

*13 Sep 2019, CROSSING Summer School on Sustainable Security &
Privacy, Darmstadt, Germany*

From Control-Flow to Data- Oriented Exploits

Hands-On Lab on Runtime Attacks

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University of Duisburg-Essen

Outline

Lecture
15:45 – 16:45



Hands-On Lab
16:45 – 17:45



Hands-On Lab



Download and install the VirtualBox VM:



<http://bit.do/secsummer19>

Motivating Problem



- Software increasingly sophisticated and complex

Motivating Problem



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- Various developers involved

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Large attack surface for run-time exploits on diverse platforms

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Large attack surface for run-time exploits on diverse platforms

Three Decades of Run-Time Attacks



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Three Decades of Run-Time Attacks

Morris Worm
1988



A horizontal timeline with a light blue double-line track. A light blue circle marks the start of the timeline. A white line connects this circle to a light red rounded rectangle containing the text 'Morris Worm' and '1988'.

Three Decades of Run-Time Attacks

Morris Worm
1988



Code
Injection
AlephOne
1996

Three Decades of Run-Time Attacks

Morris Worm
1988



Code
Injection
AlephOne
1996

Three Decades of Run-Time Attacks

Morris Worm
1988

return-into-
libc
Solar Designer
1997



Code
Injection
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Three Decades of Run-Time Attacks

Morris Worm
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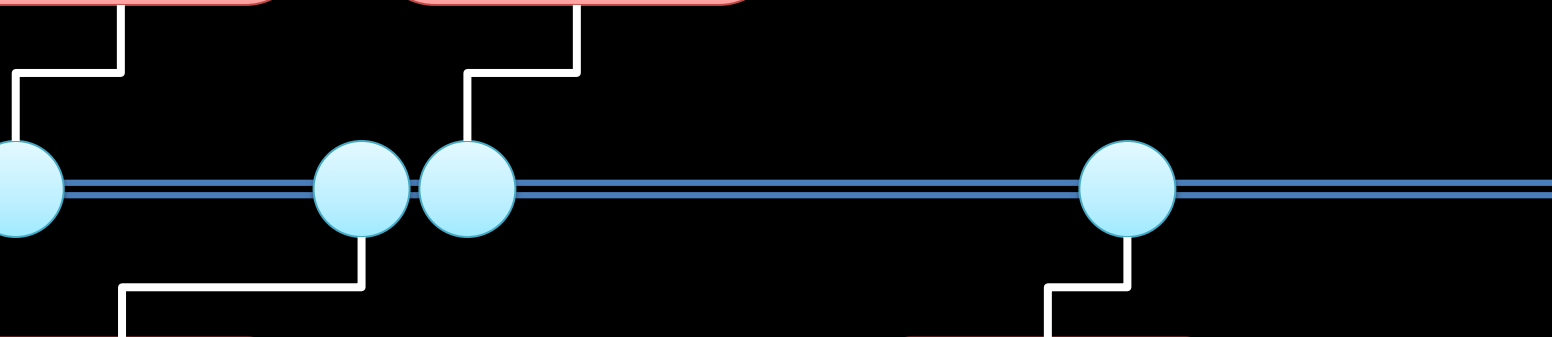
Code
Injection
AlephOne
1996

Borrowed
Code Chunk
Exploitation
Krahmer
2005

Three Decades of Run-Time Attacks

Morris Worm
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return-into-
libc
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Three Decades of Run-Time Attacks

Morris Worm
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Return-oriented
programming
Shacham
CCS 2007

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Three Decades of Run-Time Attacks

Morris Worm
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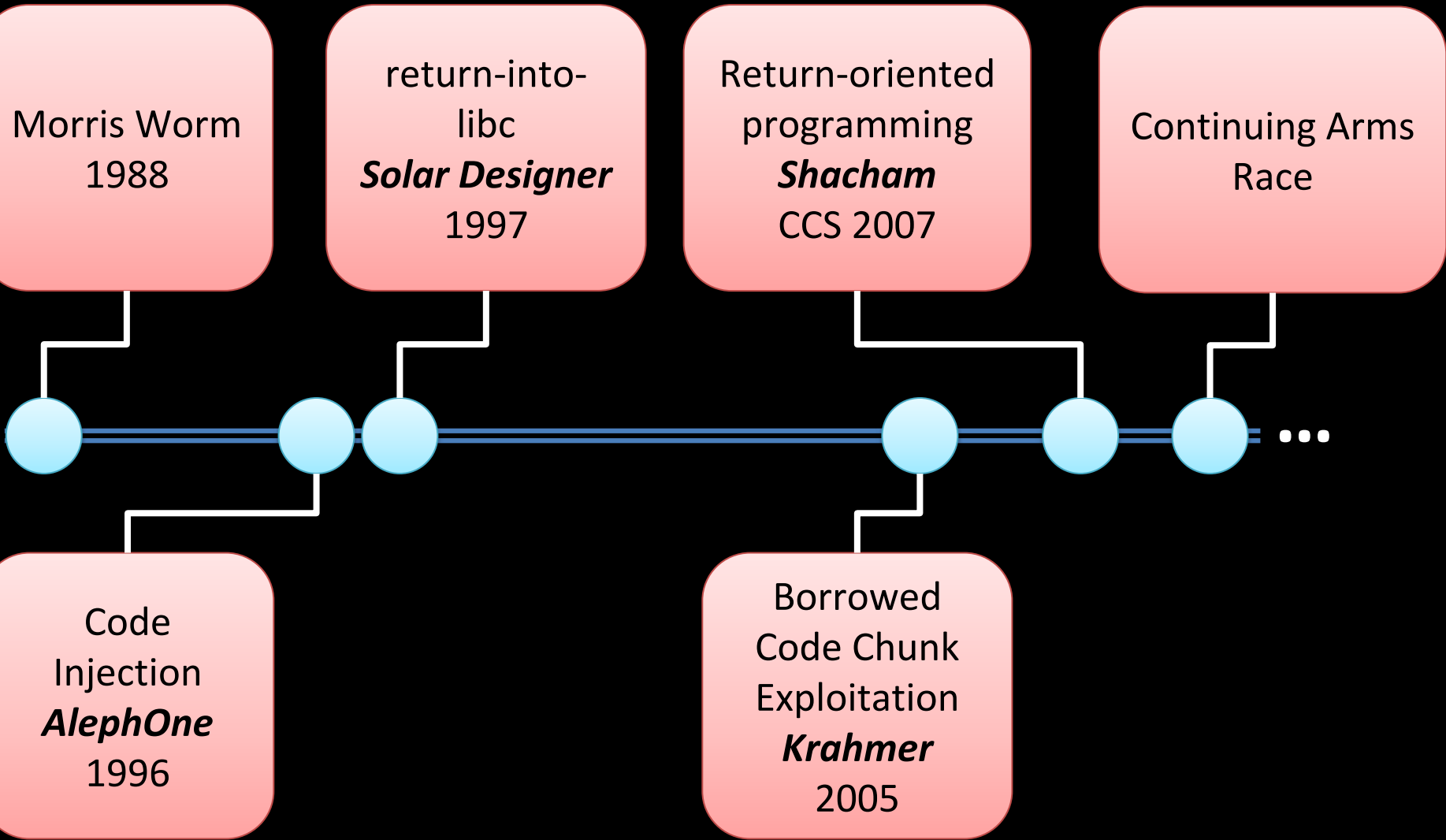
return-into-
libc
Solar Designer
1997

Return-oriented
programming
Shacham
CCS 2007

Continuing Arms
Race

Code
Injection
AlephOne
1996

Borrowed
Code Chunk
Exploitation
Krahmer
2005



Relevance and Impact

Relevance and Impact

High Impact of Attacks

- Web browsers repeatedly exploited in pwn2own contests
- Zero-day issues exploited in Stuxnet/Duqu [Microsoft, BH 2012]
- iOS jailbreak

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High Impact of Attacks

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Industry Efforts on Defenses

- Microsoft EMET (Enhanced Mitigation Experience Toolkit) includes a ROP detection engine
- Microsoft Control Flow Guard (CFG) in Windows 10
- Google's compiler extension VTV (virtual table verification)
- Intel Control-flow Enforcement Technology (CET)
- Kernel CFI (kCFI) since Android 9

But runtime exploits have also some
“good” side-effects



Apple iPhone Jailbreak

Disable signature verification and escalate privileges to root



Apple iPhone Jailbreak

Disable signature verification and escalate privileges to root



Request

http://www.jailbreakme.com/_/iPhone3,1_4.0.pdf



Apple iPhone Jailbreak

Disable signature verification and escalate privileges to root



Request

http://www.jailbreakme.com/_/iPhone3,1_4.0.pdf



- 1) Exploit PDF Viewer Vulnerability by means of **Return-Oriented Programming**
- 2) Start Jailbreak

Apple iPhone Jailbreak

Disable signature verification and escalate privileges to root



Request

http://www.jailbreakme.com/_/iPhone3,1_4.0.pdf



- 1) Exploit PDF Viewer Vulnerability by means of **Return-Oriented Programming**
- 2) Start Jailbreak
- 3) Download required system files
- 4) Jailbreak Done

Overview

Background on Run-Time Attacks



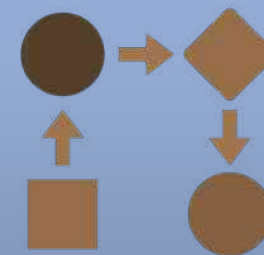
Building Code Randomization Defenses



Code-Reuse Attacks



Building Control-Flow Integrity Defenses



Data-Oriented Exploits

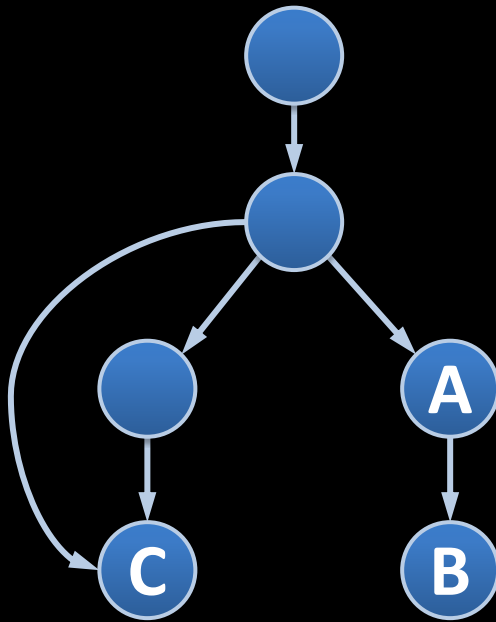
How can an attacker exploit vulnerabilities in a meaningful way?

Code Injection
Attacks

Code-Reuse
Attacks

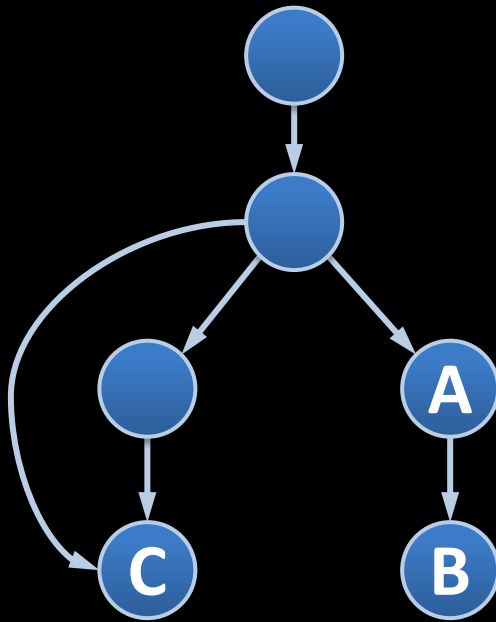
General Principle of Code Injection Attacks

Control-Flow
Graph (CFG)

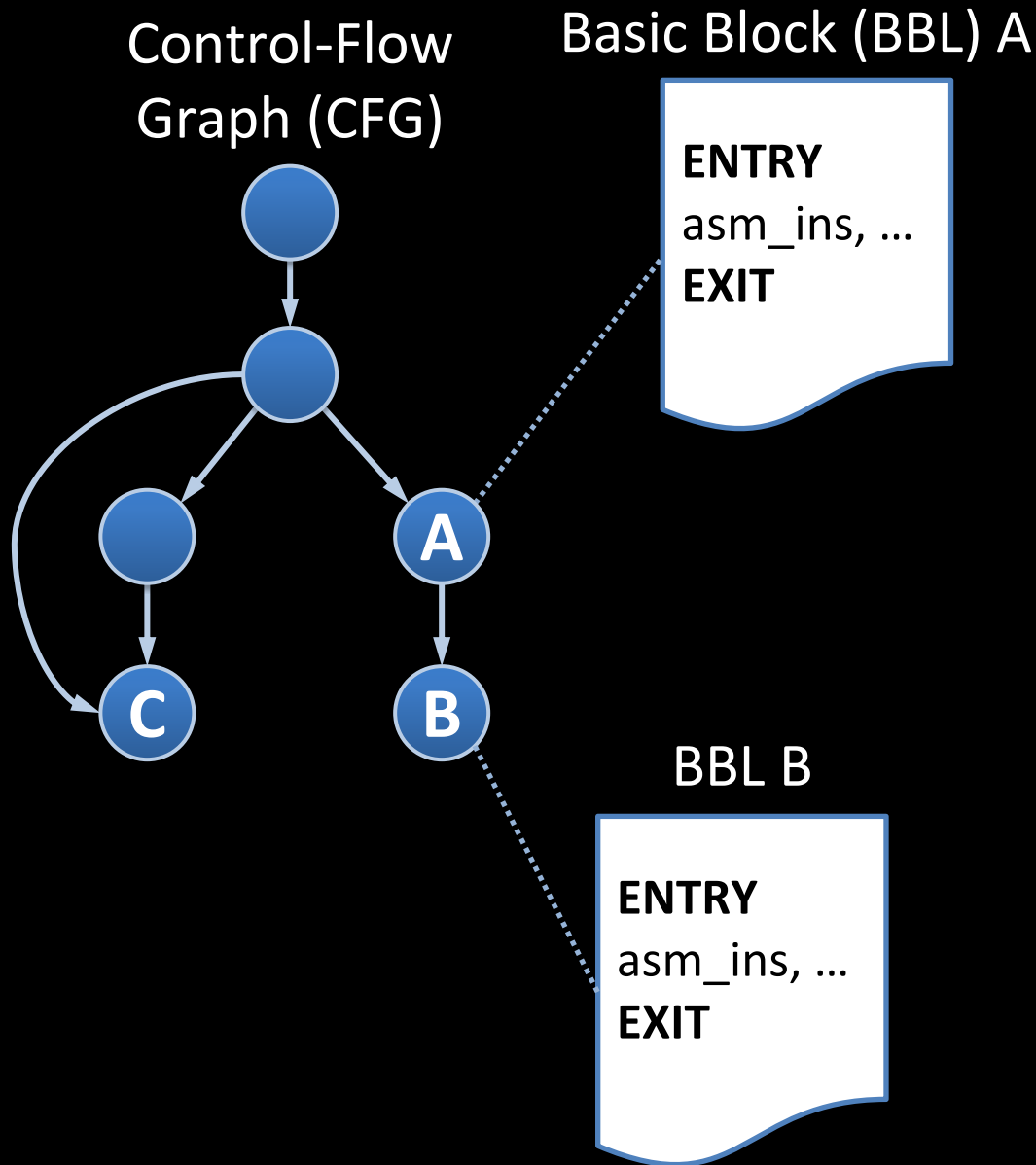


General Principle of Code Injection Attacks

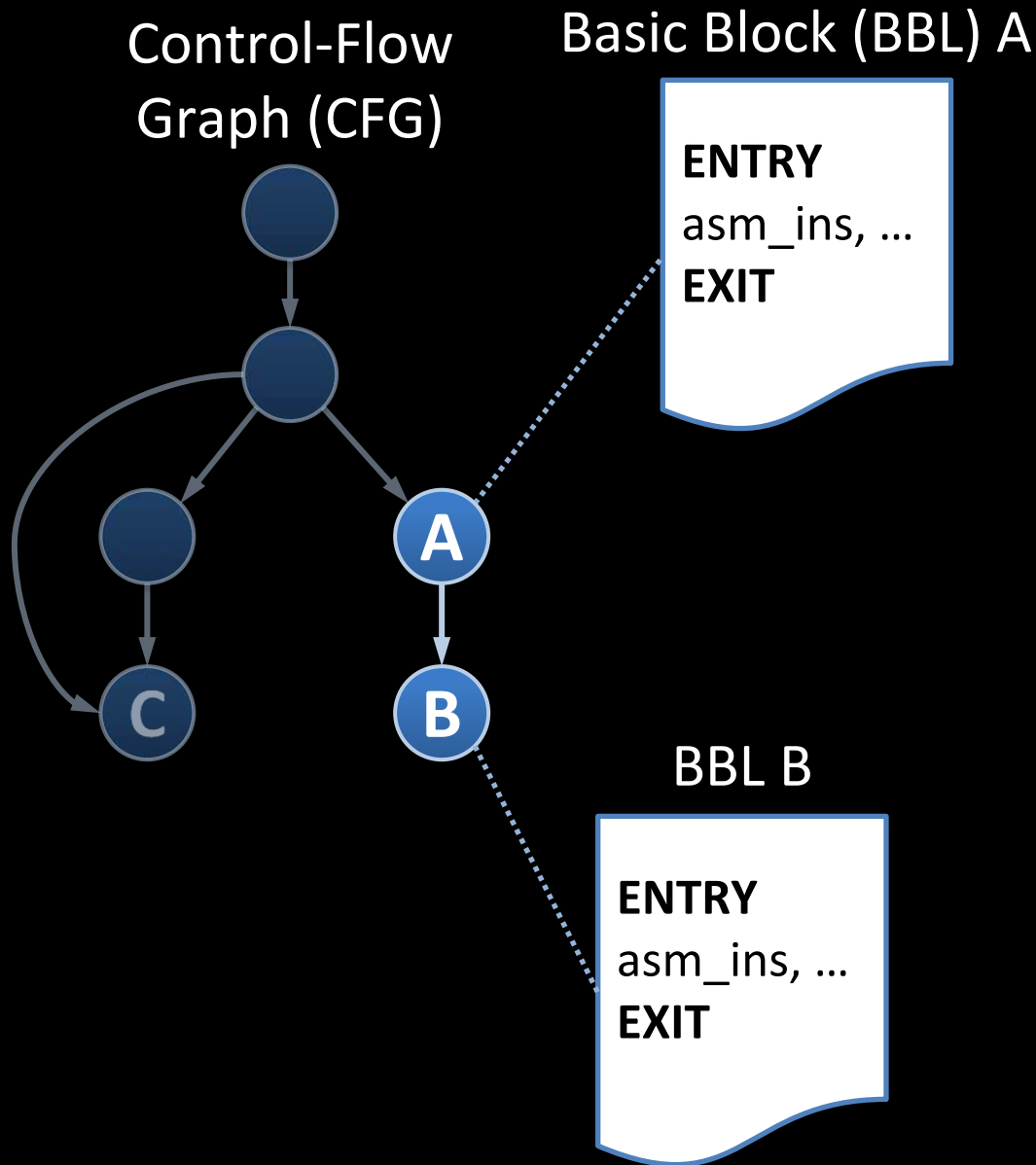
Control-Flow
Graph (CFG)



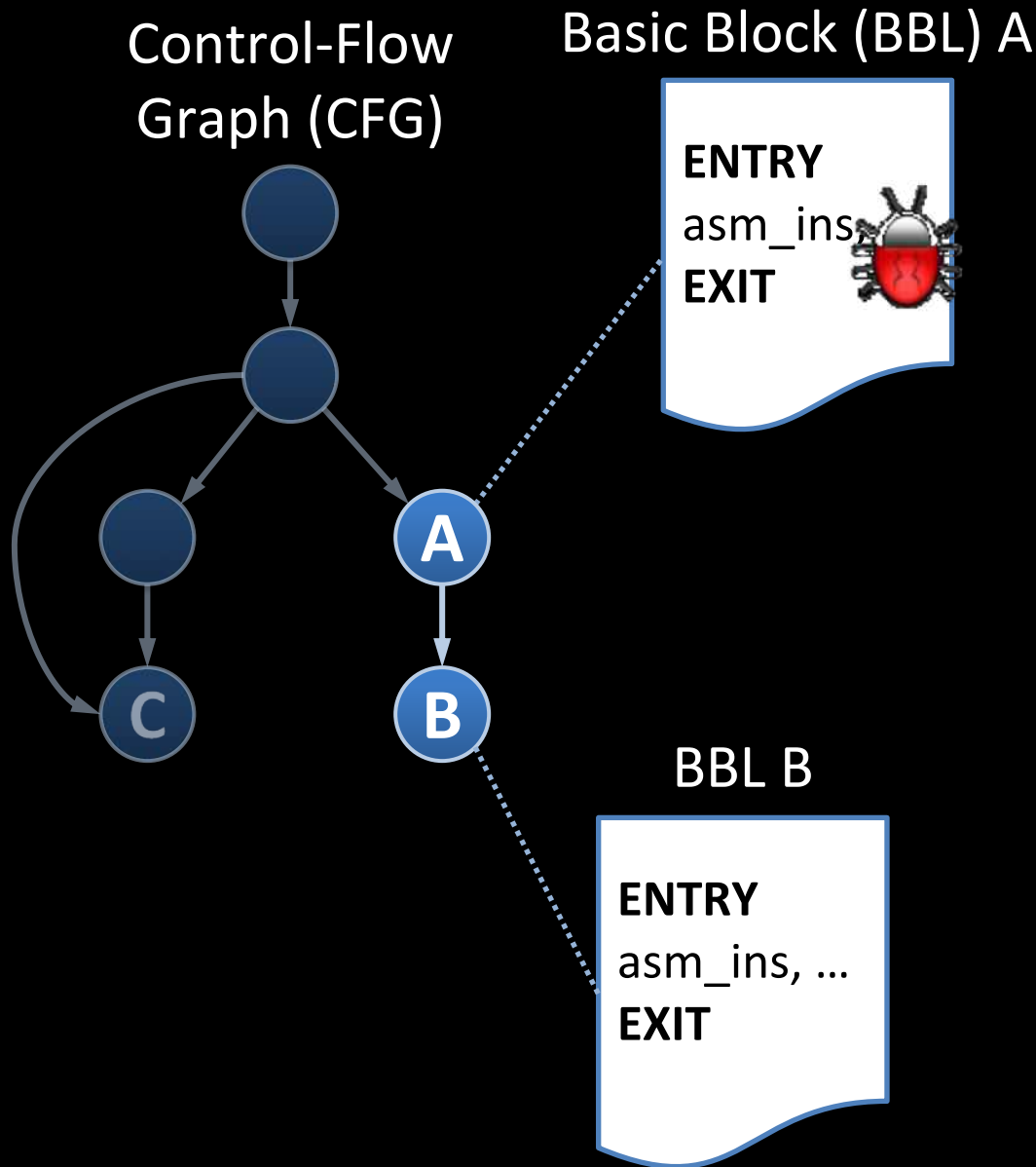
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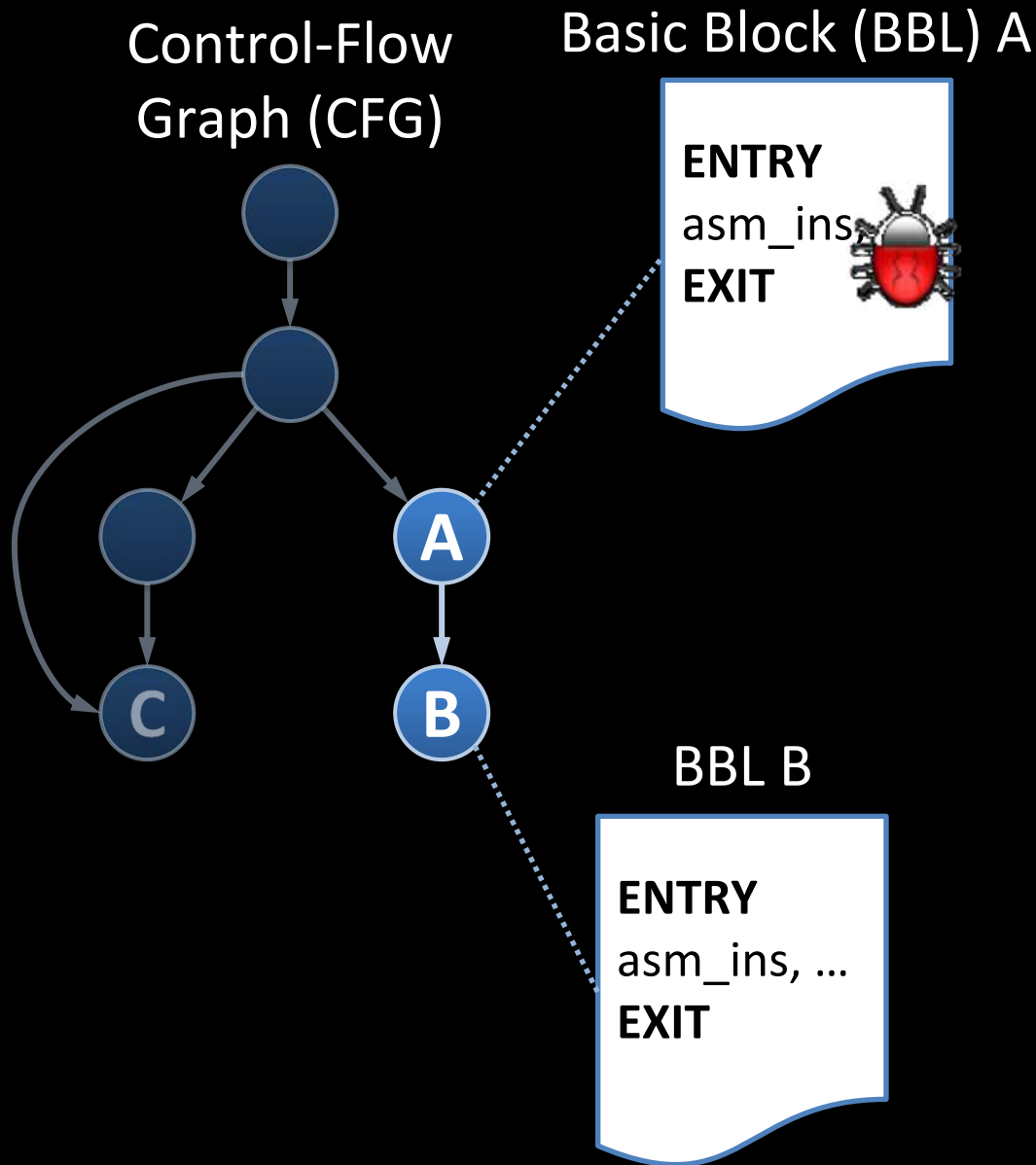
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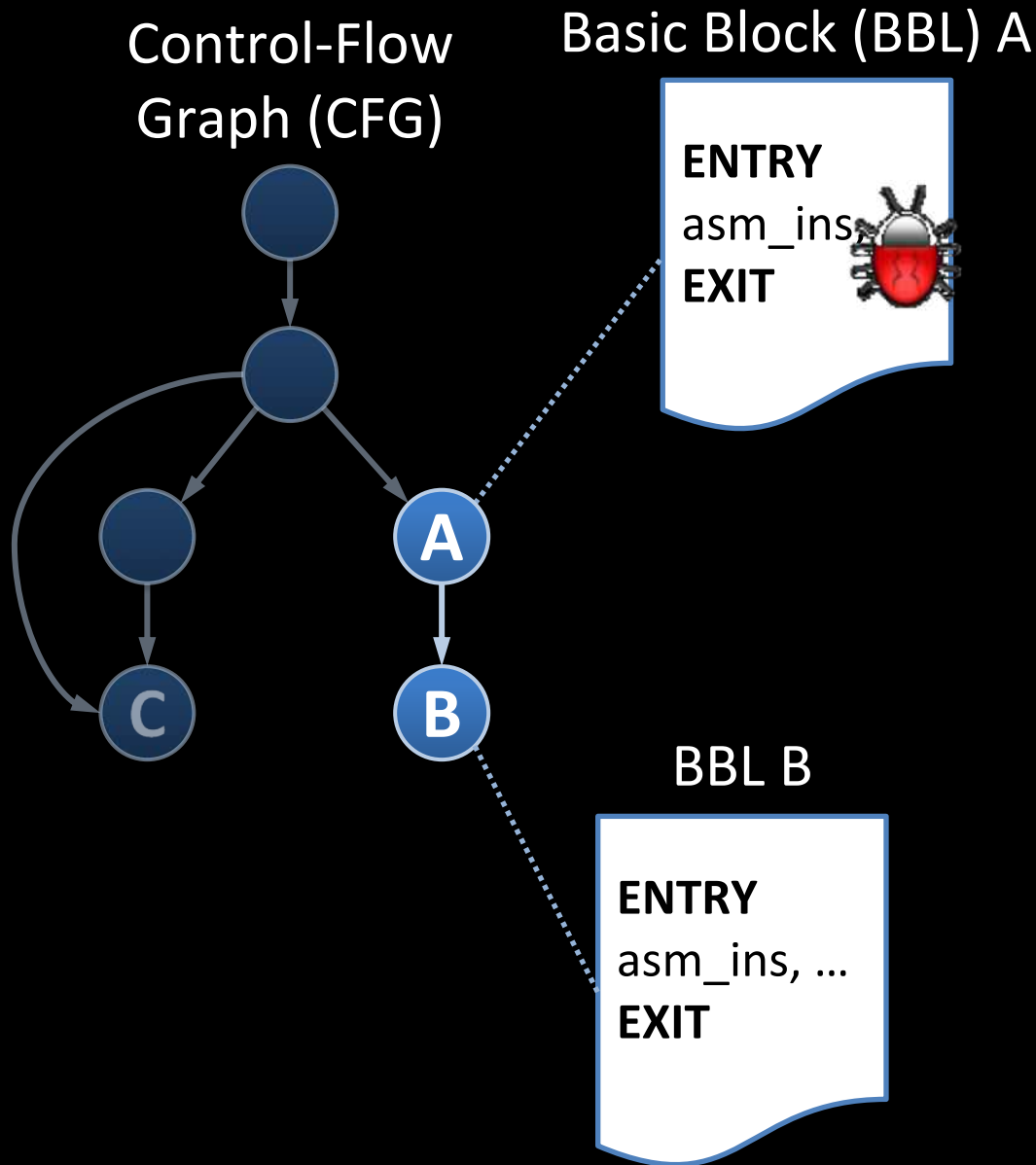
General Principle of Code Injection Attacks



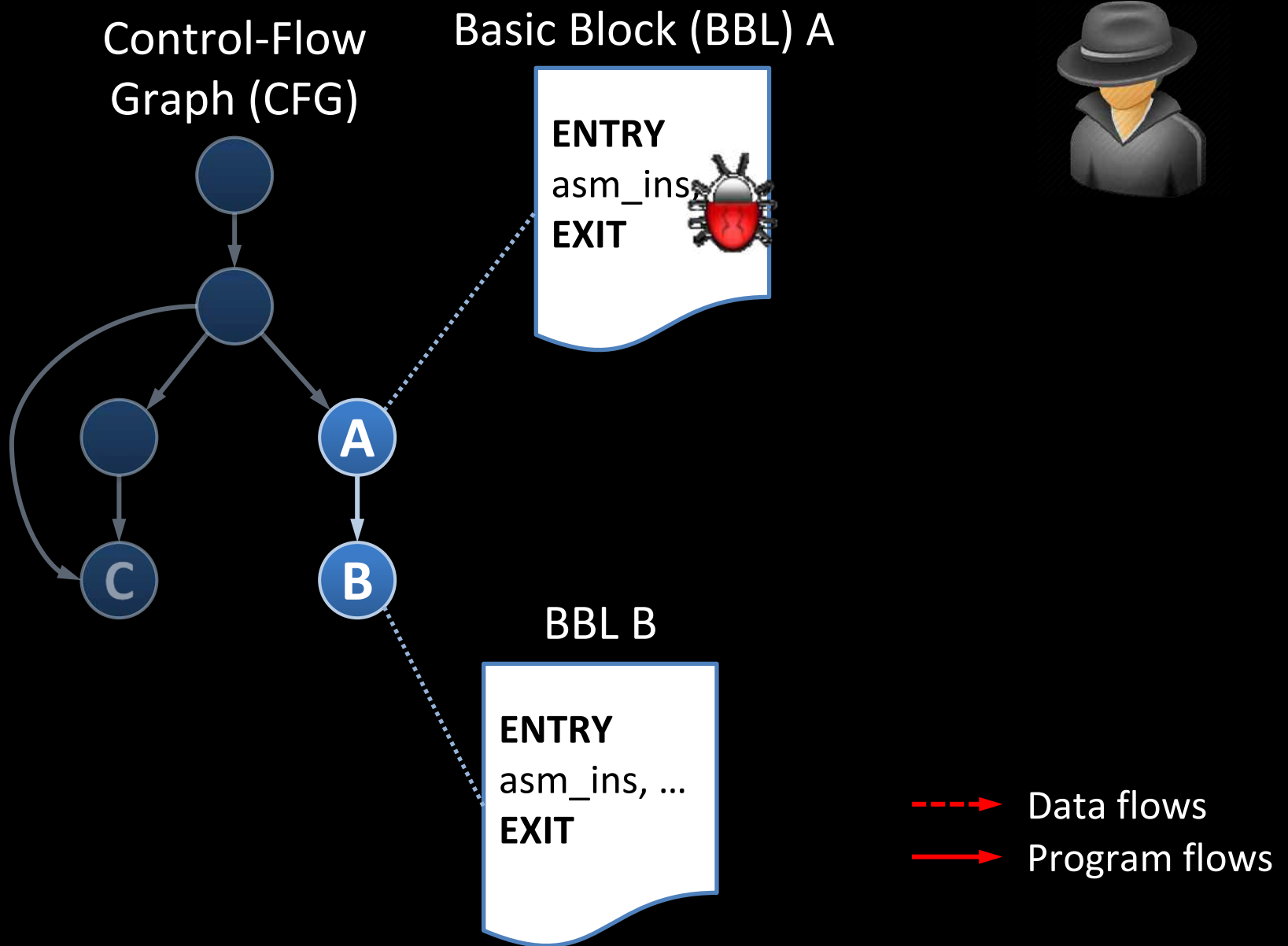
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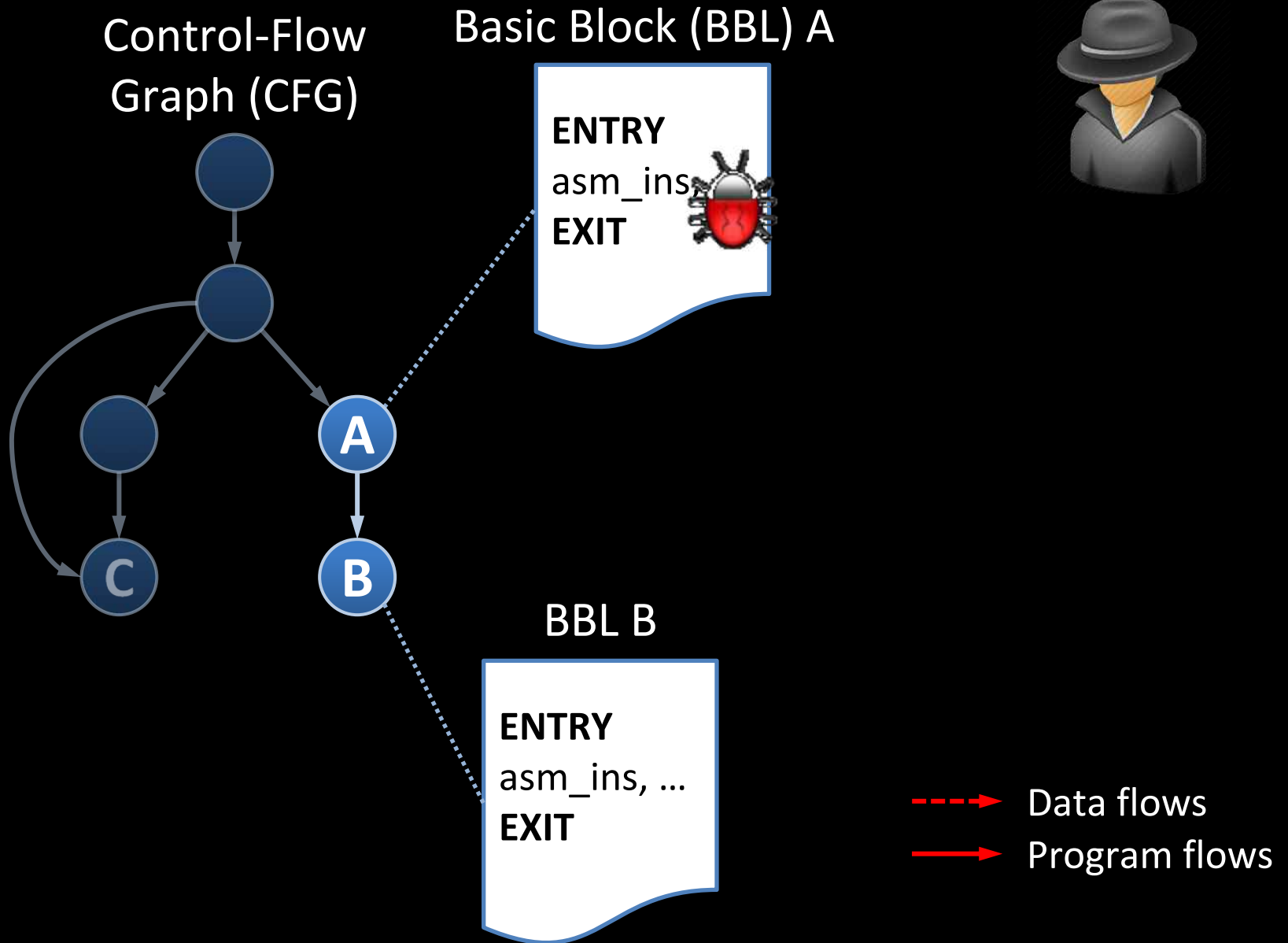
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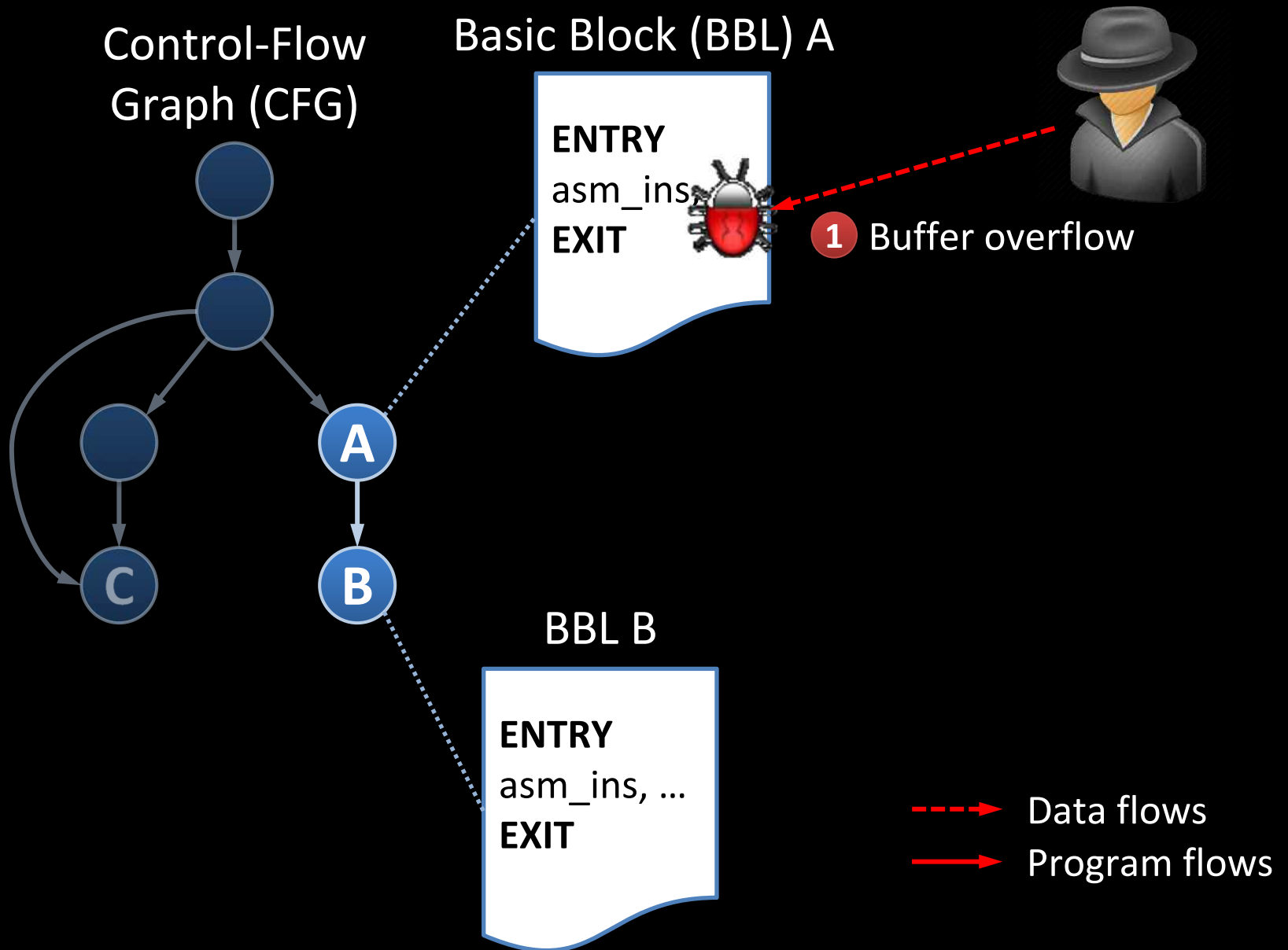
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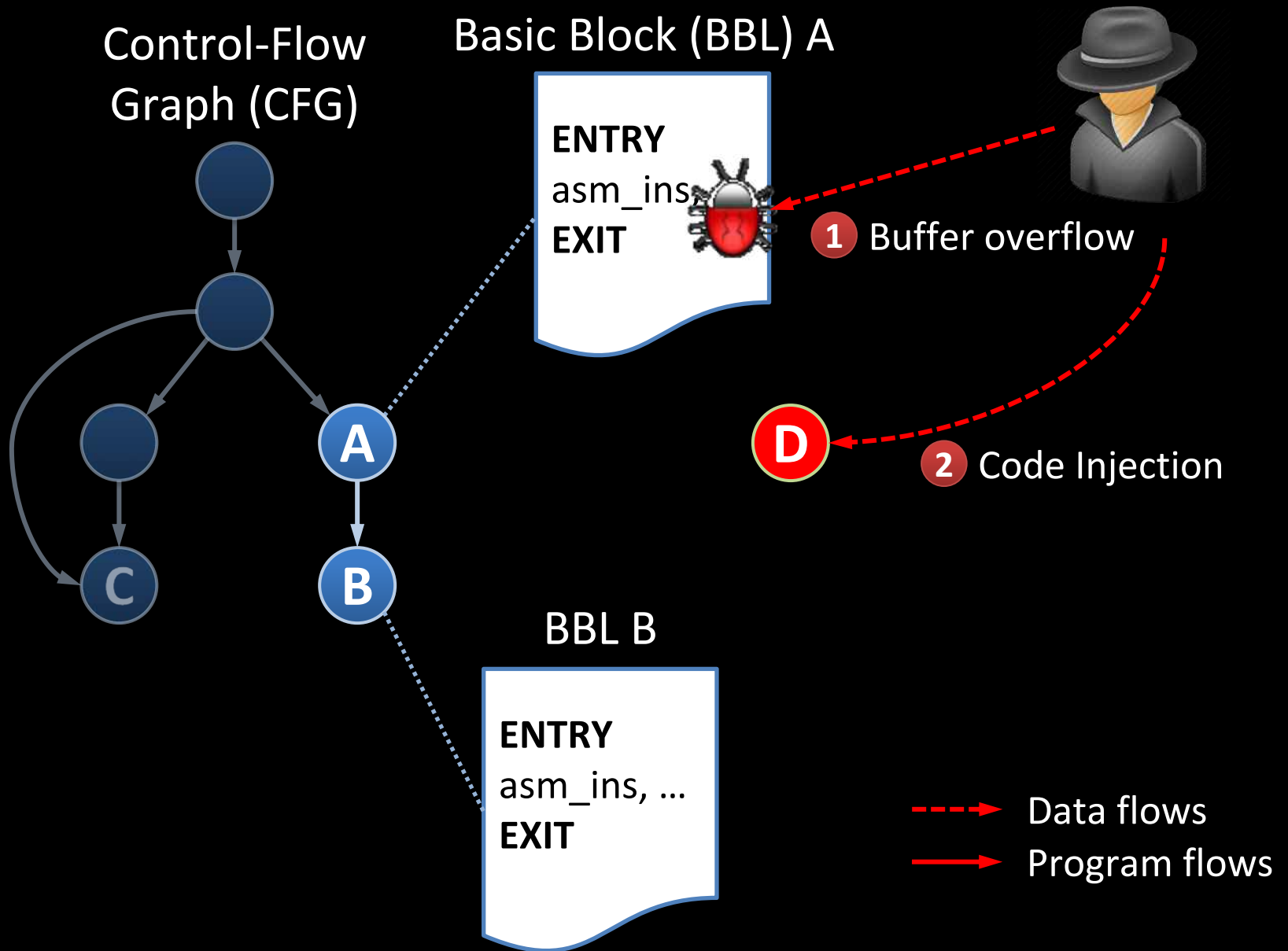
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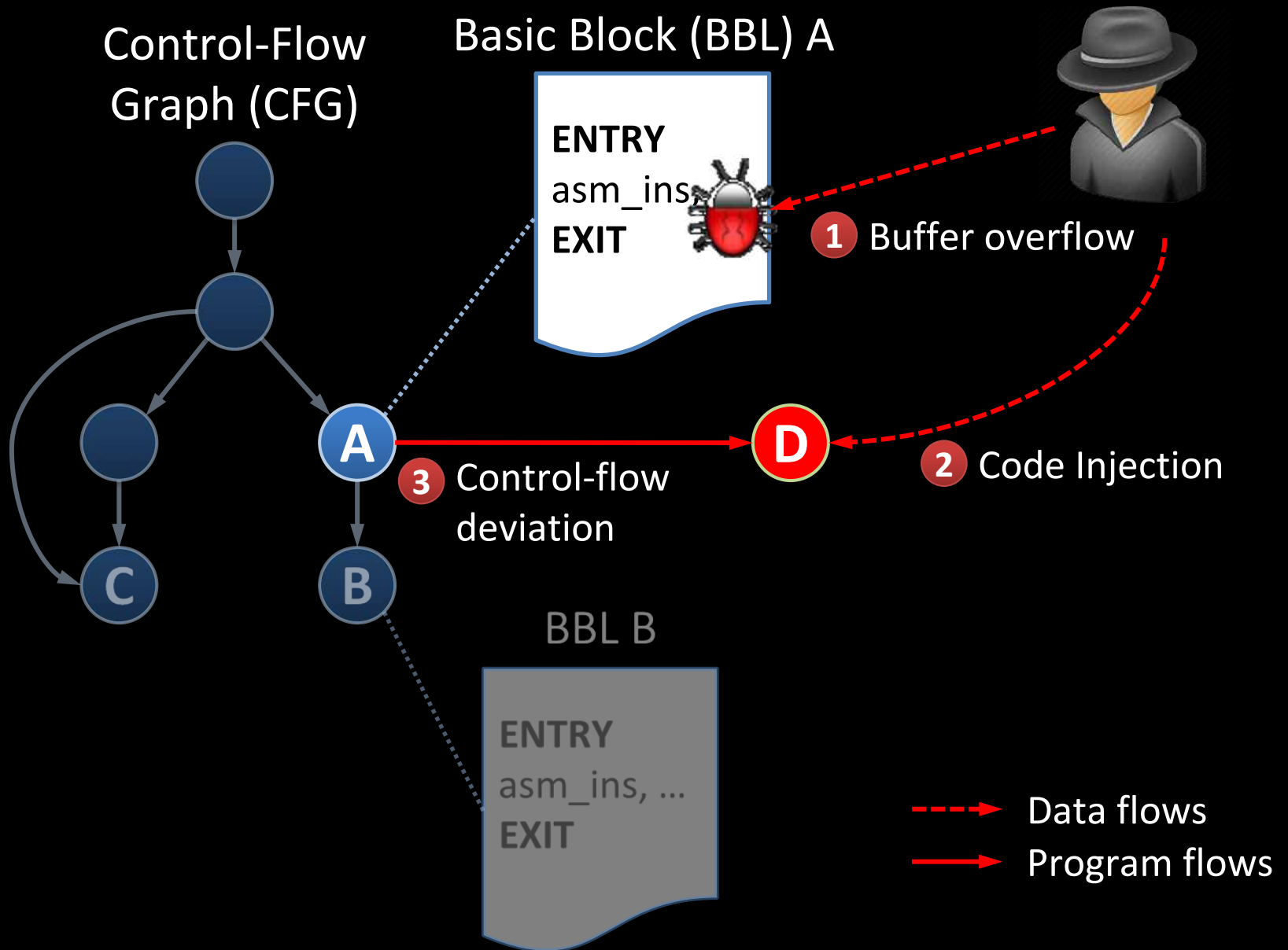
General Principle of Code Injection Attacks



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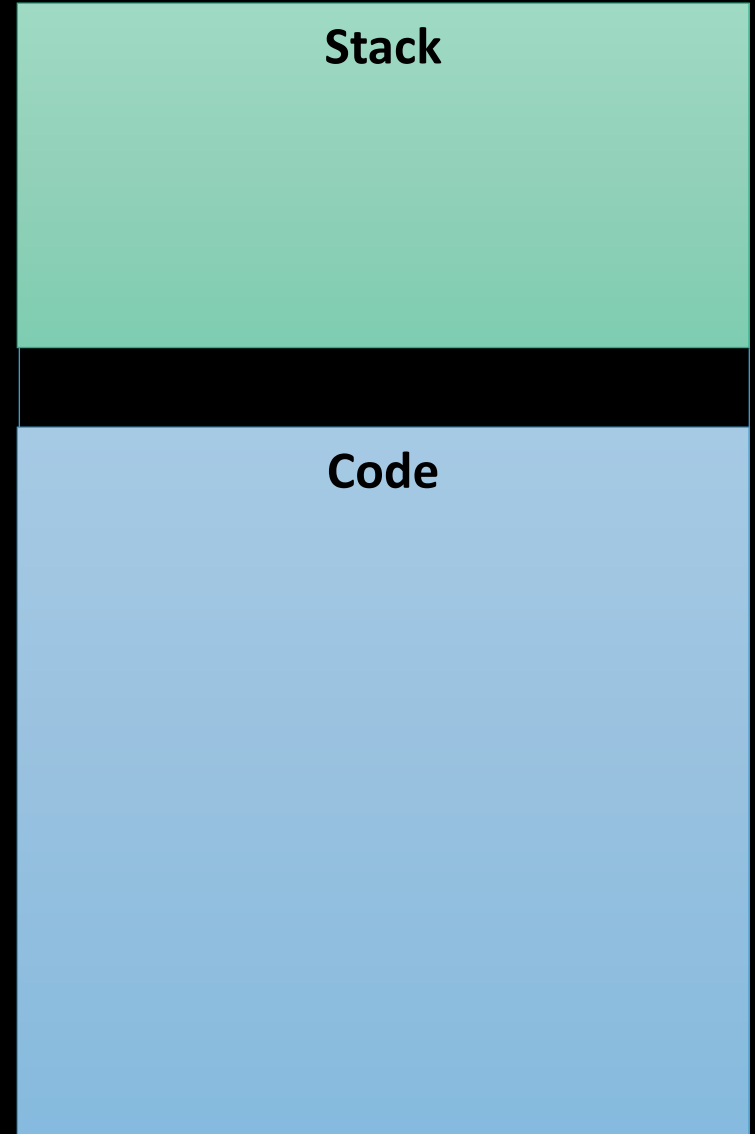
Example: Code Injection Attack



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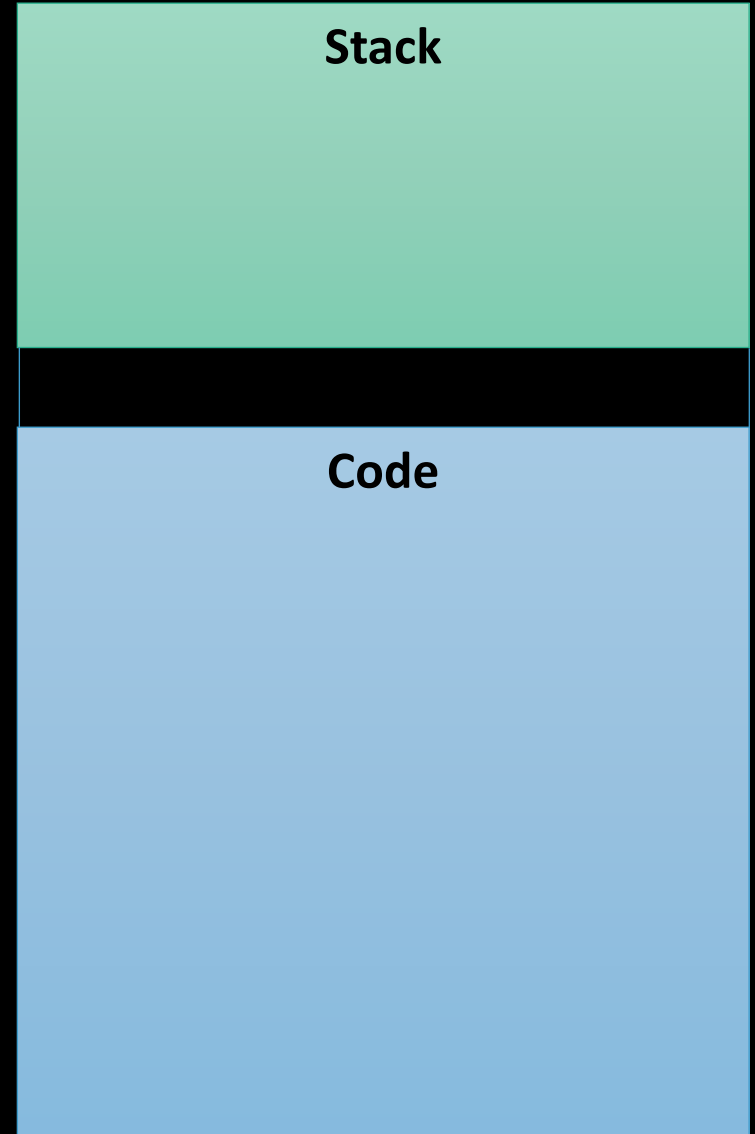
Program Memory



Example: Code Injection Attack



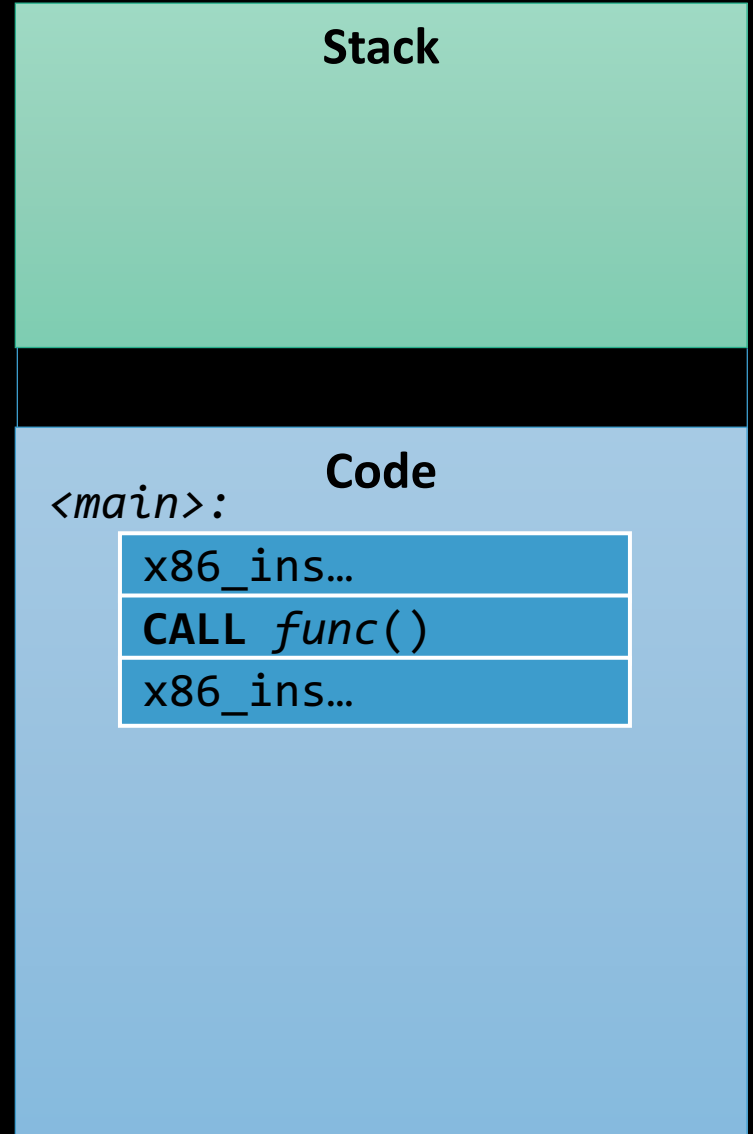
Program Memory



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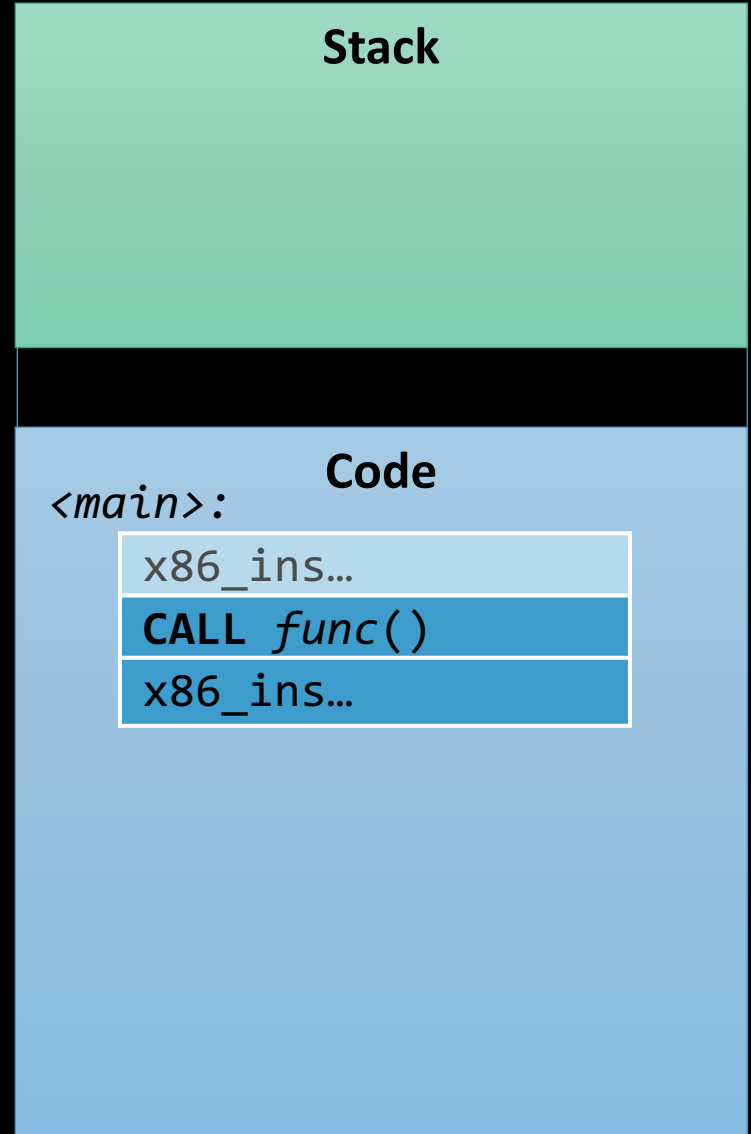
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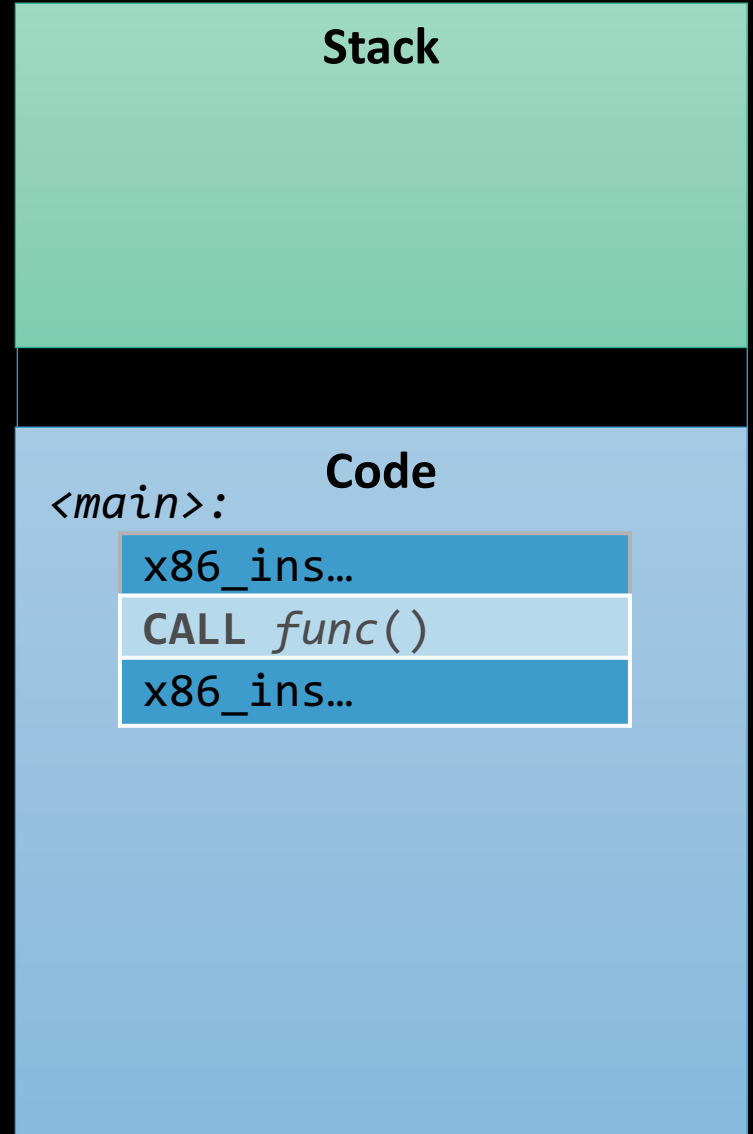
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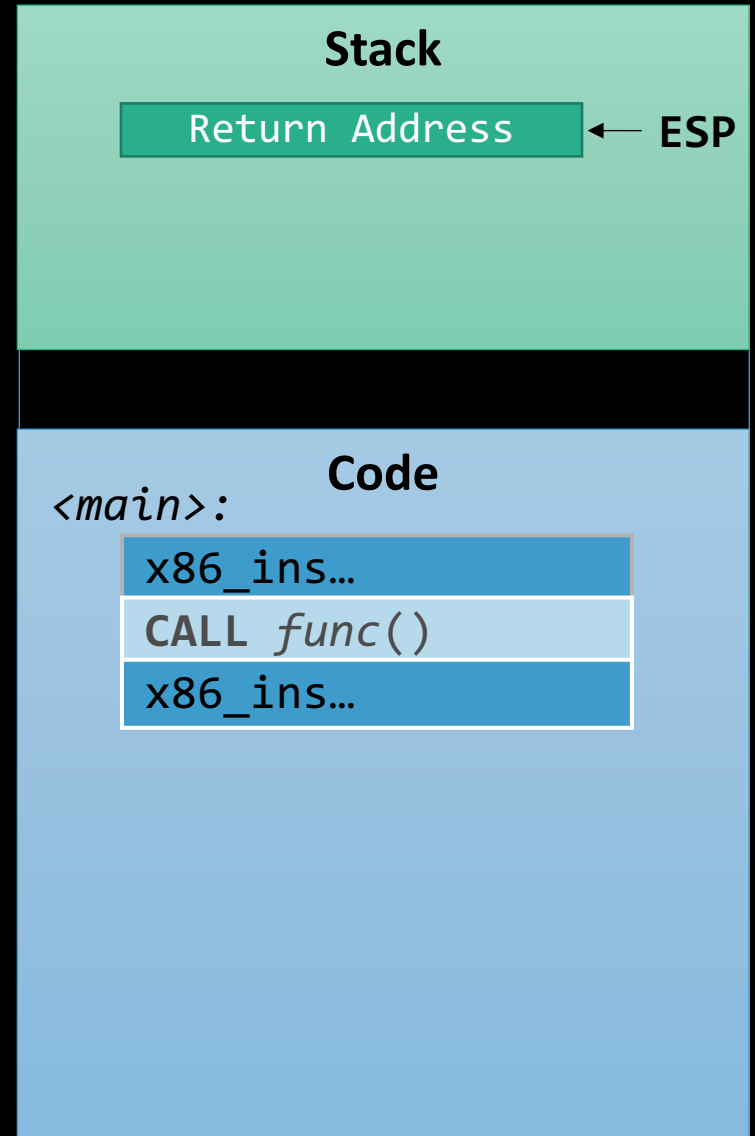
Program Memory



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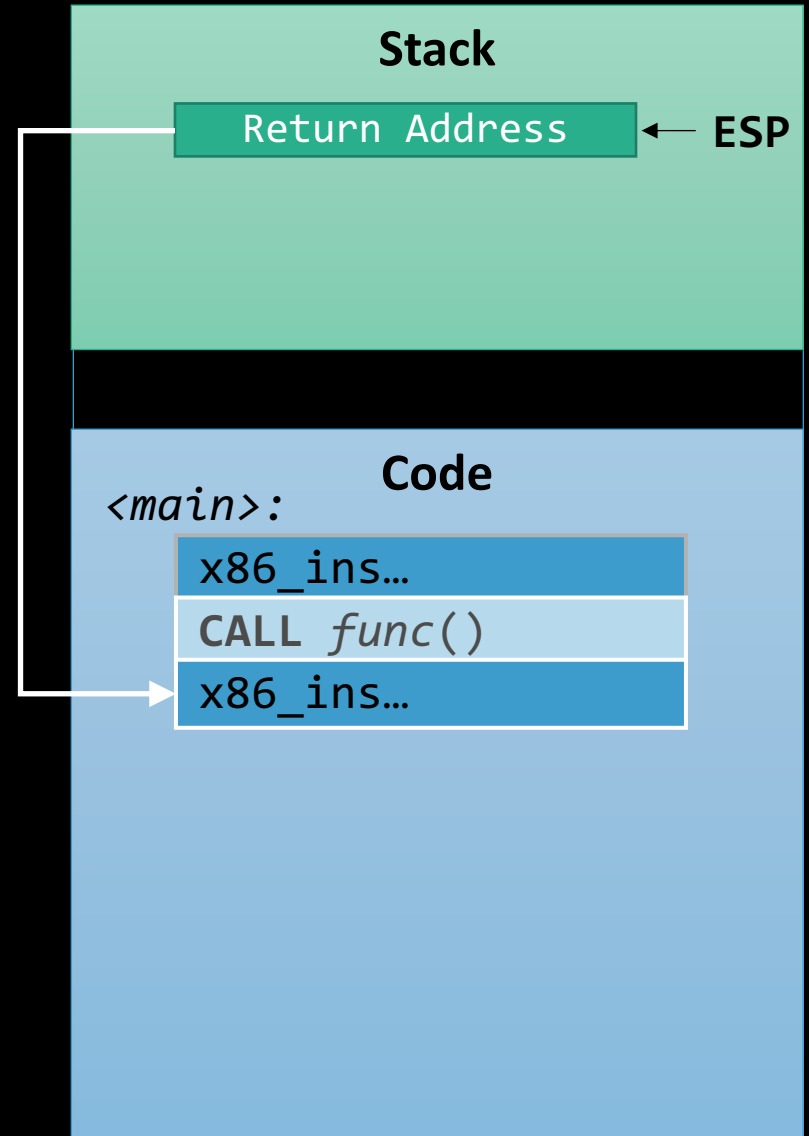
Program Memory



