

A Formal Information-Theoretic Leakage Analysis of

# Order-Revealing Encryption

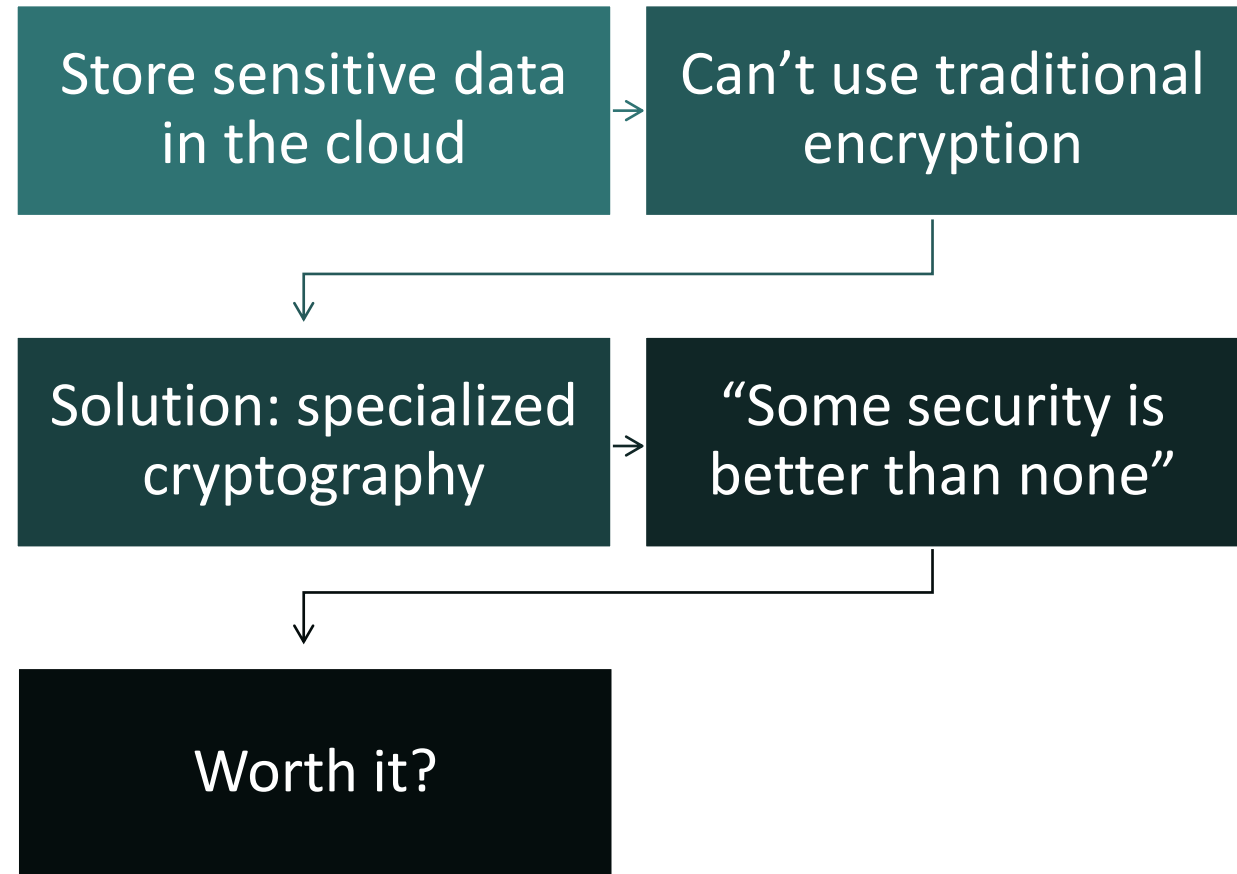
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34<sup>th</sup> IEEE Computer Security Foundations Symposium  
June 24, 2021

