

***What the (s)hell is
this abomination??!***

Reverse engineering of black-box binaries with symbolic and concolic execution techniques

or

“Why huge control-flow-graphs don’t scare me anymore”

REcon Montreal 2022 | Jannis Kirschner



Jannis Kirschner

- Independent **Vulnerability Researcher**
- **Reverse Engineer & Exploit Developer**
- Passionate **CTF Player**

- Found major vulns in **e-voting systems**, **wifi routers** and **embedded devices** with my research team ***suid.ch***



Views are my own and not related to my employer

 @xorkiwi

 /in/janniskirschner

Who are you?



Example: z3_robot (SharkyCTF2020)



I made a robot that can only communicate with "z3". He locked himself and now he is asking me for a password !

<https://ctftime.org/event/1034>

Creator : Nofix

Pts: 189

Static Analysis

```
_ | ||//\n>==() | | ()/\n  \"_(_)\n  [*]#(_\n  ( )...(\ )(_)\n  ||\n  );\n  sym.imp.puts(_obj.pass);\n  sym.imp.printf(0x1589);\n  sym.imp.fflush(_reloc.stdout);\n  sym.imp.fgets((int64_t)&var_34h + 4, 0x19, _reloc.stdin);\n  iVar2 = sym.imp.strcspn((int64_t)&var_34h + 4, 0x158d);\n  *(undefined *)((int64_t)&var_34h + iVar2 + 4) = 0;\n  cVar1 = sym.check_flag((char *)((int64_t)&var_34h + 4));\n  if (cVar1 == '\x01') {\n    sym.imp.puts(\n      \"_||//\\n>==() | | ()/\n      \"_(_)\n      [*]#(_\n      ( )...(\ )(_)\n      ||\n      );\n      sym.imp.printf("Well done, validate with shkCTF{%s}\\n", (int64_t)&var_34\nh + 4);\n    } else {\n      sym.imp.puts(\n        \"_||//\\n>==() | | ()/\n        \"_(_)\n        [*]#(_\n        ( )...(\ )(_)\n        ||\n        );\n        sym.imp.puts("3Z Z3 z3 zz3 zz33");\n    }\n  }
```

x86_64 ELF Binary

Not Stripped

Main function reads 24
chars via stdin and
passes to “check_flag”
function for validation

Trying to bruteforce

```
sym.imp.fgets((int64_t)&var_34h + 4, 0x19, _reloc.stdin);
```

Binary asks for a 24 characters long passphrase

Brute-forcing it would be infeasible!

Password Length	Numerical 0-9	Upper & Lower case a-Z	Numerical Upper & Lower case 0-9 a-Z	Numerical Upper & Lower case Special characters 0-9 a-Z %\$
1	instantly	instantly	instantly	instantly
2	instantly	instantly	instantly	instantly
3	instantly	instantly	instantly	instantly
4	instantly	instantly	instantly	instantly
5	instantly	instantly	instantly	instantly
6	instantly	instantly	instantly	20 sec
7	instantly	2 sec	6 sec	49 min
8	instantly	1 min	6 min	5 days
9	instantly	1 hr	6 hr	2 years
10	instantly	3 days	15 days	330 years
11	instantly	138 days	3 years	50k years
12	2 sec	20 years	162 years	8m years
13	16 sec	1k years	10k years	1bn years
14	3 min	53k years	622k years	176bn years
15	26 min	3m years	39m years	27tn years
16	4 hr	143m years	2bn years	4qdn years
17	2 days	7bn years	148bn years	619qdn years
18	18 days	388bn years	9tn years	94qtn years
19	183 days	20tn years	570tn years	14sxn years
20	5 years	1qdn years	35qdn years	2sptn years

Sooooo...how can we solve such challenge?

$$2l = (A + \eta)^2 + \kappa^2 \text{ and}$$

Solving it manually

```
[0x00000760]> pdg @ sym.check_flag

undefined8 sym.check_flag(char *arg1)
{
    undefined8 uVar1;
    uint8_t uVar2;
    char *var_8h;

    if (((((((((uint8_t)(arg1[0x14] ^ 0x2bU) == arg1[7]) && ((int32_t)arg1[0x1
5] - (int32_t)arg1[3] == -0x14)) &&
            (arg1[2] >> 6 == '\0')) && ((arg1[0xd] == 't' && (((int32_t)arg1[0
xb] & 0x3fffffffU) == 0x5f)))) &&
        ((uVar2 = (uint8_t)(arg1[0x11] >> 7) >> 5,
         (int32_t)arg1[7] >> ((arg1[0x11] + uVar2 & 7) - uVar2 & 0x1f) == 5
&&
        (((uint8_t)(arg1[6] ^ 0x53U) == arg1[0xe] && (arg1[8] == 'z')))))
&&
        ((uVar2 = (uint8_t)(arg1[9] >> 7) >> 5, (int32_t)arg1[5] << ((arg1[9]
+ uVar2 & 7) - uVar2 & 0x1f) == 0x188
        && (((((int32_t)arg1[0x10] - (int32_t)arg1[7] == 0x14 &&
            (uVar2 = (uint8_t)(arg1[0x17] >> 7) >> 5,
             (int32_t)arg1[7] << ((arg1[0x17] + uVar2 & 7) - uVar2 & 0x1f)
== 0xbe)) &&
            ((int32_t)arg1[2] - (int32_t)arg1[7] == -0x2b)) &&
```

“check_flag” routine contains a lot of constraints to check for flag validity

We can extract them by hand

Solving it manually

All constraints extracted
from decompiled
pseudocode

```
1 int check_flag(byte *param_1)
2
3 {
4     return
5     (param_1[0x14] ^ 0x2b) == param_1[7] &&
6     param_1[0x15] - param_1[3] == -0x14 &&
7     param_1[2] >> 6 == '\0' &&
8     param_1[0xd] == 0x74 &&
9     (param_1[0xb] & 0x3fffffffU) == 0x5f &&
10    bVar2 = (param_1[0x11] >> 7) >> 5,
11    param_1[7] >> ((param_1[0x11] + bVar2 & 7) - bVar2 & 0x1f) == 5 &&
12    (param_1[6] ^ 0x53) == param_1[0xe] &&
13    param_1[8] == 0x7a &&
14    bVar2 = (param_1[9] >> 7) >> 5,
15    param_1[5] << ((param_1[9] + bVar2 & 7) - bVar2 & 0x1f) == 0x188 &&
16    param_1[0x10] - param_1[7] == 0x14 &&
17    bVar2 = (param_1[0x17] >> 7) >> 5,
18    param_1[7] << ((param_1[0x17] + bVar2 & 7) - bVar2 & 0x1f) == 0xbe &&
19    param_1[2] - param_1[7] == -0x2b &&
20    param_1[0x15] == 0x5f &&
21    (param_1[2] ^ 0x47) == param_1[3] &&
22    *param_1 == 99 &&
23    param_1[0xd] == 0x74 &&
24    (param_1[0x14] & 0x45) == 0x44 &&
25    (param_1[8] & 0x15) == 0x10 &&
26    param_1[0xc] == 0x5f &&
27    param_1[4] >> 4 == '\a' &&
28    param_1[0xd] == 0x74 &&
29    bVar2 = (*param_1 >> 7) >> 5, *param_1 >> ((*param_1 + bVar2 & 7) -
bVar2 & 0x1f) == 0xc &&
30    param_1[10] == 0x5f &&
31    (param_1[8] & 0xacU) == 0x28 &&
32    param_1[0x10] == 0x73 &&
33    (param_1[0x16] & 0x1d) == 0x18 &&
34    param_1[9] == 0x33 &&
35    param_1[5] == 0x31 &&
36    (param_1[0x13] & 0x3fffffffU) == 0x72 &&
37    param_1[0x14] >> 6 == '\x01' &&
38    param_1[7] >> 1 == '/' &&
```

Plain Text ▾ Tab Width: 8 ▾

Ln 1, Col 1 ▾

INS

Solving it manually

```
(param_1[0x14] ^ 0x2b) == param_1[7]
param_1[0x15] - param_1[3] == -0x14
param_1[2] >> 6 == '\0'
param_1[0xd] == 0x74
(param_1[0xb] & 0xffffffffU) == 0x5f
(param_1[6] ^ 0x53) == param_1[0xe]
param_1[8] == 0x7a
param_1[0x10] - param_1[7] == 0x14
param_1[0x13] - param_1[0x15] == 0x13
param_1[0xc] == 0x5f
param_1[0xf] >> 1 == '/'
param_1[0x14] == 0x74
param_1[4] == 0x73
(param_1[0x17] ^ 0x4a) == *param_1
(param_1[6] ^ 0x3c) == param_1[0xb]
param_1[0x15] == 0x5f
```

----- s ----- z ----- t ----- r t -----

<- lower case t

<- lower case z

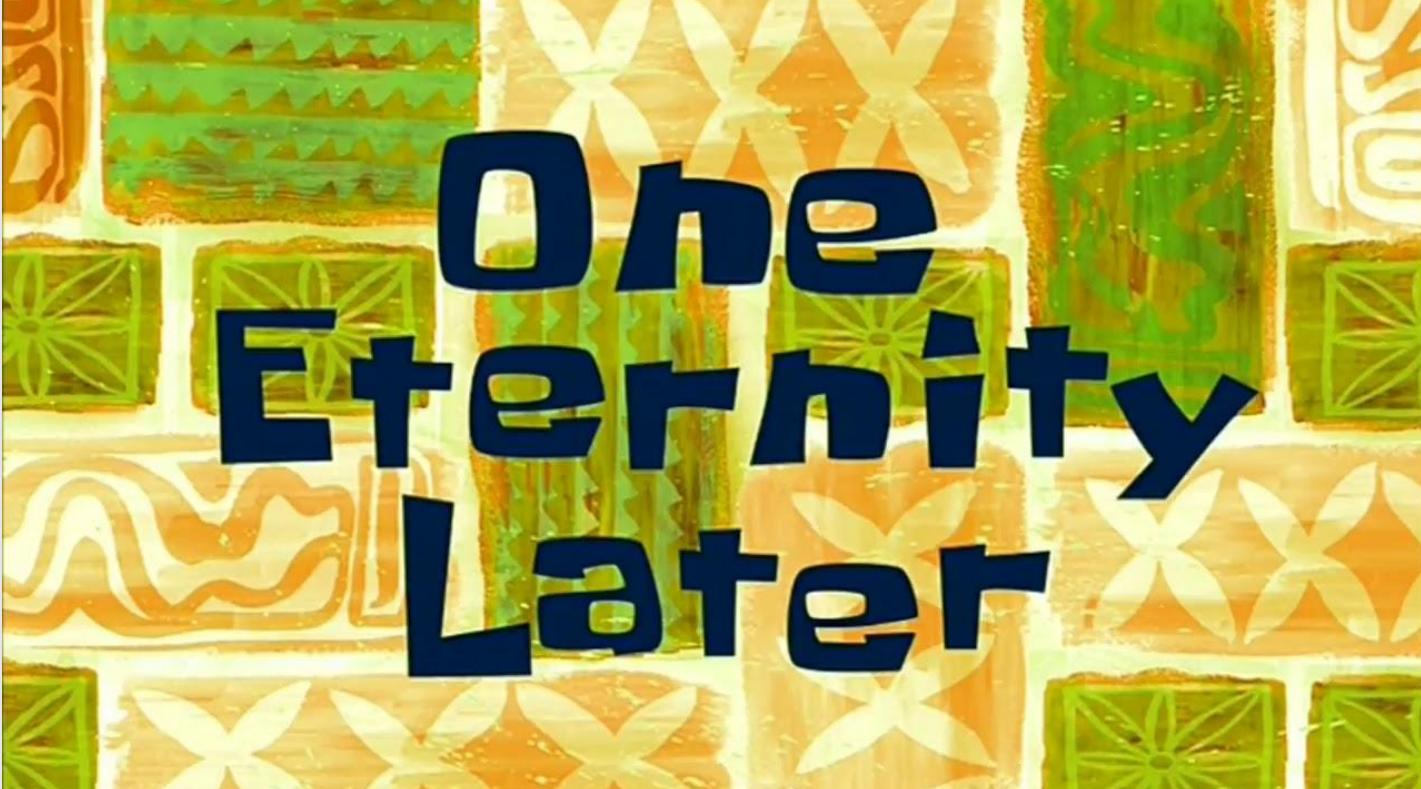
<- 0x13 + 0x5f = 0x72 (lower case r)

<- underscore

<- lower case t

<- lower case s

<- underscore



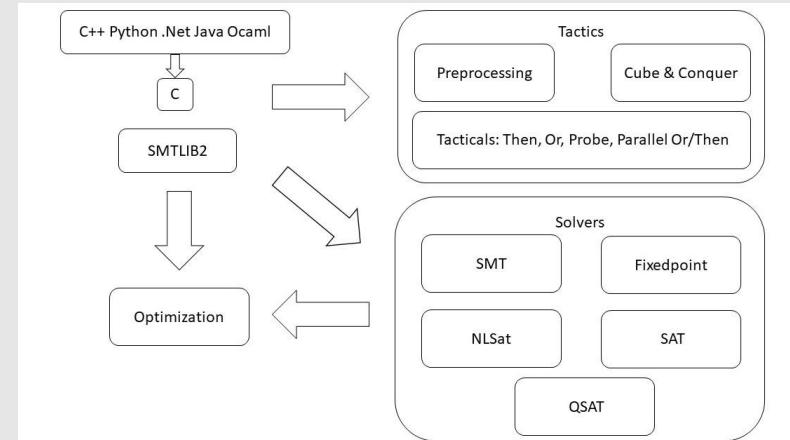
One
Eternity
Later

Overview over z3

The z3 theorem prover is an open source SMT solver developed by Microsoft Research

It's used to try and determine whether a mathematical formula is satisfiable using the boolean satisfiability (SAT) problem

SMT solving builds the bases for most modern symbolic execution frameworks

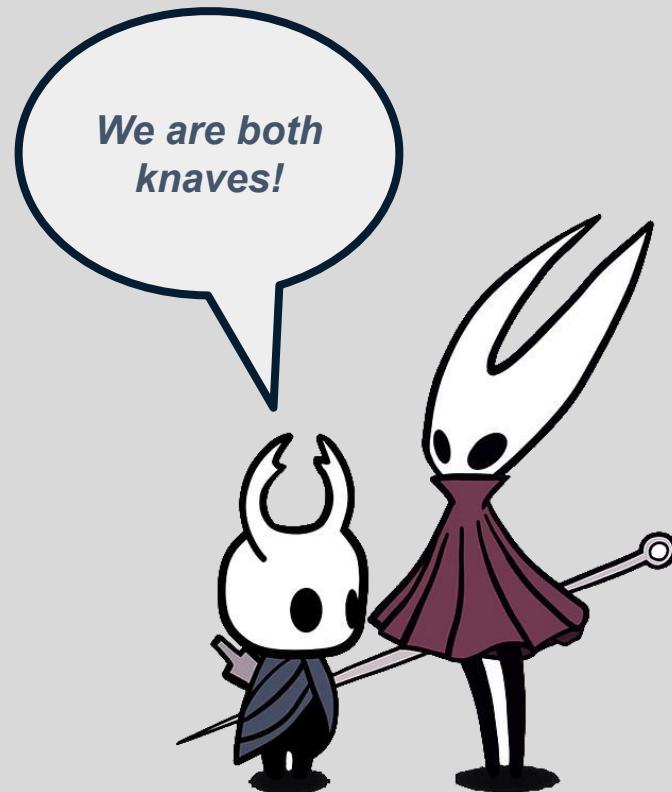


Architecture diagram of z3

A logic puzzle

There is an island inhabited by knights and knaves. Knights always tell the truth while knaves always lie.

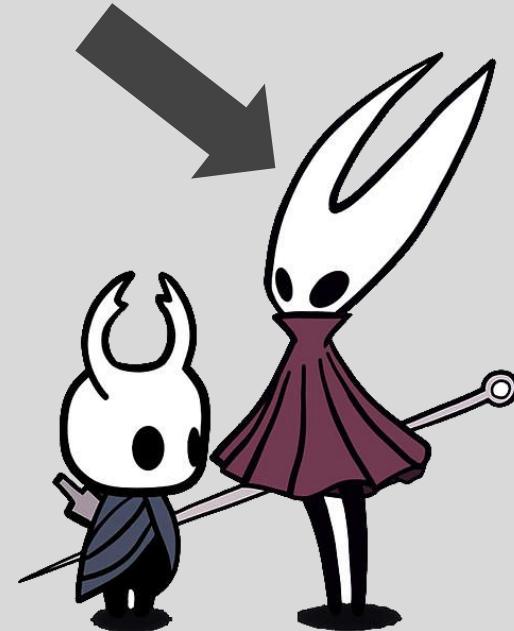
*Two people stand in front of you, **Red** and **Blue**. **Blue** tells you “**we are both knaves**”...who is the knight?*



A logic puzzle

Blue cannot be the knight. If blue was a knight he would've told a **lie** which is **infeasible** since knights cannot lie.

Our Knight



SAT/SMT solving

We can ask them questions like:

“Given three booleans a,b,c - can the following formula return true: ”

(a and not b) or (not a and c)

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SAT/SMT solving

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“Given three booleans a,b,c - can the following formula return true: ”

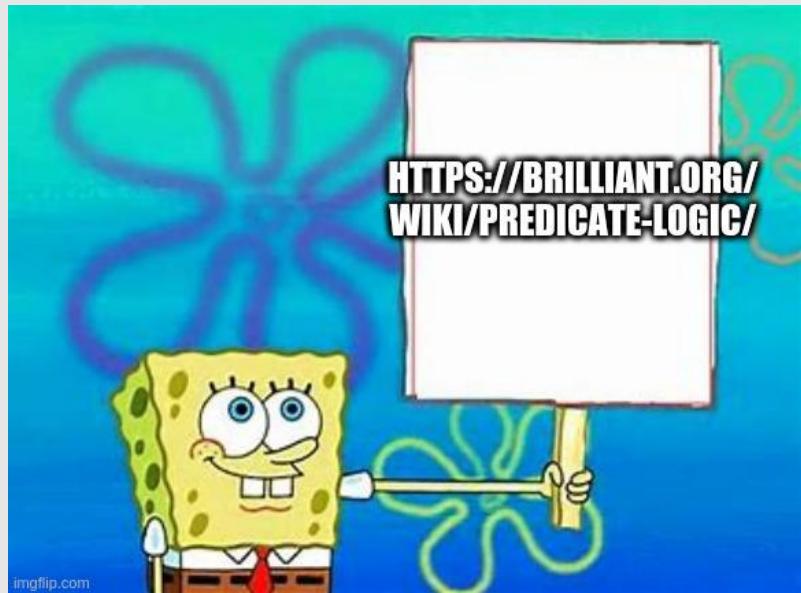
(a and not b) or (not a and c)

SAT: Fills a,b,c with **ones and zeroes** to prove SAT

SMT: Fills a,b,c with **new formulas** using integers, strings & new functions

SAT Solving	SMT Solving
<p>SAT solvers solve constraints written in propositional logic.</p>	<p>SMT solvers are more powerful and extend them by solving constraints written in predicate (first-order) logic with quantifiers.</p>
<p>Sentences/Statements are propositions (think knights and knaves). Propositional logic studies how they interact irregardless of the contents of the statement -> only logical connections.</p>	<p>Predicate logic extends propositional logic but replaces atomical elements (propositional letters) by properties to better describe the subject of a sentence. A quantified predicate is a proposition (assigned values to variables)</p>

If you wanna deep-dive into the maths:



pip install z3-solver

Automating with SMT Solvers

```
from z3 import *

a1 = [BitVec(f'{i}', 8) for i in range(0x19)]
s = Solver()

s.add((a1[20] ^ 0x2B) == a1[7])
s.add(a1[21] - a1[3] == -20)
s.add((a1[2] >> 6) == 0)
s.add(a1[13] == 116)
s.add(4 * a1[11] == 380)
s.add(a1[7] >> (a1[17] % 8) == 5)
--
```

