

# Airavat: Security and Privacy for MapReduce

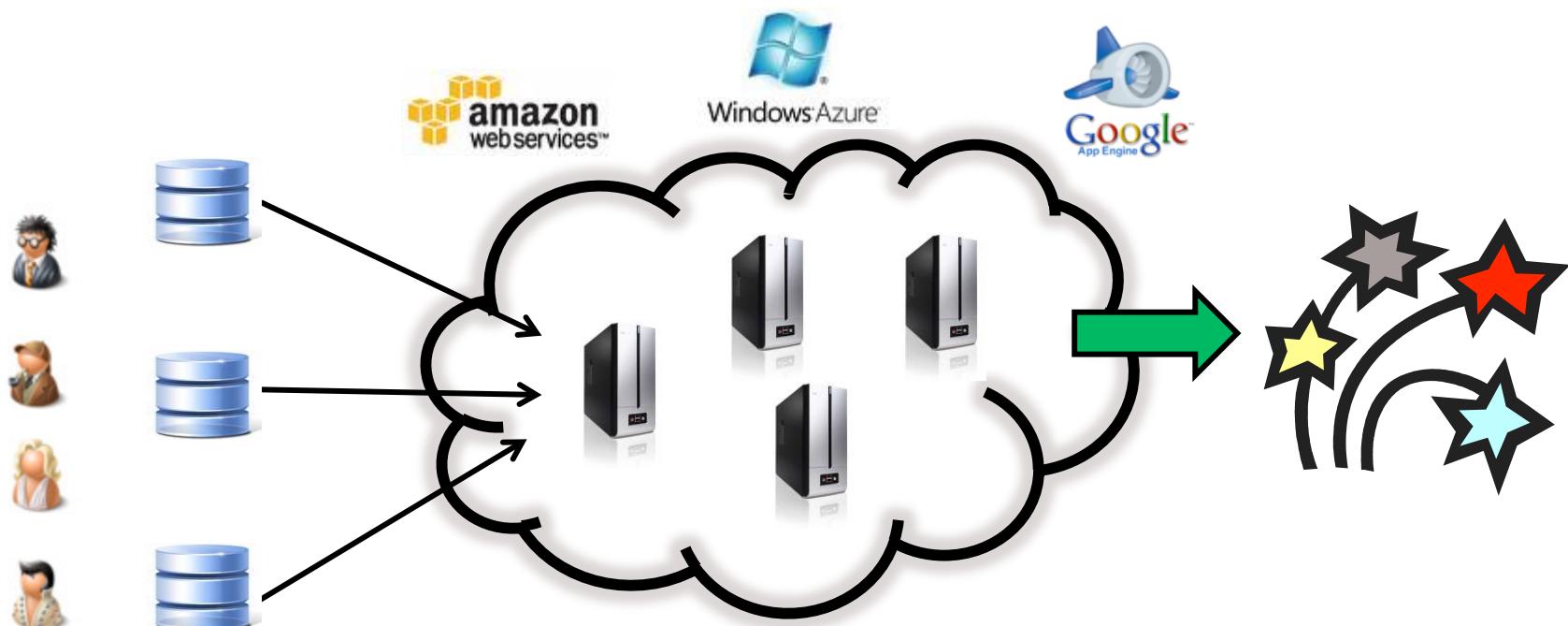
**Indrajit Roy, Srinath T.V. Setty, Ann Kilzer,  
Vitaly Shmatikov, Emmett Witchel**



**The University of Texas at Austin**

# Computing in the year 201X

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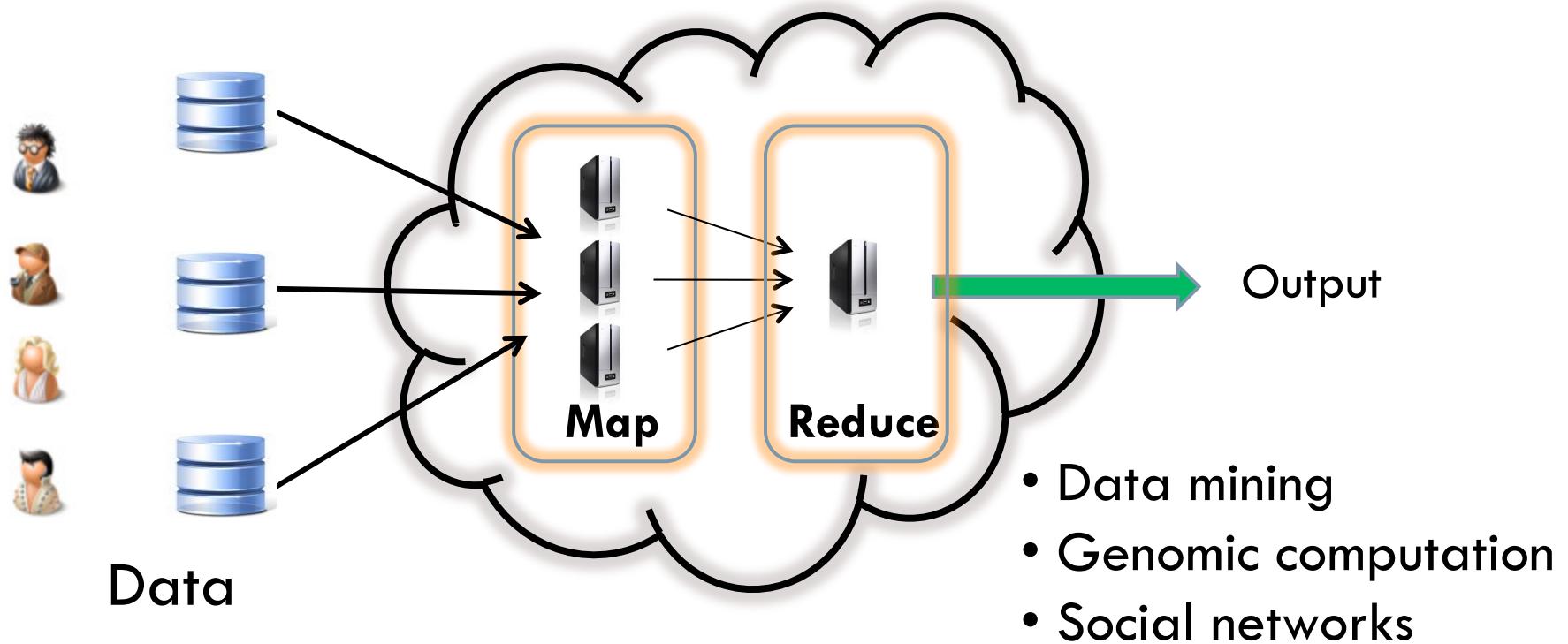
Data

- Illusion of infinite resources
- Pay only for resources used
- Quickly scale up or scale down ...

# Programming model in year 201X

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- Frameworks available to ease cloud programming
- **MapReduce:** Parallel processing on clusters of machines



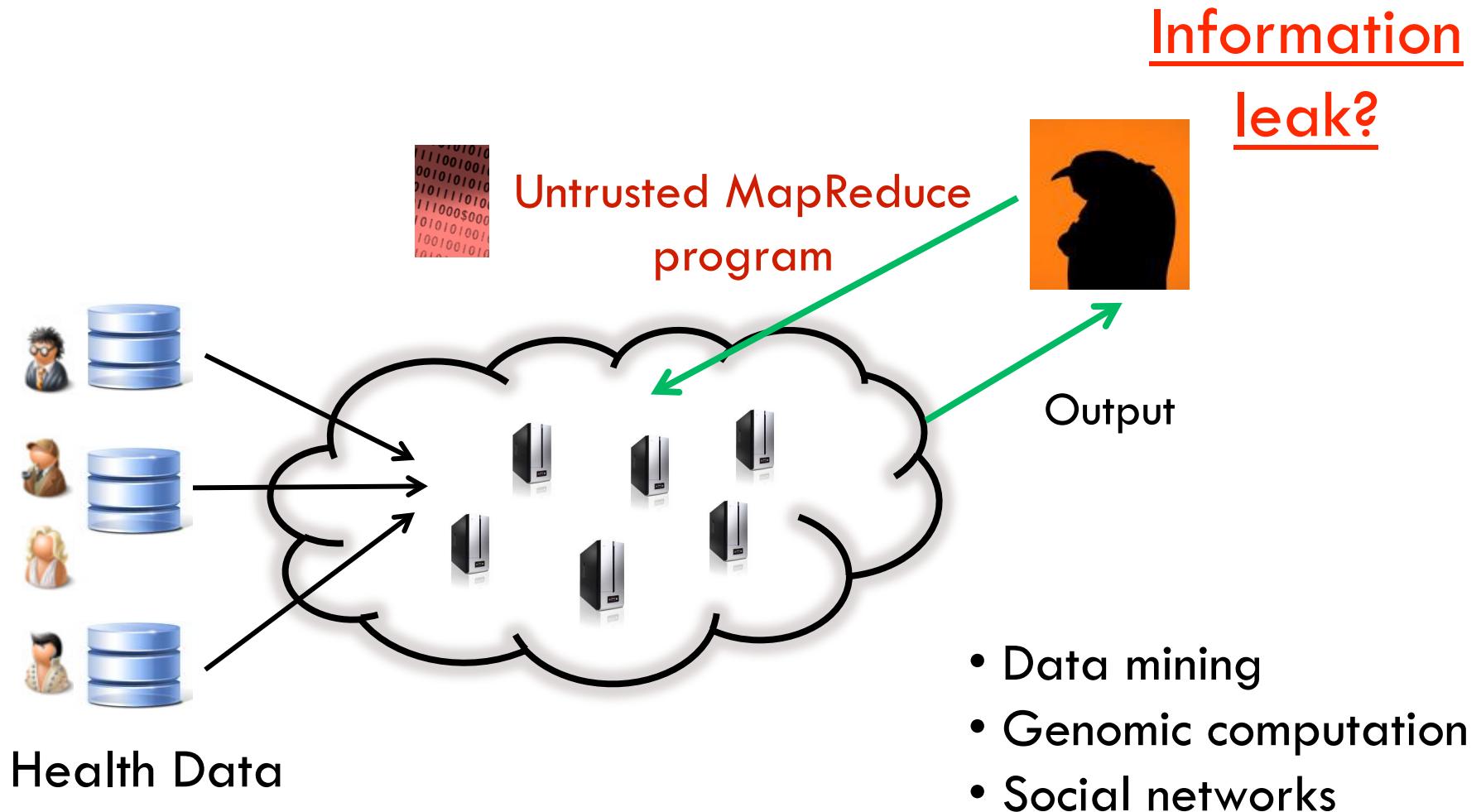
# Programming model in year 201X

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- Thousands of users upload their data
    - Healthcare, shopping transactions, census, click stream
  - Multiple third parties mine the data for better service
- 
- Example: **Healthcare data**
  - **Incentive to contribute:** Cheaper insurance policies, new drug research, inventory control in drugstores...
  - **Fear:** What if someone targets my personal data?
    - Insurance company can find my illness and increase premium

# Privacy in the year 201X ?

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# Use de-identification?

