

## Research goals

### •Ranking [BLST]

- Consider a collection of elements  $U = \{1, \dots, u\}$
- Each element  $i$  has a real valued score  $q_T(i)$  based on data set  $T$
- **Goal:** Output  $k$  elements with highest scores

### •Sparse linear regression (SLR)

- Consider the regression model  $y = X\theta^* + w$  where  $\theta^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ ,  $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- $\theta^*$ : regression vector,  $X$ : design matrix and  $w$ : noise vector
- Sparsity assumption:  $\theta^*$  has only  $k$  non-zero entries
- **Goal:** Find  $\hat{\theta}$  ( $k$ -sparse) which estimates  $\theta^*$  given  $(y, X)$

### •Privacy

- Differential privacy: Preserve the privacy of the entries in  $T$  (for ranking problem) and  $(y, X)$  for sparse regression

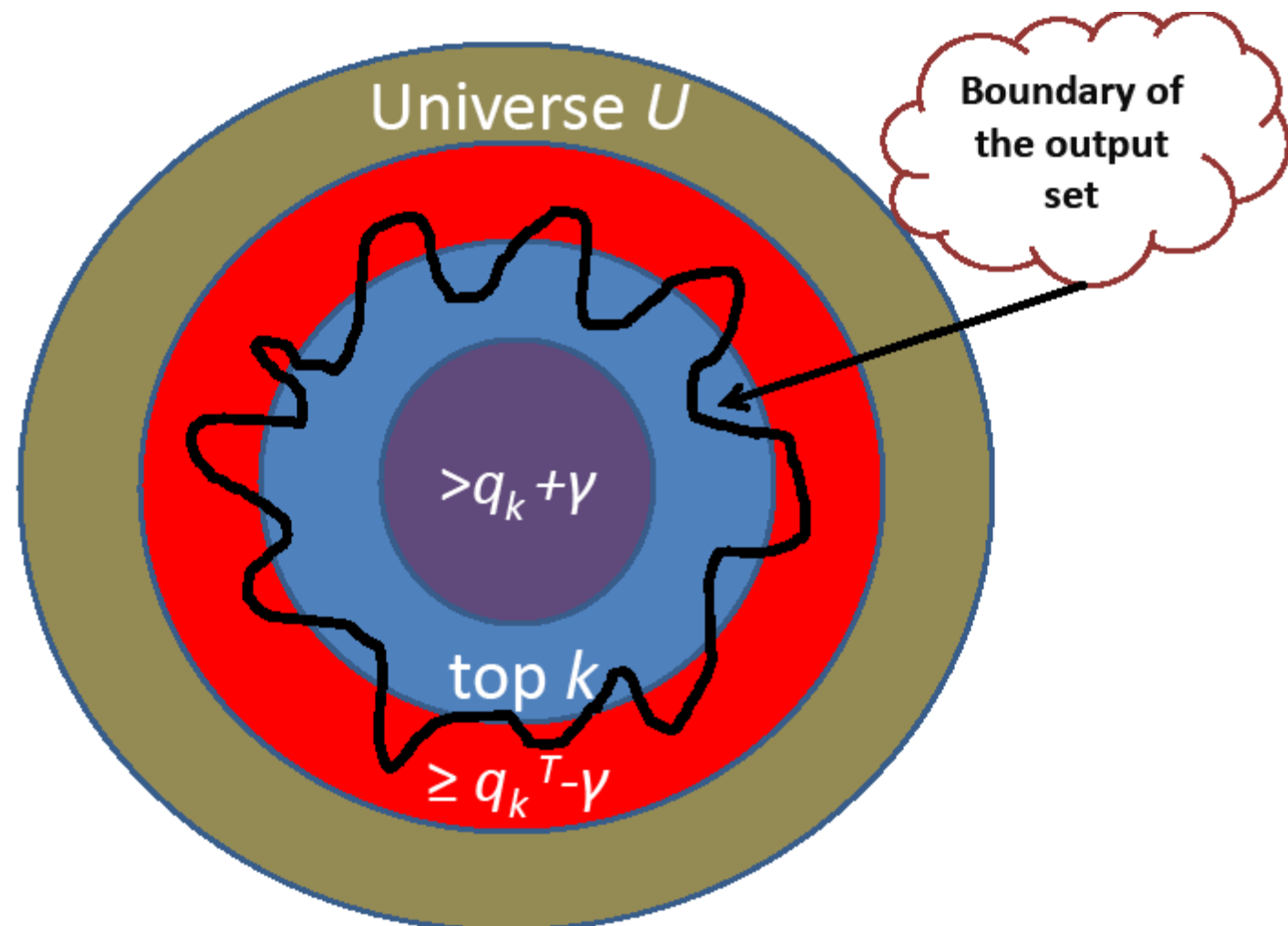
## Differential privacy [DMNS]