Creating bitvectors for keyspace

Placing all the extracted constraints by hand

Automating with SMT Solvers

```
s.add(a1[14] >> 4 == 3)
s.add((a1[12] & 0x38) == 24)
s.add(a1[8] << (a1[10] % 8) == 15616)
s.add(a1[20] == 116)
s.add(a1[6] >> (a1[22] % 8) == 24)
s.add(a1[22] - a1[5] == 9)
s.add(a1[7] << (a1[22] % 8) == 380)
s.add(a1[22] == 58)
s.add(a1[16] == 115)
s.add((a1[23] ^ 0x1D) == a1[18])
s.add(a1[23] + a1[14] == 89)
s.add((a1[5] & a1[2]) == 48)
s.add((a1[15] & 0x9F) == 31)
s.add(a1[4] == 115)
s.add((a1[23] ^ 0x4A) == a1[0])
s.add((a1[6] ^ 0x3C) == a1[11])

is_satisfiable = s.check()
model         = s.model()
solution_array = [chr(int(str(model[a1[i]]))) for i in range(len(model))]
flag          = ''.join(solution_array)
```



-- INSERT --

105,1

Bot

Check if constraints
are satisfiable

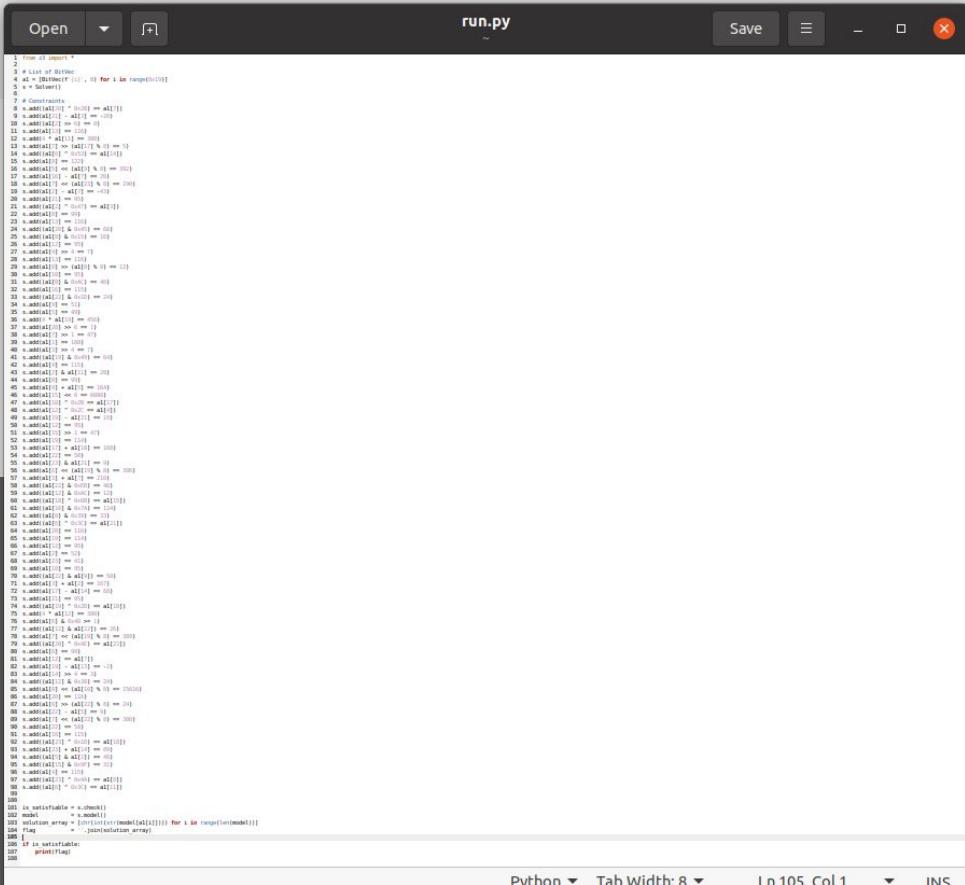
Compute model and
convert solved
bitvector integers to
characters

Display flag

Solution script

~100 Lines of Code

91 Constraints



```
1 from __future__ import print_function
2
3 # List of Strings
4 a1 = [chr(65+i) for i in range(26)]
5 v = Solver()
6
7 # Constraints
8 a1[0] == 'A' & a1[1] == 'B' & a1[2] == 'C' & a1[3] == 'D' & a1[4] == 'E' & a1[5] == 'F' & a1[6] == 'G' & a1[7] == 'H' & a1[8] == 'I' & a1[9] == 'J' & a1[10] == 'K' & a1[11] == 'L' & a1[12] == 'M' & a1[13] == 'N' & a1[14] == 'O' & a1[15] == 'P' & a1[16] == 'Q' & a1[17] == 'R' & a1[18] == 'S' & a1[19] == 'T' & a1[20] == 'U' & a1[21] == 'V' & a1[22] == 'W' & a1[23] == 'X' & a1[24] == 'Y' & a1[25] == 'Z'
16 a1[i] & a1[j] == 0 & a1[i] & a1[k] == 0 & a1[j] & a1[k] == 0
17 a1[i] == 1 & a1[j] == 1 & a1[k] == 1
18 a1[i] == 1 & a1[j] == 1 & a1[k] == 0
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96 a1[i] == 1 & a1[j] == 1 & a1[k] == 0
97 a1[i] == 1 & a1[j] == 0 & a1[k] == 1
98 a1[i] == 0 & a1[j] == 1 & a1[k] == 0
99 a1[i] == 0 & a1[j] == 0 & a1[k] == 1
100 ix_satisfiable = a1.satisfiable()
101 if ix_satisfiable == 0:
102     print("No solution")
103 else:
104     solution_array = [int(i) for i in list(model[1][1]) for i in range(len(model[1]))]
105     flag = 1
106     for i in range(1, 26):
107         if solution_array[i-1] == 1:
108             print(a1[i], end=" ")
109     print()
110 if ix_satisfiable:
```



Another Random Twitter User 

@somedog

...

I saw a guy reversing a crackme today.
No symbolic execution.
No dynamic binary instrumentation.
No instruction counting.
He just sat there.
Extracting constraints by hand.
Like a Psychopath.



These materials may have been obtained through hacking

12:00 PM · Jun 10, 2021 · Twitter Web App

40.3K Retweets **11.3K** Quote Tweets **196.9K** Likes



Any guesses to how many lines of code we can reduce it?

We can do the same in about

4

lines of code

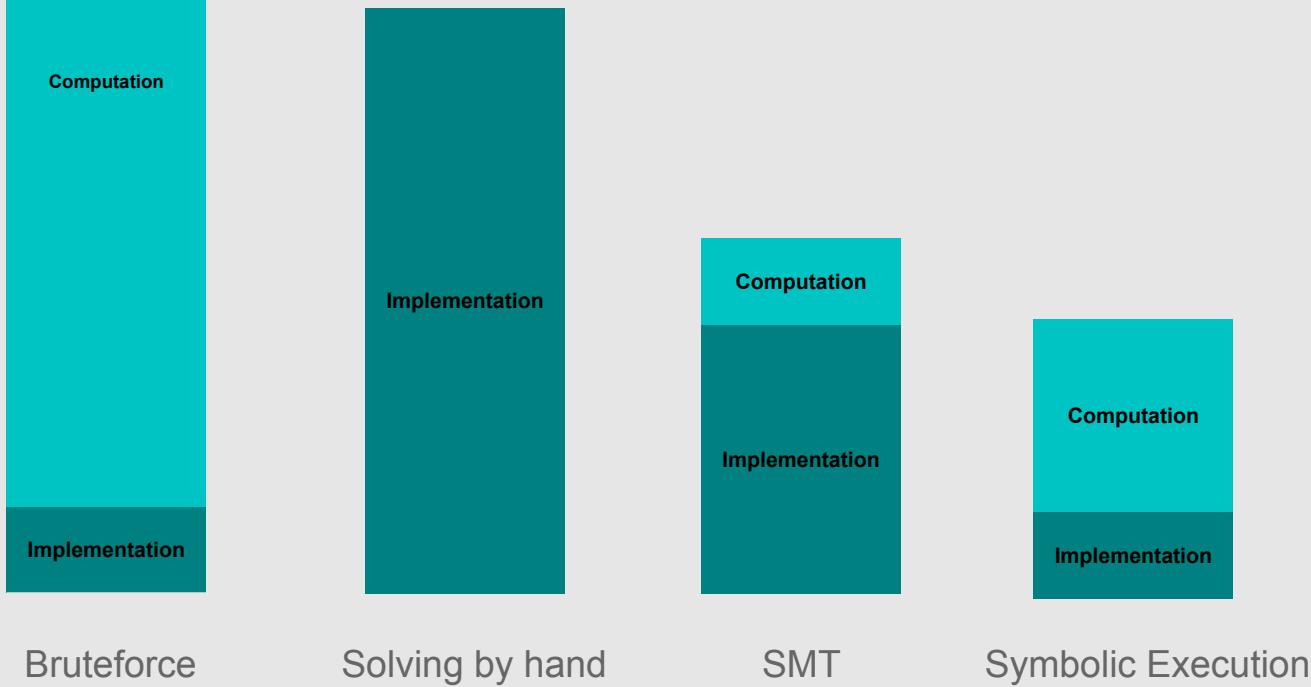
kiwi@doghouse: ~/Insomnihack/00_z3

```
import angr, claripy

proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot', load_options={"auto_load_libs": False}, main_opts={"base_addr": 0})
simgr = proj.factory.simgr()
simgr.explore(find=0x00001407, avoid=0x0000142d)
print(simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(0))
~
```

1,1 All

Efficiency Comparison



Problem State Recap

- Crackme input has to meet a lot of **constraints**
- Brute-force is **infeasible**
 - We extracted constraints and **manually searched** for matches
- This is **slow** and time consuming
 - We automated the constraint solving with **SMT solvers**
- Extracting constraints by hand takes a long time
 - We additionally automated constraint extraction with **symbolic execution**

Bruteforce



Solving by hand



SMT Solving



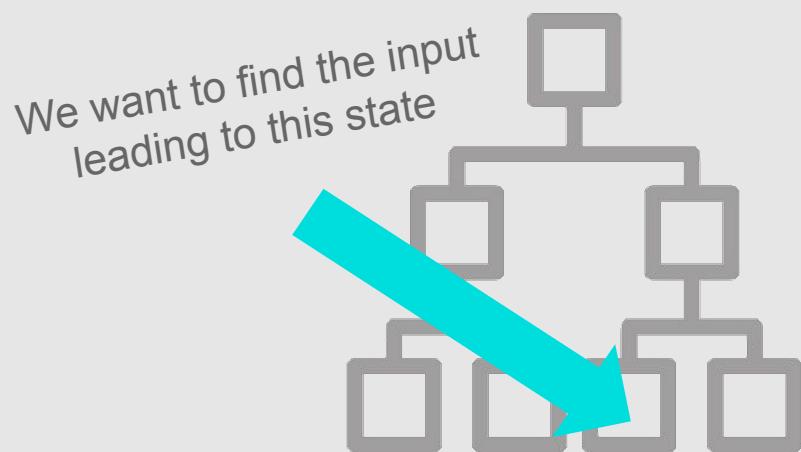
Symbolic Execution

Symbolic Execution

Introducing

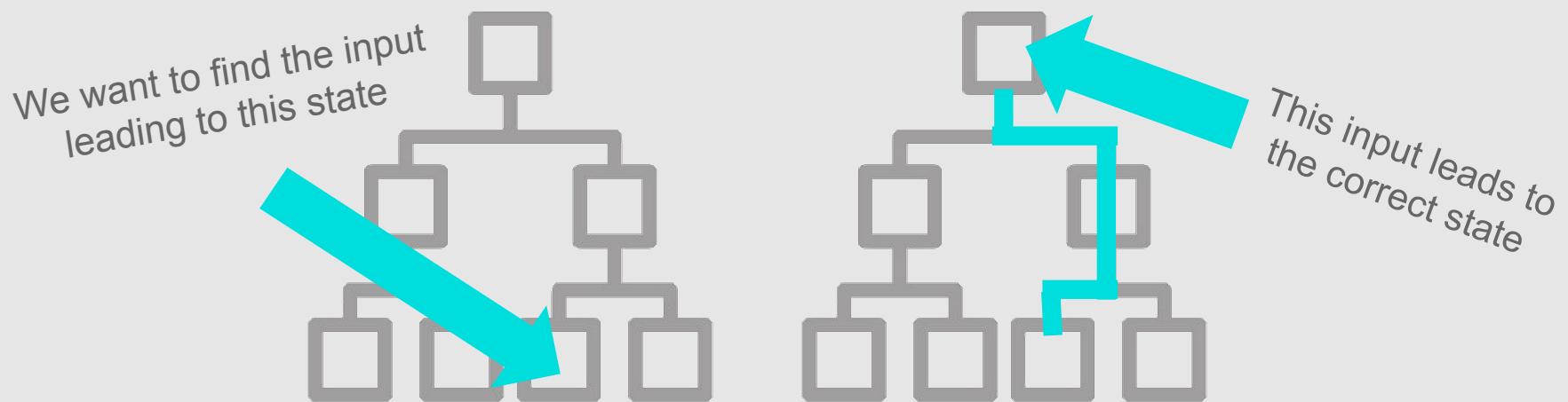
Symbolic Execution is a

“System that walks through all possible paths of a program to determine what inputs cause each of them to execute”



Symbolic Execution is a

“System that walks through all possible paths of a program to determine what inputs cause each of them to execute”



Concrete Execution

Program reads concrete input value to size

Input gets used for conditional branch and evaluated

Either a string is written to stdout or the crash function is called

```
void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()
    if (size < 5):
        printf("Works")
    else:
        crash()
}
```

Concrete Execution

Program reads concrete input value to size

Input gets used for conditional branch and evaluated

Either a string is written to stdout or the crash function is called

```
void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()      ← 4
    if (size < 5):
        printf("Works")
    else:
        crash()
}
```

Concrete Execution

Program reads concrete input value to size

Input gets used for conditional branch and evaluated

Either a string is written to stdout or the crash function is called

```
void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()      ← 4
    if (size < 5):        ← True
        printf("Works")
    else:
        crash()
}
```

Concrete Execution

Program reads concrete input value to size

Input gets used for conditional branch and evaluated

Either a string is written to stdout or the crash function is called

```
void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()      ← 4
    if (size < 5):        ← True
        printf("Works")  ← Executed
    else:
        crash()
}
```

“Static” Symbolic Execution

Instead of concrete input
symbolic value is assigned to
size

Symbolic value can take any
value so proceeds with both
paths by “forking”

After crash/normal termination
computes concrete value by
smt solving the accumulated
path constraints

```
void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()
    if (size < 5):
        printf("Works")
    else:
        crash()
}
```

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After crash/normal termination
computes concrete value by
smt solving the accumulated
path constraints

```
void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()           ← λ
    if (size < 5):
        printf("Works")
    else:
        crash()
}
```

“Static” Symbolic Execution

Instead of concrete input
symbolic value is assigned to
size

Symbolic value can take any
value so proceeds with both
paths by “forking”

After crash/normal termination
computes concrete value by
smt solving the accumulated
path constraints

```
void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()           ← λ
    if (size < 5):
        printf("Works")      ← λ < 5
    else:
        crash()              ← λ >= 5
}
```

“Static” Symbolic Execution

Instead of concrete input
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Symbolic value can take any
value so proceeds with both
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path constraints

```
void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()           ← λ
    if (size < 5):
        printf("Works")      ← λ < 5
    else:
        crash()              ← λ >= 5
}
```

The problem with static symbolic execution...

It's difficult for static symbolic execution to reach deep into the execution tree

Path selection heuristics might choose paths that won't advance propagation

For example in a loop depending on a symbolic variable it might not find the exit



“Dynamic” Concolic Testing

Concrete Testing
+
Symbolic Execution

= Concolic Testing

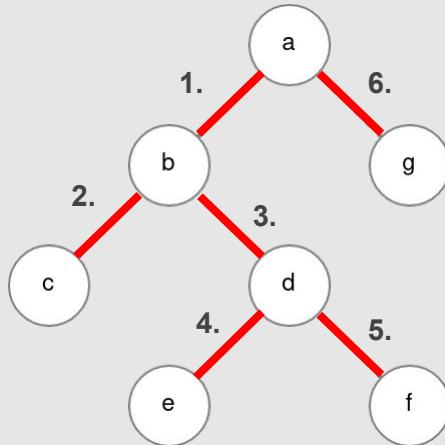
“Dynamic” Concolic Testing

Concrete Testing
+
Symbolic Execution

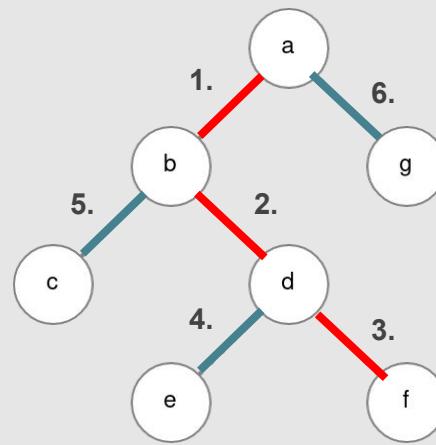
= **Concolic Testing**

Seed-driven concolic execution is able to favor paths and reach deep into the execution tree

Symbolic vs Concolic Execution



- Main Path
- Adjacent Paths



“Dynamic” Concolic Testing

Run program with a concrete
(random) seed input

Collect the path constraint

Negate the last (not already
negated) constraint

SMT solve to inverse the latest
branch and discover a new path

Repeat until no new paths are
found

```
void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()
    if (size < 5):
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        crash()
}
```

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{
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        printf("Works")
    else:
        crash()
}
```

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```
void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()           ← 4
    if (size < 5):             ← True
        printf("Works")
    else:
        crash()                ← λ < 5
}
```

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void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()           ← 4
    if (size < 5):             ← True
        printf("Works")        ← λ < 5
    else:
        crash()                ← ¬(λ < 5)
}
```

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void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()           ← 4
    if (size < 5):             ← True
        printf("Works")        ← λ < 5
    else:                      ← ¬(λ < 5)
        crash()                ← λ >= 5
}
```

