

# Improved reconstruction attacks using range query leakage

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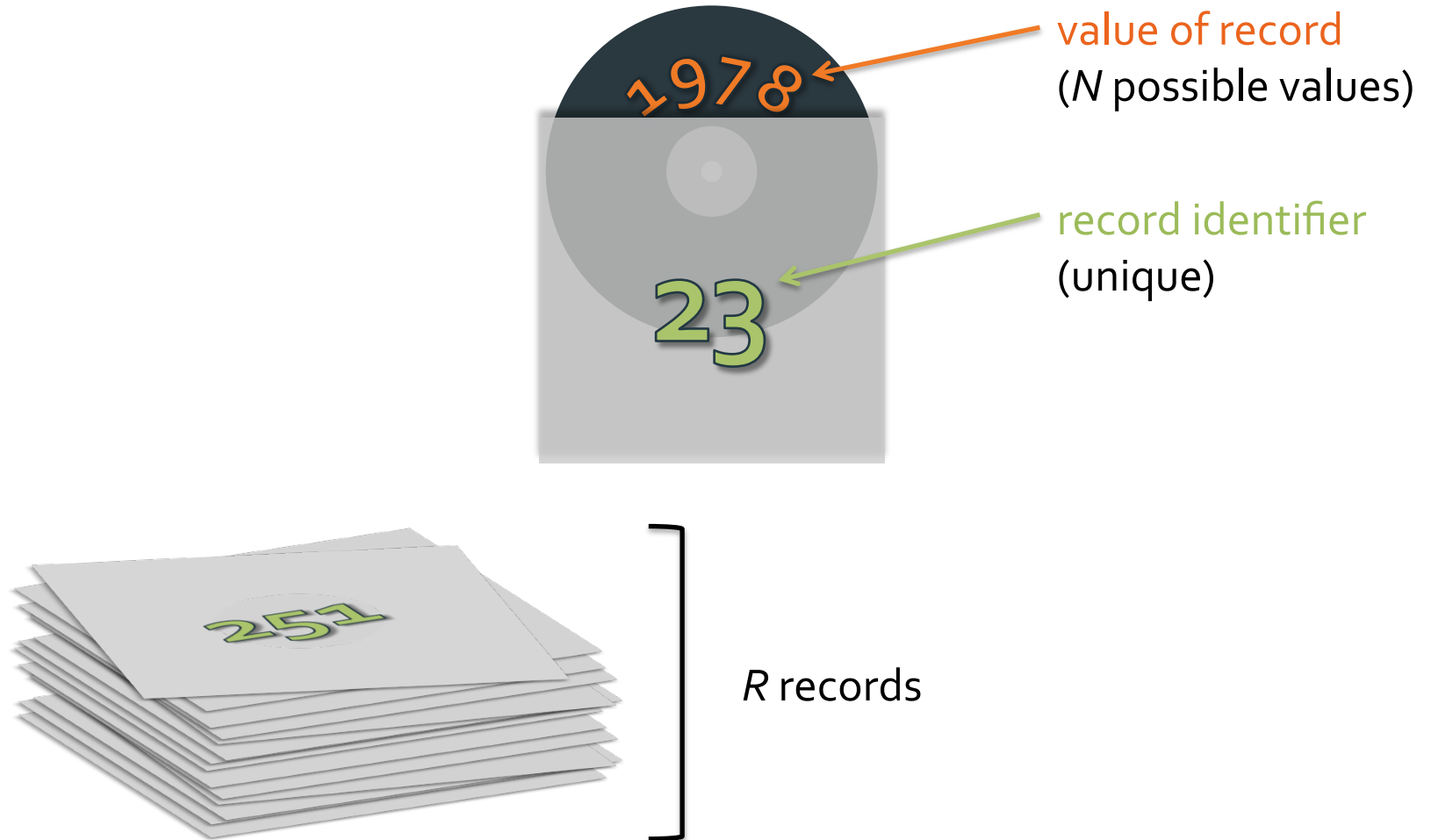


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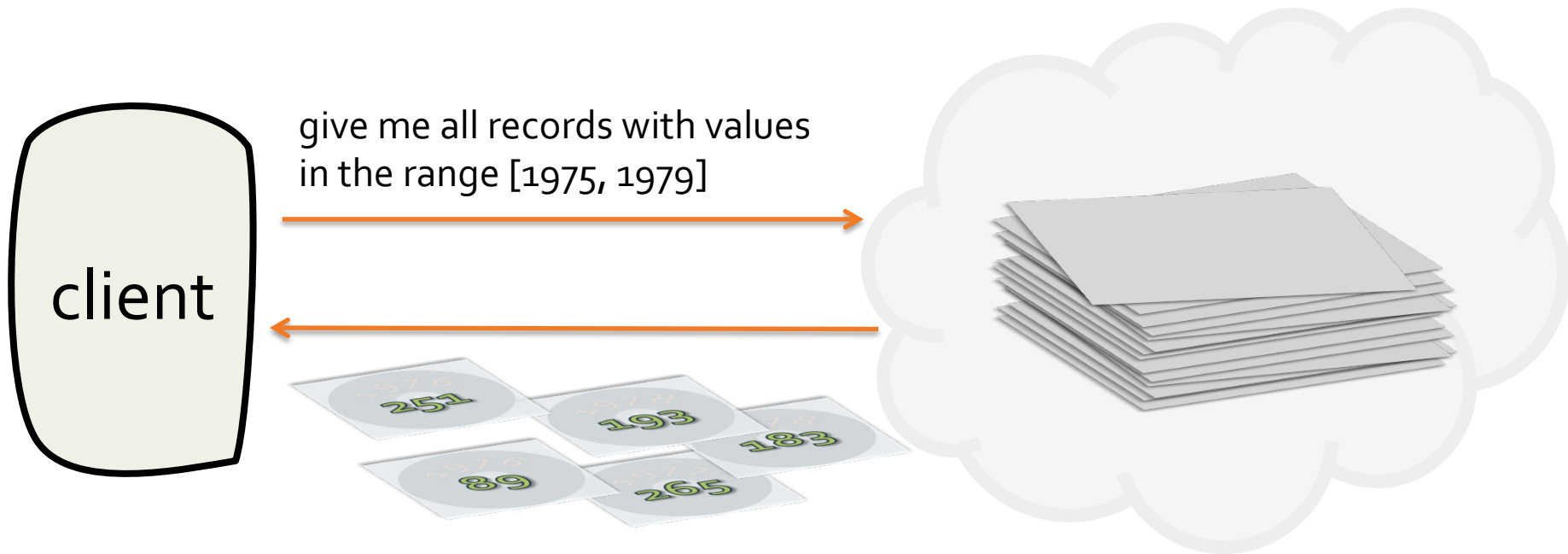


# Application Setting

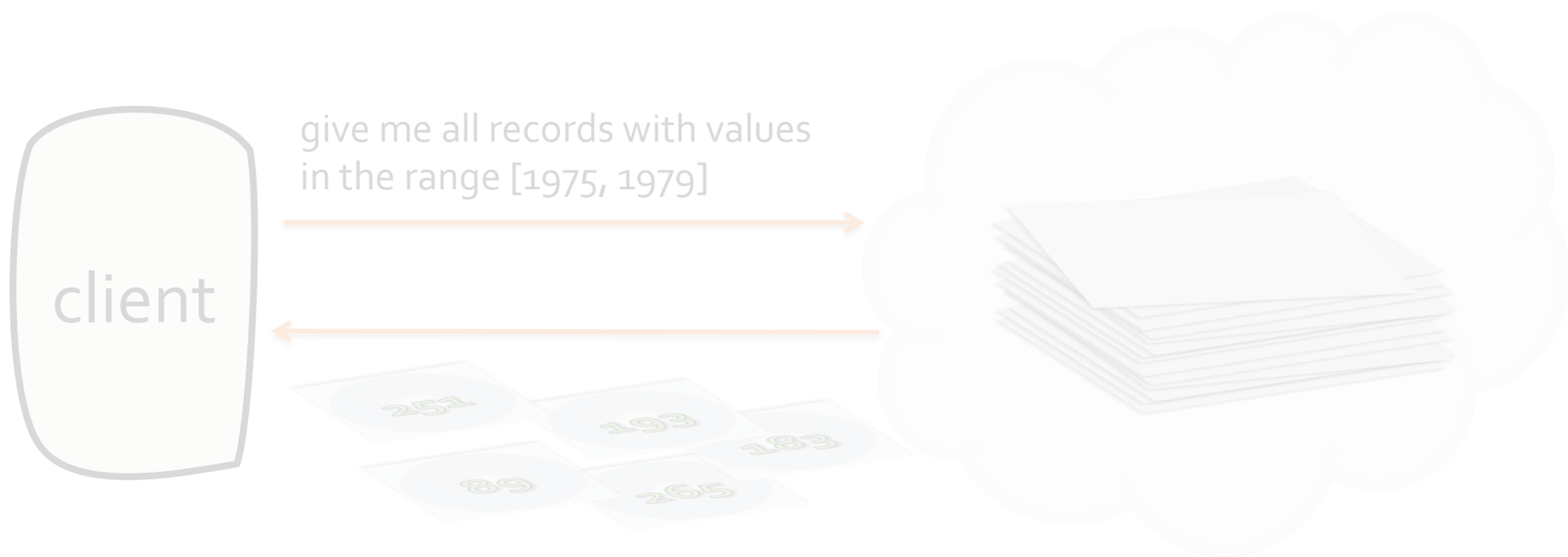
# Storing Records in the Cloud



# Application Scenario



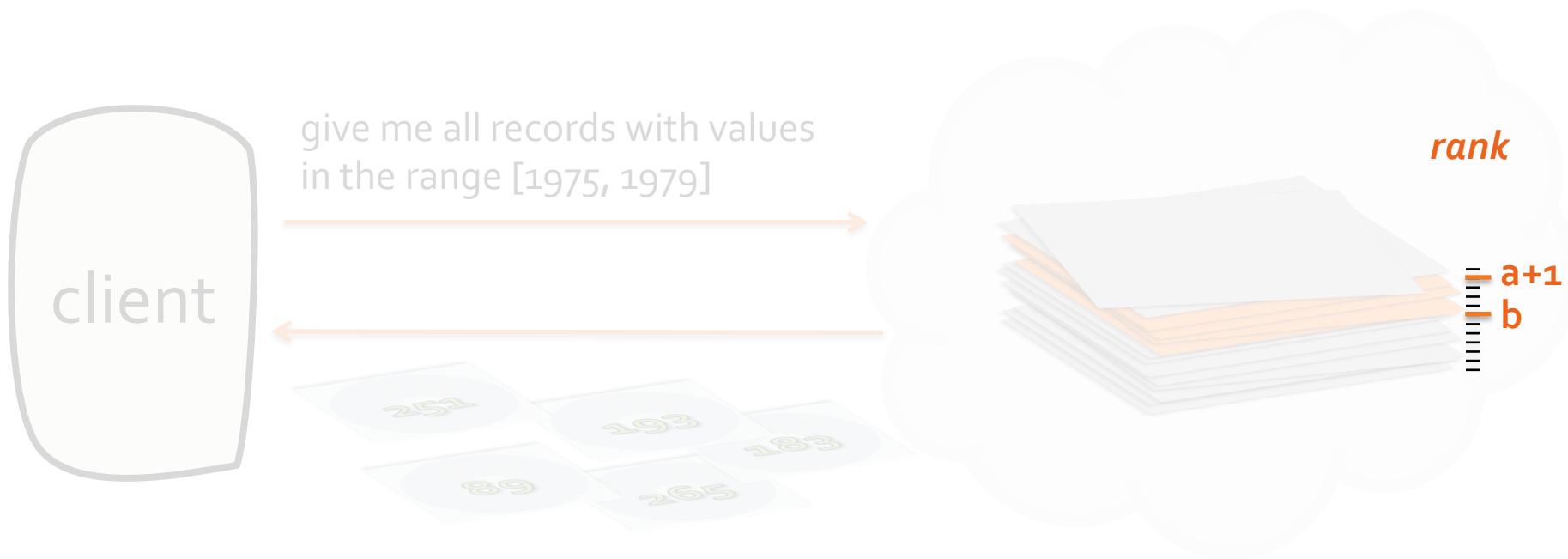
# Access Pattern Leakage



record identifiers

$\{251, 89, 193, 265, 183\}$

# Access Pattern Leakage and Rank Leakage



record identifiers

$\{251, 89, 193, 265, 183\}$

# Assumptions

1. Data is **dense**: all values appear in at least one record.
2. Queries are **uniformly distributed**.

**Target:** full reconstruction: find the value associated with each record.

**Best previous result (Kellaris et al., CCS 2016):**

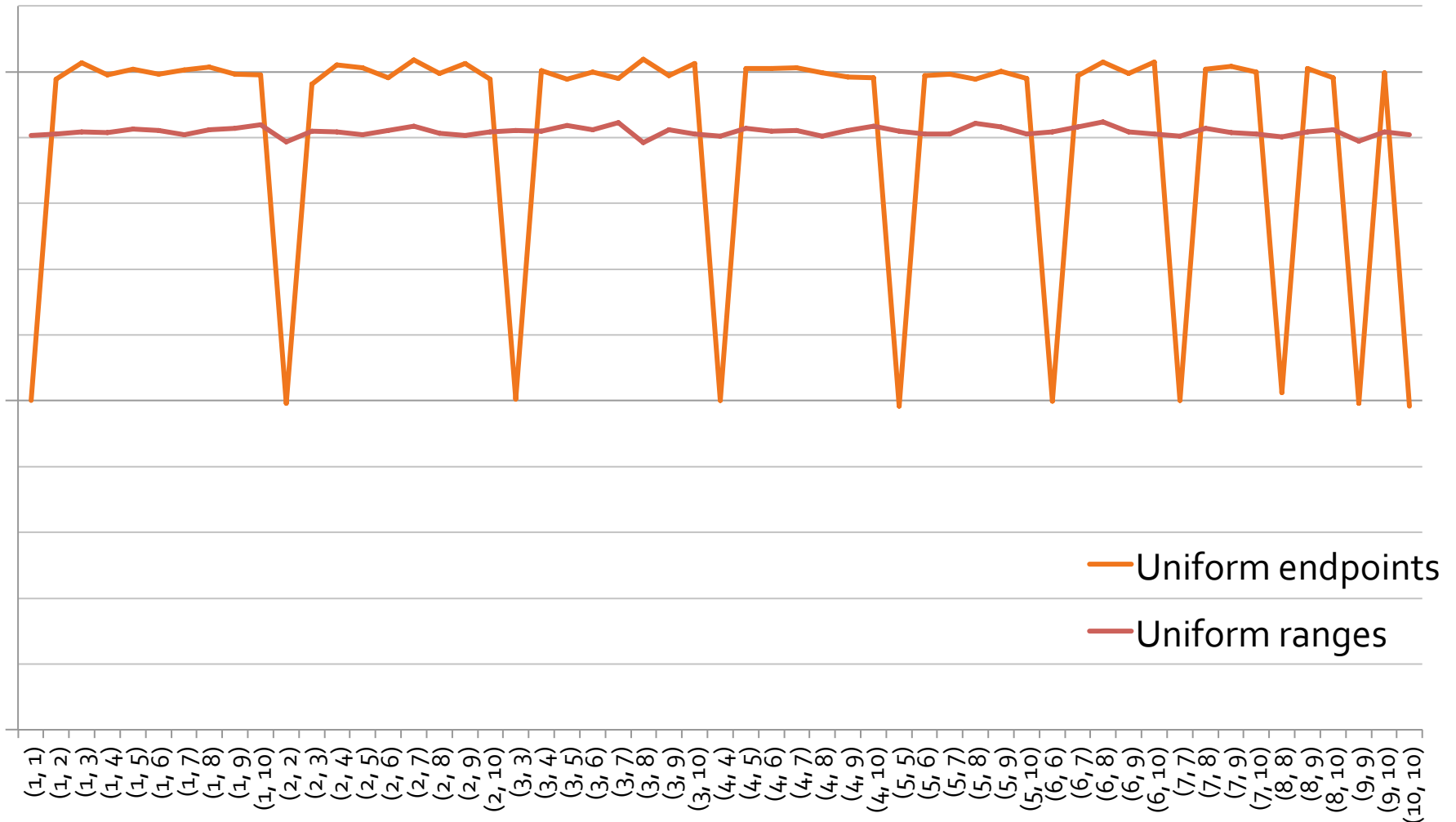
Full reconstruction by analysing access pattern leakage from  $O(N^2 \log N)$  queries.

