

# Computing Compliant Anonymisations of Quantified ABoxes w.r.t. $\mathcal{EL}$ Policies

Franz Baader<sup>1</sup>   Francesco Kriegel<sup>1</sup>   **Adrian Nuradiansyah**<sup>1</sup>  
Rafael Peñaloza<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Technische Universität Dresden

<sup>2</sup>University of Milano-Bicocca

November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020



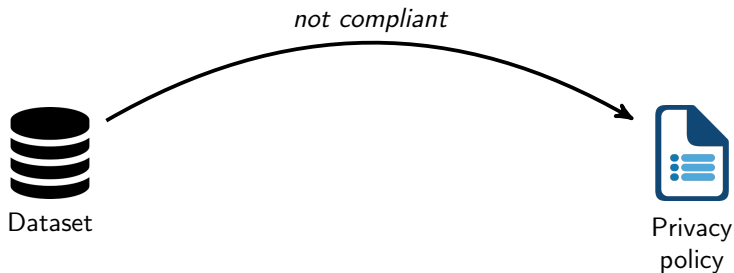
Funded by

**DFG**

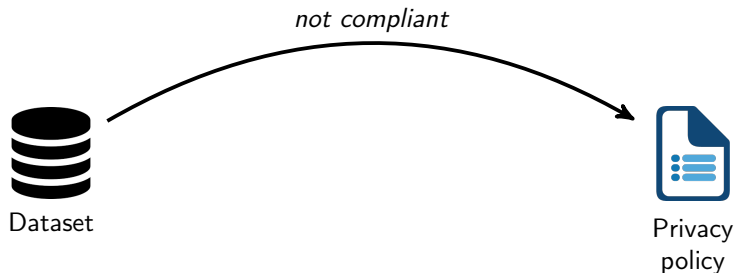
Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft  
German Research Foundation



# An Illustration of Non-Compliance



# An Illustration of Non-Compliance



## Dataset:

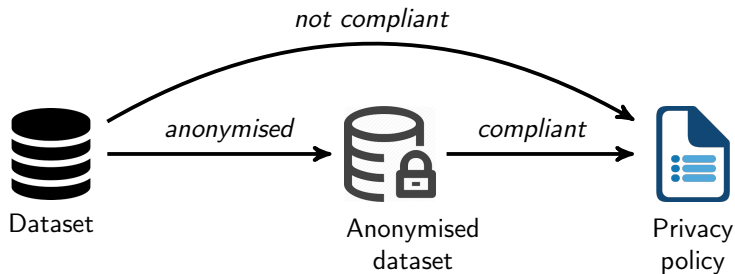
$\exists\{x\}.\{Politician(d), Businessman(d), related(d, x), Politician(x), Businessman(x)\}$

## Policy:

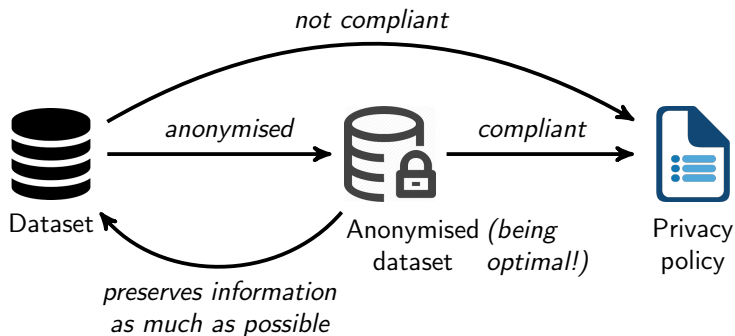
$\{Politician \sqcap Businessman, \exists r.(Politician \sqcap Businessman)\}$

*The individual  $d$  is an instance of both concepts w.r.t. the dataset  $\Rightarrow$  not compliant!*

