



# CISPA

HELMHOLTZ CENTER FOR  
INFORMATION SECURITY

# JAW: Studying Client-side CSRF with Hybrid Property Graphs and Declarative Traversals

Soheil Khodayari and Giancarlo Pellegrino

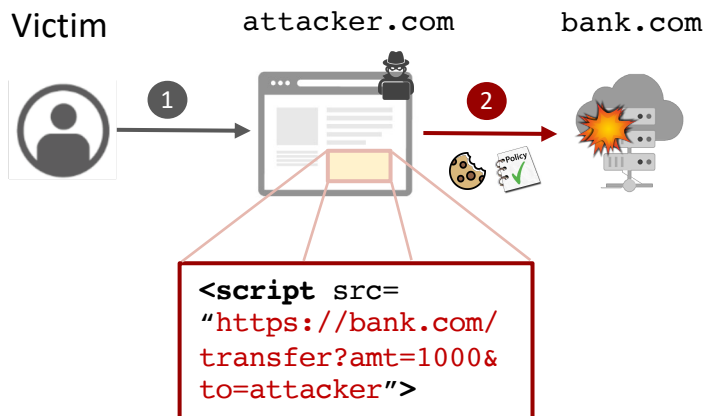
CISPA Helmholtz Center for Information Security

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SCAN ME



# Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)



Robust defenses already known:

- Referrer/Origin Checks

```
getOrigin(req2) != bank.com
```

- Hard-to-guess tokens

```
getToken(req2) != CSRFToken
```

- SameSite Cookies

- *SameSite=Lax* by default

```
isAuthenticated(req2) != True
```

# Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

Robust defenses already known:

- Referrer/Origin Checks

```
getOrigin(req1) != bank.com
```

```
token
```

Are **CSRF** attacks solved?

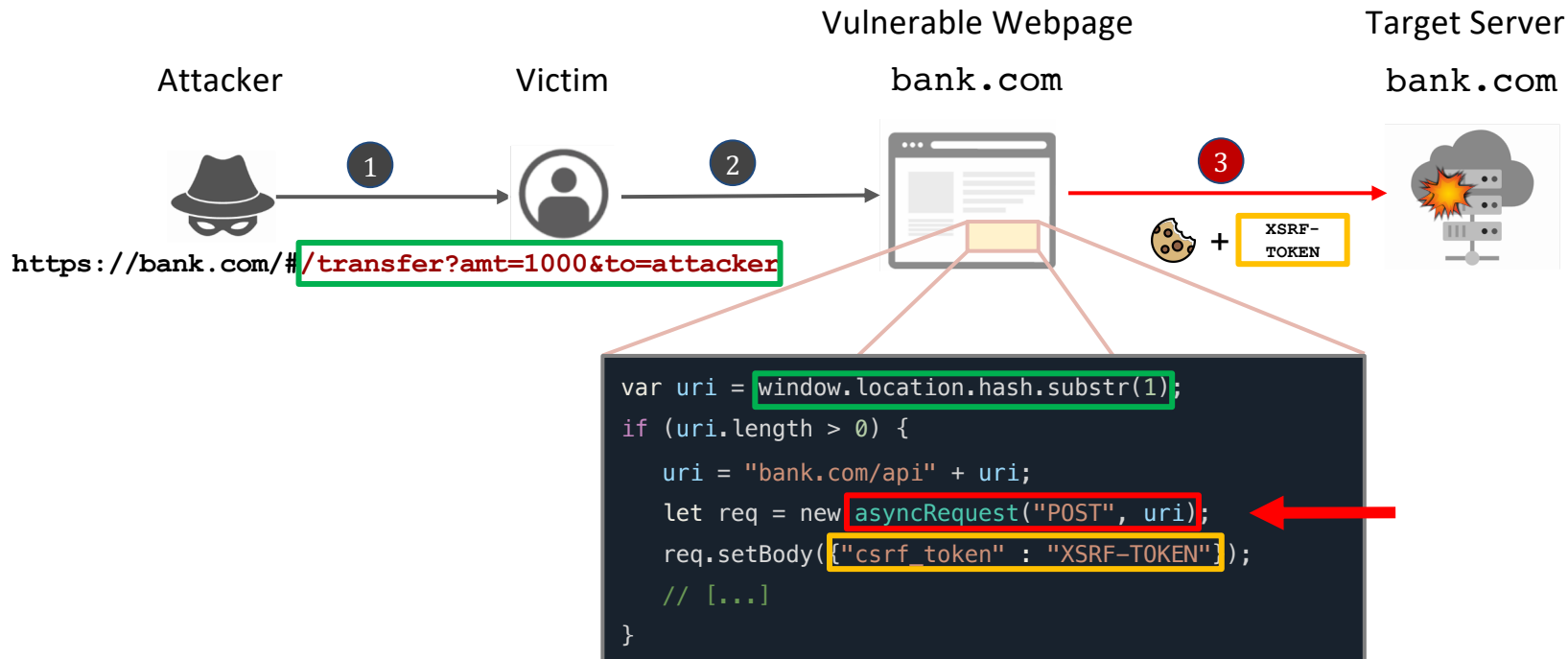
```
"https://bank.com/  
transfer?amt=1000&  
to=attacker">
```

