

ConScript

**Specifying and Enforcing Fine-Grained Security Policies
for JavaScript in the Browser**

Leo Meyerovich
UC Berkeley

Benjamin Livshits
Microsoft Research

Web Programmability Platform



yelp.com



The screenshot shows a search results page for 'Capitol Hill Seattle' on yelp.com. At the top, there are filters for Neighborhoods (Downtown, University District, Capitol Hill, Belltown), Distance (Bird's-eye View, Driving (5 mi.), Biking (2 mi.), Walking (1 mi.), Within 4 blocks), Features (Open Now (10:46pm), Free Wi-Fi, Outdoor Seating, Take-out), Price (\$\$\$\$ to \$), and Category (Coffee & Tea, Sandwiches, Gay Bars, Breakfast & Brunch). The results list includes:

- Corn Crepes**: 4.5 stars, 117 reviews. Address: 421 6th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98104. Phone: (206) 652-0637. Description: "love this place. I really do. The crepes are really good, watch them make each individual crepe with love and care".
- Faire Argento**: 4 stars, 27 reviews. Address: 1351 East Olive Way, Seattle, WA. Neighborhood: Capitol Hill. Phone: (206) 652-0781. Price: \$. Description: "makes a comfortable atmosphere at a cafe? For me I like the living room cafes with couches, inge chairs, rugs, board games chess, and your misc vintage furniture. Sometimes the vintage touch".
- Faire Ladro**: 4 stars, 38 reviews. Address: 435 15th Avenue E, Seattle, WA 98102. Phone: (206) 267-0551.

A map of Seattle is shown on the right, with numbered pins (1-7) indicating the locations of the businesses listed above. The map is powered by Google Maps.



openid.net

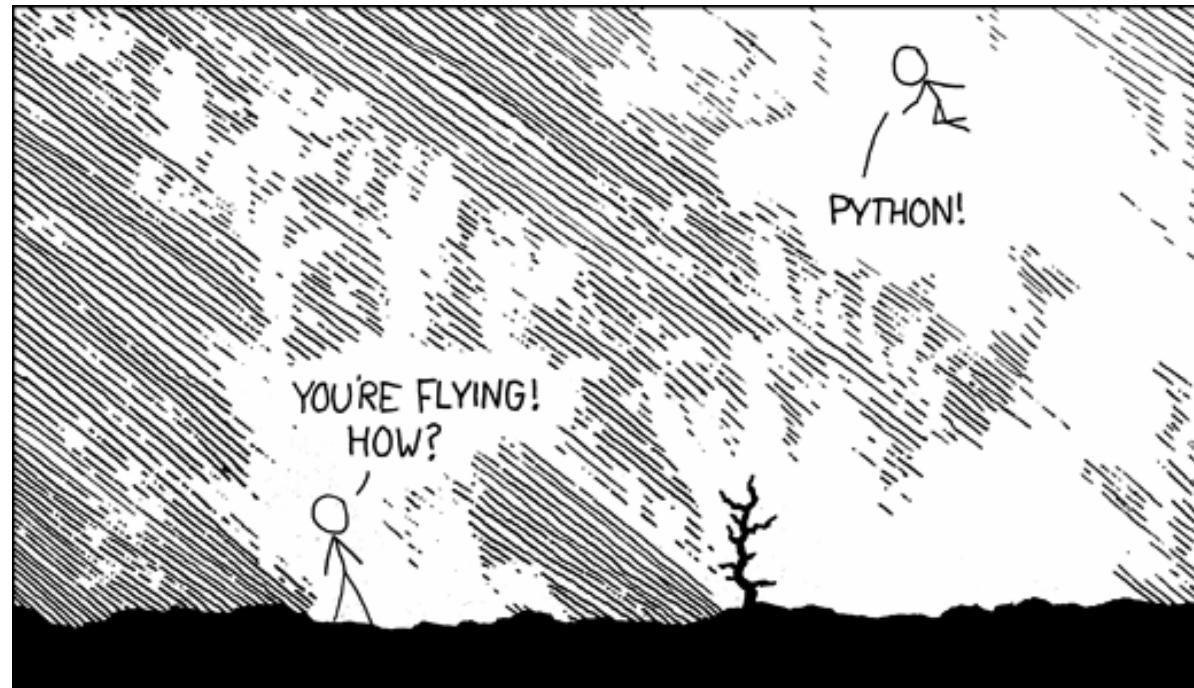


adsense.com



Google maps

Rich Internet Applications are Dynamic



Yelp.com:
main.js
... jQuery.js
... adSense.js
... GoogleMaps.js
... OpenID_API.js

flexible runtime composition

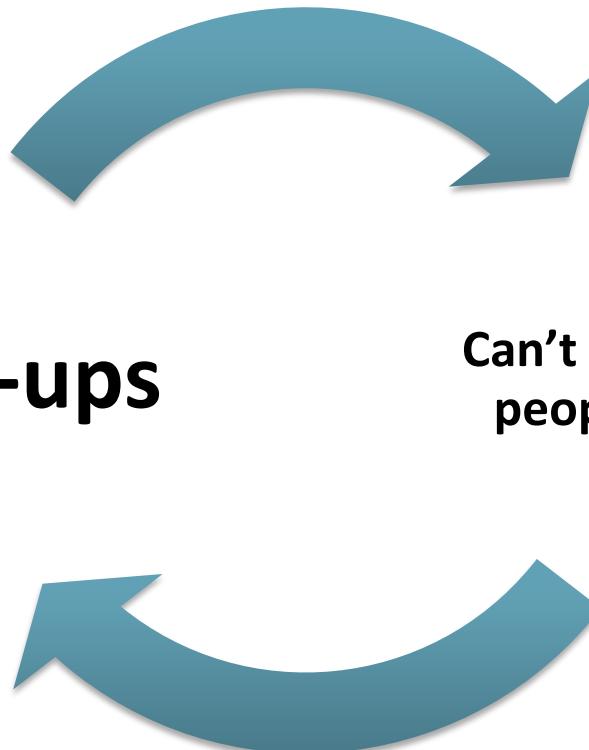
... but little control.

