Attack Models **ISSISP Verona 2014 Christian Collberg** University of Arizona www.cs.arizona.edu/~collberg

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Models

Models

- To build secure systems, we need sound models.
- Which security properties should be assured?
- What type of attacks can be launched?

Principle of Easiest Penetration

Definition (Principle of Easiest Penetration)

An adversary must be expected to use any available means of penetration — not the most obvious means, and not against the part of the system that has been best defended.

• The attacker will not behave the way we want him to behave.

Attack Trees

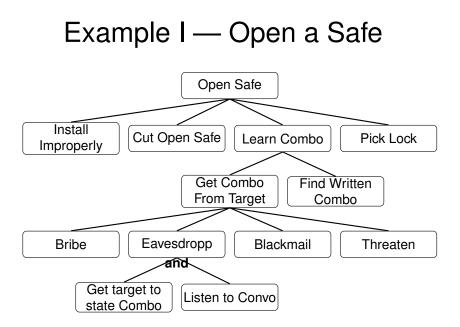
- We need to model threats against computer systems.
- What are the different ways in which a system can be attacked?
- If we can understand this, we can design proper countermeasures.
- Attack trees are a way to methodically describe the security of a system.

Structure of Attack Trees

- The root node is the overall goal the attacker wants to achieve.
- Attack trees have both AND and OR nodes:

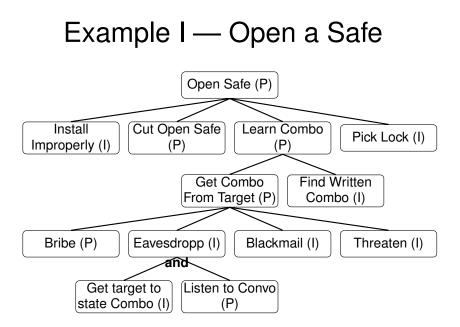
OR: Alternatives to achieving a goal. AND: Different steps toward achieving a goal.

- Each node is a subgoal.
- Child nodes are ways to achieve a subgoal.



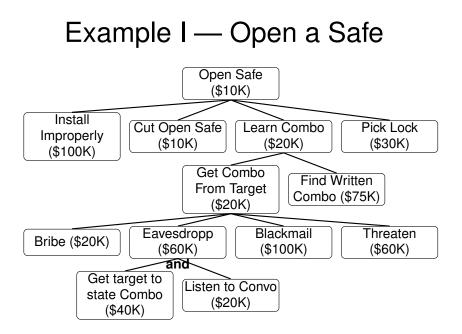
Example I — Open a Safe

- Examine the safe/safe owner/attacker's abilities/etc. and assign values to the nodes:
 - P = Possible
 - I = Impossible
- The value of an OR node is possible if any of its children are possible.
- The value of an AND node is possible if all children are possible.
- A path of P:s from a leaf to the root is a possible attack!
- Once you know the possible attacks, you can think of ways to defend against them!



Example I — Open a Safe

- We can be more specific and model the cost of an attack.
- Costs propagate up the tree:
 OR nodes: take the min of the children.
 AND nodes: take the sum the children.



Goal: Read a message sent from computer A to B.

- Convince sender to reveal message
 - Bribe user, OR
 - Blackmail user, OR
 - OR Threaten user, OR
 - 4 Fool user.

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 - Monitor electromagnetic radiation, OR
 - Visually monitor computer screen.

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 - **2** Visually monitor computer screen.
- Read message while stored on A's disk.
 - Get access to hard drive, AND
 - 2 Read encrypted file.

- Read message while being sent from A to B.
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- Read message while it is being read
 - Monitor electromagnetic radiation, OR
 - **2** Visually monitor computer screen.

- Read message when being stored on B's disk.
 - Get stored message from B's disk after decryption
 - Get access to disk, AND
 - Read encrypted file.
 - OR
 - ② Get stored message from backup tapes after decryption.

- Read message when being stored on B's disk.
 - Get stored message from B's disk after decryption
 - Get access to disk, AND
 - Read encrypted file.
 - OR
 - Get stored message from backup tapes after decryption.
- Get paper printout of message
 - Get physical access to safe, AND
 - Open the safe.

