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# On machine learning for data privacy 

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## Outline

Disclosure risk. A quantitative measures: record linkage

- The worst-case scenario
- Using ML in reidentification
- Transparency principle
- Transparency attacks


## Outline

1. Introduction
2. Disclosure risk assessment

- Worst-case scenario
- ML for reidentification

3. Transparency

- Definition
- Attacking Rank Swapping
- Avoiding transparency attack

4. Information loss
5. Summary

## Introduction

## Introduction

## Masking methods

Classification w.r.t. our knowledge on the computation of a third party

- Data-driven or general purpose (analysis not known) $\rightarrow$ anonymization methods / masking methods
- Computation-driven or specific purpose (analysis known)
$\rightarrow$ cryptographic protocols, differential privacy
- Result-driven (analysis known: protection of its results)



## Masking methods

Anonymization/masking method: Given a data file $X$ compute a file $X^{\prime}$ with data of less quality.


## Masking methods

Approach valid for different types of data

- Databases, documents, search logs, social networks, . . . (also masking taking into account semantics: wordnet, ODP)



## Masking methods



## Research questions



## Masking methods

## Masking methods. (anonymization methods)

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- Perturbative. (less quality=erroneous data)
E.g. noise addition/multiplication, microaggregation, rank swapping


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- Non-perturbative. (less quality=less detail)
E.g. generalization, suppression


## Masking methods

Masking methods. (anonymization methods)

- Perturbative. (less quality=erroneous data)
E.g. noise addition/multiplication, microaggregation, rank swapping
- Non-perturbative. (less quality=less detail)
E.g. generalization, suppression
- Synthetic data generators. (less quality=not real data) E.g. (i) model from the data; (ii) generate data from model


## Masking methods

Information loss measures. Compare $X$ and $X^{\prime}$ w.r.t. analysis $(f)$

$$
I L_{f}\left(X, X^{\prime}\right)=\operatorname{divergence}\left(f(X), f\left(X^{\prime}\right)\right)
$$

- $f$ : generic vs. specific (data uses)
- Statistics
- Machine learning: Clustering and classification

For example, classification using decision trees

- ... specific measures for graphs



## Masking methods

## Dislosure risk. ... coming soon

## Introduction

## Disclosure risk assesment

## Disclosure risk assesment

## Disclosure risk.

- Identity disclosure vs. Attribute disclosure
- Attribute disclosure: (e.g. learn about Alice's salary) * Increase knowledge about an attribute of an individual
- Identity disclosure: (e.g. find Alice in the database)
$\star$ Find/identify an individual in a masked file

Within machine learning, some attribute disclosure is expected.

## Disclosure risk assesment

## Disclosure risk.

- Identity disclosure vs. Attribute disclosure
- Boolean vs. quantitative measures


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- Boolean vs. quantitative measures (minimize information loss vs. multiobjetive optimization)


## Disclosure risk assesment

## Disclosure risk.

- Identity disclosure vs. Attribute disclosure
- Boolean vs. quantitative measures
(minimize information loss vs. multiobjetive optimization)
Examples. Privacy models / disclosure risk measures
Attribute disclosure Identity disclosure

|  | Boolean | Differential privacy |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Quantitative | Interval disclosure | Re-identification <br> (record linkage) <br> Uniqueness |
|  |  |  |

## Disclosure risk assesment

A scenario for identity disclosure: $X=i d\left\|X_{n c}\right\| X_{c}$

- Protection of the attributes
- Identifiers. Usually removed or encrypted.
- Confidential. $X_{c}$ are usually not modified. $X_{c}^{\prime}=X_{c}$.
- Quasi-identifiers. Apply masking method $\rho$. $X_{n c}^{\prime}=\rho\left(X_{n c}\right)$.



## Disclosure risk assesment

A scenario for identity disclosure: Reidentification

- $A$ : File with the protected data set
- $B$ : File with the data from the intruder (subset of original $X$ )



## Disclosure risk assesment

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- Reidentification using the common attributes (quasi-identifiers):


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- Reidentification using the common attributes (quasi-identifiers): leads to identity disclosure
- Attribute disclosure may be possible


## Disclosure risk assesment

A scenario for identity disclosure. Reidentification

- Reidentification using the common attributes (quasi-identifiers): leads to identity disclosure
- Attribute disclosure may be possible when reidentification permits to link confidential values to identifiers (in this case: identity disclosure implies attribute disclosure)


## Disclosure risk assesment

A scenario for identity disclosure. Reidentification

- Flexible scenario for identity disclosure
- $A$ protected file using a masking method
- $B$ (intruder's) is a subset of the original file.


