



black hat[®]

USA 2019

AUGUST 3-8, 2019
MANDALAY BAY / LAS VEGAS



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BREAKING ENCRYPTED DATABASES: GENERIC ATTACKS ON RANGE QUERIES





Marie-Sarah Lacharité

Royal Holloway, University of London
and NCC Group

About Me



Motivation: Data Breaches

Entity	Type	Number of Records
 <i>First American</i>	Finance	885,000,000
facebook	Social network apps	540,000,000
truecaller	Telephone directory	300,000,000
 <i>Capital One</i>	Finance	106,000,000
 Quest Diagnostics™	Clinical laboratory	11,900,000
 Desjardins	Finance	2,900,000

‘;--have
i been
pwned?

Motivation: Data Breaches

Healthcare IT News

Walgreens company announces data breach

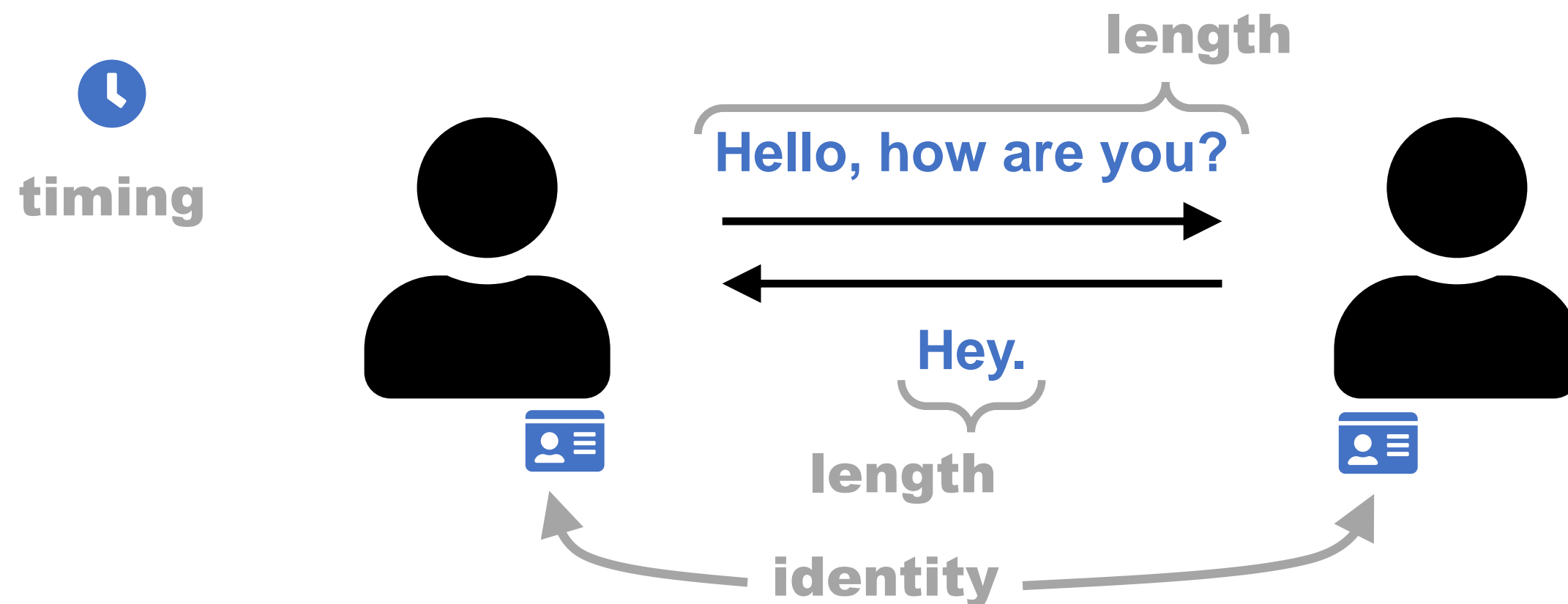
According to the letter, **an unknown person or persons broke into** Crescent's billing center and **stole the hardware**, which may have contained **patient names, addresses, phone numbers, Social Security numbers, health insurance data, dates of birth and clinical diagnoses**. The group notified authorities three days later.

WSJ CYBERSECURITY

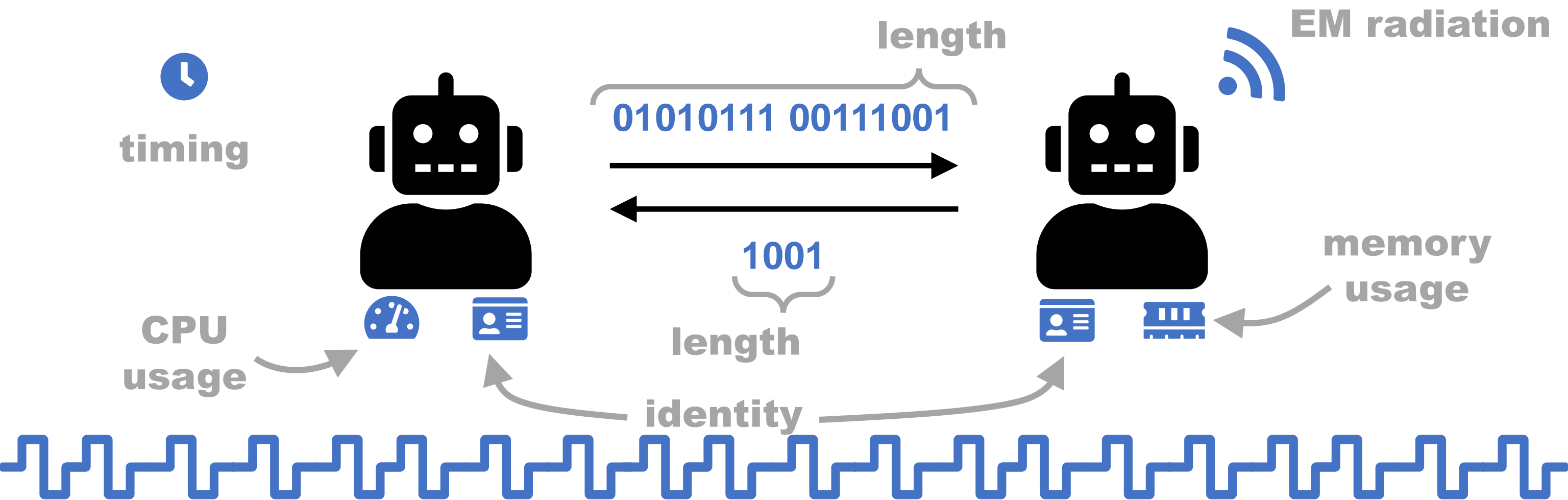
Capital One Breach Highlights Shortfalls of Encryption

Capital One said in a statement this week that **it uses encryption “as a standard,” but the method used by the hacker “enabled the decrypting of data.”** The bank didn't respond to questions about its encryption practices.

Side Channel Attacks



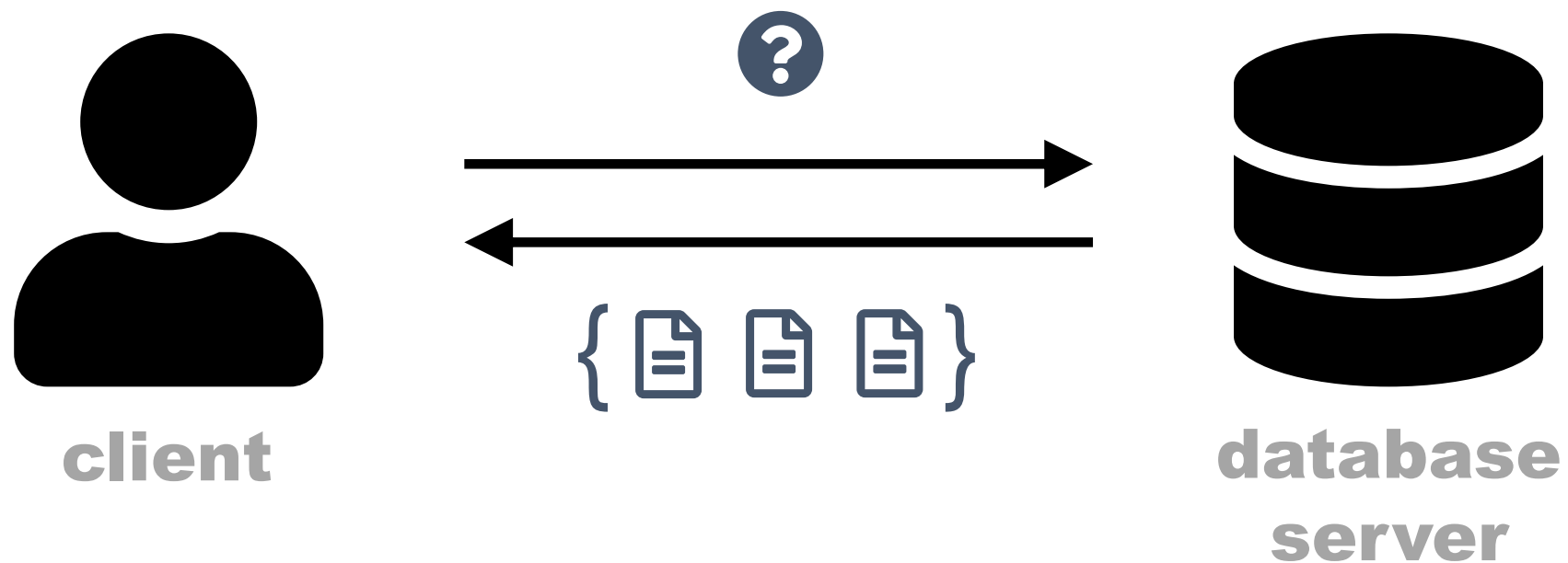
Side Channel Attacks



Side Channel Attacks

- SSH keystroke recovery from **timing** information
[Song et al., USENIX 2001]
- Video stream identification from **traffic burst** analysis
[Schuster et al., USENIX 2017]
- Message decryption from **padding validity** checks
[Bleichenbacher, CRYPTO 1998]

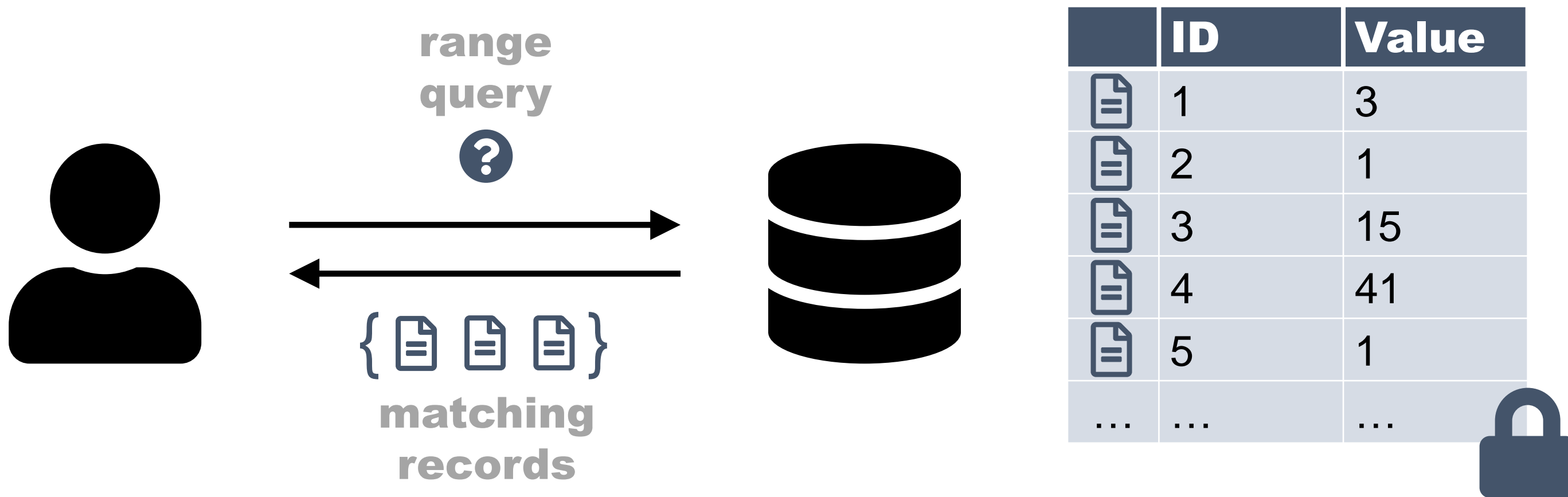
Encrypted Database Attacks



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...








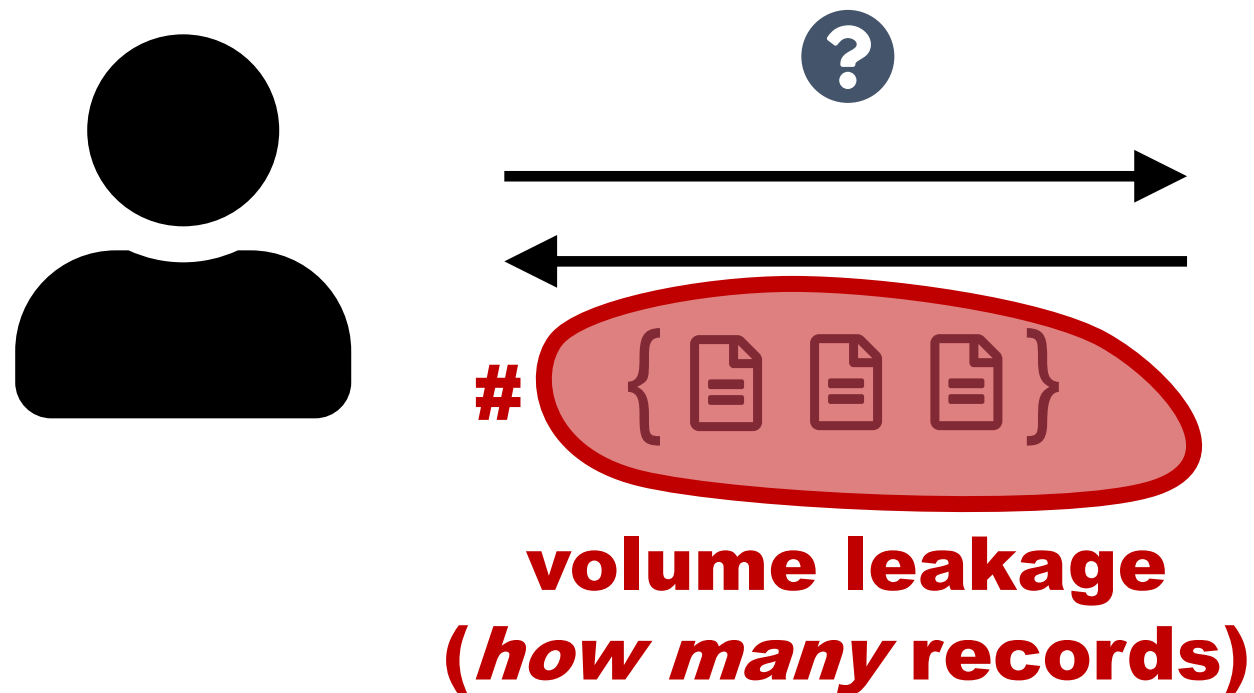
Encrypted Database Attacks



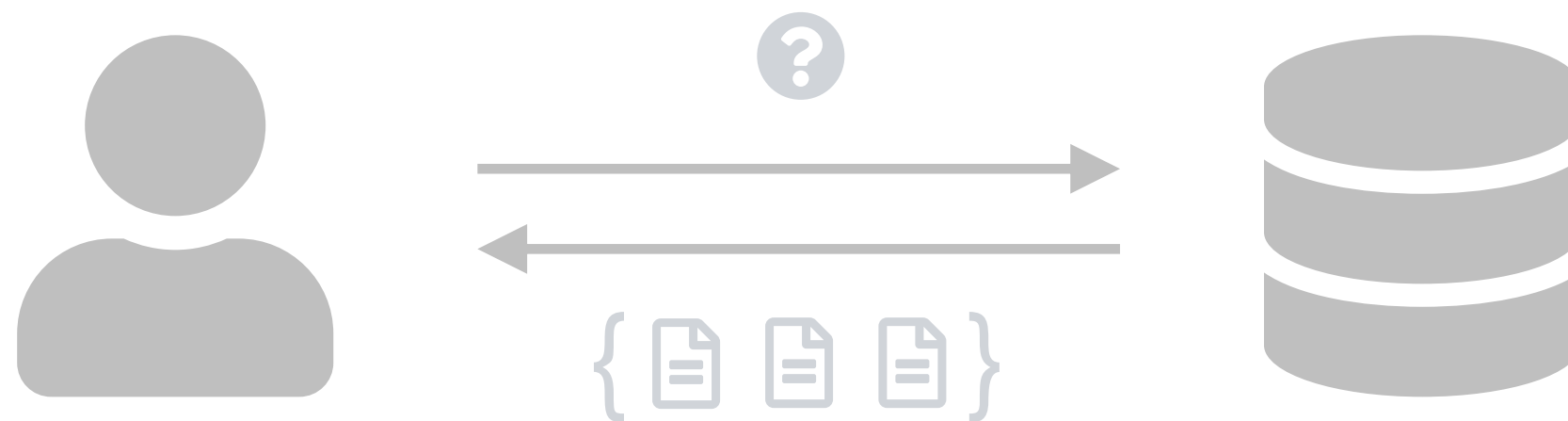
Encrypted Database Attacks

access pattern leakage
(*which* records)

	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...



Encrypted Database Attacks



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...



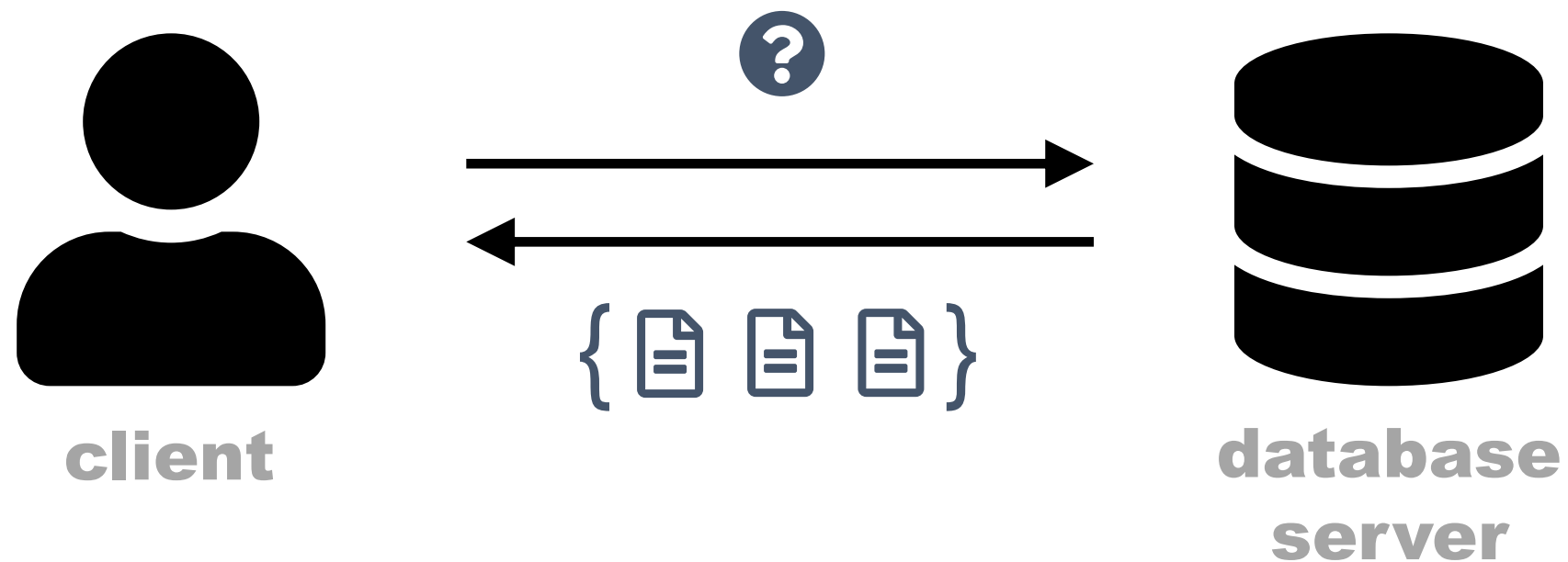
Outline

1. Existing approaches to securing a database
 - Securing data in transit, at rest, and in use
2. How to exploit leakage to break database encryption
 - Exploiting access pattern leakage and volume leakage
3. Security recommendations
 - Types of leakage, leaky operations, trade-offs

Outline

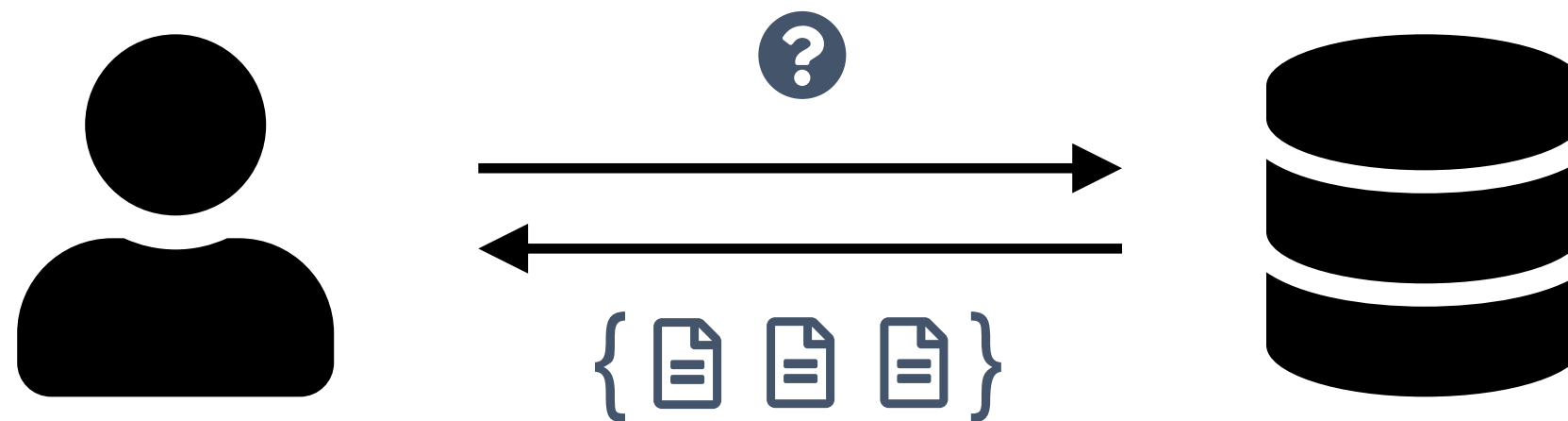
1. Existing approaches to securing a database
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Model



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

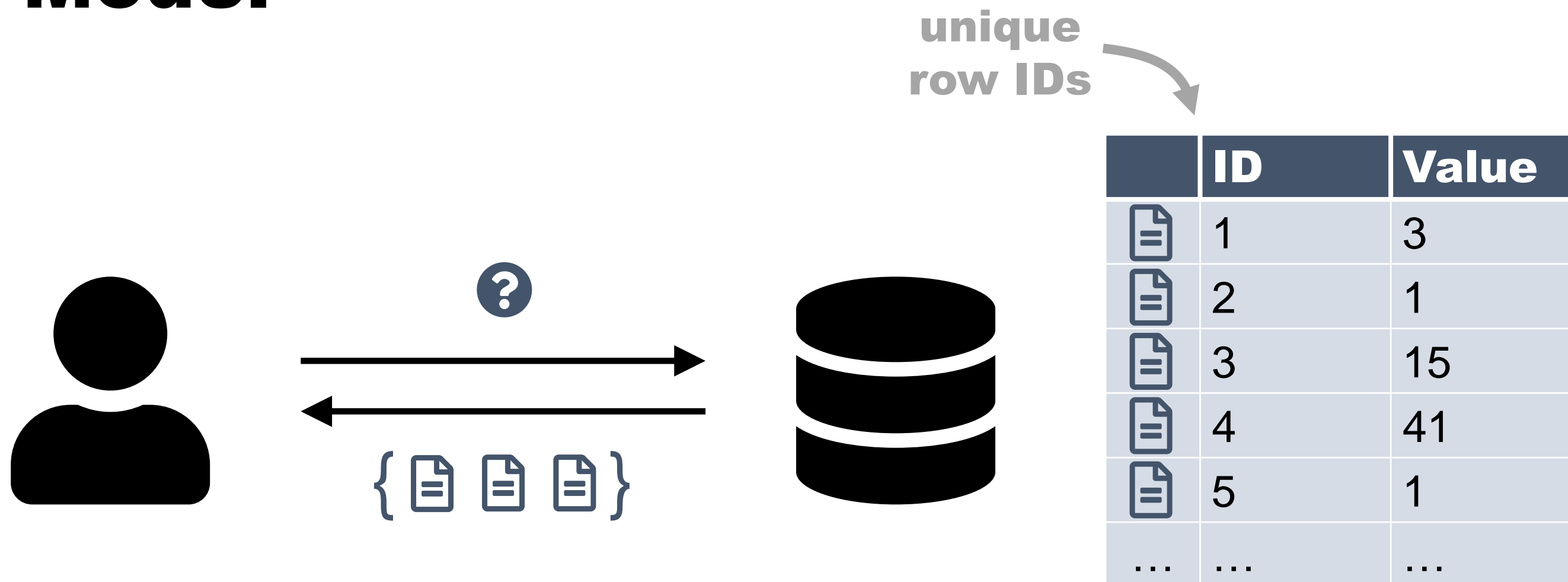
Model



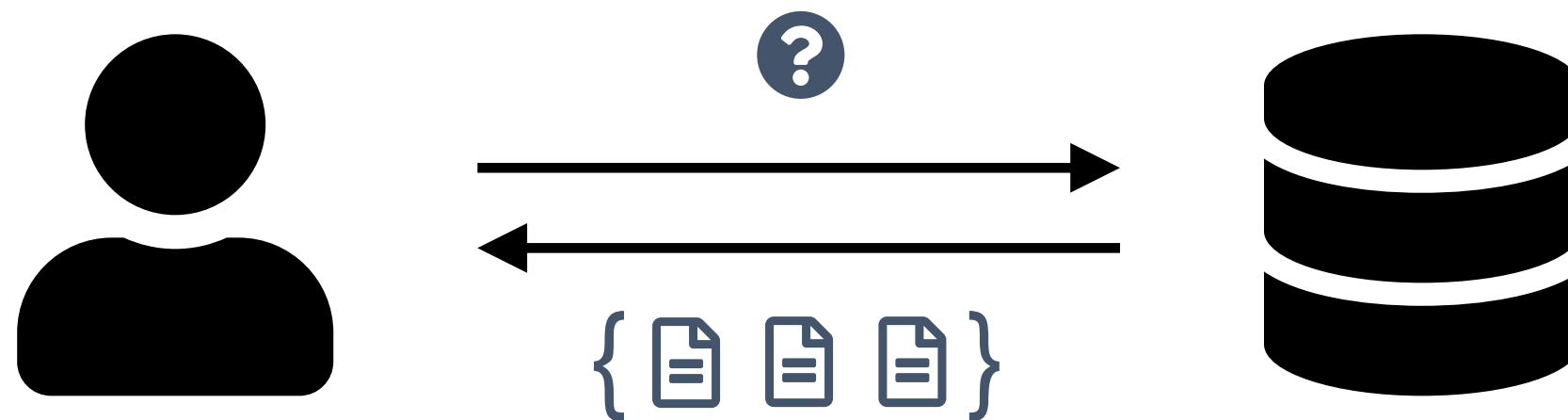
	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

