

Chapter 0.1:

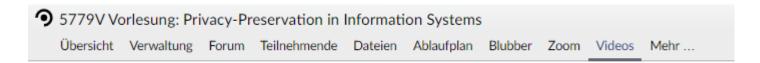
Lecture Orga

Privacy-Preservation Technologies in Information Systems Dr. Armin Gerl

WS 2021/2022

Organization

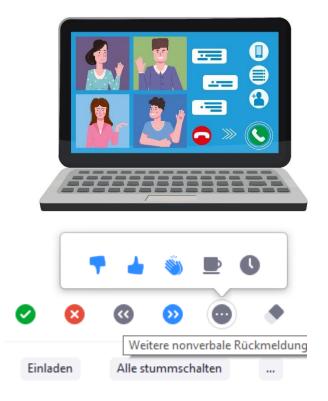
- Lecture will be conducted solely virtual
 - Every Tuesday: 14:15 to 15:45
- Lecture Recording
 - Lecture will be recorded; but no guarantee!
 - Recorded Lectures will be processed and uploaded via StudIP/Vimeo



- Exercise
 - Mix of synchron and asynchron Teaching
 - More Details in first exercise

Virtual Lecture

- Video: I am looking for activated video screens ©
 - Imagine you have to talk to a "black wall"
 - Please no inapproriate background pictures or "Zoom Bombing" -> otherwise ban
- Audio: Please mute, except you have questions
- Use the Chat for Questions
 - I try to read/answer them in time
 - Please no spam
- Use the Zoom Icons for Feedback
 - Raise your Hand for Questions
 - Agree, Disagree, Faster, Slower, Short Break



Exams

- Plan
 - Regular Written Exam with a duration of 90 Minutes
 - 2 Exam Dates
 - 1. Exam: 22.02.2022; 13:00 15:00 HS 9 (AM)
 - 2. Exam: 21.04.2022; 14:00 16:00 HS 9 (AM)

To be confirmed by administration

- Backup Plan (if any COVID restrictions come)
 - Virtual Oral Exam or alternative exam type



