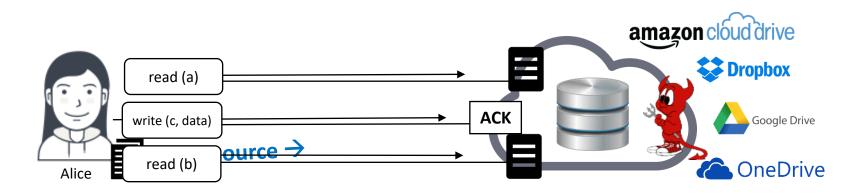
Towards Practical, Scalable and Private Management of Cloud Data

> Amr El Abbadi Department of Computer Science University of California at Santa Barbara

> > In Collaboration with Ishtiyaque Ahmad, Sujaya Maiyya, Divy Agrawal, Trinabh Gupta, Rachel Lin, Stefano Tessaro, etc

Outsourced Private Data



Outsourced Private Data





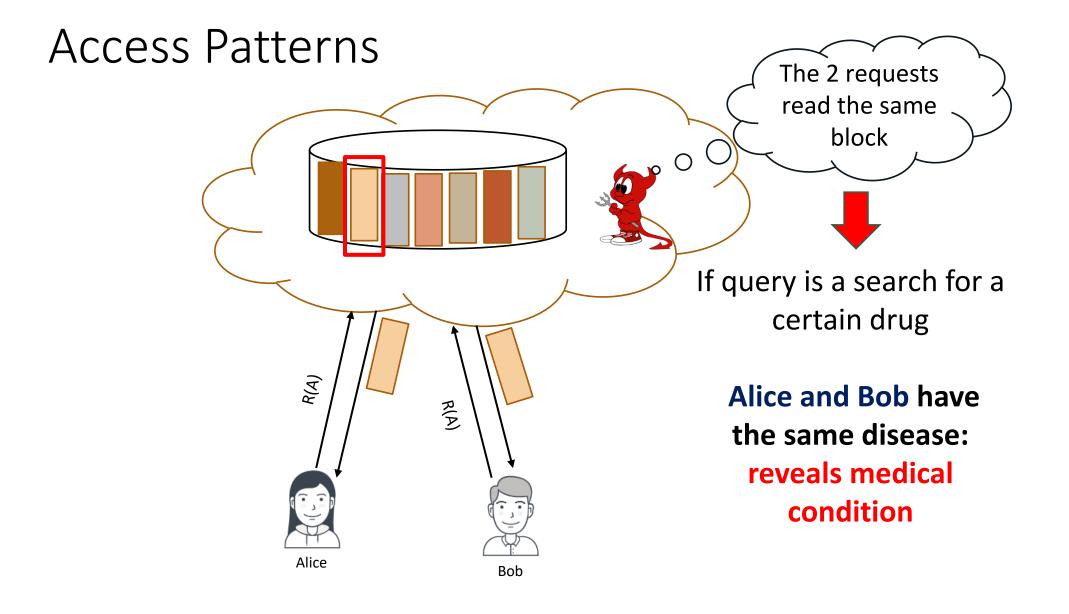
Security Concerns?	
Confidentiality of Data	Is encryption
Encryption	enough?

Encryption alone is not enough!!!

Access patterns can leak sensitive information

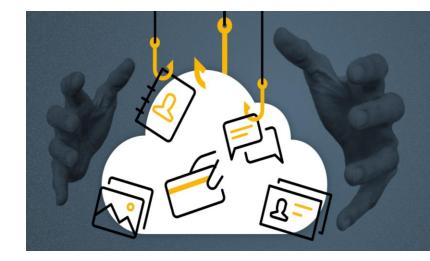
[Islam et al. NDSS'12]

read(1), read(1) vs read(1), write(3)



Data Privacy

- Sensitive data needs to be kept private
- Encryption is a good start but isn't good enough
- Honest-But-Curious attackers could observe the access pattern
 - Which data item is being accessed?
 - When it was accessed?
 - How frequently?
- The access pattern can be used to leak information about the actual data content and user activity

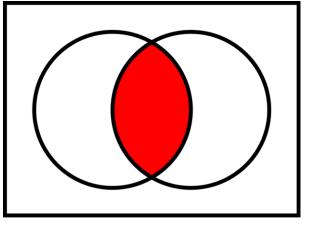


We need mechanisms to ensure data security and privacy that are scalable, efficient and fault-tolerant

Lets Start with Private User Data







Oblivious RAM

what's the opposite of oblivious?



aware, conscious, mindful, attentive, sensitive, concerned, observant, heedful, cognizant, conversant



🔰 Thesaurus.plus

ORAM Problem Statement

- Clients wish to outsource data to an untrusted cloud storage
- Honest-But-Curious cloud can control & observe network & cloud storage
- Keep the data and access pattern private



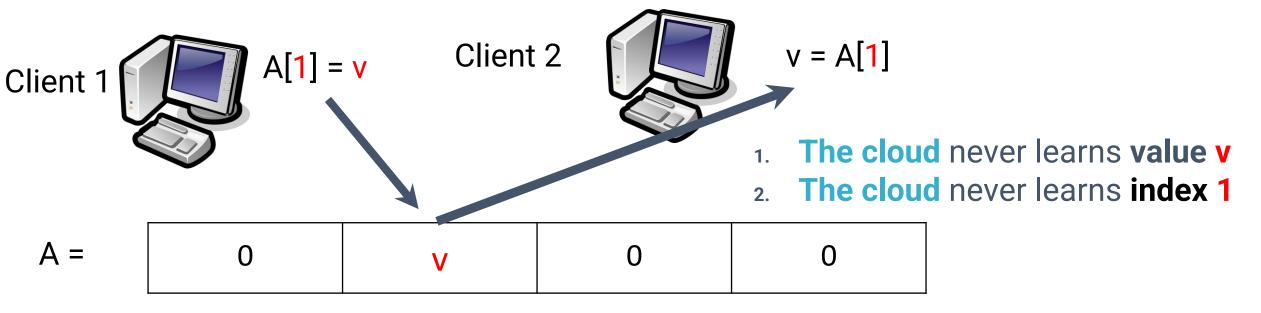
Client 2



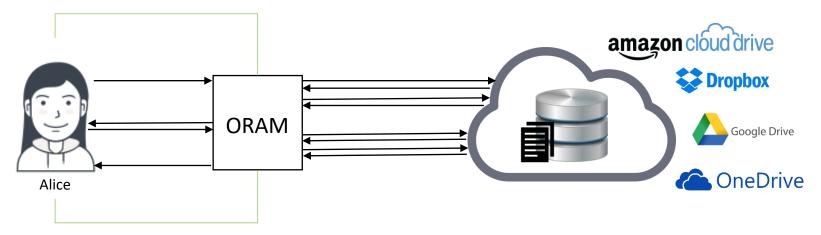
A =	0	0	0	0
-----	---	---	---	---

ORAM Problem Statement

- Clients wish to outsource data to an untrusted cloud storage
- Honest-But-Curious cloud can control & observe network & cloud storage
- Keep the **data** and **access pattern** private



Outsourced Private Data



Goal: Oblivious Access

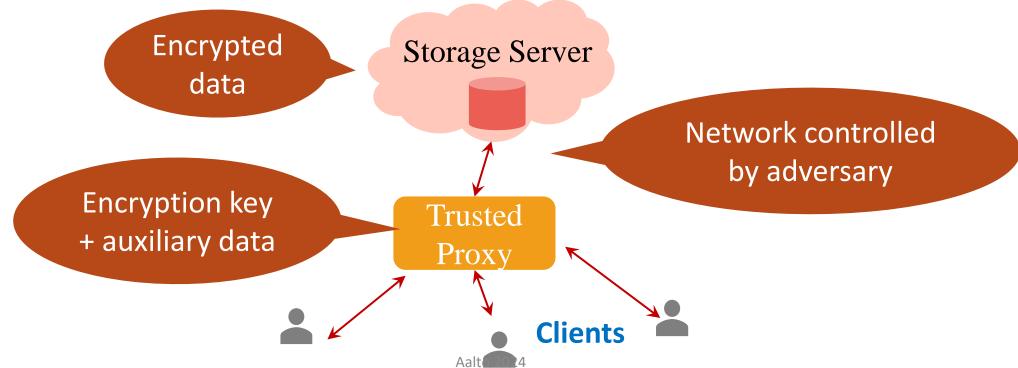
Translate each logical access to a sequence of random-looking accesses

OBLIVIOUS RAM (ORAM)

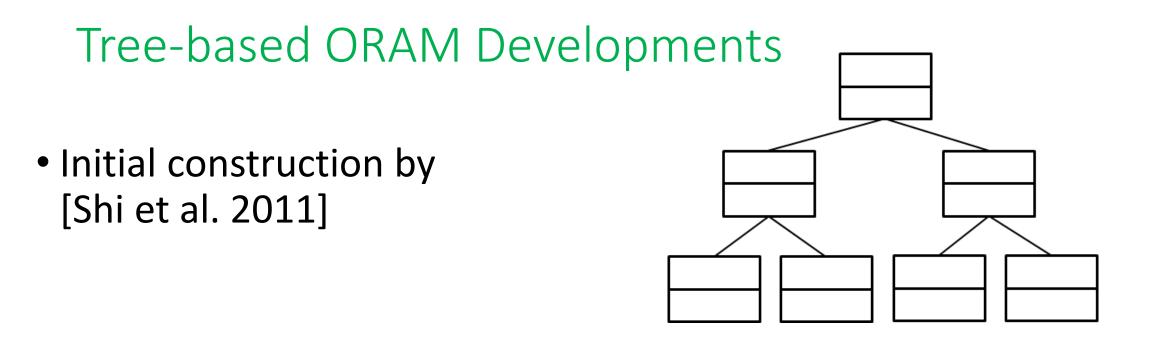
Initially proposed by [Goldreich and Ostrovsky, JACM'96]

Oblivious RAM (ORAM)^[1] mitigates access pattern attacks

- Core idea: make all data accesses look random
- Supports single item Get-Put operations
- Typical (but not all) ORAM architecture



[1] O. Goldreich & R. Ostrovsky. Software protection and simulation on oblivious RAMs. *Journal of the ACM, 1996*



