

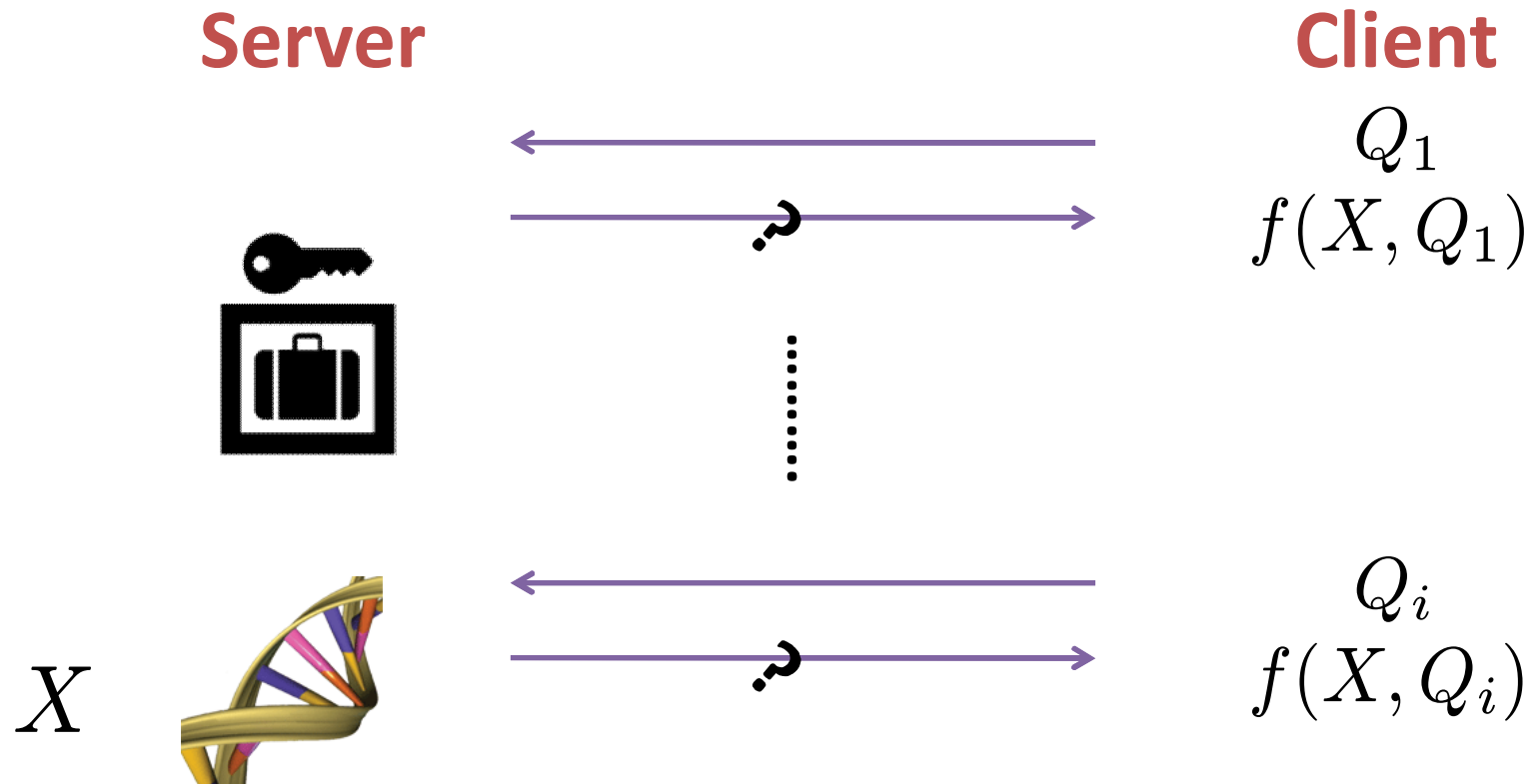
# Auditing Information Leakage for Distance Metrics



