

Experimental cheat-sensitive quantum weak coin flipping



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<u></u>

The Game







The Game



Alice





Bob





Alice









Alice



Head

Preferred outcome









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Important Cryptographic Primitive

• Multiparty computation





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Classical Solutions





Quantum Protocol

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Quantum weak coin flipping with a single photon

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Weak coin flipping is among the fundamental cryptographic primitives which ensure the security of modern communication networks. It allows two mistrustful parties to remotely agree on a random bit when they favor opposite outcomes. Unlike other two-party computations, one can achieve information-theoretic security using quantum mechanics only: both parties are prevented from biasing the flip with probability higher than $1/2 + \epsilon$, where ϵ is arbitrarily low. Classically, the dishonest party can always cheat with probability 1 unless computational assumptions are used. Despite its importance, no physical implementation has been proposed for quantum weak coin flipping. Here, we present a practical protocol that requires a single photon and linear optics only. We show that it is fair and balanced even when threshold single-photon detectors are used, and reaches a bias as low as $\epsilon = 1/\sqrt{2} - 1/2 \approx 0.207$. We further show that the protocol may display a quantum advantage over a few-hundred meters with state-of-the-art technology.

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Quantum Protocol



Cheat-Sensitivity = Quantum advantage!



Quantum Protocol



Quantum Protocol



Quantum Protocol



Quantum Protocol



Quantum Protocol







Quantum Protocol



Quantum Protocol



Quantum Protocol



Quantum Protocol



Quantum Protocol



Alice Wins

Quantum Protocol



Quantum Protocol

Experimental Implementation



Alice is Sanctioned



Quantum Protocol

Experimental Implementation



Bob is Sanctioned

Quantum Protocol



Quantum Protocol

Requirements

When players are **honest**:

• Minimize P(Abort)



Experimental Implementation

Switch & Delay



400ns reaction time



Experimental Implementation *Switch & Delay*



2x 300m fiber spools



Experimental Implementation

Switch & Delay



> 300m fibered interferometer



Experimental Implementation

Noise Recording - Spools Insulation 🔳





Results with Honest Players

Outcomes Probabilities VS Communication Distance



Quantum advantage!

Possible Cheating Strategies



Quantum advantage!

Possible Cheating Strategies



Quantum advantage!

Possible Cheating Strategies



Dishonest Bob



Dishonest Alice





nature communications

Article

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Accepted: 22 March 2023				
Published online: 03 April 2023	As in modern communication notworks the convity of question notworks will			
Check for updates	As in modern communication networks, the security of quantum networks win rely on complex cryptographic tasks that are based on a handful of funda- mental primitives. Weak coin flipping (WCF) is a significant such primitive which allows two mistrustful parties to agree on a random bit while they favor opposite outcomes. Remarkably, perfect information-theoretic security can be achieved in principle for quantum WCF. Here, we overcome conceptual and practical issues that have prevented the experimental demonstration of this primitive to date, and demonstrate how quantum resources can provide cheat sensitivity, whereby each party can detect a cheating opponent, and an honest party is never sanctioned. Such a property is not known to be classically achievable with information-theoretic security. Our experiment implements a refined, loss-tolerant version of a recently proposed theoretical protocol and exploits heralded single photons generated by spontaneous parametric down conversion, a carefully optimized linear optical interferometer including beam splitters with variable reflectivities and a fast optical switch for the verification step. High values of our protocol benchmarks are maintained for attenuation corresponding to several kilometers of telecom optical fiber.			



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Pump Spectrum





A Source of Entangled Photons

Photon Pair Spectral State





Photon Spectral Filtering





Full Setup





Detection Efficiencies

Notation	Path	x	y	z	S	Efficiency
η^s_A	$x \rightarrow \text{switch} \rightarrow D_A$	1			1	0.315 ± 0.008
$\eta_B^{\mathcal{Y}}$	$x \to y \to D_B$	0	0			0.303 ± 0.008
$\eta_A^{V_1}$	$x \rightarrow \text{switch} \rightarrow z \rightarrow D_{V_1}$	1		1	0	0.231 ± 0.008
$\eta_A^{V_2}$	$x \rightarrow \text{switch} \rightarrow z \rightarrow D_{V_2}$	1		0	0	0.219 ± 0.008
$\eta_B^{V_1}$	$x \to y \to z \to D_{V_1}$	0	1	0		0.184 ± 0.008
$\eta_B^{V_2}$	$x \to y \to z \to D_{V_2}$	0	1	1		0.175 ± 0.008



Fairness & Correctness

$$\mathcal{F} = 1 - \left| \frac{\mathbb{P}_h(A. \text{ wins}) - \mathbb{P}_h(B. \text{ wins})}{\mathbb{P}_h(A. \text{ wins}) + \mathbb{P}_h(B. \text{ wins})} \right| \qquad \qquad \mathcal{C} = 1 - \frac{\mathbb{P}_h(A. \text{ sanctioned}) + \mathbb{P}_h(B. \text{ sanctioned})}{\mathbb{P}_h(A. \text{ wins}) + \mathbb{P}_h(B. \text{ wins})}$$





Reflectivities, Honest Players





Reflectivities, Honest Players

Theoretical Formulas

$$x_{h} = \left[1 + \frac{\eta_{A}^{V_{1}}}{\eta_{B}^{V_{1}}} + \frac{\eta_{A}^{V_{1}}}{\eta_{B}^{y}}(1+v)\right]^{-1}$$
$$y_{h} = \left[1 + \frac{\eta_{B}^{V_{1}}}{\eta_{B}^{y}}(1+v)\right]^{-1}$$
$$z_{h} = \frac{1}{2}$$

