

# ALPTEKİN KÜPÇÜ

Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Engineering



**KOÇ  
UNIVERSITY**



## General

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**Ph.D., Brown University (2004-2010)**

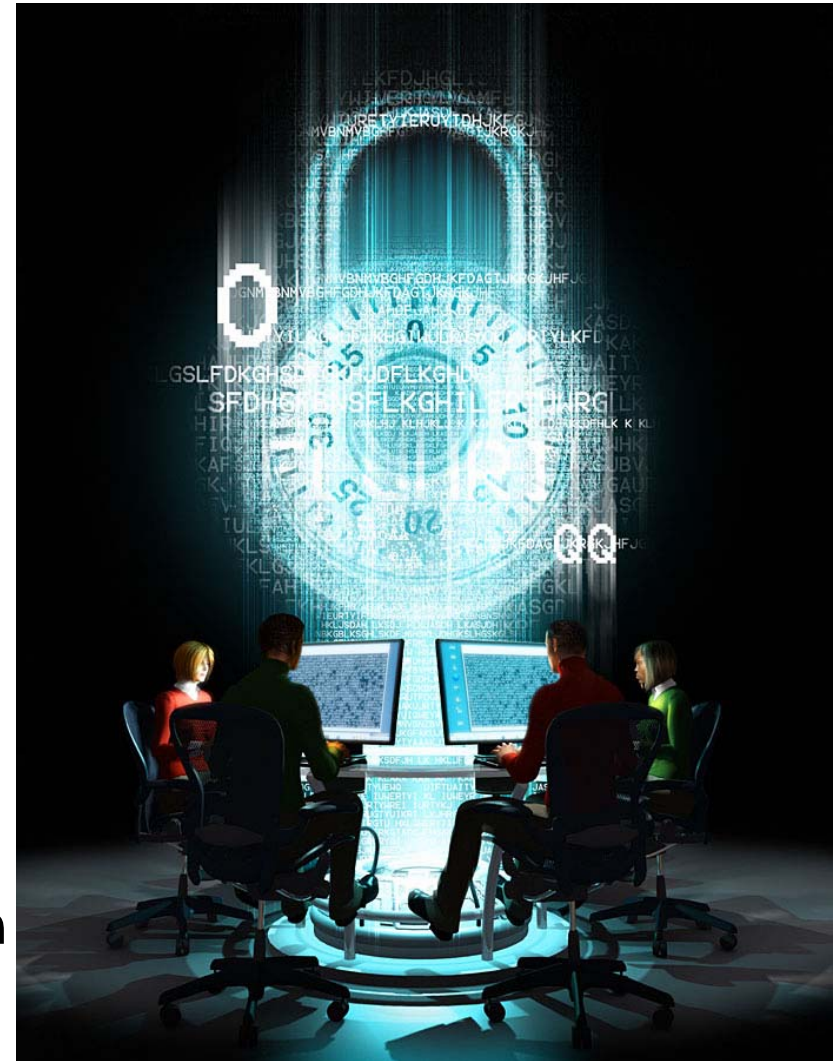
**Asst. Prof., Koç University (2010- )**

Cryptographic protocols can  
**efficiently** and **scalably** be used to  
provide **security** and **privacy** for the  
**next generation cloud** systems.



# Research Topics

- **Core Research**
  - **Cryptography**
  - **Security**
  - **Privacy**
  
- **Application Areas**
  - **Cloud Computation**
  - **Cloud Storage**
  - **Peer-to-Peer Systems**
  - **Electronic Cash**
  - **Electronic ID Cards**
  - **Password-based Authentication**
  - ...





# Cloud Computation

[BCEJKL08]

## Challenges:

Outsource a job to a more powerful entity, or multiple small entities, and get correct results, without wasting own resources.

## Current Generation:

Amazon Mechanical Turk,  
SETI@Home, etc.  
Job is not well-defined.  
Results can be faked.  
No provable guarantees.



