



PSI (Ψ)



Private data Sharing Interface

A National Science Foundation Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace Project





PSI (Ψ): a Private data Sharing Interface

Privacy Tools for Data Sharing
Lessons Learned and Directions Forward

December 11, 2017

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Overview

GOALS:

- **Accessibility:** work for researchers without privacy expertise
- **Generality:** work on any received datasets across social science
- **Workflow-Compatibility:** work within familiar research tools

Overview

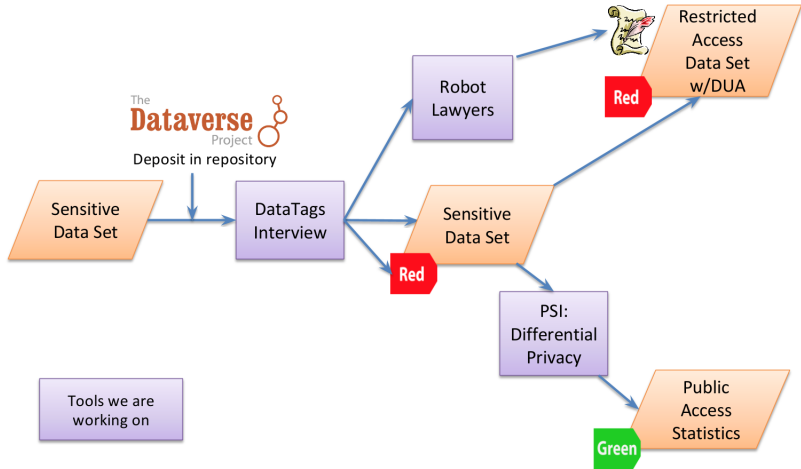
GOALS:

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INCENTIVES FOR USE:

- **“DP works great”** in some circumstances, the results of differentially private analyses are virtually indistinguishable from non-private analyses.
- **“Access is wide”** when data sharing to a wide community, we should be increasingly concerned about attacks from individuals with malicious intent.
- **“Data is currently unavailable”** when data is unavailable, *any* useful statistical information that DP can offer is a benefit

Integrated Privacy Tools

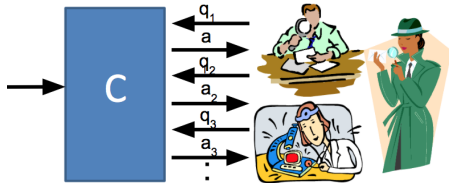


Differential Privacy

[Dinur-Nissim '03,+Dwork, Dwork-Nissim '04,
Blum-Dwork-McSherry-Nissim '05, Dwork-McSherry-Nissim-Smith '06]

Sex	Blood		HIV?
F	B		Y
M	A		N
M	O		N
M	O		Y
F	A		N
M	B		Y

Data



Curator

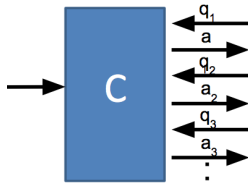
Analysts

Differential Privacy

[Dinur-Nissim '03,+Dwork, Dwork-Nissim '04,
Blum-Dwork-McSherry-Nissim '05, Dwork-McSherry-Nissim-Smith '06]

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Data



Curator



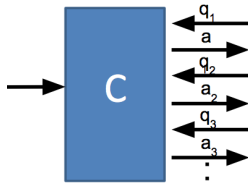
Adversary

Differential Privacy

[Dinur-Nissim '03,+Dwork, Dwork-Nissim '04,
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Data



Curator



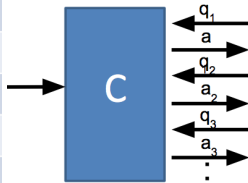
Adversary

Differential Privacy

[Dinur-Nissim '03,+Dwork, Dwork-Nissim '04,
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Curator



