

**DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING**

**A NOVEL ALGORITHM FOR PRIVACY PRESERVING DATA PUBLISHING MULTIPLE SENSITIVE ATTRIBUTES**

**INTERNSHIP REPORT**

**Submitted by,**

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RESEARCH PROJECT: “Data Anonymization Techniques for Mitigation of Privacy Attacks in Privacy Preserving Data Publishing”.

**In partial fulfilment for the award of degree**

**Bachelor of Engineering in**

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**RV COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING®, BENGALURU-59**

**(Autonomous Institution Affiliated to VTU, Belagavi)**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING**



**CERTIFICATE**

Certified that the Internship work titled **‘A NOVEL ALGORITHM FOR PRIVACY PRESERVING DATA PUBLISHING MULTIPLE SENSITIVE ATTRIBUTES’** is carried out by **TANMAY S LAL (1RV21CS176) and S MOHAMMED ASHIQ (1RV21CS132)** who are bonafide students of RV College of Engineering, Bengaluru, in partial fulfilment for the award of degree of **Bachelor of Engineering** **in Computer Science and Engineering** of the Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi during the year 2022-2023 for the Summer Internship-I (21CSI310). It is certified that all corrections/suggestions indicated for the Internship have been incorporated in the Internship project report. The Internship report has been approved as it satisfies the academic requirements in respect of internship work prescribed by the institution for the Research Project: Data Anonymization Techniques for Mitigation of Privacy Attacks in Privacy Preserving Data Publishing.

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**DECLARATION**

**We, TANMAY S LAL** and **S MOHAMMED ASHIQ** students of second semester B.E., department of CSE, RV College of Engineering, Bengaluru, hereby declare that the Internship Work titled ***‘*A NOVEL ALGORITHM FOR PRIVACY PRESERVING DATA PUBLISHING MULTIPLE SENSITIVE ATTRIBUTES*’*** has been carried out by us and submitted in partial fulfilment for the award of degree of **Bachelor of Engineering** in **Computer Science and Engineering** during the year 2022-23.

Further we declare that the content of the report has not been submitted previously by anybody for the award of any degree or diploma to any other university.

We also declare that any Intellectual Property Rights generated out of this project carried out at RVCE will be the property of RV College of Engineering, Bengaluru and we will be one of the authors of the same.

Place: Bengaluru

Date:

**Name Signature**

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**ABSTRACT**

In this work, we present an Incremental Diversity algorithm that aims to protect the privacy of data while minimizing the loss of data. The algorithm uses the methods of masking and generalization to reduce the number of residue records and prevent significant data loss. The accuracy of the algorithm is evaluated by running aggregate SQL queries on the Google Cloud Platform (GCP) using a dataset of 5000 records. The dataset includes both quasi-identifiers and sensitive attributes, which are vulnerable to threats and attacks by intruders seeking specific sensitive information. The results of the algorithm are compared to the original microdata table, and the effectiveness of the algorithm is demonstrated. The SQL queries and results are explained in detail in the results section . The proposed algorithm can be used to protect the privacy of sensitive data while still allowing for useful data analysis.

**INTRODUCTION:**

The work presents an Incremental Diversity algorithm that aims to protect the privacy of data by reducing the number of residue records and preventing significant data loss. The accuracy of the algorithm is evaluated by running aggregate SQL queries[1] on the Google Cloud Platform (GCP) using a dataset of 5000 records. The dataset includes both quasi-identifiers (e.g., age, gender) and sensitive attributes (e.g., education, employment, disease) which are vulnerable to threats and attacks by intruders seeking specific sensitive information. The Incremental Diversity algorithm uses the methods of masking and generalization to maintain data privacy. The effectiveness of the algorithm is tested by running SQL queries on GCP, and the results are compared to the original microdata table[2]. The queries and results are explained in detail in the results section.

**METHODOLOGY:**

The Incremental diversity algorithm aims at protecting the privacy of the data by producing lesser residue records and prevent huge data loss. The accuracy of the algorithm is inspected by running the aggregate SQL queries on the Google Cloud Platform (GCP). The algorithm has been implemented for the dataset containing 5000 records. The sample of the dataset for the first 15 records are shown in the fig.3.1 below.

