

Memento

Learning Secrets from Process Footprints^[3]

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CAP6135 Malware & Software Vulnerability Analysis

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under

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Dept. of EECS

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About Paper

- Authors - Suman Jana , Vitaly Shmatikov. UT - Austin.
- IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy 2012.
- Best Student Paper Award.
- Partly funded by NSF grants.
- Demo - side channel attack.

Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Why Do it ?
- 3 Attack Overview.
- 4 Attack Details.
 - Browser Mem Management.
 - When it works ?
- 5 Experimental Setup.
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- 7 Extensions of Attack.
 - Advanced Attacks.
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- 8 Defenses.
- 9 Presenter's Notes.
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Introduction

- Memento^[1] -



Memento (2000) Top 5000

R 113 min - Mystery | Thriller - 11 October 2000 (France)

Your rating: ★★★★★★★★ -/10

8.6 Ratings: **8.6/10** from 610,139 users Metascore: 80/100
Reviews: 1,978 user | 261 critic | 34 from Metacritic.com

A man, suffering from short-term memory loss, uses notes and tattoos to hunt for the man he thinks killed his wife.

Director: Christopher Nolan

Writers: Christopher Nolan (screenplay), Jonathan Nolan (short story "Memento Mori")

Stars: Guy Pearce, Carrie-Anne Moss, Joe Pantoliano | [See full cast and crew »](#)

Introduction

Terminology

- Side Channel Attack.
 - **[P]** Timing(CPU, mem), Power Analysis(SPA,DPA), Acoustic Cryptanalysis , Differential Fault, Data Remanence.^[2]
- Secrets - Webpage Identity, Finer grained information.
- Process Footprint - DRS/WS/RSS.
- **[P]**

```
PS C:\Users\Sid> get-process chrome
```

Handles	NPM(K)	PM(K)	WS(K)	UM(M)	CPU(s)	Id	ProcessName
167	33	81844	66392	270	4.98	380	chrome
162	34	62176	49672	241	4.85	3536	chrome
161	28	52988	40256	216	2.57	4040	chrome
1610	101	130828	190828	489	2,684.47	6040	chrome
163	34	57264	45744	230	4.63	6964	chrome
306	37	183208	185720	505	1,963.55	7268	chrome
213	41	88940	89224	287	29.33	7396	chrome
159	24	36772	27980	198	25.29	7444	chrome
168	28	67800	64464	246	34.12	7480	chrome
165	35	65516	51644	231	12.26	7600	chrome
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Why Do It ?

- Symptom of larger problem. Illusion of harmlessness (System isolation mechanisms).
- OS mechanisms increasingly leveraged.
Android, Network Daemons, Chrome, IE.
- Related Work. Fails with non-deterministic programs (ESP not required).
Zhang, Wang^[4] . /proc ↔ ESP. Keystroke sniffing
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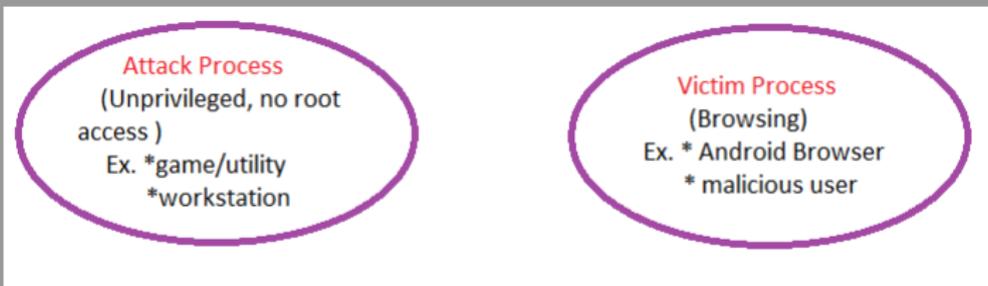
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MUST.. KEEP .. EYes .. op..zzz..

