

# Revisiting Square Root ORAM

Efficient Random Access in Multi-Party Computation



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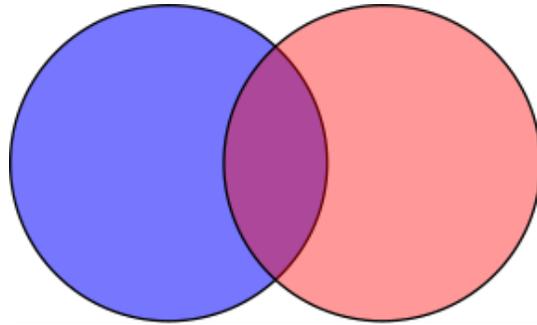
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[oblivc.org/sqoram](http://oblivc.org/sqoram)

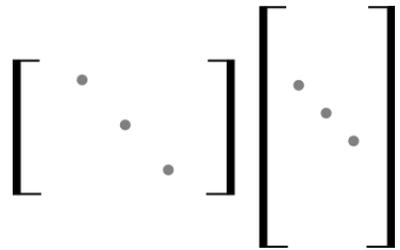
# Secure multi-party computation applications



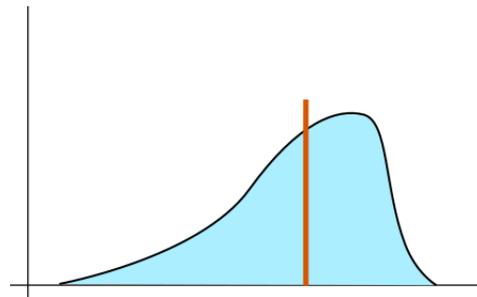
Set intersection  
[FNP04]



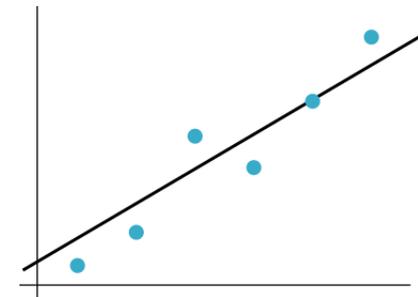
Iris code matching  
[LCPLB12]



Matrix factorization for  
recommendations  
[NIWJTB13]

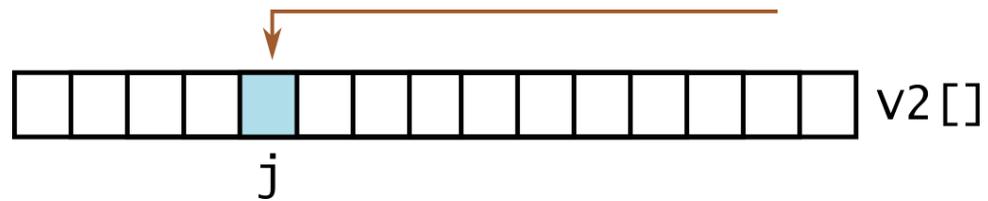


Median computation  
[AMP04]



Linear ridge-regression  
[NWIJBT13]

# Random Access



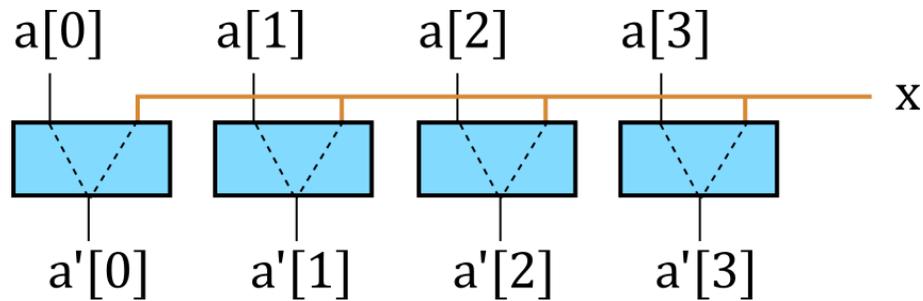
```
void oscrypt_smix(obliv uint8_t * B, s
...
for (i = 0; i < N; i += 2) {
    j = integerify(X, r) & (N - 1);
    temp = V2[j];
    xorBits(X, temp, 32*r);
    oscrypt_blockmix_salsa8(X, Y, r);

    j = integerify(Y, r) & (N - 1);
    temp = V2[j];

    for (size_t jj = 0; jj < 32 * r; j
        Y[jj] ^= temp[jj];
    }
```

