



# Achieving Anatomization Constraints in Dynamic Datasets

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## ABSTRACT

Anatomy is one of the well-known privacy preservation models that are proposed to address privacy violation issues in released datasets. Unfortunately, we found that Anatomy is often sufficient to address privacy violation issues in datasets that are focused on performing a time of data releases. Thus, if datasets are dynamic (i.e., the data is updated when new data becomes available) and they are independently released, Anatomy can be insufficient. That is, released datasets are satisfied by Anatomy constraints, they still have privacy violation issues from data comparison attacks such as *iFRCA*, *iMRCA*, *iMRcMLA*, *dFLCA*, *dMLCA*, *dMLcMRA*, *SVM*, and partition changing such that they are presented in this work. To address these privacy violation issues in released datasets, a new privacy preservation model is proposed in this work. Furthermore, we show that the proposed model is higher secure in terms of privacy preservation than Anatomy with extensive experiments.

## Article information:

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Data utility and data privacy are both aspects that must be considered when datasets are released for public use [14] [16] [19] [20] [23] [24] [26]. For this reason, data anatomization models [4] [28] have been proposed. The privacy preservation idea of anatomization models is that before datasets will be released for public use, the tuples of them are partitioned such that every partition must include  $l$  distinct sensitive values, where  $l \geq 2$ . Moreover, the tuples of every partition are anatomized to be the quasi-identifier table and the sensitive table. The relationship of each partition in the anatomized tables is its defined partition identifier. Data anatomization models are generally proposed to address privacy violation issues in datasets that are focused on performing a time of data releases. For this reason, if datasets are dynamic (i.e., the data is updated when new data becomes available) and they are independently released, Anatomy can be insufficient. That is, released datasets are satisfied by Anatomy constraints, they still have privacy violation issues because they are vulnerable to privacy data attacks that are presented in Section 3. To rid this vulnerability of anatomization models, a new anatomization model for dynamic datasets is proposed in this work, it will be presented in Section 4.2.

The organization of this work is as follows. At first, related works are described in Section 2. Then, the vulnerabilities of anatomization models are identified in Section 3. Then, the basic definitions and the proposed algorithm are presented in Section 4. Then, the experimental results are discussed in Section 5. Then, the conclusion of this work is given in Section 6. Finally, possible future works for this work are presented in Section 7.

## 2. RELATED WORK

$k$ -Anonymity [26] is a well-known privacy preservation model. For privacy preservation, the attributes of datasets are grouped to be the explicit identifier attributes, the quasi-identifier attributes, and a sensitive attribute. Then, all explicit identifier values of users are removed. Finally, all unique quasi-identifier values are generalized or suppressed to be at least  $k$  indistinguishable tuples. Every group of indistinguishable quasi-identifier tuples calls an equivalence class, *EC*, of released datasets.

For example, let Table 1 be the specified raw dataset such that *SSN* and *Name* are the explicit identifier attributes. *Age*, *Sex*, and *Zipcode* are the quasi-identifier attributes. *Disease* is the sensitive attribute. Let the value of  $k$  be set to 2. To achieve 2-Anonymity constraints in Table 1, *SSN* and *Name*

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**Table 1:** An example of raw datasets.

SSN	Name	Age	Sex	Zipcode	Disease
000-00-0001	Jacob	45	Male	60636	Flu
000-00-0002	Thomas	46	Male	60632	Fever
000-00-0003	John	47	Male	60635	Cancer
000-00-0004	David	48	Male	60639	Cancer
000-00-0005	Amelia	48	Female	60632	Cancer
000-00-0006	Sophia	42	Female	60632	HIV
000-00-0007	Isabella	42	Female	60632	Fever
000-00-0008	Emily	41	Female	60636	Cancer
000-00-0009	Olivia	40	Female	60636	HIV
000-00-0010	Victoria	39	Female	60636	HIV
000-00-0011	Jessica	38	Female	60639	Fever
000-00-0012	Jennifer	37	Female	60639	Cancer

**Table 2:** The data version of Table 1 without the explicit identifier attributes.

Age	Sex	Zipcode	Disease
45	Male	60636	Flu
46	Male	60632	Fever
47	Male	60635	Cancer
48	Male	60639	Cancer
48	Female	60632	Cancer
42	Female	60632	HIV
42	Female	60632	Fever
41	Female	60636	Cancer
40	Female	60636	HIV
39	Female	60636	HIV
38	Female	60639	Fever
37	Female	60639	Cancer

**Table 3:** A released data version of Table 1 satisfies 2-Anonymity constraints.

Age	Sex	Zipcode	Disease	EC
45 - 46	Male	6063*	Flu	1
45 - 46	Male	6063*	Fever	
47 - 48	Male	6063*	Cancer	2
47 - 48	Male	6063*	Cancer	
42 - 48	Female	60632	Cancer	3
42 - 48	Female	60632	HIV	
42 - 48	Female	60632	Fever	
39 - 41	Female	60636	Cancer	4
39 - 41	Female	60636	HIV	
39 - 41	Female	60636	HIV	
37 - 38	Female	60639	Fever	5
37 - 38	Female	60639	Cancer	

are removed, i.e., Table 2 is the output of this step. Finally, *Age*, *Sex*, and *Zipcode* are generalized by their less specific values to create at least two indistinguishable tuples. Therefore, Table 3 is a released data version of Table 1 such that it is satisfied by 2-Anonymity constraints. With Table 3, we can see that all possibly re-identified conditions through the quasi-identifier attributes always have at least two tuples to be satisfied. For this reason, Ta-

ble 3 does not seem to have any privacy violation issue. Unfortunately, in [11], the authors demonstrate that Table 3 still has privacy violation issues that must be addressed. If the adversary has enough background knowledge about the target user and can match his/her background knowledge to an *EC* of Table 3 such that the sensitive value is available in the matched *EC* to be homogeneous, the privacy data of the target user can be violated by the adversary.

To show an example of the vulnerability of *k*-Anonymity constraints, we suppose that *David* is the target user of the adversary. We suppose that the adversary knows that *David* is a male person who is 48 years old. Moreover, the adversary strongly believes that *David*'s profile tuple is available in Table 3. In this situation, the adversary can be highly confident that a tuple of *EC* 2 of Table 3 is *David*'s profile tuple because only this *EC* of Table 3 can match to the adversary's background knowledge about *David*. Moreover, the adversary can observe that the sensitive attribute of the matched *EC* only collects *Cancer*. Therefore, the adversary can infer that *David*'s disease is *Cancer*. From this example, it is clear that although released datasets can guarantee that all possibly re-identified conditions always have at least *k* tuples to be satisfied, they still have privacy violation issues that must be addressed. To rid this vulnerability of *k*-Anonymity, in [11], *l*-Diversity is proposed. For privacy preservation with *l*-Diversity, aside from removing all explicit identifier values and distorting (generalizing or suppressing) all unique quasi-identifier values, the number of distinct sensitive values in each *EC* is also considered, i.e., every *EC* of released datasets is further required to have at least *l* different sensitive values.

As an example of privacy preservation based on *l*-Diversity, let Table 2 be the specified raw dataset for public use. Let the value of *l* be set to 3. With these instances, Table 4 is a data version of Table 1 that is satisfied by 3-Diversity constraints. If the adversary tries to reveal the disease of users from Table 4, the adversary always sees that every possibly re-identified

**Table 4:** A released data version of Table 1 satisfies by 3-Diversity constraints.

Age	Sex	Zipcode	Disease	EC
45 - 48	Male	6063*	Flu	1
45 - 48	Male	6063*	Fever	
45 - 48	Male	6063*	Cancer	
45 - 48	Male	6063*	Cancer	
42 - 48	Female	60632	Cancer	2
42 - 48	Female	60632	HIV	
42 - 48	Female	60632	Fever	
37 - 41	Female	6063*	Cancer	3
37 - 41	Female	6063*	HIV	
37 - 41	Female	6063*	HIV	
37 - 41	Female	6063*	Fever	
37 - 41	Female	6063*	Cancer	

condition has at least three different sensitive values that are satisfied. For this situation, we can conclude that if released datasets satisfy  $l$ -Diversity constraints, they can guarantee that all possibly re-identified conditions always have at least  $l$  different sensitive values that are satisfied.

Aside from  $k$ -Anonymity and  $l$ -Diversity, there are other well-known anonymization models that are available such as  $t$ -Closeness [10],  $(\alpha, k)$ -Anonymity [15] [27], and  $k$ -Likeness [18]. However, to the best of our knowledge about anonymization models, all of them still could be insufficient to address privacy violation issues in dynamic datasets [1] [7] [13] [15] [21] [22] [30].

In [1] and [30], the authors show privacy violation scenarios in released datasets that allow adding new tuples. Moreover, in [15] and [21], the authors demonstrate that released datasets are in privacy violation scenarios when the data of released datasets is deleted. In [13], the authors illustrate scenarios in that released datasets are allowed to update the data and are independently released, they also have privacy violation issues that must be addressed. Furthermore, in [22], the authors emphasize that released datasets of dynamic datasets still have privacy violation issues from data comparison that must be addressed. To address these privacy violation issues in released datasets, in [1], [13], [15], [21], [22], and [30], the authors suggest that aside from requiring released datasets to satisfy privacy preservation constraints, all possible data comparative results between the released dataset and its previously related release datasets must also be satisfied by privacy preservation constraints.

However, anonymization models still have a serious vulnerability that must be improved. They often have data utility issues [28] in released datasets. To rid this vulnerability of anonymization models, data anatomization models [4] [28] were proposed. For privacy preservation, before datasets are released, all users' explicit identifier values are removed. Then,

**Table 5:** A partitioned data version of Table 2, where  $l = 3$ .

Age	Sex	Zipcode	Disease	PID
45	Male	60636	Flu	1
46	Male	60632	Fever	
47	Male	60635	Cancer	
48	Male	60639	Cancer	
48	Female	60632	Cancer	2
42	Female	60632	HIV	
42	Female	60632	Fever	
41	Female	60636	Cancer	3
40	Female	60636	HIV	
39	Female	60636	HIV	
38	Female	60639	Fever	
37	Female	60639	Cancer	

the tuples are partitioned such that every partition must include at least  $l$  distinct sensitive values. Finally, every partition is anatomized to be the quasi-identifier table and the sensitive table such that the relationship of each partition in the anatomized tables is presented by its defined identifier  $PID$ .

