
Cache-Induced Privacy Risks in Named Data Networking

What is the Cost of Performance?

Tobias Lauinger
toby@ccs.neu.edu



Northeastern University

Overview

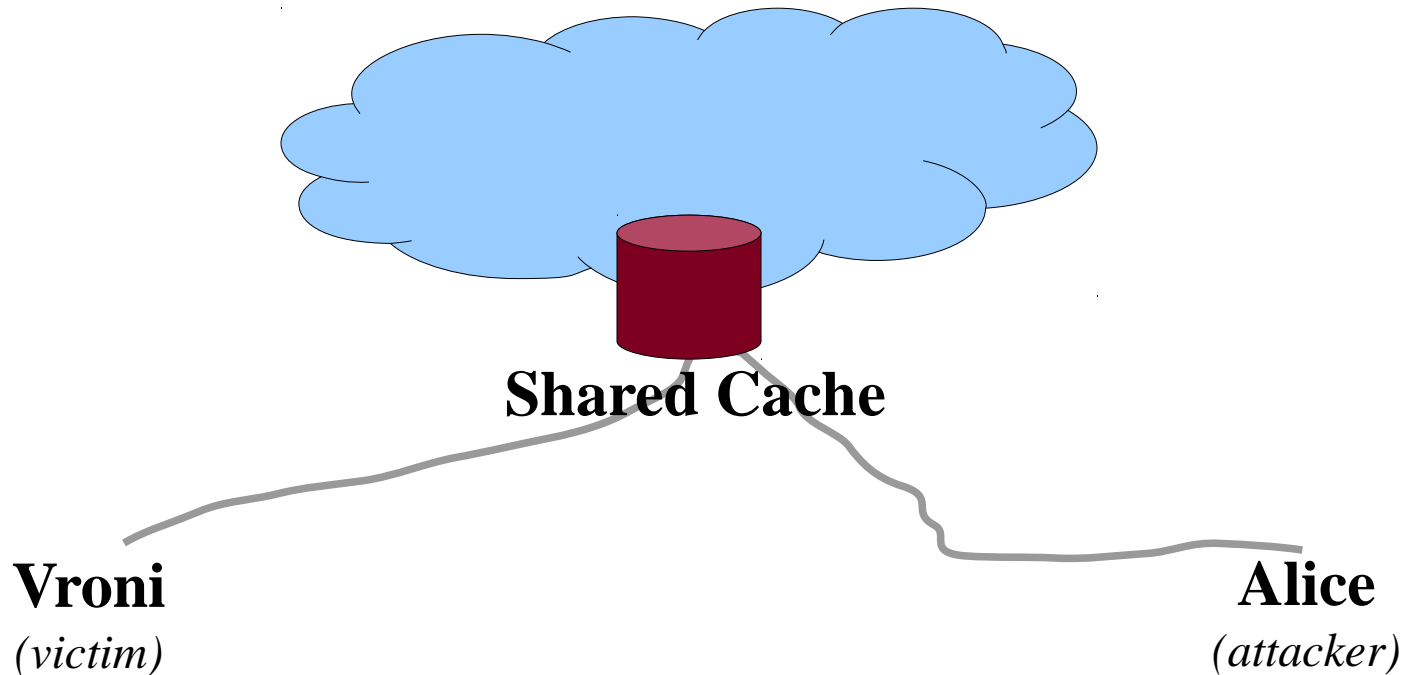
- Privacy Leaks in NDN/CCN
- Attack Model for Cache-Based Attacks
- Simple Cache Probing Attack
- Performance XOR Privacy?
- Alternative Approaches

