



EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON QUALITY IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS 2024 ESTORIL - PORTUGAL



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Working with a mobile network operator (MNO) to create a privacy-conform method for a better access to MNO data

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DESTATIS



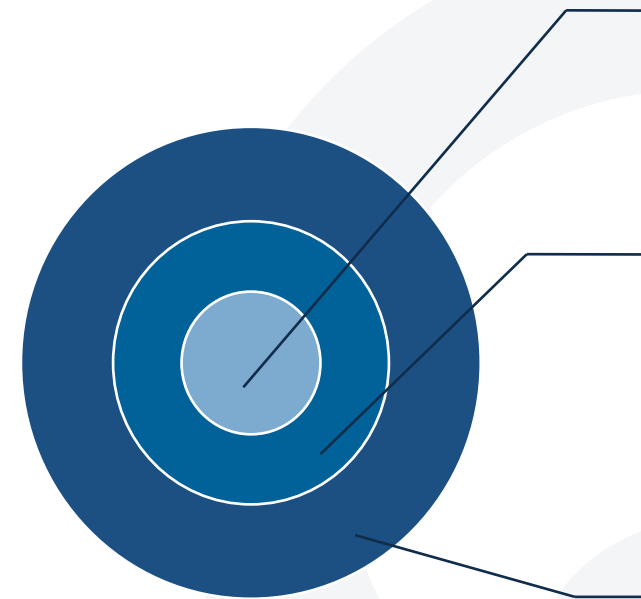
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Competency Cluster AnigeD - Anonymization for Integrated and Georeferenced Data

- Evaluation of anonymization methods using legal criteria
- Potential of anonymization by synthetic data
- Anonymization of georeferenced data
- Testing of software tools for the efficient analysis and provision of anonymized, georeferenced data



5 Project partners:

Destatis as cluster coordinator

6 Associated partners:

e.g. T-Systems International GmbH

Other research projects:

AnGer, DARIA, GANGES



Motivation

- Mobile network operator (MNO) data is being analysed worldwide as a potential source for official statistics
- High level of coverage:
 - 98,1 % of households in Germany own a mobile phone
 - 1,87 devices per household
- Versatile subject areas:
 - Population
 - Tourism
 - Mobility



MNO Data Processing as Black Box Problem

- In the past, DESTATIS has produced several promising experimental statistics based on MNO data
 - Successfull cooperation with 2 out of 3 MNO's in Germany
- DESTATIS only used aggregated products based on confidential processing
 - MNO's use confidential informations like cell tower locations and local market shares for geolocation and upscaling
- Official Statistics require transparency!



Project in Cooperation with T-Systems

- Project aims to open black box of MNO data processing by achieving the following goals:
 1. Create a standardized processing method for MNO data
 2. Evaluate anonymization needs and ensure privacy conformity of MNO data processing
 3. Create secure interfaces for regular access to MNO data





Cooperation with Private Data Holders

Official Statistics

- » Duty to employ transparent methods and processes
- » Expertise in Statistics

- High Expertise in Data Privacy
- Interest in tapping the potential of MNO data

Private Data Holders

- » Interest in the protection of business secrets
- » Expertise in Mobile Network Operation

» Project is also supposed to identify possibilities for future cooperations



Work Package 1

- Establishment of a secure development environment in the T-Systems infrastructure as well as secure access for DESTATIS
- „Supporting Workpackage“
 - Necessary to reach goals in the other workpackages

Work Package 2

- Define and implement the necessary interfaces for regular access to MNO data
- Compliance with IT and data protection regulations!



Work Package 3

- Develop and implement standardized methods/algorithms for preparation and processing of MNO data
- Leans heavily on work conducted in the ESSnets *Big Data I + II* and work currently being conducted in ESSnets *Multi-MNO* and *MNO-Minds*

Work Package 4

- Development of a flexible anonymization procedure for processing of MNO data and products derived from MNO data
- Requires identification of anonymization needs in both products and processing



Project Status and Next Steps

- First big step already taken
 - Both corporate security of T-Systems and the Federal Commissioner for Data protection and Freedom of Information have accepted data protection plan
- Next steps
 - Design and set up of the development environment in the T-Systems infrastructure
 - Establishment of a method for secure access to the development environment



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