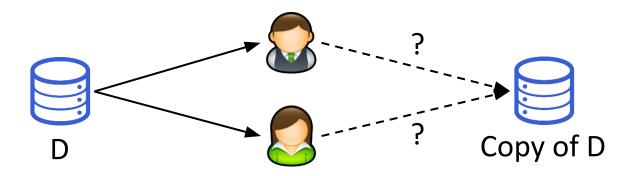
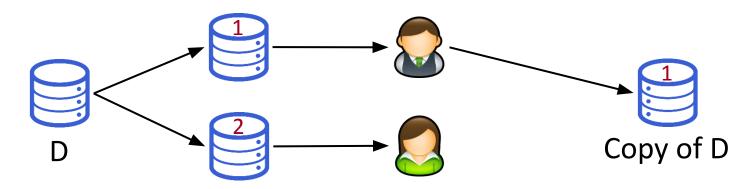
CS5322 Database Security

Watermarks: Motivation



- Suppose that we have a dataset D, and we share it with two users U1 and U2
- A while later, we find that a copy of D is leaked to the internet
- Both U1 and U2 deny being the culprit
- How can we find out whom we shall blame?

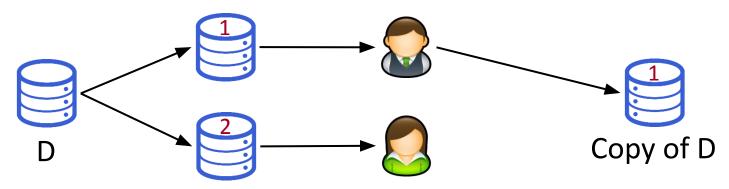
Watermarks: Motivation



Idea:

- Secretly watermark the data shared with U1 and U2
- If a copy of the data is leaked, we just need to check the watermark of the leaked data to decide the culprit

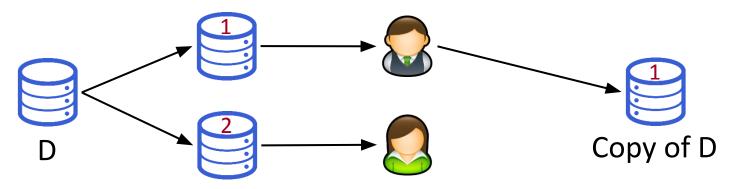
Watermarks: Challenges



Challenges:

- Users may not leak the complete copy of D
 - He may choose to leak only a subset of the records
 - Or he may choose to leak only a subset of the attributes
- Users may modify the records in D to try to destroy the watermarks

Watermarks: Challenges

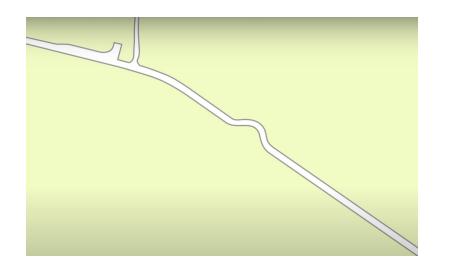


- How do we address the above challenges?
- Let's revisit the watermarking techniques for other types of data, and borrow ideas from there

- Map making is costly
 - Especially in the old days

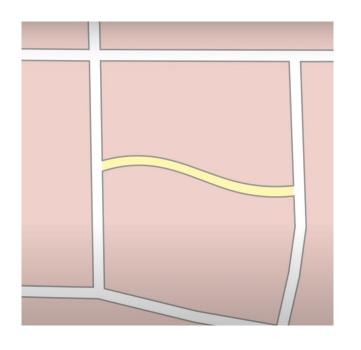


- To save cost, a map maker may just copy another's map
- To protect their copyrights, map makers often put traps in their maps
 - i.e., intentionally put incorrect information in maps
- Rationale: If the traps appear in someone else's map, then they can make a case against them



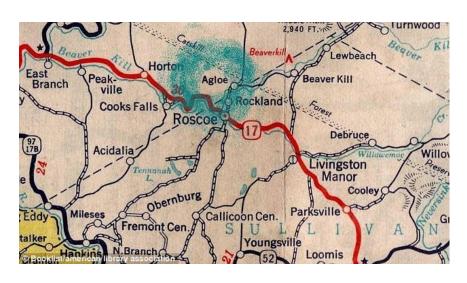


- Example:
 - Adding non-existing curves to roads





- Example:
 - Adding non-existing streets





- Example
 - Adding non-existing towns
- See
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agloe, New York
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argleton

Traps in Maps -> Watermarks in Data?

