

# FriendlyCore: Tool for Differentially Private Aggregation

**Eliad Tsfadia**

Joint with: Edith Cohen, Haim Kaplan, Yishay  
Mansour, Uri Stemmer



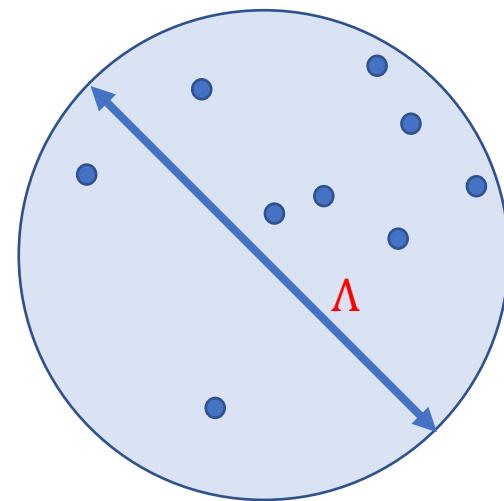
# DP Averaging

# DP Averaging

**Input:** Points  $D \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  in a ball of diameter  $\Lambda$

**Output:**  $\text{Avg}(D) + \text{Noise}$

*Noise  $\propto \Lambda$*

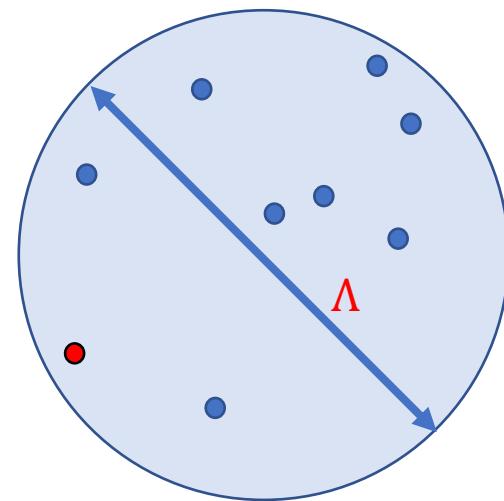


# DP Averaging

**Input:** Points  $D \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  in a ball of diameter  $\Lambda$

**Output:**  $\text{Avg}(D) + \text{Noise}$

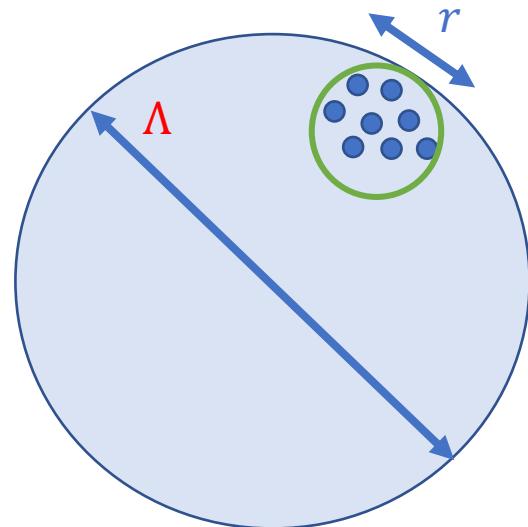
*Noise  $\propto \Lambda$*



# DP Averaging

Suppose  $D$  has diameter  $r \ll \Lambda$

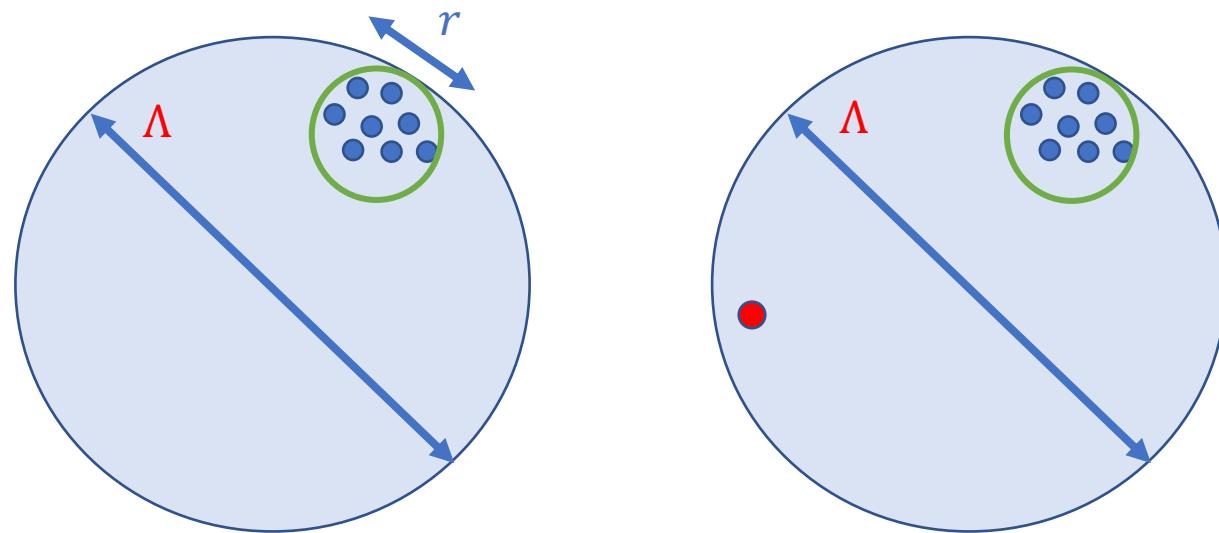
**Wish:** Replace  $\Lambda \leftarrow r$  in  $Noise \Rightarrow \times \Lambda/r$  to gain in accuracy



