

Project Title: Ethically Informed Design for Addressing Legal and Privacy Issues in Criminal Intelligence Analysis

Keywords: Human computer interaction; ethics by design; privacy; legal; visual analytics systems; development methodologies

Brief Description:

The analysis of large data sets by law enforcement agencies that use sophisticated and automated technologies requires a process that is sensitive to the ethical standards expected by the agencies and society. The key question to be faced is how to develop technologies that take account of principles founded on ethical values, and formulated on the rights and freedoms of individuals (such as privacy) while at the same time maintaining law and order for a just society? The problem begins with that of Big Data, that is, a volume of data so large it is no longer possible to rely solely on human analysis. Intelligent and automated systems are needed, but using these raises a set of concerns about the ethical foundation of: selection criteria for data retrieval, providing analysts with incomplete information, and finding relevant missing data. The analyst needs to be supported in working within their ethical guidelines.

A number of user-centred methods for requirements gathering, including most recently Value Sensitive Design, have been put forward by researchers but few tackle the practicalities of their application in development. This research project will (i) investigate methods that can be used to identify ethics, privacy, and legal issues, (ii) hold informed debates to trade-off between function and design, and (iii) to develop and test designs that cater for the ethical issues with a view of understanding how such designs should be created in the first place.

Relevant Publications:

Burmeister, O.K., Duquenoy, P., and Wong, B.L.W. (2014). Socially Responsible Design Considerations In Criminal Intelligence Analysis. Paper presented at the Workshop on Ethics, Technology and Organizational Innovation, 7-8 Jan 2014, ETH Zurich.

Harris, I., Jennings, R., Pullinger, D., Rogerson, S., and Duquenoy, P. Ethical assessment of new technologies: A meta-methodology in Journal of Information, Communication and Ethics in Society. Volume 9, Issue 1. Emerald Group Publishing Ltd, 2011.

Kurt A., Duquenoy, P. (2013) Governance in Technology Development. In Doridot, F., Duquenoy, P., Goujon, P., Kurt, A., Lavelle, S., Patrignani, N., Rainey, S., and Santuccio A. (Eds.) Ethical Governance of Emerging Technologies Development. IGI Global.

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