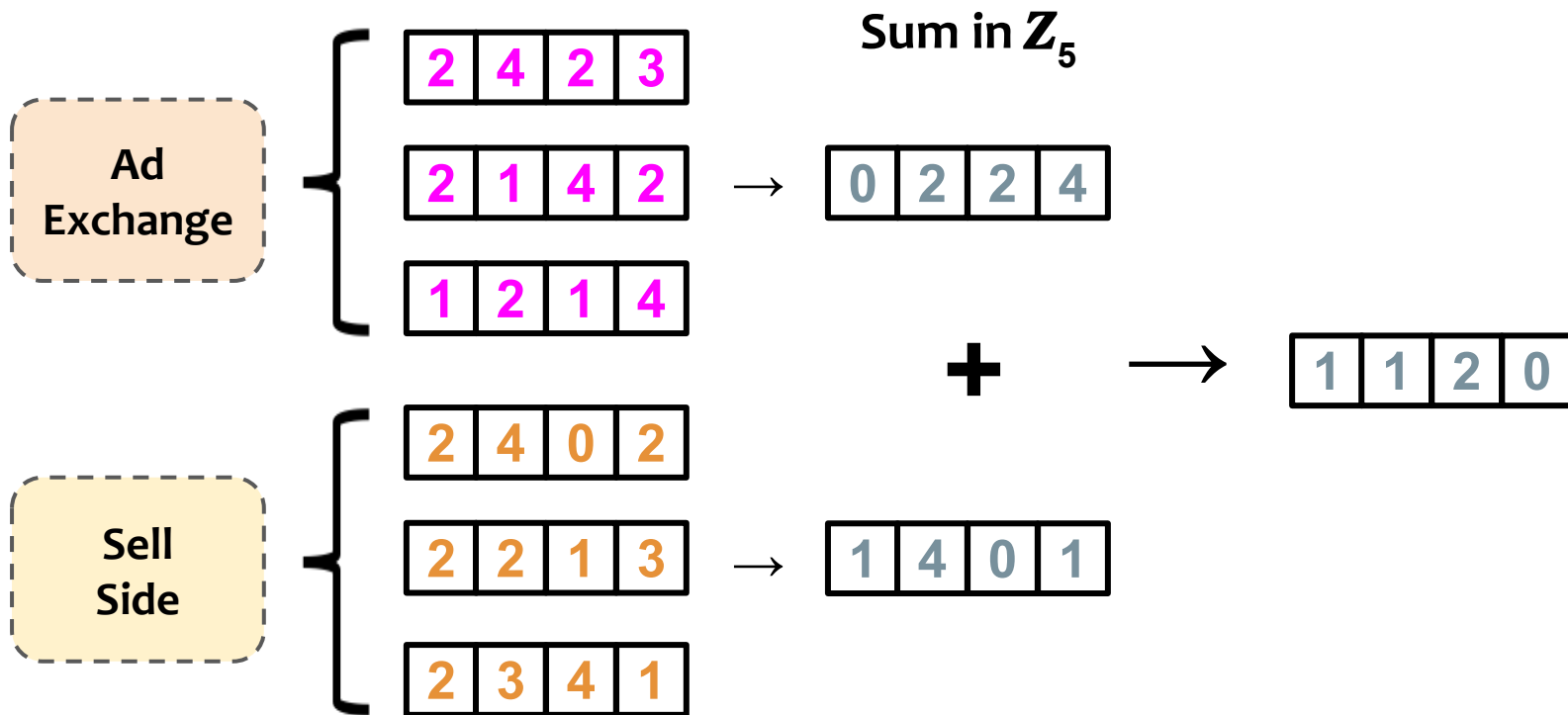


Compute the maximum bid

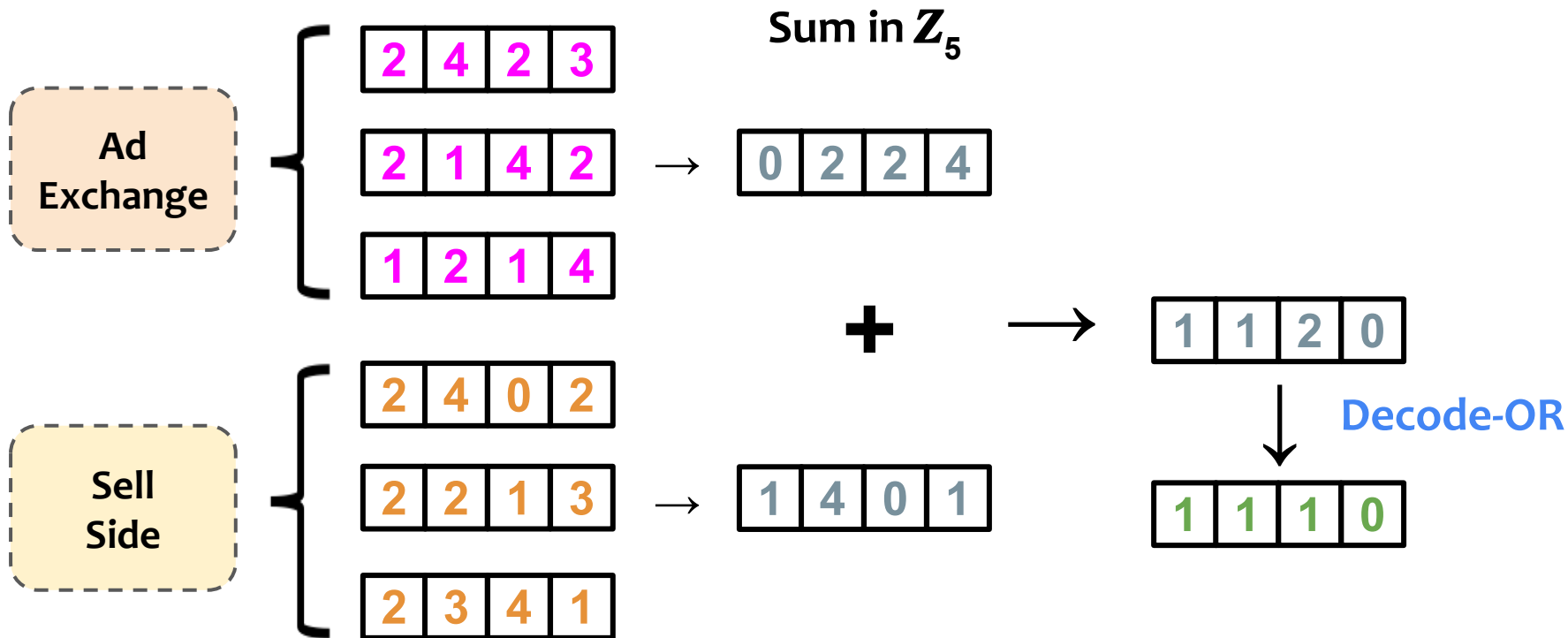
Addax's private auction using AFE



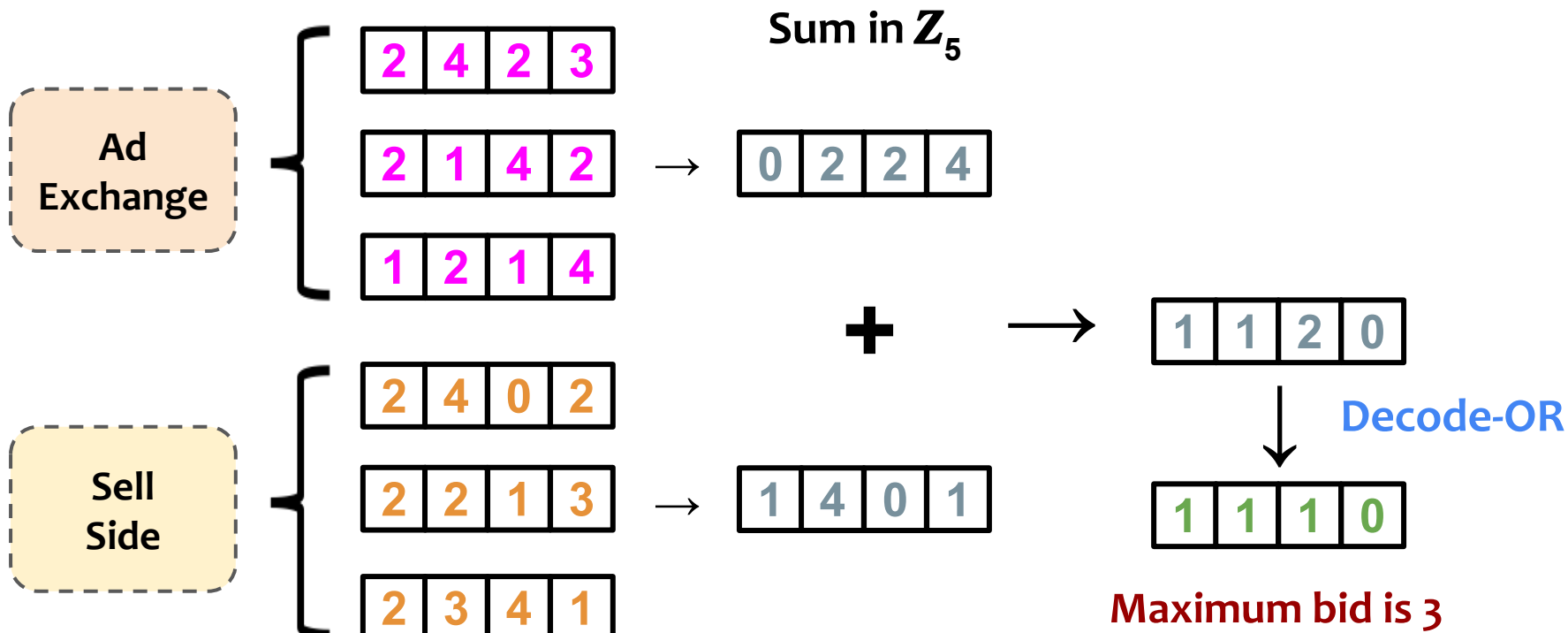
Addax's private auction using AFE



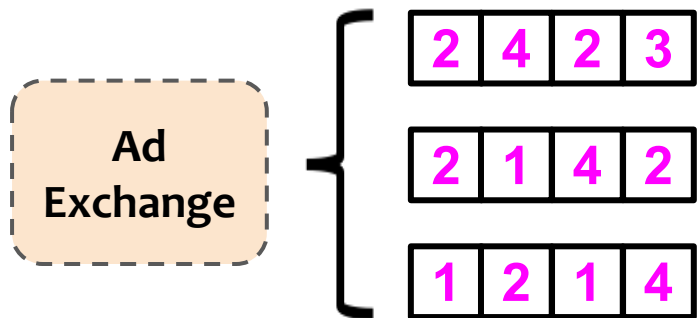
Addax's private auction using AFE



