



Privacy protection,  
redefined.

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**Presented to:**  
**NAS Location Data / Governance Frameworks**

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# Data custodians

cust ID	PU time	DO time	pass count	PU loc	DO loc	veh type
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Sensitive location records

# Data custodians need a privacy “filter”

cust ID	PU time	DO time	pass count	PU loc	DO loc	veh type
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Sensitive location records



Share insights about groups

## Desired Insight

*The median weekday drop-off frequency on 59th Street during morning rush hour is 145*

Protect individuals

## Privacy Violation

*Customer x456 traveled from LGA to 59th St and 7th Ave, arriving June 1 at 8:30am*

# Data custodians need a privacy “filter”

# Sensitive location records



- De-identified data



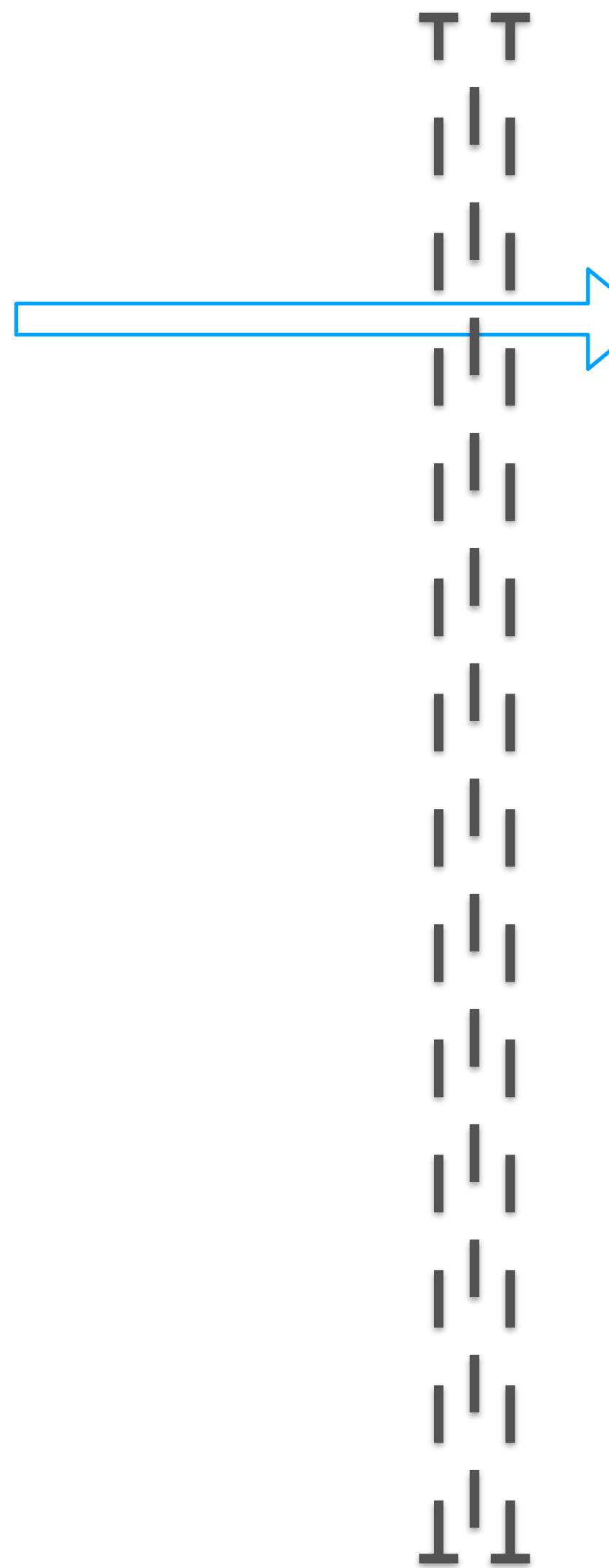
## ➤ *Re-identification attack*

A re-identification attacks **uses de-identified data**, in combination with external information sources, to identify individuals and infer their sensitive properties.

