



## Privacy Tools for Sharing Research Data

A National Science Foundation Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace Project,  
with additional support from the Sloan Foundation and Google, Inc.

# DataTags, Data-Handling Policy Spaces, and the Tags Language

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**We present a framework for**  
**formally describing,**  
**reasoning about, and**  
**arriving at**  
**data-handling policies**

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*Making it **Easier** to  
**store** and **share** scientific datasets*

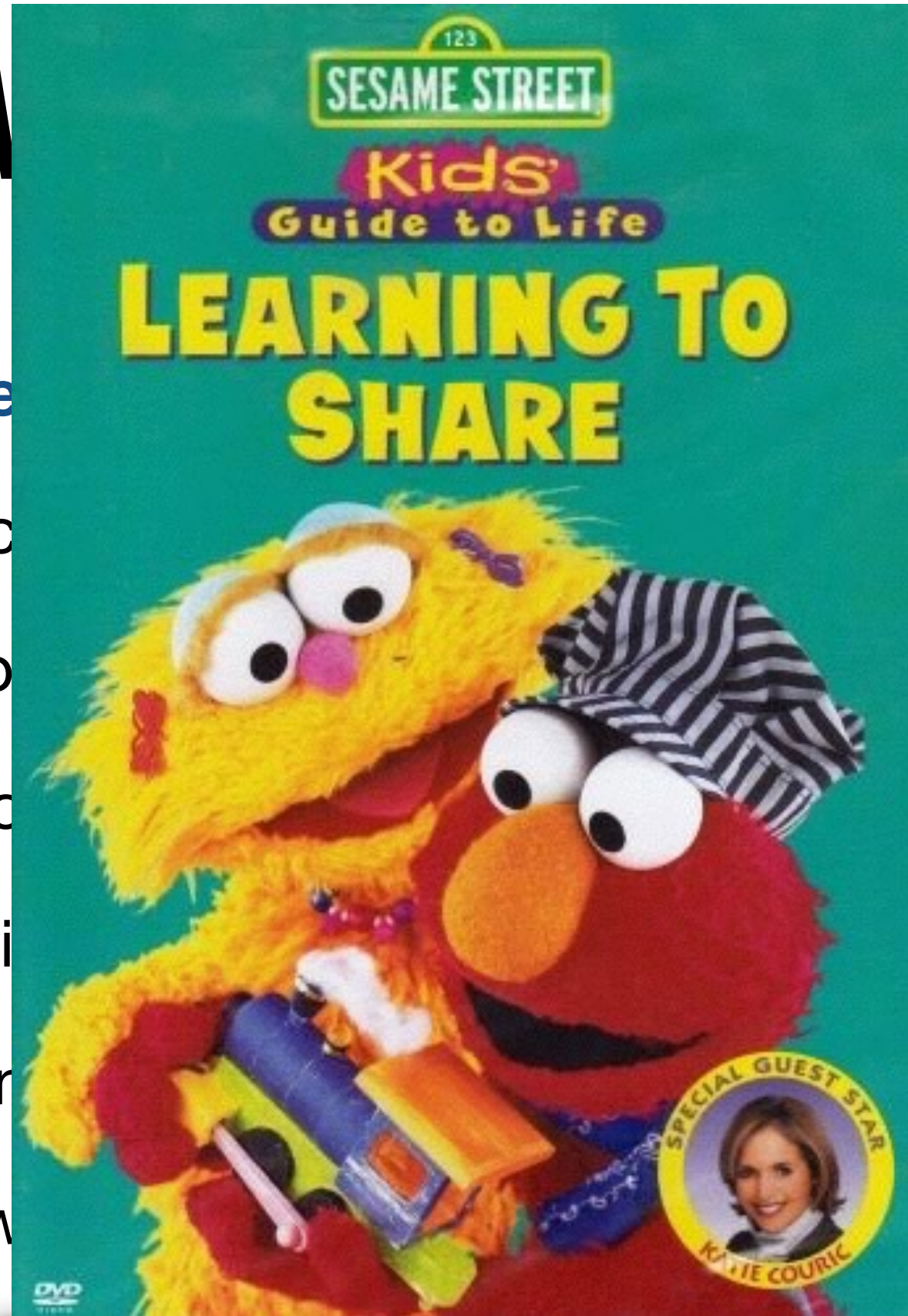
# Why Share Data?

- **Good Science**
  - Transparency
  - Collaboration
  - Research acceleration
  - Reproducibility
  - Data citation
- **Compliance** with requirements from sponsors and publishers

W

?

- **Good Science**
- Transparency
- Collaboration
- Research ac
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- **Compliance** w



s and publishers





[http://s4.evcdn.com/images/edpborder/500/10-001/003710/831-6.jpeg\\_lavenue-q-31.jpeg](http://s4.evcdn.com/images/edpborder/500/10-001/003710/831-6.jpeg_lavenue-q-31.jpeg)

**M**



# Sharing Data is **Nontrivial**

- ◉ *Sharing may harm the data subjects*
- ◉ **Law** is complex
  - ◉ 2187 privacy laws in the US alone, at federal, state and local level, usually context-specific [Sweeney, 2013]
- ◉ **Technology** is complex
  - ◉ E.g. encryption standards change constantly, as new vulnerabilities are found
- ◉ **Specific dataset provenance** (may be) complex



**Dataset handling policies  
play the critical role of balancing  
privacy risks and scientific value  
of sharing datasets.**



# Here are some Data Handling Policies

-4-

7. The restrictions, if any, of this agreement shall last for:

- 5 years;  10 years;  
 other \_\_\_\_\_  
 (subject to approval by Center)

8. Over the years, literary rights problems for a data-archive. A scholar who utilizes a questionnaire, a code book or other material after its contributor has died may not be able to use the material. Therefore, the Center will make it impossible for a scholar to use the material. Therefore, the Center will transfer the material to the Henry A. Murray Research Center.

A contributor can only transfer copies of data-set (e. g. questionnaire, codebook, etc.) which were personally created by the contributor(s) as a work made for hire. If such material is transferred to the Center, the Center must be informed so as not to infringe on the contributor's rights.

Under the copyright law which took effect in 1976, written transfer of copyright is needed in order to transfer the physical property. Copyright lasts for 28 years.

The contributor makes the following statement:

(a) Contributor warrants that the material is his/her own, except for those contributed by others. Copyright notice in the name of a person is not required, but that they do not infringe upon the rights of others. The rights are those as set forth herein:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Contributor agrees that the material shall become the property of Radcliffe College, including copyright, of the contributor's work. It is understood that each contributor shall have the right to use the data in any future research or publication. The rights by the contributor are those set forth herein:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

RADCLIFFE COLLEGE Ten Garden Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138 (617) 495-8140  
 The Henry A. Murray Research Center: A Center for the Study of Lives



## MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE HENRY A. MURRAY RESEARCH CENTER OF RADCLIFFE COLLEGE AND DATA CONTRIBUTORS

This agreement is made between Dr. William S. Hoopes (contributor) and Radcliffe College regarding the data set entitled \_\_\_\_\_

Radcliffe College Suburban Survey  
 The Henry A. Murray Research Center is a division of Radcliffe College. Dr. William S. Hoopes deposit(s) in the Henry A. Murray Research Center (Center) the following materials:

Completed Questionnaire Surveys: 1000

1. The Center will pay for all costs involved in acquiring the materials specified above including the costs of removing the names and such other identifying information as determined by the Center or the contributor. The total cost shall not exceed \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The contributor
- A.  believes there is reason to maintain the anonymity of each individual respondent.
- B.  believes there is no reason to maintain the anonymity of each individual respondent.