“Dynamic” Concolic Testing

Run program with a concrete
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```
void ValidSize()
{
    var size = read()           ← 4
    if (size < 5):             ← True
        printf("Works")        ← λ < 5
    else:                      ← ¬(λ < 5)
        crash()                ← λ >= 5
}
```

Program Validation Tradeoffs



Cost (Computational Resources/Time/Manual Labor)

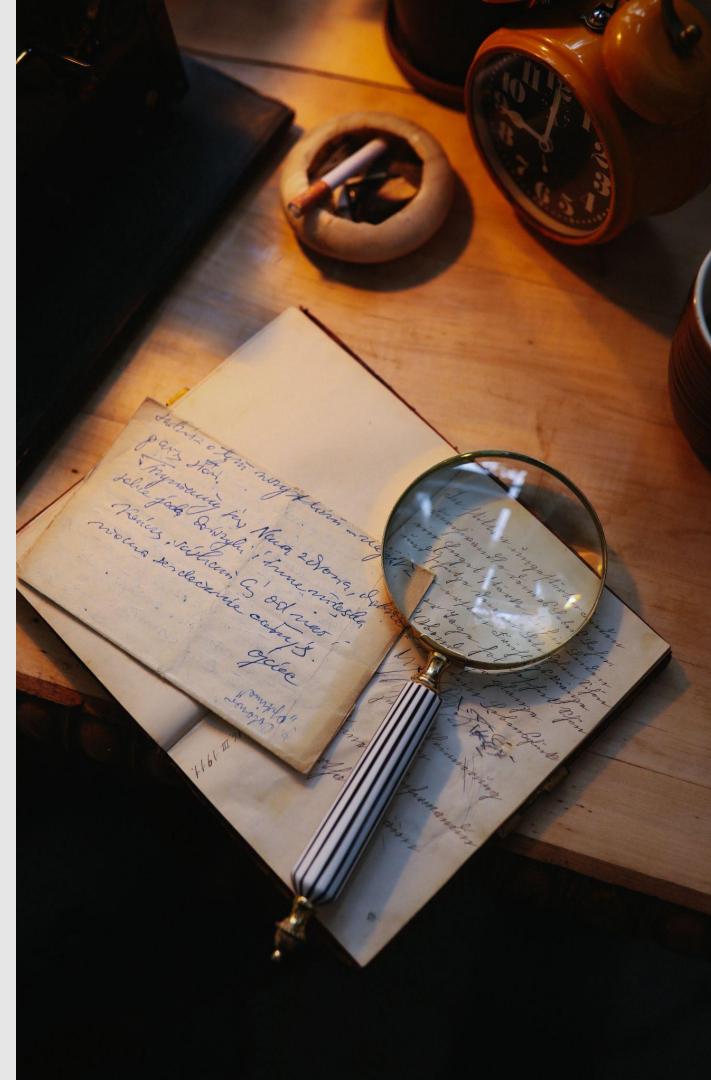
Where is Symbolic Execution Used?

Symbolic Execution Frameworks

Novel Tools (GUI's, Attack Surface Analysis, Taint Analysis, Rop Chain Generation)

Integrations into your favorite reverse engineering software

Augmented Fuzzers



Different symbolic execution frameworks

Full System: s2e

User: Angr
Triton
Manticore

Code: KLEE

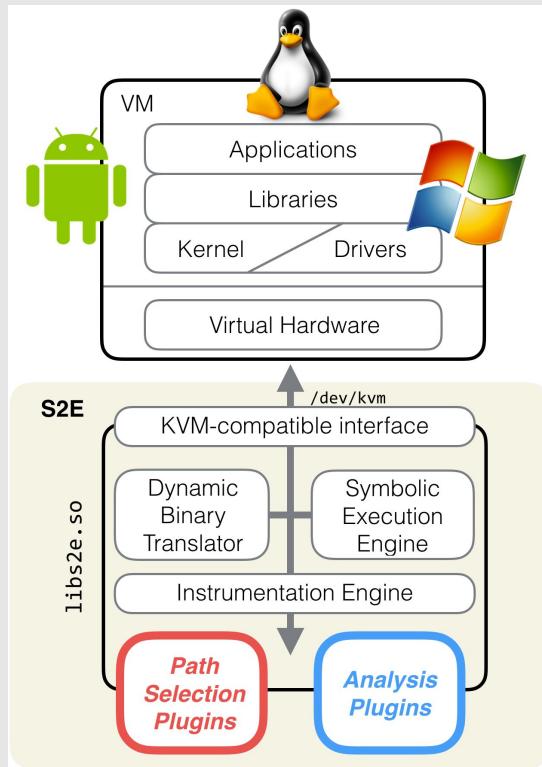
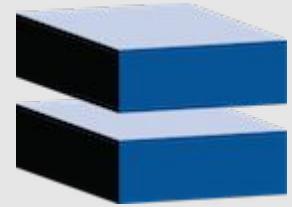
Different symbolic execution frameworks

Full System: s2e

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Triton
Manticore

Code: KLEE

S²E: The Selective Symbolic Execution Platform

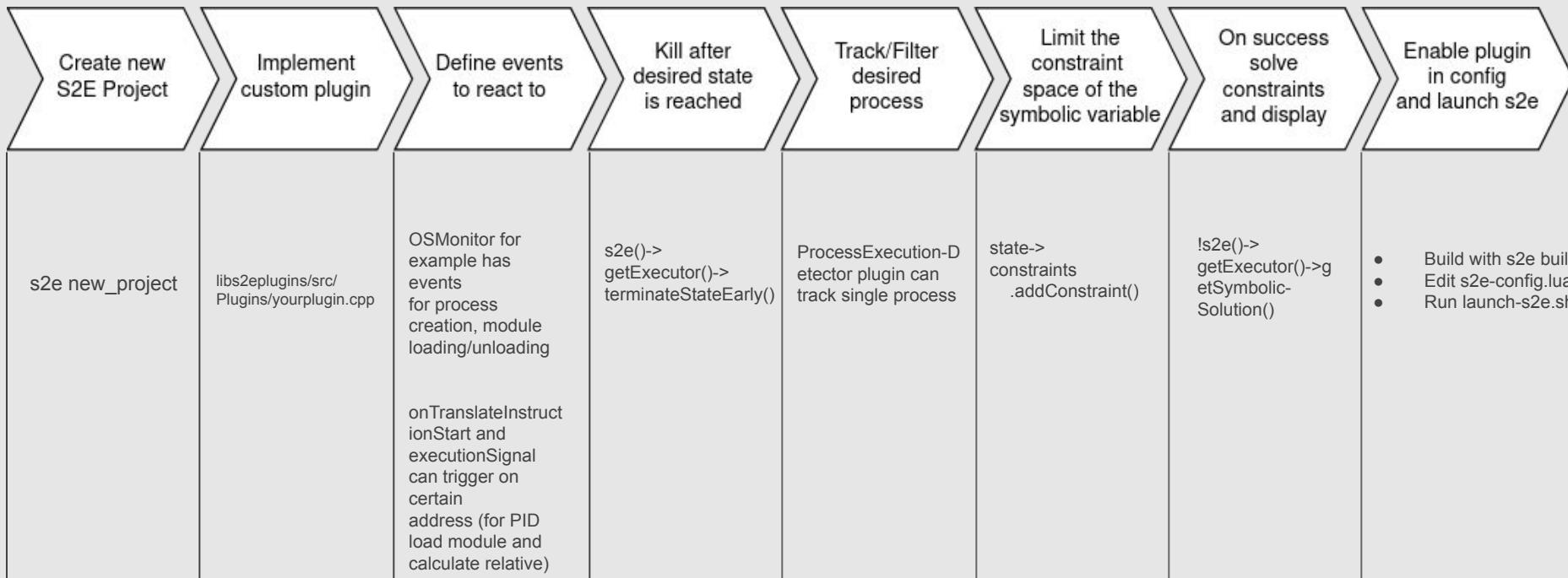


Modular library that enriches virtual machines with symbolic execution & program analysis capabilities.

Runs entire software stack including applications, libraries, kernel, firmware and drivers (full system emulation).

Extensible and able to analyze large, complicated software like device drivers that have a lot of complex interactions.

S2E Walkthrough



https://github.com/adrianherrera/unbreakable-ctf-s2e/blob/master/GoogleCTFUnbreakable.h 67%

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adrianherrera / unbreakable-ctf-s2e (Public)

Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights

master - unbreakable-ctf-s2e / libs2eplugins / src / s2e / Plugins / GoogleCTFUnbreakable.h

Go to file ...

adrianherrera unbreakable: added missing header

Latest commit [read on Apr 25, 2019](#) History

All 1 contributor

44 lines (33 sloc) | 1.16 KB

Raw Blame

```

1 /**
2  * Copyright (C) 2017, Dependable Systems Laboratory, EPFL
3  * All rights reserved.
4 /**
5  * Copy this file to source/s2e/libs2eplugins/src/s2e/Plugins in your S2E
6  * environment.
7 /**
8
9 #ifndef S2E_PLUGINS_GOOGLE_CTF_UNBREAKABLE_H
10 #define S2E_PLUGINS_GOOGLE_CTF_UNBREAKABLE_H
11
12 #include <s2e/CorePlugin.h>
13 #include <s2e/Plugin.h>
14 #include <s2e/S2E.h>
15
16 namespace s2e {
17 namespace plugins {
18
19 class ProcessExecutionDetector;
20
21 class GoogleCTFUnbreakable : public Plugin {
22     S2E_PLUGIN
23
24 public:
25     GoogleCTFUnbreakable(S2E *s2e) : Plugin(s2e) {
26     }
27
28     void initialize();
29
30 private:
31     ProcessExecutionDetector *m_procDetector;
32
33     void onSymbolicVariableCreation(S2EExecutionState *state, const std::string &name,
34         const std::vector<kleen::ref<kleen::Expr>> &expr, const kleen::MemoryObject *mo,
35         const kleen::Array &array);
36
37     void onTranslateInstruction(ExecutionSignal *signal, S2EExecutionState *state, TranslationBlock *tb, uint64_t pc);
38
39     void onSuccess(S2EExecutionState *state, uint64_t pc);
40     void onFailure(S2EExecutionState *state, uint64_t pc);
41
42 };
43
44 } // namespace plugins
45 } // namespace s2e
46
47 #endif

```

https://github.com/adrianherrera/unbreakable-ctf-s2e/blob/master/GoogleCTFUnbreakable.cpp 30%

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adrianherrera / unbreakable-ctf-s2e

Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights

adrianherrera / unbreakable-ctf-s2e / GoogleCTFUnbreakable.cpp

Latest commit [read on Apr 25, 2019](#) History

All 1 contributor

14 lines (14 sloc) | 1.16 KB

Raw Blame

```

1 /**
2  * Copyright (C) 2017, Dependable Systems Laboratory, EPFL
3  * All rights reserved.
4  */
5
6 /**
7  * Copy this file to source/s2e/libs2eplugins/src/s2e/Plugins in your S2E
8  * environment.
9  */
10
11 #include <s2e/CorePlugin.h>
12 #include <s2e/Plugin.h>
13 #include <s2e/S2E.h>
14
15 namespace s2e {
16 namespace plugins {
17
18 class GoogleCTFUnbreakable : public Plugin {
19 public:
20     GoogleCTFUnbreakable(S2E *s2e) : Plugin(s2e) {
21     }
22
23     void initialize();
24
25 private:
26     ProcessExecutionDetector *m_procDetector;
27
28     void onSymbolicVariableCreation(S2EExecutionState *state, const std::string &name,
29         const std::vector<kleen::ref<kleen::Expr>> &expr, const kleen::MemoryObject *mo,
30         const kleen::Array &array);
31
32     void onTranslateInstruction(ExecutionSignal *signal, S2EExecutionState *state, TranslationBlock *tb, uint64_t pc);
33
34     void onSuccess(S2EExecutionState *state, uint64_t pc);
35
36     void onFailure(S2EExecutionState *state, uint64_t pc);
37
38 };
39
40 } // namespace plugins
41 } // namespace s2e
42
43
44 #endif

```

Different symbolic execution tools

Full System: s2e

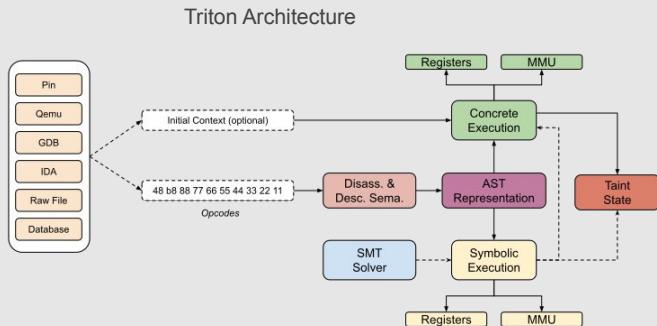
User: Angr
Triton
Manticore

Code: KLEE

Angr/Triton/Manticore



TRITON
Dynamic Binary Analysis

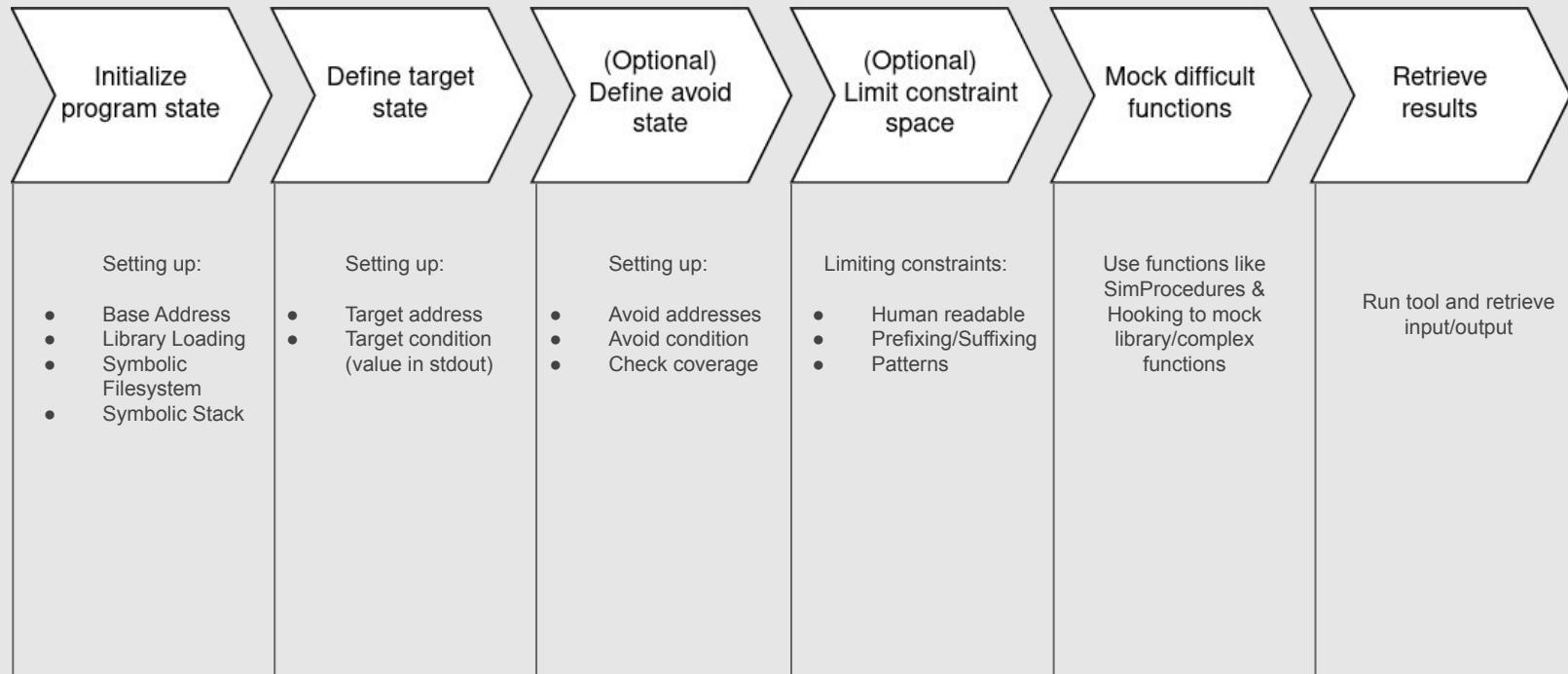


User-level dynamic binary analysis & symbolic execution frameworks (often based on z3).

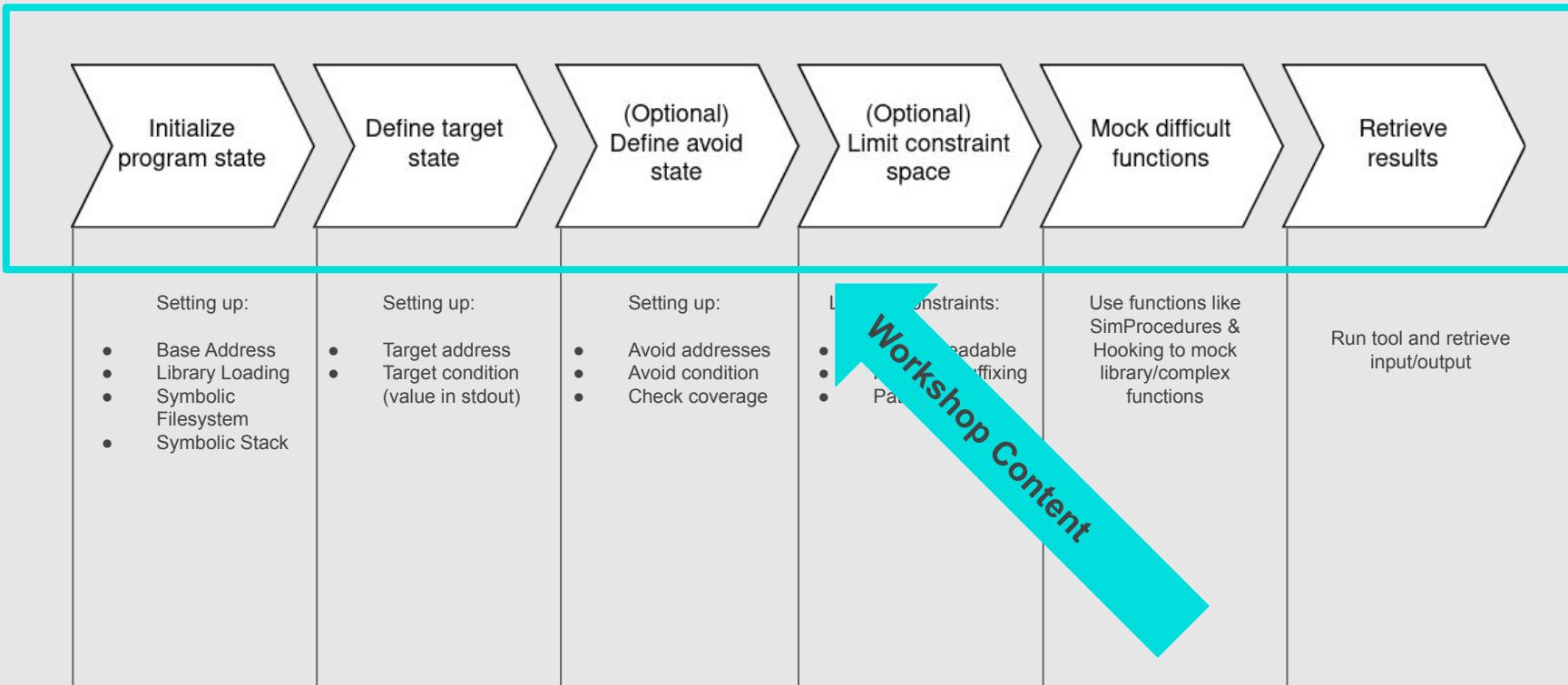
Able to lift & instrument a number of binary architectures like x86, x86-64, AArch64, EVM Smart Contracts, ARM, MIPS, WASM, PowerPC (yes, even BrainFuck)

Great mix between convenience, speed and instrumentability - perfect for CTF

User-Level Workflow



User-Level Workflow



angr-doc/solve.py at master · angr/angr-doc · GitHub

https://github.com/angr/angr-doc/blob/master/examples/google2016/unbreakable_0/solve.py

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Info Migrate to Python 3 (x211) — x Latest commit 1e39000 on Oct 1, 2018 · History

As 6 contributors

Executable File | 55 lines (39 slim) | 2.50 KB

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python2
2
3 # Author: David Marnachchi (marnachchi@protonmail.com)
4 # Google 2016 CTF
5 # Challenge: Unbreakable Enterprise Product Activation
6 # Team: HackCaravan (http://hacxcaravan.tweru.net)
7 # Runtime: ~4.5 seconds (single threaded 12-2000 v3 @ 2.50GHz on AMD K20)
8
9 import angr
10
11 import claripy
12
13 def main():
14     proj = angr.Project("./unbreakable-enterprise-product-activation", load_options={"auto_load_libs": False}) # Disabling the automatic library loading saves a few seconds
15
16     input_size = 0x100 # Max length from entropy, see 0x0000000000000000
17
18     argv1 = claripy.BVS("argv1", input_size * 8)
19
20     initial_state = proj.factory.state(arch="i386", args=["/unbreakable-enterprise-product-activation", argv1], add_options={angr.options.LAZY_SOLVES})
21     initial_state.libc.buf_symbolic_bytes = 5 # Thanks to Christopher Talls (@salt11) for pointing this out. By default there's only 0x8 symbolic bytes
22
23     # For some reason if you constrain too few bytes, the solution isn't found. To be safe, I'm constraining them all.
24     for byte in range(0, input_size):
25         initial_state.constraints[byte] = "0x00" # null
26         initial_state.constraints[byte + 1] = "\x00"
27         initial_state.constraints[byte + 2] = "\x00"
28
29     # Source: https://www.juniper.net/documentation/JUNOS14.1/topics/reference/general/introspection-prevention-custom-attack-object-extended-ascii
30     # Thanks to Ian Beaumont (@ianbeaumont) for showing me how to restrict to printable characters.
31
32     # We want to make sure that every flag is formatted as "CTF{...}", so we might as well use that information to save processing time.
33     initial_state.constraints[proj.chunks[0][1]] = "CTF"
34     initial_state.constraints[proj.chunks[0][2]] = "{"
35     initial_state.constraints[proj.chunks[0][3]] = "C"
36     initial_state.constraints[proj.chunks[0][4]] = "T"
37     initial_state.constraints[proj.chunks[0][5]] = "F"
38     initial_state.constraints[proj.chunks[0][6]] = "{"
39     initial_state.constraints[proj.chunks[0][7]] = "}"
40
41     initial_state.constraints[proj.chunks[0][8]] = "T"
42     initial_state.constraints[proj.chunks[0][9]] = "F"
43
44     # Angr will still find the solution without setting these, but it'll take a few seconds more.
45
46     sm = proj.factory.simulation_manager(initial_state)
47
48     sm.options.add("SOLVE_GDB") = True # You message
49
50     sm.explore(find=0x400030, avoid=0x400020)
51
52     # 0x400020 = activation failure
53
54     found = sm.found[0]
55
56     # 0x400020 = activation failure
57
58     solution = found.solver.eval(argv1, cast_to_bytes)
59     solution = solution[:solution.find("}")+1] # Trim off the null bytes at the end of the flag (if any).
60
61     return solution
62
63 def test():
64     assert main() == b'CTF{0TheQuickBrownFoxJumpedOverTheLazyFox}'
65
66     if __name__ == "__main__":
67         print(repr(main()))
```