**database
table**

Model



Model

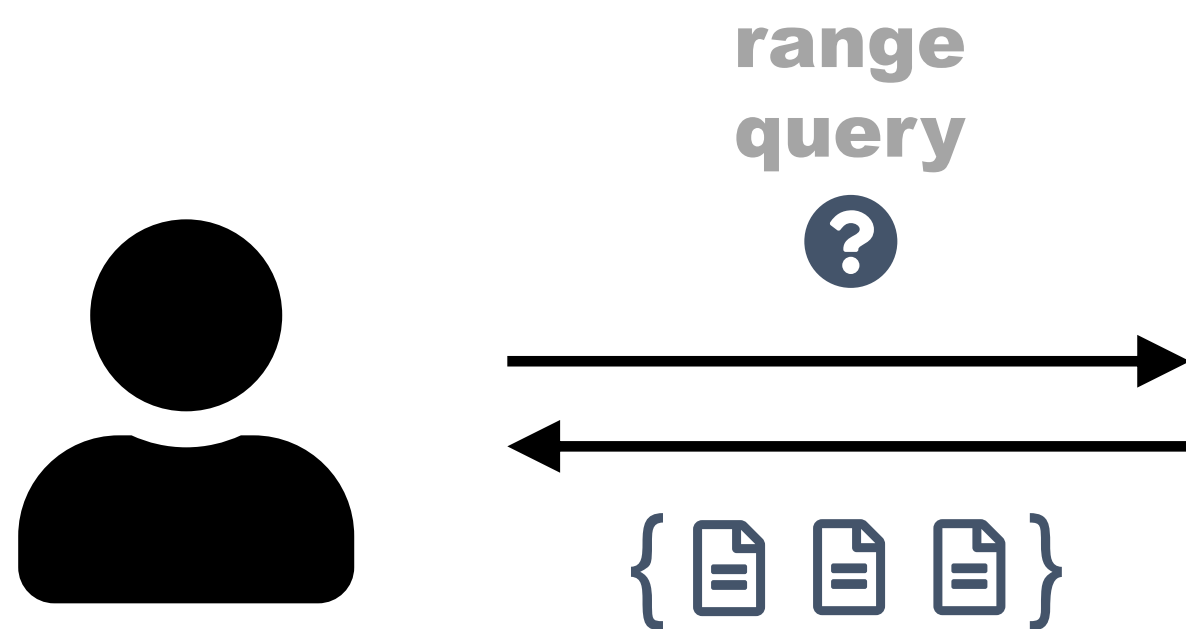


numbers in
 $\{1, \dots, N\}$



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

Model



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

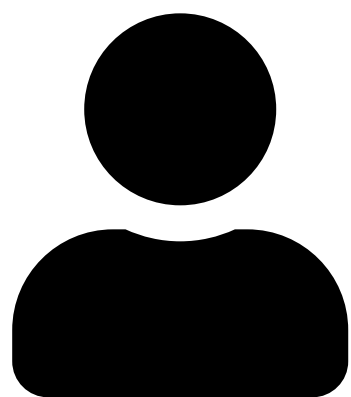
Model

```
SELECT * FROM table  
WHERE Value BETWEEN X AND Y;
```

range
query

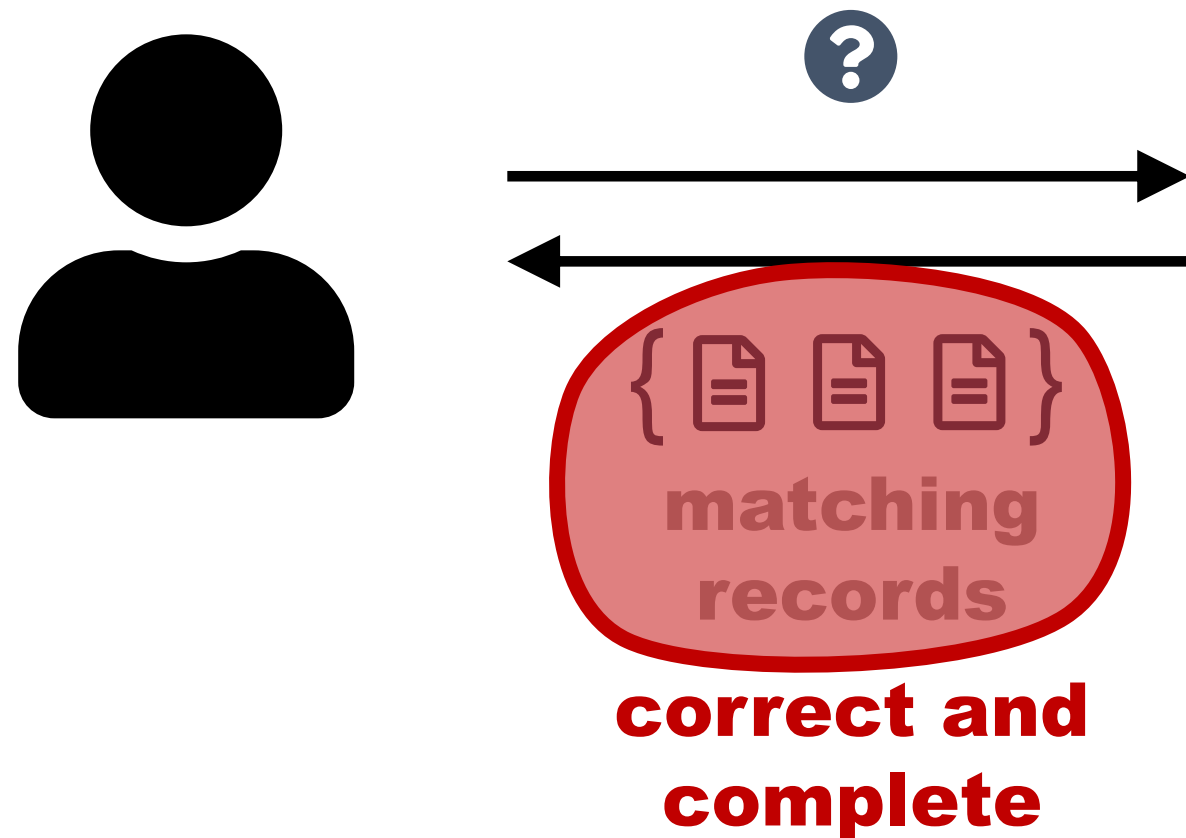
e.g.

?



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

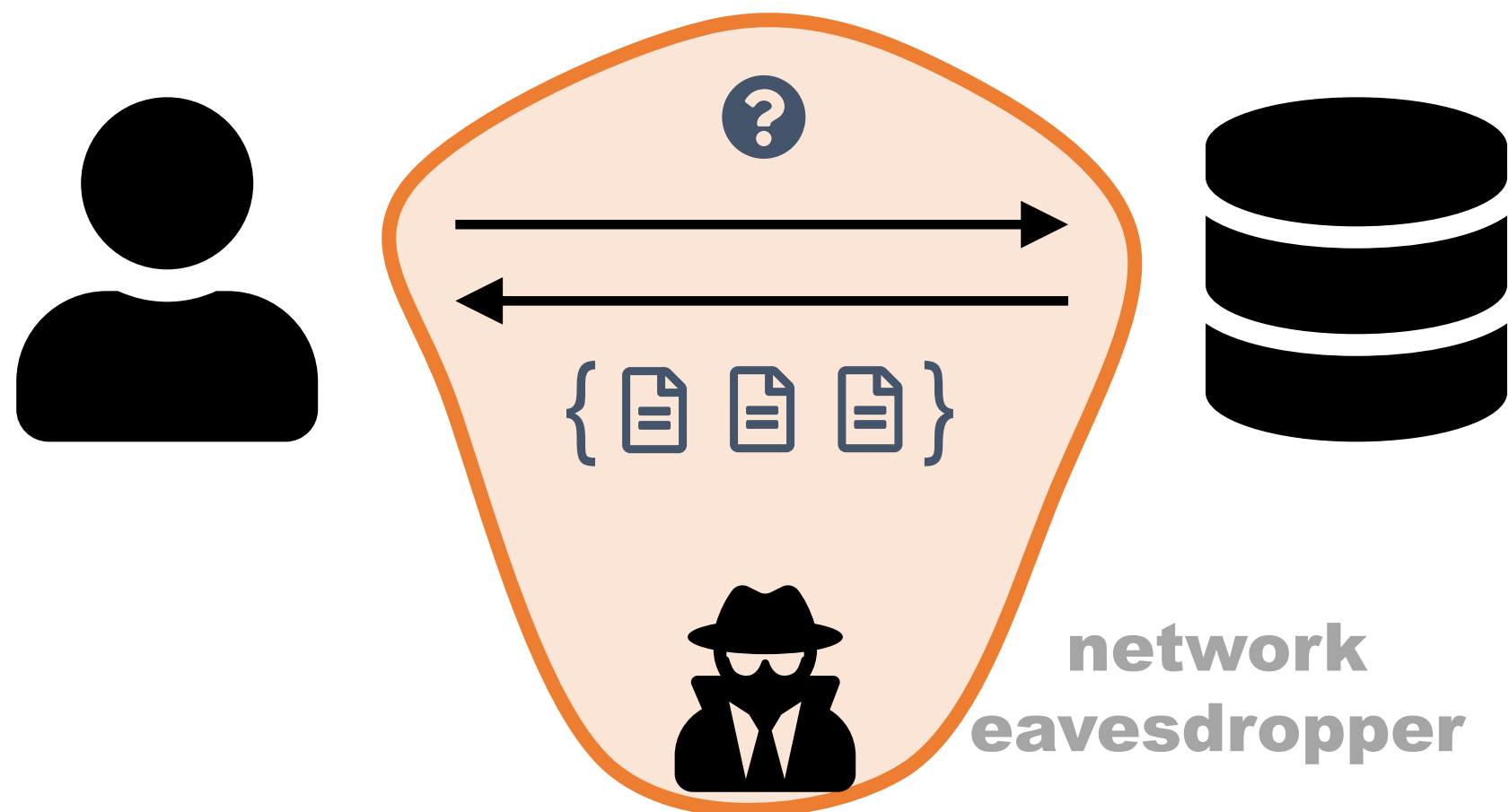
Model








numbers in $\{1, \dots, N\}$

	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

Encrypting Data in Transit



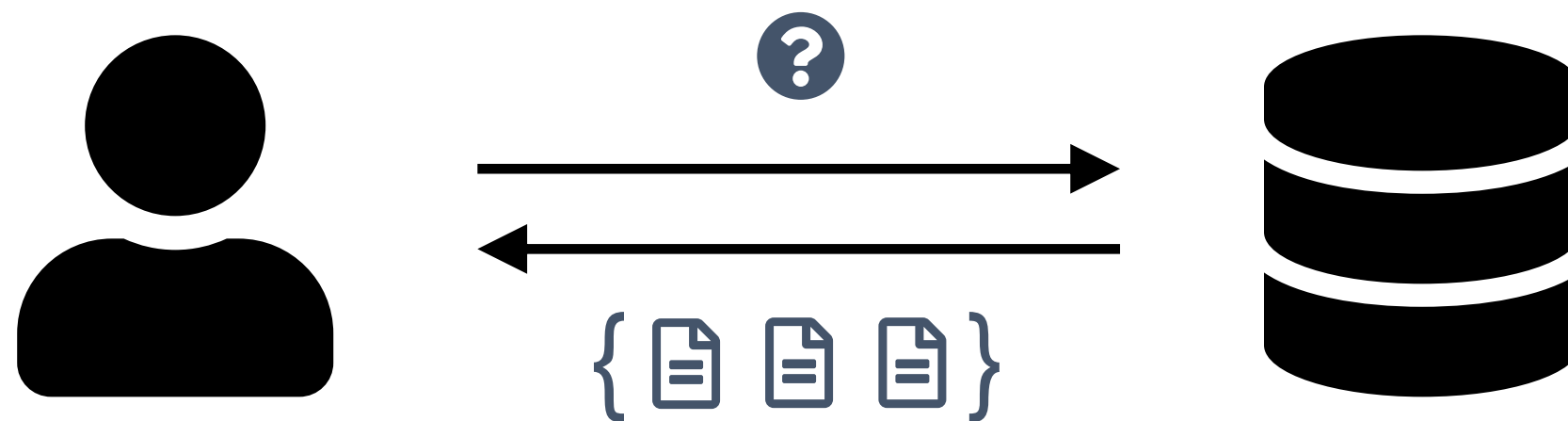
	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

Encrypting Data in Transit









	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

Encrypting Data at Rest

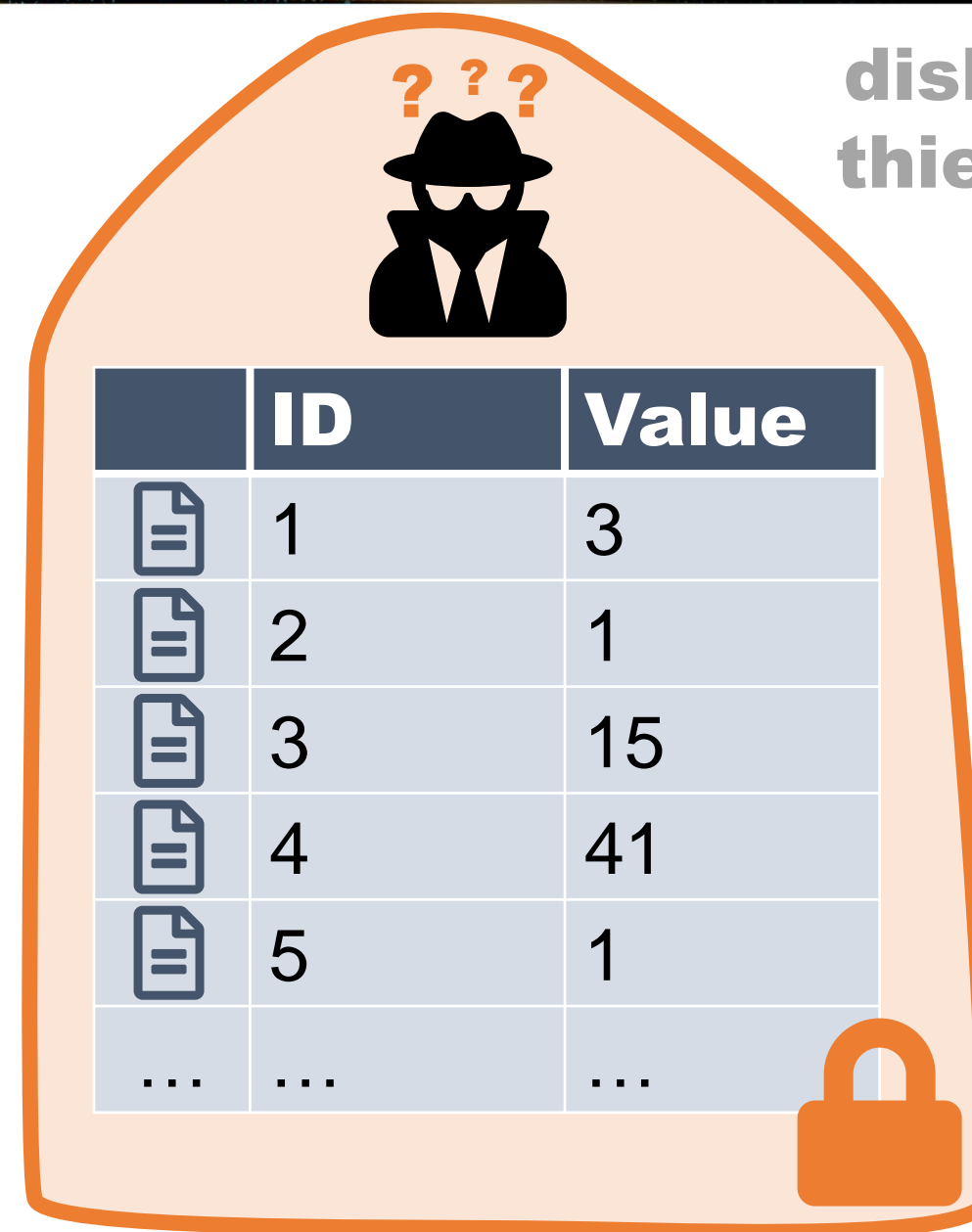


disk thief

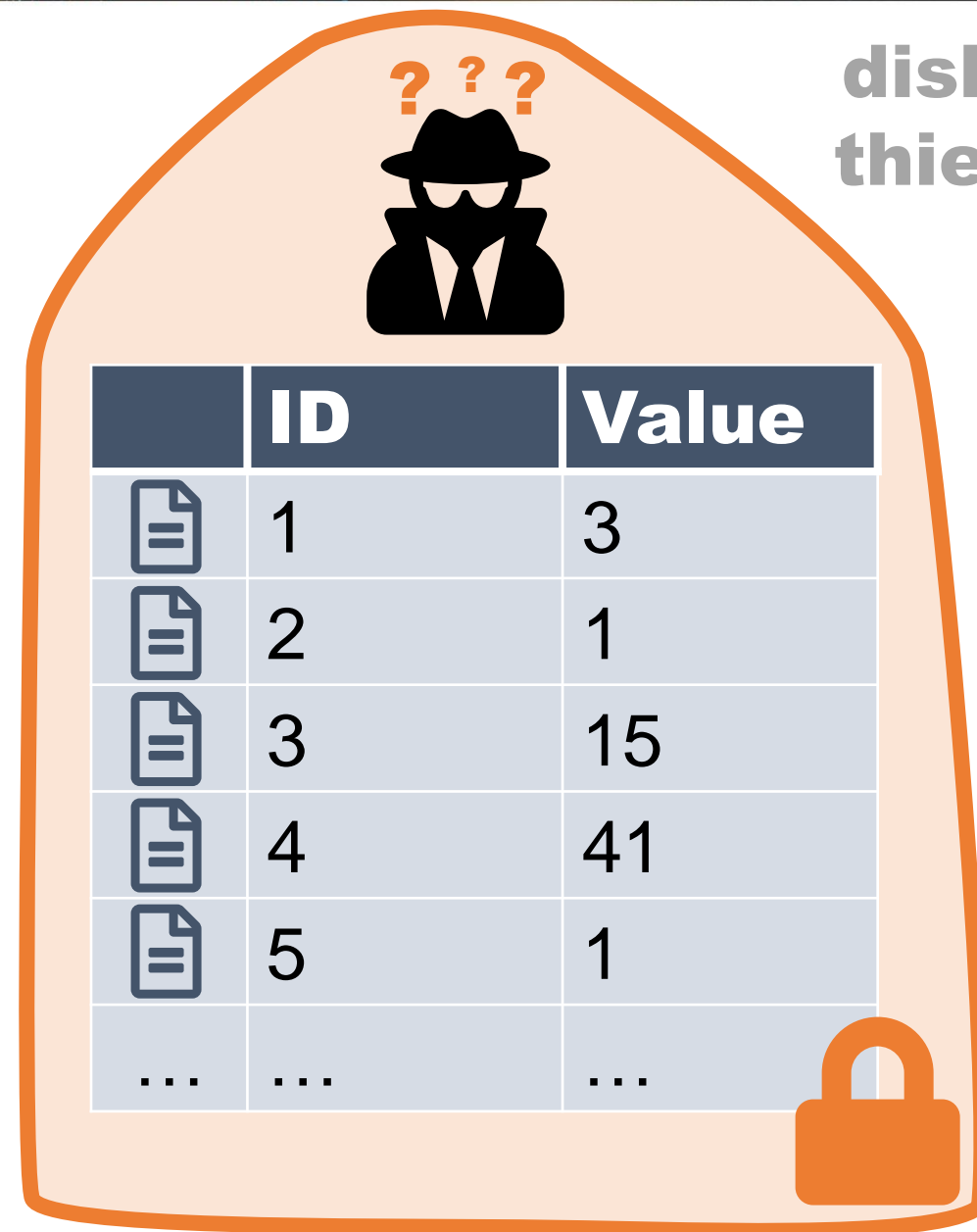


	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

Encrypting Data at Rest

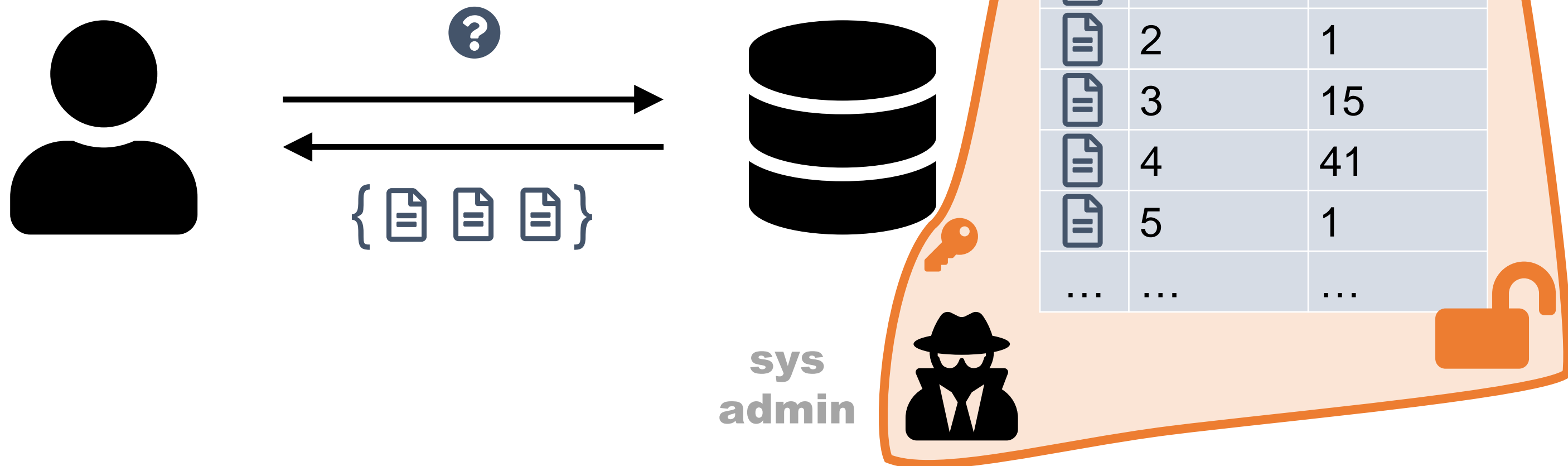


Encrypting Data at Rest

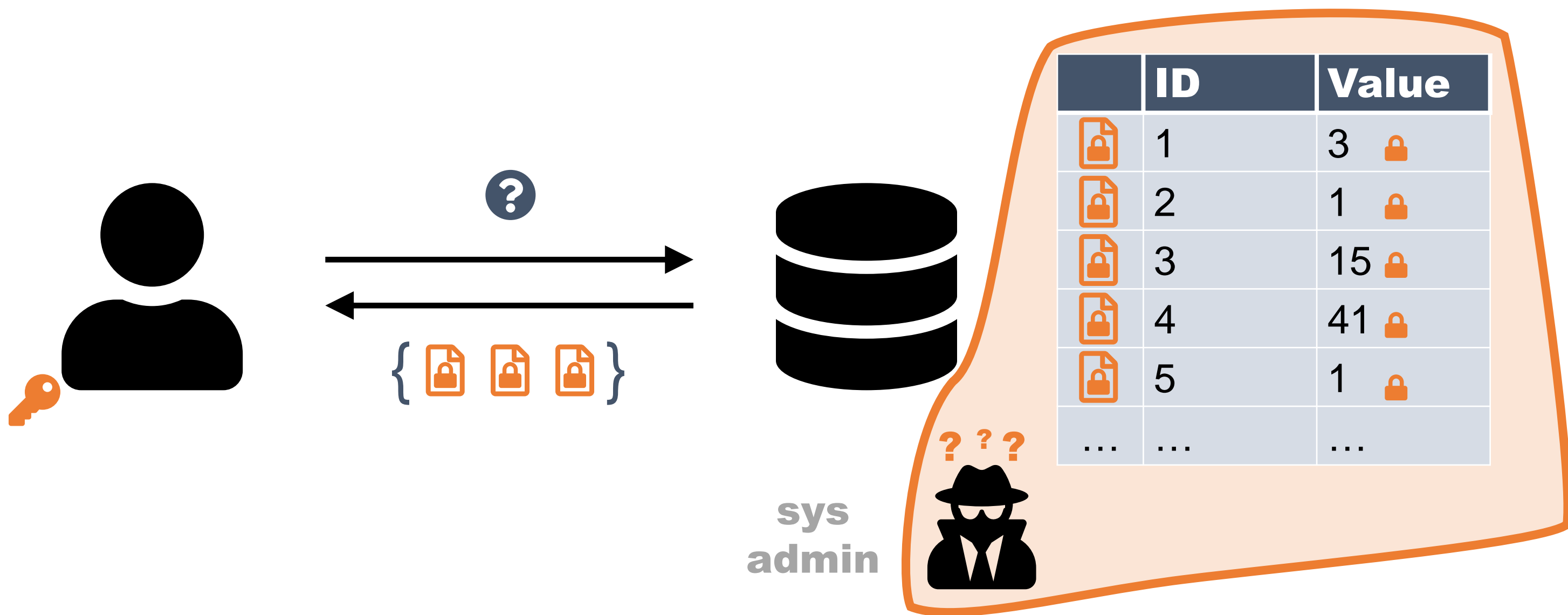


disk
thief

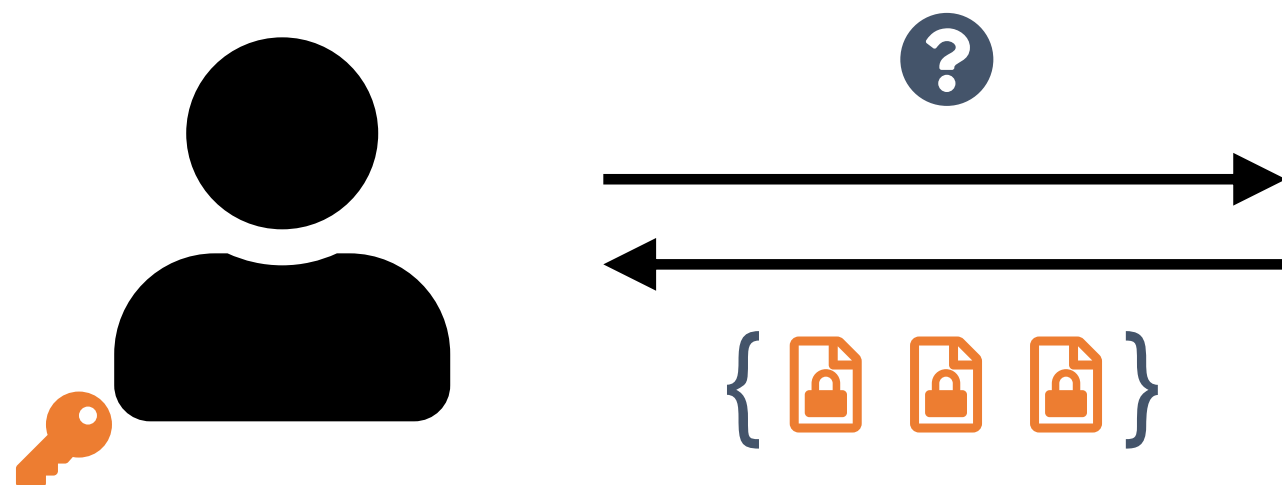
Encrypting Data at Rest



Encrypting Data Client-side



Encrypting Data Client-side



sys
admin

	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...



Encrypting Data Client-side

PLAINTEXT

ID	Value
1	3
2	1
3	15
4	41
5	1
...	...

DETERMINISTIC ENCRYPTION

ID	Value
1	0x18fa83
2	0x5449a1
3	0x8b7630
4	0x10cae8
5	0x5449a1
...	...

RANDOMIZED ENCRYPTION

ID	Value
1	0x5239fb
2	0x8e9d98
3	0x5a9f2e
4	0x4ff8e1
5	0xe89cfb
...	...

Encrypting Data Client-side

PLAINTEXT

ID	Value
1	3
2	1
3	15
4	41
5	1
...	...

DETERMINISTIC ENCRYPTION

ID	Value
1	0x18fa83
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4	0x10cae8
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...	...

=

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...	...

Encrypting Data Client-side

DETERMINISTIC ENCRYPTION

ID	Value
1	0x18fa83
2	0x5449a1
3	0x8b7630
4	0x10cae8
5	0x5449a1
...	...

- Range queries are possible:
... WHERE Value BETWEEN 1 AND 3
becomes
... WHERE Value IN
(Enc(1) , Enc(2) , Enc(3))
- Revealing repeated values is dangerous
[Naveed et al., CCS 2015]

Encrypting Data Client-side

PLAINTEXT

ID	Value
1	3
2	1
3	15
4	41
5	1
...	...

DETERMINISTIC ENCRYPTION

ID	Value
1	0x18fa83
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RANDOMIZED ENCRYPTION

ID	Value
1	0x5239fb
2	0x8e9d98
3	0x5a9f2e
4	0x4ff8e1
5	0xe89cfb
...	...

