

Hacking Paper

Some Random Attacks on Paper-Based E2E Systems

John Kelsey, NIST

Andrew Regenscheid, NIST

Tal Moran, Weizmann

David Chaum

End to end voting system

- Voter interacts with system
 - Gets receipt
- System counts votes and publishes results
- Voter can verify their vote included in total from receipt
 - But must not be able to use to sell vote!
- Anyone can verify vote count correct
- Examples: Punchscan, Pret-a-Voter, Threeballot

Scratch-Off Cards

- Physical device to give us this property:
 - First you must commit to a challenge
 - Then you get some hidden information
 - You can't undo the challenge and cover it back up.

Smith's Position				
	1	2	3	4
a	#	#	#	#
b	#	#	#	#
c	#	#	#	#
d	#	#	#	#

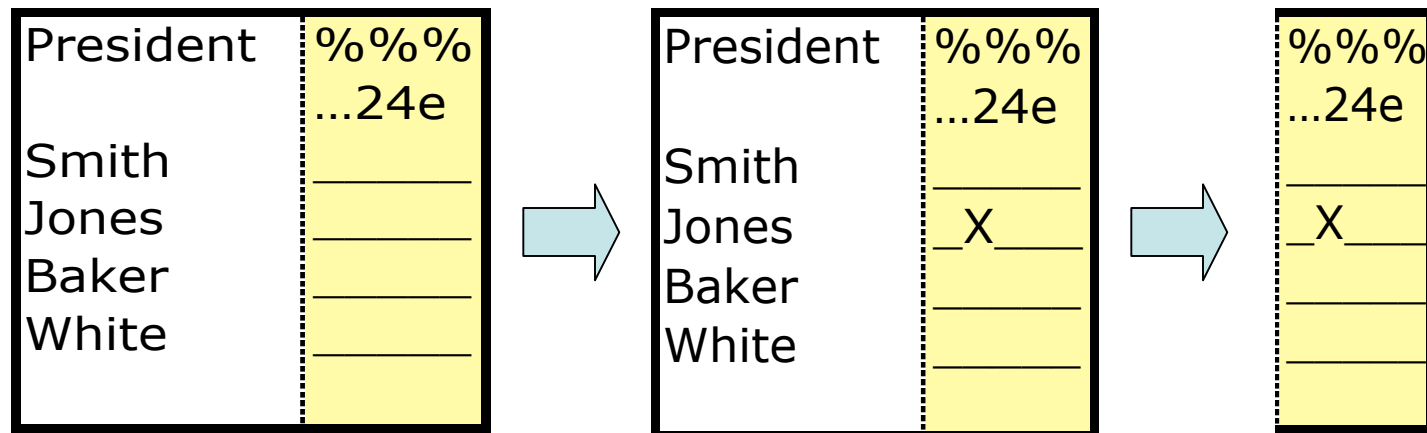
Smith's Position				
	1	2	3	4
a	#	#	#	#
b	#	#	F	#
c	#	#	#	#
d	#	#	#	#

Pret a Voter

- Internals very similar to Punchscan
- Ballot in two halves:
 - Left has candidate names in random order
 - Right has boxes/blanks to fill in.
- Voter may either audit blank ballot
 - Get receipt with opened ballot
- Or vote right side
 - Get copy of right side as receipt.

Pret-A-Voter Picture

- Voter gets ballot
 - May audit ballot or vote it
- To vote, mark choice and detach ballot; copy of scanned ballot is your receipt
- To audit, scan blank ballot and get back receipt showing correct left side.



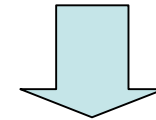
Applying the attack to Pret-a-Voter

President	%%% ...24e
Smith	_____
Jones	_____
Baker	_____
White	_____

Last digit of serial number
 0 5 a f k p v
 ... |... |... |... |... |... |...
 4 9 e j o t z
 # # # # # # #

Smith blank:
 1 2 3 4
 # # # #

AUDIT WHEN SUM%10 ==9



- 1 Commit to S/N and ballot.
- 2 May be:
 - required to audit/open
 - required to vote according to commitment.

Last digit of serial number
 0 5 a f k p v
 ... |... |... |... |... |... |...
 4 9 e j o t z
 # # **4** # # # #

Smith blank:
 1 2 3 4
5 # # #

AUDIT WHEN SUM%10 ==9

Wider application to many end-to-end schemes

- Punchscan
- Some variants of ThreeBallot