## Techniques:

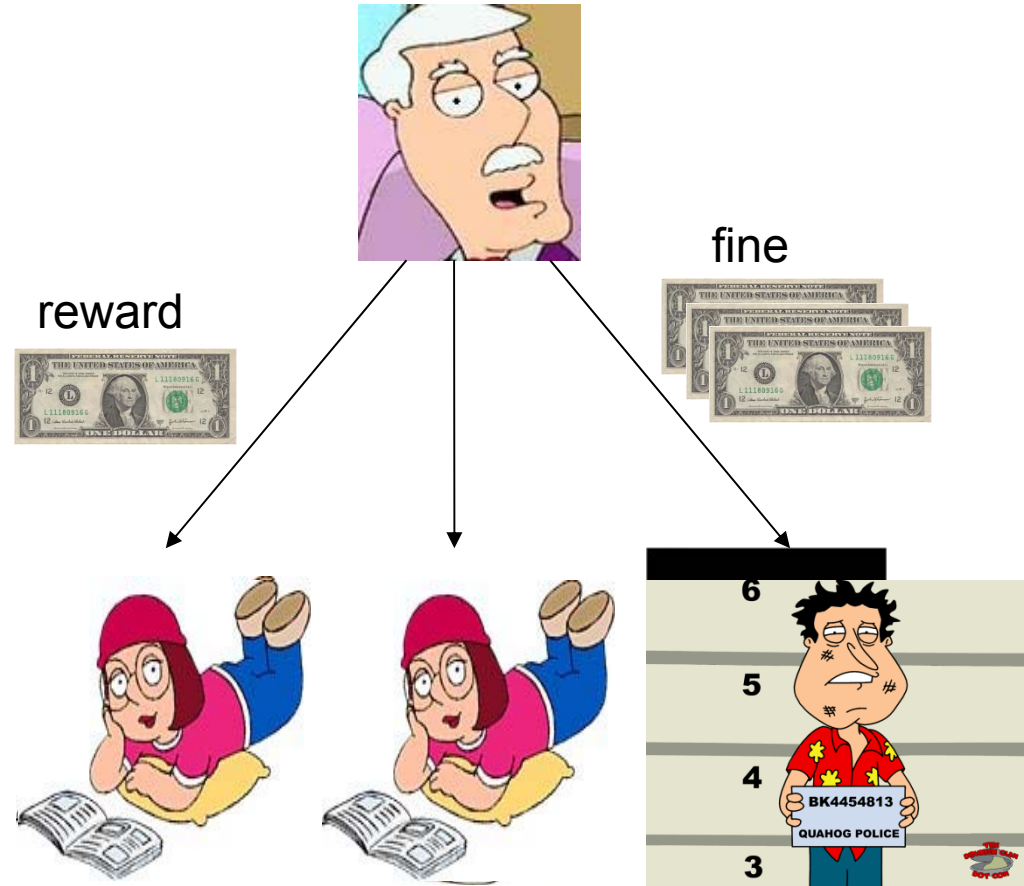
Game Theory and Mechanism Design, augmented with cryptographic techniques to deal with Byzantine users.



# Next Gen Cloud Computation

[BCEJKL08]

**Our Solutions:**  
Guaranteed high fraction of **correct** results, even in presence of malicious users. Malicious users **cannot** force the boss to perform tons of **extra work**.





# Cloud Storage

[EKPT09][K12][EK12][CKW12]

## Challenges:

Outsource storage of data to a more **powerful entity**, or **multiple small entities**, while data will be kept **intact**, or you will get **compensated**.



## Current Generation:

Amazon S3, Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.

No guarantee that file will be kept intact (i.e. No modifications or deletions).

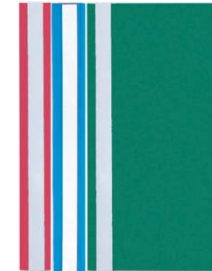
## Techniques:

Cryptography, as well as secure protocol design, probability, and error-correcting codes (erasure codes).



# Next Gen Cloud Storage

[EKPT09]



