Dongliang Mu

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Research Interests

My current research focuses on **Software and System Security**. More specifically, my research interests span the areas of `Software Failure Diagnosis, Vulnerability Reproduction, Vulnerability Fuzzing, and Binary Analysis`.

Education

2014-2019 **Ph.D. Candidate** in Software Security, *Nanjing University*
Adviser: Prof. Bing Mao

2010-2014 **B.E** in Computer Science and Technology, *Zhengzhou University*

Experiences

2016-2020 **Research Assistant** in Software and System Security, *Pennsylvania State University*
Adviser: Prof. Xinyu Xing

02/2018 **Organizer of 2018 Penn State Cybersecurity Competition** in *Pennsylvania State University*
HomePage : `https://psusecurity.github.io/`

2014-2019 **Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant** in Nanjing University
Adviser: Prof. Bing Mao

Publications

* **means equal contribution**

Conference Papers:

P-9 **[ASE 2019] Mu, D.***, Guo, W.*, Cuevas, A., Chen, Y., Gai, J. Xing, X., Mao, B., Song, C., "RENN: Efficient Reverse Execution with Neural-Network-assisted Alias Analysis", In Proceedings of the 34th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering, San Diego, CA, November 2019.

P-8 **[AsiaCCS 2019]** Chen, Y.*, **Mu, D.***, Sun, Z., Xu, J., Shen, W., Xing, X., Lu, L., Mao B., "Ptrix: Efficient Hardware-Assisted Fuzzing for COTS Binary", In Proceedings of the 14th ACM ASIA Conference on Computer and Communications Security, Auckland, New Zealand, July 2019.

P-7 **[USENIX Security 2019]** Guo, W.*, **Mu, D.***, Xing, X., Du, M., Song, D., "DEEPVSA: Facilitating Value-set Analysis with Deep Learning for Postmortem Program Analysis", In Proceedings of the 28th USENIX Security Symposium, Santa Clara, California, August 2019.

P-6 **[CCS 2018]** Guo, W., **Mu, D.**, Xu, J., Su, P., Wang, G., Xing, X., "LEMNA: Explaining Deep Learning based Security Applications", In Proceedings of The 25th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security, Toronto, Canada, October 2018. **(Outstanding Paper Award)**

P-5 **[USENIX Security 18] Mu, D.**, Cuevas, A., Yang, L., Hu, H., Xing, X., Mao, B., Wang, G., "Understanding the Reproducibility of Crowd-reported Security Vulnerabilities", In Proceedings of the 27th USENIX Security Symposium, Baltimore, Mayland, August 2018.

P-4 **[SecureCOMM 17] Mu, D.**, Guo, J., Ding, W., Wang, Z., Mao, B., Shi, L., "ROPOB: Obfuscating Binary Code via Return Oriented Programming", In International Conference on Security and Privacy in Communication Systems, Niagara Falls, Canada, October 2017.

P-3 **[SecureCOMM 17]** Zhu, J., Zhou, W., Wang, Z., **Mu, D.**, Mao, B., "DiffGuard: Obscuring Sensitive Information in Canary Based Protections", In International Conference on Security and Privacy in Communication Systems, Niagara Falls, Canada, October 2017.

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[USENIX Security 17] Xu, J., **Mu, D.**, Xing, X., Liu, P., Chen, P., Mao, B., "POMP: Postmortem Program Analysis with Hardware-Enhanced Post-Crash Artifacts", In Proceedings of the 26th USENIX Security Symposium, Vancouver, Canada, August 2017.

P-1 **[CCS 16]** Xu, J., **Mu, D.**, Chen, P., Wang, P., Xing, X., Liu, P., "CREDAL: Towards Locating a Memory Corruption Vulnerability with Your Core Dump", In Proceedings of the 23nd ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security, Vienna, Austria, October 2016.

Journal Papers:

J-2 **[Ph.D. Thesis] Mu, D.**, A Research on Vulnerability Discovery, Identification and Diagnosis, 2019.

J-1 **[TSE 2019] Mu, D.**, Du, Y., Xu, J., Xu, J., Xing, X., Mao, B., "POMP++: Facilitating Postmortem Program Diagnosis with Value-set Analysis", In IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, 2326-3881, 2019.

