

# Plural Publics

cooperation across social difference

Shrey Jain

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# Unique Dictionaries



# A Riff on The Source Code Theorem



#### A Riff on The Source Code Theorem

Cultural communities minimize the number of bits needed to communicate within the group.





Speaking the language does NOT mean you are "in" the group.



## 3 Scientists on a Panel



#### 3 Scientists on a Panel

We are unable to preserve richness of communication during translation across differences today.

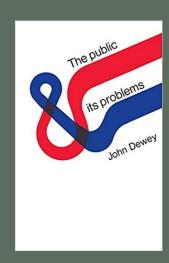
## **Plural Publics**

**Shrey Jain** 

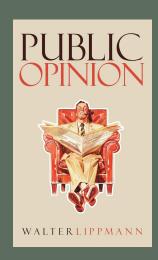
Web3 Research, Microsoft



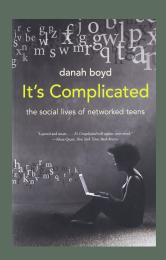
Joint work with Glen Weyl, Yorke Rhodes, and Divya Siddarth



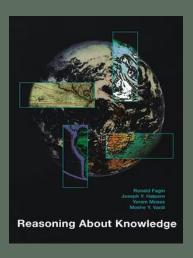
John Dewey



Walter Lippmann



danah boyd



Joseph Halpern

# Cooperation

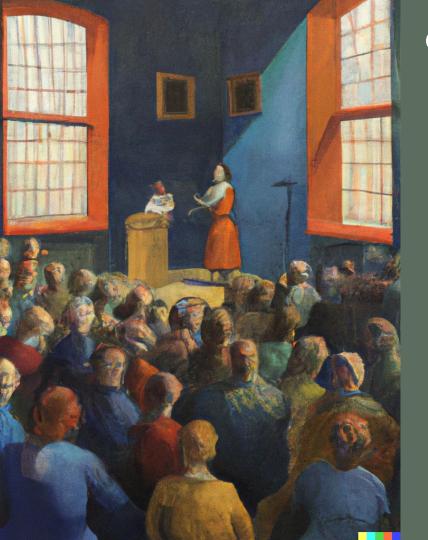
across

social differences

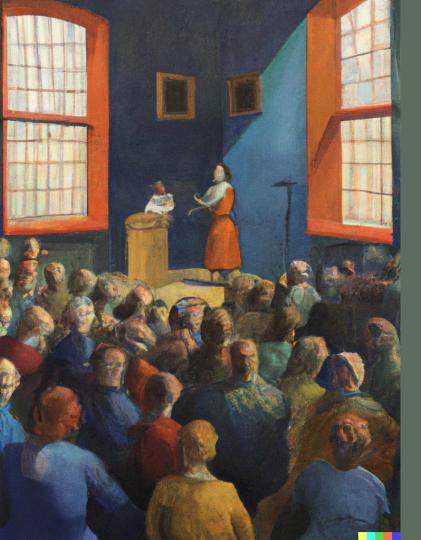
# Cooperation

across

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# Common Knowledge



# Common Knowledge

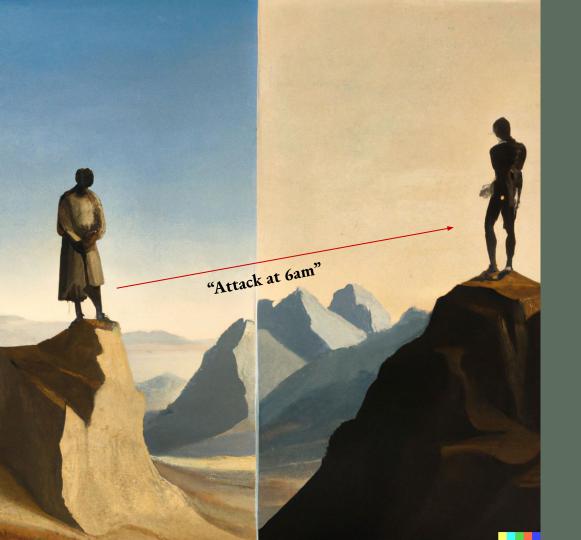
Everyone knows that  $\phi$  is true,

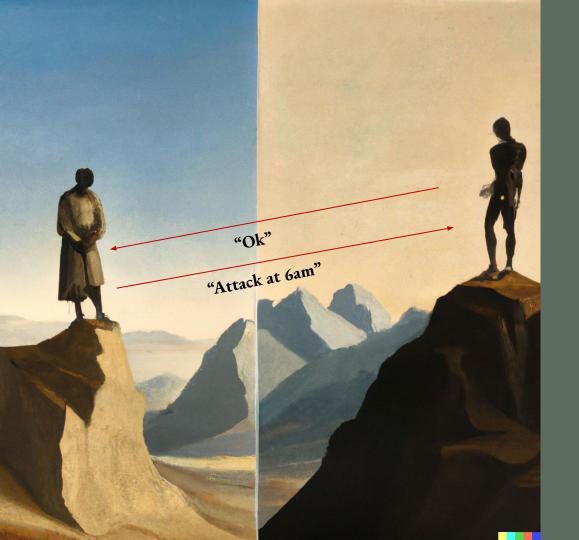
Everyone knows that everyone knows that  $\phi$  is true,

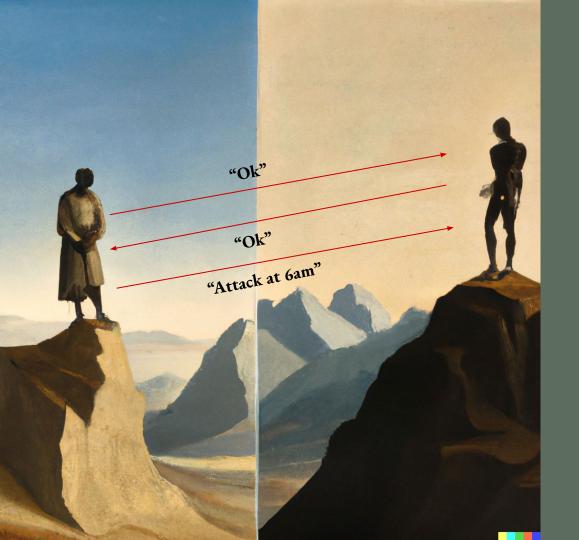
Everyone knows that everyone knows that everyone knows that  $\phi$  is true.

and so on, ad infinitum.











Common knowledge is <u>not</u>
attainable in systems where
communication is <u>not</u>
guaranteed.