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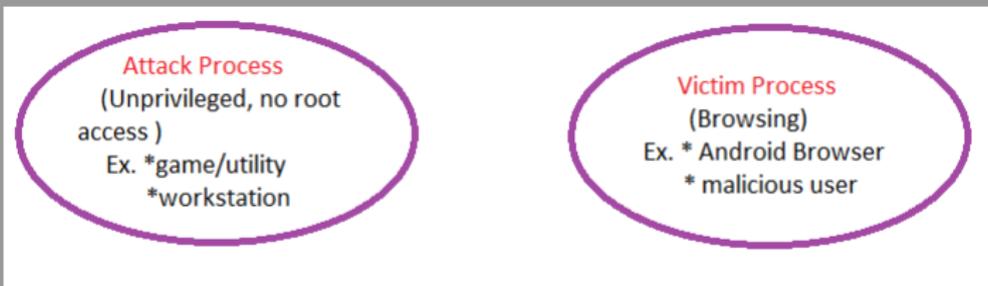
Attack Overview

- 2 Processes in parallel on same host as different users.



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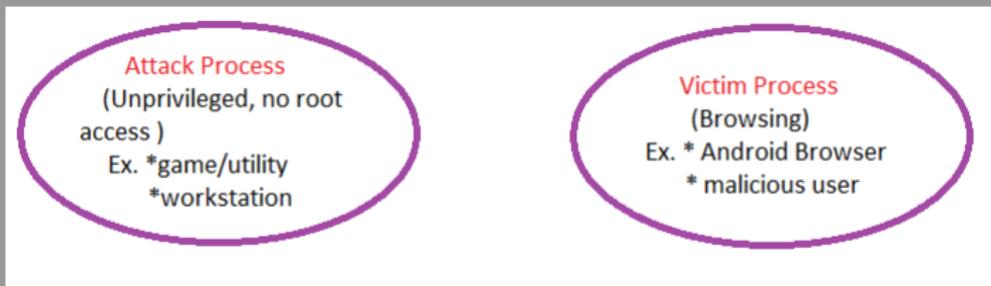
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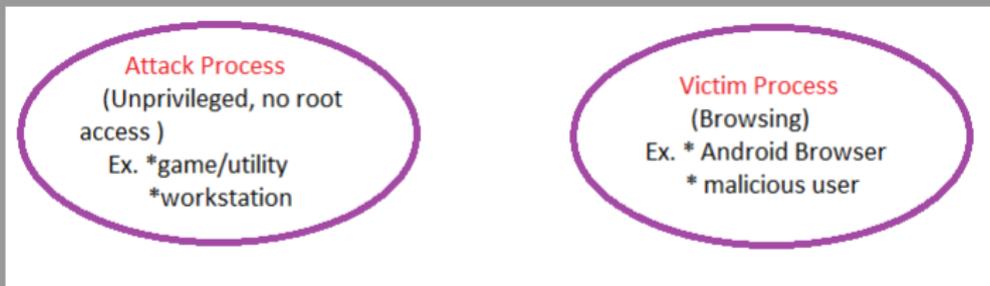
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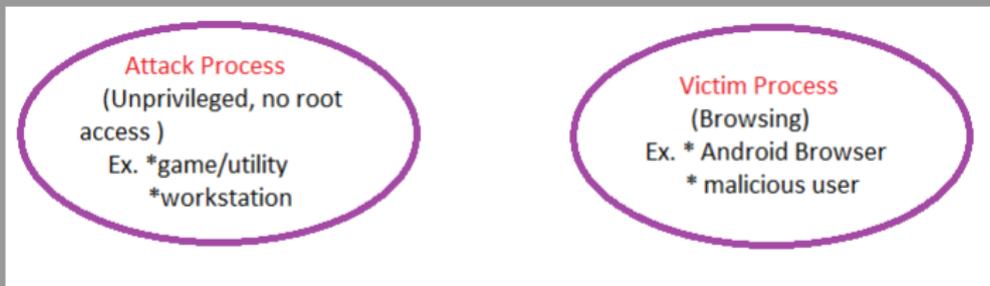
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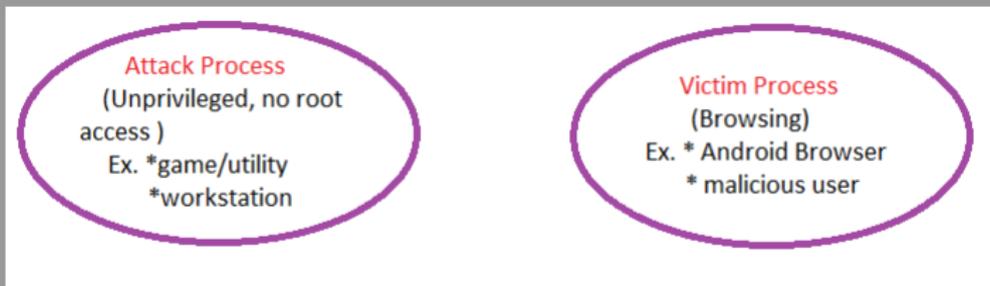
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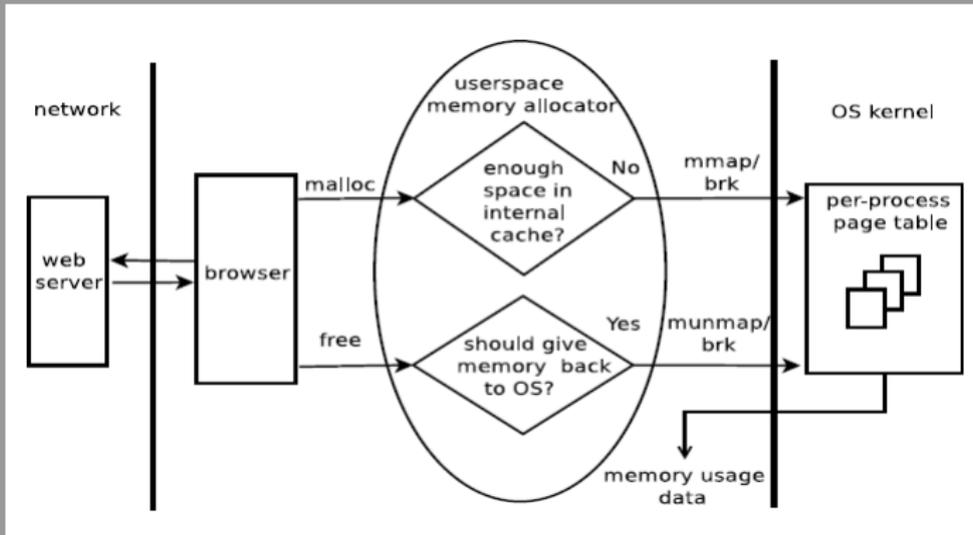
life, the universe and everything ? 42 .

