

A Formally Verified Schulze Method

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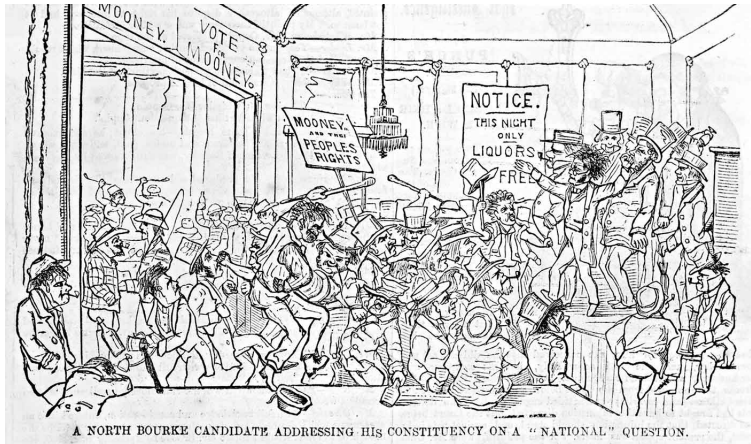
12 September, 2019

Talk Outline

- Motivation
- Schulze Voting as Evidence Carrying Computation
- Scaling it to count millions ballot
- Verifiable Homomorphic Tallying for the Schulze Vote Counting Scheme
- Machine Checked Properties
- Certificate : Verifying Elections Formally
- Future Work

Motivation

Election held in 1855 in Victoria, Australia was conducted in pub!



Motivation

2019 Election, NSW, Australia



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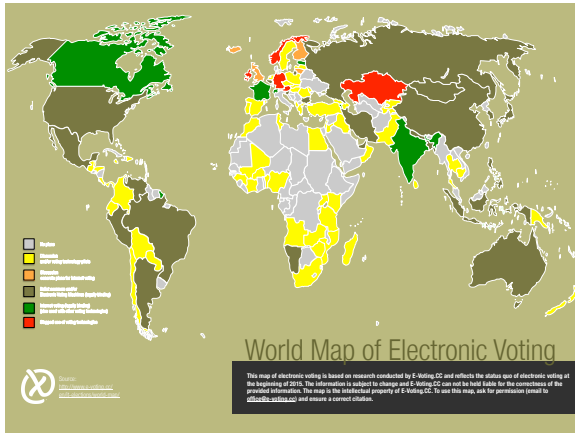
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Motivation

- What about Privacy and Verifiability in electronic voting ?



Motivation

Applications: macOS

NSW election 2015: iVote flaw 'allowed vote to be changed; electoral commission fixes vulnerability' ABC News (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) | Mozilla Firefox

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-03-03/voter-security-flaw-allowed-change-of-vote-security-experts-say/6343148

NSW election 2015: iVote flaw 'allowed vote to be changed; electoral commission fixes vulnerability'

ABC News

Updated 15:00 AEST 15 March

A "major security hole" that could allow an attacker to read or change someone's vote has been discovered in the New South Wales online iVote platform, security experts say.

The issue system allows people to help their votes be distributed to the electoral commission instead of visiting a physical polling station.

It aims to make voting easier for the disabled or for people who live long distances from polling centres.

However computer security researchers said they found a critical issue and alerted the NSW Electoral Commission on Friday afternoon.

The commission said the problem was fixed over the weekend and estimated 200,000 people would use the system in the lead up to the election.

University of Melbourne research fellow Vincent Tjoa — who, along with Professor Alice Hildebrand from the University of Michigan, found the security vulnerability — said it was a difficult hack to pull off, but could potentially allow bad actors to misuse.

"There have been bad reports that iVote can potentially intercept and the whole system is secure and it can't be tampered with and so on, and online shows very clearly that that's not true — that those votes are not secure and they can be tampered with," Dr Tjoa said.

She said the attack could allow someone to either read, or even manipulate a vote, before it was sent to the electoral commission's servers.

"The analogue would be putting someone's postal vote envelope out of the post, pulling out their vote and looking at how they intended to vote and then putting a different ballot in instead," Dr Tjoa said.

