

Program Analysis for Security

John Mitchell


MOTIVATION FOR PROGRAM ANALYZERS

Software bugs are serious problems

07-31-2010, 12:57 PM


911crashes

Junior Member



Join Date: Jul 2010
Posts: 2

[OFFLINE]

 **calling 911 crashes my HTC evo 4G, every time**

I happen to need to call 911 one night, found that my phone crashes every time I dial 911.
my wife's phone does not do that, any thought?

by the way, it is hard to test this problem due to the sensitivity of calling 911 repeatedly.
thanks,

heartboken

Thanks: Isil and Thomas Dillig

A large iceberg floats in a deep blue ocean under a clear sky. The iceberg's tip is visible above the water, while the vast majority of its mass is submerged, illustrating the concept of a hidden security vulnerability.

Facebook missed a single security check...

Man Finds Easy Hack to Delete Any Facebook Photo Album

Facebook awards him a \$12,500 "bug bounty" for his discovery

[PopPhoto.com Feb 10]

App stores

Apps for whatever you're up for.

Stay on top of the news. Stay on top of your finances. Or plan your dream vacation. No matter what you want to do with your iPhone, there's probably an app to help you do it.



Business

iPhone is ready for work. Manage projects, track stocks, monitor finances, and more with these 9-to-5 apps.

[View business apps in the App Store >](#)



Education

Keep up with your studies using intelligent education apps like King of Math and NatureTap.

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Entertainment

Kick back and enjoy the show. Or find countless other ways to entertain yourself. These apps offer hours of viewing pleasure.

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Family & Kids

Turn every night into family night with interactive apps that are fun for the whole house.

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Finance

Create budgets, pay bills, and more with financial apps that take everything into account.

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Food & Drink

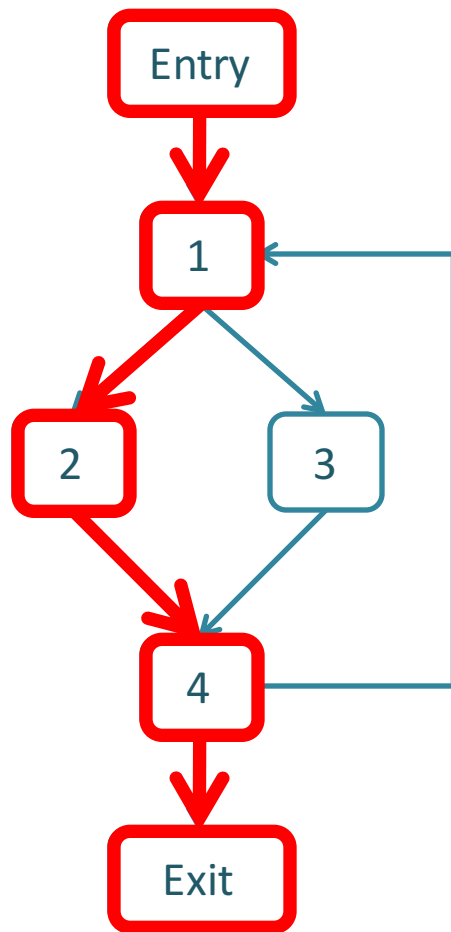
Hungry? Thirsty? A little of both? Learn new recipes, drinks, and the secrets behind what makes a great meal.

[View food and drink apps in the App Store >](#)

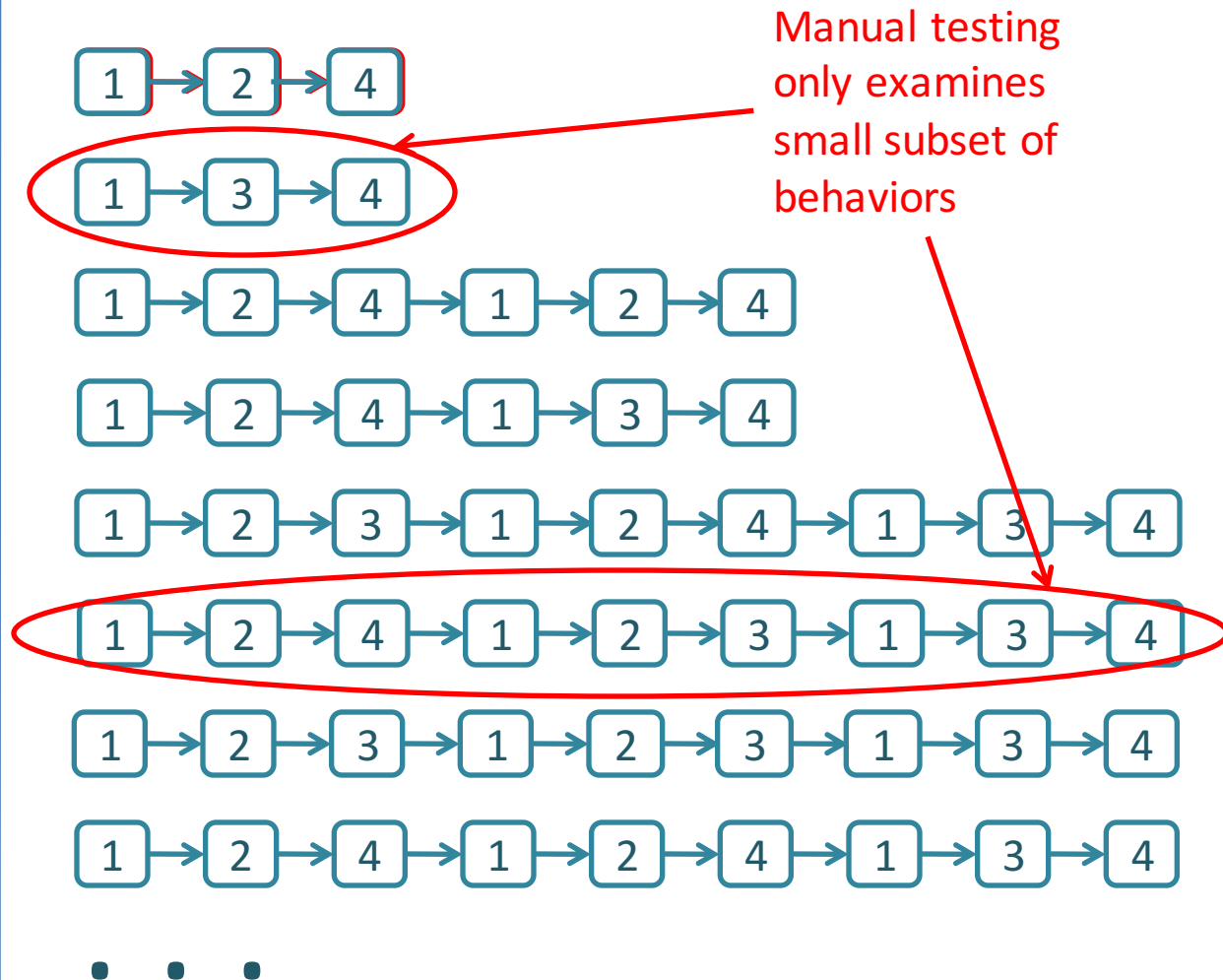
How can you tell whether
software you

- Develop
- Buy

is safe to install and run?

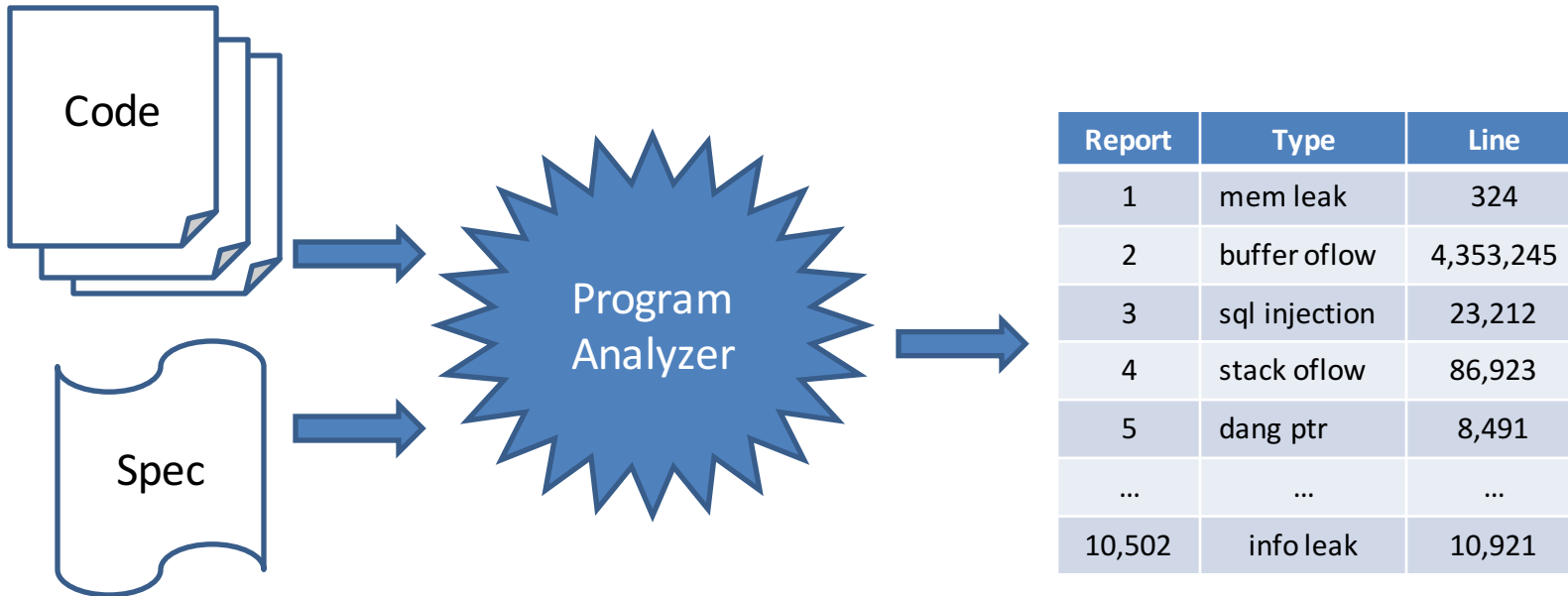


Software

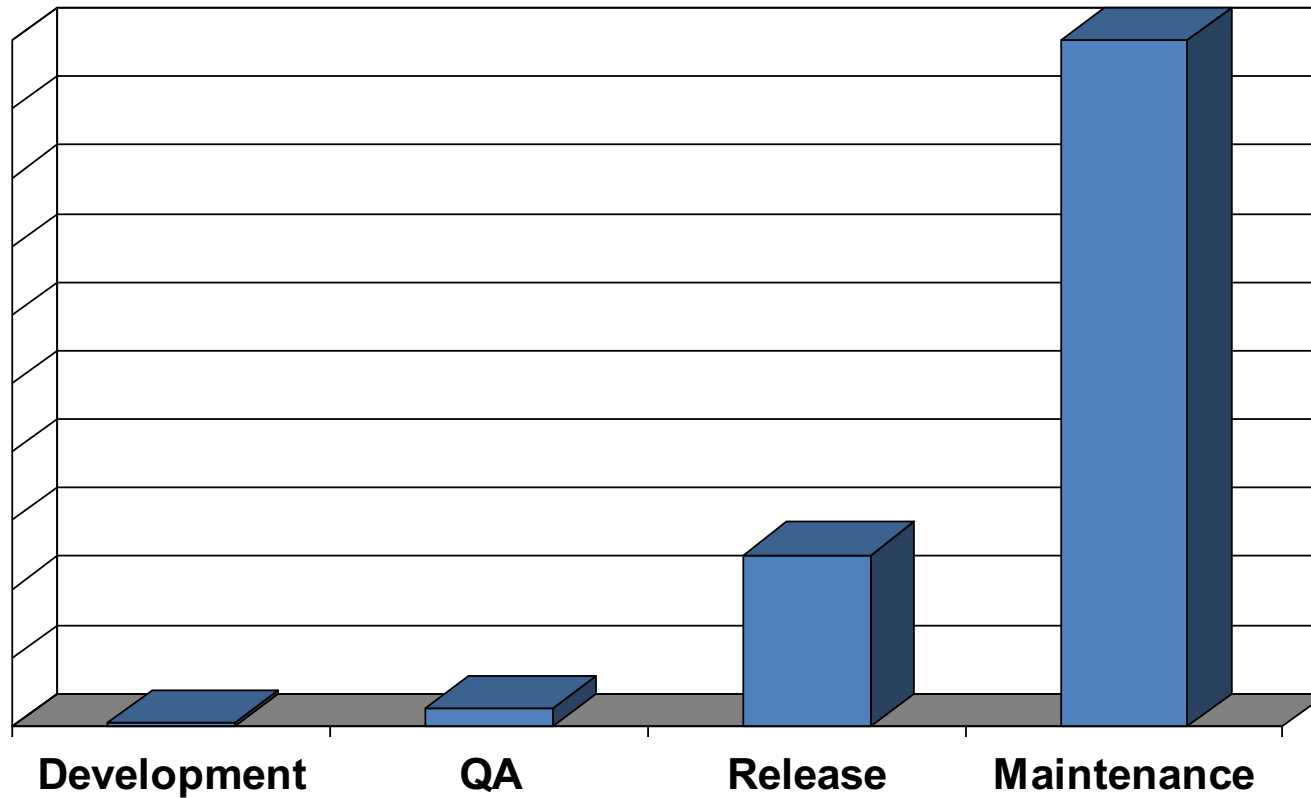


Behaviors

Program Analyzers



Cost of Fixing a Defect



Credit: Andy Chou, Coverity

Cost of security or data privacy
vulnerability?

Two options

- Static analysis
 - Inspect code or run automated method to find errors or gain confidence about their absence
- Dynamic analysis
 - Run code, possibly under instrumented conditions, to see if there are likely problems

Static vs Dynamic Analysis

- Static
 - Consider all possible inputs (in summary form)
 - Find bugs and vulnerabilities
 - Can prove absence of bugs, in some cases
- Dynamic
 - Need to choose sample test input
 - Can find bugs vulnerabilities
 - Cannot prove their absence

Static Analysis

- Long research history
- Decade of commercial products
 - FindBugs, Fortify, Coverity, MS tools, ...
- Main topic for this lecture

Dynamic analysis

- Instrument code for testing
 - Heap memory: Purify
 - Perl tainting (information flow)
 - Java race condition checking
- Black-box testing
 - Fuzzing and penetration testing
 - Black-box web application security analysis
- Will come back to later in course

Summary

- Program analyzers
 - Find problems in code before it is shipped to customers or before you install and run it
- Static analysis
 - Analyze code to determine behavior on all inputs
- Dynamic analysis
 - Choose some sample inputs and run code to see what happens

STATIC ANALYSIS

Static Analysis: Outline

- General discussion of static analysis tools
 - Goals and limitations
 - Approach based on abstract states
- More about one specific approach
 - Property checkers from Engler et al., Coverity
 - Sample security checkers results
- Static analysis for of Android apps

Static analysis goals

- Bug finding
 - Identify code that the programmer wishes to modify or improve
- Correctness
 - Verify the absence of certain classes of errors

Soundness, Completeness

| Property | Definition |
|--------------|--|
| Soundness | <p>“Sound for reporting correctness”</p> <p>Analysis says no bugs 🤖 No bugs or equivalently</p> <p>There is a bug 🤖 Analysis finds a bug</p> |
| Completeness | <p>“Complete for reporting correctness”</p> <p>No bugs 🤖 Analysis says no bugs</p> |

Recall: $A \text{ 🤖 } B$ is equivalent to $(\neg B) \text{ 🤖 } (\neg A)$

Complete

Incomplete

Sound

Reports all errors
Reports no false alarms

Undecidable

Reports all errors
May report false alarms

Decidable

Unsound

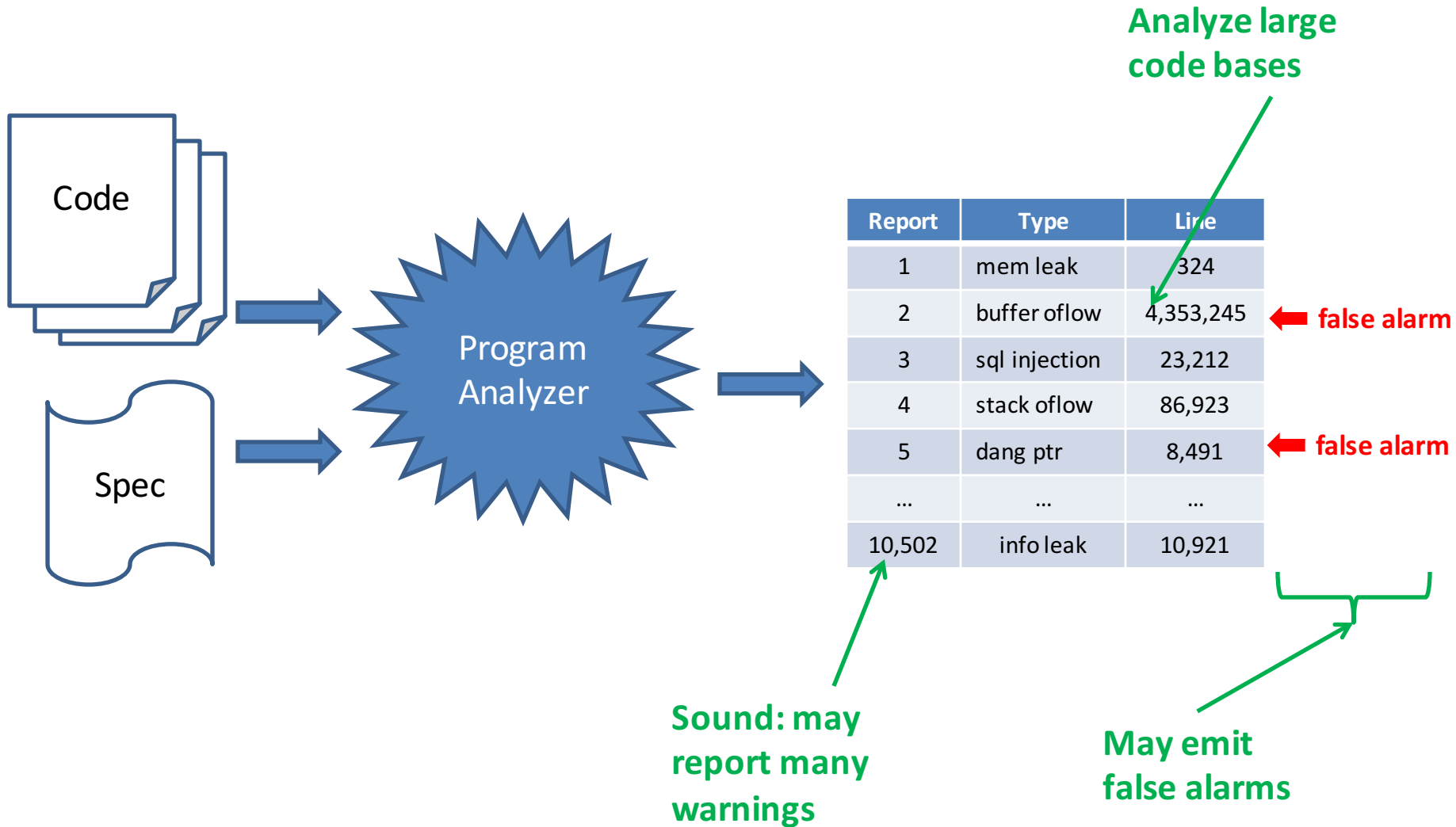
May not report all errors
Reports no false alarms

