

TimeCrypt: Encrypted Data Stream Processing at Scale with Cryptographic Access Control

Lukas Burkhalter, Anwar Hithnawi, Alexander Viand,
Hossein Shafagh, Sylvia Ratnasamy

ETH zürich



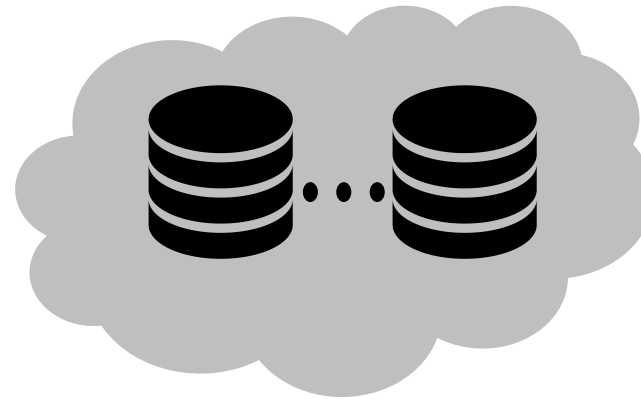
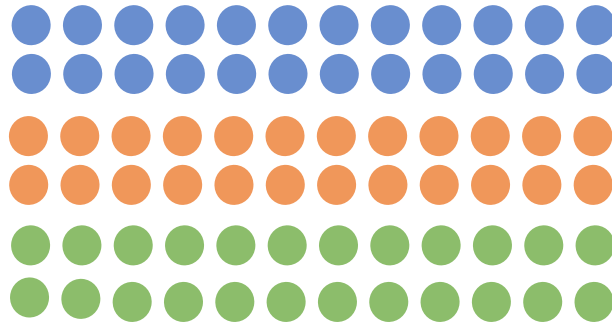
Time Series Data is Emerging Everywhere



Monitoring, Telemetry, Internet of Things



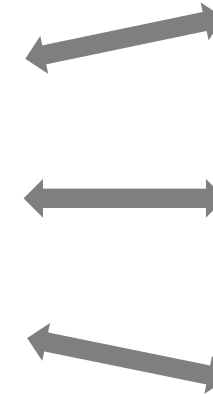
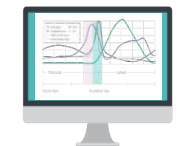
Data Sources



Problem: High resolution sensitive data!
Server compromise results in privacy risks

Time →

Analytics



Applications/Services



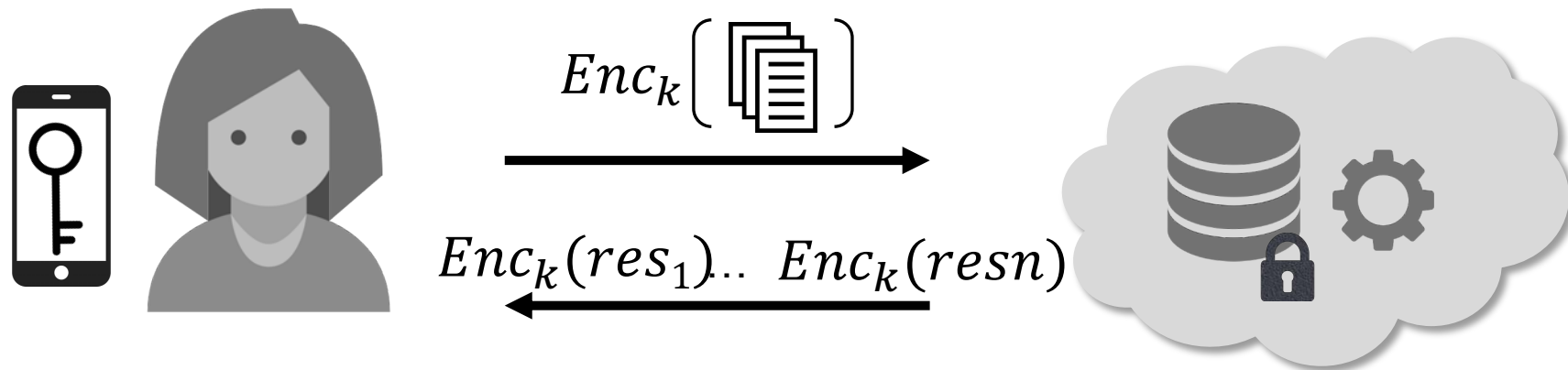
Data Breaches

> 45 billion records

*since 2004 <https://www.informationisbeautiful.net/visualizations/worlds-biggest-data-breaches-hacks/>

Encrypted Data Processing

- Keep data encrypted while in-use → preserve confidentiality and functionality
- Encrypted Databases → relational databases, graph databases, key-value stores
 - E.g., CryptDB [SOSP'11], BlindBox [SIGCOMM'15], Seabed [OSDI'16], Talos [SenSys'15]



Can we enable encrypted data processing for **time series** workloads?

Challenge I

Scalability and Interactivity

Time Series Databases

Time series workloads are different:

- ✓ Primarily INSERTS to recent time interval (append)
- ✓ Statistical queries over time ranges

Requirements:

- ✓ High throughput writes
- ✓ Large volumes of data
- ✓ Support for time-based queries

SiriDB



 druid



 Prometheus



TIMESCALE



influxdata



OPENTSDDB

 riakTS

 KairosDB

Time Series Databases

Time series workloads are different:

- ✓ Primarily INSERTS to recent time interval (append)
- ✓ Statistical queries

Requirements:

- ✓ High throughput v
- ✓ Large volumes of data
- ✓ Support for time-based queries

Scalability and Latency

- Memory Expansion (~100x)
- Enc/Dec Time (~milliseconds)
- Ciphertext Aggregation (~1000x)