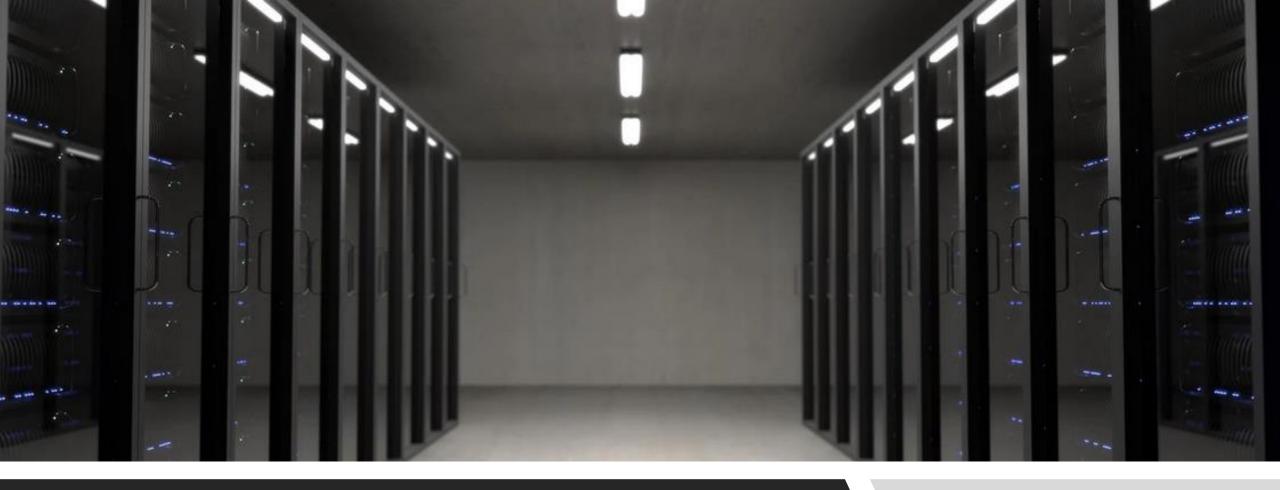
Announcement

FIT Europe Seminar in Milan, Italy









Chapter 1: Introduction

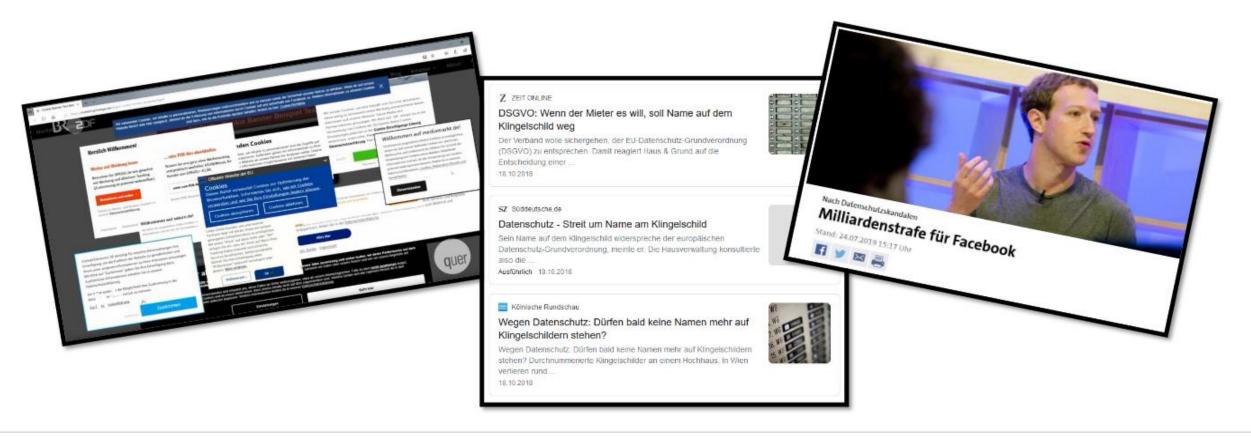
Privacy-Preservation Technologies in Information Systems

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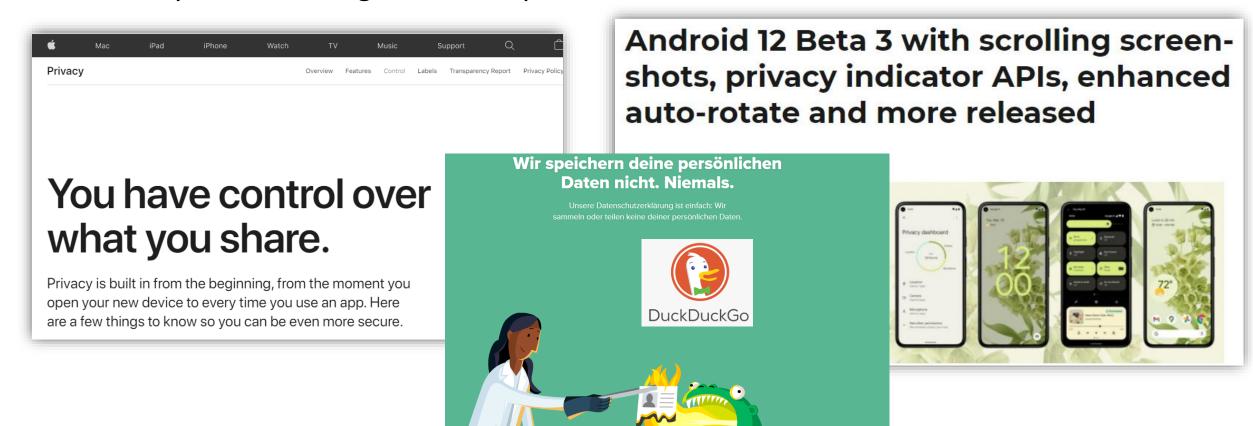
Introduction – The Bad News

 Increased media presence of data protection issues since EU-wide regulations came into effect in 2018



Introduction – The Good News

Privacy for Marketing or as a unique "Feature"



Data Protection Challenges

- Technical progress provides the means to look deeper into the private lives of citizens than ever before
- Even anonymized data sets can be mined for useful information with advanced analysis tools in data warehouses
- Actors in the data business are primarily objected to obey the legal restriction imposed upon them
- Moral concerns are only starting to be acknowledged in recent years due to public backlash after data protection scandals and leaks
- A framework suitable for examining large and complex data sets on privacy issues would solve many problems for data processors and sources alike
- The academic field that tries to tackle this problem is still expanding
- A variety of privacy models for different areas of applicability already exist, each with their own benefits and limitations

What has to be considered?