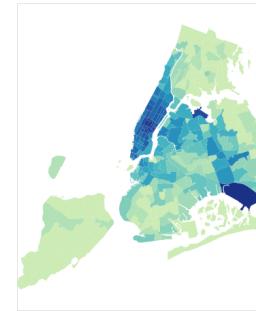
# Privacy violation

# Data custodians need a privacy “filter”

## Sensitive location records



	Male	Female
<b>WHO=0</b>	345	1094
<b>WHO=1</b>	214	2439
<b>WHO=2</b>	172	1589



- Reports, analytics, aggregate stats, etc

## ➤ **Reconstruction attack**

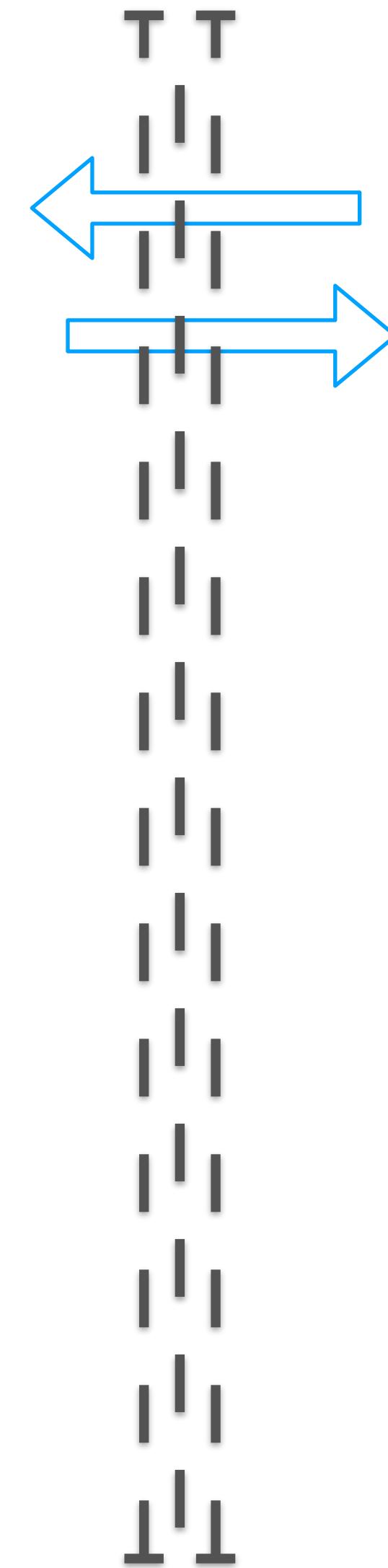
A reconstruction attack **uses a set of aggregate query answers** to reconstruct the set of hidden input records.

# Privacy violation

# Data custodians need a privacy “filter”

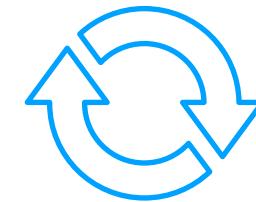
cust ID	PU time	DO time	pass count	PU loc	DO loc	veh type
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Sensitive location records



