

Crypte: Crypto-Assisted Differential Privacy on Untrusted Servers

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ABSTRACT

Differential privacy (DP) is currently the de-facto standard for achieving privacy in data analysis, which is typically implemented either in the “central” or “local” model. The local model has been more popular for commercial deployments as it does not require a trusted data collector. This increased privacy, however, comes at the cost of utility and algorithmic expressibility as compared to the central model.

In this work, we propose, Crypte, a system and programming framework that (1) achieves the accuracy guarantees and algorithmic expressibility of the central model (2) without any trusted data collector like in the local model. Crypte achieves the “best of both worlds” by employing two non-colluding untrusted servers that run DP programs on encrypted data from the data owners. In theory, straightforward implementations of DP programs using off-the-shelf secure multi-party computation tools can achieve the above goal. However, in practice, they are beset with many challenges like poor performance and tricky security proofs. To this end, Crypte allows data analysts to author logical DP programs that are automatically translated to secure protocols that work on encrypted data. These protocols ensure that the untrusted servers learn nothing more than the noisy outputs, thereby guaranteeing DP (for computationally bounded adversaries) for all Crypte programs. Crypte supports a rich class of DP programs that can be expressed via a small set of transformation and measurement operators followed by arbitrary post-processing. Further, we propose performance

optimizations leveraging the fact that the output is noisy. We demonstrate Crypte’s practical feasibility with extensive empirical evaluations on real world datasets.

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1 INTRODUCTION

Differential privacy (DP) is a rigorous privacy definition that is currently the gold standard for data privacy. It is typically implemented in one of two models – *centralized differential privacy* (CDP) and *local differential privacy* (LDP). In CDP, data from individuals are collected and stored in the clear in a *trusted* centralized data curator which then executes DP programs on the sensitive data and releases outputs to an untrusted data analyst. In LDP, there is no trusted data curator. Rather, each individual perturbs his/her own data using a (local) DP algorithm. The data analyst uses these noisy data to infer aggregate statistics of the datasets. In practice, CDP’s assumption of a trusted server is ill-suited for many applications as it constitutes a single point of failure for data breaches, and saddles the trusted curator with legal and ethical obligations to uphold data privacy. Hence, recent commercial deployments of DP [43, 52] have preferred LDP over CDP. However, LDP’s attractive privacy properties comes at a cost. Under the CDP model, the expected additive error for a aggregate count over a dataset of size n is at most $\Theta(1/\epsilon)$ to achieve ϵ -DP. In contrast, under the LDP model, at least $\Omega(\sqrt{n}/\epsilon)$ additive expected error must be incurred by any ϵ -DP program [17, 29, 37], owing to the randomness of each data owner. The LDP model in fact imposes additional penalties on the algorithmic expressibility; the power of LDP is equivalent to that of the statistical query model [67] and there exists an exponential separation between the accuracy and sample complexity of LDP and CDP algorithms [65].

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In this paper, we strive to bridge the gap between LDP and CDP. We propose, Cryptε, a system and a programming framework for executing DP programs that:

- never stores or computes on sensitive data in the clear
- achieves the accuracy guarantees and algorithmic expressibility of the CDP model

Crypte employs a pair of untrusted but non-colluding servers – Analytics Server (AS) and Cryptographic Service Provider (CSP). The AS executes DP programs (like the data curator in CDP) but on *encrypted* data records. The CSP initializes and manages the cryptographic primitives, and collaborates with the AS to generate the program outputs. Under the assumption that the AS and the CSP are semi-honest and do not collude (a common assumption in cryptographic systems [46, 47, 49, 68, 81, 84, 85]), Crypte ensures ϵ -DP guarantee for its programs via two cryptographic primitives – linear homomorphic encryption (LHE) and garbled circuits. One caveat here is that due to the usage of cryptographic primitives, the DP guarantee obtained in Crypte is that of computational differential privacy or SIM-CDP [80] (details in Section 7).

Crypte provides a data analyst with a programming framework to author logical DP programs just like in CDP. Like in prior work [41, 78, 107], access to the sensitive data is restricted via a set of predefined transformations operators (inspired by relational algebra) and DP measurement operators (Laplace mechanism and Noisy-Max [39]). Thus, any program that can be expressed as a composition of the above operators automatically satisfies ϵ -DP (in the CDP model) giving the analyst a proof of privacy for free. Crypte programs support constructs like looping, conditionals, and can arbitrarily post-process outputs of measurement operators. The main contributions of this work are:

- **New Approach:** We present the design and implementation of Crypt ϵ , a novel system and programming framework for executing DP programs over encrypted data on two non-colluding and untrusted servers.
- **Algorithm Expressibility:** Crypt ϵ supports a rich class of state-of-the-art DP programs expressed in terms of a small set of transformation and measurement operators. Thus, Crypt ϵ achieves the accuracy guarantees of the CDP model without the need for a trusted data curator.
- **Ease Of Use:** Crypt ϵ allows the data analyst to express the DP program logic using high-level operators. Crypt ϵ automatically translates this to the underlying implementation specific secure protocols that work on encrypted data and provides a DP guarantee (in the CDP model) for free. Thus, the data analyst is relieved of all concerns regarding secure computation protocol implementation.
- **Performance Optimizations:** We propose optimizations that speed up computation on encrypted data by at least an

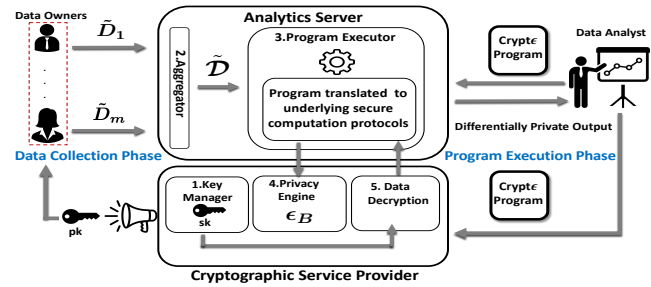


Figure 1: Cryptε System

order of magnitude. A novel contribution of this work is a DP indexing optimization that leverages the fact that noisy intermediate statistics about the data can be revealed.

- **Practical for Real World Usage:** For the same tasks, Crypte programs achieve accuracy comparable to CDP and 50× more than LDP for a dataset of size $\approx 30K$. Crypte runs within 3.6 hours for a large class of programs on a dataset with 1 million rows and 4 attributes.
- **Generalized Multiplication Using LHE:** Our implementation uses an efficient way for performing n -way multiplications using LHE which maybe of independent interest.

The full version of the paper is available in [6].

2 CRYPT ϵ OVERVIEW

2.1 System Architecture

Figure 1 shows Crypte’s system architecture. Crypte has two servers: Analytics server (AS) and Cryptographic Service Provider (CSP). At the very outset, the CSP records the total privacy budget, ϵ^B (provided by the data owners), and generates the key pair, $\langle sk, pk \rangle$ (details in Section 3), for the encryption scheme. The data owners, $DO_i, i \in [m]$ (m = number of data owners), encrypt their data records, D_i , in the appropriate format with the public key, pk , and send the encrypted records, \tilde{D}_i , to the AS which aggregates them into a single encrypted database, $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$. Next, the AS inputs logical programs from the data analyst and translates them to Crypte’s implementation specific secure protocols that work on $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$. A Crypte program typically consists of a sequence of transformation operators followed by a measurement operator. The AS can execute most of the transformations on its own. However, each measurement operator requires an interaction with the CSP for (a) decrypting the answer, and (b) checking that the total privacy budget, ϵ^B , is not exceeded. In this way, the AS and the CSP compute the output of a Crypte program with the data owners being offline.

2.2 Cryptε Design Principles

Minimal Trust Assumptions: As mentioned above, the overarching goal of Cryptε is to mimic the CDP model but

without a trusted server. A natural solution for dispensing with the trust assumption of the CDP model is using cryptographic primitives [10, 15, 18, 21, 30, 32, 38, 42, 93, 94]. Hence, to accommodate the use of cryptographic primitives, we assume a computationally bounded adversary in Crypté. However, a generic m -party SMC would be computationally expensive. This necessitates a third-party entity that can capture the requisite secure computation functionality in a 2-party protocol instead. This role is fulfilled by the CSP in Crypté. For this two-server model, we assume semi-honest behaviour and non-collusion. This is a very common assumption in the two-server model [46, 47, 49, 68, 81, 84, 85].

Programming Framework: Conceptually, the aforementioned goal of achieving the *best of both worlds* can be obtained by implementing the required DP program using off-the-self secure multi-party computation (SMC) tools like [2–5]. However, when it comes to real world usage, Crypté outperforms such approaches due to the following reasons.

First, without the support of a programming framework like that of Crypté, every DP program must be implemented from scratch. This requires the data analyst to be well versed in both DP and SMC techniques; he/she must know how to implement SMC protocols, estimate sensitivity of transformations and track privacy budget across programs. In contrast, Crypté allows the data analyst to write the DP program using a high-level and expressive programming framework. Crypté abstracts out all the low-level implementation details like the choice of input data format, translation of queries to that format, choice of SMC primitives and privacy budget monitoring from the analyst thereby reducing his/her burden of complex decision making. Thus, every Crypté program is automatically translated to protocols corresponding to the underlying implementation.

Second, SMC protocols can be prohibitively costly in practice unless they are carefully tuned to the application. Crypté supports optimized implementations for a small set of operators, which results in efficiency for all Crypté programs.

