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# From Dalvik Bytecode Analysis to Leak Detection in Android Applications

Alexandre Bartel, Eric Bodden, Steven Artz, Siegfried Rasthofer

1st ICFEM Workshop on Default Privacy  
Thursday 6 November 2014  
Luxembourg, Luxembourg



# Evolution of Phones



1985  
10,000

1995  
100,000

2005  
1,000,000

2015  
10,000,000 loc

# “Smart”Phone = Computer + Sensors + Apps



# Smartphone Penetration

## Year Select Countries in Western Europe Will Pass 50% Smartphone Penetration Among Total Population, 2013-2015



Source: eMarketer, June 2014

174398

www.eMarketer.com

## Year Canada and the US Will Pass 50% Smartphone Penetration Among Total Population, 2014 & 2015



Source: eMarketer, June 2014

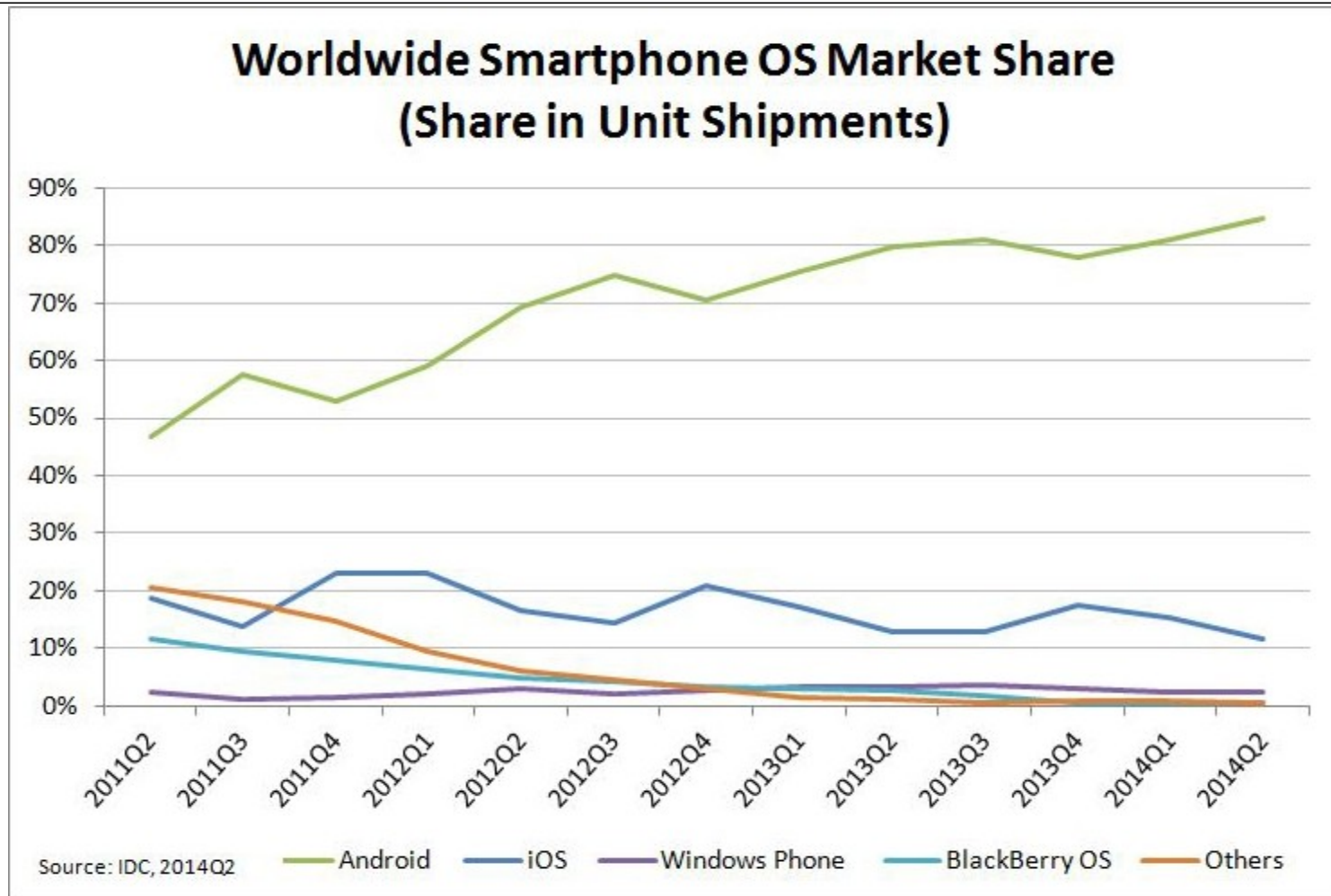
174399

www.eMarketer.com

# Personal Information Stored on Smartphones



# Android Market Share > 80%!



# Popular Android Apps Leaking Sensitive Data Report Finds

By Chloe Albanesius | October 22, 2014

# Skype for Android leaks sensitive data

2014 17 Comments

# WhatsApp leaks user data and messages

19 MAY 2011 APPLICATIONS



# Leaking

Developers may

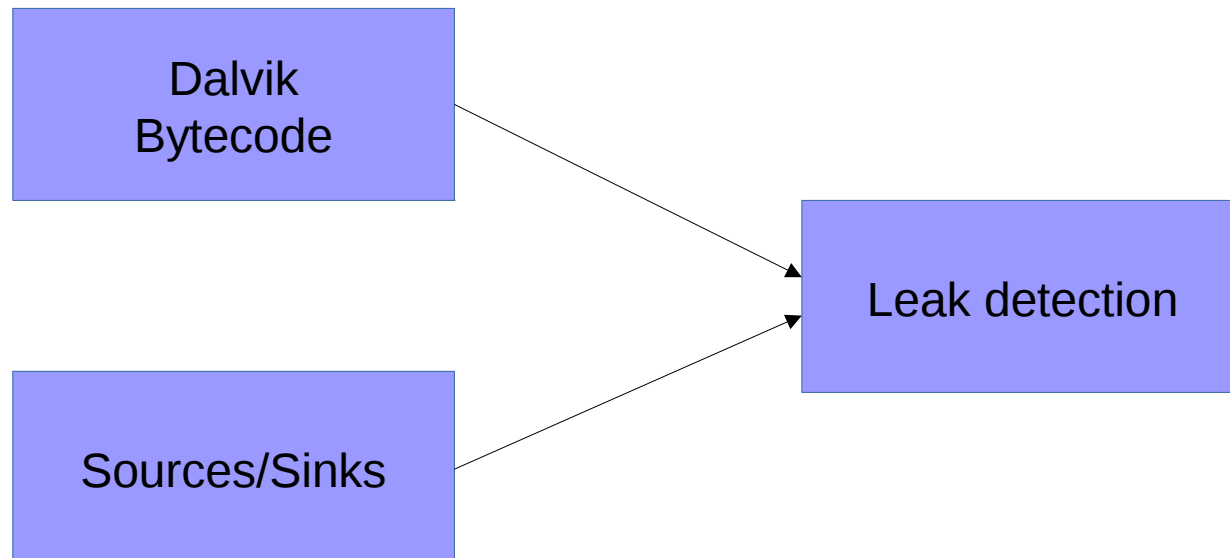
# Angry Birds and other Mobile Gaming apps leaking your private information to NSA

by Swati Khandelwal on Monday, January 27, 2014

Hackers  
By DANIEL BATE  
PUBLISHED: 10:13

Published January 27, 2014  
Appthority Security Team

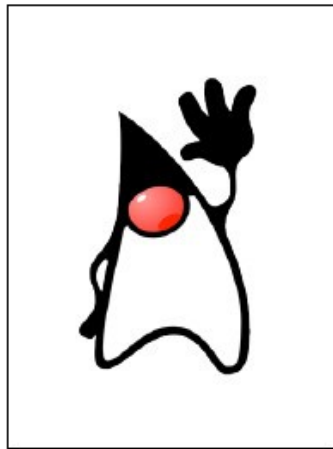
and apps leak user privacy data  
and permitted apps transmit phone numbers, location, and SIM card IDs





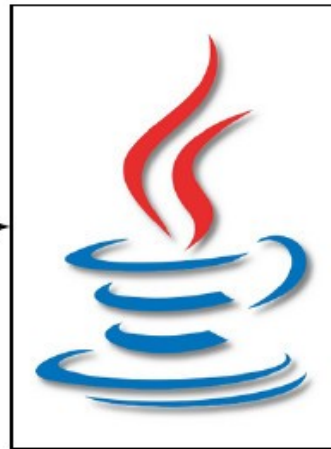
# How to Analyze Dalvik Bytecode?

