

Selective Disclosure using the LSA

Burak Serdar
Cloud Privacy Labs
bserdar@cloudprivacylabs.com

<https://layeredschemas.org>
<https://github.com/cloudprivacylabs/lisa>

LSA ≠ OCA

| LSA | OCA |
|---|---|
| Harmonize disparate data | Standardize data capture |
| Pipelines (capture, transform) | Schemas + overlays (capture) |
| Self-describing data: Ingested data includes schema annotations | Schemas + cryptographically linked function-specific overlays |
| Graph (hierarchical and cyclic structures) | Flat (spreadsheet) |

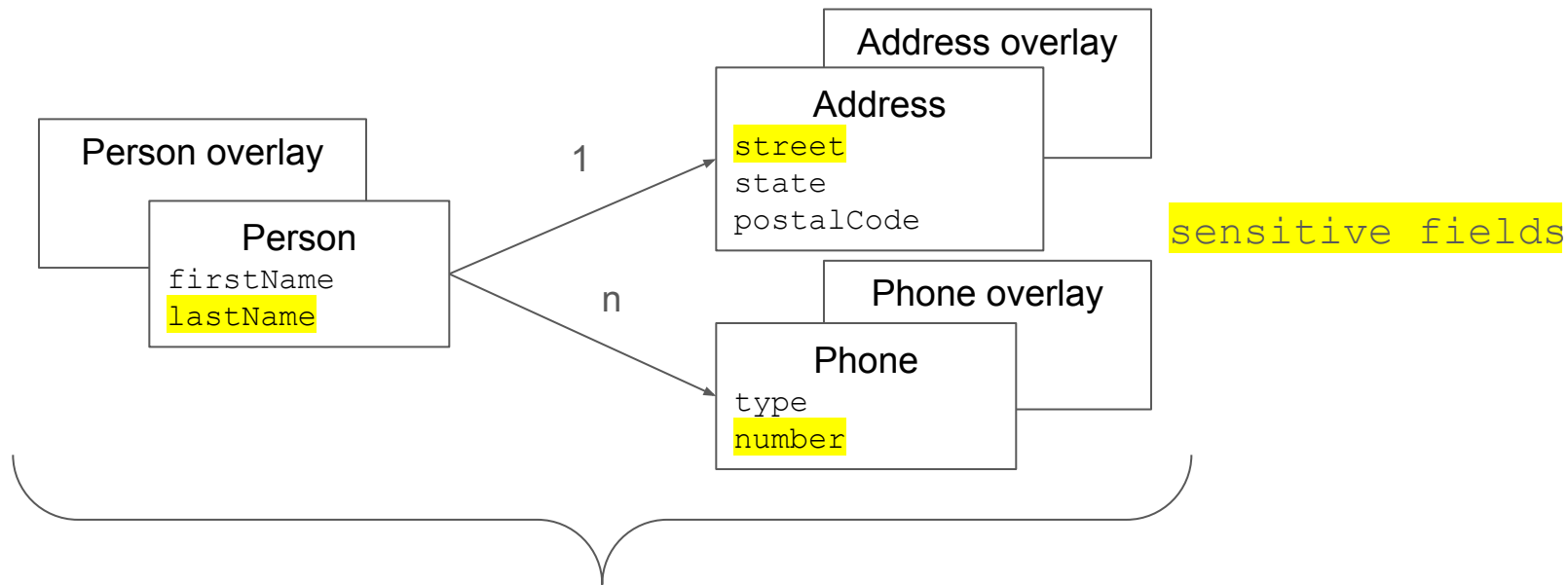
Selective Disclosure

Idea: Use Schema Annotations to Classify Fields

This idea is not new. Some schema languages support annotations

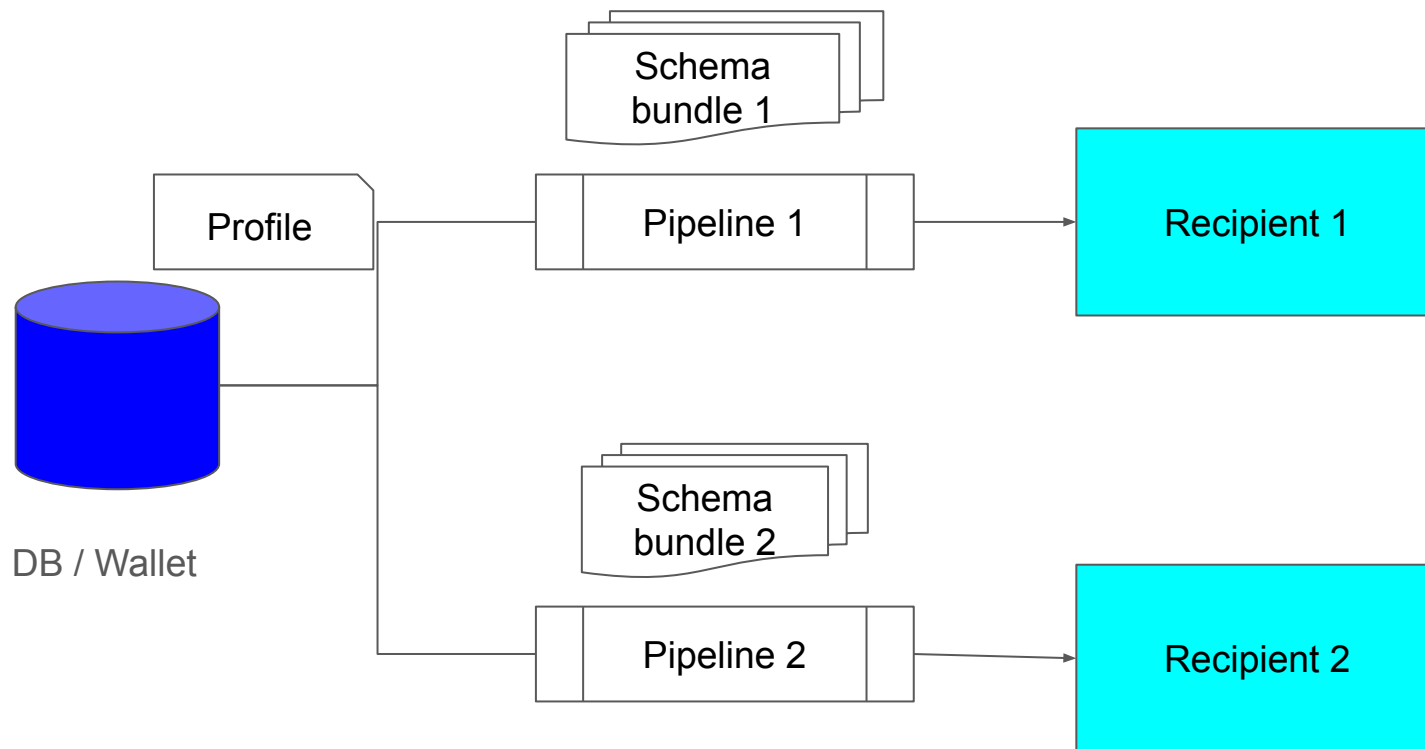
- XML schema supports annotations
- JSON schema supports application specific extensions
- Cap'n Proto (Cloudflare): Data serialization system has built-in schema annotations

Selective Disclosure Example: Profile Data Model



Use a schema bundle to create variants and link them

Separate Schema Bundle for Each Use Case



Example: User Profile Schema and Data

profile.schema.json

```
{
  "definitions": {
    "Profile": {
      "type": "object",
      "properties": {
        "firstName": {"type": "string"},
        "lastName": {"type": "string"},
        "address": {"$ref": "#/definitions/Address"},
        "phone": {
          "type": "array",
          "items": {"$ref": "#/definitions/Phone"}
        }
      }
    },
    "Address": {
      "type": "object",
      "properties": {
        "street": {"type": "string"},
        ...
      }
    },
    "Phone": {
      "type": "object",
      "properties": {
        "number": {"type": "string"},
        "type": {"type": "string"}
      }
    }
  }
}
```

profile.json

```
{
  "firstName": "john",
  "lastName": "doe",
  "address": {
    "street": "123 Main St.",
    "city": "Anycity",
    "state": "CO",
    "postalCode": "80000",
    "country": "US"
  },
  "phone": [
    {
      "type": "cell",
      "number": "123-123 1234"
    }
  ]
}
```