# DP Averaging

Suppose  $D$  has diameter  $r \ll \Lambda$

**Wish:** Replace  $\Lambda \leftarrow r$  in  $Noise \Rightarrow \times \Lambda/r$  to gain in accuracy



With DP: (almost) same output

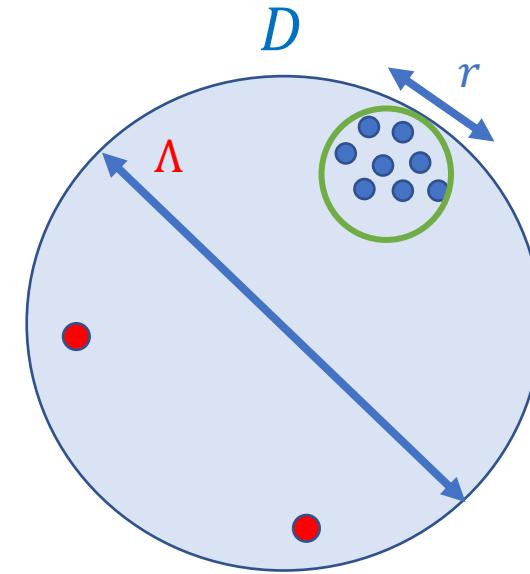
# FriendlyCore Paradigm

## Input:

- Dataset  $D$  of points

## Operation:

$$C \leftarrow \text{FriendlyCore}(D) \quad (C \subseteq D)$$



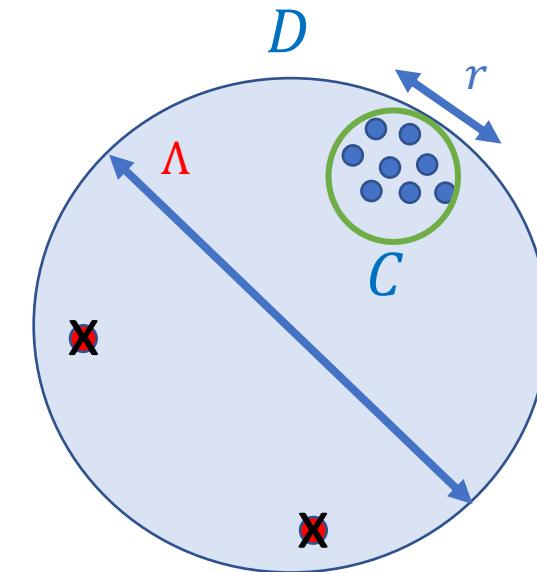
# FriendlyCore Paradigm

## Input:

- Dataset  $D$  of points

## Operation:

$$C \leftarrow \text{FriendlyCore}(D) \quad (C \subseteq D)$$



# FriendlyCore Paradigm

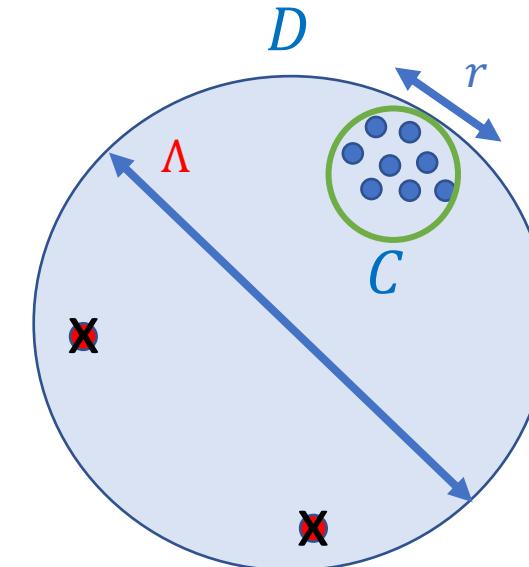
## Input:

- Dataset  $D$  of points

## Operation:

$$C \leftarrow \text{FriendlyCore}(D) \quad (C \subseteq D)$$

**GUARANTEE**  
 $C$  is ``friendly''



# FriendlyCore Paradigm

## Input:

- Dataset  $D$  of points

## Operation:

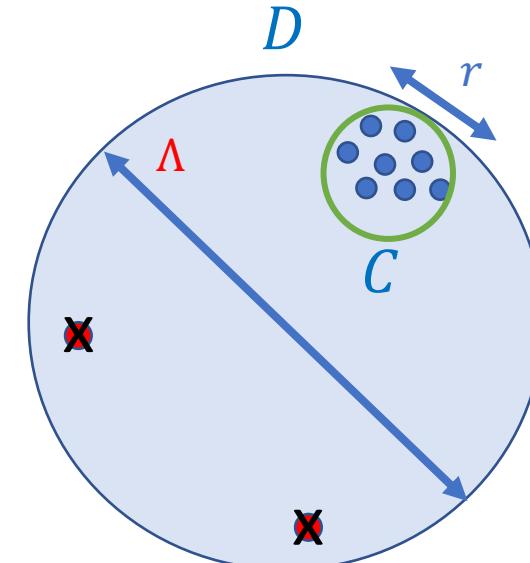
$C \leftarrow \text{FriendlyCore}(D) \quad (C \subseteq D)$

Output:  $A(C)$

$A$  is “friendly” DP algorithm  
(weaker notion of privacy)

**GUARANTEE**

$C$  is “friendly”



