# The Complexity of Secure RAMs 

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## Cloud Storage (simplified)

The perfect marriage of two parties

- The Data Owner $\mathcal{O}$ :
owns large amount of data and not enough local storage
- The Storage Manager $\mathcal{M}$ :
owns large amount of storage and not enough data


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no problem. we can go home now.

Lack of trust is much more interesting.

## Enter Encryption

$\mathcal{O}$ does not trust $\mathcal{M}$ because $\mathcal{O}$ 's data contain personal data.

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Data is

- encrypted before being uploaded to $\mathcal{M}$
- decrypted when downloaded from $\mathcal{M}$


## Are we done?

What if $\mathcal{O}$ wants to run an algorithm on the encrypted data? Running an algorithm might reveal information on the data.

Suppose $\mathcal{O}$ wants to sort the data.

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## Example

4 customers must be sorted according to revenue.

| $\mathrm{A} ; 200$ | $\mathrm{~B} ; 300$ | $\mathrm{C} ; 100 \quad \mathrm{D} ; 150$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

download 1 and 3. decrypt, swap if out of order, re-encrypt, upload.

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| $\mathrm{C} ; 100$ | $\mathrm{D} ; 150 \quad \mathrm{~A} ; 200 \quad \mathrm{~B} ; 300$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

## Security

Can $\mathcal{M}$ link the first record in the starting configuration to its position in the last configuration?


## Two Concepts

Indistinguishability of Swap or Not

- Download, Decrypt, Swap or Not, Re-encrypt, Upload


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## Indistinguishability of Swap or Not

- Download, Decrypt, Swap or Not, Re-encrypt, Upload

Chosen-Plaintext Security: Standard notion of security for encryption guarantee that $\mathcal{M}$ is unable to infere whether a swap has taken place.

## Enter Obliviousness

## Definition (Weak Obliviousness)

An algorithm is weakly oblivious if the access pattern to data is the same for all possible inputs of the same length.


Thanks to Wikipedia for the image

## The adversarial setting



$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathcal{M} \\
\mathcal{O}
\end{gathered}
$$

## The adversarial setting



Download one or more blocks
M
$\mathcal{O}$

## The adversarial setting



## The adversarial setting



## The adversarial setting



## The adversarial setting



## The adversarial setting



## The adversarial setting



## A new industry

Job Opportunities for Algorithmists

- Re-design all algorithms to be oblivious!
- Remove all ifs, and whiles
- Insertion Sort is not oblivious: when the last element of the array is inserted, $\mathcal{M}$ sees where it lands


## Hiding the Algorithm

A new threat

- which algorithm is being run should also be private information

$$
\begin{array}{llll}
\mathrm{A} ; 200 & \mathrm{~B} ; 300 & \mathrm{C} ; 100 & \mathrm{D} ; 150
\end{array}
$$

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## Enter Oblivious RAM

## ORAM [Goldreich-Ostrovsky]

- $\mathcal{M}$ stores $n$ blocks of memory.
- Every time $\mathcal{O}$ wants a block, he asks $\mathcal{M}$ one or more blocks.
- Security notion:
- For any two block sequences $\mathbb{B}=B_{1}, \ldots, B_{n}$ and $\mathbb{C}=C_{1}, \ldots, C_{n}$

For any two access sequences $I=\left(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{l}\right)$ and $J=\left(j_{1}, \ldots, j_{l}\right)$

* performing accesses $i_{1}, \ldots, i_{\text {}}$ on $\mathbb{B}=B_{1}, \ldots, B_{n}$;
* performing access $j_{1}, \ldots, j_{l}$ on $\mathbb{C}=C_{1}, \ldots, C_{n}$
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* performing access $j_{1}, \ldots, j_{l}$ on $\mathbb{C}=C_{1}, \ldots, C_{n}$
generate the same distribution of accesses to the data stored by $\mathcal{M}$
For every predicate $A$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{Prob}[\text { view } \leftarrow \operatorname{View}(I, \mathbb{B}): A(\text { view })=1] \\
& \quad \leq e^{0} \cdot \operatorname{Prob}[\operatorname{view} \leftarrow \operatorname{View}(J, \mathbb{C}): A(\text { view })=1]+\operatorname{neg}(n)
\end{aligned}
$$

## ORAM makes all Algorithms Oblivious

Composing ORAM and Non-Oblivious Algorithms

- $\mathcal{O}$ runs the algorithm
- when a block of memory is requested, $\mathcal{O}$ retrieves it from $\mathcal{M}$ using ORAM.