Example: Code Injection Attack



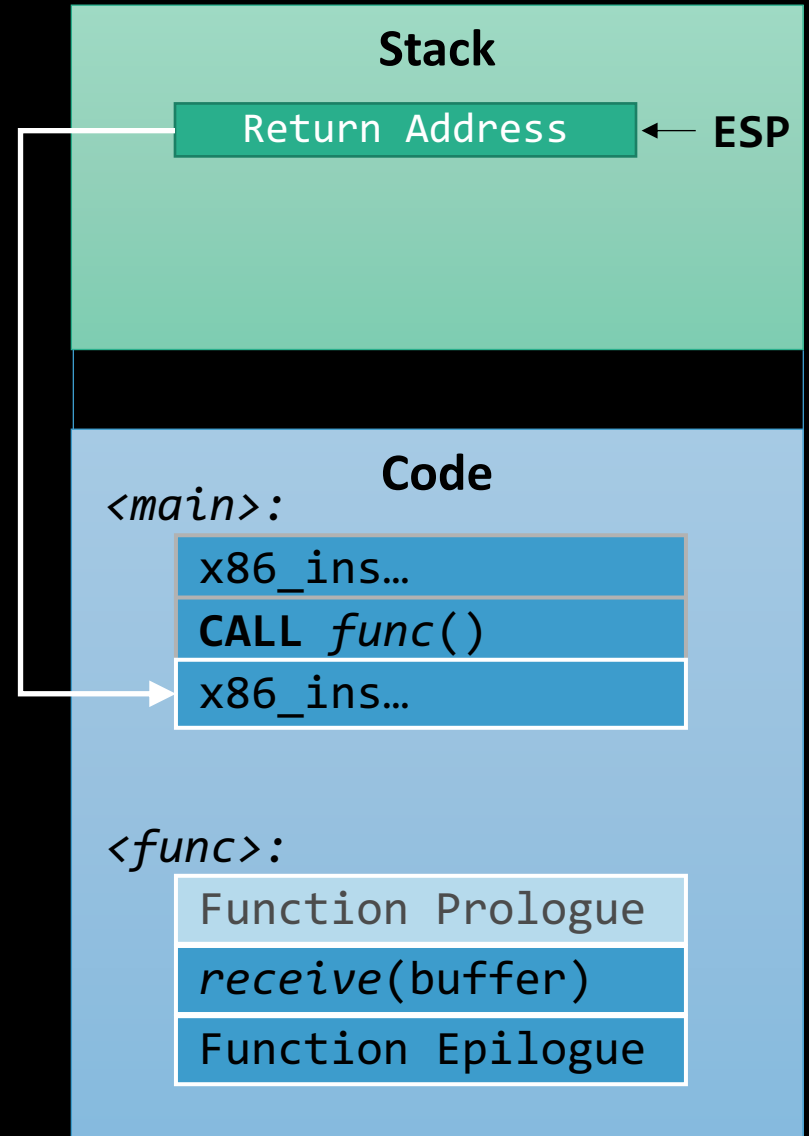
Program Memory



Example: Code Injection Attack



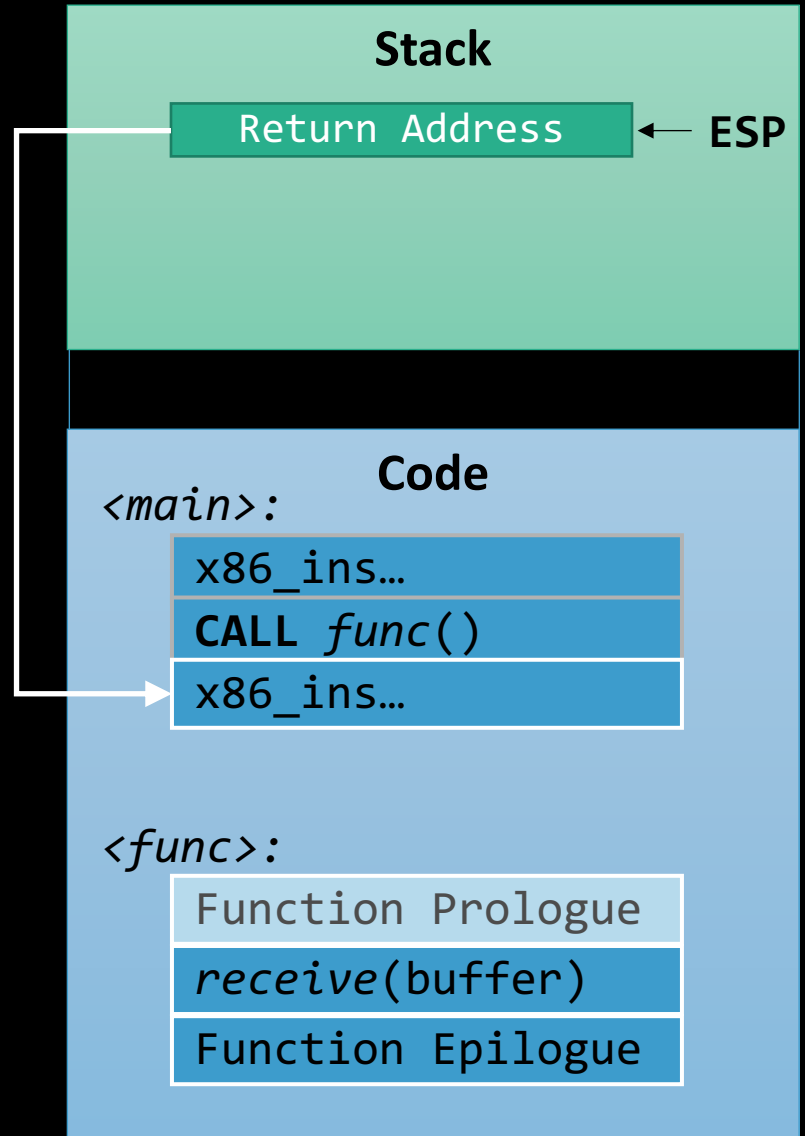
Program Memory



Example: Code Injection Attack



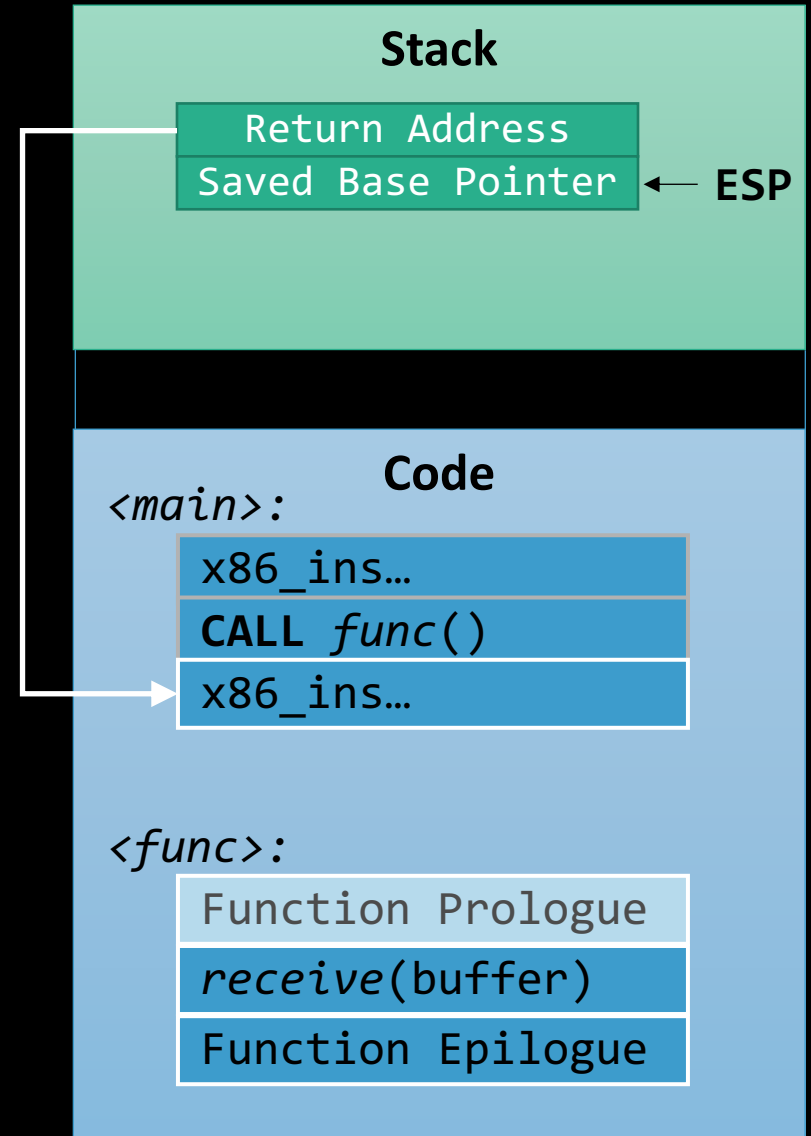
Program Memory



Example: Code Injection Attack



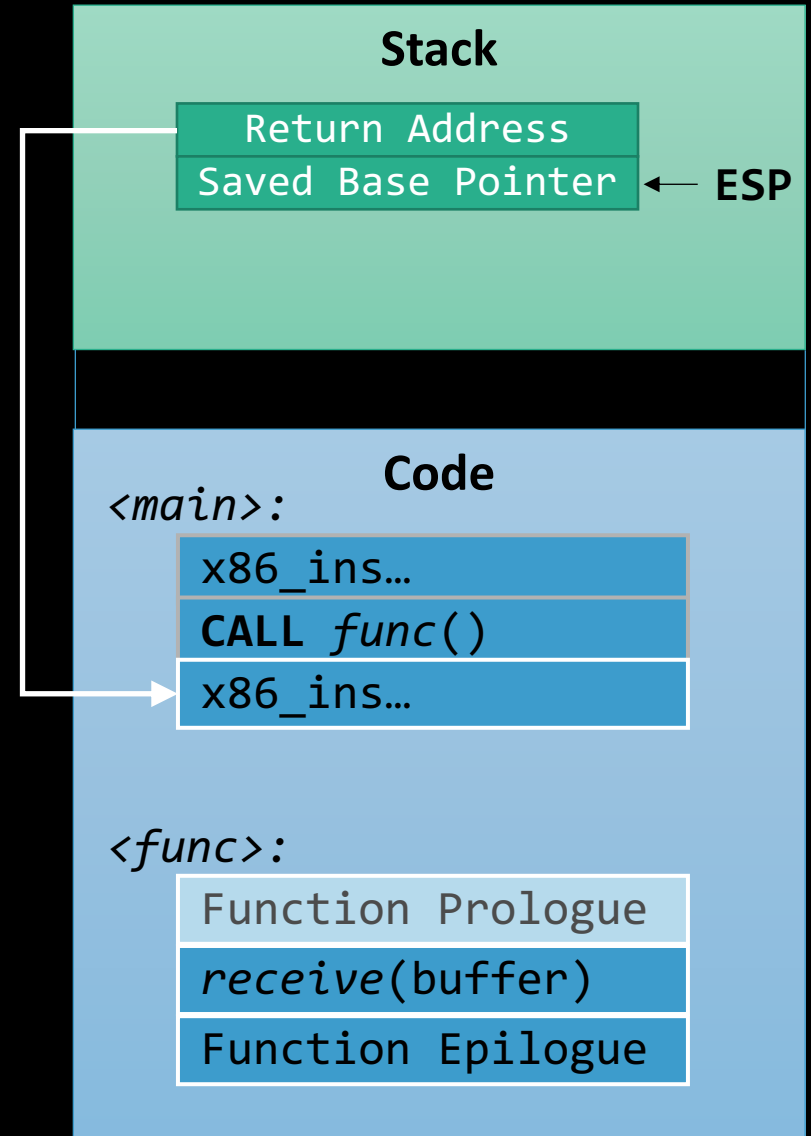
Program Memory



Example: Code Injection Attack



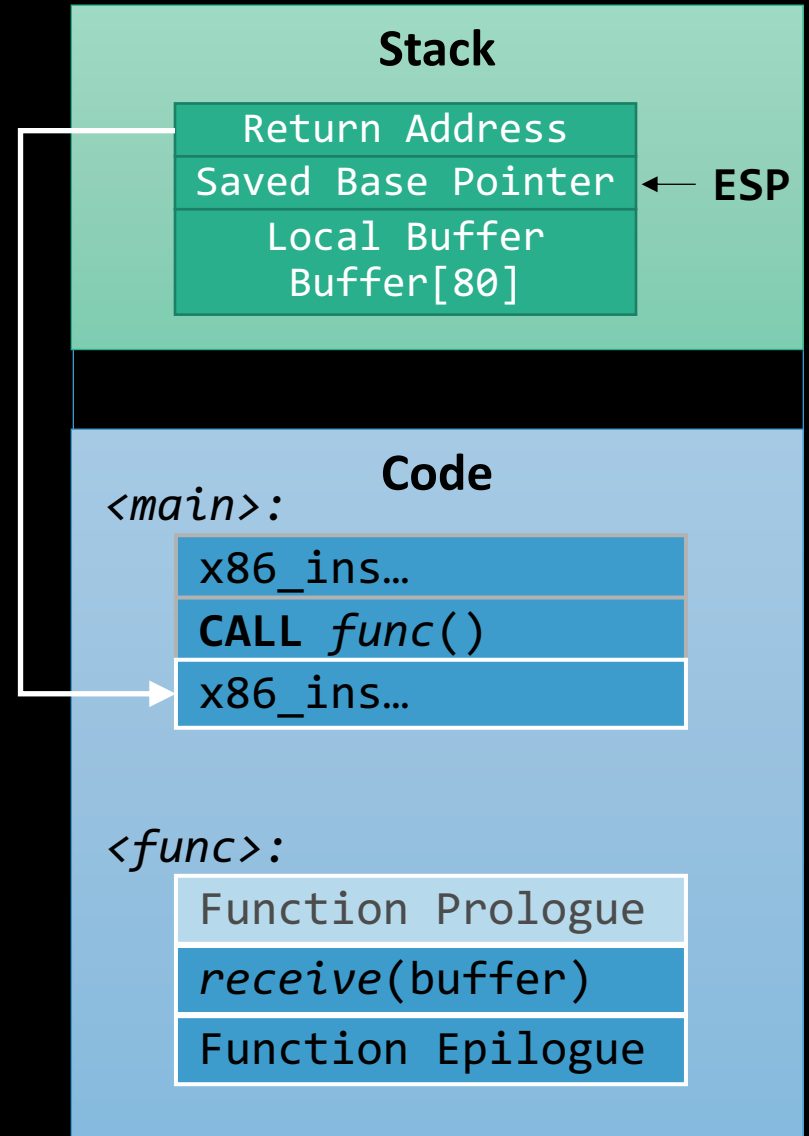
Program Memory



Example: Code Injection Attack



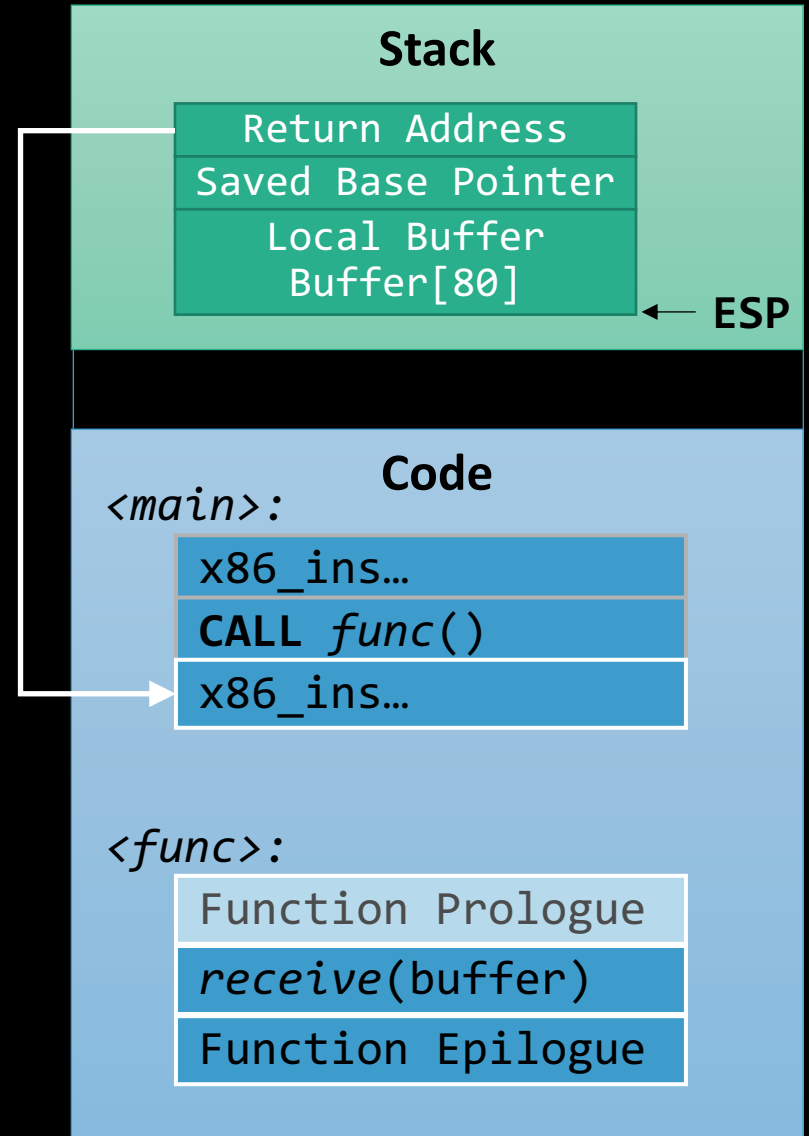
Program Memory



Example: Code Injection Attack



Program Memory

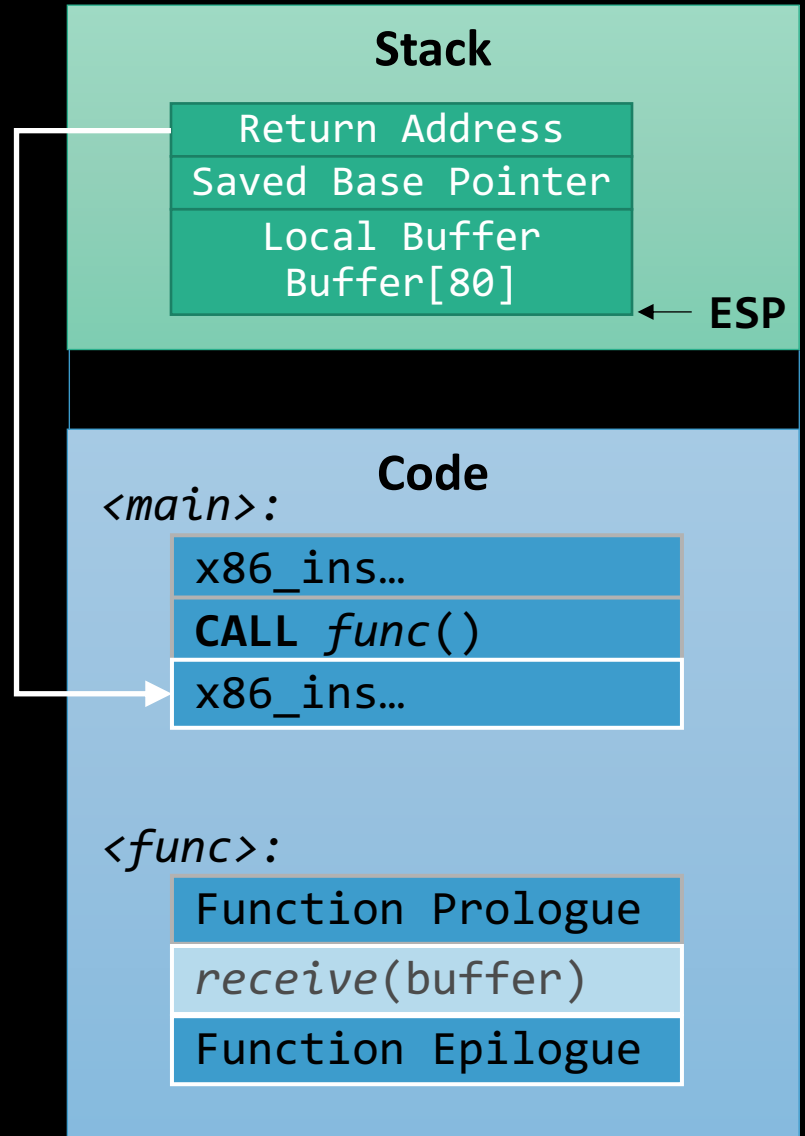


Example: Code Injection Attack



Corrupt Control
Structures

Program Memory

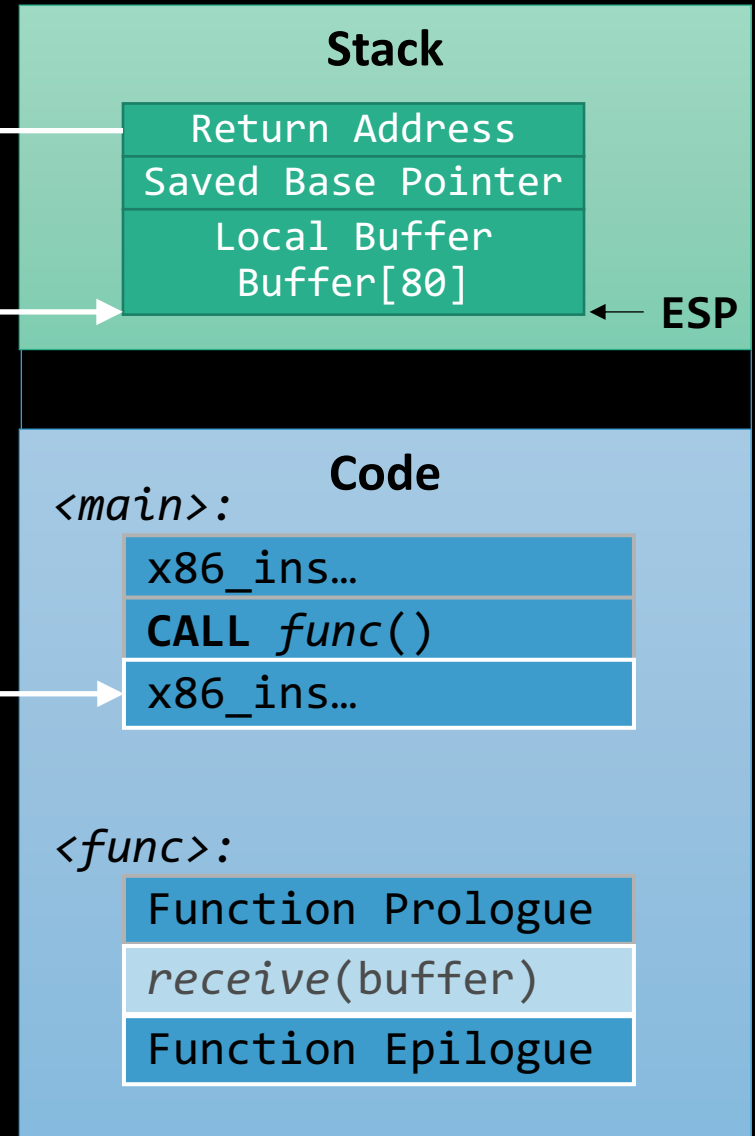


Example: Code Injection Attack



Corrupt Control
Structures

Program Memory

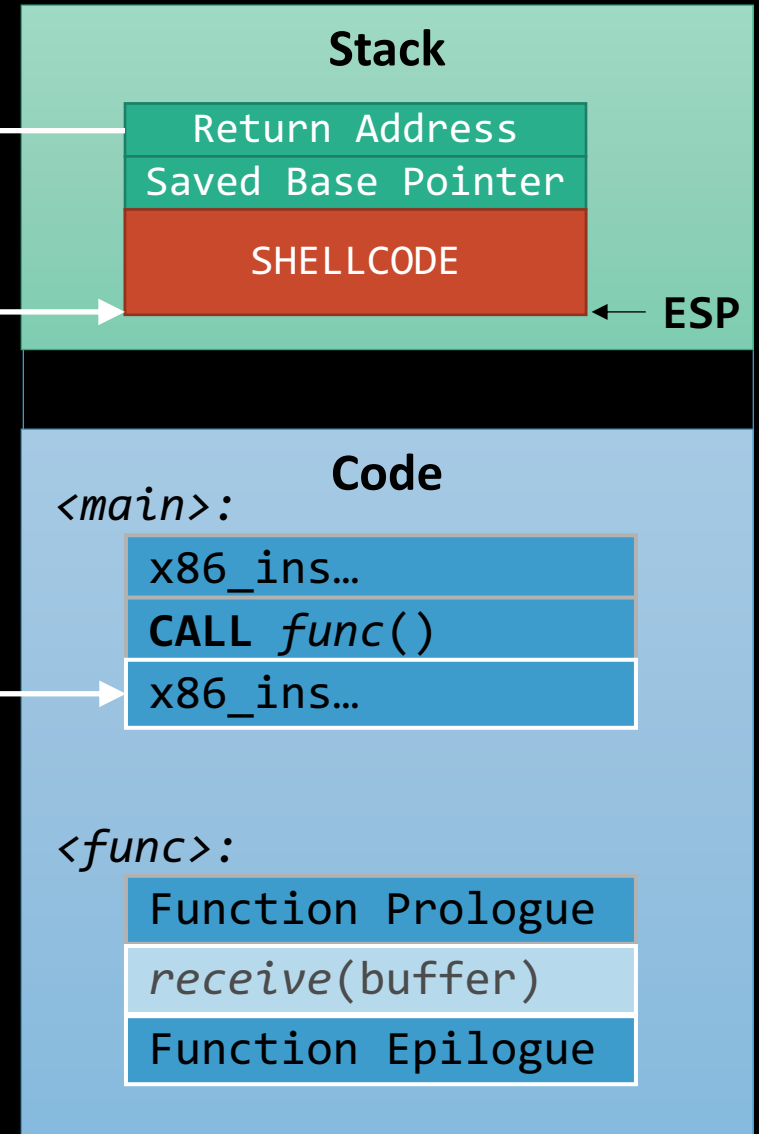


Example: Code Injection Attack



Corrupt Control
Structures

Program Memory

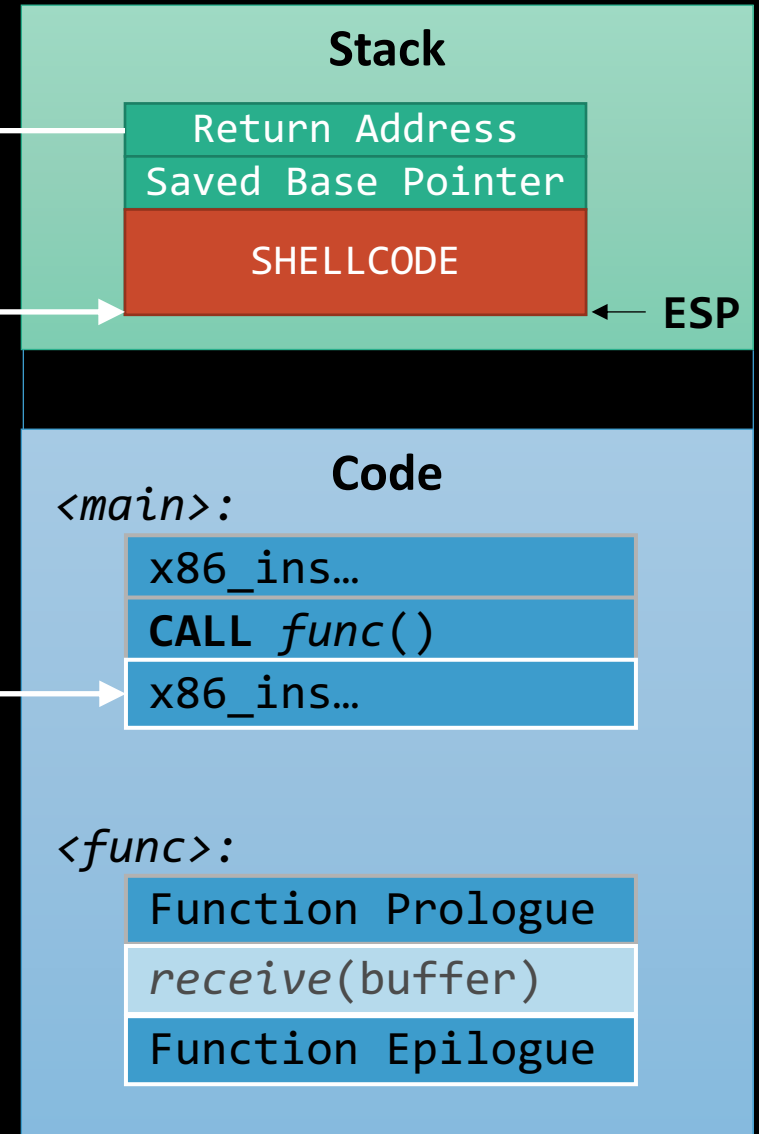


Example: Code Injection Attack



Corrupt Control
Structures

Program Memory

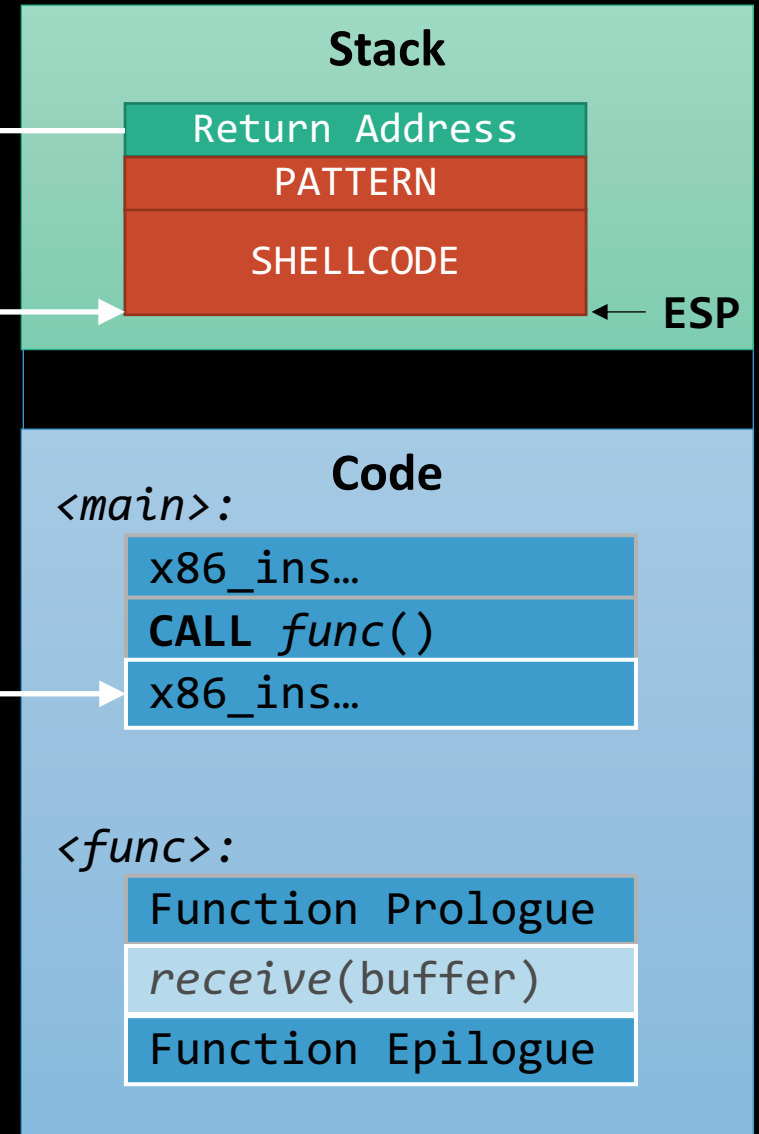


Example: Code Injection Attack



Corrupt Control
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Program Memory

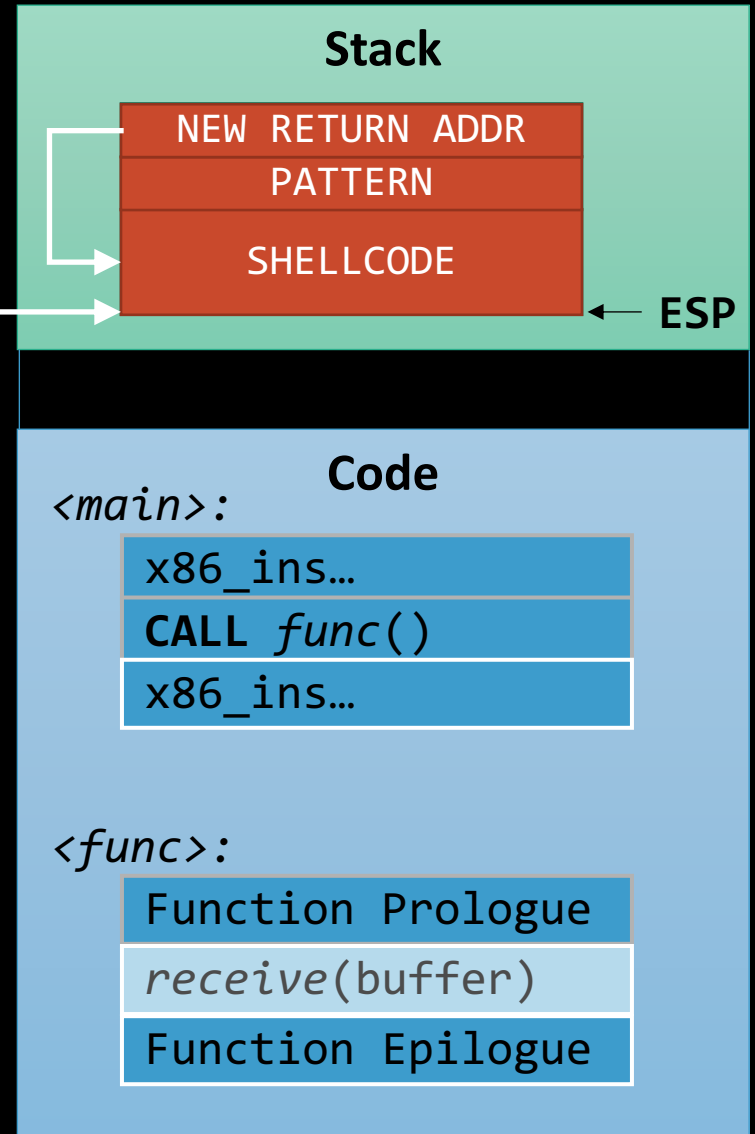


Example: Code Injection Attack



Corrupt Control
Structures

Program Memory

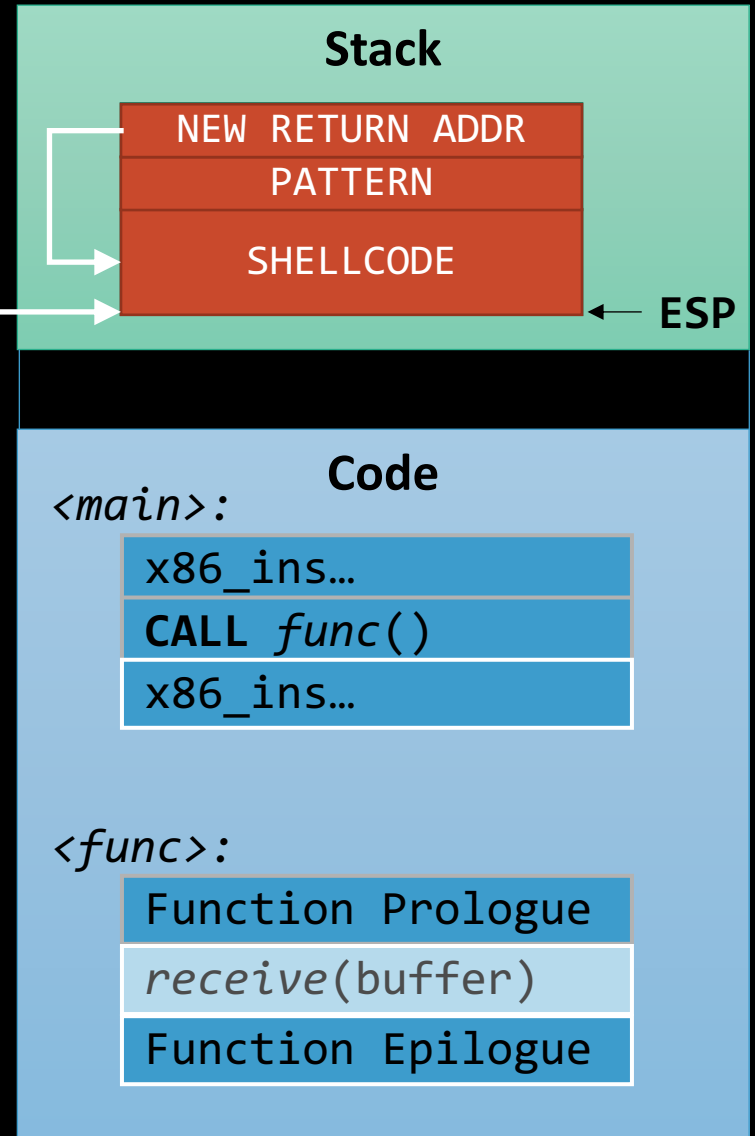


Example: Code Injection Attack



Corrupt Control
Structures

Program Memory

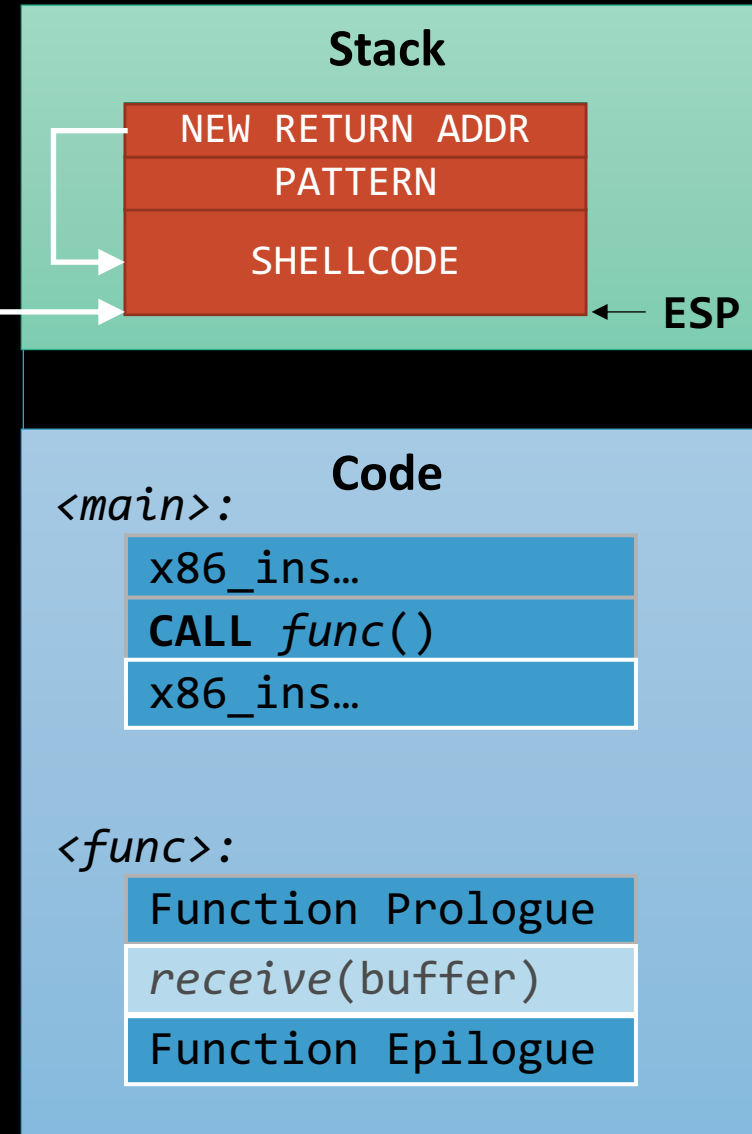


Example: Code Injection Attack

Program Memory



Corrupt Control Structures

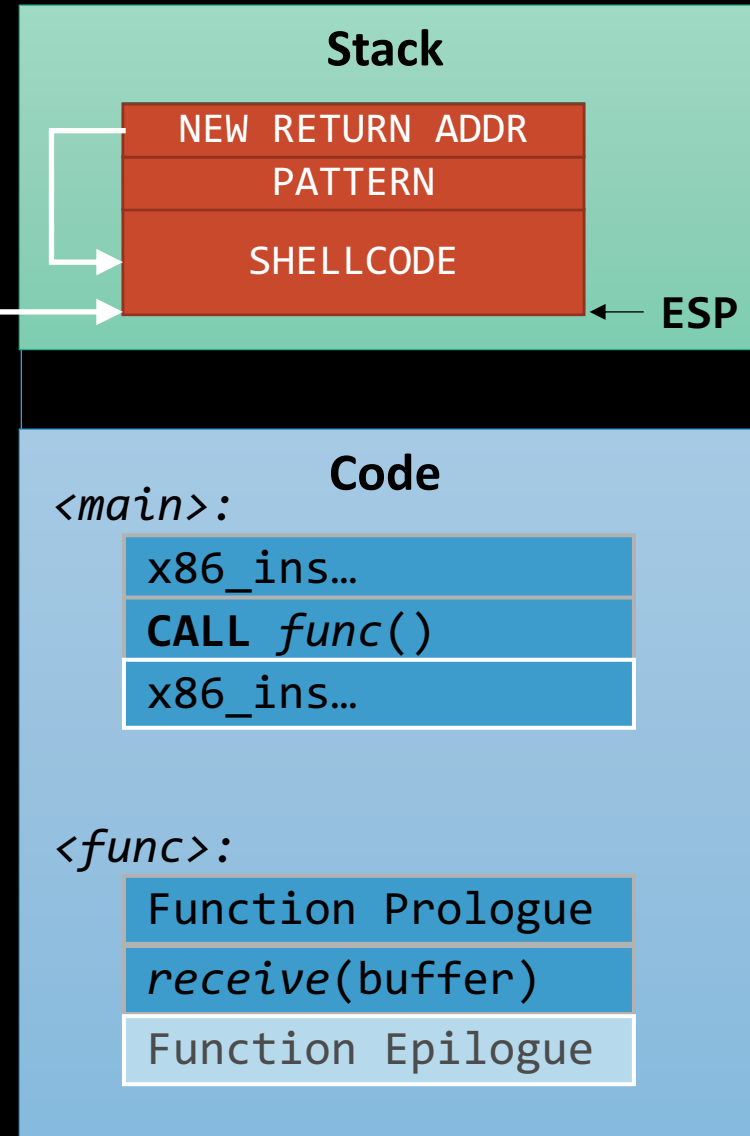


Example: Code Injection Attack

Program Memory



Corrupt Control Structures

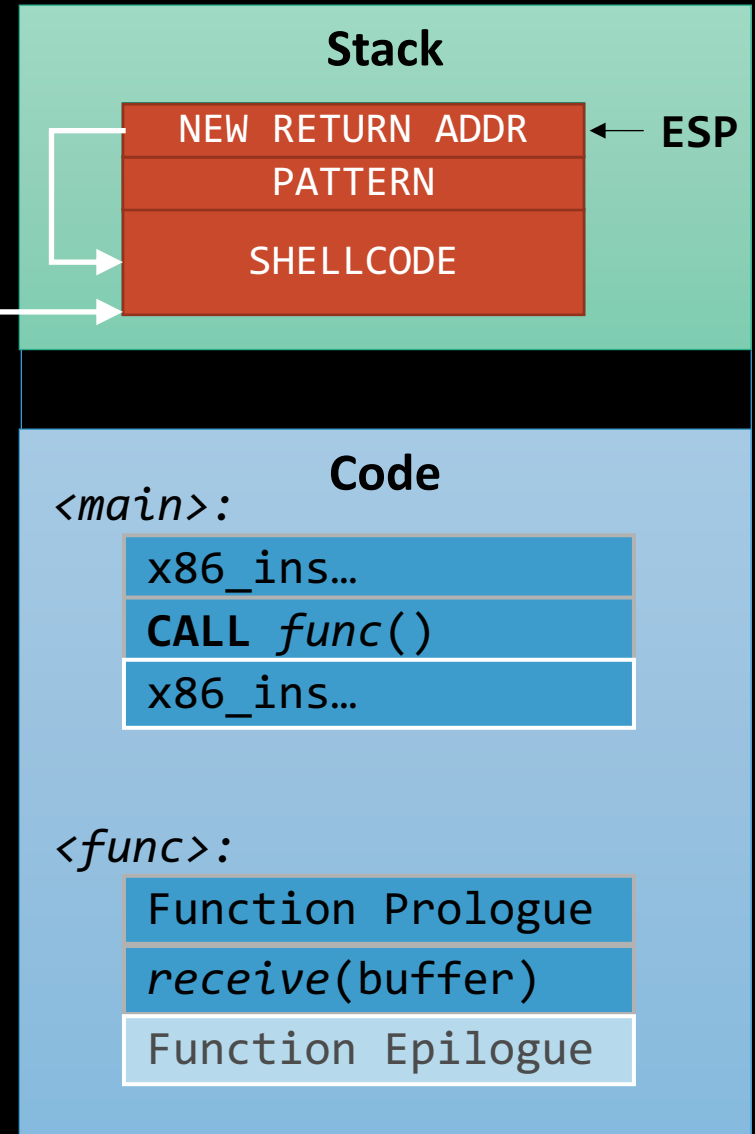


Example: Code Injection Attack

Program Memory

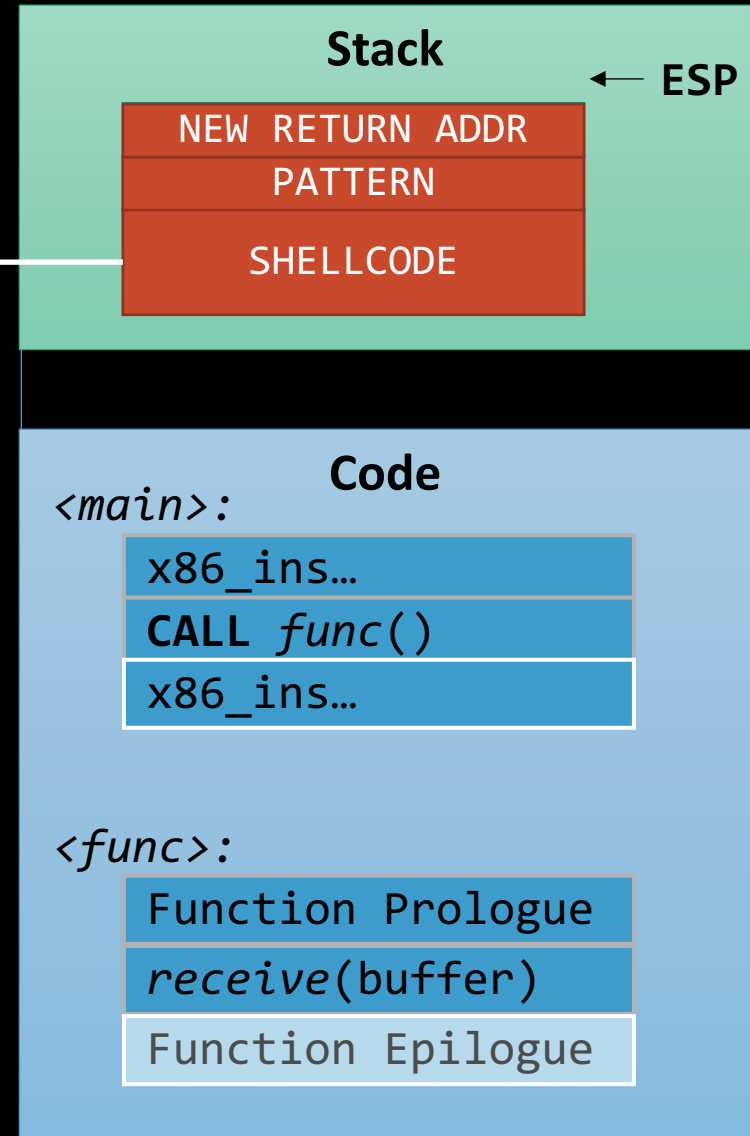


Corrupt Control Structures



Example: Code Injection Attack

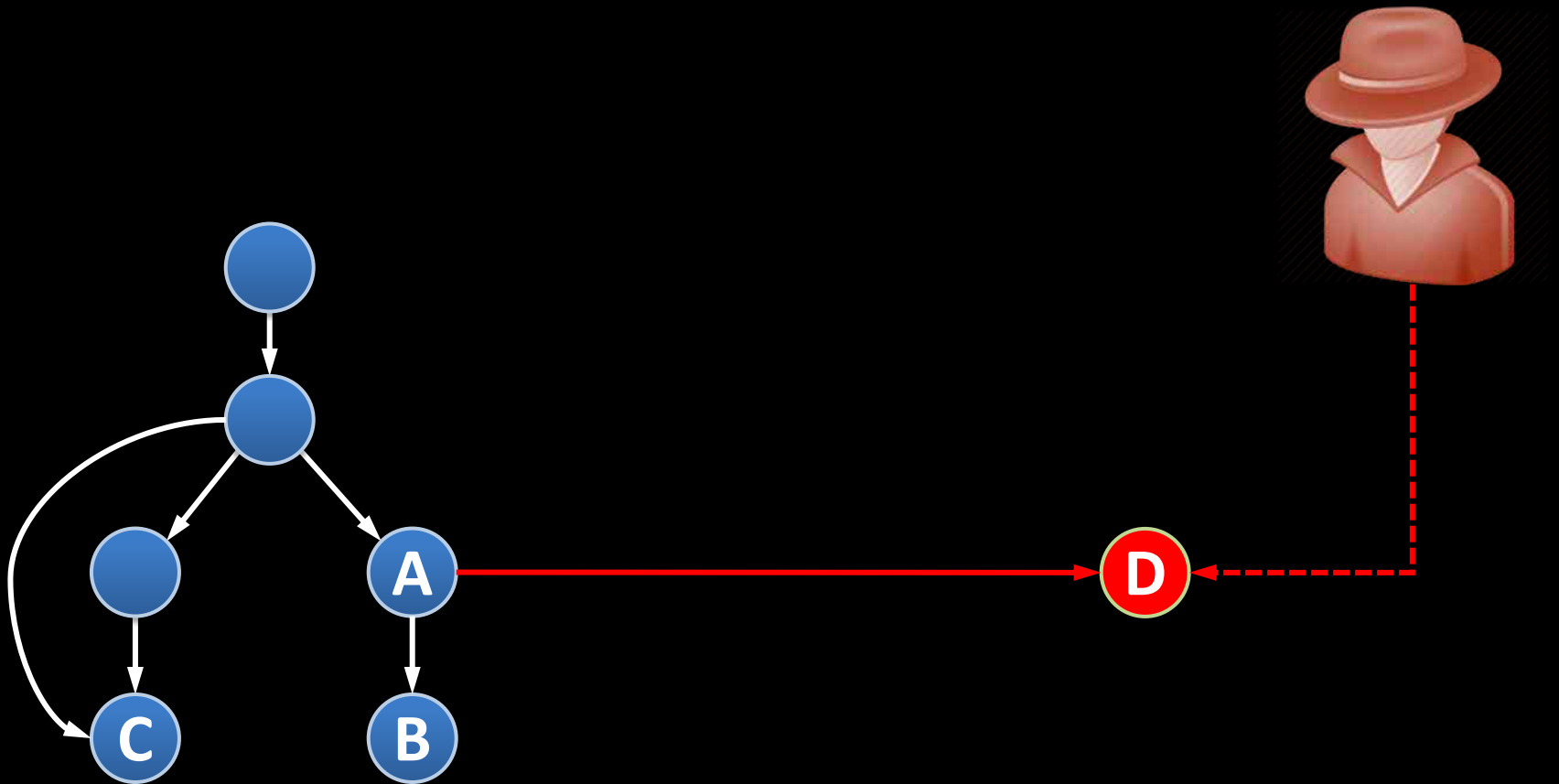
Program Memory



func() now
returns!

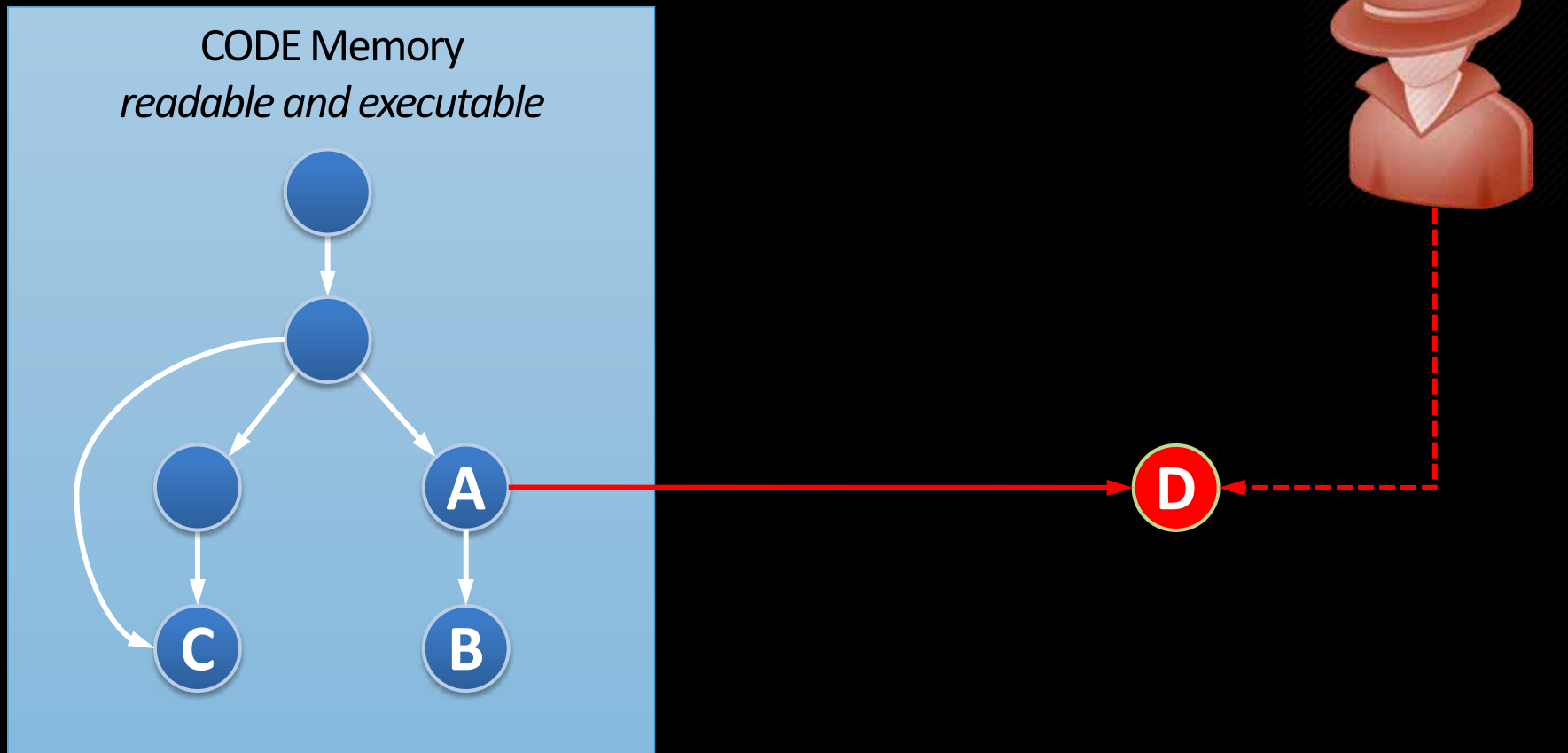
Data Execution Prevention (DEP)

- Prevent execution from a writeable memory (data) area



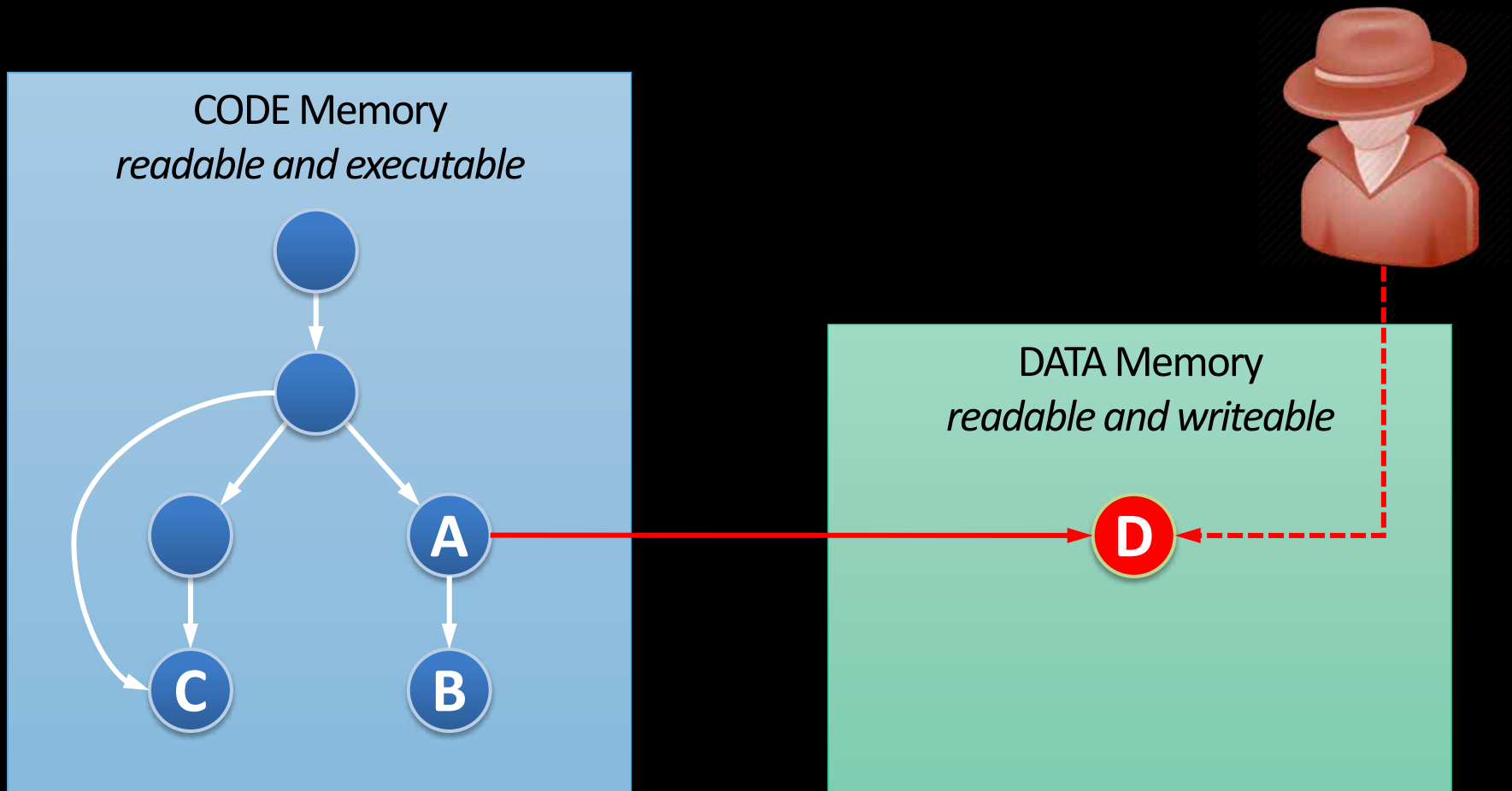
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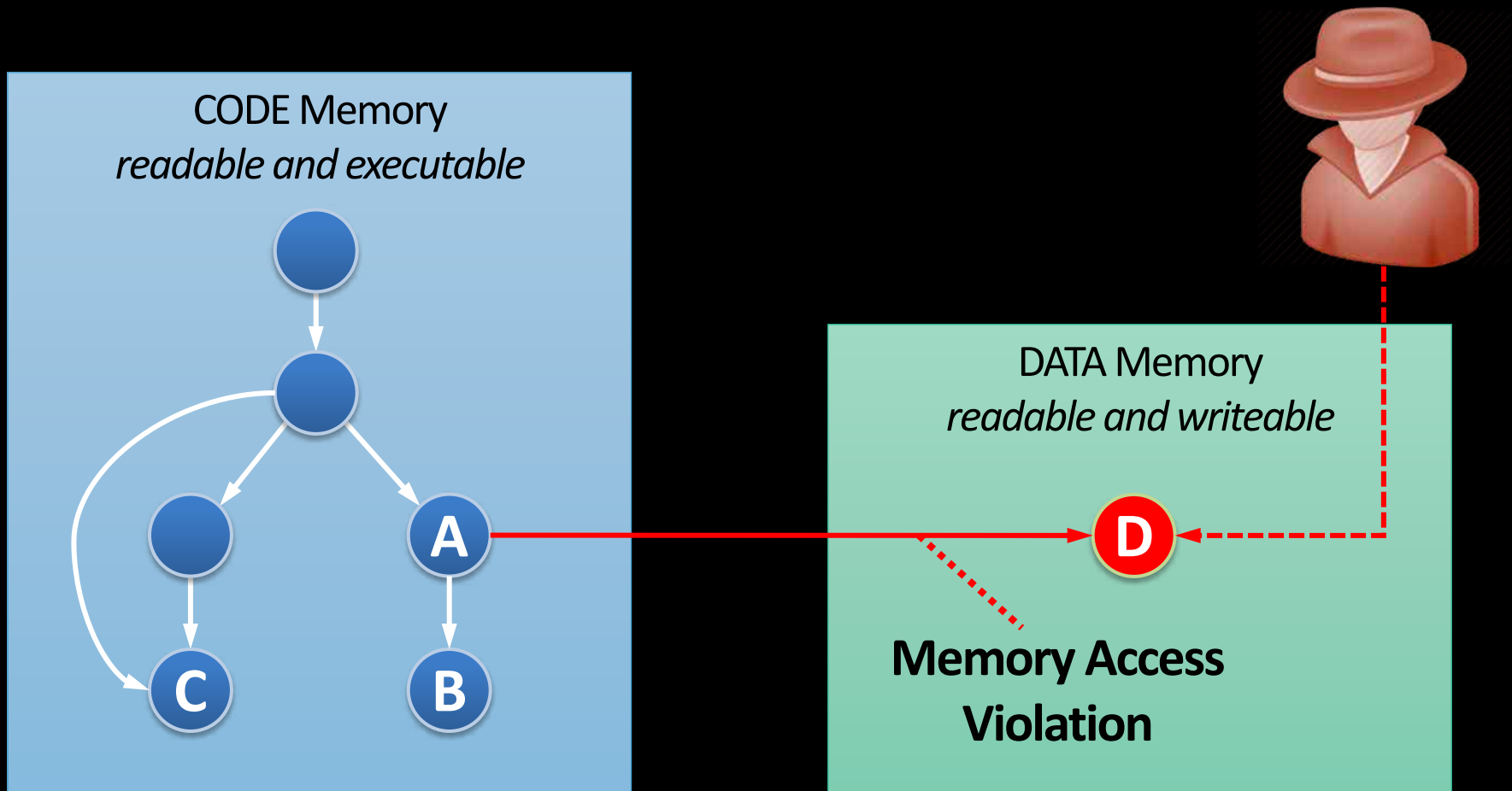
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- Prevent execution from a writeable memory (data) area

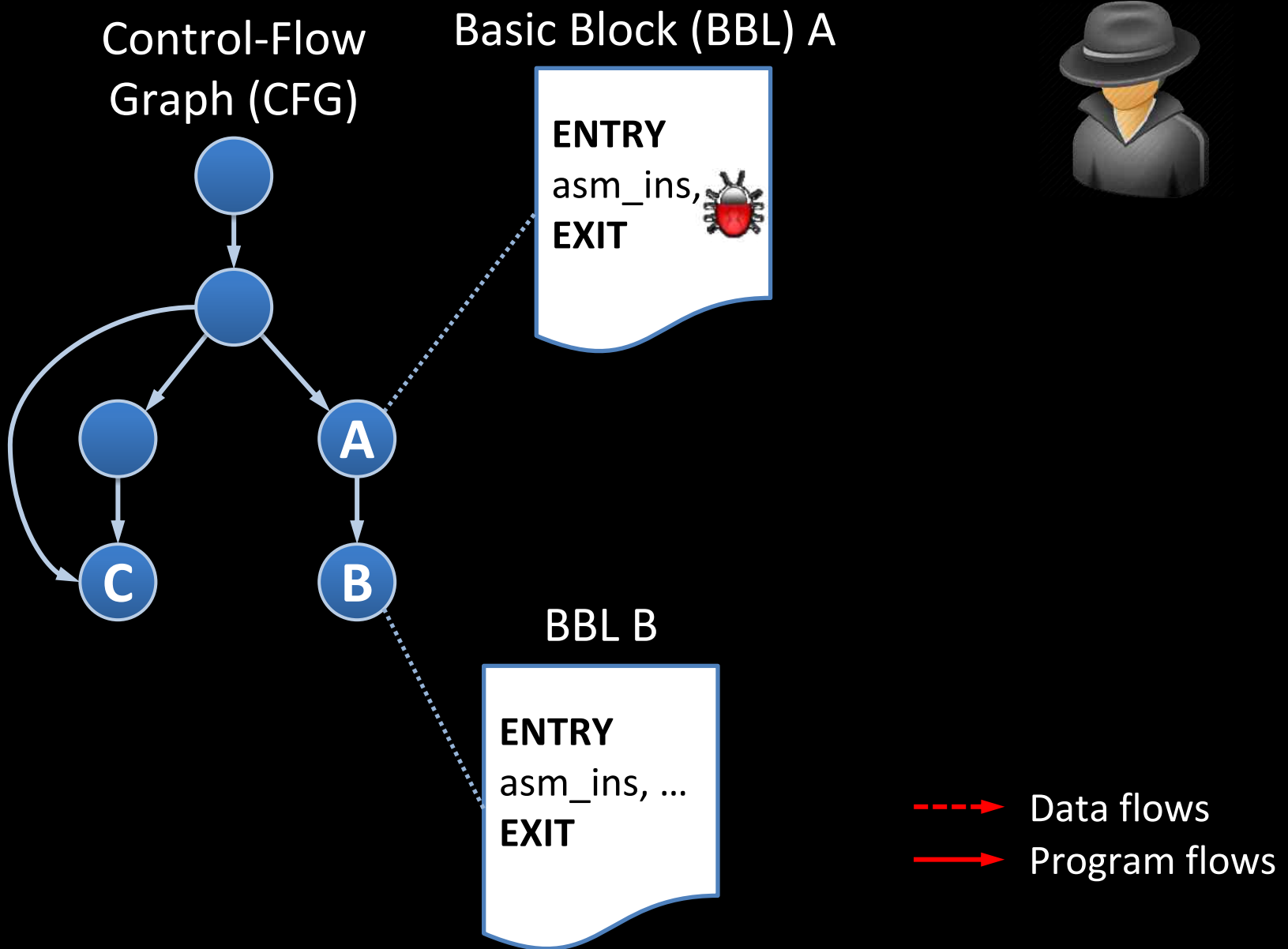


Data Execution Prevention (DEP)

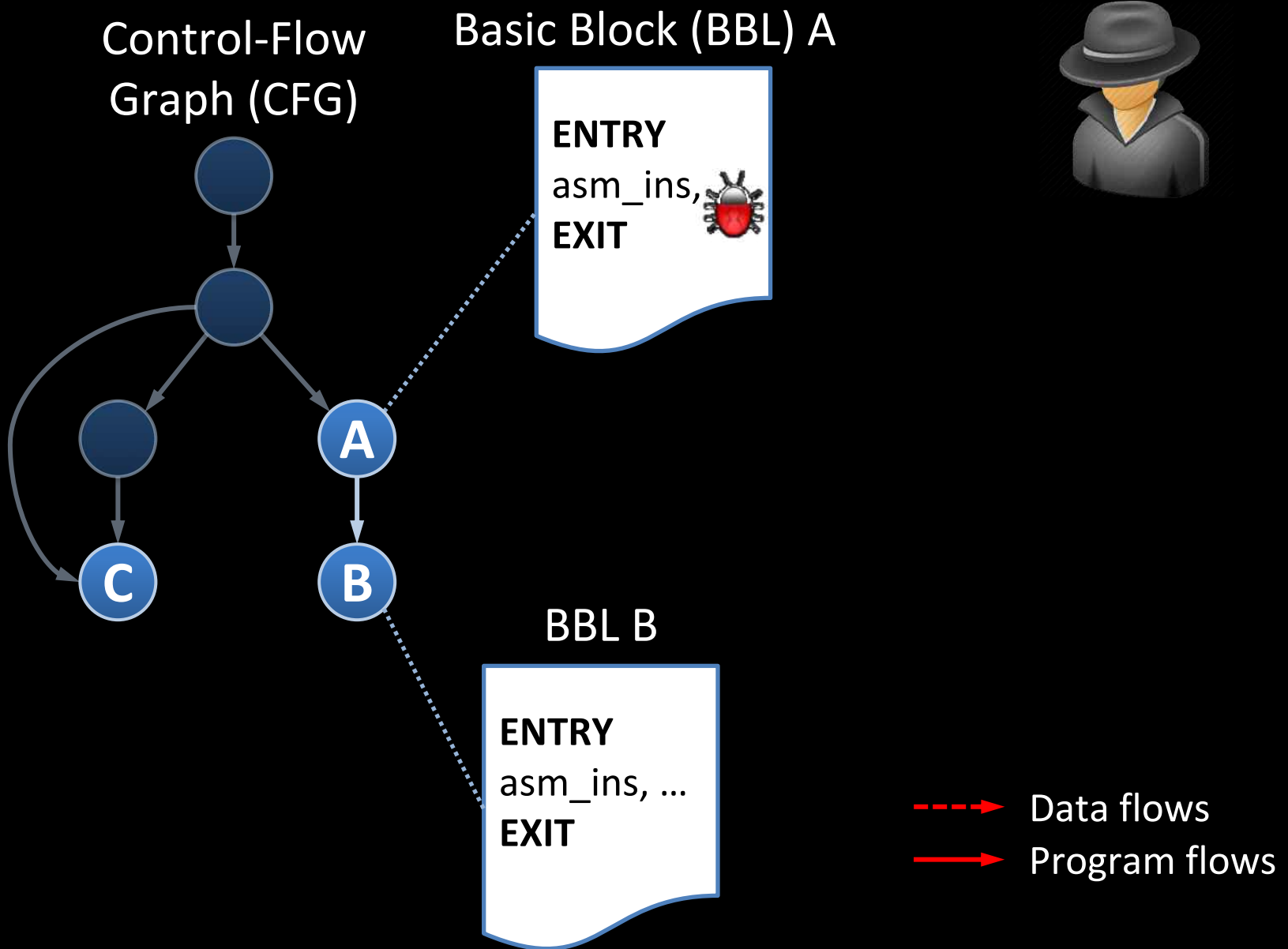
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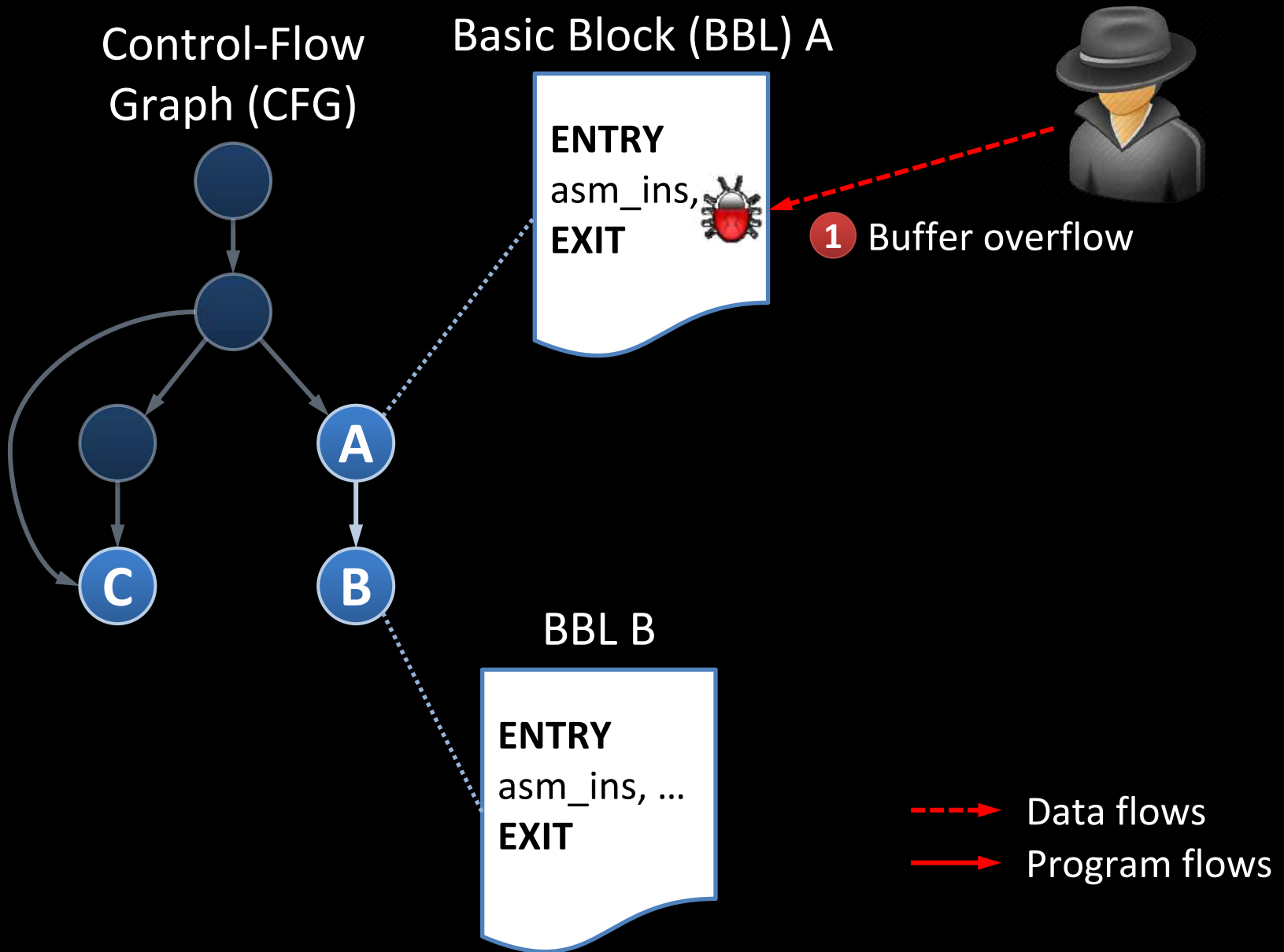
General Principle of Code-Reuse Attacks



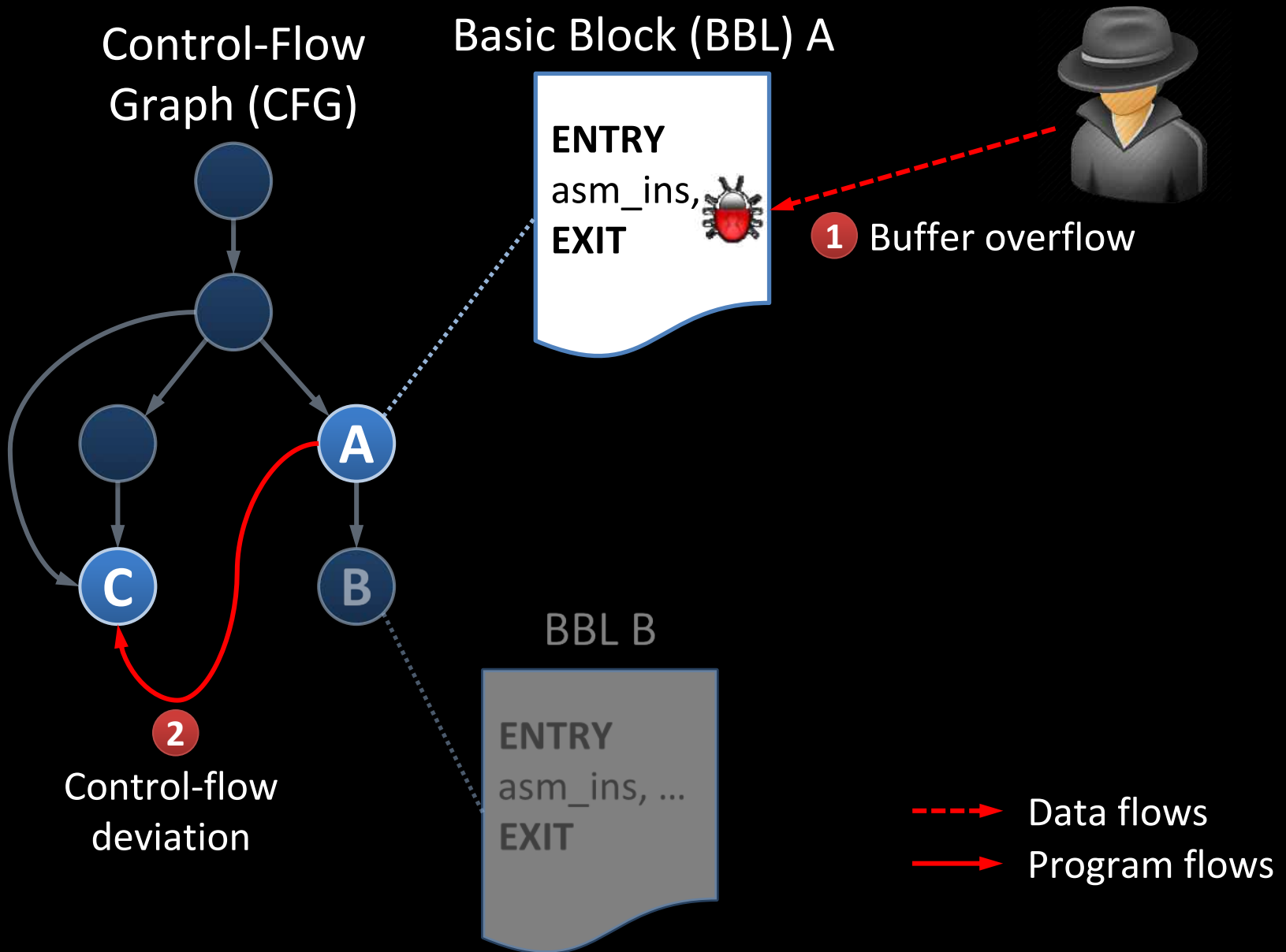
General Principle of Code-Reuse Attacks



General Principle of Code-Reuse Attacks



General Principle of Code-Reuse Attacks



Generalization of return-into-libc attacks:
return-oriented programming
[Shacham, ACM CCS 2007]