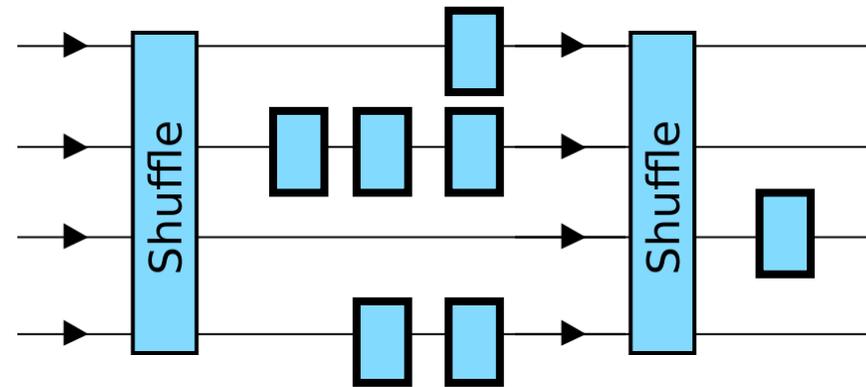
# Hiding access pattern

## Linear scan



Access every element  
Per-access cost:  $\Theta(n)$

## Oblivious RAM



Continually shuffle elements around  
Per-access cost:  $\Theta(\log^p n)$

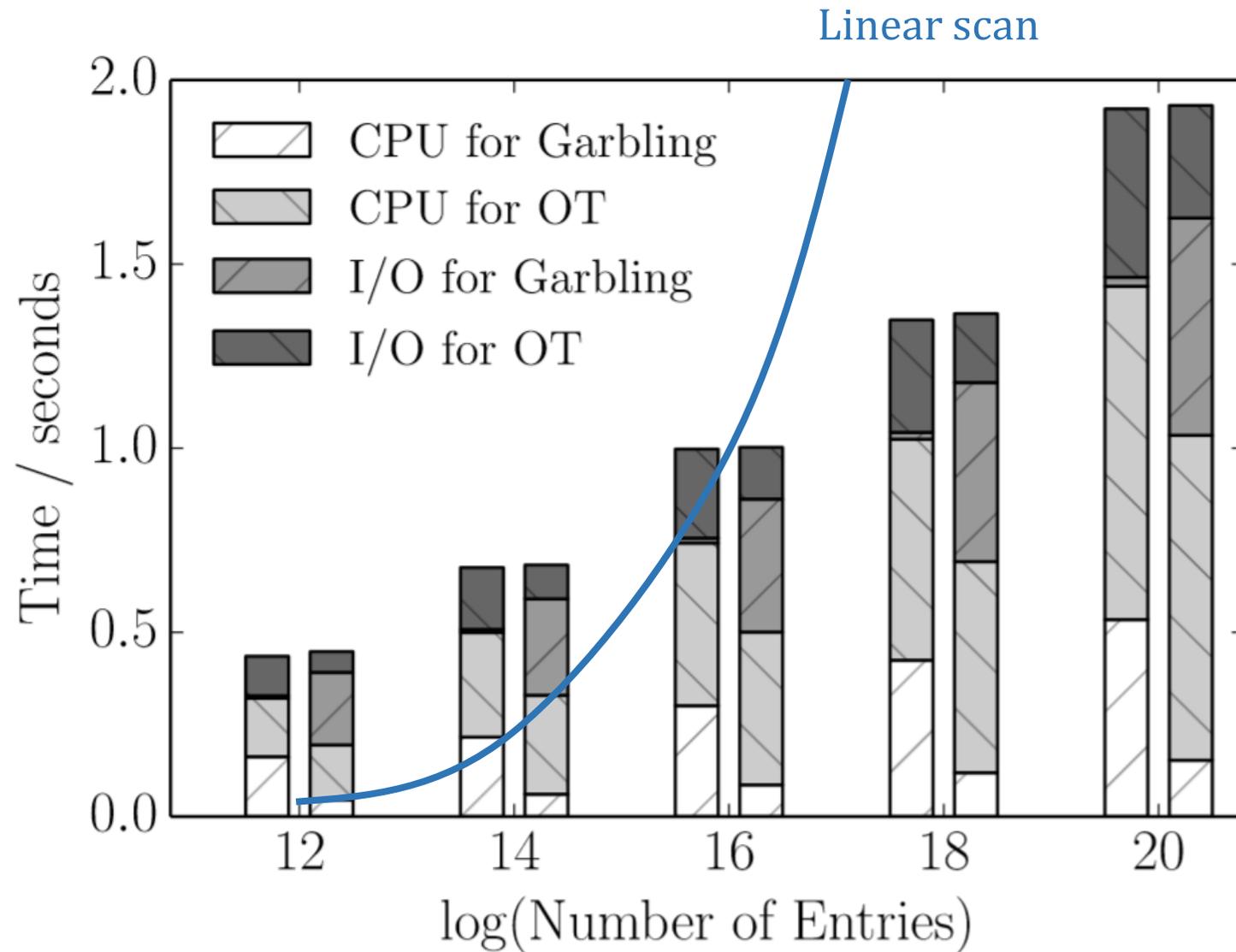
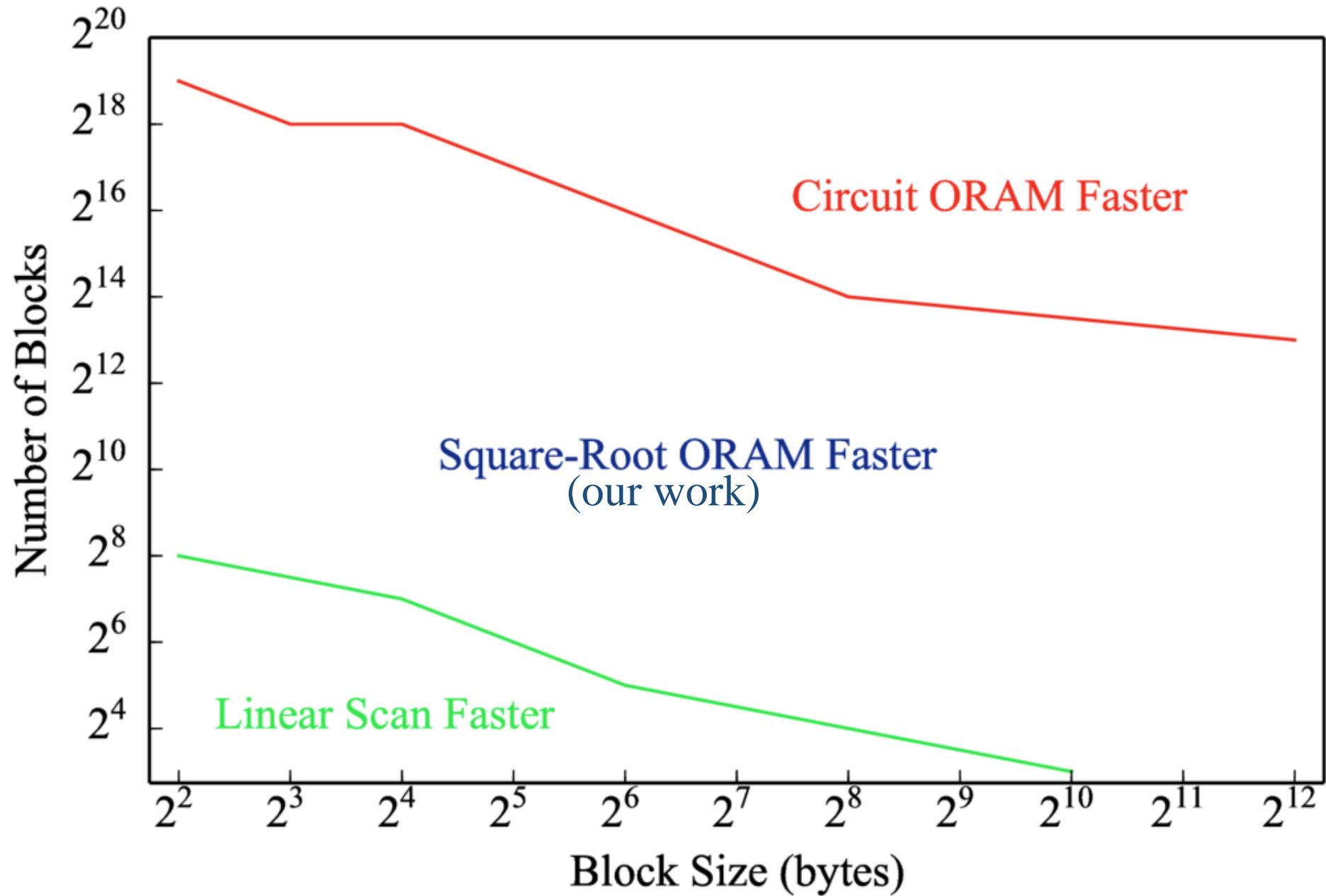


