



Web Application Security

Lecture 5

Tamara Rezk



HAPPY NEW YEAR!





Web Application Security

- 19/11: Historical introduction to technologies and vulnerabilities that accompany them
- 26/11: Defenses XSS and DOM-XSS: sanitizers, Content Security Policy
- 10/12: Same Origin Policy
- 17/12: JavaScript vulnerabilities and defences
- 07/01: Workshop and Pysa
- 14/01: Workshop and Trusted Types (Google)
- 28/01: examen (9h -12h30), required: mandatory TP exercises



Workshops

- Workshop presentations 7/1 and 14/1
 - 15' presentation
 - 5' questions : choose one group and prepare 2 questions.
 - write your topic in the excel sheet and also the questions group
 - workshop is mandatory so please justify absence
- Google presentation on Trusted types: 14/1 1hour (topics included in exam questions, cf. DOM-XSS)



Pysa Tutorial

**[https://github.com/facebook/
pyre-check/tree/main/documentation/pysa_tutorial](https://github.com/facebook/pyre-check/tree/main/documentation/pysa_tutorial)**

Machine Virtual:



PYSA= PYthon Static Analyzer

- Goal: identify potential security issues, flows from sources to sinks. Examples: remote code execution, SSRF, XSS, broken access control.
- How: it allows us to annotate sources and taints, define information flow rules to link them, and analyze Python code to see if rules are violated .
- Static Analyzer from META Based on Abstract interpretation.



PYSA

It scales across millions of line of code: over 40% Instagram vulnerabilities found with it.



PYSA= PYthon Static Analyzer

- **Static Analyzer** Based on Abstract interpretation:
 - Advantages: looking at code without running it (no performance overhead), no false negatives (if no violation reported, then no vulnerability w.r.t. the input configuration)
 - Disadvantages: specific for a programming language, false positives (if violation reported, it might be that there is no vulnerability)



Security

Many **attacks** are flows from

sources

to

sinks

Security is the absence of attacks for a give attacker model



Security: confidentiality

Many **attacks** are flows from

confidential sources

to

attacker-controlled sinks

Example: a gps location flows to an attacker controlled web server



Security: integrity

Many **attacks** are flows from

untrusted sources

to

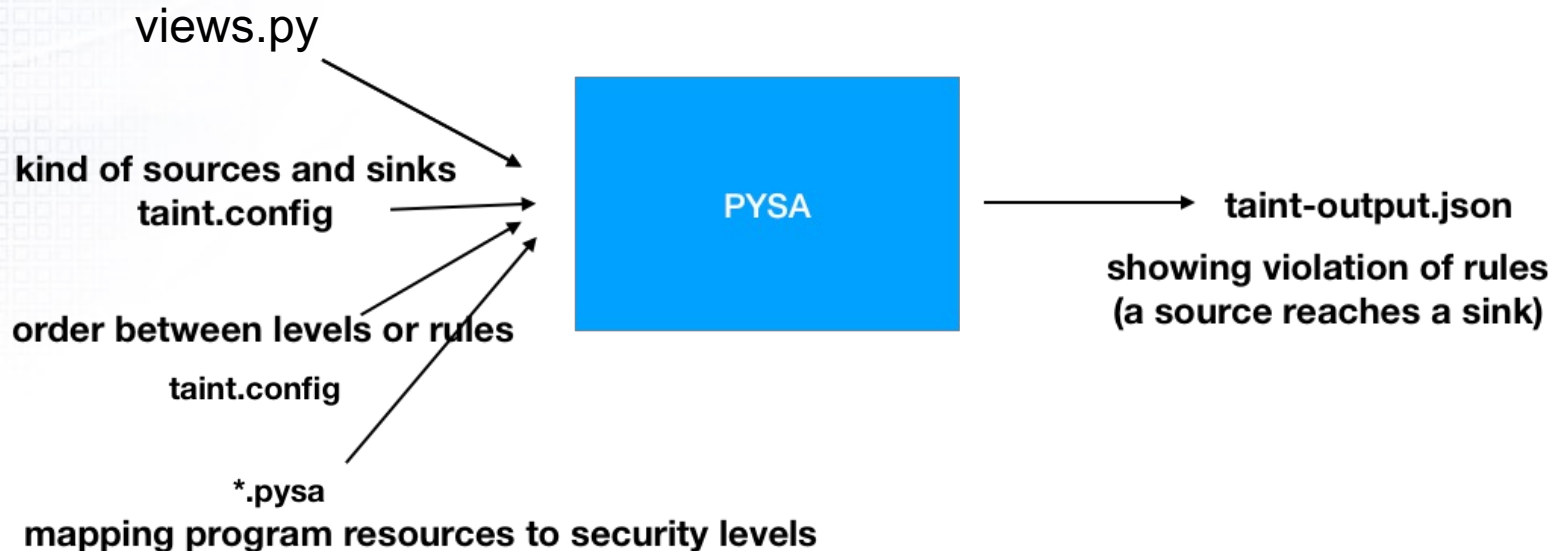
integrity-sensitive sinks

Example:

an input coming from the network is used to decide how to change the quantity of a substance used to regulate the water quality in a water plant.

