



USENIX Security '24

d-DSE: Distinct Dynamic Searchable Encryption Resisting Volume Leakage in Encrypted Databases

Dongli Liu, Wei Wang, Peng Xu, Laurence T. Yang, Bo Luo⁺, Kaitai Liang^{*}

Huazhong University of Science and Technology

+The University of Kansas

**Delft University of Technology*

What is DSE applied in EDB?

Setup function:
Initialize EDB



Update function:
Encrypt keywords
and values



Client

		<i>Report time</i>	<i>IUCR_code</i>	<i>Block</i>
r ₁		23/1/4 8am.	1153	103RD
r ₂		23/1/6 4pm.	1153	103RD
r ₃		23/1/7 8am.	1153	104RD
r ₄		23/1/9 8am.	0486	104RD
r ₅		23/1/11 8am.	0486	105RD

Outsource

		<i>Report time</i>	<i>IUCR_code</i>	<i>Block</i>
r ₁		23/1/4 8am.	1153	103RD
r ₂		23/1/6 4pm.	1153	103RD
r ₃		23/1/7 8am.	1153	104RD
r ₄		23/1/9 8am.	0486	104RD
r ₅		23/1/11 8am.	0486	105RD

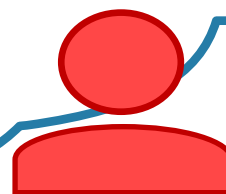
Keyword
Query

```
SELECT  Block FROM T  
WHERE  IUCR_code =  1153
```