Decidable

May not report all errors
May report false alarms

Decidable

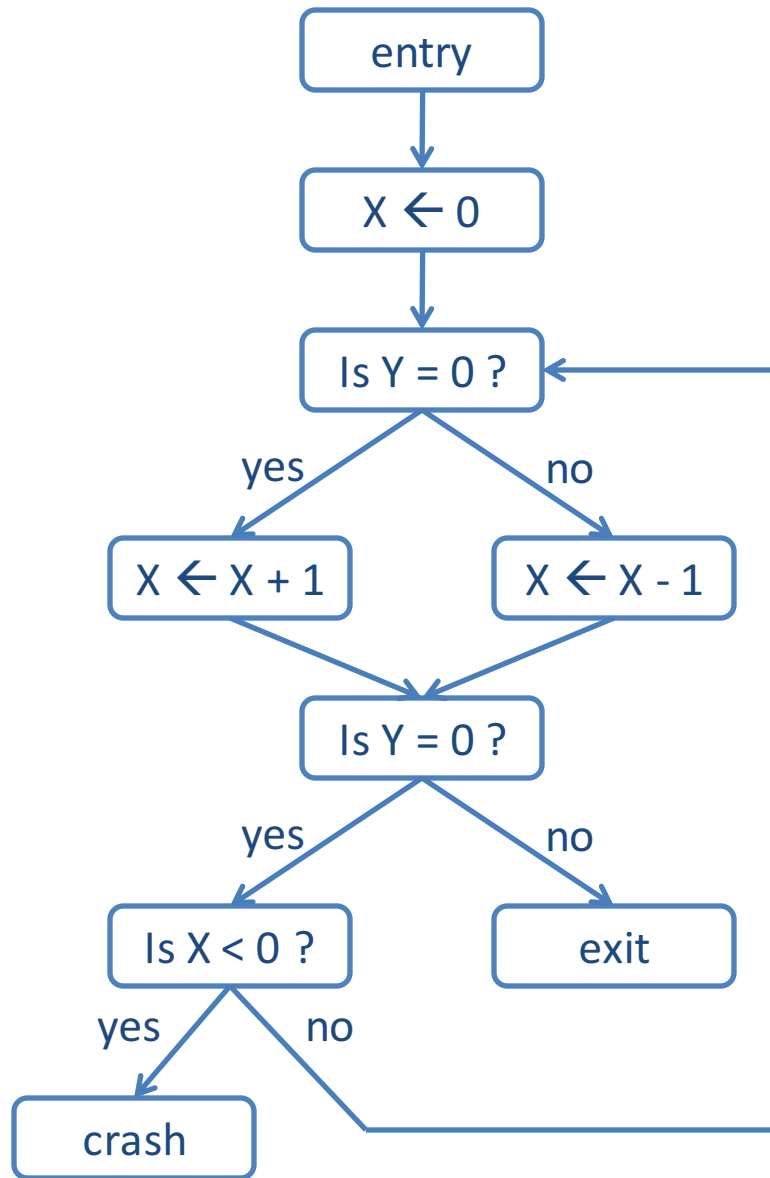
Sound Program Analyzer



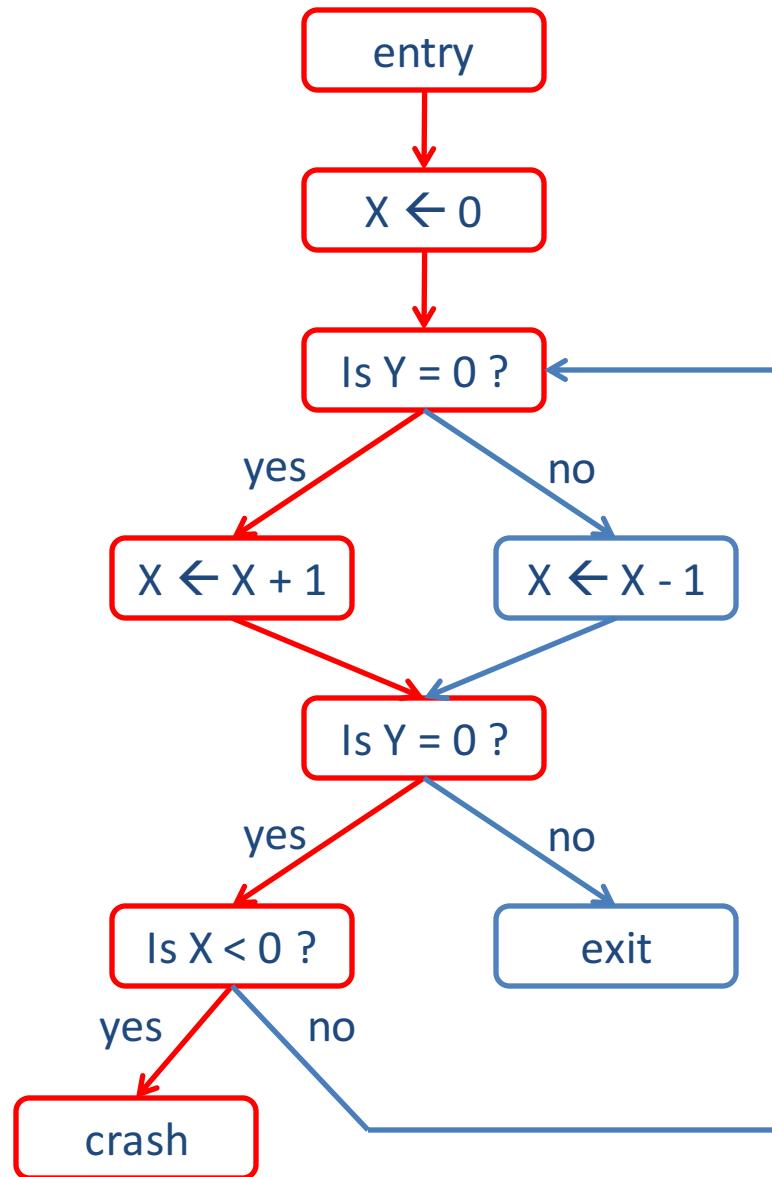
Outline

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Does this program ever crash?

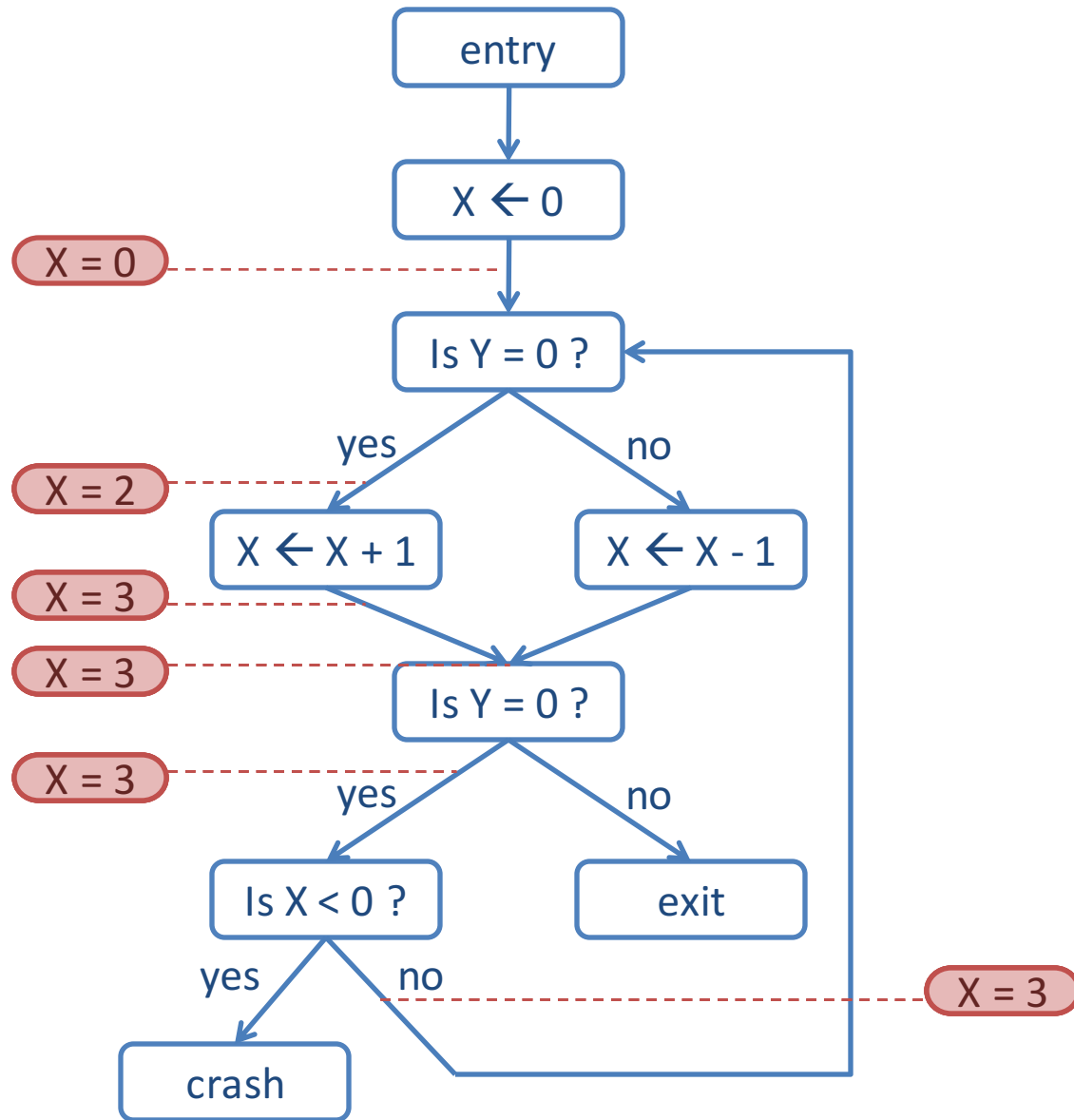


Does this program ever crash?



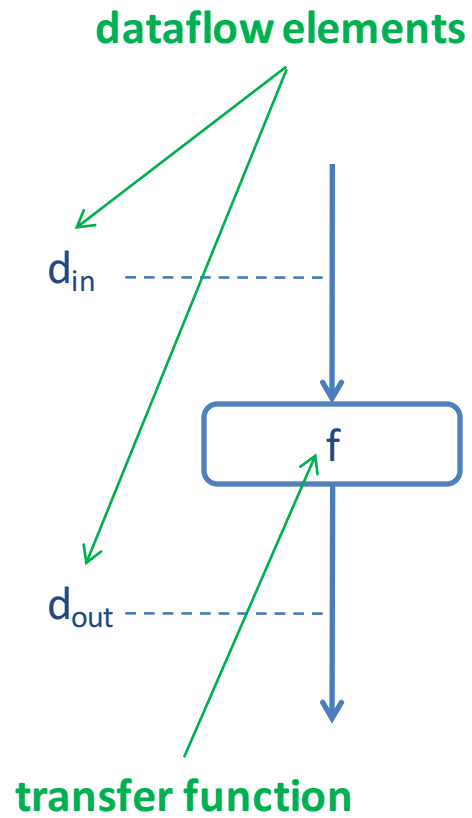
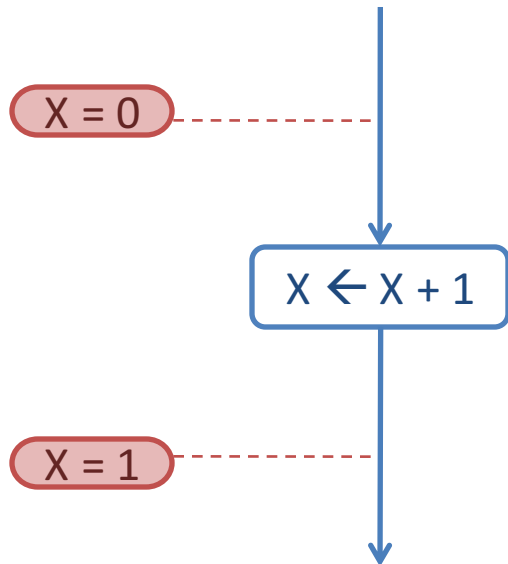
infeasible path!
... program will never crash

Try analyzing without approximating...



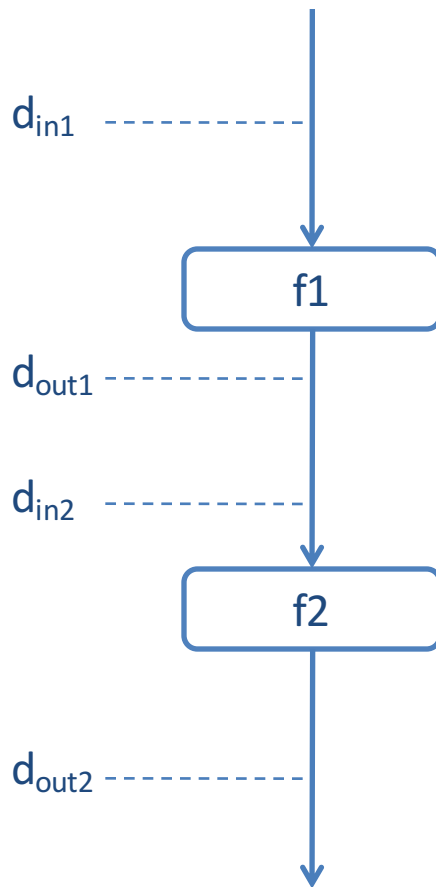
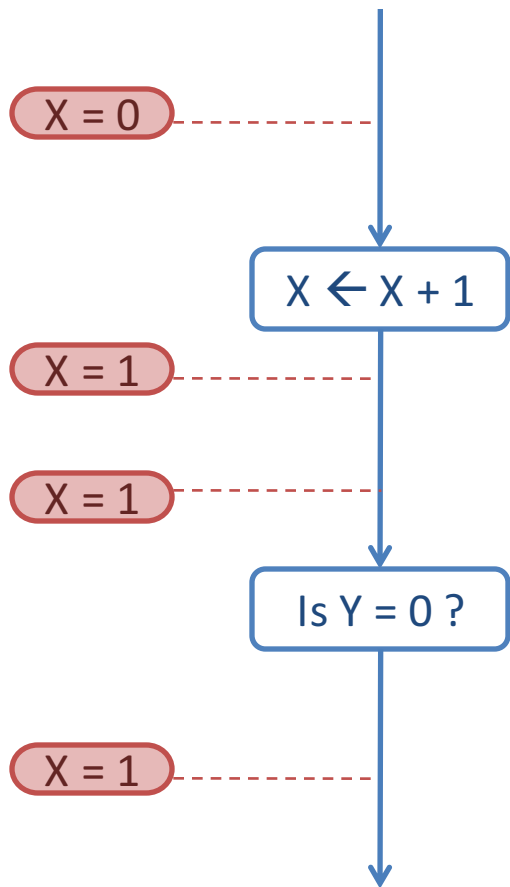
non-termination!

... therefore, need to approximate



$$d_{out} = f(d_{in})$$

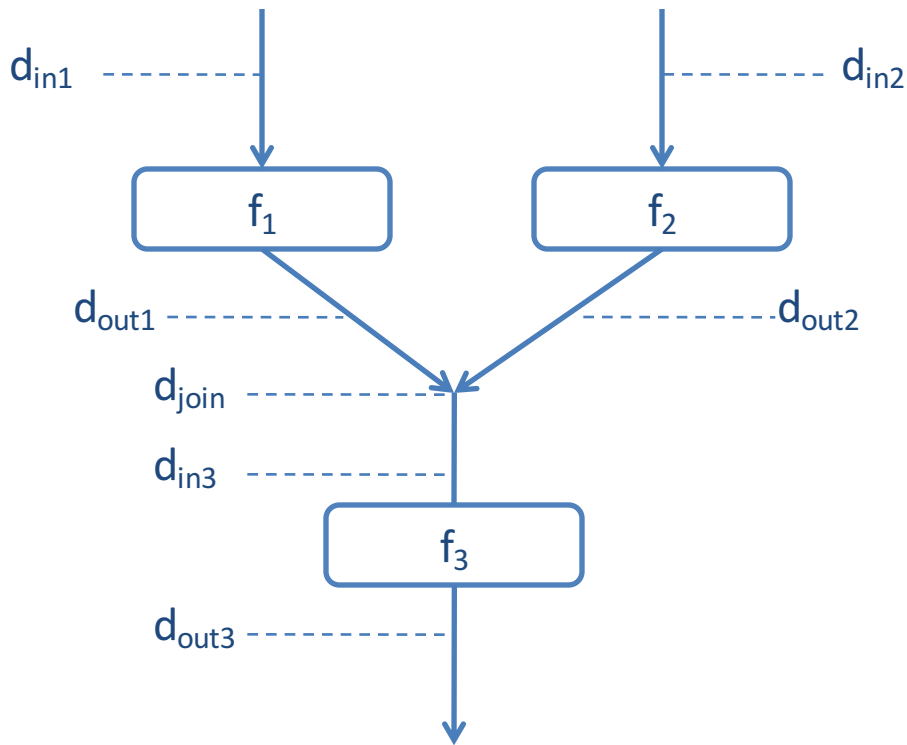
dataflow equation



$$d_{out1} = f_1(d_{in1})$$

$$d_{out1} = d_{in2}$$

$$d_{out2} = f_2(d_{in2})$$



What is the space of dataflow elements, 
 What is the least upper bound operator, \sqcup ?