- Sharing through a query interface

*How many patients in cohort defined by...*



1214

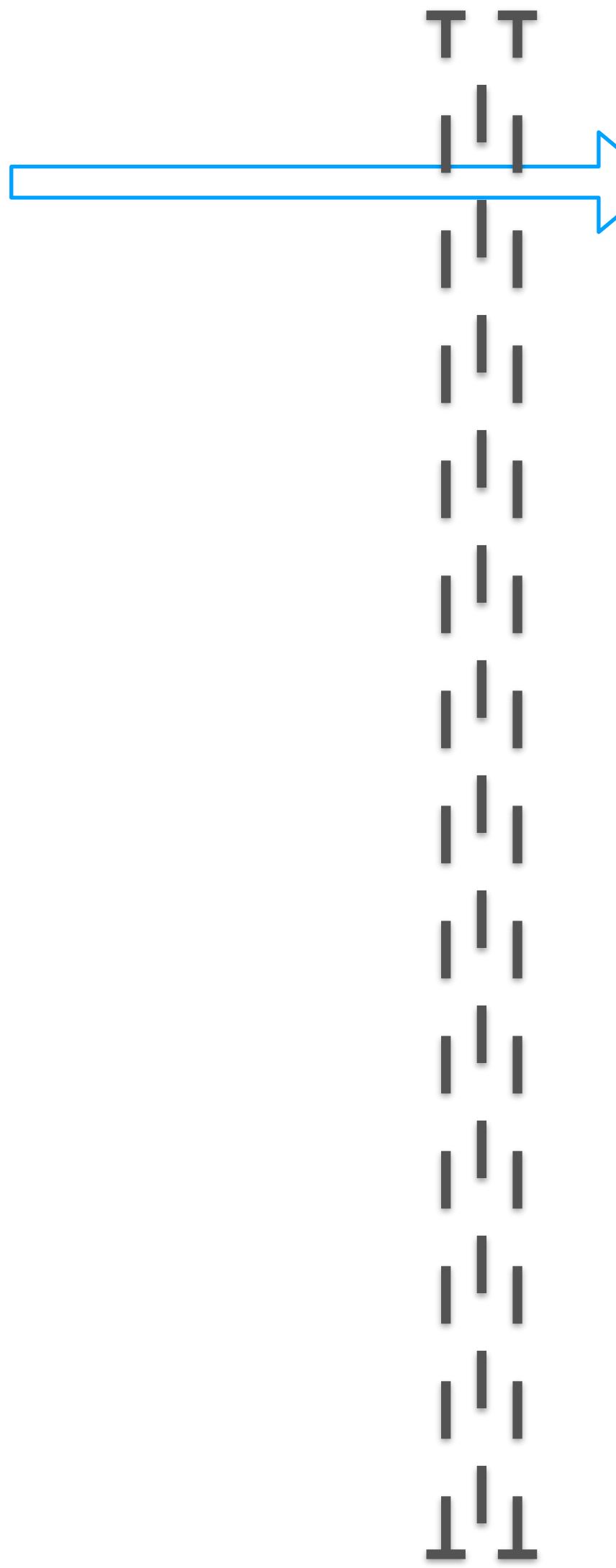
➤ **Reconstruction attack**

A reconstruction attack **uses a set of aggregate query answers** to reconstruct the set of hidden input records.

**Privacy violation**

# Data custodians need a privacy “filter”

# Sensitive location records



- Sharing synthetic tables



## ➤ *Reconstruction attack*

A reconstruction attack **uses a set of aggregate query answers** to reconstruct the set of hidden input records.

## ➤ *Membership inference attack*

A membership inference attack occurs when repeated **access to predictions from a machine learning model** reveals sensitive properties of individuals present in the training data.

# Privacy violation

# Data custodians need a **reliable** privacy “filter”

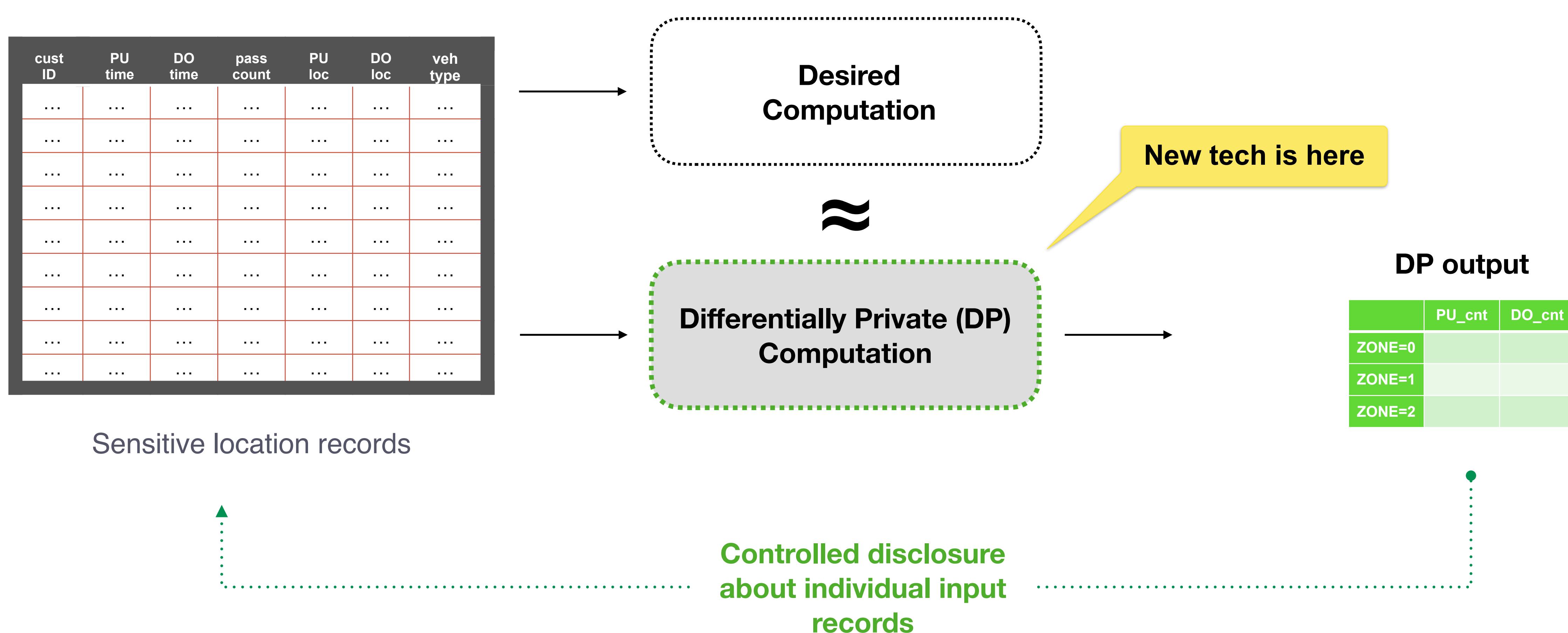
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**Differential privacy**  
a standard for computations on data  
that limits the personal information that could be revealed by the output.