# FriendlyCore Paradigm

## Input:

- Dataset  $D$  of points

## Operation:

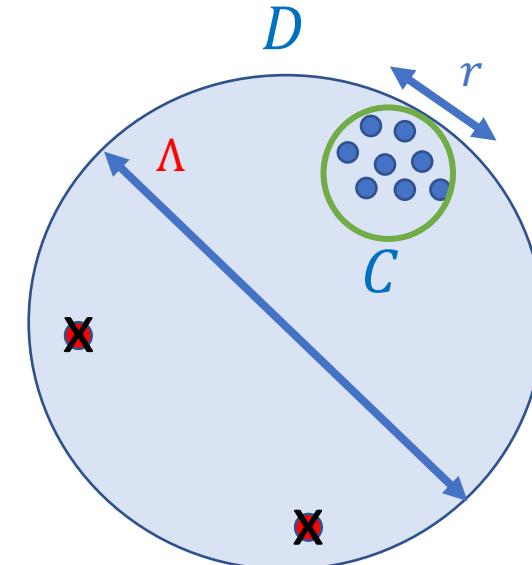
$C \leftarrow \text{FriendlyCore}(D) \quad (C \subseteq D)$

Output:  $A(C)$

$A$  is “friendly” DP algorithm  
(weaker notion of privacy)

**GUARANTEE**

$C$  is “friendly”



## Averaging example:

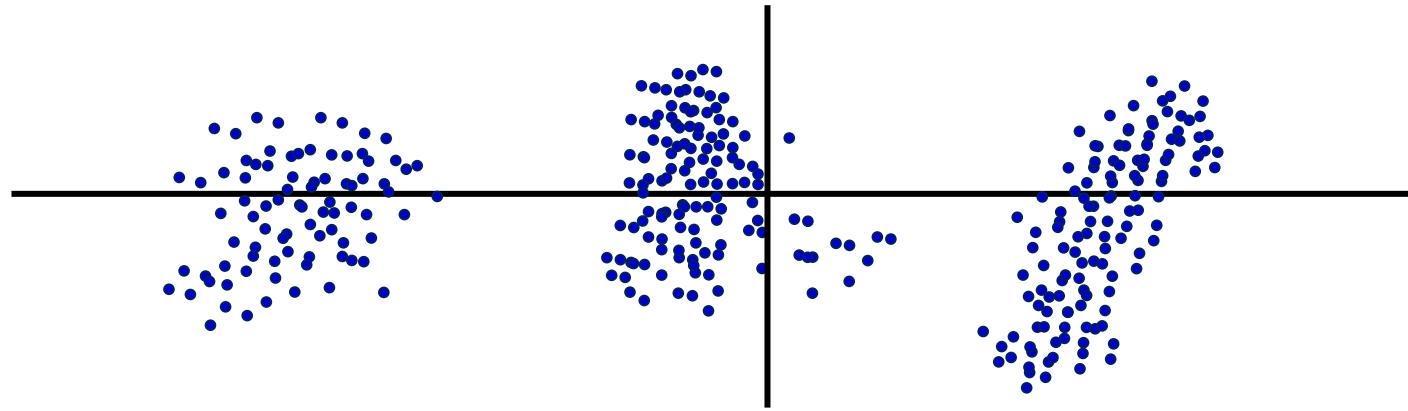
friendly  $C \Rightarrow$  has diameter  $r \ll \Lambda$

friendly DP  $A \Rightarrow$  add noise  $\propto r$

# Clustering

# Clustering

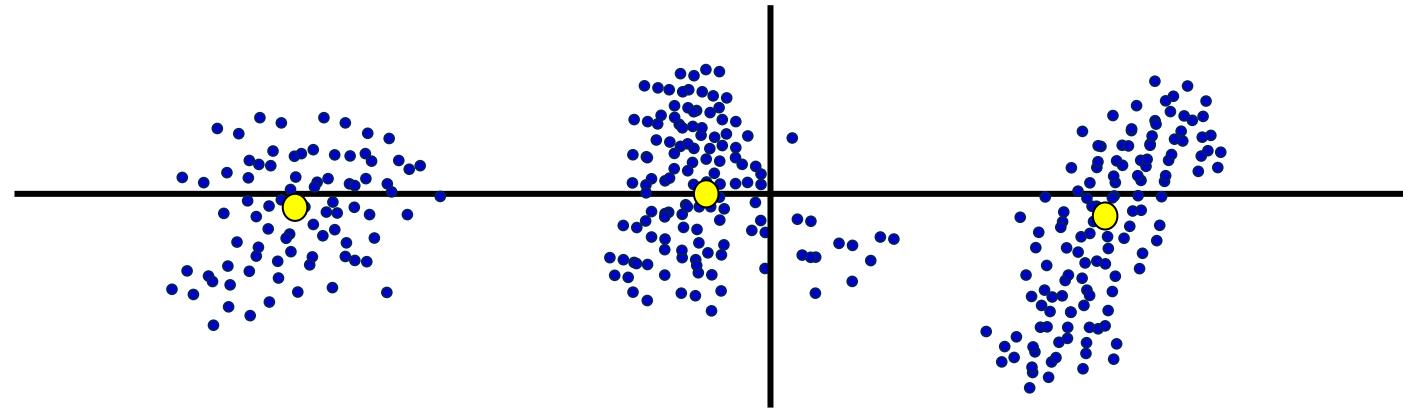
Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$



# Clustering

Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$

Goal: Output centers  $C = (c_1, \dots, c_k)$  (e.g., minimize the  $k$  -means cost):