## Our Main Results (eprint 2017/701)

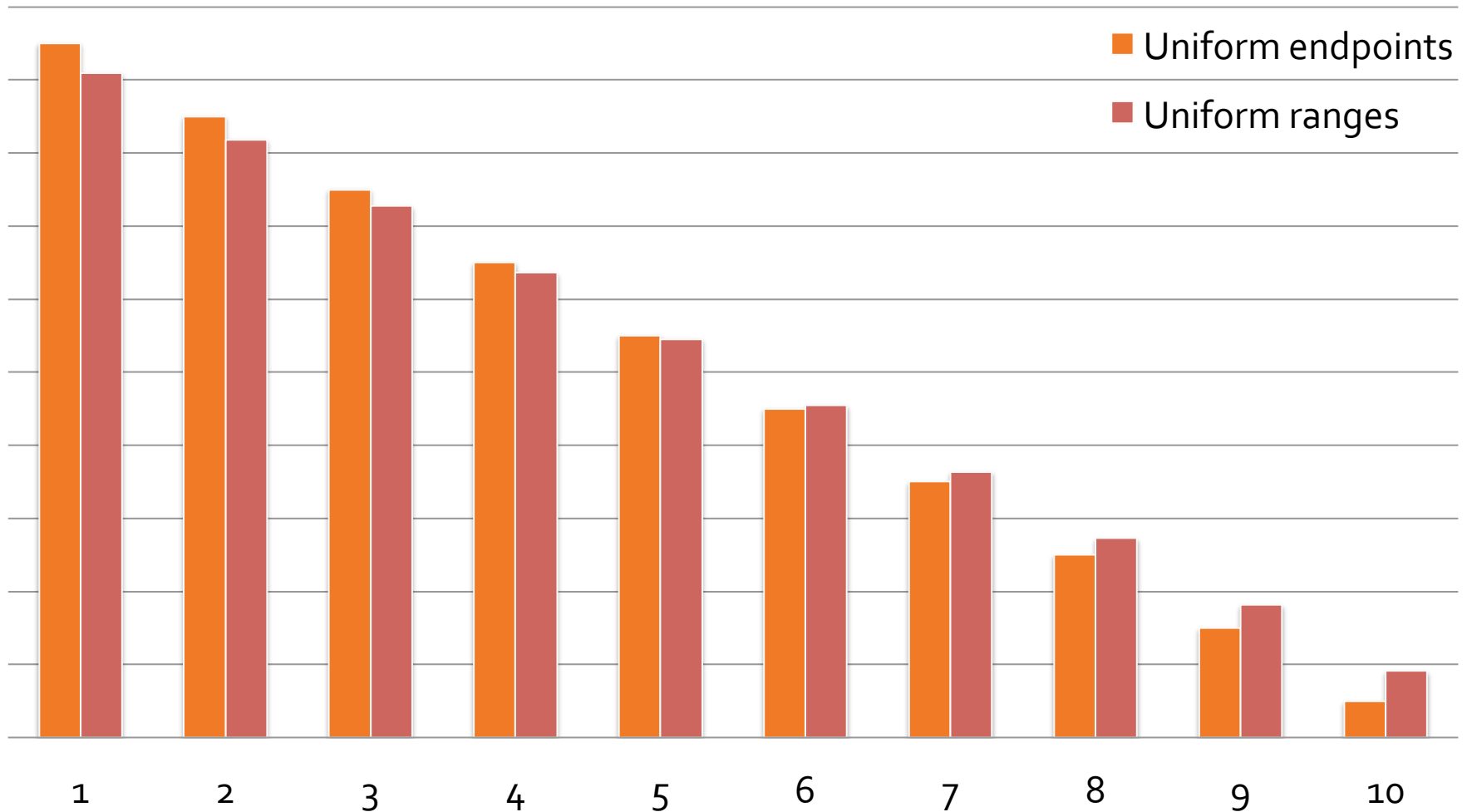
- Full reconstruction with  $O(N \log N)$  queries
  - in fact, expected  $N \cdot (3 + \log N)$ .
- Approximate reconstruction with relative accuracy  $\varepsilon$  from  $O(N \cdot (\log 1/\varepsilon))$  queries
  - in fact, expected  $5/4 \cdot N \cdot (\log 1/\varepsilon) + O(N)$ .
- Approximate reconstruction using an *auxiliary distribution* and rank leakage.
  - more efficient in practice, evaluation via simulation.
  - applies in the non-dense case too, giving a new attack on OPE/ORE schemes.



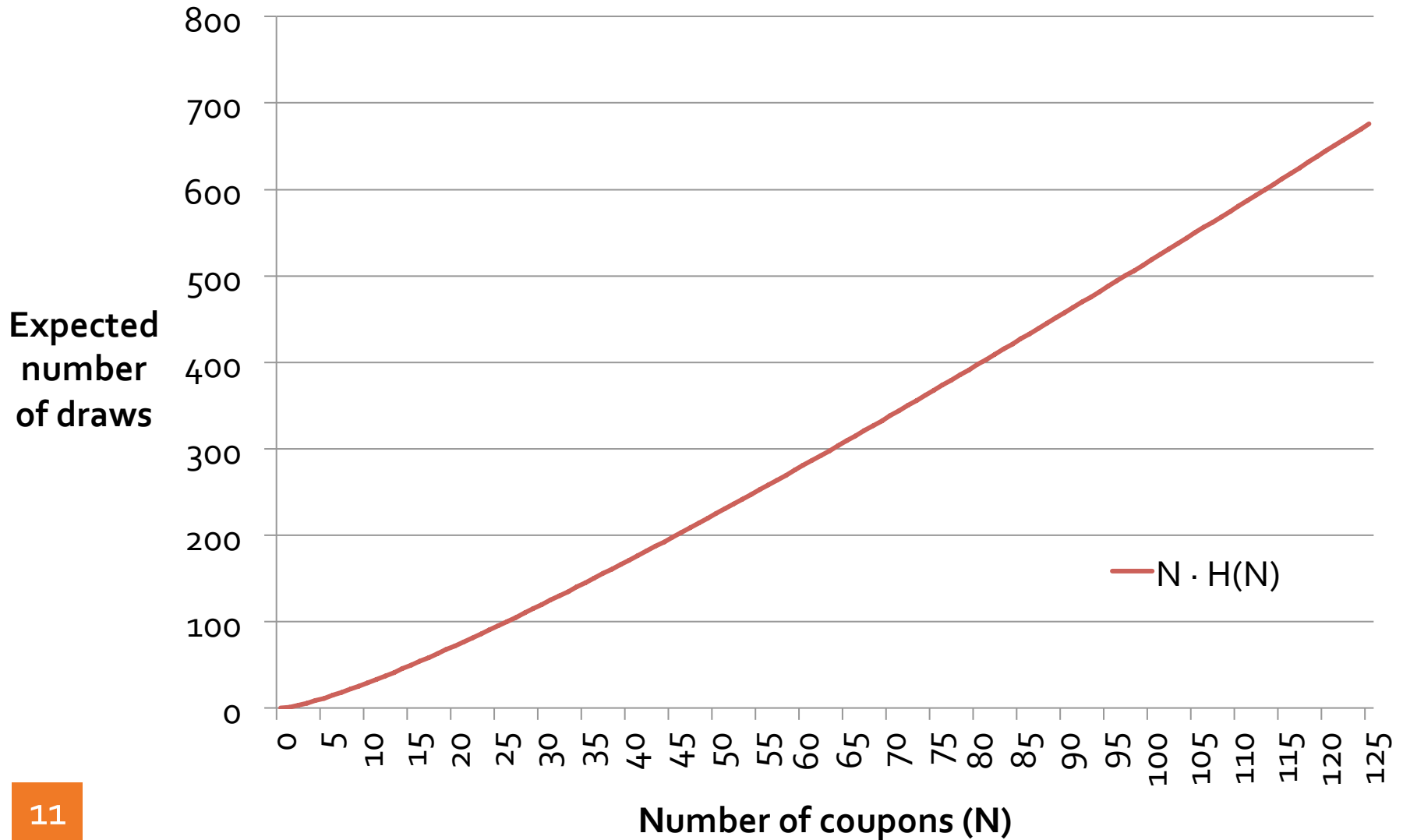
# Uniform Queries: Uniform Endpoints vs. Uniform Ranges ( $N=10$ )



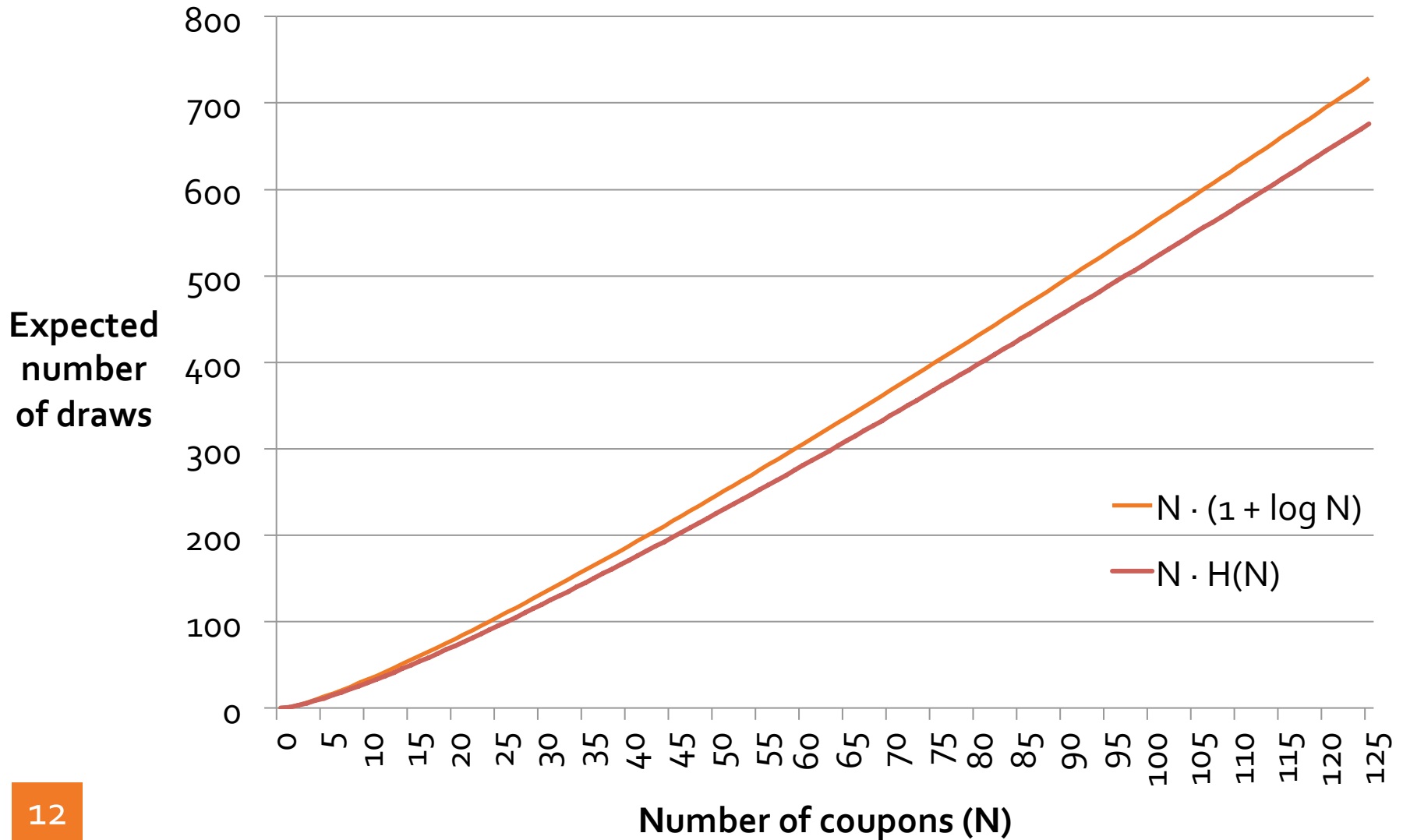
# Distribution of Left Endpoints: Uniform Endpoints vs. Uniform Ranges ( $N=10$ )



# Coupon Collector's Problem



# Coupon Collector's Problem





# Attack 1: Full Reconstruction

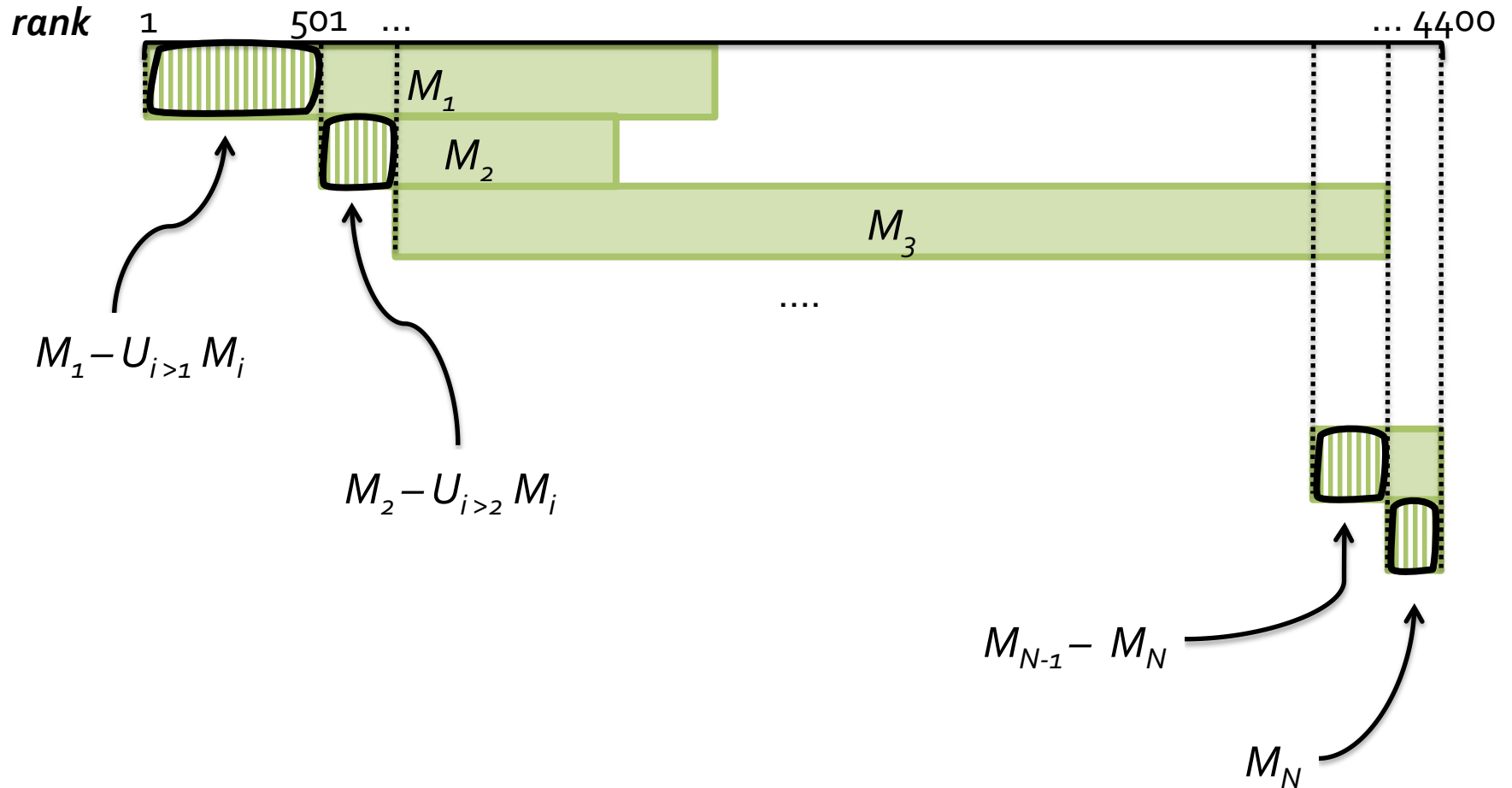
# Motivating Example (with Rank Leakage)

- Suppose **left endpoints** of query intervals are chosen **uniformly at random**.
- Wish to observe at least 1 query with each of the  $N$  possible left endpoints.
- Expected number of queries needed is at most  $N \cdot (1 + \log N)$ .

| <i>hidden</i> | <i>leaked</i>        |                    |                     |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>[x,y]</b>  | <b>a = rank(x-1)</b> | <b>b = rank(y)</b> | <b>matching IDs</b> |
| [20,25]       | 1300                 | 1500               | $M_{20}$            |
| [1,18]        | 0                    | 1200               | $M_1$               |
| [55,125]      | 3100                 | 4400               | $M_{55}$            |
| [2,10]        | 500                  | 800                | $M_2$               |
| [7,98]        | 700                  | 4200               | $M_7$               |

relabelled for convenience

# Motivating Example (with Rank Leakage)

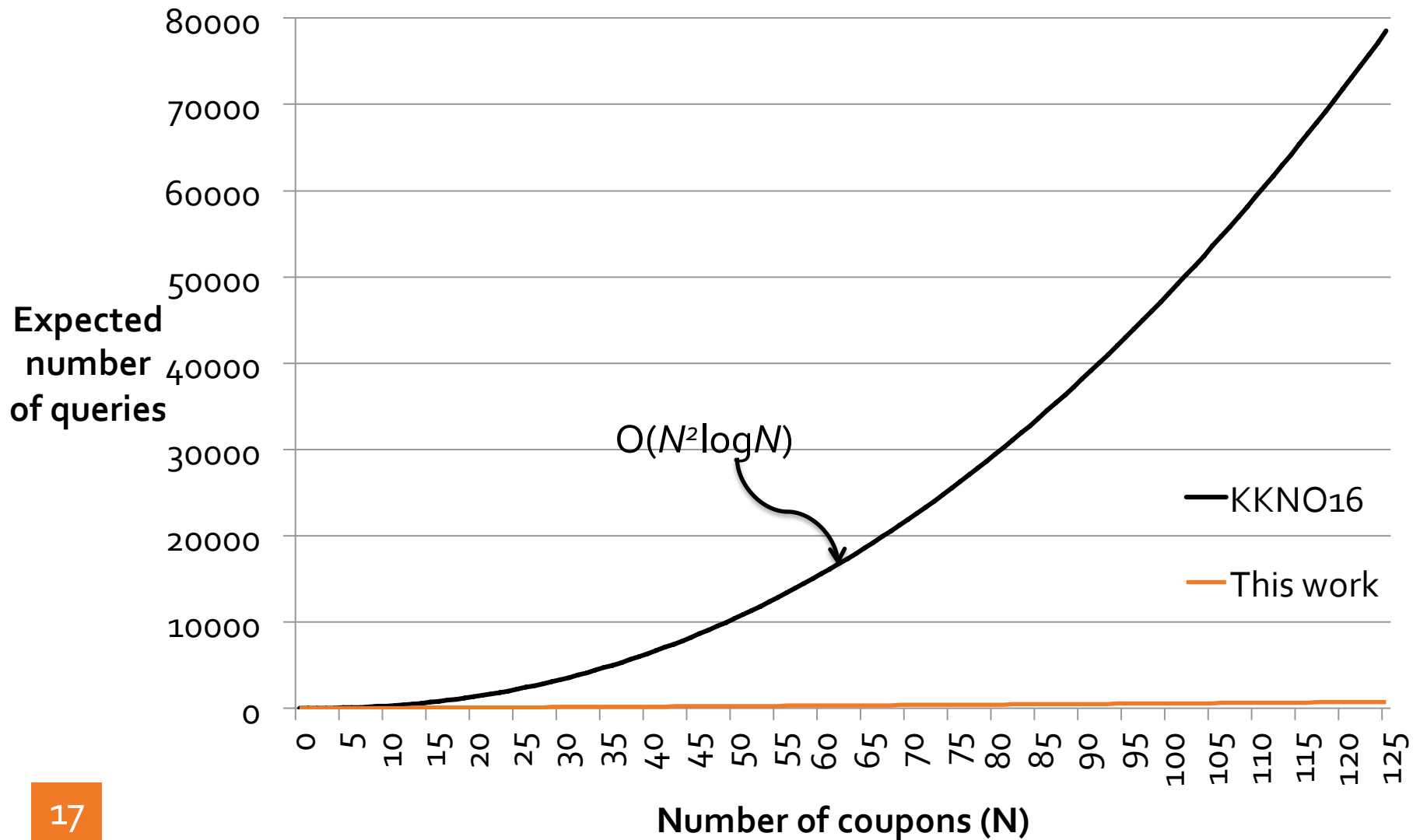


# Full Reconstruction (with Rank Leakage)

- Now suppose queries have **ranges** chosen **uniformly at random**.
- We present a data-optimal algorithm (fails  $\Leftrightarrow$  full reconstruction is impossible).
- Expected number of sufficient queries is at most  
$$N \cdot (2 + \log N) \text{ for } N \geq 27.$$
- Main idea: partition, then sort (easy with rank leakage, harder without).
- Expected number of necessary queries is at least  
$$1/2 \cdot N \cdot \log N - O(N)$$
  
**for any algorithm.**



# Full Reconstruction (with Rank Leakage)



# Full Reconstruction (with Rank Leakage): Partitioning Step

| record ID | matched query? |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|-----------|----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|           | 1              | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 20        | ✓              | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 23        | ✓              | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 29        | ✗              | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 89        | ✗              | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 193       | ✓              | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| ...       |                |   |   |   |   |   |   |



- Equality of matching defines a **partition** of records.
- Records in same class of partition cannot be distinguished.
- For complete reconstruction, we need  $N$  classes – one class per value.