3. If Box A in 2 is checked, the following information shall be deleted from the materials. Check all that apply.

-3-

data may be used only at the Center. (If this copies of machine-readable data may be transferred to other locales. However, in no case will non-machine-readable data be released for use elsewhere.)

if any, on use of the material: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

provisions relate to the follow-up of the

contributor will allow the sample to be followed-up by researchers affiliated with the Center subject to the following conditions:

- A follow-up study may only be performed with the collaboration of the contributor.
- The contributor will provide the Center with the names and addresses of the subjects, with:
1.  no further restriction. These identifiers may be made available to affiliated researchers who may be permitted to make contacts with subjects at the discretion of the Center.
2.  the restriction that these identifiers may be used only by the Center staff.
3.  the restriction that any contacts of the subjects must be made through the contributor unless he/she gives written permission to the researcher to make such contacts.
- The contributor will not provide the Center with the names and addresses of the subjects. Any contacts of the subjects must be made through him/her.

Contributor will not allow the sample to be followed-up by researchers affiliated with the Center.

# Here are some **new** Data Handling Policies

**Waiver**

Our [Community Norms](#) as well as good scientific practices expect that proper credit is given via citation. Please use the data citation above, generated by the Dataverse.

No waiver has been selected for this dataset.

**Terms of Use**

- The Murray Archive (the Distributor) has granted me a revocable license to use this dataset solely for the purposes of conducting research, and the Distributor may terminate this license at any time and for any reason.
- I will use the dataset solely for statistical analysis and reporting of aggregated information, and not for investigation of specific individuals or organizations, except when identification is authorized in writing by the Distributor.
- I will produce no links among the Distributor's datasets or among the Distributor's data and other datasets that could identify individuals or organizations.
- I represent that neither I, nor anyone I know, has any prior knowledge of the possible identities of any study participants in any dataset that I am being licensed to use.
- I will not knowingly divulge any information that could be used to identify individual participants in the study, nor will I attempt to identify or contact any study participant, and I agree to use any precautions necessary to prevent such identification.
- I will make no use of the identity of any person or establishment discovered inadvertently. If I suspect that I might recognize or know a study participant, I will immediately inform the Distributor, and I will not use or retain a copy of data regarding that study participant. If these measures to resolve an identity disclosure are not sufficient, the Distributor may terminate my use of the dataset.
- I will not reproduce the dataset except as is necessary for my scholarly purposes. I will destroy the dataset upon the completion of my scholarly work with it.
- I will not share data from the dataset (in any form or by any means) with any third party, including other members of my research team, as I understand that all users of data must obtain the data directly from the Distributor.
- I will make appropriate acknowledgement of the contributor of the dataset as well as the Distributor in any manuscript or presentation (published or unpublished) using the citation standard documented here: <http://thedata.org/citation>
- THE DISTRIBUTOR MAKES NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, BY OPERATION OF LAW OR OTHERWISE, REGARDING OR RELATING TO THE DATASET.

**Additional Information (+)**

**Special Permissions**

Submission of the following [Application For The Use Of Data](#) is required to access the data from this study.

**Restrictions**

I will use these data solely for the purposes stated in my application to use data, detailed in a written research proposal. I will honor all agreements and conditions made between the Contributor of the Data and the study participants, and between the Contributor of the Data and the Henry A. Murray Research Archive, Harvard University, as specified in the Memorandum of Agreement.

# Formal<sub>cs</sub> DHPs

## **W3C's Privacy Preference Project (P3P)**

Focuses on web data collection

## **Open Digital Rights Language (ODRL)**

Models DRM, supports privacy and rule-based assertions

## **PrimeLife Policy Language (PPL)**

Focuses on downstream usage, using rules

## **Data-Purpose Algebra** [Hanson, Berners-Lee, Kagal, Sussman, Weitzner]

Models restriction transformation along data processing path



# DataTags

<b>Tag Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Security Features</b>	<b>Access Credentials</b>
<b>Blue</b>	Public	Clear storage, Clear transmit	Open
<b>Green</b>	Controlled public	Clear storage, Clear transmit	Email- or OAuth Verified Registration
<b>Yellow</b>	Accountable	Clear storage, Encrypted transmit	Password, Registered, Approval, Click-through DUA
<b>Orange</b>	More accountable	Encrypted storage, Encrypted transmit	Password, Registered, Approval, Signed DUA
<b>Red</b>	Fully accountable	Encrypted storage, Encrypted transmit	Two-factor authentication, Approval, Signed DUA
<b>Crimson</b>	Maximally restricted	Multi-encrypted storage, Encrypted transmit	Two-factor authentication, Approval, Signed DUA

## *DataTags and their respective policies*

*Sweeney L, Crosas M, Bar-Sinai M. Sharing Sensitive Data with Confidence: The Datatags System. Technology Science [Internet]. 2015.*

**Data-handling policies consist of independent *aspects*.**

*Encryption at rest, transfer type, access credentials, etc.*

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*Encryption at rest, transfer type, access credentials, etc.*

Each aspect has multiple *possible requirements*, and can be defined such that these requirements are ordered.



# DHPs: From **Text** to **Space**

Data-handling policies consist of independent *aspects*.

*Encryption at rest, transfer type, access credentials, etc.*

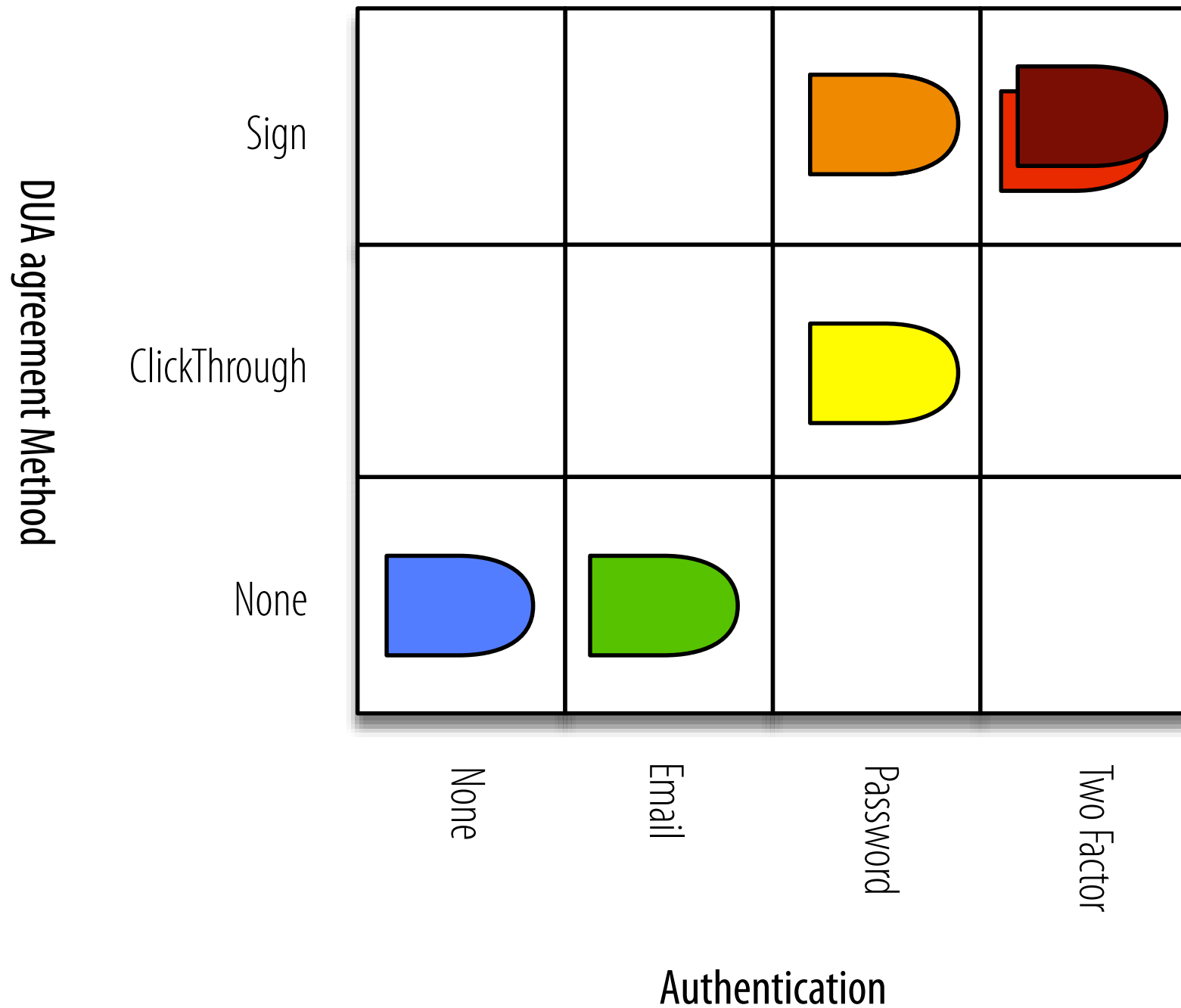
Each aspect has multiple *possible requirements*, and can be defined such that these requirements are ordered.