In-class Exercise: Attack Trees

- Alice wants to make sure that Bob cannot log into any account on the Unix machine she is administering.
- Alice draws an attack tree to see what Bob's attack options are.
- Show the tree!
- Source: Michael S. Pallos,

http://www.bizforum.org/whitepapers/candle-4.htm.

- Every night, Alice, 16, sits down with her laptop in front of the TV in the living room and adds a paragraph to her diary, describing her latest dating adventures.
- Bob, her 13-year-old bratty brother, would love to get his grubby hands on her writings.
- Help Bob plan an attack (or Alice to defend herself against an attack!) by constructing a detailed attack tree!

Bob knows this about Alice:

- She writes and stores her diary directly on her laptop.
- The hard drive is encrypted with 512-bit AES.
- She's written down her pass-phrase on a post-it note.
- She stores the post-it note in a safe in her bedroom.

- The safe is locked with a 5-pin pin-and-tumbler lock.
- She carries the key to the safe on a chain around her neck wherever she goes.
- She leaves the laptop next to her bed at night.
- The laptop is always connected to the Internet over wifi.

We know the following about Bob:

- He can roam freely around the house.
- His paper-route has given him the financial means to purchase various attack tools off the Internet.

- Your solution should consider both physical attacks and cyber attacks.
- I will only give you credit for attacks and concepts we have discussed in class!
- You don't have to assign costs to the nodes of the tree.
- Make sure to mark AND and OR nodes unambiguously.
- You can draw the actual tree or, if you prefer, represent the tree with indented, nested, numbered lists.



Attack Targets

What does a typical program look like?

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- What valuables does the program contain?

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- What valuables does the program contain?
- What is the adversary's motivation for attacking your program?

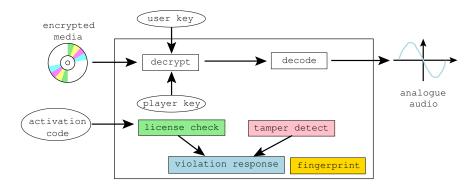
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- What is the adversary's motivation for attacking your program?
- What information does he start out with as he attacks your program?

What is his overall strategy for reaching his goals?

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- What tools does he have to his disposal?

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- What tools does he have to his disposal?
- What specific techniques does he use to attack the program?

Example Program

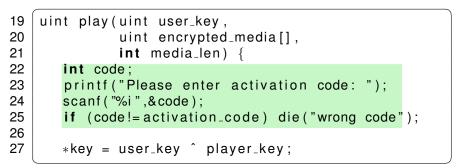


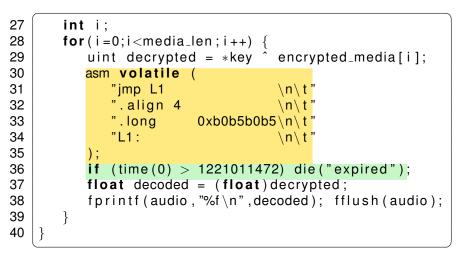
Example Program

```
1 typedef unsigned int uint;
2 typedef uint* waddr_t;
3 uint player_key = 0xbabeca75;
4 uint the_key;
5 uint* key = &the_key;
6 FILE* audio;
7 int activation_code = 42;
```

Example Program

```
void FIRST_FUN() { }
7
8
   uint hash (waddr_t addr, waddr_t last) {
9
       uint h = *addr:
10
       for (; addr<=last; addr++) h^=*addr;
11
       return h;
12
   }
13
   void die (char * msg) {
14
       fprintf(stderr, "%s!\n",msg);
15
       key = NULL;
16
```



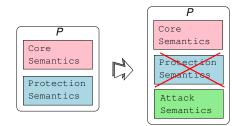


```
41
    void LAST_FUN() { }
42
    uint player_main (uint argc, char *argv[]) {
43
       uint user_key = \cdots
44
       uint encrypted_media[100] = \cdots
45
       uint media len = \cdots
46
       uint hashVal = hash((waddr_t)FIRST_FUN,
47
                             (waddr_t)LAST_FUN);
48
       if (hashVal != HASH) die("tampered");
49
       play(user_key, encrypted_media, media_len);
50
```

What's the Adversary's Motivation?

