

Chapter 3

Privacy Issues Control in Continuous Risk Management

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3.1 Introduction

In order to fully exploit the potential of **IoT**, it is crucial to facilitate the creation and operation of trustworthy Smart **IoT** Systems or, for short, trustworthy **SIS**. The different dimensions of trust for **IoT** systems were described by Yan et al. [22] concluding that risk management is an essential piece to guarantee trustworthiness. Markets in the need of trustworthy **SIS**, such as Smart Vehicles, Smart Grids or eHealth, are just flourishing and businesses will be continuously adapting to new technologies. In this context, poor risk management together with a reactive strategy usually forces companies to continuously re-factor application architectures to improve software quality and security, incurring high re-implementation costs [2]. Besides, there is a lack of solutions to support continuous control of risks. In general, organizations struggle to collect valuable evidence to control on actual effectiveness of the mitigation actions defined during risk management

process. In addition, many organizations use manual procedures based on using spreadsheets, by departments and locally [1]. This approach becomes quickly inefficient as projects or teams grow.

In the ENACT project, the Risk Management enabler is an evolution of the [MUSA](#) (H2020 Project No. 644429) Risk Management tool. While the tool created in the [MUSA](#) project focused in assessing risks and mitigation actions of Cloud Security based primarily on security related risks, ENACT enabler has evolved towards trustworthy [SIS](#). While [MUSA](#) risk management tool explored risks related to the use of cloud services and recommended cloud services to be leverage from the system, ENACT enabler is able to consume the whole architecture of a [SIS](#), expressed in GeneSIS, and find any type of vulnerabilities related to entities, processes, data store or data flows in the system. The basic risk management methodology the enabler is based on is described in [12] and, during the project, the risk management enabler has been effectively embedded in the software development life-cycle both from a Dev and Ops perspective. Besides, although automated vulnerability detection is also discussed in [11], the details on how to create a knowledge base to support the detection are not discussed.

In parallel, [GDPR](#) discusses data protection by design and by default, remarking that it is essential to consider privacy from the beginning of any software development process to address related issues successfully. This is specially important for trustworthy [SIS](#), since many [IoT](#) technologies are still under evolution and mixing legal requirements with a deep technical understanding is challenging. Therefore, including privacy aspects in a continuous risk management process is not straightforward.

Previous work related to this enabler, made in collaboration with the [PDP4E](#) project (H2020 Project No. 787034), is focused on showing how we embedded privacy-related risks explicitly through the combined use of models for both the architecture and the data flow implemented on the components of the architecture [12]. We achieve this by enabling the use of the information that is typically collected from the infrastructure to control security, thanks to the link that [LIND-DUN](#) [21] establishes between privacy and security threats in [STRIDE](#) [16]. However, relevant aspects such as risk severity assessment is unclear, since most risk rating methodologies such as [OWASP](#) Risk Rating methodology are focused on security rather than privacy. As a consequence, impact assessment is usually focused on protecting the components of the system or the organization rather than data subject ([DS](#)) rights or other privacy-related principles.

Besides, even when it is possible to detect risks related to privacy from an engineering perspective (for instance based on [LINDDUN](#)) there is not a clear link between these and the main assets to be protected described in [GDPR](#), including [GDPR](#) principles and [DS](#) rights. This makes it difficult for an organization

to declare how they stand in front of **GDPR** in terms of risk control. While this issue is not exclusively relevant for **IoT** systems, it is essential to guarantee trustworthiness, specially when **IoT** devices are involved and the complexity of the architecture of the system grows, together with the attack surface. Because of this, we found it essential to guarantee an explicit analysis of privacy challenges in this book.

In this chapter, we focus on the missing pieces mentioned above, namely:

1. Extension of the impact assessment methodology to enable a more privacy-friendly assessment.
2. Discussion about the mapping of engineer-related aspects with higher level concepts in **GDPR** such as principles and rights.
3. Creation of a knowledge base to enable automated vulnerability detection.
4. Evaluation of the enabler in an **IoT**-based use case scenario related to smart vehicles.

This chapter is organized as follows: Section 3.2 provides a brief description of some previous work used through the chapter to found its main contributions. Section 3.3 proposes an extension to the **OWASP** Risk Rating methodology. Then, Section 3.4 discusses the relationship between **LINDDUN** threats and **GDPR**-friendly vocabulary related to data processing principles and **DS** rights. Section 3.6 describes an **IoT** use case related to smart vehicles where trustworthiness is essential and we discuss the concepts presented in the previous sections. Finally, we draw some conclusions related to the contributions of the chapter.

3.2 Previous Work

3.2.1 LINDDUN Methodology

LINDDUN is a threat modelling methodology that encourages risk analysts to address privacy risks affecting end-users of the application or system. This methodology provides some guidance to identify and categorize threats under a set of general risks (Linkability, Identifiability, Non-repudiation, Detectability, Disclosure of information, Unawareness, and Non-compliance). **LINDDUN** is sometimes considered the privacy-oriented alternative to the STRIDE framework [16]. In fact, **LINDDUN** threats are described in the so-called **LINDDUN** trees which are explicitly connected to STRIDE threats trees. **LINDDUN** methodology requires to formalize the functionality of the system and its dependencies with respect to personal data. In such sense, **LINDDUN** proposed the usage of the Data Flow Diagrams (**DFD**) [4]. The notation of a **DFD** is based upon 4 distinct element

types: (i) an external entity (i.e., end-users or third-party services that are external to the system), (ii) a data flow (explains data propagation and dependencies between all the functional components), (iii) a data store (i.e., a passive container of information) and (iv) a process (i.e., a computation unit).

3.2.2 Automated Vulnerability Detector

In order to facilitate an effective identification of privacy-related risks, it is important to make it easy for our enabler users to detect the vulnerabilities that expose the system to attacks that may violate DSs' rights. For that, we created an Automatic Vulnerability Detector (AVD) [11]. An AVD starts out from a set of DFDs to describe a software system under development. Based on these DFDs, it is able to detect potential vulnerabilities to kick off the risk analysis process. As explained, the AVD relies on a list of conditions that need to hold for a vulnerability to be effective. These conditions will need to be defined and stored in the Knowledge Base for the correct performance of the AVD.

3.2.3 Common Weaknesses Enumeration (CWE)

According to their website,¹ CWE™ is a community-developed list of software and hardware weakness types. It serves as a common language, a measuring stick for security tools, and as a baseline for weakness identification, mitigation, and prevention efforts.

3.2.4 Common Attack Pattern Enumeration and Classification (CAPEC)

According to their website,² CAPEC™ helps by providing a comprehensive dictionary of known patterns of attack employed by adversaries to exploit known weaknesses in cyber-enabled capabilities. It can be used by analysts, developers, testers, and educators to advance community understanding and enhance defences.

3.2.5 GDPR Enforcement Tracker

According to their website,³ the CMS Law GDPR Enforcement Tracker is an overview of fines and penalties which data protection authorities within the EU

1. CWE – Common Weakness Enumeration (mitre.org): <https://cwe.mitre.org/>

2. CAPEC – Common Attack Pattern Enumeration and Classification (CAPEC) (mitre.org): <https://capec.mitre.org/>

3. GDPR Enforcement Tracker – list of GDPR fines: <https://www.enforcementtracker.com/>

have imposed under the EU General Data Protection Regulation ([GDPR](#)). Our aim is to keep this list as up-to-date as possible. The list does not list any fines imposed under national/non-European laws, under non-data protection laws (e.g. competition laws/electronic communication laws) and under “old” pre-[GDPR](#) laws.

3.3 Extending Risk Rating Methodology for Privacy

The ENACT Risk Management enabler uses [LINDDUN](#) as the baseline for privacy threat modelling. [LINDDUN](#), just like any other modelling system based on STRIDE, has the issue that, once you automate the threat elicitation process, it returns as output an enormous amount of potential threats. Therefore, engineers need to identify in a given system what are, among a pool of many, the threats that actually need mitigation. At this point, we resort to risk assessment to prioritize the risks to mitigate.

Among the many risk assessment methodologies, the ENACT Risk Management enabler is based on the risk rating methodology of [OWASP](#) [20], a widely tested and accepted risk rating methodology for security. Unfortunately, the security nature of [OWASP](#) implies that the objectives it aims to achieve only partially intersect, but do not fully align, with those of privacy engineering. On the one hand, in ‘traditional’ security, the risk assessment is mainly carried out on behalf and benefit of the organization. Simply put, if the organization faces economic losses, the impact is deemed negative. Differently, in privacy and data protection, the assessment is made on behalf and interest of the [DS](#), meaning that even if the organization can profit, the impact is negative if the [DS](#) suffers from a violation of its rights and freedoms. On the other hand, even though privacy engineering objectives of predictability, manageability and disassociability are in line with [GDPR](#) principles, we nonetheless acknowledge the existence of ontological differences between engineering objectives and privacy legal principles.

