

Exposing Android Event-Based Races by Selective Branch Instrumentation

Diyu Wu, Dongjie He, Shiping Chen and Jingling Xue

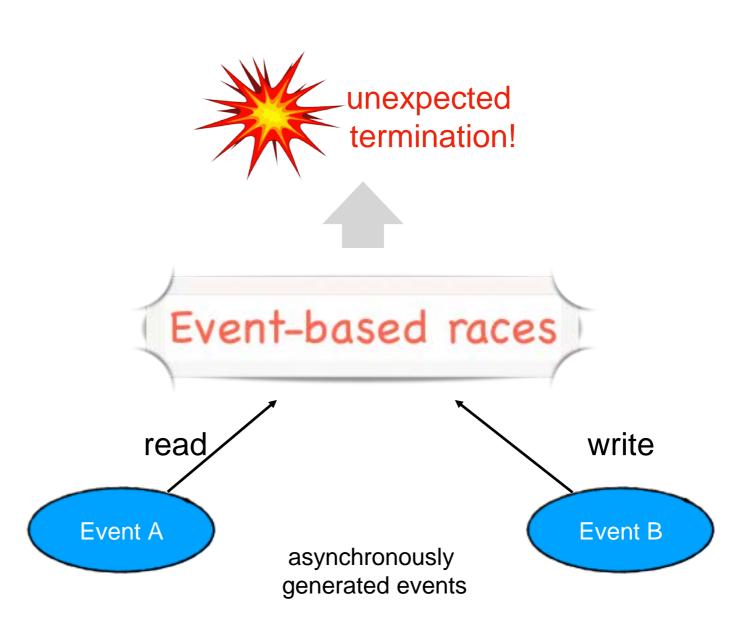
The University of New South Wales, Australia



7225 JOSO

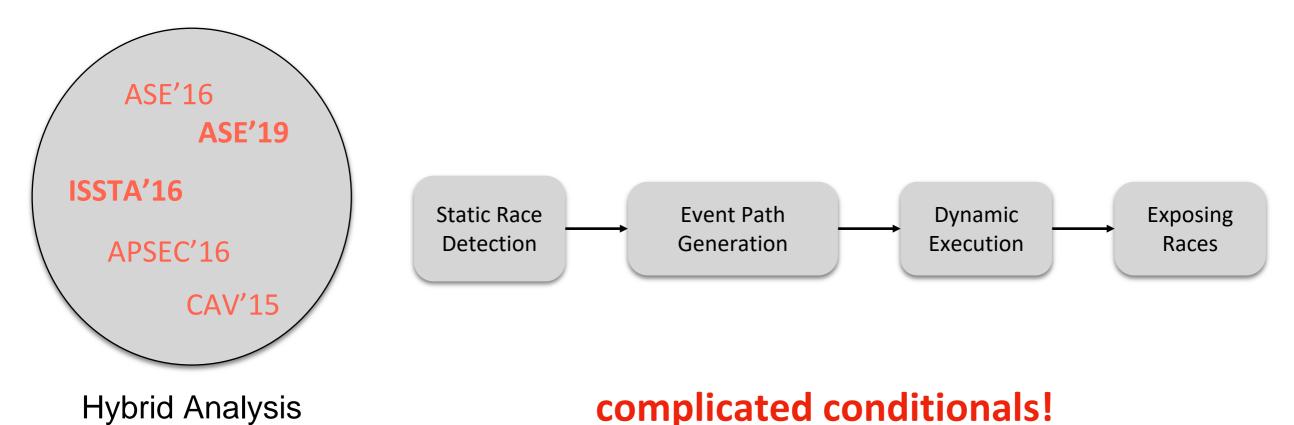
Problem







Previous Work



complicated conditionals!



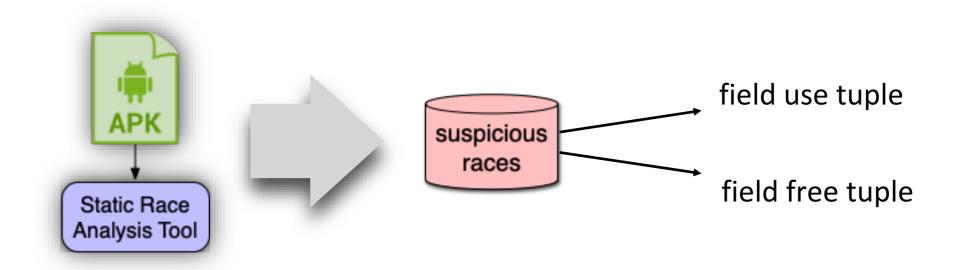
• Selective Branch Instrumentation:

1. non-existent races

2. crashes

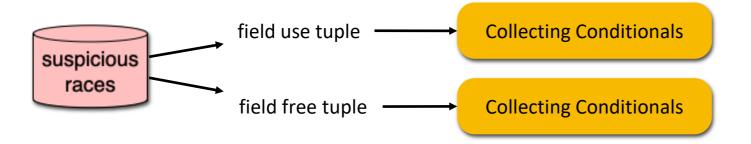


Statically detect suspicious races.



a suspicious race:
$$\langle \tau_u, \tau_f \rangle$$
 a tuple: $\tau = \langle s, e, ctx \rangle$

Collecting Conditionals

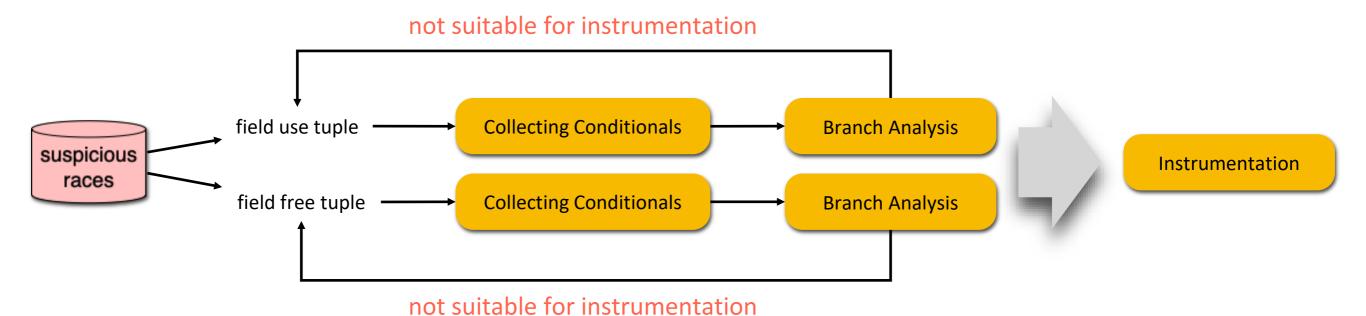


Branch Analysis



- Definition tracing
- Value range analysis: possible values of variables.
- select conditionals : could be replaced with true/false.
 - Safety check
 - Satisfiability check

Instrumentation



a tuple: $\tau = \langle s, e, ctx \rangle$

• Dynamic Execution



Evaluation



25 real world Android apps

- 190 suspicious races
- 18 true races
- Compare SIEVE with two baseline tools
 - Sieve-ZB: non-instrumentation
 - Sieve-FB: full-instrumentation

CORG

11



Evaluation

- Sieve vs Sieve-ZB (non-instrumentation)
 - Reached races: reached racy statements in order
 - Reported races: reached races with NPE



more effective!

12

Evaluation

Sieve vs Sieve-FB (full-instrumentation)



less false alarms and crashes!

• SIEVE: Selective branch instrumentation

★ Expose event-based races more effectively

★ Reduce negative ramifications of instrumentation

THANK YOU!