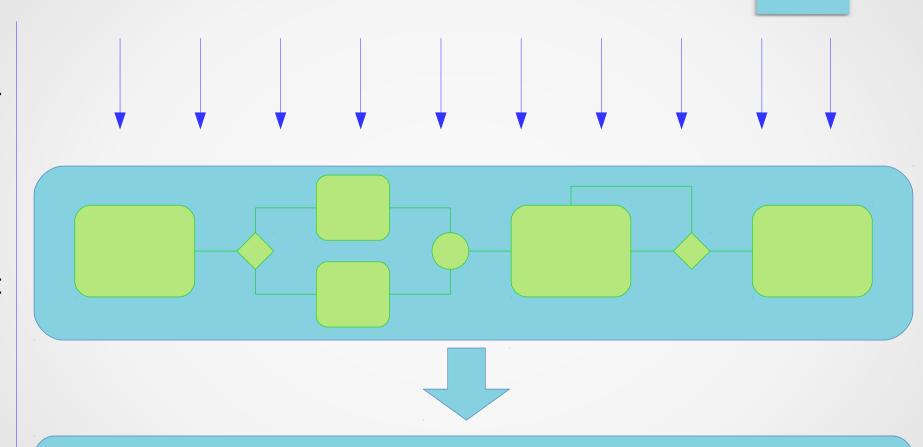
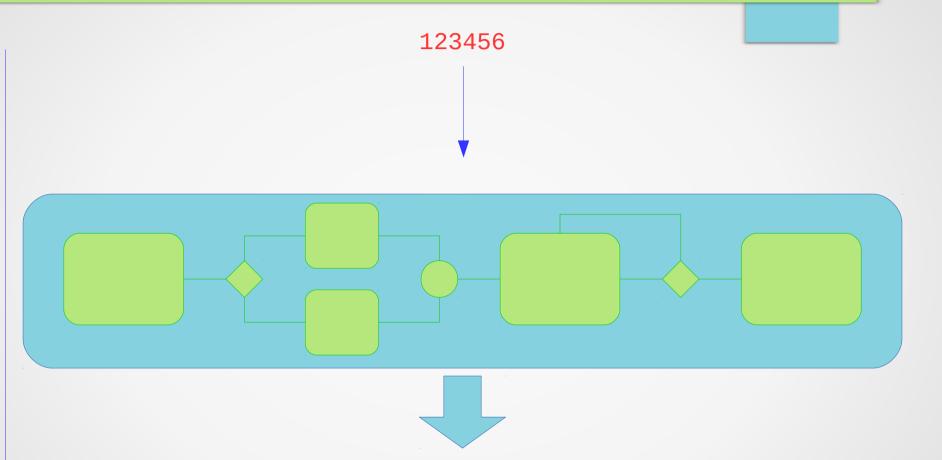
RA:

Donald Ray dray3@cse.usf.edu

PI:

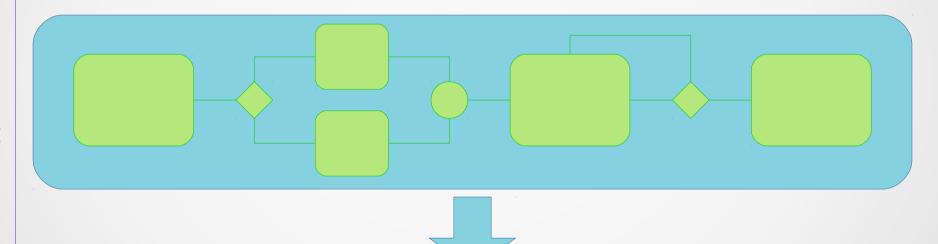
Jay Ligatti ligatti@cse.usf.edu



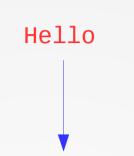


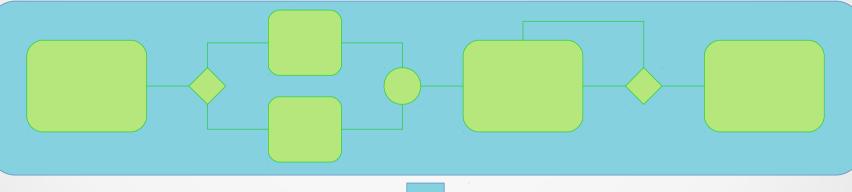
SELECT balance from accts WHERE password='123456'

' OR 1=1--



SELECT balance from accts WHERE password='' OR 1=1--'