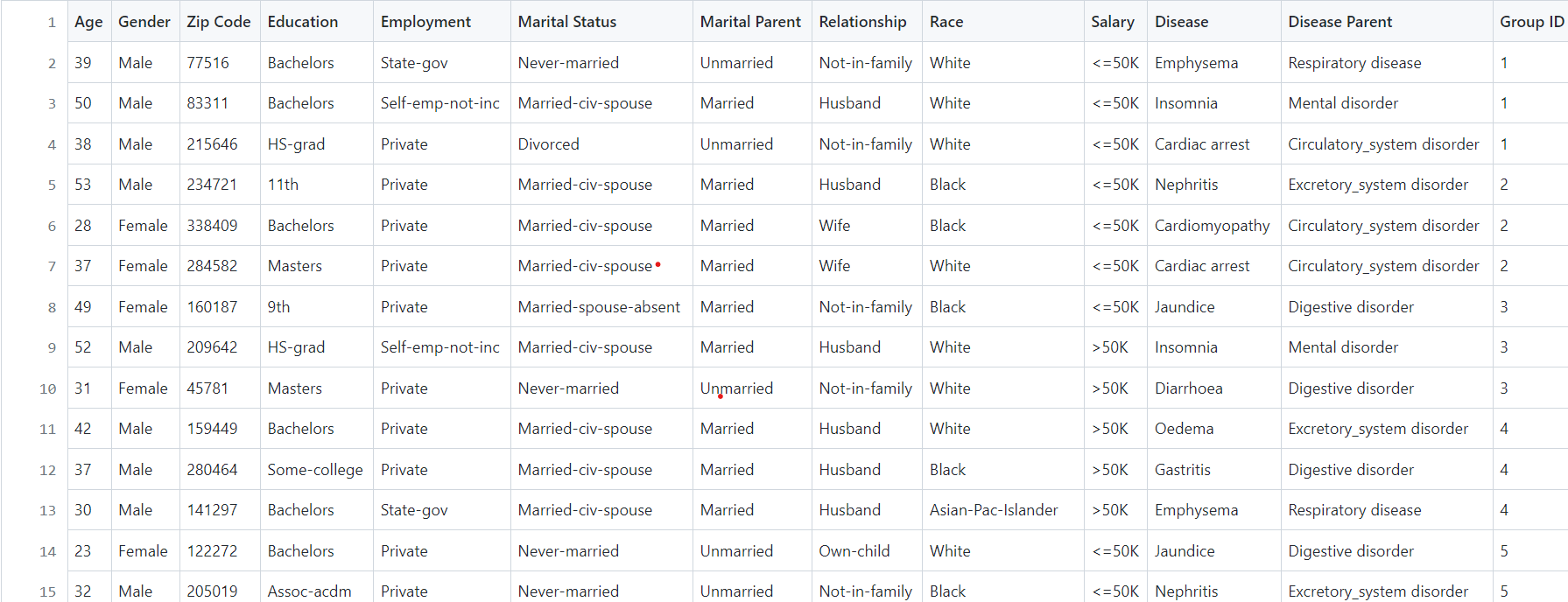


Fig.3.1: Original Dataset containing Quasi-identifiers and Sensitive attributes

The Original Dataset containing Quasi-Identifiers (e.g., Age, Gender etc.) and Sensitive attributes (e.g., Education, Employment, Disease etc.) shown above is prone to threats and attacks by the intruder who is searching for the particular sensitive information. In order to maintain the privacy of the data, we have implemented the efficient algorithm called Incremental Diversity. Incremental Diversity algorithm includes the method of masking and generalization. The results of the Original Microdata Table after implementing Incremental Diversity (for the first 15 records) is shown in the fig.3.2. below.

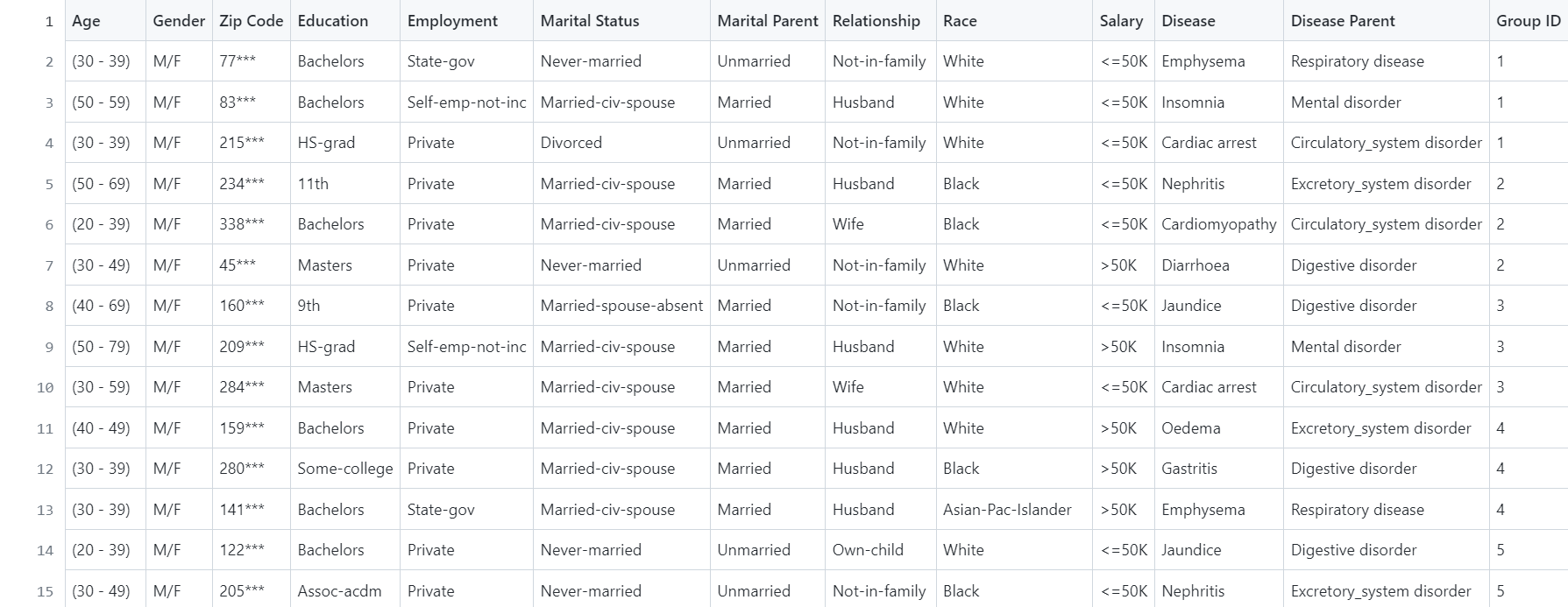


Fig.3.2: Masked Microdata Table after implementing Incremental Diversity algorithm

In order to test the accuracy of the results obtained from the Incremental Diversity algorithm, we run the SQL queries on Google Cloud Platform window (GCP)[2]. The following sections discusses about various queries, results and comparisons.

SQL Queries are the excellent tool for storing, analyzing and retrieving the data in the specific and structured manner through database servers[1]. The advantage of using SQL is that it can handle the large amount of data. The need for the SQL here is to run the aggregate queries on GCP to check for the accurate results obtained from the query. The SQL queries for the State Government Employee with a Bachelor’s degree is considered as an example to explain the method to write SQL Queries:

1. **SELECT** statement is used to select the data from the dataset and display the result in the form of a result table. When we need to select the attributes for which the query has to produce the result, we make use of **SELECT** statement . The example for the **SELECT** statement is given below which selects lower age, upper age, Gender, Zip code, Employment and Education.