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Attack Details

Browser Mem Management

- Different browsers,different allocators(jemalloc,tcmalloc, etc ...).



- Allocator optimization & behaviour , *Sensitivity*.
- Not directly translated,Varies, Memprint, Noise.

Attack Details

When it works ?

- Diversity.
- Stability.
- Which process to monitor?
 - Monolithic browsers.
 - Micro Kernel browsers.
- Network attacks.



Monolithic



Micro-Kernel

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progress bar at the top says 50%. YES!!

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Experimental Setup

- Browsers - Chrome,Firefox,Android
- OS - Windows,Linux,Android.
- Memory Signature gathering by automated scripts.
- ALEXA top 100,000 websites.
- **Memprint** statistics collected.
 - DRS change recorded using PID.
 - Scaled to 100,000 webpages , attacker pauses victim .
 - *FixSched, Attack.*
- Plugins,addons,extensions alter in predictable ways.Offset calculated or blocker used.

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Results

Verification

- False + , False -.
- Distinguishability .
 - wrt fixed ambiguity sets.
 - distinguishability = $(\mu - \sigma) - (\mu_{false} + \sigma_{false})$
 - positive or negative ? [Statistics](#)
- Recognizability
 - true positive rate. Not every page produces a match.
 - Fixsched and Attack visited 5-15 times.
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 - $J(sig_p, memprint(visittoambiguitypage))$.
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Extensions of Attack

Advanced Attacks

- Variations.
- Web Sessions.
- Similar memprint disambiguation.