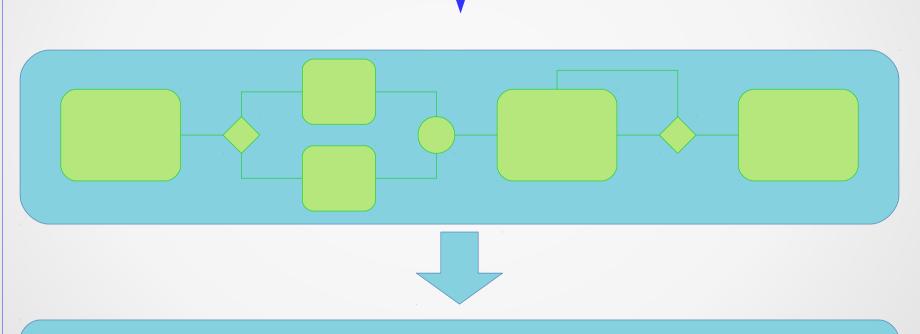






Motivation

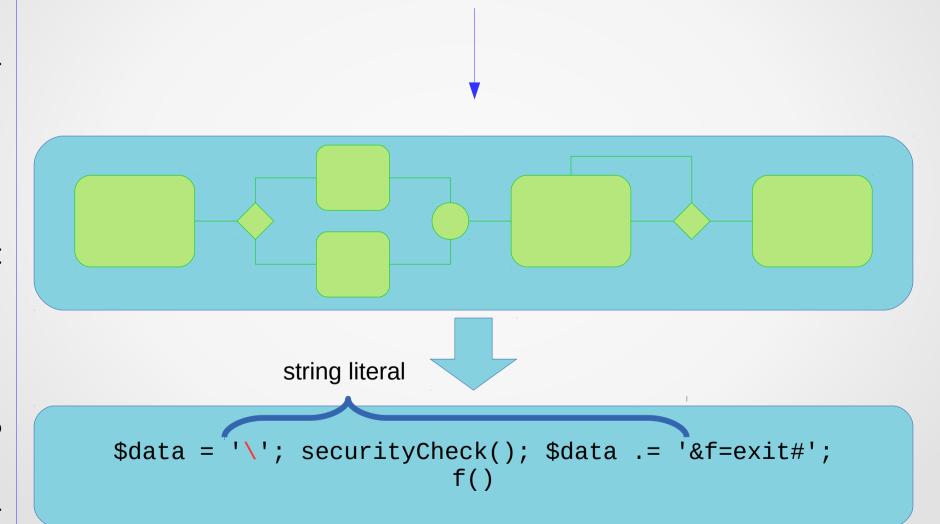
Hello Inputs Application string literal string literal Output Program \$data = 'Hello'; securityCheck(); \$data .= '&f=exit#'; f()



Inputs

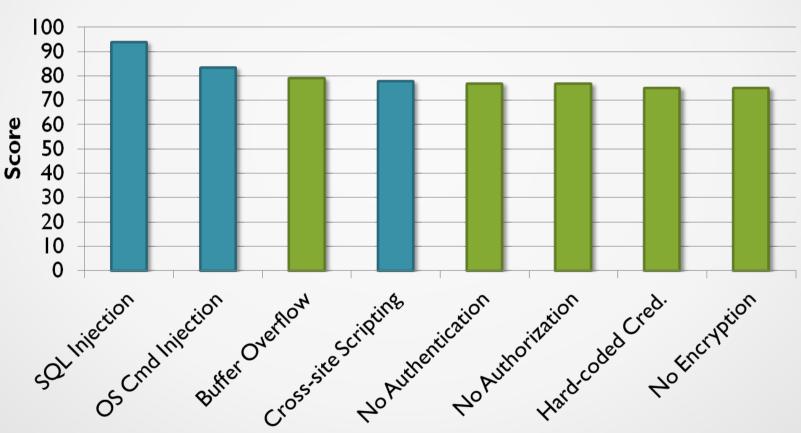
Application

Output Program



Motivation

2011 CWE/SANSTop 8 Most Dangerous Software Errors



Vulnerabilities

Outline

- Motivation
- Related work
- Defining injection attacks
 - Defining injection
 - Defining code
 - Defining NIEs
- Examples
- Preventing injection attacks in practice.