Fig.3.3: **SELECT** Statement

1. **FROM** command here specifies from which table we have to select data or delete data.



Fig.3.4: **FROM** Command

1. **WHERE** clause here is used to obtain the information of those records which fulfill the specified condition. This clause is used whenever we want to look for the particular attribute or for some condition. The **WHERE** clause in the fig.3.5 choose the records of the people with education as Bachelor’s and a State Government Employee.



Fig.3.5: **WHERE** clause

1. **ORDER BY** keyword here is used to arrange or sort the data in ascending or descending order. By default, the **ORDER BY** keyword sorts the data in the ascending order. The **ORDER BY** keyword is used whenever there is a requirement of arranging the data based on the attribute or condition mentioned. **ORDER BY** keyword in the fig.3.6 sorts the data based on the GROUP ID.



Fig.3.6 : **ORDER BY** keyword of the SQL Query

1. **LIMIT** keyword specifies the number of allowable errors . The **LIMIT** keyword in the fig.3.7 specifies that the number of allowable error is 1000.



Fig.3.7: **LIMIT** keyword of the SQL Query

The method for writing the SQL Query mentioned above is followed throughout the work. The Query selects the attributes from the microdata data , looks for the specified condition or case ,sorts the data either in ascending or descending order and displays the result in the tabular form for the number of records specified.

The example of the Query and its associated Result is shown below in fig.3.8.



Fig.3.8: Query for Education=Bachelors and Employment= State- Government Employee

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Age | Gender | Zip Code | Education | Employment |
| (30 - 39) | M/F | 77\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |
| (30 - 39) | M/F | 141\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |
| (20 - 49) | M/F | 267\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |
| (20 - 39) | M/F | 149\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |
| (30 - 59) | M/F | 98\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |
| (50 - 79) | M/F | 288\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |
| (30 - 59) | M/F | 92\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |
| (20 - 29) | M/F | 70\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |
| (30 - 39) | M/F | 169\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |
| (20 - 29) | M/F | 335\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |
| (40 - 69) | M/F | 260\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |
| (40 - 49) | M/F | 193\*\*\* | Bachelors | State-gov |

Fig.3.9: Result Obtained from the Query shown in the Fig. 3.8

The Query has selected all the records which satisfies the condition of Education=Bachelors and Employment=State- Government from all the records present in the microdata table. The Queries that have been run for the different conditions follow the same method discussed above, is explained in detail with their results and comparison in the result section.

**RESULT**

The Incremental Diversity algorithm was implemented on a dataset containing 5000 records, which includes both quasi-identifiers and sensitive attributes. The original microdata table is shown in Fig. 3.1. After implementing the algorithm, the masked microdata table is shown in Fig. 3.2. The results of the algorithm are compared to the original microdata table to evaluate the effectiveness of the algorithm in protecting the privacy of the data. To test the accuracy of the results obtained from the Incremental Diversity algorithm, aggregate SQL queries were run on the Google Cloud Platform (GCP). The method for writing the SQL queries is explained in detail in the methodology section. The queries were run for different conditions, and the results are compared in this section.

An example query and its associated result is shown in Fig. 3.8 and Fig. 3.9, respectively. The query selects all records that satisfy the condition of Education=Bachelors and Employment=State-Government from all records present in the microdata table. The query returns a tabular form of the result, which shows the number of records that match the specified conditions. Other queries were run for different conditions, such as employment status, education level, and age range. The results of these queries are shown in tables and figures throughout this section. The results demonstrate that the Incremental Diversity algorithm effectively protects the privacy of the data while still allowing for useful data analysis.

A comparison of the original microdata table and the masked microdata table after implementing the Incremental Diversity algorithm is also presented in this section. The comparison shows that the algorithm reduces the number of residue records and prevents significant data loss. The comparison also shows that the algorithm does not have a significant impact on the accuracy of the data analysis.

Overall, the results of this study demonstrate that the proposed Incremental Diversity algorithm is an effective method for protecting the privacy of sensitive data while still allowing for useful data analysis. The algorithm can be used in various industries and applications where privacy is a concern.