The adversary's wants to

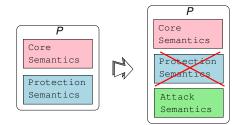
remove the protection semantics.



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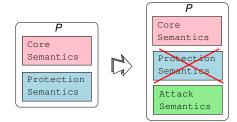
The adversary's wants to

- remove the protection semantics.
- add his own attack semantics (ability to save game-state, print,...)



What's the Adversary's Motivation?

- The adversary's wants to
 - remove the protection semantics.
 - add his own attack semantics (ability to save game-state, print,...)
 - ensure that the core semantics remains unchanged.



get decrypted digital media

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- reverse engineer the algorithms in the player

the black box phase

- feed the program inputs,
- record its outputs,
- draw conclusions about its behavior.

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- the dynamic analysis phase
 - execute the program
 - record which parts get executed for different inputs.
- the static analysis phase
 - examining the executable code directly
 - use disassembler, decompiler, ...

the editing phase

- use understanding of the internals of the program
- modify the executable
- disable license checks

the editing phase

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- modify the executable
- disable license checks
- 5 the *automation* phase.
 - encapsulates his knowledge of the attack in an automated script
 - use in future attacks.



Cracking with gdb

Learning the executable (Linux)



Print dynamic symbols:

> objdump -T player2



2 Disassemble:

> objdump -d player2 | head



Start address:

> objdump -f player2 | grep start

Address and size of segments:

objdump -x player2 | egrep 'rodata|text|Name'

Learning the executable (Mac OS X)



Print dynamic symbols:

> objdump -T player2

2 Disassemble:

> otool -t -v player2

Start address:

> otool -t -v player2 | head

Address and size of segments:

otool -l player2 | gawk '/__text/,/size/{print}' otool -l player2 | gawk '/__cstring/,/size/{print}'

Learning the executable



Find strings in the program:

> strings player2

2 The strings and their offsets:

> strings -o player2

The bytes of the executable:

> od -a player2

Tracing the executable



Itrace traces library calls:

> ltrace -i -e printf player2

strace traces system calls:

> strace -i -e write player2

On Mac OS X:

sudo dtruss player1

Debugging with gdb



To start gdb:

gdb -write -silent --args player2 0xca7ca115 1000

Search for a string in an executable:

(gdb) find startaddress, +length, "string" find startaddress, stopaddress, "string" (adb)

Debugging with gdb



Breakpoints:

(gdb) **break** *0x..... (gdb) hbreak *0x.....

hbreak sets a hardware breakpoint which doesn't modify the executable itself.



Watchpoints:

(gdb) rwatch *0x..... (qdb) awatch *0x.....

Debugging with gdb...

To disassemble instructions:

(qdb) disass startaddress endaddress (qdb) x/3i address

- (qdb) x/i \$pc
- To examine data (x=hex,s=string, d=decimal, b=byte,...):

(qdb) x/x address(qdb) x/s address

(qdb) x/d address

(qdb) x/b address



(qdb) info registers

Debugging with gdb...

Examine the callstack:

(gdb)	where	
(gdb)	bt	same as where
(gdb)	up	previous frame
(gdb)	down	next frame



Step one instruction at a time:

(qdb) display/i \$pc (gdb) stepi -- step one instruction (gdb) nexti -- step over function calls

Modify a value in memory:

(qdb) set {unsigned char}address = value (qdb) set {**int**}address = value

Patching executables with gdb

Cracking an executable proceedes in these steps:

- find the right address in the executable,
- find what the new instruction should be,
- o modify the instruction in memory,
- save the changes to the executable file.

Start the program to allow patching:

> gdb -write -q player1

Make the patch and exit:

```
(gdb) set {unsigned char \} 0x804856f = 0x7f (gdb) quit
```



Let's Attack!

Let's crack!

- Let's get a feel for the types of techniques attackers typically use.
- Our example cracking target will be the DRM player.
- Our chief cracking tool will be the gdb debugger.