Common knowledge is <u>not</u> attainable in systems where communication is <u>not</u> guaranteed.

Aim to attain strong forms of common-p belief.



## Coordination

A set of agents take action simultaneously.



#### Coordination

A set of agents take action simultaneously.

#### Cooperation

A set of agents take action simultaneously and understand the payoffs that come with actions taken.

# Cooperation

Altruism

Mutualism

#### Cooperation

**Altruism**: a cooperator confers a benefit at a cost to themselves

- Challenge to psychologists is how humans surmount this cost
- Measuring a suite of emotions like trust, empath, anger, etc.

#### Mutualism

#### Cooperation |

**Altruism**: a cooperator confers a benefit at a cost to themselves

- Challenge to psychologists is how humans surmount this cost
- Measuring a suite of emotions like trust, empath, anger, etc.

**Mutualism:** each cooperator confers a benefit on the other while simultaneously conferring a benefit on themselves

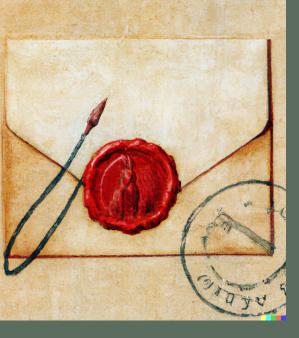
- Purely an **epistemological** challenge: measuring the knowledge someone else has
- Humans can categorize when someone has common knowledge
- Probability of action is significantly higher when common knowledge is attained



	Common p-belief	Privacy
Oral	Weak	Assume no leakage

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	Common p-belief	Privacy
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	Common p-belief	Privacy
Oral	Weak	Assume no leakage
Writing	Weak Full message is sent	Assume no leakage
Envelopes	Weak Full message is sent	Mitigates leakage