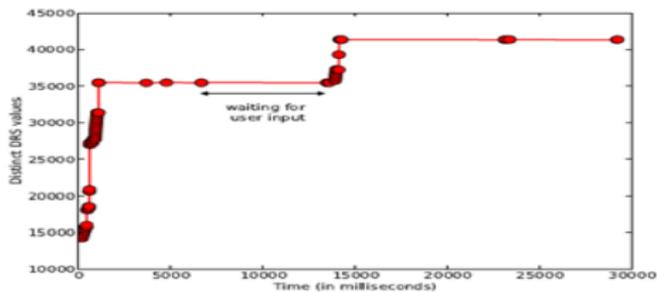


Figure 19. Evolution of the Firefox memory footprint during a Google search session.

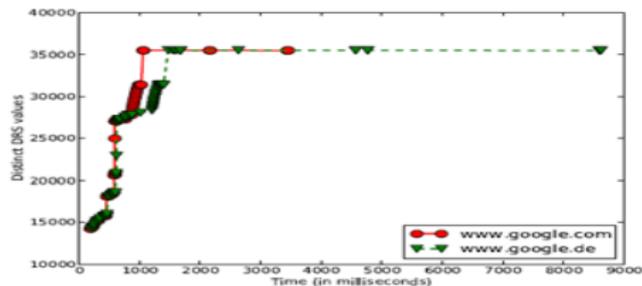


Figure 23. Evolution of the Firefox memory footprint when loading google.com and google.de (US-based browser).

Extensions of Attack

CPU Scheduling Stats

- ESP, keystroke timing relation.^[4]
- *top* – *lrm1*, context switches, *schedstat*, Android.
- Use this to differentiate.

^[3] Fig.5, Table V

INTER-KEYSTROKE TIMINGS IN MILLISECONDS: KEYLOGGER VS. STATUS MEASUREMENTS (ANDROID).

Timings	MMS app		bash	
	True	Measured	True	Measured
1	445	449	256	256
2	399	399	320	320
3	176	176	165	175
4	236	240	393	391
5	175	173	255	256

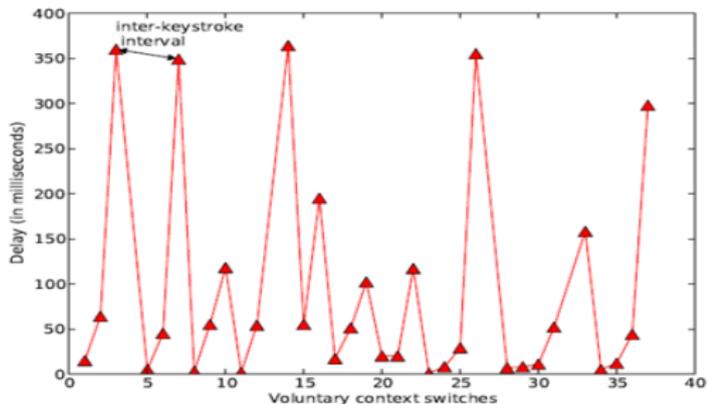


Figure 25. Context-switch delays (LIME in Android).

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Defenses

- Changing the OS.
 - Not a OS specific attack.
 - Can be calculated.
 - Designers must cooperate.
- Changing the application.
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 - Reduce app↔OS correlation.
 - Kernel hardening patches.
 - Memory usage abstraction.
 - monolithic browsers.

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[P]Presenter's Notes

Pros

- Novel side-channel attack.(Elaborate,complete).
- Proved Hypothesis.
- Structured,well written and precise.



[P]Presenter's Notes

Cons

- Elaborate attack, result is identity.
- Complexity.
 - Space - $\mathcal{O}(nmw)$.
 - Time - $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$.
- Solutions not concrete.
 - Asynchronous CPUs.
 - blinding.
- Combination with other side-channel attacks.
 - Network attacks don't work.