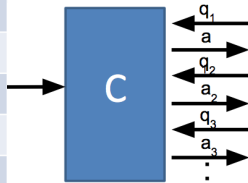
Adversary

Differential Privacy

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Data

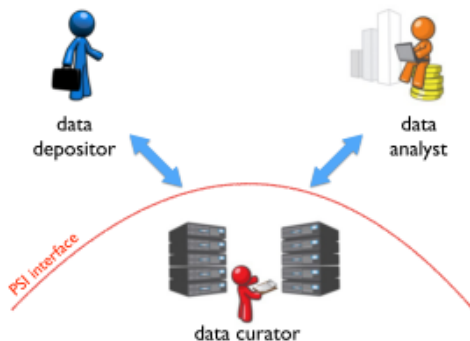


Curator



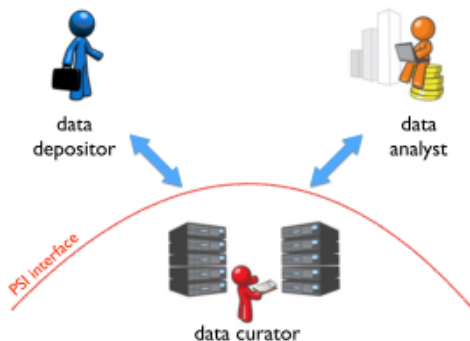
Adversary

Actors



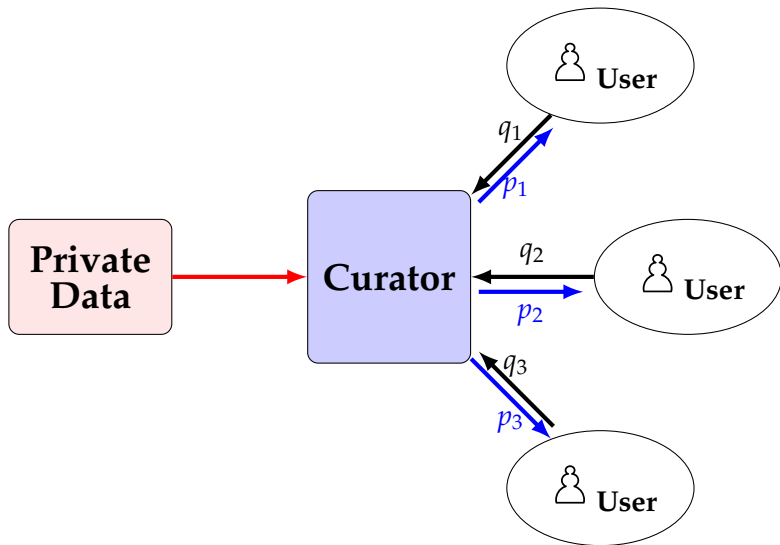
- data depositors:** Come to deposit their sensitive dataset in a repository, and may wish to make DP access available.
- data curators:** Maintain the hardware and software on which PSI runs and the accompanying repository infrastructure
- data analysts:** Come to access sensitive datasets in the repository, often with the goal of data exploration

Actors



	Level of Trust	DP Expertise
data depositors:	Trusted	None
data curators:	Trusted	Modest
data analysts:	Untrusted Semi-Trusted	None None

Curator Model



The curator architecture for data privacy.



PSI (Ψ): a Private Data Sharing Interface

Key and Novel Features

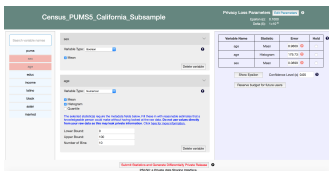
- Exploratory Statistics
- Regression: Linear, Probit, Logit, Poisson
- Causal Inference: Matching and Difference of Means
- Formal Verification of Transformations
- Missing Data
- Tiered Access



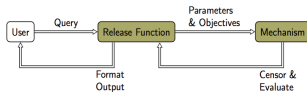
PSI (Ψ): a Private Data Sharing
Interface



PSI (Ψ): a Private Data Sharing Interface



Budgeter



Psilence R Library



<http://privacytools.seas.harvard.edu/psi>



Dataverse

New Dataverse

Demo Databases: **New Dataverse**

Dataverse * Dataverse Affiliation

Identifier * Host Dataverse Demo Date

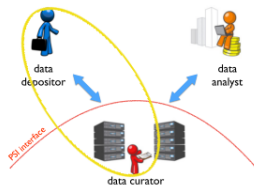
Category * Description **The Dataverse Project**

Email *

Metadata Fields

Choose the metadata fields to use in dataset templates and when adding a dataset to this dataverse.

