



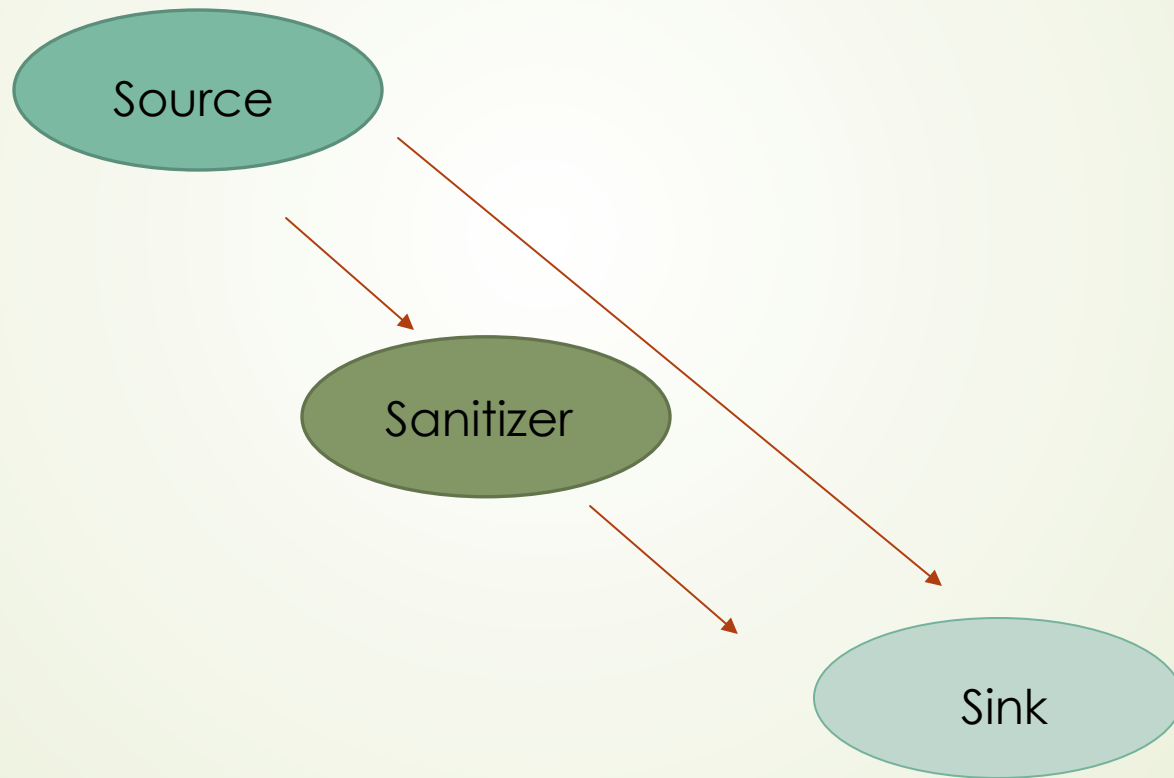
# **TAJ: Effective Taint Analysis of Web Applications**

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Published in PLDI 2009

Presented by Dong Chen

# Recall: Taint Analysis






# Outline

- Background
  - Motivation
  - Approach
  - Evaluation
  - Conclusion
- 



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# OWASP Top Ten Security Vulnerabilities

## OWASP Top 10 – 2013 (New)

**A1 – Injection**

**A2 – Broken Authentication and Session Management**

**A3 – Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)**

**A4 – Insecure Direct Object References**

**A5 – Security Misconfiguration**

**A6 – Sensitive Data Exposure**

**A7 – Missing Function Level Access Control**

**A8 – Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)**

**A9 – Using Known Vulnerable Components**

**A10 – Unvalidated Redirects and Forwards**

<http://www.owasp.org>



# Existing solutions

- ▶ Type systems:

- ▶ Complex, conservative, require code annotations

- ▶ Slicing:

- ▶ Has not been shown to scale to large applications



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# Motivating Example

```
1: public class Motivating {
2:     private static class Internal {
3:         private String s;
4:         public Internal(String s) {
5:             this.s = s;
6:         }
7:         public String toString() {
8:             return s;
9:         }
10:    }
11:    protected void doGet(HttpServletRequest req,
12:        HttpServletResponse resp) throws IOException {
13:        String t1 = req.getParameter("fName");
14:        String t2 = req.getParameter("lName");
15:        PrintWriter writer = resp.getWriter();
16:        Method idMethod = null;
17:        try {
18:            Class k = Class.forName("Motivating");
19:            Method methods[] = k.getMethods();
20:            for (int i = 0; i < methods.length; i++) {
21:                Method method = methods[i];
22:                if (method.getName().equals("id")) {
23:                    idMethod = method;
24:                    break;
25:                }
26:            }
27:            Map m = new HashMap();
28:            m.put("fName", t1);
29:            m.put("lName", t2);
30:            m.put("date", new String(Date.getDate()));
31:            String s1 = (String) idMethod.invoke(this, new
32:                Object[] {m.get("fName")});
33:            String s2 = (String) idMethod.invoke(this, new
34:                Object[] {URLEncoder.encode(m.get("lName"))});
35:            String s3 = (String) idMethod.invoke(this, new
36:                Object[] {m.get("date")});
37:            Internal i1 = new Internal(s1);
38:            Internal i2 = new Internal(s2);
39:            Internal i3 = new Internal(s3);
40:            writer.println(i1); // BAD