Towards Safe Programmability for the Web



Mash-ups

**Can't trust other
people's code**



Goals and Contributions

control loading
and use of scripts

- protect benign users
- by giving control to hosting site
- ConScript approach: aspects for security

express many
policies *safely*

- 17 hand-written policies
- correct policies are hard to write
- proposed type system to catch common attacks
- implemented 2 policy generators

browser support

- built into IE 8 JavaScript interpreter
- runtime and space overheads under 1% (vs. 30-550%)
- smaller trusted computing base (TCB)

approach
protect benign users by giving control
to the hosting site
: aspects for security

ConScript

- Approach
 - protect benign Web users
 - give control to the hosting site
- How
 - Browser-supported aspects for security

Contributions of ConScript

A case for aspects in browser

- protect benign users by giving control to hosting site
- ConScript approach: aspects for security
- built into IE 8 JavaScript interpreter

Correctness checking

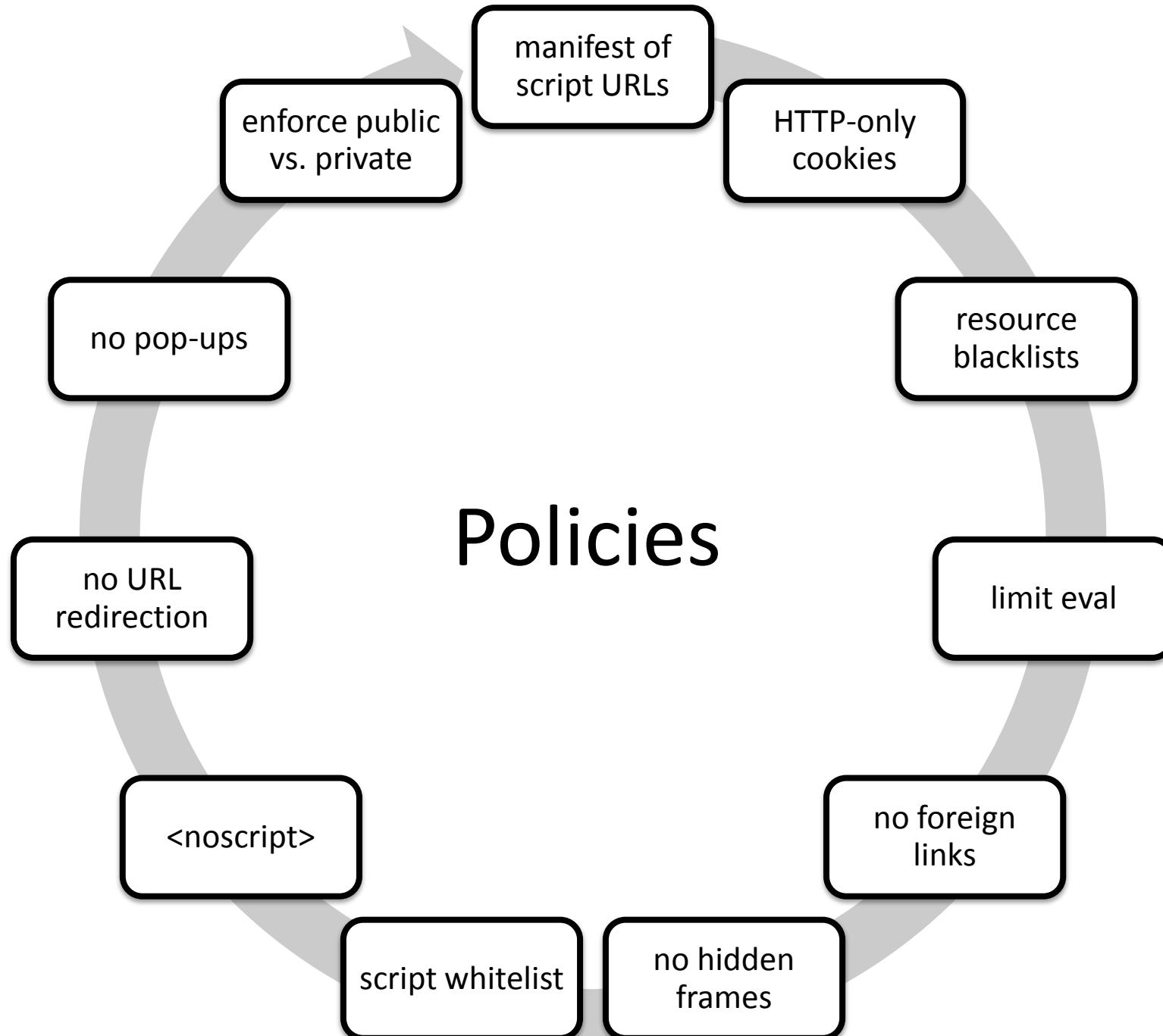
- Policies are easy to get wrong
- Type system to ensure policy correctness

Expressiveness

- 17 hand-written policies
- Comprehensive catalog of policies from literature and practice
- implemented 2 policy generators

Evaluation

- Tested on real apps: Google Maps, Live Desktop, etc.
- runtime and space overheads under 1% (vs. 30-550%)
- smaller trusted computing base (TCB)



CONSCRIPT aspects

implementing aspects in IE8

checking CONSCRIPT policies

generating CONSCRIPT policies

performance

No `postMessage`: A Simple Policy?

Wrapping: [[Caja, DoCoMo, AOJS, lightweightjs, Web Sandbox, ...]]

```
window.postMessage = function () {};  
frame1.postMessage("msg", "evil.com")
```

Aspects: [[AspectJ]]

```
void around(String msg, String uri) :  
call DOM.postMessage(String m, String u)  
{ /* do nothing instead of call */ }
```

... no classes in JavaScript / DOM ...

Specifying Calls using References

[Object
window]

postMessage

[Object
frame]

postMessage

```
function () {  
    throw 'exn';  
}
```

```
around(window.postMessage,  
       function () { throw 'exn' ; } );
```

ConScript Interface

1. Functions

DOM: `aroundExt(postMessage, function (pm2, m, uri) { ... });`

JS: `aroundNat(eval, function (eval, str) { ... });`

User-defined: `aroundFnc(foo, function (foo2, arg1) { ... });`

2. Script introduction

<script>: `aroundScr(function (src) { return src + ';' + pol;});`

inline: `aroundInl(function (src) { return src + ';' + pol;});`

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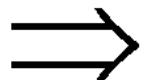
performance

Problem: Implementation?

