



PRAETORIAN

Symbolic Execution Workshop

HOW NOT TO BE ANGR-Y

\$ id

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- ▶ @amlweems

\$ env

- ▶ Follow along: demo.praetorian.com
- ▶ Slides available: <https://github.com/praetorian-inc/bsidesaustin>
- ▶ Local wireless: HowToNotBeAngr-y
PSK: <bsides></bsides>
Hosts: 10.0.0.[12]00
- ▶ These demo boxes are for everyone, please don't try to take them down ;-)

Quick background

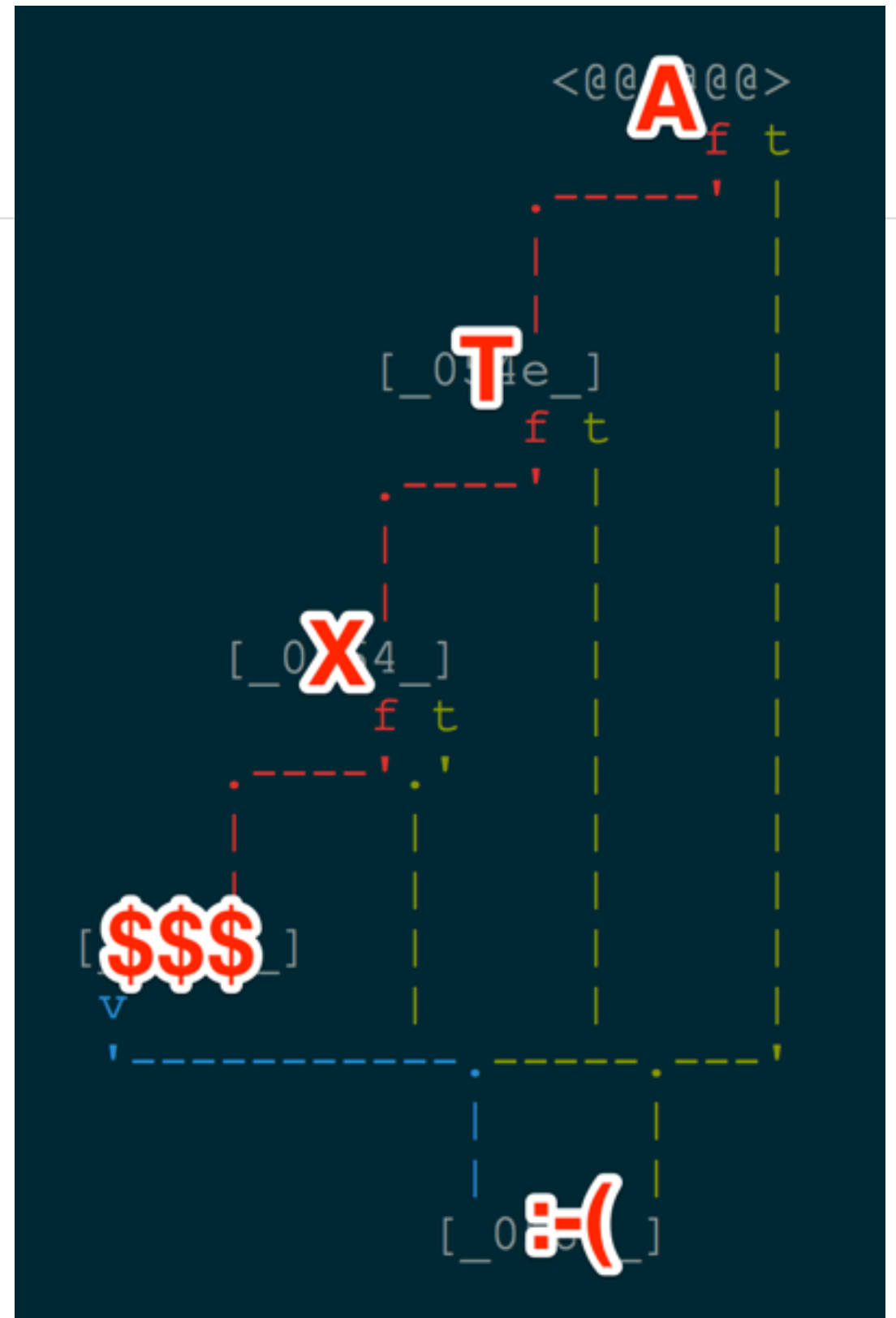
- ▶ Symbolic Execution simply means analyzing a program by watching particular input values to determine what inputs will exercise a given path
- ▶ Layman's terms: How can we traverse from Point A to Point B in a program
- ▶ Accomplished by converting an execution path into a boolean satisfiability problem and throwing the problem at a SAT solver
- ▶ By definition, the solution to these equations is an input that will follow the given execution path

Quick background

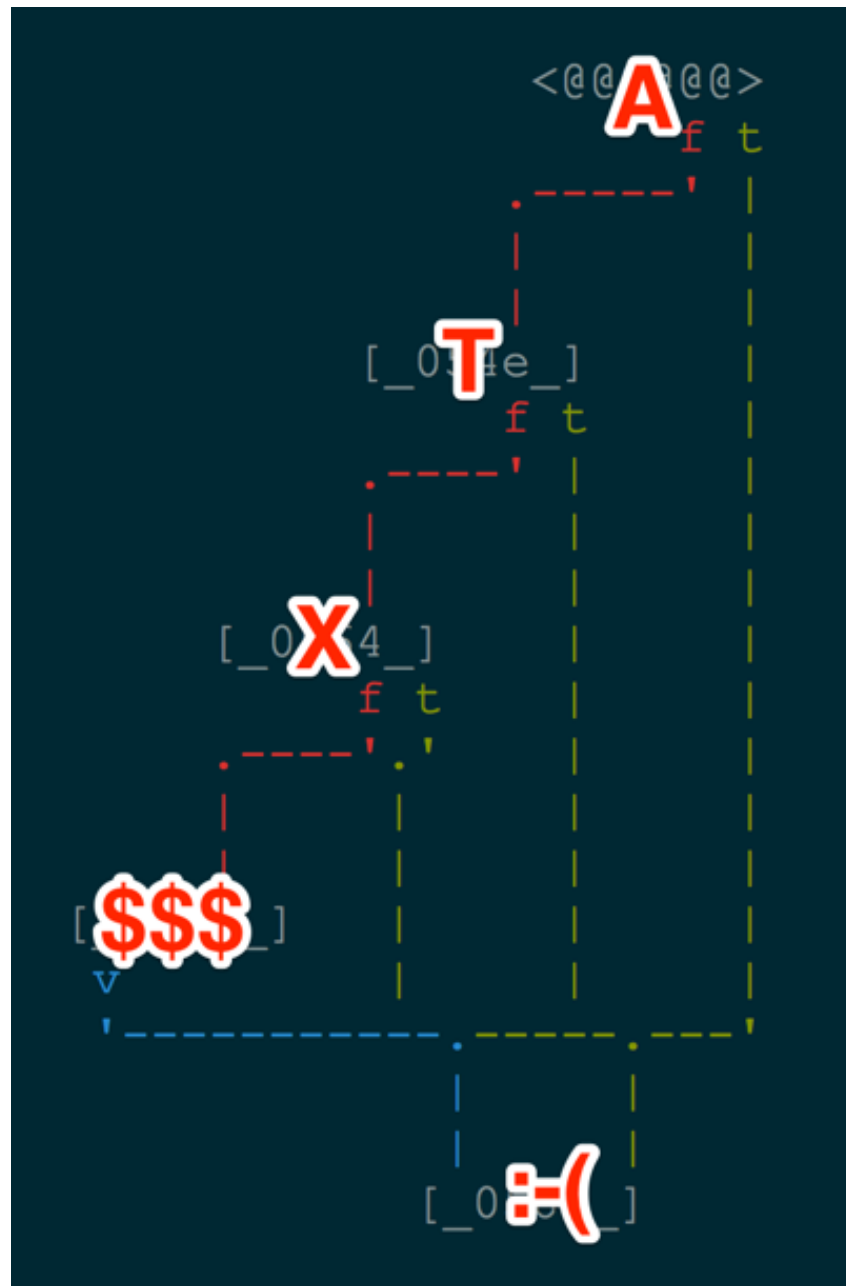
- ▶ Has been a thriving academic research topic since the 1980's
- ▶ The problem was the computational power required for SAT solvers to solve equations in a reasonable amount of time
- ▶ Symbolic execution has been growing in popularity with the advances in publicly accessible SAT solvers (see Microsoft's Z3)
- ▶ Usage of symbolic execution has also been seen in DARPA's recent Cyber Grand Challenge

