



ODDFuzz: Hunting Java Deserialization Gadget Chains via Structure-Aware Directed Greybox Fuzzing

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About Speakers



Biao He

- Security researcher @ Ant Security FG Lab
- Black Hat Europe 2022 Speaker
- @codeplutos



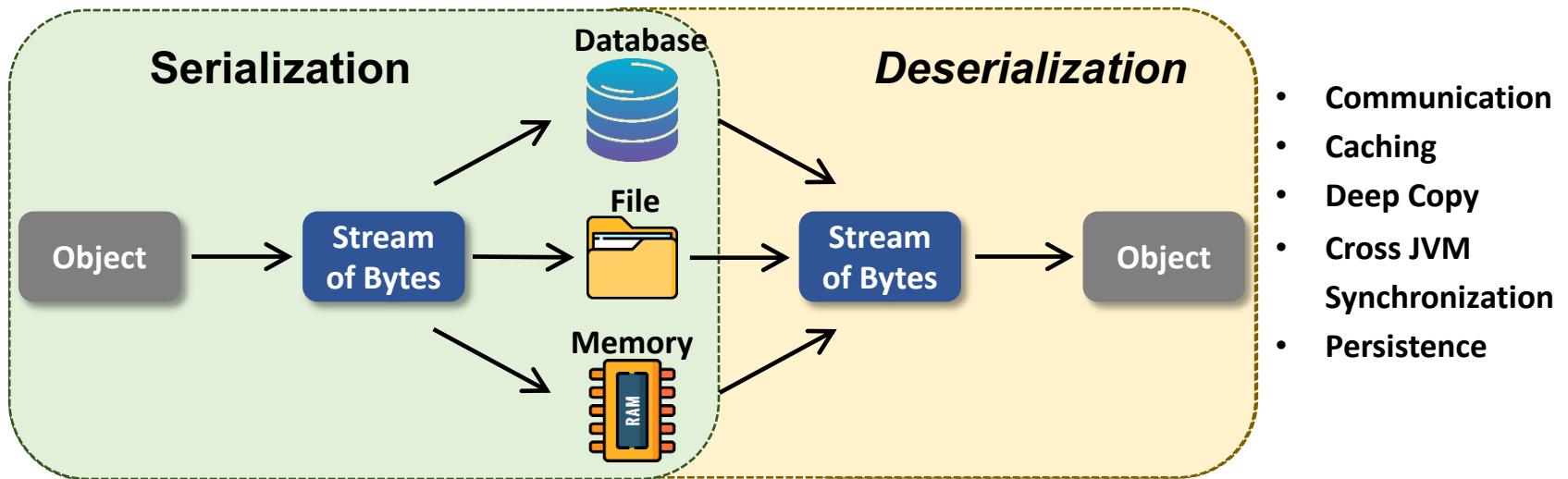
Haowen Mu

- Founder @ Cyberutopian
- CTF player at Nu1L Team
- @meizjm3i

Agenda

- Introduction
- Previous work & Remaining challenges
- ODDFuzz: A novel approach to hunting gadget chains
- Evaluation
- Conclusion & Takeaways

Java Deserialization



Java Deserialization Vulnerability

Magic methods will be executed automatically when deserialization

```
ObjectInputStream ois = new ObjectInputStream(source.getInputStream());
User user = (User) ois.readObject();
```

```
public class Evil{
    public void readObject(ObjectInputStream ois){
        Runtime.getRuntime().exec(ois.readUTF());
    }
}
```

- readObject
- readResolve
-

Java Deserialization Gadget Chain

```
public void readObject(ObjectInputStream ois) {  
    Comparator comparator = (Comparator) ois.readObject();  
    comparator.compare(ois.readObject(), ois.readObject());  
}
```

```
public class ValueComparator implements Comparator{  
    @Override  
    public int compare(Value v1, Value v2) {  
        return v1.getValue() - v2.getValue();  
    }  
}
```

```
public class InvokeComparator implements Comparator {  
    String methodName;  
    String className;  
  
    @Override  
    public int compare(Object o1, Object o2) {  
        Method method = Class.forName(className)  
            .getMethod(methodName);  
        method.setAccessible(true);  
        return (int) method.invoke(o1,o2);  
    }  
}
```

Exploit

A call chain starts with a magic method (*source method*) and ends with a security-sensitive method (*sink method*)

Why gadget chains are so significant

For defenders

- Deserialization is unavoidable
- Blacklist

For attackers

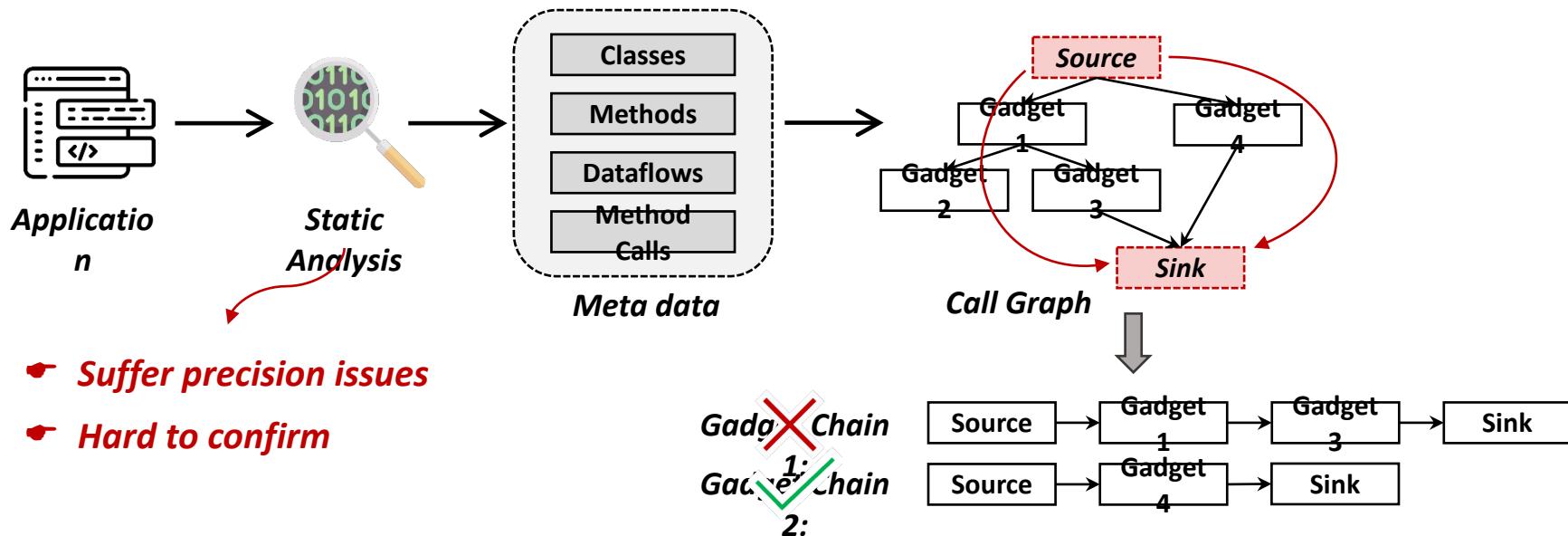
- Make Java deserialization vulnerability exploitable
 - Bypass blacklist