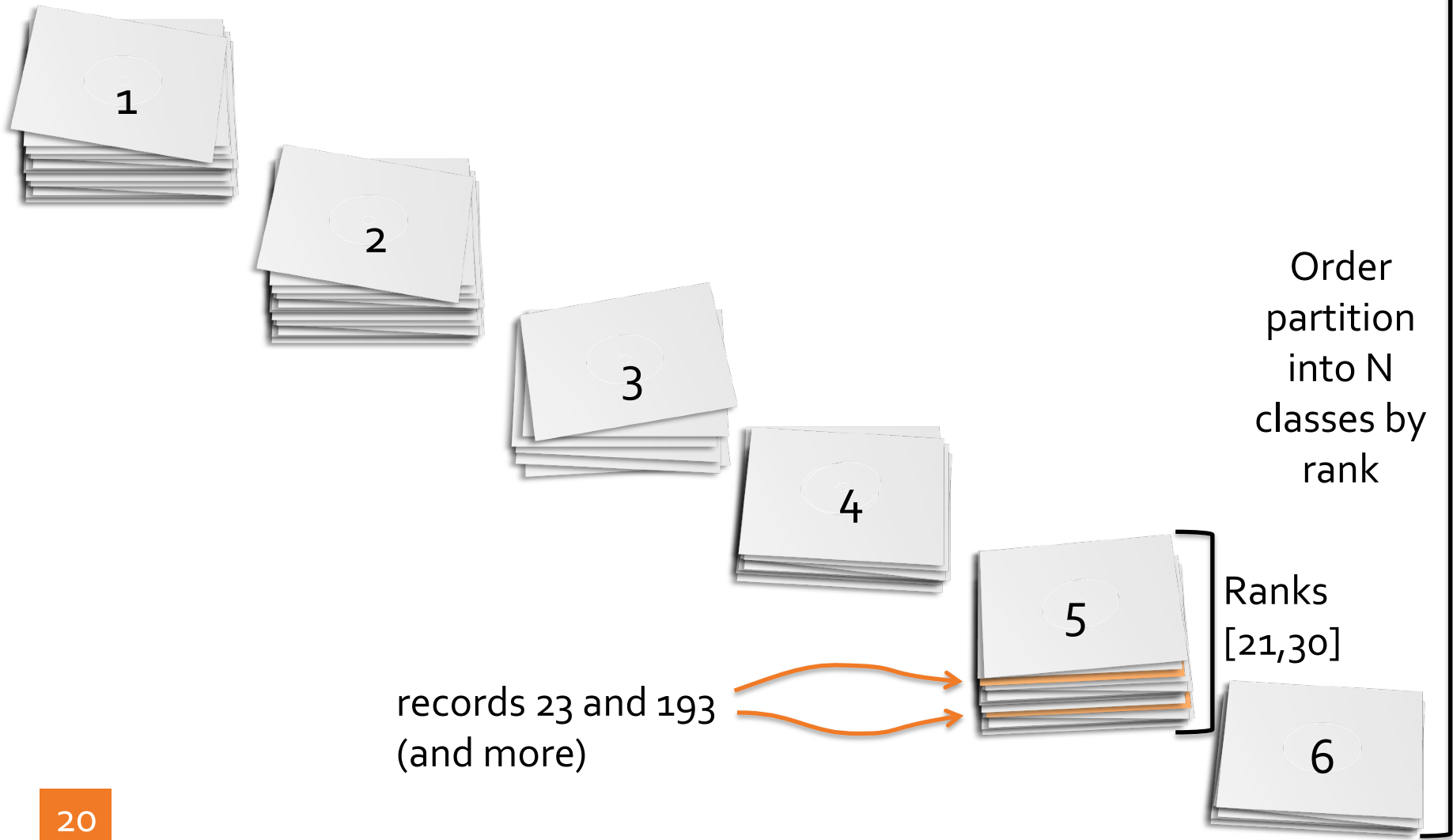
# Full Reconstruction (with Rank Leakage): Partitioning Step

| record ID | matched query? |              |   |   |              |              |              |
|-----------|----------------|--------------|---|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|           | 1              | 2            | 3 | 4 | 5            | 6            | 7            |
| 20        | ✓              | ✓            | ✗ | ✗ | ✓            | ✗            | ✗            |
| 23        | ✓<br>[1,100]   | ✓<br>[18,82] | ✗ | ✗ | ✓<br>[16,96] | ✓<br>[16,30] | ✓<br>[21,61] |
| 29        | ✗              | ✓            | ✓ | ✗ | ✗            | ✓            | ✗            |
| 89        | ✗              | ✓            | ✓ | ✗ | ✓            | ✓            | ✗            |
| 193       | ✓              | ✓            | ✗ | ✗ | ✓            | ✓            | ✓            |
| ...       |                |              |   |   |              |              |              |



Can also deduce from rank leakage that, e.g., records 23 and 193 have ranks in  $[21,30]$ , by intersecting rank intervals.

# Full Reconstruction (with Rank Leakage): Partitioning Step



# Full Reconstruction (with Rank Leakage): Proof Intuition

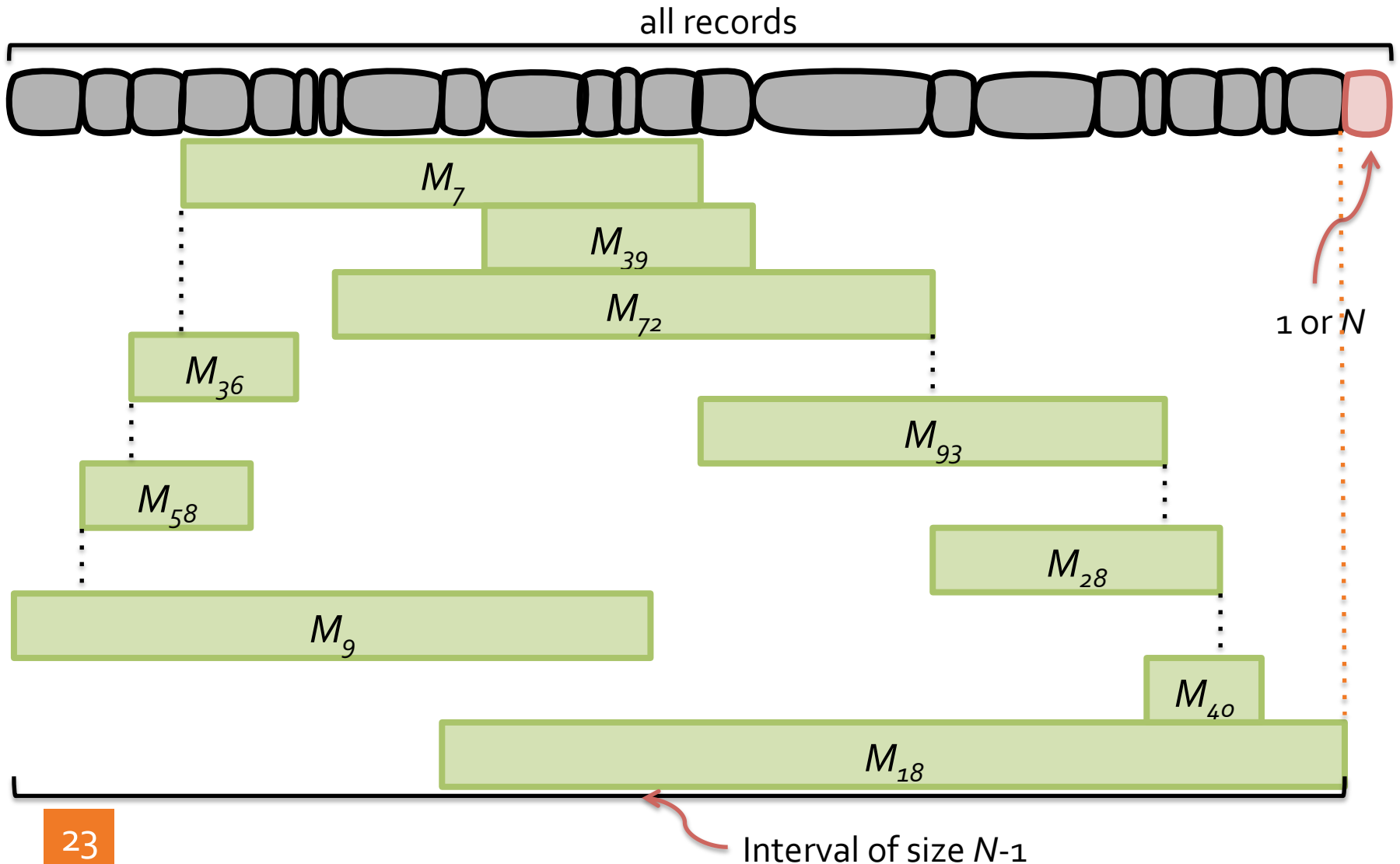
- Hard part is to show that  $O(N \log N)$  queries suffice with a small constant.
- Proof consists of showing that **if** certain favourable queries are made, then partitioning succeeds in constructing  $N$  classes.
- Roughly speaking, for our proof we hope for queries on ranges:
  1.  $[x, *]$  for all  $1 \leq x \leq N/2$  (left coupons)
  2.  $[*, y]$  for all  $N/2+1 \leq y \leq N$  (right coupons)
  3.  $[N/2+1, y]$  and  $[x, N]$  for some  $y \geq x$ .
- Assuming these all arise, then a combinatorial argument establishes the success of the partitioning step.
- First two cases are essentially a pair of coupon collector problems – success with high probability with  $O(N \log N)$  queries.
- Third case is a high probability event:  $1 - e^{-Q/(2N+2)}$  for  $Q$  queries.

# Full Reconstruction (**without** Rank Leakage)

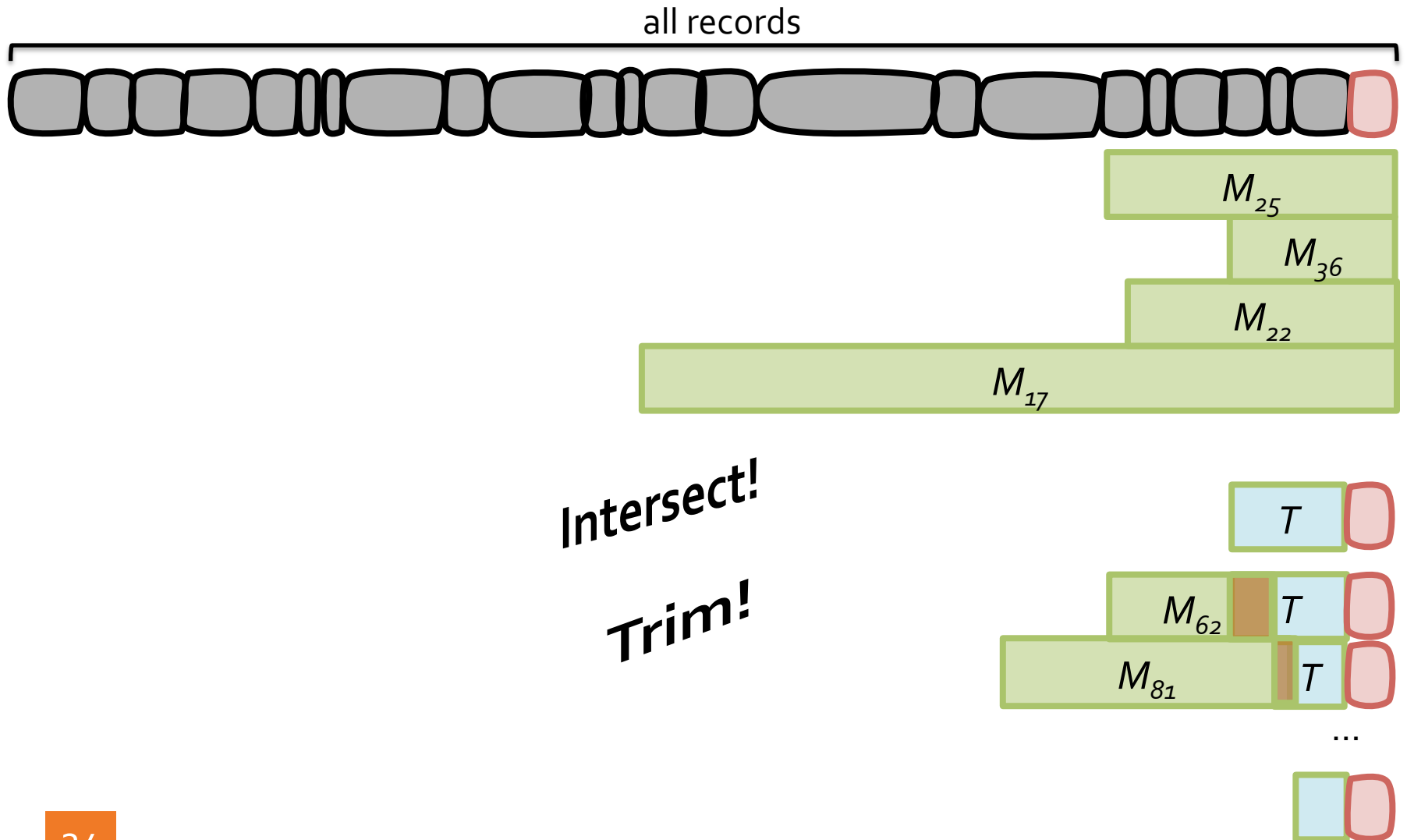
- Can only recover values up to **reflection**.
- Data-optimal algorithm (fails  $\Rightarrow$  full reconstruction is impossible).
- Expected number of sufficient queries is at most  
$$N \cdot (3 + \log N) \text{ for } N \geq 26$$
- Partition (as before), then sort\*.
- Expected number of necessary queries is at least  
$$1/2 \cdot N \cdot \log N - O(N)$$
  
- **for any algorithm.**

\*Not quite.

