Privacy in Online Social Networks

Online privacy is a well-researched area in terms of the internet users. However, privacy related to online social networking is relatively new area of research. Existing research is mainly survey on users’ privacy on online social network sites. Our group is working on a privacy management system for several social networks such as Facebook, Myspace, and Twitter. Based on our survey, here are some issues and challenges:

- **Quantitative analysis of identity information disclosure in social network communities, as well as subject opinions regarding identity protection and information disclosure.** The need for further analysis of the value and jeopardy of identity information in social network communities.

- **In an online site, the existence of trust and the willingness to share information do not automatically translate into new social interaction.** For example, online relationships can develop in sites where perceived trust and privacy safeguards are weak.

- **Look for underlying demographic or behavioral differences between the communities of the network’s members and non-members; analyze the impact of privacy concerns on members’ behavior; compare members’ stated attitudes with actual behavior;**

- **Evidence of members’ misconceptions about the online community’s actual size and composition, and about the visibility of members’ profiles.**

- **Study amount of information people disclose and their usage of the site’s privacy settings.**

Potential attacks on various aspects of their privacy.