

Private and Trusted Interactions*

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Motivation

Sensitivity of personal data

[Ackerman et al. '99]

- 82% willing to reveal their favorite TV show
- Only 1% willing to reveal their SSN

Business losses due to privacy violations

- Online consumers worry about revealing personal data
- This fear held back \$15 billion in online revenue in 2001

Federal Privacy Acts to protect privacy

- E.g., Privacy Act of 1974 for federal agencies
 - Still many examples of privacy violations even by federal agencies
 - JetBlue Airways revealed travellers' data to federal gov't
- E.g., Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)

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Privacy and Trust

Privacy Problem

- Consider computer-based interactions
 - From a simple transaction to a complex collaboration
- Interactions involve dissemination of private data
 - It is voluntary, "pseudo-voluntary," or required by law
- Threats of privacy violations result in lower trust
- Lower trust leads to isolation and lack of collaboration

Trust must be established

- Data provide quality an integrity
- End-to-end communication sender authentication, message integrity
- Network routing algorithms deal with malicious peers, intruders, security attacks



Fundamental Contributions

- Provide measures of privacy and trust
- Empower users (peers, nodes) to control privacy in ad hoc environments
 - Privacy of user identification
 - Privacy of user movement
- Provide privacy in data dissemination
 - Collaboration
 - Data warehousing
 - Location-based services
- Tradeoff between privacy and trust
 - Minimal privacy disclosures
 - Disclose private data absolutely necessary to gain a level of trust required by the partner system

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Proposals and Publications

Submitted NSF proposals

- "Private and Trusted Interactions," by B. Bhargava (PI) and L. Lilien (co-PI), March 2004.
- "Quality Healthcare Through Pervasive Data Access," by D. Xu (PI), B. Bhargava, C.-K.K. Chang, N. Li, C. Nita-Rotaru (co-PIs), March 2004.

Selected publications

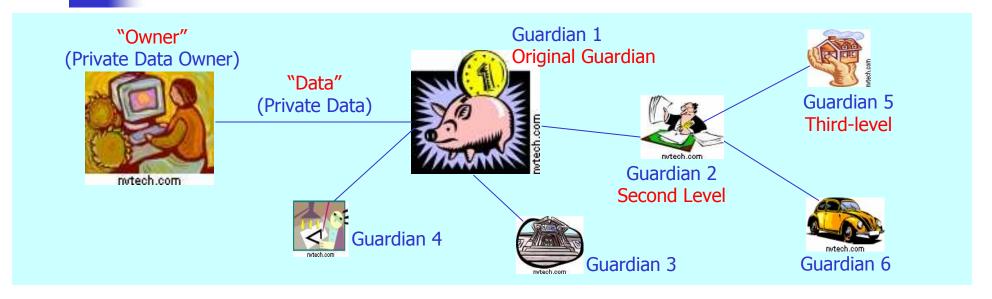
- "On Security Study of Two Distance Vector Routing Protocols for Mobile Ad Hoc Networks," by W. Wang, Y. Lu and B. Bhargava, Proc. of IEEE Intl. Conf. on Pervasive Computing and Communications (PerCom 2003), Dallas-Fort Worth, TX, March 2003.

 http://www.cs.purdue.edu/homes/wangwc/PerCom03wangwc.pdf
- "Fraud Formalization and Detection," by B. Bhargava, Y. Zhong and Y. Lu, Proc. of 5th Intl. Conf. on Data Warehousing and Knowledge Discovery (DaWaK 2003), Prague, Czech Republic, September 2003. http://www.cs.purdue.edu/homes/zhong/papers/fraud.pdf
- "Trust, Privacy, and Security. Summary of a Workshop Breakout Session at the National Science Foundation Information and Data Management (IDM) Workshop held in Seattle, Washington, September 14 16, 2003" by B. Bhargava, C. Farkas, L. Lilien and F. Makedon, CERIAS Tech Report 2003-34, CERIAS, Purdue University, November 2003. http://www2.cs.washington.edu/nsf2003 or https://www.cerias.purdue.edu/tools and resources/bibtex archive/archive/2003-34.pdf
- "e-Notebook Middleware for Accountability and Reputation Based Trust in Distributed Data Sharing Communities," by P. Ruth, D. Xu, B. Bhargava and F. Regnier, Proc. of the Second International Conference on Trust Management (iTrust 2004), Oxford, UK, March 2004. http://www.cs.purdue.edu/homes/dxu/pubs/iTrust04.pdf
- "Position-Based Receiver-Contention Private Communication in Wireless Ad Hoc Networks," by X. Wu and B. Bhargava, submitted to the Tenth Annual Intl. Conf. on Mobile Computing and Networking (MobiCom'04), Philadelphia, PA, September October 2004. http://www.cs.purdue.edu/homes/wu/HTML/research.html/paper_purdue/mobi04.pdf