Third, a DP program can be typically divided into segments that (1) transform the private data, (2) perform noisy measurements, and (3) post-process the noisy measurements without touching the private data. A naive implementation may implement all the steps using SMC protocols even though post-processing can be performed in the clear. Given a DP program written in a general purpose programming language (like Python), automatically figuring out what can be done in the clear can be subtle. In Crypté programs, however, transformation and measurement are clearly delineated, as the data can be accessed only through a pre-specified set of operators. Thus, SMC protocols are only used for transformations and measurements, which improves performance.

For example, the AHP algorithm for histogram release [108] works as follows: first, a noisy histogram, \tilde{H} , is released using budget ϵ_1 . This is followed by post-processing steps of thresholding, sorting and clustering resulting in \tilde{H} . Then a final histogram, \tilde{H} , is computed with privacy budget $\epsilon - \epsilon_1$. An implementation of the entire algorithm in a single SMC protocol using the EMP toolkit [2] takes 810s for a dataset of size $\approx 30K$ and histogram size 100. In contrast, Crypté uses SMC protocols only for the first and third steps. Crypté automatically detects that the second post-processing step can be performed in the clear. A Crypté program for this runs in 238s (3.4 \times less time than that of the EMP implementation) for the same dataset and histogram sizes.

Last, the security (privacy) proofs for just stand-alone cryptographic and DP mechanisms can be notoriously tricky [20, 76]. Combining the two thus exacerbates the technical complexity, making the design vulnerable to faulty proofs [60]. For example, given any arbitrary DP program written under the CDP model, the distinction between intermediate results that can be released and the ones which have to be kept private is often ambiguous. An instance of this is observed in the Noisy-Max algorithm, where the array of intermediate noisy counts is private. However, these intermediate noisy counts correspond to valid query responses. Thus, an incautious analyst, in a bid to improve performance, might reuse a previously released noisy count query output for a subsequent execution of the Noisy-Max algorithm leading to privacy leakage. In contrast, Crypté is designed to reveal nothing other than the outputs of the DP programs to the untrusted servers; every Crypté program comes with an automatic proof of security (privacy). Referring back to the aforementioned example, in Crypté, the Noisy-Max algorithm is implemented as a secure measurement operator thereby preventing any accidental privacy leakage. The advantages of a programming framework is further validated by the popularity of systems like PINQ [78], Featherweight PINQ [41], Ektelo [107] - frameworks for the CDP setting.

Data Owners are Offline: Recall, Crypté's goal is to mimic the CDP model with untrusted servers. Hence, it is designed so that the data owners are offline after submitting their encrypted records to the AS.

Low burden on CSP: Crypté views the AS as an extension of the analyst; the AS has a vested interest in obtaining the result of the programs. Thus, we require the AS to perform the majority of the work for any program; interactions with the CSP should be minimal and related to data decryption. Keeping this in mind, the AS performs most of the data transformations by itself (Table 3). Specifically, for every Crypté program, the AS processes the whole database and transforms it into concise representations (an encrypted scalar or

a short vector) which is then decrypted by the CSP. An example real world setting can be when Google and Symantec assumes the role of the AS and the CSP respectively.

Separation of logical programming framework and underlying physical implementation: The programming framework is independent of the underlying implementation. This allows certain flexibility in the choice for implementation. For example, we use one-hot-encoding as the input data format (Section 2). However, any other encoding scheme like range based encoding can be used instead. Another example is that in this paper, we use ϵ -DP (pure DP) for our privacy analysis. However, other DP notions like (ϵ, δ) -DP, R nyi DP [79] can also be used instead. Similarly, it is straightforward to replace LHE with the optimized HE scheme in [22] or garbled circuits with the ABY framework [36].

Yet another alternative implementation for Crypt  could be where the private database is equally shared between the two servers and they engage in a secret share-based SMC protocol for executing the DP programs. This would require both the servers to do almost equal amount of work for each program. Such an implementation would be justified only if both the servers are equally invested in learning the DP statistics and is ill-suited for our context. A real world analogy for this can be if Google and Baidu decide to compute some statistics on their combined user bases.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Differential Privacy

DEFINITION 1. An algorithm \mathcal{A} satisfies ϵ -differential privacy (ϵ -DP), where $\epsilon > 0$ is a privacy parameter, iff for any two neighboring datasets D and D' such that $D = D' - t$ or $D' = D - t$, we have

$$\forall S \subset \text{Range}(\mathcal{A}), \Pr[\mathcal{A}(D) \in S] \leq e^\epsilon \Pr[\mathcal{A}(D') \in S] \quad (1)$$

The above definition is sometimes called *unbounded DP*. A variant is *bounded-DP* where neighboring datasets D and D' have the same number of rows and differ in one row. Any ϵ -DP algorithm also satisfies 2ϵ -bounded DP [73].

THEOREM 1. (Sequential Composition) If \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 are ϵ_1 -DP and ϵ_2 -DP algorithms with independent randomness, then releasing $\mathcal{A}_1(D)$ and $\mathcal{A}_2(D)$ on database D satisfies $\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2$ -DP.

THEOREM 2. (Post-Processing) Let $\mathcal{A} : D \mapsto R$ be a randomized algorithm that is ϵ -DP. Let $f : R \mapsto R'$ be an arbitrary randomized mapping. Then $f \circ \mathcal{A} : D \mapsto R'$ is ϵ -DP.

3.2 Cryptographic Primitives

Linearly Homomorphic Encryption (LHE): If $(\mathcal{M}, +)$ is a finite group, an LHE scheme for messages in \mathcal{M} is:

- **Key Generation (Gen):** This algorithm takes the security parameter κ as input and outputs a pair of secret and public keys, $\langle s_k, p_k \rangle \leftarrow \text{Gen}(\kappa)$.

- **Encryption (Enc):** This is a randomized algorithm that encrypts a message, $m \in \mathcal{M}$, using the public key, p_k , to generate the ciphertext, $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}_{p_k}(m)$.

- **Decryption (Dec):** This uses the secret key, s_k , to recover the plaintext, m , from the ciphertext, c , deterministically.

In addition, LHE supports the operator \oplus that allows the summation of ciphers as follows:

Operator \oplus : Let $c_1 \leftarrow \text{Enc}_{p_k}(m_1), \dots, c_a \leftarrow \text{Enc}_{p_k}(m_a)$ and $a \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$. Then we have $\text{Dec}_{s_k}(c_1 \oplus c_2 \dots \oplus c_a) = m_1 + \dots + m_a$. One can multiply a cipher $c \leftarrow \text{Enc}_{s_k}(m)$ by a plaintext positive integer a by a repetitions of \oplus . We denote this operation by $c\text{Mult}(a, c)$ such that $\text{Dec}_{s_k}(c\text{Mult}(a, c)) = a \cdot m$.

Labeled Homomorphic Encryption (labHE): Any LHE scheme can be extended to a labHE scheme [13] with the help of a pseudo-random function. In addition to the operations supported by an LHE scheme, labHE supports multiplication of two labHE ciphers (details in full paper [6]).

Garbled Circuit: Garbled circuit [74, 104] is a generic method for secure computation. Two data owners with respective private inputs x_1 and x_2 run the protocol such that, no data owner learns more than $f(x_1, x_2)$ for a function f . One of the data owners, called generator, builds a "garbled" version of a circuit for f and sends it to the other data owner, called evaluator, alongside the garbled input values for x_1 . The evaluator, then, obtains the garbled input for x_2 from the generator via oblivious transfer and computes $f(x_1, x_2)$.

4 CRYPT  SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

In this section, we describe Crypt 's workflow (Section 4.1), modules (Section 4.2), and trust assumptions (Section 4.3).

4.1 Crypt  Workflow

Crypt  operates in three phases:

- (1) **Setup Phase:** At the outset, data owners initialize the CSP with a privacy budget, ϵ^B , which is stored in its *Privacy Engine* module. Next, the CSP's *Key Manager* module generates key pair (s_k, p_k) for labHE, publishes p_k and stores s_k .
- (2) **Data Collection Phase:** In the next phase, each data owner encodes and encrypts his/her record using the *Data Encoder* and *Data Encryption* modules and sends the encrypted data records to the AS. The data owners are relieved of all other duties and can go completely offline. The *Aggregator* module of the AS, then, aggregates these encrypted records into a single encrypted database, $\hat{\mathcal{D}}$.
- (3) **Program Execution Phase:** In this phase, the AS executes a Crypt  program provided by the data analyst. Crypt  programs (details in Sections 5 and 6) access the sensitive data via a restricted set of transformation operators, that filter, count or group the data, and measurement operators, which are DP operations to release noisy answers. Measurement operators need interactions with the CSP as they require (1)

decryption of the answer, and (2) a check that the privacy budget is not exceeded. These functionalities are achieved by CSP's *Data Decryption* and *Privacy Engine* modules.

The *Setup* and *Data Collection* phases occur just once at the very beginning, every subsequent program is handled via the corresponding *Program Execution* phase.

4.2 Crypt ϵ Modules

Cryptographic Service Provider (CSP)

(1) **Key Manager:** The *Key Manager* module initializes the labHE scheme for Crypt ϵ by generating its key pair, $\langle sk, pk \rangle$. It stores the secret key, sk , with itself and releases the public key, pk . The CSP has exclusive access to the secret key, sk , and is the only entity capable of decryption in Crypt ϵ .

(2) **Privacy Engine:** Crypt ϵ starts off with a total privacy budget of ϵ^B chosen by the data owners. The choice of value for ϵ^B should be guided by social prerogatives [8, 62, 70] and is currently outside the scope of Crypt ϵ . For executing any program, the AS has to interact with the CSP at least once (for decrypting the noisy answer), thereby allowing the CSP to monitor the AS's actions in terms of privacy budget expenditure. The *Privacy Engine* module gets the program, P , and its allocated privacy budget, ϵ , from the data analyst, and maintains a public ledger that records the privacy budget spent in executing each such program. Once the privacy cost incurred reaches ϵ^B , the CSP refuses to decrypt any further answers. This ensures that the total privacy budget is never exceeded. The ledger is completely public allowing any data owner to verify it.

