

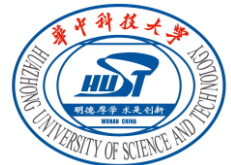
USENIX Security '24

Query Recovery from Easy to Hard: Jigsaw Attack against SSE

Hao Nie, Wei Wang, Peng Xu, Xianglong Zhang, Laurence T. Yang, and Kaitai Liang*

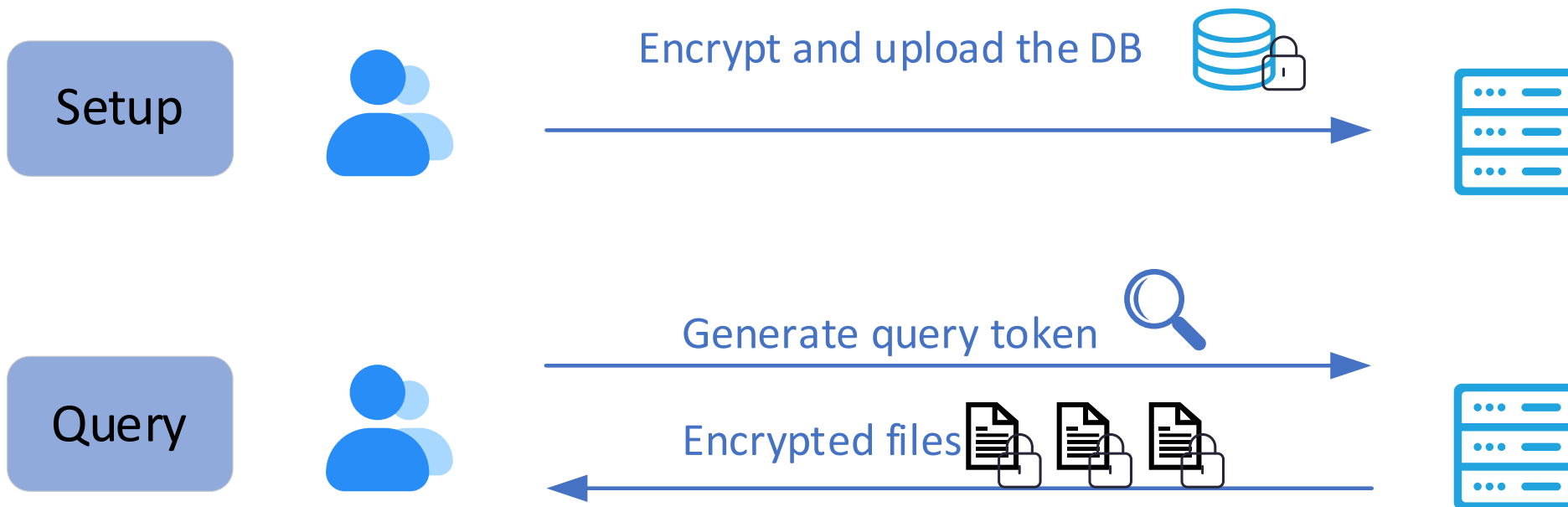
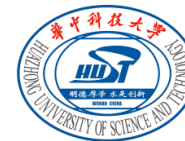
Huazhong University of Science and Technology

**Delft University of Technology*

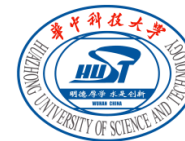


I . Motivations

Searchable Symmetric Encryption



Searchable Symmetric Encryption



Query



Generate query token

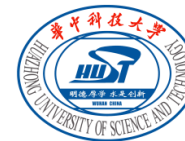


Encrypted files



I see the leakage! With a little more effort, I can recover the query!

Searchable Symmetric Encryption

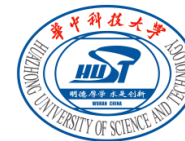


I see the leakage! With a little more effort, I can recover the query!




● The leakage often used in attacks includes:

- Access Pattern, which reveals the identities of matched documents.
- Volume Pattern, which reveal the number of matched documents.
- Search Pattern, which indicates whether two queries are identical.

