

# Airavat: Security and Privacy for MapReduce

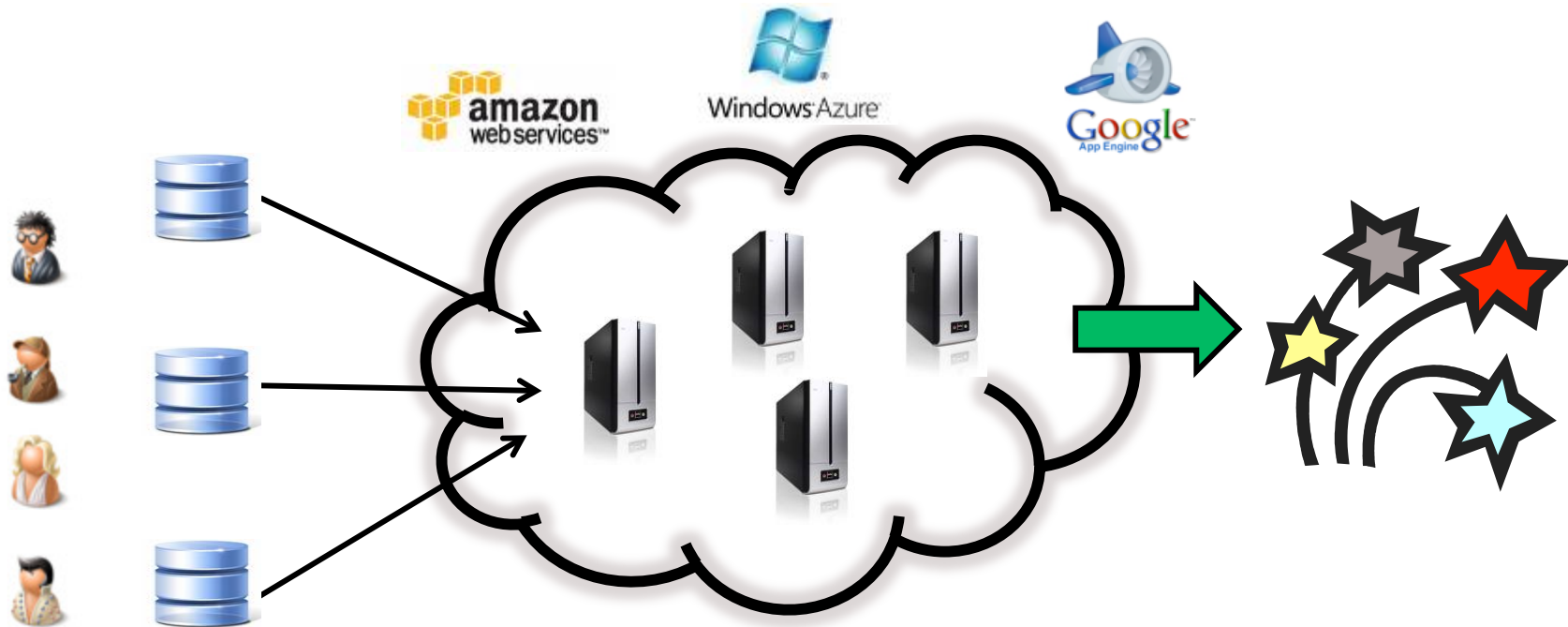
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Vitaly Shmatikov, Emmett Witchel



**The University of Texas at Austin**

# Computing in the year 201X

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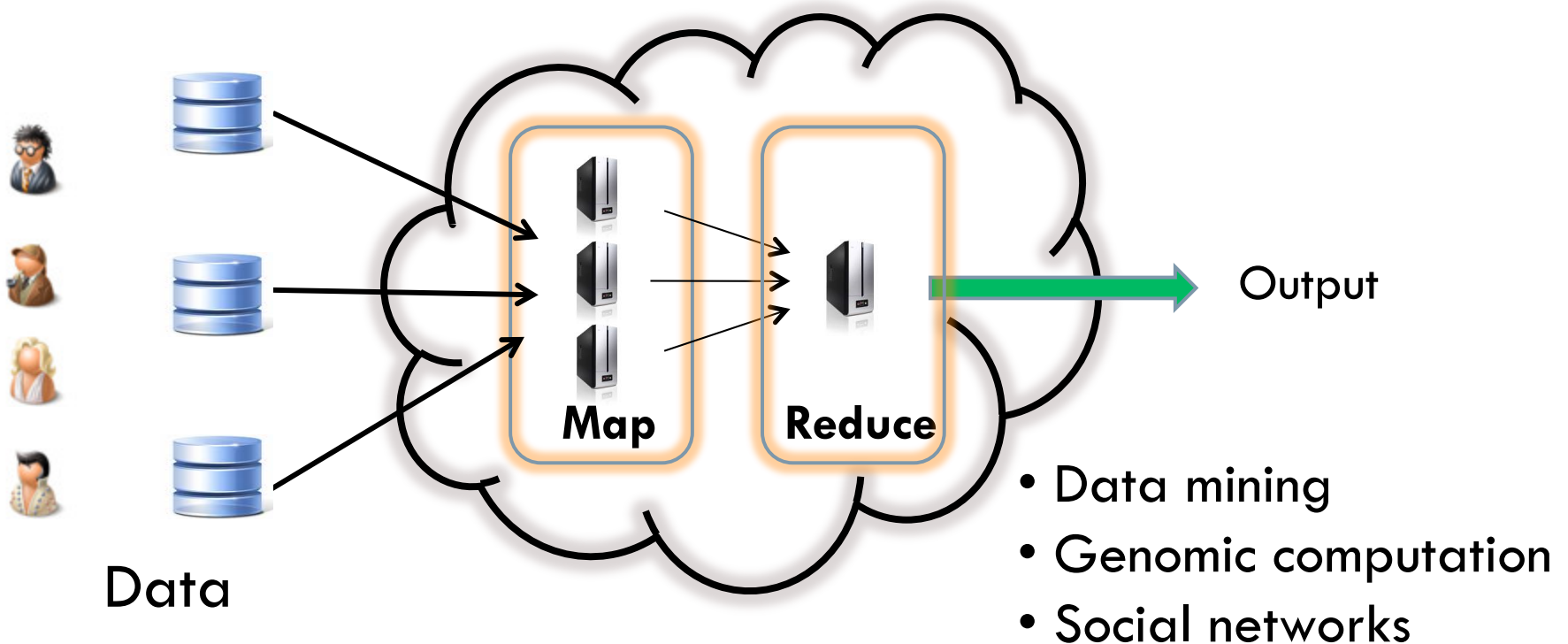
Data

- 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



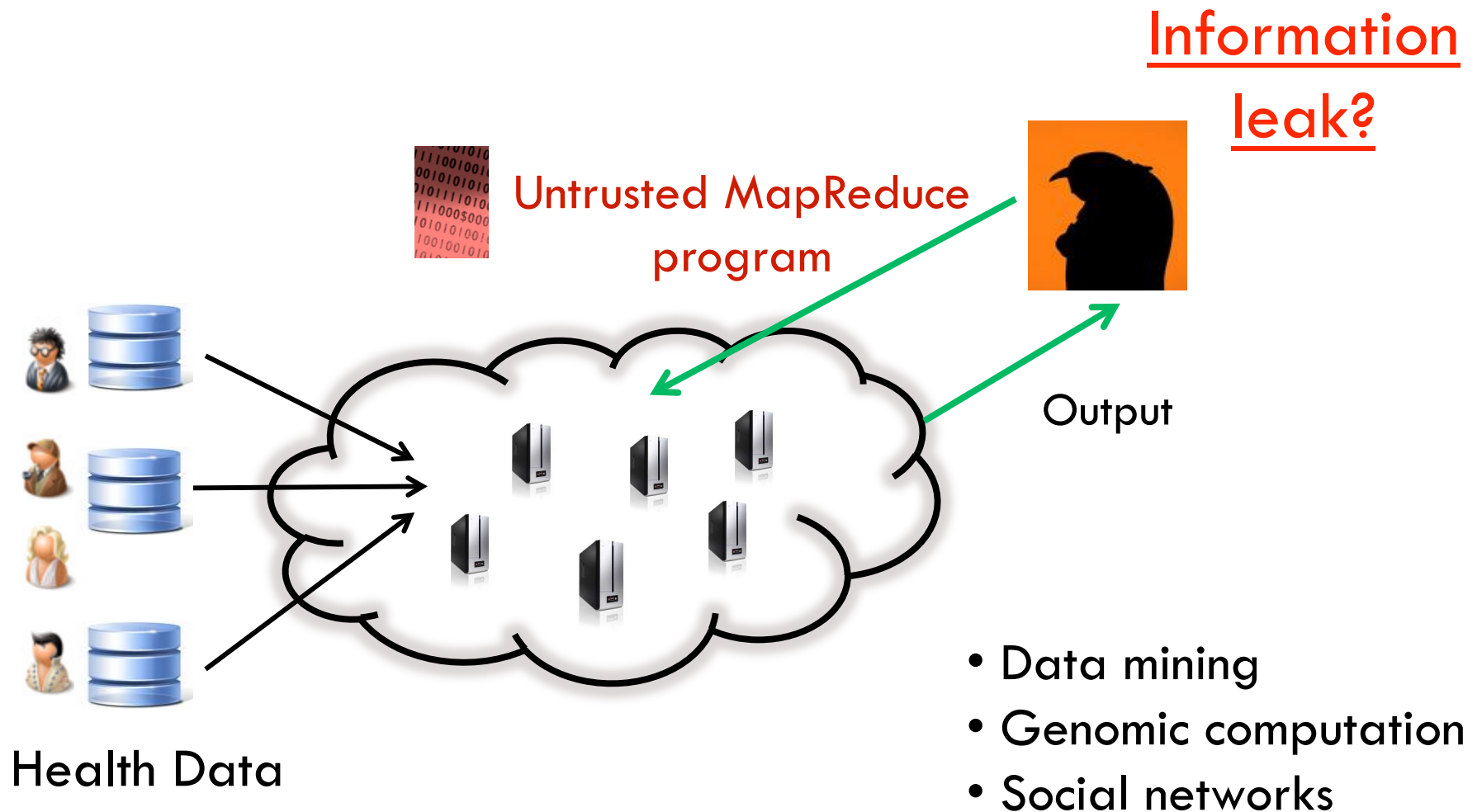
# Programming model in year 201X

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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