Related Work: Academic

- Su, Z., Wassermann, G.: The essence of command injection attacks in web applications. In: Proceedings of the Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages (POPL). (2006) 372–382
- Bisht, P., Madhusudan, P., Venkatakrishnan, V.N.: CANDID: Dynamic candidate evaluations for automatic prevention of SQL injection attacks. Transactions on Information and System Security (TISSEC) 13(2) (2010) 1–39
- Halfond, W., Orso, A., Manolios, P.: Wasp: Protecting web applications using positive tainting and syntax-aware evaluation. Transactions on Software Engineering (TSE) 34(1) (2008) 65–81
- Nguyen-Tuong, A., Guarnieri, S., Greene, D., Shirley, J., Evans, D.: Automatically hardening web applications using precise tainting. In: Proceedings of the International Information Security Conference (SEC). (2005) 372–382
- Xu, W., Bhatkar, S., Sekar, R.: Taint-enhanced policy enforcement: A practical approach to defeat a wide range of attacks. In: Proceedings of the USENIX Security Symposium. (2006) 121–136

All suffer from false positives and false negatives:

Ray, D., Ligatti, J.: Defining code-injection attacks. In: Proceedings of the Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages (POPL). (2012) 179–190

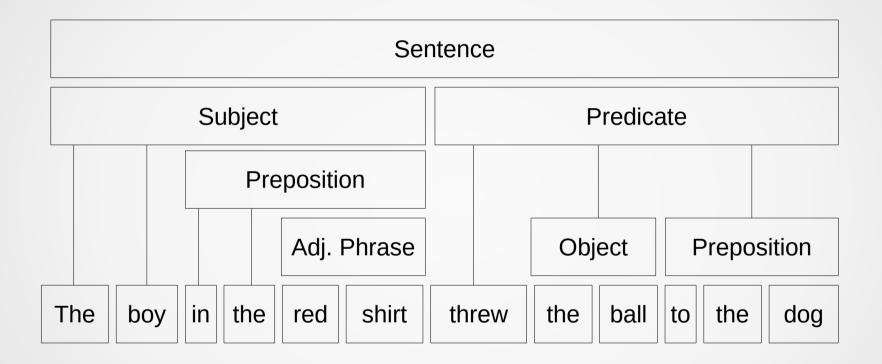
Program Parsing

The boy in the red shirt threw the ball to the dog.

Program Parsing

The boy in the red shirt threw the ball to the dog

Program Parsing



Program does not exhibit an attack



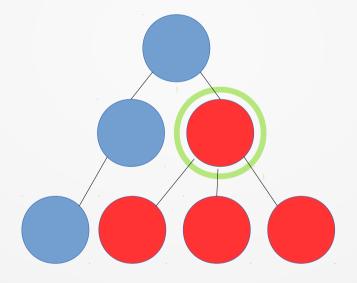
There is a node in the program's parse tree that is entirely injected and that contains all injected symbols

Su, Z., Wassermann, G.: The essence of command injection attacks in web applications. In: Proceedings of the Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages (POPL). (2006) 372–382

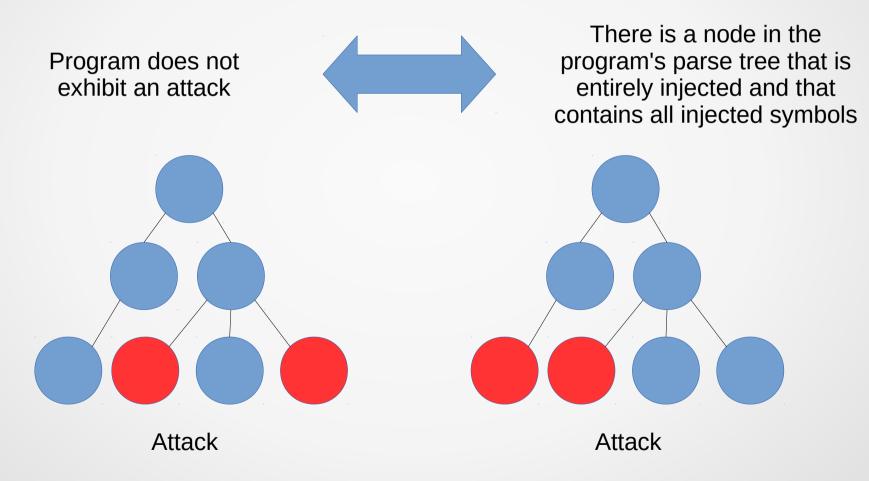
Program does not exhibit an attack



There is a node in the program's parse tree that is entirely injected and that contains all injected symbols



Not an attack



Program does not exhibit an attack



There is a node in the program's parse tree that is entirely injected and that contains all injected symbols

False Positive: SELECT * FROM table WHERE 'filename.extension'

False Negative: SELECT * FROM table WHERE pin=exit()