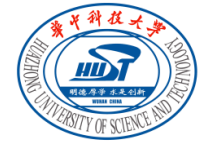
Searchable Symmetric Encryption



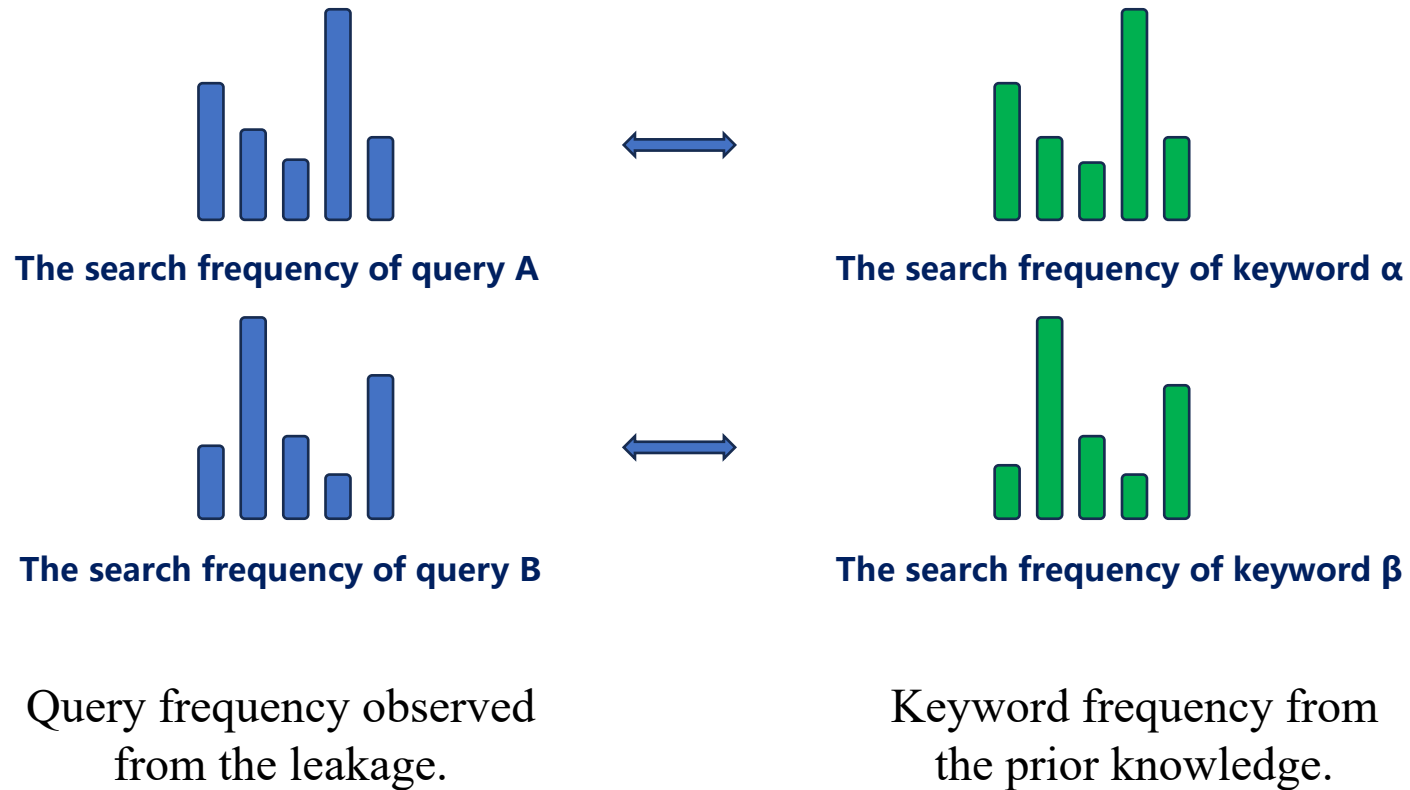
I see the leakage! With a little more effort, I can recover the query!

Client's data:  Known-data Attacker has partial client's data: 
Similar-data Attacker has data similar to client's: 

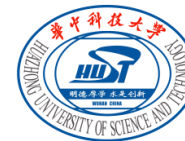
Previous Similar-data Attacks



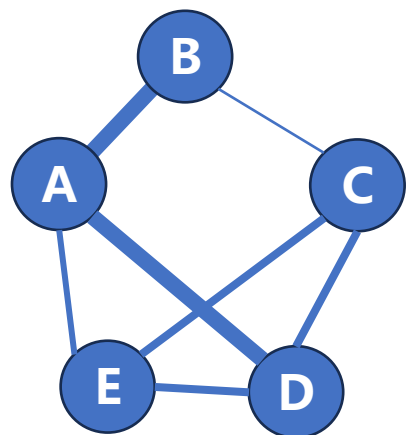
- Liu et al. [LZWT14] use the query frequency (from the search pattern) to match queries with keywords.



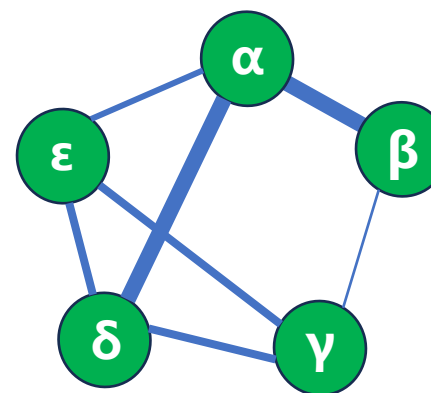
Previous Similar-data Attacks



- Liu et al. [LZWT14] use the query frequency (from the search pattern) to match queries with keywords.
- Pouliot et al. [PW16], Damie et al. [DHP21], and Oya et al. [OK23] use the query co-occurrence to match queries with keywords.
 - The query co-occurrence is the probability of two queries shown in the same document. It could be deduced from the search pattern and access pattern.