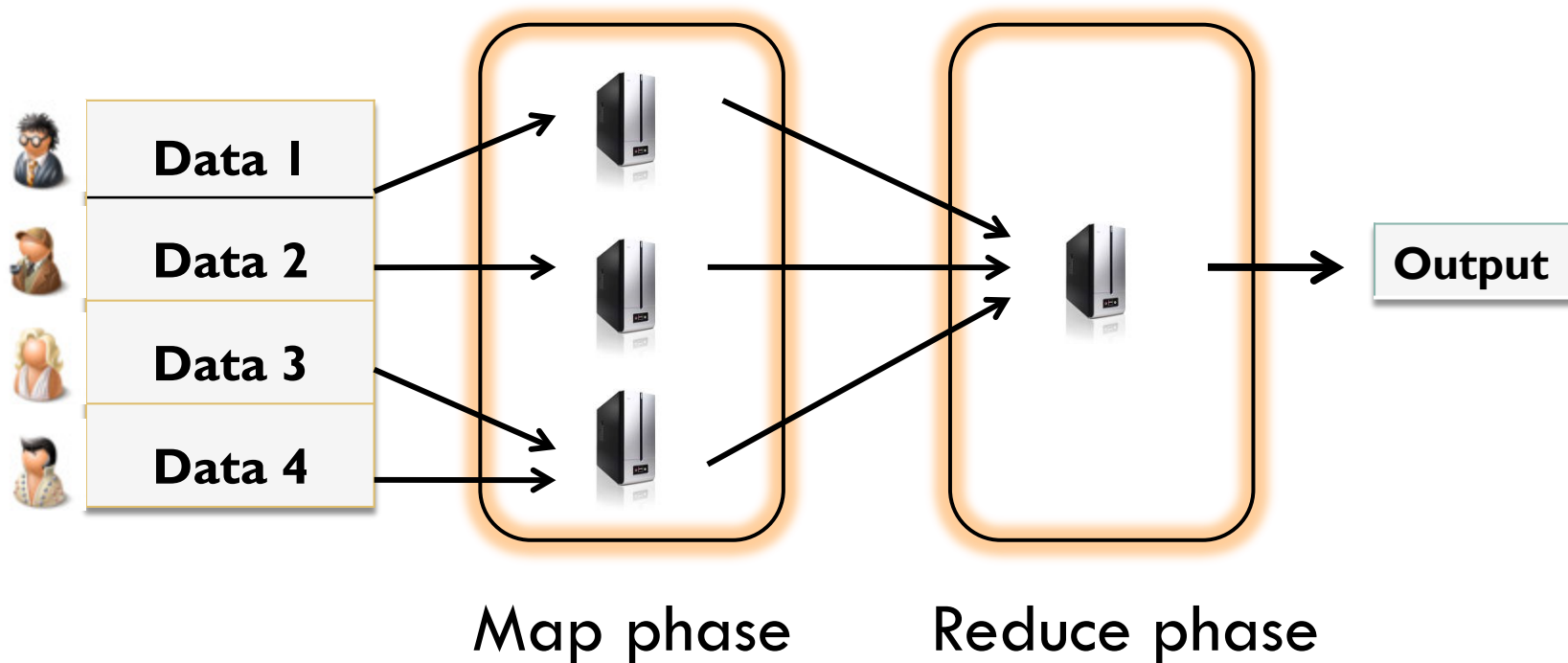
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- Motivation
- Overview
- Enforcing privacy
- Evaluation
- Summary

# Background: MapReduce

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



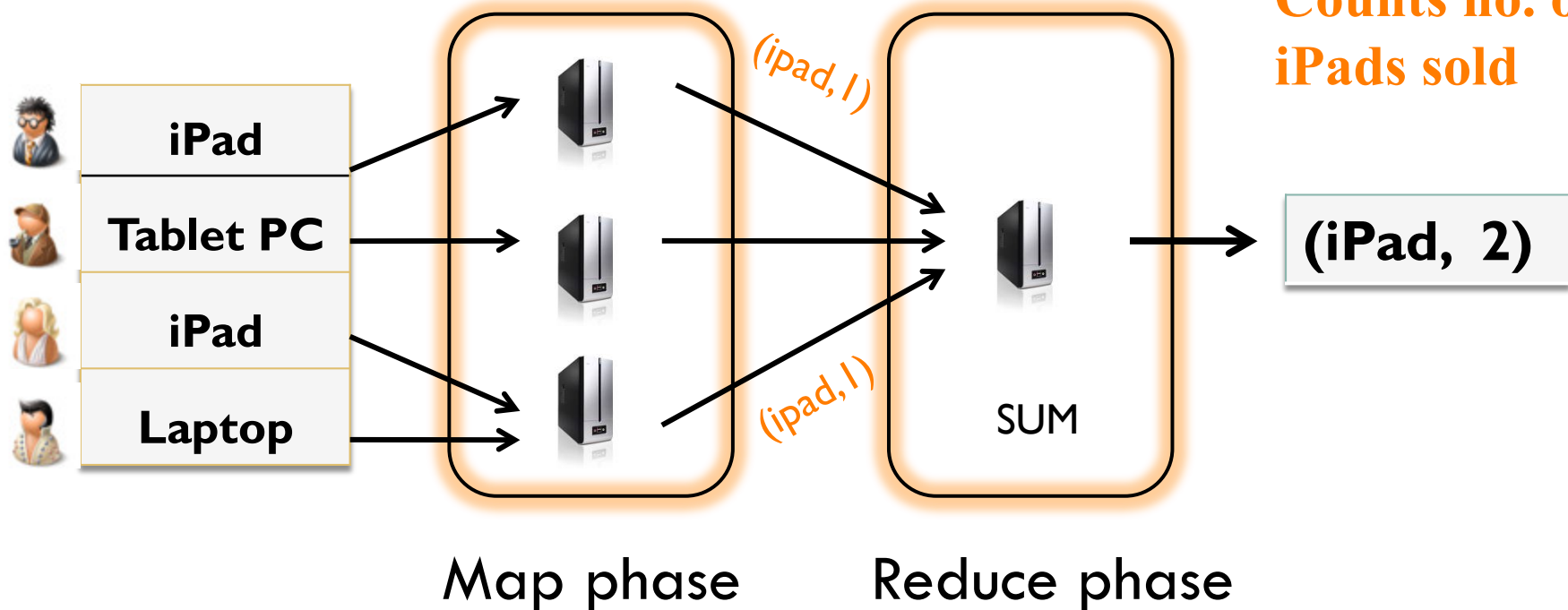
# MapReduce example

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Map(input)  $\rightarrow$  { if (input has iPad) print (iPad, 1) }