SiriDB



druid

Prometheus

influxdata

OPENTSDb

riakTS

KairosDB

Challenge II

Secure Sharing

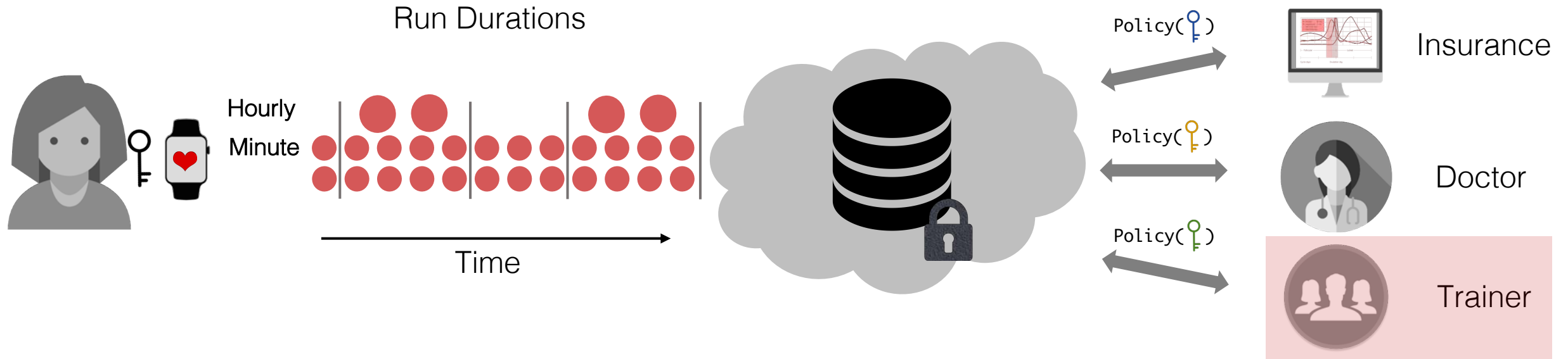
Selective Data Sharing



Selective Data Sharing



Selective Data Sharing



How to enable users to **selectively** share their encrypted data?
Enforce access control semantics **cryptographically**

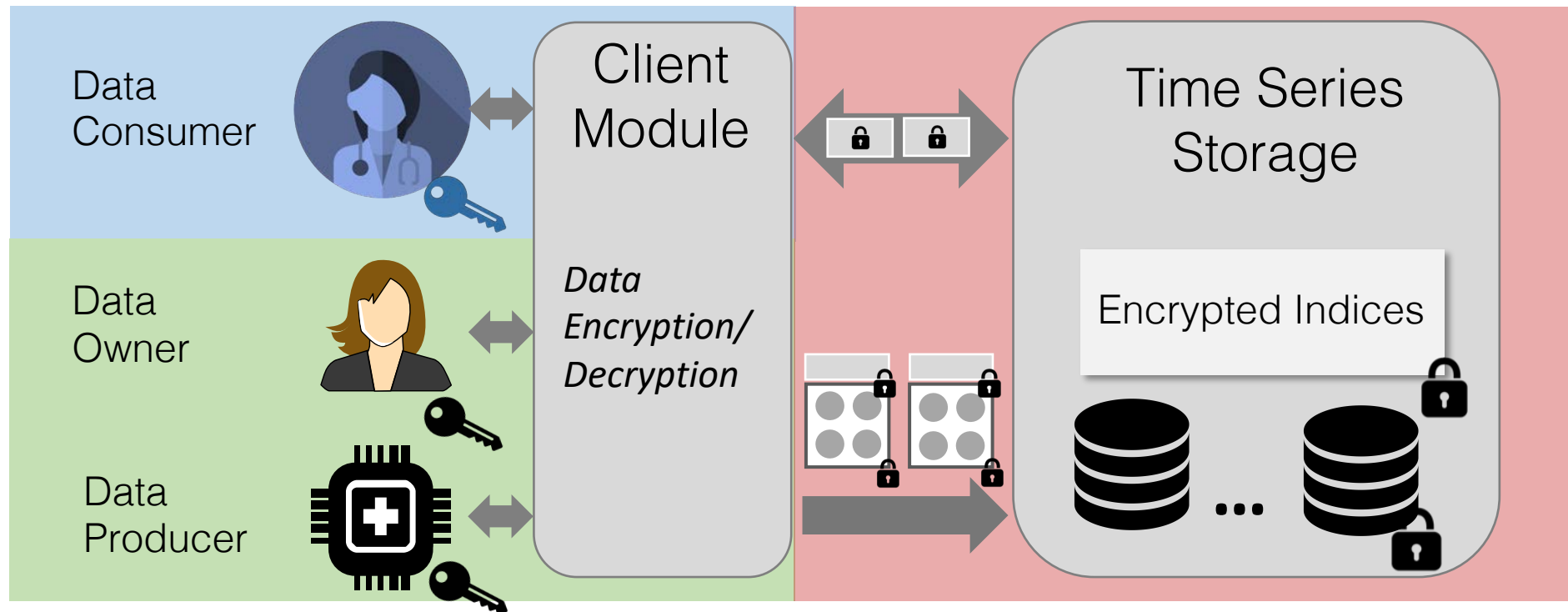
TimeCrypt in a Nutshell

Data is encrypted end-to-end:

- ✓ Scalable computation over large volumes of encrypted data
- ✓ Key time-series data functionalities, analytics, lifecycle operations
- ✓ Cryptographic access control → selective access to encrypted data
- ✓ Verifiable computation

