

# Thoughts on JCJ05

Reto E. Koenig

Swissvote

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## What it is all about

For an e-voting system to be secure, it has to function without vulnerabilities in potentially insecure environments such as the internet. For this, it has to be implemented according to an intrinsically secure design. Despite the complexity of designing and implementing such a system, some criteria seem to be unanimously accepted as the core security requirements for e-voting systems.

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**Privacy:** if no casted vote can be linked to its voter, neither by voting authorities nor anyone else (anonymity), and no voter can prove that he or she voted in a particular way (receipt-freeness).

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Privacy: ...

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**Fairness:** if no intermediate results can be obtained before the voting period ends.

## E-Banking < E-Voting

What makes E-Banking so easy and E-Voting so hard:

**E-Banking: ctrl-z** A wrong transaction can be undone (no privacy)

**E-Voting: ctrl-z** A wrong transaction can not be undone (privacy)

**E-Banking** The bank wants to have a trustworthy system

**E-Voting** The party in power wants to stay in power

## Enemies of an E-Voting system

- Voters
- External parties
- Internal parties
- The party that rules the country
- The men running the e-voting system

## How to gain Power

- Buy
- Bribe
- Coerce

But 2005 privacy and Coercion-Resistance has been redefined:

## Privacy < Coercion-Resistance

**privacy** Even if someone observes the voter (passively) during the actual voting process, the voters will should not be unveiled.

**coercion-resistance** Even if someone actively interacts with the voter during the voting process, the voters will should not be unveiled.

Even: Neither the observer / coercer **nor the voter** should be able to unveil the voters will

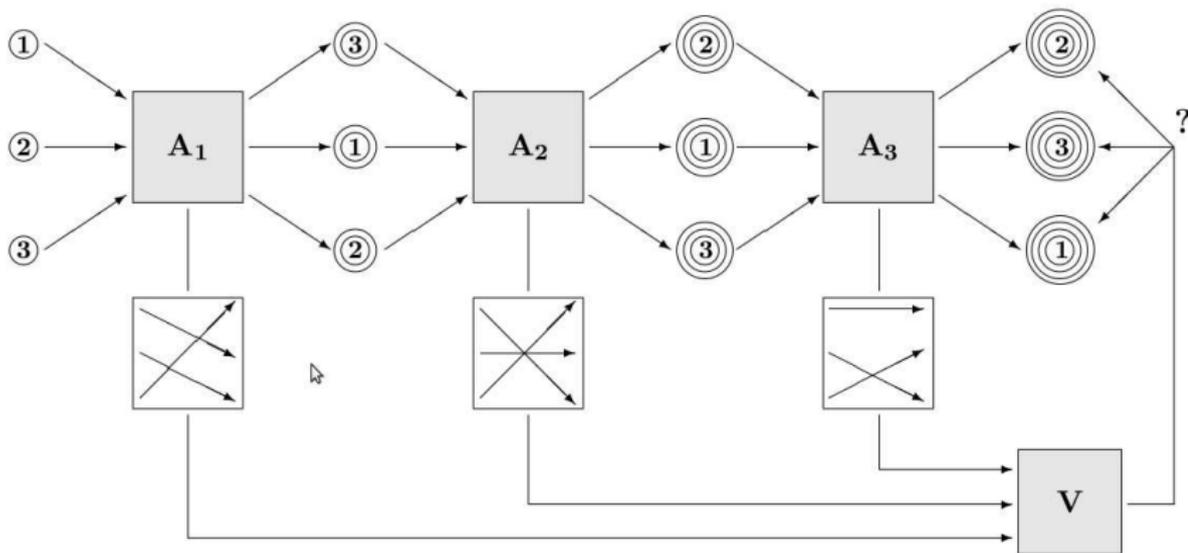
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**Non-Transferable-Verifiability** An important security aspect within E-Voting systems: Voter can not prove the will on the casted vote to a third party. (Also known as receipt). First working system showed in 2000 by Hirt and Sako.



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- The system requires an untappable channel <sup>a</sup>...

