

Secure Software Development

Finding Bugs II

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PREVIOUSLY ON

SSD

- Human experts can find bugs by looking at source code



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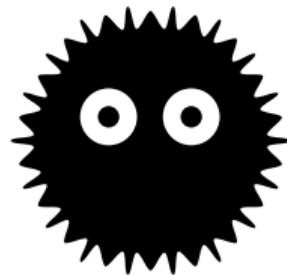
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- Explaining source code helps in finding bugs



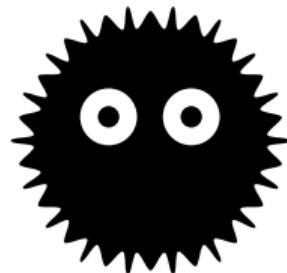
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- Adding print statements to source code can assist in finding bugs

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- Static code analysis finds many bugs by looking at source code
- Sanitizers add bug-finding code to the source code
- git bisect can assist in finding bugs in source code
- Explaining source code helps in finding bugs
- Adding print statements to source code can assist in finding bugs
- Stepping through source code with a debugger often reveals bugs

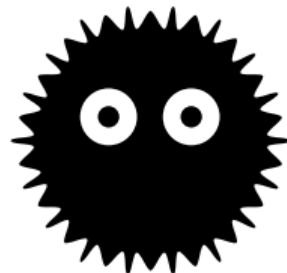




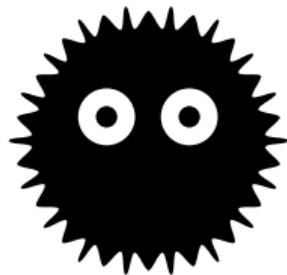
- Fuzzing is an automated software testing method



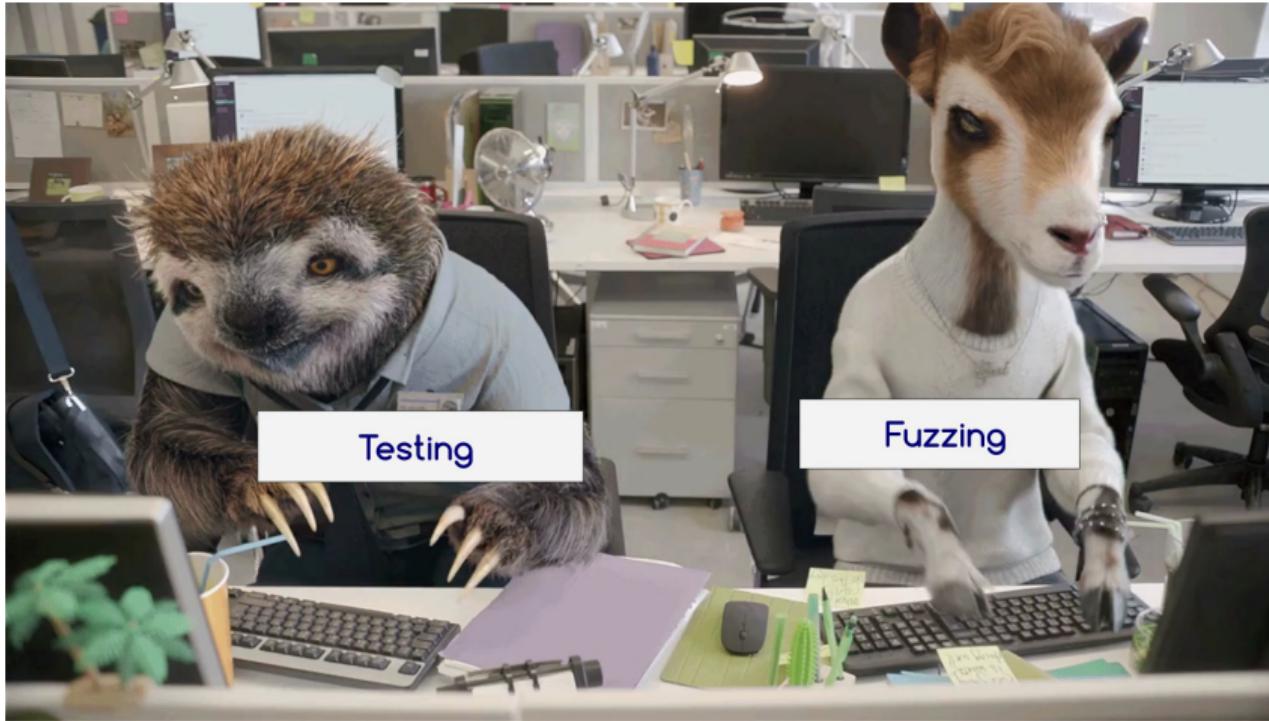
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- Provide invalid, unexpected, or random data as input
- Monitor program behavior (e.g., crash, assertion, ...)
- Typically used for file formats or protocols



Fuzzing

Testing

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- **Invalid**, unexpected, or random data as input

Testing

- **Normal**, valid, well-formed data as input

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- Automatically generated testcases

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- Goal: Find exploitable errors

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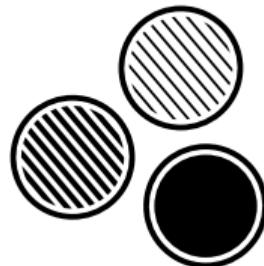
- Normal, valid, well-formed data as input
- Manually generated testcases
- Boring 😞
- Goal: Normal users don't get errors

Fuzzing History



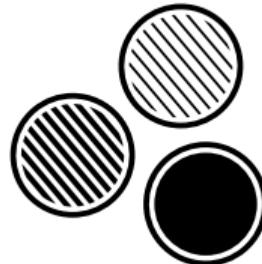
- Fuzzing dates back to 1981, was considered worst means of testing
- Term was coined 1988: testing noise over fuzzy network connections
- Google runs **ClusterFuzz** since 2012 to fuzz Chrome
- Most teams used fuzzing to automatically detect bugs in the DARPA **Cyber Grand Challenge** 2016
- **american fuzzy lop** (AFL) regularly finds bugs in open source programs

Types of Fuzzing



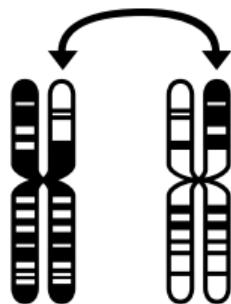
- Fuzzing can be somewhere between **dumb** and **smart**
- The smarter the fuzzing, the harder the setup

Types of Fuzzing



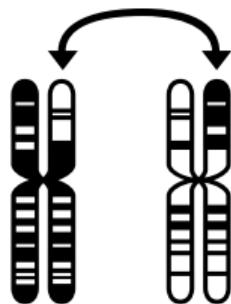
- Fuzzing can be somewhere between **dumb** and **smart**
- The smarter the fuzzing, the harder the setup
- However, **smarter fuzzing** finds **more bugs**

Mutation Based (“Dumb Fuzzing”)



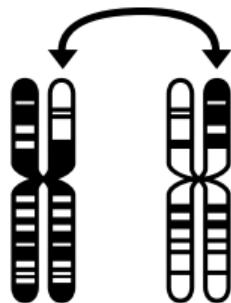
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- Mutation might be completely random or follow some pattern

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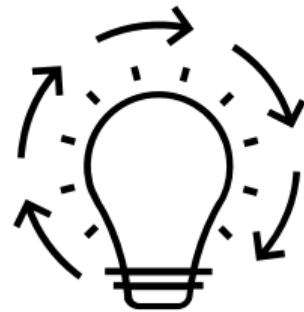
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- + No knowledge of the input structure is required**
- + Easy to set up**

Mutation Based (“Dumb Fuzzing”)



- Mutate existing data sets to generate new testcases
- Mutation might be completely random or follow some pattern
- + No knowledge of the input structure is required
- + Easy to set up
- Might fail for complicated protocols (e.g., challenge response)
- Fails for complex file formats (e.g., checksum)

Generation Based (“Smart Fuzzing”)



- Testcases are generated from a format description (e.g., RFC)
- Anomalies are added to each field of the input

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- + Knowledge of protocol gives better results
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- + Handles complex dependencies, e.g., checksums

Generation Based (“Smart Fuzzing”)



- Testcases are generated from a format description (e.g., RFC)
- Anomalies are added to each field of the input
- + Knowledge of protocol gives better results
- + More targeted, *i.e.*, does not fuzz “uninteresting” data
- + Handles complex dependencies, e.g., checksums
- Requires specification of protocol
- Writing testcase generator is a lot of work

- Generate inputs/mutations based on program response
- Different metrics: code coverage, reaching potentially dangerous functions, ...





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 - Different metrics: code coverage, reaching potentially dangerous functions, ...
- + Dynamically learns protocols, no configuration needed
 - + Finds many bugs
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- Generate inputs/mutations based on program response
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- + Dynamically learns protocols, no configuration needed
 - + Finds many bugs
 - + Robust and fast
 - Does not handle large input files well
 - Often requires binary instrumentation



