

Gregory Neven, IBM Research – Zurich

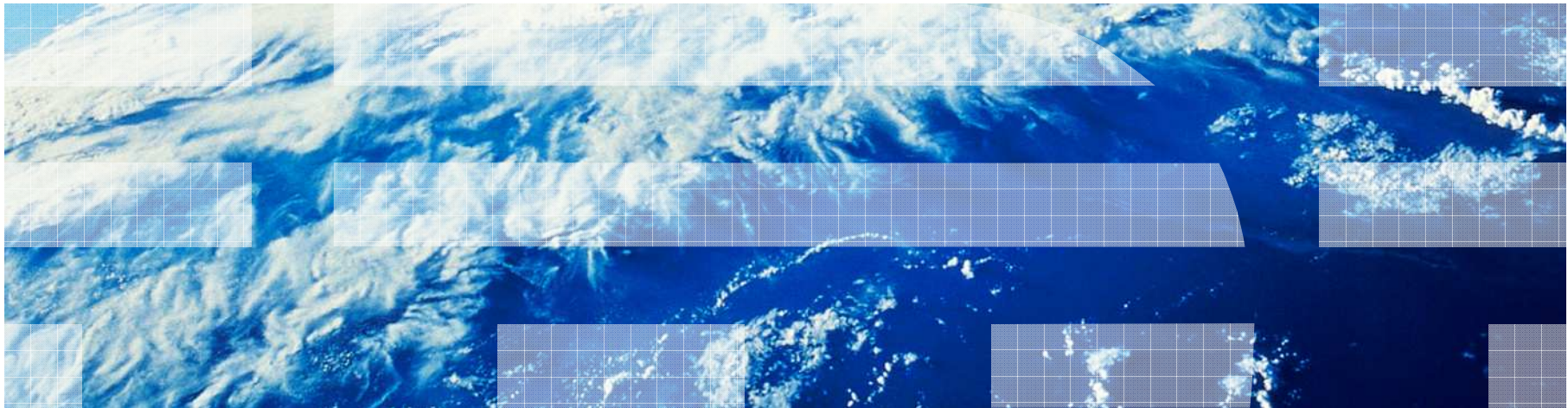
joint work with Laurent Bussard (EMIC) and Jan Schallaböck (ULD)

