

The Industrial Age of Hacking

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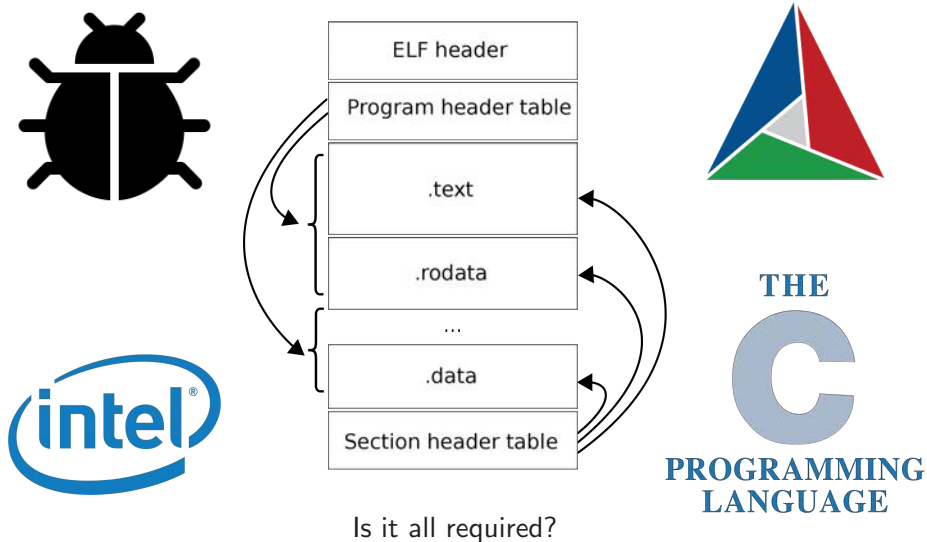
W. Michael Petullo¹

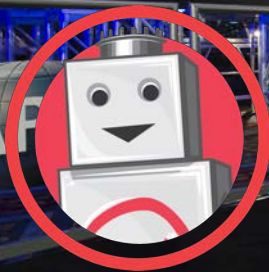
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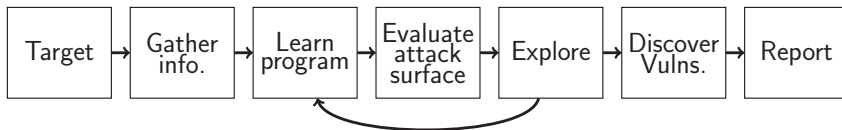
Wouldn't it be great if everyone knew all of this?







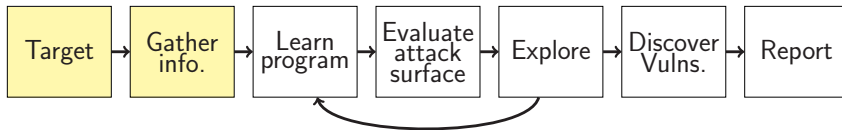
The hacking process



Hackers vs. Testers: A Comparison of Software Vulnerability Discovery Processes

Daniel Votipka, Rock Stevens, Elissa M. Redmiles, Jeremy Hu, and Michelle L. Mazurek
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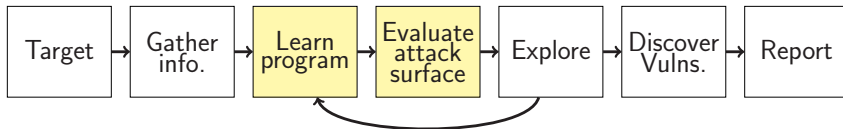
Targeting and information gathering



H₂O

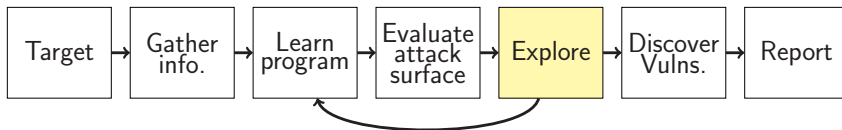


Program understanding and attack surface analysis



- ▶ Identify program's functionality.
- ▶ Rehost, emulate, or run.
- ▶ Prepare the program for fuzzing.

