

10. We assume the opposite: any pair in S with $|S| = 2n$ has in S an odd number of common friends. Let A be one of these persons, and let $M = \{F_1, \dots, F_k\}$ be the set of his friends. We prove the following:

Lemma. The number k is even for every A .

Indeed, for every $F_i \in M$, we consider the list of all his friends in M . The sum of all entries in all k lists is even, since it equals twice the number of pairs in M , and the number of persons in each list is odd by the lemma. Thus k is even.

Let $k = 2m$. Now we consider, for every $F_i \in M$, the list of all his friends, except A (not only in M). Every list contains by the lemma (applied to F_i) an odd number of persons. Hence the sum of all entries in all $2m$ lists is even. But then at least one of the $(2m - 1)$ persons (except A) appears in an even number of lists, that is, this person has an even number of common friends with A .

This contradiction proves that at least two persons in S have an even number of common friends.