Related Work: CANDID

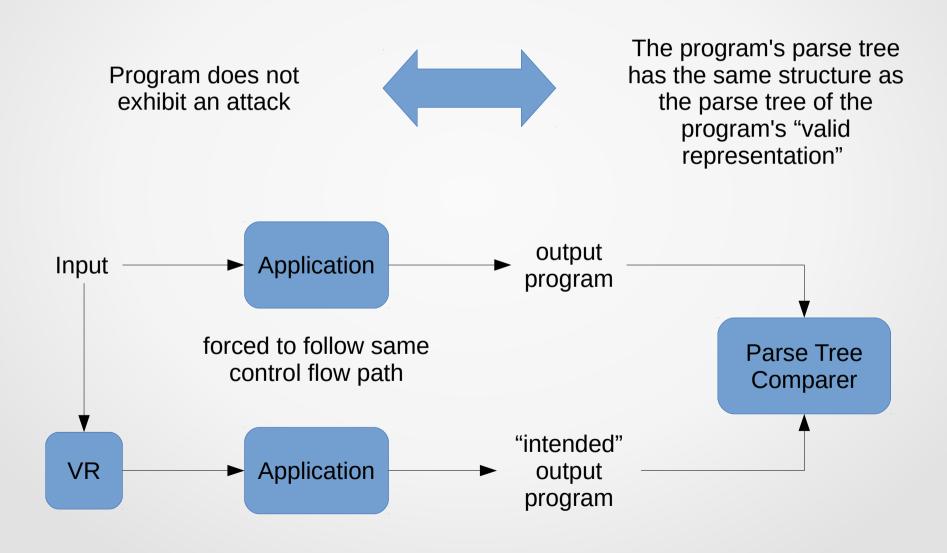
Program does not exhibit an attack



The program's parse tree has the same structure as the parse tree of the program's "valid representation"

Bisht, P., Madhusudan, P., Venkatakrishnan, V.N.: CANDID: Dynamic candidate evaluations for automatic prevention of SQL injection attacks. Transactions on Information and System Security (TISSEC) 13(2) (2010) 1–39

Related Work: CANDID



Related Work: CANDID

Program does not exhibit an attack



The program's parse tree has the same structure as the parse tree of the program's "valid representation"

False Positive: SELECT * FROM table WHERE false

Valid Representation: SELECT * FROM table WHERE aaaaa

False Negative: SELECT * FROM table WHERE pin=exit()

Valid Representation: SELECT * FROM table WHERE pin=aaaa()

Related Work: Parameterized Queries

High-level Idea

Don't let applications output programs with injected input in them.

Instead, have applications output untrusted input separately from a program template that has placeholders for where the untrusted inputs should be used.

Related Work: Parameterized Queries

Problems:

- Not implemented in many output languages.
- Not mandatory to use
- Requires significant, manual rewrites in the application

Outline

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High-level Approach

Injected symbols should not affect output programs beyond the insertion or expansion of noncode tokens.

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SELECT balance from accts WHERE password=' ' OR 1=1--'

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```
$data = '\'; securityCheck(); $data .= '&f=exit#';
f()
```

High-level Approach

Injected symbols should not affect output programs beyond the insertion or expansion of noncode tokens.

Requires subdefinitions of "injected" and "noncode"

Outline

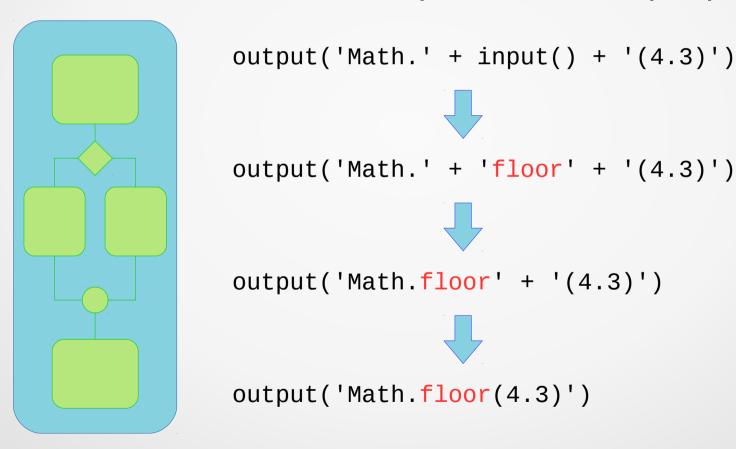
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Defining Injection

Intuitively, a symbol has been *injected* if it propagates unmodified from an untrusted input into the output program

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Intuitively, a symbol has been *injected* if it propagates unmodified from an untrusted input into the output program



Taint-Tracking Mechanisms

Taint all untrusted inputs to an application.

 Taints propagate transparently through copy and output operations during execution.

 A symbol has been injected if and only if it is tainted in the output of a taint-tracking application.

Taint-Tracking Mechanisms

- Halfond, W., Orso, A., Manolios, P.: Wasp: Protecting web applications using positive tainting and syntax-aware evaluation. Transactions on Software Engineering (TSE) 34(1) (2008) 65–81
- Nguyen-Tuong, A., Guarnieri, S., Greene, D., Shirley, J., Evans, D.: Automatically hardening web applications using precise tainting. In: Proceedings of the International Information Security Conference (SEC). (2005) 372–382
- Xu, W., Bhatkar, S., Sekar, R.: Taint-enhanced policy enforcement: A practical approach to defeat a wide range of attacks. In: Proceedings of the USENIX Security Symposium. (2006) 121–136
- Pietraszek, T., Berghe, C.V.: Defending against injection attacks through context- sensitive string evaluation. In: Proceedings of Recent Advances in Intrusion Detection (RAID). (2005) 124–145
- Son, S., McKinley, K.S., Shmatikov, V.: Diglossia: detecting code injection attacks with precision and efficiency. In: Proceedings of the Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS). (2013) 1181–1192
- Dalton, M., Kannan, H., Kozyrakis, C.: Raksha: A flexible information flow architecture for software security. In: Proceedings of the International Symposium on Computer Architecture (ISCA). (2007) 482–493
- Clause, J., Li, W., Orso, A.: Dytan: a generic dynamic taint analysis framework. In: Proceedings of the International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis (ISSTA). (2007) 196–206

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Defining (Non)Code

Intuitively, noncode symbols in output programs are those that are *dynamically passive*:

Values (i.e., normal forms)

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```
12000 [1,1,2,3,5,8,13] 'Hello world!'

("John Doe", false, 25) 6.02E24 true

false 3.14 [("orange", 0.25), ("apple", 0.20)]
```