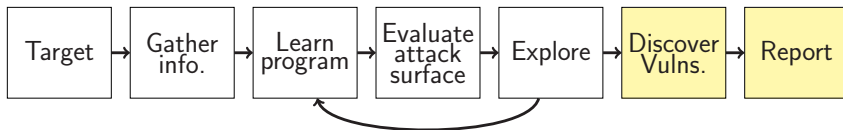
Exploration



```
/bin/bash
-----[ 0 days 00 hrs 14 mins 00 secs ]-----/ honggfuzz 1.3 /-
Iterations : 398,052 [398.05k]
Mode : Feedback Driven Mode (2/2)
Target : './httpd/httpd -X -f /home/jagger/fuzz/apache/dist/conf/h ...'
Threads : 8, CPUs: 8, CPU%: 261% (32%/CPU)
Speed : 323/sec (avg: 473)
Crashes : 90 (unique: 1, blacklist: 0, verified: 0)
Timeouts : [5 sec] 32
Corpus Size : entries: 1,147, max size: 1,048,792, input dir: 8522 files
Cov Update : 0 days 00 hrs 00 mins 05 secs ago
Coverage : edge: 17,019 pc: 410 cmp: 187,266
----- [ LOGS ] -----

Crash (dup): './SIGABRT.PC.7ffff5ef10bb.STACK.18819c8652.CODE.-6.ADDR.(nil).INST
R.mov____0x108(%rsp),%rcx.fuzz' already exists, skipping
[2018-01-18T22:21:22+0100][W][3343] arch_checkWait():308 Persistent mode: PID 21
623 exited with status: SIGNALED, signal: 6 (Aborted)
Persistent mode: Launched new persistent PID: 24520
Crash (dup): './SIGABRT.PC.7ffff5ef10bb.STACK.18819c8652.CODE.-6.ADDR.(nil).INST
R.mov____0x108(%rsp),%rcx.fuzz' already exists, skipping
[2018-01-18T22:21:23+0100][W][3346] arch_checkWait():308 Persistent mode: PID 18
231 exited with status: SIGNALED, signal: 6 (Aborted)
Persistent mode: Launched new persistent PID: 25094
Size:296441 (i,b,hw,edge,ip,cmp): 0/0/0/0/0/1, Tot:0/0/0/17019/410/187266
```


Vulnerability recognition and reporting



- ▶ Explore corpus for bugs: crashes, ASan, valgrind errors.
- ▶ Prioritize, filter, and deduplicate.
- ▶ Write a report that indicates severity: likelihood of vulnerability, projected investment to convert bug into an exploit.

Combining hackers with machines



Human and machine working together, but how?