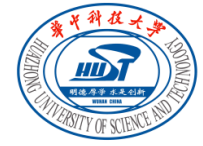


Co-occurrence of queries
from the leakage



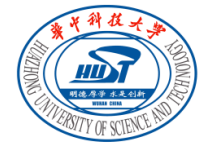
Co-occurrence of keywords
in the similar-data

Our Observations



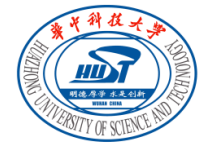
- 1. A small number of cracked queries can pose a significant threat to the security of other queries.
 - Damie et al. [DHP21] proposed the refined score attack that achieves around 85% accuracy in recovering all queries by utilizing only 10 known queries.

Our Observations

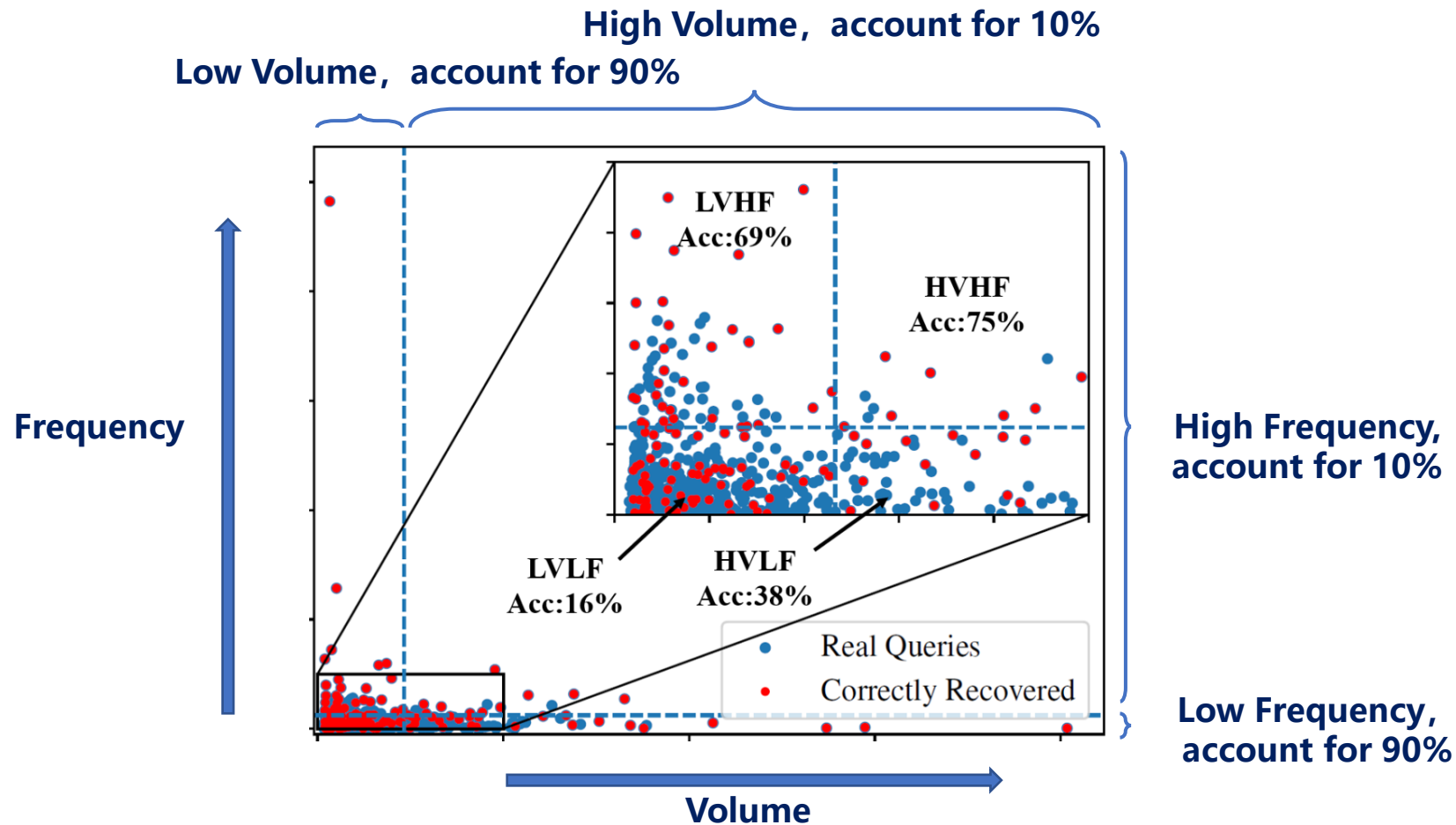


- 1. A small number of cracked queries can pose a significant threat to the security of other queries.
- 2. Queries with a high volume/frequency are much easier to recover than others.
 - In a database, the volume and frequency of keywords follows Zipf's law.
 - Queries with higher volume or frequency display larger disparities, which consequently makes it easier for attackers to recover those queries.