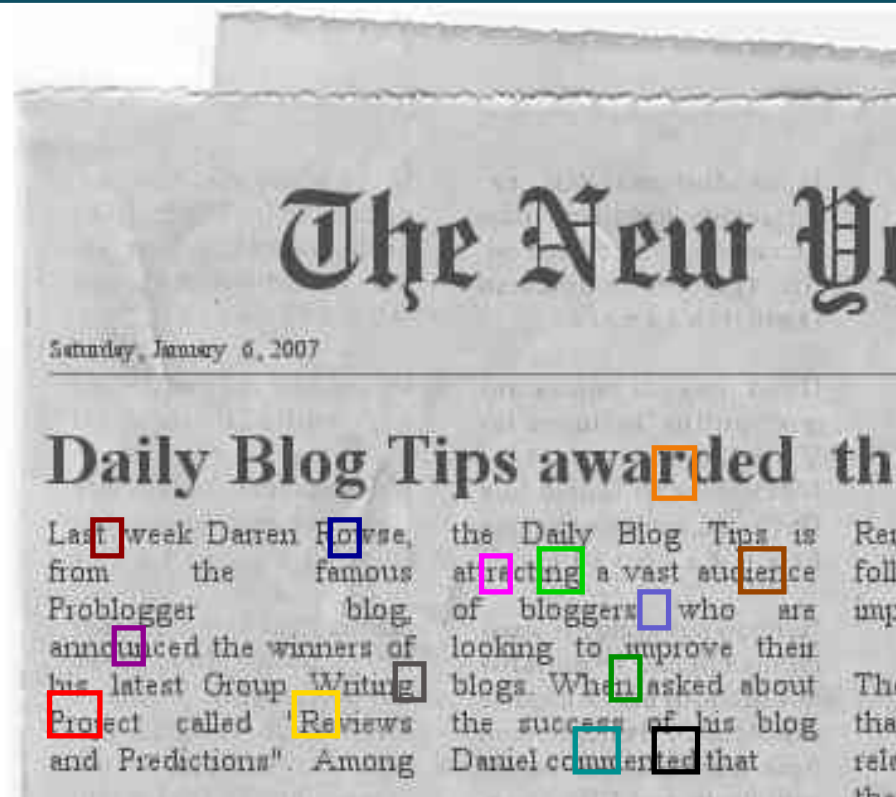
Big Picture



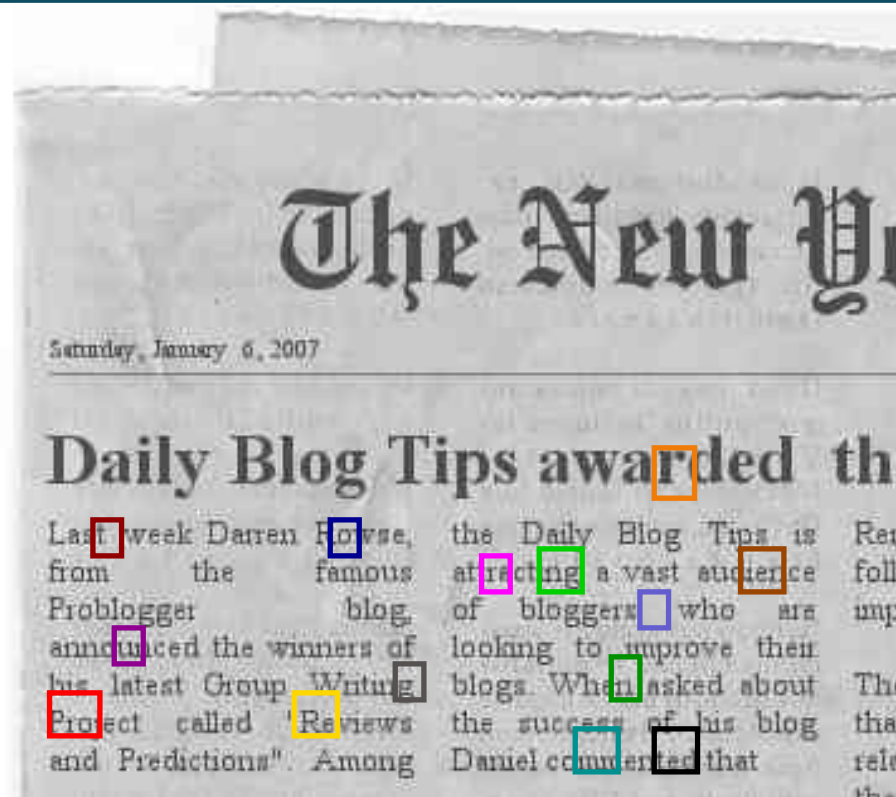
Big Picture



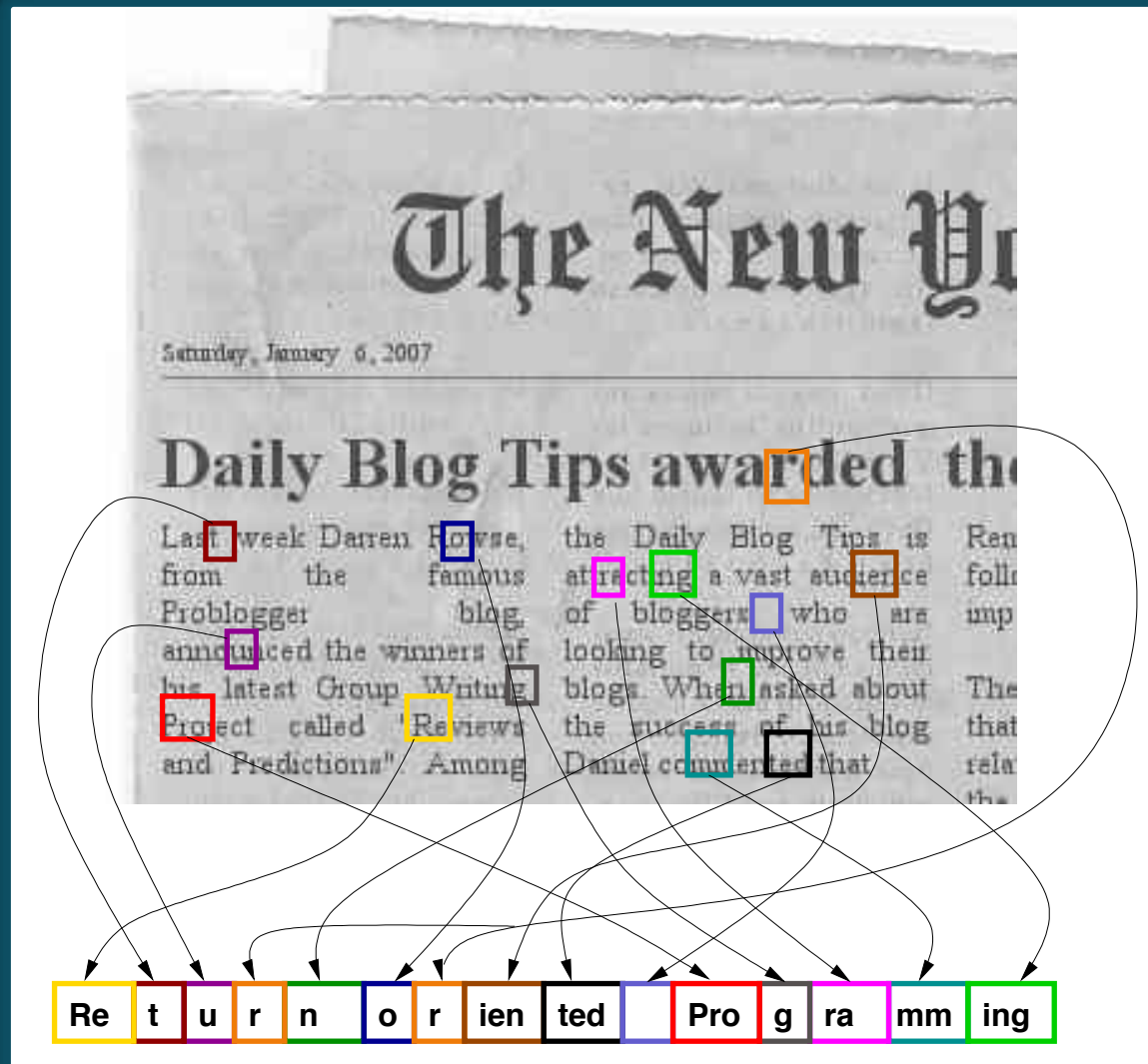
Big Picture



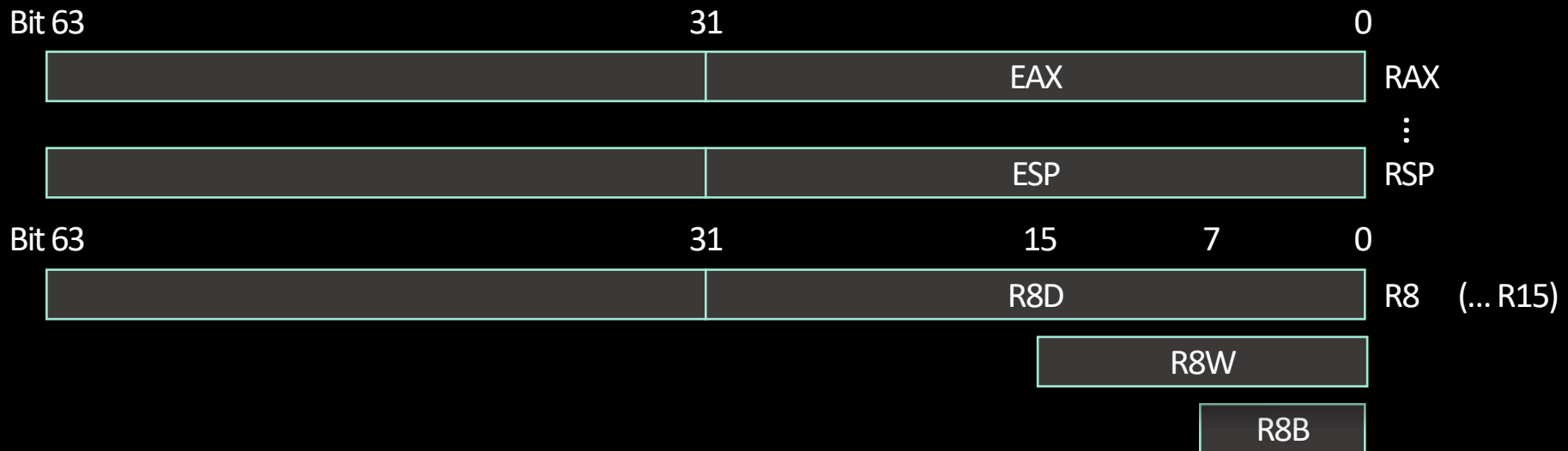
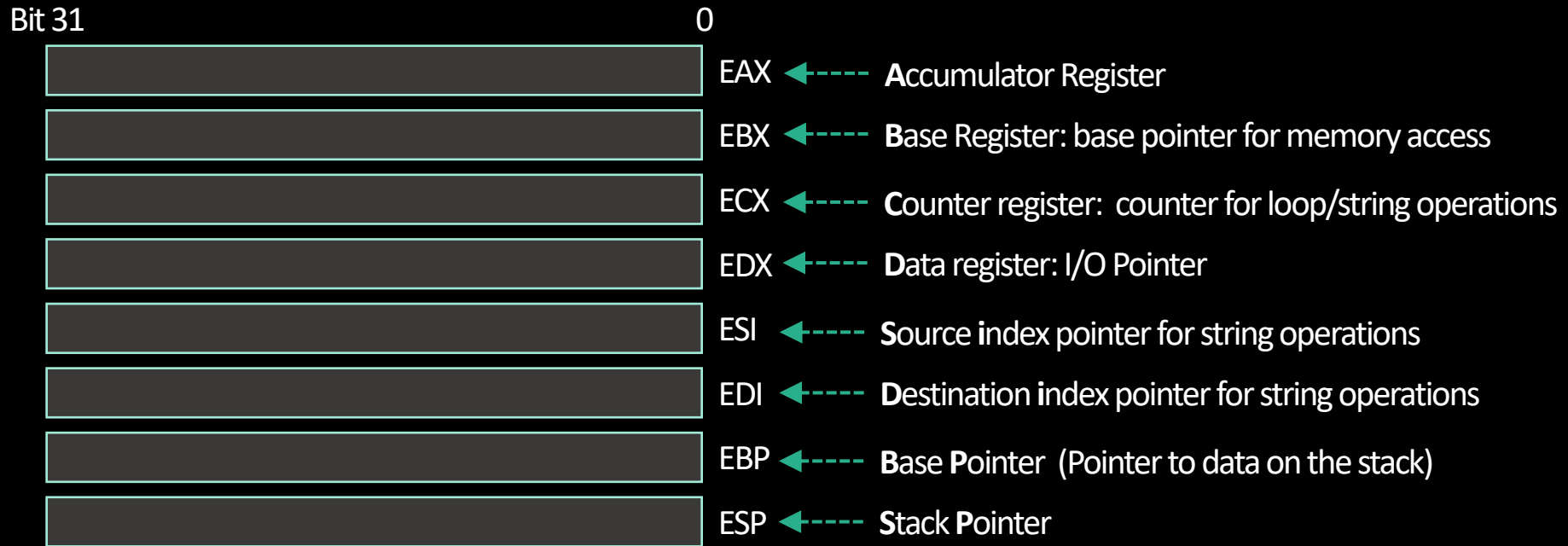
Big Picture



Big Picture



x86 and x64 CPU registers



Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Program Stack

Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Program Stack

Program Code

Sequence 1

Sequence 2

Sequence 3

Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Program Stack

Program Code

Sequence 1

Sequence 2

Sequence 3

Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Program Stack

Program Code

Sequence 1

x86_ins

ret

Sequence 2

pop eax

pop ebx

ret

Sequence 3

x86_ins

ret

Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Program Stack

Program Code

Sequence 1

x86_ins

ret

Sequence 2

pop eax

pop ebx

ret

Sequence 3

x86_ins

ret

EAX:

EBX:

Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Program Stack

Program Code

Sequence 1

x86_ins

ret

Sequence 2

pop eax

pop ebx

ret

Sequence 3

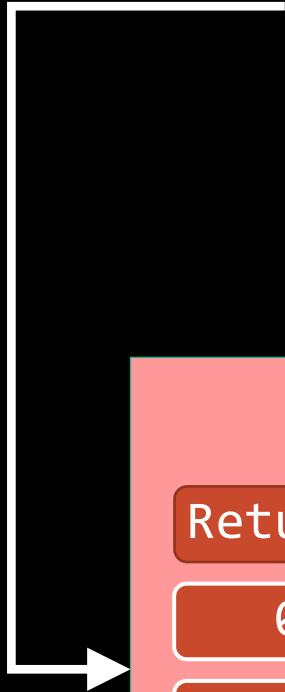
x86_ins

ret

EAX:

EBX:

Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Program Stack

Return Address 3

0xAABBCCDD

0X80102030

Return Address 2

Return Address 1

Program Code

Sequence 1

x86_ins

ret

Sequence 2

pop eax

pop ebx

ret

Sequence 3

x86_ins

ret

EAX:

EBX:

Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Program Stack

Return Address 3

0xAABBCCDD

0X80102030

Return Address 2

Return Address 1

ESP



Program Code

Sequence 1

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ret

Sequence 2

pop eax

pop ebx

ret

Sequence 3

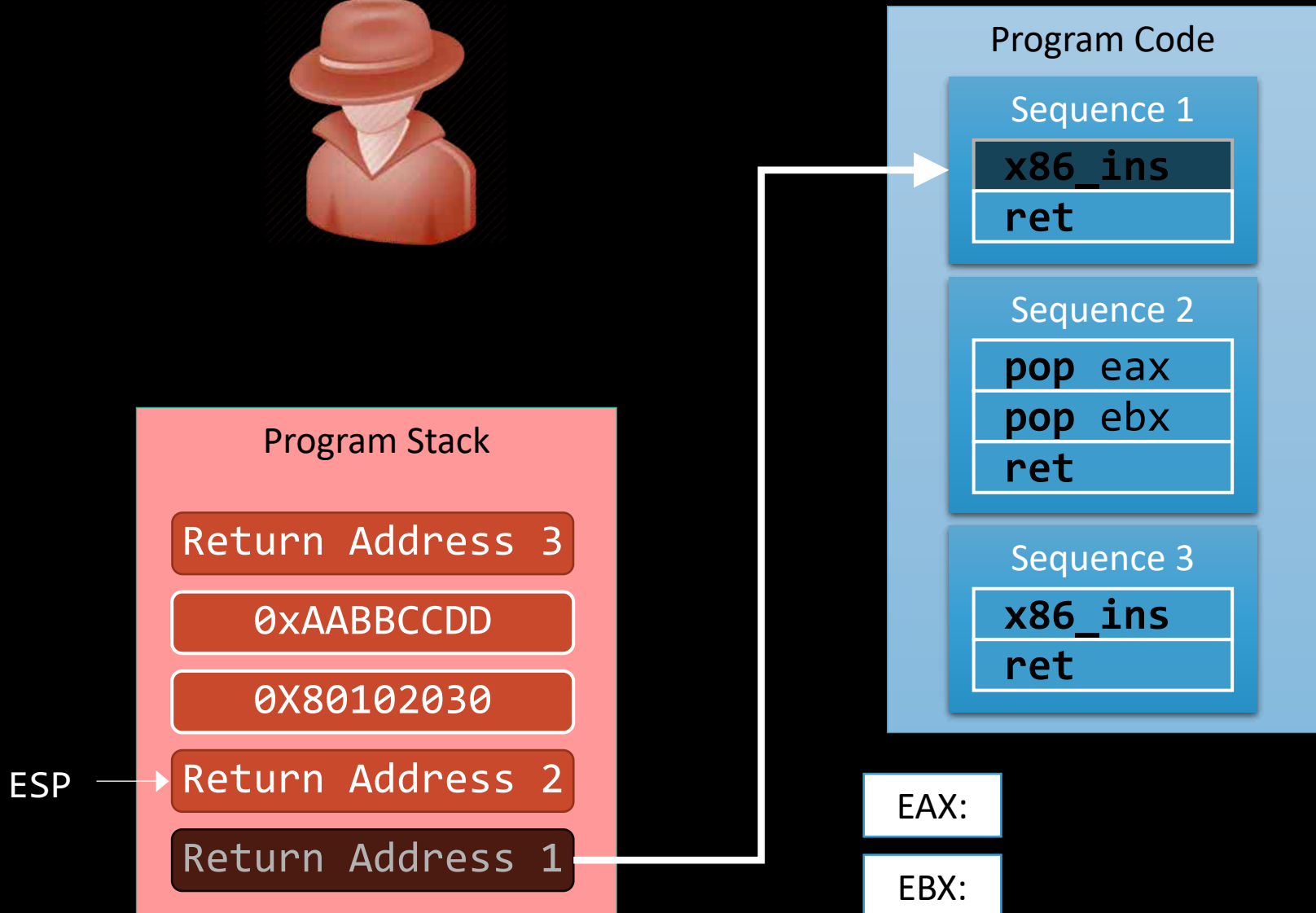
x86_ins

ret

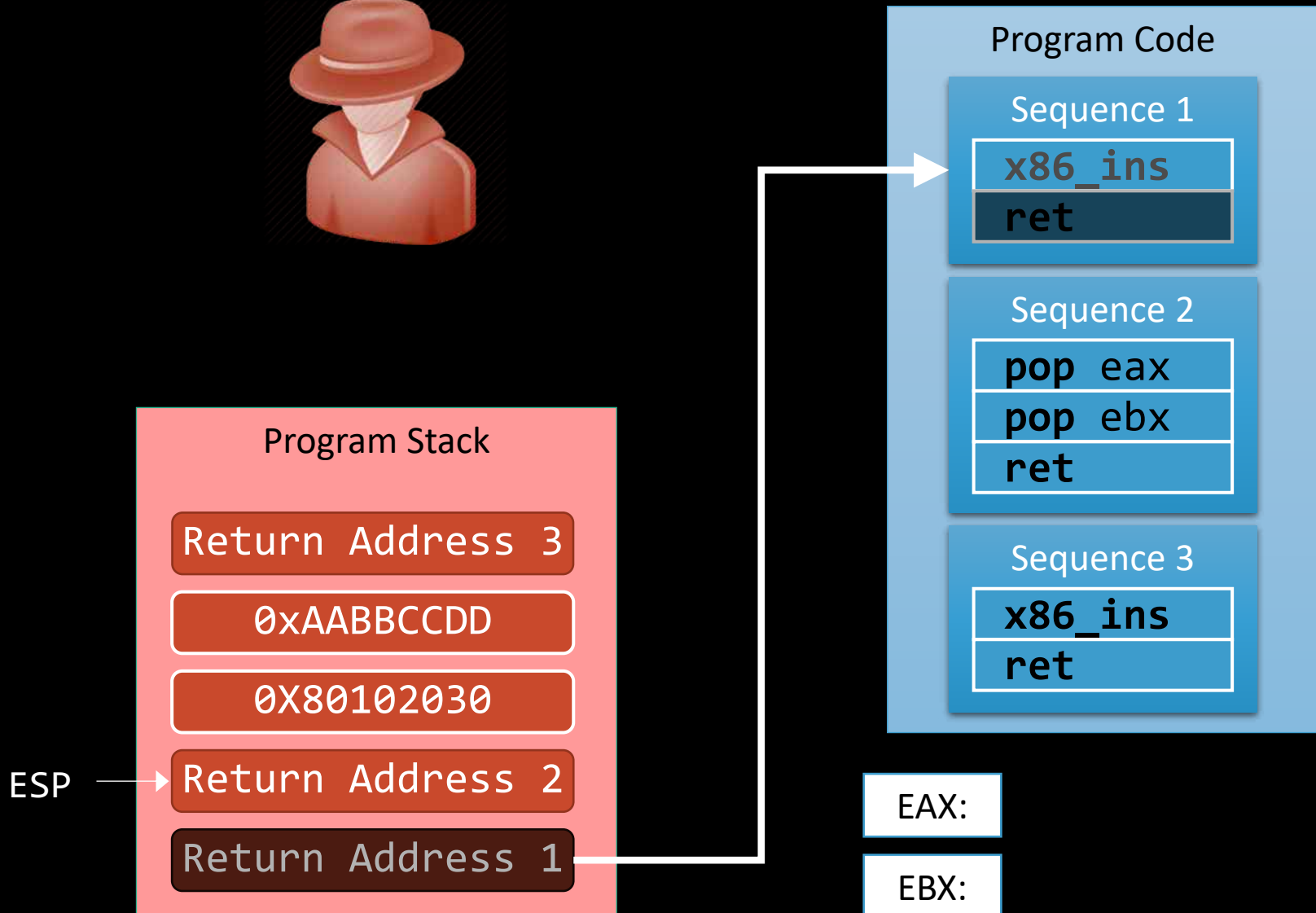
EAX:

EBX:

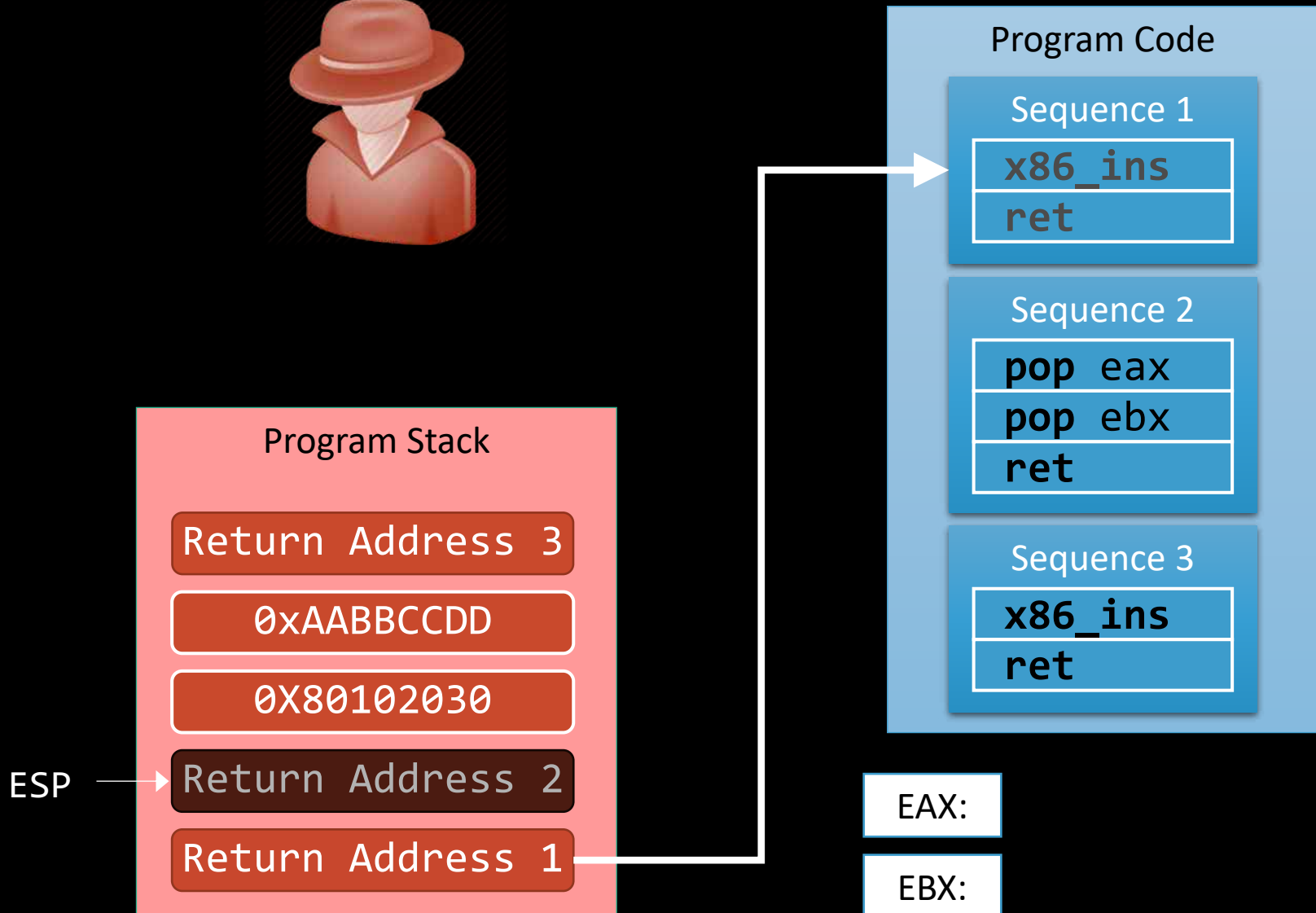
Attack Technique: Overview on x86



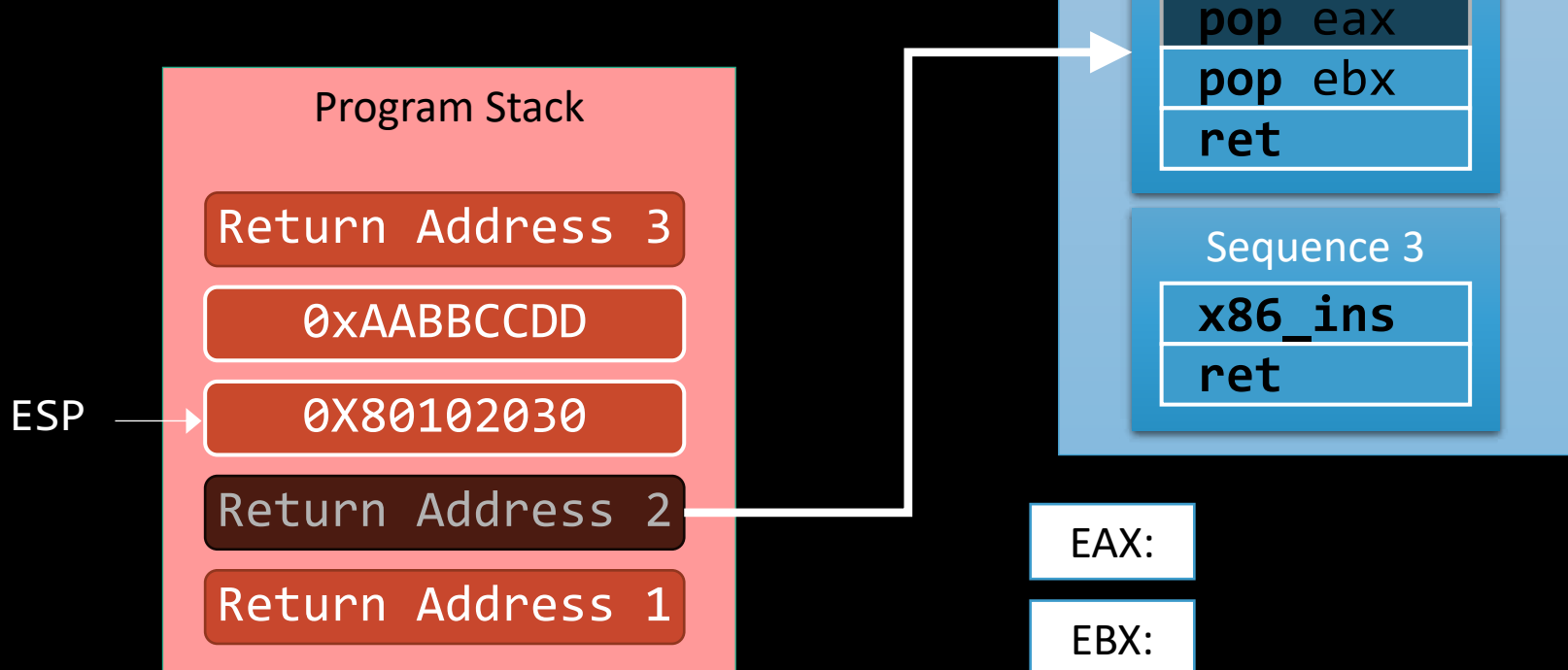
Attack Technique: Overview on x86



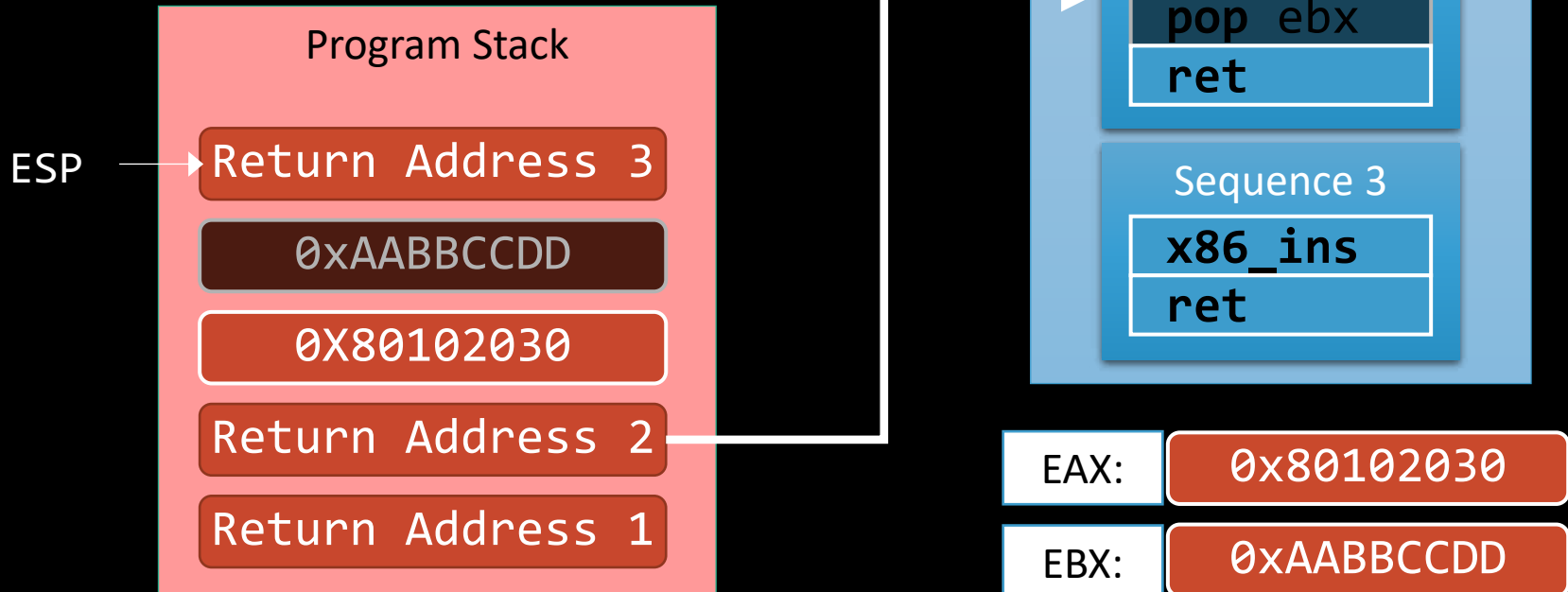
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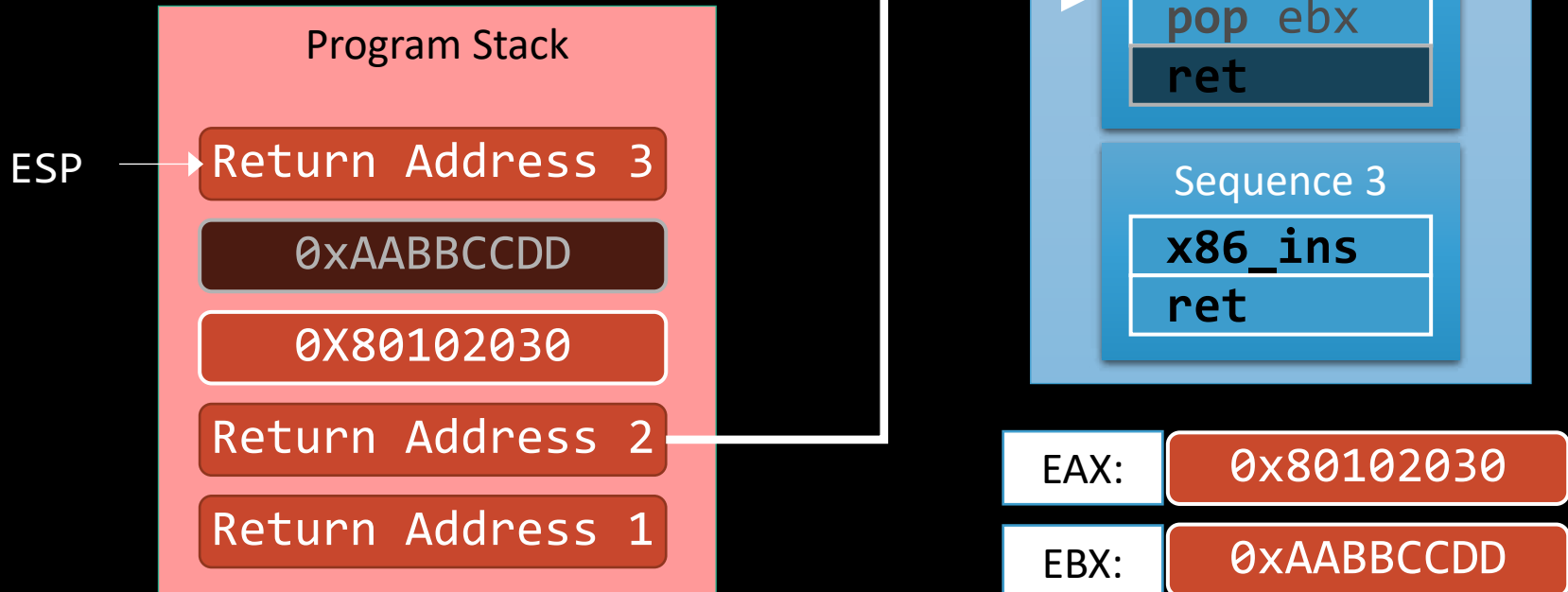
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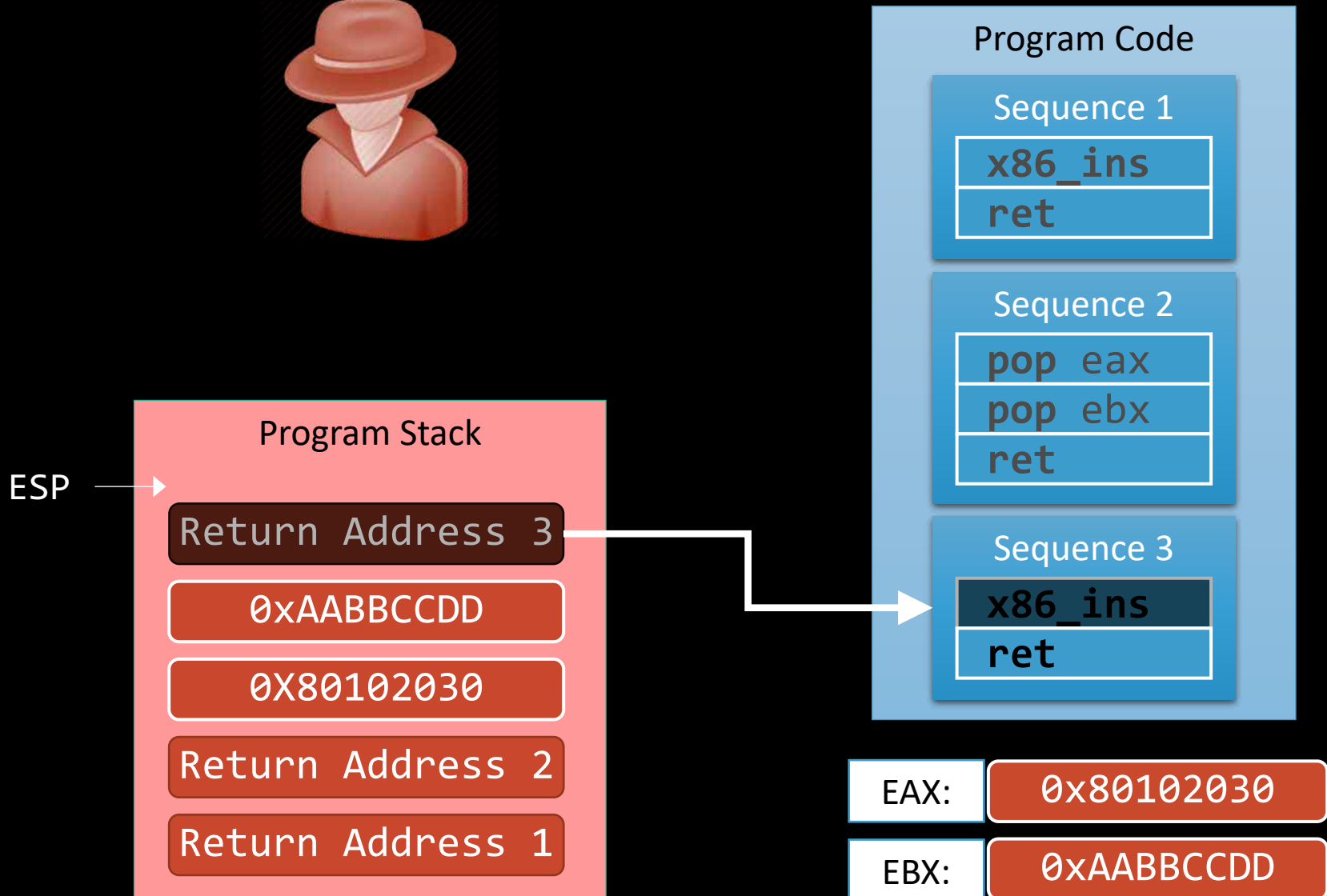
Attack Technique: Overview on x86



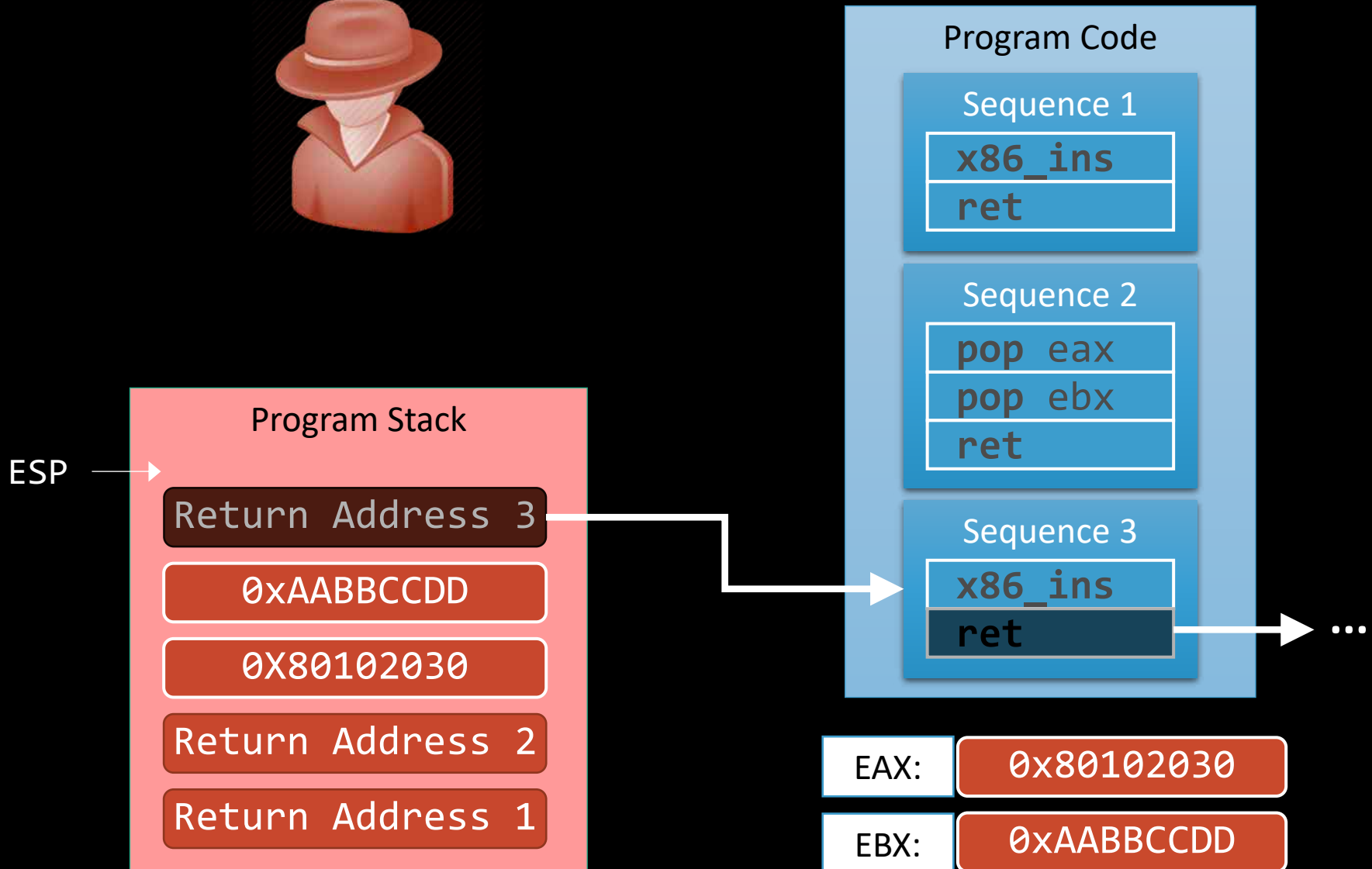
Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Attack Technique: Overview on x86



Memory Load Gadget on x86



Memory Load Gadget on x86



Program Stack

Memory Load Gadget on x86



Program Stack

Data Area

0x80102030:

0xDEADBEEF

Memory Load Gadget on x86



Program Stack

Data Area

0x80102030:

0xDEADBEEF

Memory Load Gadget on x86



Program Stack

Data Area

0x80102030:

0xDEADBEEF

Program Code

Sequence 2

```
mov eax, [eax+0x20]  
ret
```

Sequence 1

```
pop eax  
ret
```

Memory Load Gadget on x86



Program Stack

Data Area

0x80102030:

0xDEADBEEF

Program Code

Sequence 2

```
mov eax, [eax+0x20]  
ret
```

Sequence 1

```
pop eax  
ret
```

EAX:

Memory Load Gadget on x86



Program Stack

Data Area

0x80102030:

0xDEADBEEF

Program Code

Sequence 2

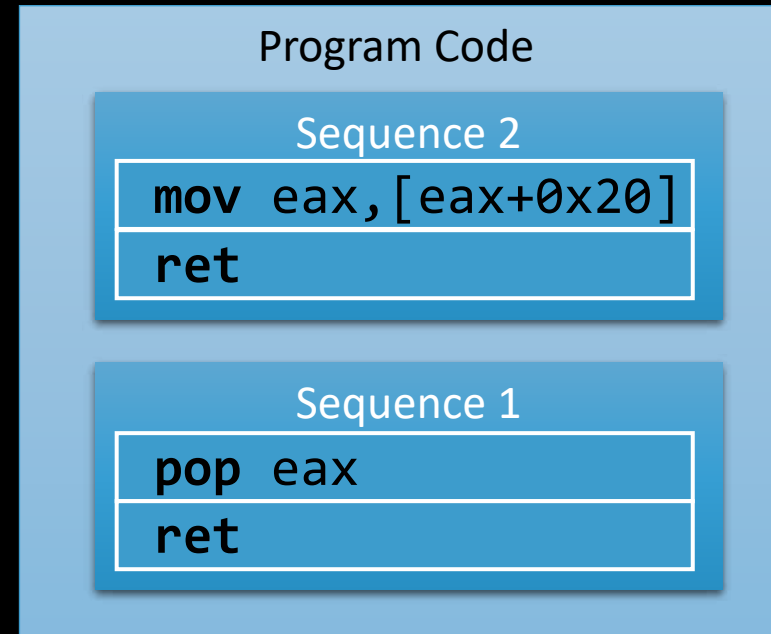
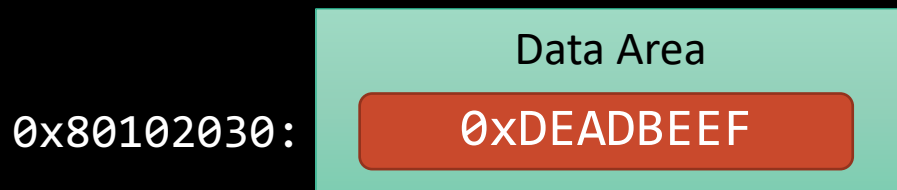
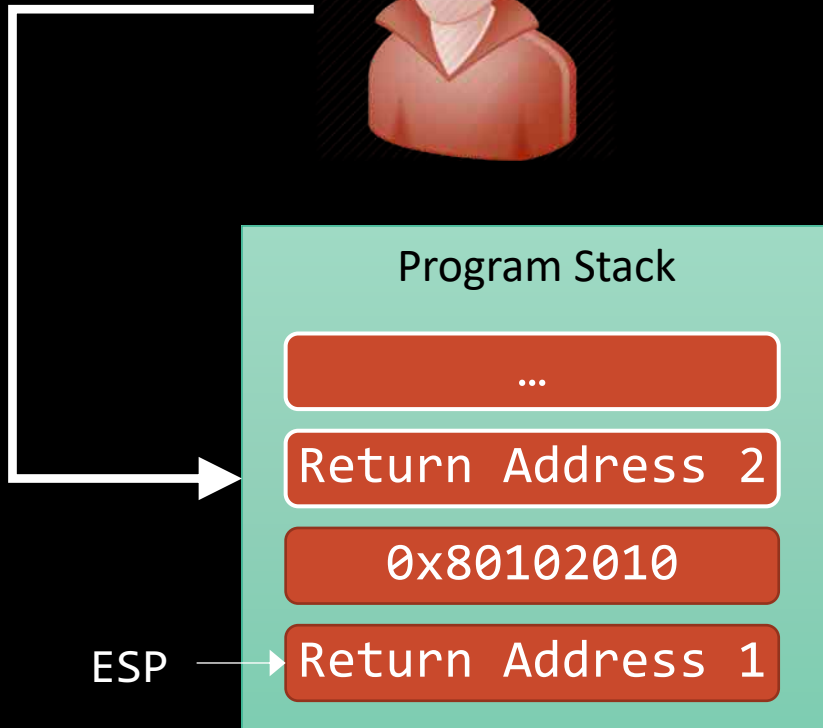
```
mov eax, [eax+0x20]  
ret
```

Sequence 1

```
pop eax  
ret
```

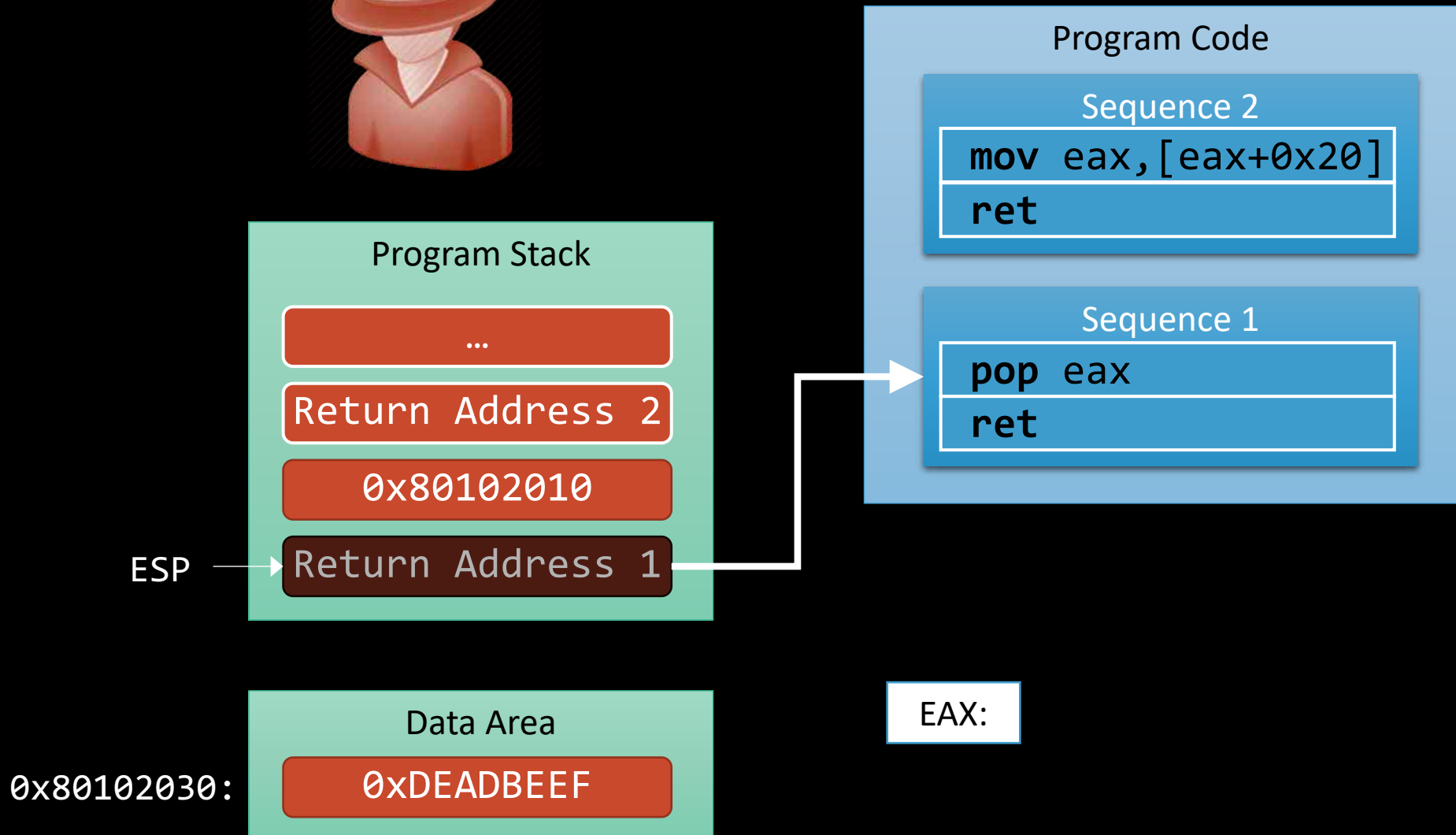
EAX:

Memory Load Gadget on x86

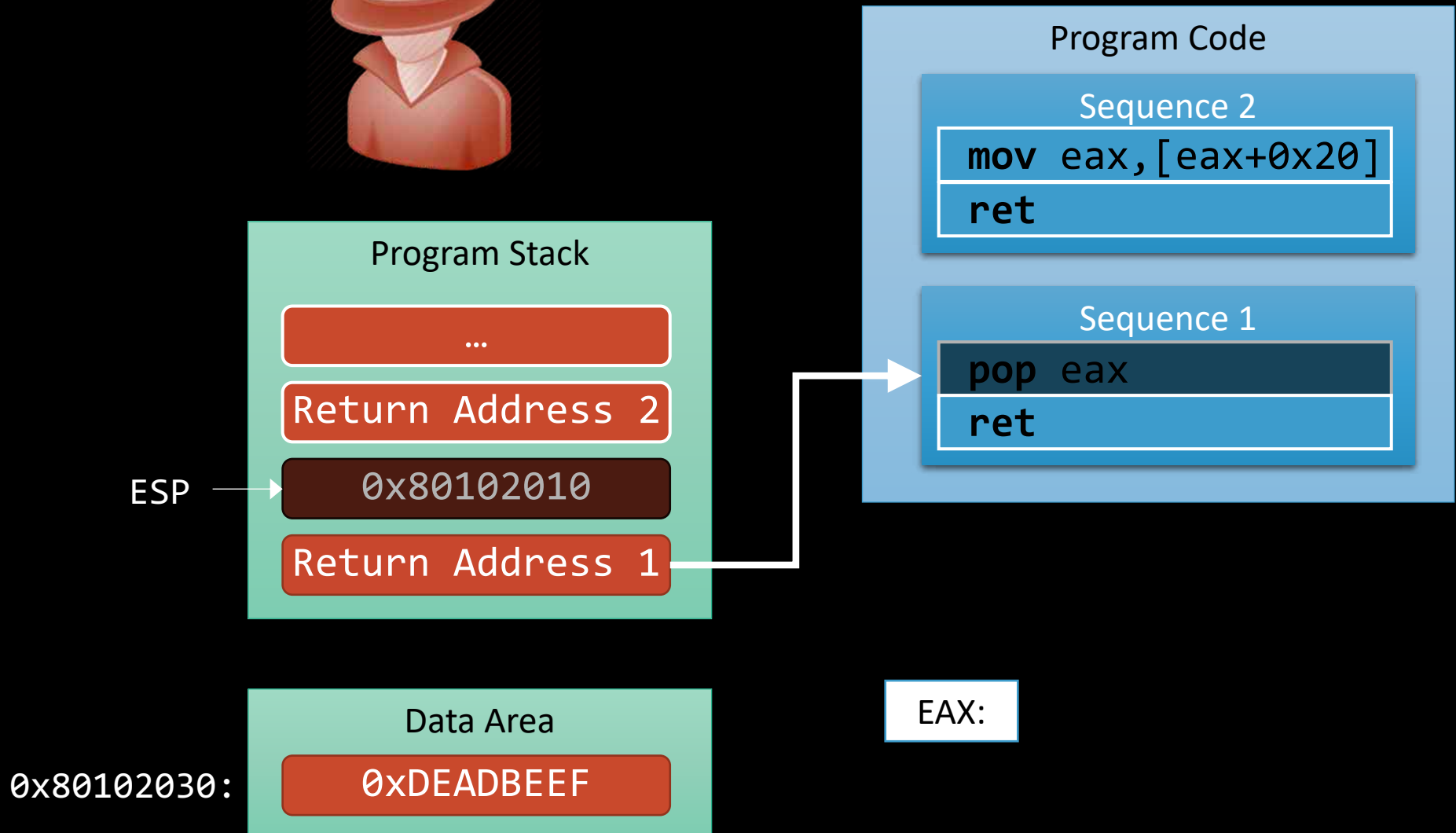


EAX:

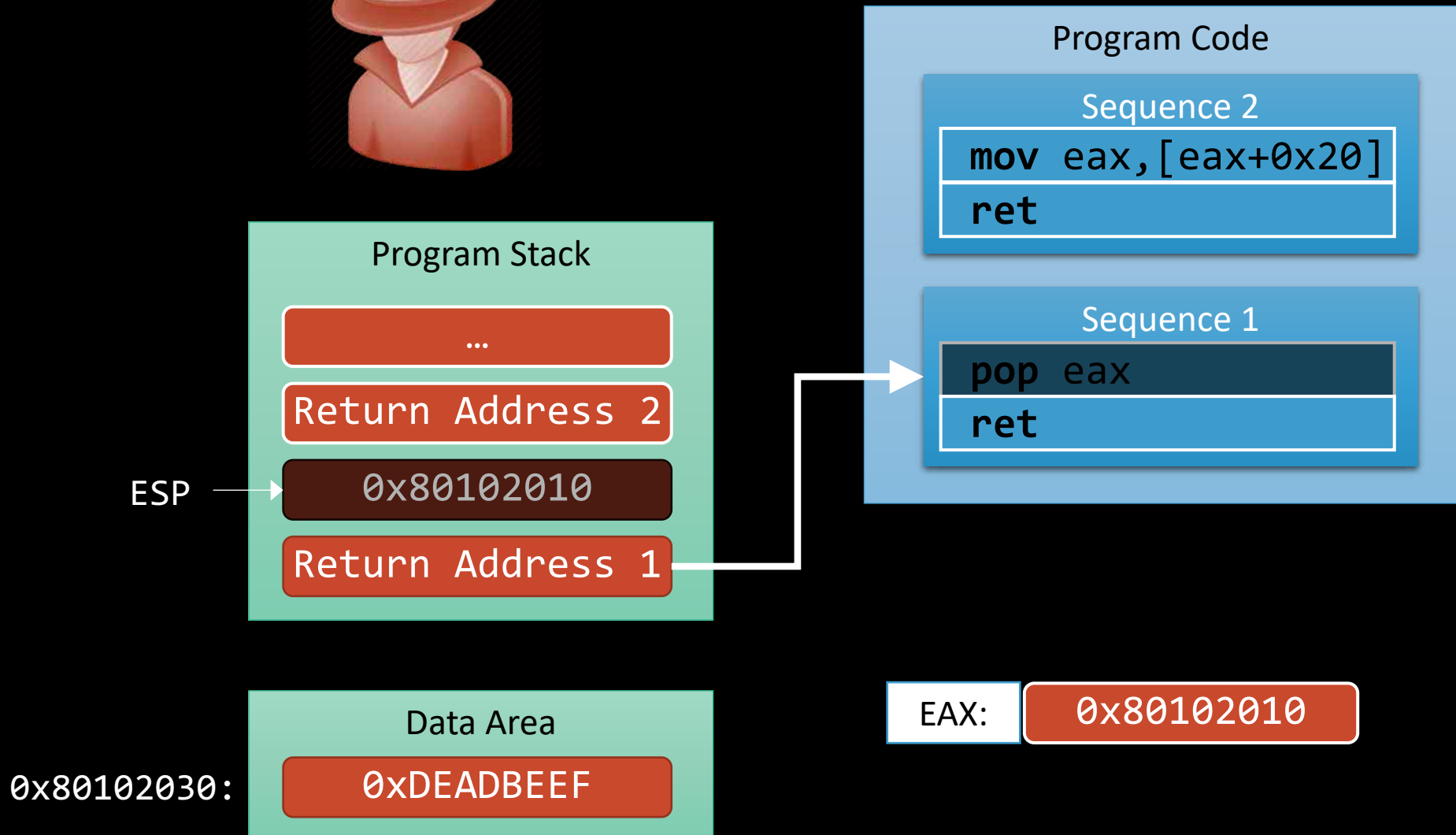
Memory Load Gadget on x86



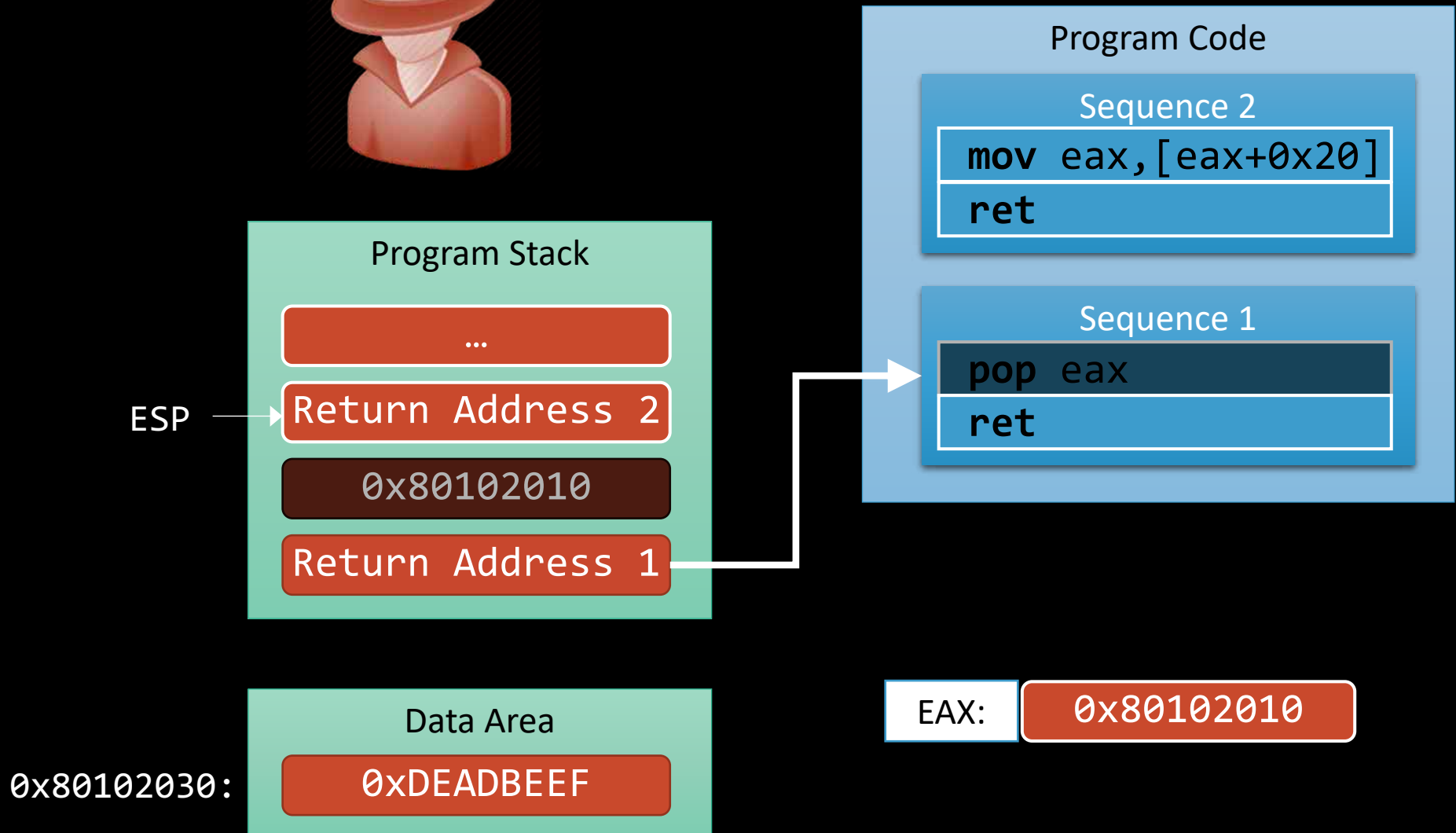
Memory Load Gadget on x86



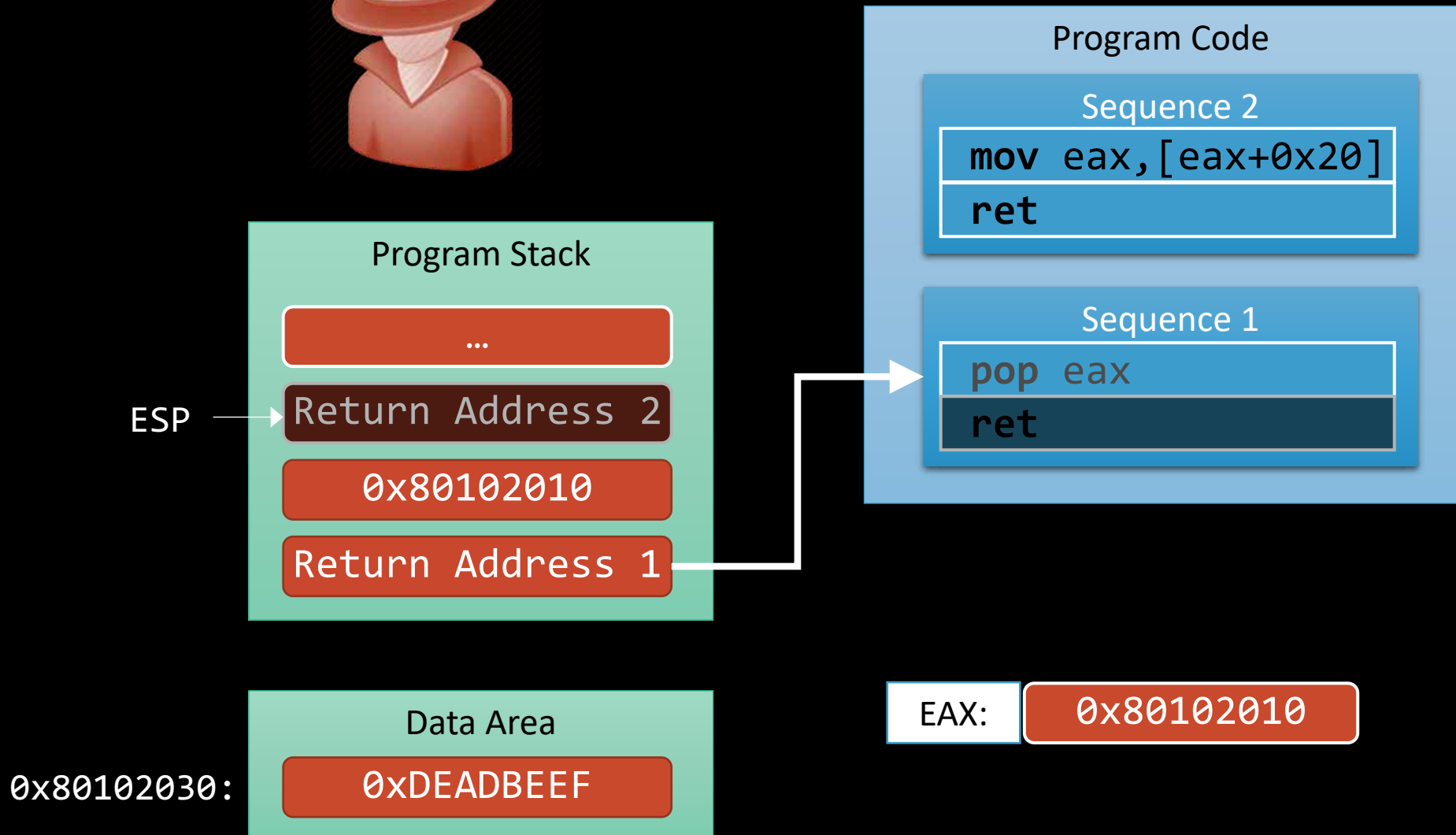
Memory Load Gadget on x86



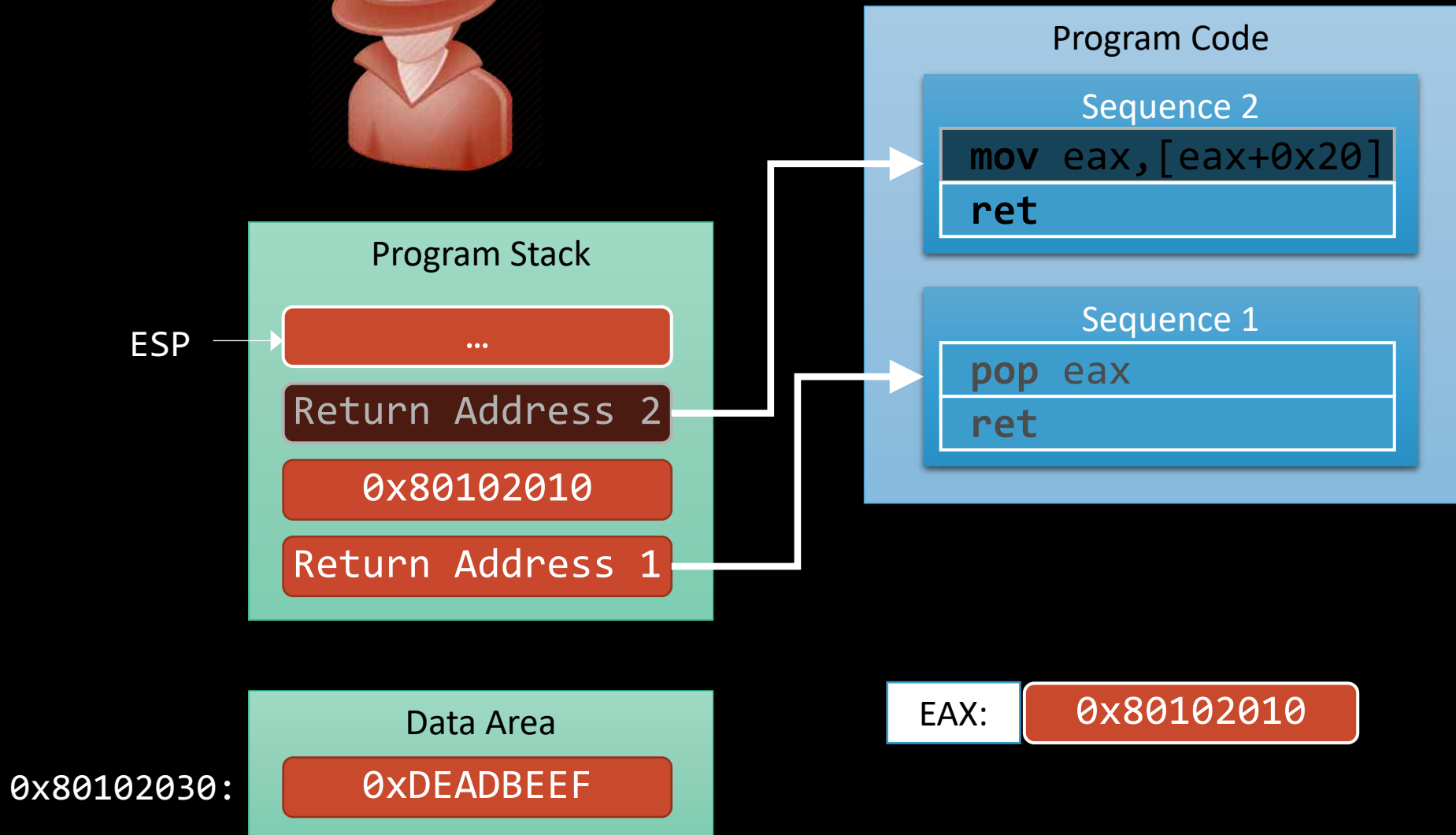
Memory Load Gadget on x86



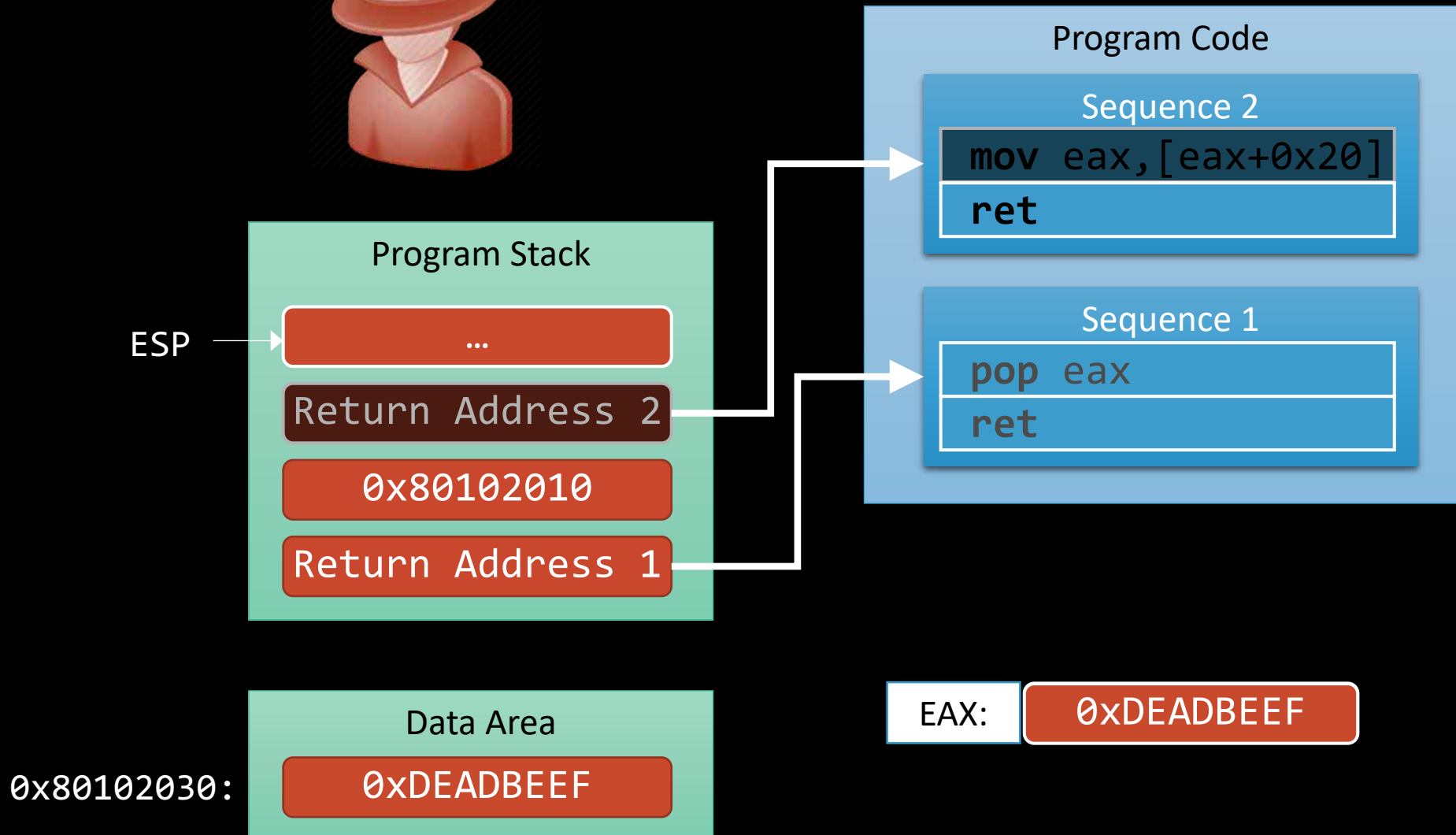
Memory Load Gadget on x86



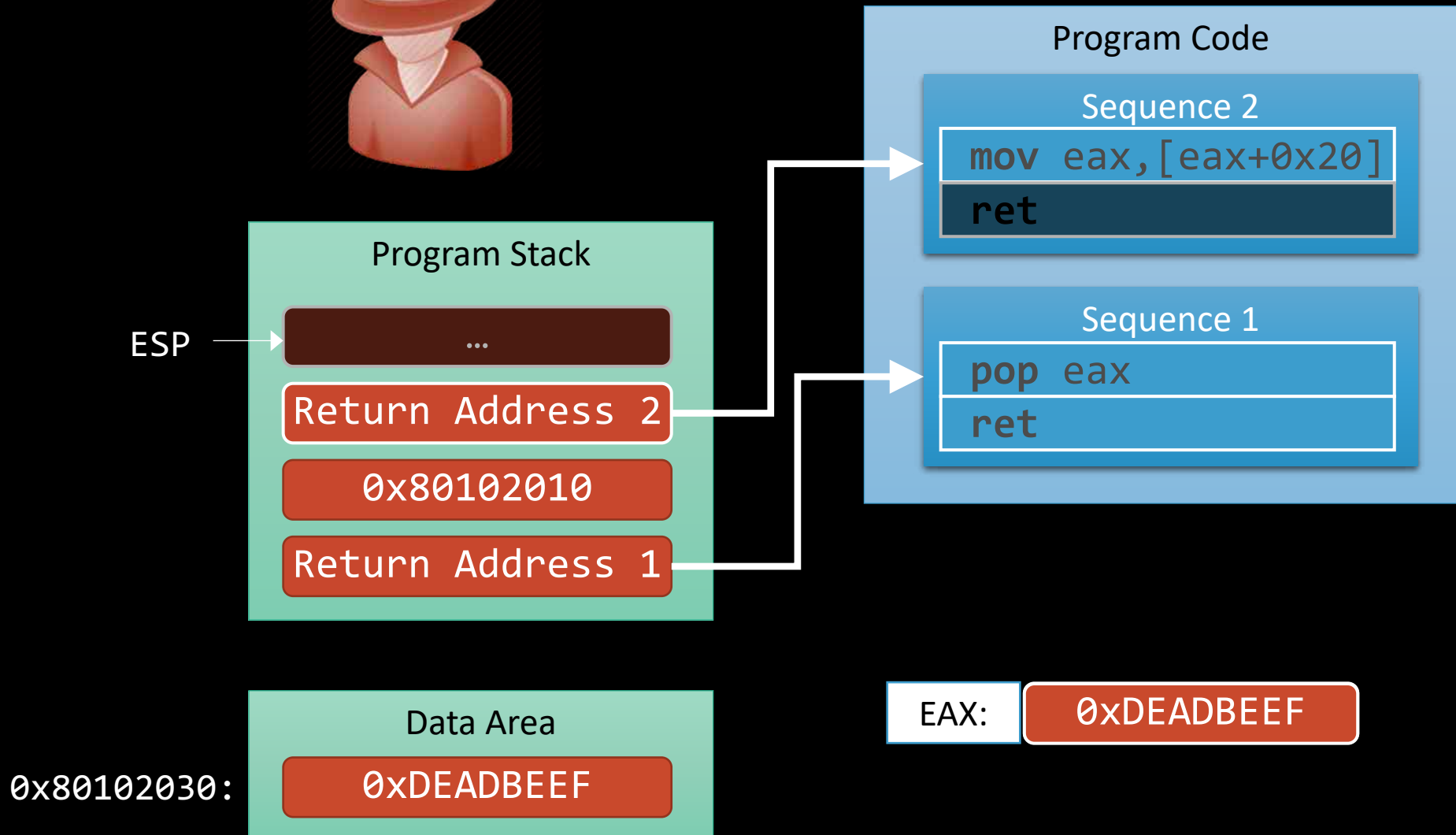
Memory Load Gadget on x86



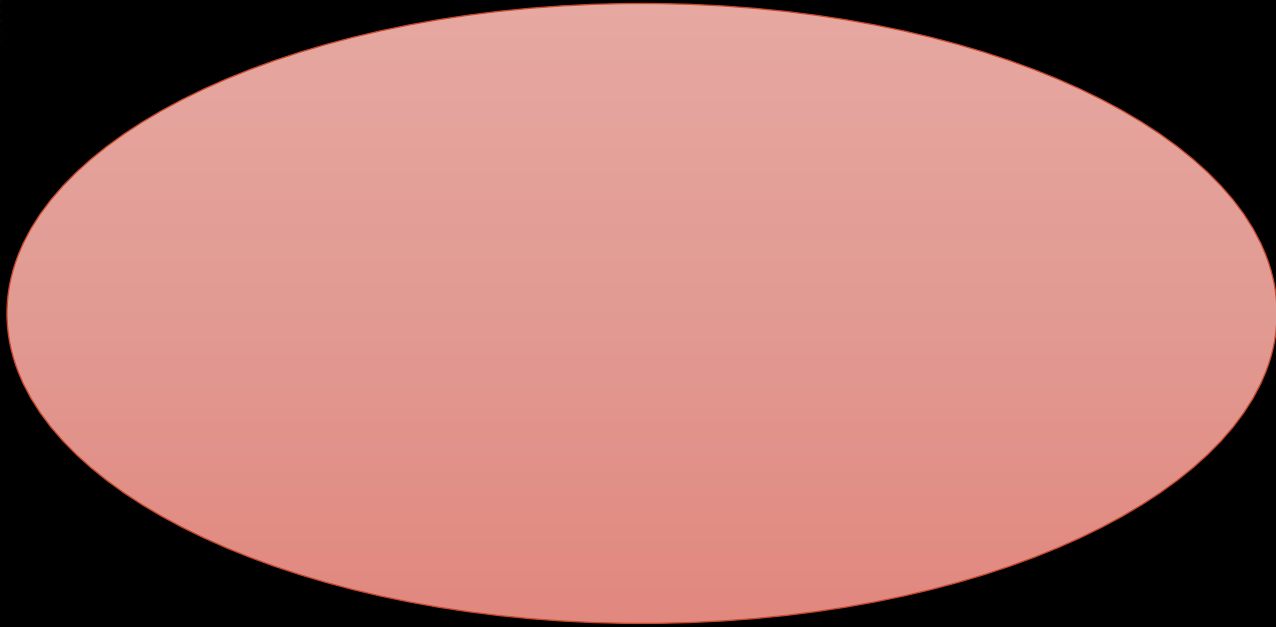
Memory Load Gadget on x86



Memory Load Gadget on x86



Code Base and Turing-Completeness

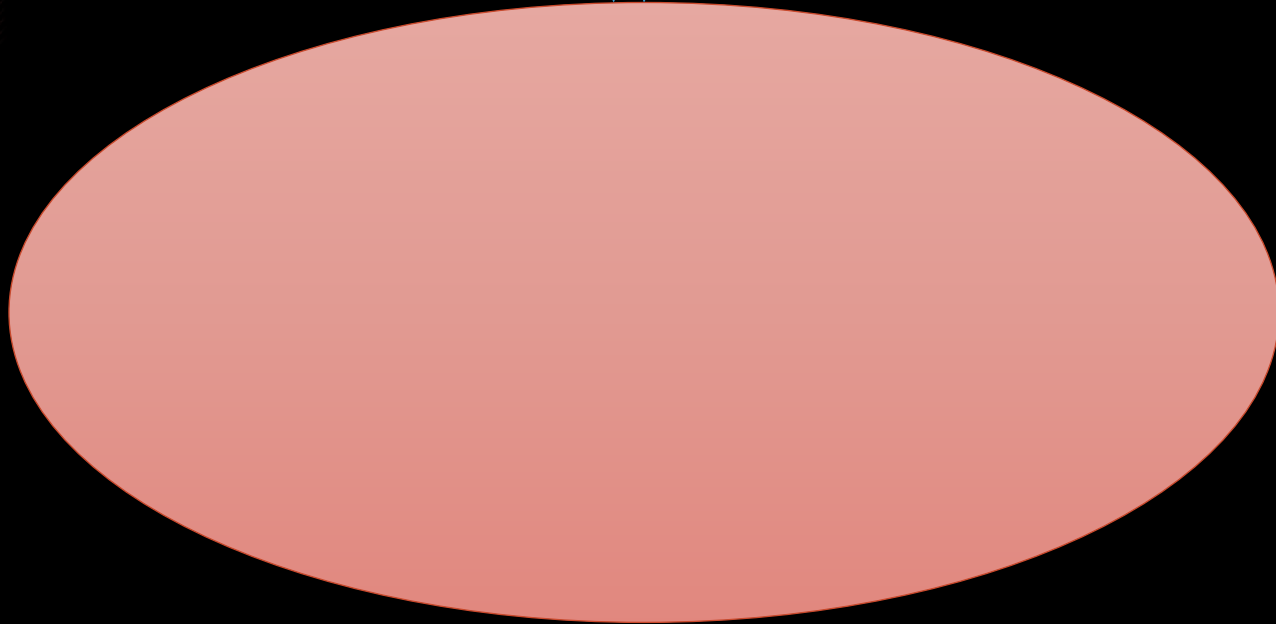


Code Base and Turing-Completeness

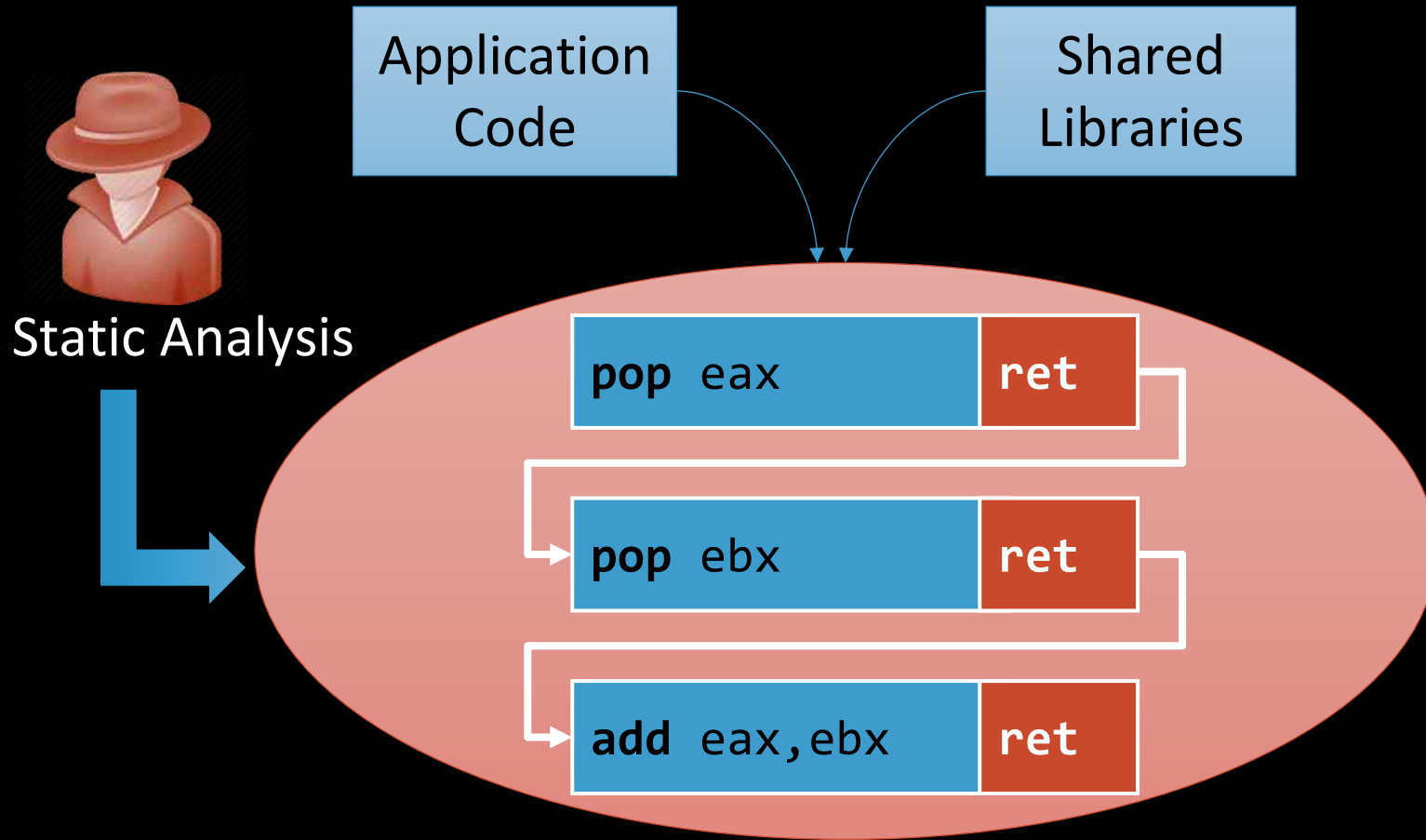


Application
Code

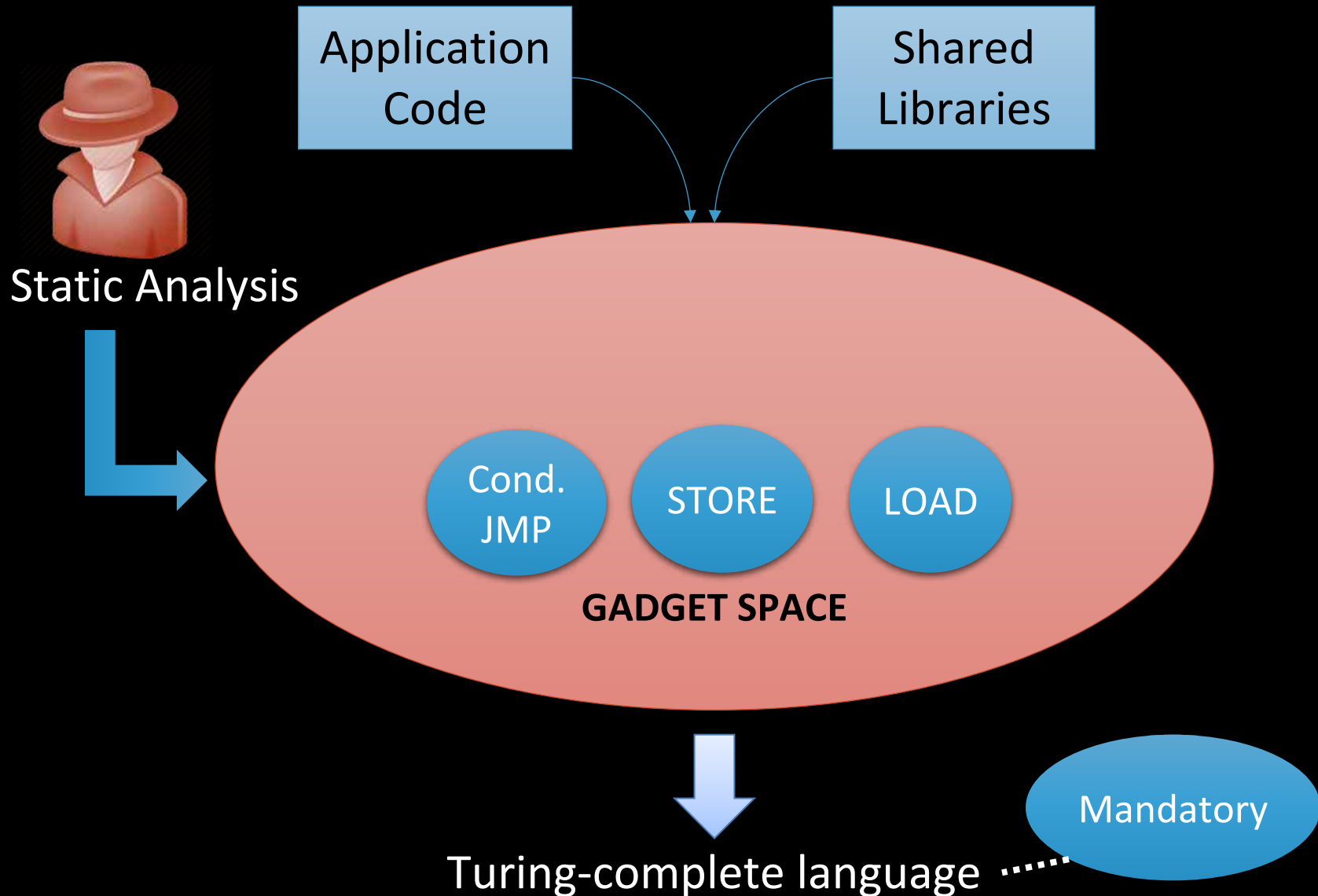
Shared
Libraries



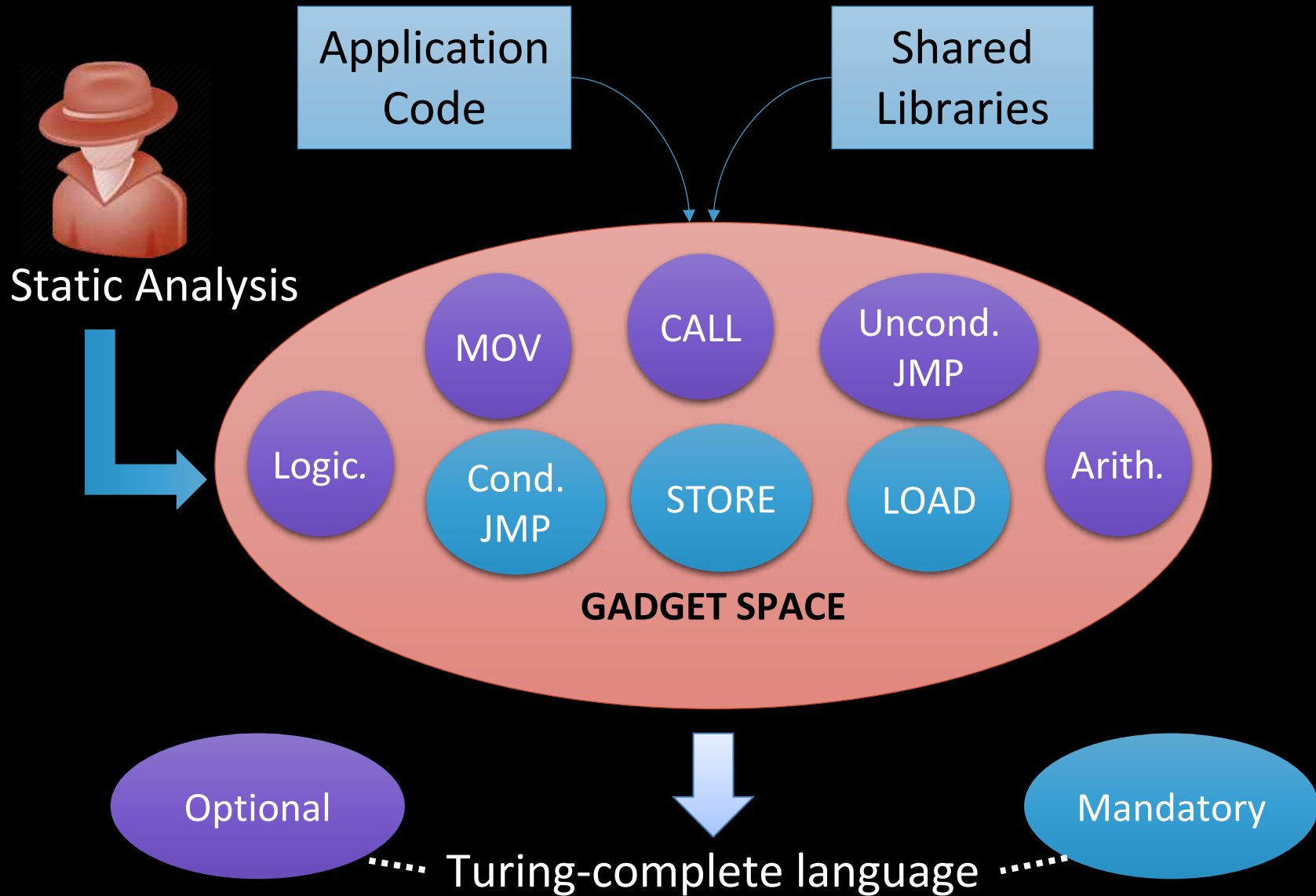
Code Base and Turing-Completeness



Code Base and Turing-Completeness

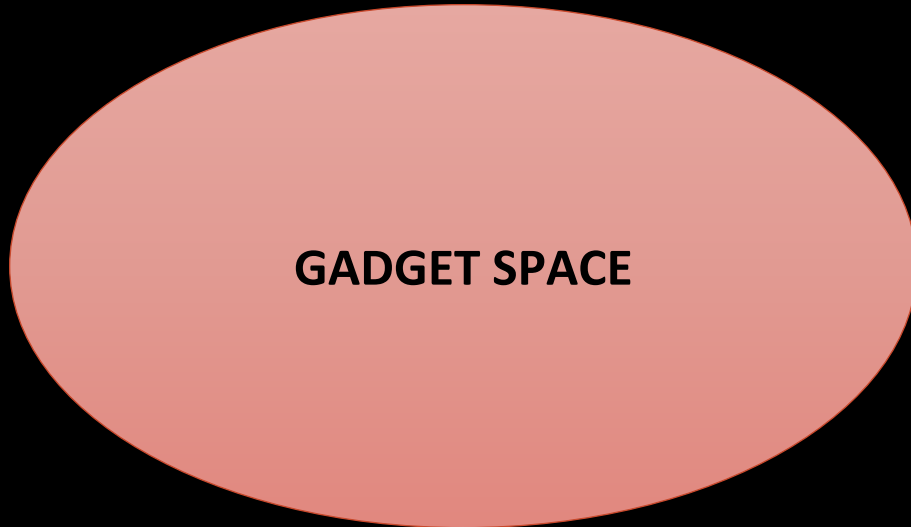


Code Base and Turing-Completeness

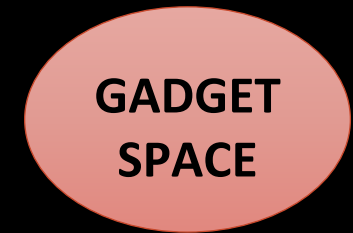


Gadget Space on Different Architectures

Architectures with no memory alignment, e.g., Intel x86

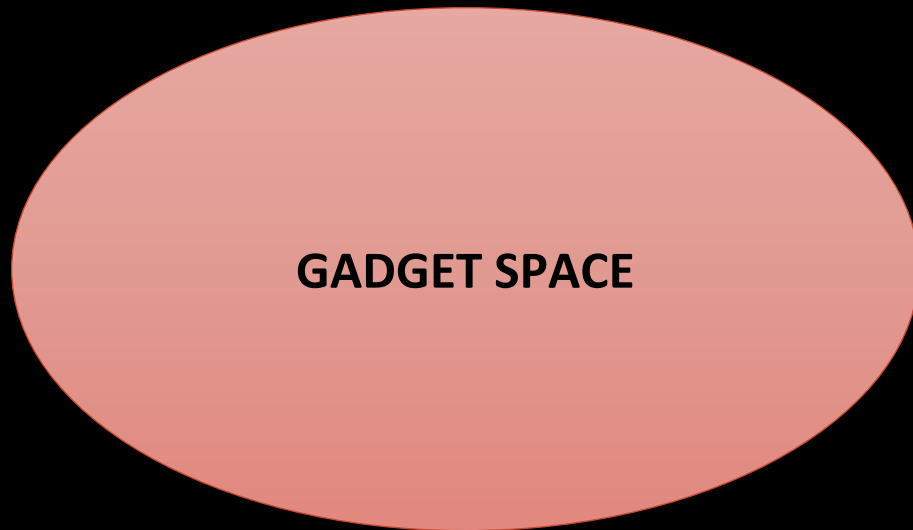


Architectures with memory alignment, e.g., SPARC, ARM

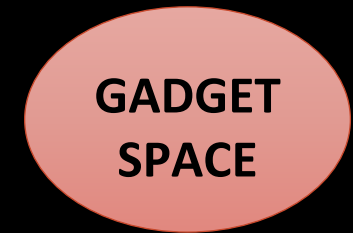


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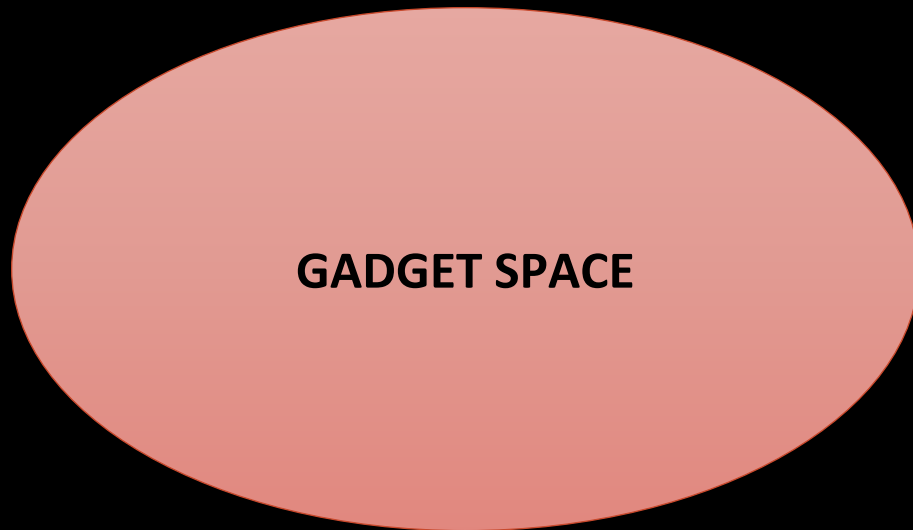


B8 13 00 00 00

E9 C3 F8 FF FF

Gadget Space on Different Architectures

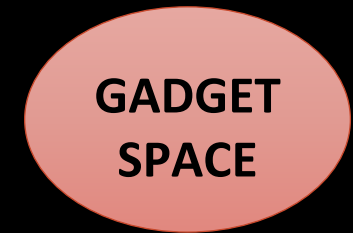
Architectures with no memory alignment, e.g., Intel x86



B8 13 00 00 00

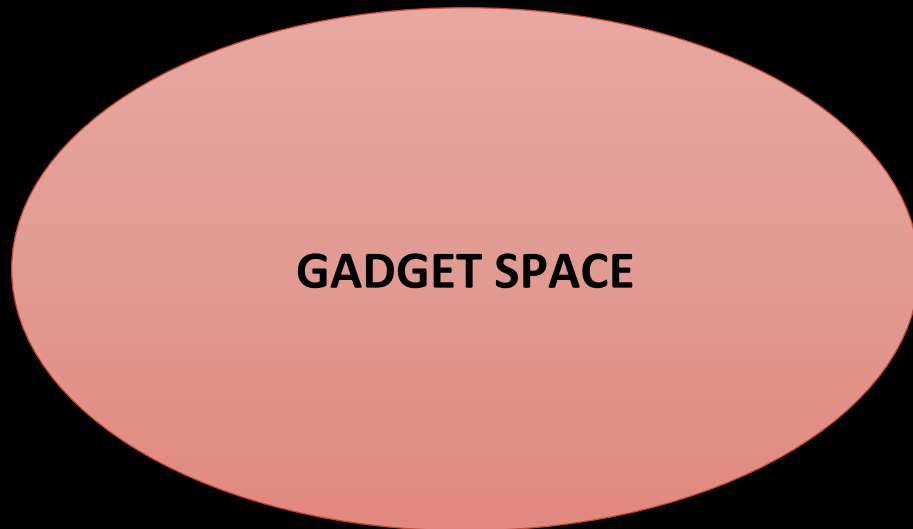
E9 C3 F8 FF FF

Architectures with memory alignment, e.g., SPARC, ARM

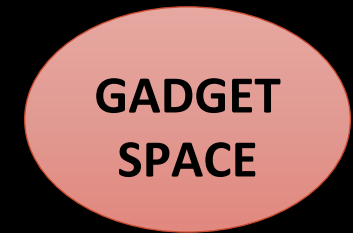


Gadget Space on Different Architectures

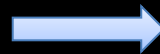
Architectures with no memory alignment, e.g., Intel x86



Architectures with memory alignment, e.g., SPARC, ARM



B8 13 00 00 00	E9 C3 F8 FF FF
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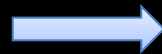
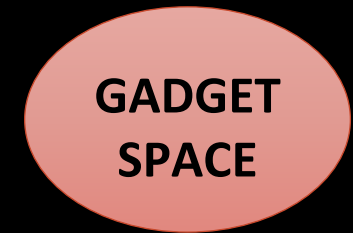
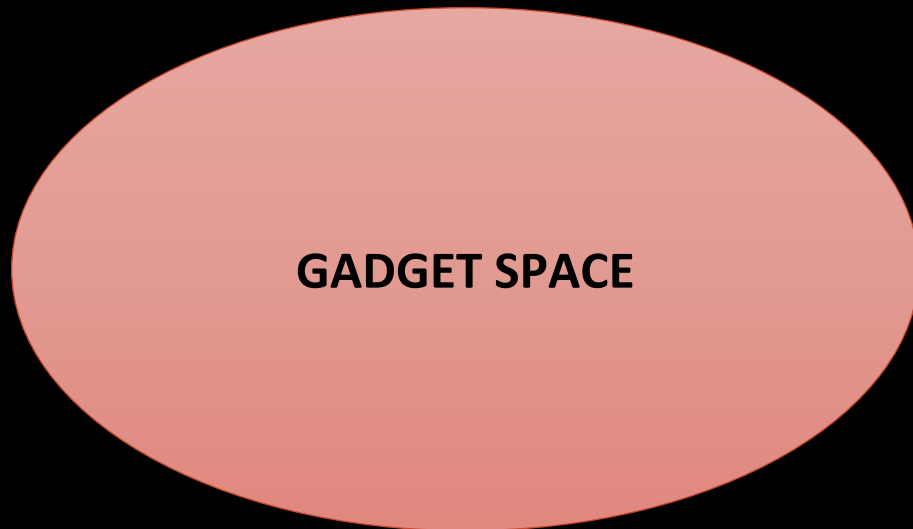
Intended Code

```
mov eax,0x13  
jmp 3aae9
```

Gadget Space on Different Architectures

Architectures with no memory alignment, e.g., Intel x86

Architectures with memory alignment, e.g., SPARC, ARM



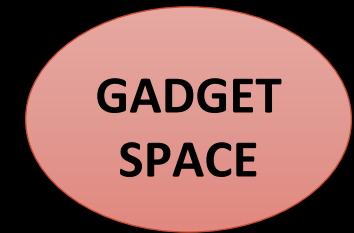
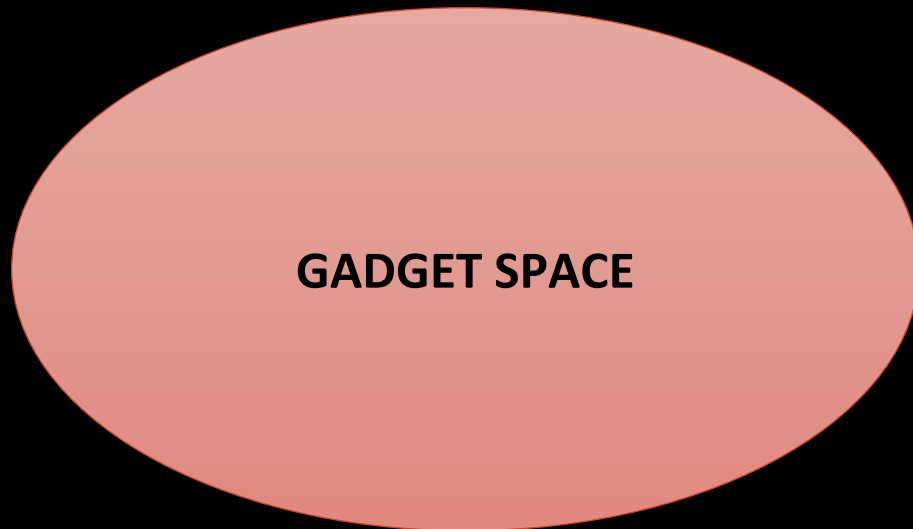
Intended Code

```
mov eax,0x13  
jmp 3aae9
```


Gadget Space on Different Architectures

Architectures with no memory alignment, e.g., Intel x86

Architectures with memory alignment, e.g., SPARC, ARM



Intended Code

```
mov eax,0x13  
jmp 3aae9
```

Unintended Code

```
add eax,[a1]  
add cl,ch  
ret
```

Research on Code-Reuse Attacks

SELECTED

1997

ret2libc
Solar Designer

2001

Advanced ret2libc
Nergal

2005

Borrowed Code Chunk Exploitation
Krahmer

2007

ROP on x86
Shacham (CCS)

2008

ROP on SPARC
Buchanan et al (CCS)

ROP on Atmel AVR
Francillon et al (CCS)

2009

ROP Rootkits
Hund et al (USENIX)

ROP on PowerPC
FX Lindner (BlackHat)

ROP on ARM/iOS
Miller et al (BlackHat)

2010

ROP without Returns
Checkoway et al (CCS)

Practical ROP
Zovi (RSA Conference)

Pwn2Own (iOS/IE)
Iozzo et al / Nils

2011/
2012



Real-World Exploits

2013

JIT-ROP
Snow et al (IEEE S&P)

2014

Blind ROP
Bittau et al (IEEE S&P)

Out-Of-Control
Göktas et al (IEEE S&P)

Stitching Gadgets
Davi et al (USENIX)

Flushing Attacks
Schuster et al (RAID)

ROP is Dangerous
Carlini et al (USENIX)

2015

COOP
Schuster et al (IEEE S&P)

Losing Control
Liebchen et al (CCS)

Control-Flow Bending
Carlini et al (USENIX)

Overview

Background on Run-Time Attacks



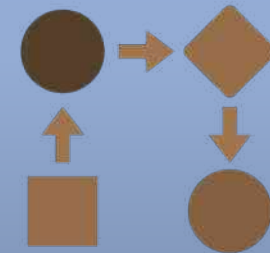
Building Code Randomization Defenses



Code-Reuse Attacks



Building Control-Flow Integrity Defenses



Data-Oriented Exploits

Probabilistic vs Enforcement-Based Defense Approach

(Fine-grained) Code Randomization

[Cohen 1993 & Larsen et al., SoK IEEE
S&P 2014]

Control-Flow Integrity (CFI)

[Abadi et al., CCS 2005 &
TISSEC 2009]

Probabilistic vs Enforcement-Based Defense Approach

(Fine-grained) Code Randomization

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S&P 2014]

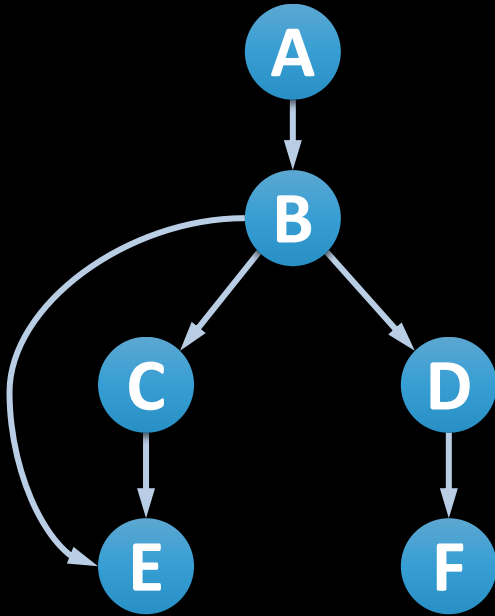
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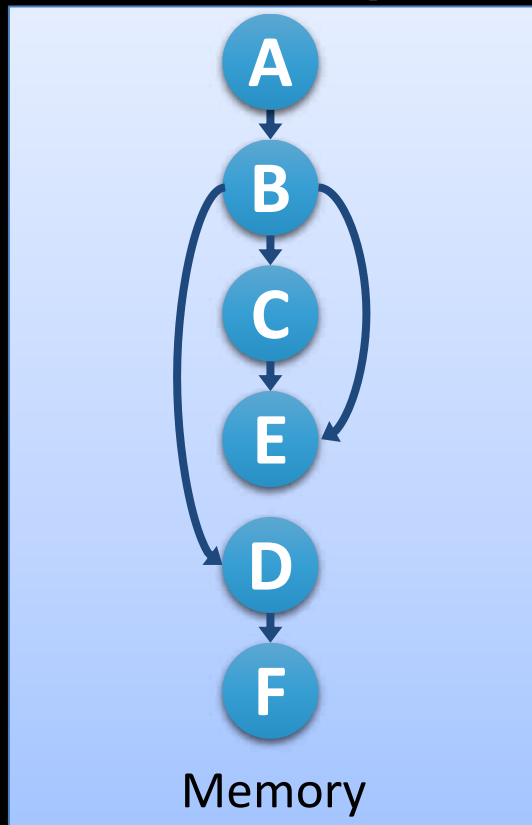
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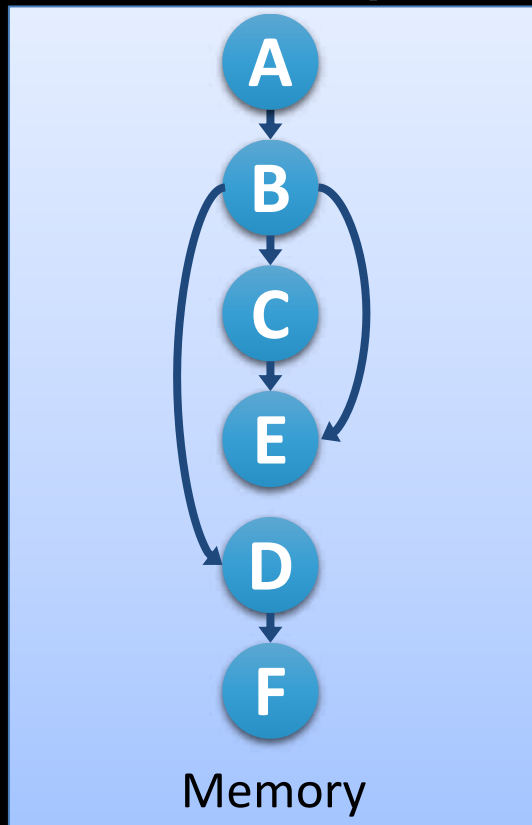
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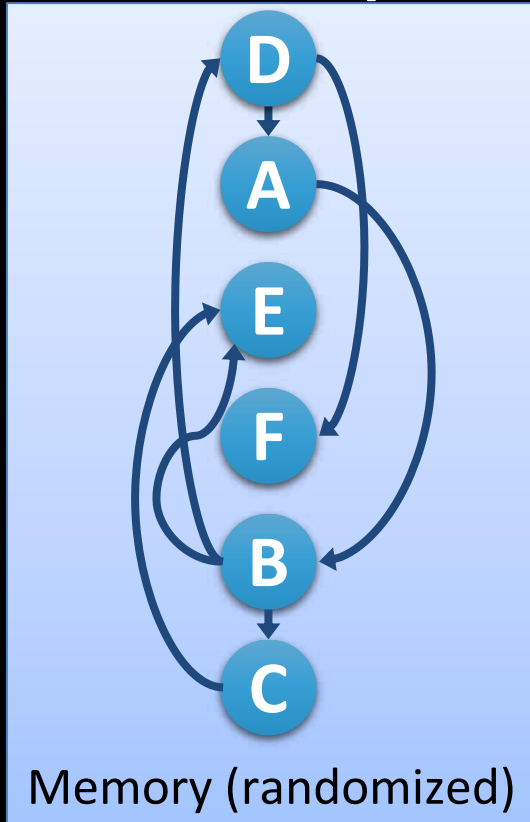
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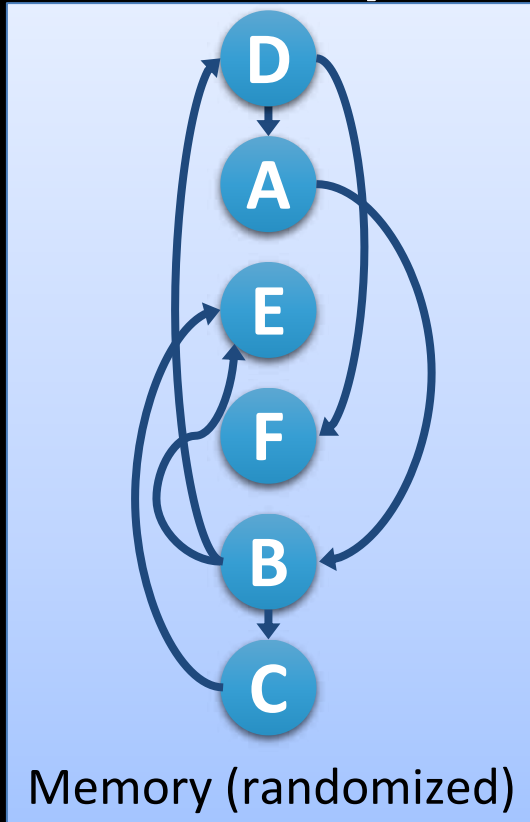
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Probabilistic vs Enforcement-Based Defense Approach

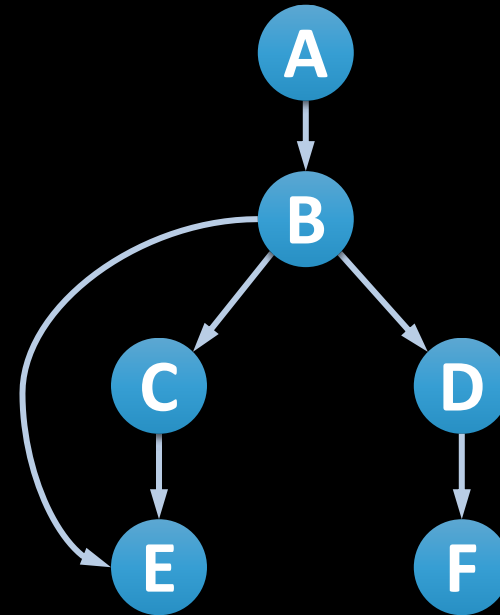
(Fine-grained) Code Randomization

[Cohen 1993 & Larsen et al., SoK IEEE S&P 2014]



Control-Flow Integrity (CFI)

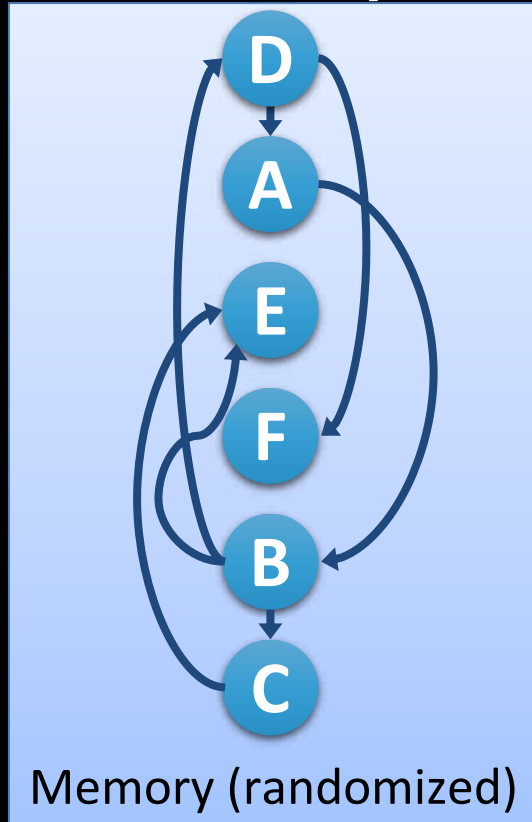
[Abadi et al., CCS 2005 & TISSEC 2009]



Probabilistic vs Enforcement-Based Defense Approach

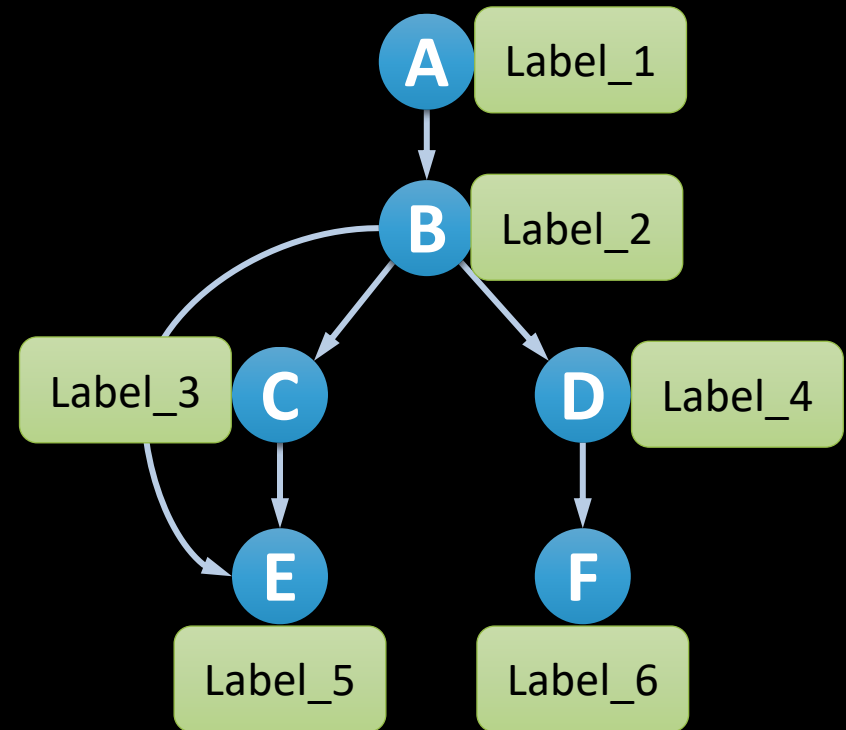
(Fine-grained) Code Randomization

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Control-Flow Integrity (CFI)

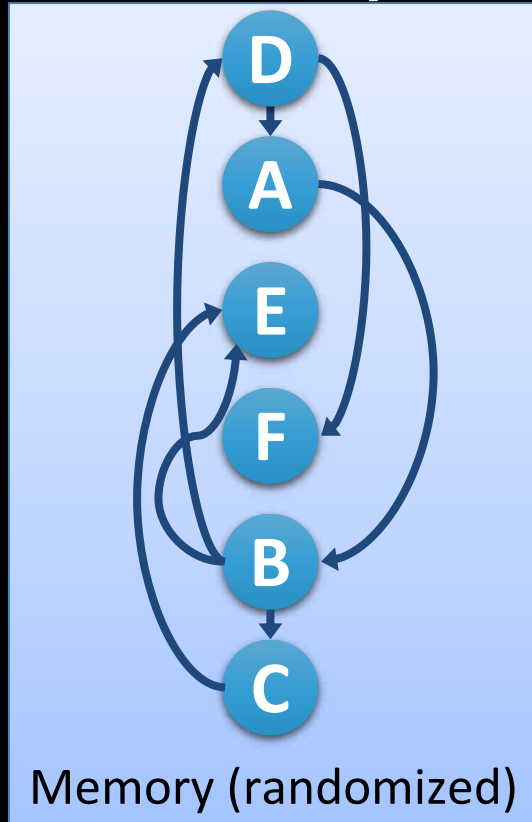
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Probabilistic vs Enforcement-Based Defense Approach

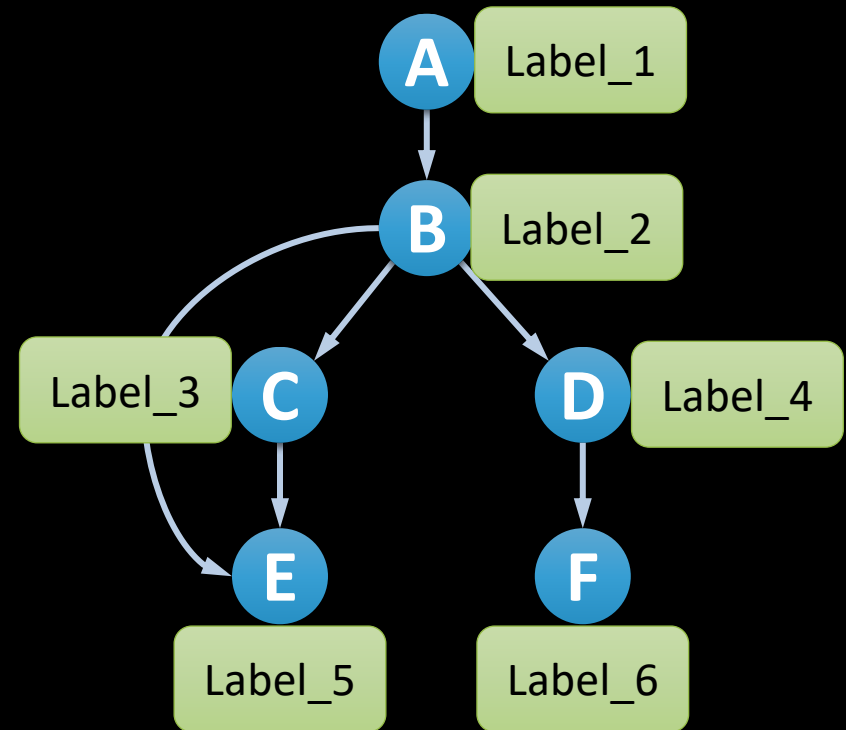
(Fine-grained) Code Randomization

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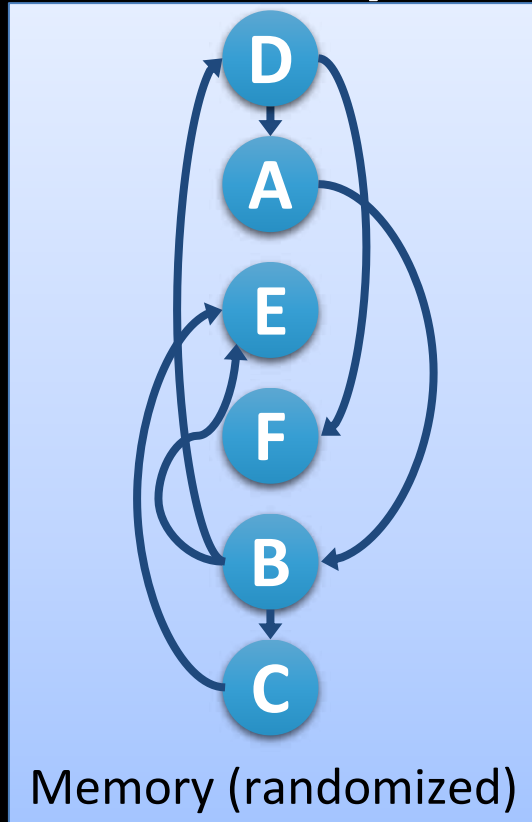
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Probabilistic vs Enforcement-Based Defense Approach

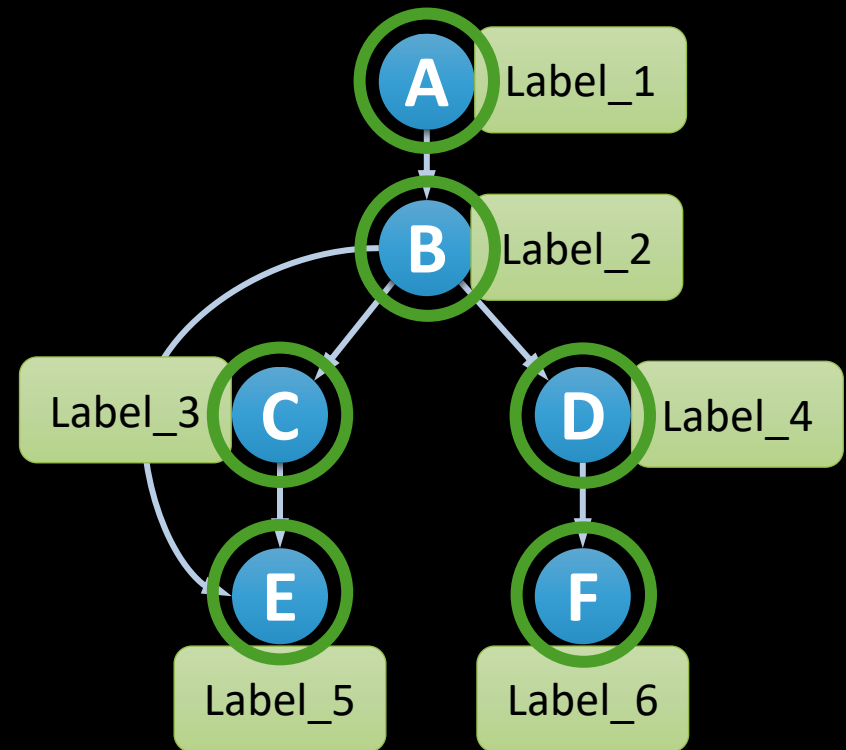
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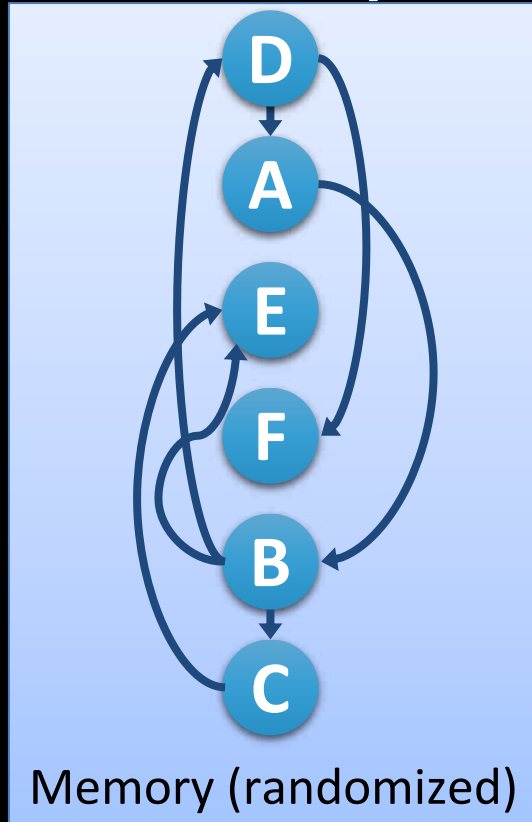
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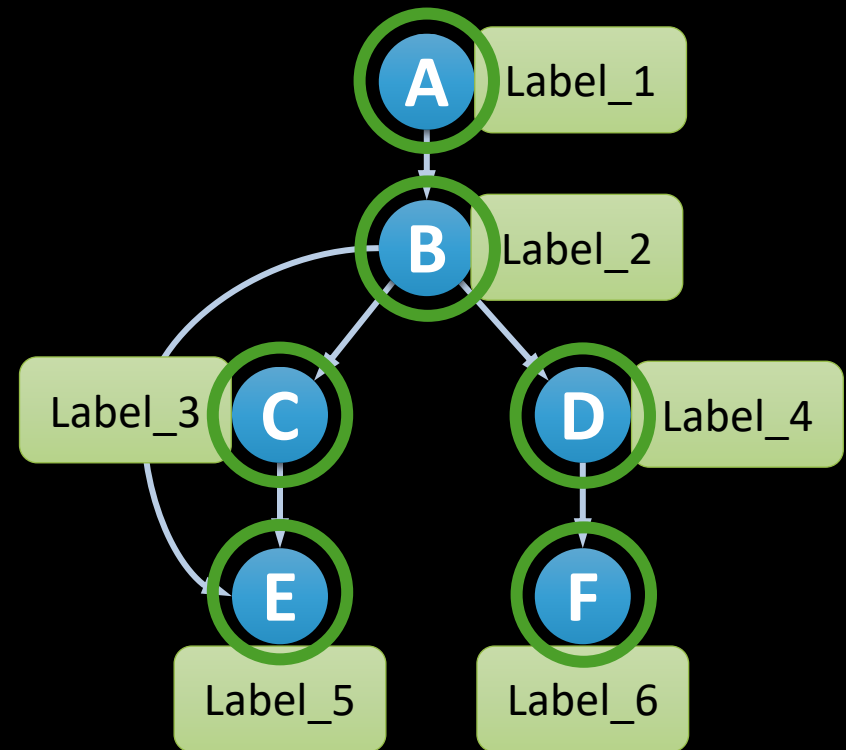
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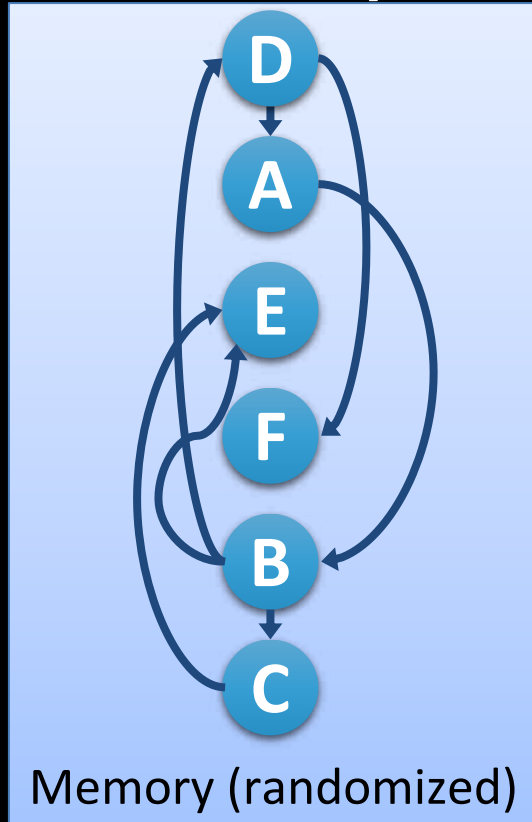
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Probabilistic vs Enforcement-Based Defense Approach

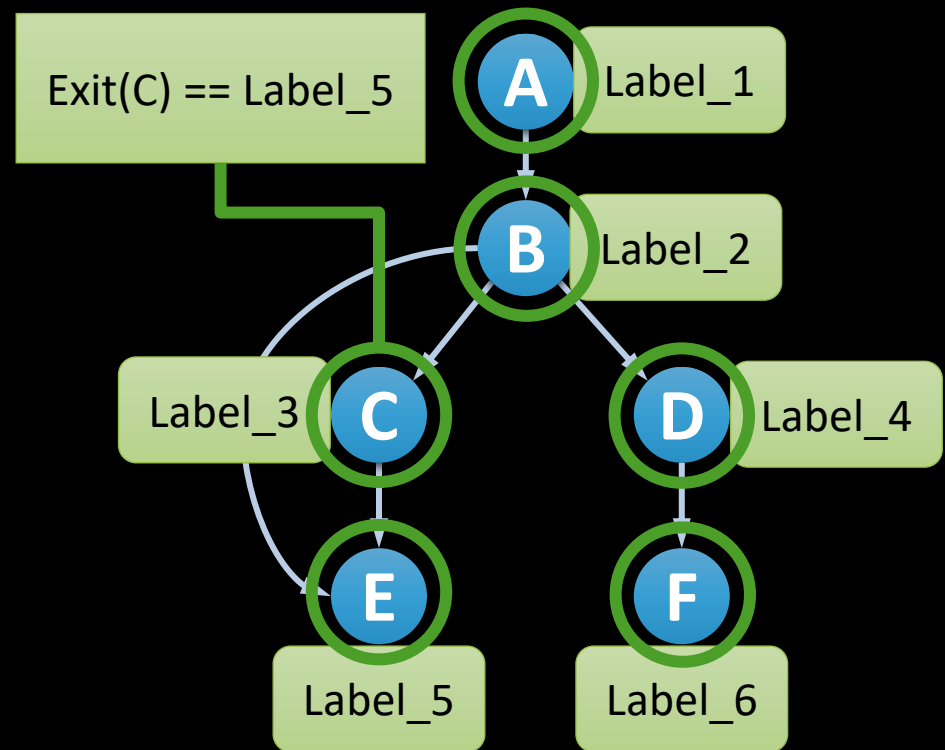
(Fine-grained) Code Randomization

[Cohen 1993 & Larsen et al., SoK IEEE S&P 2014]



Control-Flow Integrity (CFI)

[Abadi et al., CCS 2005 & TISSEC 2009]



Basics of Code Randomization

- ASLR randomizes the base address of code/data segments



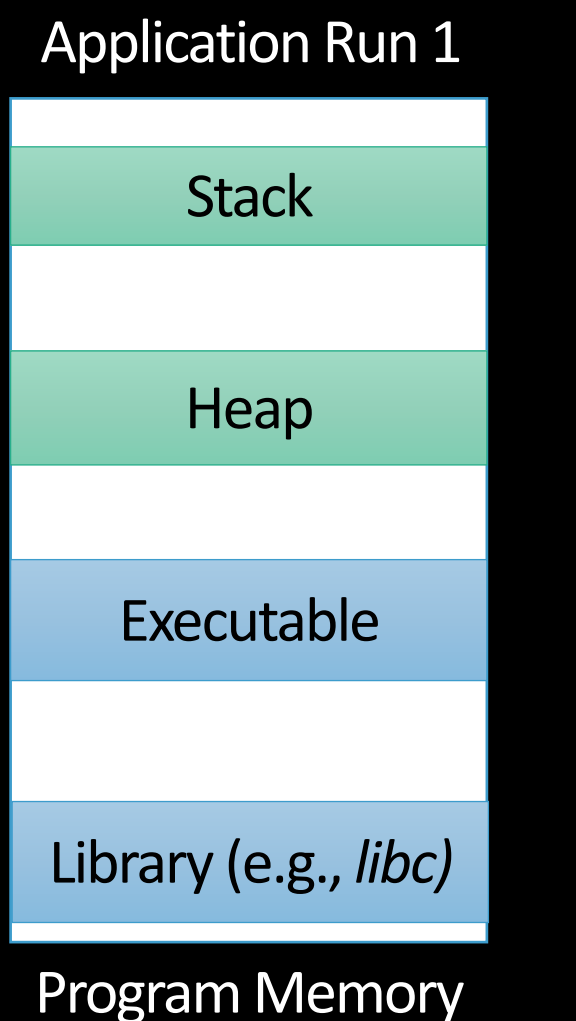
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- ASLR randomizes the base address of code/data segments



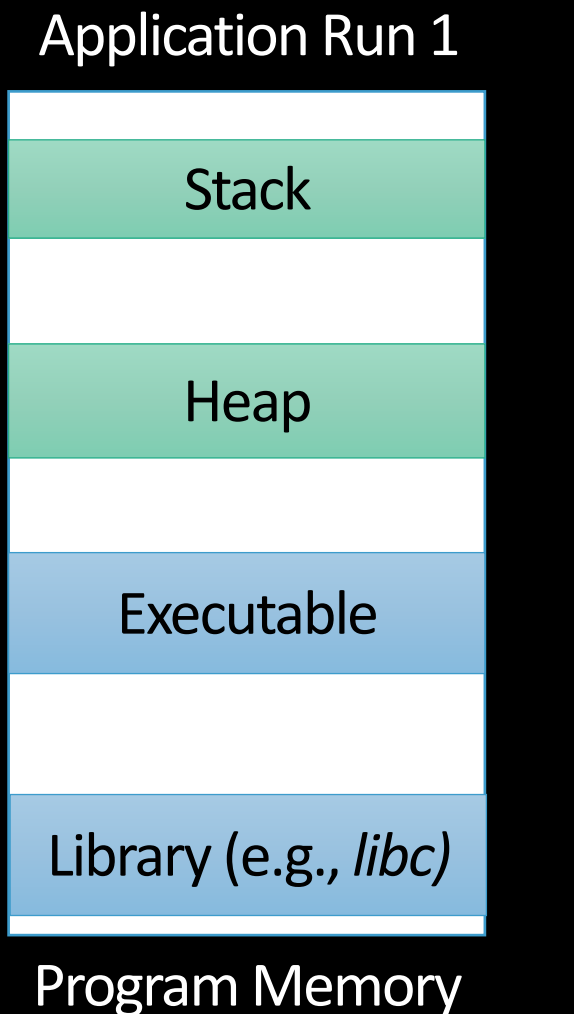
Basics of Code Randomization

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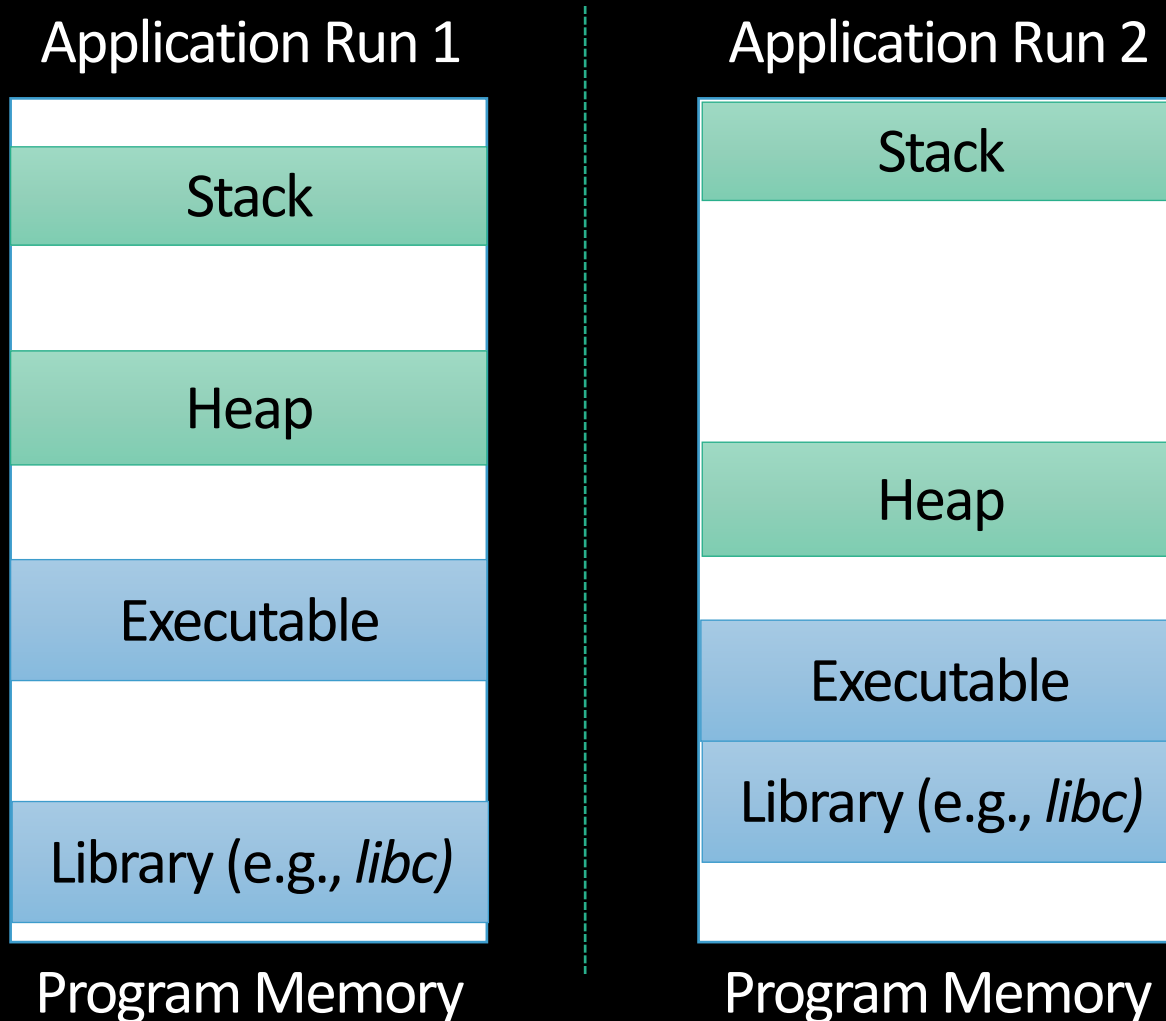
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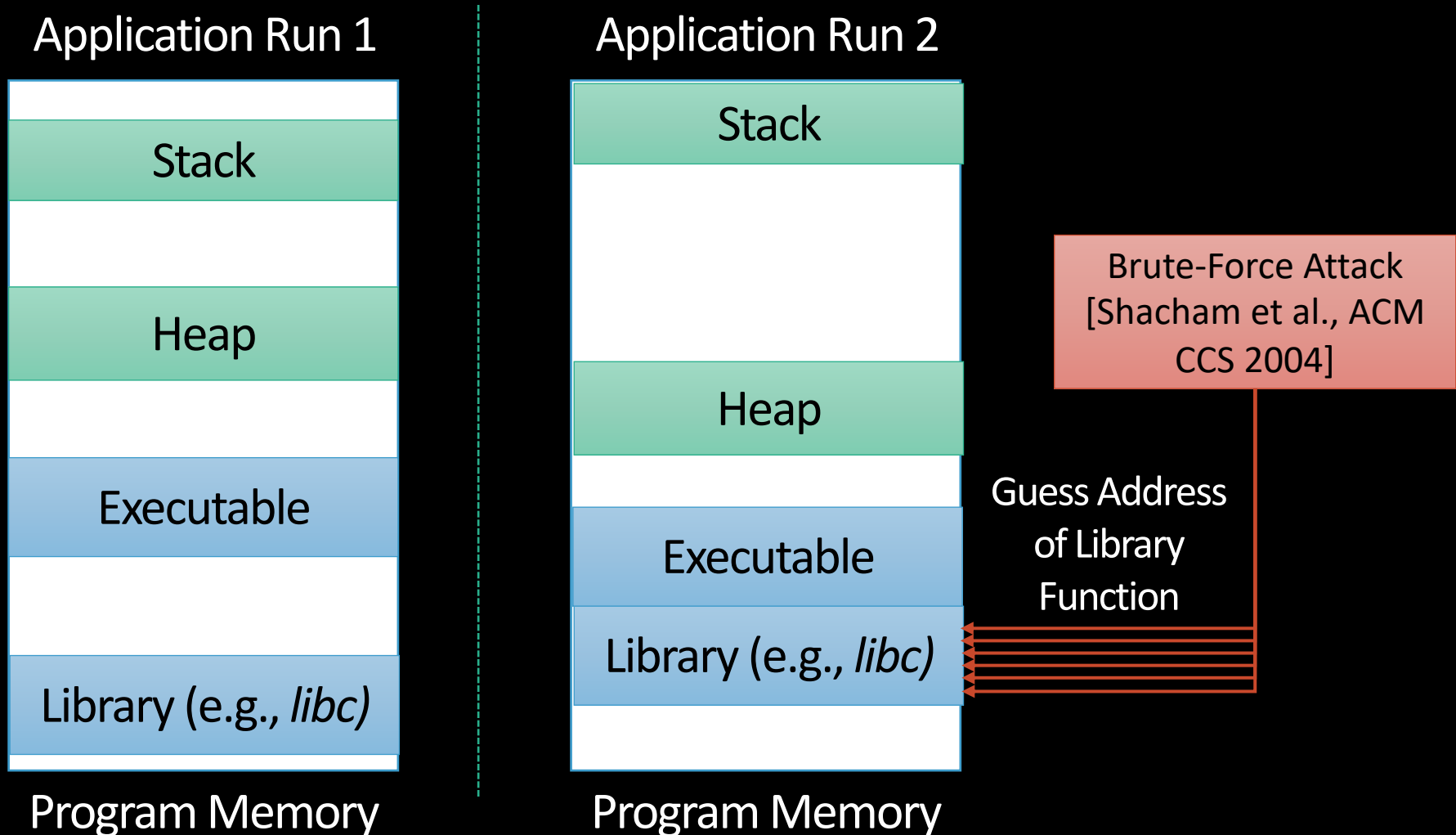
Basics of Code Randomization

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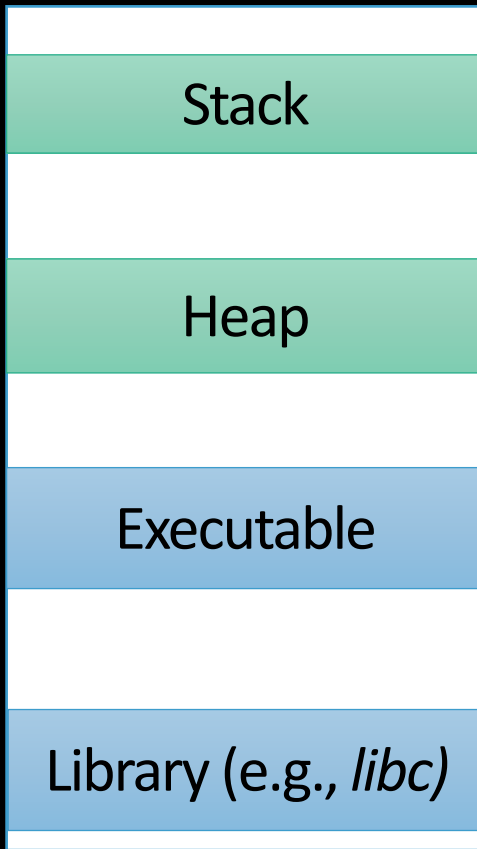
Basics of Code Randomization

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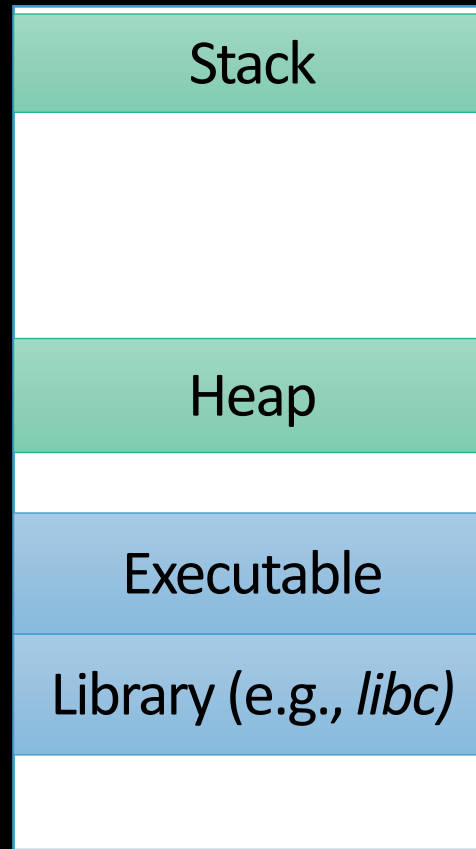
Big Picture

