

# Revisiting Leakage Abuse Attacks

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BROWN

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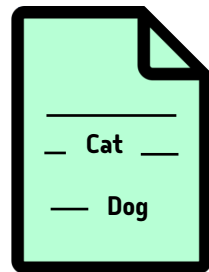
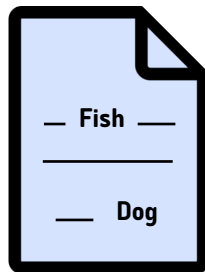
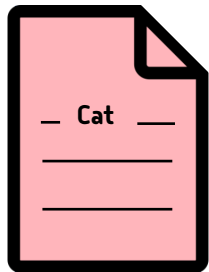
AROKI  
SYSTEMS



ENCRYPTED  
SYSTEMS LAB

# Encrypted Search

Trusted client



Untrusted server

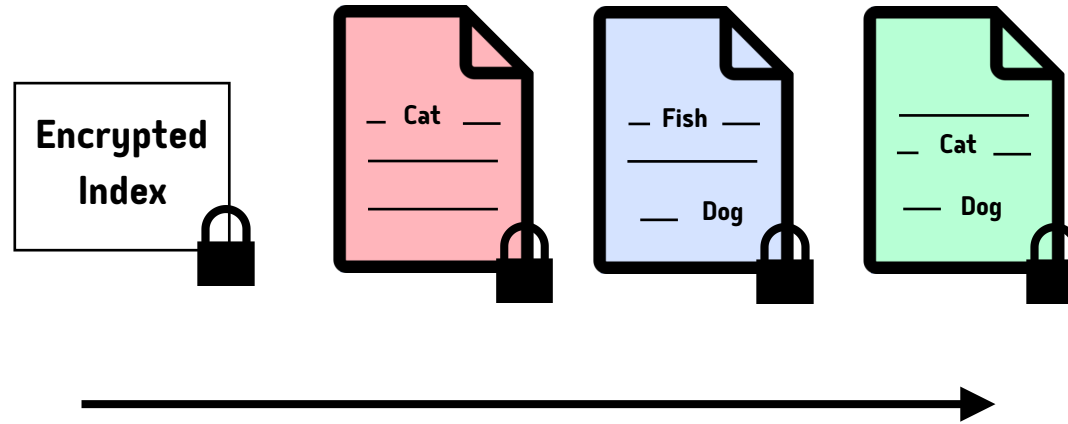


# Encrypted Search

Trusted client



Secret key 



Untrusted server

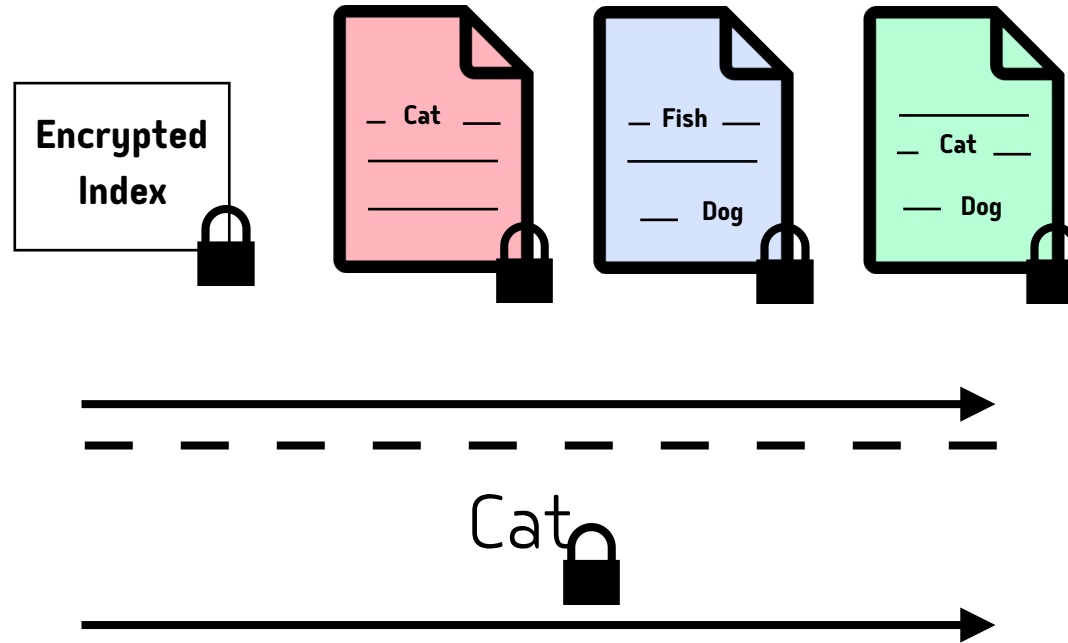


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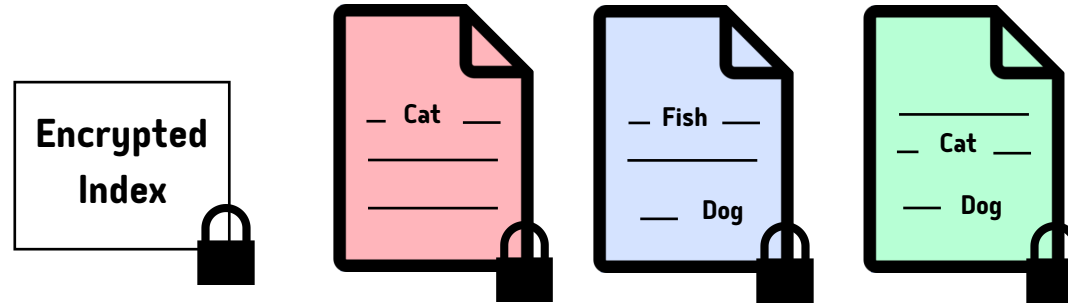


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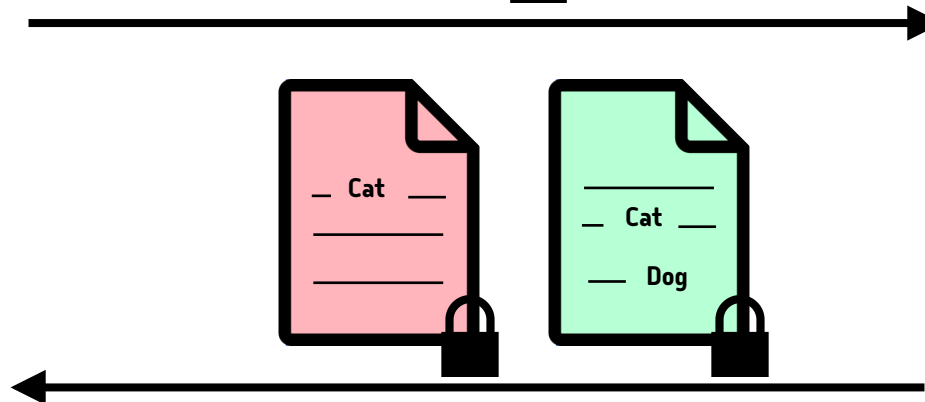
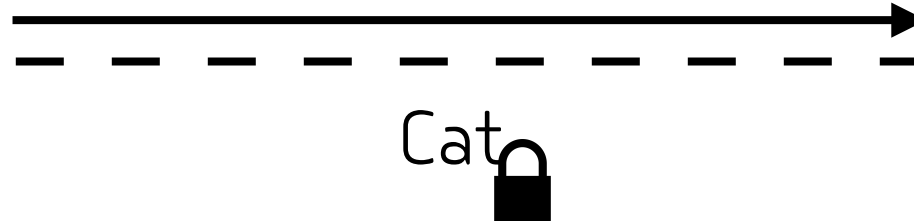
Trusted client