(3) **Data Decryption:** The CSP being the only entity capable of decryption, any measurement of the data (even noisy) has to involve the CSP. The *Data Decryption* module is tasked with handling all such interactions with the AS.

Data Owners (DO)

(1) **Data Encoder:** Each data owner, $DO_i, i \in [m]$, has a private data record, D_i , of the form $\langle A_1, \dots, A_l \rangle$ where A_j is an attribute. At the very outset, every data owner, DO_i , represents his/her private record, D_i , in its respective per attribute one-hot-encoding format. The one-hot-encoding is a way of representation for categorical attributes and is illustrated by the following example. If the database schema is given by $\langle Age, Gender \rangle$, then the corresponding one-hot-encoding representation for a data owner, $DO_i, i \in [m]$, with the record $\langle 30, Male \rangle$, is given by $\tilde{D}_i = \underbrace{\langle [0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0] \rangle}_{29} \underbrace{[1, 0]}_{70}$.

(2) **Data Encryption:** The *Data Encryption* module stores the public key pk of labHE which is announced by the CSP. Each data owner, $DO_i, i \in [m]$, performs an element-wise encryption of his/her per attribute one-hot-encodings using pk and sends the encrypted record, \tilde{D}_i , to the AS via a secure channel. This is the only interaction that a data owner ever participates in and goes offline after this.

Analytics Server (AS)

(1) **Aggregator:** The *Aggregator* collects the encrypted records, \tilde{D}_i , from each of the data owners, DO_i , and collates them into a single encrypted database, $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$.

(2) **Program Executor:** This module inputs a logical Crypt ϵ program, P , and privacy parameter, ϵ , from the data analyst, translates P to the implementation specific secure protocol and computes the noisy output with the CSP's help.

4.3 Trust Model

There are three differences in Crypt ϵ from the LDP setting:

(1) **Semi-honest Model:** We assume that the AS and the CSP are *semi-honest*, i.e., they follow the protocol honestly, but their contents and computations can be observed by an adversary. Additionally, each data owner has a private channel with the AS. For real world scenarios, the semi-honest behaviour can be imposed via legal bindings. Specifically, both the AS and the CSP can swear to their semi-honest behavior in legal affidavits; there would be loss of face in public and legal implications in case of breach of conduct.

(2) **Non-Collusion:** We assume that the AS and the CSP are *non-colluding*, i.e., they avoid revealing information [64] to each other beyond what is allowed by the protocol definition. This restriction can be imposed via strict legal bindings as well. Additionally, in our setting the CSP is a third-party entity with no vested interest in learning the program outputs. Hence, the CSP has little incentive to collude with the AS. Physical enforcement of the non-collusion condition can be done by implementing the CSP inside a trusted execution environment (TEE) or via techniques which involve using a trusted mediator who monitors the communications between the servers [12].

(3) **Computational Boundedness:** The adversary is *computationally bounded*. Hence, the DP guarantee obtained is that of computational differential privacy or SIM-CDP [80]. There is a separation between the algorithmic power of computational DP and information-theoretic DP in the multi-party setting [80]. Hence, this assumption is inevitable in Crypt ϵ .

5 CRYPT ϵ OPERATORS

Let us consider an encrypted instance of a database, $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$, with schema $\langle A_1, \dots, A_l \rangle$. In this section, we define the Crypt ϵ operators (summarized in Table 1) and illustrate how to write logical Crypt ϵ programs for DP algorithms on $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$. The design of Crypt ϵ operators are inspired by previous work [78, 107].

5.1 Transformation operators

Transformation operators input encrypted data and output a transformed encrypted data. These operators thus work completely on the encrypted data without expending any privacy budget. Three types of data are considered in this context:

(1) an encrypted table, \tilde{T} , of x rows and y columns/attributes

Table 1: Cryptε Operators

Types	Name	Notation	Input	Output	Functionality
Transformation	CrossProduct	$\times_{A_i, A_j \rightarrow A'}(\cdot)$	\tilde{T}	\tilde{T}'	Generates a new attribute A' (in one-hot-coding) to represent the data for both the attributes A_i and A_j
	Project	$\pi_{A^*}(\cdot)$	\tilde{T}	\tilde{T}'	Discards all attributes but A^*
	Filter	$\sigma_\phi(\cdot)$	\tilde{T}	\tilde{B}'	Zeros out records not satisfying ϕ in \tilde{B}
	Count	$count(\cdot)$	\tilde{T}	c	Counts the number of 1s in \tilde{B}
	GroupByCount	$\gamma_A^{count}(\cdot)$	\tilde{T}	V	Returns encrypted histogram of A
	GroupByCountEncoded	$\tilde{\gamma}_A^{count}(\cdot)$	\tilde{T}	\tilde{V}	Returns encrypted histogram of A in one-hot-encoding
	CountDistinct	$countD(\cdot)$	V	c	Counts the number of non-zero values in V
Measurement	Laplace	$Lap_{\epsilon, \Delta}(\cdot)$	$V \setminus c$	\tilde{V}	Adds Laplace noise to V
	NoisyMax	$NoisyMax_{\epsilon, \Delta}^k(\cdot)$	V	$\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$	Returns indices of the top k noisy values

where each attribute value is represented by its encrypted one-hot-encoding; (2) an encrypted vector, V ; and (3) an encrypted scalar, c . In addition, every encrypted table, \tilde{T} , of x rows has an encrypted bit vector, \tilde{B} , of size x to indicate whether the rows are relevant to the program at hand. The i -th row in \tilde{T} will be used for answering the current program only if the i -th bit value of \tilde{B} is 1. The input to the first transformation operator in Cryptε program is $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$ with all bits of \tilde{B} set to 1. For brevity, we use just \tilde{T} to represent both the encrypted table, \tilde{T} , and \tilde{B} . The transformation operators are:

(1) **CrossProduct** $\times_{(A_i, A_j) \rightarrow A'}(\tilde{T})$: This operator transforms the two encrypted one-hot-encodings for attributes A_i and A_j in \tilde{T} into a single encrypted one-hot-encoding of a new attribute, A' . The domain of the new attribute, A' , is the cross product of the domains for A_i and A_j . The resulting table, \tilde{T}' , has one column less than \tilde{T} . Thus, the construction of the one-hot-encoding of the entire y -dimensional domain can be computed by repeated application of this operator.

(2) **Project** $\pi_{\tilde{A}}(\tilde{T})$: This operator projects \tilde{T} on a subset of attributes, \tilde{A} , of the input table. All the attributes that are not in \tilde{A} are discarded from the output table \tilde{T}' .

(3) **Filter** $\sigma_\phi(\tilde{T})$: This operator specifies a filtering condition that is represented by a Boolean predicate, ϕ , and defined over a subset of attributes, \tilde{A} , of the input table, \tilde{T} . The predicate can be expressed as a conjunction of range conditions over \tilde{A} , i.e., for a row $r \in \tilde{T}$, $\phi(r) = \bigwedge_{A_i \in \tilde{A}} (r.A_i \in V_{A_i})$, where $r.A_i$ is value of attribute A_i in row r and V_{A_i} is a subset of values (can be a singleton) that A_i can take. For example, $Age \in [30, 40] \wedge Gender = M$ can be a filtering condition. The Filter operator affects only the associated encrypted bit vector of \tilde{T} and keeps the actual table untouched. If any row, $r \in \tilde{T}$, does not satisfy the filtering condition, ϕ , the corresponding bit in \tilde{B} will be set to $labEnc_{pk}(0)$; otherwise, the corresponding bit value in \tilde{B} is kept unchanged. Thus the Filter transformation suppresses all the records that are extraneous to answering the program at hand (i.e., does not satisfy ϕ) by explicitly zeroing the corresponding indicator

bits and outputs the table, \tilde{T}' , with the updated indicator vector.

(4) **Count** $count(\tilde{T})$: This operator simply counts the number of rows in \tilde{T} that are pertinent to the program at hand, i.e. the number of 1s in its associated bit vector \tilde{B} . This operator outputs an encrypted scalar, c .

(5) **GroupByCount** $\gamma_A^{count}(\tilde{T})$: The GroupByCount operator partitions the input table, \tilde{T} , into groups of rows having the same value for an attribute, A . The output of this transformation is an encrypted vector, V , that counts the number of unfiltered rows for each value of A . This operator serves as a preceding transformation for other Cryptε operators specifically, NoisyMax, CountDistinct and Laplace.

(6) **GroupByCountEncoded** $\tilde{\gamma}_A^{count}(\tilde{T})$: This operator is similar to GroupByCount. The only difference between the two is that GroupByCountEncoded outputs a new table that has two columns – the first column corresponds to A and the second column corresponds to the number of rows for every value of A (in one-hot-encoding). This operator is useful for expressing computations of the form “count the number of age values having at least 200 records” (see P7 in Table 2).

(7) **CountDistinct** $countD(V)$: This operator is always preceded by GroupByCount. Hence the input vector, V , is an encrypted histogram for attribute, A , and this operator returns the number of distinct values of A that appear in $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$ by counting the non-zero entries of V .

5.2 Measurement operators

The measurement operators take encrypted vector of counts, V (or a single count, c), as input and return noisy measurements on it in the clear. These two operators correspond to two classic DP mechanisms – Laplace mechanism and NoisyMax [39]. Both mechanisms add Laplace noise, η , scaled according to the transformations applied to $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$.