Search function:
Generate search tokens
from Keyword Queries

Query
Result

103RD 103RD 104RD



Honest but
curious

Pattern & Volume leakage Attack



Client

Keyword Query

```
SELECT Block FROM T  
WHERE IUCR_code = 1153
```

Query Result

103RD **103RD** **104RD**

Keyword Query

```
SELECT Block FROM T  
WHERE IUCR_code = 0486
```

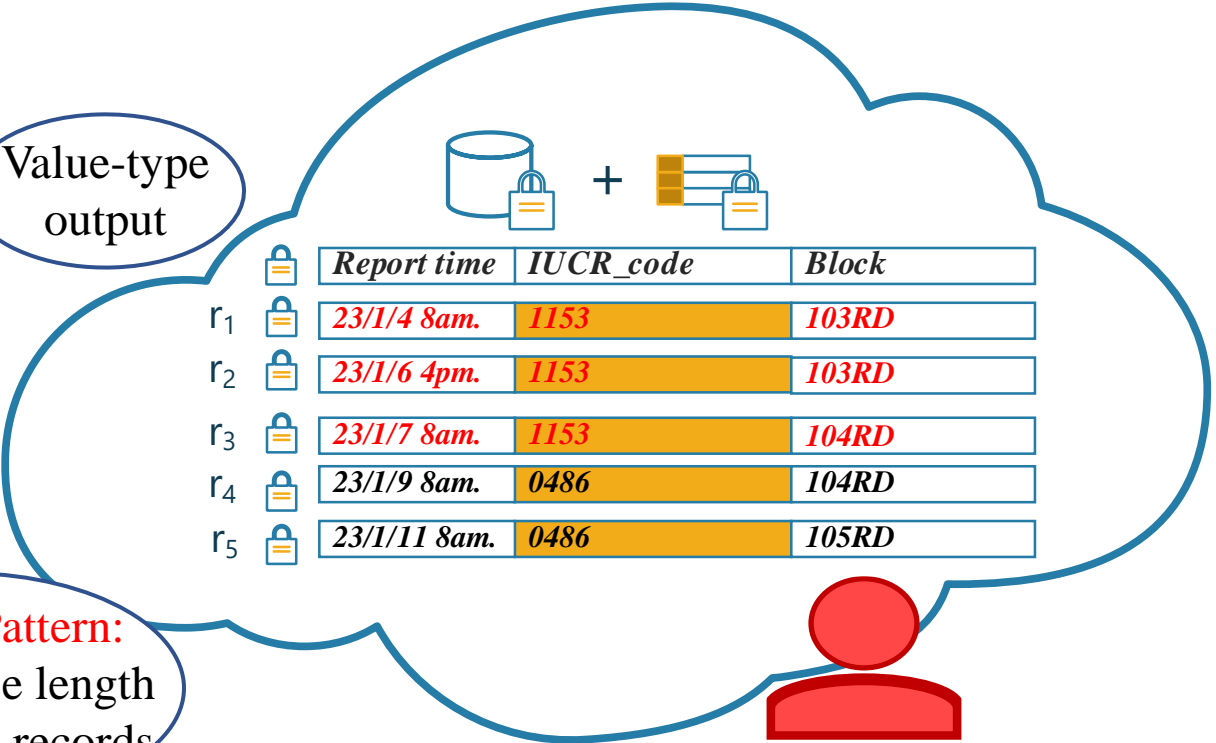
Query Result

104RD **105RD**

Search Pattern:
