

# Why does this app need my Location? Context-Aware Privacy Management on Smartphones

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## Motivation



### • Purpose of Data Access?

- Why is the private data needed?
- Where does the data flow?

### • Decision Overload

80 Apps \* ~ 5 Permissions => 400 Decisions

### • App Level Controls

Can not allow data access on the basis of functionality

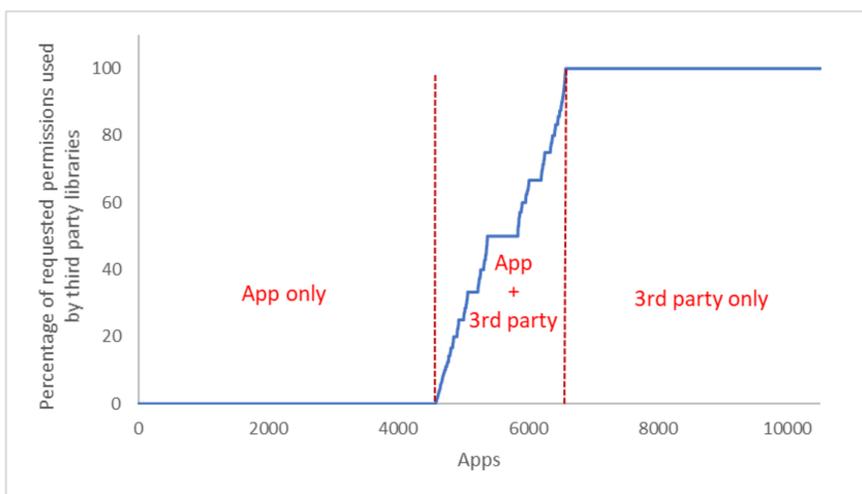
## Third-Party Libraries

### • Routinely Used

- Provide functionality like *Targeted Ads*

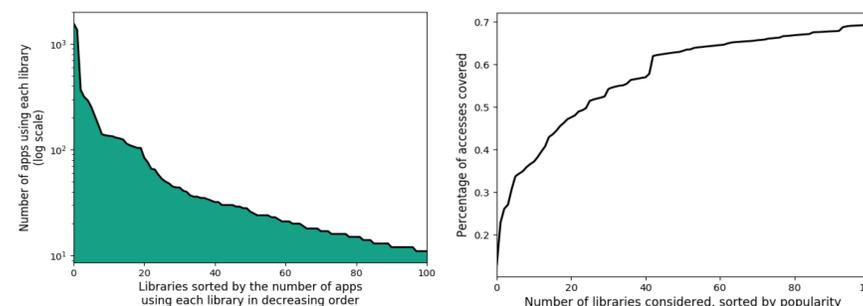
### • Run with the same permissions

- The libraries can collect any data requested by app



- Libraries are even solely responsible for data collection!

## {App, Permission, Purpose} controls



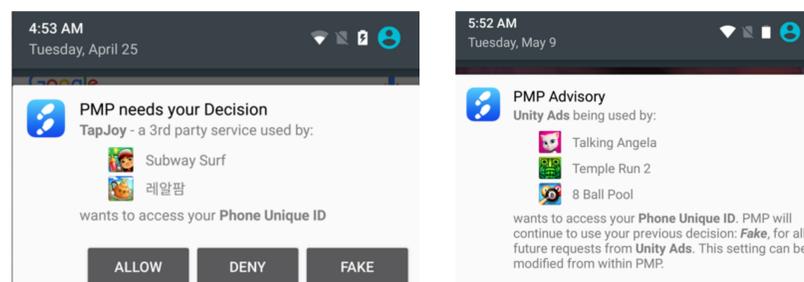
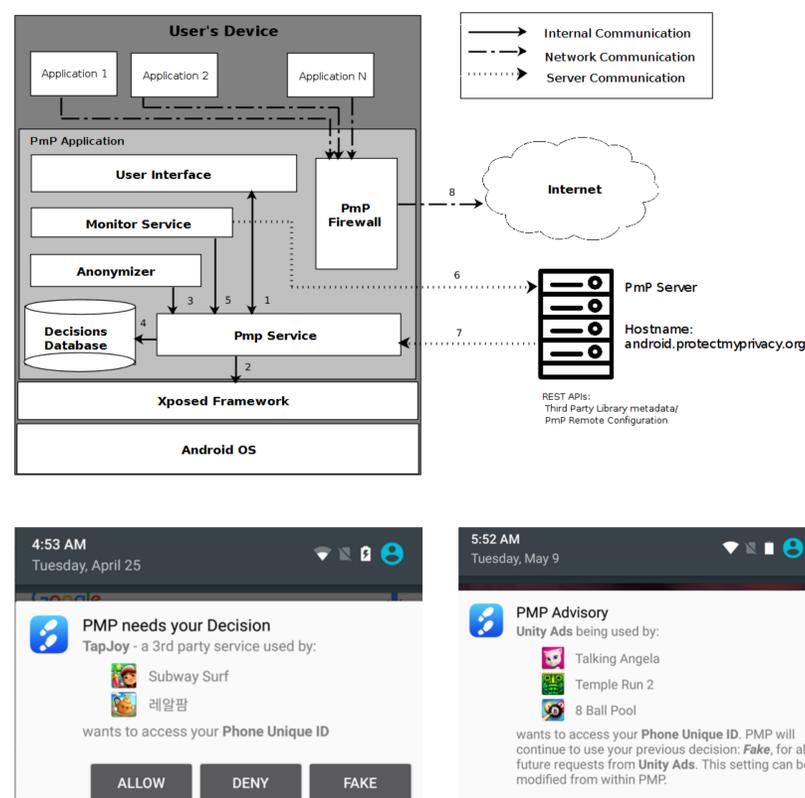
### • Limited set of libraries matter