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Existing Solutions

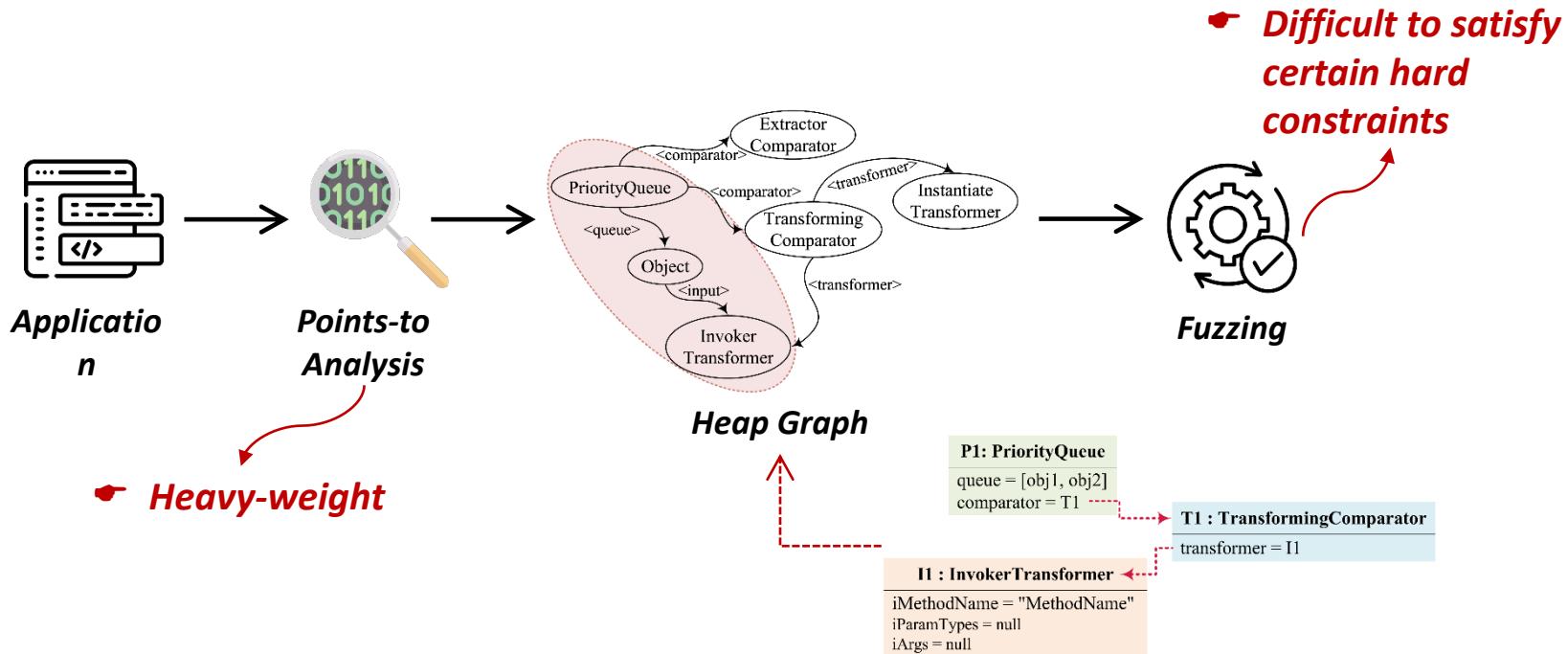
Gadget Inspector [BlackHat 2018]



¹I. Haken, "Automated discovery of deserialization gadget chains," BlackHat USA, 2018.

Existing Solutions

SerHybrid [ASE 2020]



²⁶S. Rasheed and J. Dietrich, “A hybrid analysis to detect java serialization vulnerabilities,” IEEE/ACM International Conference on Software Engineering, 2020.

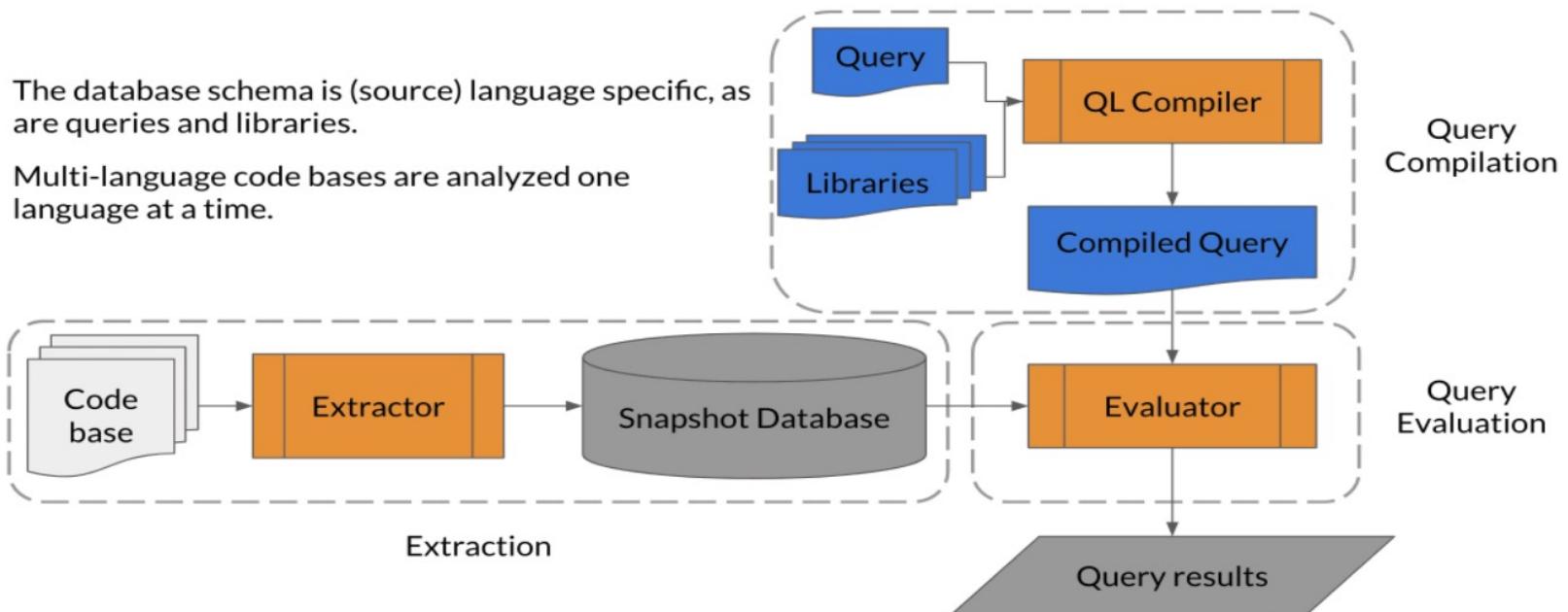
Existing Solutions

CodeQL

Analysis overview

The database schema is (source) language specific, as are queries and libraries.

Multi-language code bases are analyzed one language at a time.



Remaining Challenges

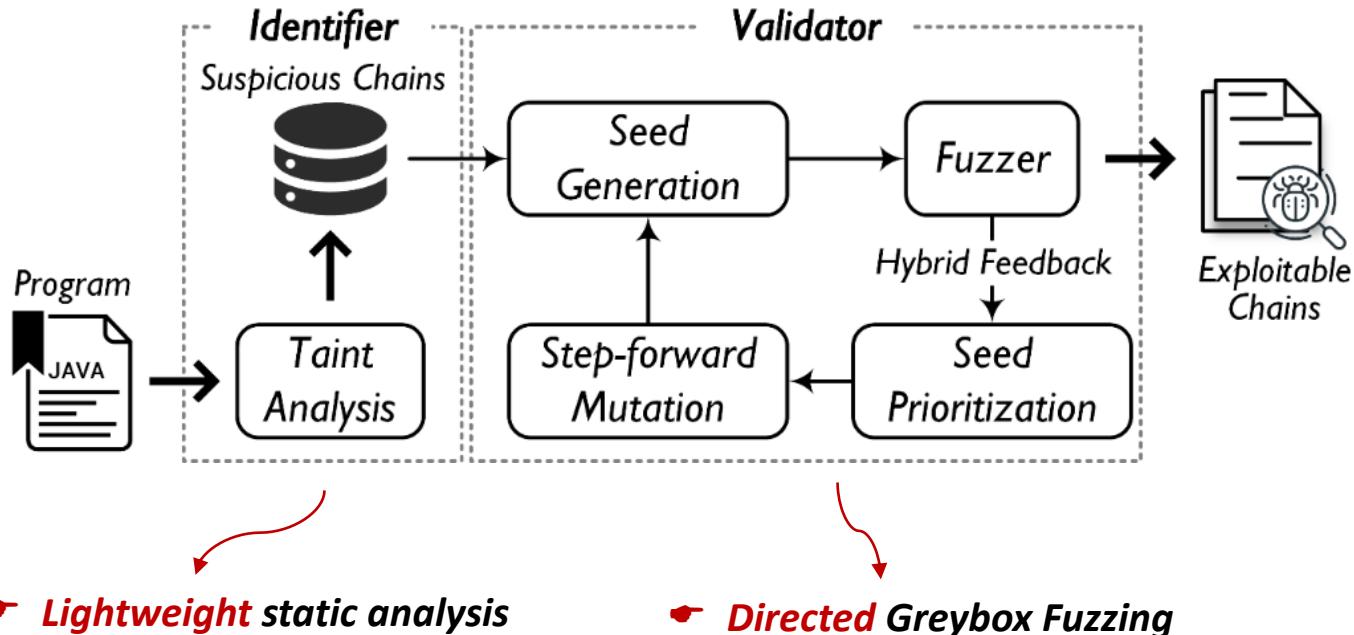
1. Runtime polymorphism and other dynamic language features make it difficult to make trade-offs between precision and recall.
2. Java deserialization gadget chains can be quite long, which causes huge computation space and amplifies the inaccuracy.
3. Existing tools are unable to validate candidate gadget chains, which require manual inspection and are time-consuming and error-prone.