- SameSite Cookies

- *SameSite=Lax* by default

```
isAuthenticated(req2) != True
```

# Client-side CSRF



- Limited knowledge about client-side CSRF.
  - Facebook in 2018<sup>1</sup>
- **Objective:** studying client-side CSRF vulnerabilities
  - **(RQ1)** Prevalence of client-side CSRF in webapps?
  - **(RQ2)** Attacker models and exploitations?
  - **(RQ3)** Degree of attacker control?
    - E.g., **path**, **query**, **domain**, **body**

```
POST /path/file.php?q=v\r\n
Host: example.com\r\n
\r\n
{body}
```

**Challenge:** analysis of JavaScript programs to study client-side CSRF is not an easy task.

**(C1)** Canonical representation for JavaScript

**(C2)** Event-based transfer of control

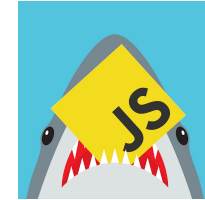
**(C3)** Dynamic web execution environment

**(C4)** Modeling shared third-party code

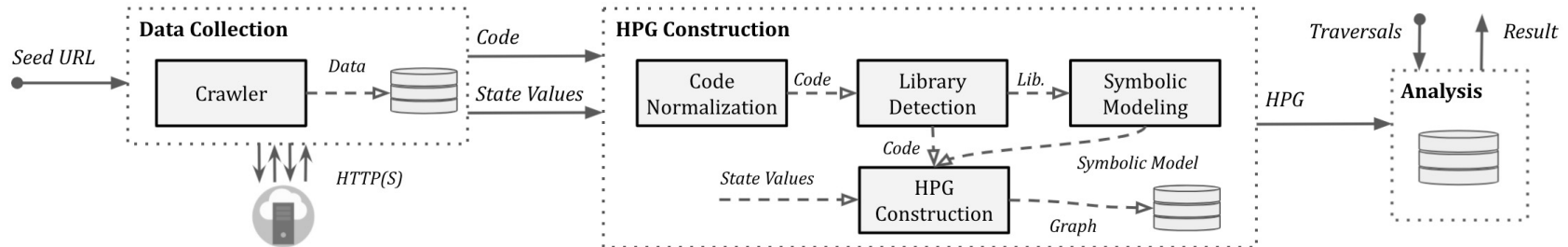
<sup>1</sup> **Source:** [facebook.com/notes/996734990846339/](https://facebook.com/notes/996734990846339/)