≠

range queries
impossible

Encrypting Data Client-side

PLAINTEXT

ID	Value
1	3
2	1
3	15
4	41
5	1
...	...

$1 < 15$

ORDER-PRESERVING ENCRYPTION

ID	Value
1	182
2	84
3	2307
4	8932
5	84
...	...

$84 < 2307$

[Agrawal et al., SIGMOD 2004],
[Boldyreva et al., EUROCRYPT 2009]

Encrypting Data Client-side

- "Ideal" OPE leaks approximate value and distance
[Boldyreva et al., CRYPTO 2011]
- Revealing repeated values is even more dangerous
[Naveed et al., CCS 2015]
[Grubbs et al., S&P 2017]

ORDER-PRESERVING ENCRYPTION

ID	Value
1	182
2	84
3	2307
4	8932
5	84
...	...

Encrypting Data Client-side

- Order-Revealing Encryption (ORE)

[Chenette et al., FSE 2016],
[Lewi and Wu, CCS 2016]

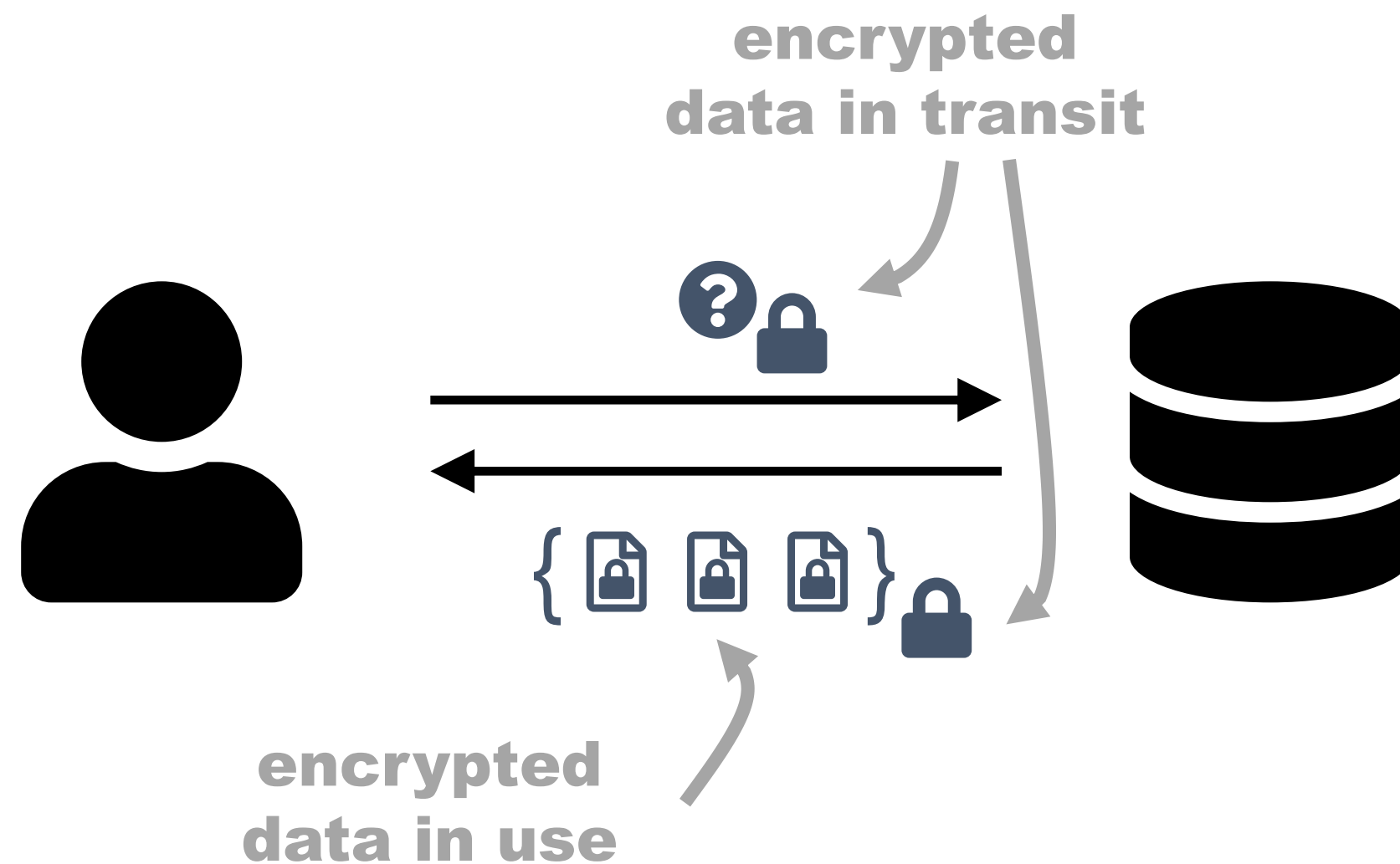
- Partial Order-Preserving Encoding

[Roche et al., CCS 2016]

- Custom search indices

[Boelter et al., eprint 2016/568]

Encrypting Everything



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...


encrypted
data at rest

Encrypting Everything

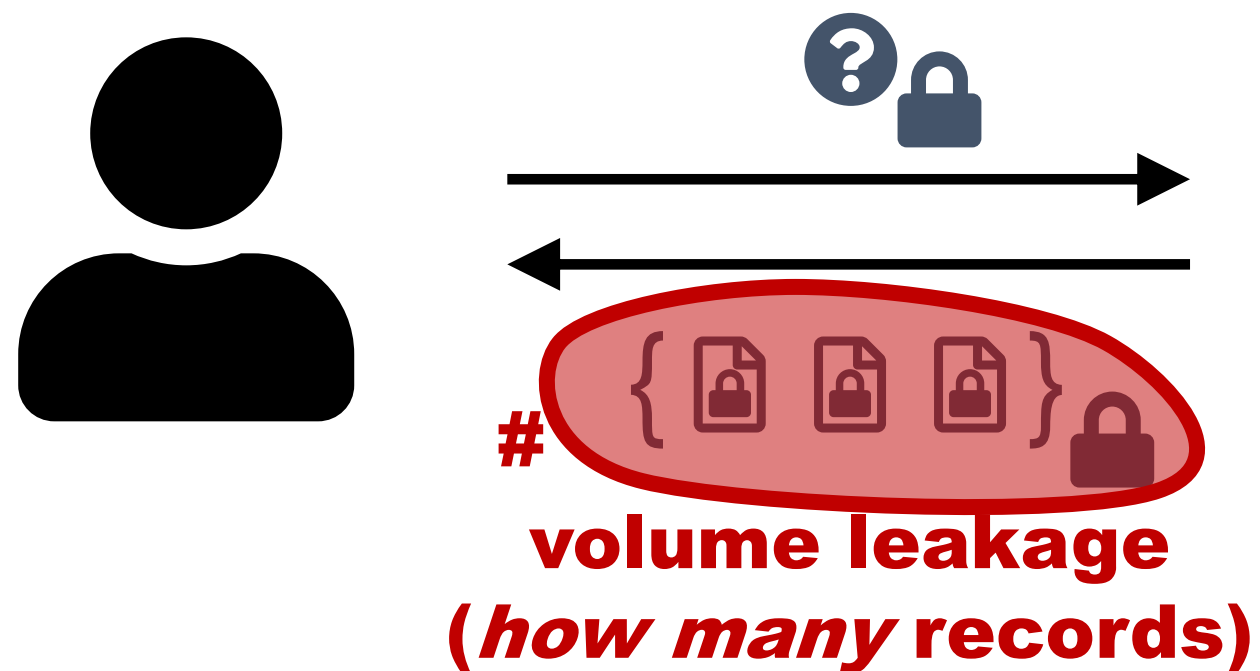
**access pattern leakage
(*which* records)**




	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...



Encrypting Everything



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...



Encrypting Everything



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

Encrypting Everything



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

[Grubbs et al., HotOS 2017]

Existing Approaches

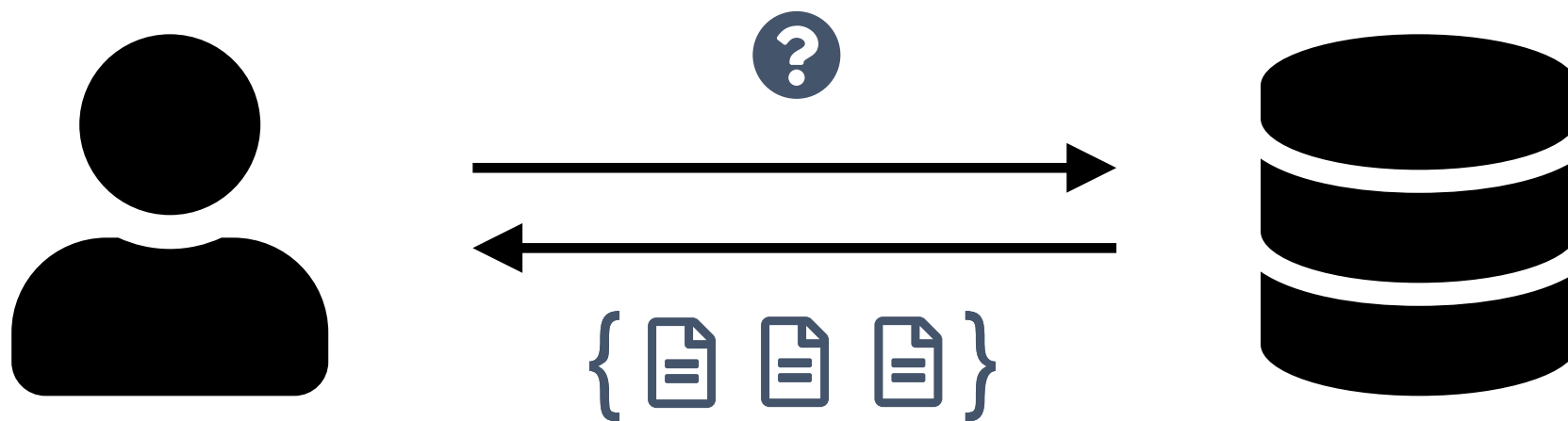
- No fixed definition of "encrypted database"
- Encryption mitigates threats (network, theft, server compromise)
- Despite these solutions, access pattern and volume can leak






Outline

1. Existing approaches to securing a database
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 - Exploiting access pattern leakage and volume leakage
3. Security recommendations
 - Types of leakage, leaky operations, trade-offs

Exploiting Access Pattern Leakage

```
SELECT * FROM table  
WHERE Value BETWEEN ? AND ?;
```



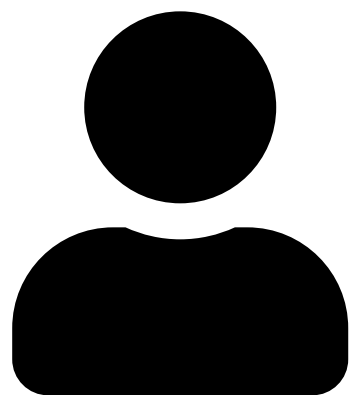
	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...



{ 1, 2, 5 }



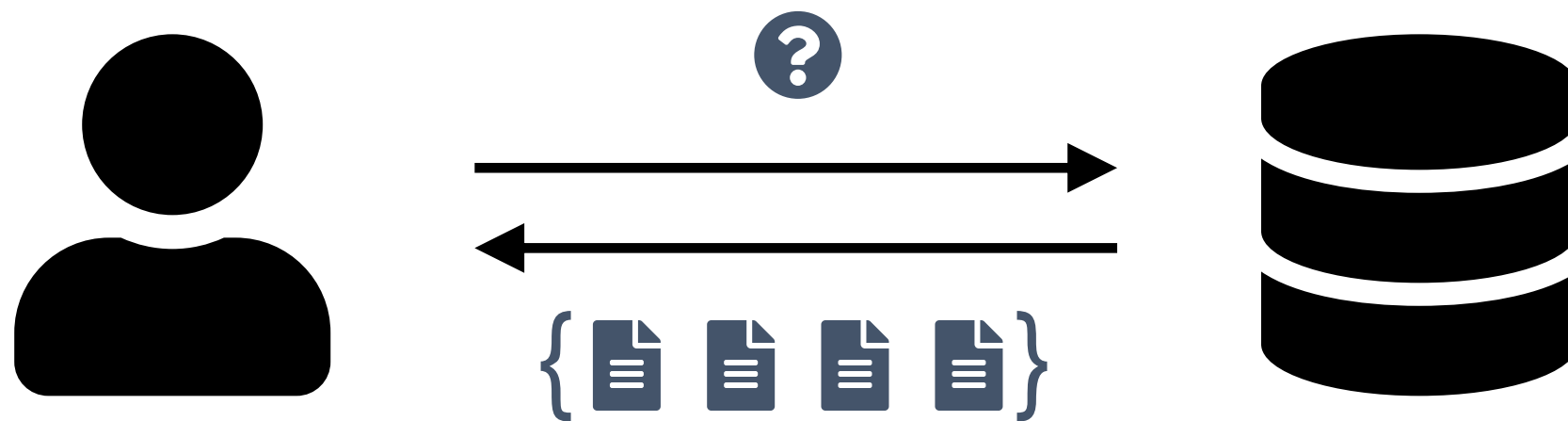
Example



	ID	Value
	1	0x5239fb
	2	0x8e9d98
	3	0x5a9f2e
	4	0x4ff8e1
	5	0xe89cfb
	6	0x4073d2
	7	0x2765be
	8	0x74090f
	9	0x5bae94
	10	0xae60da

Query 1

```
SELECT * FROM table  
WHERE Value BETWEEN ? AND ?;
```



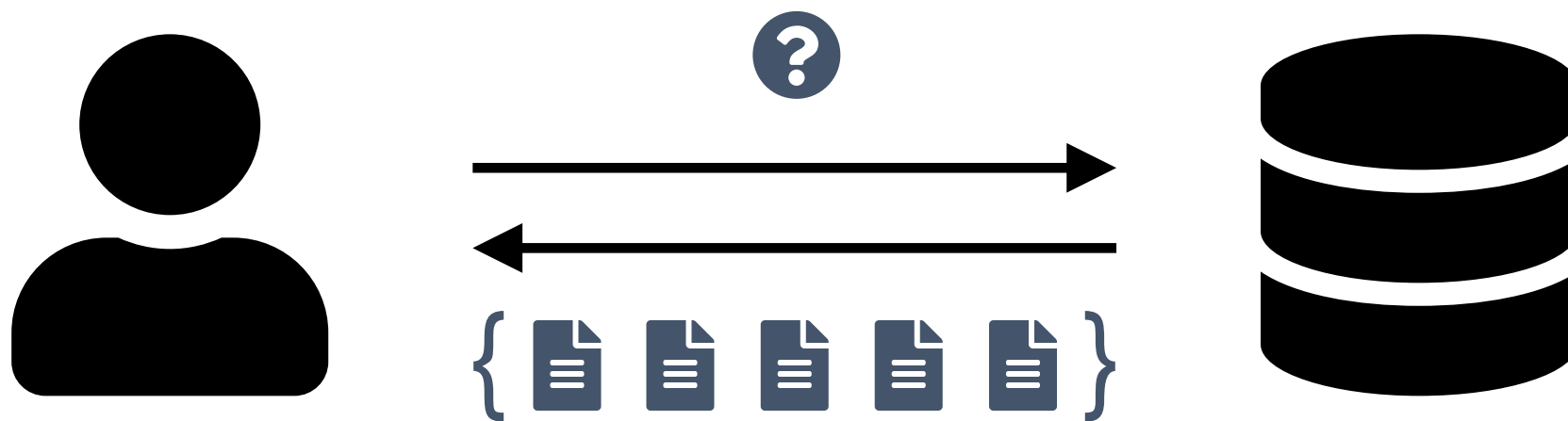
	ID	Value
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	4	0x4ff8e1
	5	0xe89cfb
	6	0x4073d2
	7	0x2765be
	8	0x74090f
	9	0x5bae94
	10	0xae60da



{2, 3, 5, 10}

Query 2

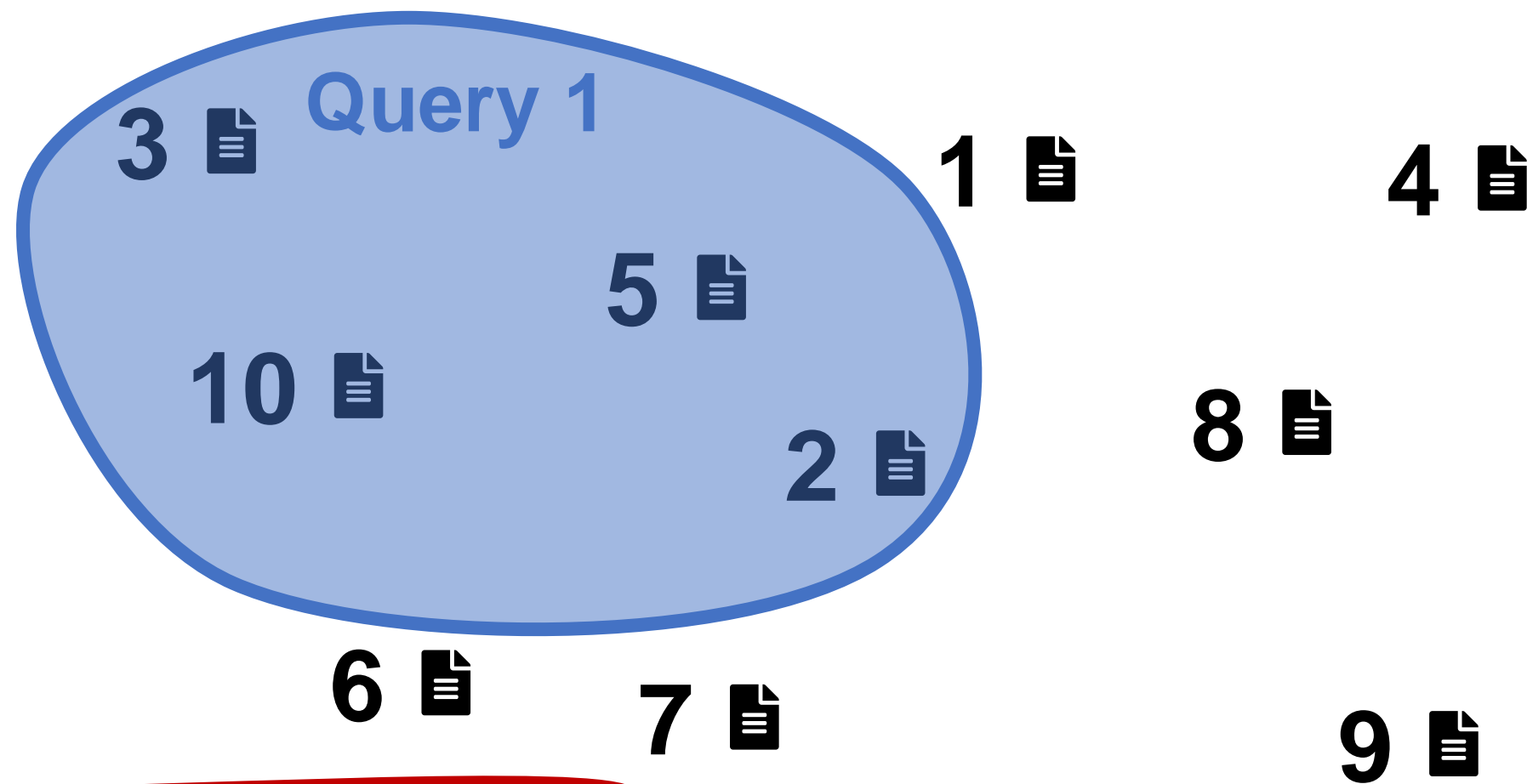
```
SELECT * FROM table  
WHERE Value BETWEEN ? AND ?;
```




	ID	Value
	1	0x5239fb
	2	0x8e9d98
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	4	0x4ff8e1
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	7	0x2765be
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	9	0x5bae94
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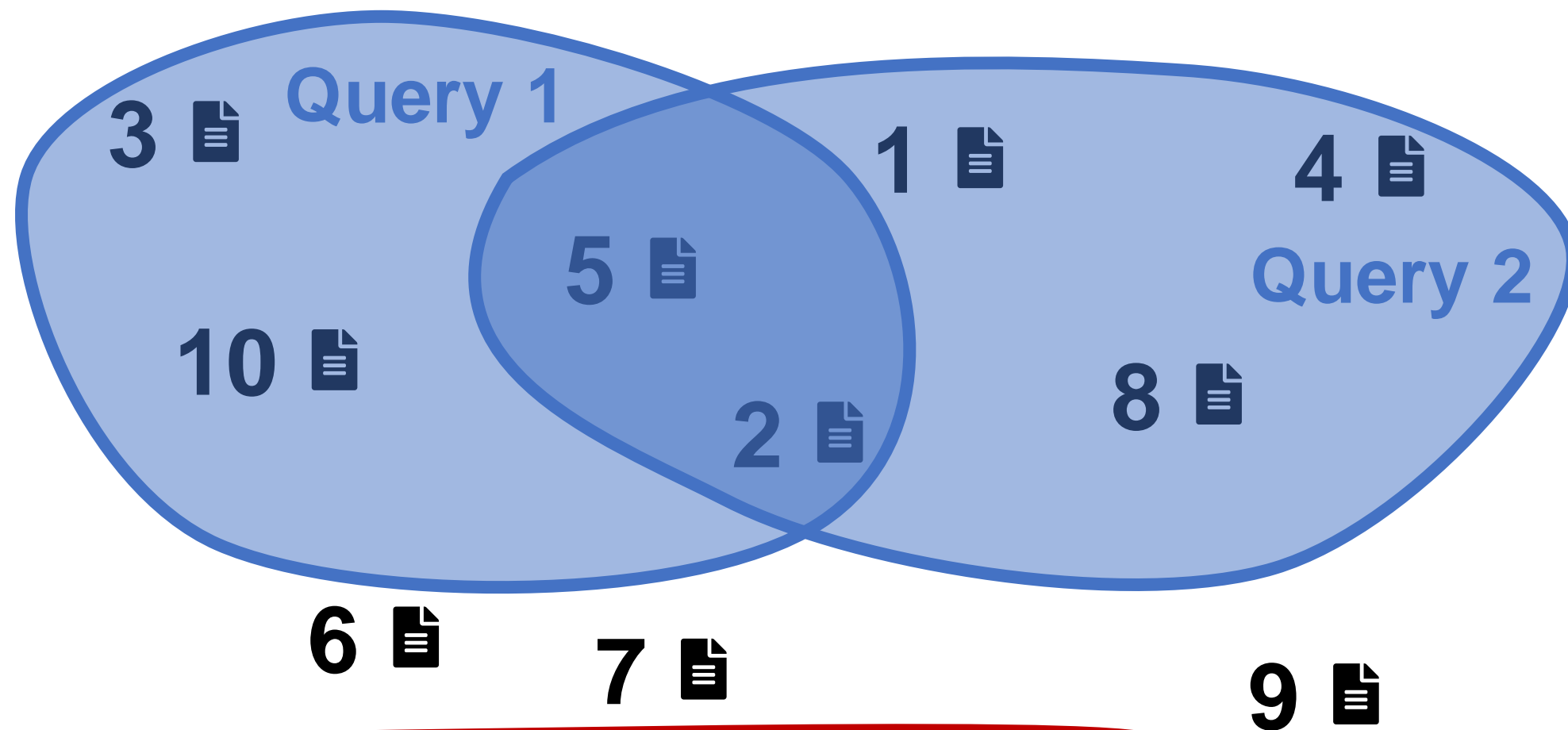


{2, 3, 5, 10}, {1, 2, 4, 5, 8}



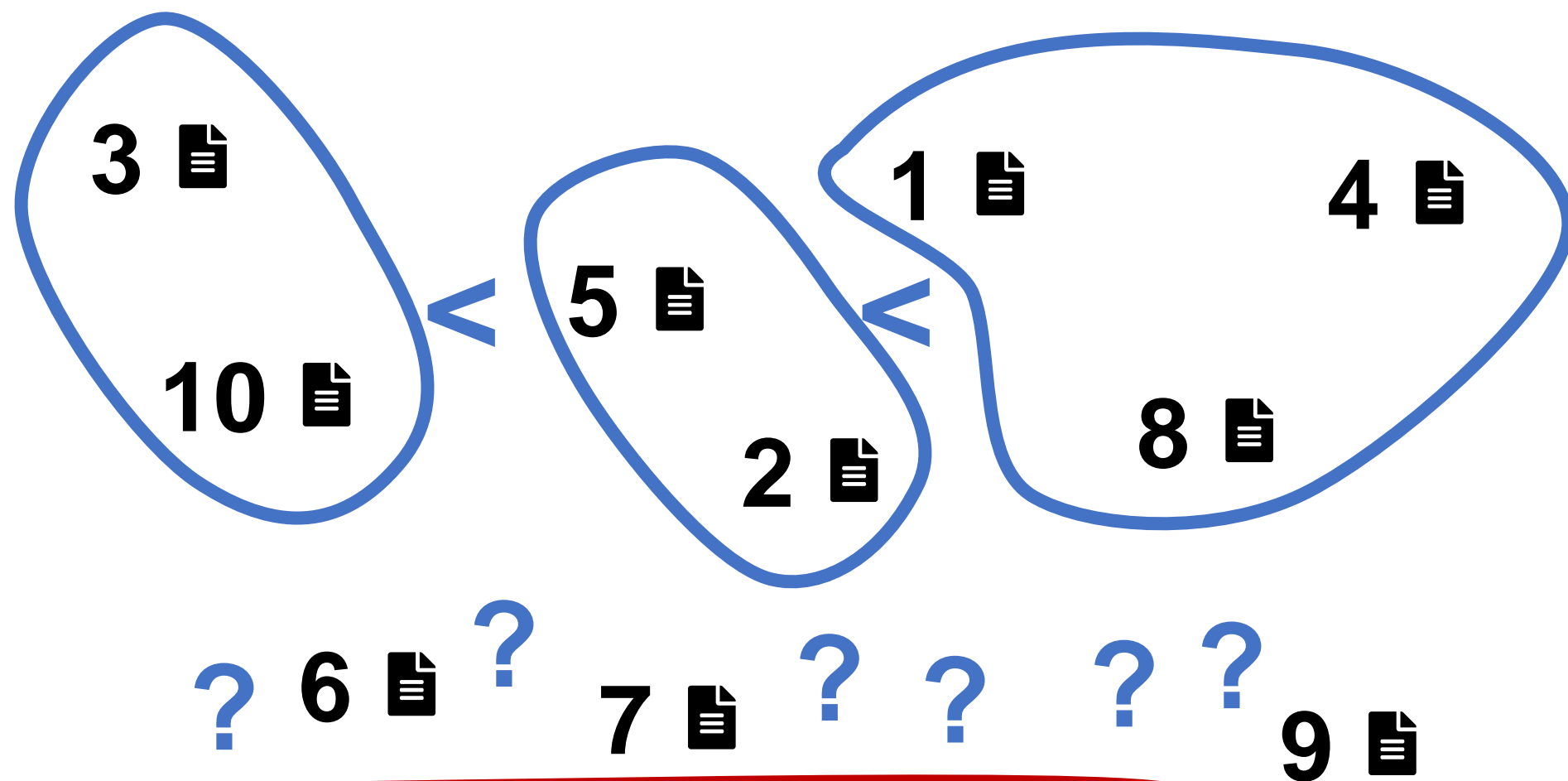
 {2, 3, 5, 10}

	ID	Value
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	5	0xe89cfb
	6	0x4073d2
	7	0x2765be
	8	0x74090f
	9	0x5bae94
	10	0xae60da



{2, 3, 5, 10}, {1, 2, 4, 5, 8}

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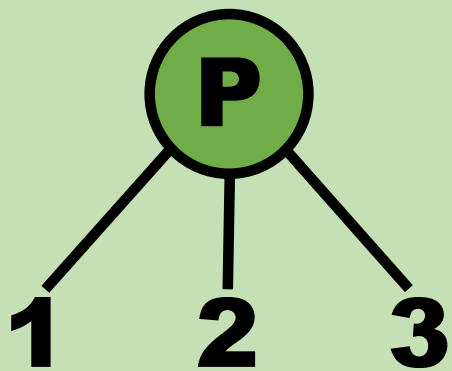