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Our approach: ODDFuzz

Lightweight Taint Analysis and *Directed* Greybox Fuzzing



Lightweight static analysis

Class A

```
public void readObject(ObjectInputStream ois) {
    //get comparator
    this.comparator = (Comparator) ois.readObject();
    Comparator comparator = threadLocal.get();
    if (comparator == null) {
        comparator = this.comparator;
    }
    //read values
    value1 = ois.readObject();
    value2 = ois.readObject();
    //compare and add to ordered arraylist
    if (comparator.compare(value1, value2) > 0) {
        orderedList.add(value1);
        orderedList.add(value2);
    } else {
        orderedList.add(value2);
        orderedList.add(value1);
    }
}
```

**Controlling Data Types
=> Controlling Code!**

```
public class ValueComparator implements Comparator{
    @Override
    public int compare(Value v1, Value v2) {
        return v1.getValue() - v2.getValue();
    }
}
```

```
public class InvokeComparator implements Comparator {
    String methodName;
    String className;

    @Override
    public int compare(Object o1, Object o2) {
        Method method = Class.forName(className)
            .getMethod(methodName);
        method.setAccessible(true);
        return (int) method.invoke(o1,o2);
    }
}
```

Exploit

Lightweight static analysis

```
public void readObject(ObjectInputStream ois) {  
    //get comparator  
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    //read values  
    value1 = ois.readObject();  
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    //compare and add to ordered arraylist  
    if (comparator.compare(value1, value2) > 0) {  
        orderedList.add(value1);  
        orderedList.add(value2);  
    } else {  
        orderedList.add(value2);  
        orderedList.add(value1);  
    }  
}
```

New

$x = \text{new } T()$

Assign

$x = y$

Store

$x.f = y$

Load

$y = x.f$

Call

$r = x.k(a, \dots)$

Lightweight static analysis

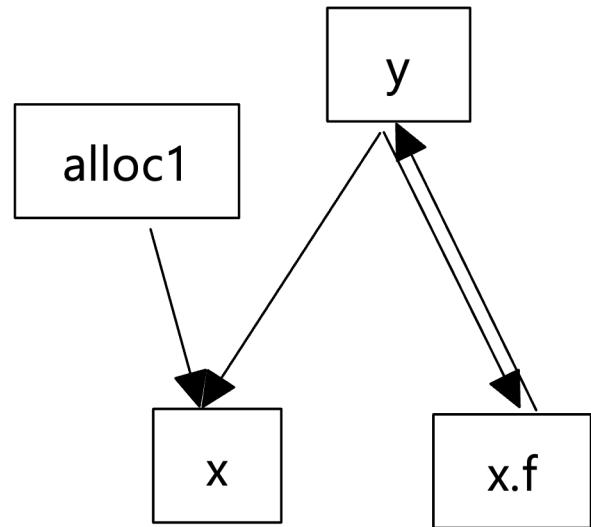
```
public void readObject(ObjectInputStream ois) {  
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    }  
}
```

New	$x = \text{new } T()$
Assign	$x = y$
Store	$x.f = y$
Load	$y = x.f$
Call	$r = x.k(a, \dots)$

SPAG (Simplified Pointer Assignment Graph) + Worklist algorithm

Lightweight static analysis

New	$x = \text{new } T()$
Assign	$x = y$
Store	$x.f = y$
Load	$y = x.f$
Call	$r = x.k(a, \dots)$



Construct SPAG (Simplified
Pointer Assignment Graph)

Lightweight static analysis

```
public void readObject(ObjectInputStream ois) {  
    //get comparator  
    this.comparator = (Comparator) ois.readObject();  
    Comparator comparator = threadLocal.get();  
    if (comparator == null) {  
        comparator = this.comparator;  
    }  
    //read values  
    value1 = ois.readObject();  
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    //compare and add to ordered arraylist  
    if (comparator.compare(value1, value2) > 0) {  
        orderedList.add(value1);  
        orderedList.add(value2);  
    } else {  
        orderedList.add(value2);  
        orderedList.add(value1);  
    }  
}
```

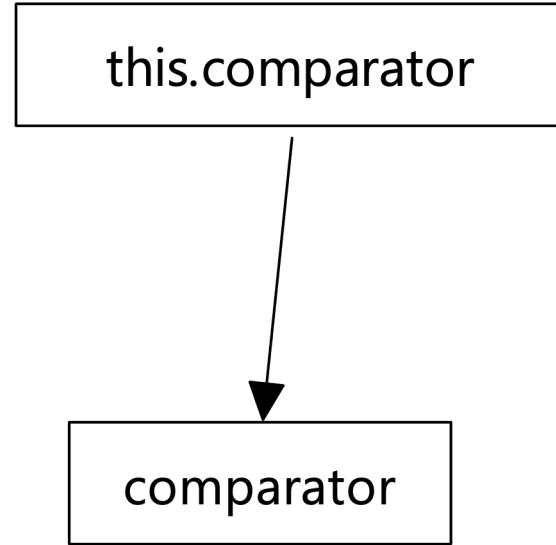
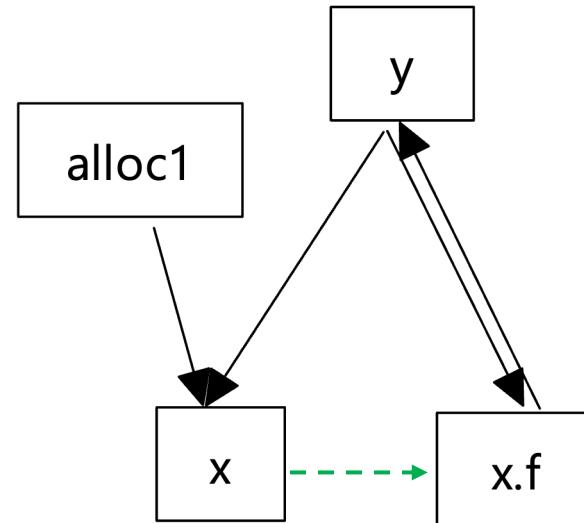


Fig. 1: SPAG

Construct SPAG (Simplified Pointer Assignment Graph)

Lightweight static analysis

New	$x = \text{new } T()$
Assign	$x = y$
Store	$x.f = y$
Load	$y = x.f$
Call	$r = x.k(a, \dots)$