(a) Java Source Code



javac

(b) Java Bytecode



dx

(c) Dalvik Bytecode

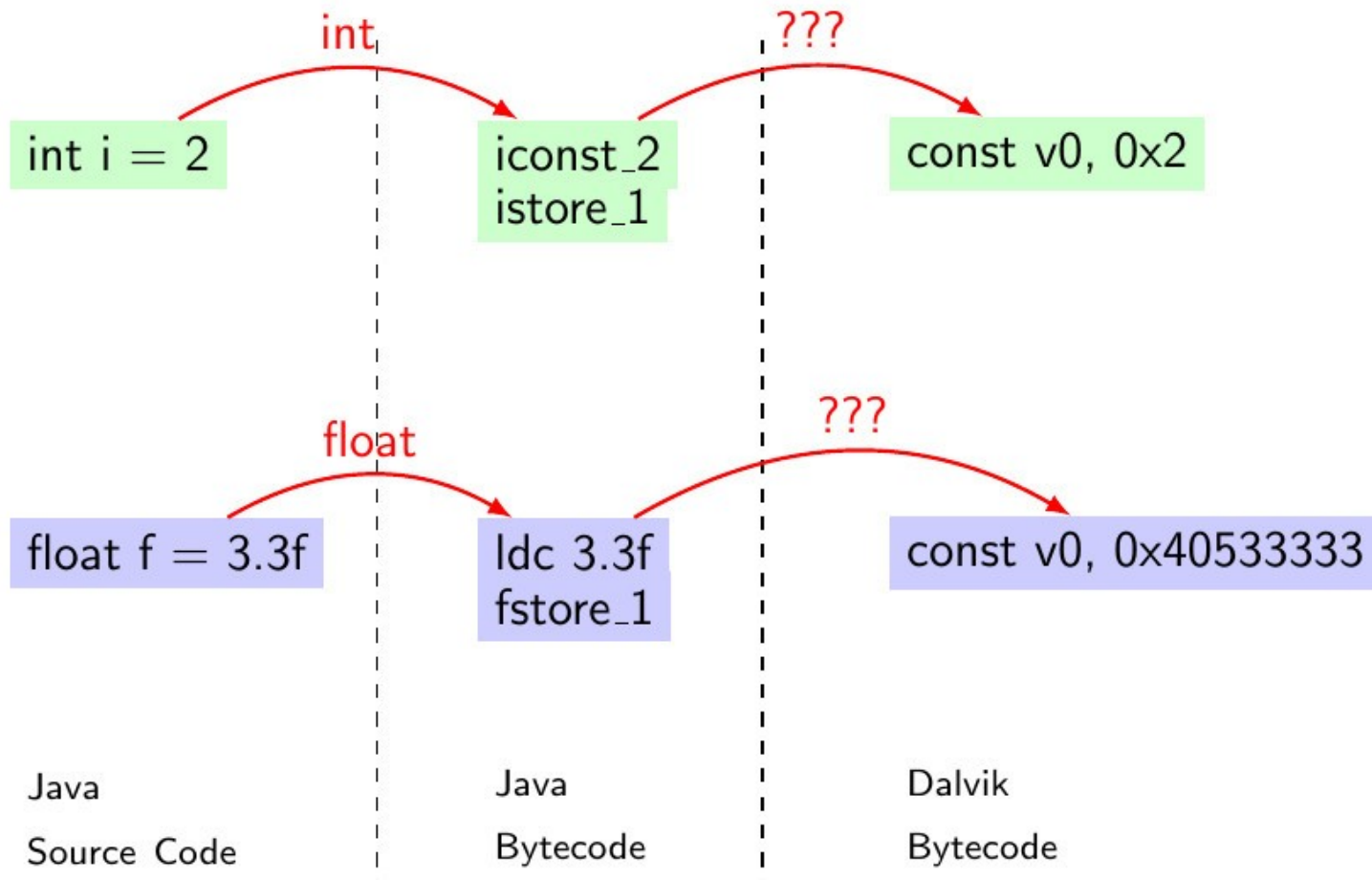


BCEL Soot Wala ...

BCEL Soot Wala ...

???

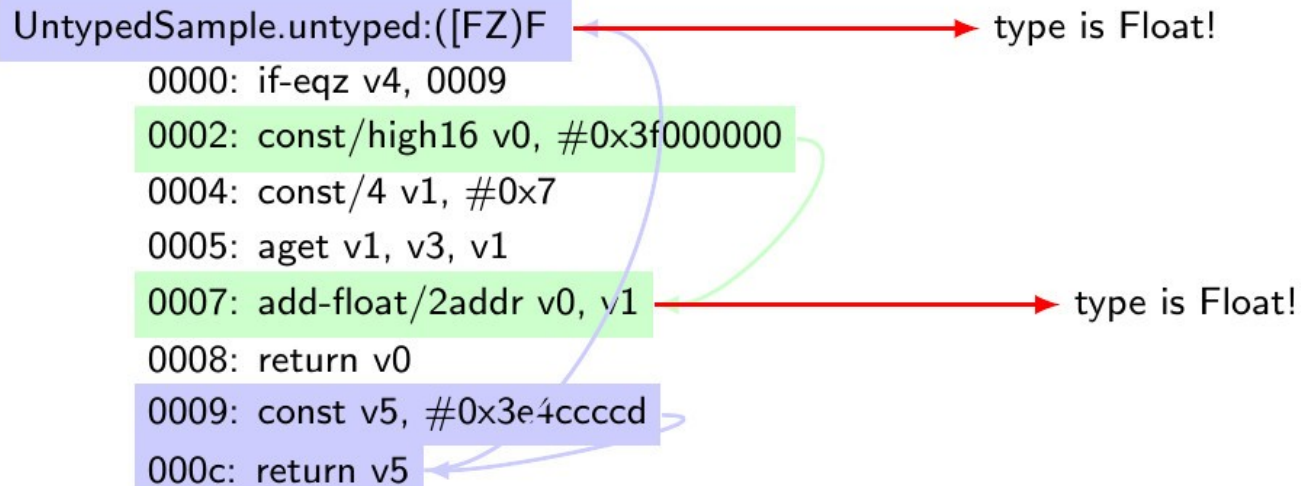
# Problem: Type Information is Missing



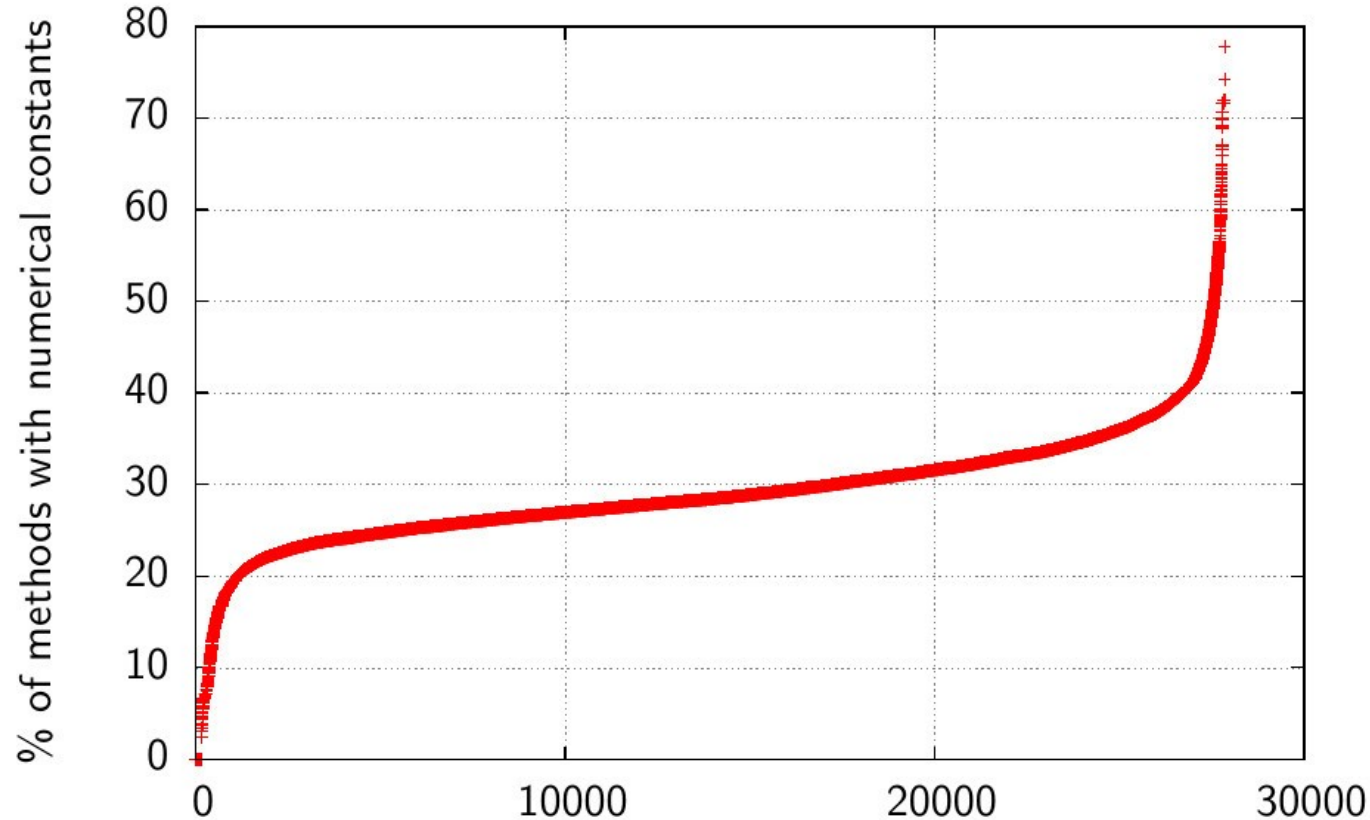
# Solution: Find the Missing Information!

```
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 → type is Float!  
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 → type is Float!  
0008: return v0  
0009: const v5, #0x3e4ccccd  
000c: return v5
```