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- The system has to allow the voter to fake-vote (not to be confused with re-vote)
- The system has to allow the voter to distribute false identity-mark (credentials)

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- Coercion resistant

## Players and Their Abbreviation

*R* Registration Authority (multiple instances)

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<sup>a</sup>The sender can verify (designated), The receiver does not know the origin

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## Players and Their Abbreviation

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*V<sub>i</sub>* Voter *i*

*BB* Bulletin Board (multiple instances)

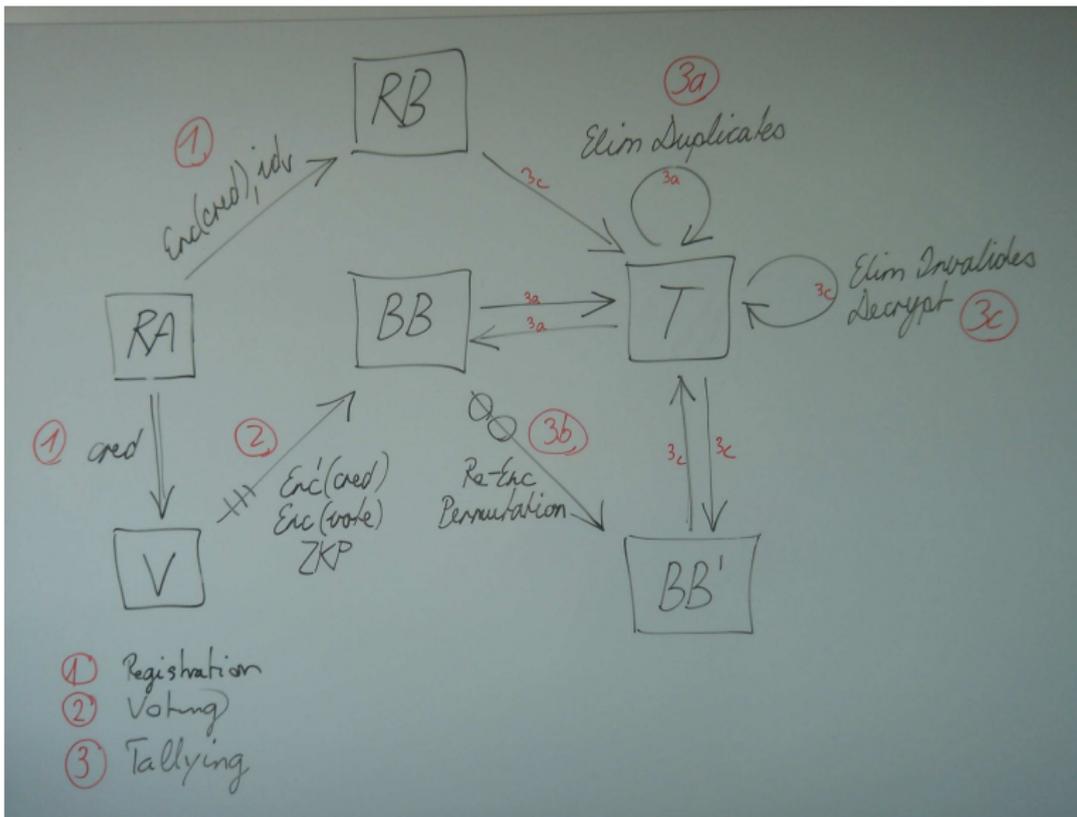
*AN* Anonymous Net (Preserving 'shape' and temporal order)<sup>a</sup>

*MN* Mixed Net (changing 'shape' and temporal order)<sup>b</sup>

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- 5. Verification** Any player, whether or not a participant in the election, can refer to  $BB$ ,  $P$  and  $L$  to verify the correctness of the tally produced by  $T$  in the previous phase.

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$R$  Key pair  $SK_R, PK_R$  is generated;  $PK_R$  is published<sup>a</sup>

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*BB* Is set up

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## Credentials

- 1  $V_i$  goes to (=untappable channel) the  $R$  and proofs eligibility
- 2  $R$  generates String  $\sigma_i \in_R G^a$
- 3  $V_i$  generates  $S_i = E_{PK_T}(\sigma_i)$  and sends it to  $R$

$\sigma_i$  can be used for multiple voting-sessions

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- 5  $R$  puts id of  $V_i$  and  $S_i$  to the voter roll  $L^b$

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- This problem-domain is discussed in Schweisgut07

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ElGamal public Key:  $h = g_1^{S_T}$ .