Application Run 1



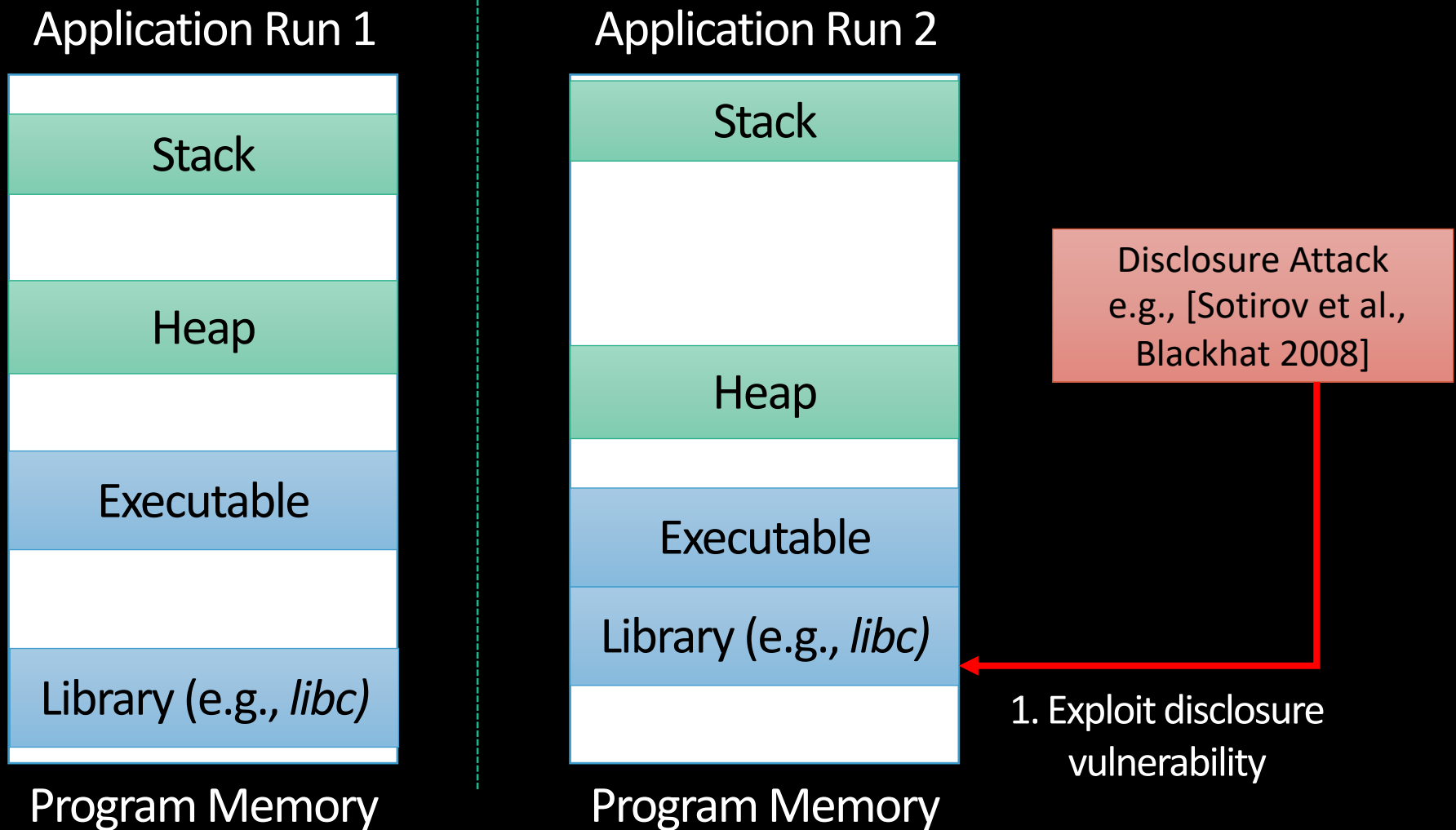
Program Memory

Application Run 2

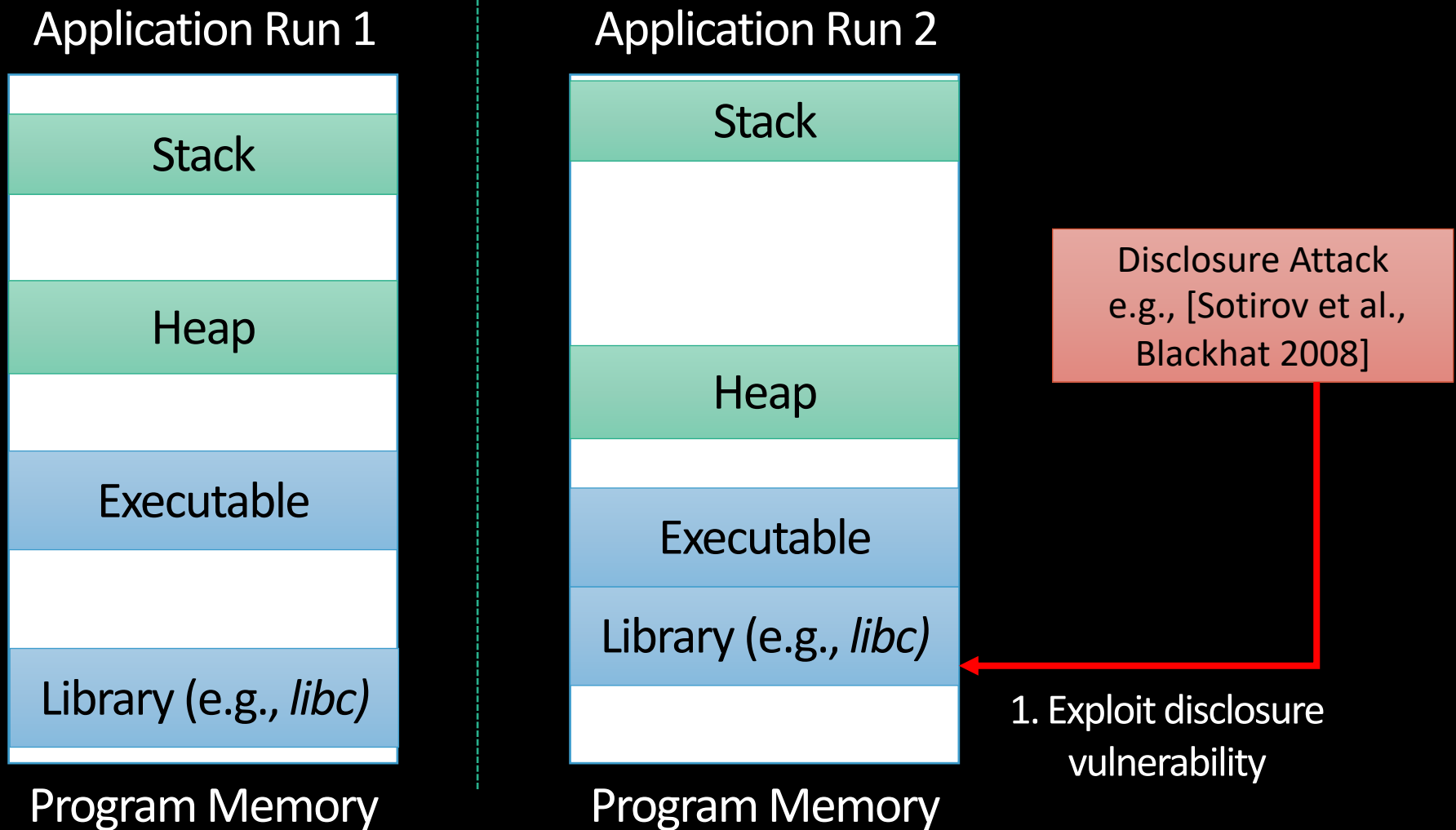


Program Memory

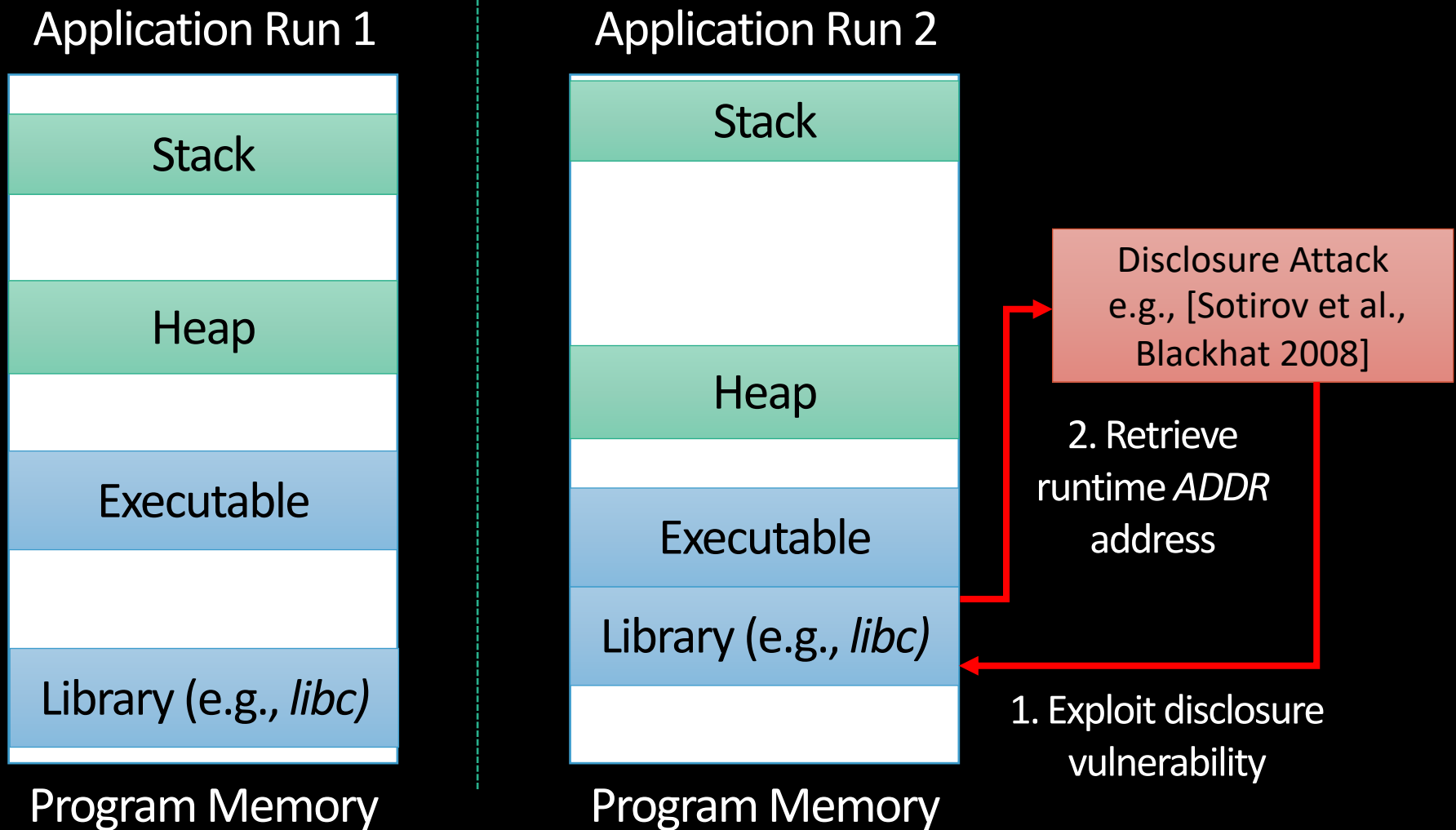
Big Picture



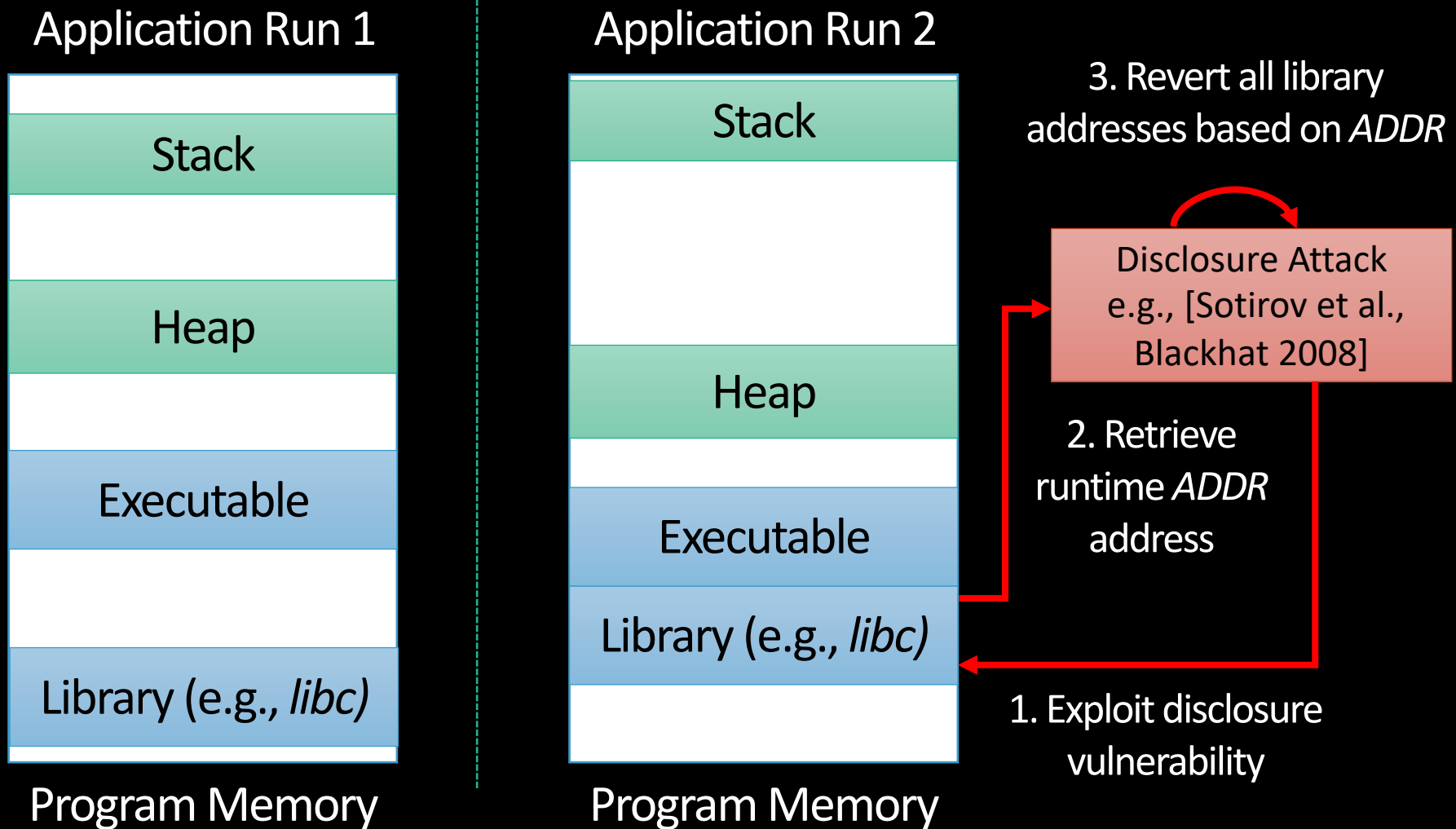
Big Picture



Big Picture



Big Picture



Making exploitation harder with fine-grained code randomization

Fine-Grained ASLR



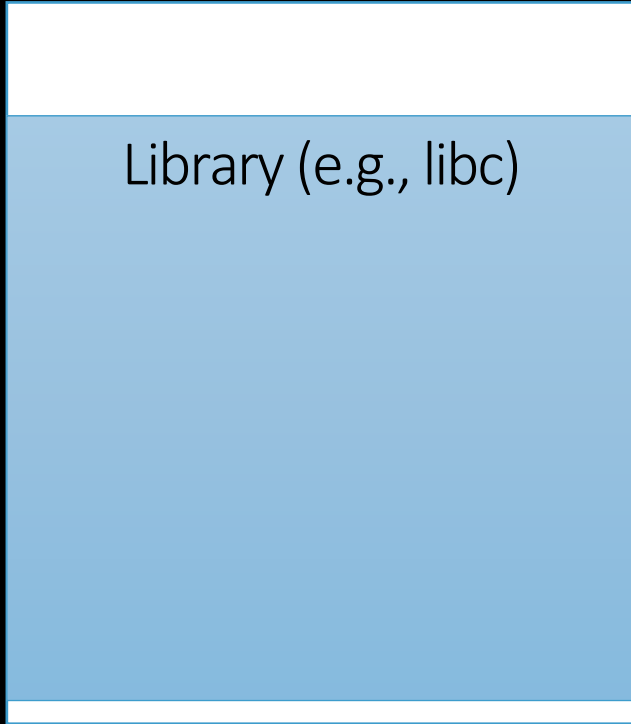
Fine-Grained ASLR

Application Run 1



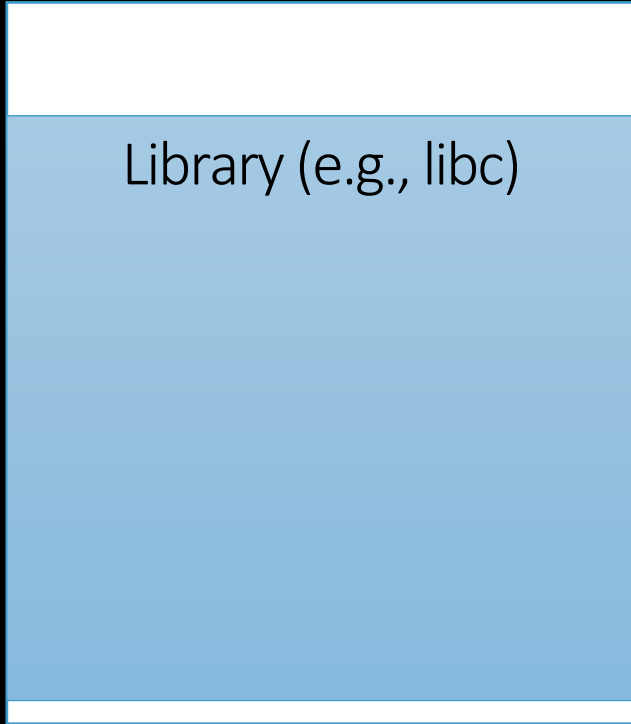
Fine-Grained ASLR

Application Run 1

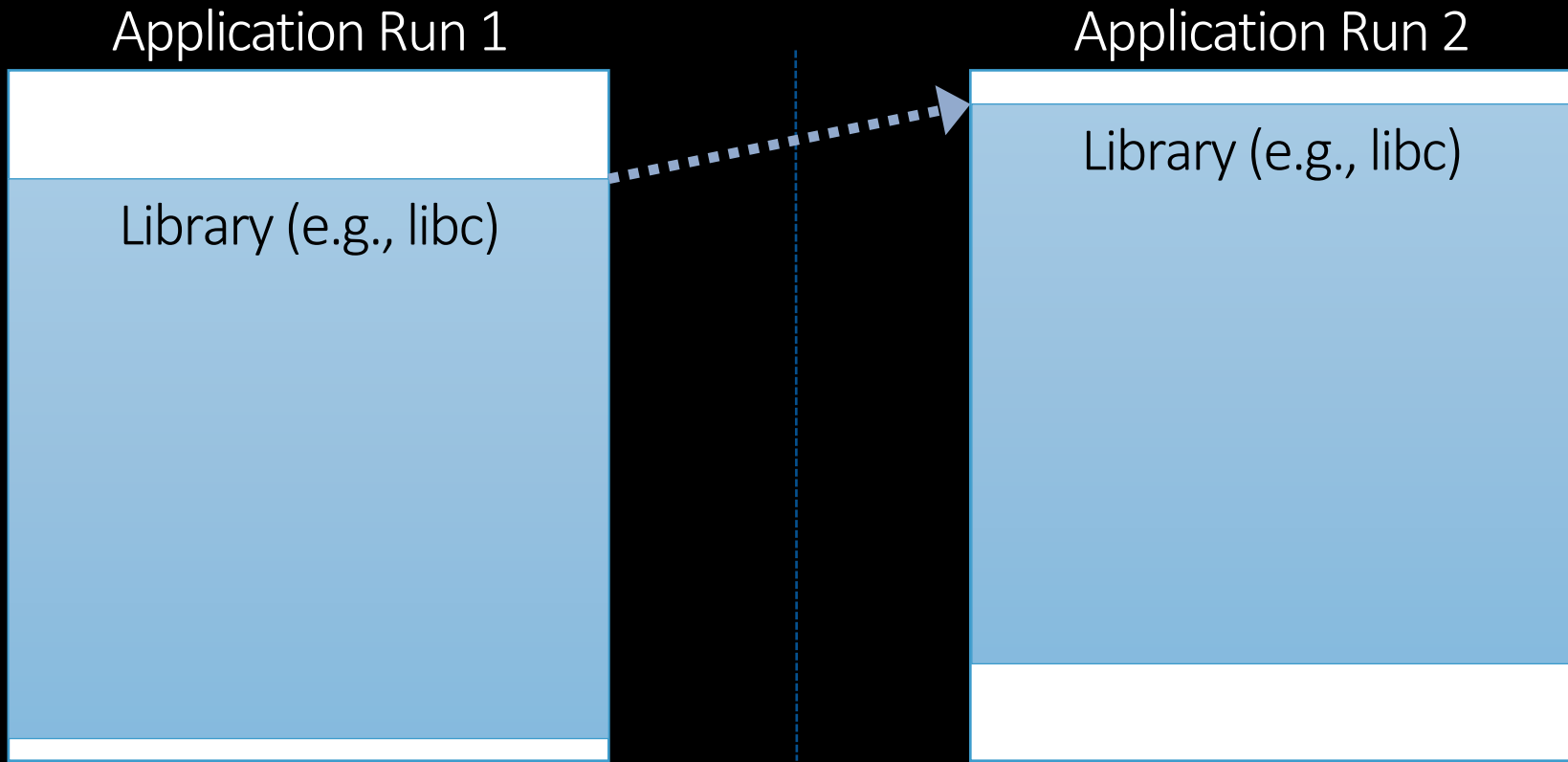


Fine-Grained ASLR

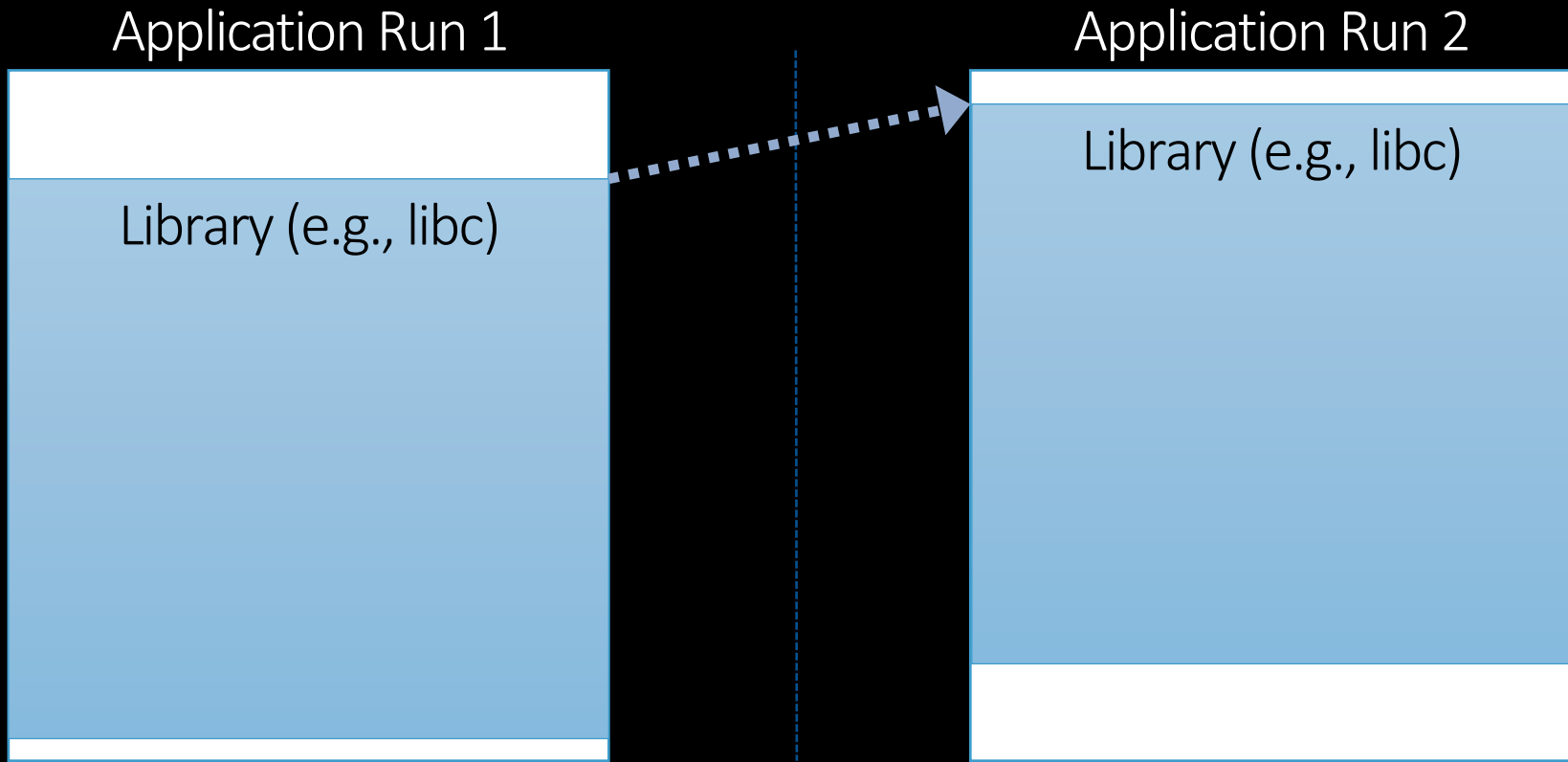
Application Run 1



Fine-Grained ASLR

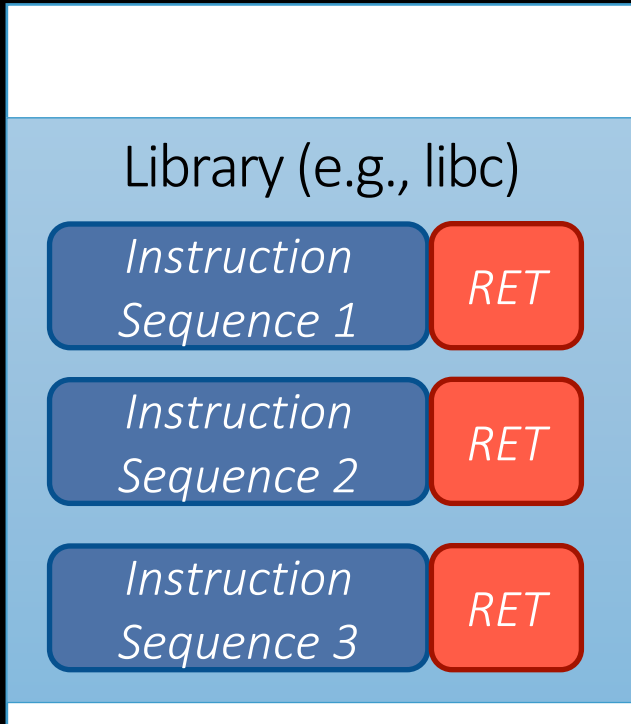


Fine-Grained ASLR

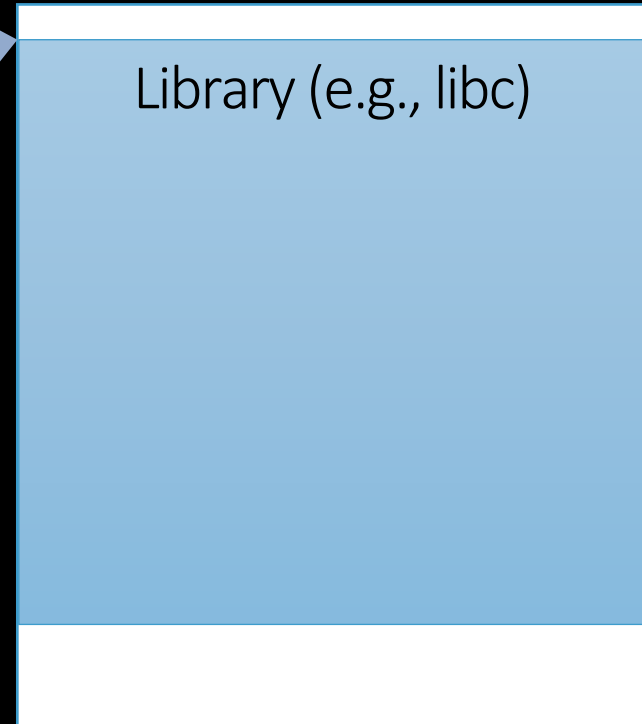


Fine-Grained ASLR

Application Run 1

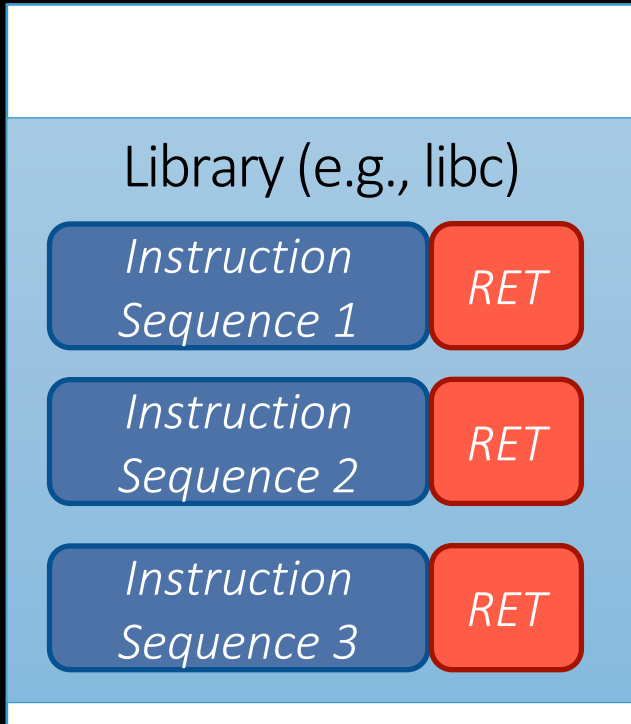


Application Run 2

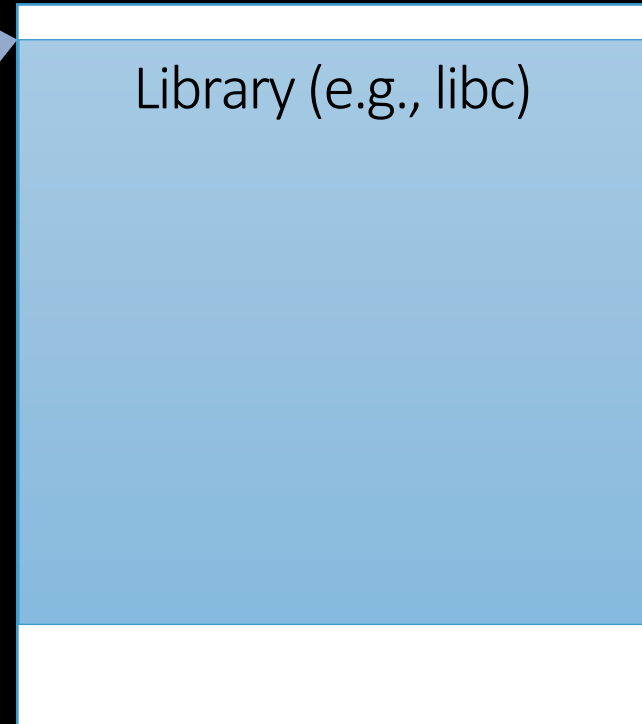


Fine-Grained ASLR

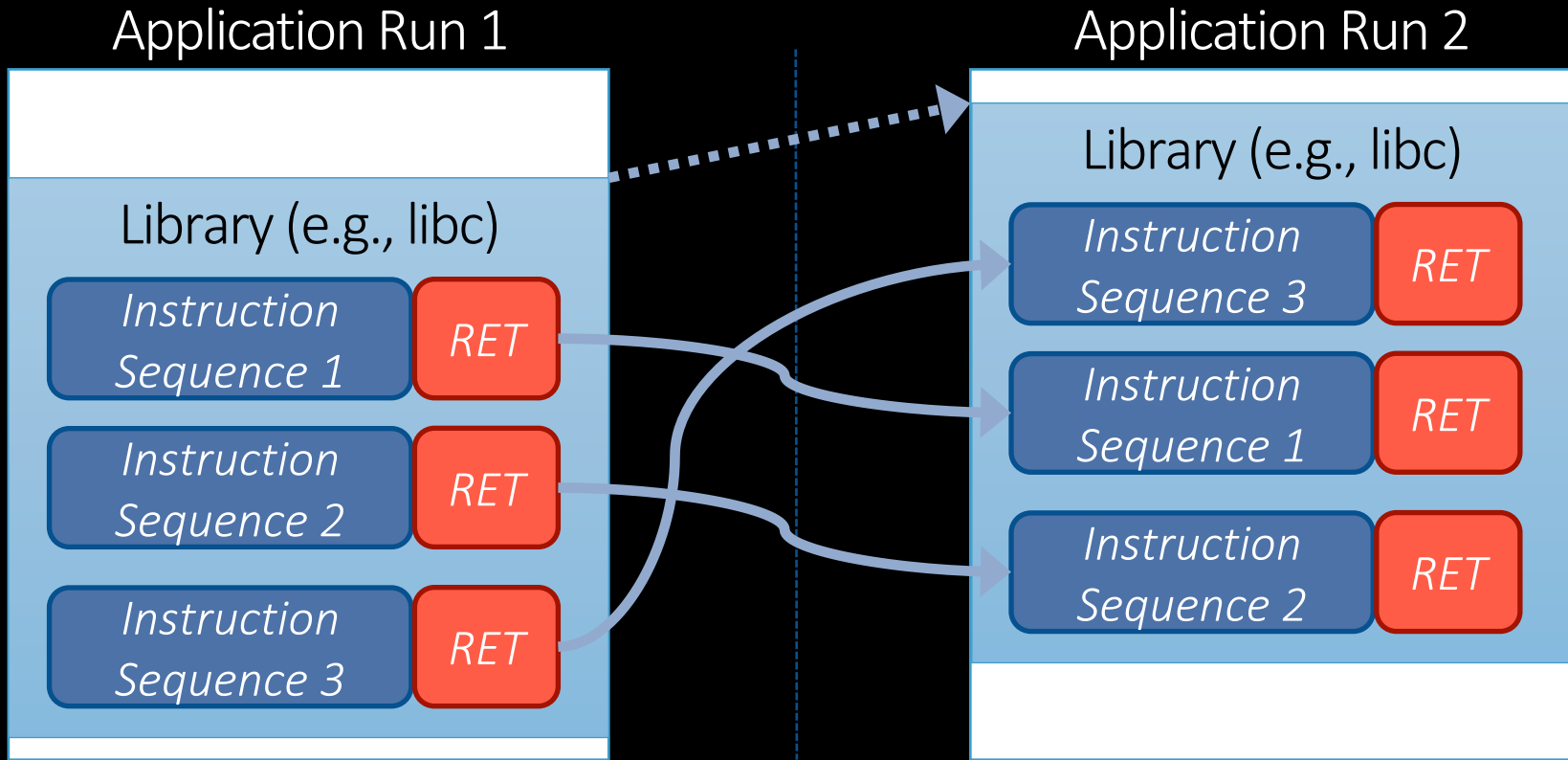
Application Run 1



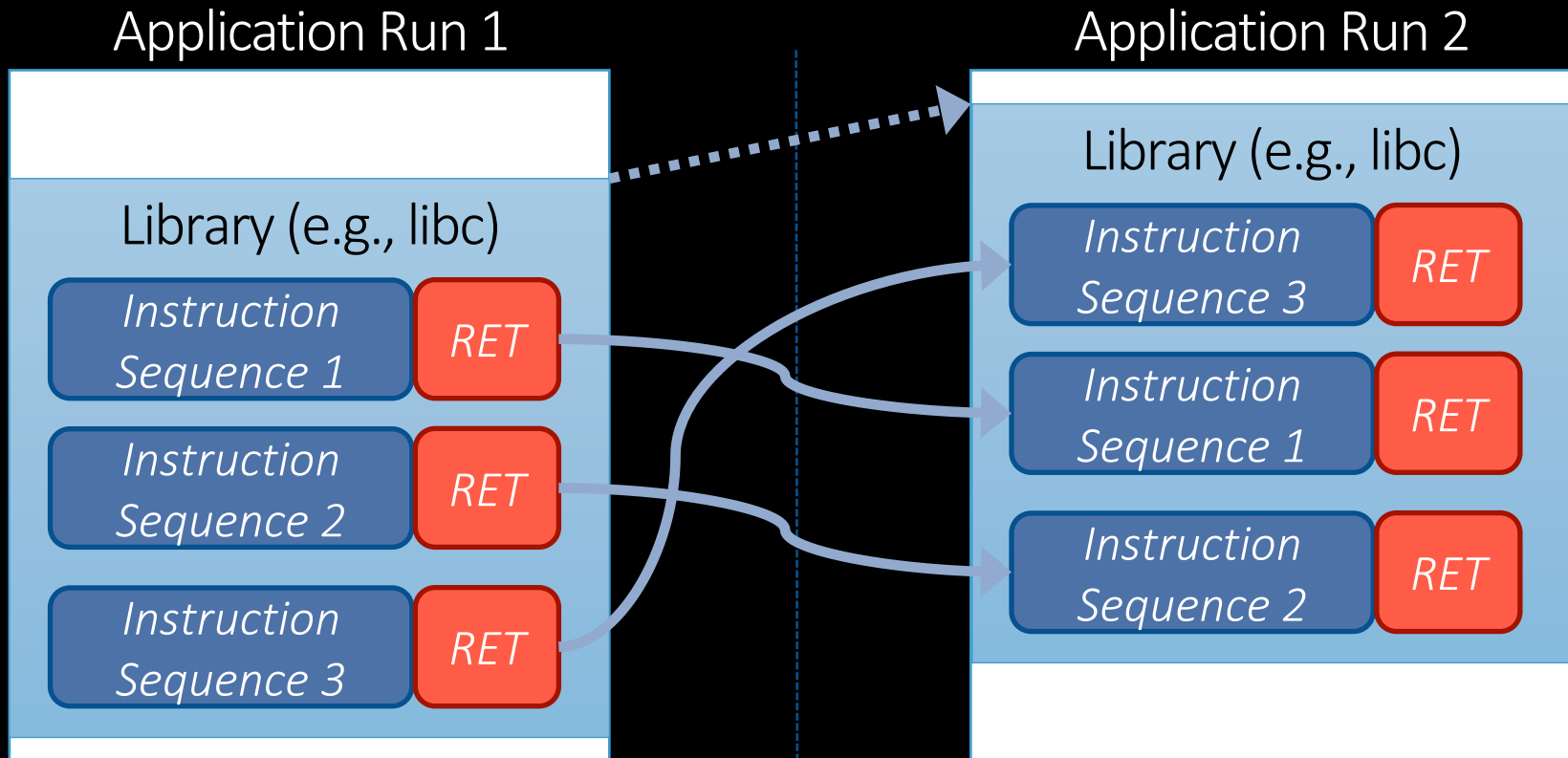
Application Run 2



Fine-Grained ASLR



Fine-Grained ASLR



- **ORP** [Pappas et al., IEEE S&P 2012]: Instruction reordering/substitution within a BBL
- **ILR** [Hiser et al., IEEE S&P 2012]: Randomizing each instruction's location
- **STIR** [Wartell et al., ACM CCS 2012] & **XIFER** [with Davi et al., AsiaCCS 2013]: Permutation of BBLs

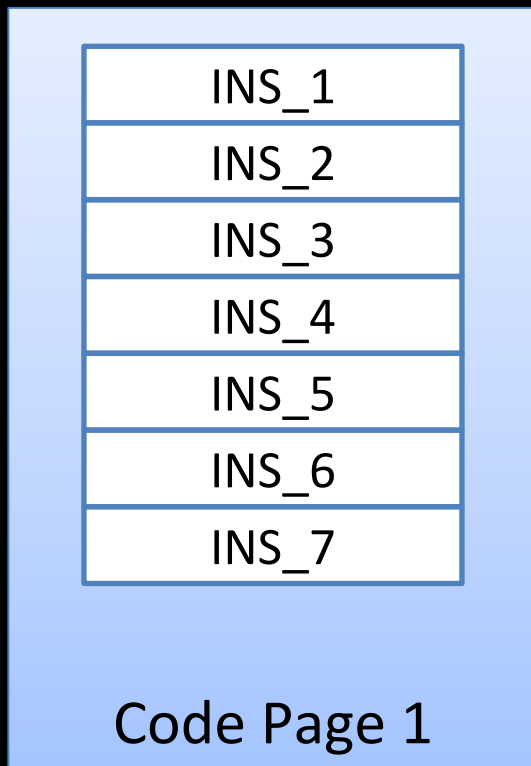
Does Fine-Grained ASLR Provide a Viable Defense in the Long Run?



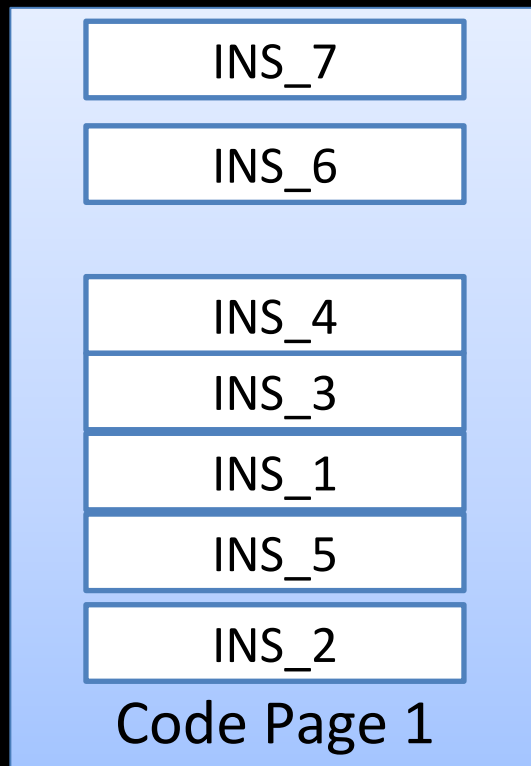
Just-In-Time Code Reuse: On the Effectiveness of Fine-Grained Address Space Layout Randomization

[Kevin Snow, Lucas Davi, Alexandra Dmitrienko, Christopher Liebchen, Fabian Monrose, Ahmad-Reza Sadeghi, Best Student Paper at IEEE S&P 2013]

High-Level Idea



High-Level Idea



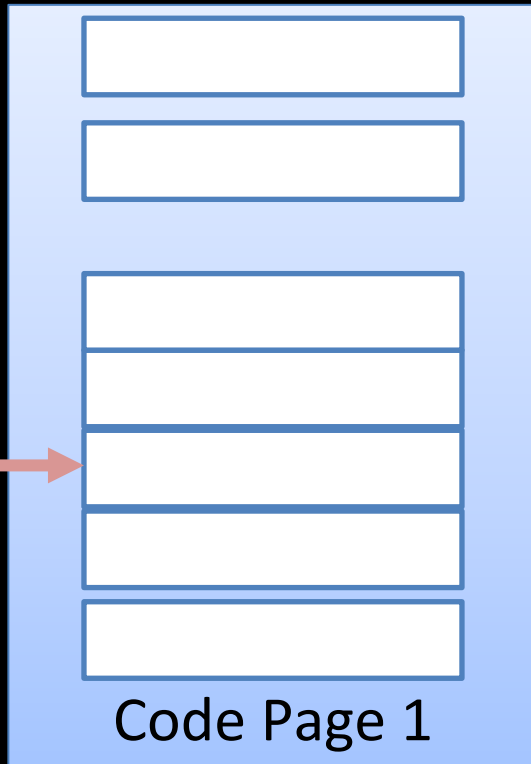
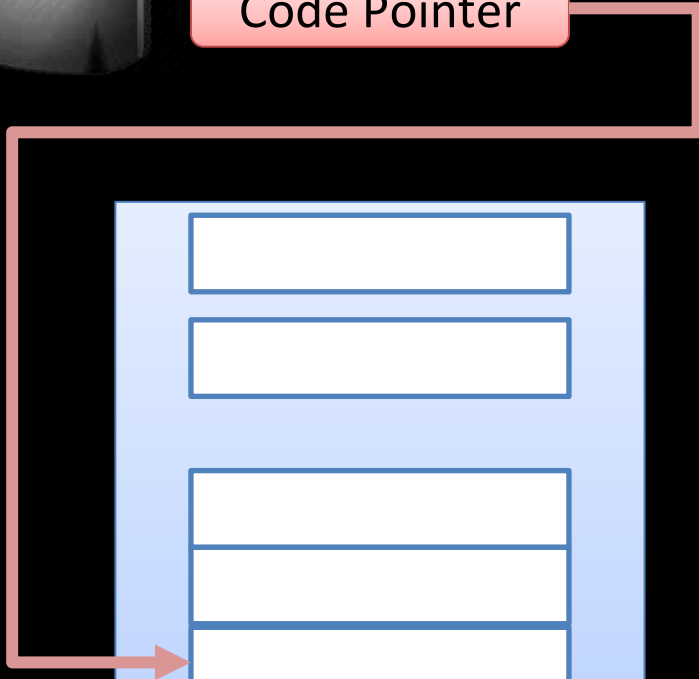
High-Level Idea

[illegible]

High-Level Idea



Code Pointer

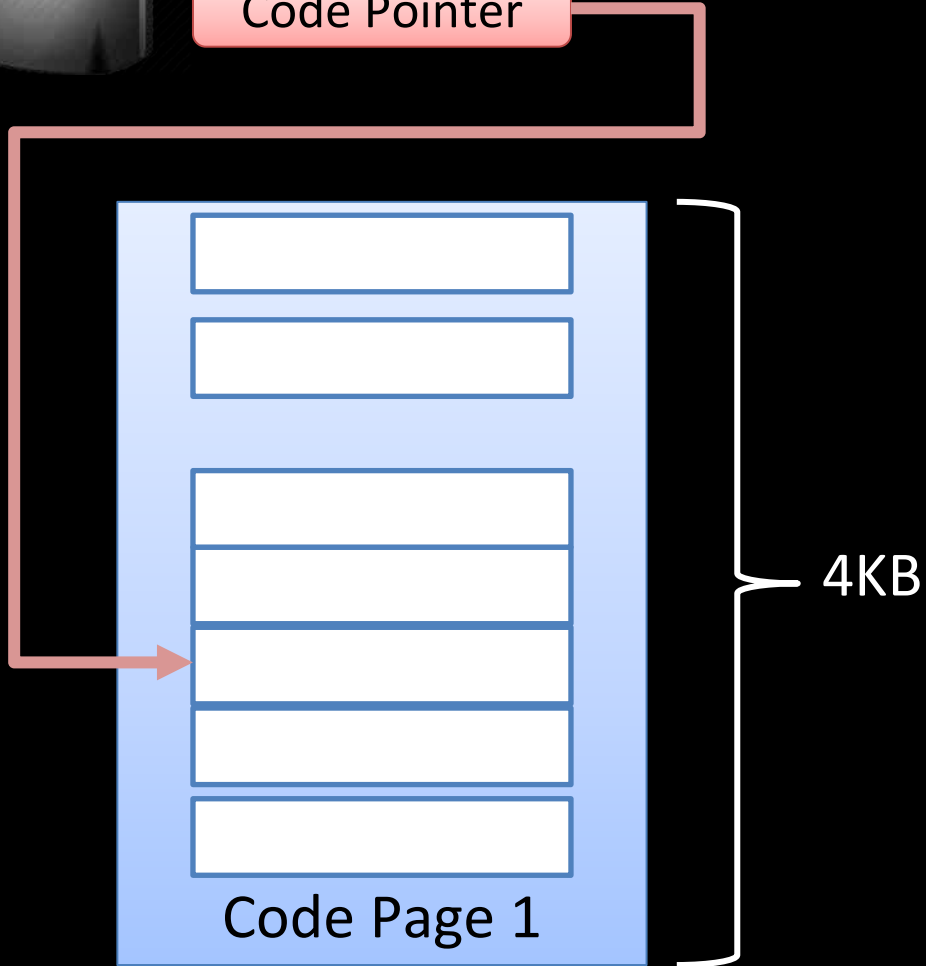


Code Page 1

High-Level Idea



Code Pointer

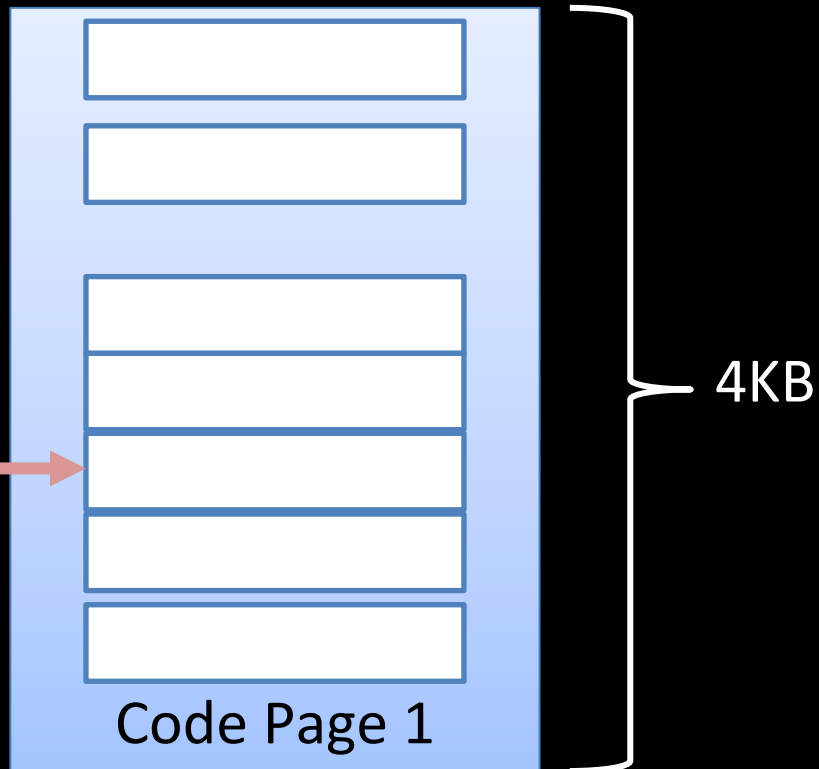
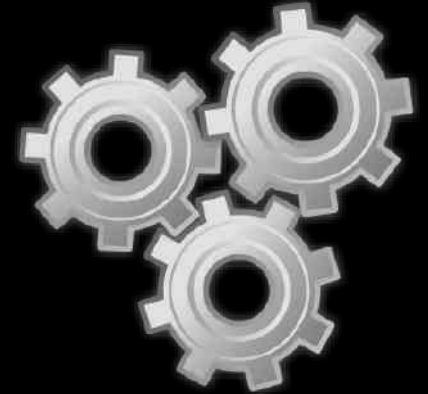


High-Level Idea

Scripting Engine



Code Pointer

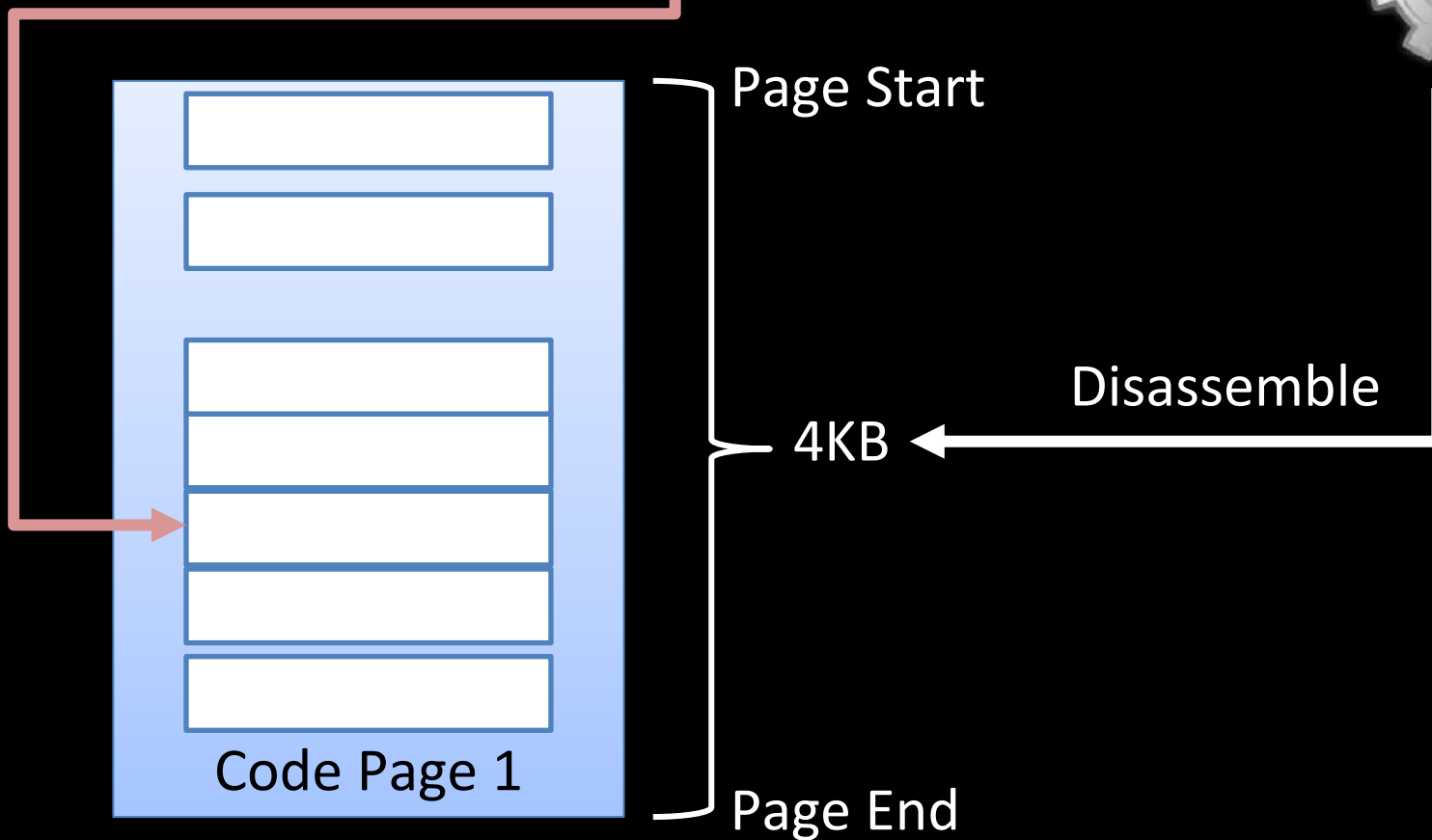
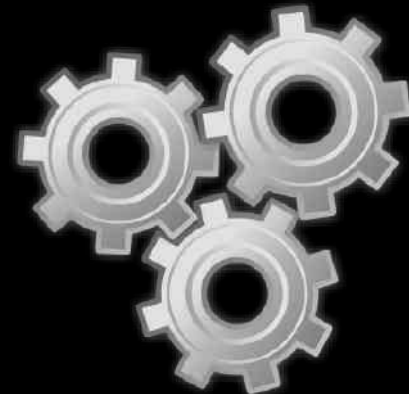


High-Level Idea



Code Pointer

Scripting Engine

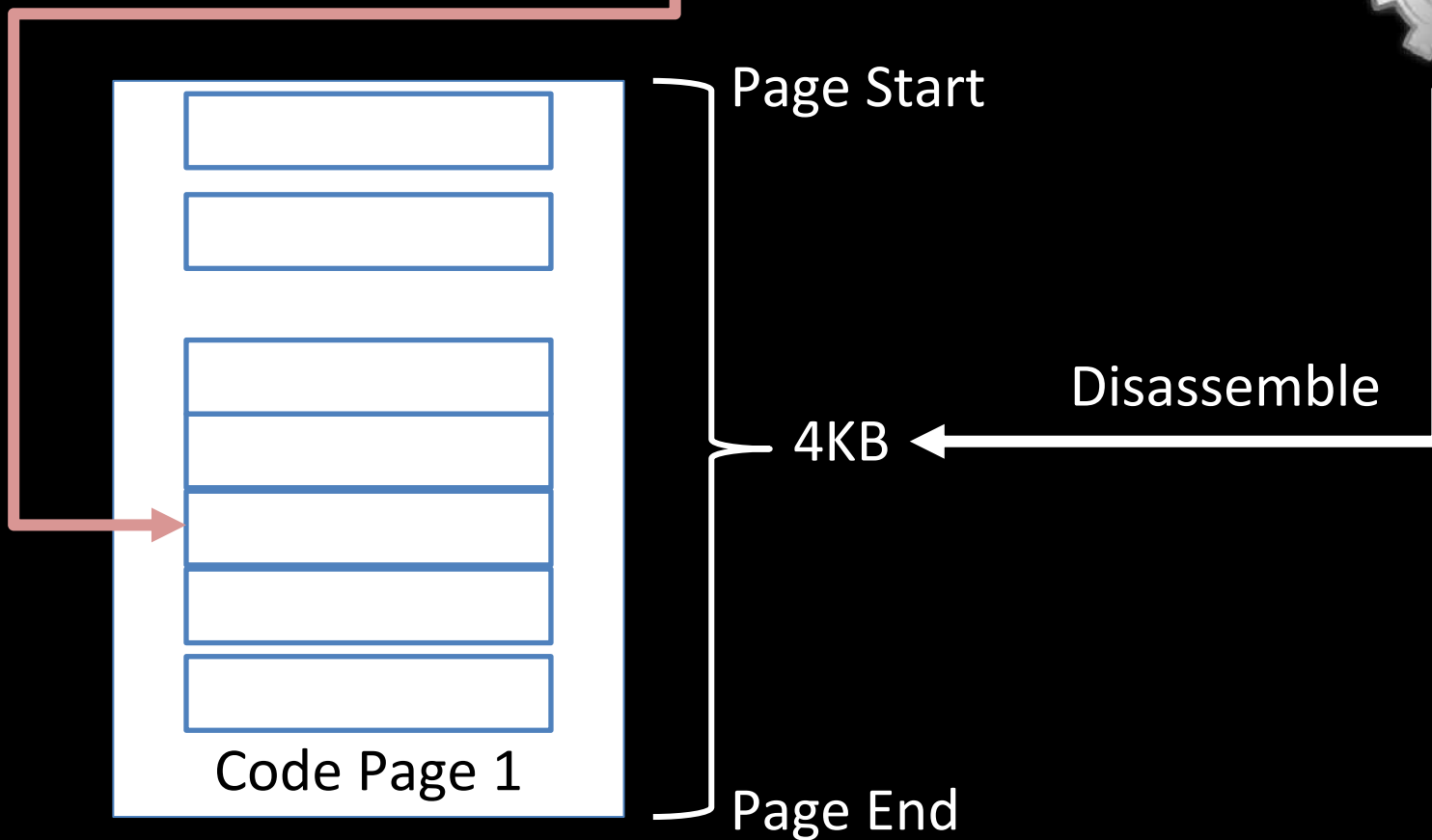
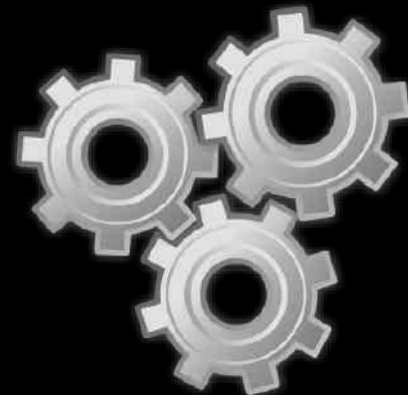


High-Level Idea



Code Pointer

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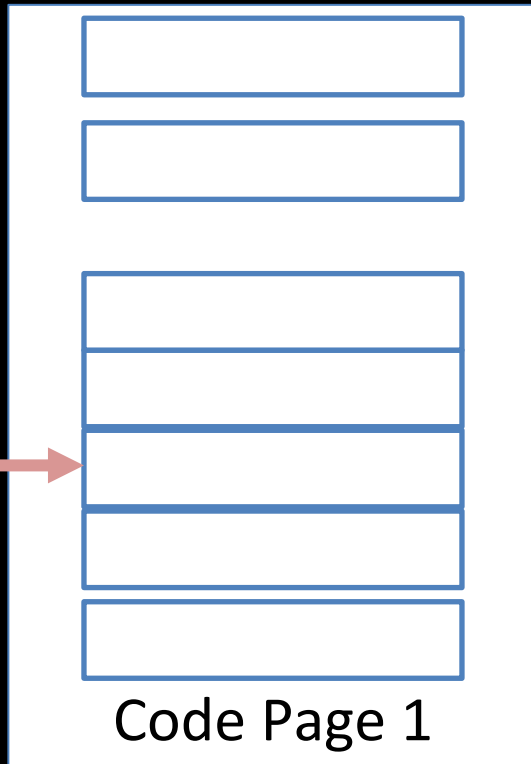
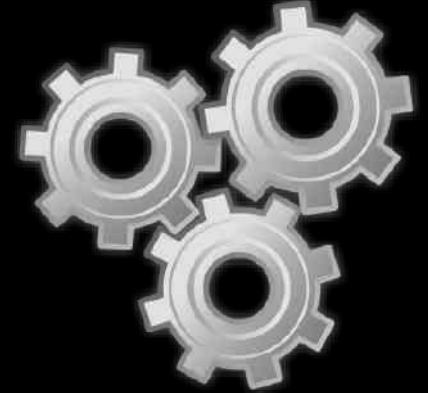


High-Level Idea



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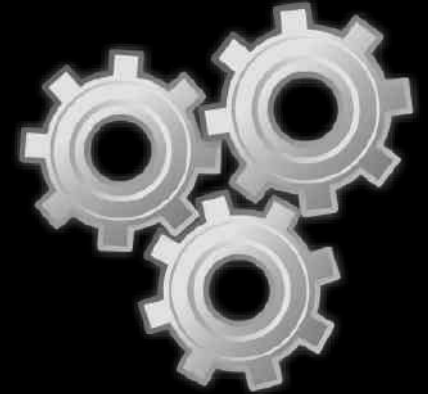


High-Level Idea

Scripting Engine

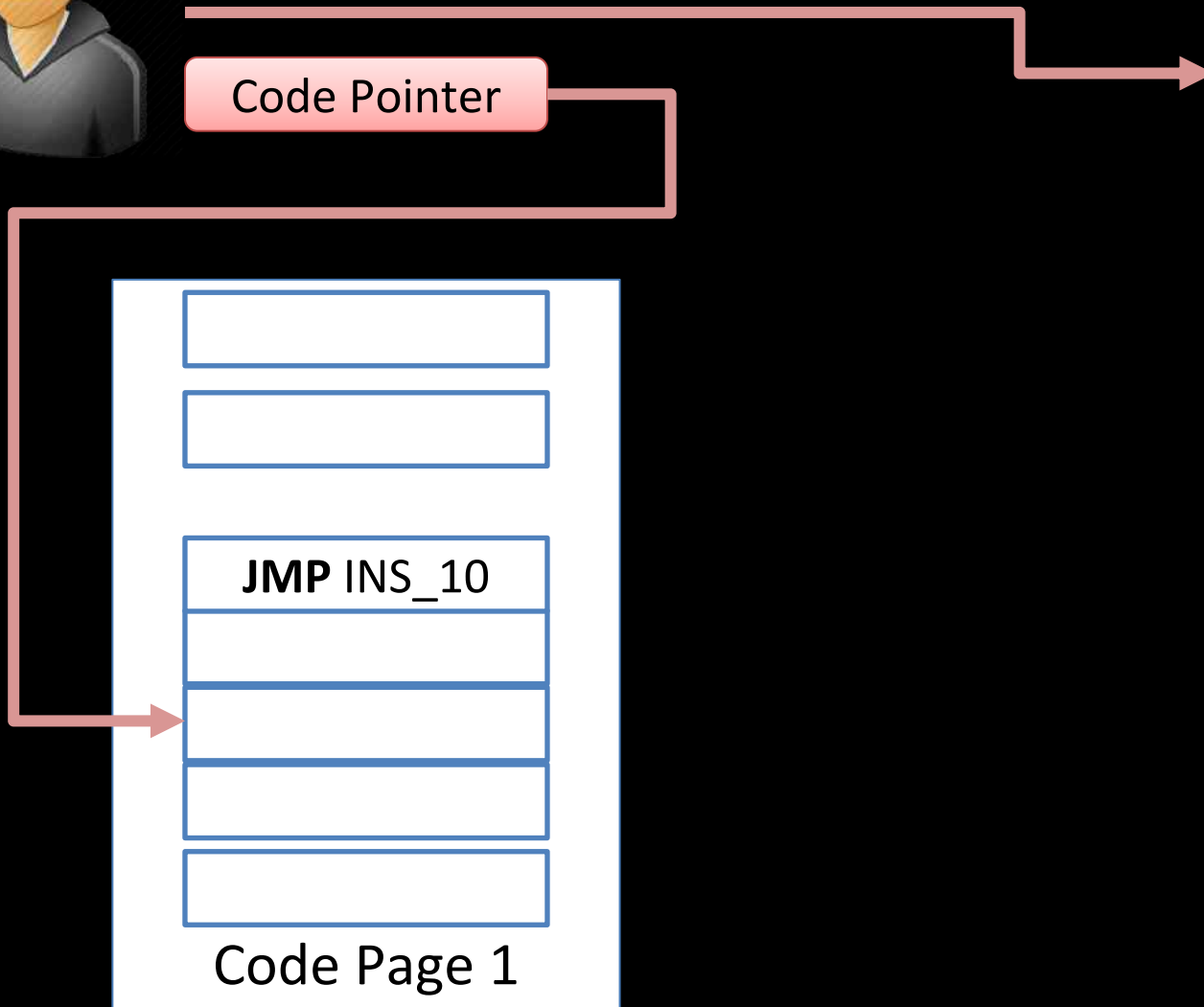


Code Pointer



JMP INS_10

Code Page 1

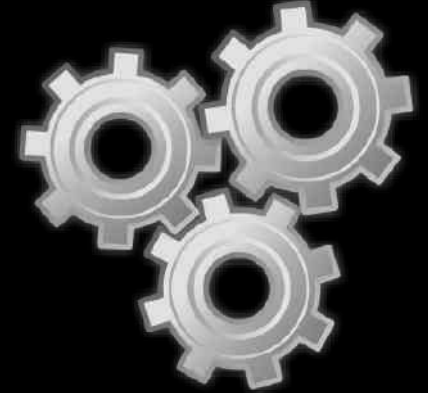


High-Level Idea

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Code Pointer

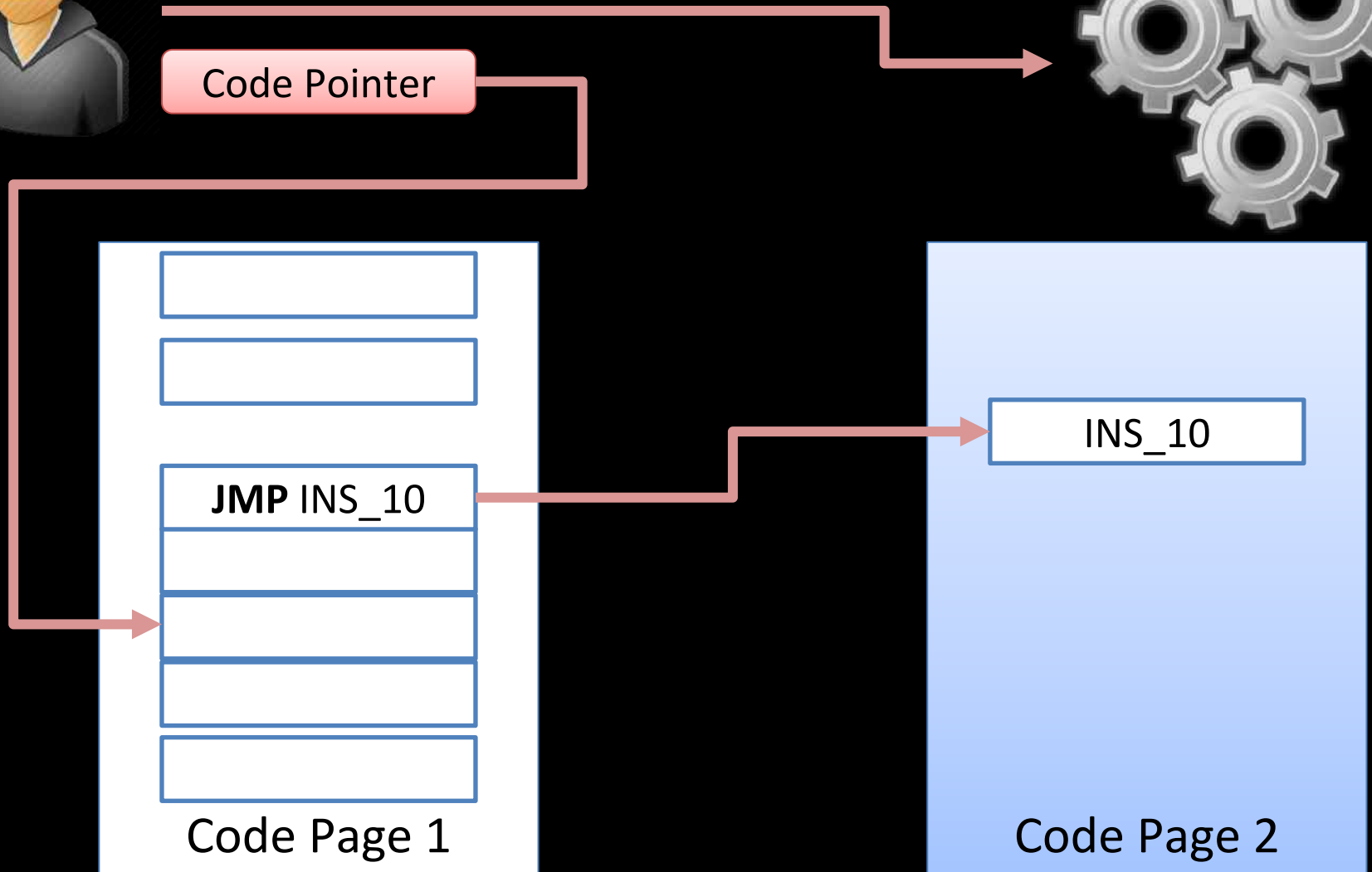


JMP INS_10

INS_10

Code Page 1

Code Page 2

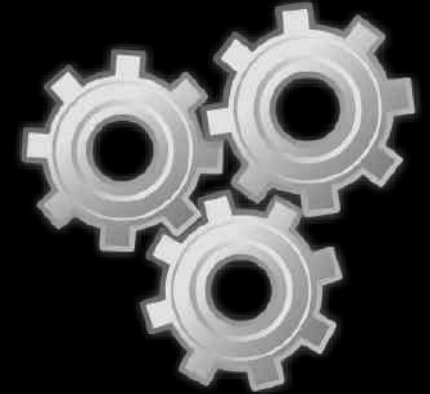


High-Level Idea

Scripting Engine



Code Pointer



JMP INS_10

Code Page 1

INS_8

INS_9

INS_10

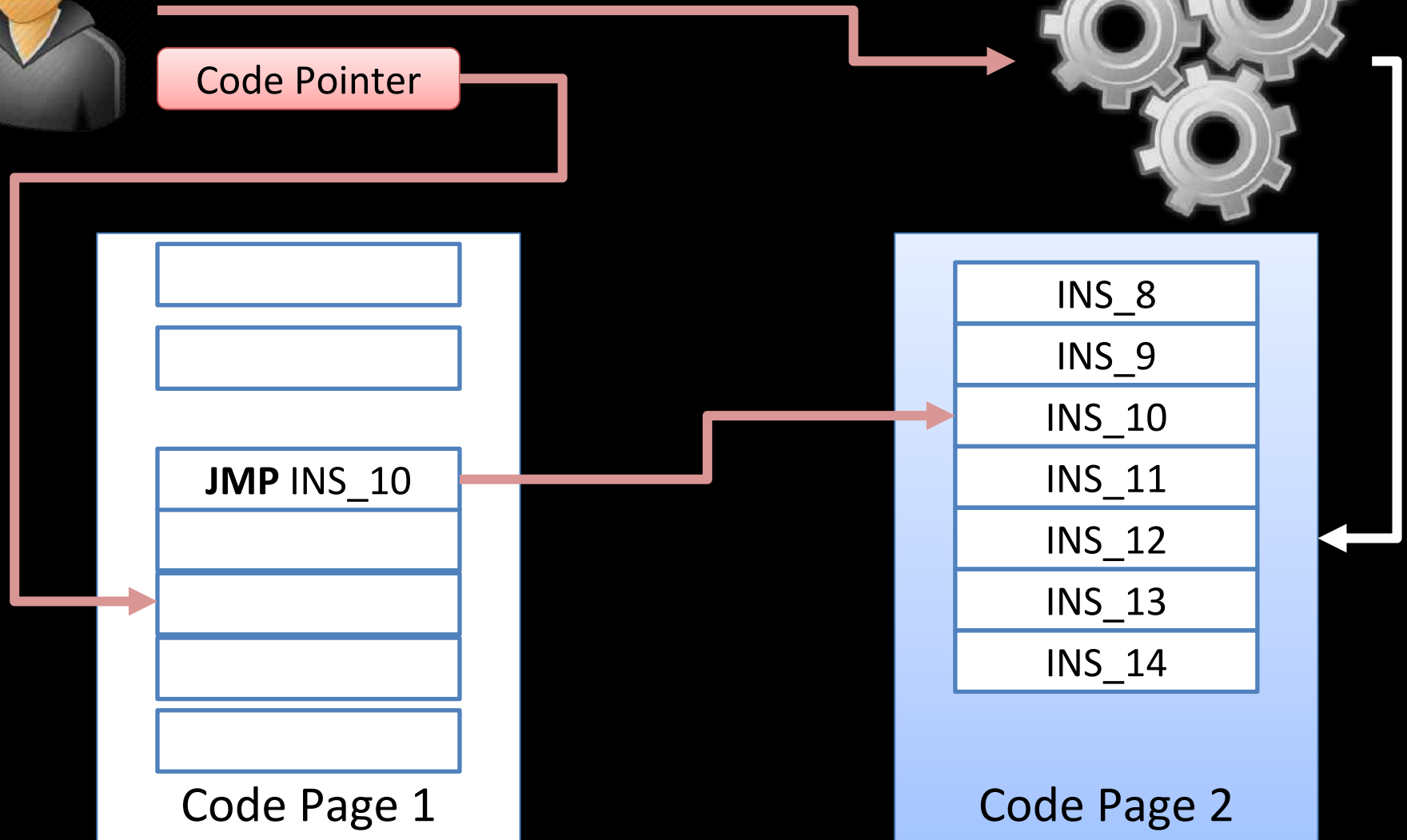
INS_11

INS_12

INS_13

INS_14

Code Page 2

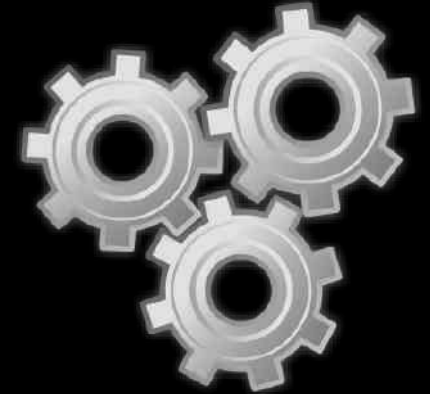


High-Level Idea

Scripting Engine



Code Pointer



JMP INS_10

Code Page 1

INS_8

INS_9

INS_10

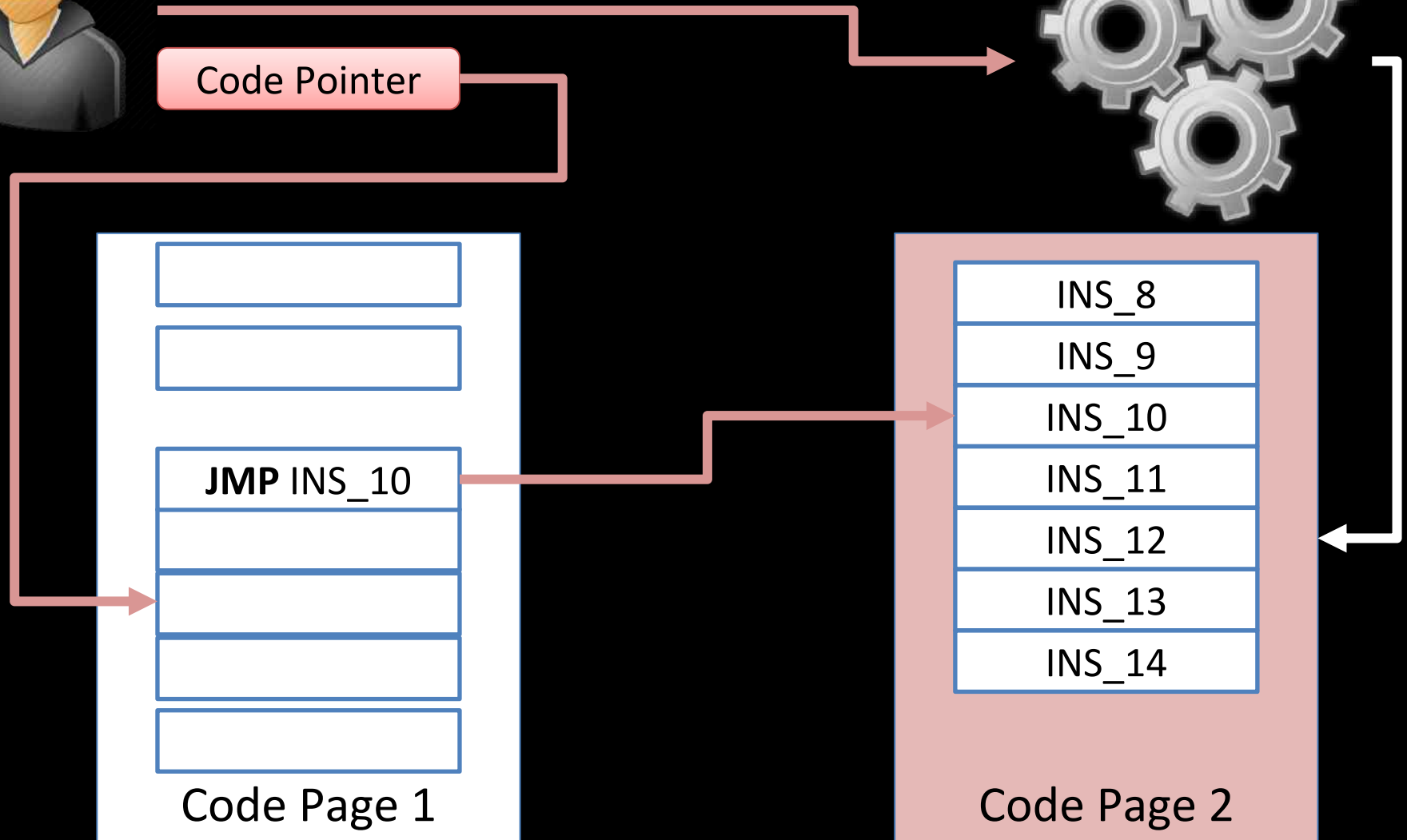
INS_11

INS_12

INS_13

INS_14

Code Page 2



Execute-Only Memory

Remove the read permission from
code pages

see e.g., Readactor [IEEE S&P 2015]