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# Motivating Scenario



*How to determine whether it is safe to release the response?*



# Contribution

**Target:** class of distance functions

An **efficient query auditor** to estimate maximum information leakage

Technique for **single bit** information auditing



# Strategy

Determine **# of secrets** consistent with all queries

- For a special class of functions:

  - Reduce to *0-1 integer programming*

Too expensive to compute exhaustively

- Use heuristics [find a meaningful bound]

## Assumption

- clients are authenticated by the server

- clients cannot share information with each other

# Additively Decomposable Functions

## Definition

A function,  $f(A, B)$ , where  $A, B \in \Sigma^N$ , is *additively decomposable* if:

$$\forall i \in [0, N], f(A, B) = f(A_{0:i}, B_{0:i}) + f(A_{i:N}, B_{i:N})$$



### Hamming distance

$$|\{i \in N : A_i \neq B_i\}|$$

### Squared Euclidean distance

$$\sum (A_i - B_i)^2$$

### Manhattan distance

$$\sum |A_i - B_i|$$



### Edit distance

Ins, del and sub

### Chebyshev distance

$$\max(|A_i - B_i|)$$

### Lee distance

$$\min(|A_i - B_i|, k - |A_i - B_i|)$$

# Influence Function

**Influence function** for any sequence  $X'$ :  $g(\Delta i)$

$\Delta i$ : changes made on  $i$ th bit of  $X$

For *additively decomposable* functions,  $g(\Delta i)$  for each bit is *independent* and for any consistent sequence over a set of queries:

$$\sum g(\Delta i) = 0$$

**Hamming distance:**  $g(\Delta i) = \begin{cases} 1, & X_i = Q_i \\ -1, & X_i \neq Q_i \end{cases}$

# Reduction for Hamming Distance

Convert a Hamming distance sequence leakage problem to:

$$AK=0$$

$$\text{where } A_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & X_j = Q_{ij} \\ -1, & X_j \neq Q_{ij} \end{cases} \quad K \in \{0, 1\}^N$$

**Example:**       **$X=1111$**        **$Q_1=1100$**        **$Q_2=1110$**

$$k_1 + k_2 - k_3 - k_4 = 0$$

$$k_1 + k_2 + k_3 - k_4 = 0$$

find the number of possible  
0-1 solutions for  $K$



# Computing Number of Solutions

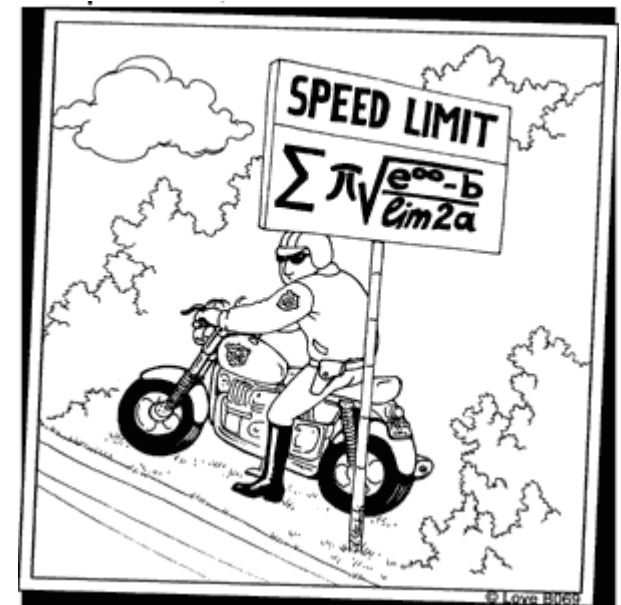
Exact methods: **exponential growth**

Exhaustive Search

Gröbner Basis ([Bertsimas, 2000])