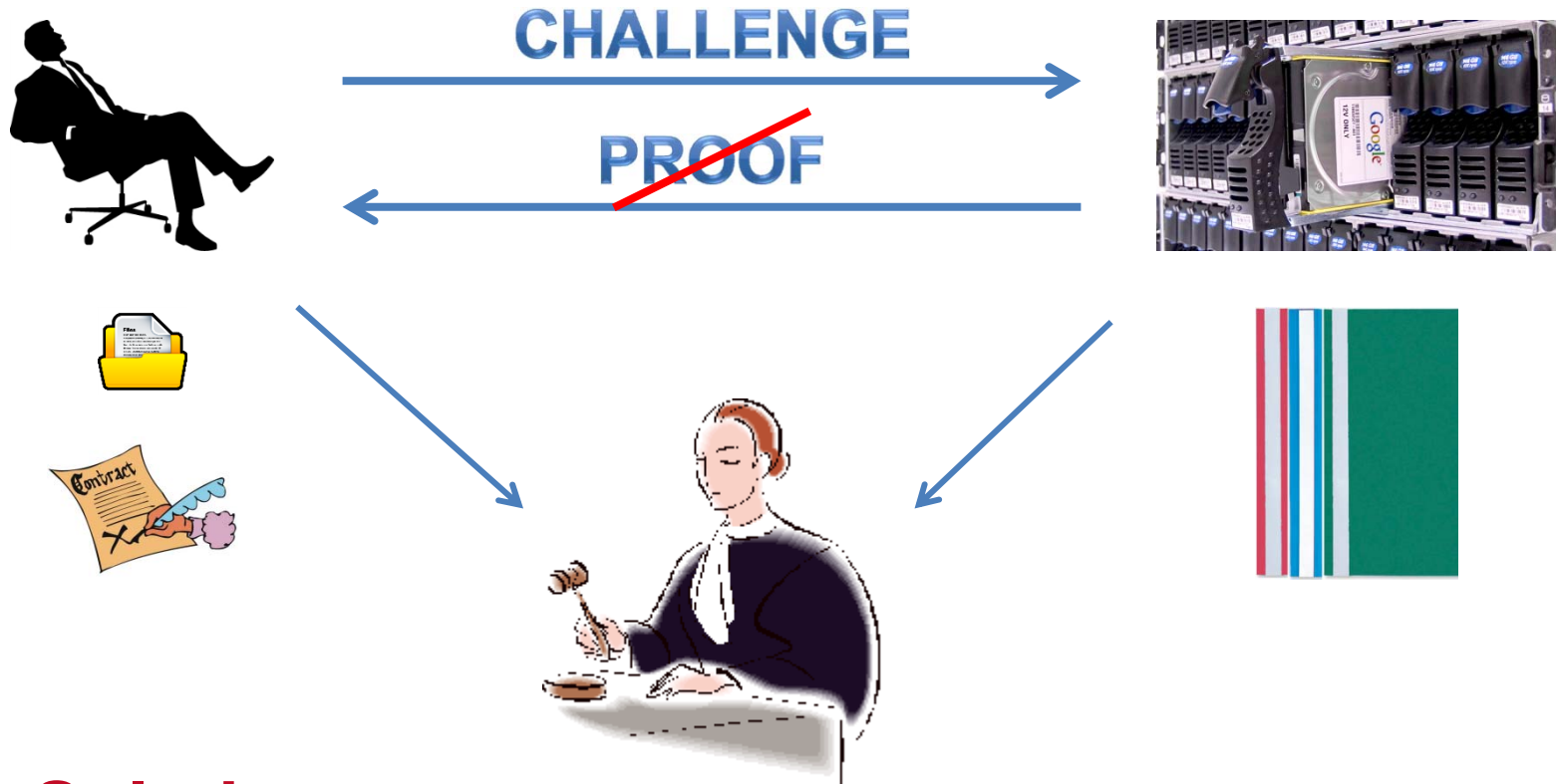
## Our Solutions:

Guaranteed high probability **detection** of integrity loss of data.



# Next Gen Cloud Storage

[K12]



## Our Solutions:

Automated official **arbitration** system with compensation (via e-cash).





# Peer-to-Peer Systems

[BCEJ][KLR07][KL09][KL10a][KL10b][KL12]

## Challenges:

Incentivize peers to **contribute** to the system, thereby increasing overall system **performance** and **fault tolerance**.

## Techniques:

Cryptography (fair exchange protocols and electronic cash), together with economic analysis and game-theoretic models.



## Our Solutions:

**Forced fair contribution** by peers both increase the fault tolerance of the system, as well as increased performance.



# Electronic Cash

[BCEJKLR07][MEKHL10]

## **Applications:**

Electronic commerce, privacy-protecting protocols, anonymous credentials and electronic identity cards.

## **Use Cases:**

Cryptographic protocol design, virtual economies, automated payments, and even official arbitration mechanisms.



## **Future Uses:**

Accountability issues can be handled through e-cash while preserving privacy (e.g., in GPS, transport, or cloud systems).



# Efficient Cryptography

TOPIC	RELATED WORK	OUR WORK
Cloud Storage network overhead	N/A	10 KB
Cloud Storage computation overhead	N/A	1 ms
Judge Arbitration network overhead	25 KB	80 bytes
Judge Arbitration computation overhead	1 second	2 ms
P2P Fairness network overhead (over 2.8 GB)	225 MB	1.8 MB
P2P Fairness computation overhead (over 1.5 hours)	42 minutes	40 seconds

2-3 orders of magnitude



# Collaboration Areas

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## ▪ **Other possibilities:**

- **Outsourced Databases**
  - Privacy (e.g., PIR, obfuscation)
- **Usable Security**
  - Password-based Authentication and OTP
- **Peer-to-Peer Systems**
  - Fair (video) streaming
- **Anonymous Credentials (and E-cash)**
  - Electronic ID and Passport
- **Electronic Health**
  - Privacy-preserving Information Sharing

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