***We can construct a data-handling policy space by viewing aspects as axes, where each aspect's possible requirements serves as its coordinates.***

# Going from this...

<b>Tag Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Security Features</b>	<b>Access Credentials</b>
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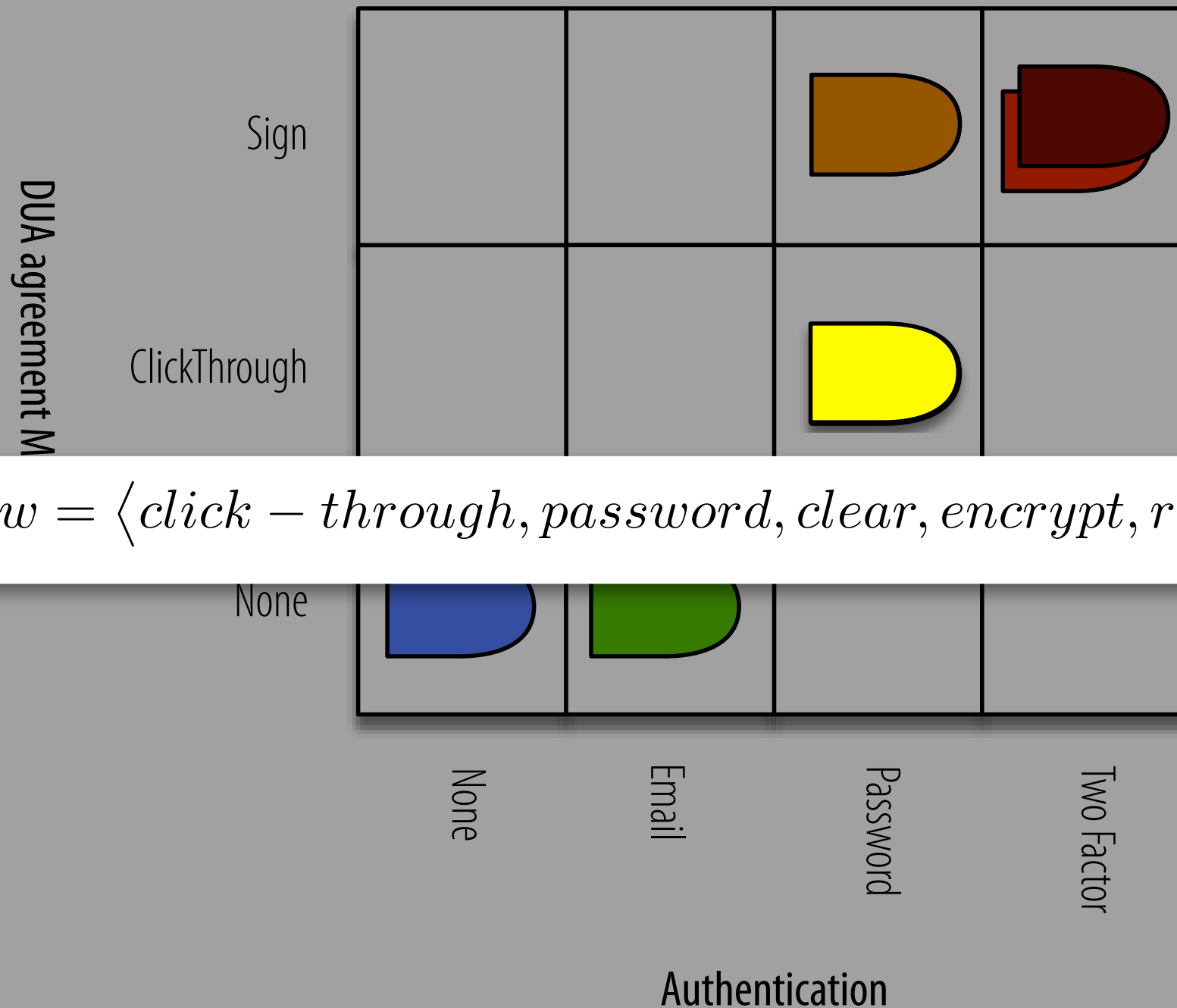
# ...to This\*



\* Shown here is a 2-D projection over the DUA Agreement Method and Authentication axes.



# ...to This\*



*Yellow = <click – through, password, clear, encrypt, registered, approval>*

\* Shown here is a 2-D projection over the DUA Agreement Method and Authentication axes.

# Strictness

DUA agreement Method	Sign				
	Click-Through		<b>P</b>		
	Implied				
		None	Email/ OAuth	Password	Two Factor

Authentication

# Strictness

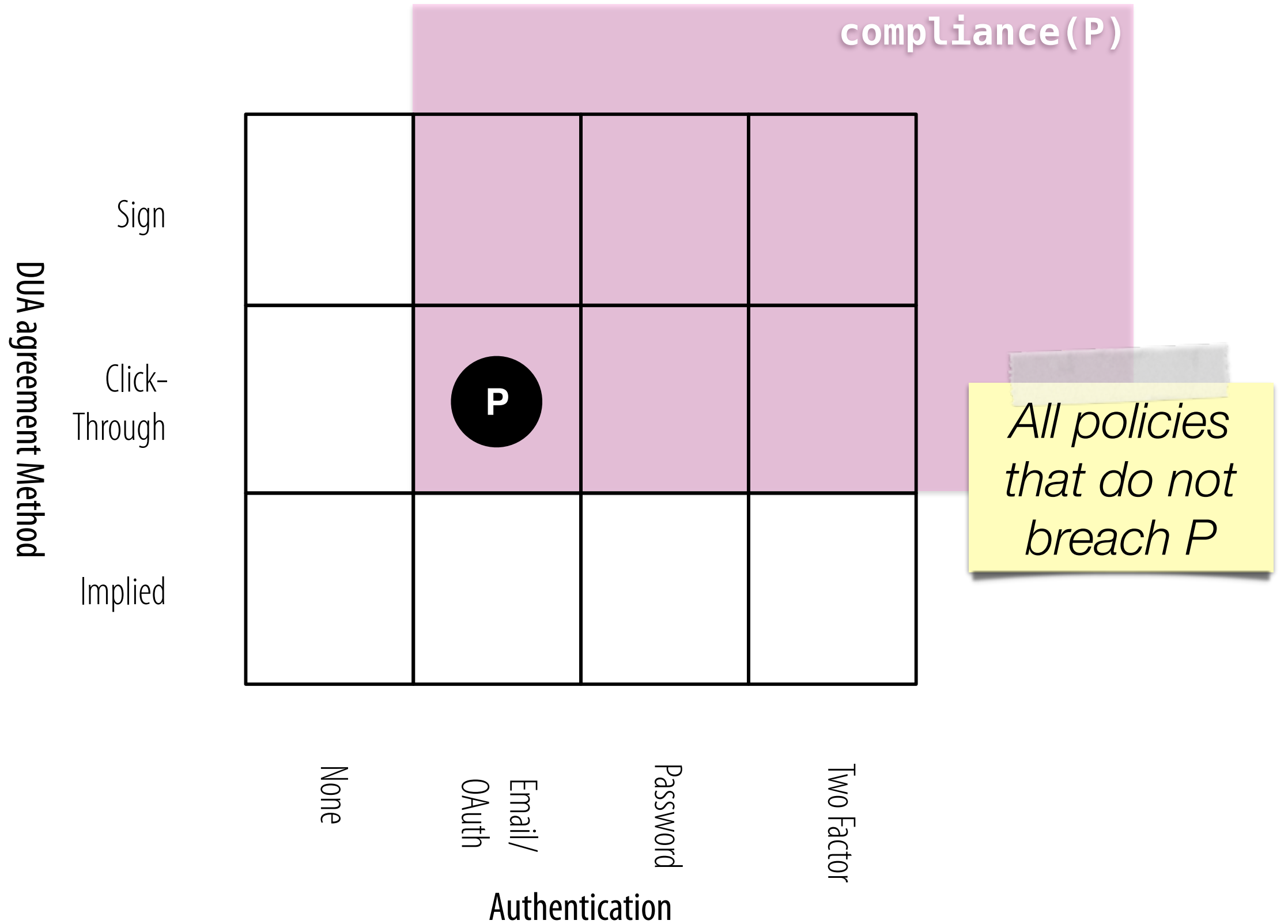
compliance(P)