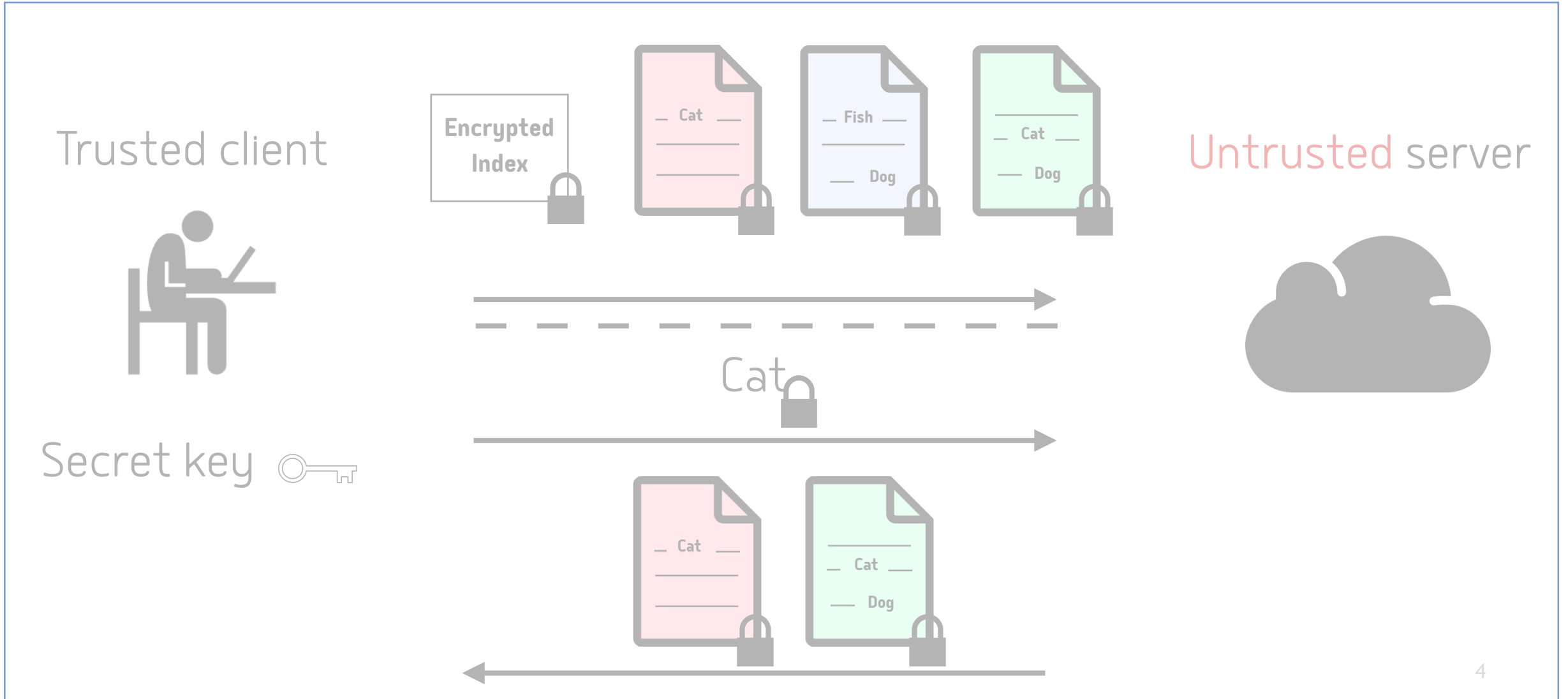
Secret key 



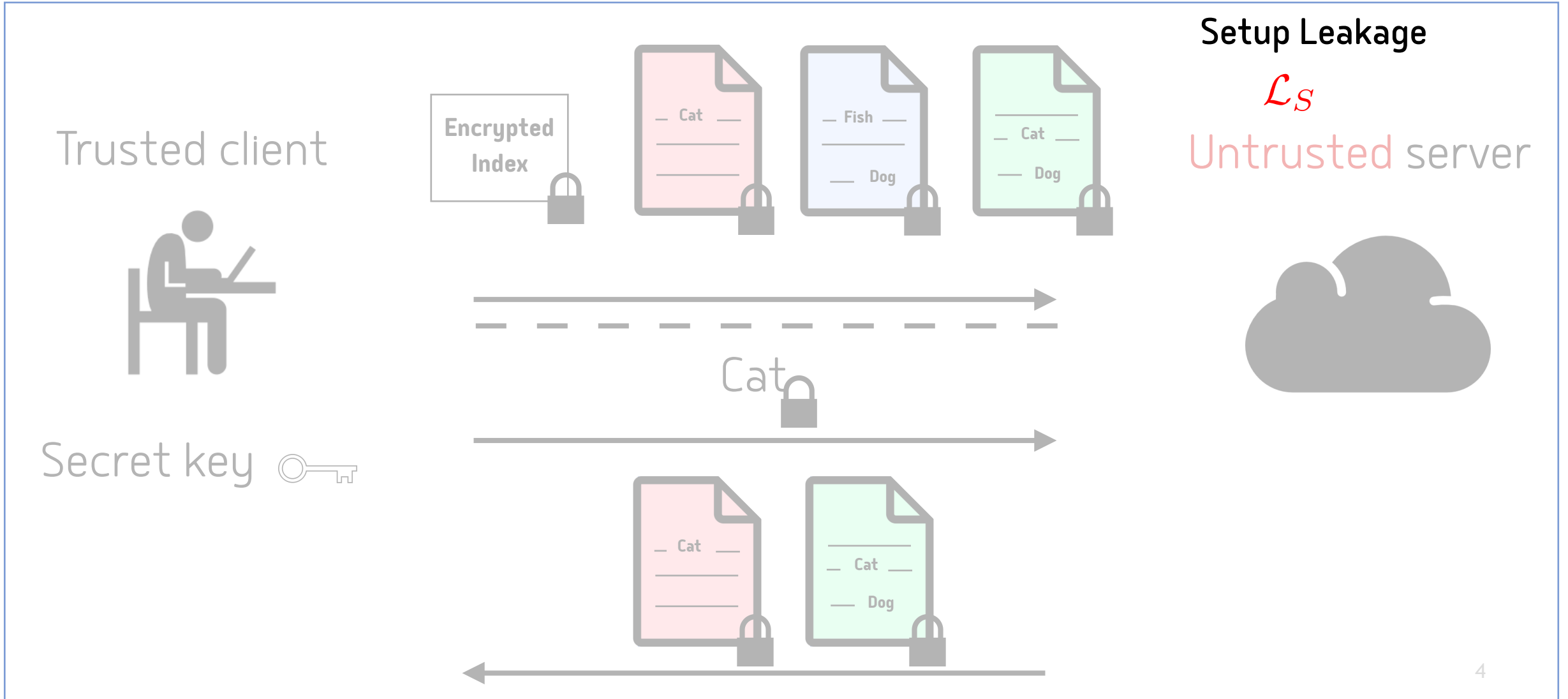
Untrusted server



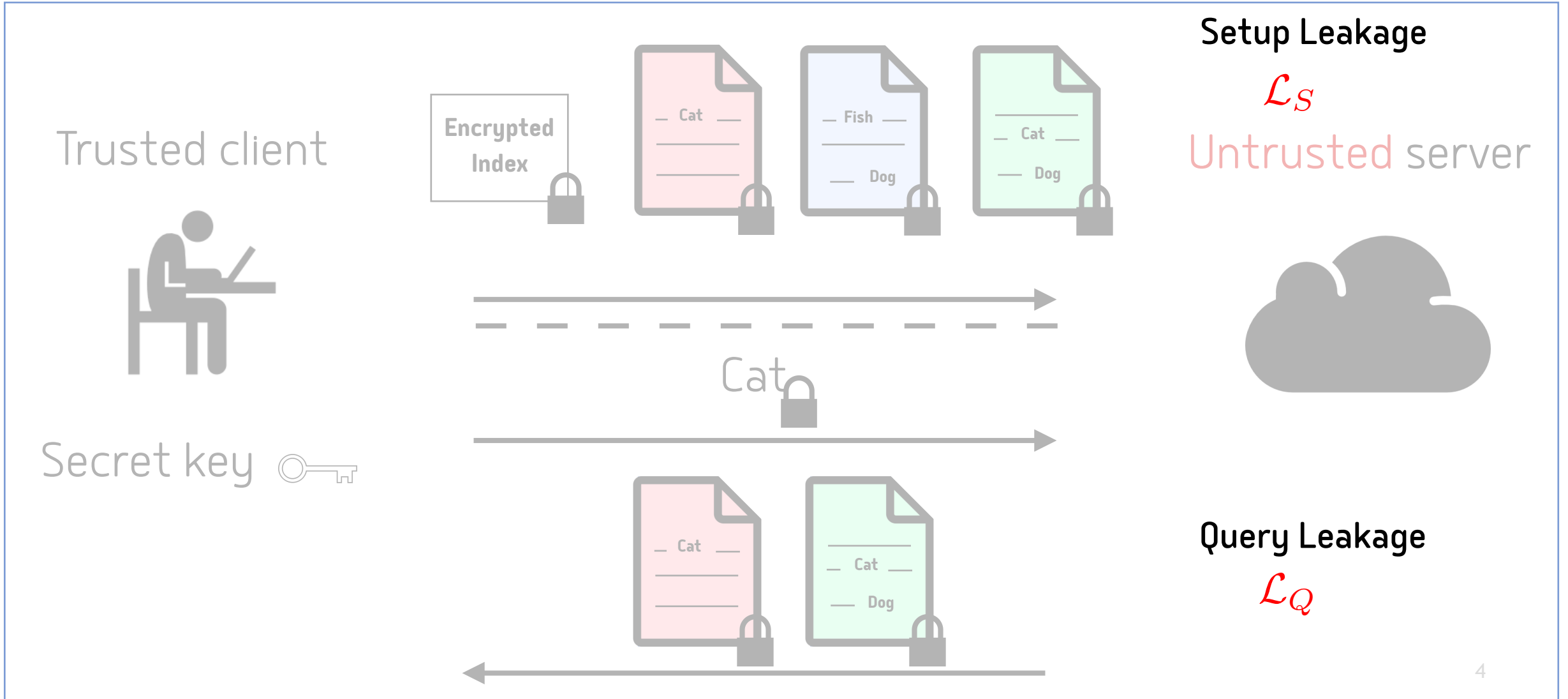
# Encrypted Search



# Encrypted Search



# Encrypted Search





# Query Leakage Terminology

- Query equality pattern (**qeq**)
  - If and when the search is the same (search pattern)
- Response identity pattern (**rid**)
  - The file identifiers matching the query (access pattern)
- Co-occurrence pattern (**co-occ**)
  - The number of files shared by any two queries
- Response length pattern (**rln**)
  - The number of files matching a query
- Volume pattern (**vol**) / Total volume pattern (**tvol**)
  - The number of bits of each file / the sum of file sizes in bits

Q: do we leak all of these patterns “at once”?

# Encrypted Search

## Primitives

Property-Preserving  
Encryption (PPE)

Functional  
Encryption

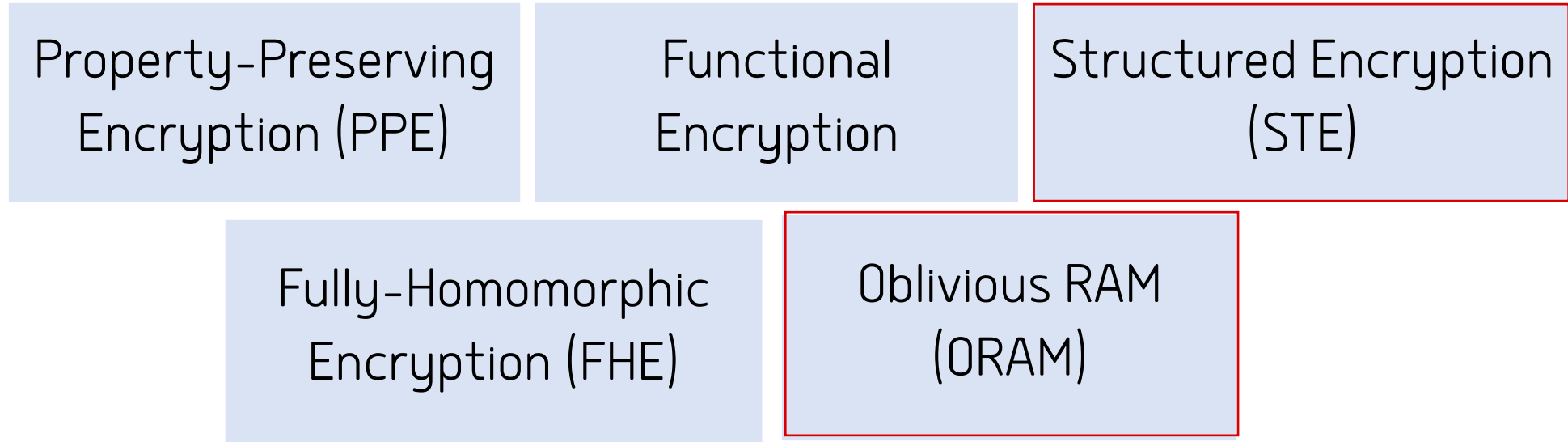
Structured Encryption  
(STE)

Fully-Homomorphic  
Encryption (FHE)

Oblivious RAM  
(ORAM)