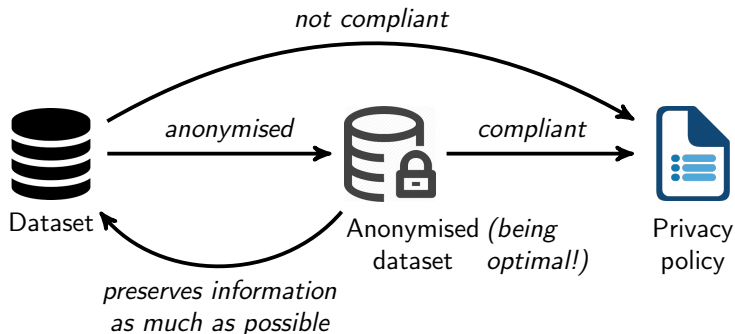
# An Illustration of Non-Compliance



# An Illustration of Non-Compliance



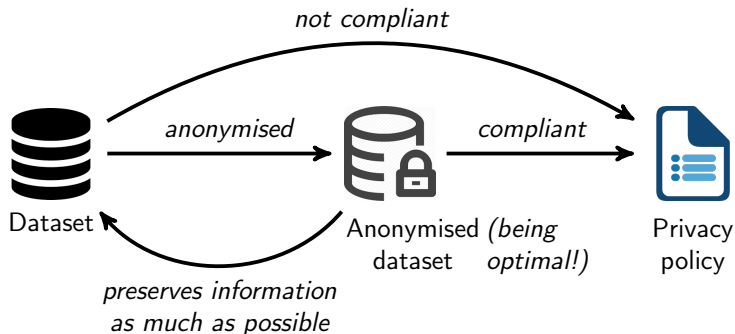
# An Illustration of Non-Compliance



## Question:

How to **anonymise** a dataset **in a minimal way** s.t. all the published information follows from the original one, but **privacy constraints are satisfied**?

# An Illustration of Non-Compliance



## Question:

How to **anonymise** a dataset **in a minimal way** s.t. all the published information follows from the original one, but **privacy constraints are satisfied**?

Assumption: Our problem will be considered in the context of Description Logic (DL) ontologies

# How Our Dataset Looks Like

A **quantified ABox**  $\exists X.A$

$\exists\{x\}.\{Politician(d), Businessman(d), related(d, x), Politician(x), Businessman(x)\}$

is built over

- a set  $X$  of **variables**, e.g.,  $x, x_1, x_2, \dots$
- a set of **individual** names, e.g.,  $d, d_1, d_2, \dots$
- a set of **concept names**, e.g.,  $Politician, Businessman, P, B, \dots$
- a set of **role names**, e.g.,  $related, r, s$



# How Our Dataset Looks Like

A **quantified ABox**  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$

$\exists\{x\}.\{Politician(d), Businessman(d), related(d, x), Politician(x), Businessman(x)\}$

is built over

- a set  $X$  of **variables**, e.g.,  $x, x_1, x_2, \dots$
- a set of **individual** names, e.g.,  $d, d_1, d_2, \dots$
- a set of **concept names**, e.g.,  $Politician, Businessman, P, B, \dots$
- a set of **role names**, e.g.,  $related, r, s$

and  $\mathcal{A}$ , in general, consists of:

- **concept assertions**, e.g.,  $Politician(d), Businessman(x), \dots$
- **role assertions**, e.g.,  $related(d, x), \dots$

Note: A *traditional DL ABox* is a quantified ABox where  $X$  is empty.

# How Our Dataset Looks Like

A **quantified ABox**  $\exists X.A$

$\exists\{x\}.\{Politician(d), Businessman(d), related(d, x), Politician(x), Businessman(x)\}$

## Entailment between Quantified ABoxes

- $\exists X.A \models \exists Y.B$  denotes that  $\exists X.A$  **entails**  $\exists Y.B$
- The entailment problem between quantified ABoxes is **NP-complete**

# How the Policy Looks Like

A **policy**  $\mathcal{P}$  is a **finite set of  $\mathcal{EL}$  concepts**

$\{Politician \sqcap Businessman, \exists r.(Politician \sqcap Businessman)\}$

It has the following components:

- $Atoms(\mathcal{P}) = \{Politician, Businessman, \exists r.(Politician \sqcap Businessman)\}$
- Let  $P_1$  be the first concept in  $\mathcal{P}$   
 $Conj(P_1) = \{Politician, Businessman\}$  occurs in the **top-level conjunction** of  $P_1$

# How the Policy Looks Like

A **policy**  $\mathcal{P}$  is a **finite set of  $\mathcal{EL}$  concepts**

$\{Politician \sqcap Businessman, \exists r.(Politician \sqcap Businessman)\}$

It has the following components:

- $Atoms(\mathcal{P}) = \{Politician, Businessman, \exists r.(Politician \sqcap Businessman)\}$
- Let  $P_1$  be the first concept in  $\mathcal{P}$   
 $Conj(P_1) = \{Politician, Businessman\}$  occurs in the **top-level conjunction** of  $P_1$

## Reasoning Problems in $\mathcal{EL}$

- $C \sqsubseteq_{\emptyset} D$  means that the  $\mathcal{EL}$  concept  $C$  is **subsumed by** the  $\mathcal{EL}$  concept  $D$
- $\exists X.A \models C(a)$  means that the individual  $a$  is an **instance** of the  $\mathcal{EL}$  concept  $C$  w.r.t.  $\exists X.A$
- Both **subsumption** and **instance relationships** can be checked in polynomial time for  $\mathcal{EL}$