- Can we apply a similar approach to watermark relational data?
- Idea: Introduce false information into the data
 - Just like traps in maps
- Requirements:
 - The false information should be difficult to detect
 - And it should not affect the utility of the data

Watermarks for Relational Data

- We will discuss the approach in the following paper:
 - R. Agrawal, P. J. Hass, J. Kiernan, "Watermarking Relational Data: Framework, Algorithms and Analysis", VLDB Journal, 2003.
- We will refer to this approach as AHK
- Basic Idea:
 - Utilize the least significant bits (LSB) of the numeric values in the data

AHK: Assumptions

- The AHK approach makes the following assumptions:
 - The table T to be watermarked has a number of numeric attributes A1, A2, ..., Ad, and a primary key P
 - The leaked data contains the primary key P and some numeric attributes
 - For each Ai, the ξ least significant bits (LSB) could be used for watermarking, i.e.,
 - Changes to a small number of them won't significantly affect the usefulness of the data
 - But completely removing those ξ bits would make the data much less useful
 - Detection of watermarks should not need to access T
 - Because T might be updated after being shared

AHK: Basic Idea

- For each tuple t, use its primary key t.P to decide
 - Whether the tuple should be watermarked
 - Which attribute of the tuple should be watermarked
 - Which of the ξ least significant bits should be watermarked
- But can't let users figure out which bits are changed
 - Otherwise the watermarks can be removed
- Solution
 - Pick the watermarked tuples and bits using a cryptographic pseudo-random number generator (CPRNG)

Cryptographic Pseudo-Random Number Generator (CSPNG)

- A deterministic function G that given a seed value, generates a sequence of random numbers, such that
 - Without the seed, it is computationally infeasible to predict the next random number
- How it is used:
 - The data owner chooses a secret key K
 - For each tuple t, the data owner concatenates K and its primary key t.P, and use the concatenation result Kllt.P as the seed value for G
 - The data owner then uses the random numbers generated by G to decide whether and how to watermark t

AHK Watermarking Algorithm

```
Input parameters:
   G: a CPRNG
   K: a secret key selected by the data owner
  T: a table to be watermarked
   d: the number of attributes in T
   \xi: the number of least significant bits (LSB) suitable for watermarks
  f: the fraction of tuples to be watermarked
For each tuple t in T
   Seed G with K||t,P|
   Get random numbers r1, r2, r3, r4 from G
   If (r1 \mod 1/f) = 0
                        <----- t has f probability to be watermarked
     i = \frac{r2}{mod} d
                        <----- the i-th attribute t.Ai will be marked
   j = r3 \mod \xi
     if (r4 is even) then set the j-th LSB of t.Ai will be marked
     else set the j-th LSB of t.Ai to 1
```

AHK Watermarking Algorithm

For each tuple t in T
Seed G with Kllt.P
Get random numbers r1, r2, r3, r4 from G
If (r1 mod 1/f) = 0 <--- t has f probability to be watermarked
i = r2 mod d <--- the i-th attribute t.Ai will be marked
j = r3 mod ξ <--- the j-th LSB of t.Ai will be marked
if (r4 is even) then set the j-th LSB of t.Ai to 0
else set the j-th LSB of t.Ai to 1

Summary:

- ullet Around f fraction of the tuples are watermarked
- Each watermarked tuple has one watermarked bit
- So if there are n tuples in T, there are around n*f
 watermarked bits in total

AHK Watermarking Algorithm

For each tuple t in T
Seed G with Klt.P
Get random numbers r1, r2, r3, r4 from G
If (r1 mod 1/f) = 0 <--- t has f probability to be watermarked
i = r2 mod d <--- the i-th attribute t.Ai will be marked
j = r3 mod ξ <--- the j-th LSB of t.Ai will be marked
if (r4 is even) then set the j-th LSB of t.Ai to 0
else set the j-th LSB of t.Ai to 1

Observation:

- If the j-th LSB of t.Ai is originally 0, and r4 happens to be even, then the watermark does not change anything
- If the j-th LSB of t.Ai is originally 1, and r4 happens to be odd, then the watermark does not change anything
- So how do we know check whether a bit is really watermarked?

