



CATERPILLAR: Iterative Concolic Execution for seed generation

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KNOX Security Team, Mountain View, CA

Agenda

1

Background

2

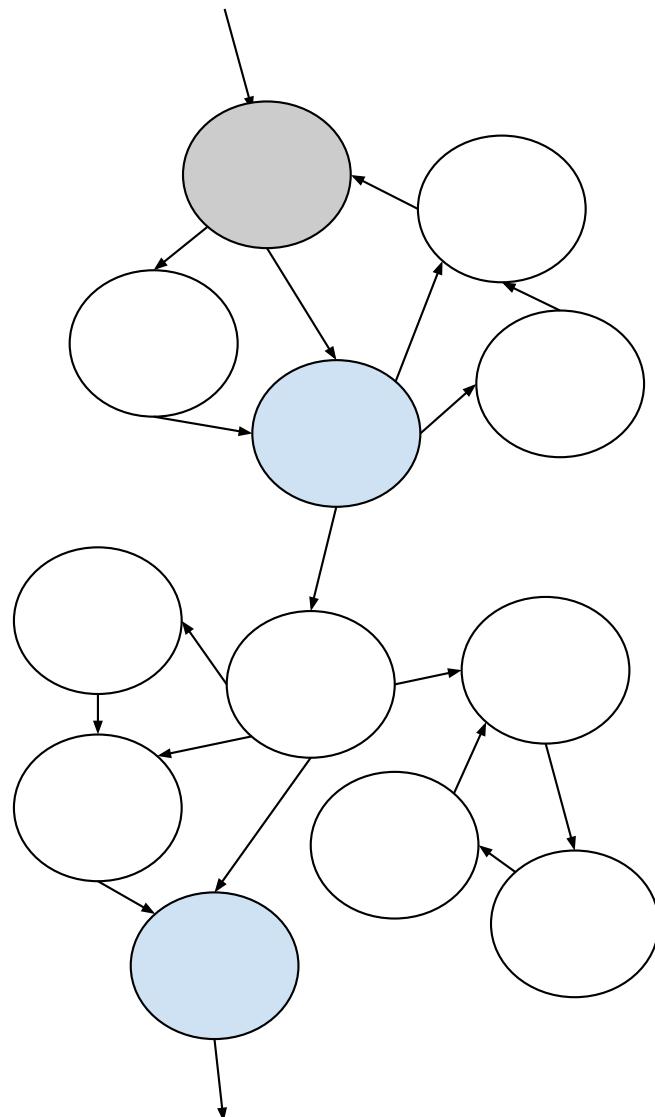
Original Idea and Evolution

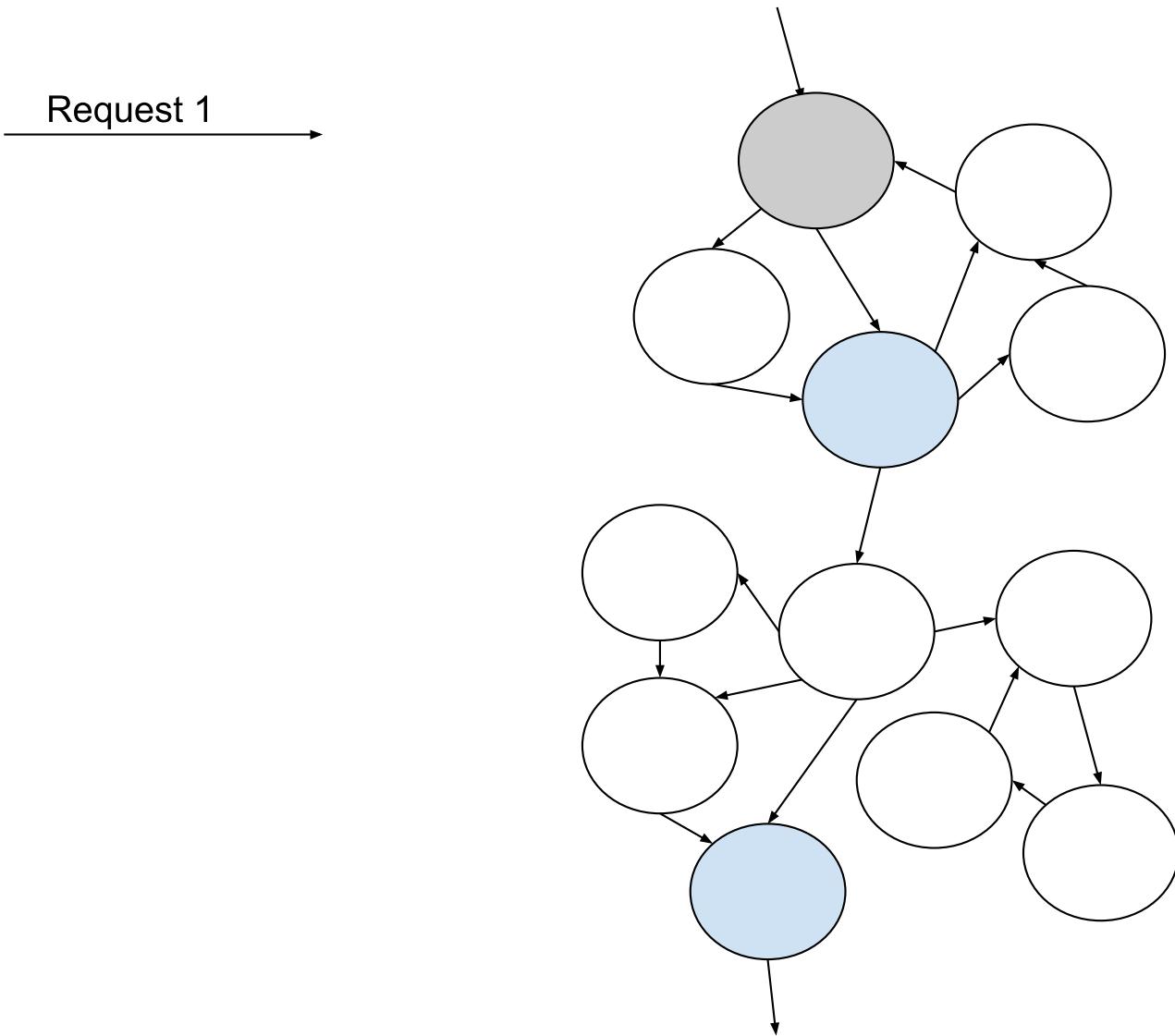
3

