

FROM USABILITY TO SECURE COMPUTING AND BACK AGAIN

Lucy Qin, Andrei Lapets, Frederick Jansen, **Peter Flockhart**,
Kinan Dak Albab, Ira Globus-Harris, Shannon Roberts*, Mayank Varia

Boston University

*University of Massachusetts Amherst

Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS) 2019

BOSTON

— closing the —

WAGE GAP

*Becoming the Best City in America
for Working Women*

BWWC

BOSTON WOMEN'S WORKFORCE COUNCIL

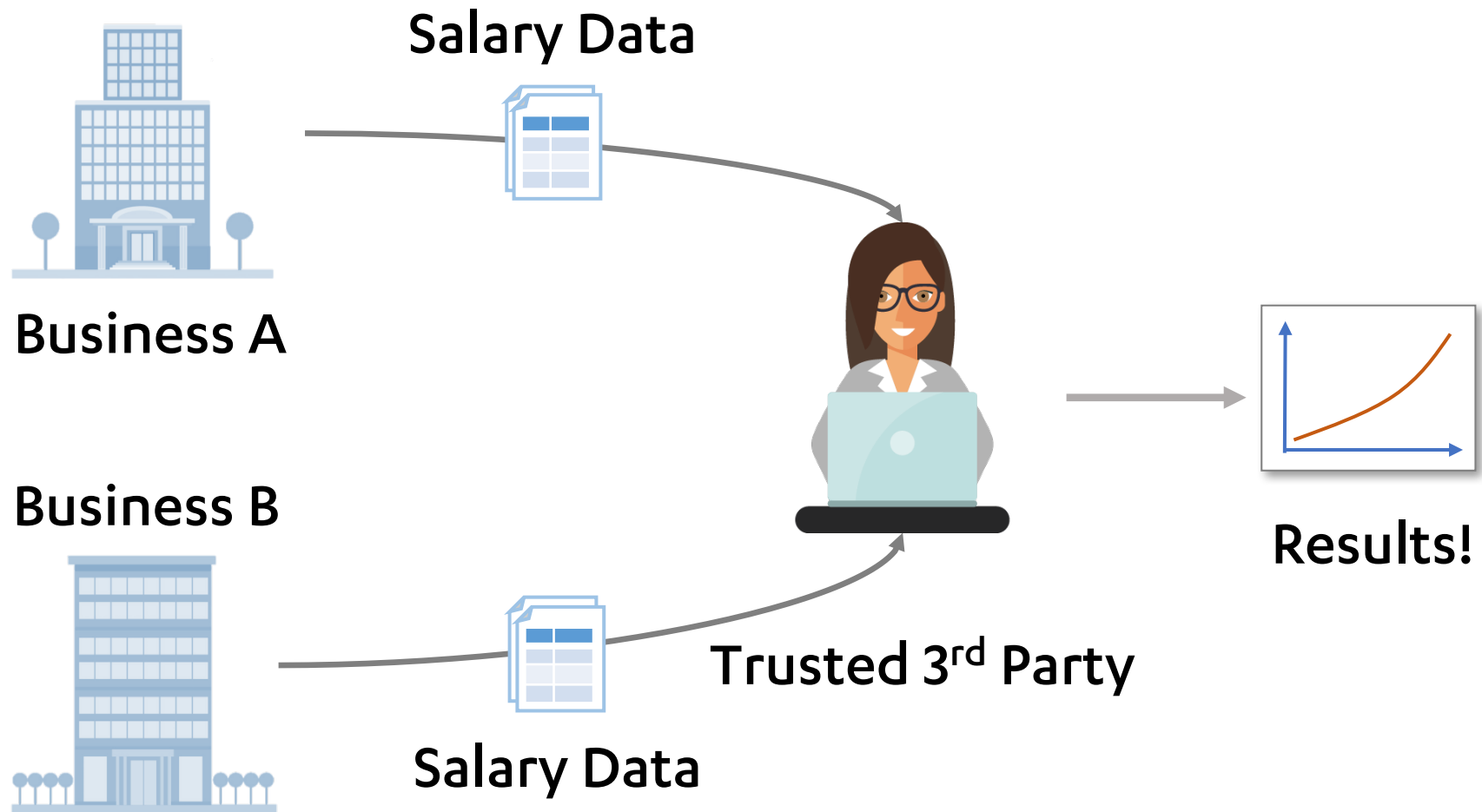
In 2016, women in Boston earned:

76

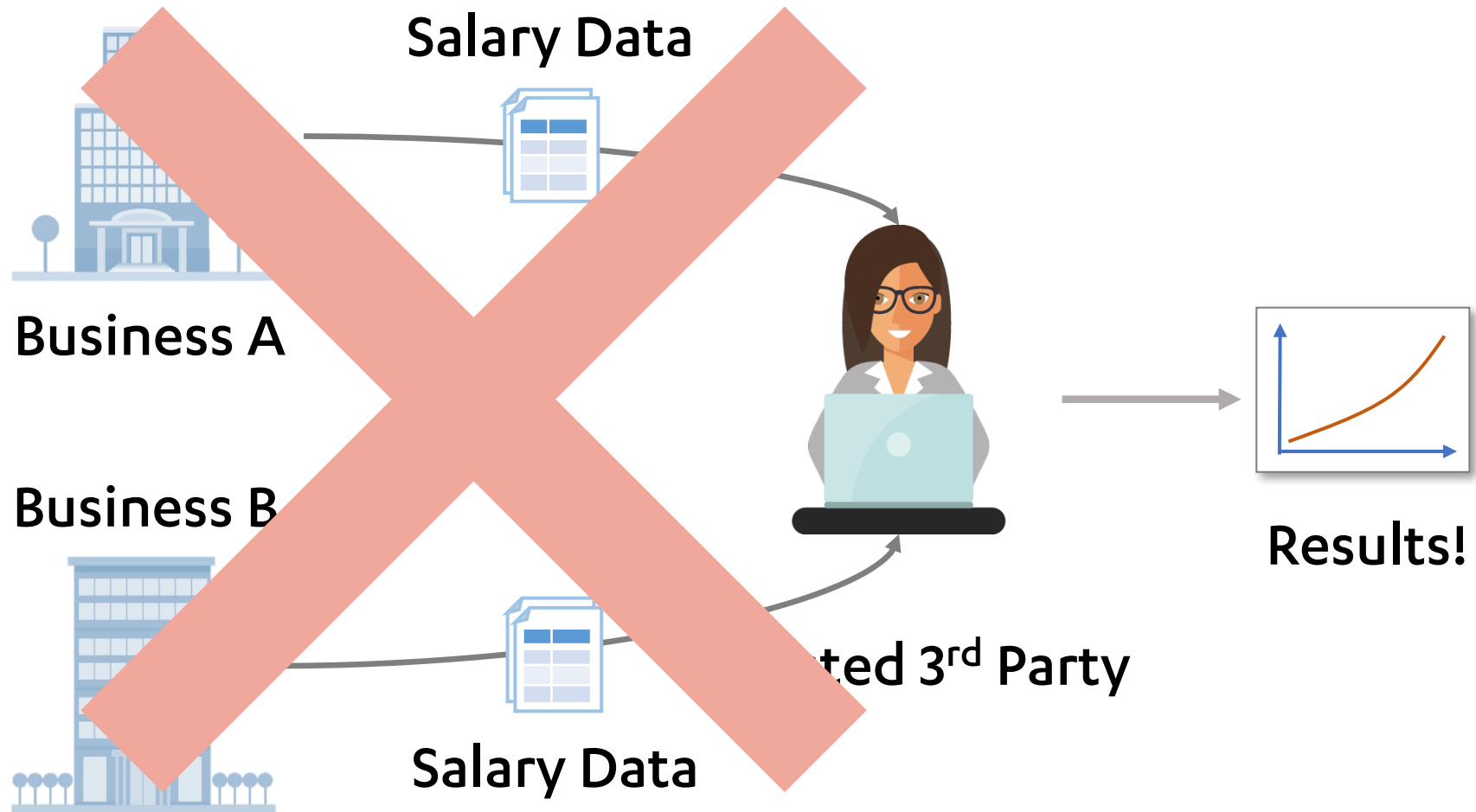
cents

*for every man's dollar**

ORIGINALLY PROPOSED WORKFLOW



ORIGINALLY PROPOSED WORKFLOW



COMPUTING WITHOUT DIRECTLY SHARING DATA: SECURE MULTI-PARTY COMPUTATION (MPC)

private inputs

$$f(s_1, s_2, s_3) = Z$$

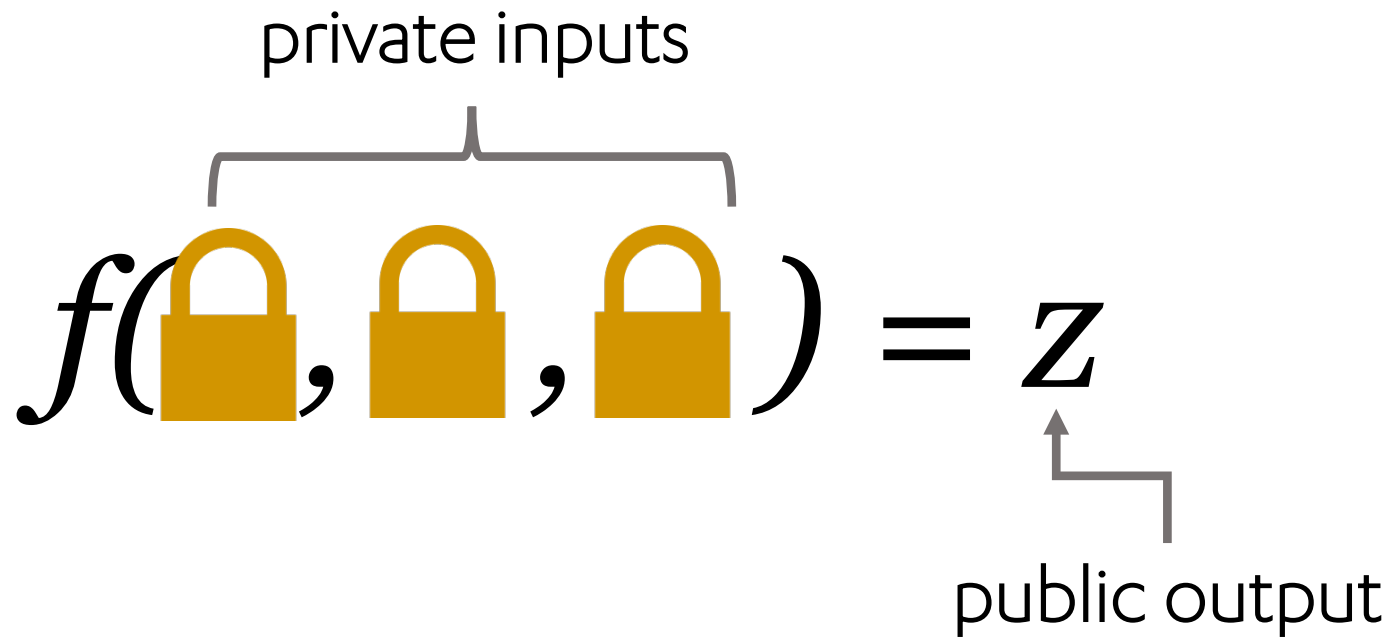
public output

COMPUTING WITHOUT DIRECTLY SHARING DATA: SECURE MULTI-PARTY COMPUTATION (MPC)