whether two queries are identical

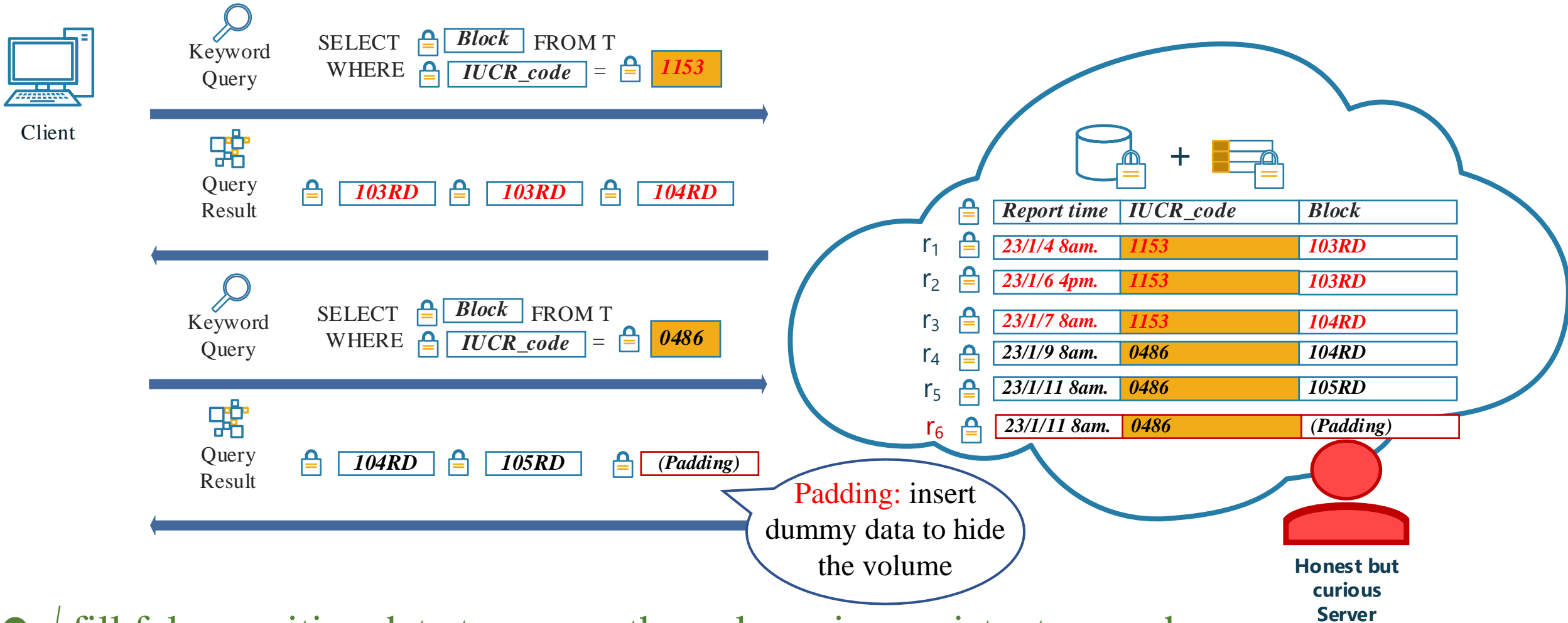
Value-type output

Volume Pattern:
the response length of matched records



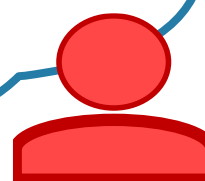
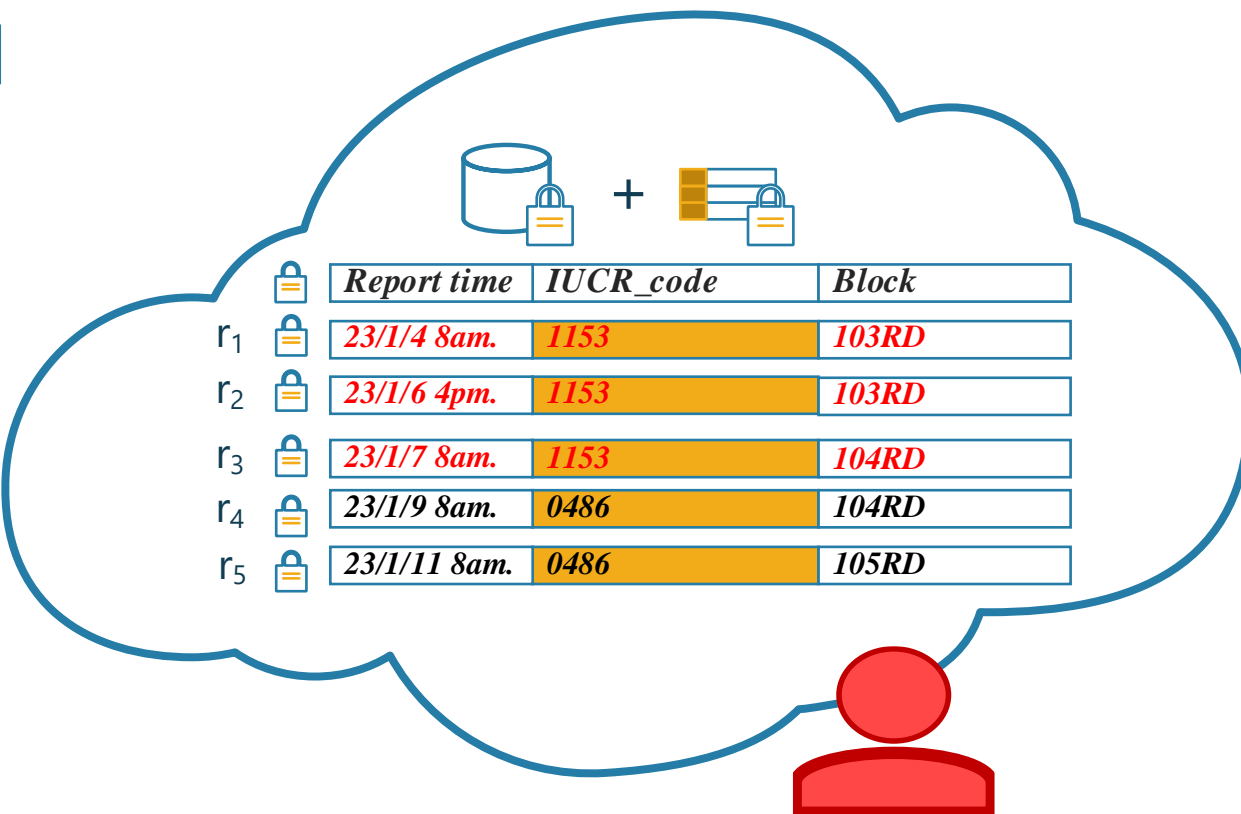
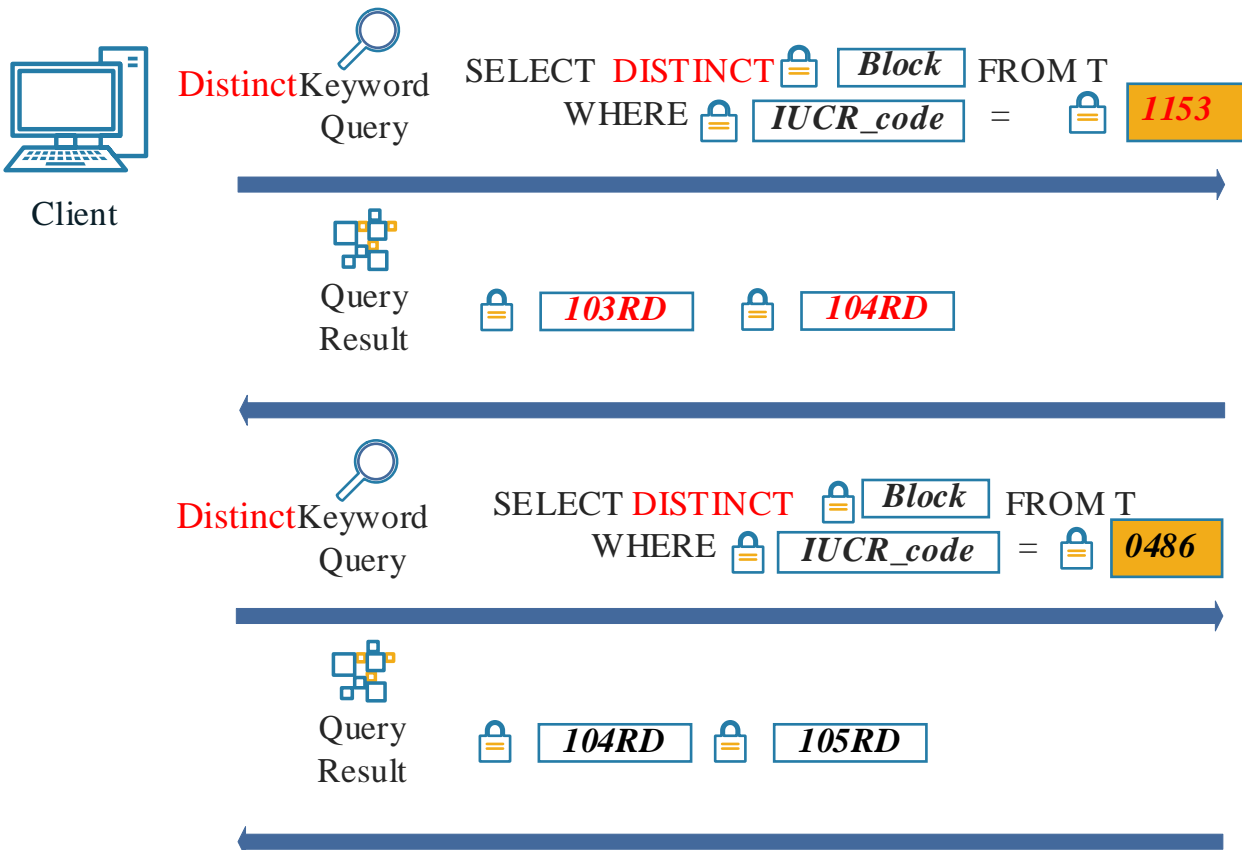
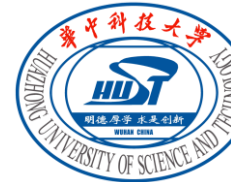
Volume leakage attack: If I pre-known the '1153' and '0486' return 3 and 2-length result, I will infer the keyword from client queries.