41:            writer.println(i2); // OK
42:            writer.println(i3); // OK
43:        } catch (Exception e) {
44:            e.printStackTrace();
45:        }
46:    }
47:    public String id(String string) {
48:        return string;
49:    }
50: }
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# TAJ

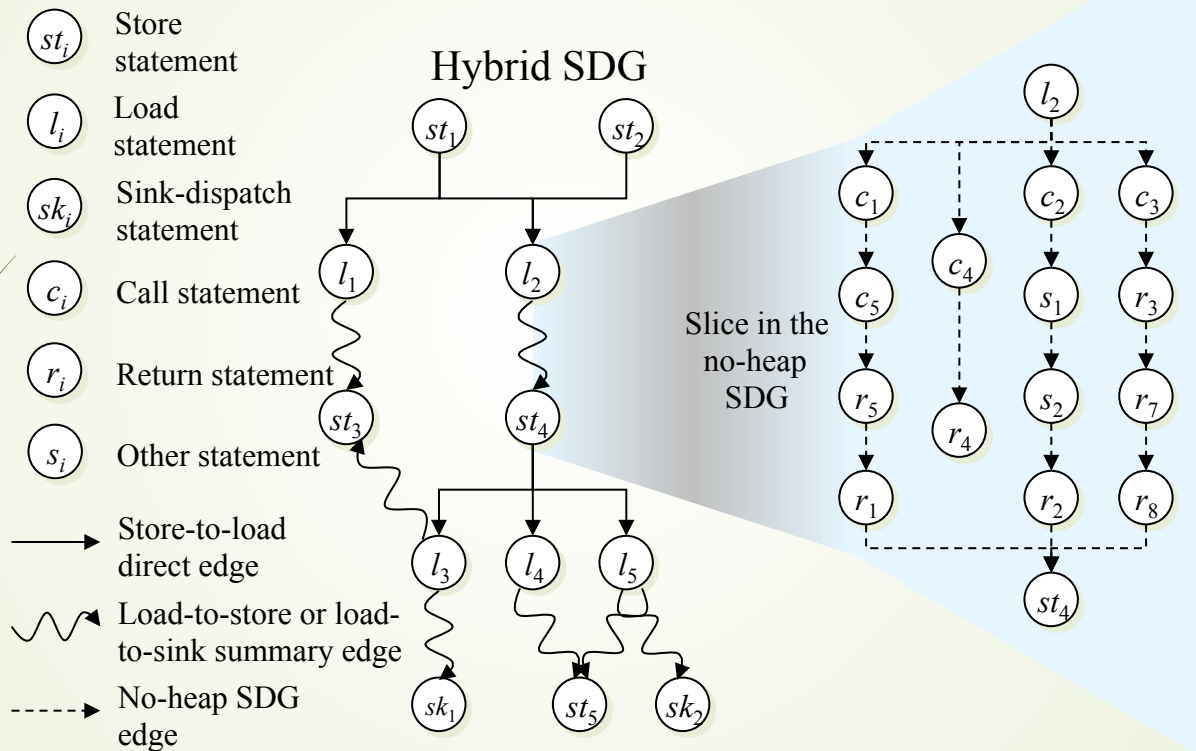
- Consists of 2 stages:
    - Pointer analysis
    - Slicing algorithm
  - Effective reports
  - Efficient behavior under restricted budget
- 



# Pointer analysis and call-graph construction

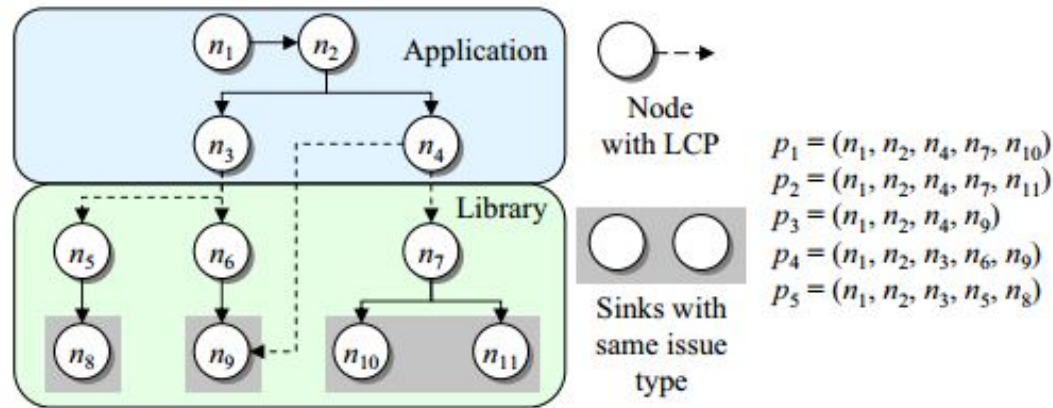
- Pointer analysis is a variant of Andersen's analysis
- Custom context-sensitivity policy:
  - Unlimited-depth object sensitivity for Java collections
  - One level of call-string context for factory methods
  - One level of call-string context for taint APIs
- Pointer analysis of TAJ is field sensitive

# Hybrid thin slicing



Direct edges: computed based on preliminary pointer analysis  
 Summary edges: computed using no-heap SDG

# Eliminating Redundant Reports



**Figure 3.** Call Graph Illustrating the LCP Concept

Example:

1. Use  $p_1$  and  $p_2$
2. Use  $p_3$  and  $p_4$



# Priority-driven Call-graph Construction

- Priority queue used to govern call-graph growth
- Sources are assigned priority 0, others maxNodes
- Recursively, for each “neighbor”  $t$  of node  $n$ :  
 $pr(t) = \min\{pr(n) + 1, pr(t)\}$
- Propagation process runs to a fixed point
- “Locality-of-taint” principle



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# Evaluation

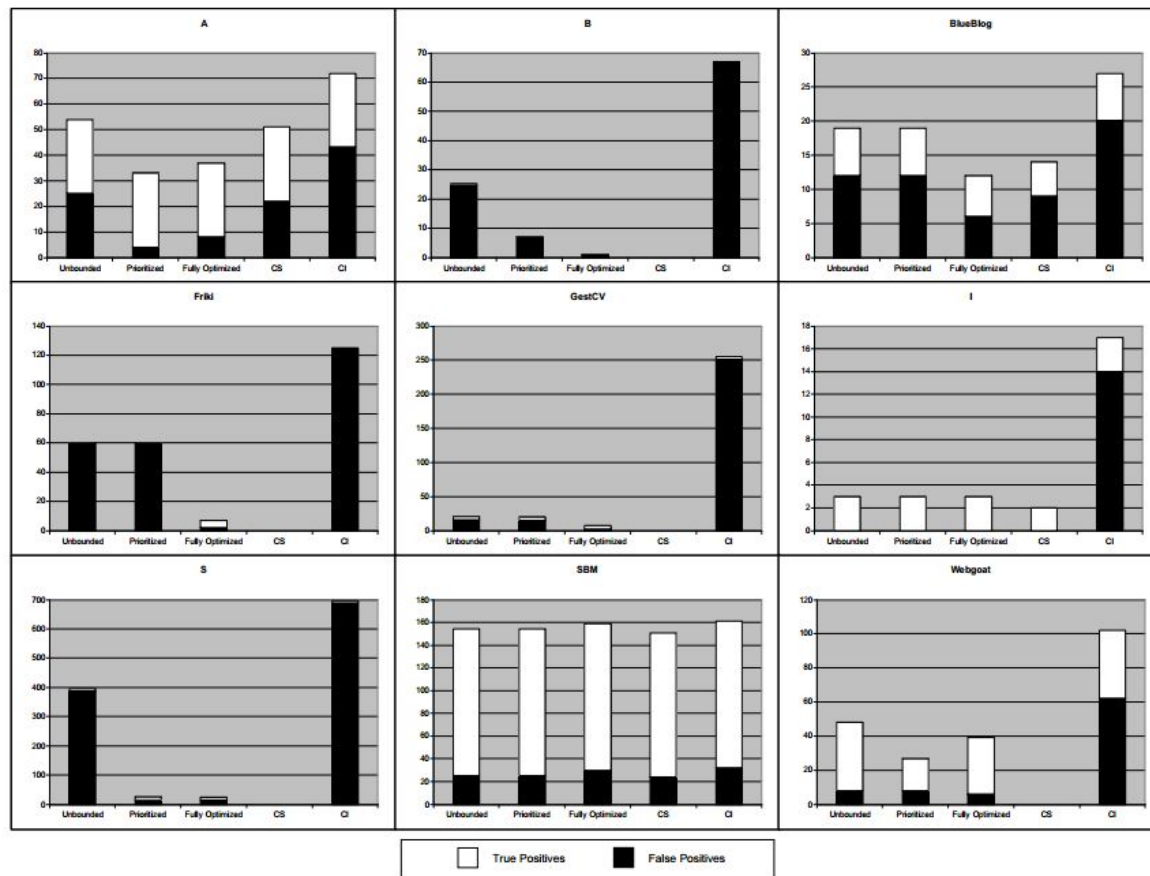
- Performance

| Application  | Hybrid    |         |             |         |                 |         | CS     |         | CI     |         |