With all this in mind, the aim is to ensure that the use of [OWASP](#) does not undermine the protection of personal data. To do so, it is necessary to check up to which point [OWASP](#)’s methods address legal requirements and, when needed, to customize them for privacy compliance.

3.3.1 Risk Appraisal and Risk Assessment

From a practical perspective, should a controller wish to process personal data, it is required by article 35, paragraph 1 [GDPR](#) to make two assessments. First, it has to assess whether the type of processing to be carried out is “likely to result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of natural persons”, which we call “Risk Appraisal”.

Should the outcome of the Risk Appraisal be positive, then a second assessment is in order, this time on the “impact of the envisaged processing operation” – also known as Data Protection Impact Assessment, or [DPIA](#). The Article 29 Working Party released official guidelines on how to conduct both [13]. It shall be noted that, both stages consider the overall risk value from the perspective of risk analysis (i.e. encompassing both what we term as ‘likelihood’ and as ‘impact’, regardless the different wording employed by the [GDPR](#)), albeit the former does so in a shallower and more abstract way.

3.3.2 A GDPR-friendly, OWASP-Based Privacy Risk Estimation System

[DPIAs](#) and Risk Appraisals are functionally dependent on privacy risk assessments. For this reason, we thought it would be twice as useful to propose an effective privacy risk rating system to underpin either of them. For the privacy risk rating system to be [GDPR](#) friendly, we look into what the [GDPR](#) requires in regards to [DPIAs](#) and Risk Appraisals and extrapolate concepts to use as factors.

The law is not clear in determining whether the concepts that are critical to the initial Risk Appraisal and the risk assessments are different. For example, recital 84 [GDPR](#) states that aspects to consider for risk evaluation are origin, nature, particularity and severity, but does not clarify whether such aspects only relate to risk assessment or also to Risk Appraisal. In addition, the WP29 is of the opinion that controllers have a constant obligation to implement measures to manage privacy risks:

‘The mere fact that the conditions triggering the obligation to carry out [DPIA](#) have not been met does not, however, diminish controllers’ general obligation to implement measures to appropriately manage risks for the rights and freedoms of [DSs](#). In practice, this means that controllers must *continuously* assess the risks created by their processing activities in order to identify when a type of processing is “likely to result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of natural persons”.

The ambiguity of the law on one side, and a more functional approach towards risk assessment on the other, not only seem to allow for, but to encourage that risk management be continuously active in parallel to the data processing activity. In our case, this translates into the chance to use the same tool for Risk Appraisal, risk assessment and even to check whether there are residual risks after the [DPIA](#) is conducted. Consequently, since our study provides for a more granular analysis of privacy risks, it can discover issues at earlier stages of the process, and is partially automated, it can be used repetitively by the data controller to track and manage changing privacy risks over time.

The [GDPR](#) key in relation to [DPIAs](#) is article 35 paragraphs 1, 3 and 4, together with a number of recitals giving insights on what the law considers important to determine the severity of a risk, namely 71, 75, 76, 84, 89, 91, 92, and 116. By a combined reading of article 35 and the recitals, the WP29 extrapolated 9 processing operations as ‘likely to result in a high risk’ for the [DS](#). If two or more of the following coexist, then the high risk is likely to occur and, thus, a [DPIA](#) is in order.

The processing operations are:

1. Personal evaluation or scoring of the [DS](#), including profiling and predicting;
2. Automated decision-making that significantly affects the [DS](#);
3. Systematic monitoring that results in observation, monitoring, or controlling of [DSs](#);
4. Processing of sensitive or highly personal data;
5. Data processed on a large scale, considering number of [DSs](#), volume and range of data, duration of activity and geographical extent;
6. Matching or combining data-sets;
7. Vulnerable [DSs](#), when there is a power imbalance between the controller and the subject who is unable to consent or object to the processing;
8. New technology or innovative use of technology or organizational solutions;
9. Processing prevents a [DS](#) to exercise its rights, enter into contracts or make use of services.

Rather than systematizing privacy risk assessments, the [GDPR](#) gives a number of rules scattered among articles and recitals on how to understand what to consider while evaluating the severity of privacy risks. Similarly do the Guidelines of the WP29, which only better refine the categories of data processing operations considered ‘high risk’. Therefore, one has to resort to the privacy engineering academic scholarship to find attempts to systematize privacy risk assessments that can help quantifying privacy risk factors.

Methodologically, the difficulty that any expert encounters when estimating risk values depends on that their factors, namely likelihood and impact, are impossible to quantify with precision. Only a few scholars have tried to lay the theoretical foundations for such assessment, and it is in fact from the studies of the building blocks of privacy risk metrics by Wagner and Boiten 2018 [19] that we start our exercise of combining the requirements of the [GDPR](#), their interpretations by the WP29, and [OWASP](#) risk rating.

Our aim is to model a privacy risk rating system on the basis of the data processing operations considered ‘high risk’ by the WP29, with the further trust that such system will guarantee a high level of compliance with [GDPR](#) requirements.

In the next sections we put forward our solutions to address the issues of estimating risk likelihood and impact.

3.3.3 Likelihood

The calculation of likelihood is one that risk methodologies take at best as rough estimate, mostly because risks may or may not materialize due to a number of unforeseeable circumstances, as well as their probability of occurrence being stretched over an uncertain amount of time. Moreover, it is hard to determine complexity, variation and hiding of multiple root causes and consequences associated to each risk.

The imprecision of likelihood measurements does not put the privacy risk assessment to a halt. In fact, from a functional perspective, risk severity — labelled on a scale “from low to high” — provides enough data to inform risk management decisions in compliance with [GDPR](#) requirements. Nevertheless, a more accurate quantification of likelihood is important because the privacy controls that will be used for the mitigation of privacy threats will most likely decrease risks’ likelihood, rather than impact [19].

The [OWASP](#) likelihood estimation methodology considers two sets of factors, the first being *threat agents* and their characteristics, and the second being *vulnerabilities*. Different threat agents, or attackers, are analysed on the basis of their potential *skills, motives, opportunities* and *size*. The idea behind such differentiation is that, for instance, attackers coming from the inside of an organization may have more opportunities in terms of access than outside attackers, yet be less skilled in terms of hacking abilities.

Privacy and security risks are different in nature, but the analysis for determining their likelihood seems, at first sight, similar. In fact, the determination of likelihood is only similar for those privacy risks that share analogous characteristics with security risks. Consequently, such privacy risks’ likelihood is rated on the basis of how easily can a vulnerability be discovered and exploited by an identified threat agent, how many threat agents of the same type know about the vulnerability (i.e., awareness), and what intrusion detection measures are put in place against exploits by threat agents. Visibly, [OWASP](#)’s determination of likelihood is fundamentally connected to threat agents, fact that depends on [OWASP](#) being designed on security attacks.

Regrettably, what [OWASP](#) does not consider is that threats may not be caused by a willing threat agent. In fact, there are privacy risks that lie outside the attacker-type scheme. As far as data protection is concerned, the controller organization itself can be considered as an attacker from which the [DS](#) shall be protected. Upon this assumption, many privacy-by-design and minimization concepts are rooted.

Bearing in mind the mentioned difference between ‘traditional’ security and privacy risk assessments, back to the comparison with [OWASP](#), the threat agents in the privacy case are still the same individuals as in security, that is organization

employees, executives, etc.; however, for a given risk, they will have different motives, such as the exploitation of the DSs' personal data for economic advantage – more a matter of privacy than security [10].

Harms, both for security and privacy, can be caused by a poorly designed policy within an organization, the careless work of a DPO, or even the use of a badly designed tool for risk estimation. All these events increase the likelihood of materialization of adverse effects on the rights and freedoms of the DS, which the NIST defines “problematic data action”, an “operation that a system is performing on personally identifiable information, that could cause an adverse effect or a problem for individuals [3].

Accordingly, the likelihood of problematic data actions cannot be quantified just over the characteristics of what may not be an attack. Therefore, the NIST suggests that, within a specific context, controllers take DSs' perceptions of which data actions they consider problematic through customer demographics, focus groups, surveys, etc. Once a list of problematic data actions is created, it should be possible to determine the likelihood of their happening. If, for instance, in one specific area, DSs have indicated “destruction of personal data due to earthquake” as problematic data action, the controller should be able to determine the likelihood of an earthquake happening. Similarly, if the DSs have identified “ambiguity of privacy policy wording”, a controller should be able to register how many times did such unwanted events happen in its organization. Such problematic data actions can be monitored and quantified, and with them their likelihood.

A rating can be created to determine whether data actions that are perceived as problematic happen in the real world in a fashion that is rare to unlikely (1 to 3), possible to likely (4 to 6), or almost certain to certain (7 to 9). The mentioned levels mimic those of OWASP, where the likelihood of a security risk happening is rated as low (1 to 3), medium (4 to 6) or high (7 to 9).