Padding Strategy



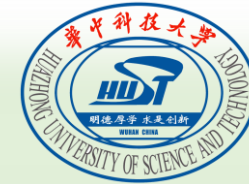
- √ fill false positive data to ensure the volume is consistent enough
- ✗ estimate the padding scale, hard to delete false positive data in EDB

Distinct Keyword Queries



Honest but curious Server

- $\sqrt{\quad}$ Distinct Keyword Query can conceal the volume relation between pre-known and actual response
- ? How to ensure the **Security** of Distinct Keyword Query
- ? How to **feed back** queries in EDB



Contributions

- **d-DSE: distinct Dynamic Searchable Symmetric Encryption**
 - Search protocol => Distinct Search protocol
 - Forward and backward privacy (hides leakage from update operations)
 - Distinct with Volume Hiding Security (hides volume leakage)
 - Construction based on DSE
- **Constructions for Queries in EDB**
 - Update Queries
 - Keyword Queries from Distinct Keyword Queries
 - Join queries from Keyword Queries
- **Experimental comparison between padding strategy and distinct search**

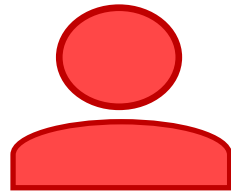
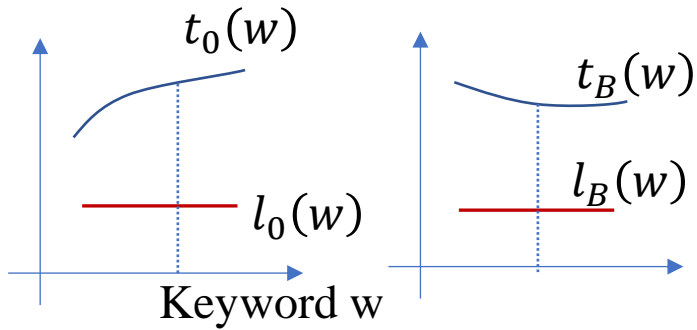
I . d-DSE

FP&BP In d-DSE



- **Observation 1:** The FP&BP in DSE [Bost et al., CCS'17] considers keyword/file-identifier input, but not keyword/value inputs
- **Observation 2:** If a deletion corresponds to multiple addition, the deletion will reveal which addition contains the same keyword/value
- Refine the FP&BP in d-DSE
 - FP should additionally hide the repetitive value information
 - BP should reach type-2 to hide the relation between addition and deletion
- *FP&BP = \gg Volume-hiding: Hide from content, next to volume*