private inputs

$$f(\text{🔒}, \text{🔒}, \text{🔒}) = Z$$

public output



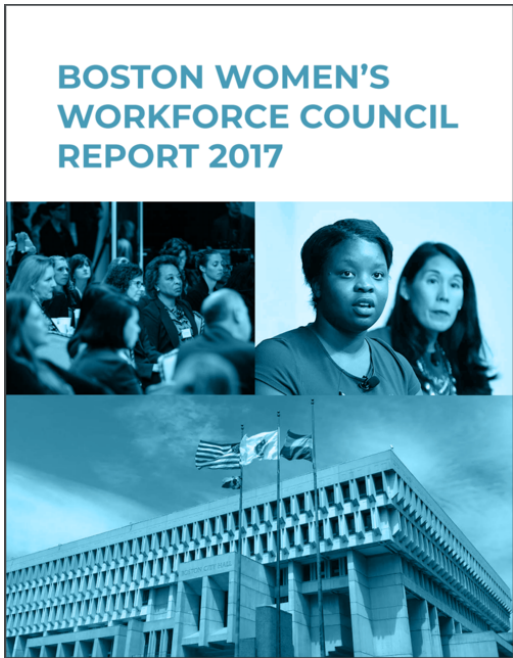
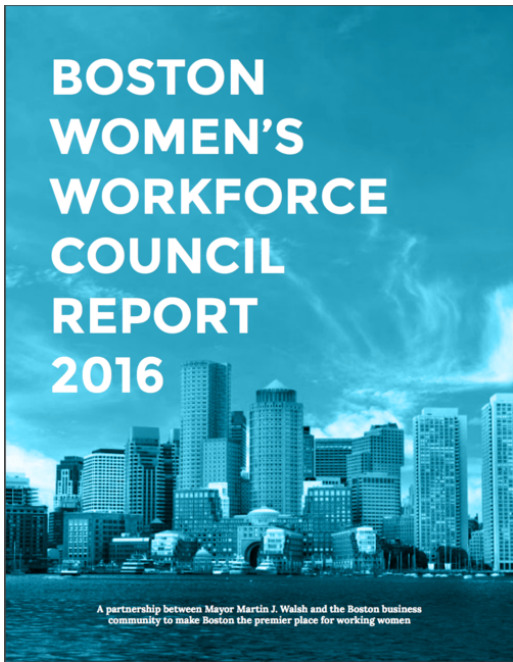
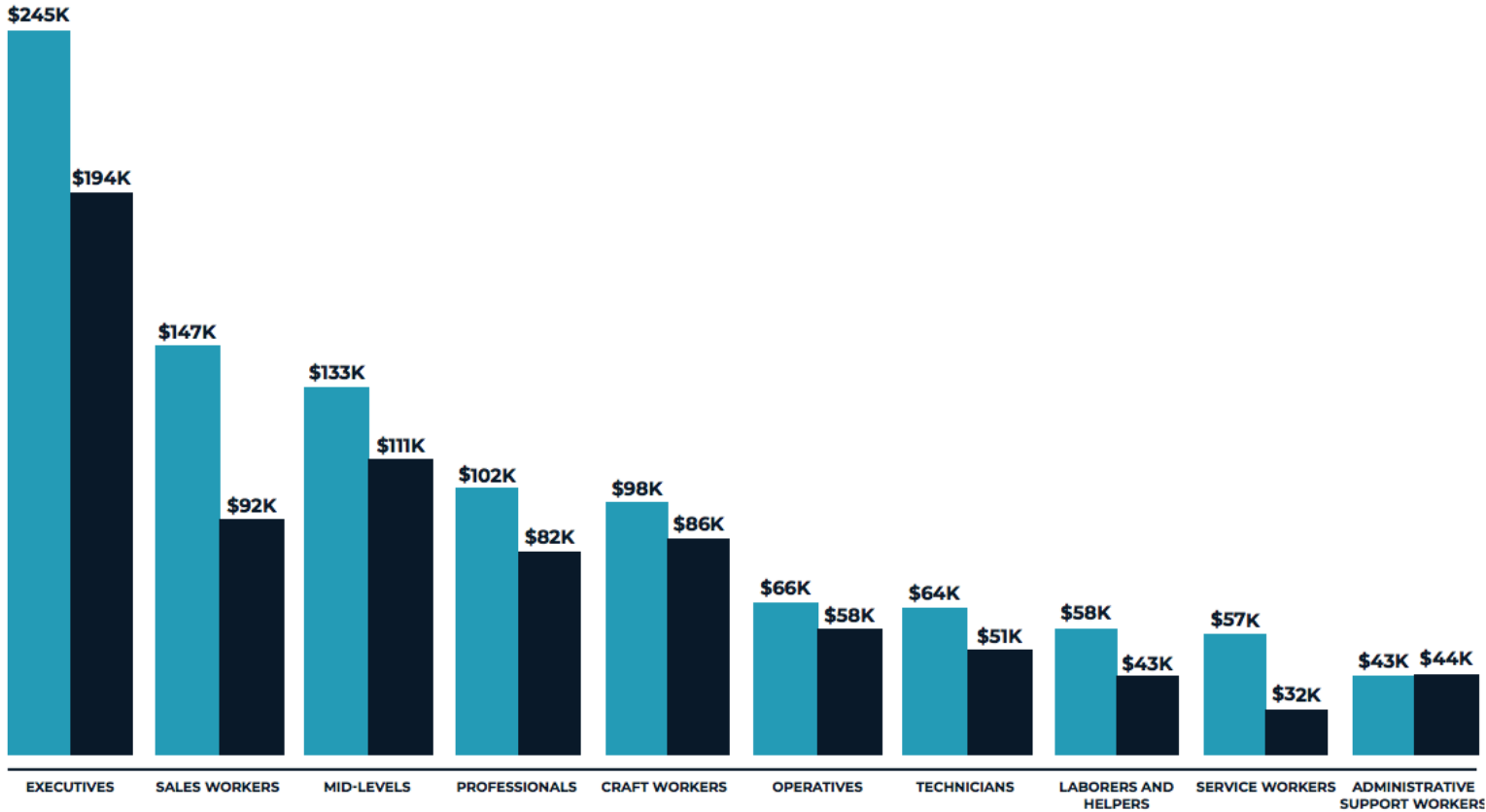
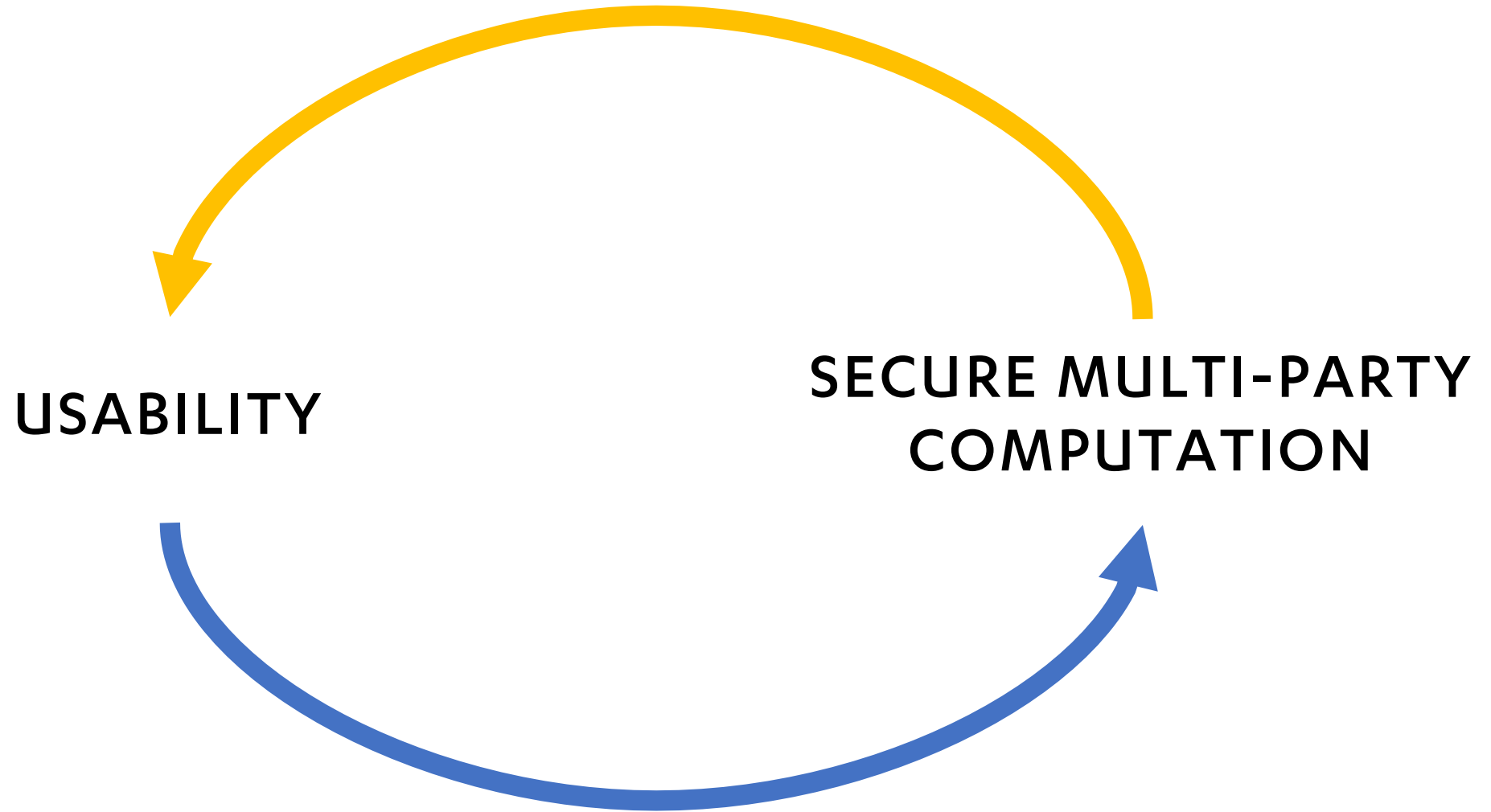