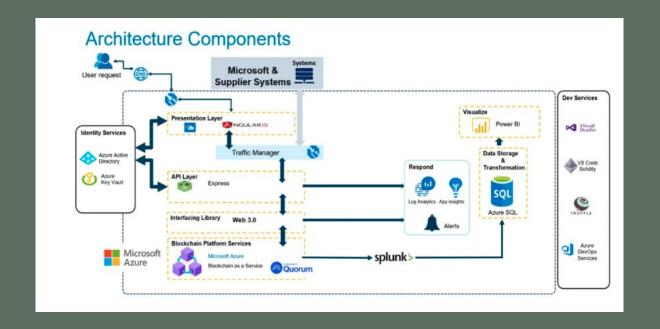


	Common p-belief	Privacy
Oral	Weak	Assume no leakage
Writing	Weak Full message is sent	Assume no leakage
Envelopes	Weak Full message is sent	Mitigates leakage
SMTP, SMS, XMPP	Stronger but not sufficient	Mitigates leakage



## DLTs are the next step in the progress of communication

- 1. DLTs have an easier interface to attain common-p belief
- 2. DLTs and blockchains enable us to provide **commitment**



Save \$50 M/y in supply chain using a blockchain to communicate

We lack a <u>commitment</u> to knowledge.

# Cooperation

across

social differences

## Recognition

# A Plural Decentralized Identity Frontier: Abstraction v. Composability Tradeoffs in Web3\*

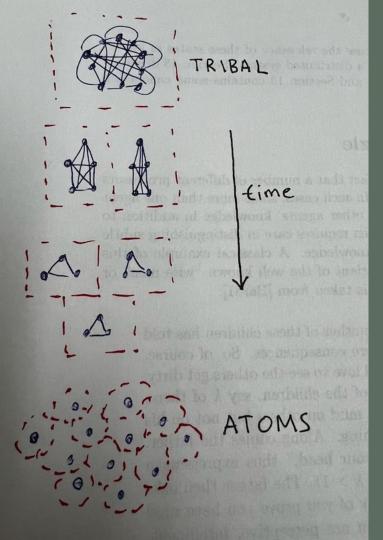
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Leon Erichsen

Gitcoin leon@gitcoin.co Glen Weyl

Microsoft, RadicalXChange glen@radicalxchange.org



### Context Collapse

- Used to have strong tribal bonds
- Communicate to invisible audiences today
- We have individual disclosure but lack collective disclosure

Instead of proving X,

Alice will prove the statement "Either X is true or I am Bob."

### Mitigate Probability Double Agents





Both groups want to prevent agents from spying on themselves.