# Encrypted Search

## Primitives



# Encrypted Search

STE- & ORAM- based schemes

co-occ

qeq

vol

rid

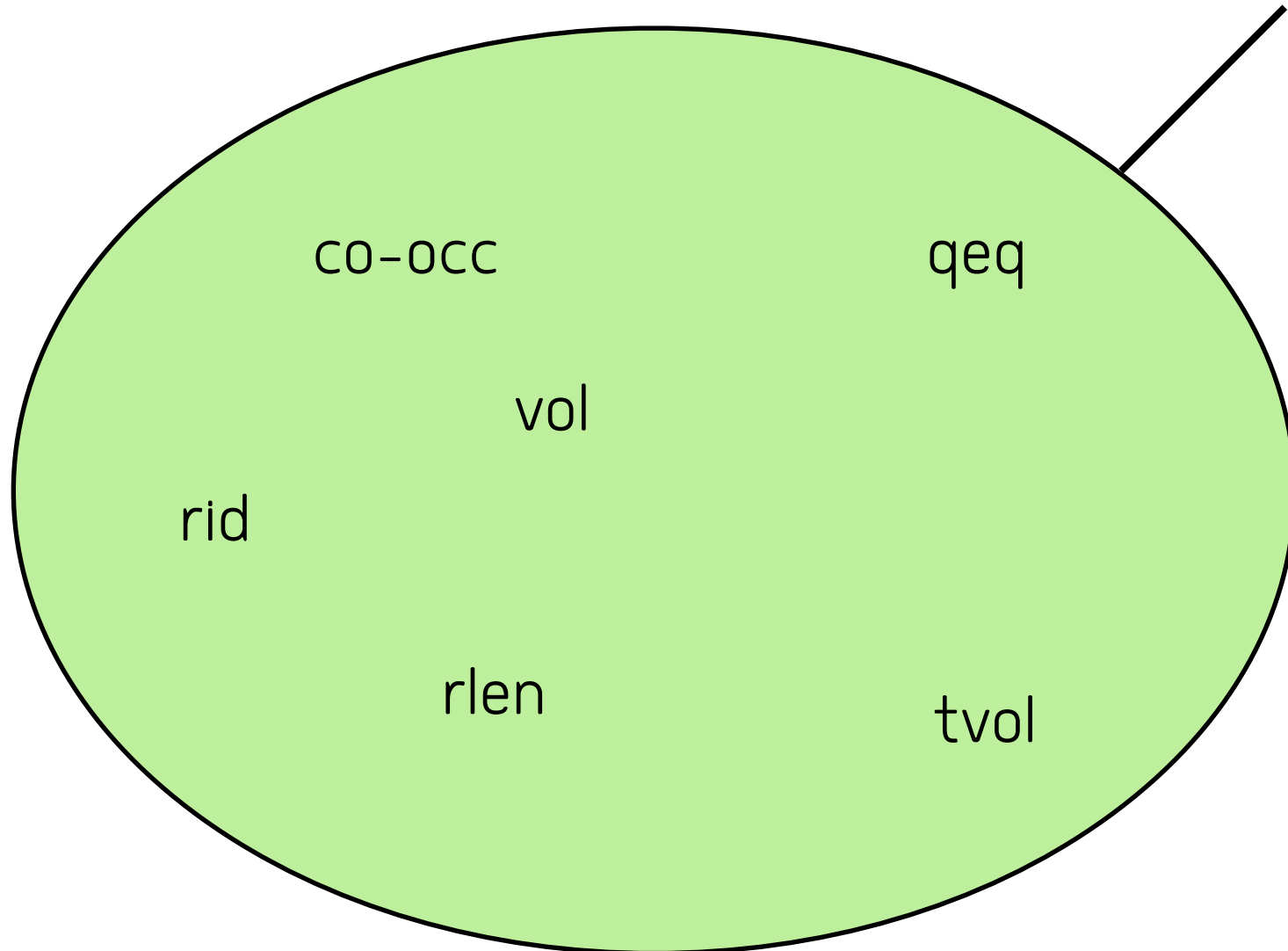
rln

tvol

# Encrypted Search

STE- & ORAM- based schemes

Baseline STE

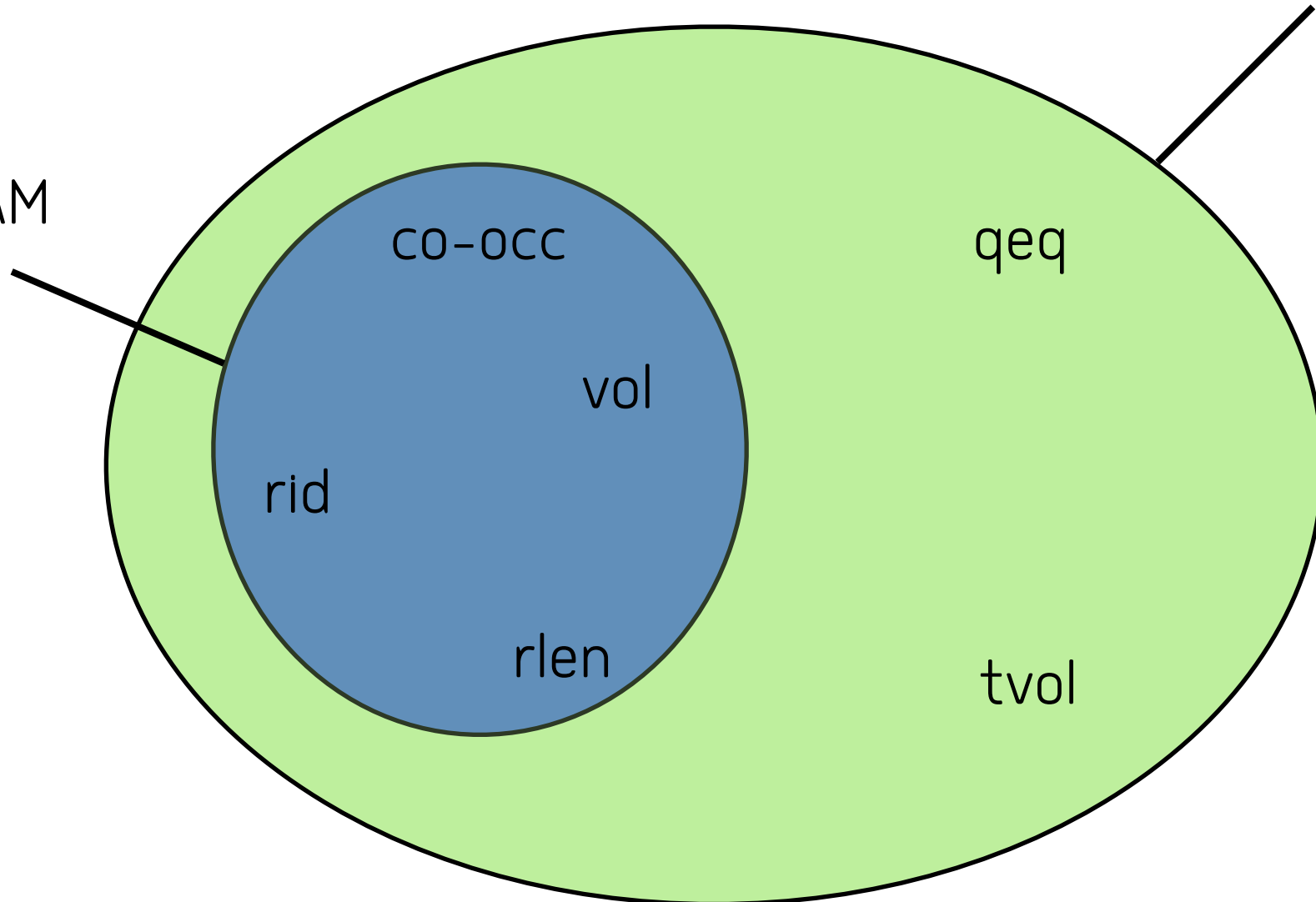


# Encrypted Search

STE- & ORAM- based schemes

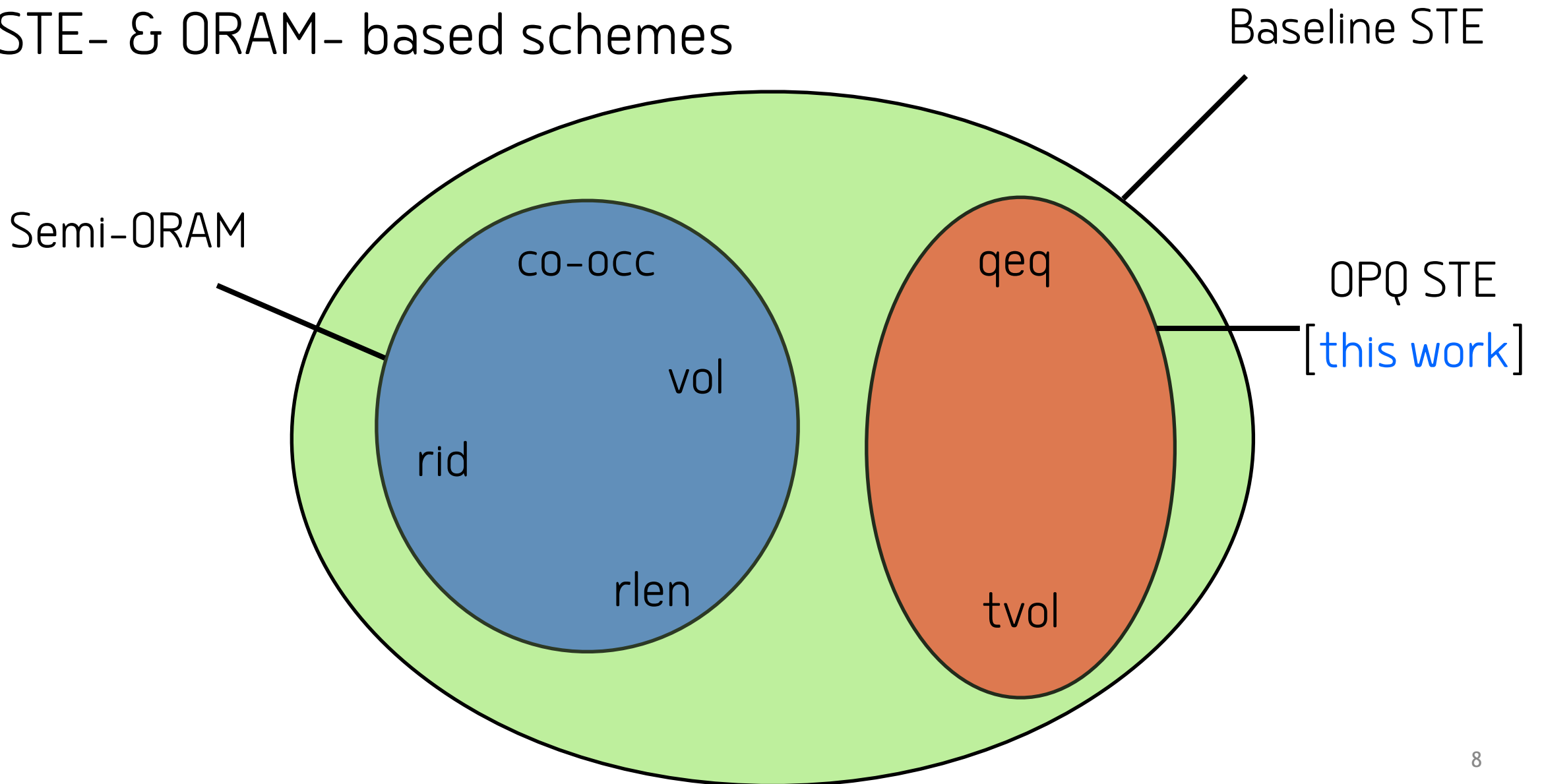
Baseline STE

Semi-ORAM



# Encrypted Search

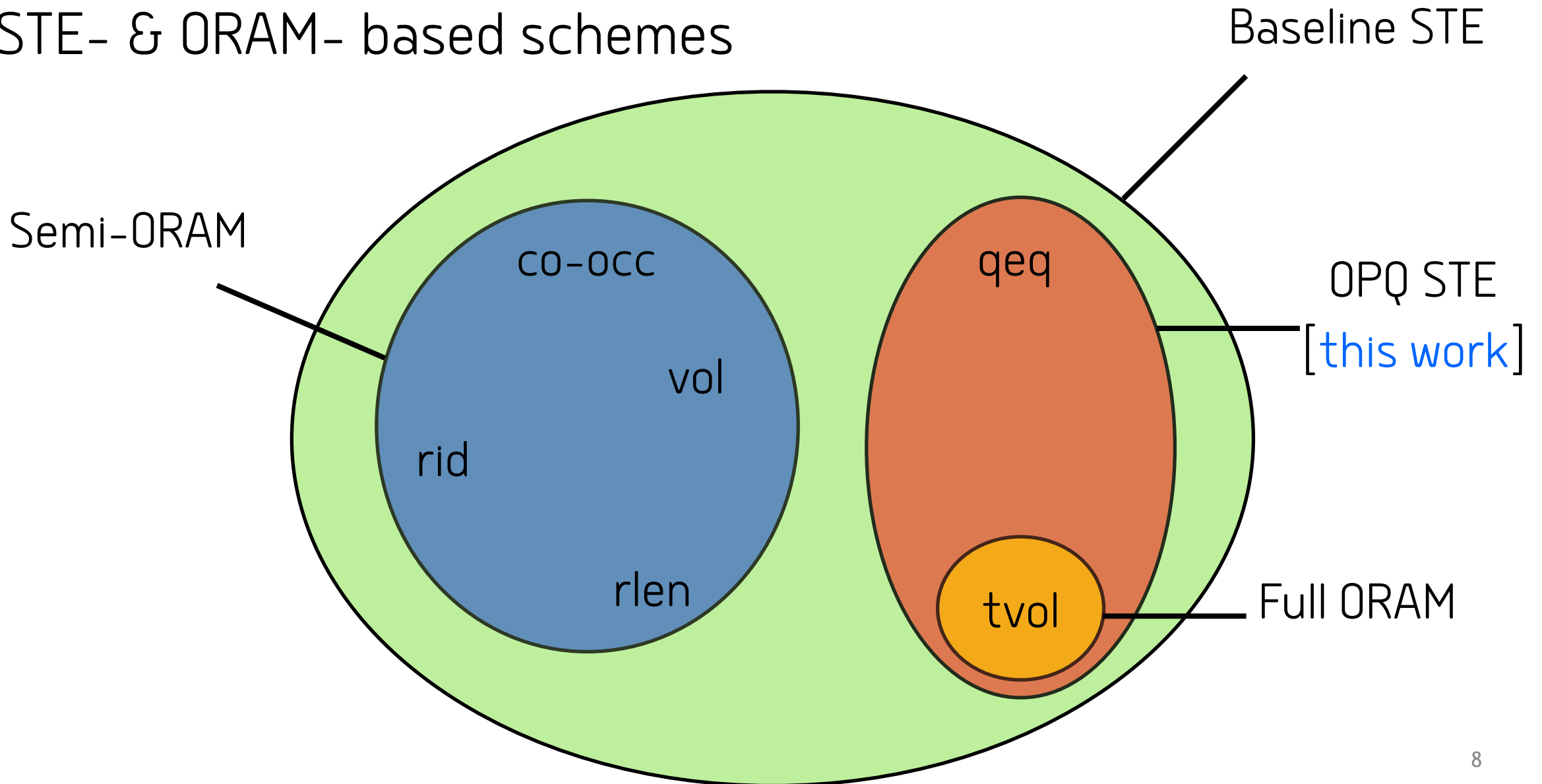
STE- & ORAM- based schemes





# Encrypted Search

STE- & ORAM- based schemes



Q: can we use the disclosed leakage to recover user's data?