Our Observations

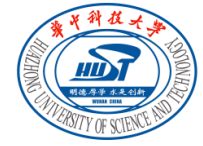


- A simple attack, which just matches the queries with keywords that have the closest volume and frequency, has 75% accuracy on the HVHF quadrant.

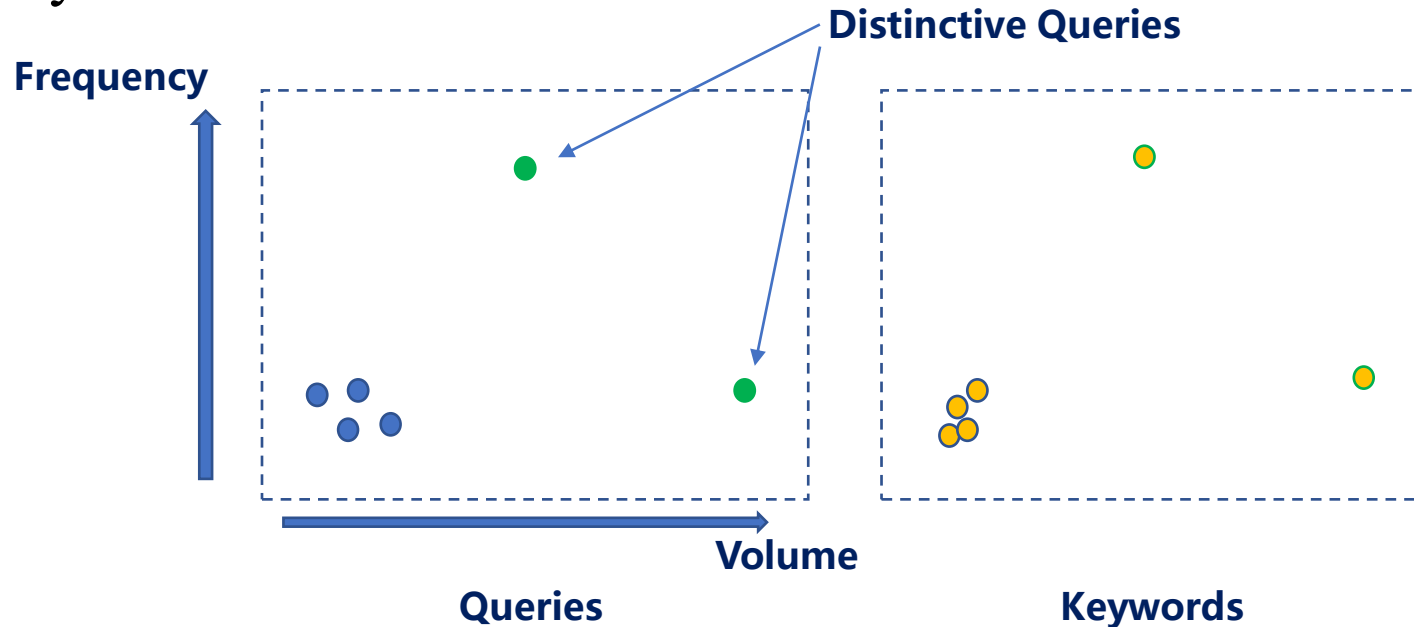


II. Our attack

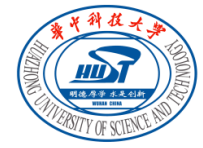
Jigsaw - Module 1



- Identify and recover the distinctive queries:
 - Calculate the distance between all queries and their nearest neighbors, and select the first BaseRec queries with biggest distance as the distinctive queries.
 - Match the BaseRec queries to the keywords that have the closest volume and frequency.