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	2	0x8e9d98
	3	0x5a9f2e
	4	0x4ff8e1
	5	0xe89cfb
	6	0x4073d2
	7	0x2765be
	8	0x74090f
	9	0x5bae94
	10	0xae60da



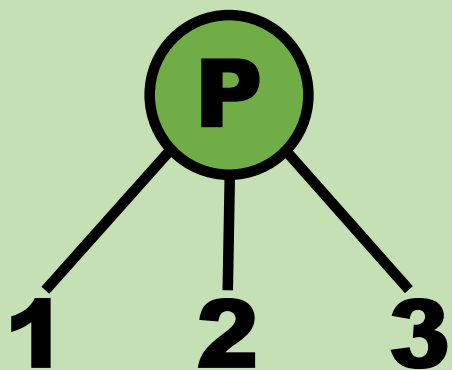
{2, 3, 5, 10}, {1, 2, 4, 5, 8}

PQ Trees: Sets of Orderings

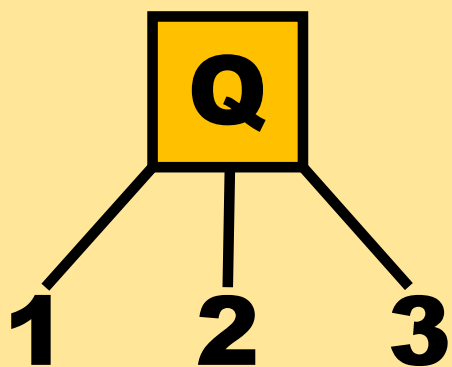


(1, 2, 3) or (1, 3, 2) or (2, 1, 3)
or (2, 3, 1) or (3, 1, 2) or (3, 2, 1)

PQ Trees: Sets of Orderings

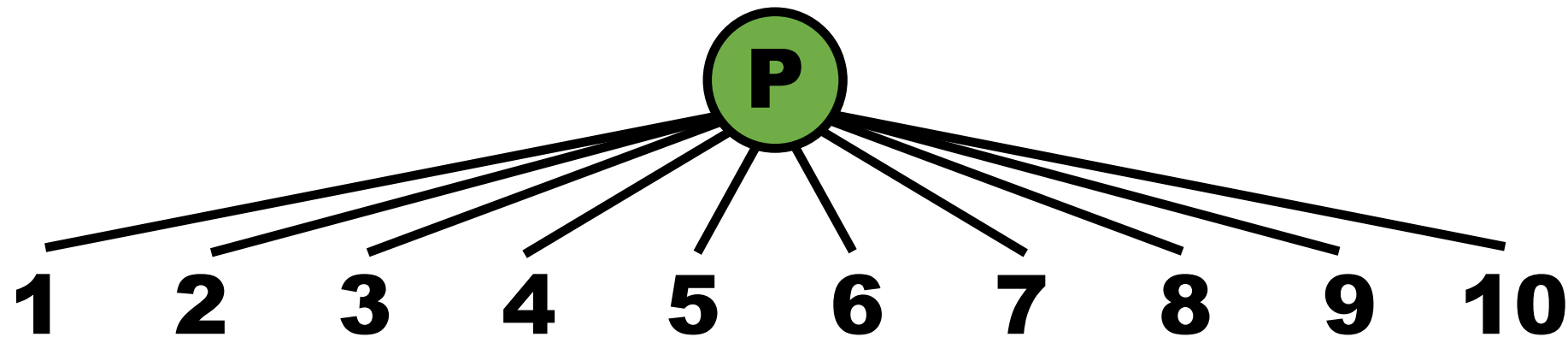


(1, 2, 3) or (1, 3, 2) or (2, 1, 3)
or (2, 3, 1) or (3, 1, 2) or (3, 2, 1)

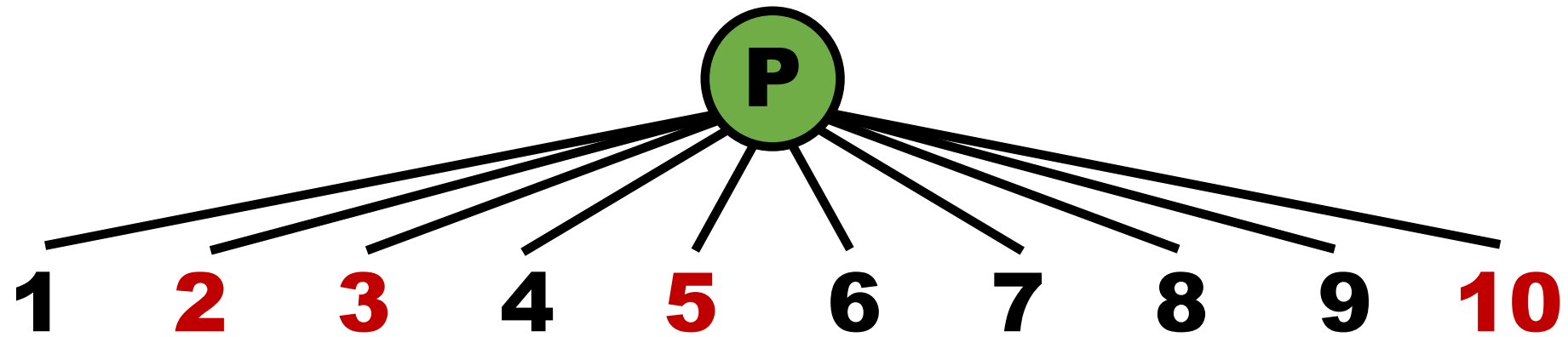


(1, 2, 3) or (3, 2, 1)

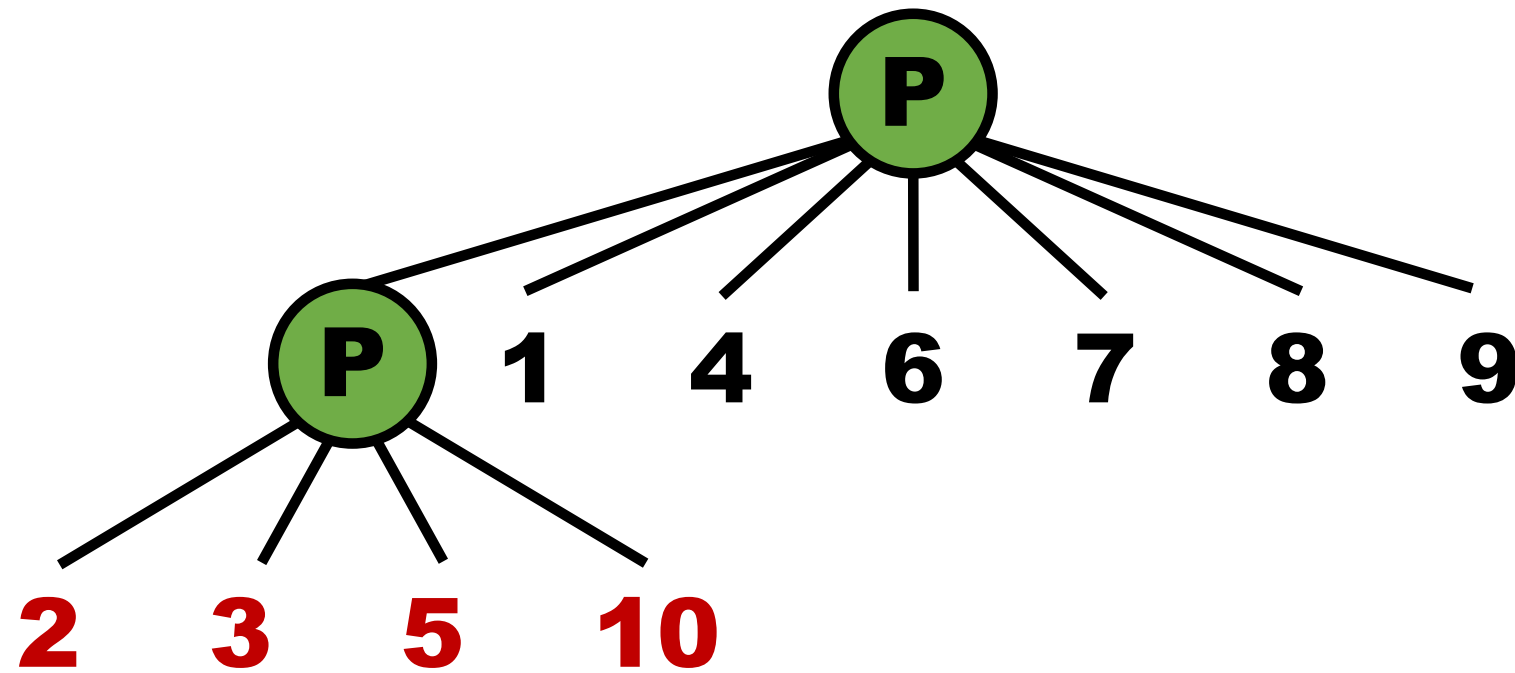
[Dautrich and Ravishankar,
EDBT 2013]
[Booth and Lueker,
J. Comput. Sys. Sci., 1976]



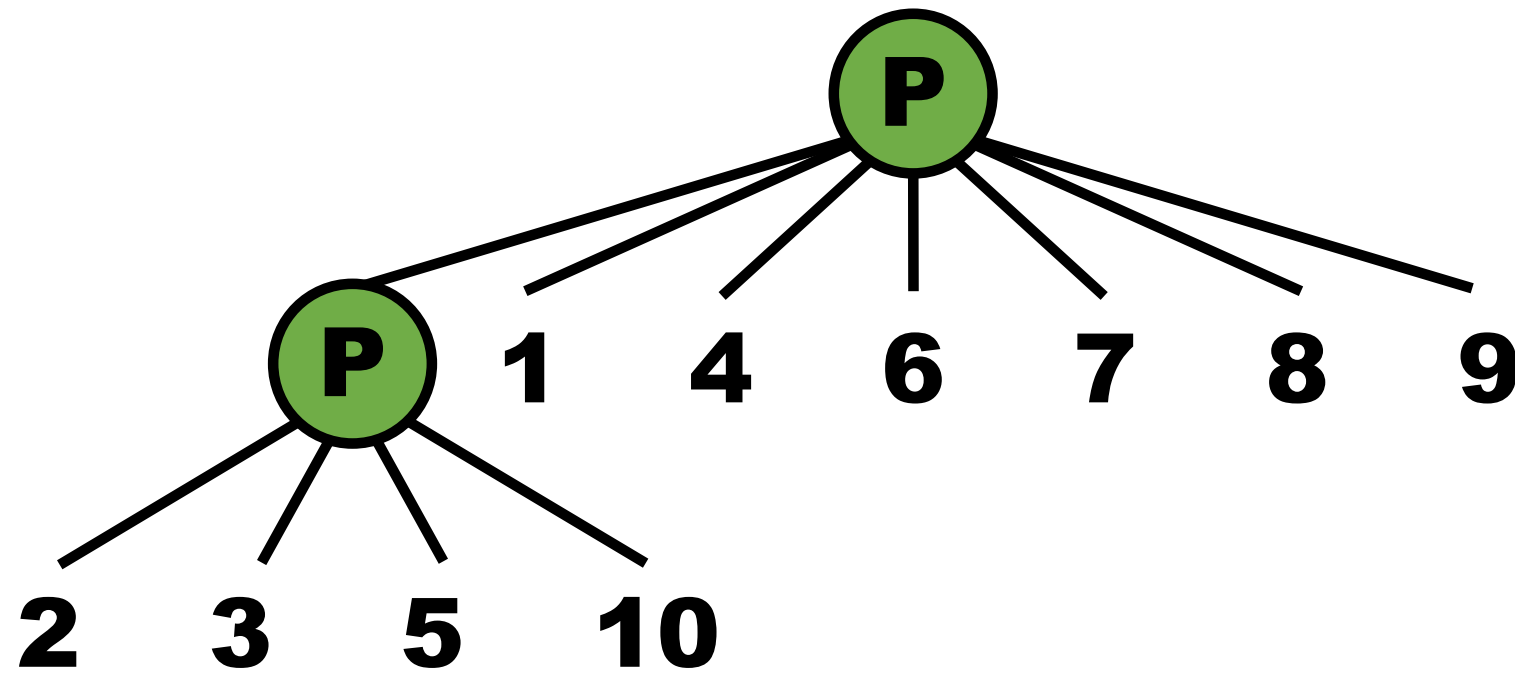
	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		



	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		

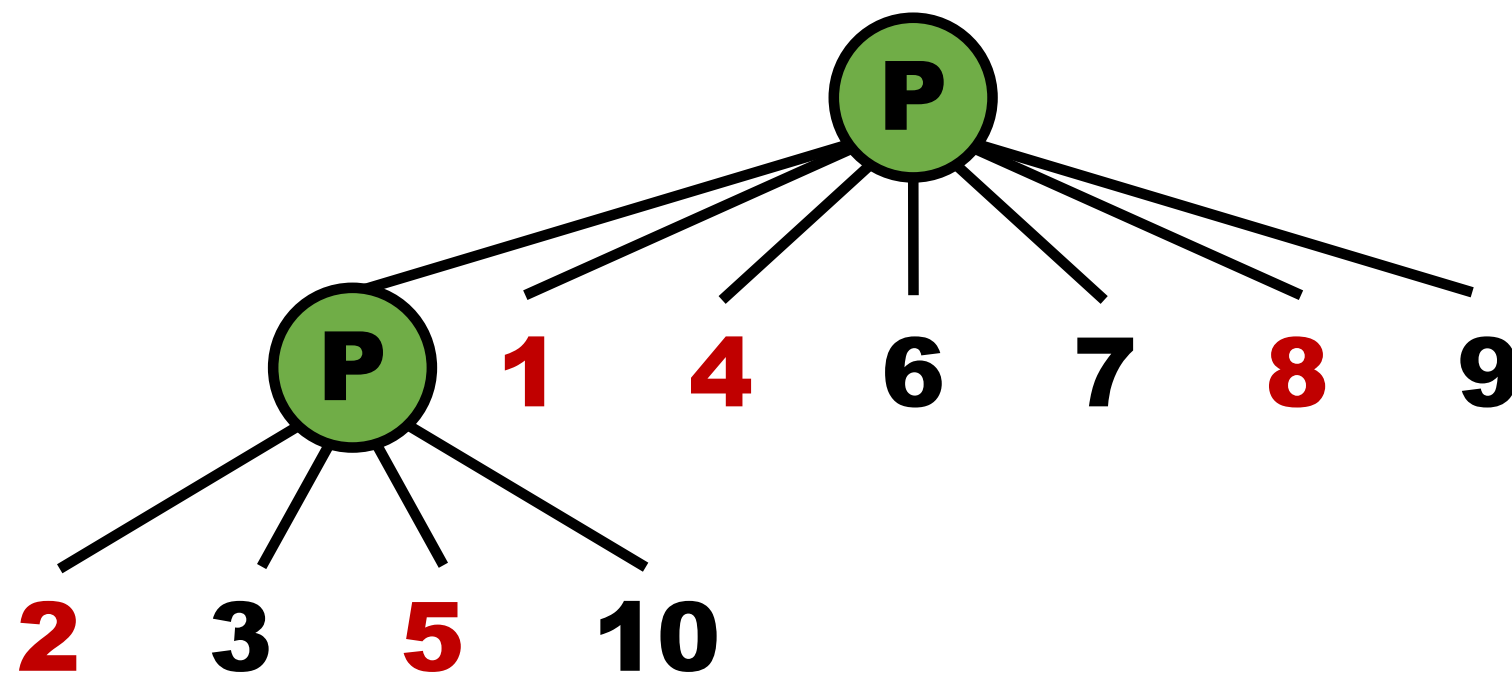



	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		

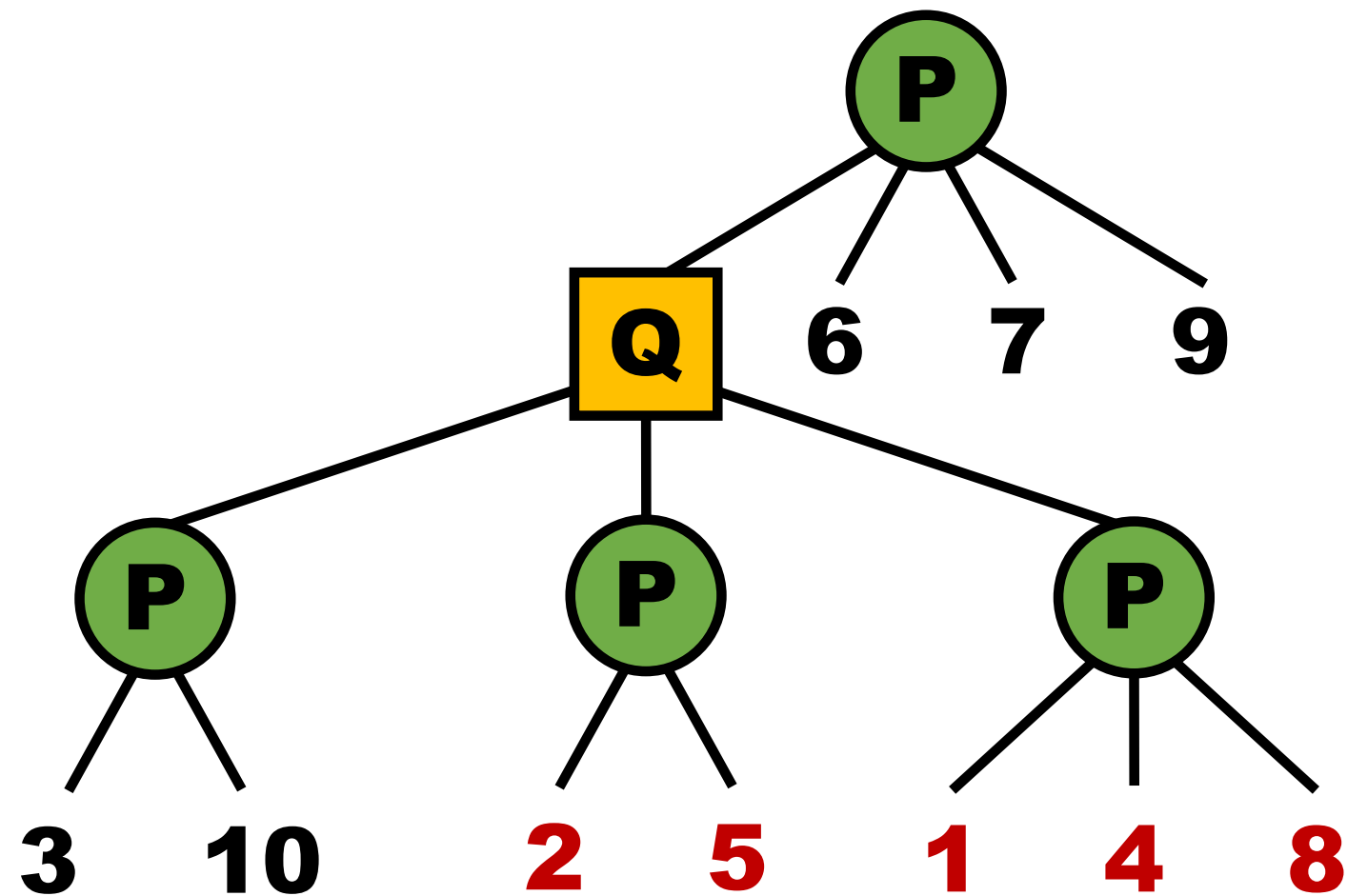


	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		

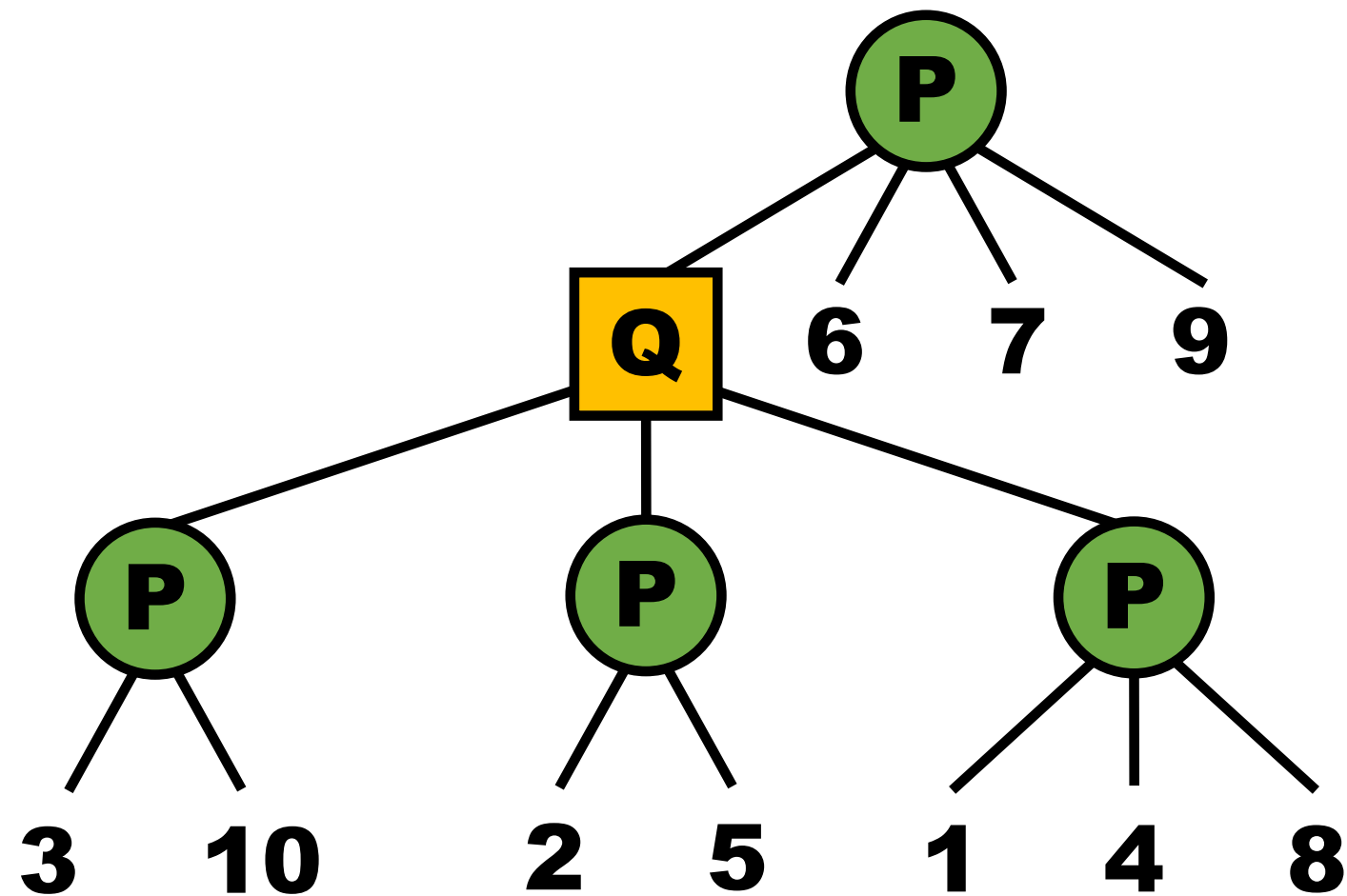
Query 2



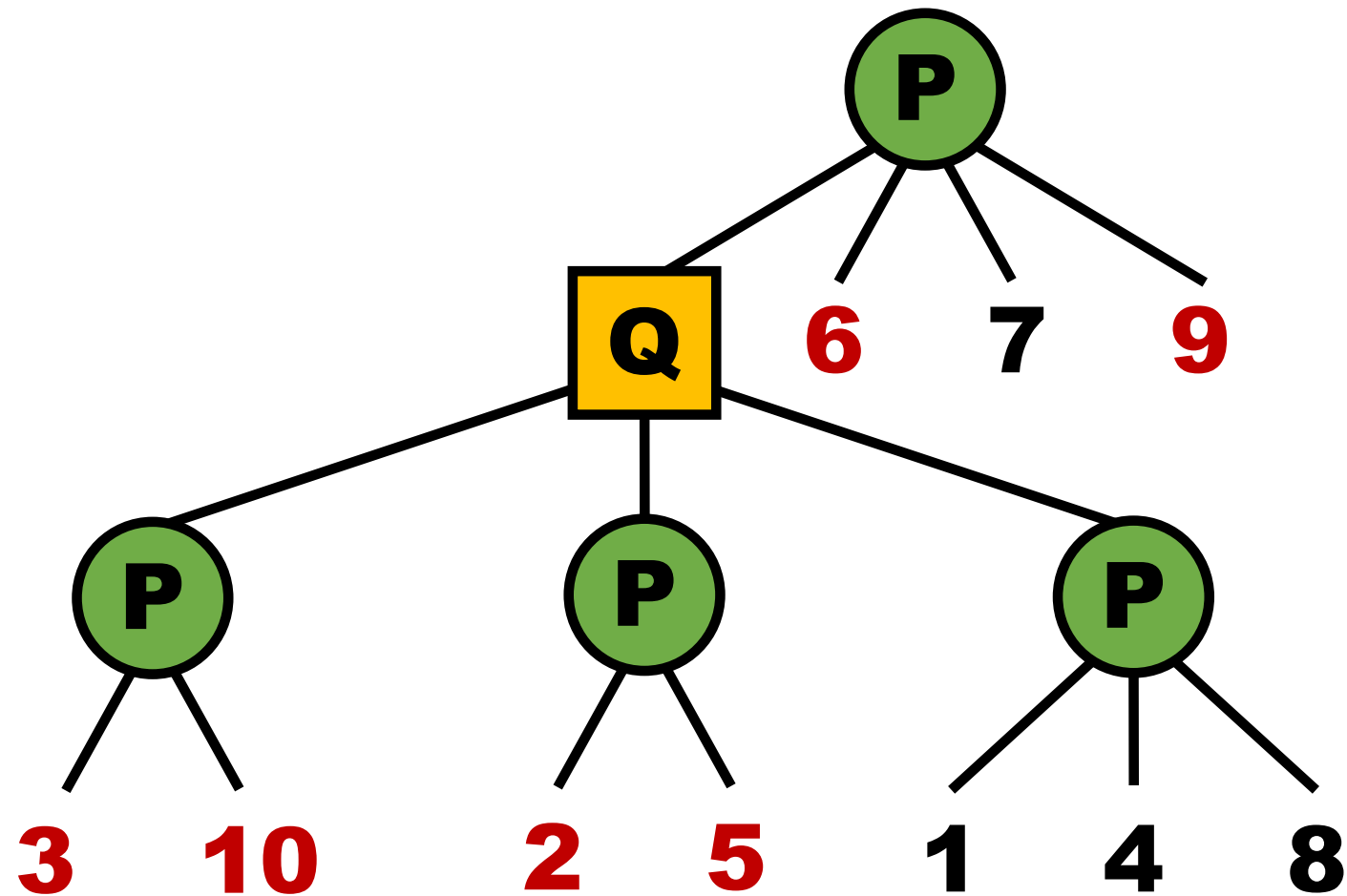
	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		