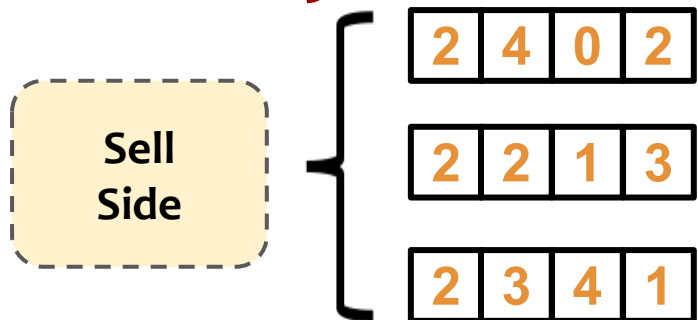
Addax's private auction using AFE



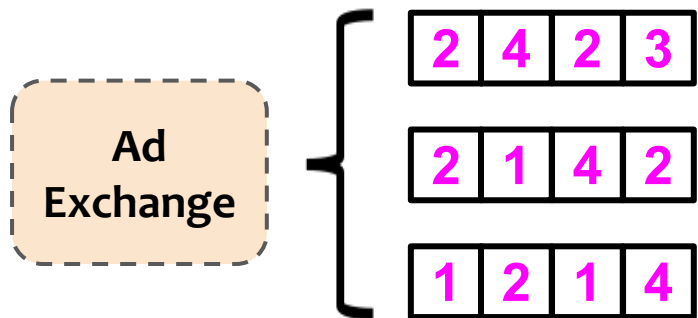
Addax's private auction using AFE



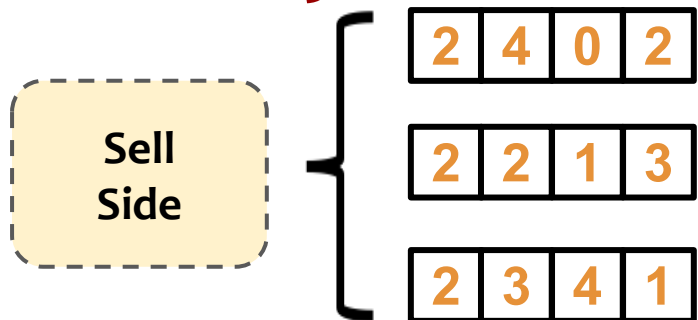
Maximum bid is 3



Addax's private auction using AFE

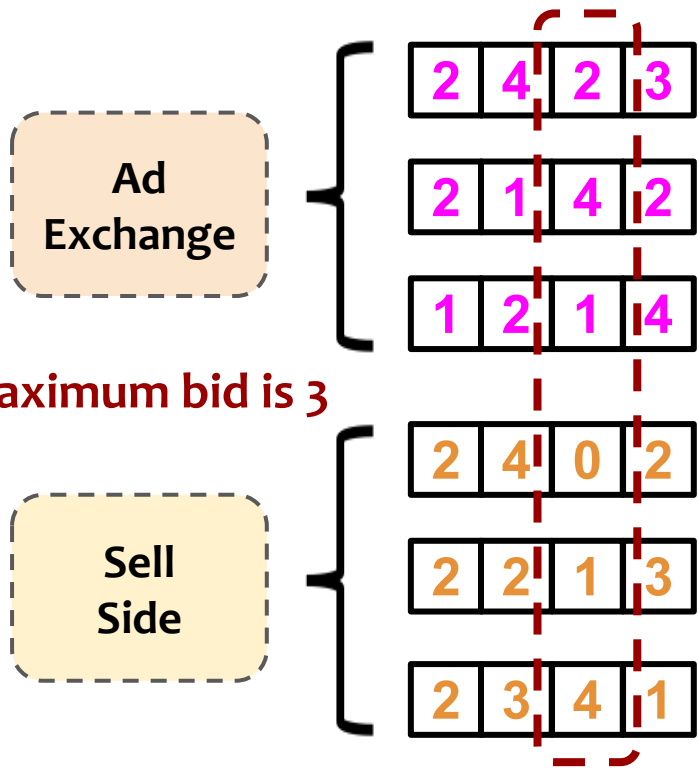