Step 1: Learn about the executable

```
> file player
player: ELF 64-bit LSB executable, dynamically linked
> objdump -T player
DYNAMIC SYMBOL TABLE:
0xa4 scanf
0x90 fprintf
0x12 time
> objdump -x player | egrep 'rodata | text | Name'
Name
          Size VMA LMA File off
.text
           0x4f8 0x4006a0 0x4006a0 0x6a0
                    0x400ba8 0x400ba8 0xba8
. rodata
           0x84
> objdump -f player | grep start
start address 0x4006a0
```

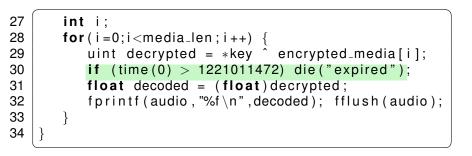
Step 2: Breaking on library functions

- Treat the program as a black box
- Feed it inputs to see how it behaves.

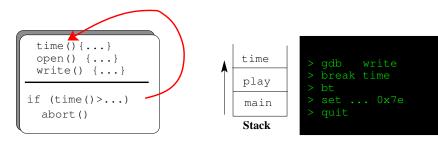
```
> player 0xca7ca115 1 2 3 4
Please enter activation code: 42
expired!
Segmentation fault
```

- Find the assembly code equivalent of
 - if (time(0) > some value)...
- Replace it with

if (time(0) <= some value)...



Breaking on library functions





Step 2: Breaking on library functions

At 0x4008bc is the offending conditional branch:

```
> gdb -write -silent -args player 0xca7ca115 \
                     1000 2000 3000 4000
(qdb) break time
Breakpoint 1 at 0x400680
(gdb) run
Please enter activation code: 42
Breakpoint 1, 0x400680 in time()
(gdb) where 2
#0 0x400680 in time
#1 0x4008b6 in ??
(gdb) up
#1 0x4008b6 in ??
(gdb) disassemble $pc-5 $pc+7
0x4008b1
           callq
                 0x400680
0x4008b6 cmp
                 $0x48c72810.%rax
0x4008bc
         ile
                 0x4008c8
```

X86 condition codes

CCCC	Name	Means
0000	0	overflow
0001	NO	Not overflow
0010	C/B/NAE	Carry, below, not above nor equal
0011	NC/AE/NB	Not carry, above or equal, not below
0100	E/Z	Equal, zero
0101	NE/NZ	Not equal, not zero
0110	BE/NA	Below or equal, not above
0111	A/NBE	Above, not below nor equal
1000	S	Sign (negative)
1001	NS	Not sign
1010	P/PE	Parity, parity even
1011	NP/PO	Not parity, parity odd
1100	L/NGE	Less, not greater nor equal
1101	GE/NL	Greater or equal, not less
1110	LE/NG	Less or equal, not greater
1111	G/NLE	Greater, not less nor equal

Step 2: Breaking on library functions

Patch the executable:

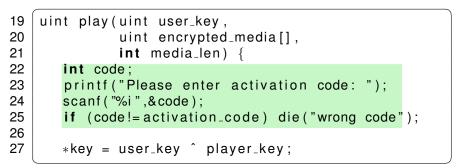
replace the jle with a jg (x86 opcode 0x7f)

(gdb) set {unsigned **char**}0x4008bc = 0x7f (gdb) disassemble 0x4008bc 0x4008be 0x4008bc jg 0x4008c8

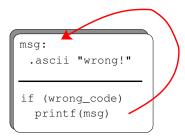
Step 3: Static pattern-matching

search the executable for character strings.

```
> player 0xca7ca115 1000 2000 3000 4000
tampered!
Please enter activation code: 99
wrong code!
Segmentation fault
```



Static pattern-matching



> gdb
> find "wrong!"
found at 0x0b9a
> find 0x0b9a
found at 0x6a3c
> disas



Step 3: Static pattern-matching

 the code that checks the activation code looks something like this:

addr1:	.ascii "wrong code"									
addr2 :	cmp je move call	<i>read_value,activation_code</i> somewhere addr1, reg0 printf								

