

Amro Abdelgawad / DEFCON 24

C 1 D 8 6 F C 6

- Security as undefined expression
- Flux binary mutation
- Resisting Reverse Engineering
- Evading AI machine learning
- Artificial Immunity



# Security Patterns

Division by Infinity | Division by Zero

#### Randomization

1 / dword

1 / 4294967295

$$1/\infty=0$$

Reducing probabilities

#### Isolation

$$1 * 0 = 0$$

undefined

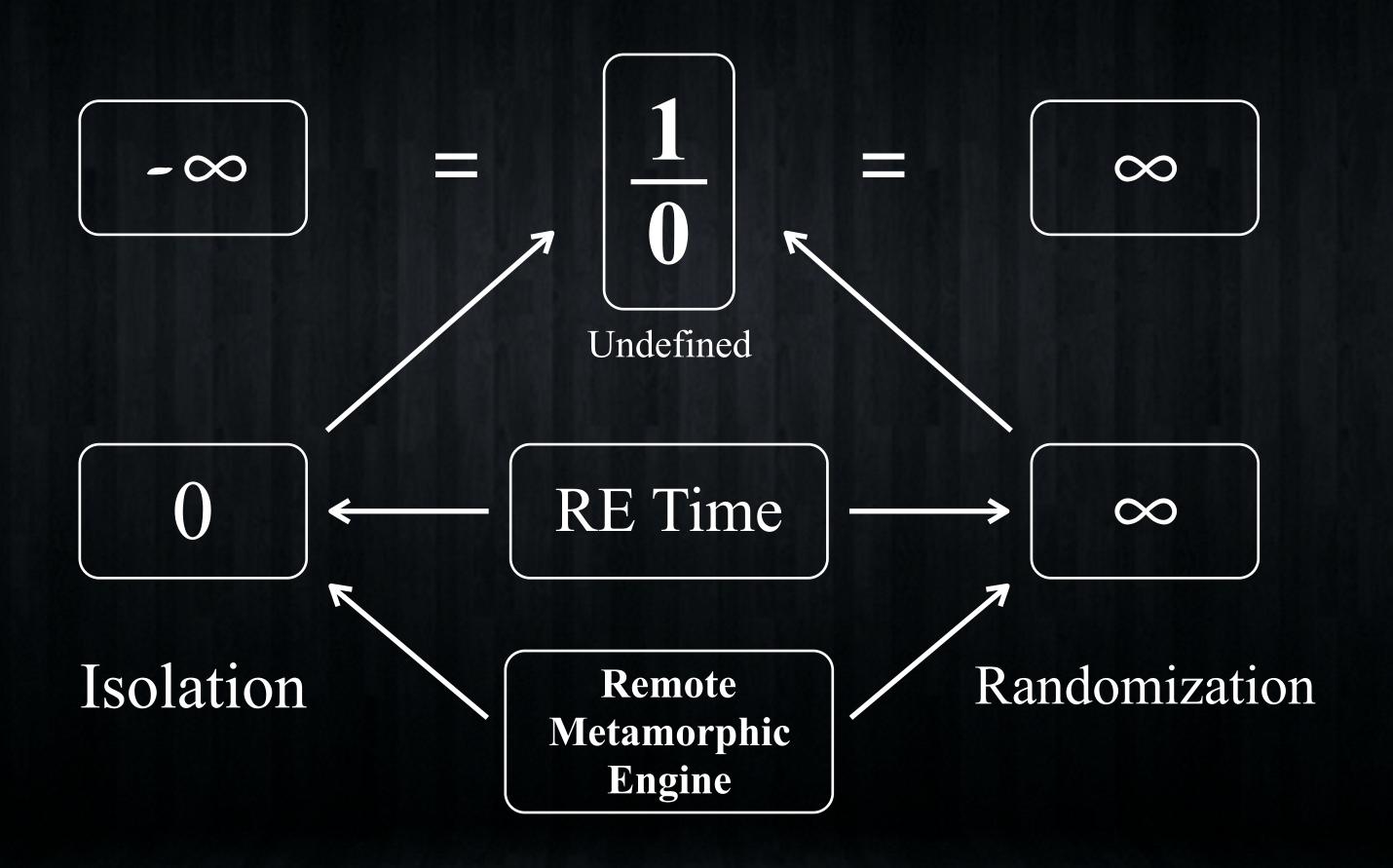
$$1/0 = undefined$$

Undefined Probabilities



# The Undefined Expression

Security as Undefined & indeterminate expression





# The Unbreakable Code

Unpredictable un·pre·dict·a·ble adjective:/ˌənprəˈdiktəb(ə)l/

Likely to change suddenly and without reason and therefore not able to be predicted (= expected before it happens)



# The Breakable Code

The Fixed Static Code Problem

Static Code Dynamic Data

Core security weakness in all today's software

Enables all sorts of replicable software security exploits



# Unpredictable Code Evolution

Dynamic Code Dynamic Data

Code evolution across time
Functionality evolution across location
Self contained autonomous code
Unpredictable
Self aware