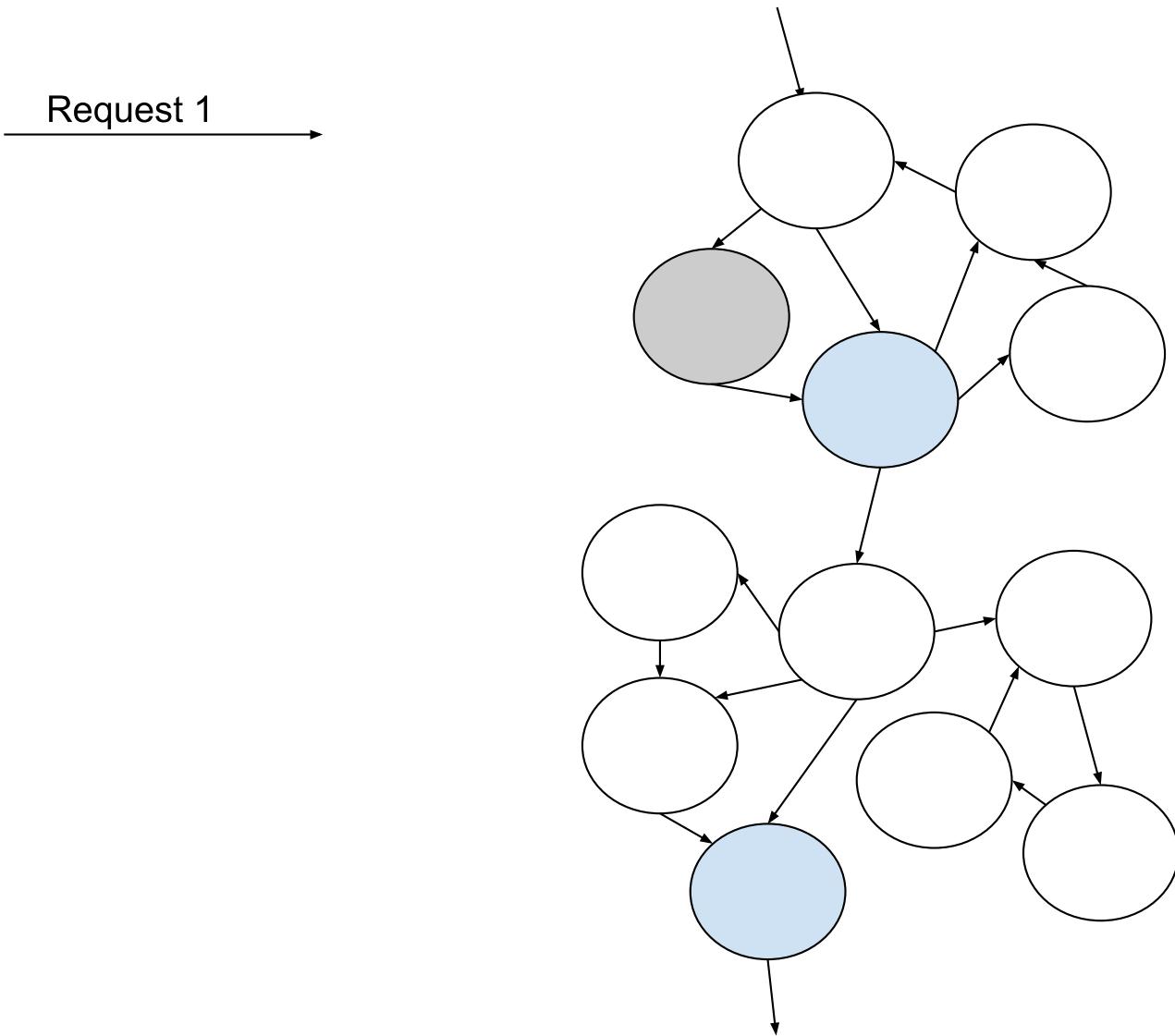
Evaluation

Stateful programs

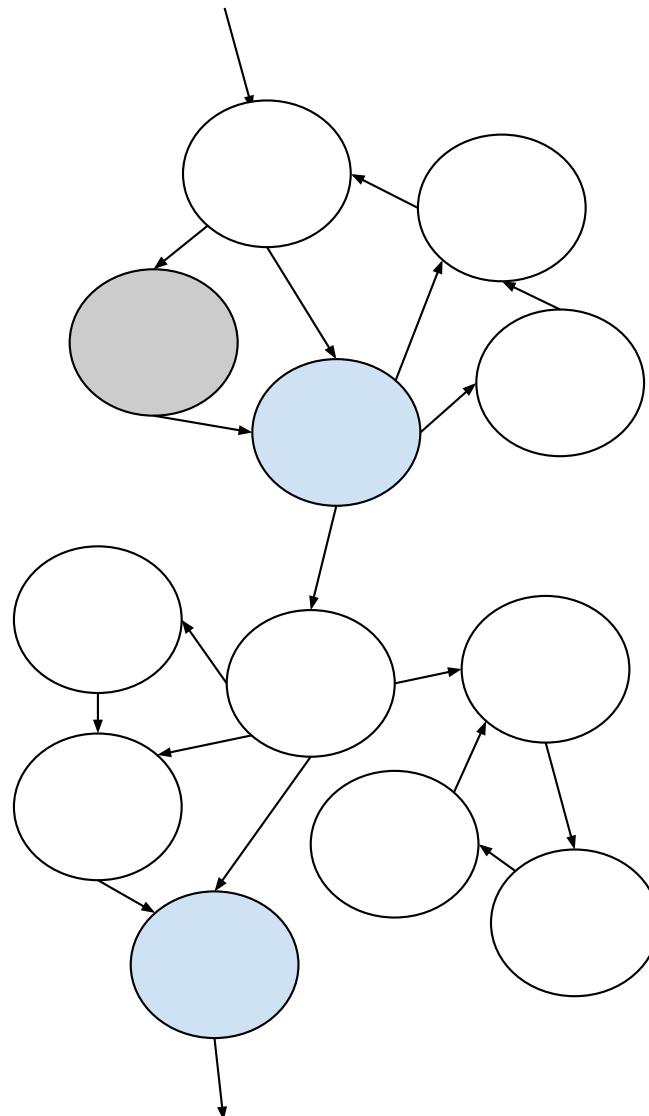
- Daemon
- State changes as the result of processing commands



