

*Smoothing and empirical Bayes methods in Disclosure Risk estimation*

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**ABSTRACT**

**Disclosure risk** in published data occurs when individuals in the data can be identified on the basis of some attributes in the data, due to having a **unique** or rare combination of values relative to the whole population. When the data to be released consists of a sample from a population, risk measures such as the number of sample uniques which are also population uniques, depend on both the sample and the population, and hence they are not proper parameters. Such risk measure estimates can be treated in the framework of Empirical Bayes theory, an area in which Ester had done significant work.

We propose an estimation method which involves smoothing in contingency tables and compare this method to existing ones.

This is joint work with Natalie Shlomo.