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Different symbolic execution tools

Full System: s2e

User:
Angr
Triton
Manticore

Code: KLEE

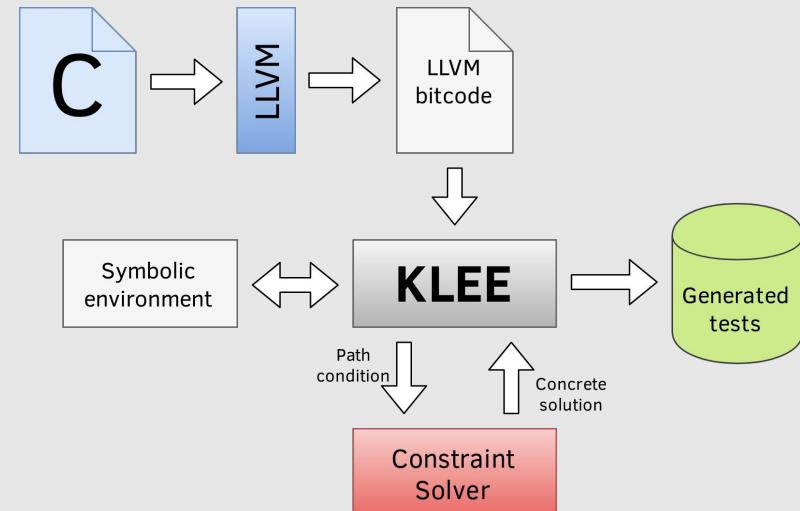
KLEE



LLVM-based symbolic execution engine
for code-level analysis

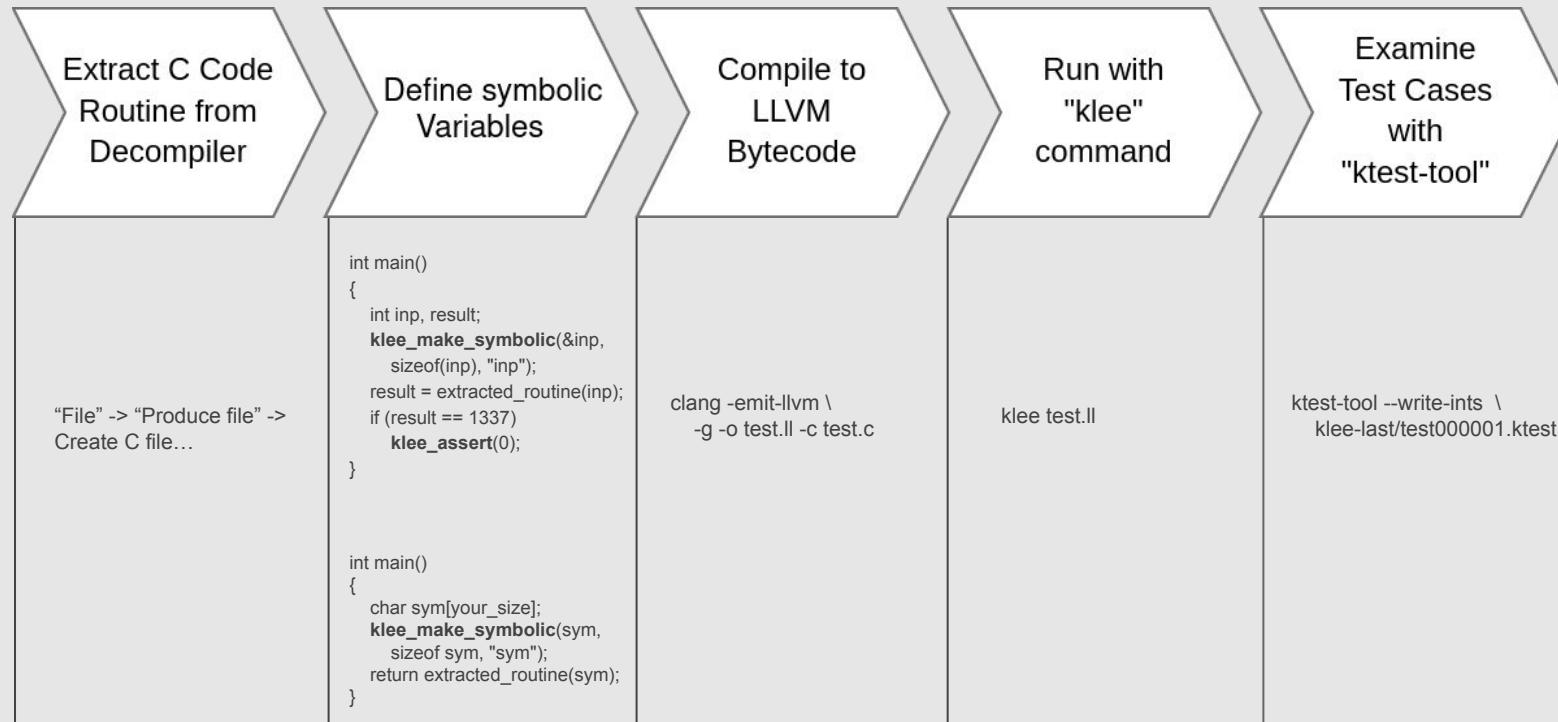
Requires target function to be re-coded
in C and instrumented

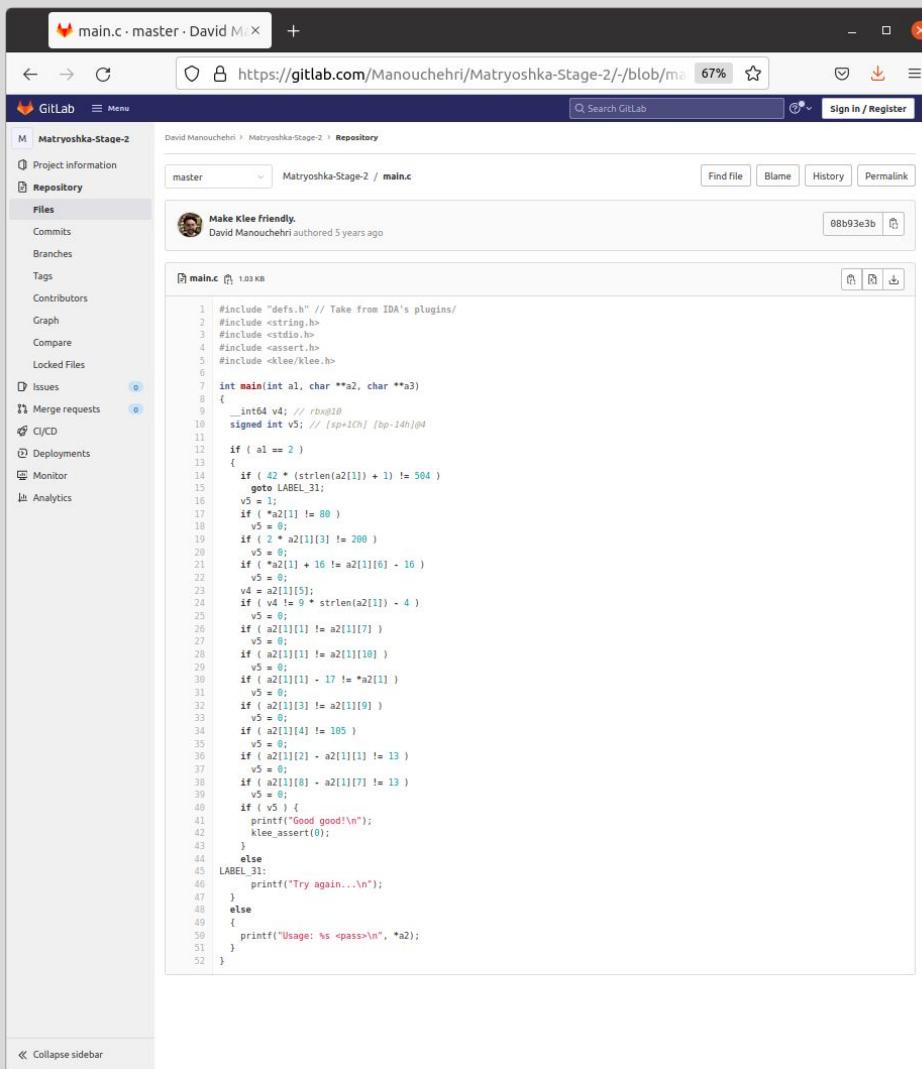
High performance due to smaller
overhead compared with other
frameworks, as well as nifty features
such as coverage, test case and path
exporting



KLEE Architecture Diagram

KLEE Walkthrough





What framework should I use?

Do you want to analyze **complex systems & drivers**?

no

yes

Do you want to quickly analyze **c source code**?

no

yes

S²E



Do you want to analyze **smart contracts**?

no

yes

KLEE



Do you require **C++ bindings** for user mode analysis?

no

yes



Angr

Triton

T R I T O N

Dynamic Binary Analysis



What framework should I use?

Do you want to analyze **complex systems & drivers**?

no

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S²E



Do you want to quickly analyze **c source code**?

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KLEE



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Manticore

Do you require **C++ bindings** for user mode analysis?

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Angr

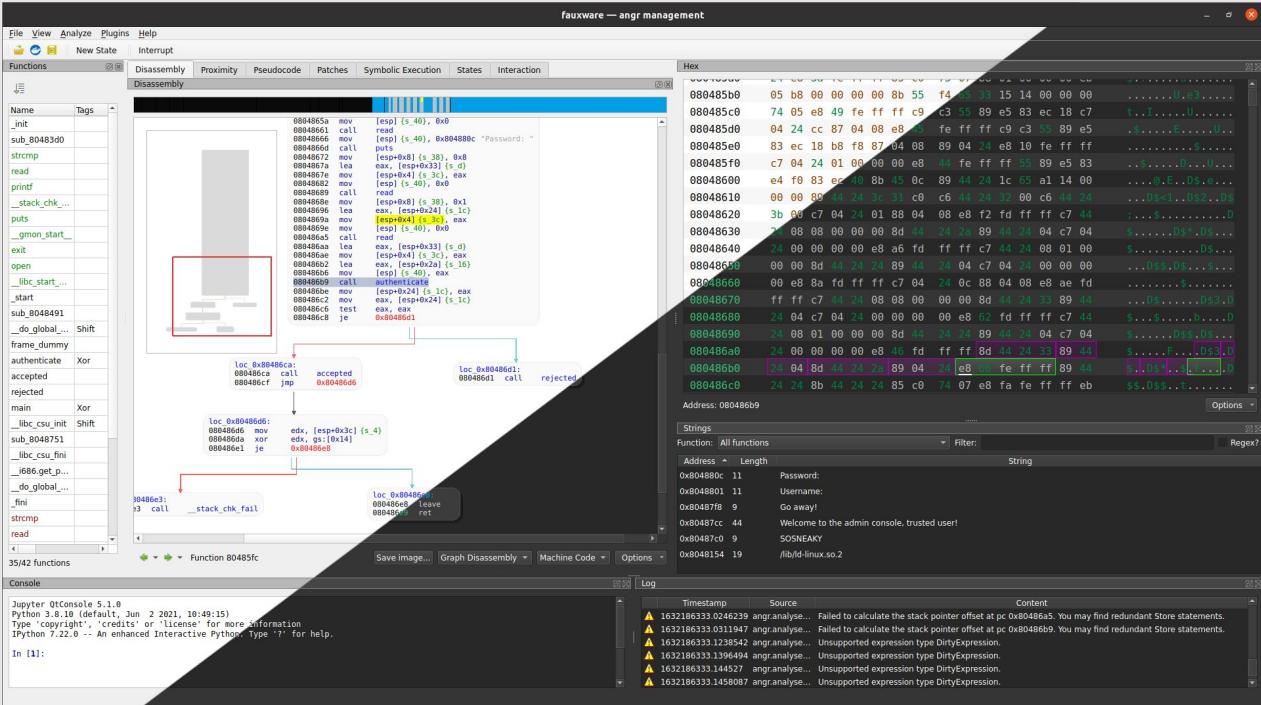
A wonderful solution for most generic cases & CTF

Triton

TRITON
Dynamic Binary Analysis

Tools/Angr-Management

The official GUI to angr,
useful for reverse
engineering and binary
analysis



<https://github.com/angr/angr-management>

Tools/one_gadget

Search for magic gadgets/one gadgets in a target binary.
(Single rop gadget to `execve('/bin/sh', NULL, NULL)`)

```
→ one_gadget /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.6
0x4f2c5 execve("/bin/sh", rsp+0x40, environ)
constraints:
  rcx == NULL

0x4f322 execve("/bin/sh", rsp+0x40, environ)
constraints:
  [rsp+0x40] == NULL

0x10a38c execve("/bin/sh", rsp+0x70, environ)
constraints:
  [rsp+0x70] == NULL
```

https://github.com/david942j/one_gadget

Tools/symbiotic

Program validation and vulnerability discovery (assertion violations, invalid pointer dereference, double free, memory leaks, etc...) using the KLEE framework

staticafi/symbiotic

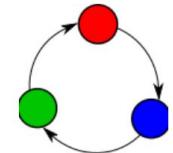
Symbiotic is a tool for finding bugs in computer programs based on instrumentation, program slicing and KLEE

12
Contributors

41
Issues

246
Stars

41
Forks

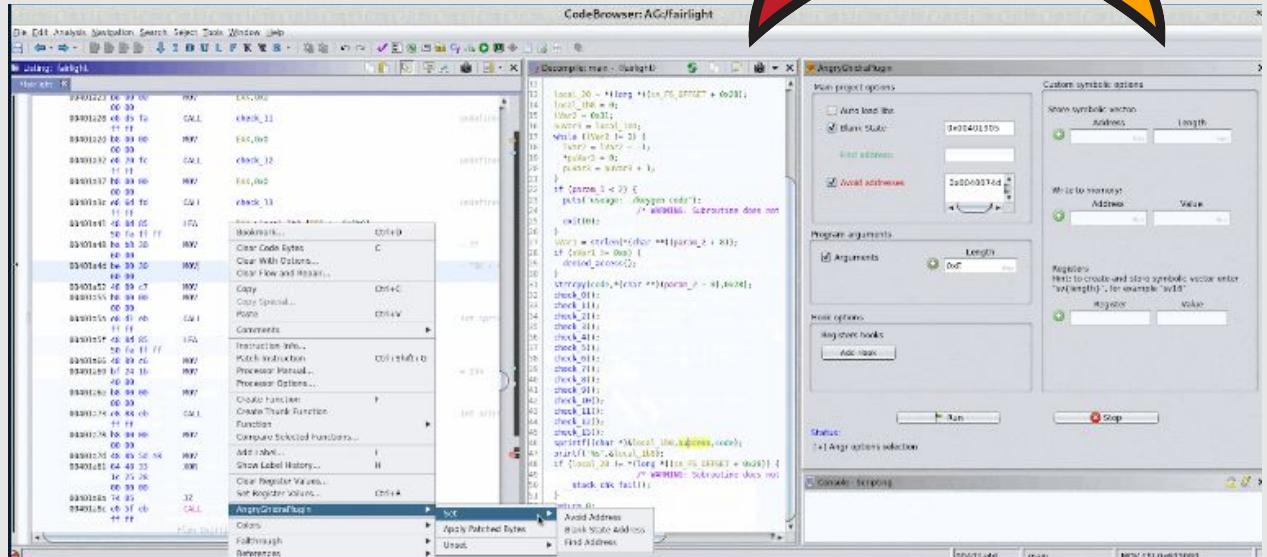


<https://github.com/staticafi/symbiotic>

Integrations/ AngryGhidra



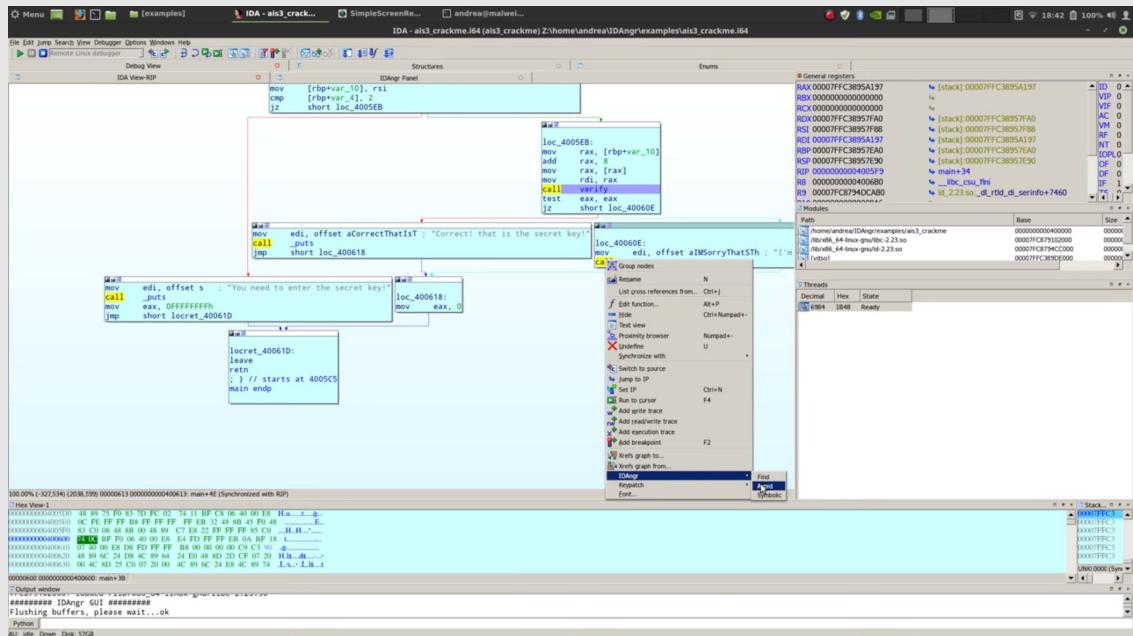
A plugin that combines the convenience of ghidra with the power of the angr framework



<https://github.com/Nalen98/AngryGhidra>

Integrations/IDAngr

Load and explore IDA debugger state into angr (using angrdbg)



<https://github.com/andreafloraldi/IDAngr>

Integrations/r4ge

We all like radare2/rizin, now
you can use angr functionalities
straight from your favorite
reverse engineering framework

```
0x0040056b    4883ec10    sub    rsp, 0x10
;-- rip:
0x0040056f    897dfc    mov    dword [local_4h], edi
0x00400572    488975f0    mov    qword [local_10h], rsi
0x00400576    488b45f0    mov    rax, qword [local_10h]
0x0040057a    4883c008    add    rax, 8
0x0040057e    488b00    mov    rax, qword [rax]      ; orax
0x00400581    488d35bc0000. lea    rsi, str.LosFuzzys ; 0x400644 ;
0x00400588    4889c7    mov    rdi, rax      ; orax
0x0040058b    e8f0feffff  call   sym.imp.strcmp  ;[1] ; int strcmp
0x00400590    85c0    test   eax, eax      ; r11; r11
0x00400592    750e    jne    0x4005a2  ;[2] ; likely
;-- r4ge.find:
0x00400594    488d3db30000. lea    rdi, str.your_are_a_advanced_Hacker_ ;[3] ; int puts
0x0040059b    e8d0feffff  call   sym.imp.puts   ; int puts
;-- r4ge.avoid:
0x004005a0    eb0c    jmp    0x4005ae  ;[4] ; 0x40066c ;
0x004005a2    488d3dc30000. lea    rdi, str.try_Harder_ ; 0x40066c ;
0x004005a9    e8c2feffff  call   sym.imp.puts   ;[3] ; int puts
; JMP XREF from 0x004005a0 (main)
0x004005ae    b800000000  mov    eax, 0      ; r12; rsp
0x004005b3    c9    leave
0x004005b4    c3    ret
Press <enter> to return to Visual mode.0.  nop word cs:[rax + rax]
:> .(r4ge)
WARNING | 2017-07-15 15:17:10,199 | claripy | Claripy is setting the recursion limit
start r4ge in DYNAMIC mode...
setup Stack: 0x7fff7542d000-0x7fff7542ae80, size: 8576
No Heap section
symbolic address: 0x7fff7542c4cf, size: 15
start symbolic execution, find:0x400594, avoid:['0x4005a9']

PathGroup Results: <PathGroup with 1 avoid, 1 active, 1 found>
symbolic memory - str: LosFuzzys , hex: 0x4c6f7346757a7a7973000000000000
You want to set debugsession to find address (y/n)? █
```