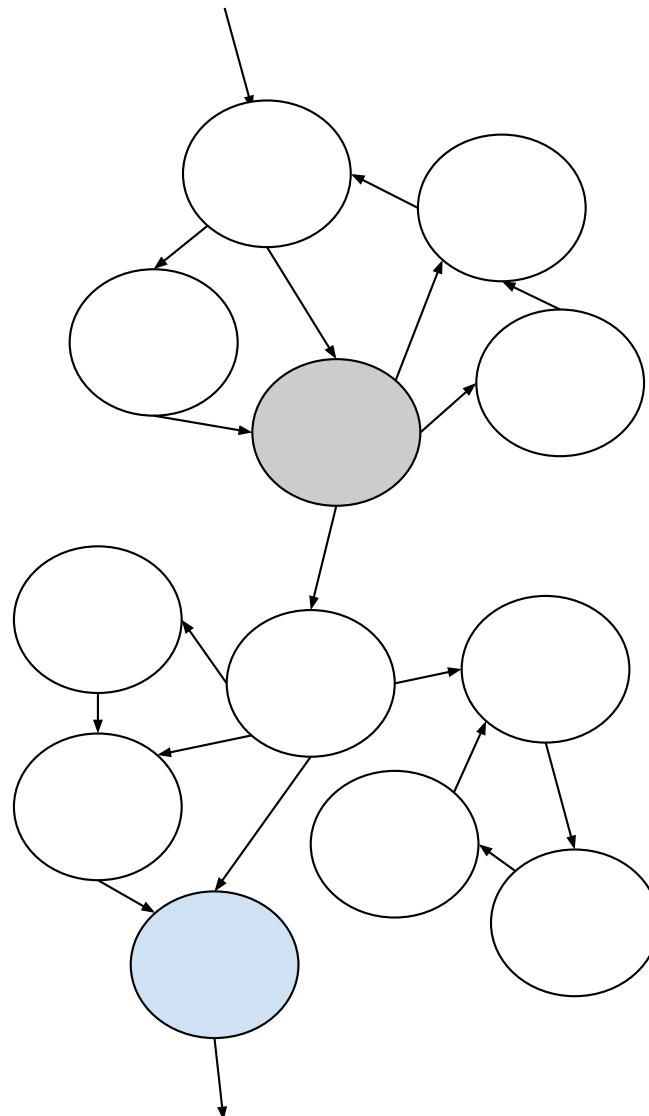




Request 1 →
Request 2 →



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Request 2 →



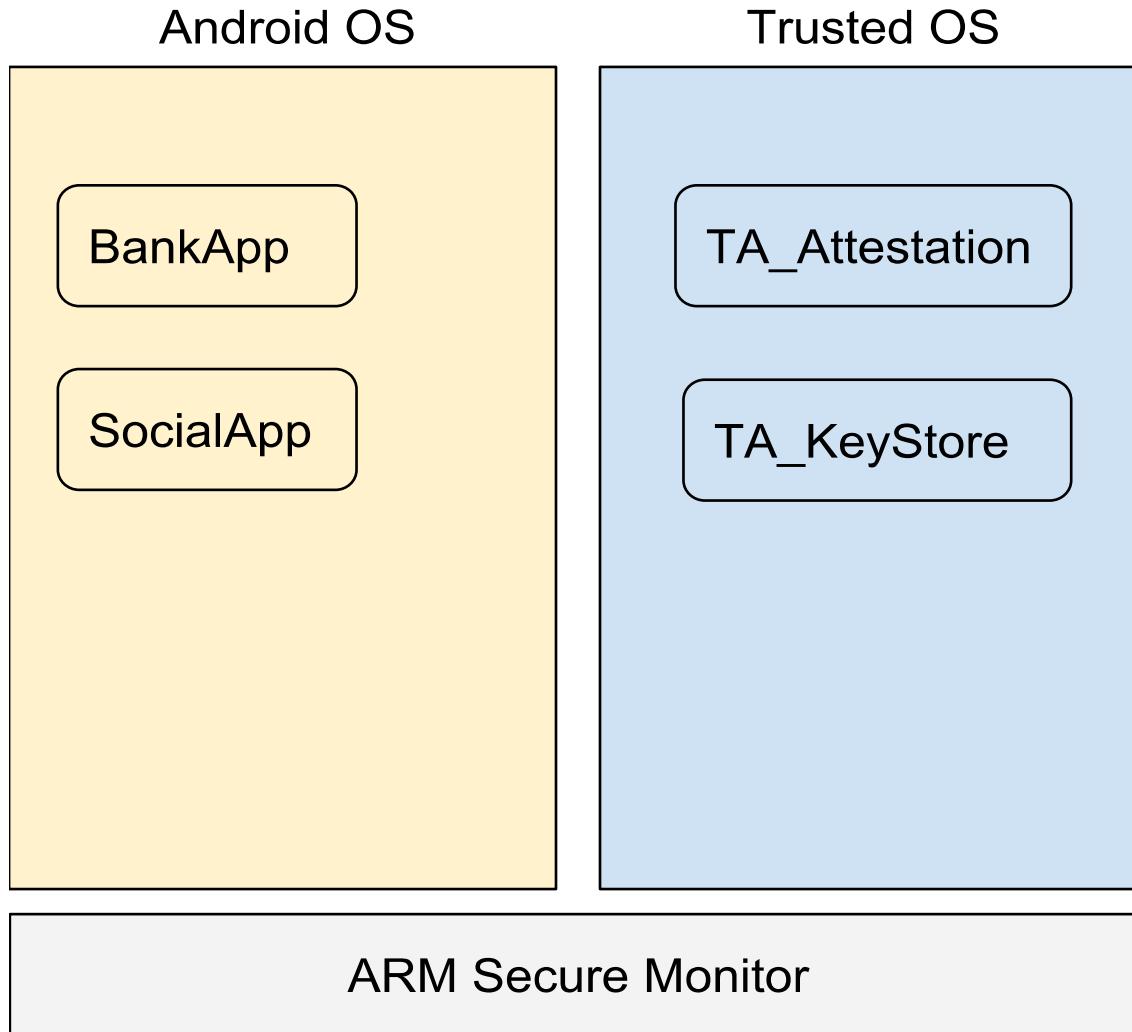
Current Approaches

- KLEE path explosion (plateau after a few hours)
- AFL large input mutation (plateau after 1 hour)
- Guided fuzzing (KLEE w/ AFL: SEFuzzer), often requires an initial seed