Practical Example: Fuzzing

Fuzzing



```
typedef void (*function)(char*);  
  
typedef struct {  
    char* name;  
    function func;  
} functions;  
  
int is_valid(functions* list, char* name) {  
    int i = -1;  
    while(list[++i].name) {  
        if(!strcmp(list[i].name, name, strlen(list[i].name))) return 1;  
    }  
    return 0;  
}  
  
void execute(functions* list, char* name, char* cmd) {  
    int i = 0;  
    function func;  
    while(list[++i].name) {  
        if(!strcmp(list[i].name, name, strlen(name))) {  
            func = list[i].func;  
            break;  
        }  
    }  
    func(cmd);  
}  
  
void ping(char* cmd) {  
    printf("Pong\n");  
}  
  
void pong(char* cmd) {  
    printf("Ping\n");  
}  
  
void echo(char* cmd) {  
    printf("%s", cmd);  
}  
  
int main(int argc, char **argv) {  
    char buffer[64];  
    functions list[] = {  
        {"pong", pong},  
        {"ping", ping},  
        {"echo", echo},  
        {NULL, NULL}  
    };  
  
    FILE* f = fopen(argv[1], "r");  
    if(!f) return 1;  
    while(fgets(buffer, 64, f)) {  
        char* cmd = strtok(buffer, "\n");  
        if(cmd) {  
            if(is_valid(list, cmd)) {  
                execute(list, cmd, strtok(NULL, ""));  
            } else {  
                printf("Unknown command!\n");  
            }  
        }  
    }  
    fclose(f);  
    return 0;  
}
```



```
% AFL_USE_ASAN=1 afl-gcc fuzz.c
afl-cc 2.51b by <lcamtuf@google.com>
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[+] Instrumented 14 locations (64-bit, ASAN/MSAN mode, ratio 33%).
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% cat afl-in/small
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% afl-fuzz -m none -i afl-in -o afl-out -- ./a.out @@
afl-fuzz 2.51b by <lcamtuf@google.com>
[+] You have 4 CPU cores and 1 runnable tasks (utilization: 25%).
[...]
[+] All set and ready to roll!
```



american fuzzy lop 2.51b (a.out)

process timing		overall results
run time	: 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 2 sec	cycles done : 0
last new path	: 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 1 sec	total paths : 7
last uniq crash	: 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 2 sec	uniq crashes : 2
last uniq hang	: none seen yet	uniq hangs : 0
cycle progress		map coverage
now processing	: 0 (0.00%)	map density : 0.02% / 0.04%
paths timed out	: 0 (0.00%)	count coverage : 1.17 bits/tuple
stage progress		findings in depth
now trying	: interest 32/8	favored paths : 1 (14.29%)
stage execs	: 250/431 (58.00%)	new edges on : 7 (100.00%)
total execs	: 1720	total crashes : 247 (2 unique)
exec speed	: 541.6/sec	total tmouts : 0 (0 unique)
fuzzing strategy yields		path geometry
bit flips	: 4/96, 0/95, 0/93	levels : 2
byte flips	: 0/12, 0/11, 0/9	pending : 7
arithmetics	: 2/669, 0/55, 0/0	pend fav : 1
known ints	: 2/64, 0/306, 0/0	own finds : 6
dictionary	: 0/0, 0/0, 0/0	imported : n/a
havoc	: 0/0, 0/0	stability : 100.00%
trim	: 7.69%/3, 0.00%	

[cpu000: 81%]

+++ Testing aborted by user +++

[+] We're done here. Have a nice day!



```
% cat afl-out/crashes/id*
pingJecho Hi
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```
% gdb --args ./fuzzing afl-out/crashes/id:000000
(gdb) r
Starting program: fuzzing afl-out/crashes/id:000000

Program received signal SIGSEGV, Segmentation fault.
0x0000000000000000 in ?? ()
(gdb) bt
#0 0x0000000000000000 in ?? ()
#1 0x0000000004008ba in execute (list=0x7fffffffdb60,
    name=0x7fffffffdba0 "pingJecho", cmd=0x7fffffffdbaa "Hi") at fuzzing.c:30
#2 0x000000000400a25 in main (argc=2, argv=0x7fffffffcd8) at fuzzing.c:60
```



The bug must be somewhere in `is_valid` and/or execute...

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int is_valid(functions* list, char* name) {
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void execute(functions* list, char*
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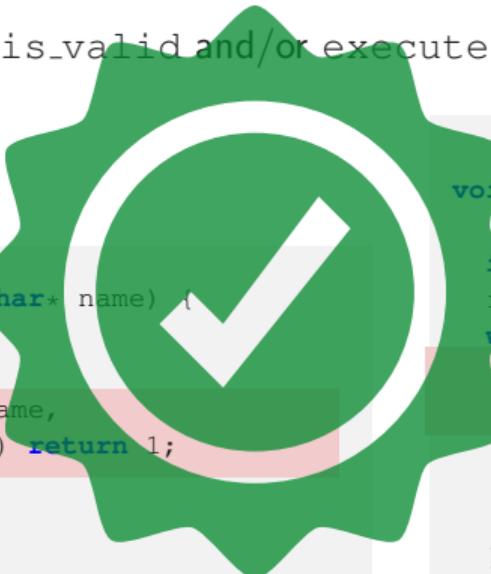
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[...]
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```



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process timing		overall results
run time	: 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 2 sec	cycles done : 0
last new path	: 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 0 sec	total paths : 5
last uniq crash	: 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 1 sec	uniq crashes : 1
last uniq hang	: none seen yet	uniq hangs : 0
cycle progress		map coverage
now processing	: 0 (0.00%)	map density : 0.02% / 0.03%
paths timed out	: 0 (0.00%)	count coverage : 1.37 bits/tuple
stage progress		findings in depth
now trying	: arith 8/8	favored paths : 1 (20.00%)
stage execs	: 456/718 (63.51%)	new edges on : 4 (80.00%)
total execs	: 816	total crashes : 1 (1 unique)
exec speed	: 311.4/sec	total tmouts : 0 (0 unique)
fuzzing strategy yields		path geometry
bit flips	: 3/96, 1/95, 0/93	levels : 2
byte flips	: 0/12, 0/11, 0/9	pending : 5
arithmetics	: 0/0, 0/0, 0/0	pend fav : 1
known ints	: 0/0, 0/0, 0/0	own finds : 4
dictionary	: 0/0, 0/0, 0/0	imported : n/a
havoc	: 0/0, 0/0	stability : 100.00%
trim	: 7.69%/3, 0.00%	

[cpu000: 51%]

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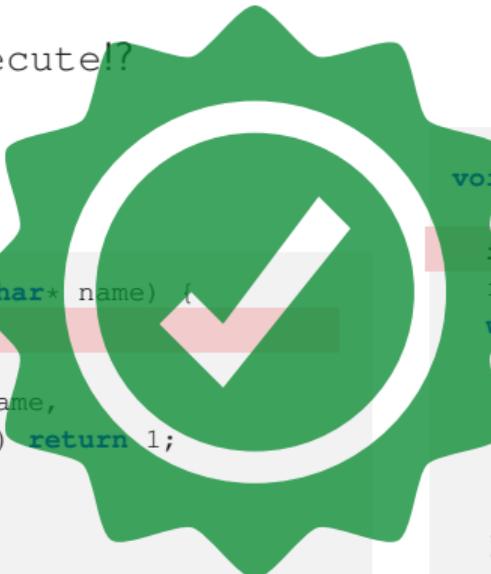
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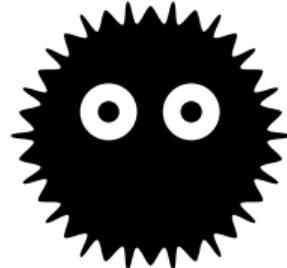
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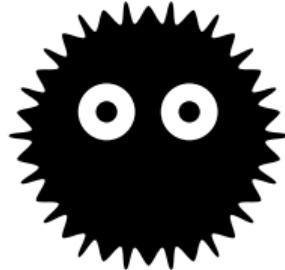
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Practical Example Analysis: Fuzzing



- + Fuzzing can be **fast** and **efficient** → $\approx 4\text{ s}$ for 2 bugs
- + Setting up a (rather dumb) fuzzer is **easy**
- + Finds bugs that are often overlooked when manually testing



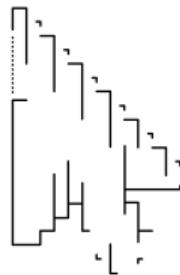
- + Fuzzing can be **fast** and **efficient** → $\approx 4\text{ s}$ for 2 bugs
- + Setting up a (rather dumb) fuzzer is **easy**
- + Finds bugs that are often overlooked when manually testing
- Understanding the **input** leading to a crash can be **complicated**
- Never sure if all bugs were found



Practical Example Impact: Fuzzing

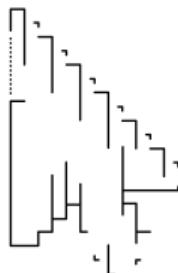


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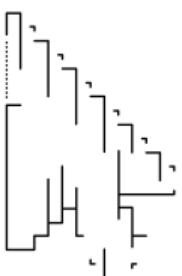


- In this case, only a NULL pointer
- No code execution, but attacker can crash the program





- In this case, only a NULL pointer
- No code execution, but attacker can crash the program
- Potentially dangerous if attacker can manipulate the uninitialized memory



```
typedef void (*function) (char*);  
function func;  
[...]  
func(cmd);
```



- libFuzzer fuzzes **single functions**
- Useful for **libraries**
- Easier to get code coverage
- Used in **Chromium**

THE #1 PROGRAMMER EXCUSE
FOR LEGITIMATELY SLACKING OFF:

"MY CODE'S ~~COMPILING~~."

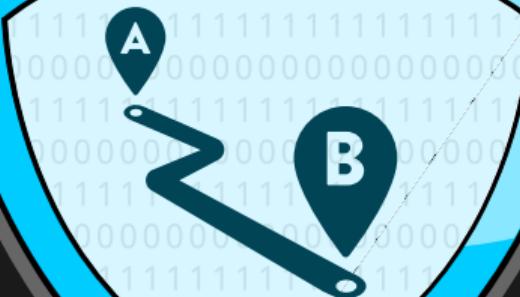
HEY! GET BACK
TO WORK!

Fuzzing!

~~COMPILING!~~

OH. CARRY ON.

