Crypto, Cards, and Love

The Paper This Lecture is Based On

Secure Dating with Four or Fewer Cards
(A short note on teaching cryptography)

by
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Alice and Bob: Do They Go on a 2nd Date?

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We need a protocol so that, at the end:

1. If both want a 2nd date, both know it.
2. If either does not want a 2nd date, both know it.
3. If A-NO then A does not know what B wanted.
4. If B-NO then B does not know what A wanted.

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2. If either does not want a 2nd date, both know it.
3. If A-NO then A does not know what B wanted.
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5. Info-Theoretic Security.

Think About How They Would Do This

Alice and Bob have a deck of cards.
Each card has a ♥ or a ♣ on it.
They can use this.

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Think Outside the Box Vs Cheating

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For some you will say

Thats Cheating

Think Outside the Box Vs Cheating

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For some you will say

Thats Cheating

I will respond

I'm thinking outside the box

Five Card Solution

The 5-Card Solution by Boer

All cards are put on the table face-down.

1. ♥ is placed on the table.

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2. A and B both have one ♥ and one ♣.
3. A-YES: place ♣♥ on left. A-NO: place ♥♣ on left.
4. B-YES: place ♥♣ on right. B-NO: place ♣♥ on right.

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3. A-YES: place ♣♥ on left. A-NO: place ♥♣ on left.
4. B-YES: place ♥♣ on right. B-NO: place ♣♥ on right.
5. Not done yet, but let's see what we got.

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3. A-YES: place ♣♥ on left. A-NO: place ♥♣ on left.
4. B-YES: place ♥♣ on right. B-NO: place ♣♥ on right.
5. Not done yet, but let's see what we got.

A	B	Result
Y	Y	♣♥♥♥♣
Y	N	♣♥♥♣♥
N	Y	♥♣♥♥♣
N	N	♥♣♥♣♥

The 5-Card Solution, cont

The cards are face down.

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Bad Idea Reveal all the cards. If do this then in YN, NY, NN cases the N-person knows what the other one did.

The 5-Card Solution, cont

The cards are face down.

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How to finish this protocol so that it works. Ideas?

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Good Idea Randomly shift the cards with wrap-around.

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1. If YY then will have 3 ♥'s in a row. 2nd date!

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The cards are face down.

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Y	Y	♣♥♥♥♣
Y	N	♣♥♥♣♥
N	Y	♥♣♥♥♣
N	N	♥♣♥♣♥

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Good Idea Randomly shift the cards with wrap-around.

1. If YY then will have 3 ♥'s in a row. 2nd date!
2. YN, NY, NN are all a cyclic shift away from each other. No 3-in-row. An N-person has no idea which case they are in. No 2nd date!

Can We Get By With Less Cards?

Is there a 4-card solution? Vote: Yes, No, Unk?

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Yes, but. . . . Two solutions.

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Yes, but. . . . Two solutions.

One We will use cards with ↓ or ↑ on them.

Two We will have Alice leave the room and come back.

Three Card Solutions

The 3-Card Solution by Susan Zonghui Li

All cards are face down.

1. There is an ↑ card on the table.

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2. A-YES: place ↑ on right. A-NO: place ↓ on right.

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All cards are face down.

1. There is an ↑ card on the table.
2. A-YES: place ↑ on right. A-NO: place ↓ on right.
3. B-YES: place ↑ on right (of card A put down). B-NO: place ↓ on right (of card A put down).

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All cards are face down.

1. There is an ↑ card on the table.
2. A-YES: place ↑ on right. A-NO: place ↓ on right.
3. B-YES: place ↑ on right (of card A put down). B-NO: place ↓ on right (of card A put down).
4. Not done yet, but let's see what we got.

A	B	Result
Y	Y	↑↑↑
Y	N	↑↑↓
N	Y	↓↑↑
N	N	↓↑↓

The 3-Card Solution, cont

The cards are face down.

A	B	Result
Y	Y	↑↑↑
Y	N	↑↑↓
N	Y	↓↑↑
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Bad Idea Reveal all the cards. If do this then in YN, NY, NN cases the N-person knows what the other one did.