Worklist algorithm

Lightweight static analysis

New $x = \text{new } T()$

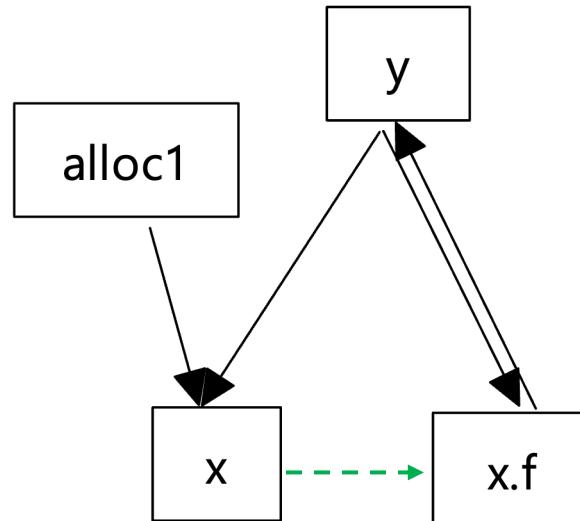
Assign $x = y$

Store $x.f = y$

Load $y = x.f$

Call $r = x.k(a, \dots)$

- Static Call $X.k(a, \dots)$
- Special Call $x.<\text{init}>(a, \dots) / \text{super}.k(a, \dots)$
- Virtual Call $x.k(a, \dots)$



Worklist algorithm

Lightweight static analysis

New `x = new T()`

Assign `x = y`

Store `x.f = y`

Load `y = x.f`

Call `r = x.k(a, ...)`

Call statement

- Construct call graph on-the-fly
- Perform Class Hierarchy Analysis (CHA) on the call statement *only* when the receive object is tainted
- Prior knowledge
 - Native method
 - Specific method (readObject)

- Static Call `X.k(a, ...)`
- Special Call `x.<init>(a, ...) / super.k(a, ...)`
- Virtual Call `x.k(a, ...)`

Lightweight static analysis

New $x = \text{new } T()$

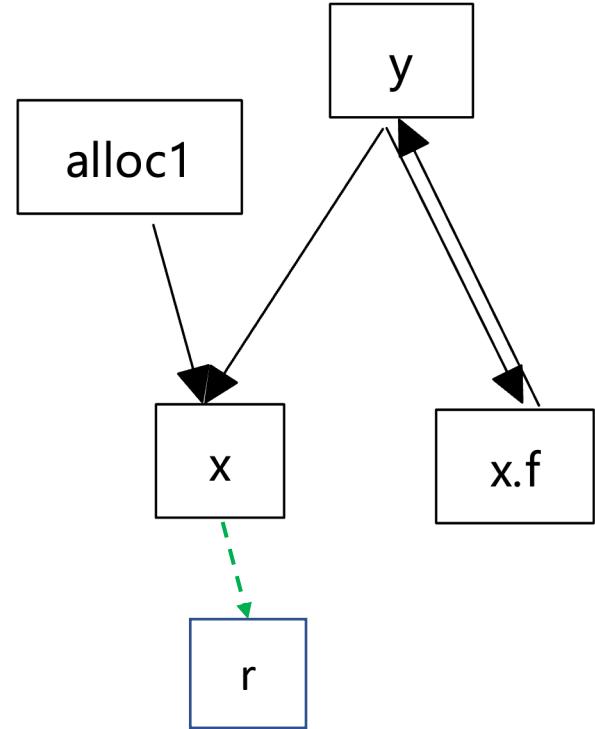
Assign $x = y$

Store $x.f = y$

Load $y = x.f$

Call $r = x.k(a, \dots)$

- Static Call $X.k(a, \dots)$
- Special Call $x.<\text{init}>(a, \dots) / \text{super}.k(a, \dots)$
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Worklist algorithm

Lightweight static analysis

```
public void readObject(ObjectInputStream ois) {  
    //get comparator  
    this.comparator = (Comparator) ois.readObject();  
    Comparator comparator = threadLocal.get();  
    if (comparator == null) {  
        comparator = this.comparator;  
    }  
    //read values  
    value1 = ois.readObject();  
    value2 = ois.readObject();  
    //compare and add to ordered arraylist  
    if (comparator.compare(value1, value2) > 0) {  
        orderedList.add(value1);  
        orderedList.add(value2);  
    } else {  
        orderedList.add(value2);  
        orderedList.add(value1);  
    }  
}
```

this.comparator

comparator

SPAG (Simplified Pointer Assignment Graph) + Worklist algorithm

Lightweight static analysis

Class A

```
public void readObject(ObjectInputStream ois) {  
    //get comparator  
    this.comparator = (Comparator) ois.readObject();  
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        orderedList.add(value2);  
    } else {  
        orderedList.add(value2);  
        orderedList.add(value1);  
    }  
}
```

Simplified PAG (Pointer Assignment Graph) + Worklist algorithm

```
public class ValueComparator implements Comparator{  
    @Override  
    public int compare(Value v1, Value v2) {  
        return v1.getValue() - v2.getValue();  
    }  
}
```

```
public class InvokeComparator implements Comparator {  
    String methodName;  
    String className;  
  
    @Override  
    public int compare(Object o1, Object o2) {  
        Method method = Class.forName(className)  
            .getMethod(methodName);  
        method.setAccessible(true);  
        return (int) method.invoke(o1,o2);  
    }  
}
```

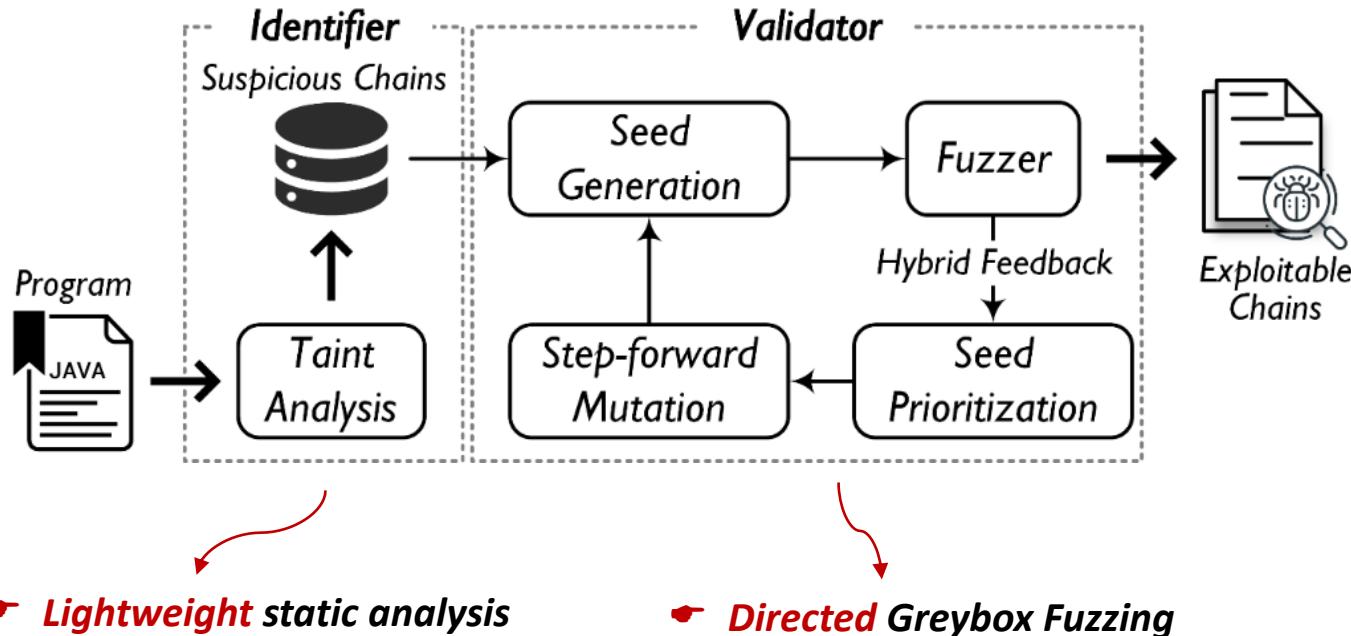
Exploit

Lightweight static analysis - Highlight

1. Goal: Locate all candidate gadget chains within limited computation time and resources
2. Solution: Andersen-style analysis.
3. Techniques: SPAG and On-demand CHA.

Directed greybox fuzzing

Lightweight Taint Analysis and *Directed* Greybox Fuzzing



Directed greybox fuzzing – seed generation



How to generate seeds which satisfied serialization stream format?