*Inria*

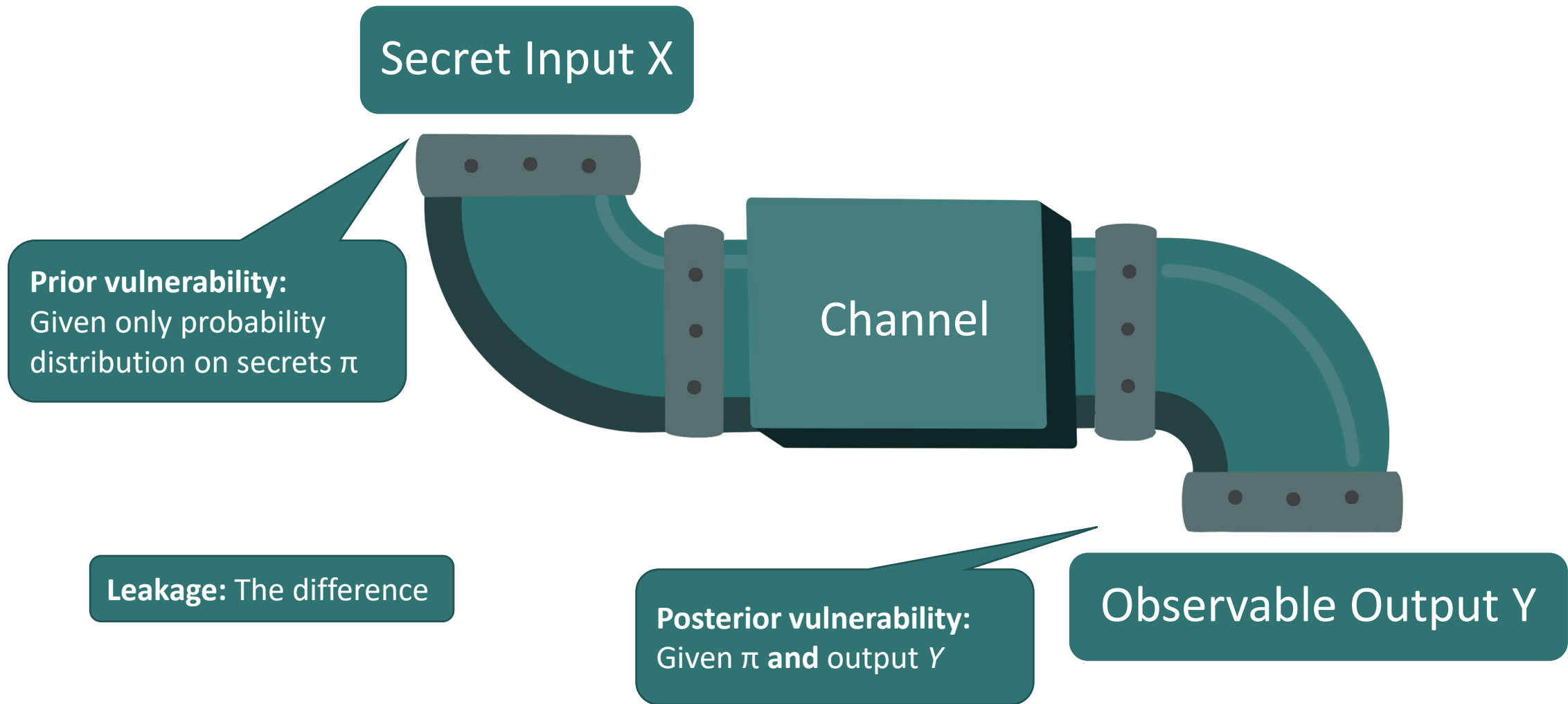
COGNITION  
NARRATIVE &  
CULTURE  
LABORATORY

**FIU**  
Knight Foundation  
School of Computing  
and Information Sciences

# Motivation

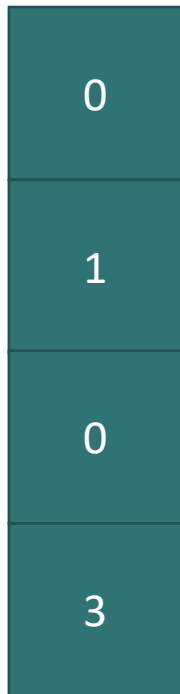


# Quantitative Information Flow (QIF)

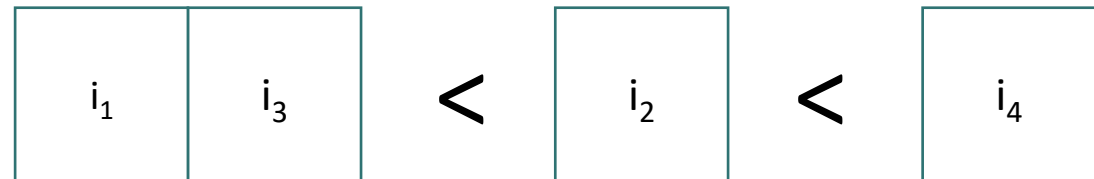


# Ideal Order-Revealing Encryption (ORE)

Secret: plaintext column

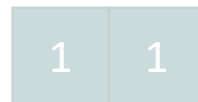
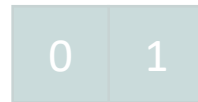
