How to Trivially Perform Identify Theft, and How to Prevent It

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Never-you-mind-where-I-am

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1 Introduction

Identity theft is a huge problem in the modern world. Many people are having their bank accounts emptied, and worse, as unscrupulous criminals are stealing and using people's identities. Just to show how bad things are, I would note that I have even suffered from some fraudulent transactions on my own credit card [1].

2 The Root of the Problem

I now show that it is trivial to steal almost anyone's identity who is involved in nearly any sort of cryptographic exchange. A straightforward but time-consuming inspection of the vast cryptographic literature [2-4217] proves by example that their name is, in most cases of information exchange, *either* **Alice** *or* **Bob**. Thus, in time $O(2)$, I can steal their identity, using a randomised algorithm which exhaustively considers all possibilities.

3 The Solution

Anyone who is called Alice or Bob, and who wishes to indulge in any sort of cryptographic process, should immediately change their name, to protect themselves. This will stop nearly all cases of trivial identity theft, making things much tougher for the bad guys.

References

[1] R. R. Martin, personal communication *(talking to yourself is the first sign of madness)*.

[2] ...Remaining 238 pages of bibliography omitted due to excessively stringent journal page limit.