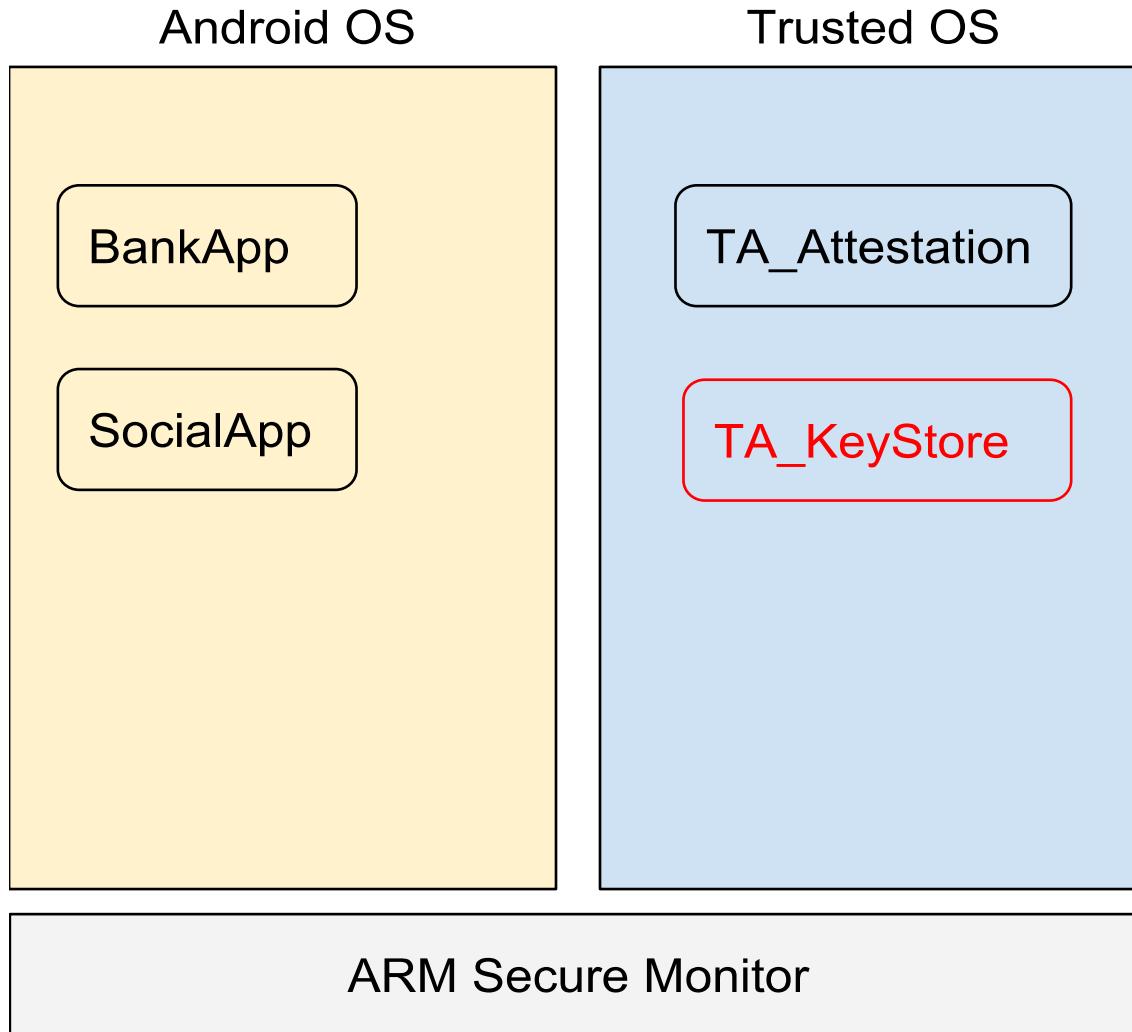
Our goals: CATERPILLAR

- Drive down the execution in a efficient way / navigate state machine
- Generate quality inputs for a fuzzer
- Bonus: find bugs during seed generation too

Stateful programs at Samsung



Stateful programs at Samsung



```
int main() {  
  
    while(1) {  
  
        request_t req = {0};  
        getClientRequest( &req );  
  
        switch(req.command) {  
  
            case CMD_OPEN:  
                OpenSession(req.buf, req.len);  
                break;  
  
            case CMD_INIT:  
                Init(req.buf, req.len);  
                break;  
  
            case CMD_WHATEVER:  
                Whatever(req.buf, req.len);  
                break;  
  
        }  
    }  
}
```

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                break;  
  
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                Init(req.buf, req.len);  
                break;  
  
            case CMD_WHATEVER:  
                Whatever(req.buf, req.len);  
                break;  
  
        }  
    }  
}
```

```
int main() {  
  
    request_t req = {0};  
  
    // ... read client data  
  
    Init(req.buf, req.len);  
  
    OpenSession(req.buf, req.len);  
  
    Decrypt(req.buf, req.len);  
  
}
```

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Evaluation

```

int Init(u8 * buf, size_t len) {

    Session_t * session = 0;

    /*  

     * some complicated logic here, eg  

     */

    if ( validateAppData(buf, len) != 0 )
        return ERROR_DATA;

    if ( createNewSession(&session) != 0 )
        return ERROR_CREATE;

    if ( generateSessionId(&session) != 0 )
        return ERROR_SESSION;

    // and so on and so forth
    ...

    session->state = SESSION_CLOSED;

    // add the session to list of sessions
    addSessionToList(session);

    return OK;
}

```

```

int OpenSession(int sessionId,
                u8 * buf, size_t len) {

    Session_t * session = 0;

    // find session
    if ( findSession(&session, &sessionId) != 0 )
        return ERROR_DATA;

    // check session state
    if ( session->state != SESSION_CLOSED )
        return ERROR_STATE;

    if ( DoOpenSession(session, buf, len) != 0 )
        return ERROR_SESSION;

    // and so on and so forth
    ...

    session->state = SESSION_OPENED;

    return OK;
}

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```

int Init(u8 * buf, size_t len) {

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    if ( DoOpenSession(session, buf, len) != 0 )  
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    // check session state  
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    if ( DoOpenSession(session, buf, len) != 0 )  
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    // check session state  
    if ( session->state != SESSION_CLOSED )  
        return ERROR_STATE;  
  
    if ( DoOpenSession(session, buf, len) != 0 )  
        return ERROR_SESSION;  
  
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    session->state = SESSION_OPENED;  
  
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```

Key ideas

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 - i. Randomly pick a .ktest file and replay it concretely in new KLEE instance

Key ideas

- 1) Execute Init() symbolically in KLEE
- 2) Filter out “unsuccessful” states, i.e., that do not return OK
- 3) Concretize successful states as .ktest files and stop KLEE
 - i. Randomly pick a .ktest file and replay it concretely in new KLEE instance
 - ii. Switch to symbolic exploration in OpenSession()

