

Security Audit for Contact Tracing Apps applied to the Corona-Warn-App

WAW SE, 10.09.2020



Contact Tracing Apps

Goal: Smartphones should help to track contacts of Covid-19 infected persons.

- Current approach:
 - Using pen, paper and telephone to trace contacts
 - ▪ extremely time consuming
 - extremely personnel-intensive
 - contact information often incomplete and inaccurate



Central vs. Decentral -- Where and who is irrelevant, what matters is how close and how long

Pan European Privacy Preserving Proximity Tracing (Pepp-PT)

- A **central** server - an all-knowing authority -- stores all contacts
 - Based on Bluetooth Low Energy
 - **Goal:** One technology as a basis, many national apps.
- A centralized approach may invite to misuse
-- With this information it would be possible to create a social graph.
- + Changes to the infection risk calculation can be quickly implemented on a central server

Decentralized Privacy-Preserving Proximity Tracing (DP-3T)

- Open Source - <https://github.com/DP-3T>
 - Decentralized system -- personal data and calculations are stored on the phone
 - Based on Bluetooth Low Energy
- All users get the IDs of the infected persons - are temporary IDs personal data?



HOW PRIVACY-FIRST CONTACT TRACING WORKS



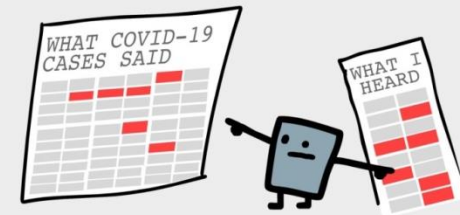
Alice's phone broadcasts a random message every few minutes.



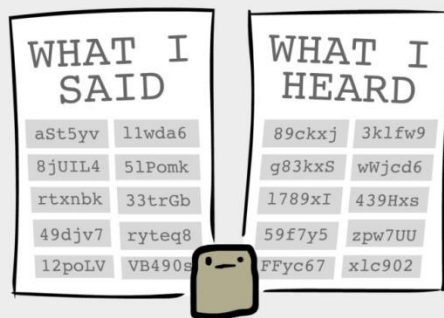
Alice sits next to Bob. Their phones exchange messages.



Because the messages are random, no info's revealed to the hospital...



...but Bob's phone can find out if it "heard" any messages from Covid-19 cases!



Both phones remember what they said & heard in the past 14 days.



If Alice gets Covid-19, she sends her messages to a hospital.



If it "heard" enough messages, meaning Bob was exposed for a long enough time, he'll be alerted.



And *that's* how contact tracing can protect our health *and* privacy!

by Nicky Case (ncase.me). CC0/public domain, feel free to re-post anywhere!

https://github.com/DP-3T/documents/tree/master/public_engagement/cartoon



Exposure Notification Framework

- Developed by Apple and Google
- The API is available exclusively to registered government health authorities (one app per country)
- Enables the sending and receiving of temporary IDs via BLE
- Elimination of technical problems:
 - both systems were not designed to perform continuous Bluetooth scans
 - ensuring the interoperability of iOS and Android
- Highest priority: privacy, control for the user & battery-saving
 - records no GPS data
 - user must explicitly agree to the terms of use and can deactivate the function at any time



Exposure Notification Framework - Configuration Parameters



Formula used to calculate the Exposure Risk Value - **totalRiskScore**

- Parameters to calculate a risk for each exposure incident (adjustable by health authorities):
 - **Transmission Risk:** reflect the status of infection in the affected user and its effect on risk of transmission; defined in the smartphone app
 - **Duration:** the duration of the Bluetooth contact
 - **Days:** the time that has passed since the patient's mobile phone had its last Bluetooth contact with the mobile phone of the person to be warned
 - **Attenuation:** the strength of the Bluetooth signal (in dBm)
- Corona-Warn-App: 80% correct and 20% incorrect reports

