Rode *Oday*: Searching for Truth with a Bug-Finding Competition

Andrew Fasano, Tim Leek (MIT/LL); Brendan Dolan-Gavitt (NYU Tandon); Rahul Sridhar (MIT)



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whoami

- Andrew Fasano
- Security researcher at MIT Lincoln Laboratory
- Capture the Flag with Lab RATs and RPISEC
- Starting a PhD at Northeastern University next month











 Finding vulnerabilities in software automatically has been a major research and industry goal for the last 25 years





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Academic

Commercial

Does this actually work?



- Discover **0-days**
 - High impact
 - Existential quantification

The bug-o-rama trophy case

Yeah, it finds bugs. I am focusing chiefly on development and have not been running the fuzzer at a scale, but here are some of the notable vulnerabilities and other uniquely interesting bugs that are attributable to AFL (in large part thanks to the work done by other users):

IJG jpeg $\frac{1}{2}$	libjpeg-turbo 12	libpng 1_
libtiff $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{4}{5}$	mozjpeg ¹ _	PHP 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Mozilla Firefox $\frac{1}{2} \frac{2}{3} \frac{4}{4}$	Internet Explorer $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{4}{2}$	Apple Safari ¹

0-days found by AFL

- Find known bugs
 - No impact
 - Universal quantification

Branch:	master - fuzzer-test-suite / tutorial / fuzz_me.cc
16 lin	es (13 sloc) 336 Bytes
1	<pre>#include <stdint.h></stdint.h></pre>
2	<pre>#include <stddef.h></stddef.h></pre>
3	
4	<pre>bool FuzzMe(const uint8_t *Data, size_t DataSize) {</pre>
5	return DataSize >= 3 &&
6	Data[0] == 'F' &&
7	Data[1] == 'U' &&
8	Data[2] == 'Z' &&
9	Data[3] == 'Z'; // :-<
10	}

Google's Fuzzer Test Suite's fuzz_me.cc unit test

See also Michael Hicks' analysis assessing fuzz testing experimental evaluations (CCS '18, to appear)



- Known bugs are ground truth that enable measurement of bug-finding systems
- Google's Fuzzer Test Suite: Real bugs
 - 25 programs, ~1 bug per program
- LAVA-M: Injected bugs
 - 8 programs, 2,265 total bugs

TABLE IV: Bugs found in LAVA-M corpus				
Program	Total Bugs	Uniqu FUZZER	e Bugs SES	Found Combined
uniq	28	7	0	7
base64	44	7	9	14
md5sum	57	2	0	2
who	2136	0	18	18
Total	2265	16	27	41

Known-bugs found in LAVA corpus in 2016

- Limited quantity of known-bug corpora
 - May inadvertently be used for both training and evaluation
- Need more ground truth to better evaluate bug-finding systems



- Automatically add new memory safety bugs to program source code
- Generate crashing inputs to trigger each bug
- Paper published at Oakland in 2016. Code released on GitHub in 2018
- Collaboration between MIT/LL, NYU and Northeastern University

How LAVA works:

- 1. Identify how attacker controlled data flows through program
- 2. Locate potential attack points
- 3. Inject potential bugs and test
- 4. Inject validated bugs and generate corpus





- 1. Identify how attacker-controlled data flow through program
 - Looking for dead, uncomplicated and available data: DUAs
 - Insert code to capture DUA values for later use
 - DUAs later used as triggers for LAVA bugs
 - Taint analysis with PANDA
 - Whole system dynamic analysis platform
 - Open source



save_dua(1, *(int*)&v);

A helper function captures the DUA contained in v into a global array at index 1



- 2. Locate potential attack points: ATPs
 - Operations where LAVA could inject a bug
 - Pointer dereferences, memory allocation, function arguments, etc.



ATP in *funcs.c* from *file*

- 3. Inject potential bugs and test
 - Potential bug = DUA(s) + ATP
 - Test if generated inputs cause crashes at expected locations, mark as validated bugs



ATP with an injected bug depending on DUA stored in index 1

4. Reinject validated bugs and generate corpus



- Alternative implementation of save_dua()
 - Array data_flow added to function types and passed across functions
 - DUAs can be saved into this local array directly



• Alternative to *load_dua()*: access elements in **local array** *data_flow*

97 *((type + (data_flow[2]) == 0x292a87f3) * data_flow[2])) = "text";

• Bugs can be triggered by single or **multiple** DUAs

```
88 *(end + ((data_flow[34] * data_flow[35]
99 - data flow[10] == 0x9985b00) * data flow[35])) = new start;
```



- New ground truth can be created on demand and in quantity
- LAVA makes known bugs cheap and plentiful
- LAVA corpora enable evaluations using fresh testing data





10 new corpora released so far this summer

SHALL WE PLAY A GAME?