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    session->state = SESSION_CLOSED;  
  
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    if ( findSession(&session, &sessionId) != 0 )  
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    // check session state  
    if ( session->state != SESSION_CLOSED )  
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    if ( session->state != SESSION_CLOSED )
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    if ( DoOpenSession(session, buf, len) != 0 )
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    if ( createNewSession(&session) != 0 )
        return ERROR_CREATE;

    if ( generateSessionId(&session) != 0 )
        return ERROR_SESSION;

    // and so on and so forth
    ...

    session->state = SESSION_CLOSED;

    // add the session to list of sessions
    addSessionToList(session);

    return OK;
}

```

↓

```

int OpenSession(int sessionId,
               u8 * buf, size_t len) {

    Session_t * session = 0;

    // find session
    if ( findSession(&session, &sessionId) != 0 )
        return ERROR_DATA;

    // check session state
    if ( session->state != SESSION_CLOSED )
        return ERROR_STATE;

    if ( DoOpenSession(session, buf, len) != 0 )
        return ERROR_SESSION;

    // and so on and so forth
    ...

    session->state = SESSION_OPENED;

    return OK;
}

```

Advantages

- ✓ Reduce path explosion
- ✓ Drive down the execution path efficiently
- ✗ Lose in soundness (i.e., increase in false negative) which we make up for with a fuzzer

Every program is “stateful”

- Stateful programs not predominant
- Other programs of interest:
 - e.g. X509 ASN1 certificate parsing ([https](https://), TLS)

```
int x509_crt_parse_der_core(
    u8 * buf, size_t len)
{
    ...
    if( ( ret = mbedtls_asn1_get_tag( ... ) ) != 0 )
    {
        mbedtls_x509_crt_free( crt );
        return( SOME_ERROR );
    }
    ...
    if( ( ret = mbedtls_asn1_get_tag( ... ) ) != 0 )
    {
        mbedtls_x509_crt_free( crt );
        return( SOME_ERROR );
    }
    ...
    if( ( ret = mbedtls_x509_get_sig_alg( ... ) ) != 0 )
    {
        mbedtls_x509_crt_free( crt );
        return( ret );
    }
    ...
    return OK;
}
```

```

int x509_crt_parse_der_core(  

    u8 * buf, size_t len)  

{  

    ...  

    if( ( ret = mbedtls_asn1_get_tag( ... ) ) != 0 )  

    {  

        mbedtls_x509_crt_free( crt );  

        return( SOME_ERROR );  

    }  

    ...  

    if( ( ret = mbedtls_asn1_get_tag( ... ) ) != 0 )  

    {  

        mbedtls_x509_crt_free( crt );  

        return( SOME_ERROR );  

    }  

    if( ( ret = mbedtls_x509_get_sig_alg( ... ) ) != 0 )  

    {  

        mbedtls_x509_crt_free( crt );  

        return( ret );  

    }  

    ...  

    return OK;  

}

```

```

int main() {  

    ...  

    if (Init(req.buf, req.len) != OK)  

        return ERROR;  

    ...  

    if (OpenSession(req.buf, req.len) != OK)  

        return ERROR;  

    ...  

    if (Decrypt(req.buf, req.len) != OK)  

        return ERROR;  

    ...  

    return OK;  