Overview

Background on Run-Time Attacks



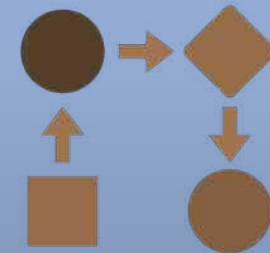
Building Code Randomization Defenses



Code-Reuse Attacks



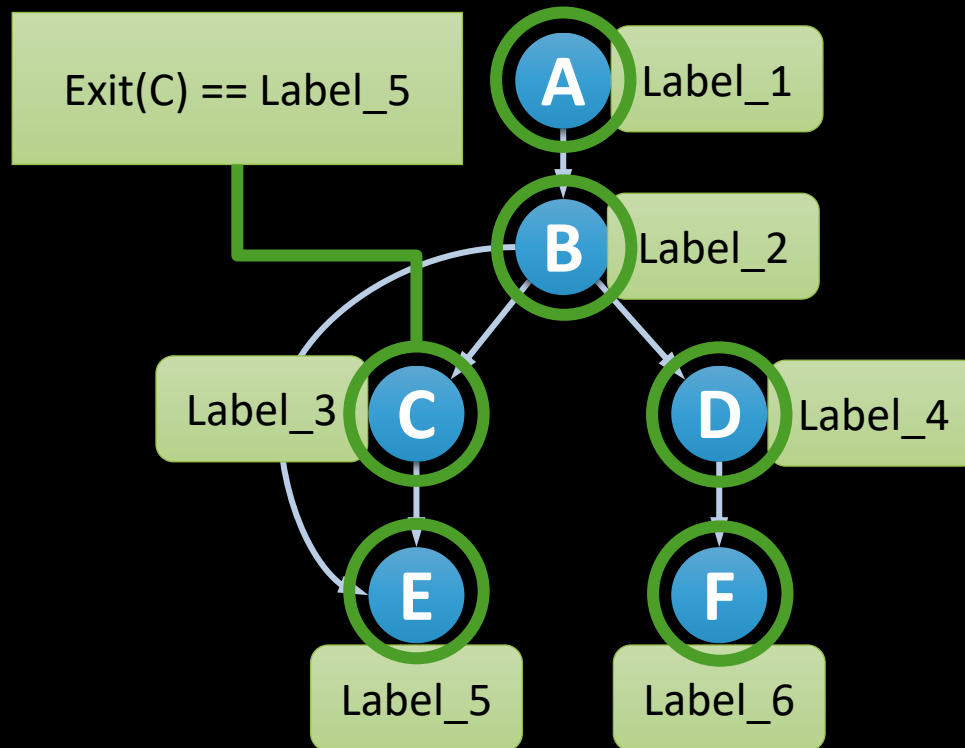
Building Control-Flow Integrity Defenses



Data-Oriented Exploits

Control-Flow Integrity (CFI)

[Abadi et al., CCS 2005 &
TISSEC 2009]



Label Problem for Returns

- ♦ **Static CFI label checking** leads to coarse-grained protection for returns

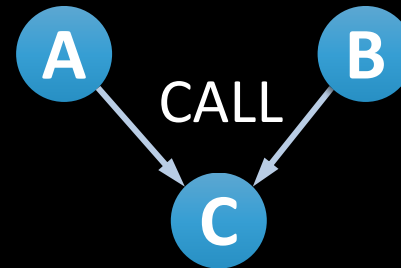
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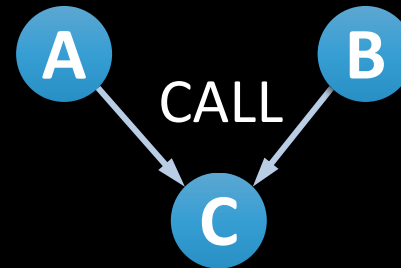
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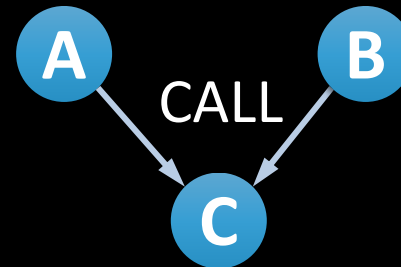
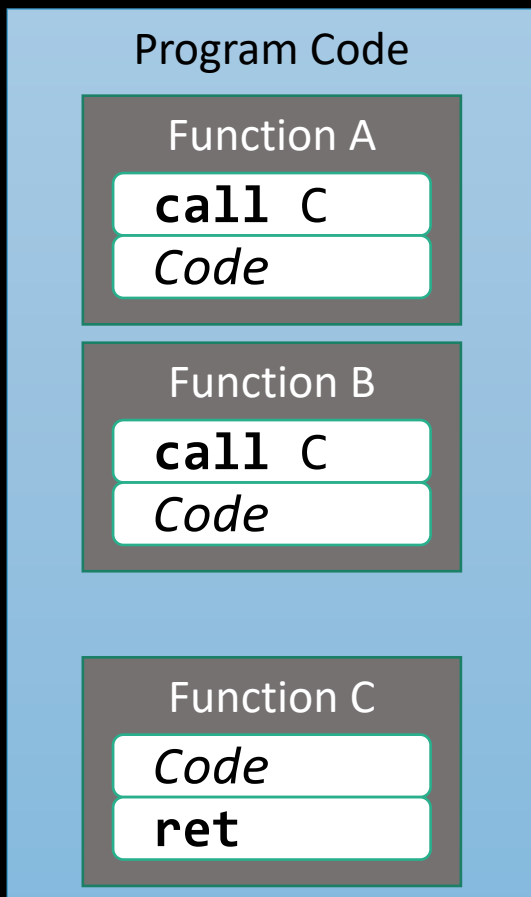
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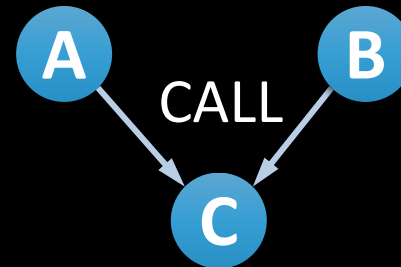
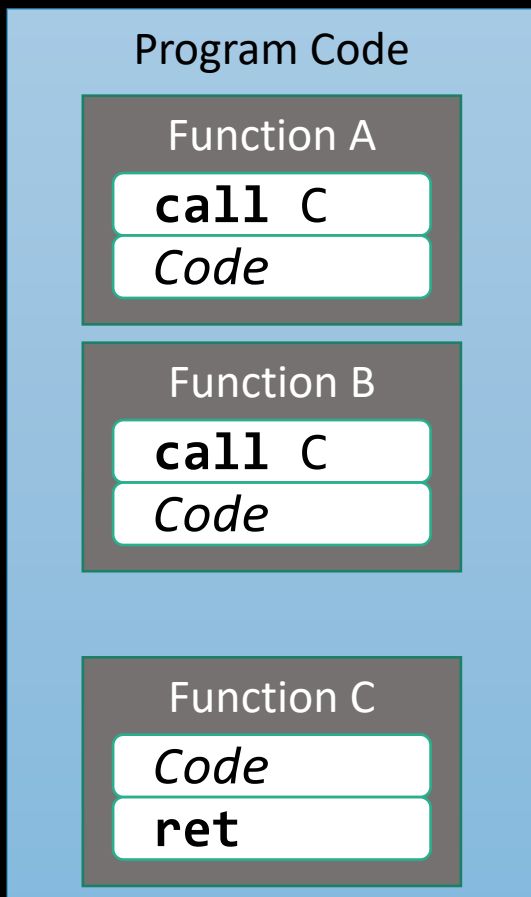
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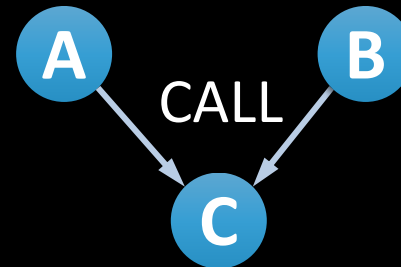
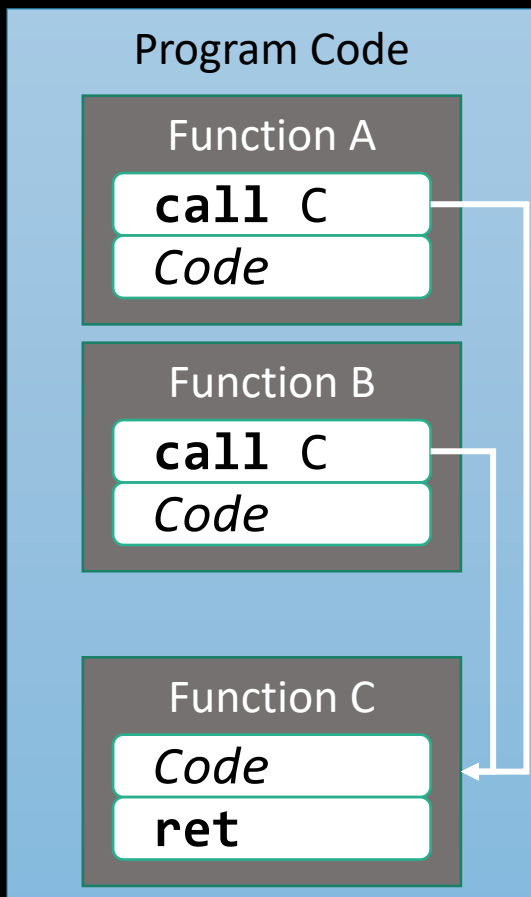
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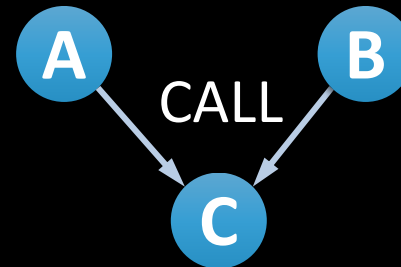
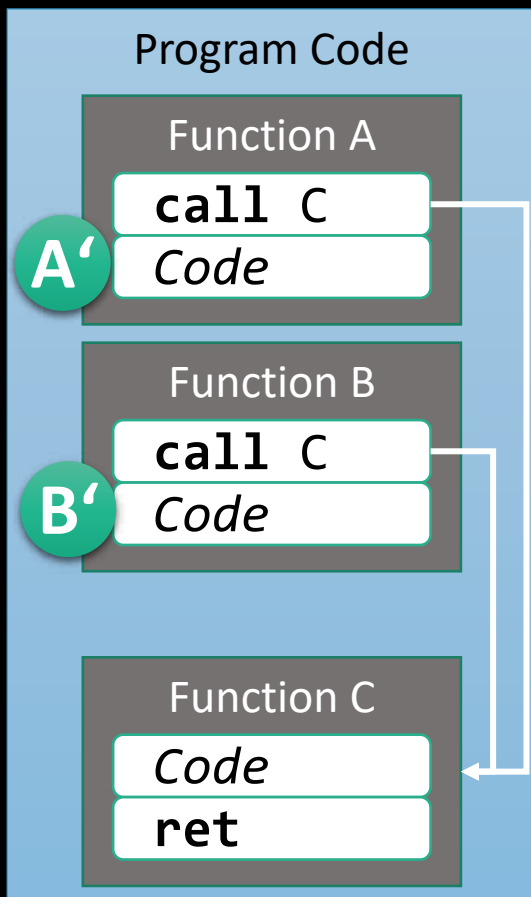
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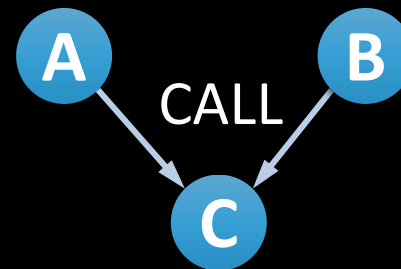
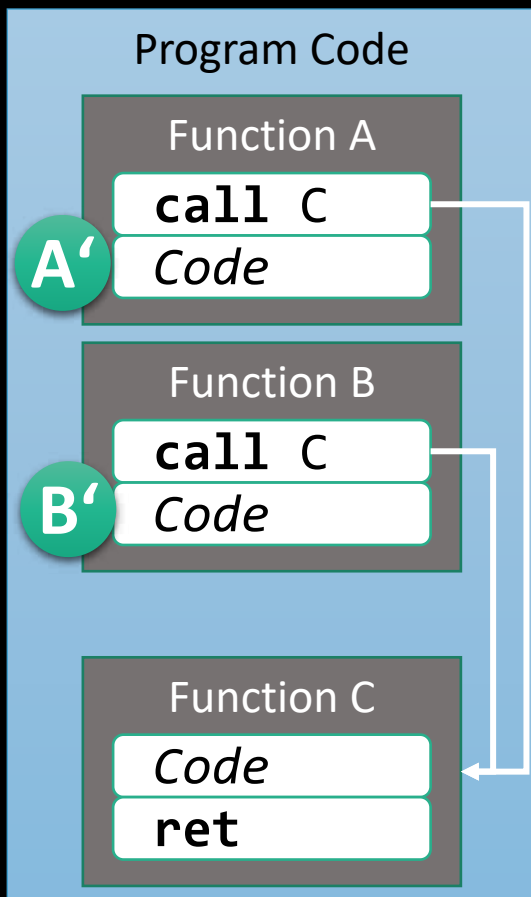
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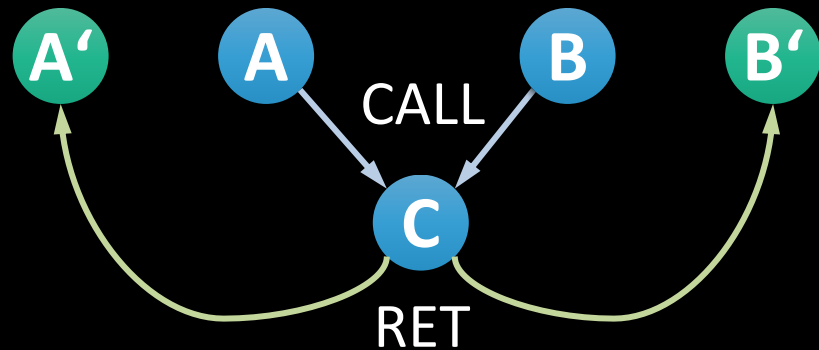
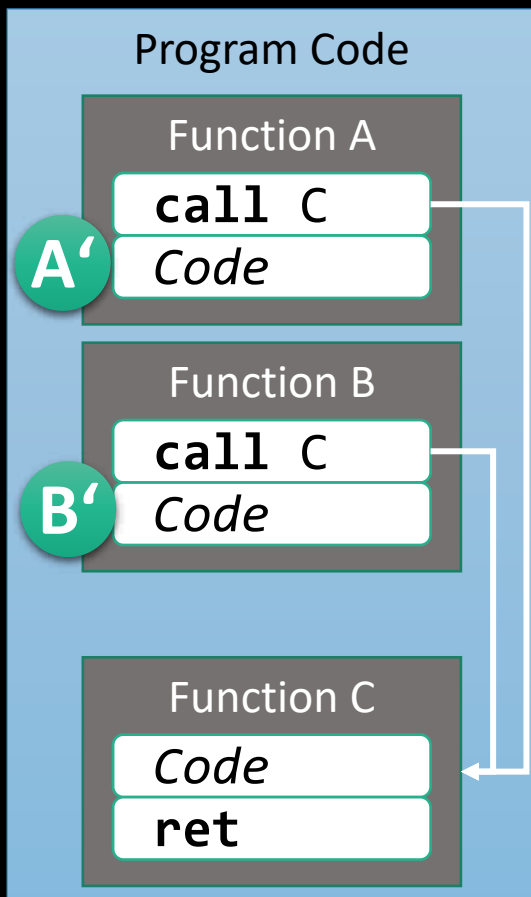
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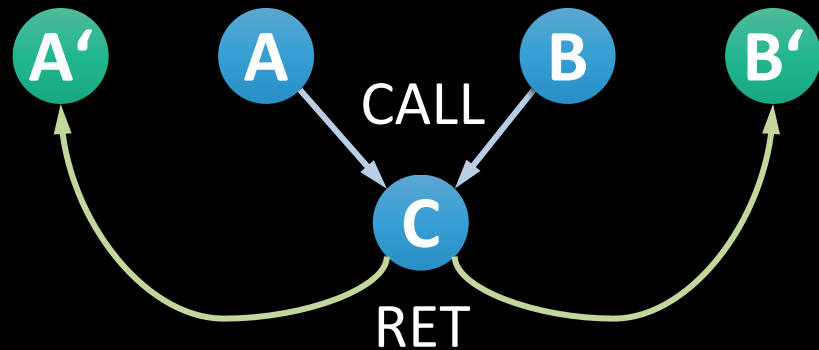
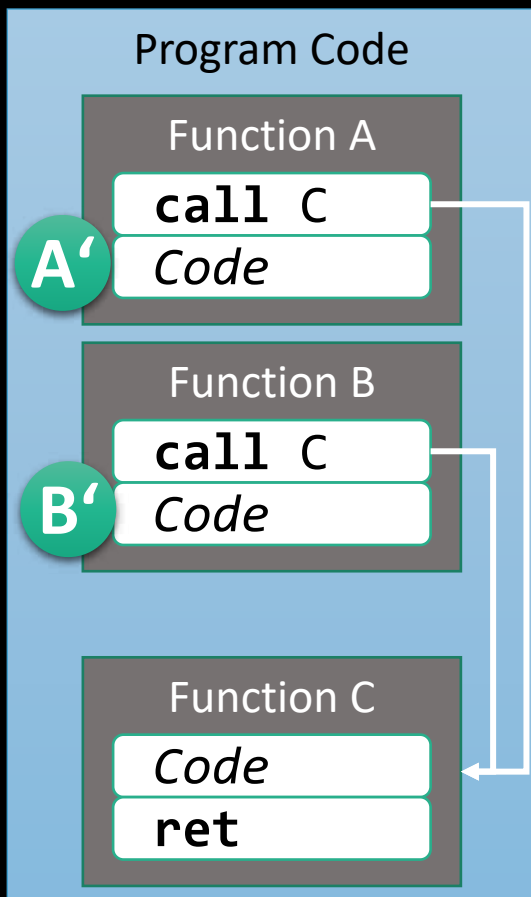
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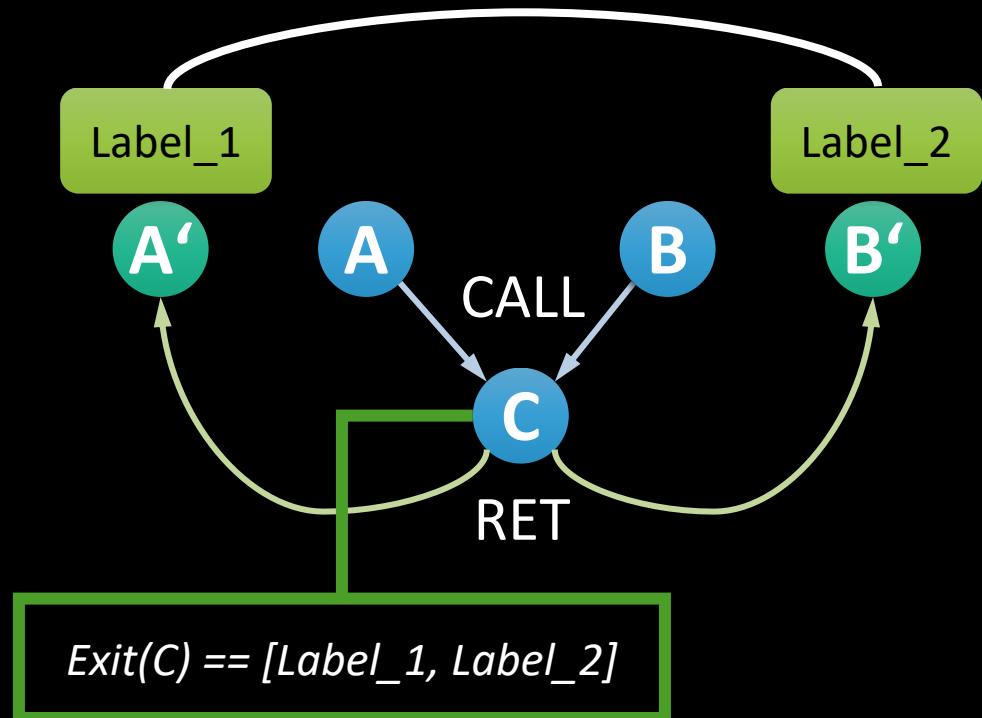
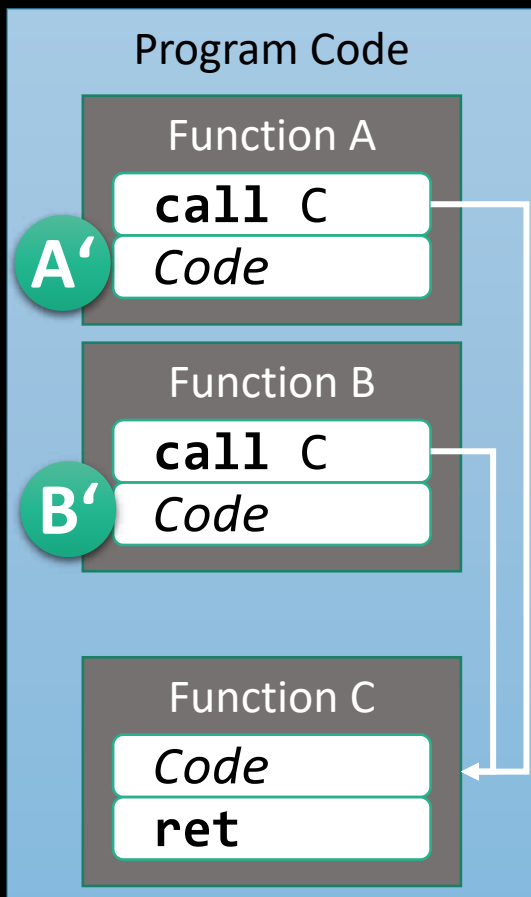
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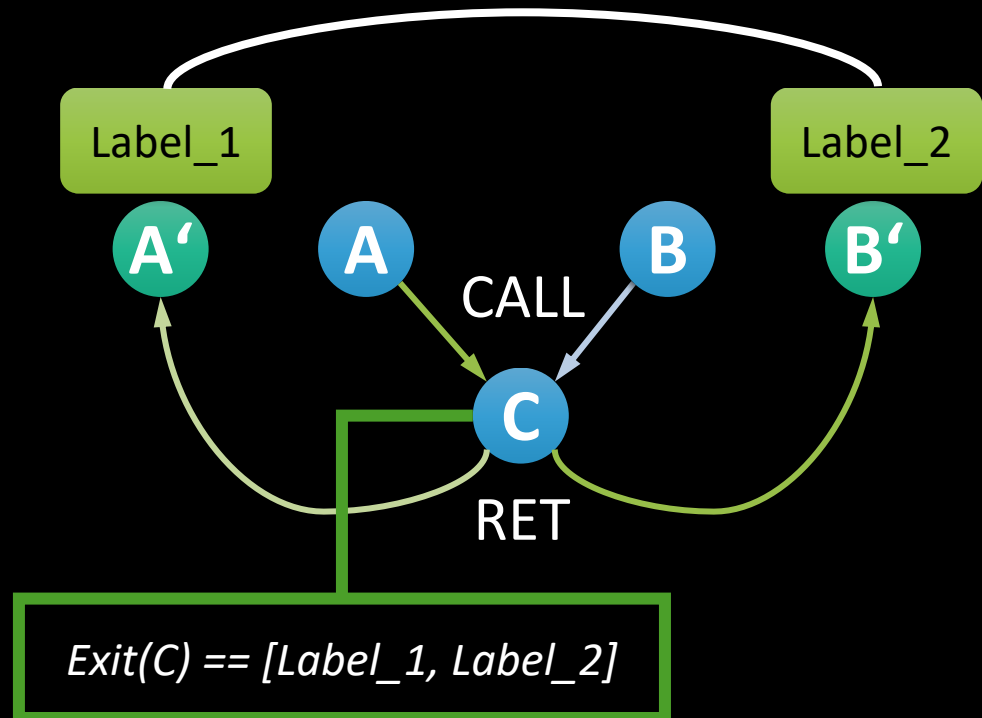
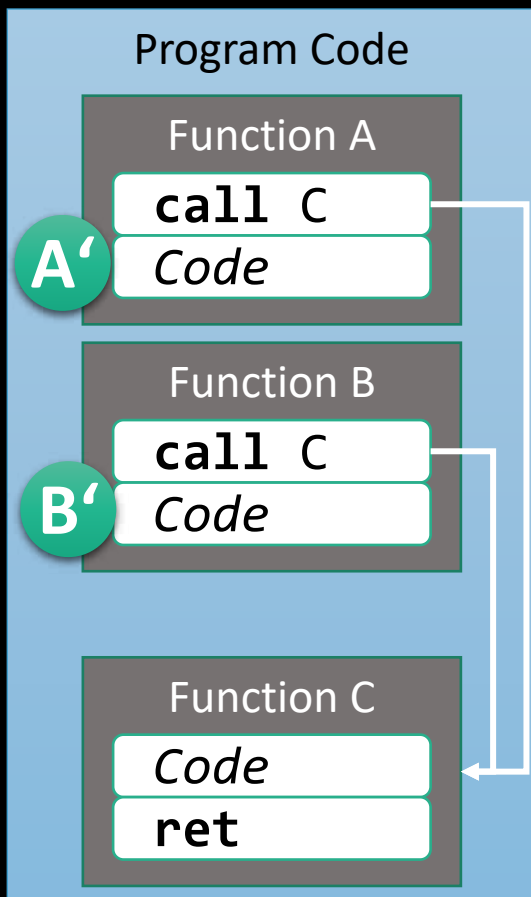
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Shadow Stack / Return Address Stack

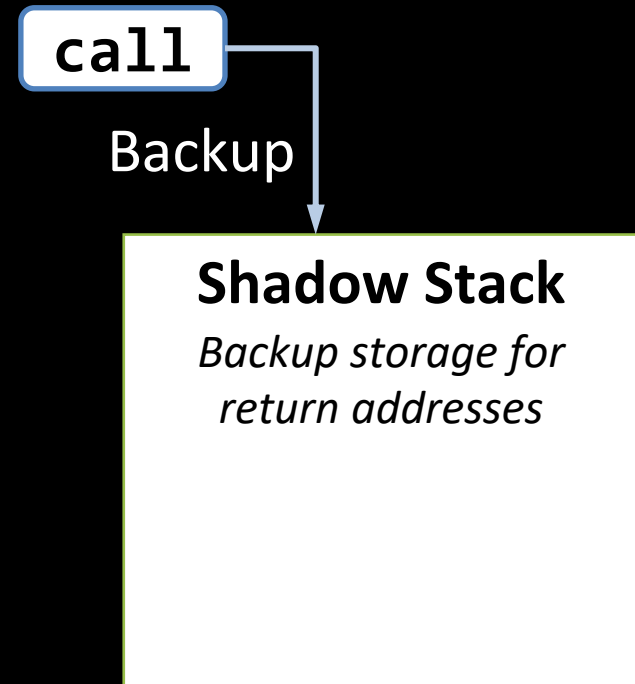
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Shadow Stack

*Backup storage for
return addresses*

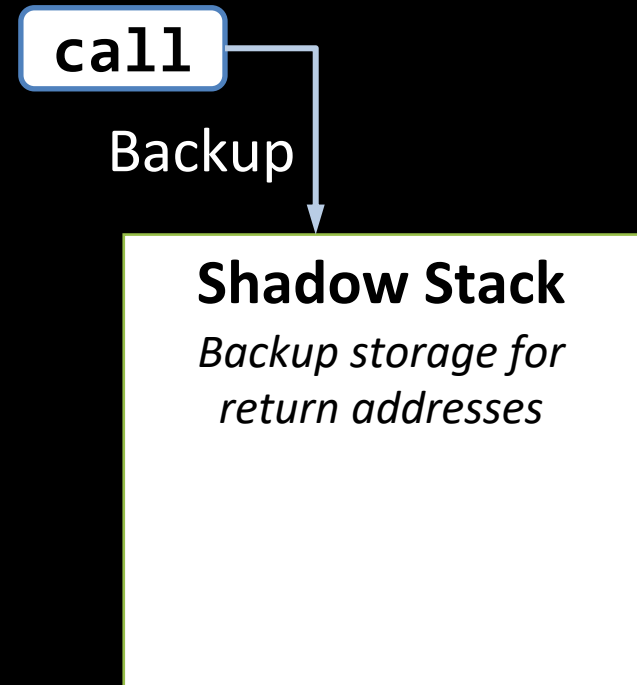
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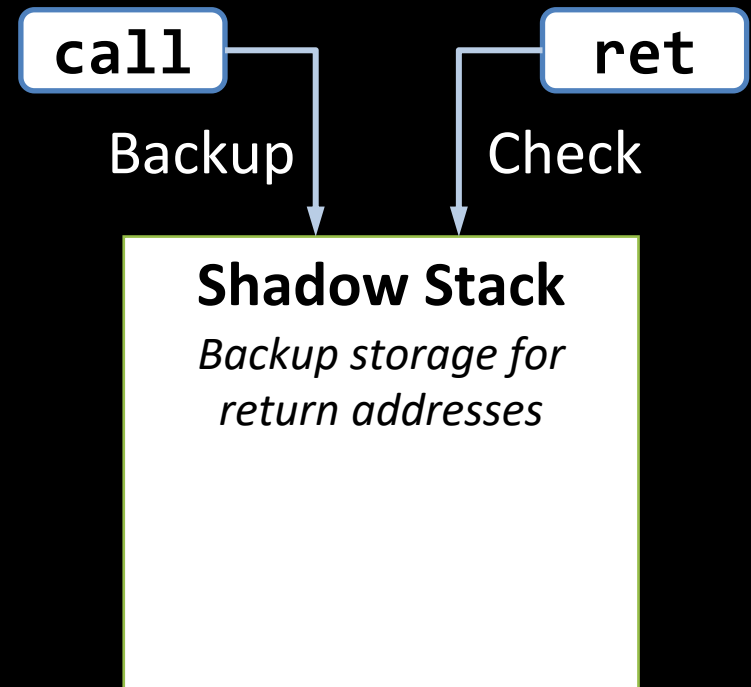
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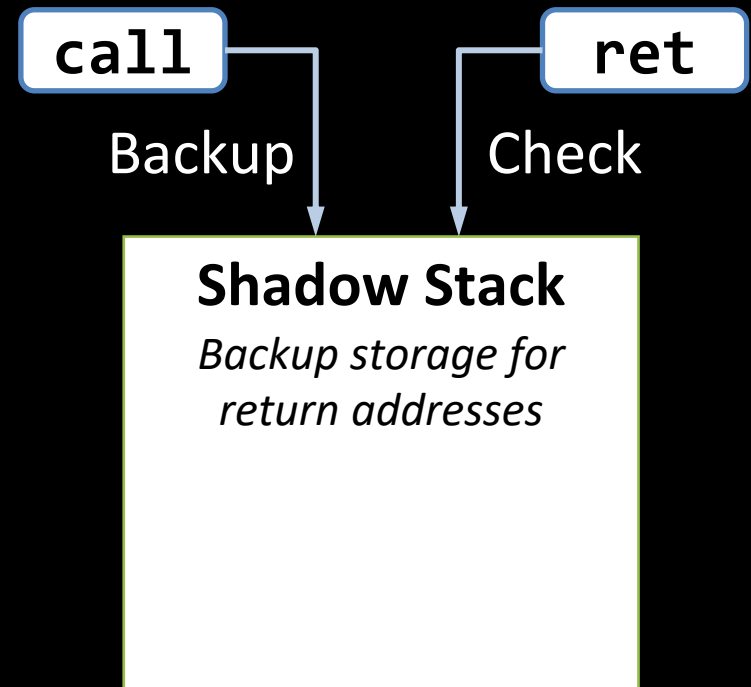
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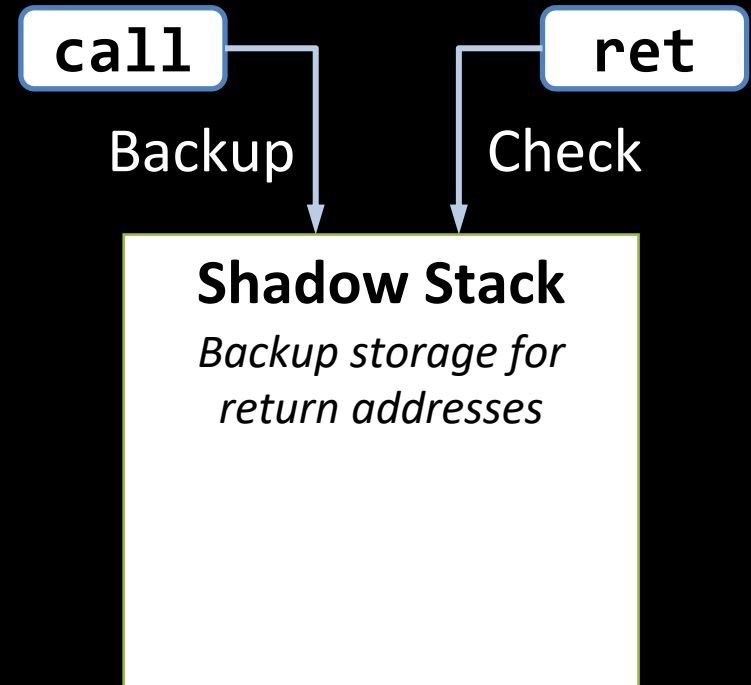
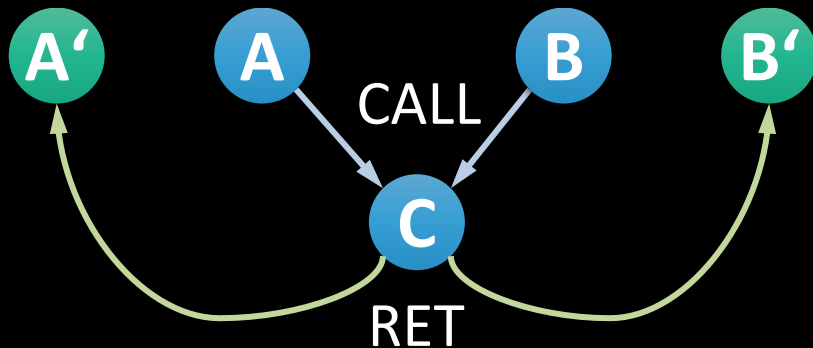
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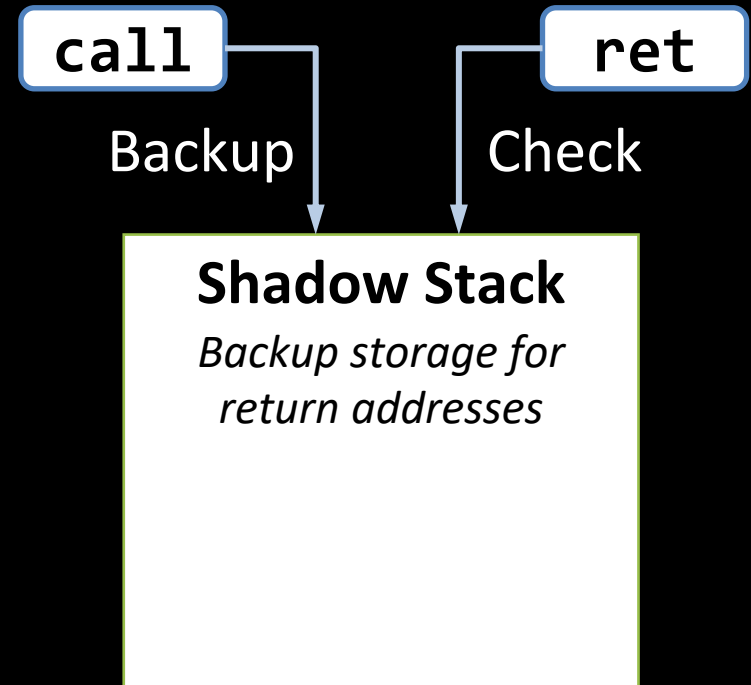
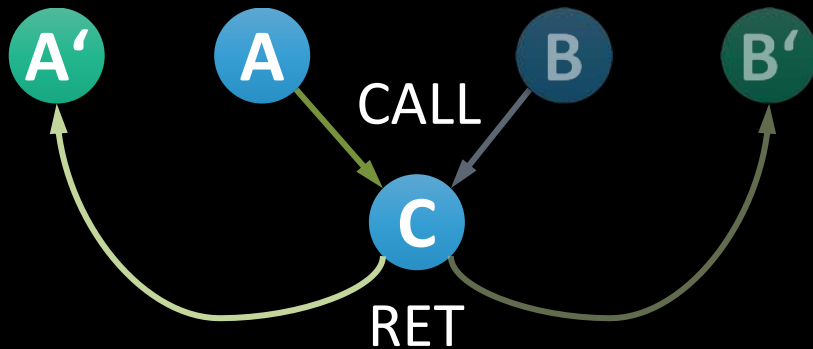
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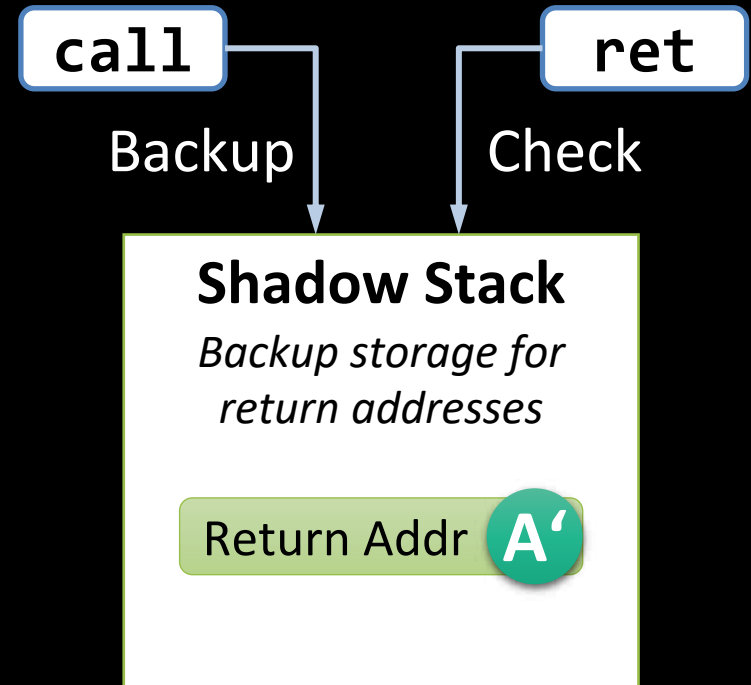
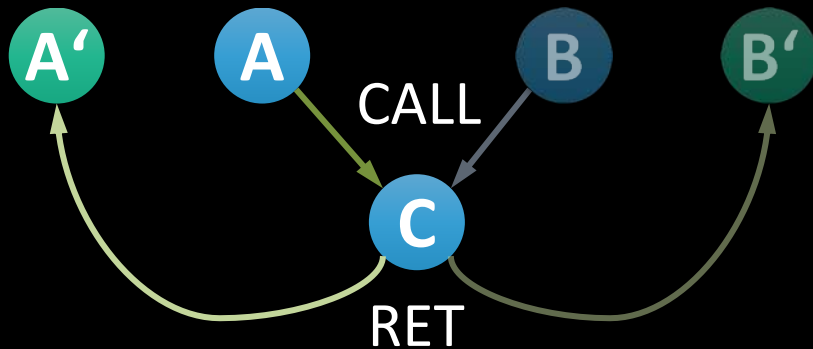
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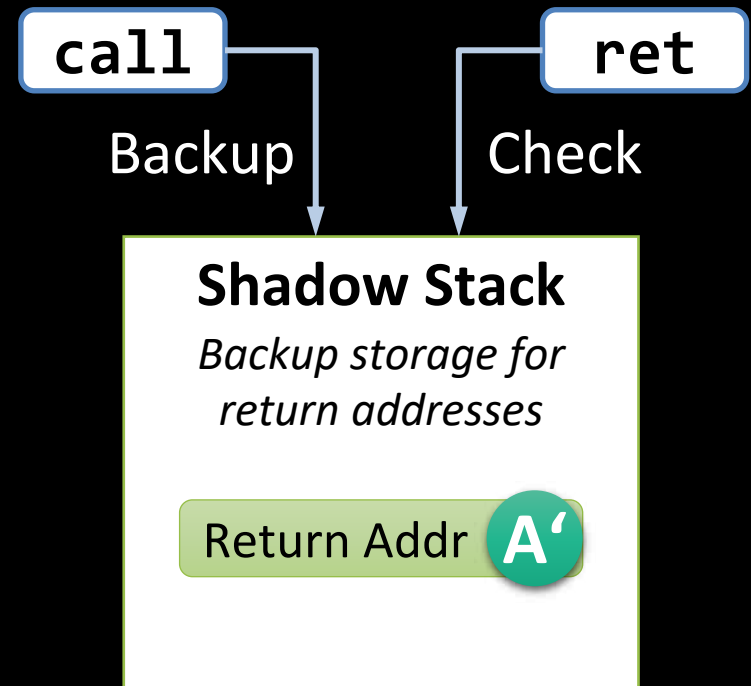
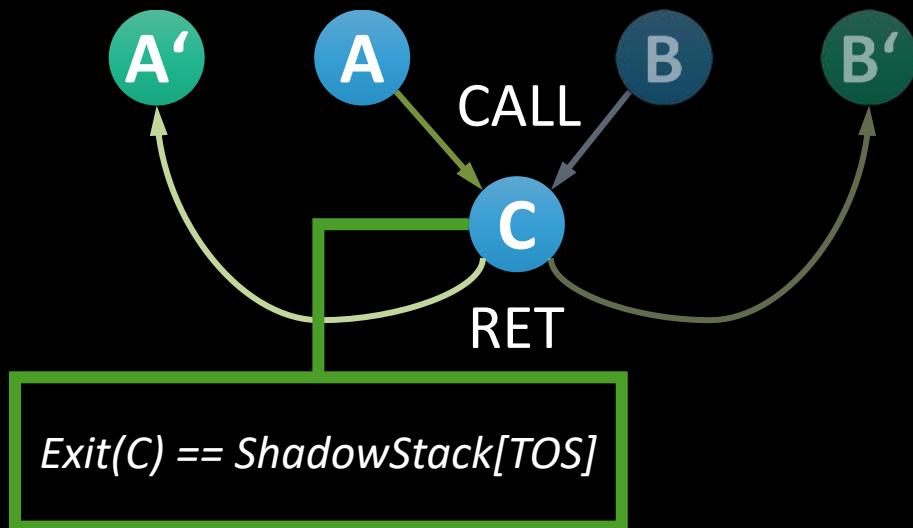
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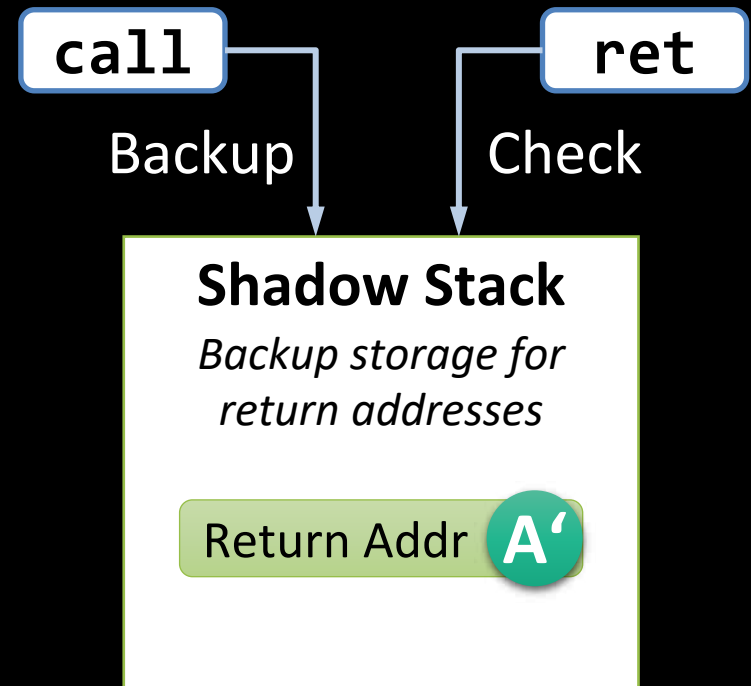
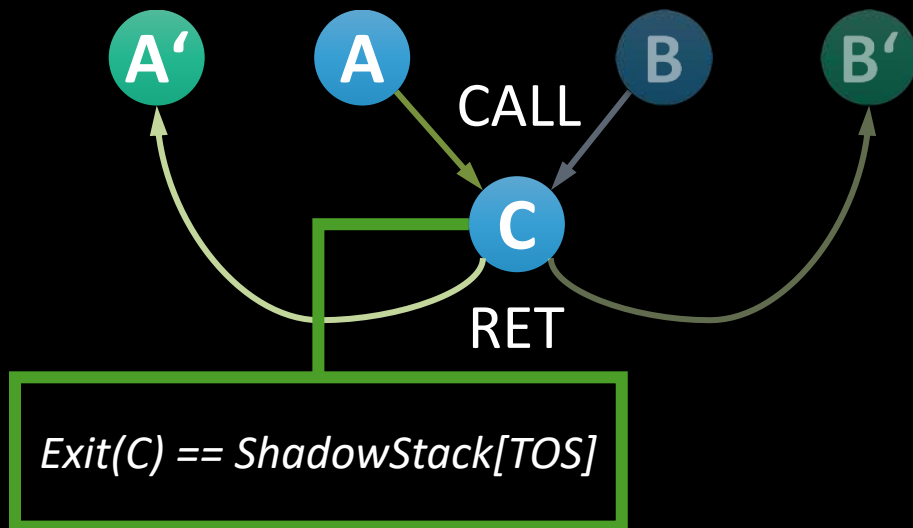
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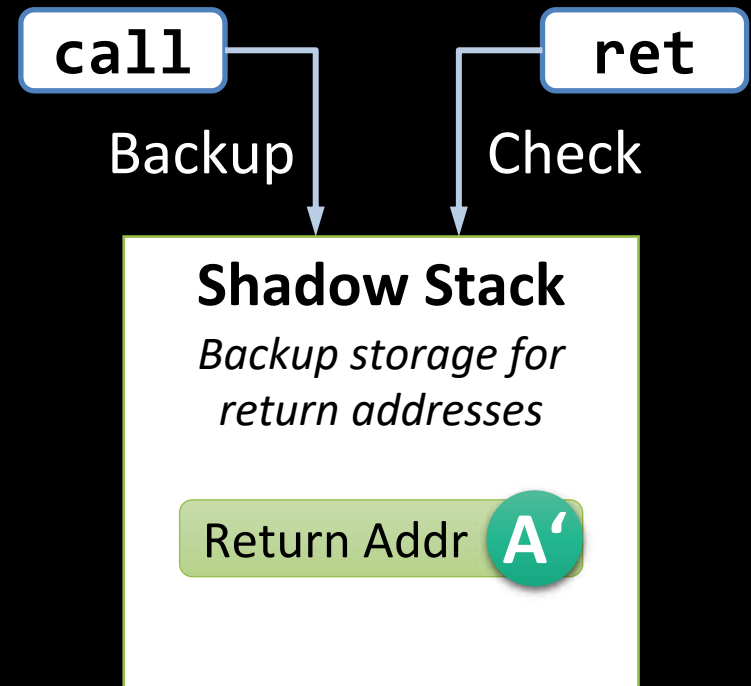
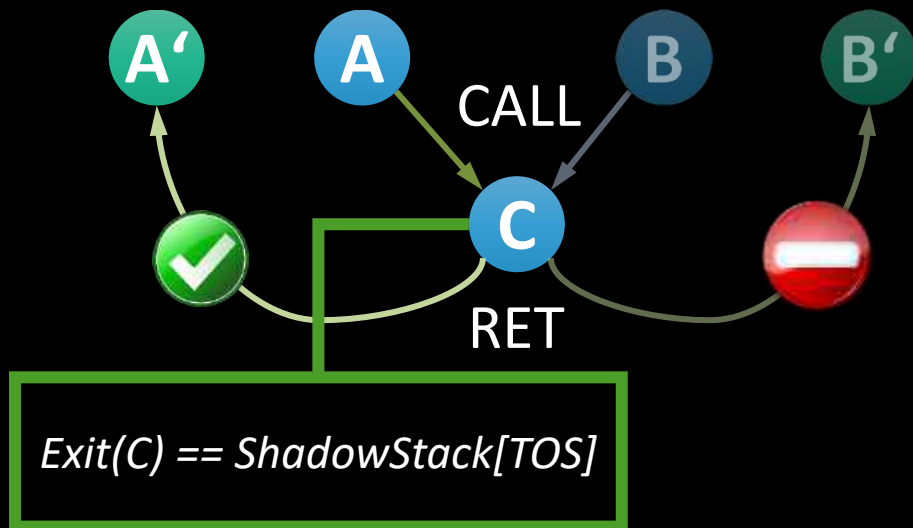
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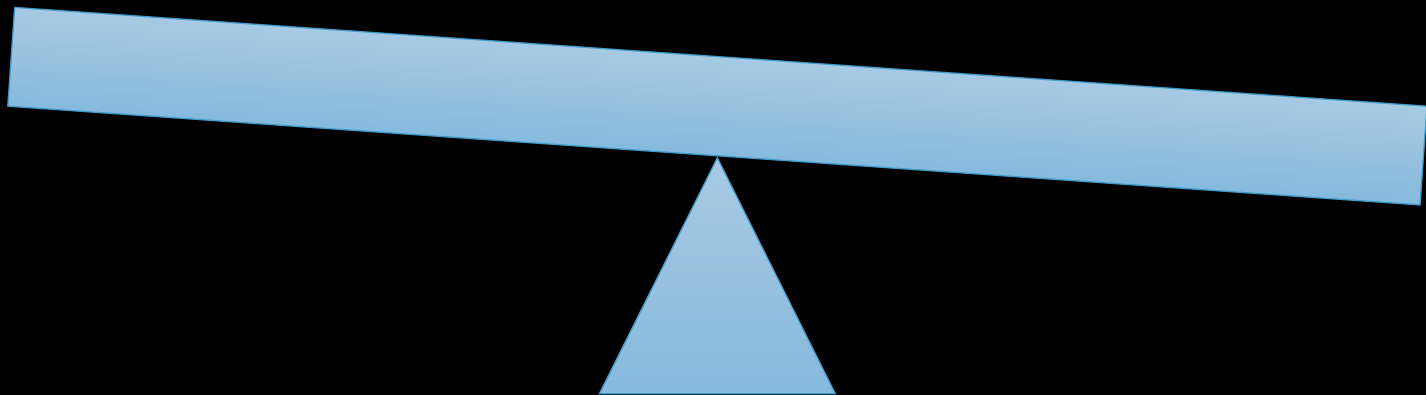


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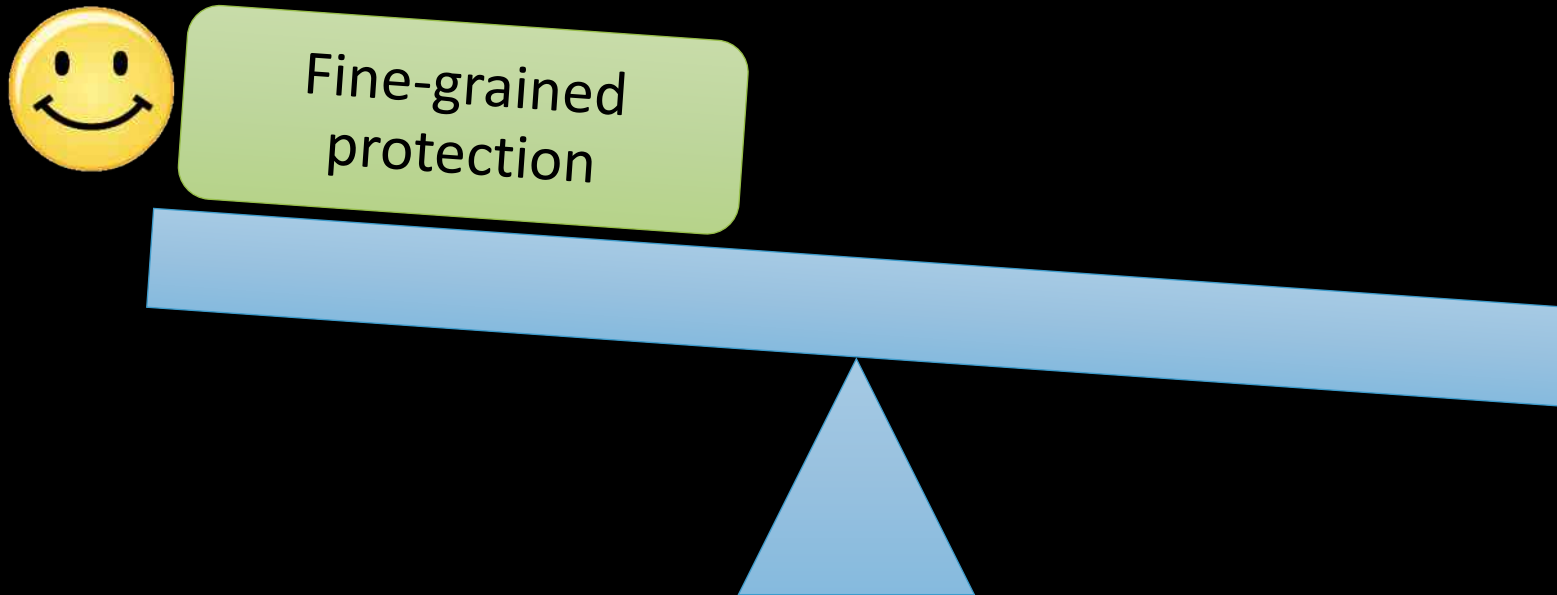
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CFI: Benefits and Limitations

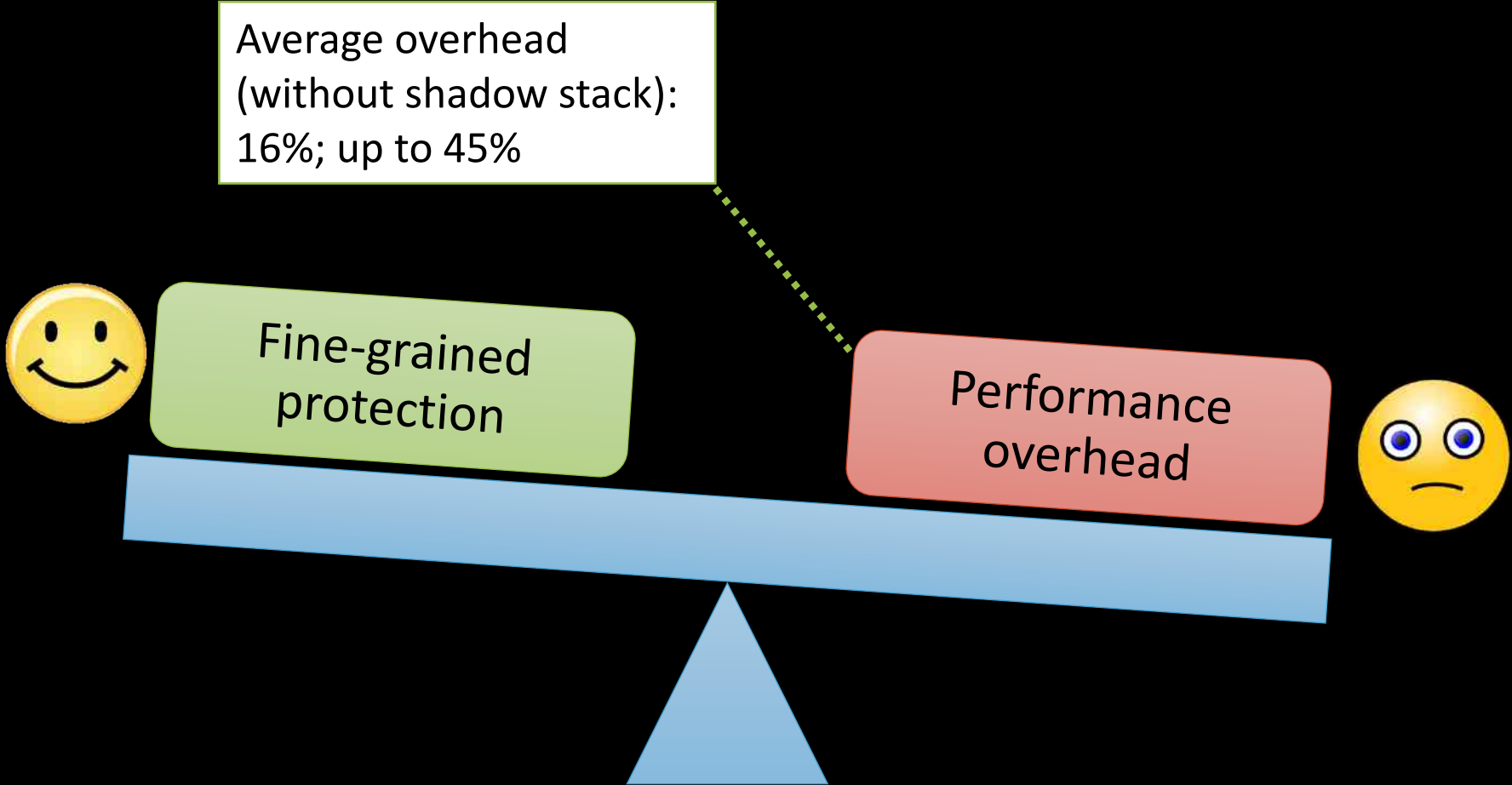


CFI: Benefits and Limitations



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Average overhead
(without shadow stack):
16%; up to 45%

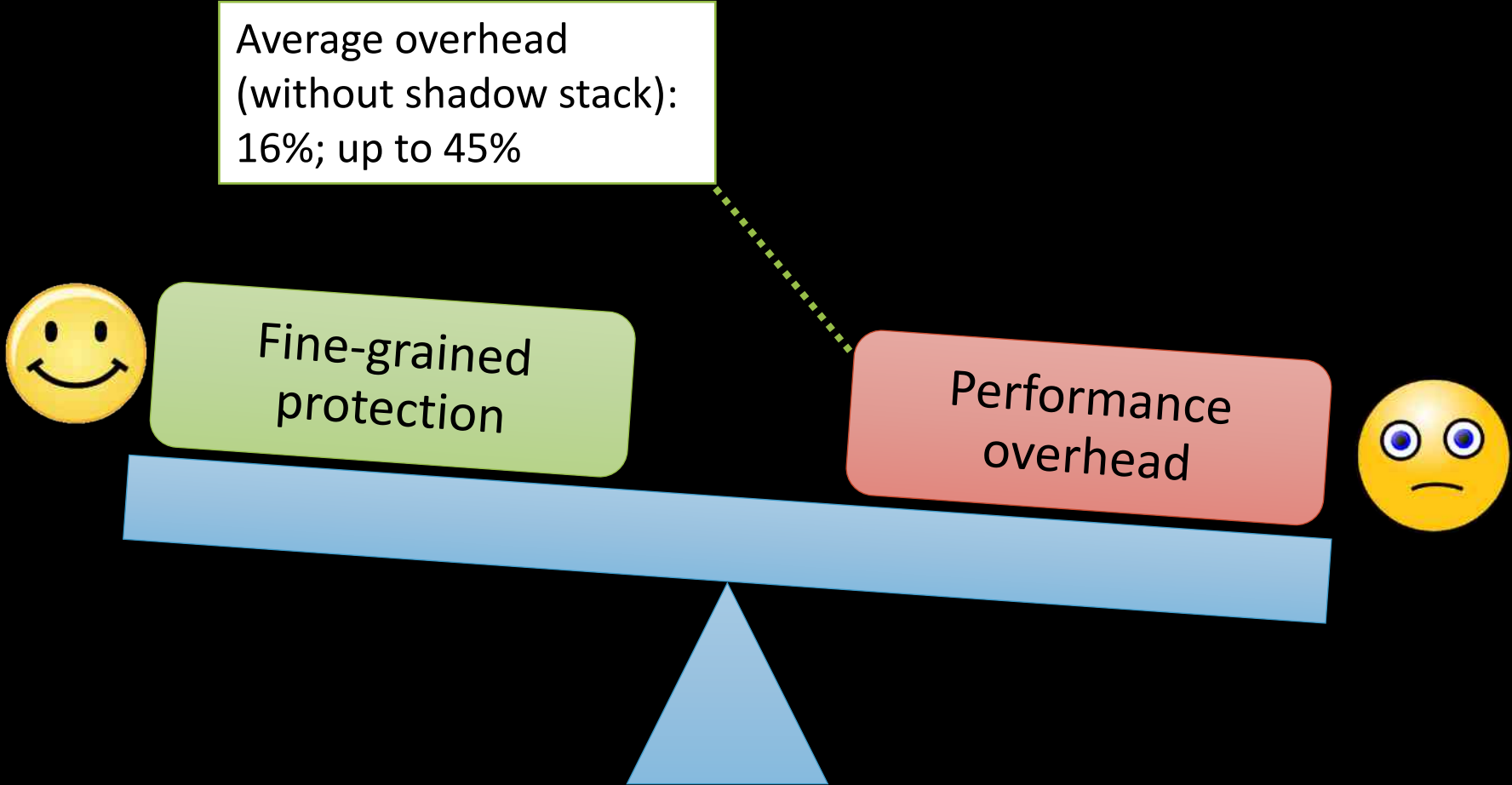


Fine-grained
protection

Performance
overhead

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Fine-grained
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Fine-grained
protection

Require side info
(debug symbols,
compiler support)

Performance
overhead



CFI: Benefits and Limitations

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Performance
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CFI: Benefits and Limitations

Average overhead
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Fine-grained
protection

Blackbox Vulcan
(unpublished)

Require side info
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Hot Research Topic:
“Practical” (coarse-grained)
Control Flow Integrity (CFI)

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Recently, many solutions proposed

CCFIR

[IEEE S&P'13]

ROPecker

[NDSS'14]

CFI for COTS
Binaries

[USENIX Sec'13]

kBouncer

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Hot Research Topic: “Practical” (coarse-grained) Control Flow Integrity (CFI)

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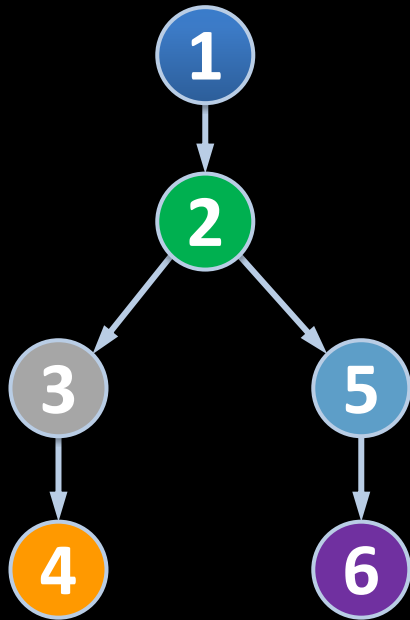
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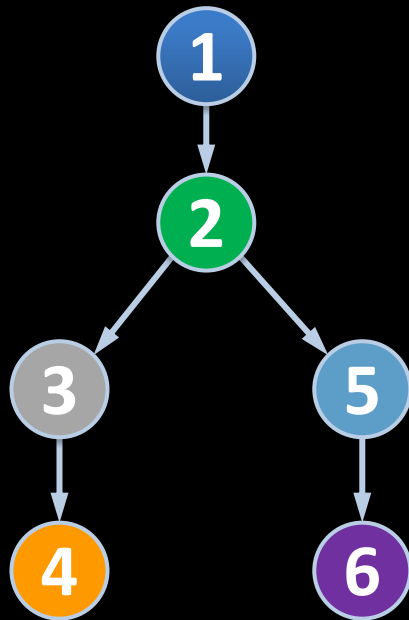
EMET

[http://technet.microsoft.com/
en-us/security/jj653751](http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/security/jj653751)

Coarse-grained CFI leads to CFG imprecision



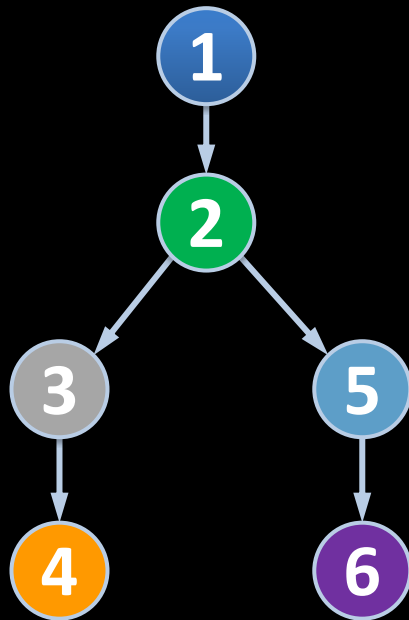
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Reducing
number of
labels



Coarse-grained CFI leads to CFG imprecision



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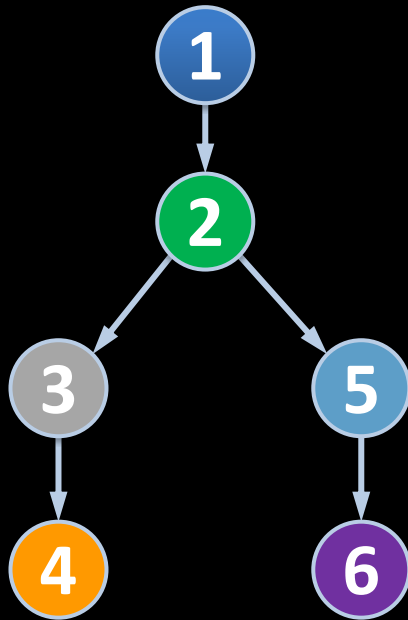


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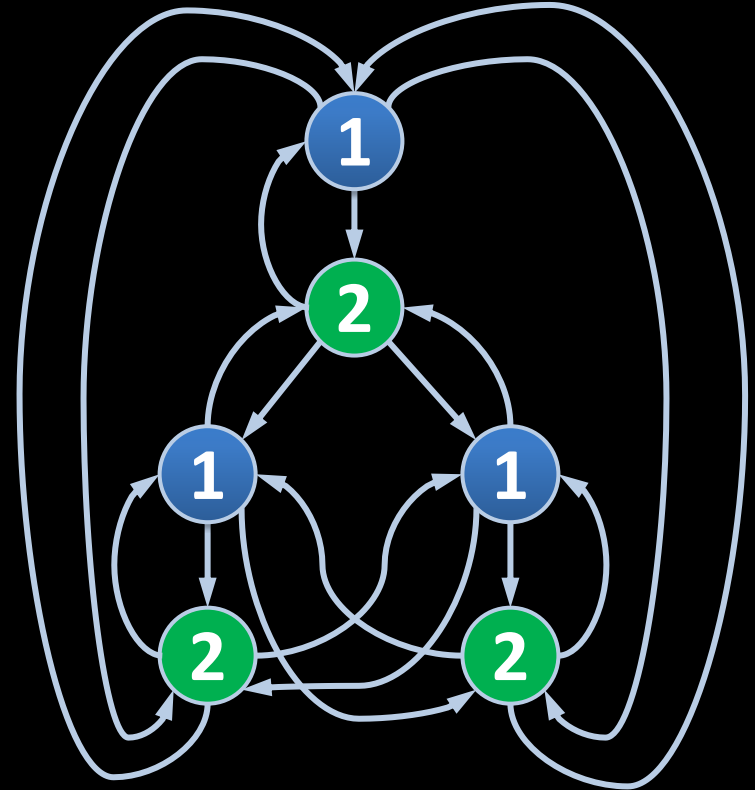


Coarse-grained CFI leads to CFG imprecision

Allowed paths: $1 \rightarrow 2$ and $2 \rightarrow 1$

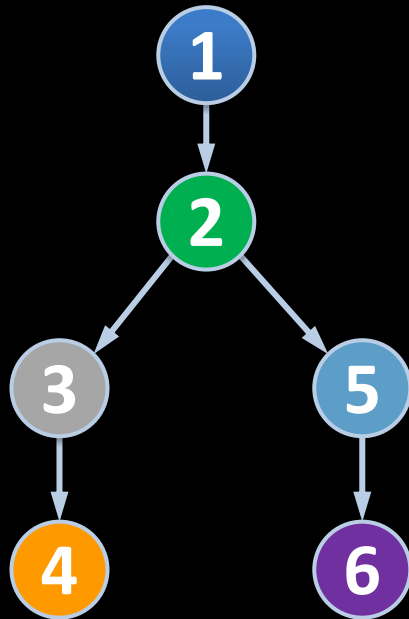


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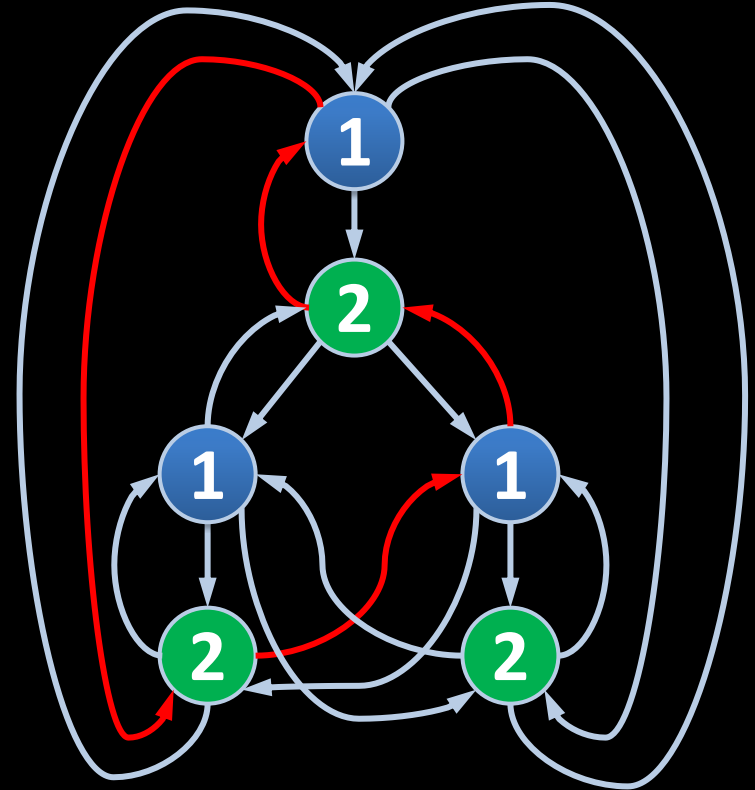


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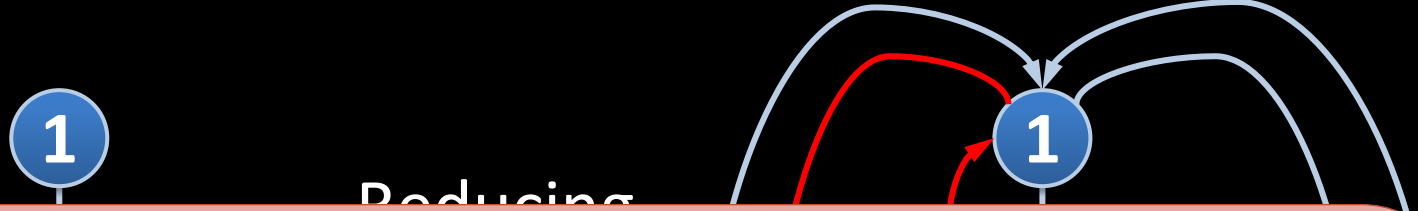


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Coarse-grained CFI leads to CFG imprecision

