

1. lccTA: Detecting Inter-Component Privacy Leaks in Android Apps

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Abstract: Shake Them All is a popular "Wallpaper" application exceeding millions of downloads on Google Play. At installation, this application is given permission to (1) access the Internet (for updating wallpapers) and (2) use the device microphone (to change background following noise changes). With these permissions, the application could silently record user conversations and upload them remotely. To give more confidence about how Shake Them All actually processes what it records, it is necessary to build a precise analysis tool that tracks the flow of any sensitive data from its source point to any sink, especially if those are in different components. Since Android applications may leak private data carelessly or maliciously, we propose lccTA, a static taint analyzer to detect privacy leaks among components in Android applications. lccTA goes beyond state-of-the-art approaches by supporting inter-component detection. By propagating context information among components, lccTA improves the precision of the analysis. lccTA outperforms existing tools on two benchmarks for ICC-leak detectors: DroidBench and ICC-Bench. Moreover, our approach detects 534 ICC leaks in 108 apps from MalGenome and 2,395 ICC leaks in 337 apps in a set of 15,000 Google Play apps. (0 refs)

Inspec controlled terms: Android (operating system) - data privacy - Internet - mobile computing

Uncontrolled terms: lccTA - intercomponent privacy leak detection - Android application - Google Play - Internet

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