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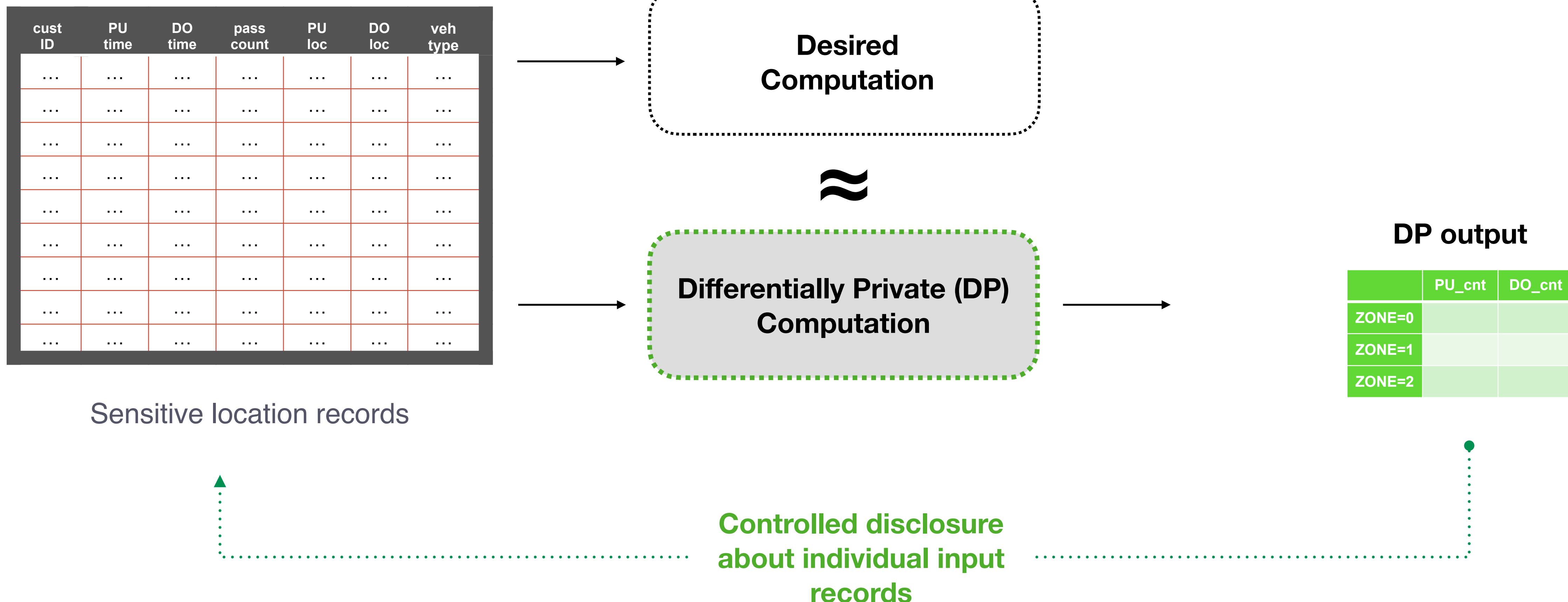
# Differential privacy

a standard for computations on data  
that limits the personal information that could be revealed by the output.



## The differential privacy guarantee

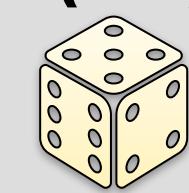
- Every individual protected.
- Every attribute protected.
- The guarantee holds, regardless of compute power or knowledge of potential attacker.
- Resists current and future attacks
- Ahead of regulation



**Differential privacy**  
a standard for computations on data  
that limits the personal information that could be revealed by the output.

