

# Preface

Information and data leakage pose a serious threat to companies and organizations as the number of leakage incidents and the cost they inflict continues to increase. Whether caused by malicious intent or by an inadvertent mistake, data loss can diminish a company's brand, reduce shareholder value, and damage the company's goodwill and reputation. Data leakage prevention (DLP) has been studied both in academic research areas and in practical application domains. This book aims to provide a structural and comprehensive overview of current research and practical solutions in the DLP domain. Existing solutions have been grouped into different categories based on a taxonomy described in the book. The taxonomy presented characterizes DLP solutions according to various aspects such as leakage source, data state, leakage channel, deployment scheme, prevention and detection approaches, and action taken upon leakage. In the commercial section solutions offered by the leading DLP market players are reviewed based on professional research reports and material obtained from vendor Web sites. In the academic section available academic studies have been clustered into various categories according to the nature of the leakage and the protection provided. Next, the main data leakage scenarios are described, each with the most relevant and applicable solution or approach that will mitigate and reduce the likelihood or impact of data leakage. In addition, several case studies of data leakage and data misuse are presented. Finally, the related research areas of privacy, data anonymization, and secure data publishing are discussed.

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