FIGURE 8: Average compensation by EEO-1 Job Category ■ WOMEN ■ MEN



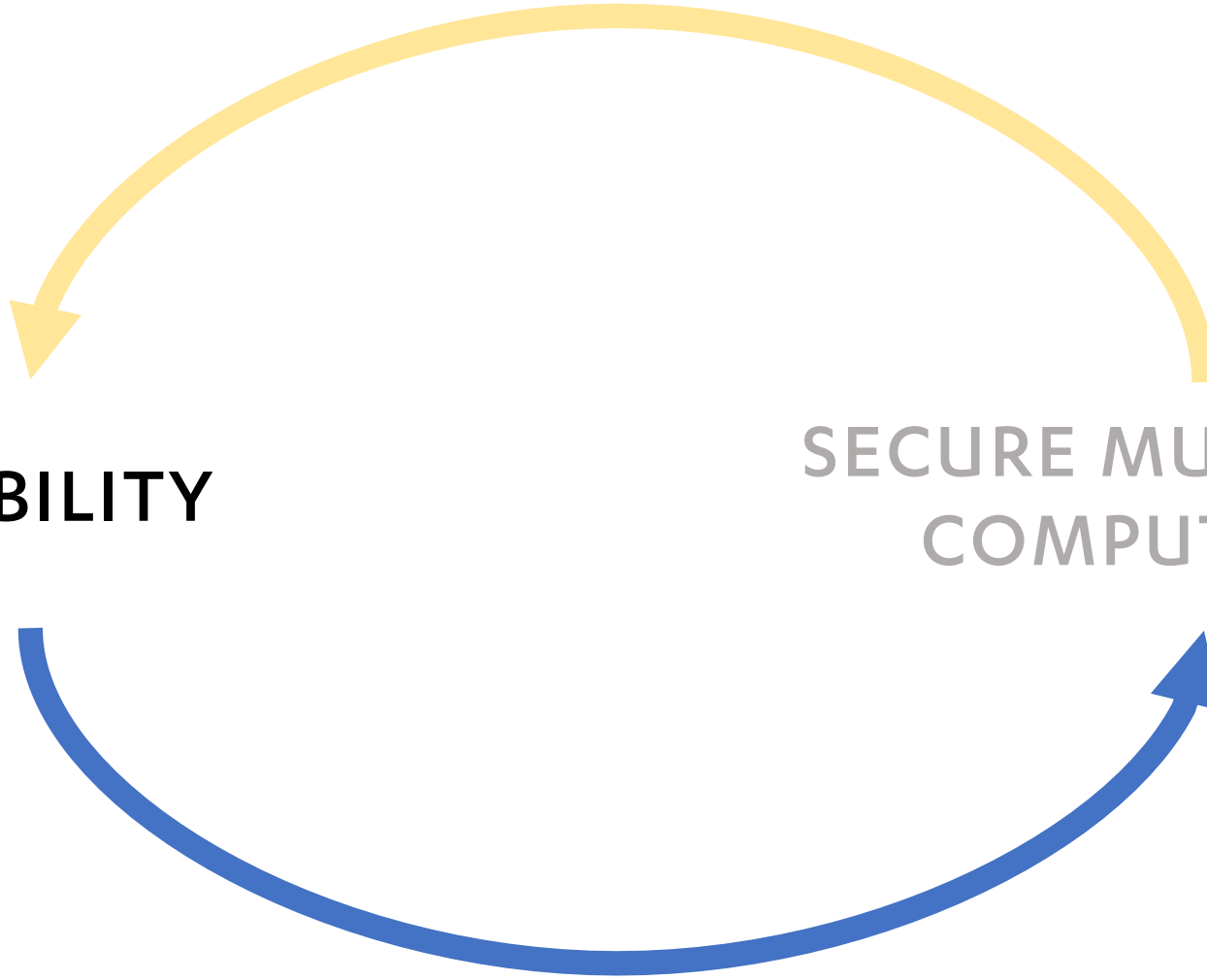
	2016	2017
total # of employers	69	114
# employees (1000s)	113	167
% of workforce	11	16
total annual earnings	\$11b	\$15b





USABILITY

SECURE MULTI-PARTY
COMPUTATION



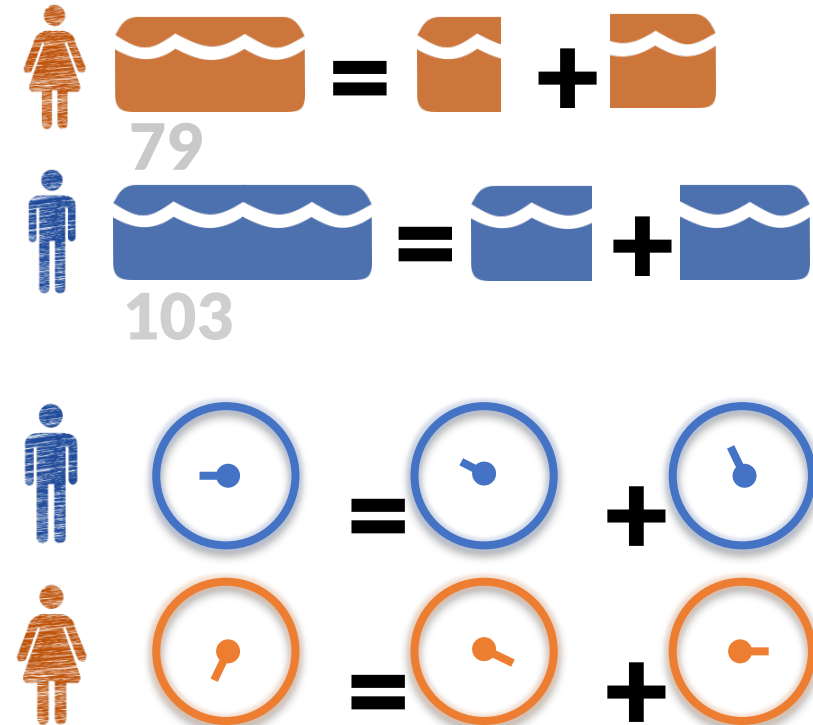
USABILITY CHALLENGES

- 1.) INSPIRING TRUST
- 2.) ERROR MINIMIZATION
- 3.) EASE OF USE

INSPIRING TRUST

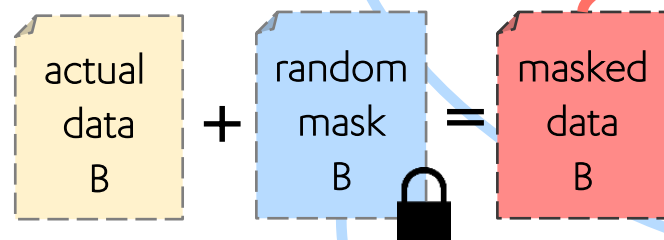
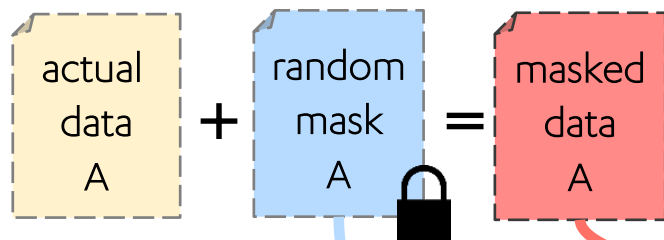
1. The analyst initiates the process by generating a secret and public RSA key pair (s, p) and a unique session identifier $id \in \mathbb{N}$, submitting p to the service provider, and sending id to all the contributors;⁴
2. Each of the n contributors possesses a secret *data* value $d_i \in G$ and does the following at least once⁵:
 - (a) Generate a secret *random mask* $m_i \in G$ and calculate the *masked*
 - (b) Receive p from
 - (c) Send r_i and $c_i =$
3. The service provider computes the sum of the masked data values to obtain the aggregate masked data quantity $R = \sum_{i=1}^n r_i$.
4. The analyst then retrieves R and all the c_1, \dots, c_n from the service provider, computes $m_i = \text{Dec}_s(c_i)$ for all i , computes $M = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i$, and obtains the final result $R - M = \sum_{i=1}^n d_i$. No other party receives any output.

cryptographic proofs



concrete analogies

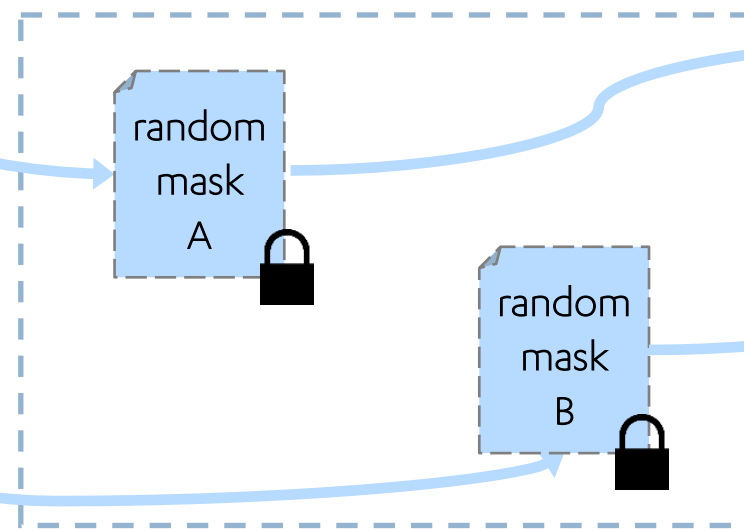
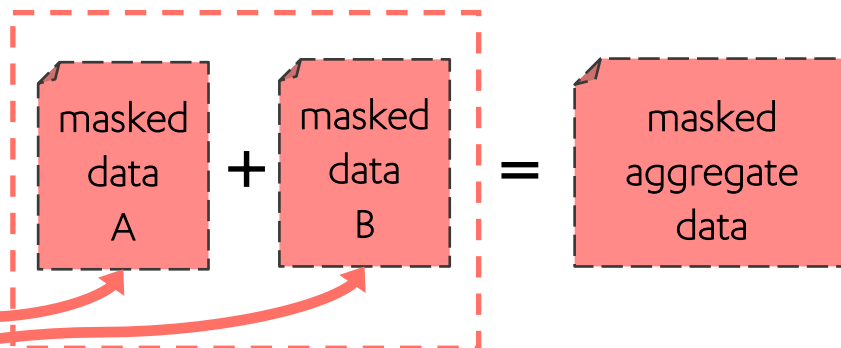
Contributor A