A **quantified ABox**  $\exists Y.\mathcal{B}$  is an **optimal  $\mathcal{P}$ -compliant anonymisation** of  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$  iff

- $\exists Y.\mathcal{B} \not\models P(a)$  for all  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  and all individuals  $a$  (**compliance**)
- $\exists X.\mathcal{A} \models \exists Y.\mathcal{B}$  (**anonymisation**)
- there is no  $\mathcal{P}$ -compliant anonymisation  $\exists Z.\mathcal{C}$  of  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$  that strictly entails  $\exists Y.\mathcal{B}$  (**optimal**)

# How to Make an ABox Compliant

**Non-compliance means** that there exist an individual  $a$  and  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  s.t.  
 $a$  is an instance of all atoms in  $\text{Conj}(P)$  w.r.t.  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$ .

# How to Make an ABox Compliant

**Non-compliance means** that there exist an individual  $a$  and  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  s.t.  
 $a$  is an instance of all atoms in  $\text{Conj}(P)$  w.r.t.  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  To make the ABox compliant, choose one atom  $C$  from  $\text{Conj}(P)$  such that  $a$  will not be an instance of  $C$  in the resulting anonymisation

This idea is represented by the use of a **compliance seed function**

# How to Make an ABox Compliant

**Non-compliance means** that there exist an individual  $a$  and  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  s.t.  
 $a$  is an instance of all atoms in  $\text{Conj}(P)$  w.r.t.  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  To make the ABox compliant, choose one atom  $C$  from  $\text{Conj}(P)$  such that  $a$  will not be an instance of  $C$  in the resulting anonymisation

This idea is represented by the use of a **compliance seed function**

A **compliance seed function (csf)**  $s$  on  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$  for  $\mathcal{P}$  maps each individual name  $a$  to a subset of  $\text{Atoms}(\mathcal{P})$  such that

for each  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ , there is  $C \in s(a)$  such that  $C \in \text{Conj}(P)$

$\exists X.\mathcal{A} = \exists\{x\}.\{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x)\}$        $\mathcal{P} = \{P \sqcap B, \exists r.(P \sqcap B)\}$

Mapping  $d$  to  $s(d) = \{B, \exists r.(P \sqcap B)\}$  yields a csf



# Computing a Compliant Anonymisation

From a given csf  $s$ , we can compute a compliant anonymisation with the following idea:

$$\exists X. \mathcal{A} = \exists \{x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x)\} \quad \mathcal{P} = \{P \sqcap B, \exists r. (P \sqcap B)\}$$

# Computing a Compliant Anonymisation

From a given csf  $s$ , we can compute a compliant anonymisation with the following idea:

$$\exists X. \mathcal{A} = \exists \{x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x)\} \quad \mathcal{P} = \{P \sqcap B, \exists r. (P \sqcap B)\}$$

1. **Copy operation**: select a variable/an individual, copy this object, and duplicate assertions involving it

# Computing a Compliant Anonymisation

From a given csf  $s$ , we can compute a compliant anonymisation with the following idea:

$$\exists X.\mathcal{A} = \exists\{x\}.\{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x)\} \quad \mathcal{P} = \{P \sqcap B, \exists r.(P \sqcap B)\}$$

1. **Copy operation**: select a variable/an individual, copy this object, and duplicate assertions involving it e.g., (**select  $d$  and make the copy  $y_d$** )

$$\exists\{x, y_d\}.\{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x), \\ P(y_d), B(y_d), r(y_d, x)\}$$

# Computing a Compliant Anonymisation

From a given csf  $s$ , we can compute a compliant anonymisation with the following idea:

$$\exists X. \mathcal{A} = \exists \{x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x)\} \quad \mathcal{P} = \{P \sqcap B, \exists r. (P \sqcap B)\}$$

1. **Copy operation**: select a variable/an individual, copy this object, and duplicate assertions involving it e.g., (**select  $x$  and make the copy  $y_x$** )

$$\exists \{x, y_d, y_x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x), \\ P(y_d), B(y_d), r(y_d, x), r(d, y_x), r(y_d, y_x), P(y_x), B(y_x)\}$$

# Computing a Compliant Anonymisation

From a given csf  $s$ , we can compute a compliant anonymisation with the following idea:

$$\exists X. \mathcal{A} = \exists \{x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x)\} \quad \mathcal{P} = \{P \sqcap B, \exists r. (P \sqcap B)\}$$