---

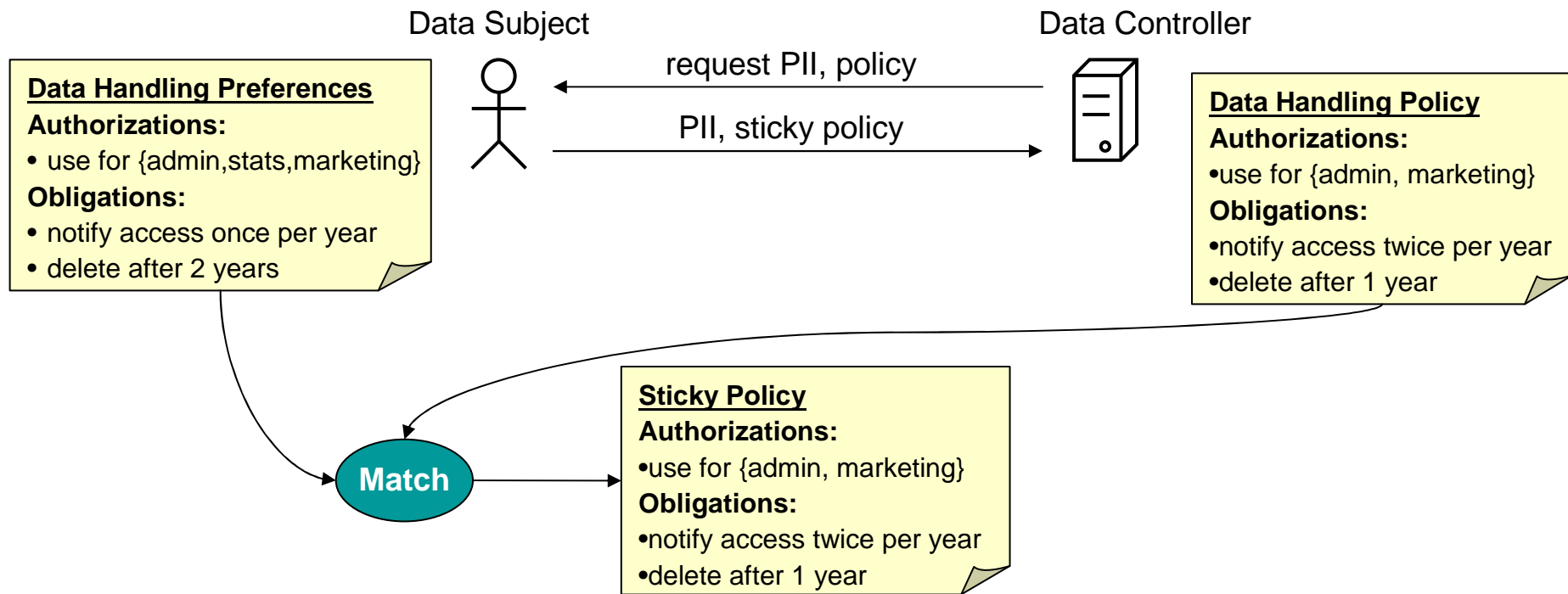


W3C Workshop on Privacy and Data Usage Control,  
October 4-5, 2010, Cambridge, MA, USA

# Dependencies between Authorizations and Obligations



# Two-sided data handling in PPL



Authorization = right to perform an action

violated when non-authorized action is performed

Obligation = duty to perform an action

violated when obliged action is *not* performed

# Types of dependencies

- Obligation  $\approx$  authorization for complementary action, e.g.,
  - Obligation to delete within 1 year
    - $\approx$  authorization to store up to 1 year
  - Authorization to use for {admin, marketing}
    - $\approx$  obligation not to use for other purposes than {admin, marketing}
- Execution of authorization can trigger obligation, e.g.  
e.g., each access (= authorization) must be logged (= obligation)
- Execution of obligation requires authorization to do so  
e.g., obligation to notify data subject this presentation

Data Controllers “overdoing” their obligations so that

- becomes a nuisance

e.g., notify at least once per year vs. notify twice per day

- degrades quality of service

e.g., delete data after 10 years vs. delete data immediately

How to protect Data Subjects from overzealous Data Controllers?

- Example: credit scoring agencies
- Processing credit data prohibited by European data protection law (95/46/EC) unless legal basis  
e.g., contract, explicit consent
- Makes sense for credit agency to notify data subjects about stored information:
  - privacy of data subject
  - quality of information
- Too frequent notifications
  - are experienced as spam
  - partially defeat goal of quality control
- Obligation to notify may be embedded in contract (privacy as a competitive advantage?) or, in near future, in the law protection against overzealous Data Controllers?

Automated matching of data handling preferences/policies via  
“**more or equally permissive than**” operator ( $\supseteq$ ) defined on

– authorizations, e.g.

use for purposes  $P \supseteq$  use for purposes  $P' \Leftrightarrow P \supseteq P'$

– obligations, e.g.