- Use metadata fields from Demo Dataverse
 - Citation Metadata (Required) [View fields](#)
 - Geographic Metadata [View fields](#)
 - Social Science and Humanities Metadata [View fields](#)





Upload



Budget



Release



Explore



Query

Census_PUMS5_California_Subsample
Privacy Parameters

Explan ID: 1.1 Data ID: 0.000001 Data ID: 0.05 Severity of the Sample: 9000 Publishing Option: 0.2234 Publishing Date: 0.000001000

Search Data

Income

name
sex
mar
educ
age

income
Variable Type: numeric

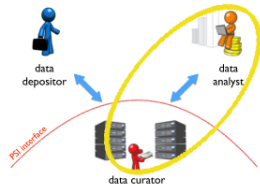
Mean
Histogram
Cross Reference
Quantile

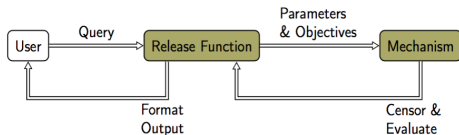
Lower Bound: 0
Upper Bound: 100
Granularity: 1
[DELETE]

Variable Name	Statistic	Explan	Accuracy	Role
income	Histogram	0.0317	0.0840	--
married	Mean	0.0025	0.0726	--
age	Mean	0.1406	0.0100	!
age	Quantile	0.0317	0.0460	--

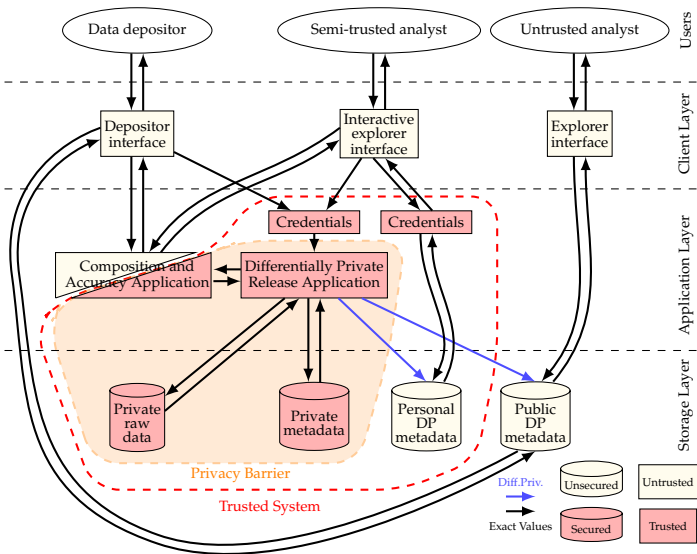
Show Underlying Data [Select Table and Generate \(Different\) Privacy Release](#)