**Lower bound is good enough!**

*Divide-and-merge* algorithm



# Divide-and-merge Algorithm

$X, \{Q_i\}$  Find # of 0-1 solutions for the equation set:  $AK=0$

## Divide and exhaustive search

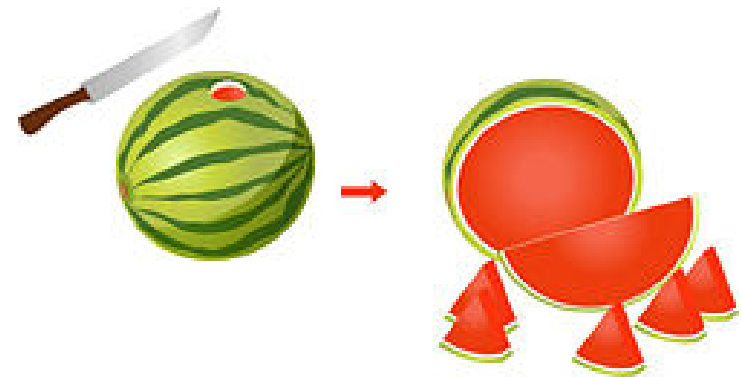
- Divide matrix A into small blocks
- Analyze each output exhaustively

## Sort and select

- Sort output
- Select  $r$  best combinations

## Merge

- Merge adjacent blocks





# Evaluation

## Implementation experiment settings

Matlab R2010b, 4 GB RAM 2.13 GHz CPU

## Experiment settings

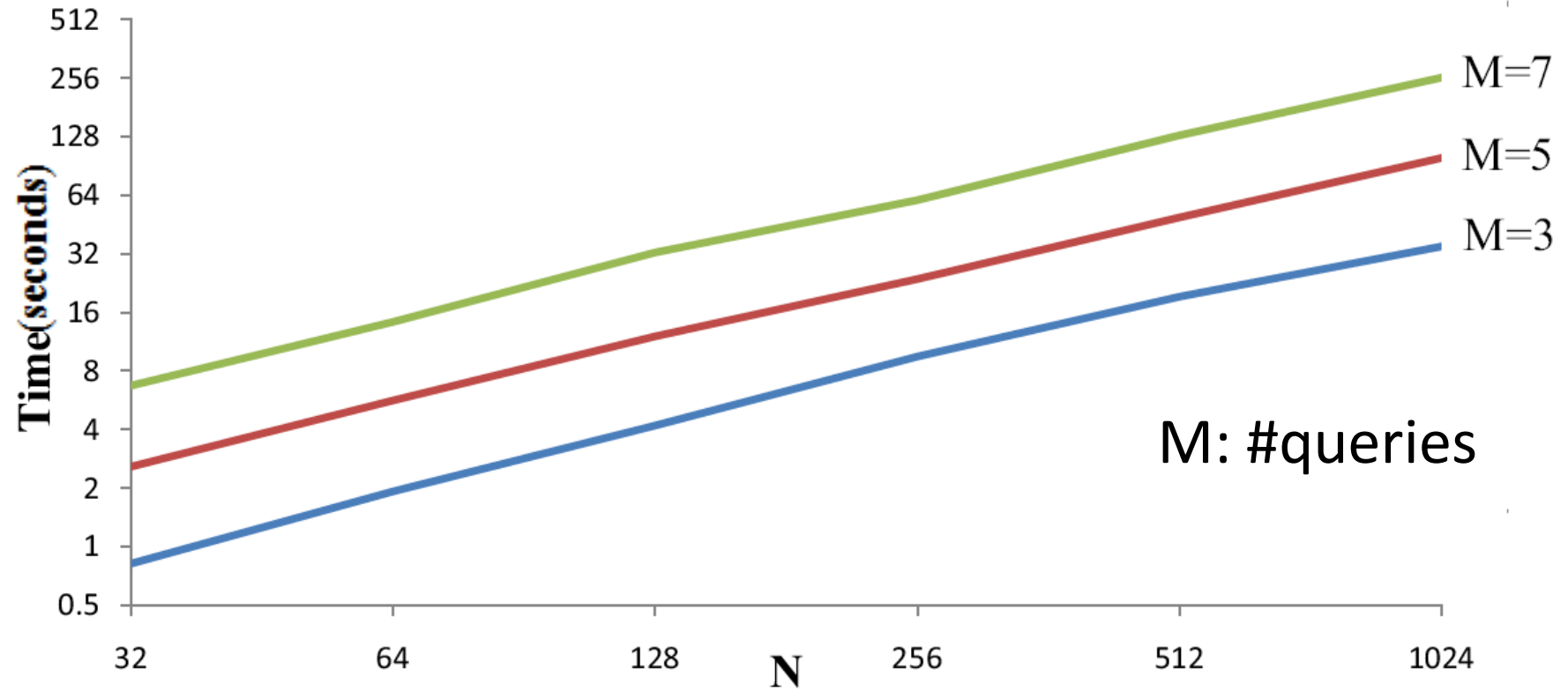
Averaging from 5 experiments

Scalability

Tightness

Real Application Performance (Iris Recognition)