**QUERY RESULTS**

**Query 1: State – gov Bachelors Details**



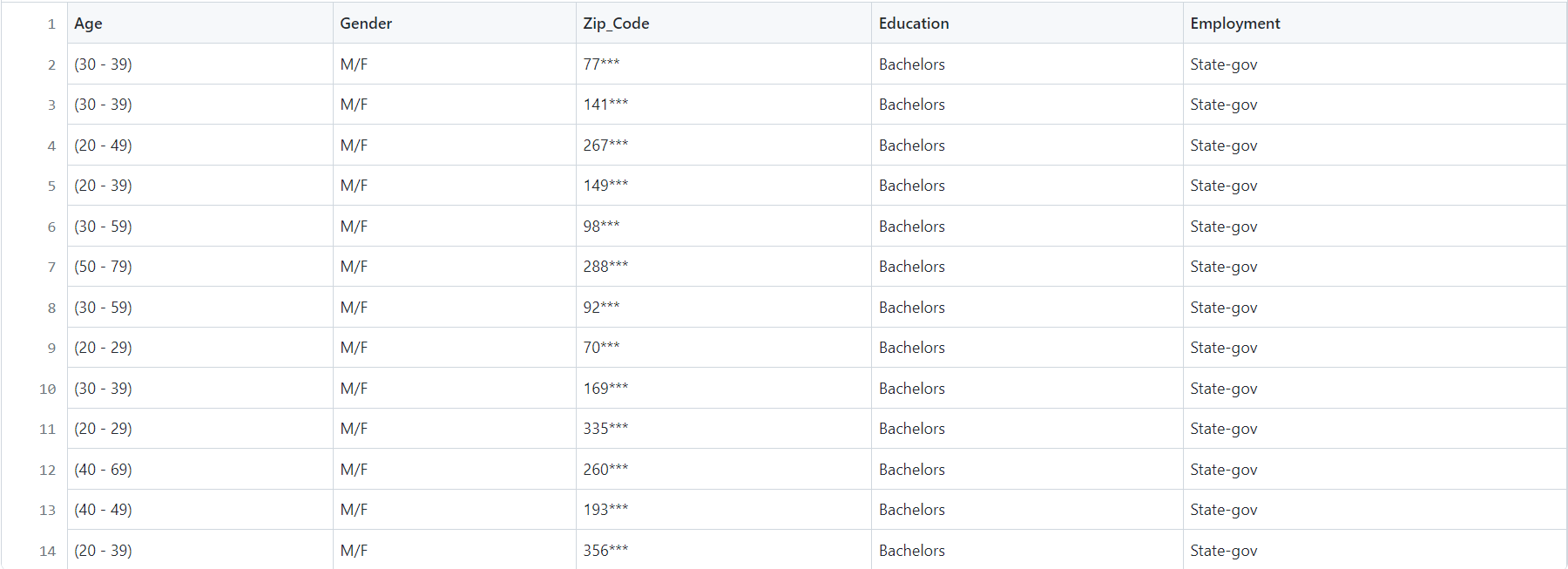
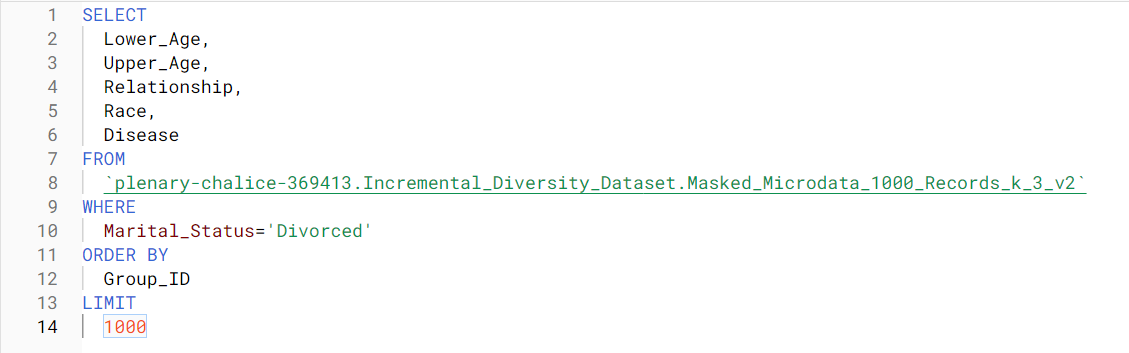
****

Fig 1: Masked Table for State – gov Bachelors Query

In this query, we have asked the program to show age, gender, zip code, education and employment from the Masked Table in the results. In this, we have selected 1000 records in which Education is ‘Bachelors’ and Employment is ‘State-gov’ and have ordered them based on Group ID. Age and gender have been generalized and zip code is masked.

**Query 2: Divorcee**

****

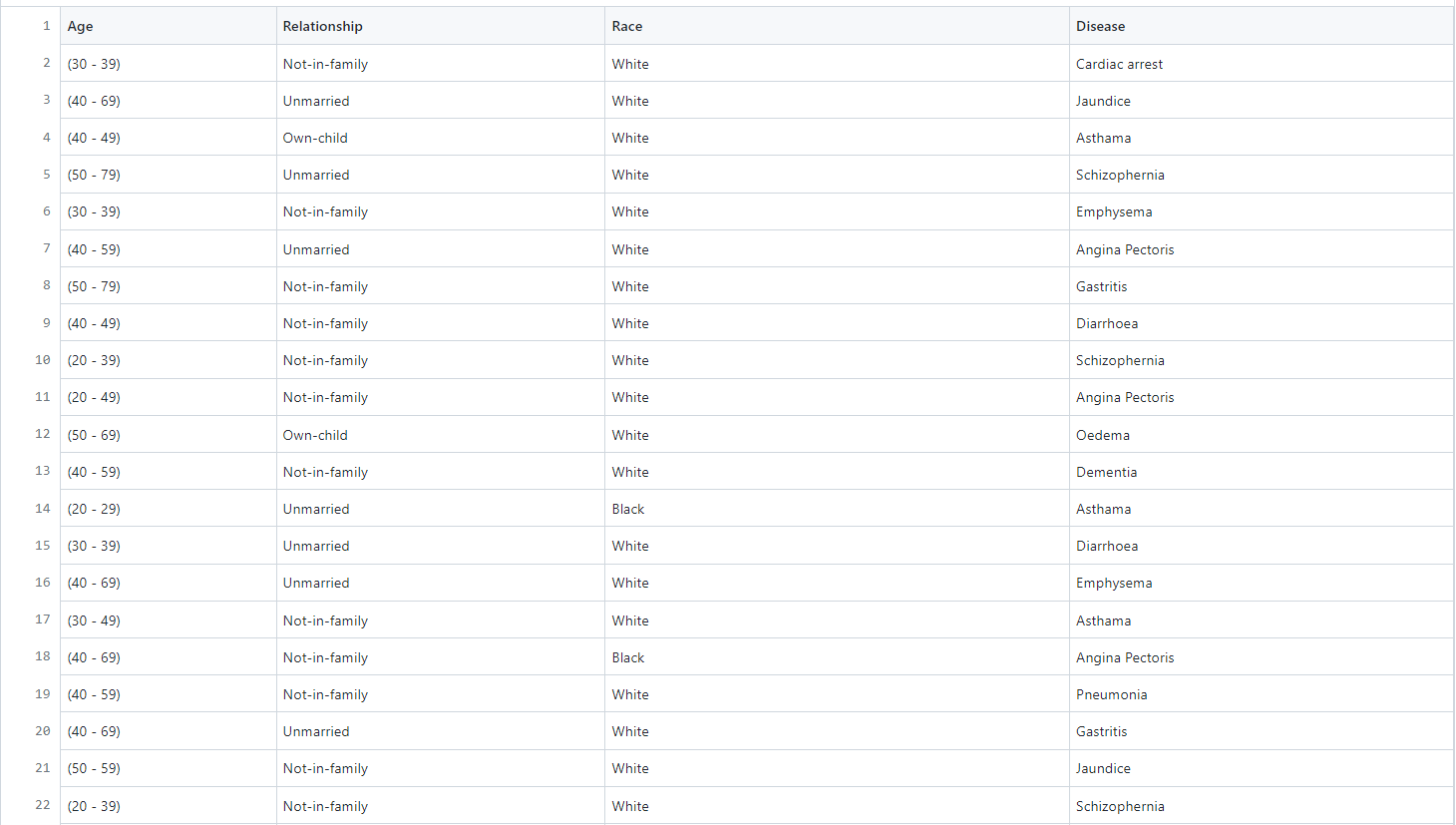
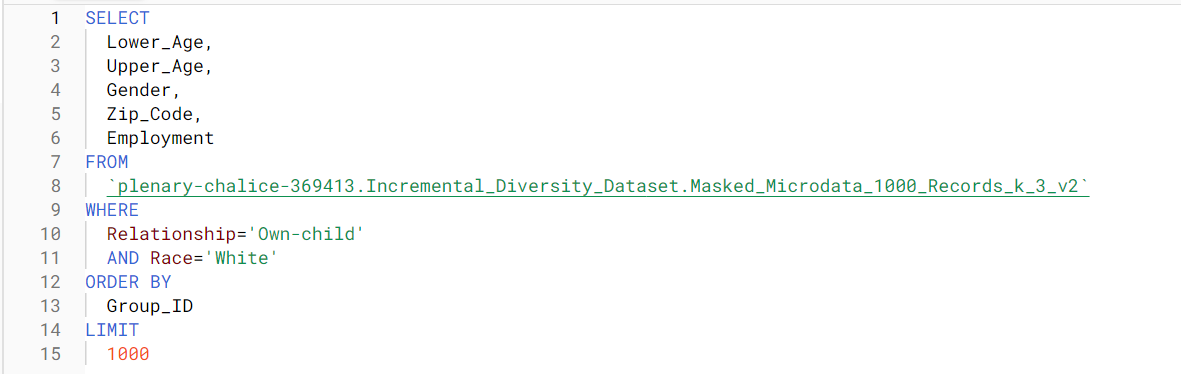
****