1. **Copy operation**: select a variable/an individual, copy this object, and duplicate assertions involving it

$$\exists \{x, y_d, y_x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x), \\ P(y_d), B(y_d), r(y_d, x), r(d, y_x), r(y_d, y_x), P(y_x), B(y_x)\}$$

**Note:** *It suffices to create at most exponentially many copies of each object!*

# Computing a Compliant Anonymisation

From a given csf  $s$ , we can compute a compliant anonymisation with the following idea:

$$\exists X. \mathcal{A} = \exists \{x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x)\} \quad \mathcal{P} = \{P \sqcap B, \exists r. (P \sqcap B)\}$$

1. **Copy operation:** select a variable/an individual, copy this object, and duplicate assertions involving it

$$\exists \{x, y_d, y_x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x), \\ P(y_d), B(y_d), r(y_d, x), r(d, y_x), r(y_d, y_x), P(y_x), B(y_x)\}$$

2. **Deletion operation:** The given csf  $s$  will guide which assertions should be removed from the current anonymisation

# Computing a Compliant Anonymisation

From a given csf  $s$ , we can compute a compliant anonymisation with the following idea:

$$\exists X. \mathcal{A} = \exists \{x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x)\} \quad \mathcal{P} = \{P \sqcap B, \exists r. (P \sqcap B)\}$$

1. **Copy operation:** select a variable/an individual, copy this object, and duplicate assertions involving it

$$\exists \{x, y_d, y_x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x), \\ P(y_d), B(y_d), r(y_d, x), r(d, y_x), r(y_d, y_x), P(y_x), B(y_x)\}$$

2. **Deletion operation:** The given csf  $s$  will guide which assertions should be removed from the current anonymisation

Since  $s(d) = \{B, \exists r. (P \sqcap B)\} \Rightarrow d$  is not allowed to be an instance of  $B$

$$\exists \{x, y_d, y_x\}. \{P(d), \cancel{B(d)}, r(d, x), P(x), B(x), \\ P(y_d), B(y_d), r(y_d, x), r(d, y_x), r(y_d, y_x), P(y_x), B(y_x)\}$$

# Computing a Compliant Anonymisation

From a given csf  $s$ , we can compute a compliant anonymisation with the following idea:

$$\exists X. \mathcal{A} = \exists \{x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x)\} \quad \mathcal{P} = \{P \sqcap B, \exists r. (P \sqcap B)\}$$

1. **Copy operation:** select a variable/an individual, copy this object, and duplicate assertions involving it

$$\exists \{x, y_d, y_x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x), \\ P(y_d), B(y_d), r(y_d, x), r(d, y_x), r(y_d, y_x), P(y_x), B(y_x)\}$$

2. **Deletion operation:** The given csf  $s$  will guide which assertions should be removed from the current anonymisation

Since  $s(d) = \{B, \exists r. (P \sqcap B)\} \Rightarrow r$ -successors of  $d$  are not allowed to be an instance of  $P \sqcap B$

$$\exists \{x, y_d, y_x\}. \{P(d), \cancel{B(d)}, r(d, x), P(x), \cancel{B(x)}, \\ P(y_d), B(y_d), r(y_d, x), r(d, y_x), r(y_d, y_x), \cancel{P(y_x)}, B(y_x)\}$$



# Computing a Compliant Anonymisation

From a given csf  $s$ , we can compute a compliant anonymisation with the following idea:

$$\exists X. \mathcal{A} = \exists \{x\}. \{P(d), B(d), r(d, x), P(x), B(x)\} \quad \mathcal{P} = \{P \sqcap B, \exists r. (P \sqcap B)\}$$

The following resulting anonymisation

$$\text{ca}(\exists X. \mathcal{A}, s) = \exists Y. \mathcal{B}$$

is a  **$\mathcal{P}$ -compliant anonymisation** of  $\exists X. \mathcal{A}$ , where  $\mathcal{B}$  is

$$\{P(d), r(d, x), P(x), \\ P(y_d), B(y_d), r(y_d, x), r(d, y_x), r(y_d, y_x), B(y_x)\}$$

and  $Y = \{x, y_d, y_x\}$

In general,

- For every csf  $s$ , the induced ABox

$$\text{ca}(\exists X.\mathcal{A}, s) = \exists Y.\mathcal{B}$$

is **entailed by**  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$  and **complies with**  $\mathcal{P}$