3.3.4 Impact

In comparison to security, it is the use of OWASP to quantify the impact of privacy risks on DSs that presents the most substantial differences. Such differences, in turn, imply equivalent adjustments to the privacy risk rating system. Keeping the framework of OWASP as baseline, we combine it with the impact factors, categories and dimensions of Wagner and Boiten, mentioned before. To every impact category of Wagner and Boiten, namely, harm, scale, sensitivity and expectation, we map the key aspects of WP29's processing operations. To appreciate the varying impact of each of the four categories, we will do a simple exercise of analysing one category while keeping the other three constant.

OWASP divides the impacts of an attack into two categories, namely ‘technical impact’ on application, data, and functions, and ‘business impact’ on the organization. In regards to technical impacts, **OWASP** lists the loss of confidentiality, integrity, availability and accountability as factors. Evidently fundamental to security, such factors also have repercussions on privacy so long as the confidential, incorrupted, available and accountable information are personally identifiable. This means that, the four technical factors in **OWASP** for privacy are similar to, but have a much restricted material scope that excludes all data other than personal.

Harm. In regards to business impacts on the organization, it is crucial to understand that “only individuals — not agencies can *directly* experience a privacy problem” [3]. This means that each individual has a different perception of the harm caused by one problematic data action, and that such perception may also vary depending on the context.

The most important consequence of the personal nature of impacts is that it makes them very challenging to quantify consistently. NISTIR 8062 does not address the problem of quantification of harms directly, but suggests instead that businesses (or organizations) use costs, such as reputational or legal costs incurred for legal compliance, as proxies for the quantification of individuals’ impacts. Wagner and Boyten suggest a different solution, that is either using a Likert scale (called ‘perceived harm’) or, as a proxy, the amount of damage that a court would be likely to grant (called ‘damages awarded’) [19].

Although non-optimal, the measure of harm from the standpoint of a **DS** is arguably to average scales similar to Likert’s. An organization willing to understand the perceived harm to the **DS** involved in its systems should answer the following questions: “How much do you think that this problematic privacy action would harm the **DSs** related to your system? Not at all to moderately (0 to 3), considerably to significantly (4 to 6), highly to irreparably (7 to 9)”.

The scales solve the problem of defining and finding a common metrics to harms of different nature, such as reputational harm, financial harm, etc. We suggest organizations to conduct a survey with their **DSs** to get a better understanding of how much the dreadful event would impact them. The averaging of the Likert scales comes to solve the problem that harm is felt differently among **DSs**, and it is thus impossible to tailor its measuring to each **DS** involved in a problematic data action.

It is safe to say that all high risk operations can be mapped to the category of harm. This is due to that, if no harm were to be inflicted to the **DS**, the related risk would not exist. We can take as examples the following categories: automated decision-making that significantly affects the **DS**, because it may bring to discrimination and exclusion, which are harms that are personally felt differently from one **DS** to another; systematic monitoring, because the

knowledge of being constantly monitored is also perceived differently by different DSs, and may affect their behaviour accordingly; vulnerable DS, because the power imbalance between the controller and the DS is greater when the latter is a child, an employee, a mentally ill person, an elderly, an asylum seeker, a patient, or another category of people who are unable to consent or oppose to processing due to relational or personal circumstances; processing prevents a DS to exercise its rights, because, e.g., the inability to enter into an insurance contract has different implications depending on the denied person, who not only may personally perceive the denial differently, but also be objectively awarded different damages by a court depending on the circumstances of the case.

Scale. To Wagner and Boiten, between two problematic data actions that affect (a) the same type of data (e.g., medical data), which belong to (b) equally harmed DSs (that is, DS who would feel the same personal harm as well as would be awarded the same amount of damages by a court) with (c) the same expectation of privacy, the one with the greater impact is that which affects the larger number of people.

Thanks to the processing operation ‘data processed on a large scale’, we are able to extend the scale category to a second dimension that is, volume of data. As regards to volume, the processing of more data items has a bigger impact than that of fewer data items: considering two data-sets, A and B, which contain exactly the same personal data belonging to the exact same people, the action of replicating multiple times and in different places data-set A would have a bigger impact on the DSs, because the chance for unlawful processing is likewise multiplied, or because more personal data are anyhow more demanding to protect.

Measuring scale is perhaps the easiest quantification among the impacts categories, because the number of DS involved and the volume of data are all objective, ordinal numbers that are either known, or so can be through data analytics. It is possible to use a specific category in OWASP called ‘Privacy Violation’ that combines the dimensions of volume and number of persons by measuring how much personally identifiable information could be disclosed by one particular processing activity. OWASP lists a number of options, and gives to each option an impact rating (in brackets), from 0 to 10: one individual (3), hundreds of people (5), thousands of people (7), millions of people (9).

Sensitivity. Keeping other impact categories constant, the more sensitive the processed personal data, the higher the impact on the DS. The law gives exceptional attention to data that, because of their nature, are considered special, namely: data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership; genetic data and biometric data used for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person; data concerning health; data concerning

a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation; and data related to criminal convictions or offenses.

Additionally, the WP29 lists a number of data types that should be considered sensitive because they increase the risk to rights and freedoms [13] (Sensitive data or data of a highly personal nature): "personal data linked to household and private activities (such as electronic communications whose confidentiality should be protected), or because they impact the exercise of a fundamental right (such as location data whose collection questions the freedom of movement) or because their violation clearly involves serious impacts in the DS's daily life (such as financial data that might be used for payment fraud)".

Processing operations involving all such data are considered 'high risk' but, unfortunately, there is no way to objectively determine which of these special data types have a bigger impact on the DS without considering the context and purposes of use. However, on the one hand, the law gives sensitive data a greater weight compared to non sensitive personal data and, on the other, it is safe to say that, between two processing activities of the same volume about the same person, that which includes the most categories of special data types must have a bigger impact. For these reasons, Wagner and Boiten suggest to use the number of different data types as means to measure sensitivity.

One measuring rating for sensitivity could be created by answering the question: how sensitive is the processed personal data? The options, with related impact rating in brackets (from 1 to 10), could be: not in the list [13] of sensitive data types (2); Not in the list, but could be easily used to predict sensitive data (5), Matches 1 category in the list (7), Matches 2 or more categories in the list (10).

Expectation. DSs have reasonable expectations about how their personal data will be handled by a controller. For instance, when consent is given as legal basis for processing, a DS should be able to predict what will happen to its data; similarly, a DS managing privacy settings to decide what types of cookies is a website allowed to use, or what information can it share with third parties, has an expectation on that only those cookies will be stored, and only those specific information be shared with predetermined third parties. Once the expectation is set, it is possible to determine to what extent has the actual processing deviated from it.

Processing operations involving evaluation or scoring of DSs are generally precursory to profiling, or to some forms of behavioural prediction. They are considered high risk because often leading to one or more of the other high risk processing operations, such as discriminating DSs on the basis of their personal vulnerability, race or other sensitive data, automated decision-making significantly affecting the DS, or preventing DSs to exercise rights or enter contracts. For this reasons, between

two collections of personal data, the one collection based on which a profile is created has a bigger impact on the DS.

Systematic monitoring of DSs with the purposes of observing, monitoring and controlling has a different impact on each DS. People tend to change their behaviour according to whether they know of being constantly monitored (so called ‘chilling effect’ [18]), and governments as well as private companies exploit more or less obtrusive technologies as means of control. When systematic monitoring is undetectable, personal data may be collected in circumstances where DSs may not be aware of who is collecting their data, how they will be used, and that personal data is being collected in the first place. When technologies for systematic monitoring are purposefully non obtrusive, the expectation of privacy of the DSs are very high and, thus, any type of personal data processing inherently diverges from such expectation.

Matching or combining data-sets of an unaware DS is an intrinsic violation of the principle of purpose limitation. Given a specific set of personal data, the DS should always be able to predict the consequences of a specific type of processing. The combination of multiple data-sets, thanks to data analytics, can reveal personal information that were not deemed to be shared within the principal processing, or even create new personal data [9]; both of the outcomes exceed the DS’s expectation of privacy.

DSs have expectations on how a technology or a process will manage their personal data given the information they have on that technology at the time of collection. Therefore, innovative uses, or new technological or organizational solutions for data processing exceed such expectations unless the DS was put in the position to agree on the new means of processing. Given two processing operations on the same data of the same DS, the one using new technologies or solutions has a bigger impact.