Step 3: Static pattern-matching

- search the data segment to find address addr1 where "wrong code" is allocated.
- search through the text segment for an instruction that contains that address as a literal:

```
(gdb) find 0x400ba8,+0x84,"wrong code"

0x400be2

(gdb) find 0x4006a0,+0x4f8,0x400be2

0x400862

(gdb) disassemble 0x40085d 0x400867

0x40085d cmp %eax,%edx

0x40085f je 0x40086b

0x400861 mov $0x400be2,%edi

0x400866 callq 0x4007e0
```

Step 5: Recovering internal data

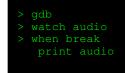
ask the debugger to print out decrypted media data!

```
(gdb) hbreak *0x4008a6
(gdb) commands
>x/x -0x8+$rbp
>continue
>end
(qdb) cont
Please enter activation code: 42
Breakpoint 2, 0x4008a6
0x7ffffffdc88: 0xbabec99d
Breakpoint 2, 0x4008a6
0x7ffffffdc88: 0xbabecda5
```

. . .

Recovering internal data







Step 6: Tampering with the environment

- To avoid triggering the timeout, wind back the system clock!
- Change the library search path to force the program to pick up hacked libraries!
- Hack the OS (we'll see this later).

Tampering with the environment

if (time()>...)
 abort()

> set time 19551112,10:04pm

> player

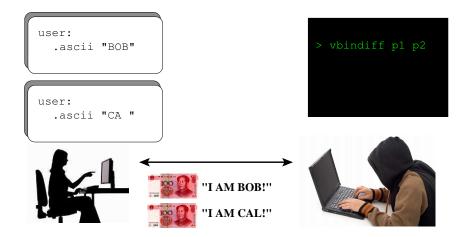


Step 8: Differential attacks

- Find two differently fingerprinted copies of the program
- Diff them!

asm asm imp L1" ∖n∖t imp L1 n∖t .align 4 ∖n∖t .align 4 n\ 0xb0b5b0b5\n\t 0xada5ada5\n\t' ".long .long "L1: \n\t "L1: ∖n∖t"););

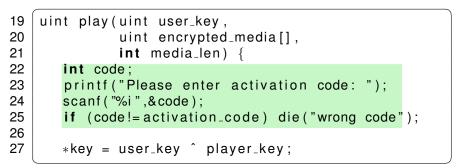
Differential attacks

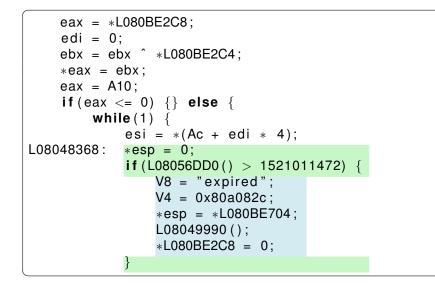


player3-static-stripped-opt																			
0000	03C0:	33	1D	42	8D	28	00	48	8B	05	43	8D	28	00	45	85		3.B.(.H.	.C.(.E
	03D0:		18		8E	98				31	DB	EB	46	OF	1F	40			1F@.
	03E0:	44	89		48	8B	ЗD	86	C6	28		BE	83	75	46		31	DH.=	(uF.1
	03F0:	Ε8	48	83	C3	01	FЗ	48		2A	CO	В8	01					.HH.	
0000	0400:	14	CO		5A	CO	E8	Aб	15			48	8B		5F	C6	28		H.= .(
	0410:		Ε8	6A	17			41			7E		48	8B		$\mathbf{E}\mathbf{E}$	8C	jA9	.~UH
0000	0420:	28		44	8B		41	8B	2C		\mathbf{EB}			B5	BO	B 5	BO	(.D. A.,	
	0430:	31	$\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}$	E8	C9	14	01		48			CB	A8	5A	7E	A1	48	1H	=Z~.H
0000	0440:	8B		D2	93	28		BA	8E		47		BE	70	75	46			.GpuF.
0000	0450:	31	CO	E8	59	15			48	C7		AE	8C	28				1YH	
	0460:				79	$\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}$	FF	FF			1F	84						yf	
	0470:							41	5C	41	5D	41	5E	C3	0F	1F	00	H[]A\	A]A^
	player3A-static-stripped-opt																		
	0300:										43				45				.C.(.E
	03D0:							00			DB		46			40			1F@.
	03E0:							86		28		BE			46				(uF.1
	03F0:											B8			00	00			*******
	0400:											48				C6			••H•=_•(
	0410:									DD									.~UH
	0420:									9E					AD				
	0430:						01	00			10				7E				=Z~.H
	0440:										47				75				.GpuF.
	0450:											AE							
	0460:							FF	66	OF	1F					00			
0000	0470:	48	83	C4	10	5B	5D	41	5C	41	5D	41	5E	C3	0F	1F	00	H[]A\	A]A^
1aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa																			
										difference ESC quit							T move top		
KC AS	SCII/EI	BCD1	1C	Е	ed:	it i	til∢		Gg		pos	sit:	ion		Ş	5 di	lit	B move b	ottom
<u> </u>																			