Source Rewriting

[[aojs, docomo, caja, sandbox, fbjs]]

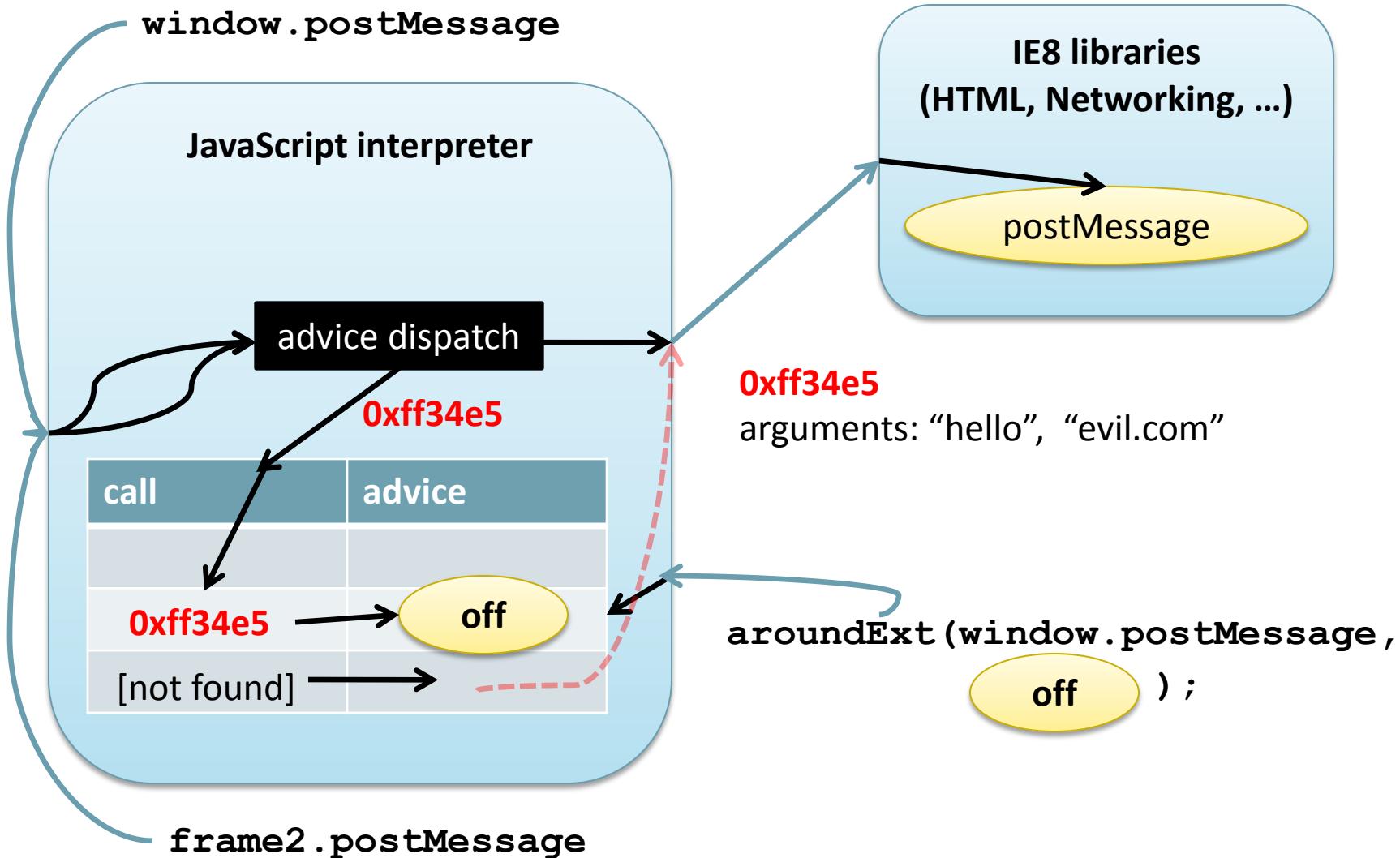
```
function f () { ... }
```



```
function f () {<before> ... <after>}
```

- ⌚ 50%-450% more to transfer, 30-70% slowdown
- ⌚ limited: native (DOM) functions, dynamic code?
- ⌚ big assumptions: adds parser to TCB, ...

Mediating DOM Functions



Resuming Calls

```
function foo () { }
```

```
function foo () { }
```

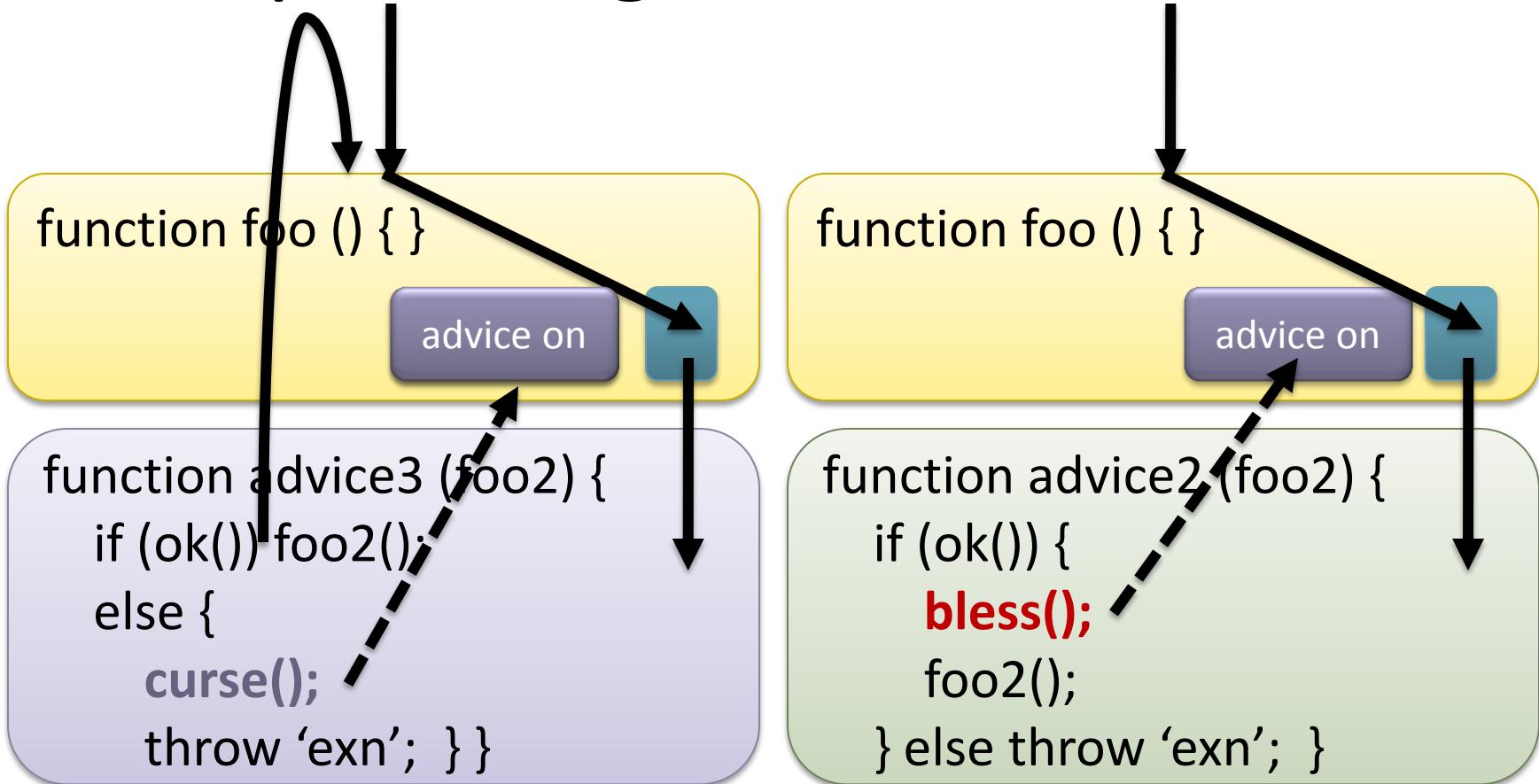
```
function advice1 (foo2) {  
    if (ok()) {  
  
        foo2();  
    } else throw 'exn'; }
```

```
function advice2(foo2) {  
    if (ok()) {  
        bless();  
        foo2();  
    } else throw 'exn'; }
```