Maximum bid is 3

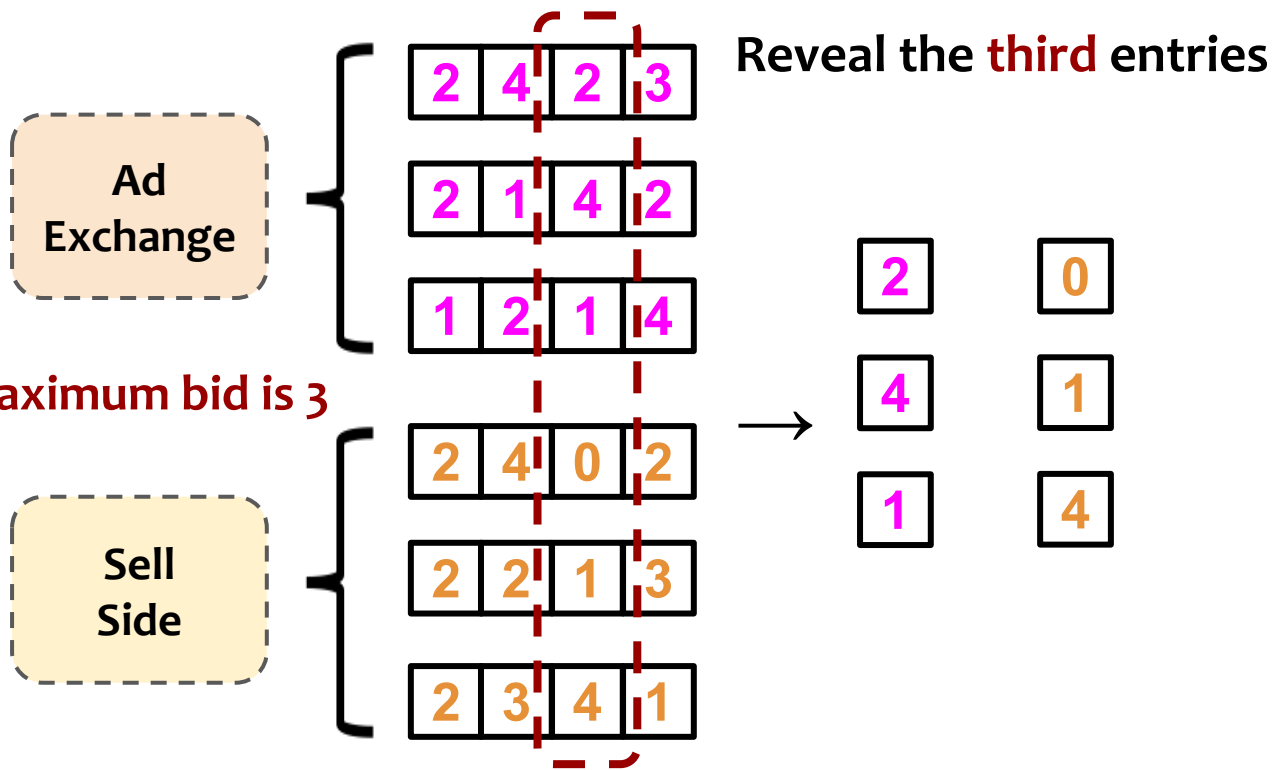


Find out the winner

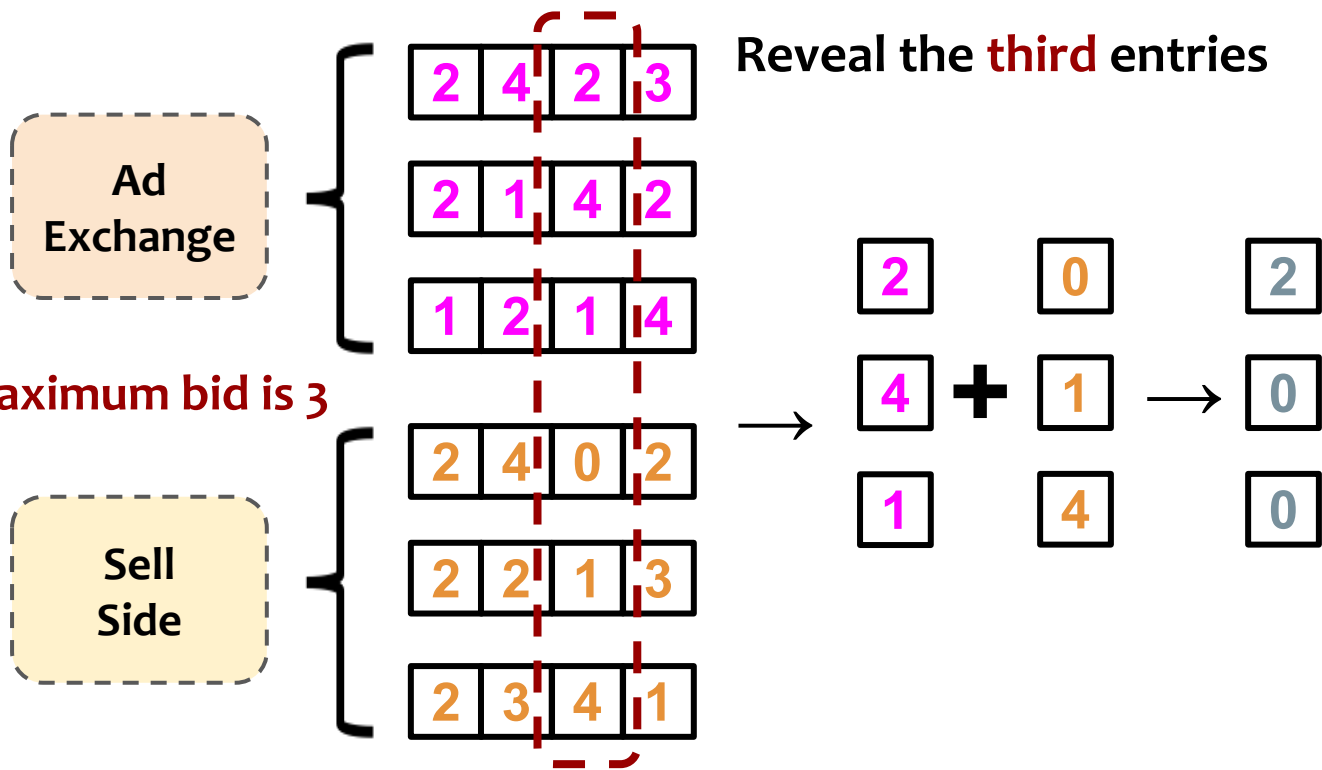
Addax's private auction using AFE



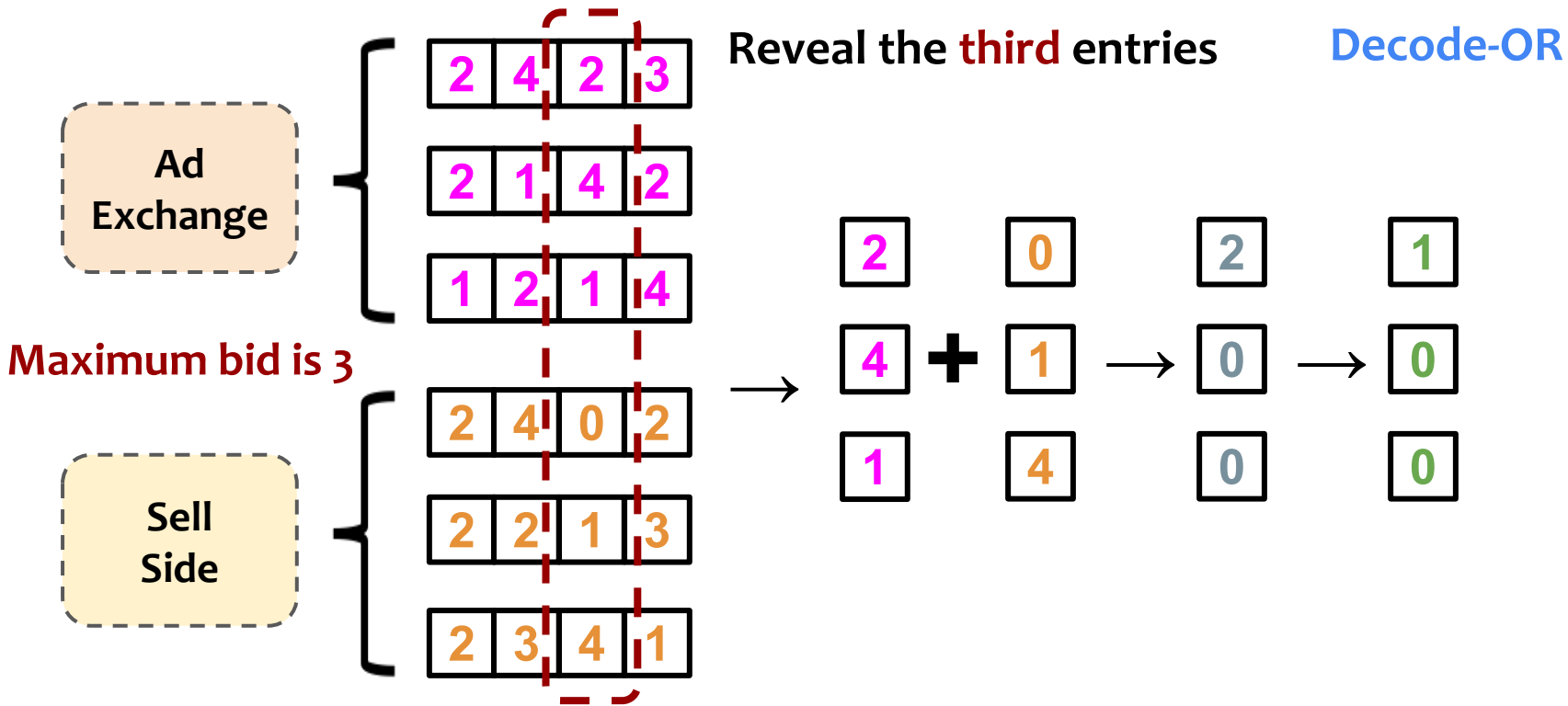
Addax's private auction using AFE



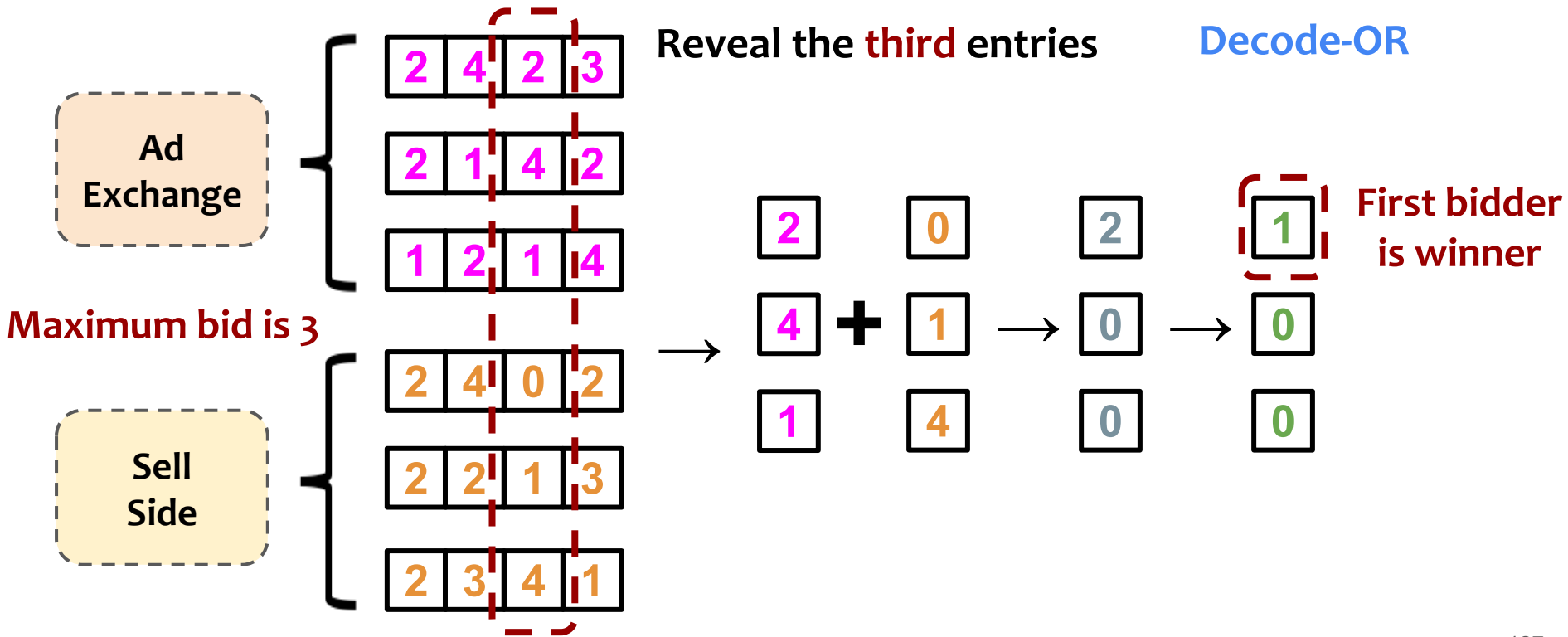
Addax's private auction using AFE



Addax's private auction using AFE



Addax's private auction using AFE



Addax's private auction using AFE

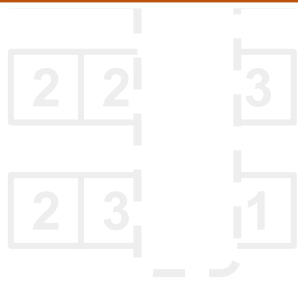


Reveal the third entries

Decode-OR

Please check out our paper for more details about the optimization techniques!