Sensitive Fields

profile.schema.json

```
{
  "definitions": {
    "Profile": {
      "type": "object",
      "properties": {
        "firstName": {"type": "string"},
        "lastName": {"type": "string"},
        "address": {"$ref": "#/definitions/Address"},
        "phone": {
          "type": "array",
          "items": {"$ref": "#/definitions/Phone"}
        }
      }
    },
    "Address": {
      "type": "object",
      "properties": {
        "street": {"type": "string"},
        ...
      }
    },
    "Phone": {
      "type": "object",
      "properties": {
        "number": {"type": "string"},
        "type": {"type": "string"}
      }
    }
  }
}
```

sensitive.ovl.json

```
{
  "definitions": {
    "Profile": {
      "properties": {
        "lastName": {
          "x-ls": {"privacyLevel": "sensitive"}
        }
      }
    },
    "Address": {
      "properties": {
        "street": {
          "x-ls": {"privacyLevel": "sensitive"}
        }
      }
    },
    "Phone": {
      "properties": {
        "number": {
          "x-ls": {"privacyLevel": "sensitive"}
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Sensitive Profile Bundle

Schema variant adjusted with privacy levels

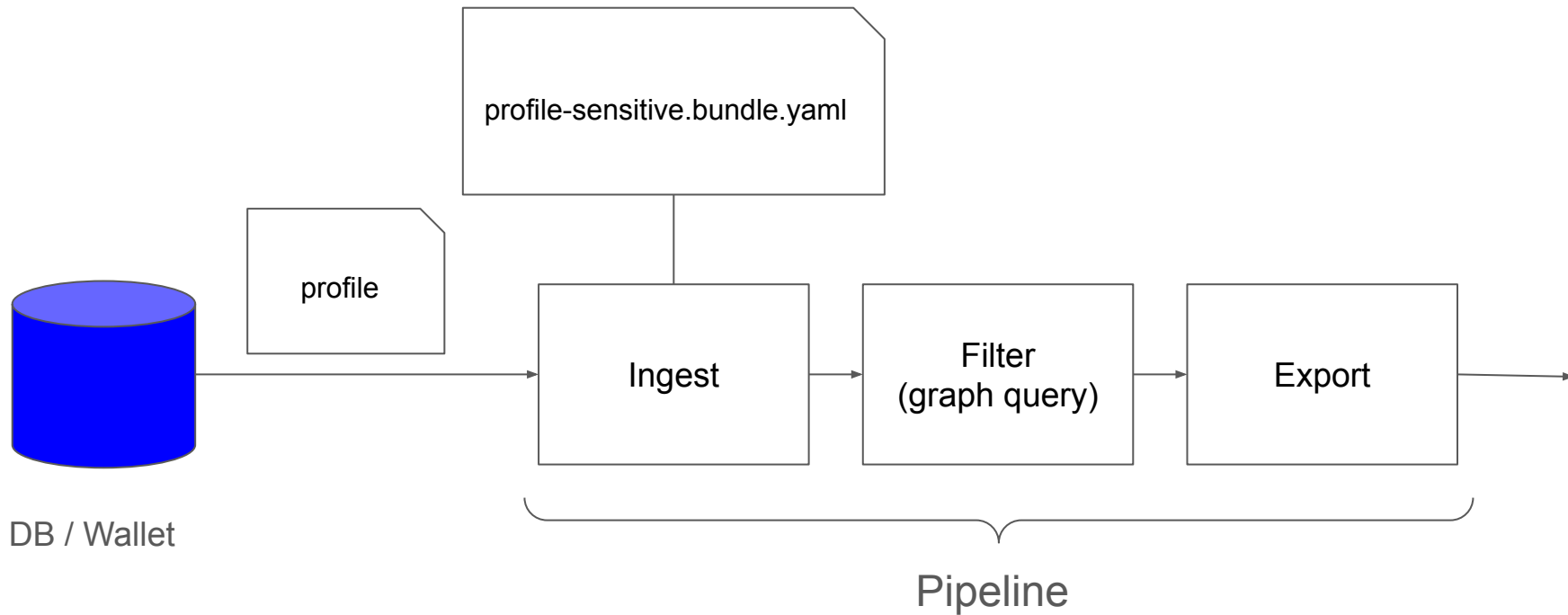
profile.schema.json

sensitive.ovl.json

profile-sensitive.bundle.yaml