# Full Reconstruction (without Rank Leakage): Sorting Step



# Full Reconstruction (without Rank Leakage): Sorting Step – Extending

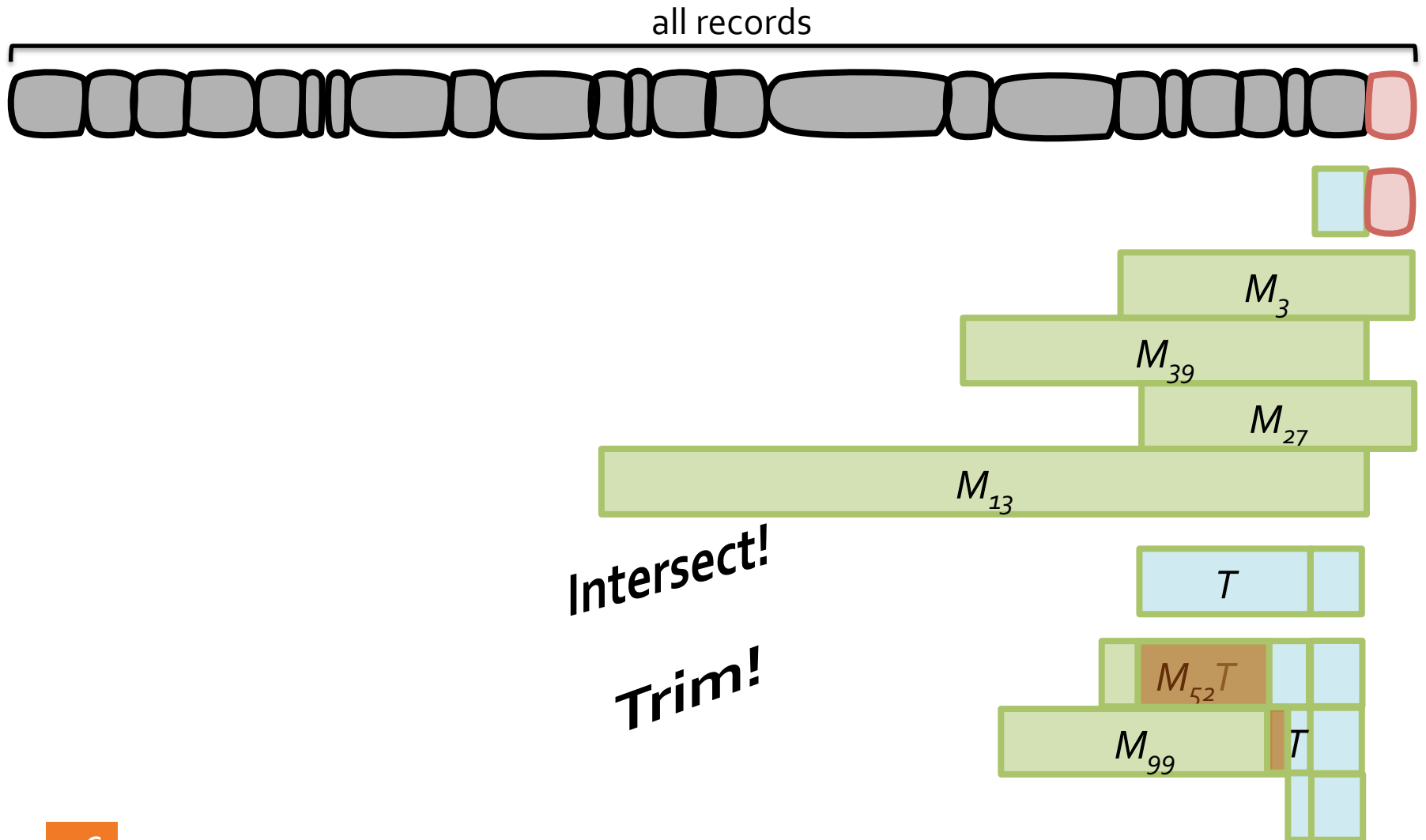




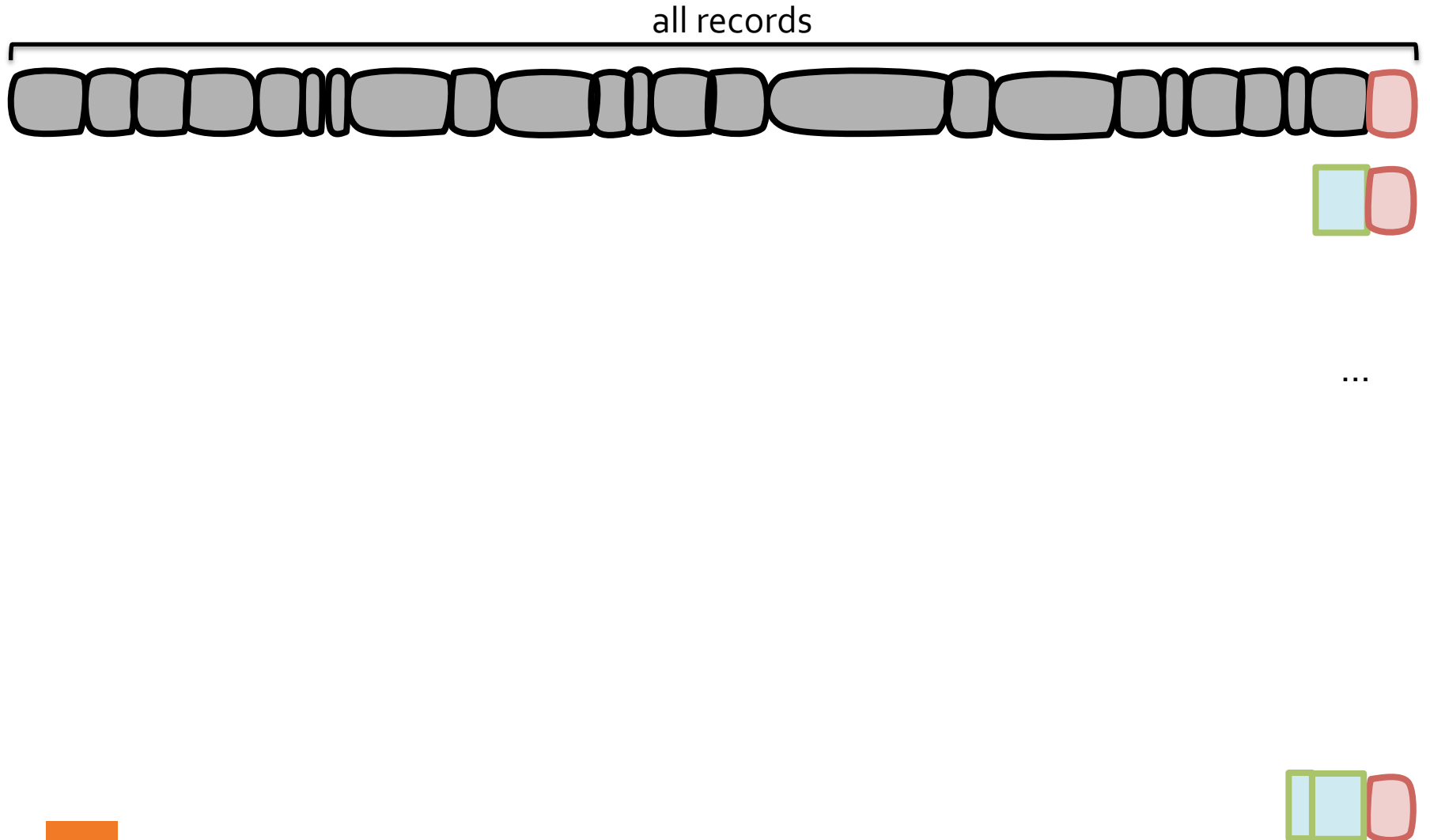
# Full Reconstruction (without Rank Leakage): Sorting Step – Extending



# Full Reconstruction (without Rank Leakage): Sorting Step



# Full Reconstruction (without Rank Leakage): Sorting Step



# Full Reconstruction (without Rank Leakage): Proof Intuition

- Hard part is again to show that  $O(N \log N)$  queries suffice, with a small constant.
- Proof again consists of showing that **if** certain favourable queries are made, then partitioning succeeds in constructing  $N$  classes.
- Coupon collecting bounds then establish that  $O(N \log N)$  queries are enough.



## Attack 2: Approximate Reconstruction

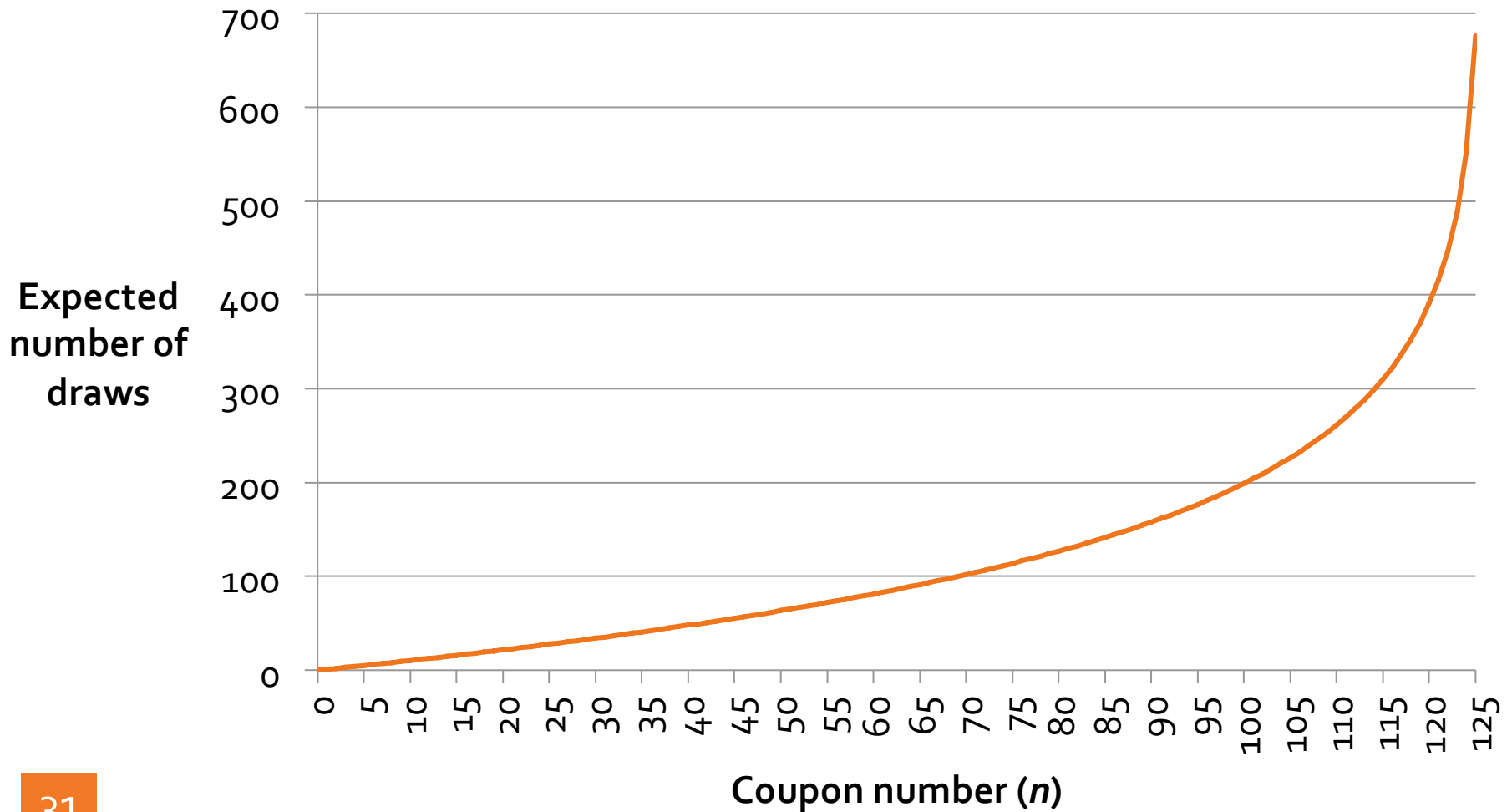
# Approximate Reconstruction Attack (without Rank Leakage)

- Recover values up to **reflection** and with relative error  $\varepsilon$ .
- Expected number of sufficient queries is
$$5/4 \cdot N \cdot (\log 1/\varepsilon) + O(N).$$
- Expected number of necessary queries is at least
$$1/2 \cdot N \cdot (\log 1/\varepsilon) - O(N)$$

**for any algorithm.**
- Not data-optimal without rank leakage (but *is* with it)

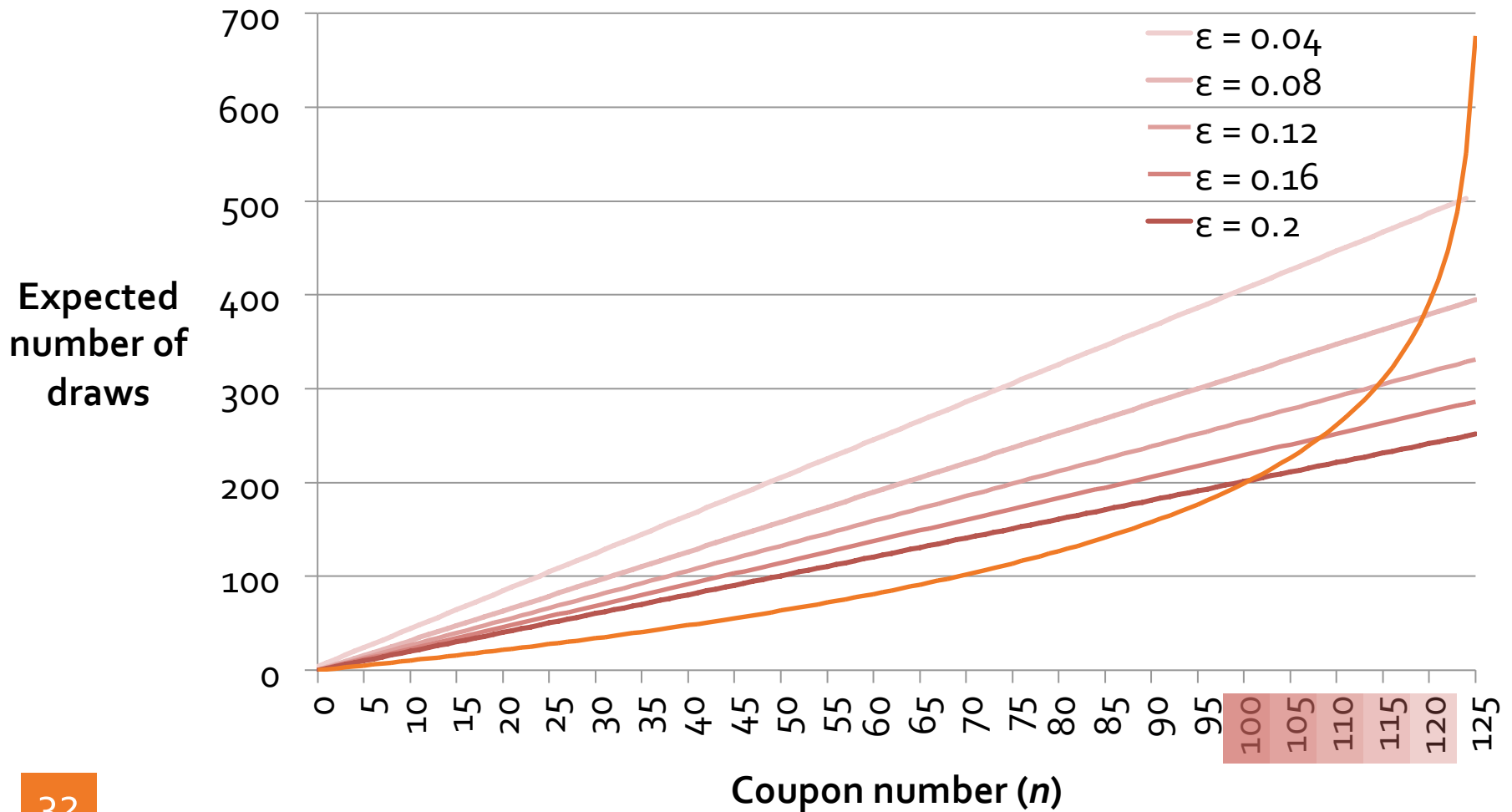
# Coupon Collection ( $N=125$ )

## Collecting $n$ of 125 coupons



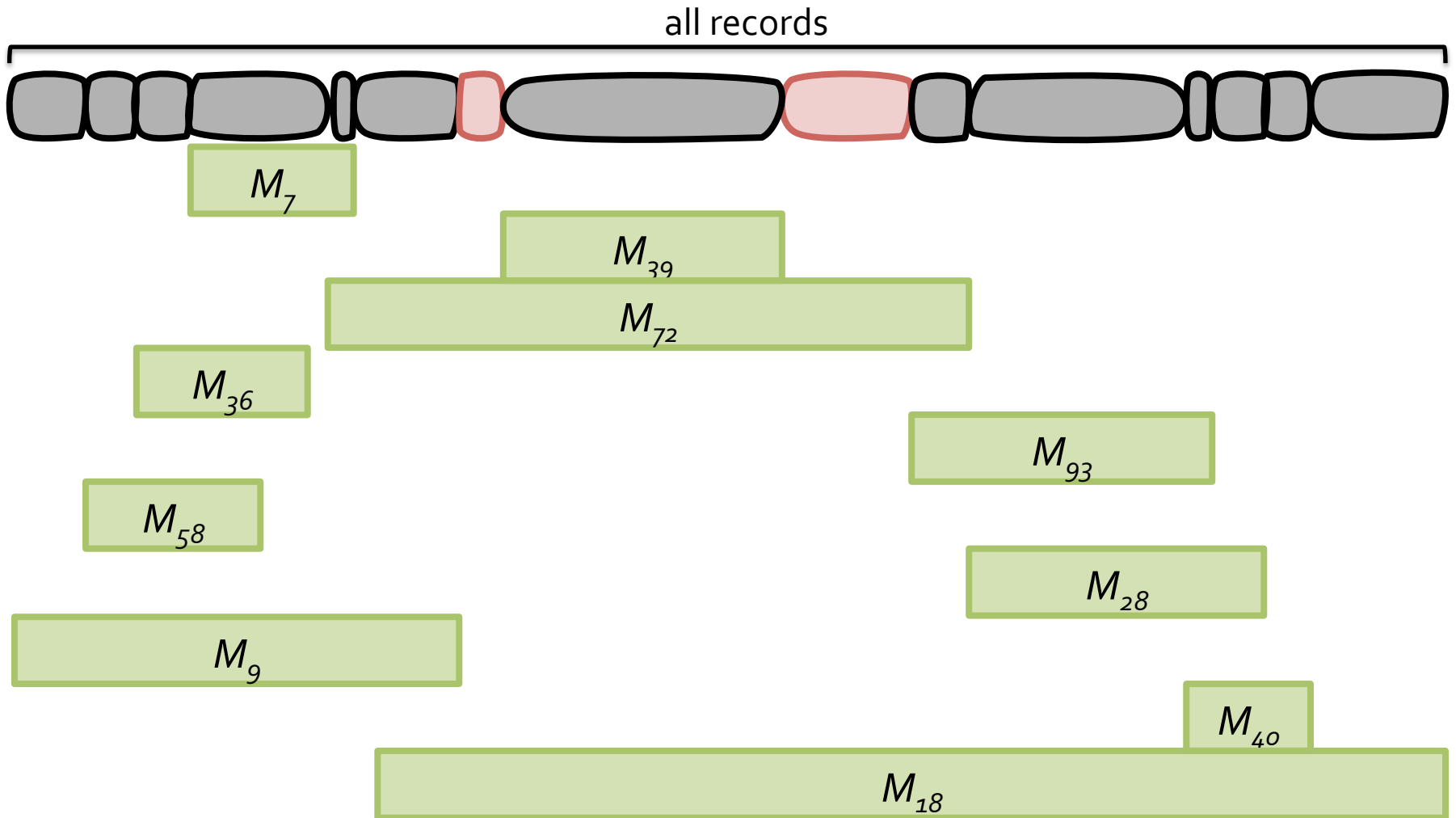
# Coupon Collection ( $N=125$ )