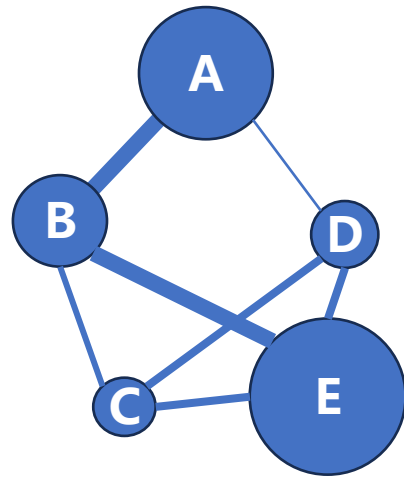


Jigsaw - Module 2

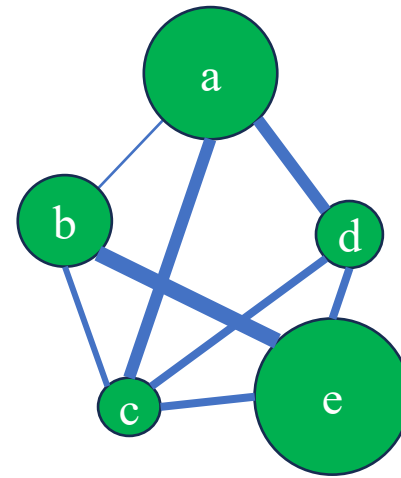


● Remove some ill-matched queries:

- We check whether the results of module 1 is good or not. The good ones should also match in the co-occurrence relations. We keep ConfRec matched queries in this module.

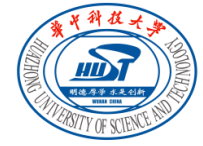


Recovered queries and their co-occurrence relations.



The corresponding keywords and their co-occurrence relations.

Jigsaw - Module 3



- Recover all queries based on the output of module 2:

Treat the output of module 2 as known matches.



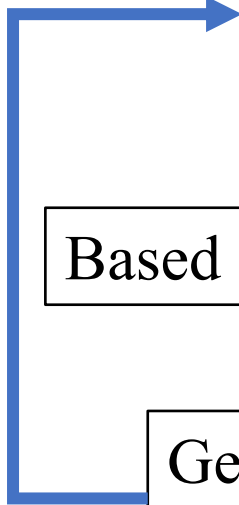
Based on the known queries, we calculate the score between each query and each keyword.



Based on the score, we calculate the certainty of each query.



Get the k most certain queries and match them to the keywords. Treat those matches as known matches.



Jigsaw – Experimental Results

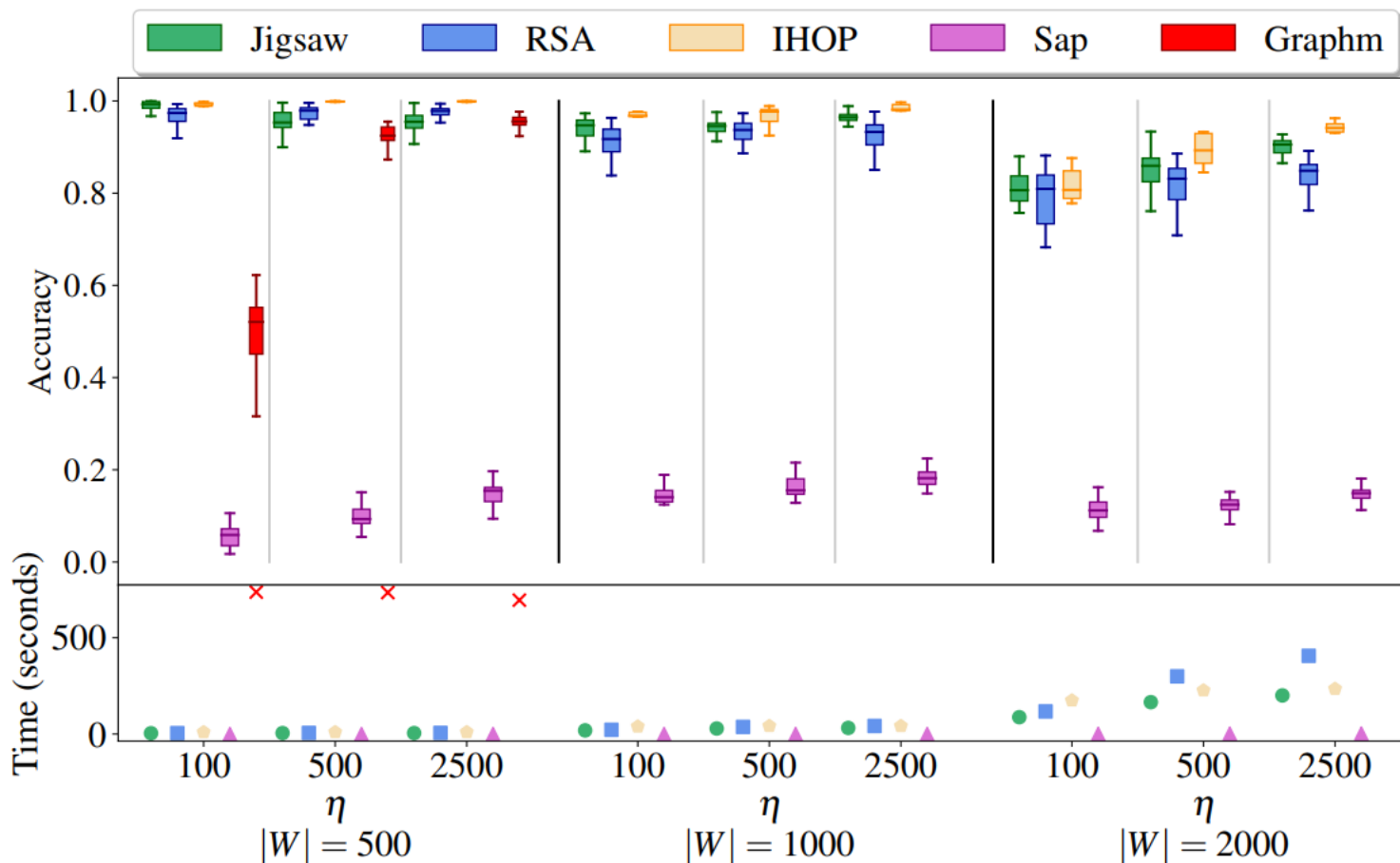
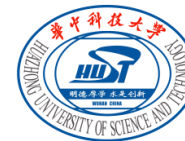


