

# E-Voting with Commitments

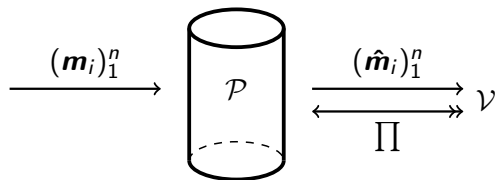
Thor Tunge

May 11, 2019

# Introduction

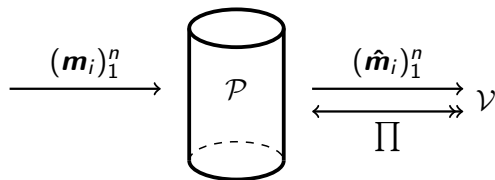
- Voting model
- Shuffling votes
- Proof of shuffling
- Add commitments

# Voting Model



- Ordered set of messages as input
- (Permuted) ordered set as output
- Proof that  $\hat{m}_i = m_{\pi(i)}$

# Voting Model

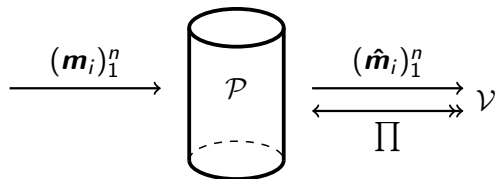


- Ordered set of messages as input
- (Permuted) ordered set as output
- Proof that  $\hat{m}_i = m_{\pi(i)}$

A cheating  $\mathcal{P}$  wants to change a message  $m_k$  such that no permutation exists

$$\pi : (m_i)_1^n \rightarrow (\hat{m}_i)_1^n$$

# Voting Model



- Public:  $(\hat{m}_i)_1^n$  and  $(m_i)_1^n$
- Secret: Permutation  $\pi$
- Will create an interactive protocol between  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{V}$

# Intermezzo: Polynomials

- Pick two polynomials  $f, \hat{f}$  at random (of degree  $n$ )
- Pick a random number  $\rho$
- How likely is  $f(\rho) = \hat{f}(\rho)$

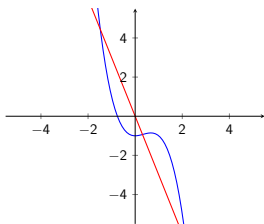


Figure:  $f$  and  $\hat{f}$

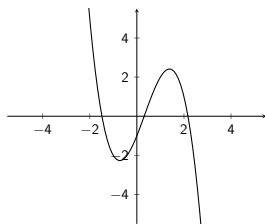


Figure:  $f - \hat{f}$

$$f(\rho) - \hat{f}(\rho) = 0 \Rightarrow f = \hat{f}$$

- Define  $f(X) = \prod(m_i - X)$ ,  $\hat{f}(X) = \prod(\hat{m}_i - X)$
- Construct linear system where solution exists if

$$f(\rho) - \hat{f}(\rho) = 0$$

- Require that  $\mathcal{P}$  provides a solution

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- Require that  $\mathcal{P}$  provides a solution
- $\mathcal{P}$  proves that they know  $\pi$  to a verifier  $\mathcal{V}$

Notation:  $M_i = m_i - \rho$  and  $\hat{M}_i = \hat{m}_i - \rho$



# Interactive Protocol

- 1  $\mathcal{V}$  picks a random  $\rho$
- 2 Both compute  $M_i$  and  $\hat{M}_i$
- 3  $\mathcal{P}$  picks random  $(\theta_i)_1^{n-1}$  and computes  $\theta_{k-1}M_k + \theta_k\hat{M}_k$
- 4  $\mathcal{P}$  sends  $\theta_{k-1}M_k + \theta_k\hat{M}_k$  to  $\mathcal{V}$
- 5  $\mathcal{V}$  sends a challenge  $\beta$
- 6  $\mathcal{P}$  has to determine  $s_i$

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$$\beta M_1 + s_1 \hat{M}_1 = \theta_1 \hat{M}_1$$

$$s_1 M_2 + s_2 \hat{M}_2 = \theta_1 M_2 + \theta_2 \hat{M}_2$$

$\vdots$

$$s_{n-2} M_{n-1} + s_{n-1} \hat{M}_{n-1} = \theta_{n-2} M_{n-2} + \theta_{n-1} \hat{M}_{n-1}$$

$$(-1)^n \beta \hat{M}_n + s_{n-1} M_n = \theta_{n-1} M_n$$

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# The linear system

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{M}_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ M_2 & \hat{M}_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & M_3 & \hat{M}_3 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & M_{n-1} & \hat{M}_{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & M_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} s_1 - \theta_1 \\ s_2 - \theta_2 \\ s_3 - \theta_3 \\ \vdots \\ s_{n-2} - \theta_{n-2} \\ s_{n-1} - \theta_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\beta M_1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ (-1)^{n-1} \beta \hat{M}_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{M} \qquad \mathbf{s} \qquad \mathbf{b}$

$$\mathbf{M}\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{b}$$

is a  $n \times (n - 1)$  system of linear equations. Over-determined.

Want to show that  $\mathbf{b}$  is in the span of  $\mathbf{M}$  if shuffle is done correctly.