**SYMBOLIC
EXECUTION**



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- Programs are **interpreted**, input is modelled using **symbolic values**
- **Variables** can be expressed using the symbolic values
- **Conditional jumps** are constraint by the symbolic values
- Expressions consisting of symbolic values are solved using **SAT solvers** to get concrete input



Illustration of how symbolic execution works

```
x = read();
y = x * 2;
z = y + 4
if (z == 12) {
    bug();
}
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Symbolic Execution

$x = \lambda$



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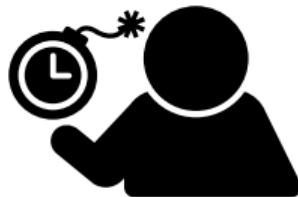
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- Possible solution: Concolic (concrete + symbolic) execution
- Run symbolic execution in parallel with real execution, take real values if symbolic expressions get too complicated



Practical Example: Serial Number (Symbolic Execution)

Serial Number (Symbolic Execution)



```
bool checkSerial(const char *in) {
    int sum = 0;
    int digits = strlen(in);
    int parity = (digits - 1) % 2;
    for (int i = digits; i > 0; i--) {
        char current = in[i - 1];
        if (current < '0' || current > '9')
            return 0;
        int digit = current - '0';

        if (parity == i % 2)
            digit *= 2;

        sum += (digit / 10) + (digit % 10);
    }
    return 0 == sum % 10;
}
```

```
char input[256];

int main() {
    int i;
    puts("Enter verification number");
    fgets(input, 256, stdin);
    if (strlen(input) != 13)
        return 1;

    input[strlen(input) - 1] = 0;
    if (checkSerial(input)) {
        printf("Number validated!\n");
    } else {
        printf("Invalid number\n");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

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Go here

Avoid this

Serial Number (Symbolic Execution)



```
import angr

good = 0x8048630
avoid = (0x8048642)
length = 12

project = angr.Project('main.elf')
state = project.factory.full_init_state()
simgr = project.factory.simgr()
simgr.explore(find=good, avoid=avoid)

s = simgr.found[0]
for i in range(length):
    b = s.memory.load(0x0804a060 + i, 1)
    s.add_constraints(b >= ord('0'), b <= ord('9'))

s.se.eval_upto(s.memory.load(0x0804a060, length), length, cast_to=str)
print("Valid number: %s" % simgr.found[0].state.posix.dumps(0)[0:length])
```



Practical Example Analysis: Serial Number

Serial Number (Symbolic Execution)



```
% gcc -std=gnu99 -m32 -no-pie main.c -o main.elf
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Serial Number (Symbolic Execution)



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% gcc -std=gnu99 -m32 -no-pie main.c -o main.elf
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Valid number: 430009016964
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```
% ./main.elf
Enter verification number
430009016964
Number validated!
```



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$$\frac{700 \cdot 10^{12}}{2.2 \cdot 10^9} \approx 318181 \text{ s} \approx \text{88 hours}$$



Practical Example Impact: Serial Number (Symbolic Execution)



- Possible to find input to get to certain location in binary



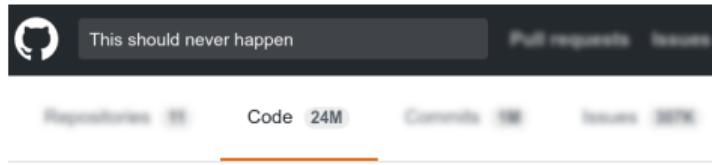


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This should never happen

Repositories 39 Code 24M Commits 39 Issues 38%

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{  
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```

- Find flawed authentication (can it be bypassed?)



You are given a large binary that is hard to reverse-engineer



- You can find the challenge binary in the SSD CTF system
- It will ask you for an input and check its correctness
- If you enter the correct input you get the flag
- Use a disassembler like radare2 and symbolic execution with angr
- **Hint:** Look out for endless loops, and terminate such states
- This is a semi-automated process, use IPython to interact with angr

Automatically Finding Bugs with Symbolic Execution

■

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 - Start fuzzing
 - If fuzzer is stuck, continue with symbolic execution
 - Repeat until whole program is tested



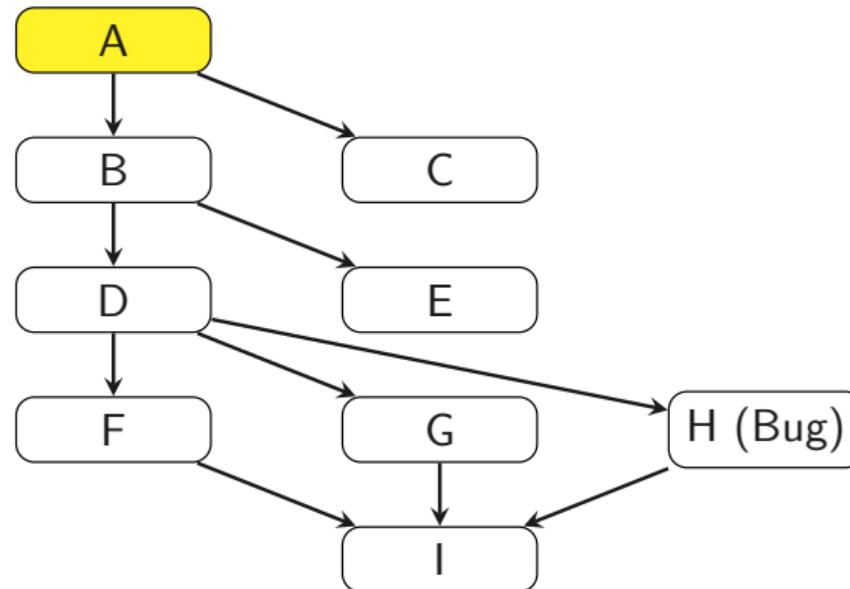


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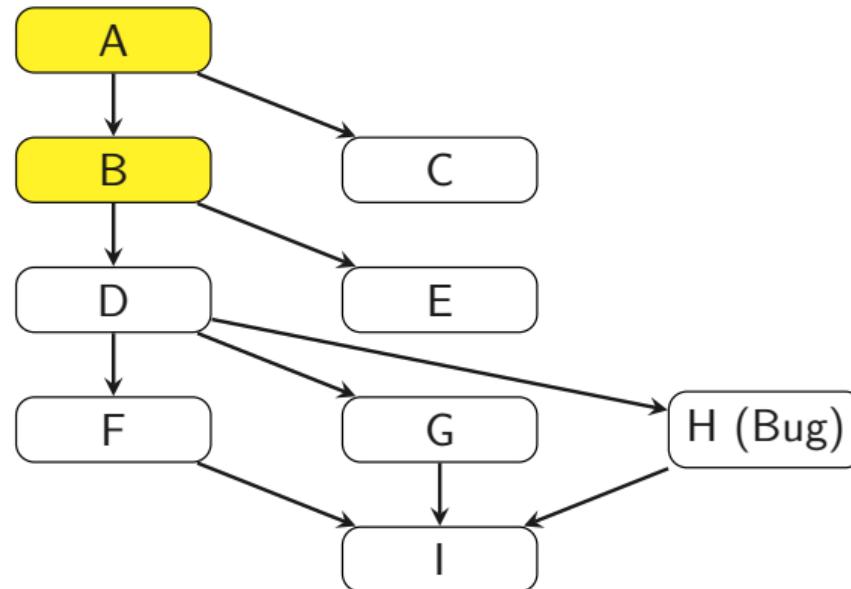
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- Open-source implementation **Driller**: uses AFL + angr