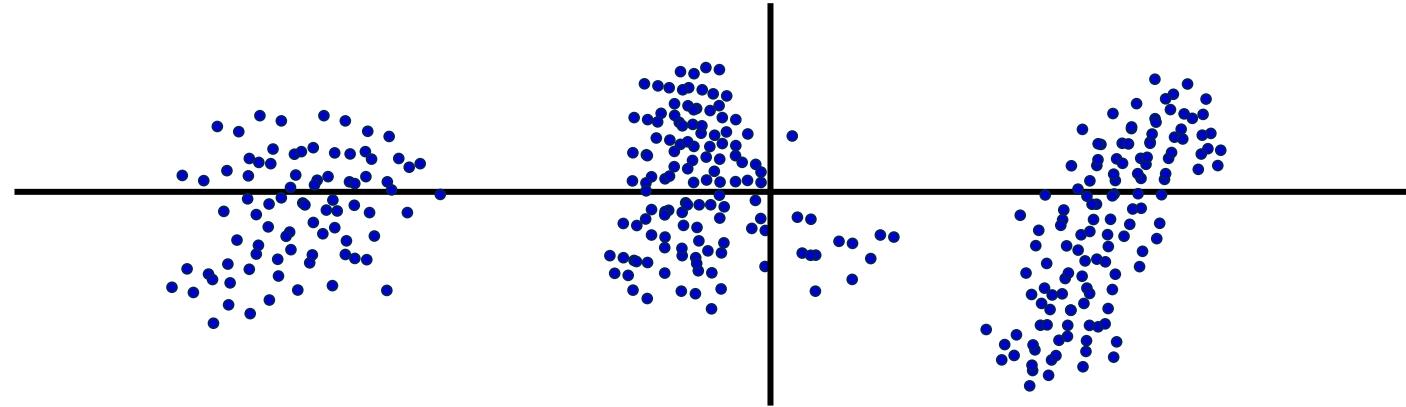


# Clustering

Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$

Sample and Aggregate: (1) Randomly split  $D$  into  $m$  subsets

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith 07] (2) Execute some non-private algorithm in each subset.

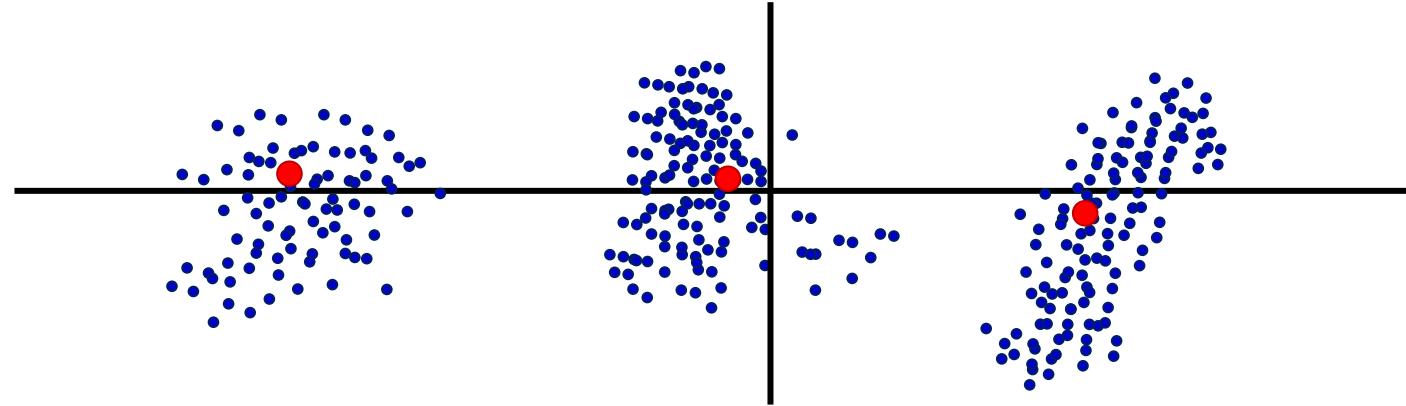


# Clustering

Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$

Sample and Aggregate: (1) Randomly split  $D$  into  $m$  subsets

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith 07] (2) Execute some non-private algorithm in each subset.

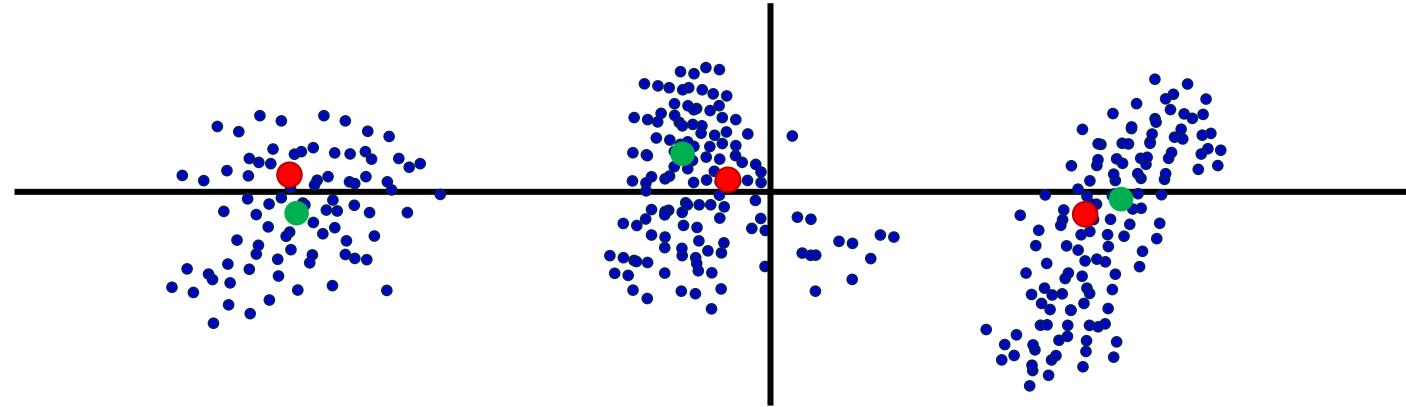


# Clustering

Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$

Sample and Aggregate: (1) Randomly split  $D$  into  $m$  subsets

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith 07] (2) Execute some non-private algorithm in each subset.