Reduce(key, list(v))  $\rightarrow$  { print (key + “,”+ SUM(v)) }

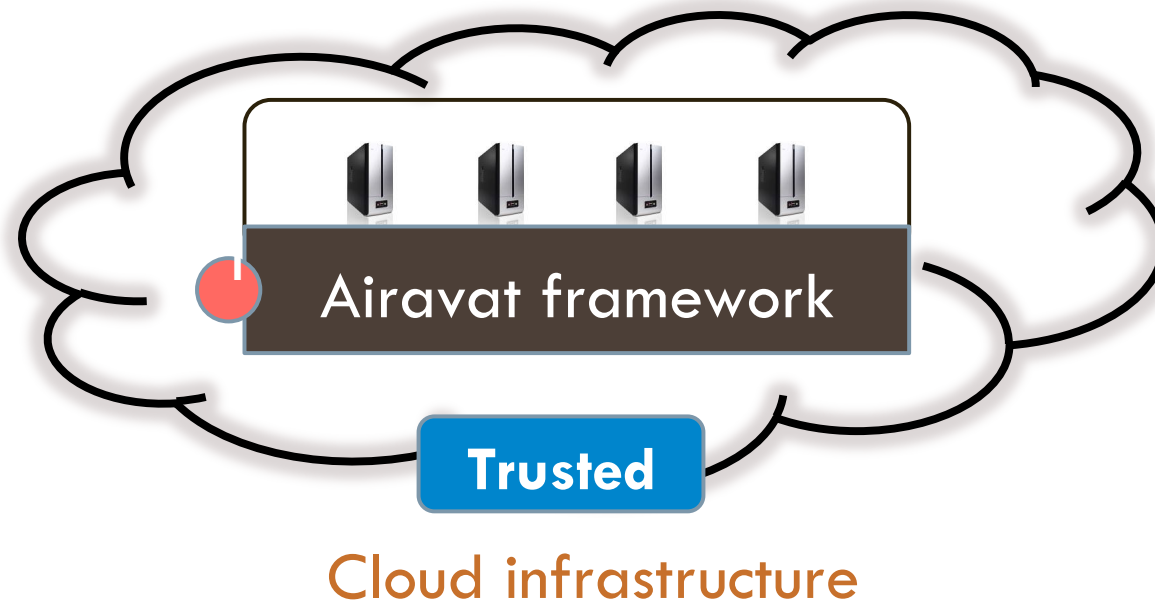
Counts no. of iPads sold



# Airavat model

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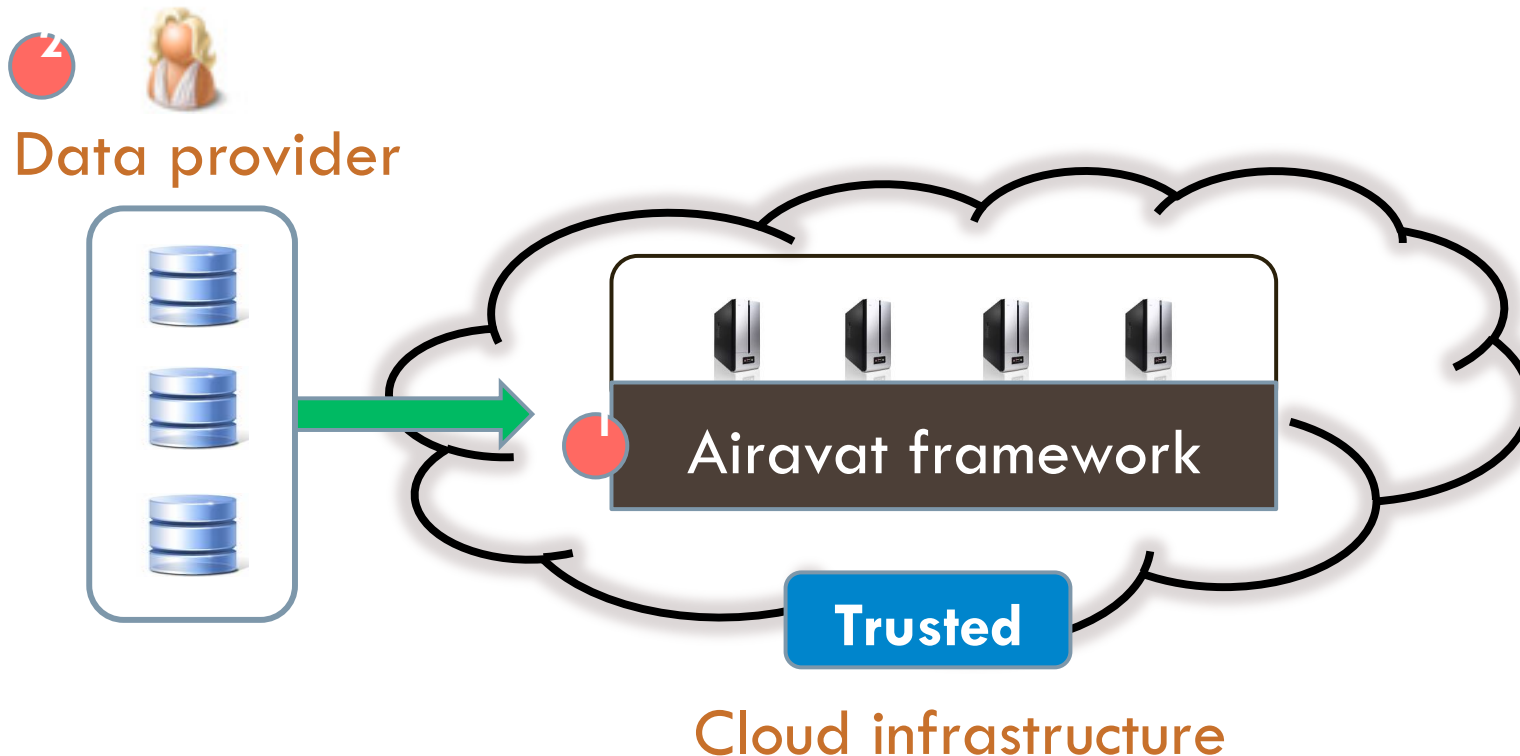
- Airavat framework runs on the cloud infrastructure
  - Cloud infrastructure: Hardware + VM
  - Airavat: Modified MapReduce + DFS + JVM + SELinux



# Airavat model

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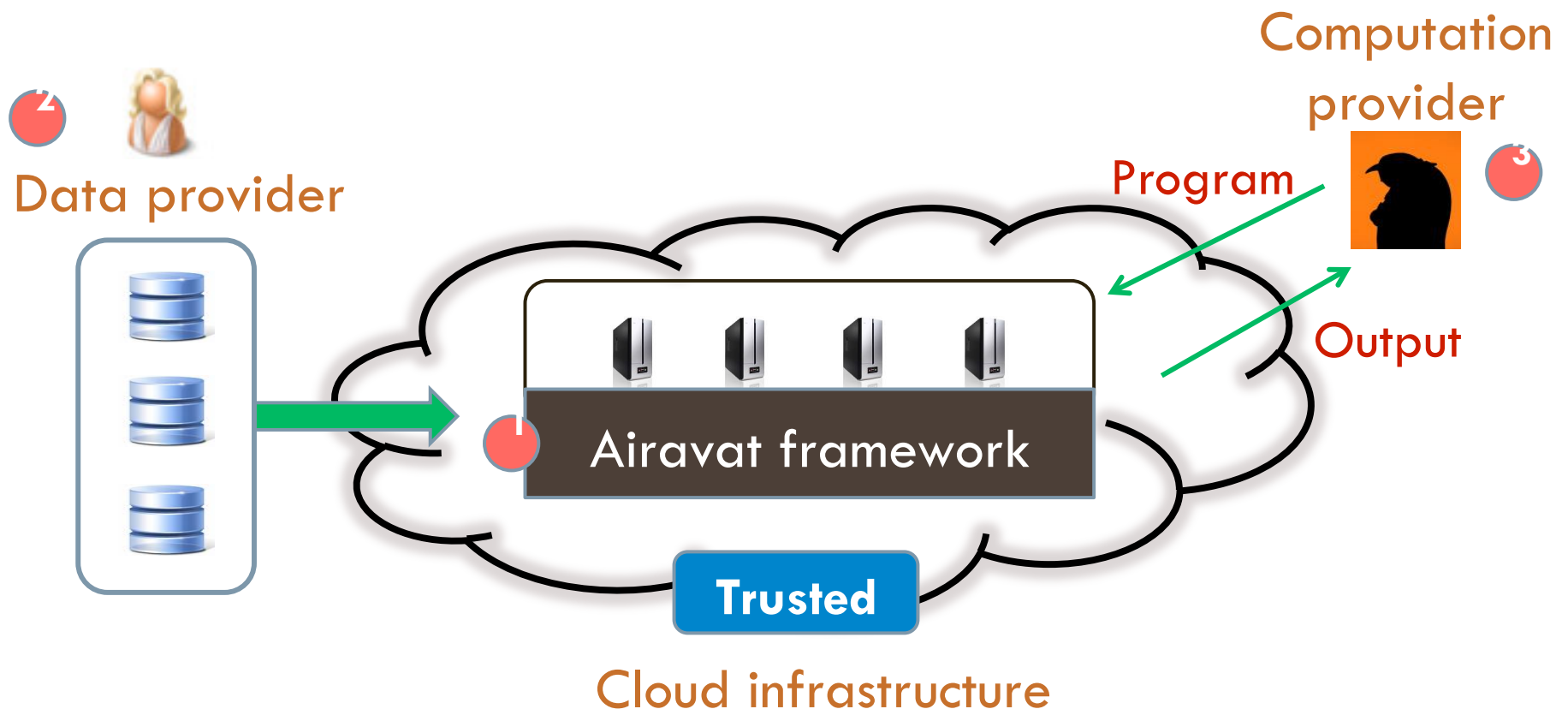
- Data provider uploads her data on Airavat
  - Sets up certain privacy parameters