Figure from: Wang, Chan, Shi. **Circuit Oram**. CCS'15

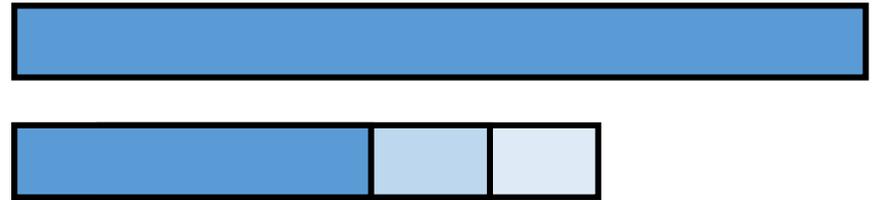


# Approach: revisit old schemes

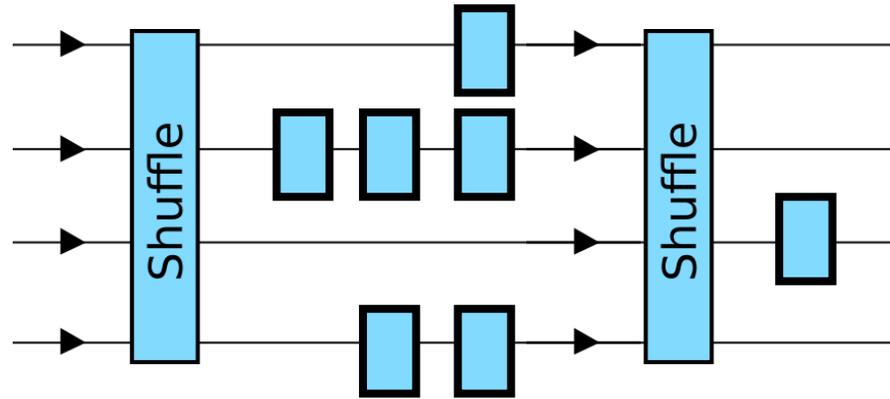
Classic “square root” scheme by Goldreich and Ostrovsky (1996).

Considered slow for MPC because of per-access hash evaluation.

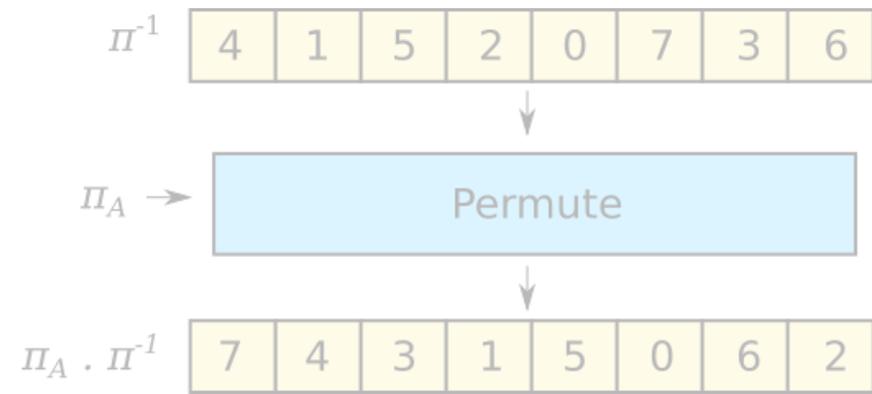
Per-access amortized cost:  $\Theta(\sqrt{n} \log n)$