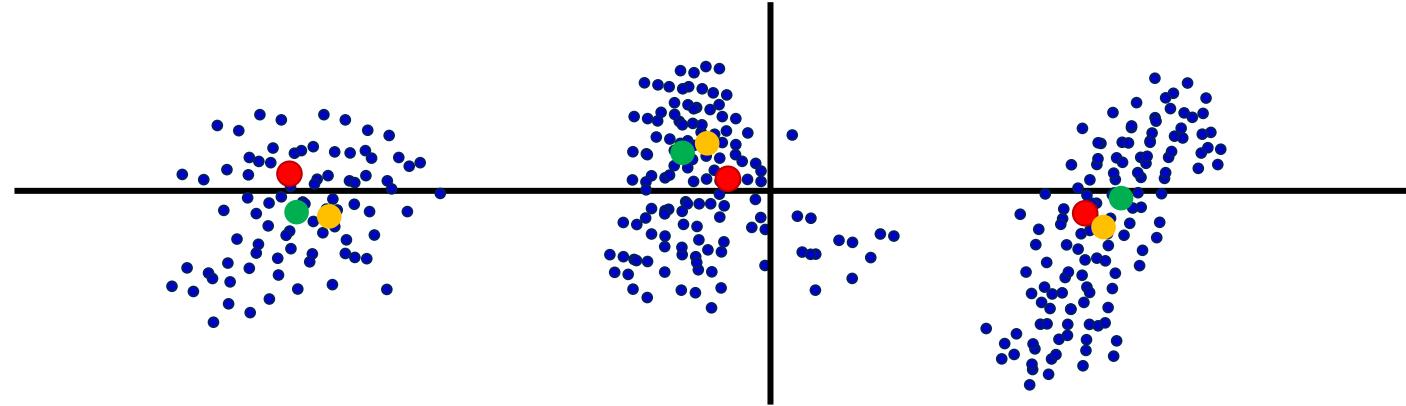


# Clustering

Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$

Sample and Aggregate: (1) Randomly split  $D$  into  $m$  subsets

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith 07] (2) Execute some non-private algorithm in each subset.

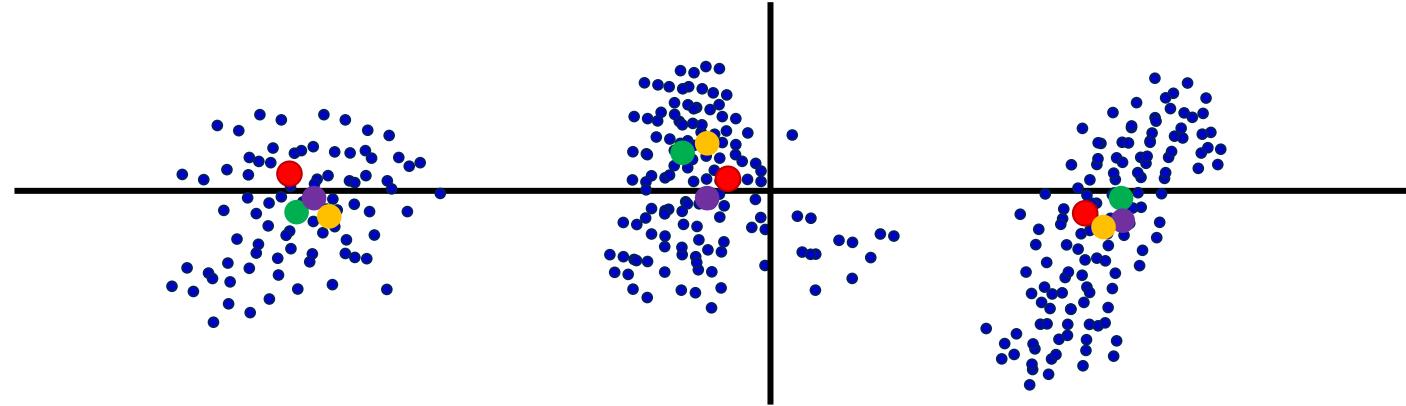


# Clustering

Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$

Sample and Aggregate: (1) Randomly split  $D$  into  $m$  subsets

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith 07] (2) Execute some non-private algorithm in each subset.