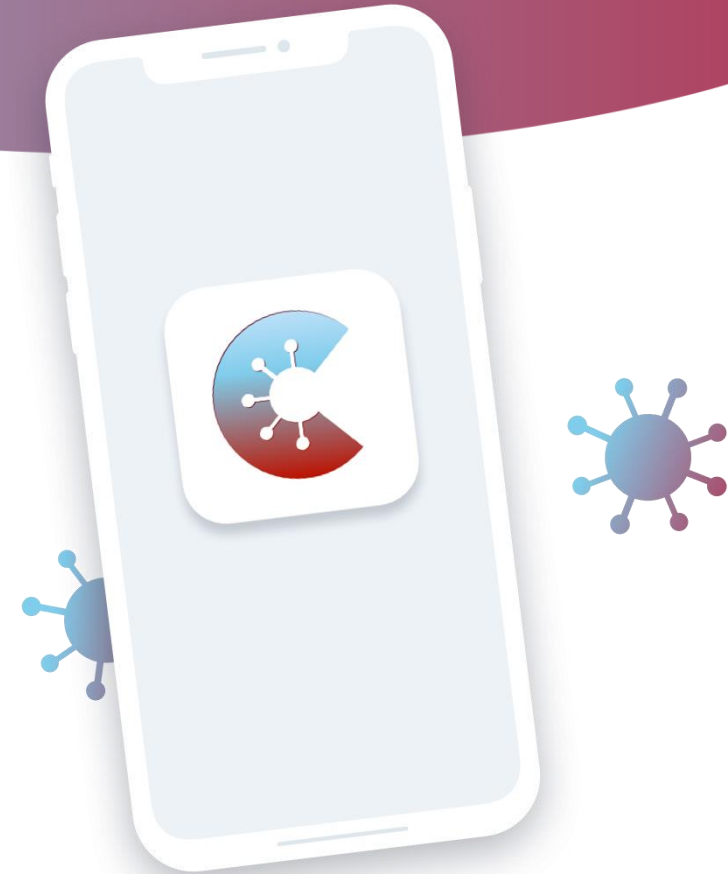


Corona-Warn-App

- Germany's official *Exposure Notification App* (www.coronawarn.app)
- Developed by SAP and Deutsche Telekom

- Open source software on Github (<https://github.com/coronawarn-app>)
- Apache 2.0 license – Standard SAP Open Source Lizenz
- 17.8 Mio downloads (01.09.2020)

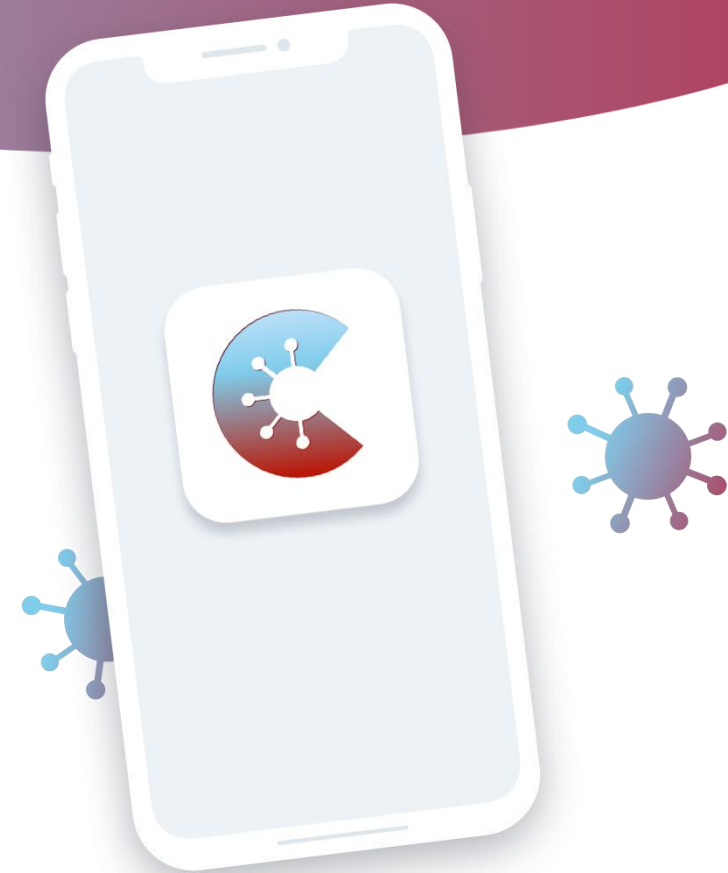
- 20 € Mio development costs
 - 2,5 – 3,5 € Mio per month for hosting and multilingual telephone hotline