Let the sequence of transformations applied on $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$ to get V be $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}(D) = \mathcal{T}_1(\dots \mathcal{T}_2((\mathcal{T}_1(D))))$. The *sensitivity* of a sequence of transformations is defined as the maximum

change to the output of this sequence of transformations [78] when changing a row in the input database, i.e., $\Delta_{\tilde{T}} = \max_{D, D'} \|\tilde{T}(D) - \tilde{T}(D')\|_1$ where D and D' differ in a single row. The sensitivity of \tilde{T} can be upper bounded by the product of the stability [78] of these transformation operators, i.e., $\Delta_{\tilde{T}} = (\tau_1, \dots, \tau_l) = \prod_{i=1}^l \Delta \tau_i$. The transformations in Table 1 have a stability of 1, except for GroupByCount and GroupByCountEncoded which are 2-stable. Given ϵ and $\Delta_{\tilde{T}}$, we define the measurement operators:

- (1) **Laplace** $Lap_{\epsilon, \Delta}(\mathbf{V}/c)$: This operator implements the classic Laplace mechanism [39]. Given an encrypted vector, \mathbf{V} , or an encrypted scalar, c , a privacy parameter ϵ and sensitivity Δ of the preceding transformations, the operator adds noise drawn from $Lap(\frac{2\Delta}{\epsilon})$ to \mathbf{V} or c and outputs the noisy answer.
- (2) **NoisyMax** $NoisyMax_{\epsilon, \Delta}^k(\mathbf{V})$: Noisy-Max is a differentially private selection mechanism [39, 48] to determine the top k highest valued queries. This operator takes in an encrypted vector \mathbf{V} and adds independent Laplace noise from $Lap(\frac{2k\Delta}{\epsilon})$ to each count. The indices for the top k noisy values, $\hat{\mathcal{P}}$, are reported as the desired answer.

5.3 Program Examples

A Crypte program is a sequence of transformation operators followed by a measurement operator and arbitrary post-processing. Consider a database schema $\langle Age, Gender, NativeCountry, Race \rangle$. We show 7 Crypte program examples in Table 2 over this database.

We will use P1 in Table 2 to illustrate how a Crypte program can be written and analyzed. Program P1 aims to compute the cumulative distribution function (c.d.f.) of attribute *Age* with domain $[1, 100]$. The first step is to compute 100 range queries, where the i -th query computes the number of records in $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$ having $Age \in [1, i]$ with privacy parameter ϵ_i . The sequence of transformation operators for each range query is $count(\sigma_{Age \in [1, i]}(\pi_{Age}(\tilde{\mathcal{D}})))$. All these three operators are 1-stable and hence, the sensitivity of the resulting range query is upper bounded by the product of these stability values, 1 [78]. Thus, the subsequent measurement operator Laplace for the i -th range query takes in privacy budget ϵ_i and sensitivity $\Delta = 1$, and outputs a noisy plaintext count, \hat{c}_i . At this stage the program is $\sum_{i=1}^{100} \epsilon_i/2$ -DP by Theorem 1[39] (recall we add noise from $Lap(2 \cdot \Delta/\epsilon_i)$ in Section 5.2). After looping over the 100 ranges, P1 obtains a noisy plaintext output $\hat{\mathbf{V}} = [\hat{c}_1, \dots, \hat{c}_{100}]$ and applies a post-processing step, denoted by $post_{c.d.f.}(\hat{\mathbf{V}})$. This operator inputs a noisy histogram, $\hat{\mathbf{V}}$, for attribute A and computes its c.d.f $\hat{\mathbf{V}}' = [\hat{c}'_1, \dots, \hat{c}'_{100}]$ via isotonic regression [58] $\min_{\hat{\mathbf{V}}'} \|\hat{\mathbf{V}}' - \hat{\mathbf{V}}\|_2$ s.t. $0 \leq \hat{c}'_1 \leq \dots \leq \hat{c}'_{100} \leq |\tilde{\mathcal{D}}|$. Hence, by Theorem 2, P1 is $\epsilon/2$ -DP, where $\epsilon = \sum_{i=1}^{100} \epsilon_i$. However, since Crypte also reveals the total dataset size, the total privacy guarantee is ϵ -bounded DP (see Section 7 for details).

6 IMPLEMENTATION

In this section, we describe the implementation of Crypte. First, we discuss our proposed technique for extending the multiplication operation of labHE to support $n > 2$ multiplicands which will be used for the CrossProduct operator. Then, we describe the implementations of Crypte operators.

6.1 General labHE n -way Multiplication

The labHE scheme is an extension of a LHE scheme where every ciphertext is now associated with a “label” [13]. This extension enables labHE to support multiplication of two labHE ciphertexts via the $labMult()$ operator (without involving the CSP). However, it cannot support multiplication of more than two ciphertexts because the “multiplication” ciphertext $\mathbf{e} = labMult(\mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2)$, (\mathbf{c}_1 and \mathbf{c}_2 are labHE ciphertexts) does not have a corresponding label, i.e., it is not in the correct labHE ciphertext format. Hence, we propose an algorithm $genLabMult$ to generate a label for every intermediary product of two multiplicands to enable generic n -way multiplication (details are in the full paper [6]).

6.2 Operator Implementation

We now summarize how Crypte operators are translated to protocols that the AS and CSP can run on encrypted data.

Project $\pi_{\tilde{A}}(\tilde{T})$: The implementation of this operator simply drops off all but the attributes in \tilde{A} from the input table, \tilde{T} , and returns the truncated table, \tilde{T}' .

Filter $\sigma_{\phi}(\tilde{T})$: Let ϕ be a predicate of the form $r.A_j \in V_{A_j}$. Row i satisfies the filter if one of the bits corresponding to positions in V_{A_j} is 1. Thus, the bit corresponding to row i is set as: $B[i] = labMult(B[i], \bigoplus_{l \in V_{A_j}} \tilde{v}_j[l])$. The multi-attribute implementation is detailed in the full paper [6].

CrossProduct $\times_{A_i, A_j \rightarrow A'}(\tilde{T})$: The crossproduct between two attributes are computed using $genLabMult()$ described above.

Count $count(\tilde{T})$: This operator simply adds up the bits in \mathbf{B} corresponding to input table \tilde{T} , i.e., $\bigoplus_i B[i]$.

GroupByCount $\gamma_A^{count}(\tilde{T})$: The implementations for Project,

Filter and Count are reused here. First, Crypte projects the input table \tilde{T} on attribute A , i.e. $\tilde{T}_1 = \pi_A(\tilde{T})$. Then, Crypte loops each possible value of A . For each value v , Crypte initializes a temporary $B_v = \mathbf{B}$ and filters \tilde{T}' on $A = v$ to get an updated B'_v . Finally, Crypte outputs the number of 1s in B'_v .

GroupByCountEncoded $\tilde{\gamma}_A^{count}(\tilde{T})$: For this operator, the AS first uses GroupByCount to generate the encrypted histogram, \mathbf{V} , for attribute A . Since each entry of \mathbf{V} is a count of rows, its value ranges from $\{0, \dots, |\tilde{T}|\}$. The AS, then, masks \mathbf{V} and sends it to the CSP. The purpose of this mask is to hide the true histogram from the CSP. Next, the CSP generates the encrypted one-hot-coding representation for this masked

Table 2: Examples of Crypte Program

Crypte Program	Description
P1: $\forall i \in [1, 100], \hat{c}_i \leftarrow \text{Lap}_{\epsilon, 1}(\text{count}(\sigma_{\text{Age} \in (0, i]}(\pi_{\text{Age}}(\mathcal{D}))))$; $\text{post}_{c.d.f.}(\{\hat{c}_1, \dots, \hat{c}_{100}\})$	Outputs the c.d.f of Age with domain [1, 100].
P2: $\hat{P} \leftarrow \text{NoisyMax}_{\epsilon, 1}^5(\gamma_{\text{Age}}^{\text{count}}(\mathcal{D}))$	Outputs the 5 most frequent age values.
P3: $\hat{V} \leftarrow \text{Lap}_{\epsilon, 2}(\gamma_{\text{Race} \times \text{Gender}}^{\text{count}}(\pi_{\text{Race} \times \text{Gender}}(\times_{\text{Race, Gender} \rightarrow \text{Race} \times \text{Gender}}(\mathcal{D}))))$	Outputs the marginal over the attributes Race and Gender.
P4: $\hat{V} \leftarrow \text{Lap}_{\epsilon, 2}(\gamma_{\text{Age} \times \text{Gender}}^{\text{count}}(\sigma_{\text{NativeCountry} = \text{Mexico}}(\pi_{\text{Age} \times \text{Gender, NativeCountry}}(\times_{\text{Age, Gender} \rightarrow \text{Age} \times \text{Gender}}(\mathcal{D}))))$	Outputs the marginal over Age and Gender for Mexican employees.
P5: $\hat{c} \leftarrow \text{Lap}_{\epsilon, 1}(\text{count}(\sigma_{\text{Age} = 30 \wedge \text{Gender} = \text{Male} \wedge \text{NativeCountry} = \text{Mexico}}(\pi_{\text{Age, Gender, NativeCountry}}(\mathcal{D}))))$	Counts the number of male employees of Mexico having age 30.
P6: $\hat{c} \leftarrow \text{Lap}_{\epsilon, 2}(\text{countD}(\gamma_{\text{Age}}^{\text{count}}(\sigma_{\text{Gender} = \text{Male}}(\pi_{\text{Age, Gender}}(\mathcal{D}))))$	Counts the number of distinct age values for the male employees.
P7: $\hat{c} \leftarrow \text{Lap}_{\epsilon, 2}(\text{count}(\sigma_{\text{Count} \in [200, m]}(\gamma_{\text{Age}}^{\text{count}}(\pi_{\text{Age}}(\mathcal{D}))))$	Counts the number of age values having at least 200 records.

histogram \hat{V} and returns it to the AS. The AS can simply rotate $\hat{V}[i], i \in [|V|]$ by its respective mask value $M[i]$ and get back the true encrypted histogram in one-hot-coding \hat{V} . The details are presented in the full paper [6].

