## DORY: An Encrypted Search System with Distributed Trust

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## End-to-end encrypted filesystems

End-to-end encrypted systems are increasingly popular.



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End-to-end encrypted systems are increasingly popular.



Provide strong security guarantees if attacker compromises server.



### Users expect the ability to search



### Users expect the ability to search





### Users expect the ability to search





### Search for end-to-end encrypted filesystems

Challenge: server cannot decrypt data to search.



Find all documents with "apple"



### Tradeoff between security and performance

#### Protects search access patterns

## ORAM-based solutions

[GO96], PathORAM, ....

Leaks search access patterns

#### Inefficient

#### Searchable Encryption (SE)

[SWP00], [Goh03], [CGK011], [KPR12], [KP13], [CJJJ+14], [SPS14], [DPP18], ...

#### Efficient



























# End-to-end encrypted filesystem





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File Injection Attack [ZKP16]



 $Enc(word_1) : Enc(doc_1), \dots$  $Enc(word_2) : Enc(doc_{12}), \dots$ Enc(flu) :

: Enc(word<sub>n</sub>) : Enc(doc<sub>5</sub>), ...







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Add document 27 "flu" to search index



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Add document 27 "flu" to search index



File Injection Attack [ZKP16]



 $Enc(word_1) : Enc(doc_1), \dots$  $Enc(word_2) : Enc(doc_{12}), \dots$  $Enc(flu) : Enc(doc_{27}), \dots$ 

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Add document 27



Repeat for all words in English dictionary.











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#### ... and many more attacks [IKK12], [CGPR15], [KKNO16], [LZWT14], [PW16], [GTS17], [PWLP20], ....

#### Drawbacks of ORAM-based solutions

- Can implement search by building inverted index in ORAM.
- + Runtime logarithmic in index size.
- Large constants make cost prohibitive for encrypted filesystems.

**ORAM:** client can read/write data at server and hide access patterns [GO96, SVSF+13].



#### DORY

### Protects search access patterns

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Leaks search access patterns

#### Inefficient

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#### Efficient

#### DORY

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Decentralized Oblivious Retrieval sYstem

#### Searchable Encryption (SE)

[SWP00], [Goh03], [CGK011], [KPR12], [KP13], [CJJJ+14], [SPS14], [DPP18], ...

#### Efficient

#### DORY eliminates search access pattern leakage



# End-to-end encrypted filesystem



#### DORY eliminates search access pattern leakage



To tackle this problem, we return to the system model:

## What do real encrypted filesystems require from a search system?

Surveyed 5 companies providing end-to-end encrypted filesystems.



Each wanted server-side search, but didn't deploy because concerned about:

- Search access patterns
- Performance


## Survey findings

- See paper for full quantitative and qualitative findings.
- Requirements for latency, cost, and concurrency.

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Two most relevant findings:

- 1. Linear scan for search is acceptable if search latency and cost meet requirements for expected workloads.
- 2. Distributing trust is acceptable if certain security requirements are met.

### **Distributed trust**

Provide security guarantees if an attacker can compromise some, but not all, trust domains.





## **Distributed trust requirements**

At least one honest trust domain: attacker can't learn search access patterns.

• The other trust domains can be malicious.







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At least one honest trust domain: attacker can't learn search access patterns. The other trust domains can be malicious.

• Search access patterns are not protected.



No honest trust domains: attacker can't directly assemble search index.





# Outline 1. DORY design

2. DORY evaluation

### System architecture



[Simplified; does not account for replication]





#### **Building DORY**

#### Search index [simplified]

Doc 0  $x_{0,0} x_{0,1} x_{0,2} \dots x_{0,m}$ Doc 1  $x_{1,0} x_{1,1} x_{1,2} \dots x_{1,m}$ Doc 2  $x_{2,0} x_{2,1} x_{2,2} \dots x_{2,m}$ Doc n  $x_{n,0} x_{n,1} x_{n,2} \dots x_{n,m}$ 

#### Search index [simplified]

Doc 0
 
$$x_{0,0} x_{0,1}$$

 Doc 1
  $x_{1,0} x_{1,1}$ 

 Doc 2
  $x_{2,0} x_{2,1}$ 

 ...
 ...

 Doc n
  $x_{n,0} x_{n,1}$ 



update(docID, keywords)

- Client creates a bitmap for keywords.
- Client sends server the bitmap.
- Server updates the bitmap at row docID.





 $x_{0,0} x_{0,1} x_{0,2} \dots x_{0,m}$  $x_{1,0} x_{1,1} x_{1,2} \dots x_{1,m}$  $x_{2,0} x_{2,1} x_{2,2} \dots x_{2,m}$  
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- Client computes the index for keyword and sends to server. Server responds with corresponding column.
- Client outputs row numbers where column value is 1.





search(keyword):

- Client computes the index for keyword and sends to server. Server responds with corresponding column.
- Client outputs row numbers where column value is 1.



 $GetIndex(keyword) \longrightarrow 2$ 



- Client computes the index for keyword and sends to server. Server responds with corresponding column.
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## Challenge #1: Hiding search access patterns

- Attacker learns search access patterns.
- Column requested leak data about keyword searched for.