Corona-Warn-App

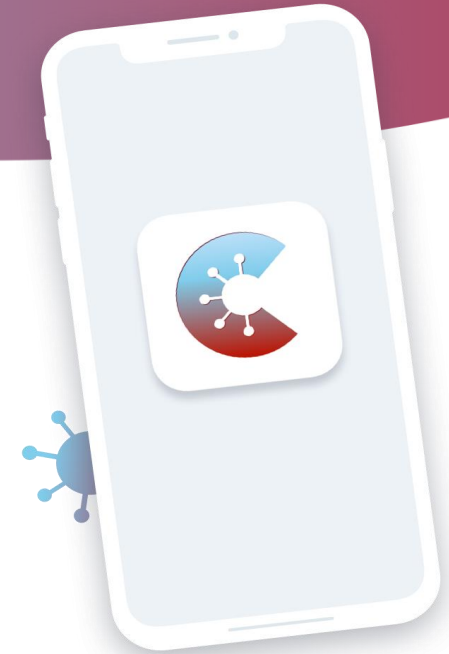
**„Ich war froh, dass wir mit der App nichts zu tun hatten,
weil wir dann auch nichts falsch machen können.“**

- SAP-Employee -



Two Companies - One Mission: SAP & Deutsche Telekom

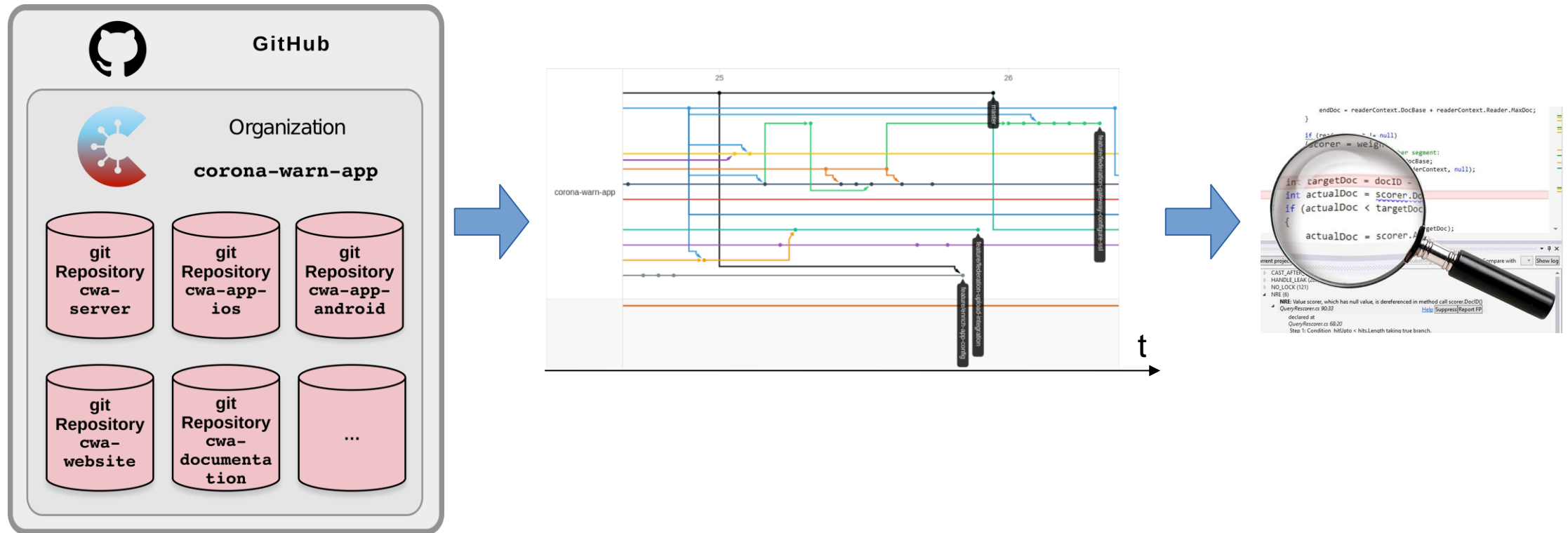
- Processes are much more efficient
“Normalerweise dauert das schon noch etwas länger.” (SAP)
- Benefit Home Office -- „alle im selben Internetbüro“ (SAP)
 - no noticable company or team boundaries
- Open Source Culture:
 - SAP already has experience with open source development (development & contributor)
 - SAP Open Source Office provided a “Rahmenwerk” (Issuetemplates, Code of Conduct, etc.)
 - all repositories public on GitHub