Honors & Awards

07/2019 **Student Travel Grant of 14th ACM ASIA Conference on Computer and Communications Security**

10/2018 **Artificial Intelligence Scholarship at Nanjing University**

10/2018 **ACM CCS Outstanding Paper Award (Top 1)**

05/2017 **Student Travel Grant of 38th IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy**

Talks

7/2019 Ptrix: Efficient Hardware-Assisted Fuzzing for COTS Binary
AsiaCCS, Auckland, New Zealand

5/2019 Towards Facilitating the Removal of Software Defects
QiZhen Youth Forum in Zhejiang University, Zhejiang, China

10/2018 From Physical Security to Cyber Security: How to forge data spoofing personalized auto insurance
GeekPwn China, Shanghai, China

8/2018 Understanding the Reproducibility of Crowd-reported Security Vulnerabilities
USENIX Security, Baltimore, USA

Research Projects

2018-2019 **Deep Learning Assisted Program Analysis** *Cyber Security Lab, Penn State University*
• Develop deep learning assisted Value Set Analysis to faciliate Postmortem Program Analysis. [See P-7, P-9]

2017-2018 **Vulnerability Reproduction** *Cyber Security Lab, Penn State University*
• Perform an in-depth analysis on the reproducibility of crowd-reported security vulnerabilities. [See P-5]

2016-2017 **Analysis on Software Crashes** *Cyber Security Lab, Penn State University*
• Analyze core dumps caused by memory corruption vulnerabilities; locate the crash point; restore the stack trace; narrow down code segments carrying vulnerabilities. [See P-1]
• Enhance a core dump with execution trace logged through Intel Processor Tracing; perform reverse execution and symbolic execution against the trace; pinpoint the root cause of software crash. [See P-2]
• Leverage Value-set Analysis to improve the memory alias problem in the POMP, to achieve better effectiveness and efficiency. [See J-1]

2015-2016 **Obfuscation based ROP** *System Security Lab, Nanjing University*
• Propose an obfuscation scheme for binaries based on ROP (Return Oriented Programming), which aims to serve as an efficient and deployable anti-reverse-engineering approach. [See P-4]

Open Source Projects

06/2016 **LinuxFlaw**
• Record all the memory error vulnerabilities we used for our Usenix Security 2018 [see P-5]. We not only disclose the detail of vulnerability reproduction but also try to create docker images about those vulnerabilities as possible as we can.

06/2016 **Source-packages**
• Source code for the vulnerable software in the LinuxFlaw

06/2016 **Dockerfiles**
• All the useful Dockerfiles and related tools in the LinuxFlaw

04/2016 **TraditionalMitigation**
• Summarize traditional mitigations in GCC to defend Memory Corruption Vulnerability

05/2017 **POMP**
• Leverage Intel PT to do reverse execution, and diagnose the root cause of software failure

06/2019 **DEEPVSA**
• Facilitate Value-set Analysis with Recurrent Neural Network for better Postmortem Program Analysis

Books In Progress

12/2014 **Linux-insides**
• One book-in-progress about Linux Kernel and its insides.

12/2014 **Linux-insides-zh**
• Chinese Translation of linux-insides. This upstream repo is a book-in-progress about Linux Kernel and its insides.

CVE Discovered

CVE ID	Vulnerability Type	Vulnerable Software	Vulnerable Version
CVE-2018-8816	Stack Exhaustion	perl	5.26.1
CVE-2018-8881	Heap buffer overflow	nasm	2.13.02rc2
CVE-2018-8882	Stack buffer overflow	nasm	2.13.02rc2
CVE-2018-8883	Global buffer overflow	nasm	2.13.02rc2
CVE-2018-10016	Division-by-zero	nasm	2.14rc0
CVE-2018-9138	Stack Exhaustion	binutils	2.29
CVE-2018-9996	Stack Exhaustion	binutils	2.29
CVE-2018-10316	Denial-of-Service	nasm	2.14rc0
CVE-2018-9251	Denial-of-Service	libxml2	2.9.8