Sign				
Click-Through	P			
Implied				
	None	Email/ OAuth	Password	Two Factor

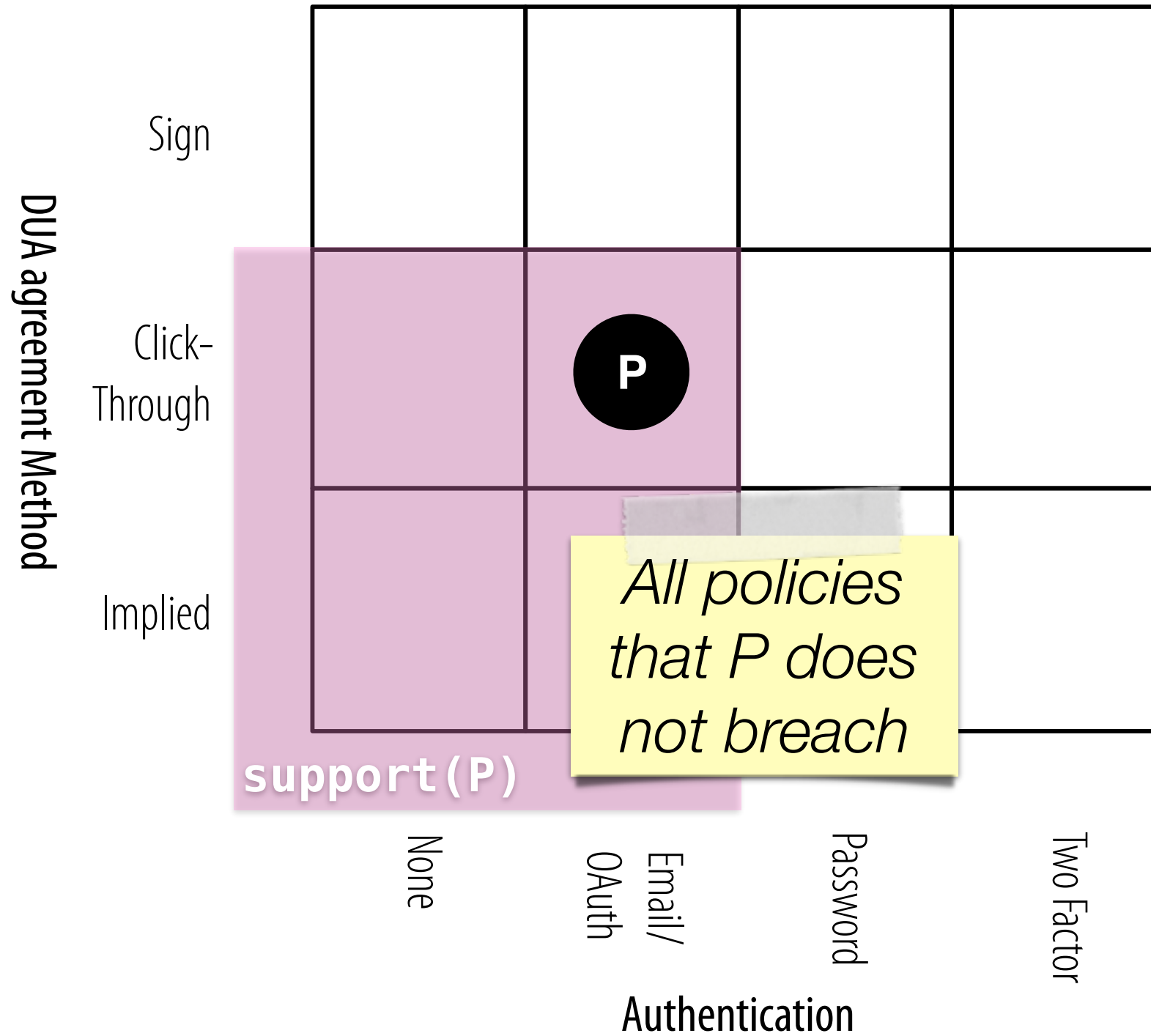
Authentication



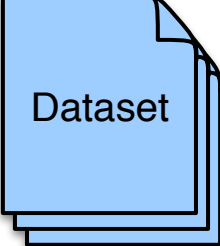
# Strictness



# Lenience



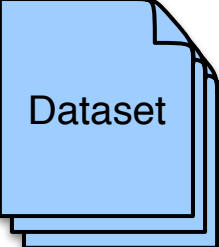
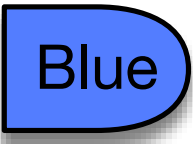
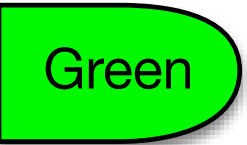


# A Dataset and a Repository walk into a DHP space...

DUA agreement Method	Sign				
	Click-Through				
	Implied				
		None	Email/ OAuth	Password	Two Factor