To quantify the impact of exceeded expectation it is critical to first set a baseline and, to do so, we welcome Wagner and Boiten’s suggestion to use Solove’s taxonomy of privacy [17]. Based on the typically American concept of expectation of privacy, Solove’s taxonomy is useful to determine what a DS expects from a data processing activity from the moment of collection, to dissemination, through management and storage. The divergence between the expected and actual means of processing, expected and actual types of created and shared data, and expected and actual consequences of processing can be measured by counting the number of exceeded categories of processing (collection, storage, dissemination, etc.) or, more granularly, by referring to the metrics we already used in other impact categories. This means that, for exceeded expectations on the types of processed data, one can refer to the higher sensitivity of the personal data, their bigger volume, the more severe personal or objective harm, and so on.

Another way to conduct such measuring is by considering that, as a general rule, the deviation from expectation gets bigger every time that the personal data, collected for a specific purpose, are reprocessed, re-used, re-analyzed, re-combined, etc. However, an engineer may not be able to count that, as the code may be implemented by several people. Therefore, we follow Solove's taxonomy and focus on expected intrusiveness into DS's life through the following question: "Considering that a potential system may collect, analyse, process and disseminate information, what is, in the eye of a DS, your system expected to do with the information?". Collect, analyse, process and disseminate information (2); Only disseminate information (4); Process, without disseminating information (6); Only collect information (9)". The idea is, the less the user expects the system to do with the information, the farther it will be from their expectation if a breach happens.

3.3.5 Summing up

To assess likelihood, a controller could determine in what fashion do data actions that are perceived as problematic by a DS happen in the real world. To assess impact, there are 4 categories to consider: harm, calculated on the controller's estimation of the damages to its specific categories of DSs; scale, calculated on the basis of how many individuals are involved in the processing activity; sensitivity, measured depending on whether the processed data belong to one or more of the categories identified by the WP29 as "high risk"; and expectations, calculated on the (un)expected intrusiveness of the data processing into a DS's private life, from the perspective of the data controller.

3.4 Connecting Engineer-driven Privacy Practices with GDPR

Despite the fact that the GDPR is a legal text and LINDDUN is an engineering method, an attempt can be made to align LINDDUN and the GDPR in order to bridge the existing gap between legal and technical practices and, thus, address the demands of privacy engineering community of, first, translating legal jargon of rights, values and principles into notions and tools that engineers are more familiar with, such as threat trees, data flow diagrams, etc.; and second, of operationalizing the GDPR, particularly in the the detection of the privacy threats and the elicitation of the associated mitigation strategies.

3.4.1 Initial Considerations

We start by remarking some initial considerations about the relationship between [LINDDUN](#) and [GDPR](#).

Linkability (L), identifiability (I), detectability (D), and to some extent non-repudiation (Nr) are all pointing out to the existence of personal data, since the occurrence of one of these threats could lead to the identification of a natural person. According to the European legislation, the anonymous information does not require protection for compliance with the principles of data protection. Anonymous data do not relate to an identified or identifiable natural person and are therefore considered non-personal. However, “in this era of big data, full anonymity is hard, if not impossible, and even more advanced anonymity techniques cannot guarantee full anonymity when data are linkable” [8]. The threat of linkability may necessitate a further analysis since it cannot be established without context whether the linkability of two items of interest would allow the identification of a natural person and, thus, qualify as personal data.

Linkability might lead to identifiability (i.e. linking data to an identity). Once the [DS](#) is identified or is identifiable, the information qualifies as personal data and triggers the applicability of [GDPR](#).

Information disclosure links to arguably all principles of [GDPR](#) art. 5. In fact, when personal data are disclosed to non-authorised parties they are no longer under the control of the [DS](#) nor of the responsibility of the controller/processor, which means that all the procedural and substantial safeguards provided by art. 5 and related rights are exposed to risk of violation. Personal data shall be processed in such a manner that ensures appropriate security, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing, alteration or accidental loss.

Unawareness is linked to principles related to information requirements, as well as to the procedural enjoyment of the [DS](#) rights. Not only shall the [DS](#) be given all the information about data processing activities, but more importantly she has to be made aware that any processing of her personal data is happening. Unawareness links to the principle of lawful processing, insofar as the [DS](#) cannot consent to processing she is unaware of; same applies to any other right she is entitled to enjoy by active personal request (e.g., right to information, access, rectification, erasure, etc.).

Non-compliance threat could be associated with data protection by design requirement, accountability obligation under Article 24 [GDPR](#), such as adopting appropriate technical and organisational measures ensuring the [GDPR](#) compliance or adopting internal privacy policies. For the most part we can speak about general [GDPR](#) non-compliance resulting in a pyramid of sanctions: from warnings to sanctions as a last resort.

In this subsection, we provide the description of each **LINDDUN** threat category and its relation with the **GDPR**.

3.4.2 Linkability

Linkability means “being able to sufficiently distinguish whether 2 **IOI** (items of interest) are linked or not, even without knowing the actual identity of the subject of the linkable **IOI**”. Pfitzmann and Hansen give the following definition: “unlinkability of two or more items of interest (**IOIs**, e.g., subjects, messages, actions, etc.) from an attacker’s perspective means that within the system (comprising these and possibly other items), the attacker cannot sufficiently distinguish whether these **IOIs** are related or not” [15]. For instance, unlinkability of a message sender/recipient to a message sent or received or unlinkability of a relationship between a sender and a recipient [15]. Unlinkability is one of prerequisites of anonymity. Nevertheless, failing unlinkability will not necessarily eliminate anonymity, but will decrease its strength [15].

From a legal perspective, linkability means that the failure to hide the link between different actions, identities or pieces of information could potentially result in the unexpected personal data processing. For instance, the Article 29 WP provides for the following example: Titius has these fingerprints, this object has been touched by someone with these fingerprints and these fingerprints correspond to Titius, therefore this object has been touched by Titius [14]. Thus, linkability allowed to establish a link between one piece of information and the individual. The linking of different pieces of information can result in the misuse of the personal data by third parties. Such misuse can be caused by the failure to implement the necessary controls to ensure an appropriate level of protection of personal data (e.g., failed anonymization). If the controller is not aware of the personal data processing operation due to the failed anonymization, it will not be able to comply with the **GDPR** data processing principles and, thus, will fail to ensure the respect for **DSs**’ rights. Thus, linkability may result in the violation of a number of the personal data processing principles and of **DSs**’ rights listed in the **GDPR**.

Relationship with personal data processing principles. First, the principle of lawfulness will be violated since there will be no lawful grounds for processing, as provided in Article 6 of the **GDPR**. Second, the principle of transparency will not be complied with, because **DS** will not be informed about the processing activities over their data. The **DS** might not be even aware at all that such personal data have been collected, used, consulted or otherwise processed and what is the extent of this processing.

Third, the purpose limitation principle will be also jeopardized since the controller, unable to establish the existence of personal data, will not be able to ensure

that the data collection is limited to “specified, explicit and legitimate purposes” (Article 5(1)(b) [GDPR](#)). Moreover, in this case the controller will be collecting personal data without knowing itself how and when these data will be used, since in its system the data are not identified as personal.

Moreover, the data minimisation and storage limitation principles will be also violated since the unawareness about the personal data mere existence will prevent controllers from establishing whether the same purpose can be achieved with a narrower amount of personal data and for a shorter retention period.

The inability to establish that the personal data exist in the system or that a third party can establish links between different pieces of information and, consequently, guess the existence of such data, will prevent us from ensuring that the data are accurate and kept up to date. As a result, controllers will not be able to ensure accuracy at all stages of collecting and processing of personal data and take every reasonable step to ensure that inaccurate data are erased or rectified without delay. Thus, contrary to the principle of accuracy, controllers will not make sure that outdated data are eliminated, or that data are correctly interpreted.

The compliance with the principle of integrity and confidentiality will be also jeopardized since the processing of the data, deemed as non-personal, will not be as secure as required for the personal data processing, “including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures” (Art. 5(1)(f) [GDPR](#)). This will result in a lack of appropriate controls to prevent unauthorised access to the personal data as well as implement systemic quality controls in order to ensure that an appropriate level of security is reached. Moreover, the personal data will not be validated (e.g. using hashes), which might lead to some negative consequences, such as inability to guarantee its integrity and, consequently, the accuracy of that data.

According to the principle of accountability, the controller shall be responsible for, and be able to demonstrate compliance with, principles relating to processing of personal data and listed in Article 5 of the [GDPR](#). The non-respect for one of these principles will trigger the accountability obligation.

Relationship with DS rights. Since linkability in many cases is undetected because the personal data is not recognized as such and is not traceable in the system, the controller will not comply with information obligation, as substantiated in Articles 13-14. Thus, [DSs](#) will be deprived of the right to obtain information about the processing activities over their data, the identity and the contact details of the controller, the purposes of the processing, the categories of the data and their recipients, and how the data are being controlled, monitored or used further. The information obligation is the essential first step setting out the stage towards the exercise of other [DSs'](#) rights. Neither right of access, nor right to

rectification or erasure of personal data, nor restriction or objecting to their processing will be possible unless the DS knows the personal data is processed by the controller.

