Interactive Physical Zero-Knowledge Proof for Norinori

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COCOON2019 西安 CHINA

Outline

1. Background

Norinori · Scenario · Contribution

2. Idea

- 3. Our Construction
- 4. Conclusion

What is *Norinori*?

✓One of the most <u>famous</u> puzzles published by Nikori.



An example of a challenge of Norinori.

https://www.nikoli.co.jp/en/puzzles/norinori.html

What is *Norinori*?

✓Goal: Make some of empty cells become black so that:



Rules.

Room condition. Each room must contain exactly <u>two</u> black cells.

Pair condition. Each black cell must be adjacent to <u>exactly one</u> other black cell.

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What is *Norinori*?

Goal: Make some of empty cells become black so that:



A solution of the challenge.

Rules.

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Pair condition. Each black cell must be adjacent to <u>exactly one</u> other black cell.

✓ Solving Norinori was shown to be <u>NP-complete</u>.^[BS17] [BS17] M. Biro and C. Schmidt, ``Computational complexity and bounds for Norinori and LITS," EuroCG 2017.



Consider two players, *P* and *V*.

 $\checkmark P$ has brought a challenge of Norinori to V.







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Consider two players, *P* and *V*.

✓ But V can't solve this, so V wonders if this puzzle really has a solution.



Consider two players, *P* and *V*.

✓ Dilemma: P wants to convince V but does not want to reveal the solution.

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The scenario

✓ Convince V that the problem has a solution
<u>without</u> revealing it.

Restrictions:

- ✓ Use everyday objects.
- Player *P* ✓ Prove it manually.



Physical Zero-Knowledge Proof (ZKP)!

Contribution

✓Design <u>a physical ZKP protocol</u> for Norinori using cards and envelopes.



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A deck of cards used in our protocol



White cards

Black cards



1234

Marker cards

Number cards

Setup: P puts one face-down card on each cell according to the solution.





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✓Then, the Room condition can be <u>easily</u> verified.





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✓Then, how we verify the Pair condition?



✓Exactly one black cell exists among <u>four</u> <u>adjacent cells</u> of each black one.



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Our construction



Our construction



Setup

- P puts one face-down card on each cell according to the solution.
- ✓They put additional white cards for the Pair verification.



Our construction





[KW17] A. Koch and S. Walzer, ``Foundations for actively secure card-based cryptography," IACR Cryptology ePrint Archive, 2017:423, 2017.

✓Now, we have the four adjacent cards.

✓We can verify the Pair condition by just revealing these four cards, but:



 V puts number cards below the four adjacent cards, which specify the <u>original</u> positions (and then turn them over).



3. V puts each two cards into an envelope, and then shuffles them:



4. V reveals the four adjacent cards. Then, <u>exactly one</u> black or marker should appear.



5. V turns them over, and then shuffles them as before.



V reveals the four number cards.
V can place the four adjacent cards in the original positions.



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✓ By repeating the previous steps twice as the number of rooms, V is convinced of the Pair condition.



Our construction



Room verification is easy

✓Shuffle the cards corresponding to each room and then reveal them.



Room verification is easy

✓ By repeating the previous step, V is convinced of the Room condition.



Our construction



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Conclusion

✓ Designed <u>a physical ZKP protocol</u> for Norinori using cards and envelopes.

Player *P*