The 3-Card Solution, cont

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Y	Y	↑↑↑
Y	N	↑↑↓
N	Y	↓↑↑
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Good Idea Randomly shuffle and turn the deck around a random number of times.

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1. If YY then will have 3 in same dir 2nd date!

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1. If YY then will have 3 in same dir 2nd date!
2. YN, NY, NN will have 2 in one dir, 1 in other. No 2nd date!

The 3-Card Solution by Karun Singh

All cards are face down.

1. The cards ♣♣♥ are on the table.

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All cards are face down.

1. The cards ♣♣♥ are on the table.
2. Bob is not in the room.
   A-YES: Switch cards 2&3. A-NO: No switch.

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All cards are face down.

1. The cards ♣♣♥ are on the table.
2. Bob is not in the room.
   A-YES: Switch cards 2&3. A-NO: No switch.
3. Alice is not in the room.
   B-YES: Switch cards 1 and 2. B-NO: No switch.

The 3-Card Solution by Karun Singh

All cards are face down.

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2. Bob is not in the room.
   A-YES: Switch cards 2&3. A-NO: No switch.
3. Alice is not in the room.
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4. Not done yet, but let's see what we got.

A	B	After A	After B
Y	Y	♣♥♣	♥♣♣
Y	N	♣♥♣	♣♥♣
N	Y	♣♣♥	♣♣♥
N	N	♣♣♥	♣♣♥

The 3-Card Solution by Singh, cont

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Y	N	♣♥♣	♣♥♣
N	Y	♣♣♥	♣♣♥
N	N	♣♣♥	♣♣♥

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A	B	After A	After B
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Y	N	♣♥♣	♣♥♣
N	Y	♣♣♥	♣♣♥
N	N	♣♣♥	♣♣♥

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How to finish this protocol so that it works. Ideas?

Just reveal the first card:

- If it's ♥ then 2nd date!
- If not then no 2nd date!

Security Might be a HW.

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Yes, but we use a PEZ dispenser.

Yes, but we use light and optics.

Two Card Solutions

A 2-Card Solution Using a PEZ Dispenser by Jackson Spell

Question If you know what a PEZ dispenser is raise your hands.

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2. A-YES: remove a card. A-NO: do not remove a card.
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4. If no cards in the PEZ disp, then 2nd date! Otherwise no 2nd date!

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4. If no cards in the PEZ disp, then 2nd date! Otherwise no 2nd date!

An N-player only knows that there is 1 or 2 cards in the dispenser, but does not know which. So does not know what the other player thought.

A 2-Card Solution Using Light by Rena Yang

1. Both players have a transparent and an opaque card.
2. There is a box with slots in it for cards. One cannot tell if there are already some cards in the box. One can shine a light through one end of the box.

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2. There is a box with slots in it for cards. One cannot tell if there are already some cards in the box. One can shine a light through one end of the box.
3. A-YES: put transparent card in the box. A-NO: put opaque card in the box.

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3. A-YES: put transparent card in the box. A-NO: put opaque card in the box.
4. B-YES: put transparent card in the box. B-NO: put opaque card in the box.
5. Shine light. If goes through then A and B both put in transparent, 2nd date! If not then at least one put in an opaque card. No 2nd date!

Caveat on A 2-Card Solution Using Light by Rena Yang

Actually needs four cards since

- Alice has a transparent and an opaque card.
- Bob has a transparent and an opaque card.

Depends on if you count cards-used, which is 2, or cards needed which is 4.

Applications

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2. After our first date, Darling and I used the 5-card protocol. We agreed to a second date and are now married 29 years!

More Applications

Secure Multiparty Computation $f(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ is a function. A_i has x_i. They want to compute it so that at the end they all know the answer but NOTHING more (except what they can conclude from their x_i and the answer).

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- Auctions—players know who won, but not what others bid. Was used for real in Denmark (see Wikipedia page on Secure Multiparty Computation).
- Voting—players know who won, but not what others voted. I've heard this is actually used but have not been able to track down a source.