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- Achieves ‘privacy’ by syntactic transformations
  - Scrubbing , k-anonymity ...
- Insecure against attackers with external information
  - Privacy fiascoes: AOL search logs, Netflix dataset



Run untrusted code on the original data?

How do we ensure privacy of the users?

# Audit the untrusted code?

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- Audit all MapReduce programs for correctness?



Aim: **Confine** the code instead of auditing

Hard to do! Enlightenment?

Also, where is the source code?

# This talk: Airavat

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Framework for privacy-preserving MapReduce computations with **untrusted** code.



*Airavat is the elephant of the clouds (Indian mythology).*

# Airavat guarantee

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Bounded information leak\* about any individual data after performing a MapReduce computation.



\*Differential privacy

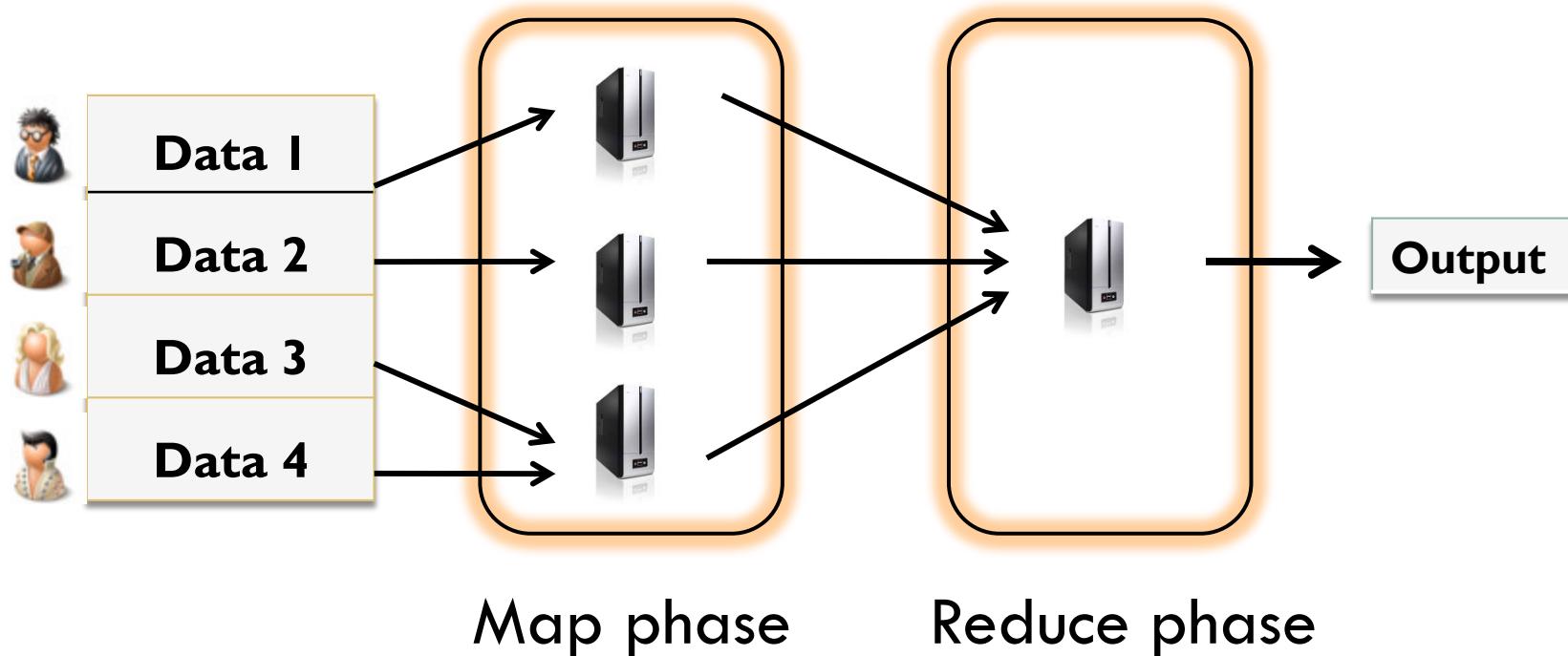
# Outline

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- Motivation
- Overview
- Enforcing privacy
- Evaluation
- Summary

# Background: MapReduce

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{map}(k_1, v_1) &\rightarrow \text{list}(k_2, v_2) \\ \text{reduce}(k_2, \text{list}(v_2)) &\rightarrow \text{list}(v_2) \end{aligned}$$


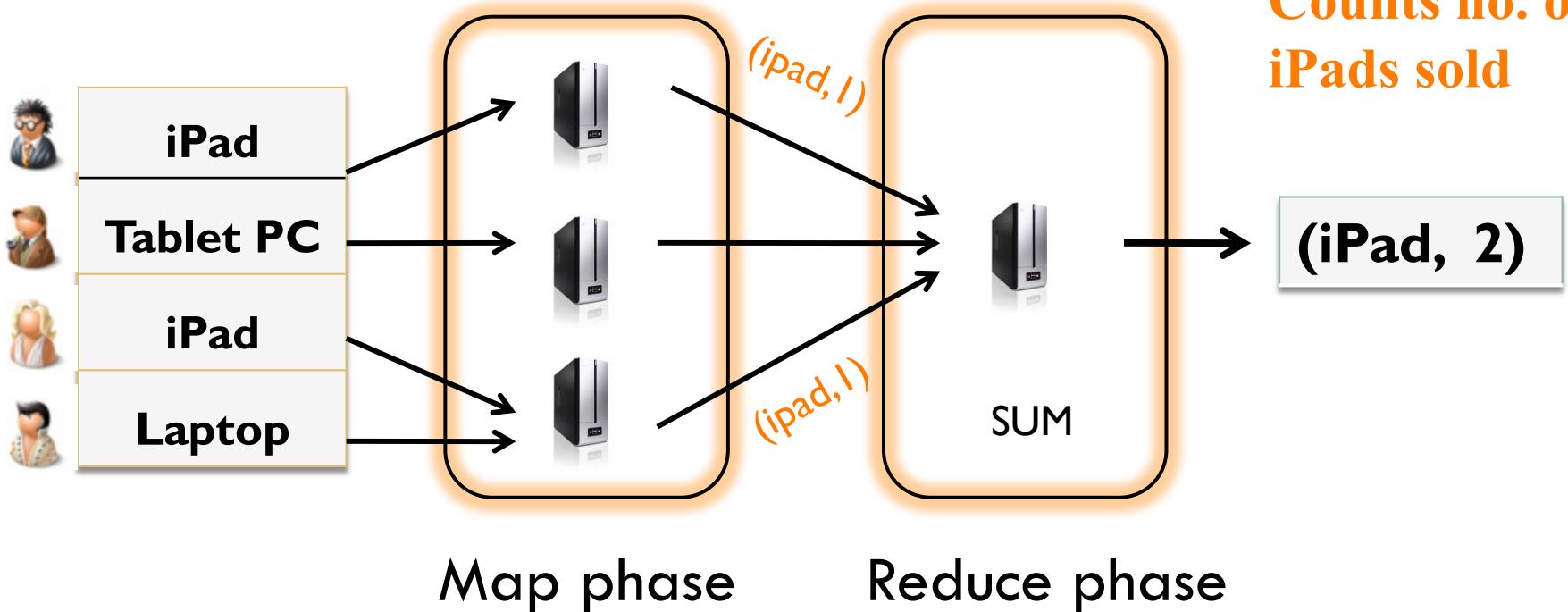
# MapReduce example

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Map(input) → { if (input has iPad) print (iPad, 1) }

Reduce(key, list(v)) → { print (key + "," + SUM(v)) }

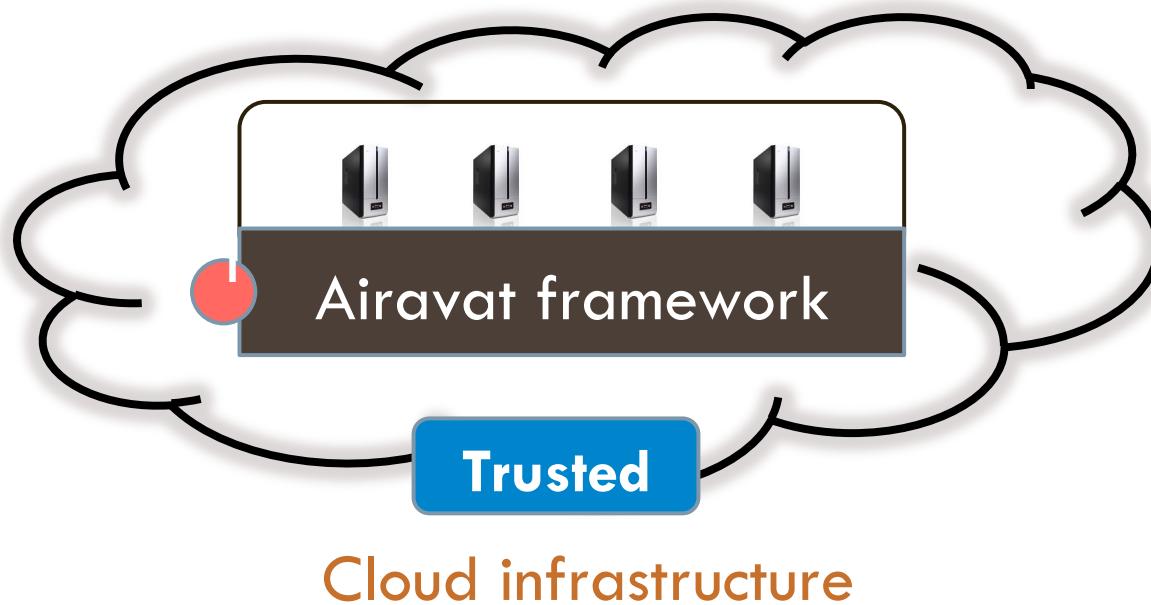
Counts no. of  
iPads sold



# Airavat model

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- Airavat framework runs on the cloud infrastructure
  - Cloud infrastructure: Hardware + VM
  - Airavat: Modified MapReduce + DFS + JVM + SELinux