# Approach Overview: JAW

- A scalable, graph-based framework for detection and exploratory analysis of client-side CSRF vulnerabilities
- Components
  - Data Collection
  - Graph Construction
  - Analysis Traversals



<https://soheilkhodayari.github.io/JAW>

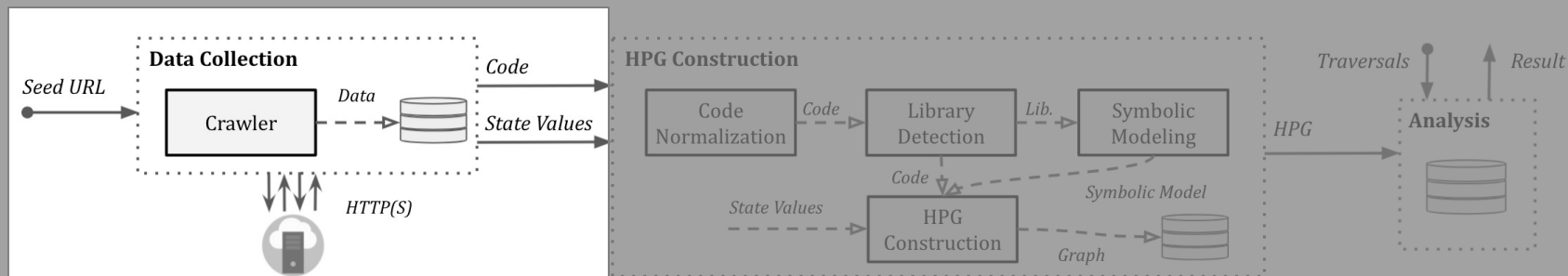


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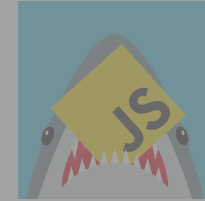


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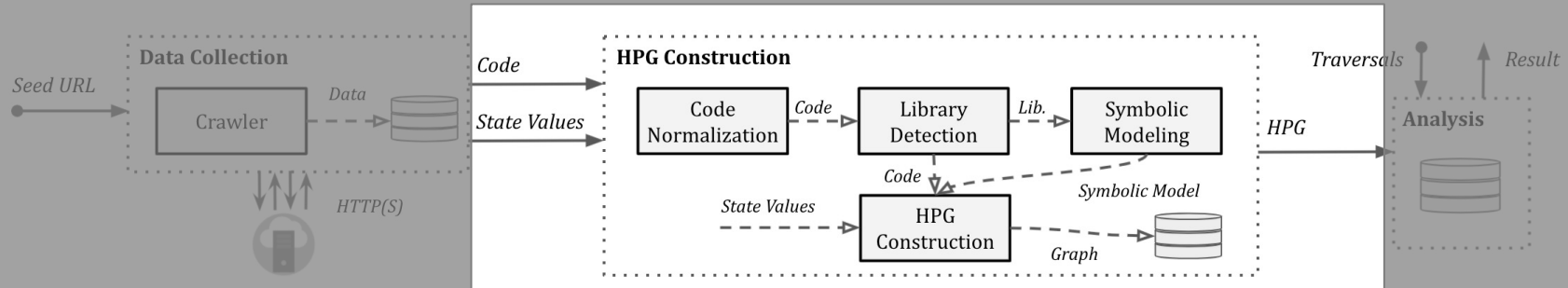