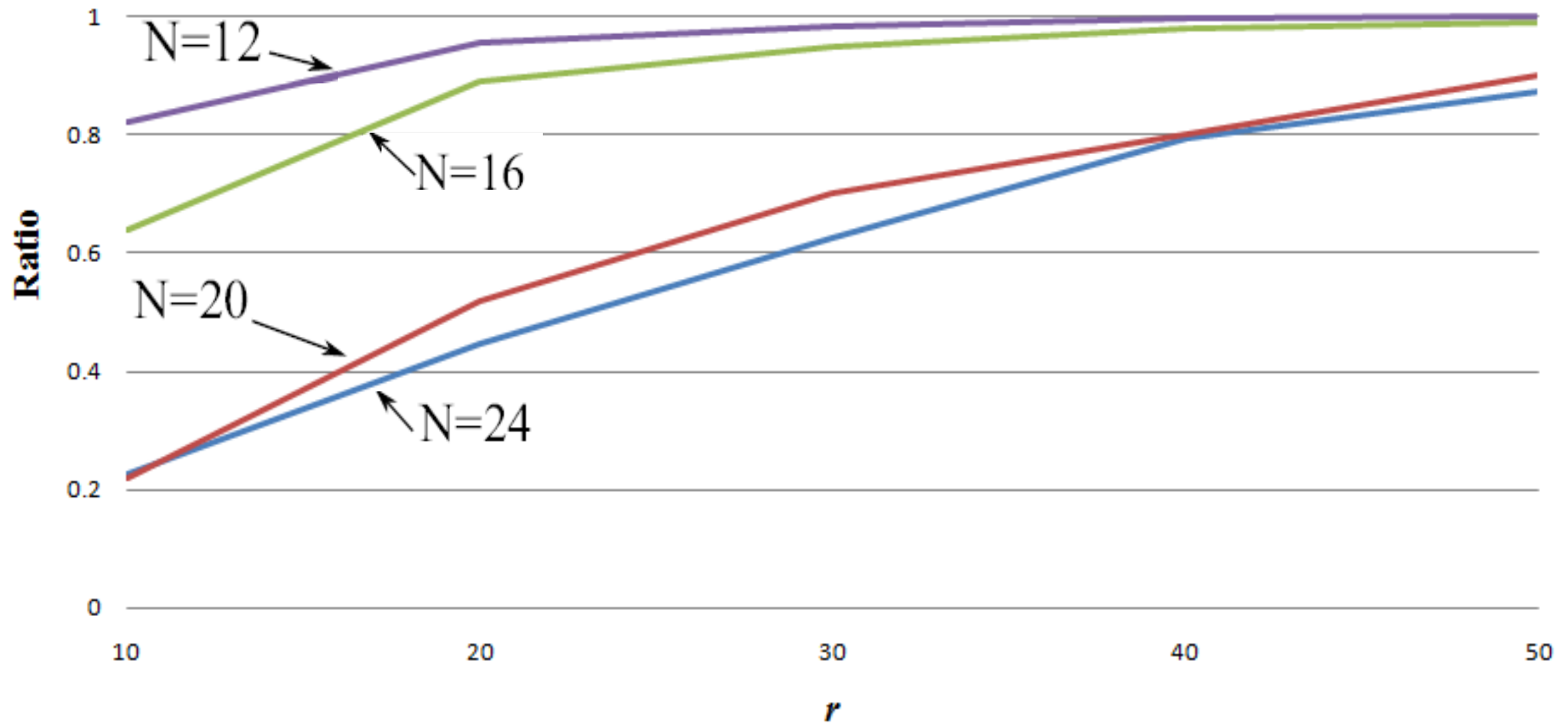
# Evaluation



**Scalability**

M: #queries

# Evaluation



**Tightness**

See the paper for detailed results and performance on iris application

# Related Work

## Estimating Information Leakage

- No auditor ([Goodrich, Oakland 2009])
- Weak auditor ([Wang, Wang et al., CCS 2009])