To show that  $\mathbf{b}$  is in the span of  $\mathbf{M}$ , append column  $\mathbf{b}$  to  $\mathbf{M}$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccccccc} \beta M_1 & \hat{M}_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & M_2 & \hat{M}_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & M_3 & \hat{M}_3 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & M_{n-1} & \hat{M}_{n-1} \\ \beta(-1)^n \hat{M}_n & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & M_n \end{array} \right) \cdot$$

$\mathbf{b} || \mathbf{M}$

- Square  $n \times n$  matrix

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$\mathbf{b} \parallel \mathbf{M}$

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- $\mathbf{M}$  has linearly independent vectors
- $\det(\mathbf{b} \parallel \mathbf{M}) = \beta \left( \prod_{i=1}^n M_i - \prod_{i=1}^n \hat{M}_i \right) = \beta(f(\rho) - \hat{f}(\rho))$



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# The linear system

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{M}_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ M_2 & \hat{M}_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & M_3 & \hat{M}_3 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & M_{n-1} & \hat{M}_{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & M_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} s_1 - \theta_1 \\ s_2 - \theta_2 \\ s_3 - \theta_3 \\ \vdots \\ s_{n-2} - \theta_{n-2} \\ s_{n-1} - \theta_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\beta M_1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ (-1)^{n-1} \beta \hat{M}_n \end{pmatrix}$$

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- Shuffle done honestly  $\Rightarrow f(X) = \hat{f}(X) \Rightarrow f(\rho) = \hat{f}(\rho)$

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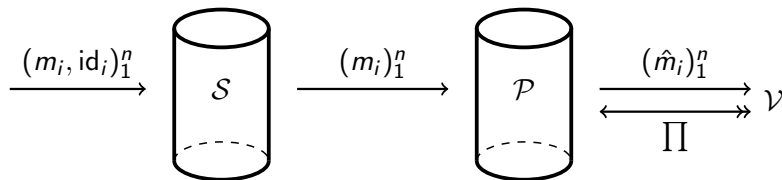
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- This system has a solution iff  $f(\rho) = \hat{f}(\rho)$
- Shuffle done honestly  $\Rightarrow f(X) = \hat{f}(X) \Rightarrow f(\rho) = \hat{f}(\rho)$
- If permutation does not exist  $\Rightarrow f(\rho) = \hat{f}(\rho)$  negligible

## Recap: Shuffling Proof

- $\mathcal{V}$  picks a random  $\rho \rightarrow$
- Both compute  $\hat{M}_i = \hat{m}_i - \rho$ ,  $\mathcal{P}$  computes  $M_i = m_i - \rho$
- $\mathcal{P}$  picks  $\theta_i$  and computes  $\theta_{k-1}M_k + \theta_k\hat{M}_k \rightarrow$
- $\mathcal{V}$  picks a challenge  $\beta \rightarrow$
- $\mathcal{P}$  solves linear system  $\rightarrow$
- $\mathcal{V}$  verifies the linear system

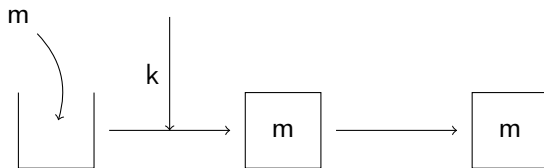
# Problem: The Whole Picture



Server  $\mathcal{S}$  can recover the permutation  $\pi$ !

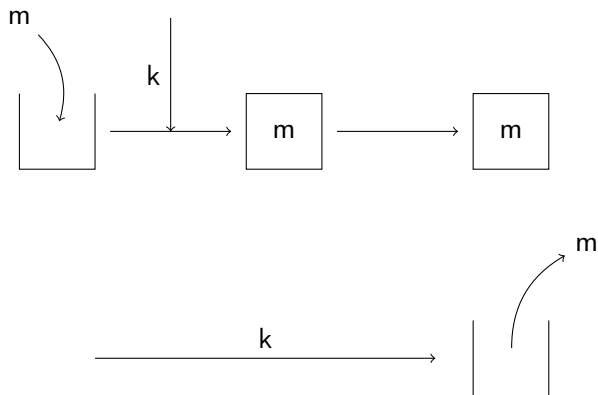
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We want to commit to a value, and later reveal which value we committed to



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# Commitments

- 3 algorithms: Keygen, Commit, Verify
- Commit to a value  $m$  using randomness  $r$ :

$$\text{Commit}(m, r) := [m; r]$$

- Send commitment  $[m; r]$ .
- Later, reveal  $(m, r)$  by sending it
- Verifier can check that  $[m; r] = \text{Commit}(m, r)$