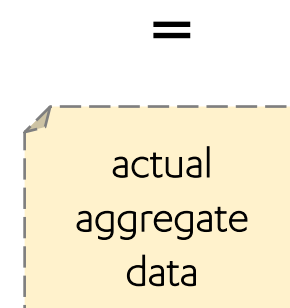
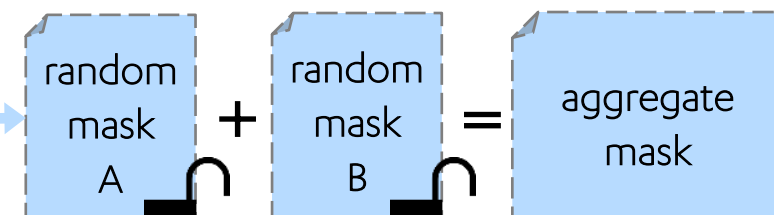
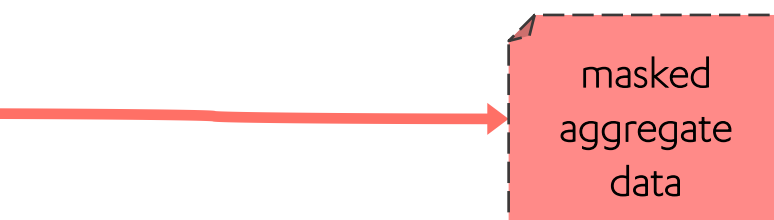
Contributor B



BU Server (web server/database)



Analyst at BWWC (client running web browser)



Contributor A



actual
data
A

actual
data
B



Contributor B

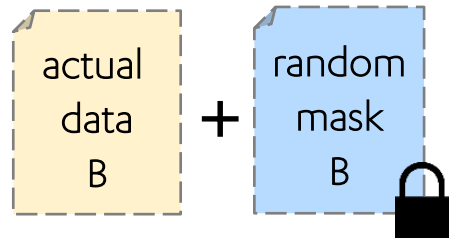
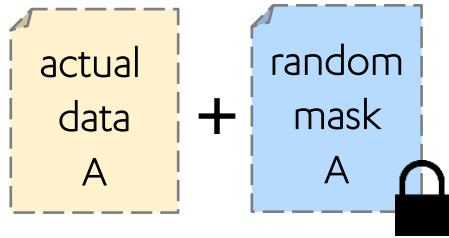
BU Server (web server/database)



Analyst at BWWC (client running web browser)



Contributor A



Contributor B

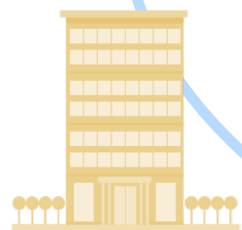
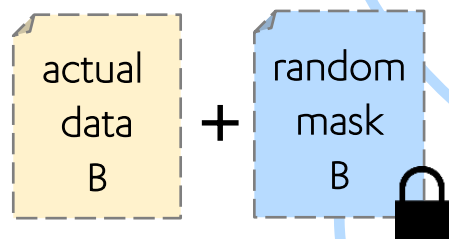
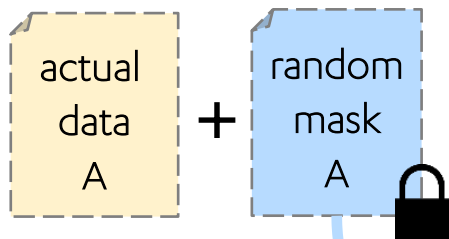
BU Server (web server/database)



Analyst at BWWC (client running web browser)

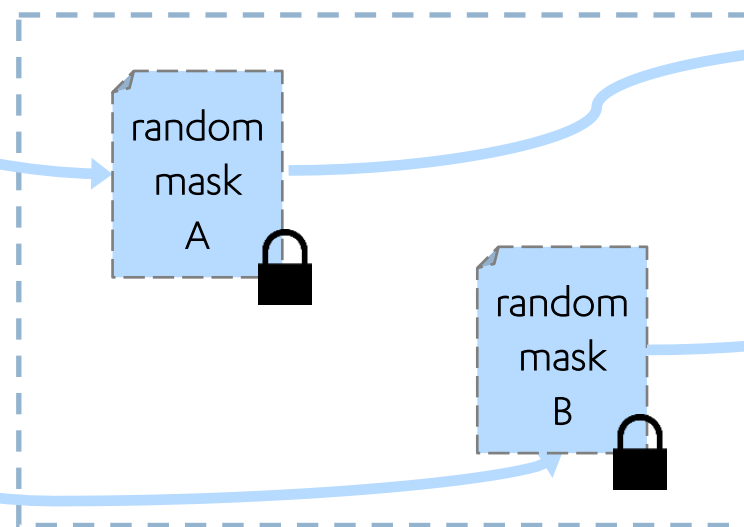


Contributor A

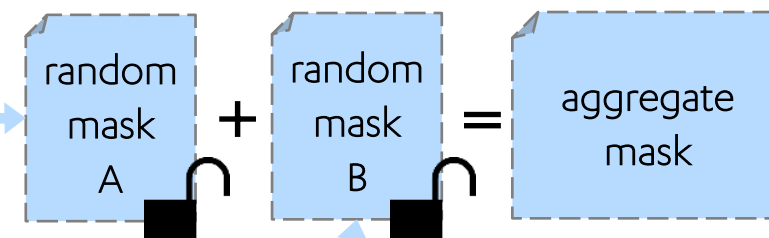


Contributor B

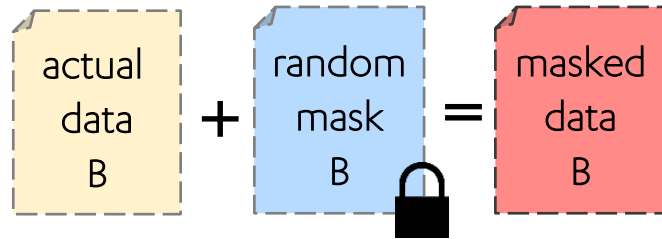
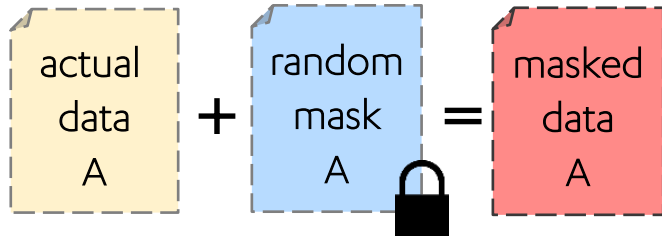
BU Server (web server/database)



Analyst at BWWC (client running web browser)

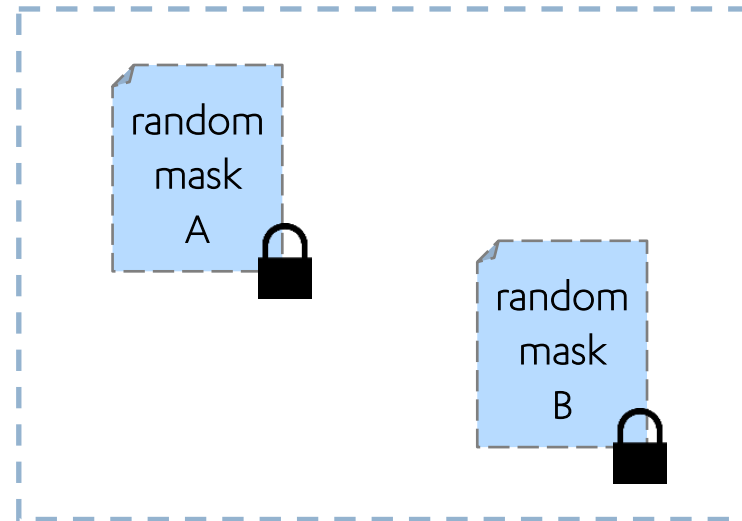


Contributor A

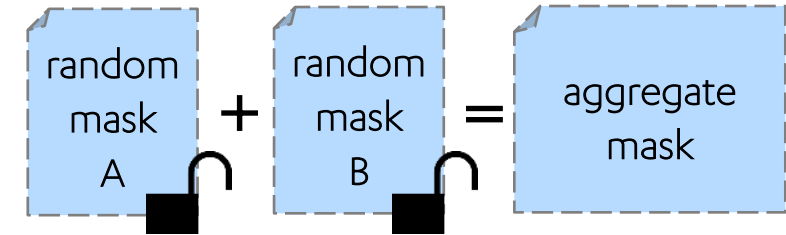


Contributor B

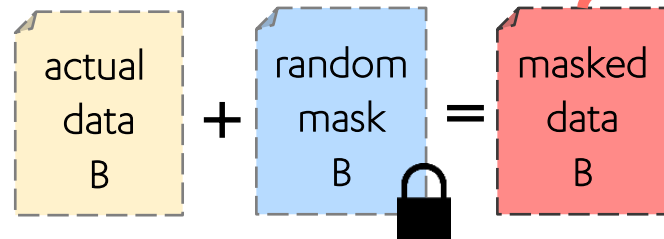
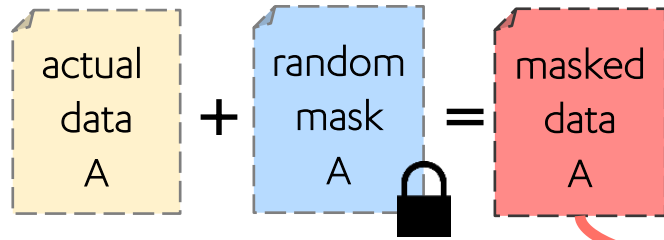
BU Server (web server/database)



Analyst at BWWC (client running web browser)