## Differential Privacy

- Add noise to protect secret information ([Dwork, ICALP 2006])

## Auditing Aggregate Queries

- Auditing SUM, MEAN or MAX queries over a set of private entries in a database ([Elshiekh, 2008],[Nabar et al., VLDB 2006], [Wang, Li et al., CCS 2009])

# Summary

- Query auditor for the server
  - Fast
  - Performance adjustable
  - Single-bit leakage (see paper)
- Challenges
  - Non-additive decomposable functions
  - Secure two-party computation protocol





**Thanks!**

[www.securecomputation.org](http://www.securecomputation.org)

# Single Bit Information Leakage

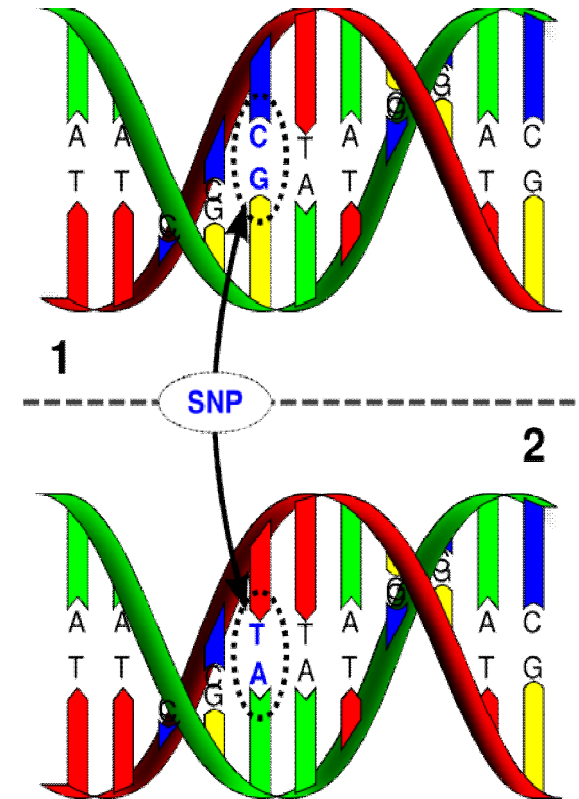
## Motivation

One bit leakage can also be crucial:

SNP (single nucleotide polymorphism)

## Assumptions

- The client knows nothing
- Any single bit information is leaked only when this bit is **100%** determined



# Single Bit Information Leakage

## Straightforward idea

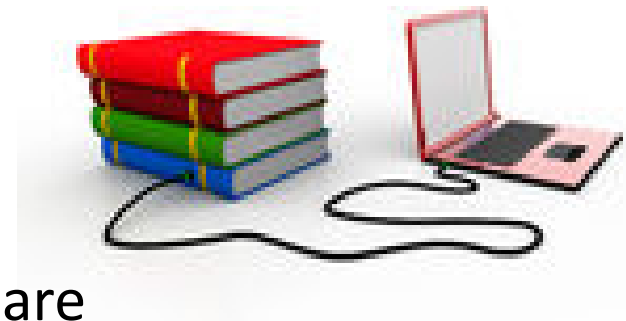
$$AK=0$$

Bit fully determined = corresponding  $k_i$  can only be 1

Check if there is a **non-zero solution** when  $k_i=0$

## Make it quicker.....

Build pre-computed **libraries**  
containing all possible combinations



**Libraries** can be pre-computer since they are  
not related to sequence length (N), X and Q

Without libraries:  $C_{1000-1}^{6-1} = 8.2 \times 10^{12}$  checks

With libraries: 9632 checks