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Lexically-removed symbols

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Values (i.e., normal forms)

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12000 [1,1,2,3,5,8,13] 'Hello world!'

("John Doe", false, 25) 6.02E24 true

false 3.14 [("orange", 0.25), ("apple", 0.20)]
```

Lexically-removed symbols

```
/* typically, whitespace and comment symbols */
```

Some technicalities:

- Free variables specify dynamic substitution operations, so values must be *closed* (i.e., contain no free variables) to be considered dynamically passive
- In languages were whitespace is significant (e.g., Python), indenting whitepsace cannot be considered lexically removed and is thus dynamically active.

Symbol Taxonomy

```
SELECT_*_FROM_t_WHERE_name_= 'admin'
```

```
SELECT_*_FROM_t_WHERE_perimeter_>_(<u>5</u> * <u>3.14</u>)
```

SELECT_*_FROM_t_WHERE_name_= <u>NULL--comment</u>

INSERT_INTO_t_VALUES_(1, true, 'Alice')

Legend:
Noncode symbols
Code symbols

Side note: Defining Code-injection Attacks

A CIAO (Code-Injection Attack on Output program) occurs exactly when a taint-tracking application outputs a program that contains a symbol that is both injected and code.

Side note: Defining Code-injection Attacks

A CIAO (Code-Injection Attack on Output program) occurs exactly when a taint-tracking application outputs a program that contains a symbol that is both injected and code.

```
SELECT balance from accts WHERE password='' OR 1=1--'
SELECT_balance_from_accts_WHERE_password=<u>''</u> OR 1=1--'
```

Side note: Defining Code-injection Attacks

A CIAO (Code-Injection Attack on Output program) occurs exactly when a taint-tracking application outputs a program that contains a symbol that is both injected and code.

```
SELECT balance from accts WHERE password=' OR 1=1--'
SELECT_balance_from_accts_WHERE_password=' OR 1=1--'
```

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Reminder:

Injected symbols should not affect output programs beyond the insertion or expansion of noncode tokens.

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Injected symbols should not affect output programs beyond the insertion or expansion of noncode tokens.

In other words:

Removing all injected symbols from an output program should only delete or contract noncode tokens

SELECT balance from accts WHERE password='123456'

SELECT balance from accts WHERE password=''

```
$data = 'Hello'; securityCheck(); $data .= '&f=exit#';
f()

$data = ''; securityCheck(); $data .= '&f=exit#';
f()
```

Defining Injection Attacks

A BroNIE (Broken NIE) occurs exactly when a taint-tracking application outputs a program that violates the NIE property.



Outline

- Motivation
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```
SELECT balance from accts WHERE password=' ' OR 1=1--'
```

SELECT balance from accts WHERE password=''

```
INSERT INTO users VALUES ('evilDoer', TRUE)--', FALSE)

INSERT INTO users VALUES ('', FALSE)
```

```
INSERT INTO trans VALUES (1, - 5E-10);
INSERT INTO trans VALUES (2, 5E+5)

INSERT INTO trans VALUES (, - -10);
INSERT INTO trans VALUES (, +5)
```

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CIAO-BroNIE Relationship

Theorem 1:

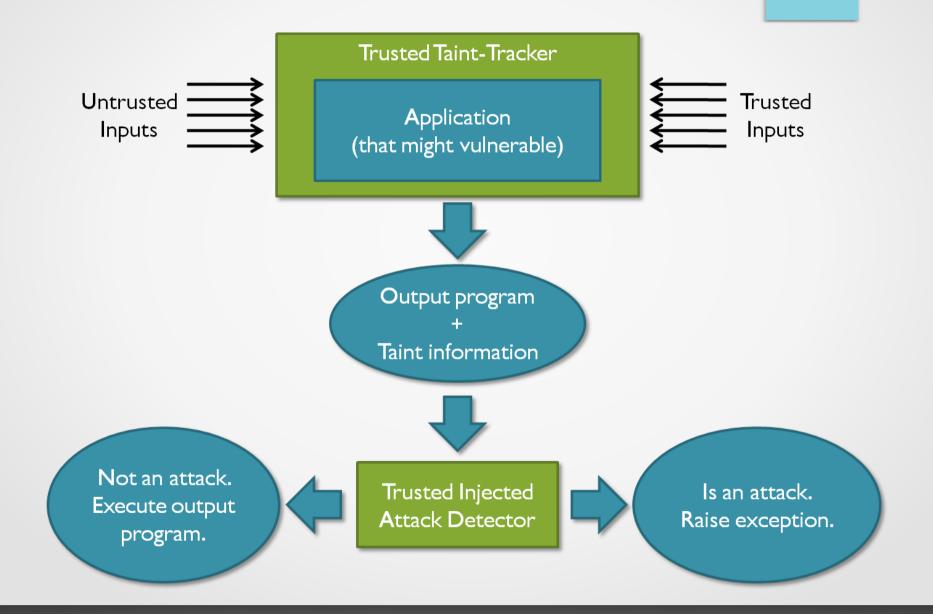
Any program that exhibits a CIAO also exhibits a BroNIE

Pervasiveness of CIAOs and BroNIEs

Theorem 2:

Any application that generates SQL programs by blindly copying some input into its output is vulnerable to both CIAOs and BroNIEs.

Preventing BroNIEs



An Algorithm for Preventing BroNIEs

```
1: p = A(T, Taint(U))
 2: pgmTokens = tokenize(p)
 3: temTokens = tokenize(p.removeInjected())
 4: MarkNoncodeTokens(pgmTokens)
 5: i = j = 1
 6: while i <= pgmTokens.length and j <= temTokens.length:
        if pgmTokens[i] = temTokens[j]:
 7:
 8:
            increment i and j
 9:
        else if pgmTokens[i].isNoncode and temTokens[i].canExpandInto(pgmTokens[i]):
10:
            increment i and j
        else if pgmTokens[i].isNoncode:
11:
12:
            increment i
13: else:
14:
            throw BronieException
15: while i <= pgmTokens.length and pgmTokens[i].isNoncode:
16:
        increment i
17: if i > pgmTokens.length and j > temTokens.length:
        execute(P)
18:
19: else:
        throw BronieException
20:
```

An Algorithm for Preventing BroNIEs

Theorem 3:

The algorithm executes the output program iff it does not exhibit a BroNIE

Theorem 4:

The algorithm executes in time linear in the length of the output program

Taint-tracking Problems

- Could be hard to identify all untrusted inputs
- Could be hard to identify all ways to output a program
- Taints must be tracked with fine granularity ⇒high runtime overhead
 - Taint tracking could interfere with real-time applications

Questions?

Project website:

http://www.cse.usf.edu/~ligatti/projects/ciao/

Extra Slides

Definition 1 ([4]). For all alphabets Σ , the tainted-symbol alphabet $\underline{\Sigma}$ is $\{\sigma \mid \sigma \in \Sigma \lor (\exists \sigma' \in \Sigma : \sigma = \underline{\sigma'})\}.$

Next, language L is augmented to allow programs to contain tainted symbols.

Definition 2 ([4]). For all languages L with alphabet Σ , the tainted output language \underline{L} with alphabet $\underline{\Sigma}$ is $\{\sigma_1..\sigma_n \mid \exists \sigma'_1..\sigma'_n \in L : \forall i \in \{1..n\} : (\sigma_i = \sigma'_i \vee \sigma_i = \underline{\sigma'_i})\}$.

Finally, an output-program symbol is injected if and only if it is tainted.

Definition 3 ([4]). For all alphabets Σ and symbols $\sigma \in \underline{\Sigma}$, the predicate injected(σ) is true iff $\sigma \notin \Sigma$.

Definition 4. For all L-programs $p = \sigma_1...\sigma_n$ and position numbers $i \in \{1..|p|\}$, predicate Noncode(p, i) holds iff $TR_L(p, i)$ or there exist low and high symbol-position numbers $l \in \{1...i\}$, $h \in \{i...|p|\}$ such that $\sigma_l...\sigma_h$ is a closed value in p.