advice off

bless() temporarily disables advice for next call

Optimizing the Critical Path



- calling advice turns advice off for next call
- `curse()` enables advice for next call

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Basic Usage

script
whitelist

Yel

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING

Policies are written in a small JavaScript subset.

Applications only lose a few dangerous features.

```
<script src="main.js" policy="noEval()"/>
```

Policy Integrity

Objects defined with policy constructors do not flow out

Old Policy

```
around(postMessage, function (m, url) {  
    w = {"msn.com": true};  
    ...  
});
```

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policy object: must protect
unknown: do not pass privileged objects!

Policy Integrity

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Old Policy

```
around(postMessage, function (m, url) {  
  w = {"msn.com": true};  
  ...  
});
```

User Exploit

```
postMessage("", "msn.com");  
w["evil.com"] = 1;  
postMessage("", "evil.com");
```

Policy Integrity

Objects defined with policy constructors do not flow out

New Policy

```
around(postMessage, function (m, url) {  
    var w = {"msn.com": true};  
    ...  
});
```

User Exploit

```
postMessage("", "msn.com");  
w["evil.com"] = 1;  
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Policy Integrity

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New Policy

```
around(postMessage, function (m, url) {  
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```

policy object: must protect
unknown: do not pass privileged objects!

Maintaining Integrity

1. Policy objects do not leak out of policies
 2. Access path integrity of calls (no prototype hijacking)
- ML-style type inference
 - ☹ basic
 - ☺ program unmodified
 - ☺ only manually tested on policies
 - JavaScript interpreter support
 - `call(ctx, fnc, arg1, ...), hasOwnProperty(obj, “fld”)`
 - `caller`

Transparency

- If running with policies throws no errors
 - ... for same input, running without should be safe
 - empty advice should not be functionally detectable
- Difficult with wrapping or rewriting
 - `Function.prototype.apply`, `exn.stacktrace`, `myFunctioncallee`,
`arguments.caller`, `myFunction.toString`, `Function.prototype.call`
 - correctness vs. compatibility vs. performance ...
- Simpler at interpreter level
 - rest up to developer
 - no proof

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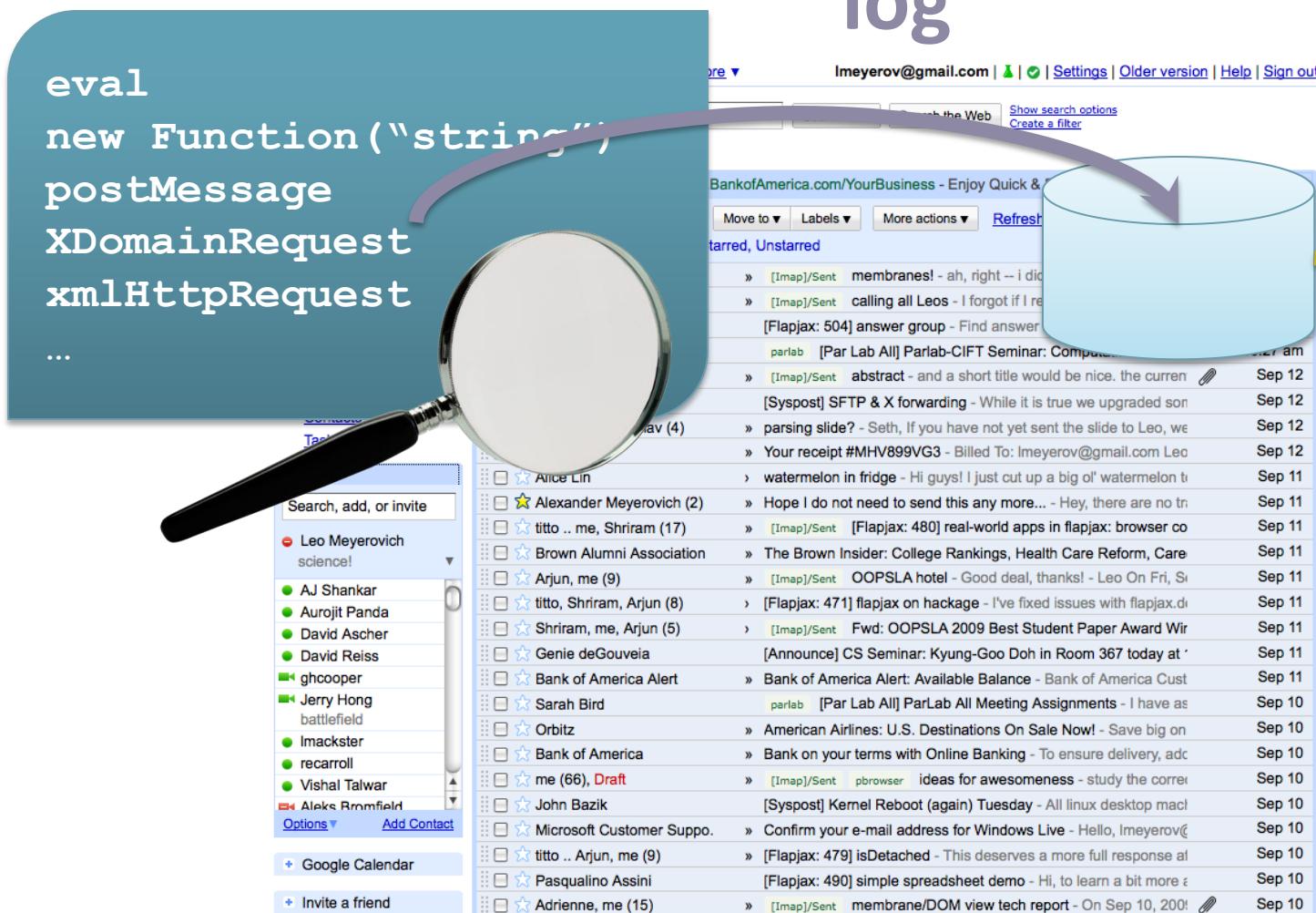
generating ConSCRIPT policies