Fig 2: Masked Table for Divorcee Query

In this query, we are displaying the Age, Relationship, Race and Disease Values from the Masked Table. The program is asked to display a maximum of 1000 records from the Masked Table which have been ordered by Group Id and having Marital Status as ‘Divorced’. From the result, we can observe that most of the people don’t have any family and majority of them are white.

**Query 3: Own-Child-White**



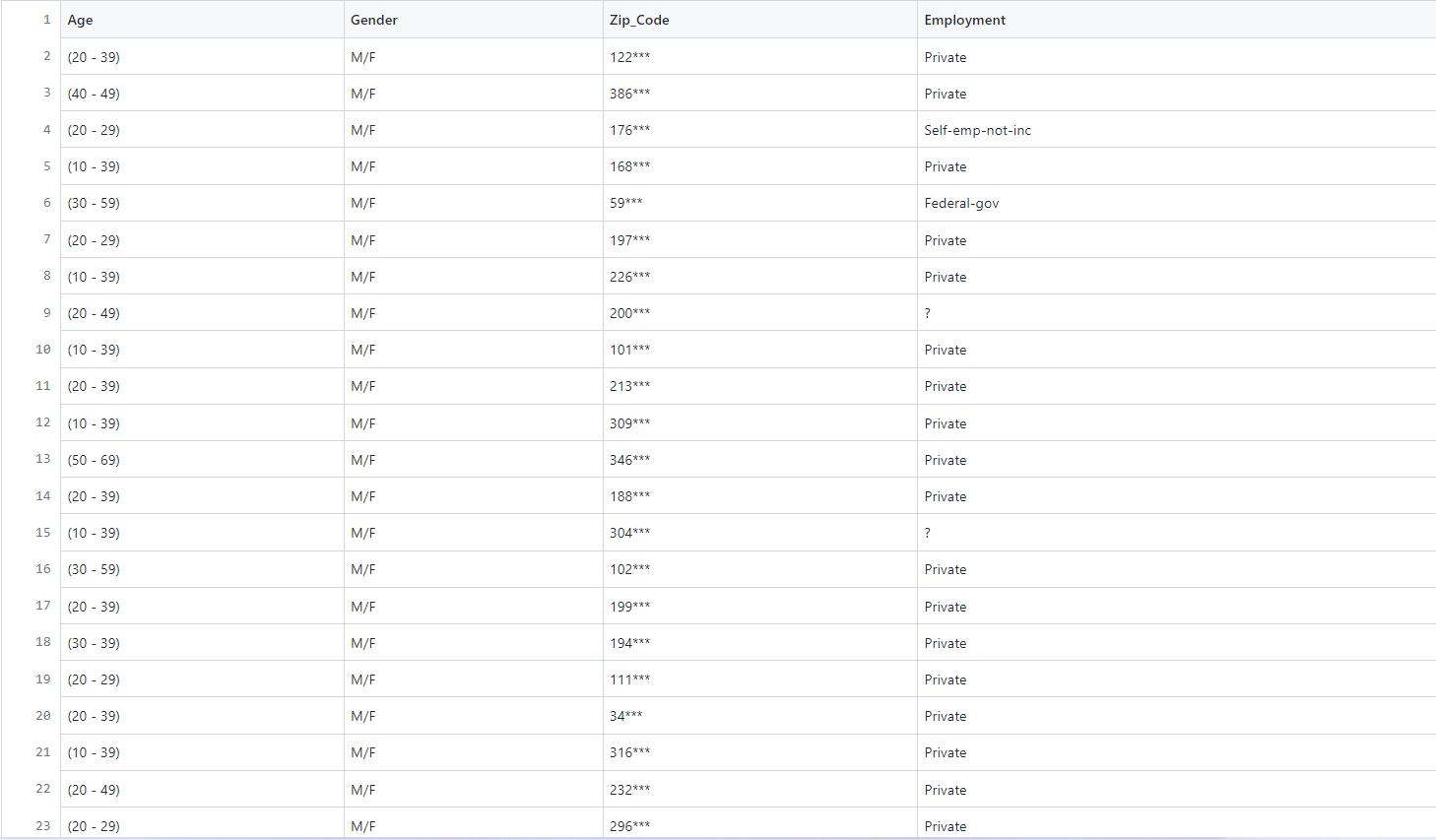
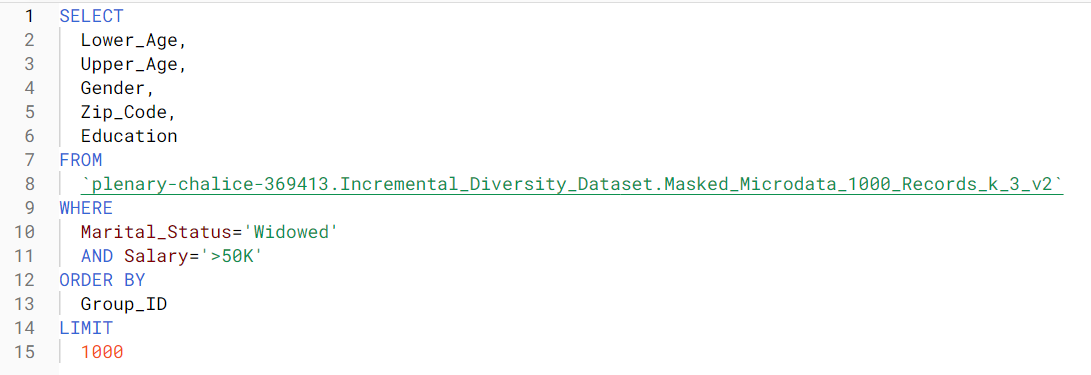