## Collecting fraction $(1-\epsilon)$ of 125 coupons



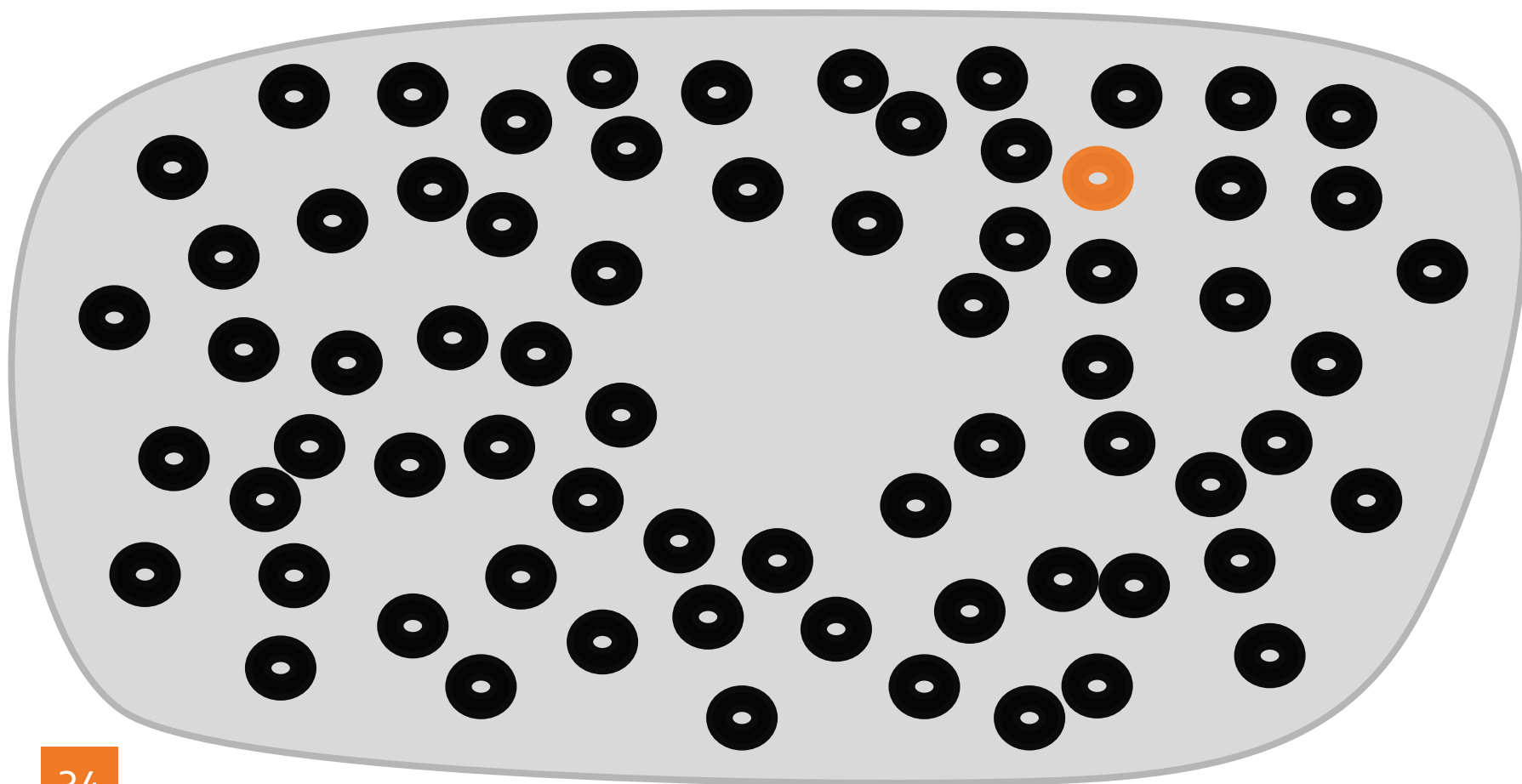


# Approximate Reconstruction: Old Partitioning Method Doesn't Work



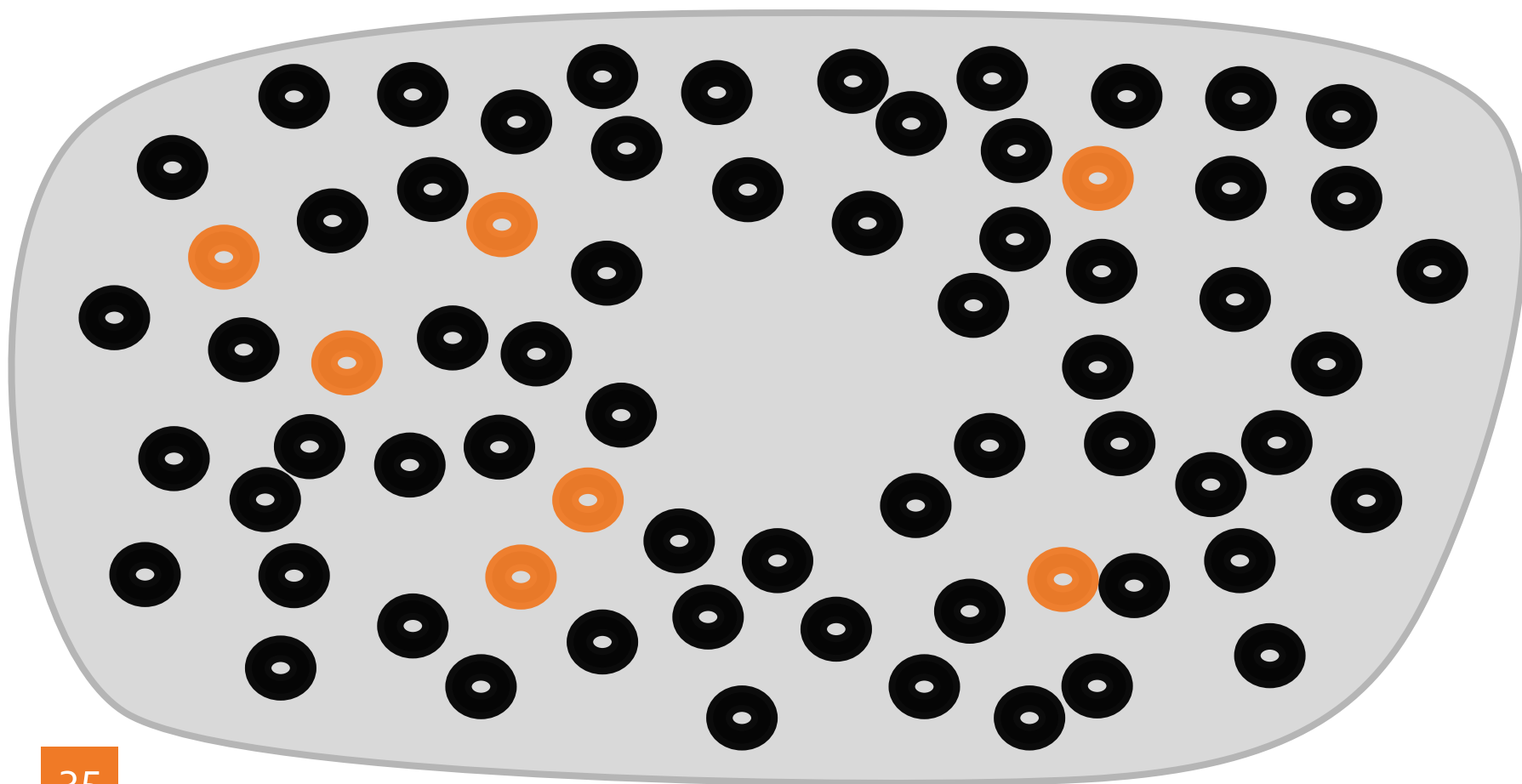
# Approximate Reconstruction: Partitioning Step

1. Pick any record  $r$ .



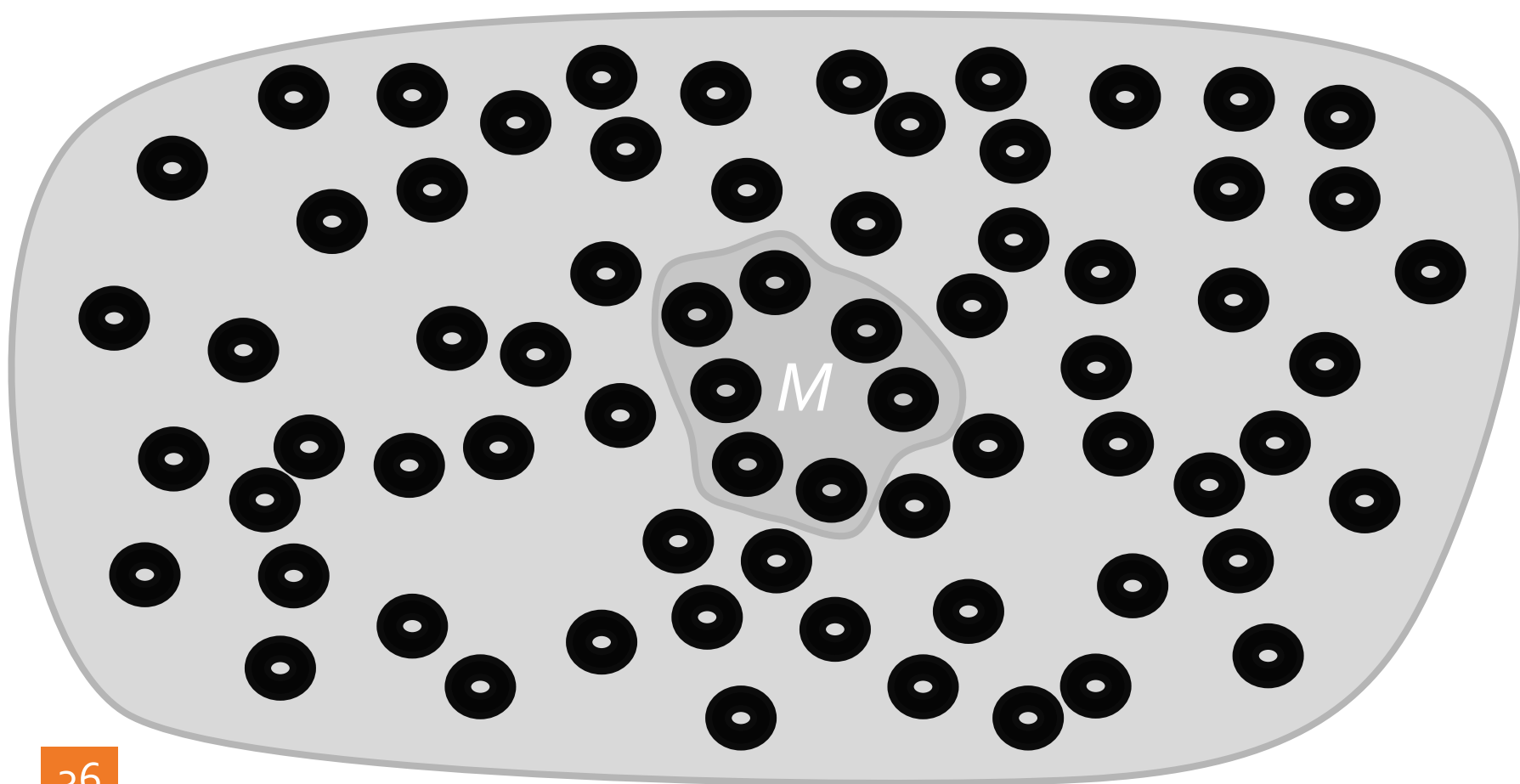
# Approximate Reconstruction: Partitioning Step

2. Intersect all queries matching  $r$  to get  $M$ .



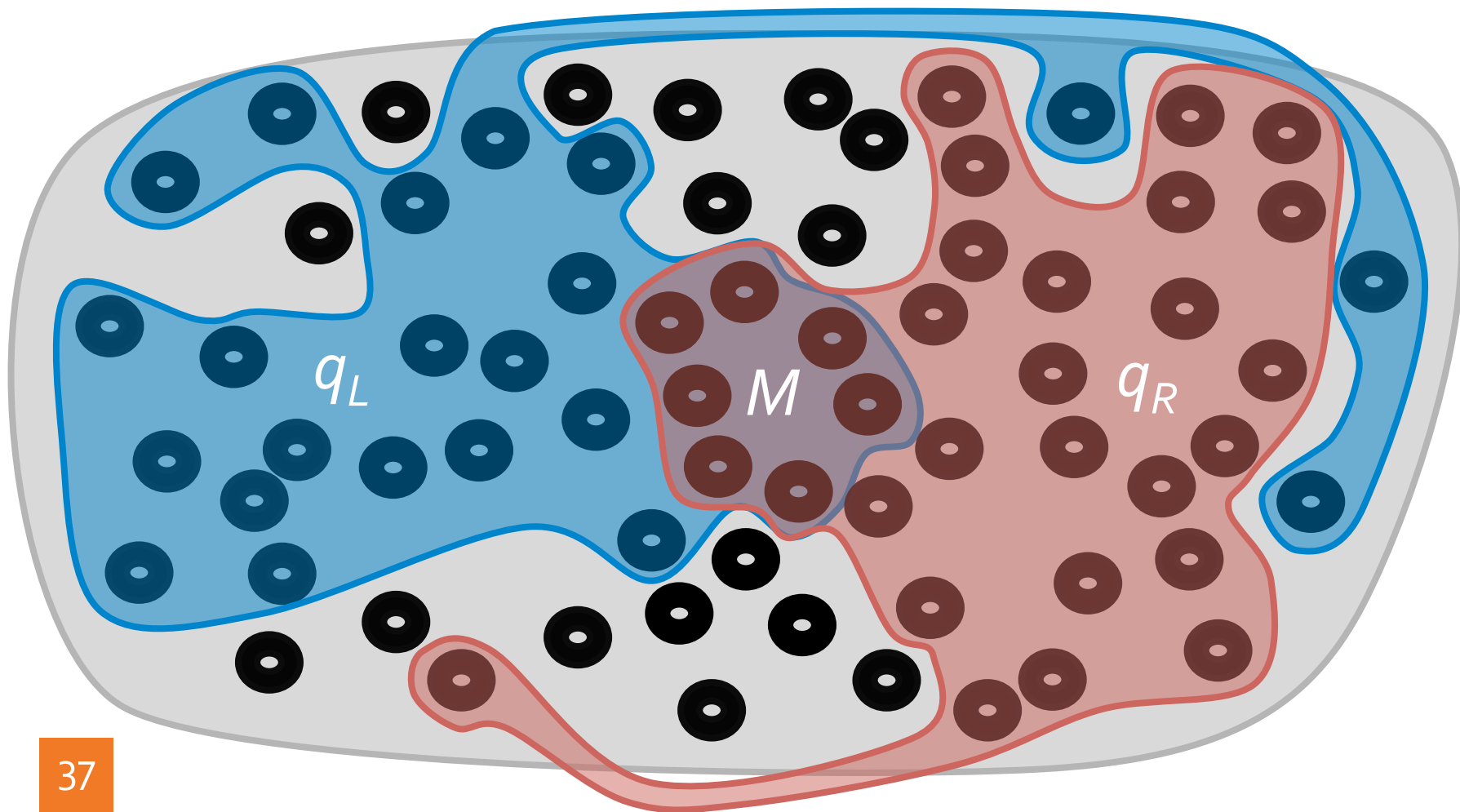
# Approximate Reconstruction: Partitioning Step

2. Intersect all queries matching  $r$  to get  $M$ .



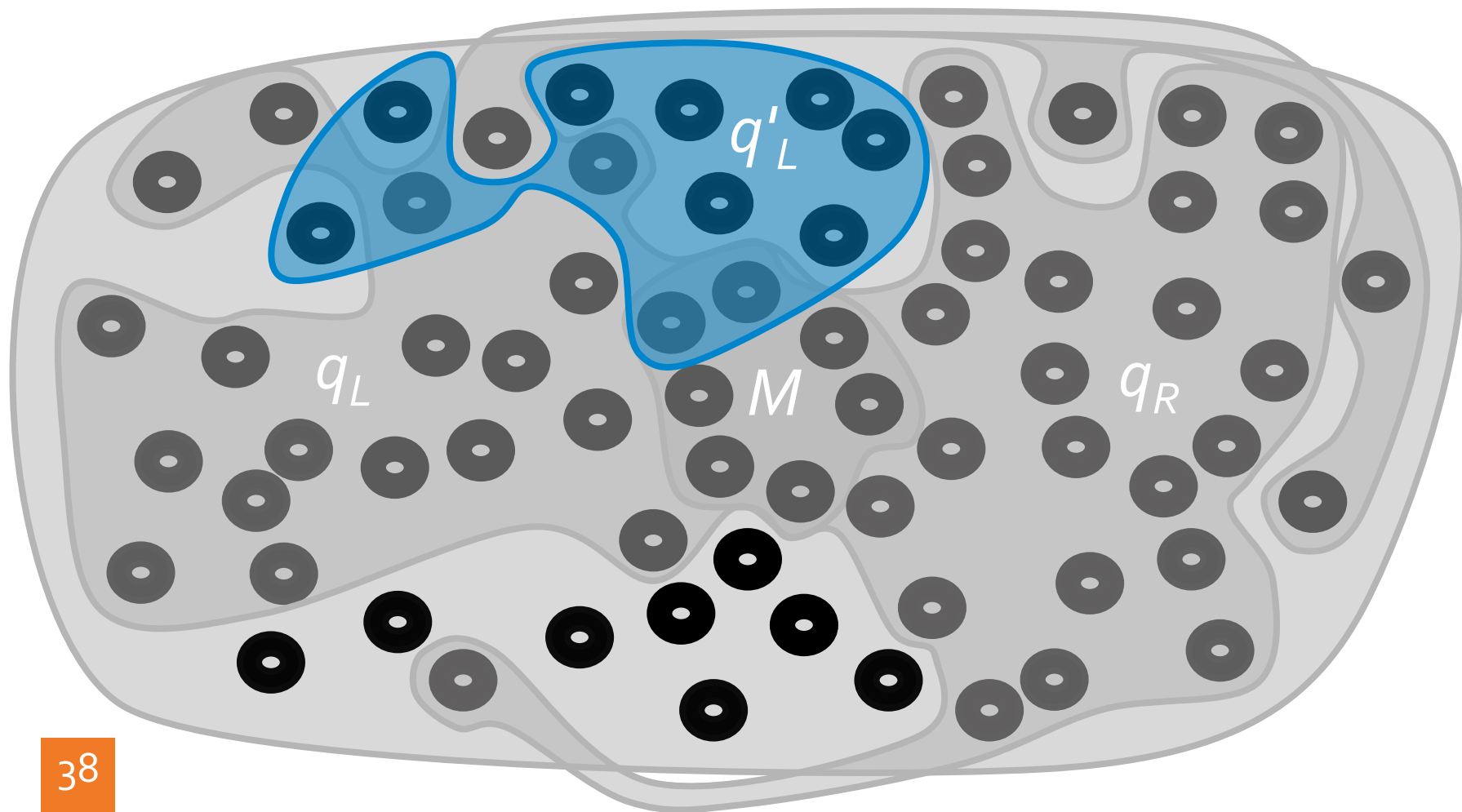
## Approximate Reconstruction: Partitioning Step