The prevailing method: depth-first search



CAUTION: Diamond Mining

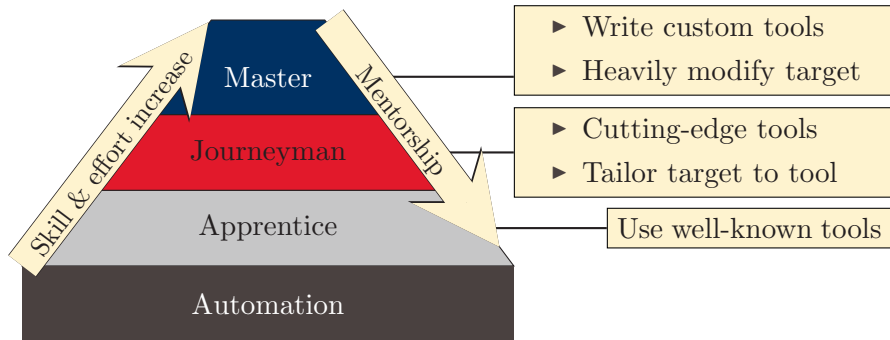
The problem

$$R = \frac{T \times S}{L \times V}$$

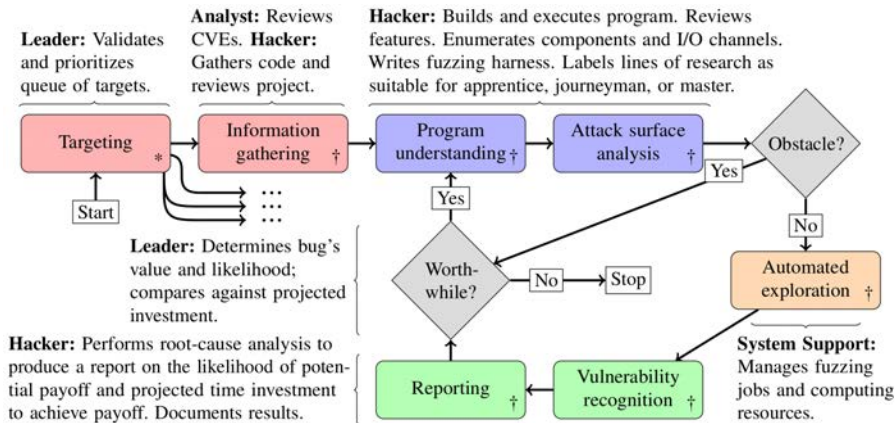
Increases Risk :	Decreases Risk :
Projected T ime investment	L ikelihood of success
Required S kill level	V alue of success

A deliberate risk formula

Our method: breadth-first search



Our method: breadth-first search



Our vulnerability-discovery process adds targeting (*) to the steps of Votipka, et al. (†)

Metaphor: fishing For bugs



There are fish out there. How do we best catch them?

Metaphor: fishing For bugs



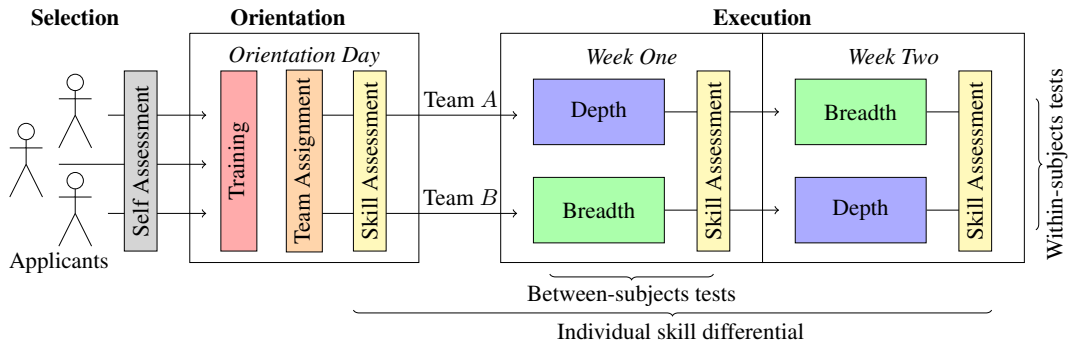
Larger holes in net \implies less friction.

Metaphor: fishing For bugs



Some fish might escape, but we cover more area.