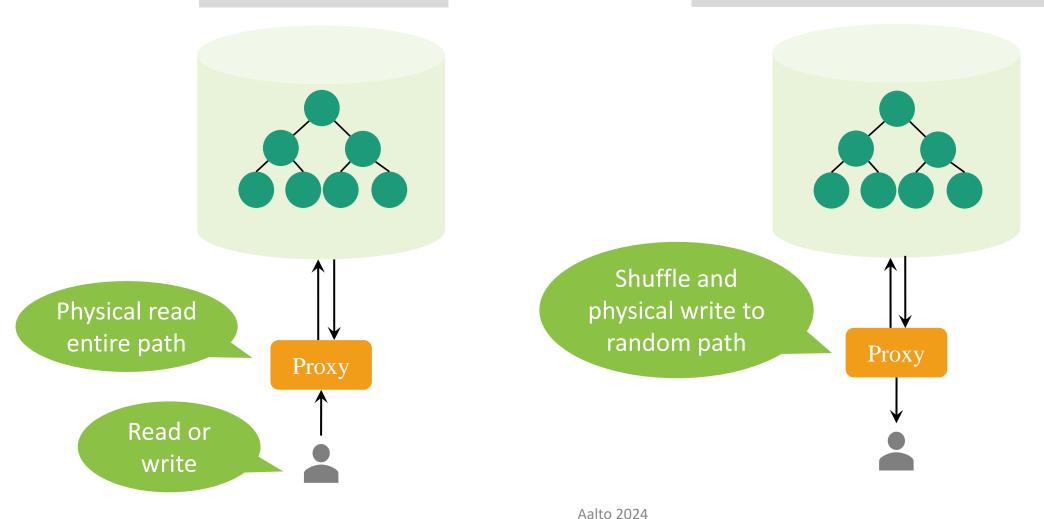
More practical and famous solution

 Path ORAM: an extremely simple oblivious RAM protocol [Stefanov et al. CCS'13]

1000 feet overview of ORAM (PathORAM[1])

Step 1. Read path

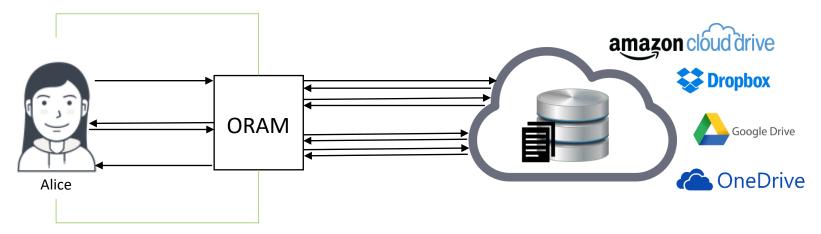
Step 2. Shuffle and Write path



[1] E. Stefanov, et al. "Path ORAM: an extremely simple oblivious RAM protocol." Proceedings of the 2013 ACM SIGSAC. 2013.

ORAM Status circa 2016

...



Goal: Oblivious Access

Translate each logical access to a sequence of random-looking accesses

OBLIVIOUS RAM (ORAM)

Initially proposed by [Goldreich and Oscrovsk/norMSS]

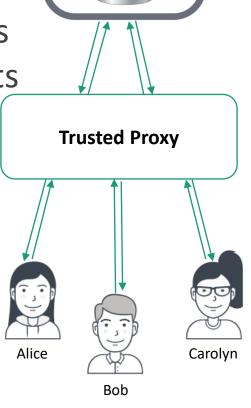
More solutions: MG'11, DB'11, ES'11, EK'12, ES'12, PW'12, ES'13, CG'13, KC'13, KC'13,

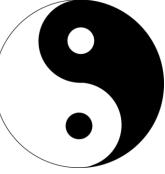
TaoStore: Tree-Based Asynchronous Oblivious Store

- Fully concurrent and asynchronous oblivious access
- Concurrent and non-blocking processing of requests
 - Makes tree-based ORAM concurrent

Goal: Improve overall performance

[Sahin, Zakhary, El Abbadi, Lin Tessaro. TaoStore: Overcoming Asynchronicity in Oblivious Data Storage. S&P'16]





Current ORAM data stores are **not** fault tolerant

Loose access to entire data!!

Maiyya et al. QuORAM: A Quorum Replicated Fault-Tolerant ORAM Datastore. Usenix Security 2022

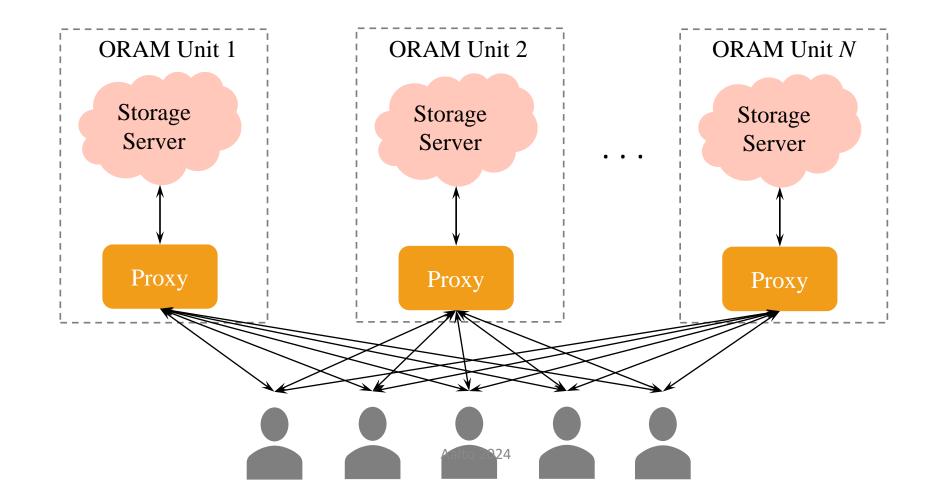
Obladi [1] provides data durability guarantees using fault-tolerant cloud db

• No liveness: single point of failure when proxy crashes

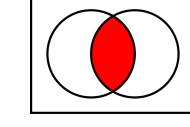
Aalto 2024 [1] N. Crooks, et al. "Obladi: Oblivious serializable transactions in the cloud." 13th OSDI 2018.

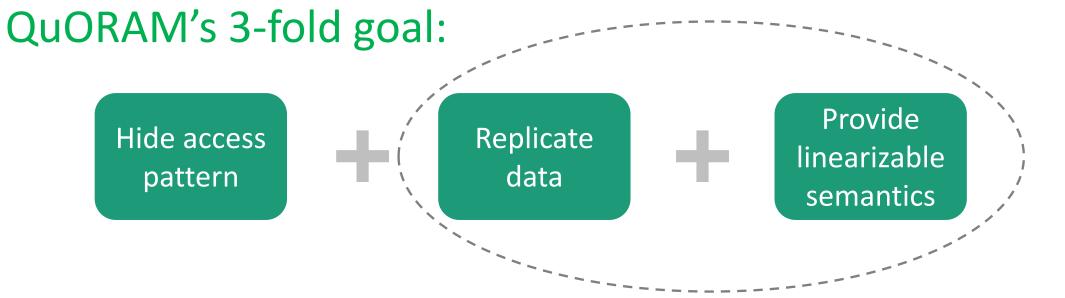
QuORAM system and threat model

- Tolerates *f* failures out of *2f+1* replicas
- Honest but curious adversary: can control storage server & all communication channels



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- Linearizability: all read/write operations on a data item **appear** to be linear
- Data replication can be **expensive** due to geo-distributed replicas
- Use efficient replication protocol?

Solution 1: Efficient replication protocol

• Protocols such as Virtual Partitions [1,2], Hermes[3] or CRAQ[4] are re

 Read from: or Write to: ALL Need a protocol that accesses same number of replicas for reads and writes

ORAM

Unit 3

Read(x)

Write(x)

Number of message exchanges reveal type of operation!!

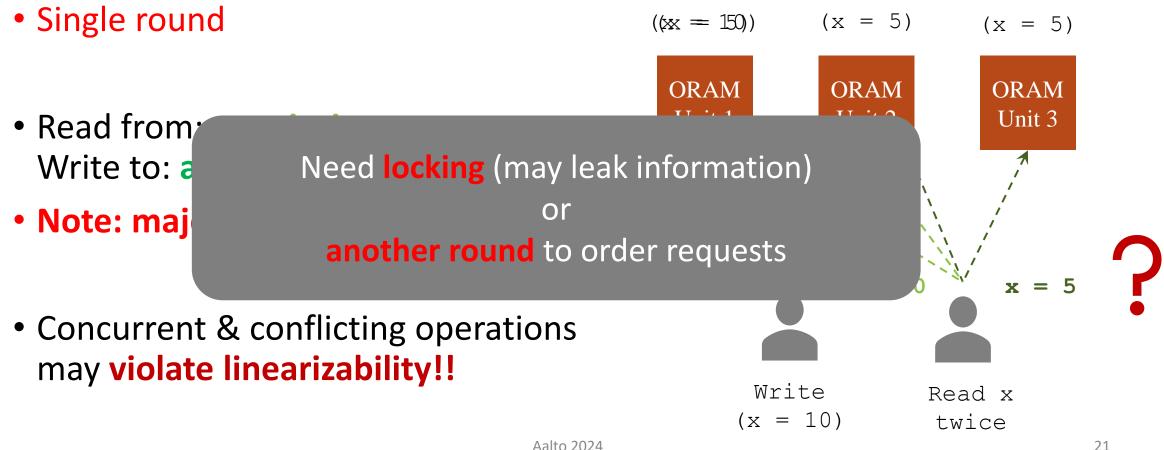
[1]El Abbadi et al "An Efficient, Fault-Tolerant Protocol for Replicated Data Management", PODS 1984

[2] El Abbadi and Toueg "Availability in Partitioned Replicated Databases." PODS 1985.

[3] Antonios Katsarakis, et al. "Hermes: A fast, fault-tolerant and linearizable replication protocol." ASPLOS 2020.