- Uses multiple servers to hide which element the user is retrieving.
- If at least one server is honest, an attacker cannot learn the index requested.
- Requires a linear scan over the entire array.







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Retrieve  $a_2$ 

Assemble  $a_2$ from responses



## Leveraging DPFs to search



#### If at least one trust domain is honest, DORY hides search access patterns



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GetIndex(keyword)  $\longrightarrow$  2



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GetIndex(keyword) -> 2



GetIndex(keyword)  $\longrightarrow$  2



GetIndex(keyword) -> 2



GetIndex(keyword)  $\longrightarrow$  2



GetIndex(keyword) -> 2



GetIndex(keyword)  $\longrightarrow$  2



GetIndex(keyword) -> 2







# Challenge #2: Compressing the search index

- A bitmap for every word in the English dictionary is long!
- The linear scan for search takes a long time...

Doc 0 
$$x_{0,0} x_{0,1}$$
  
Doc 1  $x_{1,0} x_{1,1}$   
Doc 2  $x_{2,0} x_{2,1}$   
 $\vdots$   $\vdots$   
Doc n  $x_{n,0} x_{n,1}$ 





**Bloom filters** provide efficient membership testing

Apple Orange

00000000000

**Bloom filters** provide efficient membership testing

Apple Orange

#### Apple 00000000000

Bloom filters provide efficient membership testing

Apple Orange



Bloom filters provide efficient membership testing



**Bloom filters** provide efficient membership testing

Orange

#### Orange 0001000100

**Bloom filters** provide efficient membership testing



 $x_{0,0} x_{0,1} x_{0,2} \dots x_{0,m}$  $x_{1,0} x_{1,1} x_{1,2} \dots x_{1,m}$  $x_{2,0} x_{2,1} x_{2,2} \dots x_{2,m}$  $x_{n,0} x_{n,1} x_{n,2} \dots x_{n,m}$ 

**Bloom filters** provide efficient membership testing



Bloom filters provide efficient membership testing



**Bloom filters** provide efficient membership testing

**Urange** 



 $x_{0,0} x_{0,1} x_{0,2} \dots x_{0,m}$  $x_{1,0} x_{1,1} x_{1,2} \dots x_{1,m}$ 0011010100  $x_{2,0} x_{2,1} x_{2,2} \dots x_{2,m}$ Orange + Preserves search column alignment  $x_{n,0} x_{n,1} x_{n,2} \dots x_{n,m}$ 

+ Compression

+ No fixed dictionary

## Challenge #3: Encrypting the search index

- Attacker should not immediately learn the search index contents. **Strawman:** Encrypt every bit in Bloom filter.
- Search index size blows up by factor of  $\lambda \approx 128$ .

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$$c_k(x_{0,0}) \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{0,1}) \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{0,2}) \dots \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{0,m})$$
  
 $c_k(x_{1,0}) \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{1,1}) \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{1,2}) \dots \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{1,m})$   
 $c_k(x_{2,0}) \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{2,1}) \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{2,2}) \dots \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{2,m})$   
 $\vdots \qquad \vdots \qquad \vdots \qquad \vdots$   
 $c_k(x_{n,0}) \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{n,1}) \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{n,2}) \dots \operatorname{Enc}_k(x_{n,m})$ 

#### Challenge #3: Encrypting the search index

Solution: generate a unique one-time pad using document version number.



#### Challenge #4: Malicious attackers

Need to defend against attackers that can influence server behavior.

Strawman: MAC every bit

• Search index (and search time) blows up by factor of  $\lambda$ .

M

M

#### Challenge #4: Malicious attackers

Need to defend against attackers that can influence server behavior.

**Solution:** use **aggregate MACs** to keep a single MAC per column.

[KL08]

 $x_{1,0} x_{1,1} x_{1,2} \dots x_{1,m}$  $x_{n,0} x_{n,1} x_{n,2} \dots x_{n,m}$ 































3. Efficient replicationleveraging DORY'scryptographic properties

# Outline

#### 1. DORY design

#### 2. DORY evaluation

### **Evaluation setup**

https://github.com/ucbrise/dory



Evaluated performance using Enron email dataset.

Two baselines:

- Plaintext search: inverted index without encryption
- ORAM baseline: inverted index in PathORAM [SVSF+13] (see paper)

#### Search latency



#### Search latency



$$2^{15}$$

#### Effect of parallelism on search latency


### Effect of parallelism on search latency



Parallelism improves search latency by roughly a factor of p (degree of parallelism).

# Throughput





#### 50% updates, 50% searches

# Throughput



50% updates, 50% searches

# Conclusion

- DORY is an efficient search system that hides search access patterns.
- By re-examining the system model, DORY reconciles the tension between efficiency and search access patterns.
- Search should not be a barrier to adoption of end-to-end encrypted systems.

# Conclusion

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- By re-examining the system model, DORY reconciles the tension between efficiency and search access patterns.
- Search should not be a barrier to adoption of end-to-end encrypted systems.

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