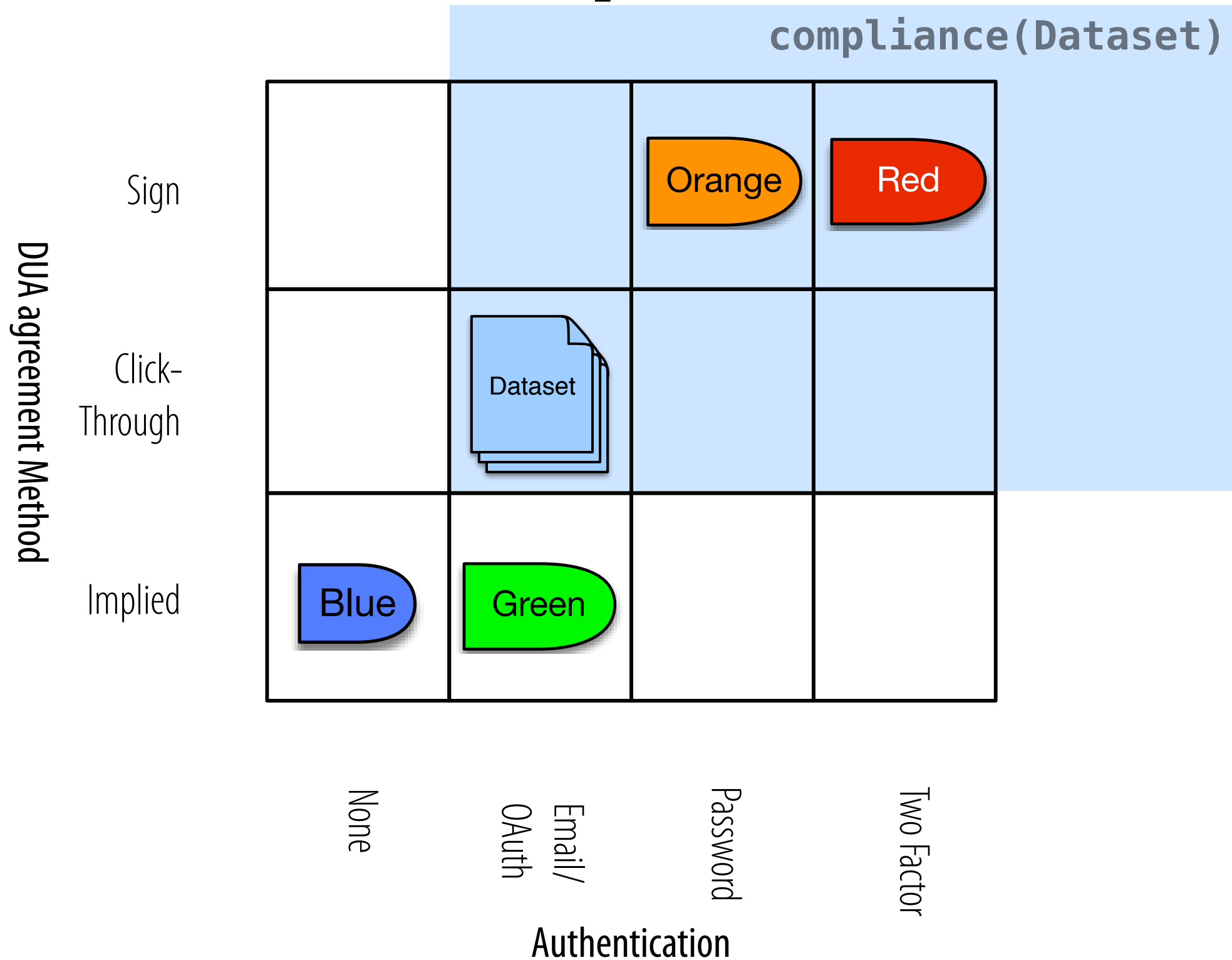
Authentication

# A Dataset and a Repository walk into a DHP space...

DUA agreement Method	Sign		 Orange	 Red	
	Click-Through	 Dataset			
	Implied	 Blue	 Green		
		None	Email/ OAuth	Password	Two Factor
		Authentication			



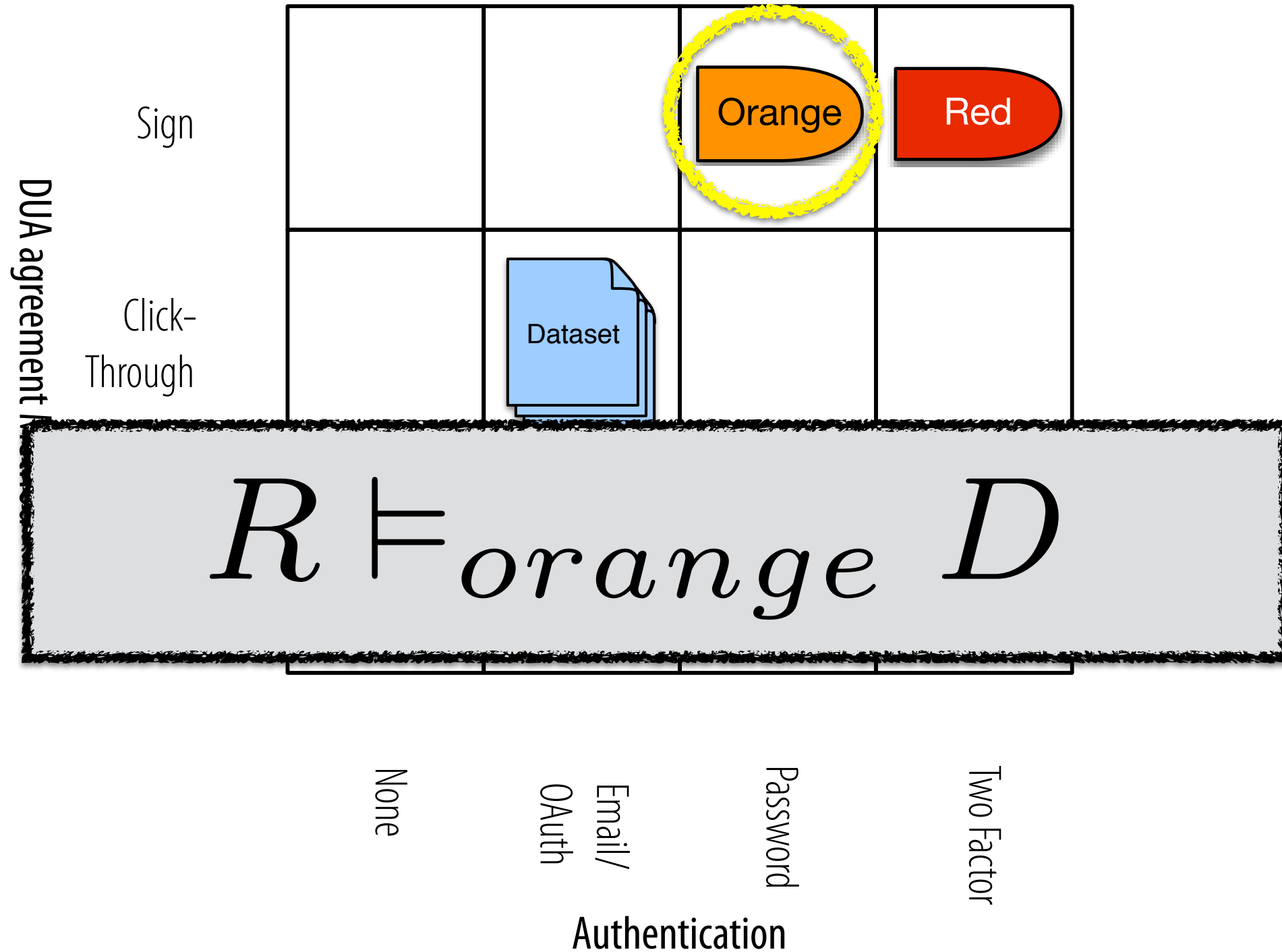
# A Dataset and a Repository walk into a DHP space...

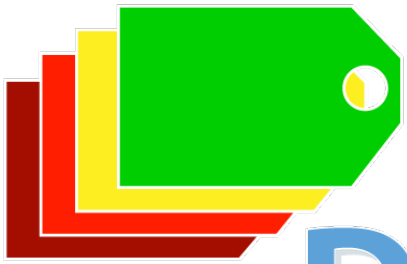


# A Dataset and a Repository walk into a DHP space...

DUA agreement Method	Sign			Orange	Red
	Click-Through		Dataset		
	Implied	Blue	Green		
		support (Orange)			
		None	Email/ OAuth	Password	Two Factor
		Authentication			

# A Dataset and a Repository walk into a DHP space...





# DataTagsTools



```
3. Modern Telex (java)
t1/0.8/definitions.ts ../WORK/dt1/0.8/questionnaire.dg
Reading definitions: ../WORK/dt1/0.8/definitions.ts
(full: /Users/michael/Documents/PhD/IQSS/Data-Tags/DataTaggingLibrary/DataTagsLi
b/dist/./WORK/dt1/0.8/definitions.ts)
Reading decision graph: ../WORK/dt1/0.8/questionnaire.dg
(full: /Users/michael/Documents/PhD/IQSS/Data-Tags/DataTaggingLibrary/DataTagsLi
b/dist/./WORK/dt1/0.8/questionnaire.dg)
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|         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
datatags.org|_/_/

# Run Started
Do the data concern living persons?
Possible Answers:
- yes
- no
answer (? for help): 
```

*Open source on GitHub*

# Tag Space

A tag space is a hierarchical structure that defined a DHP space, with some assertion dimensions added.