DISTINCT with Volume-Hiding (DwVH) Security



Adv

Send two Signature

$$S_0 = \{w, t_0(w), l_0(w)\}$$
$$S_1 = \{w, t_1(w), l_1(w)\}$$



An EDB from
Signature S_b



Update and Search
Leakage



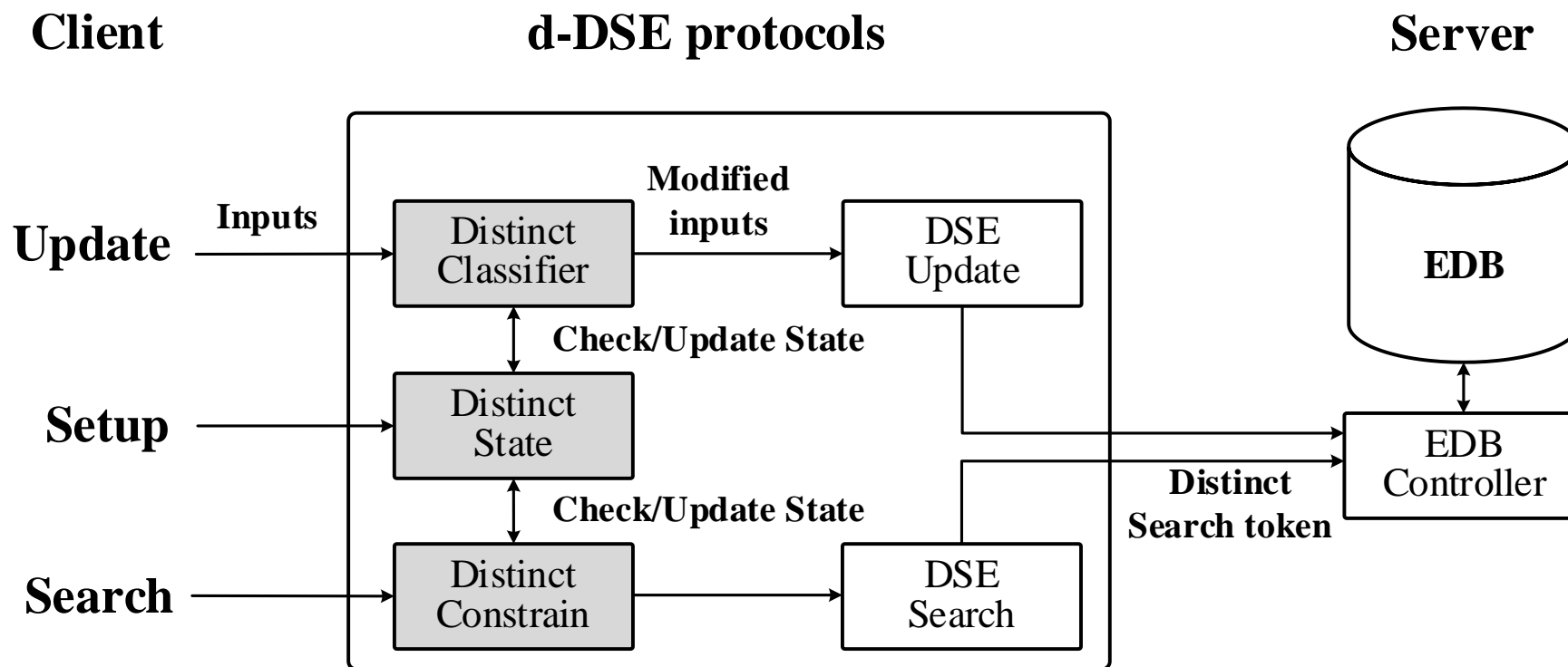
Challenger

Decide the challenger
use which signature b'