performance

Automatically Generating Policies

- Intrusion detection
 - can we infer and disable unneeded DOM functions?
- C# access modifiers
 - can we enforce access modifiers like *private*?
- ASP policies
 - can we guarantee no scripts get run in <% echo %>?

Intrusion Detection 1: Learn Blacklist



Intrusion Detection 2: Enforce Blacklist



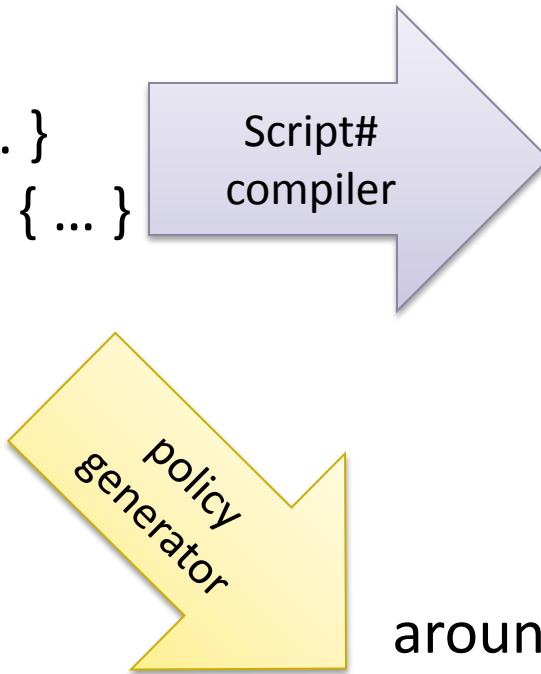
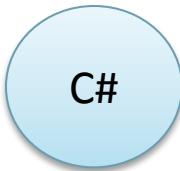
The image shows a screenshot of a Gmail inbox. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'Search Mail', 'Search the Web', 'Show search options', and 'Create a filter'. Below the navigation bar, the inbox lists 1 - 50 of 14193 messages, ordered by 'Oldest'.

The inbox contains several messages from various senders, including:

- membranes! - ah, right -- i didn't yet because the pn
- calling all Leos - I forgot if I replied -- but yes on all a
- [Flapjax: 504] answer group - Find answer for any question here l
- parlab [Par Lab All] Parlab-CIFT Seminar: Computational Finan
- abstract - and a short title would be nice. the curren
- [Systpost] SFTP & X forwarding - While it is true we upgraded son
- parsing slide? - Seth, If you have not yet sent the slide to Leo, we
- Your receipt #MHV899VG3 - Billed To: Imeyerov@gmail.com Lec
- watermelon in fridge - Hi guys! I just cut up a big ol' watermelon t
- Hope I do not need to send this any more... - Hey, there are no tr
- [Flapjax: 480] real-world apps in flapjax: browser co
- The Brown Insider: College Rankings, Health Care Reform, Care
- OOPSLA hotel - Good deal, thanks! - Leo On Fri, Si
- [Flapjax: 471] flapjax on hackage - I've fixed issues with flapjax.di
- Fwd: OOPSLA 2009 Best Student Paper Award Wir
- [Announce] CS Seminar: Kyung-Goo Doh in Room 367 today at '
- Bank of America Alert: Available Balance - Bank of America Cust
- parlab [Par Lab All] ParLab All Meeting Assignments - I have as
- American Airlines: U.S. Destinations On Sale Now! - Save big on
- Bank on your terms with Online Banking - To ensure delivery, adc
- ideas for awesomeness - study the corre
- [Systpost] Kernel Reboot (again) Tuesday - All linux desktop mac
- Confirm your e-mail address for Windows Live - Hello, Imeyerov@
- [Flapjax: 479] isDetached - This deserves a more full response al
- [Flapjax: 490] simple spreadsheet demo - Hi, to learn a bit more a
- membrane/DOM view tech report - On Sep 10, 200!

Enforcing C# Access Modifiers

```
class File {  
    public File () { ... }  
    private open () { ... }  
    ...
```



```
function File () { ... }  
File.construct = ...  
File.open = ...  
...
```



```
around(File, pubEntryPoint);  
around(File.construct, pubEntryPoint);  
around(File.open, privCall);
```



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Performance

Microbenchmarks: 1.2x (vs. 3.4x)

Initialization time: 0-1%

Runtime: 0-7% (vs. 30+%)

File size blowup: < 1% (vs. 50+%)