We now consider an example of privacy preservation based on data anatomization constraints. Let Table 2 be the specified raw dataset for public use. We suppose that the value of  $l$  is set to 3. For privacy preservation, the tuples of Table 2 are partitioned by the given value of  $l$  in the first step such that every partition must include at least three distinct sensitive values. Moreover, the identifier,  $PID$ , of each partition is defined by this step. Table 5 is the output of the first step. Finally, the tuples of each partition are anatomized to be the quasi-identifier table and the sensitive table such that they are shown in Tables 6 and 7 respectively. The relationship of partitions in Tables 6 and 7 is their defined  $PID$ . For this reason, Tables 6 and 7 can guarantee that all possibly re-identified conditions always have at least  $l$  distinct sensitive values that are satisfied. Moreover, we can see that Tables 6 and 7 have better data utility than Table 4. Suppose that “Age = 45 and Sex = Female” is the specified query condition. With Table 4, we can see that there are three tuples that are satisfied. But Table 1 (the raw table) and the query result of data joining between Table 6 and 7 does not have any tuple which matches the query condition.

From the example, it is clear that data anatomization models can be more effective than other data anonymization models. Data anatomization models are generally proposed to address privacy violation issues in datasets that are focused on performing a time of data releases. For this reason, if datasets are dynamic and independently released, data anatomization models can be insufficient because they still have privacy violation issues that must be addressed. That is, data anatomization models are vulnerable to attacks from using data comparison that will be pre-

**Table 6:** The quasi-identifier table of Table 2, where  $l = 3$ .

Age	Sex	Zipcode	PID
45	Male	60636	1
46	Male	60632	
47	Male	60635	
48	Male	60639	
48	Female	60632	2
42	Female	60632	
42	Female	60632	
41	Female	60636	3
40	Female	60636	
39	Female	60636	
38	Female	60639	
37	Female	60639	

**Table 7:** The sensitive table of Table 2, where  $l = 3$ .

Disease	PID
Flu	1
Fever	
Cancer	
Cancer	
Cancer	2
HIV	
Fever	
Cancer	3
HIV	
HIV	
Fever	
Cancer	

sented in Section 3. To rid the vulnerabilities of data anonymization models in dynamic datasets, a new data anatomization model is proposed in Section 4.

### 3. MOTIVATION

Before privacy violation issues in anatomization tables are presented, the significant basic definitions of several terms are given.

**Definition 1** (Raw dataset) Let  $QI$  be the set of quasi-identifier attributes. Let  $S$  be a sensitive attribute. Let  $D$  be the raw dataset such that every tuple  $d_r \in D$  is constructed from  $QI \cup S$ . Let  $D^1, D^2, \dots, D^{z-1}$ , and  $D^z$  be the data versions of  $D$  at the timestamps 1, 2,  $\dots$ ,  $z-1$ , and  $z$  respectively. Let  $D^j[QI]$  be the data projection over on  $QI$  of  $D^j$ , where  $1 \leq j \leq z$ . Let  $D^j[S]$  be the data projection over on  $S$  of  $D^j$ . Moreover, let  $d_r^j[QI]$  and  $d_r^j[S]$  be the data projection over on  $QI$  and  $S$  of  $d_r^j$  in  $D^j$  respectively.

**Definition 2** (Data anatomization [28]) Let a positive integer  $l$ , where  $l \geq 2$ , be the privacy preservation constraint. Let  $f_{Ana}(D^j, l) : D^j \rightarrow_l D_{QI}^j, D_S^j$  be the anatomization function for transforming  $D^j$  to become  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$ . That is, the tuples of  $D^j$

are partitioned to be  $par_1^j, par_2^j, \dots, par_x^j$ , where  $\cup_{g=1}^x par_g^j = D^j$  and  $\cap_{g=1}^x par_g^j = \emptyset$ . Moreover, each partition  $par_g^j$  must include at least  $l$  distinct sensitive values.  $1, 2, \dots, x$  are the partition identifier,  $PID$ . Furthermore,  $par_1^j, par_2^j, \dots, par_x^j$  are anatomized to be both tables, i.e., the quasi-identifier table  $D_{QI}^j$  and the sensitive table  $D_S^j$  such that each related partition of  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$  is connected by its  $PID$ .

**Definition 3** (Adversary background knowledge)

Let  $u_r^j$  be the target user of the adversary in  $D^j$  such that the tuple  $d_r^j$  of  $D^j$  is the profile tuple of the user  $u_r^j$ . Moreover, let  $B_{u_r^j}$ , where  $B_{u_r^j} \subseteq d_r^j[QI]$  and  $d_r^j \in D^j$ , be the adversary's background knowledge about the target user  $u_r^j$  in  $D^j$ . If  $B_{u_r^j}$  is unique in the anatomization tables of  $D^j$ , the adversary can use  $B_{u_r^j}$  to identify the profile tuple of  $u_r^j$  and reveal the sensitive value of  $u_r^j$  from the anatomization tables of  $D^j$ .

Aside from the basic definitions, to aid the readability of the focused issues in anatomization tables, the reader is supplied with the notation symbol used in Table 8.

#### 3.1 Privacy violation issues in anatomization tables based on data increasing

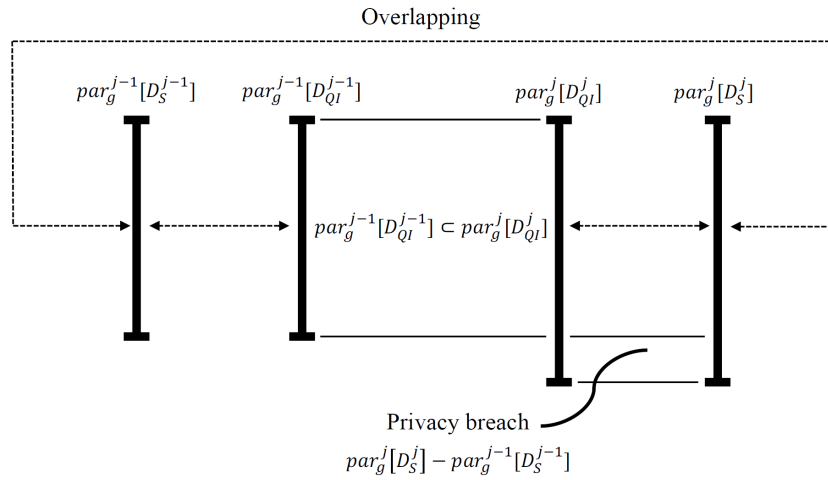
In this section, we demonstrate privacy violation issues that could occur in anatomization tables when new data is added to them.

##### 3.1.1 Full Right Coverage data Attack (*iFRCA*)

The assumption of this privacy data attack in anatomization tables is that only  $par_g^j$  of  $D^j$  matches the adversary's background knowledge about the target user. Moreover, there is only  $par_g^{j-1}$  of  $D^{j-1}$  such that it matches  $par_g^j$ . For violating the privacy data of the target user in anatomization tables, let  $u_r^j$  be the target user of the adversary. Let  $B_{u_r^j}$  be the adversary's background knowledge about the target user  $u_r^j$ . Let  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$  collect the quasi-identifier tuple that matches  $B_{u_r^j}$ . Let  $par_g^j[D_S^j]$  be the sensitive partition that relates to  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$ . Moreover, let  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  be the quasi-identifier partition that is fully covered by  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$ , i.e.,  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}] \subset par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$ . Let  $par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  be the sensitive partition that relates to  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$ . If the compared result between  $par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  and  $par_g^j[D_S^j]$  does not satisfy the given value of  $l$ , the privacy data of the target user  $u_r^j$  in  $par_g^j[D_S^j]$  can be inferred from  $par_g^j[D_S^j] - par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$ . The characteristic of privacy violation issues in incremental anatomization tables from using *iFRCA* attacks is shown in Figure 1.

**Table 8:** Summary of notation used.

Notation	Definition
$QI$	The quasi-identifier attributes
$S$	The sensitive attribute
$D^j$	The raw dataset at the timestamp $j$ , where $1 \leq j \leq z$
$d_r^j$	An arbitrary tuple $d_r^j$ of $D^j$
$l$	The privacy preservation constraint, where $l \in I^+$ and $l \geq 2$
$D_{QI}^j$	The quasi-identifier table of $D^j$
$D_S^j$	The sensitive table of $D^j$
$par_g^j$	An arbitrary partition $par_g^j$ of $D^j$
$par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$	An arbitrary partition $par_g^j$ of $D_{QI}^j$
$par_g^j[D_S^j]$	An arbitrary partition $par_g^j$ of $D_S^j$
$PID$	The partition identifier
$B_{u_r^j}$	The adversary's background knowledge in $D^j$

**Fig.1:** The characteristic of privacy violation issues in incremental anatomization tables from using *iFPCA* attacks.