A randomized algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  is  $\epsilon$ -differentially private if for all data sets  $T, T' \in \mathcal{D}^n$  differing in at most one entry and all events  $\mathcal{O} \subseteq \text{Range}(\mathcal{A})$ :

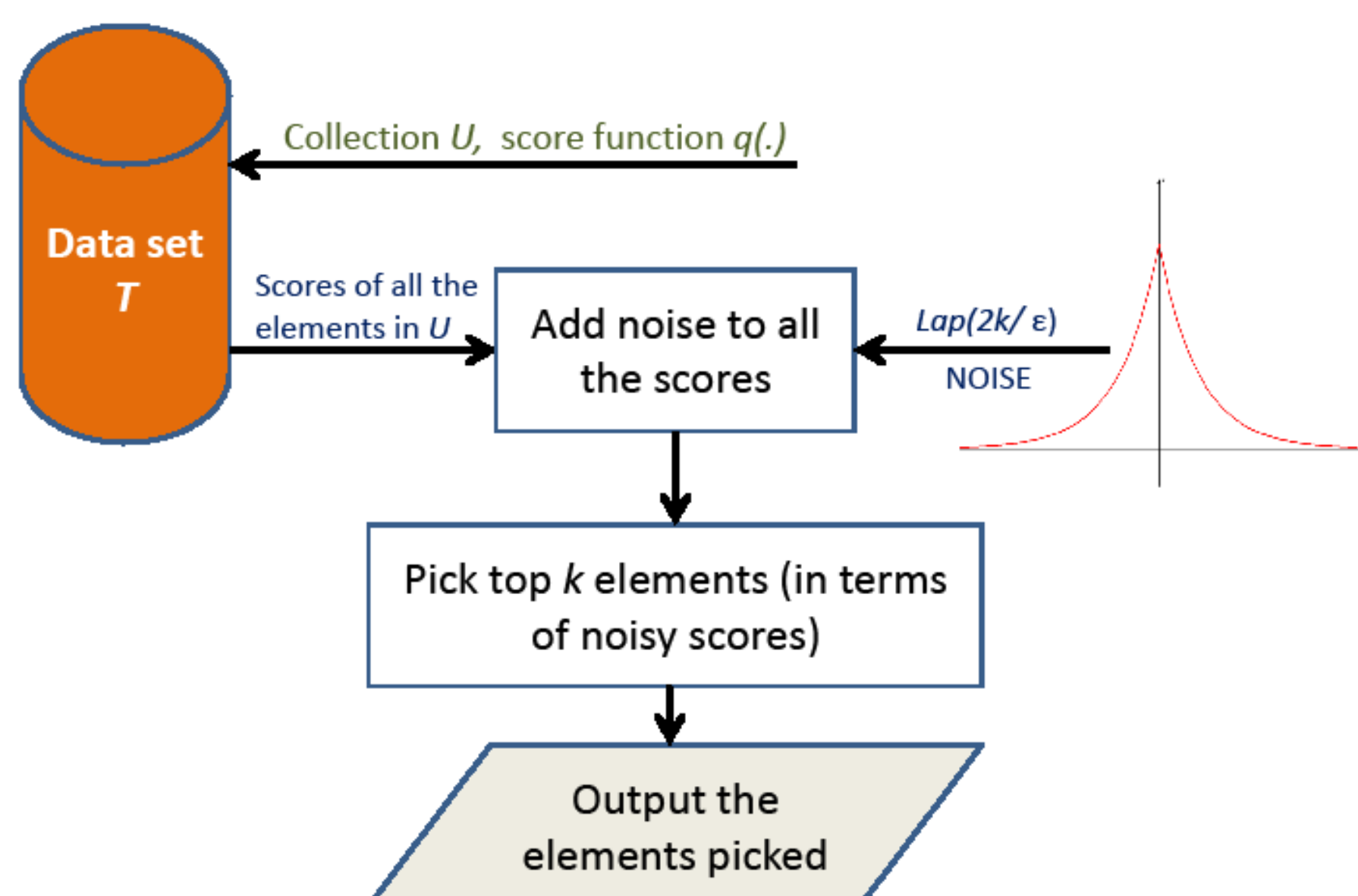
## Approximate ranking

Let  $q_k^T$  be the  $k^{\text{th}}$  highest score based on data set  $T$ . An output list is  $\gamma$ -useful if:

- (*Soundness*) No element in the output has score less than  $(q_k^T - \gamma)$ .
- (*Completeness*) Every element with score greater than  $(q_k^T + \gamma)$  is in the output.