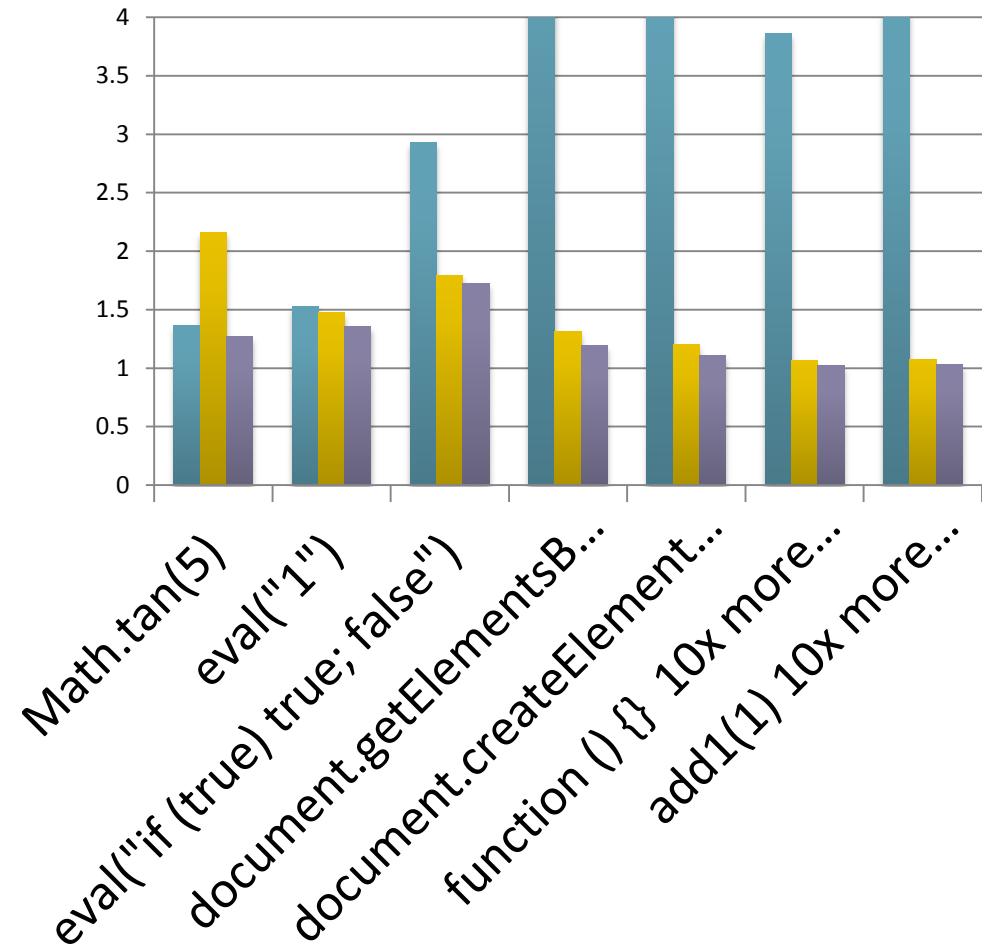
Microbenchmark: Mediation Overhead

```
var raw = obj.f;    3.42x  
obj.f = function () { raw();}
```

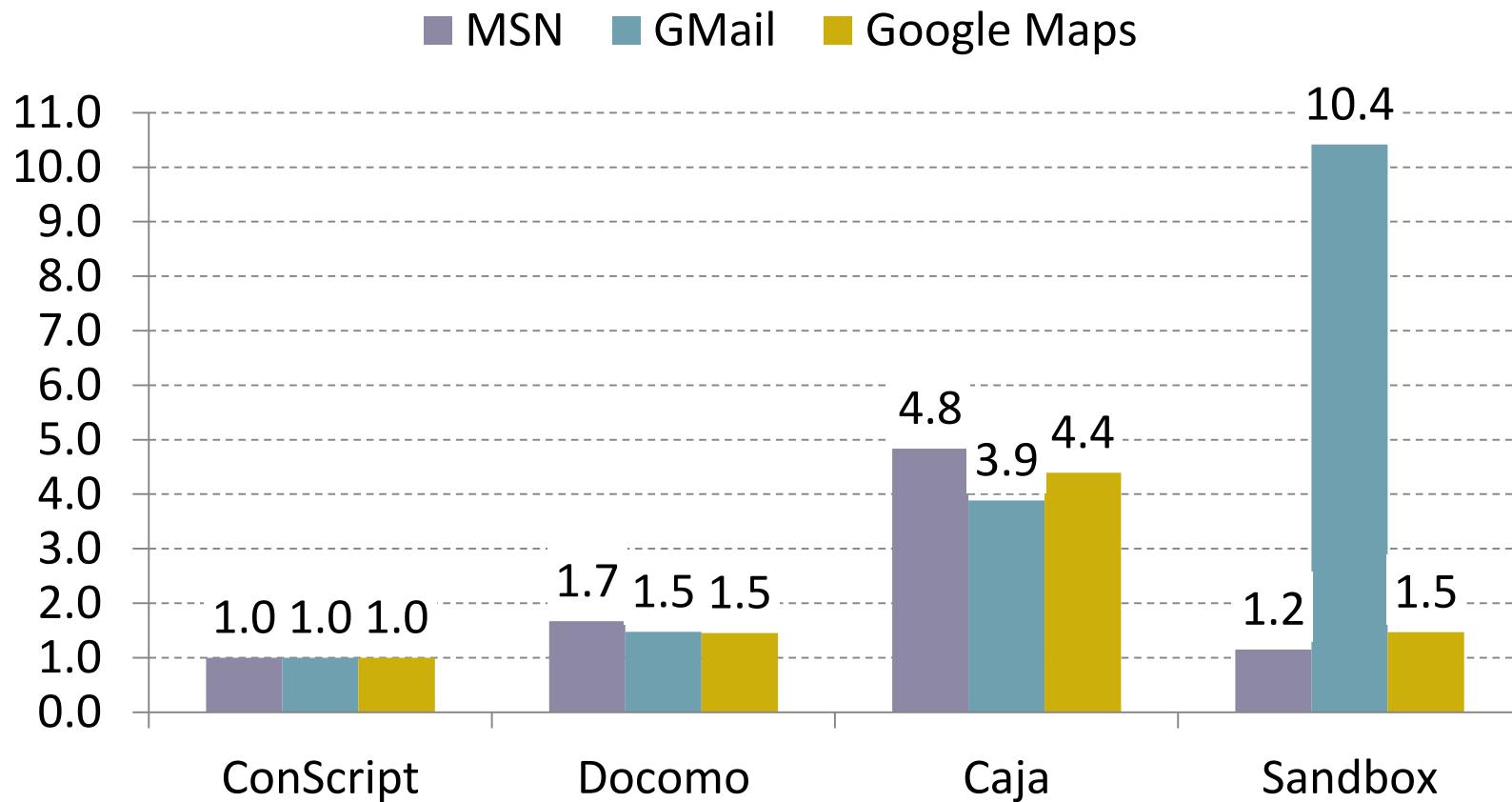
```
function advice2 {  
    bless();  
    foo2();  
}
```

```
function advice3 {  
    foo2();  
}
```