BlueToCrimson.ts

```
1 <*
```

```
2 This is the tag space for the DataTags set proposed at:
```

```
3 · Latanya Sweeney, Mercè Crosas, and Michael Bar-Sinai. Sharing sensitive data with conf  
4 · Science, 2015.
```

```
5 *>
```

```
6 DataTags: consists of Security, AccessCredentials. <-- This is the top-level slot
```

```
7  
8 Security: consists of Storage, Transmit.
```

```
9  
10 AccessCredentials: consists of Authentication, Registration, Approval, DUAAcceptance.
```

```
11  
12 Storage[How are data stored on disk]: one of
```

```
13 · clear [No encryption used],
```

```
14 · encrypt [Data are stored encrypted on disk],
```

```
15 · multiEncrypt [Data are encrypted on disk, in a way that the server cannot unencrypt th
```

```
16  
17 Transmit[How are data travelling through networks]:
```

```
18 · one of clear, encrypt.
```

```
19  
20 Authentication: one of none, password, twoFactor.
```

```
21
```



# Tag Space

BlueToCrimson.ts

```
1 <*-
```

```
2 This is the tag space for the DataTags set proposed at:-
```

```
3 ·Latanya Sweeney, Mercè Crosas, and Michael Bar-Sinai. Sharing sensitive data with conf  
· Science, 2015.-
```

```
4 *>-
```

Block Comment

```
6 DataTags: consists of Security, AccessCredentials
```

```
7 -
```

Compound Slot

```
8 Security: consists of Storage, Transmit
```

```
9 -
```

```
10 AccessCredentials: consists of Authentication, Registration, Approval, DUAAcceptance.-
```

```
12 Storage[How are data stored on disk]: one of-
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```
13 ·clear [No encryption used],
```

```
14 ·encrypt [Data are stored encrypted on disk],
```

```
15 ·multiEncrypt [Data are encrypted on disk, in a way that the server cannot unencrypt th
```

```
16 -
```

Description

Atomic Slot

```
17 Transmit[How are data travelling through networks]:-
```

```
18 ·one of clear, encrypt.-
```

```
19 -
```

```
20 Authentication: one of none, password, twoFactor.-
```

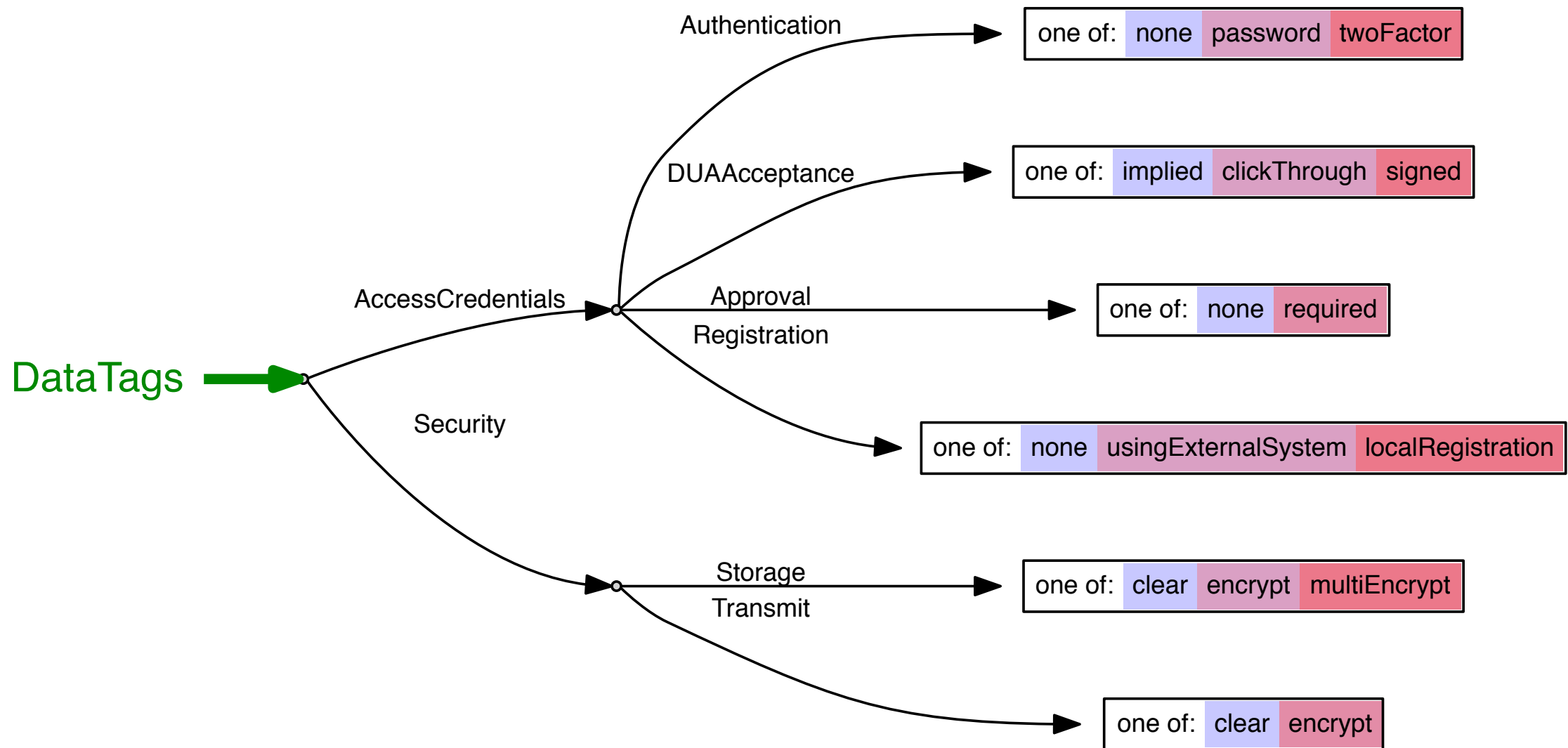
```
21 -
```

```
<-- This is the top-level slot-
```

Line Comment



# Tag-Space Visualized



*Visualization using CliRunner (on a later slide)  
and Graphviz ([www.graphviz.org](http://www.graphviz.org)).*

# Arriving at a DHP

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [www.datatags.org/interviews/questionnaireId/q/MR7](http://www.datatags.org/interviews/questionnaireId/q/MR7). The page header includes the DataTags logo, a Feedback button, and navigation icons for home, a cat icon, and IQSS. The main content area features a blue header with the text "Question: Please select one answer". Below this is the question: "Do the data contain information from a covered entity or business associate of a covered entity?". Underneath the question are two sections: "Terms" and "Business associate" (with a definition), and "Covered entity" (with a definition). At the bottom of the question area are three buttons: "Yes", "Not Sure", and "No". Below the question area are two side-by-side panels: "Answer Feed" and "Current Tags". The "Answer Feed" panel shows a partial question and a "No" button with a "Revisit" button next to it. The "Current Tags" panel shows a "DataTags" tag.

www.datatags.org/interviews/questionnaireId/q/MR7

DataTags Feedback

Question: Please select one answer

Do the data contain information from a covered entity or business associate of a covered entity?

Terms

**Business associate**  
A business associate is any person or organization, including a subcontractor, that acts on behalf of, or provides services to, a covered entity involving the use or disclosure of protected health information. This includes, but is not limited to, legal, actuarial, accounting, consulting, claim processing, data analysis, administration, utilization review, quality assurance, billing, benefit management, practice management, and re-pricing activities.

**Covered entity**  
A covered entity is a health plan, health care clearinghouse, or health care provider that transmits any health information in electronic form.