# Leakage Attacks



## Assumptions

- Type of adversary
- Type of auxiliary data
- Type of actions
- ...

# Leakage Attacks

## Assumptions

# Leakage Attacks

## Assumptions



- **Adversarial model**

- **persistent**: needs encrypted index, documents and queries
- **snapshot**: needs encrypted index and documents

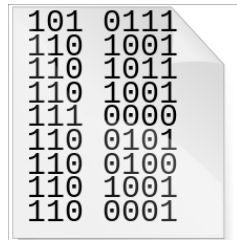
# Leakage Attacks

## Assumptions



- **Adversarial model**

- **persistent**: needs encrypted index, documents and queries
- **snapshot**: needs encrypted index and documents



- **Auxiliary information**

- **known sample**: needs sample from same distribution
- **known data**: needs actual data or/and user queries
  - $\delta$ : fraction of adversarially-known data

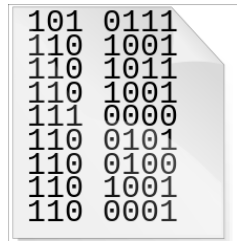
# Leakage Attacks

## Assumptions



- **Adversarial model**

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- **snapshot**: needs encrypted index and documents



- **Auxiliary information**

- **known sample**: needs sample from same distribution
- **known data**: needs actual data or/and user queries
  - $\delta$ : fraction of adversarially-known data



- **Passive vs. active**

- **injection (chosen-data)**: needs to inject data

# Leakage Attacks

IKK Attack [[Islam-Kuzu-Kantarcioglu12](#)]





# Leakage Attacks

IKK Attack [[Islam-Kuzu-Kantarcioglu12](#)]

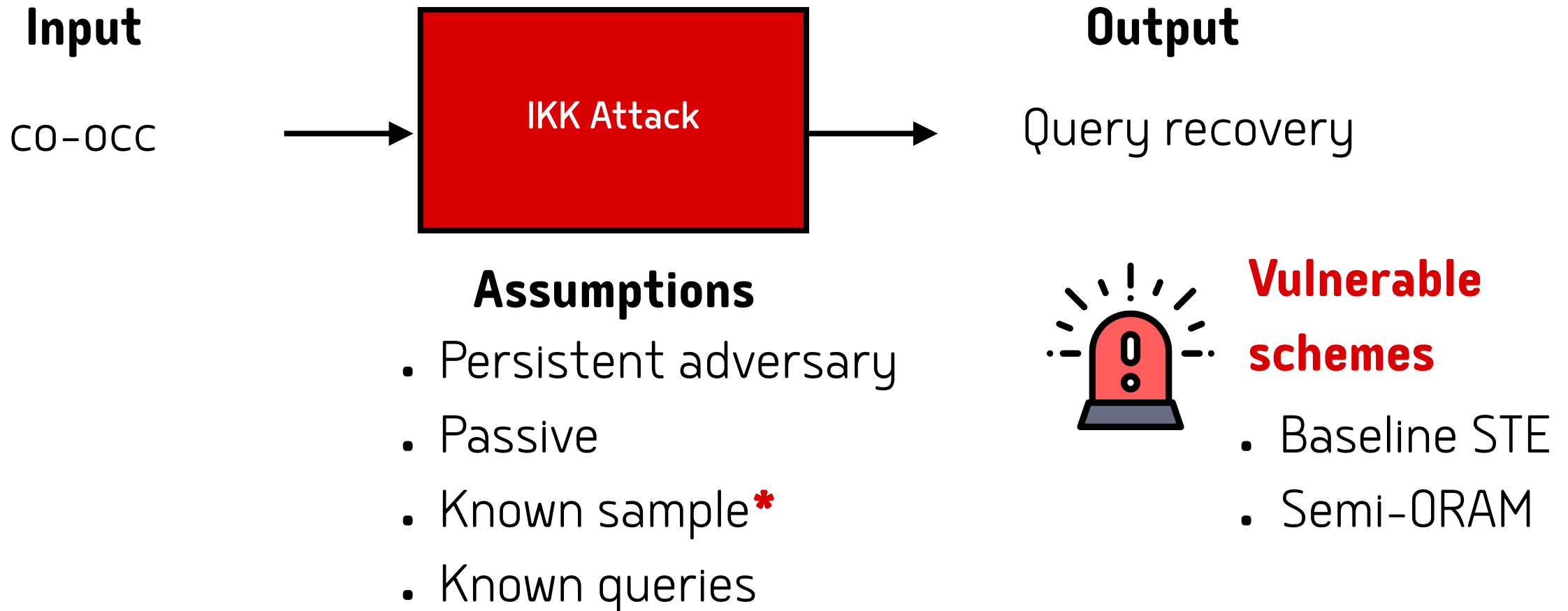


## Assumptions

- Persistent adversary
- Passive
- Known sample\*
- Known queries

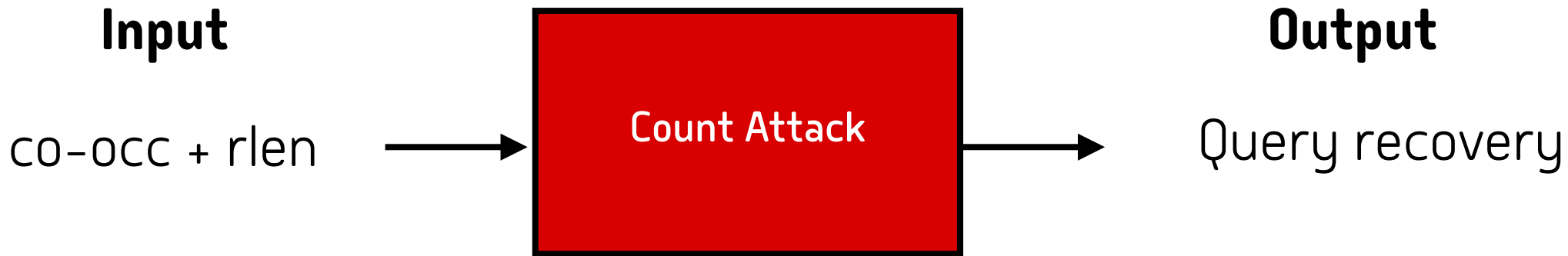
# Leakage Attacks

IKK Attack [[Islam-Kuzu-Kantarcioglu12](#)]



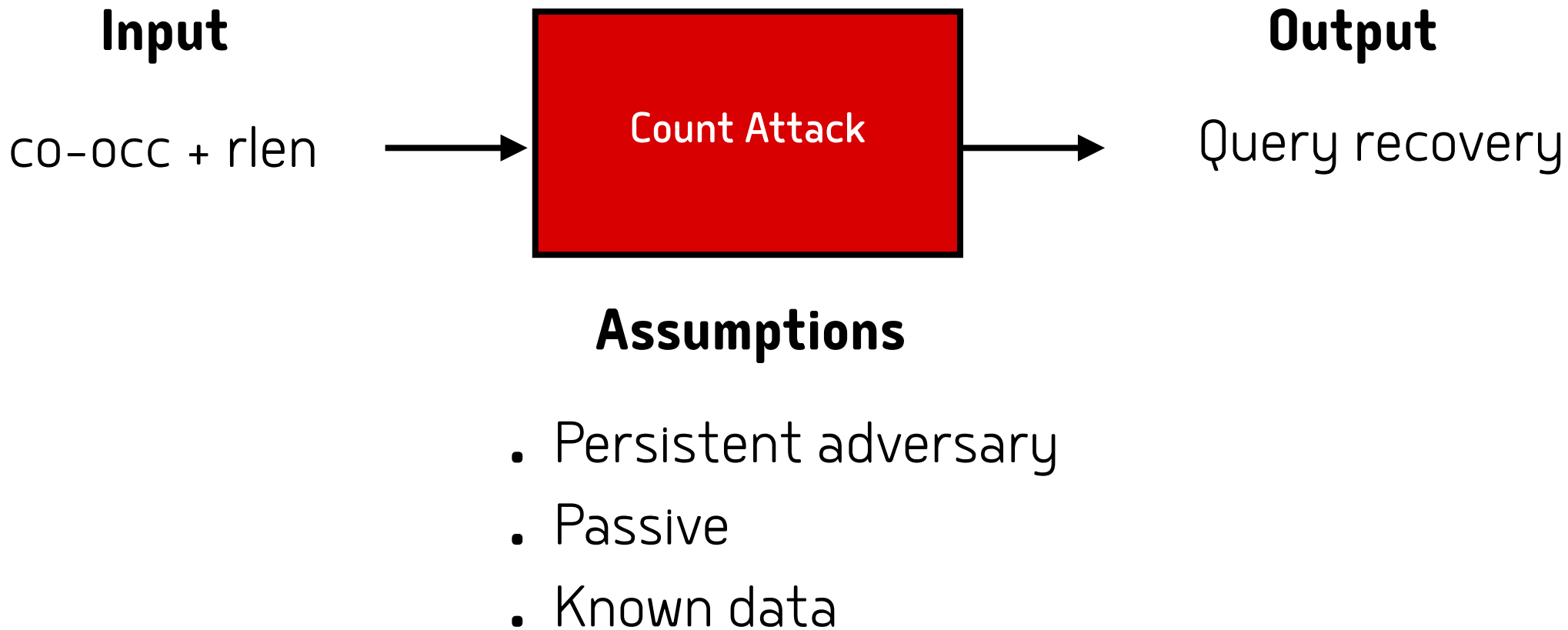
# Leakage Attacks

Count Attack [[Cash-Grubbs-Perry-Ristenpart15](#)]



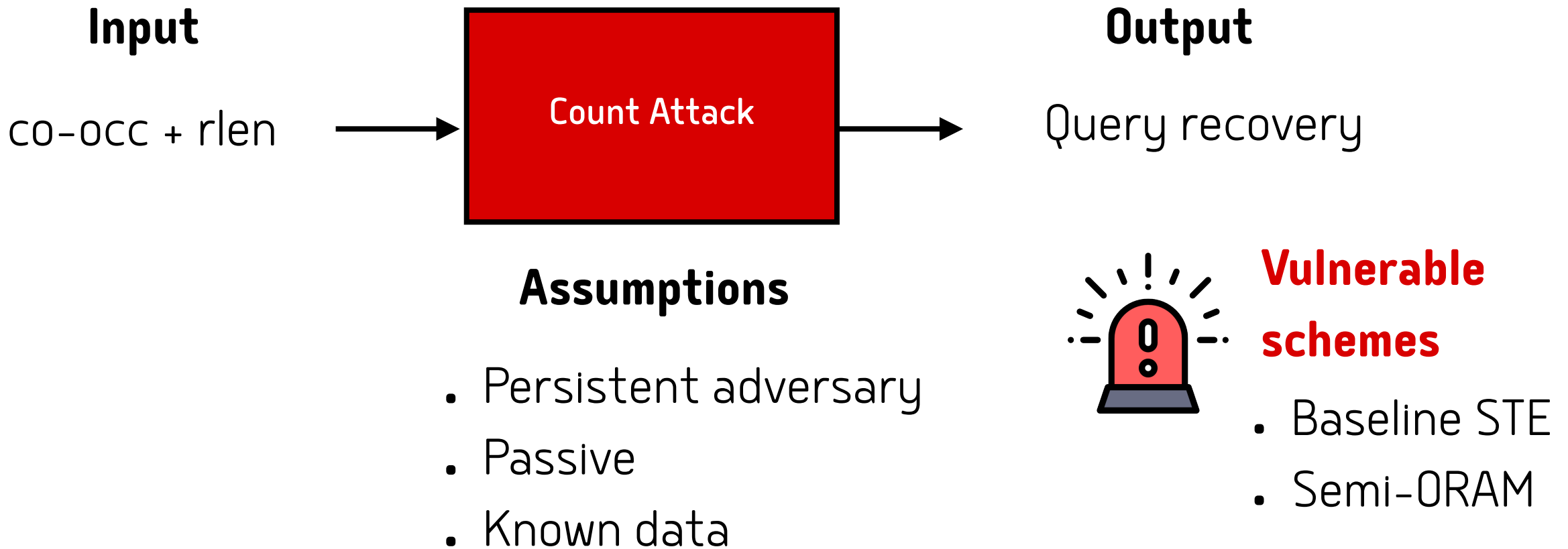
# Leakage Attacks

Count Attack [[Cash-Grubbs-Perry-Ristenpart15](#)]