Input Parameters: S: a set of tuples leaked T: a threshold total count = match count = 0 For each tuple *t* in *S* Seed G with $K_u \parallel t.P$ <----- K_u is the key used to mark the data given to u Get random numbers r1, r2, r3, r4 from G If $(r1 \mod 1/f) = 0$ $i = r2 \mod d$ $i = r3 \mod \xi$ total count = total count + 1 if (r4 is even and the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 0) or (r4 is odd and the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 1) match count = match count + 1 If (match count > total count - τ) then suspect data leak from User u Else if (match count < 7) then suspect data leak and watermark manipulation from User u innocent data will have match count half of total count

- because 50% chance of match_count matching

```
total count = match count = 0
    For each tuple t in S
         Seed G with K. IIt.P
         Get random numbers r1, r2, r3, r4 from G
    If (r1 \mod 1/f) = 0
            i = r2 \mod d
    i = r3 \mod \xi
    total count = total count + 1
    if (r4 is even and the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 0) or (r4 is odd and the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 1)
    match count = match count + 1
    If (match_count > total_count - 7) then suspect data leak from User u
    Else if (match count < 7) then suspect data leak and watermark manipulation from User u
```

Intuition:

- If the data is leaked by User u, then there should be a lot of match bits
- If the data is not leaked by User u, then there should be around 50% match bits
- If the fraction of matched bits is much smaller than 50%, then it is likely that User u has figured out which bits are watermarked, and has deliberately modified those bits

```
total count = match count = 0
                                                                                   Binomial Distribution
For each tuple t in S
    Seed G with K. IIt.P
                                                                              T,
    Get random numbers r1, r2, r3, r4 from G
If (r1 \mod 1/f) = 0
                                                                          10
        i = r2 \mod d
i = r3 \mod \xi
total count = total count + 1
if (r4 is even and the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 0) or (r4 is odd and the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 1)
match count = match count + 1
If (match_count > total_count - 7) then suspect data leak from User u
```

- How should we decide 7?
- If the data is not leaked by User u, then each "marked" bit has 1/2 probability to produce a match

Else if (match count < 7) then suspect data leak and watermark manipulation from User u

- When we have total_count marked tuples, the number of matched bits should follow a binomial distribution B(total_count, 1/2)
- We can set *T* such that the probability of getting a binomial variable larger than total_count *T* or smaller than *T* is small (e.g., 5%)

```
total_count = match_count = 0

For each tuple t in S

Seed G with K_ult.P

Get random numbers r1, r2, r3, r4 from G

If (r1 mod 1/f) = 0

i = r2 mod d

j = r3 mod \( \xi \)

total_count = total_count + 1

if (r4 is even and the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 0) or (r4 is odd and the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 1)

match_count = match_count + 1

If (match_count > total_count - \( \tau \)) then suspect data leak from User u

Else if (match_count < \( \tau \)) then suspect data leak and watermark manipulation from User u
```

- Note that the above algorithm can be easily extended to handle the case when S contains only a subset of the attributes
- How?
- After choosing i, we only increase total_count when Ai exists in S

- For each tuple t in T
 Seed G with Klt.P
 Get random numbers r1, r2, r3, r4 from G
 If (r1 mod 1/f) = 0 <--- t has 1/f probability to be watermarked
 i = r2 mod d <--- the i-th attribute t.Ai will be marked
 j = r3 mod ξ <--- the j-th LSB of t.Ai will be marked
 if (r4 mod 3 = 1) then set the j-th LSB of t.Ai to 0
 else set the j-th LSB of t.Ai to 1
- Suppose that we apply the above watermarking algorithm on a table T
- Explain whether and/or how we can detect watermarks from the modified table without accessing T

Input Parameters:

```
S: a set of tuples leaked
7: a threshold
total_count = match_count = 0
For each tuple t in S
    Seed G with K, ||t.P|
    Get random numbers r1, r2, r3, r4 from G
    If (r1 \mod 1/f) = 0
   i = r2 \mod d
  j = r3 \mod \xi
      total count = total count + 1
if (r4 \mod 3 = 1 \mod the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 0) or (r4 \mod 3 != 1 \mod the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 0)
    t.Ai is 1)
            match_count = match_count + 1
```