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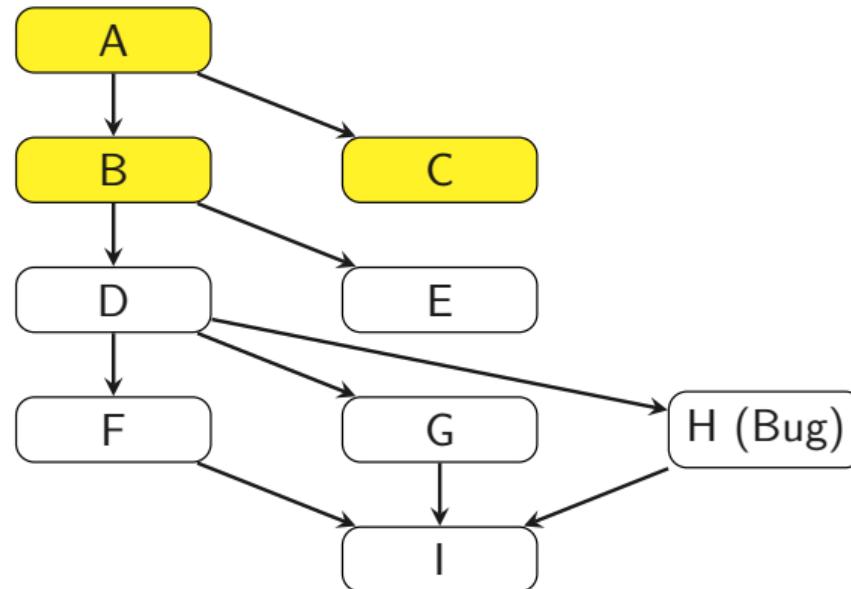
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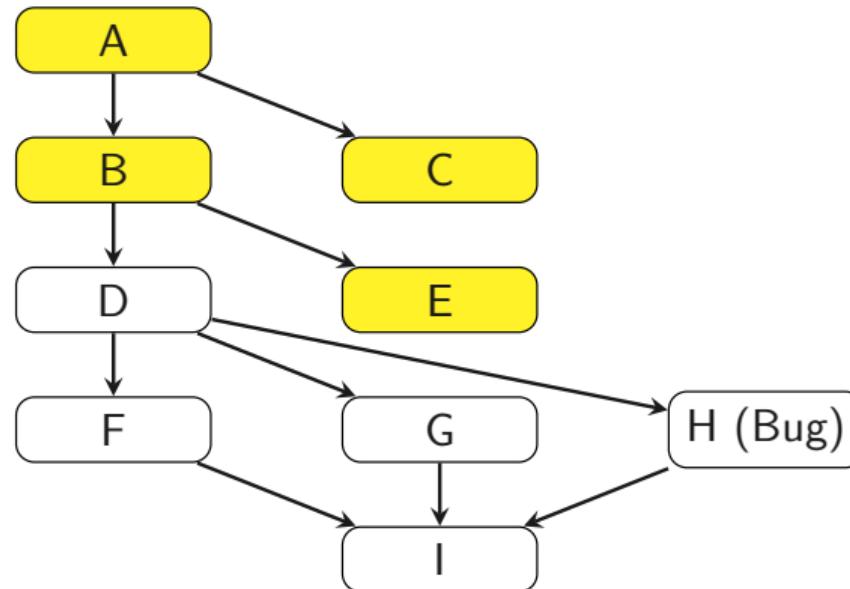
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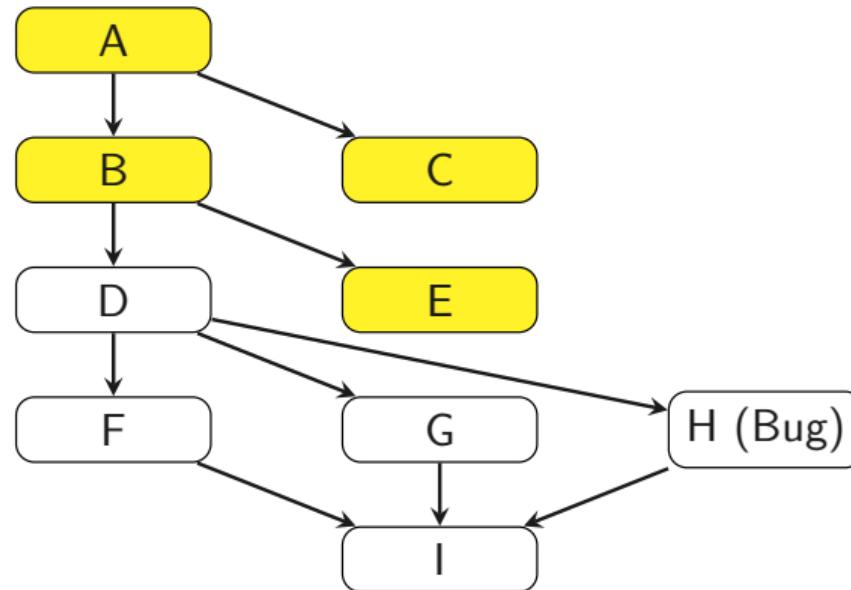
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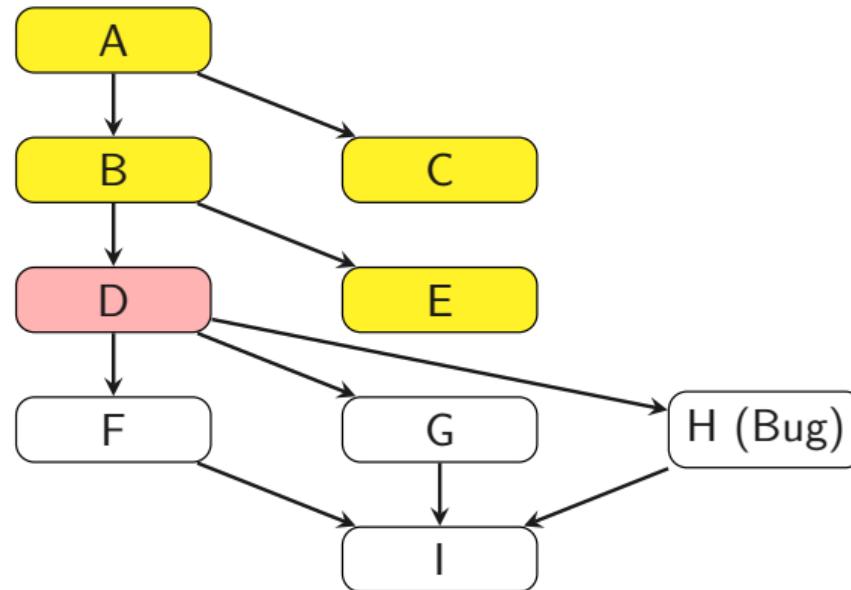
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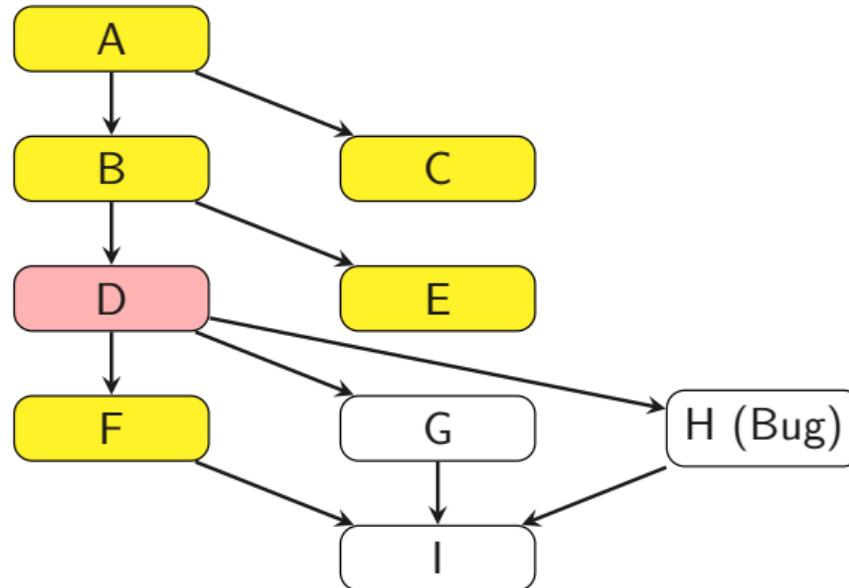
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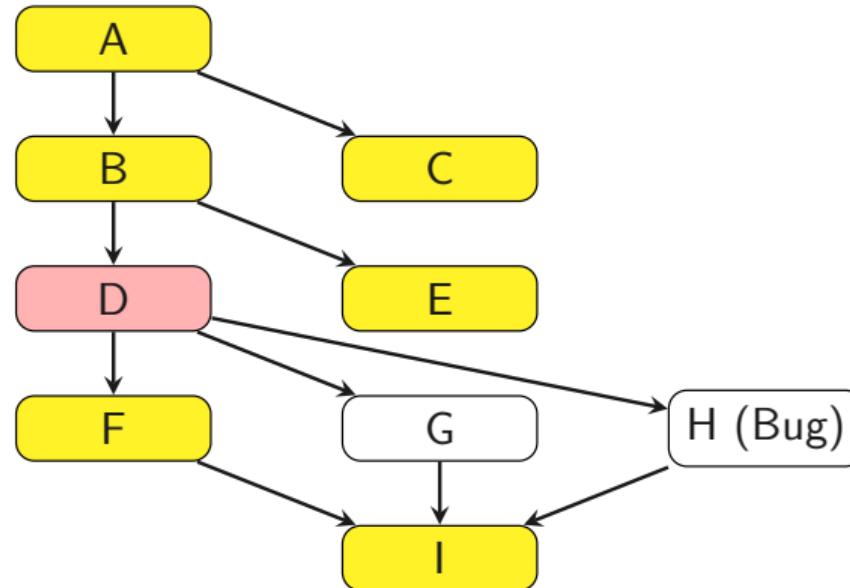
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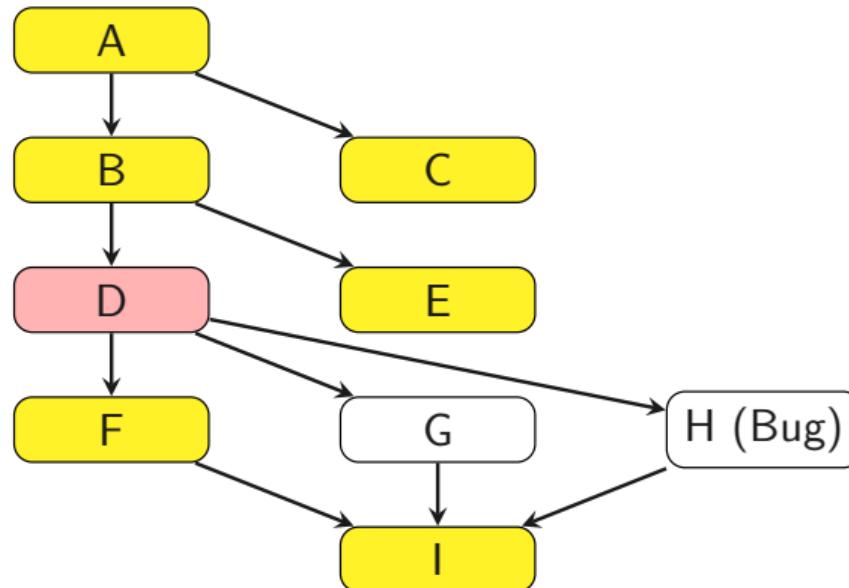
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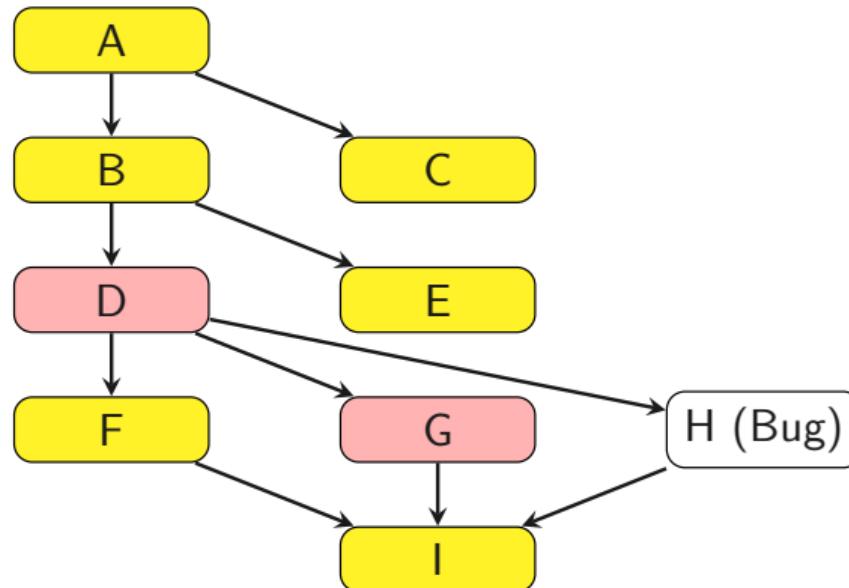
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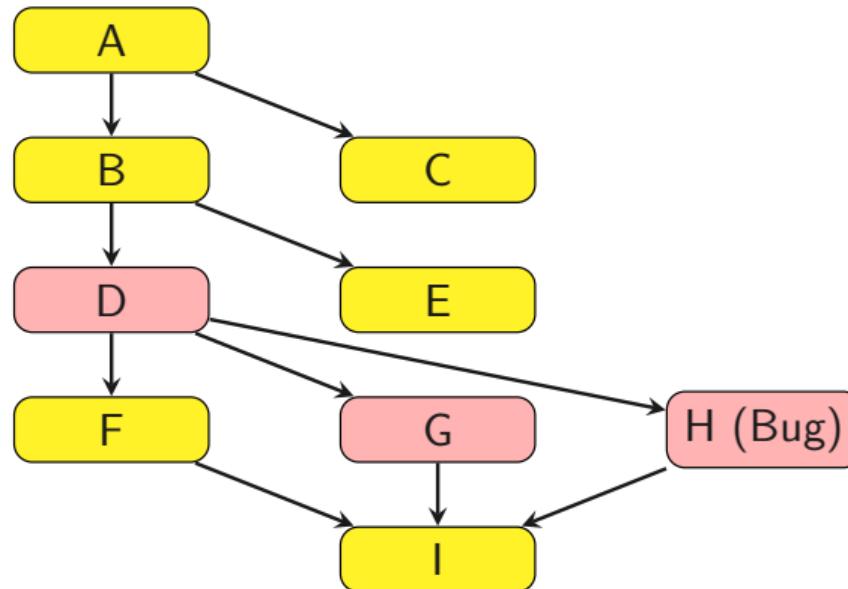
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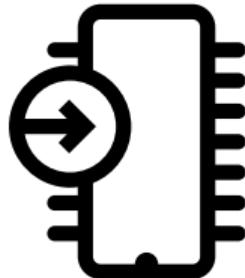
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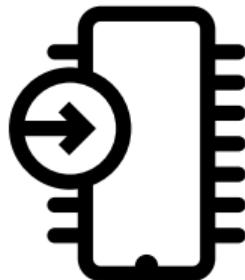
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MEMORY DEBUGGING