[4] Jeff Terrace and Michael J. Freedman. "Object Storage on CRAQ: High-throughput4Chain Replication for Read-mostly Workloads." USENIX Annual Technical Conference 2009

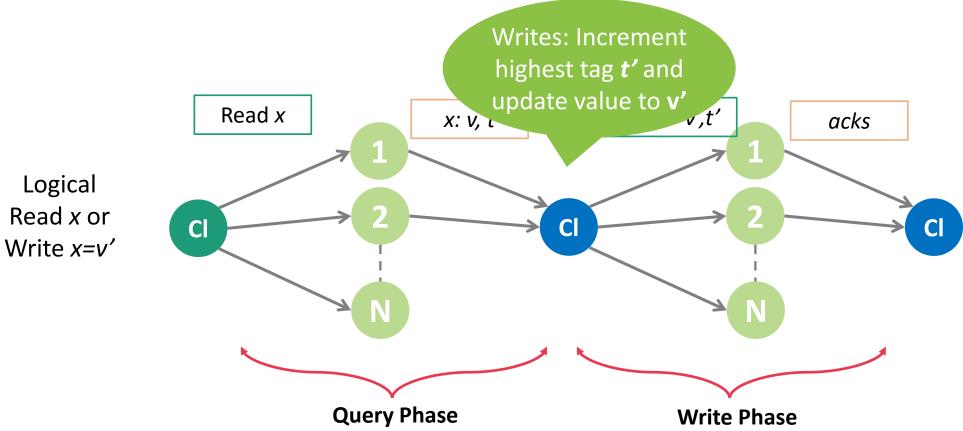
Solution 2: Access the same number of replicas for read and writes

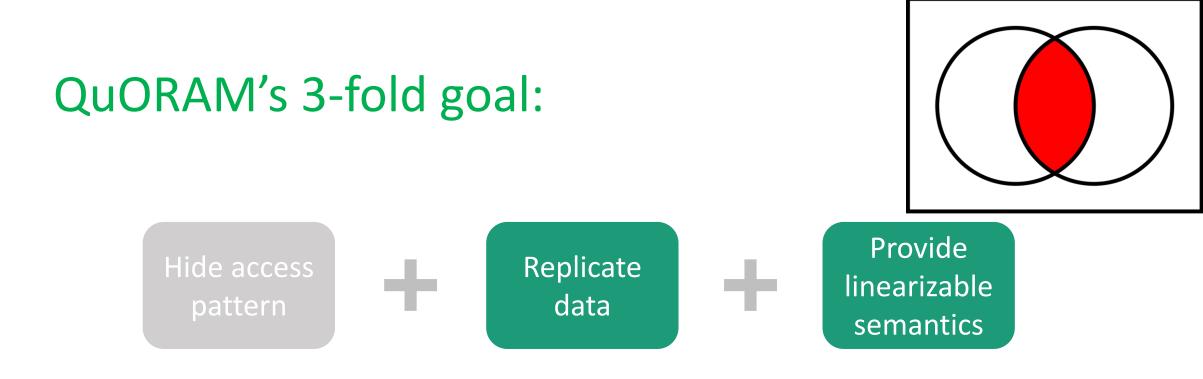


QuORAM Replication

- Inspired by Lynch and Shvartsman's [1] solution
- Data item x has value v and a monotonically increasing tag t
- Two phase replication: Query + Propagate
 - Each logical request \rightarrow two ORAM requests

QuORAM Replication

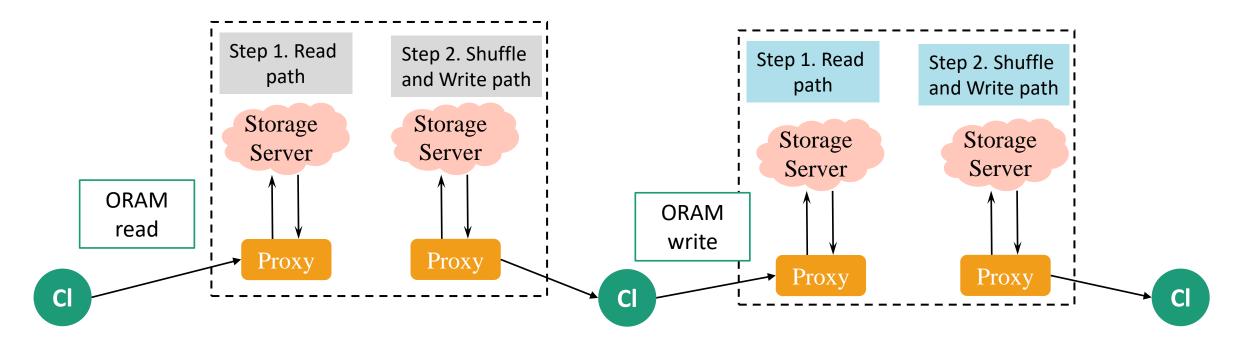




• We use TaORAM [1] – extends PathORAM to include concurrency and asynchronous settings

[1] C.Sahin, et al. "Taostore: Overcoming asynchronicity in oblivious data storage." *IEEE S&P*, 2016.

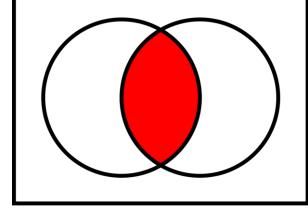
Unchanged ORAM scheme **double fetches** the same path

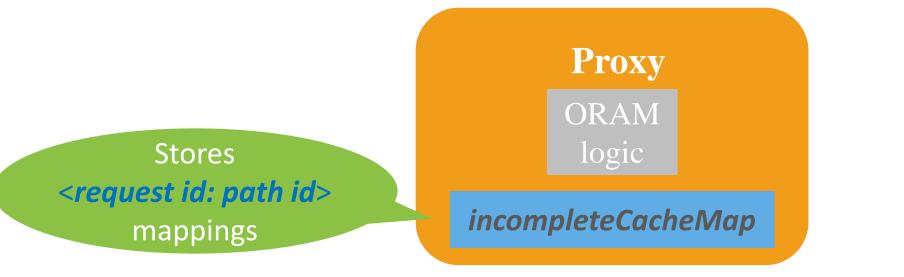


- QuORAM replication: 2 rounds (query + propagate)
- Each ORAM operation: 2 rounds (read path + shuffle & write path)

• 4 rounds of communication!!!

QuORAM avoids double-fetching of paths by tracking ongoing requests

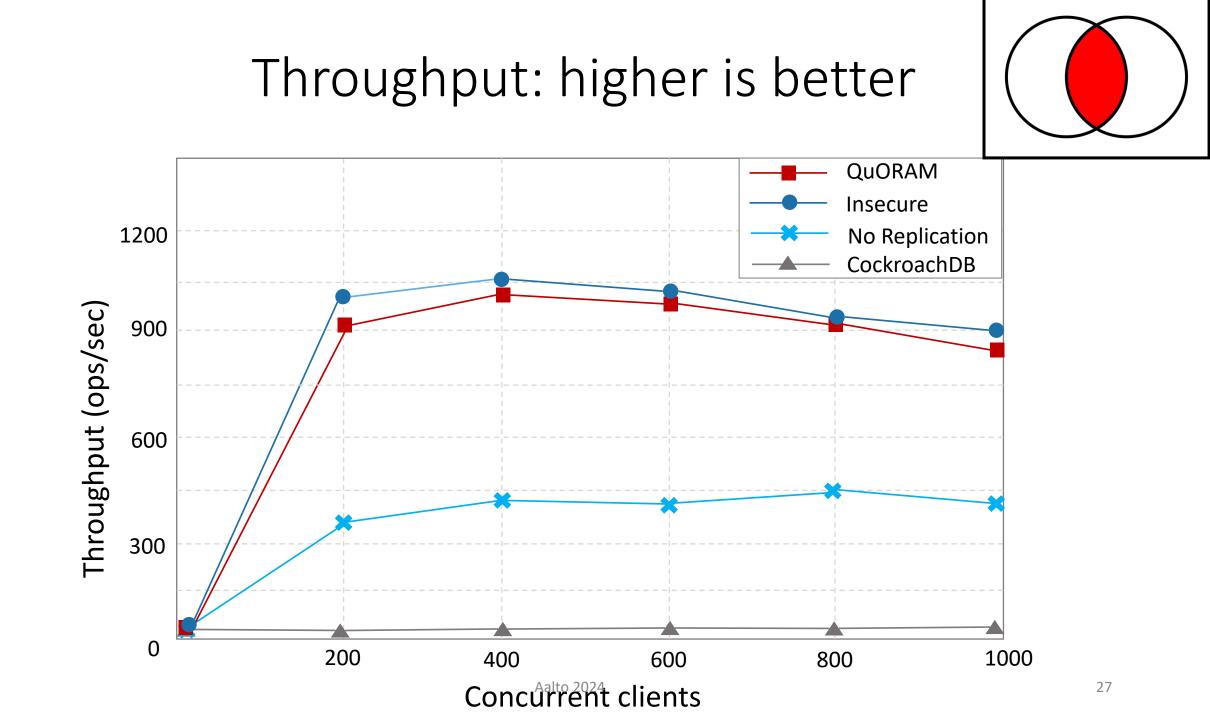


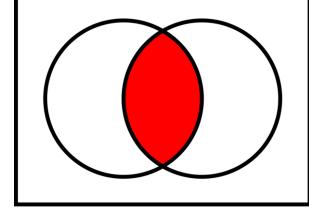


Check details in USENIX Security'22 paper

- Store <*request id: path id*> of requests that finished query but not propagate phase
- Proxies **fetch a path only once** for the query phase

Maiyya, Ibrahim, Scarberry, Agrawal, El Abbadi, Lin, Tessaro, Zakhary QuORAM: A Quorum Replicated Fault-Tolerant ORAM Datastore. Usenix Security 2022





We can have Privacy AND Fault-tolerance!

