

Concepts of identity and privacy

System
method

Authentication is the process of establishing
a level of confidence regarding a claim.

used to provide a response to claimant

many different types

many different methods

identifier + claim = authentication

alternative verbs {
prove
represent
associate

Is an identity a personal property?

Yes

- What about stolen identities

No

- Issued by issuer

What is privacy?

- information that is not relevant

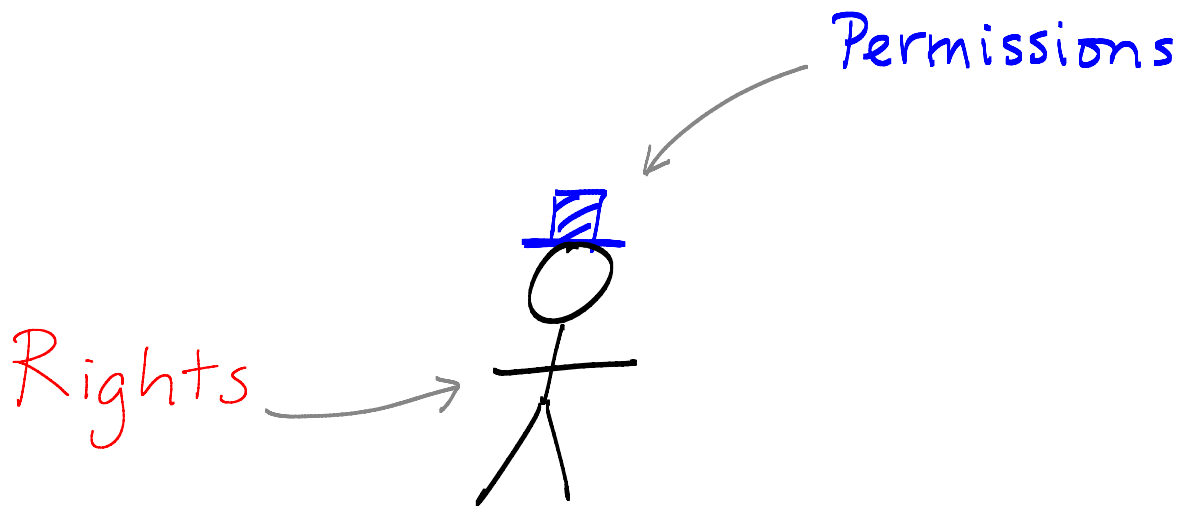
- decision

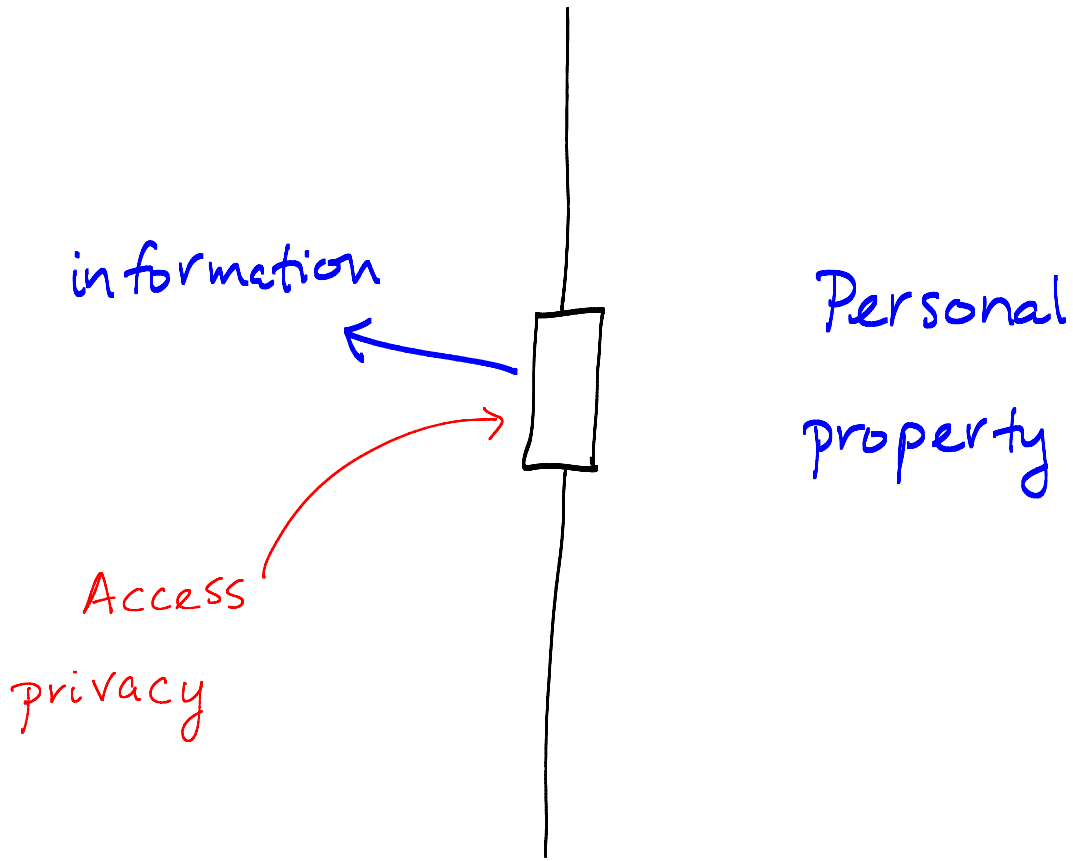
- data protection act

Privacy is about the rights to control
access to personal property.