# Airavat model

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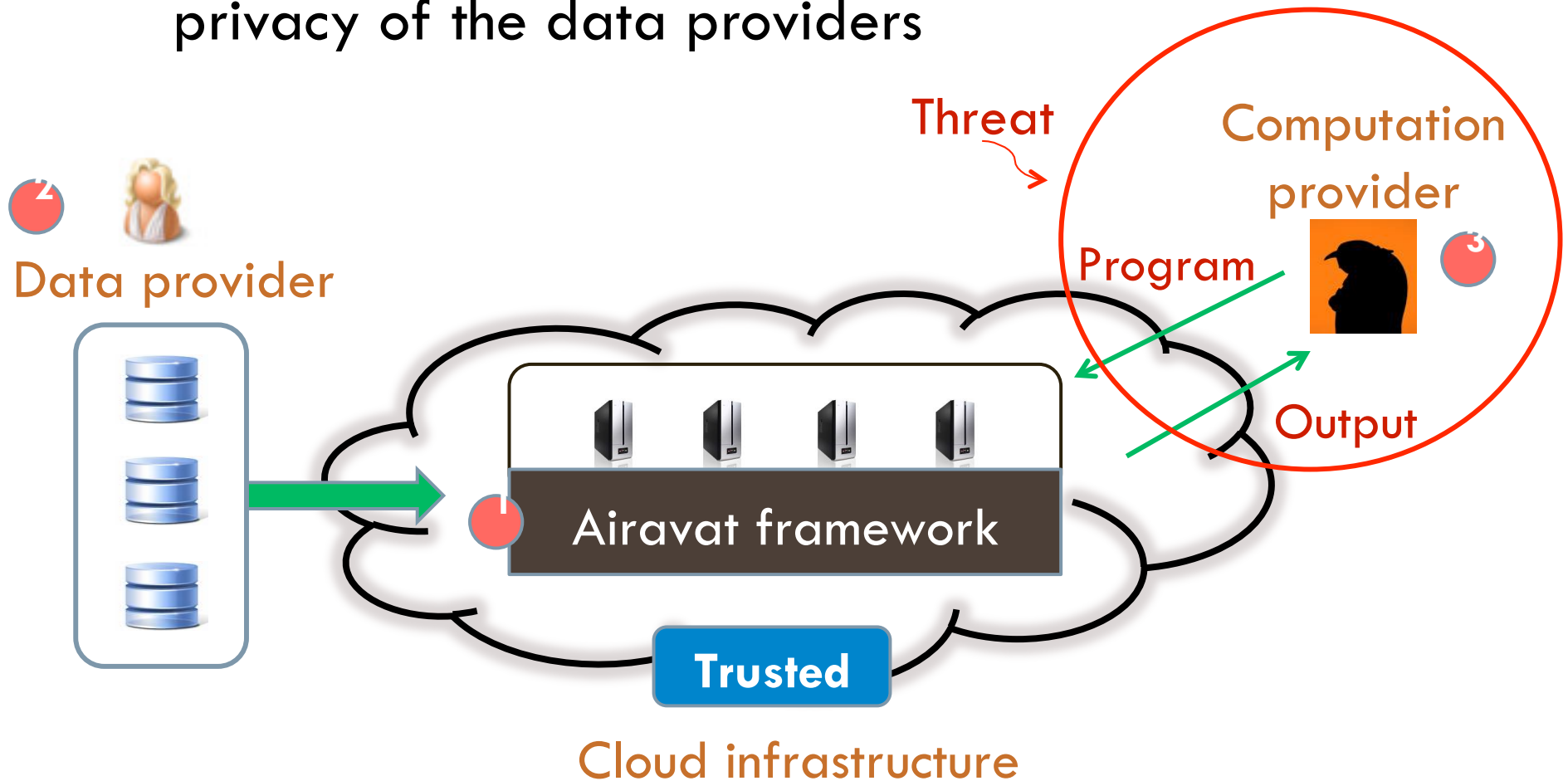
- Computation provider writes data mining algorithm
  - Untrusted, possibly malicious



# Threat model

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





# Roadmap

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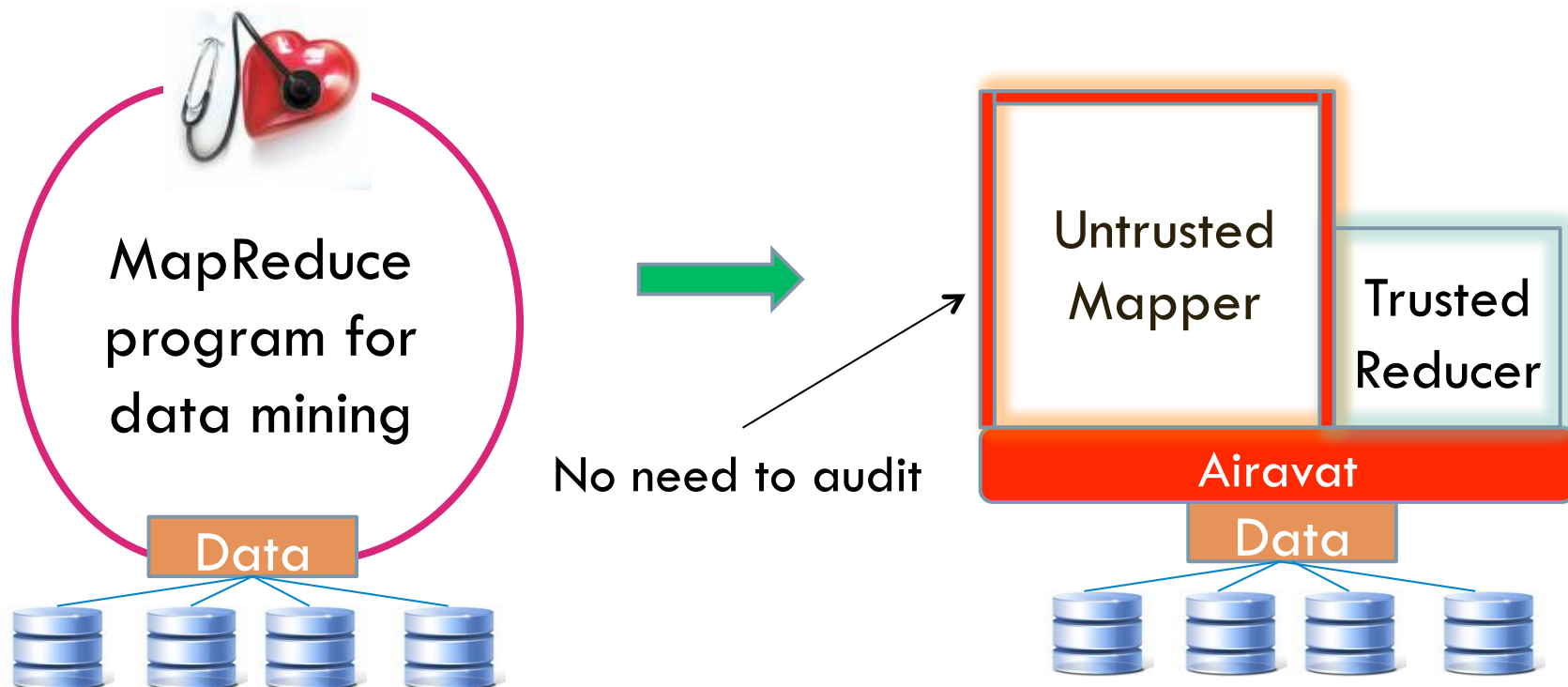
- What is the programming model?
- How do we enforce privacy?
- What computations can be supported in Airavat?

# Programming model

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

Limited set of stock reducers

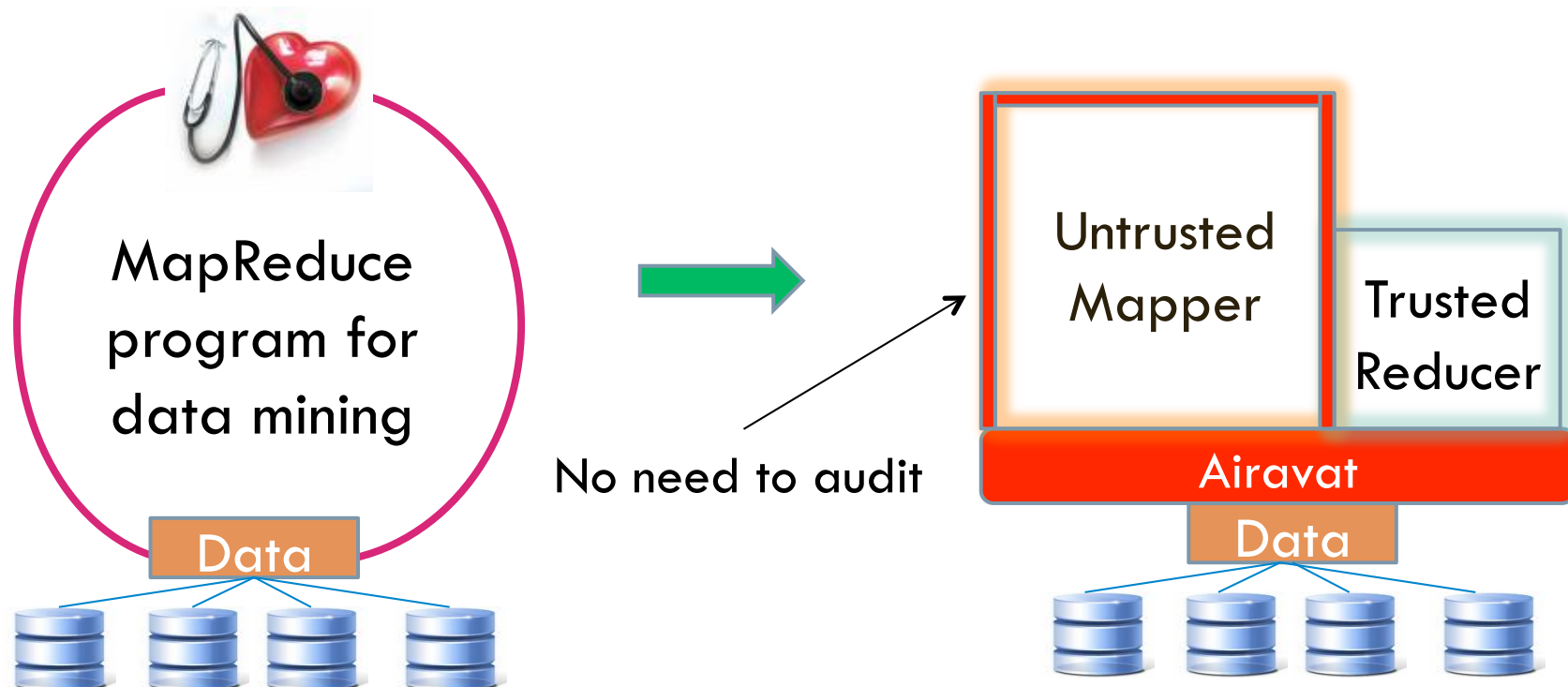


# Programming model

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Need to confine the mappers !