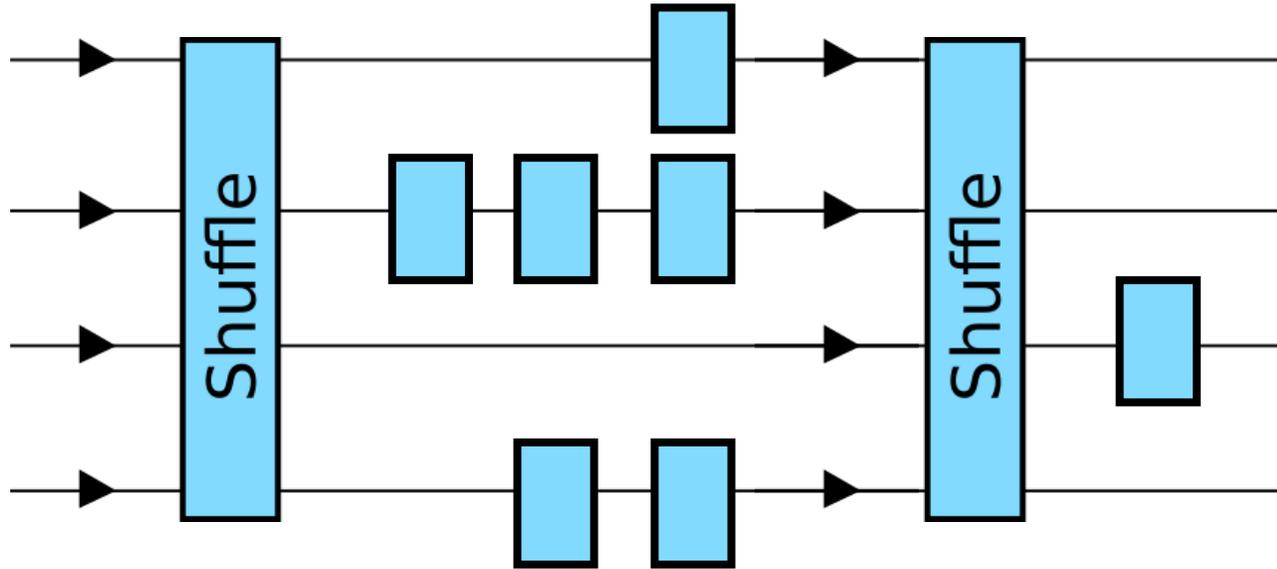
# Four-element ORAM



# Larger Sizes



# 4-Block ORAM

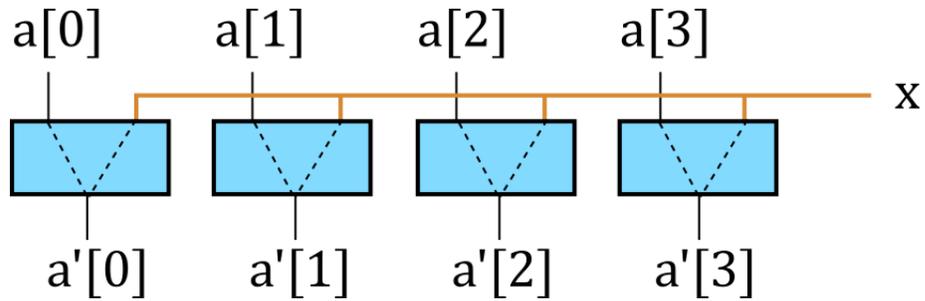


Cost:  $5B + B + 2B + 3B + \dots$

$= 11B$  every 3 accesses

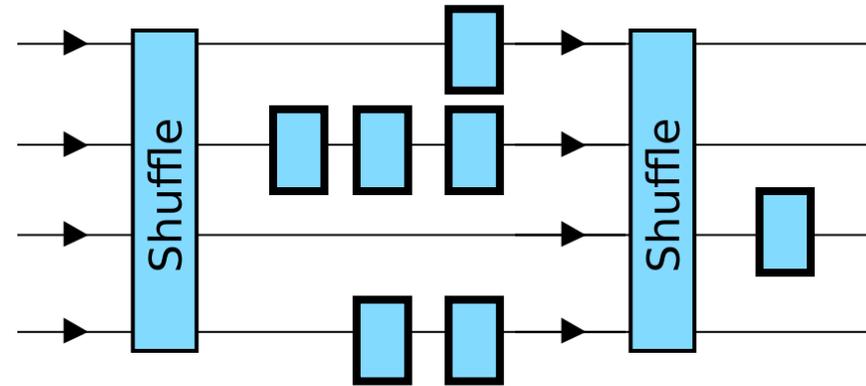
# Comparison

Linear scan



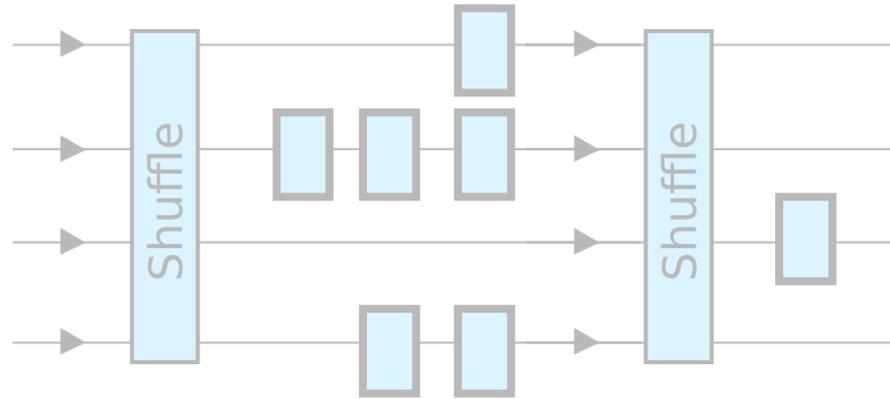