Security Audit for Contact Tracing Apps

The Idea

- Use information from the software development process (repositories)
- and analyse the code at different stages to find possible security weak points

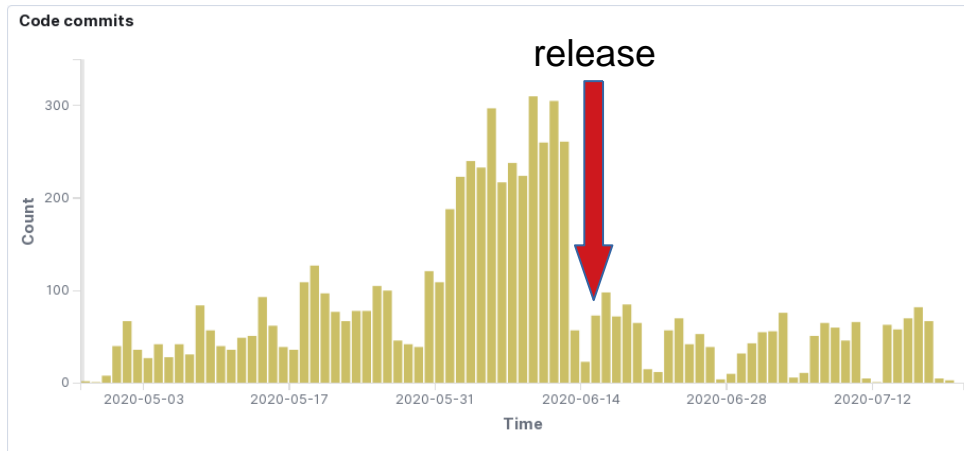


Static Analysis

- Checking program code for errors or bugs without executing it
 - Not testing!
- Different types:
 - Linter
 - Formatting, Code complexity, ...
 - Coding rules
 - Bug detection, code metrics, code duplicates, performance checks
 - Formal verification
 - Taint analysis
 - Perform a data-flow analysis



Security Audit of the Corona-Warn-App Example



Code commits of all cwa-repositories



```
115     Timber.d("Diagnosis Keys will be submitted.")
116     withContext(Dispatchers.IO) {
117         Timber.d("Writing ${keysToReport.size} Keys to the Submission Payload.")
118         val submissionPayload = KeyExportFormat.SubmissionPayload.newBuilder()
119             .addAllKeys(keysToReport)
120             .build()
121         var fakeHeader = ""
122         if (false) fakeHeader = Math.random().toInt().toString()
```