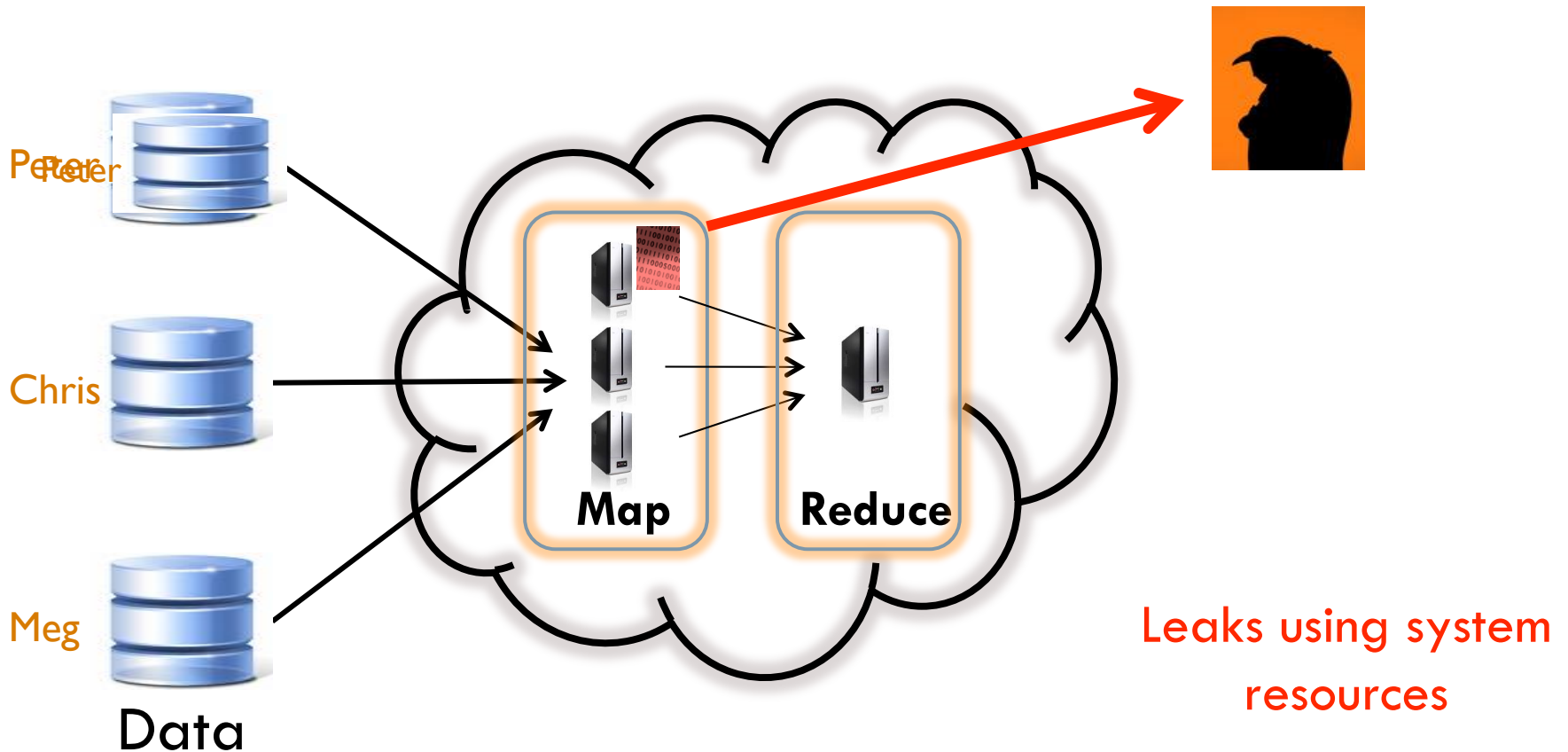
Guarantee: Protect the privacy of data providers



# Challenge 1: Untrusted mapper

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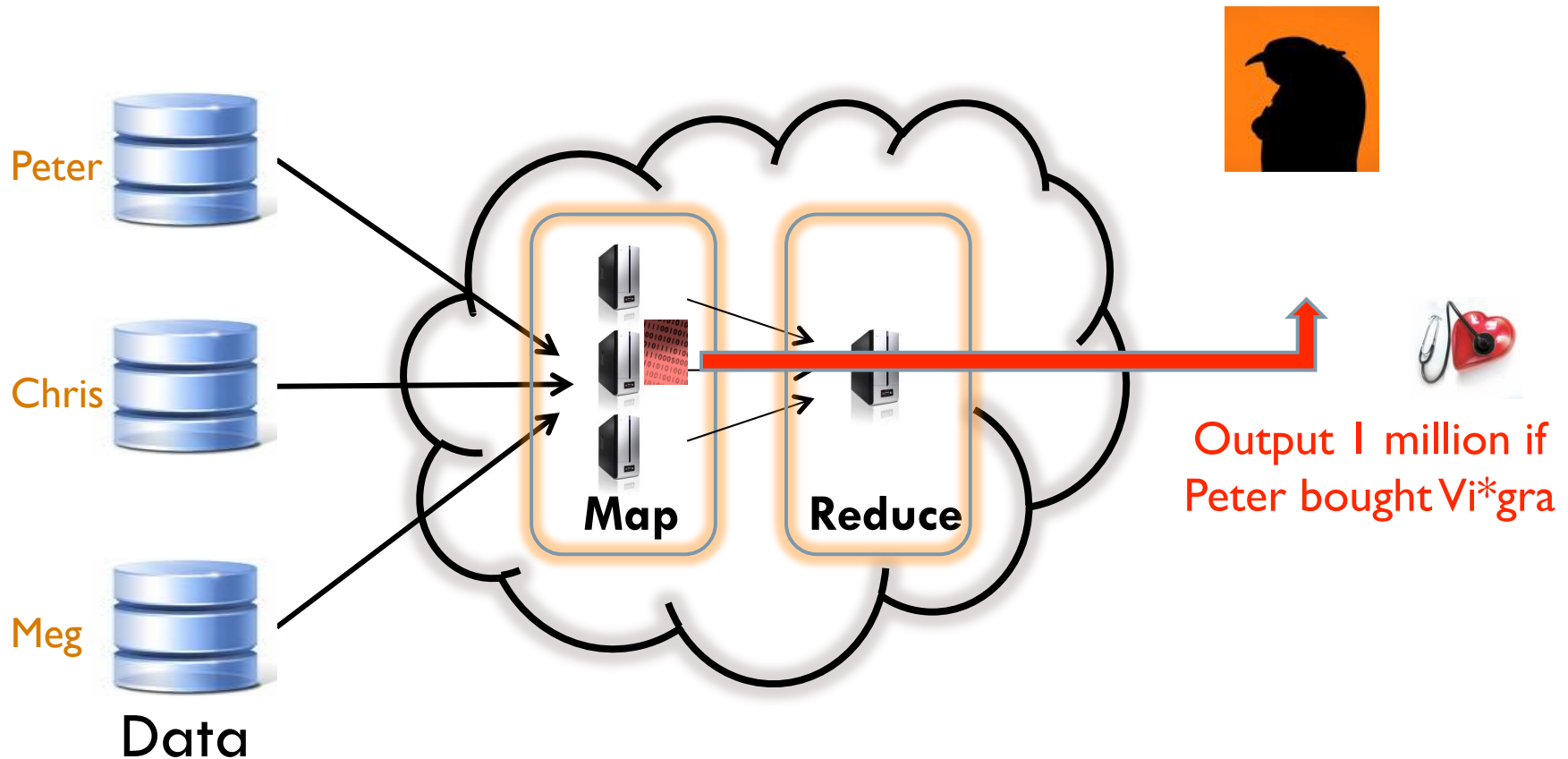
- Untrusted mapper code copies data, sends it over the network



# Challenge 2: Untrusted mapper

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- Output of the computation is also an information channel



# Airavat mechanisms

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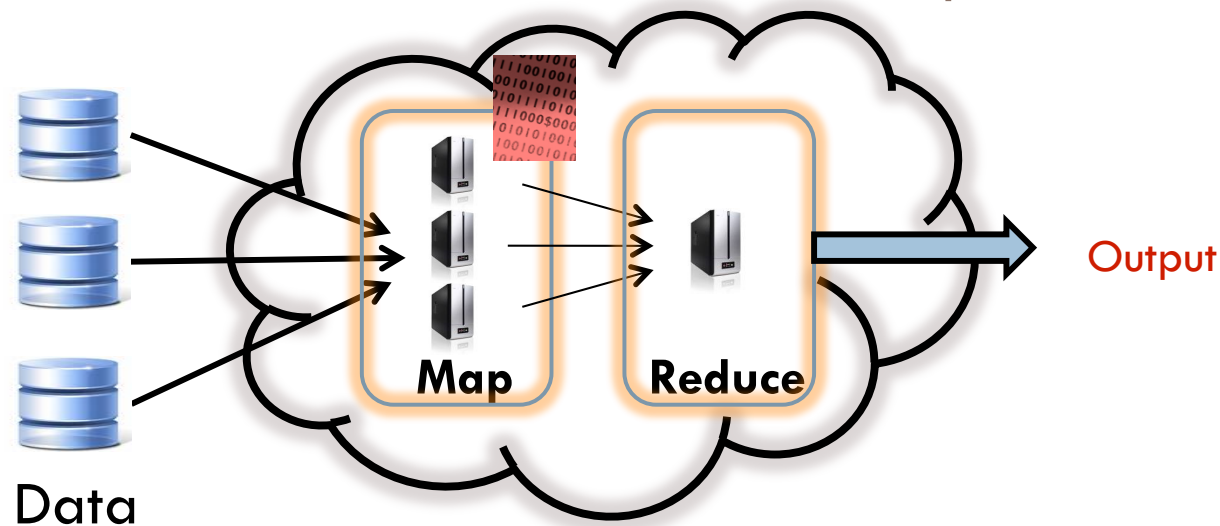
Mandatory access control



Differential privacy

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

Prevent leaks through the output of the computation



# Back to the roadmap

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- What is the programming model?

