Software Testing Project: Phase 3 – Dynamic Symbolic Execution on LLVM IR

1 Introduction

There are several goals for this assignment:

- Designing a simple dynamic symbolic execution tool.
- Gaining exposure to LLVM in general and the LLVM IR which is the intermediate representation used by LLVM.
- Using LLVM to perform a sample testing.

This assignment is a group assignment. Each team should have 2 members

1.1 Dynamic Symbolic Execution

Dynamic symbolic execution (DSE) is a hybrid approach to software testing that attempts to strike a balance between the costs and benefits of dynamic and static analysis. As you saw, it generates concrete inputs one-by-one such that each input takes a different path through the program's computation tree. (Source ¹)

2 Task 1: Implementing Fuzz Testing in LLVM

In this task, you will extend the fuzz testing tool designed in part 2 of the project using LLVM compiler infrastructure tools. Unlike fuzz testing in DSE the coverage is increase systematically. Here, each test case takes a new path.

Example 1: For example, consider the c program below:

```
int myAbs(int x) {
    if (x != 123456) {
        return x;
    }
    else {
        return -x; // bug: should be '-x'
    }
}
```

¹https://www.cis.upenn.edu/mhnaik/edu/cis700/lessons/symbolic_execution.pdf

The program contains two paths. Now assume, the initial seed of this function is {35} which does not reach the bug point. As discussed in the classroom, both random testing and fuzz testing have no luck in reaching the bug point. However, a DSE tool is able to generate other possible tests and reach the bug point.

The generated LLVM IR will have four basic blocks with labels: entry, if.then, if.else and if.end. The first test case, picks the true path in the program. The block coverage is 75% since 3 out of 4 basic blocks are visited. Now, the second test case is generated by negation of the condition in the if statement $\{x!=123456\}$ which generates $\{x=123456\}$. Now, this new test case increases the block coverage from 75% to 100% and also triggers the bug.

```
• value of x: 35{true path}
```

• value of *x*: 123456 {false path}

Note 1: For simplicity you can consider the arguments are defined in the beginning of the program using *alloca* instruction. Moreover, input arguments are always marked with a_1 , a_2 , etc. For example, the above example program would be changed to the following and provided to your fuzz tester:

```
int main() {
    int al;
    int x = al;
    if (x != 123456) {
        return x;
    }
    else {
        return x; // bug: should be '-x'
    }
}
```

Note 2: Your LLVM pass should provide the value for *a*1 and the sequence of traversed LLVM basic blocks as output for each test case and the block coverage:

- *a*1 = 35
- Sequence of Basic Blocks:
- entry
- if.then,
- if.end,
- block coverage: 75%

Note 2: The initial seed can be chosen randomly.

3 Task 2: Adding Support for Loops to DSE Tool

Loops can be handled similar to phase 2.

4 Submission - Due Date: Wed 31st Khordad 1401, 11.59pm

Deadline is fixed and will not be changed.

Please submit the following in a single archive file (zip or tgz):

- 1. A report in PDF (proj3.pdf). It should describe your design for task 1 and task 2, the implementation details, the algorithm used, and the steps to build and run your code, and finally the output of examples programs tested.
- 2. Your source code.
- 3. Your test C files with corresponding 11 files.

Make sure your reports and source files contain information about your name, matric number and email. Your zip files should have the format *Surname-Matric*-proj3.zip (or tgz).

Please email the submissions to (sajjadrsm@gmail.com).