# 99.4% of the Apps have Numerical Constants



Applications (ranked by the ratio of methods using numerical constants they contain)

# Evaluation: Do we Correctly Type the Code?

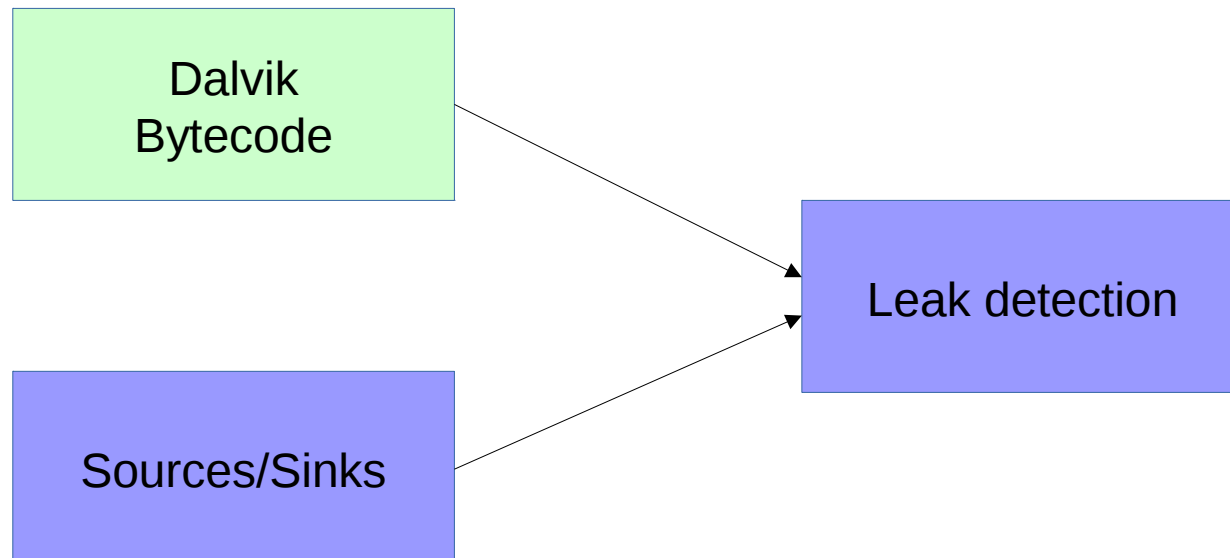


- | Set of 27,846 Android applications
- Total of 135,289,314 methods

Our algorithm correctly types  
**99%**  
of the analyzed methods

- | Unresolved reference
- Jump to code in array
- Multiple types for a single variable

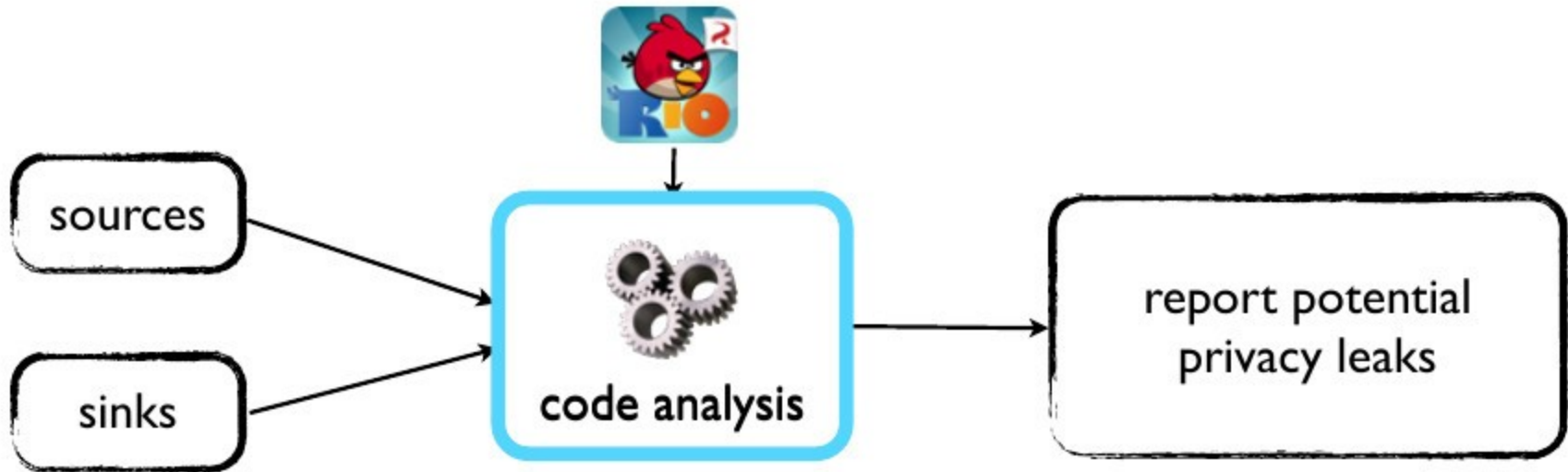
Bartel, A., Klein, J., Le Traon, Y., & Monperrus, M. (2012, June). Dexpler: converting android dalvik bytecode to jimple for static analysis with soot. In Proceedings of the ACM SIGPLAN International Workshop on State of the Art in Java Program analysis (pp. 27-38). ACM.



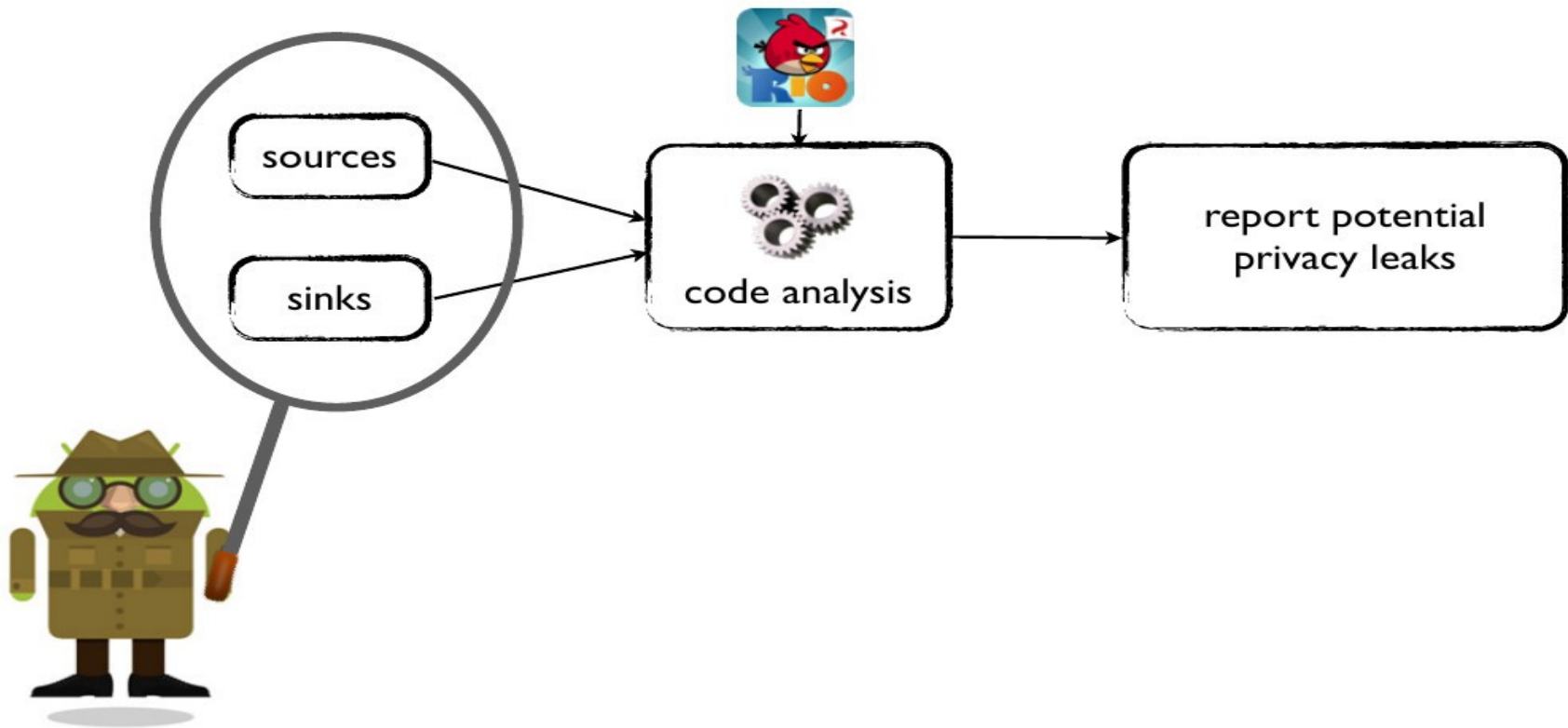
- Dynamic Approaches:
  - TaintDroid [OSDI'10],
  - Aurasium [USENIX'12],
  - “Dr. Android and Mr. Hide”[SPSM'12],
  - etc.
- Static Approaches:
  - ScanDroid [TR 09],
  - DeD [SEC'11],
  - CHEX [CCS'12],
  - LeakMiner [WCSE'12],
  - ScanDal [Most'12],
  - AndroidLeaks [TRUST'12],
  - SAAF [SAC'13],
  - FlowDroid [PLDI'14],
  - etc.