# Code Evolution

Resisting Reverse Engineering

Locate the Code

Remote Execution \ \ \ not locatable

Analyze the Code

Short Lifetime J Flux Mutation

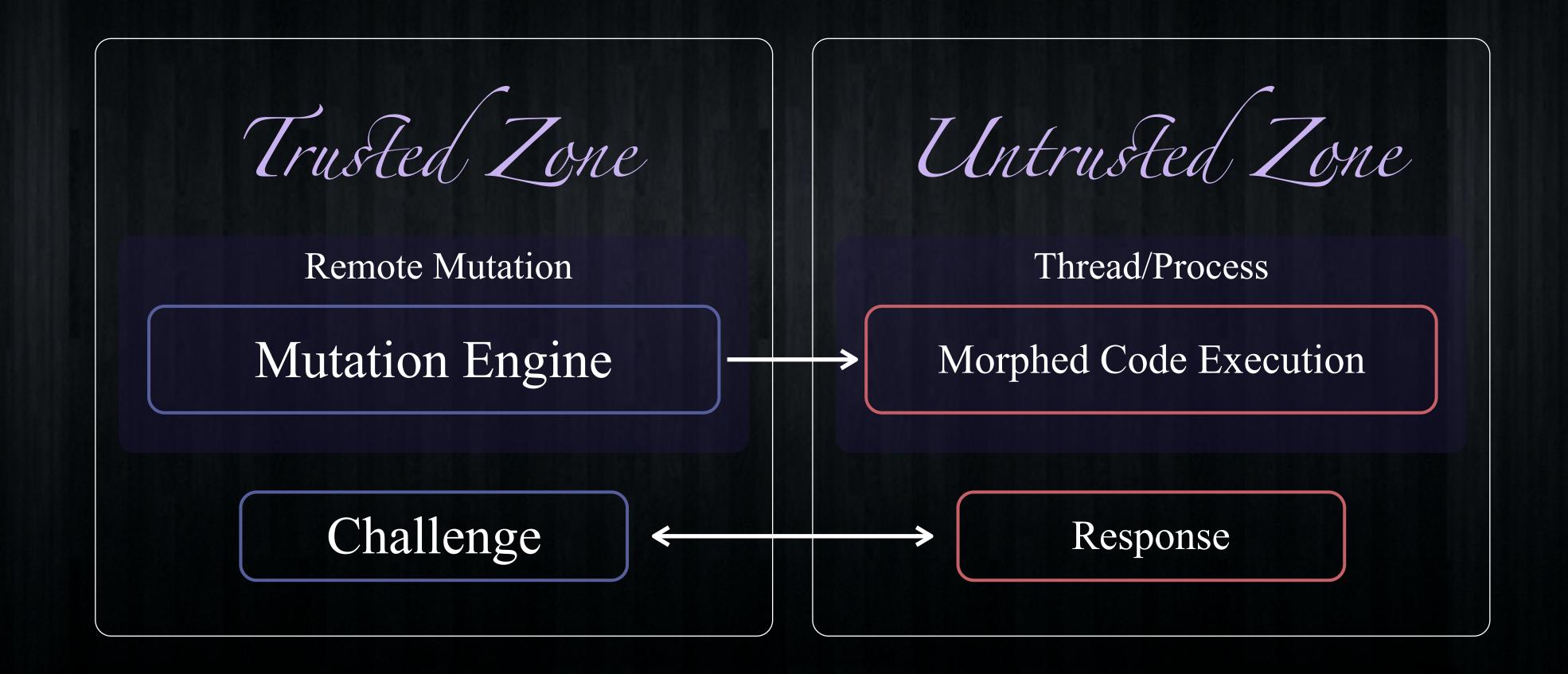
Break the Code

Self aware

Linbreakable



#### Remote Flux Mutation

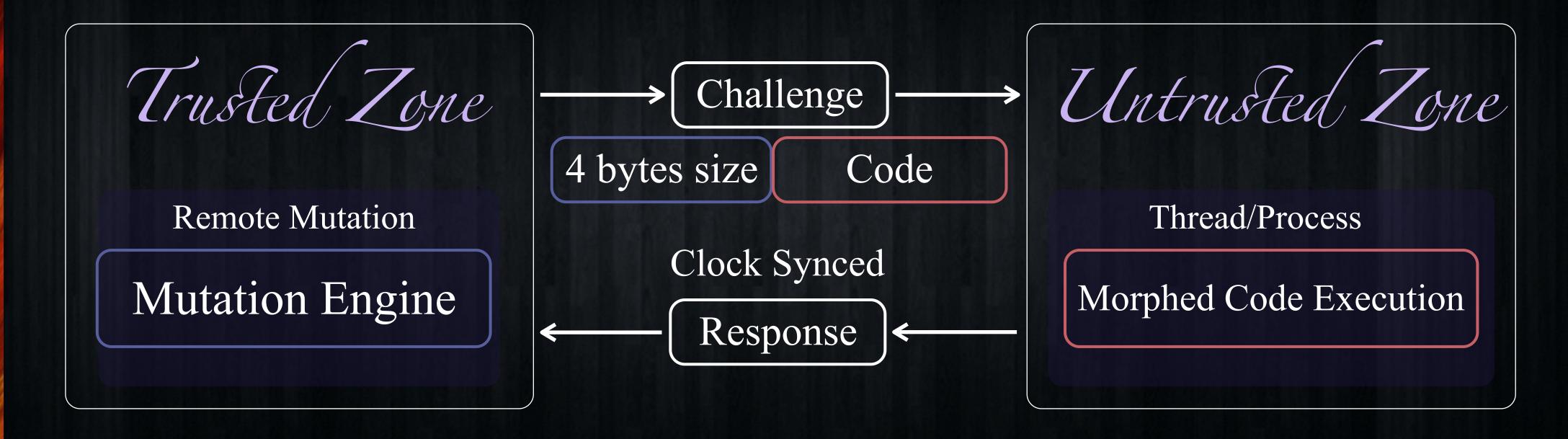




# Why Remote?



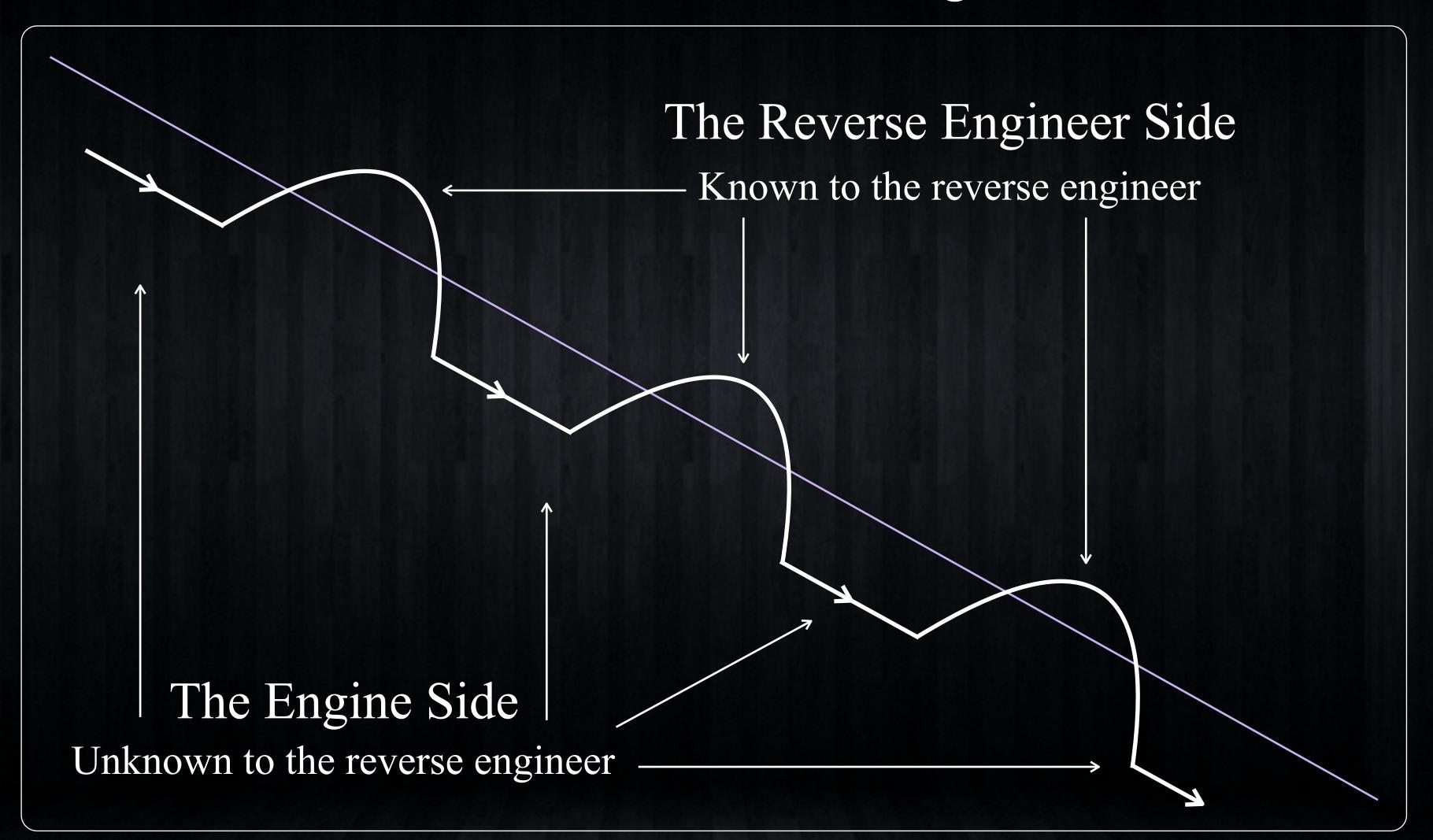
Challenge Response Metamorphic Protocol



Communication protocol made of morphed clock synchronized machine code rather than data