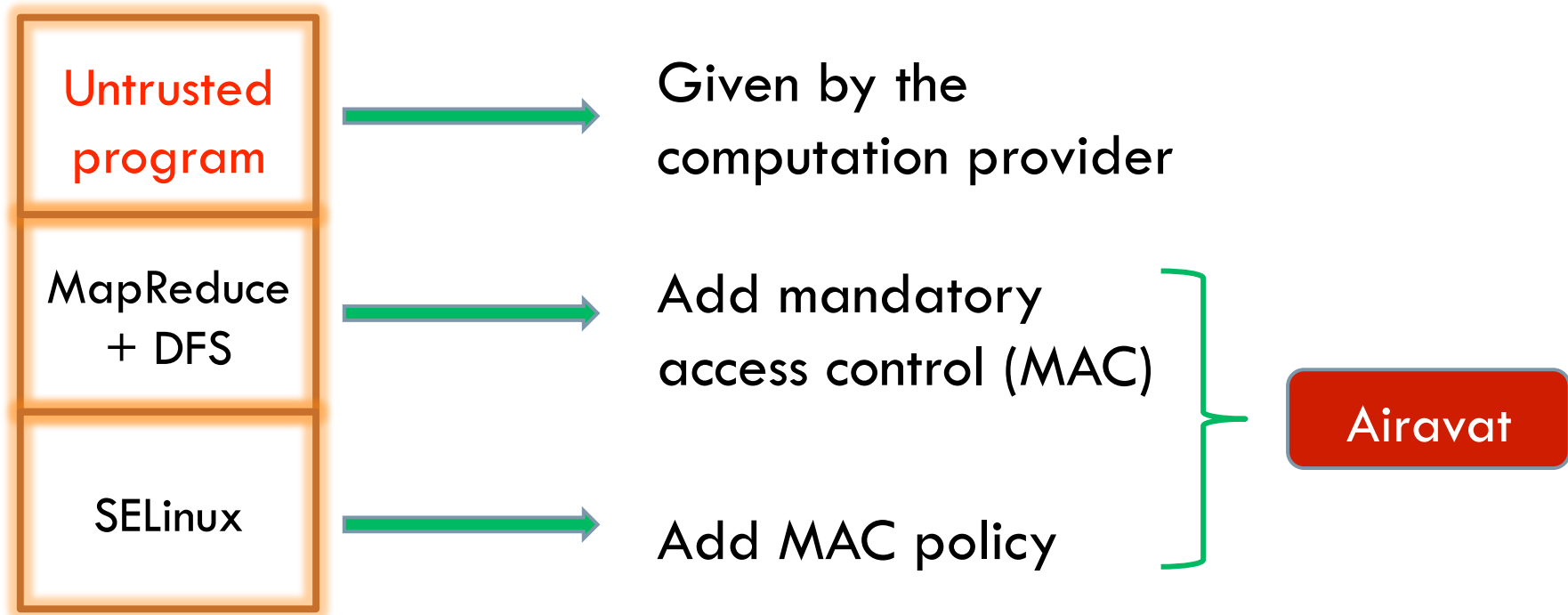
Untrusted mapper + Trusted reducer

- 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

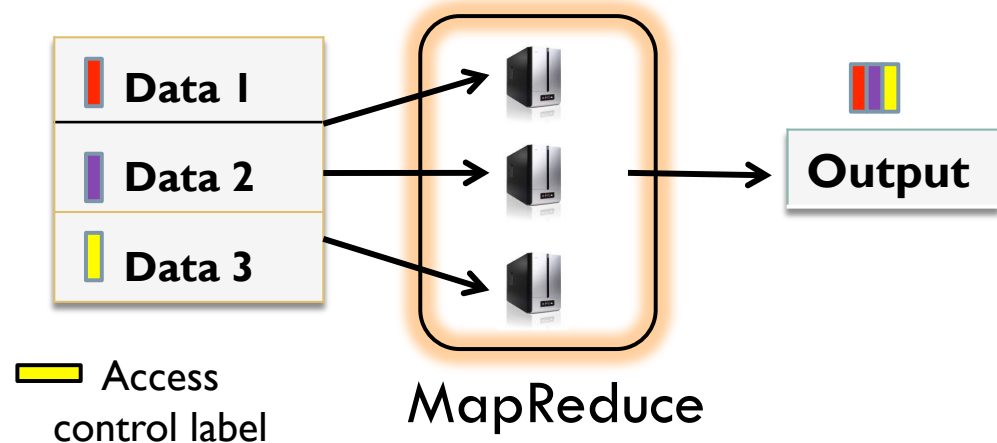




# Airavat confines the untrusted code



- 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

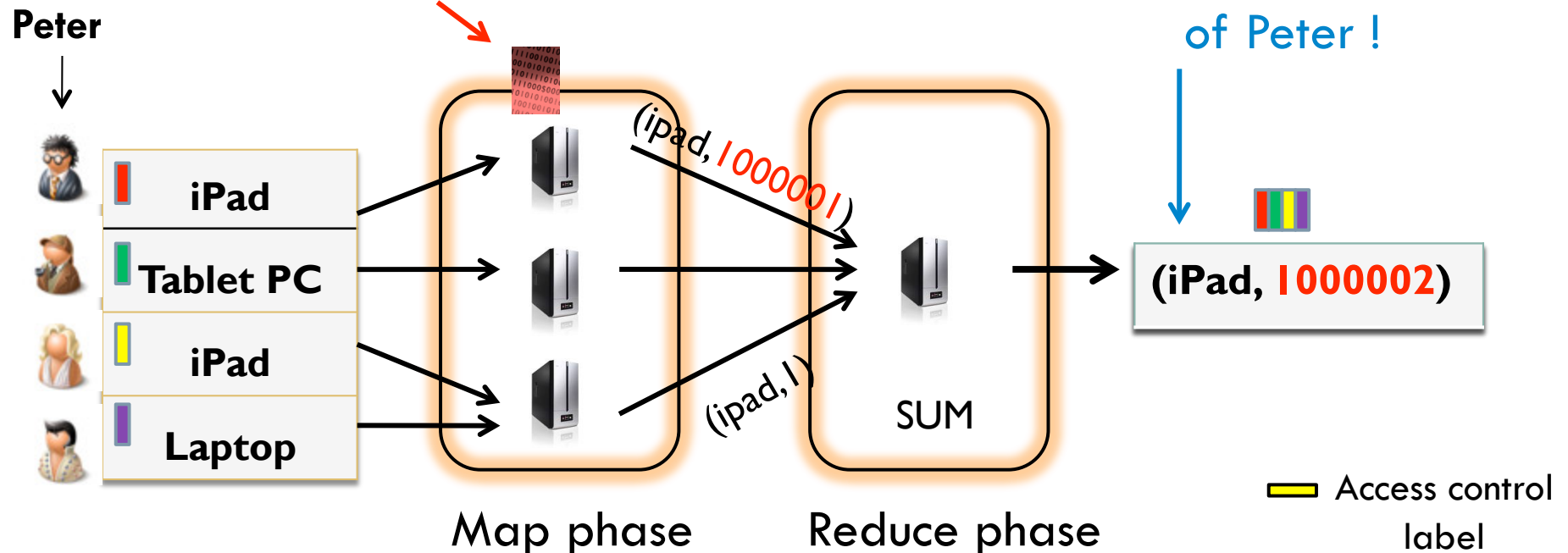
# But access control is not enough

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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)

Output leaks the presence  
of Peter !



# 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

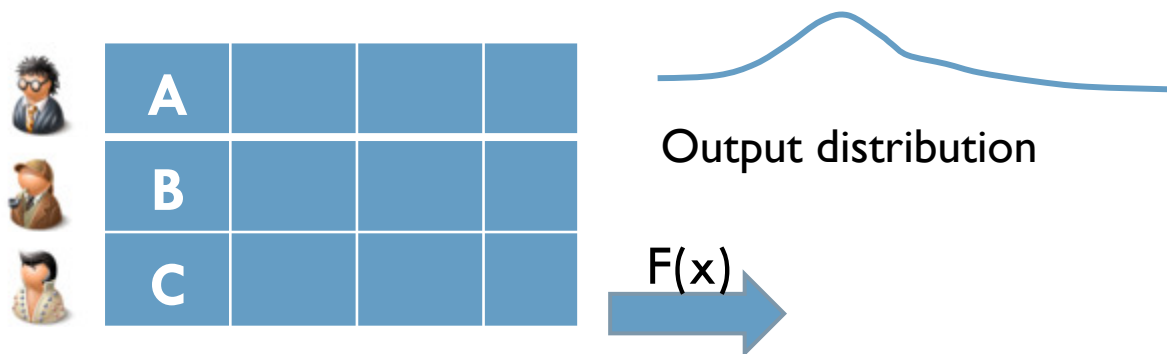
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A mechanism is **differentially private** if every output is produced with similar probability whether any given input is included or not