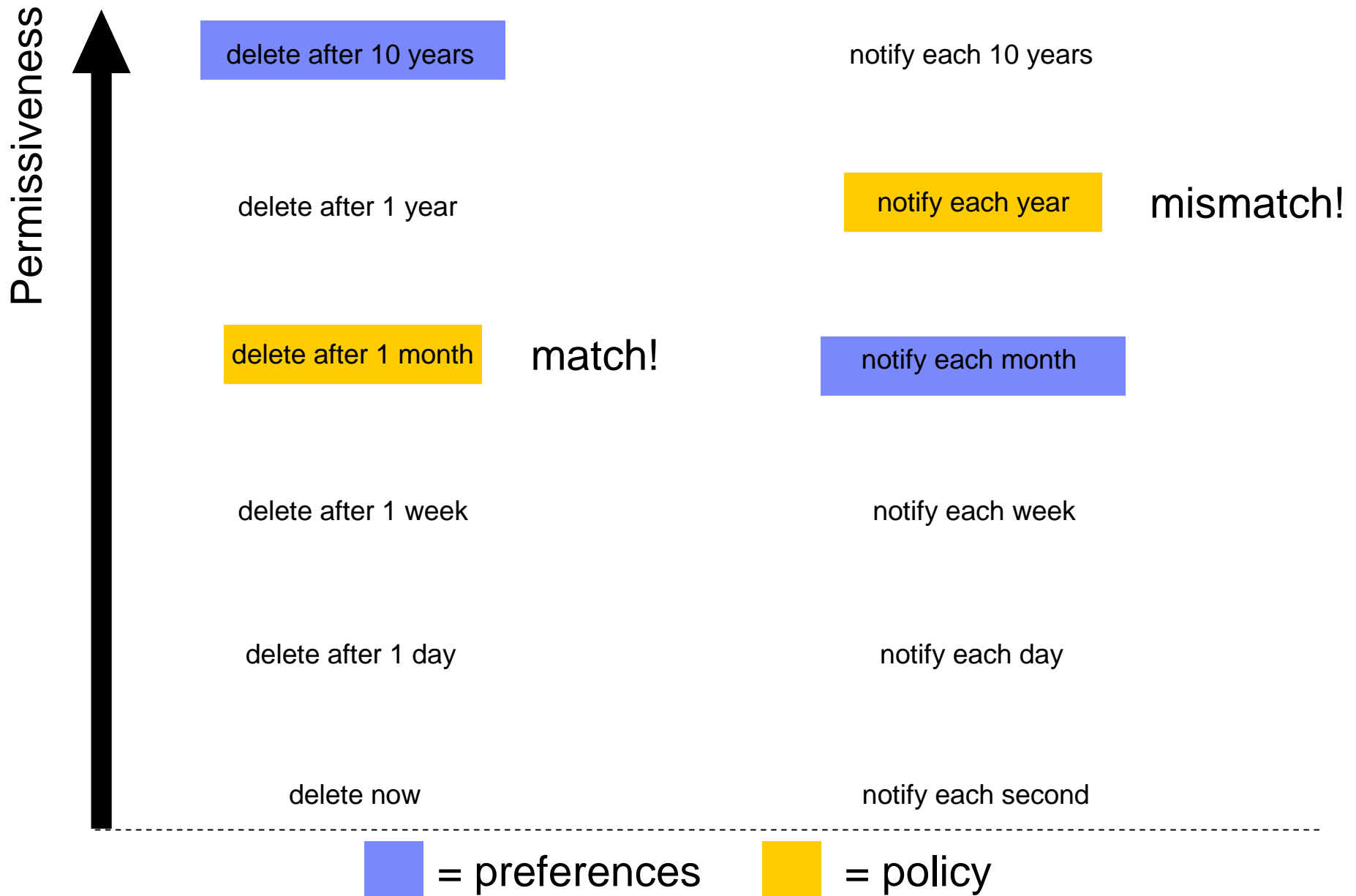
send usage summary with frequency  $f \supseteq$  with frequency  $f' \Leftrightarrow f \leq f'$

delete within time  $t \supseteq$  delete within time  $t' \Leftrightarrow t \geq t'$