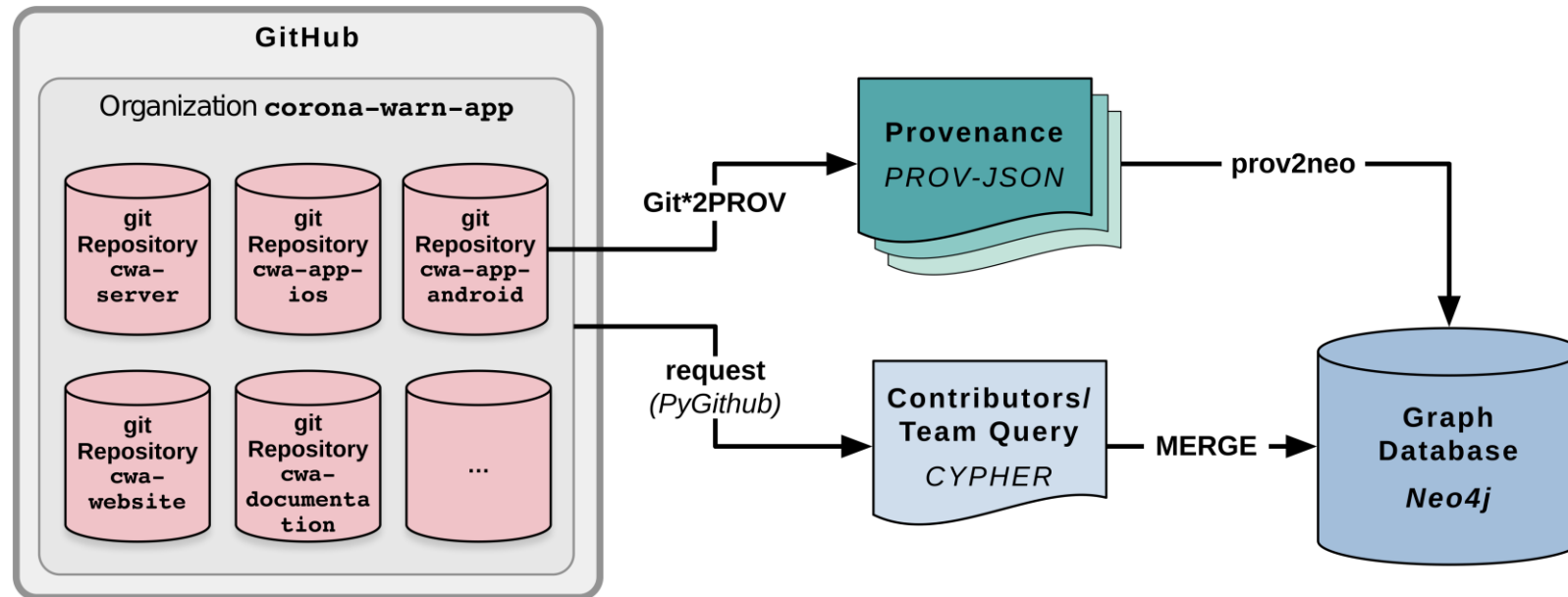
Remove this useless "if" statement. Why is this an issue? 4 days ago ▾ L122 🔗
🐛 Bug ⬆️ Major 🔵 Open Not assigned 2min effort 🗑️ No tags

Introduced bug
'CWE-561 – Dead code',
'CWE-570 – expression is always false'
detected by SonarQube Scanner.