In general,

- For every csf  $s$ , the induced ABox

$$\text{ca}(\exists X.\mathcal{A}, s) = \exists Y.\mathcal{B}$$

is **entailed by**  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$  and **complies with**  $\mathcal{P}$

- The set

$$\text{CA}(\exists X.\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{P}) = \{\text{ca}(\exists X.\mathcal{A}, s) \mid s \text{ is a csf on } \exists X.\mathcal{A} \text{ for } \mathcal{P}\}$$

- contains **all** optimal  $\mathcal{P}$ -compliant anonymisations of  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$
- can be computed in **exponential time**

(*exponentially many csfs!*)

In general,

- For every csf  $s$ , the induced ABox

$$\text{ca}(\exists X.\mathcal{A}, s) = \exists Y.\mathcal{B}$$

is **entailed by**  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$  and **complies with**  $\mathcal{P}$

- The set

$$\text{CA}(\exists X.\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{P}) = \{\text{ca}(\exists X.\mathcal{A}, s) \mid s \text{ is a csf on } \exists X.\mathcal{A} \text{ for } \mathcal{P}\}$$

- contains **all** optimal  $\mathcal{P}$ -compliant anonymisations of  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$
- can be computed in **exponential time**

(*exponentially many csfs!*)

- To remove the ones that are not optimal, we use an **NP-oracle** to check entailment between compliant anonymisations

In general,

- For every csf  $s$ , the induced ABox

$$\text{ca}(\exists X.\mathcal{A}, s) = \exists Y.\mathcal{B}$$

is **entailed by**  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$  and **complies with**  $\mathcal{P}$

- The set

$$\text{CA}(\exists X.\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{P}) = \{\text{ca}(\exists X.\mathcal{A}, s) \mid s \text{ is a csf on } \exists X.\mathcal{A} \text{ for } \mathcal{P}\}$$

- contains **all** optimal  $\mathcal{P}$ -compliant anonymisations of  $\exists X.\mathcal{A}$
- can be computed in **exponential time**

(*exponentially many csfs!*)

- To remove the ones that are not optimal, we use an **NP-oracle** to check entailment between compliant anonymisations

Is it possible to get rid of the NP oracle?

# Improving Complexity

1. Using a **partial order**  $\leq$  on csfs

We take only the  $\leq$ -**minimal csfs** for computing optimal compliant anonymisations

## 1. Using a **partial order** $\leq$ on csfs

We take only the  $\leq$ -**minimal csfs** for computing optimal compliant anonymisations

## 2. Introducing **IQ-entailment**

- $\mathcal{EL}$  concepts are **instance queries (IQ)**
- Only compare ABoxes based on which instance queries entailed by them

Deciding if  $\exists X.A$  IQ-entails  $\exists Y.B$  can be done in polynomial time

# Table of Complexity Results

<b>Settings</b>	<b>Completeness</b>
standard entailment	all optimal compliant anonymisations
standard entailment and $\leq$ on csfs	only optimal compliant anonymisations, not all of them
IQ-entailment	all optimal compliant IQ-anonymisations



# Table of Complexity Results

Settings	Completeness
standard entailment	all optimal compliant anonymisations
standard entailment and $\leq$ on csfs	only optimal compliant anonymisations, not all of them
IQ-entailment	all optimal compliant IQ-anonymisations

Settings	Combined Complexity	Data Complexity
standard entailment	exponential time with an NP-oracle	polynomial time with an NP-oracle
standard entailment and $\leq$ on csfs	exponential time	polynomial time
IQ-entailment	exponential time	polynomial time

## Future Work

- Safety for  $\mathcal{EL}$  policies  
A quantified ABox is **safe** for  $\mathcal{P}$  if its combination with other  $\mathcal{P}$ -compliant ABoxes is also compliant with  $\mathcal{P}$
- Compliance w.r.t. **(general) TBoxes**
- Computing optimal compliant anonymisations w.r.t. **conjunctive queries**

## Future Work

- Safety for  $\mathcal{EL}$  policies  
A quantified ABox is **safe** for  $\mathcal{P}$  if its combination with other  $\mathcal{P}$ -compliant ABoxes is also compliant with  $\mathcal{P}$
- Compliance w.r.t. **(general) TBoxes**
- Computing optimal compliant anonymisations w.r.t. **conjunctive queries**

Our work is based on the following **related work**:

- F. Baader, F. Kriegel, A. Nuradiansyah, *Privacy-Preserving Ontology Publishing for  $\mathcal{EL}$  Instance Stores*, JELIA 2019
- B. Cuenca Grau and E. Kostylev, *Logical Foundations of Linked Data Anonymizations*, JAIR, 2019