3. Find  $q_L$  and  $q_R$  :  $q_L \cap q_R = M$  and  $|q_L \cup q_R|$  maximised.



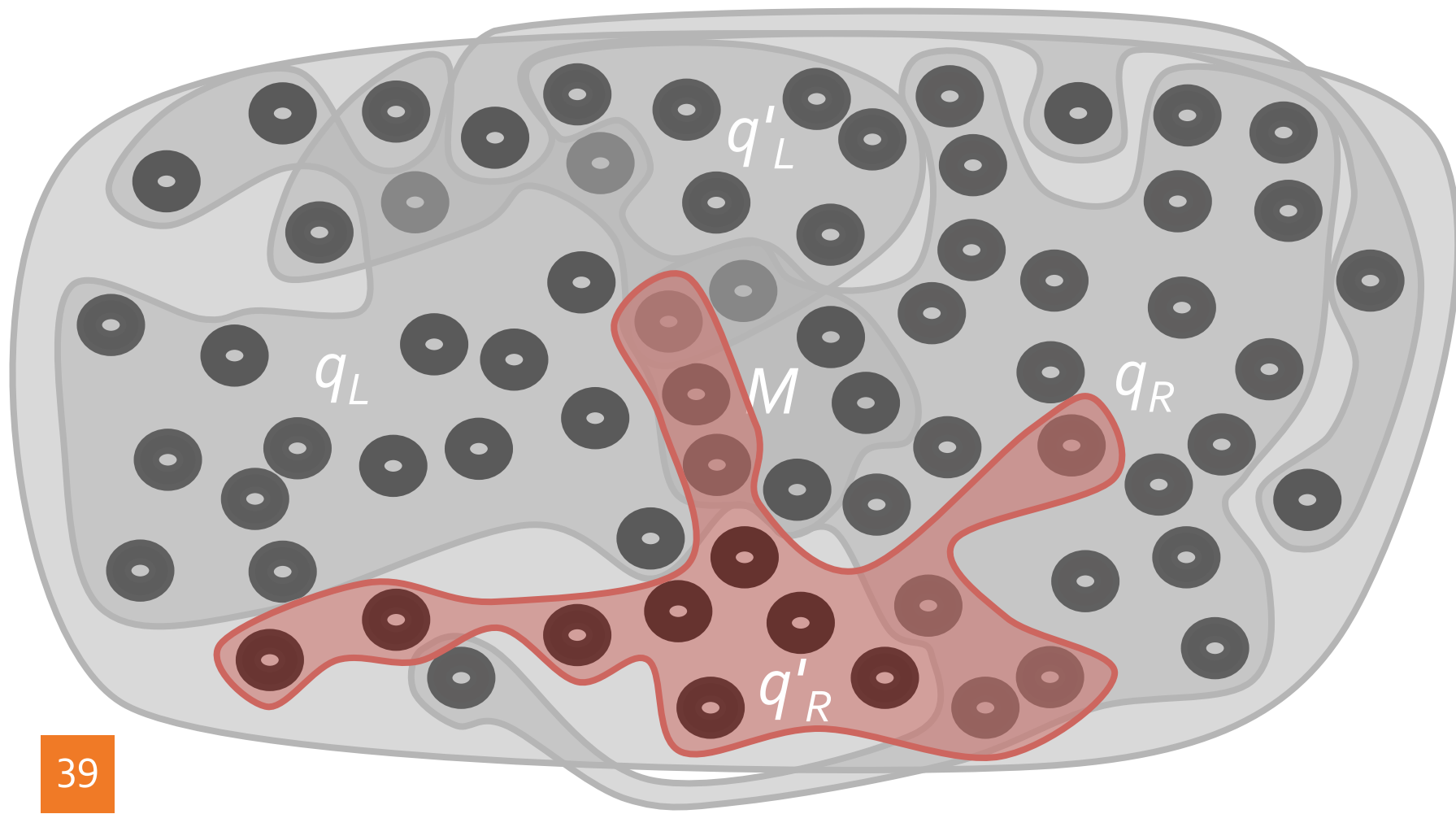
## Approximate Reconstruction: Partitioning Step

4. Find  $q'_L : q_L \cap q'_L \neq \emptyset, q'_L \cap q_R \subseteq M, |q_L \cup q'_L|$  maximised.



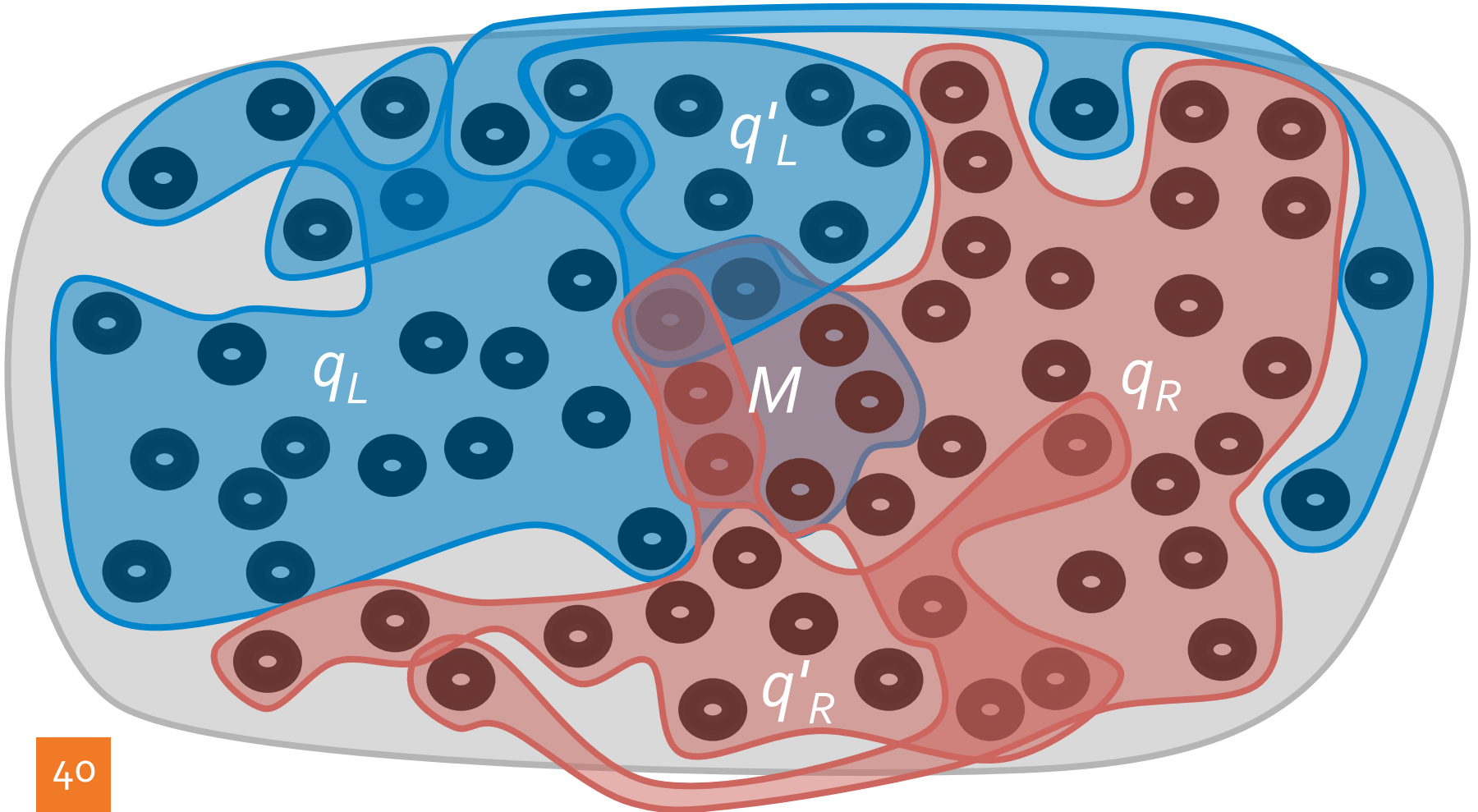
## Approximate Reconstruction: Partitioning Step

5. Find  $q'_R$  :  $q_R \cap q'_R \neq \emptyset$ ,  $q'_R \cap q_L \subseteq M$ ,  $|q_R \cup q'_R|$  maximised.



# Approximate Reconstruction: Partitioning Step

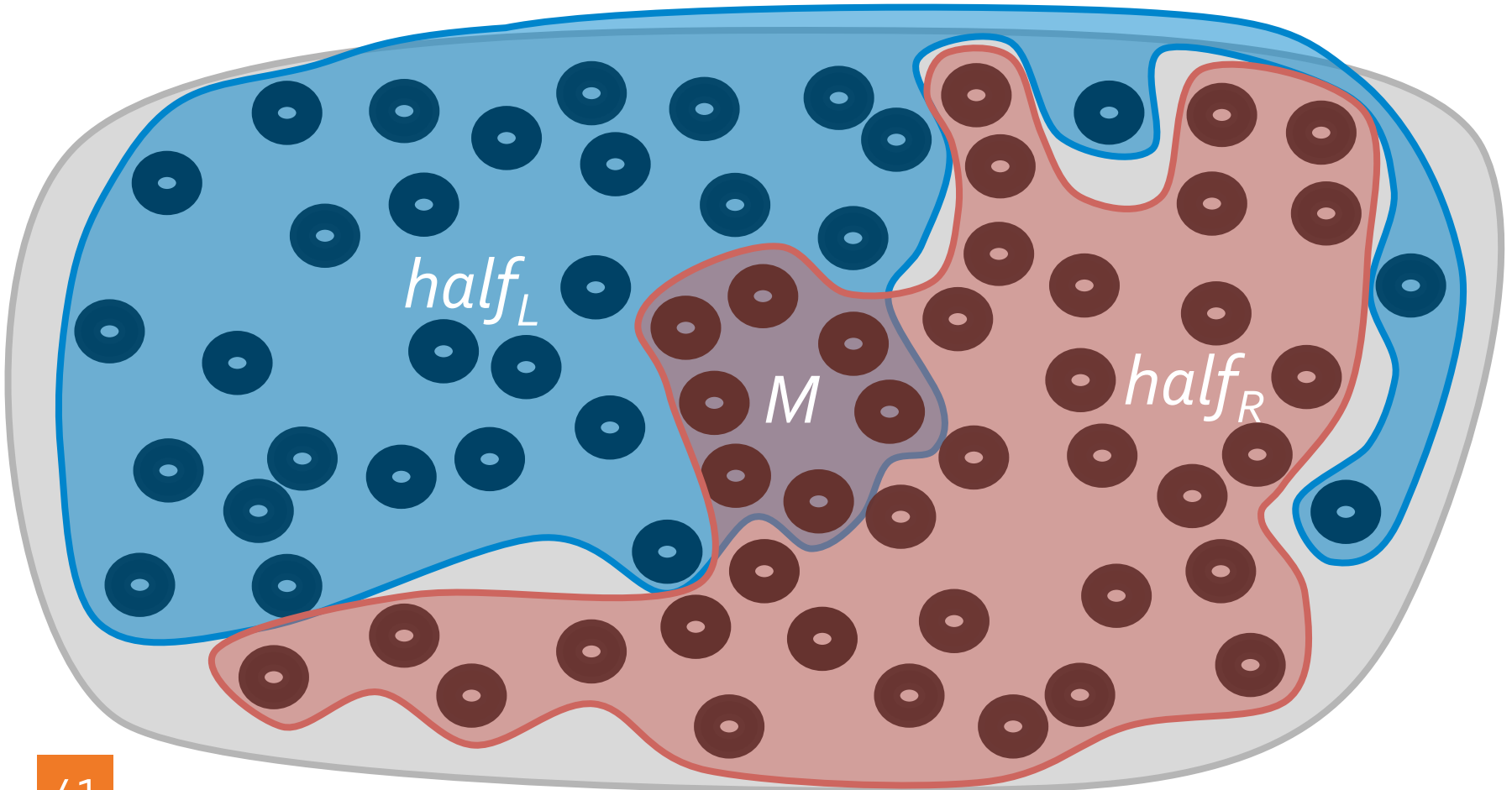
6. Start over if not every record is in  $q_L \cup q'_L \cup q_R \cup q'_R$ .





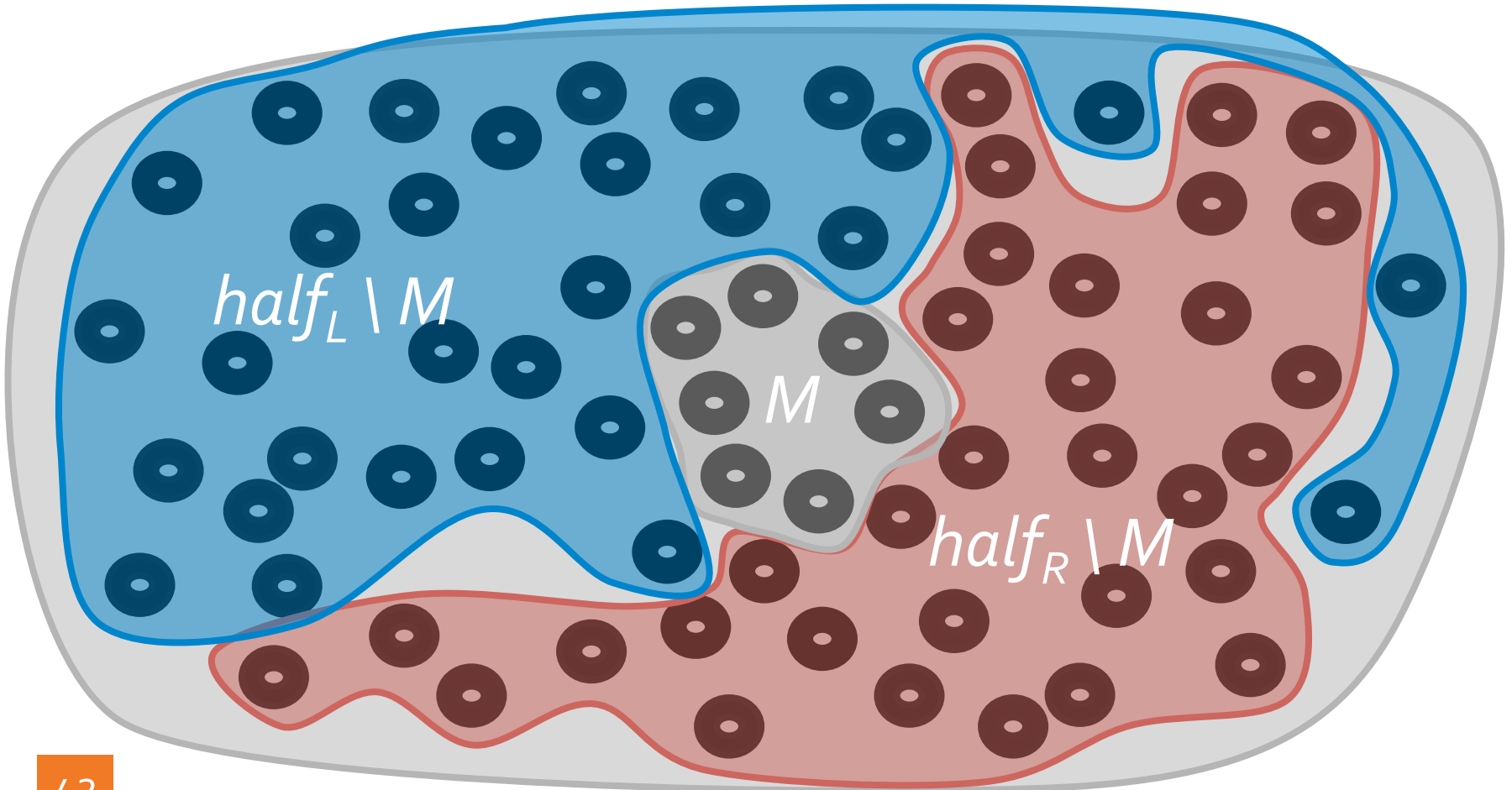
# Approximate Reconstruction: Partitioning Step

7. Split into  $half_L = q_L \cup q'_L$ ,  $half_R = q_R \cup q'_R$ , and  $M$ .



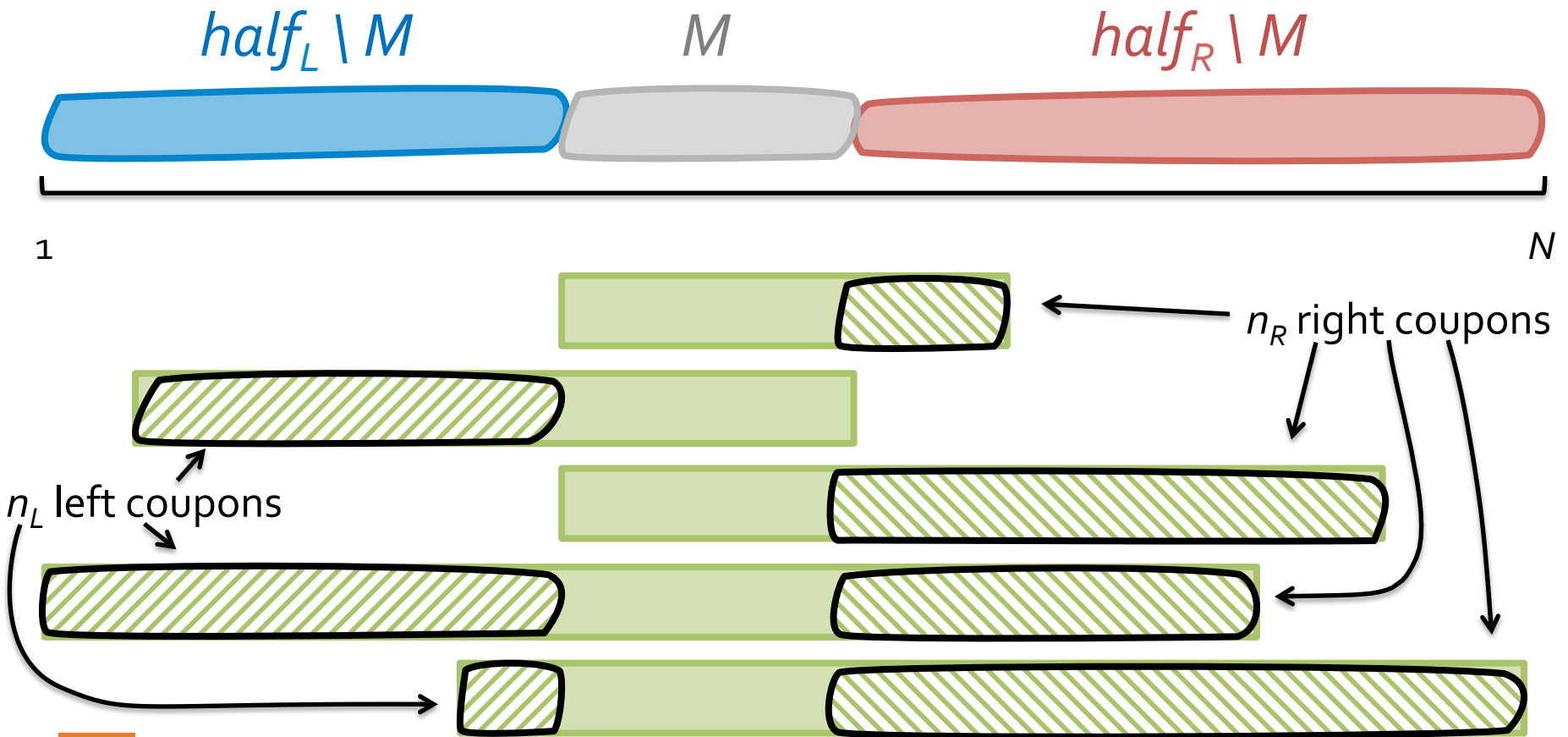
# Approximate Reconstruction: Partitioning Step