Figure: Jigsaw vs RSA[DHP21] vs IHOP[OK23] vs Sap[OK21] vs Graphm[PW16] in accuracy and runtime.

Jigsaw – Experimental Results

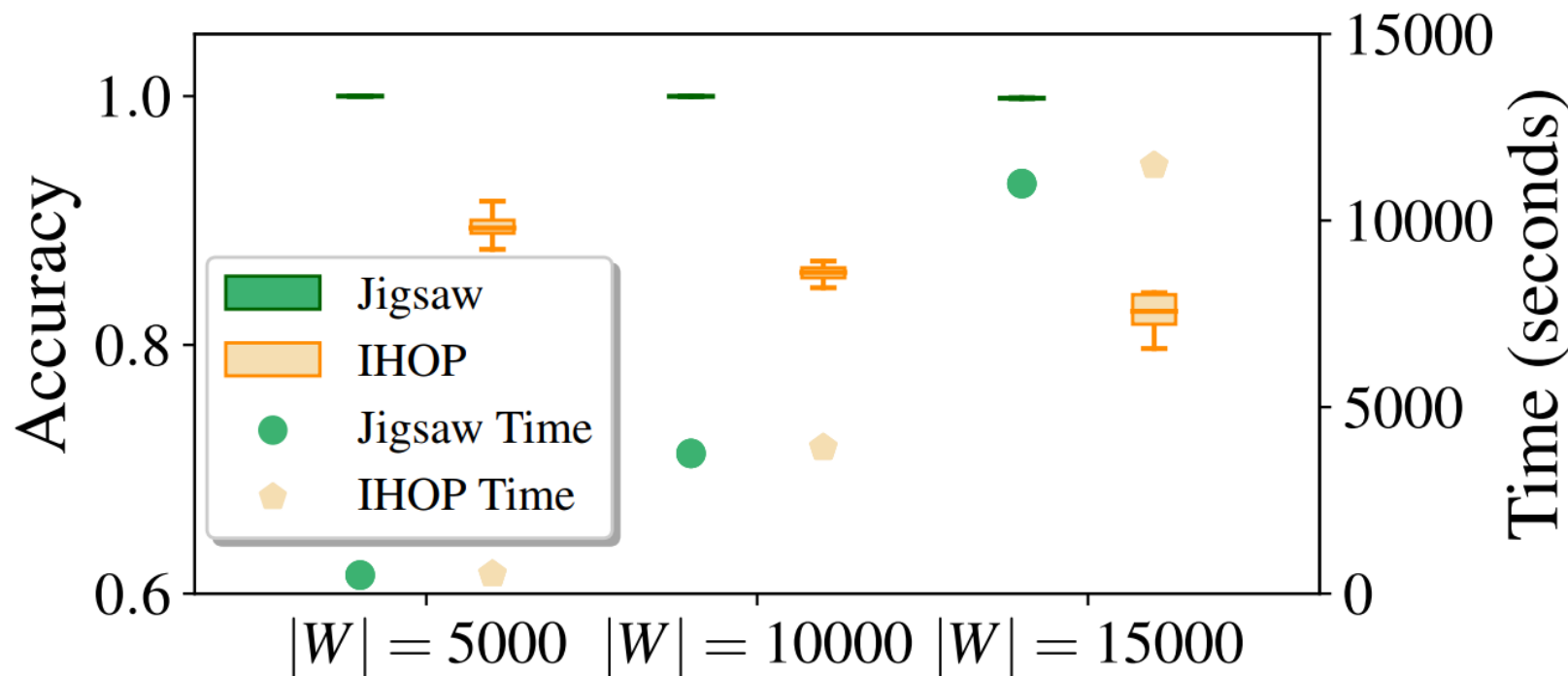
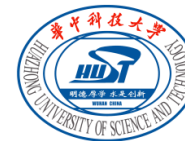
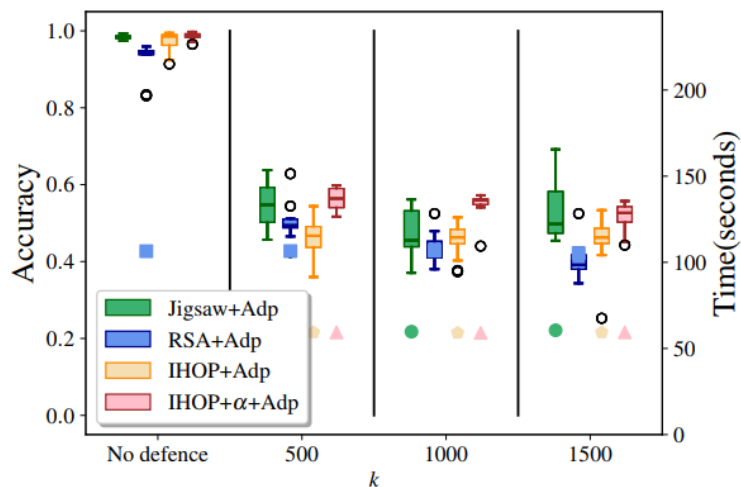