Cost:  $4B = 12B/3$

Our scheme

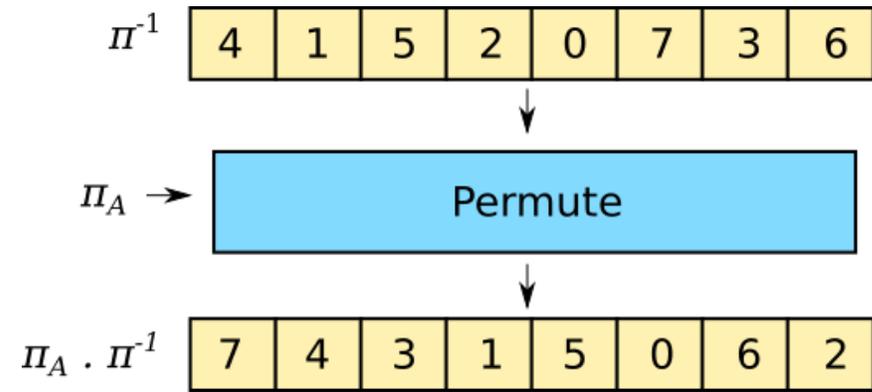


Cost:  $11B/3$

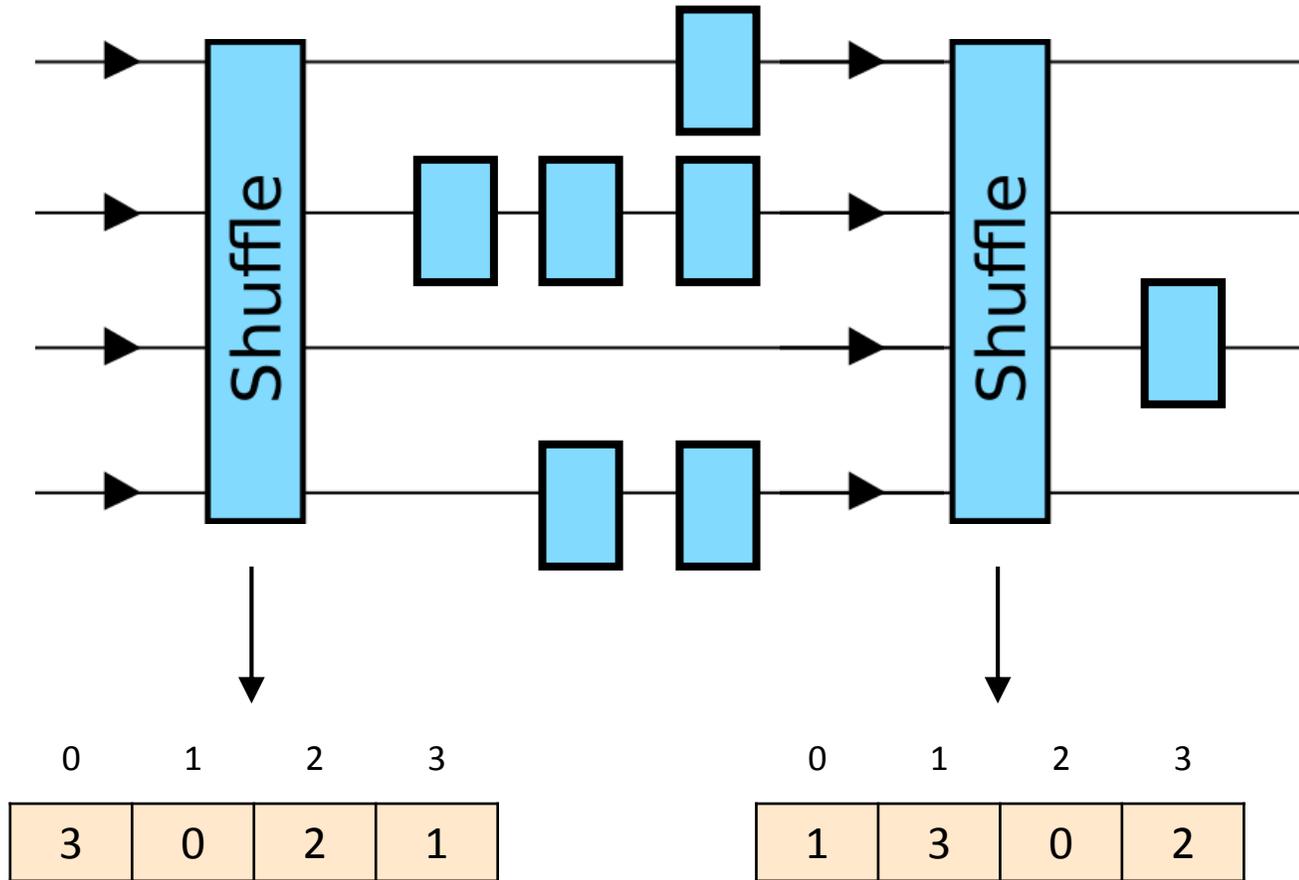
# Four-element ORAM



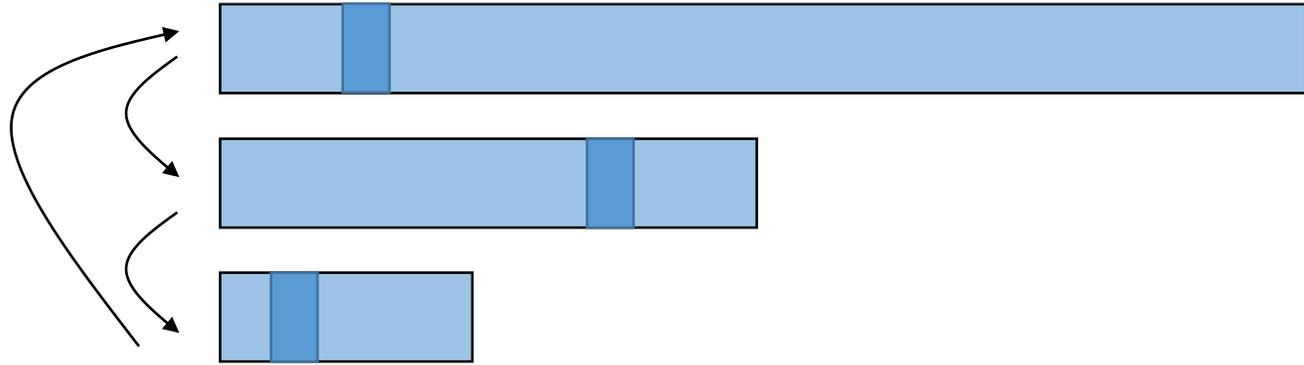
# Larger Sizes



# Position map



# Keeping position map updated



4	1	5	2	0	7	3	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Position map