- Only 30 libraries are responsible for more than half of the accesses to ALL sensitive data.
- Library purpose can be easily mapped

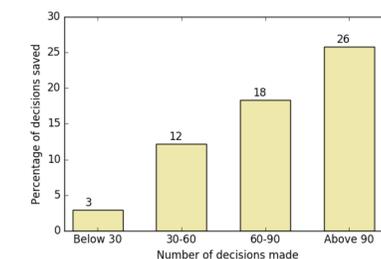
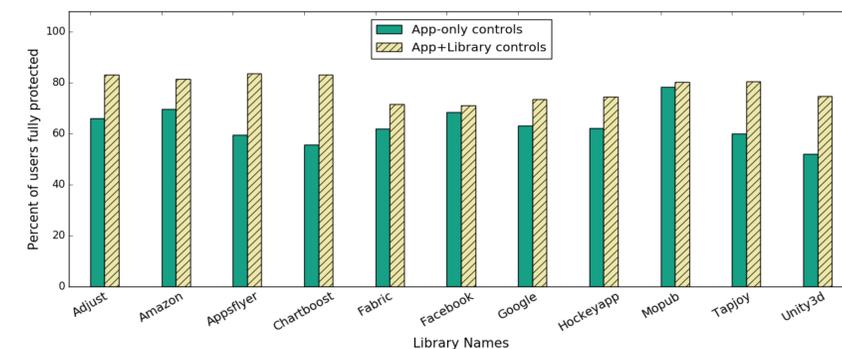
### • {App, Permission} + {Library, Permission}

- Separate out data flows between app and library

## Protect My Privacy App

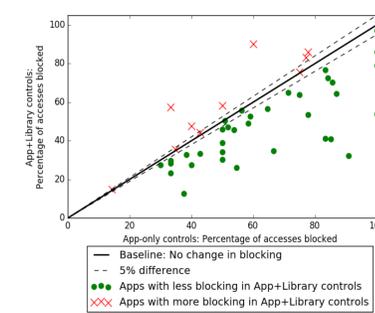
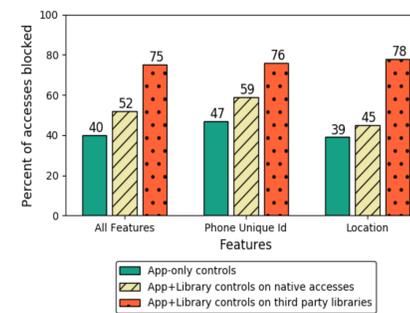


## Results



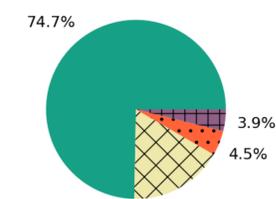
- 1300+ real world users
- 25% more users fully protected!
- 26% reduction in user decisions

## Analysis



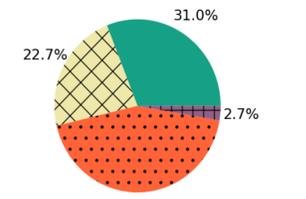
Overall Trend: Users block more decisions

Long Term Users: More comfortable in allowing data to app developers



- I allowed data sharing for functionality (74.7%)
- I'm okay with sharing this private data (16.9%)
- Sharing data supports free apps (4.5%)
- No response (3.9%)

Why did the users allow data to libraries?



- I don't trust this library (43.6%)
- I'm not okay with sharing this specific data (22.7%)
- I don't want to share any data (2.7%)
- No response (2.7%)

Why did the users block data to libraries?