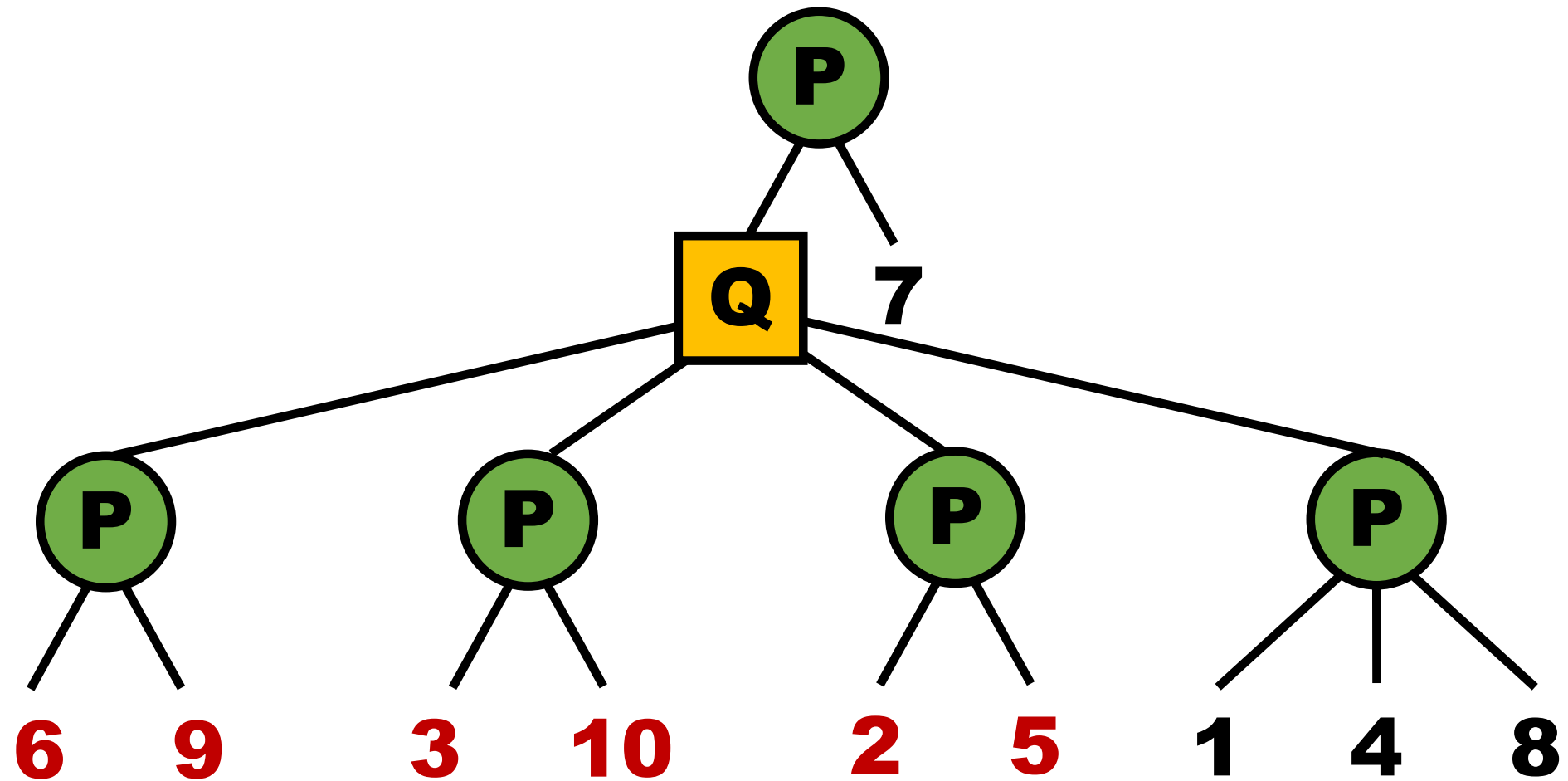
	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		



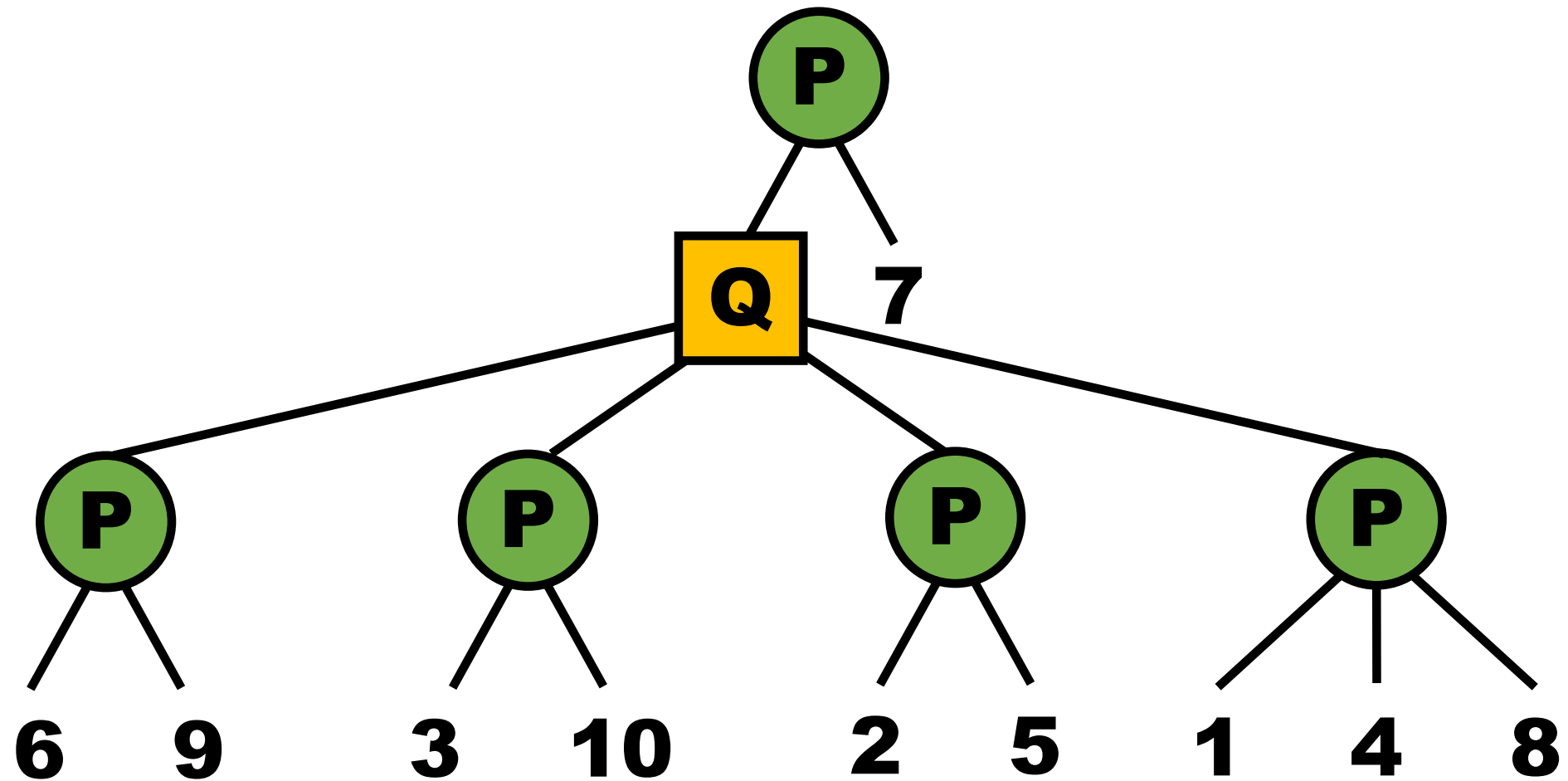
	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		



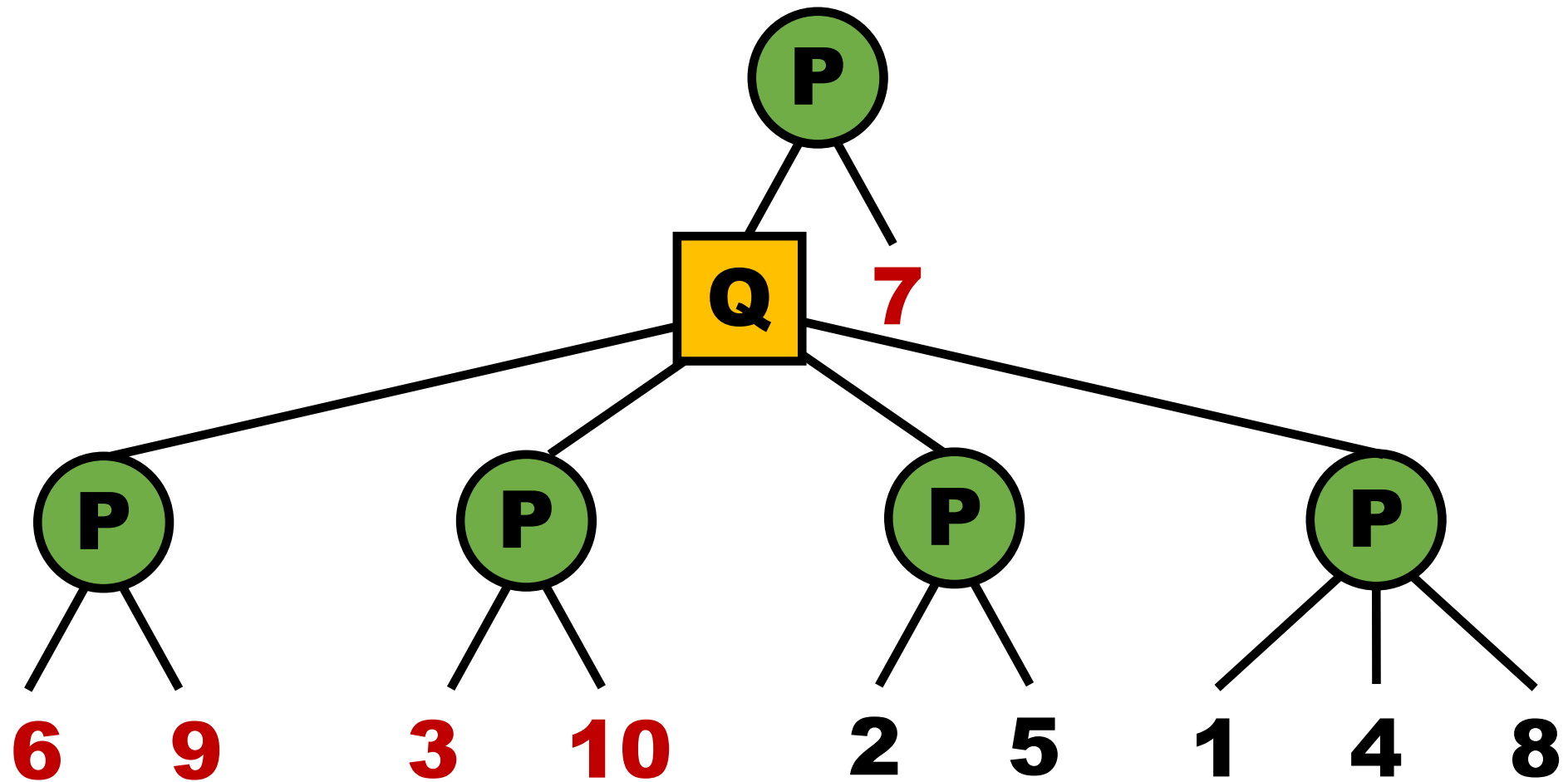
	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		



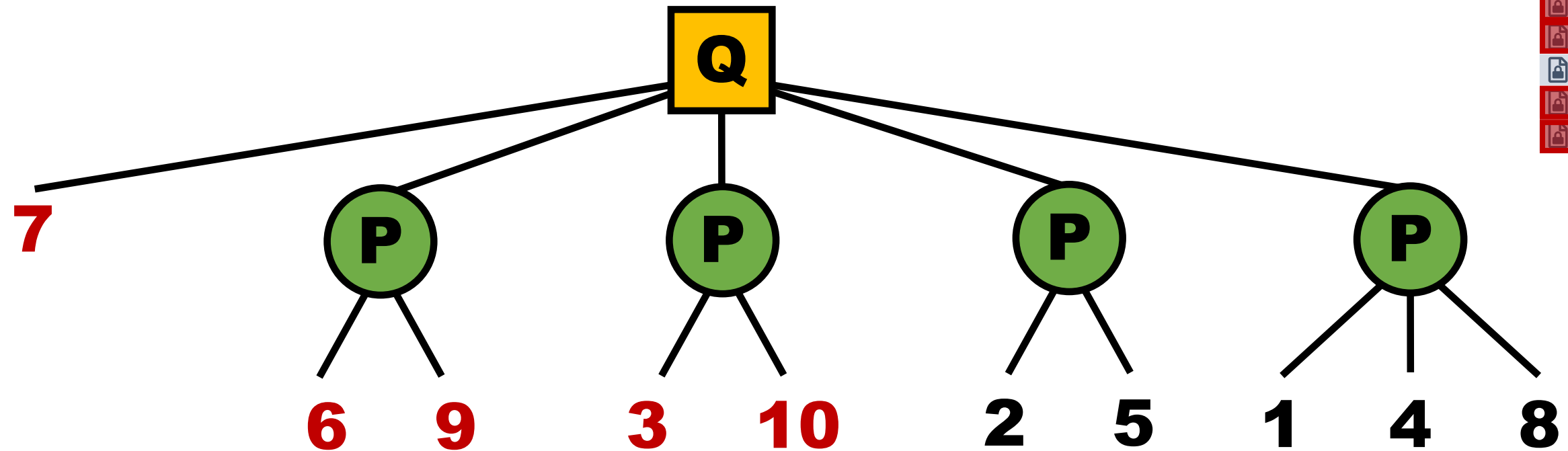
	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		



	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		



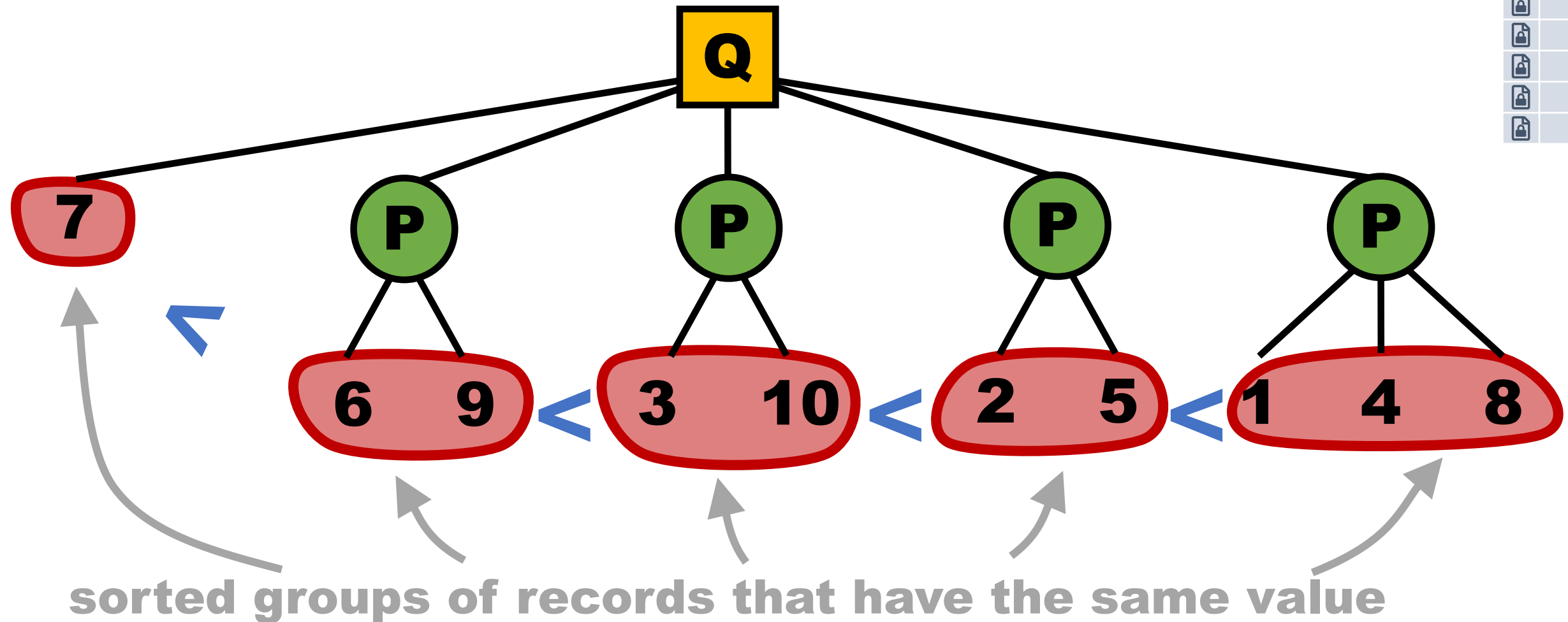
	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		



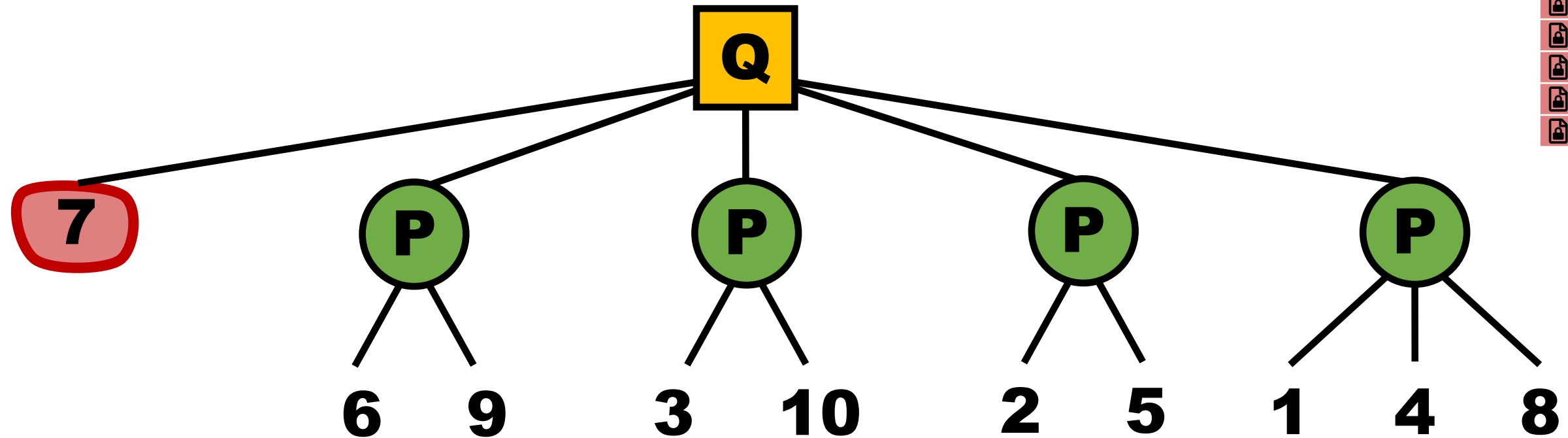
	ID	Value
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		

Fully Sorted and Grouped Records

	ID	Value
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		

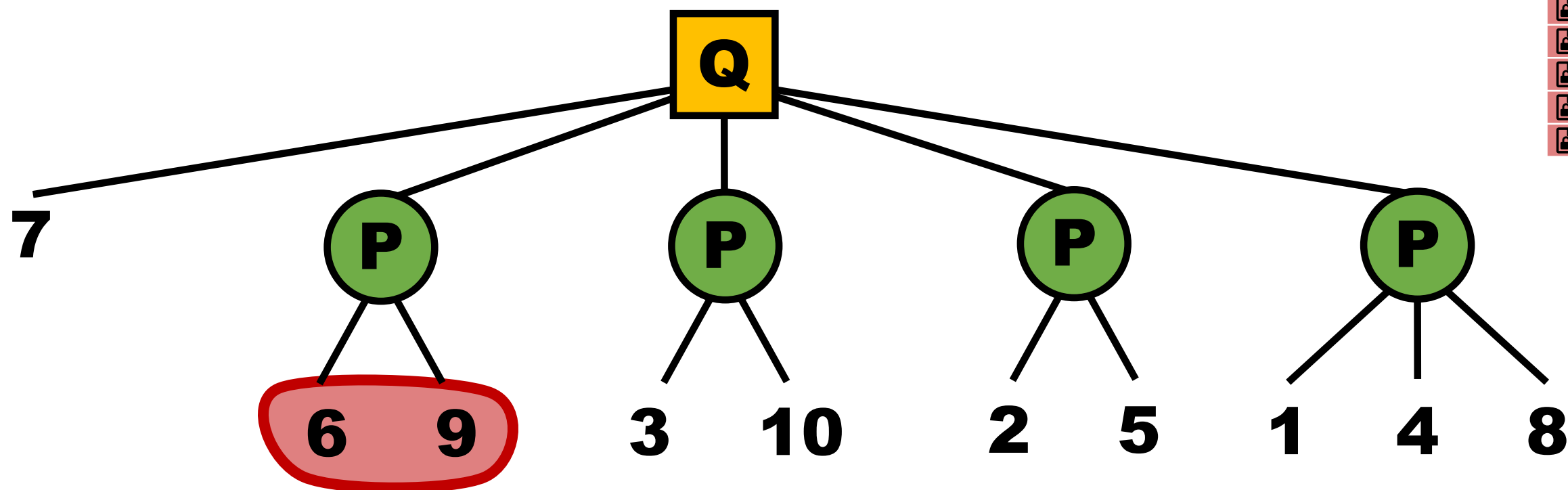


Fully Sorted and Grouped Records



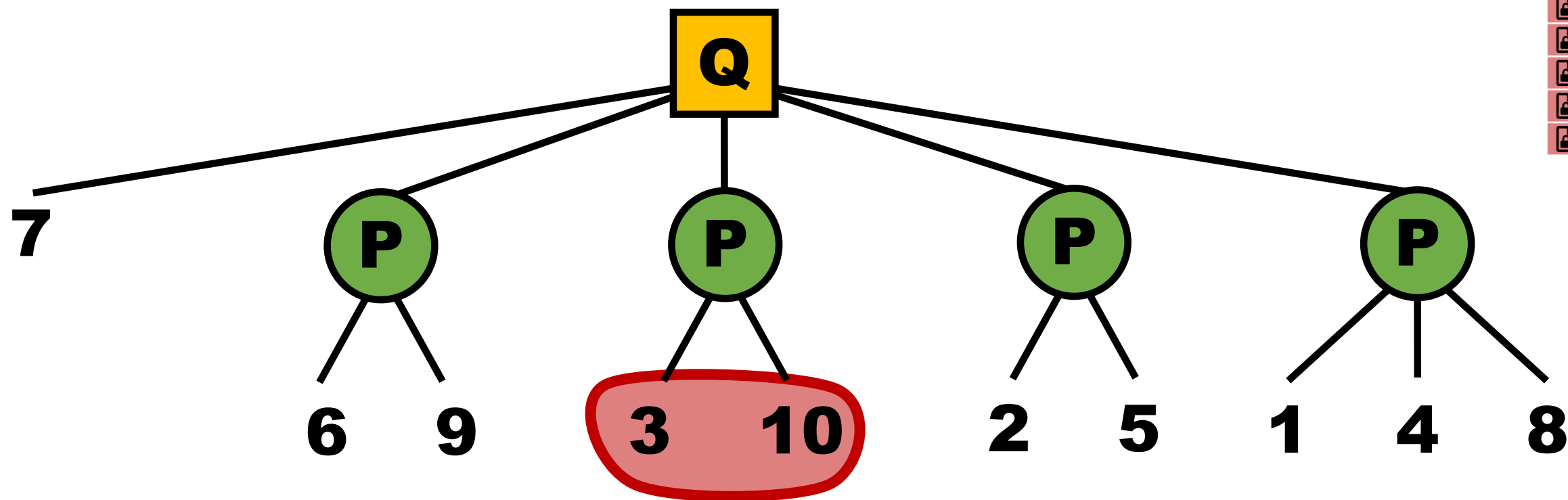
	ID	Value
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		1
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		

Fully Sorted and Grouped Records



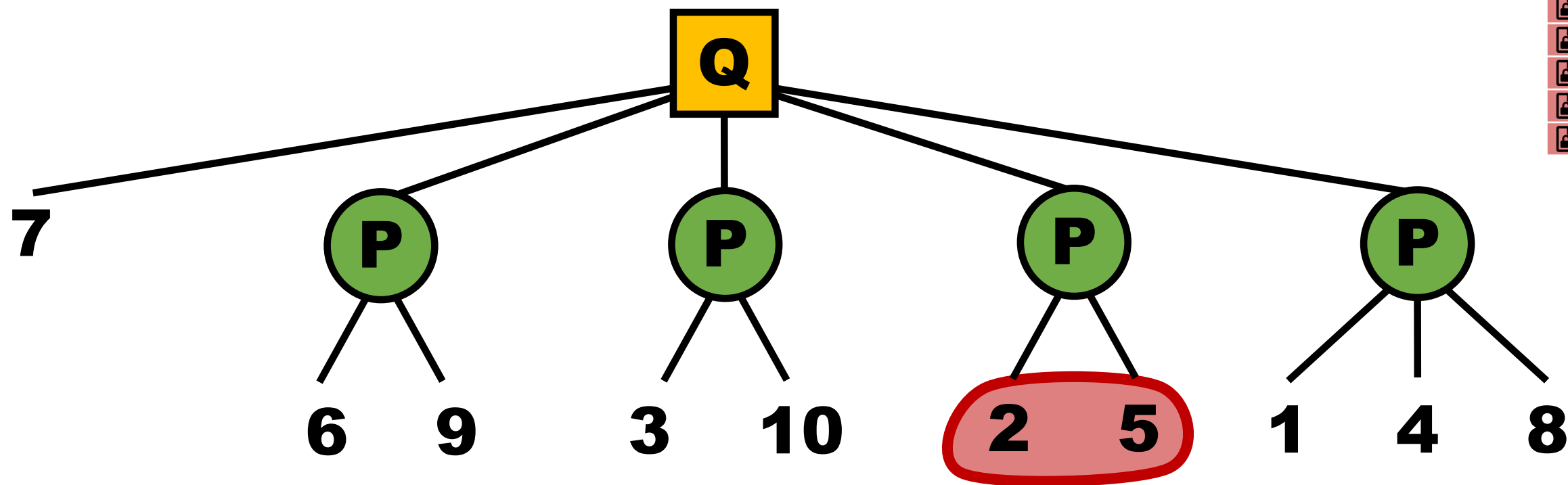
	ID	Value
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		2
🔒		1
🔒		
🔒		2
🔒		

Fully Sorted and Grouped Records



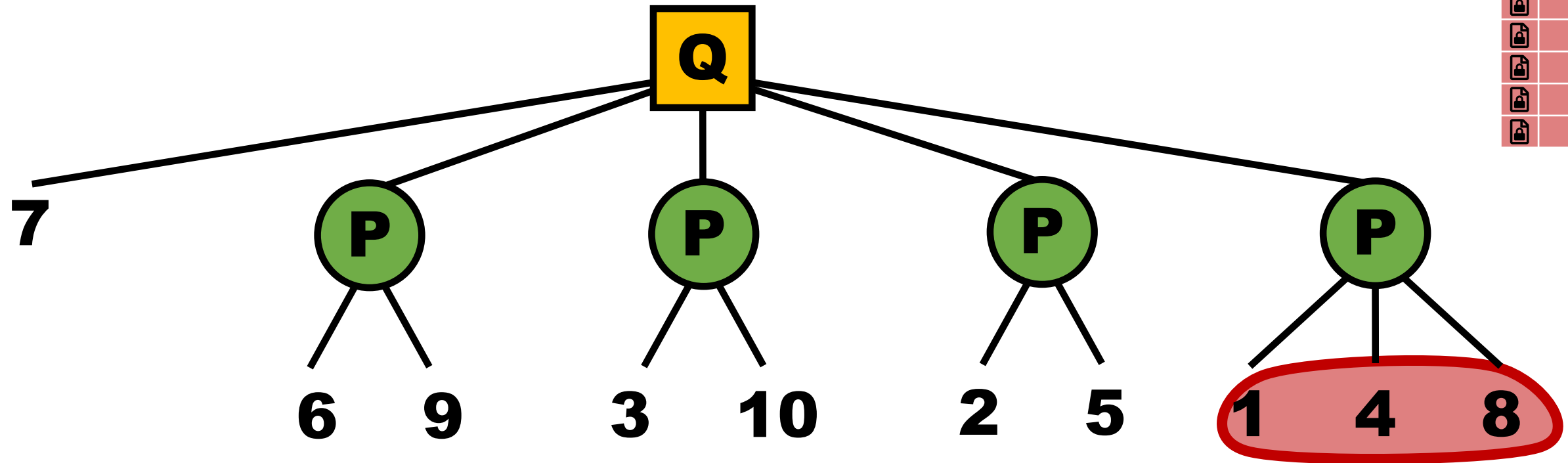
	ID	Value
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		3
🔒		
🔒		
🔒		2
🔒		1
🔒		
🔒		2
🔒		3

Fully Sorted and Grouped Records



	ID	Value
🔒		
🔒		4
🔒		3
🔒		
🔒		4
🔒		2
🔒		1
🔒		
🔒		2
🔒		3

Fully Sorted and Grouped Records



	ID	Value
🔒		5
🔒		4
🔒		3
🔒		5
🔒		4
🔒		2
🔒		1
🔒		5
🔒		2
🔒		3

Fully Sorted and Grouped Records



	ID	Value
	1	5
	2	4
	3	3
	4	5
	5	4
	6	2
	7	1
	8	5
	9	2
	10	3

How Many Queries Are Needed?