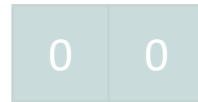
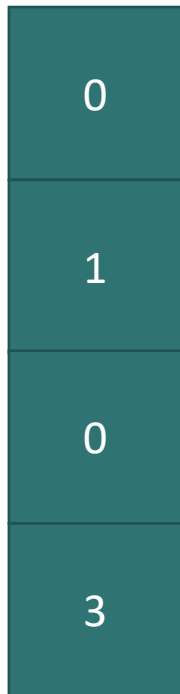


Observable: ordered partition of blocks

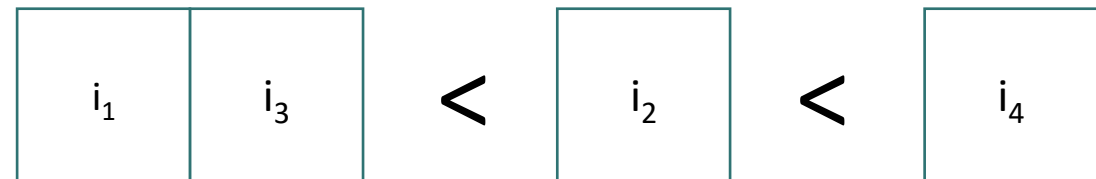


# CLWW ORE

Secret: plaintext column

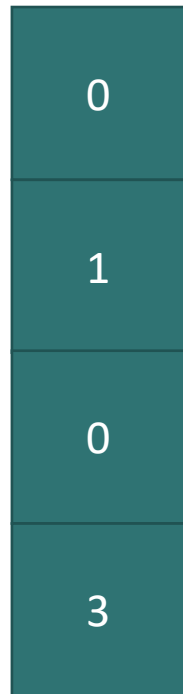


Observable: ordered partition of blocks  
+ index of most significant differing bit (MSDB)

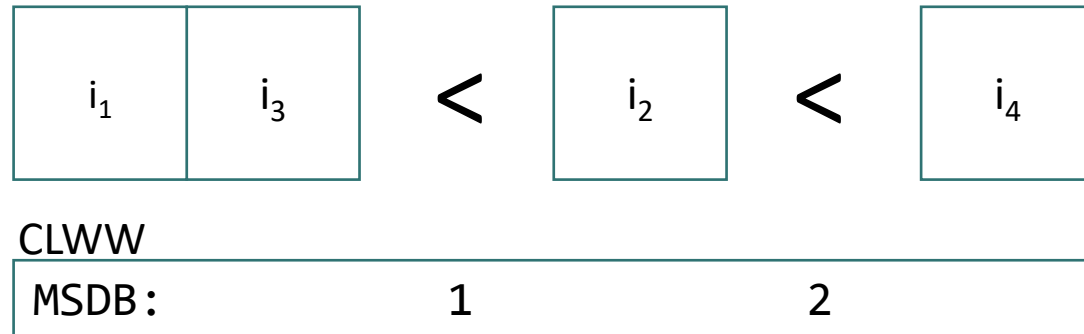
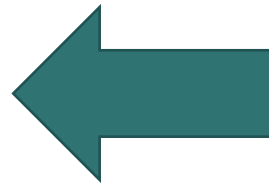