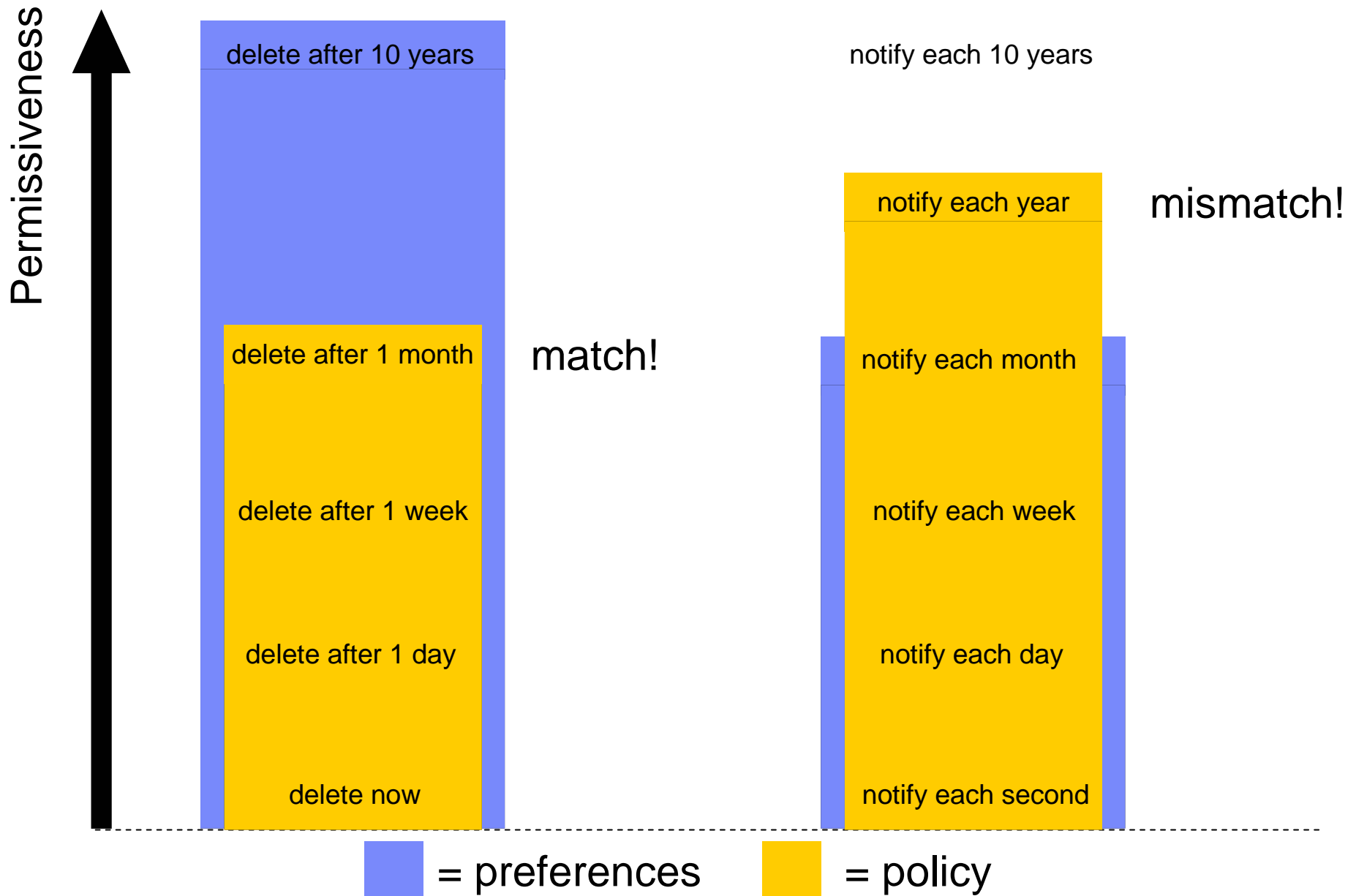
Authorizations vs. obligations issues avoided by

1. separating authorizations/obligations vocabulary
2. assuming imposing obligation implies authorization to execute it
3. assuming more privacy is always better