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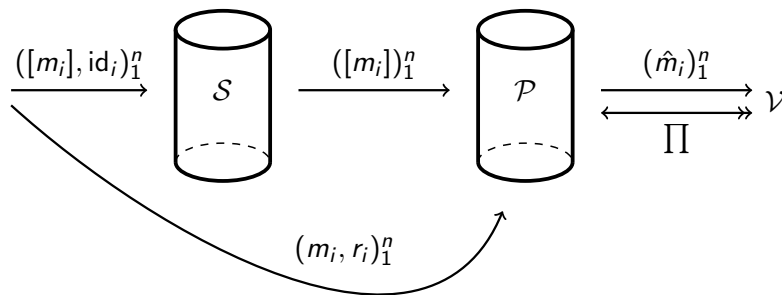
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- Send commitment  $[m; r]$ .
- Later, reveal  $(m, r)$  by sending it
- Verifier can check that  $[m; r] = \text{Commit}(m, r)$
- Hiding - Verifier cannot open before  $(m, r)$  is sent.
- Binding - Prover cannot send different  $(m', r')$  such that

$$\text{Commit}(m', r') = \text{Commit}(m, r) \quad m \neq m'$$

# Solution: Commitments!

Add commitments to the picture!



Public:  $([m])_1^n$  and  $(\hat{m})_1^n$   
Secret: permutation  $\pi$

# What did we break?

- ✓  $\mathcal{V}$  picks a random  $\rho \rightarrow$
- ✗ Both compute  $\hat{M}_i$  and  $\hat{M}_j$
- ✗  $\mathcal{P}$  picks  $\theta_i$  and computes  $\theta_{k-1}M_k + \theta_k\hat{M}_k \rightarrow$
- ✓  $\mathcal{V}$  picks a challenge  $\beta \rightarrow$
- ✓  $\mathcal{P}$  solves linear system by determining  $s_i \rightarrow$
- ✗  $\mathcal{V}$  verifies the linear system

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- ✗  $\mathcal{V}$  verifies the linear system

# How to Verify

$\mathcal{V}$  is supposed to verify that

$$\beta M_1 + s_1 \hat{M}_1 = \theta_1 \hat{M}_1$$

$$s_1 M_2 + s_2 \hat{M}_2 = \theta_1 M_2 + \theta_2 \hat{M}_2$$

$\vdots$

$$s_{n-2} M_{n-1} + s_{n-1} \hat{M}_{n-1} = \theta_{n-2} M_{n-2} + \theta_{n-1} \hat{M}_{n-1}$$

$$(-1)^n \beta \hat{M}_n + s_{n-1} M_n = \theta_{n-1} M_n$$

is satisfied.

But  $\mathcal{V}$  can only see this mess

$$\beta[M_1] + s_1 \hat{M}_1 \neq [\theta_1 \hat{M}_1]$$

$$s_1[M_2] + s_2 \hat{M}_2 \neq [\theta_1 M_2 + \theta_2 \hat{M}_2]$$

$\vdots$

$$s_{n-2}[M_{n-1}] + s_{n-1} \hat{M}_{n-1} \neq [\theta_{n-2} M_{n-2} + \theta_{n-1} \hat{M}_{n-1}]$$

$$(-1)^n \beta \hat{M}_n + s_{n-1}[M_n] \neq [\theta_{n-1} M_n]$$

# How to Verify

Consider the second equation

$$s_1[M_2] + s_2 \hat{M}_2 \neq [\theta_1 M_2 + \theta_2 \hat{M}_2]$$

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Use ZKPOK to show that the commitments

$$[M_2], [\hat{M}_2], [\theta_1 M_2 + \theta_2 \hat{M}_2]$$

are such that

$$s_1 M_2 + s_2 \hat{M}_2 = \theta_1 M_2 + \theta_2 \hat{M}_2$$

where  $s_1, s_2$  are known to  $\mathcal{V}$ .

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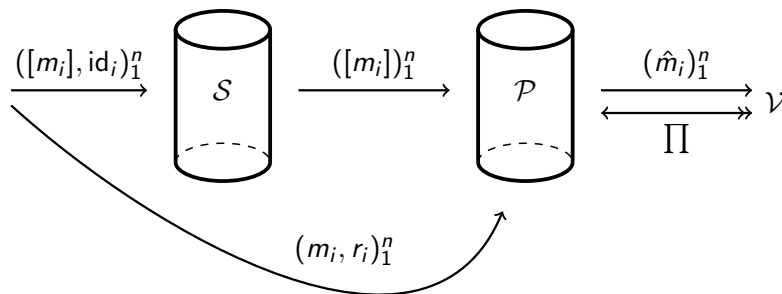
This is exactly the equation  $\mathcal{V}$  wants to verify!



# What did we fix

- ✓  $\mathcal{V}$  picks a random  $\rho \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$
- ✓ Both compute  $\hat{M}_i = \hat{m}_i - \rho$ ,  $\mathcal{P}$  computes  $M_i = m_i - \rho$
- ✓  $\mathcal{P}$  picks  $\theta_i$  and computes  $[\theta_{k-1}M_k + \theta_k\hat{M}_k] \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$
- ✓  $\mathcal{V}$  picks a challenge  $\beta \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$
- ✓  $\mathcal{P}$  solves linear system by determining  $s_i \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$
- ✓  $\mathcal{V}$  verifies the linear system *using ZKPOK* for each equation

# Conclusion and Additional Work



- Proof of shuffling using commitments
- Verifiable encryption of  $(m, r)$
- Multiple intermediate servers  $\mathcal{S}_i$