### 3.1.2 Merged Right Coverage data Attack (*iMRCA*)

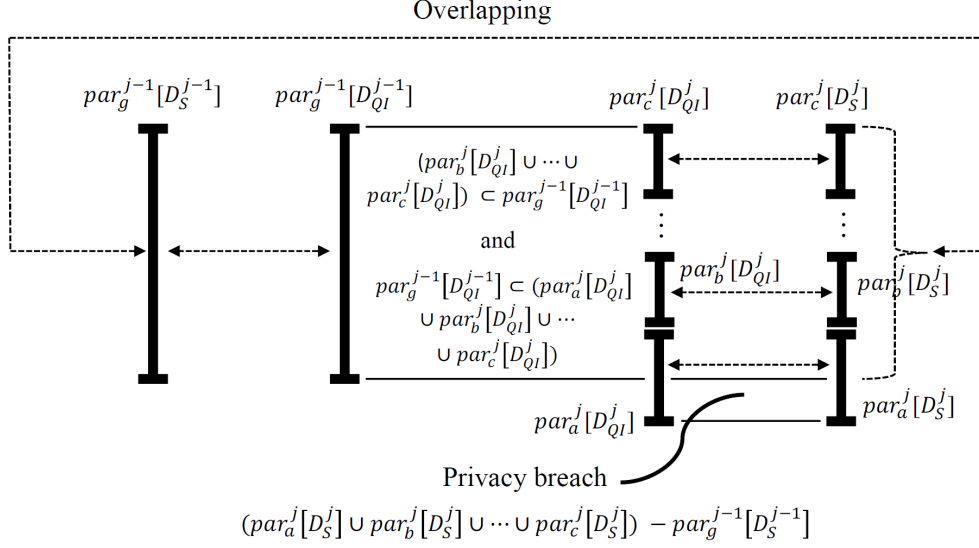
The assumption of this privacy data attack in anatomization tables is that only  $par_g^j$  match the adversary's background knowledge about the target user and  $par_g^j$  only relates to  $par_g^{j-1}$ . Moreover,  $par_g^{j-1}$  relates to  $par_b^j, \dots, par_c^j$  of  $D^j$ . For violating the privacy data of the target user in anatomization tables, let  $u_r^j$  be the target user of the adversary. Let  $B_{u_r^j}$  be the adversary's background knowledge about the target user  $u_r^j$ . Let  $par_a^j[D_{QI}^j]$  includes the quasi-identifier tuple which matches  $B_{u_r^j}$ . Moreover, let  $par_b^j[D_{QI}^j], \dots, par_c^j[D_{QI}^j]$  be other specified quasi-identifier partitions of the adversary in  $D_{QI}^j$ . Let  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  be the related quasi-identifier partition of  $par_a^j[D_{QI}^j], par_b^j[D_{QI}^j], \dots, par_c^j[D_{QI}^j]$  such that they satisfy the limitations as  $(par_b^j[D_{QI}^j] \cup \dots \cup par_c^j[D_{QI}^j]) \subset par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  and  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}] \subset (par_a^j[D_{QI}^j] \cup par_b^j[D_{QI}^j] \cup \dots \cup par_c^j[D_{QI}^j])$ . Let  $par_a^j[D_S^j], par_b^j[D_S^j], \dots, par_c^j[D_S^j]$  be the sensitive partitions that relate to  $par_a^j[D_{QI}^j], par_b^j[D_{QI}^j], \dots,$

$par_c^j[D_{QI}^j]$  respectively. Also, let  $par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  be the sensitive partition that relates to  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$ . If the compared result between  $par_a^j[D_S^j], par_b^j[D_S^j], \dots, par_c^j[D_S^j]$  and  $par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  does not satisfy the given value of  $l$ , the privacy data of the target user  $u_r^j$  in  $D_S^j$  can be inferred from  $(par_a^j[D_S^j] \cup par_b^j[D_S^j] \cup \dots \cup par_c^j[D_S^j]) - par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$ . The characteristic of privacy violation issues in incremental anatomization tables from using *iMRCA* attacks is shown in Figure 2.

### 3.1.3 Merged Right fully covers Merged Left data Attack (*iMRcMLA*)

The assumption of this privacy data attack in anatomization tables is that  $par_g^j$  of  $D^j$  match the adversary's background knowledge about the target user and  $par_b^j, \dots, par_c^j$  of  $D^j$  are identified by the adversary. Moreover, the adversary can see that  $par_g^j, par_b^j, \dots, par_c^j$  relate to  $par_d^{j-1}, \dots, par_e^{j-1}$  of  $D^{j-1}$ . For violating the privacy data of the target user in anatomization tables, let  $u_r^j$  be the target user of the adversary. Let  $B_{u_r^j}$  be the adversary's background





**Fig.2:** The characteristic of privacy violation issues in incremental anatomization tables from using *iMRCA* attacks.

knowledge about the target user  $u_r^j$ . Let  $par_a^j[D_{QI}^j]$  be the quasi-identifier partition that matches  $B_{u_r^j}$ . Moreover, let  $par_b^j[D_{QI}^j], \dots, par_c^j[D_{QI}^j]$  be other identified quasi-identifier partitions of the adversary such that they are also available in  $D_{QI}^j$ . Let  $par_d^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], \dots, par_e^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  be the related quasi-identifier partitions of  $par_a^j[D_{QI}^j], par_b^j[D_{QI}^j], \dots, par_c^j[D_{QI}^j]$  such that they satisfy the limitations as  $(par_b^j[D_{QI}^j] \cup \dots \cup par_c^j[D_{QI}^j]) \subset (par_d^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_e^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}])$  and  $(par_d^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_e^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]) \subset (par_a^j[D_{QI}^j] \cup par_b^j[D_{QI}^j] \cup \dots \cup par_c^j[D_{QI}^j])$ . Let  $par_a^j[D_S^j], par_b^j[D_S^j], \dots, par_c^j[D_S^j]$  be the related sensitive partition of  $par_a^j[D_{QI}^j], par_b^j[D_{QI}^j], \dots, par_c^j[D_{QI}^j]$  respectively. Also, let  $par_d^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}], \dots, par_e^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  be the related sensitive partition of  $par_d^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], \dots, par_e^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  respectively. Thus, if the compared result between  $par_a^j[D_S^j] \cup par_b^j[D_S^j] \cup \dots \cup par_c^j[D_S^j]$  and  $par_d^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_e^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  does not satisfy the given value of  $l$ , the privacy data of the target user  $u_r^j$  in  $D_S^j$  can be inferred from  $(par_a^j[D_S^j] \cup par_b^j[D_S^j] \cup \dots \cup par_c^j[D_S^j]) - (par_d^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_e^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}])$ . The characteristic of privacy violation issues in incremental anatomization tables from using *iMRcMLA* attacks is shown in Figure 3.

### 3.2 Privacy violation issues in anatomization tables based on removing data

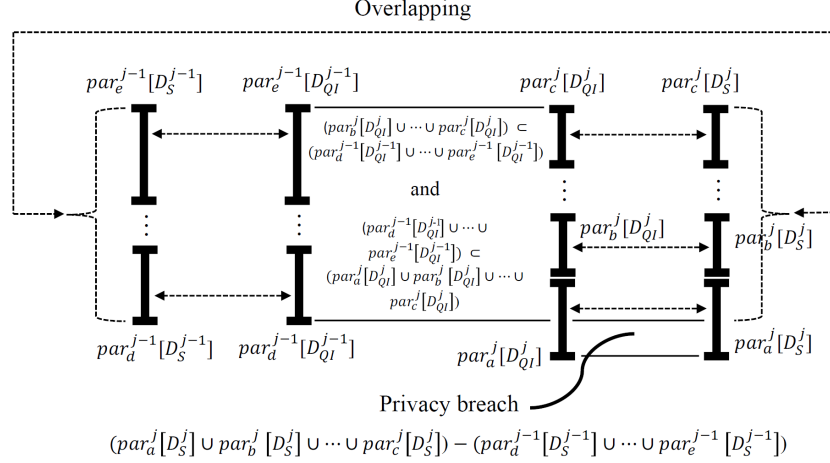
In this section, we demonstrate privacy violation issues that could occur in anatomization tables when some data of them is deleted.

#### 3.2.1 Full Left Coverage data Attack (*dFLCA*)

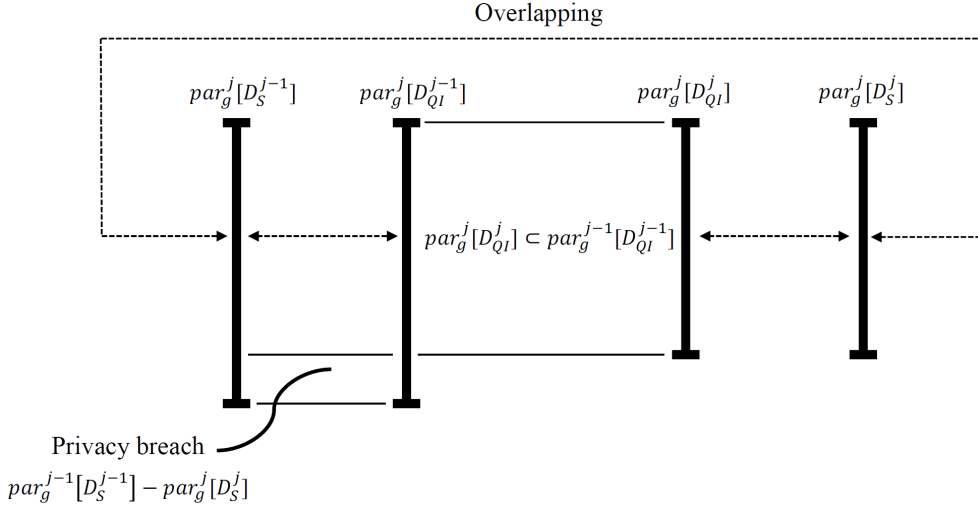
The assumption of this privacy data attack in anatomization tables is that only  $par_g^{j-1}$  of  $D^{j-1}$  matches the adversary's background knowledge about the target user. Moreover, there is only  $par_g^j$  of  $D^j$  such that it matches  $par_g^{j-1}$ . For violating the privacy data of the target user in anatomization tables, let  $u_r^{j-1}$  be the target user of the adversary. Let  $B_{u_r^{j-1}}$  be the adversary's background knowledge about the target user  $u_r^{j-1}$ . Let  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  be the identified quasi-identifier partition of the adversary such that  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  includes the quasi-identifier tuples which match  $B_{u_r^{j-1}}$ . Moreover, let  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$  be the related quasi-identifier partition of  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$ , where  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j] \subset par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$ . Let  $par_g^j[D_S^j]$  be the sensitive partition which relates to  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$ , and the sensitive partition  $par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  be the related sensitive partition of  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$ . If the compared result between  $par_g^j[D_S^j]$  and  $par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  does not satisfy the given value of  $l$ , the privacy data of the target user  $u_r^{j-1}$  in  $D_S^{j-1}$  can be inferred from  $par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] - par_g^j[D_S^j]$ . The characteristic of privacy violation issues in decremental anatomization tables from using *dFLCA* attacks is shown in Figure 4.

#### 3.2.2 Merged Left Coverage data Attack (*dMLCA*)

The assumption of this privacy data attack in anatomization tables is that only  $par_g^{j-1}$  of  $D^{j-1}$  matches the adversary's background knowledge about the target user. There is only  $par_g^j$  of  $D^j$  such that it match to  $par_g^{j-1}$ . Moreover, the adversary can see that  $par_g^j$  of  $D^j$  further relates to  $par_b^{j-1}, \dots, par_e^{j-1}$  of  $D^{j-1}$ . For violating the privacy



**Fig.3:** The characteristic of privacy violation issues in incremental anatomization tables from using iMRcMLA attacks.