Suppose values are in $\{1, \dots, N\}$.

EXACT RECONSTRUCTION

How Many Queries Are Needed?

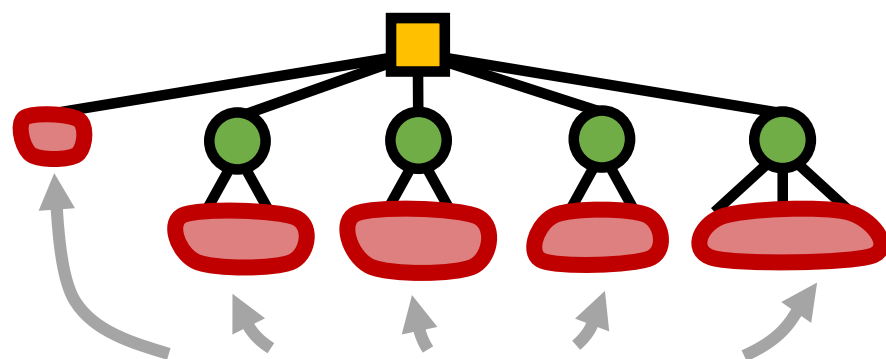
Suppose values are in $\{1, \dots, N\}$.

EXACT RECONSTRUCTION

$N \log N$ queries

e.g.,

$N=10$: **23**, $N=100$: **461**, $N=1000$: **6908**



groups of records
with **same** values

How Many Queries Are Needed?

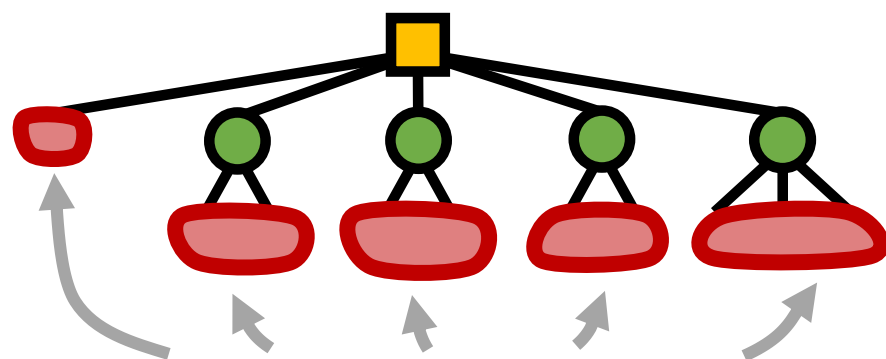
Suppose values are in $\{1, \dots, N\}$.

EXACT RECONSTRUCTION

$N \log N$ queries

e.g.,

$N=10$: **23**, $N=100$: **461**, $N=1000$: **6908**



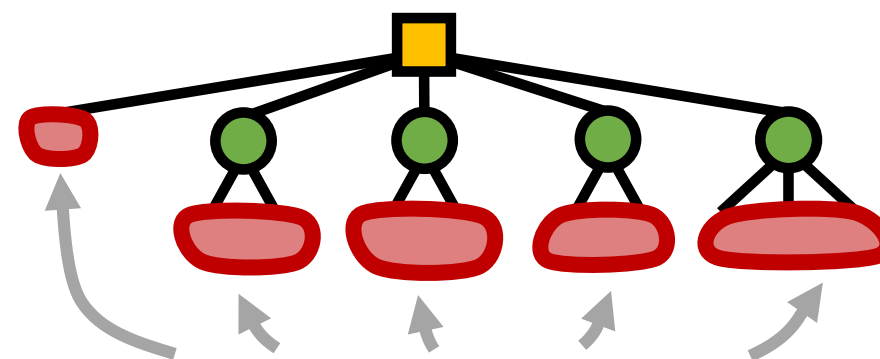
groups of records
with **same** values

APPROXIMATE RECONSTRUCTION

Depends only on precision

(values within some % of N)

e.g., 10%: **23**, 5%: **60**, 2%: **460**



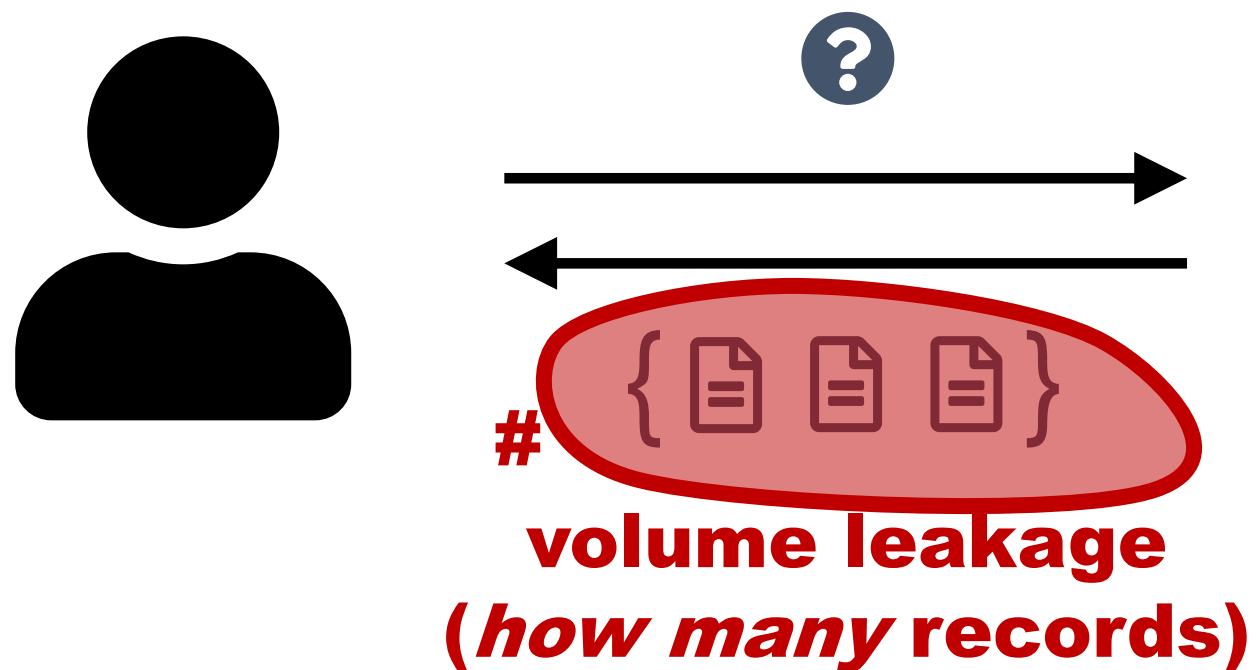
groups of records
with **close** values

Exploiting Access Pattern Leakage

- Leaking **which rows** match a query can break encryption.
- **PQ trees** help organize the leakage along the way.
- Recovering **approximate** values takes even fewer queries.

Details: [Grubbs, Lacharité, Minaud, and Paterson, S&P 2019]

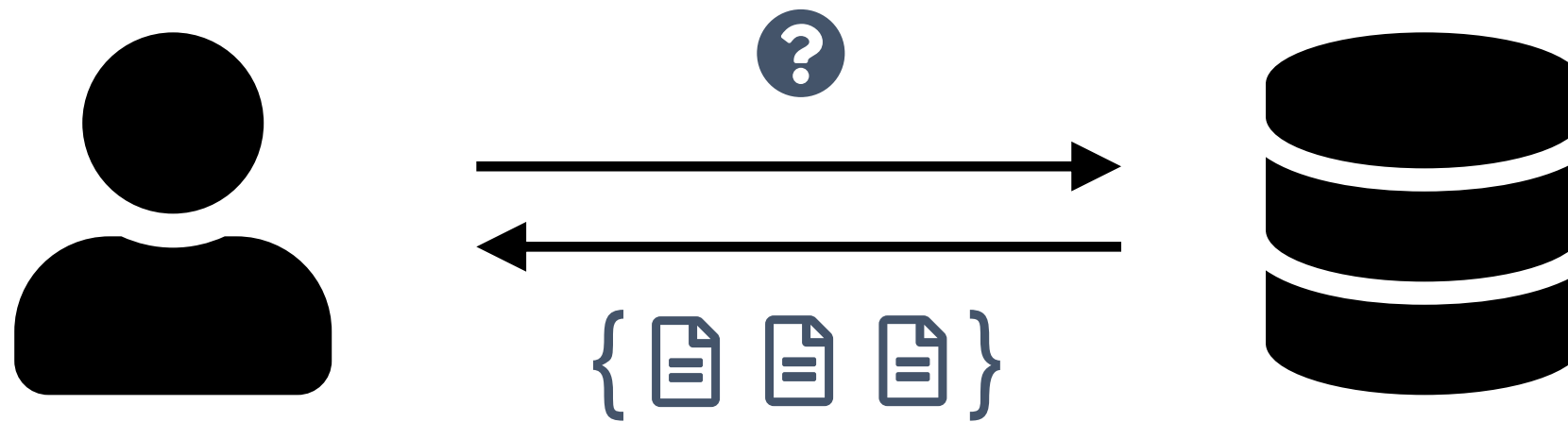
Exploiting Volume Leakage



	ID	Value
[document icon]	1	3
[document icon]	2	1
[document icon]	3	15
[document icon]	4	41
[document icon]	5	1
...



Exploiting Volume Leakage



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

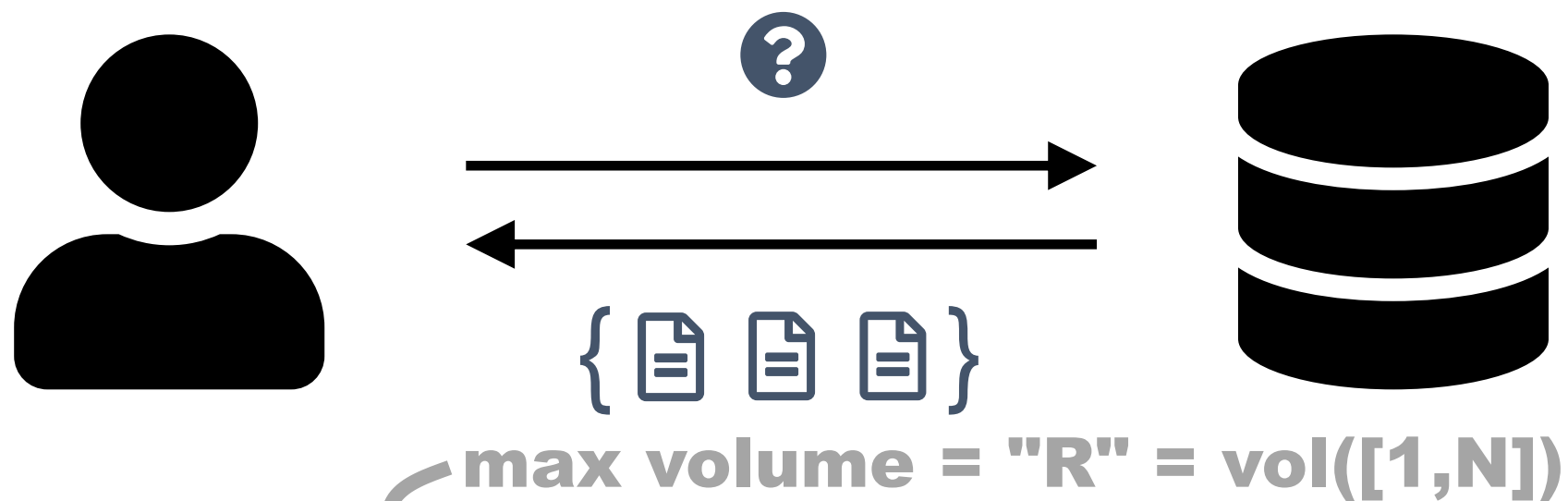


3, 16, 20, 5, 8, 11, 12, 1, 17, 19

all possible
range volumes



Exploiting Volume Leakage



	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...



3, 16, 20, 5, 8, 11, 12, 1, 17, 19

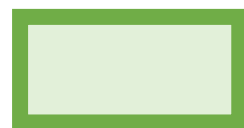


The Idea: Identify Elementary Volumes

ELEMENTARY RANGES

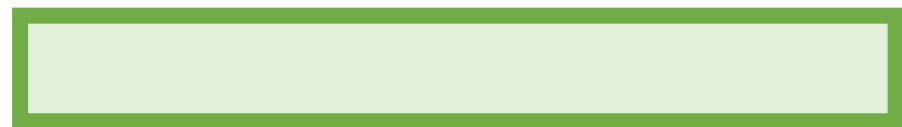


[1,1]

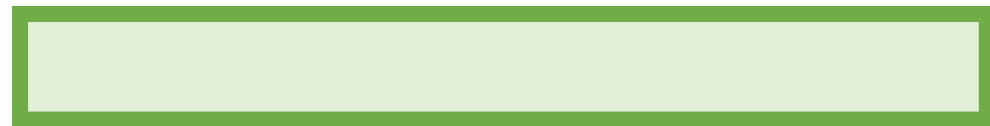


[1,2]

...



[1,N-1]



[1,N]

ELEMENTARY VOLUMES

rows matching [1,1],

rows matching [1,2],

...

rows matching [1,N-1]

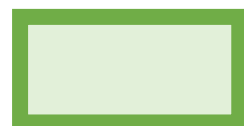
rows matching [1,N]

The Idea: Identify Elementary Volumes

ELEMENTARY RANGES

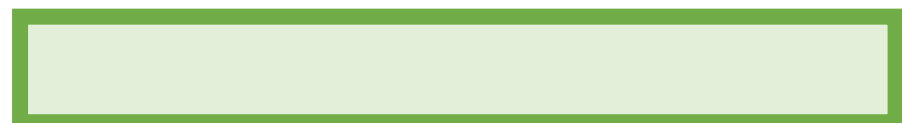


[1,1]

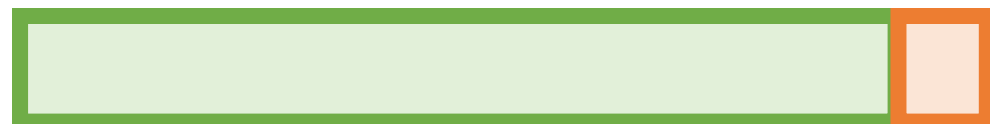


[1,2]

...



[1,N-1]



[1,N]

ELEMENTARY VOLUMES

rows matching [1,1],

rows matching [1,2],

...

rows matching [1,N-1]

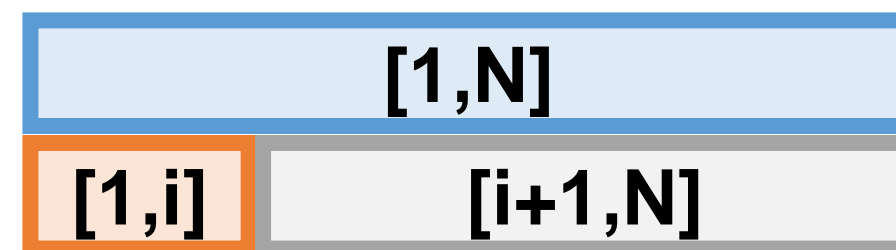
rows matching [1,N]

$$\text{vol}([1,N]) - \text{vol}([1,N-1]) = \text{vol}([N,N])$$
An orange curved arrow pointing from the small orange square at the end of the [1,N] range to the $\text{vol}([N,N])$ term in the equation below.

Elementary Properties

1. Such volumes are R-complemented:

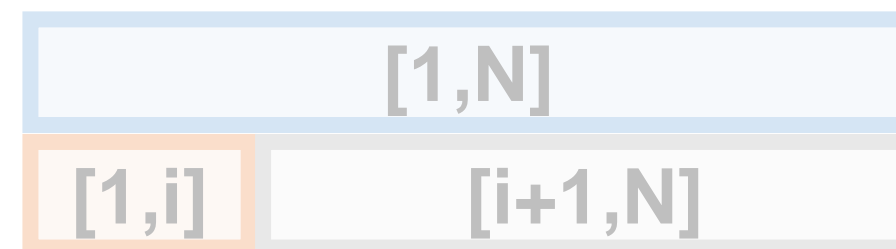
$$\text{vol}([1,i]) + \text{vol}([i+1,N]) = R$$



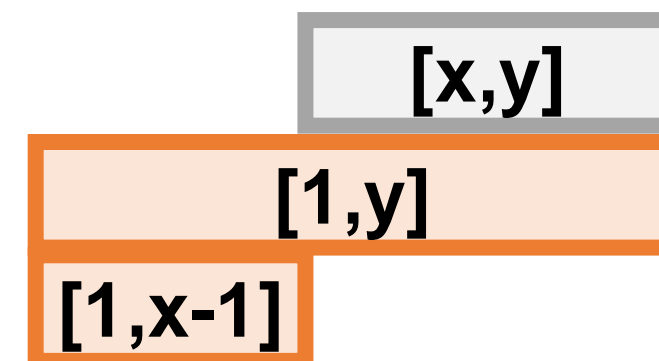
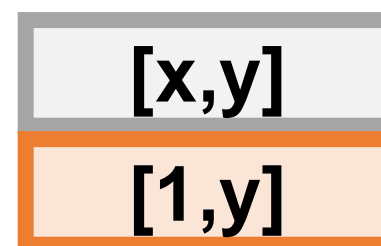
Elementary Properties

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$$\text{vol}([1,i]) + \text{vol}([i+1,N]) = R$$



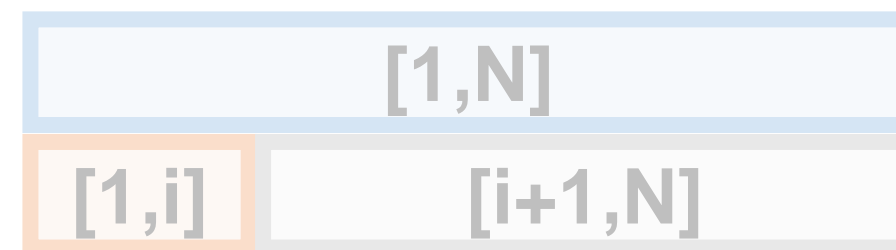
2. Every range $[x,y]$ has the form
 $[1,y]$ or $[1,y] \setminus [1,x-1]$



Elementary Properties

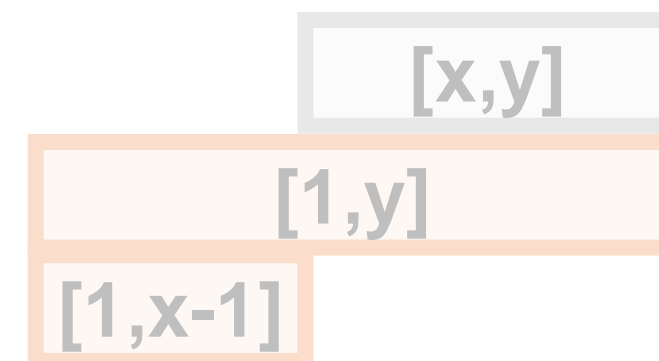
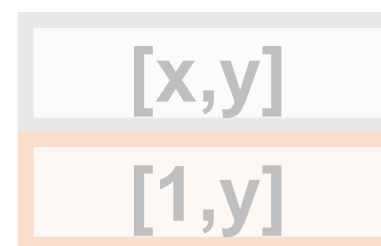
1. Such volumes are R-complemented:

$$\text{vol}([1,i]) + \text{vol}([i+1,N]) = R$$



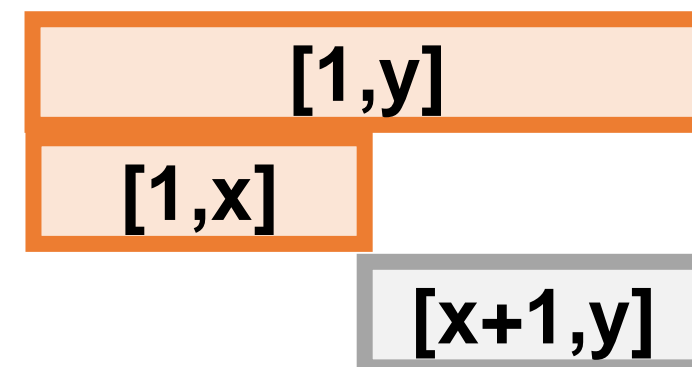
2. Every range $[x,y]$ has the form

$$[1,y] \quad \text{or} \quad [1,y] \setminus [1,x-1]$$



3. Difference of any two such ranges is a range:

$$[1,y] \setminus [1,x] = [x+1,y]$$



Let's Build a Graph

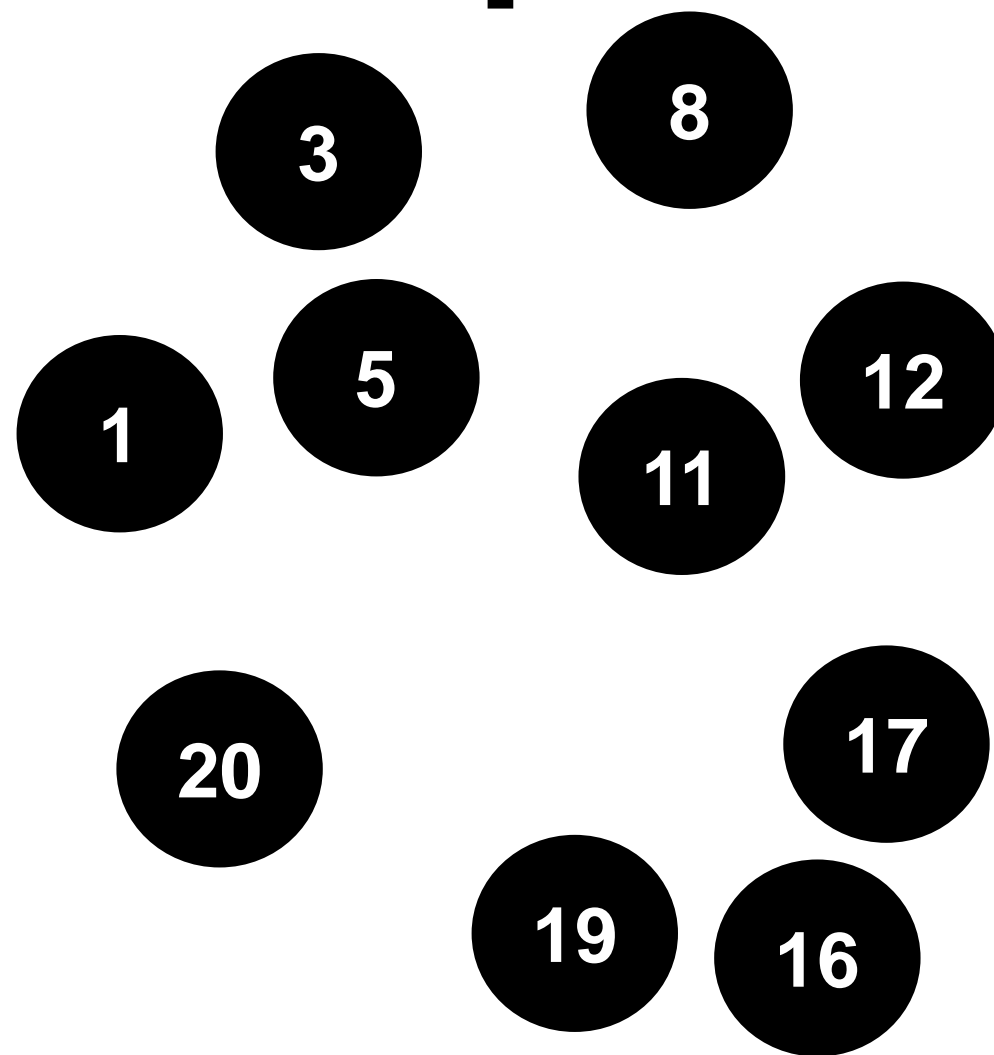
set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

Let's Build a Graph

**Nodes =
observed
volumes**

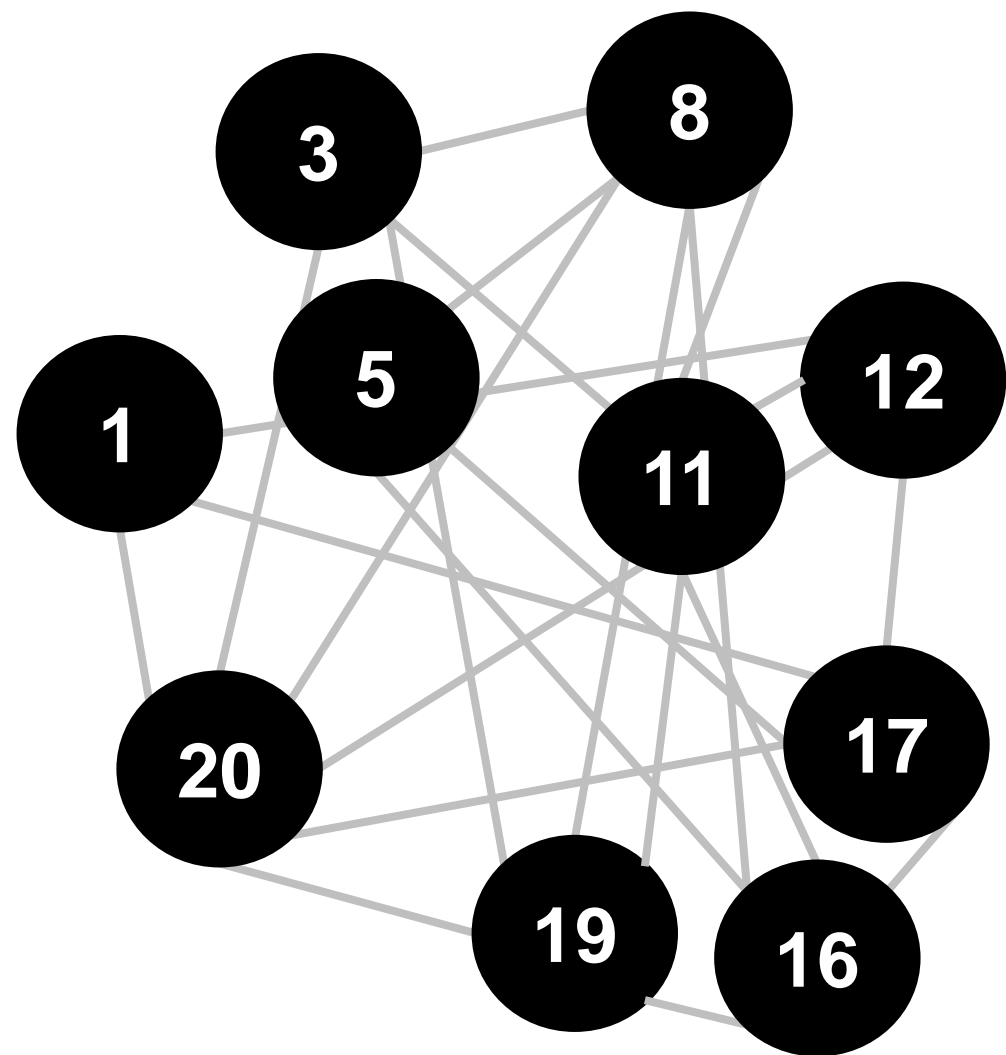
set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