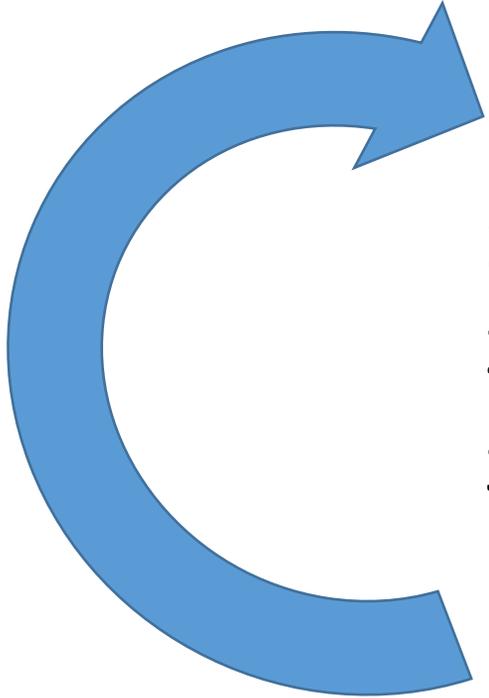
# Keeping position map updated



4	1	5	2	0	7	3	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

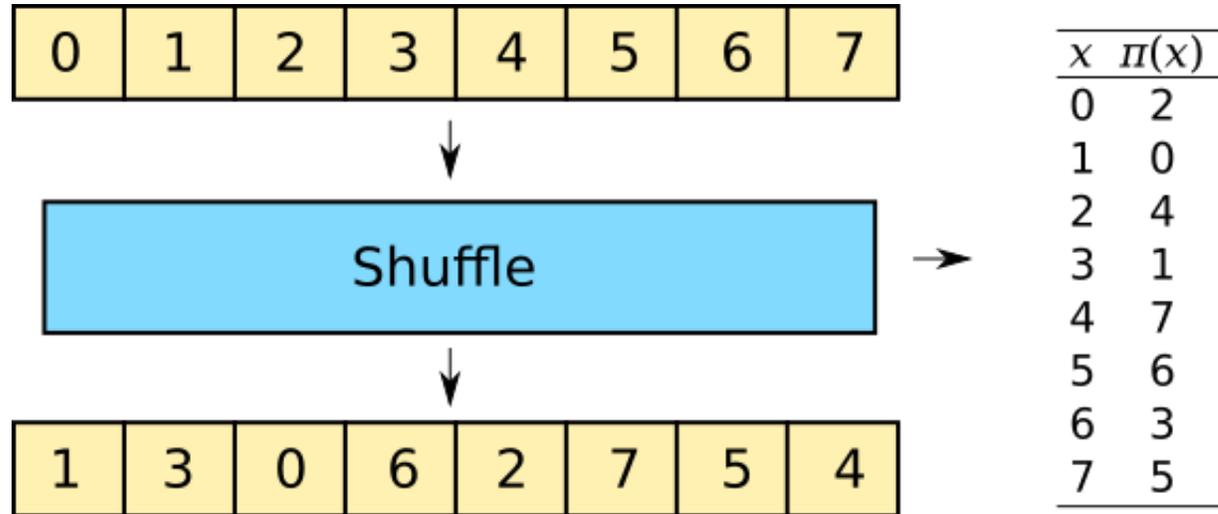
Position map

# Rinse and repeat

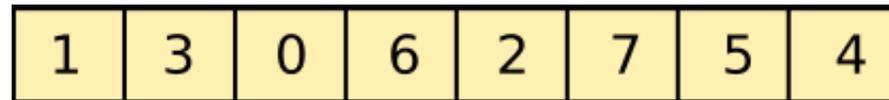
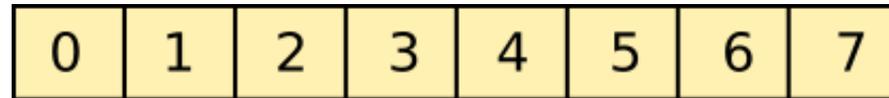