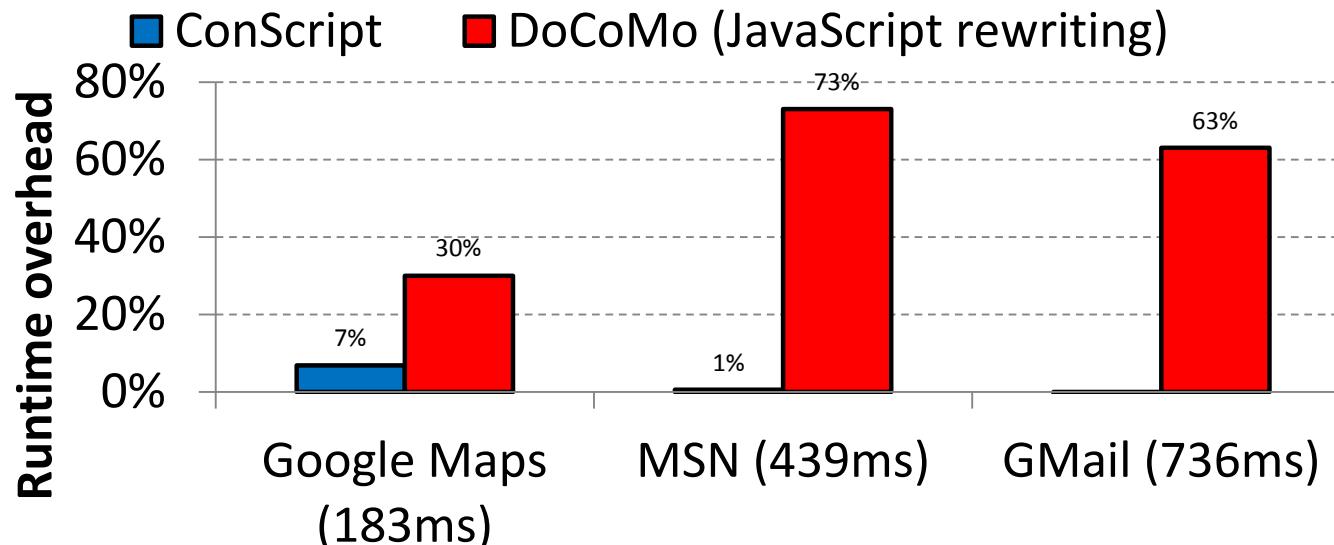
■ wrap ■ bless ■ autobless



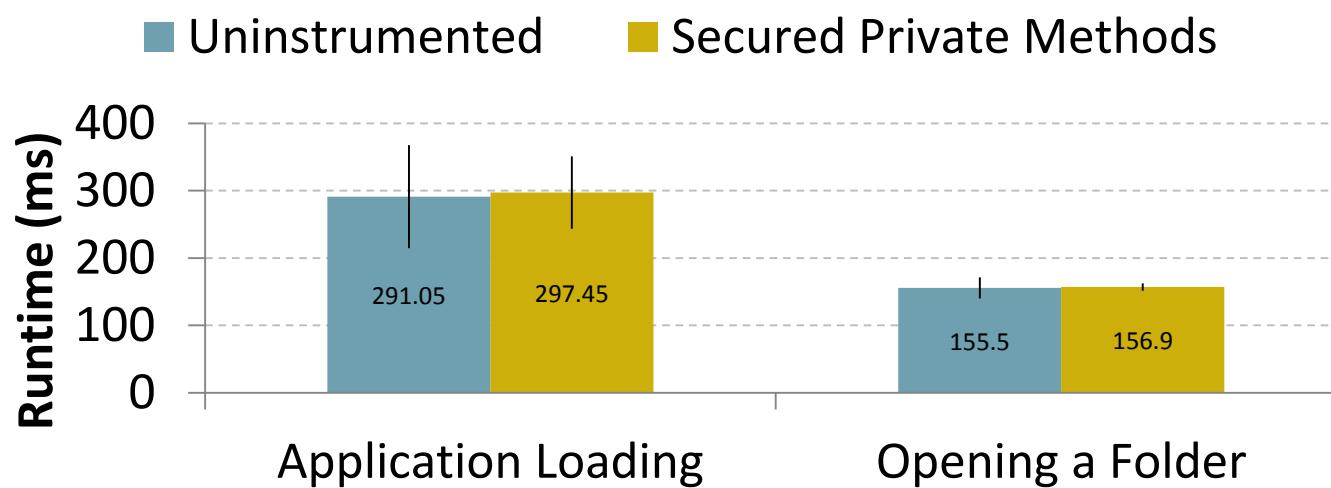
File Size Increase (IDS)