Definition 5 ([4]). A CIAO occurs exactly when a taint-tracking application outputs \underline{L} -program $p = \sigma_1..\sigma_n$ such that $\exists i \in \{1..n\} : (injected(\sigma_i) \land Code(p,i))$.

Definition 6. The template of a program p, denoted $[\varepsilon/\underline{\sigma}]p$, is obtained by replacing each injected symbol in p with an ε .

Definition 7. A token $t = \tau_i(v)_j$ can be expanded into token $t' = {\tau'}_{i'}(v')_{j'}$, denoted $t \leq t'$, iff:

- $-\tau = \tau'$
- $-i' \le i \le j \le j'$ and
- v is a subsequence of v'.

Definition 8. An L-program p satisfies the NIE property iff there exist:

- $I \subseteq noncodeToks(p)$ (i.e., a set of p's inserted noncode tokens),
- $-n \in \mathbb{N}$ (i.e., a number of p's expanded noncode tokens),
- $\{t_1..t_n\}\subseteq tokenize([\varepsilon/\underline{\sigma}]p)$ (i.e., a set of template tokens to be expanded), and
- $-\{t'_1..t'_n\}\subseteq noncodeToks(p) \ (i.e.,\ a\ set\ of\ p\ s\ expanded\ noncode\ tokens)$

such that:

- $-t_1 \leq t'_1, \ldots, t_n \leq t'_n, and$
- − $tokenize(p) = ([t'_1/t_1]..[t'_n/t_n]tokenize([ε/σ]p)) ∪ I.$

Definition 9. A BroNIE (Broken NIE) occurs exactly when a taint-tracking application outputs a program that violates the NIE property.

Theorem 1. If a program exhibits a CIAO, then it exhibits a BroNIE.

Theorem 2. For all n-ary functions A and (n-1)-ary functions A' and A'', if $\forall i_1,...,i_n: A(i_1,...,i_n) = A'(i_1,...,i_{m-1},i_{m+1},...,i_n)\underline{i_m}A''(i_1,...,i_{m-1},i_{m+1},...,i_n),$ where $1 \leq m \leq n$, and $\exists v_1,...,v_n: (v_m \in \Sigma_{SQL}^+ \land A(v_1,...,v_n) \in SQL)$, then $\exists a_1,...,a_n: A(a_1,...,a_n) \in SQL$ and $A(a_1,...,a_n)$ exhibits a CIAO and a BroNIE.

Theorem 3. Algorithm 1 executes output-program p iff p does not exhibit a BroNIE.

Theorem 4. The BroNIE-detection part of Algorithm 1 (i.e., Lines 2–27) executes in O(n) time, where n is the length of the output program.

A token of kind τ composed of symbols $\sigma_i...\sigma_j$ is represented as $\tau_i(\sigma_i...\sigma_i)_i$

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SELECT * FROM orders WHERE s='x' AND true

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Anatomy of a Token

A token of kind τ composed of symbols $\sigma_i...\sigma_j$ is represented as $\tau_i(\sigma_i...\sigma_i)_i$

If none of the symbols in a token *t* are code, then *t* is a noncode token.

Anatomy of a Token

A token of kind τ composed of symbols $\sigma_i...\sigma_j$ is represented as $\tau_i(\sigma_i...\sigma_i)_i$

If none of the symbols in a token *t* are code, then *t* is a noncode token.

$$SELECT_{1}(SELECT)_{6} STAR_{8}(*)_{8}$$

$$FROM_{10}(FROM)_{13} ID_{15}(orders)_{20} WHERE_{22}(WHERE)_{26}$$

$$ID_{28}(s)_{28} EQUALS_{29}(=)_{29} STRING_{30}('x')_{32}$$

$$AND_{34}(AND)_{36} TRUE_{38}(true)_{41}$$

The *template* of a program p is obtained by replacing each injected symbol in p with an ϵ .

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SELECT * FROM orders WHERE s='x' AND true

The *template* of a program p is obtained by replacing each injected symbol in p with an ϵ .

SELECT * FROM orders WHERE s='x' AND true

SELECT * FROM orders WHERE s='ε' AND εεεε

The sole purpose of an ϵ symbol is to hold the place of an injected symbol; ϵ 's are otherwise ignored.