Let's Build a Graph



**Nodes =
observed
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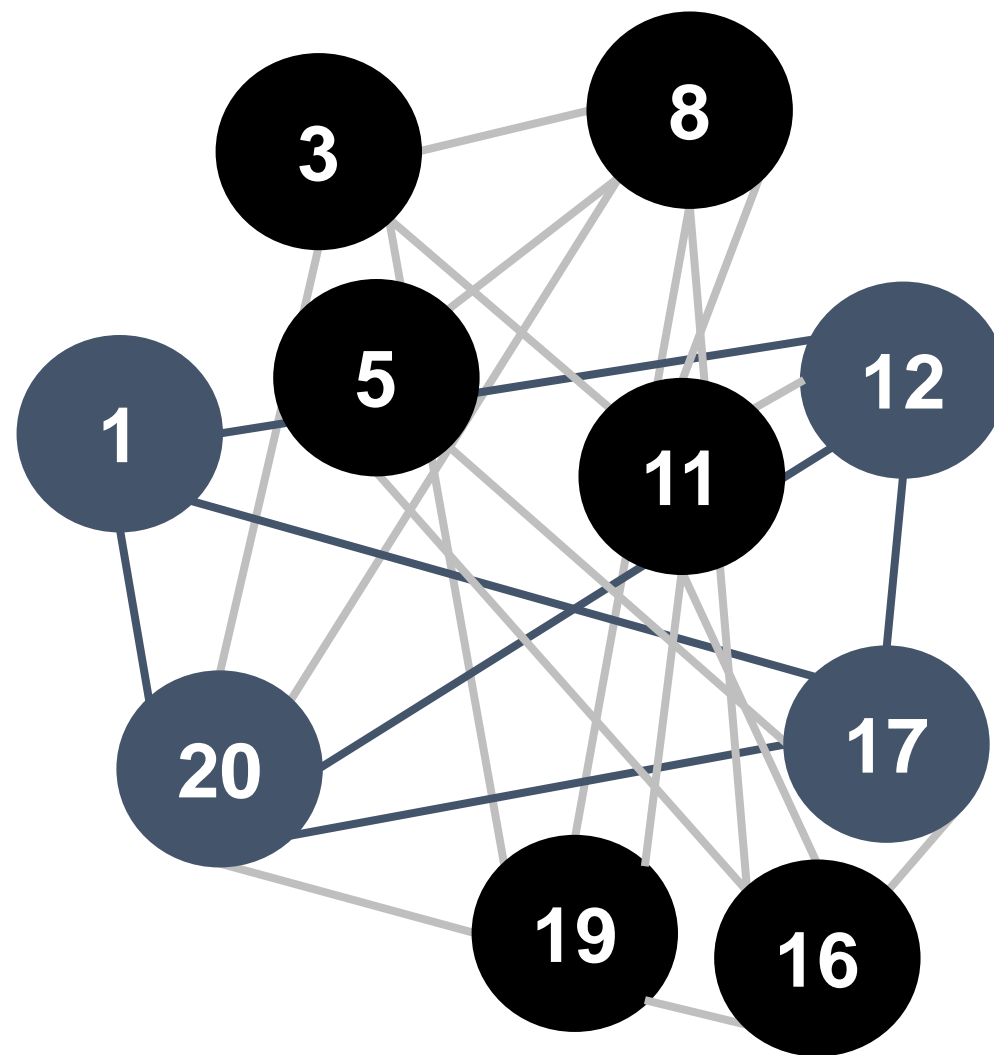
set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20



Edge iff
difference
was also a
volume

set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

Elementary
volumes
form a
clique



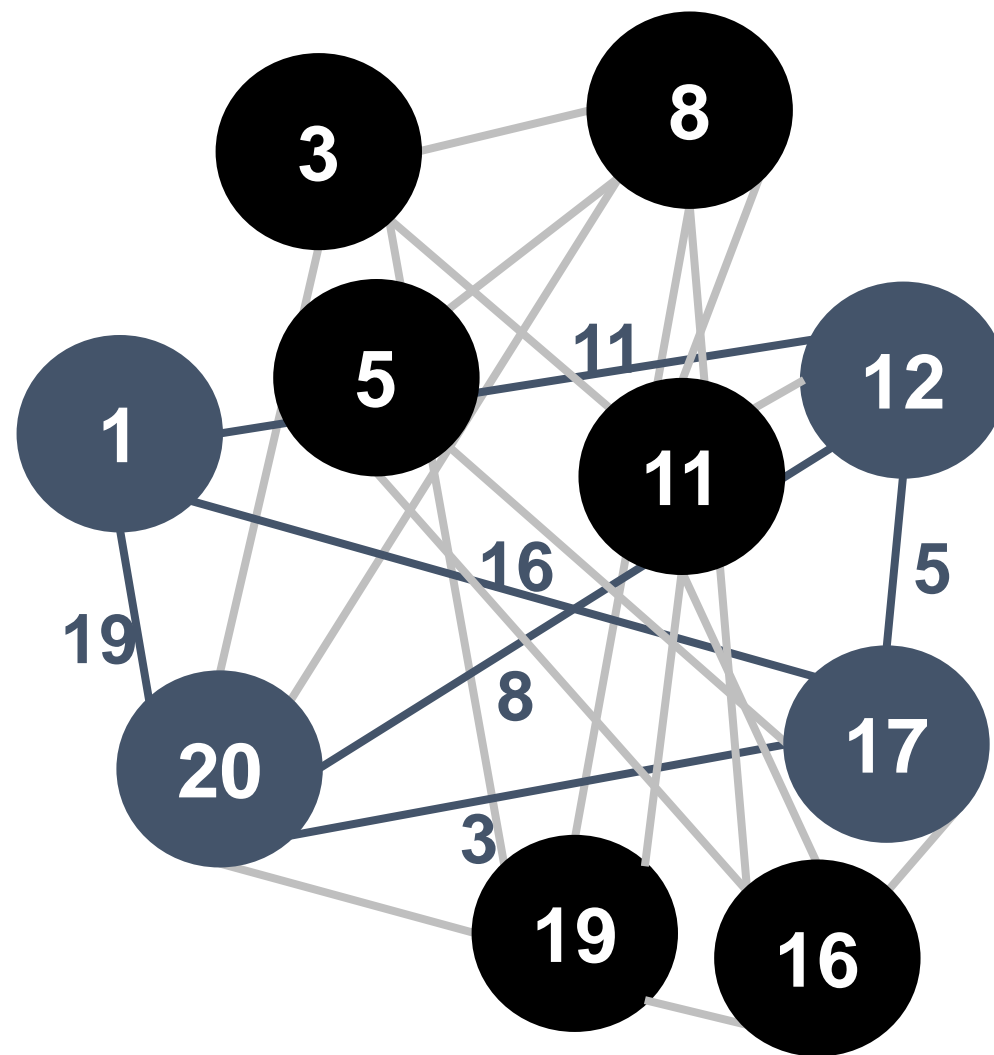
Property 3:

$$[1,y] \setminus [1,x] = [x+1,y]$$



set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

Elementary
volumes
form a
clique... that
generates
all volumes



Property 2:

$[x, y]$ has the form
 $[1, y]$ or $[1, y] \setminus [1, x-1]$



set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

Exploiting Volume Leakage

Goal: identify set of elementary volumes

Idea: build a graph and find a clique in it

Exploiting Volume Leakage

Goal: identify set of elementary volumes

Idea: build a graph and find a clique in it

Phases:

1. Pre-processing

2. "Traditional" clique-finding

**usually not necessary,
see my paper for details**

A grey curved arrow pointing from the text "usually not necessary, see my paper for details" to the second phase, "Traditional" clique-finding.

Phase 1: Pre-Processing

**NECESSARY
ELEMENTARY
VOLUMES** \subseteq **REAL
ELEMENTARY
VOLUMES** \subseteq **CANDIDATE
ELEMENTARY
VOLUMES**

Phase 1: Pre-Processing

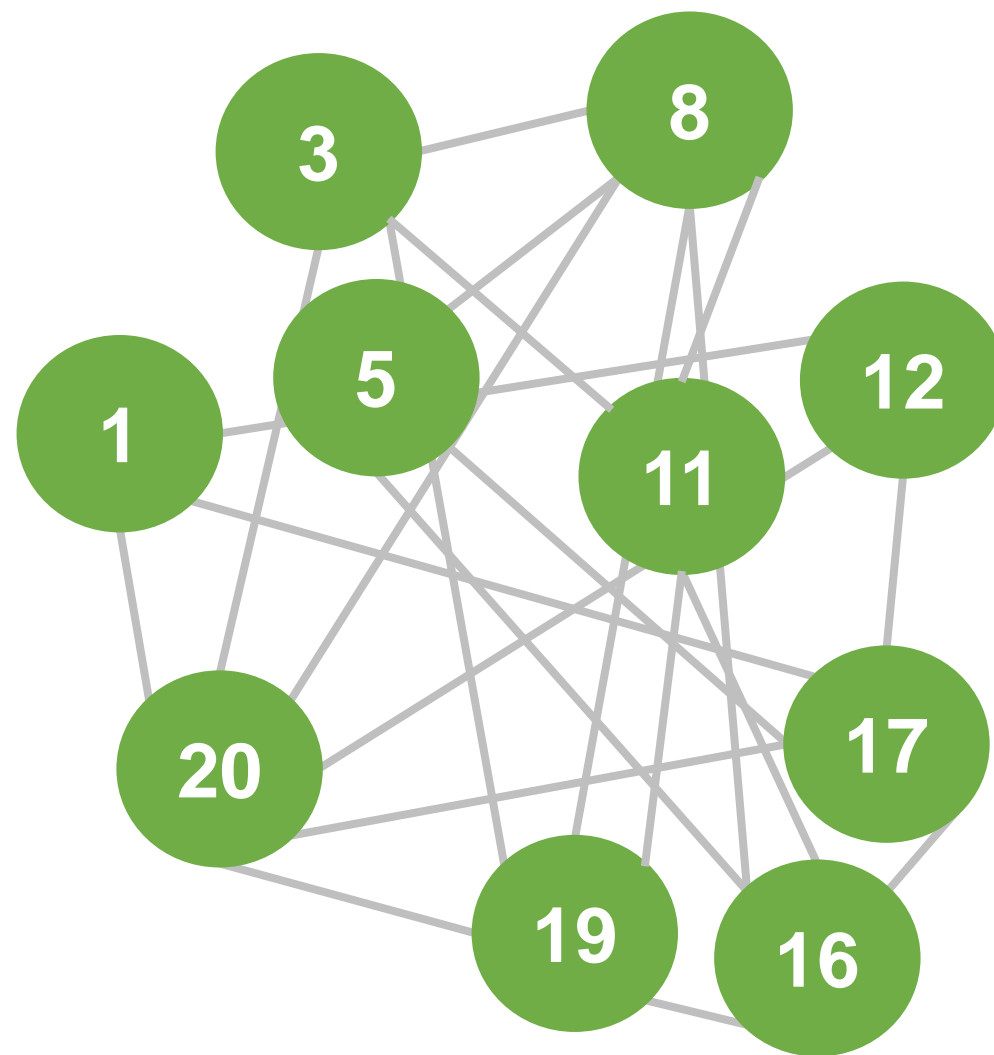
**NECESSARY
ELEMENTARY
VOLUMES** \subseteq **REAL
ELEMENTARY
VOLUMES** \subseteq **CANDIDATE
ELEMENTARY
VOLUMES**

**AUGMENT
NECESSARY
VOLUMES**



**REDUCE
CANDIDATE
VOLUMES**

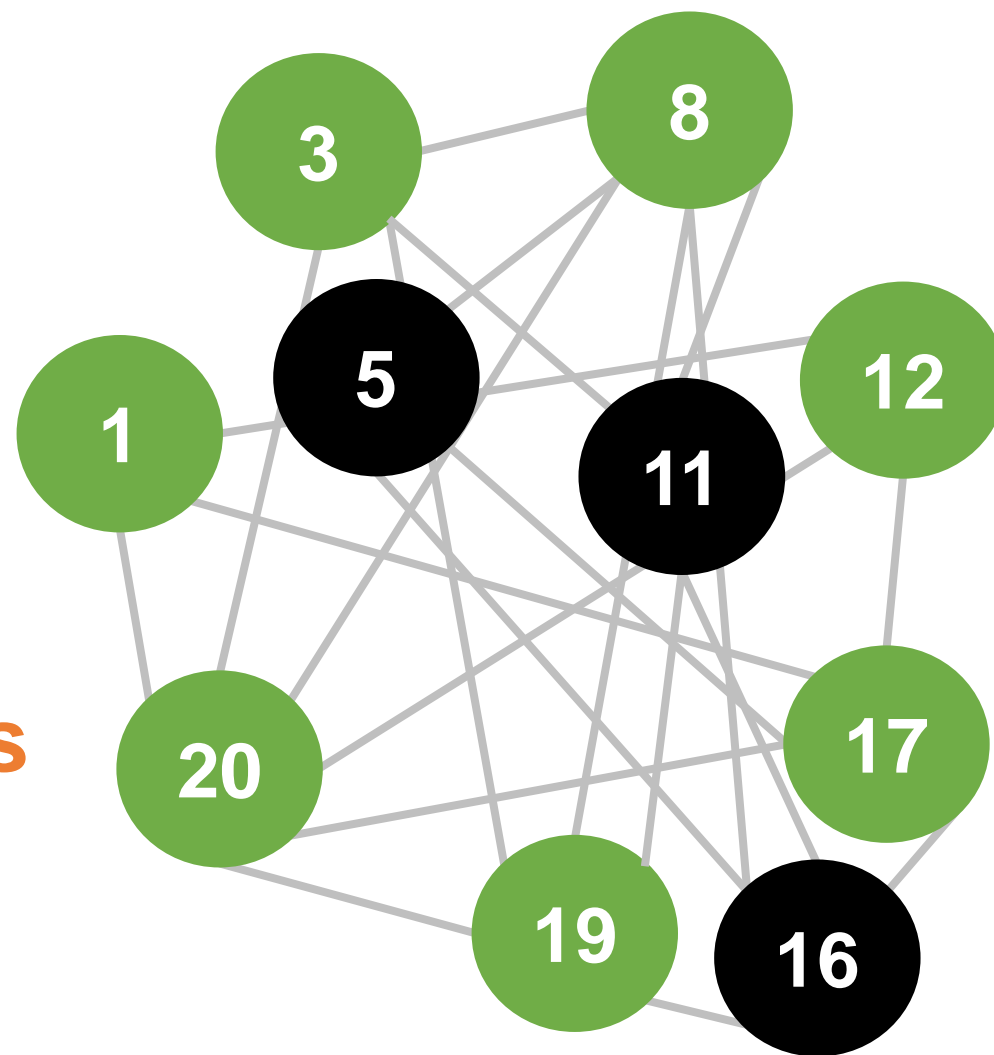
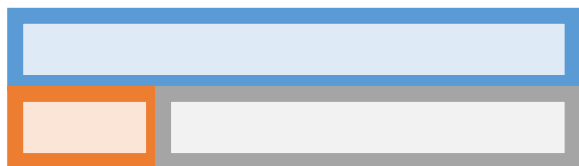
Example



set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

Property 1:

Elementary volumes
are **R**-complemented



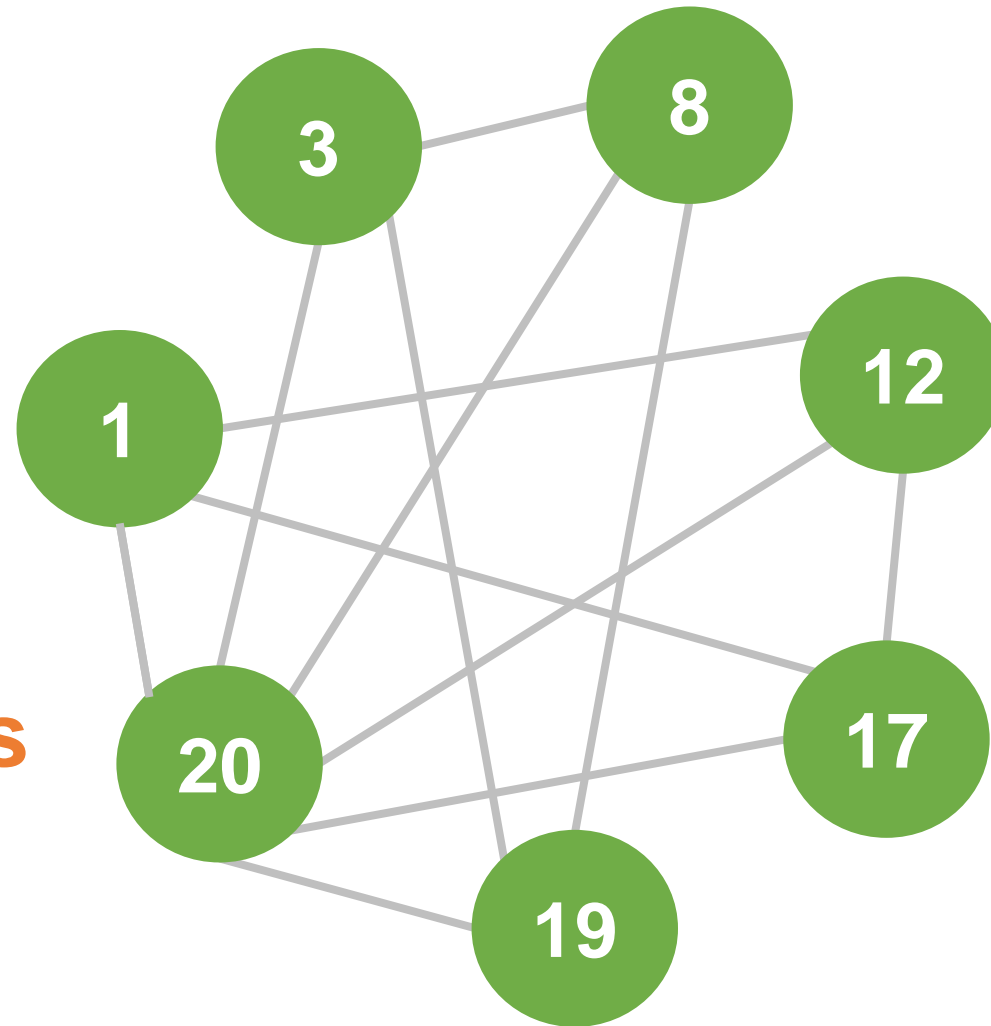
REDUCE

**Remove nodes
without
R-complements**

set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

Property 1:

Elementary volumes
are **R**-complemented



REDUCE

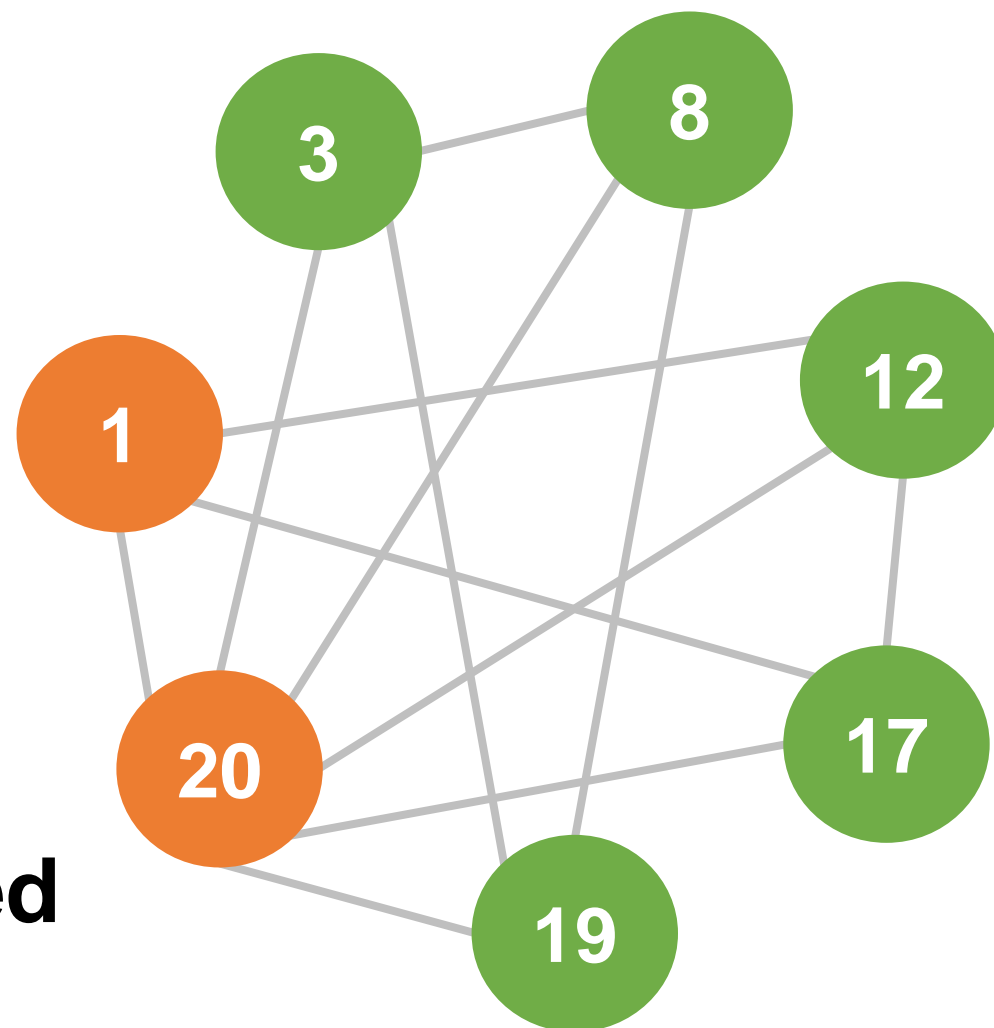
**Remove nodes
without
R-complements**

set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

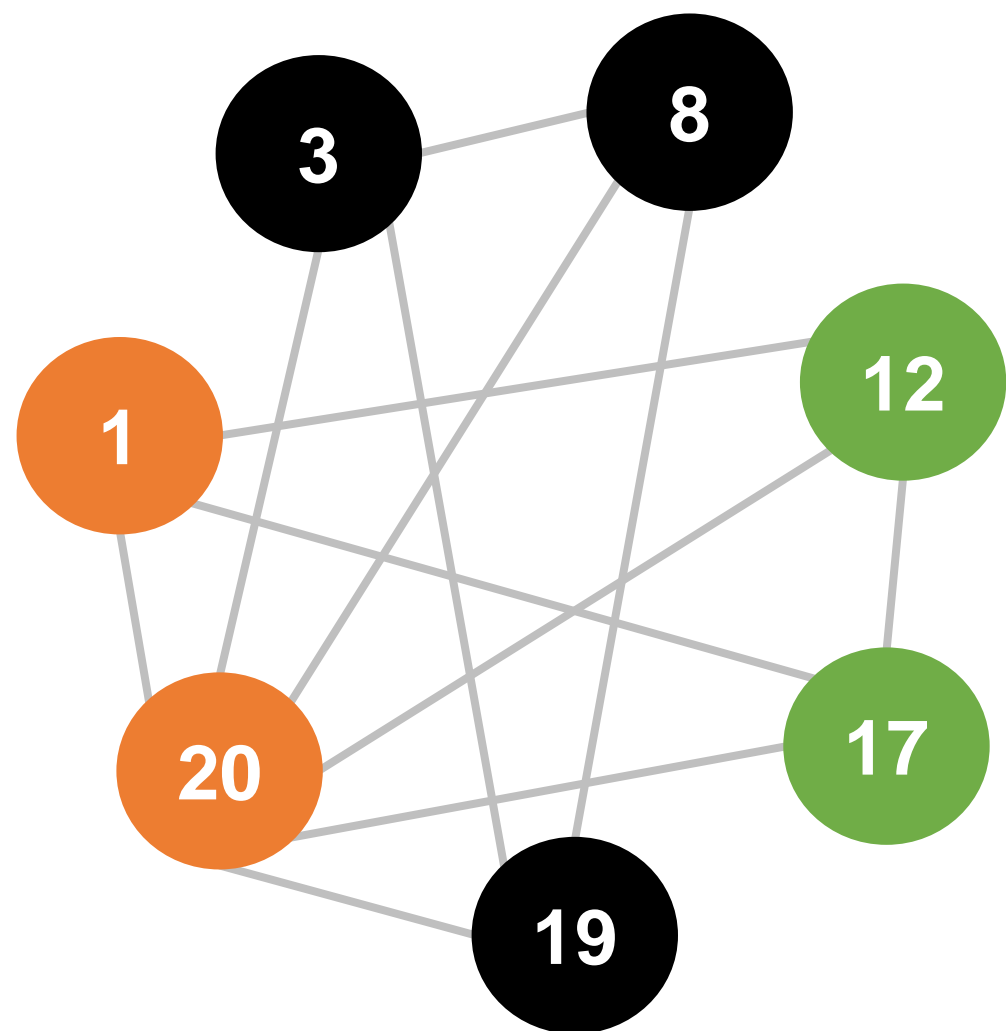
AUGMENT

**Smallest
complemented
volume**

**Largest
complemented
volume (R)**



set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20



REDUCE

**Remove nodes
not adjacent
to all
necessary
volumes**

set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

REDUCE



**Remove nodes
not adjacent
to all
necessary
volumes**

set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

AUGMENT



**Add endpoints of
volumes that
occur only once,
as an edge**

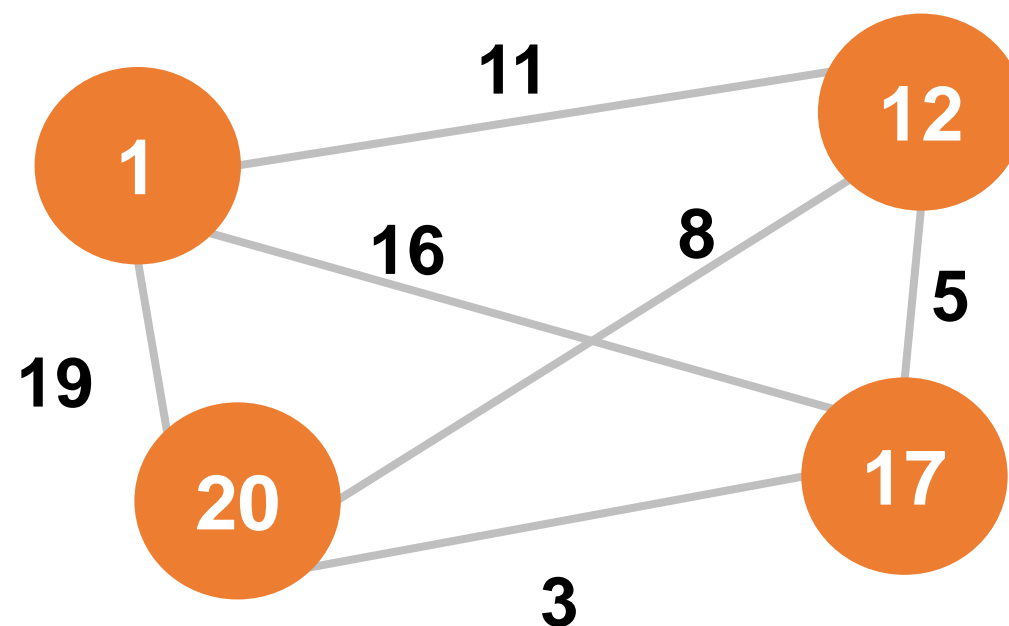
set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

AUGMENT



**Add endpoints of
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set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

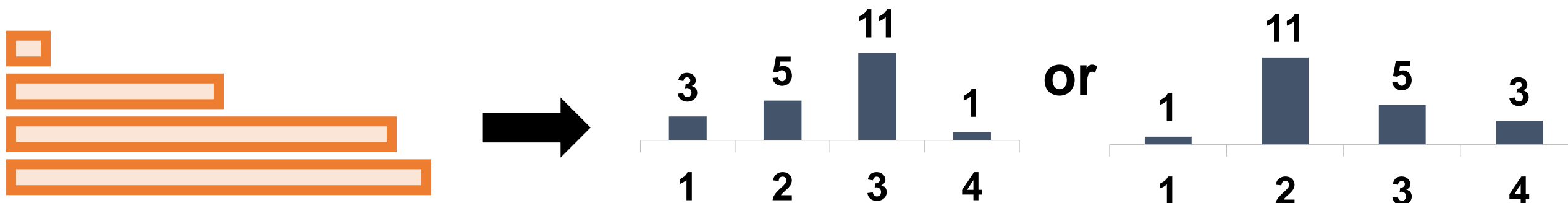
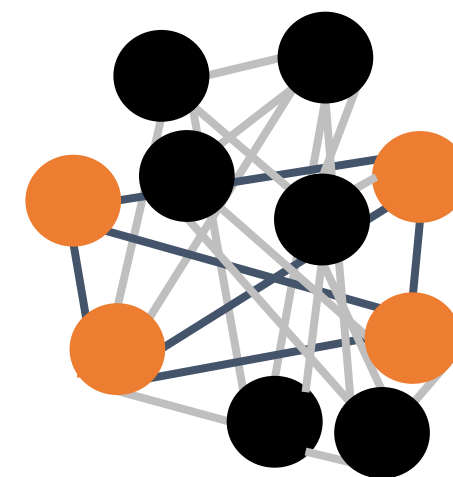


Done!

set of all observed volumes: 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 19, 20

Exploiting Volume Leakage

- **Build** a graph using all observed volumes
- Use properties of range queries to identify **elementary** volumes, which form a clique
- Use elementary volumes to directly **reconstruct** all counts in the database



How Many Queries Are Needed?