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## V voting

**Candidate choice**  $E_1^{(i)} = (\alpha_1, \alpha'_1, \beta_1) = (g_1^{\alpha_1}, g_2^{\alpha_1}, c_j h^{\alpha_1})$ ,  
*NIZKPK* of knowledge of  $c_j$  AND  $c_j \in C$ .

**Voter Credential**  $E_2^{(i)} = (\alpha_2, \alpha'_2, \beta_2) = (g_1^{\alpha_2}, g_2^{\alpha_2}, \sigma_i h^{\alpha_2})$   
*NIZKPK* of knowledge of  $\sigma_i$

*NIZKPK* that  $\alpha_i, \alpha'_i$  have the same discrete log with respect to  $g_1$  and  $g_2$

- 
1. *NIZKPK*: Otherwise  $V$  can be forced to submit an observable invalid choice
  2. *NIZKPK*: Makes it (non-malleable) impossible to validly copy an encrypted credential for  $BB$  for a new ballot

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## Vote casting

- $V$  sends the vote to  $AN$
- $AN$  sends the vote to  $BB$
- In JCJ05  $V$  is only able to read  $BB$  after the vote-casting phase is over.<sup>a</sup>

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## After-Thought *BB*

It seems as if *BB* can be made public all the time:

After a vote-casting, the casted vote can be identified and the credential can be reconstructed and proven by the vote-sender. But no proof can be forced to show that the credential in question is a valid credential.

## Duplicate Vote Elimination

- $T$  eliminates (pair-wise) votes with same credentials (PET)<sup>a</sup>
- ZKPK for each action

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## MixNet-Re-Encryption-Shuffling

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- If the size of the two lists are equal, this proves equality of the two lists.

## Elimination of Invalid Votes

- $T$  eliminates votes with invalid credentials. Done by a (PET)<sup>a</sup> with the Voter Slate
- ZkPK for each action

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## Decryption

- $T$  decrypts each vote<sup>a</sup>
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Questions?

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- $dec(x_3, y_3) = y_3 x_3^{-s} = (g^s)^{r_3} \frac{m}{m'} (g^{r_3})^{-s} = \frac{m}{m'} \stackrel{?}{=} 1$

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- $(x_1/x_2, y_1/y_2) = (x_3, y_3) \dots (x_3^z, y_3^z)$  where  $z \in \mathbb{R}$
- $dec(x_3^z, y_3^z) = y_3^z x_3^{-sz} = (g^s)^{r_3 z} \frac{m^z}{m'^z} (g^{r_3})^{-sz} = \left(\frac{m}{m'}\right)^z \stackrel{?}{=} 1$
- Solution: PkZk works if  $m = m'$  and  $m \neq m'$

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- Each  $T_j$  presents  $z_j = x^{s_j}$ , PkZk  $\log_g(h_j) = \log_x(h_j)$
- $I$  represents the set of  $T_j$  where verification(PkZk) = true
- $m = g^{-\alpha s} g^{\alpha s} m = (g^\alpha)^{-\sum_{j \in I} l_j(0) \cdot s_j} h^\alpha m$
- This is feasible as long as  $|J| \geq t$  where  $t$  is a certain threshold.

## Threshold keyGeneration

986220914.pdf p. 59

## Thoughts on Anonymous Channel / Re-Voting

- JCJ05 allows multiple vote-casting by  $V_i$
- JCJ05 needs the order of the entries in  $BB$  (latest vote wins)
- Therefore no mix-Net approach with shuffling allowed or...
- ... some 'encrypted' timestamp within the ballot which makes the vote traceable
- But multiple vote casting does not strengthen the system against a coercer
- Weber eliminates this by counting the first (temporal) vote only

## Shouldersurfing Resistance

- JCJ05 allows ONE correct credential  $\sigma$  and 'unlimited' fake credentials
- if the voting legitimation  $enc_T(\sigma)$  has to be calculated under observation...
- ...then Shouldersurfing resistance (over several Votings) requires that at least One correct and independent credential per Voting-session