## Sensitive location records

# Differentially Private (DP) Computation



# Controlled disclosure about individual input records

# First key difference: randomness

# Some “noise” in output

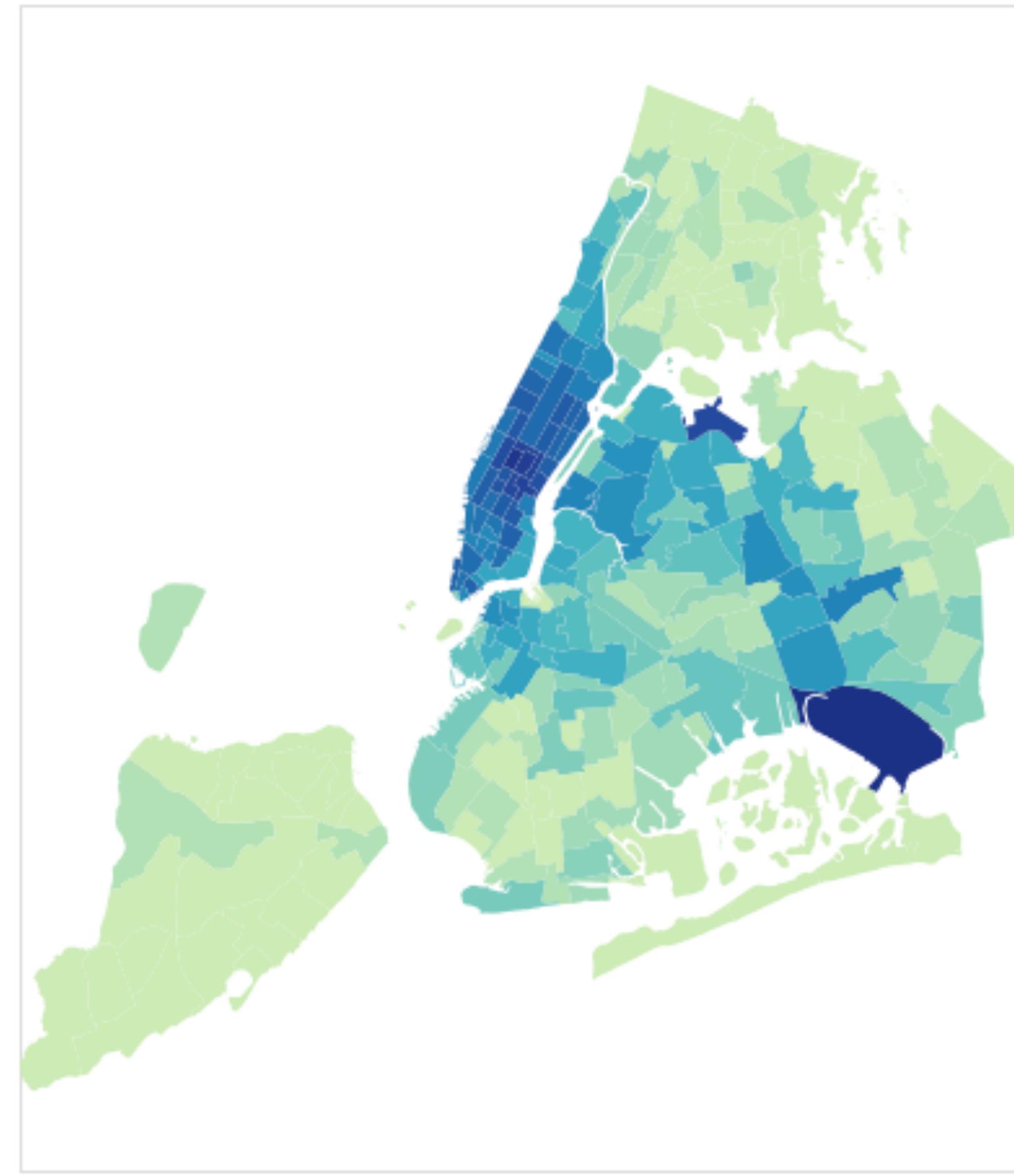
# DP analytics output

	PU_cnt	DO_cnt
ZONE=0		
ZONE=1		
ZONE=2		