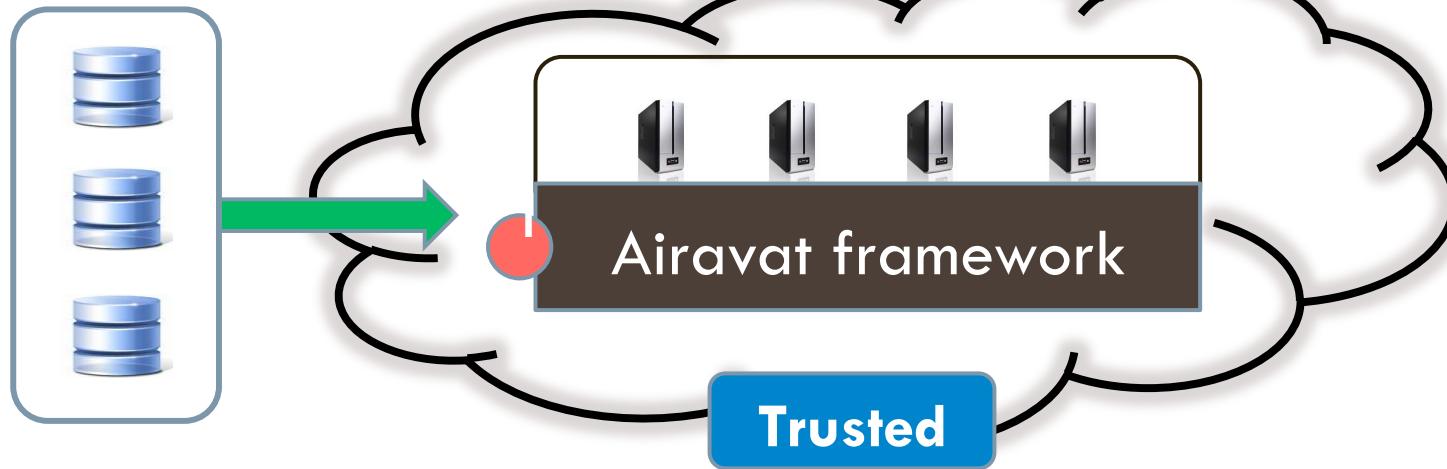
# Airavat model

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- Data provider uploads her data on Airavat
  - Sets up certain privacy parameters



Data provider

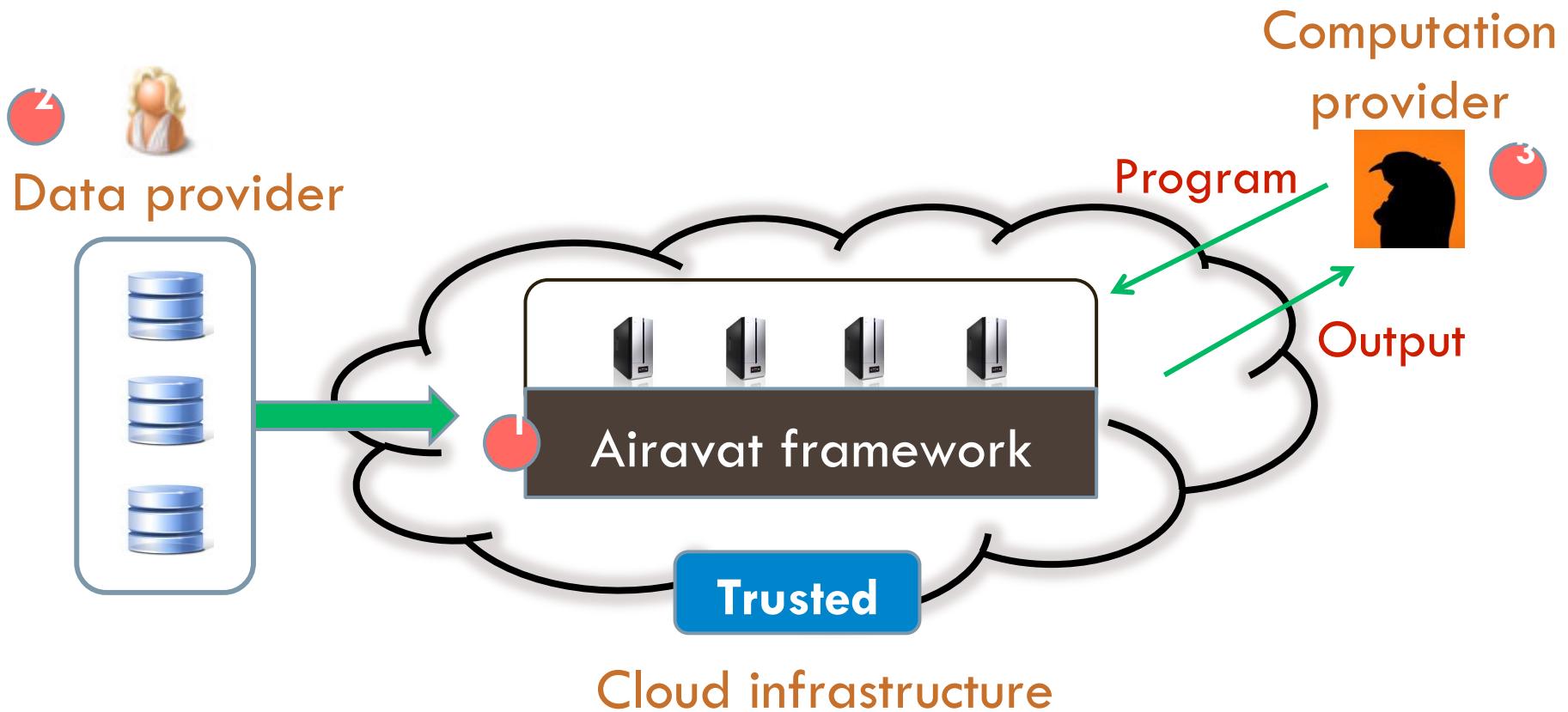


Cloud infrastructure

# Airavat model

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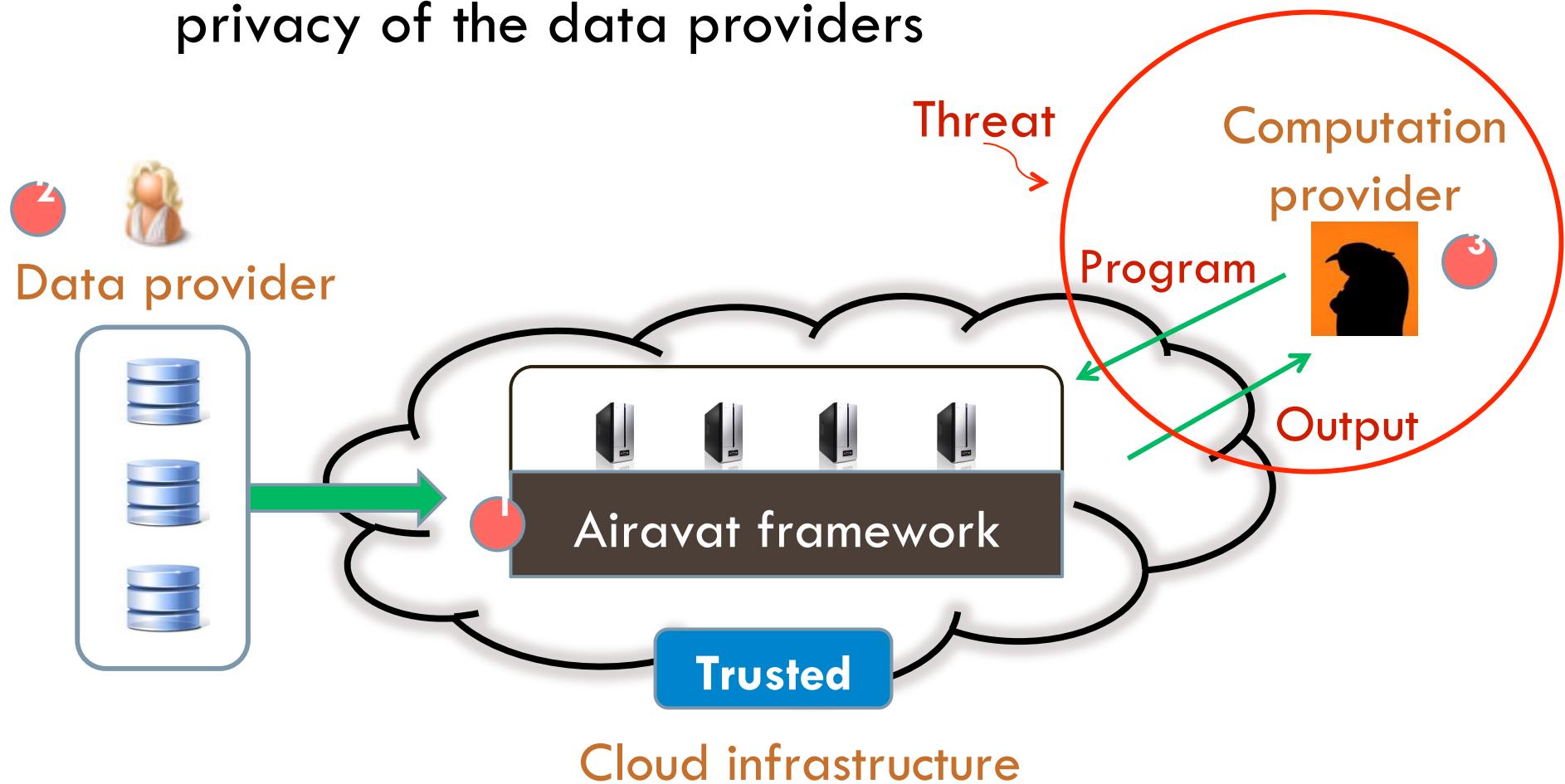
- Computation provider writes data mining algorithm
  - Untrusted, possibly malicious



