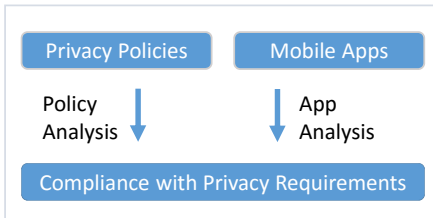


# Automated Analysis of Privacy Requirements for Mobile Apps

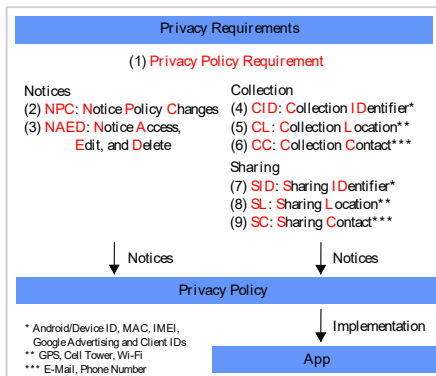
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## Background



We introduce a system to analyze Android apps' compliance with privacy requirements

- We define privacy requirement compliance to mean that apps need a privacy policy and must behave according to it
- In addition, the policy by itself is required to follow requirements (e.g., on notifying a user on access, edit, and deletion rights)

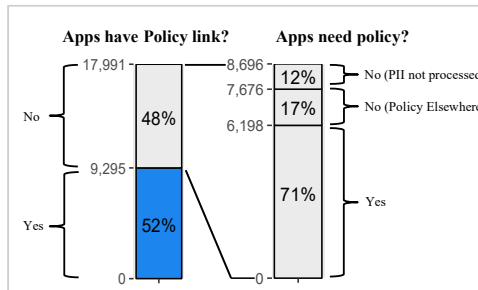


- In detail, apps that process Personally Identifiable Information (PII) are generally required to:

- have a privacy policy (either on its Google Play page or inside the app);
- include notices about policy changes and access, edit, and deletion rights;
- notify users of data collection practices; and
- disclose how data is shared with third parties

## Policy Analysis

71% (6,198/8,696) of apps appear to have no privacy policy despite processing PII



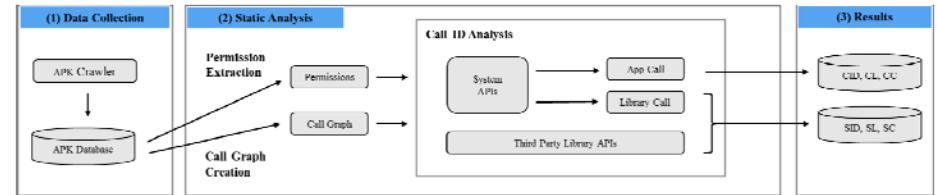
The system classifies descriptions of practices in privacy policies based on machine learning

- Keyword sets are used to identify practices: data type keywords and action keywords
- Sentences in policies are extracted based on data type keywords (e.g., all sentences that contain the term "location")
- Using action keywords unigram and bigram feature vectors are constructed from the extracted sentences (e.g., "share location")
- The unigram and bigram features are leveraged by Support Vector Machine (SVM) and Logistic Regression (Log. Reg.) classifiers

Practice	Classifier	Base (n=40)	Acc <sub>pol</sub> (n=40)	95% CI (n=40)	Prec <sub>pos</sub> (n=40)	Rec <sub>pos</sub> (n=40)	F <sub>1_pos</sub> (n=40)	F <sub>1_pos</sub> (n=40)	Pos (n=9,050)
NPC	SVM	0.7	0.9	0.76-0.97	0.79	0.92	0.85	0.93	46%
NAED	SVM	0.58	0.75	0.59-0.87	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.78	36%
CID	Log. Reg.	0.65	0.83	0.67-0.93	0.77	0.71	0.74	0.87	46%
CL	SVM	0.53	0.88	0.73-0.96	0.83	0.95	0.89	0.86	34%
CC	Log. Reg.	0.8	0.88	0.73-0.96	0.71	0.63	0.67	0.92	56%
SID	Log. Reg.	0.88	0.88	0.73-0.96	0.94	0.91	0.93	0.55	10%
SL	SVM	0.95	0.93	0.8-0.98	0.97	0.95	0.96	-	12%
SC	SVM	0.73	0.78	0.62-0.89	0.79	0.93	0.86	0.47	6%

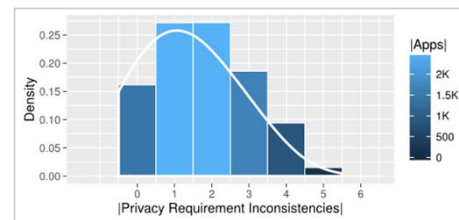
Classification results for a policy test set (n=40) and the occurrence of positive classifications (Pos) in a set of n=9,050 policies

## App Analysis



- The system first crawls the US Google Play store for free apps
- It then performs static analysis on the app code (consisting of permission extraction, call graph creation, and call ID analysis)
- The resulting collection and sharing practices of the app are stored in a database

## Compliance with Privacy Requirements



- 2,455 apps have one potential privacy requirement non-compliance, 2,460 have two, and only 1,461 adhere completely to their policy (out of n = 9,050 apps)
- Each app exhibits a mean of 1.83 instances of potential privacy requirement non-compliance
- Non-compliance does not necessarily mean that a law is violated

Practice	Acc (n=40)	Acc <sub>pol</sub> - Acc <sub>app</sub> (n=40)	95% CI (n=40)	Prec <sub>pos</sub> (n=40)	Rec <sub>pos</sub> (n=40)	F <sub>1_pos</sub> (n=40)	F <sub>1_pos</sub> (n=40)	MCC (n=40)	TP, FP, TN, FN (n=9,050)	Inconsistency (n=9,050)
CID	0.95	0.74	0.83-0.99	0.75	1	0.86	0.97	0.84	6, 2, 32, 0	50%
CL	0.83	0.7	0.67-0.93	0.54	1	0.7	0.88	0.65	8, 7, 25, 0	41%
CC	1	0.88	0.91-1	-	-	-	1	-	0, 0, 40, 0	9%
SID	0.85	0.84	0.7-0.94	0.93	0.74	0.82	0.87	0.71	14, 1, 20, 5	63%
SL	1	0.93	0.91-1	1	1	1s	1	1	3, 0, 37, 0	17%
SC	1	0.78	0.91-1	1	1	1	1	1	1, 0, 39, 0	2%

Identifying privacy requirement non-compliance for a test set of app/policy pairs (n=40) and the percentages of potential non-compliance (Inconsistency) for n=9,050 app/policy pairs



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