# Graphical representation of matching

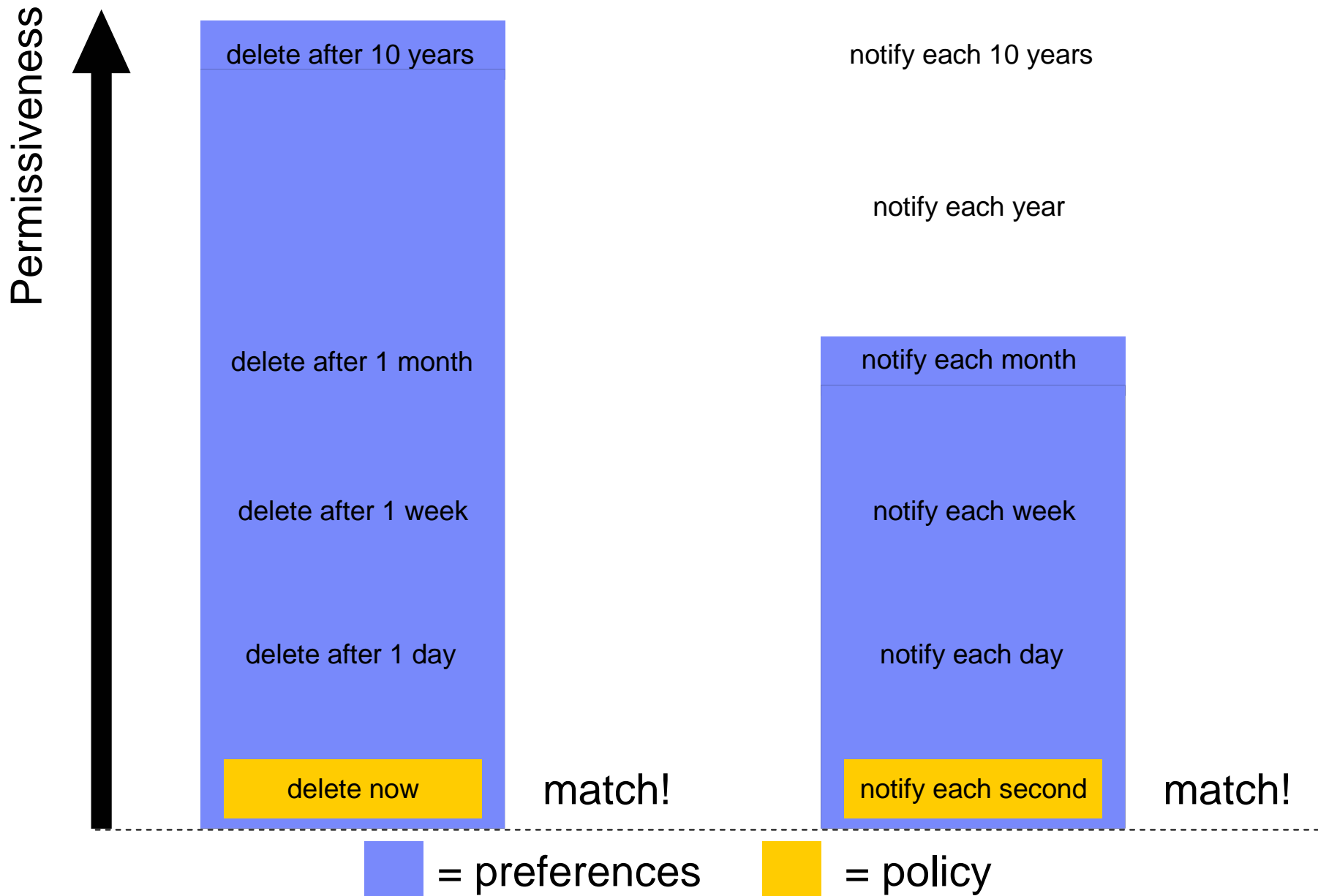


# Graphical representation of matching





# Graphical representation of matching



Avoid authorizations vs. obligations issues by

1. separate authorizations/obligations vocabulary
2. assuming imposing obligation implies authorization to execute it
- ~~3. assuming more privacy is always better~~
3. explicitly specify **ranges** of permitted parameter values