Suppose values in $\{1, \dots, N\}$, queries drawn equally at random.

How Many Queries Are Needed?

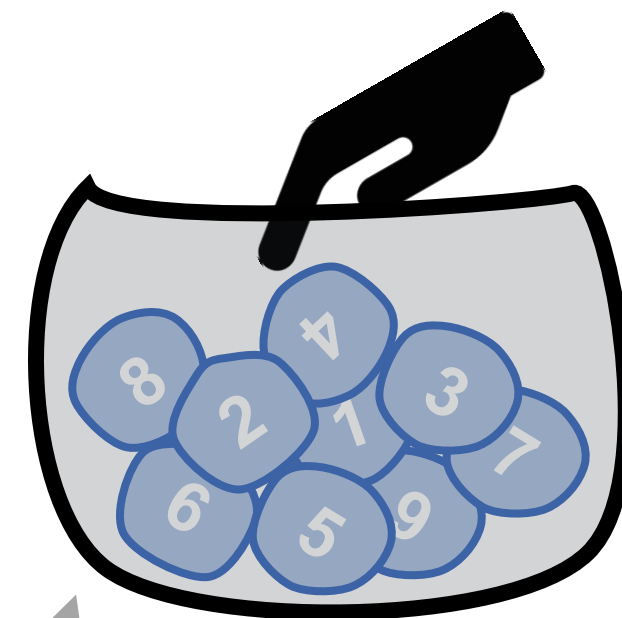
Suppose values in $\{1, \dots, N\}$, queries drawn equally at random.

$N^2 \log N$ queries expected to see **all volumes**

Coupon collector bound

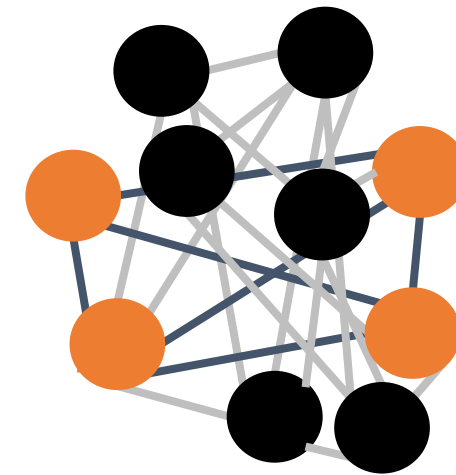
- **Q:** How many random draws expected till all coupons have been drawn at least once?
- **A:** $\approx N^2 \log N$

$N(N+1)/2$ "coupons"
(one for every range)



Exploiting Volume Leakage

- **Build** a graph using all observed volumes
- Use properties of range queries to identify **elementary** volumes, which form a clique
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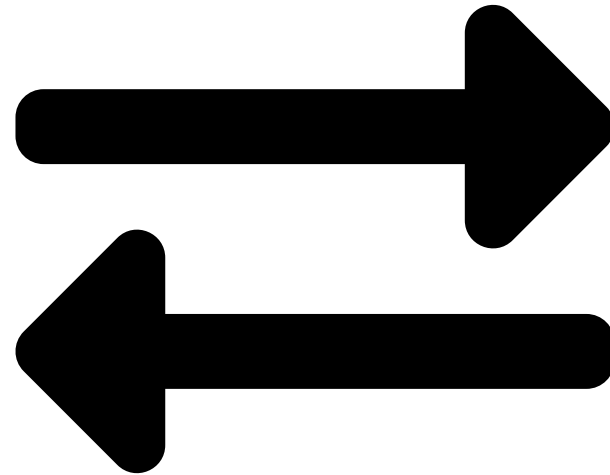
Details: [Grubbs, Lacharité, Minaud, and Paterson, CCS 2018]

Outline

1. Existing approaches to securing a database
 - Securing data in transit, at rest, and in use
2. How to exploit leakage to break database encryption
 - Exploiting access pattern leakage and volume leakage
3. Security recommendations
 - Types of leakage, leaky operations, trade-offs

Approach

What can leak?



Where and when can it leak?

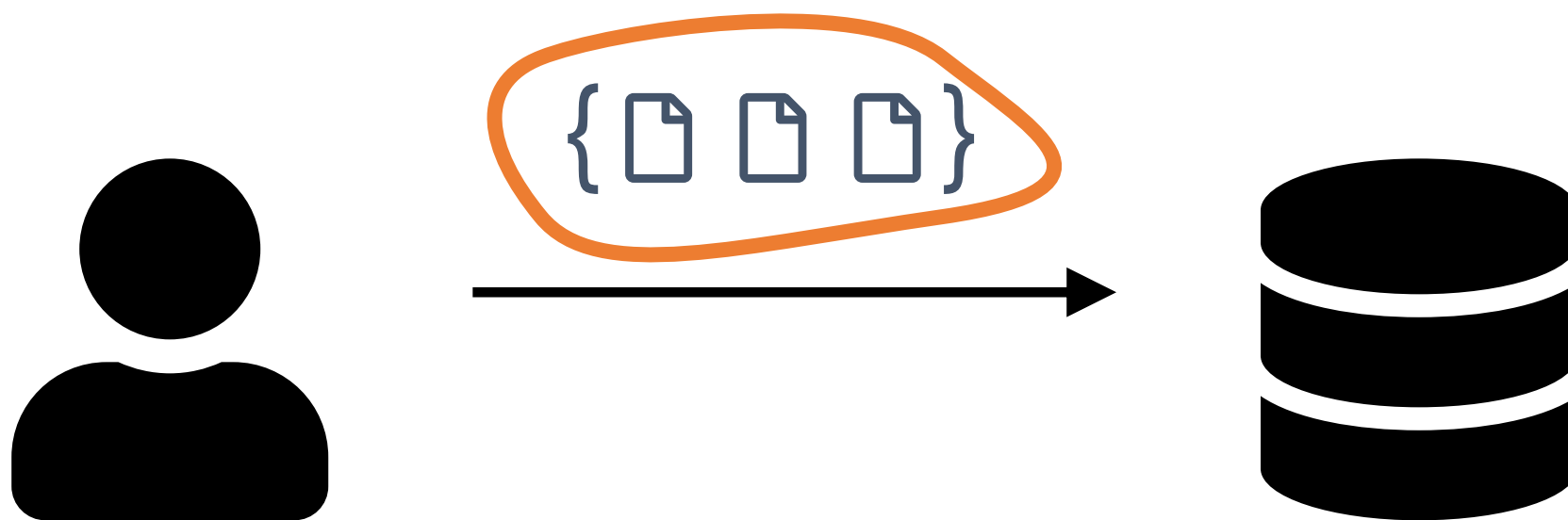
What Can Leak?






Properties related to...

- **Values:** order, distance, existence, number of distinct values, repetition, ...
- **Queries:** endpoints, repetition, width, inclusion, ...
- **Responses:** which rows matched, how many rows matched, repetition, ...

[Kamara et al., CRYPTO 2018]

Where and When Can It Leak?



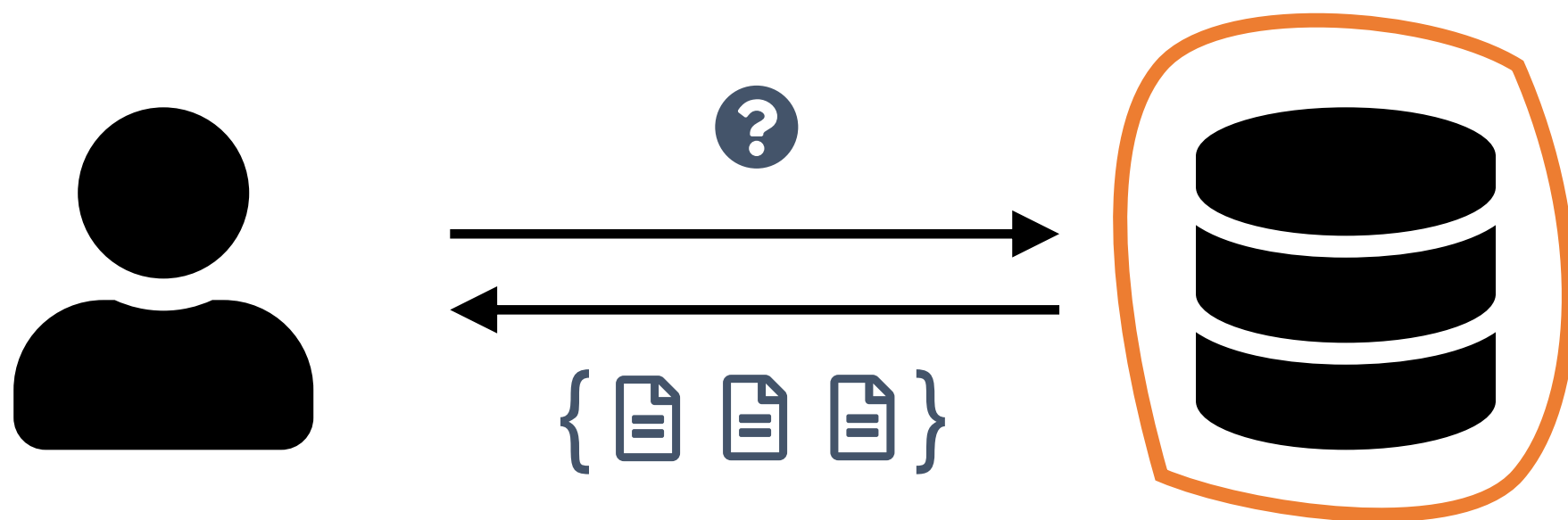
	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
	3	15
	4	41
	5	1
...

Where and When Can It Leak?



	ID	Value
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Where and When Can It Leak?



	ID	Value
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...

Trade-offs

Trade-offs

MITIGATION TECHNIQUES

- Restricting query types
- Dummy records
- Dummy values
- Trusting hardware
- ...

Trade-offs

MITIGATION TECHNIQUES

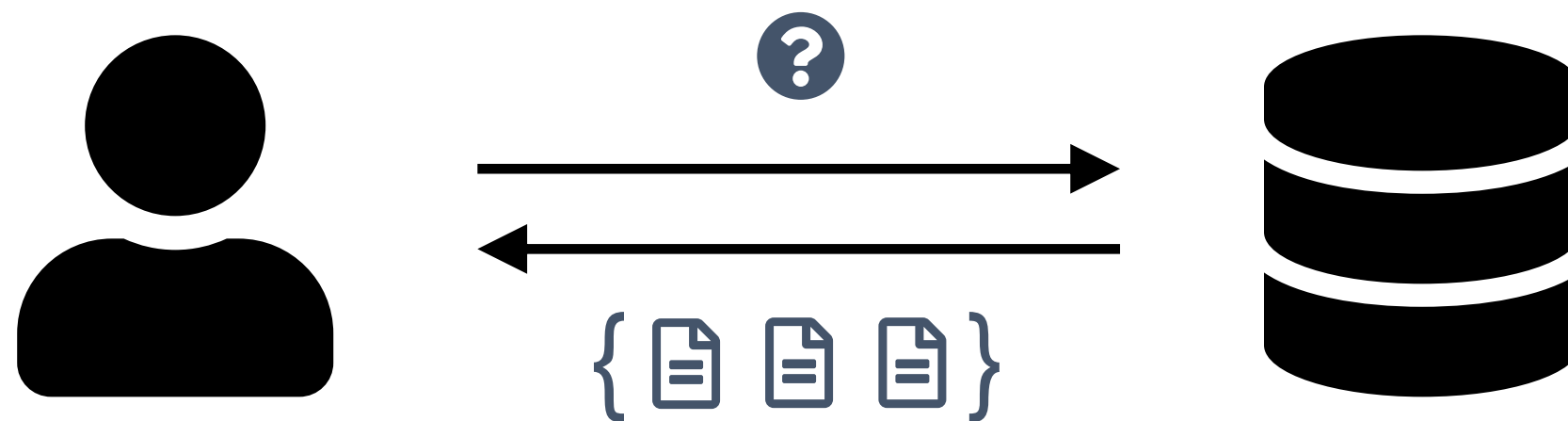
- Restricting query types
- Dummy records
- Dummy values
- Trusting hardware
- ...

COSTS

- Incomplete results
- Probabilistically correct results
- Efficiency
- Less compression/deduplication
- ...

Conclusion

Encrypted Databases








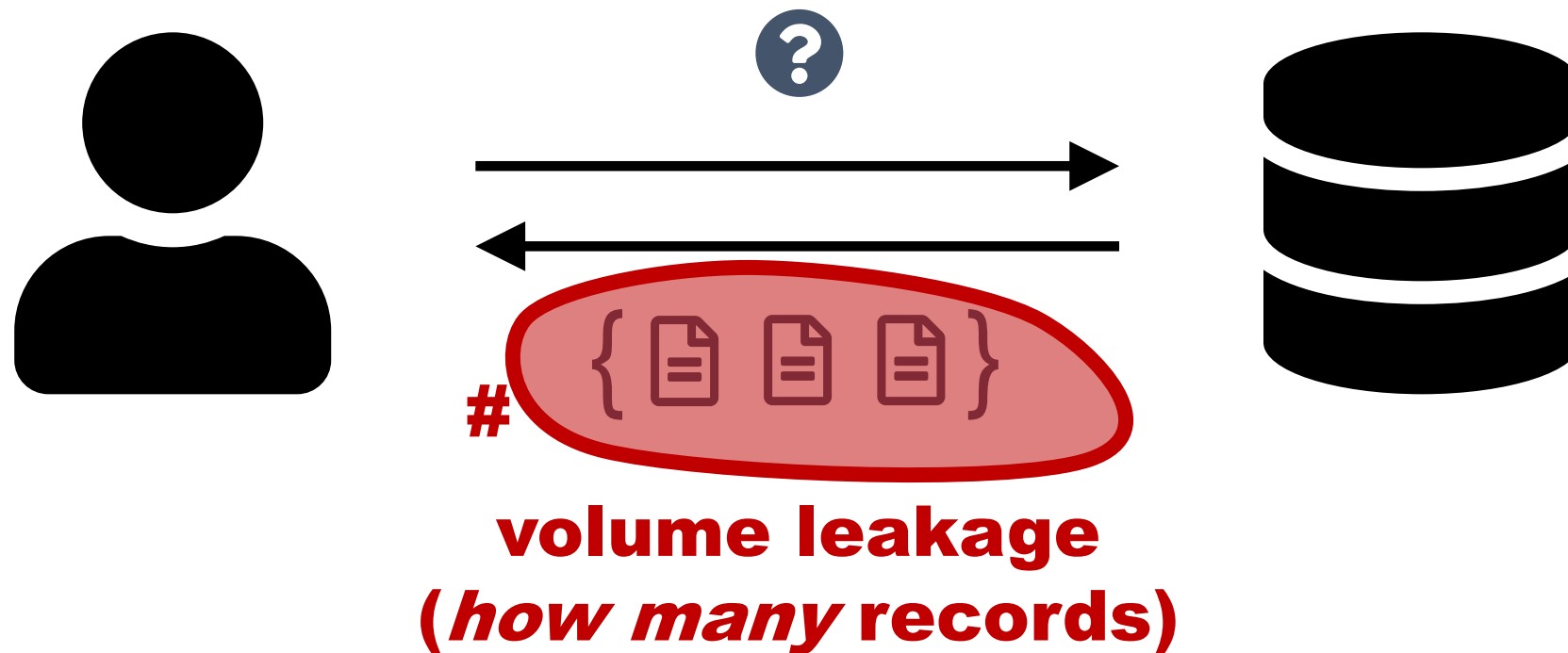
	ID	Value
	1	3
	2	1
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...



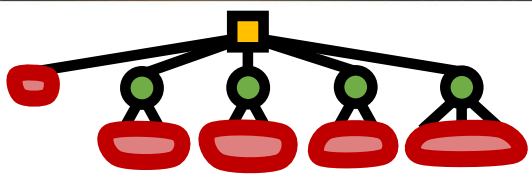
Encrypted Databases

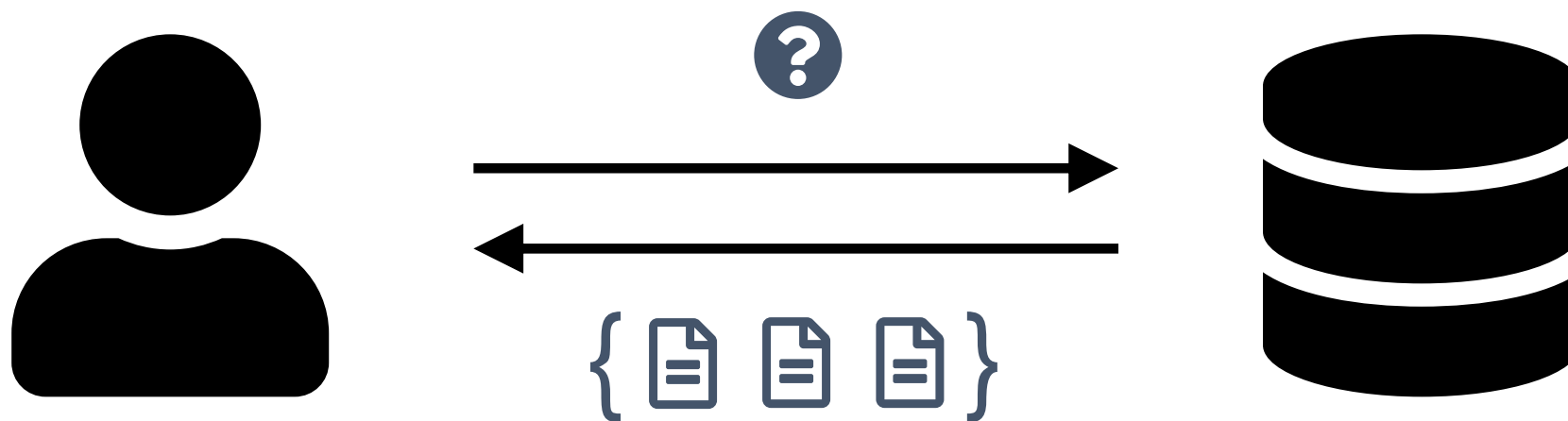
access pattern leakage
(which records)






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Encrypted Databases

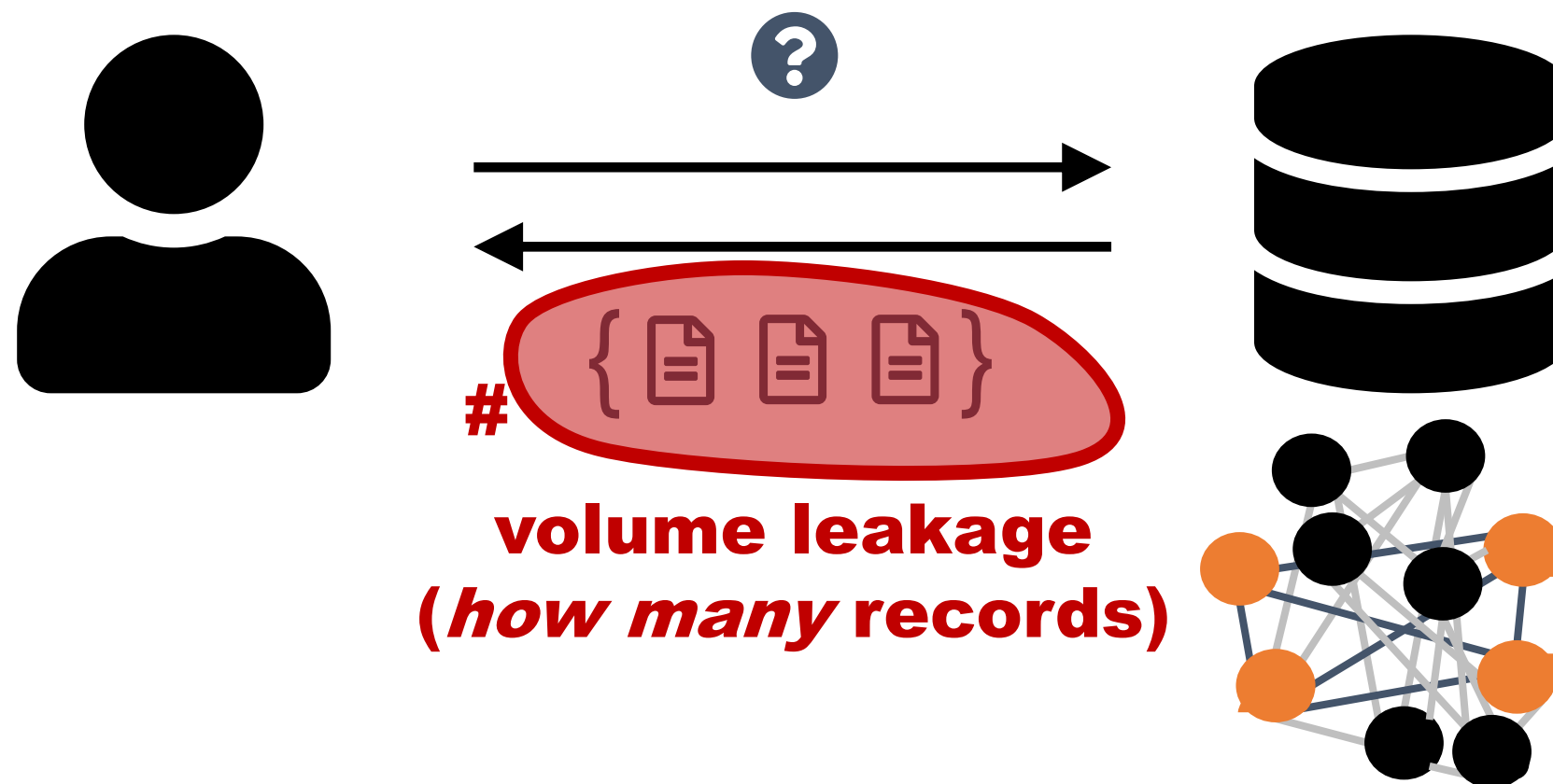

access pattern leakage
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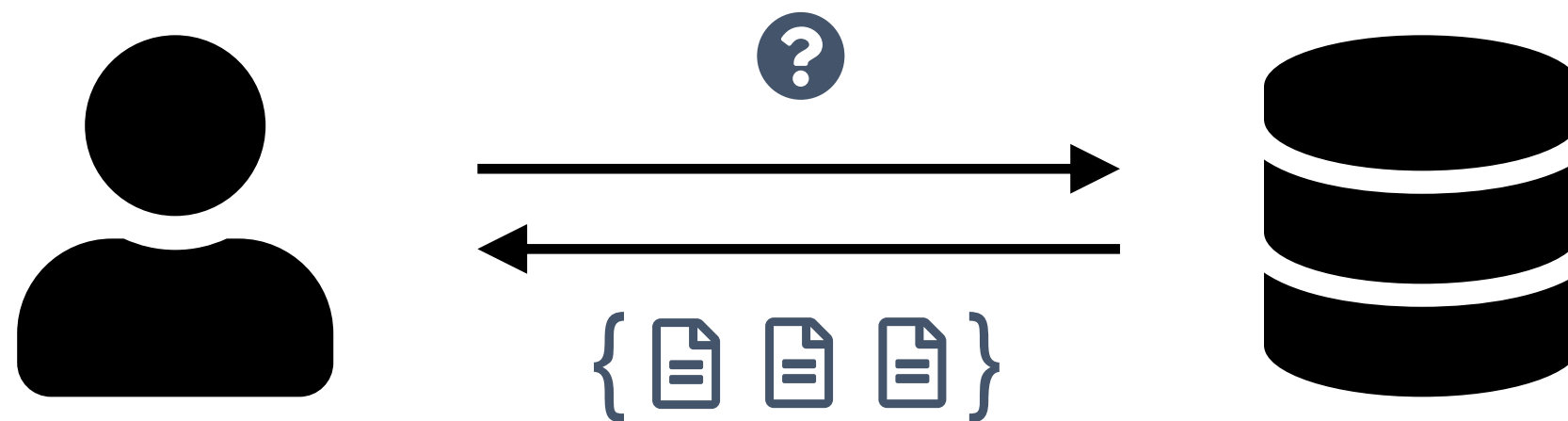
Encrypted Databases








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...



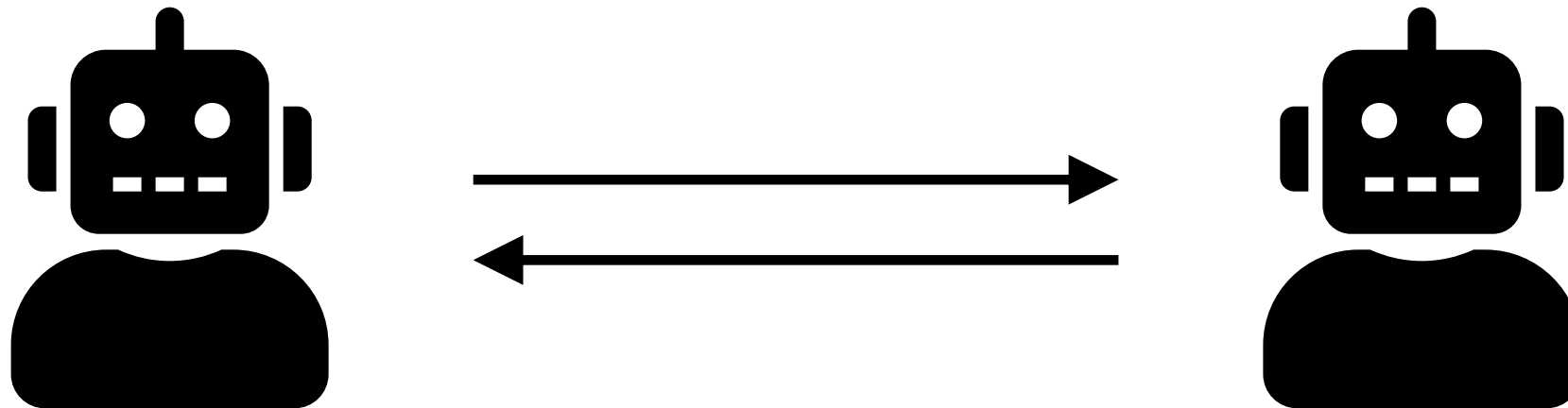
Encrypted Databases



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...

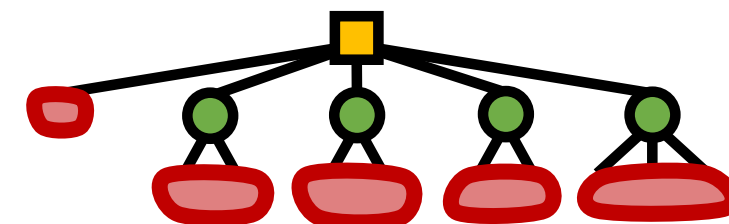
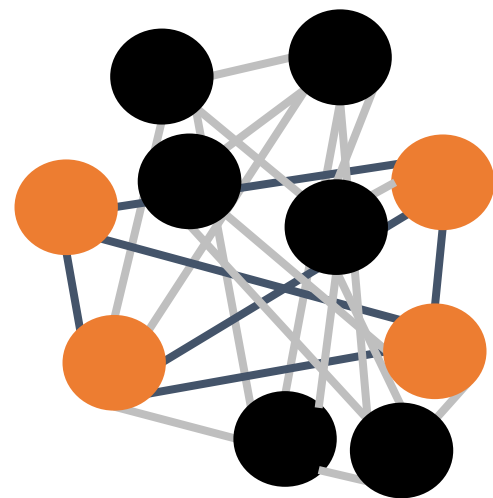


Side Channel Attacks



Thank you!

Questions?



mariesarah.lacharite@gmail.com
@znevrfnenu

Black Hat Sound Bytes

- Databases have many unique side channels that leak information.
- Side channel attacks exploiting this leakage can break encryption.
- Understanding different kinds of leakage and during what operations they arise can help secure an encrypted database.