- Construct object that will be serialized, rather than generate serialization stream.

```
00: ac ed 00 05 73 72 00 04 4c 69 73 74 69 c8 8a 15 >....sr..Listi...<
10: 40 16 ae 68 02 00 02 49 00 05 76 61 6c 75 65 4c >z.....I..valueL<
20: 00 04 6e 65 78 74 74 00 06 4c 4c 69 73 74 3b 78 >..nextt..LList;x<
30: 70 00 00 00 11 73 71 00 7e 00 00 00 00 00 13 70 >p....sq.~.....p<
40: 71 00 7e 00 03                                     >q.~..<
```

Fig. 1: The serialization stream sample^[1]

[1] <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/platform/serialization/spec/protocol.html>

Directed greybox fuzzing – seed generation

Class A

```
public void readObject(ObjectInputStream ois) {  
    //get comparator  
    this.comparator = (Comparator) ois.readObject();  
    Comparator comparator = threadLocal.get();  
    if (comparator == null) {  
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    }  
    //read values  
    value1 = ois.readObject();  
    value2 = ois.readObject();  
    //compare and add to ordered arraylist  
    if (comparator.compare(value1, value2) > 0) {  
        orderedList.add(value1);  
        orderedList.add(value2);  
    } else {  
        orderedList.add(value2);  
        orderedList.add(value1);  
    }  
}
```



Okay, but how to construct object that will be serialized?

- Use sun.misc.Unsafe to obtain an instance.
- Use reflection feature to set fields.

Directed greybox fuzzing – seed generation

```
public class A {  
    Comparator comparator;  
    transient ArrayList<Object> orderedList;  
    Object value1;  
    Object value2;  
  
    public void readObject(ObjectInputStream ois){  
        //...  
    }  
}  
  
public class InvokeComparator implements Comparator {  
    String methodName;  
    String className;  
  
    @Override  
    public int compare(Object o1, Object o2) {  
        Method method = Class.forName(className)  
            .getMethod(methodName);  
        method.setAccessible(true);  
        return (int) method.invoke(o1,o2);  
    }  
}
```



Fine, How to represent the multi-level struct of seeds?

➤ We adopt a hierarchical data structure called *property tree* to handle the complex forms of seeds.

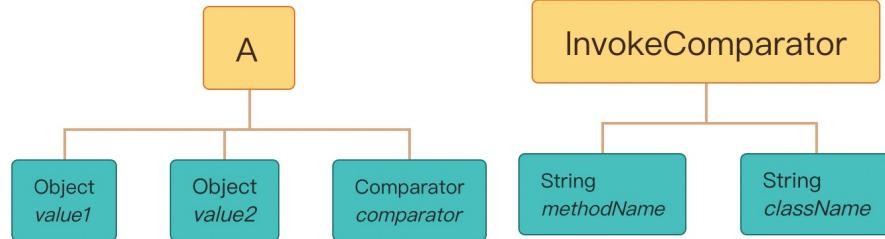


Fig. 1: property tree

Directed greybox fuzzing – seed mutation

```
A#readObject  
  InvokeComparator#compare  
    java.lang.reflect.Method#invoke
```

Fig. 1: candidate gadget chain



Fine, what values will be assigned to the leaf nodes?

- Pre-generated values and Random generated values
- Pre-generated values are constructed according to the candidate gadget chain (Fig. 1)
- Pre-generated values have a higher priority when mutation

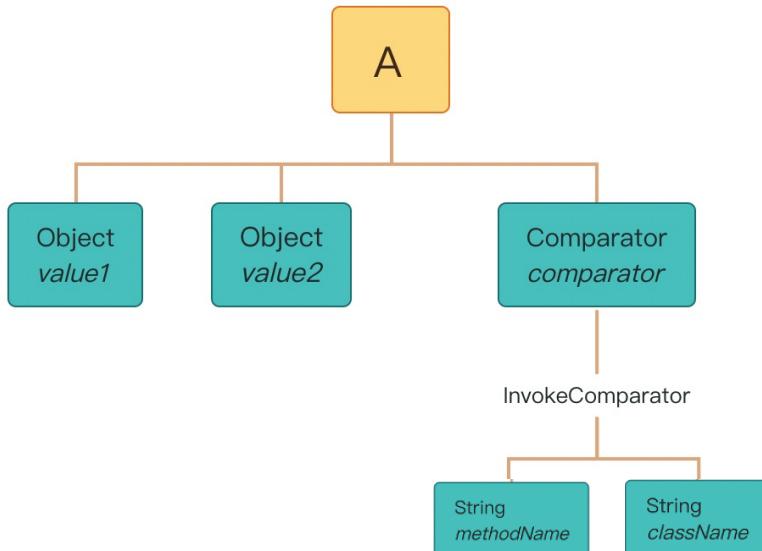


Fig. 2: property tree

Directed greybox fuzzing – seed mutation

```
A#readObject  
  InvokeComparator#compare  
    java.lang.reflect.Method#invoke
```



Fine, what values will be assigned to the leaf nodes?

Fig. 1: candidate gadget chain

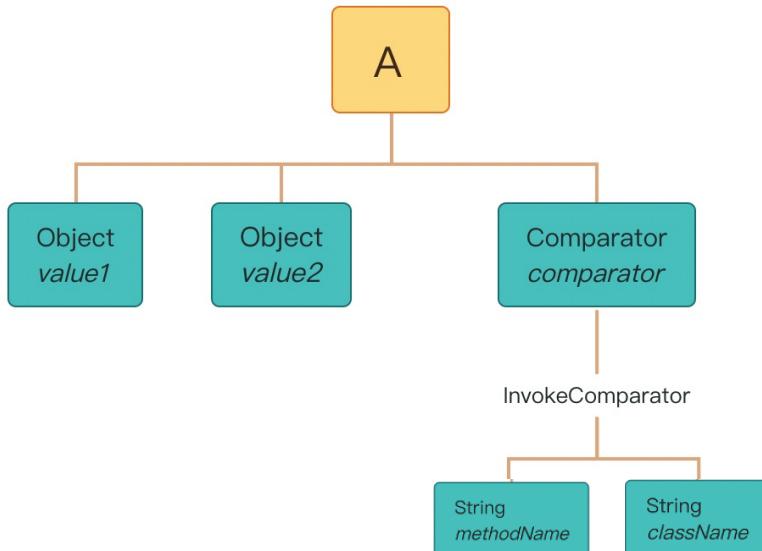


Fig. 2: property tree

Type	Candidate values
Comparator	InvokeComparator
String	class names, method names, 'f5a5a608', random
Class	class involved in gadget chains, random
Boolean	true, false
Integer	-15~15, random
Object	above values

Directed greybox fuzzing – seed prioritization

```
A#readObject
  InvokeComparator#compare
    java.lang.reflect.Method#invoke
```

Fig. 1: candidate gadget chain

```
public class InvokeComparator implements Comparator {
    String methodName;
    String className;

    @Override
    public int compare(Object o1, Object o2) {
        Method method = Class.forName(className)
            .getMethod(methodName);
        method.setAccessible(true);
        return (int) method.invoke(o1, o2);
    }
}
```

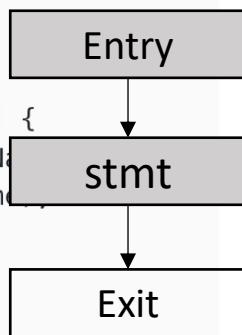


Fig. 2: CFG

Class A

```
public void readObject(ObjectInputStream ois) {
    //get comparator
    this.comparator = (Comparator) ois.readObject();
    Comparator comparator = threadLocal.get();
    if (comparator == null) {
        comparator = this.comparator;
    }
    //read values
    value1 = ois.readObject();
    value2 = ois.readObject();
    //compare and add to ordered arraylist
    if (comparator.compare(value1, value2) > 0) {
        orderedList.add(value1);
        orderedList.add(value2);
    } else {
        orderedList.add(value2);
        orderedList.add(value1);
    }
}
```