Fig 3: Masked Table for Own-Child-White Query

The Age, Gender, Zip Code and Employment of the people who are white in color and having relationship as ‘Own-child’ is shown from the Masked Table. A maximum of 1000 records ordered based on Group ID and satisfying the given conditions are shown. From the result we can see that most of the people lie in the 20 – 40 age and have Private employment.

**Query 4: Widowed-Salary>50k**

****

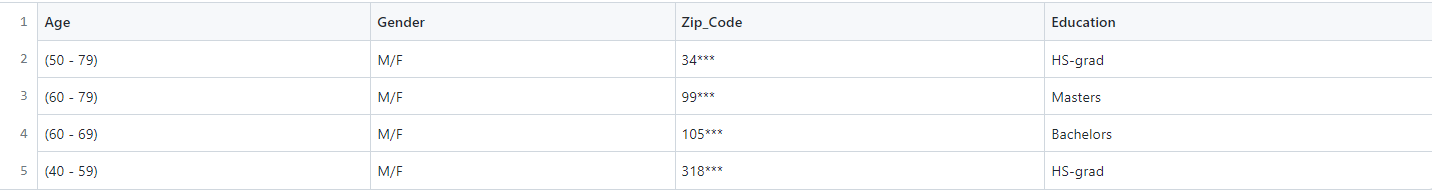
****

Fig 4: Masked Table for Widowed-Salary>50k Query

In this query, the Age, Gender, Zip Code and Education records of the people who are widow and having a salary greater than 50k will be shown from the Masked Table. The records obtained by satisfying the given conditions have been ordered based on their Group ID. From the table, we can observe that the condition of salary greater than 50k is met by those people who have very high Education.

**Analysis of the Queries**

To prove the accuracy of the Incremental diversity algorithm we compare the results obtained from the queries for original microdata table and masked microdata table.

**1. Comparison of Results obtained from the Original Dataset Query and the Masked**

**Microdata Query for Age.**

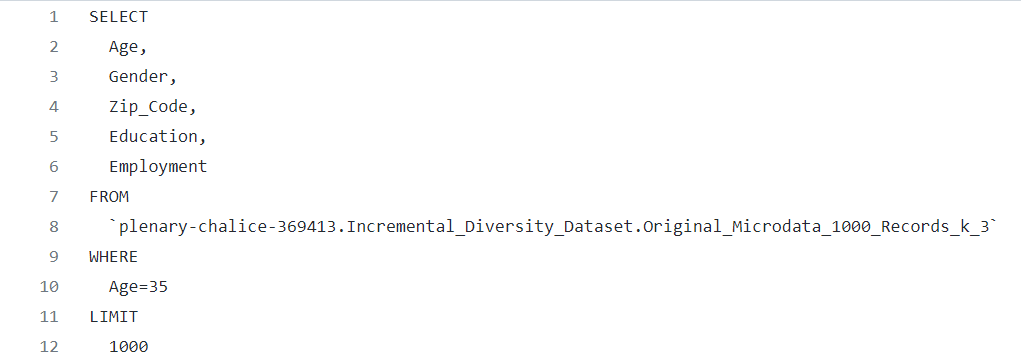
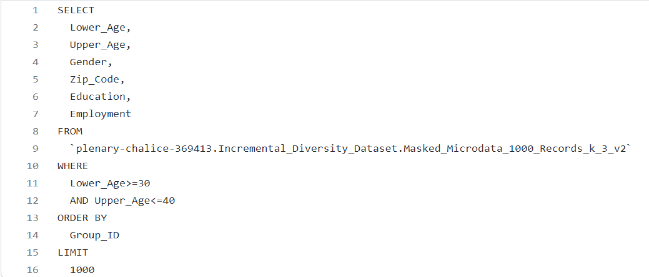
 

Fig 1: Age Query for Original Microdata Table Fig 2: Age Query for Masked Microdata Table

The Comparison of the Results obtained from the Original Dataset Query and the Masked Microdata Query (Age is Generalized) is done here. The Comparison reveals that the number of records in the Original Dataset is significantly lower than the number of records obtained from the Masked Microdata because more generalizations are made there. In Fig. 3, the query executed for the Original Dataset where Age = 35 showed only 28 records, whereas the query executed for the Masked Microdata where Age is generalized between 30 and 40 showed 80 records (Fig. 4), which is much more than the Original Dataset. The Generalization of Age has increased the number of records in order to preserve the privacy of data[8].