# Threat model

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- Airavat runs the computation, and still protects the privacy of the data providers



# Roadmap

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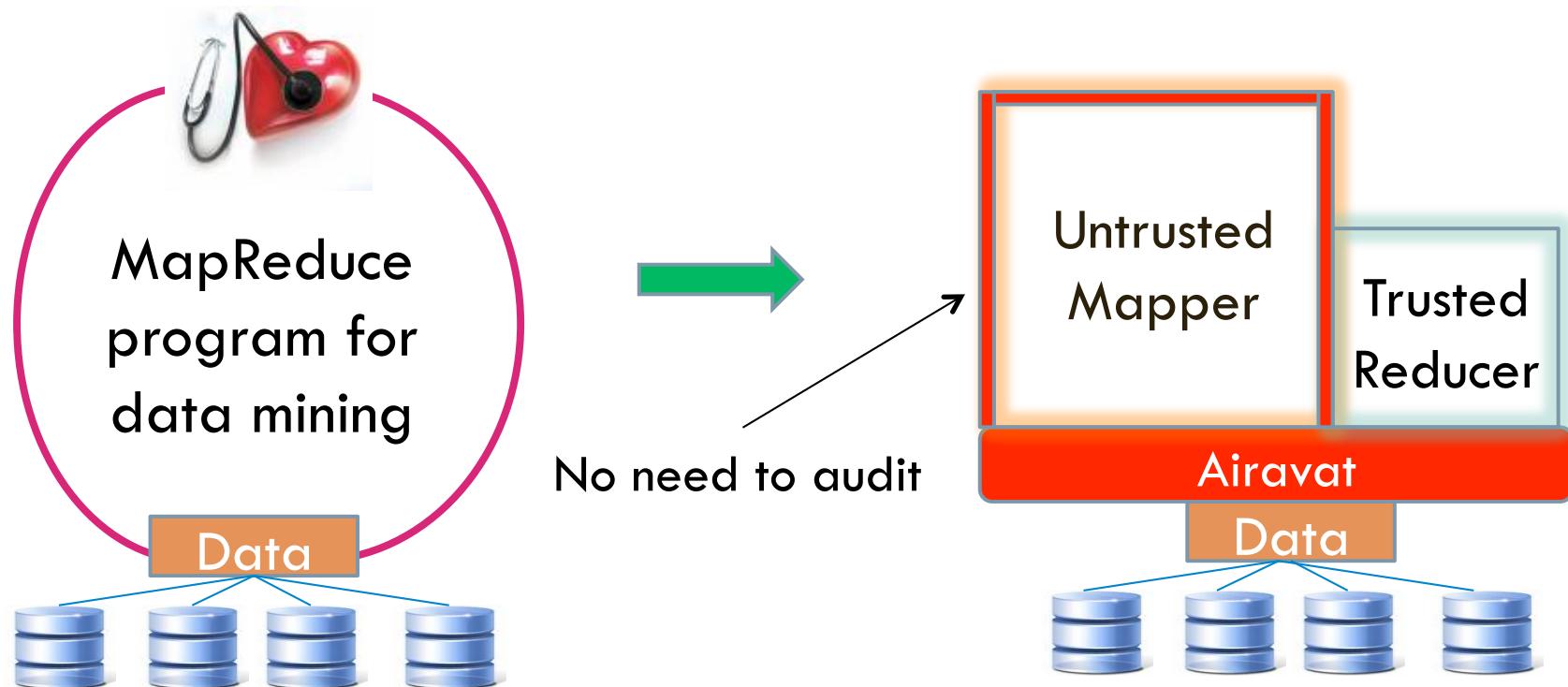
- What is the programming model?
- How do we enforce privacy?
- What computations can be supported in Airavat?

# Programming model

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Split MapReduce into **untrusted mapper** + **trusted reducer**

Limited set of stock reducers

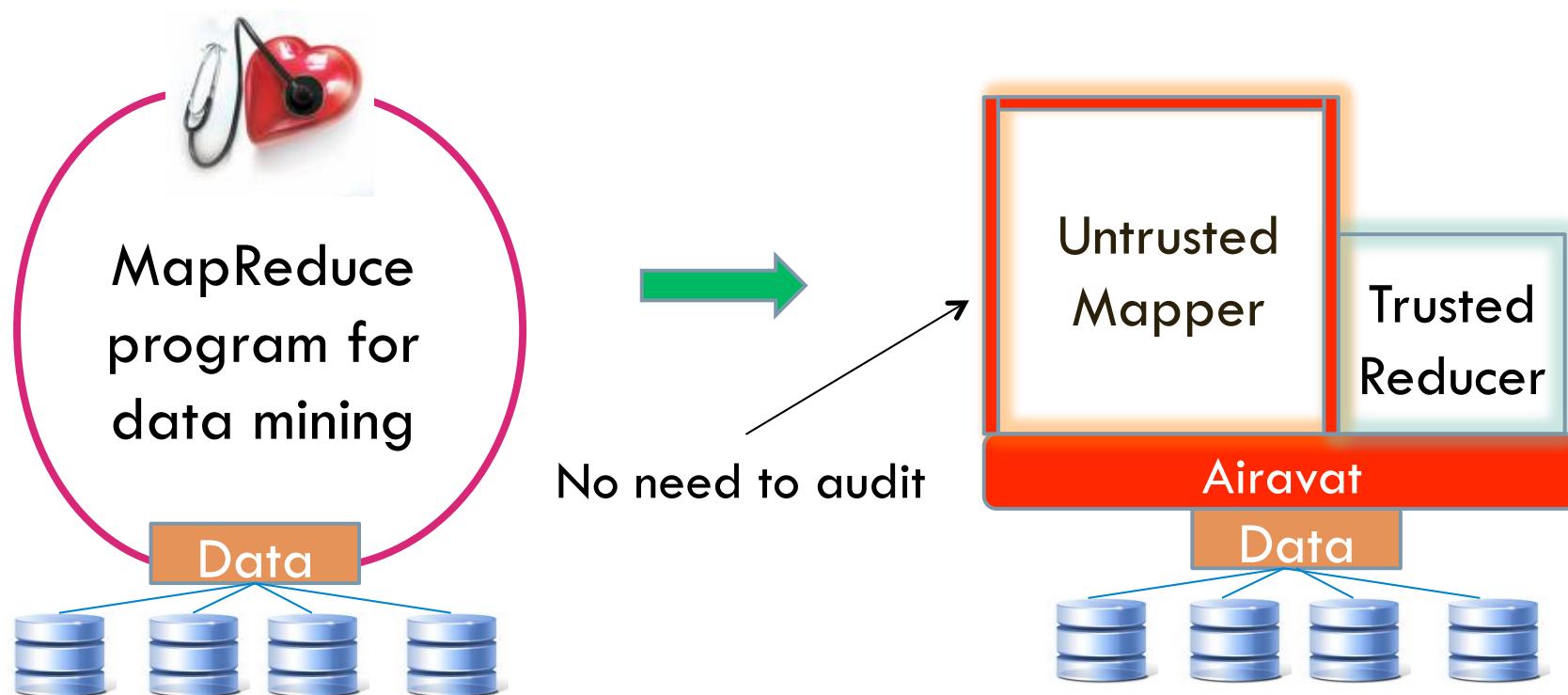


# Programming model

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Need to confine the mappers !