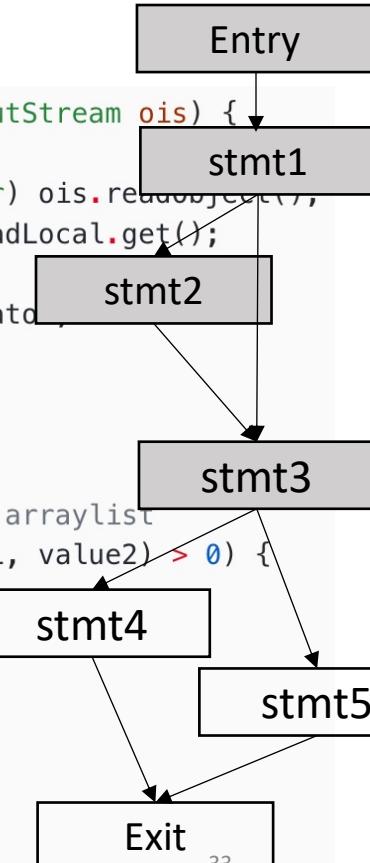


Fig. 3: CFG

Directed greybox fuzzing – seed prioritization

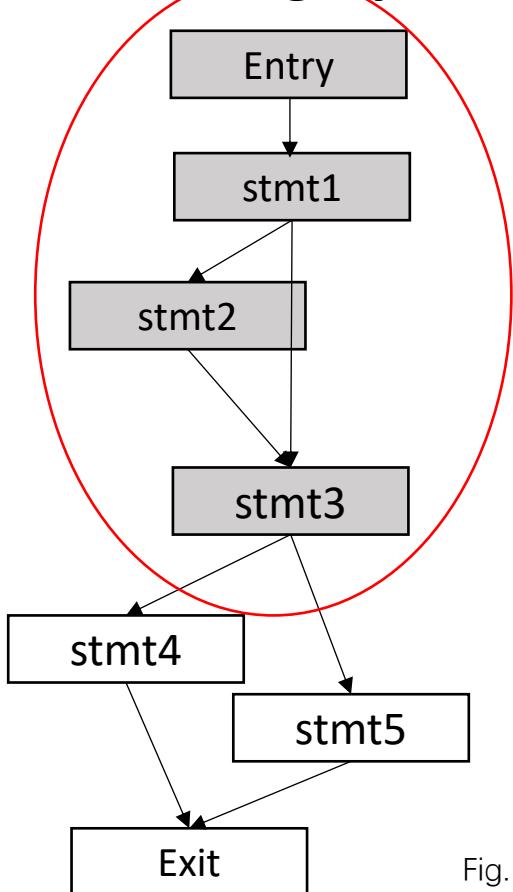
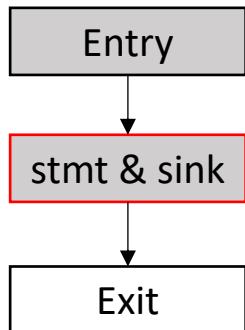


Fig. 1: CFG



How to efficiently **select and schedule** the seeds to trigger sensitive sinks?

- Distance + Coverage
- Distance: more likely to reach the sink method
- Coverage: exploring more paths



$$p(s, T_b) = \varphi(s) \cdot (1 - \tilde{d}(s, T_b))$$

Closer to sink

Trigger more branches in the gadget (exploring diverse execution paths)

Directed greybox fuzzing – Highlight

1. Goal: verify whether the candidate gadget chain is reachable and exploitable.
2. Solution: Directed greybox fuzzing.
3. Techniques:
 - Seed generation: Property tree
 - Seed mutation: Pre-generated values
 - Seed prioritization: Hybrid feedback

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- **Evaluation**
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Evaluation

Experimental setup

- **Target Applications**
 - Known gadget chains reproduction: 22 Java libraries (covering 34 chains) from ysoserial
 - Unknown gadget chains discovery: Well-known applications (including Oracle WebLogic Server, Sonatype Nexus, Apache Dubbo, protostuff)
- **Implementations**
 - Repeat each experiment **10** times and report the average statistical performance.
 - Set the threshold for each gadget chain to **15** gadgets.
 - Limit the fuzzing campaign to **120** seconds

Evaluation - baseline

Application	Version	LoC	Classes	Methods	Covered Sources	Covered Sinks	Known Chains	Identified Chains	Confirmed Chains	Analysis Time	Fuzzing Time
JDK	1.7	4.4M	38.5K	324.6K	7	4	4	9 (1)	1	1m51s	16m32s
AspectJWeaver	1.9.2	692.4K	7.1K	19.8K	4	2	1	9 (1)	0	1m56s	18m
BeanShell	2.0b5	44.8K	1.1K	17K	3	1	1	8 (0)	0	1m53s	16m
C3P0	0.9.5.2	30.3K	644	10.1K	6	3	1	13 (1)	1	1m50s	25m53s
Click	2.3.0	10.8K	73	8.5K	4	1	1	8 (1)	1	1m48s	15m26s
Clojure	1.8.0	58.4K	3.8K	25.7K	5	4	1	184 (1)	1	3m30s	6h7m34s
CommonsBeanutils	1.9.2	71.4K	504	7.8K	3	1	1	8 (1)	1	1m52s	14m25s
CommonsCollections	3.1	101K	798	9.7K	7	4	5	97 (5)	3	1m58s	3h10m53s
CommonsCollections4	4.0	101K	630	7.4K	5	2	2	112 (2)	2	1m55s	3h41m9s
FileUpload	1.3.1	10.5K	56	3.1K	3	1	1	8 (0)	0	1m55s	16m
Groovy	2.3.9	252.4K	4.2K	45.6K	4	1	1	13 (0)	0	2m8s	26m
Hibernate	4.3.11	855.7K	7.4K	42.7K	3	1	2	8 (2)	2	2m8s	14m7s
JBossInterceptors	2.0.0	24.2K	166	2.3K	2	1	1	8 (0)	0	1m51s	16m
JSON	2.4	28K	172	5.9K	3	2	1	9 (0)	0	1m52s	18m
JavassistWeld	3.12.1	60.4K	813	11.3K	2	1	1	8 (0)	0	1m58s	16m
Jython	2.5.2	271.9K	6.7K	66.4K	4	1	1	32 (1)	0	2m54s	1h4m
MozillaRhino	1.7R2	118.7K	329	8.2K	4	2	2	7 (2)	2	1m56s	12m10s
Myfaces	2.2.9	330.1K	1.8K	22.8K	2	1	2	7 (0)	0	2m1s	14m
ROME	1.0	94.5K	423	6.9K	2	1	1	5 (1)	1	1m48s	8m53s
Spring	4.1.4	904.3K	1.3K	14.5K	3	2	2	10 (0)	0	1m59s	20m
Vaadin	7.7.14	572.1K	4.5K	17.5K	4	1	1	13 (1)	1	1m54s	24m37s
Wicket	6.23.0	420.7K	3.2K	11.1K	2	1	1	7 (0)	0	1m50s	14m
Total		-	-	-	-	-	34	583 (20)	16	-	-