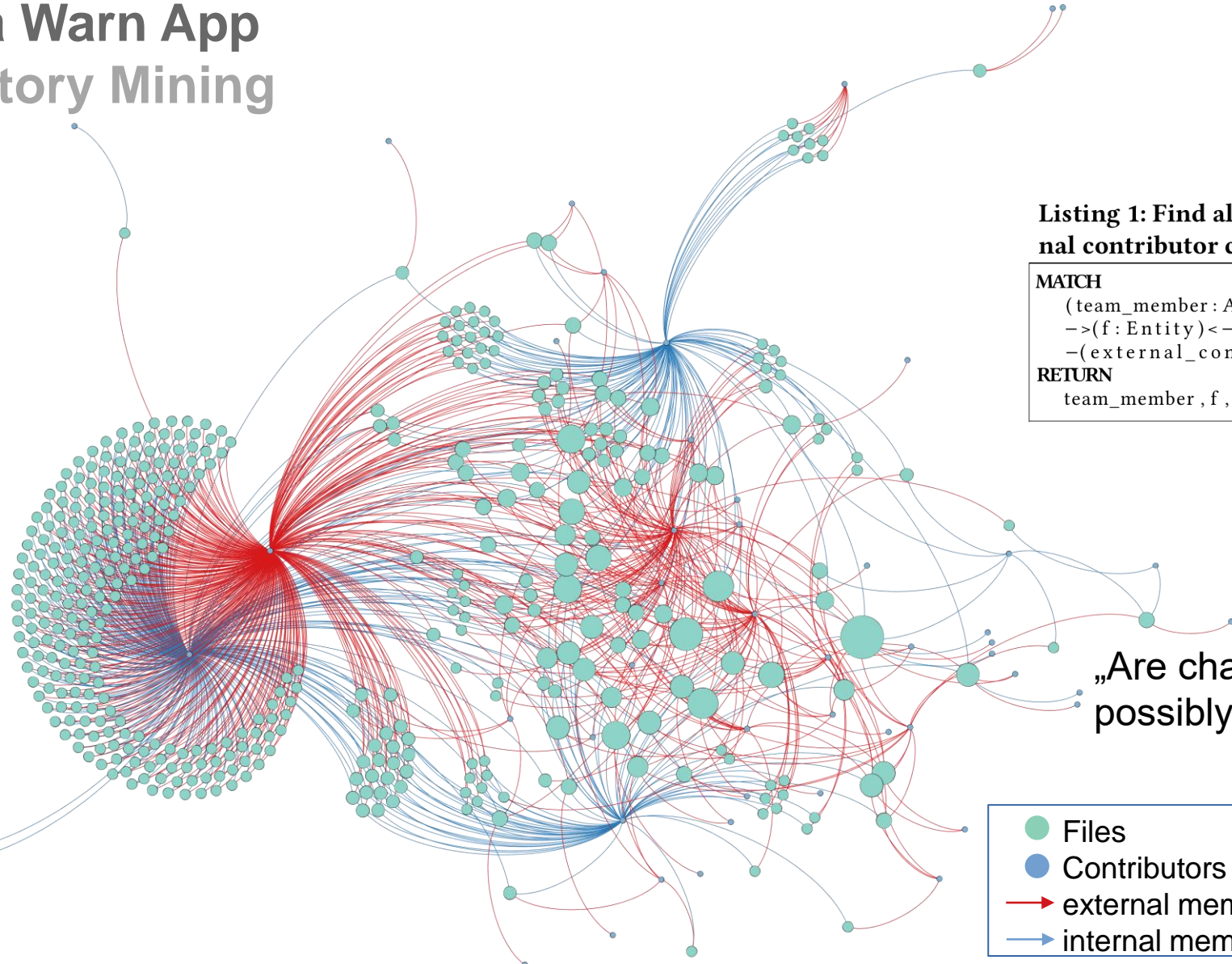


Security Audit of the Corona-Warn-App Repository Mining

- SC: Provide provenance information as indicator for possible analysis points



Corona Warn App Repository Mining



Listing 1: Find all files where a team member AND an external contributor contributed changes.

```
MATCH
  (team_member:Agent)-[r1:CONTRIBUTES_TO {role: 'team'}]
  ->(f:Entity)<-[r2:CONTRIBUTES_TO {role: 'contributor'}]
  -(external_contributor:Agent)
RETURN
  team_member , f , external_contributor
```



„Are changes from external contributors possibly more insecure?“

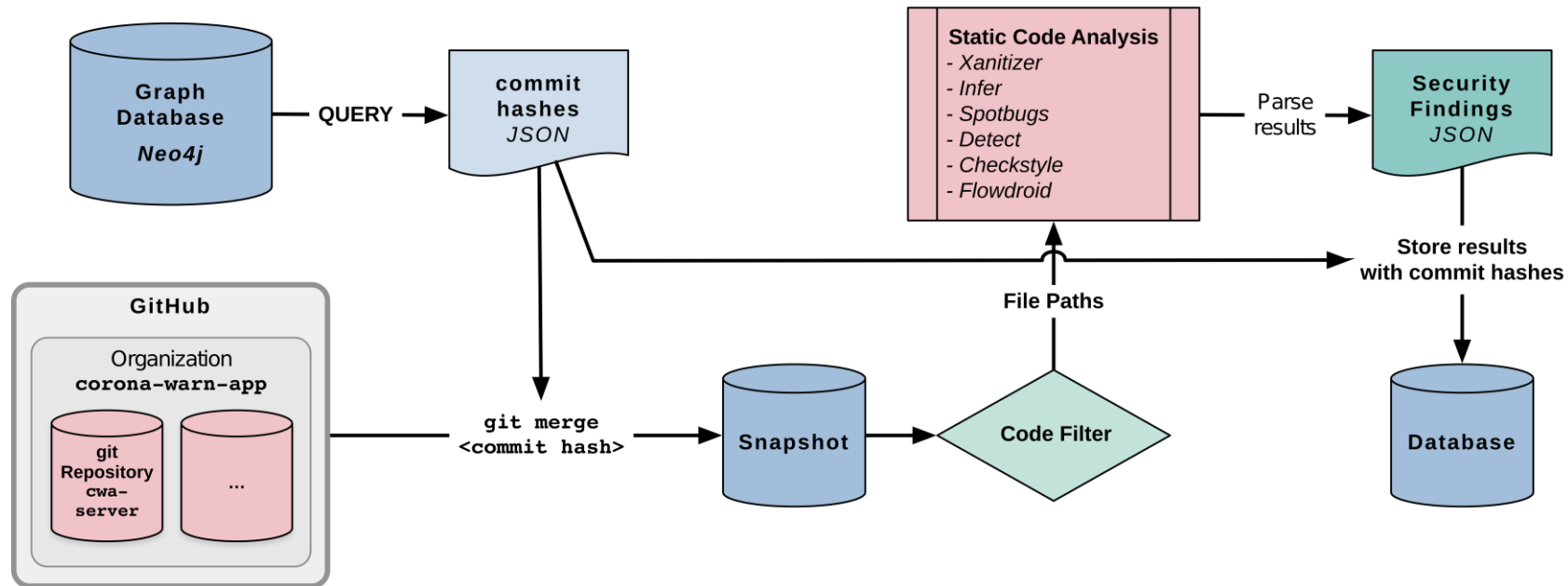
- Files
- Contributors
- external members
- internal members