Outline

- 1. Assuring privacy in data dissemination
- 2. Privacy-trust tradeoff
- 3. Privacy metrics
- Example applications to networks and e-commerce
 - a. Privacy in location-based routing and services in wireless networks
 - b. Privacy in e-supply chain management systems
- 5. Prototype for experimental studies

1. Privacy in Data Dissemination



. "Guardian:"

Entity entrusted by private data owners with collection, storage, or transfer of their data

- owner can be a guardian for its own private data
- owner can be an institution or a system
- Guardians allowed or required by law to share private data
 - With owner's explicit consent
 - Without the consent as required by law
 - research, court order, etc.



Problem of Privacy Preservation

- Guardian passes private data to another guardian in a data dissemination chain
 - Chain within a graph (possibly cyclic)
- Owner privacy preferences not transmitted due to neglect or failure
 - Risk grows with chain length and milieu fallibility and hostility
- If preferences lost, receiving guardian unable to honor them

Challenges

- Ensuring that owner's metadata are never decoupled from his data
 - Metadata include owner's privacy preferences
- Efficient protection in a hostile milieu
 - Threats examples
 - Uncontrolled data dissemination
 - Intentional or accidental data corruption, substitution, or disclosure
 - Detection of data or metadata loss
 - Efficient data and metadata recovery
 - Recovery by retransmission from the original guardian is most trustworthy

Related Work

Self-descriptiveness

Many papers use the idea of self-descriptiveness in diverse contexts (meta data model, KIF, context-aware mobile infrastructure, flexible data types)

Use of self-descriptiveness for data privacy

- The idea briefly mentioned in [Rezgui, Bouguettaya, and Eltoweissy, 2003]
- Securing mobile self-descriptive objects
 - Esp. securing them via apoptosis, that is clean self-destruction [Tschudin, 1999]
- Specification of privacy preferences and policies
 - Platform for Privacy Preferences [Cranor, 2003]
 - AT&T Privacy Bird [AT&T, 2004]

Proposed Approach

- A. Design self-descriptive private objects
- B. Construct a mechanism for apoptosis of private objectsapoptosis = clean self-destruction
- C. Develop proximity-based evaporation of private objects



A. Self-descriptive Private Objects

Comprehensive metadata include:

- owner's privacy preferences
- guardian privacy policies
- metadata access conditions
- enforcement specifications
- data provenance
- context-dependent and other components

How to read and write private data

For the original and/or subsequent data quardians

How to verify and modify metadata

How to enforce preferences and policies

Who created, read, modified, or destroyed any portion of data

Application-dependent elements
Customer trust levels for
different contexts
Other metadata elements



Notification in Self-descriptive Objects

- Self-descriptive objects simplify notifying owners or requesting their permissions
 - Contact information available in the data provenance component
- Notifications and requests sent to owners immediately, periodically, or on demand
 - Via pagers, SMSs, email, mail, etc.