BRIDGE CHECKERS CHESS POKER FIGHTER COMBAT GUERRILLA ENGAGEMENT DESERT WARFARE AIR-TO-GROUND ACTIONS THEATERWIDE TACTICAL WARFARE THEATERWIDE BIOTOXIC AND CHEMICAL WARFARE GLOBAL THERMONUCLEAR BUG FINDING



Perform a continuous, unbiased evaluation of how well bug-finding systems work against realistic targets

Learn about what makes a bug easy or hard to find

Generate data to share with the community about bugs and bug-finding

Adapt and improve competition in response to feedback and competitor experience



Perform a continuous, unbiased evaluation of how well bug-finding systems work against realistic targets

- i. Run frequent competitions with new challenges every time
- ii. Do not exploit flaws in specific bug-finding approaches
- iii. Measure which bugs are found and time to discover each
- iv. Any system competitors have access to, open or closed source
- v. Challenges should be as realistic as possible



Learn about what makes a bug easy or hard to find

- Do different bug-finding techniques discover bugs in a **similar order**?
- How do multiple runs of the **same bug-finding tool** compare?
- What features correlate with the amount of time required to discover a bug?

• Requirements:

- Challenges should contain a diverse set of bugs
- Challenges should contain numerous bugs
- Bugs should be in many locations



Generate data to share with the community about bugs and bug-finding

- After each competition ends, data should be released publicly
 - Answer key
 - Competitor submissions
- We hope more data will help bug finders to get better

Adapt and improve competition in response to feedback and competitor experience

- We want to build something beneficial to the community
- Open to feedback and pull requests



- New corpus of buggy programs released monthly
 - Modified versions of open source software
 - 32 and 64-bit x86 challenges
 - Buggy source code available for some challenges
- Teams (anonymous or named) submit crashing inputs
- Points awarded for inputs that cause challenges to crash at unique bugs
- Detailed dataset released after each competition
- First competition ran in May





- **Realtime results** showing competitor performance
 - Filter by source code availability
- Archives to download datasets
- Team profiles
 - Encouraging teams to share their strategies
- Documentation



Rode0day Home Results Get Started API Archive Teams About

Archive

This page is an archive of information from previous Rode0day competitions. For each competition, we provide:

- An answer key for each binary, describing the root cause of each bug and a triggering input
- The archived scoreboard and graph for the competition. Current pseudonym preferences are used when displaying team names.

Competition	Archived Results	Full Dataset	Competitors	Bugs Found	Bugs Injected	Discovery rate
Rode0day-Beta	Results	Beta.tar.gz	9	52	52	100%



• Designed to be played by fully-automated systems

API Documentation

Rode0day provides an API where users can view the current competition, download challenge corpora and submit inputs. The latest corpus can be downloaded without an account, but only authenticated users can submit inputs for scoring.

An example consumer of this API is available on GitHub.

Quick Start:

1) Get Status 2	2) Get Corpus 2	3) Find Bugs	4) Submit Inputs
Get the YAML file describing:Competition durationCorpus download link	Get the archive containing: • Challenge programs • Metadata to run challenges	Use your bug-finding skills to generate inputs that trigger bugs	Submit inputs with your API token. Get points for each unique bug you trigger

Example API consumer using AFL at github.com/AndrewFasano/Simple-CRS





Contents of a challenge directory

andrew:~/18.07/\$ LD_LIBRARY_PATH=fileB1/lib fileB1/bin/file -m fileB1/share/misc/magic.mgc fileB1/inputs/hi fileB1/inputs/hi: ASCII text

Descriptions can easily be used to run a challenge binary on a sample input



• POST inputs to the API with your authorization token

```
curl -F "challenge_id=1" -F "auth_token=YOURTOKEN" -F "input=@your_input"
https://rode0day.mit.edu/api/1.0/submit
```

• If your input causes the program to crash, you will be given a list of bug ID's you triggered

```
bug_ids: [1234]
first_ids: [1234]
requests_remaining: 9941
score: 32
status: 0
status_s: Your input successfully caused the program to a crash
```

Submitting crashing inputs to the API returns a list of bugs discovered



- Root cause analysis is easy for injected bugs
- Injected bugs print warnings when triggered, if compiled with logging flags
- Points awarded if logging is triggered followed by a crash
 - If input causes a crash without triggering logging, team is awarded a special "0-day point"