# Bayes Vulnerability

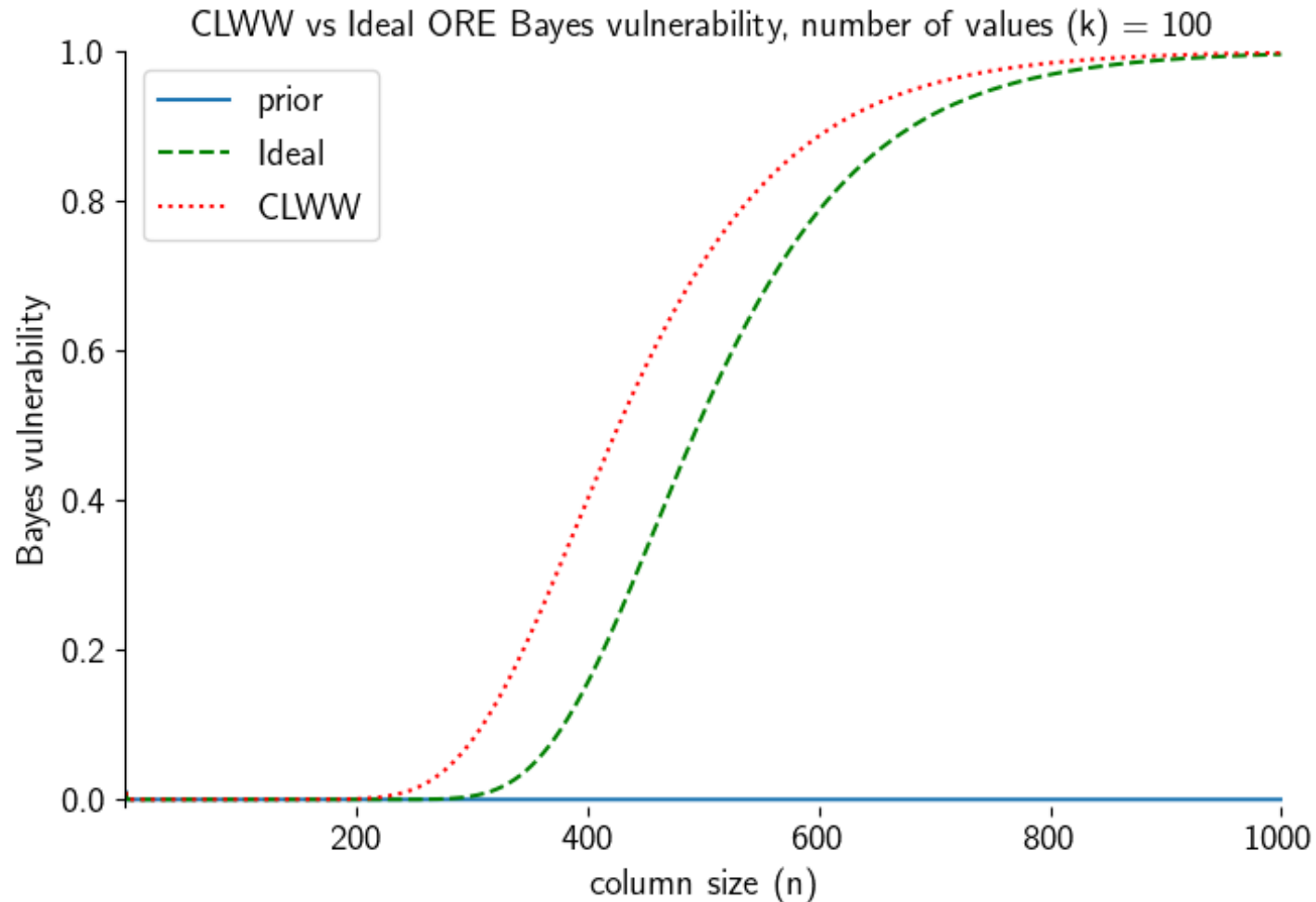
plaintext



Goal: Guess entire column correctly in one try

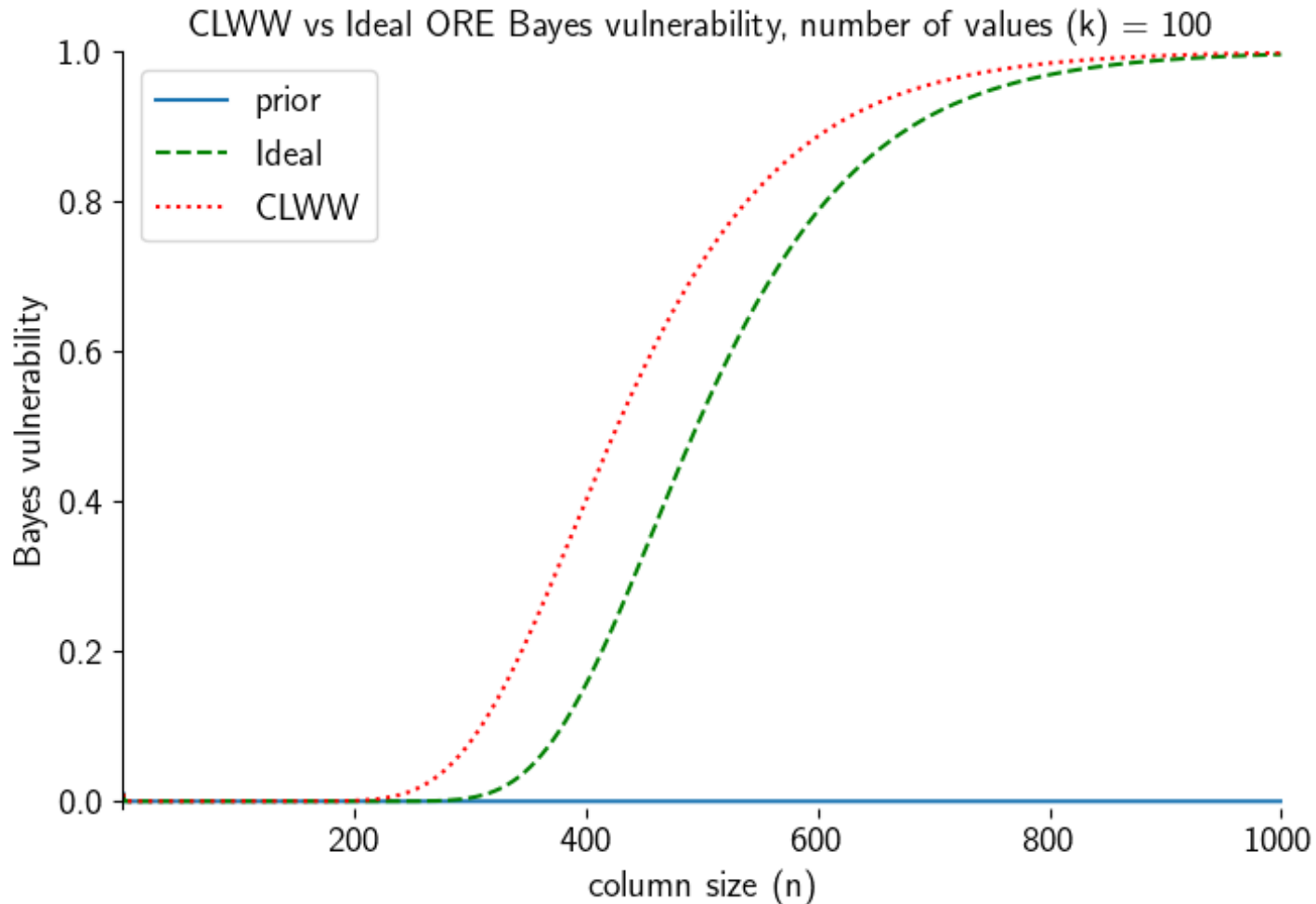


# Bayes Vulnerability



- As database grows, greater chance all values appear
- Easier to order values and map to plaintexts

# Bayes Vulnerability



- If the column is sparse  $k \geq n$ , posterior Bayes vulnerability of Ideal ORE is very small