Overview and Threat Model

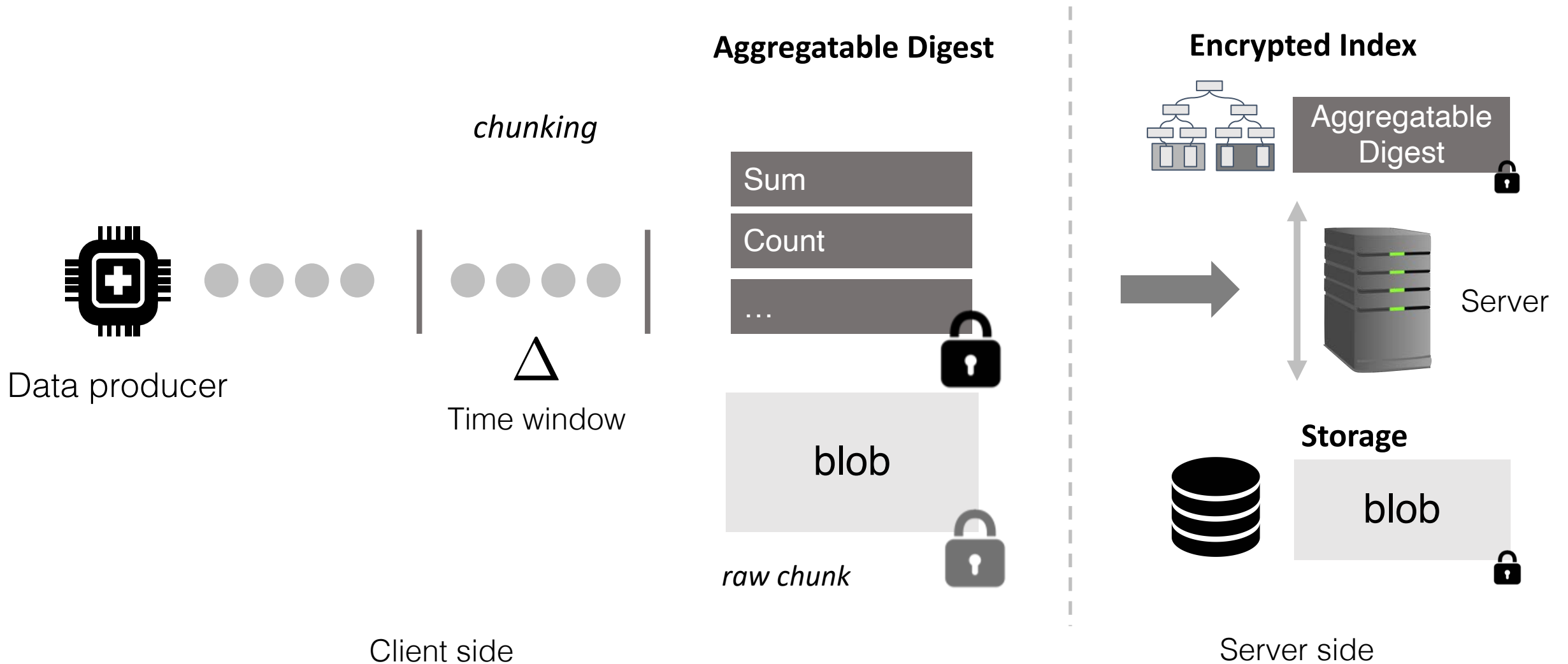
Semi-Trusted: Data access according to an access policy



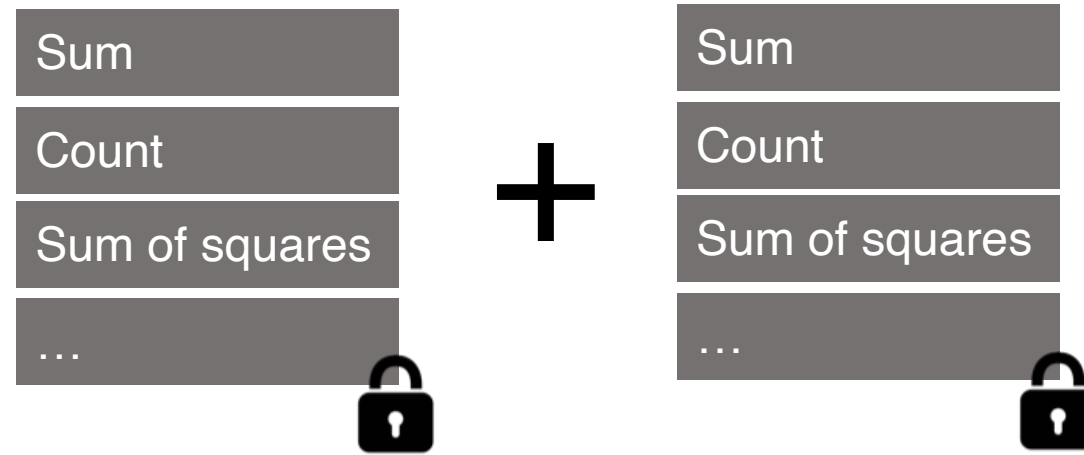
Trusted: Full data access

Untrusted: Confidentiality + Integrity

Writing Data Streams



Aggregatable Digest

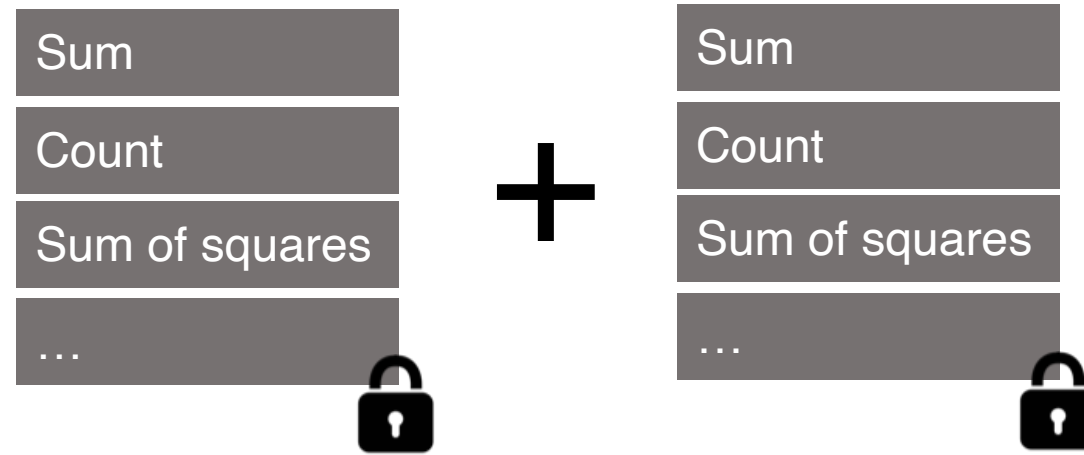


- **Additive homomorphic** encryption is the underlying construction

$$m_1 + m_2 = \text{Dec}(\text{Enc}(m_1) \oplus \text{Enc}(m_2))$$

How to support statistics and analytics beyond addition?