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Count Attack [[Cash-Grubbs-Perry-Ristenpart15](#)]



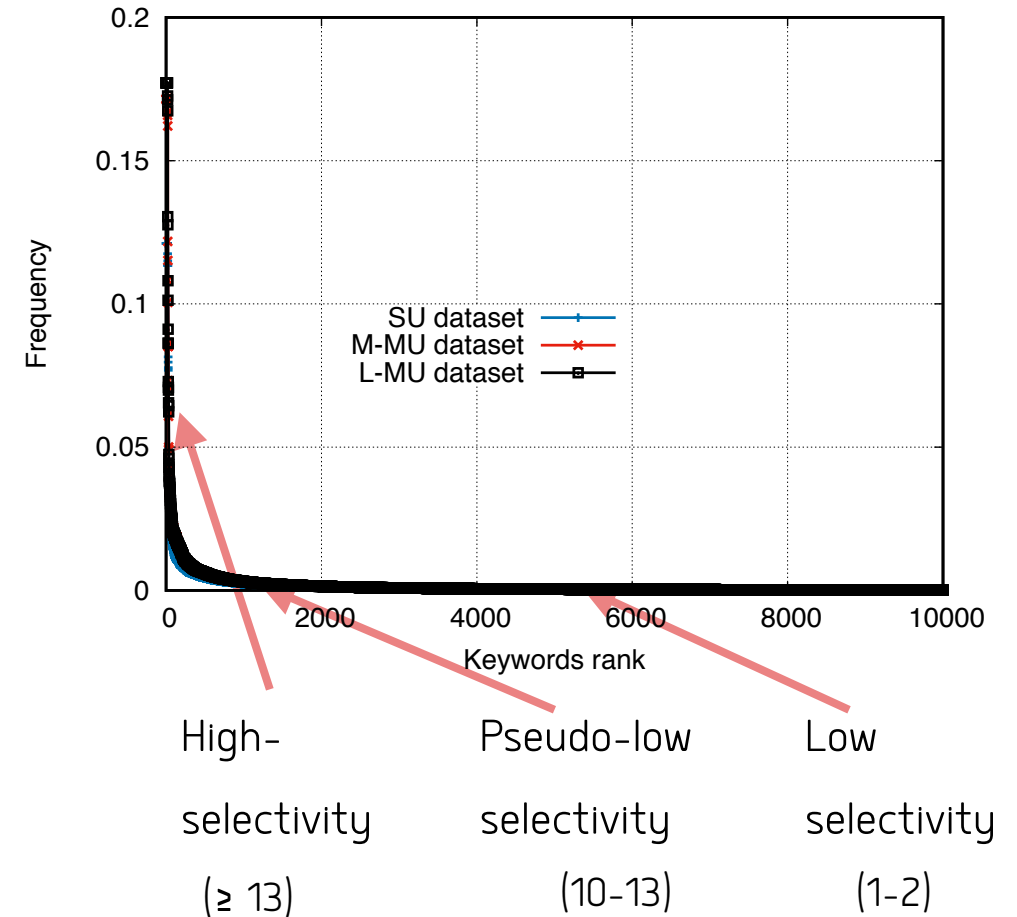
# Impact of IKK & Count

- “For example, [IKK](#) demonstrated that by observing accesses to an encrypted email repository, an adversary can infer as much as 80% of the search queries”
- “It is known that access patterns, to even encrypted data, can leak sensitive information such as encryption keys [[IKK](#)]”
- “A recent line of attacks [...,[Count](#),...] has demonstrated that such access pattern leakage can be used to recover significant information about data in encrypted indices. For example, some attacks can recover all search queries [[Count](#),...] ...”

# A closer look at IKK & Count attacks

# Non-trivial limitations

- High known-data rates
  - Count v1 requires more than **80%** and **5%** of the queries
  - IKK requires more than **95%** and **5%** of the queries
  - Count v2 requires more than **60%**
  - Practical vs. Theoretical?
- Low-vs. high selectivity keywords
  - Experiments all run on **high-selectivity** keywords
    - Keywords that are frequent in the user's data
  - Re-ran on low-selectivity keywords and **failed**
- Both exploit co-occurrence
  - relatively **easy to hide** (using OPQ SSE)





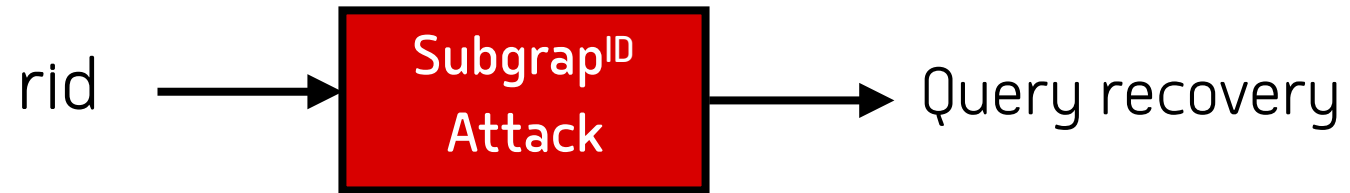
Q: can we do better than IKK & Count?

# Summary of our Attacks

Known-Data attacks

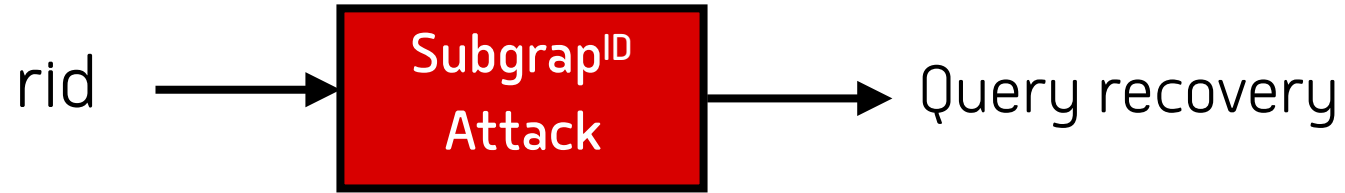
# Summary of our Attacks

## Known-Data attacks



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## Known-Data attacks

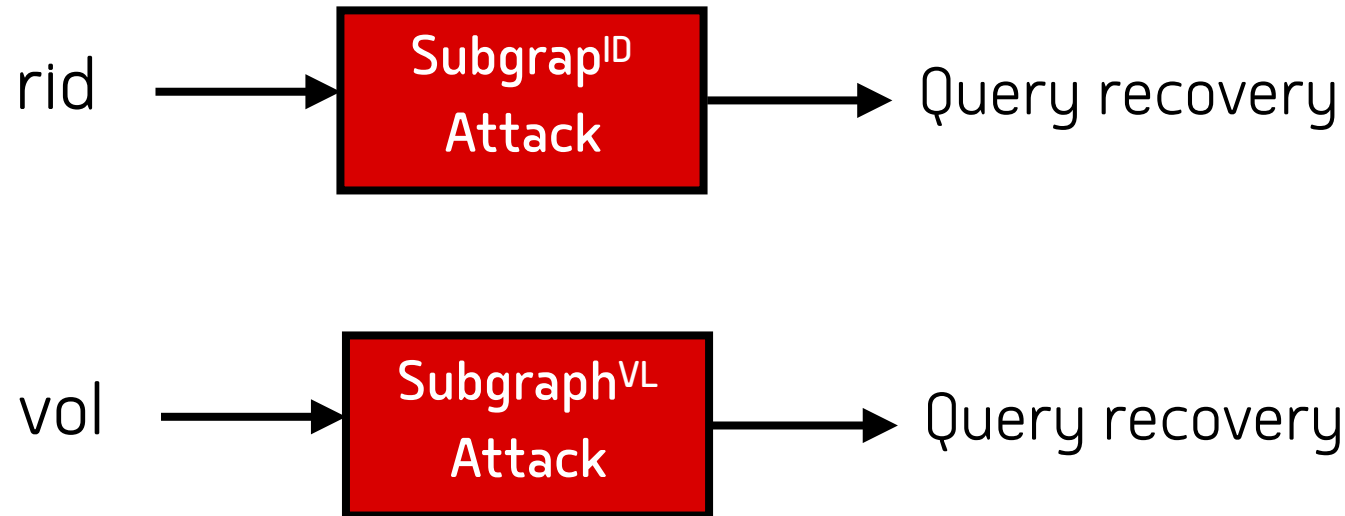


**Vulnerable schemes**

- Baseline STE
- Semi-ORAM

# Summary of our Attacks

## Known-Data attacks



## Vulnerable schemes

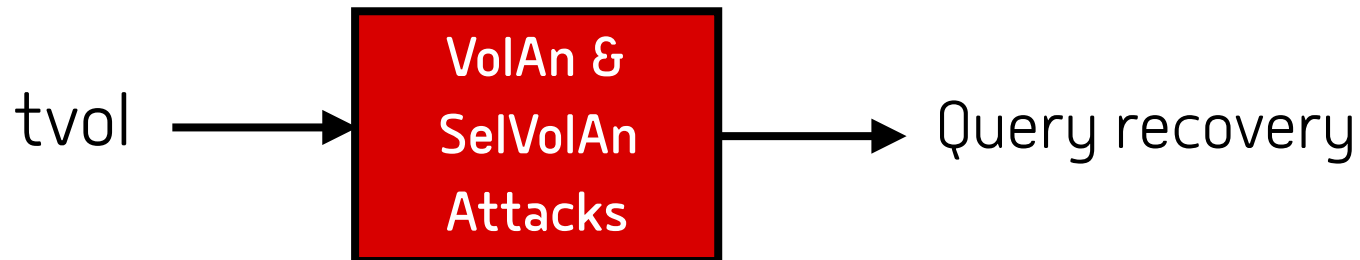
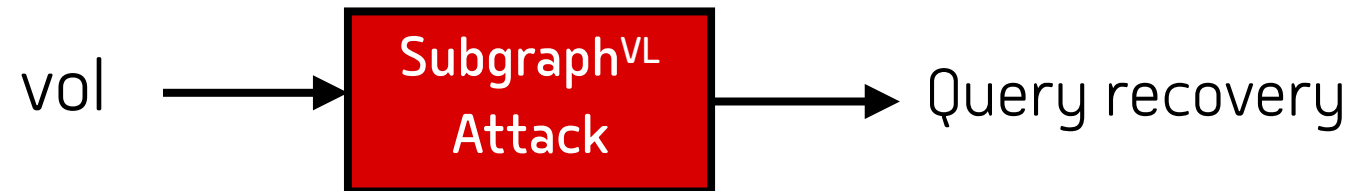
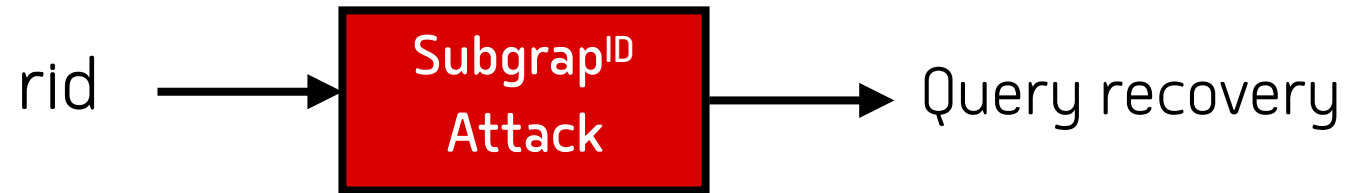
- Baseline STE
- Semi-ORAM
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# Summary of our Attacks