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References

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- [2] www.wikipedia.com
- [3] Jana, Suman and Shmatikov, Vitaly, *Memento: Learning Secrets from Process Footprints* in IEEE symposium, 2012.
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- [5] D. Song, D. Wagner, and X. Tian. Timing analysis of keystrokes and timing attacks on SSH. In USENIX Security, 2001.

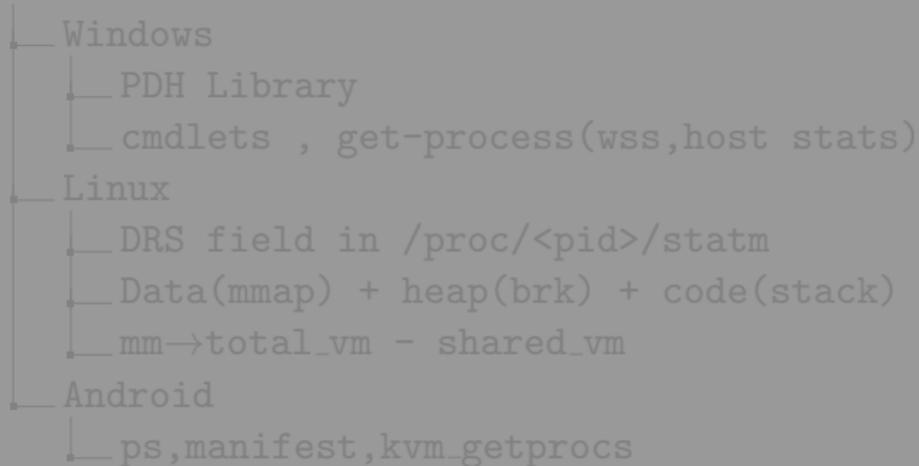
Don't **forget** to watch.



QUESTIONS ?

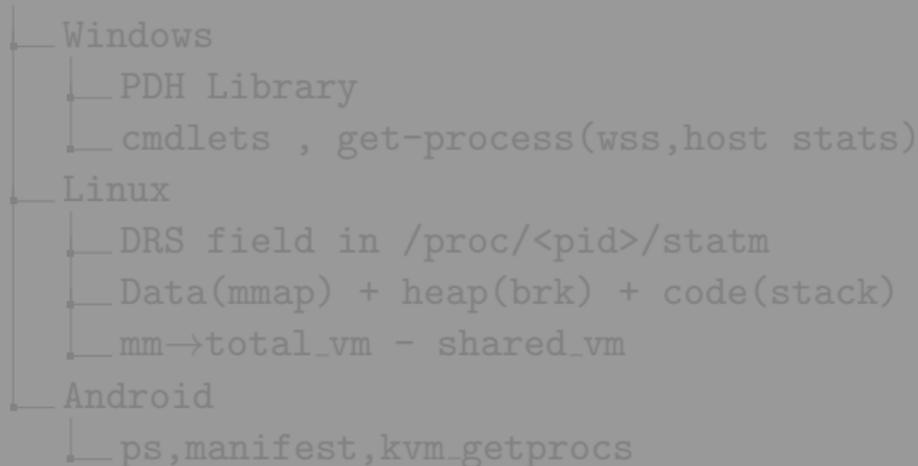
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- Only info needed is mem size.
- Most OS's have no restriction on this.
 - Different OS



