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Summer 2019

CS 410/510 – Explorations in Data Science

Midpoint Report

Paper Topic update (update)

The advancement of technology has raised ethical questions around data and data privacy. We look at how this data is collected, used, monetized, and the ramifications of such decisions. We will also take a brief look into how we can make good decisions when it comes to private data, and how we as programmers can protect the privacy of collected data through good coding practices.

Research Planned (update)

The main topics of data privacy we plan to research are internet browser data, app data (browser and phone), and commercial store data. We are focusing mainly on Google, Facebook, and Fred Meyer respectively. In each of these topics, we are interested in what kind of data is collected, how this data is monetized by each of the companies we look at and examples of how data has been used against or for customers.

Team Structure (update)

Our team is comprised of four members, Aaron, Danniel, Shengjia, and Tom. We will each be responsible for various sections of our research.

Aaron: Will continue to research the monetization of data in all facets that we have talked about thus far. He is finished with the research on monetization in stores and is now working on researching how app data is monetized. He still needs to look more in-depth on how data collected from a browser.

Danniel: Is midway through his investigation on internet browsing and app use. He will be focusing on the data collected and sent by browsers and apps. He still needs to look more into what data is collected by applications. He has completed the research on browser data collection.

Shengjia: Is almost done with his research on Fred Meyer. He still needs to research Walmart, Starbucks, and Safeway.

Tom: Has finished the introduction and only needs to find a couple more interesting examples of positive or negative consequences of collecting data.

Update on Progress with respect to Project Milestones:

Concerning project milestones, we are proceeding right on schedule. We are onto our third milestone "rough draft of the report" that is set to be completed by August 6 which is a little less than two weeks from now. No changes have been made concerning the rest of the milestones. Our final draft is still set to be completed on August 13. Our final presentation will be presented 2 days later on August 15.

Are you where you thought you'd be at this point? Yes, we are currently on track. We are now working on finishing the report.

Midpoint Meeting - Date & Time: Tue Jul 30, 2019 11am – 11:30am (PDT)