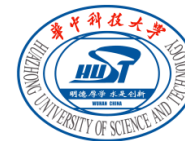
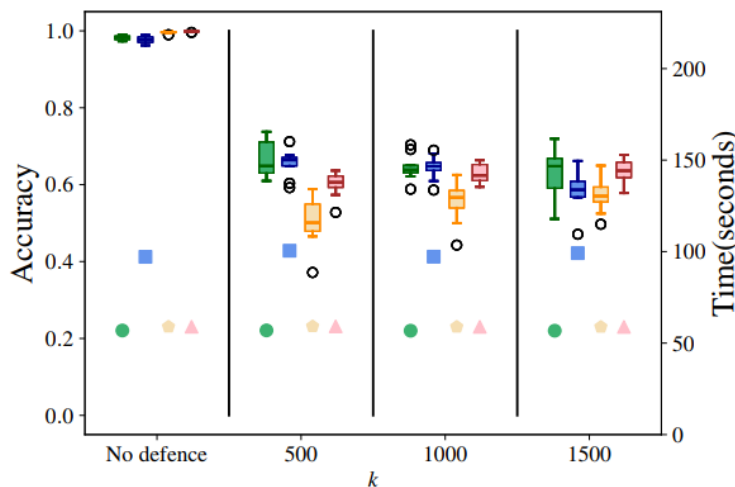


Figure: Jigsaw vs IHOP in accuracy with the same time limits.

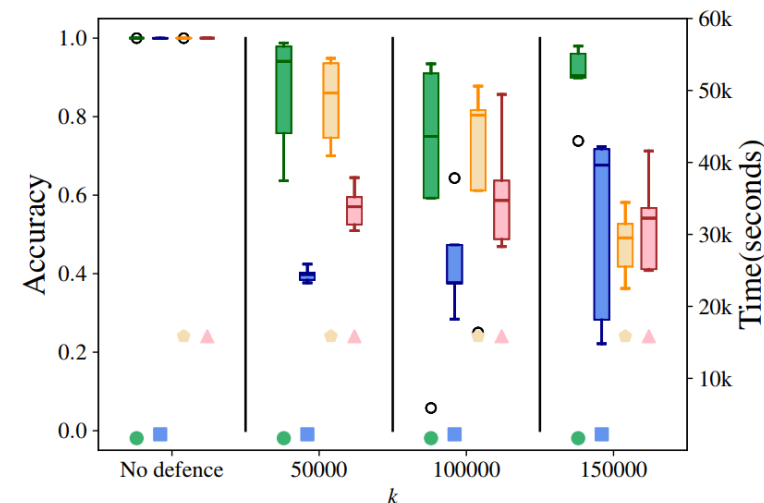
Against Countermeasures



Enron
($|W|=1000$)



Lucene
($|W|=1000$)