"The point of course with the electronic equivalent is that an attacker wouldn't necessarily need to be in New South Wales to do this and they could potentially do this in an automated way. It is a very, very large number of attacks."

iVote

Full coverage NSW election

Map NSW election results

As it happened NSW election

Press gallery NSW election

Public fast polls and more

Motivation

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ABC News (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) - Mozilla Firefox

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-03-03/iVote-security-flaw-allowed-change-of-vote-security-experts-warn/6343748>

A "major security hole" that could allow an attacker to read or change someone's vote has been discovered in the free South Wales online iVote platform, security experts say.

The issue system allows people to lodge their votes by iVote's online election website instead of visiting a physical polling station.

It aims to make voting easier for the disabled or the people who live long distances from polling booths.

However computer security researchers said they found a critical issue and alerted the NSW Electoral Commission on Friday afternoon.

The commission said the problem was fixed over the weekend and reassured 300,000 people would use the system in the lead up to the election.



University of Melbourne's network scientist, Nigam ... who, along with iVote's chief technologist from the University of ...

"There have been told repeatedly that iVote are perfectly secure and the whole system is secure and it can't be tampered with and so on, and I'm sure they're very clearly that iVote is not true - that these votes are not secure and they can be tampered with," Dr Nigam said.

She said the attack could allow someone to either read, or even overwrite, the electronic commission's servers.

"The analogue would be taking someone's credit card number out of the post box and how they intend to use it and then putting a different value in instead."

"The point of course with the electronic registers is that an attacker wouldn't be able to do this and they could potentially do this in an unattended way at any time."



Security Analysis of India's Electronic Voting Machines

Hari K. Prasad¹, J. Alex Hakkarum², Rop George³, Scott Wotche⁴, Eric Westcott⁵, Arun Kankipati⁶, Sai Krishna Subramani⁷, Viswarya Yagati⁸

¹Norfolk, (Ph.D., Hyderabad) ²The University of Michigan

Released April 28, 2010 - Revised July 28, 2010

Abstract

Elections in India are conducted almost exclusively using electronic voting machines developed over the past two decades by a pair of government-owned companies. These devices, known as EVMs, have been praised for their simple design, ease of use, and reliability, but recently they have also been criticized following widespread reports of election irregularities. Despite the criticism, many details of the machines' design have never been publicly disclosed, and they have not been subjected to a rigorous independent security evaluation. In this paper, we present a security analysis of a real Indian EVM extracted from an anonymous source. We discuss the machine's design and operation in detail, and we evaluate its security in light of relevant election procedures. We conclude that the use of the machines' complexity and untrusted software is critical to computing how they are vulnerable to various attacks. This can allow the attacker to interfere with the security of the system. We demonstrate two attacks, implemented using custom hardware, which could be carried out by dishonest election insiders or other outsiders with only brief physical access to the machines. This case study carries important lessons for India election and for electronic voting security more generally.

1 Introduction

India is the world's largest democracy. In recent national elections, more votes were cast than the combined population of the United States and Canada [27], and the vast majority of voters used paperless direct-recording electronic (DRE) voting machines [31]. Though popular DREs have been largely discredited in the academic security literature (e.g., [2, 3, 18, 19, 20, 30]), India's electronic machines continue to

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The issue system allows people to help their votes by iVote's voter assistance system instead of visiting a physical polling station.


It aims to make voting easier for the disabled or the people who live far from polling stations.

However computer security researchers said they found a critical issue and alerted the NSW Electoral Commission on Friday afternoon.

The commission said the problem was fixed over the weekend and estimated 300,000 people would use the system in the lead up to the election.


University of Melbourne research fellow Venkatesh Taggar - who, along with Professor Alex Halperin from the University of Wisconsin - said it was a critical backdoor to get off, but could potentially allow an attacker to read or change someone's vote.

"We've been told repeatedly that voter can perfectly secret and the whole system is secure and can't be tampered with and so on, and now it's shown very clearly that that's not true - that these votes are not secret and they can be tampered with," Dr Taggar said.