Goal: Easy crackme

```
int main(int argc, char** argv) {  
    if(argv[1][0] == 'a') {  
        if(argv[1][1] == 't') {  
            if(argv[1][2] == 'x') {  
                printf("Yay BSIDES");  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```



Goal: Easy crackme

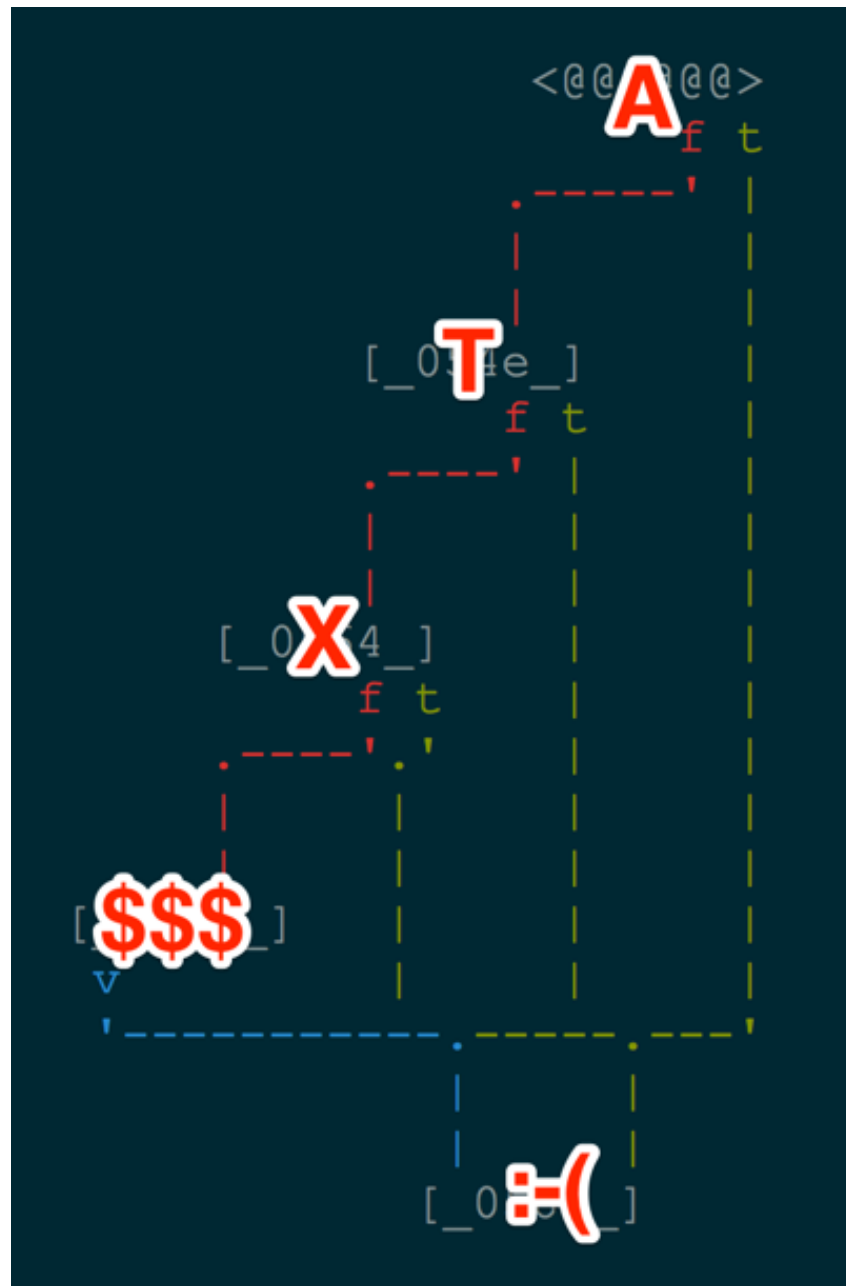


No constraints

`&& input[0] == 'a'`

`&& input[0] != 'a'`

Goal: Easy crackme



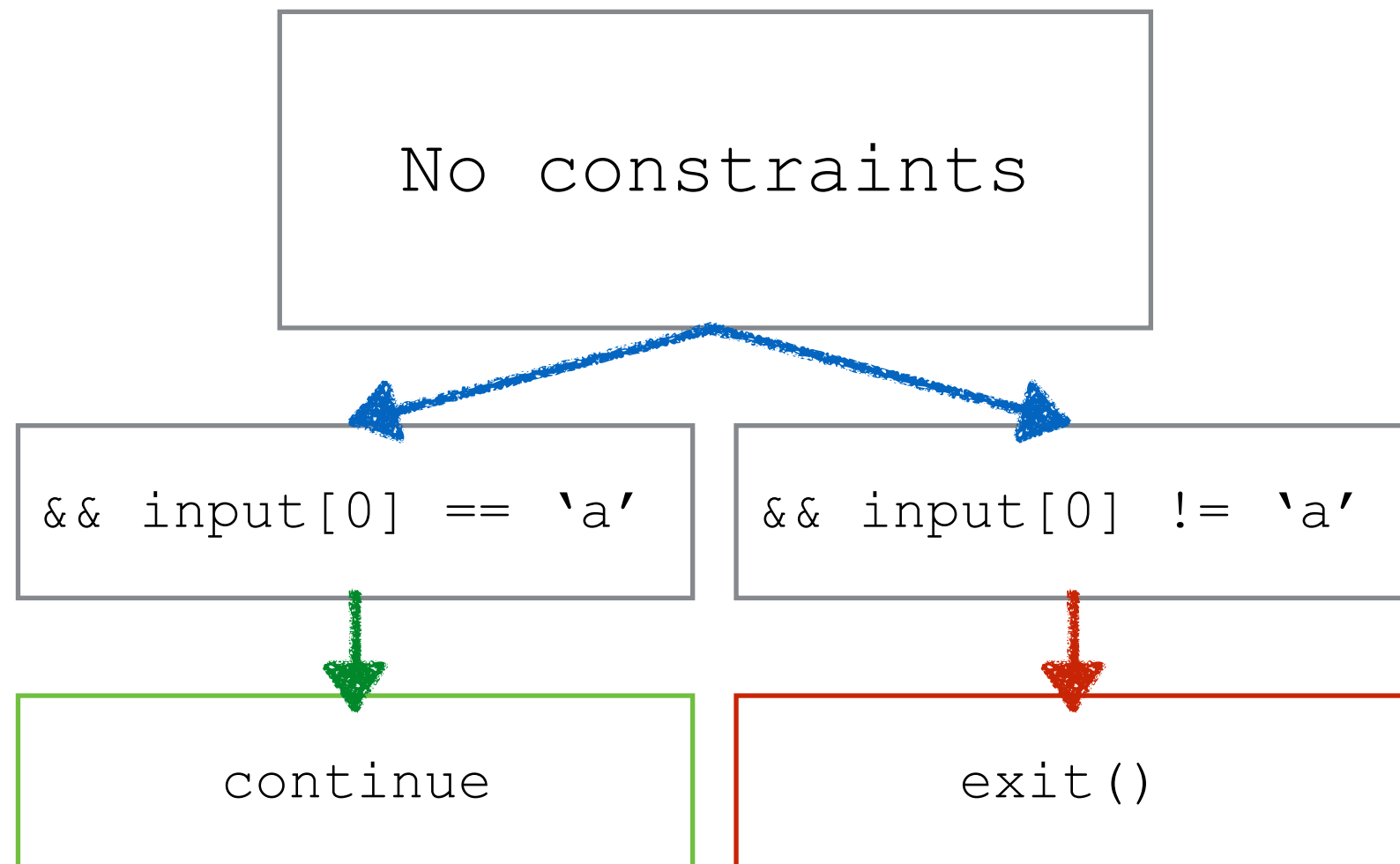
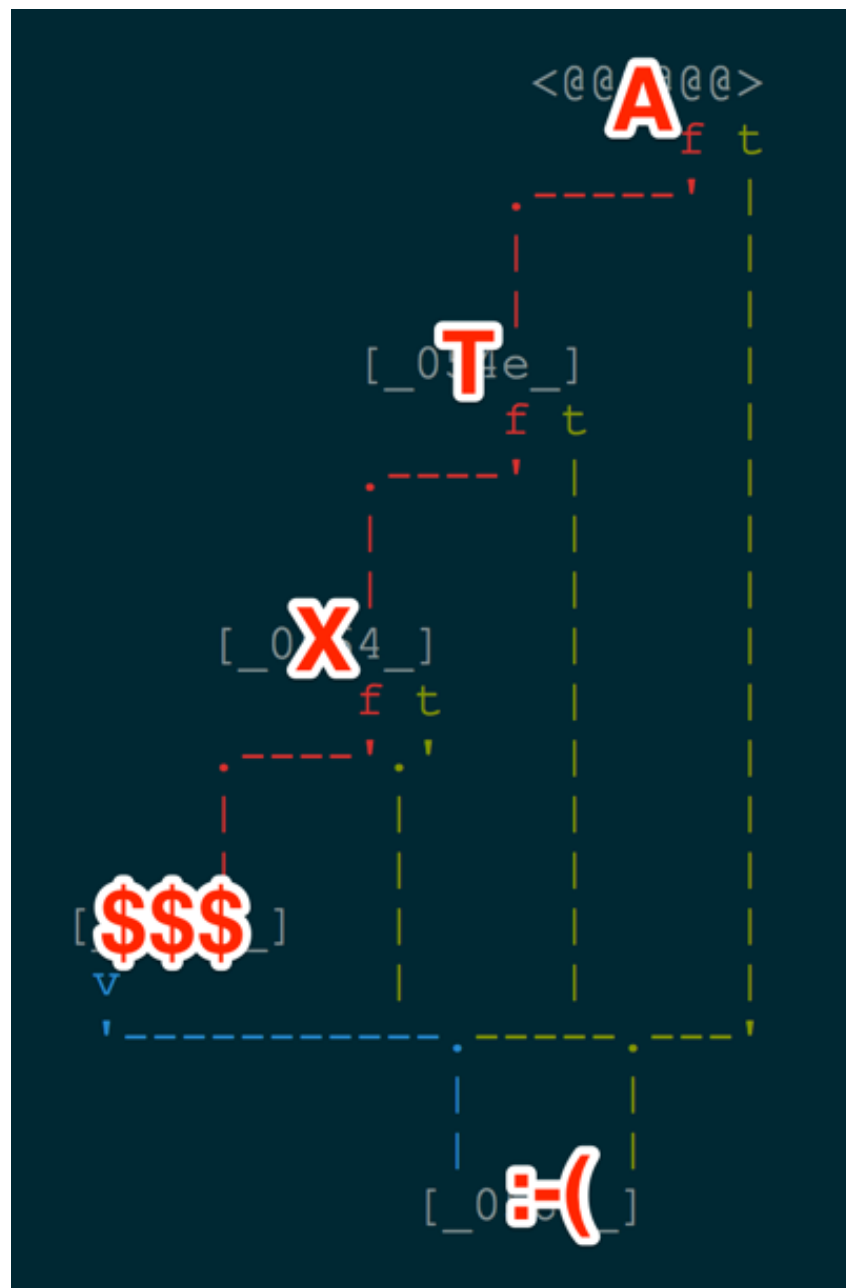
No constraints

`&& input[0] == 'a'`