CountDistinct $\text{countD}(V)$: This operator is implemented by a garbled circuit (details are in the full paper [6]).

Laplace $\text{Lap}_{\epsilon, \Delta}(V \setminus c)$: The Laplace operator has two phases (since both the AS and the CSP adds Laplace noise). In the first phase, the AS adds an instance of encrypted Laplace noise, $\eta_1 \sim \text{Lap}(\frac{2\Delta}{\epsilon})$, to the encrypted input to generate \hat{c} . In the second phase, the CSP first checks whether $\sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i + \epsilon \leq \epsilon^B$ where ϵ_i represents the privacy budget used for a previously executed program, P_i (presuming a total of $t \in \mathbb{N}$ programs have been executed hitherto the details of which are logged into the CSP's public ledger). Only in the event the above check is satisfied, the CSP proceeds to decrypt \hat{c} , and records ϵ and the current program details (description, sensitivity) in the public ledger. Next, the CSP adds a second instance of the Laplace noise, $\eta_2 \sim \text{Lap}(\frac{2\Delta}{\epsilon})$, to generate the final noisy output, \hat{c} , in the clear. The Laplace operator with an encrypted scalar, V , as the input is implemented similarly.

NoisyMax $\text{NoisyMax}_{\epsilon, \Delta}^k(V)$: This operator is implemented via a two-party computation between the AS and the CSP using garbled circuits (details are in the full paper [6]).

Note: Crypte programs are grouped into three classes based on the number and type of interaction between the AS and the CSP. For example, P1, P2 and P3 (Table 2) have just one interaction with the CSP for decrypting the noisy output. P4 and P5, on the other hand, require additional interactions for the n -way multiplication of ciphers in the CrossProduct operator. Finally, P6 and P7 require intermediate interactions due to operators CountDistinct and GroupByCountEncoded respectively. The details are presented in the full paper [6].

7 CRYPTe SECURITY SKETCH

In this section, we provide a sketch of the security proof in the semi-honest model using the well established simulation argument [87]. Crypte takes as input a DP program, P , and a privacy parameter, ϵ , and translates P into a protocol, Π , which in turn is executed by the AS and the CSP. In addition to revealing the output of the program P , Π also reveals the number of records in the dataset, \mathcal{D} . Let $P^{CDP}(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon/2)$

denote the random variable corresponding to the output of running P in the CDP model under $\epsilon/2$ -DP (Definition 1). We make the following claims:

- The views and outputs of the AS and CSP are computationally indistinguishable from that of simulators with access to only $P^{CDP}(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon/2)$ and the total dataset size $|\mathcal{D}|$.
- For every P that satisfies $\epsilon/2$ -DP (Definition 1), revealing its output (distributed identical to $P^{CDP}(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon/2)$) as well as $|\mathcal{D}|$ satisfies ϵ -bounded DP, where neighboring databases have the same size but differ in one row.
- Thus, the overall protocol satisfies computational differential privacy under the SIM-CDP model.

Now, let $P_B^{CDP}(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon)$ denote the random variable corresponding to the output of running P in the CDP model under ϵ -bounded DP such that $P_B^{CDP}(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon) \equiv (P^{CDP}(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon/2), |\mathcal{D}|)$. We state the main theorems here and refer the reader to the full paper [6] for formal proofs.

THEOREM 3. Let protocol Π correspond to the execution of program P in Crypte. The views and outputs of the AS and the CSP are denoted as $\text{View}_1^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon)$, $\text{Output}_1^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon)$ and $\text{View}_2^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon)$, $\text{Output}_2^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon)$ respectively. There exists Probabilistic Polynomial Time (PPT) simulators, Sim_1 and Sim_2 , such that:

- $\text{Sim}_1(P_B^{CDP}(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon))$ is computationally indistinguishable (\equiv_c) from $(\text{View}_1^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon), \text{Output}_1^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon))$, and
- $\text{Sim}_2(P_B^{CDP}(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon))$ is \equiv_c to $(\text{View}_2^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon), \text{Output}_2^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon))$.

$\text{Output}^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon)$ is the combined output of the two parties¹.

The main ingredient for the proof is the composition theorem [87], which informally states: suppose a protocol, Π_f^g , implements functionality f and uses function g as an oracle (uses only input-output behavior of g). Assume that protocol Π_g implements g and calls to g in Π_f^g are replaced by instances of Π_g (referred to as the composite protocol). If Π_f and Π_g are correct (satisfy the above simulator definition), then the composite protocol is correct. Thus, the proof can be done in a modular fashion as long as the underlying operators are used in a blackbox manner (only the input-output behavior are used and none of the internal state are used).

¹Note that the simulators are passed a random variable $P_B^{CDP}(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon)$, i.e., the simulator is given the ability to sample from this distribution.

Next, every Crypte program expressed as a sequence of transformation operators followed by a measurement operator, satisfies $\epsilon/2$ -DP (as in Definition 1). It is so because recall that the measurement operators add noise from $Lap(\frac{2\Delta}{\epsilon})$ (Section 5.2) where Δ denotes the sensitivity of P (computed w.r.t to Definition 1) [39, 48]. However, Crypte reveals both the output of the program as well as the total size of dataset \mathcal{D} . While revealing the size exactly would violate Definition 1, it does satisfy *bounded*-DP albeit with twice the privacy parameter, ϵ – changing a row in \mathcal{D} is equivalent to adding a row and then removing a row.

Finally, since every program P executed on Crypte satisfies ϵ -bounded DP, it follows from Theorem 3 that every execution of Crypte satisfies computational DP.

COROLLARY 4. *Protocol Π satisfies computational differential privacy under the SIM-CDP notion [80].*

Note that Theorem 3 assumes that AS and the CSP do not collude with the users (data owners). However, if the AS colludes with a subset of the users, U , then Sim_1 (Sim_2) has to be given the data corresponding to users in U as additional parameters. This presents no complications in the proof (see the proof in [49]). If a new user u joins, their data can be encrypted and simply added to the database. We discuss extensions to handle malicious adversaries in Section 10.

8 CRYPT ϵ OPTIMIZATIONS

In this section, we present the optimizations used by Crypte.

8.1 DP Index Optimization

This optimization is motivated by the fact that several programs, first, filter out a large number of rows in the dataset. For instance, P5 in Table 2 constructs a histogram over *Age* and *Gender* on the subset of rows for which *NativeCountry* is Mexico. Crypte’s filter implementation retains all the rows as the AS has no way of telling whether the filter condition is satisfied. As a result, the subsequent GroupbyCount is run on the full dataset. If there were an index on *NativeCountry*, Crypte could run the GroupbyCount on only the subset of rows with *NativeCountry*=Mexico. But an exact index would violate DP. Hence, we propose a DP index to bound the information leakage while improving the performance.

At a high-level, the DP index on any ordinal attribute A is constructed as follows: (1) securely sort the input encrypted database, $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$, on A and (2) learn a mapping, \mathcal{F} , from the domain of A to $[1, |\tilde{\mathcal{D}}|]$ such that most of the rows with index less than $\mathcal{F}(v)$, $v \in \text{domain}(A)$, have a value less than v . The secure sorting is done via the following garbled circuit that (1) inputs $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$ (just the records without any identifying features) and indexing attribute A from the AS (2) inputs the secret key sk from the CSP (3) decrypts and sort \mathcal{D}

on A (4) re-encrypt the sorted database using pk and outputs $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_s = \text{labEnc}_{pk}(\text{sort}(\mathcal{D}))$. The mapping, \mathcal{F} , must be learned under DP, and we present a method for that below. Let $P = (P_1, \dots, P_k)$ be an equi-width partition on the sorted domain of A such that each partition (bin) contains $\frac{s_A}{k}$ consecutive domain values where s_A is the domain size of A . The index is constructed using a Crypte program that firstly computes the noisy prefix counts, $\hat{V}[i] = \sum_{v \in \bigcup_{l=1}^i P_l} ct_{A,v} + \eta_i$ for $i \in [k]$, where $\eta_i \sim Lap(2k/\epsilon_A)$ and $ct_{A,v}$ denotes the number of rows with value v for A . Next, the program uses isotonic regression [58] on \hat{V} to generate a noisy cumulative histogram \tilde{C} with non-decreasing counts. Thus, each prefix count in \tilde{C} gives an *approximate index* for the sorted database where the values of attribute A change from being in P_i to a value in P_{i+1} . When a Crypte program starts with a filter $\phi = A \in [v_s, v_e]$, we compute two indices for the sorted database, i_s and i_e , as follows. Let v_s and v_e fall in partitions P_i and P_j respectively. If P_i is the first partition, then we set $i_s = 0$; otherwise set i_s to be 1 more than the $i - 1$ -th noisy prefix count from \tilde{C} . Similarly, if P_j is the last partition, then we set $i_e = |\tilde{\mathcal{D}}|$; otherwise, we set i_e to be the $j + 1$ -th noisy prefix count from \tilde{C} . This gives us the DP mapping \mathcal{F} . We then run the program on the subset of rows in $[i_s, i_e]$. For example, in Figure 2, the indexing attribute with domain $\{v_1, \dots, v_{10}\}$ has been partitioned into $k = 5$ bins and if $\phi \in [v_3, v_6]$, $i_s = \tilde{C}[1] + 1 = 6$ and $i_e = \tilde{C}[3] = 13$.