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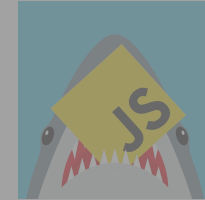
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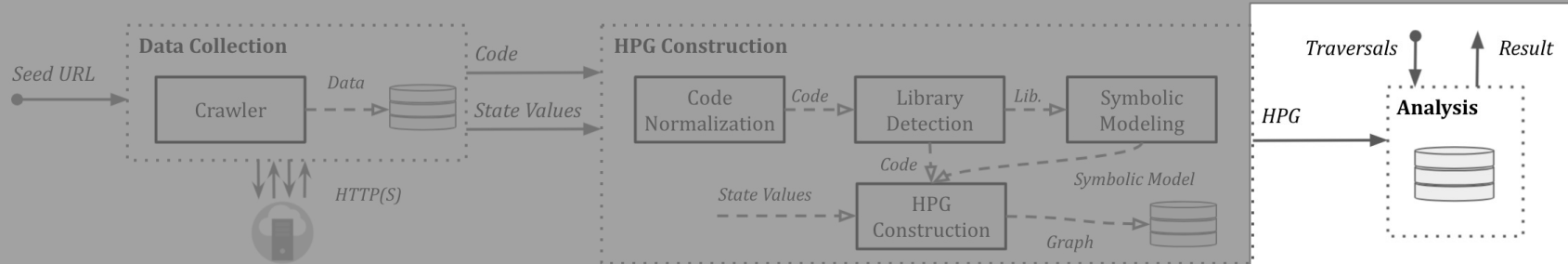


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# Hybrid Property Graphs (HPGs): Building Blocks

- **Code Representation (Static)**

- Abstract Syntax Tree (AST)
- Control Flow Graph (CFG)
- Program Dependence Graph (PDG)
- Inter-Procedural Call Graph (IPCG)
- Event Registration, Dispatch and Dependency Graph (ERDDG)
- Semantic Types and Symbolic Models

CPG for C/C++  
[Yamaguchi et al,  
S&P'14]

CPG for PHP  
[Bakes et al.,  
EuroS&P'17]

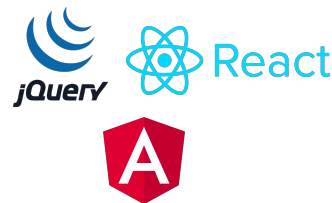
HPG for  
JavaScript

- **State Values (Dynamic)**

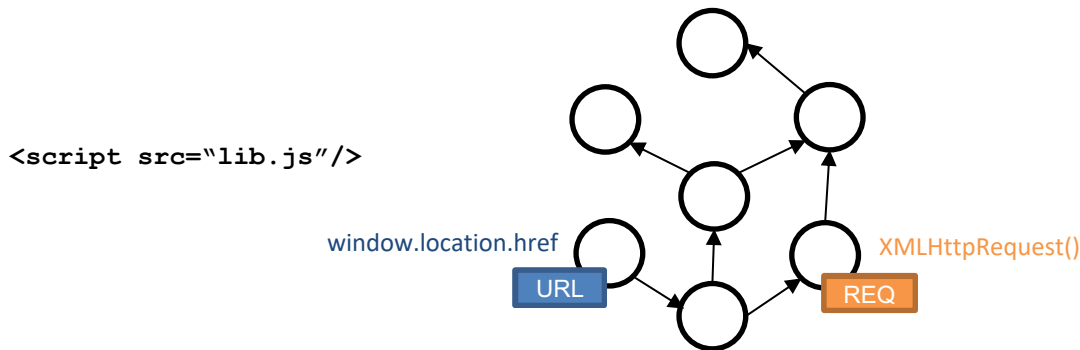
- Event Traces
- Environment Properties

# Symbolic Models and Semantic Types Propagation

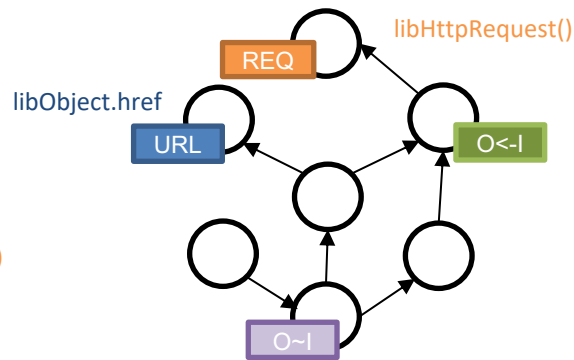
- External libraries: over 60% of the total LoC of each webpage.
- Problem:**
  - Existing approaches: Inefficient, include library code in the analysis
- Idea:** Shared models for JS libraries