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Is ORAM possible at all?

## Yes! This is possible!

A Trivial ORAM

- All blocks are uploaded to $\mathcal{M}$ in encrypted form.

- Every time $\mathcal{O}$ needs to access block $B_{i}$, all the blocks are downloaded and all except for $B_{i}$ are discarded.


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| $B_{1}$ | $B_{2}$ | $B_{3}$ | $B_{4}$ | $B_{5}$ | $B_{6}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

- Every time $\mathcal{O}$ needs to access block $B_{i}$, all the blocks are downloaded and all except for $B_{i}$ are discarded.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Accessing block } B_{3} \\
B_{1} \\
B_{2} \\
B_{3} \\
B_{4} \\
B_{5} \\
B_{6}
\end{gathered}
$$

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| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

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$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Accessing block } B_{3} \\
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline B_{1} & B_{2} & B_{3} & B_{4} & B_{5} \\
\hline & B_{6} \\
\cline { 1 - 6 } & & & B_{6} \\
\hline
\end{array}
\end{gathered}
$$

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- All blocks are uploaded to $\mathcal{M}$ in encrypted form.

| $B_{1}$ | $B_{2}$ | $B_{3}$ | $B_{4}$ | $B_{5}$ | $B_{6}$ |
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\begin{gathered}
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\begin{array}{l}
B_{1} \\
B_{2} \\
B_{3} \\
B_{4} \\
B_{3}
\end{array} \\
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$$

Access pattern independent from the block accessed but...

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| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

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$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Accessing block } B_{3} \\
\begin{array}{|l|l|l|l|}
B_{1} & B_{2} & B_{3} & B_{4} \\
B_{5} & B_{6} \\
B_{3}
\end{array}
\end{gathered}
$$

Access pattern independent from the block accessed but...

First try

## Can this be made efficient?

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## First try: Initialization

- permute blocks according to permutation $\pi$
an encryption of $B_{i}$ is uploaded in position $\pi(i)$;

$$
\begin{array}{|l|lllll}
\hline B_{1} & B_{2} & B_{3} & B_{4} & B_{5} & B_{6} \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

- $\mathcal{O}$ keeps $\pi$ private;


## First try

## Can this be made efficient?

## First try: Initialization

- permute blocks according to permutation $\pi$
- an encryption of $B_{i}$ is uploaded in position $\pi(i)$;

$$
\begin{array}{|llllll}
B_{2} & B_{4} & B_{3} & B_{6} & B_{1} & B_{5} \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

- $\mathcal{O}$ keeps $\pi$ private;


## First try

## Can this be made efficient?

First try: Reading block i

- ask $\mathcal{M}$ for block in position $\pi(i)$;
- decrypt to obtain $B_{i}$;
- re-encrypt and upload in position $\pi(i)$;



## First try

## Can this be made efficient?

First try: Reading block i

- ask $\mathcal{M}$ for block in position $\pi(i)$;
- decrypt to obtain $B_{i}$;
- re-encrypt and upload in position $\pi(i)$;



## First try: Security

Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{3}$
Accessing block $B_{1}$

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $B_{2}$ | $B_{4}$ | $B_{3}$ | $B_{6}$ | $B_{1}$ | $B_{5}$ |

Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}$ :

## First try: Security

Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{3}$
Accessing block $B_{1}$


Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}: 5$

## First try: Security

Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{3}$
Accessing block $B_{2}$

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $B_{2}$ | $B_{4}$ | $B_{3}$ | $B_{6}$ | $B_{1}$ | $B_{5}$ |

Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}: 5$

## First try: Security

Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{3}$
Accessing block $B_{2}$


Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}: 5,1$

## First try: Security

Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{3}$
Accessing block $B_{3}$

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $B_{2}$ | $B_{4}$ | $B_{3}$ | $B_{6}$ | $B_{1}$ | $B_{5}$ |

Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}: 5,1$

## First try: Security

Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{3}$
Accessing block $B_{3}$


$$
B_{3}
$$

Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}: 5,1,3$

## First try: Security

Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{3}$

$$
\begin{array}{ccccccc|}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\
\hline B_{2} & B_{4} & B_{3} & B_{6} & B_{1} & B_{5} \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}: x, y, z$

## First try: Security

Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{1}$
Accessing block $B_{1}$

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $B_{2}$ | $B_{4}$ | $B_{3}$ | $B_{6}$ | $B_{1}$ | $B_{5}$ |

Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}$ :

## First try: Security

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Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}: 5$

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Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{1}$
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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $B_{2}$ | $B_{4}$ | $B_{3}$ | $B_{6}$ | $B_{1}$ | $B_{5}$ |

Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}: 5$

## First try: Security

Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{1}$

| Accessing blockB <br> 1 <br> 1 |
| :--- |

## First try: Security

Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{1}$


Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}: 5,1$

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Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{1}$
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Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}: 5,1,5$

## First try: Security

Access sequence: $B_{1}, B_{2}, B_{1}$

Access pattern seen by $\mathcal{M}: x, y, x$

## Hiding the Repetition Pattern

## Initialization for $N$ blocks

(1) $N$ real blocks $B_{1}, \ldots, B_{N}$;
(2) create $M$ dummy blocks $B_{N+1}, \ldots, B_{N+M}$;
(3) create $M$ stash blocks $S_{1}, \ldots, S_{M}$ initialized to 0 ;
(9) pick a random permutation $\pi$ over $[N+M]$;
(5) permute real and dummy blocks according to permutation $\pi$ - an encryption of $B_{i}$ is uploaded in position $\pi(i)$;
(0) upload all stash blocks in encrypted form;
(3) initialize $n \times t=1$, cnt $=1$;
(8) $\pi$ is kept private;

## Initial Configuration



## Initial Configuration



## Initial Configuration



## Initial Configuration



## Reading Block $B_{i}$

(1) download and decrypt all $M$ blocks in the Stash;
(2) if $B_{i}$ is found in the Stash then
download dummy block $\pi(N+$ cnt $)$;
set cnt $=\mathrm{cnt}+1$;
else
download encrypted real block in position $\pi(i)$; decrypt and obtain real block $B_{i}$;
set next available Stash block $S_{n \times t}=B_{i}$;
set $n x t=n x t+1$;
(3) re-encrypt and upload all blocks in the Stash;

