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 - Where might I parallelize?
 - Tolerate errors.
 - Manage memory / resources.

e.g. Reverse Engineering

Static CFG (from e.g. Apple Fairplay):



This is the result of a control flow flattening obfuscation.

[http://tigress.cs.arizona.edu/transformPage/docs/flatten/]

e.g. Reverse Engineering

Static CFG (from e.g. Apple Fairplay):



Dynamically Simplified CFG:



- Can record the execution
 - Record to a trace
 - Analyze post mortem / offline
 - Scalability issues: need enough space to store it

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- Scalability issues: need enough space to store it
- Can perform analysis online
 - *Instrument* the program
 - Modified program invokes code to 'analyze' itself
- Can do both
 - Lightweight recording
 - Instrument a replayed instance of the execution

Knowing where we are spending time is useful:

• **Goal:** Which basic blocks execute most frequently?

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• Abstraction

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• **Goal:** How often does an acyclic path execute?



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- Goal: How often does an acyclic path execute?
 - Could log the trace...
 - Could encode the paths

Path	Encoding
ABDEF	0
ABDF	1
ABCDEF	2
ABCDF	3
ACDEF	4
ACDF	5



• Step 1: Count the # of paths from each node to the exit




















































- Naive:
 - Keep a dictionary (*large*)



How do we know which IDs map to which paths?

- Naive:
 - Keep a dictionary (*large*)

Why could it be large?



- Naive:
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- Better:
 - Decode using same graph
 - Follow the CFG and only one path will 'fit'



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104.hydro2d	811.0	37.7	5.8	6.5	1690.7	1.7	77.8	43.1
107.mgrid	872.0	6.3	3.2	2.0	1035.2	1.0	7.7	133.5
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Are there cases where this approach fails?

• What about loops / cycles?



- What about loops / cycles?
 - Does the existing approach work?



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 - "What were frequent paths for this input"
 - "What were frequent paths for this set of inputs"
- What if you don't have an input for the behavior you want to analyze?









- Dynamic Analysis
 - Analyzed \subseteq Feasible

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- Dynamic Analysis
 - Analyzed \subseteq Feasible
 - As # tests \uparrow , Analyzed \rightarrow Feasible



How / When to Instrument

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 - LLVM, CIL, Soot, Wala, ...
 - During (re)compilation
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• Static Binary Rewriting

- Uroboros, DynamoRIO, SecondWrite,
- Applies to arbitrary binaries
- Imprecise IR info, but more complete binary behavior
- Dynamic Binary Instrumentation
 - Valgrind, Pin, Qemu (& other Vms)
 - Can adapt at runtime, but less info than IR

In general, 2-3 phases occur:

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 - Add code to the program for data collection/analysis

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Very, *very* common mistake to mix 1 & 2.

Static Instrumentation

- 1) Compile whole program to IR
- 2) Instrument / add code directly to the IR
- 3) Generate new program that performs tracing/analysis
- 4) Execute

Dynamic Binary Instrumentation

- 1) Compile program as usual
- 2) Run program under analysis framework (Valgrind, PIN, Qemu, etc)
- 3) Instrument & execute in same command:
 - Fetch & instrument each basic block individually
 - Execute each basic block

valgrind --tool=memcheck ./myBuggyProgram

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- Static instrumentation
- Finds:
 - Use-after-free
 - {heap,stack,global}-buffer overflows
- Used extensively in Google programs like Chrome

How?

Replaces malloc & free

How?

- Replaces malloc & free
- Memory around malloced chunks is *poisoned*

ptr = malloc(sizeof(MyStruct));



How?

- Replaces malloc & free
- Memory around malloced chunks is poisoned
- Freed memory is poisoned



How?

- Replaces malloc & free
- Memory around malloced chunks is poisoned
- Freed memory is poisoned
- Space around buffers is poisoned



How?

- Replaces malloc & free
- Memory around malloced chunks is poisoned
- Freed memory is poisoned
- Space around buffers is poisoned
- Any access of a poisoned value reports an error.

• • •







Difficult! Why?

- Instrumenting every memory access is costly
- Tracking the status of all memory is tricky



Need to know whether *any byte* of application memory is poisoned.

Application Memory
• Maintain 2 views on memory:



- Shadow memory is a pervasive dynamic analysis tool
 - For every bit/byte/word/chunk/allocation/page, maintain information in a compact table

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Where have you encountered this before? (Think OS)

- Shadow memory is a pervasive dynamic analysis tool
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 - First k bytes are unpoisoned: shadow value is k.

Memory: Shadow: 5

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- The shadow memory itself must also be considered poisoned.



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- Modify the program's behavior in order to collect information.
- Analyze this information either online or offline.

Moving Forward

• Yet often you will want to deeply analyze a program without running it at all...