Yes Not Sure No

Answer Feed

Do the data contain information related to substance abuse diagnosis, referral, or treatment? No Revisit

Current Tags

DataTags

# Arriving at a DHP

www.datatags.org/interviews/questionnaireId/accept

DataTags Feedback

Dataset Can be Accepted

Your dataset is tagged as **Orange**

*May include sensitive, identifiable personal information, shared with verified and/or approved recipients under agreement.*

DataTags

Legal

MedicalRecords

HIPAA **safeHarborDeidentified**

EducationRecords

PPRA **protectedDeidentified** **consent**

ContractOrPolicy **no**

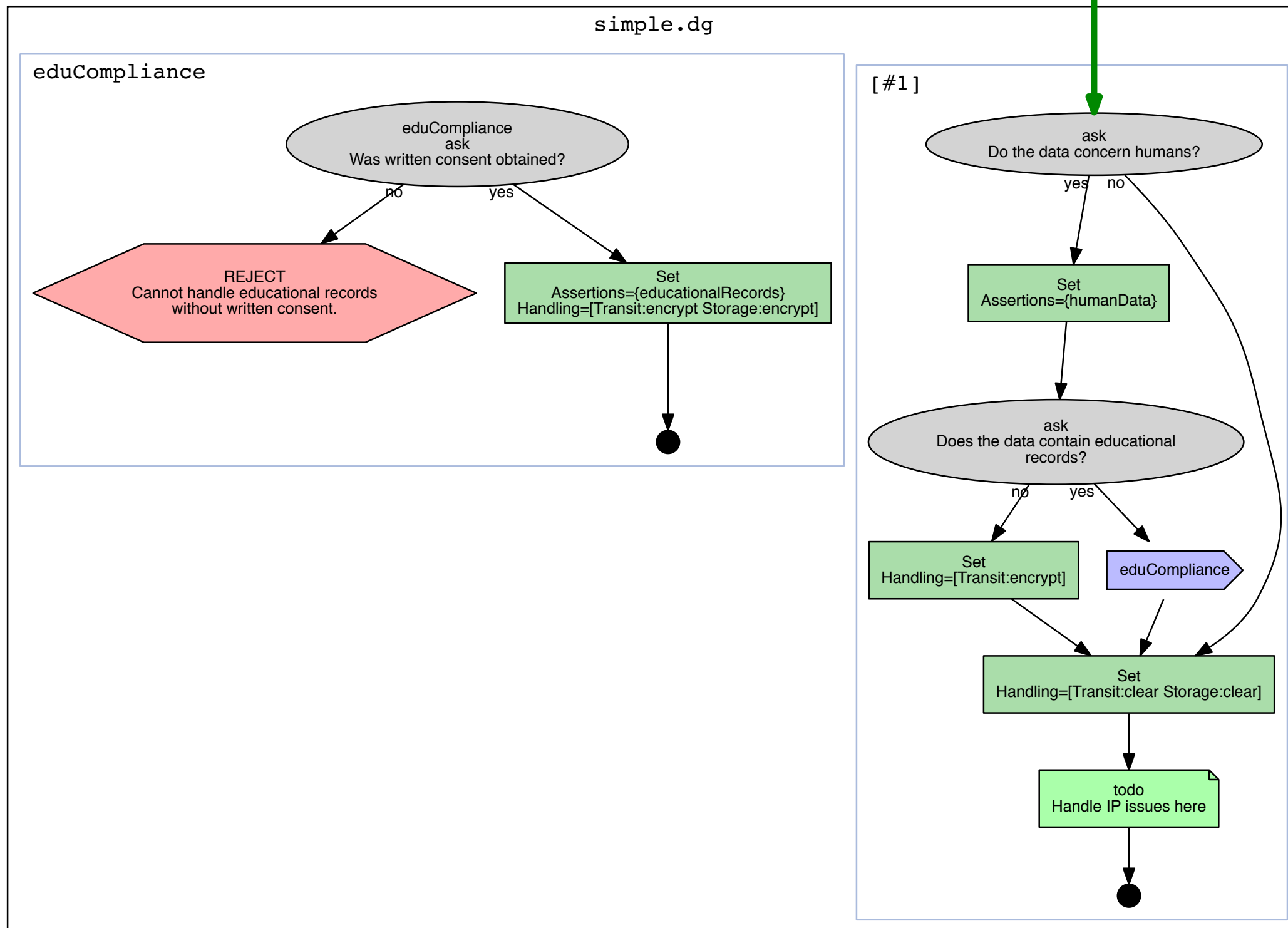
GovernmentRecords

# Tags Questionnaire

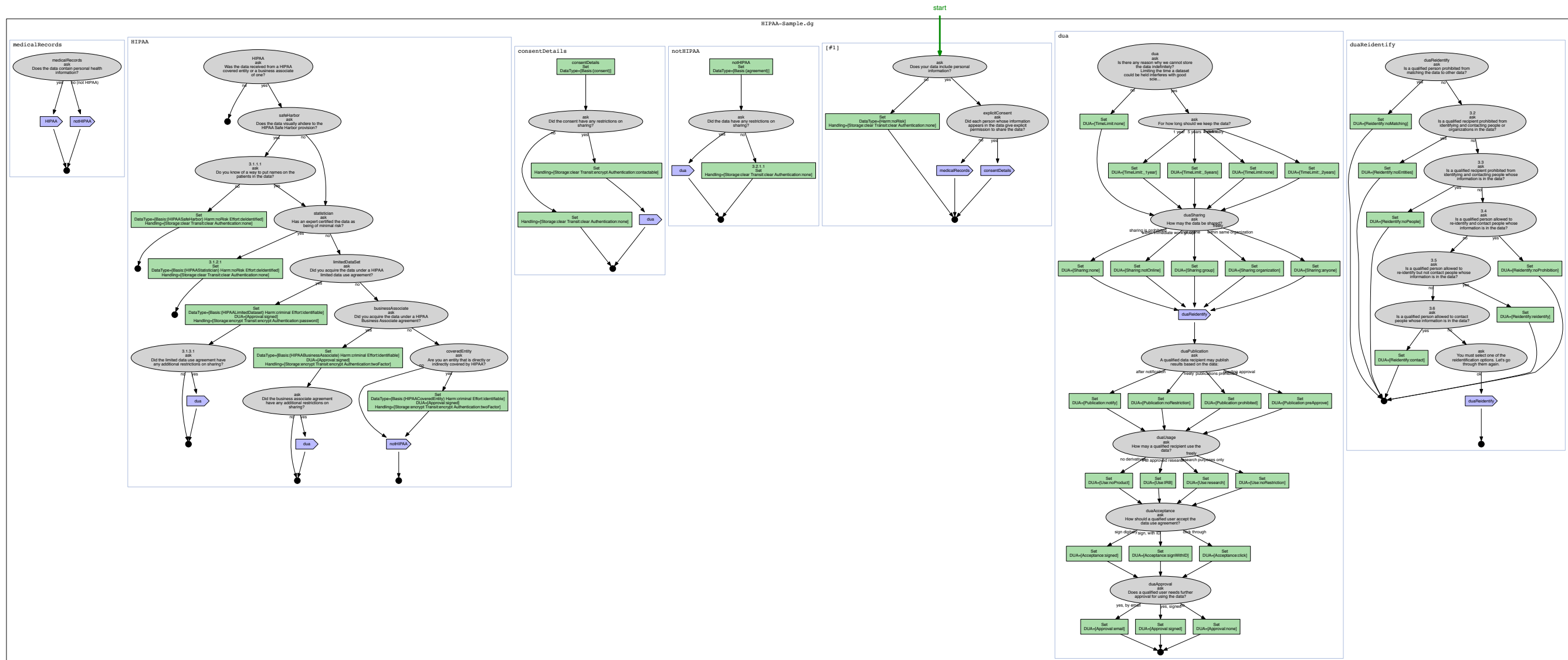
- ❖ “Interview with an expert” metaphor
- ❖ Consists of a tag space and a *decision graph*

```
simple.dg
1  [ask:
2  ..{text: Do the data concern humans?}
3  ..{answers:
4  ...{yes: [set: Assertions+=humanData]
5  .....[ask:
6  .....{text: Does the data contain educational records?}
7  .....{answers:
8  .....{yes: [call: eduCompliance]}
9  .....{no: [set: Transit=encrypt]}
10 .....}}
11 ..}
12 ]
13 [set: Storage=clear; Transit=clear] <-- defaults
14 [todo: Handle IP issues here]
15 [end]
16 < * Educational Compliance Section * >
17 [>eduCompliance< ask:
```

