

Static Code Analysis

A behind-the-scenes look

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File and text utilities

```
$ grep -r InvoiceService
```

```
$ find . -name *.java | grep /test/ | xargs cat | wc
```

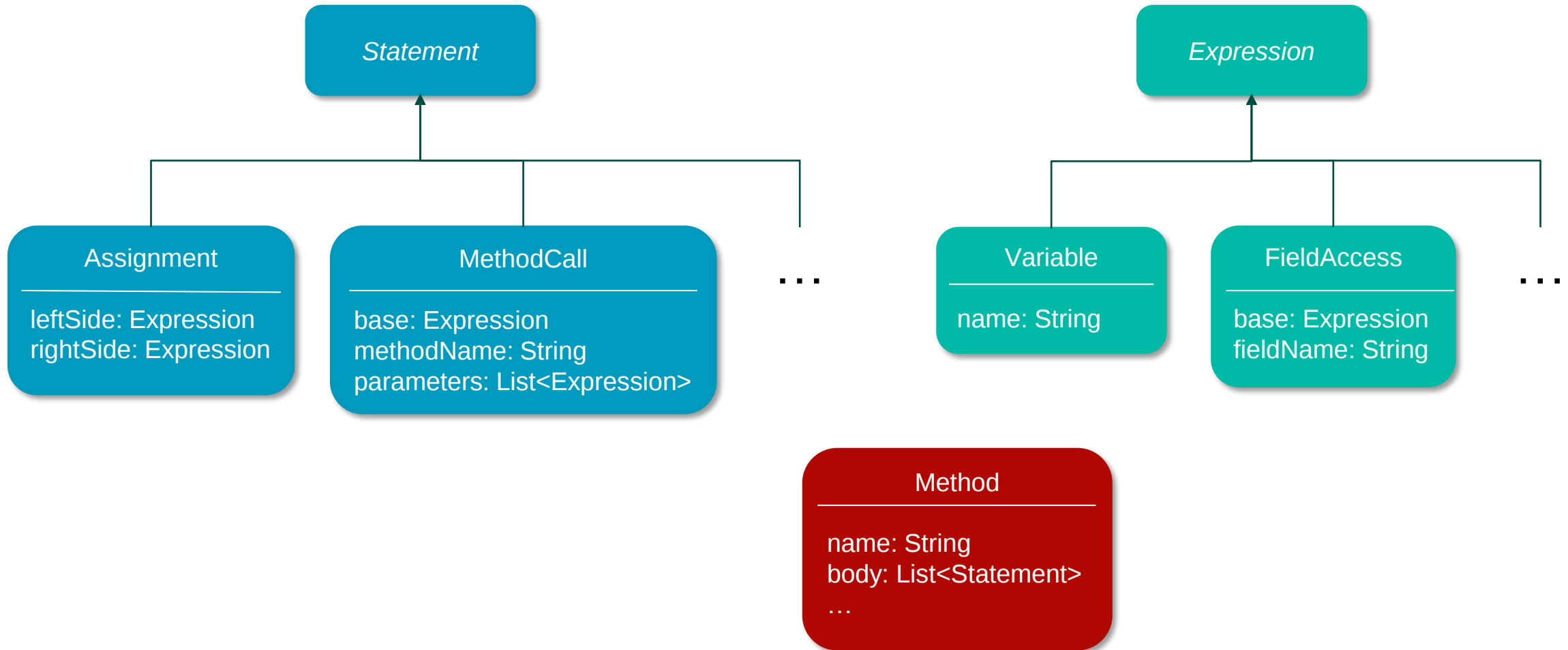
Challenge: Cross Referencing

```
void myMethod(Person p) {  
    ...  
    System.out.println(p.name);  
    ...  
}
```

```
class Person {  
    String name;  
}
```

```
class City {  
    String name;  
}
```

Abstract Syntax Tree



Which identifier refers to what?

```
void myMethod(Person p) {  
    ...  
    System.out.println(p.name);  
    ...  
}
```

MethodParameter

type: "Person"
name: "p"

FieldAccess

base: variable "p"
fieldName: "name"

Explicit support for all language features

```
String lambda(Person p) {  
    Supplier<Person> s = () -> p;  
    return s.get().name;  
}
```

```
void typeInference(Person p) {  
    var x = p;  
    System.out.println(x.name);  
}
```

```
sealed class A {}  
non-sealed class B extends A {}
```

Byte Code

```
void myMethod(Person p) {  
    ...  
    System.out.println(p.name);  
    ...  
}
```

```
class Person {  
    String name;  
}
```

```
GETSTATIC java/lang/System.out : Ljava/io/PrintStream;  
ALOAD 1  
GETFIELD org/demo/Person.name : Ljava/lang/String;  
INVOKEVIRTUAL java/io/PrintStream.println (Ljava/lang/String;)V
```

Which is the better choice?