# Detecting Privacy Leaks: Generic Approach



# But...

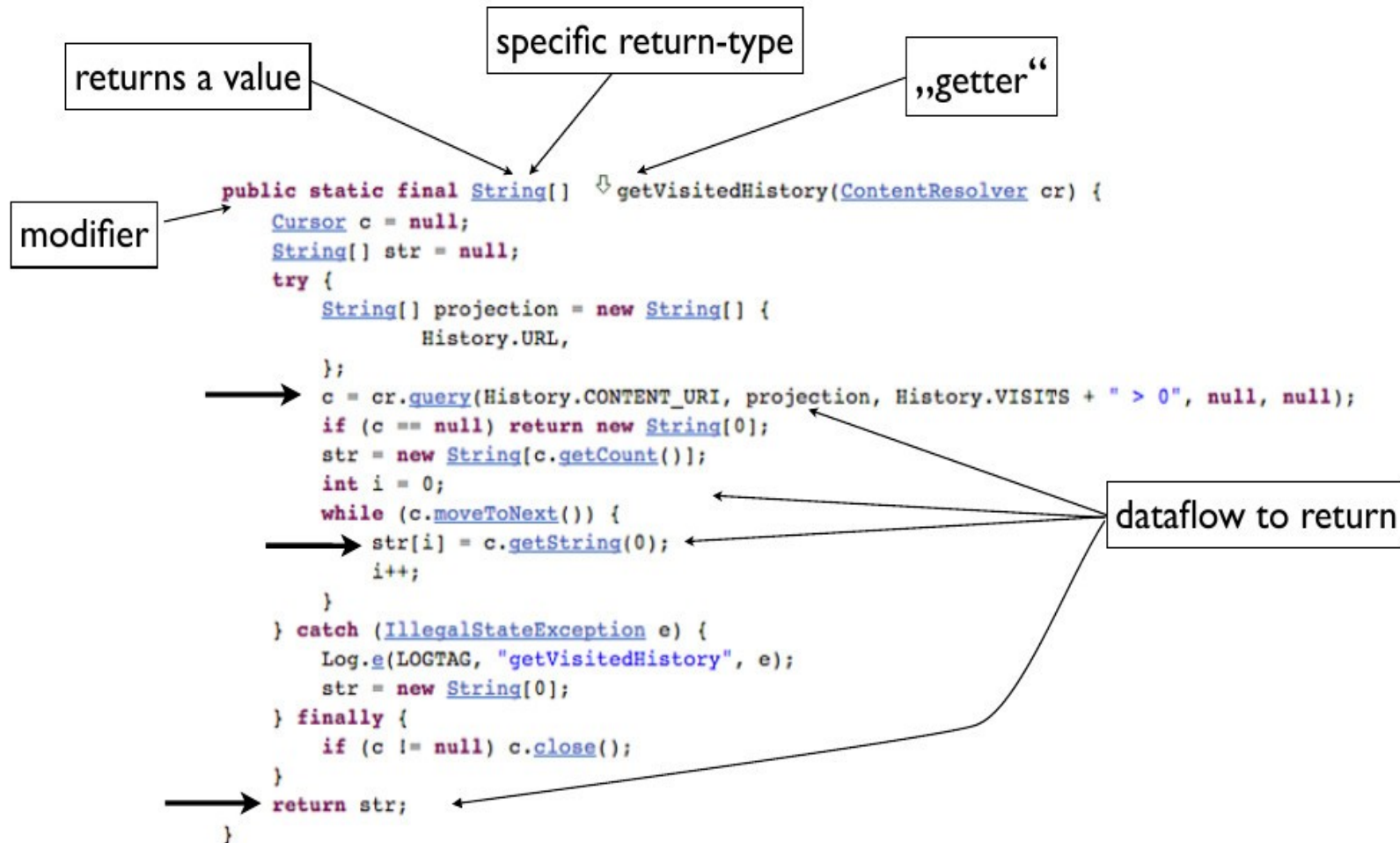


# Complete List Available?

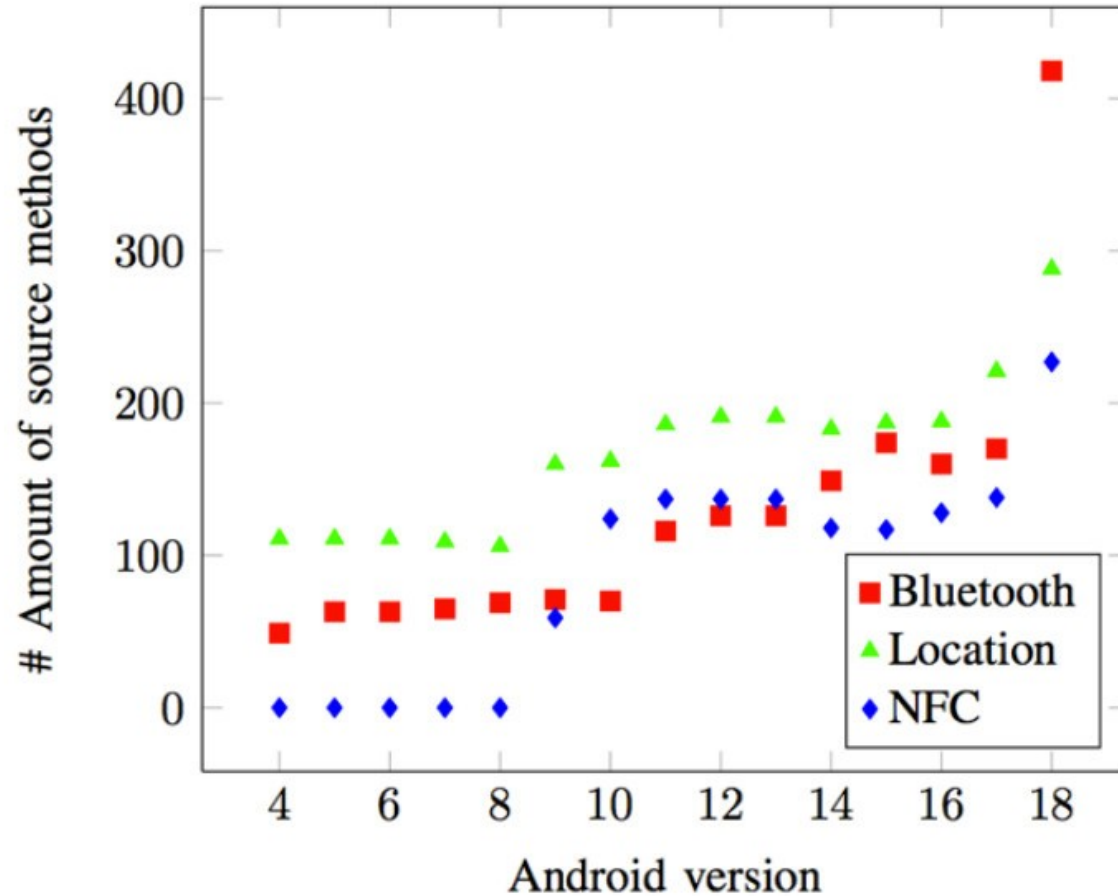
Method	TaintDroid	SCanDroid	DeD
			
Location.getLongitude()	✓	✓	✓
Location.getLatitude()	✓	✓	✓
Browser.getAllBookmarks()	✓		