- Memory Debugging or Runtime Debugging finds memory problems
- Monitor memory accesses, allocations and deallocations



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- Monitor memory accesses, allocations and deallocations
- Finds bug caused by wrong memory allocation and deallocation
- Can work with source code or binaries only

Memory Debugging - Types of Bugs

■

- **Out-of-bounds** reads/writes, e.g., buffer overflows



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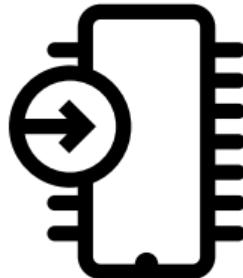
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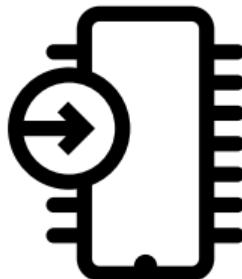
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- Memory **leaks**

How Memory Debugging Works

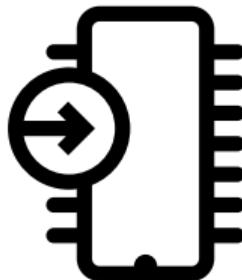


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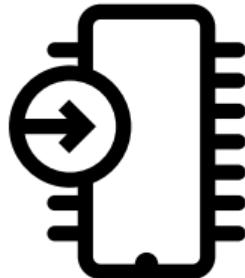


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- Multiple approaches:
 - Replace the dynamic memory allocation **libraries** at compile time
 - Use **dynamic linking** (cf. LD_PRELOAD)
 - Dynamic **binary instrumentation**, *i.e.*, changing binaries at runtime



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- All techniques are used in practice

How Memory Debugging Works - Compile Time

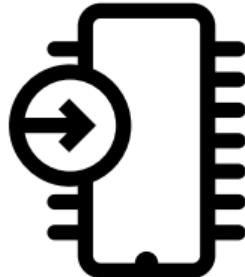


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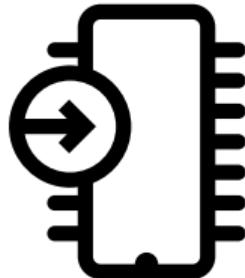
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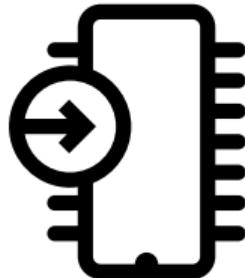
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 - Requires recompilation, *i.e.*, access to the source code
 - Non-negligible memory and runtime overhead

How Memory Debugging Works - Dynamic Linking



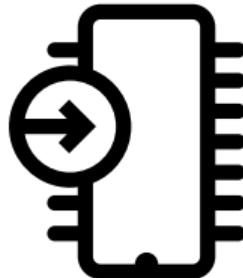
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How Memory Debugging Works - Dynamic Linking



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 - + No source code required

How Memory Debugging Works - Dynamic Linking



- Used in e.g., Electric Fence, can be added at runtime through LD_PRELOAD
 - + No change to program required
 - + No source code required
 - Types of detectable errors are limited
 - High memory overhead

How Memory Debugging Works - Dynamic Linking



- LD_PRELOAD can only replace library functions

How Memory Debugging Works - Dynamic Linking



- LD_PRELOAD can only replace library functions
- Memory reads/writes are not functions

How Memory Debugging Works - Dynamic Linking



- LD_PRELOAD can only replace library functions
- Memory reads/writes are not functions
- How can dynamic-linking-based techniques detect such errors?

How Memory Debugging Works - Dynamic Linking

■

- Use hardware/operating system support



How Memory Debugging Works - Dynamic Linking



- Use hardware/operating system support
- Allocate every buffer so it ends at a **page border**

How Memory Debugging Works - Dynamic Linking



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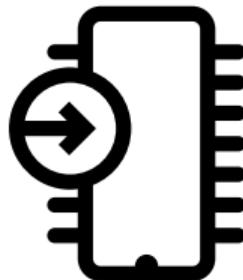


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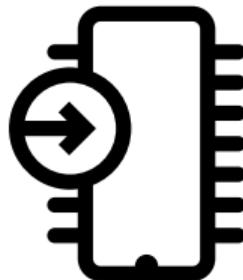
- Out-of-bounds read/write **crashes** the program (segfault)

How Memory Debugging Works - Binary Instrumentation



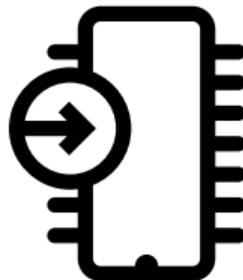
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How Memory Debugging Works - Binary Instrumentation



- Used by e.g., Valgrind's memcheck
- + Does not require source code
- + Can find many types of errors
- Slow
- Highly architecture dependent

How Memory Debugging Works - Binary Instrumentation

■

- Dynamic Binary Instrumentation frameworks...



How Memory Debugging Works - Binary Instrumentation

■

- Dynamic Binary Instrumentation frameworks...
 1. disassemble the binary
 2. add instrumentation code
 3. assemble it back



How Memory Debugging Works - Binary Instrumentation



- Dynamic Binary Instrumentation frameworks...
 1. disassemble the binary
 2. add instrumentation code
 3. assemble it back
- Syscalls are wrapped to track operating system accesses to memory

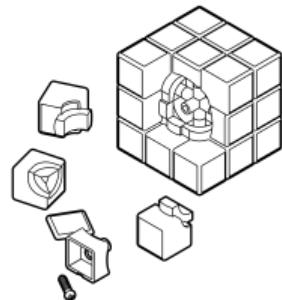
How Memory Debugging Works - Binary Instrumentation



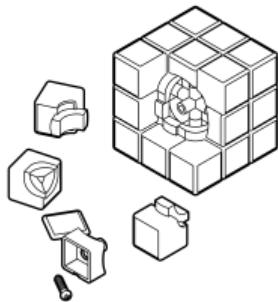
- Dynamic Binary Instrumentation frameworks...
 1. disassemble the binary
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- Syscalls are wrapped to track operating system accesses to memory
- Valgrind framework supports plugins to write arbitrary instrumentation tools

**REVERSE
ENGINEERING**

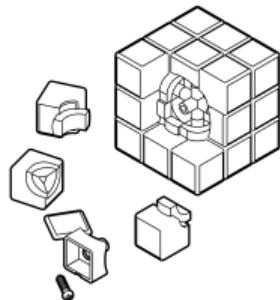




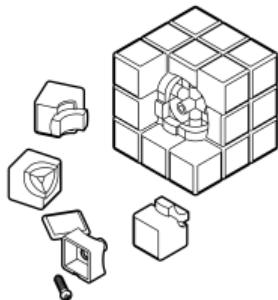
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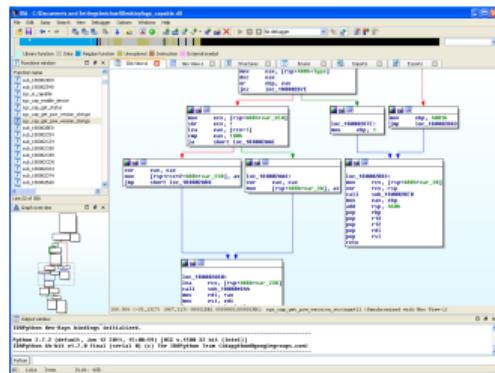
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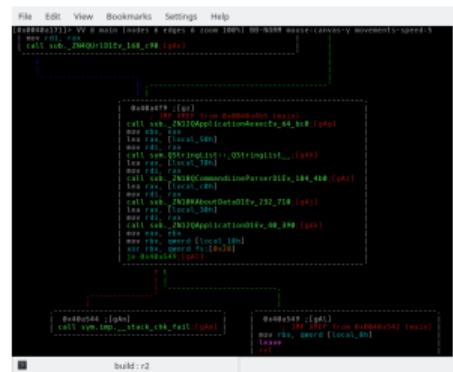
- Reverse Engineering is the process of getting back **source code** from a binary
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- Allows to find **compiler-introduced bugs**
- Re-engineering allows to build a new binary from the reverse engineered binary

Reverse Engineering

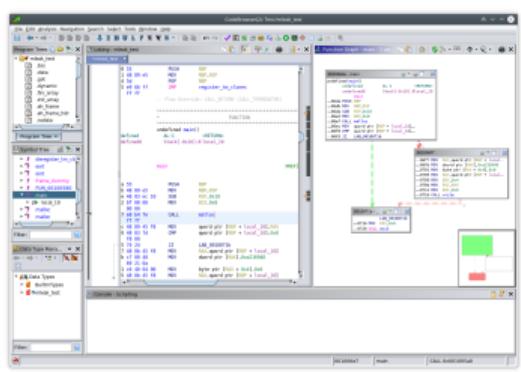
IDA Pro (≥ 1200 €)



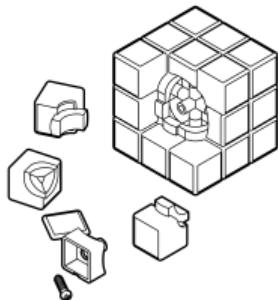
radare2 (open source)