Optimization of Object Transmission

- Transmitting complete objects between guardians is inefficient
 - They describe all foreseeable aspects of data privacy
 - For any application and environment
- Solution: prune transmitted metadata
 - Use application and environment semantics along the data dissemination chain

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B. Apoptosis of Private Objects

Assuring privacy in data dissemination

- In benevolent settings: use atomic self-descriptive object with retransmission recovery
- In malevolent settings: when attacked object threatened with disclosure, use apoptosis (clean self-destruction)

Implementation

- Detectors, triggers, code
- False positive
 - Dealt with by retransmission recovery
 - Limit repetitions to prevent denial-of-service attacks
- False negatives



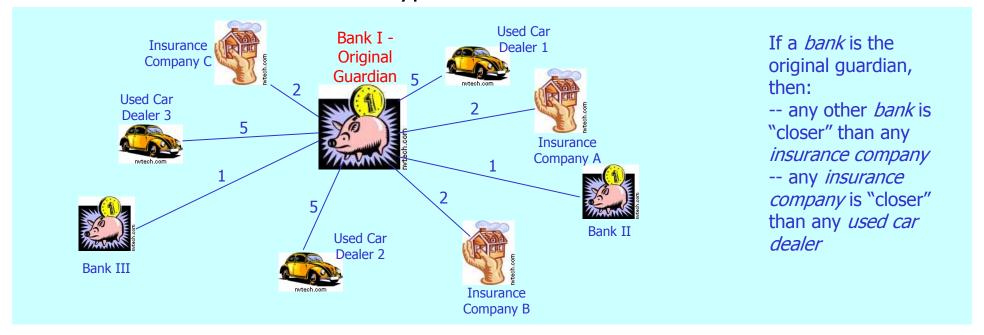
C. Proximity-based Evaporation of Private Data

- Perfect data dissemination not always desirable
 - Example: Confidential business data shared within an office but *not outside*
- Idea: Private data evaporate in proportion to their "distance" from their owner
 - "Closer" guardians trusted more than "distant" ones
 - Illegitimate disclosures more probable at less trusted "distant" guardians
 - Different distance metrics
 - Context-dependent



Examples of Metrics

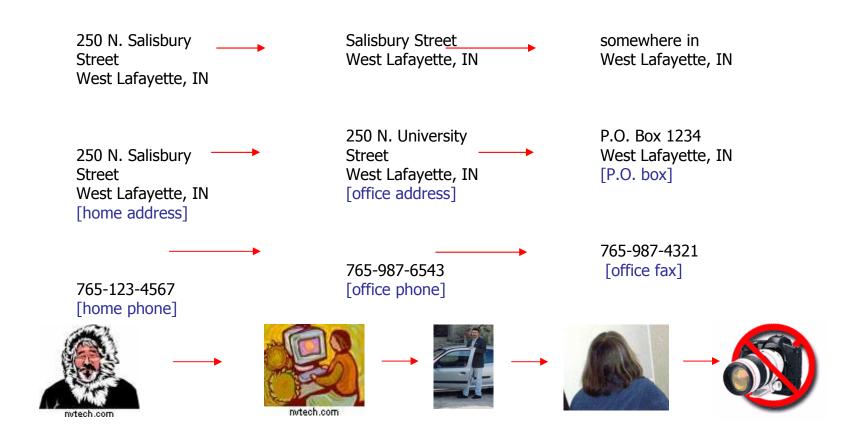
- Examples of one-dimensional distance metrics
 - Distance ~ business type



- Distance ~ distrust level: more trusted entities are "closer"
- Multi-dimensional distance metrics
 - Security/reliability as one of dimensions

Evaporation Implemented as Controlled Data Distortion

- Distorted data reveal less, protecting privacy
- n Examples:
 accurate more and more distorted





Evaporation as Apoptosis Generalization

- Context-dependent apoptosis for implementing evaporation
 - Apoptosis detectors, triggers, and code enable context exploitation
- Conventional apoptosis as a simple case of data evaporation
 - Evaporation follows a step function
 - Data self-destructs when proximity metric exceeds predefined threshold value



Application of Evaporation for DRM

- Evaporation used for digital rights management
 - Objects self-destruct when copied onto "foreign" media or storage device

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2. Privacy-trust Tradeoff

n Problem

- To build trust in open environments, users provide digital credentials that contain private information
- How to gain a certain level of trust with the least loss of privacy?

n Challenges

- Privacy and trust are fuzzy and multi-faceted concepts
- The amount of privacy lost by disclosing a piece of information is affected by:
 - Who will get this information
 - Possible uses of this information
 - Information disclosed in the past