|--------------|-----------|---------|-------------|---------|-----------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
|              | Unbounded |         | Prioritized |         | Fully Optimized |         | Issues | Time(s) | Issues | Time(s) |
|              | Issues    | Time(s) | Issues      | Time(s) | Issues          | Time(s) |        |         |        |         |
| A            | 54        | 43      | 33          | 54      | 37              | 23      | 51     | 554     | 73     | 88      |
| B            | 25        | 1160    | 7           | 242     | 1               | 217     | -      | -       | 67     | 564     |
| Blojsom      | 238       | 783     | 162         | 222     | 123             | 207     | -      | -       | 504    | 275     |
| BlueBlog     | 19        | 5       | 19          | 5       | 12              | 6       | 14     | 376     | 30     | 7       |
| Dlog         | 21        | 873     | 11          | 243     | 6               | 221     | -      | -       | 168    | 602     |
| Friki        | 60        | 11      | 60          | 10      | 7               | 9       | 14     | 1392    | 125    | 11      |
| GestCV       | 21        | 2461    | 20          | 182     | 7               | 209     | -      | -       | 255    | 760     |
| Ginp         | 67        | 40      | 67          | 45      | 49              | 28      | 43     | 1028    | 309    | 75      |
| GridSphere   | 803       | 6505    | 116         | 735     | 261             | 2467    | -      | -       | 853    | 1281    |
| I            | 3         | 8       | 3           | 8       | 3               | 8       | 2      | 16      | 17     | 15      |
| JSPWiki      | 68        | 159     | 67          | 270     | 26              | 118     | -      | -       | 381    | 192     |