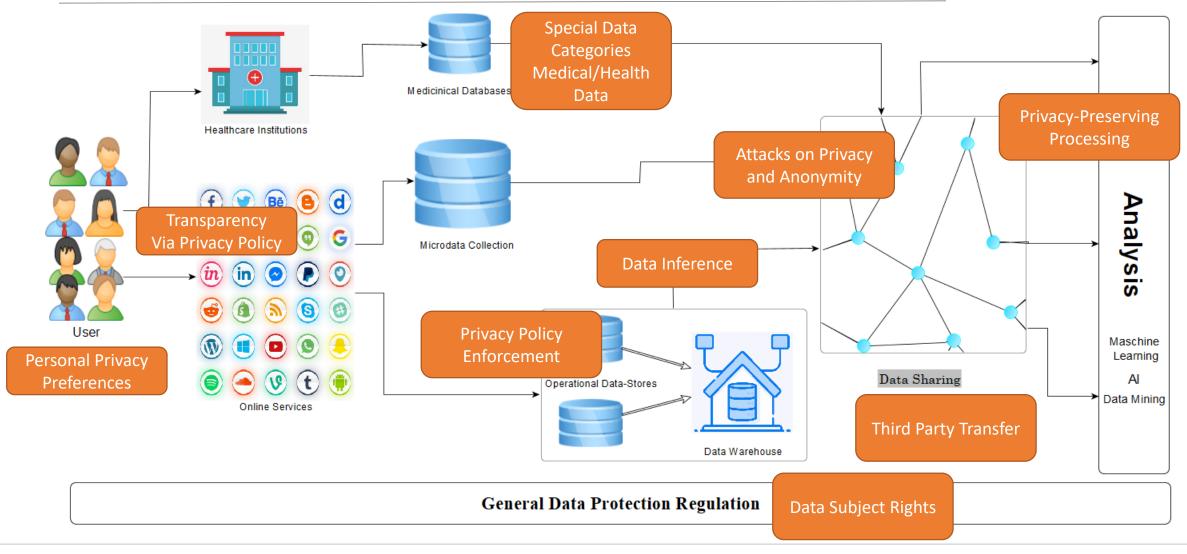
Technical What lare your thoughts on Privacy?
Limitations

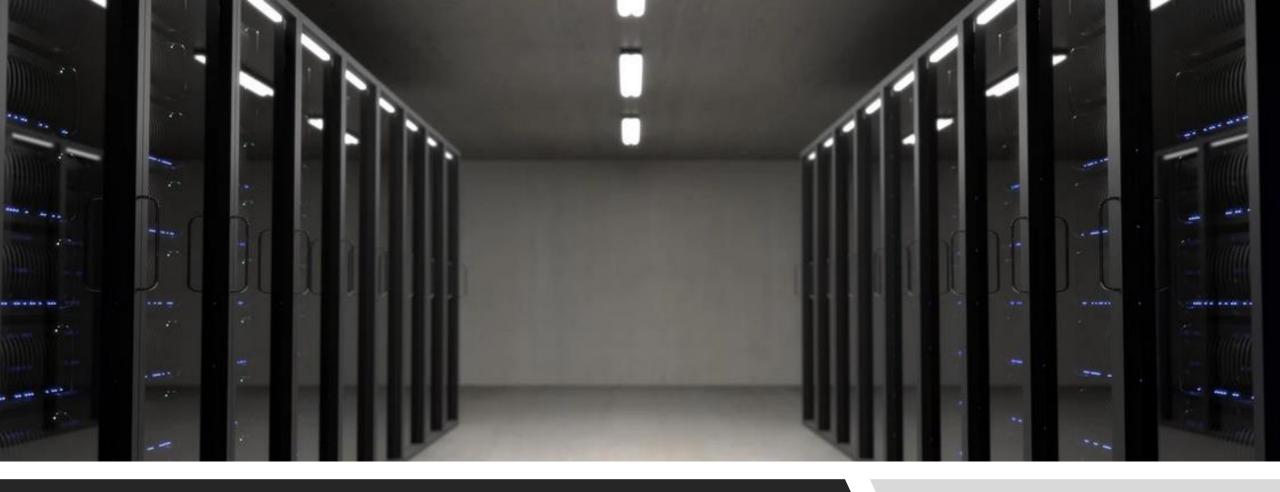
Do you change your privacy settings? Are you rather ,strict' or ,relaxed' with the settings?