Related Work

- Automated trust negotiation (ATN) [Yu, Winslett, and Seamons, 2003]
 - Tradeoff between the length of the negotiation, the amount of information disclosed, and the computation effort
- Trust-based decision making [Wegella et al. 2003]
 - Trust lifecycle management, with considerations of both trust and risk assessments
- Trading privacy for trust [Seigneur and Jensen, 2004]
 - Privacy as the linkability of pieces of evidence to a pseudonym; measured by using *nymity* [Goldberg, thesis, 2000]

Proposed Approach

- A. Formulate the privacy-trust tradeoff problem
- B. Estimate privacy loss due to disclosing a set of credentials
- C. Estimate trust gain due to disclosing a set of credentials
- D. Develop algorithms that minimize privacy loss for required trust gain

A. Formulate Tradeoff Problem

- Set of private attributes that user wants to conceal
- Set of credentials
 - Subset of revealed credentials R
 - Subset of unrevealed credentials U
- Choose a subset of credentials NC from U such that:
 - NC satisfies the requirements for trust building
 - PrivacyLoss(NC+R) PrivacyLoss(R) is minimized



Formulate Tradeoff Problem - cont.1

- If multiple private attributes are considered:
 - Weight vector $\{w_1, w_2, ..., w_m\}$ for private attributes
 - Privacy loss can be evaluated using:
 - The weighted sum of privacy loss for all attributes
 - The privacy loss for the attribute with the highest weight

B. Estimate Privacy Loss

- Query-independent privacy loss
 - Provided credentials reveal the value of a private attribute
 - User determines her private attributes
- n Query-dependent privacy loss
 - Provided credentials help in answering a specific query
 - User determines a set of potential queries that she is reluctant to answer

Privacy Loss Example

- Private attribute
 - _n age
- Potential queries:
 - (Q1) Is Alice an elementary school student?
 - (Q2) Is Alice older than 50 to join a silver insurance plan?
- _n Credentials
 - (C1) Driver license
 - (C2) Purdue undergraduate student ID



Example – cont.

No credentials

Disclose C1 (driver license)

Disclose C2 (undergrad ID)

C1 implies age ≥ 16 Query 1 (elem. school): no Query 2 (silver plan): not sure C2 implies undergrad and suggests age ≤ 25 (high probability) Query 1 (elem. school): no Query 2 (silver plan): no (high probability)

Disclose C2

Disclose C1

C1 and C2 suggest

16≤ age ≤ 25 (high probability)

Query 1 (elem. school): no

Query 2 (silver plan):

no (high probability)



Example - Observations

Disclose license (C1) and then unergrad ID (C2)

- Privacy loss by disclosing license
 - low query-independent loss (wide range for age)
 - 100% loss for Query 1 (elem. school student)
 - low loss for Query 2 (silver plan)
- Privacy loss by disclosing ID after license
 - high query-independent loss (narrow range for age)
 - zero loss for Query 1 (because privacy was lost by disclosing license)
 - high loss for Query 2 ("not sure" à "no high probability"

Disclose undergrad ID (C2) and then license (C1)

- Privacy loss by disclosing ID
 - low query-independent loss (wide range for age)
 - 100% loss for Query 1 (elem. school student)
 - high loss for Query 2 (silver plan)
- Privacy loss by disclosing *license* after ID
 - high query-independent loss (narrow range of age)
 - zero loss for Query 1 (because privacy was lost by disclosing ID)
 - zero loss for Query 2



Example - Summary

- High query-independent loss does not necessarily imply high query-dependent loss
 - e.g., disclosing ID after license causes
 - high query-independent loss
 - zero loss for Query 1
- Privacy loss is affected by the order of disclosure
 - e.g., disclosing *ID after license* causes different privacy loss than disclosing *license after ID*

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Privacy Loss Estimation Methods

Probability method

- Query-independent privacy loss
 - Privacy loss is measured as the difference between entropy values
- Query-dependent privacy loss
 - Privacy loss for a query is measured as difference between entropy values
 - Total privacy loss is determined by the weighted average
- Conditional probability is needed for entropy evaluation
 - Bayes networks and kernel density estimation will be adopted