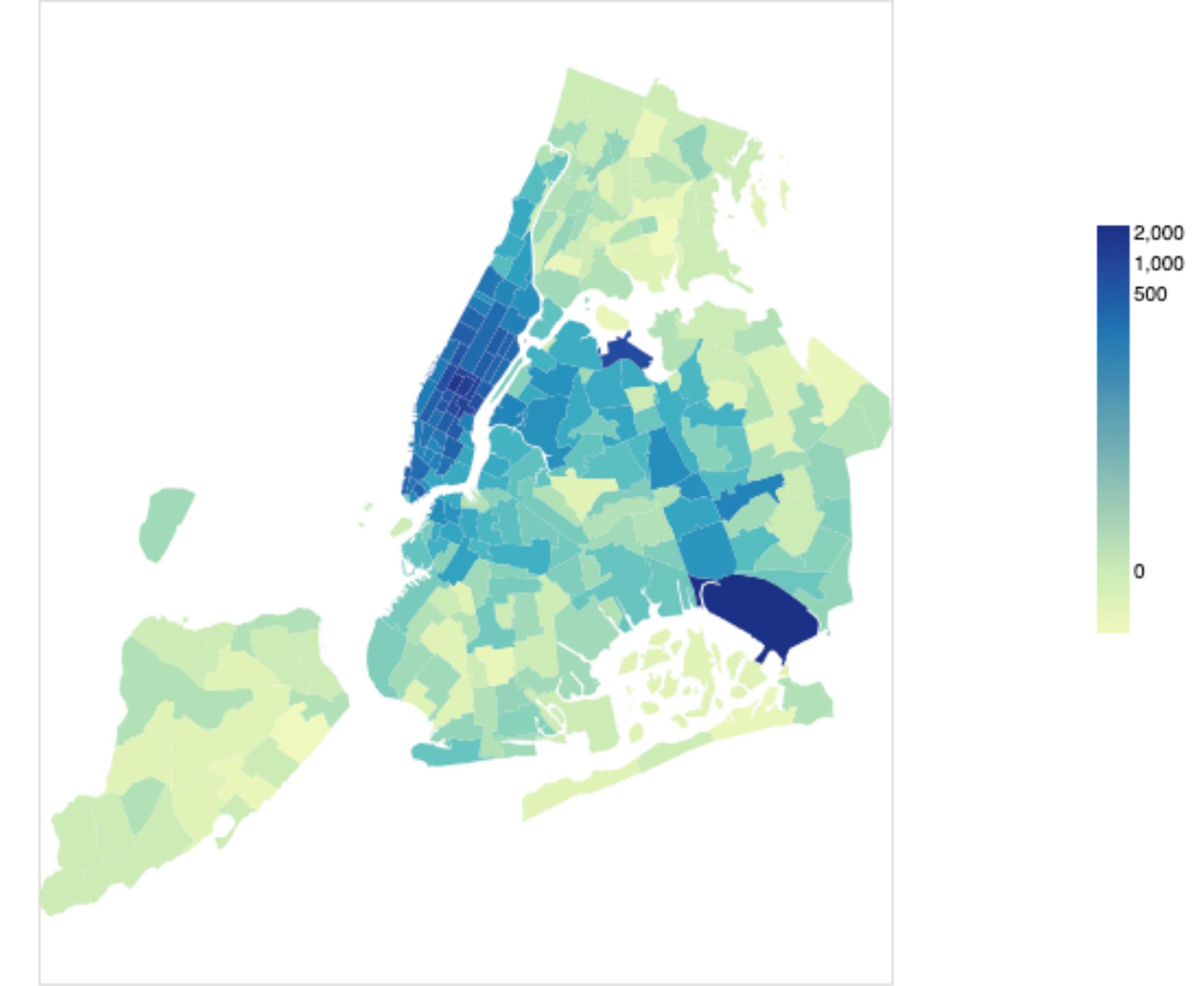
# Pickup frequency by taxi zone

New York City taxi/passenger data; 3.17 million records

Original data



Differentially private, epsilon = 1.0



**Differential privacy**  
 a standard for computations on data  
 that limits the personal information that could be revealed by the output.