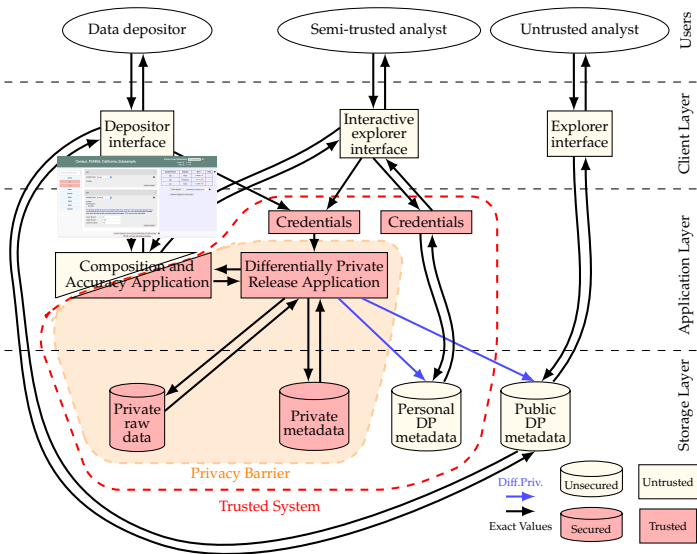
Privacy data sharing interface

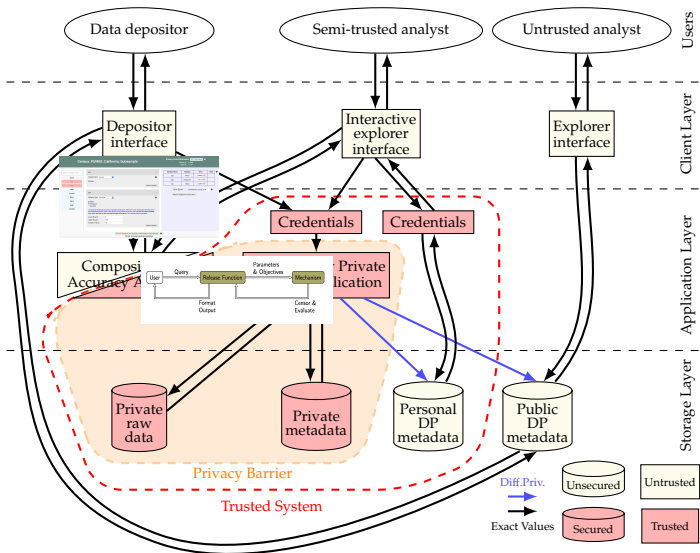


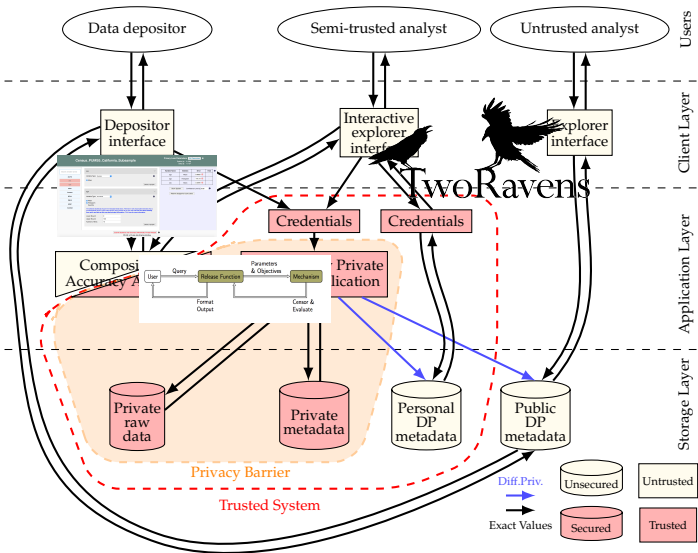


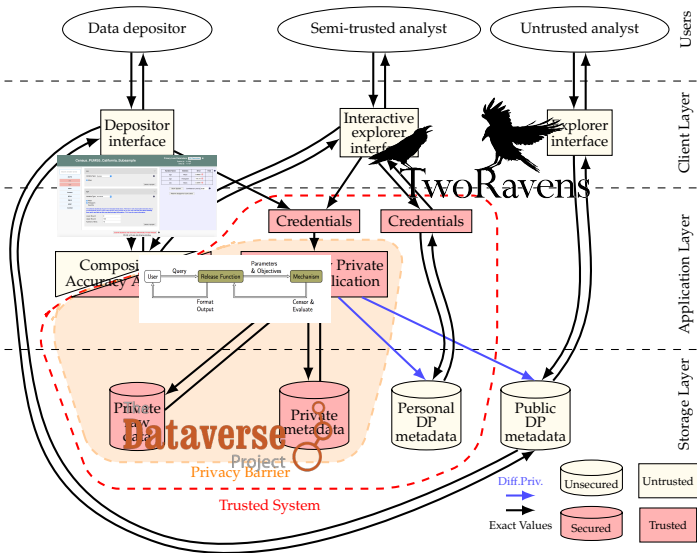
- Modular architecture
- Class based, using R
- Contains common exploratory statistics
 - ▶ Univariate descriptive statistics, such as means, quantiles, histograms, and approximate cumulative distribution functions.
 - ▶ Basic statistical estimators, matching algorithms and difference-of-means tests for causal inference, and low-dimensional linear, logit, probit and poisson regression.
- Reusable