3.4.3 Identifiability

“Identifiability of a subject from an attacker’s perspective means that the attacker can sufficiently identify the subject within a set of subjects.” [15] Identity can be explained and defined as the opposite of anonymity and the opposite of unlinkability [15]. In a positive wording, identifiability enables both to be identifiable as well as to link IOIs. The less is known about the linking to a subject, the stronger is the anonymity. The anonymity decreases with a growing linking [15].

The definition of identifiability provided in the technical literature seems not to be totally in line with the legal understanding of an identifiable natural person. While both the legal and technical literature recognise pseudonimisation as one of the techniques decreasing the likelihood of identifiability, the GDPR takes a stricter stance on pseudonimised data. For instance, Recital 26 GDPR sets out that “pseudonimised personal data, which could be attributed to a natural person by the use of additional information should be considered to be information on an identifiable natural person”. And, thus, such data will be treated as personal under the GDPR, since pseudonym means that it is possible to backtrack to the individual and discover individual’s identity. At the same time, the technical literature admits the flawlessness and high linkability potential of pseudonimised data, but still seems to treat pseudonymity as a concept in a slight opposition to identifiability [8]. “Whereas anonymity and identifiability (or accountability) are the extremes with respect to linkability to subjects, pseudonymity is the entire field between and including these extremes” [21].

In addition the concept of identifiability is not that straightforward. For instance, the GDPR provides a non-exhaustive list of identifiers in Article 4, such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person. “The natural person is “identifiable” when, although the person has not been identified yet, it is possible to do it” [14]. But the likelihood of identifiability should be analysed on a case-by-case basis. For instance, a very common name will not necessarily allow to single out one particular person from the whole of a country’s population [14], but can achieve the identification of a pupil in the classroom. In addition, the name, combined with some additional information can also allow the identification of someone as a result of this “unique combination” set. Even a very descriptive information can identify someone, i.e. someone wearing a red hat at the bus stop at a particular moment.

The identifiability is a dynamic process and, while it may not be possible to identify someone today with all the available means, it may happen at a later stage due to a technological progress. To determine whether an individual is identifiable, Recital 26 [GDPR](#) underlines, “account should be taken of all the means reasonably likely to be used, such as singling out, either by the controller or by another person to identify the natural person directly or indirect”. The likelihood of identification must be assessed in light of “objective factors, such as the costs of and the amount of time required for identification, taking into consideration the available technology at the time of the processing and technological developments”.

Since identifiability is closely related to linkability, it will affect the same [GDPR](#) principles and [DSs](#)’ rights.

3.4.4 Non-repudiation

Non-repudiation is the opposite of plausible deniability. Plausible deniability from an attacker’s perspective means that she cannot prove a user knows, has done or has said something [21]. While the goal of non-repudiation is to provide irrefutable evidence concerning the occurrence or non-occurrence of an event, it must be admitted that some participants may desire that there is no irrefutable evidence concerning a disputed event or action [21]. Wuyts provides for some concrete examples where non-repudiation is a privacy threat. For instance, e-commerce applications, where the vendor can later use the signed receipt by the buyer as evidence that the user received the item. For other applications similarly users may desire plausible deniability in order to ensure that there will be no record to demonstrate the communication event.

In an attempt to single out the most linkable [GDPR](#) principles with non-repudiation, we came to the conclusion that non-compliance with integrity and confidentiality requirements might lead to the loss of control over the personal data and increase the probability that unauthorized parties can access it. Logically, the controller will be held accountable for such incidents and for lack of appropriate confidentiality strategies. We consider that right to be forgotten and right to rectification are intrinsically linked with plausible deniability, since they allow for ex ante rectification of the personal data inaccuracies and the possibility to ask for erasure of those data, which are no longer necessary for the purposes for which it was collected or where such purpose ceases to exist, or where the [DS](#) withdraws consent on which the processing is based. Thus, right to be forgotten and right to rectification will prevent a priori the third parties from getting access to the information, which the [DS](#) considers as inaccurate or compromising. Nevertheless, as provided in Article 17 [GDPR](#) some exceptions might apply to the exercise of the right to erasure,

including the situations where there is a need to strike a right balance between public interests, freedom of expression and other competing rights and legitimate interests. In addition, Deng et al. notes with regard to plausible deniability that it ensures that “an instance of communication between computer systems leaves behind no unequivocal evidence of its having taken place” [5]. Thus, in relation to the right to be forgotten and right to rectification, one might ask whether the controller should store requests for personal data erasure or rectification. And would not such storage be detrimental to plausible deniability? Thus, the right balance should be again struck between accountability obligations and *DSs*’ legitimate interests.

In addition, in order to guarantee plausible deniability the data controller may decide to make the data less accurate to “cover user’s tracks”. While the *GDPR* requires to keep the personal data up to date and ensure that inaccurate data are erased or rectified without delay, plausible deniability may require a different approach towards accuracy. On one hand, the accuracy of personal data should not be compromised, on the other hand, making personal data less discernible from the outside may be necessary for ensuring plausible deniability.

3.4.5 Detectability

“Undetectability of an item of interest (*IOI*) from an attacker’s perspective means that the attacker cannot sufficiently distinguish whether it exists or not. If we consider messages as *IOIs*, this means that messages are not sufficiently discernible from, e.g., random noise” [15]. The difference between unlinkability and undetectability is the following: in unlinkability, the *IOI* itself is not protected, but only its relationship to the subject or other *IOIs* is protected. For undetectability, the *IOIs* are protected as such [21]. Undetectability consists in, for instance, hiding the user’s activities or location [21]. Undetectability in the past was referred as unobservability. However, since unobservability comprises both anonymity and undetectability, *LINDDUN* method focuses on undetectability.

Detectability threat is strongly related to the context. It is impossible to establish without further details whether detectability of one particular activity can lead to identifiability of an individual. But if we assume that detectability results in an identifiability of a natural person, the scope of the *GDPR* will be triggered in a similar way to linkability and identifiability.

3.4.6 Disclosure of Information

Information Disclosure is the exposure of information to individuals who are not supposed to have access to it. Principles of integrity and confidentiality will be the most relevant to guarantee the security of the personal data processing. While Wuyts

considers confidentiality as a security property, she highlights also its importance for preserving privacy properties, such as anonymity and unlinkability [21].

Similarly to linkability, information disclosure will also trigger all personal data processing related principles, since the data could be further collected, stored by third parties without specific purpose and without informing the DS. Thus, data minimisation and storage limitation principles cannot be complied with either. In addition, the accuracy of the personal data can be also jeopardized.

3.4.7 Unawareness

Unawareness occurs when a user is unaware of the information she is supplying to the system, and the consequences of her acts of sharing. In the era of digitalisation users tend to provide excessive information resulting in a loss of control of their personal information. Thus, awareness aims at ensuring that users are aware of their personal data and that only the minimum necessary information should be collected [21].

Unawareness points out to the violation of fairness and transparency requirements, since the DS is not informed of all the risks related to the personal data processing and was not provided all the information required in relation to their personal data processing. Unawareness also leads to the fact that the DS provides more personal information than required, and thus, the principles of data minimisation and purpose limitation are violated [21].

3.4.8 Non-compliance

Non-compliance is related to legislation, policy and consent and implies that the DS should be informed by the controller about the system's privacy policy and allows the DS to specify consent [21]. Wuyts gives some examples of non-compliance, such as incorrect privacy policies provided to the user or when the policy rules are incorrectly managed by the system administrator [21].

Wuyts notes that policy specifies one or more rules with respect to data protection and these are general rules determined by the stakeholders of the system; consent specifies one or more data protection rules and is determined by the user and only relate to the data regarding this specific user [21]. From a legal perspective, while the processing of personal data can be based on DS's consent, lawfulness of the processing is not limited to consent as a lawful ground for data processing activities. The GDPR provides for 5 additional legal grounds where the processing of personal data is not based on consent (Art. 6 GDPR).

When it comes to policy, Wuyts mentions compliance with internal policies of the company. However, compliance with internal policies of the company will not

be enough if those policies are not correct, lack detail or are not user friendly with regard to privacy notices provided. Thus, non-compliance with policies should be related to broader issues covering also some external requirements and legal framework applying to controllers.

Non-compliance threat, as described in [LINDDUN](#), seems to be too generic and lacks in precision. Its current wording suggests that all the data protection related legal frameworks will be triggered. However, eliminating this threat is easier said than done, since the legal compliance is like shooting at a moving target, as it continuously changes while you are working on it.

3.5 Privacy-Related Risk Knowledge Base

In this section we briefly describe the knowledge base created in ENACT and [PDP4E](#) projects. This knowledge base is the baseline for the recommendations provided in the risk management enabler, as well as the main database for the Automated Vulnerability Detector described in Section 3.2.