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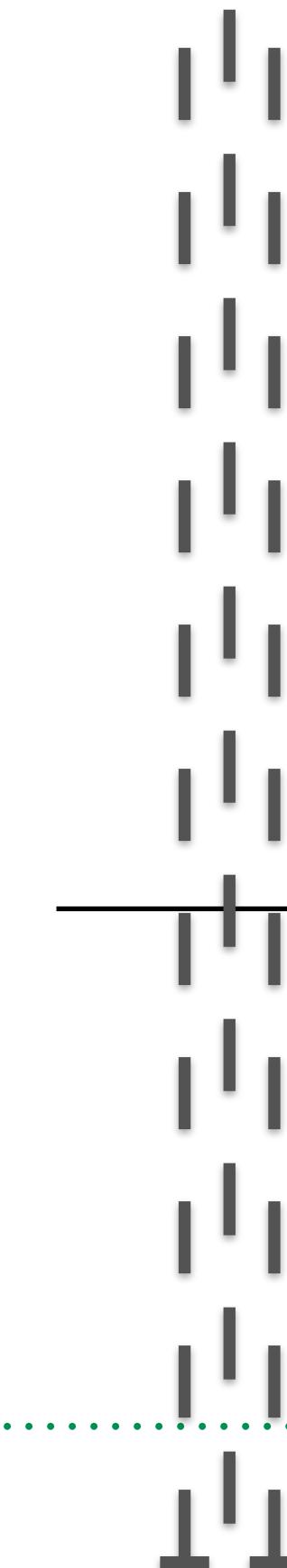
Sensitive location records

Second key difference: privacy loss parameter, epsilon

Differentially Private (DP) Computation



Controlled disclosure  
 about individual input  
 records

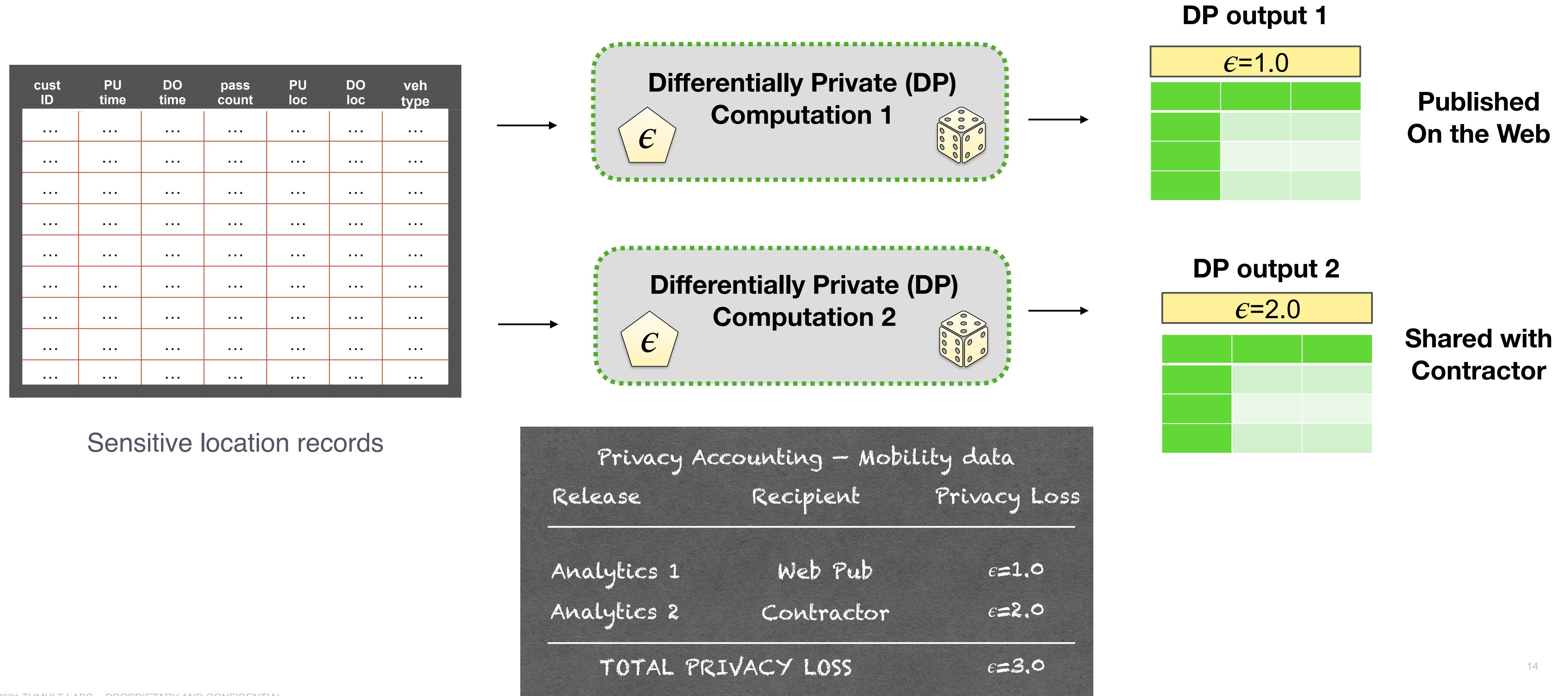


Bound on  
 “privacy loss”