$$d_{out1} = f_1(d_{in1})$$

$$d_{out2} = f_2(d_{in2})$$

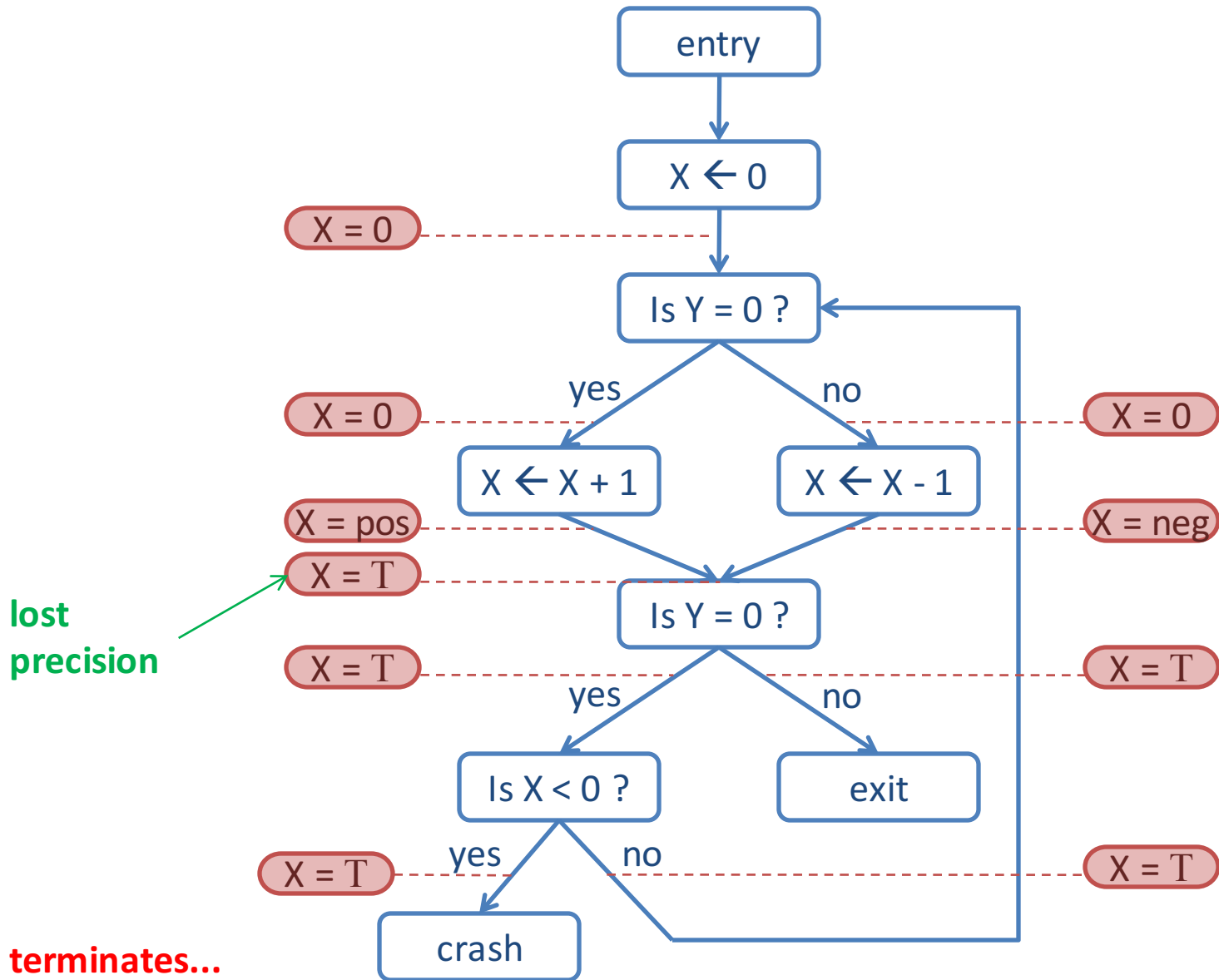
$$d_{join} = d_{out1} \sqcup d_{out2}$$

$$d_{join} = d_{in3}$$

$$d_{out3} = f_3(d_{in3})$$

least upper bound operator
 Example: union of possible values

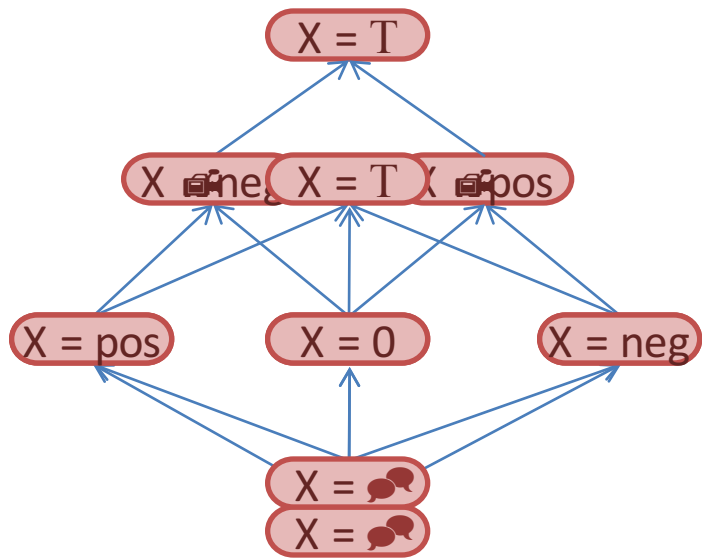
Try analyzing with “signs” approximation...



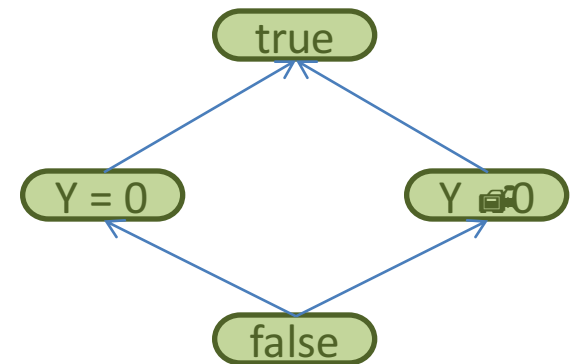
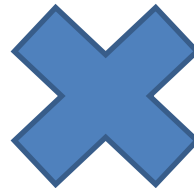
terminates...

... but reports false alarm

... therefore, need more precision

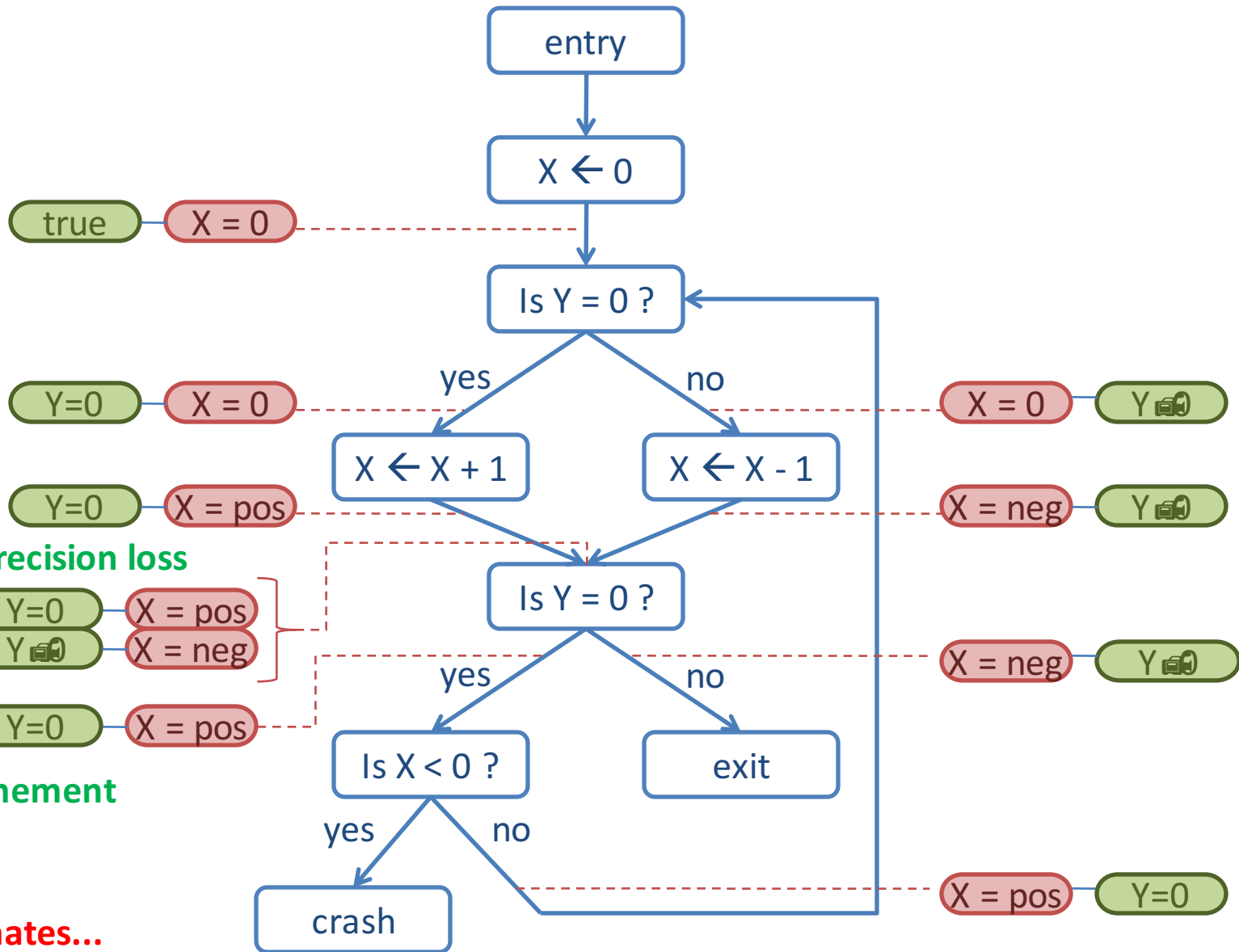


refinement signature lattice



Boolean formula lattice

Try analyzing with “path-sensitive signs” approximation...



terminates...

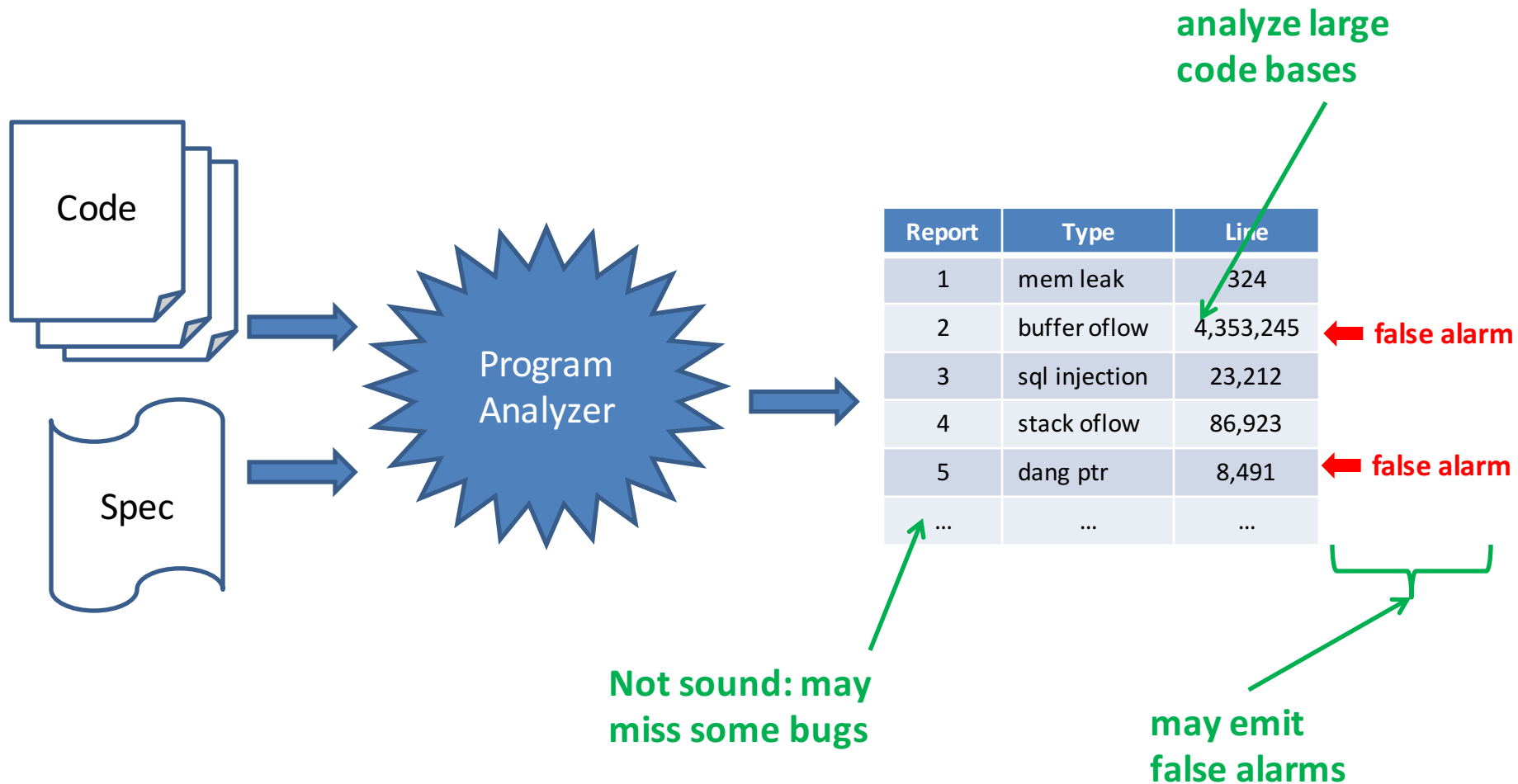
... no false alarm

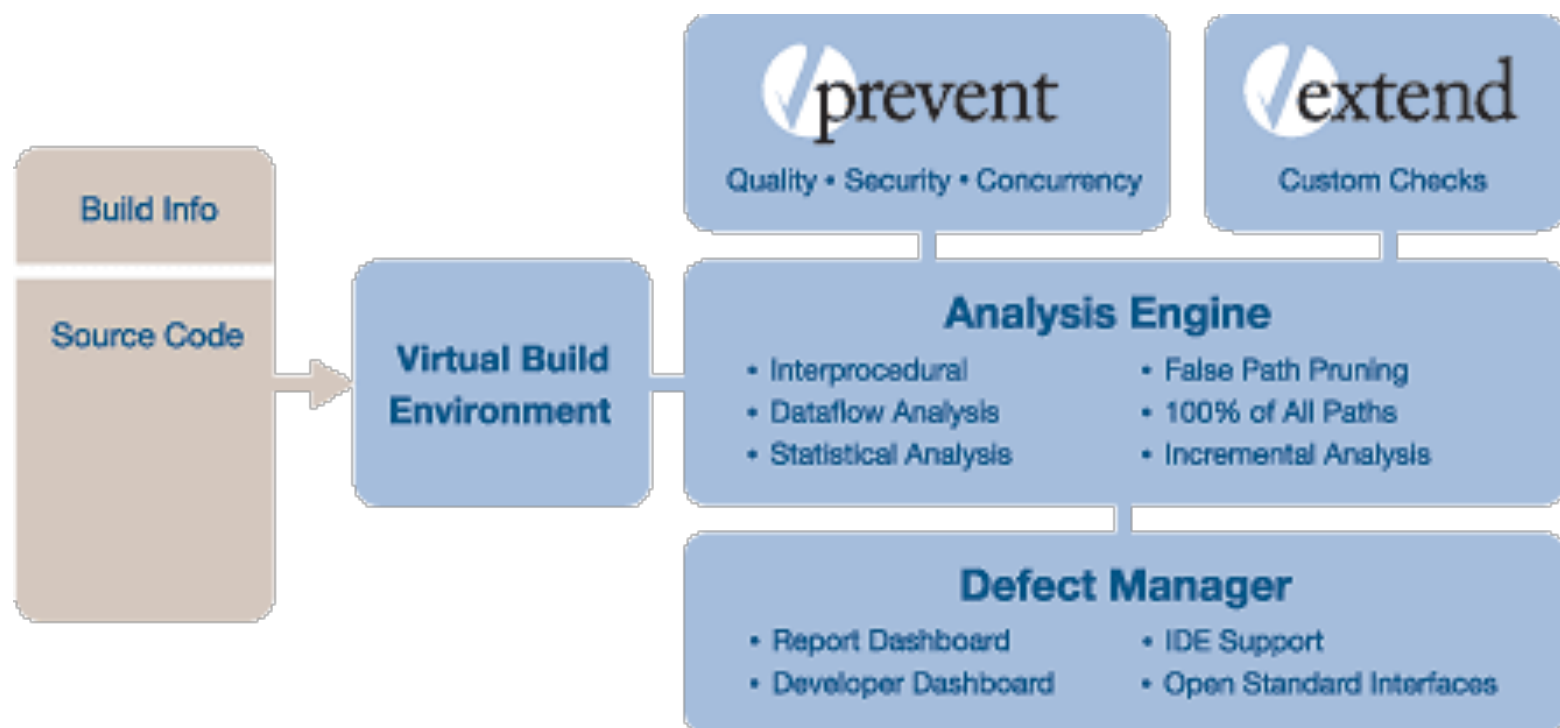
... soundly proved never crashes

Outline

- General discussion of tools
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 - Sample security-related results
- Static analysis for Android malware
 - ...