Lattice method

- Estimate query-independent loss
- Each credential is associated with a tag indicating its privacy level with respect to an attribute a_i
- Tag set is organized as a lattice
- Privacy loss measured as the least upper bound of the privacy levels for candidate credentials

C. Estimate Trust Gain

Increasing trust level

Adopt research on trust establishment and management

Benefit function B(trust_level)

Provided by service provider or derived from user's utility function

Trust gain

n B(trust_level_{new}) - B(tust_level_{prev})



D. Minimize Privacy Loss for Required Trust Gain

- Can measure privacy loss (B) and can estimate trust gain (C)
- Develop algorithms that minimize privacy loss for required trust gain
 - User releases more private information
 - System's trust in user increases
 - How much to disclose to achieve a target trust level?

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3. Privacy Metrics

_n Problem

How to determine that certain degree of data privacy is provided?

n Challenges

- Different privacy-preserving techniques or systems claim different degrees of data privacy
- Metrics are usually ad hoc and customized
 - Customized for a user model
 - Customized for a specific technique/system
- Need to develop uniform privacy metrics
 - To confidently compare different techniques/systems



Requirements for Privacy Metrics

Privacy metrics should account for:

- Dynamics of legitimate users
 - How users interact with the system?
 E.g., repeated patterns of accessing the same data can leak information to a violator
- Dynamics of violators
 - How much information a violator gains by watching the system for a period of time?
- Associated costs
 - Storage, injected traffic, consumed CPU cycles, delay



Related Work

- Anonymity set without accounting for probability distribution [Reiter and Rubin, 1999]
- An entropy metric to quantify privacy level, assuming static attacker model [Diaz et al., 2002]
- Differential entropy to measure how well an attacker estimates an attribute value [Agrawal and Aggarwal 2001]



Proposed Approach

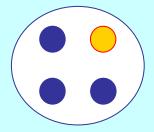
- A. Anonymity set size metrics
- B. Entropy-based metrics



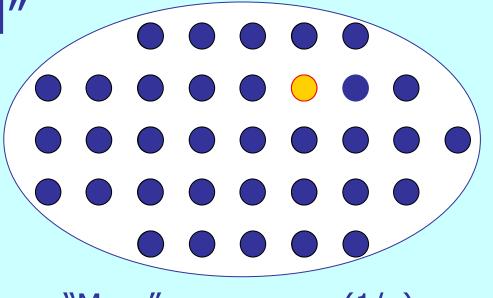
A. Anonymity Set Size Metrics

- The larger set of indistinguishable entities, the lower probability of identifying any one of them
 - Can use to "anonymize" a selected private attribute value within the domain of its all possible values

"Hiding in a crowd"



"Less" anonymous (1/4)



"More" anonymous (1/n)

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Anonymity Set

n Anonymity set A

$$A = \{(s_1, p_1), (s_2, p_2), ..., (s_n, p_n)\}$$

- s; subject i who might access private data
 - or: *i*-th possible value for a private data attribute
- p_i : probability that s_i accessed private data
 - or: probability that the attribute assumes the *i*-th possible value

-

Effective Anonymity Set Size

Effective anonymity set size is

$$L = |A| \sum_{i=1}^{|A|} \min(p_i, 1/|A|)$$

- Maximum value of L is |A| iff all p_i's are equal to 1/|A|
- L below maximum when distribution is skewed
 - skewed when p_i's have different values
- Deficiency:

L does not consider violator's *learning* behavior



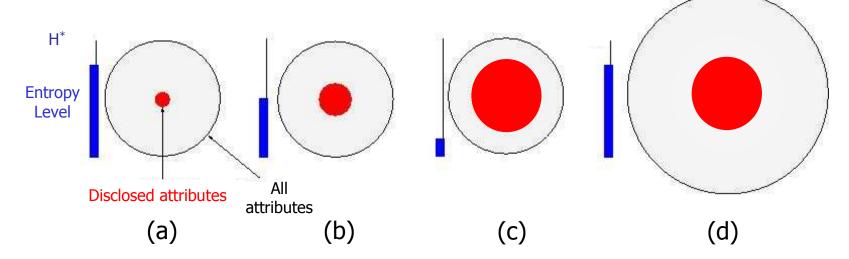
B. Entropy-based Metrics

- Entropy measures the randomness, or uncertainty, in private data
- When a violator gains more information, entropy decreases
- Metric: Compare the current entropy value with its maximum value
 - The difference shows how much information has been leaked