SmsManager.sendTextMessage	✓	✓	✓
Log.d()			✓
URL.openConnection()	✓		

# Machine Learning with Code Features



# Evaluation on Android Versions

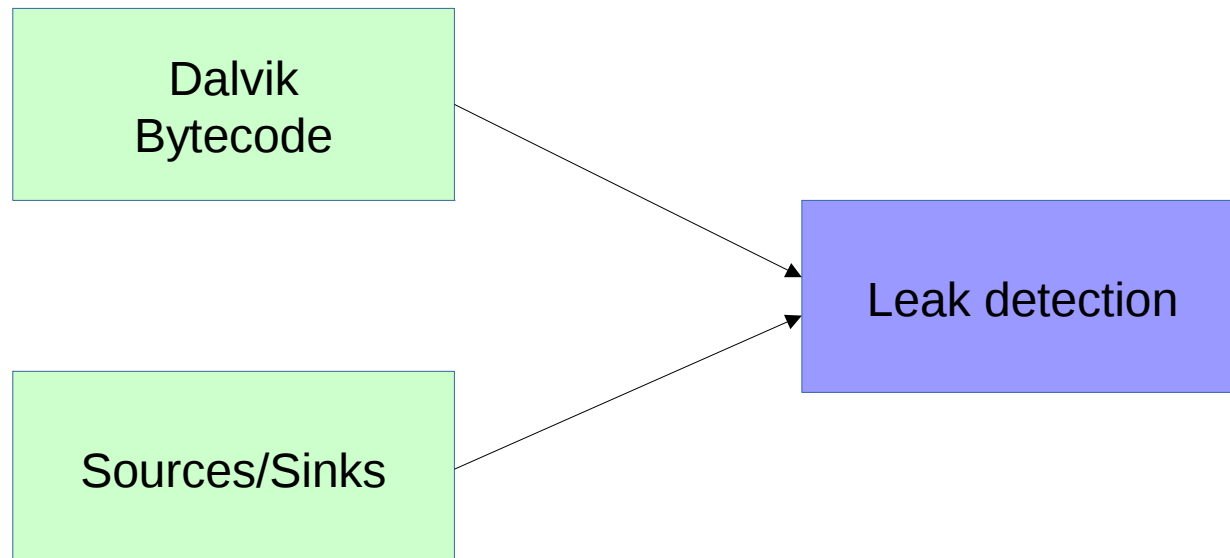


# Top Source/Sink Methods in Malware



Method	TaintDroid	SCanDroid	DeD
BluetoothAdapter.getAddress()	✗	✗	✗
WifiInfo.getMacAddress()	✗	✗	✗
Locale.getCountry()	✗	✗	✗
WifiInfo.getSSID()	✗	✗	✗
GsmCellLocation.getCid()	✗	✗	✗
GsmCellLocation.getLac()	✗	✗	✗
Location.getLongitude()	✓	✓	✓
Location.getLatitude()	✓	✓	✓
Browser.getAllBookmarks()	✓	✗	✗
SmsManager.sendTextMessage	✓	✓	✓
Log.d()	✗	✗	✓
URL.openConnection()	✓	✗	✗

Rasthofer, Siegfried, Steven Arzt, and Eric Bodden. "A machine-learning approach for classifying and categorizing android sources and sinks." 2014 Network and Distributed System Security Symposium (NDSS). 2014.

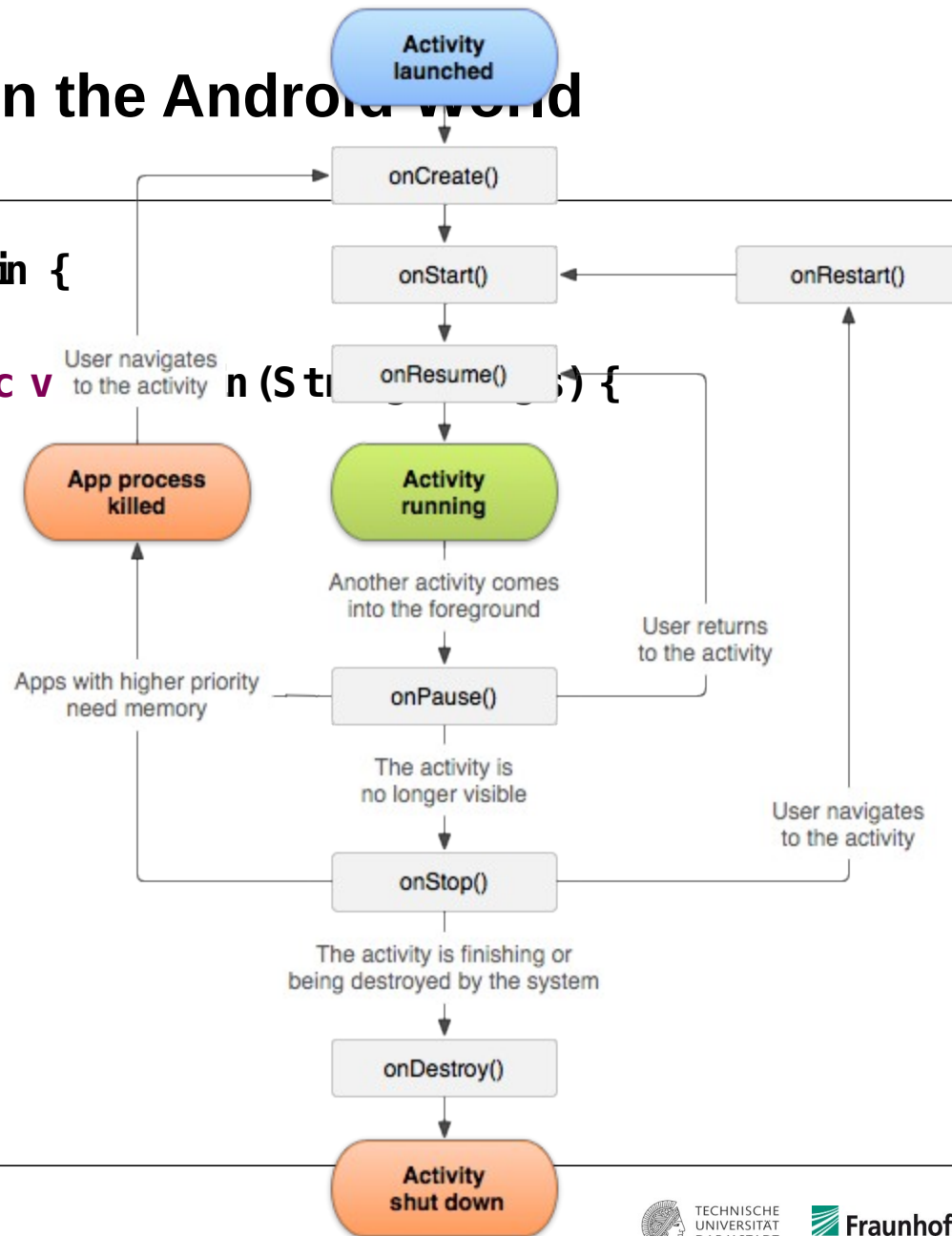


- Challenges in the Android World
- Highly Precise Taint Analysis
  - The Principles
  - Aliasing for Highly Precise Analyses
- Experiments
  - The DroidBench Micro Benchmark Suite



# Challenges in the Android world

```
public class Main {
    public static void main (String args) {
        ...
    }
}
```



# Modeling The Android Lifecycle



- Model Lifecycle Through Dummy Main Method
- Use Opaque Predicates and Jumps
  - All paths allowed in spec must be possible in method
  - Lots of paths, but doesn't matter (see later)



# Modeling The Android Lifecycle

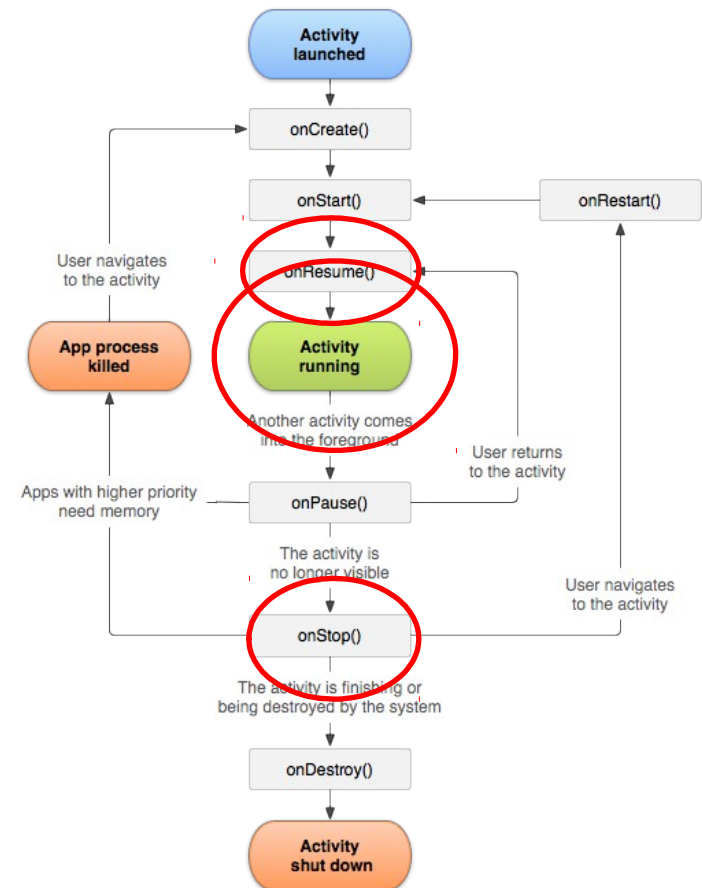
```
i = 0;  
l1: if (i == 0) goto l9; //Skip the activity
```

```
Activity1 act1 = new com .extActivity1();  
act1.onCreate(...); act1.onStart();  
l2: act.onResume();
```