## Known-Data attacks



## Vulnerable schemes



- Baseline STE
- Semi-ORAM

- Baseline STE
- Semi-ORAM

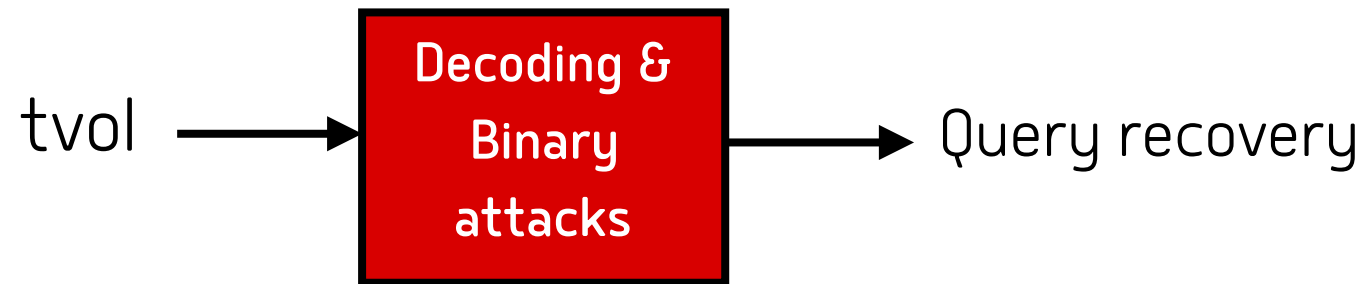
- Baseline STE
- Semi-ORAM
- OPQ STE
- Full ORAM

# Summary of our Attacks

## Injection attacks



**Vulnerable schemes**



- Baseline STE
- Semi-ORAM
- OPQ STE
- Full ORAM

First injection attack was by [[Zhang-Katz-Papamanthou16](#)] and works against Baseline STE and Semi-ORAM

# The Subgraph<sup>VL</sup> Attack



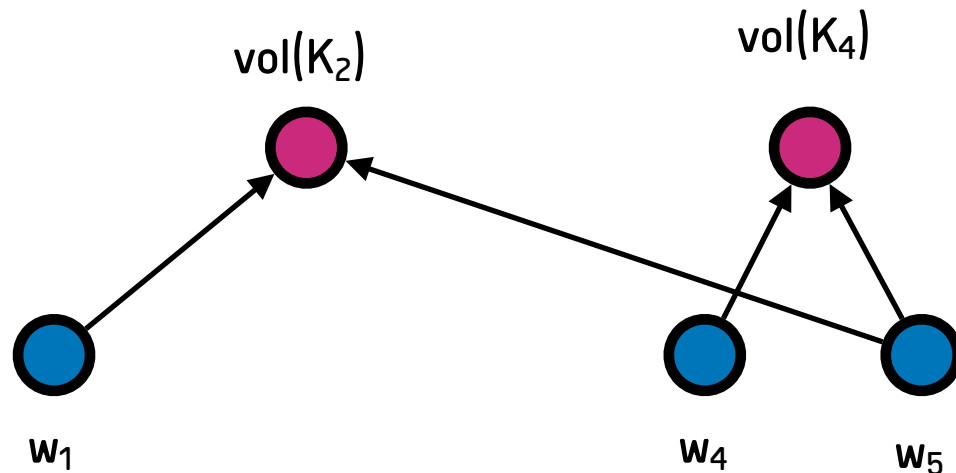
# The Subgraph<sup>VL</sup> Attack

- Let  $\mathbf{K} \subseteq \mathbf{D}$  be set of known documents
  - $\mathbf{K} = (K_2, K_4)$  and  $\mathbf{D} = (D_1, \dots, D_4)$

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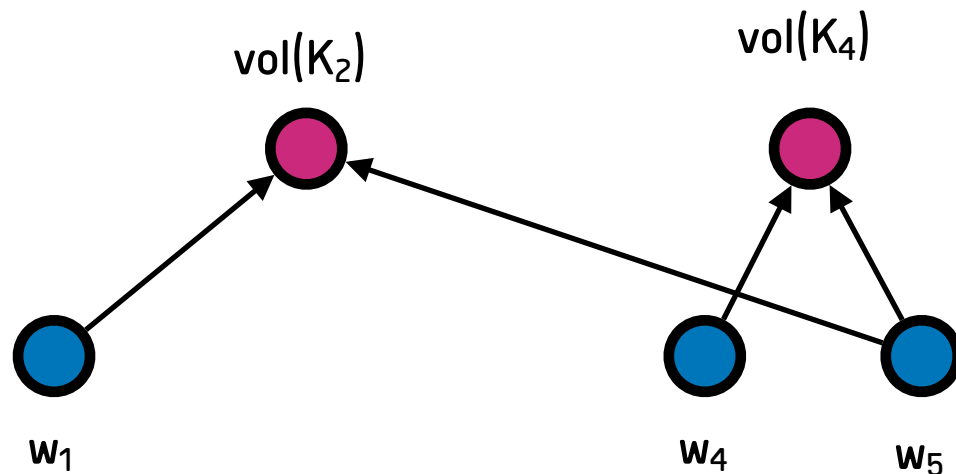
Known Graph



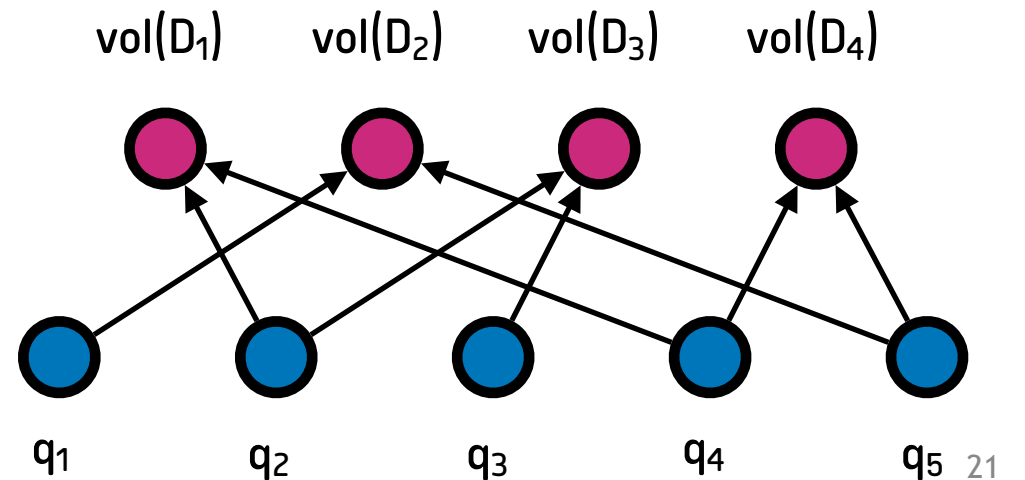
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Known Graph