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- Flexible scenario for identity disclosure
- $A$ protected file using a masking method
- $B$ (intruder's) is a subset of the original file.
$\rightarrow$ intruder with information on only some individuals
$\rightarrow$ intruder with information on only some characteristics
- But also,
$\star B$ with a schema different to the one of $A$ (different attributes)
$\star$ Other scenarios. E.g., synthetic data


## Worst-case scenario when measuring disclosure risk

## Worst-case scenario

A scenario for identity disclosure. Reidentification

- Flexible scenario. Different assumptions on what available E.g., only partial information on individuals/characteristics
- Worst-case scenario for disclosure risk assessment (upper bound of disclosure risk)


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- Maximum information


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A scenario for identity disclosure. Reidentification

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- Worst-case scenario for disclosure risk assessment (upper bound of disclosure risk)
- Maximum information
- Most effective reidentification method


## Worst-case scenario

A scenario for identity disclosure. Reidentification

- Flexible scenario. Different assumptions on what available E.g., only partial information on individuals/characteristics
- Worst-case scenario for disclosure risk assessment (upper bound of disclosure risk)
- Maximum information: Use original file to attack
- Most effective reidentification method: Use ML Use information on the masking method (transparency)


# ML for reidentification (learning distances) 

## Worst-case scenario

Worst-case scenario for disclosure risk assessment

- Distance-based record linkage
- Parametric distances with best parameters E.g.,
- Weighted Euclidean distance


## Worst-case scenario

Worst-case scenario for disclosure risk assessment

- Distance-based record linkage with Euclidean distance equivalent to:

$$
\begin{aligned}
d^{2}(a, b) & =\left\|\frac{1}{n}(a-b)\right\|^{2}=\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{n}\left(\operatorname{diff}_{i}(a, b)\right) \\
& =W M_{p}\left(\operatorname{diff}_{1}(a, b), \ldots, \operatorname{diff}_{n}(a, b)\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

with $p=(1 / n, \ldots, 1 / n)$ and
$\operatorname{diff}_{i}(a, b)=\left(\left(a_{i}-\bar{a}_{i}\right) / \sigma\left(a_{i}\right)-\left(b_{i}-\bar{b}_{i}\right) / \sigma\left(b_{i}\right)\right)^{2}$

- $p_{i}=1 / n$ means equal importance to all attributes
- Appropriate for attributes with equal discriminatory power (e.g., same noise, same distribution)


## Worst-case scenario

Worst-case scenario for disclosure risk assessment

- Distance-based record linkage with weighted mean distance (weighted Euclidean distance)

$$
d^{2}(a, b)=W M_{p}\left(\operatorname{diff}_{1}(a, b), \ldots, \operatorname{diff}_{n}(a, b)\right)
$$

with arbitrary vector $p=\left(p_{1}, \ldots, p_{n}\right)$ and $\operatorname{diff}_{i}(a, b)=\left(\left(a_{i}-\bar{a}_{i}\right) / \sigma\left(a_{i}\right)-\left(b_{i}-\bar{b}_{i}\right) / \sigma\left(b_{i}\right)\right)^{2}$

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Worst-case: Optimal selection of the weights. How??

- Supervised machine learning approach
- Using an optimization problem


## Worst-case scenario

Worst-case scenario for disclosure risk assessment

- Distance-based record linkage with parametric distances (distance/metric learning): $\mathbb{C}$ a combination/aggregation function

$$
d^{2}(a, b)=\mathbb{C}_{p}\left(\operatorname{diff}_{1}(a, b), \ldots, \operatorname{diff}_{n}(a, b)\right)
$$

with parameter $p$ and

$$
\operatorname{diff}_{i}(a, b)=\left(\left(a_{i}-\bar{a}_{i}\right) / \sigma\left(a_{i}\right)-\left(b_{i}-\bar{b}_{i}\right) / \sigma\left(b_{i}\right)\right)^{2}
$$

## Worst-case scenario

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$$

Worst-case: Optimal selection of the parameter p. How??