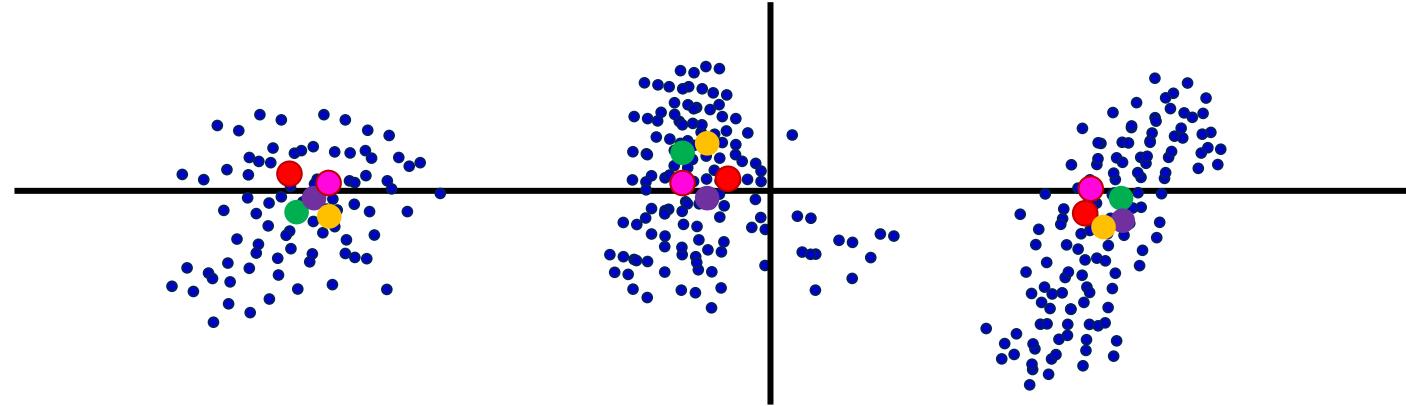


# Clustering

Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$

Sample and Aggregate: (1) Randomly split  $D$  into  $m$  subsets

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith 07] (2) Execute some non-private algorithm in each subset.

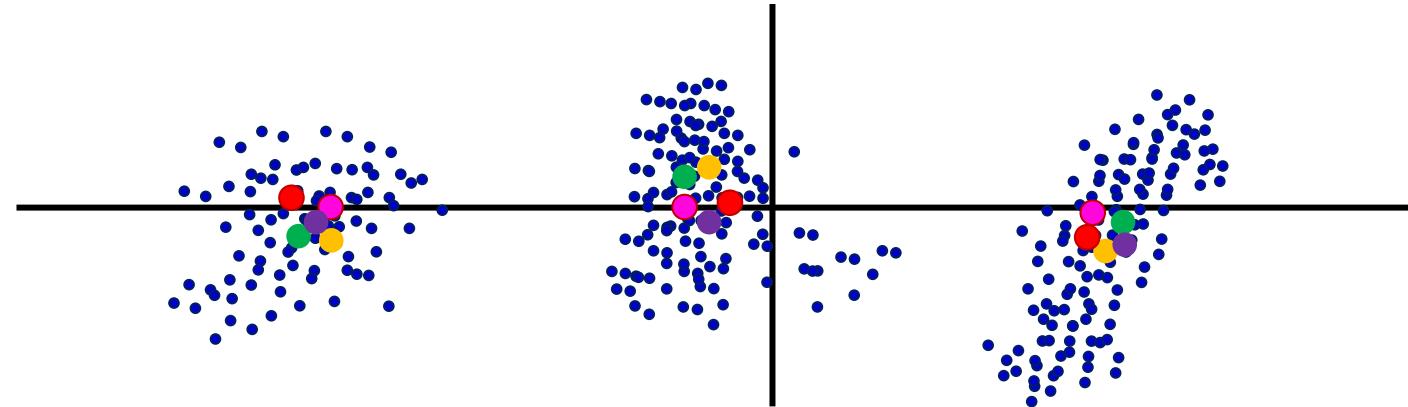


# Clustering

Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$

Sample and Aggregate: (1) Randomly split  $D$  into  $m$  subsets

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith 07] (2) Execute some non-private algorithm in each subset.



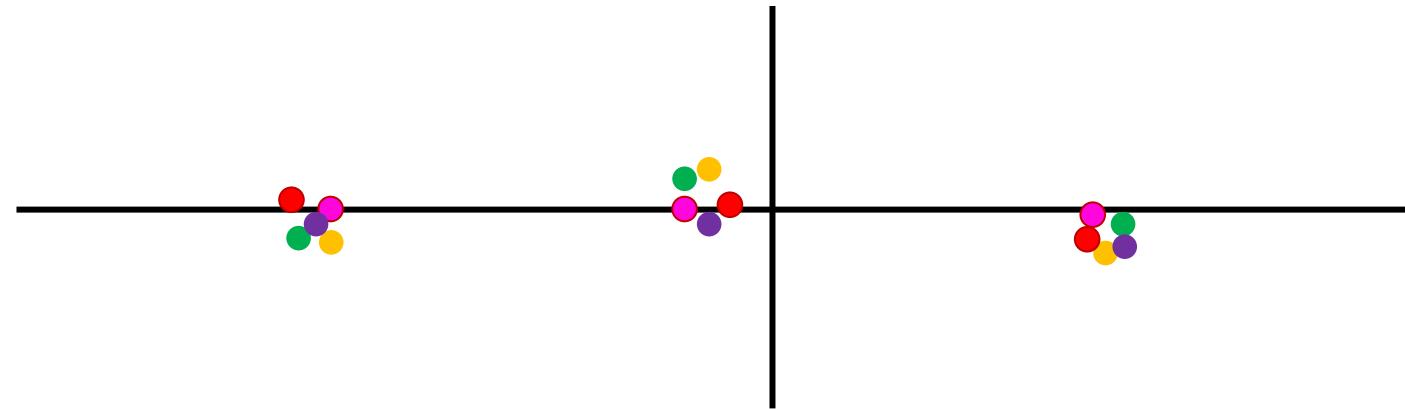
$k$ -tuple Clustering [Cohen et al. 21]

# Clustering

Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$

Sample and Aggregate: (1) Randomly split  $D$  into  $m$  subsets

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith 07] (2) Execute some non-private algorithm in each subset.