DP output

	PU_cnt	DO_cnt
ZONE=0		
ZONE=1		
ZONE=2		

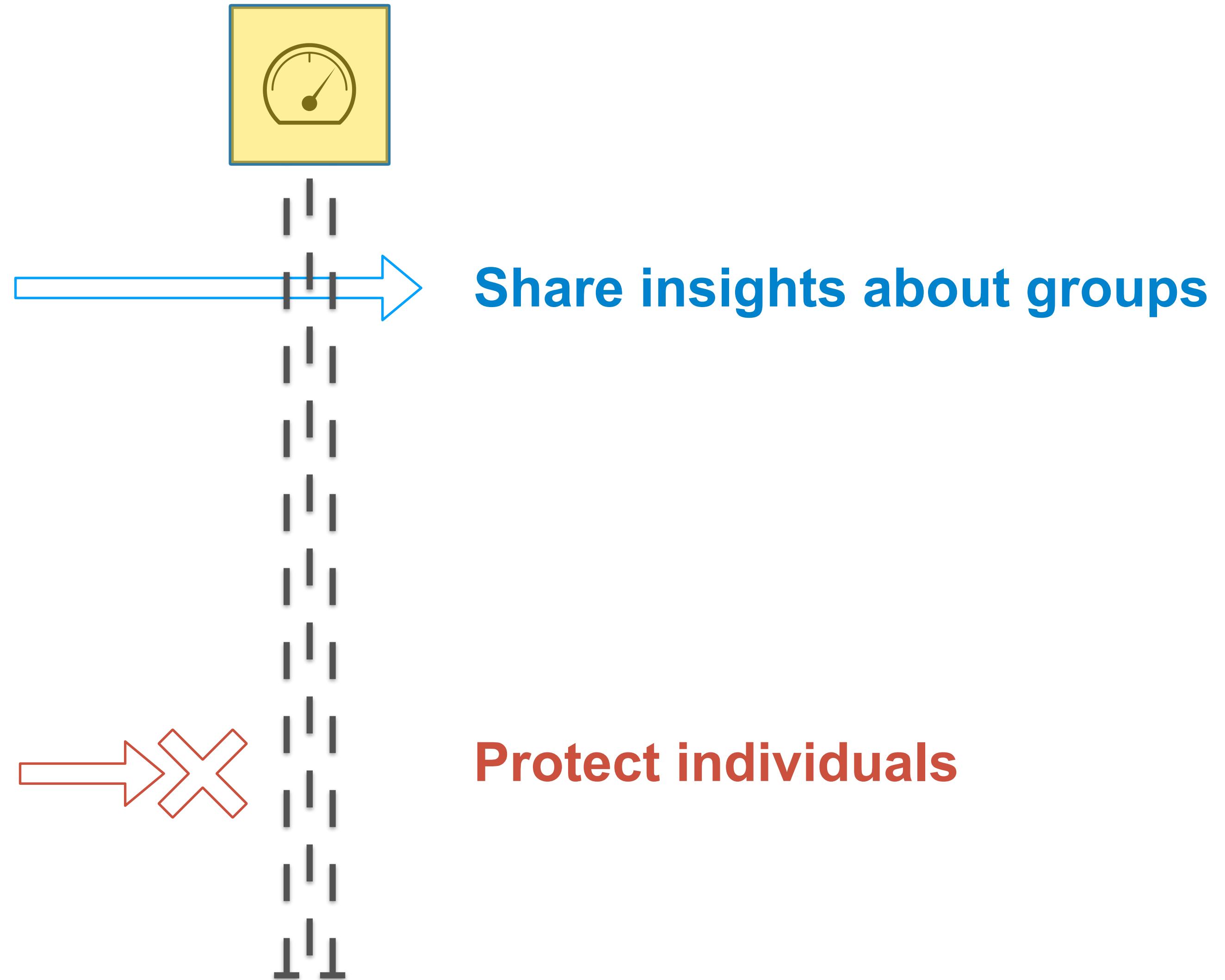
# Managing cumulative privacy loss



# Differential privacy gives Data custodians a **reliable, metered** privacy “filter”

cust ID	PU time	DO time	pass count	PU loc	DO loc	veh type
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Sensitive location records





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*Free trial available; open source soon!*

Thank you

Gerome Miklau

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