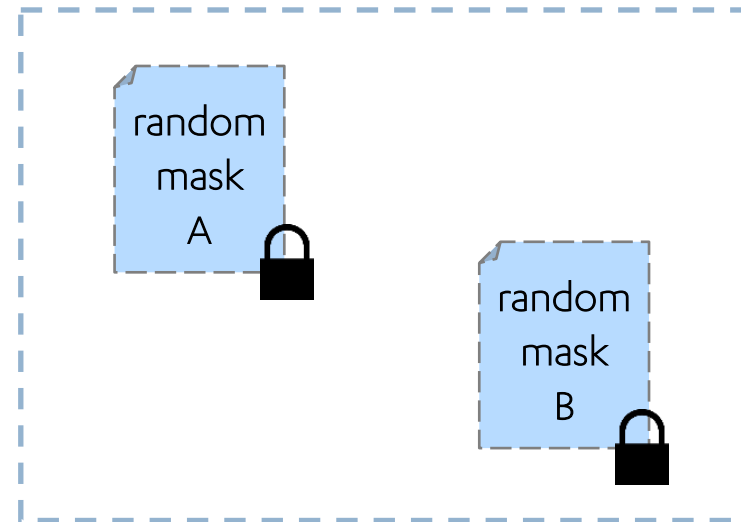
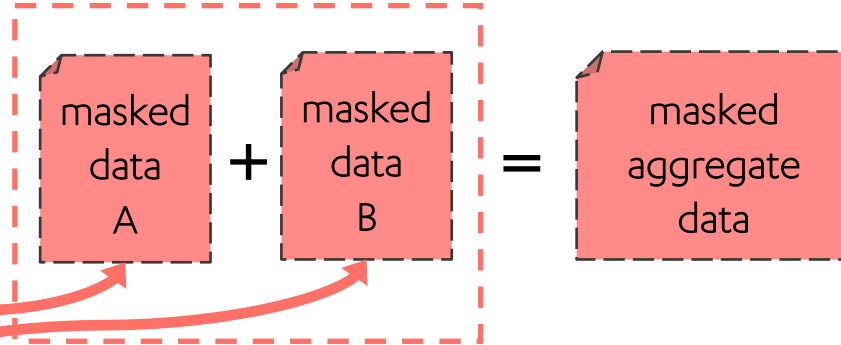


Contributor A

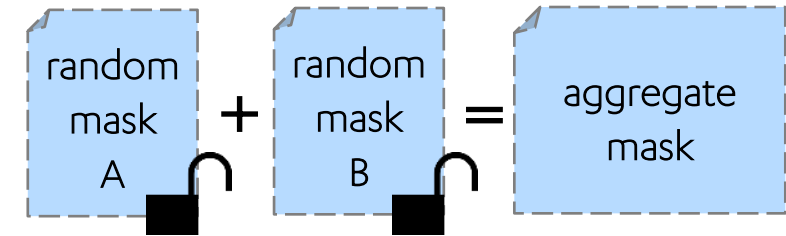


Contributor B

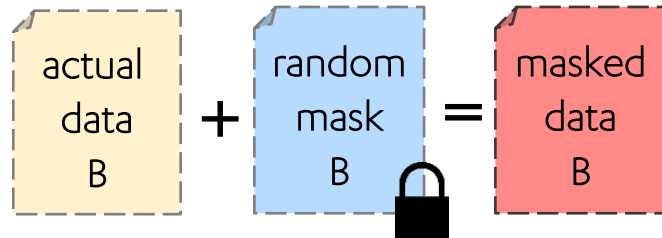
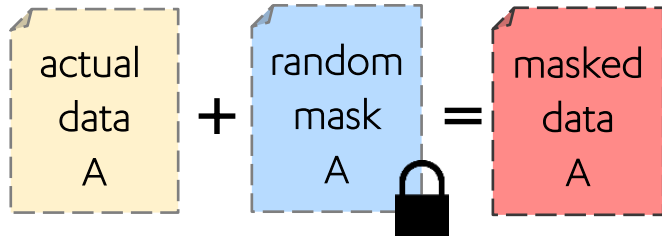
BU Server (web server/database)



Analyst at BWWC (client running web browser)

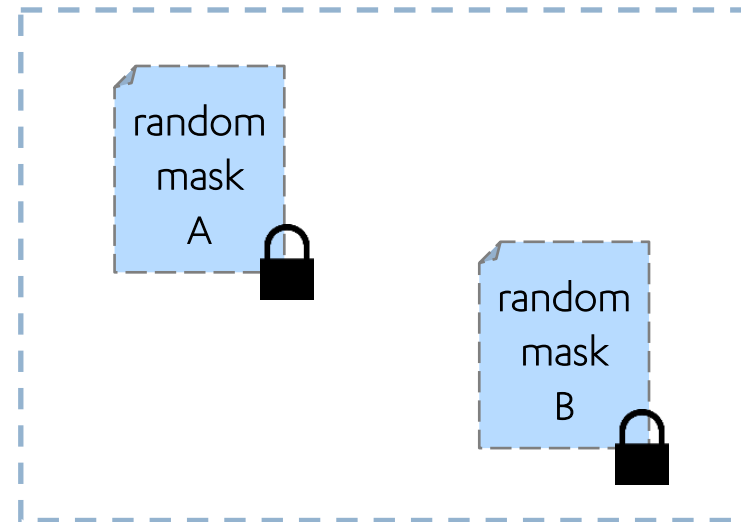
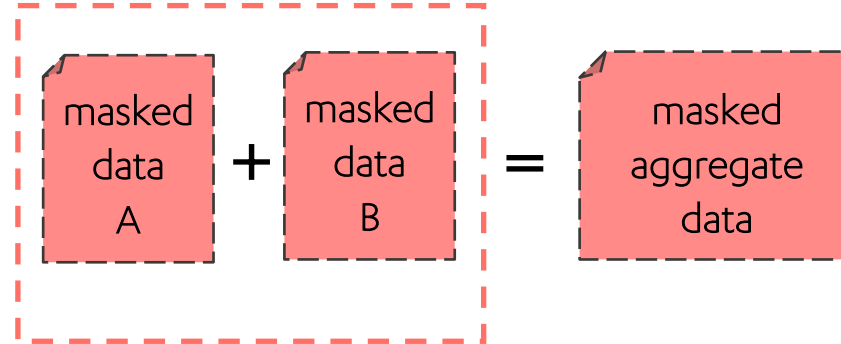


Contributor A

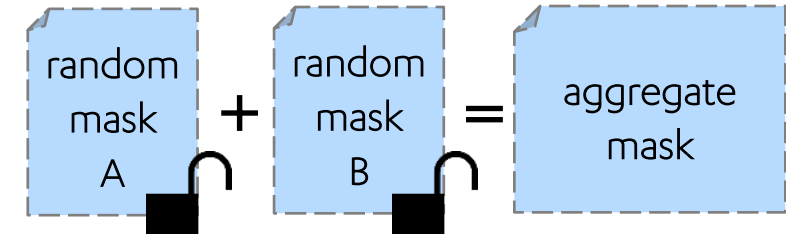
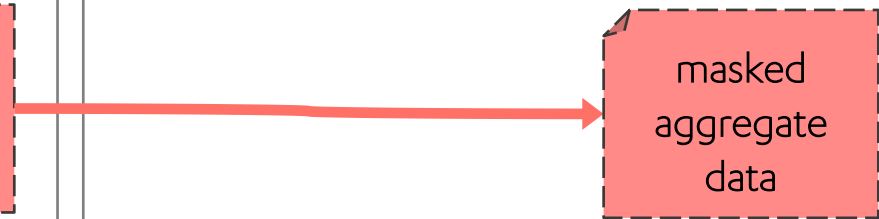


Contributor B

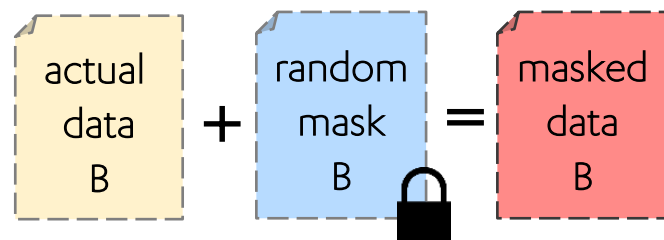
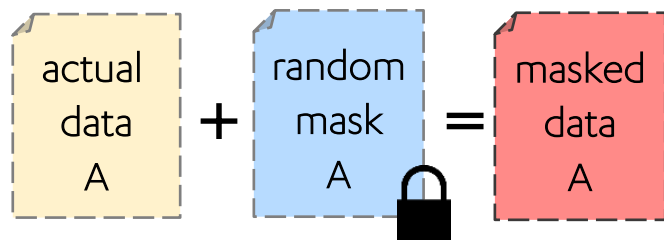
BU Server (web server/database)



Analyst at BWWC (client running web browser)

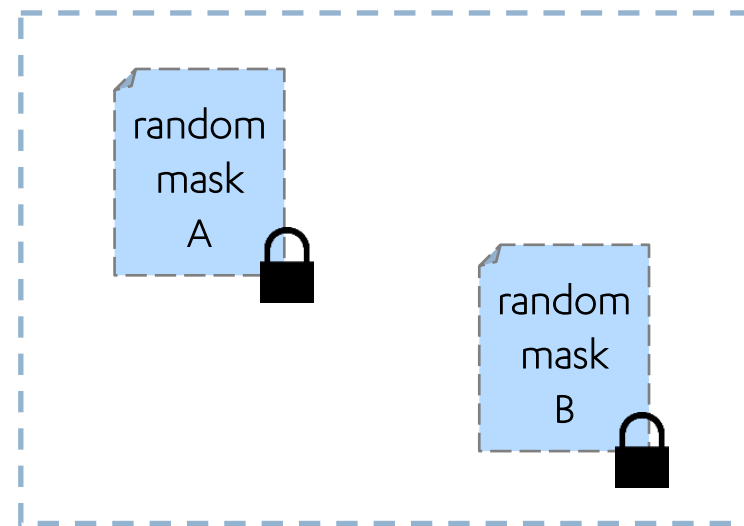
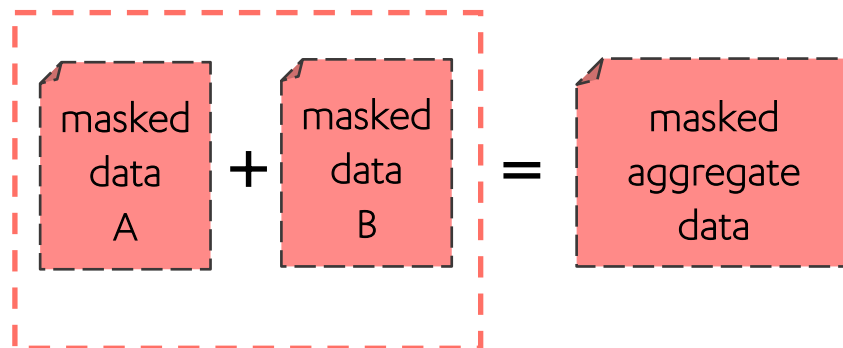


Contributor A

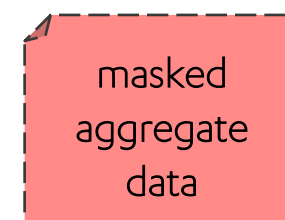


Contributor B

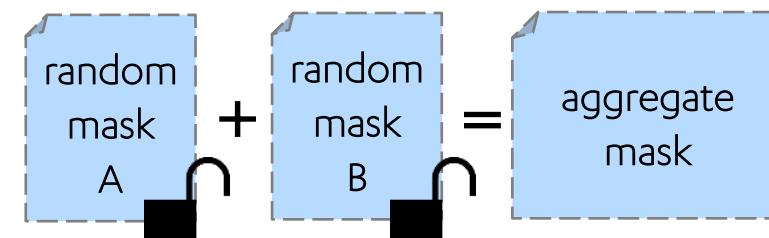
BU Server (web server/database)