## Reading Block $B_{1}$

Download and decrypt all blocks from Stash


## Reading Block $B_{1}$

Download and decrypt all blocks from Stash

$B_{1}$ is not found in the stash

## Reading Block $B_{1}$

Download block in position $\pi(1)$


## Reading Block $B_{1}$

Download block in position $\pi(1)$


Decrypt and obtain $B_{1}$

## Reading Block $B_{1}$

Copy $B_{1}$ in the Stash at position nxt

$\mathcal{M}$
$\mathcal{O}$

$$
\mathrm{cnt}=1 \quad \mathrm{nxt}=2 \quad \pi
$$



## Reading Block $B_{1}$

## Copy $B_{1}$ in the Stash at position nxt



## Reading Block $B_{2}$

Download and decrypt all blocks from Stash


## Reading Block $B_{2}$

Download and decrypt all blocks from Stash

$B_{2}$ is not found in the Stash

## Reading Block $B_{2}$

Download block in position $\pi(2)$


## Reading Block $B_{2}$

Download block in position $\pi(2)$


Decrypt and obtain $B_{2}$

## Reading Block $B_{2}$

Copy $B_{2}$ in the Stash at position $n \times t$

$\mathcal{M}$
$\mathcal{O}$


$$
\mathrm{cnt}=1 \quad \mathrm{nxt}=3
$$

$$
\pi
$$

## Reading Block $B_{2}$

## Copy $B_{2}$ in the Stash at position nxt



M
$\mathcal{O}$

$\square$
$n \times t=3$
$\pi$

Encrypt and Upload the Stash

## Reading Block $B_{2}$

## Copy $B_{2}$ in the Stash at position nxt



## Status after reading $B_{1}$ and $B_{2}$



M
$\mathcal{O}$

$$
\mathrm{cnt}=1 \quad \mathrm{n} \times \mathrm{t}=2
$$

## Status after reading $B_{1}$ and $B_{2}$

Now read $B_{1}$ again

$\mathcal{M}$
$\mathcal{O}$

$$
\mathrm{cnt}=1 \quad \mathrm{n} x \mathrm{t}=2
$$

## Status after reading $B_{1}$ and $B_{2}$

## Download and decrypt all blocks from Stash



## Status after reading $B_{1}$ and $B_{2}$

Download and decrypt all blocks from Stash

$B_{1}$ is found in the Stash

## Reading Block $B_{1}$ (again)

Download block in position $\pi(N+\mathrm{cnt})$


$$
\pi(N+1)
$$

M
$\mathcal{O}$
$B_{1} B_{2} \cdots 0$

$$
\mathrm{cnt}=1 \quad \mathrm{nxt}=2
$$

## Reading Block $B_{1}$ (again)

Download block in position $\pi(N+$ cnt $)$


No need to decrypt

## Reading Block $B_{1}$ (again)

Download block in position $\pi(N+$ cnt $)$


## Why is this oblivious?

Independently from the operation, we have the following

- Download stash
- Download a random location that has not been downloaded yet
- Upload re-encrypted stash


## Two issues to be dealt with

- What happens when the Stash is full?


## Two issues to be dealt with

- What happens when the Stash is full?
- How much memory does $\mathcal{O}$ need?
needs to store cnt and nxt: $\Theta(1)$ memory; $\pi$ needs $O(N)$ memory.


## Overflowing the Stash

M $\mathcal{O}$

$$
\mathrm{cnt}
$$

## $n \times t$

## Overflowing the Stash

M
$\mathcal{O}$

Randomly select a new permutation $\sigma$

## Overflowing the Stash

M $\mathcal{O}$

$$
\mathrm{cnt}
$$

## $n \times t$

$\sigma$

## Overflowing the Stash



## Overflowing the Stash

$$
\begin{array}{|l|l|lllll|l|l|l|l|l|l|}
\hline B_{17} & 0 & B_{9} & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & B_{4} & B_{5} & \cdots & 0 \\
\hline 14 & & & B_{1} & B_{2} & \cdots & 0 \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

M $\mathcal{O}$

Tag it with $\sigma(17)$ encrypt and upload
$\square$ nxt $\sigma$

## Overflowing the Stash



## Overflowing the Stash

M $\mathcal{O}$

Tag it with $\infty$ encrypt and upload

$$
\mathrm{cnt}
$$

$$
\mathrm{nxt}
$$

```
\(\sigma\)
```


## Overflowing the Stash

| $B_{17}$ | 0 | $B_{9}$ | $\cdots$ | 0 | $\cdots$ | $B_{4}$ | $B_{5}$ | $\cdots$ | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 14 | $\infty$ | 11 |  | $\infty$ |  | $B_{1}$ $B_{2}$ $\cdots$ 0 <br> 2 1  $\infty$ <br> 8 3  $\infty$ |  |  |  |

M $\mathcal{O}$

Obliviously sort according to tags

## Overflowing the Stash

$$
\begin{array}{l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|}
B_{5} & B_{4} & B_{2} & \cdots & \cdots & B_{9} & \cdots \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

$\mathcal{M}$
$\mathcal{O}$

$$
\mathrm{cnt}=1 \quad \mathrm{nxt}=1 \quad \sigma
$$

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Using AKS to sort.
In practice $\sqrt{N} \cdot \log ^{2} N$.