1. Shuffle elements
2. Recreate position map
3. Service  $T = \sqrt{n \log n}$  accesses

# Creating position map



# Creating position map



$x$	$\pi(x)$
0	4
1	1
2	3
3	6
4	0
5	2
6	7
7	5

# Inverse permutation



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$\pi_A$

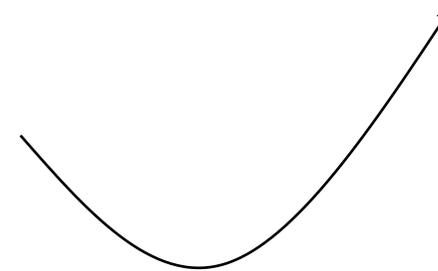
4	1	5	2	0	7	3	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

$\downarrow p$

Permute



$\pi_B = \pi_A \cdot p$



# Inverse permutation



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$\pi_A$



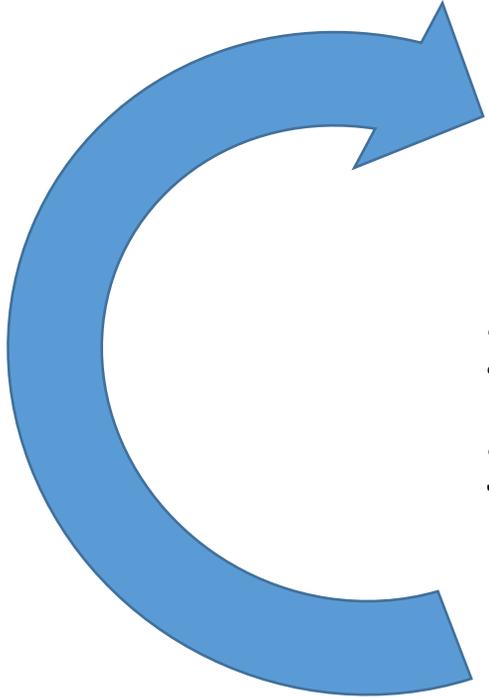
$$\pi_B = \pi_A \cdot p$$

Bob computes

$$\pi_B^{-1} = p^{-1} \cdot \pi_A^{-1}$$

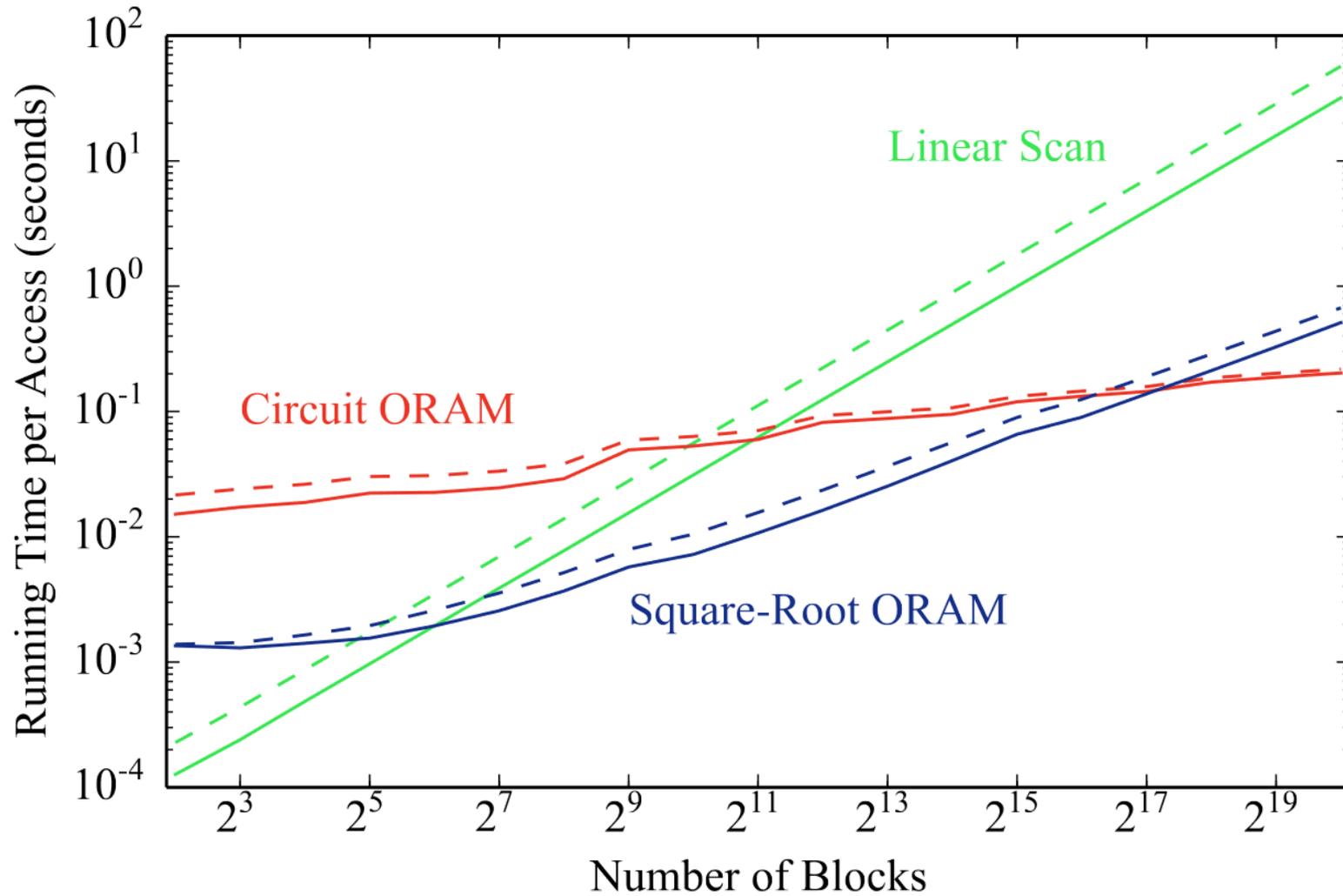
$$\begin{aligned} & \pi_B^{-1} \cdot \pi_A \\ &= p^{-1} \cdot \pi_A^{-1} \cdot \pi_A \\ &= p^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