#### Remote Code Slicing





### RME Challenges

In memory code integrity check

Execution environment integrity check

In memory APIs code integrity check

Detect hooks

Clock synchronization

Detect debuggers

Detect Virtual Machines

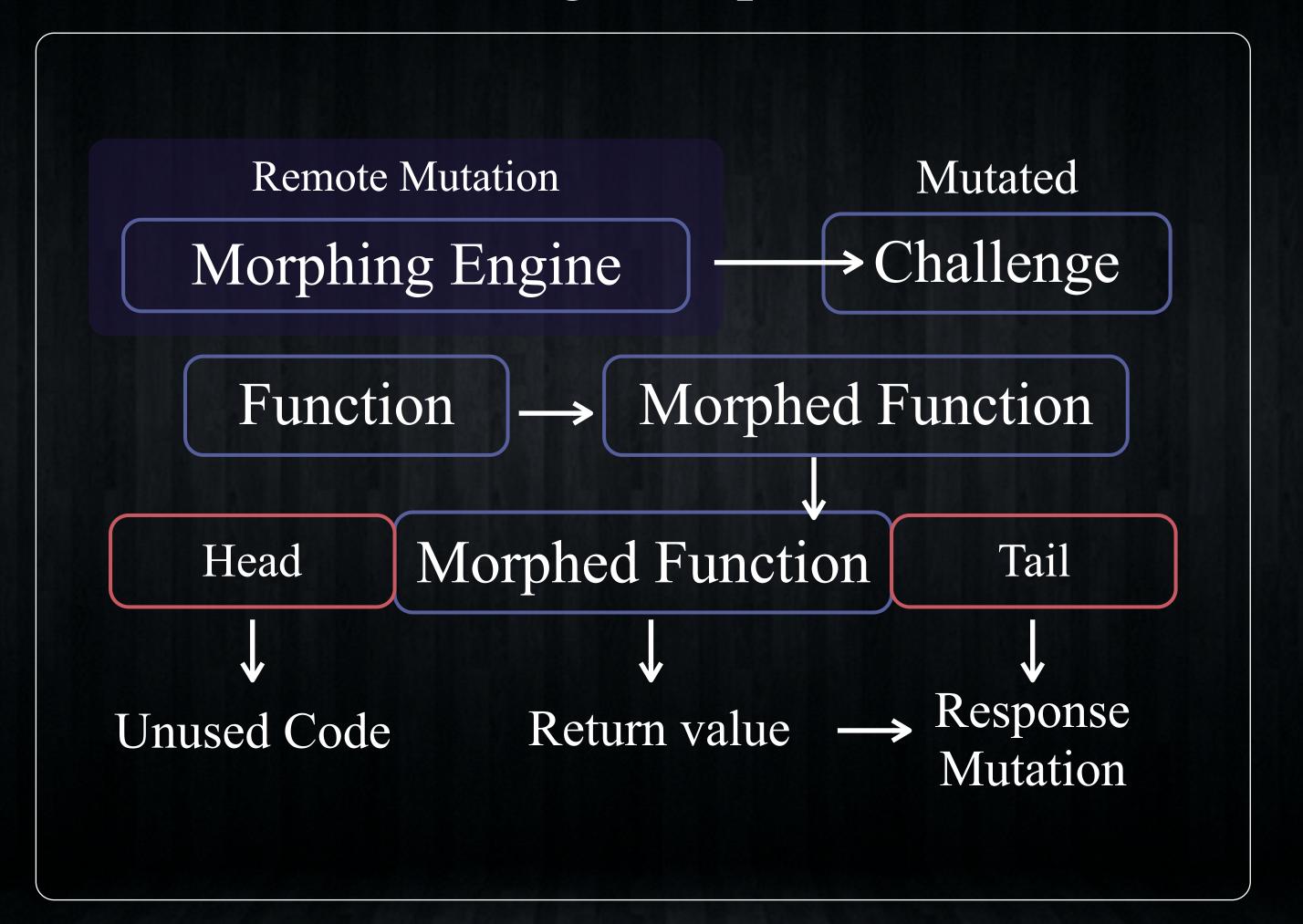
Collect & Validate Machine IDs

Validate Hardware



# Trusted Mutation

#### Trusted Challenge Response Mutation





#### Response Mutation

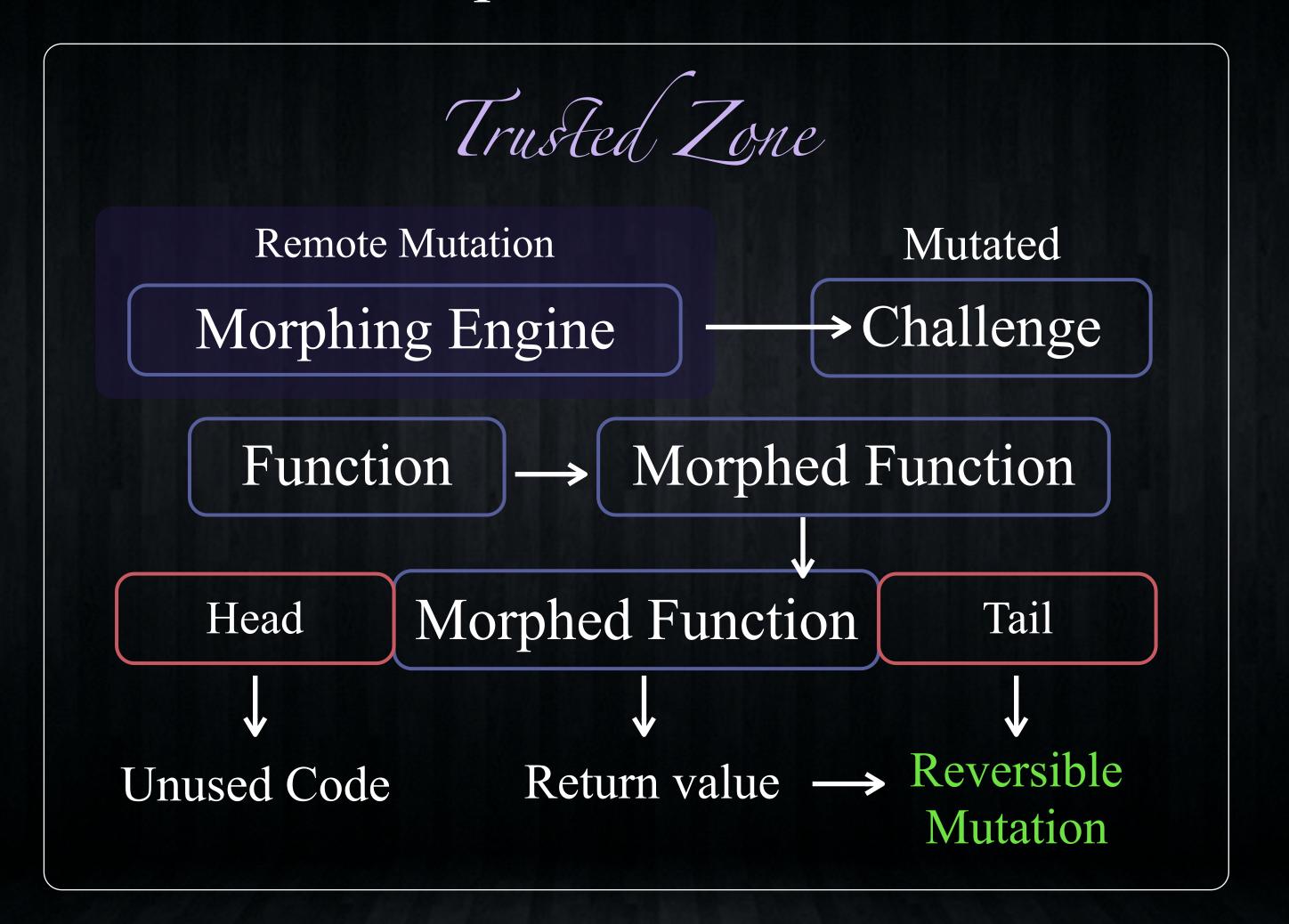
## Mutated Encryption/Decryption

```
[+] assembly code generated and written to sample1_cpuid.s
[+] assembling sample1_cpuid.s
[+] parsing machinecode @sample1_cpuid.bin
[+] challenge binary code size: 346593
[+] encrypted response: 0x505e95c4 = 1348376004
[+] decrypted response: 0x756e6547 = 1970169159
[+] response time: 8.105040 ms
[+] generate next challenge?
```



