TWC: Small: Emerging Attacks Against the Mobile Web and Novel Proxy Technologies for Their Containment



Problem:

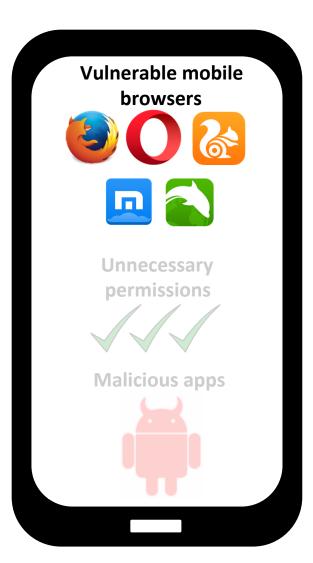
- Mobile browsers widely used and vulnerable to many traditional and new attacks
 - Especially due to limited screen real state
- Need novel solutions to uncover vulnerabilities and mitigate attacks

Two-Part Solution:

- Uncover browser vulnerabilities: browser-agnostic, fully automated and pluggable browser testing framework
- Attack Mitigation: proxy- and virtualization-based modular framework for on-the-fly traffic inspection

Challenges:

- 100s of browser families with different UIs and behavior
- 10s of versions per browser family
- 10s of Android SDK versions
- Need to balance security vs. privacy in proxy-based traffic inspection



Mobile Security Ecosystem

Scientific Impact:

- Advance the community's understanding of mobile web attacks
- Reusable testing framework to be used for continuous testing of new browser apps and always up-to-date security statistics
- Research into accurate and performant detection of mobile attacks using cloud-based emulators

Broader Impact:

- Increase the security of mobile browsers and strengthen a user's trust of the web platform
- Protect users of mobile devices who no longer receive OEMcontrolled updates

Award Number: 1617593 (2016 – 2019) Institution: Stony Brook University

Nick Nikiforakis (<u>nick@cs.stonybrook.edu</u>)

Nima Honarmand

(nhonarmand@cs.stonybrook.edu)