Ontology-Based Privacy Compliance Checking for Clinical Workflows



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Problem Statement

A clinical workflow might be vulnerable to privacy violations due to sensitive patient data accessed by multiple healthcare providers. Our research aims to detect the possible privacy violations.

Privacy-aware Workflows are compliant with:

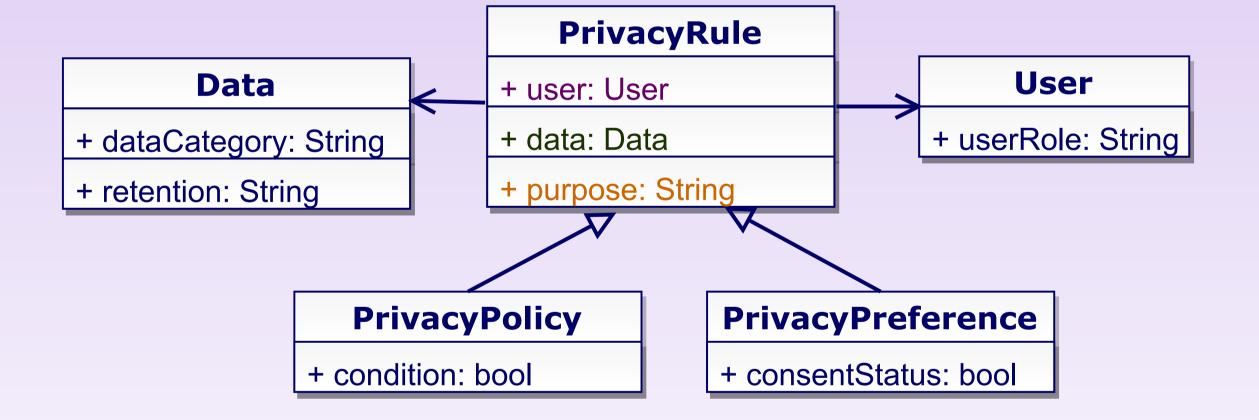
- privacy principles based on the European Union General Data Protection Regulation,
- privacy policies provided by healthcare providers, and
- privacy preferences of data subjects (patients).

Approach **Privacy Privacy Privacy Principle Policy Preference Clinical Workflow Ontology** complaint or not (4) Check Privacy Compliance (1) Build Ontology (2) Formalize Rules **Privacy** Privacy **BPMN** Rule purpose, data **Instances Clinical BPMN** (3) Parse & Create BPMNModel Model Instance

(I) Build Ontology

- generating the *Privacy Ontology* by examining privacy principles, privacy policies, and privacy preferences
- generating the BPMN Ontology by adapting the BPMN 2.0 Ontology with new data-related concepts
- generating the Clinical Ontology by examining the clinical workflows
- mapping between Privacy, BPMN, and Clinical Ontologies
- creating Java Classes for each UML ontology class

Ontology for main components of privacy rules:



Mapping between privacy concepts and BPMN elements:



(2) Formalize Rules

- Privacy Rules: Natural language rules from privacy policies and privacy preferences
- generating PrivacyRule Java Instances from the Privacy Rules on top of the ontology

(3) Parse & Create BPMNModel (4) Check Privacy Compliance

- parsing BPMN-based Clinical Workflow
- creating BPMNModel Java Instance on top of the ontology to prepare it for the privacy compliance check

- creating rules with Drools Rule Language (DRL) for each privacy principles proposed
- implementing Rule Engine by Drools **Business Rule Engine for the privacy** compliance check

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