Dynamics of Entropy

Decrease of system entropy with attribute disclosures (capturing dynamics)



- When entropy reaches a threshold (b), data evaporation can be invoked to increase entropy by controlled data distortions
- When entropy drops to a very low level (c), apoptosis can be triggered to destroy private data
- Entropy increases (d) if the set of attributes grows or the disclosed attributes become less valuable – e.g., obsolete or more data now available

Quantifying Privacy Loss

Privacy loss D(A,t) at time t, when a subset of attribute values A might have been disclosed:

$$D(A,t) = H^*(A) - H(A,t)$$

- $H^*(A)$ the maximum entropy
 - ⁿ Computed when probability distribution of p_i 's is uniform
- $_{n}$ H(A,t) is entropy at time t

$$H(A,t) = \sum_{j=1}^{|A|} w_j \left(\sum_{\forall i} \left(-p_i \log_2(p_i) \right) \right)$$

 w_j – weights capturing relative privacy "value" of attributes



Using Entropy in Data Dissemination

- Specify two thresholds for D
 - For triggering evaporation
 - For triggering apoptosis
- Mhen private data is exchanged
 - Entropy is recomputed and compared to the thresholds
 - Evaporation or apoptosis may be invoked to enforce privacy

Entropy: Example

- Consider a private phone number: (a₁a₂a₃) a₄a₅ a₆ a₇a₈a₉ a₁₀
- Each digit is stored as a value of a separate attribute
- Assume:
 - Range of values for each attribute is [0—9]
 - ⁿ All attributes are equally important, i.e., $w_j = 1$
- The maximum entropy when violator has no information about the value of each attribute:
 - Violator assigns a *uniform* probability distribution to values of each attribute
 - e.g., $a_1 = i$ with probability of 0.10 for each i in [0—9]

$$H^*(A) = \sum_{j=0}^{9} \left(w_j \sum_{i=1}^{10} \left(-0.1 \log_2(0.1) \right) \right) = 33.3$$

Entropy: Example – cont.

- Suppose that after time t, violator can figure out the state of the phone number, which may allow him to learn the three leftmost digits
- Entropy at time t is given by:

$$H(A,t) = 0 + \sum_{j=4}^{10} w_j \left(\sum_{i=0}^{9} (-0.1 \log_2(0.1)) \right) = 23.3$$

- Attributes a_{1} , a_{2} , a_{3} contribute 0 to the entropy value because violator knows their correct values
- Information loss at time t is:

$$D(A,t) = H^*(A) - H(A,t) = 10.0$$

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4a. Application: Privacy in LBRS for Wireless Networks

LBRS = location-based routing and services

_n Problem

- Users need and want LBRS
- LBRS users do not want their stationary or mobile locations widely known
- Users do not want their movement patterns widely known