the use of personal data by companies be checked?

Who should be responsible for protecting privacy? The Individual, the Government, the Industry?

What has to be considered?





1.1

Data Protection: Developments and Problems

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Data Protection is a fundamental Right

- In Germany, the so called "Recht auf informationelle Selbstbestimmung" was derived from other fundamental rights on 15.12.1983 by the BVerfG
- Context for this judgment was the attempted connection between collected data from different government branches and agencies into a single database
- After discussing the issue, the court came to a conclusion called "Volkszählungsurteil":
 - People in a free democracy only retain their capacity to partake and act freely in said democracy, if they can decide how their data is collected, processed and stored for themselves
 - If an individual's preferences are disclosed without consent, said individual won't be able to freely interact within society
 - Instead the individual will subordinate their personal preferences to those of its surroundings, inhibiting the potential to enrich the society with diversity and open discourse
 - The last point opposes fundamental rights of the "Grundgesetz" and led the court to their final decision

Data Collection: Then vs. Now

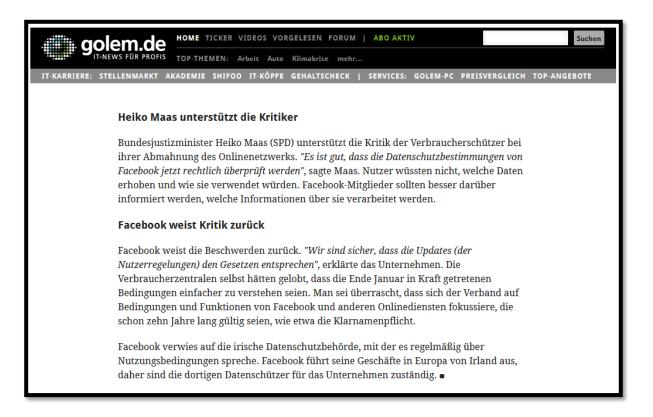
- In the year 1983 the amount of data collected was minimal
- Small scale customer data collected by singular businesses and disconnected state agencies were the main actors
- Data trade (or data breaches) was conducted in paper form
- Comparing different data sets and aligning their contents (eliminating duplicates and creating profiles) was mostly done by hand
- Needless to say, dealing with a large data collection was time consuming and in general didn't pay off for most actors

- Today, data is collected in some form on almost every interaction we take part in
- Even when we're not actively engaging with services, our data is collected and processed (CCTV, E-Health, E-Government)
- Most businesses expanded from a local to a global stage
- State agencies cooperate more intensely and collected data crosses borders
- The internet allows for attacks on databases on a daily basis
- Analysis of collected data is done with exponentially more powerful tools, using A.I. and high performance computing

Internationalization and Data Protection

• Global actors circumventing local (German) regulations through lobbying,

relocation and loopholes



QUARTZ

The real reason is regulation

But there is another reason American tech firms flock to Ireland: light-touch regulation. Since the same rules that govern taxes also apply to regulation, companies can seek adjudication under laxer Irish standards even when the complainant is from another country in Europe. The Irish Data Protection Commissioner has a habit of issuing findings in favor of American tech firms—notably in two audits (pdf) of Facebook triggered by a campaign by Max Schrems, an Austrian law student. Most recently it found nothing wrong with the transfer of data by Apple and Facebook from Europe to the United States, despite worries that law-enforcement agencies might more easily get their hands on the data there.