- If (match_count > total_count 71) then suspect data leak from User u
- Else if (match_count < 72) then suspect data leak and watermark manipulation from User u</p>

```
total count = match count = 0
    For each tuple t in S
         Seed G with K. IIt.P
         Get random numbers r1, r2, r3, r4 from G
    If (r1 \mod 1/f) = 0
    i = r2 \mod d
    i = r3 \mod \xi
    total count = total count + 1
    if (r4 \mod 3 = 1 \mod the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 0) or (r4 \mod 3 != 1 \mod the j-th LSB of t.Ai is 1)
    match count = match count + 1
    If (match_count > total_count - 71) then suspect data leak from User u
    Else if (match count < 72) then suspect data leak and watermark manipulation from User u
```

- How should we decide T1 and T2?
- If the data is not leaked by User u, then each "marked" bit has 1/3 ~ 2/3 probability to produce a match
- When we have total_count marked tuples, the number of matched bits should follow a binomial distribution B(total_count, p), where p is in [1/3, 2/3]
- We can set T1 and T2 such that the probability of getting a binomial variable larger than total count T1 or smaller than T2 is small (e.g., 5%)

For each tuple t in T
Seed G with Kllt.P
Get random numbers r1, r2, r3 from G
If (r1 mod 1/f) = 0 <--- t has 1/f probability to be watermarked
i = r2 mod d <--- the i-th attribute t.Ai will be marked
j = r3 mod ξ <--- the j-th LSB of t.Ai will be marked
Flip the j-th LSB of t.Ai

- Suppose that we apply the above watermarking algorithm on a table T
- Explain whether and/or how we can detect watermarks from the modified table without accessing T

For each tuple t in T
Seed G with Kllt.P
Get random numbers r1, r2, r3 from G
If (r1 mod 1/f) = 0 <--- t has 1/f probability to be watermarked
i = r2 mod d <--- the i-th attribute t.Ai will be marked
j = r3 mod ξ <--- the j-th LSB of t.Ai will be marked
Flip the j-th LSB of t.Ai

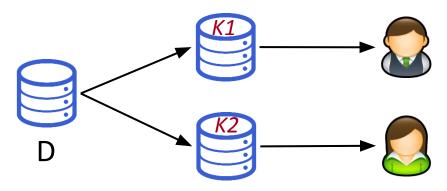
- Suppose that we apply the above watermarking algorithm on a table T
- Explain whether and/or how we can detect watermarks from the modified table without accessing T

Input Parameters:

```
S: a set of tuples leaked
7: a threshold
total_count = match_count = 0
For each tuple t in S
   Seed G with K_{\mu} \| t.P
   Get random numbers r1, r2, r3 from G
   If (r1 \mod 1/f) = 0
   i = r2 \mod d
  j = r3 \mod \xi
     total_count = total_count + 1
     if (the j-th LSB of t.Ai is different from the original tuple)
          match count = match count + 1
If (match_count > 11) then suspect data leak from User u
```

```
total count = match count = 0
    For each tuple t in S
        Seed G with K_{\parallel} \parallel t.P
        Get random numbers r1, r2, r3 from G
        If (r1 \mod 1/f) = 0
           i = r2 \mod d
    j = r3 \mod \xi
    total count = total count + 1
    if (the j-th LSB of t.Ai is different from the original tuple)
    match count = match count + 1
    If (match_count > 11) then suspect data leak from User u
```

- How should we decide 11?
- If the data is not leaked by User u but another User v, then each "marked" bit has $f/d/\xi$ probability to produce a match
- When we have $total_count$ marked tuples, the number of matched bits should follow a binomial distribution $B(total_count, f/d/\xi)$)
- We can set T1 such that the probability of getting a binomial variable larger than T1 is small (e.g., 5%)

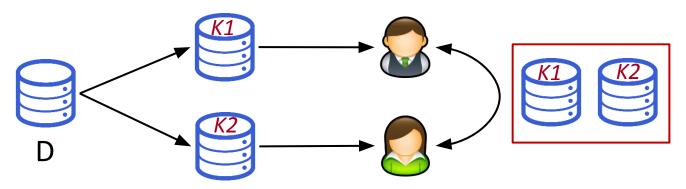


Summary:

- Choose a secret key Ku for each user u
- Use Ku to decide which bit of which tuple should be watermarked

Question:

If you are one of the users, what would you do to attack the watermarks?