n Challenge

Design mechanisms that preserve location and movement privacy while using LBRS

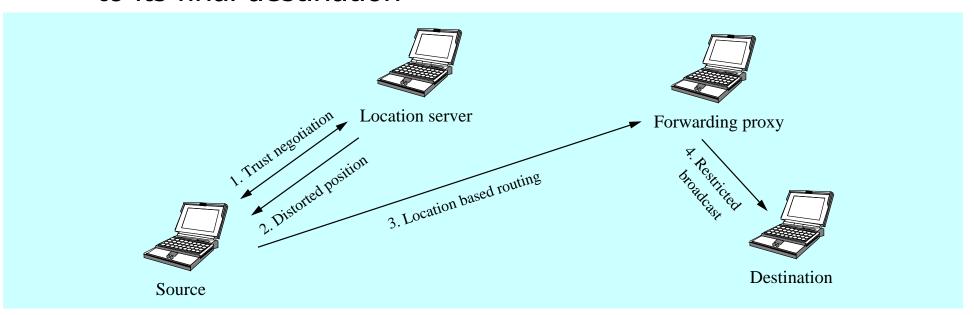


Related Work

- Range-free localization scheme using Point-in-Triangulation [He et al., MobiCom'03]
- Geographic routing without exact location [Rao et al., MobiCom'03]
- Localization from connectivity [Shang et al., MobiHoc 03]
- Anonymity during routing in ad hoc networks [Kong et al., MobiHoc'03]
- Location uncertainty in mobile networks [Wolfson et al., Distributed and Parallel Databases'99]
- Querying imprecise data in mobile environments [Cheng et al., TKDE'04]

Proposed Approach: Basic Idea

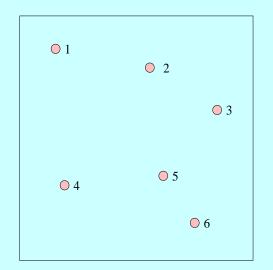
- Location server distorts actual positions
 - Provide approximate position (stale or grid)
 - Accuracy of provided information is a function of the trust level that location server assigns to the requesting node
- Send to forwarding proxy (FP) at approximate position
 Then apply restricted broadcast by FP to transmit the packet to its final destination



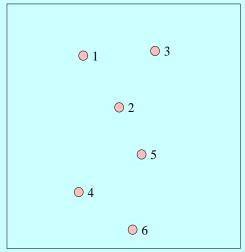


Trust and Data Distortion

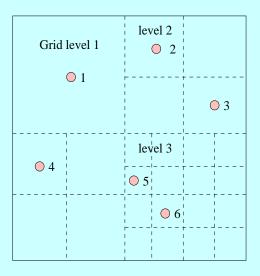
- Trust negotiation between source and location server
 - Automatic decision making to achieve tradeoff between privacy loss and network performance
- Dynamic mappings between trust level and distortion level
 - Hiding destination in an anonymity set to avoid being traced



(a) Current topology



(b) Time-based distortion method: The figure shows the topology 5 minutes ago.



(c) Grid-based distortion method: The position is reported as the center of the grid. Three grid levels are shown in the figure.



Trust Degradation and Recovery

- Identification and isolation of privacy violators
 - Dynamic trust updated according to interaction histories and peer recommendations
- Fast degradation of trust and its slow recovery
 - This defends against smart violators



Contributions

- More secure and scalable routing protocol
- Advances in QoS control for wireless networks
- Improved mechanisms for privacy measurement and information distortion
- Advances in privacy violation detection and violator identification



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4b. Application: Privacy in e-Supply Chain Management Systems

_n Problem

Inadequacies in privacy protection for e-supply chain management system (e-SCMS) hamper their development

n Challenges

- Design privacy-related components for privacy-preserving e-SCMS
 - When and with whom to share private data?
 - How to control their disclosures?
 - How to accommodate and enforce privacy policies and preferences?
 - How to evaluate and compare alternative preferences and policies?

Related Work

- Coexistence and compatibility of e-privacy and e-commerce [Frosch-Wilke, 2001; Sandberg, 2002]
 - Context: electronic customer relationship management (e-CRM)
 - e-CRM includes e-SCMS
- Privacy as a major concern in online e-CRM systems for providing personalization and recommendation services [Ramakrishnan, 2001]
- Privacy-preserving personalization techniques [Ishitani et al., 2003]
- Privacy preserving collaborative filtering systems [Mender project, http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~jfc/'mender/]
- Privacy-preserving data mining systems [Privacy, Obligations, and Rights in Technologies of Information Assessment http://theory.stanford.edu/~rajeev/privacy.html]



Proposed Approach

Intelligent data sharing

- Implementation of privacy preferences and policies at data warehouses
- Evaluation of credentials and requester trustworthiness
- Evaluation of cost benefits of privacy loss vs. trust gain

n Controlling misuse

- Automatic enforcement via private objects
- Distortion / summarization
- Apoptosis
- Evaporation



Proposed Approach – cont.

