

# 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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We need a protocol so that, at the end:

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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.
4. If B-NO then B does not know what A wanted.
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  
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I will respond  
I'm thinking outside the box

# Five Card Sol.



# The 5-Card Sol. by Boer

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A-NO: place ♥♣ on left, face down.
4. B-YES: place ♥♣ on right, face down.  
B-NO: place ♣♥ on right, face down.

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





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

# The 5-Card Sol., 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.



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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.

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

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

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

**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!

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**Yes**, there is a 3-card solution.

Is there a 2-card solution? Vote: Yes, No, Unk?

**Yes**, there is a 2-card solution.

# Three Card Sol.

# The 3-Card Sol. by Susan Zonghui Li

All cards are face down. The cards have  $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ .

1. There is an  $\uparrow$  card on the table.

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2. A-YES: place  $\uparrow$  on right.  
A-NO: place  $\downarrow$  on right.

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All cards are face down. The cards have  $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ .

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

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4. Not done yet, but let's see what we got.

A	B	Result
Y	Y	$\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow$
Y	N	$\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow$
N	Y	$\downarrow\uparrow\uparrow$
N	N	$\downarrow\uparrow\downarrow$

## The 3-Card Sol., cont

The cards are face down.

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

## The 3-Card Sol., cont

The cards are face down.

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

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

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The cards are face down.

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**Good Idea** Randomly shuffle and turn the deck around a random number of times.

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Y	Y	↑↑↑
Y	N	↑↑↓
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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!

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All cards are face down.

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# The 3-Card Sol. by Karun Singh

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.


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All cards are face down.

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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.
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 Sol. by Singh, cont

The cards are face down.

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

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The cards are face down.

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?

# The 3-Card Sol. by Singh, cont

The cards are face down.

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

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

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.



# Two Card Sol.

# PEZ Dispenser

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**Important** Looking at PEZ disp one can tell if it is empty or not. But if it is not empty **you cannot tell how many candies are in it.**

# A 2-Card Sol. Using a PEZ Dispenser by Jackson Spell

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Otherwise no 2nd date!



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3. B-YES: remove a card. B-NO: do not remove a card.
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 Sol. 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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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 Sol. Using Light

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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1. E-harmony is thinking of incorporating the 5-card protocol into their software.
2. After our first date, Darling and I used the 5-card protocol. We agreed to a second date and are now married 30 years!

# More Applications

**Secure Multiparty Computation**  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  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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We showed that  $f(x, y) = x \wedge y$  has a secure multiparty computation. There are analogs of what we did that can really be used.

- ▶ 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.

**BILL: STOP  
RECORDING**