# Decoupled Reversible Mutation

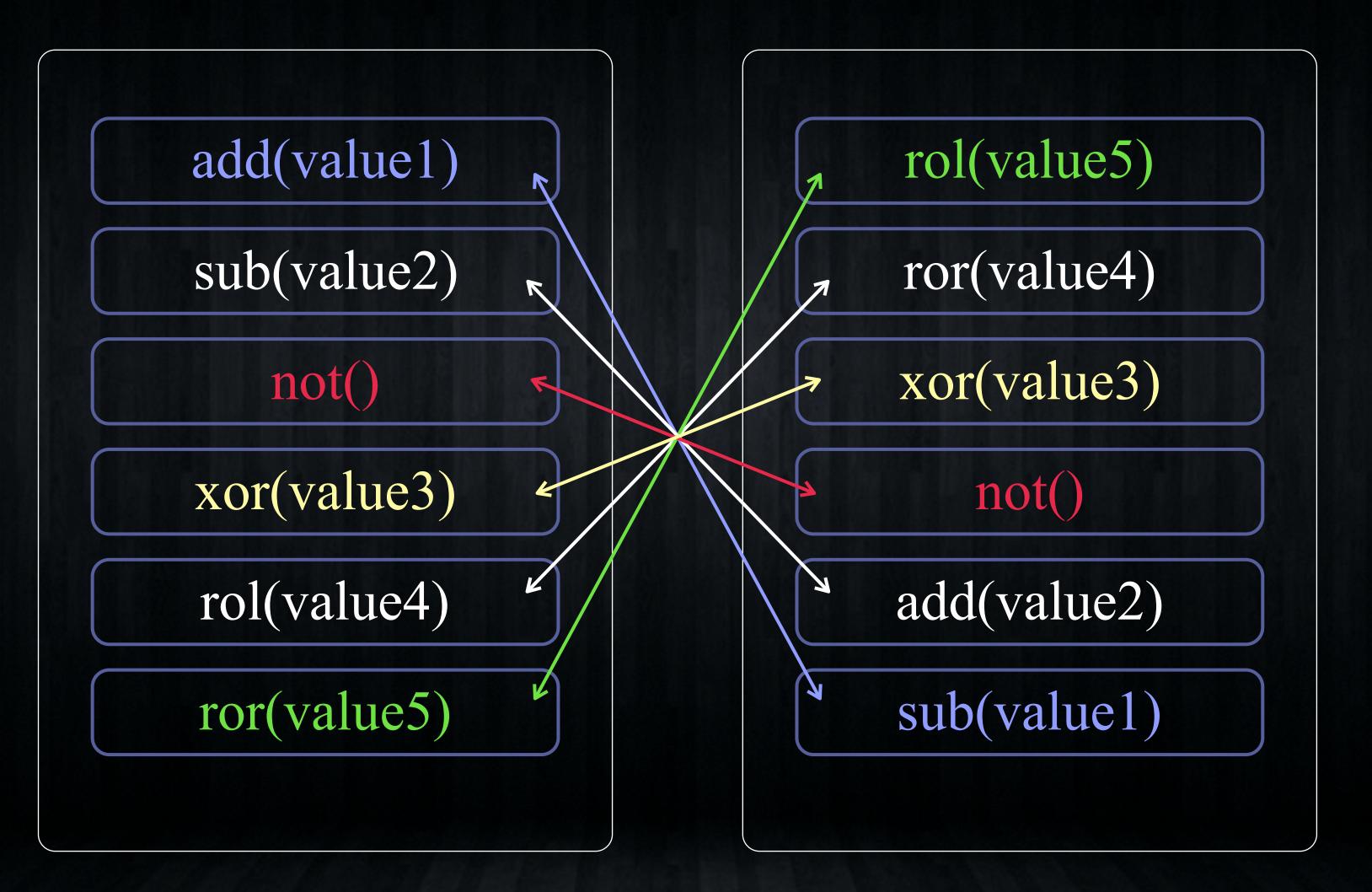
#### Response Mutation





# Decoupled Reversible Mutation

#### Reversible Instructions





### Reversible Instructions | Response Mutation

```
add eax, 0xe0d9780c
not eax
sub eax, 0xbcf3e676
not eax
xor eax, 0xfb7e9fdd
sub eax, 0x695e3adf
add eax, 0x3e731a34
xor eax, 0xa0b50d13
xor eax, 0x39034b8d
ror eax, 0xf
sub eax, 0xfb824ebb
xor eax, 0xd1e6a7ec
xor eax, 0xbb5202f7
ror eax, 4
xor eax, 0x9ce66186
sub eax, 0x4ec067b8
not eax
sub eax, 0xc98775b4
xor eax, 0xbdc52b4f
ror eax, 2
sub eax, 0xd925192c
ror eax, 3
```

```
add eax, 0x48fa27f1
sub eax, 0xd353c205
sub eax, 0xa888b8b2
xor eax, 0xe017f6fa
ror eax, 0xd
sub eax, 0x247dab96
add eax, 0xf6696155
sub eax, 0xbeaeaad5
add eax, 0xd6c7b4ee
add eax, 0x120d5924
add eax, 0x9a0be9b9
sub eax, 0xbfe386c3
ror eax, 0x17
add eax, 0x14c58836
ror eax, 5
xor eax, 0x1984a5de
not eax
sub eax, 0x4d956430
sub eax, 0x9c9df86
add eax, 0xd88904bc
xor eax, 0xf5bcc022
xor eax, 0x205c4a75
add eax, 0xbcbb2b45
sub eax, 0xdb0a2bc0
ror eax, 0xd
add eax, 0x529eba0f
ror eax, 0x1c
add eax, 0x8150605
sub eax, 0xd8fe0628
add eax, 0xad81052c
```