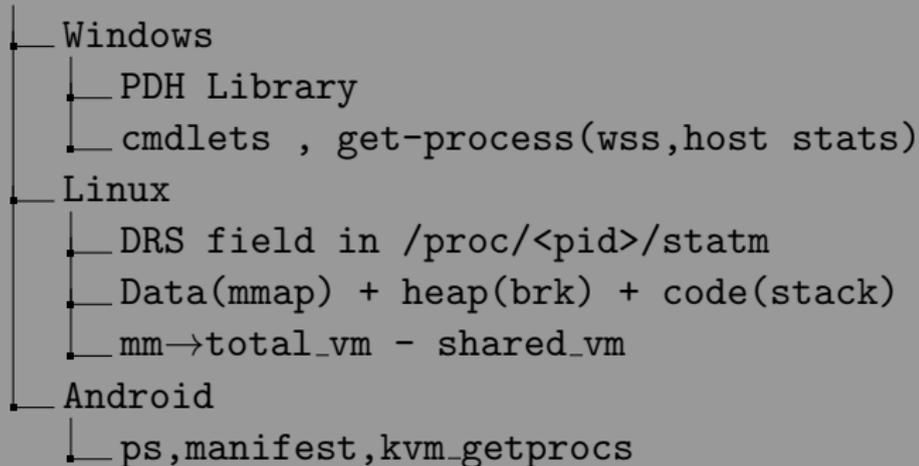
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Building Signature Database

- Create *Attack Signatures* , Build Database.
 - Visit w pages n times.
 - Calculate **memprint** = (E, e) ,
 - E =int footprint size.(DRS,6th field of proc), e =frequency.
- Comparison of memprints.
 - $((E, e_1)\epsilon m_1) \wedge ((E, e_2)\epsilon m_2) \implies (E, \min(e_1, e_2))\epsilon m_1 \cap m_2$
 - $((E, e_1)\epsilon m_1) \wedge ((E, e_2)\epsilon m_2) \implies (E, \max(e_1, e_2))\epsilon m_1 \cup m_2$
- Similarity using jaccard index.

$$J(m_1, m_2) = \frac{|m_1 \cap m_2|}{|m_1 \cup m_2|}$$

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Perform Attack

Attack memprint is matched against signature database.

Algorithm 1 Main steps of the matching algorithm

Input: Signature database D , attack memprint s_m

Output: Matched page or no match

```
for each page  $p$  in  $D$  do
  for each signature  $sig_p$  for page  $p$  in  $D$  do
    if  $J(s_m, sig_p) > threshold$  then
      Return matched page  $p$ 
    end if
  end for
end for
Return no match
```

Allocators

```

valgrind \
--smc-check=all --trace-children=yes
--tool=massif \
--pages-as-heap=yes --detailed-freq=1
--threshold=0.5 \
--alloc-fn=mmap \
--alloc-fn=syscall \
--alloc-fn=pages_map \
--alloc-fn=chunk_alloc \
--alloc-fn=arena_run_alloc \
--alloc-fn=arena_bin_malloc_hard \
--alloc-fn=malloc \
--alloc-fn=realloc \
--alloc-fn='operator new(unsigned long)' \
--alloc-fn=huge_malloc \
--alloc-fn=posix_memalign \
--alloc-fn=moz_xmalloc \
--alloc-fn=JS_ArenaAllocate \
--alloc-fn=PL_ArenaAllocate \
--alloc-fn=NS_Alloc_P \
--alloc-fn=NS_Realloc_P \
--alloc-fn='XPConnectGCCChunkAllocator' \
--alloc-fn='PickChunk(JSRuntime*)' \
--alloc-fn='RefillFinalizableFreeList' \
--alloc-fn=sqlite3MemMalloc \
--alloc-fn=mallocWithAlarm \
--alloc-fn=sqlite3Malloc \
<insert-firefox-command-here>

```

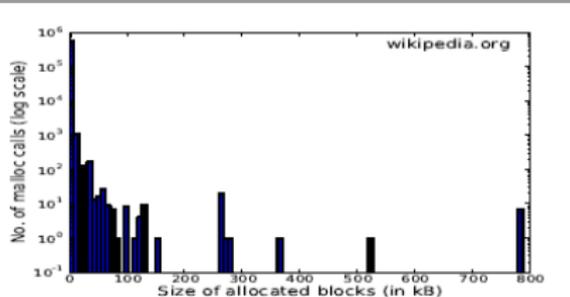
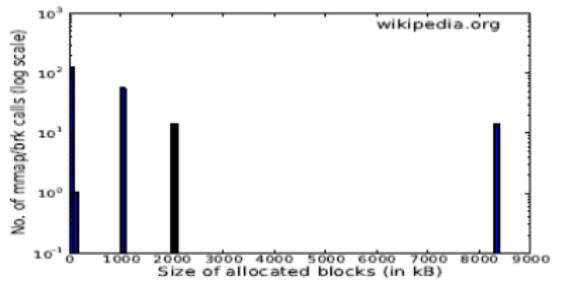


Figure 2. Firefox: Distribution of malloc'd block sizes.