Unsound Program Analyzer





Demo

- Coverity video: http://youtu.be/_Vt4niZfNeA
- Observations
 - Code analysis integrated into development workflow
 - Program context important: analysis involves sequence of function calls, surrounding statements
 - This is a sales video: no discussion of false alarms

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Bugs to Detect

Some examples

- Crash Causing Defects
- Null pointer dereference
- Use after free
- Double free
- Array indexing errors
- Mismatched array new/delete
- Potential stack overrun
- Potential heap overrun
- Return pointers to local variables
- Logically inconsistent code
- Uninitialized variables
- Invalid use of negative values
- Passing large parameters by value
- Underallocations of dynamic data
- Memory leaks
- File handle leaks
- Network resource leaks
- Unused values
- Unhandled return codes
- Use of invalid iterators

Example: Check for missing optional args

- **Prototype for open() syscall:**

```
int open(const char *path, int oflag, /* mode_t mode */...);
```

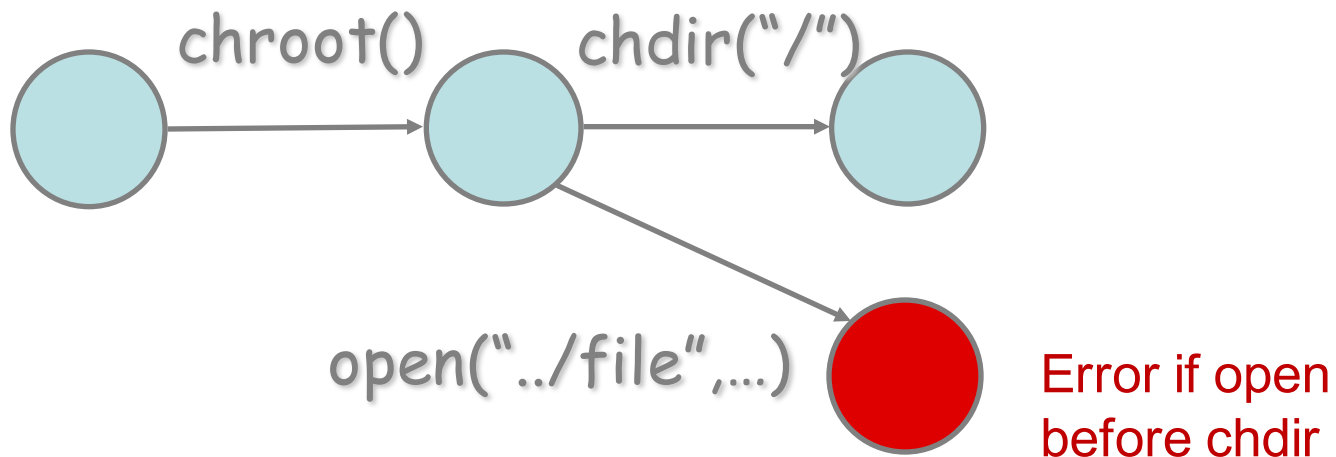
- **Typical mistake:**

```
fd = open("file", O_CREAT);
```

- **Result: file has random permissions**
- **Check: Look for oflags == O_CREAT without mode argument**

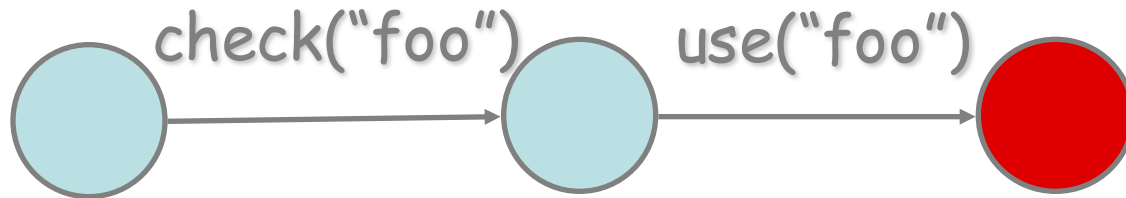
Example: Chroot protocol checker

- **Goal: confine process to a “jail” on the filesystem**
 - chroot() changes filesystem root for a process
- **Problem**
 - chroot() itself does not change current working directory