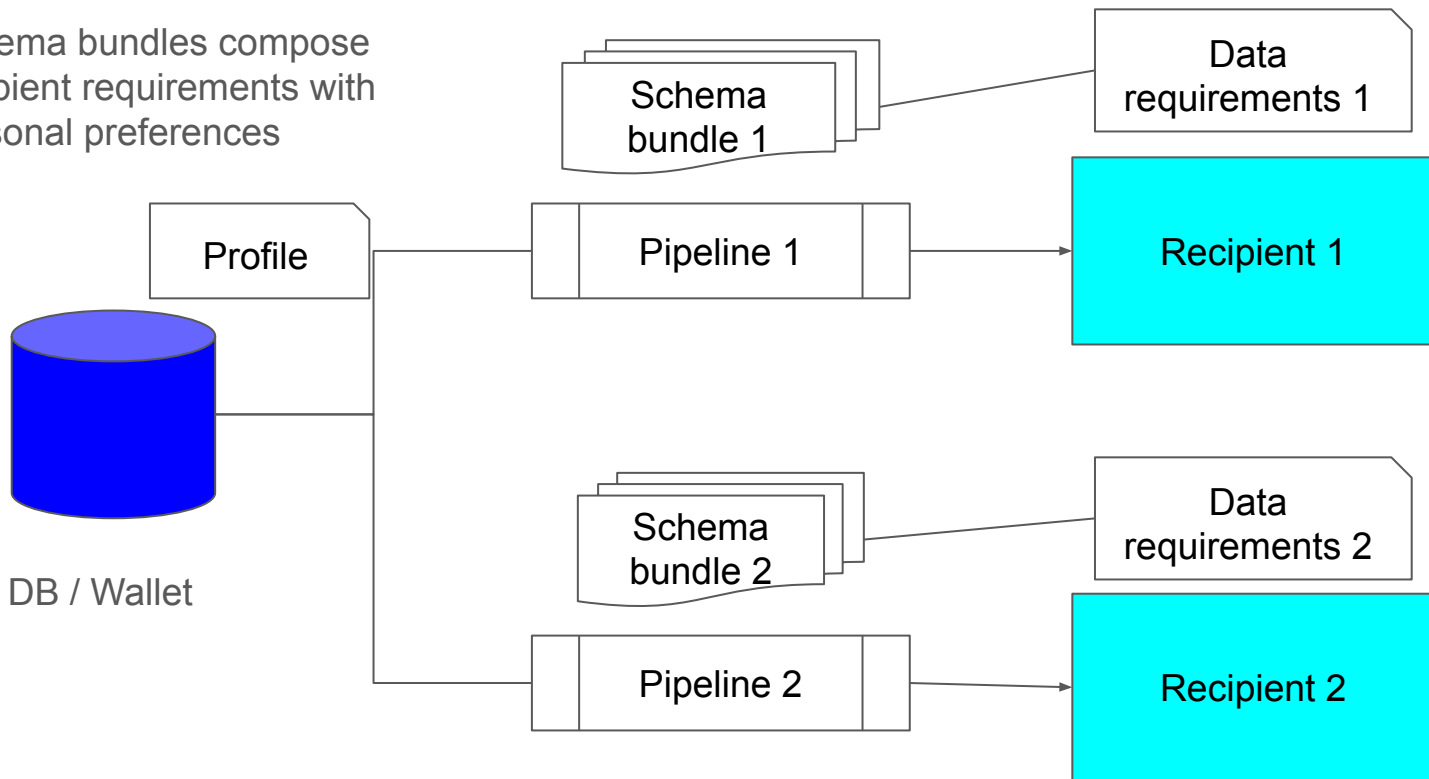
```
{
  "definitions": {
    "Profile": {
      "lastName": {
        "type": "string",
        "x-ls": {"privacyLevel": "sensitive"}
      }
      ...
    },
    "Address": {
      "type": "object",
      "properties": {
        "street": {
          "type": "string",
          "x-ls": {"privacyLevel": "sensitive"}
        }
        ...
      }
    },
    "Phone": {
      "type": "object",
      "properties": {
        "number": {
          "type": "string",
          "x-ls": {"privacyLevel": "sensitive"}
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```


Pipeline



Published Data Requirements

Schema bundles compose recipient requirements with personal preferences



Recipients publish their data requirements as schemas

Use Cases

- API interoperability
- Data capture, display, exchange
- Different schema variant (bundle) for each use case
- Difference schema variants can
 - Add new fields,
 - Add new annotations or modify existing ones
 - Enforce constraints

Limitations:

- Labeling is field-based, not content-based
 - Content of non-sensitive field may be sensitive in different contexts (especially relevant to health-related data)
 - Content classification is part of commercial LSA

Questions?

bserdar@cloudprivacylabs.com