



Software Bugs and Detections

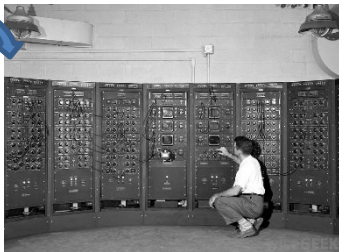
Bowen Zhang

Instructor: KY Wu

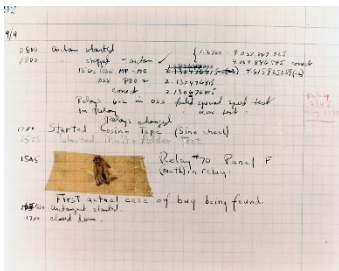
April 28 2022



Why do we call it “bug”?



On 1947, a **moth** flew into a computer device...
Then the computer couldn't work...



The researchers recorded it...
It's the first “actual” bug being found

Importance of catching bugs



Sometimes your program works well even with a bug



The crash of ARIANE 5:
It's because of an integer overflow bug
in the launching program.

Static Program Analysis

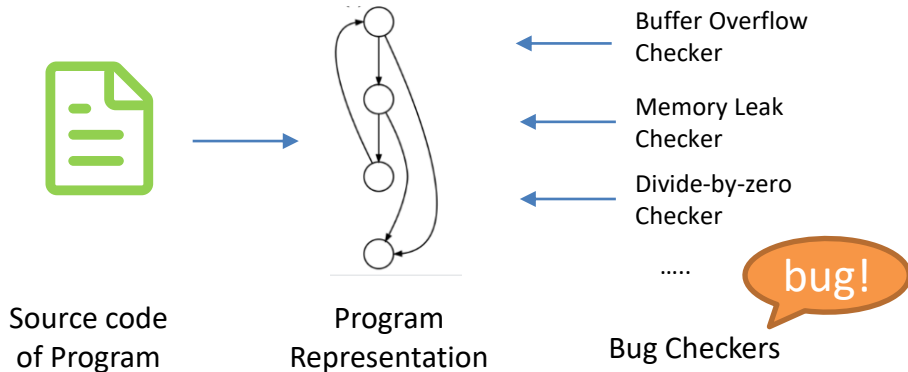
We analyze the program to discover potential vulnerabilities, without really executing it.

Pinpoint static analyzer by our research group.

It has found bugs in:



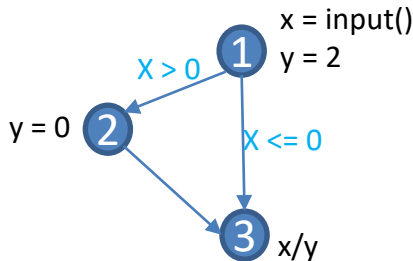
A glimpse of Static Analysis: workflow



Hunting divide-by-zero bug!

```
1  int main() {  
2      int x = input();  
3      int y = 2;  
4      if(x > 0) {  
5          y = 0;  
6      }  
7      x / y; // divide-by-zero!  
8  }
```

1. Source code



2. Graph Representation

1 -> 3 safe!
1 -> 2 -> 3 unsafe! (y could be zero)

3. Checker

My work: Program Representation



Python

Different languages have different representations!



C++

...
C++14
C++17
C++20
...

Different versions could lead to different representations!



Java

A unified Representation:
can express different languages
with different versions!

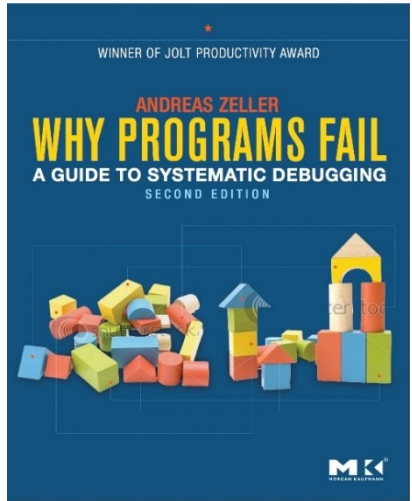
Take away ideas

How to write less bugs?

1. Don't write all the code before you run it. Instead write code **incrementally**.
2. Write comments
 - `// this line is for bla bla...`
3. When a bug appears, do not try to fix it by **randomly** changing some code you think is wrong. Instead read through your code and think.

Thank you

Q & A



A recommended book about “debug”