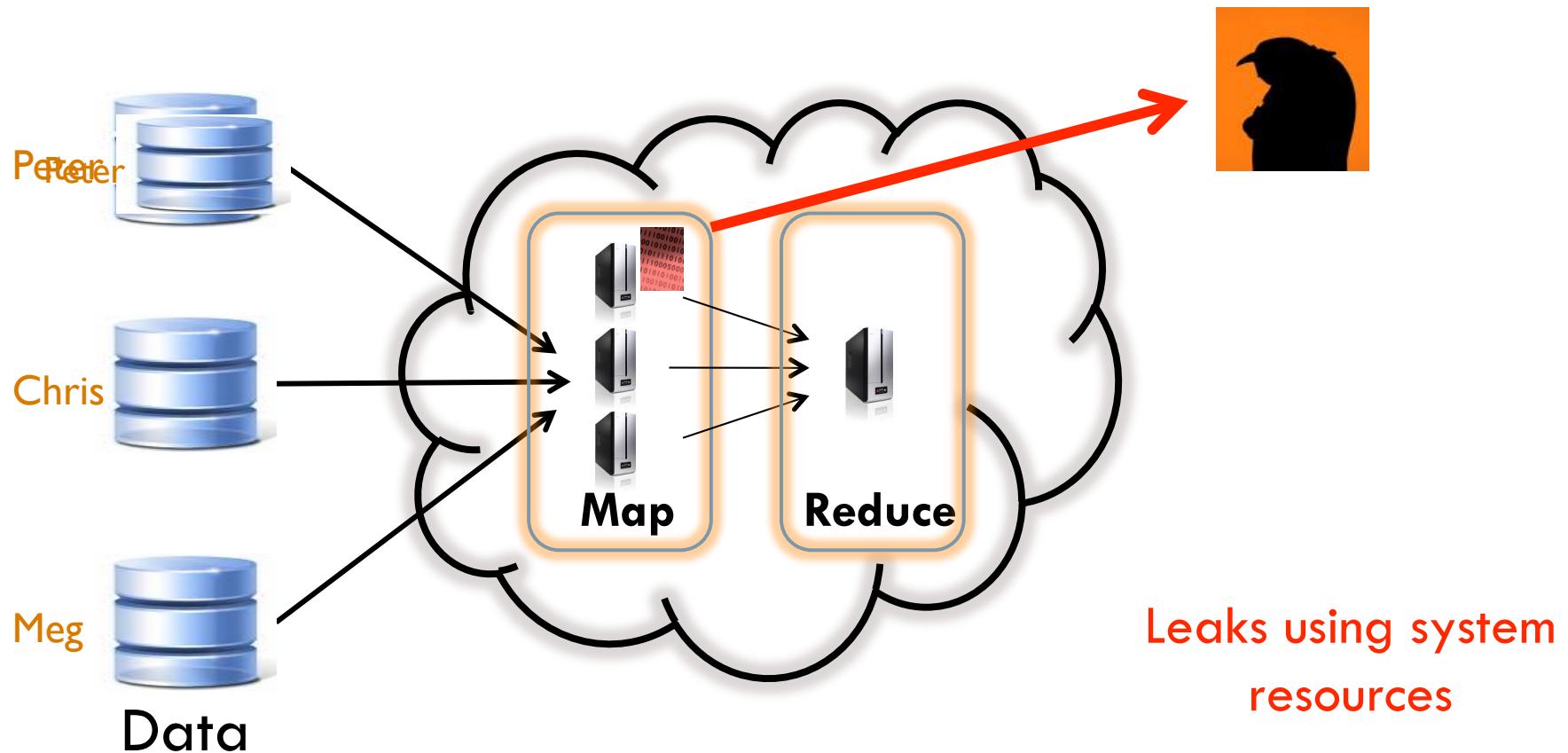
Guarantee: Protect the privacy of data providers



# Challenge 1: Untrusted mapper

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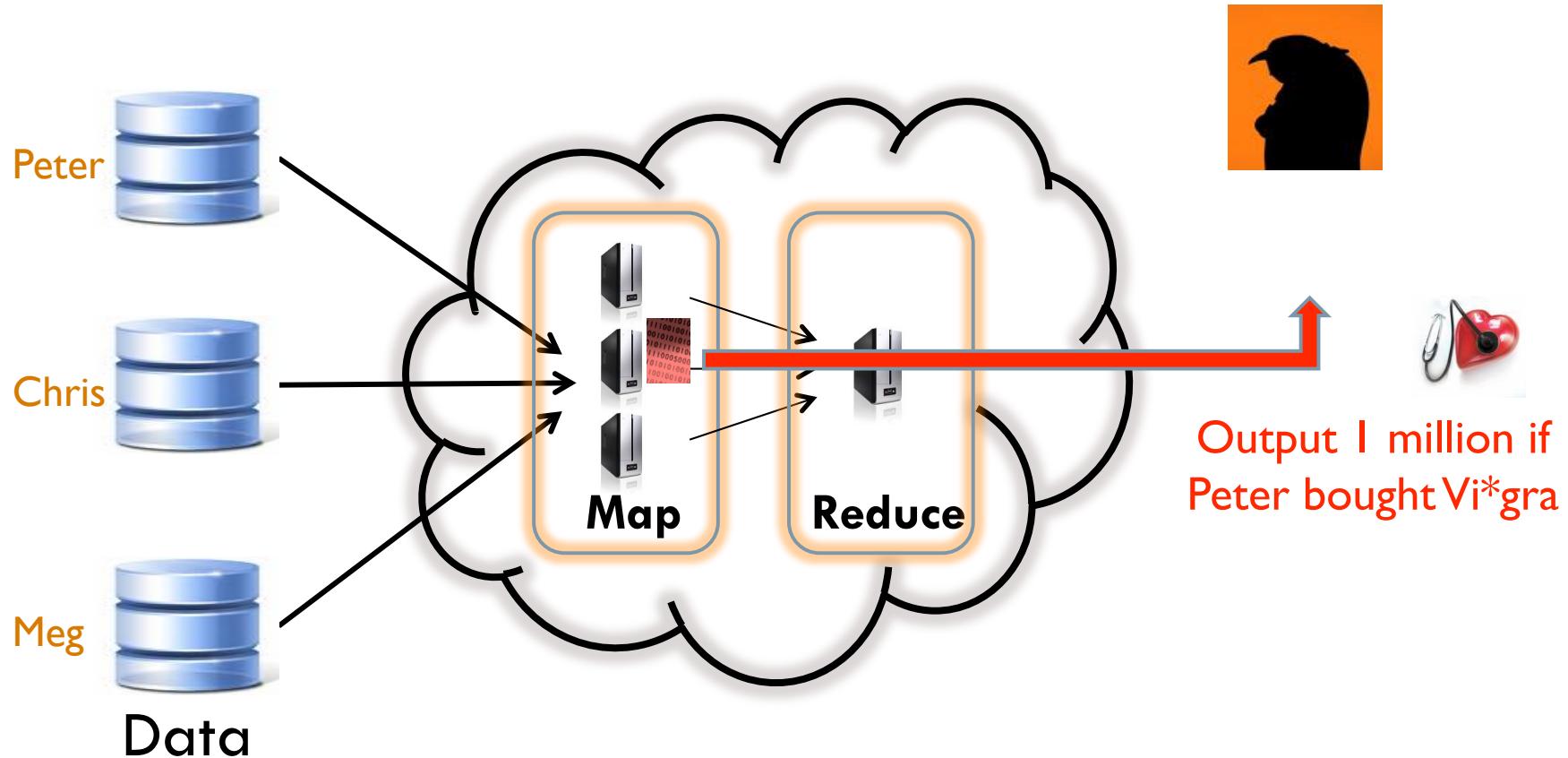
- Untrusted mapper code copies data, sends it over the network



# Challenge 2: Untrusted mapper

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- Output of the computation is also an information channel



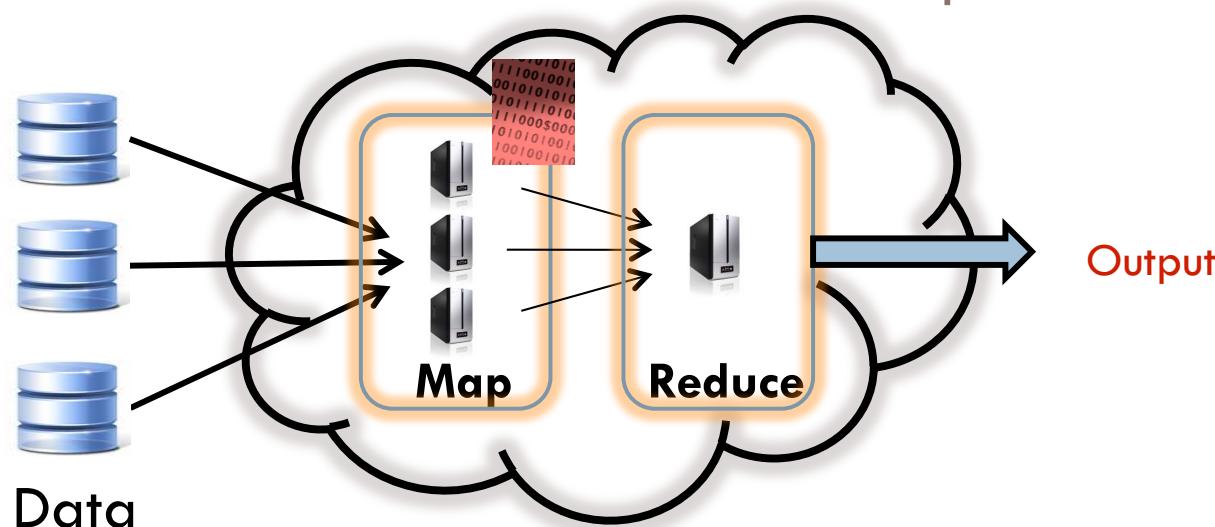
# Airavat mechanisms

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## Mandatory access control



Prevent leaks through storage channels like network connections, files...