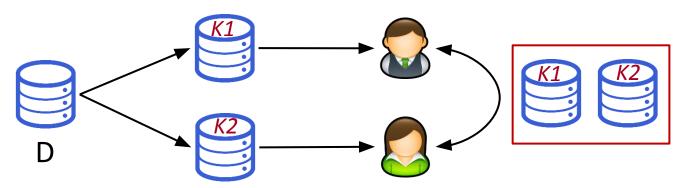


Idea:

- Collude with another user to obtain two differently watermarked datasets
- Compare the two datasets to figure out which bits are different

Rationale:

- In each dataset, the watermarked tuples and watermarked bits are all randomly selected
- The chance that the same bit is watermarked in both dataset is fairly low
- So a watermarked bit in one dataset is likely to be different in the other dataset

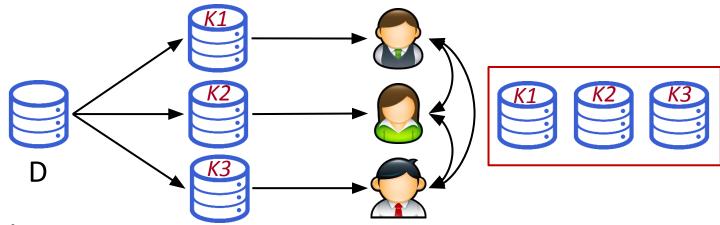


Problem:

- We only know which bits are different in the two datasets
- But we don't know whether a "different" bit is watermarked in Dataset 1 or Dataset 2

Solution 1:

- We don't care; just flip half of those bits
- This could fool the watermark detection algorithm described previously



- Solution 2:
 - Find a third user to collude with
 - Now whenever there is a bit that the datasets do not agree on, we can use a majority vote to infer the original value
- Question:
 - How do we guard against such collusion attacks?
- Idea:
 - Make the watermark bits correlated among the datasets

u1 🍶	D1+,	D2+,	D3+
u2 🚨	D1-,	D2+,	D3+
u3 💄	D1-,	D2-,	D3+
u4 🧘	D1-,	D2-,	D3-

- Suppose that we are to give a dataset D to four users u1, u2, u3, and u4
- We randomly divide D into three parts: D1, D2, D3
- We choose a secret key K, and produce two watermarked versions of Di
 - The first version Di+ is generated by the AHK algorithm
 - The second version Di- is generated by flipping the watermarked bits in Di+
- We then assign watermarked parts to users as shown above

- Suppose that u1 and u3 collude
- They could compromise the watermarks in D1 and D2
- But the watermarks in D3 still exists
- When the data is leaked, if we detect watermarks in D3 (but not in the other parts),
- then we know that u1 and u3 must be among the culprits

u1 🎎	D1+,	D2+,	D3+
u2 🚨	D1-,	D2+,	D3+
u3 💄	D1-,	D2-,	D3+
u4 🧘	D1-,	D2-,	D3-

- Suppose that u1, u2, and u3 collude
- They could compromise the watermarks in D1 and D2
- But the watermarks in D3 still exist
- When the data is leaked, if we find that the watermarks exist in D3 (but not in the other parts)
- then we know that u1 and u3 be among the culprits
- Why can't we be sure about u2?
 - Because u1 and u3 can already compromise D1 and D2

u1 🎎	D1+,	D2+,	D3+
u2 🚨	D1-,	D2+,	D3+
u3 💄	D1-,	D2-,	D3+
u4 🧘	D1-,	D2-,	D3-

- Suppose that u1 and u4 collude
- They could compromise the watermarks in D1 and D2 and D3
- When the data is leaked, if we cannot detect any watermarks
- then we know that u1 and u4 must be among the culprits
 - Otherwise, the watermarks in D1, D2, and D3 cannot be compromised at the same time

- Suppose that u1, u2, and u4 collude
- They could compromise the watermarks in D1 and D2 and D3
- When the data is leaked, if we cannot detect any watermarks
- then we know that u1 and u4 must be among the culprits
 - Otherwise, the watermarks in D1, D2, and D3 cannot be compromised at the same time
- But we cannot be sure about u2