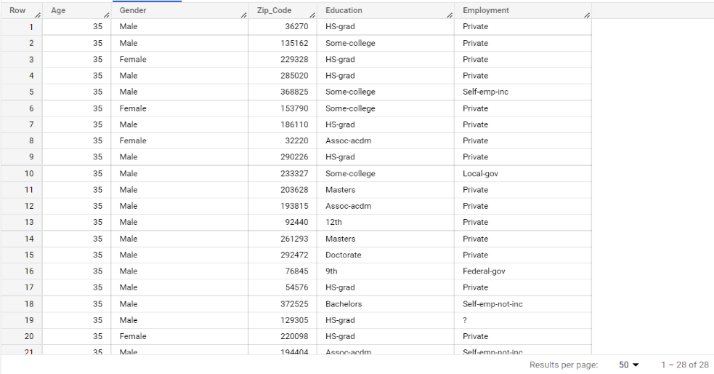
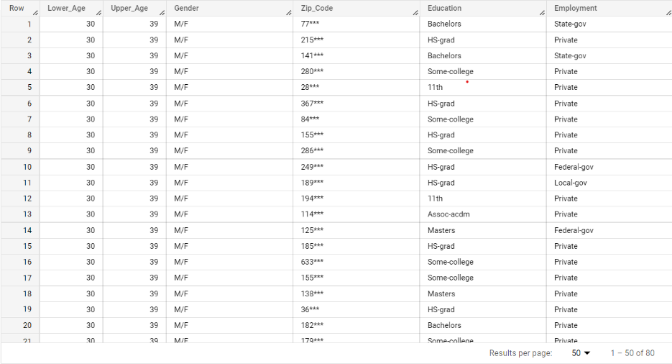
 

Fig 3: Original Microdata Table for Age Fig 4: Masked Microdata Table for Age

**2. Comparison of Results obtained from the Original Dataset Query and the Masked**

**Microdata Query for Gender.**

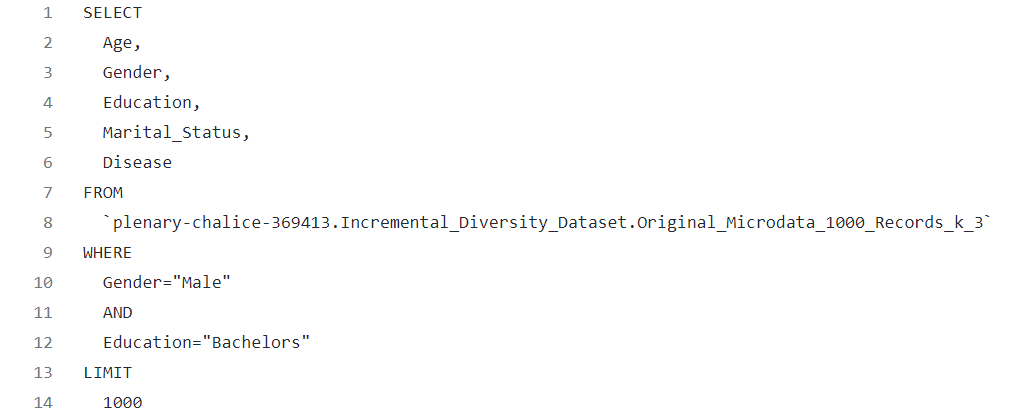
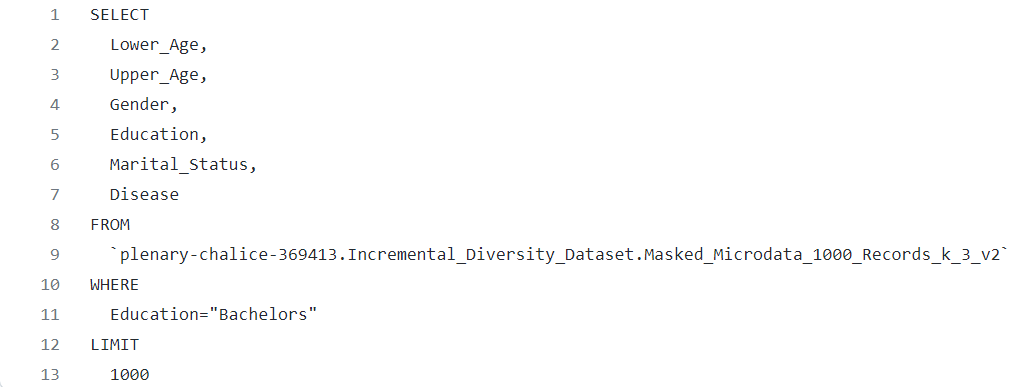
 

Fig 5: Gender Query Fig 6: Gender Query

for Original Microdata Table for Masked Microdata Table

The Result of the Query for the Original Dataset consisting of Age, Gender, Marital Status, Education, Disease is compared with the result of the Query for Masked Microdata consisting of Upper Age, Lower Age (Age is generalized in this case as shown in Fig 8.), Gender, Marital Status, Education, Disease. The Comparison shows that the Original Dataset has less records as query results, Masked Microdata has more records due to more generalization done. In Fig7., the query executed for the Original Dataset where Gender="Male “and Education="Bachelors “showed 117 records whereas, the query that has been executed for the Masked Microdata with gender generalized to M/F has 166 records (Fig 8.) which is more than the records of the Original Dataset. Generalization has increased the number of records in order to preserve the privacy of the data[7].