- Supervised machine learning approach
- Using an optimization problem


## Worst-case scenario

Worst-case scenario for distance-based record linkage

- Optimal weights using a supervised machine learning approach
- We need a set of examples from:



## Formalization of the problem

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Generic solution, using
- an arbitrary combination function $\mathbb{C}$ (aggregation)
- with parameter $p$

$$
d\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right)=\mathbb{C}_{p}\left(\operatorname{diff}_{1}(a, b), \ldots, \operatorname{diff}_{n}(a, b)\right)
$$

## Formalization of the problem

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Generic solution, using $\mathbb{C}$ with parameter $p$
- Goal ( $A$ and $B$ aligned)
- as much correct reidentifications as possible
- For record $i$ : $d\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right) \geq d\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)$ for all $j$


## Formalization of the problem

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Generic solution, using $\mathbb{C}$ with parameter $p$
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- For record $i: d\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right) \geq d\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)$ for all $j$ That is,

$$
\mathbb{C}_{p}\left(\operatorname{diff}_{1}\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right), \ldots, \operatorname{diff}_{n}\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right)\right) \geq \mathbb{C}_{p}\left(\operatorname{diff}_{1}\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right), \ldots, \operatorname{diff}_{n}\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)\right)
$$



## Formalization of the problem

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Goal
- as much correct reidentifications as possible
- Maximize the number of records $a_{i}$ such that
$d\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right) \geq d\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)$ for all $j$
- If record $a_{i}$ fails for at least one $b_{j}$

$$
d\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right) \nsupseteq d\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)
$$

Then, let $K_{i}=1$ in this case, then for a large enough constant $C$

$$
d\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right)+C K_{i} \geq d\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)
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$$

## Formalization of the problem

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Goal
- as much correct reidentifications as possible
- Minimize $K_{i}$ : minimize the number of records $a_{i}$ that fail $d\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right) \geq d\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)$ for all $j$
- $K_{i} \in\{0,1\}$, if $K_{i}=0$ reidentification is correct

$$
d\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right)+C K_{i} \geq d\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)
$$

## Formalization of the problem

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Goal
- as much correct reidentifications as possible
- Minimize $K_{i}$ : minimize the number of records $a_{i}$ that fail
- Formalization:

$$
\text { Minimize } \sum_{i=1}^{N} K_{i}
$$

Subject to :

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{C}_{p}\left(\operatorname{diff}_{1}\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right), \ldots, \operatorname{diff}_{n}\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right)\right)- \\
& \quad-\mathbb{C}_{p}\left(\operatorname{diff}_{1}\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right), \ldots, \operatorname{diff}_{n}\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)\right)+C K_{i}>0 \\
& K_{i} \in\{0,1\} \\
& \text { Additional constraints according to } \mathbb{C}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Formalization of the problem

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Example: the case of the weighted mean $\mathbb{C}=W M$
- Formalization:

$$
\text { Minimize } \sum_{i=1}^{N} K_{i}
$$

Subject to :

$$
\begin{aligned}
& W M_{p}\left(\operatorname{diff}_{1}\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right), \ldots, \operatorname{diff}_{n}\left(a_{i}, b_{j}\right)\right)- \\
& \quad-W M_{p}\left(\operatorname{diff}_{1}\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right), \ldots, \operatorname{diff}_{n}\left(a_{i}, b_{i}\right)\right)+C K_{i}>0 \\
& K_{i} \in\{0,1\} \\
& \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_{i}=1 \\
& p_{i} \geq 0
\end{aligned}
$$

## Experiments and distances

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Distances considered through the following $\mathbb{C}$
- Weighted mean.

Weights: importance to the attributes
Parameter: weighting vector $n$ parameters

## Experiments and distances

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Distances considered through the following $\mathbb{C}$
- Weighted mean.

Weights: importance to the attributes
Parameter: weighting vector $n$ parameters

- OWA - linear combination of order statistics (weighted):

Weights: to discard lower or larger distances
Parameter: weighting vector $n$ parameters

## Experiments and distances

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Distances considered through the following $\mathbb{C}$
- Choquet integral.