California Demographic Dataset

Privacy Loss Parameters [Edit Parameters](#)

Epsilon (ϵ): 0.2000 (0.1000 Functioning Epsilon)
 Delta (δ): 1×10^{-2} (5×10^{-2} Functioning Delta)

Search variable names

- age
- sex
- educ
- race
- income
- married

Multivariate Statistics

Delete variable

age

Variable Type: Numerical

Mean
 Histogram
 Quantile

The selected statistic(s) require the metadata fields below. Fill these in with reasonable estimates that a knowledgeable person could make without having looked at the raw data. Do not use values directly from your raw data as this may leak private information. Click here for more information.

Lower Bound:
 Upper Bound:
 Number of Bins:

Missing Values:

Delete variable

Variable Name	Statistic	Error	Hold
age	Mean	15.372	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
age	Histogram	384.31	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
sex	Mean	0.0730	<input type="checkbox"/>
race	Histogram	146.07	<input type="checkbox"/>
married	Mean	0.2306	<input type="checkbox"/>

Show Epsilon Confidence Level (α) 0.1

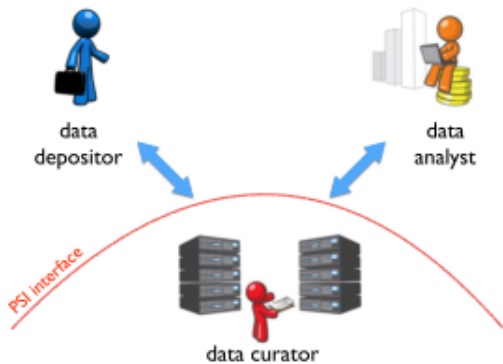
Hide Slider

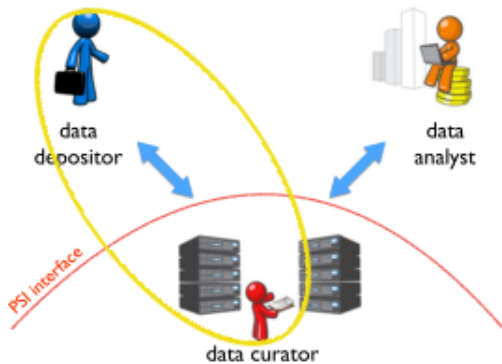
Reserved Budget: 50%

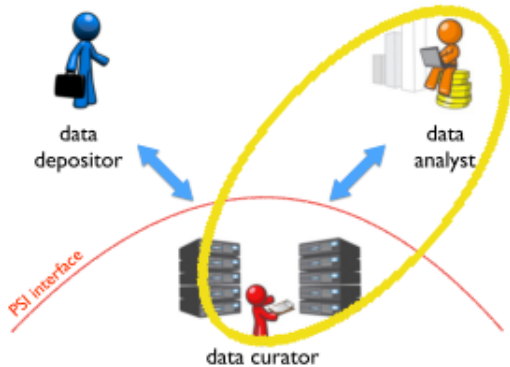
[Show Underlying Table](#) [Submit Statistics and Generate Differentially Private Release](#)

PSI (Ψ): a Private data Sharing Interface

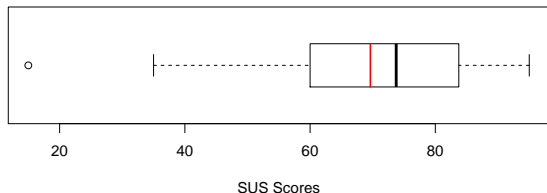
http://







Usability

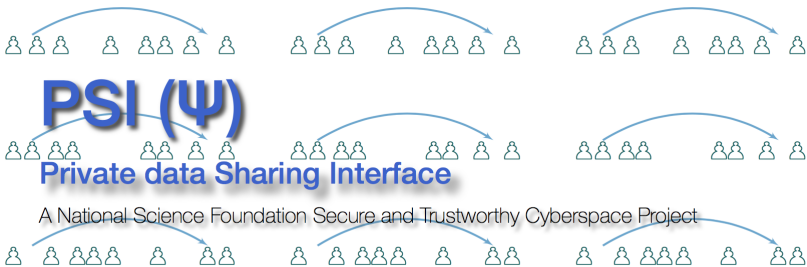


- 28 subjects over three phases
- 11 tasks over the course of an hour
- Excel 56.5; GPS 70.8; \leftarrow PSI \rightarrow ; iPhone 78.5