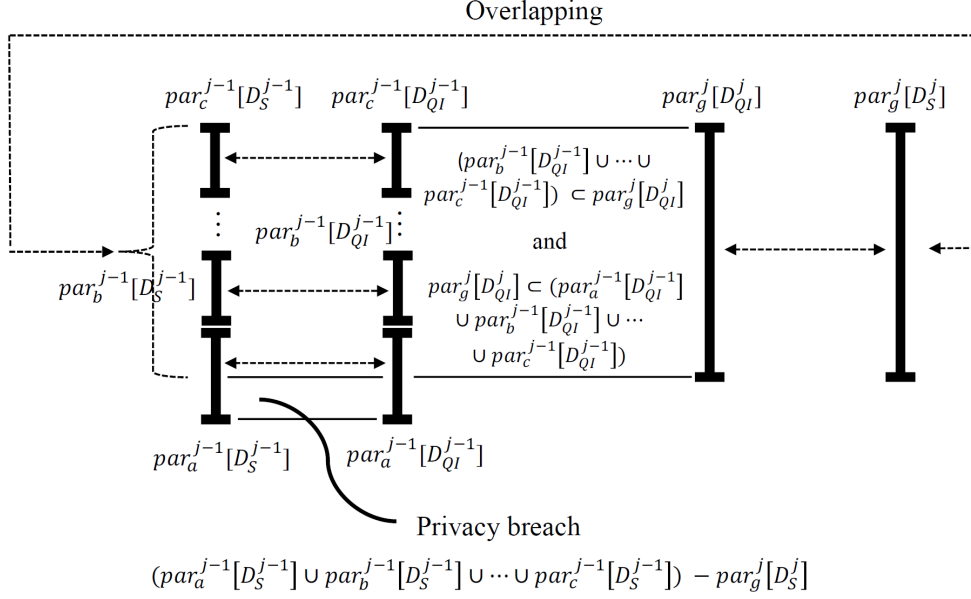
**Fig.4:** The characteristic of privacy violation issues in decremental anatomization tables from using dFLCA attacks.

data of the target user in anatomization tables, let  $u_r^{j-1}$  be the target user of the adversary. Let  $B_{u_r^{j-1}}$  be the adversary's background knowledge about the target user  $u_r^{j-1}$ . Let  $par_a^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  be an identified quasi-identifier partition of the adversary such that  $par_a^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  contains the quasi-identifier tuple which matches  $B_{u_r^{j-1}}$ . Moreover, let  $par_b^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], \dots, par_c^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  be other identified quasi-identifier partitions of the adversary in  $D_{QI}^{j-1}$ . Let  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$  be the related quasi-identifier partition of  $par_a^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], par_b^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], \dots, par_c^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  such that  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$  satisfies the limitations as  $(par_b^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_c^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]) \subset par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$  and  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j] \subset (par_a^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}] \cup par_b^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_c^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}])$ . Let  $par_a^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}], par_b^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}], \dots, par_c^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  be the related sensitive partition of  $par_a^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], par_b^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], \dots, par_c^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  respectively. Also, let  $par_g^j[D_S^j]$  be

the sensitive partition that relates to  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$ . If the compared result between  $par_a^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] \cup par_b^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_c^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  and  $par_g^j[D_S^j]$  does not satisfy the given value of  $l$ , the privacy data of the target user  $u_r^{j-1}$  in  $D_S^{j-1}$  can be inferred from  $(par_a^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] \cup par_b^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_c^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]) - par_g^j[D_S^j]$ . The characteristic of privacy violation issues in decremental anatomization tables from using dMRCA attacks is shown in Figure 5.

### 3.2.3 Merged Left fully covers Merged Right data Attack (dMLcMRA)

The assumption of this privacy data attack in anatomization tables is that only  $par_g^{j-1}$  of  $D^{j-1}$  matches the adversary's background knowledge about the target user and  $par_b^{j-1}, \dots, par_c^{j-1}$  of  $D^{j-1}$  are further identified by the adversary. Moreover,  $par_g^{j-1}, par_b^{j-1}, \dots, par_c^{j-1}$  relate to  $par_d^j, \dots, par_e^j$  of  $D^j$ . For violating the privacy data of the target user in



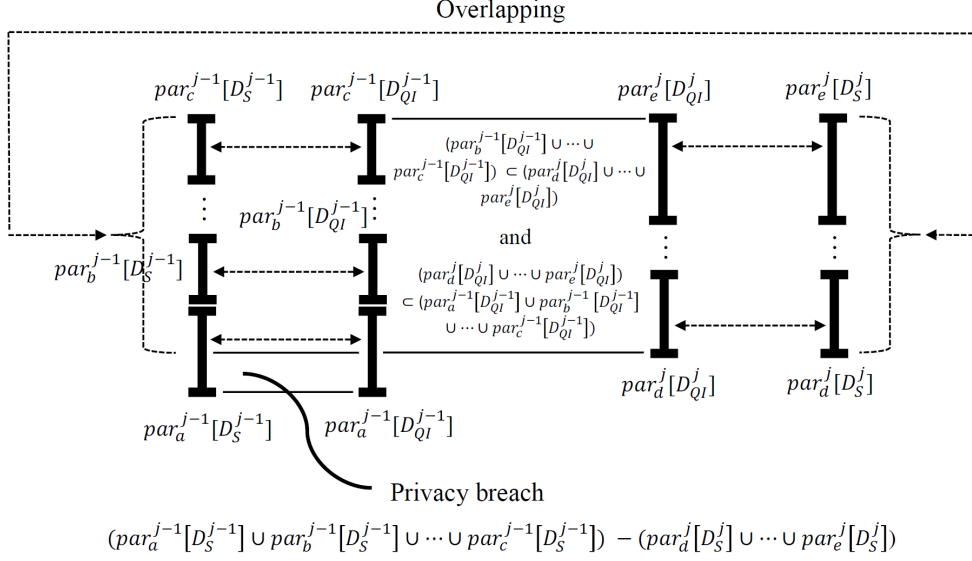
**Fig. 5:** The characteristic of privacy violation issues in decremental anatomization tables from using dMLCA attacks.

anatomization tables, let  $u_r^{j-1}$  be the target user of the adversary. Let  $B_{u_r^{j-1}}$  be the adversary's background knowledge about the target user  $u_r^{j-1}$ . Let  $par_a^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  be an identified quasi-identifier partition of the adversary such that it contains the quasi-identifier tuple which matches  $B_{u_r^{j-1}}$ . Moreover, let  $par_b^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], \dots, par_c^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  be other identified quasi-identifier partitions of the adversary such that they are also available in  $D_{QI}^{j-1}$ . Let  $par_d^j[D_{QI}^j], \dots, par_e^j[D_{QI}^j]$  be the related quasi-identifier partitions of  $par_a^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], par_b^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], \dots$ , and  $par_c^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  such that  $par_d^j[D_{QI}^j], \dots, par_e^j[D_{QI}^j]$  satisfy the limitations as  $(par_b^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_c^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]) \subset (par_d^j[D_{QI}^j] \cup \dots \cup par_e^j[D_{QI}^j])$  and  $(par_d^j[D_{QI}^j] \cup \dots \cup par_e^j[D_{QI}^j]) \subset (par_a^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}] \cup par_b^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_c^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}])$ . Let  $par_a^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}], par_b^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}], \dots, par_c^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  be the related sensitive partition of  $par_a^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], par_b^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}], \dots, par_c^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  respectively. Also, let  $par_d^j[D_S^j], \dots, par_e^j[D_S^j]$  be the related sensitive partition of  $par_d^j[D_{QI}^j], \dots, par_e^j[D_{QI}^j]$  respectively. If the compared result between  $par_a^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] \cup par_b^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_c^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  and  $par_d^j[D_S^j] \cup \dots \cup par_e^j[D_S^j]$  does not satisfy the given value of  $l$ , the privacy data of the target user  $u_r^{j-1}$  in  $D_S^{j-1}$ , it can be inferred from  $(par_a^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] \cup par_b^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] \cup \dots \cup par_c^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]) - (par_d^j[D_S^j] \cup \dots \cup par_e^j[D_S^j])$ . The characteristic of privacy violation issues in decremental anatomization tables from using dMLCRA attacks is shown in Figure 6.

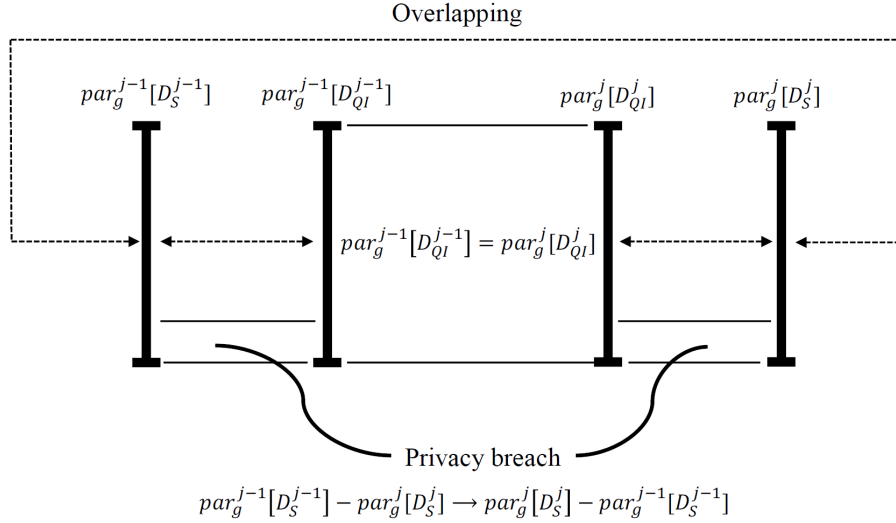
### 3.3 Privacy violation issues in anatomization tables based on data modifications

This section presents privacy violation issues that can occur in anatomization tables when the sensitive values are updated. To aid the readability of privacy violation issues that are presented in this section, we call them to be SVM. For violating the privacy data of the target user in anatomization tables, let  $u_r$  be the target user of the adversary such that the profile tuple of  $u_r$  is available in both related anatomization data versions which are released at the timestamps  $j-1$  and  $j$  respectively, i.e.,  $D_{QI}^{j-1}, D_S^{j-1}, D_{QI}^j$ , and  $D_S^j$ . Assume that after  $D_{QI}^{j-1}$  and  $D_S^{j-1}$  are released, the sensitive data of the target user  $u_r$  is updated from  $s_{old}$  to become  $s_{new}$ . Let  $B_{u_r}$ , where  $B_{u_r} \subset d_r^{j-1}[QI]$ ,  $B_{u_r} \subset d_r^j[QI]$  and  $d_r^{j-1}[QI] = d_r^j[QI]$ , be the adversary's background knowledge about the target user  $u_r$ . Let  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  and  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$  be both identified quasi-identifier partitions of the adversary such that they contain the quasi-identifier tuple which matches  $B_{u_r}$ . Let  $par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  and  $par_g^j[D_S^j]$  be the related sensitive partition of  $par_g^{j-1}[D_{QI}^{j-1}]$  and  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$  respectively. If the compared result between  $par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$  and  $par_g^j[D_S^j]$  does not satisfy the given value of  $l$ , the adversary can infer that the sensitive value of  $u_r$  is changed from  $par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}] - par_g^j[D_S^j]$  to become  $par_g^j[D_S^j] - par_g^{j-1}[D_S^{j-1}]$ . The characteristic of privacy violation issues based on data modifications in anatomization tables from using SVM attacks is shown in Figure 7.