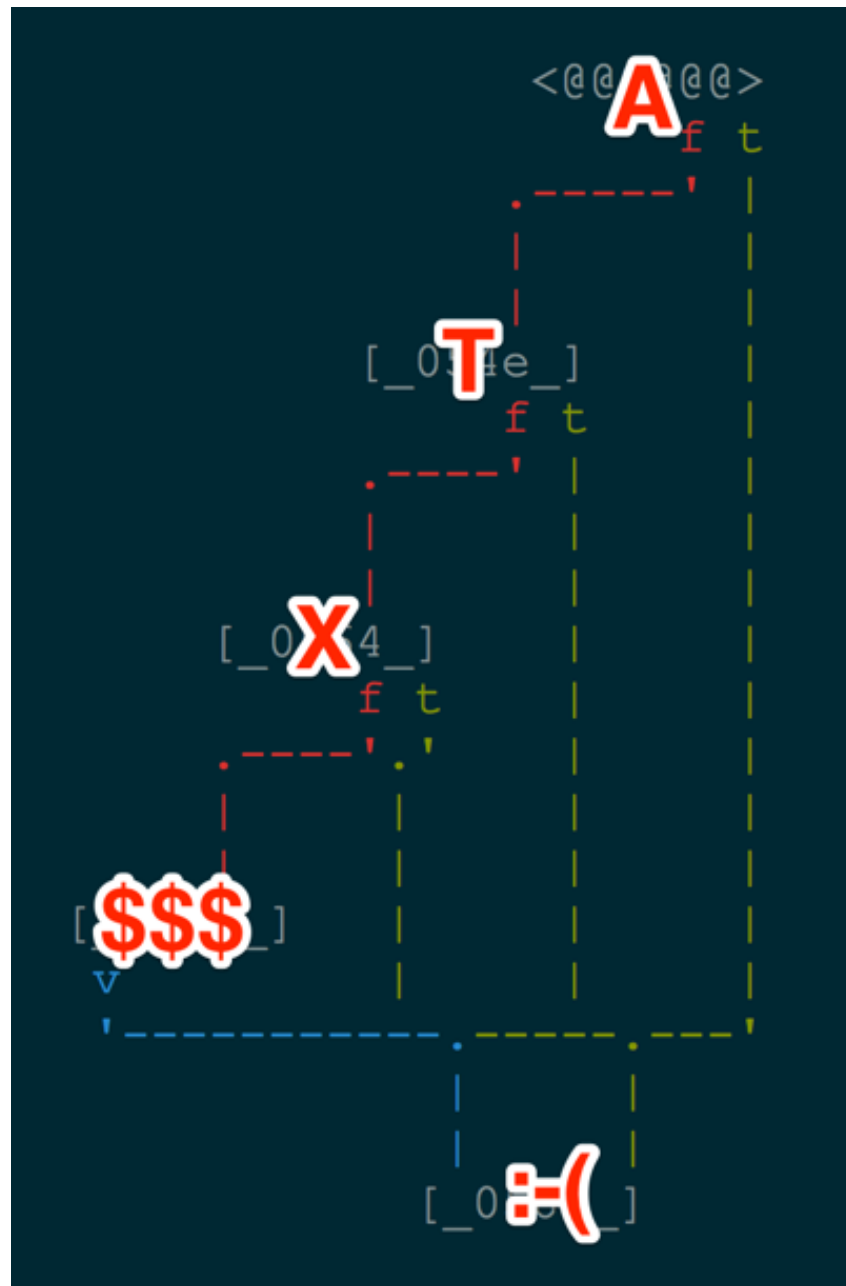
`&& input[0] != 'a'`

`continue`

Goal: Easy crackme



Goal: Easy crackme

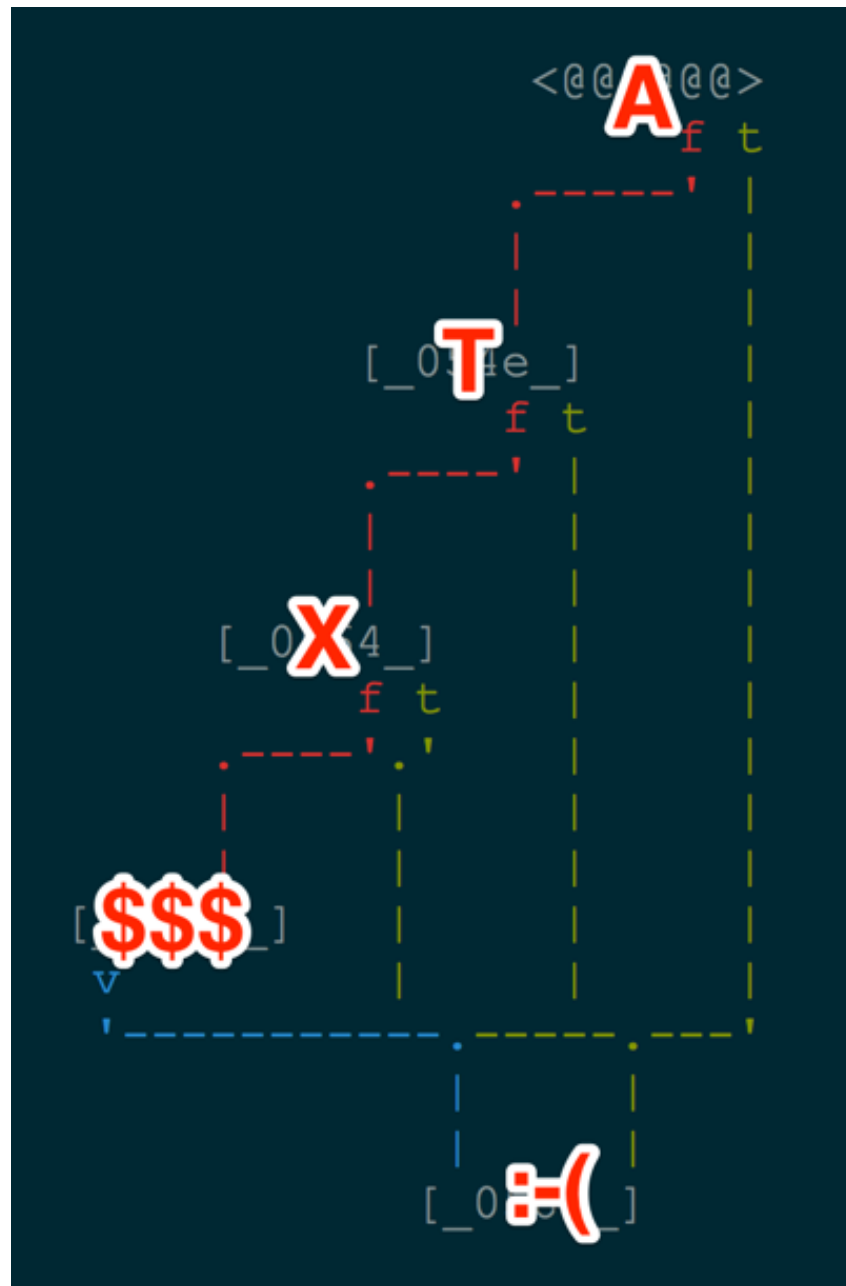


`input[0] == 'a'`

`&& input[1] == 't'`

`&& input[1] != 't'`

Goal: Easy crackme