But, much of the content on the Internet is in *public data repositories*



User

I want to stream "The Godfather"



Remote server



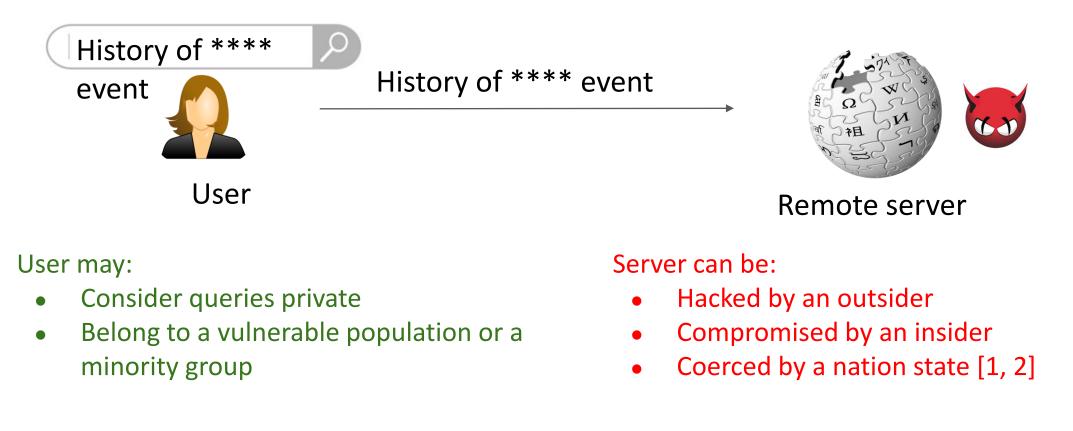
User

Show me the latest post by Elon Musk



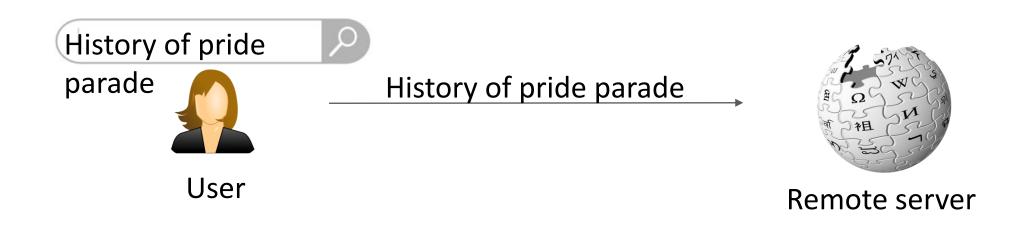
Remote server

Both users and service providers want to hide access patterns over public repositories



- 1. Brian Fung. Analysis: There is now some public evidence that China viewed TikTok data. CNN, 2023.
- 2. Sapna Maheshwari and Ryan Mac. *Driver's Licenses, Addresses, Photos: Inside How TikTok Shares User Data.* New York Times, 2023

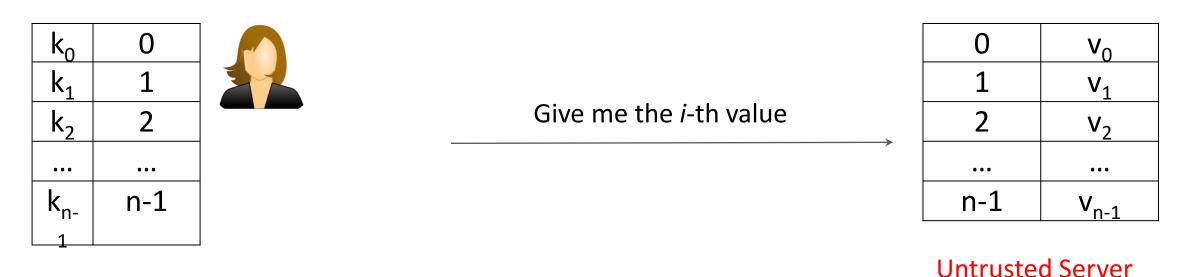
How can we hide access patterns (queries) over public data repositories?



Cannot use:

- Encryption
- ORAM
- CryptDB-like solution

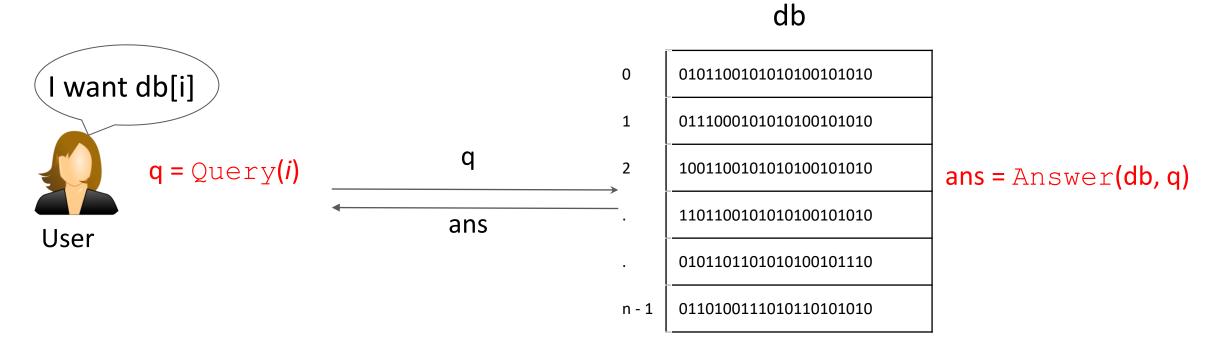
Private Information Retrieval: Retieval by Location



Client has (key, location) mapping

How can the client privately retrieve the value corresponding to a given location?

This area originated as private information retrieval (PIR) in 1995 (Chor et al. FOCS '95)



Untrusted Server

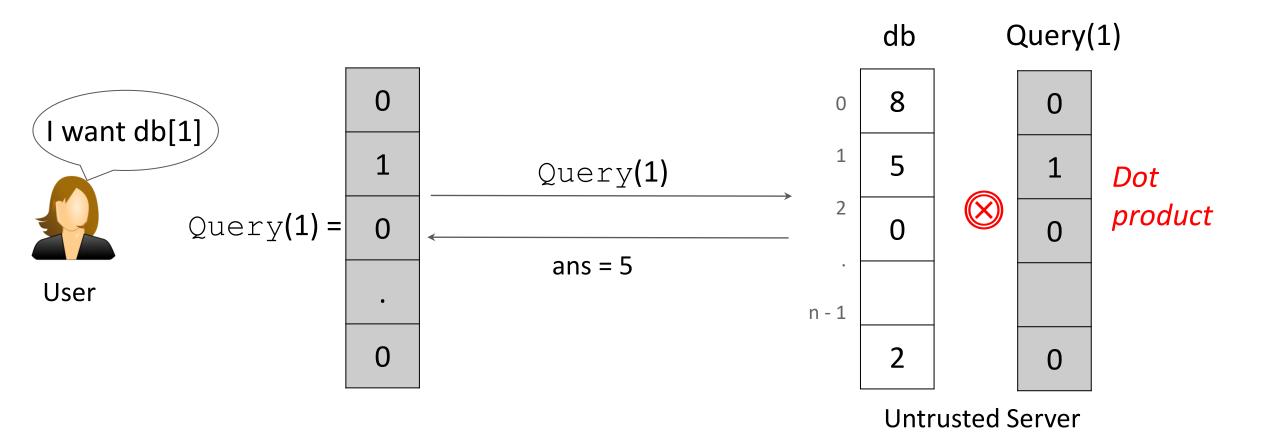
One trivial solution to private information retrieval

db

I want db	[i]	0	010110010101010101010
		1	0111000101010100101010
	q = Give me the entire db	2	100110010101010101010
			1101100101010100101010
User	e ve e alle	— .	0101101101010101011110
ans = db		n - 1	0110100111010110101010

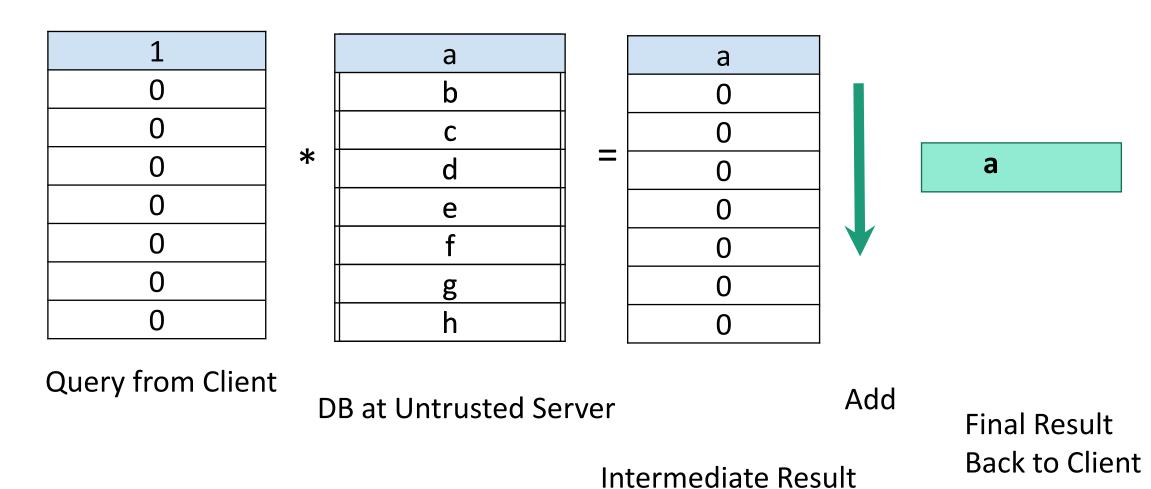
Untrusted Server

PIR Foundations



Retrieval is equivalent to computing a dot product

Basic Idea in CPIR



How to achieve this in a Private manner?

Homomorphic Encryption

Homomorphic Encryption

A form of encryption which allows specific types of computations to be carried out on cipher texts without decrypting it.

Partially Homomorphic

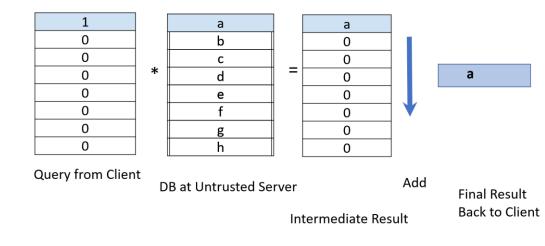
- Either additive or multiplicative
- Paillier, El Gamal, ...etc.

Fully Homomorphic

- Breakthrough by Gentry 09.
- Supports computations for any arbitrary function
- Can be inefficient for arbitrary Boolean functions
- However:
 - Quantum Secure
 - Can be much faster if properly used—our plan!

Challenges

Basic Idea in PIR



Query size is too large: cipher text * size of database.

- For example, for 32K entries in db and cipher text size 64K
- A query is 64K * 32K= 2 GigaByte!

Much of the research on PIR is on reducing request size and server-side compute overhead

Overhead	High-level technique
Request size	 Recursion (Stern 1998) Cryptographic query compression (SealPIR '18)
Server-side compute	 PIR with preprocessing (Beimel et al. '00, SimplePIR '23) Lattice-based cryptography (FastPIR '21)

How to reduce server-side overhead?