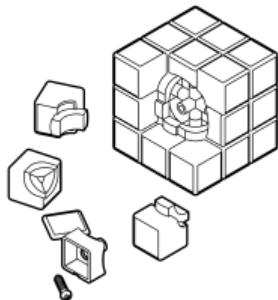


Ghidra (open source)

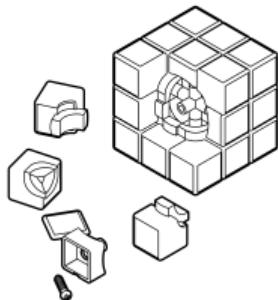


- Disassembler allows to
 - **disassemble** code (get assembly code)
 - **analyze** binaries (dependencies, strings, control flow)
 - **debug** programs (see actual register values, step through code)





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 - **debug** programs (see actual register values, step through code)
- **Decompilers** further convert code to high-level language (C or pseudo code)



- Disassembler allows to
 - **disassemble** code (get assembly code)
 - **analyze** binaries (dependencies, strings, control flow)
 - **debug** programs (see actual register values, step through code)
- **Decompilers** further convert code to high-level language (C or pseudo code)
- Good decompilers cost a lot of money 😞 (IDA Pro - HexRays)



Practical Example: Disassembly vs. Decompilation

Disassembly vs. Decompilation



```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main() {
    char buffer[64];
    printf("Enter password:\n");
    fgets(buffer, 64, stdin);
    if(!strncmp(buffer, "secret1234", 10)) {
        printf("Correct!\n");
    } else {
        printf("Wrong\n");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Disassembly vs. Decompilation



```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main() {
    char buffer[64];
    printf("Enter password:\n");
    fgets(buffer, 64, stdin);
    if(!strncmp(buffer, "secret1234", 10)) {
        printf("Correct!\n");
    } else {
        printf("Wrong\n");
    }
    return 0;
}
% gcc re.c -o re
```



Practical Example Analysis: Disassembly vs. Decompilation

Disassembly vs. Decompilation



```
% r2 re
[0x00400500]> aaaa
[x] Analyze all flags starting with sym. and entry0 (aa)
[x] Analyze len bytes of instructions for references (aar)
[x] Analyze function calls (aac)
[x] Emulate code to find computed references (aae)
[x] Analyze consecutive function (aat)
[x] Constructing a function name for fcn.* and
    sym.func.* functions (aan)
[x] Type matching analysis for all functions (afta)
[0x00400500]> VV @ main
```

Disassembly vs. Decompilation



[0x004005E6]> VV @ main (nodes 4 edges 4 zoom 100%) BB-NORM mouse:canvas-y movements-speed:5

```
[0x004005E6] ; [gs]
[func] main+97
main()
; var int local_40h @ rip=0x40
; DATA XREF from 0x0040051d (entry0)
push rip
push rip
mov rbp, rip
sub rbp, 0x40
; const char * s
; 0x4006e4
; "Enter your password"
mov eax, str.Enter.password
call sys.imp.puts; [gs]
; FILE *stdin
; [0x00101050-8]=0
mov rdx, qword [rbx/stdin]
lea rax, [local_40h]
push rax
sub rbp, 0x14 + 0x40, 0x48
mov edi, eax
call sys.imp.fgets; [gb]
lea rax, [local_40h]
; stdin.rn
mov rdx, 0x1
; const char * s2
; 0x4006e4
; "secret1234"
mov eax, str.secret1234
mov edi, eax
sub rbp, 0x14 + 0x40, 0x48
mov edi, eax
call sys.imp.strncpy; [gc]
test eax, eax
jne 0x00400646; [gd]
```



```
0x40063a ; [gs]
const char * s
; 0x4006EE
; "Correct!"
mov edi, str.Correct
call sys.imp.puts; [gs]
jep 0x00400650; [gf]
```

```
0x400646 ; [gs]
const char * s
; 0x400708
; "Wrong"
mov edi, str.Wrong
call sys.imp.puts; [gs]
```

```
0x400650 ; [gf]
; JMP 0x00400644 (main)
mov eax, 0
leave
ret
```

Disassembly vs. Decompilation



```
call sym.imp.fgets; [gb]
lea rax, [local_40h]
; size_t n
mov edx, 0xa
; const char * s2
; 0x4006f4
; "secret1234"
mov esi, str.secret1234
; const char * s1
mov rdi, rax
call sym.imp.strncmp; [gc]
test eax, eax
jne 0x400646; [gd]
```

f t

```
0x40063a ; [gg]
; const char * s
; 0x4006ff
; "Correct!"
mov edi, str.Correct_
call sym.imp.puts; [ga]
jmp 0x400650; [gf]
```

v

```
0x400646 ; [gd]
; const char * s
; 0x400708
; "Wrong"
mov edi, str.Wrong
call sym.imp.puts; [ga]
```

v

Disassembly vs. Decompilation



IDA - C:\Documents and Settings\michael\My Documents\Downloads\re (1)

File Edit Jump Search View Debugger Options Windows Help

Library function Data Regular function Unexplored Instruction External symbol

Functions ... ID... Ps... He... St... En... Im... Ex...

Function name

- `_init_proc`
- `_strcmp`
- `_puts`

Line 1 of 23

Graph over...

```
1 int __cdecl main(int argc, const char **argv, const char **envp)
2 {
3     char s; // [sp+0h] [bp-40h]@1
4
5     puts("Enter password:");
6     fgets(&s, 64, stdin);
7     if ( !strcmp(&s, "secret1234", 10uLL) )
8         puts("Correct!");
9     else
10        puts("Wrong");
11    return 0;
12 }
```

00000603 main:12 |

Output window

--

Python

AU: idle | Down | Disk: 4GB |

Disassembly vs. Decompilation



CodeBrowser: Test/re

File Edit Analysis Navigation Search Select Tools Window Help

Program Trees X

Decompile: main - (re)

Symbol Tree X

Data Ty... X

Console Scripting

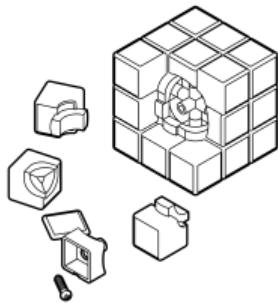
```
1 undefined8 main(void)
2 {
3     int iVar1;
4     char local_48 [64];
5
6     puts("Enter password:");
7     fgets(local_48,0x40,stdin);
8     iVar1 = strncmp(local_48,"secret1234",10);
9     if (iVar1 == 0) {
10         puts("Correct!");
11     }
12     else {
13         puts("Wrong");
14     }
15     return 0;
16 }
```



Practical Example Impact: Disassembly vs. Decompilation

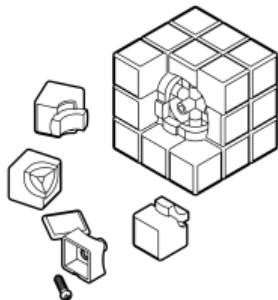


- Disassembler only returns often hard-to-understand assembly code



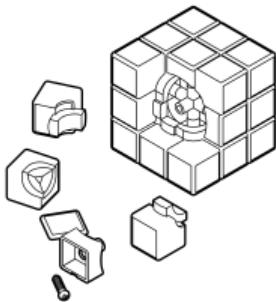


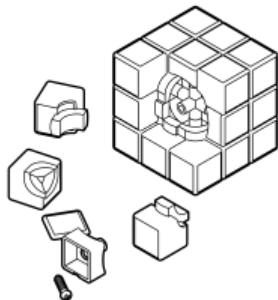
- Disassembler only returns often hard-to-understand assembly code
- Decompilation output is often a lot **easier to read**



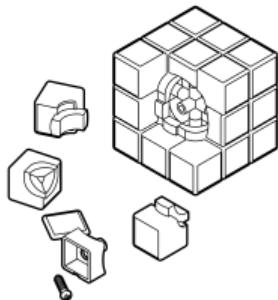


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- However, decompilation is a lot of **magic** - does not always work





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- Highly dependent on
 - architecture
 - used compiler
 - optimization level
 - obfuscation



- Disassembler only returns often hard-to-understand assembly code
- Decompilation output is often a lot **easier to read**
- However, decompilation is a lot of **magic** - does not always work
- Highly dependent on
 - architecture
 - used compiler
 - optimization level
 - obfuscation
- If it works, it gives a quick **overview** for further investigations



Figure out how to run the binary and get the flag

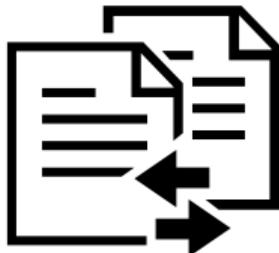


- Hint: It is neither a Linux nor a Windows binary
- If you manage to run it, it will ask for a PIN
- Entering the correct PIN reveals the flag
- Use a disassembler (e.g., radare2)
- Hint: Don't look directly for the flag, look for the PIN

**BINARY
DIFFING**



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- Reveals differences in two binaries, *i.e.*, the bug fix



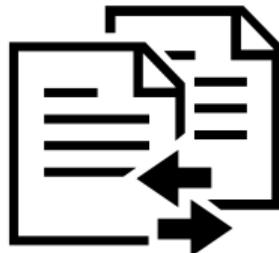
- Security patches for closed-source products often have no (real) **description of the bug**
- The patch is usually available for download
- Binary differencing is like **normal differencing**, except for binaries
- Reveals differences in two binaries, *i.e.*, the bug fix
- Can also be used to find **vulnerable functions** by comparing binary with known vulnerable functions

- Differencing tools use different methods to find matching and unmatched blocks



- Differing tools use different methods to find matching and unmatched blocks
 - Same function **name**
 - Same **assembly**, same decompiled code
 - Equal number of **calls** to and from function
 - Same referenced **strings**
 - ...





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- Differing tools use different methods to find matching and unmatched blocks
 - Same function **name**
 - Same **assembly**, same decompiled code
 - Equal number of **calls** to and from function
 - Same referenced **strings**
 - ...
- Most diff tools rely on the **control-flow graph** from a disassembler
- The **basic blocks** are then matched using some heuristic



Practical Example: 1-day (Binary Differencing)

1-day (Binary Diffing)