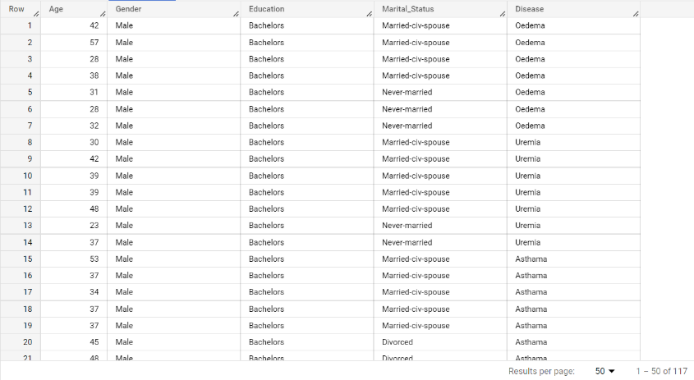
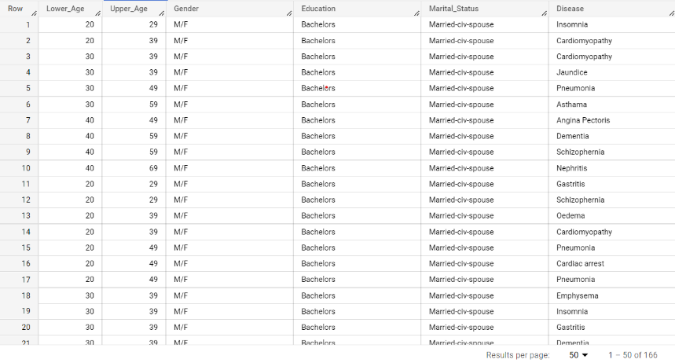
 

Fig 7: Original Microdata Table for Gender Fig 8: Masked Microdata Table for Gender

**3. Comparison of Results obtained from the Original Dataset Query and the Masked**

**Microdata Query for Zip code.**

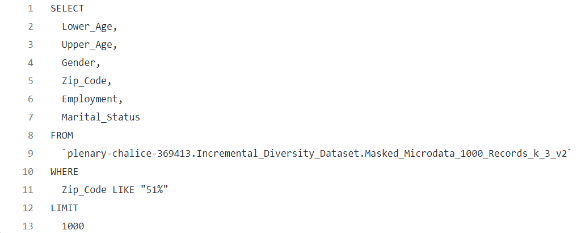
 

Fig 9: Zip Code Query for Fig 10: Zip Code Query for

Original Microdata Table Masked Microdata Table

Here, comparison of query results for Original Dataset and Masked Microdata is done with respect to zip code. Similar to the comparison of results of queries with respect to gender and age , the number of records in Original Dataset is less than the number of records in Masked Microdata. In Fig. 11, the query executed for the Original Dataset where Zip Code = 51618 showed only 1 record whereas the query executed for the Masked Microdata where Zip Code is generalized as 51\*\*\* showed 9 records (Fig 12)[5]. This is because of generalization in Masked Microdata.

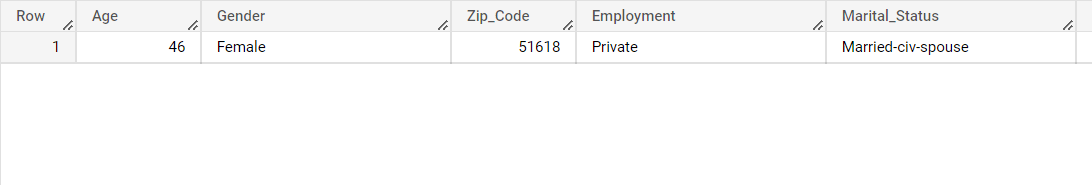


Fig 11: Original Microdata Table for Zip Code

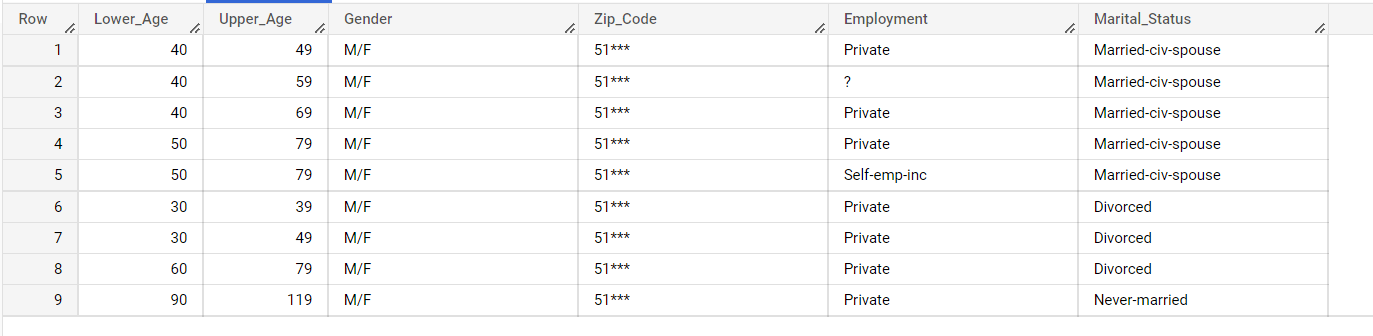


Fig 12: Original Microdata Table for Zip Code

The results obtained through the comparison of age, gender and zip code reveals that the number of records obtained from the original microdata table is less than the number of records obtained from the masked microdata table. Since, the number of records in the masked microdata table is more, it ensures security and privacy as more number of records has been generalized or protected from the background attacks[3]. This proves the efficiency and accuracy of the Incremental Diversity algorithm in protecting the privacy of the published data[4]. This model outstands the other anonymity models in providing very a smaller number of record loss and more accurate results.

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