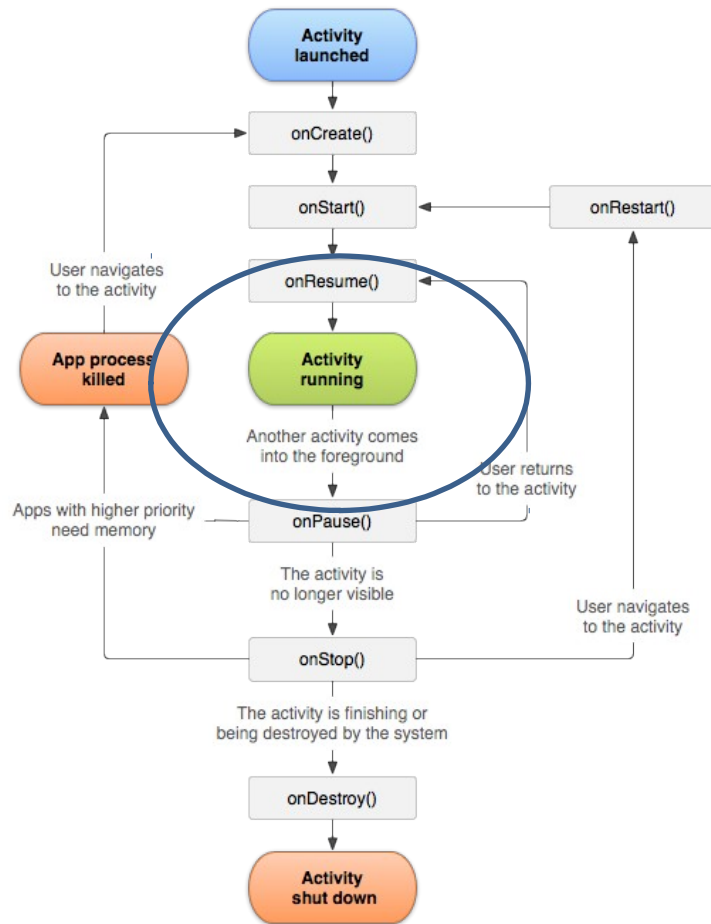
```
...
```

```
act1.onPause(...);  
l1: if (i == 1) goto l2;  
act1.onStop();  
act1.onDestroy();
```

```
if (i == 2) goto l1; //Run activity again
```



# Challenges in the Android World

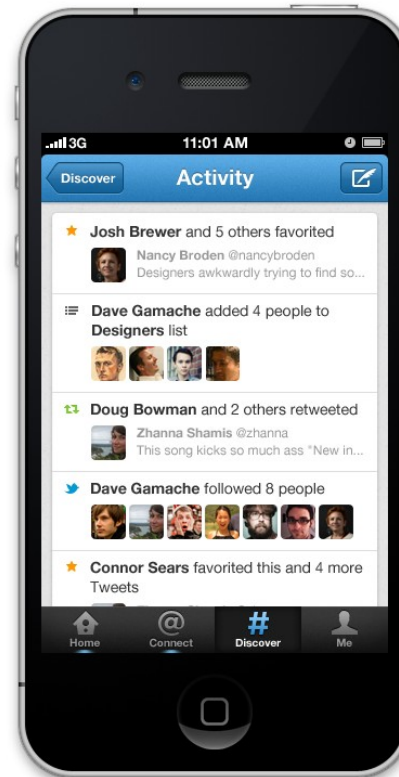


# Challenges in the Android World

onLocationChanged

onGpsStatusChanged

onSensorChanged



onLowMemory

onGesture

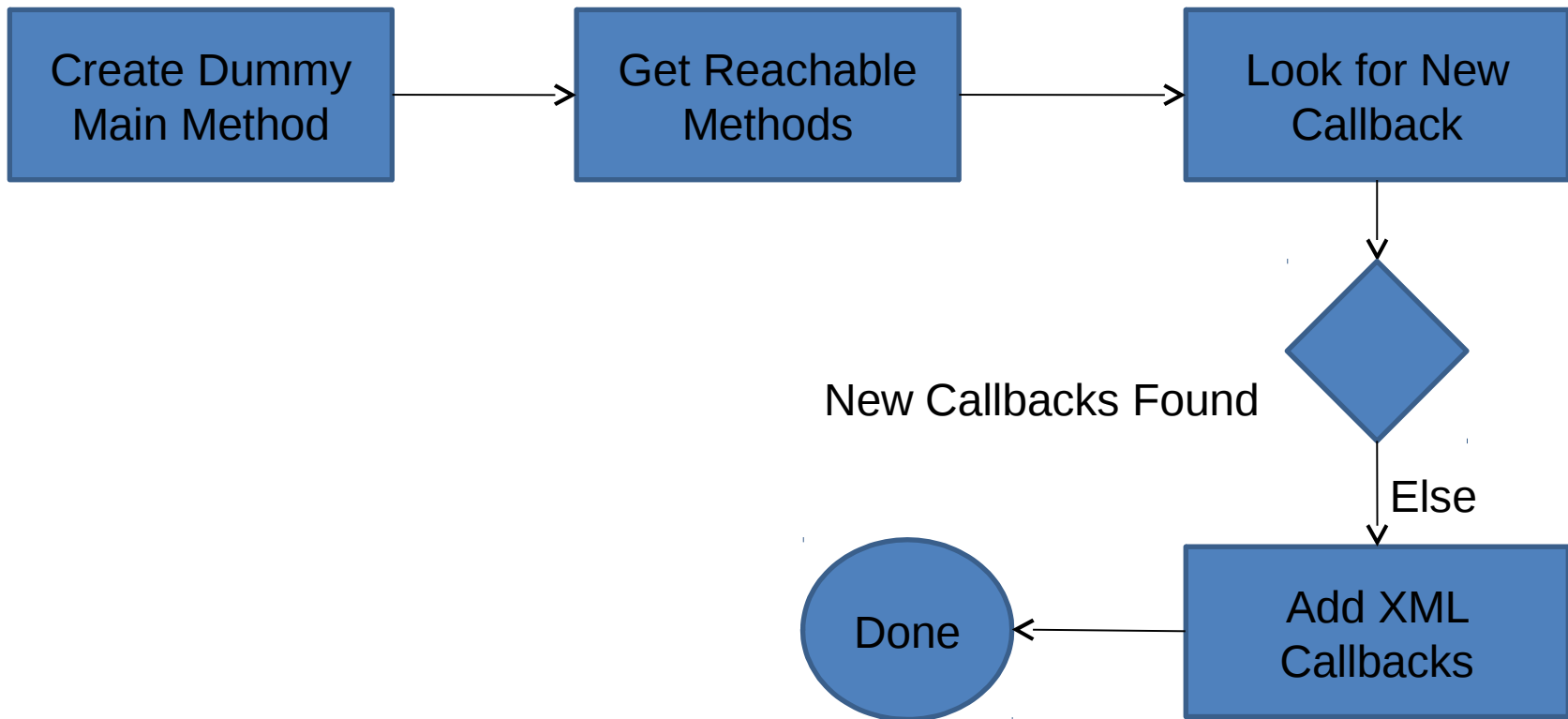
onZoomChange

# Modeling Callbacks

- Same Technique as for Lifecycle
  - Call callback methods in dummy main method
- Simplification: Callbacks never die
  - Registered from app start till termination
- Not as Easy as it Sounds
  - Callbacks that register new callbacks
  - Callbacks defined in XML files