<https://github.com/gast04/r4ge>

Fuzzing/Driller

Augments the afl-fuzz capabilities with symbolic execution to discover new, interesting paths

```
american fuzzy lop 1.86b (test)

process timing
  run time : 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 2 sec
  last new path : none seen yet
  last uniq crash : 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 2 sec
  last uniq hang : none seen yet

cycle progress
  now processing : 0 (0.00%)
  paths timed out : 0 (0.00%)

stage progress
  now trying : havoc
  stage execs : 1464/5000 (29.28%)
  total execs : 1697
  exec speed : 626.5/sec

fuzzing strategy yields
  bit flips : 0/16, 1/15, 0/13
  byte flips : 0/2, 0/1, 0/0
  arithmetics : 0/112, 0/25, 0/0
  known ints : 0/10, 0/28, 0/0
  dictionary : 0/0, 0/0, 0/0
  havoc : 0/0, 0/0
  trim : n/a, 0.00%

overall results
  cycles done : 0
  total paths : 1
  uniq crashes : 1
  uniq hangs : 0

map coverage
  map density : 2 (0.00%)
  count coverage : 1.00 bits/tuple

findings in depth
  favored paths : 1 (100.00%)
  new edges on : 1 (100.00%)
  total crashes : 39 (1 unique)
  total hangs : 0 (0 unique)

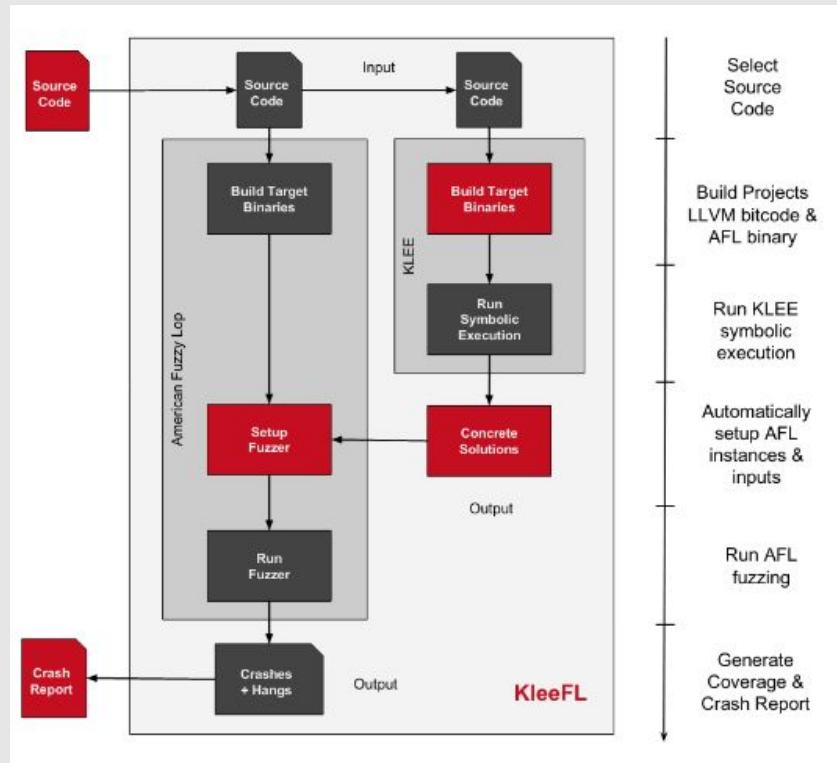
path geometry
  levels : 1
  pending : 1
  pend fav : 1
  own finds : 0
  imported : n/a
  variable : 0

[cpu: 92%]
```

<https://github.com/shellphish/driller>

Fuzzing/KleeFL

Similar to Driller but with KLEE as the symbolic execution provider



<https://github.com/julieeen/kleefl>

Fuzzing/LibKluzzer

A LibFuzzer extension using
symbolic execution via the KLEE
framework

LLVM-based Hybrid Fuzzing with LibKluzzer (Competition Contribution)

Hoang M. Le

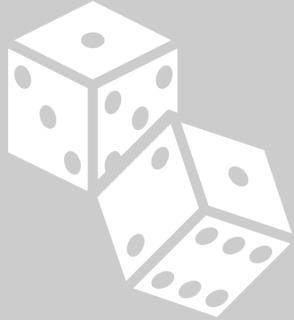
Institute of Computer Science
University of Bremen, Germany
hle@uni-bremen.de

Abstract. LibKluzzer is a novel implementation of hybrid fuzzing, which combines the strengths of coverage-guided fuzzing and dynamic symbolic execution (a.k.a. whitebox fuzzing). While coverage-guided fuzzing can discover new execution paths at nearly native speed, whitebox fuzzing is capable of getting through complex branch conditions. In contrast to existing hybrid fuzzers, that operate directly on binaries, LibKluzzer leverages the LLVM compiler framework to work at the source code level. It employs LibFuzzer as the coverage-guided fuzzing component and KLUZZER, an extension of KLEE, as the whitebox fuzzing component.

Keywords: Hybrid Fuzzing · Coverage-guided Fuzzing · Symbolic Execution · LLVM.

https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-030-45234-6_29.pdf

Limitations



Non-deterministic
control flow



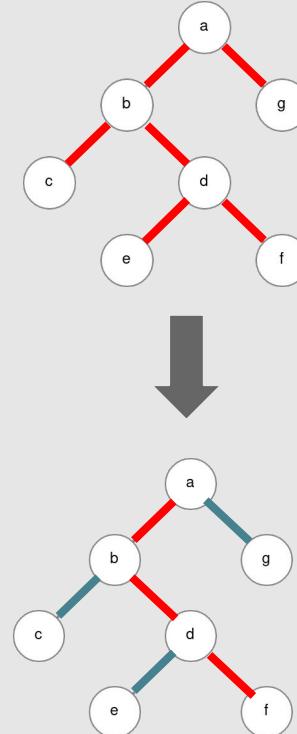
State explosion
causing exponential
growth



Cryptographic
primitives are still
valid

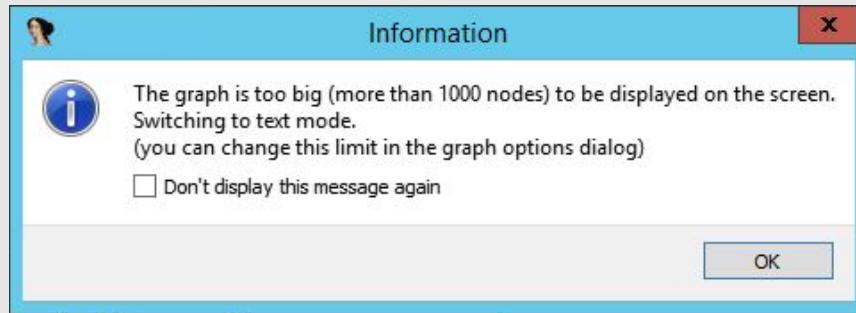
Symbolic Execution Recap

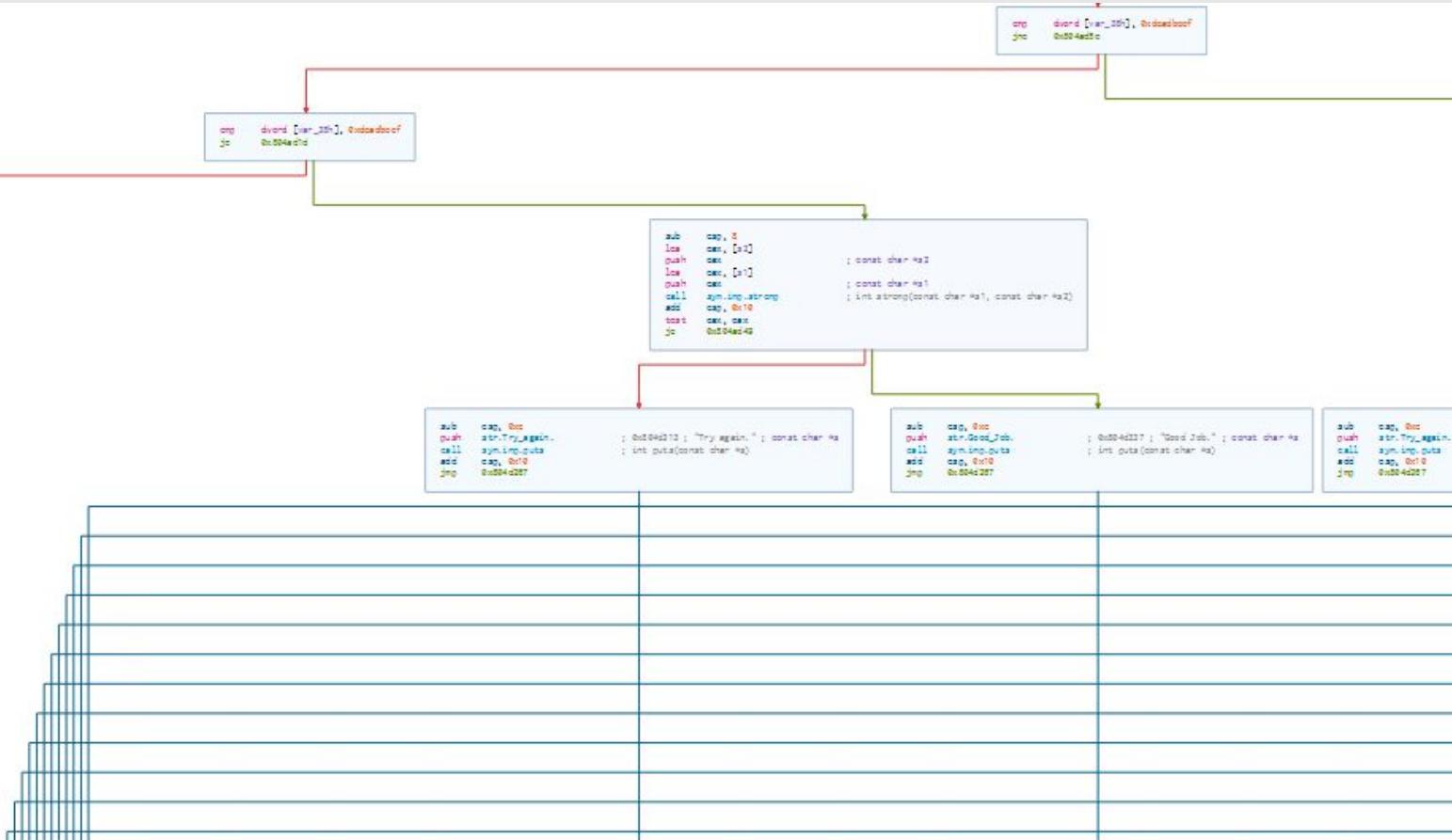
- Symbolic execution tries to find inputs that cause a program part to execute
- It works by:
 - traversing an execution tree
 - accumulating constraints at each branch
 - solving them using an SMT solver
- Concolic execution is seed-driven symbolic execution that trades higher performance for potential coverage loss
- There are many symbolic execution frameworks, integrations and tools

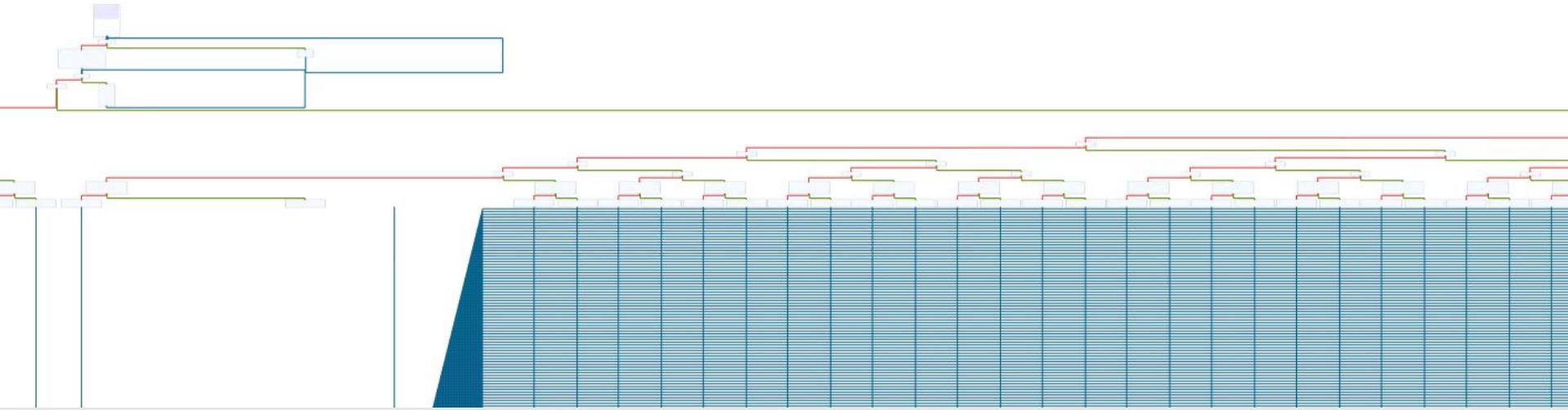


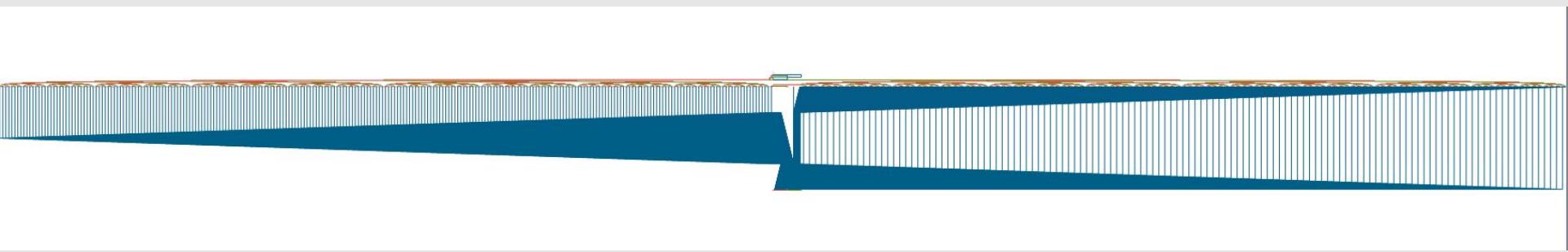
Further Readings











Demo



What we'll learn at the Workshop

- The **user-level symbolic execution workflow** in-depth
- Solve **practical challenges** using the **angr** framework
- How to tackle **performance** issues
- Gaining a **CTF** edge via **implicit constraints**
- Exporting **code coverage** from angr runs



Complete slides will be shared at the workshop :)

 @xorkiwi

 /in/janniskirschner

Reverse engineering of black-box binaries with symbolic and concolic execution techniques

or

“Why huge call-graphs don’t scare me anymore”

REcon Montreal 2022 | Jannis Kirschner

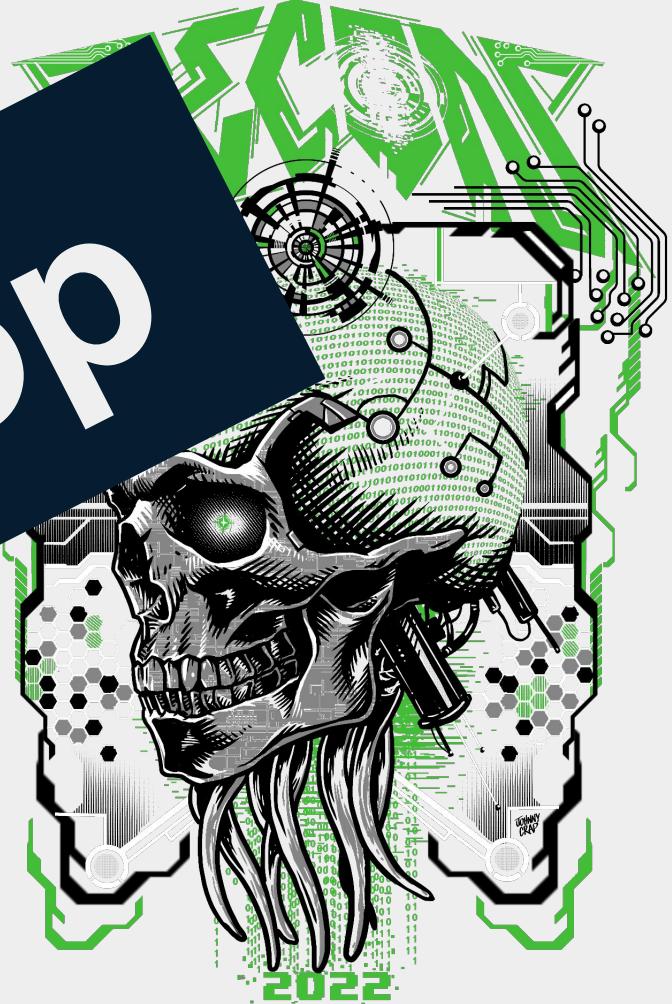


Reverse engineering of black-box binaries symbolic and executive

Workshop

"We can't do that anymore"

REcon Montreal | Jannis Kirschner



angr



Extensive Binary Analysis Framework



Convenient Python3 Interface

Valgrind



Symbolic + Concolic Execution

Leverages VEX IR
(x86, ARM, MIPS, PowerPC...)