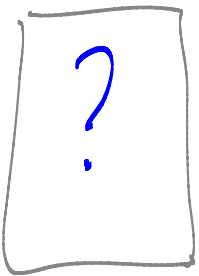
Issues

- Technical
- Social
- Personal

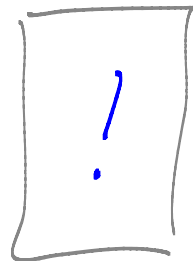




message

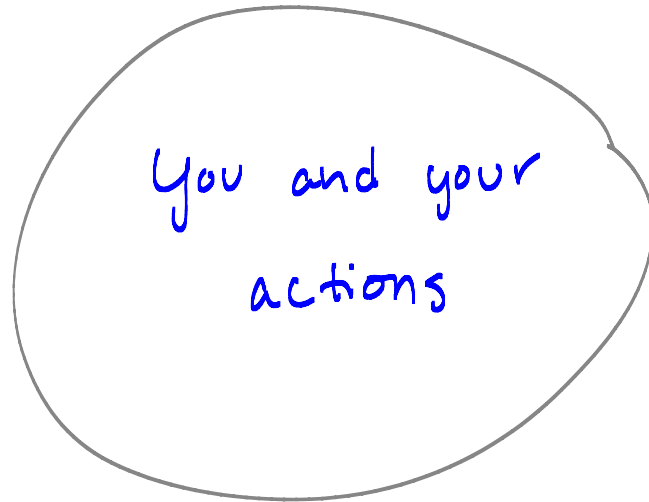


response

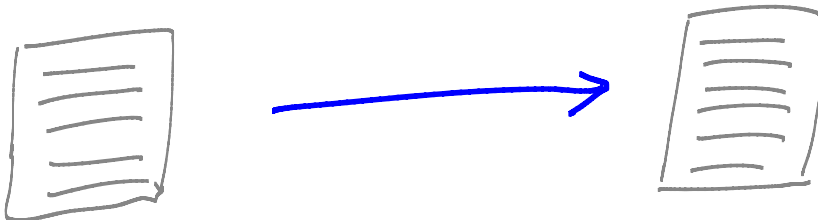


Exformation

Exoinformation



Data in transit



Direction of data flow

Design for privacy

Emphasizing configuration over action

Designs should not require excessive configuration to manage privacy. They should enable users to practice privacy as a natural consequence of their normal engagement with the system.

Lacking coarse-grained control

Designs should provide an obvious, top-level mechanism for halting and resuming disclosure.

Inhibiting established practice

Designs should not inhibit users from transferring established social practice to new media of disclosure.

By now, people should have a reasonable expectation that there's no privacy on the Internet. If you want privacy, you have to read the fine print carefully to find out exactly what privacy has been promised and under what conditions. Most people don't think about it, and if they do, they don't care very much.

Many geeks, on the other hand, care a whole lot. Few of them know they're a tiny minority, though.

I think I'm pretty typical. I would love to have my privacy, but once you get past my personal finances and such (read: I don't want my money/identity stolen), I really only object at a moral, theoretical level. It's not a major driver for me, and I'm often willing to sacrifice some privacy for more functionality. I generally would not go out of my way to get more privacy unless I explicitly had something to hide. I almost never have anything to hide.

Most other people seem to feel the same way about it: privacy is nice in theory, but if you don't have anything to hide, what's the big deal? Maybe that's a shame, but it's the way the world is.

Like privacy, anonymity sounds great in theory, but nobody cares in practice. A company called Zero Knowledge learned this the hard way when it offered a cool paid service that allowed people to use the Web anonymously. It worked pretty well, but nobody cared.

There are also significant problems with anonymity, such as the lack of accountability. For example, the night before I wrote this chapter, a coworker of mine had to spend a couple of hours dealing with police because someone out there used a VOIP phone to call 911, claiming to be my coworker.

Anonymity is a great ideal, but it's disappearing all over the place. You haven't been able to fly without an ID for a long time, but now it appears I can't even take Amtrak without having to show a government-issued ID. In one sense, that worries the hell out of me, but on the other hand, I do think accountability is important.

Oh, and I've got nothing to hide anyway....

ENUM: Is It Time to Get Ready for Orwellian ID?

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Abstract For a while now, Electronic Numbering, a convergent and highly efficient identifying standard on the Internet, has been discussed and debated and now is in trial. Although it is considered more robust technologically and economically, extremely useful and cost efficient, many researchers and organizations have not been euphoric about it. The major concern has been that such a technology can compromise the privacy of an individual, especially in the global electronic market space. Scholars have pointed out ample scenarios where this numbering scheme can be easily abused by hackers as well as governments that are not so open and/or are not democratic. In this paper, all these issues have been documented, summarized, and analyzed to give a better understanding of the issues at hand so users of this numbering system can have a clearer understanding of the technology.

Keywords electronic numbering, telephone number mapping, voice over internet protocol, electronic privacy, identity convergence