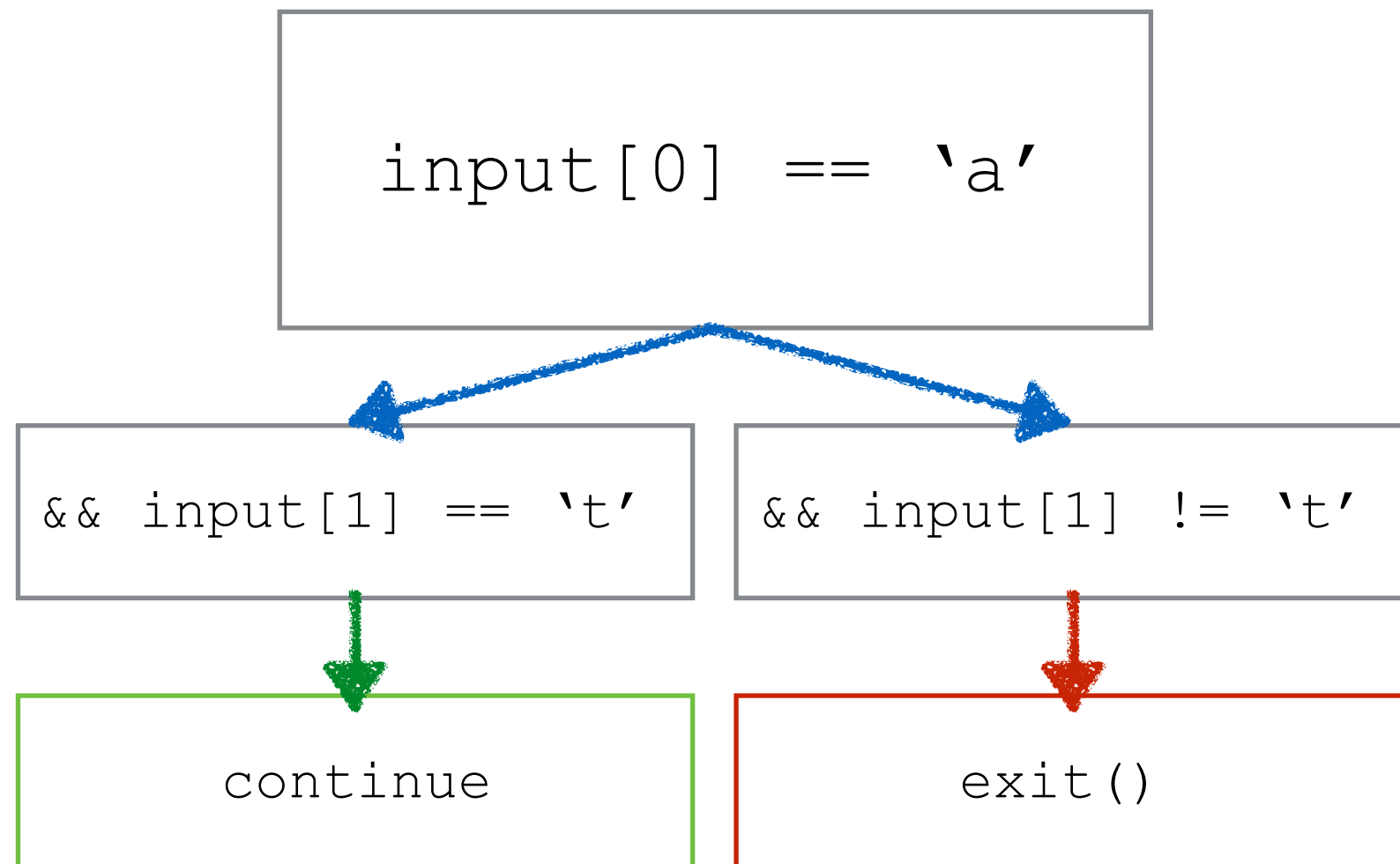
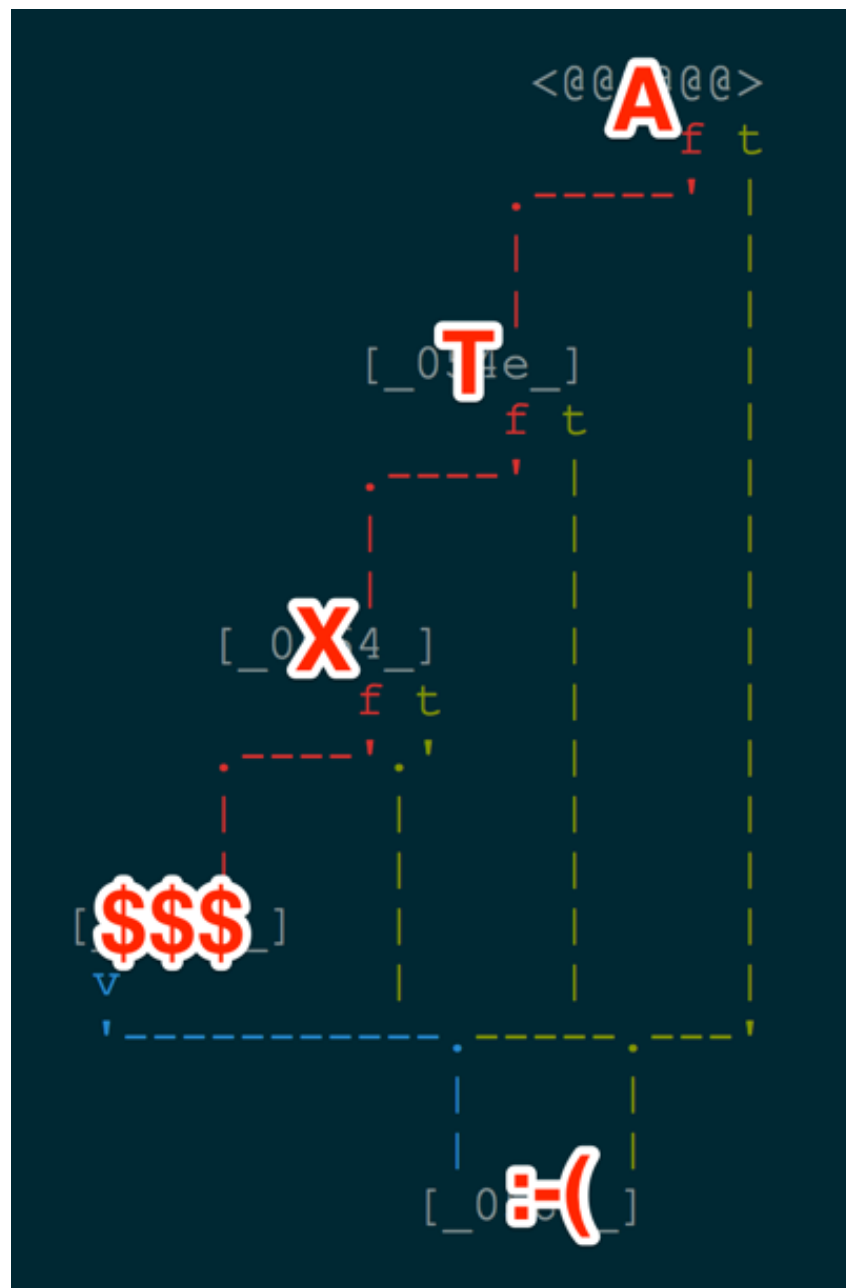
`input[0] == 'a'`

`&& input[1] == 't'`

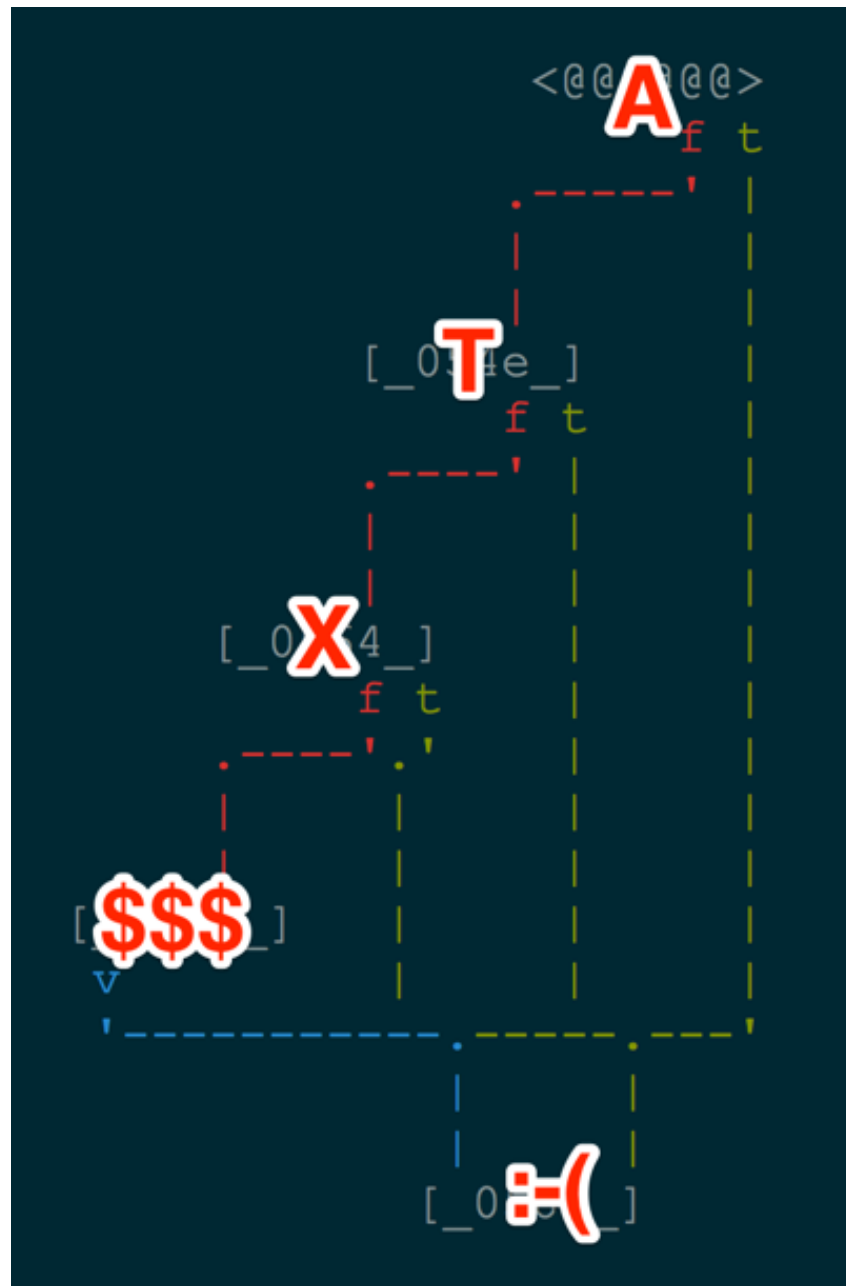
`&& input[1] != 't'`

`continue`

Goal: Easy crackme



Goal: Easy crackme

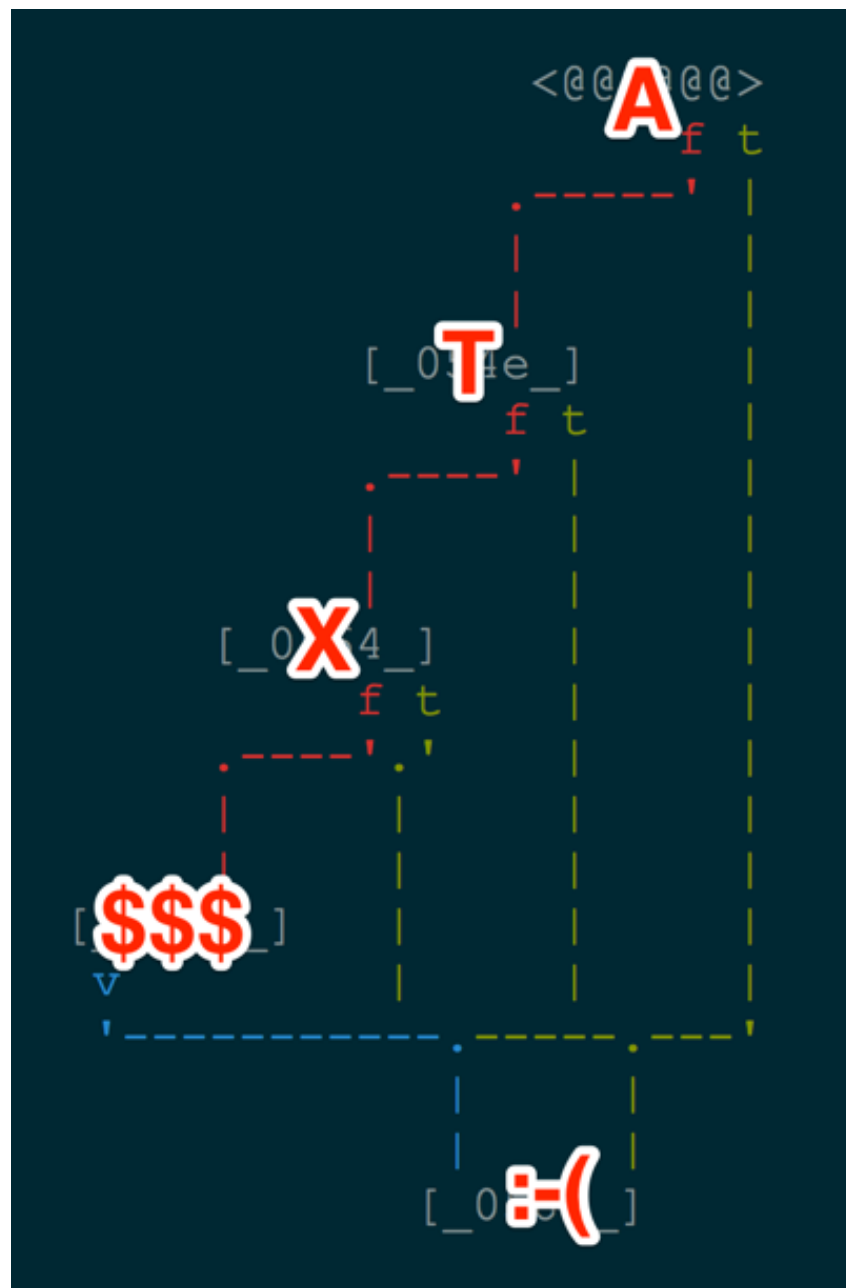