HPG for lib.js



Symbolic Model for lib.js



# Evaluation: Forgeable Requests

- Evaluated JAW with all webapps from the [Bitnami](#) catalog
  - [106 webapps](#)
  - [228M LoC](#)
- Detected [12,701](#) forgeable requests affecting [87](#) webapps

## Exploitations

- Manually looked for practical exploitations in [516](#) requests
- Created exploits for [203](#) requests of [seven](#) webapps
  - SuiteCRM, SugarCRM, Neos, Kibana, Modx, Odoo, and Shopware
  - Account takeover, deleting user assets, ...

| Input Source           | Forgeable | Apps |
|------------------------|-----------|------|
| DOM.COOKIE             | 67        | 5    |
| DOM.READ               | 12,268    | 83   |
| *-Storage              | 76        | 8    |
| DOC.REFERRER           | 1         | 1    |
| POST-MESSAGE           | 8         | 8    |
| WIN.NAME               | 1         | 1    |
| WIN.LOC                | 280       | 12   |
| <b>Total Forgeable</b> | 12,701    | 87   |
| Total Requests         | 49,366    | 106  |

# Evaluation: Analysis of Forgeable Requests

- Exploitation landscape can be influenced by:
  - Type of controllable fields
  - Operation to forge a field
- Identified **25 distinct templates**. For example:
  - 185/ 516 requests: manipulate any part of **domain** + **path** + **query**
  - 20/ 516 requests: manipulate multiple parts of **path** + **body**
  - 166/ 516 requests: manipulate a single part of **body**
  - See the paper for more

```
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\r\n
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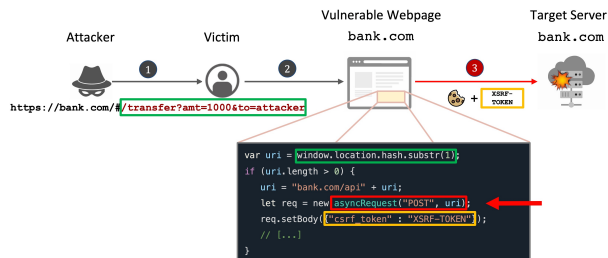
| Outgoing HTTP Request |      |       |      |      | Total   |      |
|-----------------------|------|-------|------|------|---------|------|
| Dom.                  | Path | Query | Body | Part | Reqs    | Apps |
|                       |      | ✓     |      | One  | 16      | 11   |
|                       |      |       | ✓    | One  | 5       | 5    |
|                       |      |       | ✓    | One  | (*) 166 | 25   |
|                       |      |       | ✓    | One  | 1       | 1    |
|                       |      |       | ✓    | One  | 28      | 1    |
|                       |      |       | ✓    | One  | 7       | 7    |
|                       |      |       | ✓    | One  | 6       | 6    |
|                       | ✓    |       |      | One  | 11      | 11   |
|                       | ✓    |       |      | One  | 4       | 1    |
|                       | ✓    |       |      | One  | (*) 20  | 1    |
|                       |      | ✓     |      | One  | 6       | 1    |
|                       |      |       | ✓    | One  | 2       | 1    |
|                       |      |       | ✓    | One  | 7       | 7    |
|                       |      |       | ✓    | One  | 2       | 2    |
|                       |      |       | ✓    | One  | 3       | 3    |

# Conclusion



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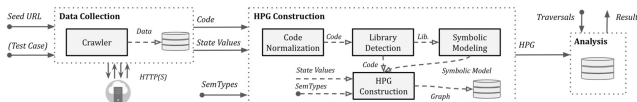
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# Thank You!

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