**Fig.6:** The characteristic of privacy violation issues in decremental anatomization tables from using dMLcMRA attacks.



**Fig.7:** The characteristic of privacy violation issues based on data modification in anatomization tables from using SVM attacks.

### 3.4 Privacy violation issues in anatomization tables based on partition changing

Aside from iFRCA, iMRCA, iMRcMLA, dFRCA, dMRCA, dMRcMLA, and SVM, anatomization tables are susceptible to privacy violation issues when the tuples are moved to be in different partition.

For example, let Table 1 be the specified raw dataset at the timestamp  $j - 1$ , denoted as  $D^{j-1}$ , and its anatomization tables are shown in Tables 6 and 7,

so denoted as  $D_{QI}^{j-1}$  and  $D_S^{j-1}$  respectively. We suppose that after Tables 6 and 7 are released, the tuples (49, Male, 60639, Cancer), (50, Male, 60639, HIV), and (51, Male, 60639, Flu) are inserted into  $D$ , so denoted as  $D^j$ . For privacy preservation, let the value

of  $l$  be set to 3. Thus, Tables 9 and 10 are an anatomization data version of Table 1 at the timestamp  $j$ , denoted as  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$  respectively. Let *David* be the target user of the adversary who needs to reveal *David's* disease from Tables 7 and 10. We assume that the adversary knows that *David* is a male person who is 48 years old,  $B_{David} = (48, Male)$ . Moreover, the adversary strongly believes that *David's* profile tuple is available in Tables 6 and 7, 9, and 10. In this situation, the quasi-identifier partition  $PID = 1$  of Table 6 and the quasi-identifier partition  $PID = 2$  of Table 9 are both desired quasi-identifier partitions of the adversary because they contain the quasi-identifier tuple, (48, Male, 60639), which matches  $B_{David}$ . Moreover, the adversary can observe that the quasi-identifier partition  $PID = 1$

**Table 9:** The quasi-identifier table of Table 1, where  $l = 3$ , after the tuple (49, Male, 60639, Cancer), (50, Male, 60639, HIV), and (51, Male, 60639, Flu) has been inserted.

Age	Sex	Zipcode	PID
45	Male	60636	1
46	Male	60632	
47	Male	60635	
48	Male	60639	2
49	Male	60639	
50	Male	60639	
51	Male	60639	
48	Female	60632	3
42	Female	60632	
42	Female	60632	
41	Female	60636	4
40	Female	60636	
39	Female	60636	
38	Female	60639	
37	Female	60639	

**Table 10:** The sensitive table of Table 1, where  $l = 3$ , after the tuple (49, Male, 60639, Cancer), (50, Male, 60639, HIV), and (51, Male, 60639, Flu) has been inserted.

Disease	PID
Flu	1
Fever	
Cancer	
Cancer	2
Cancer	
HIV	
Flu	
Cancer	3
HIV	
Fever	
Cancer	4
HIV	
HIV	
Fever	
Cancer	

of Table 6 fully covers the quasi-identifier partition  $PID = 1$  of Table 9. With the quasi-identifier partition  $PID = 1$  of Table 6, it relates to *Flu*, *Fever*, *Cancer*, and *Cancer* in Table 7. The quasi-identifier partition  $PID = 1$  of Table 9 relates to *Flu*, *Fever*, and *Cancer* in Table 10. Thus, the adversary can be highly confident that the quasi-identifier tuple (48, Male, 60639) of Table 6 relates to *Cancer* in Table 7. In addition, after the adversary compares all quasi-identifier tuples that are available in Table 6 and 9, the adversary can ensure that the quasi-identifier tuples (49, Male, 60639), (50, Male, 60639), and (51, Male, 60639) are inserted into Table 1 after Table 6 and 7 are released. That is because these quasi-identifier tuples (49, Male, 60639), (50, Male, 60639)

to only be available in Table 9. Furthermore, after the adversary compares the sensitive values that are available in Table 7 and 10, the adversary can see that there are three diseases to be different, i.e., *Cancer*, *HIV*, and *Flu*. In this situation, the adversary can infer that the quasi-identifier tuple (48, Male, 60639) of Table 9 relates to *Cancer* of Table 10. Therefore, the adversary strongly believes that *David's* disease in 7 and 10 to be *Cancer*.

At this point, it is clear that anatomization tables allow to change (insert, delete, and update) of the data and are independently released. They have privacy violation issues that must be addressed. For this reason, a new anatomization model is proposed in Section 4.

#### 4. THE PROPOSED PRIVACY PRESERVATION MODEL

In this section, an appropriate model for addressing privacy violation issues in dynamic anatomization tables based on anatomization constraints [28] in conjunction with additive noise (data holding) [2] [6] [12] and data suppression [25] [5] [17] is presented.

##### 4.1 Basic definition

**Definition 4** (Data suppression) Let  $D^j$  be the raw dataset  $D$  at the timestamps  $j$ , and its anatomization tables are denoted as  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$ . Let  $d_r^j$  be an arbitrary tuple that is available in  $D^j$ . The meaning of data suppressions for  $d_r^j$  is that  $d_r^j$  cannot be available in  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$ .

**Definition 5** (Data holding) Let  $D^{j-1}$  and  $D^j$  be the raw dataset  $D$  at the timestamps  $j-1$  and  $j$  respectively. Let  $d_r^{j-1}$  be an arbitrary tuple which is available in  $D^{j-1}$ . The meaning of data holding for  $d_r^{j-1}$  is that  $d_r^j$  of  $D^j$  is replaced by  $d_r^{j-1}$  of  $D^{j-1}$  or  $d_r^{j-1}$  is inserted into  $D^j$ .

**Definition 6** (Partition of tuples) Let the positive integer  $l$ , where  $l \in I^+$  and  $l \geq 2$ , be the privacy preservation constraint. Let  $D_{PAR}^1, D_{PAR}^2, \dots, D_{PAR}^{j-1}$  be the set of partitions that are available in the anatomization tables of  $D$  such that they are released at the timestamps  $1, 2, \dots, j-1$  respectively. Let  $D_{PAR}^\beta = \{par_1^\beta, par_2^\beta, \dots, par_x^\beta\}$  be the set of partitions of  $D^\beta$ , where  $1 \leq \beta \leq j-1$ . For privacy preservation, let  $f_{PAR}(D_{PAR}^1, D_{PAR}^2, \dots, D_{PAR}^{j-1}, D^j, l) : D^j \rightarrow_{D_{PAR}^1, D_{PAR}^2, \dots, D_{PAR}^{j-1}, l} D_{PAR}^j$  be the function for partitioning the tuples of  $D^j$  to become  $D_{PAR}^j$  where  $f_{PAR}(D_{PAR}^1, D_{PAR}^2, \dots, D_{PAR}^{j-1}, D^j, l)$  is based on data suppressions in conjunction with data holding.  $D_{PAR}^j$  is the set of partitions of  $D^j$ , i.e.,  $D_{PAR}^j = \{par_1^j, par_2^j, \dots, par_x^j\}$ . In addition,  $1, 2, \dots, x$  are the defined partition identifiers,  $PID$ , for the partitions  $par_1^{j-1}, par_2^{j-1}, \dots, par_x^{j-1}$  respectively. Moreover,  $par_1^j, par_2^j, \dots, par_x^j$  must be satisfied by limitations as follows:

**Table 11:** The data version of Table 1 without all explicit identifier values of users at the timestamp  $j$ .

Age	Sex	Zipcode	Disease
45	Male	60636	Flu
46	Male	60632	Fever
47	Male	60635	Cancer
48	Male	60639	Cancer
48	Female	60632	Cancer
41	Female	60636	Cancer
40	Female	60636	HIV
39	Female	60636	HIV
38	Female	60639	Fever
37	Female	60639	Cervical cancer
51	Female	60635	Cancer
52	Female	60635	HIV
53	Female	60635	Flu

**Table 12:** A partitioned data version of Table 11, where  $l = 3$ , satisfies Definition 6.

Age	Sex	Zipcode	Disease	PID
45	Male	60636	Flu	1
46	Male	60632	Fever	
47	Male	60635	Cancer	
48	Male	60639	Cancer	
41	Female	60636	Cancer	2
40	Female	60636	HIV	
39	Female	60636	HIV	
38	Female	60639	Fever	
37	Female	60639	Cancer	
51	Female	60635	Cancer	3
52	Female	60635	HIV	
53	Female	60635	Flu	

- $par_g^j \subseteq D^j$ , where  $1 \leq g \leq x$ ,
- $par_1^j \cap par_2^j \cap \dots \cap par_x^j = \emptyset$ ,
- The number of distinct sensitive values is available in every  $par_g^j[S]$  to be equal to or greater than  $l$  values, i.e.,  $|par_g^j[S]| \geq l$ , and
- All possibly compared results between  $par_g^j[S]$  and its related sensitive partitions that are available in  $par_\beta^j[S]$  must also contain at least  $l$  distinct sensitive values.

**Definition 7** (Anatomization tables) Let  $D_{PAR}^j$  be the set of partitions of  $D^j$  such that it satisfies Definition 6. Let  $f_{Ana}(D_{PAR}^j) : D_{PAR}^j \rightarrow D_{QI}^j, D_S^j$  be the function for anatomizing  $D_{PAR}^j$  to become  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$ . The relationship of each partition in  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$  is represented by its  $PID$ .