Allowed paths: 1→2 and 2→1



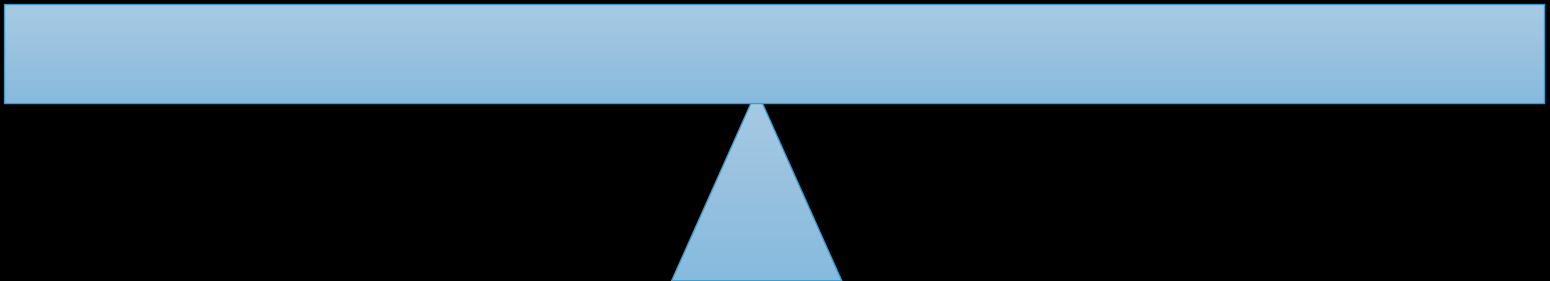
Many attacks have been proposed that exploit the coarse-grained checks of these CFI schemes

Out-of-Control [Goktas et al., IEEE S&P 2014]

Stitching the Gadgets [Davi et al., USENIX Sec. 2014]

ROP is still dangerous [Carlini and Wagner, USENIX Sec. 2014]

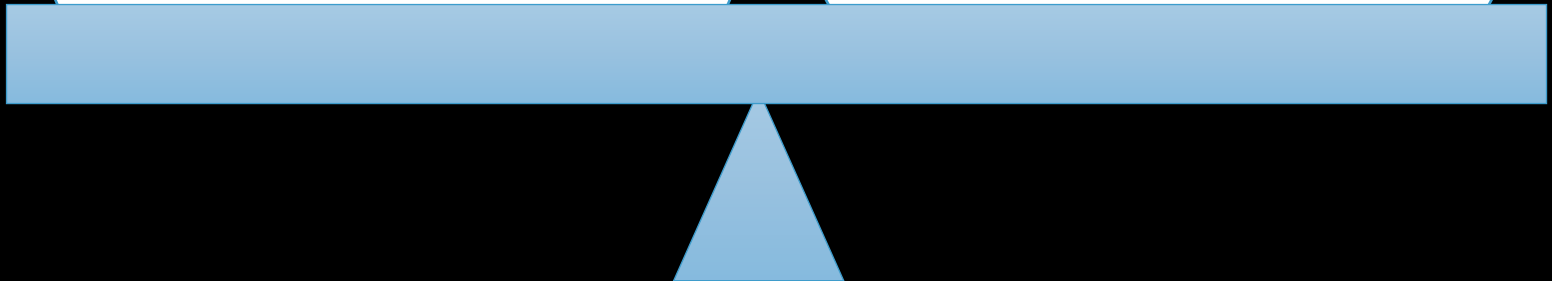
Randomization vs. CFI



Randomization vs. CFI

Randomization

Control-flow Integrity



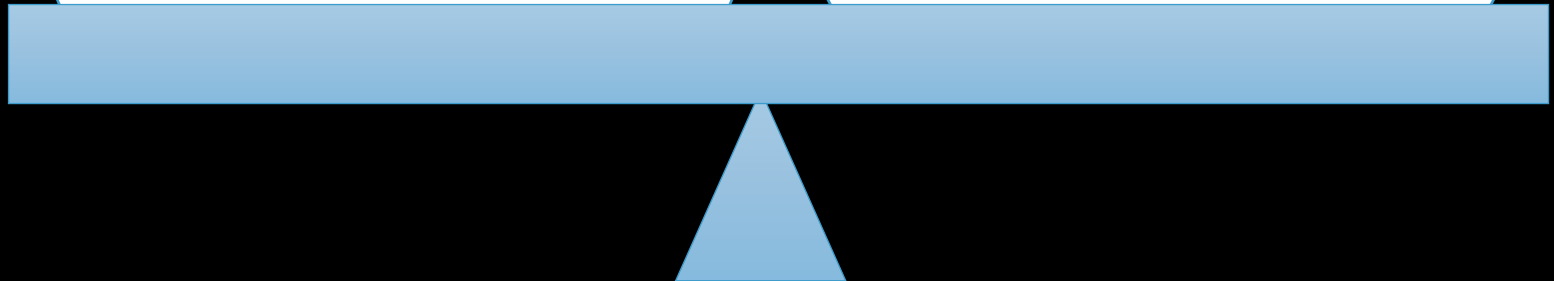
Randomization vs. CFI

Randomization

Low Performance
Overhead

Scales well to complex
Software (OS, browser)

Control-flow Integrity



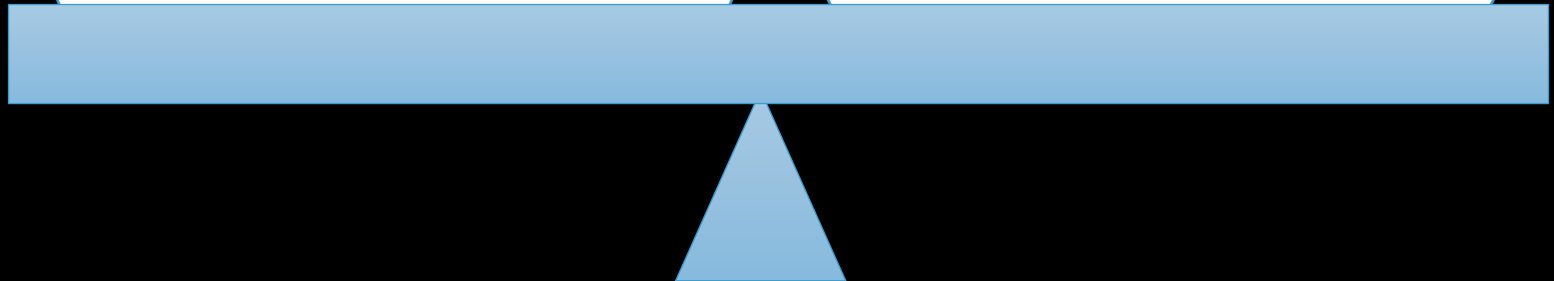
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Randomization vs. CFI

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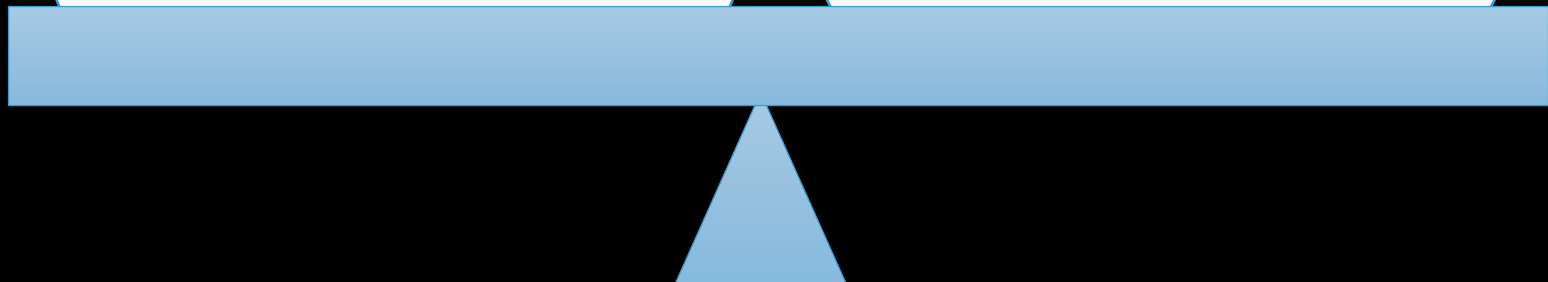
Low Performance
Overhead

Scales well to complex
Software (OS, browser)

Memory disclosure hard
to prevent

High entropy required

Control-flow Integrity



Randomization vs. CFI

Randomization

Low Performance
Overhead

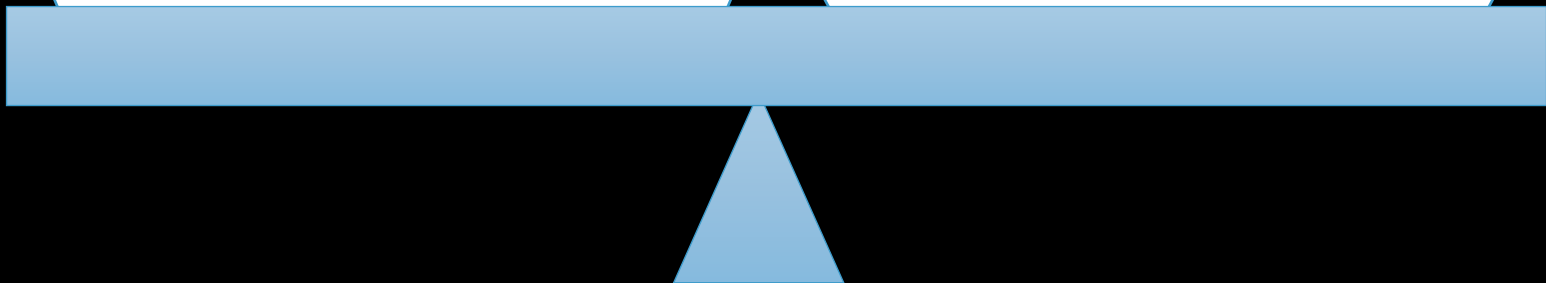
Scales well to complex
Software (OS, browser)

Memory disclosure hard
to prevent

High entropy required

Control-flow Integrity

Formal security
(Explicit Control Flow
Checks)



Randomization vs. CFI

Randomization

Low Performance
Overhead

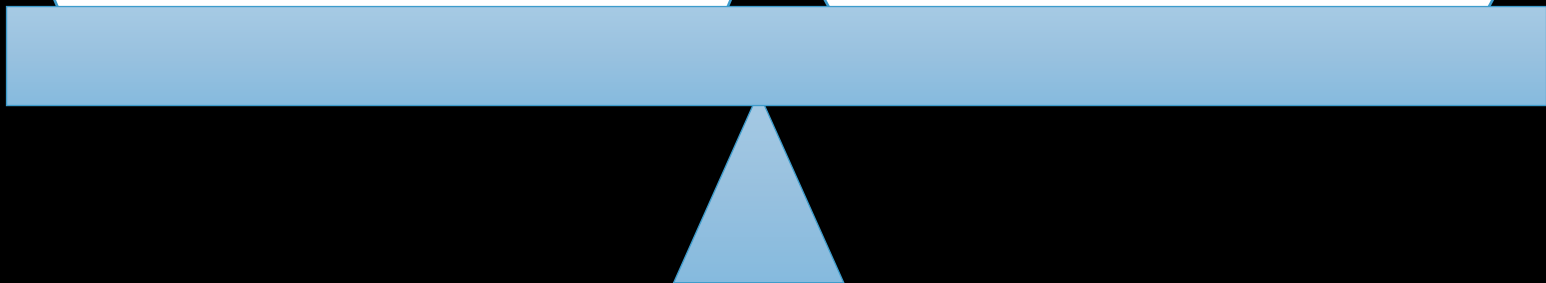
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High entropy required

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Formal security
(Explicit Control Flow
Checks)



Randomization vs. CFI

Randomization

Low Performance
Overhead

Scales well to complex
Software (OS, browser)

Memory disclosure hard
to prevent

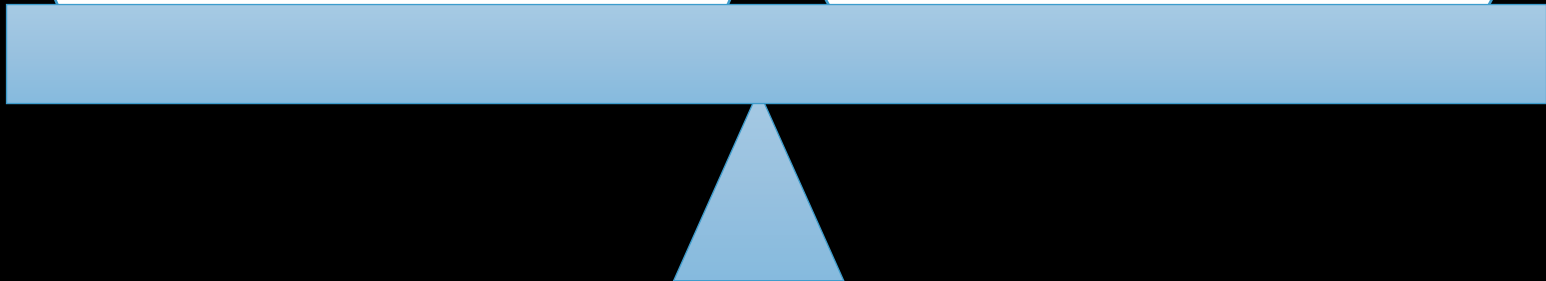
High entropy required

Control-flow Integrity

Formal security
(Explicit Control Flow
Checks)

Tradeoff:
Performance & Security

Challenging to integrate
in complex software,
coverage



Overview

Background on Run-Time Attacks



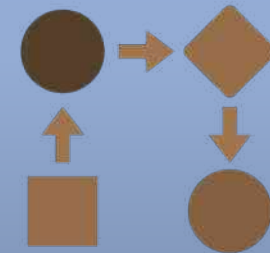
Building Code Randomization Defenses



Code-Reuse Attacks



Building Control-Flow Integrity Defenses



Data-Oriented Exploits

Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

[Shacham, ACM CCS 2007]

[Schuster et al., IEEE S&P 2015]

Non-Control-Data Attack

[Chen et al., USENIX Sec. 2005]

[Hu et al., USENIX Sec. 2015]



Adversary

-----> Memory write

-----> Program flow

Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

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Adversary

-----> Memory write

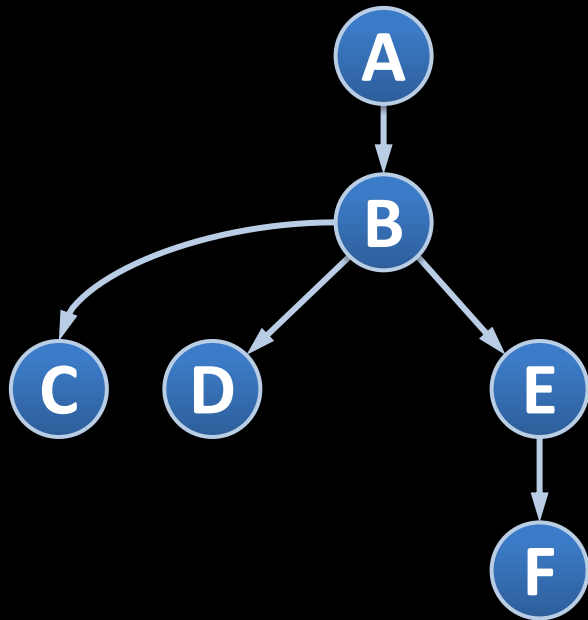
-----> Program flow

Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

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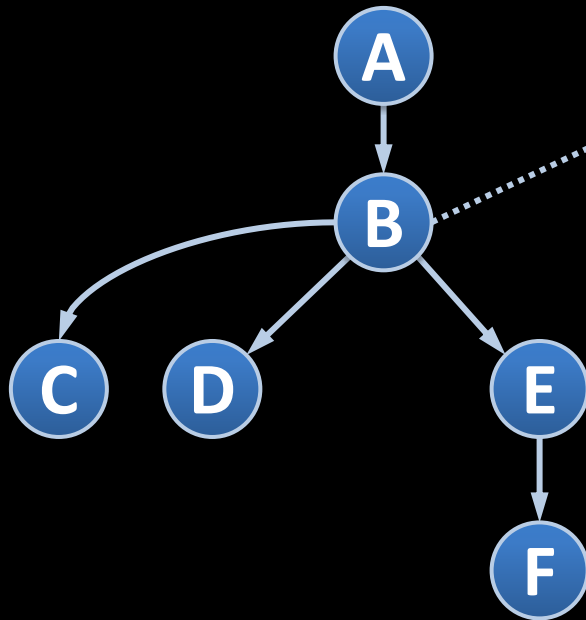
Adversary

--- Memory write
— Program flow

Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

[Shacham, ACM CCS 2007]
[Schuster et al., IEEE S&P 2015]



Basic Block

ENTRY
asm_ins, ...
EXIT



Adversary

Non-Control-Data Attack

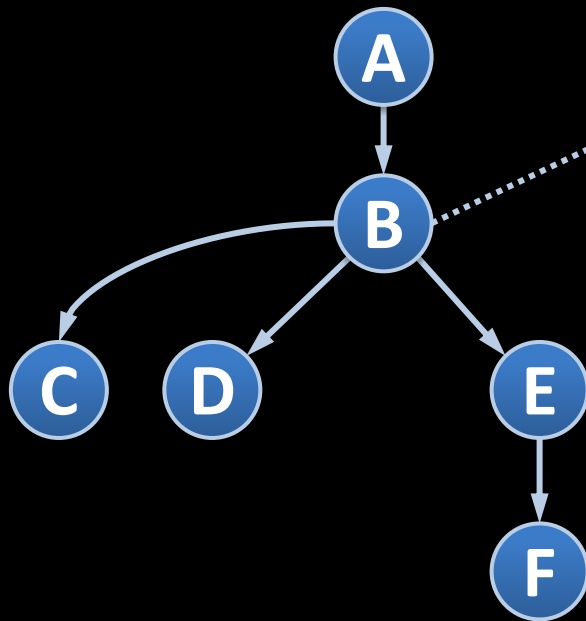
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--- Memory write
— Program flow

Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

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Basic Block

ENTRY
asm_ins, ...
EXIT



Adversary

Non-Control-Data Attack

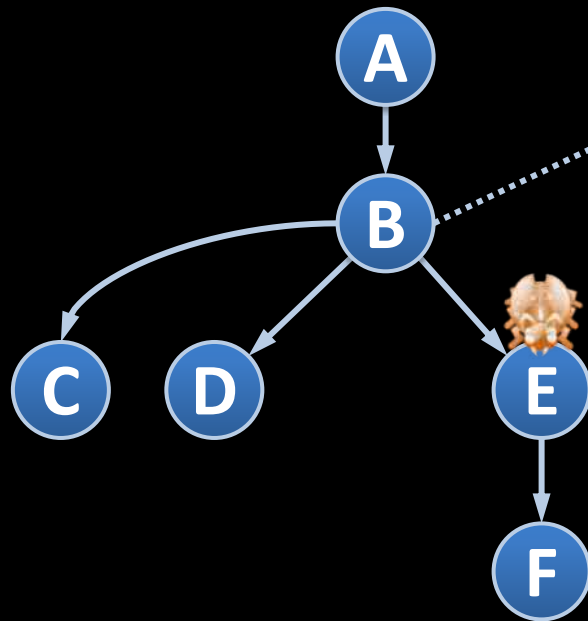
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---> Memory write
--> Program flow

Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

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Basic Block

ENTRY
asm_ins, ...
EXIT



Adversary

Non-Control-Data Attack

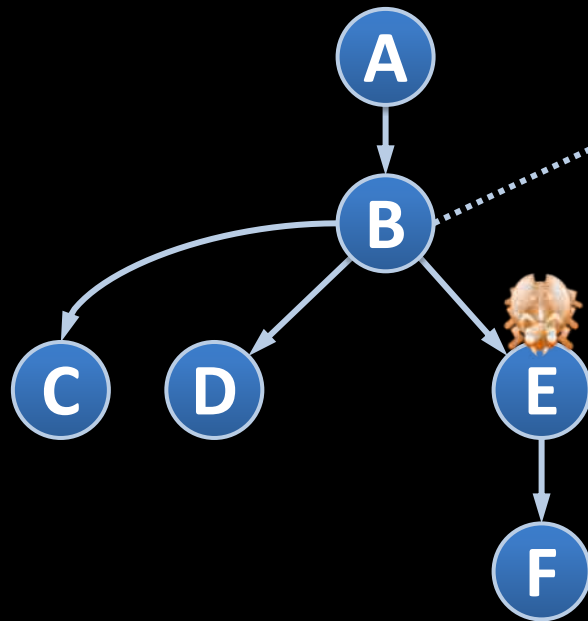
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Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

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Basic Block

ENTRY
asm_ins, ...
EXIT



Adversary

Non-Control-Data Attack

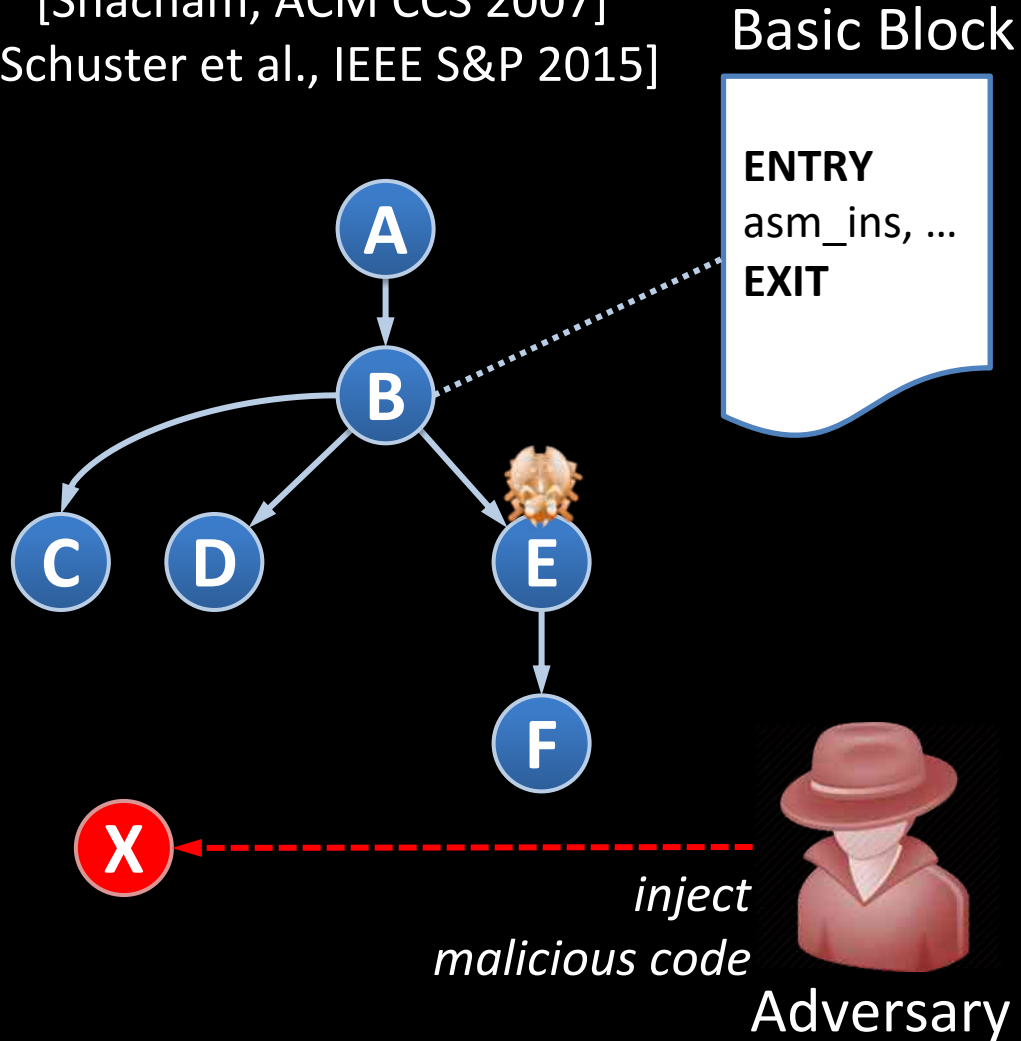
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--- Memory write
— Program flow

Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

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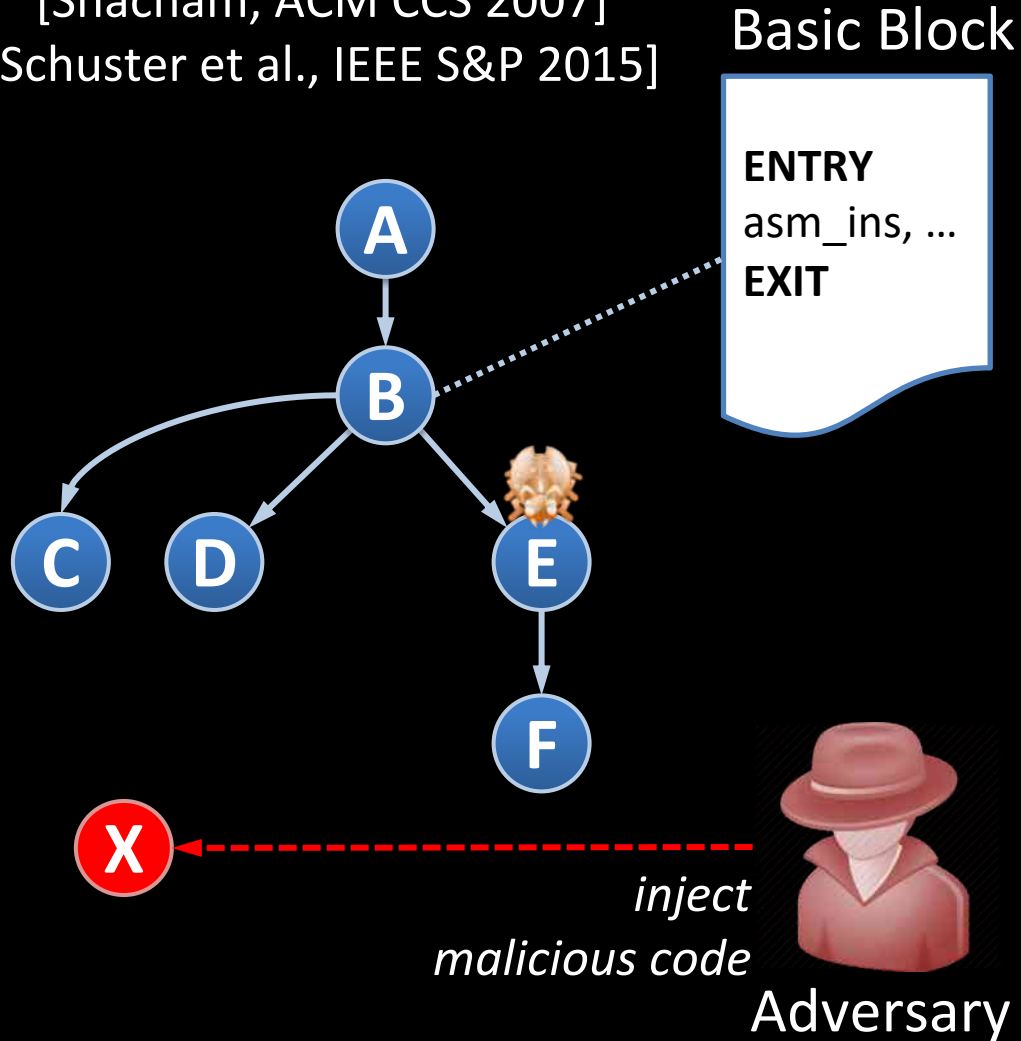
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Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

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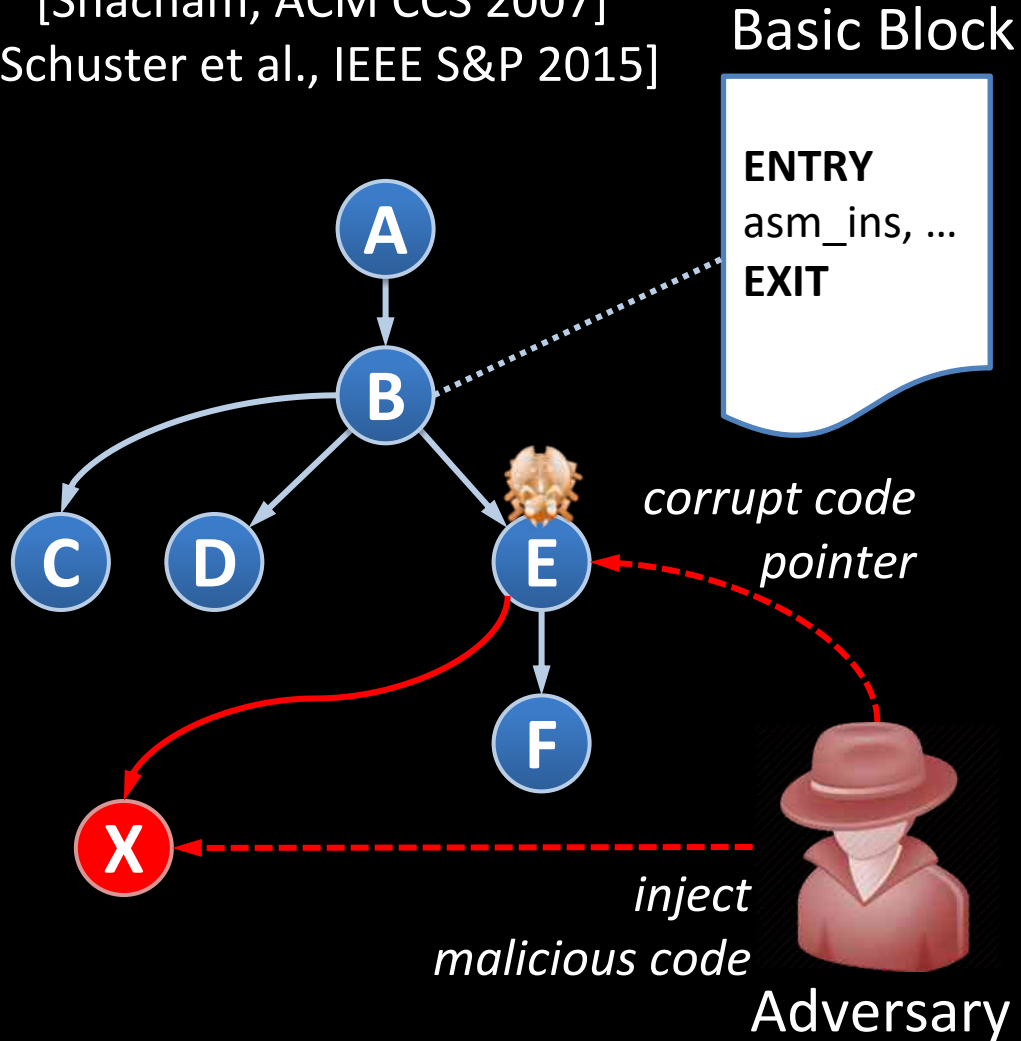
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Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

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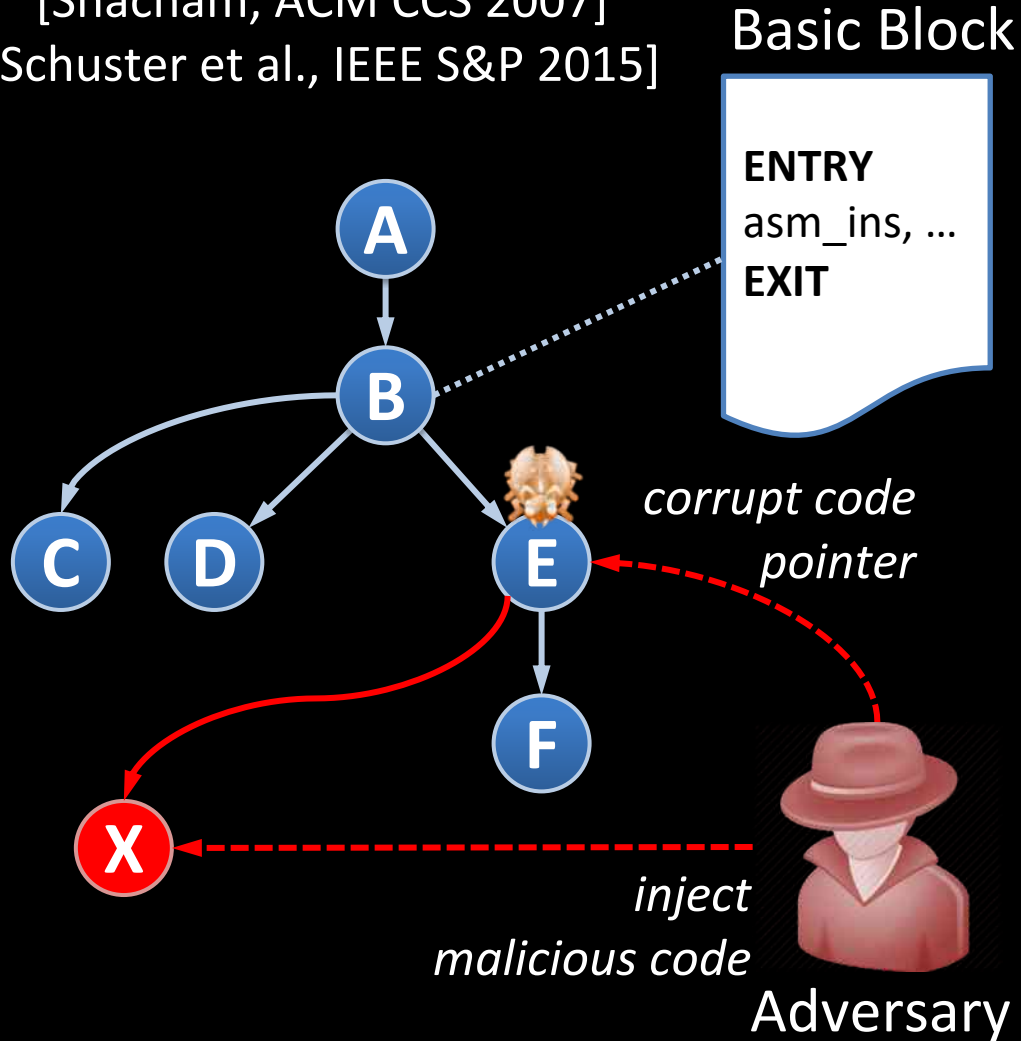
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Control-Flow Attack

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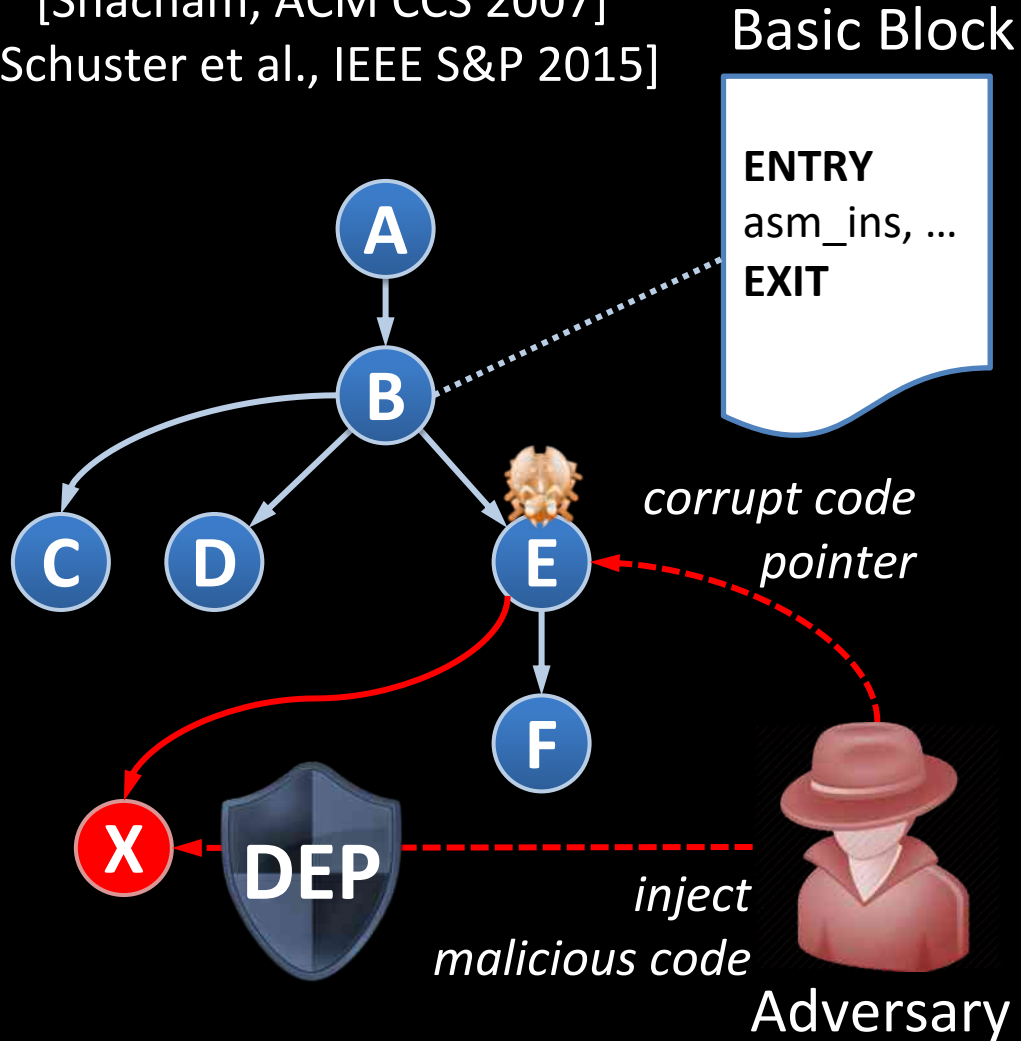
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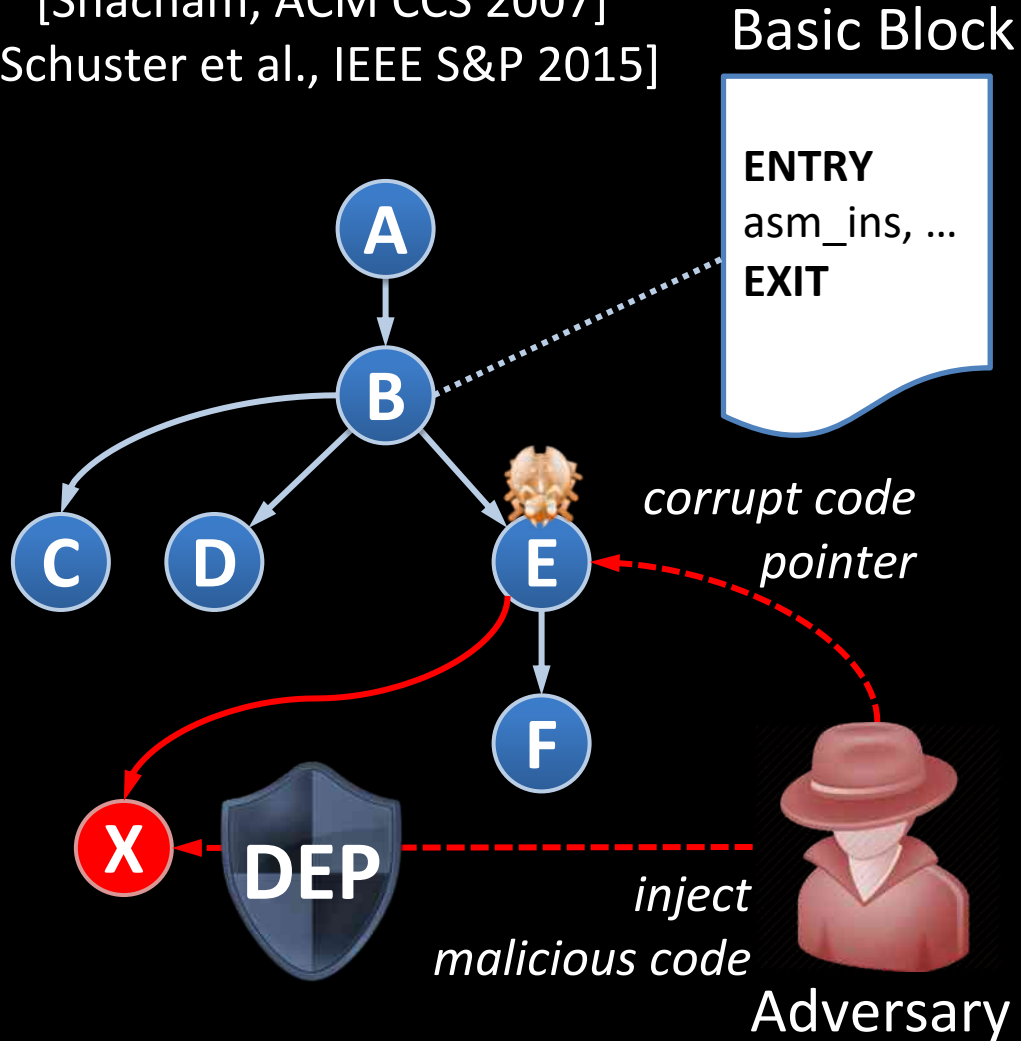
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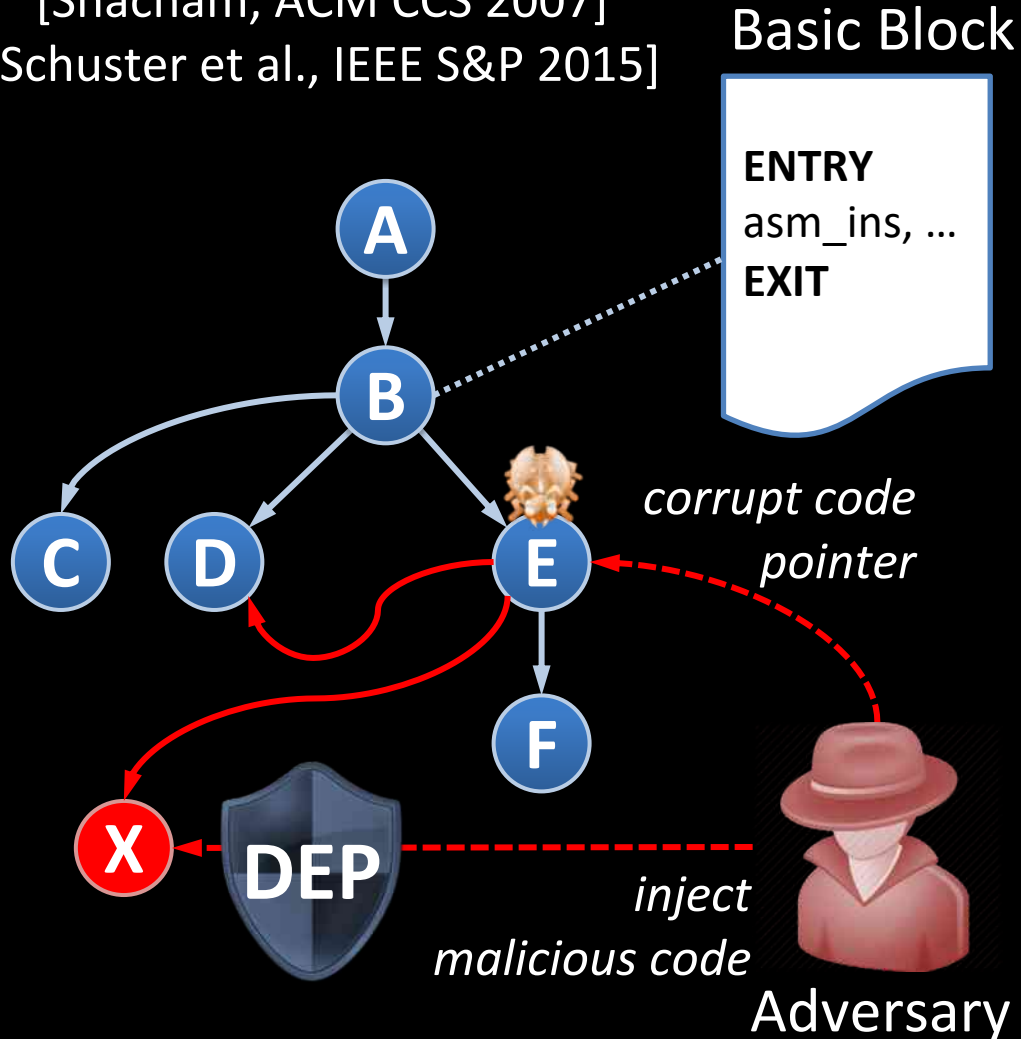
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Non-Control-Data Attack

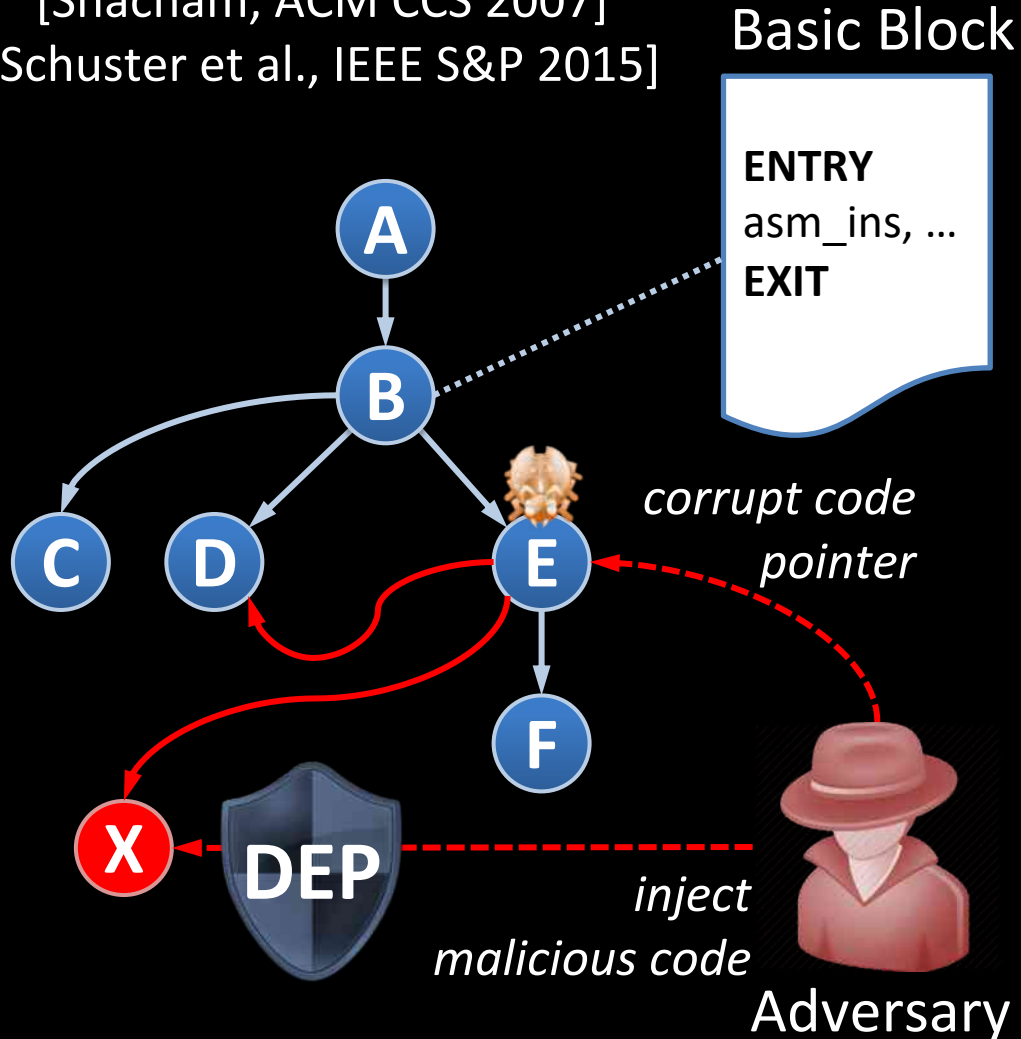
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-----> Memory write
-----> Program flow

Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

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Non-Control-Data Attack

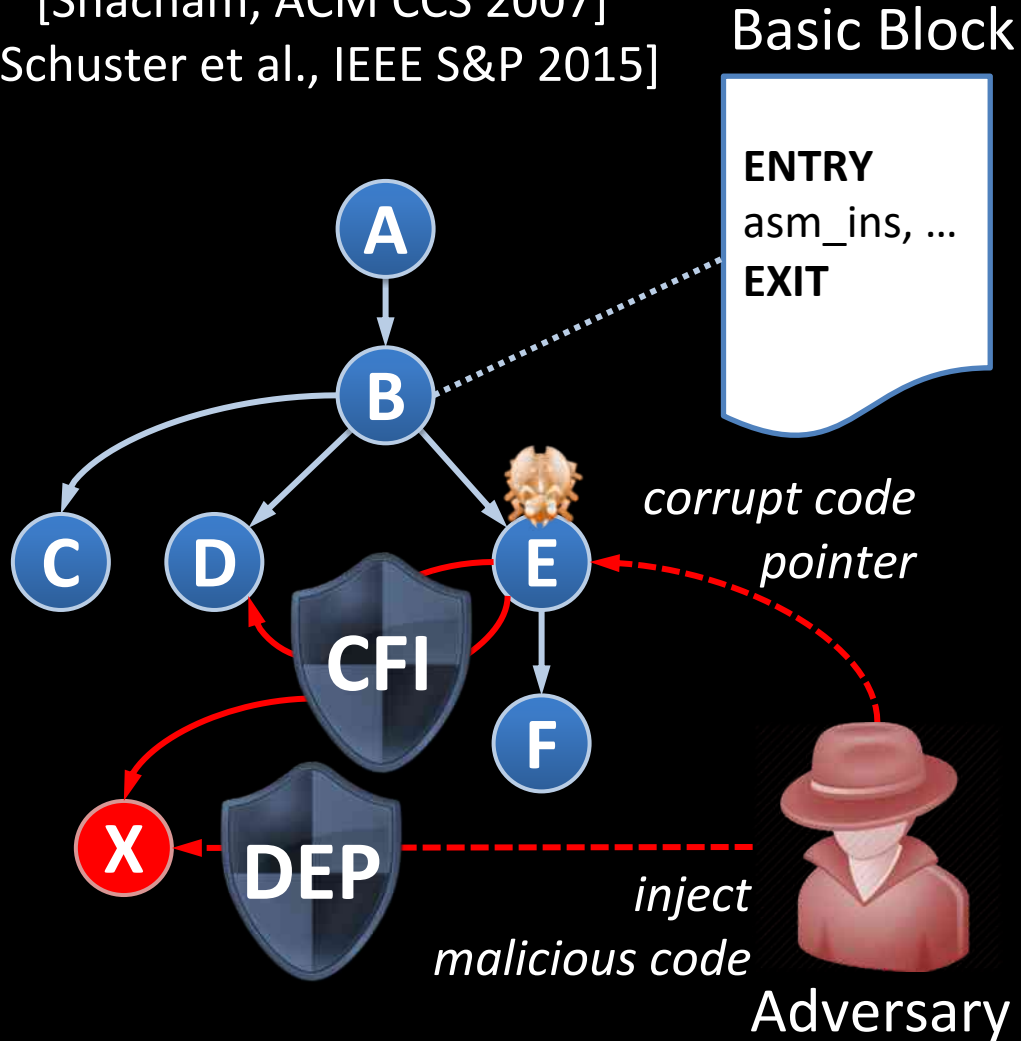
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-----> Memory write
-----> Program flow

Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

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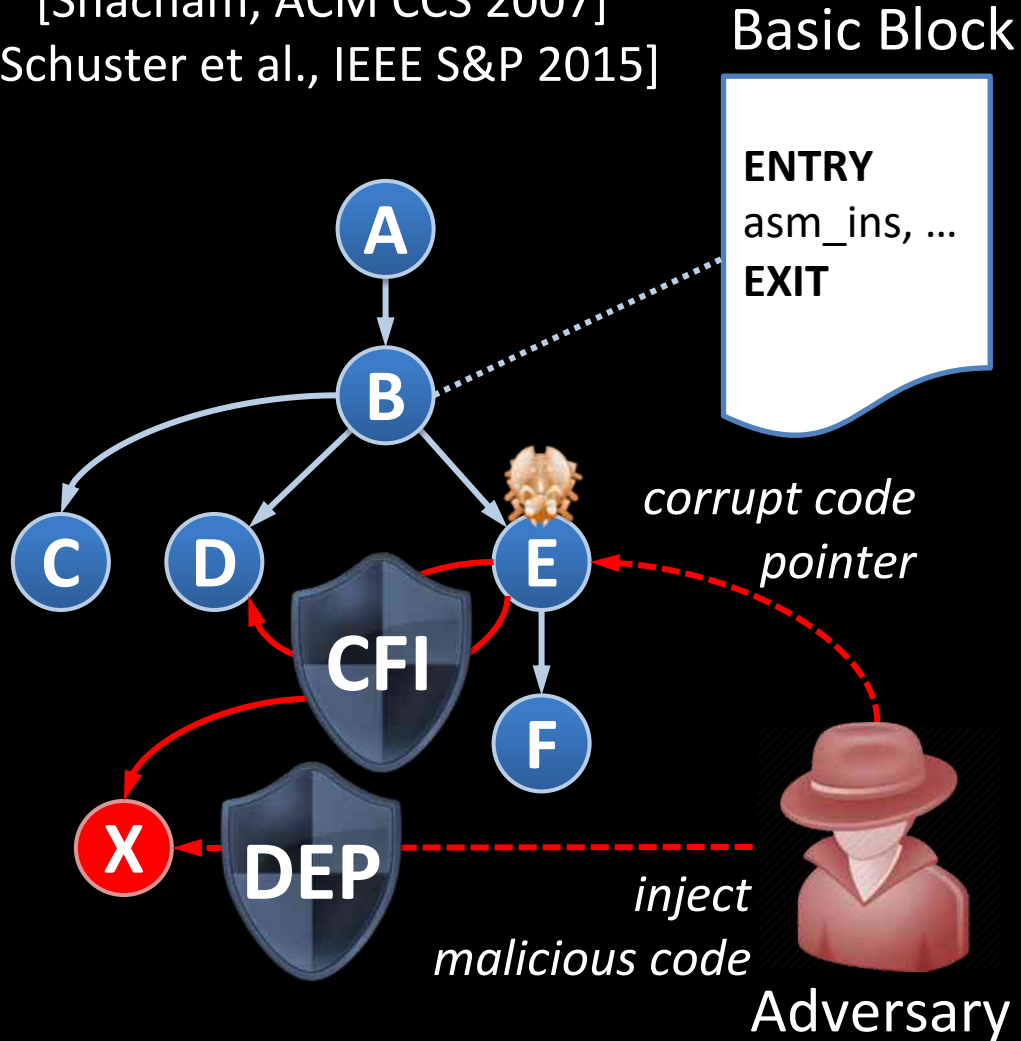
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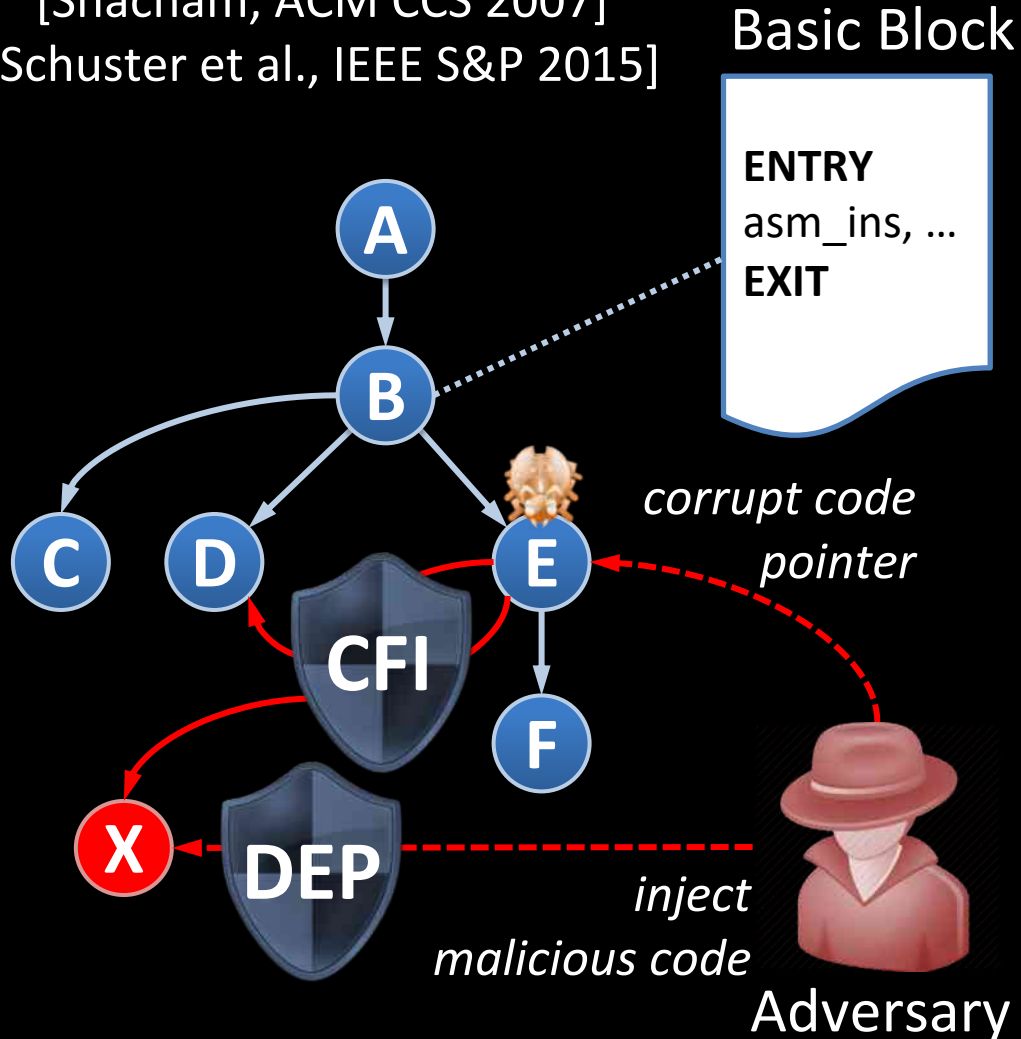
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Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

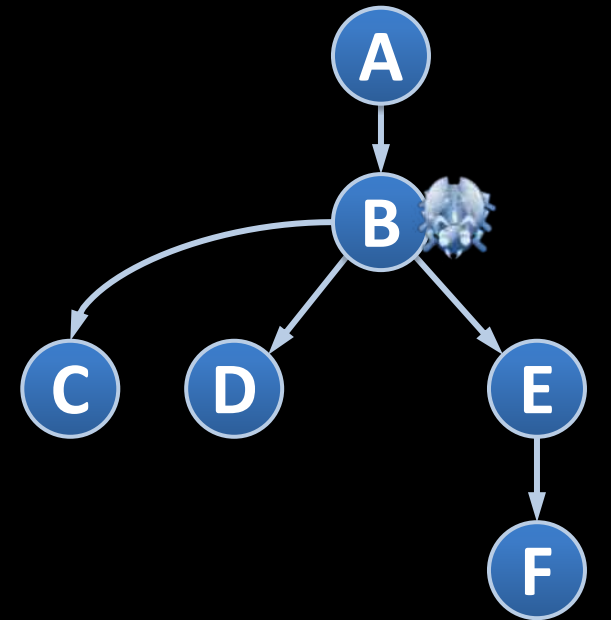
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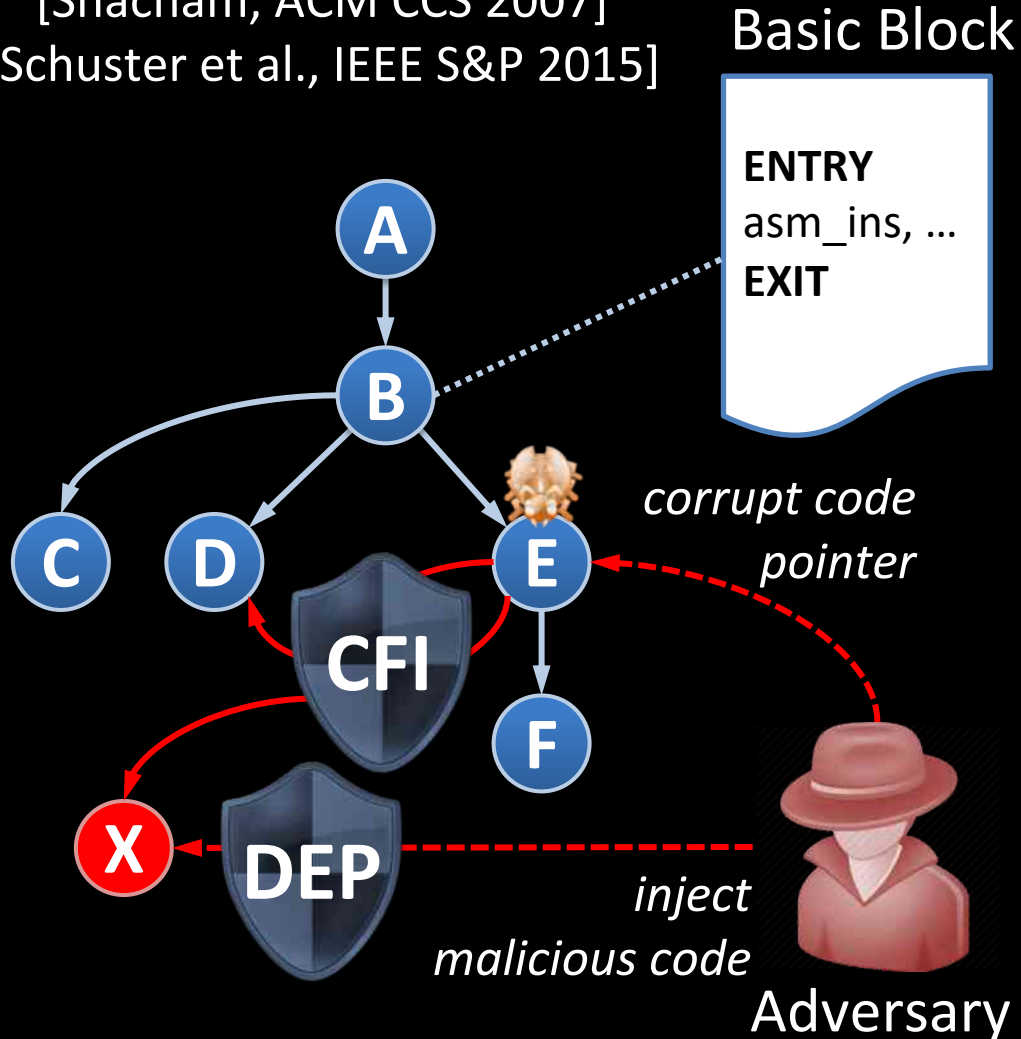
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Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

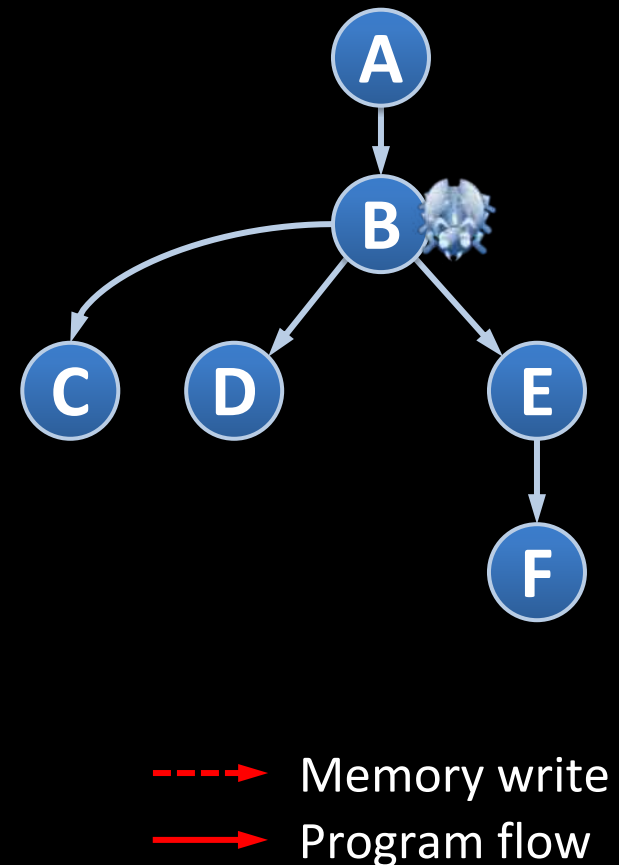
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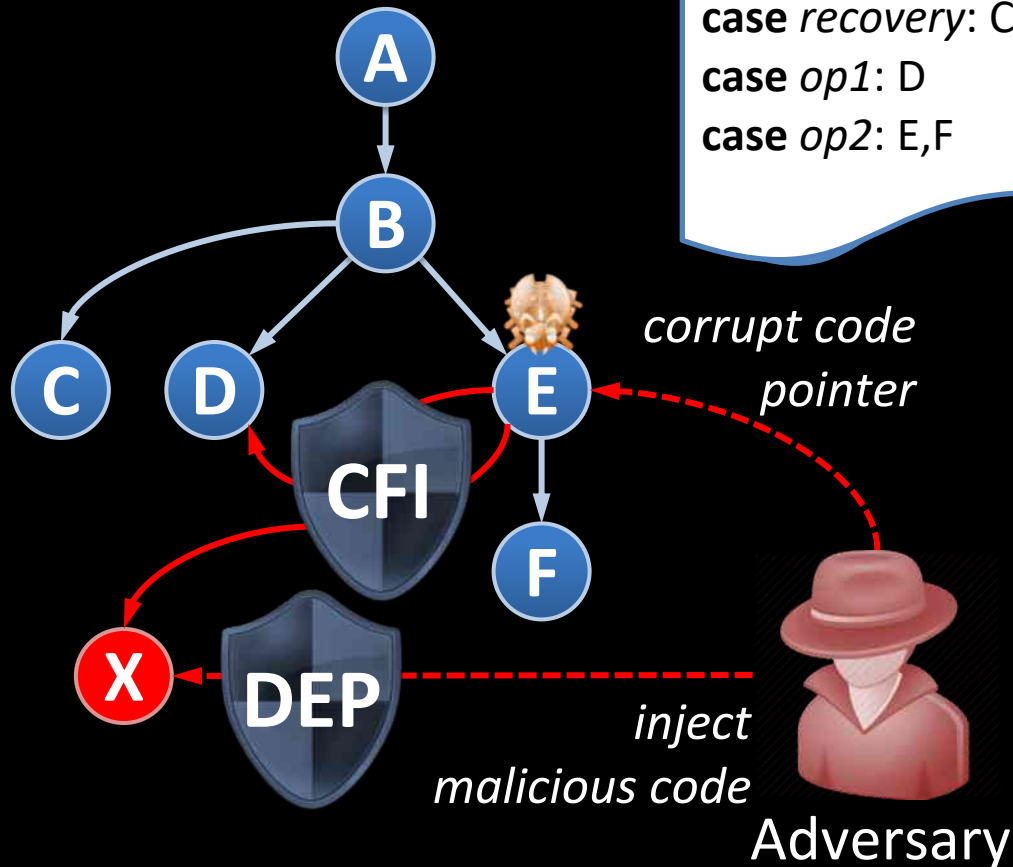
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Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

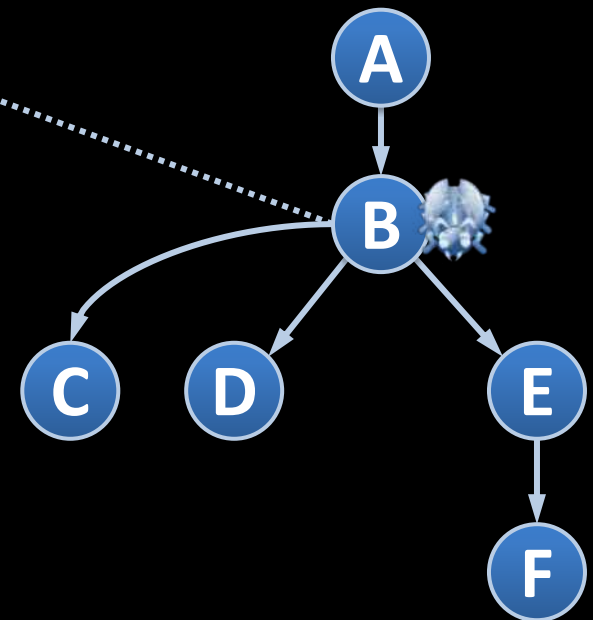
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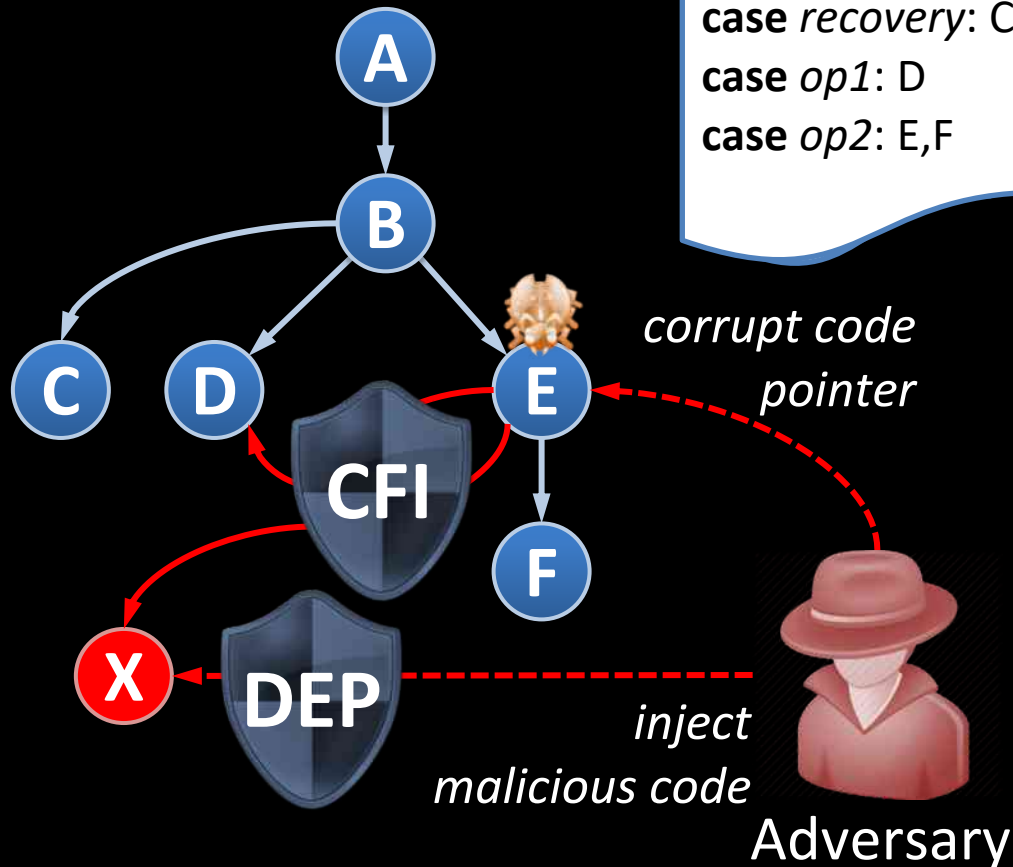
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Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

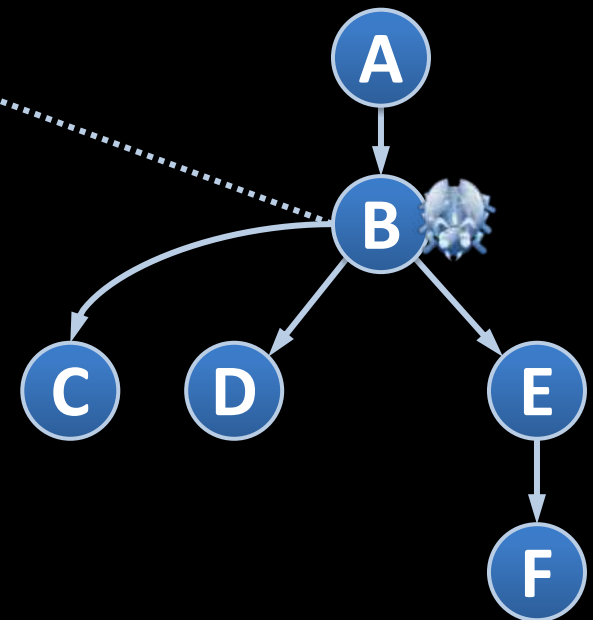
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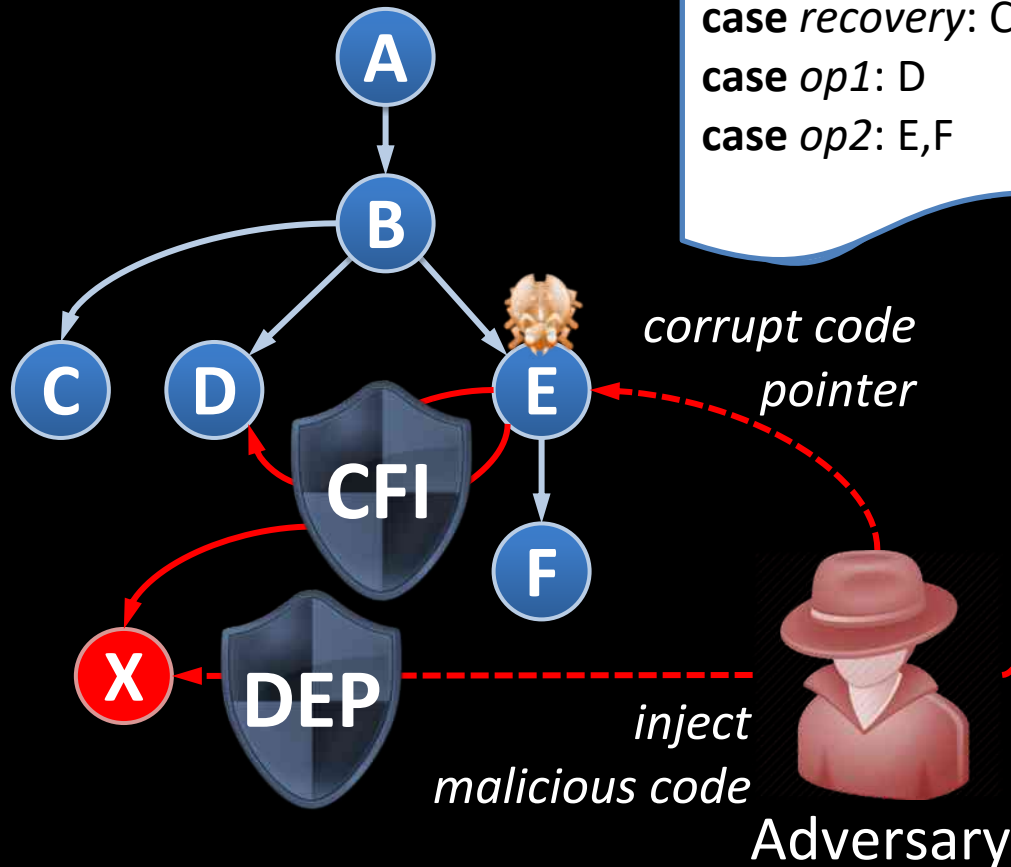
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Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

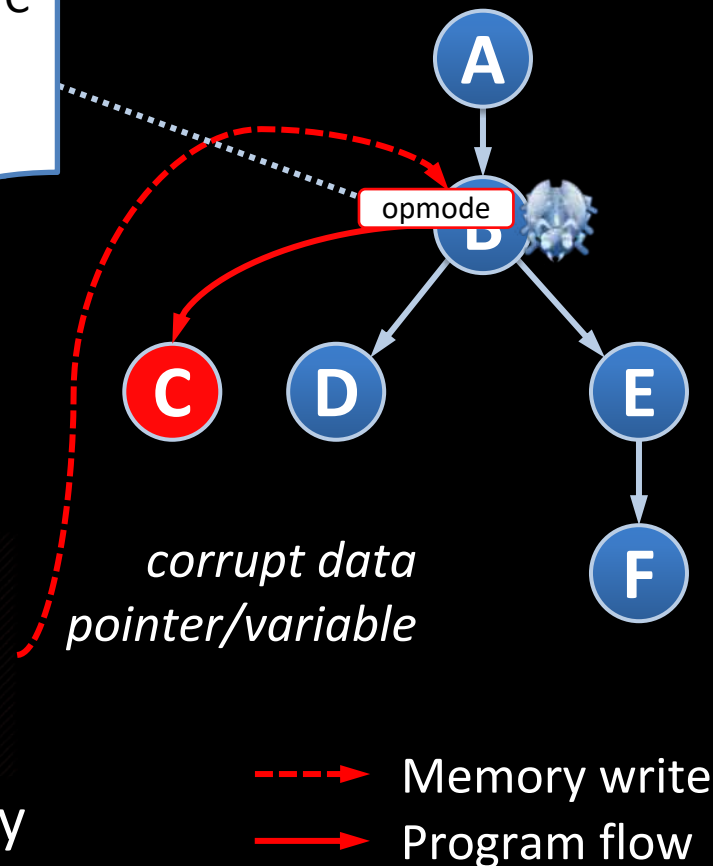
Control-Flow Attack

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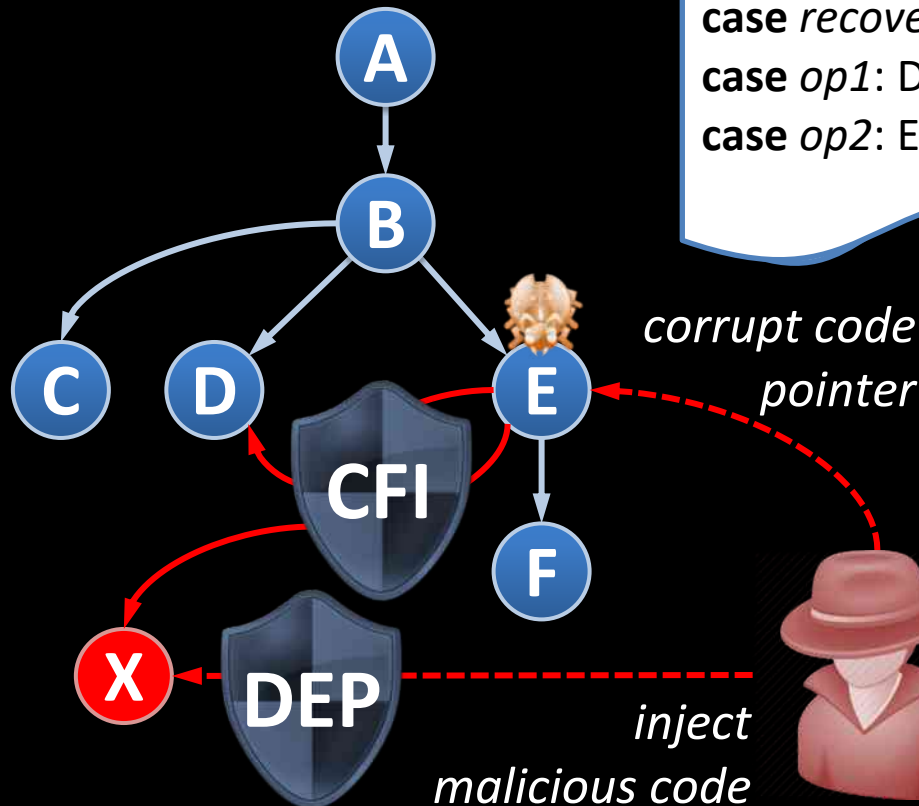
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Problem Space of Zero-Day Exploits

Control-Flow Attack

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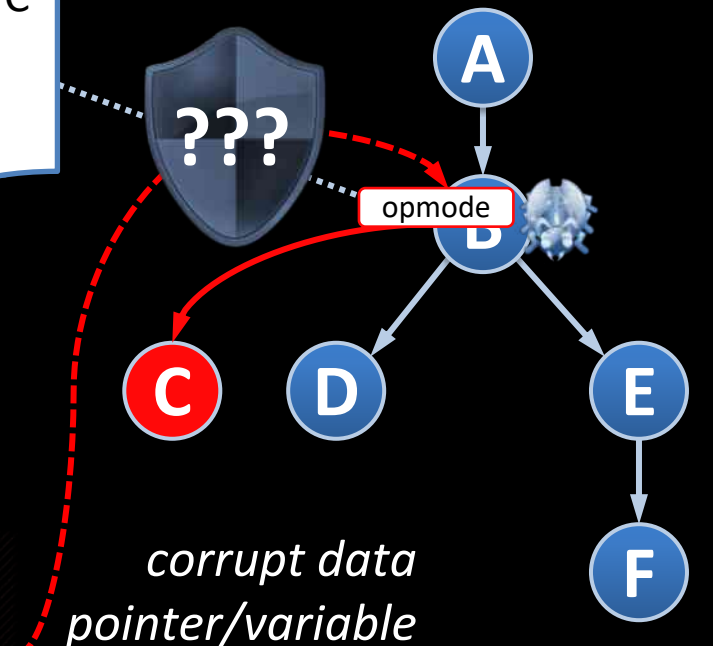


Basic Block

```
switch(opmode)  
case recovery: C  
case op1: D  
case op2: E, F
```

Non-Control-Data Attack

[Chen et al., USENIX Sec. 2005]
[Hu et al., USENIX Sec. 2015]



--- Memory write
— Program flow

Adversary

Control-Flow Hijacking on Example Code

```
int main() {  
    /* ... */  
    user_t user;  
    /* ... */  
    update_name(&user);  
    /* ... */  
}
```

Stack

0x00000000

...

return address

0xffffffff

Control-Flow Hijacking on Example Code

```
int main() {  
    /* ... */  
    user_t user;  
    /* ... */  
    update_name(&user);  
    /* ... */  
}
```

```
typedef struct {  
    char name[32];  
    unsigned id;  
} user_t;
```

Stack allocated

Stack
0x00000000

...

return address

0xffffffff

Control-Flow Hijacking on Example Code

```
int main() {  
    /* ... */  
    user_t user;  
    /* ... */  
    update_name(&user);  
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typedef struct {  
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Stack allocated

Stack
0x00000000

...

return address

0xffffffff

Control-Flow Hijacking on Example Code

```
int main() {  
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    user_t user;  
    /* ... */  
    update_name(&user);  
    /* ... */  
}
```

```
typedef struct {  
    char name[32];  
    unsigned id;  
} user_t;
```

Stack allocated

Stack

0x00000000

user.name[0]

user.name[8]

user.name[16]

user.name[24]

user.id

...

return address

0xffffffff

Control-Flow Hijacking on Example Code

```
int main() {  
    /* ... */  
    user_t user;  
    /* ... */  
    update_name(&user);  
    /* ... */  
}
```

Stack allocated

```
typedef struct {  
    char name[32];  
    unsigned id;  
} user_t;
```

```
void update_name(user_t* user) {  
    fgets(user->name, 128, stdin);  
}
```

Stack

0x00000000

user.name[0]

user.name[8]

user.name[16]

user.name[24]

user.id

...

return address

0xffffffff

Control-Flow Hijacking on Example Code

```
int main() {  
    /* ... */  
    user_t user;  
    /* ... */  
    update_name(&user);  
    /* ... */  
}
```

Stack allocated

Stack

0x00000000

user.name[0]

user.name[8]

user.name[16]

user.name[24]

user.id

...

return address

0xffffffff

```
typedef struct {  
    char name[32];  
    unsigned id;  
} user_t;
```

Length
mismatch

```
void update_name(user_t* user) {  
    fgets(user->name, 128, stdin);  
}
```


Control-Flow Hijacking on Example Code

```
int main() {  
    /* ... */  
    user_t user;  
    /* ... */  
    update_name(&user);  
    /* ... */  
}
```

Stack allocated

Stack

0x00000000

user.name[0]

user.name[8]

user.name[16]

user.name[24]

user.id

...

return address

0xffffffff

```
typedef struct {  
    char name[32];  
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Length
mismatch

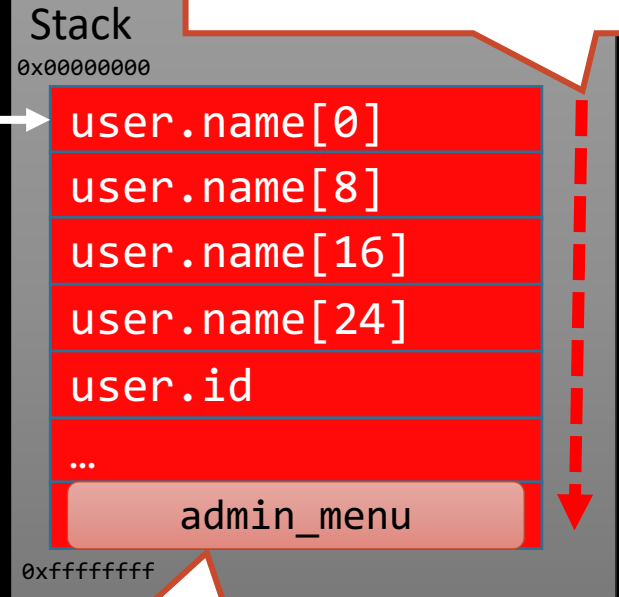
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void update_name(user_t* user) {  
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```

Control-Flow Hijacking on Example Code

```
int main() {  
    /* ... */  
    user_t user;  
    /* ... */  
    update_name(&user);  
    /* ... */  
}
```

Stack allocated

Buffer Overflow



```
typedef struct {  
    char name[32];  
    unsigned id;  
} user_t;
```

Length
mismatch

```
void update_name(user_t* user) {  
    fgets(user->name, 128, stdin);  
}
```

Return to a different
address.
Attacker redirects to
target function.