## Differential privacy

Prevent leaks through the output of the computation

# Back to the roadmap

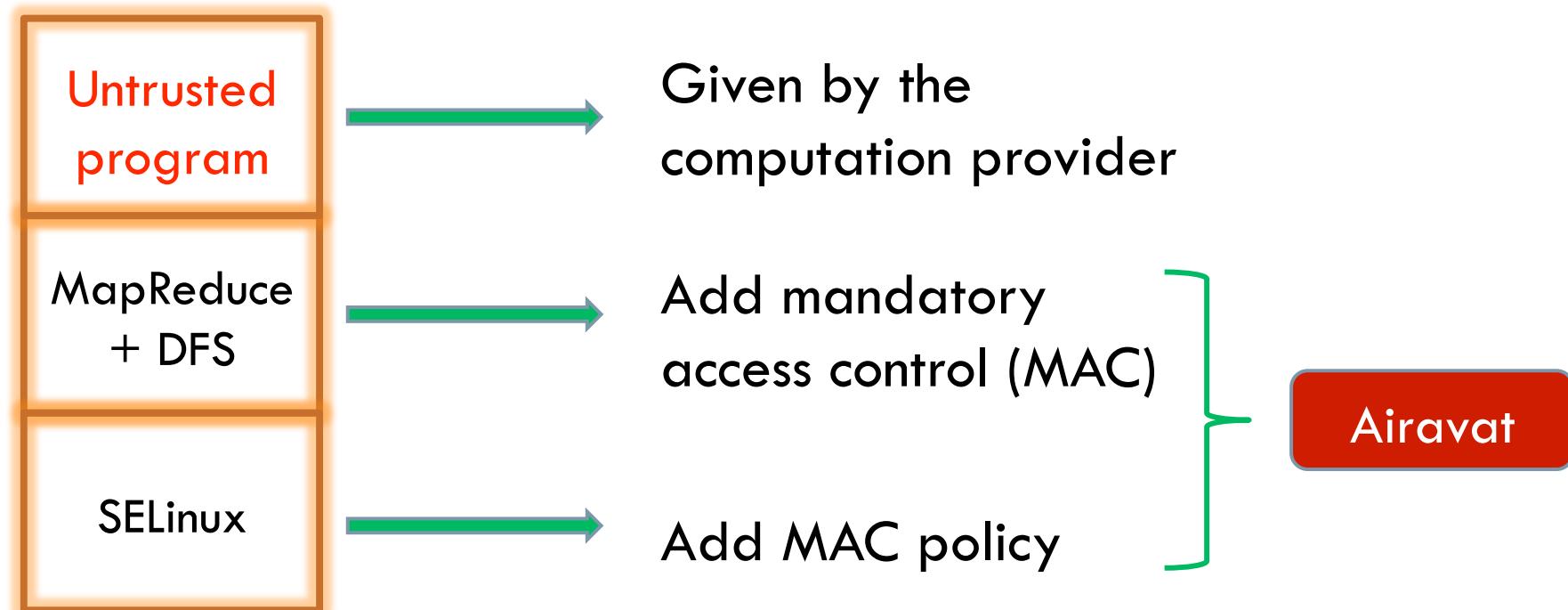
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- What is the programming model?

**Untrusted mapper + Trusted reducer**

- How do we enforce privacy?
  - Leaks through system resources
  - Leaks through the output
- What computations can be supported in Airavat?

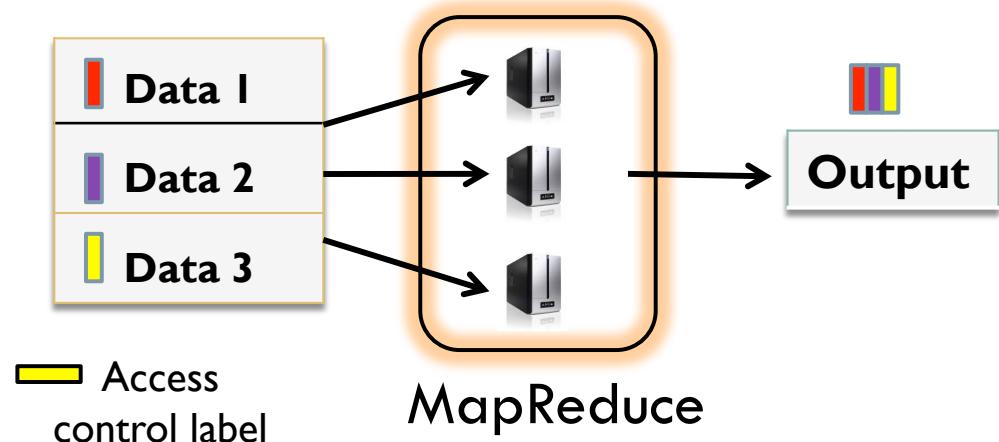
# Airavat confines the untrusted code



# Airavat confines the untrusted code



- We add mandatory access control to the MapReduce framework
- Label input, intermediate values, output
- Malicious code cannot leak labeled data



# Airavat confines the untrusted code



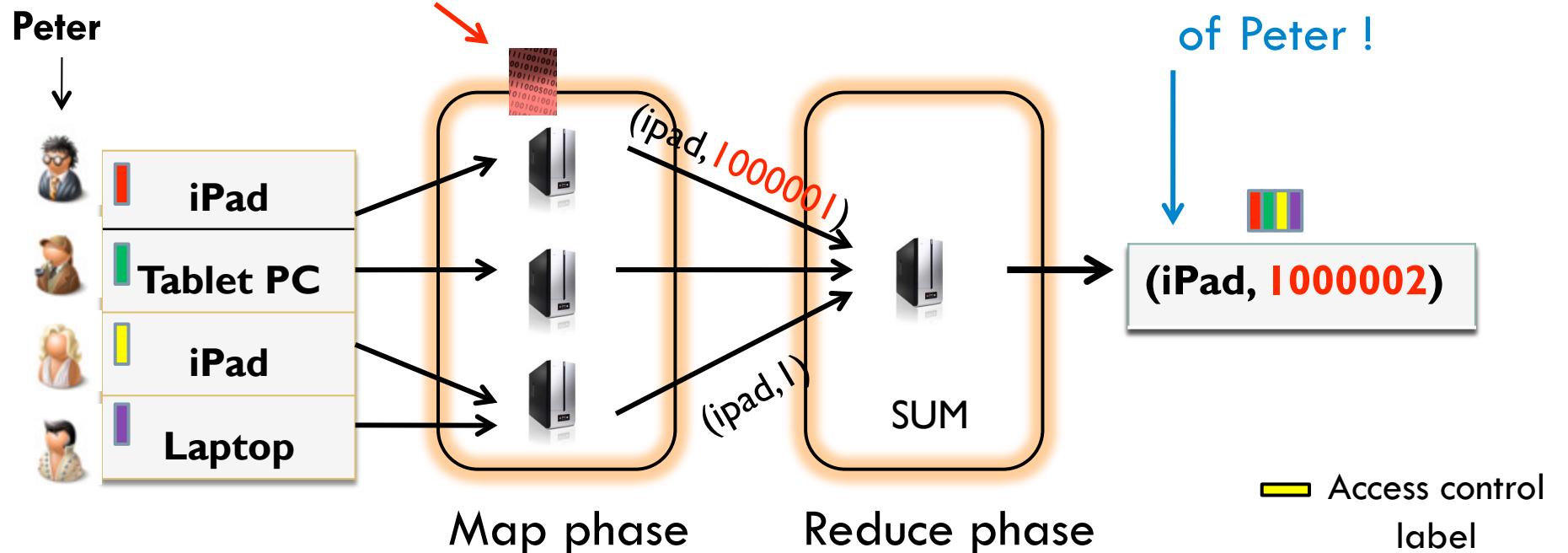
- SELinux policy to enforce MAC
- Creates trusted and untrusted domains
- Processes and files are labeled to restrict interaction
- Mappers reside in untrusted domain
  - Denied network access, limited file system interaction

# But access control is not enough

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- Labels can prevent the output from been read
- When can we remove the labels?

```
if (input belongs-to Peter)
    print (iPad, 1000000)
```



# But access control is not enough

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Need mechanisms to enforce that the output does not violate an individual's privacy.

# Background: Differential privacy

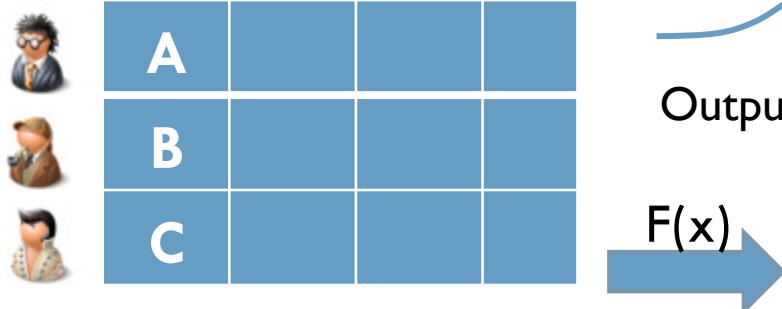
29

A mechanism is **differentially private** if every output is produced with similar probability whether any given input is included or not

# Differential privacy (intuition)

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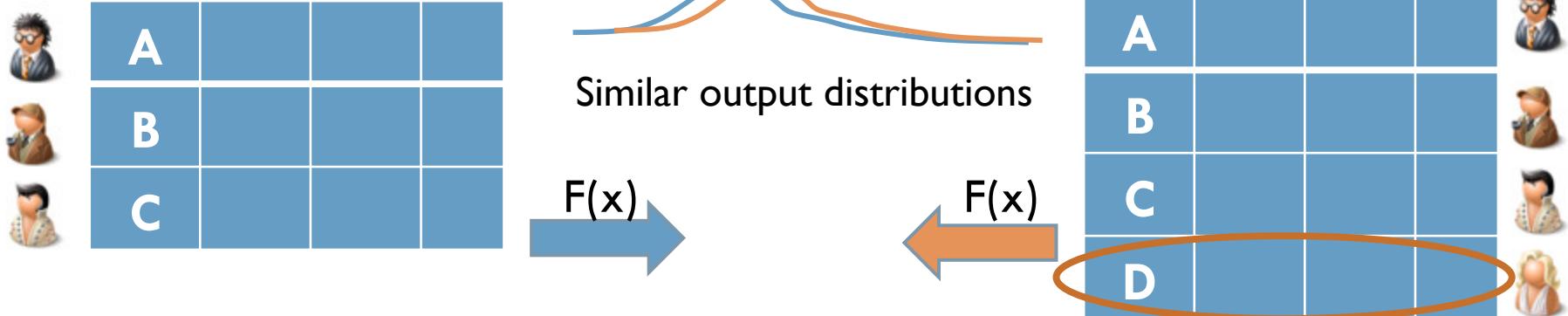
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# Differential privacy (intuition)

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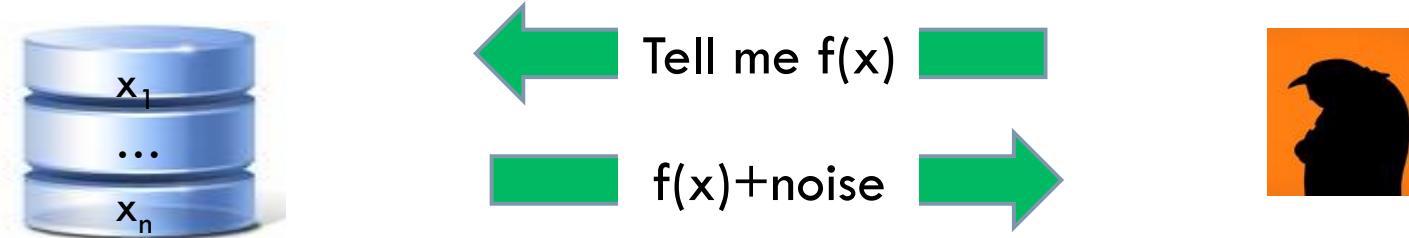
**Bounded risk for D if she includes her data!**

Cynthia Dwork. *Differential Privacy*. ICALP 2006

# Achieving differential privacy

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- A simple differentially private mechanism



- How much noise should one add?