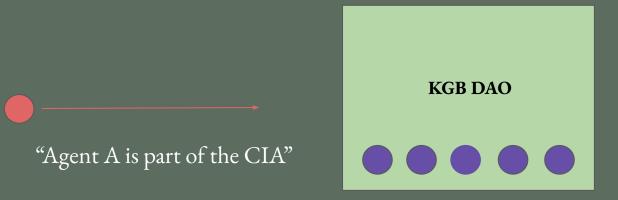
### Mitigate Probability Double Agents



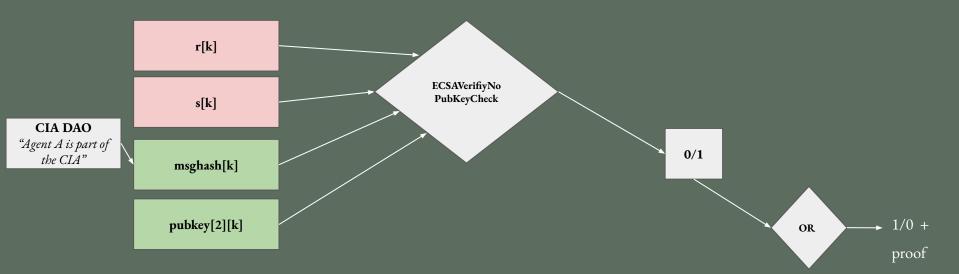


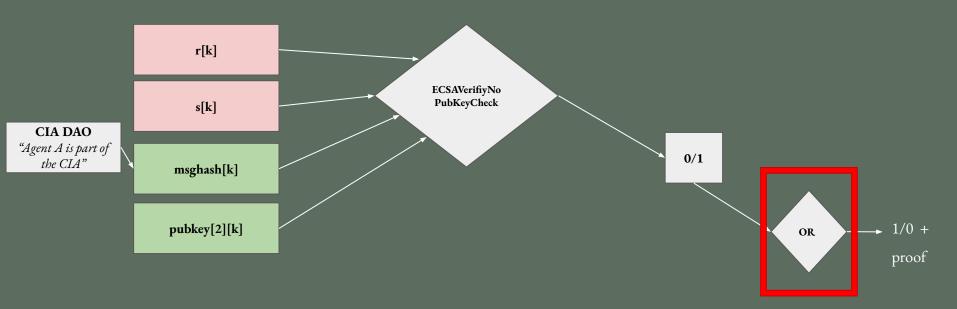
Agent A wants to turn on the CIA & work for KGB, but the CIA doesn't know this.

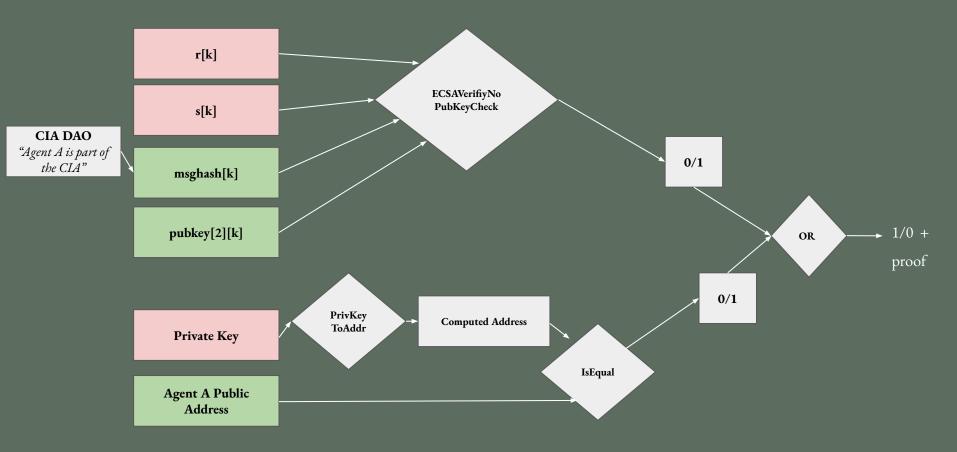
### Mitigate Probability Double Agents

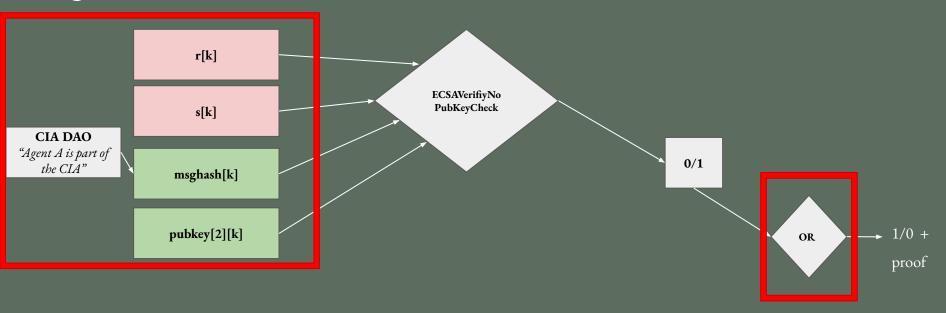


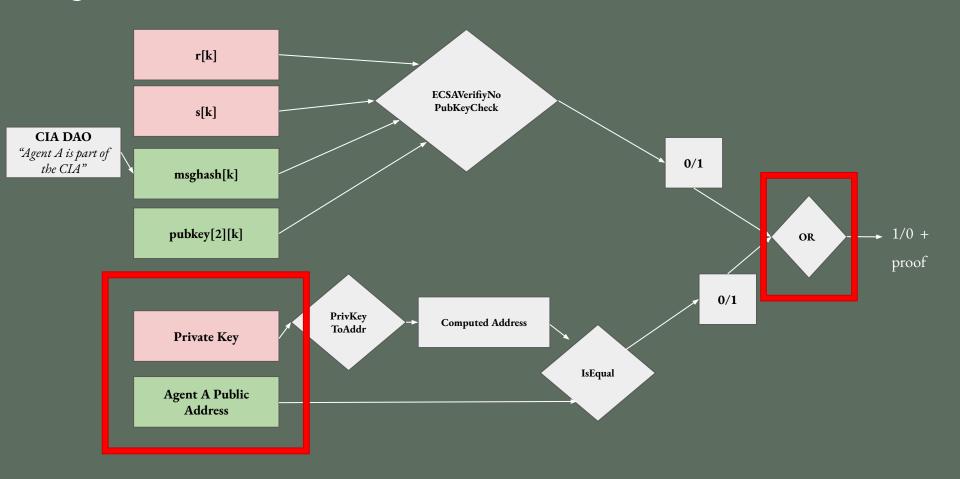
Does the KGB believe Agent A? How can we, the CIA, mitigate the persuasiveness of this claim?