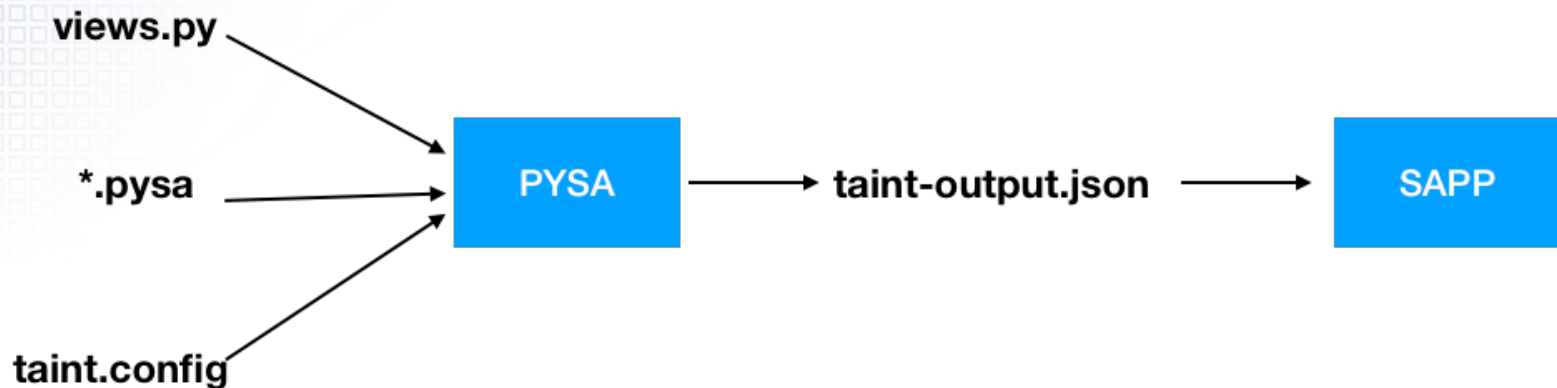


PYSA= PYthon Static Analyzer





PYSA= PYthon Static Analyzer





Example 1 from Pysa tutorial
https://github.com/facebook/pyre-check/tree/main/documentation/pysa_tutorial



Example of Python vulnerable code (Arbitrary code execution)

```
from django.http import HttpRequest, HttpResponse
```

```
def operate_on_twos (request: HttpRequest) -> HttpResponse:  
    operator = request.GET["operator"]  
    result = eval(f"2 {operator} 2")  
    return result
```

sinks

views.py



Example of Python vulnerable code (Arbitrary code execution)

```
from django.http import HttpRequest, HttpResponse
```

```
def operate_on_twos (request: HttpRequest) -> HttpResponse:  
    operator = request.GET["operator"]  
    result = eval(f"2 {operator} 2")  
    return result
```

[sources_sinks.pysa](#)



Example of Python vulnerable code (Arbitrary code execution)

```
from django.http import HttpRequest, HttpResponse

def operate_on_twos (request: HttpRequest) -> HttpResponse:
    operator = request.GET["operator"]
    result = eval(f"2 {operator} 2")
    return result
```

sources

Diagram illustrating the source of the vulnerability: Two arrows point from the word **sources** to the `HttpRequest` object in the function signature and the `request` parameter in the function body, indicating that the input is untrusted and originates from the user.

```
django.http.request.HttpRequest.GET: TaintSource[CustomUserControlled] = ...
```

```
def eval(__source: TaintSink[CodeExecution], __globals, __locals): ...
```



Example of Python vulnerable code (Arbitrary code execution)

```
django.http.request.HttpRequest.GET: TaintSource[CustomUserControlled] = ...  
def eval(__source: TaintSink[CodeExecution], __globals, __locals): ...
```

should follow same annotations as typing declarations in Python3
See documentation of the typing module

Example eval: <https://docs.python.org/3/library/functions.html#eval>

Example django: <https://github.com/typeddjango/django-stubs/blob/master/django-stubs/http/request.pyi>



Example of Python vulnerable code (Arbitrary code execution)

TaintSource[CustomUserControlled]

```
from django.http import HttpRequest, HttpResponse
```

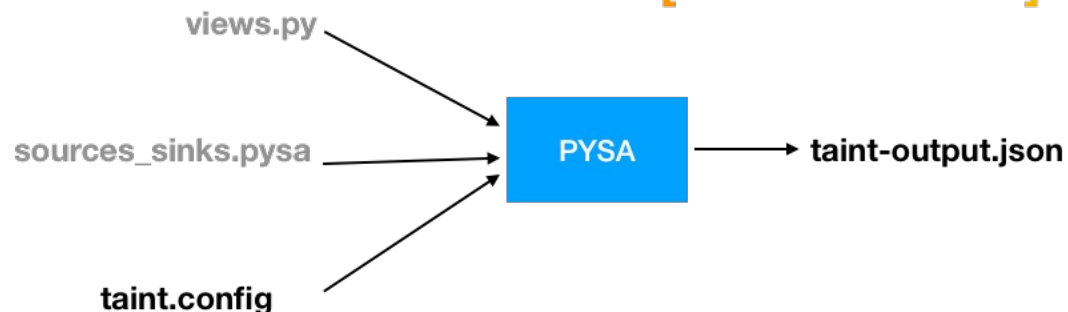
```
def operate_on_twos (request: HttpRequest) -> HttpResponse:
```

```
    operator = request.GET["operator"]
```

```
    result = eval(f"2 {operator} 2")
```

```
    return result
```

TaintSink[CodeExecution]





Let's work with the virtual machine and the tutorial: do the first 3 exercises for the TP and analyze the path traversal exercise from lesson 1.

EXERCISES 1,2,3