



TRUSTWORTHY, PRIVACY-PRESERVING AND FUNCTIONAL DATA OUTSOURCING SYSTEMS

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Overview



Swedish healthcare advice line stored 2.7 million patient phone calls on unprotected web server





Storage-as-a service (STaaS)

Fortune 500 company leaked 264GB in client, payment data

Updated: The data leak impacted Tech Data's client servers,

Russian Government Hackers Penetrated DNC, Stole Opposition **Research on Trump**





Misuse of personal sensitive data (Facebook/Cambridge Analytica)



- Data breaches of large enterprises (Yahoo!, Sony PSN, Equifax)





Is Data Confidentiality Enough?

End-to-end encrypted systems are increasingly popular



Data is always kept encrypted, however:

- Data integrity and soundness are still concerns
- Sensitive information can still be inferred from metadata



(e.g., query/access pattern and frequency, side-channel information)

"Metadata absolutely tells you everything about somebody's life. If you have enough



metadata, you don't really need content" –

A former NSA General Counsel



Inefficient and insecure operations that leak user data and queries

Desirable Properties



Trustworthy data outsourcing services are expected to:



 $(\bigcirc) \simeq (\bigcirc)$





3. **Provide** essential **functionalities**: querying, analytics, etc.







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1. Data Intactness

- Data loss can happen due to unwanted accidents or adversarial behaviors
- A data owner/user expects the following guarantees:
 - Authenticated storage
 - Retrievability





is my data safe?



- The user can download the whole data and check it
 - High communication cost and significant overhead



• Proof of Retrievability can offer the above guarantees with small

user and/or server overhead







2. User/Data Privacy and Utilization Dilemma

- There is a dilemma between user/data privacy and utilization
- Data is encrypted



- Search query: obtain documents matching a specific keyword
- Data analytics: obtain statistical information
- There are encrypted systems with these built-in capabilities
 - Costly crypto tools (e.g., Multiparty Computation, Homomorphic Encryption)
 - Metadata leakage













2. User/Data Privacy and Utilization Dilemma

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How to support encrypted search securely and efficiently?



- Searchable Encryption (SE) was first proposed in 2000 [S&P'00]
- **Vulnerable** to many types of attack:
 - File-injection attacks
 - Keyword-guessing attacks*
 - Leakage-abuse attacks

* For public-key SE only (e.g., [EUROCRYPT'04, USENIX'22])



• There are potential attacks exploiting **metadata**. For example:







The goal of my dissertation is to efficiently resolve security, privacy, and

functionalities issues simultaneously in data outsourcing systems



Authenticated Storage











- Hardware failures
- Adversarial behaviors







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Two Decades of Proof of Retrievability (PoR)





Efficient Dynamic PoR for Cold Storage

- Research Gap:
 - Minimal audit cost: audit proof size and end-to-end audit latency
- Our Porla [NDSS'23]:
 - Minimize audit cost:
 - ✓ Audit bandwidth: $O(\log \beta)$ or O(1), where: β : data block size
 - ✓ Server/Client: $O(\lambda \log N)$
 - Maintain a reasonable update performance:
 - ✓ Server: $O(\log N)$
 - ✓ Client/Bandwidth: $O(\beta)$





 λ : security parameter

N: #data blocks





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Our Porla [NDSS'23]







• Verifiable Computation Techniques



• Support Public Audit



Porla Achievements

• $87 \times -14,012 \times$ smaller proof size than previous DPoR schemes



• $4 \times -18,000 \times$ faster audit time than prior approaches



Fig. 7: End-to-end audit delay of Porla and its counterparts.



Searchable Encryption: Motivation









E2EE provides strong security guarantees if attacker compromises server





Searchable Encryption: Motivation

 $Enc(P, doc_1)$

 $Enc(P, doc_2)$

 $Enc(\mathcal{P}, doc_n)$

Users expect the ability to execute search







Find all documents with "apple"







20 Years+ of Searchable Encryption (SE)





Improve communication, computation efficiency, and security

DB: database *N*: #documents *W*: keyword universe set *m*: keyword representation size n_s : search result size r_w : #matches



Numerous Leakage-Abuse Attacks in Searchable Encryption:

- Search Pattern: Repetition in search queries [USENIX'21, USENIX'22,
- CCS'23, USENIX'24] • Result Pattern: Repetition in matching documents [NDSS'12, CCS'15, CCS'16, NDSS'20, CCS'21, NDSS'22, USENIX'22] ight field fi
- Volume Pattern: Repetition in the number of matching documents [CCS'15,

USENIX'21, CCS'23, USENIX'24]





Our MAPLE [PETS'23]







- Hide search result pattern with search complexity O(N, m), where N is the number of documents and m is the keyword representation size
- Limited multi-user support: assume all users are trusted or control access policies based on access level

Our MAPLE [PETS'23]:

- Server search complexity: $O(N \cdot \log m)$
- Hide *all* metadata: search, result and volume patterns
- Multi-user with fine-grained access control







MAPLE

Logical read

Logical write

ORAM



- Bloom Filter to compress search index
- Oblivious Random Access Machine (ORAM)
 - Circuit ORAM
 - Oblivious Table



• Multiparty Computation





Physical read/write

	a	G	N		
	"amazon"	"google"	"netflix"		"apple"
doc 1	1 Bitmaj	0 p for keyw	1 vords in do	0 oc 2	1
doc 2	0	1	1	0	0
doc 3	1	1	0	0	0
	0	1	0	1	1
Inc N	1	0	0	1	1



MAPLE Achievements

• MAPLE is $2.6 \times -10.7 \times$ slower than DORY with BF size $\leq 2^{14}$, and starts to

outperform when BF size $\geq 2^{16}$



Figure 6: Search delay with varied BF sizes.

 2^{18}

 2^{20}



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• MAPLE is 3.3s – 7.8s slower to achieve oblivious update







Our MUSES [USENIX'24]

• Generic MPCs are powerful but expensive





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• Distributed computations specifically designed for a particular computation

task are more efficient

Our MUSES [USENIX'24]:

• Hide *all* statistical information:

search, result, and volume patterns

• Minimal user overhead for search and

permission revocation



[USENIX'24] **Tung Le**, Rouzbeh Behnia, Jorge Guajardo, and <u>Thang Hoang</u>. "MUSES: Efficient Multi-User Searchable Encrypted Database." In USENIX 21 Security Symposium (USENIX Security 2024), Philadelphia, PA, August 2024.



 $\boldsymbol{d} = \boldsymbol{d}_1 + \boldsymbol{d}_2 + \boldsymbol{d}_3 =$

 π_1

 π_2

 $d' = \pi_2(\pi_1(d)) =$

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Server ²

Server 2

Server 3

 $d_1 =$

 $d_{2} =$

 $d_3 =$

(●)

• Our Multiparty Oblivious Shuffling

Server 2

Server 3

Reader

 $s = s_1 + s_2 + s_3$

MUSES Achievements: Keyword Search





 $12 \times -97 \times$ smaller than DORY (hide patterns), $6 \times$ larger than FP-HSE (leak patterns)

End-to-end latency:

 $2 \times -4 \times$ faster than DORY, $127 \times -632 \times$ faster than FP-HSE









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Writer's bandwidth:

 $2\times-150\times$ smaller than DORY/FP-HSE

End-to-end latency:

 $2 \times -6 \times$ faster than DORY/FP-HSE



Figure 7: Permission revocation performance (log scale on y-axis).

Writer's latency:

 $12 \times -9600 \times \text{faster than DORY/FP-HSE}$





Figure 8: E2E permission revocation delay (log scale on y-axis).

Ongoing Work

- Our prior work relies on distributed computation for secure search
 - Expensive deployment and maintenance cost
- PKSE [EUROCRYPT'04, USENIX'22] can support multi-user more naturally in practical settings (e.g., email, messaging)
- Many open problems:
 - Keyword-guessing attacks
 - Inefficient forward privacy
 - High server computation cost for search
- This work addresses the above fundamental security and performance issues











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Future Work



- Pattern leakages in PKSE have been unexplored so far
 Image: A start of the start of
- We aim to resolve pattern-leakage attacks in public-key settings
 - while maintaining/improving efficiency









Conclusion

• My dissertation aims to:



- Design an authenticated and retrievable data storage system
- Address user/data privacy and utilization dilemma: provide efficient search functionality while preventing information leakage
- All are essential to build practical encrypted data outsourcing systems providing high performance and security guarantees



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION







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