Developed by UCSB

Won 3rd in DARPA
Cyber Grand Challenge

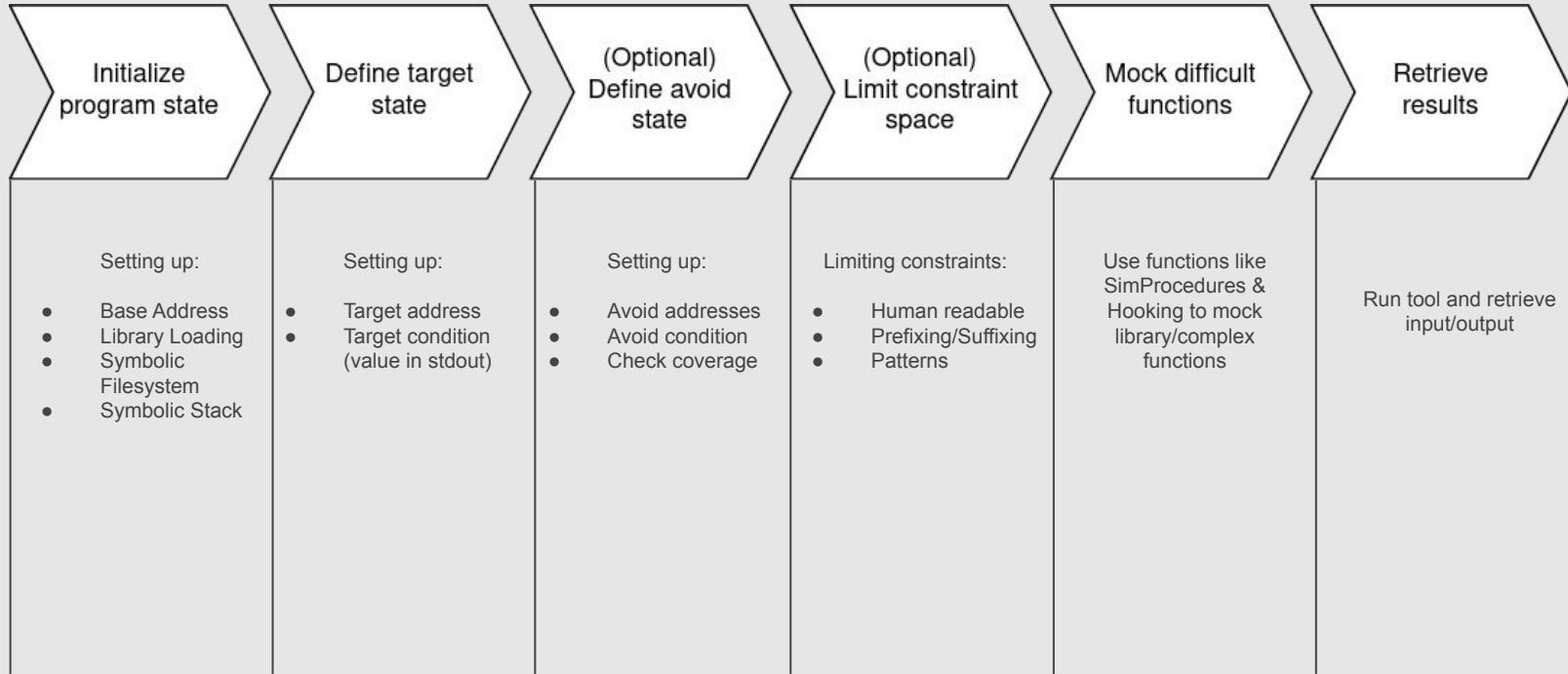
Used for reversing,
rop-chain building,
fuzzing and more

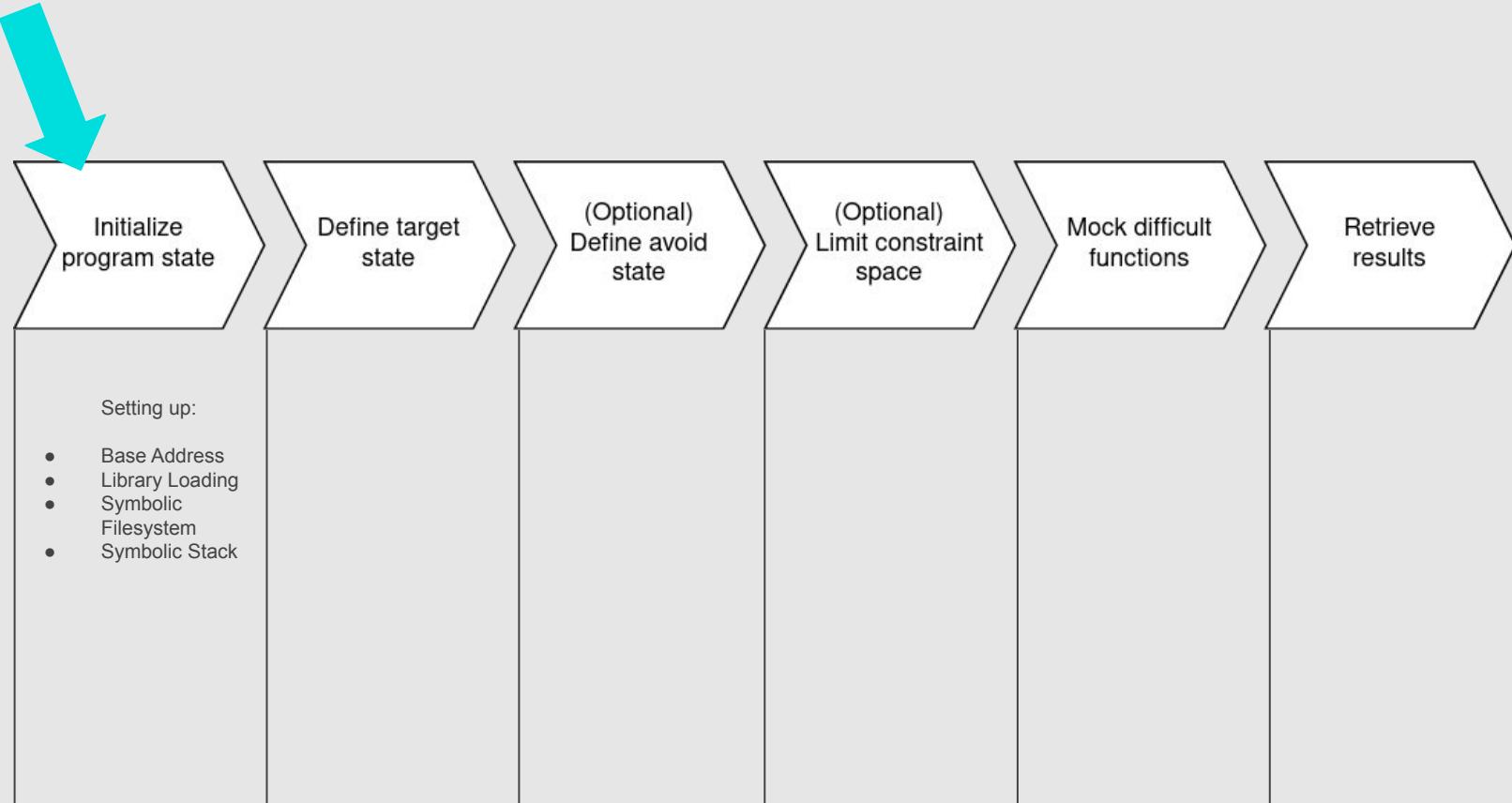
Let's recap for a second



```
import angr, claripy

proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot', load_options={"auto_load_libs": False}, main_opts={"base_addr": 0})
simgr = proj.factory.simgr()
simgr.explore(find=0x00001407, avoid=0x0000142d)
print(simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(0))
```





Basic example

Provide input
Validate input (constraint check function)
Print result

```
int main()
{
    char input[0x19];
    sym.imp.fgets(input, 0x19, _reloc.stdin);

    int result = check_flag(input);

    if (result == 0) { puts("Solved"); }
    else { puts("Nope"); }

    return 0;
}
```

Basic example

Initialize project

```
import angr, claripy

proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},
    main_opts={'base_addr': 0}
)
```

Basic example

Initialize project

Initialize simulation manager

```
import angr, claripy

proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},
    main_opts={'base_addr': 0}
)

simgr = proj.factory.simgr()
```

Basic example

Initialize project

Initialize simulation manager

Explore until required address

```
import angr, claripy

proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},
    main_opts={'base_addr':0}
)

simgr = proj.factory.simgr()

simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)
```

Basic example

Initialize project

Initialize simulation manager

Explore until required address

Print concretized result

```
import angr, claripy

proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},
    main_opts={'base_addr':0}
)

simgr = proj.factory.simgr()

simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)

print(simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(0))
```

Managing state

Provide input

Validate input
(constraint check
function)

Print result

```
int main()
{
    char input[0x19];
    sym.imp.fgets(input, 0x19, _reloc.stdin);

    int result = check_flag(input);

    if (result == 0) { puts("Solved"); }
    else { puts("Nope"); }

    return 0;
}
```

Managing state

Time waste
function

Provide input

Validate input
(constraint check
function)

Print result

```
int main()
{
    complicated_timewaste_function(); //sleeps forever

    char input[0x19];
    sym.imp.fgets(input, 0x19, _reloc.stdin);

    int result = check_flag(input);

    if (result == 0) { puts("Solved"); }
    else { puts("Nope"); }

    return 0;
}
```

Managing state

Up to now the initial state was always defined as the binary entry point

We can also specify a custom start address to speed up execution:

- Save time by directly running main
- Skip large function
- Define custom input

```
start_addr = 0x00001337
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(addr=start_addr)
simgr = proj.factory.simgr(initial_state)
```

Managing state

Up to now the initial state was always defined as the binary entry point

We can also specify a custom start address to speed up execution:

- Save time by directly running main
- Skip large function
- Define custom input

```
import angr, claripy

proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},
    main_opts={'base_addr': 0}
)

start_addr = 0x00001337
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(addr=start_addr)
simgr = proj.factory.simgr(initial_state)

simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)

print(simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(0))
```

What if input is...

...complex format string?

...consisting of multiple parameters?

...over memory/file/network?

Custom Symbol Injection

```
password = claripy.BVS('password', 8*input_length)
```

Registers:

```
initial_state.regs.eax = password
initial_state.regs.ebx = password
initial_state.regs.edx = password
```

Memory:

```
initial_state.memory.store(password_address, password, endness=project.arch.memory_endness)
```

Stack:

```
initial_state.stack_push(password)
```

Argv:

```
initial_state = project.factory.entry_state(args=['binary_name', password])
```

Symbolic Stack

Provide complex format string input

Validate input 1 function

Validate input 2 function

Print result

```
int main()
{
    int input1;
    int input2;

    scanf("%x %x", &input1, &input2);

    int result1 = check_flag1(input1);
    int result2 = check_flag2(input2);

    if ( (result1 == 0) && (result2 == 0) ) { puts("Solved"); }
    else { puts("Nope"); }

    return 0;
}
```

Symbolic Stack

Set start address
after input was
provided

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(addr=start_addr)
```

Symbolic Stack

Set start address
after input was
provided

Initialize stack
frame

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(addr=start_addr)
initial_state.regs.ebp = initial_state.regs.esp
```

Symbolic Stack

Set start address
after input was
provided

Initialize stack
frame

Define password
bitvectors

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(addr=start_addr)

initial_state.regs.ebp = initial_state.regs.esp

password0 = claripy.BVS('password0', 4*8)
password1 = claripy.BVS('password1', 4*8)
```

Symbolic Stack

Set start address
after input was
provided

Initialize stack
frame

Define password
bitvectors

Align stack pointer

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(addr=start_addr)

initial_state.regs.ebp = initial_state.regs.esp

password0 = claripy.BVS('password0', 4*8)
password1 = claripy.BVS('password1', 4*8)

padding_length_in_bytes = 0x08
initial_state.regs.esp -= padding_length_in_bytes
```

Symbolic Stack

Set start address
after input was
provided

Initialize stack
frame

Define password
bitvectors

Align stack pointer

Push password
bitvectors to stack

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(addr=start_addr)

initial_state.regs.ebp = initial_state.regs.esp

password0 = claripy.BVS('password0', 4*8)
password1 = claripy.BVS('password1', 4*8)

padding_length_in_bytes = 0x08
initial_state.regs.esp -= padding_length_in_bytes

initial_state.stack_push(password0)
initial_state.stack_push(password1)
```

Symbolic Stack

Set start address
after input was
provided

Initialize stack
frame

Define password
bitvectors

Align stack pointer

Push password
bitvectors to stack

Solve bitvectors

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(addr=start_addr)

initial_state.regs.ebp = initial_state.regs.esp

password0 = claripy.BVS('password0', 4*8)
password1 = claripy.BVS('password1', 4*8)

padding_length_in_bytes = 0x08
initial_state.regs.esp -= padding_length_in_bytes

initial_state.stack_push(password0)
initial_state.stack_push(password1)

simgr = proj.factory.simgr(initial_state)
simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)

solution0 = (simgr.found[0].solver.eval(password0))
solution1 = (simgr.found[0].solver.eval(password1))

print('{0},{1}'.format(solution0,solution1))
```

Symbolic Stack

Set start address
after input was
provided

Initialize stack
frame

Define password
bitvectors

Align stack pointer

Push password
bitvectors to stack

Solve bitvectors

```
import angr, claripy

proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},
    main_opts={'base_addr':0}
)

start_addr = 0x000013cc
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(addr=start_addr)

initial_state.regs.ebp = initial_state.regs.esp

password0 = claripy.BVS('password0', 4*8)
password1 = claripy.BVS('password1', 4*8)

padding_length_in_bytes = 0x08
initial_state.regs.esp -= padding_length_in_bytes

initial_state.stack_push(password0)
initial_state.stack_push(password1)

simgr = proj.factory.simgr(initial_state)
simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)

solution0 = (simgr.found[0].solver.eval(password0))
solution1 = (simgr.found[0].solver.eval(password1))

print'{0},{1}'.format(solution0,solution1))
```



Symbolic Filesystem

Provide input via file

Validate input (constraint check function)

Print result

```
int main()
{
    FILE *fp;
    char input[0x19];

    fp = fopen("./inputfile.txt", "r");
    fgets(input, 0x19, (FILE*)fp);
    fclose(fp);

    int result = check_flag(input);

    if (result == 0) { puts("Solved"); }
    else { puts("Nope"); }

    return 0;
}
```

Symbolic Filesystem

Set start address before input

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
```

Symbolic Filesystem

Set start address before input

Define symbolic bitvector

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
filename = './inputfile.txt'
sym_file_size = 64
password = claripy.BVS('password', sym_file_size * 8)
```

Symbolic Filesystem

Set start address before input

Define symbolic bitvector

Define symbolic file with
bitvector as content

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
filename = './inputfile.txt'
sym_file_size = 64
password = claripy.BVS('password', sym_file_size * 8)
password_file = angr.SimFile(filename,
    content = password,
    size = sym_file_size
)
```

Symbolic Filesystem

Set start address before input

Define symbolic bitvector

Define symbolic file with
bitvector as content

Define initial state with start
address and filesystem

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
filename = './inputfile.txt'
sym_file_size = 64
password = claripy.BVS('password', sym_file_size * 8)
password_file = angr.SimFile(filename,
    content = password,
    size = sym_file_size
)
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(
    addr = start_addr,
    fs = {filename: password_file}
)
```

Symbolic Filesystem

Set start address before input

Define symbolic bitvector

Define symbolic file with
bitvector as content

Define initial state with start
address and filesystem

Solve symbolic memory

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
filename = './inputfile.txt'
sym_file_size = 64
password = claripy.BVS('password', sym_file_size * 8)
password_file = angr.SimFile(filename,
                             content = password,
                             size = sym_file_size
                             )
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(
    addr = start_addr,
    fs = {filename: password_file}
)
simgr = proj.factory.simgr(initial_state)
simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)
solution = (simgr.found[0].solver.eval(password,cast_to=bytes))
print(solution)
```

Symbolic Filesystem

Set start address before input

Define symbolic bitvector

Define symbolic file with bitvector as content

Define initial state with start address and filesystem

Solve symbolic memory

```
import angr, claripy
```

```
proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},
    main_opts={'base_addr': 0}
)
```

```
start_addr = 0x000013cc
```

```
filename = './inputfile.txt'
sym_file_size = 64
```

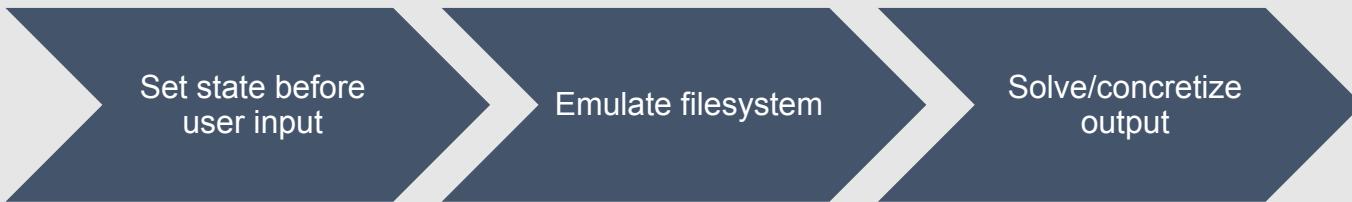
```
password = claripy.BVS('password', sym_file_size * 8)
```

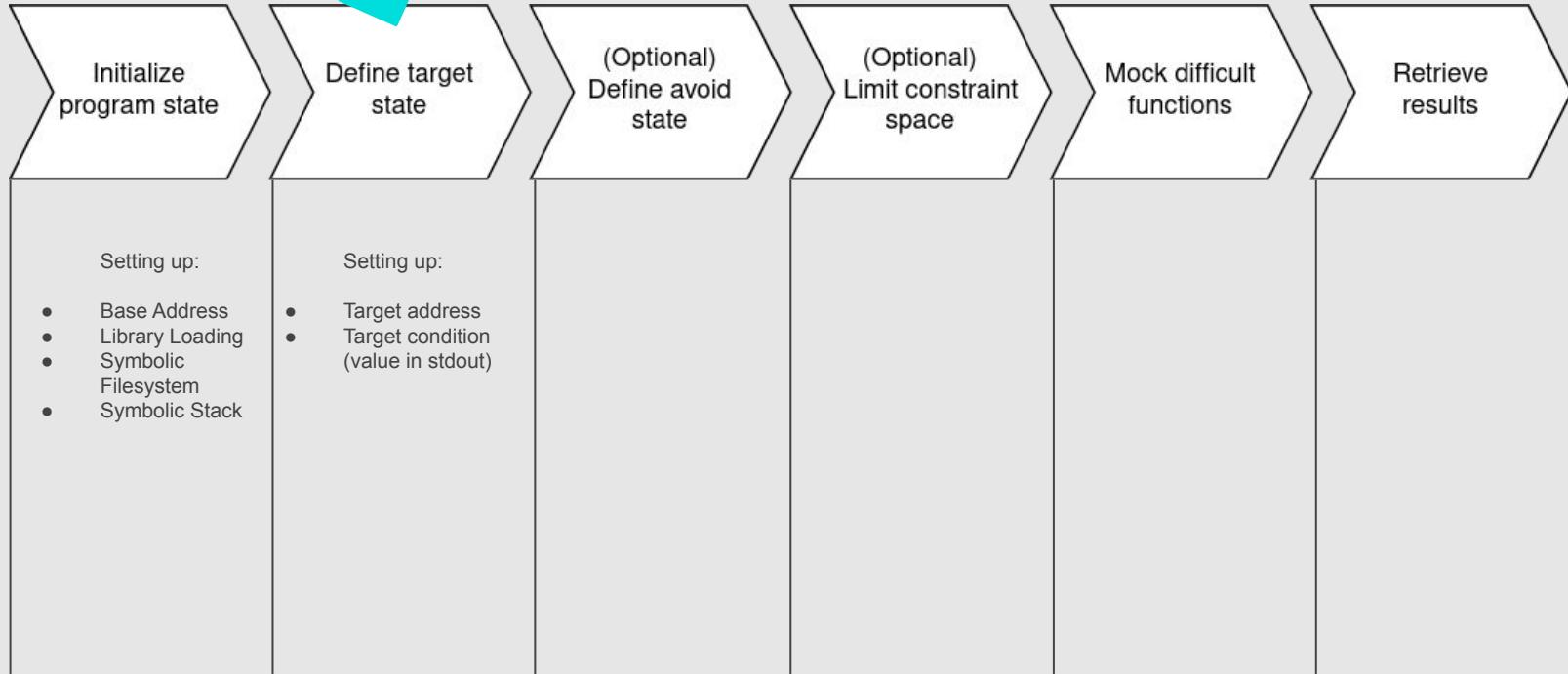
```
password_file = angr.SimFile(filename,
    content = password,
    size = sym_file_size
)
```

```
initial_state = proj.factory.blank_state(
    addr = start_addr,
    fs = {filename: password_file}
)
```

```
simgr = proj.factory.simgr(initial_state)
simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)
```

```
solution = (simgr.found[0].solver.eval(password, cast_to=bytes))
print(solution)
```





Target state definition

Define target address(es)

Explore until solution is found
or whole graph was explored

```
simgr = proj.factory.simgr()  
simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)
```

Target state definition

Define target address(es)

Explore until solution is found
or whole graph was explored

```
import angr, claripy
```

```
proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',  
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},  
    main_opts={'base_addr': 0}  
)
```

```
simgr = proj.factory.simgr()  
simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)
```

```
print(simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(0))
```

Can also be value

Sometimes your target is not necessarily an address

You can also specify arbitrary conditions for finding/avoiding conditions

A common use-case is setting your target based on values written to stdout

