

## THE RISK OF DATA LEAKAGES AS DATA GROWS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY-DRIVEN TERTIARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

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### ABSTRACT

Expansion is a major goal for educational institutions and Information Technology is readily useful for its drive. In a bid to achieve this goal, IT assets are added and more data are generated. Data growth is not just uncontrollable but that the rate is alarming. Data then become an important asset for running the day-to-day educational activities such as updating students' records, examination questions, result transcripts, payment records, staff salaries, proprietary information and strategic decisions. They underscore the importance of data. Hence, the need to safely keep data from leakage. Data leakage has continued to be a source of worry to all users because they all need it in one form or the other. For this reason, university management are often faced with the challenge of preventing data leakage while being processed, transmitted, stored or retrieved for specific purposes. While most existing works address detection of data leakage, this paper presents a practical approach to prevent leakage as data generation grows with other IT assets in the tertiary institutions.

**Keywords:** Risk, IT assets, Data Leakage, Data growth, vulnerability and data integrity.

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\*This work is supported by Natural Science Foundation of China under number 11761073.

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