Researchers Find Critical Backdoor in Swiss Online Voting System

Researchers have found a severe issue in the new Swiss internet voting system that they say would let someone alter votes undetected. They say it should put a halt to Switzerland's plan to roll out the system in real elections this year.



Security Analysis of India's Electronic Voting Machines - vsm_13101-jc26.pdf

Mozilla Firefox

<https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/india/india-electronic-voting-machines-are-not-secure-2347471/>

To appear in Proc /7th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS-13), Oct. 2010

For more information, updates, and video of demonstration attacks, visit <http://indiaCCS.org>

India's Electronic Voting Machines

Hakumar, Rop Google
Rajput, Sri Krishna Subraman, Vignya Yagati
The University of Michigan
JIP - Revised July 28, 2010


Abstract

India is actively using electronic voting machines developed over the last 10 years. These devices, known as EVMs, are used in all elections, but are not subject to any rigorous regulation. Despite the criticism, many details of the machines and their hardware are not known to the public. We present a security analysis of a real Indian EVM (the Ballot Marking Machine) and its associated software. We show how they are vulnerable to various attacks that can be carried out. We demonstrate two attacks, digital signature forgery and election tampering, or other attacks with only study various important lessons for Indian electronic and

Keywords

electronic elections, secure voting, tampering, the combined, and the vast majority of voters used paper-based devices. Though paperless EVMs have been largely deployed (1.75 to 30,000), the use of electronic machines continues to

Stories



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 - every voter can verify that their ballot was cast as intended

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- We assume first two part of "End to End verifiability" and work on third part.

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 - Trusting on Java code in realized extracted code

Machine Check Properties [On Going CPP 2020 ?]

- Condorcet Winner (Finished)
- Reversal symmetry (Almost There)
- Monotonicity
- Smith Set

Certificate : Verifying Elections Formally [CCS 2019]

- We developed a general framework for Sigma Protocol
- Instantiate with IACR 2018 election data
- We proved some computationally intense result inside Coq

Certificate

```
V: [A3 B1 C2 D4,...], I: [], M: [AB:0 AC:0 AD:0 BC:0 BD:0 CD:0]
-----
V: [A1 B0 C4 D3,...], I: [], M: [AB:-1 AC:-1 AD:1 BC:1 BD:1 CD:1]
-----
V: [A3 B1 C2 D4,...], I: [A1 B0 C4 D3], M: [AB:-1 AC:-1 AD:1 BC:1 BD:1 CD:1]
-----
. . .
-----
V: [A1 B3 C2 D4], I: [A1 B0 C4 D3], M: [AB:2 AC:2 AD:8 BC:5 BD:8 CD:8]
-----
V: [], I: [A1 B0 C4 D3], M: [AB:3 AC:3 AD:9 BC:4 BD:9 CD:9]
-----
winning: A
  for B: path A --> B of strength 3, 4-coclosed set:
    [(B,A),(C,A),(C,B),(D,A),(D,B),(D,C)]
  for C: path A --> C of strength 3, 4-coclosed set:
    [(B,A),(C,A),(C,B),(D,A),(D,B),(D,C)]
  for D: path A --> D of strength 9, 10-coclosed set:
    [(D,A),(D,B),(D,C)]
losing: B
  exists A: path A --> B of strength 3, 3-coclosed set:
    [(A,A),(B,A),(B,B),(C,A),(C,B),(C,C),(D,A),(D,B),(D,C),(D,D)]
losing: C
  exists A: path A --> C of strength 3, 3-coclosed set:
    [(A,A),(B,A),(B,B),(C,A),(C,B),(C,C),(D,A),(D,B),(D,C),(D,D)]
losing: D
  exists A: path A --> D of strength 9, 9-coclosed set:
    [(A,A),(A,B),(A,C),(B,A),(B,B),(B,C),(C,A),(C,B),(C,C),(D,A),(D,B),
      (D,C),(D,D)]
```

Future Work

- See all of you again in December of final presentation [December 2019]
- Risk limiting audit
- Verifying the cryptographic code

Thank You!