Pay linear overhead but improve the constant

Key techniques in FastPIR (OSDI '21)

- Use lattice-based additive homomorphic encryption schemes
- Single-input multiple data (SIMD) capabilities
- Query and response compression using homomorphic rotation operations

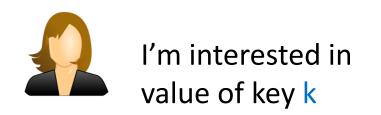
For more details:

Check our Addra OSDI '21 paper Come on Friday

Ahmad, Yang, Agrawal, El Abbadi, Gupta

Addra: Metadata-private voice communication over fully untrusted infrastructure.

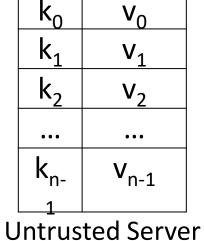
Retrieval by key



Client retrieves:

- v, if (k,v) at Server
- Ø, otherwise

Give me value for key k



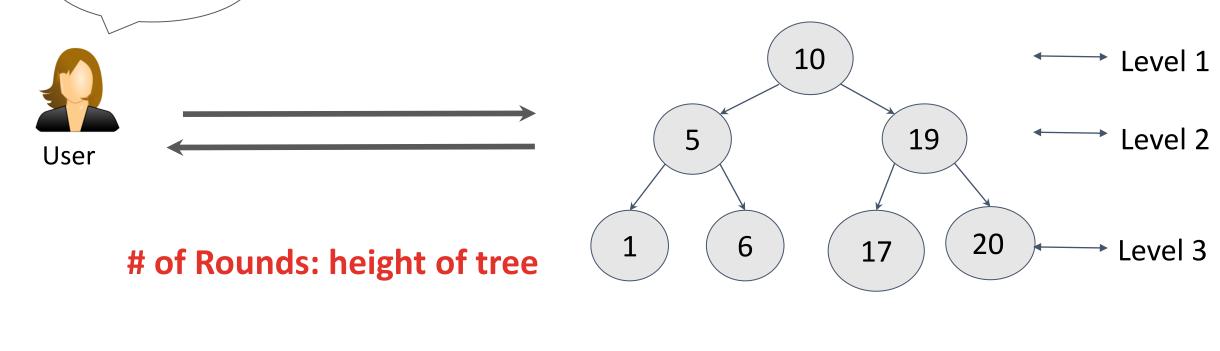
How can the client privately retrieve the value corresponding to a given key?

PIR-by-keywords: Muti-round PIR-by-index (Chor et al. TOC '98)

Does 17 exist?

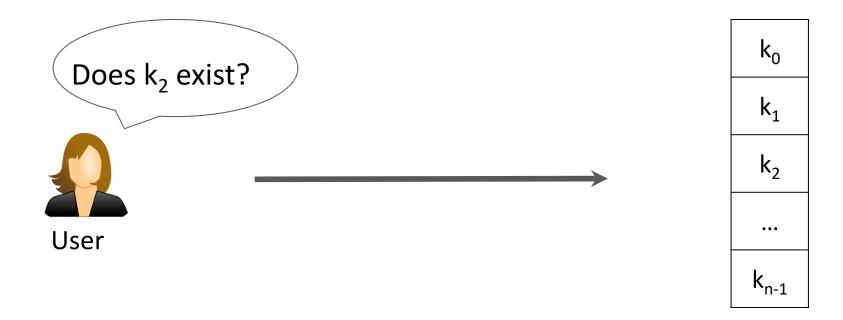
Assume keys are integers and arranged in a BST

K = {1, 5, 6, 10, 17, 19, 20}



Untrusted Server

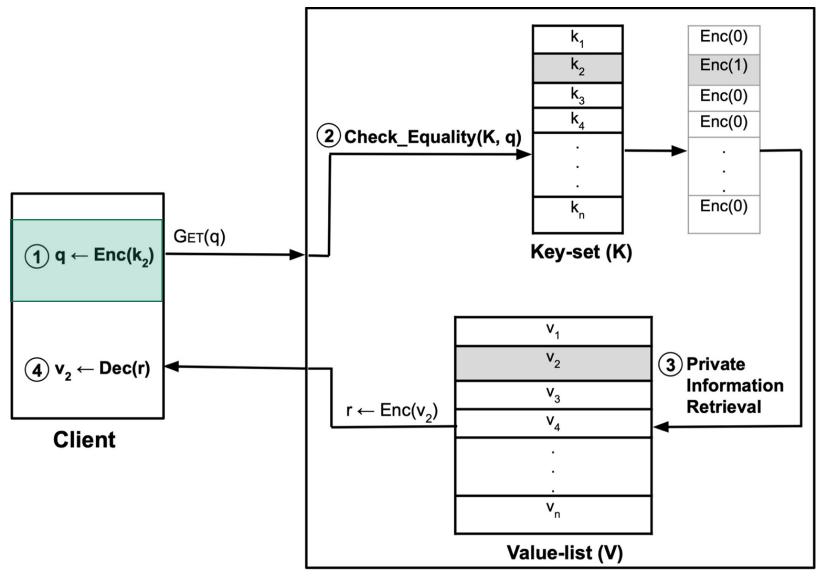
Pantheon: A single round approach for PIR-by-keywords



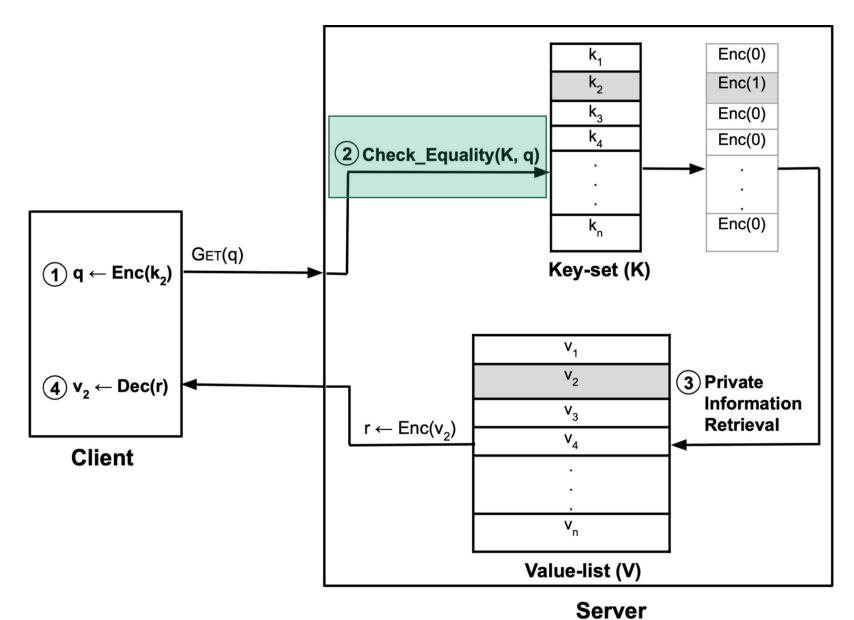
Untrusted Server

- Can we make the checking single-round?
- Can we make the user independent of the number of keys (n)?