The proposed knowledge base is founded on the [LINDDUN](#) methodology to frame privacy-related threats, as well as on STRIDE to cover security issues. We use the threat trees proposed in [LINDDUN](#) as the starting point to populate our knowledge base. We connect the content of our knowledge base to public content in the Common Weaknesses Enumeration ([CWE](#)) list. Besides, we also leverage information from the Common Attack Pattern Enumeration and Classification ([CAPEC](#)) dictionary, through their link from [CWE](#). In addition, our knowledge base contains information to facilitate the link of its content to known fines and penalties which data protection authorities within the EU have imposed under the [GDPR](#).

3.5.1 Definition of Concepts to be Stored in the Knowledge Base

Figure 3.1 presents the class diagram published in [12] to model risk management concepts to allow to control privacy risks using [DFDs](#). In particular, we consider each element of a [DFD](#) (Entity, Data Flow, Data Store and Process) a specific asset, according to [LINDDUN](#) methodology. This diagram is inspired by the [UML](#) diagram presented by Gupta *et al.* [8].

Based on this class diagram, our knowledge base will contain the following information:

- [LINDDUN](#) threat category: Our knowledge base will classify all vulnerabilities depending on one of the [LINDDUN](#) threat categories, namely,

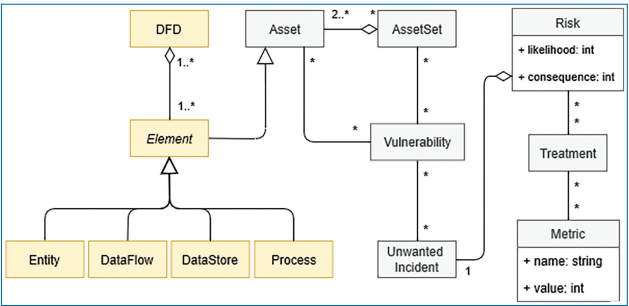


Figure 3.1. Class diagram to model risk management concepts using DFDs to describe system functionality [12].

Linkability, Identifiability, Non-repudiation, Detectability, Disclosure of information, Unawareness and Non-compliance. Note that [LINDDUN](#) is remarked because of the focus on this chapter on security issues. However, the knowledge base also uses STRIDE threats to classify privacy and security issues.

- Type of [DFD](#) component: we allow to express vulnerabilities of each of the four different types of components considered in a [DFD](#), namely, entity, data flow, data store and process.
- Vulnerability information: We store information about vulnerabilities. This will include information such as a unique identifier, a short title, a longer description, etc. As mentioned before we will also need to store the conditions that are considered for a particular vulnerability to be relevant.
- Threat information: In order to simplify the information, we do not explicitly store the information about unwanted incidents, but we directly store the potential threats that may exploit a particular vulnerability.
- Control/Treatment information: we create a collection of controls that can be used as potential treatments to mitigate risks related to specific vulnerabilities and threats.

Based on this, in [Figure 3.2](#), we describe the schema that represents the data schema of the information stored in this knowledge base.

The central concept of the schema is the *Vulnerability*. Vulnerabilities are connected to threats and threats are connected to controls. These link between these three types of elements constitutes the backbone of any risk management tool to provide options related to vulnerabilities and related threats and controls or mitigation actions. As explained in [\[11\]](#), vulnerabilities are also related to conditions. Besides, our knowledge base allows to establish dependencies among conditions. A certain condition may only make sense if another condition holds. For instance, let us assume a condition with id *c1* that evaluates the following question: “Does

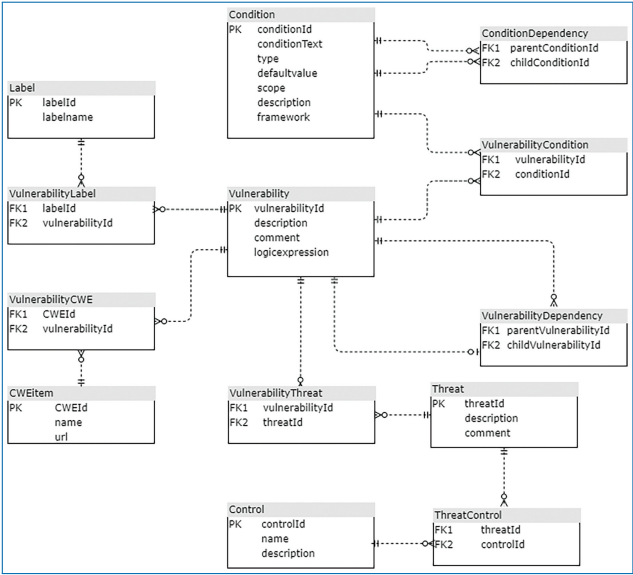


Figure 3.2. Knowledge base schema.

this entity represent a [DS](#) or a proxy to [DSs](#)?” From a privacy perspective, if *c1* is true then other conditions may be relevant such as for instance “Does this entity need to be authenticated to execute this [DFD](#)?” or “Are credentials of this entity shared with any potentially untrustworthy receiver entity?”. So, the relevance of conditions may depend on the evaluation of other conditions.

Besides, vulnerabilities are related to other vulnerabilities. In reality, inspired by STRIDE and [LINDDUN](#), we have also created and extended threat trees in the knowledge base. Therefore, a vulnerability may be decomposed in more detailed vulnerabilities in a structure shaped like a tree. Relation *VulnerabilityDependency* represents the link between vulnerabilities in the tree. *Vulnerability* relation is also related to *Label* relation and *CWEItem* relation. The first link represents keywords related to the vulnerabilities that we will need later on to look for cases in the [GDPR Enforcement Tracker](#).⁴ This way, we will be able to show actual cases of [GDPR](#) enforcement in cases related to this type of vulnerability. For instance, “Information disclosure of a process” may be labelled with “Confidentiality” label or vulnerability named “Data is not encrypted” may be labelled as “Encryption”. The actual mapping between cases and labels has been implemented in the [PDP4E](#) project. The second link corresponds to a manual exercise to connect the STRIDE vulnerabilities with [CWE](#) items. When the link is established, our enabler uses the url stored

4. www.enforcementtracker.com

in the database for each [CWE](#) item and scans online information to automatically detect mitigation actions and add them as controls in the *Control* relation. We also follow links to the [CAPEC](#) database related to attack patterns related with that vulnerability and store the information in the *Threat* relation and potential connected mitigation actions in the *Control* relation.

3.6 IoT Use Cases Description

Risk Management enables building trustworthy systems. Especially when considering [SIS](#) because of the way multiple independent devices connect together and exchange data. To illustrate this, the following section will describe the kind of challenges found in an [IoT](#) use case in terms of privacy risks for a [DS](#). Privacy is specially challenging in [IoT](#) systems, not only because [IoT](#) systems rely on technology that is still not mature and in continuous evolution, but also because the higher integration of devices in the physical world makes those devices actual proxies to [DS](#). For instance, the location of a device may easily act as a mechanism to deduce the location of a [DS](#). For this purpose, following we describe a use case which is particularly relevant under this point of view.

3.6.1 Connected Vehicles

In this section we present an [IoT](#)-related use case focused on communications between vehicles and other vehicles or the road infrastructure, also called V2X. More specifically, the use case focused on the Cooperative Awareness Messages protocol [6], a part of the Cooperative Intelligent Transportation System ([C-ITS](#)) ecosystem which aims to make the different actors of road infrastructure share information on vehicle status, traffic, road works, etc... This protocol specifies how vehicles can share data about their position and status, like speed or heading, with other vehicles around them. This type of communication is of particular interest for the development of advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS) as well as autonomous vehicle. It allows a vehicle to build a map of its surrounding and track nearby vehicles to anticipate possible incidents.

We chose to consider this system because it highlights a potential loss of control of data related to a [DS](#), which can lead to significant privacy issues. The V2X network on which the CAM messages are transmitted is a local radio network. Because this system aims to inform other participants in the neighborhood about the status of the vehicle, messages are broadcast to every station capable of listening to the network. A consequence of broadcasting is that these messages cannot be encrypted with anything else than a key shared among all participants. As a result, the data

they carry can effectively be read by any station with access to the network without control of the sender.

Because the data received from these messages can be used to trigger warnings to drivers or even collision avoidance systems, it is necessary to ensure that they come from a reliable source. One of the mechanisms deployed to this end is the use of cryptographic signatures to authenticate the messages. When signing a message, a vehicle uses a pair of cryptographic keys provided by an external authority trusted by every participant of the network. This signature shows that they have been authorized to send messages and the receivers will be able to trust the data they send.