Weights: interactions of sets of attributes $\left(\mu: 2^{X} \rightarrow[0,1]\right.$
Parameter: non-additive measure: $2^{n}-2$ parameters

## Experiments and distances

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Distances considered through the following $\mathbb{C}$
- Choquet integral.

Weights: interactions of sets of attributes $\left(\mu: 2^{X} \rightarrow[0,1]\right.$
Parameter: non-additive measure: $2^{n}-2$ parameters

- Bilinear form - generalization of Mahalanobis distance

Weights: interactions between pairs of attributes
Parameter: square matrix: $n \times n$ parameters

## Experiments and distances

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Distances considered


Choquet integral. A fuzzy integral w.r.t. a fuzzy measure (nonadditive measure). Cl generalizes Lebesgue integral. Interactions.

Footnote: Mahalanobis / CI





## Experiments and distances

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Data sets considered (from CENSUS dataset)
- M4-33: 4 attributes microaggregated in groups of 2 with $k=3$.
- M4-28: 4 attributes, 2 attributes with $k=2$, and 2 with $k=8$.
- M4-82: 4 attributes, 2 attributes with $k=8$, and 2 with $k=2$.
- M5-38: 5 attributes, 3 attributes with $k=3$, and 2 with $k=8$.
- M6-385: 6 attributes, 2 attributes with $k=3,2$ attributes with $k=8$, and 2 with $k=5$.
- M6-853: 6 attributes, 2 attributes with $k=8,2$ attributes with $k=5$, and 2 with $k=3$.


## Experiments and distances

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Percentage of the number of correct re-identifications. M4-33 M4-28 M4-82 M5-38 M6-385 M6-853

| $d^{2} A M$ | 84.00 | 68.50 | 71.00 | 39.75 | 78.00 | 84.75 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $d^{2} M D$ | 94.00 | 90.00 | 92.75 | 88.25 | 98.50 | 98.00 |
| $d^{2} W M$ | 95.50 | 93.00 | 94.25 | 90.50 | 99.25 | 98.75 |
| $d^{2} W M_{m}$ | 95.50 | 93.00 | 94.25 | 90.50 | 99.25 | 98.75 |
| $d^{2} C I$ | 95.75 | 93.75 | 94.25 | 91.25 | $\mathbf{9 9 . 7 5}$ | 99.25 |
| $d^{2} C I_{m}$ | 95.75 | 93.75 | 94.25 | 90.50 | 99.50 | 98.75 |
| $d^{2} S B_{N C}$ | $\mathbf{9 6 . 7 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 4 . 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 5 . 2 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 2 . 2 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 9 . 7 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 9 . 5 0}$ |
| $d^{2} S B$ | $\mathbf{9 6 . 7 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 4 . 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 5 . 2 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 2 . 2 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 9 . 7 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 9 . 5 0}$ |
| $d^{2} S B_{P D}$ | - | - | - | - | - | 99.25 |

## Experiments and distances

## Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- Computation time comparison (in seconds).

|  | M4-33 | M4-28 | M4-82 | M5-38 | M6-385 | M6-853 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $d^{2} W M$ | 29.83 | 41.37 | 24.33 | 718.43 | 11.81 | 17.77 |
| $d^{2} W M_{m}$ | 3.43 | 6.26 | 2.26 | 190.75 | 4.34 | 6.72 |
| $d^{2} C I$ | 280.24 | 427.75 | 242.86 | $42,731.22$ | 24.17 | 87.43 |
| $d^{2} C I_{m}$ | 155.07 | 441.99 | 294.98 | $4,017.16$ | 79.43 | 829.81 |
| $d^{2} S B_{N C}$ | 32.04 | $2,793.81$ | 150.66 | $10,592.99$ | 13.65 | 14.11 |
| $d^{2} S B$ | 13.67 | $3,479.06$ | 139.59 | $169,049.55$ | 13.93 | 13.70 |
| $\mathbf{l h}=3600 ; 1 \mathrm{~d}=86400 \mathrm{~s}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |

- Constraints specific to weighted mean and Choquet integral for distances
$N$ : number of records; $n$ : number of attributes

|  | $d^{2} W M_{m}$ | $d^{2} C I_{m}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Additional | $\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_{i}=1$ | $\mu(\emptyset)=0$ |
| Constraints | $p_{i}>0$ | $\mu(V)=1$ |
|  |  | $\mu(A) \leq \mu(B)$ when $A \subseteq B$ |
|  |  | $\mu(A)+\mu(B) \geq \mu(A \cup B)+\mu(A \cap B)$ |
| Total Constr. | $N(N-1)+N+1+n$ | $N(N-1)+N+2+\left(\sum_{k=2}^{n}\binom{n}{k} k\right)+\binom{n}{2}$ |

## Experiments and distances

Machine Learning for distance-based record linkage

- A summary of the experiments

|  | AM | MD | WM | OWA | SB | Cl |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Computation | Very fast | Very fast | Fast | regular | Hard | Hard |
| Results | Worse | Good | Good | Bad | Very Good | Very Good |
| Information | No | No | Few | Few | Large | Large |

## Transparency

## Transparency

## Transparency

## Transparency: Definition

## Transparency

## Transparency.

- "the release of information about processes and even parameters used to alter data" (Karr, 2009).


## Effect.

- Information Loss. Positive effect, less loss/improve inference E.g., noise addition $\rho(X)=X+\epsilon$ where $\epsilon$ s.t. $E(\epsilon)=0$ and $\operatorname{Var}(\epsilon)=k \operatorname{Var}(X)$

$$
\operatorname{Var}\left(X^{\prime}\right)=\operatorname{Var}(X)+k \operatorname{Var}(X)=(1+k) \operatorname{Var}(X)
$$

## Transparency

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## Effect.

- Disclosure Risk. Negative effect, larger risk
- Attack to single-ranking microaggregation (Winkler, 2002)
- Formalization of the transparency attack (Nin, Herranz, Torra, 2008)
- Attacks to microaggregation and rank swapping (Nin, Herranz, Torra, 2008)


## Transparency

## Transparency.

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## Effect.

- Disclosure Risk. Formalization
- $X$ and $X^{\prime}$ original and masked files, $\mathbf{V}=\left(V_{1}, \ldots, V_{s}\right)$ attributes
- $B_{j}(x)$ set of masked records associated to $x$ w.r.t. $j$ th variable.
- Then, for record $x$, the masked record $x_{\ell}$ corresponding to $x$ is in the intersection of $B_{j}(x)$.

$$
x_{\ell} \in \cap_{j} B_{j}(x)
$$

- Worst case scenario in record linkage: upper bound of risk


## Transparency

## Attacking Rank Swapping

## Transparency

## Rank swapping

- For ordinal/numerical attributes
- Applied attribute-wise

Data: $\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n}\right)$ : original data; $p$ : percentage of records
Order $\left(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n}\right)$ in increasing order (i.e., $\left.a_{i} \leq a_{i+1}\right)$;
Mark $a_{i}$ as unswapped for all $i$;
for $i=1$ to $n$ do
if $a_{i}$ is unswapped then
Select $\ell$ randomly and uniformly chosen from the limited range $[i+1, \min (n, i+p *|X| / 100)]$;
Swap $a_{i}$ with $a_{\ell}$;
Undo the sorting step ;

## Transparency

## Rank swapping.

- Marginal distributions not modified.
- Correlations between the attributes are modified
- Good trade-off between information loss and disclosure risk


## Transparency

## Under the transparency principle we publish

- $X^{\prime}$ (protected data set)


## Transparency

## Under the transparency principle we publish

- $X^{\prime}$ (protected data set)
- masking method: rank swapping


## Transparency

Under the transparency principle we publish

- $X^{\prime}$ (protected data set)
- masking method: rank swapping
- parameter of the method: $p$ (proportion of $|X|$ )


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Then, the intruder can use (method, parameter) to attack

## Transparency

Under the transparency principle we publish

- $X^{\prime}$ (protected data set)
- masking method: rank swapping
- parameter of the method: $p$ (proportion of $|X|$ )

Then, the intruder can use (method, parameter) to attack
$\rightarrow($ method, parameter $)=($ rank swapping, $p)$

## Transparency

## Intruder perspective.

- Intruder data are available


## Transparency

## Intruder perspective.

- Intruder data are available
- All protected values are available.