ror eax, 5

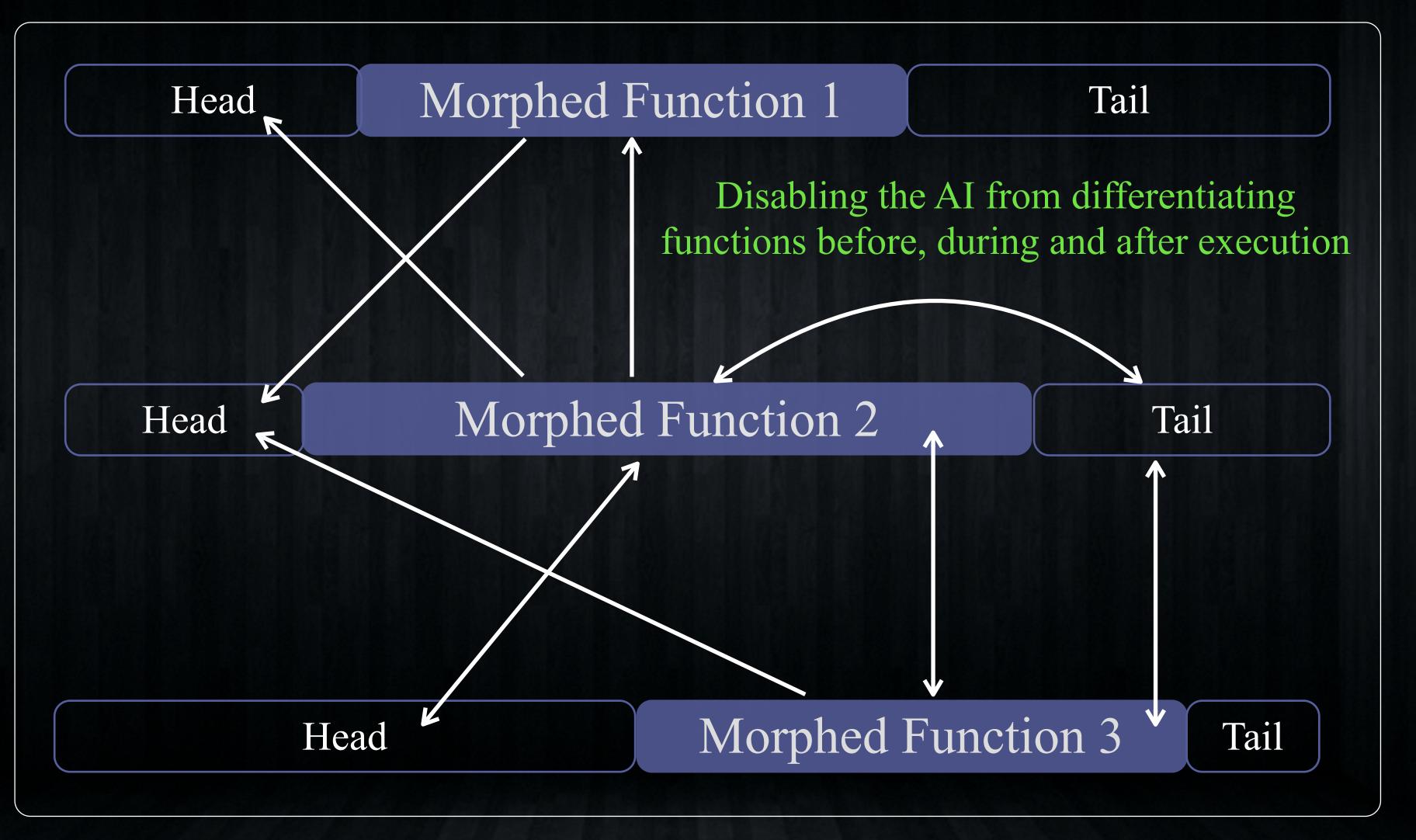
```
add eax, 0x762e0f15
not eax
sub eax, 0x75707780
add eax, 0xe3265fc4
xor eax, 0x22952628
add eax, 0x231a8655
ror eax, 2
not eax
sub eax, 0x2c75569a
sub eax, 0x88ad3417
not eax
ror eax, 0x19
add eax, 0xe7634a71
not eax
xor eax, 0x500026f6
add eax, 0xad1a2fd2
sub eax, 0x937ead1b
not eax
add eax, 0x2f112a91
sub eax, 0x801608e8
xor eax, 0x9cb2998b
xor eax, 0xe626a2be
add eax, 0x3185e741
xor eax, 0x197e9520
xor eax, 0x5665148d
sub eax, 0xc739155d
```

```
add eax, 0x58f934ef
sub eax, 0xa623710f
xor eax, 0x8051cbca
ror eax, 0x1d
ror eax, 0xc
ror eax, 0x1c
xor eax, 0xa96f3357
ror eax, 0xa
xor eax, 0xf13d8c20
not eax
xor eax, 0xfb42f152
add eax, 0xb813492a
sub eax, 0x4f8728ef
add eax, 0xee0e75bc
```