7. Split into  $half_L = q_L \cup q'_L$ ,  $half_R = q_R \cup q'_R$ , and  $M$ .



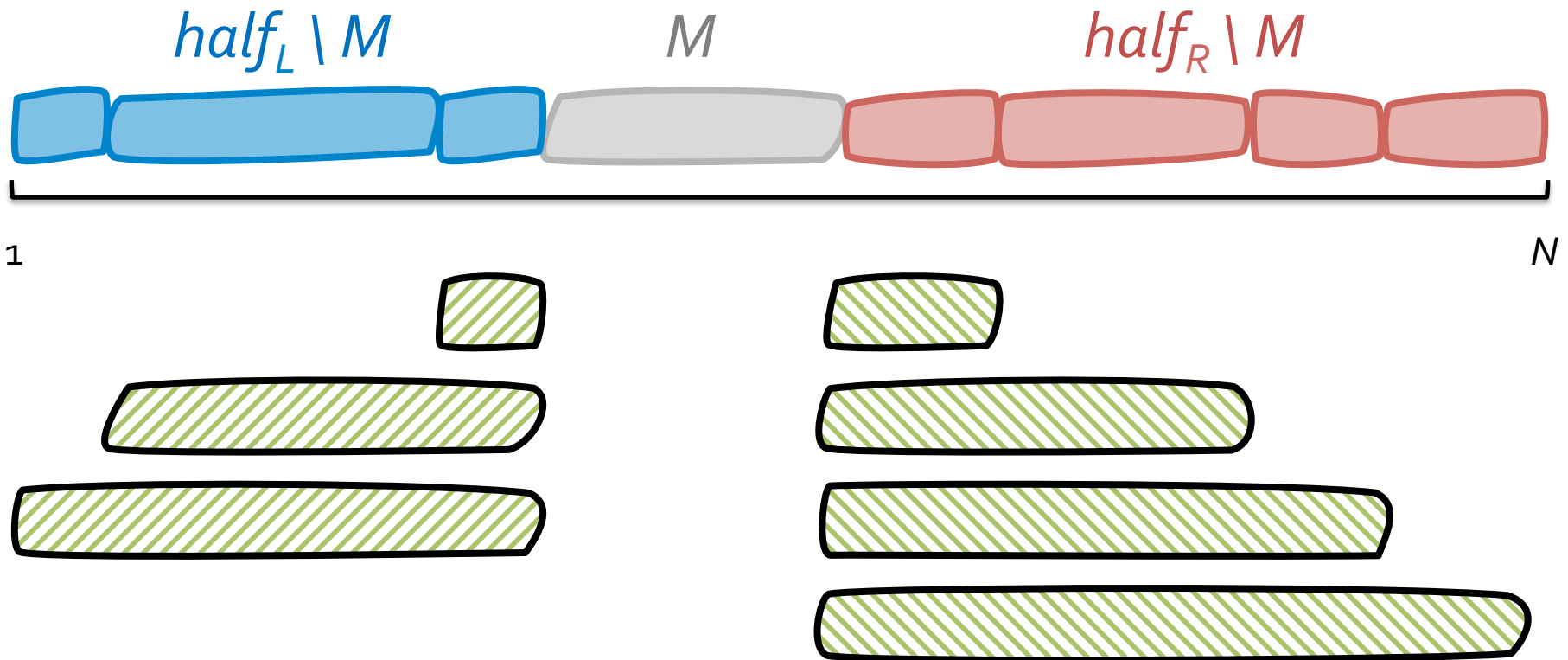
# Approximate Reconstruction: Sorting Step

8. Form **left & right coupons** with queries containing  $M$ .



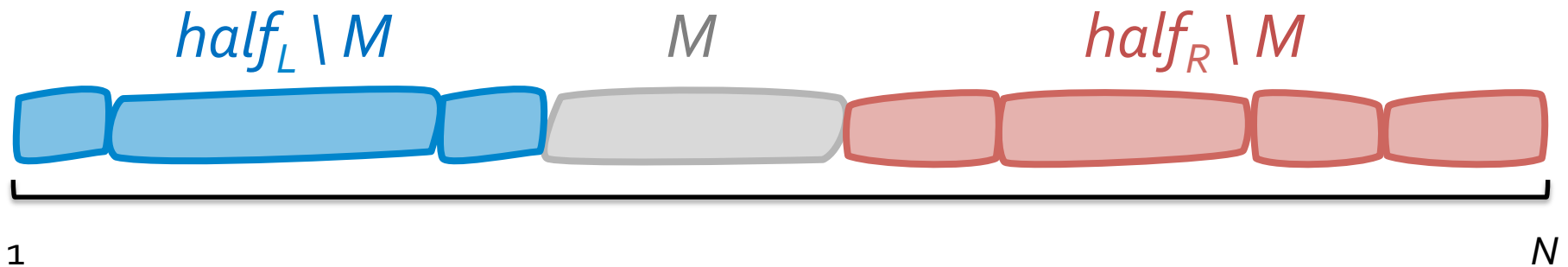
# Approximate Reconstruction: Sorting Step

9. Use left & right coupons to sort  $half_L \setminus M$  &  $half_R \setminus M$ .



# Approximate Reconstruction: Sorting Step

9. Use left & right coupons to **sort**  $half_L \setminus M$  &  $half_R \setminus M$ .



$$n_L + 1 + n_R = (1 - \varepsilon) \cdot N$$



reconstruction with precision  $\varepsilon \cdot N$



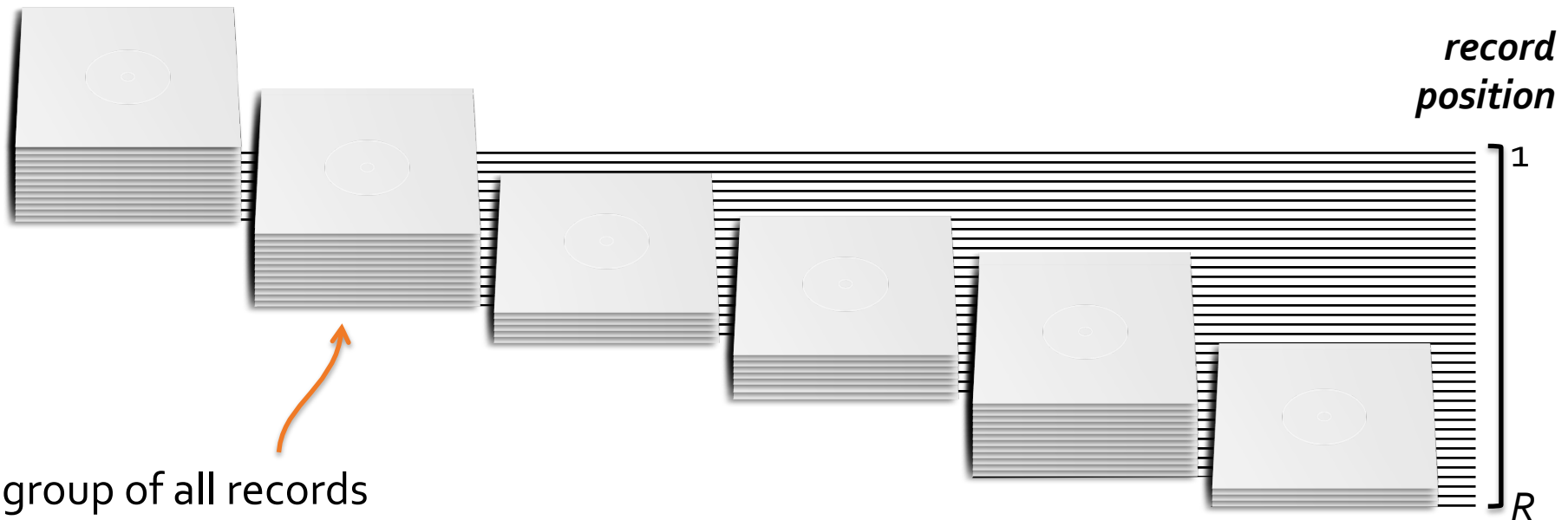
# Attack 3: Reconstruction with Auxiliary Data

# Reconstruction with Auxiliary Data and Rank Leakage

- As before, queries have **ranges** chosen **uniformly at random**.
- Assume access pattern and rank are leaked.
- We now also assume that an **approximation to the distribution on values** is known.
  - “Auxiliary data”.
  - From aggregate data, or from another reference source.
- We show experimentally that, under these assumptions, far fewer queries are needed.
- Now no requirement on density, so interesting for OPE and ORE schemes too (OPE/ORE schemes are trivial to break in dense case).

# Auxiliary Data Attack: Partitioning Step

1. **Partition** records as in full reconstruction attack.



group of all records  
appearing in exact  
same subset of  
queries



# Auxiliary Data Attack: Partitioning Step

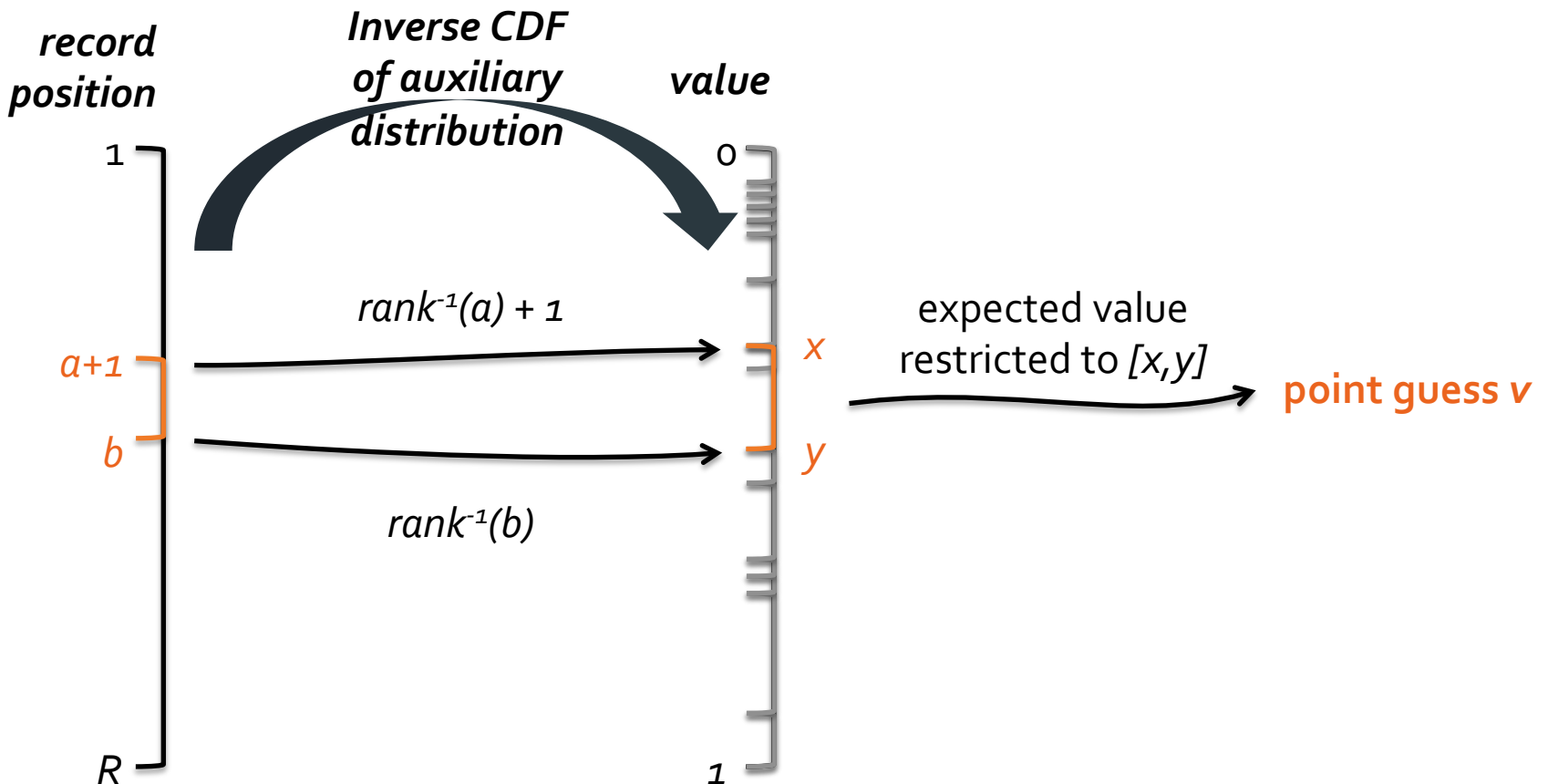
2. Assign a **position interval** to each partition.



intersect leaked  
rank intervals to get  
**position interval**

# Auxiliary Data Attack: Estimating Step

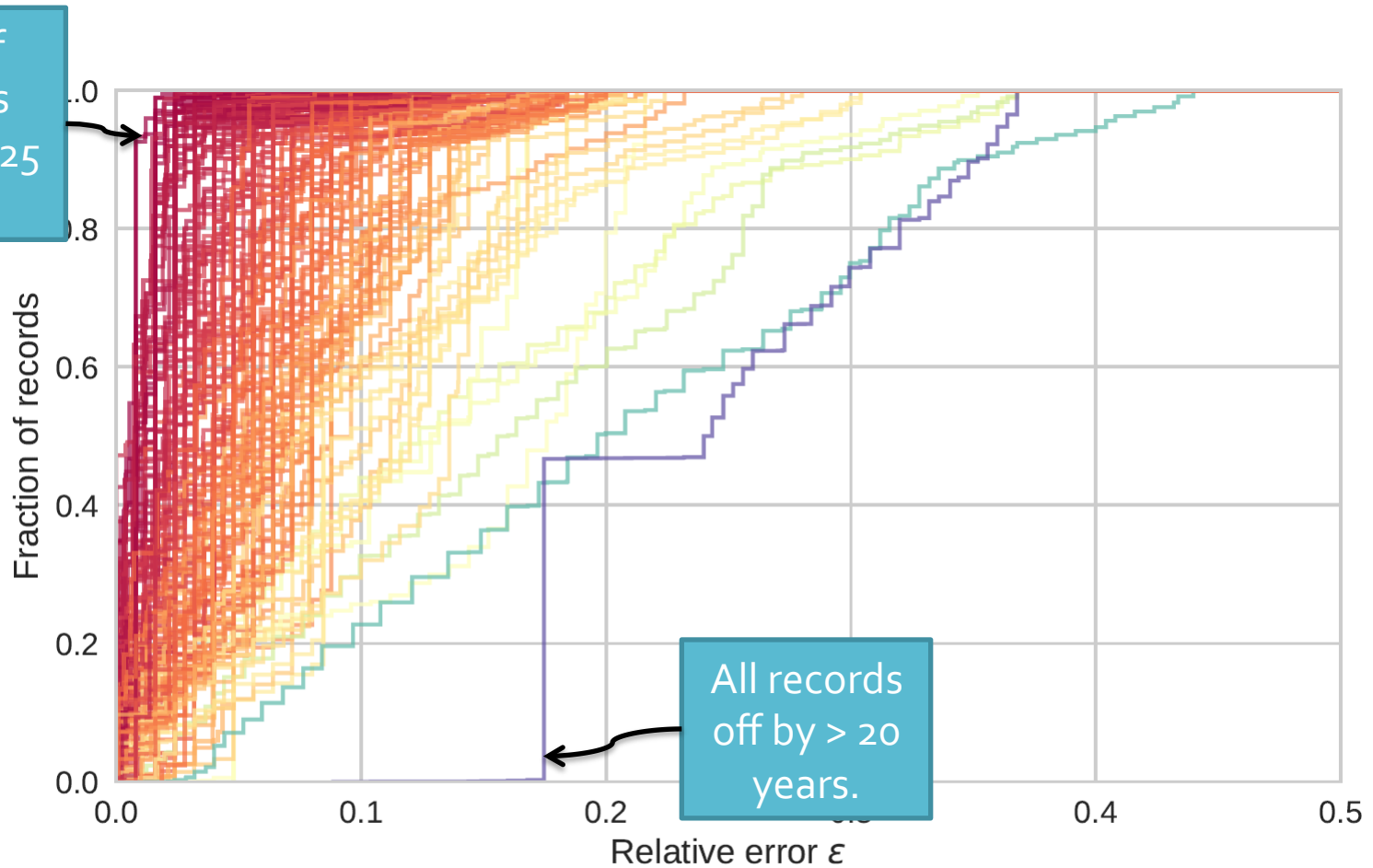
## 3. Assign a **value** to each group's position interval



# Auxiliary Data Attack: Experimental Evaluation

- Ages,  $N = 125$  (0 to 124).
- Health records from US hospitals (NIS HCUP 2009).
- Target data: individual hospitals' records.
- Auxiliary data: aggregate of 200 hospitals' records.
- Measure of success: proportion of records with value guessed within  $\epsilon$ .