# Differential privacy (intuition)

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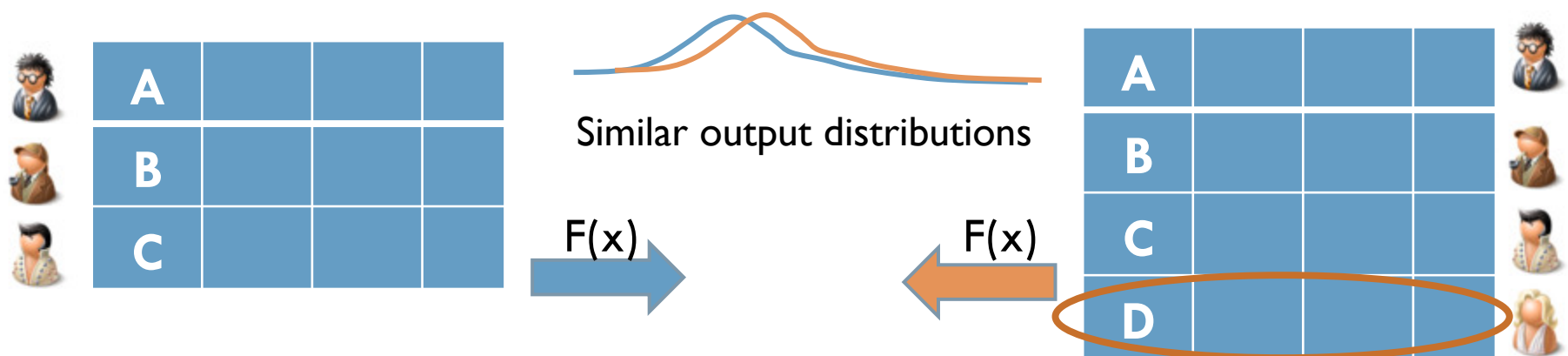
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# Differential privacy (intuition)

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

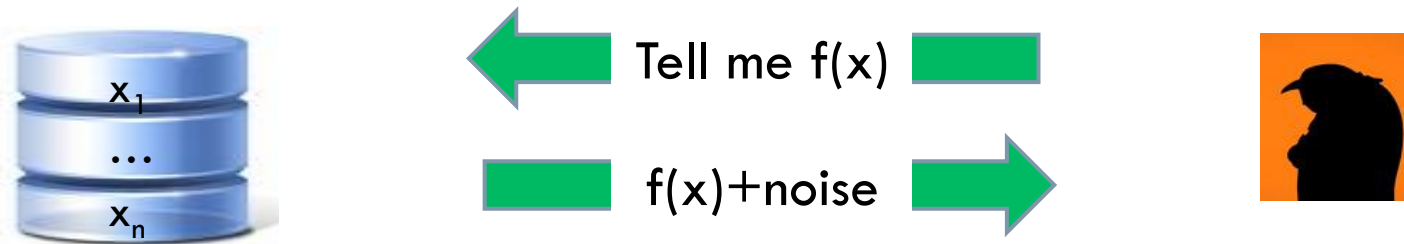


**Bounded risk for D if she includes her data!**

# Achieving differential privacy

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- A simple differentially private mechanism



- How much noise should one add?



# Achieving differential privacy

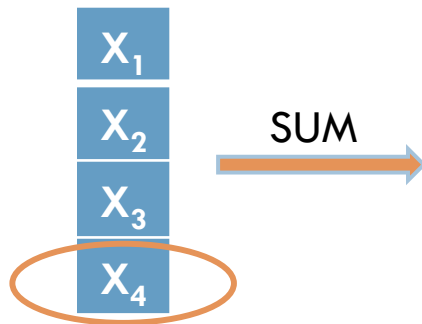
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- **Function sensitivity** (intuition): Maximum effect of any single input on the output
  - ▣ Aim: Need to conceal this effect to preserve privacy
- Example: Computing the **average height** of the people in this room has low sensitivity
  - ▣ Any 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  $[0, M]$



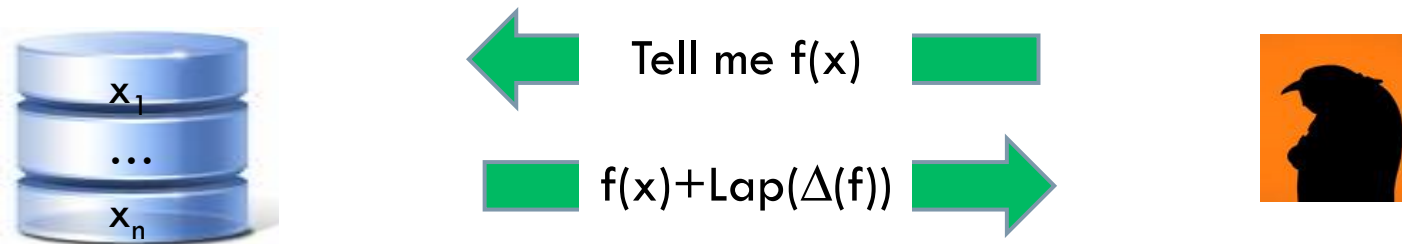
**Sensitivity =  $M$**

Max. effect of any input element is  **$M$**

# Achieving differential privacy

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- A simple differentially private mechanism



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

$\Delta(f) = \text{sensitivity}$

$\text{Lap} = \text{Laplace distribution}$

# 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

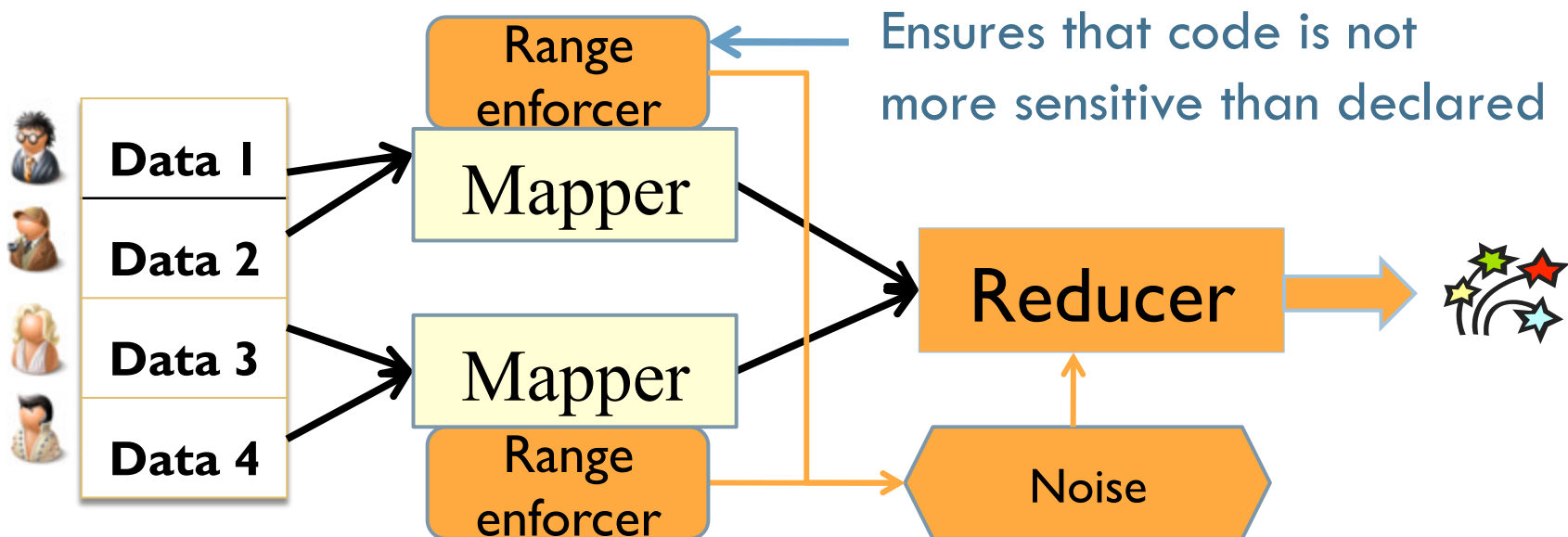
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- Mapper can be any piece of Java code (“black box”) but...
- Range of mapper outputs must be declared in advance
  - ▣ Used to estimate “sensitivity” (how much does a single input influence the output?)
  - ▣ Determines how much noise is added to 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  $\Rightarrow$  mathematical bound on information leak
- What is a safe bound on information leak ?
  - Depends on the context, dataset
  - **Not our problem**