Construction based on DSE

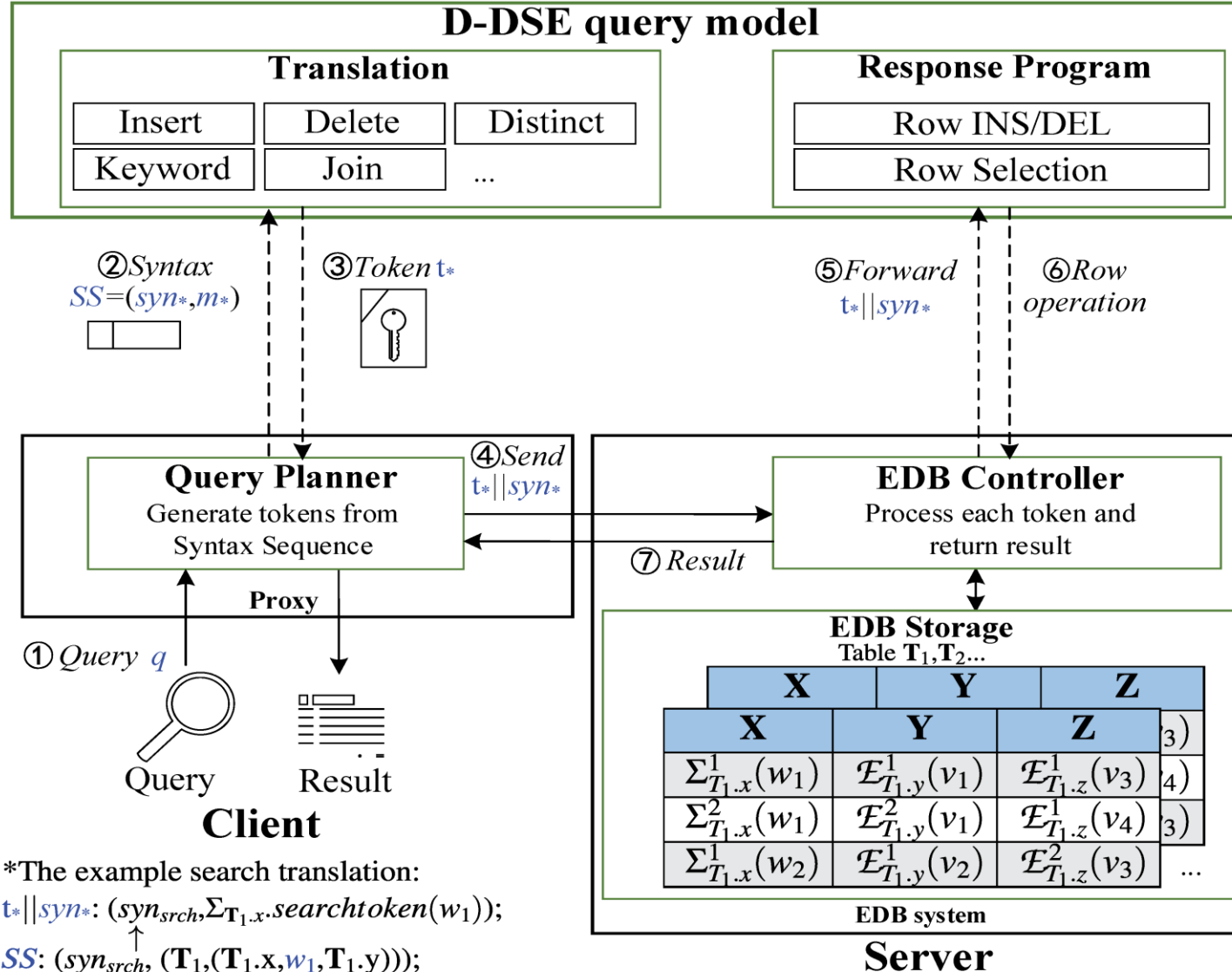
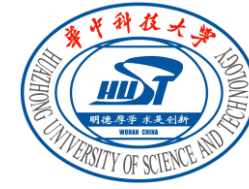


● Design



II . Constructions for Queries

d-DSE designed EDB



*The example search translation:
 $t^*||syn^* : (syn_{srch}, \Sigma_{T_1.x}.searchtoken(w_1));$
 $SS : (syn_{srch}, (T_1, (T_1.x, w_1, T_1.y)));$
 $q : \text{SELECT } T_1.y \text{ FROM } T_1 \text{ WHERE } T_1.x = w_1;$

Query Construction



- **Step 1:** Apply the Update protocol for Update queries
- **Step 2:** Apply the Search protocol for distinct Keyword queries
- **Step 3:** Construct Keyword Queries Based on distinct Keyword Queries
 - Let client allocate a hash table to map the keyword w with the vector \mathbf{d} constructed from (w, v, op) input.
 - The dimensions of \mathbf{d} record the number of value in the value's numerical (or lexicographical for string) order.
 - Update the number after Update queries
- **Step 4:** Construct Join Queries Based on Keyword Queries
 - Create a Keyword Query to find all values as *FOREIGN KEY* in another table
 - Use the *FOREIGN KEY* as keyword to perform Keyword Queries on the other table

