

# Detecting Unsafe Updates in Software Ecosystems

Yao-Wen Chang

September 27, 2023

Supervised by: Christoph Treude

Co-supervised by: Behnaz Hassanshahi (Oracle Labs, Australia)

# BACKGROUND

- ▶ What is supply chain?
- ▶ **SolarWind's Orion** platform is polluted.
- ▶ Malicious action against **EsiLine-Scope**.

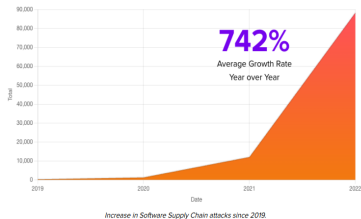


Figure: CI/CD Attack Trend Image  
source: [McBride(2023)].

# OBJECTIVE

- ▶ Introduce a new framework.
- ▶ Evaluate the effectiveness of the framework.
- ▶ Automate the unsafe update explore process.

## Research Questions

1. *What is the scope of the impact of the risks that exist within our target Python and Java repositories?*
2. *What are the results if these suspicious updates from contributors in open source projects compromise the target?*
3. *To what extent does this work enhance the security of CI/CD pipelines based on the findings and recommendations from our research?*

# OUTLINE

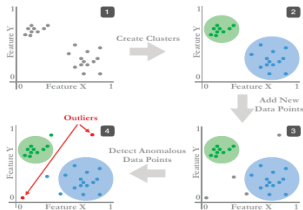
- ▶ Related Works
- ▶ Research Methods
  - ▶ Data Source
  - ▶ Framework
  - ▶ Pipeline
  - ▶ Metric
- ▶ Summary
- ▶ QA

# RELATED WORKS

## Static Analysis - Bandit [PyCQA(2023)]

- ▶ Parse python source code (AST)
- ▶ Pre-defined rules to match the tree node relationship

## Machine Learning - Anomaly Detection



**Figure:** Anomaly Detection Image source: [Garrett et al.(2019)Garrett, Ferreira, Jia, Sunshine, and Kästner].

# RELATED WORKS

CI / CD Based: in-toto framework [Torres-Arias et al.(2019)Torres-Arias, Afzali, Kuppusamy, Curtmola, and Cappos]

- ▶ supply chain layout integrity
- ▶ step authentication
- ▶ implementation transparency
- ▶ graceful degradation of security properties

# RESEARCH METHODS I

## Data

- ▶ Fetch Data
- ▶ Clean Data

**Contributors** 401



+ 390 contributors

**Deployments** 198

✓ **github-pages** 3 years ago

+ 197 deployments

## Languages



vinta Merge pull request #2498 from arunachalamevi/add-lighting		c520a49 on Jul 14 1,644 commits
github	cleanup	3 years ago
docs	Removed dead css	4 years ago
gigignore	Sort readme and add to docs build	3 years ago
travis.yml	Sort readme and add to docs build	3 years ago
CONTRIBUTING.md	Update CONTRIBUTING.md	2 years ago
LICENSE	add LICENSE Fixes #326	8 years ago
Makefile	update Makefile	4 years ago
README.md	added deep learning framework Lighting	2 months ago
mkddocs.yml	update mkdocs.yml	4 years ago
requirements.txt	add requirements.txt	4 years ago
sort.py	Sort readme and add to docs build	3 years ago

## Framework

Introduce papers....

# RESEARCH METHODS II

## Pipeline

Introduce papers....



# RESEARCH METHODS III

## Metric

$$SM = (W_p \cdot P) * (W_{tf} \cdot TF) * \left(\frac{W_{tc}}{TC}\right) * (W_s \cdot S) \quad (1)$$

$SM$  = Security Scanner Metric

$P$  = Precision (as a decimal)

$W_p$  = Weight for Precision

$TF$  = Total Findings (TP + FP)

$W_{tf}$  = Weight for Total Findings

$TC$  = Time Cost

$W_{tc}$  = Weight for Time Cost

$S$  = Normalized Severity Score

$W_s$  = Weight for Severity

# SUMMARY

This is the first slide of your presentation.

# FUTURE WORK

- ▶ Data collection.
- ▶ Build the system pipeline.
- ▶ Contribute to the framework embedded in the system.
- ▶ Evaluate the system.

# REFERENCES I



Kalil Garrett, Gabriel Ferreira, Limin Jia, Joshua Sunshine, and Christian Kästner.

Detecting suspicious package updates.

In *2019 IEEE/ACM 41st International Conference on Software Engineering: New Ideas and Emerging Results (ICSE-NIER)*, pages 13–16. IEEE, 2019.



Luke McBride.

2023 predictions: What will happen in software supply chain governance?, 2023.

URL <https://blog.sonatype.com/2023-predictions-software-supply-chain-governance>.



PyCQA.

Bandit: a security linter from pycqa, 2023.

URL <https://github.com/PyCQA/bandit>.

## REFERENCES II



Santiago Torres-Arias, Hammad Afzali, Trishank Karthik Kuppusamy, Reza Curtmola, and Justin Cappos.

in-toto: Providing farm-to-table guarantees for bits and bytes.  
In *28th USENIX Security Symposium (USENIX Security 19)*,  
pages 1393–1410, 2019.