You can't prevent someone from sharing information.

However, you can prevent someone from making that information be persuasive in its shared form!

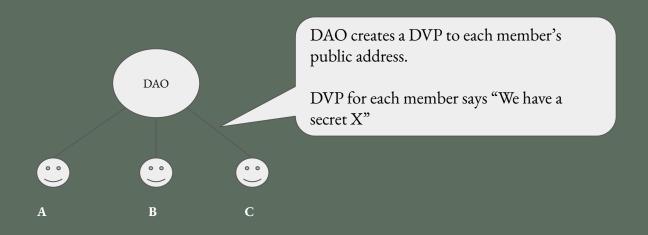
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#### Collective Disclosure

#### **DAO** Intelligence

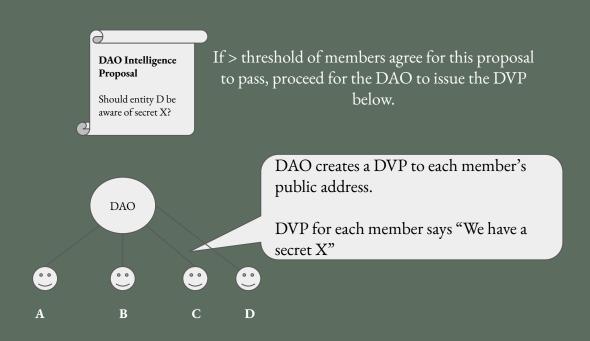
<u>Timestep #1:</u> DAO wants to share information with its DAO members.



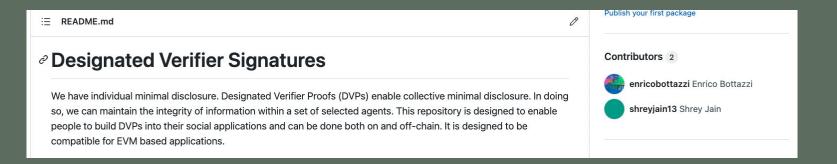
Only DAO members and the DAO itself are persuaded by the DAO's claim about secret X. Any entity outside of the DAO is not persuaded.

#### **DAO** Intelligence

<u>Timestep #2:</u> DAO wants to share information with another entity.



#### **Open-Source Foundations**





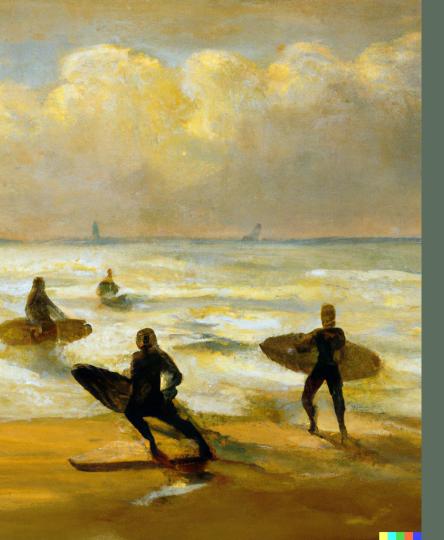
### The State Today

- We lack systems to attain common-p belief
- We lack systems to provide context
- We need boundaries



#### What we can build?

- DVP protocol for DAO intelligence
- Commitment schemes
- Tools for anonymous reporting
- Collective action protocols for social movements



Let's interweave cryptographic primitives with cultural communities!



# Thank you!

#### Shrey Jain

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