| Lutece       | 3         | 824     | 2           | 28      | 4               | 59      | -      | -       | 41     | 99      |
| MVNForum     | 260       | 313     | 100         | 228     | 293             | 205     | -      | -       | 374    | 213     |
| PersonalBlog | 454       | 3708    | 108         | 386     | 48              | 740     | -      | -       | 1854   | 604     |
| Roller       | 650       | 1495    | 87          | 175     | 230             | 268     | -      | -       | 3171   | 794     |
| S            | 395       | 602     | 25          | 398     | 24              | 263     | -      | -       | 697    | 729     |
| SBM          | 154       | 9       | 154         | 7       | 159             | 6       | 125    | 26      | 161    | 10      |
| SnipSnap     | 91        | 279     | 89          | 167     | 94              | 153     | -      | -       | 397    | 291     |
| SPLC         | 40        | 188     | 37          | 279     | 36              | 116     | -      | -       | 103    | 272     |
| ST           | 731       | 933     | 369         | 207     | 347             | 277     | -      | -       | 1830   | 565     |
| VQWiki       | 888       | 2450    | 303         | 383     | 545             | 565     | -      | -       | 2284   | 784     |
| Webgoat      | 48        | 276     | 27          | 180     | 39              | 193     | -      | -       | 102    | 485     |

**Table 3.** Experimental Results Comparing between Hybrid Variants and Other Algorithms

# Evaluation

- Accuracy



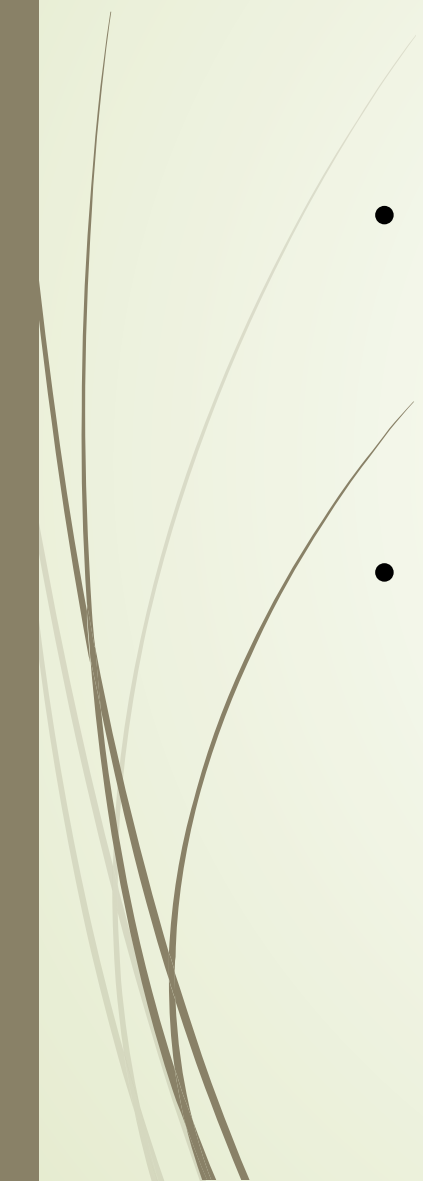


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# Conclusion

- Effective solution for taint analysis of Web applications based on pointer analysis and hybrid thin slicing
  - Efficient strategies for analysis under limited budget
- 



# Questions