# Achieving differential privacy

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- **Function sensitivity** (intuition): Maximum effect of any single input on the output
  - Aim: Need to conceal this effect to preserve privacy
- Example: Computing the **average height** of the people in this room has low sensitivity
  - Any single person's height does not affect the final average by too much
  - Calculating the **maximum height** has high sensitivity

# Achieving differential privacy

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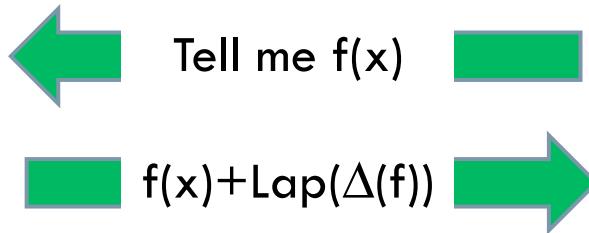
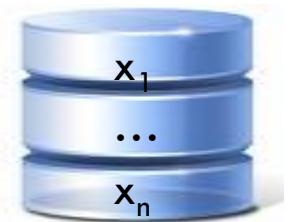
- **Function sensitivity** (intuition): Maximum effect of any single input on the output
  - Aim: Need to conceal this effect to preserve privacy
- Example: SUM over input elements drawn from  $[0, M]$



# Achieving differential privacy

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- A simple differentially private mechanism



Intuition: Noise needed to mask the effect of a single input

$\Delta(f)$  = sensitivity

Lap = Laplace distribution

# Back to the roadmap

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- What is the programming model?

**Untrusted mapper + Trusted reducer**

- How do we enforce privacy?

- Leaks through system resources
  - Leaks through the output

**MAC**

- What computations can be supported in Airavat?

# Enforcing differential privacy

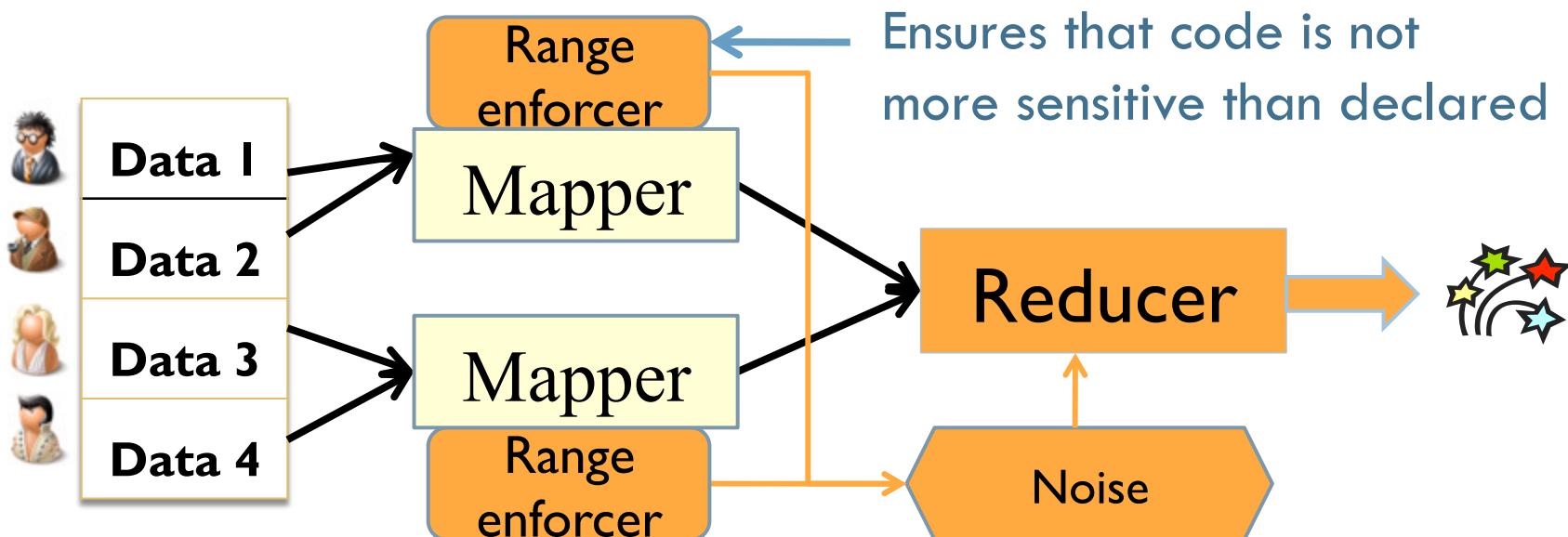
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- Mapper can be any piece of Java code (“black box”) but...
- Range of mapper outputs must be declared in advance
  - ▣ Used to estimate “sensitivity” (how much does a single input influence the output?)
  - ▣ Determines how much noise is added to outputs to ensure differential privacy
- Example: Consider mapper range  $[0, M]$ 
  - ▣ SUM has the estimated sensitivity of  $M$

# Enforcing differential privacy

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- Malicious mappers may output values outside the range
- If a mapper produces a value outside the range, it is replaced by a value inside the range
  - User not notified... otherwise possible information leak



# Enforcing sensitivity

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- All mapper invocations must be **independent**
- Mapper may not store an input and use it later when processing another input
  - ▣ Otherwise, range-based sensitivity estimates may be incorrect
- We modify JVM to enforce mapper independence
  - ▣ Each object is assigned an invocation number
  - ▣ JVM instrumentation prevents reuse of objects from previous invocation

# Roadmap. One last time

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- What is the programming model?

**Untrusted mapper + Trusted reducer**

- How do we enforce privacy?

- Leaks through system resources
- Leaks through the output

**MAC**

**Differential Privacy**

- What computations can be supported in Airavat?

# What can we compute?

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- Reducers are responsible for enforcing privacy
  - Add an appropriate amount of random noise to the outputs
- Reducers must be trusted
  - Sample reducers: SUM, COUNT, THRESHOLD
  - Sufficient to perform **data mining algorithms, search log processing, recommender system** etc.
- With trusted mappers, more general computations are possible
  - Use exact sensitivity instead of range based estimates

# Sample computations

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- Many queries can be done with untrusted mappers
  - How many iPads were sold today? ← **Sum**
  - What is the average score of male students at UT? ← **Mean**
  - Output the frequency of security books that sold more than 25 copies today. ← **Threshold**
- ... others require trusted mapper code
  - List all items and their quantity sold

Malicious mapper can encode information in item names

# Revisiting Airavat guarantees

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- Allows differentially private MapReduce computations
  - Even when the code is **untrusted**
- Differential privacy => mathematical bound on information leak
- What is a safe bound on information leak ?
  - Depends on the context, dataset
  - **Not our problem**

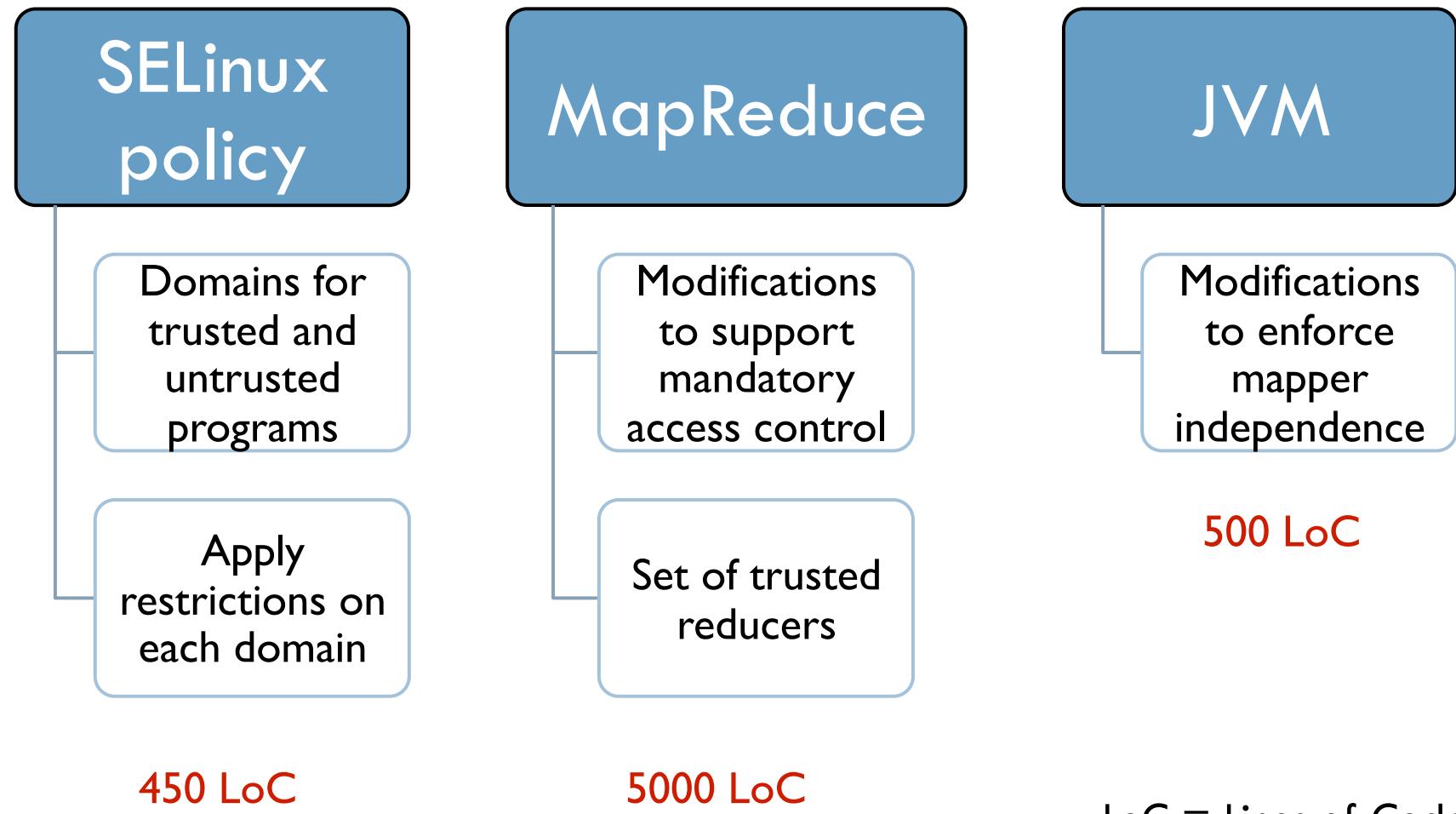
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# Implementation details