```
input[0] == 'a' &&  
input[1] == 't'
```

```
&& input[2] == 'x'
```

```
&& input[2] != 'x'
```

Goal: Easy crackme



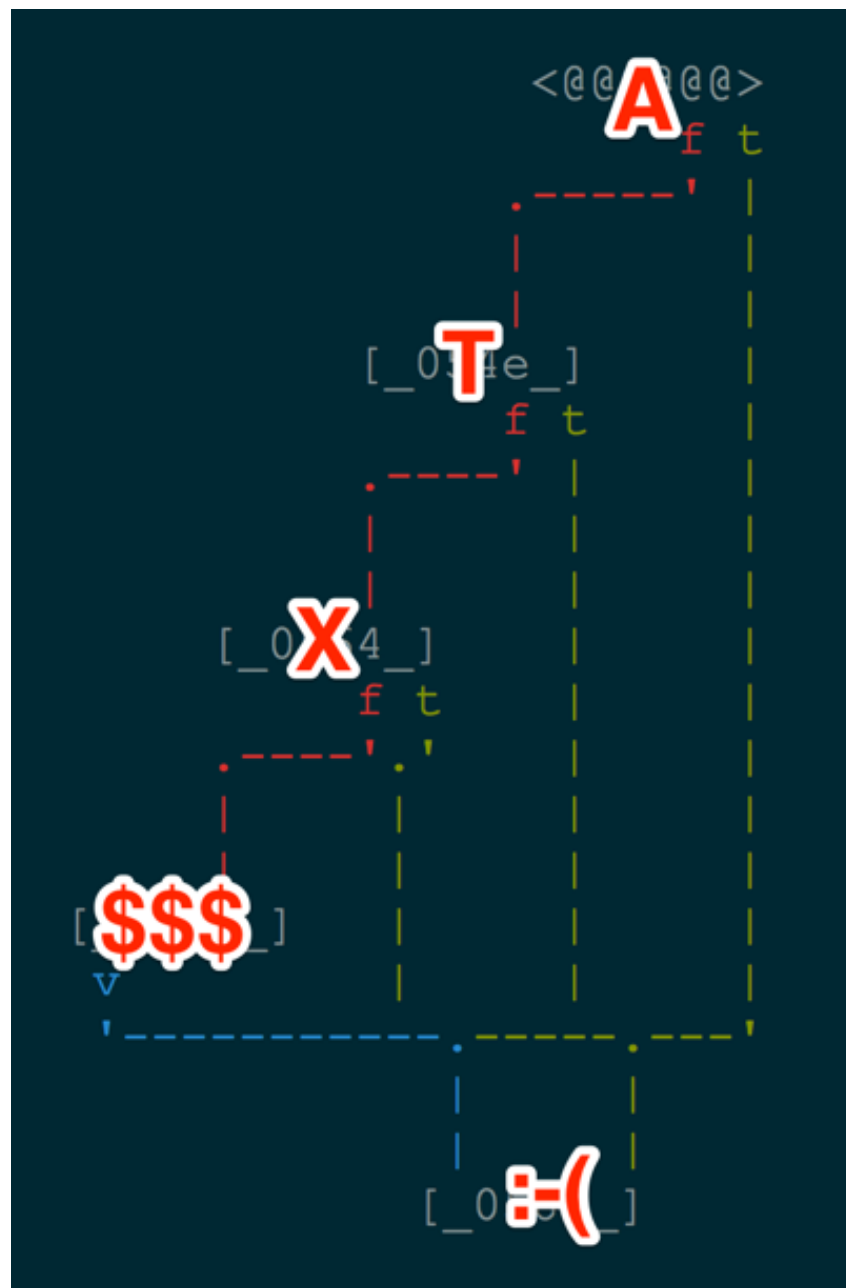
```
input[0] == 'a' &&  
input[1] == 't'
```

```
&& input[2] == 'x'
```

```
&& input[2] != 'x'
```

```
$$$
```

Goal: Easy crackme



```
input[0] == 'a' &&  
input[1] == 't'
```

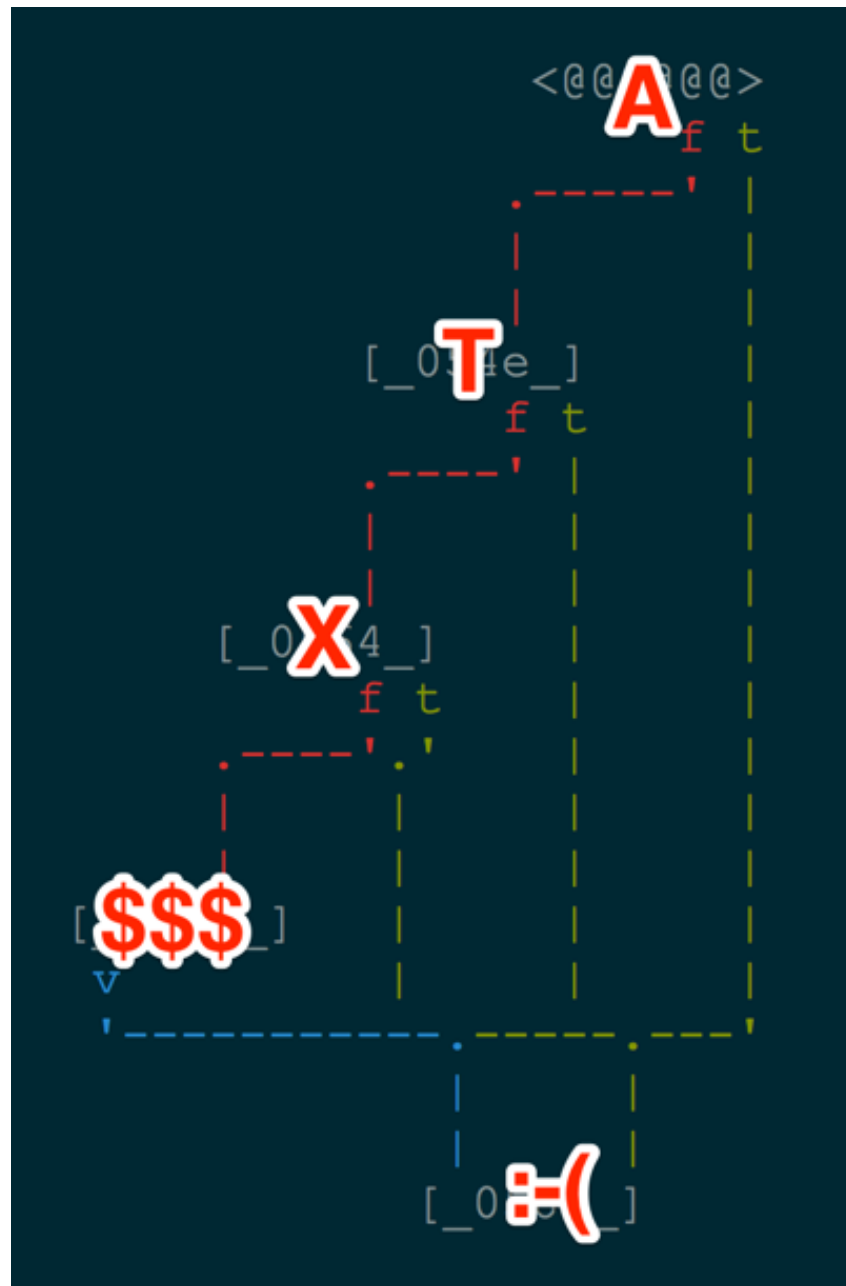
```
&& input[2] == 'x'
```