# Modeling Callbacks



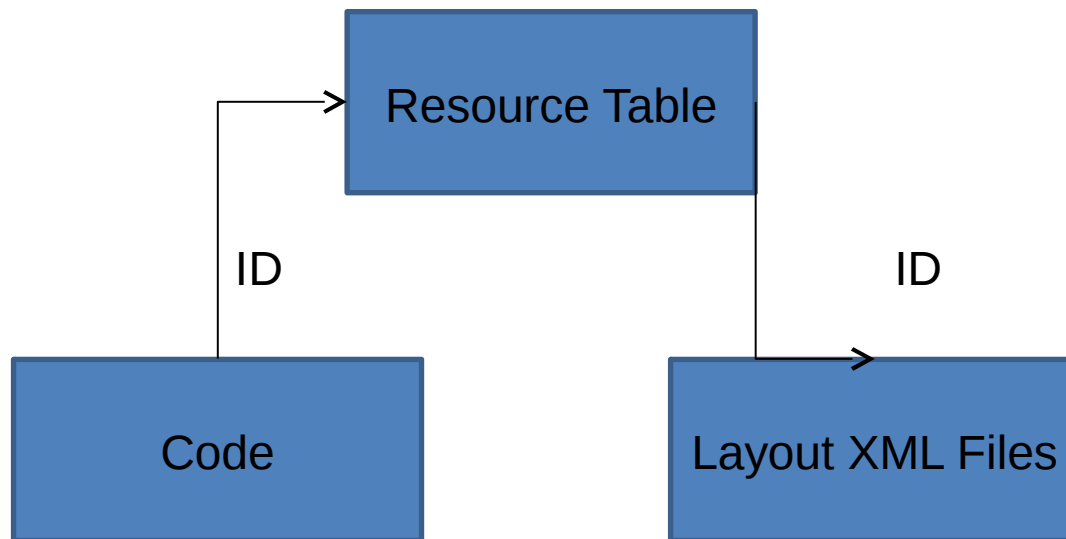
# Challenges in the Android World

- Many Sources and Sinks
  - API methods from the SuSi list (NDSS'14)
  - User Interface Controls (e.g., Password Fields)
- Scalability Issue When Running With All Sources/Sinks
  - Piggybacking source on taint abstraction won't scale
- The Android Framework is Huge
  - Analyzing the framework with every app doesn't scale
  - Need library abstractions





# Dissecting Android Apps: Layout Files



# Dissecting Android Apps: Layout Files



1. Parse The Global Resource Table
2. Parse The Layout XML Files
3. For every Layout File:
  1. Scan the code for registrations of the component ID
  2. Lookup the method ID to get the name
  3. Add the handler to the dummy main method



# Highly Precise Taint Tracking



- Based on the IFDS Framework by Reps and Horwitz
  - Idea: Data flow programs reduced to graph reachability
- Field-Sensitive
- Object-Sensitive
- Flow-Sensitive
- Context-Sensitive
  - Unlimited Depth!
  - Fix-Point iteration until no new callee-s

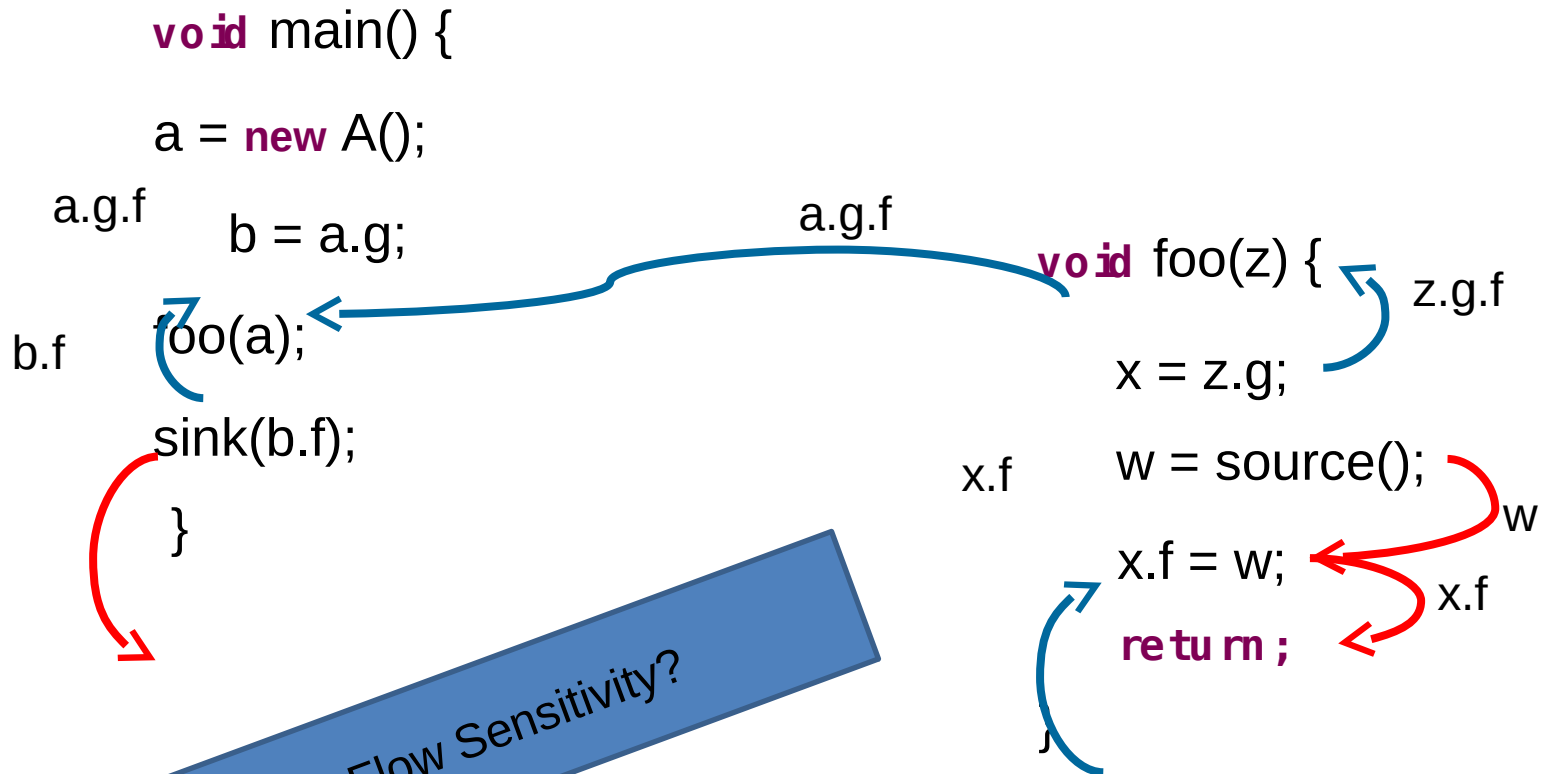
And what about aliasing?

# Highly Precise Taint Tracking



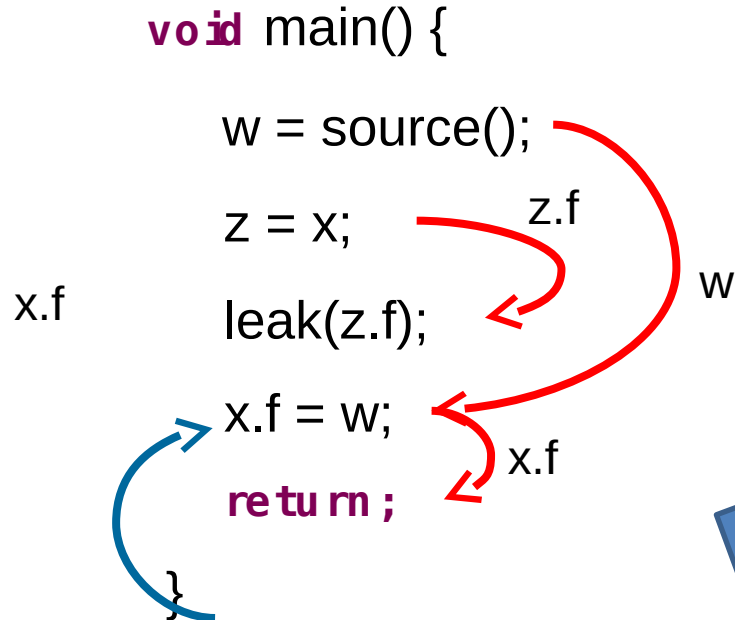
- Need an Alias Analysis With Same Precision
- Upfront Analysis Does Not Scale
- Solution: On-Demand Alias Analysis
  - Idea: Re-use same IFDS-based analysis
  - Two interleaved solvers
  - Technique adapted from Andromeda by Tripp et al.  
*(in: Fundamental Approaches to Software Engineering)*

# Highly Precise Taint Tracking



Flow Sensitivity?

# Highly Precise Taint Tracking



Need to remember when taint becomes "live"

We call it "Activation Statement"

# DroidBench – Benchmarks for Android



- Compare Static/Dynamic Analysis Tools for Android
- Open Source
- You're Welcome to Contribute!