Configurable LAVALOG macro alerts when a bug is found

963 964 965	p->s[LAVALOG(49401, sizeof(p->s) - 1 +
964	(data_flow[50] * (0x79757648 == data_flow[50])),
965	(0x79757648 == data_flow[50]))] = '\0';

An injected bug using LAVALOG



- Datasets now available for two competitions!
- Archives include:
 - Source code for all challenges
 - LAVA-generated crashing inputs
 - Crashing inputs submitted by competitors
 - Original competition corpus
 - Description of each scoring submission

user_id	challenge_id	bug_id	time
14	1	1480	2018-05-01 22:49:55
14	1	965	2018-05-01 22:49:57
14	1	226	2018-05-01 22:49:57

Archive

This page is an archive of information from previous Rode0day comp

- An answer key for each binary, describing the root cause of eac
- The archived scoreboard and graph for the competition. Current

Competition	Archived Results	Full Dataset
Rode0day-Beta	Results	Beta.tar.gz
Rode0day-18.07	Results	18_07.tar.gz



Preliminary Data Analysis

- Are bugs found in the same order?
- What affects bug difficulty?
- Comparing discovery indexes between teams
 - Where is bug X in the ordered list of bugs found by a team for a given challenge?





•

Bill: Preliminary Analysis





• Is this an easy bug to find?

388	<pre>int main(int argc, char **argv) {</pre>
389	
390	<pre>while (!feof(stdin)) {</pre>
391	<pre>// 13 lines of input parsing hidden- DUAs 0 and 14 saved</pre>
392	if (line->len > 0)
393	process_line(line + (load_dua(1) * (0x4858704c == load_dua(1))

313	<pre>void process_line(String *line) {</pre>
314	// 4 lines hidden- Bugs triggered by DUAs 6 and 26
315	<pre>save_dua(1, *(const unsigned int *)((*line).str));</pre>

Bill source code showing a simplified LAVA bug



• Is this an easy bug to find?

	<pre>int main(int argc, char **argv) {</pre>
389	<pre>// 36 lines of initialization logic hidden</pre>
390 391 392	<pre>while (!feof(stdin)) {</pre>
391	<pre>// 13 lines of input parsing hidden- DUAs 0 and 14 saved</pre>
392	if (line->len > 0)
393	<pre>process_line(line + (load_dua(1) * (0x4858704c == load_dua(1))</pre>

	<pre>void process_line(String *line) {</pre>	
314	<pre>// 4 lines hidden- Bugs triggered by DUAs 6</pre>	<pre>\$ cat input-262</pre>
315	<pre>save_dua(1, *(const unsigned int *)((*line)</pre>	LpXH
	Bill source code showing a simplified LAVA bug	ΑΑΑΑ
		\$./bill 2 2 2 /tmp < input-262
		LpXH
		Segmentation fault
		Simple input file triggers bug



Bill: DUA Instructions

- LAVA captures the number of instructions executed before a DUA is set
- Lower instruction count → earlier in our analyzed execution
 - Other inputs may trigger different control flow to reach DUAs in another order
- Harder to discover bugs injected farther into program's execution^{*}



0 413 1671 1871 2052 2264 2314 2488 2666 3774 3787 3788 3789 3794 3797 3798 4439 4443 4444 6330 6332 6335 6336 6339 6340

Relative DUA Instruction Count / 1000

* Preliminary result from limited analysis



YamIS1: Preliminary Analysis

Binary 9 (YamIS1) Box Plot 120 YamlS1 Team 25 - YAML parser 100 - Source code available - x86 80 **Discovery Index** Multiple teams found bugs in • 60 similar order* Only two scoring teams 40 20 Bug ID



- Detailed data analysis
- More LAVA bug types
- More open-source, reference, bug-finding systems
- More teams competing

Want to get involved?



Rode0day@WOOT

- Rode0day will be at WOOT 2019+
- High-performing and interesting competitors will be invited to give short **presentations**
- Opportunity to share details about their bugfinding systems
- Different approaches can be compared in light of competition results



Approximate view from the stage



Questions?

Get started at Rode0day.mit.edu



Thanks to **LAVA contributors** who helped make Rode0day possible:

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Andrea Mambretti Wil Robertson Aaron Sedlacek Rahul Sridhar Frederick Ulrich Ryan Whelan

Get involved with LAVA at github.com/panda-re/lava