Source Code Parser

- Analysis of comments, layout, language features
- Fault tolerant parsing
- IDE plugin
- Smoother result presentation
- (btw – requires byte code analysis of third party libraries)

Byte Code Parser

- Efficiency
- Leverage compiler
- Robustness against new language features

Tracking flows

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String s = request.getHeader("abc");
    jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(s).update();
}
```

Assignment

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String s = request.getHeader("abc");
    String x = s;
    Person p1 = new Person();
    p1.name = x;
    y = p.name;
    jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(y).update();
}
```

Propagators

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String raw = request.getHeader("abc");
    String sql = "delete PERSON where id=" + raw;
    jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(sql).update();
}
```

Conditional Flow

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String s;
    if(request.getHeader("xyz" == null) {
        s = SAFE_JDBC_STRING;
    }
    else {
        s = request.getHeader("abc");
    }
    jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(s).update();
}
```

Conditional Flow

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String s = request.getHeader("abc");
    if(System.currentTimeMillis() > 0) {
        s = SAFE_JDBC_STRING;
    }
    if(request.getHeader("abc") == null) {
        jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(s).update();
    }
    if(s == null) {
        jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(s).update();
    }
}
```

Combinatorial Explosion

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String s = request.getHeader("abc");
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // 2 paths
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // *2
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // *2
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // *2
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // *2
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // *2
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // *2
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // *2
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // *2
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // *2 = 1024 paths!
    jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(s).update();
}
```

Merging

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String s;
    if(request.getHeader("xyz" == null) {
        s = SAFE_JDBC_STRING;
    }
    else {
        s = request.getHeader("abc");
    }
    jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(s).update();
}
```

Combinatorial Explosion - Revisited

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String s = request.getHeader("abc");
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // 2 paths
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // +1
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // +1
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // +1
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // +1
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // +1
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // +1
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // +1
    if(b()) System.out.println("Hi"); // +1= 11 paths!
    jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(s).update();
}
```

Merging - Limitations

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String s = request.getHeader("abc");
    if(condition)
        s = "safe";
    ...
    if(condition)
        jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(s).update();
}
```

Loops

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String a,b,c = request.getHeader("abc");
    while(check()) {
        a=b;
        b=c;
        jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(a).update();
    }
}
```

Impossible to be precise

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String s = request.getHeader("abc");
    long n = new SecureRandom().nextLong();
    while(n!=1) {
        if(n%2 == 0) n=n/2;
        else n=3*n+1;
    }
    jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(s).update();
}
```

Function Calls

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String s = source(request);
    sink(s)
}

static String source(HttpServletRequest r) {
    return request.getHeader("abc");
}

static void sink(String s) {
    jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(s).update();
}
```

Recursion

```
@GetMapping
void myMethod(HttpServletRequest request) {
    String s = request.getHeader("abc");
    f("", "", s);
}

static void f(String a, String b, String c) {
    jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(a).update();
    if (...)
        f(b, c, "safe");
}
```

Virtual Method Calls

```
class MyService {  
    I other;  
  
    @GetMapping  
    void myMethod(HttpServletRequest r) {  
        String s = r.getHeader("abc");  
        other.doIt(s);  
    }  
}
```

```
interface I {  
    void doIt(String s);  
}
```

```
class A implements I {  
    void doIt(String s) {  
        doSafeStuff(s);  
    }  
}
```

```
class B implements I {  
    void doIt(String s) {  
        doDangerousStuff(s);  
    }  
}
```

Call Graph

- List of possible call targets per function call statement

```
String s = request.getHeader("abc");  
Consumer<> c = new Safe();  
c.accept(s);
```

```
class Safe  
    implements Consumer<String>  
{  
    void accept(String s) {  
        System.out.println(s);  
    }  
}
```

```
class NotSafe  
    implements Consumer<String>  
{  
    void accept(String s) {  
        conn.prepareStatement(s)  
            .update();  
    }  
}
```

Flow sensitivity

```
if (...) {  
    s = request.getHeader("abc");  
    c = new Safe();  
}  
else {  
    s = "a string literal";  
    c = new NotSafe();  
}  
c.accept(s);
```

Aliasing

```
StringBuilder a = new StringBuilder();  
var b=a;  
...  
a.append(request.getHeader("abc"));  
...  
jdbcConnection  
    .prepareStatement(b.toString())  
    .update();
```

Framework / Library knowledge

Start point
for scanning

All fields of 'data'
are untrustworthy

Not vulnerable
for XSS

```
@PostMapping("/api/person/{id}")
@Produces("application/json")
Person getPerson(
    @PathParam("id") String id,
    @RequestBody Person data,
) {
    jdbcConnection.prepareStatement(
        "update PERSON set name='" +
        data.name + "' WHERE id='" + id + "'"
    ).update();
    ...
}
```

Identifying unique findings

```
String s = getHeader("a");  
if(...)  
    sqlUpdate(SQL_1 + s);  
else  
    sqlUpdate(SQL_2 + s);
```

```
String sql;  
String s = getHeader("a");  
if(...)  
    sql = SQL_1 + s;  
else  
    sql = SQL_2 + s;  
sqlUpdate(sql);
```

```
var sql = new StringBuilder(QUERY);  
if(...)  
    sql.append(" and name='" + person.name + "'");  
if(...)  
    sql.append(" and street='" + person.street + "'");  
if(...)  
    sql.append(" and city='" + person.city + "'");  
sqlQuery(sql);
```

Quality of results

“If we don’t report a problem,
there is no problem”

VS.

“Everything we report is
worth looking at”

Levels of Sophistication

“Full-Blown“ Flow Support: Wide range of sophisticated algorithms

Simple Flow Support: Merging

Structural Matching: Usage patterns on the AST, cross referencing

Text / File based: Command line tools, regular expressions, ...

Stuff that's tricky to analyze statically

Reflection

Recursion

Polymorphic Calls

Aliasing

Key specific
Map access

Correlated
Conditionals

Framework /
Library support

Thank you