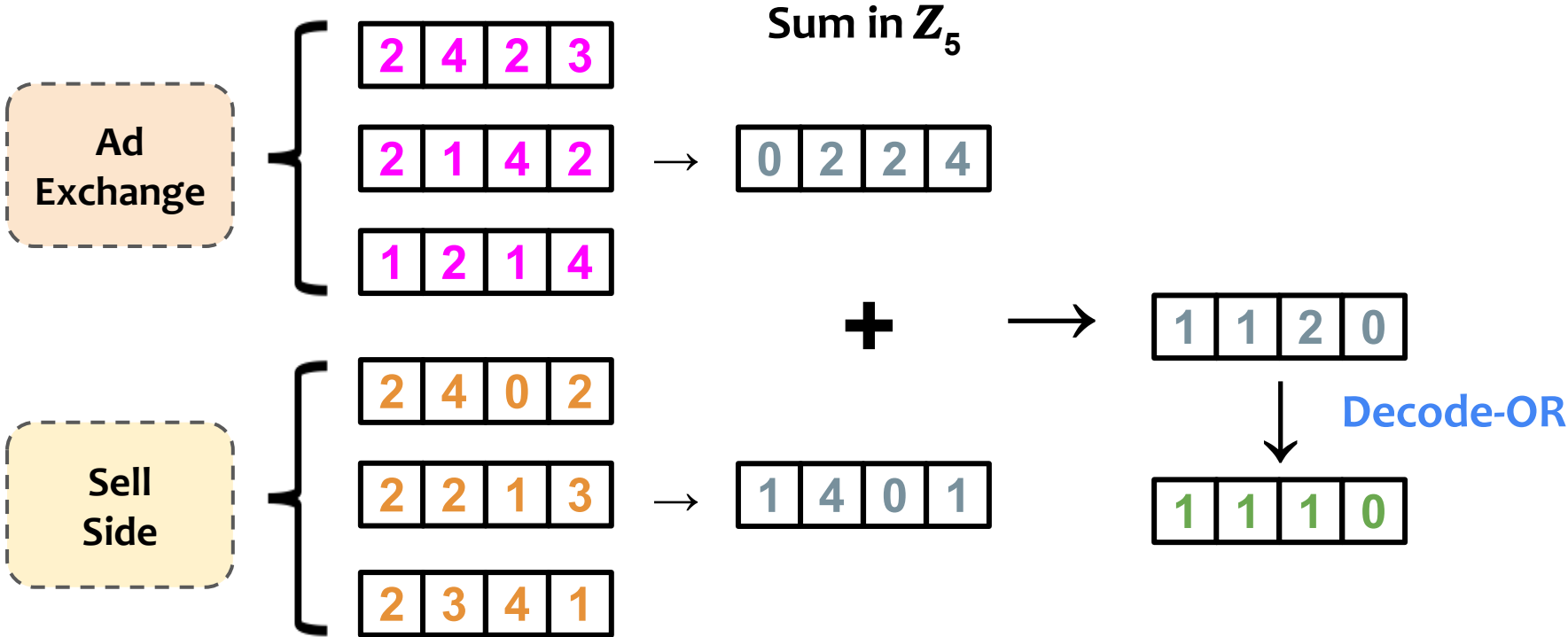
Sell Side



Rest of this talk

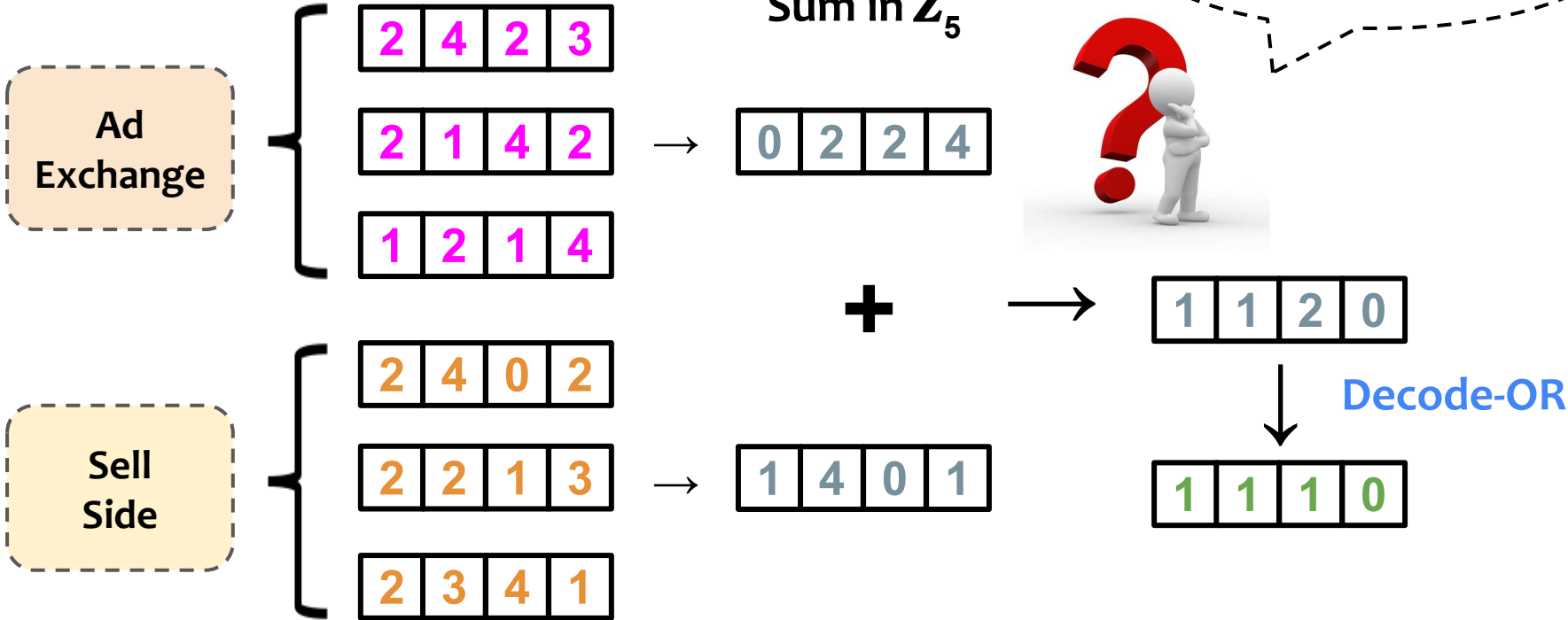
- Overview of Addax
- Private auction protocol
- **Make auction verifiable**
- Experimental evaluation

Private auction only uses additions



Private auction only uses additions

Verify additions are correct



Private auction only uses additions

Ad Exchange

2 4 2 3

2 1 4 2

1 2 1 4

Sum in \mathbb{Z}_5

0 2 2 4

Sell Side

2 4 0 2

2 2 1 3

2 3 4 1

1 4 0 1

+

1 1 2 0

Decode-OR

1 1 1 0



Verify additions are correct

Pedersen commitment!