Program: SELECT * FROM orders WHERE s='x' AND true

Template: SELECT * FROM orders WHERE s='ε' AND εεεε

Program Tokens:

```
SELECT<sub>1</sub>(SELECT)<sub>6</sub> STAR<sub>8</sub>(*)<sub>8</sub> FROM<sub>10</sub>(FROM)<sub>13</sub> ID_{15}(orders)_{20} WHERE<sub>22</sub>(WHERE)<sub>26</sub> ID_{28}(s)_{28} EQUALS<sub>29</sub>(=)<sub>29</sub> STRING_{30}('x')_{32} AND<sub>34</sub>(AND)<sub>36</sub> TRUE_{38}(true)_{41}
```

```
SELECT_{1}(SELECT)_{6} STAR_{8}(*)_{8} FROM_{10}(FROM)_{13}

ID_{15}(orders)_{20} WHERE_{22}(WHERE)_{26} ID_{28}(s)_{28} EQUALS_{29}(=)_{29}

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SELECT_{1}(SELECT)_{6} STAR_{8}(*)_{8} FROM_{10}(FROM)_{13}

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Template: SELECT * FROM orders WHERE s='ε' AND εεεε

Program Tokens:

```
\begin{split} & \mathsf{SELECT}_1(\mathsf{SELECT})_6 \ \mathsf{STAR}_8(\ ^*)_8 \ \mathsf{FROM}_{10}(\mathsf{FROM})_{13} \\ & \mathsf{ID}_{15}(\mathsf{orders})_{20} \ \mathsf{WHERE}_{22}(\mathsf{WHERE})_{26} \ \mathsf{ID}_{28}(\ \mathsf{S})_{28} \ \mathsf{EQUALS}_{29}(=)_{29} \\ & \mathsf{STRING}_{30}(\ '\ '\ )_{32} \ \mathsf{AND}_{34}(\mathsf{AND})_{36} \end{split}
```

Expanding Tokens

Notation: If token t can be expanded into token t', we write $t \leq t'$.

1234:
$$INT_2(23)_3 \leq INT_1(1234)_4$$

12.34 :
$$INT_1(1234)_5 \leq FLOAT_1(12.34)_5$$

If the injected symbols of an output program only insert or expand noncode tokens, then we say that the program satisfies the NIE (**N**oncode Insertion/**E**xpansion, pronounced "knee") property.



Definition Overview

If a program satisfies the NIE property, then it should be possible to get to the sequence of tokens the program from the sequence of tokens in the program's template by only inserting or expanding noncode tokens.

Program: SELECT * FROM orders WHERE s='x' AND true

Template: SELECT * FROM orders WHERE s='ε' AND εεεε

Program Tokens:

```
SELECT<sub>1</sub>(SELECT)<sub>6</sub> STAR<sub>8</sub>(*)<sub>8</sub> FROM<sub>10</sub>(FROM)<sub>13</sub> ID_{15}(orders)_{20} WHERE<sub>22</sub>(WHERE)<sub>26</sub> ID_{28}(s)_{28} EQUALS<sub>29</sub>(=)<sub>29</sub> STRING_{30}('x')_{32} AND<sub>34</sub>(AND)<sub>36</sub> TRUE_{38}(true)_{41}
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\begin{split} & \mathsf{SELECT}_1(\mathsf{SELECT})_6 \ \mathsf{STAR}_8(\ ^*)_8 \ \mathsf{FROM}_{10}(\mathsf{FROM})_{13} \\ & \mathsf{ID}_{15}(\mathsf{orders})_{20} \ \mathsf{WHERE}_{22}(\mathsf{WHERE})_{26} \ \mathsf{ID}_{28}(\ \mathsf{s})_{28} \ \mathsf{EQUALS}_{29}(=)_{29} \\ & \mathsf{STRING}_{30}(\ '\ '\ )_{32} \ \mathsf{AND}_{34}(\mathsf{AND})_{36} \end{split}
```

Program: SELECT * FROM orders WHERE s='x' AND true

Template: SELECT * FROM orders WHERE s='ε' AND εεεε

Program Tokens:

```
SELECT<sub>1</sub>(SELECT)<sub>6</sub> STAR<sub>8</sub>(*)<sub>8</sub> FROM<sub>10</sub>(FROM)<sub>13</sub> ID_{15}(orders)_{20} WHERE<sub>22</sub>(WHERE)<sub>26</sub> ID_{28}(s)_{28} EQUALS<sub>29</sub>(=)<sub>29</sub> STRING_{30}('X')_{32} A D (AND)<sub>36</sub> TRUE_{38}(true)_{41}
```

Template Tokens:

EXPAND

INSERT

```
SELECT_{1}(SELECT)_{6} STAL_{8}(*)_{8} FROM_{10}(FROM)_{13}

ID_{15}(orders)_{20} WHERE_{21}(WHERE)_{26} ID_{28}(s)_{28} EQUALS_{9}(=)_{29}

STRING_{30}('')_{32} AND_{34}(AND)_{36}
```