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One possible setting:

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## Keep the stash in $\mathcal{O}$ 's memory

```
- Jump ahead
```


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But now we have more ORAMs!!!

## M <br> $\mathcal{O}$

$N$ blocks of data
$B_{1} B_{2} \quad B_{3} \ldots B_{N}$


## M

$\mathcal{O}$

## $\rho N$ blocks of stash

| 0 | 0 | 0 | $\cdots$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



## M

$\mathcal{O}$
$\rho^{2} N$ blocks of stash

| 0 | 0 | $\cdots$ | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



## M <br> $\mathcal{O}$ <br> $\rho^{3} N$ blocks of stash




## M <br> $\mathcal{O}$ <br> $\rho^{3} N$ blocks of stash



$\mathcal{M}$
$\mathcal{O}$
$\sqrt{N}$ blocks of stash $\quad \rho=N^{-1 / 6}$
$0 \cdots 0$

$\mathcal{M}$
$\mathcal{O}$
$\sqrt{N}$ blocks of stash
$0 \cdots 0$


M
$\mathcal{O}$
$\sqrt{N}$ blocks of stash

$$
0 \quad \cdots \quad 0 \quad \text { Level } 0
$$

## Position Map

$\left(\right.$ lev $\left._{\mathrm{i}}, \mathrm{pos}_{\mathrm{i}}\right) i=1, \ldots, N$

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- For $N=10^{6}, 21$ Blocks
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## Asymptotics

Hierarchical Approach with constant client memory

- $O\left(\log ^{3} N\right)$ - Goldreich-Ostrovsky 1987-1990
- $O\left(\left(\log ^{2} N\right) / \log \log N\right)$ - Kushilevitz-Lu-Ostrovsky 2012
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$\Omega(\log (N / C))$ - Larsen-Nielsen 2018


## Differential Privacy

( $\epsilon, \delta$ )-Differential Privacy

- $\mathcal{M}$ stores $n$ blocks of memory.
- Every time $\mathcal{O}$ wants a block, he asks $\mathcal{M}$ one or more blocks.
- Security notion:

For any two block sequences $\mathbb{B}=B_{1}, \ldots, B_{n}$ and $\mathbb{C}=C_{1}, \ldots, C_{n}$ For any two access sequences $i_{1}, \ldots, i_{l}$ and $j_{1}, \ldots, j_{l}$ that differ in one position

* performing access $i_{1}, \ldots, i_{\text {}}$, on $\mathbb{B}=B_{1}, \ldots, B_{n}$;
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$\Omega(\log (N / C))$ - P-Yeo 2019

## The snapshot adversary

the Server is the adversary
Snapshot Adversary
Du, Genkin, Grubbs, 2022

- The adversary gets control of the Server for $L$ consecutive operations Slowdown $O(\log L)$


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What if the adversary is active for more than one window?

## The snapshot adversary

Snapshot window $(t, \ell)$

- A snapshot window of length $\ell$ starting at time $t$.
- The adversary receives
snapshot of server memory content before operation $t$ has been executed
transcript of server's operations for the following $\ell$ operations that take place at times $t, t+1, \ldots, t+\ell-1$.
- For $\ell=0$, only memory content before operation $t$.

A (S, L)-snapshot adversary
Specifies a sequence of snaspshot windows $\mathcal{S}=\left(\left(t_{1}, \ell_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(t_{s}, \ell_{s}\right)\right)$ such that

- $s \leq S$, at most $S$ windows,
at most $S$ snapshots
- $\sum \ell_{i} \leq L$, for a total duration of at most $L$ operations at most $L$ transcripts


## The Lower Bound

## Theorem (P-Yeo 23)

For any $0 \leq \epsilon \leq 1 / 16$, let DS be a $(3,1, \epsilon)$-snapshot private RAM data structure for $n$ entries each of $b$ bits implemented over $w=\Omega(\log n)$ bits using client storage of $c$ bits in the cell probe model. If DS has amortized write time $t_{w}$ and expected amortized read time $t_{r}$ with failure probability at most $1 / 3$, then