```
$$$
```

```
&& input[2] != 'x'
```

```
exit()
```

Goal: Easy crackme



```
input[0] == 'a' &&  
input[1] == 't' &&  
input[2] == 'x'
```

```
print("Yay BSIDES")
```

Simply solve the found constraints to extract the answer

Practical exercise 1

- ▶ We will be using angr as our symbolic engine of choice
- ▶ Developed by researchers from UC Santa Barbara
- ▶ Shellphish CTF team
- ▶ DARPA Cyber Grand Challenge finalists
- ▶ Powered part of their Cyber Reasoning System
- ▶ Python ;-)



SOURCE: [HTTPS://GITHUB.COM/ANGR](https://github.com/angr)

Practical exercise 1

- ▶ Quick angr terminology:
 - project - executable (or binary blob) currently being analyzed
 - state - an emulated machine state
 - path - series of basic blocks representing the current execution flow
 - path-group - collection of paths with an easy interface with explore all paths at once
- ▶ Input sources
 - A common problem with symbolic execution is telling the engine what to consider symbolic for analysis
 - Common locations for input: stdin and argv

Practical exercise 1

- ▶ Basic reverse engineering before starting angr:
 - Included in EpicTreasure is radare2, a command line disassembler
 - Can use IDA Pro, Hopper, or even ObjDump for this portion as well
 - Find the address of the basic block housing the printf to guide angr to the solution we want



[HTTPS://AVATARS3.GITHUBUSERCONTENT.COM/U/917142?V=3&S=400](https://avatars3.githubusercontent.com/u/917142?v=3&s=400)

Practical exercise 1

- ▶ Quick guide for navigating around radare2:
 - r2 binary - Start the binary in radare2
 - aaa - Analyze all the things in the binary
 - afl - List functions
 - s main - Seek to an address for analysis (i.e. main)
 - VV - Visual mode
 - ▶ 'hjkl' or Arrow keys for movement
 - ▶ q to quit
 - ? appended to any commands for lots of usage
 - ▶ ?, a?, af?

Practical exercise 1

Locate the basic block address with the printf

Practical exercise 1

```
=====
| 0x400564
| mov rax, qword [rbp - local_10h]
| add rax, 8
| mov rax, qword [rax]
| add rax, 2
| movzx eax, byte [rax]
| cmp al, 0x78
| jne 0x400589 ;[a]
|=====
|
| f t
| '-.-----
| |
| |
|=====
| 0x40057a
| mov edi, str.Yay_BSIDES
| mov eax, 0
| call sym.imp.printf ;[b]
|=====
|
| v
```

Practical exercise 1

Wanted address: 0x40057a

Practical exercise 1

- ▶ Begin by loading the binary into angr

```
import angr
proj = angr.Project('demo1')
```

- ▶ Create the symbolic input for argv using the provided solver engine

```
import claripy
input = state.se.BVS('input', 3 * 8)
```

- ▶ The BVS is a symbolic bit vector.
Each BVS needs an id (“input”) and a length in bits (3 bytes or $3 * 8$).
- ▶ We want to tell angr to set the current state to the entry point with our argv

```
state = proj.factory.entry_state(args=['demo1', input])
```


Practical exercise 1

- ▶ Create a path group from the entry state

```
pg = proj.factory.path_group(state)
```

- ▶ Tell angr to continue searching paths until we reach the target block

```
pg.explore(find=0x40057a)
```

- ▶ At this point, angr has found a path to reach the given destination block

- ▶ Extract the found state

```
state = pg.found[0].state
```

Practical exercise 1

- ▶ We can look at the constraints angr found to reach the destination

```
print(state.simplify())
```

```
[<Bool And((input_8_24[23:16] == 97),  
            (input_8_24[15:8] == 116),  
            (input_8_24[7:0] == 120))>]
```

- ▶ Finally, ask angr to solve these constraints for our answer

```
print(state.se.any_str(input))
```

```
atx
```

Practical exercise 1

```
import angr
import claripy

proj = angr.Project('demo1')
input = claripy.BVS('input', 3 * 8)

state = proj.factory.entry_state(args=[proj.filename, input])
pg = proj.factory.path_group(state)
pg = pg.explore(find=0x40057a)

state = pg.found[0].state
print(state.simplify())

print(state.se.any_str(input))
```

Practical exercise 1

Make Exercise1 print “You won!”

Exercise 2: Einstein Riddle

- ▶ There are 5 houses in five different colors...
- ▶ The Brit lives in the red house... etc.
- ▶ Lots of boolean logic, prime target for symbolic execution (z3)

house: 1 2 3 4 5

	RED	YELLOW	BLUE	BROWN	GREEN	WHITE	TEAL	PINK	ORANGE
PAUL MALL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DUNHILL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BLEND	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BLUEMASTER	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
PRINCE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
TEA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
COFFEE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MILK	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BEER	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
WATER	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DOG	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BIRD	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
CAT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
HORSE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
FISH	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BRITISH	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SWEDISH	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DANISH	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NORWEGIAN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GERMAN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

green is L of something
so not 4.5
white has green to L
so not 1

NORWEGIAN and next to blue = 1.2

Exercise 2: Einstein Riddle

- ▶ `puzzle` program reads binary data from stdin
- ▶ Assigns the data to colors, drinks, nations, etc.
- ▶ Matches against Einstein Riddle rules
 - `$ printf "%025d" | ./puzzle`
48:Blue
48:Green
48:Ivory
48:Red
48:Yellow
...
womp womp... try again

Exercise 2: Einstein Riddle Input

- ▶ Byte values 1-5 represents house number of item
 - e.g. Milk in middle house represented by 3
 - e.g. Norwegian in first house represented by 1
- ▶ Specify items in order (found inside binary, but not important)
 - ```
$ echo -ne "\x01\x02\x03\x04\x05" | ./puzzle
1:Blue
2:Green
3:Ivory
4:Red
5:Yellow
...
womp womp... try again
```

# Exercise 2: Einstein Riddle Constraints

**Libraries can be nasty, we can disable them and use a simulated libc**

```
opts = {'auto_load_libs': False}
proj = angr.Project('puzzle', load_options=opts)
st = proj.factory.entry_state(args=['puzzle'])

for _ in range(25):
 # works like reading from a fd, moves seek head
 e = st.posix.files[0].read_from(1)
```

**Add constraints to SAT problem**

```
st.add_constraints(e >= 1)
st.add_constraints(e <= 5)
```

```
e = st.posix.files[0].read_from(1)
st.add_constraints(e == 0)
```

**Set the length of stdin**

```
st.posix.files[0].seek(0)
st.posix.files[0].length = 25
```

# Exercise 2: Einstein Riddle

---

**Make puzzle print “congratulations!”**

**Who drinks water? Who owns the zebra?**

# Exercise 3

---

**Can we only solve reverse engineering problems?**



# Exercise 3: Stack overflow

```
#include <string.h>
#include <stdio.h>

void overflow_me(){
 char name[24];
 printf("Welcome.. what is your name?\n");
 read(0, name, 80);
 return;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv){
 char vuln[32];
 printf("Password protected. Enter password:\n");

 read(0, vuln, 32);
 if(strstr(vuln, "badpassword") == vuln)
 overflow_me();
 else
 printf("Wrong password\n");