Corona Warn App

Code Analysis

- DW: Analysis controlled by commits as interface to provenance analysis



- Future work:
 - Automation of the code analysis pipeline
 - Addition of code change metrics from *code diff* graphs



SE Wiki

Code Review Tools

- We created an overview page with code review tools in the SE wiki
- One component of a Secure Software Development Lifecycle
- We plan to provide more information about Secure Programming in the Wiki

DLR.Wiki Bereiche Frage ans DLR Erstellen ...

Seiten / Software Engineering / Topics

Code Review

Angelegt von Sonnekalb, Tim, zuletzt geändert am 02. September 2020

This page should be an overview page of tools for an automated code review.

Static (Security) Analysis Tools

Here you can find a list of tools for the static analysis of source code, as a means for automated code review. We try to focus on tools which are specialized on finding vulnerabilities (so called Static Security Anal

Other helpful links

- A similar list can be found here: <https://github.com/analysis-tools-dev/static-analysis>
- The secure software engineering group conducted also a benchmark for different static analysis tools on C/C++, see [here](#).

Tool = License = Language =

Tool	Homepage	License	Language
Frama-C	https://frama-c.com/	GNU LGPL v2	C
Clang Static Analyzer	http://clang-analyzer.lvm.org/	Apache License v2.0	C/C++
Cppcheck	http://cppcheck.sourceforge.net/	GNU General Public License Version 3.0	C/C++
Checker Framework	https://checkerframework.org/	GNU GPL v2 (Checker Framework) MIT License (Annotations)	Java
Spotbugs	https://spotbugs.github.io/	GNU Lesser General Public License	Java
Infer	https://fbinfer.com/	MIT License	Java, C, C++, Objective-C
SonarQube	https://www.sonarqube.org/	OpenSource, Proprietary	Java, JavaScript, C#, TypeScript, I
Xanitizer	https://www.rigs-it.com/xanitizer/	Proprietary	Java, Scala
PMD	https://pmd.github.io/	BSD-style License Apache License v2.0	Java, XML
Flowdroid	https://blogs.uni-paderborn.de/sse/tools/flowdroid/	GNU general public licence	Java (Android)
phpstan	https://phpstan.org/	MIT	PHP
mypy	http://www.mypy-lang.org/	MIT License	Python 2 / Python 3
Bandit	https://pypi.org/project/bandit/	Apache License v2.0	Python 2 / Python 3
pylint	https://www.pylint.org/	GPL-2.0	Python 2 / Python 3

Overview Page: <https://wiki.dlr.de/display/SoftwareEngineering/Code+Review>



Questions?



Image: © 2020 Marlene Brüggemann



Towards Automated, Provenance-driven Security Audit for git-based Repositories—Applied to Germany’s Corona-Warn-App

Vision Paper

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ABSTRACT

Software repositories contain information about source code, software development processes, and team interactions. We combine provenance of the development process with code security analysis to automatically discover insights. This provides fast feedback on the software’s design and security issues, which we evaluate on projects that are developed under time pressure, such as Germany’s COVID-19 contact tracing app ‘Corona-Warn-App’.

KEYWORDS

program analysis, provenance, software security, repository mining, open source software, covid-19

ACM Reference Format:

Tim Sonnekalb, Thomas S. Heinze, Lynn von Kurnatowski, Andreas Schreiber, Jesus M. Gonzalez-Barahona, and Heather Packer. 2020. Towards Automated, Provenance-driven Security Audit for git-based Repositories—Applied to Germany’s Corona-Warn-App: Vision Paper. In *SEAD 2020: 3rd International Workshop on Software Security from Design to Deployment*, November 9, 2020, Sacramento, CA, USA. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 4 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/1122445.1122456>

1 INTRODUCTION

Software repositories contain much information besides the source code itself. Especially for Open Source projects, the team composition and development process is transparent and traceable and can be evaluated at any point of time by, for example, continuous evaluation with regards to security by automated analysis [9].