If used in a privately-owned vehicle, this system can raise issues about the privacy of the owner. First, to provide the information about the vehicle, a lot of parameters are collected by the equipment which generates those messages. Those parameters show when and where the vehicle has been driven, but also give information about the behaviour of the driver, like the speed of the vehicle. If these parameters were recorded and stored for analysis, they could be used to determine the driving habits of the owner. On top of that, because of the signature they carry, it can be possible to classify the messages by which vehicle has sent them. This could make mass recording of messages a source of personal data leakage if a link between a signature and specific vehicles can be made.

Relevant attack scenarios

The CAM system could be used in different ways which have consequences on the privacy of the owner of the vehicle. For example, it could be used to tail a specific vehicle, or the data collected inside the transmission equipment could be harvested by a malicious entity. For the purpose of this demonstration, we will use an attack scenario that leverages the signatures used to authenticate vehicles to track the behaviour of a specific vehicle. This scenario could be carried out by recording messages thanks to stations deployed across the road infrastructure. Because the vehicle is registered to a specific owner, such a record would allow to get the trip history of the owner and determine his usual destinations. The time at which the messages are emitted can also be used to build his schedule, the additional information on vehicle status like speed, light status, brake indicator can be used to analyse his driving profile. This data could be, for example, used by insurance companies to determine fees, or to show that an individual goes regularly to a political meeting.

3.6.2 Practical Implementation Aspects

All the contributions presented in this chapter have been implemented in the latest version of the ENACT Risk Management enabler in collaboration with the

PDP4E project. In particular, the enabler includes the extended version of the **OWASP** Risk Rating methodology presented in Section 3.3. Specifically, the questions suggested for impact analysis have been added to the enabler. Besides, the mapping between **LINDDUN** threat categories and **GDPR** data processing principles and **DS** rights have been embedded in the enabler. The enabler has a **GDPR**-based dashboard that allows to understand the overall level of risk for each principle and **DS** rights, based on the status of each risk detected in the enabler. Finally, the knowledge base described in 3.5 has been also embedded in the enabler, this enables not only the automated detection of vulnerabilities, but also benefiting from open databases such as **CWE** or **CAPEC**.

3.7 Risk Management Enabler Evaluation

This section aims to demonstrate the usage of the enabler on the connected vehicle use case. The enabler is evaluated based on its ability to help the user identify privacy risks in the use case and suggest meaningful treatments to manage them. The results are also compared with the way these issues are currently handled to demonstrate how adequate the enabler with respect to real world constraints.

Figure 3.3 presents the Data Flow Diagram used to support the attack scenario described in the previous section. It features two main processes: Key Provisioning and **C-ITS** App. The Key provisioning process is in charge of generating the key used by the vehicle to sign the messages it will send. The **C-ITS** App is collecting information on the vehicle position and status from the GPS and sensors to generate the messages, sign them and send them to the CAM network.

In the attack scenario, we consider the possibility of recording messages sent to the network. This corresponds to the data flow sending signed messages between the **C-ITS** process and the CAM Network entity.

The Risk Management enabler allows providing information on the role of these elements through the questionnaire described in [11] and used to fit the Automated Vulnerability Detector (**AVD**), presented in Section 3.2. This questionnaire contains the conditions used to discriminate the relevance of potential vulnerabilities and it is stored in the knowledge base, as described in Subsection 3.5. Table 3.1 gives some examples of questions that the user has to answer.

In particular, the question related to anonymous communication triggers several vulnerabilities based on the threat trees defined by **LINDDUN**. We now analyze a particular example based on the linkability of a data flow threat tree defined, presented in Figure 3.4. Those vulnerabilities are presented in Table 3.2. The vulnerabilities on linkability based on computer or session **ID** are both similar to the potential privacy issue of using the vehicle signature to track it. In this case, the

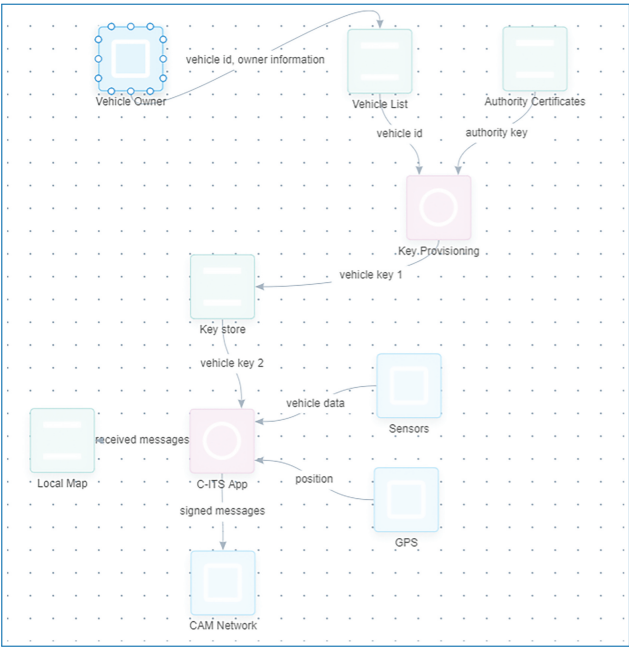


Figure 3.3. Data flow diagram of the C-ITS use case.

Table 3.1. Sample questions.

Type of Element	Question	Answer
Data Flow	Is the communication channel wireless?	Yes
	Are messages sent through this data flow encrypted?	No
	Is anonymous communication used?	No
Entity	Does this entity represent a DS or a proxy to DSs?	No
	Could this entity be or become untrustworthy (now or in the future)?	Yes

public key used for the signature serves as the ID linking together different messages, posing a privacy threat as an attacker may be able to continuously monitor a vehicle, and using other means to finally identify the driver, learn detailed information about her location, movements, habits, etc...

From a pure security point of view these privacy vulnerabilities would probably not be highlighted. On the contrary, they are probably desirable in some way as being able to trace the origin of a communication helps avoiding security issues related to repudiation or authentication, which is the reason why this signature has been added to the messages.

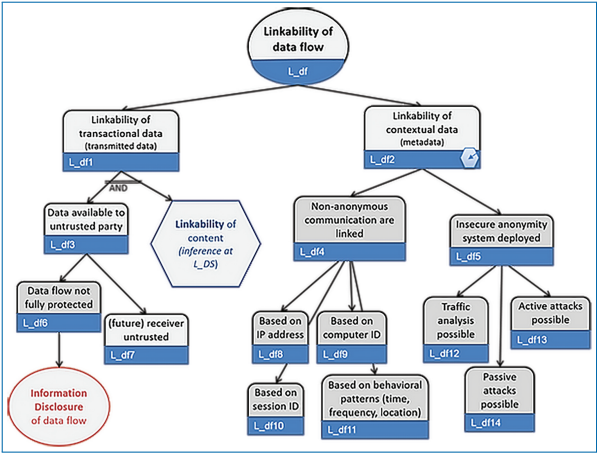


Figure 3.4. LINDDUN threat tree for linkability in data flows from <https://www.linddun.org/linkability>

Table 3.2. Privacy vulnerabilities detected.

Vulnerability	LINDDUN Property	Category	Associated Risk
Based on computer ID	Linkability	Non-anonymous Communication traced to entity	The data flow can be linked on computer ID and an attacker could link the ID to a person.
Based on session ID	Linkability	Non-anonymous Communication traced to entity	The data flow can be linked on session ID and an attacker could link the ID to a person.
Based on behavioural patterns	Linkability	Non-anonymous Communication traced to entity	Packet Counting Attacks, Timing attacks

If we consider more specifically the risk where data flows share a computer ID that can be linked to a person, the following controls are proposed by the Risk Management enabler:

- **Use tunneling through a Virtual Private Network (VPN).** This control aims at hiding the actual sender by using the exit point of the VPN as a public address. The messages can still be linked together but linking to the sender is harder.
- **Randomizing the computer ID.** This control uses unpredictable identifiers to break the link between messages. It may still be possible to link an identifier to a person but only the messages sent with this identifier will be impacted.
- **Use temporary identifiers which can be reused by different individuals across different periods of time.** This control hides the origin of messages

among the different participants. Both identifying the sender and linking the messages together is harder.

Out of these controls, the solution chosen to address this linkability issue in the described C-ITS use case is to randomly choose identifiers, called pseudonyms, in a pool assigned to a vehicle. This approach is also described in [7] and corresponds to the “Randomizing the computer ID” control described before as it makes it more difficult to link different messages by introducing randomness when choosing the pseudonym. This results in a more complex overall system as these identifiers will also need to be certified by a trusted authority but achieves a compromise between the security and privacy requirements. As an example, the ETSI Technical Report[7] also mentions the possibility of exchanging pseudonyms between vehicles. However, because multiple senders could be associated with the same pseudonym, this exchange would prevent law enforcement as access to the identity of a sender would not be available when required in an investigation. As the pseudonym scheme still allows for limited disclosure of identity, the impact on DSs is kept to a minimum while still addressing security requirements.