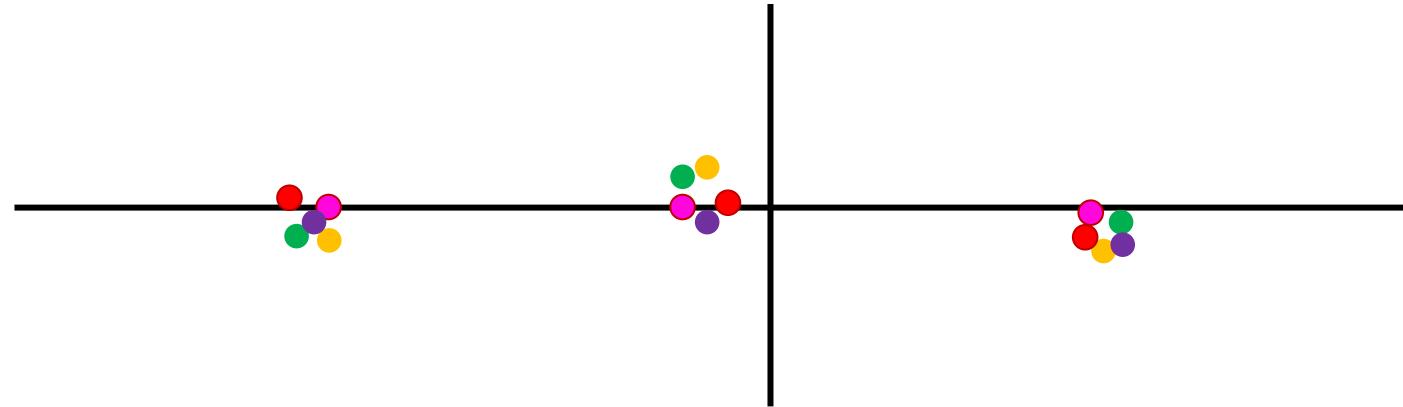
$k$ -tuple Clustering [Cohen et al. 21]

# Clustering

Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$

Sample and Aggregate: (1) Randomly split  $D$  into  $m$  subsets

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith 07] (2) Execute some non-private algorithm in each subset.



$k$ -tuple Clustering [Cohen et al. 21]

Input: *unordered*  $k$ -tuples  $\{Y_1, \dots, Y_m\} \in ((\mathbb{R}^d)^k)^m$

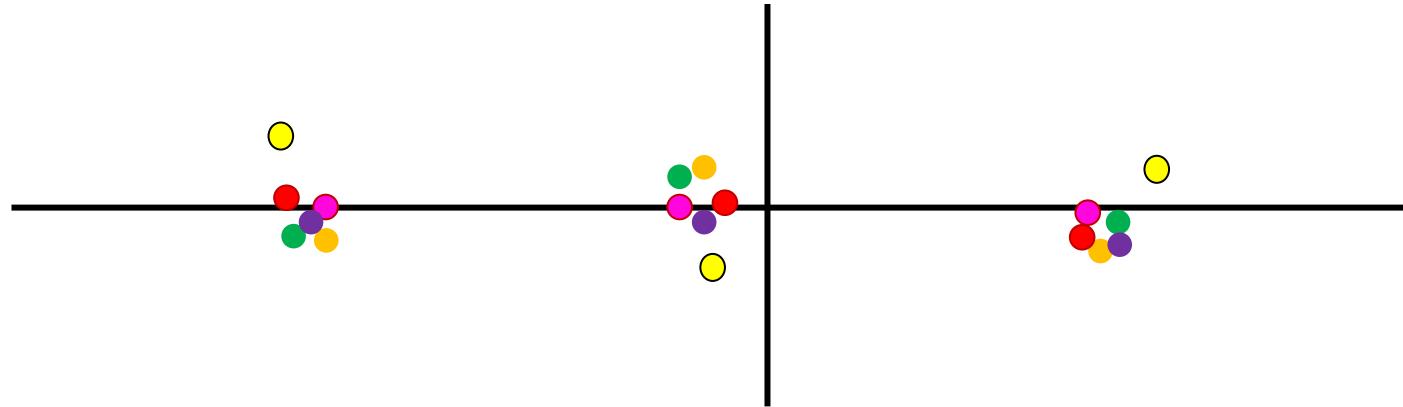
Goal: **Privately** identify a new  $k$ -tuple that is ``close'' to them.

# Clustering

Input: Data points  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n$  and parameter  $k$

Sample and Aggregate: (1) Randomly split  $D$  into  $m$  subsets

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith 07] (2) Execute some non-private algorithm in each subset.



$k$ -tuple Clustering [Cohen et al. 21]

Input: *unordered*  $k$ -tuples  $\{Y_1, \dots, Y_m\} \in ((\mathbb{R}^d)^k)^m$

Goal: **Privately** identify a new  $k$ -tuple that is ``close'' to them.

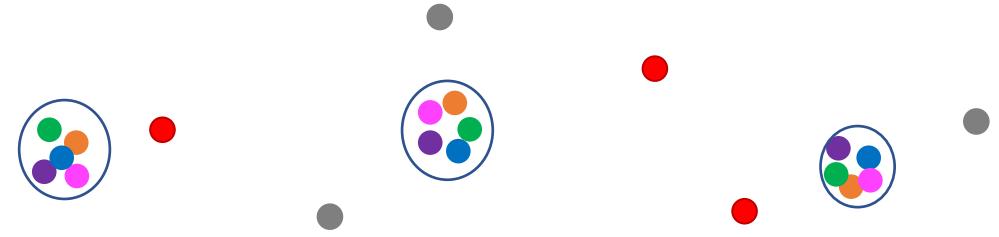
# FriendlyCore Paradigm

**Input:**

- Dataset  $D$  of  $k$ -tuples

**Operation:**

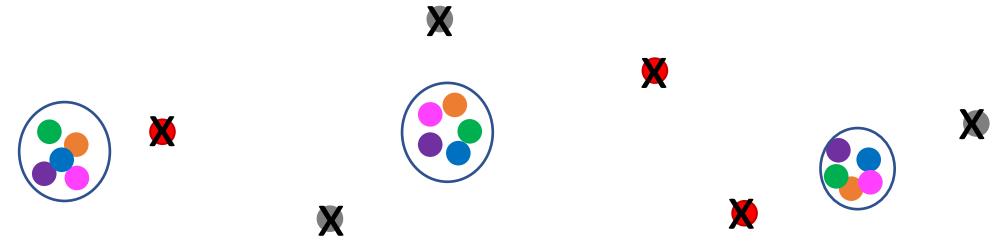
$$C \leftarrow \text{FriendlyCore}(D) \quad (C \subseteq D)$$