Evaluation - baseline

Application	Known Chains	GadgetInspector			SerHybrid			ODDFUZZ			
		Identified Chains	Confirmed Chains	Analysis Time	Identified Chains	Confirmed Chains	Analysis Time	Identified Chains	Confirmed Chains	Analysis Time	Fuzzing Time
JDK	4	5	0	53s	N/A	N/A	N/A	9 (1)	1	1m51s	16m32s
AspectJWeaver	1	6	0	41s	N/A	N/A	N/A	9 (1)	0	1m56s	18m
BeanShell	1	2	0	49s	1	0	10m55s	8 (0)	0	1m53s	16m
C3P0	1	2	0	48s	N/A	N/A	N/A	13 (1)	1	1m50s	25m53s
Click	1	4	0	39s	N/A	N/A	N/A	8 (1)	1	1m48s	15m26s
Clojure	1	12	1	40s	N/A	N/A	Timeout	184 (1)	1	3m30s	6h7m34s
CommonsBeanutils	1	2	0	37s	0	0	13m6s	8 (1)	1	1m52s	14m25s
CommonsCollections	5	4	1	39s	1	1	26m51s	97 (5)	3	1m58s	3h10m53s
CommonsCollections4	2	4	0	38s	1	1	11m21s	112 (2)	2	1m55s	3h41m9s
FileUpload	1	3	0	38s	N/A	N/A	N/A	8 (0)	0	1m55s	16m
Groovy	1	4	0	47s	3	0	1h26m	13 (0)	0	2m8s	26m
Hibernate	2	3	0	41s	3	0	56m37s	8 (2)	2	2m8s	14m7s
JBossInterceptors	1	2	0	38s	N/A	N/A	N/A	8 (0)	0	1m51s	16m
JSON	1	2	0	39s	N/A	N/A	N/A	9 (0)	0	1m52s	18m
JavassistWeld	1	2	0	39s	N/A	N/A	N/A	8 (0)	0	1m58s	16m
Jython	1	42	1	50s	N/A	N/A	Timeout	32 (1)	0	2m54s	1h4m
MozillaRhino	2	3	0	40s	N/A	N/A	N/A	7 (2)	2	1m56s	12m10s
Myfaces	2	2	0	37s	N/A	N/A	N/A	7 (0)	0	2m1s	14m
ROME	1	2	0	36s	0	0	6m30s	5 (1)	1	1m48s	8m53s
Spring	2	2	0	38s	N/A	N/A	N/A	10 (0)	0	1m59s	20m
Vaadin	1	5	0	37s	N/A	N/A	N/A	13 (1)	1	1m54s	24m37s
Wicket	1	3	0	36s	N/A	N/A	N/A	7 (0)	0	1m50s	14m
Total	34	116	3	-	9	2	-	583 (20)	16	-	-

Evaluation - baseline

ID	Gadget Chain	Affected Version	# Gadgets	ODDFUZZ Identified	ODDFUZZ Validated	GadgetInspector	SerHybrid
1	AspectJWeaver	aspectjweaver-1.9.2	9	✓	✗	-	-
2	BeanShell1	bsh-2.0b5	6	-	-	-	-
3	C3P0	c3p0-0.9.5.2	6	✓	✓	-	-
4	Click1	click-nodeps-2.3.0	10	✓	✓	-	-
5	Clojure	clojure-1.8.0	10	✓	✓	✓	-
6	CommonsBeanutils1	commons-beanutils-1.9.2	5	✓	✓	-	-
7	CommonsCollections1	commons-collections-3.1	7	✓	✗	✓	-
8	CommonsCollections2	commons-collections4-4.0	13	✓	✓	-	✓
9	CommonsCollections3	commons-collections-3.1	13	✓	✗	-	-
10	CommonsCollections4	commons-collections4-4.0	15	✓	✓	-	-
11	CommonsCollections5	commons-collections-3.1	8	✓	✓	-	-
12	CommonsCollections6	commons-collections-3.1	10	✓	✓	-	✓
13	CommonsCollections7	commons-collections-3.1	9	✓	✓	-	-
14	FileUpload1	commons-fileupload-1.3.1	3	-	-	-	-
15	Groovy1	groovy-2.3.9	10	-	-	-	-
16	Hibernate1	hibernate-core-4.3.11.Final	7	✓	✓	-	-
17	Hibernate2	hibernate-core-4.3.11.Final	9	✓	✓	-	-
18	JBossInterceptors1	jboss-interceptor-core:2.0.0.Final	5	-	-	-	-
19	JRMPClient	JDK-1.7	13	-	-	-	-
20	JRMPListener	JDK-1.7	9	-	-	-	-
21	JSON1	json-lib:jar-jdk15:2.4	22	-	-	-	-
22	JavassistWeld1	javassist-3.12.1.GA	5	-	-	-	-
23	Jdk7u21	JDK-1.7	11	-	-	-	-
24	Jython1	jython-standalone-2.5.2	5	✓	✗	✓	-
25	MozillaRhino1	js-1.7R2	8	✓	✓	-	-
26	MozillaRhino2	js-1.7R2	12	✓	✓	-	-
27	Myfaces1	myfaces-impl-2.2.9	4	-	-	-	-
28	Myfaces2	myfaces-impl-2.2.9	6	-	-	-	-
29	ROME	rome-1.0	15	✓	✓	-	-
30	Spring1	spring-core:4.1.4.RELEASE	11	-	-	-	-
31	Spring2	spring-core:4.1.4.RELEASE	12	-	-	-	-
32	URLDNS	JDK	7	✓	✓	-	-
33	Vaadin1	vaadin-server-7.7.14	10	✓	✓	-	-
34	Wicket1	wicket-util-6.23.0	3	-	-	-	-

No.	Application	Version	Impact	Status	CVE-ID
1	WebLogic	12.2.1.4.0	RCE	Patched	CVE-2020-14756
2	WebLogic	12.2.1.4.0	RCE	Patched	CVE-2020-14825
3	WebLogic	12.2.1.4.0	RCE	Patched	CVE-2021-2135
4	Sonatype Nexus	3.25.0	RCE	Patched	CVE-2020-15871
5	Apache Dubbo	2.7.7	RCE	Patched	CVE-2020-11995
6	ProtoStuff	1.8.0	RCE	Reported	

Effectiveness

- ✓ Detect **13** unique gadget chains that cannot be found by baselines.
- ✓ Report **6** exploitable Java ODD vulnerabilities, **5** of them have been assigned CVE-IDs.

Evaluation – case study

WebLogic coherence RCE

```
com.tangosol.net.security.PermissionInfo#readExternal(java.io.ObjectInput)
com.tangosol.util.ExternalizableHelper#readCollection
com.tangosol.util.ExternalizableHelper#readObject(java.io.DataInput, java.lang.ClassLoader)
com.tangosol.util.ExternalizableHelper#readObjectInternal
com.tangosol.util.ExternalizableHelper#readExternalizableLite(java.io.DataInput, java.lang.ClassLoader)
com.tangosol.util.aggregator.TopNAggregator.PartialResult#readExternal(java.io.DataInput)
com.tangosol.util.aggregator.TopNAggregator.PartialResult#add
com.tangosol.util.comparator.ExtractorComparator#compare
com.tangosol.coherence.rest.util.extractor.MvelExtractor#extract
com.tangosol.coherence.mvel2.MVEL#executeExpression(java.lang.Object, java.lang.Object)
```

Transform java
deserialization to
coherence custom
deserialization

source method

sink method

Fig. 1: candidate gadget chain reported by the lightweight static analyzer

Evaluation – case study

```
com.tangosol.util.aggregator.TopNAggregator.PartialResult#readExternal(java.io.DataInput)
com.tangosol.util.aggregator.TopNAggregator.PartialResult#add
com.tangosol.util.comparator.ExtractorComparator#compare
com.tangosol.coherence.rest.util.extractor.MvelExtractor#extract
com.tangosol.coherence.mvel2.MVEL#executeExpression(java.lang.Object, java.lang.Object)
```