Ireland's antics have not gone unnoticed. In July, Angela Merkel indirectly called out Ireland (paywall) for its weak laws, arguing that Europe needs uniform—and strict—data-protection rules rather than letting companies adhere to the laws of wherever they happen to be headquartered. Viviane Reding, a high-ranking European Commissioner whose most ambitious policy so far has been new privacy regulation that would do just what Merkel wants, also chimed in her agreement.

Yet Ireland remains unperturbed. In an interview with the Financial Times (paywall) the day after Merkel's statement, Ireland's data-protection commissioner said he agreed with the notion of a "onestop shop" for pan-European regulation—so long as that shop is in Dublin.

European Countermeasures

 Large differences in data protection regulations between states and even regions lead to a European standard with the GDPR



Global Differences

- The notion of ownership of ones data is a very European thought process
- The USA for example still sees collected data as property of the collector, resulting in a competitive advantage for companies outside the EU



 The European standardization of data protection laws deters new investors and inhibits the development of the IT sector in exchange for protecting the privacy of EU citizens

The Impact of the GDPR

- Relocating their headquarters to circumvent local regulations isn't a loophole for companies anymore
- Also foreign businesses collecting data on EU soil are now restricted by the new law, with violations resulting in huge fines
- Fining is done with respect to a companies revenue, preventing the biggest global players from throwing money at the problem
- The law spearheaded a new standard for data protection laws globally
- Subsequently, the design of the GDPR was copied in many government legislations (e.g. California and Brazil)
- Companies are now forced to deal with the issue of data protection much more intensely than before

Contents of the GDPR

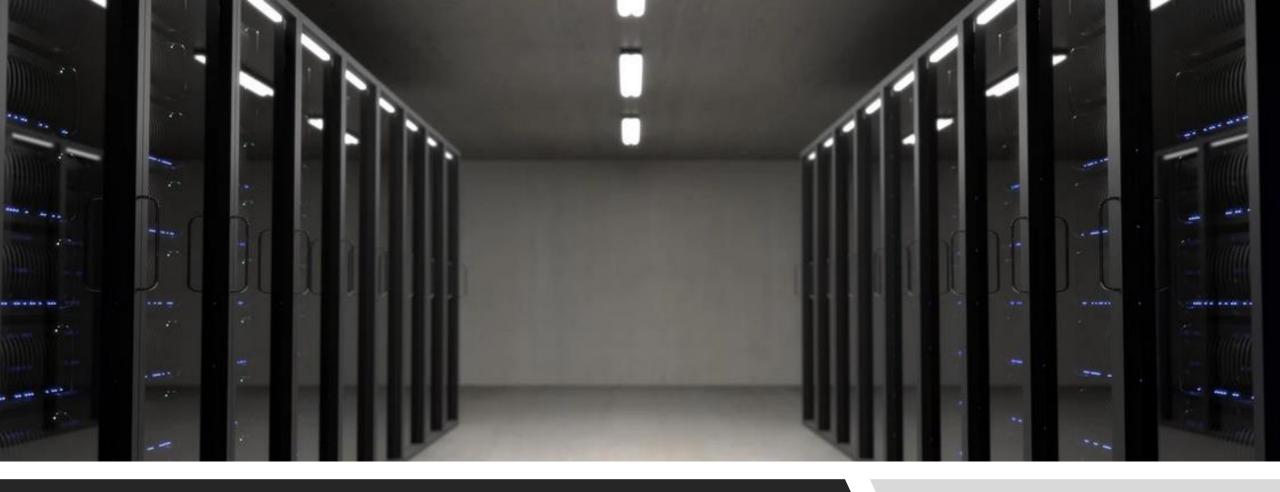
• Excerpt from definitions of key words from the GDPR (Art. 4):

For the purposes of this Regulation:

- (1) 'personal data' means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person;
- (2) 'processing' means any operation or set of operations which is performed on personal data or on sets of personal data, whether or not by automated means, such as collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, alignment or combination, restriction, erasure or destruction;
- Building on these pretty broad definitions, the GDPR generally prohibits processing of personal data without legal basis or consent and imposes extensive requirements on non-personal data collected