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# Evaluation : Our benchmarks

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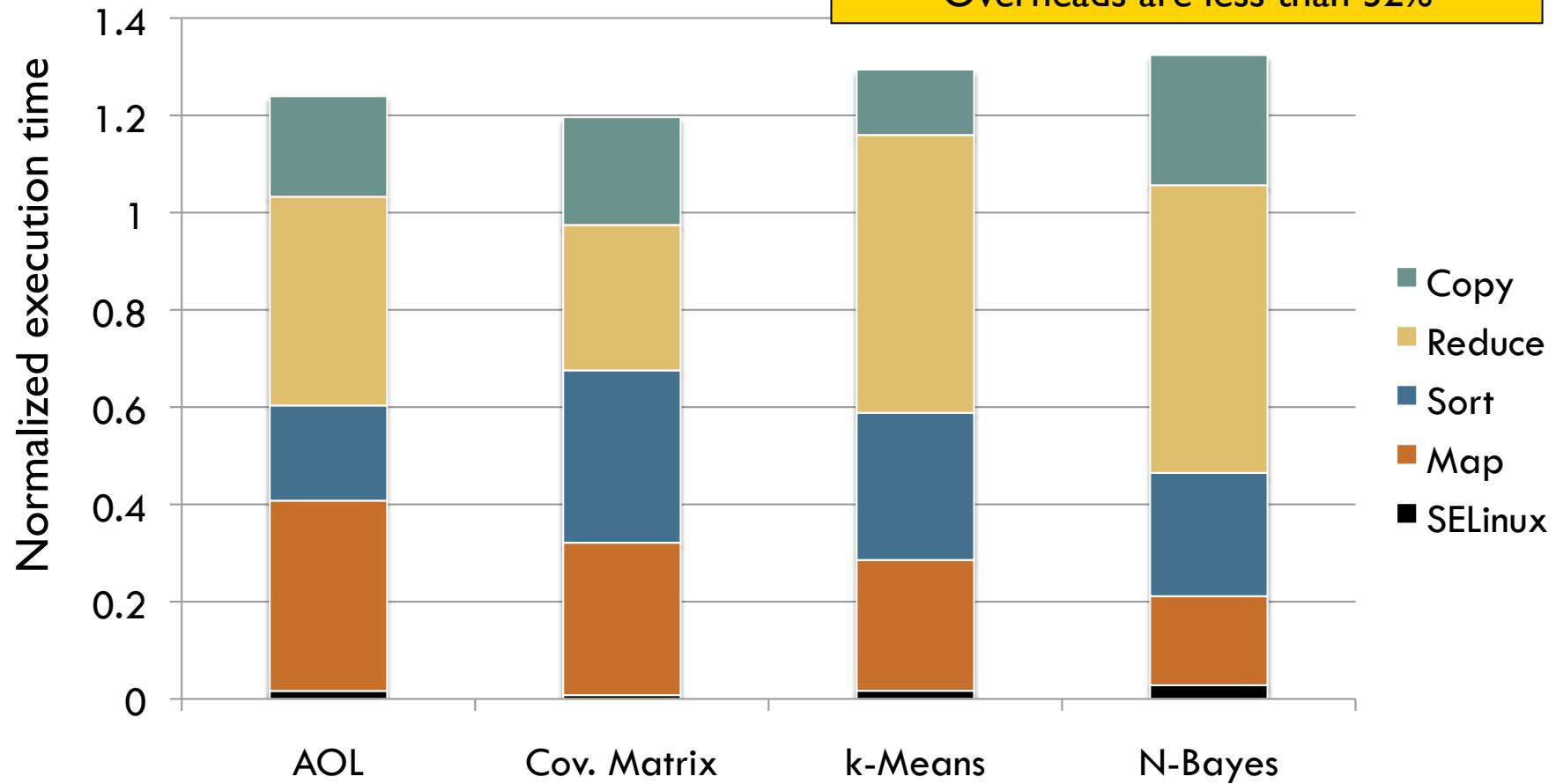
- Experiments on 100 Amazon EC2 instances
  - 1.2 GHz, 7.5 GB RAM running Fedora 8

Benchmark	Privacy grouping	Reducer primitive	MapReduce operations	Accuracy metric
AOL queries	Users	THRESHOLD, SUM	Multiple	% queries released
kNN recommender	Individual rating	COUNT, SUM	Multiple	RMSE
K-Means	Individual points	COUNT, SUM	Multiple, till convergence	Intra-cluster variance
Naïve Bayes	Individual articles	SUM	Multiple	Misclassification rate

# Performance overhead

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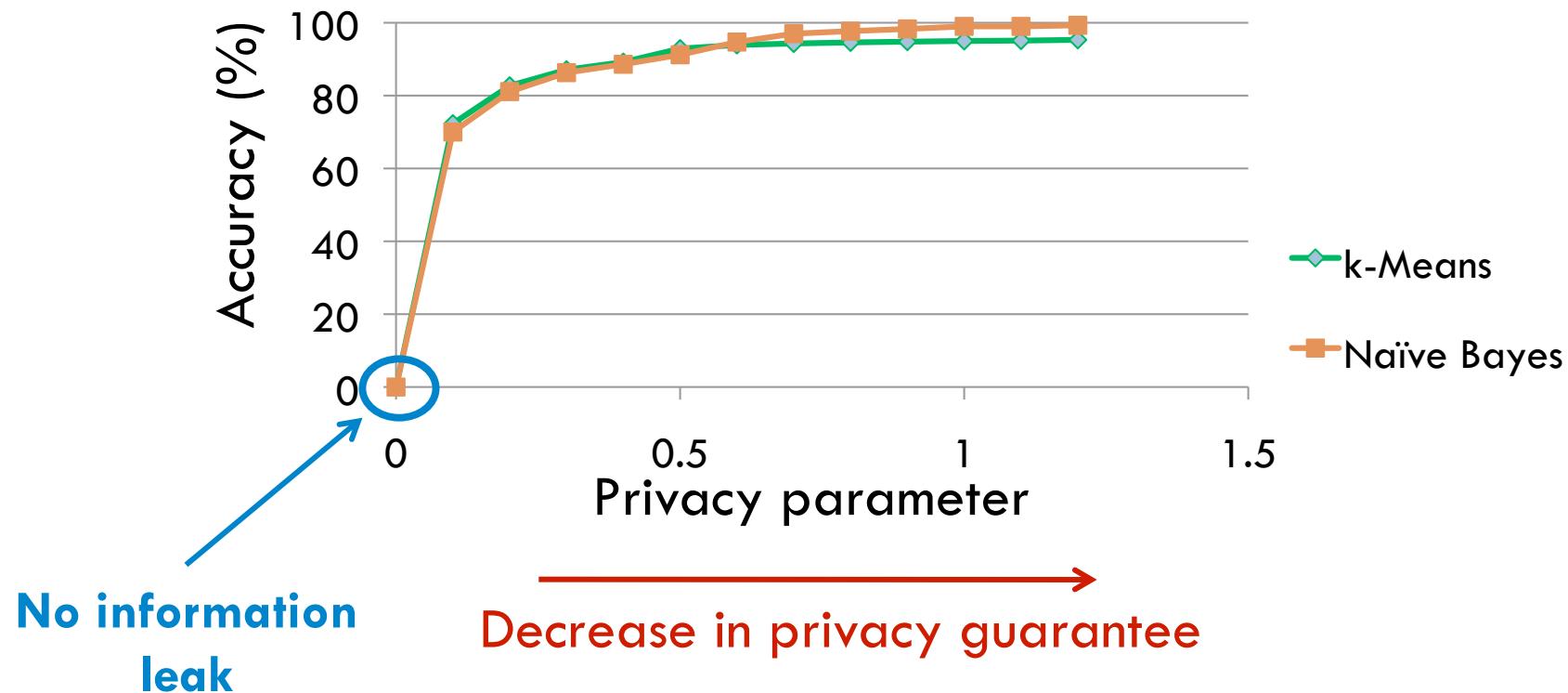
Overheads are less than 32%



# Evaluation: accuracy

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- Accuracy increases with decrease in privacy guarantee
- Reducer : COUNT, SUM



\*Refer to the paper for remaining benchmark results

# Related work: PINQ

[McSherry SIGMOD 2009]

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- Set of trusted LINQ primitives
- Airavat confines **untrusted** code and ensures that its outputs preserve privacy
  - PINQ requires rewriting code with trusted primitives
- Airavat provides **end-to-end** guarantee across the software stack
  - PINQ guarantees are language level

# Airavat in brief

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- Airavat is a framework for privacy preserving MapReduce computations
- Confines untrusted code
- First to integrate mandatory access control with differential privacy for end-to-end enforcement



# Thank you

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- Airavat is a framework for privacy preserving MapReduce computations
- Confines untrusted code
- First to integrate mandatory access control with differential privacy for end-to-end enforcement