# Decision Graph - Visualized



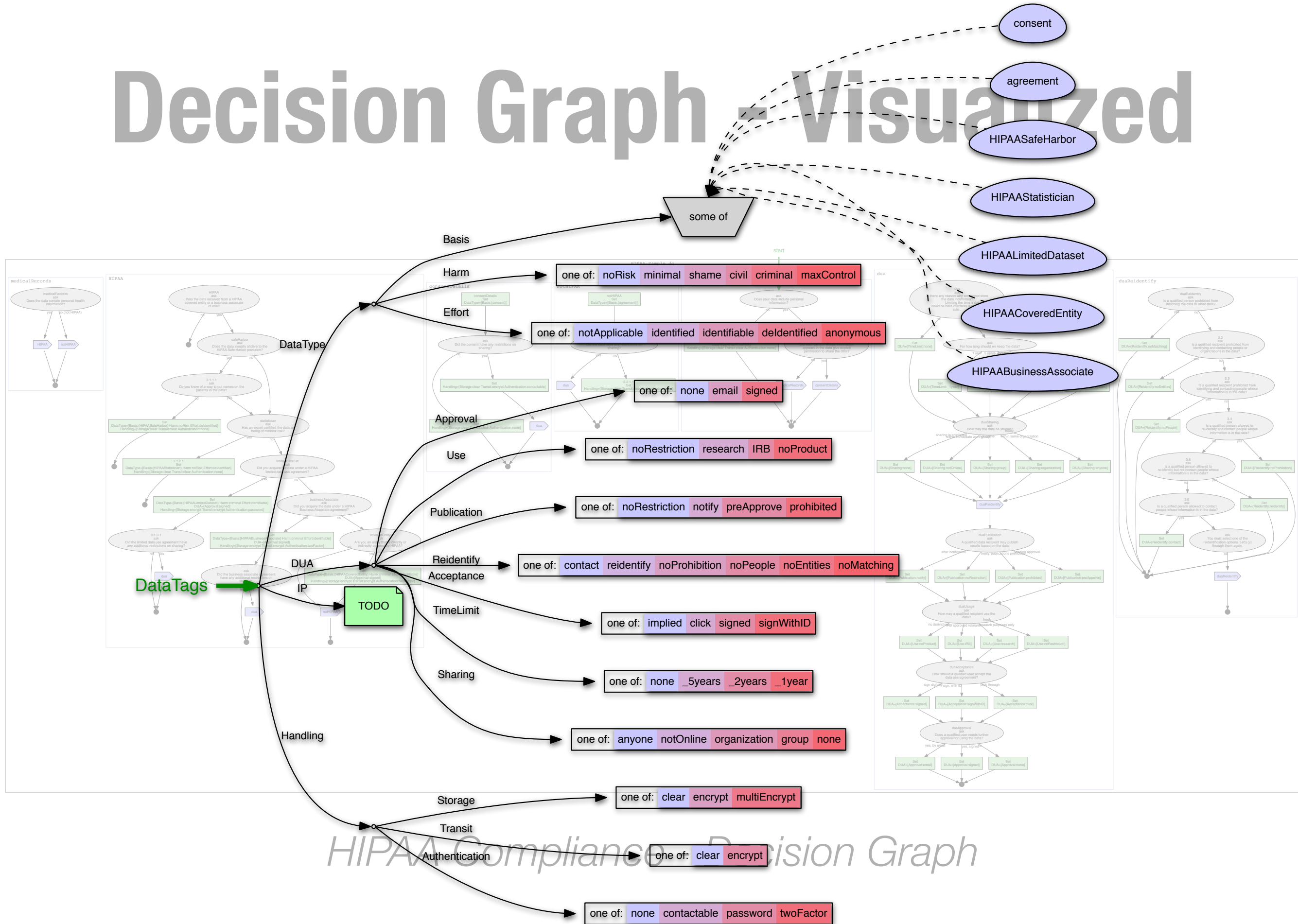
# Decision Graph - Visualized



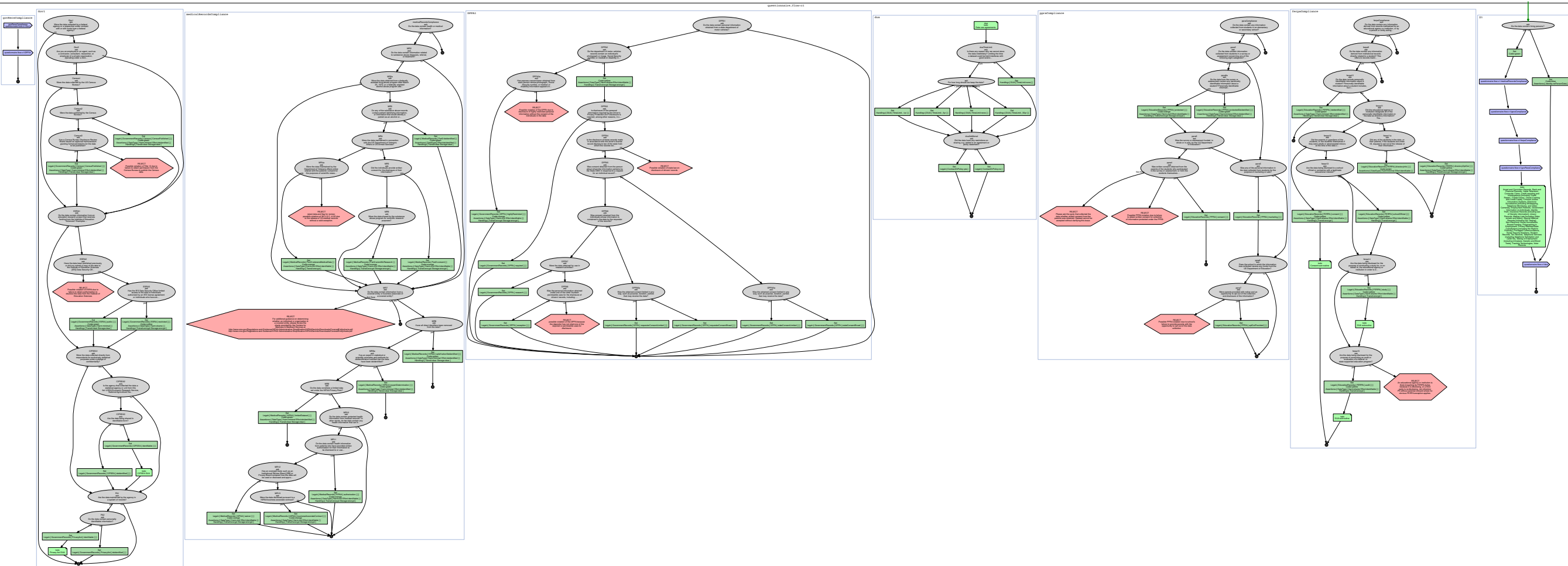
HIPAA Compliance - Decision Graph



# Decision Graph - Visualized



# Arriving at a DHP



*HIPAA, C.F.R Part 2, FERPA, PPRA,  
Education Science Report Act (2002), Privacy Act (1974),  
CIPSEA, Title 13, DPPA*

**PoC - not vetted for real world use**





*This work was funded by grant CNS-1237235 from the National Science Foundation.*

```
[set: Thank+=you]  
[end]
```

I  Data

**<http://datatags.org>**

<http://datascience.iq.harvard.edu/about-datatags>