

## **Quality/ Confidentiality for Tabular Data--Larry Cox**

**Local data quality:** characteristics of one or a few cells

- cell values (income; number of employees)
- time trends of cell values
- computed quantities (income per employee)

*Preserving local quality:* preserve local characteristics subject to confidentiality demands, or, a balance

**Global data quality:** characteristics of data set or subsets

- distributional parameters such as mean, variance
- statistics such as quantiles
- distributional shape

*Preserving global quality:* preserve global characteristics subject to confidentiality demands, or, a balance

**Local and global quality overlap**

- measurement error
- correlation
- rank order statistics
- time trends
- analyzability

**Univariate** setting is familiar

**Multivariate** setting

- preserve univariate quality for each variable
- preserve relationships between variables
  - covariance
  - regressions

## **Quality characteristics of familiar SDL methods**

### Complementary cell suppression

- preserves local quality for unsuppressed cells
- not for suppressed cells
- inhibits analyzability
- pokes holes in the distribution
- multivariate: problems magnified significantly

### Random rounding and perturbation

- can preserve local and global quality well for univariate and multivariate data

### Controlled tabular adjustment

- can preserve local and global quality well for univariate and multivariate data
- QP-CTA and MDI-CTA: nearly opposite quality strengths and limitations

### Perturbing underlying microdata

- insufficient information to judge