Aggregatable Digest



- **Additive homomorphic** encryption is the underlying construction

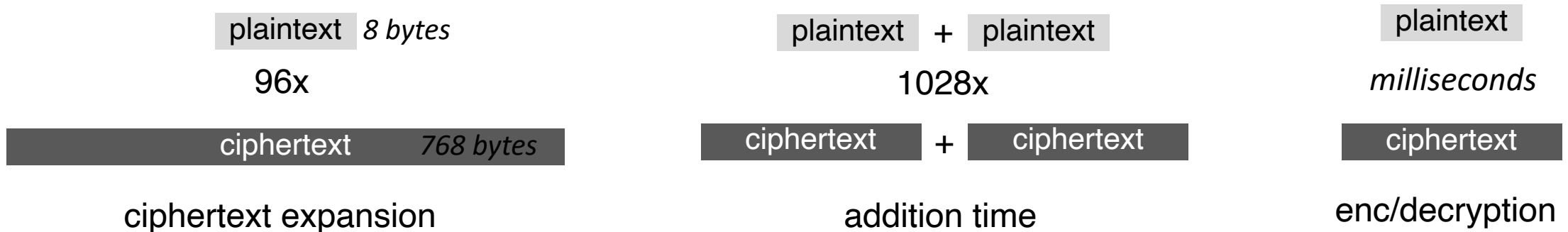
$$m_1 + m_2 = \text{Dec}(\text{Enc}(m_1) \oplus \text{Enc}(m_2))$$

- Leverage known encoding techniques \rightarrow If we can compute sum privately, then we can compute $f(\cdot)$ privately
 - average, sum, count, variance, min/max (approx.), histograms (approx.), least-squares regression, ...

Homomorphic Encryption



Problem: Homomorphic encryption based on asymmetric cryptography is expensive (e.g., Paillier, EC-ElGamal)



TimeCrypt Encryption

Given a key stream: $k_0, k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4, k_5, \dots$