Privacy Leaks in NDN

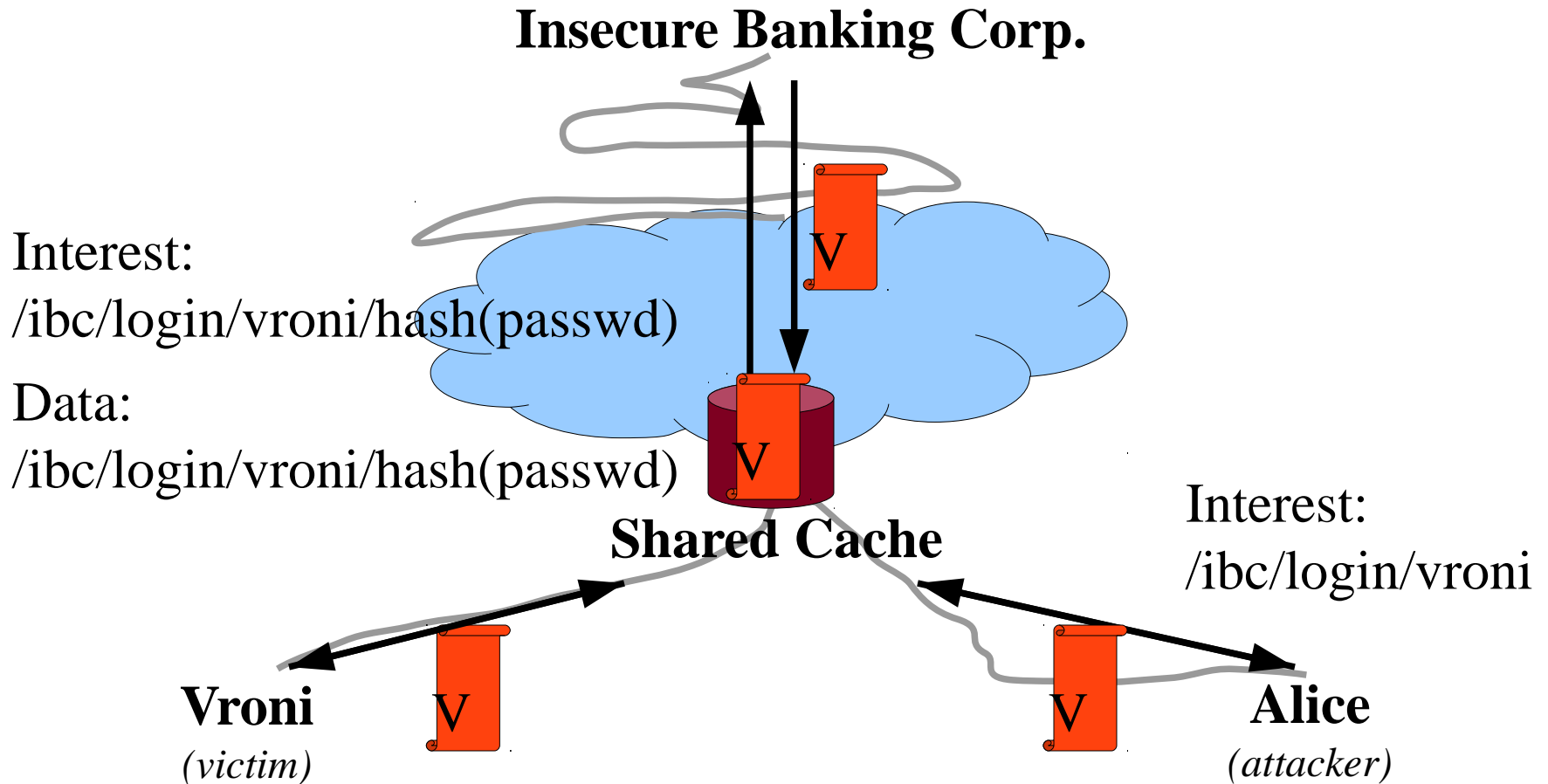
- NDN: Self-Contained Content Objects
 - Location-independent (content names)
 - Caching “easy”
- Privacy Leaks
 - Object name
 - Signature
 - Cache hit/miss (not a “new” problem)
 - ...

Attack Model

- Trusted ISP
- “Unprivileged” attacker



Simple Cache Probing Attack



Performance XOR Privacy?

- “Any” user can spy on other users connected to the same cache
- End-to-end solution: Tunneling (Andana)
 - Performance decreases
 - No more caching
- Users must risk privacy to get performance
- For privacy, they must “break” NDN

Alternative Approaches

- Better use an in-network approach?
 - Detect if privacy-sensitive and don't cache
 - Improve privacy *and* performance
- Hybrid approaches
 - “Don't-cache flag” (Interest or Data-driven)
 - Compartmentalisation
- ... or “advanced” end-to-end approaches
 - Selective tunneling

Conclusion & Outlook

- Attack (probably) feasible by “every” user
- Other privacy attacks conceivable (PIT)
- Solutions should not purely rely on users
 - if not “properly” used, bad for performance
 - if not used, bad for privacy
- Can we “reconcile” privacy and performance?