**Definition 8** (The error of partitions) Let  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$  and  $par_g^j[D_S^j]$  be the specified partition  $par_g^j$  of  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$  respectively, where  $par_g^j[D_{QI}^j]$  and  $par_g^j[D_S^j]$  are constructed from  $par_g^j \in D_{PAR}^j$ . For this reason, the penalty cost of  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$  can be defined from  $par_g^j$ , i.e., the penalty cost of  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$  can be de-

**Table 13:** A version of quasi-identifier tables is constructed from Table 11, where  $l = 3$ , such that it satisfies Definition 7.

Age	Sex	Zipcode	PID
45	Male	60636	1
46	Male	60632	
47	Male	60635	
48	Male	60639	
41	Female	60636	2
40	Female	60636	
39	Female	60636	
38	Female	60639	
37	Female	60639	
51	Female	60635	3
52	Female	60635	
53	Female	60635	

**Table 14:** A version of sensitive tables is constructed from Table 11, where  $l = 3$ , such that it satisfies Definition 7.

Disease	PID
Flu	1
Fever	
Cancer	
Cancer	
Cancer	2
HIV	
HIV	
Fever	
Cancer	
Cancer	3
HIV	
Flu	

finied by  $PL(D^j, par_g^j)$ , as shown in Equation 1. More penalty cost of  $PL(D^j, par_g^j)$  implies that  $par_g^j$  is less data utility.

$$PL(D^j, par_g^j) = |par_g^j|^2 + (|D^j| \cdot (|HD|) + |SP|) \quad (1)$$

Where,  $|HD|$  is the number of the tuples which are held, and  $|SP|$  is the number of the tuples which are suppressed.

**Definition 9** (The error of anatomization tables) Let  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$  be constructed from  $D_{PAR}^j = \{par_1^j, par_2^j, \dots, par_x^j\}$ . Thus, the penalty cost of  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$  can be defined by  $DL(D^j, D_{PAR}^j)$ , as shown in Equation 2. More penalty cost of  $DL(D^j, D_{PAR}^j)$  implies implies that  $D_{PAR}^j$  is less data utility.

$$DL(D^j, D_{PAR}^j) = \sum_{g=1}^x PL(D^j, par_g^j) \quad (2)$$

For example, let Table 1 be the raw dataset at the timestamp  $j - 1$ , so denoted as  $D^{j-1}$ , and its anatomization tables are shown in Tables 6 and 7, so denoted as  $D_{QI}^{j-1}$  and  $D_S^{j-1}$  respectively. After Ta-

bles 6 and 7 are released, we suppose that the tuples (42, *Female*, 60632, *HIV*) and (42, *Female*, 60632, *Fever*) are deleted from Table 1, and the disease of the tuple (37, *Female*, 60639) of Table 1 is further updated from *Cancer* to become *Cervical cancer*. Moreover, the tuples (51, *Male*, 60635, *Cancer*), (52, *Male*, 60635, *HIV*), and (53, *Male*, 60635, *Flu*), are inserted into Table 1. The new resulting data version of Table 1 at the timestamp  $j$  is shown in Table 11, denoted as  $D^j$ . For privacy preservation, let the value of  $l$  be set to 3. At first, the tuples of Table 11 are partitioned by the given value of  $l$  to satisfy Definition 6, as shown in Table 12. In Table 12, we can see that every partition contains at least three different diseases. Moreover, the compared result between each specified partition of Table 12 and its related partition(s) that is available in Table 5, always has at least three different diseases. Furthermore, we can observe that the tuple (37, *Female*, 60639, *Cancer*) of Table 1 is in Table 12, and its updated tuple version, (37, *Female*, 60639, *Cervical cancer*), in Table 11 is suppressed. That is because if the tuple (37, *Female*, 60639, *Cancer*) of Table 2 is not present and the tuple (37, *Female*, 60639, *Cervical cancer*) of Table 11 is not suppressed, their diseases can be disclosed by using *SVM* after they are released for public use. Furthermore, we can see that the tuple (48, *Female*, 60636, *Cancer*) of Table 11 is also suppressed because it can lead to privacy violation issues from using a privacy data attack described in Section 3.4. Finally, the tuples of Table 12 are anatomized to become Table 13 and 14. Table 13 and 14 are an anatomization data version of Table 11 which is not vulnerable to any of the data attacks which are proposed in Section 3. Moreover, the error of these anatomization tables,  $DL(\text{Table 12})$ , is only 89.

#### 4.2 Dynamic anatomization algorithm (DAA)

In this section, a privacy preservation algorithm for addressing privacy violation issues in dynamic anatomization tables is proposed. The algorithm is based on the assumption that all relatedly released data versions of  $D^j$  are released from the timestamp 1 to  $j-1$ , they are always satisfied by the limitations of the algorithm. Thus, only the anatomization tables are released at the timestamp  $j-1$  to be considered for constructing  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$ . With this algorithm, aside from privacy preservation, the data utility and the execution time are also maintained as much as possible. To achieve the aims of the algorithm, greedy [9] and data clustering [3] [29] are applied, as shown in Algorithm 1.

The inputs of the algorithm are a positive integer  $l$ , the partitioned data version  $D_{PAR}^{j-1}$ , and the raw dataset  $D^j$ . The output of the proposed algorithm is the quasi-identifier table  $D_{QI}^j$  and the sensitive table  $D_S^j$  such that they satisfy Definition 7.

For privacy preservation, the changed tuples of  $D^j$

are investigated in the first step. That is, if they do not satisfy the given value of  $l$ , they are suppressed or replaced by the old version of them because they can lead to privacy violation issues from using data attacks that are presented in Section 3.

In the second step, all tuples are available in  $TMP_0$  to be iterated until they cannot satisfy the given value of  $l$ . In each iteration, an arbitrary tuple  $d_r^j \in TMP_0$  is assigned to be the initial tuple for constructing each partition of  $D_{PAR}^j$ . Moreover, the best co-tuples,  $ct_g$ , of the initial tuple are also determined by the sub-algorithm *FBT* that is shown in Algorithm 2. That is,  $ct_g \cup d_r^j$  includes at least  $l$  distinct sensitive values, and all possible compared results between  $ct_g \cup d_r^j$  and its related partitions which are available in  $D_{PAR}^{j-1}$  must also satisfy the given value of  $l$ . Furthermore,  $ct_g \cup d_r^j$  is removed from  $TMP_0$ . Finally,  $DP$  is returned to the main algorithm *DAA*. In this situation, we can see that the size of  $ct_g \cup d_r^j$  directly influences the data search space (the size of  $CT$ ) of the next data partition processes.

For example, we suppose that  $TMP_0$  collects five user profile tuples, i.e., the tuples 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. For privacy preservation, let the value of  $l$  be set to 2. We suppose that the algorithm assigns tuple 1 to be the initial tuple for constructing the first partition. With this partition, the number of possible partitions must be considered by *FBT*, i.e., 15 partitions. For this reason, we can claim that the cost of constructing the first partition of  $TMP_0$  can be denoted by Equation 3, i.e.,  $1 + ((5-1)!/(1! * ((5-1)-1)!)) + ((5-1)!/(2! * ((5-1)-2)!)) + ((5-1)!/(3! * ((5-1)-3)!)) = 15$ .

$$SubFBTCost = 1 + \sum_{PSize=l-1}^{|TMP_0|-2} \frac{(|TMP_0| - 1)!}{PSize! \cdot ((|TMP_0| - 1) - PSize)!} \quad (3)$$

In addition, we assume that tuple 2 is the best co-tuple of tuple 1. Tuples 1 and 2 are the first tuple partition that is constructed from  $TMP_0$ . After that, the tuples 1 and 2 are removed from  $TMP_0$ . Thus,  $TMP_0$  only remains the tuples 3, 4, and 5. Then, the remained tuples of  $TMP_0$  are partitioned by using *FBT* again because they still satisfy  $l = 2$ . To construct the second partition of  $TMP_0$ , we suppose that the algorithm assigns tuple 3 to be the initial tuple. The cost of constructing this tuple partitions of  $TMP_0$  can also be defined by Equation 3, i.e.,  $1 + ((3-1)!/(1! * ((3-1)-1)!)) = 3$ . We assume that tuple 4 is chosen by the algorithm to be the best co-tuple of tuple 3, so, tuples 3 and 4 are the second tuple partition. Also, after the second partition is constructed, tuples 3 and 4 are removed from  $TMP_0$ . Thus,  $TMP_0$  contains only tuple 5. In this situa-

**Algorithm 1** DAA( $l, PAR_{D^j-1}, D^j$ )

---

```

1: Let  $TMP_0$  and  $TMP_1$  be temporaries.
2: Let  $Tuple_{Deleted}$  be the set of deleted tuples.
3: Let  $Tuple_{Updated}$  and  $Tuple_{Old}$  be the set of updated tuples and the set of considering the previous tuple of them respectively.
4: Let  $Tuple_{Inserted}$  be the set of inserted tuples.
5: Let  $D_{PAR}^j$  be the set of desired partitions of  $D^j$ .
6:  $TMP_0 = D^j$ 
7: if  $Tuple_{Deleted}$  does not satisfy  $l$  then
8:    $TMP_0 = TMP_0 \cup Tuple_{Deleted}$ 
9: end if
10: if  $Tuple_{Updated}$  does not satisfy  $l$  then
11:    $TMP_0 = (TMP_0 \cup Tuple_{Old}) - Tuple_{Updated}$ 
12: end if
13: if  $Tuple_{Inserted}$  does not satisfy  $l$  then
14:    $TMP_0 = TMP_0 - Tuple_{Inserted}$ 
15: end if
16: while  $|TMP_0[S]| \geq l$  do
17:    $TMP_1 = FBT(D^j, D_{PAR}^{j-1}, l, TMP_0 - d_r^j, d_r^j)$ , where  $d_r^j \in TMP_0$ 
18:    $D_{PAR}^j = D_{PAR}^{j-1} \cup TMP_1$ 
19:    $TMP_0 = TMP_0 - TMP_1$ 
20: end while
21: while  $|TMP_0| \geq 1$  and  $D_{PAR}^j \neq \emptyset$  do
22:    $D_{PAR}^j = FBP(D^j, D_{PAR}^{j-1}, D_{PAR}^j, l, d_r^j)$ , where  $d_r^j \in TMP_0$ 
23:    $TMP_0 = TMP_0 - d_r^j$ 
24: end while
25: if  $D_{PAR}^j \neq \emptyset$  then
26:    $D_{PAR}^j$  is anatomized to be  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$ 
27:   return  $D_{QI}^j$  and  $D_S^j$ 
28: else
29:   return  $NULL$ 
30: end if

