Feedback on block 4

Feedback on: Group 5
Provided by: Group 1

Summary of the paper

The paper tries to understand the countermeasures actors can apply to prevent data breaches. To do so, the paper looks at three actors: the healthcare industry, the government, and security providers. For these actors, some countermeasures are listed. Then, the costs and benefits of applying these countermeasures are analysed. The paper also ponders the incentives the actors have to apply these countermeasures.

Then, the paper uses the number of data breaches per industry and explains the variances in that metric. Three variables were identified and discussed: black market pricing, cybersecurity investment, and size of the company.

Finally, it is found that there is a weak positive correlation between investment in cybersecurity and the amount of data breaches, and a weak positive correlation between the size of the industry. The paper concludes that it was difficult to find the data required and that correlation is not causation.

Strengths

- Costs and benefits are well-elaborated.
- Clear structure of the presented information.
- Strong basis in the relevant Acts and Laws.
- Statements are backed up by reports and literature.
- Where data points were lacking, smart approaches were used to approximate values.
- Clear analysis on where the conclusions are lacking due to missing/incomplete data.

Major issues

- Try to choose your topic such that the data you will require is available.
- Externalities section very short.

Minor issues

- *It is important to notice that the number of data breaches per industry is not normalized.* It would be nice if this was elaborated upon: was this not possible for your given dataset?
- The sections in 2.2 should be ordered as in the paragraphs above.
- Try to use tables instead of images of tabular information.