## Evading AI Machine Learning

### Mixing Morphed Blocks





# Mutation Engines

AV Signature Evasion

### Polymorphic Engines

morphed body encryption

Metamorphic Engines

body polymorphic



# Signature Evasion

Morphing Techniques Evading Signature

Instruction reordering

Code Permutation

Subroutine permutation

Instruction Substitution

Subroutine Inlining

Dead Code Insertion

Subroutine Outlining

Changing Control Flow

Expansion

Transposition

Can not resist reverse engineering



#### Flux Mutation Goals

Extend Trust

Ensure Trusted Remote Execution

Evade Signature

Evade AI Machine Learning

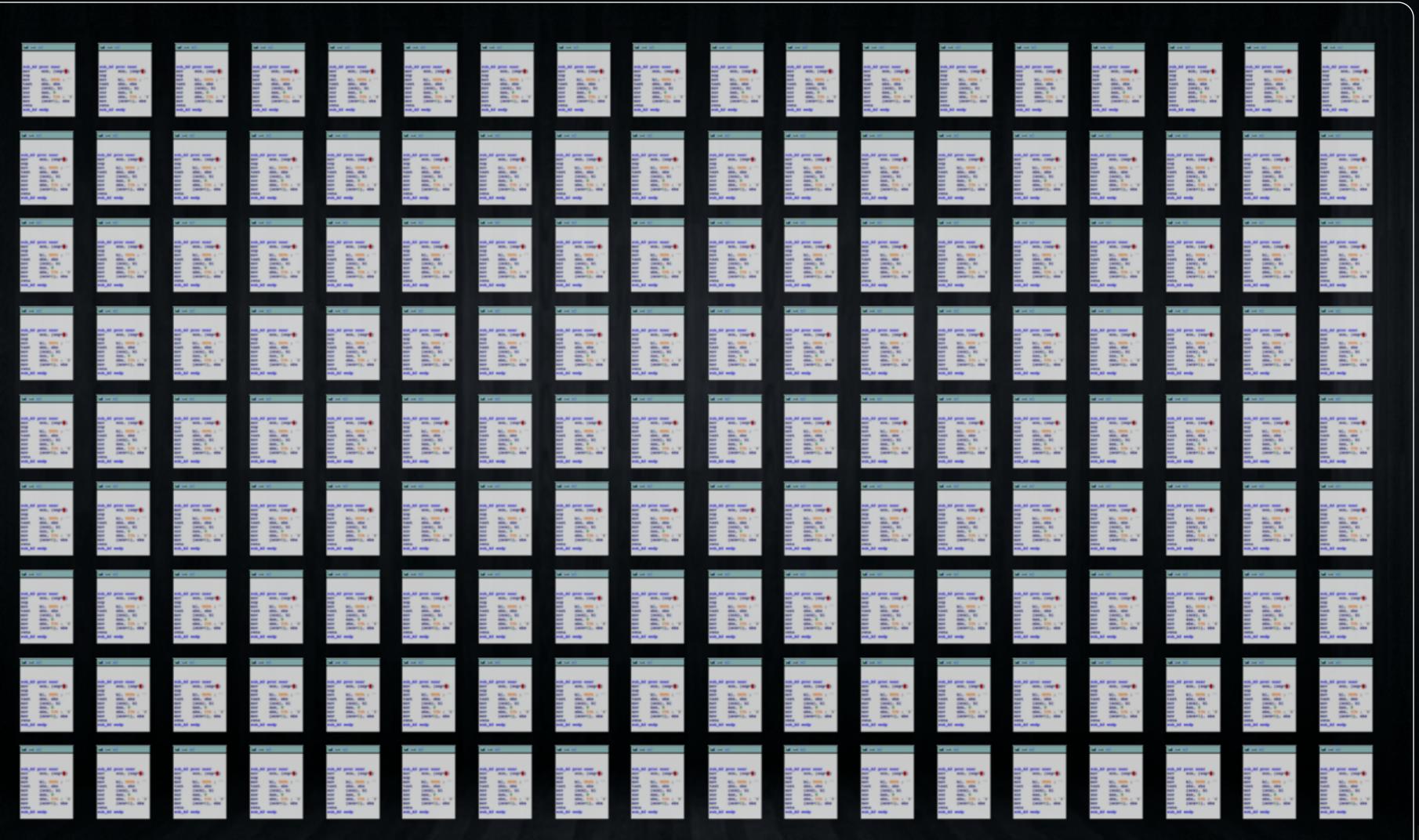
Detect & Evade RE

Detect Tampering Attempts



### Structure Obfuscation

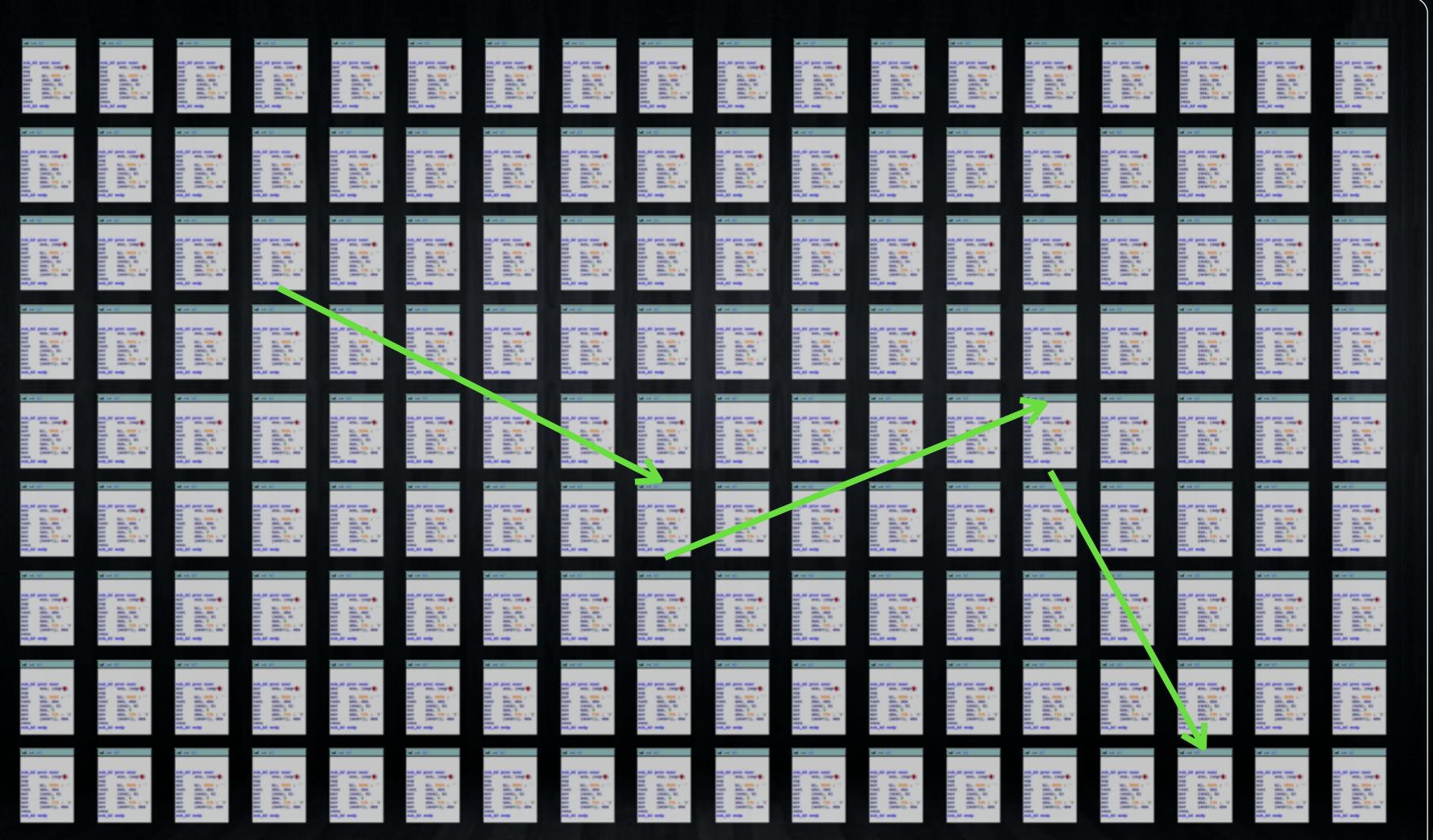
All functions look the same before and during execution





# Structure Obfuscation

### Self modifying basic block Edges





```
Morphing block 2
original instruction:
line2:
```

pushad

call line2\_1

dd 457483686

dd 1434043667

dd 385142628

mov reg3\_4, 89

add reg1\_4, 4

not reg4\_4

not reg4\_4

jmp reg3\_4

add reg1\_4, reg3\_4

mov reg3\_4, reg1\_4

mov reg4\_4, 0x11223344

mov reg4\_4, 0x11223344

mov [reg1\_4], reg4\_4

mov [reg1\_4], reg4\_4

pushf

db 5

db 3

db 2

db 4

db 1

dd -1

db 1

dd -1

nop

```
db 1
                            dd -1
                            nop
                            mov reg3_4, 89
            ror eax, 2
                            add reg1_4, reg3_4
                            mov reg3_4, reg1_4
                            sub dword [reg1_4], 0x11223344
                            add reg1_4, 4
                            add dword [reg1_4], 0x11223344
                            add reg1_4, 4
                            xor dword [reg1_4], 0x11223344
                            add reg1_4, 4
                           mov reg4_4, 0x11223344
sub dword [reg1_4], 0x11223344
                            not reg4_4
add dword [reg1_4], 0x11223344
                            mov [reg1_4], reg4_4
xor dword [reg1_4], 0x11223344
                            add reg1_4, 4
                            mov reg4_4, 0x11223344
                            not reg4_4
                           mov [reg1_4], reg4_4
                            add reg1_4, 4
                            jmp reg3_4
```

# RE Evasion

## Morphing Techniques

Metamorphic + Polymorphic

Self modifying mutation

Code structure obfuscation

Clock synchronized execution

Challenge-Response Mutation

Functionality Mutation

Decoupled Reversible Mutation

Slices Permutation

Code size magnification



```
_start:
    push 0
    pushad
    mov reg1, [fs:dword 0x30]
    movzx reg2, byte [reg1+2]
    mov dword [esp+32], reg2
    popad
    pop eax
    ret
end:
```



```
__start:

push 0 { push reg1

pushad

mov reg1, [fs:dword 0x30]

movzx reg2, byte [reg1+2]

mov dword [esp+32], reg2

popad

pop eax

ret

end:
```



```
start:
          xor reg1, reg1
   push 0
           push req1
           pushad
Insertion→sub reg1, reg1
           mov reg1, [fs:dword 0x30]
           movzx reg2, byte [reg1+2]
           mov dword [esp+32], reg2
           popad
           pop eax
           ret
       end:
```



```
start:
   push 0 | xor reg1, reg1
            pushad
Insertion → sub reg1, reg1
            mov reg1, [fs:dword 0x30]
Insertion → add reg2, reg2
            movzx reg2, byte [reg1+2]
            mov dword [esp+32], reg2
            popad
            pop eax
            ret
        end:
```



```
start:
   push 0 { xor reg1, reg1 push reg1
            pushad
Insertion → sub reg1, reg1
            mov reg1, [fs:dword 0x30]
Insertion → add reg2, reg2
            movzx reg2, byte [reg1+2]
Insertion → mov reg3, reg4
            mov dword [esp+32], reg2
             popad
             pop eax
             ret
        end:
```



```
start:
           xor reg1, reg1
   push 0
            pushad
Insertion → sub reg1, reg1
            mov reg1, [fs:dword 0x30]
Insertion → add reg2, reg2
            movzx reg2, byte [reg1+2]
Insertion → mov reg3, reg4
            mov dword [esp+32], reg2
            popad
            pop eax
            ret
        end:
```



```
start:
           rxor reg1, reg1
   push 0
            pushad
Insertion → sub reg1, reg1
            mov reg1, [fs:dword 0x30]
Insertion → add reg2, reg2
            movzx reg2, byte [reg1+2]
Insertion → mov reg3, reg4
            mov dword [esp+32], reg2
            popad
                       add esp,36
            pop eax
                       push reg2
            ret
                       sub esp,32
        end:
```