From legal to technical Models

- Question: How to enforce GDPR effective and efficient?
- Enforcement by "privacy officers" does not seem efficient and effective
- Often rather more legal then technical solutions for privacy
- Legal definitions are often very "vague"
- Techniques trying to satisfy these legal definitions have to be "state of the art"
- This state is continually driven forward by new technologies being conceived by researchers and implemented by companies
- The academic community demands a mechanism that ensures legal conformity of data processing and that gives the individual more control over the whole process



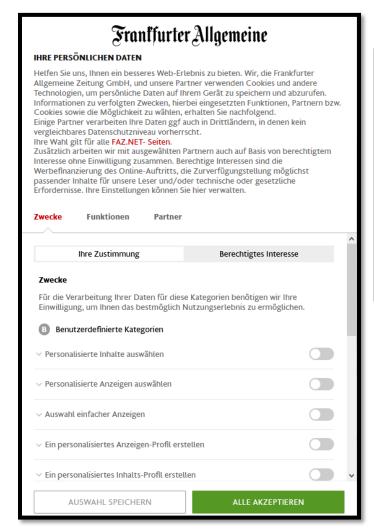
1.2 Data Publishing Problems Privacy-Preservation Technologies in Information Systems

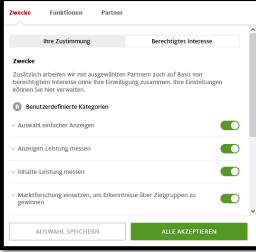
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Data Trade Requirements

- Almost all actors in the data collecting business also participate in data trade to gain the maximum value from the information available
- The GDPR and similar frameworks impose regulations on publishing and trading data
- With new legal frameworks, every person (data subject) now has a variety of rights and choices concerning the processing and collection of their data
- Depending on the choices of the data subject, collectors have to take different measures to ensure the processing and privacy protection of data is conducted accordingly





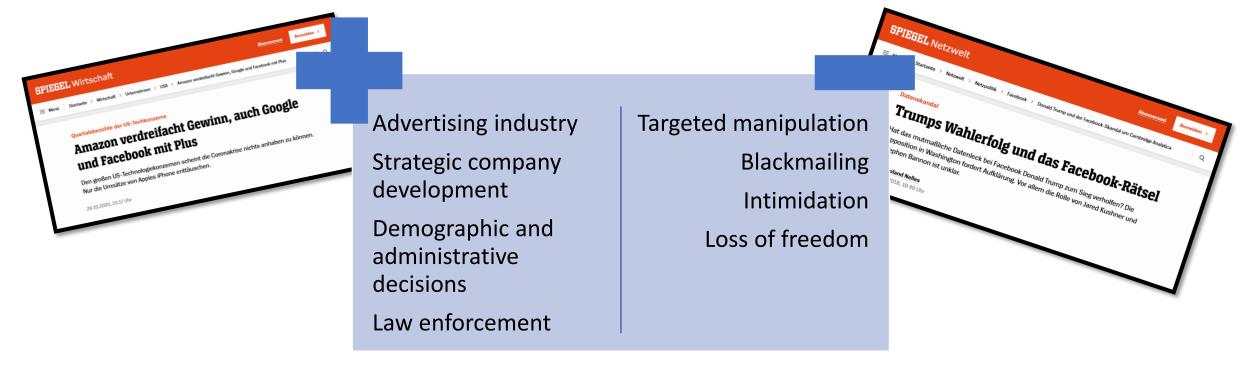
Data Processing Requirements

- To avoid the chaos and complexity that a strict tracking and handling of every possible combination of choices for each subject throughout the analysis process would bring, companies often anonymize all data before analysing
- If anonymization isn't done in advance, statistical analysis is usually performed on the basis of predefined condition that permit the processing of personal data:
 - Legitimate Interest
 - Permission by contract, if the person is the client bound by said contract
 - Collectors having to obey legal obligations (e.g. criminal prosecution)
 - Life-threatening contexts (e.g. rescue services)
 - o Exercise of delegated official authority (executive power) or public interest
 - On the basis of a conflict between fundamental rights and safeguarding responsibilities (e.g. childcare)