# Rinse and repeat

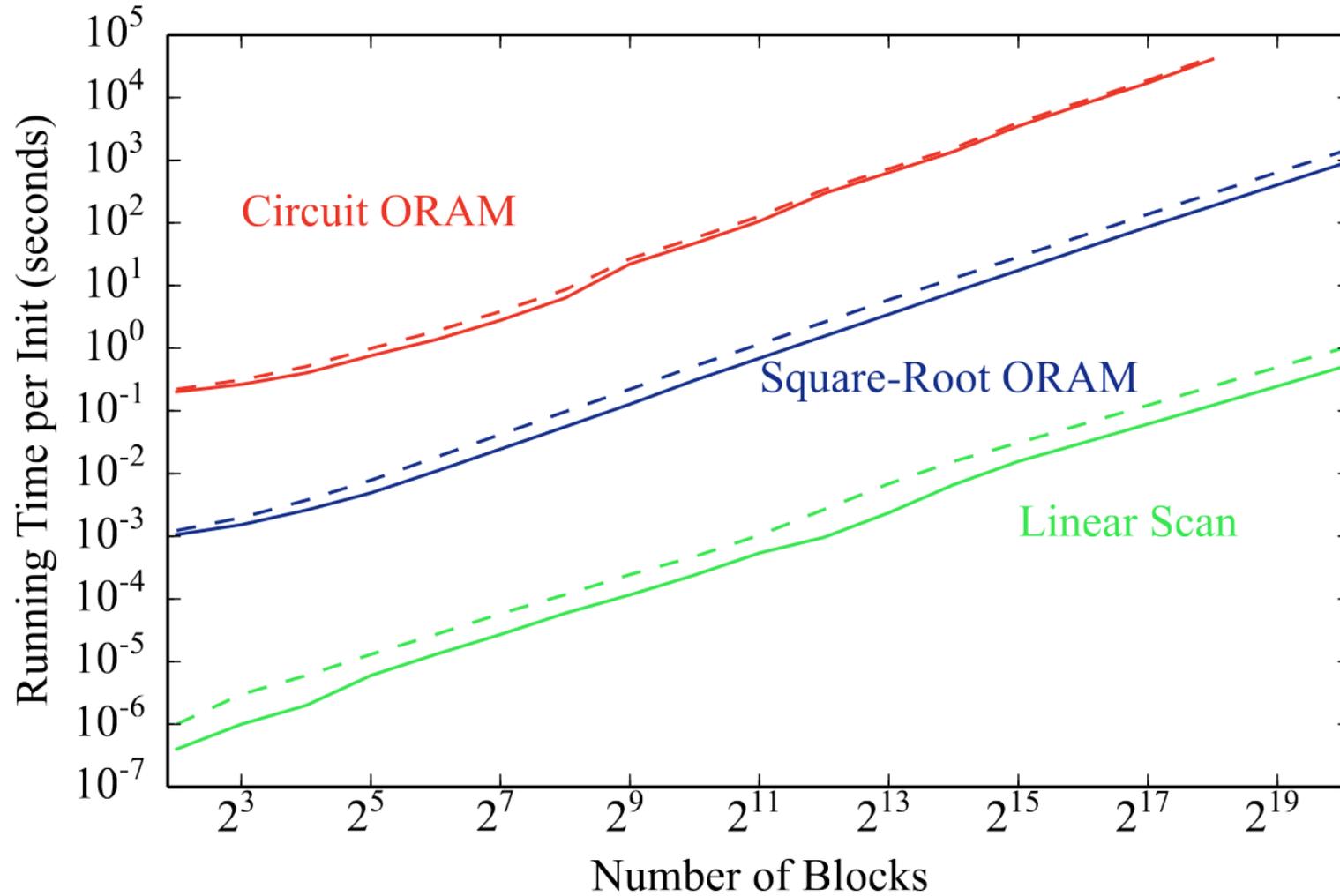


1. Shuffle elements
2. Recreate position map ——— at  $\Theta(n \log n)$
3. Service  $T = \sqrt{n \log n}$  accesses

# Access time



# Initialization cost



# Benchmarks

Task	Parameters	Linear scan	Circuit ORAM	Square-root ORAM
Binary search	$2^{10}$ searches $2^{15}$ elements	1020 s	5041 s	825 s
Breadth-first search	$2^{10}$ vertices $2^{13}$ edges	4570 s	3750 s	680 s
Stable matching	$2^9$ pairs	-	189000 s	119000 s
scrypt hashing	$N = 2^{14}$	$\approx 7$ days	2850 s	1920 s

# Conclusion

We revisited a well-known scheme and used it to

- Lower initialization cost
- Improve breakeven point

Shows that asymptotic costs are not the final word, concrete costs require more consideration.

# Download

[oblivc.org/sqoram](https://oblivc.org/sqoram)

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