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t_{r}+t_{w}=\Omega(b / w \cdot \log (n b / c))
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$n$ logical blocks of $b$ bits

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$w<b$ is size physical words

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Client has $c$ bits of local memory

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Adversary receives at most 3 memory snapshots and 1 operation transcript

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$\epsilon$ is the adversary's advantage in the security game

## The security game

## $\operatorname{Expt}_{\mathrm{DS}, \mathcal{A}}^{n, \beta}$

- Receive $\left(O_{0}, O_{1},\left(\left(t_{1}, \ell_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(t_{s}, \ell_{s}\right)\right)\right)$ from $\mathcal{A}_{0}\left(1^{n}\right)$.
- Set $\mathcal{L} \leftarrow \emptyset, \mathrm{DS} \leftarrow\left(R_{1}, \ldots, R_{n}\right), i \leftarrow 1$.
- While $i \leq\left|O_{\beta}\right|$ :
- If $i=t_{j}$ for some $1 \leq j \leq s$ :
$\star$ Set $\mathcal{L} \leftarrow \mathcal{L} \|$ (memory, $M$ ).
$\star$ For $k=1, \ldots, \ell_{j}$ :
Execute $\operatorname{DS}^{\text {LRead, LWrite }}\left(O_{b}[i]\right)$ and set $i \leftarrow i+1$.
- Else:

```
Execute DS Read,Write}(\mp@subsup{O}{b}{}[i])\mathrm{ and set }i\leftarrowi+1
```

- Return $\mathcal{A}_{1}(\mathcal{L})$.

$$
\left|\operatorname{Pr}\left[\operatorname{Expt}_{\mathrm{DS}, \mathcal{A}}^{n, 0}=1\right]-\operatorname{Pr}\left[\operatorname{Expt}_{\mathrm{DS}, \mathcal{A}}^{n, 1}=1\right]\right| \leq \epsilon,
$$

for all PPT $\mathcal{A}$ that are $(S, L)$-snapshot adversaries.

## The Epoch structure

The sequence and the epochs

- n logical indices
- $m \leftarrow\{n / 2+1, \ldots, n\}$
- $m$ writes of random $b$-bit blocks at indices $1,2, \ldots, m$
- followed by one read.



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- Two sequences of operations $O_{0}, O_{1}$


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this holds for all epochs except for those that have fewer than $c / b$ writes.
- we have a lower bound $\Omega(b / w \cdot \log (n b / c))$


## A (3, 1)-snapshot adversary - Part 0

$\mathcal{A}_{0}^{i}\left(1^{n}\right)$

- Randomly select integer $m$ from $[n / 2, n]$.
- Randomly and ind. select $B_{1}, \ldots, B_{m} \leftarrow\{0,1\}^{b}$.
- Set $O_{0}=\left(\right.$ write $\left(1, \mathrm{~B}_{1}\right), \ldots$, write $\left(m, \mathrm{~B}_{m}\right)$, read $\left.(m)\right)$.
- Randomly select $j \in\left[p_{i}, p_{i}+r^{i}-1\right]$,
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- Set $\mathcal{S}=\left(\left(p_{i}, 0\right),\left(p_{i}+r^{i}, 0\right),(m+1,1)\right)$.
- Return $\left(O_{0}, O_{1}, S\right)$.


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- Return $\left(O_{0}, O_{1}, S\right)$.
- $\left(p_{i}, 0\right)$ : snapshot of server memory before epoch $i$


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- Randomly and ind. select $B_{1}, \ldots, B_{m} \leftarrow\{0,1\}^{b}$.
- Set $O_{0}=\left(\right.$ write $\left(1, \mathrm{~B}_{1}\right), \ldots$, write $\left(m, \mathrm{~B}_{m}\right)$, read $\left.(m)\right)$.
- Randomly select $j \in\left[p_{i}, p_{i}+r^{i}-1\right]$,
- Set $O_{1}=\left(\right.$ write $\left(1, B_{1}\right), \ldots$ write $\left(m, B_{m}\right)$, read $\left.(j)\right)$.
- Set $\mathcal{S}=\left(\left(p_{i}, 0\right),\left(p_{i}+r^{i}, 0\right),(m+1,1)\right)$.
- Return $\left(O_{0}, O_{1}, S\right)$.
- $\left(p_{i}, 0\right)$ : snapshot of server memory before epoch $i$
- ( $p_{i}+r^{i}, 0$ ): snapshot of server memory after epoch $i$

