

Towards Visual Analytics for Web Security Data

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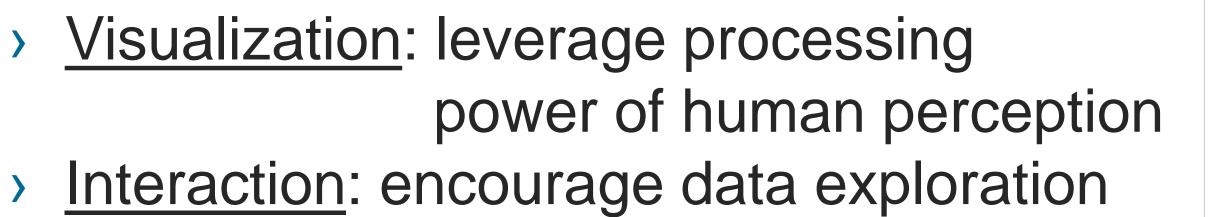
MOTIVATION

Studying web security

Large-scale data collection: existing solutions (millions of websites, distributed crawls)

Analysis tools: no comprehensive solutions (ad hoc approaches, duplicated efforts)



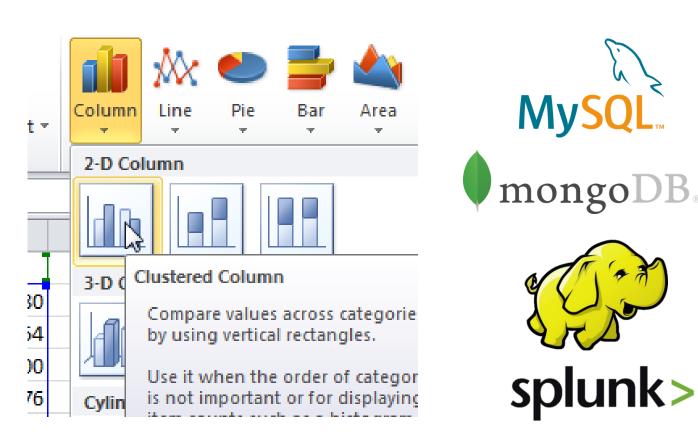




Security analysts: unfamiliar -> reluctant to adopt visualizations [1]

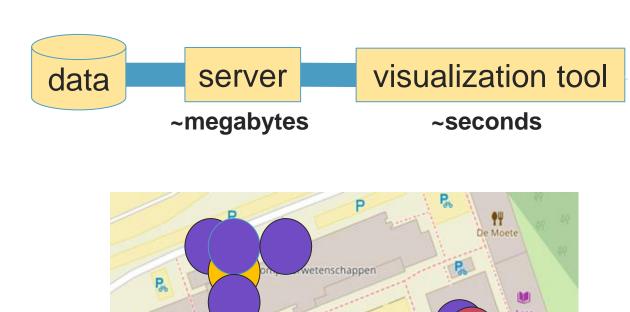
Goal: create tailored solution that > addresses the challenges in analyzing web security data > facilitates visual exploration for security analysts

CHALLENGES



Separation of data and visualization

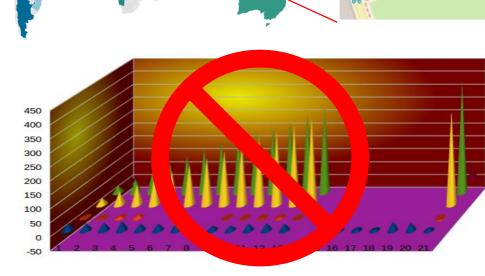
- Difficult to create visualization
- > Heterogeneous data sources



Scalability

- Data processing
- > Visual representation

P₀ puterwetenschappen



Exploration

- → Overview → details
- Avoid misrepresentation

Fully-qualified domain name https://www.example.com





Web security data

- Specific types/structures
- Public data sources

DESIGN

Data abstraction

Add context to data

> Transform data into standard format

Aggregation

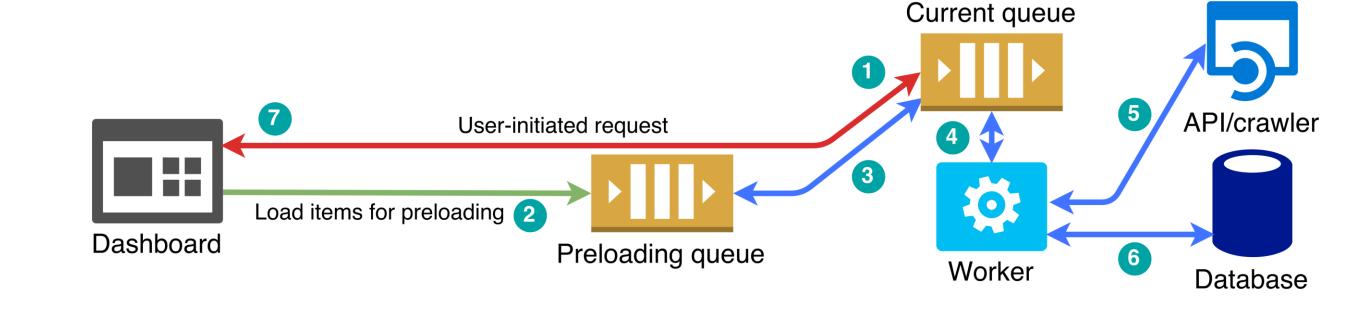
- By default & early on
- On structures in web: e.g. IP → AS

Interactive visualization

- Automated creation
- Multiple linked charts

Integration with public and collected data

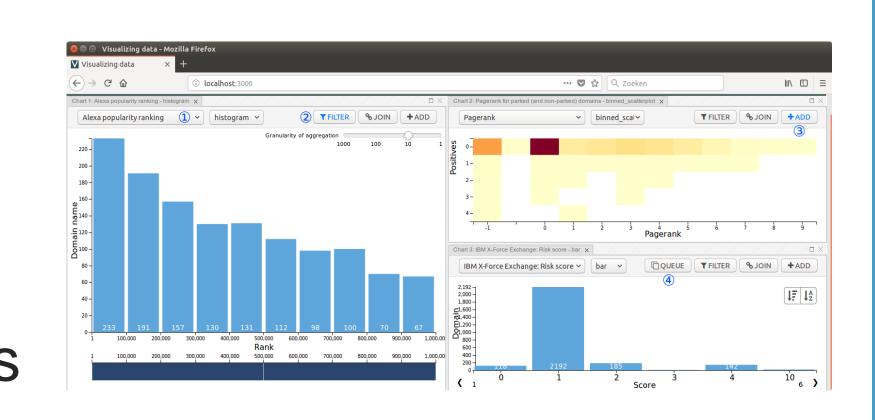
- > Background data preloading
 - > Public APIs > Web crawlers (e.g. DNetCrawl)
- > Explore & combine interactively



CONCLUSION & FUTURE WORK

Visual analytics: beneficial to web security, if challenges are addressed

- > Prototype implementation of design
- > To improve: data access + analytics
- > Future: release to researchers/analysts



REFERENCES

- 1. Fink et al., Visualizing cyber security: Usable workspaces. Proc. VizSec, pp. 45-56, 2009.
- 2. Thomas and Cook, *Illuminating* the Path: The Research and Development Agenda for Visual Analytics, 2005.