```
def is_successful(state):
    stdout_output = state.posix.dumps(sys.stdout.fileno())
    return 'Solved' in stdout_output

simgr.explore(
    find=is_successful
)
```

Can also be value

Sometimes your target is not necessarily an address

You can also specify arbitrary conditions for finding/avoiding conditions

A common use-case is setting your target based on values written to stdout

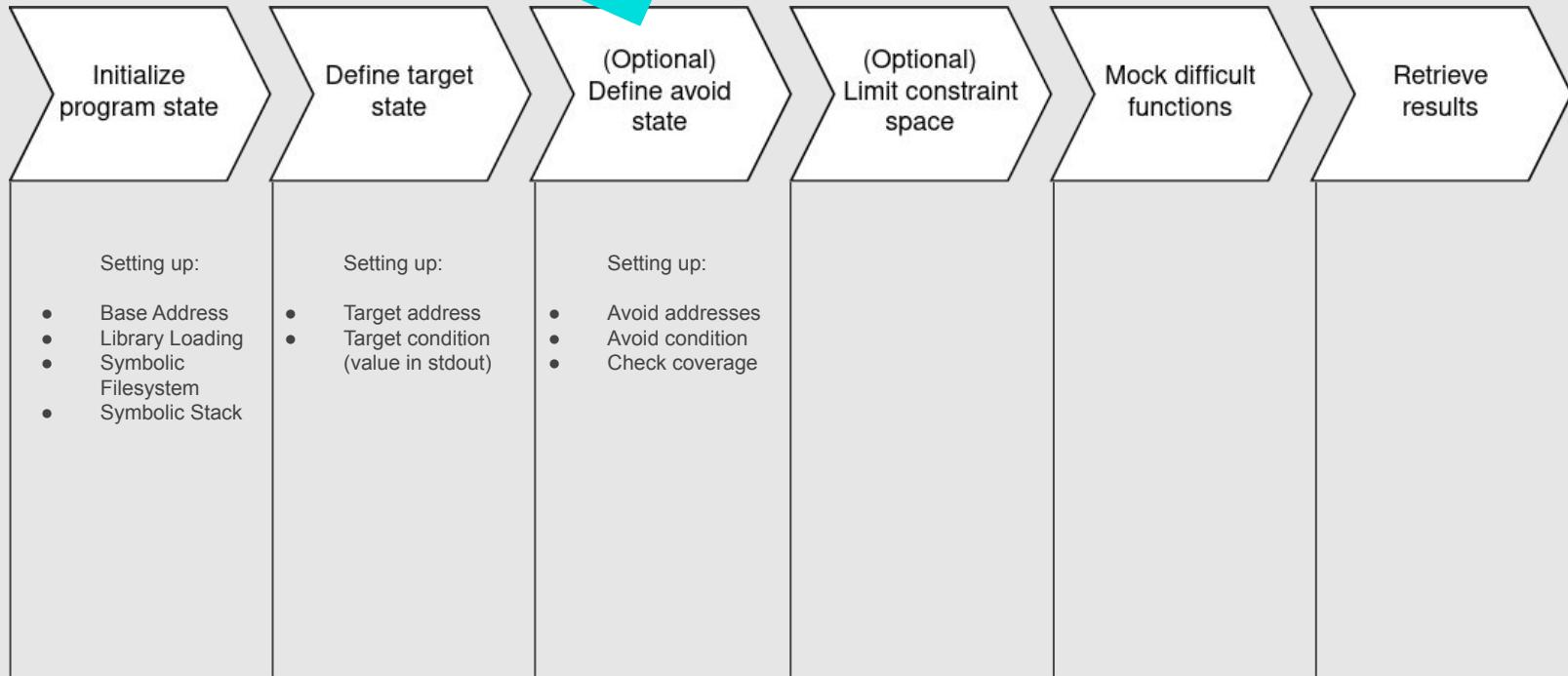
```
import angr, claripy

proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',
                    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},
                    main_opts={'base_addr':0}
                    )

simgr = proj.factory.simgr()

def is_successful(state):
    stdout_output = state.posix.dumps(sys.stdout.fileno())
    return 'Solved' in stdout_output

simgr.explore(
    find=is_successful
)
print(simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(sys.stdin.fileno()))
```



State Explosion



Branches double per condition

Growth of problem is exponential
relating to program size

Slows down symbolic execution

Just exclude, it's easy

A great way to reduce complexity is by entirely avoiding unneeded paths

Selecting those paths works best with reverse engineering & human intuition

```
simgr.explore(find=0x00001407, avoid=[0x0000142d])
```

Just exclude, it's easy

A great way to reduce complexity is by entirely avoiding unneeded paths

Selecting those paths works best with reverse engineering & human intuition

```
import angr, claripy

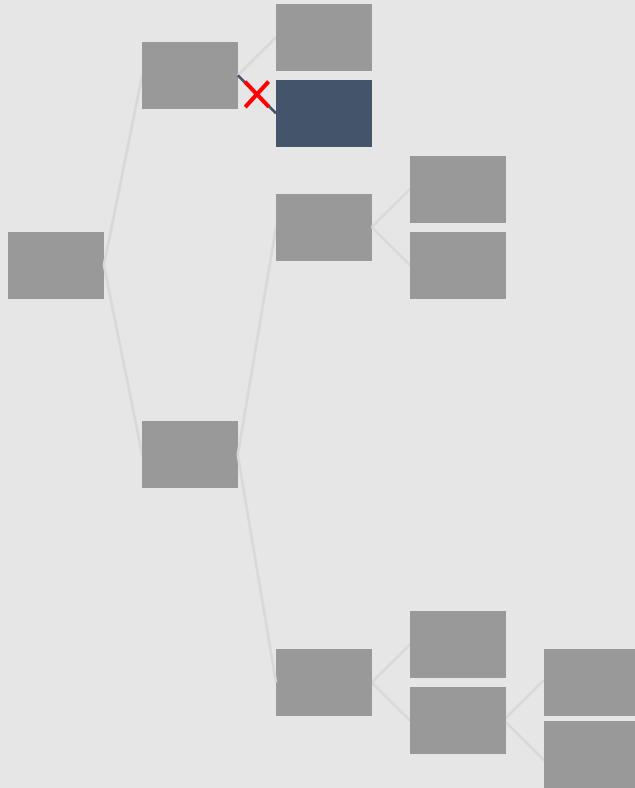
proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},
    main_opts={'base_addr':0})

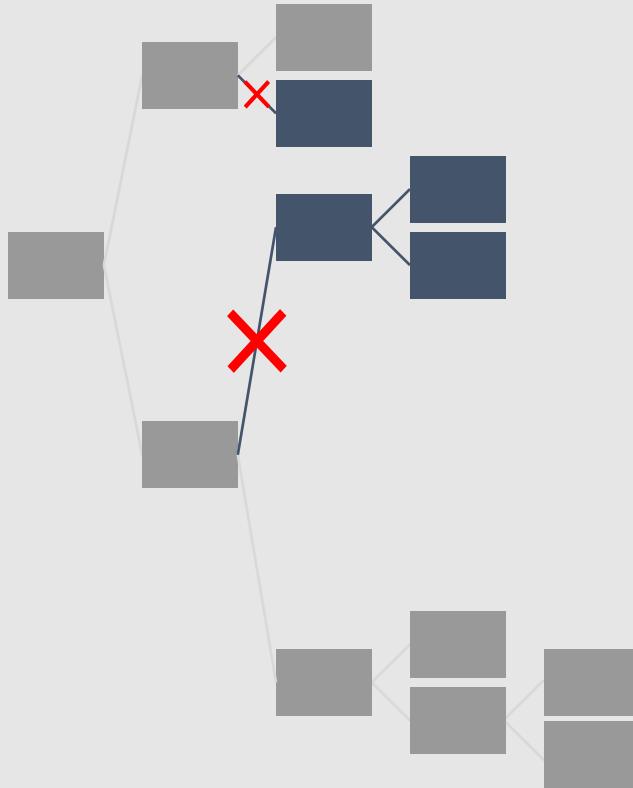
simgr = proj.factory.simgr()

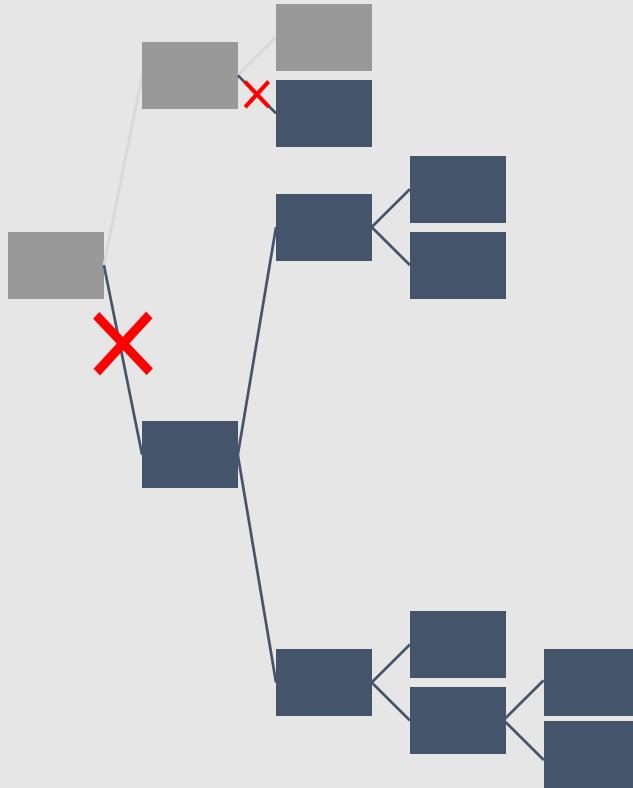
simgr.explore(find=0x00001407, avoid=[0x0000142d])

print(simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(0))
```

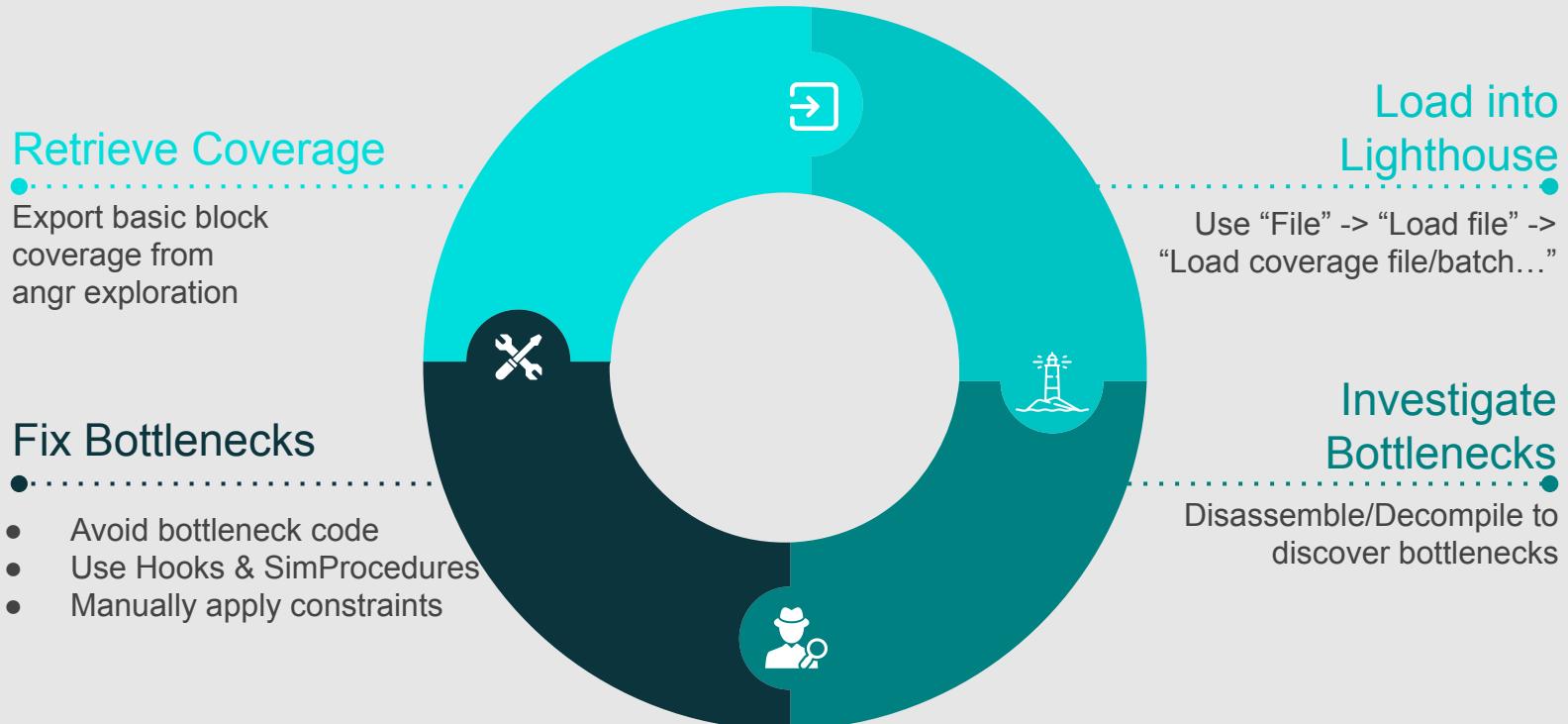








Code Coverage Collection Process



Code Coverage

```
def get_coverage(*args, **kwargs):
    sm = args[0]
    stashes = sm.stashes
    i = 0
    for simstate in stashes['active']:
        state_history = ""

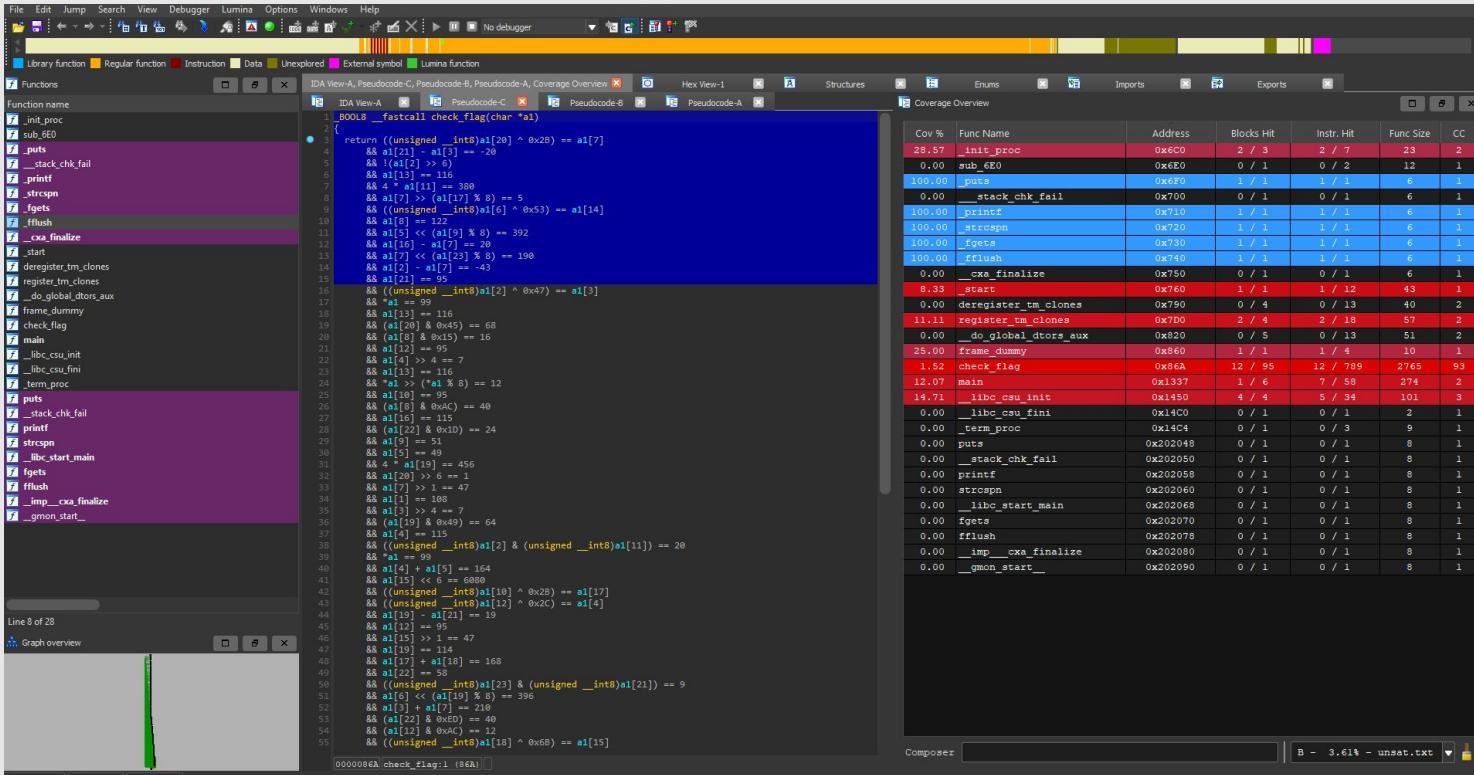
        for addr in simstate.history.bbl_addrs.hardcopy:
            write_address = hex(addr)
            state_history += '{0}\n'.format(write_address)
        raw_syminput = simstate.posix.stdin.load(0, state.posix.stdin.size)

        syminput = simstate.solver.eval(raw_syminput, cast_to=bytes)
        print(syminput)
        ip = hex(state.solver.eval(simstate.ip))
        uid = str(uuid.uuid4())
        sid = str(i).zfill(5)
        filename = '{0}_active_{1}_{2}_{3}'.format(sid,syminput, ip, uid)

        with open(filename, 'w') as f:
            f.write(state_history)
        i += 1

    simgr.explore(find=0x00001407, step_func=get_coverage)
```

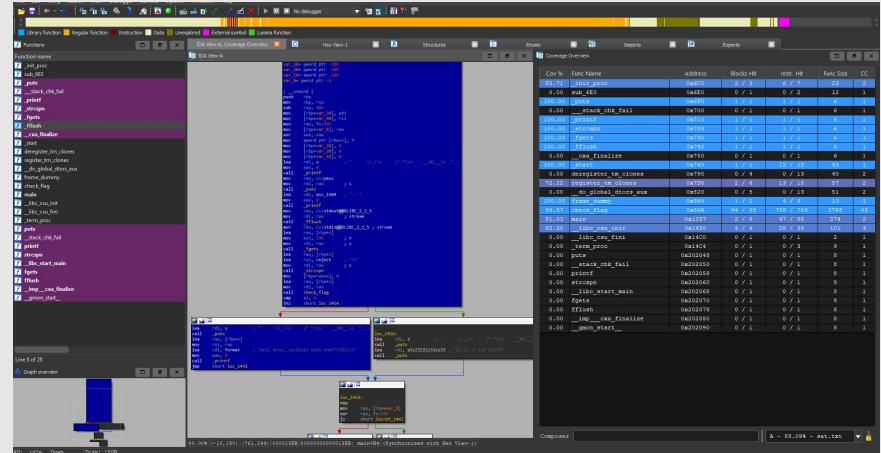
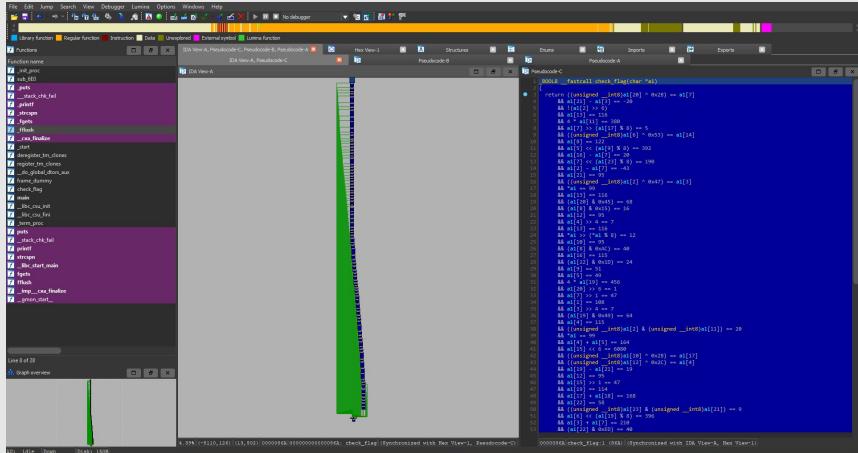
Load into lighthouse to find bottlenecks...

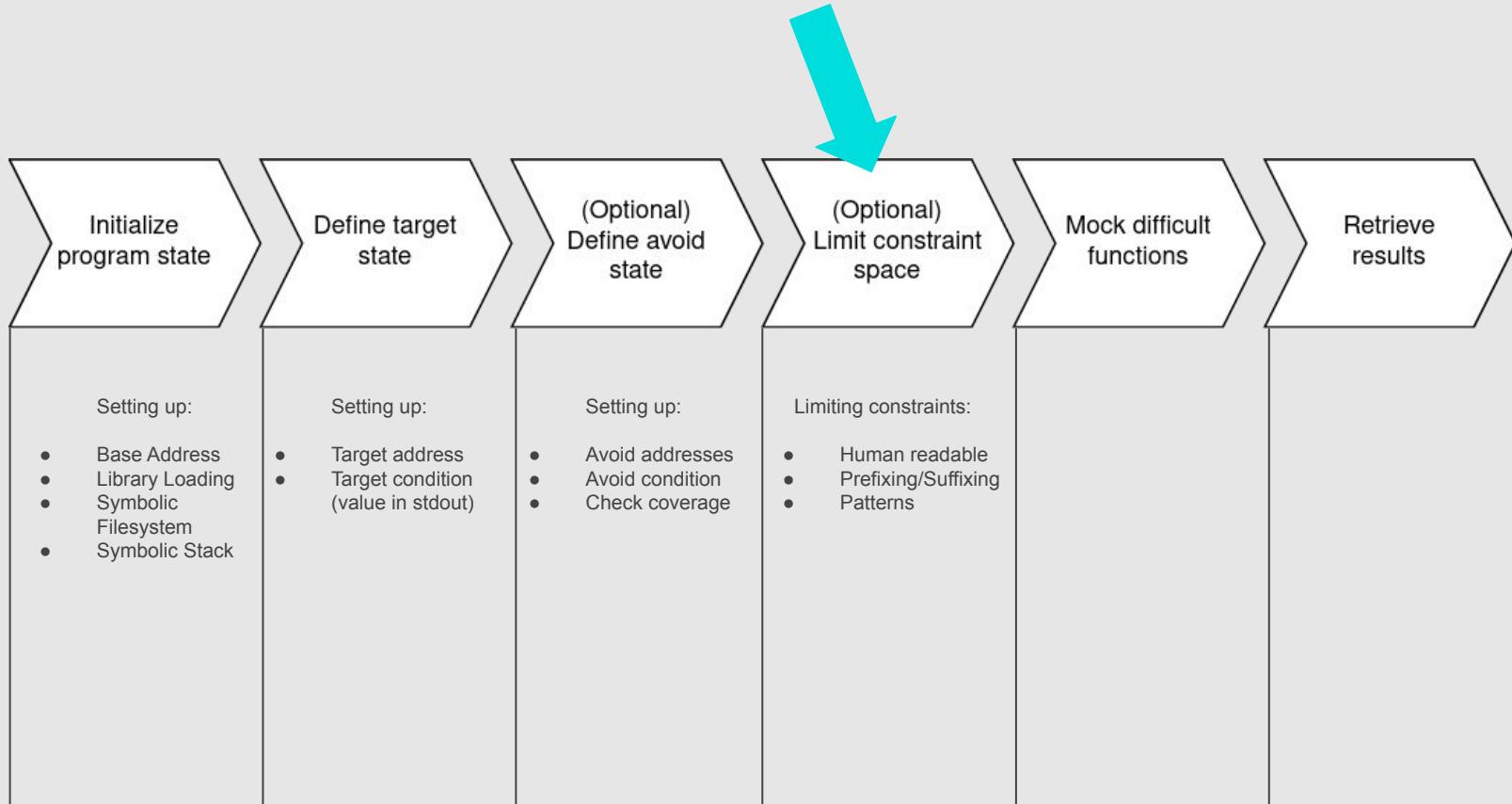


The screenshot shows the IDA Pro interface with the following details:

- File menu:** File, Edit, Jump, Search, View, Debugger, Lumina, Options, Windows, Help.
- Toolbars:** Library function, Regular function, Instruction, Data, Unexplored, External symbol, Lumina function.
- Windows:**
 - IDA View-A:** Shows assembly code for the `_000086A _fastcall check_flag(char *ai)` function. The code includes various conditional branches and arithmetic operations on registers `al` and `eax`.
 - Coverage Overview:** A table showing the coverage percentage (Cov %) for various functions. The table includes columns for Func Name, Address, Blocks Hit, Instr. Hit, Func Size, and CC.
 - Composer:** A text input field containing the assembly address `00000086A` and the label `check_flag:1 (86h)`.
- Bottom status bar:** B - 3.61% - unsat.txt.

...and guide angr into resolving them





import angr, claripy



Limiting Constraints

Import the constraint solver engine

Limiting Constraints

Import the constraint solver engine

Create new symbolic password bitvector

Create state and pass bitvector to it (argv, symbolic stack, symbolic file...)

