

# Watermarking ontologies, or how to create plausible facts

Serge Abiteboul, David Gross-Amblard,  
Fabian Suchanek  
WebDam - INRIA Saclay

March 4 2011

INSTITUT NATIONAL  
DE RECHERCHE  
EN INFORMATIQUE  
ET EN AUTOMATIQUE



centre de recherche  
SACLAY - ÎLE-DE-FRANCE

# Motivation

- Building (big/useful) ontologies with **individual entities**: hard work (Yago, dbpedia, ...)
- High cost, high price
- Ontology producers want:
  - (proprietary model): to limit **illegal resales** of the ontology
  - (open model): to be **properly referenced** when used
- Need for **ownership proof methods** on suspect ontologies
- Malevolent resaler is not necessarily stupid



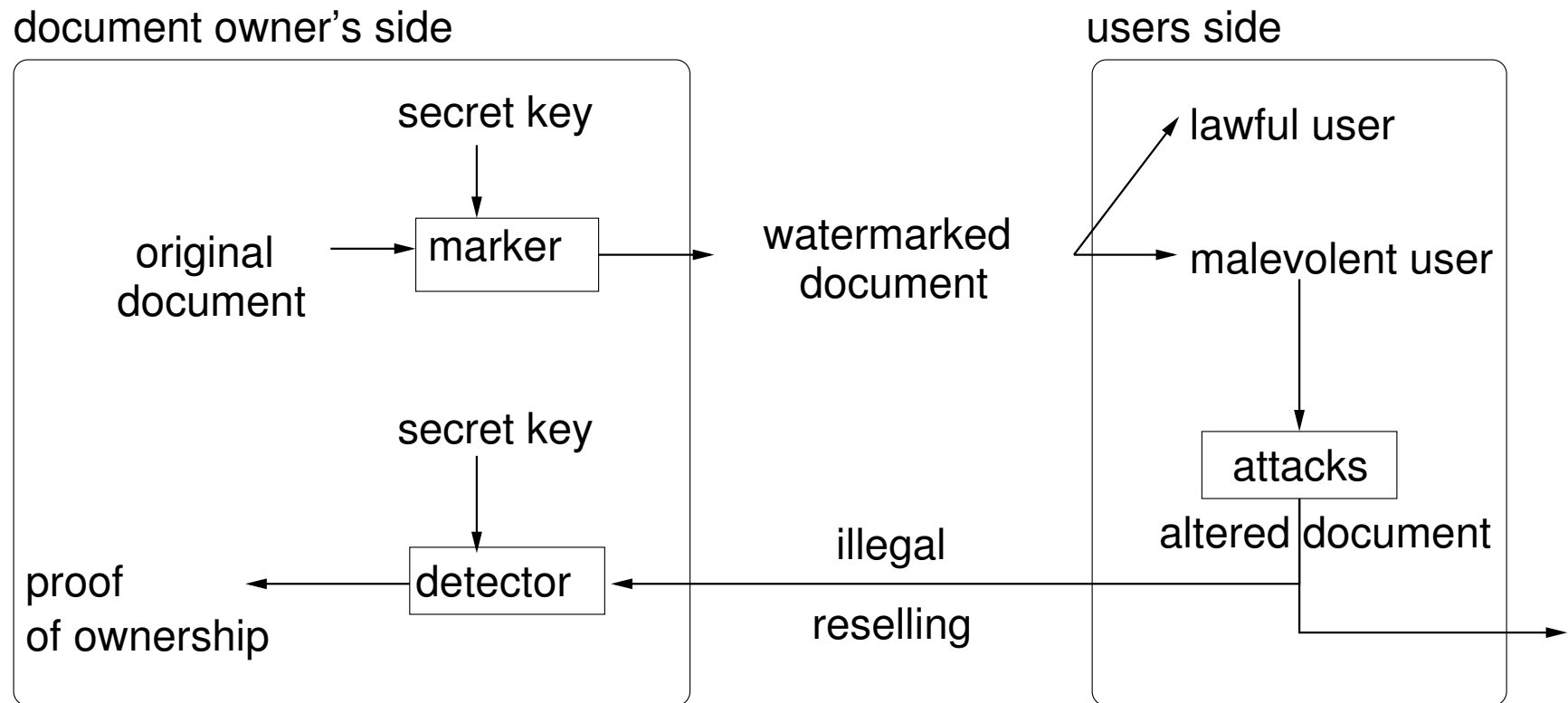
# Attacks to evade detection

- **Renaming** things (Paris\_City becomes cityOfParis)
- Reselling only **subsets**, or **mix** with other ontologies
- Random **alteration** of facts
- ...
- (your proposition here)

An approach : **Watermarking**



# Watermarking techniques



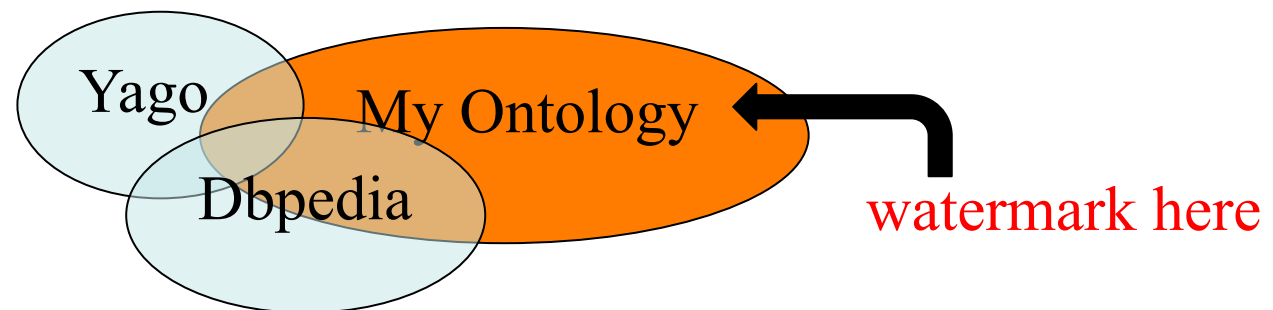
# Existing methods

- For databases or XML
  - Adding errors in numerical/categorical/spatial/geometrical attributes
  - Ok if errors are allowed
  - A priori knowledge of attacker is not taken into account now
- For ontologies
  - Syntactical rewriting (<a></a> exchanged with <a/>, fake spaces, empty attributes)
  - Easily removed
- Adding fake data
  - So natural...but not considered so far (one short student paper)
  - How to watermark an ontology using fake facts ?



# Fake facts requirements

- Populate the ontology: subset attack
- Being commonplace: **the attacker should**
  - **Compare with existing datasets** (easy) and ground-truth (Wikipedia/hard)
  - **Delete strange facts**
    - A city with a « OwnershipProof » relation ?
  - **Delete outliers**
    - A city with 2 inhabitants ?



# Open Questions

- How can we deal with other attacks?
- How can we integrate DL constraints?
- How can we better define statistical invisibility?

Thanks.