Conclusion



- **Accessibility:** Successful usability studies (and replication analyses)
- **Generality:** Growing library of algorithms for data exploration of social science data
- **Workflow:** Integrated via Dataverse into the data life cycle



Live Demo and Paper available at:
<http://privacytools.seas.harvard.edu/psi>

Thanks

Extra Materials



Goals and Design Principles

- Thin Client
- Graphical Representation
- Gesture Driven
- Browser Based
- Device Independent

The TwoRavens Interface

The screenshot displays the TwoRavens software interface for the dataset 'fearonLaitinData'. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Data Selection:** A list of variables including 'ocode', 'country', 'cname', 'cmark', 'year', 'wars', 'war' (highlighted), 'warl', 'onset', 'ethonset', 'durest', 'aim', 'casename', 'ended', 'ethwar', and 'waryrs'.
- Model Selection:** A list of models including 'ls', 'logit', 'probit', 'poisson', 'normal', 'gamma', 'negbinom', 'exp', 'lognorm', 'tobit', 'quantile', 'logitgee', 'probitgee', 'zgammagee', 'znormalgee', and 'poissongee'.
- Causal Diagram:** A directed acyclic graph (DAG) showing relationships between variables: 'lgdopen1' (orange circle) points to 'polity2' (blue circle); 'polity2' (blue circle) points to 'war' (blue circle); 'lpop' (green circle) points to 'war' (blue circle); and 'mtnest' (pink circle) points to 'war' (blue circle).
- Legend:** A dropdown menu labeled 'Legend' with a selected option 'Dep Var' represented by a blue circle.
- Buttons:** 'Variable transformation', 'C', 'Estimate', and navigation icons (back, forward, search, refresh).

Project: <http://2ra.vn>
Example: <http://bit.ly/29Epijc>

Differential Privacy: A Primer for a Non-technical Audience*

(Preliminary version)

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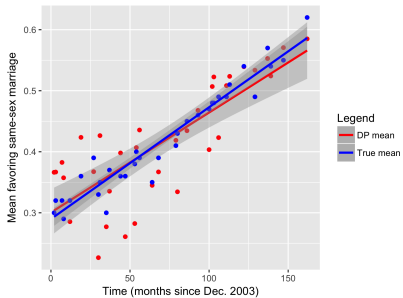
October 17, 2017

Keywords: differential privacy, data privacy, social science research

*This document is the product of a working group of the *Privacy Tools for Sharing Research Data* project at Harvard University (<http://privacytools.seas.harvard.edu>). The working group discussions were led by Kobbi Nissim. Kobbi Nissim, Thomas Steinke, and Alexandra Wood were the lead authors of this document. Working group members Micah Altman, Aaron Bembek, Mark Bun, Marco Gaboardi, Kobbi Nissim, David R. O'Brien, Thomas Steinke, Salil Vadhan, and Alexandra Wood contributed to the conception of the document and to the writing. We thank Scott Bradner, Cynthia Dwork, Capser Gooden, James Honaker, Deborah Hurley, Rachel Kalmar, Georgios Kellaris, Daniel Muike, and Michel Reymond for their many valuable comments on earlier versions of this document. A preliminary version of this work was presented at the 9th Annual Privacy Law Scholars Conference (PLSC 2017), and the authors thank the participants for contributing thoughtful feedback. This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. 1237235, as well as by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

¹Work towards this document was completed while the author was at the Center for Research on Computation and Society at Harvard University.

Support of same-sex marriage over time (2004-2017)



Opposition to same-sex marriage over time (2004-2017)