LEMMA 5. *Let P be the program that computes the mapping \mathcal{F} . Let Π be the Crypte protocol corresponding to the construction of the DP index. The views and outputs of the AS and the CSP are denoted as $View_1^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon_A)$, $Output_1^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon_A)$ and $View_2^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon_A)$, $Output_2^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon_A)$ respectively. There exists PPT simulators Sim_1 and Sim_2 such that:*

- $Sim_1(P_B^{CDP}(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon_A)) \equiv_c (View_1^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon_A), Output^\Pi(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon_A))$, and
- $Sim_2(P_B^{CDP}(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon)) \equiv_c (View_2^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon_A), Output^\Pi(\mathcal{D}, \epsilon_A))$.

Output $^\Pi(P, \mathcal{D}, \epsilon_A)$ is the combined output of the two parties

The proof of the above lemma is presented in the full paper [6]. Here we present the intuition behind it. From the secure sorting algorithm (steps 1 and 4), it is evident that the servers cannot associate the records of the encrypted sorted dataset, $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_s$, with the data owners. The AS can learn nothing from $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_s$ due to the semantic security of the LHE scheme used. This ensures that the DP index construction of Crypte satisfies the SIM-CDP privacy guarantee.

- **Optimized feature:** This optimization speeds up the program execution by reducing the total number of rows to be processed for the program.
- **Trade-off:** The trade-off is a possible increase in error as some of the rows that satisfy the filter condition may not be selected due to the noisy index.

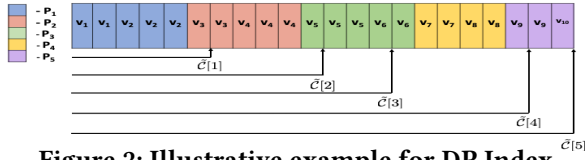


Figure 2: Illustrative example for DP Index

- **Privacy Cost:** Assuming the index is constructed with privacy parameter ϵ_A , the selection of a subset of rows using it will be ϵ_A -bounded DP (Lemma 5). If ϵ_L is the parameter used for the subsequent measurement primitives, then by Theorem 1, the total privacy parameter is $\epsilon_A + \epsilon_L$.

Discussion: Here we discuss the various parameters in the construction of a DP index. The foremost parameter is the indexing attribute A which can be chosen with the help of the following two heuristics. First, A should be frequently queried so that a large number of queries can benefit from this optimization. Second, choose A such that the selectivity of the popularly queried values of A is high. This would ensure that the first selection performed alone on A will filter out the majority of the rows, reducing the intermediate dataset size to be considered for the subsequent operators. The next parameter is the fraction of the program privacy budget, ρ ($\epsilon_A = \rho \cdot \epsilon$ where ϵ is the total program privacy budget) that should be used towards building the index. The higher the value of ρ , the better is the accuracy of the index (hence better speed-up). However, the privacy budget allocated for the rest of the program decreases resulting in increased noise in the final answer. This trade-off is studied in Figures 4a and 4b in Section 9. Another parameter is the number of bins k . Finer binning gives more resolution but leads to more error due to DP noise addition. Coarser binning introduces error in indexing but has lower error due to noise. We explore this trade-off in Figures 4c and 4d. To increase accuracy we can also consider bins preceding i_s and bins succeeding i_e . This is so because, since the index is noisy, it might miss out on some rows that satisfy the filter condition. For example, in Figure 2, both the indices $i_s = \tilde{C}[1] + 1 = 6$ and $i_e = \tilde{C}[3] = 13$ miss a row satisfying the filter condition $\phi = A \in [v_3, v_6]$; hence including an extra neighboring bin would reduce the error.

Thus, in order to gain in performance, the proposed DP index optimization allows some DP leakage of the data. This is in tune with the works in [28, 53, 60, 77]. However, our work differs from earlier work in the fact that we can achieve pure DP (albeit SIM-CDP). In contrast, previous work achieved a weaker version of DP, approximate DP [19], and added one-sided noise (i.e., only positive noise). One-sided noise requires addition of dummy rows in the data, and hence increases the data size. However, in our Cryptε programs, all the rows in the noisy set are part of the real dataset.

8.2 Crypto-Engineering Optimizations

(1) **DP Range Tree:** If range queries are common, pre-computed noisy range tree is a useful optimization. For example, building a range tree on *Age* attribute can improve the accuracy for P1 and P2 in Table 2. The sensitivity for such a noisy range tree is $\log s_A$ where s_A is the domain size of the attribute on which the tree is constructed. Any arbitrary range query requires access to at most $2 \log s_A$ nodes on the tree. Thus to answer all possible range queries on A , the total squared error accumulated is $O(\frac{s^2(\log s_A)^2}{\epsilon})$. In contrast for the naive case, we would have incurred error $O(\frac{s^3}{\epsilon})$ [58]. Note that, if we already have a DP index on A , then the DP range tree can be considered to be a secondary index on A .

- **Optimized Feature:** The optimization reduces both execution time and expected error when executed over multiple range queries.
- **Trade-off:** The trade-off for this optimization is the storage cost of the range tree ($O(2 \cdot s_A)$).
- **Privacy Cost:** If the range tree is constructed with privacy parameter ϵ_R , then any measurement on it is post-processing. Hence, the privacy cost is ϵ_R -bounded DP.

(2) **Precomputation:** The CrossProduct primitive generates the one-hot-coding of data across two attributes. However, this step is costly due to the intermediate interactions with the CSP. Hence, a useful optimization is to pre-compute the one-hot-codings for the data across a set of frequently used attributes \tilde{A} so that for subsequent program executions, the AS can get the desired representation via simple look-ups. For example, this benefits P3 (Table 2).

- **Optimized Feature:** This reduces the execution time of Cryptε programs. The multi-attribute one-hot-codings can be re-used for all subsequent programs.
- **Trade-off:** The trade-off is the storage cost ($O(m \cdot s_{\tilde{A}} = m \cdot \prod_{A \in \tilde{A}} s_A)$, m = the number of data owners) incurred to store the multi-attribute one-hot-codings for \tilde{A} .
- **Privacy Cost:** The computation is carried completely on the encrypted data, no privacy budget is expended.

(3) **Offline Processing:** For GroupByCountEncoded, the CSP needs to generate the encrypted one-hot-codings for the masked histogram. Note that the one-hot-encoding representation for any such count would simply be a vector of $(|\tilde{\mathcal{D}}| - 1)$ ciphertexts for '0', $labEnc_{pk}(0)$ and 1 ciphertext for '1', $labEnc_{pk}(1)$. Thus one useful optimization is to generate these ciphertexts offline (similar to offline generation of Beaver's multiplication triples [16] used in SMC). Hence, the program execution will not be blocked by encryption.

- **Optimized Feature:** This optimization results in a reduction in the run time of Cryptε programs.

- **Trade-off:** A storage cost of $O(m \cdot s_A)$ is incurred to store the ciphers for attribute A .
- **Privacy Cost:** The computation is carried completely on the encrypted data, no privacy budget is expended.

9 EXPERIMENTAL EVALUATION

In this section, we describe our evaluation of Cryptε along two dimensions, accuracy and performance of Cryptε programs. Specifically, we address the following questions:

- **Q1:** Do Cryptε programs have significantly lower errors than that for the corresponding state-of-the-art LDP implementations? Additionally, is the accuracy of Cryptε programs comparable to that of the corresponding CDP implementations?
- **Q2:** Do the proposed optimizations provide substantial performance improvement over unoptimized Cryptε?
- **Q3:** Are Cryptε programs practical in terms of their execution time and do they scale well?

Evaluation Highlights:

- Cryptε can achieve up to $50\times$ smaller error than the corresponding LDP implementation on a data of size $\approx 30K$ (Figure 3). Additionally, Cryptε errors are at most $2\times$ more than that of the corresponding CDP implementation.
- The optimizations in Cryptε can improve the performance of unoptimized Cryptε by up to $5667\times$ (Table 3).
- A large class of Cryptε programs execute within 3.6 hours for a dataset of size 10^6 , and they scale linearly with the dataset size (Figure 5). The AS performs majority of the work for most programs (Table 3).

9.1 Methodology

Programs: To answer the aforementioned questions, we ran the experiments on the Cryptε programs previously outlined in Table 2. Due to space limitations, we present the results of only four of them in the main paper namely P1, P3, P5 and P7. The rationale behind choosing these four is that they cover all three classes of programs (Section 6) and showcase the advantages for all of the four proposed optimizations.

Dataset: We ran our experiments on the Adult dataset from the UCI repository [7]. The dataset is of size 32,651. For the scaling experiments (Figure 5), we create toy datasets of sizes 100K and 1 million by copying over the Adult dataset.

Accuracy Metrics: Programs with scalar outputs (P5, P7) use *absolute error* $|c - \hat{c}|$ where c is the true count and \hat{c} is the noisy output. Programs with vector outputs (P1, P3) use the *L1 error metric* given by $Error = \sum_i |V[i] - \hat{V}[i]|$, $i \in [|V|]$ where V is the true vector and \hat{V} is the noisy vector. We report the mean and s.t.d of error values over 10 repetitions.

Performance Metrics: We report the mean total execution time in seconds for each program, over 10 repetitions.