```
[0x40117200] ; (g:)
0x40117200 : main+239
main():
; var int local_90h @ rip-0x90
; var char local_90h @ rip-0x90
; var int local_88h @ rip-0x88
; var int local_80h @ rip-0x80
; var int local_78h @ rip-0x78
; var int local_68h @ rip-0x68
; var int local_58h @ rip-0x58
; var int local_48h @ rip-0x48
; var int local_38h @ rip-0x38
; var int local_28h @ rip-0x28
; var int local_18h @ rip-0x18
; var int local_8h @ rip-0x8
; var int local_0h @ rip-0x0
; DATA DWDP from 0x0041056d (entry3)
push esp
pop esp
sub esp, 0x80
mov dword [local_40], 0
mov dword [local_30], 0x80
mov dword [local_10], xai
; ... (code continues)

[0x40004000]
0x40004000 : _main@1
main:
; var int local_90h @ rip-0x90
; var char local_90h @ rip-0x90
; var int local_88h @ rip-0x88
; var int local_80h @ rip-0x80
; var int local_78h @ rip-0x78
; var int local_68h @ rip-0x68
; var int local_58h @ rip-0x58
; var int local_48h @ rip-0x48
; var int local_38h @ rip-0x38
; var int local_28h @ rip-0x28
; var int local_18h @ rip-0x18
; var int local_8h @ rip-0x8
; var int local_0h @ rip-0x0
; DATA DWDP from 0x0041056d (entry3)
push esp
pop esp
sub esp, 0x80
mov dword [local_40], 0
mov dword [local_30], 0x80
mov dword [local_10], xai
; ... (code continues)

0x4010894 : (g:)
; 0x40004000 from 0x14001000 (4x10)
```

- Given a binary with an **unknown bug**



1-day (Binary Differencing)

```
[0x0403120]> W @ main (nodes 4 edges 4 ecols 100%) B2-NODES mouse cursor=yg movement-speed:5
[0x0403120] ; (g)
  [fcn] main 239
    main () {
        ; var char local_90h @ rip-0x90
        ; var int local_88h @ rip-0x88
        ; var int local_80h @ rip-0x80
        ; var int local_78h @ rip-0x78
        ; var int local_68h @ rip-0x68
        ; var int local_58h @ rip-0x58
        ; var int local_48h @ rip-0x48
        ; var int local_38h @ rip-0x38
        ; var int local_28h @ rip-0x28
        ; var int local_18h @ rip-0x18
        ; var int local_8h @ rip-0x8
        ; var int local_0h @ rip-0x0
        ; DATA FWP from 0x0041056d (entry3)
    push esp
    mov esp, esp
    sub esp, 0x60
    mov dword [local_40], 0
    mov dword [local_38], 0
    mov dword [local_18], xax
    ; fcc
    ; [0x0403120+4]=5
    cmp dword [local_18], 2
    jne 0x0403166 (gp)

    fcc
    ; [0x0403120+8]=5
    xor eax, eax
    ; char *endptr
    mov eax, endptr
    mov al, 0
    xor eax, eax
    mov scx, endptr
    mov scx, cqword [local_10h]
    ; [0x0403120+12]=1
    ; [0x0403120+16]=1
    mov sc1, cqword [scx + 8]
    call eye_sep_start; (gc)
    less rsi, [local_60h]
    jne 0x0403120, rax
    mov scnd, local_60h, rax
    mov sc1, cqword [local_88h]
    mov sc2, cqword [local_80h]
    mov sc3, cqword [local_78h]
    mov sc4, cqword [local_68h]
    mov sc5, cqword [local_58h], rdi
    mov sc1, rax
    mov sc2, cqword [local_90h], rax
    mov scnd, rip - 0x84, rax
    call eye_sep_fini; (g)
    ; [0x0403120+20]=1
    movwka rsi, 0x4C0B88
    ; char +6
    mov sc1, cqword [local_30h]
    mov sc2, cqword [local_30h]
    mov sc3, cqword [rip - 0x84]
    mov sc4, cqword [local_30h]
    mov sc5, rax
    mov al, 0
    call eye_sep_end; (g)
    ; [0x0403120+24]=1
    movwka rdi, 0x4C0B83
    less rsi, [local_60h]
    jne 0x0403120, rax
    mov scnd, rip - 0x84, rax
    mov al, 0
    call eye_sep_fini; (g)
    mov scnd, rip - 0x84, rax
    jne 0x0403120, rax
}
[0x0403120+8] ; (g)
; DATA FWP from 0x0403166 (entry3)
```

- Given a binary with an **unknown bug**
- The vendor released a **patch**, fixing the vulnerability



1-day (Binary Differencing)

```
[0x0000120]> W @ main (nodes 4 edges 4 ecols 100%) B2-NODES mouse cursor=yg movementSpeed:5
      [0x0000120] ; (g)
      [fcn] main 239
      main () {
        ; var char local_90h @ rip-0x90
        ; var int local_88h @ rip-0x88
        ; var int local_80h @ rip-0x80
        ; var int local_78h @ rip-0x78
        ; var int local_68h @ rip-0x68
        ; var int local_58h @ rip-0x58
        ; var int local_48h @ rip-0x48
        ; var int local_38h @ rip-0x38
        ; var int local_28h @ rip-0x28
        ; var int local_18h @ rip-0x18
        ; var int local_8h @ rip-0x8
        ; var int local_0h @ rip-0x0
        ; DATA FWP from 0x0041056d (entry3)
        push rip
        mov rbp, rip
        sub rbp, 0x60
        mov dword [local_40], 0
        mov dword [local_38], 0x4000
        mov dword [local_10], 0x4000
        ; .ok
        ; [0x0000120+4]=5
        cmp dword [local_08], 2
        jne 0x0000120+6 (p)
      }

      f2
      |
      +-----+
      | 0x0000120+4 (g)
      | xor rax, rax
      | ; char *msgptr
      | mov rsi, rax
      | mov rdi, rax
      | xor rax, rax
      | mov rax, qword [local_10h]
      | ; [0x0000120+4+8]=1
      | mov rdx, qword [rax+8]
      | call eye_swp_startl (p)
      | les rsi, [local_90h]
      | mov rdx, 0x4000
      | mov qword [local_58h], rax
      | mov rdx, qword [local_88h]
      | mov rax, qword [local_80h]
      | mov rdx, qword [local_78h]
      | mov qword [local_68h], rdx
      | mov rax, rax
      | mov rdx, qword [local_90h]
      | xor qword [rip - 0x40], rdx
      | call eye_swp_hlt (p)
      | ; [0x0000120+4+10]=1
      | movq rax, 0x40000000
      | ; char +6
      | mov rcl, qword [local_30h]
      | mov rdx, qword [rip - 0x40]
      | mov rax, qword [local_30h]
      | mov rdx, qword [local_30h]
      | xor rax, rax
      | mov al, 0
      | call eye_swp_endr, (p)
      | ; [0x0000120+4+14]=1
      | movw rdi, 0x400003
      | les rsi, [local_60h]
      | xor rdx, qword [rip - 0x40], rax
      | mov rax, 0
      | call eye_swp_grind, (p)
      | mov qword [rip - 0x40], rax
      | jne 0x0000120+6 (p)
      |
      v
      +-----+
      | 0x0000120+6 (g)
      | ; DATA FWP from 0x0041056d (entry3)
```

- Given a binary with an **unknown bug**
- The vendor released a **patch**, fixing the vulnerability
- Fixed bug has **no documentation...**
- ...but we have both the patched (patched) and original (vuln) **binary**



```
% ./vuln  
Usage: ./vuln <number>
```

1-day (Binary Differencing)



```
% ./vuln  
Usage: ./vuln <number>
```

```
% ./vuln 123  
Dec: 123  
Hex: 0x7b  
Bin: 0b1111011
```



```
% radiff2 -AAAAAC vuln patched
```

1-day (Binary Differencing)



```
% radiff2 -AAAAAC vuln patched
```

sym._init	26	0x4004a8	UNMATCH	(0.923077)	0x4004e0	26	sym._init
sym.imp.strcpy	32	0x4004e0	UNMATCH	(0.906250)	0x400510	32	sym.imp.strcpy
sym.imp.printf	48	0x4004f0	UNMATCH	(0.854167)	0x400530	48	sym.imp.printf
sym.imp.__libc_start_main	48	0x400500	UNMATCH	(0.854167)	0x400550	48	sym.imp.__libc_start_main
sym.imp.strtol	48	0x400510	UNMATCH	(0.854167)	0x400560	48	sym.imp.strtol
sym.imp.strcat	48	0x400520	UNMATCH	(0.854167)	0x400520	48	sym.imp.strlen
sym.imp.sprintf	48	0x400530	UNMATCH	(0.854167)	0x400570	48	sym.imp.sprintf
fcn.00400540	57	0x400540	MATCH	(0.192982)	0x400580	57	fcn.00400580
sym.unregister_tm_clones	35	0x400580	UNMATCH	(0.914286)	0x4005c0	35	sym.unregister_tm_clones
sym.to_bin	236	0x400630	MATCH	(0.723776)	0x400670	286	sym.to_bin
sym.imp.strncat	48	0x400540	NEW	(0.000000)			

1-day (Binary Differencing)