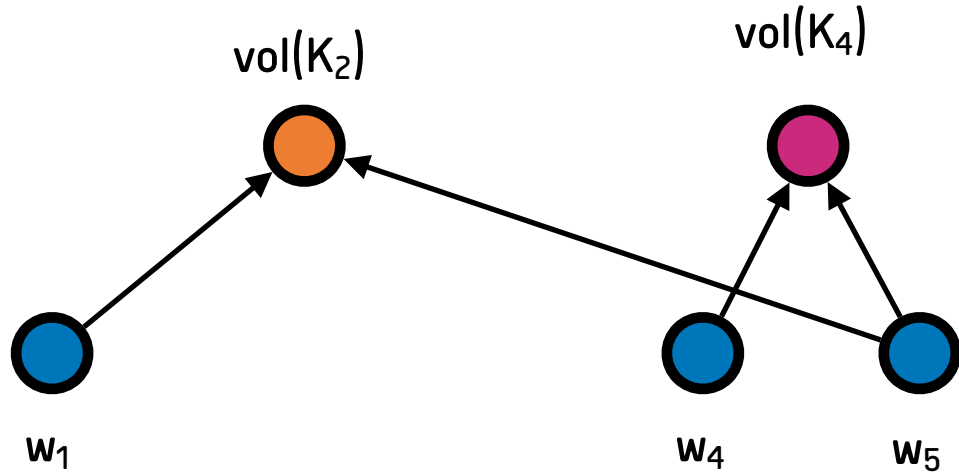
Observed Graph



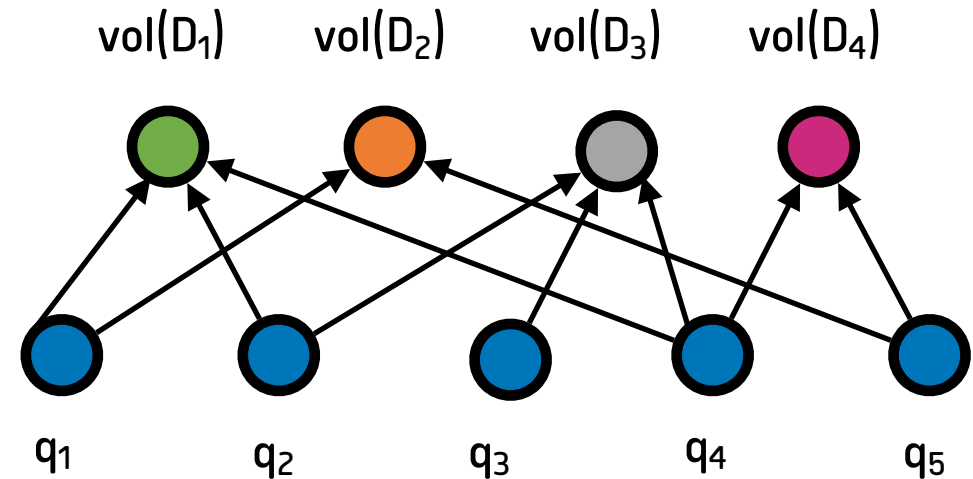
# The Subgraph<sup>VL</sup> Attack

- We need to match  $q_i$  to some  $w_j$
- The volumes are the ground of truth

Known Graph



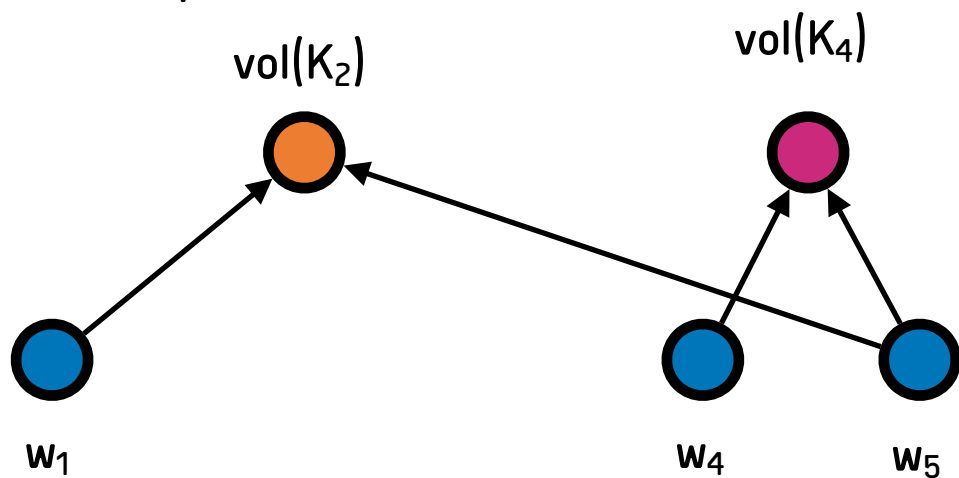
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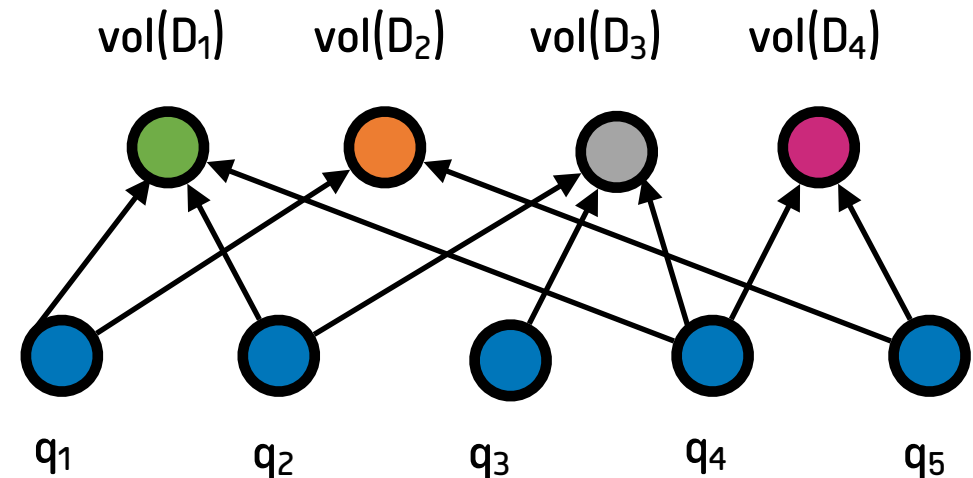
# The Subgraph<sup>VL</sup> Attack

- **Observations:** if  $q_i = w_j$  then
  - $N(w_j) \subseteq N(q_i)$  and  $\#N(w_j) \approx \delta \cdot \#N(q_i)$

Known Graph




Observed Graph




# The Subgraph<sup>VL</sup> Attack

- Each query  $q$  starts with a candidate set  $C_q = \mathbb{W}$
- remove all words s.t. either  $N(w_j) \not\subseteq N(q_i)$  or  $\#N(w_j) \neq \delta \cdot N(q_i)$



$N(w_4) =$  


$N(w_5) =$   



$N(w_1) =$  

Known Graph

$N(q_1) =$   

$N(q_2) =$   

$N(q_3) =$  

$N(q_4) =$   

$N(q_5) =$   

Observed Graph

$C(q_1) = \{w_4, w_5, w_1\}$


$C(q_4) = \{w_4, w_5, w_1\}$

$C(q_5) = \{w_4, w_5, w_1\}$


Candidate Sets

# The Subgraph<sup>VL</sup> Attack

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- remove all words s.t. either  $N(w_j) \not\subseteq N(q_i)$  or  $\#N(w_j) \neq \delta \cdot N(q_i)$



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$N(w_5) =$   



$N(w_1) =$  

Known Graph

$N(q_1) =$   

$N(q_2) =$   

$N(q_3) =$  

$N(q_4) =$   

$N(q_5) =$   

Observed Graph

$C(q_1) = \{w_4, w_5, w_1\} \rightarrow C(q_1) = \{w_1\}$


$C(q_4) = \{w_4, w_5, w_1\}$

$C(q_5) = \{w_4, w_5, w_1\}$


Candidate Sets

# The Subgraph<sup>VL</sup> Attack

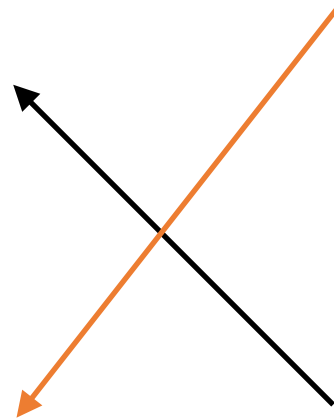
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$N(w_5) =$   


$N(w_1) =$  



Known Graph



$N(q_1) =$   

$N(q_2) =$   

$N(q_3) =$  

$N(q_4) =$   

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Observed Graph

$C(q_1) = \{w_4, w_5, w_1\} \rightarrow C(q_1) = \{w_1\}$

$C(q_4) = \{w_4, w_5, w_1\} \rightarrow C(q_4) = \{w_4\}$


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Candidate Sets




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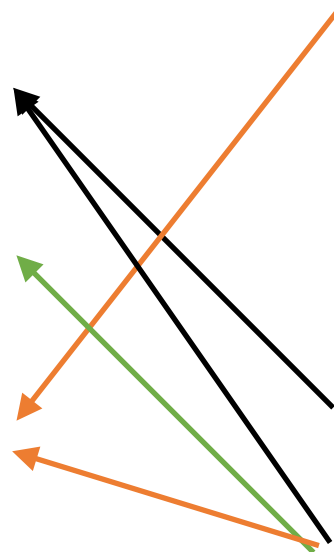
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$N(w_5) =$   


$N(w_1) =$  



Known Graph



$N(q_1) =$   

$N(q_2) =$   

$N(q_3) =$  

$N(q_4) =$   

$N(q_5) =$   

Observed Graph

$C(q_1) = \{w_4, w_5, w_1\} \rightarrow C(q_1) = \{w_1\}$


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Candidate Sets

# The Subgraph<sup>VL</sup> Attack

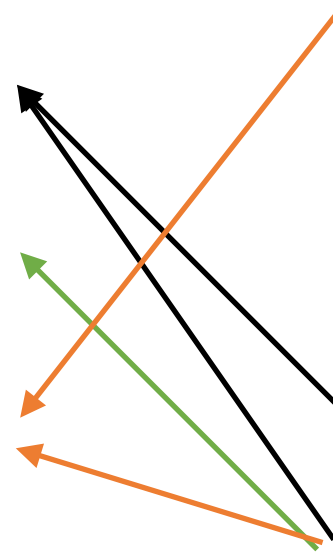
- If a single word is left that's the match
- Remove it from other queries' candidate sets

$N(w_4) =$  

$N(w_5) =$   


$N(w_1) =$  

Known Graph



$N(q_1) =$   

$N(q_2) =$   

$N(q_3) =$  

$N(q_4) =$   

$N(q_5) =$   

Observed Graph

$C(q_1) = \{w_1\}$


$C(q_4) = \{w_4\}$

$C(q_5) = \{w_4, w_5, w_1\}$


Candidate Sets

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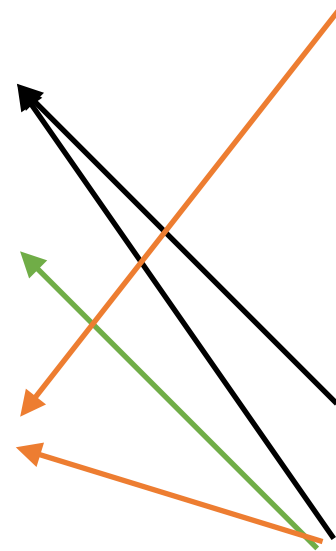
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$N(w_4) =$  



$N(w_5) =$   


$N(w_1) =$  

Known Graph



$N(q_1) =$   

$N(q_2) =$   

$N(q_3) =$  

$N(q_4) =$   

$N(q_5) =$   

Observed Graph

$C(q_1) = \{w_1\}$




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Candidate Sets

# The Subgraph<sup>VL</sup> Attack

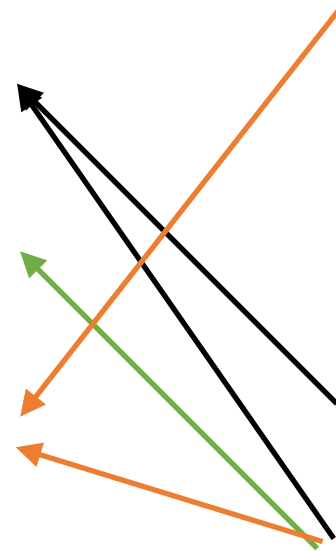
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Known Graph



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$N(q_4) =$   

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Observed Graph

$C(q_1) = \{w_1\}$



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Candidate Sets

# The Subgraph<sup>VL</sup> Attack

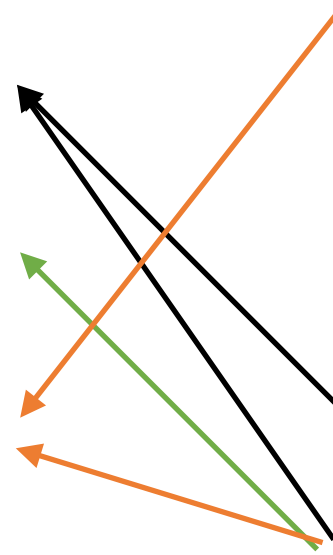
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Known Graph



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$N(q_2) =$   

$N(q_3) =$  

$N(q_4) =$   

$N(q_5) =$   

Observed Graph

$C(q_1) = \{w_1\}$



$C(q_4) = \{w_4\}$




$C(q_5) = \{w_4, \times, \times\}$


Candidate Sets

# The Subgraph<sup>VL</sup> Attack

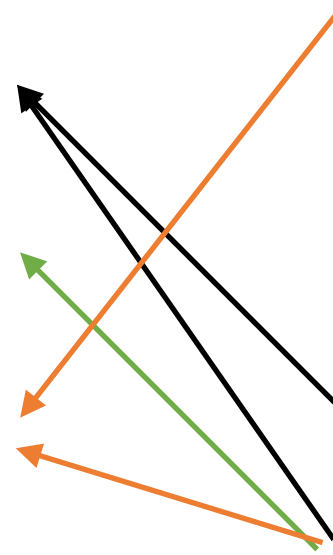
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$N(w_1) =$  