Configuration: We implemented Cryptε in Python with the garbled circuit implemented via EMP toolkit [2]. We use Paillier encryption scheme [88]. All the experiments have been performed on the Google Cloud Platform [1] with the configuration c2-standard-8. For Adult dataset, Cryptε constructs a DP index optimization over the attribute *NativeCountry* that benefits programs like P4 and P5. Our experiments assign 20% of the total program privacy parameter towards constructing the index and the rest is used for the remaining program execution. Cryptε also constructs a DP range tree over *Age*. This helps programs like P1, P2 and P3. This is our default Cryptε implementation.

9.2 End-to-end Accuracy Comparison

In this section, we evaluate Q1 by performing a comparative analysis between the empirical accuracy of the aforementioned four Cryptε programs (both optimized and unoptimized) and that of the corresponding state-of-the-art LDP [96] and CDP (under bounded DP; specifically, using the CDP view Cryptε is computationally indistinguishable from as shown in Section 7) [39] implementations.

The first observation with respect to accuracy is that the mean error for a single frequency count for Cryptε is at least $50\times$ less than that of the corresponding LDP implementation. For example, Figure 3b shows that for P3, $\epsilon = 0.1$ results in a mean error of 599.7 as compared to an error of 34301.02 for the corresponding LDP implementation. Similarly, P5 (Figure 3c) gives a mean error of only 58.7 for $\epsilon = 0.1$. In contrast, the corresponding LDP implementation has an error of 3199.96. For P1 (c.d.f on *Age*), the mean error for Cryptε for $\epsilon = 0.1$ is given by 0.82 while the corresponding LDP implementation has an error of 9.2. The accuracy improvement on P7 (Figure 3d) by Cryptε is less significant as compared to the other programs, because P7 outputs the number of age values ($[1 - 100]$) having 200 records. At $\epsilon = 0.1$, at least 52 age values out of 100 are reported incorrectly on whether their counts pass the threshold. Cryptε reduces the error almost by half. Note that the additive error for a single frequency count query in the LDP setting is at least $\Omega(\sqrt{n}/\epsilon)$, thus the error increases with dataset size. On the other hand, for Cryptε the error is of the order $\Theta(1/\epsilon)$, hence with increasing dataset size the relative the error improvement for Cryptε over that of an equivalent implementation in LDP would increase.

For P1 (Figure 3a), we observe that the error of Cryptε is around $5\times$ less than that of the unoptimized implementation. The reason is that P1 constructs the c.d.f over the attribute *Age* (with domain size 100) by first executing 100 range queries. Thus, if the total privacy budget for the program is ϵ , then for unoptimized Cryptε, each query gets a privacy parameter of just $\frac{\epsilon}{100}$. In contrast, the DP range tree is constructed with the full budget ϵ and sensitivity $[\log 100]$ thereby resulting in lesser error. For P5 (Figure 3c) however,

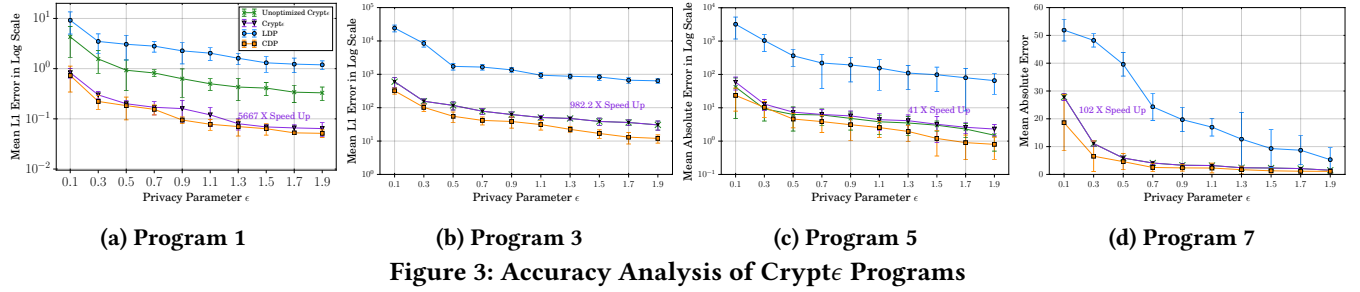


Table 3: Execution Time Analysis for Cryptε Programs

Time in (s)		Program			
		1	3	5	7
Unoptimized Cryptε	AS	1756.71	6888.23	650.78	290
	CSP	0.26	6764.64	550.34	30407.73
	Total	1756.97	13652.87	1201.12	30697.73
Cryptε	Total	0.31	13.9	29.21	299.5
	Speed Up ×	5667.64	982.2	41.1	102.49

the unoptimized implementation has slightly better accuracy (around 1.4×) than Cryptε. It is because of two reasons; first, the noisy index on *NativeCountry* might miss some of the rows satisfying the filter condition (*NativeCountry*=Mexico). Second, since only 0.8% of the total privacy parameter is budgeted for the Laplace operator in the optimized program execution, this results in a higher error as compared to that of unoptimized Cryptε. However, this is a small cost to pay for achieving a performance gain of 41×. The optimizations for P3 (Figure 3b) and P7 (Figure 3d) work completely on the encrypted data and do not expend the privacy budget. Hence they do not hurt the program accuracy in any way.

Another observation is that for frequency counts the error of Cryptε is around 2× higher than that of the corresponding CDP implementation. This is intuitive because we add two instances of Laplace noise in Cryptε (Section 6.2). For P1, the CDP implementation also uses a range tree.

9.3 Performance Gain From Optimizations

In this section, we evaluate Q2 (Table 3) by analyzing how much speed-up is brought about by the proposed optimizations in the program execution time.

DP Index: For P5, we observe from Table 3 that the unoptimized implementation takes around 20 minutes to run. However, a DP index over the attribute *NativeCountry* reduces the execution time to about 30s giving us a 41× speed-up. It is so because, only about 2% of the data records satisfy *NativeCountry*=Mexico. Thus the index drastically reduces the number of records to be processed for the program.

Additionally, we study the dependency of the accuracy and execution time of P5 implemented with the DP index on three parameters – (1) fraction of privacy budget ρ used for the index (2) total number of domain partitions (bins) considered (3) number of neighboring bins considered. The default configuration for Cryptε presented in this section

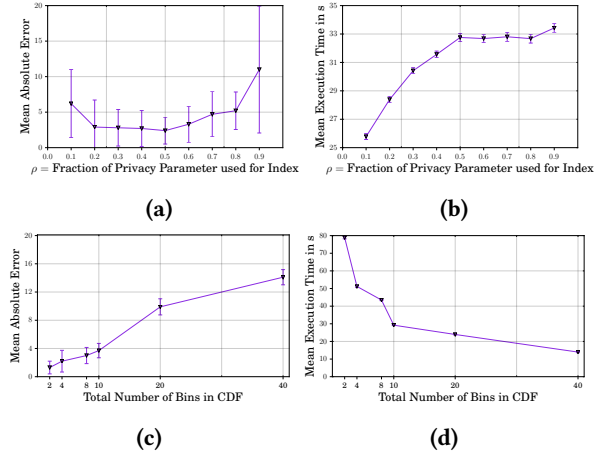


Figure 4: Accuracy and performance of P5 at different settings of the DP index optimization

uses $\epsilon = 2.2$, $\rho = 0.2$, total 10 bins and considers no extra neighboring bin.

In Figure 4a and 4b we study how the mean error and execution time of the final result varies with ρ for P5. From Figure 4a, we observe that the mean error drops sharply from $\rho = 0.1$ to $\rho = 0.2$, stabilises till $\rho = 0.5$, and starts increasing again. This is because, at $\rho = 0.2$, the index correctly identifies almost all the records satisfying the Filter condition. However, as we keep increasing ρ , the privacy budget left for the program after Filter (Laplace operator) keeps decreasing resulting in higher error in the final answer. From Figure 4b, we observe that the execution time increases till $\rho = 0.5$ and then stabilizes; the reason is that the number of rows returned after $\rho = 0.5$ does not differ by much.

We plot the mean error and execution time for P5 by varying the total number of bins from 2 to 40 (domain size of *NativeCountry* is 40) in Figure 4c and 4d respectively. From Figure 4c, we observe that the error of P5 increases as the number of bins increase. It is so because from the computation of the prefix counts (Section 8.1), the amount of noise added increases with k (as noise is drawn from $Lap(\frac{k}{\epsilon})$). Figure 4d shows that the execution time decreases with k . This is intuitive because increase in k results in smaller bins, hence the number of rows included in $[i_s, i_e]$ decreases.

To avoid missing relevant rows, more bins that are adjacent to the chosen range $[i_s, i_e]$ can be considered for the subsequent operators. Thus, as the number of bins considered increases, the resulting error decreases at the cost of higher execution time. The experimental results are presented in Figure 7a and Figure 7b in full paper [6].

DP Range Tree: For P1, we see from Table 3 that the total execution time of the unoptimized Crypt ϵ implementation is about half an hour. However, using the range tree optimization reduces the execution time by 5667 \times . The reason behind this huge speed-up is that the time required by the AS in the optimized implementation becomes almost negligible because it simply needs to do a memory fetch to read off the answer from the pre-computed range tree.

Pre-computation: For P3, the unoptimized execution time on the dataset of 32561 records is around 4 hours (Table 3). This is so because the CrossProduct operator has to perform $10 \cdot 32561$ *labMult* operations which is very time consuming. Hence, pre-computing the one-hot-codings for 2-D attribute over *Race* and *Gender* is very useful; the execution time reduces to less than a minute giving us a 982.2 \times speed up.

Offline Processing: The most costly operator for P7 is the GroupByCountEncoded operator since the CSP has to generate $\approx 3300K$ ciphertexts of 0 and 1 for the encrypted one-hot-codings. This results in a total execution time of about 8.5 hours in unoptimized Crypt ϵ . However, by generating the ciphertexts off-line, the execution time can be reduced to just 5 minutes giving us a speed up of 102.49 \times .