A $(3,1)$-snapshot adversary - Part 0
$\mathcal{A}_{0}^{i}\left(1^{n}\right)$

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Important

- Set $O_{0}=\left(\right.$ write $\left(1, \mathrm{~B}_{1}\right), \ldots$, write $\left(m, \mathrm{~B}_{m}\right)$, $\left.\operatorname{read}(m)\right)$.
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## A (3, 1)-snapshot adversary - Part 1

- $U_{i}$ memory locations overwritten during epoch $i$
- by comparing the initial and final snapshot of epoch $i$
- $V_{i}$ memory locations overwritten since epoch $i$
- by comparing the final snapshot of epoch $i$ with snapshot before the read
- $W_{i}$ memory location overwritten during epoch $i$ that have not been modified when the read starts
- $W_{i}=U_{i} \backslash V_{i}$
- $Q_{j}$ cells from $W_{i}$ read during $\operatorname{read}(j)$,
- $\left|Q_{j}\right| \approx b / w$
- $\mathcal{A}^{1}$ returns 0 iff $\left|Q_{j}\right| \leq \rho \cdot b / w$


## The coding argument

Suppose

$$
t_{w}=o(b / w \log (n b / c))
$$

then there exists $\rho>0$ such that, for most epochs $i$,

$$
\left|Q_{j}\right| \geq \rho \cdot b / w
$$

with probability $\geq 1 / 8$ for $j$ in epoch $i$.

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## The coding argument

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## Suppose not.

Then we can encode the $r^{i} \cdot b$ bits of epoch $i$ using fewer bits.

## The coding argument - I

## A coding game

- $S$ wants to send $B^{i}$ to $R$
the $r^{i}$ blocks from epoch $i$
- $S$ and $R$ share
$\mathrm{B}^{-i}$ (all except epoch $i$ )

$$
\mathcal{H}\left(\mathrm{B}^{i} \mid \mathcal{R}, \mathrm{B}^{-i}\right)=r^{i} \cdot b .
$$

## The coding argument - II

- $S$ and R execute all epochs $>i$

$$
\operatorname{write}\left(1, \mathrm{~B}_{1}\right), \ldots, \operatorname{write}\left(p_{i}-1, \mathrm{~B}_{p_{i}-1}\right)
$$



The coding argument

- S executes epoch $i$

$$
\operatorname{write}\left(p_{i}, \mathrm{~B}_{p_{i}}\right), \ldots, \operatorname{write}\left(p_{i}+r^{i}-1, \mathrm{~B}_{p_{i}+r^{i}-1}\right)
$$

- Note: R cannot execute epoch $i$


The coding argument

- $S$ and $R$ execute epochs $<i$
- R needs some help
$\star$ client memory: $c$ bits.
- For $j=p_{i-1}, \ldots, m$
- execute write $\left(j, \mathrm{~B}_{j}\right)$ touching $T_{j}$
- R needs $U_{i} \cap T_{j}$ (cell location and content)

$$
\text { write }\left(y_{1} B_{3}\right)
$$

$T_{5}$


The coding argument
$c$ bits + set $Y_{i}:=U_{i} \cap\left(T_{p_{i}+r_{i}} \cup \cdots \cup T_{m}\right)$

罍 $U_{i}$
modified during Epoch i


## The coding argument

$\mathbb{S}$ memory state after write $\left(m, \mathrm{~B}_{m}\right)$

- For $j=p_{i}, \ldots, p_{i}+r^{i}-1$
- $S$ and $R$ execute read $(j)$ starting from $\mathbb{S}$
- R needs $Q_{j}:=W_{i} \cap T_{j}^{m}$
- if read errs or $Q_{j}>\rho b / w$
$\star B_{j}$ is added to encoding
- else
$\star Q_{j}$ is added to encoding