[Castelluccia et al. 05] *Symmetric homomorphic encryption*

+/- is addition modulo M

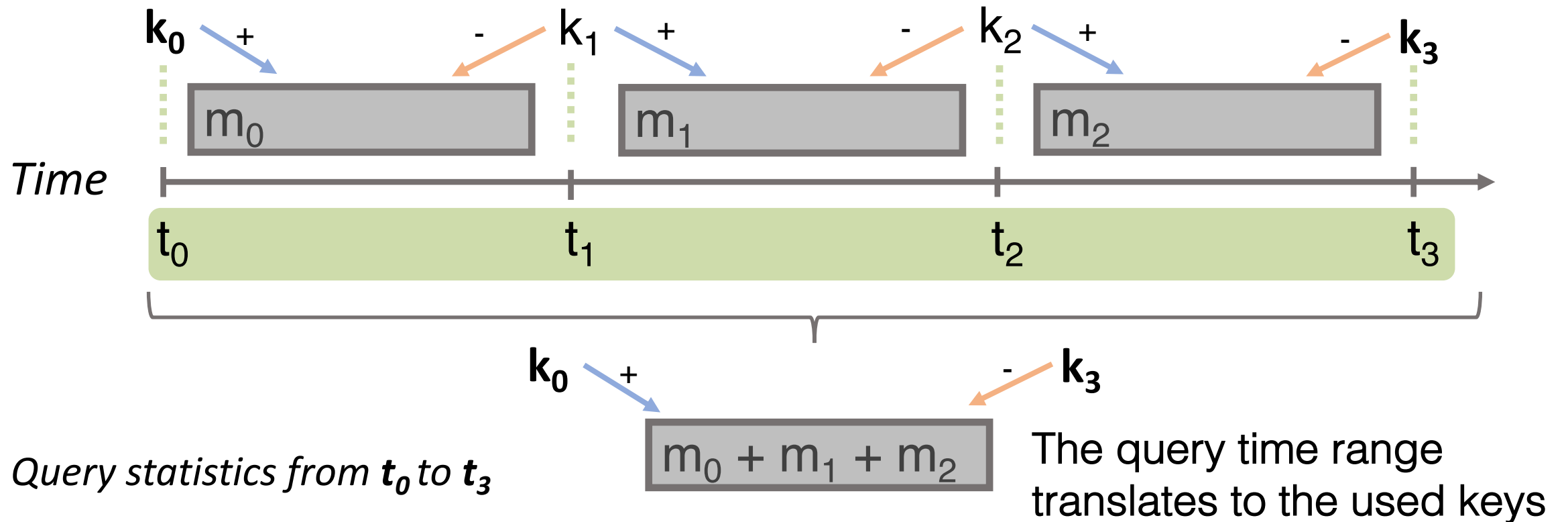


$$m_0 + m_1 + k_0 - \cancel{k_1} + \cancel{k_1} - k_2$$

No ciphertext expansion +
fast ciphertext aggregation

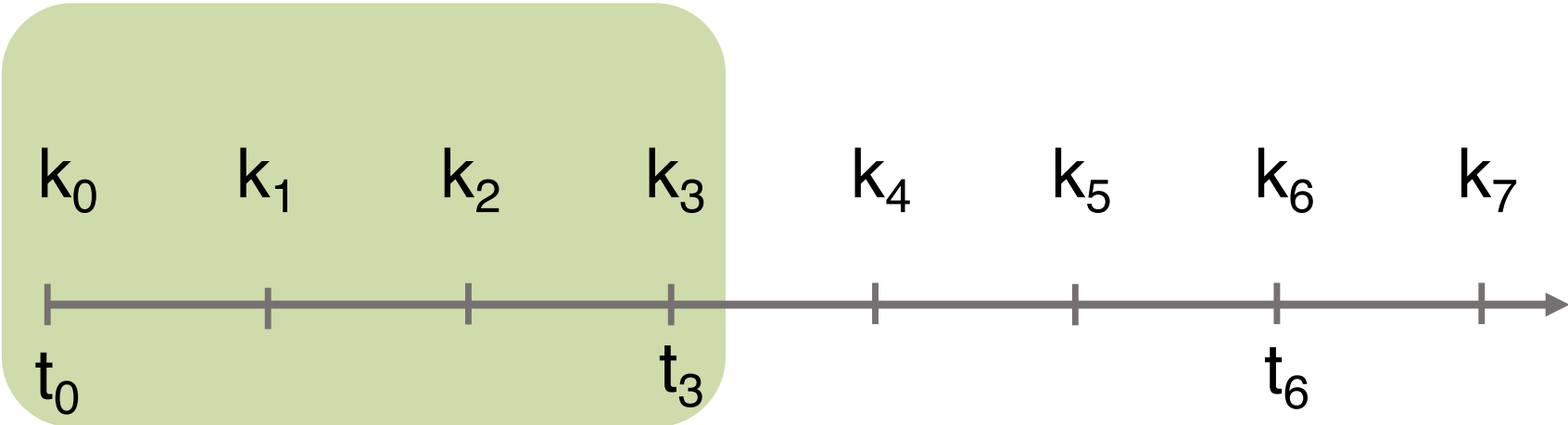
$$m_0 + \dots + m_N + k_0 - \cancel{k_1} + \cancel{k_1} - \dots + \dots - k_{(N+1)}$$

Key Stream to Time Encoding



Time Interval Access Restriction

Key Stream:

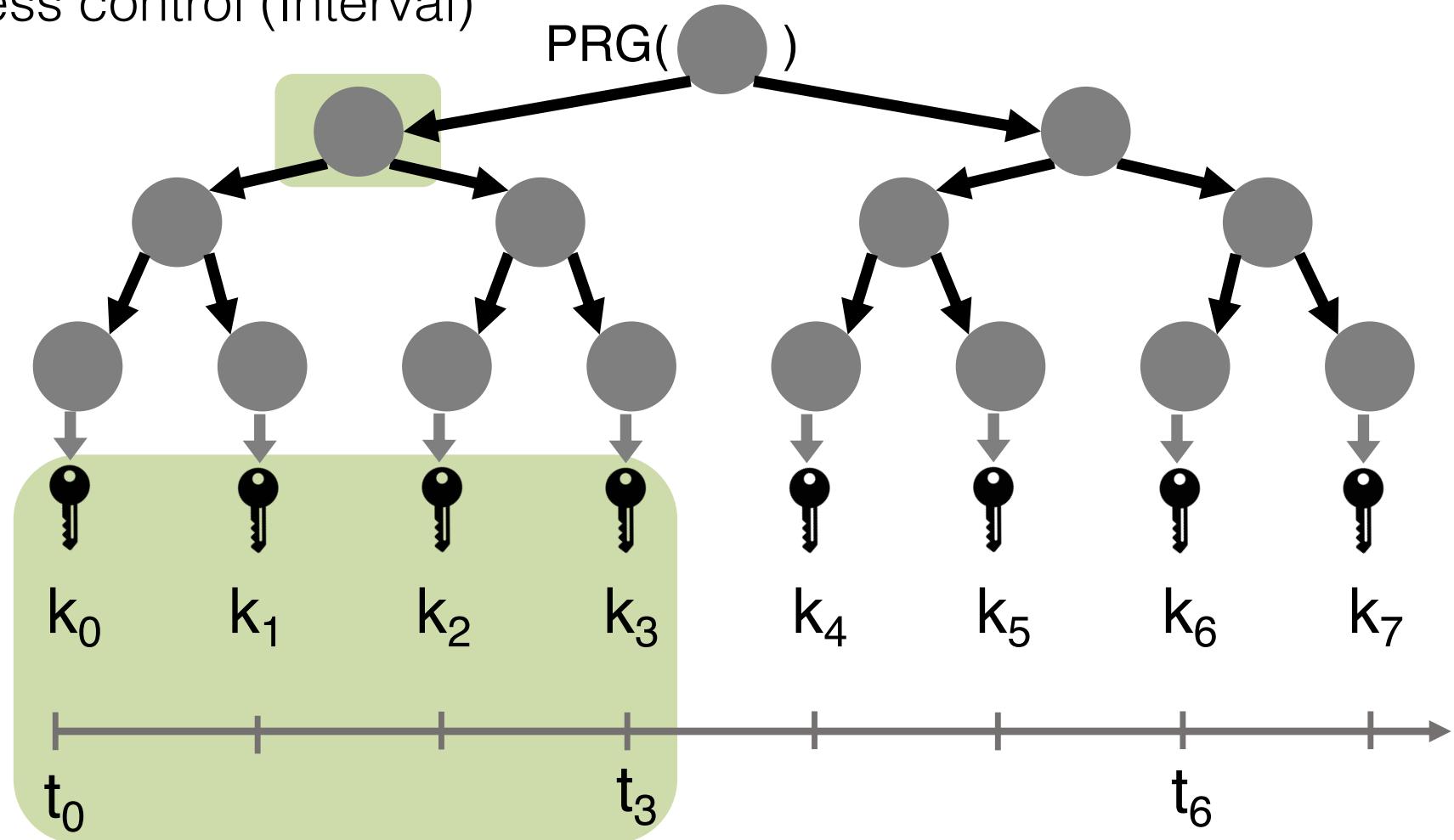


Tree-based Key Derivation

The one-way property of the function allows for access control (Interval)