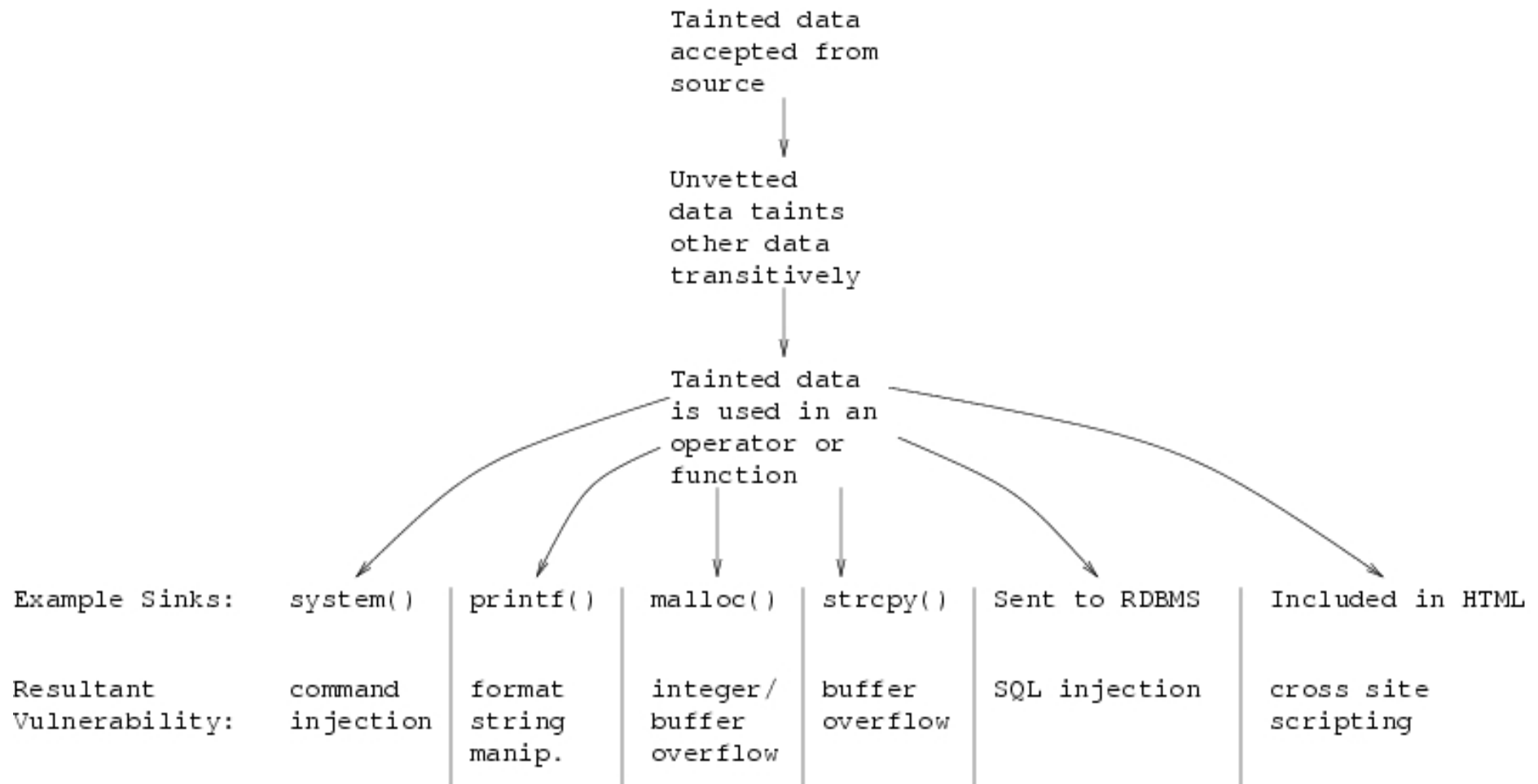


TOCTOU

- Race condition between time of check and use
- Not applicable to all programs



Tainting checkers



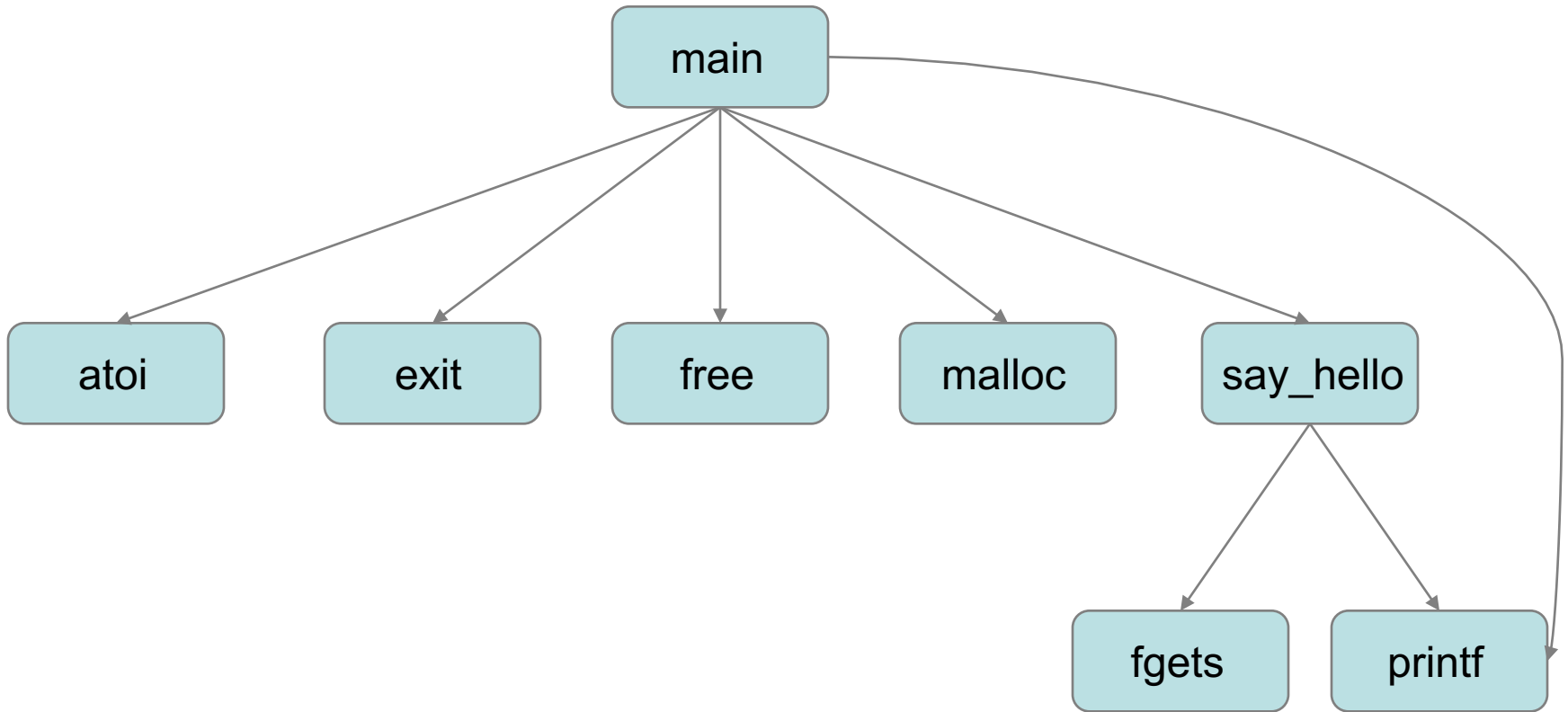
Example code with function def, calls

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

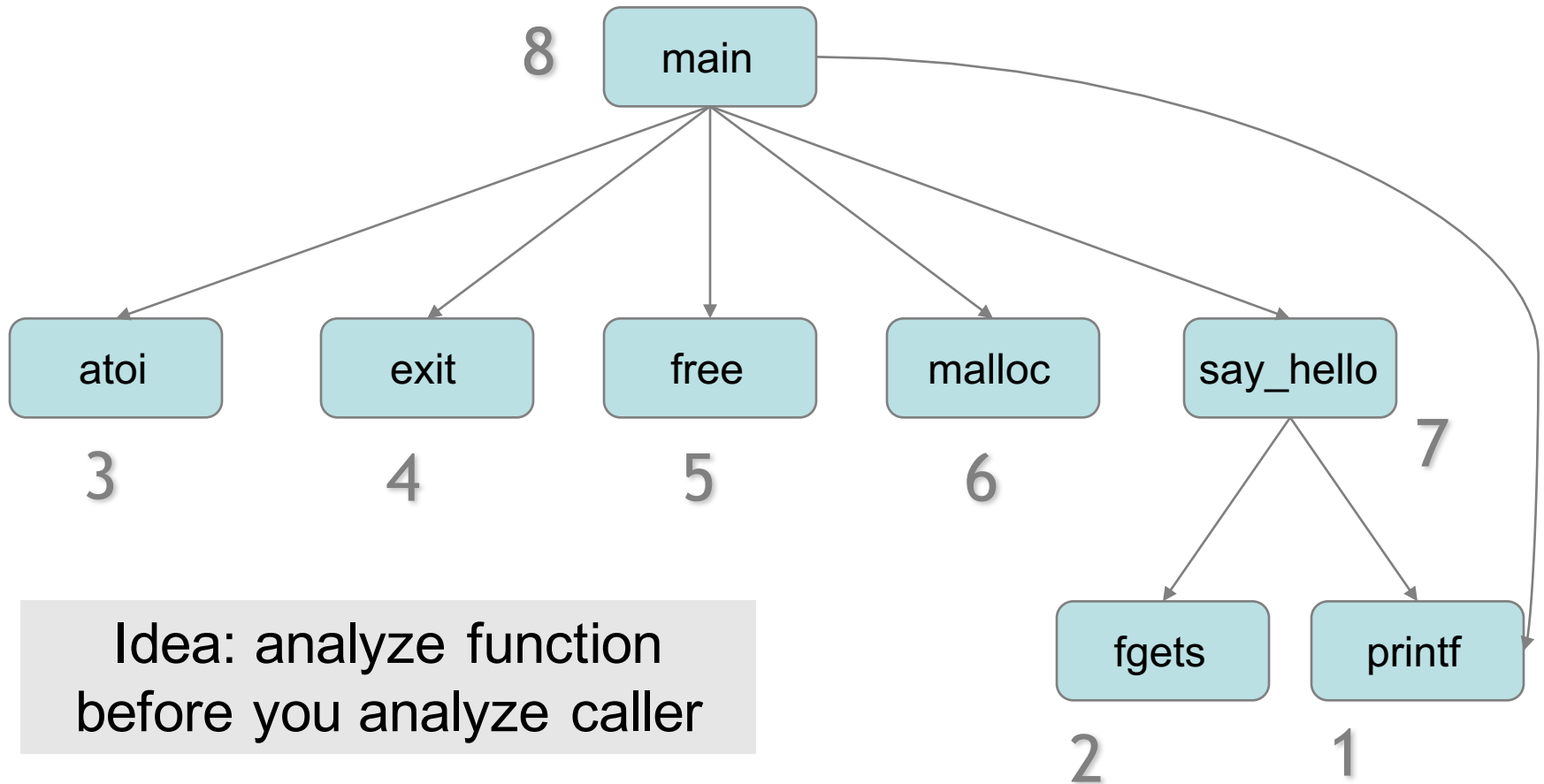
void say_hello(char * name, int size) {
    printf("Enter your name: ");
    fgets(name, size, stdin);
    printf("Hello %s.\n", name);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    if (argc != 2) {
        printf("Error, must provide an input buffer size.\n");
        exit(-1);
    }
    int size = atoi(argv[1]);
    char * name = (char*)malloc(size);
    if (name) {
        say_hello(name, size);
        free(name);
    } else {
        printf("Failed to allocate %d bytes.\n", size);
    }
}
```

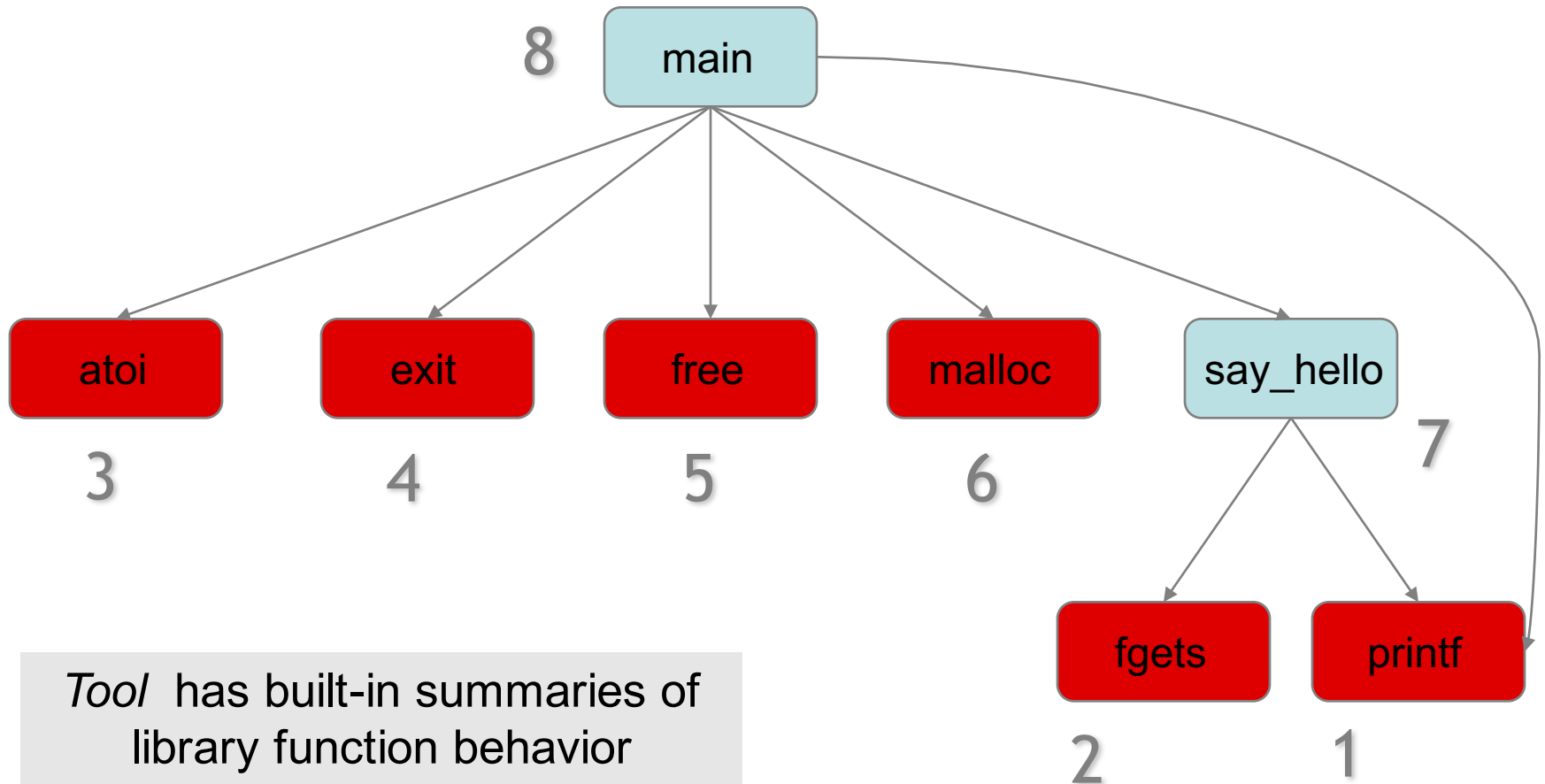
Callgraph



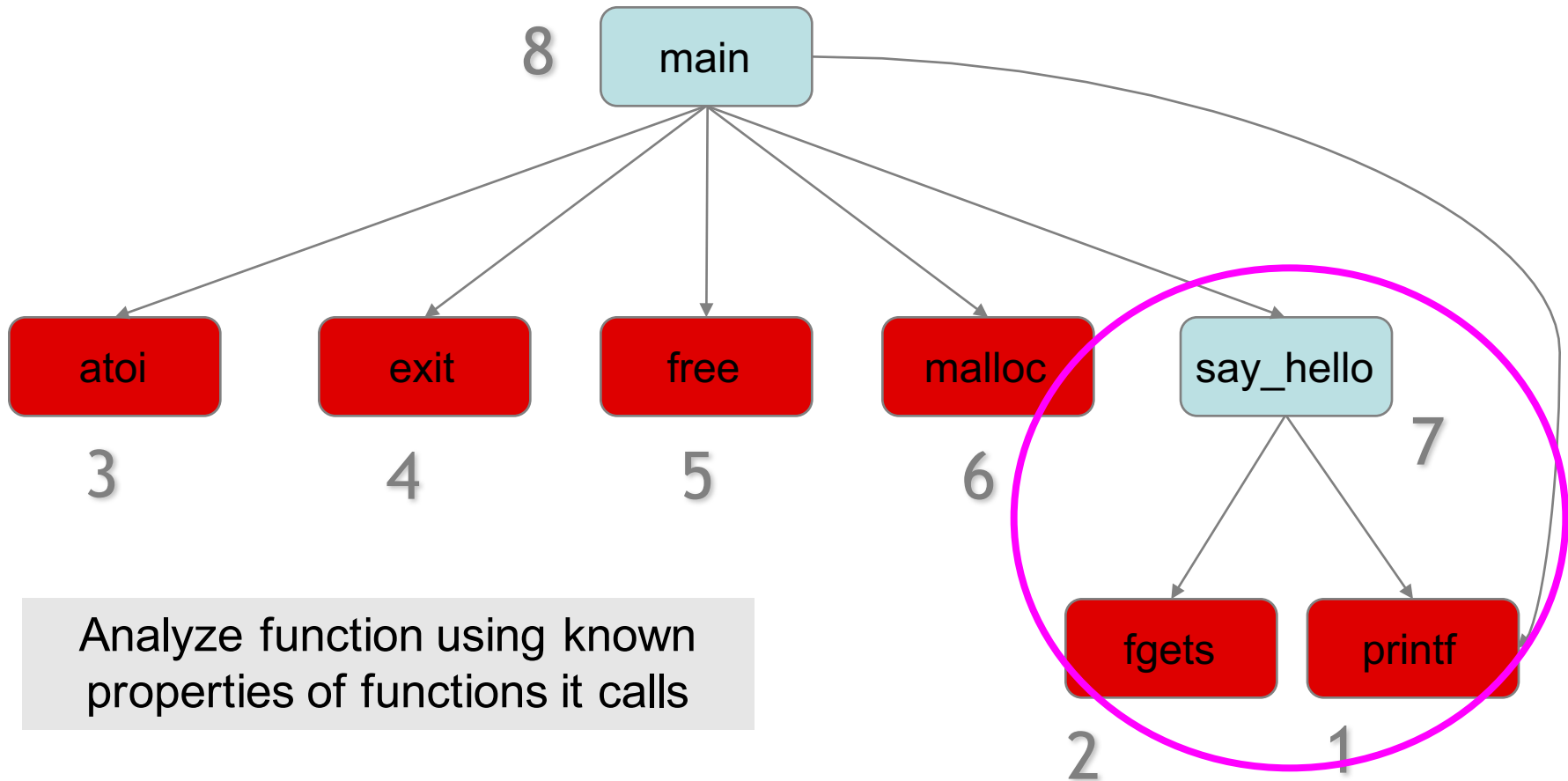
Reverse Topological Sort



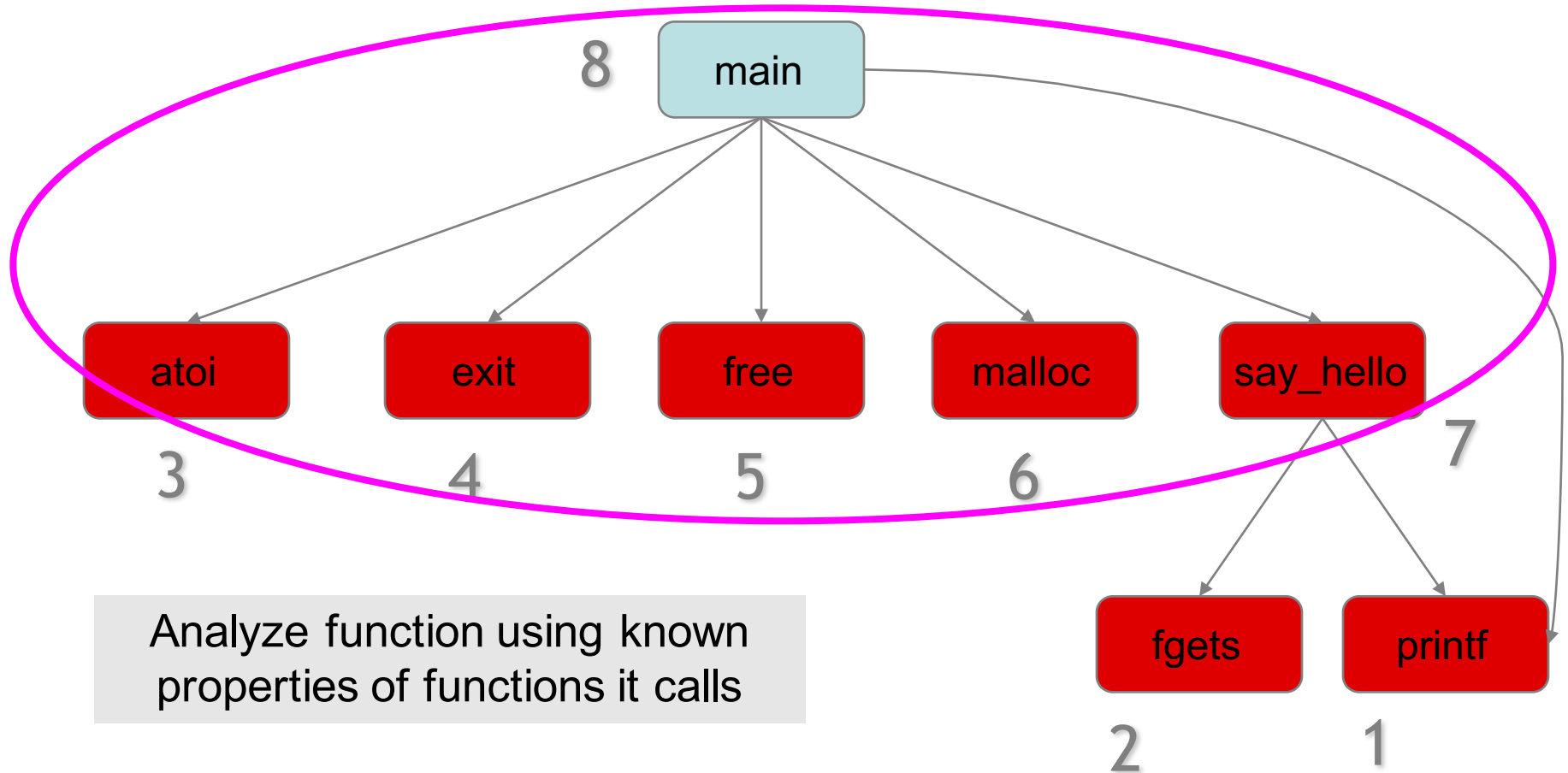
Apply Library Models



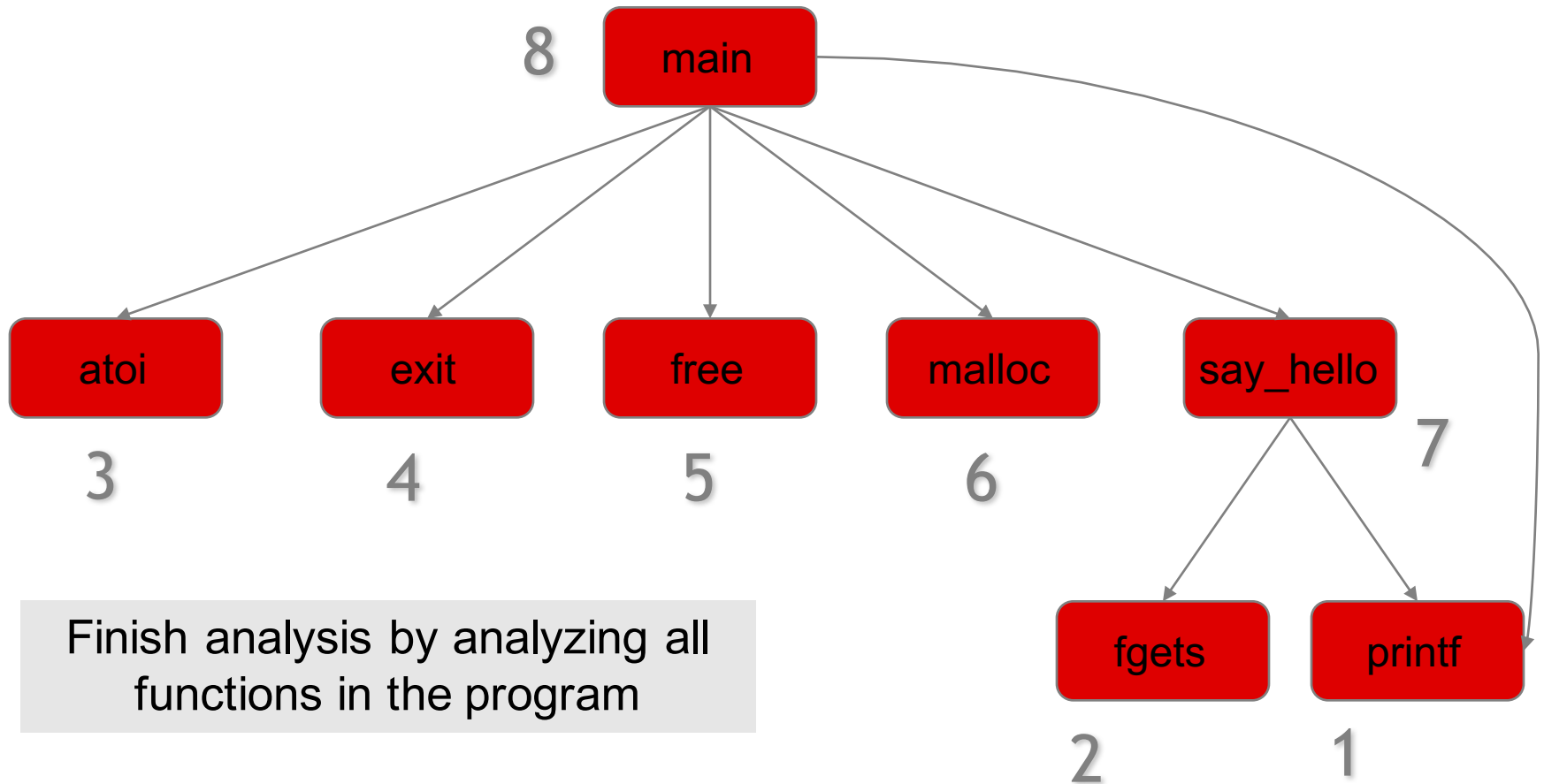
Bottom Up Analysis



Bottom Up Analysis



Bottom Up Analysis

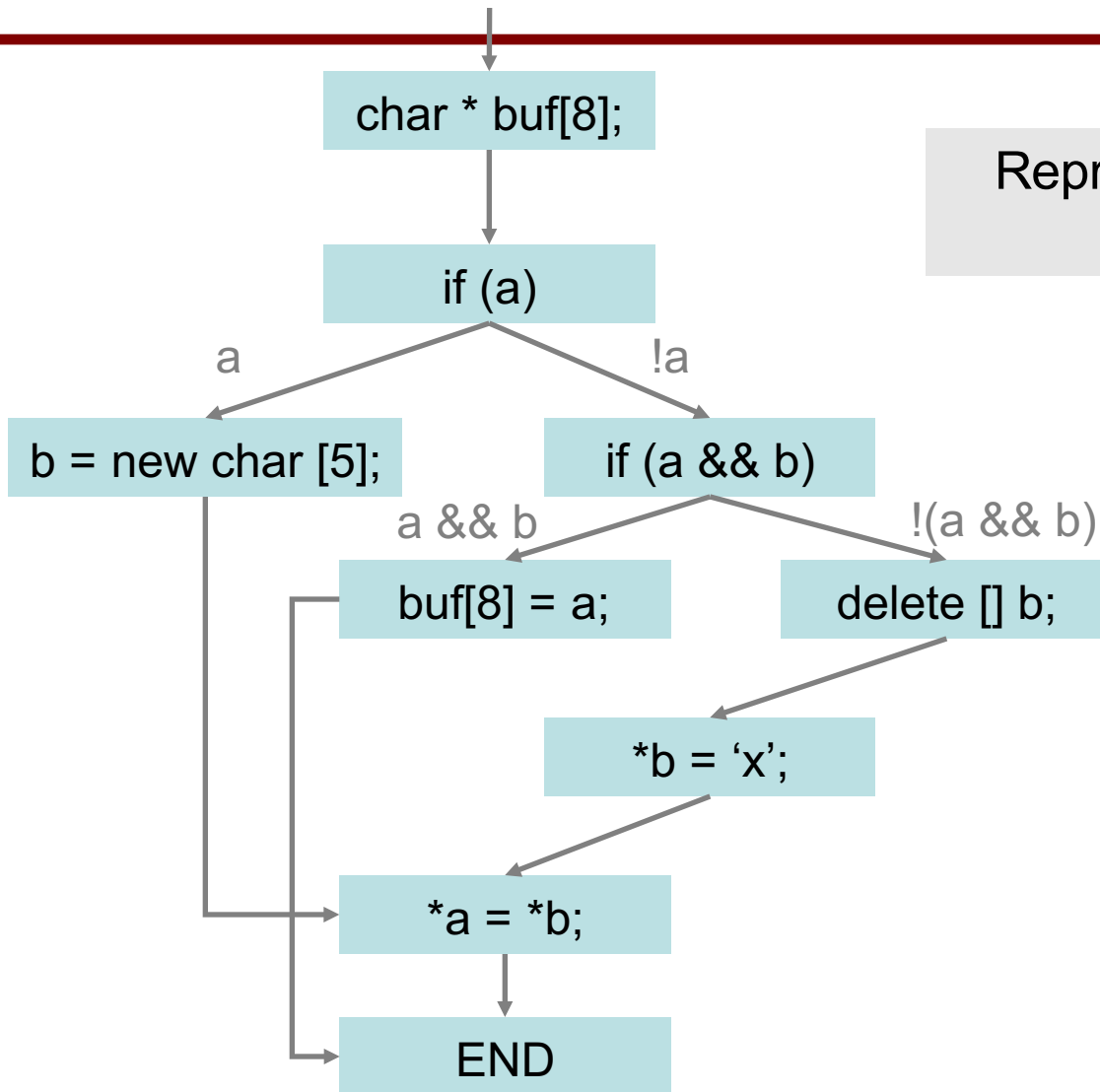


Finding Local Bugs