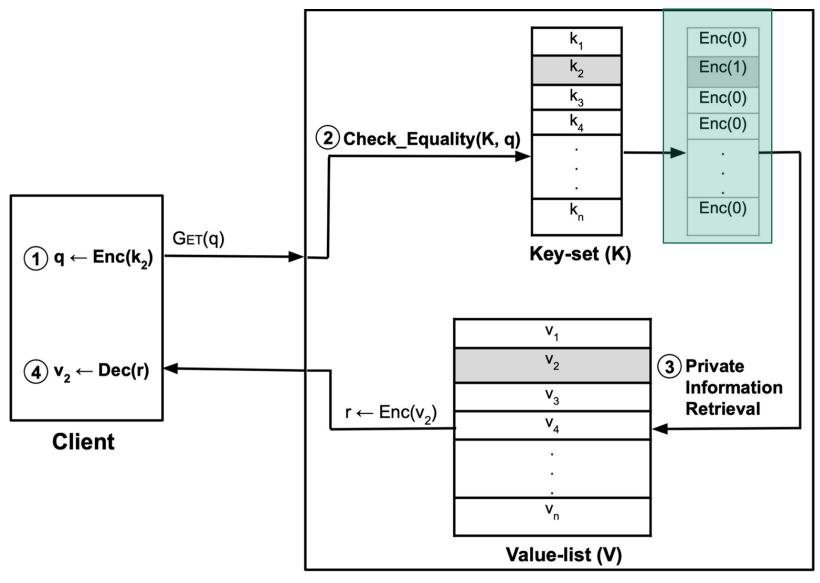




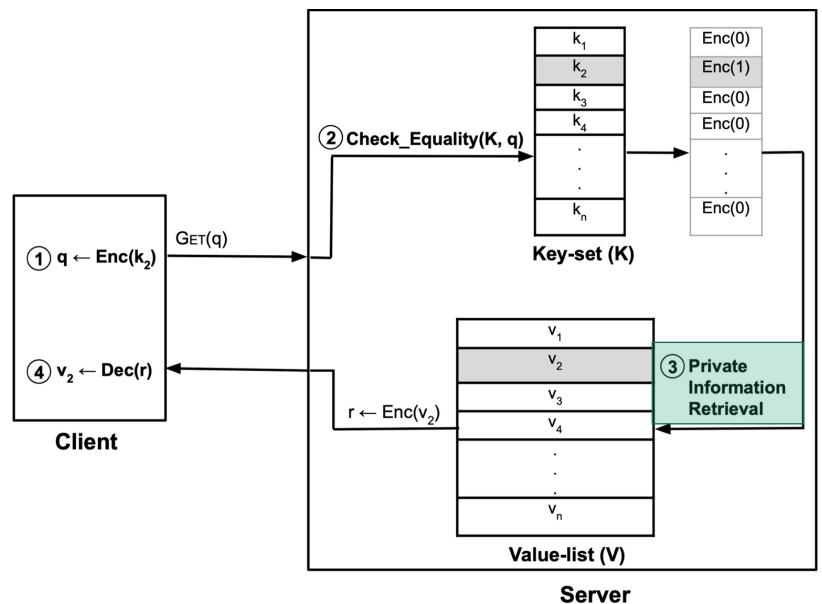




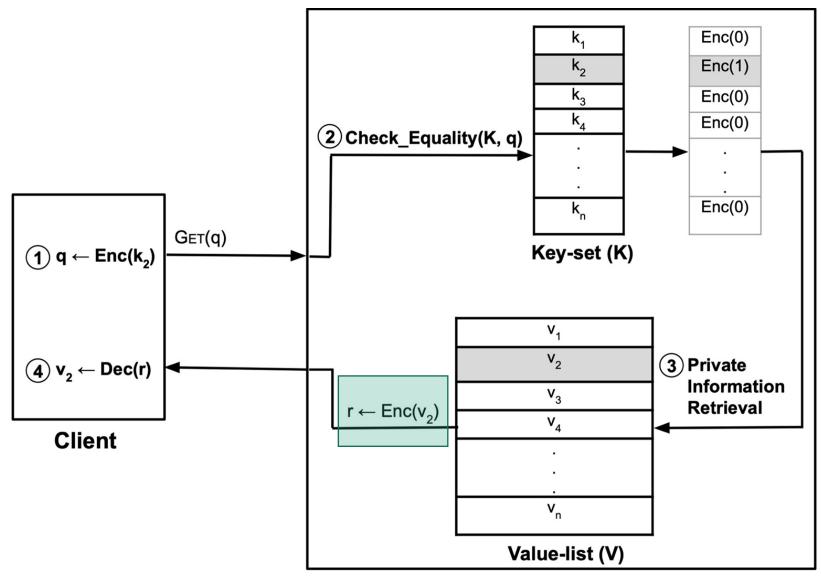




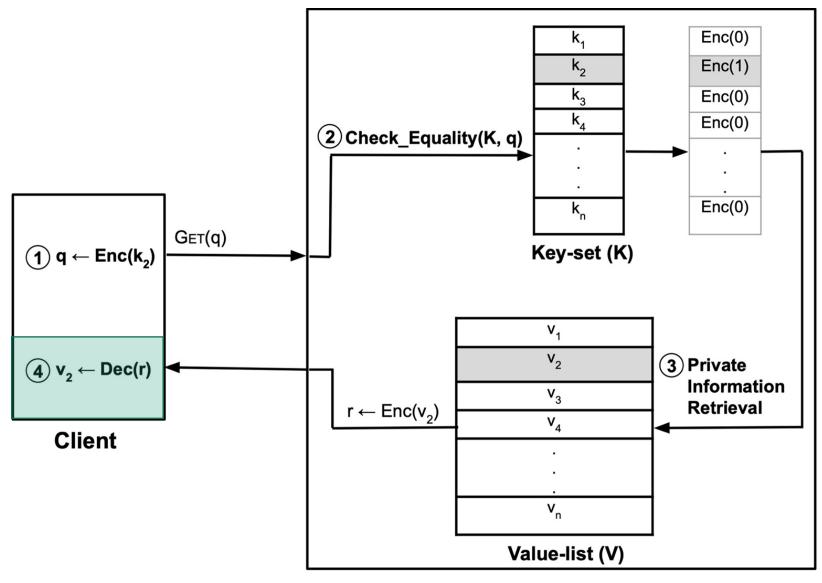




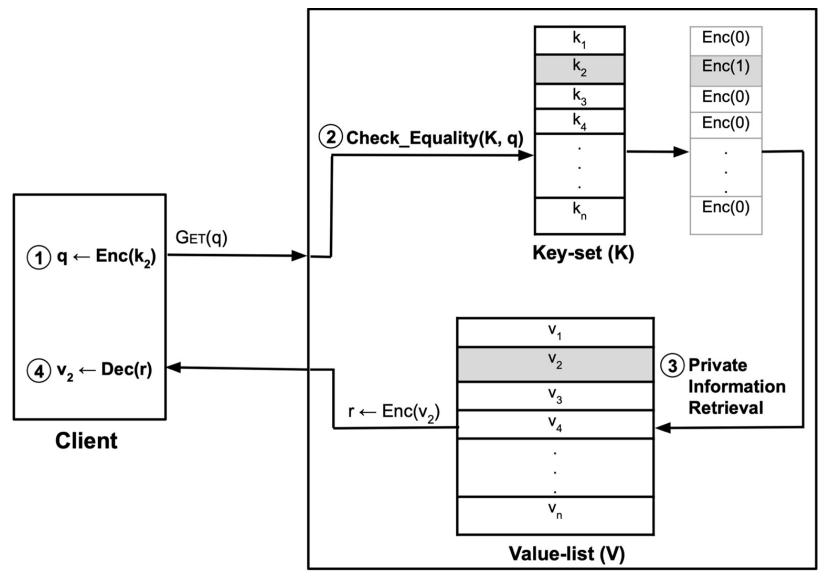














Key challenge: Checking equality obliviously

Pantheon: An efficient and scalable solution



A new approach for homomorphic equality check

- A number theoretic approach based on Fermat's little theorem
- if *p* is a prime number and *a* is a non-zero number not divisible by *p*, then,
 - $a^{(p-1)} \mod p \equiv 1$
 - Otherwise, if a is zero, then $a^{(p-1)} \mod p \equiv 0$

Enables to distinguish between zero and non-zero value!



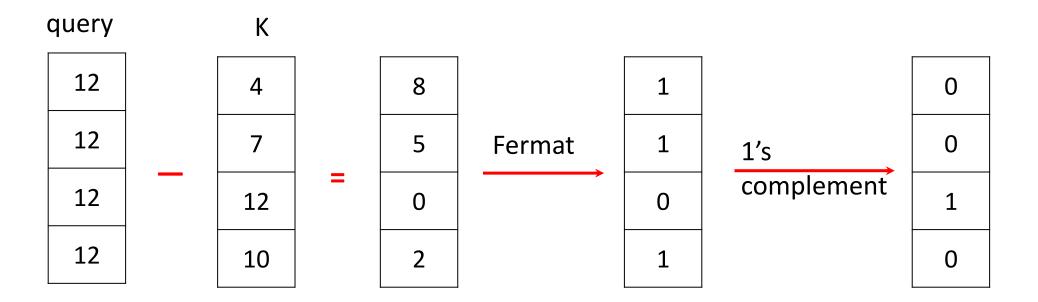
Oblivious equality checking



Step 1: Subtraction



Step 3: Complement



Additional techniques to achieve scalability

- SIMD batching to reduce homomorphic multiplications
- Optimal parameter selection to reduce homomorphic

exponentiation cost

Details available in the paper!

- Parallelization \rightarrow vertical scalability
- Coordinator-worker deployment \rightarrow horizontal scalability
- Query compression to reduce bandwidth usage



Pantheon: An efficient and scalable solution

For more details, please check VLDB 2023 paper And next Tuesday Lecture

Ahmad, Agrawal, El Abbadi, Gupta Pantheon: Private Retrieval from Public Key-Value Store.

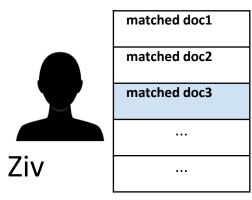
What if we don't know which document we are interested in, and want to retrieve the top-k qualifying documents obliviously from a public repository?







Ranked list



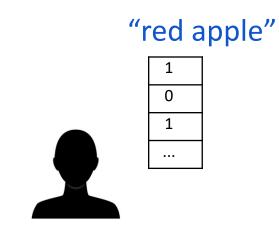


Use term frequency-Inverse document frequency (tf-idf) from Information Retrieval (IR)

"red apple" **Query Scorer** tf-idf matrix apple | bat | red 0.5 0.2 Doc1 0 ... 0.1 0.8 0.1 Doc2 ... 0.6 Doc3 0 0 ... ••• ••• ... ••• ••• ••• ••• • • •

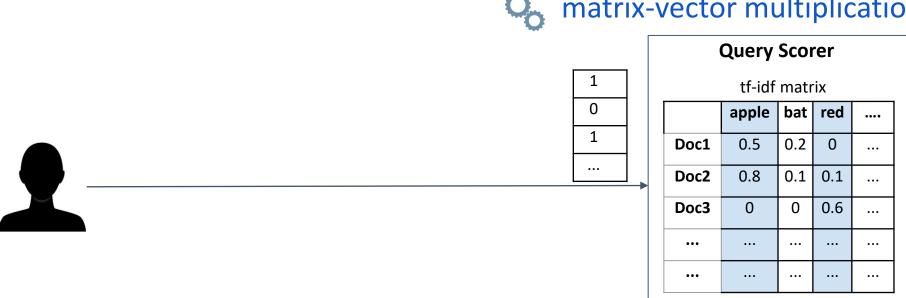


Query Scorer					
tf-idf matrix					
		apple	bat	red	
	Doc1	0.5	0.2	0	
	Doc2	0.8	0.1	0.1	
	Doc3	0	0	0.6	
	•••				
	•••				



Query Scorer				
tf-idf matrix				
	apple	bat	red	
Doc1	0.5	0.2	0	
Doc2	0.8	0.1	0.1	
Doc3	0	0	0.6	
•••				
•••				

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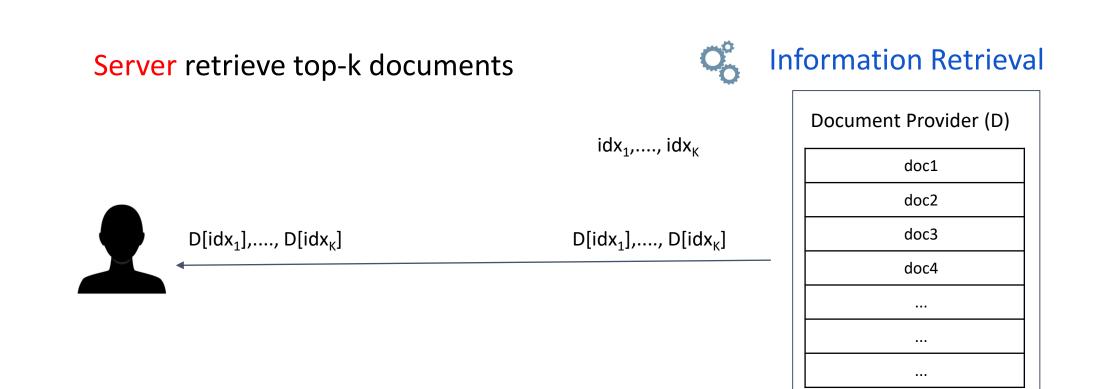
matrix-vector multiplication

	Query Scorer				
		tf-idf matrix			
		apple	bat	red	
Score1	Doc1	0.5	0.2	0	
Score2	Doc2	0.8	0.1	0.1	
Score3	Doc3	0	0	0.6	
	•••				
	•••				
			•		

Server picks top-k scores

idx₁,...., idx_K

Document Provider (D)		
doc1		
doc2		
doc3		
doc4		



Server sends top-k documents to client



Document Provider (D)		
doc1		
doc2		
doc3		
doc4		

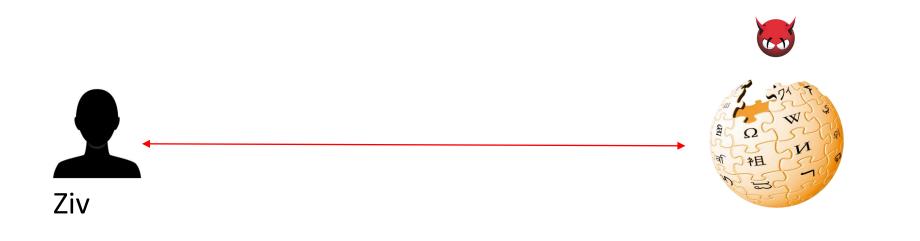
Client reads Relevant Document



Document Provider (D)		
doc1		
doc2		
doc3		
doc4		







Can Ziv search and retrieve documents privately **without trusting anybody**?