- Suppose that u1, u2, and u4 collude
- They could compromise the watermarks in D1 and D2 and D3
- But they could be more strategic
- Can they leak D1-, D2-, D3+, and pretend that the leak is caused by u3?
- No.
- Because they don't know which tuples are from D2- and D3+

- In general, if
 - there are n users, and
 - we assume that at most c of them collude
- Then
 - there are ways to distribute watermarked parts to users to ensure successful detection under our assumption
- See
 - D. Boneh and J. Shaw. "Collusion-Secure Fingerprinting for Digital Data". IEEE Transaction on Information Theory, 1998.

Extensions to Categorical Attributes

 For categorical attributes, there is no least significant bits that we can exploit

Solution:

- When we decide to watermark a categorical value, we change it to another value (instead of just changing a bit)
- Example: changing the education of a person from "Bachelor" to "High School"

Challenge:

- Could be tricky to maintain the validity of the data
 - E.g., change a male patient's disease from dyspepsia to breast cancer

u1 🎎	D1-,	D2-,	D3-
u2 🚨	D1-,	D2+,	D3+
u3 💄	D1-,	D2-,	D3+
u4 🧘	D1+,	D2-,	D3+

- Suppose that we are to give a dataset D to four users u1, u2, u3, and u4
- We randomly divide D into three parts: D1, D2, D3
- We choose a secret key K, and watermark each part Di twice
 - The first version Di+ is generated the AHK algorithm
 - The second version Di- is generated by flipping the watermarked bits in Di+
- We then assign watermarked parts to users as shown above
- Analyze the security guarantee of this watermarking scheme

Exercise 1: Answer

- This watermarking scheme is not good because
 - If u1, u2, and u4 collude and use a majority vote, they can obtain a copy of the data that corresponds to {D1-, D2-, D3+}, which is the same as u3's copy
 - By leaking this copy, u1, u2, u4 can frame u3 as the data leaker

u1 🌄	D1+,	D2-,	D3+,	D4-
u2 🚨	D1-,	D2+,	D3-, D4	1 -
u3 💄	D1-,	D2-,	D3+,	D4+
u4 🧘	D1-,	D2+,	D3-, D4	1+

- Suppose that we are to give a dataset D to four users u1, u2, u3, and u4
- We randomly divide D into four parts: D1, D2, D3, D4
- We choose a secret key K, and watermark each part Di twice
 - The first version Di+ is generated the AHK algorithm
 - The second version Di- is generated by flipping the watermarked bits in Di+
- We then assign watermarked parts to users as shown above
- Analyze the security guarantee of this watermarking scheme

Exercise 2: Answer

- This watermarking scheme is OK, because:
 - No 3-user-collusion can frame the remaining user, regardless of whether they follow the majority vote or the minority vote
 - If the users collude to destroy watermarks and they involve u1, then the watermarks in D1 will be destroyed; in that case, u1 will get caught, since he is the only user who has D1+
 - Every user collusion that does not involve u1 would destroy a different set of watermarks, and hence, we can identify the colluding users by observing which watermarks are destroyed

u1 🍶	D1+,	D2-,	D3-, D4	1 -
u2 🚨	D1-,	D2+,	D3-, D4	1 -
u3 💄	D1-,	D2-,	D3+,	D4-
u4 🧘	D1-,	D2-,	D3-, D4	1+

- Suppose that we are to give a dataset D to four users u1, u2, u3, and u4
- We randomly divide D into four parts: D1, D2, D3, D4
- We choose a secret key K, and watermark each part Di twice
 - The first version Di+ is generated the AHK algorithm
 - The second version Di- is generated by flipping the watermarked bits in Di+
- We then assign watermarked parts to users as shown above
- Analyze the security guarantee of this watermarking scheme

Exercise 3: Answer

- This watermarking scheme is not OK, because
 - If any 3 users collude and follow the majority rule, they can leak {D1-, D2-, D3-, D4-}
 - When the data owner sees {D1-, D2-, D3-, D4-}, she would be unable to pinpoint any of the culprits, because every user can claim that it was the other 3 users who leaked the data