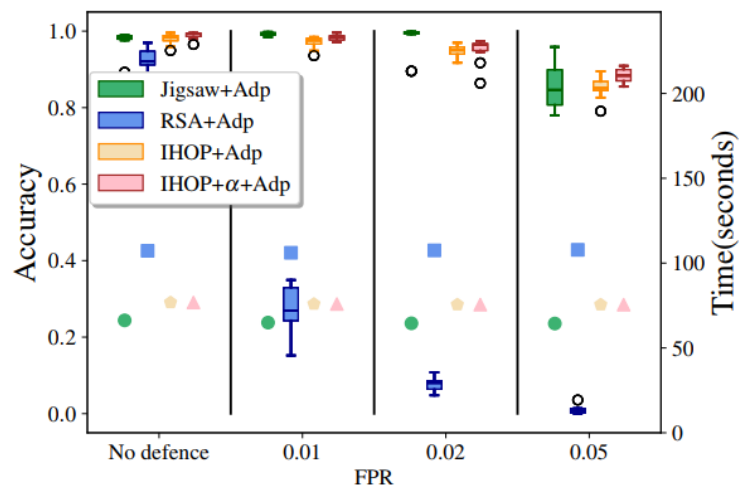
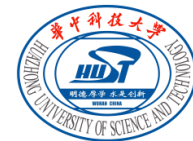


Wikipedia
($|W|=5000$)

Figure: Jigsaw vs RSA vs IHOP in accuracy against the padding in [CGPR15].

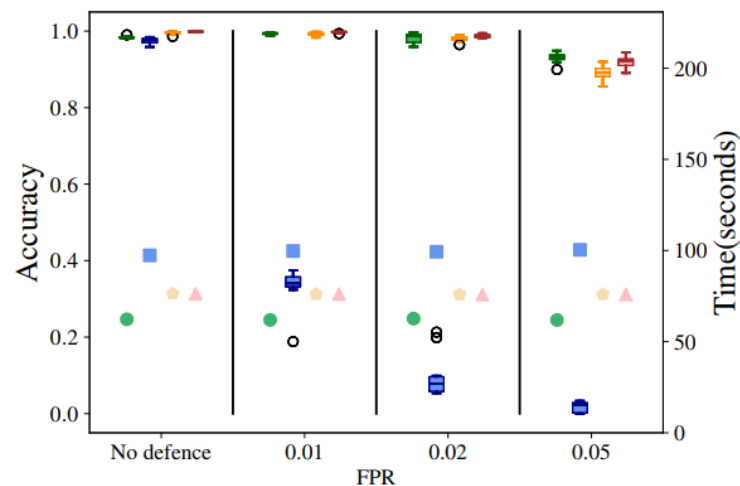
- We pad the attacker's database with the same method as the client to minimizing the disparity between the similar data and the padded data.

Against Countermeasures



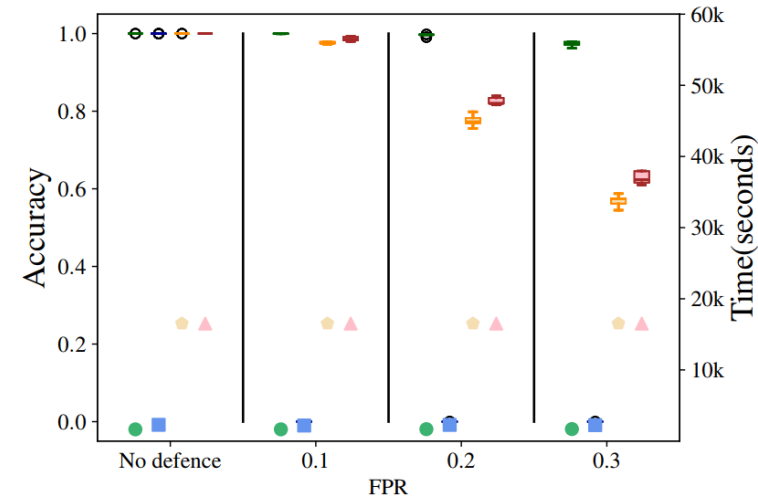
Enron

($|W|=1000$)



Lucene

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Wikipedia

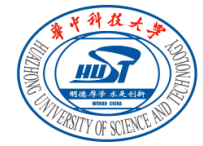
($|W|=5000$)

Figure: Jigsaw vs RSA vs IHOP in accuracy against the obfuscation in [CLRZ18].

- We use the similar adaptation as [OK23] to all the attacks.

III. Conclusion

Conclusion



- We propose a new similar-data attack, Jigsaw. Some distinctive queries could threaten the whole system due to an attack like Jigsaw.
- Jigsaw could bypass some countermeasures and still has high accuracy due to that the countermeasures do not protect the distinctive queries well.
- An effective defense should hide the distinctive queries.

Thank you for listening!

Code available: <https://github.com/JigsawAttack/JigsawAttack>

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