Experimental design



Target selection



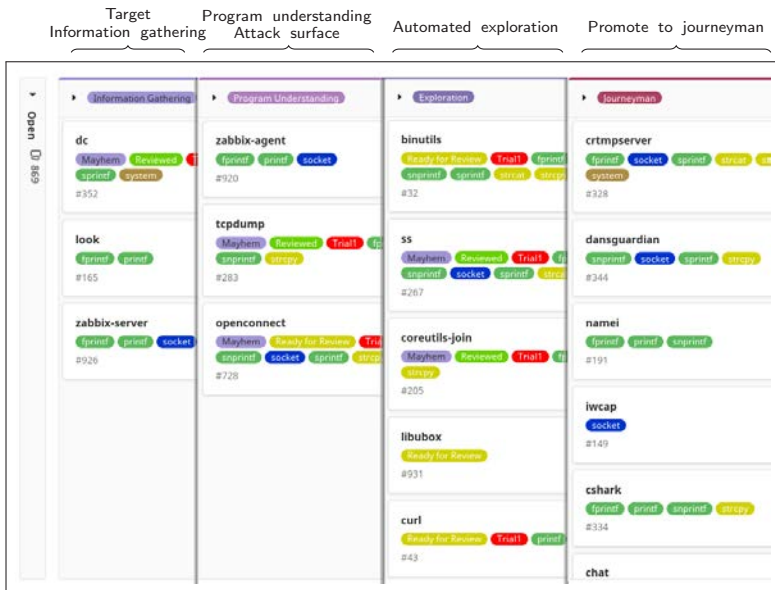


Something else entirely



Strict schedules

Workflow



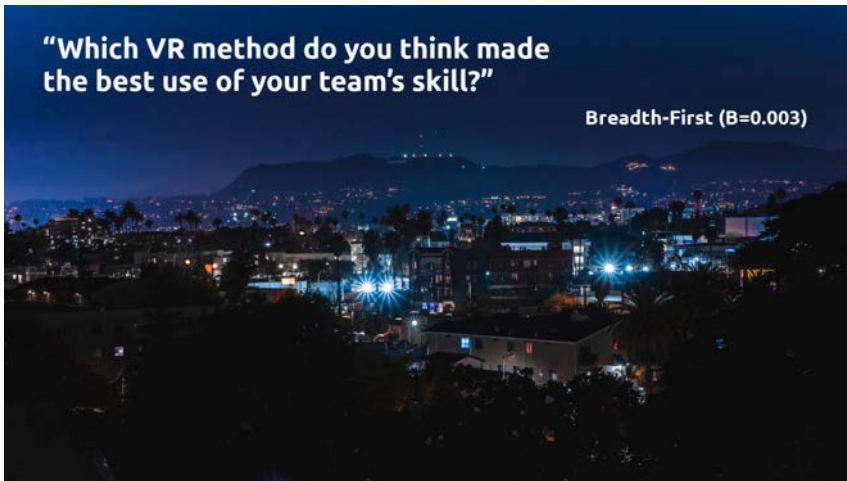
“Which VR method do you feel was more effective?”

Breadth-First ($B=0.019$)



“Which VR method do you think made the best use of your team’s skill?”

Breadth-First (B=0.003)



**"Which VR method do you think is easier
for a novice to contribute to?"**

Breadth-First ($B=2.400 \times 10^{-4}$)



Results: surveys

"Did you learn any valuable skills during the experiment?"

Yes. ($B=2.400 \times 10^{-4}$)





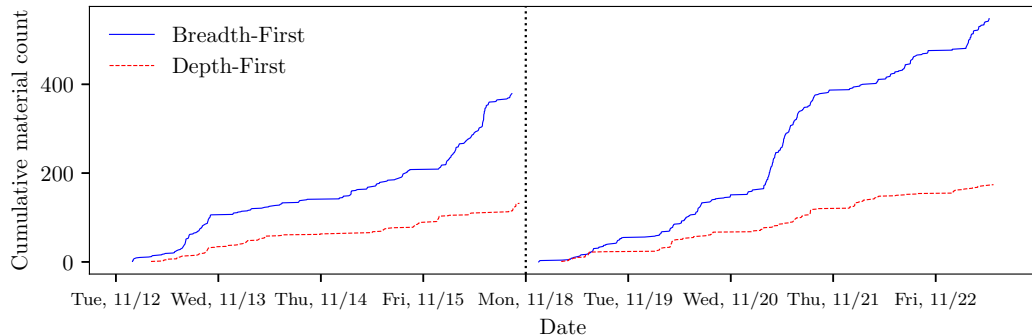
**"How many unique bugs did you find
during the experiment?"**

At least one. ($B=2.400 \times 10^{-4}$)

Results: bugs found

Team	Method	Harnesses	T_0	T_1	T_2
A	S_D	8	3	2	3
A	S_B	42	31	23	40
B	S_B	61	42	49	40
B	S_D	12	4	4	4

Results: documentation produced



Conclusion

We described a repeatable experiment for measuring a novel workflow that:

- ▶ efficiently uses human resources, both novice and expert,
- ▶ **finds more bugs,**
- ▶ produces more documentation and learning resources,
- ▶ better applies automated bug-finding tools, and
- ▶ clearly defines work roles.



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