Step 9: Decompilation

```
L080482A0(A8, Ac, A10) {
    ebx = A8;
    esp = "Please enter activation code: ";
    eax = L080499C0();
    V4 = ebp - 16;
    *esp = 0x80a0831;
    eax = L080499F0();
    eax = *(ebp - 16);
    if (eax != *L080BE2CC) {
        V8 = "wrong code";
        V4 = 0x80a082c:
        *esp = *L080BE704;
        eax = L08049990();
        *L080BE2C8 = 0;
```





```
1
   typedef unsigned int uint;
2
   typedef uint* waddr_t;
3
   uint player_key = 0xbabeca75:
4
   uint the_key;
5
   uint* key = &the_key;
   FILE * audio:
6
7
   int activation_code = 42;
8
9
   void FIRST_FUN(){}
10
   uint hash (waddr_t addr, waddr_t last) {
11
       uint h = *addr;
12
       for (; addr <= last; addr ++) h^= * addr;
       return h:
13
14
   }
15
   void die (char* msg) {
16
       fprintf(stderr, "%s!\n",msg);
17
       kev = NULL:
18
```

```
ebx = ebx \hat{esi};
             (save)0:
             edi = edi + 1;
             (save)ebx:
            esp = esp + 8;
            V8 = *esp;
            V4 = "\%f | n"; *esp = *L080C02C8;
            eax = L08049990();
            eax = *L080C02C8:
            *esp = eax;
            eax = L08049A20();
             if (edi == A10) {goto L080483a7;}
            eax = *L080BE2C8; ebx = *eax;
        ch = 176; ch = 176;
        goto L08048368;
L080483a7:
```

```
L080483AF(A8, Ac) {
    ecx = 0x8048260:
    edx = 0x8048230;
    eax = *L08048230;
    if (0 \times 8048260 >= 0 \times 8048230) {
        do {
             eax = eax ^ *edx;
             edx = edx + 4;
        } while (ecx \ge edx);
    if (eax != 318563869) {
        V8 = "tampered";
        V4 = 0x80a082c;
        *esp = *L080BE704;
        L08049990();
        *L080BE2C8 = 0:
    V8 = A8 - 2:
    V4 = ebp + -412;
    *esp = *(ebp + -416);
    return(L080482A0());
```

```
1
   typedef unsigned int uint;
2
   typedef uint* waddr_t;
3
   uint player_key = 0xbabeca75:
4
   uint the_key;
5
   uint * key = &the_key;
   FILE * audio:
6
7
   int activation_code = 42;
8
9
   void FIRST_FUN(){}
10
   uint hash (waddr_t addr, waddr_t last) {
11
       uint h = *addr;
12
       for (; addr <= last; addr ++) h^= * addr;
       return h:
13
14
   }
15
   void die (char* msg) {
16
       fprintf(stderr, "%s!\n",msg);
17
       kev = NULL:
18
```



Discussion

 Pattern-match on static code and execution patterns.

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- Compare two related program versions.
- Modify the executable.
- **Tamper** with the execution environment.

In-Class Exercise

- Alice writes a program that she only wants Bob to execute 5 times.
- At the end of each run, the program writes a file .AliceSecretCount with the number of runs so far.
- At the beginning of each run, the program reads the file .AliceSecretCount and, if the number of runs so far is ≥ 5, it exits with an error message BAD BOB!.
- Draw a detailed attack tree with all attacks available to Bob!