Another important observation from Table 3 is that the AS performs the major chunk of the work for most program executions. This conforms with our discussion in Section 2.2.

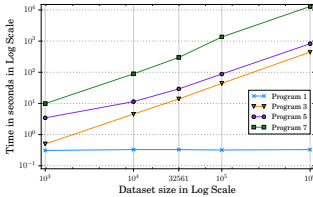


Figure 5: Scalability of Crypt ϵ Programs

9.4 Scalability

In this section, we evaluate Q3 by observing the execution times of the aforementioned four Crypt ϵ programs for dataset sizes up to 1 million. As seen from Figure 5, the longest execution time (P7) for a dataset of 1 million records is ≈ 3.6 hours; this shows the practical scalability of Crypt ϵ . All the reported execution times are for default setting. For P1 we see that the execution time does not change with the dataset size. This is so because once the range tree is constructed, the program execution just involves reading the answer directly from the tree followed by a decryption by

the CSP. The execution time for the P3 and P7 is dominated by the \oplus operation for the GroupByCount operator. The cost of \oplus is linear to the data size. Hence, the execution time for P3 and P7 increases linearly with the data size. For P5, the execution time depends on the % of the records in the dataset that satisfy the condition *NativeCountry* = *Mexico* (roughly this many rows are retrieved from the noisy index).

10 EXTENSION OF CRYPT ϵ TO THE MALICIOUS MODEL

In this section, we briefly discuss how to extend the current Crypt ϵ system to account for malicious adversaries. We present one approach for the extension here and detail another approach in the full paper [6]. The first approach implements the CSP inside a trusted execution environment (TEE) [11, 21, 84]. This ensures non-collusion (as the CSP cannot collude with the AS since its operations are vetted). The measurement operators are implemented as follows (the privacy budget over-expenditure checking remains unchanged from that in Section 6.2 and we skip re-describing it here).

Laplace $Lap_{\epsilon, \Delta}(V \setminus c)$: The new implementation requires only a single instance of noise addition by the CSP. The AS sends the ciphertext c to the CSP. The CSP decrypts the ciphertext, adds a copy of noise, $\eta \sim Lap(\frac{2\Delta}{\epsilon})$, and sends it to the AS.

NoisyMax $NoisyMax_{\epsilon, \Delta}^k(V)$: The new implementation works without the garbled circuit as follows. The AS sends the vector of ciphertexts, V , to the CSP. The CSP computes $\tilde{V}[i] = labDecrypt_{sk}(V[i]) + \eta[i]$, $i \in [|V|]$, where $\eta[i] \sim Lap(2k\Delta/\epsilon)$ and outputs the indices of the top k values of \tilde{V} .

Malicious AS: Recall that a Crypt ϵ program, P , consists of a series of transformation operators that transform the encrypted database, \tilde{D} , to a ciphertext, c (or an encrypted vector, V). This is followed by applying a measurement operator on c (or V). Let P_1 represent the first part of the program P up to the computation of c and let P_2 represent the subsequent measurement operator (performed by the CSP inside a TEE). In the malicious model, the AS is motivated to misbehave. For example, instead of submitting the correct cipher $c = P_1(\tilde{D})$ the AS could run a different program P' on the record of a single data owner only. Such malicious behaviour can be prevented by having the CSP validate the AS's work via zero knowledge proofs (ZKP) [87] as follows (similar proof structure as prior work [85]). Specifically, the ZKP statement should prove that the AS 1) runs the correct program P_1 2) on the correct dataset \tilde{D} . For this, the CSP shares a random one-time MAC key, mk_i , $i \in [m]$ with each of the data owners, DO_i . Along with the encrypted record \tilde{D}_i , DO_i sends a Pedersen commitment [89] Com_i to the one-time MAC [66] on \tilde{D}_i and a short ZKP that the opening of this commitment is a valid one-time MAC on \tilde{D}_i . The AS collects all the ciphertexts and proofs from the data owners and computes

$\mathbf{c} = P_1(\tilde{\mathbf{D}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{D}}_m)$. Additionally, it constructs a ZKP that \mathbf{c} is indeed the output of executing P_1 on $\tilde{\mathbf{D}} = \{\tilde{\mathbf{D}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{D}}_m\}$ [25]. Formally, the proof statement is

$$\mathbf{c} = P_1(\tilde{\mathbf{D}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{D}}_m) \wedge \forall i \text{ Open}(\text{Com}_i) = \text{MAC}_{mk_i}(\tilde{\mathbf{D}}_i) \quad (2)$$

The AS submits the ciphertext \mathbf{c} along with all the commitments and proofs to the CSP. By validating the proofs, the CSP can guarantee \mathbf{c} is indeed the desired ciphertext. The one-time MACs ensure that the AS did not modify or drop any of the records received from the data owners.

Efficient proof construction: Our setting suits that of designated verifier non-interactive zero knowledge (DV NIZK) proofs [27]. In a DV NIZK setting, the proofs can be verified by a single designated entity (as opposed to publicly verifiable proofs [54]) who possesses some secret key for the NIZK system. Thus in Crypt ϵ , clearly the CSP can assume the role of the designated verifier. The framework for efficient DV NIZKs proposed by Chaidos and Couteau [27] can be applied to prove Eq. (2), as this framework enables proving arbitrary relations between cryptographic primitives, such as Pedersen commitment or Paillier encryption. A detailed construction is given in the full paper [6] which shows that all the steps of the proof involve simple arithmetic operations modulo N^2 where N is an RSA modulus. To get an idea of the execution overhead for the ZKPs, consider constructing a DV NIZK for proving that a Paillier ciphertext encrypts the products of the plaintexts of two other ciphertexts (this could be useful for proving the validity of our Filter operator, for example). In [27], this involves $4\log N$ bits of communication and the operations involve addition and multiplication of group elements. Each such operation takes order of 10^{-5} seconds to execute, hence for proving the above statement for 1 million ciphertexts will take only a few tens of seconds.

Malicious CSP: Recall that our extension implements the CSP inside a TEE. Hence, this ensures that the validity of each of CSP's actions in the TEE can be attested to by the data owners. Since the measurement operators (P_2) are changed to be implemented completely inside the CSP, this guarantees the bounded ϵ -DP guarantee of Crypt ϵ programs even under the malicious model. Additionally sending the CSP the true ciphers $\mathbf{c} = P_1(\tilde{\mathbf{D}})$ also does not cause any privacy violation as it is decrypted inside the TEE.

Validity of the data owner's records: The validity of the one-hot-coding of the data records, $\tilde{\mathbf{D}}_i$, submitted by the data owners DO_i can be checked as follows. Let $\tilde{\mathbf{D}}_{ij}$ represent the encrypted value for attribute A_j in one-hot-coding for DO_i . The AS selects a set of random numbers $R = \{r_k \mid k \in [|domain(A_j)|]\}$ and computes the set $P_{ij} = \{labMult(\tilde{\mathbf{D}}_{ij}[k], labEnc_{pk}(r_k))\}$. Then it sends sets P_{ij} and R to the CSP who validates the record only if $|P_{ij} \cap R| = 1 \forall A_j$. Note that since the CSP does not have access to the index information of P_{ij} and R (since they are sets), it cannot learn the value of D_{ij} .

Alternatively each data owner can provide a zero knowledge proof for $\forall j, k, D_{ij}[k] \in \{0, 1\} \wedge \sum_k D_{ij}[k] = 1$.

11 RELATED WORK

Differential Privacy: Introduced by Dwork et al. in [39], differential privacy has enjoyed immense attention from both academia and industry in the last decade. Interesting work has been done in both the CDP model [9, 23, 31, 34, 35, 40, 55–57, 59, 71, 72, 76, 86, 90, 91, 101–103, 105, 106, 108] and the LDP model [14, 33, 43, 45, 92, 96–98, 109]. Recently, it has been showed that augmenting the LDP setting by a layer of anonymity improves the privacy guarantees [21, 32, 42]. It is important to note that the power of this new model (known as shuffler/mixnet model) lies strictly between that of LDP and CDP. Crypt ϵ differs from this line of work in three ways, namely expressibility, precise DP guarantee and trust assumptions (details are in the full paper [6]).

Two-Server Model: The two-server model is popularly used for privacy preserving machine learning approaches where one of the servers manages the cryptographic primitives while the other handles computation [47, 49, 68, 81, 84, 85].

Homomorphic Encryption: Recently, there has been a surge in privacy preserving solutions using homomorphic encryptions due to improved primitives. A lot of the aforementioned two-server models employ homomorphic encryption [49, 68, 84, 85]. Additionally, it is used in [24, 26, 50, 51, 61].

12 CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, we have proposed a system and programming framework, Crypt ϵ , for differential privacy that achieves the constant accuracy guarantee and algorithmic expressibility of CDP without any trusted server. This is achieved via two non-colluding servers with the assistance of cryptographic primitives, specifically LHE and garbled circuits. Our proposed system Crypt ϵ can execute a rich class of programs that can run efficiently by virtue of four optimizations.

Recall that currently the data analyst spells out the explicit Crypt ϵ program to the AS. Thus, an interesting future work is constructing a compiler for Crypt ϵ that inputs a user specified query in a high-level-language. The compiler should next formalize a Crypt ϵ program expressed in terms of Crypt ϵ operators with automated sensitivity analysis. Another direction is to support a larger class of programs in Crypt ϵ . For example, inclusion of aggregation operators such as sum, median, average is easily achievable. Support for multi-table queries like joins would require protocols for computing sensitivity [63] and data truncation [69].

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