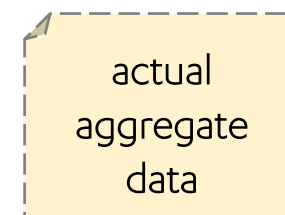
Analyst at BWWC (client running web browser)



-



=



ERROR MINIMIZATION



- Since inputs are private, it is difficult to detect and correct invalid data

ERROR MINIMIZATION



- Since inputs are private, it is difficult to detect and correct invalid data
- Error detection logic run under MPC increases overhead

ERROR MINIMIZATION



- Since inputs are private, it is difficult to detect and correct invalid data
- Error detection logic run under MPC increases overhead
- Inherent tradeoff between participation rate and correctness

ERROR MINIMIZATION

Asian		American Indian/Alaska Native		Two or More Races (Not Hispanic or Latinx)	
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
0	0	0	0	0	0
18	10000000	110	111	112	113
28	29	Warning: Data is too big			
38	39	Are you sure this value is correct?			
48	49	410	411	412	413

adfs	\$47.00	\$48.00	\$49.00	\$410.00	\$411.00
\$56.00	Invalid Data Entry				
\$66.00	Please do not input any text or leave any cells blank. If the value is zero, please input zero.				
\$76.00	\$77.00	\$78.00	\$79.00	\$710.00	\$711.00

Verify and submit your data

Please ensure that all data entered is accurate, and confirm that all employees are accounted for by reviewing the total number of employees below.

Totals Check

	Total Number of Employees		
	Female	Male	All
Total	15905	16390	32295

☐ All data is verified and correct

Errors

- Invalid session number
- Invalid participation code
- Please answer all Additional Questions

Submission history

- You have not submitted yet

Submit

EASE OF USE

Boston Women's Workforce Council

100% Talent Data Submission



Input your data

Please make sure your BWWC 2019 Submission ID and participation code match the ones provided in the email sent to you by the Boston Women's Workforce Council. Drag and drop your completed template file to encrypt and include your submission in the aggregate data.

BWWC 2019 Submission ID

dn51w20bdwfbw5yrcvsdr4763w



Participation code

bteq93ckytxrnwmjbsddwh05gr



Drag and drop your completed
template file here

—or—

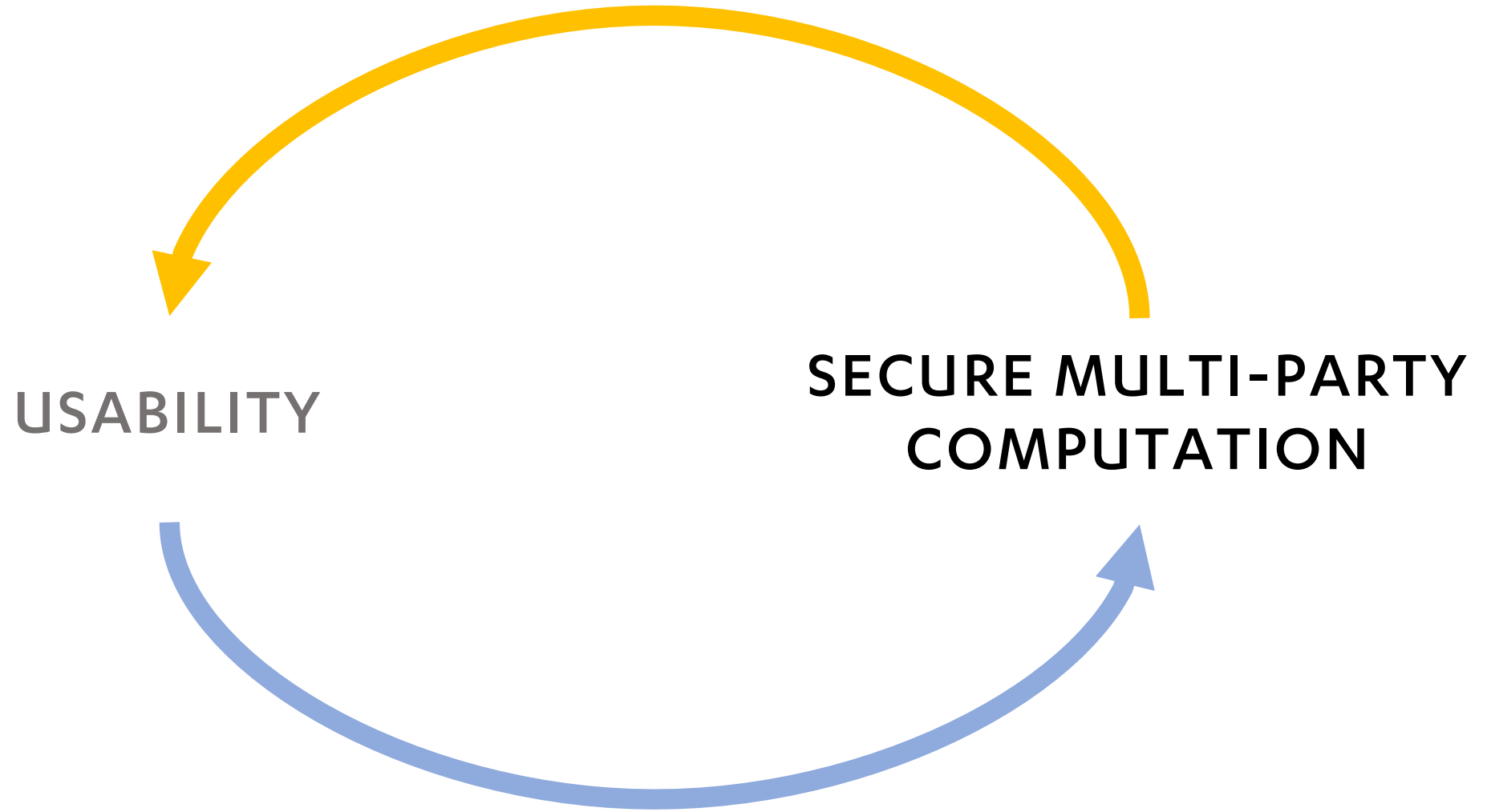
Choose file



A diagram illustrating a cycle between two concepts. On the left is the word 'USABILITY' in bold black text. On the right is the phrase 'SECURE MULTI-PARTY COMPUTATION' in grey text, arranged in two lines. A yellow curved arrow points from the right side towards 'USABILITY'. A blue curved arrow points from the left side towards 'SECURE MULTI-PARTY COMPUTATION'.