Challenges for Privacy

- User query needs to be private & server performs matrix multiplication
 - → Encrypt (using FHE) query vector
- Result scores are encrypted, so server cannot rank
 - → user needs to rank, hence multi round protocol
- Server should not know which documents are retrieved
 - → User Private Information Retrieval (PIR) at server.

Coeus achieves its performance with two key ideas

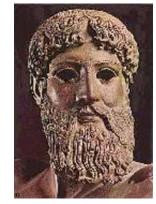
Idea 1: A novel 3-round protocol

Idea 2: Efficient large-scale secure matrix-vector multiplication

Key challenge:

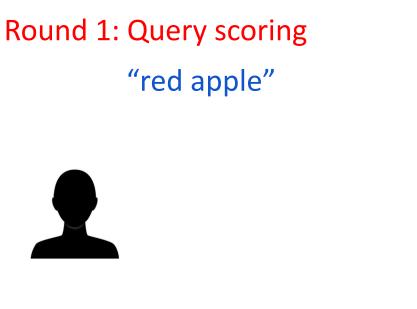
Need to process the entire state

- Millions of documents of different sizes
 - Example : 5 million Wiki articles
- Hundreds of billions of matrix entries
 - 65,536 keywords
 - Over 327 billion matrix elements



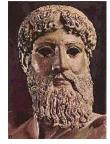
Ranking can be achieved using homomorphic encryption

Start with 2 round protocol (adopted from works on private data [1], [2])



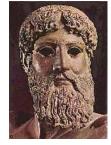
Query Scorer					
tf-idf matrix					
ĺ		apple	bat	red	
	Doc1	0.5	0.2	0	
	Doc2	0.8	0.1	0.1	
	Doc3	0	0	0.6	
	•••				
	•••				
L					

- 1. M. Strizhov and I. Ray. *Multi-keyword similarity search over encrypted cloud data*. In IFIP international information security conference, 2014.
- J. Yu, P. Lu, Y. Zhu, G. Xue, and M. Li. *Toward secure multikey-word top-k retrieval over encrypted cloud data*. IEEE transactions on dependable and secure computing, 2013



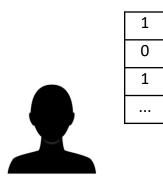
Round 1: Query scoring "red apple"

Query Scorer					
tf-idf matrix					
	apple	bat	red		
Doc1	0.5	0.2	0		
Doc2	0.8	0.1	0.1		
Doc3	0	0	0.6		
•••					
•••					

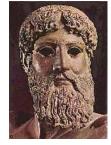


Round 1: Query scoring

"red apple"

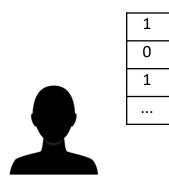


Query Scorer					
tf-idf matrix					
		apple	bat	red	
	Doc1	0.5	0.2	0	
	Doc2	0.8	0.1	0.1	
	Doc3	0	0	0.6	
	•••				
	•••				

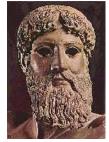


Round 1: Query scoring

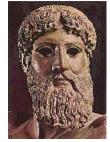
"red apple"

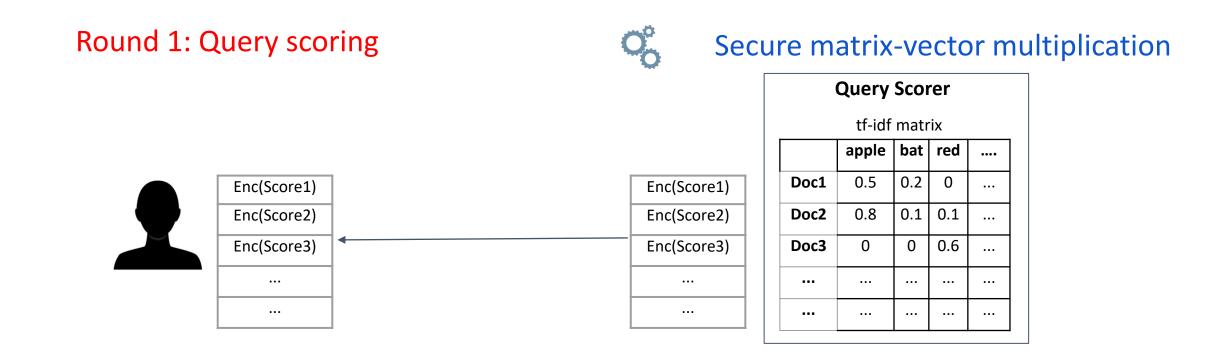


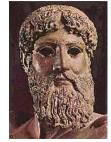
Query Scorer						
tf-idf matrix						
		apple	bat	red		
	Doc1	0.5	0.2	0		
	Doc2	0.8	0.1	0.1		
	Doc3	0	0	0.6		
	•••					
	•••					
					•	



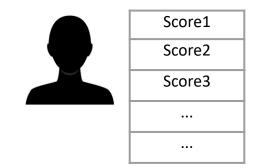
Round 1: Query scoring Secure matrix-vector multiplication **Query Scorer** 1 tf-idf matrix 0 apple bat red 1 Doc1 0.5 0.2 0 • • • ... 0.1 0.1 Doc2 0.8 ... 0.6 Doc3 0 0 ... ••• ••• ••• ••• ••• •••







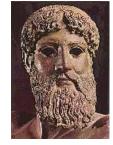
Round 1: Query scoring





Secure matrix-vector multiplication

Query Scorer					
tf-idf matrix					
	apple	bat	red		
Doc1	0.5	0.2	0		
Doc2	0.8	0.1	0.1		
Doc3	0	0	0.6		
•••					
•••					

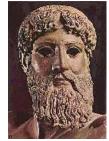


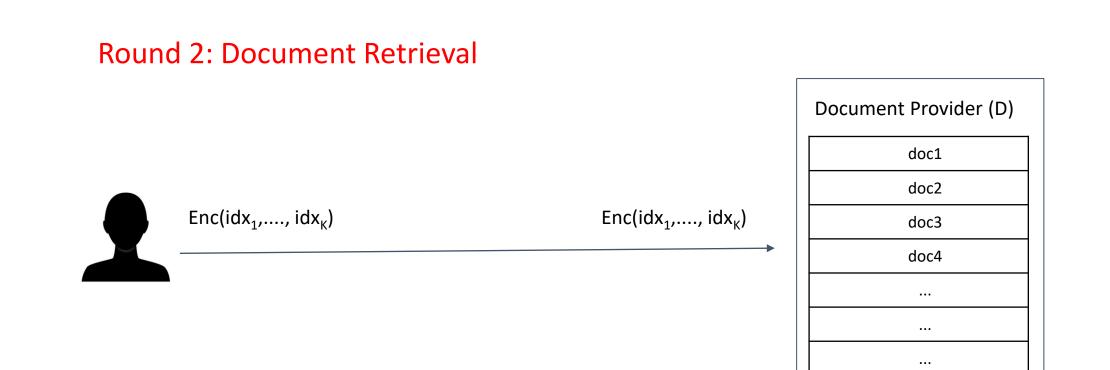
Round 1: Query scoring Pick top-k highest scores

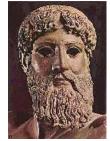


idx₁,...., idx_K

80







Round 2: Document Retrieval

 Multi-retrieval PIR, extension of PIR to download k elements privately in a single retrieval.