- Theorem 5:

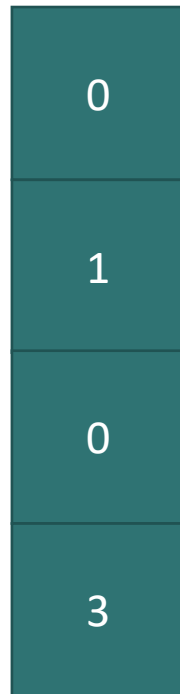
If  $k \geq n \geq 1$ , then:

$$\text{Bayes}_1(n, k) \leq \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{n-1} \times \left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^n$$

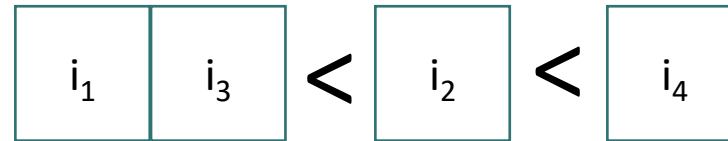


# Bucketing Vulnerability

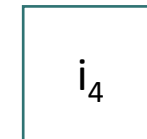
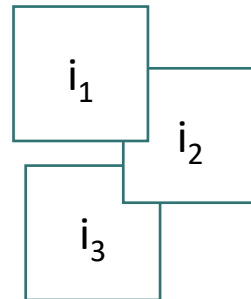
plaintext