```
% radiff2 -AAAAAC vuln patched
```

sym._init	26	0x4004a8	UNMATCH	(0.923077)	0x4004e0	26	sym._init
sym.imp.strcpy	32	0x4004e0	UNMATCH	(0.906250)	0x400510	32	sym.imp.strcpy
sym.imp.printf	48	0x4004f0	UNMATCH	(0.854167)	0x400530	48	sym.imp.printf
sym.imp.__libc_start_main	48	0x400500	UNMATCH	(0.854167)	0x400550	48	sym.imp.__libc_start_main
sym.imp.strtol	48	0x400510	UNMATCH	(0.854167)	0x400560	48	sym.imp.strtol
sym.imp.strcat	48	0x400520	UNMATCH	(0.854167)	0x400520	48	sym.imp.strlen
sym.imp.sprintf	48	0x400530	UNMATCH	(0.854167)	0x400570	48	sym.imp.sprintf
fcn.00400540	57	0x400540	MATCH	(0.192982)	0x400580	57	fcn.00400580
sym.deregister_tm_clones	35	0x400580	UNMATCH	(0.914286)	0x4005c0	35	sym.deregister_tm_clones
sym.to_bin	236	0x400630	MATCH	(0.723776)	0x400670	286	sym.to_bin
sym.imp.strncat	48	0x400540	NEW	(0.000000)			



Practical Example Analysis: 1-day (Binary Differencing)

1-day (Binary Differencing)



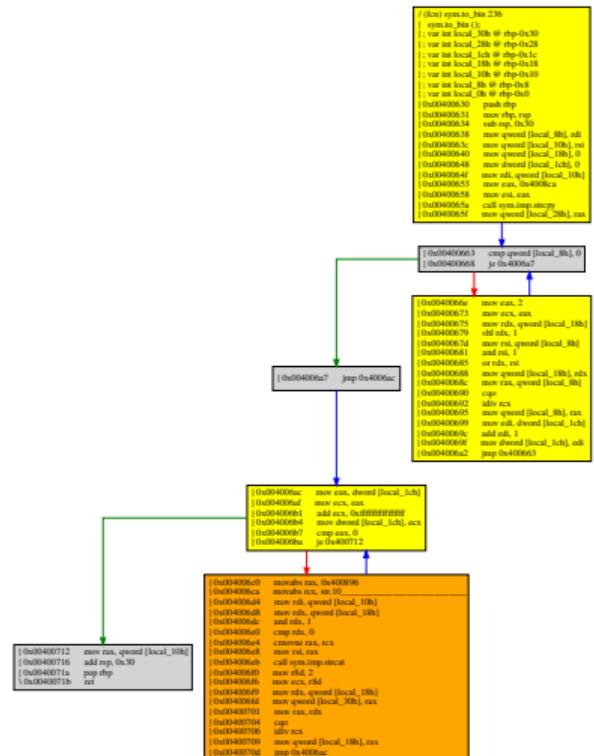
```
% radiff2 -g sym.to_bin vuln patched | xdot -
```

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% radiff2 -g sym.to_bin patched vuln | xdot -
```

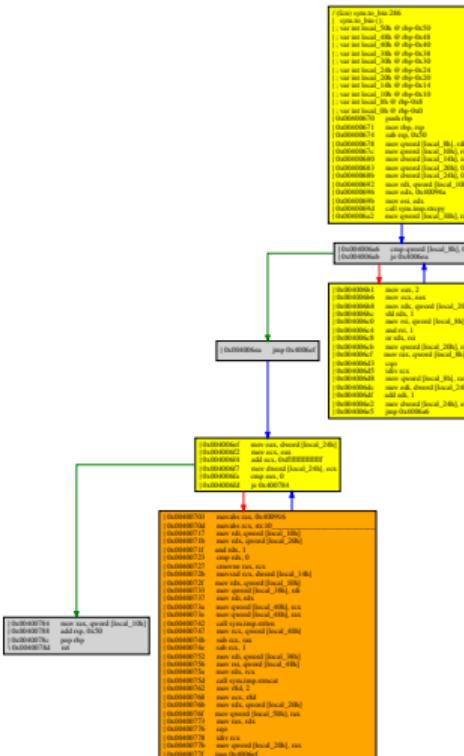
1-day (Binary Differencing)



```
% radiff2 -g sym.to_bin vuln patched | xdot -
```



```
% radiff2 -g sym.to_bin patched | xdot -
```



1-day (Binary Differencing)



```
| 0x004006c0 movabs rax, 0x400896
| 0x004006ca movabs rcx, str.10
| 0x004006d4 mov rdi, qword [local_10h]
| 0x004006d8 mov rdx, qword [local_18h]
| 0x004006dc and rdx, 1
| 0x004006e0 cmp rdx, 0
| 0x004006e4 cmovne rax, rcx
| 0x004006e8 mov rsi, rax
| 0x004006eb call sym.imp.strcat
| 0x004006f0 mov r8d, 2
| 0x004006f6 mov ecx, r8d
| 0x004006f9 mov rdx, qword [local_18h]
| 0x004006fd mov qword [local_30h], rax
| 0x00400701 mov rax, rdx
| 0x00400704 cqo
| 0x00400706 idiv rcx
| 0x00400709 mov qword [local_18h], rax
| 0x0040070d jmp 0x4006ac
```

Original (vuln)

```
| 0x00400703 movabs rax, 0x400916
| 0x0040070d movabs rcx, str.10
| 0x00400717 mov rdi, qword [local_10h]
| 0x0040071b mov rdx, qword [local_20h]
| 0x0040071f and rdx, 1
| 0x00400723 cmp rdx, 0
| 0x00400727 cmovne rax, rcx
| 0x0040072b movsxd rcx, dword [local_14h]
| 0x0040072f mov rdx, qword [local_10h]
| 0x00400733 mov qword [local_38h], rdi
| 0x00400737 mov rdi, rdx
| 0x0040073a mov qword [local_40h], rcx
| 0x0040073e mov qword [local_48h], rax
| 0x00400742 call sym.imp.strlen
| 0x00400747 mov rcx, qword [local_40h]
| 0x0040074b sub rcx, rax
| 0x0040074e sub rcx, 1
| 0x00400752 mov rdi, qword [local_38h]
| 0x00400756 mov rsi, qword [local_48h]
| 0x0040075a mov rdx, rcx
| 0x0040075d call sym.imp.strncat
| 0x00400762 mov r8d, 2
| 0x00400768 mov ecx, r8d
| 0x0040076b mov rdx, qword [local_20h]
| 0x0040076f mov qword [local_50h], rax
| 0x00400773 mov rax, rdx
| 0x00400776 cqo
| 0x00400778 idiv rcx
| 0x0040077b mov qword [local_20h], rax
| 0x0040077f jmp 0x4006ef
```

Patched (patched)

1-day (Binary Differencing)



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| 0x004006ca movabs rcx, str.10  
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```

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```

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Patched (patched)

1-day (Binary Differencing)



```
% ./vuln 9999999999  
Dec: 9999999999  
Hex: 0x2540be3ff  
Bin: 0b1001010100000010111100011111111Dec: 9999999999  
Hex: 0x2540be3ff  
Bin: 0b100  
  
[1] 27986 segmentation fault (core dumped) ./vuln 9999999999
```

1-day (Binary Differencing)



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Hex: 0x2540be3ff  
Bin: 0b1001010100000010111100011111111Dec: 9999999999  
Hex: 0x2540be3ff  
Bin: 0b100  
  
[1] 27986 segmentation fault (core dumped) ./vuln 9999999999
```

```
% ./patched 9999999999  
Dec: 9999999999  
Hex: 0x2540be3ff  
Bin: 0b1001010100000010111100011111
```



Practical Example Impact: 1-day (Binary Differencing)



- Binary differencing is a way to reverse engineer **patches**





- Binary differencing is a way to reverse engineer **patches**
- If there are not many changes, vulnerability can be quickly spotted



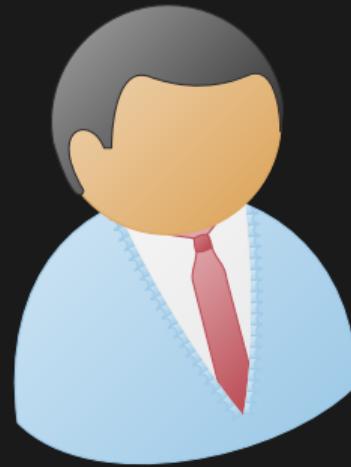
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- Binary differencing is a way to reverse engineer **patches**
- If there are not many changes, vulnerability can be quickly spotted
- Knowledge of the vulnerability allows attackers to craft **exploits**
- As long as patches are not applied, such **1-days** are effective
- Also a starting point for same/similar bugs in the program



Real-world Example: Apple's Password Hint Bug

Apple's Password Hint Bug



- macOS Sierra had a bug in the **file-system encryption**

Apple's Password Hint Bug



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- User can set a **password hint** which can be displayed

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Apple's Password Hint Bug



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- User can set a **password hint** which can be displayed
- However, the password **hint** was **never shown**, but...
- ...the **password was shown** instead



Apple's Password Hint Bug



Security experts used **binary diffing** on the patch...

```
1 if ( v50 )
2     objc_msgSend(v19, "setObject:forKey:", v50, CFSTR("kSKAPFSDiskPasswordOption"));
3 if ( a9 )
4     objc_msgSend(v19, "setObject:forKey:", v50, CFSTR("kSKAPFSDiskPasswordHintOption"));
    
```

U:--- OldStorageKit.txt All (5,0) [i] (ObjC/1 FlyC- Projectile[-] SP/s)

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[]
```

U:--- OldStorageKit.txt All (5,0) [i] (ObjC/1 FlyC- Projectile[-] SP/s)

...to discover that it was a **copy&paste fail**

```
1 if ( v51 )
2     objc_msgSend(v19, "setObjectForKey:", v51, CFSTR("kSKAPFSDiskPasswordOption"));
3 if ( v49 )
4     objc_msgSend(v19, "setObjectForKey:", v49, CFSTR("kSKAPFSDiskPasswordHintOption"));
[]
```

U:--- NewStorageKit.txt All (5,0) [i] (ObjC/1 FlyC- Projectile[-] SP/s)



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- **Incorporate** bug finding **tools** into your **development process**
- It **does not cost a lot** to compile with sanitizers, run static code analysis, fuzz your software, ...
- ...but it **eliminates many bugs** (for free)

Questions?

```
#include <stdio.h>  
  
int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {  
    printf(argv[0]);  
    return 0;  
}
```

**There are no bugs,
just happy little accidents**



Further Reading i

-  Nicholas Nethercote and Julian Seward.
Valgrind: a framework for heavyweight dynamic binary instrumentation.
In ACM Sigplan notices, 2007.
-  Jeongwook Oh.
Fight against 1-day exploits: Differing binaries vs anti-differing binaries.
Black Hat, 2009.
-  Yan Shoshitaishvili, Ruoyu Wang, Christopher Salls, Nick Stephens, Mario Polino, Audrey Dutcher, John Grosen, Siji Feng, Christophe Hauser, Christopher Kruegel, and Giovanni Vigna.
SoK: (State of) The Art of War: Offensive Techniques in Binary Analysis.
In IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy, 2016.

-  Nick Stephens, John Grosen, Christopher Salls, Andrew Dutcher, Ruoyu Wang, Jacopo Corbetta, Yan Shoshitaishvili, Christopher Kruegel, and Giovanni Vigna.
Driller: Augmenting fuzzing through selective symbolic execution.
In [NDSS](#), 2016.