Master Secret

PRG()



Key Stream:

k_0

k_1

k_2

k_3

k_4

k_5

k_6

k_7

t_0

t_3

t_6

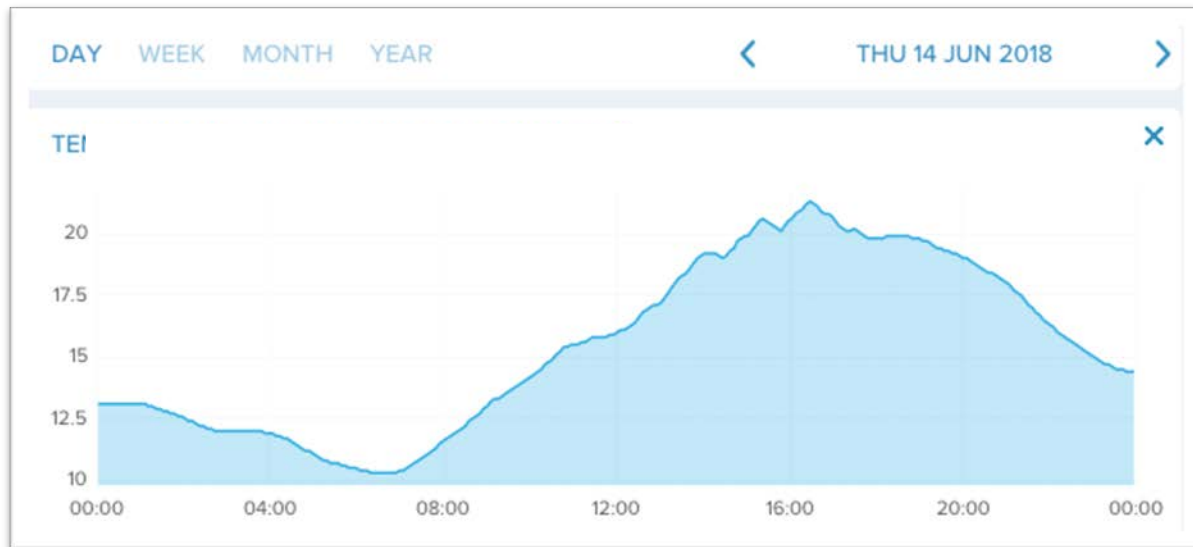
Access Restriction at Resolution Level

How to share aggregated information of a certain granularity?