### First Morphing Stage

```
start:
    xor reg1, reg1
    push reg1
    pushad
    sub reg1, reg1
    mov reg1, [fs:dword 0x30]
    add reg2, reg2
    movzx reg2, byte [reg1+2]
    mov reg3, reg4
    mov dword [esp+32], reg2
    popad
    nop
    pop eax
    nop
    ret
end:
```

# Remote Code Evolution Second Morphing Stage

```
line1:
                      line6:
                                                   line11:
   xor edi, edi
                         add ebx, ebx
                                                       popad
    jmp long line2
                          jmp long line7
                                                       jmp long line12
line2:
                      line7:
                                                   line12:
   push edi
                         movzx ebx, byte [edi+2]
                                                       nop
    jmp long line3
                         jmp long line8
                                                       jmp long line13
line3:
                      line8:
                                                   line13:
   pushad
                         mov ecx, edx
                                                       pop eax
    jmp long line4
                        jmp long line9
                                                       jmp long line14
                      line9:
line4:
                                                   line14:
   sub edi, edi mov dword [esp+32], ebx
                                                       nop
                          jmp long line10
    jmp long line5
                                                       jmp long line15
line5:
                      line10:
                                                   line15:
    jmp long line6
                          nop
                                                       ret
                          jmp long line11
                                                       jmp long line16
```



#### Third Morphing Stage

```
line12:
                       line14:
line1:
                                                        nop
   xor edi, edi
                           nop
                                                            long line13
                           jmp long line15
   jmp long line2
                                                    line5:
line6:
                       line13:
                                                        jmp long line6
   add ebx, ebx
                           pop eax
   jmp long line7
                           jmp long line14
                                                     line7:
                       line3:
line8:
                          pushad
                                                         movzx ebx, byte [edi+2]
   mov ecx, edx
                                                         jmp long line8
                          jmp long line4
   jmp long line9
line15:
                       line4:
                                                     line2:
                          sub edi, edi
                                                         push edi
   ret
   jmp long line16
                           jmp long line5
                                                         jmp long line3
line11:
                       line9:
                                                     line10:
   popad
                           mov dword [esp+32], ebx
                                                         nop
    jmp long line12
                           jmp long line10
                                                         jmp long line11
```



#### Self Modifying Body Polymorphism

#### Forth Morphing Stage

```
line1:
                                                                 Self modifying instructions
Random Obfuscation Keys
                                            pushf
     db 5
                                                                      mov eax, 93
                                            call line1_1
                                                                      add ecx, eax
     db 1
                                            db 1
                                            dd -1
     dd -1
                                                                      mov eax, ecx
                                            dd 27
                                                                      mov ebx, 0x11223344
     db 0
                                            db 4
                                            dd 3524080526
                                                                      not ebx
     dd 27
                                            dd 7
                                                                      mov [ecx], ebx
     db 4
                                            dd 545547056
                                                                      add ecx, 4
     dd 3524080526
                                            add ecx, eax
                                                                      mov ebx, 0x11223344
     db 0
                                            mov eax, ecx
                                            mov ebx, 0x11223344
                                                                      ror ebx, 27
     dd 7
                                            not ebx
                                            mov [ecx], ebx
                                                                      mov [ecx], ebx
                                            add ecx, 4
     db 2
                                            mov ebx, 0x11223344
                                                                      add ecx, 4
                                            ror ebx, 27
     dd 545547056
                                            mov [ecx], ebx
                                                                      xor dword [ecx], 0x11223344
                                            xor dword [ecx], 0x11223344
line1:
                                                                      add ecx, 4
                                            add ecx, 4
                                            mov ebx, 0x11223344
     xor edi, edi
                                                                      mov ebx, 0x11223344
                                            ror ebx, 7
                                            mov [ecx], ebx
     jmp long line2
                                            add ecx, 4
                                                                      ror ebx, 7
                                            add dword [ecx], 0x11223344
                                            add ecx, 4
                                                                      mov [ecx], ebx
line1_1:
                                            jmp eax
                                         line1_2:
                                                                      add ecx, 4
     mov ecx, [esp]
                                            popf
                                                                      add dword [ecx], 0x11223344
                                           xor edi, edi
     nop
                                                                      add ecx, 4
                                            jmp long line2
     nop
                                                                      jmp eax
                                            . . . 20*nops
     mov dl, 0xe9
                                         line1_1:
     mov byte [ecx], dl
                                            mov ecx, [esp]
                                                                     Self Modifying
                                            nop
     mov edx, 0x00000058
                                            nop
                                            mov dl, 0xe9
     mov dword [ecx+1], edx
                                            mov byte [ecx], dl
                                            mov edx, 0x00000058
     ret
                                            mov dword [ecx+1], edx
```

ret



# Self Modifying Blocks

ECX, DWORD PTR DS: [EDX+ECX-15]

DS:[ECX+4],EAX

PTR DS:[ECX],A5E800A6

PTR DS:[ECX], AAFF2DFA

PTR DS:[ECX],94671F27

PTR DS:[ECX],16BE58F3

PTR DS:[ECX],D1013F0D

RD PTR DS:[ECX],670EC607

WORD PTR DS:[ECX],862EC863

DWORD PTR DS:[ECX],F07430F3

MOV ECX, DWORD PTR SS: [ESP]
MOV AL, 0E9
TEST EAX, EAX
MOV BYTE PTR DS: [ECX], AL
MOV EAX, 49

MOV DWORD PTR DS:[ECX+1],EAX

EDX

ORD PTR DS:[ECX],9BF847DD

ŘĎ PTR DS:[ECX],11223344

#### Fifth Morphing Stage

Obfuscation Keys

**←** 

One block per morphed instruction

All blocks have same identical structure

Self modifying code



# Self Modifying Blocks

```
PUSHAD
PUSHFD
CALL 00240C59
ADD AL,4
XCHG EAX,EDI
CMP DH, BYTE PTR DS: [EAX]
ROL BYTE PTR DS:[ECX],1
ADD EDI, EDI
    DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+EDX]
    EBP
NOP
MOU ECX,54
```



# Response Time

```
[+] mutated code size: 15110 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x09575e31
                                    156720689
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.685972 ms
[+] mutated code size: 17771 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x5820b6b5
                                    1478538933
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.040096 ms
[+] mutated code size: 23814 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x5d844e9a
                                    1568951962
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.897926 ms
[+] mutated code size: 19768 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x818af8d8
                                    -2121598760
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.177187 ms
```



#### Variable Code Size

```
[+] mutated code size: 15110 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x09575e31
                                    156720689
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.685972 ms
[+] mutated code size: 17771 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x5820b6b5
                                    1478538933
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.040096 ms
[+] mutated code size: 23814 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x5d844e9a
                                    1568951962
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.897926 ms
[+] mutated code size: 19768 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x818af8d8
                                    -2121598760
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.177187 ms
```