```
#define SIZE 8
void set_a_b(char * a, char * b) {
    char * buf[SIZE];
    if (a) {
        b = new char[5];
    } else {
        if (a && b) {
            buf[SIZE] = a;
            return;
        } else {
            delete [] b;
        }
        *b = 'x';
    }
    *a = *b;
}
```

Control Flow Graph

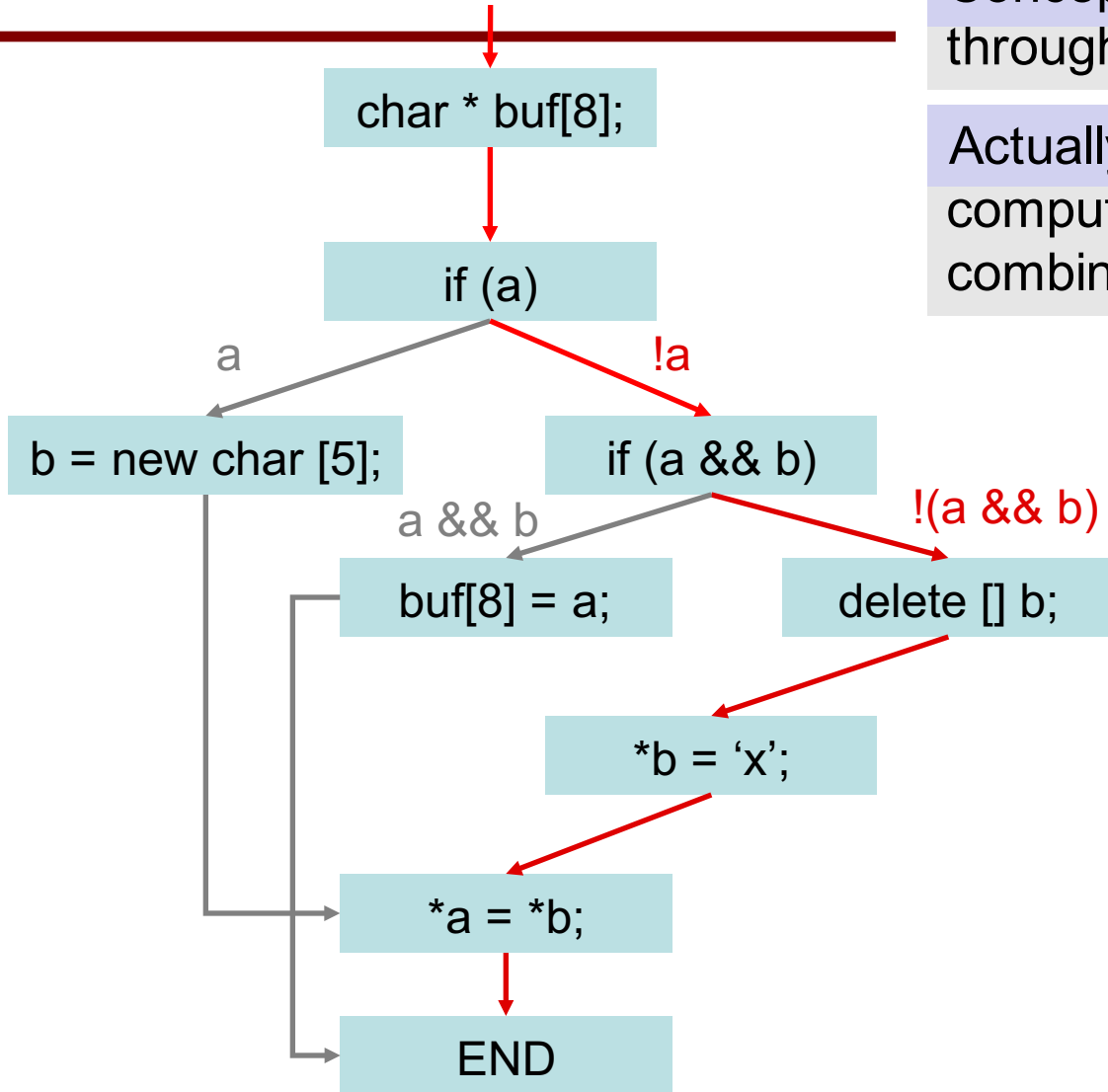
Represent logical structure of code in graph form



Path Traversal

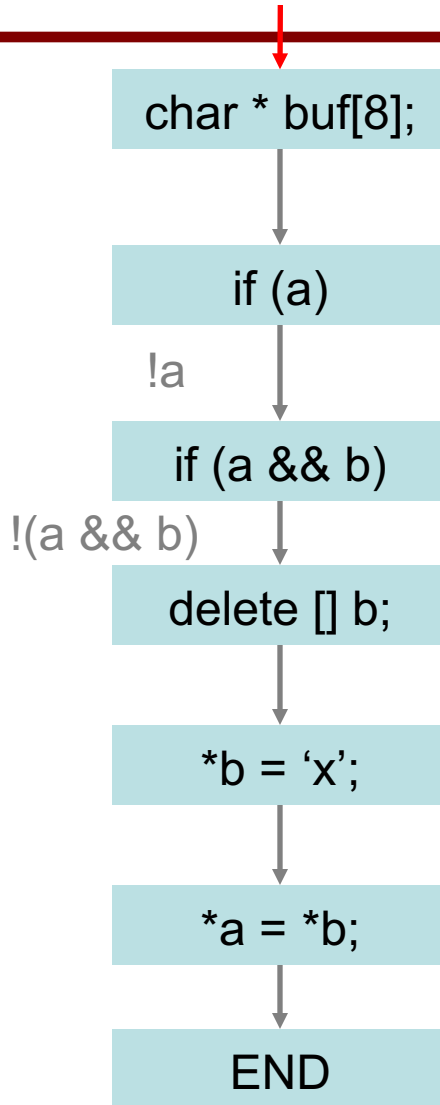
Conceptually Analyze each path through control graph separately

Actually Perform some checking computation once per node; combine paths at merge nodes



Apply Checking

Null pointers Use after free Array overrun



See how three checkers are run for this path

Checker

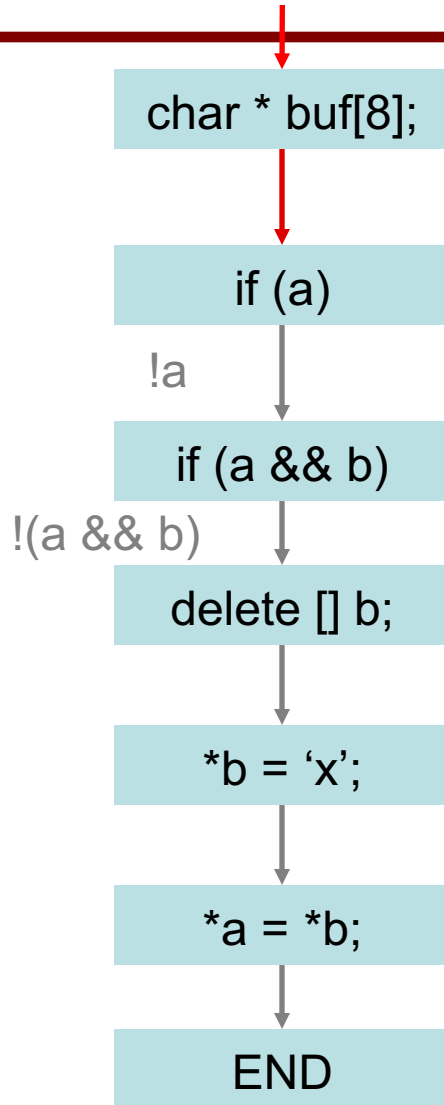
- Defined by a state diagram, with state transitions and error states

Run Checker

- Assign initial state to each program var
- State at program point depends on state at previous point, program actions
- Emit error if error state reached

Apply Checking

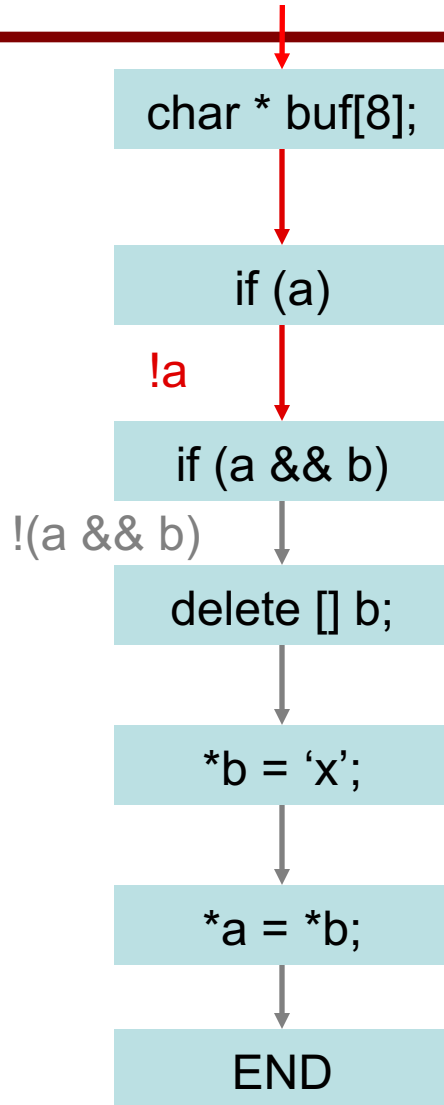
Null pointers Use after free Array overrun



“buf is 8 bytes”

Apply Checking

Null pointers Use after free Array overrun

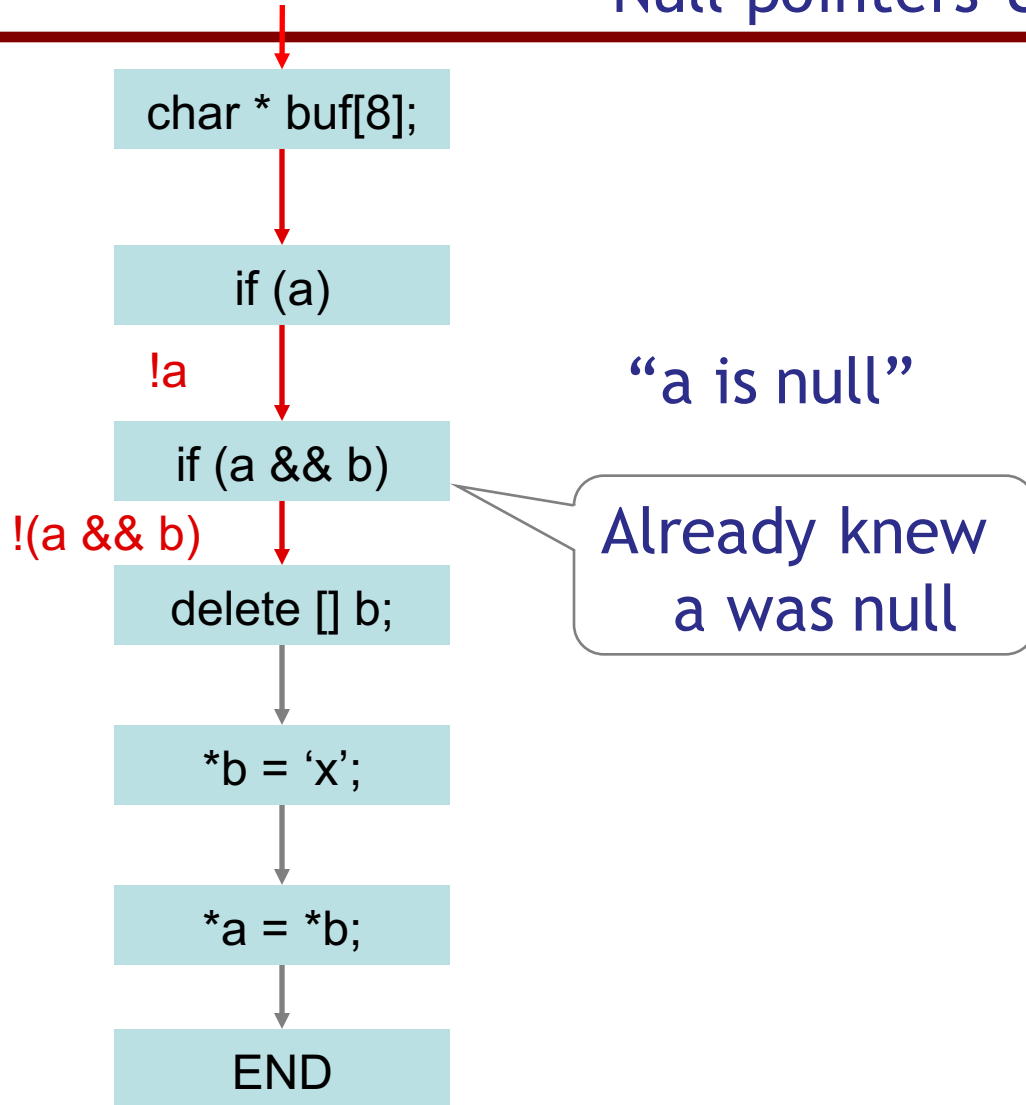


“buf is 8 bytes”

“a is null”

Apply Checking

Null pointers Use after free Array overrun



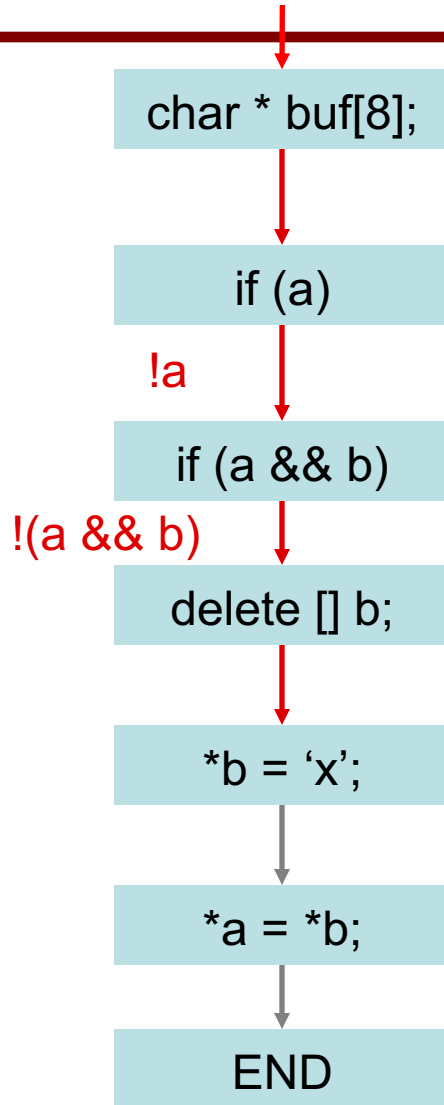
"buf is 8 bytes"

"a is null"

Already knew
a was null

Apply Checking

Null pointers Use after freeArray overrun



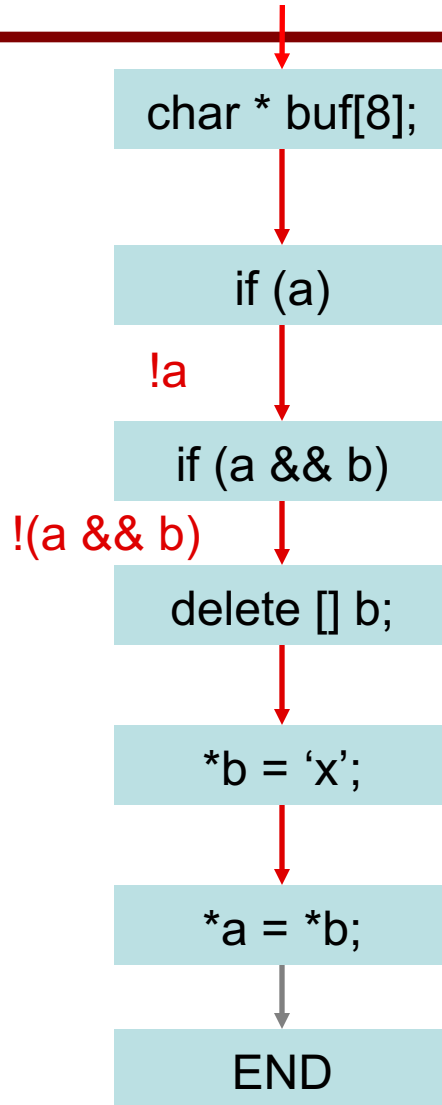
“buf is 8 bytes”

“a is null”

“b is deleted”

Apply Checking

Null pointers Use after free Array overrun



“buf is 8 bytes”

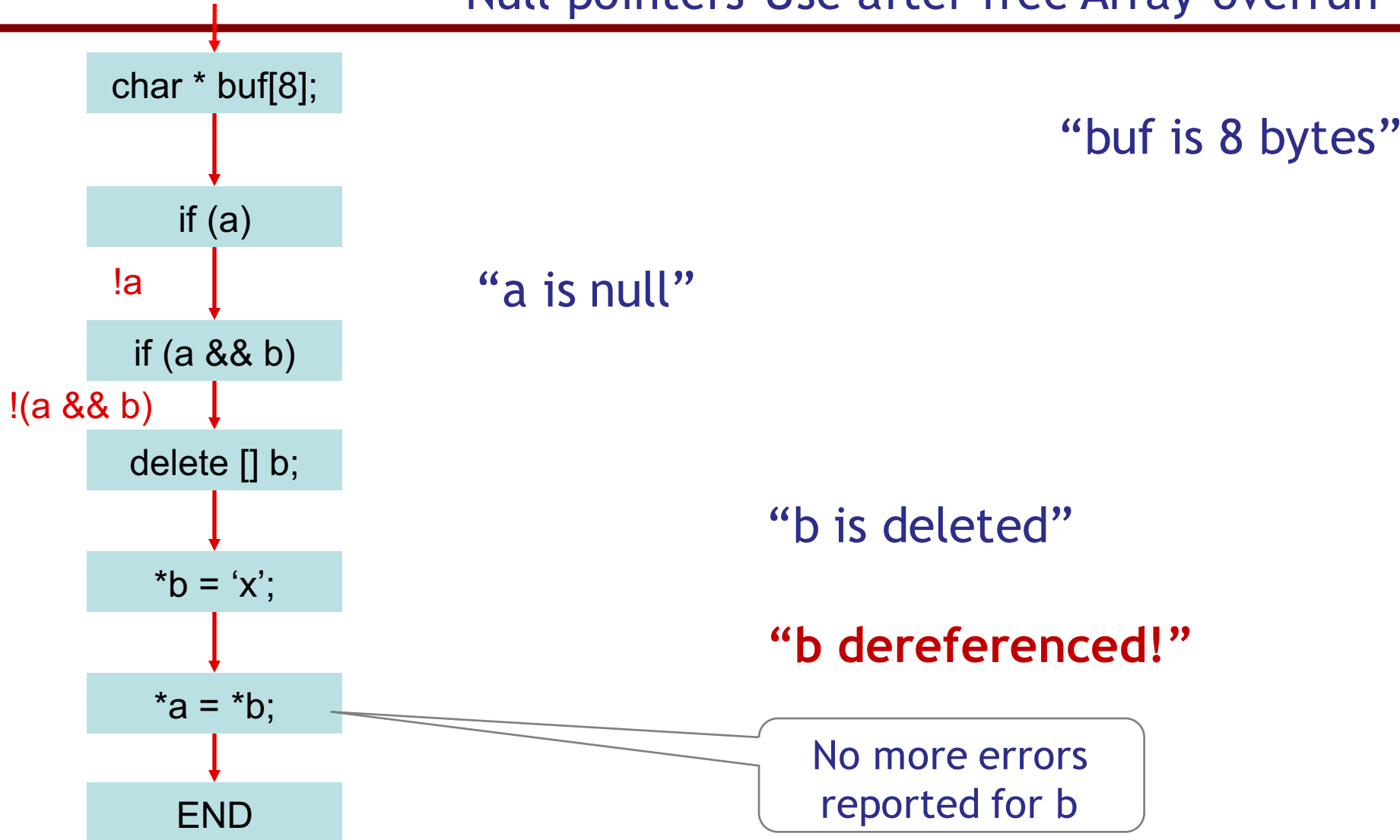
“a is null”

“b is deleted”

“b dereferenced!”

Apply Checking

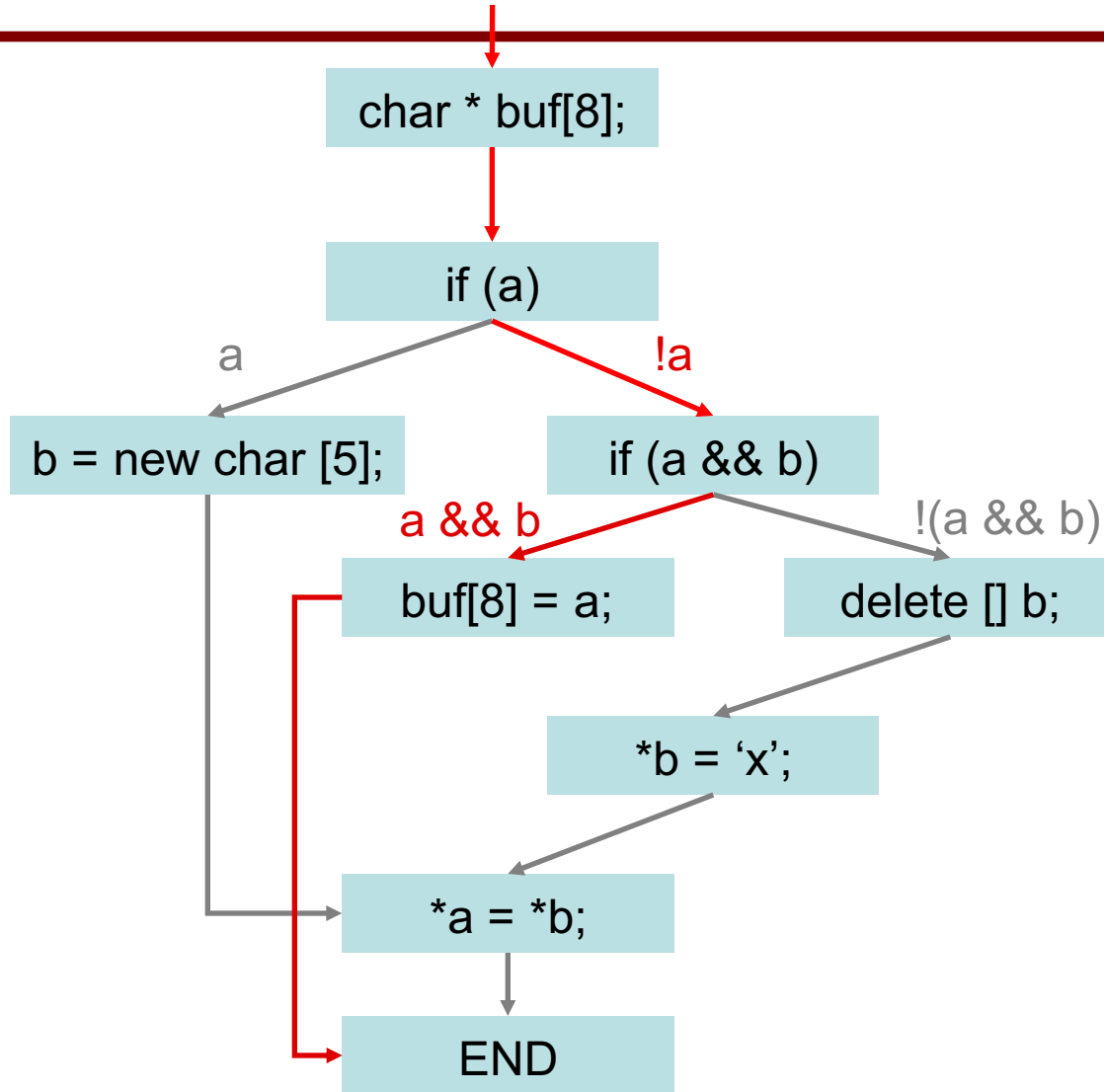
Null pointers Use after free Array overrun



False Positives

- **What is a bug? Something the user will fix.**
- **Many sources of false positives**
 - False paths
 - Idioms
 - Execution environment assumptions
 - Killpaths
 - Conditional compilation
 - “third party code”
 - Analysis imprecision
 - ...

A False Path

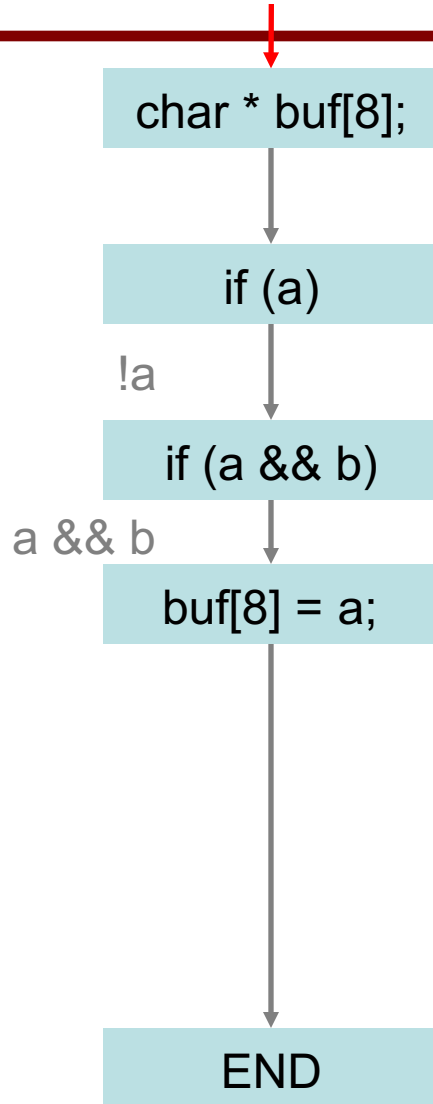


False Path Pruning

Integer Range

Disequality

Branch

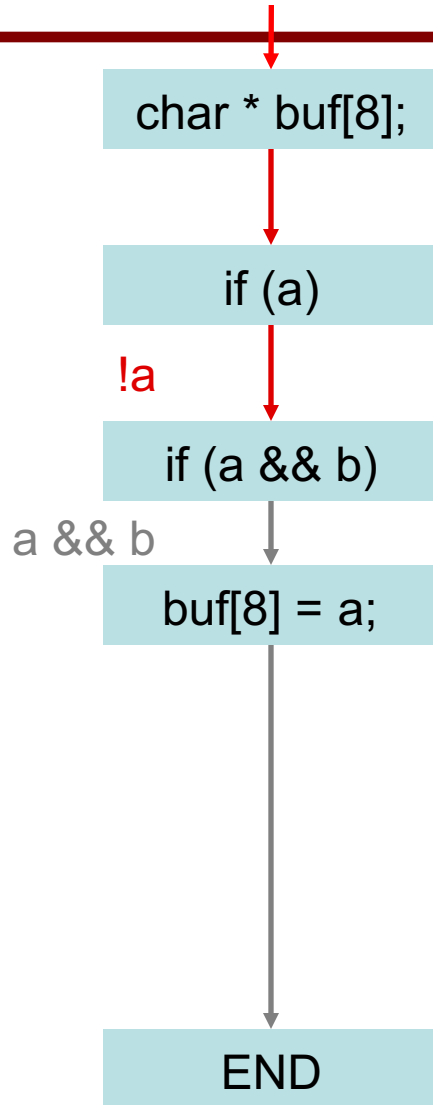


False Path Pruning

Integer Range

Disequality

Branch



“a in [0,0]”

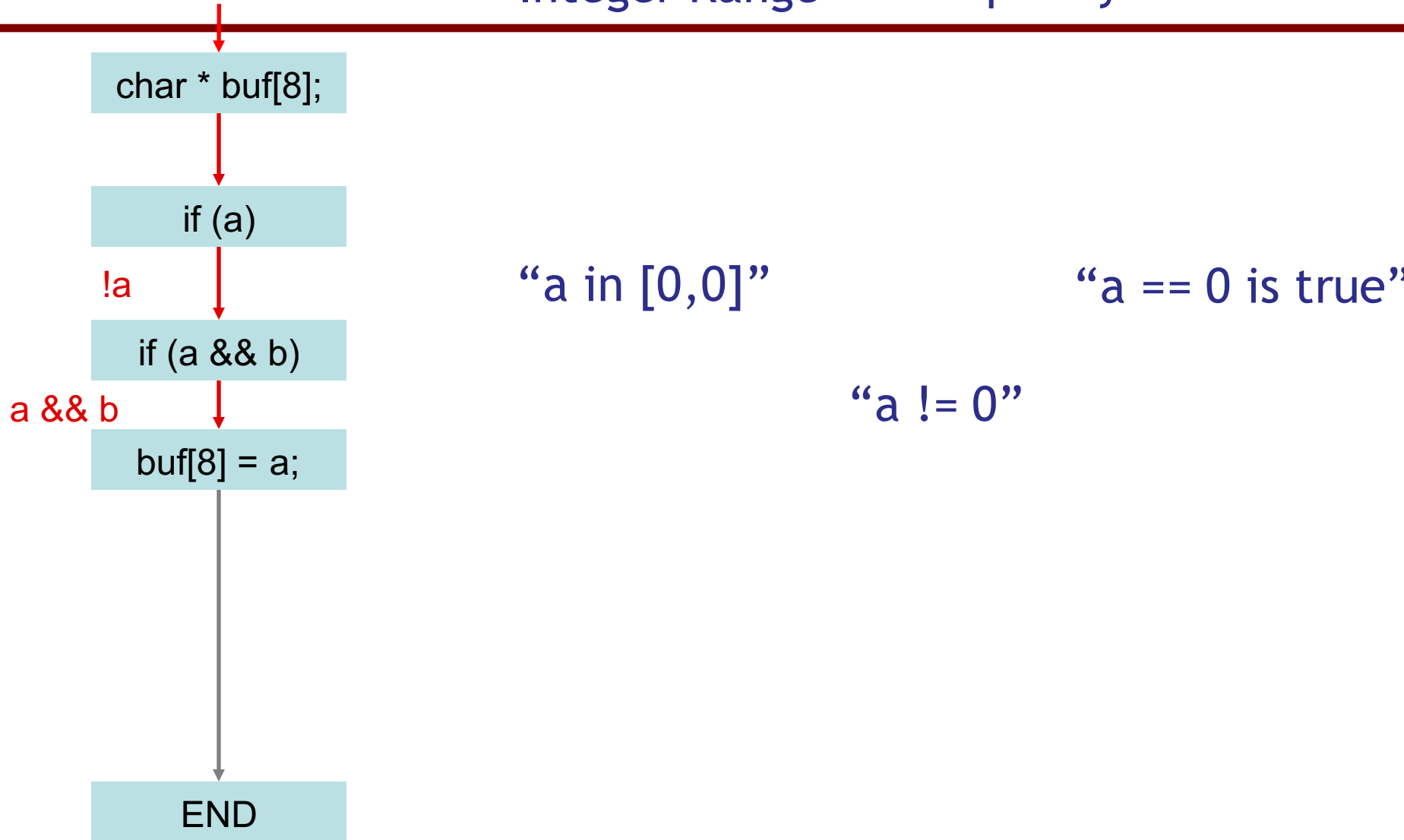
“a == 0 is true”

False Path Pruning

Integer Range

Disequality

Branch

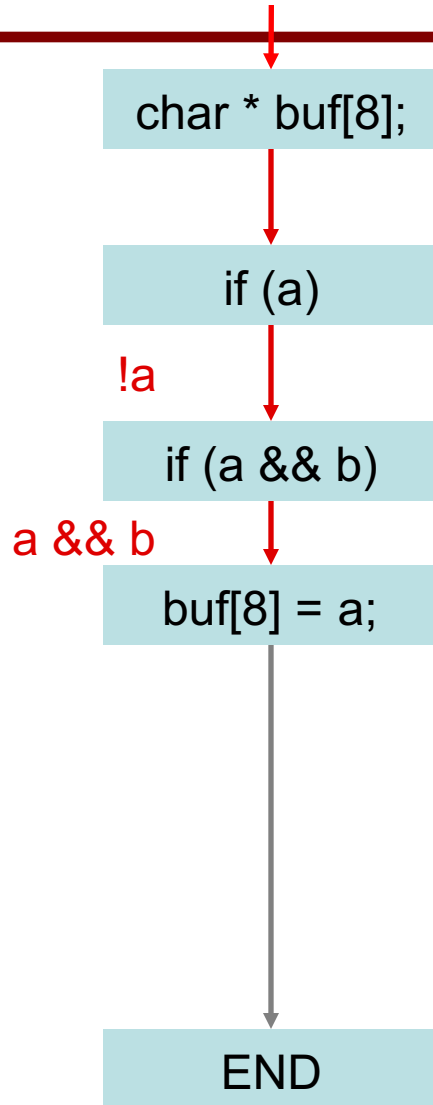


False Path Pruning

Integer Range

Disequality

Branch




Impossible

“a in [0,0]”

“a == 0 is true”

“a != 0”

Outline

- General discussion of tools
 - Goals and limitations
 - Approach based on abstract states
- More about one specific approach
 - Property checkers from Engler et al., Coverity
 -  Reducing false positive using circumstantial evidence
 - Sample security-related results
- Static analysis for Android malware
 - ...

Environment Assumptions

- Should the return value of malloc() be checked?