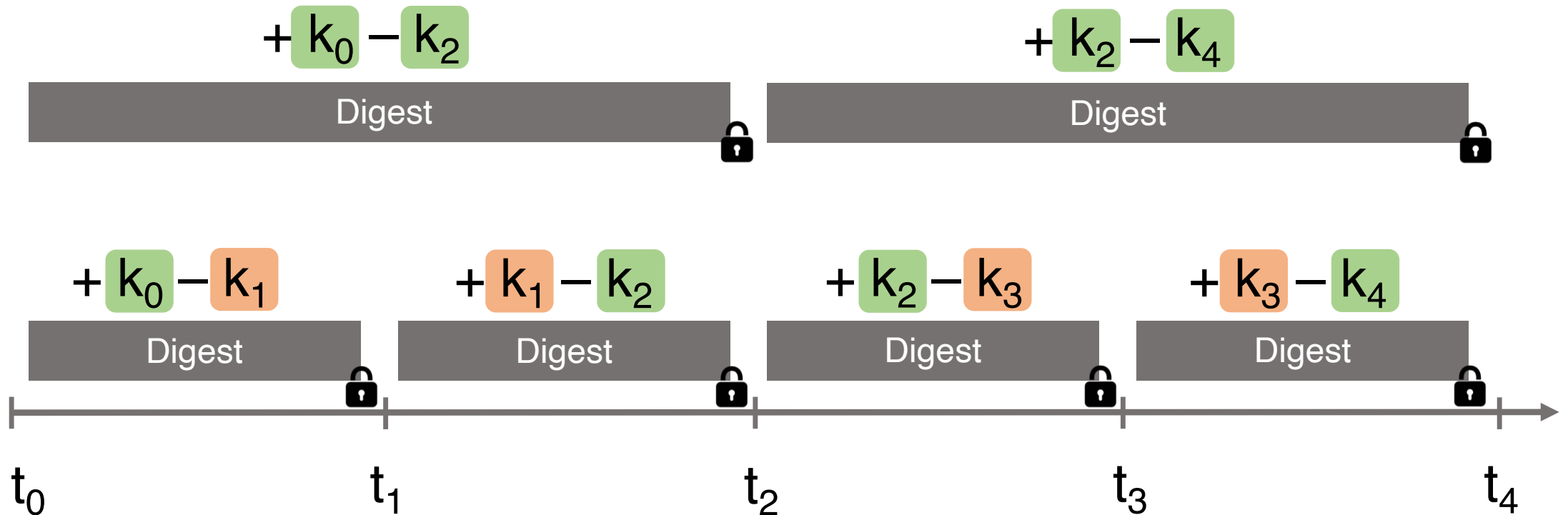
Per hour aggregates

vs

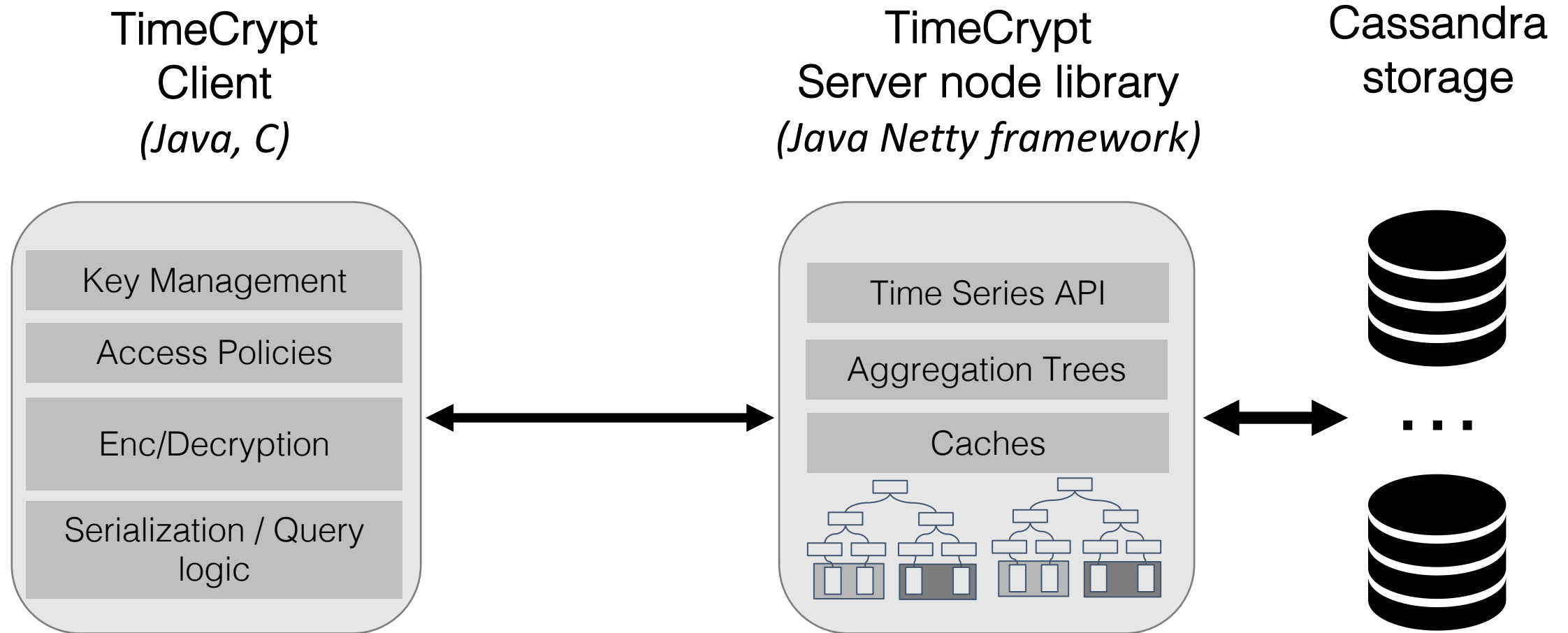
Per day aggregates



Only share the outer keys of the desired granularity
 k_0, k_2, k_4, \dots



TimeCrypt Implementation



Evaluation

Health Dashboard Application



Medical Sensor Data

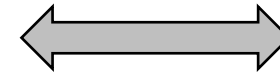
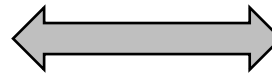
m5.xlarge
4-CPU 16GB