III. Padding vs. Distinct Search

Comp. Configuration

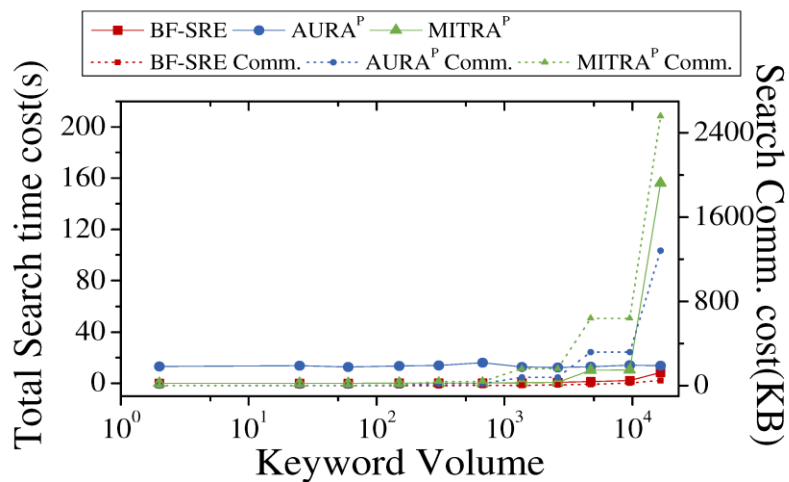


- 3 real dataset
 - Crime incidents: 7,989,987 records of Street name/IUCR pairs
 - Enron mail: 5,190,199 records of email name/word pairs
 - Wikipedia: 4,565,948 records of document name/word pairs
- Compare d-DSE instance BF-SRE with DSE schemes (Mitra [CCS'18] and Aura [NDSS'21]) under the padding strategy proposed by Seal [USENIX security'20]
- Compare with Seal and ShieldDB [Vo et al., TKDE23] about the query performance

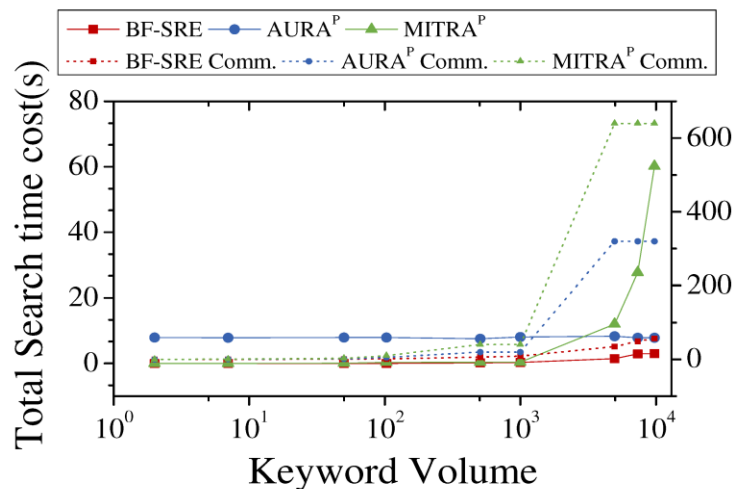
Comp. with Aura^P and Mitra^P



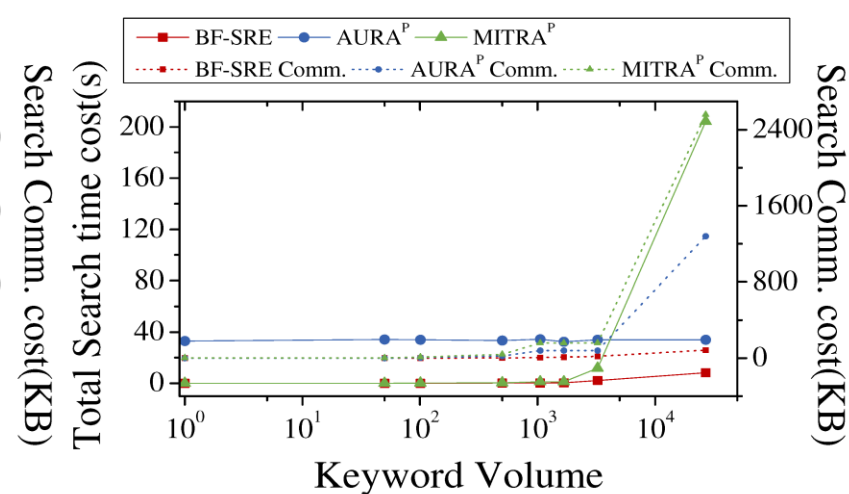
- **Main result after test:** Without adding dummy data, achieve around 15.27x and 30.54x communication advantage over Aura^P and Mitra^P