```
int *p = malloc(sizeof(int));  
*p = 42;
```

OS Kernel:
Crash machine.

File server:
Pause filesystem.

Web application:
200ms downtime

Spreadsheet:
Lose unsaved changes.

Game:
Annoy user.

IP Phone:
Annoy user.

Library:
?

Medical device:
malloc?!

Statistical Analysis

- Assume the code is usually right

| | | | |
|----------------|---|---|----------------|
| 3 / 4 deref | <pre>int *p = malloc(sizeof(int)); *p = 42;</pre> | <pre>int *p = malloc(sizeof(int)); if(p) *p = 42;</pre> | 1 / 4 deref |
| | <pre>int *p = malloc(sizeof(int)); *p = 42;</pre> | <pre>int *p = malloc(sizeof(int)); if(p) *p = 42;</pre> | |
| | <pre>int *p = malloc(sizeof(int)); *p = 42;</pre> | <pre>int *p = malloc(sizeof(int)); if(p) *p = 42;</pre> | |
| | <pre>int *p = malloc(sizeof(int)); if(p) *p = 42;</pre> | <pre>int *p = malloc(sizeof(int)); *p = 42;</pre> | |

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Application to Security Bugs

- **Stanford research project**

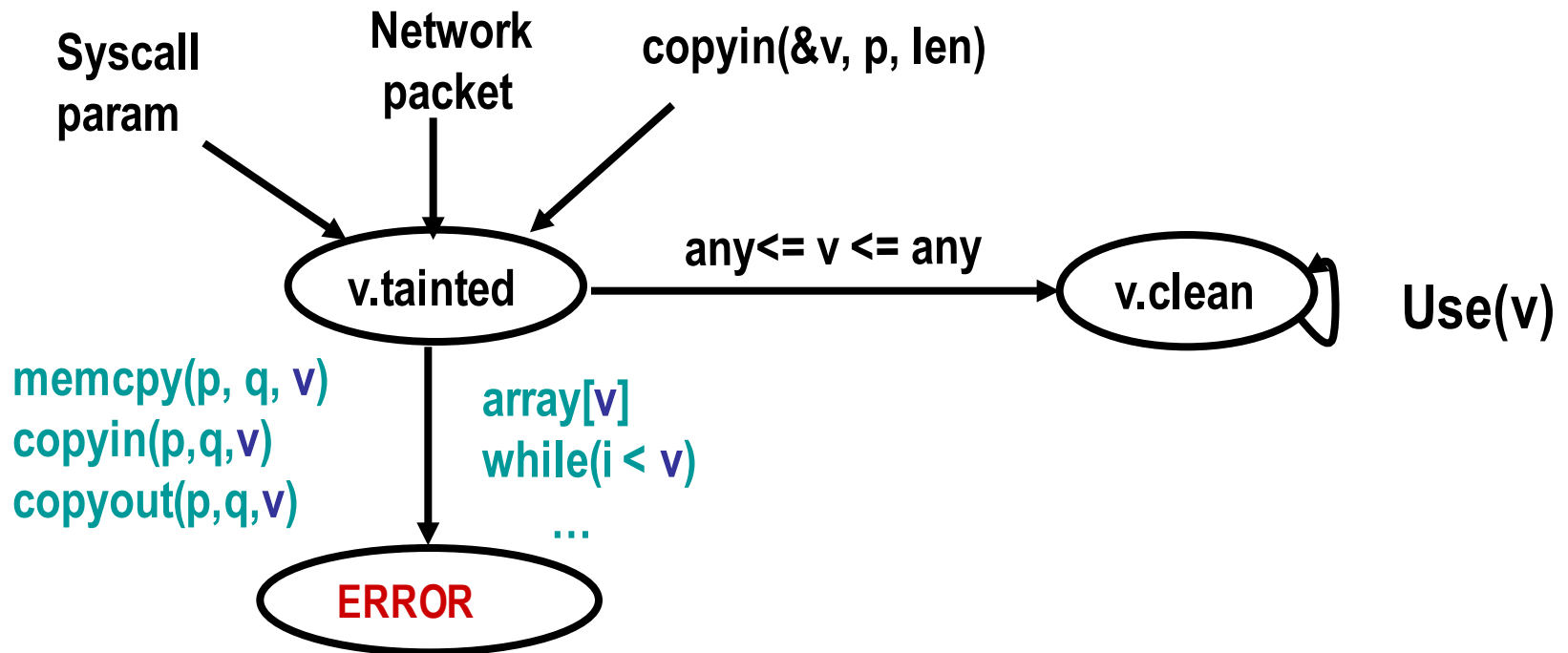
- Ken Ashcraft and Dawson Engler, Using Programmer-Written Compiler Extensions to Catch Security Holes, IEEE Security and Privacy 2002
- Used modified compiler to find over 100 security holes in Linux and BSD
- <http://www.stanford.edu/~engler/>

- **Benefit**

- Capture recommended practices, known to experts, in tool available to all

Sanitize integers before use

Warn when unchecked integers from untrusted sources reach **trusting sinks**



Linux: 125 errors, 24 false; BSD: 12 errors, 4 false

Example security holes

- Remote exploit, no checks

```
/* 2.4.9/drivers/isdn/act2000/capi.c:actcapi_dispatch */
isdn_ctrl cmd;
...
while ((skb = skb_dequeue(&card->rcvq))) {
    msg = skb->data;
    ...
    memcpy(cmd.parm.setup.phone,
           msg->msg.connect_ind.addr.num,
           msg->msg.connect_ind.addr.len - 1);
```


Example security holes

- **Missed lower-bound check:**