## Transparency

## Intruder perspective.

- Intruder data are available
- All protected values are available.
I.e.,

All data in the original data set are also available

## Transparency

## Intruder perspective.

- Intruder data are available
- All protected values are available.
I.e.,

All data in the original data set are also available

## Intruder's attack for a single attribute

- Given a value $a$, we can define the set of possible swaps for $a_{i}$ Proceed as rank swapping does: $a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n}$ ordered values If $a_{i}=a$, it can only be swapped with $a_{\ell}$ in the range

$$
\ell \in[i+1, \min (n, i+p *|X| / 100)]
$$

## Transparency

Intruder's attack for a single attribute attribute $V_{j}$

- Define $B_{j}(a)$ the set of masked records that can be the masked version of $a$


## Transparency

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## Intruder's attack for all available attributes

- Define $B_{j}\left(a_{j}\right)$ for all available $V_{j}$
- Intersection attack:


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## Intruder's attack for all available attributes

- Define $B_{j}\left(a_{j}\right)$ for all available $V_{j}$
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x_{\ell}^{\prime} \in \cap_{1 \leq j \leq c} B_{j}\left(x_{i}\right) .
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## Transparency

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## Intruder's attack for all available attributes

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$$

No uncertainty!

## Transparency

## Intruder's attack for all available attributes

- Intersection attack:

$$
x_{\ell}^{\prime} \in \cap_{1 \leq j \leq c} B_{j}\left(x_{i}\right) .
$$

- When $\left|\cap_{1 \leq j \leq c} B_{j}\left(x_{i}\right)\right|=1$, we have a true match
- Otherwise, we can apply record linkage within this set


## Transparency

Intruder's attack. Example.

- Intruder's record: $x_{2}=(6,7,10,2), p=2$. First attribute: $x_{21}=6$
- $B_{1}(a=6)=\{(4,1,10,10),(5,5,8,1),(6,7,6,3),(7,3,5,6),(8,4,2,2)\}$

| Original file |  |  |  |  | Masked file |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $a_{1}$ | $a_{2}$ | $a_{3}$ | $a_{4}$ | $a_{1}^{\prime}$ | $a_{2}^{\prime}$ | $a_{3}^{\prime}$ | $a_{4}^{\prime}$ | $B\left(x_{2 j}\right)$ |
| 8 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 10 | 3 | 5 |  |
| 6 | 7 | 10 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 1 | X |
| 10 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 2 | X |
| 7 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 4 |  |
| 9 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 6 | X |
| 2 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 10 | 10 | X |
| 1 | 10 | 3 | 9 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 7 |  |
| 4 | 8 | 7 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 8 |  |
| 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 3 | X |
| 3 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 9 |  |

## Transparency

Intruder's attack. Example.

- Intruder's record: $x_{2}=(6,7,10,2), p=2$. Second attribute: $x_{22}=7$
- $B_{2}(a=7)=\{(5,5,8,1),(2,6,9,8),(6,7,6,3),(1,8,7,9),(3,9,1,7)\}$

| Original file |  |  |  | Masked file |  |  |  | $B\left(x_{2 j}\right)$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $a_{1}$ | $a_{2}$ | $a_{3}$ | $a_{4}$ | $a_{1}^{\prime}$ | $a_{2}^{\prime}$ | $a_{3}^{\prime}$ | $a_{4}^{\prime}$ | $B\left(x_{21}\right)$ | $B\left(x_{22}\right)$ |
| 8 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 10 | 3 | 5 |  |  |
| 6 | 7 | 10 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 1 | X | X |
| 10 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 2 | X |  |
| 7 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 4 |  |  |
| 9 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 6 | X |  |
| 2 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 10 | 10 | X |  |
| 1 | 10 | 3 | 9 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 7 |  | X |
| 4 | 8 | 7 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 8 |  | X |
| 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 3 | X | X |
| 3 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 9 |  | X |

## Transparency

Intruder's attack. Example.

- Intruder's record: $x_{2}=(6,7,10,2), p=2$.

