# fn make\_noisy\_top\_k

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Proves soundness of make\_noisy\_top\_k in mod.rs at commit f5bb719 (outdated<sup>1</sup>). make\_noisy\_top\_k returns a Measurement that noisily selects the indices of the greatest scores from a vector of input scores.

## 1 Hoare Triple

#### Precondition

#### Compiler-verified

- MO is a type with trait TopKMeasure
- TIA (atomic input type) is a type with trait Number

#### Caller-verified

None

#### Pseudocode

```
def make_noisy_top_k(
      input_domain: VectorDomain[AtomDomain[TIA]],
      input_metric: LInfDistance[TIA],
      privacy_measure: MO,
      k: usize,
      scale: f64,
      negate: bool,
  ) -> Measurement:
      if input_domain.element_domain.nan(): #
9
          raise "input domain elements must be non-nan"
10
11
      if input_domain.size is not None:
          if k > input_domain.size:
13
14
              raise "k must not exceed the number of candidates"
15
      if not scale.is_finite() or scale.is_sign_negative(): #
16
          raise "scale must be finite and non-negative"
17
18
      monotonic = input_metric.monotonic
19
20
      def privacy_map(d_in: TIA): #
21
22
          # convert to range distance
          d_in = d_in if monotonic else d_in.inf_add(d_in)
23
          d_in = f64.inf_cast(d_in) #
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See new changes with git diff f5bb719..2cfe131 rust/src/measurements/noisy\_top\_k/mod.rs

```
25
           if d_in.is_sign_negative(): #
26
               raise "sensitivity must be non-negative"
27
28
29
           if d_in.is_zero(): #
               return 0.0
30
31
           if scale.is_zero(): #
32
               return f64.INFINITY
33
34
35
           return MO.privacy_map(d_in, scale).inf_mul(f64.inf_cast(k))
36
37
      return Measurement.new(
38
           input_domain=input_domain,
39
40
           input_metric=input_metric,
41
           output_measure=privacy_measure,
           function=lambda x: noisy_top_k(x, scale, k, negate, MO.REPLACEMENT),
42
           privacy_map=privacy_map,
44
```

#### Postcondition

Theorem 1.1. For every setting of the input parameters input\_domain, input\_metric, output\_measure, k, scale, negate, MO, TIA to make\_noisy\_top\_k such that the given preconditions hold, make\_noisy\_top\_k raises an error (at compile time or run time) or returns a valid measurement. A valid measurement has the following properties:

- 1. (Data-independent runtime errors). For every pair of members x and x' in input\_domain, invoke(x) and invoke(x') either both return the same error or neither return an error.
- 2. (Privacy guarantee). For every pair of members x and x' in input\_domain and for every pair (d\_in,d\_out), where d\_in has the associated type for input\_metric and d\_out has the associated type for output\_measure, if x,x' are d\_in-close under input\_metric, privacy\_map(d\_in) does not raise

output\_measure, if x, x are d\_in-close under input\_metric, privacy\_map(d\_in) does not raise an error, and privacy\_map(d\_in) = d\_out, then function(x), function(x') are d\_out-close under output\_measure.

Proof of data-independent errors. By the postcondition of noisy\_top\_k, the only source of error is due to entropy exhaustion, which could be data-dependent, due to differing number of expected random draws depending on the input dataset.

Therefore, the mechanism only satisfies the requirement for data-independent errors when conditioned on entropy not being exhausted.  $\Box$ 

*Proof of privacy guarantee.* When d\_in is zero, by line 29, the privacy loss is zero, satisfying the postcondition. Otherwise when scale is zero, by line 32, the privacy loss is infinite, also satisfying the postcondition.

By the checks on lines 9 and 16, the preconditions for noisy\_top\_k are satisfied. Additionally by the checks on lines 26, 29 and 32, the preconditions for TopKMeasureprivacy\_map are satisfied.

By the postcondition of TopKMeasure and adaptive composition, the d\_outon line 35 satisfies the postcondition.