- Enforcing and integrating privacy components
 - Using privacy metrics for policy evaluation before its implementation
 - Integration of privacy-preservation components with e-SCMS software
 - Modeling and simulation of privacy-related components for e-SCMS
 - Prototyping privacy-related components for e-SCMS
 - Evaluating the effectiveness, efficiency and usability of the privacy mechanisms on PRETTY prototype
 - Devising a privacy framework for e-SCMS applications

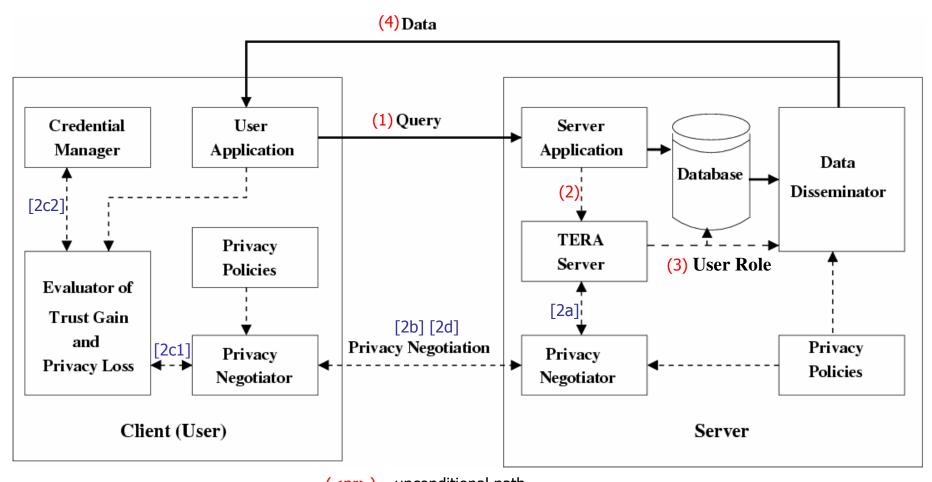


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5. PRETTY Prototype for Experimental Studies



(<nr>) – unconditional path

[<nr>]— conditional path

TERA = Trust-Enhanced Role Assignment

Information Flow for PRETTY

- 1) User application sends query to server application.
- 2) Server application sends user information to TERA server for trust evaluation and role assignment.
 - a) If a higher trust level is required for query, TERA server sends the request for more user's credentials to privacy negotiator.
 - b) Based on server's privacy policies and the credential requirements, privacy negotiator interacts with user's privacy negotiator to build a higher level of trust.
 - c) Trust gain and privacy loss evaluator selects credentials that will increase trust to the required level with the least privacy loss. Calculation considers credential requirements and credentials disclosed in previous interactions.
 - d) According to privacy policies and calculated privacy loss, user's privacy negotiator decides whether or not to supply credentials to the server.
- 3) Once trust level meets the minimum requirements, appropriate roles are assigned to user for execution of his query.
- 4) Based on query results, user's trust level and privacy polices, data disseminator determines: (i) whether to distort data and if so to what degree, and (ii) what privacy enforcement metadata should be associated with it.



Example Experimental Studies

Private object implementation

- Validate and evaluate the cost, efficiency, and the impacts on the dissemination of objects
- Study the apoptosis and evaporation mechanisms for private objects

Tradeoff between privacy and trust

- Study the effectiveness and efficiency of the probability-based and lattice-based privacy loss evaluation methods
- Assess the usability of the evaluator of trust gain and privacy loss

Location-based routing and services

- Evaluate the dynamic mappings between trust levels and distortion levels
- Electronic supply chain management systems (e-SCMS)
 - Evaluate effectiveness, efficiency and usability of privacy mechanisms



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Bird's Eye View of Research

- Research integrates ideas from:
 - Cooperative information systems
 - Collaborations
 - Privacy, trust, and information theory
- General privacy solutions provided
- Example applications studied:
 - Location-based routing and services for wireless networks
 - Electronic supply chain management systems
- Applicability to:
 - Ad hoc networks, peer-to-peer systems
 - Diverse computer systems
 - The Semantic Web