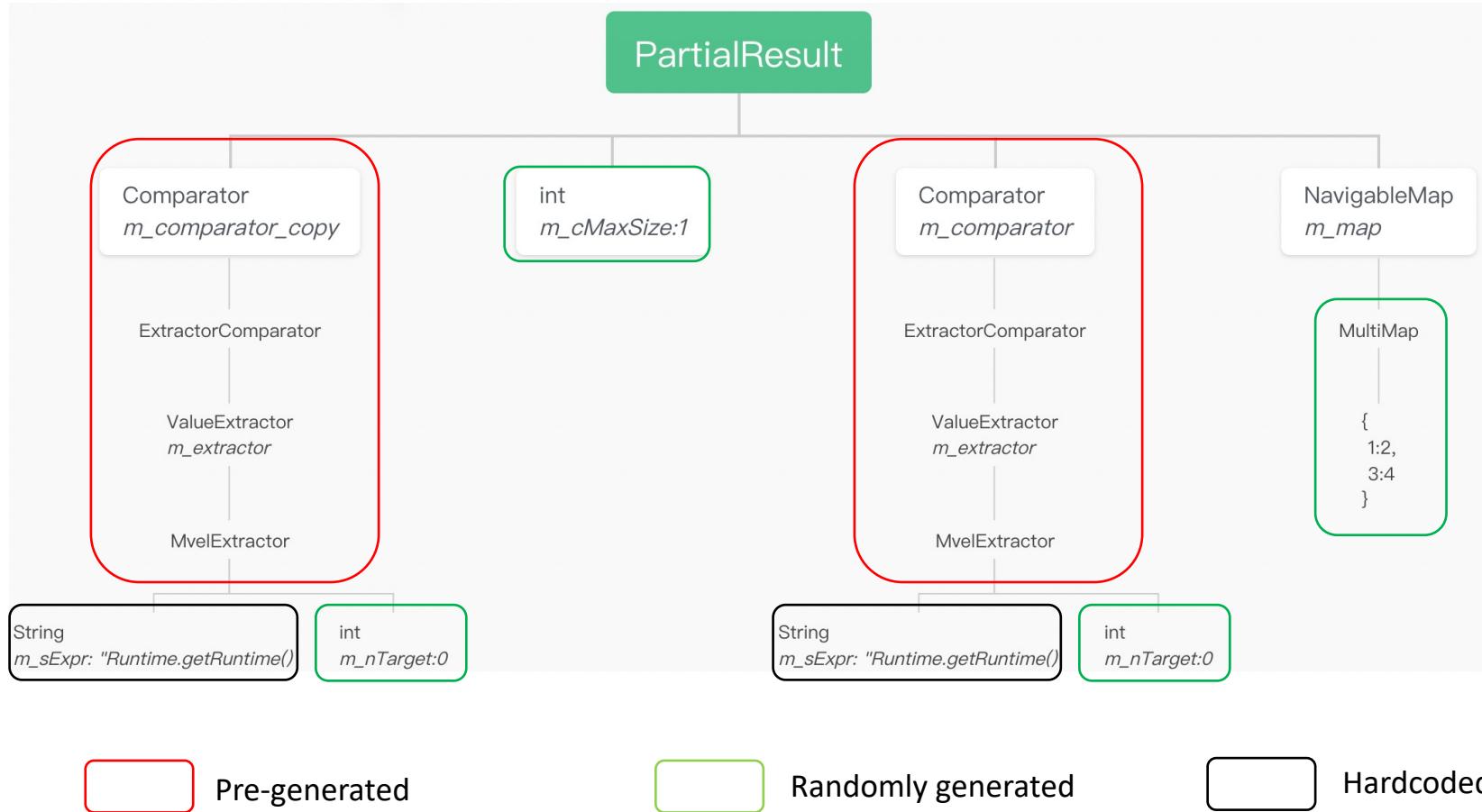
```
1 - public void readExternal(DataInput in) throws IOException {
2   this.m_comparator = (Comparator)ExternalizableHelper.readObject(in);
3   this.m_cMaxSize = ExternalizableHelper.readInt(in);
4   this.m_map = this.m_map.new TreeMap<Comparable, Entry>();
5   int cElems = in.readInt();
```

1 public boolean add(E value) {
2 if (this.size() < this.m_cMaxSize) {
3 return super.add(value);
4 } else if (this.m_comparator.compare(value, this.first()) > 0) {
5 this.removeFirst();
6 super.add(value);
7 } else {
8 Comparable a1 = o1 instanceof Entry ? (Comparable)((Entry)o1).extract(
9 (this.m_extractor) : (Comparable)this.m_extractor.extract(o1);
10 Comparable a2 = o2 instanceof Entry ? (Comparable)((Entry)o2).extract(
11 (this.m_extractor) : (Comparable)this.m_extractor.extract(o2));
12 }
13 }
14 }

1 public int compare(T o1, T o2) {
2 Comparable a1 = o1 instanceof Entry ? (Comparable)((Entry)o1).extract(
3 (this.m_extractor) : (Comparable)this.m_extractor.extract(o1);
4 Comparable a2 = o2 instanceof Entry ? (Comparable)((Entry)o2).extract(
5 (this.m_extractor) : (Comparable)this.m_extractor.extract(o2));
6 }
7 }
8 }

1 public Object extract(Object oTarget) {
2 return oTarget == null ? null : MVEL.executeExpression(this.getCompile(
3 dExpression(), oTarget);
4 }
5 }

Evaluation – case study



Evaluation – case study

```
com.tangosol.util.aggregator.TopNAggregator.PartialResult#readExternal(java.io.DataInput)
com.tangosol.util.aggregator.TopNAggregator.PartialResult#add
com.tangosol.util.comparator.ExtractorComparator#compare
com.tangosol.coherence.rest.util.extractor.MvelExtractor#extract
com.tangosol.coherence.mvel2.MVEL#executeExpression(java.lang.Object, java.lang.Object)
```

Fig. 1: expected stack trace

```
com.tangosol.util.aggregator.TopNAggregator.PartialResult#readExternal(java.io.DataInput)
com.tangosol.util.aggregator.TopNAggregator.PartialResult#add
com.tangosol.util.SortedBag#add
java.util.TreeMap#put
java.util.TreeMap#compare
com.tangosol.util.SortedBag.WrapperComparator#compare
com.tangosol.util.comparator.ExtractorComparator#compare
com.tangosol.coherence.rest.util.extractor.MvelExtractor#extract
com.tangosol.coherence.mvel2.MVEL#executeExpression(java.lang.Object, java.lang.Object)
```



Fig. 2: actual stack trace

Evaluation – case study

```
1 - public void readExternal(DataInput in) throws IOException {  
2     this.m_comparator = (Comparator)ExternalizableHelper.readObject(in);  
3     this.m_cMaxSize = ExternalizableHelper.readInt(in);  
4     this.m_map = this.instantiateInternalMap(this.m_comparator);  
5     int cElems = in.readInt();  
6  
7     for(int i = 0; i < cElems; ++i) {  
8         this.add(ExternalizableHelper.readObject(in));  
9     }  
10  
11     this.m_comparator_copy = this.m_comparator;  
12 }
```

```
1 protected NavigableMap instantiateInternalMap(Comparator comparator) {  
2     return new TreeMap(new SortedBagWrapperComparator(comparator));  
3 }
```

Trigger the sink method earlier than expected, but sink method has been executed.

com.tangosol.util.aggregator.TopNAggregator.PartialResult#readExternal(java.io.DataInput)

com.tangosol.util.aggregator.TopNAggregator.PartialResult#add

com.tangosol.util.SortedBag#add

java.util.TreeMap#put

java.util.TreeMap#compare

com.tangosol.util.SortedBagWrapperComparator#compare

com.tangosol.util.comparator.ExtractorComparator#compare

com.tangosol.coherence.rest.util.extractor.MvelExtractor#extract

com.tangosol.coherence.mvel2.MVEL#executeExpression(java.lang.Object, java.lang.Object)

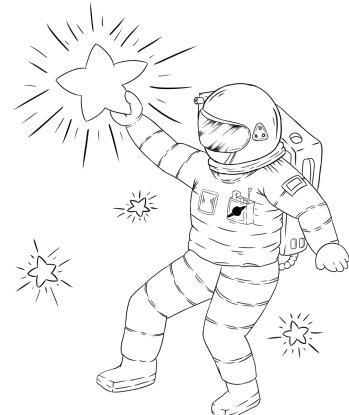


Evaluation – discussion

1. Runtime polymorphism and other dynamic language features make it difficult to make trade-offs between precision and recall.
2. Java deserialization gadget chains can be quite long, which causes huge computation space and amplifies the inaccuracy.
3. Existing tools are unable to validate candidate gadget chains, which require manual inspection and are time-consuming and error-prone.

Evaluation – future work

1. Better static analysis.
2. More dynamic features support.
3. Automatic exploit construction.



Agenda

- Introduction
- Previous work & Remaining challenges
- ODDFuzz: A novel approach to hunting gadget chains
- Evaluation
- Conclusion & Takeaways

Conclusion & Takeaways

1. Attendees will know the current state and remaining challenges of state-of-the-art gadget chain discovery tools.
2. Attendees will understand how ODDFuzz works and why it hunts gadget chains efficiently and precisely.
3. Attendees will learn how to optimize fuzzing when adapting it to an object-oriented language.

A complex, abstract graphic in the upper right corner of the slide. It consists of intricate, glowing blue and yellow lines and particles that form a fractal-like pattern against a dark background.

Thanks

 @codeplutos

 @meizjm3i