Runtime Overhead



Intrusion
Detection
System



Access
Modifier
Enforcement

Goals and Contributions

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and use of scripts

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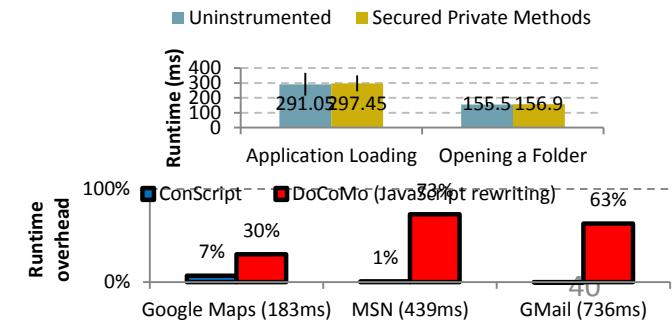
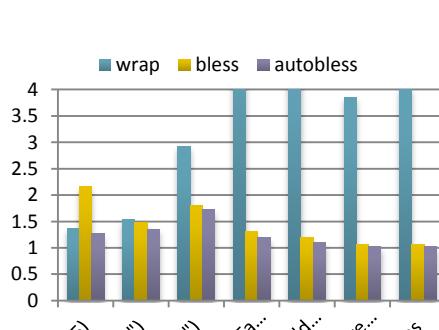
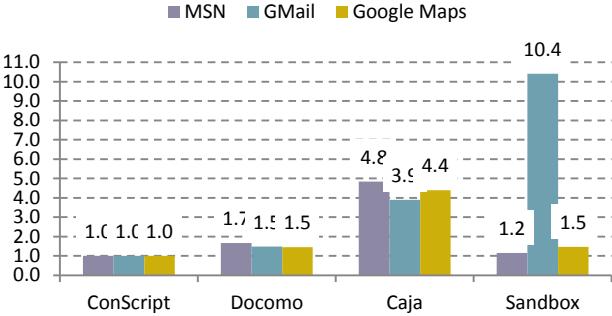
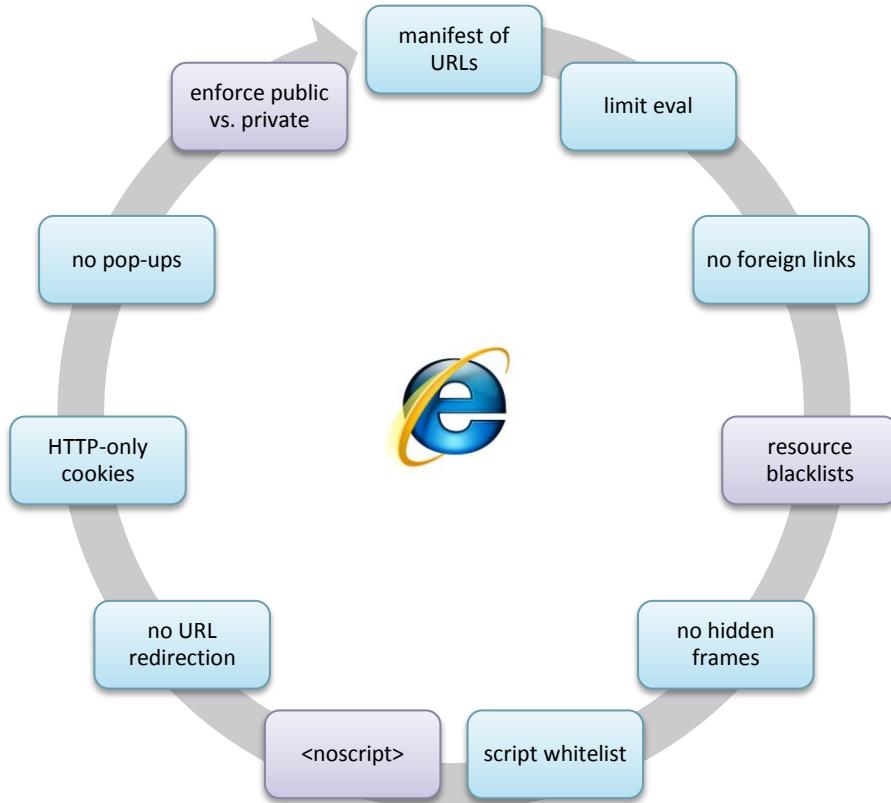
express many
policies *safely*

- 16 hand-written policies
- correct policies are hard to write
 - proposed type system to catch common attacks
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browser support

- built into IE 8 JavaScript interpreter
- runtime and space overheads under 1% (vs. 30-550%)
- smaller trusted computing base (TCB)

Questions?



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash i : K \text{ where } i \in \mathbb{R} \cup \text{STRING} \cup \{\text{null}, \text{undefined}\}}{\Gamma \vdash e : T} \text{ (prim)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{typeof } e : K} \text{ (typeof)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{toPrimitive}(e) : K} \text{ (toPrim)} \\
 \frac{x : T \notin \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : U} \text{ (unsafe env var)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : T \quad \Gamma \vdash v : T}{\Gamma \vdash (o = v) : T} \text{ (asgn)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : f \leq K}{\Gamma \vdash o.f : U} \text{ (u stat get)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : T_1 \leq K \quad \Gamma \vdash i : T_2}{\Gamma \vdash o[i] : U} \text{ (u dyn get)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : T_1 \leq K \quad \Gamma \vdash v : T_2 \leq K}{\Gamma \vdash (o.f = v) : U} \text{ (u stat set)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : T_1 \leq K \quad \Gamma \vdash i : T \quad \Gamma \vdash v : T_2 \leq K}{\Gamma \vdash (o[i] = v) : U} \text{ (u dyn set)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_2 \quad \vartheta \in \{\&&, ||, ===\}}{\Gamma \vdash t_1 \circ t_2 : K} \text{ (binop)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_1 \leq K \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_2 \leq K}{\Gamma \vdash t_1 + t_2 : K} \text{ (add/concat)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash t : T \quad \vartheta \in \{!, +\}}{\Gamma \vdash \vartheta t : K} \text{ (unop)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash s_1 \quad \Gamma, e : U \vdash s_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{try } \{s_1\} \text{ catch } (e) \{s_2\}} \text{ (try)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : T \leq K}{\Gamma \vdash \text{throw } e} \text{ (throw)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : K \quad \Gamma \vdash d : \vec{T} \leq K}{\Gamma \vdash [\text{new } o(d)] : U} \text{ (u f app)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma, \text{this} : U, \text{arguments} : U \vdash f : K \times U \rightarrow T_2 \leq K}{\Gamma \vdash \text{around}(p, f) : K} \text{ (around)}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{x : T \notin \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : K} \text{ (unsafe env var)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : K}{\Gamma \vdash o.f : K} \text{ (u stat get)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : K \quad \Gamma \vdash d : T \leq K}{\Gamma \vdash o[d] : K} \text{ (u dyn get)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : K \quad \Gamma \vdash i : T \quad \Gamma \vdash d : \vec{T} \leq K}{\Gamma \vdash [\text{new } o(i)(d)] : U} \text{ (u d m app)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash \vec{v} : \vec{T} \quad T_f = \{\dots, f[\vec{v}] : T_{[\vec{v}]\vec{v}}\}}{\Gamma \vdash \{f : \vec{v}\} : T_f} \text{ (k obj lit)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash \vec{v} : \vec{T} \quad T_f = \{\text{length} : K\} \cup \{\dots, \vec{v} : T_{[\vec{v}]\vec{v}}\}}{\Gamma \vdash [\vec{v}] : T_f} \text{ (k arr lit)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : T_1 \in \text{RECORD} \quad f : T \in T_1}{\Gamma \vdash o.f : T} \text{ (k stat get)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : T \in \text{RECORD} \quad i : T \leq K}{\Gamma \vdash \text{hasProp}(o, i) : K} \text{ (k hasProp)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash o : T_1 \quad f : T \in T_1}{\Gamma \vdash (o.f = v) : T} \text{ (k stat set)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma, d : \vec{T} \vdash s : T_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{function }(d)(s) : \vec{T} \rightarrow T_2} \text{ (k abstr)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash d : \vec{T} \quad \Gamma, this : U, \text{arguments} : \{\} \vdash f : \vec{T} \rightarrow T_2}{\Gamma \vdash f(d) : T_2} \text{ (k f app)} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash d : \vec{T} \quad (f : \vec{T} \rightarrow T_2) \in R}{\Gamma, this : U, \text{arguments} : \{\} \vdash o.m(d) : T_2} \text{ (k m app)}
 \end{array}$$

END.