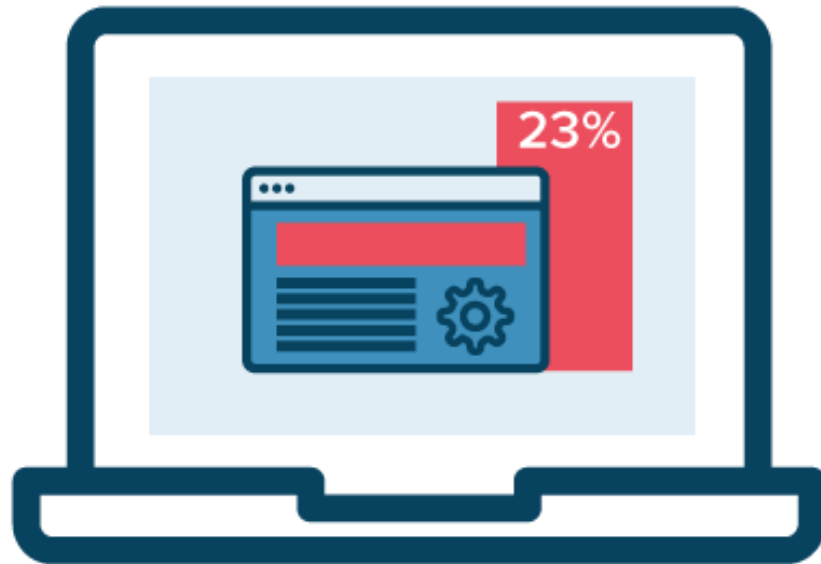
USABILITY

SECURE MULTI-PARTY
COMPUTATION



WEB ANALYTICS

A



CONTROL

B



VARIATION

WEB ANALYTICS

Explore > User Profile



John Smith

✉ Set up email

📍 San Francisco, California, United States

🕒 Apr 6, 2018



Activity Feed

TODAY, JUNE 5, 2018

9:42 AM 🔵 Purchase Song

9:42 AM 🟠 Play Song

9:42 AM 🟢 Log In

9:41 AM 🟣 Home Page Viewed

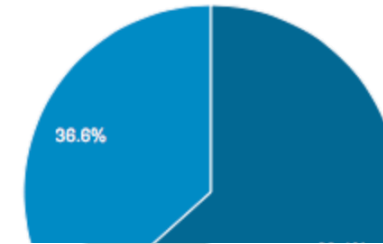
Show more

Events performed by the user

Gender

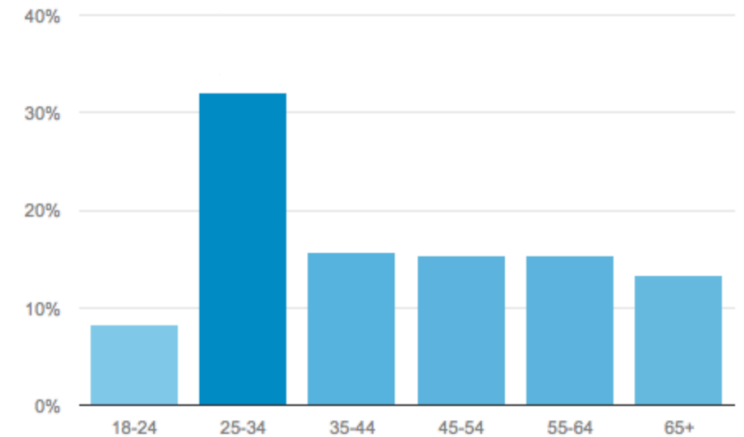
33.20% of total sessions

■ female ■ male



Age

31.63% of total sessions



images from Mixpanel and Google Analytics

WEB ANALYTICS

Explore > User Profile



John Smith

Set up email

San Francisco, California, United States

Apr 6, 2018



Activity Feed

TODAY, JUNE 5, 2018

9:42 AM Purchase Song

9:42 AM Play Song

9:42 AM Log In

9:41 AM Home Page Viewed

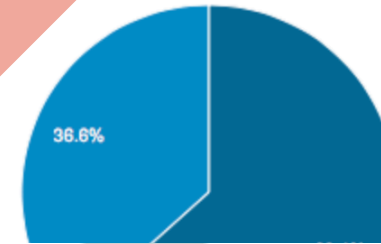
Show more

Events performed by the user

Gender

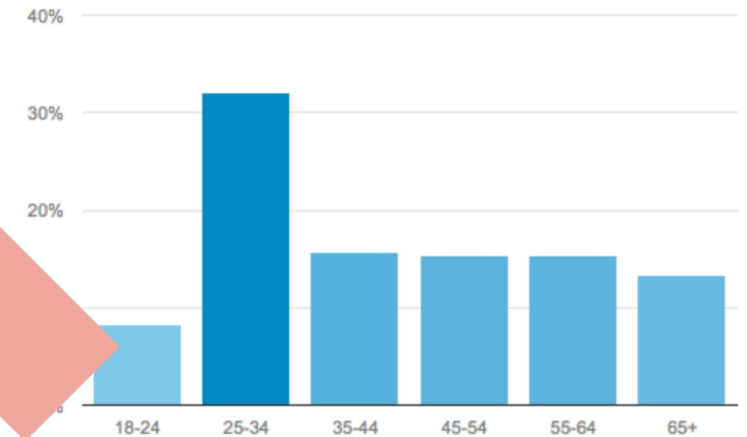
33.20% of total sessions

female male



Age

31.63% of total sessions



images from Mixpanel and Google Analytics

WEB ANALYTICS



WEB ANALYTICS



REPURPOSING WHAT WE'VE BUILT: MPC

Usability Metrics

$$f(\text{🔒}, \text{🔒}, \text{🔒}) = Z$$

Aggregate Usability Metrics

The diagram illustrates the process of aggregating usability metrics. At the top, the text 'Usability Metrics' is positioned above a horizontal curly brace. Below the brace are three yellow padlock icons, each representing a usability metric. These icons are the arguments of a function f . The function f is followed by an equals sign and the variable Z . A line with an arrow points from the text 'Aggregate Usability Metrics' at the bottom to the variable Z , indicating that Z is the aggregated result of the function applied to the individual metrics.

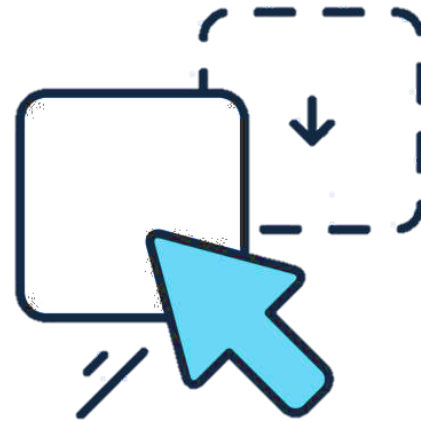
USABILITY METRICS UNDER MPC



Browser



Time Spent



UI Feature



Errors

VERSION 1

Enter Session Key

153nk3qwhb39a1g56d89

Enter Participation Code

5sh9q9r2gk60xtk2bb447

Amount Spent with MBEs

	Value for FY in Thousands of Dollars (\$)
Dollar Amount Spent with Local MBEs (\$)	\$11K
Dollar Amount Spent with State MBEs (\$)	\$52K
Dollar Amount Spent with National MBEs (\$)	\$23,000,000K

Addressable Spend

	Value for FY18 in Thousands of Dollars
Total Dollar Amount Spent Procuring All Goods and Services Locally (\$)	
Total Dollar Amount Spent Procuring All Goods and Services at the State Level (\$)	\$39K
Total Dollar Amount Spent Procuring All Goods and Services in the United States (\$)	\$521K

Number of MBEs

	Value for FY18
Number of Local MBEs With Whom You Have Done Business (#)	12
Number of State MBEs With Whom You Have Done Business (#)	56
Number of National MBEs With Whom You Have Done Business (#)	199

☐ All numbers are verified and correct

Submit

VERSION 2

View your data

Your data will appear here after you drag/drop or browse to find your completed Excel template file above.



Entered Data

Any red cells indicate an error - click on the cell to see the error message.

Yellow cells indicate the value might be outside of the expected range. Please double-check to make sure the data is correct. You will still be able to submit your data.

For a list of definitions, please [click here](#).

Amount Spent with MBEs

	Value for FY18 in Thousands of Dollars
Dollar Amount Spent with Local MBEs	\$10,000K
Dollar Amount Spent with State MBEs	\$920K
Dollar Amount Spent with National MBEs	K

Invalid Data Entry
Please do not input any text or leave any cells blank. If the value is zero, please input zero.

Addressable Spend

	Value for FY18 in Thousands of Dollars
Total Dollar Amount Spent Procuring All Goods and Services Locally	
Total Dollar Amount Spent Procuring All Goods and Services at the State Level	
Total Dollar Amount Spent Procuring All Goods and Services in the United States	

Number of MBEs

	Value for FY18
Number of Local MBEs With Whom You Have Done Business	
Number of State MBEs With Whom You Have Done Business	
Number of National MBEs With Whom You Have Done Business	

VERSION 3

Input your data

Please make sure your session key and participation code match the ones provided in the email sent to you by the BWWC. Drag and drop your completed template file to encrypt and include your submission in the aggregate data.

