Dongliang Mu

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Research Interests

My current research focuses on **Software Security and System Security**. More specifically, my research interests span the areas of `Vulnerability Reproduction, Postmortem Program Analysis, Vulnerability Diagnosis, and Binary Analysis`.

Education

2014-2020 **Ph.D. Candidate** in Software Security, *Nanjing University*
Adviser: Prof. Bing Mao

2010-2014 **B.E** in Computer Science and Technology, *Zhengzhou University*

Experiences

10/2018 Talk in the GeekPwn China
From Physical Security to Cyber Security: How to forge data spoofing personalized auto insurance

02/2018 **Organizer** of 2018 Penn State Cybersecurity Competition in *Pennsylvania State University*
HomePage : `https://psusecurity.github.io/`

2016-Now **Research Assistant** in *Pennsylvania State University*
Adviser: Prof. Xinyu Xing

Publications

P-10 **Mu, D.**, Du, Y., Xu, J., Xu, J., Xing, X., Mao, B., "POMP++: Facilitating Postmortem Program Diagnosis with Value-set Analysis", In IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering (**TSE**), **Accepted**.

P-9 **Mu, D.***, Guo, W.*, Cuevas, A., Chen, Y., Gai, J. Xing, X., Mao, B., Song, C., "RENN: Efficient Reverse Execution with Neural-Network-assisted Alias Analysis", In Proceedings of the 34th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (**ASE 2019**), San Diego, CA, November 2019.

P-8 Chen, Y.*, **Mu, D.***, Sun, Z., Xu, J., Shen, W., Xing, X., Lu, L., Mao B., "Ptrix: Efficient Hardware-Assisted Fuzzing for COTS Binary", In Proceedings of the 14th ACM ASIA Conference on Computer and Communications Security(**AsiaCCS 2019**), Auckland, New Zealand, July 2019.

P-7 Guo, W.*, **Mu, D.***, Xing, X., Du, M., Song, D., "DEEPVSA: Facilitating Value-set Analysis with Deep Learning for Postmortem Program Analysis", In Proceedings of the 28th USENIX Security Symposium (**USENIX Security 2019**), Santa Clara, California, August 2019.

P-6 Guo, W., **Mu, D.**, Xu, J., Su, P., Wang, G., Xing, X., "LEMNA: Explaining Deep Learning based Security Applications", In Proceedings of The 25th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (**CCS 2018**), Toronto, Canada, October 2018. **(Outstanding Paper Award)**

P-5 **Mu, D.**, Cuevas, A., Yang, L., Hu, H., Wang, G., Xing, X., Mao, B., "Understanding the Reproducibility of Crowd-reported Security Vulnerabilities", In Proceedings of the 27th USENIX Security Symposium (**USENIX Security 18**), Baltimore, Mayland, August 2018.

P-4 **Mu, D.**, Guo, J., Ding, W., Wang, Z., Mao, B., Shi, L., "ROPOB: Obfuscating Binary Code via Return Oriented Programming.", In International Conference on Security and Privacy in Communication Systems (**SecureCOMM 17**), Niagara Falls, Canada, October 2017.

P-3 Zhu, J., Zhou, W., Wang, Z., **Mu, D.**, Mao, B., "DiffGuard: Obscuring Sensitive Information in Canary Based Protections.", In International Conference on Security and Privacy in Communication Systems (**SecureCOMM 17**), Niagara Falls, Canada, October 2017.

P-2 Xu, J., **Mu, D.**, Xing, X., Liu, P., Chen, P., Mao, B., "POMP: Postmortem Program Analysis with Hardware-Enhanced Post-Crash Artifacts", In Proceedings of the 26th USENIX Security Symposium (**USENIX Security 17**), Vancouver, Canada, August 2017.

P-1 Xu, J., **Mu, D.**, Chen, P., Wang, P., Xing, X., Liu, P., "CREDAL: Towards Locating a Memory Corruption Vulnerability with Your Core Dump", In Proceedings of the 23nd ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (**CCS 16**), Vienna, Austria, October 2016.
Note that, * means equal contribution.

Research Projects

2018-2019 **Deep Learning Assisted Program Analysis** *Cyber Security Lab, Penn State University*
• develop deep learning assisted Value Set Analysis to faciliate Postmortem Program Analysis. [See P-7, P-9]

2017-2018 **Vulnerability Reproduction** *Cyber Security Lab, Penn State University*
• perform an in-depth analysis on the reproducibility of crowd-reported security vulnerabilities. [See P-5]

2016-2017 **Analysis on software crashes** *Cyber Security Lab, Penn State University*
• analyze core dumps caused by memory corruption vulnerabilities; locate the crash point; restore the stack trace; narrow down code segments carrying vulnerabilities. [See P-1]
• enhance a core dump with execution trace logged through Intel Processor Tracing; perform reverse execution and symbolic execution against the trace; pinpoint the root cause of software crash. [See P-2]
• leverage Value-set Analysis to improve the memory alias problem in the POMP, to achieve better effectiveness and efficiency. [See P-10]

2015-2016 **Obfuscation based ROP** *System Security Lab, Nanjing University*
• propose an obfuscation scheme for binaries based on ROP (Return Oriented Programming), which aims to serve as an efficient and deployable anti-reverse-engineering approach. [See P-4]

Honors & Awards

07/2019 **Student Travel Grant of 14th ACM ASIA Conference on Computer and Communications Security**

10/2018 **Artificial Intelligence Scholarship at Nanjing University**

05/2017 **Student Travel Grant of 38th IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy**

Open Source Projects

06/2016 **LinuxFlaw**
• Record all the memory error vulnerabilities we used for our Usenix Security 2018 [see P-5]. We not only disclose the detail of vulnerability reproduction but also try to create docker images about those vulnerabilities as possible as we can.

06/2016 **Source-packages**
• Source code for the vulnerable software in the LinuxFlaw

06/2016 **Dockerfiles**
• All the useful Dockerfiles and related tools in the LinuxFlaw

04/2016 **TraditionalMitigation**
• Summarize traditional mitigations in GCC to defend Memory Corruption Vulnerability

05/2017 **POMP**
• Leverage Intel PT to do reverse execution, and diagnose the root cause of software failure

06/2019 **DEEPVSA**
• Facilitate Value-set Analysis with Recurrent Neural Network for better Postmortem Program Analysis

Books In Progress

12/2014 **Linux-insides**
• One book-in-progress about Linux Kernel and its insides.

12/2014 **Linux-insides-zh**
• Chinese Translation of linux-insides. This upstream repo is a book-in-progress about Linux Kernel and its insides.

CVE Discovered

CVE ID	Vulnerability Type	Vulnerable Software	Vulnerable Version
CVE-2018-8816	Stack Exhaustion	perl	5.26.1
CVE-2018-8881	Heap buffer overflow	nasm	2.13.02rc2
CVE-2018-8882	Stack buffer overflow	nasm	2.13.02rc2
CVE-2018-8883	Global buffer overflow	nasm	2.13.02rc2
CVE-2018-10016	Division-by-zero	nasm	2.14rc0
CVE-2018-9138	Stack Exhaustion	binutils	2.29
CVE-2018-9996	Stack Exhaustion	binutils	2.29
CVE-2018-10316	Denial-of-Service	nasm	2.14rc0
CVE-2018-9251	Denial-of-Service	libxml2	2.9.8