```
import angr, claripy
```

```
proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',  
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},  
    main_opts={'base_addr':0}  
)
```

```
password = claripy.BVS('password', 8*8) #8 chars  
initial_state = proj.factory.entry_state(args=['crackme', password])
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Add custom constraints to bitvector:

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initial_state = proj.factory.entry_state(args=['crackme', password])

# only printable characters
for byte in password.chop(8):
    initial_state.add_constraints(byte != '\x00') # null
    initial_state.add_constraints(byte >= ' ') # '\x20'
    initial_state.add_constraints(byte <= '~') # '\x7e'
```

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- Password starts with “CTF{“

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initial_state.add_constraints(password.chop(8)[0] == 'C')
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initial_state.add_constraints(password.chop(8)[3] == '{')
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Solve bitvector to get password

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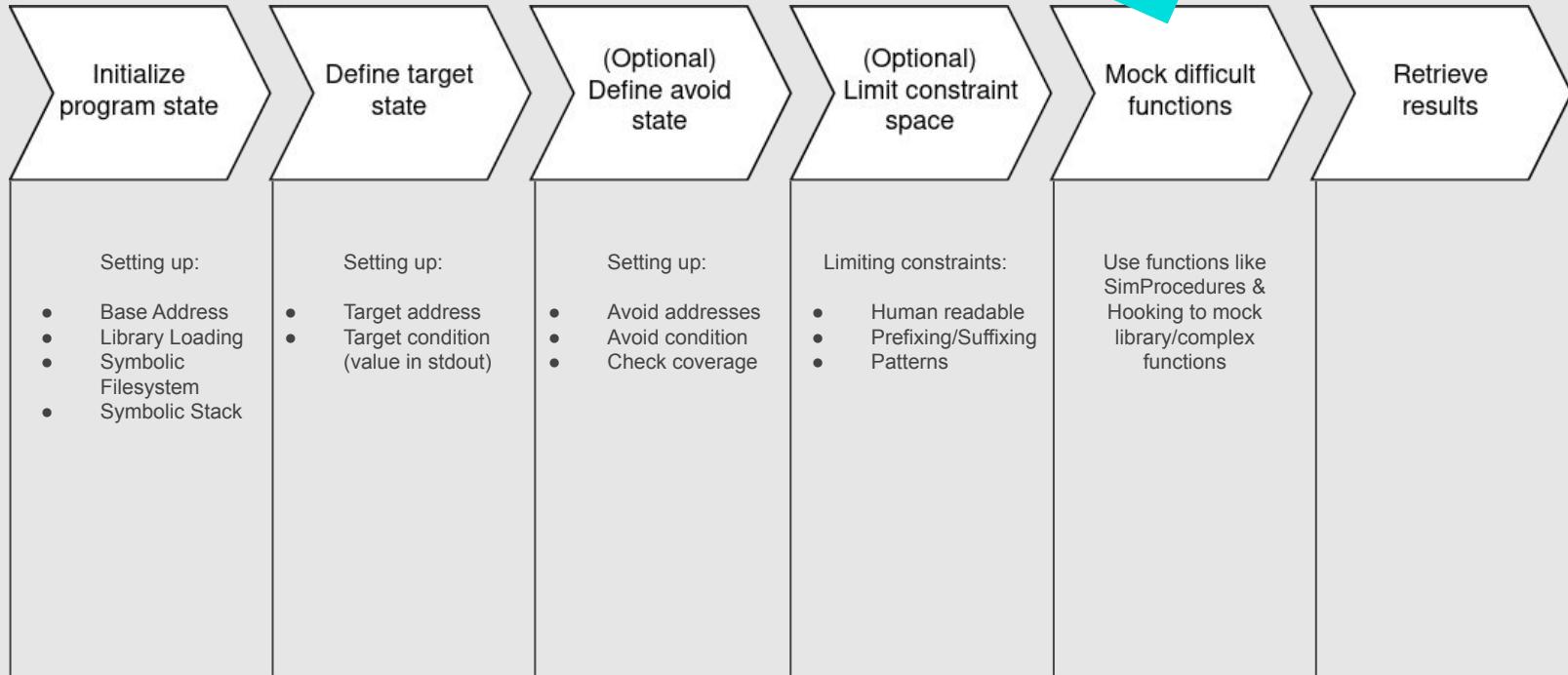
# only printable characters
for byte in password.chop(8):
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initial_state.add_constraints(password.chop(8)[3] == '{')

simgr = proj.factory.simgr(initial_state)

simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)

print(simgr.found[0].solver.eval(password,cast_to=bytes))
```



SimProcedures

You can use SimProcedures to **overwrite binary functions** with python code

This helps with controlling complicated, low-level library functions

For example useful to overwrite secure PRNG with insecure implementation/static values

```
class NewOverwrittenFunc(angr.SimProcedure):
    # arguments automatically extracted
    def run(self, argc, argv):
        if argc > 0:
            print('This is python code now {0}'.format(argv[0]))
        return 0
    return 1
```

```
proj.hook_symbol('function_to_overwrite', NewOverwrittenFunc())
```

SimProcedures

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    return 1
```

```
proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',
    load_options={'auto_load_libs' : False},
    main_opts={'base_addr':0}
)

proj.hook_symbol('function_to_overwrite', NewOverwrittenFunc())

simgr = proj.factory.simgr()

simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)

print(simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(0))
```

User Hooks

User Hooks can be used if overwriting a whole function seems to extensive
(SimProcedure)

Just specify at what address to hook and how many bytes to skip

```
# length determines how many bytes get skipped/overwritten
@proj.hook(0x1337, length=5)
def set_rax(state):
    state.regs.rax = 1
```

User Hooks

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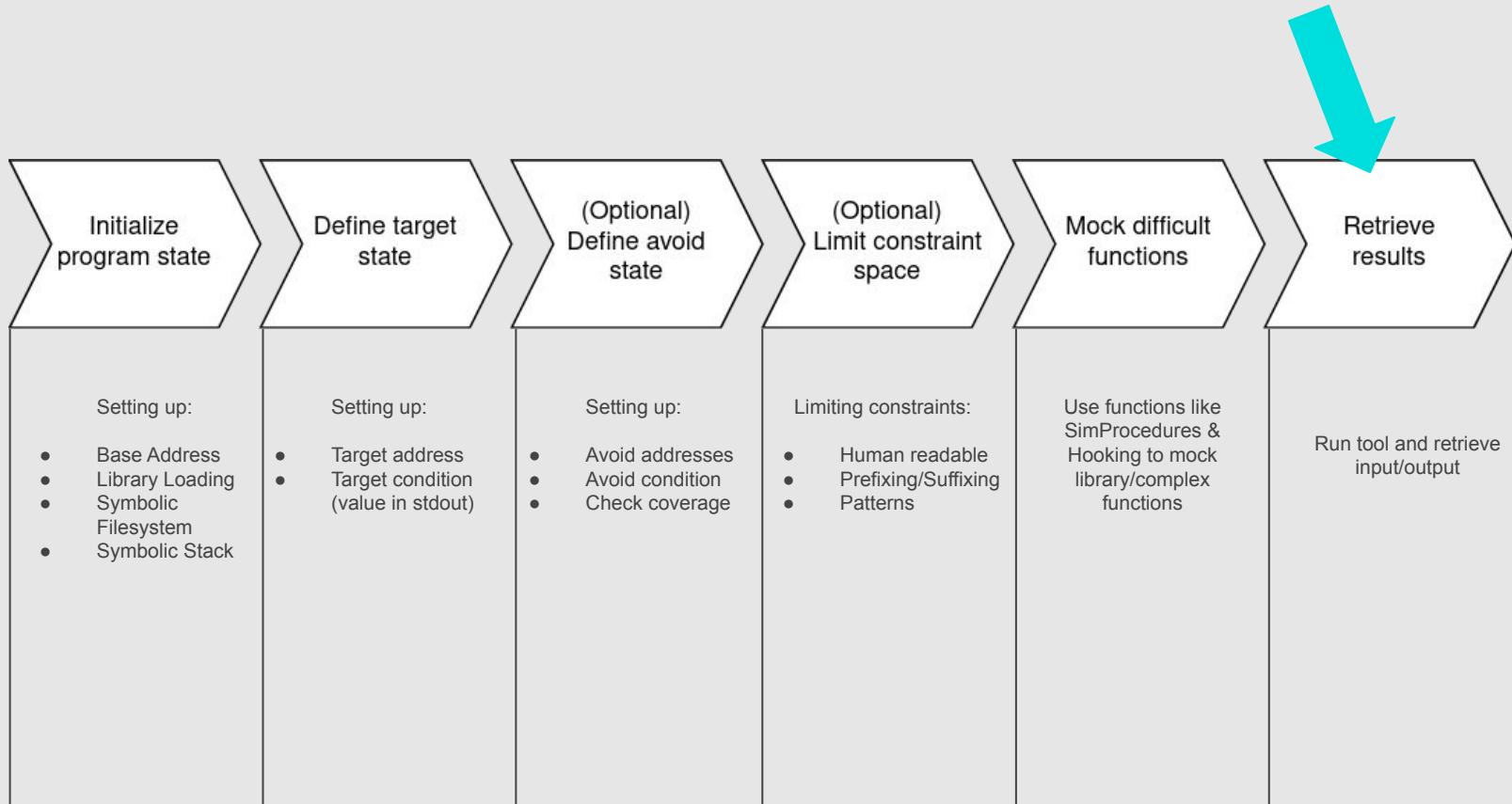
```
import angr, claripy

proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},
    main_opts={'base_addr':0}
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simgr = proj.factory.simgr()

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def set_rax(state):
    state.regs.rax = 1

simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)
print(simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(0))
```



Concretizing results

After simulation manager has found a satisfied result you can dump stdin or evaluate your symbolic bitvector

```
simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(0)
```

```
simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(sys.stdin.fileno())
```

```
simgr.found[0].solver.eval(your_bitvector, cast_to=bytes)
```


IM IN UR FOLDUR



KERUPTIN YR FYLEZ



Improve Performance

Veritesting

Algorithm to
automatically reduce
state explosions

Relies on heuristics to
merge states

```
simgr = proj.factory.simgr(initial_state, veritesting=True)
```

Veritesting

Algorithm to
automatically reduce
state explosions

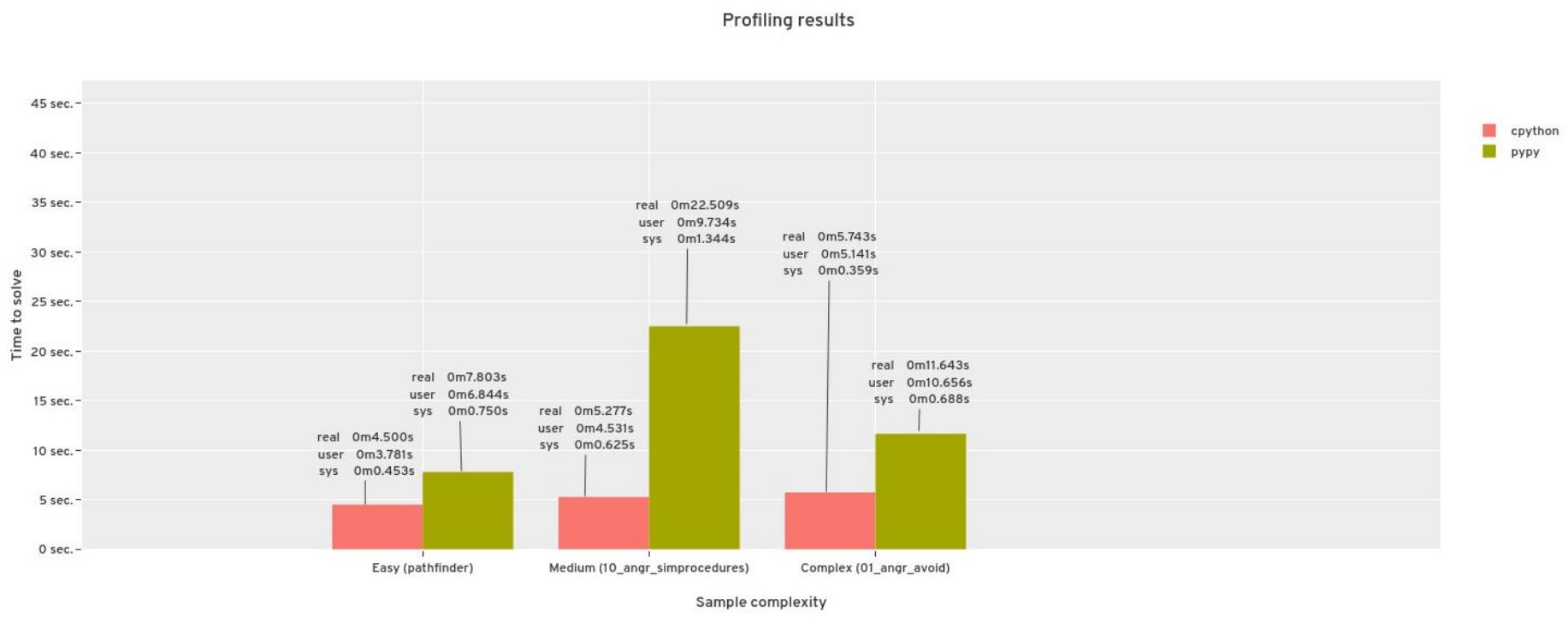
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import angr, claripy
```

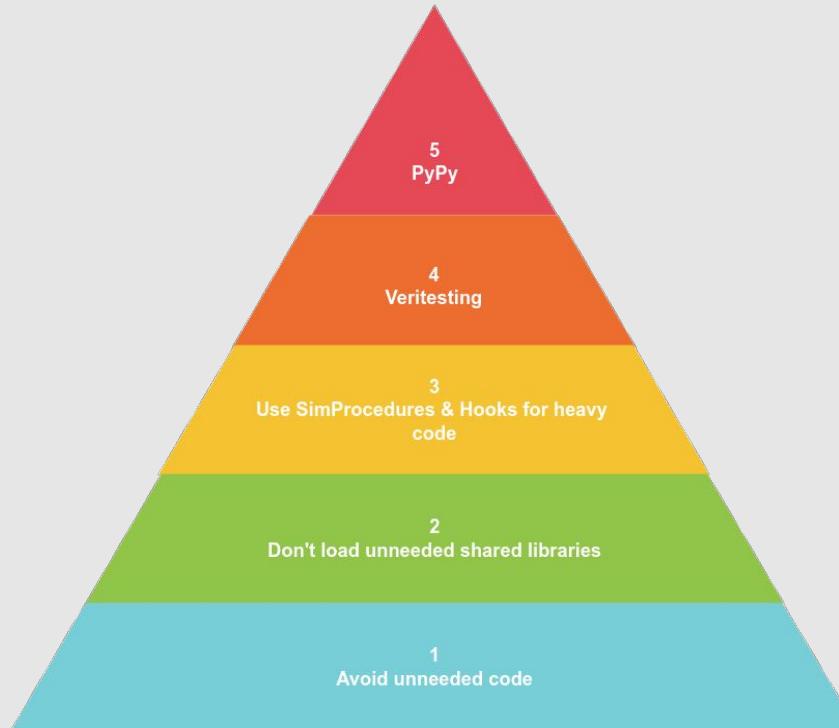
```
proj = angr.Project('./z3_robot',  
    load_options={'auto_load_libs': False},  
    main_opts={'base_addr': 0}  
)
```

```
initial_state = project.factory.entry_state()  
simgr = proj.factory.simgr(initial_state, veritesting=True)  
  
simgr.explore(find=0x00001407)  
  
print(simgr.found[0].posix.dumps(0))
```

PyPy



Maslow's Hierarchy of Symbolic Execution



Angr Recap

- The angr framework features a nice **python3 api**
- To reach your desired condition you'll need to **reduce state explosion**
 - You can **avoid** code, **hook**, and manually **guide** the framework
- Angr is **incorporated** into many tools from advanced **fuzzers** to modern binary **analysis** suites
- Symbolic Execution isn't magic though
 - We have to keep **performance limitations** in mind

Build “Symbolic Execution Harness”



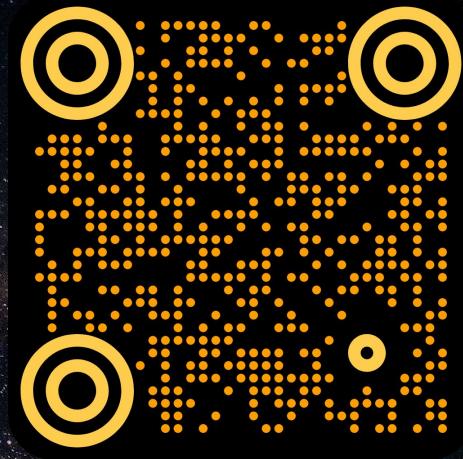
Continuously monitor and improve performance (avoiding, hooking, manual constraints...)



Run to retrieve your flag

Now is your turn!

**Solve the challenges and
decipher the mystery of a
strange distress signal!**



github.com/JannisKirschner/REcon-Workshop-Public



@xorkiwi



/in/janniskirschner