# FriendlyCore Paradigm

**Input:**

- Dataset  $D$  of  $k$ -tuples

**Operation:**
$$C \leftarrow \text{FriendlyCore}(D) \quad (C \subseteq D)$$


*friendly*  $C \Rightarrow$  tuples close to each other

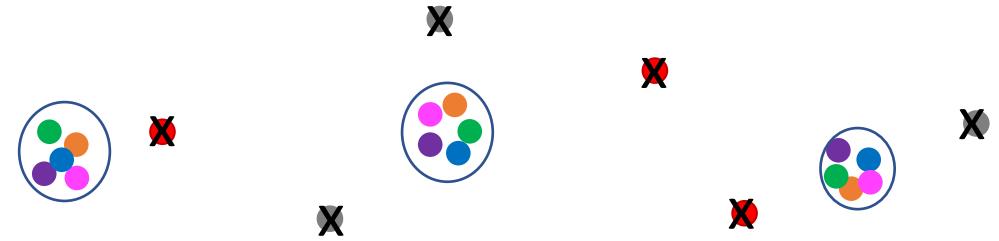
# FriendlyCore Paradigm

**Input:**

- Dataset  $D$  of  $k$ -tuples

**Operation:**
$$C \leftarrow \text{FriendlyCore}(D) \quad (C \subseteq D)$$

Output:  $A(C)$  (*friendly* DP  $A$ )



*friendly*  $C \Rightarrow$  tuples close to each other

# FriendlyCore Paradigm

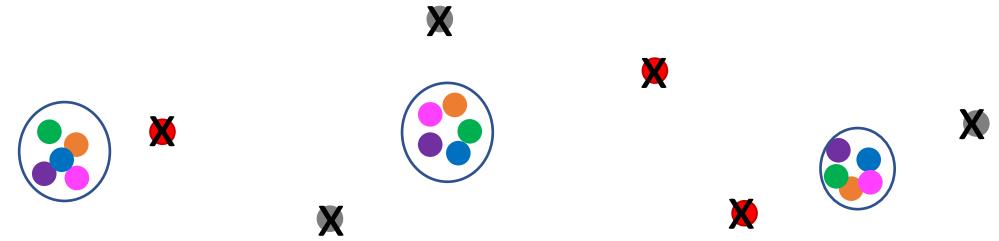
## Input:

- Dataset  $D$  of  $k$ -tuples

## Operation:

$C \leftarrow \text{FriendlyCore}(D) \quad (C \subseteq D)$

Output:  $A(C)$  (*friendly* DP  $A$ )



*friendly*  $C \Rightarrow$  tuples close to each other

*friendly* DP  $A \Rightarrow$  very simple clustering

# FriendlyCore

- Simple, Generic and Practical Algorithm

# FriendlyCore

- Simple, Generic and Practical Algorithm

## Utility:

- If all elements in  $D$  are “close” to each other:

$$\text{FriendlyCore}(D) = D$$

# FriendlyCore

- Simple, Generic and Practical Algorithm

## Utility:

- If all elements in  $D$  are “close” to each other:

$$\text{FriendlyCore}(D) = D$$

## Privacy:

- If  $A$  is *friendly*  $(\varepsilon, \delta)$ -DP, then  
 $A(\text{FriendlyCore}(\cdot))$  is  $\approx (2\varepsilon, 2e^{3\varepsilon}\delta)$ -DP

# FriendlyCore

- Simple, Generic and Practical Algorithm

## Utility:

- If all elements in  $D$  are “close” to each other:

$$\text{FriendlyCore}(D) = D$$

## Privacy:

- If  $A$  is *friendly*  $(\varepsilon, \delta)$ -DP, then  
 $A(\text{FriendlyCore}(\cdot))$  is  $\approx (2\varepsilon, 2e^{3\varepsilon}\delta)$ -DP

➤ Also, zCDP version

# Summary

# Summary

- **FriendlyCore**: tool for private aggregation tasks
  - Example Applications: averaging (optimal asymptotic) and clustering  
Also, learning *unrestricted* covariance matrix of a Gaussian.

# Summary

- **FriendlyCore**: tool for private aggregation tasks
  - Example Applications: averaging (optimal asymptotic) and clustering  
Also, learning *unrestricted* covariance matrix of a Gaussian.
- Empirical evaluations:
  - Averaging: Comparison with CoinPress [Biswas et al. 20]
  - Clustering: Comparison with [Chang Kamath 21]

# Summary

- **FriendlyCore**: tool for private aggregation tasks
  - Example Applications: averaging (optimal asymptotic) and clustering  
Also, learning *unrestricted* covariance matrix of a Gaussian.
- Empirical evaluations:
  - Averaging: Comparison with CoinPress [Biswas et al. 20]
  - Clustering: Comparison with [Chang Kamath 21]

Thank you!