m5.2xlarge
8-CPU 32GB



m5.xlarge
4-CPU 16GB

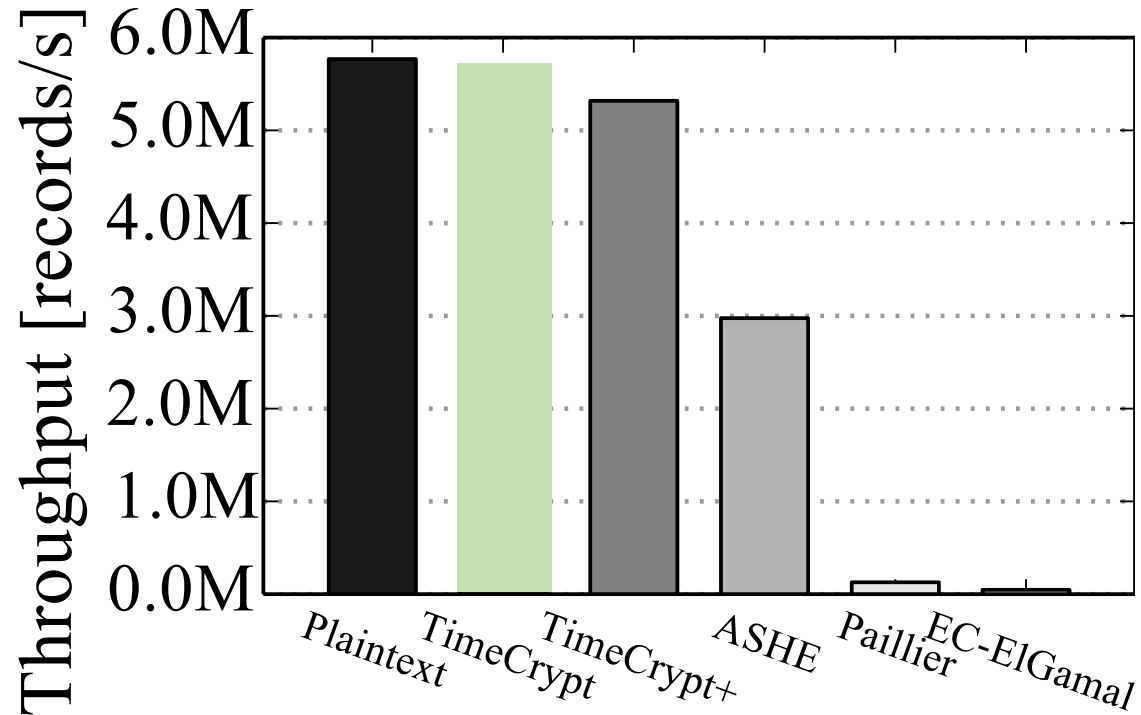


100 Clients

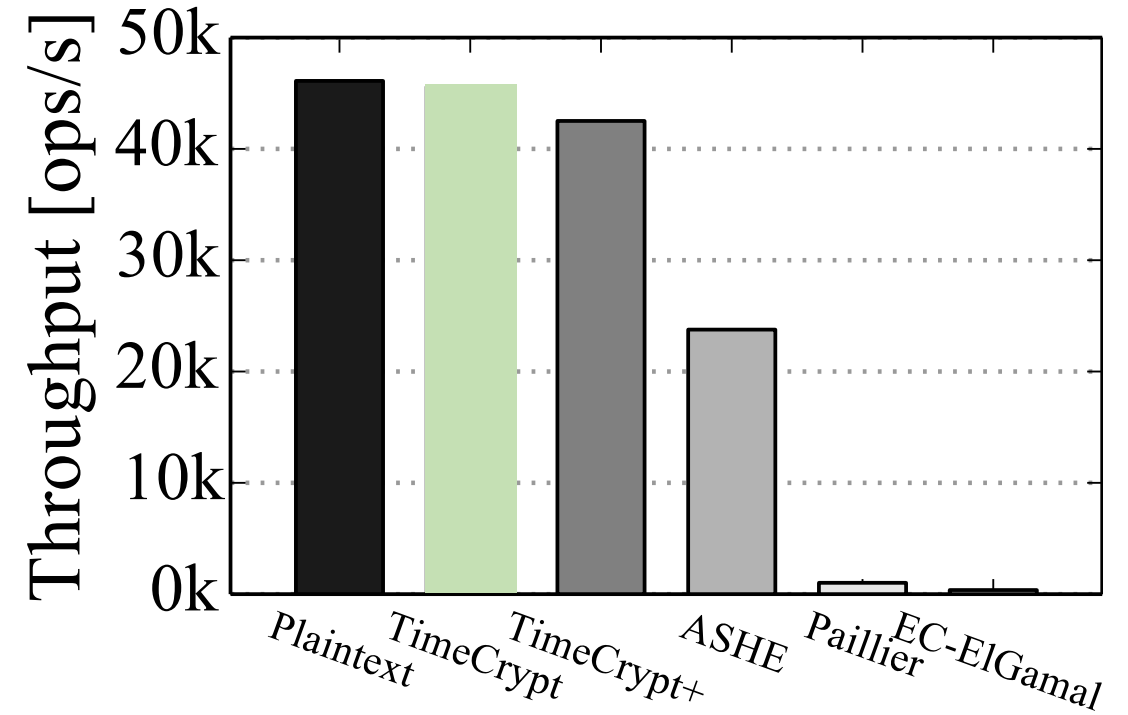
4 range queries per 1 chunk insert

50Hz data rate/stream, 10s chunks

System Performance



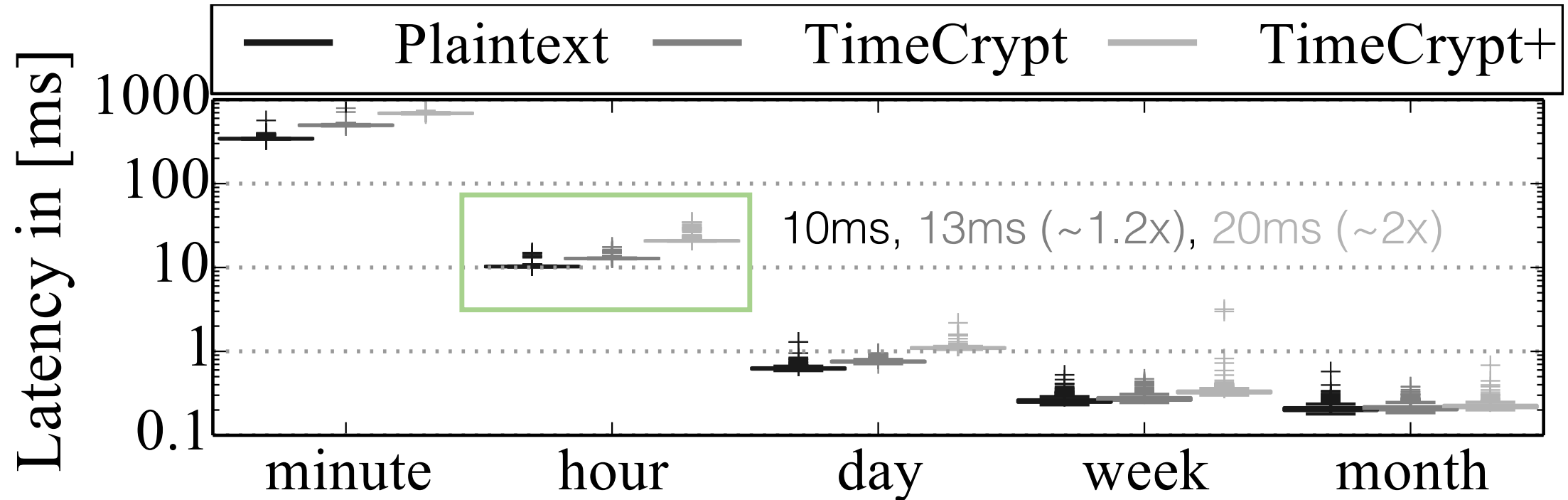
Ingest



Statistical Range Queries

Throughput under heavy load of
4/1 read-write ratio, 49k streams

Health Dashboard Queries



Latency for statistical queries over one month, based on our health app

120M data records, 241920 chunks (1chunk/10s)

Summary

- TimeCrypt is an efficient system that augments time series datastores with encrypted data processing capabilities
 - Protects **confidentiality** of sensitive time series data
 - Supports computation integrity on encrypted data
- **TimeCrypt's Encryption:** Efficient construction that couples encrypted data processing with crypto-enforced access-control for time series streams
- Source code available at: <https://timecrypt.io/>