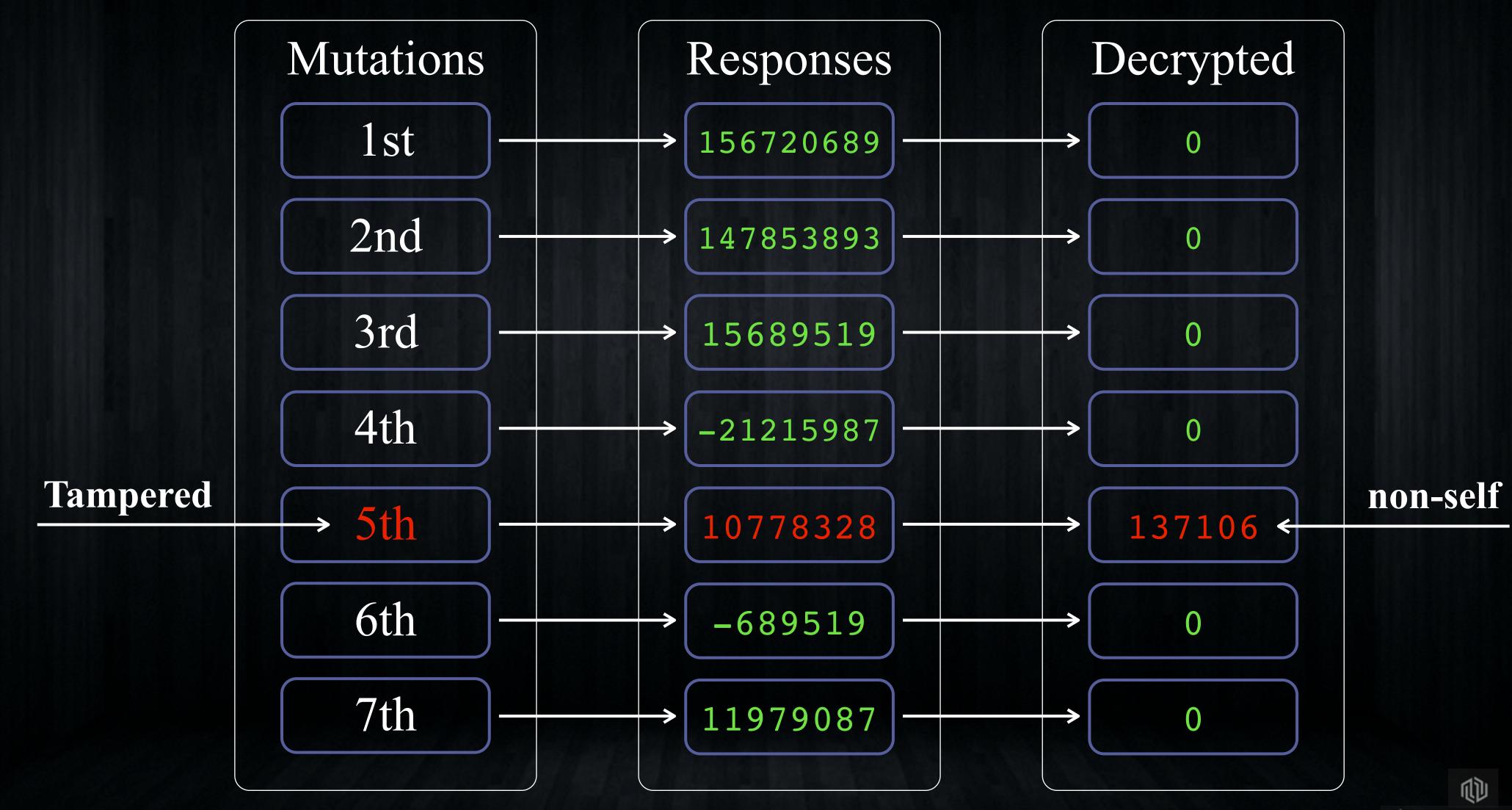


# Response Mutation

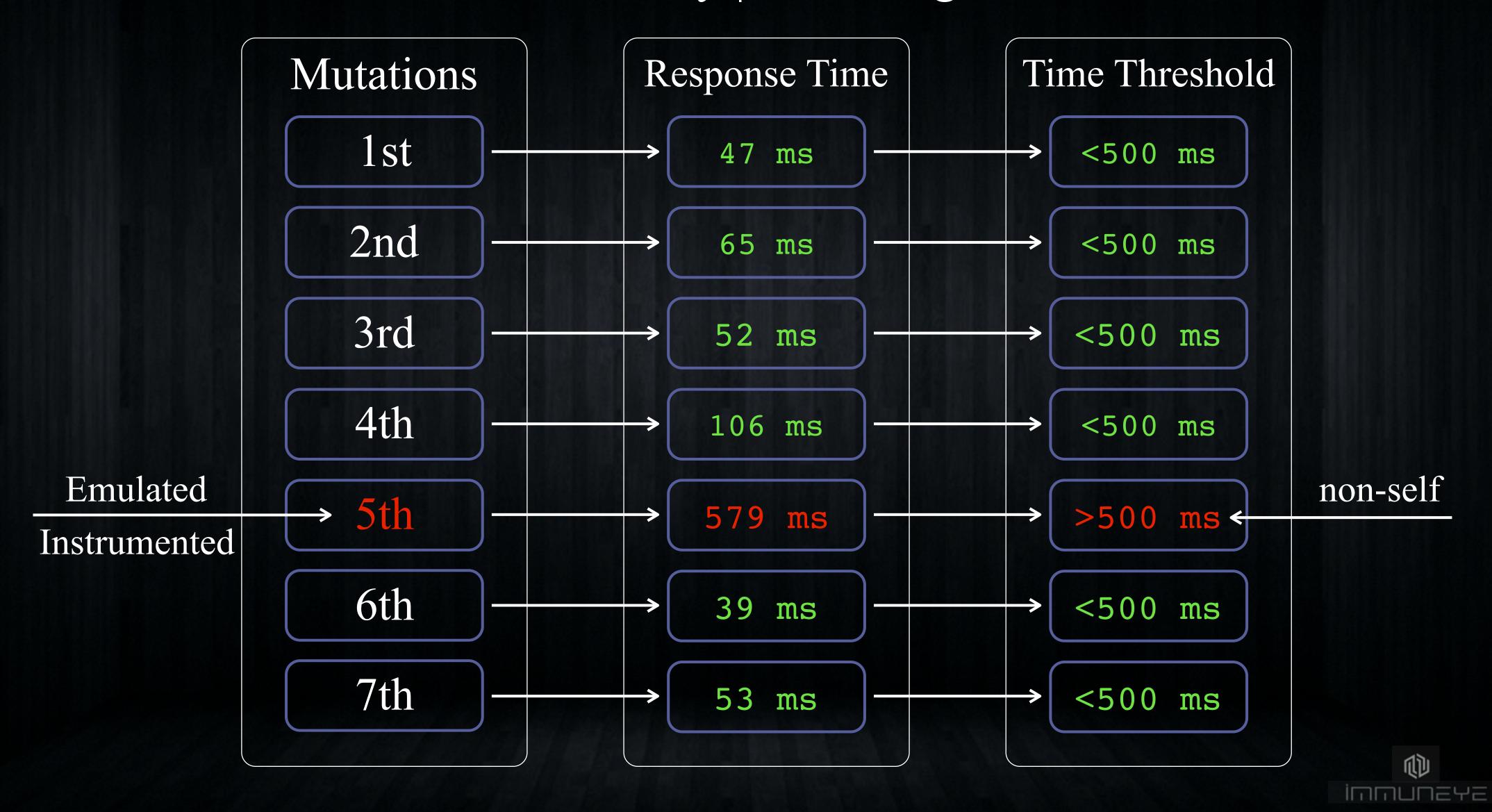
```
[+] mutated code size: 15110 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x09575e31
                                    156720689
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.685972 ms
[+] mutated code size: 17771 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x5820b6b5
                                    1478538933
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.040096 ms
[+] mutated code size: 23814 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x5d844e9a
                                    1568951962
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.897926 ms
[+] mutated code size: 19768 bytes
[+] encrypted response: 0x818af8d8
                                    -2121598760
[+] decrypted response: 0x0000001
[+] remote execution response time: 6.177187 ms
```



Artificial Immunity | Detecting the non-self



#### Artificial Immunity | Detecting the non-self



#### Artificial Immunity | Detecting the non-self



```
{ Questions? }
```

remote.metamorphic.engine@gmail.com

