

Anonymization tools and their practical relevance

Availability of and access to data are important in biomedical research, due to fact that reuse and repurposing by the research community can lead to new and accelerated discoveries. However, data sharing must comply with legal and ethical requirements. Especially data protection laws have to be considered when making data publicly available.

One solution for legally compliant data sharing is anonymization. In the EU Data Protection Directive of 1995, anonymized data is not regarded as personal data and falls by definition outside the scope of the data protection Directive.

In this workshop, several tools for anonymization and an alternative for reusing data are presented. The main goal – besides gaining knowledge about user-friendly and publicly available anonymization tools – is to deal with the question, whether anonymization can be regarded as a working solution for data protection compliant data sharing. Discussing the trade-off between utility of the data and the re-identification risk will be crucial in this connection.

The workshop brings together methodologists, software developers and scientific users in order to enable knowledge exchange, to inform tool developers about further user requirements, and to discuss the main question of the workshop from different perspectives.

TMF – Infrastructures for Medical Research

The TMF is the umbrella organization for networked medical research in Germany. It is the platform for interdisciplinary exchange as well as cross-project and cross-location cooperation in order to identify and solve the organizational, legal/ethical and technological problems of modern medical research. Solutions range from expert opinions, generic concepts, and IT applications to checklists, practical guides, training, and consultation services. The TMF makes these solutions available to the public free of charge.

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March 19, 2015 | Berlin



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Programme

- 10.00 **Welcome address and introduction**
Murat Sariyar | TMF
- 10.10 **Basic terms, definitions and methods**
Murat Sariyar | TMF
- 10.30 **Legal Background: the role of anonymization for data protection**
Irene Schlünder | TMF

Methods and tools for anonymization, Part I

- 10.50 **An overview over state-of-the-art methods**
Fabian Prasser | TU München
- 11.20 **Coffee Break**
- 11.30 **First tool: sdcMicro package**
Matthias Templ | TU Wien
- 11.50 **Second tool: Anon tool**
Margareta Ciglic | Universität Klagenfurt
- 12.10 **Third tool: Mu-Argus**
Peter-Paul de Wolf | Statistics Netherlands
- 12.30 **Lunch Break**

Methods and tools for anonymization, Part II

- 13.30 **Fourth tool: ARX**
Fabian Prasser | TU München
- 13.50 **An alternative to classical anonymization: AirCloak**
Sebastian Probst Eide | Aircloak UG

Discussion

- 14.10 **Similarities, differences and practical experiences**
Murat Sariyar | TMF
- 14.40 **Coffee Break**

Relevance of anonymization and alternatives in practice

- 15.00 **Anonymization vs. utility: The user perspective**
Johannes Hüsing | KKS Heidelberg
- 15.30 **Defining relevant use cases**
Johannes Hüsing | KKS Heidelberg

Conclusion

- 16.00 **Open questions**
Murat Sariyar | TMF
- 16.20 **Summary and Outlook**
Murat Sariyar | TMF

Organisational Issues

Date:

March 19, 2015

Venue:

TMF conference room
Charlottenstraße 42/Dorotheenstraße
10117 Berlin | Germany

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Registration:

Participation is free of charge. Please register online by 9th of March 2015 at www.tmf-ev.de/anmelden.

Scientific Organisation:

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