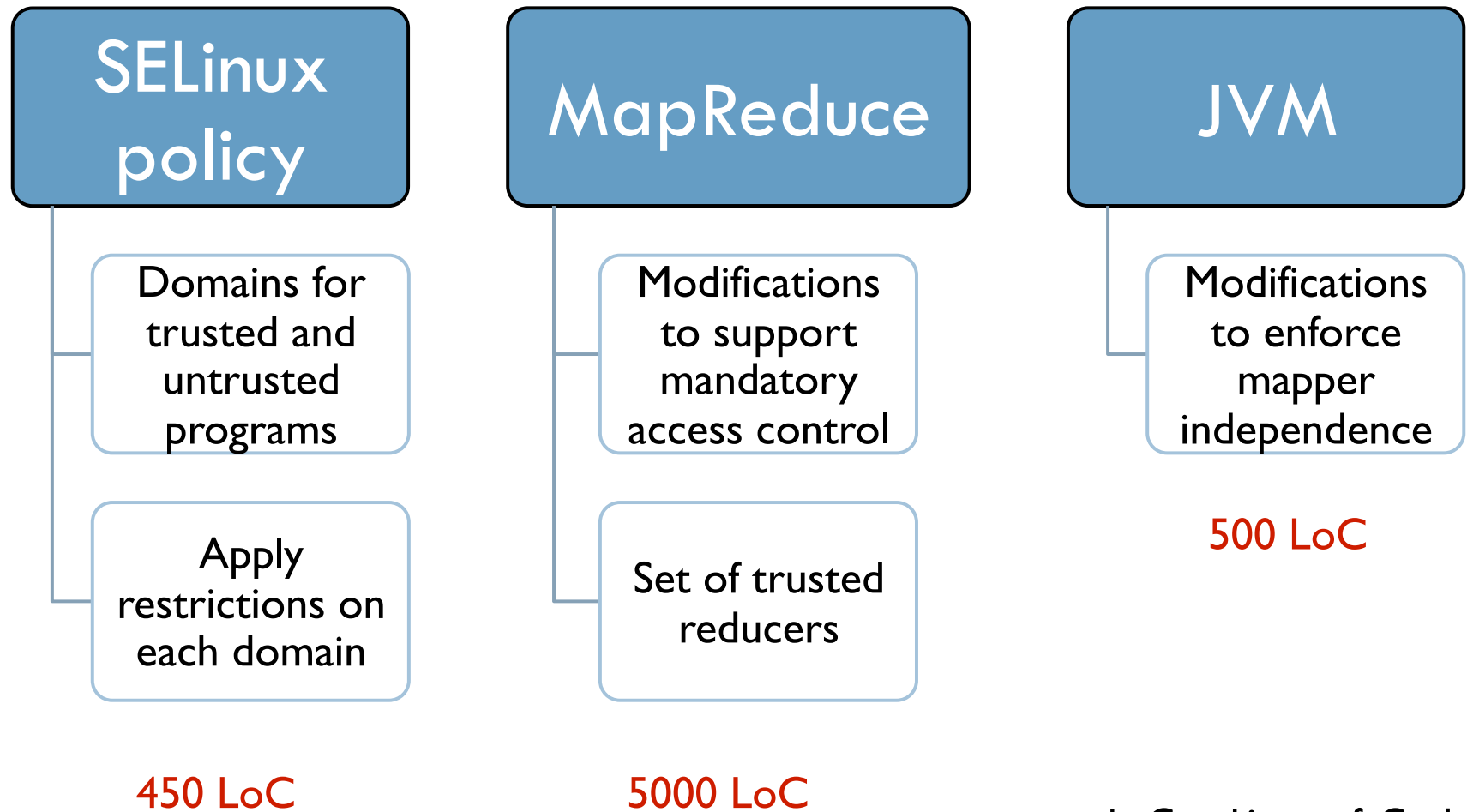
# Outline

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- **Evaluation**
- Summary

# Implementation details

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LoC = Lines of Code

# Evaluation : Our benchmarks

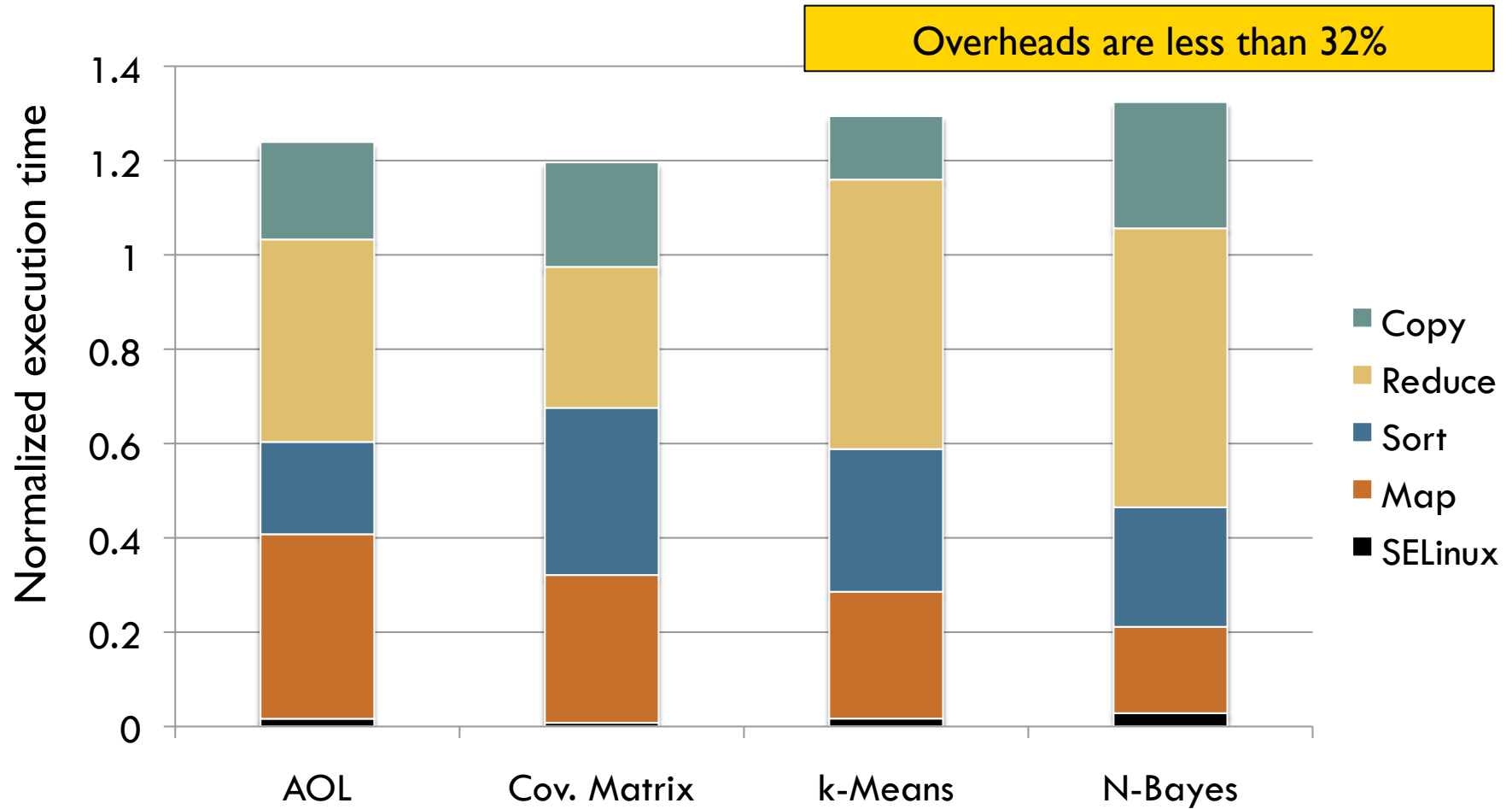
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- Experiments on 100 Amazon EC2 instances
  - 1.2 GHz, 7.5 GB RAM running Fedora 8

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

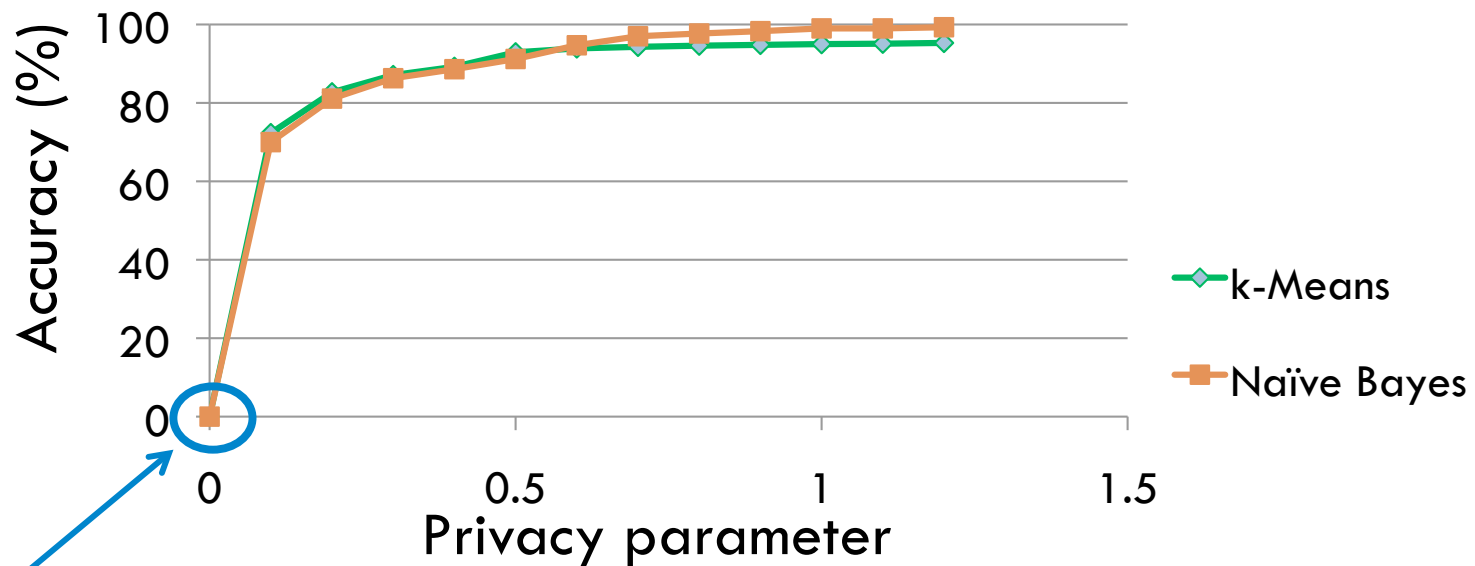
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# Evaluation: accuracy

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



No information leak

Decrease in privacy guarantee

*\*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

