

# Secure Two Party Computation

## A practical comparison of recent protocols

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# Project Background

- Secure Two Party Computation (S2C) is a long standing problem in cryptography.
  - ▶ How can a pair of mutually distrusting parties collaborate to compute a function without revealing their inputs?
- Recently several protocols have been proposed (based on Yao's protocol) to provide security against active adversaries.
- Our aim was to provide the first practical comparison of these protocols performance.

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# Project Motivation

- ✦ Without a good comparison of these protocols we cannot know which is the most promising for further research.
- ✦ Whilst limited theoretical comparisons have been made these can only take us so far.
- ✦ In order to run practical comparisons we need implementations to compare.
- ✦ Furthermore we broke down our results to identify the bottlenecks for each protocol.

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# Secure Two Party Computation

- ✿ Two parties wish to compute a function  $(y_1, y_2) = f(x_1, x_2)$
- ✿ They desire the following security properties,
  - ▶ Privacy - Parties only learn their output from participating.
  - ▶ Correctness - Output is correct evaluation of the function *given the inputs*.
  - ▶ Independence of inputs - Neither party can give their input as a function of the others.

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# Yao's Protocol

- ✿ Proposed by Andrew Yao in 1986. Primarily used for Two Party computation but it can be extended to Multiparty computation.
- ✿ The basic idea,
  - ▶ One party is labelled the 'Builder' and the other is the 'Executor'.
  - ▶ The Builder constructs a binary circuit representing the function.
  - ▶ The Builder then 'garbles' this circuit, encrypting it in such a way that it can be evaluated without revealing information about the inputs.

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# The Security of Yao's Protocol

- ✿ As already mentioned Yao's protocol is only secure against passive adversaries.<sup>1</sup>
- ✿ The Executor has no way to know if the circuit given to it by the Builder actually computes the function it purports to.
- ✿ The main approach to overcome this problem is called 'Cut and Choose'.

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<sup>1</sup>For a formal proof of this see "A Proof of Security of Yao's Protocol for Two-Party Computation" by Lindell and Pinkas (2006).

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# Cut and Choose - Concept

- ✦ The Builder generates *many* garbled circuits and sends them to the Executor.
- ✦ The Executor then picks a subset of these circuits and asks the Builder to open them so they can be checked for correctness.
- ✦ If all check circuits pass then the remaining circuits are evaluated.
- ✦ This gives us statistical security as a malicious Builder must guess which circuit the Executor will open.

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## Cut and Choose - Pitfalls

- ✶ Cut and Choose seems trivially simple, however it actually raises several new problems. The main ones are,
- ▶ Consistency of inputs - Ensuring the parties give the same input to the many circuits, without leaking the inputs to the other party.
  - ▶ Output determination - Now we have many circuits what do we do if their outputs disagree?



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## Lindell-Pinkas 2010 (LP-2010)

- ✿ Using a conceptually elegant approach to consistency using Zero Knowledge proofs.
- ✿ Half of the circuits are check circuits, the other half are evaluation circuits.
- ✿ Simply returns majority output of the evaluation circuits.
- ✿ Statistical security  $2^{-0.311 \cdot S}$  where  $S$  is the number of circuits.
- ✿ So we need 130 circuits to achieve statistical security of  $2^{-40}$ .



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## Lindell 2013 (L-2013)

- ✿ Builds on Lindell-Pinkas 2010 using the same basic ideas.
- ✿ Main difference, runs a small sub-computation (using Lindell-Pinkas) such that only one circuit needs to be correct.
- ✿ We expected it to perform well for large circuits and poorly for small circuits.
- ✿ Statistical security  $2^{-S}$ , so we need 40 circuits to achieve statistical security of  $2^{-40}$ .

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## Huang-Katz-Evans 2013 (HKE)

- ✿ Uses Symmetric cut and choose. Both parties build circuits, both parties execute the other's circuits.
- ✿ Uses a logarithm based approach to the consistency of inputs.
- ✿ Output determination is such that,
  - For each output wire a value is output if at least one of your circuits gives that value *and* at least one of you partner's circuits gives the same value.
- ✿ Statistical security  $2^{-S+\log(S)}$ , so *each* party needs 46 circuits to achieve statistical security of  $2^{-40}$ .

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## Merging L-2013 and HKE (L-HKE)

- ✿ The natural question raised by L-2013 is can we improve it by changing the protocol used for the sub-computation?
- ✿ We changed the sub-computation to use HKE instead.
- ✿ Not a trivial task,
  - ▶ Lindell provides several levels of optimisations to the sub-computation some of which are incompatible with HKE.
  - ▶ The Lindell-Pinkas Zero Knowledge Proof approach to cannot work here, we have to switch the whole protocol to use the HKE logarithm based approach.
  - ▶ Additionally the output of the sub-computation needs to be hidden from the Builder.

## 32-bit Addition Circuit (439 gates)

Builder	CPU Time	Wall Time	Bytes Sent	Bytes Recv
LP-2010	113.96	27.41	7,648,074	737,109
L-2013	171.21	42.03	4,693,761	980,193
HKE	45.59	6.77	3,143,383	3,143,366
L-HKE	145.77	25.47	5,995,366	3,299,399

Executor	CPU Time	Wall Time	Bytes Sent	Bytes Recv
LP-2010	55.90	27.45	737,109	7,648,074
L-2013	101.69	42.05	980,193	4,693,761
L-HKE	132.51	25.83	3,299,399	5,995,366

HKE runs fastest by a very clear margin, while L-2013 uses the least bandwidth.

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L-2013 runs substantially slower than LP-2010 due to the relative cost of the sub-computation being high.

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L-HKE's results are very hopeful compared to LP-2010 and L-2013.

## AES-128 Encryption Circuit (33,872 gates)

Builder	CPU Time	Wall Time	Bytes Sent	Bytes Recv
LP-2010	480.82	114.98	668,935,684	2,798,517
L-2013	399.27	119.25	210,537,538	1,609,692
HKE	185.47	32.95	238,300,835	238,300,840
L-HKE	417.84	78.22	214,725,419	7,868,176

Executor	CPU Time	Wall Time	Bytes Sent	Bytes Recv
LP-2010	227.91	116.15	2,798,517	668,935,684
L-2013	270.99	119.27	1,609,692	210,537,538
L-HKE	363.46	80.49	7,868,176	214,725,419

HKE still has a commanding lead. While L-2013 closes the gap to LP-2010.



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At first glance L-HKE is hopeful. However, the breaking down the timings reveals cause for concern.

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## Some Conclusions

- ✿ A clear victory for HKE in Wall and CPU time, despite needing to build/check more circuits. Symmetric Cut and Choose merits further work.
- ✿ L-2013 is the protocol of choice if bandwidth is at a premium, e.g, when on a metered connection.
- ✿ L-HKE shows promise on smaller circuits over L-2013, but is hampered on large circuits by the optimisation roll backs.
- ✿ The primary variable for predicting cost is the number of inputs.
- ✿ The depth of the circuit (size of circuit minus inputs) mainly affects bandwidth.

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# Achievements

- ✿ We provide the first implementations of LP-2010 and L-2013.
- ✿ We propose and implement a variant of L-2013 using HKE for the sub-computation.
- ✿ We provide the first practical comparison of LP-2010, L-2013, HKE and our variant.
- ✿ We suggest abandoning the Zero Knowledge Proof approach to consistency proving in exchange for the logarithm approach.