Private auction only uses additions

Verify additions
are correct

2 4 2 3

Sum in Z_5

Please check out the paper for more details!

Sell
Side

2 2 1 3

→

1 4 0 1

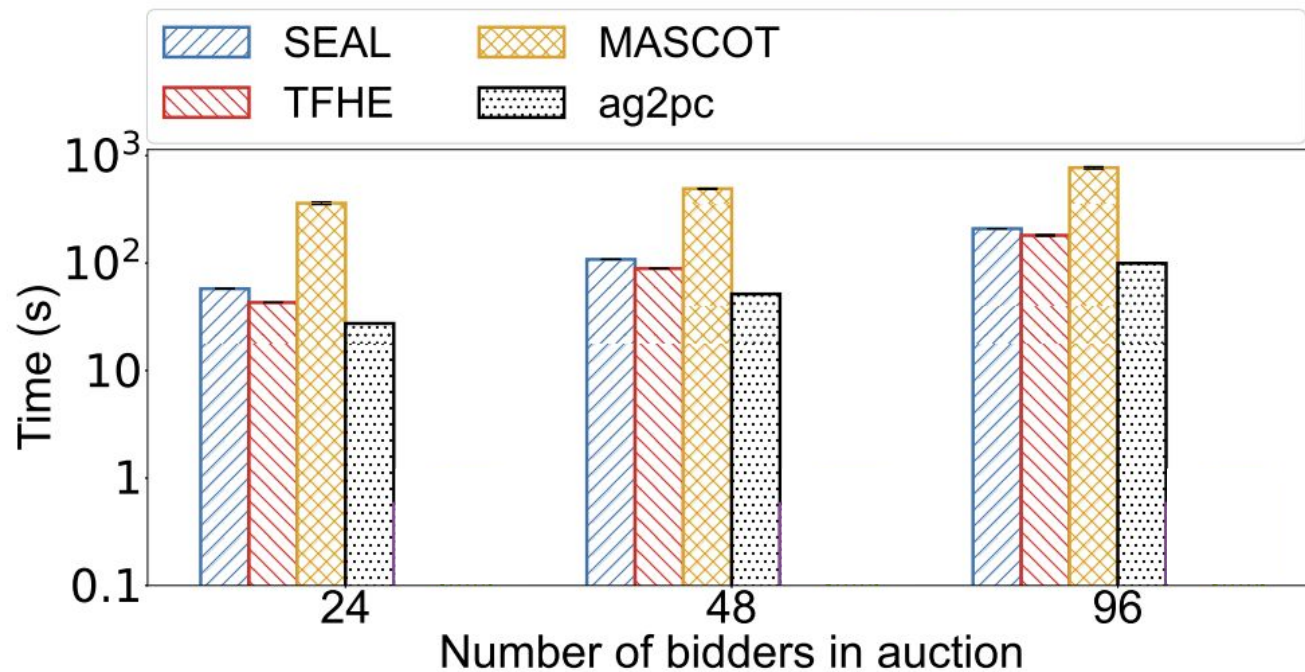
1 1 1 0

2 3 4 1

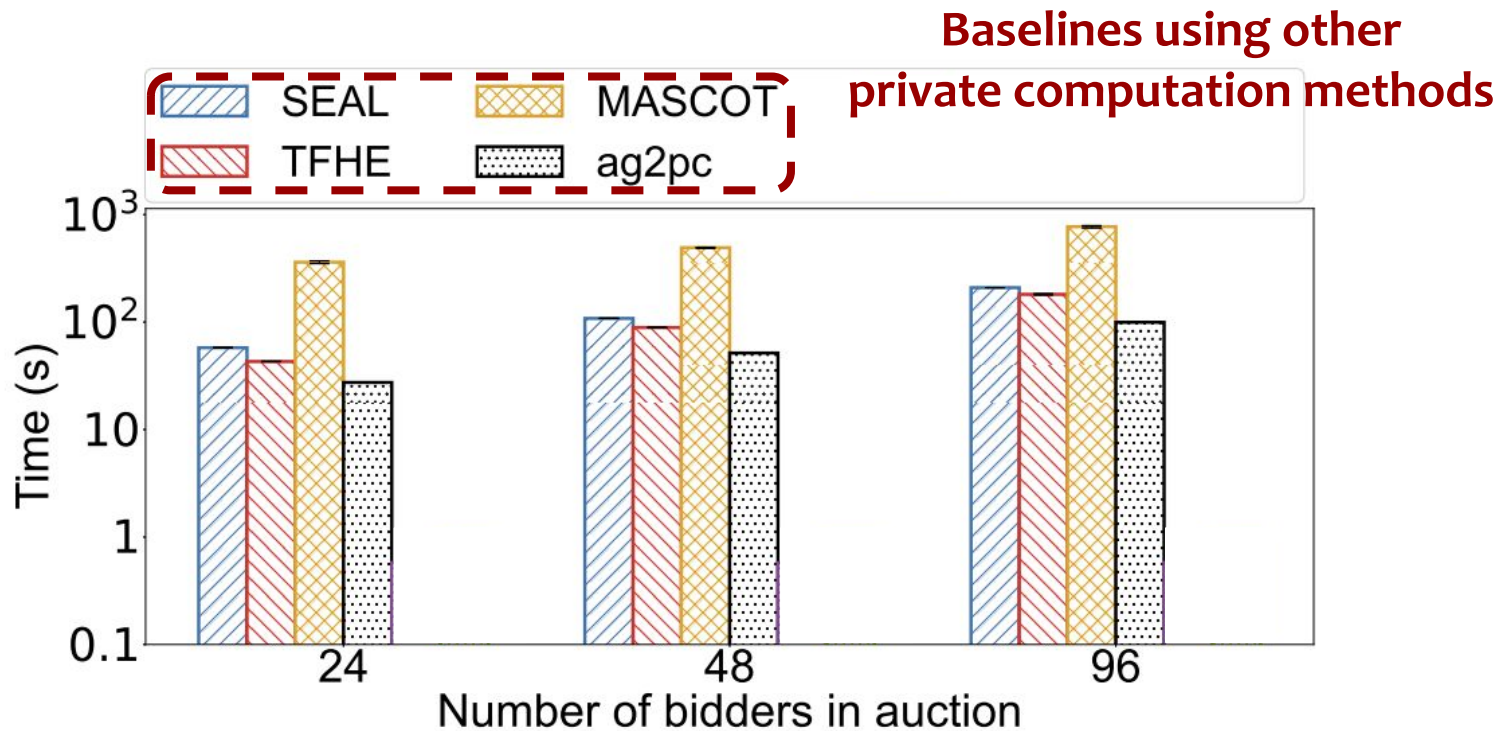
Rest of this talk

- Overview of Addax
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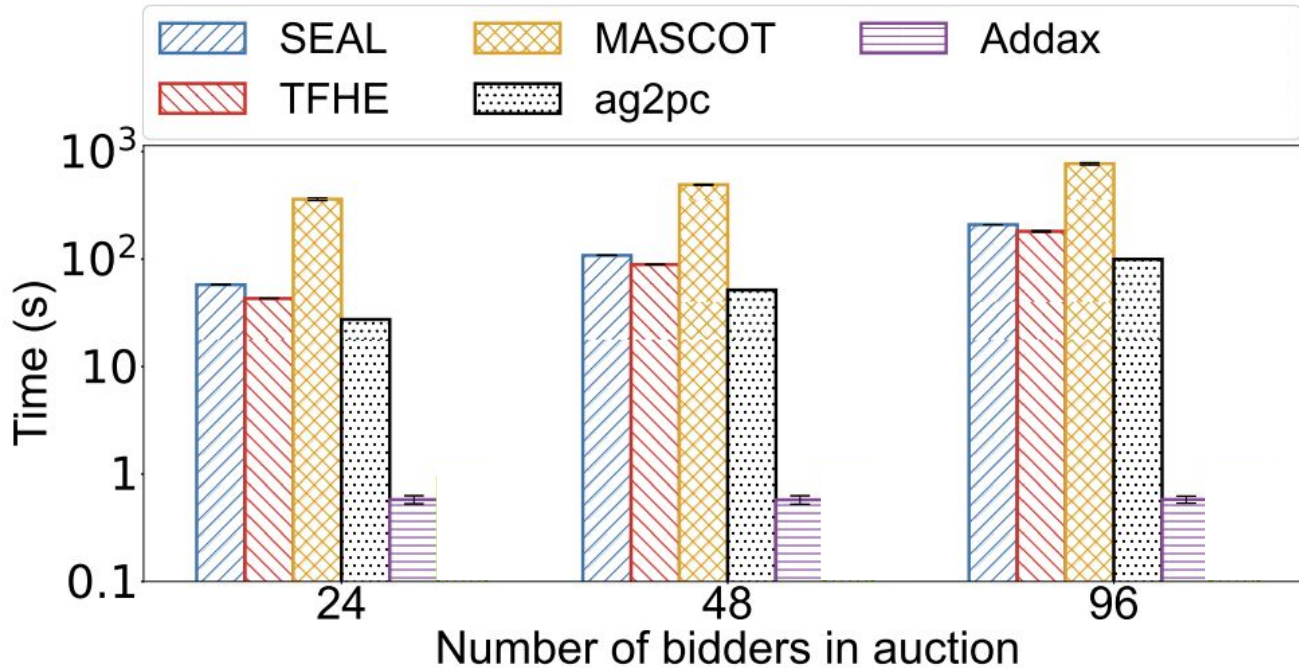
End-to-end latency over WAN