## Length of encoding

## Length depends on

- Set $Y_{i}$
- for most epochs $i, \mathbb{E}\left[\left|Y_{i}\right|\right] \leq r^{i-1} b / w$
- Set $Q_{j}$
- By assumption $\left|Q_{j}\right|<\rho \cdot b / w$ with prob $\geq 7 / 8$


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Encoding is too small

## Getting there...

$$
t_{w}=o(b / w \log (n b / c))
$$

implies that, for most epochs $i$,

$$
\left|Q_{j}\right| \geq \rho \cdot b / w
$$

with probability $\geq 1 / 8$ for $j$ in epoch $i$. from epoch $i$.

## Getting there...

$$
t_{w}=o(b / w \log (n b / c))
$$

implies that, for most epochs $i$,
$\mathcal{A}$ outputs 1 with probability $\geq 1 / 8$ when reading $j$ from epoch $i$.

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If $\epsilon=1 / 16$ then $\mathcal{A}$ outputs 1 with probability $\geq 1 / 16$ when reading $m$

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$\operatorname{read}(m)$ must touch $\geq \rho \cdot b / w$ cells from epoch $i$

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If $\epsilon=1 / 16$ then $\mathcal{A}$ outputs 1 with probability $\geq 1 / 16$ when reading $m$
$\operatorname{read}(m)$ must touch $\geq \rho \cdot b / w$ cells from epoch $i$

$$
\Omega(b / w \cdot \log n b / c)
$$

## Wrapping up

Now...
If writes are fast

$$
t_{w}=o(b / w \log (n b / c))
$$

then $\operatorname{read}(j)$ in epoch $i$ has $Q_{j}=\Omega(b / w)$ with prob at least $1 / 8$.

## Wrapping up

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## Reading 1

Must touch from each large epoch $O(b / w)$ cells otherwise we lose security.

$$
\Omega(b / w \cdot \log (n b / c))
$$

$(\infty, 0)$-snapshot secure stacks
Adversary gets snapshots of memory after all operations.

## Snapshot Secure Stacks

- Init()
randomly choose encryption key $K$
set cnt $=0$ and top $=-1$.
- Push(v)
upload $\operatorname{Enc}(K,(v$, top $))$ to location cnt
set top $\leftarrow$ cnt
set cnt $\leftarrow$ cnt +1
- Pop()
download pair $(v, t)$ from location top
- upload a dummy encryption to location cnt
set top $\leftarrow t$
set cnt $\leftarrow$ cnt +1
return $V$


## $(\infty, 1)$-snapshot secure stacks

Adversary gets snapshots of memory after all operations and one transcript.
$(\infty, 1)$-snapshot secure stacks
Adversary gets snapshots of memory after all operations and one transcript.

## Snapshot Secure Stacks

- Init()
randomly choose seed $S$
randomly choose encryption key $K$
set cnt $=0$ and top $=-1$.
- Push(v)
download from location $F(S$, top $)$ and discard
- upload $\operatorname{Enc}(K,(v$, top $))$ to location $F(S$, cnt $)$
top $\leftarrow$ cnt
. cnt $\leftarrow$ cnt +1
- Pop()
download pair $(v, t)$ from location $F(S$, top $)$
- upload dummy encryption at location $F(S$, cnt $)$
set top $\leftarrow t$
set cnt $\leftarrow$ cnt +1


## Conclusions

- $\Theta(\log (N / C))$ for ORAM
- Oblivious
- DP
- Leakage
- Snapshot Adversary


## Take home items

- Access pattern leakage is a privacy threat
- Metadata
- It is possible to hide access pattern
- at the cost of a logarithmic slowdown
- Theoretical questions:
- is there a meaningfull security notion that requires constant slowdown?
- construct oblivious algorithms for specific problems
- Theoretical questions:
- can we get a practical Secure RAM for reasonable parameters?
* server memory of about 100 GigaBytes
* client memory of about 100 Megabyte
* single digit slowdown