Known Graph



$N(q_1) =$   

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$N(q_3) =$  

$N(q_4) =$   

$N(q_5) =$   

Observed Graph

$C(q_1) = \{w_1\}$



$C(q_4) = \{w_4\}$



$C(q_5) = \{w_4, \times, \times\}$



Candidate Sets

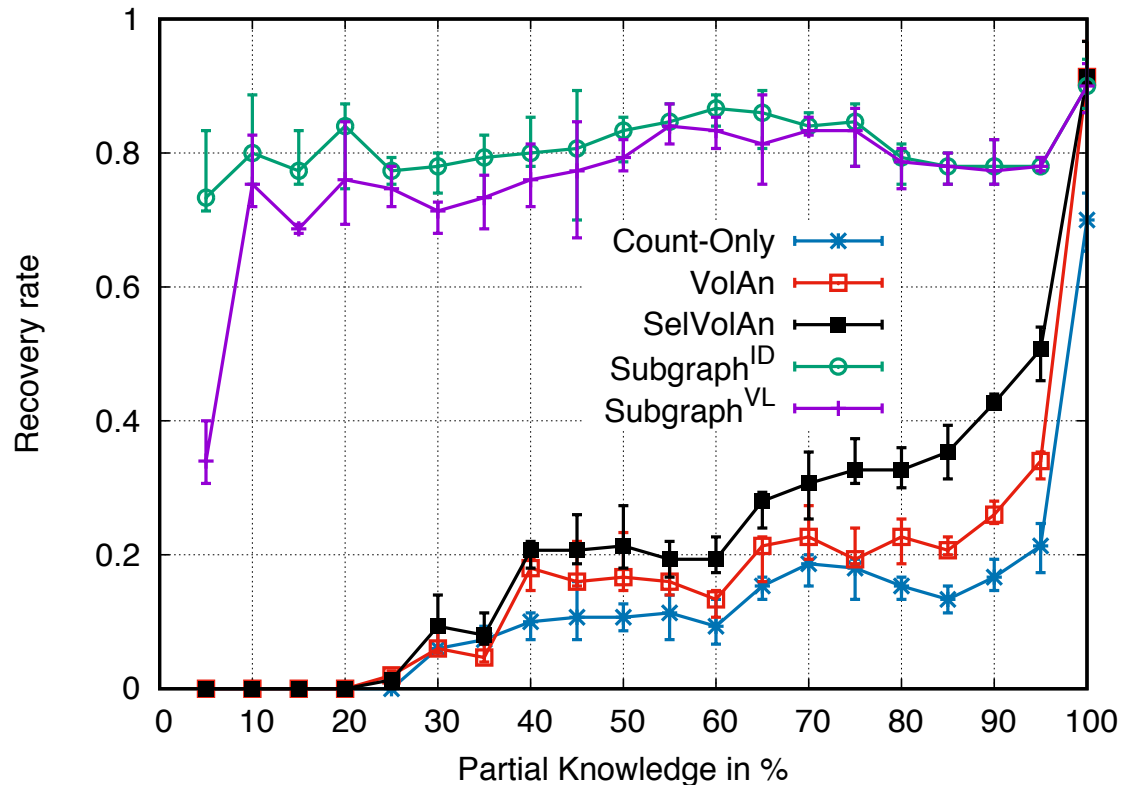
# Evaluation of our Attacks

## Setting

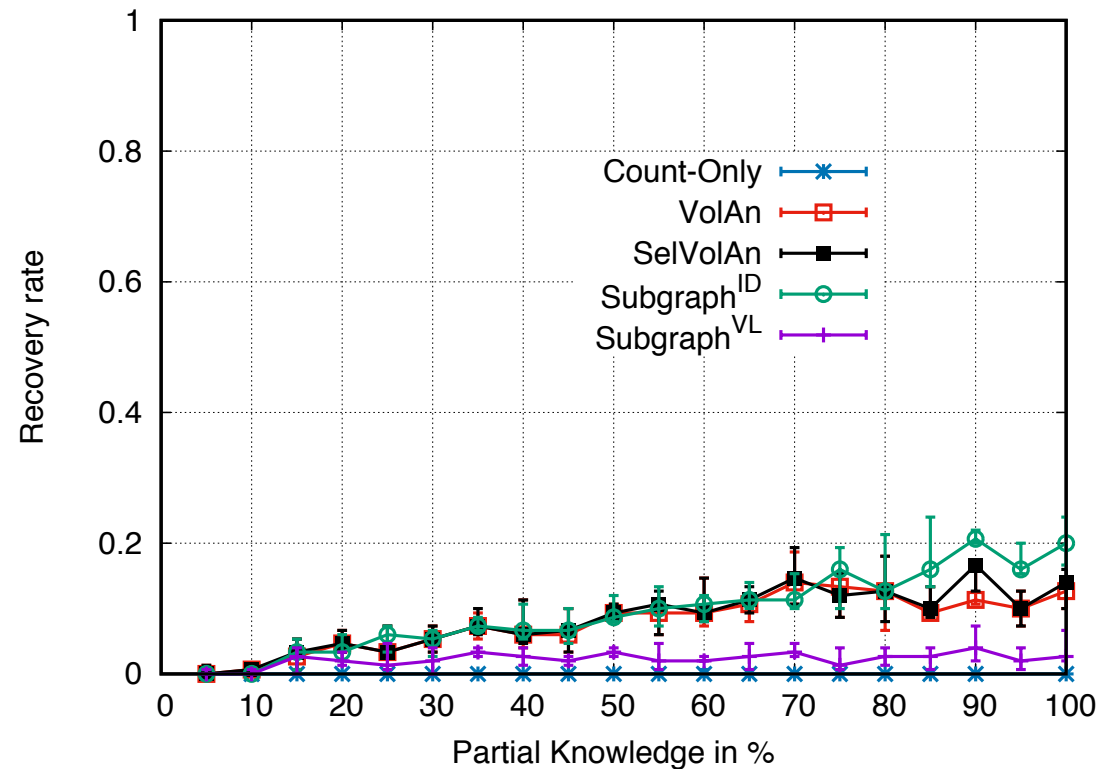
- Enron dataset:
  - ~500K emails
  - Folder for every employee
- Creation of different document collections
  - One user setting
  - Multiple user setting
- Size of the query space: 500 & 5000
- Composition of the query space
- Query frequency: high, pseudo-low, low

# Evaluation of our Attacks

Single User - 500 Keywords - Entire composition



High-selectivity

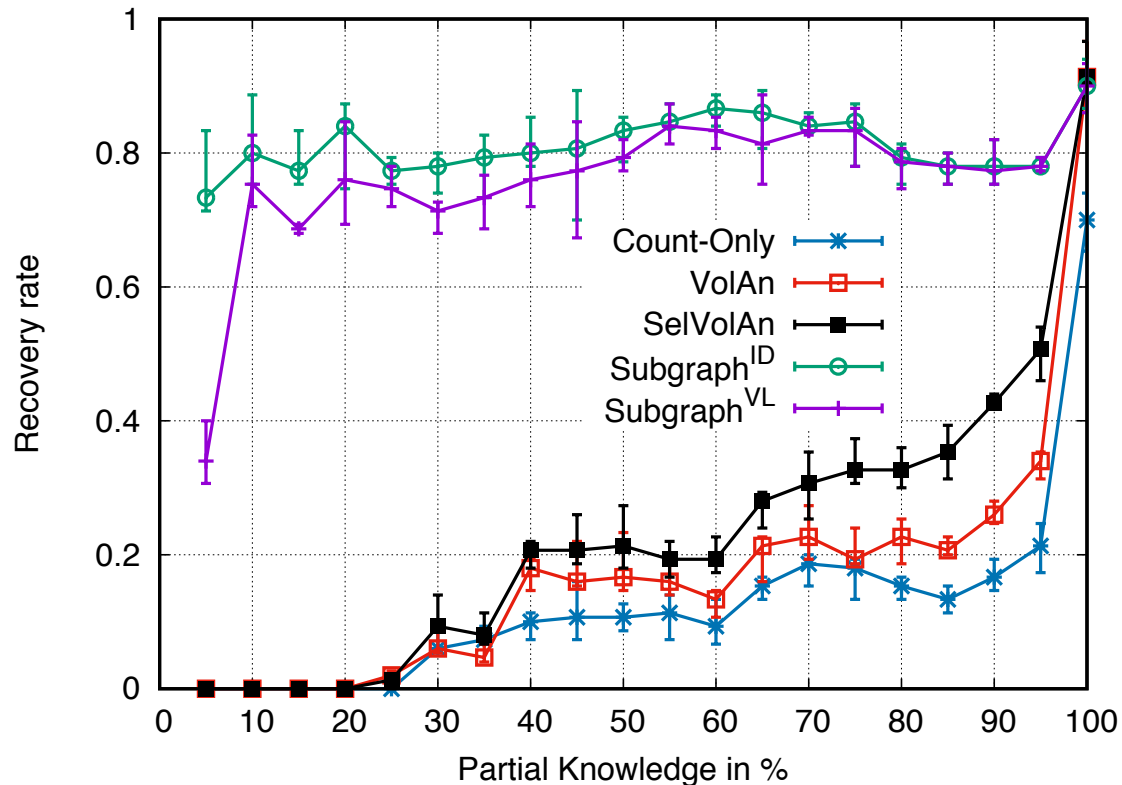


Low selectivity

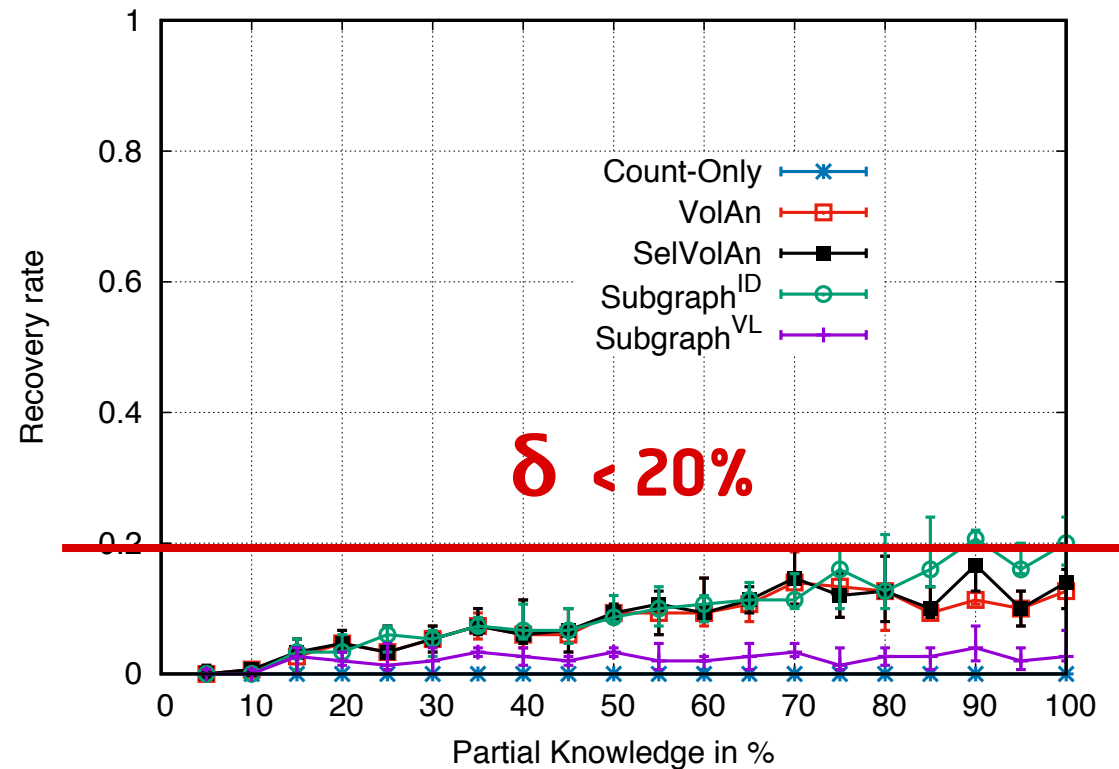


# Evaluation of our Attacks

Single User - 500 Keywords - Entire composition



High-selectivity




Low selectivity

# Summary of our Attacks

## Against Enron Dataset

$\delta$  needed for RR  $\geq 20\%$

Attack	Type	Pattern	Known Queries	$\delta$ for HS	$\delta$ for PLS	$\delta$ for LS
IKK	known-data	co	Yes	$\geq 95\%$	?	?
Count	known-data	rln	Yes/No	$\geq 80\%$	?	?
ZKP	injection	rid	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subgrap <sup>ID</sup>	known-data	rid	No	$\geq 5\%$	$\geq 50\%$	$\geq 60\%$
Subgraph <sup>VL</sup>	known-data	vol	No	$\geq 5\%$	$\geq 50\%$	$\delta=1$ recovers $<10\%$
VolAn	known-data	tvoll	No	$\geq 85\%$	$\geq 85\%$	$\delta=1$ recovers $<10\%$
SelVolAn	known-data	tvoll, rln	No	$\geq 80\%$	$\geq 85\%$	$\delta=1$ recovers $<10\%$
Decoding	injection	tvoll	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Binary	injection	Tvoll	No	N/A	N/A	N/A

 Very theoretical

 Theoretical

 Practical

# Takeaways

- Cryptanalysis in Encrypted search should be more “**nuanced**” – there is a lot more to learn!
- Baseline STE is still **OK** for low-selectivity queries
- ORAM-based search is also **vulnerable** to volume-based known-data attacks
- ORAM-based search is also **vulnerable** to injection attacks
- Subgraph attacks are **practical** for high-selectivity queries
  - need only  $\delta \geq 5\%$
- **Countermeasures**
  - for  $\delta < 80\%$  use OPQ [[this work](#)]
  - for  $\delta \geq 80\%$  use PBS [[Kamara-M-Ohrimenko18](#)] or use VLH or AVLH [[Kamara-M19](#)]

# Thank you!

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2019/1175>