Privacy engineering, privacy by design, privacy impact assessments, and privacy governance

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Engineering & Public Policy



### Today's agenda

- Quiz
- Questions/comments about the readings
- Discussion about the midterm
- Privacy engineering
- Privacy by design
- Privacy impact assessments
- Privacy governance

## By the end of class you will be able to:

 Understand how to apply various approaches to privacy engineering and privacy by design to design problems

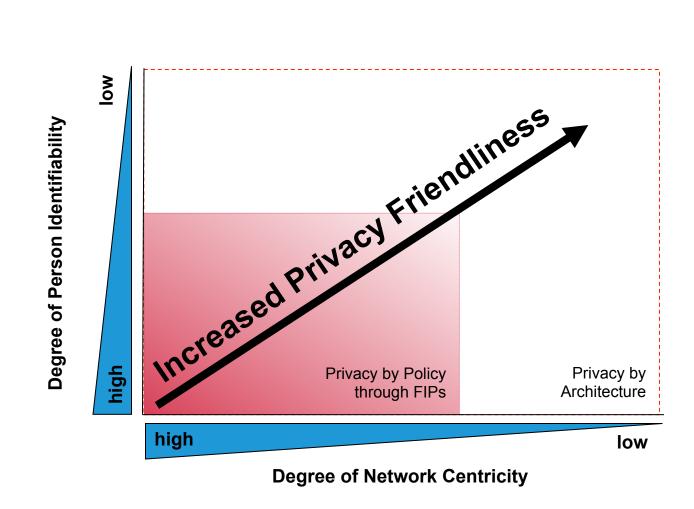
## Privacy by policy vs. architecture

- What techniques are used in each approach?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of each approach?

# How privacy rights are protected

- By policy
  - Protection through laws and organizational privacy policies
  - Must be enforced
  - Transparency facilitates choice and accountability
  - Technology facilitates compliance and reduces the need to rely solely on trust and external enforcement
  - Violations still possible due to bad actors, mistakes, government mandates
- By architecture
  - Protection through technology
  - Reduces the need to rely on trust and external enforcement
  - Violations only possible if technology fails or the availability of new data or technology defeats protections
  - Often viewed as too expensive or restrictive

# What system features tend to lead to more or less privacy?



### Privacy by policy techniques

- Notice
- Choice
- Security safeguards
- Access
- Accountability
  - Audits
  - Privacy policy management technology
    - Enforcement engine

# Privacy by architecture techniques

#### Best

- No collection of contact information
- No collection of long-term person characteristics
- k-anonymity with large value of k

#### Good

- No unique identifiers across databases
- No common attributes across databases
- Random identifiers
- Contact information stored separately from profile or transaction information
- Collection of long-term personal characteristics w/ low granularity
- Technically enforced deletion of profile details at regular intervals

Privacy stages	identifiability	Approach to privacy protection	Linkability of data to personal identifiers	System Characteristics
0	identified	privacy by policy (notice and choice)	linked	unique identifiers across databases     contact information stored with profile information
1			linkable with reasonable & automatable effort	<ul> <li>no unique identifies across databases</li> <li>common attributes across databases</li> <li>contact information stored separately from profile or transaction information</li> </ul>
2	pseudonymous	privacy by architecture	not linkable with reasonable effort	<ul> <li>no unique identifiers across databases</li> <li>no common attributes across databases</li> <li>random identifiers</li> <li>contact information stored separately from profile or transaction information</li> <li>collection of long term person characteristics on a low level of granularity</li> <li>technically enforced deletion of profile details at regular intervals</li> </ul>
3	anonymous		unlinkable	<ul> <li>no collection of contact information</li> <li>no collection of long term person characteristics</li> <li><i>k</i>-anonymity with large value of <i>k</i></li> </ul>

## De-identification and re-identification

- Simplistic de-identification: remove obvious identifiers
- Better de-identification: also k-anonymize and/or use statistical confidentiality techniques
- Re-identification can occur through linking entries within the same database or to entries in external databases

#### Examples

- When RFID tags are sewn into every garment, how might we use this to identify and track people?
- What if the tags are partially killed so only the product information is broadcast, not a unique ID?
- How can a cellular provider identify an anonymous pre-paid cell phone user?

#### Privacy by Design Principles (PbD)

- 1. Proactive not Reactive; Preventative not Remedial
- 2. Privacy as the Default Setting
- 3. Privacy Embedded into Design
- 4. Full Functionality—Positive-Sum, not Zero-Sum
- 5. End-to-End Security—Full Lifecycle Protection
- 6. Visibility and Transparency—Keep it Open
- 7. Respect for User Privacy—Keep it User-Centric

#### Privacy by design

Rubinstein, Ira and Good, Nathan, Privacy by Design: A Counterfactual Analysis of Google and Facebook Privacy Incidents. 28 Berkeley Technology Law Journal 1333 (2013).

http://ssrn.com/abstract=2128146 or http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2128146

- PbD principles "more aspirational than practical or operational"
- Microsoft principles outdated (ignore social media) and don't provide insights into decision making behind "company approval"
- PbD requires "translation of FIPs into engineering and design principles and practices"

#### Privacy Impact Assessment

#### A methodology for

- assessing the impacts on privacy of a project, policy, program, service, product, or other initiative which involves the processing of personal information and,
- in consultation with stakeholders, for taking remedial actions as necessary in order to avoid or minimize negative impacts

D. Wright and P. De Hert, eds. *Privacy Impact Assessment*. Springer 2012.

#### PIA is a process

- Should begin at early stages of a project
- Should continue to end of project and beyond

### Why carry out a PIA?

- To manage risks
  - Negative media attention
  - Reputation damage
  - Legal violations
  - Fines, penalties
  - Privacy harms
  - Opportunity costs

- To derive benefits
  - Increase trust
  - Avoid future liability
  - Early warning system
  - Facilitate privacy by design early in design process
  - Enforce or encourage accountability

#### Who has to carry out PIAs?

- US administrative agencies, when developing or procuring IT systems that include PII
  - Required by E-Government Act of 2002
- Government agencies in many other countries
- Sometimes done by private sector
  - Case studies from Vodaphone, Nokia, and Siemens in PIA book

#### Data governance

- People, process, and technology for managing data within an organization
- Data-centric threat modeling and risk assessment
- Protect data throughout information lifecycle
  - Including data destruction at end of lifecycle
- Assign responsibility

#### Beam discussion

- https://www.youtube.com/channel/ UC\_Cqp2VdYp9YSQqK07blMmQ
- What privacy issues does this technology raise in the home environment? How might these issues be addressed?



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