```

---

tion, we can see that the remained tuple of  $TMP_0$  does not accord  $l = 2$ , so, the new partition cannot be formed, but the algorithm can assign a suitable partition by  $FBP$  (Find the Best of Partition), Algorithm 3, which will be explained in the next step. In addition, the complexity of  $FBT$  can be defined by Equation 4.

$$FBTCost = \sum_{loop=1}^{|TMP_0| \bmod l} 1 + \sum_{PSize=l-1}^{(|TMP_0| - (l * (loop - 1))) - 2} \frac{(|TMP_0| - 1)!}{PSize! \cdot ((|TMP_0| - 1) - PSize)!} \quad (4)$$

Finally, the algorithm investigates the remaining tuples of  $TMP_0$ , if they do not accord  $l = 2$ ,  $FBP$  is enabled. To assign each remaining tuple  $d_r^j$  to the appropriate tuple partition by  $FBP$ , all remaining tuples are iterated. In each iteration, the error of  $d_r^j \cup par_g^j$  is calculated. If the error of  $d_r^j \cup par_g^j$  is minimized and the compared result between  $d_r^j \cup par_g^j$  and every related partition  $par_g^{j-1} \in D_{PAR}^{j-1}$  satisfies

the given value of  $l$ ,  $d_r^j$  is assigned to  $par_g^j$  and it is removed from  $TMP_0$ . For this reason, the complexity of assigning the appropriate tuple partition of each remaining tuple  $d_r^j$  can be computed with Equation 5.

$$SubFBPCost = |D_{PAR}^j| * |D_{PAR}^{j-1}| \quad (5)$$

Therefore, the complexity of  $FBP$  can be calculated by Equation 6.

$$FBPCost = SubFBPCost * |\Psi| \quad (6)$$

That is,  $|\Psi|$  is the number of tuples that are available in  $TMP_0$  such that they cannot be assigned to their appropriate partition by  $FBT$ .

For example, let tuples 1 and 2 be the first partition and let the second partition be constructed from tuples 3 and 4. Let tuple 5 be the remaining tuple that cannot be assigned to any tuple partition by  $FBT$ . To assign the appropriate tuple partition for tuple 5, we assume that the error of tuples 1, 2, and 5 is represented by  $\Delta$ . Moreover,  $\Theta$  represents the error of tuples 3, 4, and 5. If  $\Delta > \Theta$  then the second partition is the appropriate tuple partition for tuple



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**Algorithm 2**  $\text{FBT}(D^j, D_{PAR}^{j-1}, l, TMP_0, d^j)$ 


---

```

1: Let  $CT$  be temporary.
2: let  $DP$  and  $TDP$  be the desired partition and the temporary desired partition.
3: let  $Err_0$  and  $Err_1$  be the error of the specific tuples.
4: Let  $IsDesired$  be the partition state.
5:  $Err_0 = \infty$ 
6: for  $PSize = l - 1; PSize \leq |TMP_0|; PSize++$  do
7:    $CT = CT \cup \text{Combine}(TMP_0, PSize)$ 
8: end for
9: for  $g = 1; g \leq |CT|; g++$  do
10:    $TDP = ct_g \cup d_r^j$ , where  $ct_g \in CT$ 
11:   if  $TDP[S]$  satisfies  $l$  then
12:      $Err_1 = \sum_{qi \in QI} |TDP[qi]|$ 
13:     if  $Err_0 > Err_1$  then
14:        $IsDesired = True$ 
15:       for  $gg = 1; gg \leq |D_{PAR}^{j-1}|; gg++$  do
16:         if The compared result between  $TDP[S]$  and  $par_{gg}^{j-1}[S]$  does not satisfy  $l$  then
17:            $IsDesired = False$ 
18:           Break
19:         end if
20:       end for
21:       if  $IsDesired = True$  then
22:          $DP = TDP$ 
23:          $Err_0 = Err_1$ 
24:       end if
25:     end if
26:   end if
27: end for
28: return  $DP$ 

```

---

5. Therefore, we can conclude that the complexity of the proposed algorithm,  $DAA$ , can be determined with Equation 7. That is, the complexity of  $DAA$  depends on the complexity of its sub-algorithms  $FBT$  and  $FBP$ .

$$DDACost = FBTCost + FBPCost \quad (7)$$

## 5. EXPERIMENT

In this section, the experimental results show the effectiveness and efficiency of the proposed model by comparing it with the comparative anatomization model, Anatomy, that is proposed in [28].

### 5.1 Experiment setup

All experiments used to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the proposed model were conducted on both Intel(R) Xeon(R) Gold 5218 @2.30 GHz CPUs together with 64 GB memory and six 900 GB HDDs with RAID-5. All implementations were built with Microsoft Visual Studio 2019 Community Edition in conjunction with MSSQL Server 2019.

The experimental results are discussed in this section conducted on the *Adult* dataset which is available in *UCI* Machine Learning Repository [8]. This dataset is constructed from 32561 user profile tuples.

Each user profile tuple consists of 14 attributes, i.e., *Age*, *Workclass*, *Fnlwgt*, *Education*, *Education-num*, *Marital-status*, *Occupation*, *Relationship*, *Race*, *Sex*, *Capital-gain*, *Capital-loss*, *Hours-per-week*, and *Native-country*. To conduct effective experiments, only *Age*, *Occupation*, *Sex*, *Race*, and *Capital-loss* are used such that *Age*, *Occupation*, *Sex*, *Race* are the quasi-identifier attributes, and *Capital-loss* is the sensitive attribute. Moreover, all user profile tuples include the values as “?” and “0”, they are removed. Thus, only 2181 user profile tuples remained in the experimental dataset, so-called  $D_{EXP}^{ALL}$ .

### 5.2 Experimental results and discussions

#### 5.2.1 Effectiveness

In the first experiment, privacy violation issues in anatomization tables are evaluated by using privacy data attacks which are presented in Section 3. For experiments, the value of  $l$  is fixed to be 8. The tuples of  $D_{EXP}^{ALL}$  are first randomized to select 1000 tuples, denoted as  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$ , and  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$  is anatomized to satisfy the given value of  $l$ , denoted as  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}'^{1000}$ . For evaluating the effect of privacy violation issues in anatomization tables after tuples were deleted, the tuples of  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$  are randomly deleted from 5 to