 return 0;
}
```

# Stack overflow review

```
void overflow_me() {
 char name[24];
 read(0, name, 80);
 return;
}
```

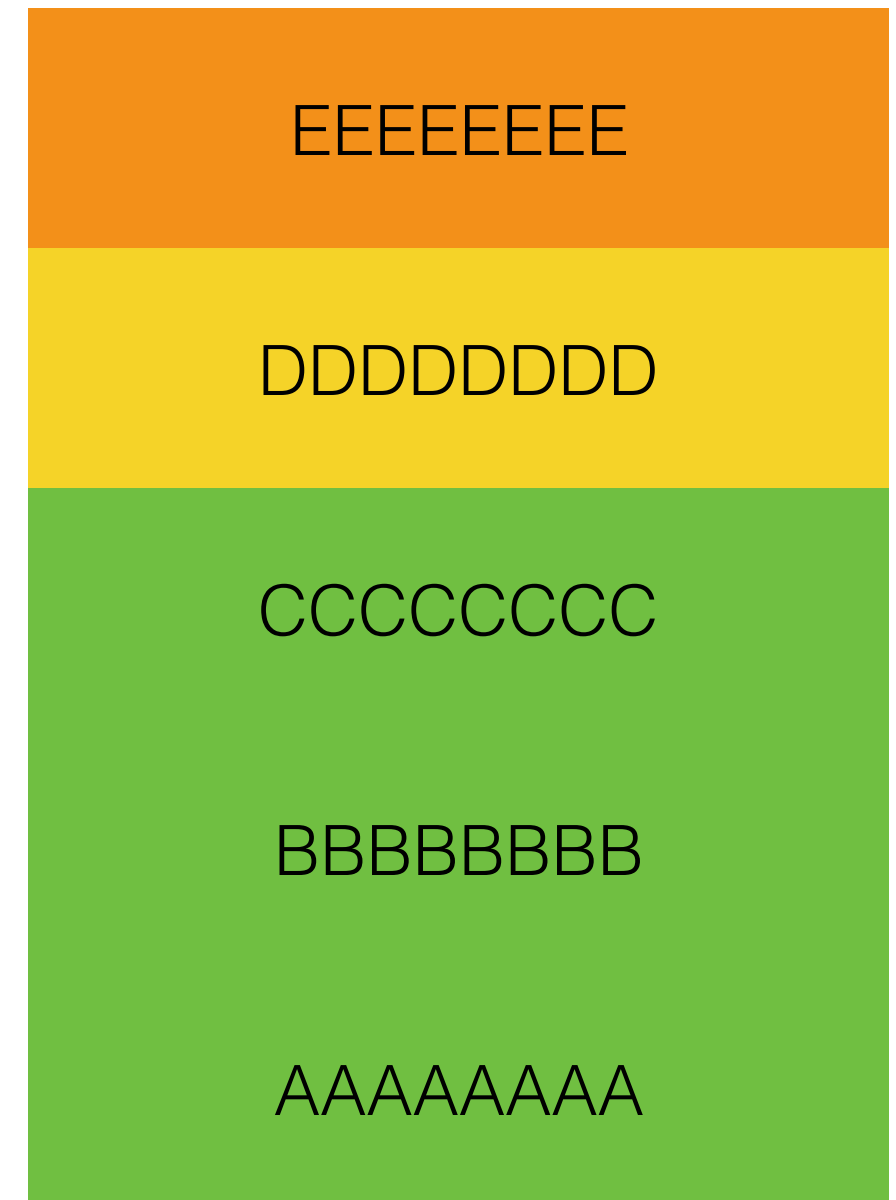
Begin with the stack frame from the vulnerable function.



# Stack overflow review

```
void overflow_me() {
 char name[24];
 read(0, name, 80);
 return;
}
```

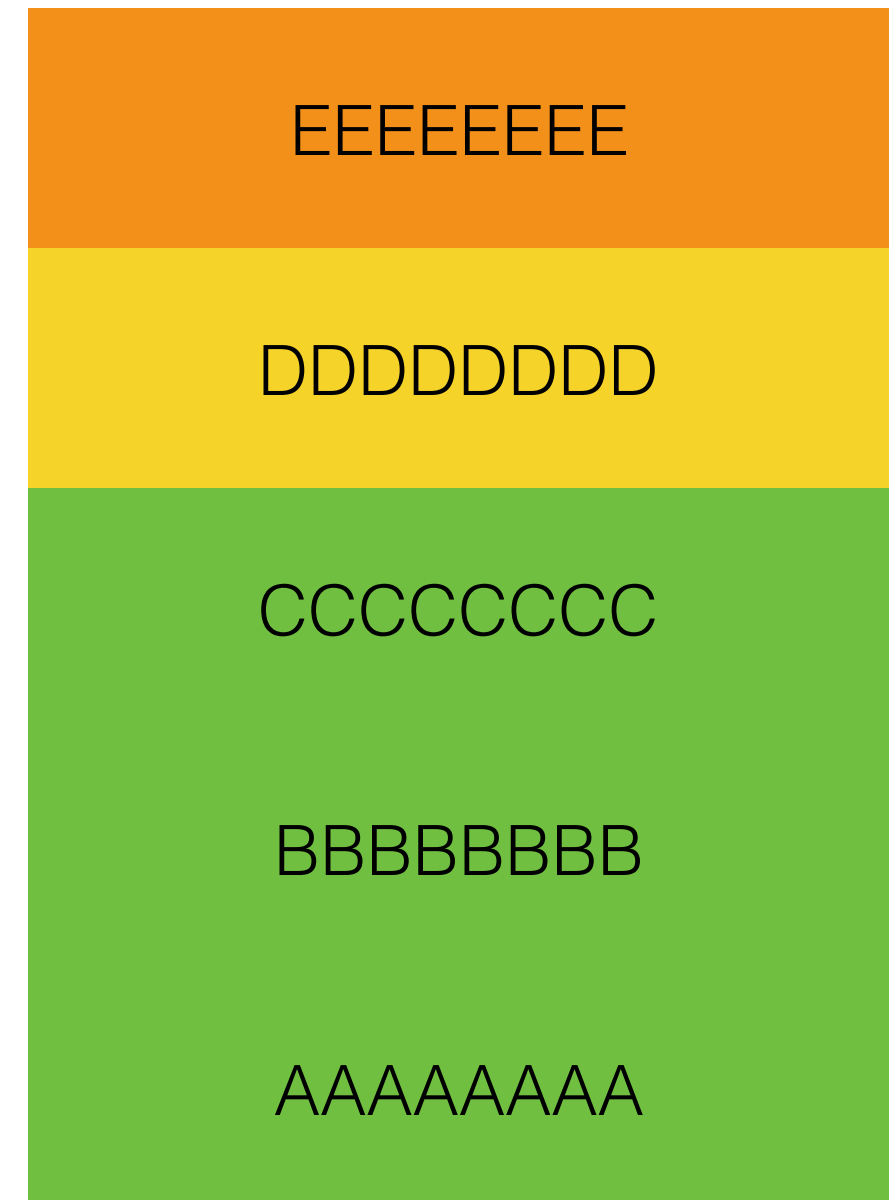
We read beyond the bounds of the char array, overwriting the saved EIP.



# Stack overflow review

```
void overflow_me() {
 char name[24];
 read(0, name, 80);
 return;
}
```

On return, we **SEGFault** because our EIP is now at an invalid address.



# Exercise 3: Stack overflow

- ▶ By default, angr discards any unconstrained paths. In this example, we are exactly looking for unconstrained paths:
  - `pg = proj.factory.path_group(state, save_unconstrained=True)`
- ▶ We can explore all paths until we have a constrained path. Instead of `explore`, we will manually `step` each path until the number of unconstrained paths is greater than 0.
  - `pg.step(until=lambda x: len(x.unconstrained) > 1)`
- ▶ After each path is stepped forward once, it is checked for unconstrained paths. If we found one, `step` will return and hand us our wanted path.



# Exercise 3: Stack overflow

- ▶ Grab our path from the unconstrained array.
  - `state = pg.unconstrained[0].state`
- ▶ We now can simply set a constraint such that the state's Instruction Pointer equals whatever we want.
  - `crash_ip = claripy.BVV(int('deadbeefcafebabe', 16), 8 * 8)`
  - `state.se.add(state.regs.ip == crash_ip)`
- ▶ Because we added the IP constraint, any solved solution will by definition crash with `IP == deadbeefcafebabe`
  - `payload = state.posix.dumps(0)`

# Exercise 3: Stack overflow

---

## Demo3

# Exercise 3: Stack overflow

```
$ xxd solution
00000000: 6261 6470 6173 7377 6f72 6400 0000 0000 badpassword.....
00000010: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
00000020: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
00000030: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
00000040: 0000 0000 0000 0000 beba fecb efbe adde
00000050: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
00000060: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
```

# Exercise 3: Stack overflow

**Crash Exercise3 with 0xdead0dedeadc0de.**

**What was the necessary password?**

# Exercise 3: Stack overflow

```
$ xxd solution
00000000: 7469 6d65 5f32 5f73 6f6c 7665 5f61 6c6c time_2_solve_all
00000010: 5f74 6865 5f74 6869 6e67 730a 0000 0000 _the_things.....
00000020: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
00000030: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
00000040: 0000 0000 0000 0000 dec0 adde dec0 adde
00000050: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
00000060: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
```





# Further Reading

## ▶ Papers

- [http://www.internetsociety.org/sites/default/files/11\\_1\\_2.pdf](http://www.internetsociety.org/sites/default/files/11_1_2.pdf)

## ▶ angr docs

- <https://github.com/angr/angr-doc>
- Loads of examples and detailed explanation of API

## ▶ Cyber Grand Challenge

- <http://www.cybergrandchallenge.com/>
- <https://github.com/CyberGrandChallenge/samples>
  - ▶ cqe-challenges contains lots of juicy exploitable binaries



# PRAETORIAN

## Symbolic Execution Workshop

HOW NOT TO BE ANGR-Y