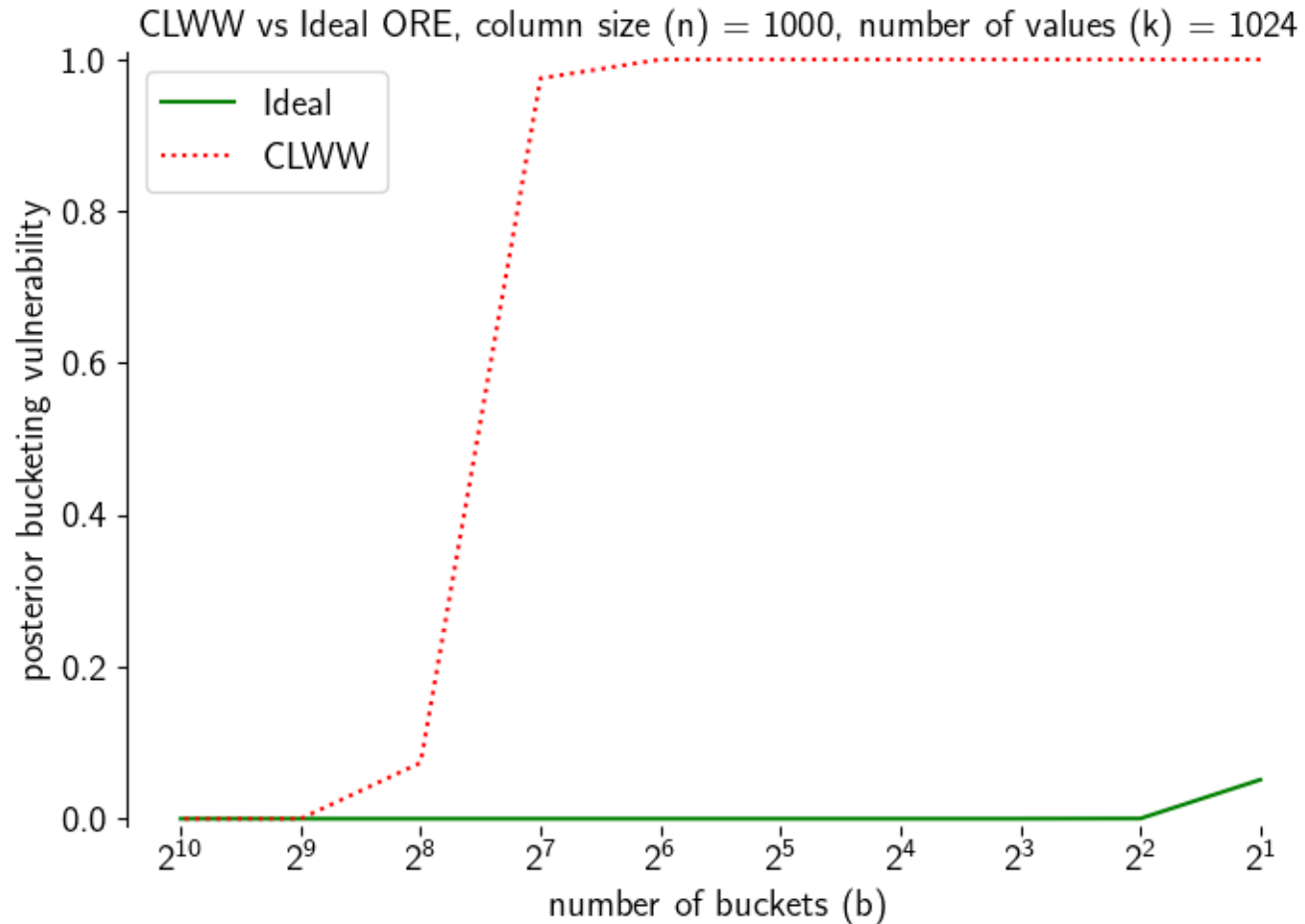
Goal: Guess the correct bucket for each index



CLWW



# Bucketing Vulnerability



- Because a bucketing adversary is so natural, CLWW is fundamentally insecure

# Mitigation

Append randomly chosen bits prior to encrypting

Range queries: pad bounds with 0s & 1s

Transparent to the user

Improves posterior vulnerability of Ideal ORE

# Contributions

- Analyzed the leakage of Ideal & CLWW ORE using novel combinatorics
- Established usage guideline for Ideal ORE under a Bayes adversary
- Showed Ideal ORE is robust under bucketing while CLWW ORE is not
- Developed a mitigation strategy for Ideal ORE