Distinguishability

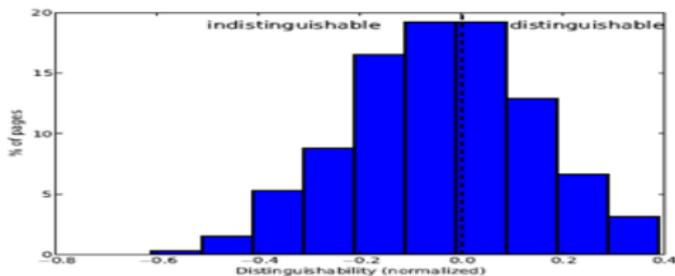


Figure 7. Chrome: Distinguishability of 1,000 random pages, 100,000-page ambiguity set (FixSched measurement). 43% of sites are distinguishable.

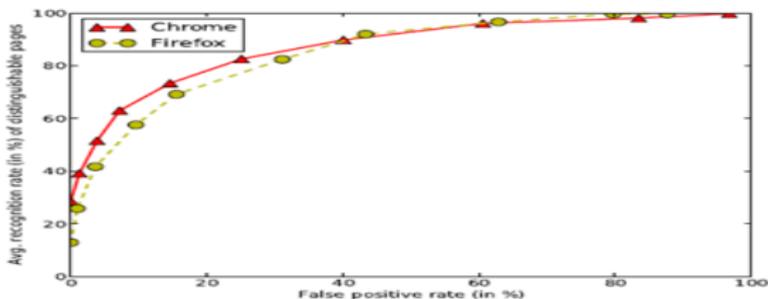


Figure 11. Chrome and Firefox: Average recognition rate vs. false positive rate for 1,000 pages, 10 visits each, with a 20,000-page (Chrome) and 10,000-page (Firefox) ambiguity set (FixSched measurement).

Recognizability

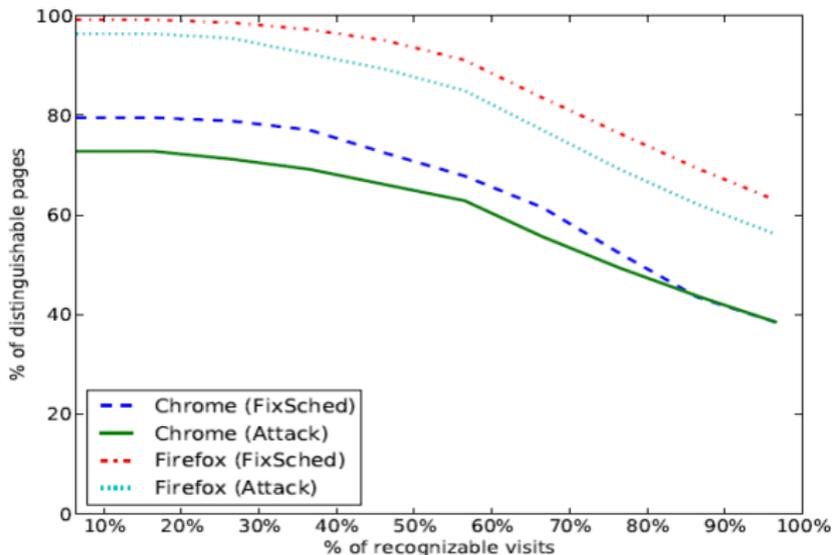


Figure 14. Chrome and Firefox: Recognizability of 100 random distinguishable pages (Attack and FixSched measurements). No false positives.