**Algorithm 3** FBP( $D^j, D_{PAR}^{j-1}, D_{PAR}^j, l, d^j$ )

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```

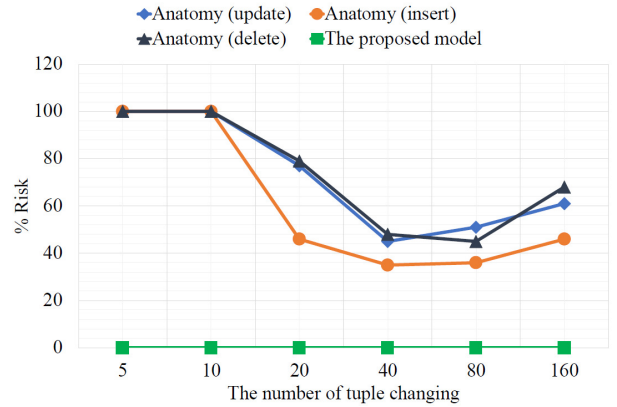
1: Let  $DP, TDP$ , and  $ODP$  be the temporary partition.
2: Let  $Err_0$  and  $Err_1$  be the error of the specific tuples.
3: Let  $IsDesired$  be the partition state.
4:  $Err_0 = \infty$ 
5: for  $g = 1; g \leq |D_{PAR}^j|; g++$  do
6:    $TDP = par_g^j \cup d_r^j$ 
7:    $Err_1 = \sum_{qi \in QI} |TDP[qi]|$ 
8:   if  $Err_0 > Err_1$  then
9:      $IsDesired = True$ 
10:    for  $gg = 1; gg \leq |D_{PAR}^{j-1}|; gg++$  do
11:      if The compared result between  $par_g^j[S]$  and  $par_{gg}^{j-1}[S]$  does not satisfy  $l$  then
12:         $IsDesired = False$ 
13:        Break
14:      end if
15:    end for
16:    if  $IsDesired = True$  then
17:       $DP = TDP$ 
18:       $ODP = par_g^j$ 
19:       $Err_0 = Err_1$ 
20:    end if
21:  end if
22: end for
23: if  $DP \neq NULL$  and  $ODP \neq NULL$  then
24:    $D_{PAR}^j = (D_{PAR}^j - ODP) \cup DP$ 
25: end if
26: return  $D_{PAR}^j$ 

```

---

160 tuples. Each deleted data version of  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$  denotes  $D_{EXP_{DEL_j}}^{1000, D_x}$ , where  $5 \leq x \leq 160$ . Also, every  $D_{EXP_{DEL_j}}^{1000, D_x}$  is anatomized to satisfy the given value of  $l$  and is denoted as  $D_{EXP_{DEL_j}}^{1000, D_x}$ . To evaluate the effect of privacy violation issues in anatomization tables after new tuples were inserted, the tuples of  $D_{EXP}^{ALL}$  unavailable in  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$  are randomly selected by varying from 5 to 160 tuples and are then inserted into  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$ . Each data version of  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$  after inserting the selected tuples is denoted as  $D_{EXP_{INS_j}}^{1000, D_x}$ , where  $5 \leq x \leq 160$ . Also,  $D_{EXP_{INS_j}}^{1000, D_x}$  is anatomized to satisfy the given value of  $l$ , and is denoted as  $D_{EXP_{INS_j}}^{1000, D_x}$ . To evaluate the effect of privacy violation issues in anatomization tables after tuples are updated, the sensitive value of tuples available in  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$  randomly updated by varying from 5 to 160 tuples. Each data version of  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$  after updates the sensitive value to be denoted as  $D_{EXP_{UPD_j}}^{1000, D_x}$ , and  $D_{EXP_{UPD_j}}^{1000, D_x}$  is anatomized to satisfy the given value of  $l$ , denoted as  $D_{EXP_{UPD_j}}^{1000, D_x}$ .

The experimental results as shown in Figure 8 show that after anatomization tables satisfy the proposed privacy preservation constraints, they do not have any vulnerabilities to privacy violation issues from using any of the privacy data attacks that are presented in Section 3. The cause of this effective-

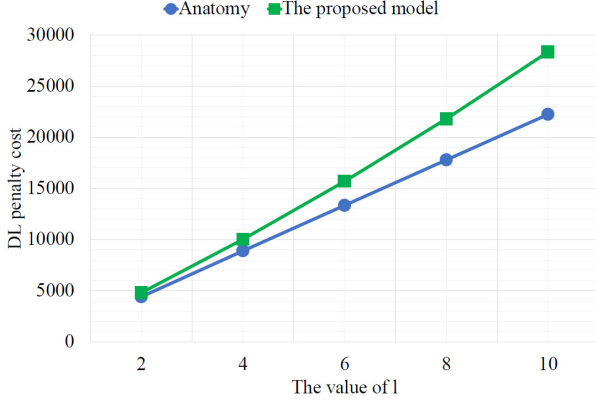


**Fig.8:** The percentage of data risks based on the number of tuple changing

ness of the proposed privacy preservation constraints is that aside from anatomization tables that satisfy privacy preservation constraints, all compared results between anatomization tables and their related anatomization tables which were released at the timestamp  $j - 1$  must also be satisfied by privacy preservation constraints. However, we see that even when the anatomization tables satisfy the comparative anatomization constraints, they still are vulnerable to privacy data attacks are presented in Section 3.

In the second experiment, the effect of the value of  $l$  is evaluated. For experiments, the value of  $l$

is varied from 2 to 10. The 100-tuples of  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$  are randomly deleted, and the 100-tuples of  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$  are randomly to update the sensitive value of them. Moreover, the 100-tuples of  $D_{EXP}^{ALL}$  are not available in  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$ , they are randomly to select and insert into  $D_{EXP_{j-1}}^{1000}$ . Then, the experimental dataset is anatomized to satisfy the given value of  $l$ .

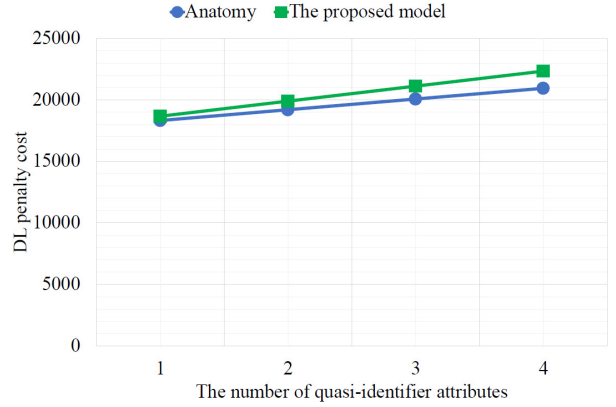


**Fig.9:** Data utility based on the value of  $l$

The experimental results as shown in Figure 9 show that when the value of  $l$  is increased, the penalty cost of the experimental anatomization tables also increases. The cause of increasing the penalty cost of the experimental anatomization tables when the value of  $l$  increases is the size of partitions that are available in the experimental anatomization tables. The size of partitions often becomes larger when the value of  $l$  is increased. Although all experimental results indicate that the proposed privacy preservation constraints are less effective than the comparative anatomization constraints, they are only a little difference. In general, there is a trade-off between data privacy and data utility. An increase in privacy leads to a decrease in utility and vice versa.

The third experiment evaluates the effect of the number of quasi-identifier attributes. For experiments, all experimental datasets are the same as the experimental datasets used in the second experiment. The value of  $l$  is fixed to be 8. Moreover, the number of quasi-identifier attributes varies from 1 to 4 attributes.

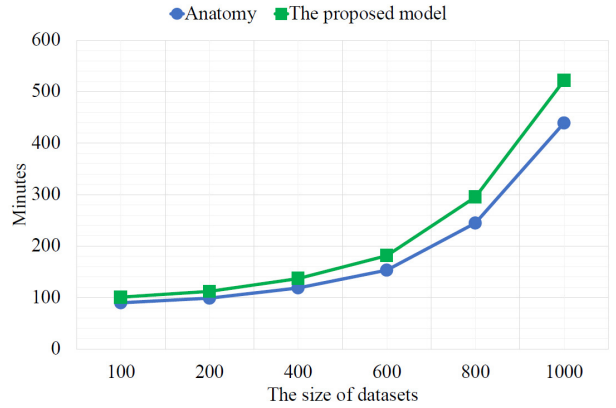
From the experimental results as shown in Figure 10, we conclude that the number of quasi-identifier attributes also influences the data utility of the experimental anatomization tables. Although all experimental results indicate that the proposed privacy preservation constraints are less effective than the comparative anatomization constraints, they are only a little difference. The proposed privacy preservation constraints often lead to data being more secure in terms of privacy preservations than the comparative anatomization constraints.



**Fig.10:** Data utility based on the number of quasi-identifier attributes

### 5.2.2 Efficiency

The fourth experiment evaluates the effect of the size of datasets on the execution time required for transforming the datasets to satisfy privacy preservation constraints. For experiments, the value of  $l$  is fixed to be 8. The tuples are available in  $D_{EXP}^{ALL}$  to be randomly selected by varying from 100 to 1000 tuples to be the raw datasets. The raw datasets are transformed to satisfy the given value of  $l$ .

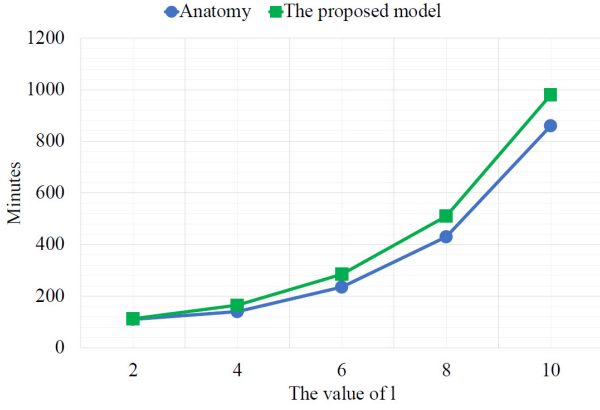


**Fig.11:** Execution time based on the size of datasets

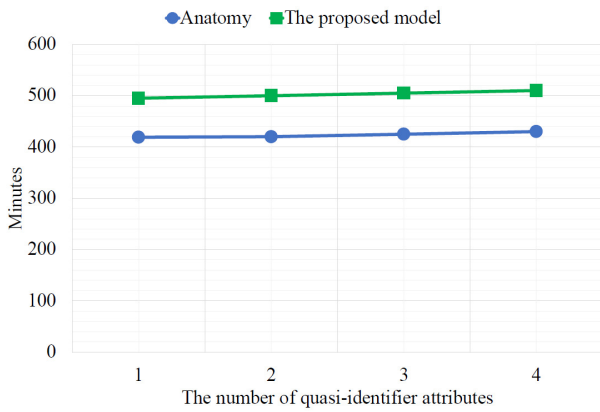
From the experimental results as shown in Figure 11, we see that when the size of the raw datasets is increased, the execution time for the data transformations is also increased. The execution time increases because when the size of the raw datasets is increased, it is the data search space increases.

The fifth experiment evaluated the effect of the value of  $l$  on the execution time for transforming the raw datasets to satisfy privacy preservation constraints. For experiments, the value of  $l$  is varied from 2 to 8. All experimental datasets used in this experiment are the same as the experimental datasets used in the second experiment.

From the experimental results as shown in Figure 12, we see that when the value of  $l$  is increased, the execution time for the data transformations is also



**Fig.12:** Execution time based on the value of  $l$



**Fig.13:** Execution time based on the number of quasi-identifier attributes

increased. Also, it is the influences of the data search spaces, i.e., it is when the value of  $l$  is increased, the data search space is also increased.

The final experiment evaluates the effect of the number of quasi-identifier attributes that influence the execution time for transforming the raw datasets to satisfy privacy preservation constraints. For experiments, the number of quasi-identifier attributes varies from 1 to 4. Also, all experimental datasets used in this experiment are set to be the same as the experimental datasets which are used in the second experiment.

From the experimental results as in Figure 13 show that when the number of quasi-identifier attributes is increased, the execution time for transforming the raw dataset to the satisfaction of the given experimental privacy preservation constraints is also increased. However, the number of quasi-identifier attributes has less of an effect on the execution time for transforming the raw dataset to the satisfaction of the given experimental privacy preservation constraints than the size of datasets and the value of  $l$ . That is because the experimental algorithm of the proposed model and Anatomy is based on tuple partitioning. Thus, their execution times depended on the size of datasets and the value of  $l$  (the number of

partitions) more than the number of quasi-identifier attributes.

## 6. CONCLUSION

This work enumerates and explains the vulnerabilities of anatomization models, i.e., Full right coverage data attack (*iFRCA*), Merged right coverage data attack (*iMRCA*), Merged right fully covers merged left data attack (*iMRcMLA*), Full left coverage data attack (*dFLCA*), Merged left coverage data attack (*dMLCA*), Merged left fully covers merged left data attack (*dMLcMRA*), privacy violation issues in anatomization tables based on data modifications (*SVM*), and privacy violation issues in anatomization tables based on partition changing. To rid privacy violation issues that are based on the explained vulnerabilities of anatomization models, a new privacy preservation model is proposed in this work. Moreover, we show experimental results that can indicate anatomized datasets that satisfy the proposed model are more secure in terms of privacy preservation than anatomized datasets that are satisfied by the comparative anatomization model.

## 7. FUTURE WORK

Although the proposed model can address privacy violation issues in anatomization tables from attackers using all attacks that are explained in this work, an adversary could discover a new approach that can be used to violate the privacy data that is available in anatomization tables in the future. Thus, an appropriate privacy preservation model that addresses newly discovered privacy violation issues should also be proposed in the future.

## 8. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICAL STANDARDS

**Conflict of interest** Author declares that they have no conflict of interest. **Ethical approval** This paper does not contain any studies with human participants or animals performed by any of the authors.

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