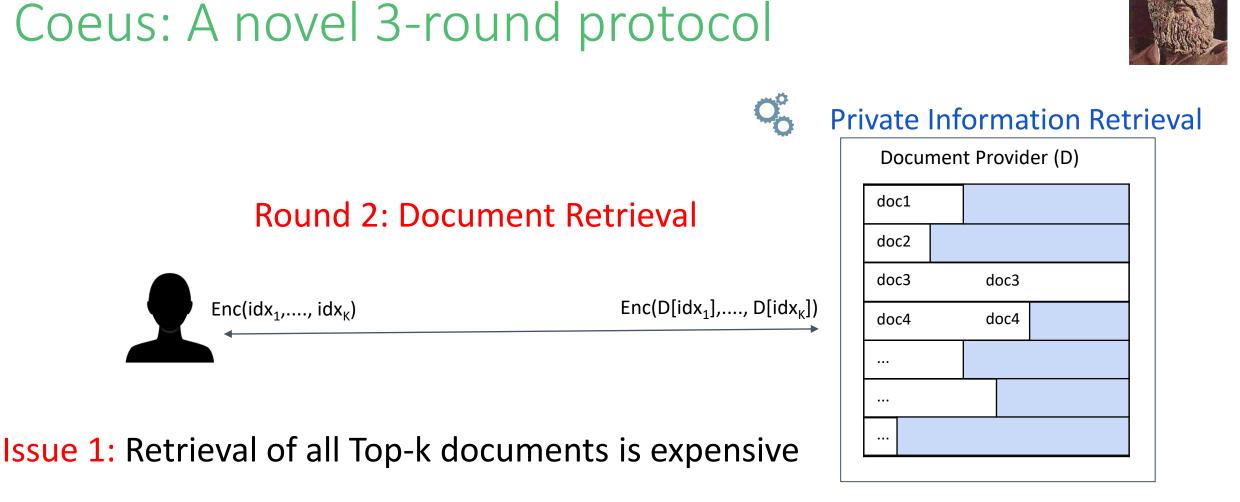
Enc(D[idx₁],..., D[idx_K])

Enc(D[ldx₁];....; D[ldx_k])

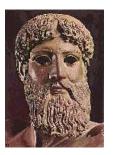


Private Information Retrieval

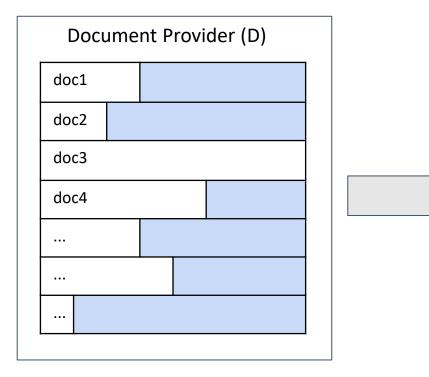
Document Provider (D)	
doc1	
doc2	
doc3	
doc4	

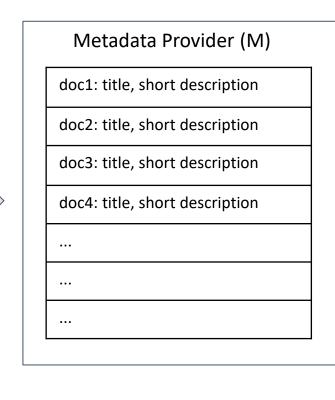


Issue 2: Documents need to be padded to the largest size for privacy



Intoduce Metadata Abstract Summary

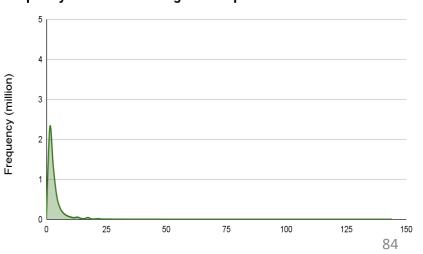




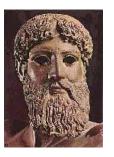
Wikipedia's Short Descriptions,

- Concise explanation of page.
- Used in Wikipedia mobile
- Helps identify desired article.
- Title: 255 Bytes
- Description: 40 Bytes

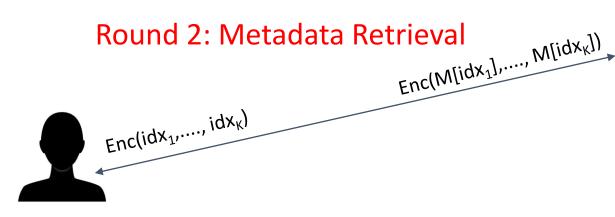




Size of compressed file (KB)



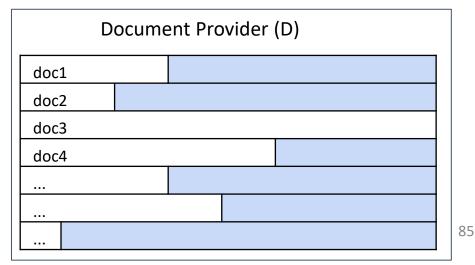
Round 2: Document Retrieval

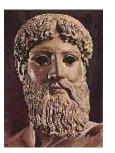


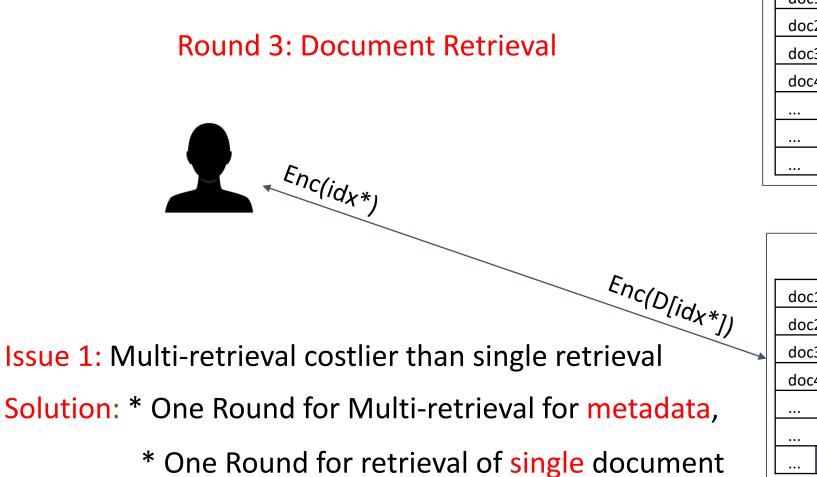
Metadata Provider (M)
doc1: title, short description
doc2: title, short description
doc3: title, short description
doc4: title, short description

Issue 1: Multi-retrieval costlier than single retrieval
Solution: * One Round for Multi-retrieval of metadata,

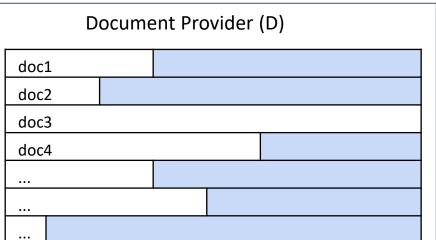
* One Round for retrieval of single document



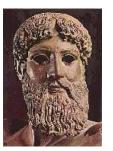




Metadata Provider (M)
doc1: title, short description
doc2: title, short description
doc3: title, short description
doc4: title, short description



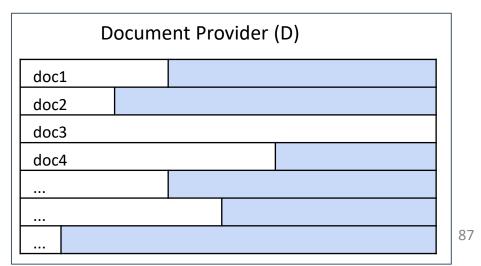
86

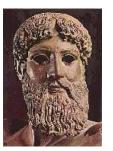


Issue 2: Documents padded to largest size

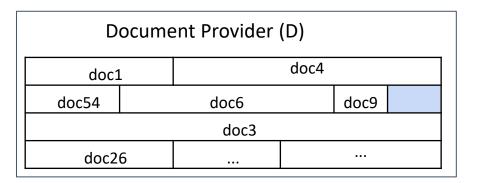
Solution: Bin-packing reduces padding

Metadata Provider (M)
doc1: title, short description
doc2: title, short description
doc3: title, short description
doc4: title, short description



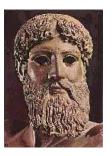


	Metadata Provider (M)			
doc1: title, short description				
	doc2: title, short description			
	doc3: title, short description			
	doc4: title, short description			



Issue 2: Documents padded to largest size

Solution: Bin-packing reduces padding

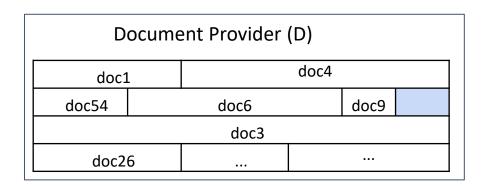


Add location in Metadata

In experiments:

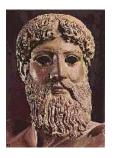
- Padding size: 670.8GiB
- Packing size: 13.1 GiB
- ~50x compaction

Metadata Provider (M)
doc1: title, short description, location
doc2: title, short description, location
doc3: title, short description, location
doc4: title, short description, location



Issue 2: Documents padded to largest size

Solution: Bin-packing reduces padding



Efficient large-scale secure matrix multiplication

Issue: Matrix contains several hundred billion elements

Solution: Optimizations on top of Halevi-Shoup algorithm

- Remove redundant calls to expensive homomorphic rotation
- Re-order operations to amortize cost of rotations
- Efficiently distribute the workload among a cluster of machines Check our SOSP 2021 paper for more details. Next Tuesday Lecture

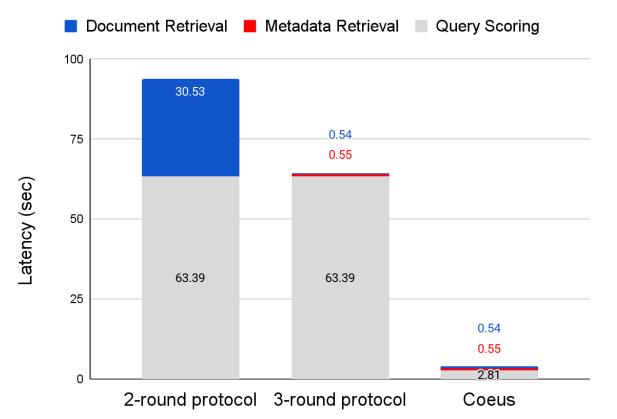
Ahmad, Sarker, Agrawal, El Abbadi, Gupta

Coeus: A System for Oblivious Document Ranking and Retrieval.

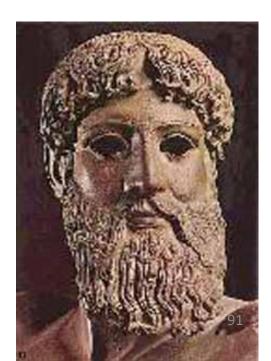
Coeus achieves its performance with two key ideas

A novel 3-round protocol

An efficient algorithm for large-scale secure matrix-vector multiplication



End-to-end latency for 5M documents



Conclusion

- Private Access of Private and Public Data
- Scalability
- Fault-tolerance
- Practical
- Efficient
- Expressive

QuORAM - Efficient Replication

- QuORAM optimizes the propagate phase by caching blocks in IncompleteCache
- Excess Blocks Blocks that TaoStore would have deleted but QuORAM can't delete because they have ongoing operations
- Challenge: Proxy's memory can theoretically grow to be unbounded!
 - Background Daemon that all blocks at a preset interval.
 - Theoretically: prove stash size is log(db size) bounded.
 - Experimentally: size < log(db size)