End-to-end latency over WAN

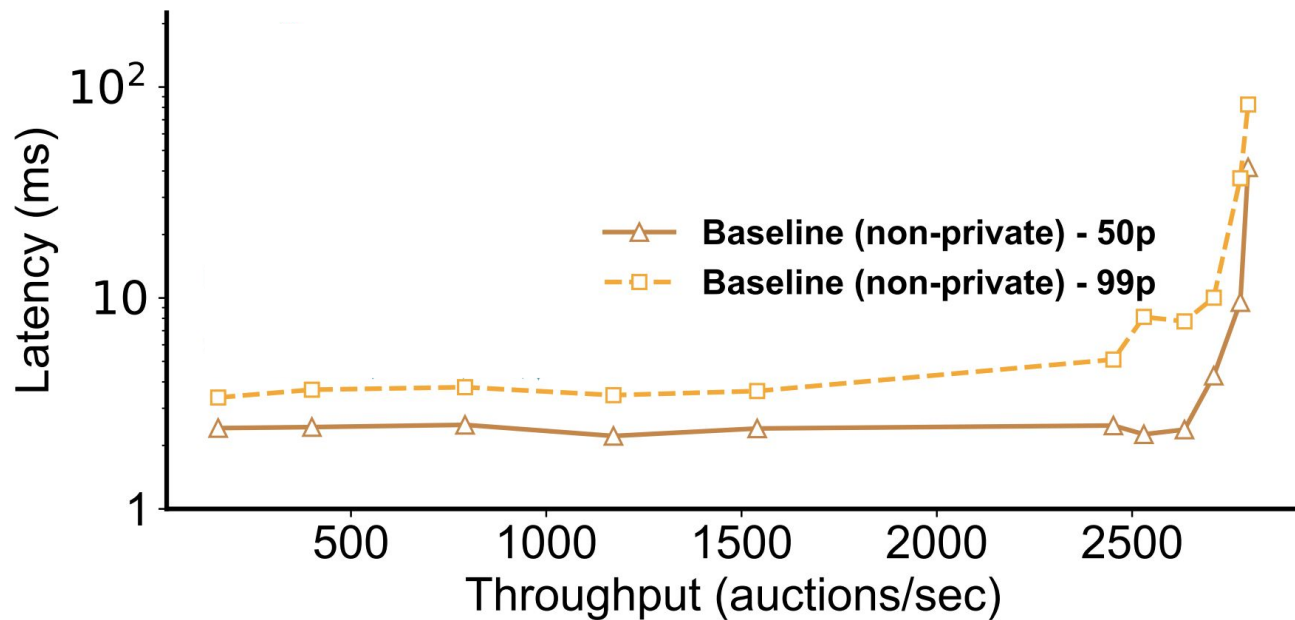


End-to-end latency over WAN

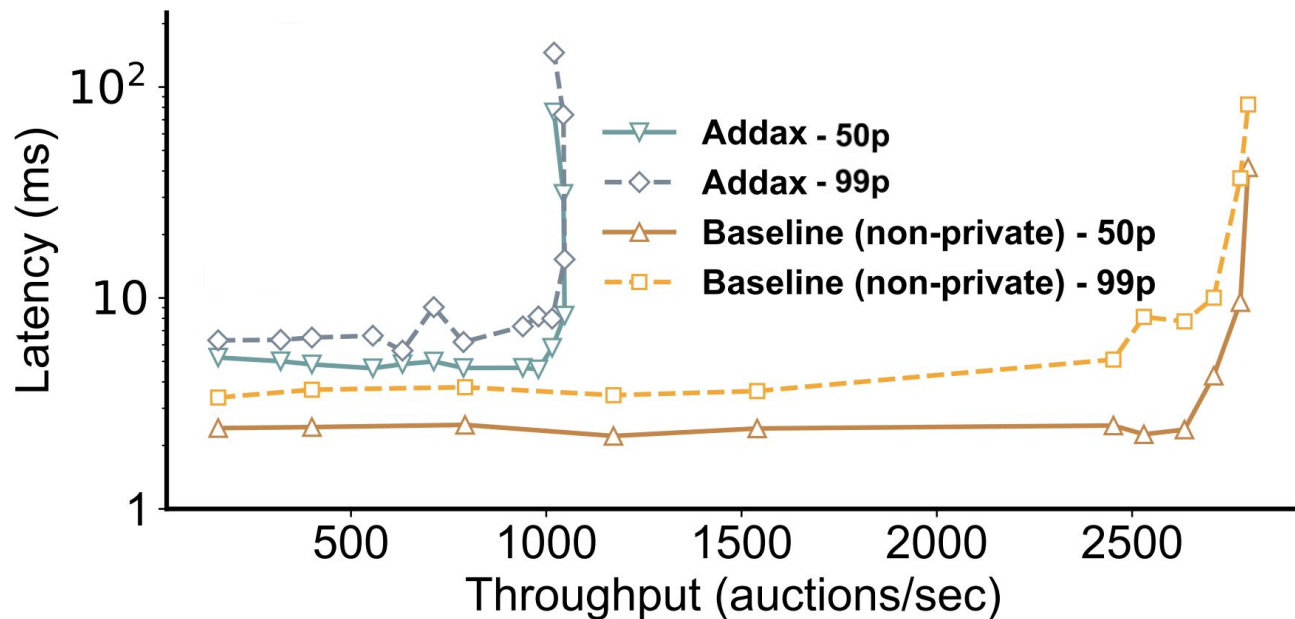


Auction can finish within 600 ms; enough to support real-time bidding

Throughput (no WAN)

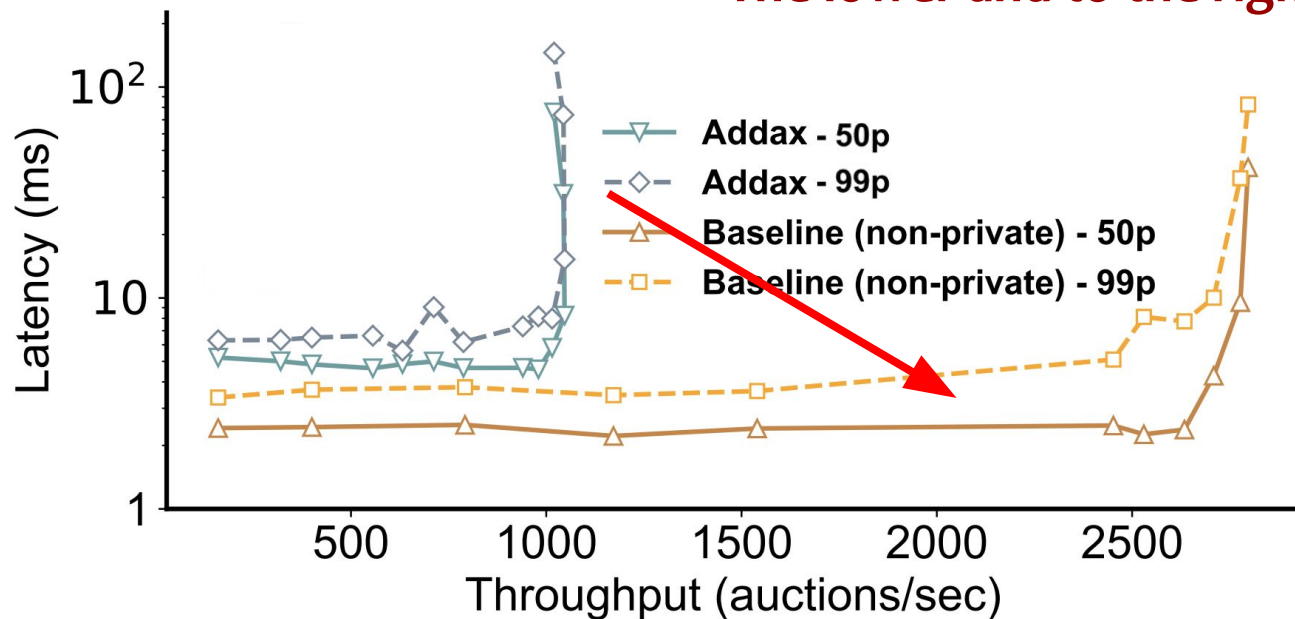


Throughput (no WAN)



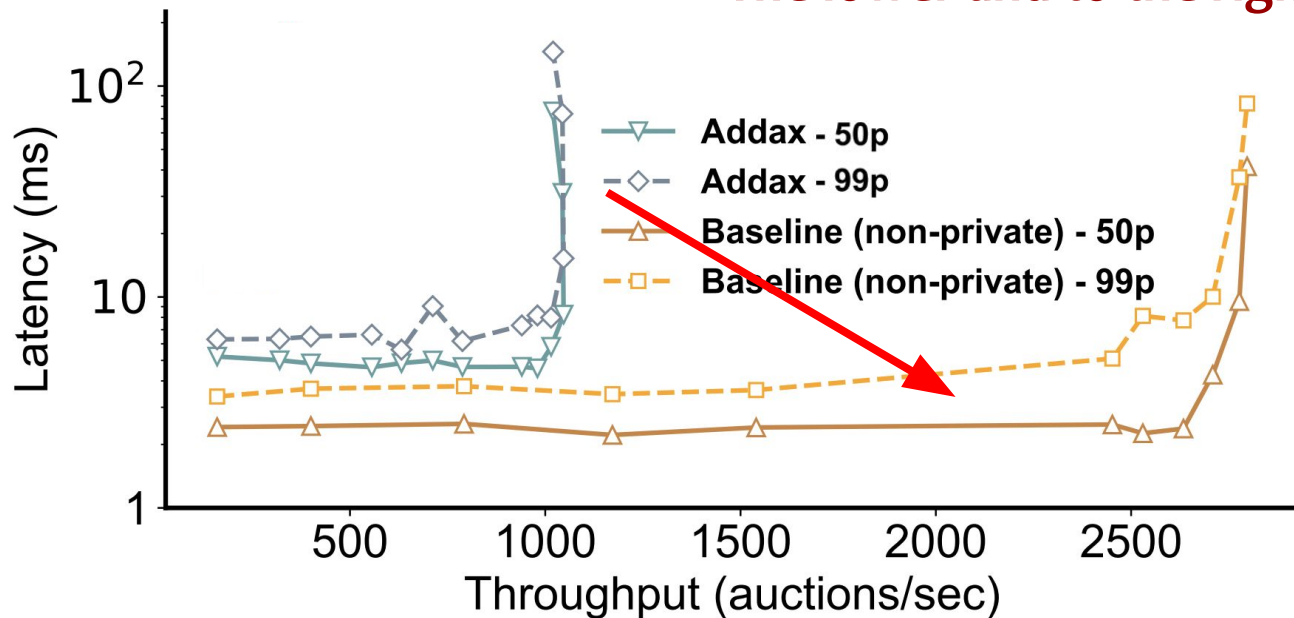
Throughput (no WAN)

The lower and to the right is better



Throughput (no WAN)

The lower and to the right is better



Addax can achieve roughly 40% throughput of a non-private baseline

Summary

- **Addax: a fast, private, and accountable ad exchange infrastructure to help ad exchanges build up trust**
 - Public verifiability for auction
 - Bids privacy for losing bidders
- **Evaluation shows practicability for real-time bidding**
 - Low end-to-end latency over WAN
 - High and reasonable throughput compared to non-private baseline

Thank you! Any questions?

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