With this example, we demonstrated a full iteration of the risk management cycle, going from a guided identification of vulnerabilities to the selection of treatments. As shown the privacy risks identified and treatments selected are consistent with real privacy issues identified and discussed in the context of C-ITS systems. The knowledge base, being based on CWE and CAPEC, is definitely more suited for more classic IT systems than C-ITS systems in the way it describes issues and treatments so issues more specific to the domain considered are likely to be missed. For example being able to send forged messages could lead to traffic disruption. However, despite these shortcomings, it is still able to manage fairly specific issues.

The screenshot from Figure 3.5 shows how the enabler helps its user by offering direct access to potential risks and controls from the selection of vulnerabilities. This presentation allows to have a better view of potential consequences of a vulnerabilities, it also saves the engineer’s time by grouping together the relevant information about a vulnerability and its associated risks.

3.7.1 Analysis of the Extended OWASP Risk Rating Methodology

In this section, we will evaluate how the modified OWASP risk appraisal method described before can help having a better view of the impact of a risk on privacy. This analysis will focus on the impact evaluation part because likelihood evaluation has not been modified.

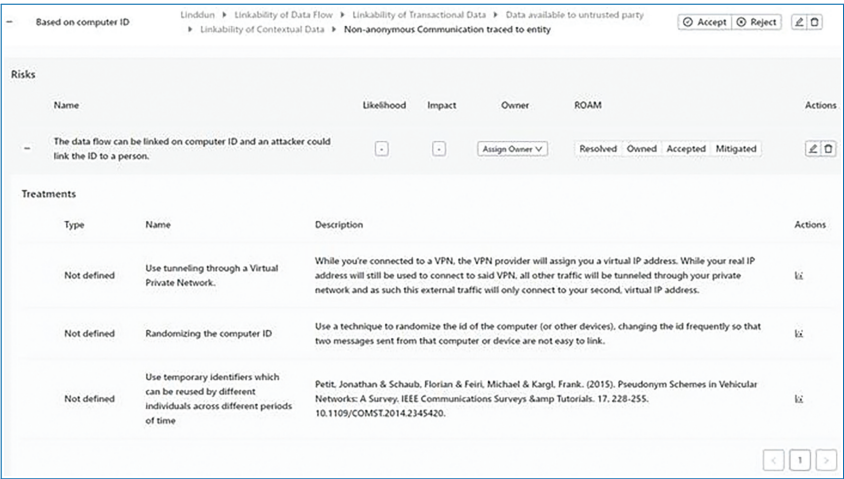


Figure 3.5. Screenshot from the risk management enabler showing the presentation of risks and controls.

Taking the example of the Identification based on machine ID risks that was considered before, with the classic OWASP methodology, the impact would be evaluated as presented in Table 3.3. This results in a technical impact of 3 and a business impact of 4.75. We choose the maximum of both categories as the final impact which gives a 4.75 impact score. This corresponds to a Medium rating according to the scales defined in the OWASP methodology.

Following, Table 3.4 presents the evaluation of the new categories introduced to measure impact on the DS. By reorganizing the previous score to take into account that the Privacy violation factor is now in the Privacy impact category and it is renamed as Scale according to Section 3.3, we get a technical impact of 3, business impact of 3.33, and privacy impact of 7. The new impact score is 7 which is a High rating.

As expected, the privacy-oriented factors indicate a significant potential impact for the privacy of a person using this system. Considering each impact category separately and using the score of the most important one as the final impact avoids minimising the contribution of a category if the others are rated low. This is an important aspect as security and privacy can be at odds with each other and the apparition of compensation mechanisms where one low-rated aspect could reduce the overall impact and undermine the proper assessment of risks.

3.7.2 Connecting the use Case with GDPR

Besides, the Risk Management enabler will establish a link with respect to GDPR principles and DS rights. This is an important benefit as, to our knowledge, it is

Table 3.3. OWASP evaluation of the identification by machine ID risk.

Factor	Value	Justification
Technical Impact		
Loss of confidentiality	1	The data sent through this data flow is not encrypted therefore it is not confidential
Loss of integrity	1	The integrity of the data is not affected by this risk
Loss of availability	1	The availability of either this communication or the CAM service is affected by this risk
Loss of accountability	9	The threat agent can listen passively to the network
Business Impact		
Financial damage	1	No financial damage will come directly to the maker of the system by exploiting the risk.
Reputation damage	5	Exploiting the risk can lead customers to be suspicious of using the system
Non-compliance	4	The system does not take into account privacy concerns like anonymity so it does not comply with GDPR , but it complies with technical specifications which also do not take into account privacy.
Privacy violation	9	The number of people affected can be measured in the millions

Table 3.4. Extended OWASP impact evaluation of the identification by machine ID risk.

Factor	Value	Justification
Harm	7	The information collected can be used to track the movements of a person. It can also be used to profile its driving style which could be used by insurance companies.
Sensitivity	5	Knowing where a person went can help deduce a political or religious affiliation
Expectation	7	The expectation on the CAM system is that messages are only processed locally by the surrounding vehicles and is not disseminated beyond the neighbourhood

the first tool that allows to map technical risks and controls with [GDPR](#) concepts, which are established from a legal perspective.

In the particular [IoT](#) use case presented above in this section, linkability issues have been detected related to the particular attack scenario under analysis. However, it is not straightforward to understand and explain, in front of a potential

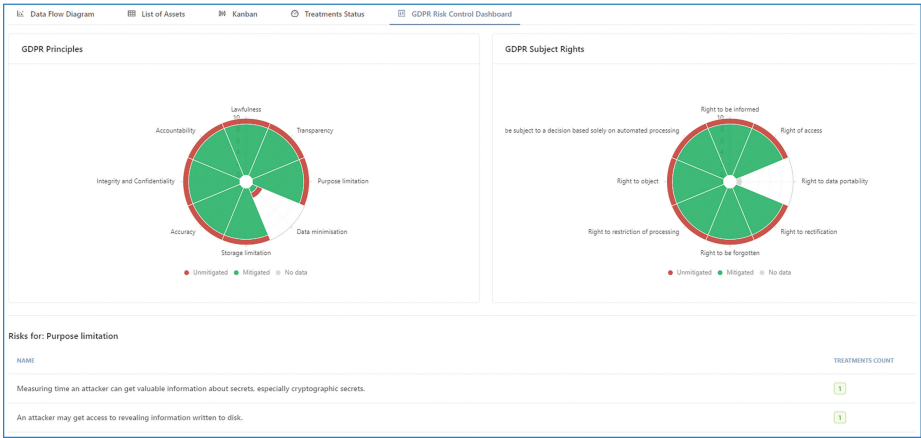


Figure 3.6. Example of dashboard the risk status categorized by GDPR principles and DS rights.

explicit audit, what are the practical steps that we are considering from a technical perspective, to protect DS rights and GDPR principles, a part from a vague understanding that the mentioned threat may affect confidentiality.

Once the risks are detected and the mitigation actions selected, we can mark risks as mitigated if their severity was considered high enough and controls are deemed sufficient to accept the residual risk.

Thanks to the analysis performed in Section 3.4, we are able to connect linkability threats to different related GDPR principles such as lawfulness, transparency, purpose limitation, data minimisation, storage limitation, accuracy, integrity and confidentiality or accountability. Also, they can be connected to DS rights such as rights to be informed, of access, to data portability, to rectification, to be forgotten, to restriction of processing, to object and not to be subject to a decision based solely on automated processing. Omitting the responsibility for adequately managing these privacy-related risks, as the IoT system architect and developer, goes against GDPR and may involve harm to users and other DSs as well as penalties.

The Risk Management enabler will help users to control the impact from GDPR perspective, showing a GDPR-specific dashboard that may specify the level of mitigation of risks related to each GDPR principle and DS right. An example is depicted in Figure 3.6.

3.8 Conclusions and Future Work

In many cases, security and privacy are conflicting requirements. While security has been largely explored for decades, privacy is a much more immature area. This is

specially true when we try to control privacy in digital ecosystems based on newer and evolving technologies such as in the case of **IoT** systems.

In this chapter we have contributed to eliminate different roadblocks to achieve a better control of privacy through risk management. One of these is the capacity to improve risk assessment under the scope of privacy, essential for **IoT** systems, but also in general for any type of digital system. A second one is the capacity to connect the management of technical risks controlled by architects, developers and risks analysts based on privacy-related threat analysis methodologies like **LINDDUN**, with current legal frameworks to protect privacy such as **GDPR**. In particular, the level of connectivity between the **GDPR** concepts and **LINDDUN** threat categories is very large since they rely on different vocabulary and it is difficult to establish a 1:1 relationship between concepts. This interdisciplinary exercise is one of the first attempts to bridge the existing gap between the legal approach towards privacy risks and engineers approach towards privacy risks.

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