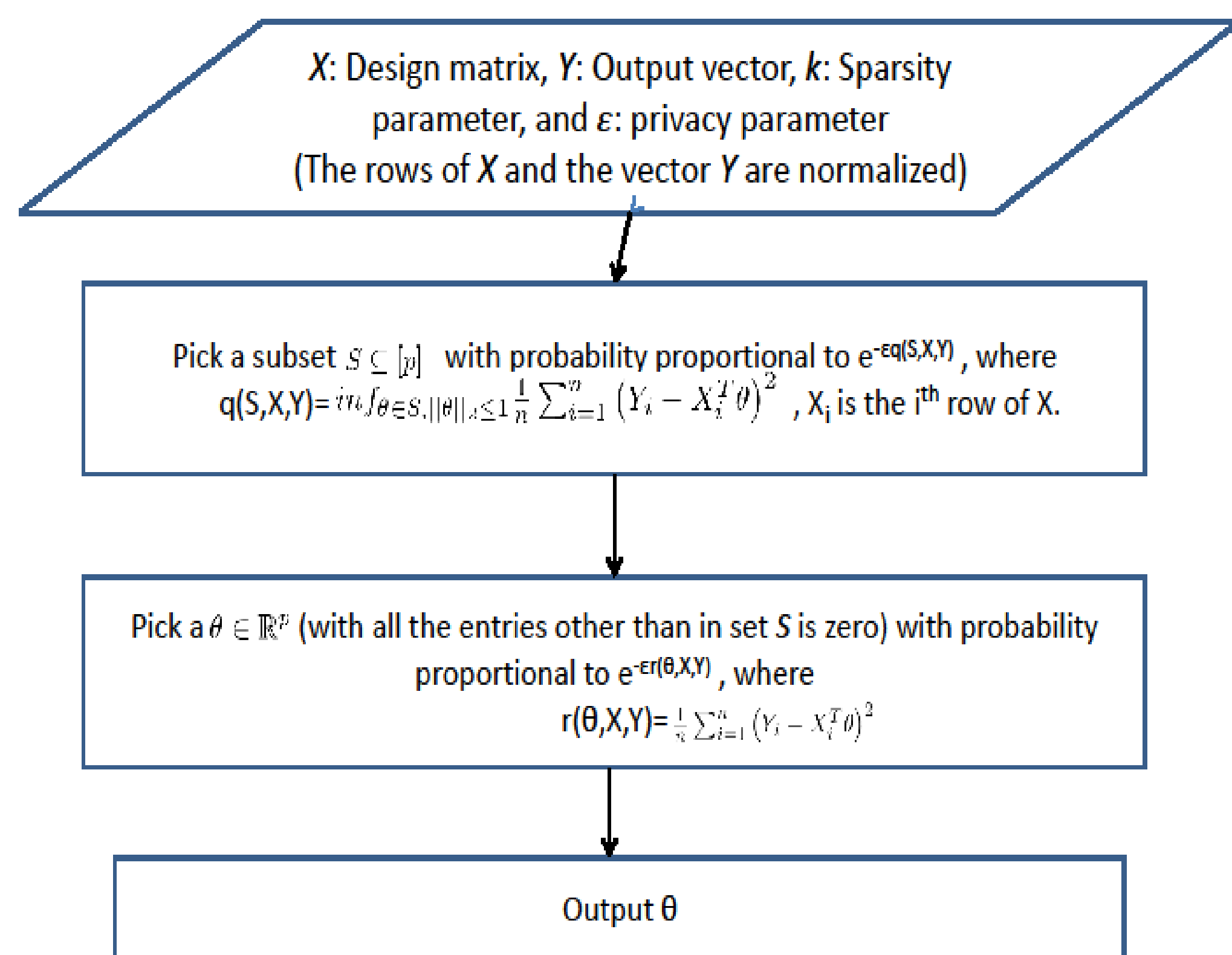
## Private ranking algorithm



## Privacy and utility

- **Theorem (Privacy):** The algorithm is  $\epsilon$ -differentially private.
- **Theorem (Utility):** For all  $\rho > 0$ : with probability at least  $1 - \rho$ , the output is  $\gamma$ -useful, where  $\gamma = \frac{4k}{\epsilon} \left( \ln u + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\rho}\right) \right)$ .
- **Theorem (Running Time):** The algorithm runs in time  $O(u)$ .

## Private SLR



## Privacy and utility

- **Theorem(Privacy):** The algorithm is  $\frac{16\epsilon}{n}$ -differentially private
- **Theorem (Utility):**

## References

- [DMNS] C. Dwork, F. McSherry, K. Nissim, A. Smith: Calibrating Noise to Sensitivity in Private Data Analysis. TCC 2006.
- [BLST] R. Bhaskar, S. Laxman, A. Smith: Discovering Frequent Patterns from Sensitive Data. KDD 2010.
- [NRWY] S. Negahban, P. Ravikumar, M. Wainwright, B. Yu: A unified framework for high-dimensional analysis of  $M$ -estimators with decomposable regularizers. NIPS 2009.
- [CMS] K. Chaudhuri, C. Monteleoni, A. Sarwate: Differentially private Empirical Risk Minimization.