Session key

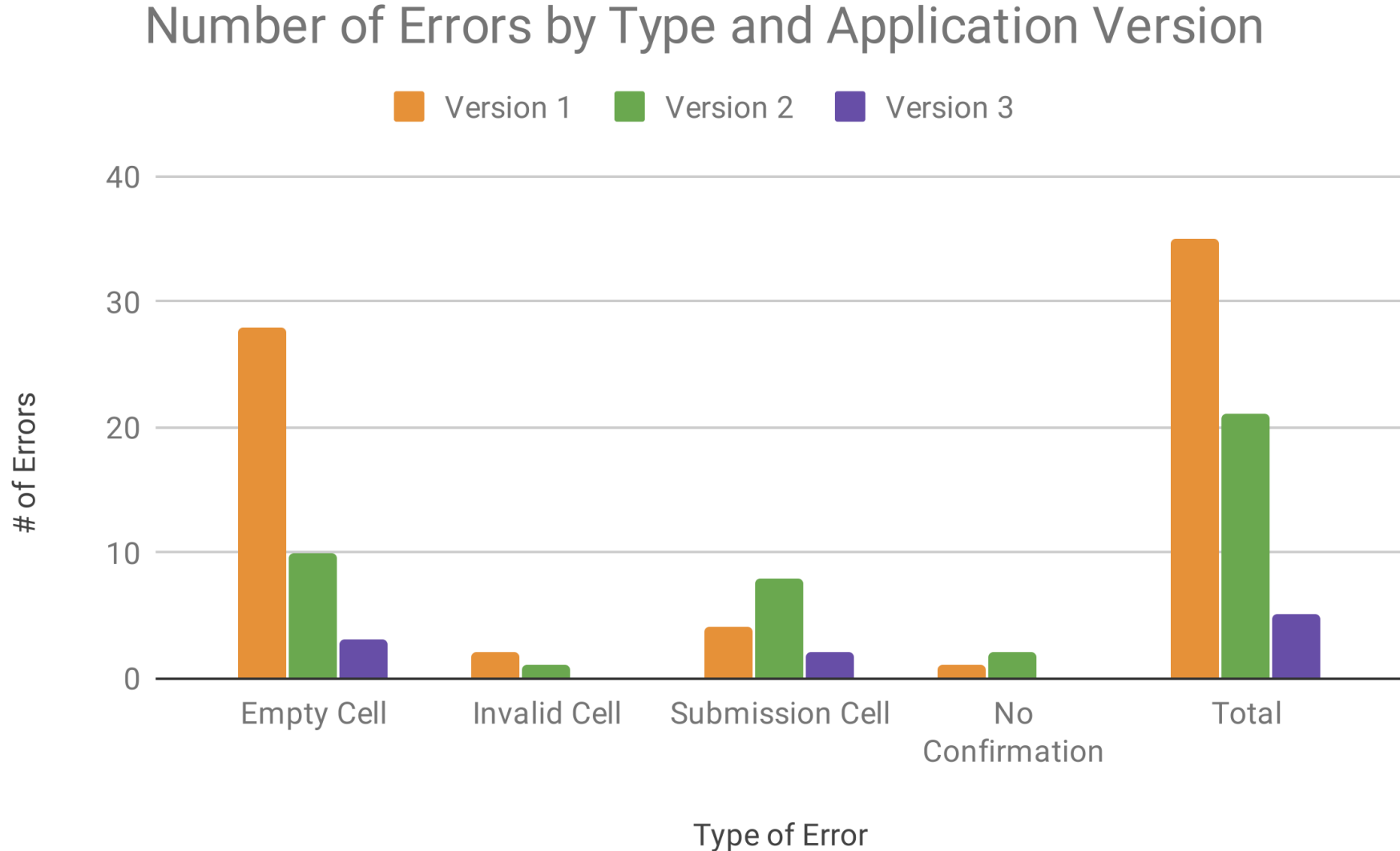
Participation code

Drag and drop your completed template
file here

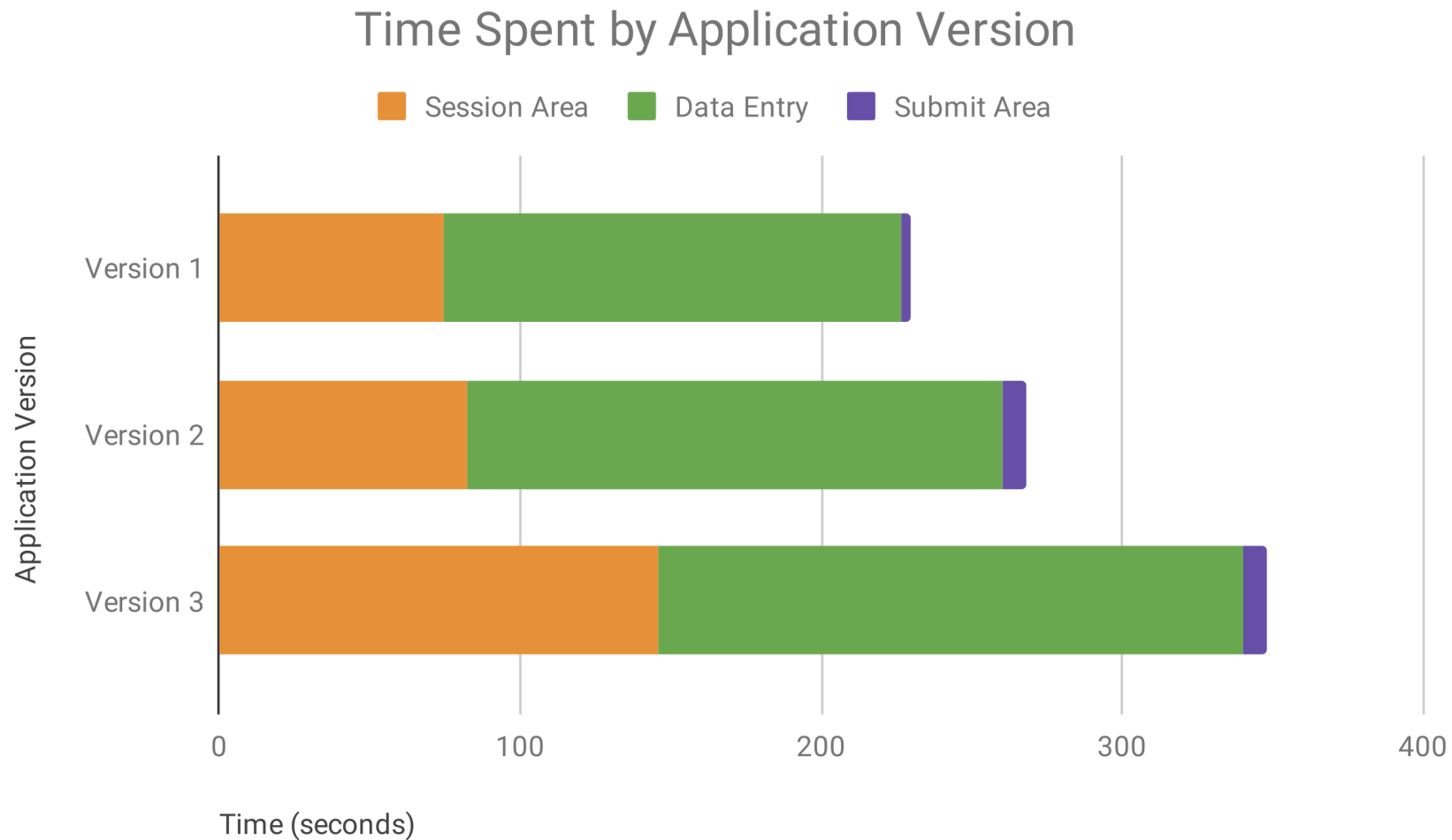
—or—

Choose file

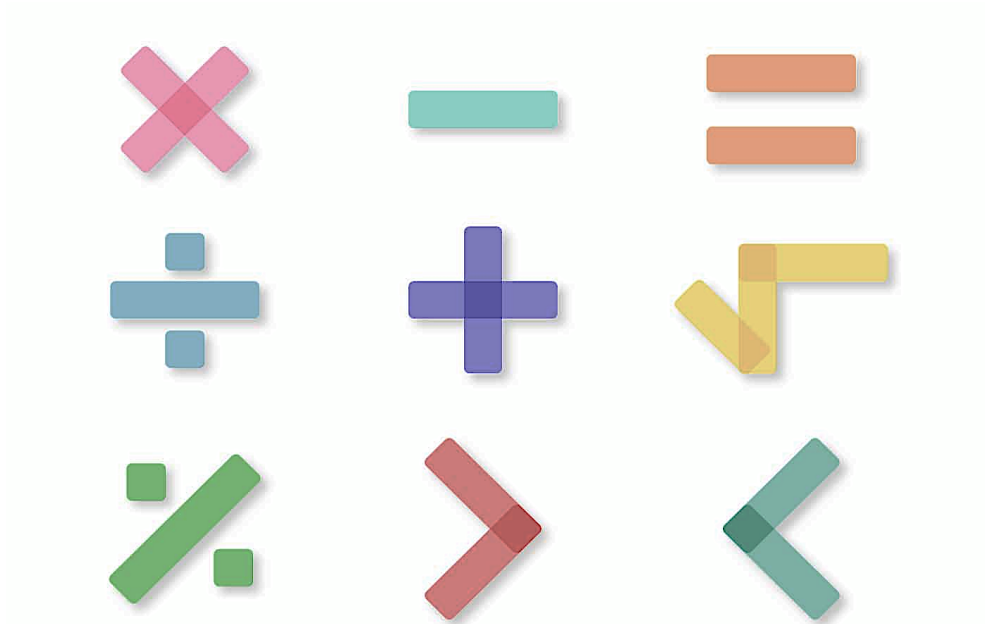
RESULTS FROM USABILITY STUDY



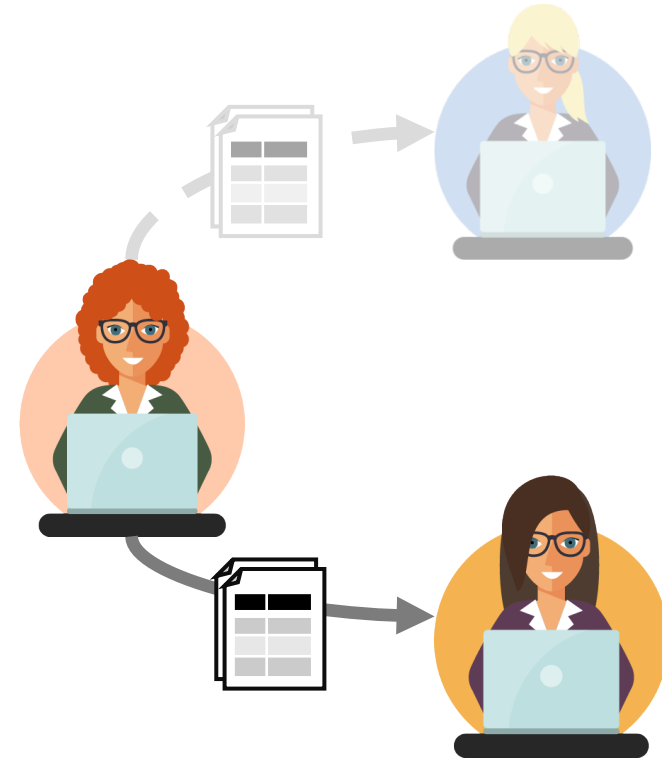
RESULTS FROM USABILITY STUDY



LIMITATIONS



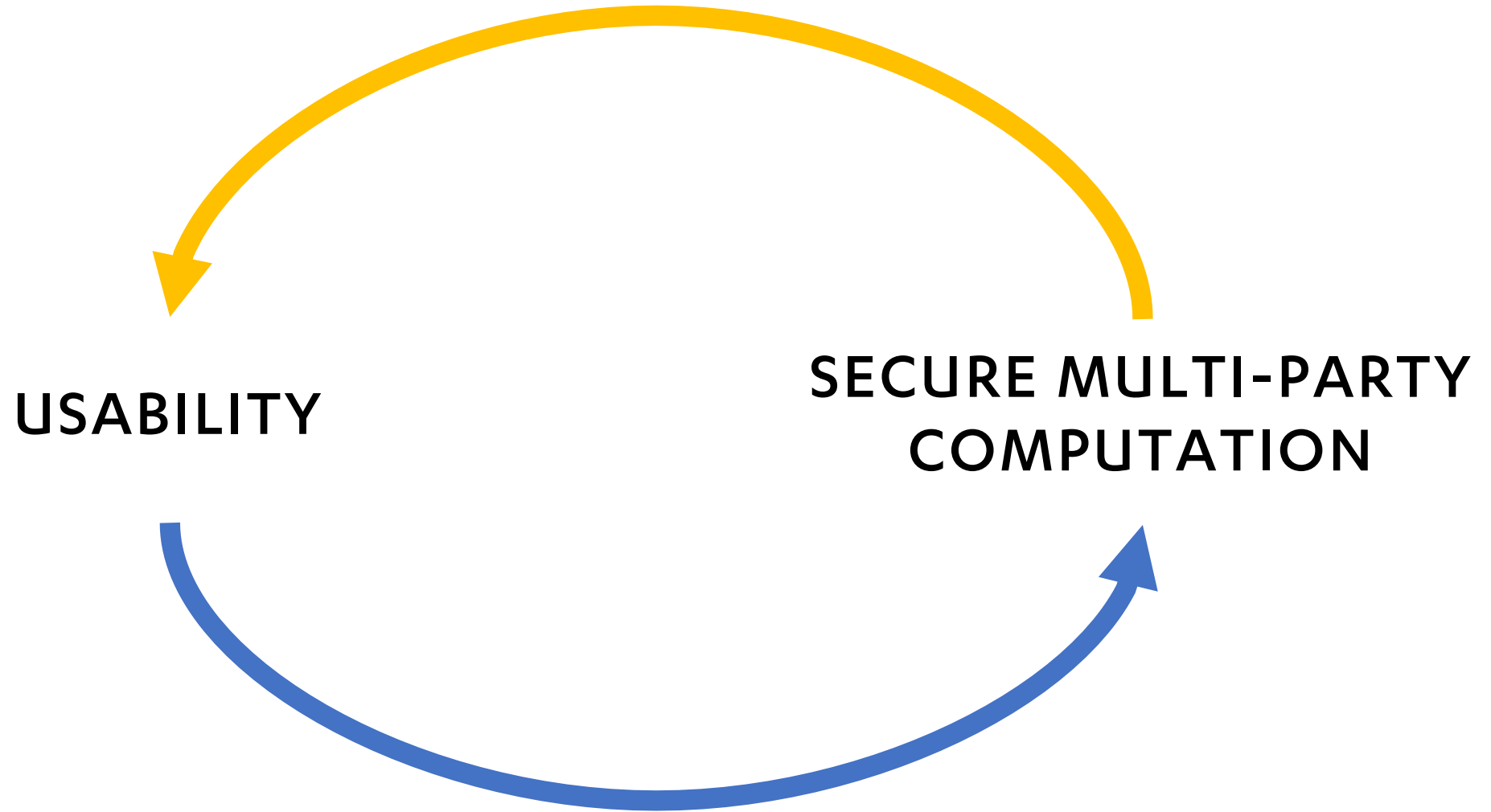
limited statistics



configuration must suit MPC

LESSONS LEARNED

1. Error checking, resubmission minimize the chance that errors propagate to final output
2. It's possible to adapt standard techniques to improve usability even in privacy-preserving contexts



THANK YOU

Azer Bestavros, Rose Kelly, Nina Taft



lucyq@brown.edu
pflock@bu.edu



/multiparty/web-mpc
/multiparty/jiff



multiparty.org

MPC WORKFLOW