```
/* 2.4.5/drivers/char/drm/i810_dma.c */  
  
if(copy_from_user(&d, arg, sizeof(arg)))  
    return -EFAULT;  
if(d.idx > dma->buf_count)  
    return -EINVAL;  
buf = dma->buflist[d.idx];  
Copy_from_user(buf_priv->virtual, d.address, d.used);
```

User-pointer inference

- **Problem: which are the user pointers?**
 - Hard to determine by dataflow analysis
 - Easy to tell if kernel *believes* pointer is from user!
- **Belief inference**
 - “*p” implies safe kernel pointer
 - “copyin(p)/copyout(p)” implies dangerous user ptr
 - Error: pointer p has both beliefs.
- **Implementation: 2 pass checker**
 - inter-procedural: compute all tainted pointers
 - local pass to check that they are not dereferenced

Results for BSD and Linux

- All bugs released to implementers; most serious fixed

| Violation | Linux | | BSD | |
|------------------------|-----------|----|-----------|----|
| | Bug Fixed | | Bug Fixed | |
| Gain control of system | 18 | 15 | 3 | 3 |
| Corrupt memory | 43 | 17 | 2 | 2 |
| Read arbitrary memory | 19 | 14 | 7 | 7 |
| Denial of service | 17 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Minor | 28 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 125 | 52 | 12 | 12 |

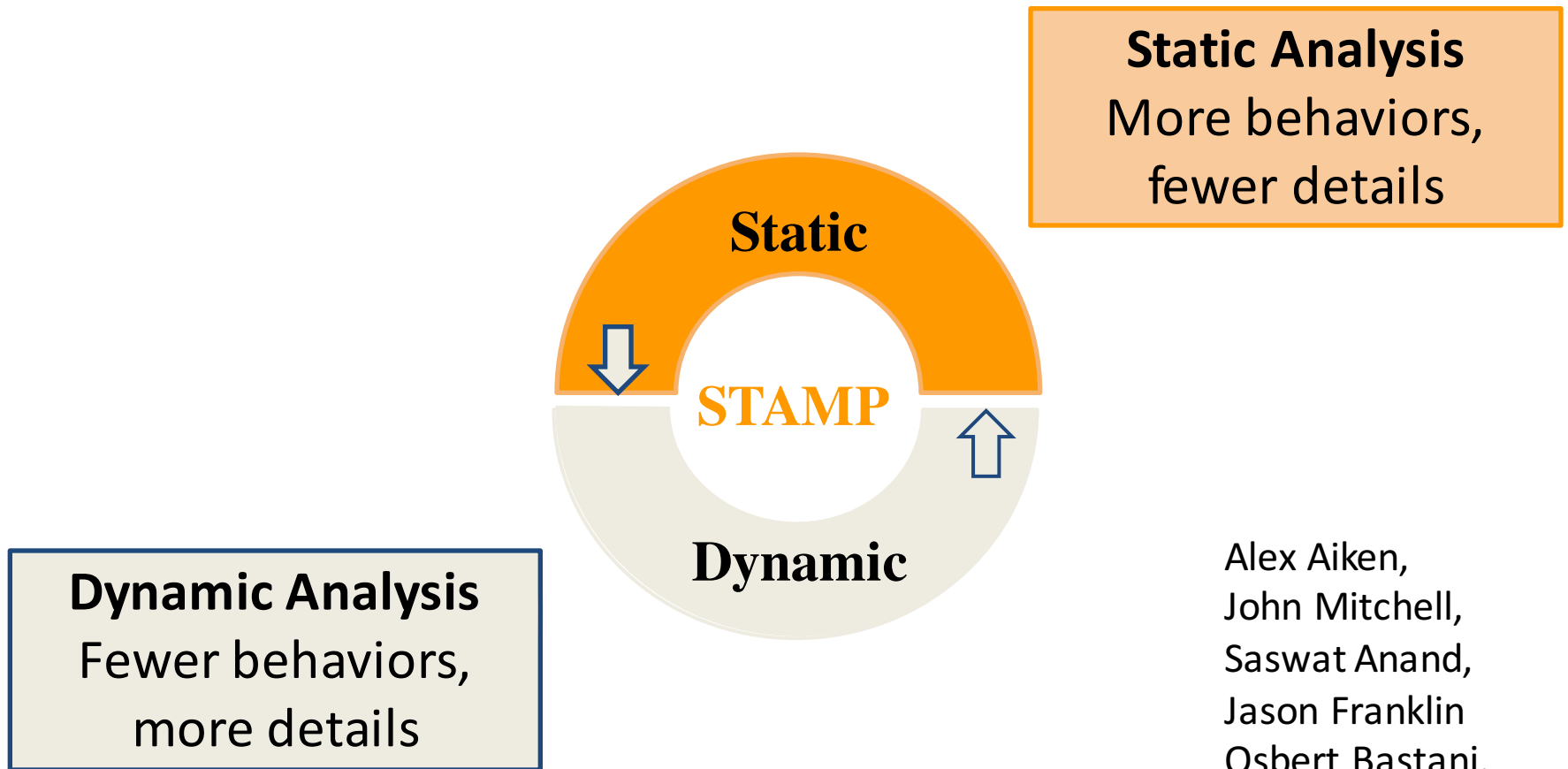
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Static analysis for Android malware

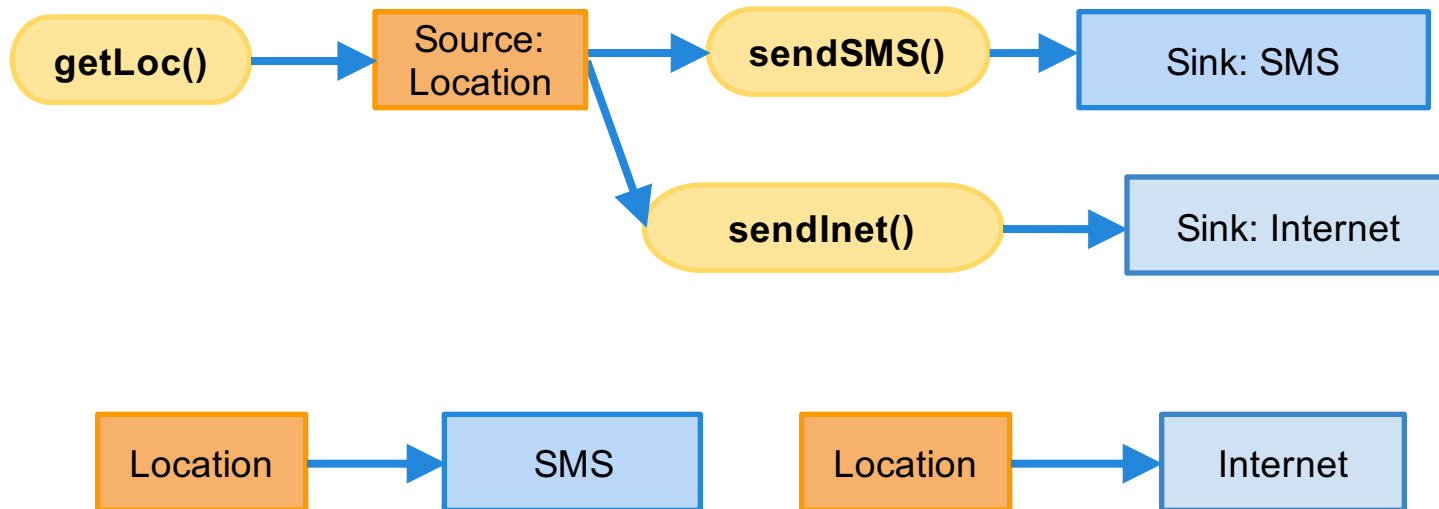
- ...

STAMP Admission System



Alex Aiken,
John Mitchell,
Saswat Anand,
Jason Franklin
Osbert Bastani,
Lazaro Clapp,
Patrick Mutchler,
Manolis Papadakis

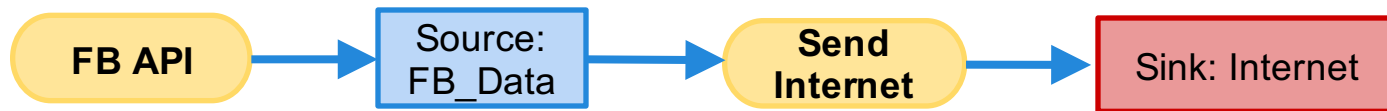
Data Flow Analysis



- Source-to-sink flows
 - Sources: Location, Calendar, Contacts, Device ID etc.
 - Sinks: Internet, SMS, Disk, etc.

Applications of Data Flow Analysis

- Malware/Greyware Analysis
 - Data flow summaries enable enterprise-specific policies
- API Misuse and Data Theft Detection



- Automatic Generation of App Privacy Policies
 - Avoid liability, protect consumer privacy
- Vulnerability Discovery

Privacy Policy
This app collects your:
Contacts
Phone Number
Address

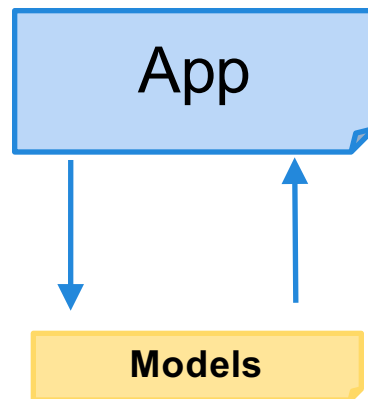
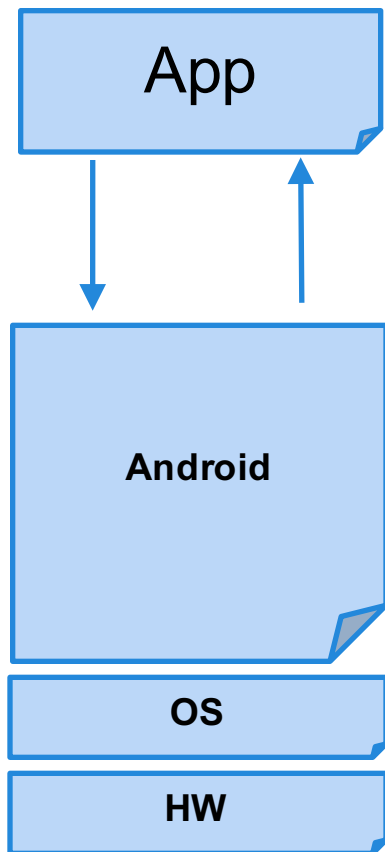


Challenges

- Android is 3.4M+ lines of complex code
 - Uses reflection, callbacks, native code
- **Scalability:** Whole system analysis impractical
- **Soundness:** Avoid missing flows
- **Precision:** Minimize false positives

STAMP Approach

Too expensive!



- Model Android/Java
 - Sources and sinks
 - Data structures
 - Callbacks
 - 500+ models
- Whole-program analysis
 - Context sensitive

Building Models

- 30k+ methods in Java/Android API
 - 5 mins x 30k = 2500 hours
- Follow the permissions
 - 20 permissions for sensitive sources
 - ACCESS_FINE_LOCATION (8 methods with source annotations)
 - READ_PHONE_STATE - (9 methods)
 - 4 permissions for sensitive sinks
 - INTERNET, SEND_SMS, etc.

Identifying Sensitive Data

```
android.Telephony.TelephonyManager: String getDeviceId()
```

- Returns device IMEI in String
- Requires permission GET_PHONE_STATE

```
@STAMP(  
  SRC="$GET_PHONE_STATE.deviceid",  
  SINK="@return"  
)
```

Data We Track (Sources)

- Account data
- Audio
- Calendar
- Call log
- Camera
- Contacts
- Device Id
- Location
- Photos (Geotags)
- SD card data
- SMS

30+ types of
sensitive data

Data Destinations (Sinks)

- Internet (socket)
- SMS
- Email
- System Logs
- Webview/Browser
- File System
- Broadcast Message

10+ types of
exit points

Currently Detectable Flow Types

396 Flow Types

Unique Flow Types = Sources x Sink

Example Analysis

Contact Sync for Facebook (unofficial)

The screenshot shows the Google Play Store interface for the app 'Contact Sync for Facebook' by Danut Chereches. The app is rated 4.5 stars (3,935 reviews) and is free. It is compatible with Sprint Samsung Nexus S 4G. The page includes a description, app screenshots, and a list of other apps viewed by users who viewed this app.

Google play Search

SHOP MY MUSIC MY BOOKS MY MAGAZINES MY MOVIES & TV MY ANDROID APPS

Contact Sync for Facebook
Danut Chereches

★★★★★ (3,935) **INSTALL**

This app is compatible with your Sprint Samsung Nexus S 4G.

More from developer

Where Money Go?
DANUT CHERECHES
★★★★★ (4)
Free

Deschis
DANUT CHERECHES
★★★★★ (6)
Free

See more >

Users who viewed this also viewed

HaxSync - 4.x Facebook Sy...
MATHIAS ROTH
★★★★★ (3,232)
\$0.99

fsync Friends Sync
WATTO STUDIOS

OVERVIEW USER REVIEWS WHAT'S NEW PERMISSIONS

Description

This application allows you to synchronize your Facebook contacts on Android.

To configure, go to "Settings => Accounts & Sync => Add Account". Depending on how many friends you have, the first import might take a while, so be patient.

IMPORTANT:

- * Facebook does not allow to export phone numbers or emails. Only names, pictures and statuses are synced.
- * Facebook users have the option to block one or all apps. If they opt for that, they will be EXCLUDED from your friends list.

Please send bug reports or any kind of feedback.

<https://www.facebook.com/ContactSync>
<https://plus.google.com/u/0/100286050370302911737>
<https://github.com/loadrunner/Facebook-Contact-Sync>

Visit Developer's Website > Email Developer > Privacy Policy > **LESS**

App Screenshots

Screenshot 1: Sync settings screen showing Account Settings, Sync Contacts, and Sync Frequency.

Screenshot 2: Contact Sync screen showing Sync Frequency, Picture size, and Sync all contacts.

Screenshot 3: Facebook login screen with a message: "Endless scrolling on 9GAG: We're all DOOMED!"

ABOUT THIS APP

RATING:
★★★★★ (3,935)

UPDATED:
November 7, 2012

CURRENT VERSION:
1.0.1

REQUIRES ANDROID:
2.2 and up

CATEGORY:
Social

INSTALLS:
100,000 - 500,000

SIZE:
101k

PRICE:
Free

CONTENT RATING:
Everyone

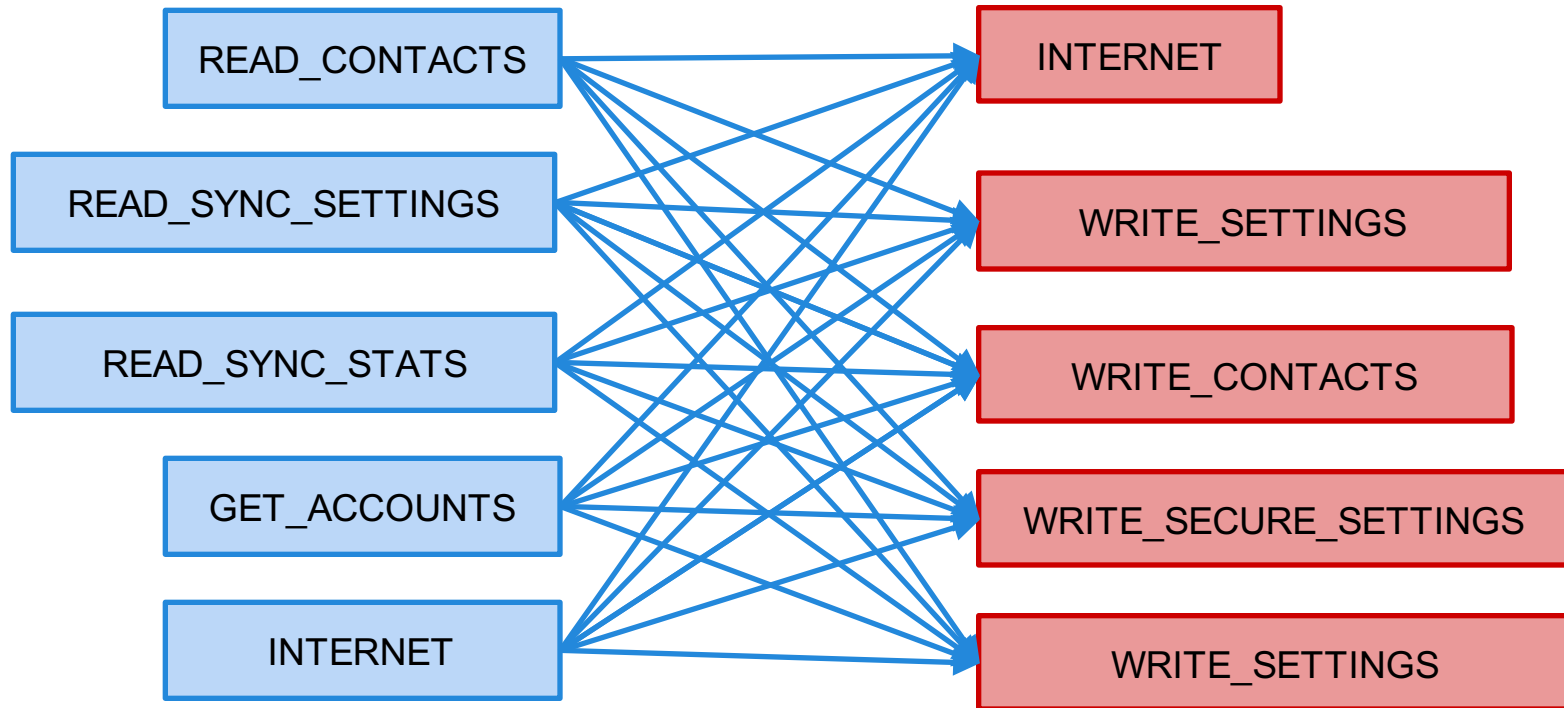
Contact Sync Permissions

| Category | Permission | Description |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Your Accounts | AUTHENTICATE_ACCOUNTS | Act as an account authenticator |
| | MANAGE_ACCOUNTS | Manage accounts list |
| | USE_CREDENTIALS | Use authentication credentials |
| Network Communication | INTERNET | Full Internet access |
| | ACCESS_NETWORK_STATE | View network state |
| Your Personal Information | READ_CONTACTS | Read contact data |
| | WRITE_CONTACTS | Write contact data |
| System Tools | WRITE_SETTINGS | Modify global system settings |
| | WRITE_SYNC_SETTINGS | Write sync settings (e.g. Contact sync) |
| | READ_SYNC_SETTINGS | Read whether sync is enabled |
| | READ_SYNC_STATS | Read history of syncs |
| Your Accounts | GET_ACCOUNTS | Discover known accounts |
| Extra/Custom | WRITE_SECURE_SETTINGS | Modify secure system settings |

Possible Flows from Permissions

Sources

Sinks



Expected Flows

Sources

READ_CONTACTS

READ_SYNC_SETTINGS

READ_SYNC_STATS

GET_ACCOUNTS

INTERNET

Sinks

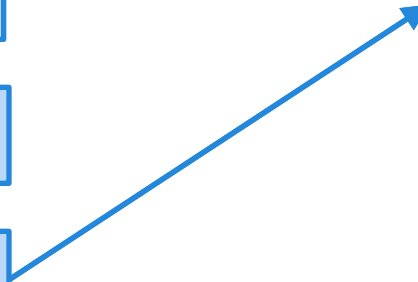
INTERNET

WRITE_SETTINGS

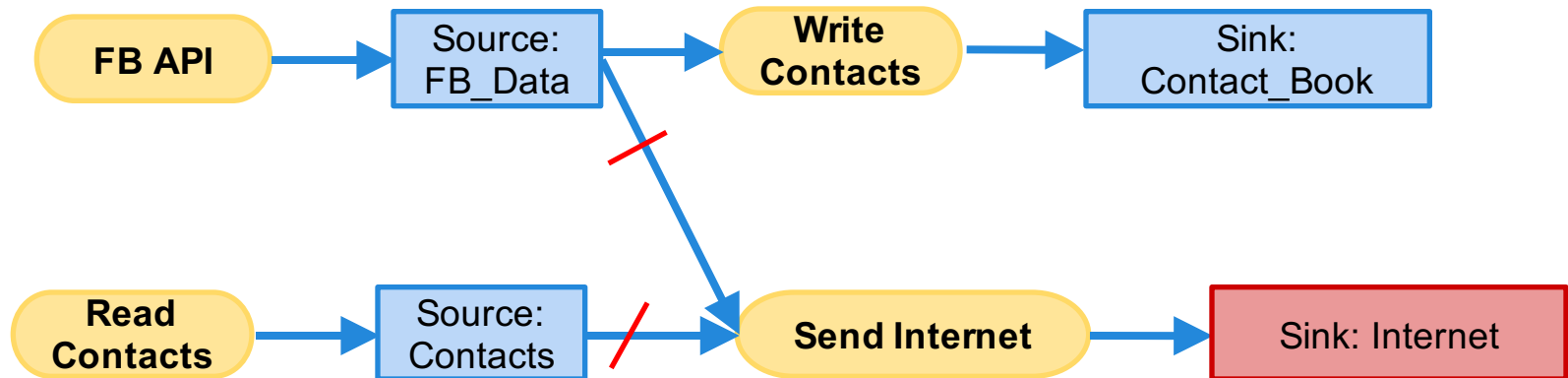
WRITE_CONTACTS

WRITE_SECURE_SETTINGS

WRITE_SETTINGS



Observed Flows



Example Study: Mobile Web Apps

- Goal

Identify security concerns and vulnerabilities specific to mobile apps that access the web using an embedded browser

- Technical summary

- WebView object renders web content
- methods `loadUrl`, `loadData`, `loadDataWithBaseUrl`, `postUrl`
- `addJavascriptInterface(obj, name)` allows JavaScript code in the web content to call Java object method `name.foo()`

Sample results

Analyze 998,286 free web apps from June 2014

| Mobile Web App Feature | % Apps |
|--------------------------|--------|
| JavaScript Enabled | 97 |
| JavaScript Bridge | 36 |
| shouldOverrideUrlLoading | 94 |
| shouldInterceptRequest | 47 |
| onReceivedSslError | 27 |
| postUrl | 2 |
| Custom URL Patterns | 10 |

| Vuln | % Relevant | % Vulnerable |
|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| Unsafe Navigation | 15 | 34 |
| Unsafe Retrieval | 40 | 56 |
| Unsafe SSL | 27 | 29 |
| Exposed POST | 2 | 7 |
| Leaky URL | 10 | 16 |

Summary

- Static vs dynamic analyzers
- General properties of static analyzers
 - Fundamental limitations
 - Basic method based on abstract states
- More details on one specific method
 - Property checkers from Engler et al., Coverity
 - Sample security-related results
- Static analysis for Android malware
 - STAMP method, sample studies