# Auxiliary Data Attack: Asymptotic Success Rates for Different Target Hospitals

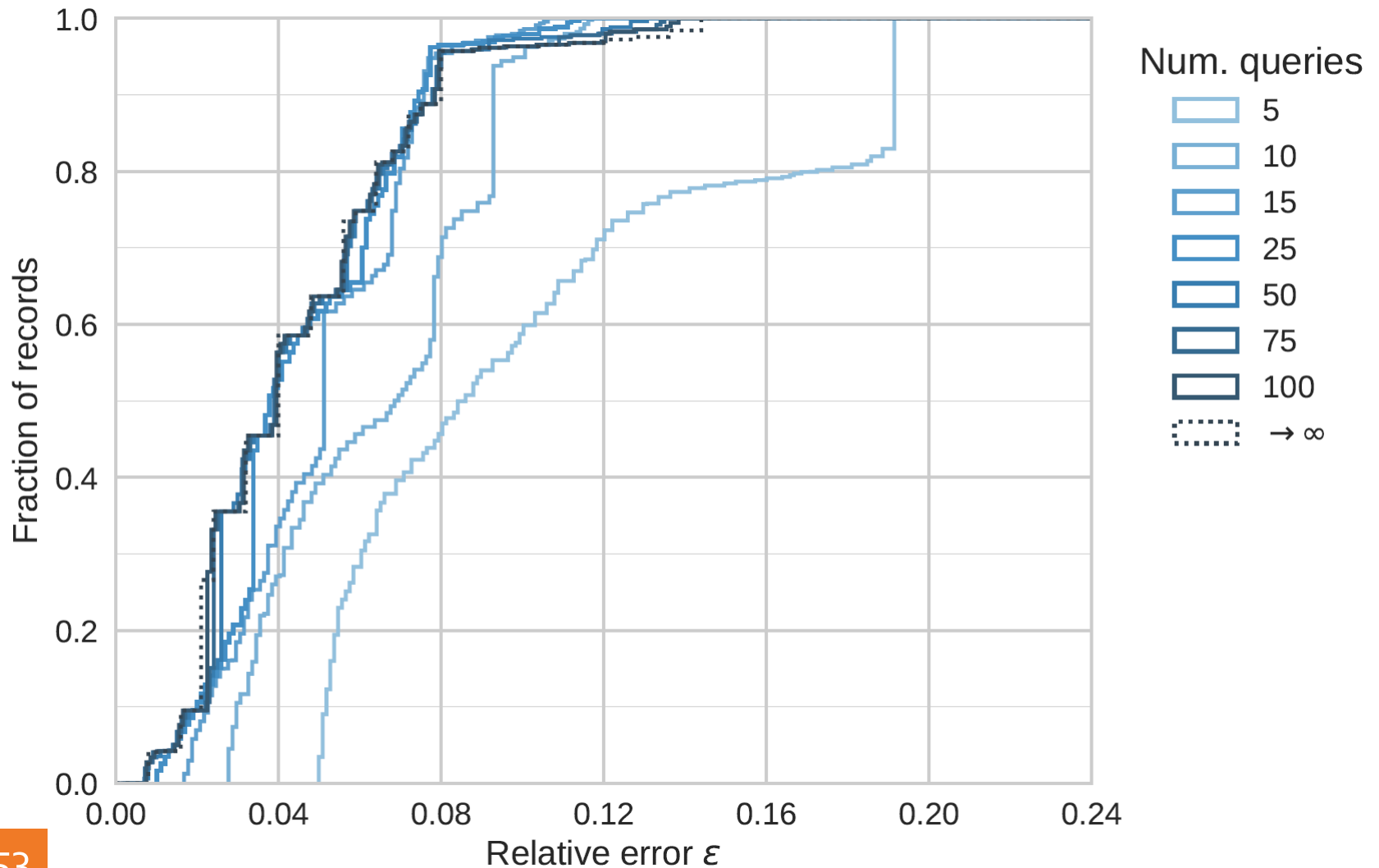


0.020

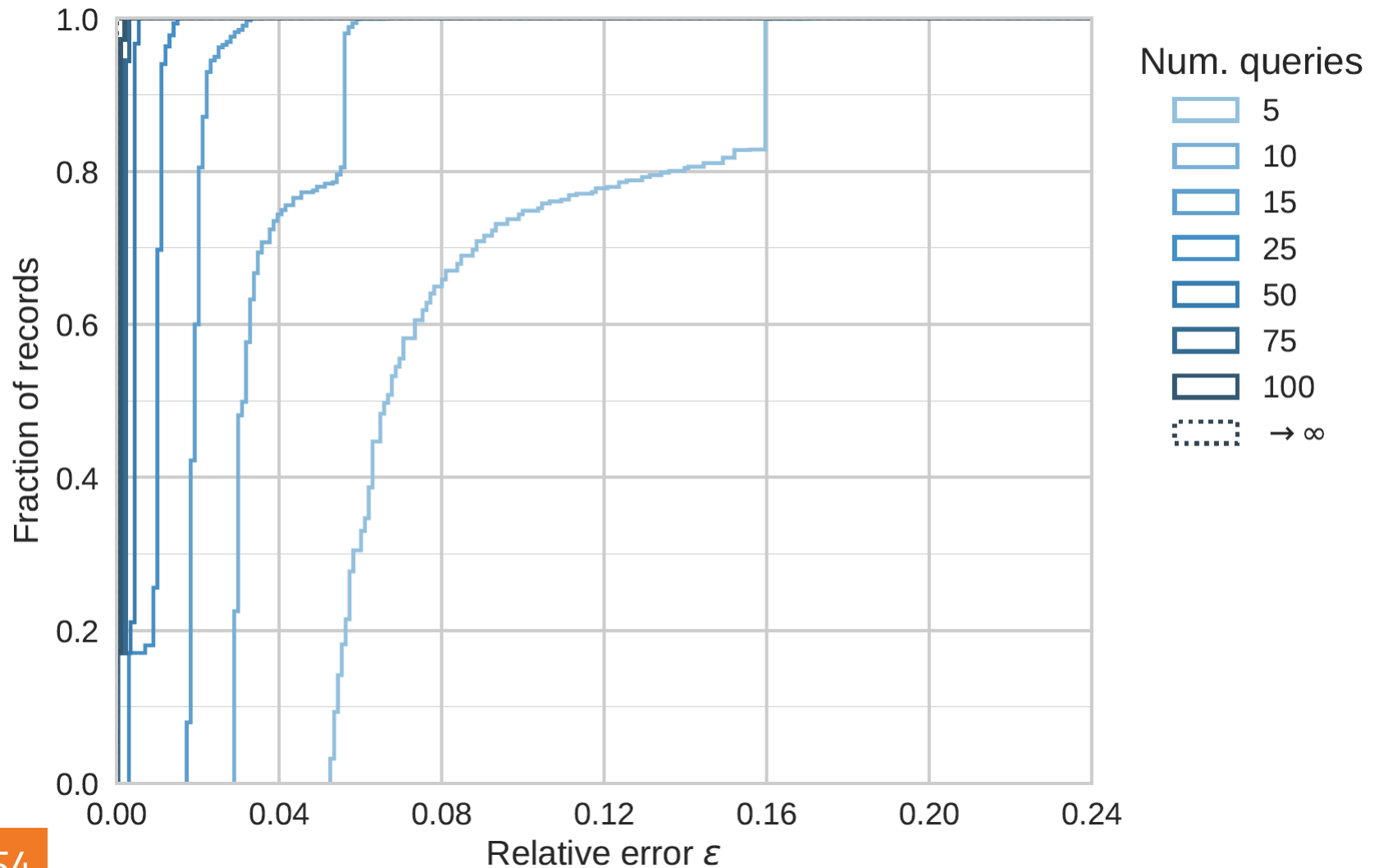
discrete Kolmogorov-Smirnov statistic

0.556

# Auxiliary Data Attack: Results for Typical Target Hospital

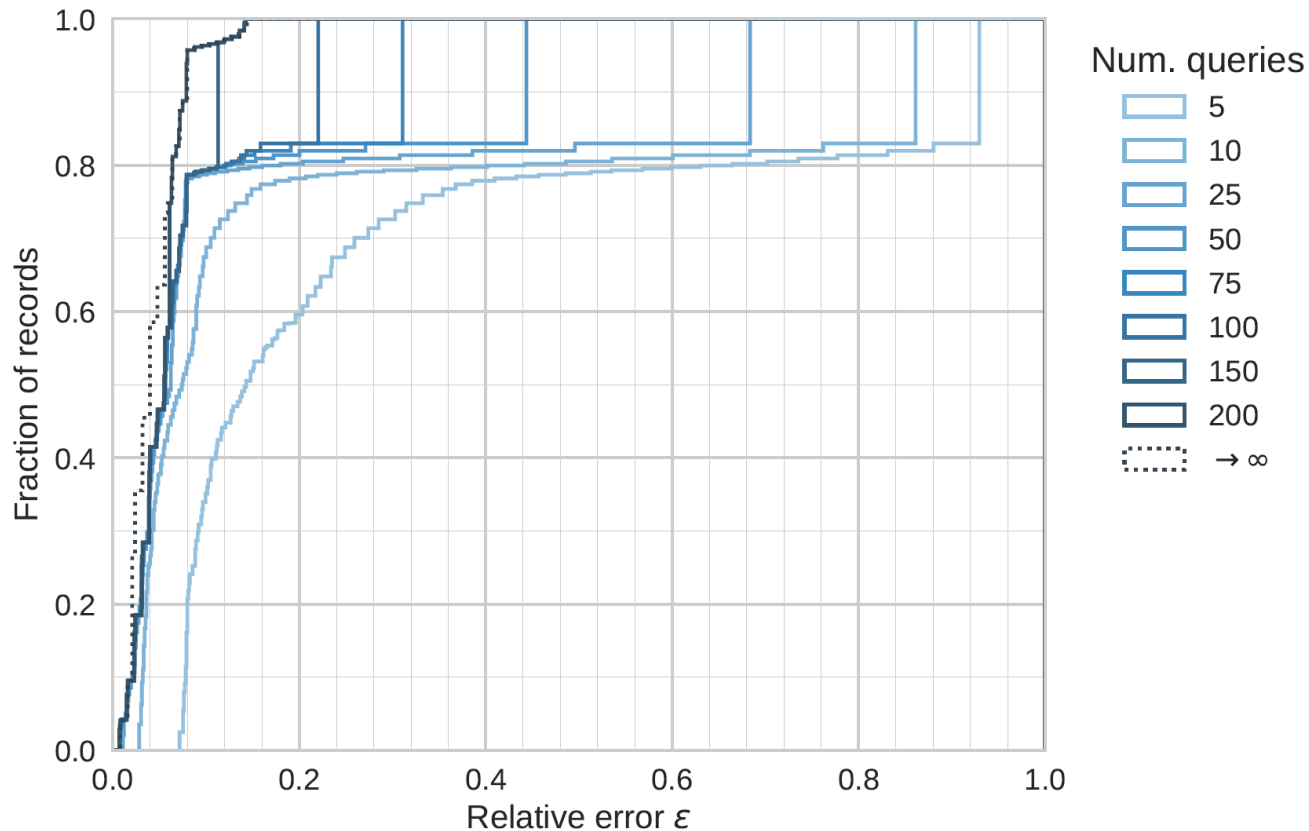


# Auxiliary Data Attack: Results with Perfect Auxiliary Distribution



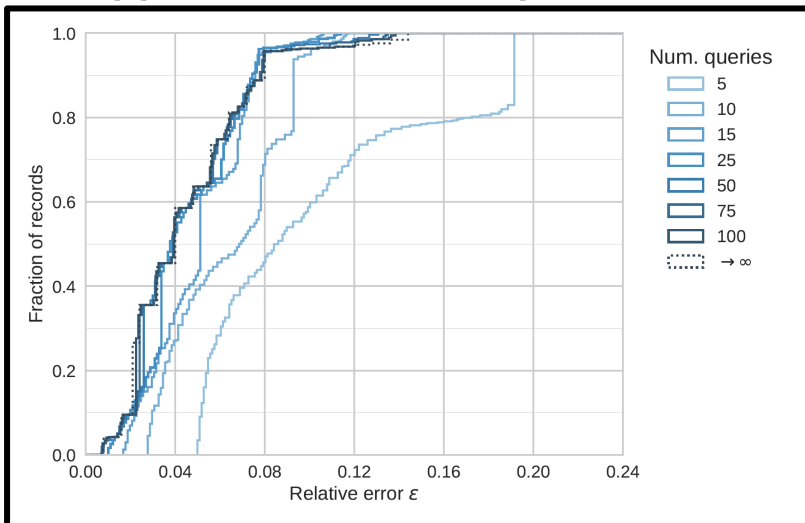
# Auxiliary Data Attack: Removing Assumptions

- Estimating total number of records is **fast** if not known *a priori*
- Learning set of record identifiers **can be slow** if not known *a priori*:

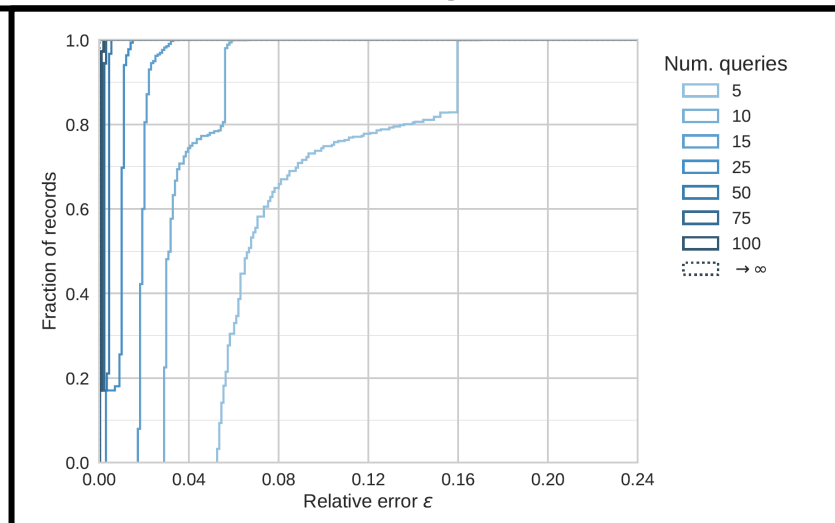


# Auxiliary Data Attack: Removing Assumptions

approximate auxiliary info.

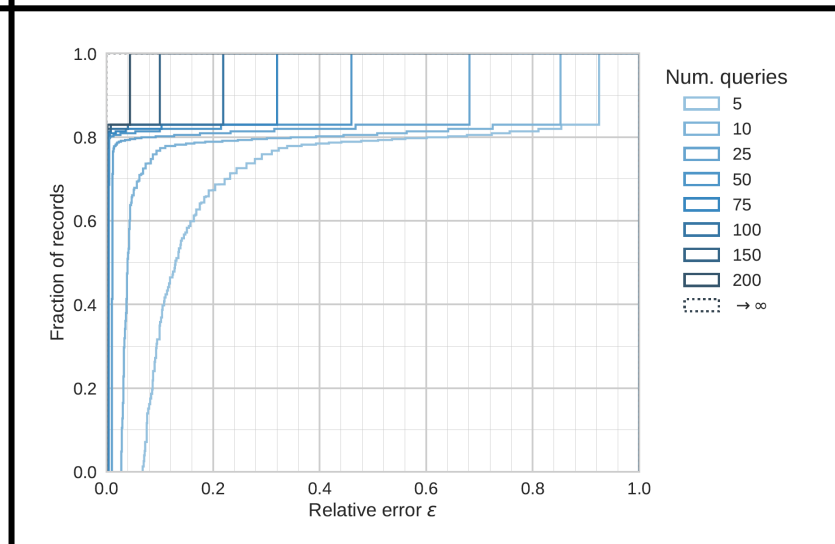
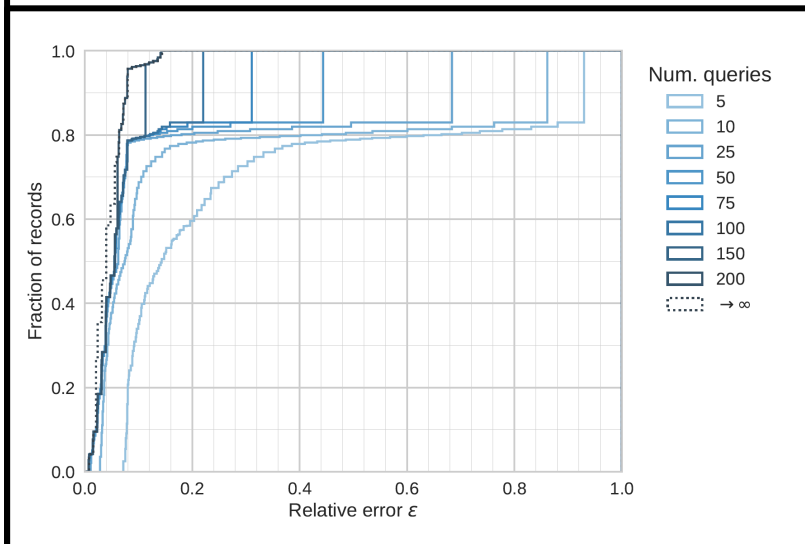


exact auxiliary info.



known  
record IDs

unknown  
record IDs







# Summary and Conclusions

# Summary of Our Attacks

| Attack                  | Req'd leakage | Other req'ts    | Suff. # queries                        |
|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--|
| Full                    | AP + rank     | Density         | $N \cdot (\log N + 2)$                 |
|                         | AP            | Density         | $N \cdot (\log N + 3)$                 |
| $\epsilon$ -approximate | AP            | Density         | $5/4 N \cdot (\log 1/\epsilon) + O(N)$ |
| Auxiliary               | AP + rank     | Auxiliary dist. | ???                                    |

# Conclusions

- Many clever schemes have been designed, enabling range queries on encrypted data:
  - OPE, ORE schemes.
  - POPE, [HK16],...
  - Blind seer, [LU12], [FJKNRS15],...
  - FH-OPE, Lewi-Wu, Arx, Cipherbase, EncKV,...
- These schemes are surprisingly vulnerable to attack in realistic setting (density + uniform queries + access pattern leakage):  **$O(N \log N)$  queries suffice!**
- Even more severe attacks are possible when auxiliary distribution + rank leakage is available.
- Read more at [eprint 2017/701](https://eprint.iacr.org/2017/701).