Legal Basis or Consent

Knowledge is Power (and Money)

 Data often compared to have similar significance in the 21st century as the discovery of gold had in the 19th century, sparking a gold rush



Setting the Stage

- The bigger companies nowadays make a profit by collecting and analysing data from their current and potential future customers themselves
- An entire ecosystem of businesses that specialize on data collection and analysis for other companies and interest groups has emerged in recent years
- The number of services accessible on the internet for "free" increased drastically, because the service providers are able to make money from information collected
- Yet, costumers are becoming more and more aware of this new form of payment and the legal regulations have tightened
- An exchange of data is desirable for all profiting actors in the information business, but trading or publishing requires compliance to legal regulations
- The goal is therefore: Maximizing utility while minimizing individual identifiability in a data set

External Matching

- Problem: Even if data has been anonymized, matching with background information might still lead to re-identification
- Publically available census data or publications from other sources are good candidates for conducting an external matching attempt
- For illustration purposes, lets transform the following secret data set:

Surname	Name	1st Treatment	2nd Treatment	Diagnose
Thomas	Meier	01.10.2020	13.10.2020	Lung cancer
Beate	Wimmer	01.10.2020	09.10.2020	Pelvic fractur
Maximilian	Huber	05.10.2020	07.10.2020	HIV

External Matching (cont.)

 Lets say that the hypothetical anonymisation process replaces the Names with codes and censors the Diagnoses, resulting in the sanitized version of the set, that is then published

Surname	Name	1st Treatment	2nd Treatment	Diagnose
Akdmclkm	Indncdc	01.10.2020	13.10.2020	*
Bkjdnckjn	Dgdhcd	02.10.2020	09.10.2020	*
Kodcndcd	Ldcdoo	05.10.2020	07.10.2020	*

• In addition to the sanitized set, an attacker also got the following information on the opening hours of treatment centres from public sources:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
HIV-Consulting	Irradiation	HIV-Consulting	Irradiation	Surgery

• For a potential employer, it would be easy to infer Mr. Hubers HIV-diagnose, if he has seen him on the 5th (Monday) or 7 (Wednesday) October at the clinic

Analysing the Data Set

- This shows that it isn't always sufficient to only look at the data that is to be protected
- Recombination attacks, like the one we just illustrated, also need to be taken into account -> privacy models
- In order to better distinguish the risks the attributes of tabular data pose to the individuals they represent, many models are based on a classification into 4 subjectdependent categories
- These classifications aren't absolute, the same column in different data sets aren't always sorted into the same categories -> context is important



1.3 Summary Privacy-Preservation Technologies in Information Systems

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Recap of Chapter

- Privacy is a topic that is influenced by many Stakeholders
- Data collection on individuals is performed on a large scale by different actors, who also trade data amongst one another
- This data is used to support buisness and adminstrative decisions or perform targeted advertising, making it more and more valuable
- On the other hand, the right to data protection is slowly being established as a fundamental right across the globe, pioneered by the GDPR
- Companies face a trade-off between the usefullness of their collection and sufficient privacy of their customers being violated through re-identification
- First, an overview of this lectures topics is given...

Overview of Lecture Topics

We are here

Chapter	Est. Extent	Est. Dates
Chapter 1: Introduction	~1 Lecture	19.10.21
Chapter 2: From GDPR to Privacy Languages	~3 Lecture	26.10., 02.11., 09.11.21
Chapter 3: Basics on Data Anonymization in IS	~1 Lecture	16.11.2021
Chapter 4: Privacy Risks and Anonymization Techniques	~4 Lectures	23.11., 30.11.21, 07.12., 14.12.21
Chapter 5: Privacy in Health-Care	~2 Lectures	21.12., 11.01.21
Chapter 6: Privacy in Data Warehouses	~2 Lectures	18.01., 25.01.22
Chapter 7: Privacy in Social Networks	~2 Lectures	01.02., 08.02.22
Chapter 8: Current Research and Outlook	~2 Lectures	
Exam Preparation Lecture	1 Lecture	