(a) Crime



(b) Wikipedia

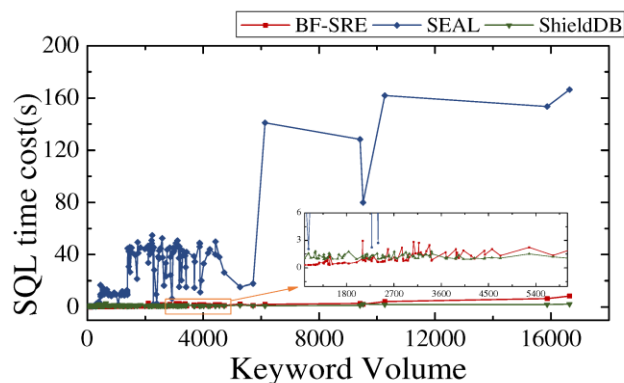


(c) Enron

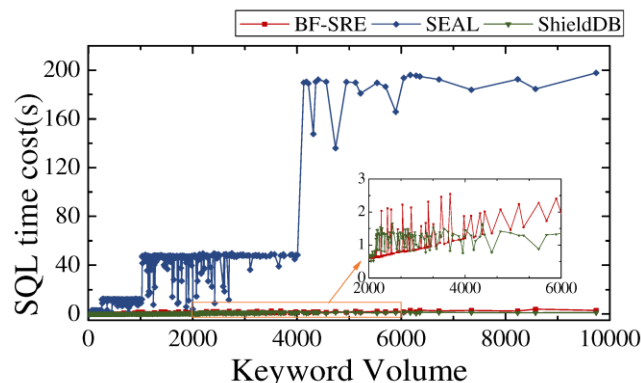
Comp. with Seal and ShieldDB



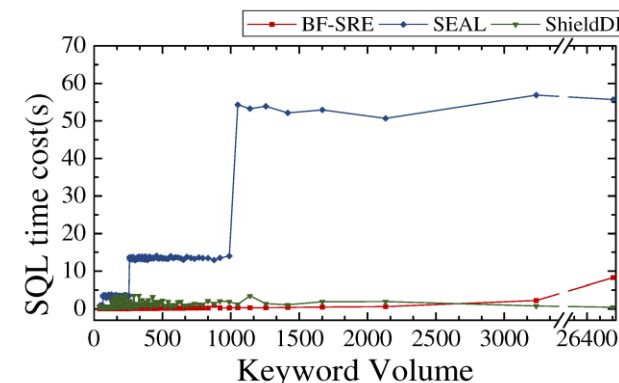
- **Main result after test:** Without adding dummy data, reduce around 6.36-53.14x communication advantage than Seal and ShieldDB



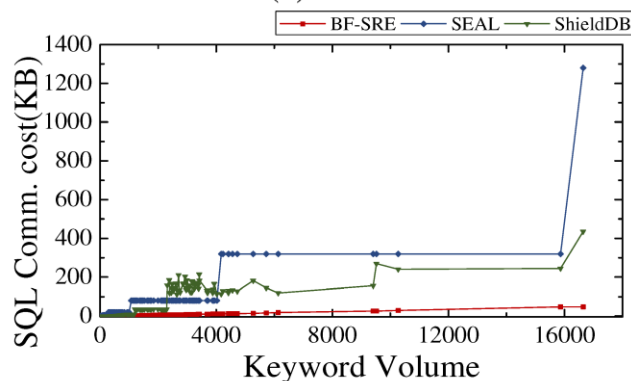
(a) Crime



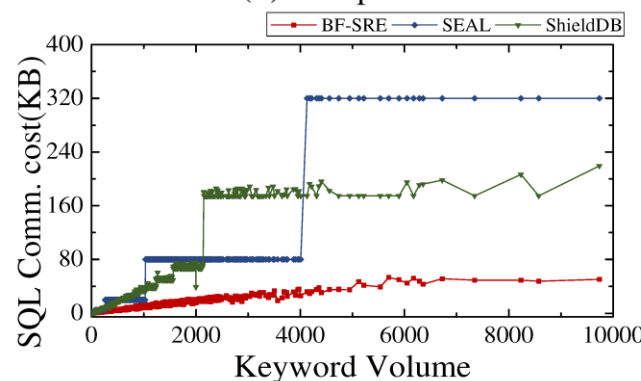
(b) Wikipedia



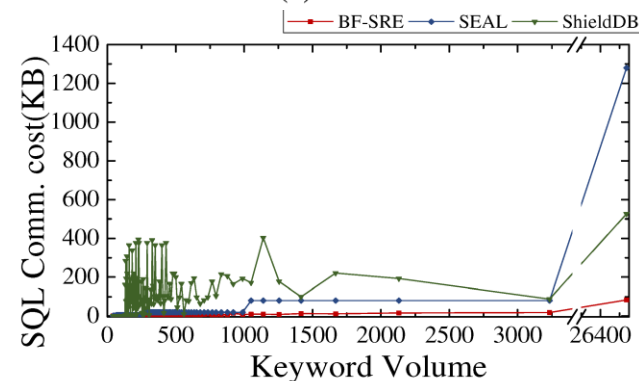
(c) Enron



(a) Crime



(b) Wikipedia



(c) Enron

Thank you for listening!

Code available: <https://github.com/jd89j12dsa/ddse/tree/AEversion>

Contact information:

- nsffldl@hust.edu.com
- viviawangwei@hust.edu.cn
- xupeng@hust.edu.cn