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<https://doi.org/10.1145/1122445.1122456>

The COVID-19 pandemic [3] raises challenges for scientists of many disciplines. Computer scientists and software developers help to fight the pandemic with software systems, which must be developed under time pressure [2], with high quality, and with accepted concepts for data security and privacy.

For example, apps for mobile devices that support *contact tracing* of infected persons are useful to identify local COVID-19 hot-spots and find other persons, who are potentially infected, too. For contact tracing, several architectures are possible and have been discussed—sometimes very controversial—in many countries. Two favoured approaches are centralized and decentralized architectures; both using Bluetooth Low Energy for contact identification. Apple and Google developed an *Exposure Notification API*¹ as extension of their operating systems iOS and Android, which developers of exposure notification apps can use for privacy-preserving contact tracing. We focus on the German decentralized exposure notification app *Corona-Warn-App* (CWA; see Section 2).

Our main contributions towards our vision of an *automated, provenance-driven security audit infrastructure for Open Source software* are:

- We give an overview of static code analysis, which we use for our purpose (Section 3).
- We describe our method for querying the development process by using provenance (Section 4).
- We outline our ongoing efforts on combining information from process provenance with static code analysis for some specific revisions of the source code (Section 5).

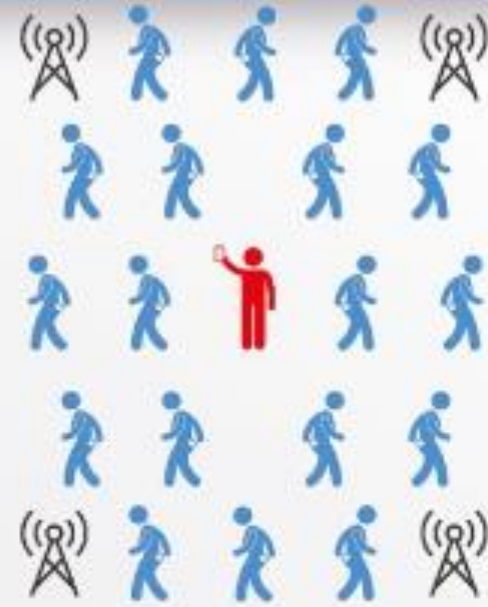

2 DEVELOPMENT OF THE “CORONA-WARN-APP”

The development of the Corona-Warn-App gets special attention during the COVID-19 pandemic; the development had to be done in a short time frame: development started in April 2020 and the app was released on 16th June, 2020 for Android and iOS. CWA is developed by SAP and Telekom using a transparent and open

¹<https://www.apple.com/covid19/contacttracing/>

BACKUP






Technology : triangulation between cell phone tower, data provided by operators

Use: monitoring compliance

Privacy: limited

1

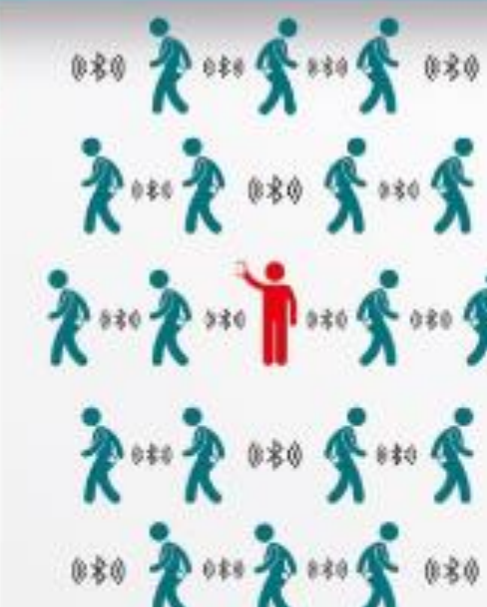



Technology: GPS location

Use: detect and avoid crowd

Privacy: citizens voluntarily give location data

2



Technology: Bluetooth anonymous exchanges

Use: one step ahead

Privacy: anonymous & privacy-preserving

3