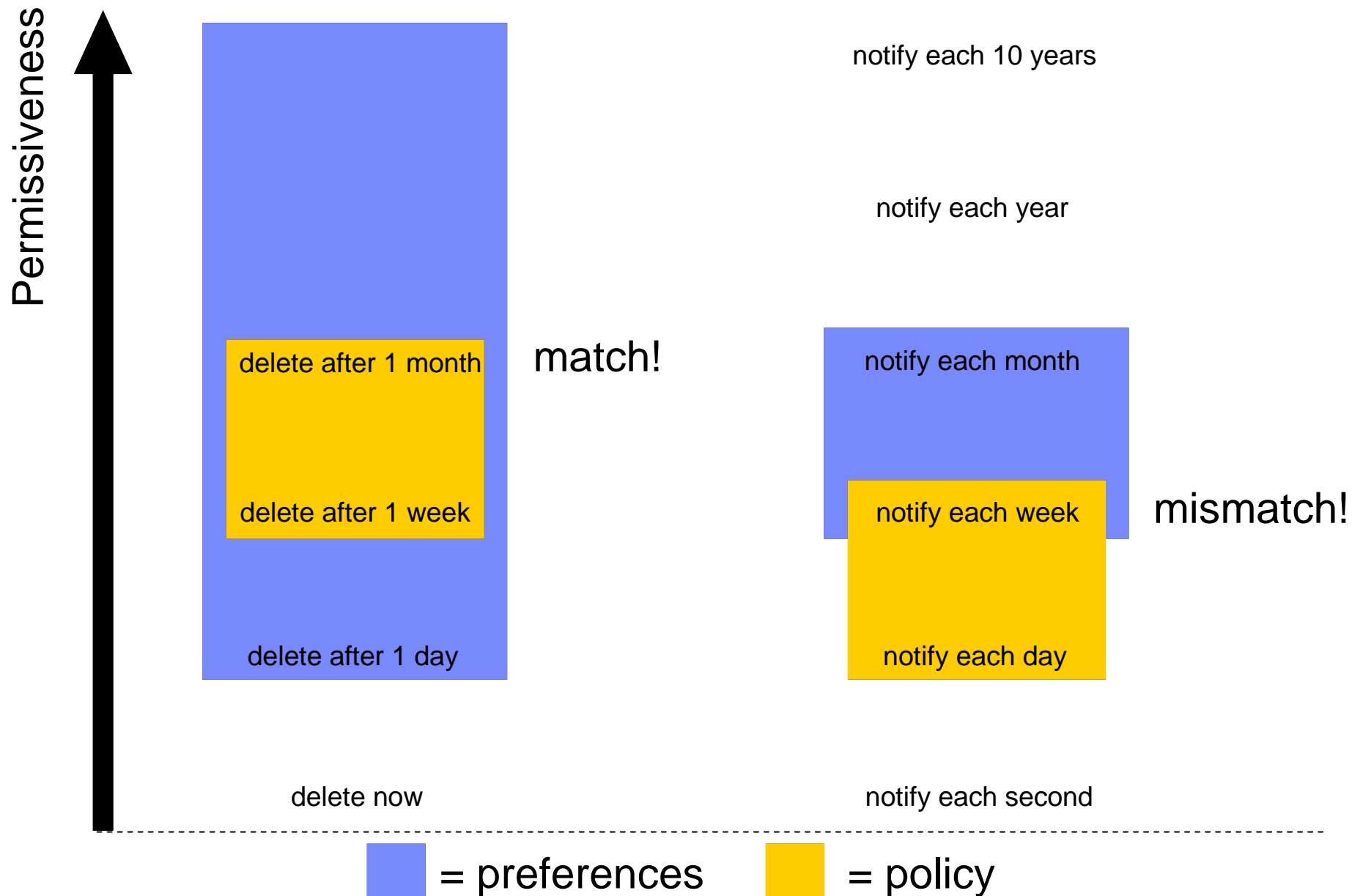
e.g.,

send usage summary with frequency  $[f_{\min}, f_{\max}]$

delete within time  $[t_{\min}, t_{\max}]$

use for purpose {admin}, {stats}, {marketing}, {admin,stats}, {admin,marketing}

# Graphical representation of matching



PPL matching definition:

data handling policy *Pol* **matches** preferences *Prefs* iff

$$\begin{aligned} & Prefs \supseteq Pol \Leftrightarrow \\ & \forall A \in Pol.Auths \ \exists A' \in Prefs.Auths : A' \supseteq A \\ & \wedge \forall O \in Prefs.Obls \ \exists O' \in Pol.Obls : O \supseteq O' \end{aligned}$$

How to protect against adhering to *more* obligations than required?

Same approach works: specify **range of sets** of obligations

Simpler: specify **mandatory** and **optional** obligations

$$\begin{aligned} & Prefs \supseteq Pol \Leftrightarrow \\ & \forall A \in Pol.Auths \ \exists A' \in Prefs.Auths : A' \supseteq A \\ & \wedge \forall O \in Prefs.MObls \ \exists O' \in Pol.MObls : O \supseteq O' \\ & \quad \wedge \forall O \in (Pol.MObls \cup Pol.OObls) \\ & \quad \exists O' \in (Prefs.MObls \cup Prefs.OObls) : O' \supseteq O \end{aligned}$$

- Dependencies exist between authorizations and obligations
- Partially solved by strictly separating vocabularies
- Replacing obligation parameters values with ranges helps  
(at cost of more complicated policies and matching)