○ $B_{1}\left(x_{21}=6\right)=\{(4,1,10,10),(5,5,8,1),(6,7,6,3),(7,3,5,6),(8,4,2,2)\}$
○ $B_{2}\left(x_{22}=7\right)=\{(5,5,8,1),(2,6,9,8),(6,7,6,3),(1,8,7,9),(3,9,1,7)\}$
○ $B_{3}\left(x_{23}=10\right)=\{(5,5,8,1),(2,6,9,8),(4,1,10,10)\}$

- $B_{4}\left(x_{24}=2\right)=\{(5,5,8,1),(8,4,2,2),(6,7,6,3),(9,2,4,4)\}$
- The intersection is a single record
$(5,5,8,1)$


## Transparency

Intruder's attack. Application.

- Data:
- Census (1080 records, 13 attributes)
- EIA (4092 records, 10 attributes)
- Rank swaping parameter:
- $p=2, \ldots, 20$


## Transparency

Intruder's attack. Result

|  | Census |  |  | EIA |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | RSLD | DLD | PLD | RSLD | DLD | PLD |
| rs 2 | 77.73 | 73.52 | 71.28 | 43.27 | 21.71 | 16.85 |
| rs 4 | 66.65 | 58.40 | 42.92 | 12.54 | 10.61 | 4.79 |
| rs 6 | 54.65 | 43.76 | 22.49 | 7.69 | 7.40 | 2.03 |
| rs 8 | 41.28 | 32.13 | 11.74 | 6.12 | 5.98 | 1.12 |
| rs 10 | 29.21 | 23.64 | 6.03 | 5.60 | 5.19 | 0.69 |
| rs 12 | 19.87 | 18.96 | 3.46 | 5.39 | 4.87 | 0.51 |
| rs 14 | 16.14 | 15.63 | 2.06 | 5.28 | 4.55 | 0.32 |
| rs 16 | 13.81 | 13.59 | 1.29 | 5.19 | 4.54 | 0.23 |
| rs 18 | 12.21 | 11.50 | 0.83 | 5.20 | 4.54 | 0.22 |
| rs 20 | 10.88 | 10.87 | 0.59 | 5.15 | 4.36 | 0.18 |

## Transparency

Intruder's attack. Summary

- When $\left|\cap B_{j}\right|=1$, this is a match.
$25 \%$ of reidentifications in this way $\neq 25 \%$ in distance-based or probabilistic record linkage.
- Approach applicable when the intruder knows a single record
- The more attributes the intruder has, the better is the reidentification. Intersection never increases when the number of attributes increases.
- When $p$ is not known, an upper bound can help If the upper bound is too high, some $\left|\cap B_{j}\right|$ can be zero


## Transparency

## Avoiding Transparency Attack in Rank Swapping

## Transparency

## Avoiding transparency attack in rank swapping.

- Enlarge the $B_{j}$ set to encompass the whole file.


## Transparency

## Avoiding transparency attack in rank swapping.

- Enlarge the $B_{j}$ set to encompass the whole file.
- Then,

$$
\cap B_{j}=X
$$

## Transparency

## Approaches to avoid transparency attack in rank swapping.

- Rank swapping $p$-buckets. Select bucket $B_{s}$ using

$$
\operatorname{Pr}\left[B_{s} \text { is choosen } \mid B_{r}\right]=\frac{1}{K} \frac{1}{2^{s-r+1}}
$$



- Rank swapping $p$-distribution. Swap $a_{i}$ with $a_{\ell}$ where $\ell=i+r$ and $r$ according to a $N(0.5 p, 0.5 p)$.


## Information Loss

## Information Loss

## Information Loss

Information Loss. Compare $X$ and $X^{\prime}$ w.r.t. analysis

$$
I L_{f}\left(X, X^{\prime}\right)=\operatorname{divergence}\left(f(X), f\left(X^{\prime}\right)\right)
$$

- $f$ : clustering ( $k$-means).
- Comparison of clusters by means of Rand, Jaccard indices
- Comparison of clusters by means of F-measure
- $f$ : classification (SVM, Naïve classifiers, k-NN, Decision Trees)
- Comparison of accuracy


## Summary

## Summary

## Experiments and distances

- Quantitative measures of risk
- Worst-case scenario for disclosure risk
- Parametric distances
- Distance/metric learning
- Transparency and disclosure risk
- Masking method and parameters published
- Disclosure risk revisited
- New masking methods resistant to transparency


## Thank you

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