}

```

Agenda

1

Background

2

Original Idea and Evolution

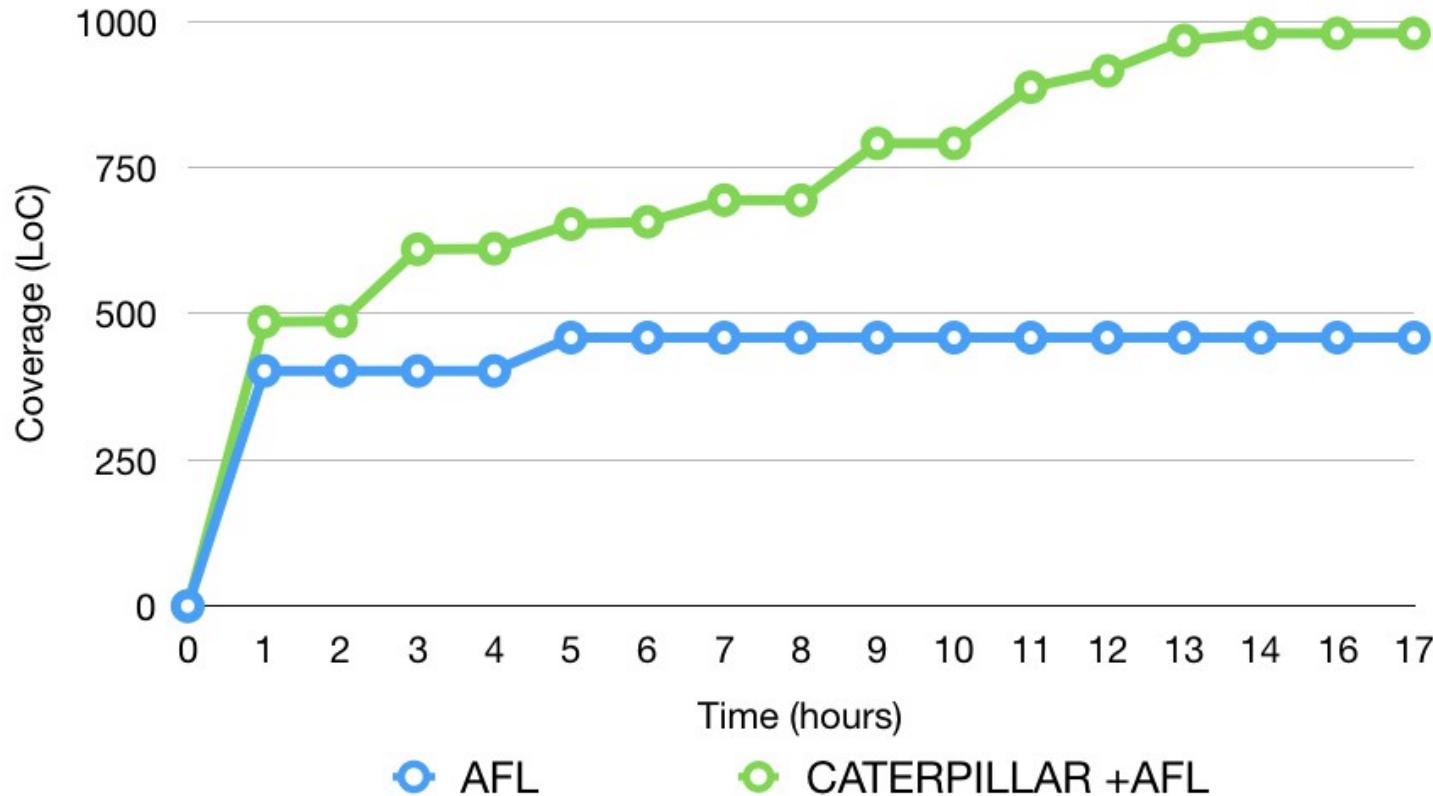
3

Evaluation

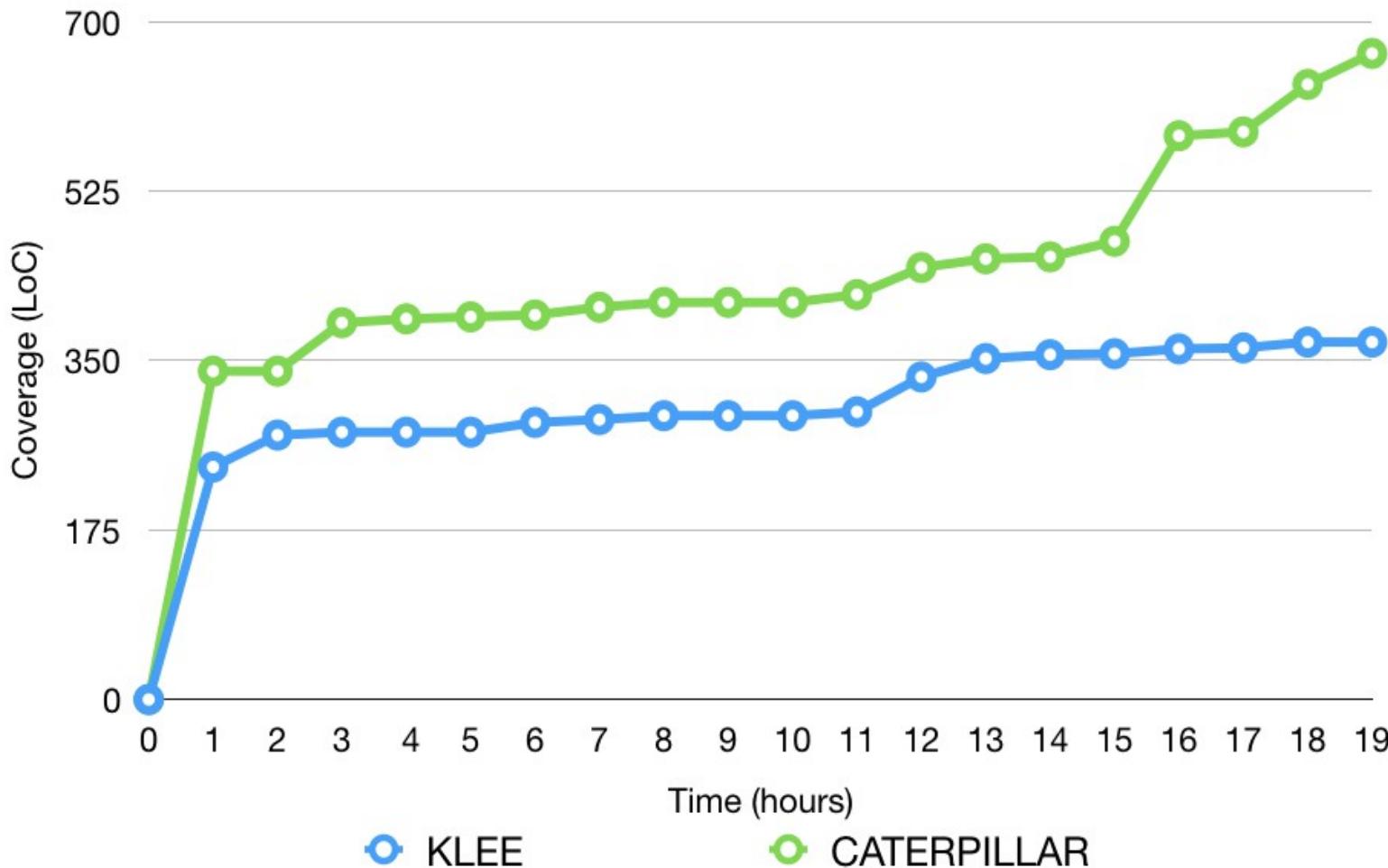
Setup

- 64-bit Ubuntu 16GB Intel Xeon E5-2650 @ 2GHz (16 cores)
- Analysis
 - KLEE alone
 - AFL alone
 - CATERPILLAR + AFL
 - CATERPILLAR and AFL run in parallel
 - CATERPILLAR (KLEE) seeds → AFL seeds

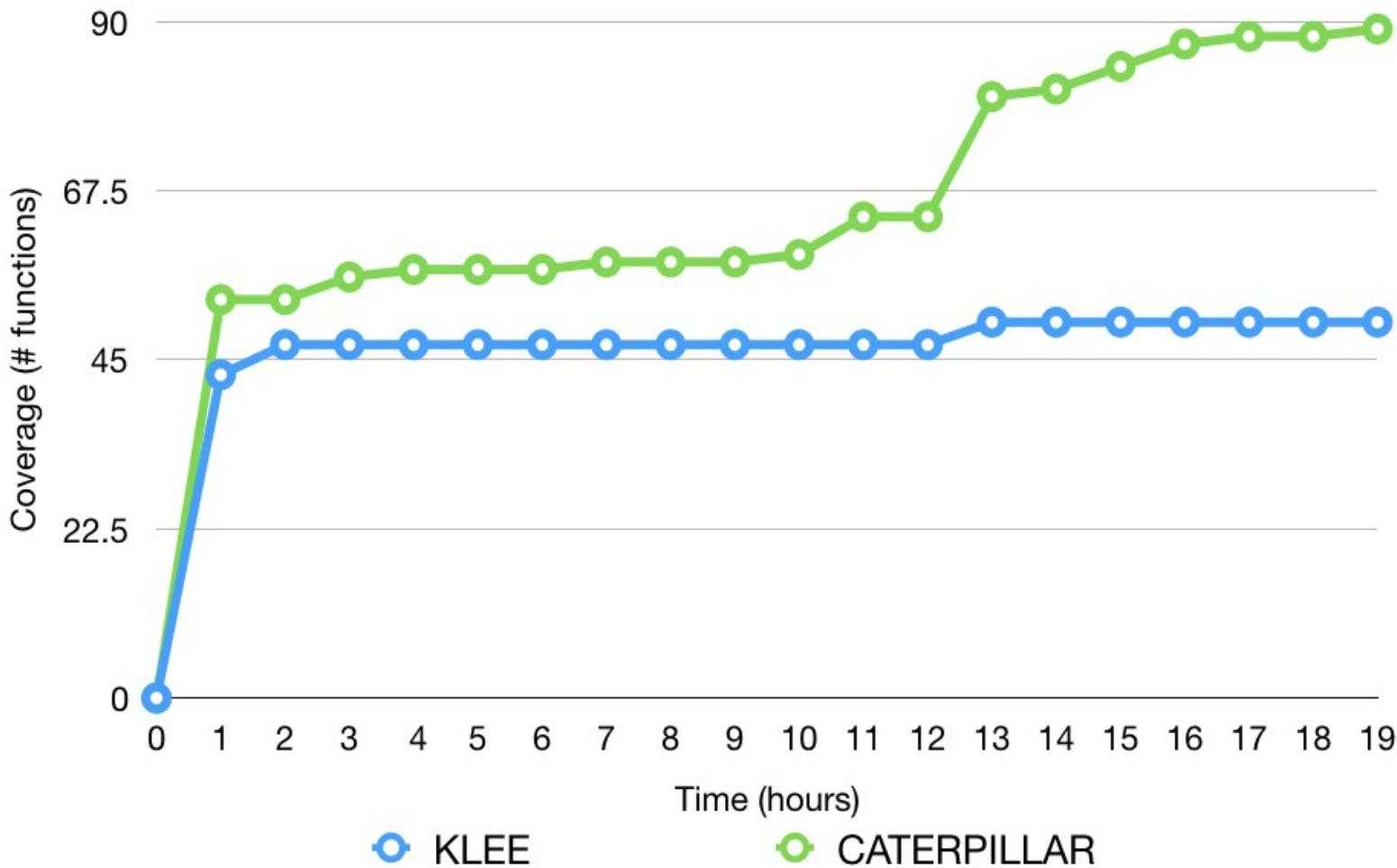
x509_parse_certificate



x509_parse_certificate



x509_parse_certificate



Future Research Questions/Directions

- Automate function selection for switching ICE between symbolic and concrete execution

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 - Block level coordination
 - Function level coordination

Future Research Questions/Directions

- Automate function selection for switching ICE between symbolic and concrete execution
- Permutation of calls
- Adaptive selection execution between static and dynamic analysis
 - Block level coordination
 - Function level coordination
- Semi-automated testing: a gap?



Questions?
We offer internships :-)

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