# DroidBench – Benchmarks for Android

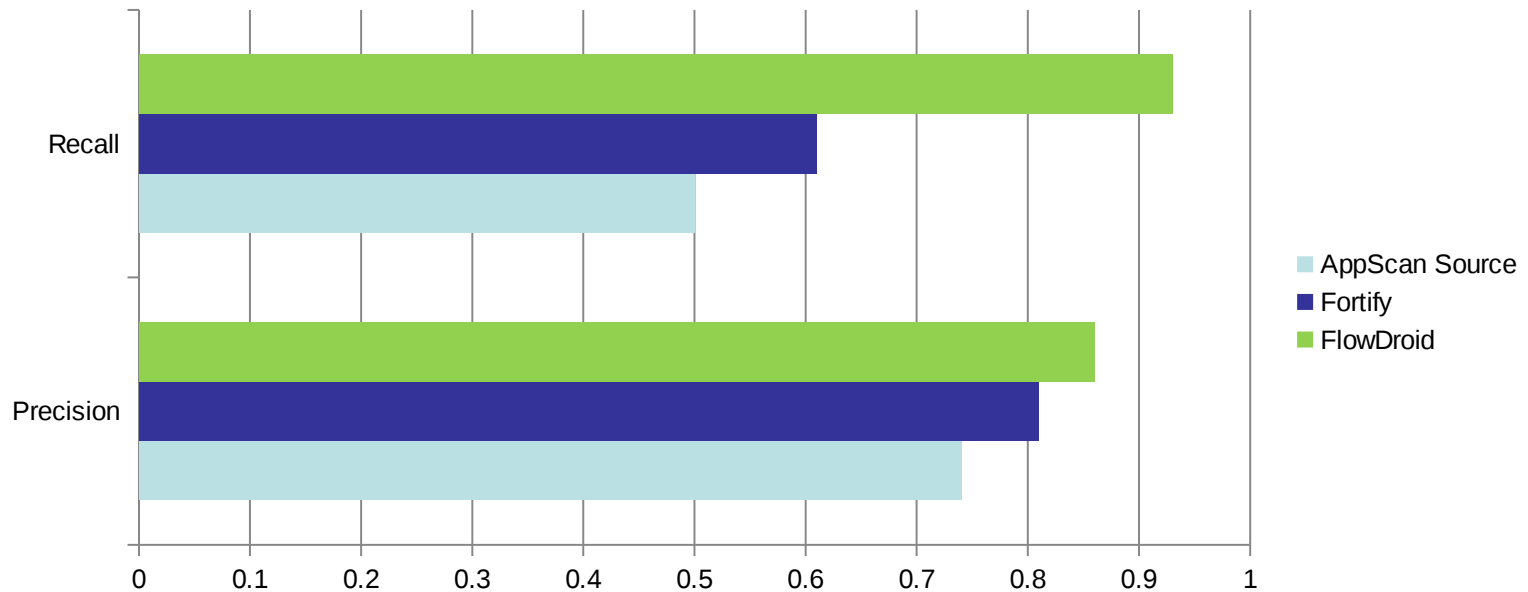


- 64 Test Cases So Far
  - Arrays and Lists
  - Callbacks
  - Field And Object Sensitivity
  - Inter-App Communcation
  - Lifecycle
  - General Java
  - Miscellaneous Android-Specific
  - Implicit Flows
  - Reflection





# FlowDroid vs. The Rest on DroidBench



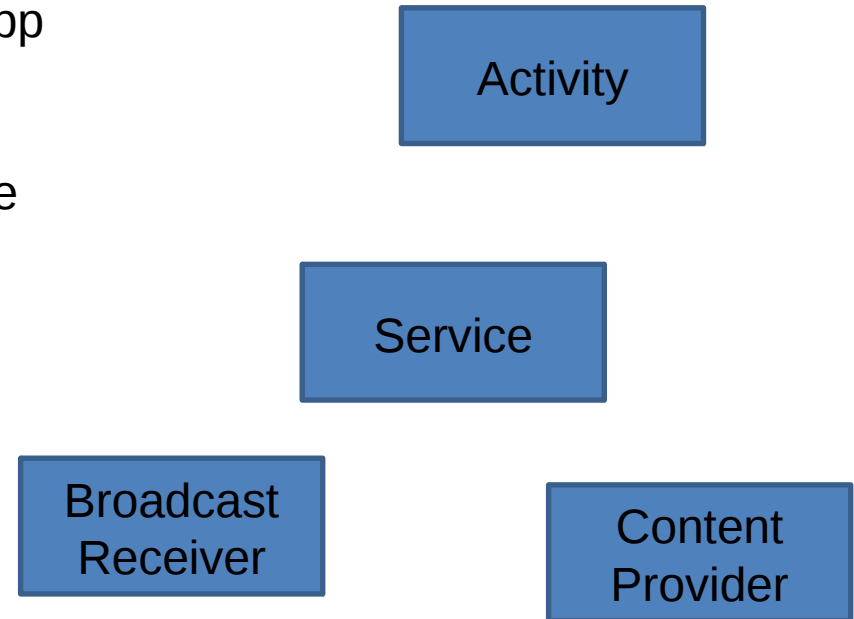
# Future Work



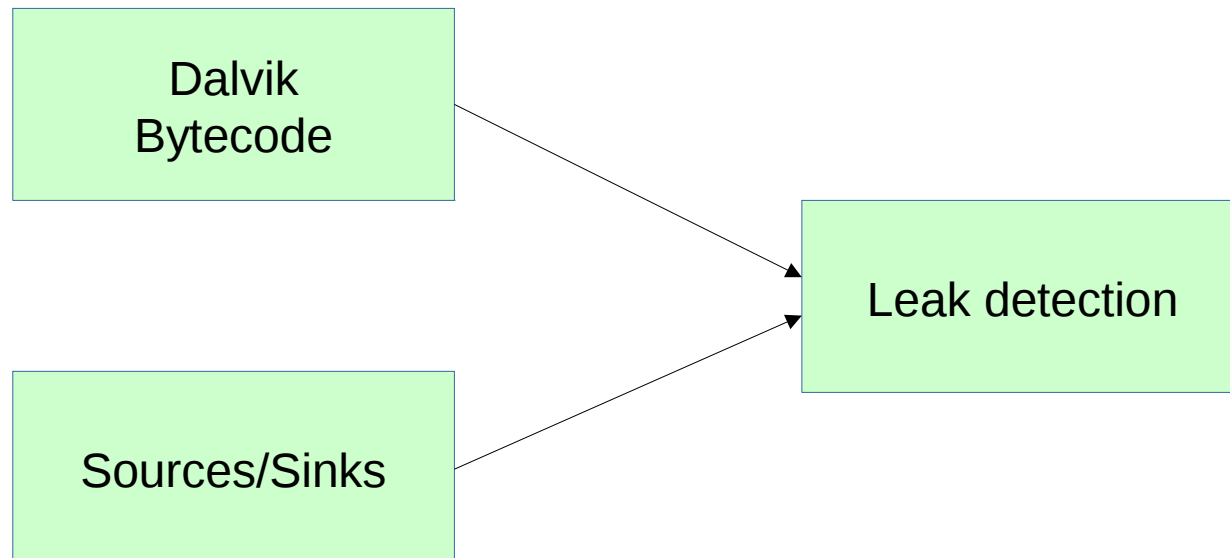
- Native Code
  - Currently under-approximated by default
  - NativeCallHandler interface for custom implementations
- Library Functions
  - TaintPropagationHandler interface
  - Default implementation: Simple rules
  - More clever solution under submission
- More Efficient Callgraph Algorithms



- Inter-Component Communication
  - 320 different activities in Facebook app
  - Support for static fields
  - Communication using intents possible
  - Solution under submission



Arzt, S., Rasthofer, S., Fritz, C., Bodden, E., Bartel, A., Klein, J., ... & McDaniel, P. (2014, June). Flowdroid: Precise context, flow, field, object-sensitive and lifecycle-aware taint analysis for android apps. In Proceedings of the 35th ACM SIGPLAN Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation (p. 29). ACM.



# The End



Dexpler <http://www.abartel.net/dexpler/>  
Soot <https://github.com/Sable/soot>  
SuSi <http://sseblog.ec-spride.de/tools/susi/>  
FlowDroid <http://sseblog.ec-spride.de/tools/flowdroid/>  
Epicc <http://siis.cse.psu.edu/epicc/>  
IccTA <https://sites.google.com/site/icctawebpage/>  
DroidForce <https://github.com/secure-software-engineering/DroidForce>

Alexandre Bartel

Center for Advanced Security Research Darmstadt (CASED)

Secure Software Engineering Group (EC-SPRIDE)

Email: [alexandre.bartel@cased.de](mailto:alexandre.bartel@cased.de)