Data-Only Exploit on Example Code

```
int main() {  
    /* ... */  
    update_name(&user);  
    /* ... */  
    admin_access(&user);  
    /* ... */  
}
```

Stack

0x00000000

user.name[0]

user.name[8]

user.name[16]

user.name[24]

user.id

...

return address

0xffffffff

Data-Only Exploit on Example Code

```
int main() {  
    /* ... */  
    update_name(&user);  
    /* ... */  
    admin_access(&user);  
    /* ... */  
}
```

```
void update_name(user_t* user) {  
    fgets(user->name, 128, stdin);  
}
```

Stack

0x00000000

user.name[0]

user.name[8]

user.name[16]

user.name[24]

user.id

...

return address

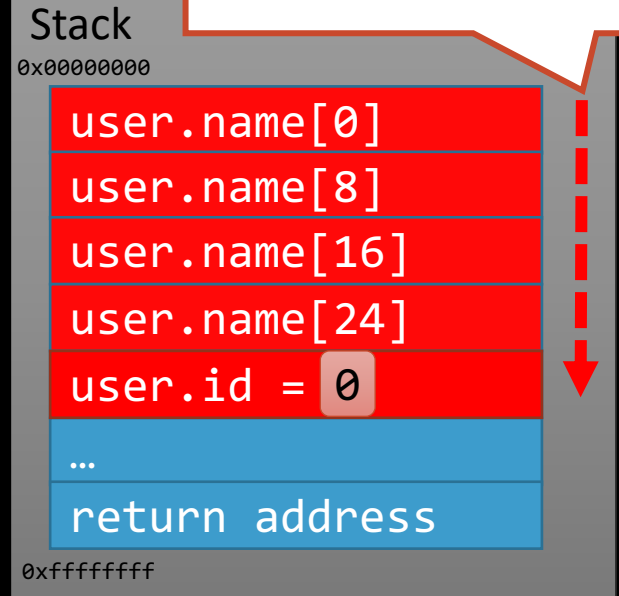
0xffffffff

Data-Only Exploit on Example Code

```
int main() {  
    /* ... */  
    update_name(&user);  
    /* ... */  
    admin_access(&user);  
    /* ... */  
}
```

```
void update_name(user_t* user) {  
    fgets(user->name, 128, stdin);  
}
```

Buffer Overflow



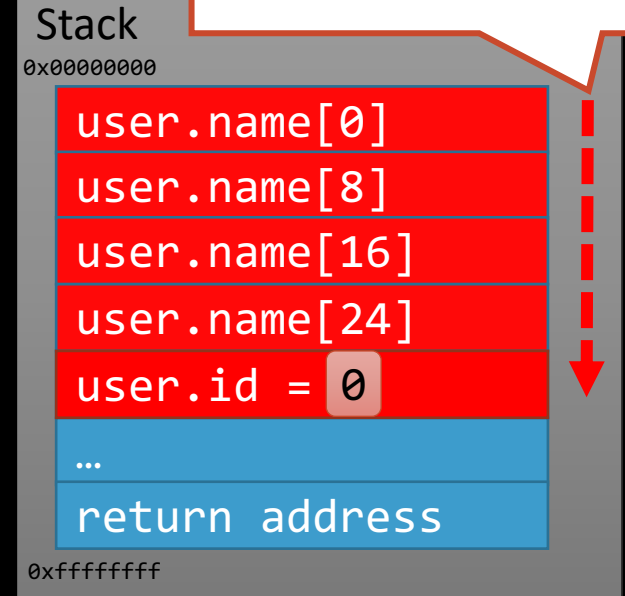
Data-Only Exploit on Example Code

```
int main() {  
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    update_name(&user);  
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```

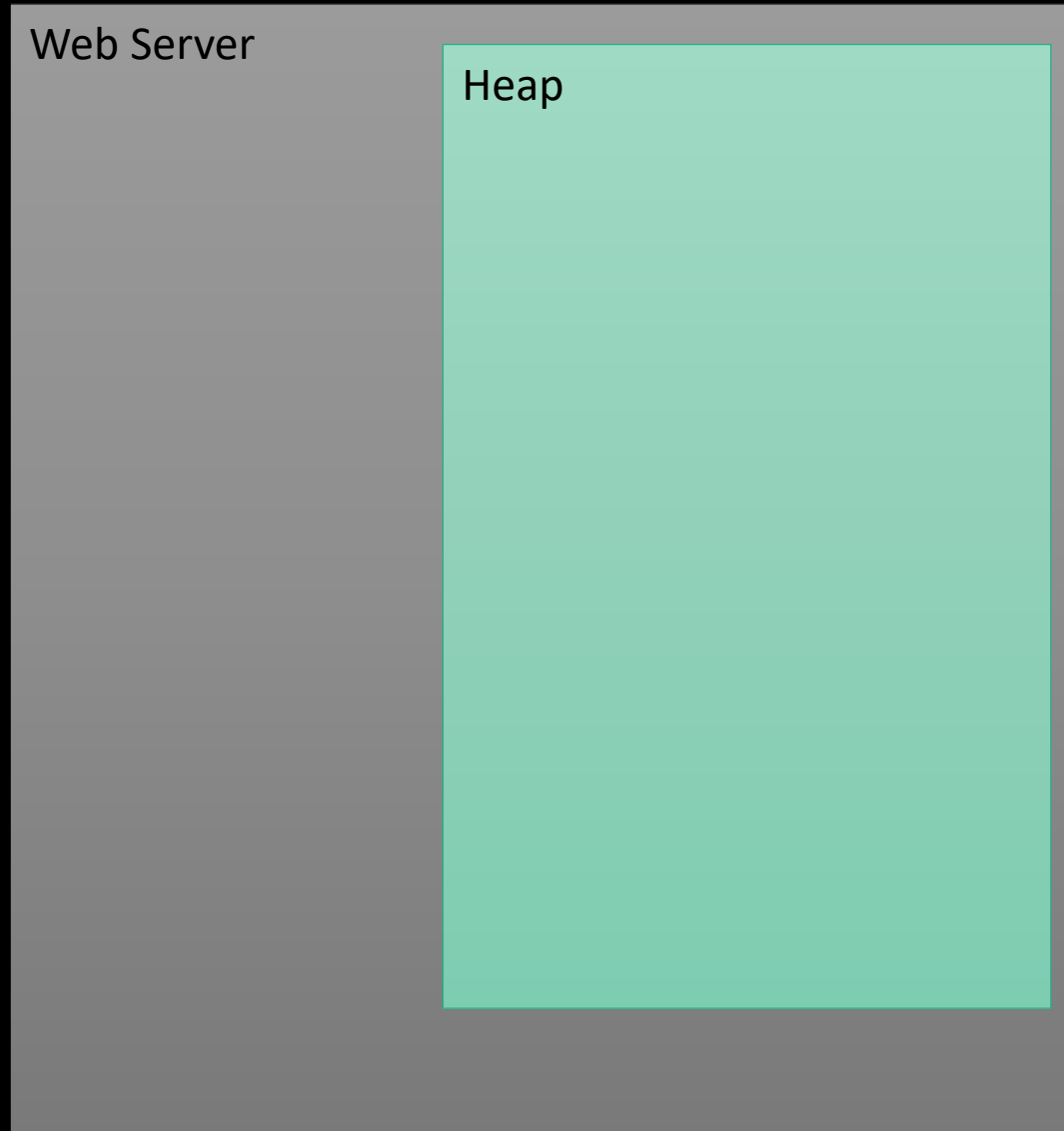
```
void admin_access(user_t* user) {  
    if (user->id == 0) {  
        admin_menu();  
    } else {  
        error();  
    }  
}
```

Buffer Overflow



Same effect –
control-data left
untouched

Corrupt Configuration Data



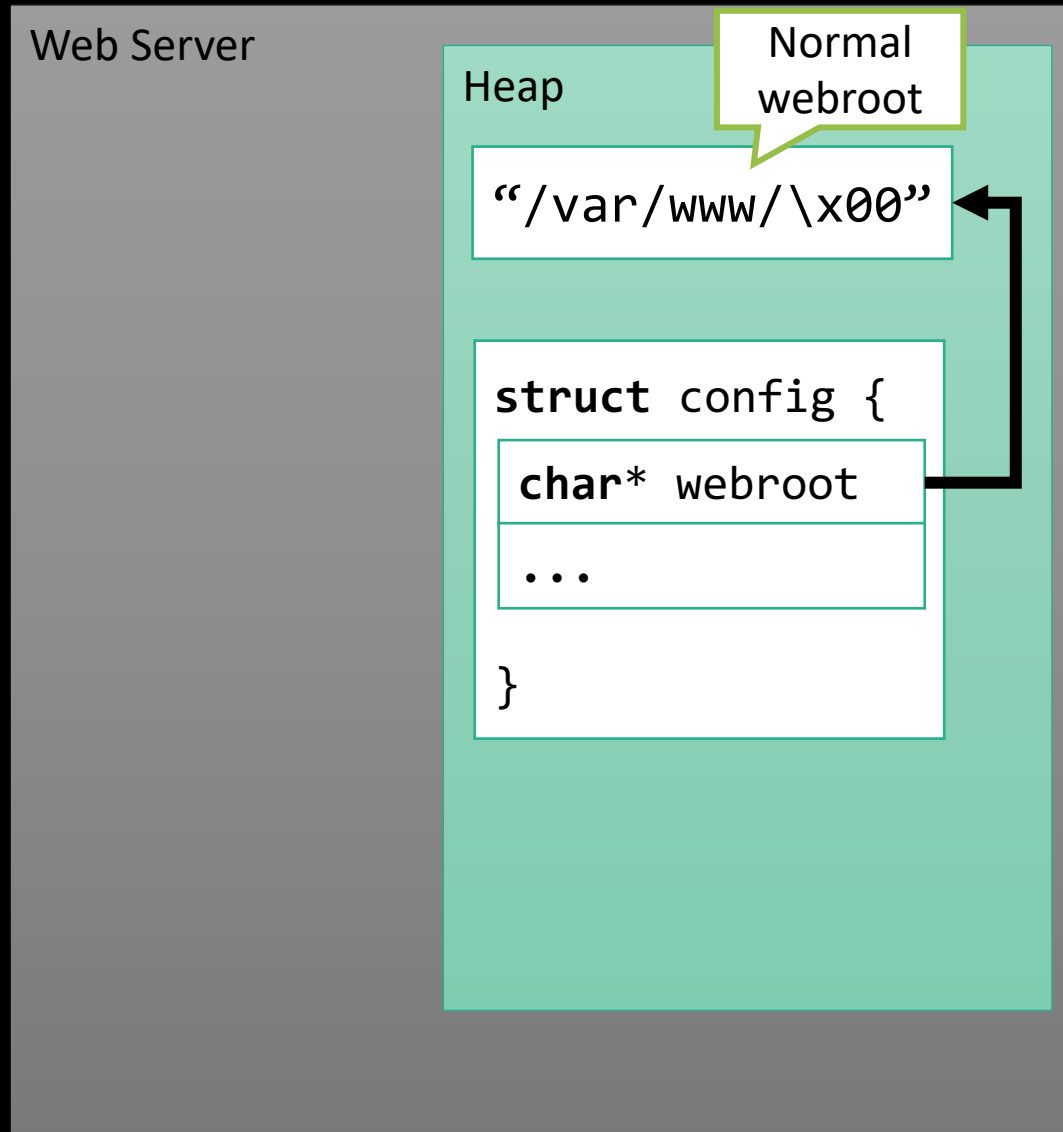
Corrupt Configuration Data

Web Server

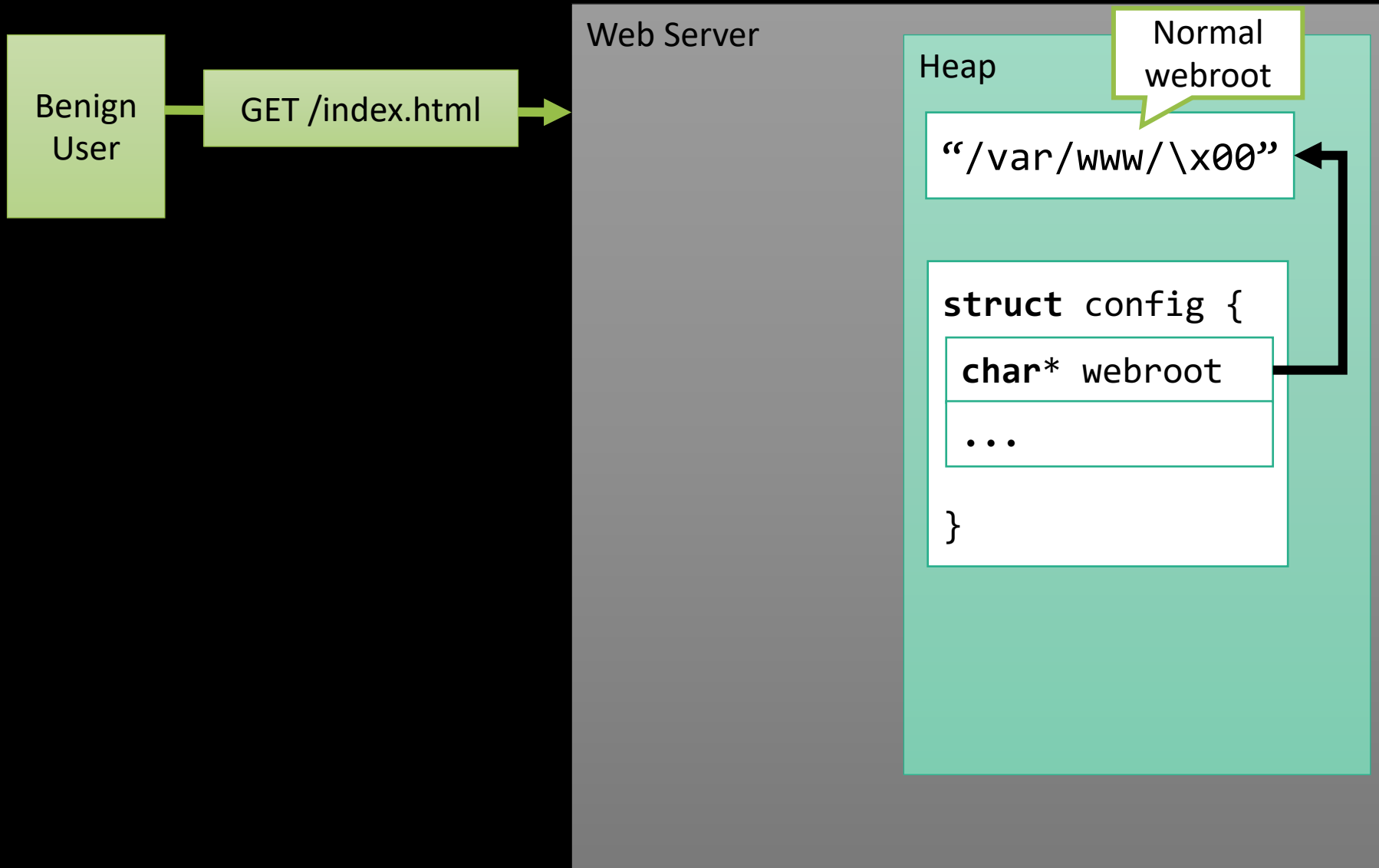
Heap

```
struct config {  
    char* webroot  
    ...  
}
```

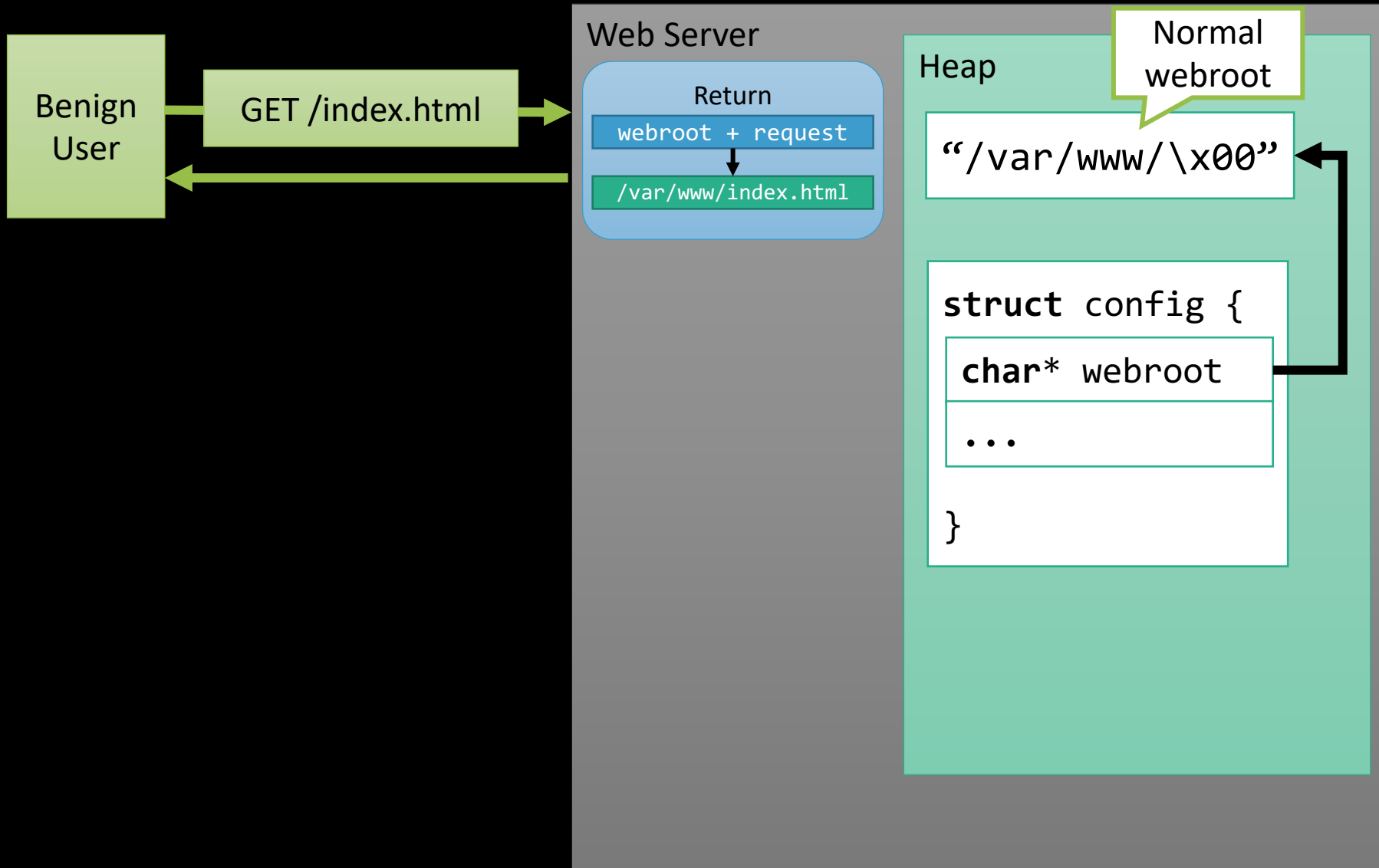

Corrupt Configuration Data



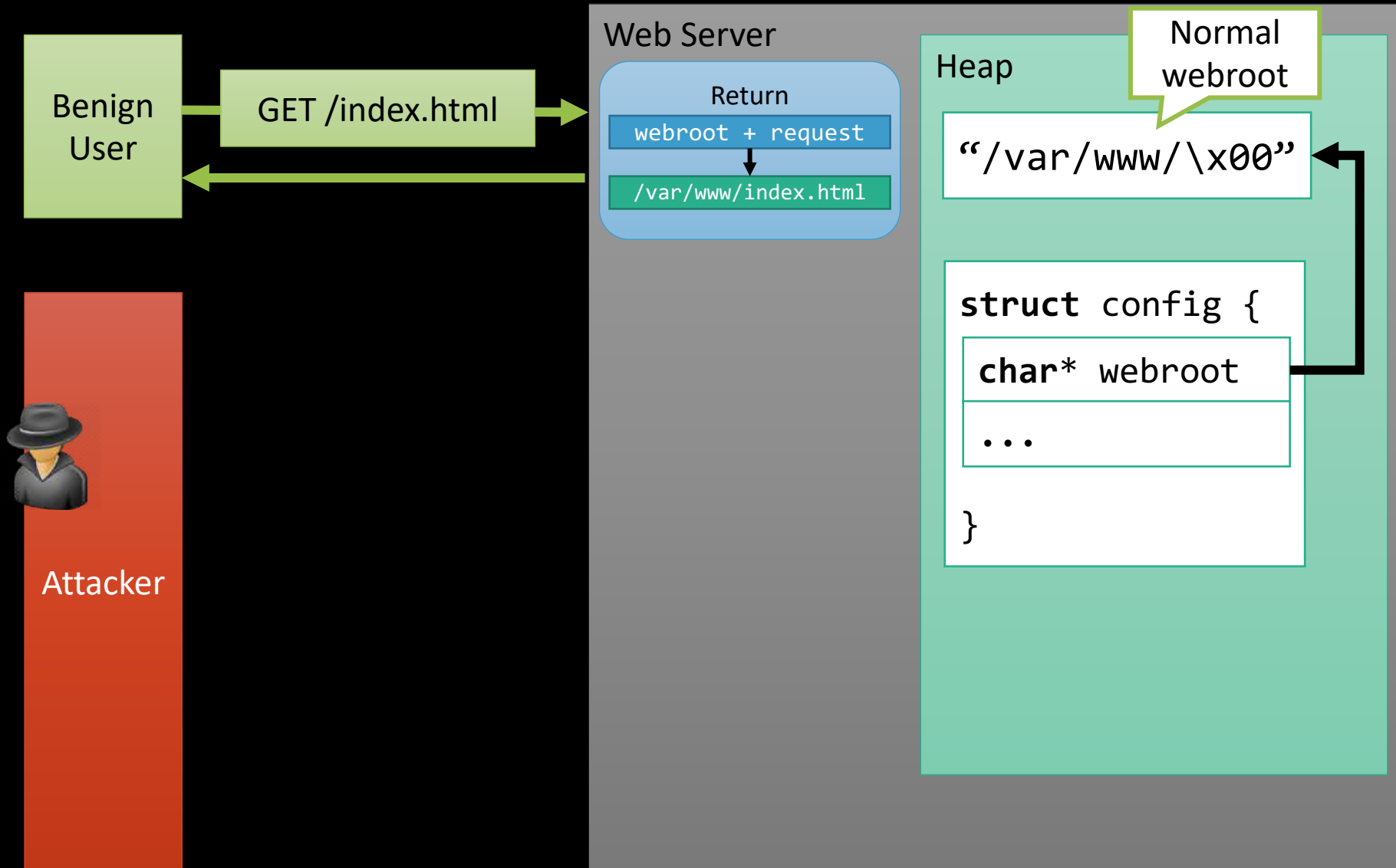
Corrupt Configuration Data



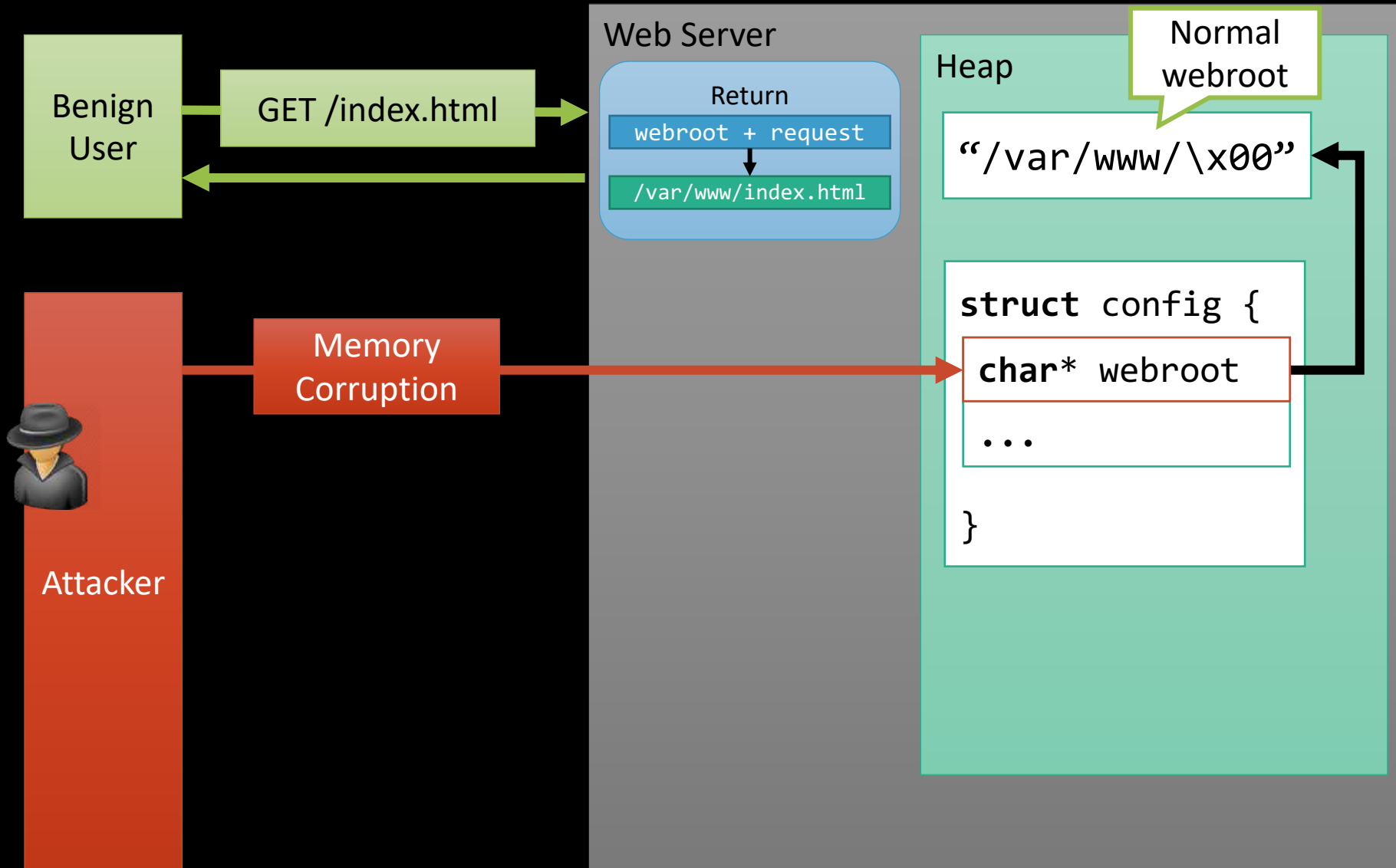
Corrupt Configuration Data



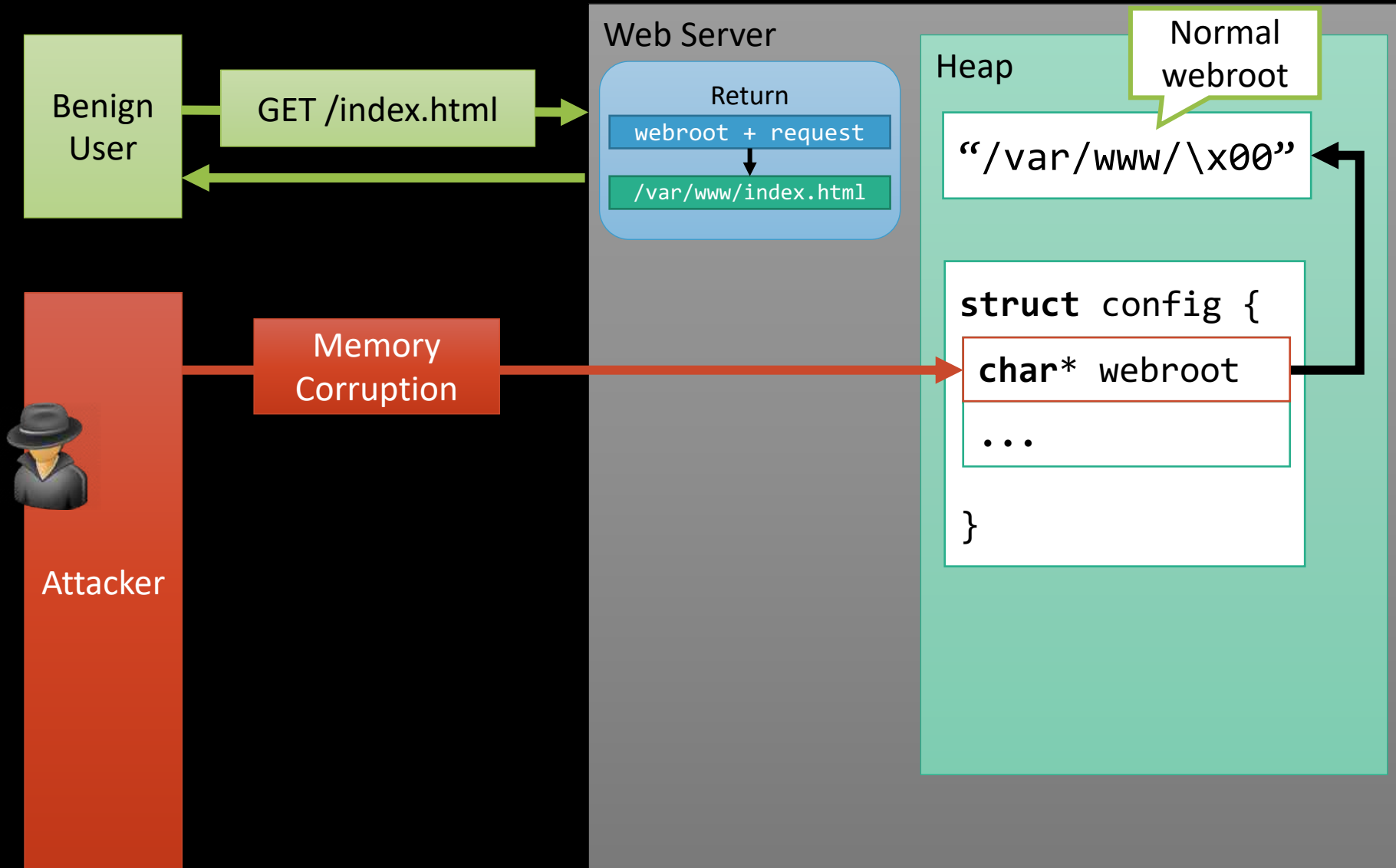
Corrupt Configuration Data



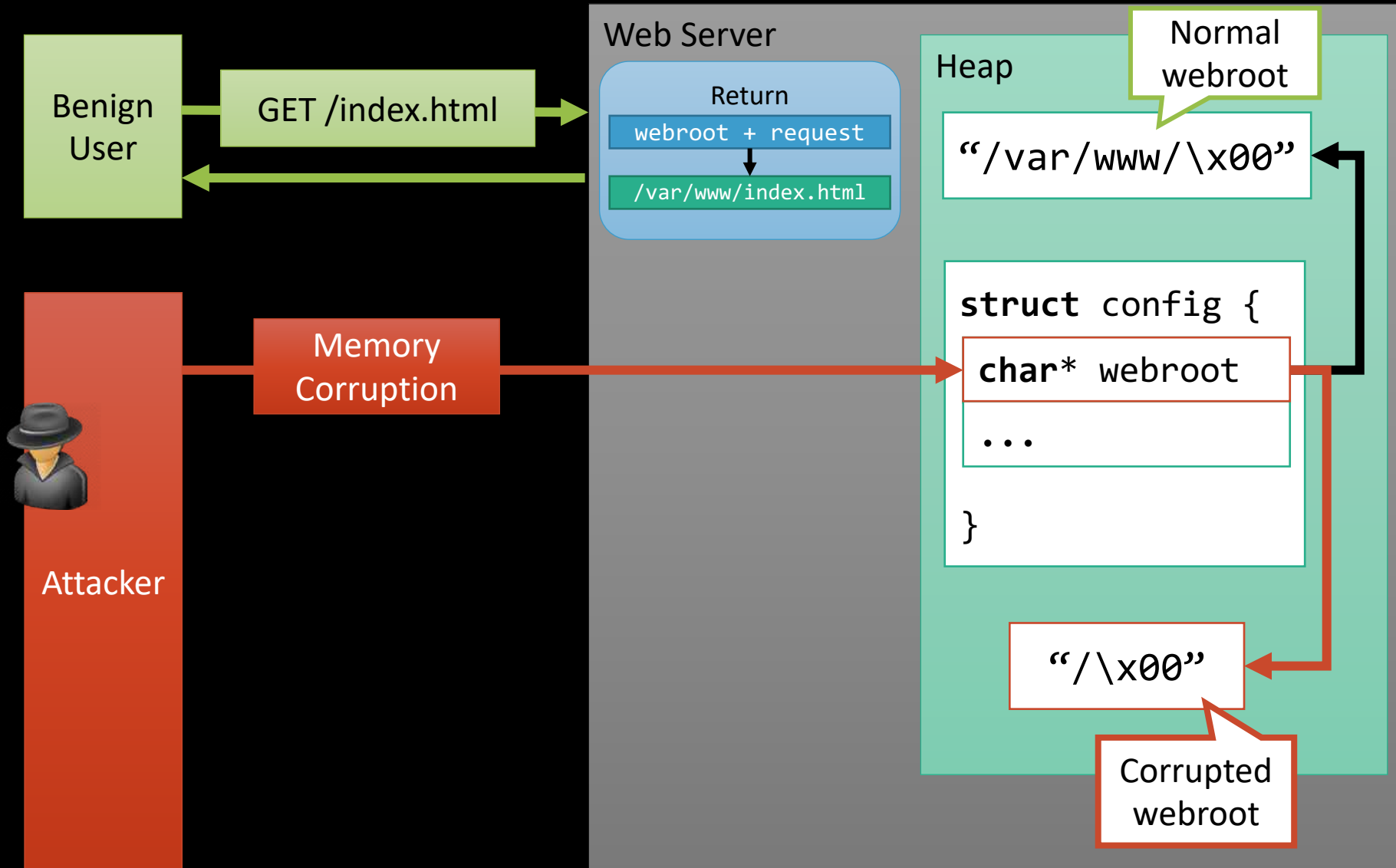
Corrupt Configuration Data



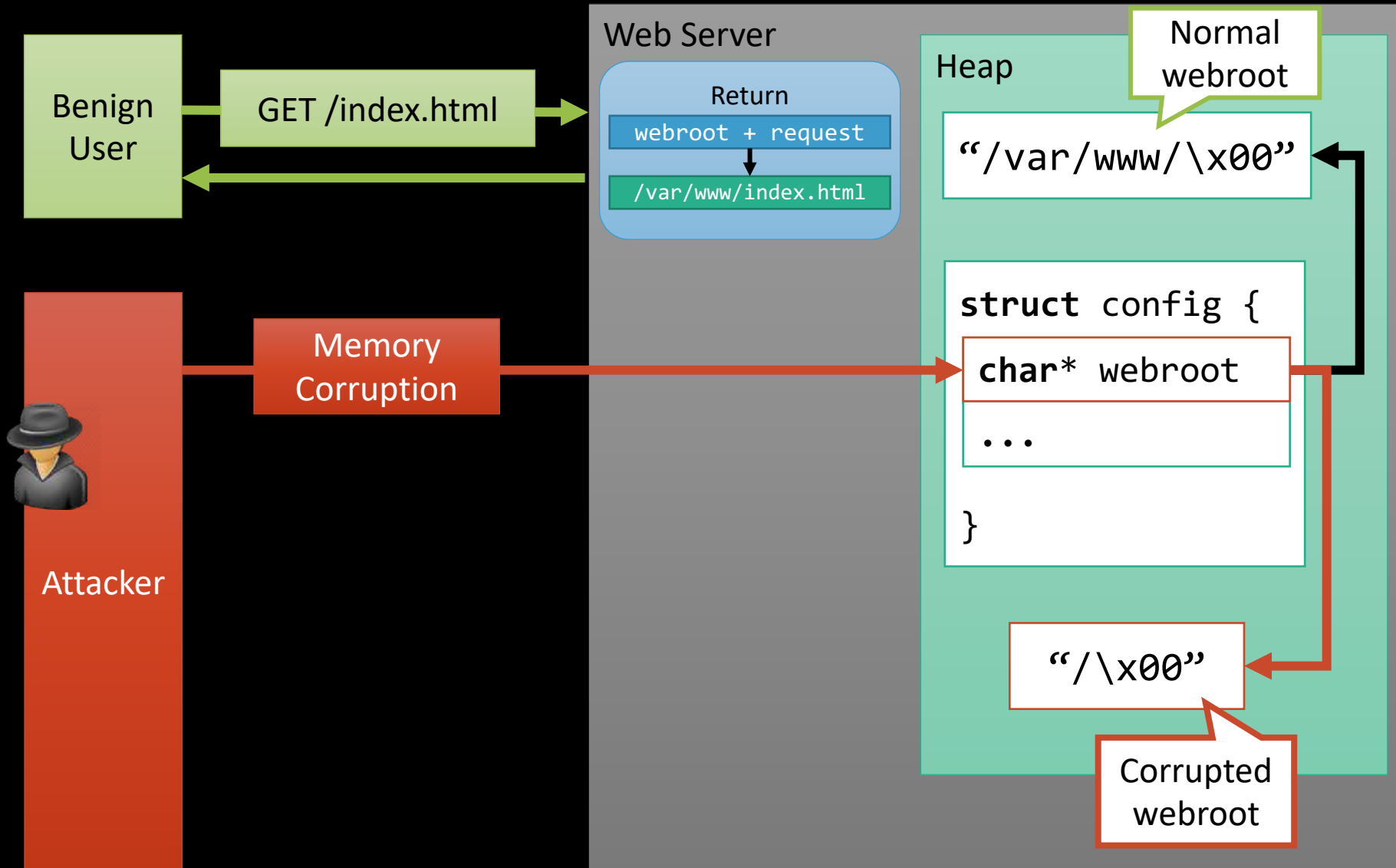
Corrupt Configuration Data



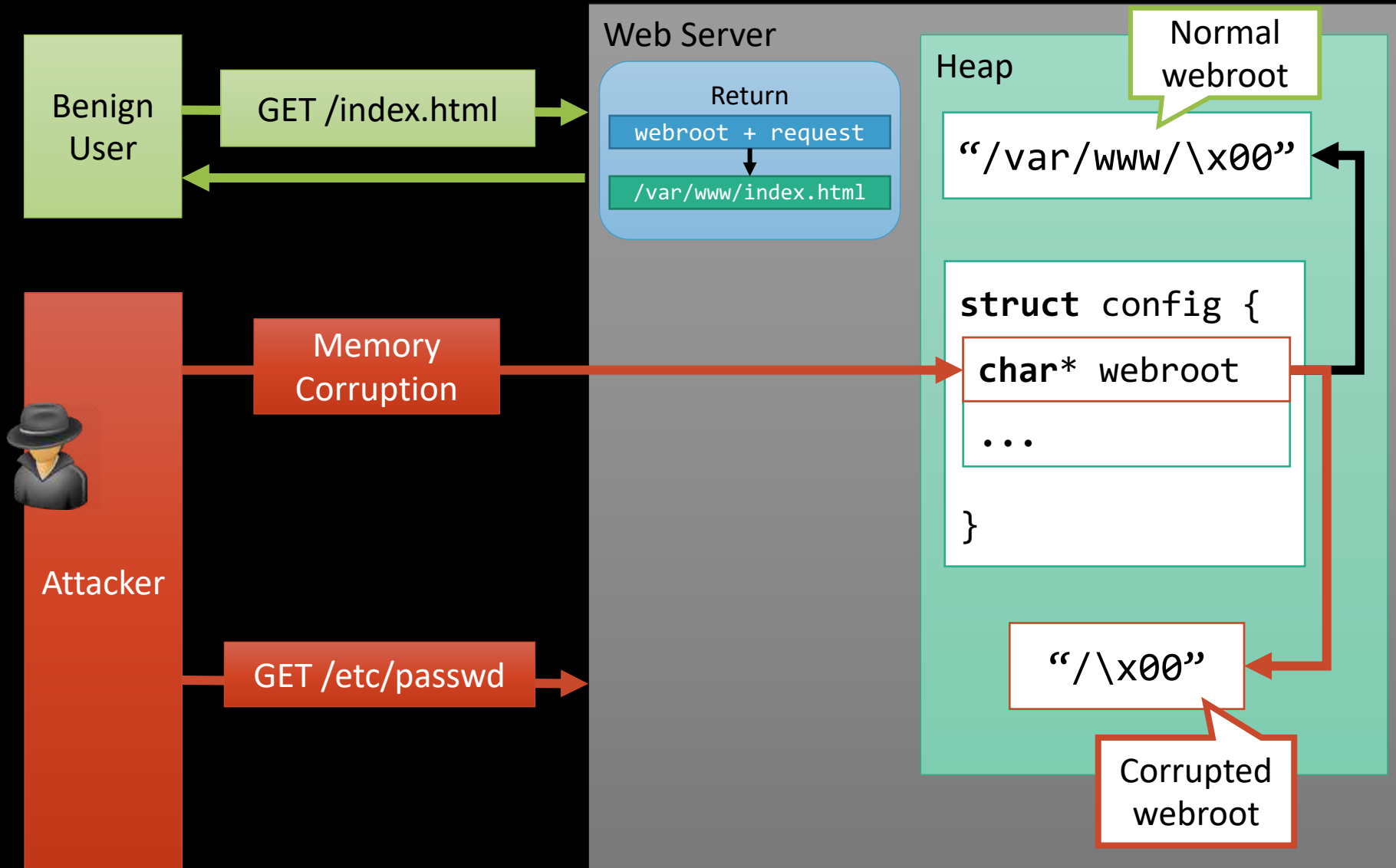
Corrupt Configuration Data



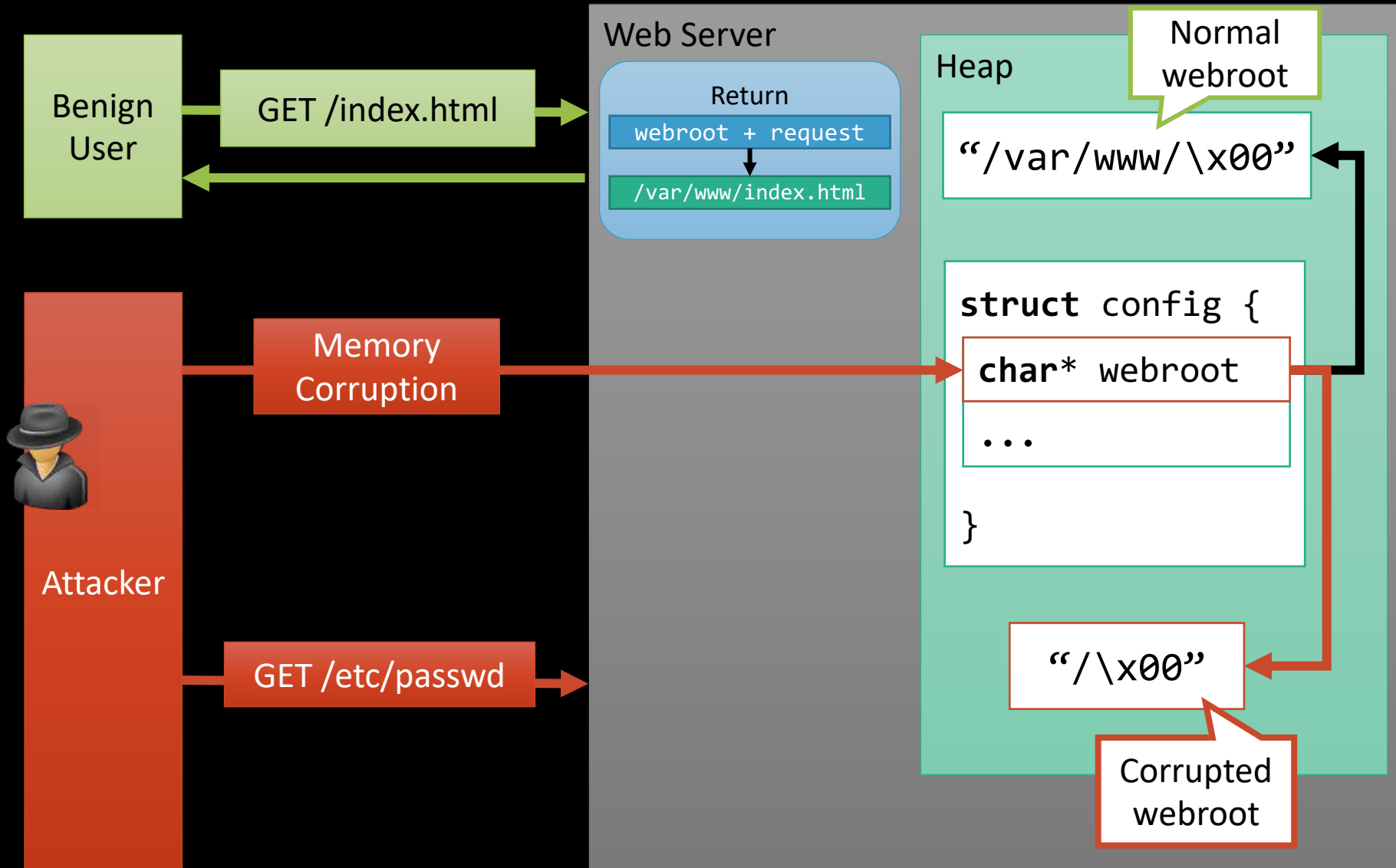
Corrupt Configuration Data



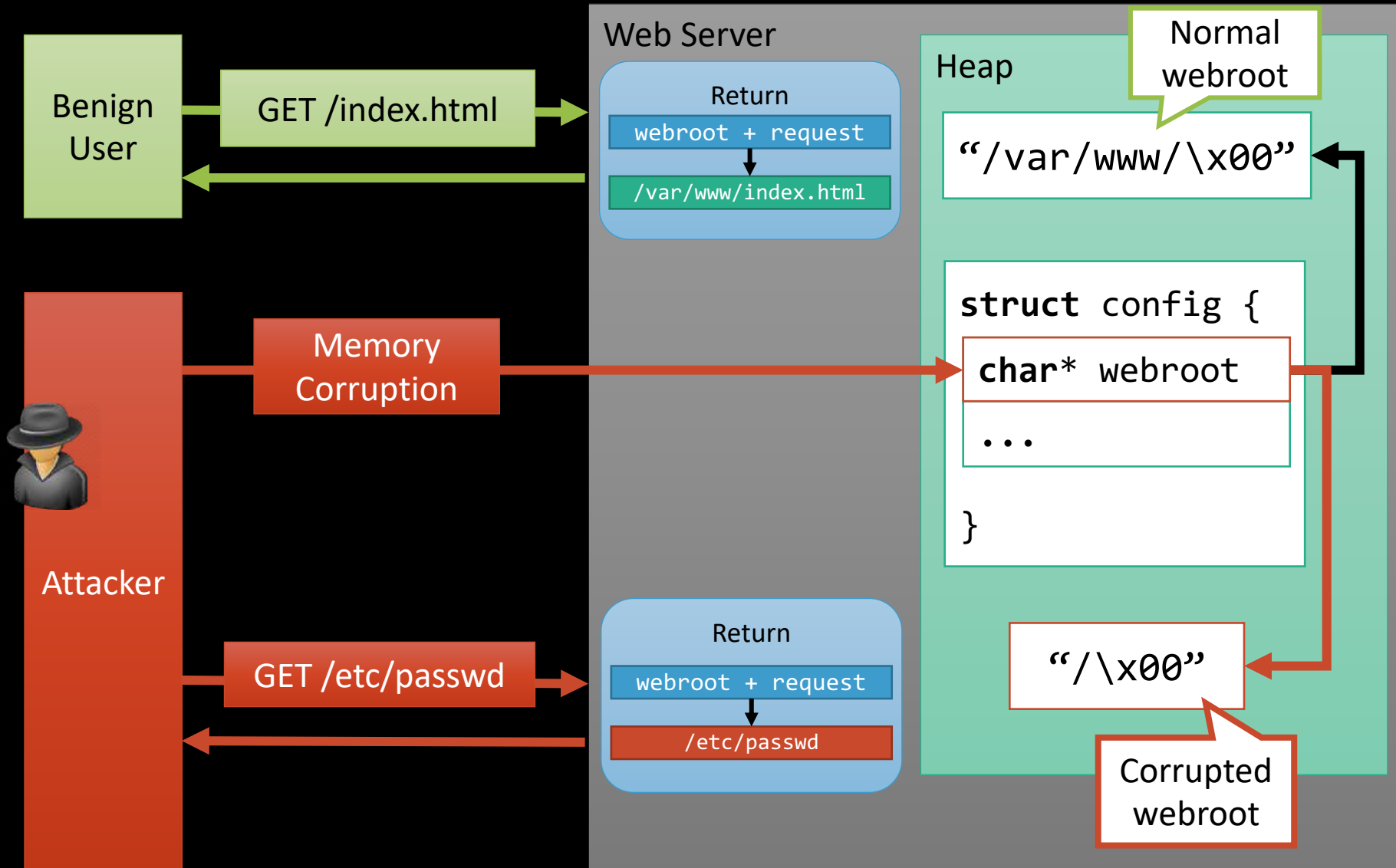
Corrupt Configuration Data



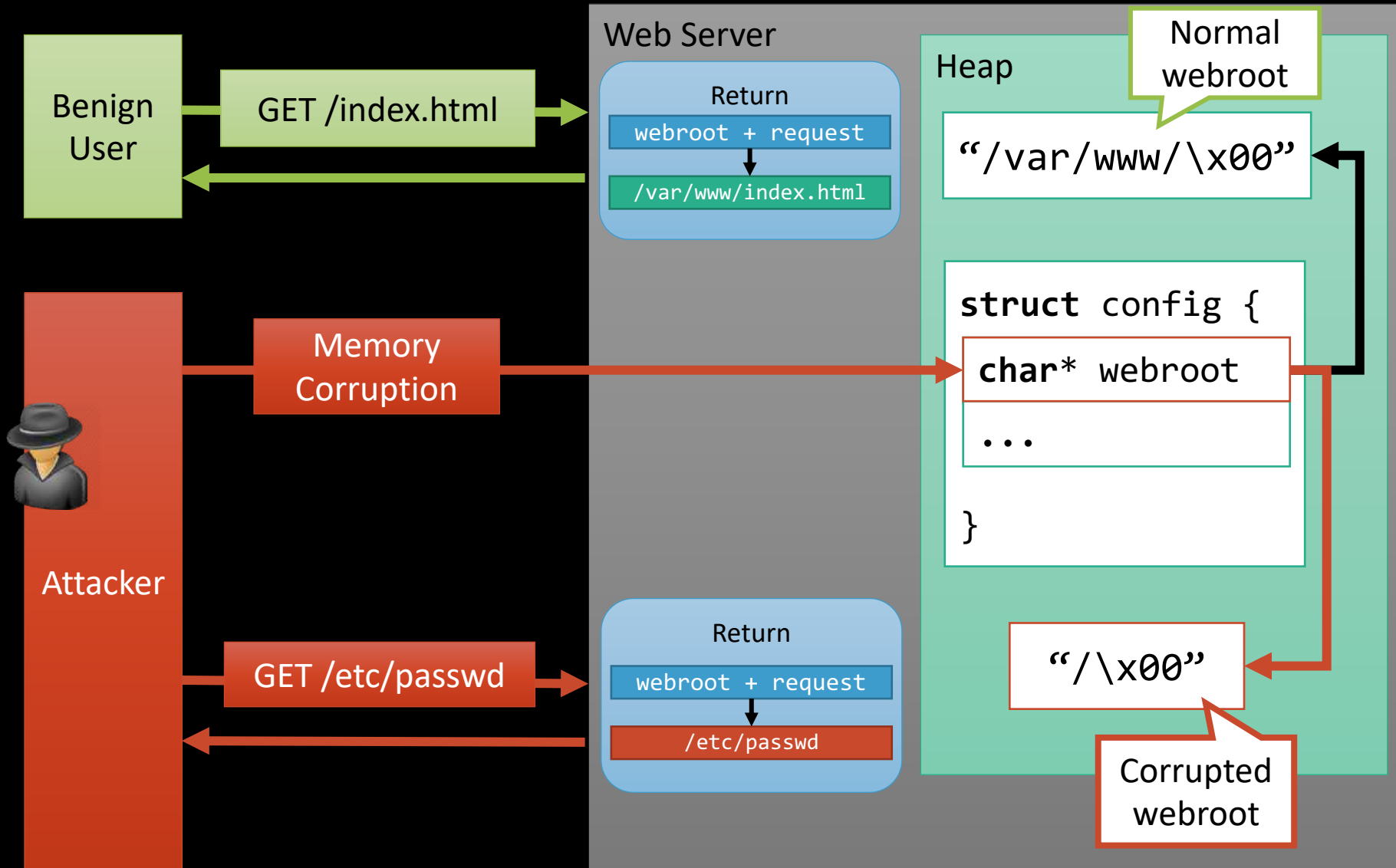
Corrupt Configuration Data



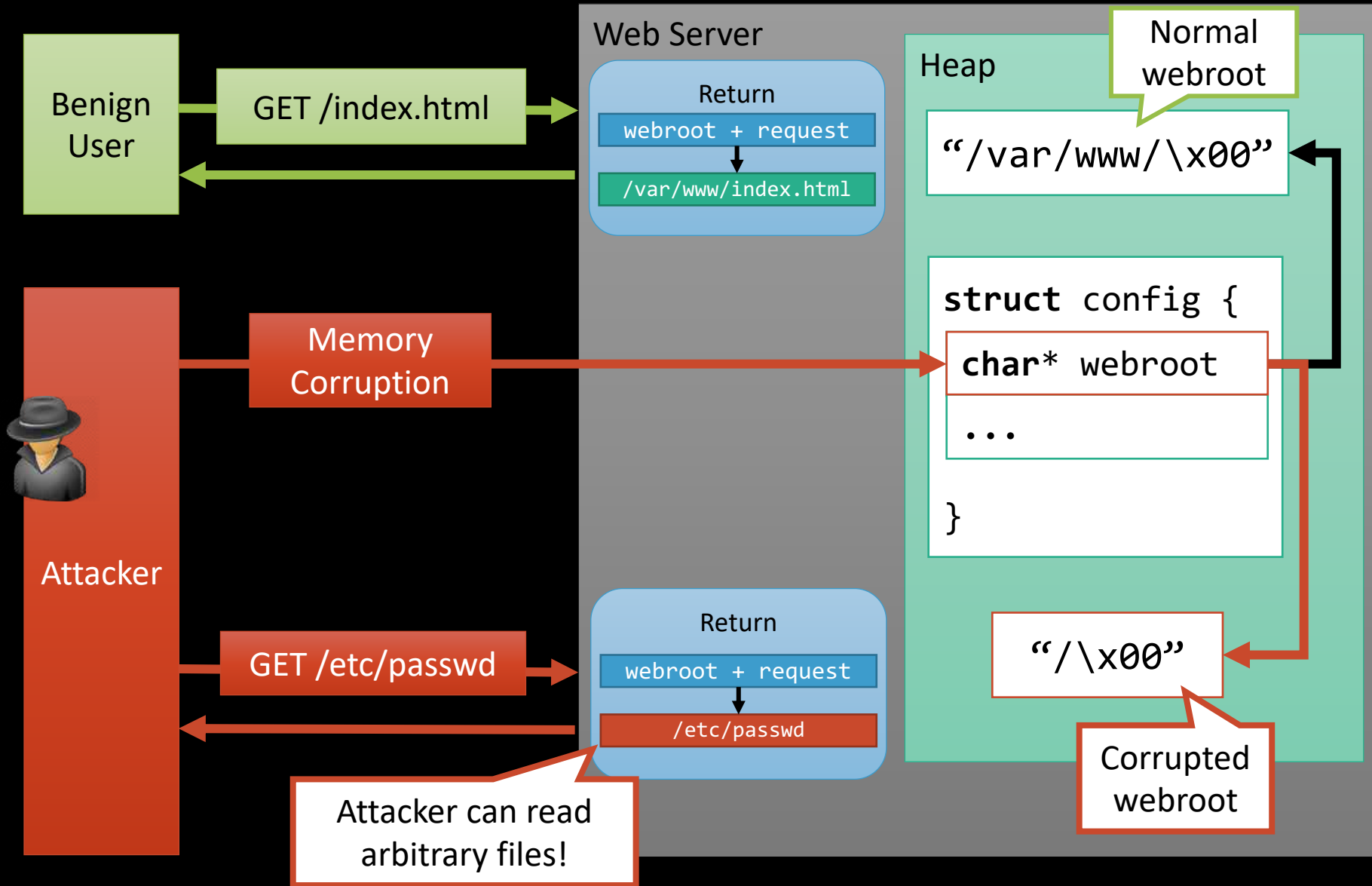
Corrupt Configuration Data



Corrupt Configuration Data



Corrupt Configuration Data



Generalization of data-only attacks:
data-oriented programming
[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

$$r0 = r0 + r1$$

DOP Virtual
Registers

r0

r1

...

DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

$$r0 = r0 + r1$$

Stored in
target program
memory.

DOP Virtual
Registers

r0

r1

...

DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

$r0 = r0 + r1$

C code	<code>srv->total += *size;</code>
--------	--------------------------------------

Stored in
target program
memory.

DOP Virtual
Registers

r0

r1

...

DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

Pointer dereference

C code

```
srv->total += *size;
```

$r0 = r0 + r1$

Stored in
target program
memory.

DOP Virtual
Registers

r0

r1

...

DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

Pointer dereference

C code

```
srv->total += *size;
```

$r0 = r0 + r1$

Stored in
target program
memory.

DOP Virtual
Registers

r0

r1

...

DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

Pointer dereference

C code	<code>srv->total += *size;</code>
ASM code	<pre>mov eax, [edi] mov ebx, [esi] add eax, ebx mov [edi], eax</pre>

$r0 = r0 + r1$

Stored in
target program
memory.

DOP Virtual
Registers



Machine
Registers



DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

Pointer dereference

C code	<code>srv->total += *size;</code>
ASM code	<pre>mov eax, [edi] mov ebx, [esi] add eax, ebx mov [edi], eax</pre>

$r0 = r0 + r1$

load micro-op (operand 1)

Stored in
target program
memory.

DOP Virtual
Registers



Machine
Registers



DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

Pointer dereference

C code	<code>srv->total += *size;</code>
ASM code	<pre>mov eax, [edi] mov ebx, [esi] add eax, ebx mov [edi], eax</pre>

$r0 = r0 + r1$

load micro-op (operand 1)

load micro-op (operand 2)

Stored in
target program
memory.

DOP Virtual
Registers



Machine
Registers



`edi`

`esi`

DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

Pointer dereference

C code	<code>srv->total += *size;</code>
ASM code	<pre>mov eax, [edi] mov ebx, [esi] add eax, ebx mov [edi], eax</pre>

$r0 = r0 + r1$

load micro-op (operand 1)

load micro-op (operand 2)

Stored in
target program
memory.

DOP Virtual
Registers



Machine
Registers



DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

Pointer dereference

C code	<code>srv->total += *size;</code>
ASM code	<pre>mov eax, [edi] mov ebx, [esi] add eax, ebx mov [edi], eax</pre>

$r0 = r0 + r1$

load micro-op (operand 1)

load micro-op (operand 2)

addition micro-op

Stored in
target program
memory.

DOP Virtual
Registers

r0

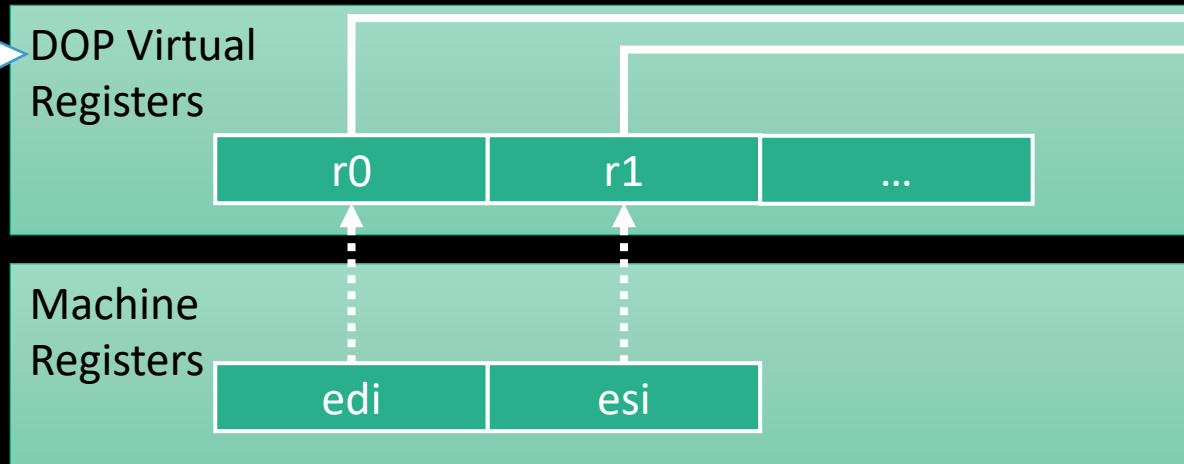
r1

...

Machine
Registers

edi

esi



DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

Pointer dereference

C code	<code>srv->total += *size;</code>
ASM code	<pre>mov eax, [edi] mov ebx, [esi] add eax, ebx mov [edi], eax</pre>

$r0 = r0 + r1$

load micro-op (operand 1)

load micro-op (operand 2)

addition micro-op

Stored in
target program
memory.

DOP Virtual
Registers

r0

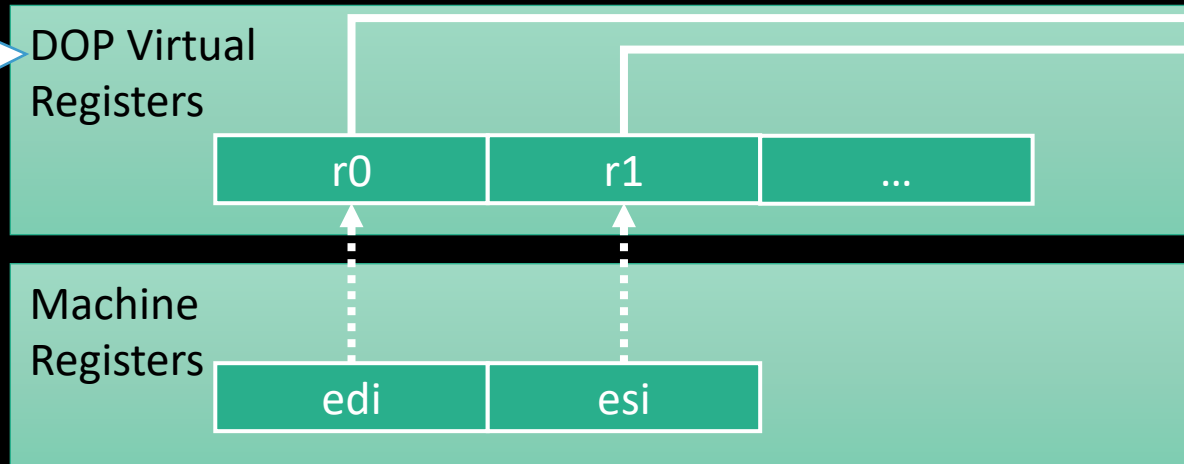
r1

...

Machine
Registers

edi

esi



DOP Add Gadget Example

[Hu et al., IEEE S&P 2016]

Add Gadget

Pointer dereference

C code	<code>srv->total += *size;</code>
ASM code	<pre>mov eax, [edi] mov ebx, [esi] add eax, ebx mov [edi], eax</pre>

$r0 = r0 + r1$

load micro-op (operand 1)

load micro-op (operand 2)

addition micro-op

store micro-op (result)

Stored in
target program
memory.

DOP Virtual
Registers



Machine
Registers



Discussion on Defenses

- Possible defense techniques:
 - Data-Flow Integrity (DFI) [Castro et al., OSDI 2006]
 - Write-Integrity Testing (WIT) [Akritidis et al., IEEE S&P 2008]
- DFI and WIT suffer from similar issues as CFI
 - High performance overhead
 - Depends on the precision of the data-flow graph

Hands-On Lab

Download and install the VirtualBox VM:



<http://bit.do/secsummer19>

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