

Software Protection Research

ISSISP 2017—Introduction

Christian Collberg

Department of Computer Science
University of Arizona

<http://collberg.cs.arizona.edu>

collberg@gmail.com

Supported by NSF grants 1525820 and 1318955 and
by the private foundation that shall not be named

Man-At-The-End Scenarios

Tools vs. Counter Tools

What is Obfuscation?

What is Tamperproofing?

Exercises

Questions

July 17

July 18

July 19

July 20

July 21

⌚ 09:00 – Basic obfuscation  **Christian Collberg**
10:30

⌚ 10:30 – Coffee Break
11:00

⌚ 11:00 – Basic obfuscation [hands-on]  **Christian Collberg**
12:30

⌚ 12:30 – Lunch
14:00

⌚ 14:00 – Exploitation & basic defenses  **Josselin Feist**
[hands-on]
16:00

⌚ 16:00 – Coffee Break
16:30

July 17

July 18

July 19

July 20

July 21

⌚ 09:00 –
10:30

**Watermarking &
Fingerprinting**

👤 **Christian Collberg**

⌚ 10:30 –
11:00

Coffee Break

⌚ 11:00 –
12:30

**Anti-deobfuscation
Techniques**

👤 **Bjorn De Sutter**

⌚ 12:30 –
14:00

Lunch

⌚ 14:00 –
15:30

Protection Evaluation

👤 **Bjorn De Sutter**

⌚ 15:30 –
16:00

Coffee Break

⌚ 16:00 –
17:30

Malware Analysis

👤 **Arun Lakhota**

⌚ 18:00 –
19:30

Poster Session

- Hands-on during the lectures
- Install the Tigress obfuscator:

<http://tigress.cs.arizona.edu/#download>

- Get the test program:

<http://tigress.cs.arizona.edu/fib.c>

- Tigress runs on Linux and MacOS

July 17

July 18

July 19

July 20

July 21

⌚ 09:00 —
10:30

Foundations of obfuscation

👤 Roberto Giacobazzi

⌚ 10:30 —
11:00

Coffee Break

⌚ 11:00 —
12:30

Obfuscation & static semantic
analyses

👤 Roberto Giacobazzi

⌚ 12:30 —
14:00

Lunch

⌚ 14:00 —
15:30

Practical Formal Methods

👤 Sébastien Bardin

⌚ 15:30 —
16:00

Coffee Break

⌚ 16:00 —
17:30

Malware Analysis [hands-on]

👤 Arun Lakhota

July 17

July 18

July 19

July 20

July 21

⌚ 09:00 – Advanced Software Protection  **Jack Davidson**
10:30

⌚ 10:30 – Coffee Break
11:00

⌚ 11:00 – Advanced Software Protection  **Jack Davidson**
12:30

⌚ 12:30 – Lunch
14:00

⌚ 14:00 – Social Event
23:00

July 17

July 18

July 19

July 20

July 21

⌚ 09:00 —
10:30

Side-channel Attacks

👤 Damien Couroussé

⌚ 10:30 —
11:00

Coffee Break

⌚ 11:00 —
12:30

Fault Injection

👤 Ronan Lashermes

⌚ 12:30 —
14:00

Lunch

⌚ 14:00 —
16:00

The Industrial Challenge in
Software and Information
Protection

👤 Yuan Xiang Gu

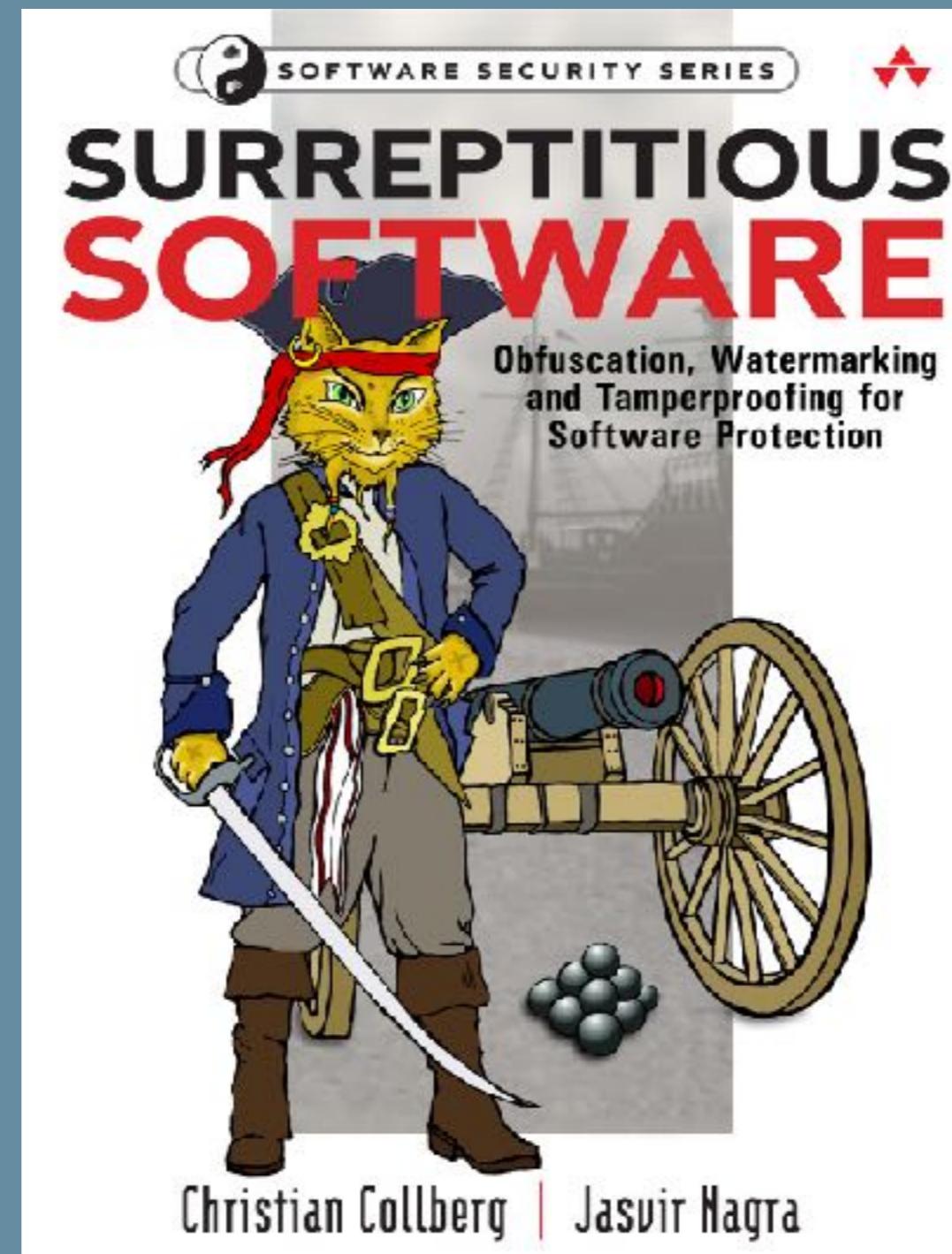
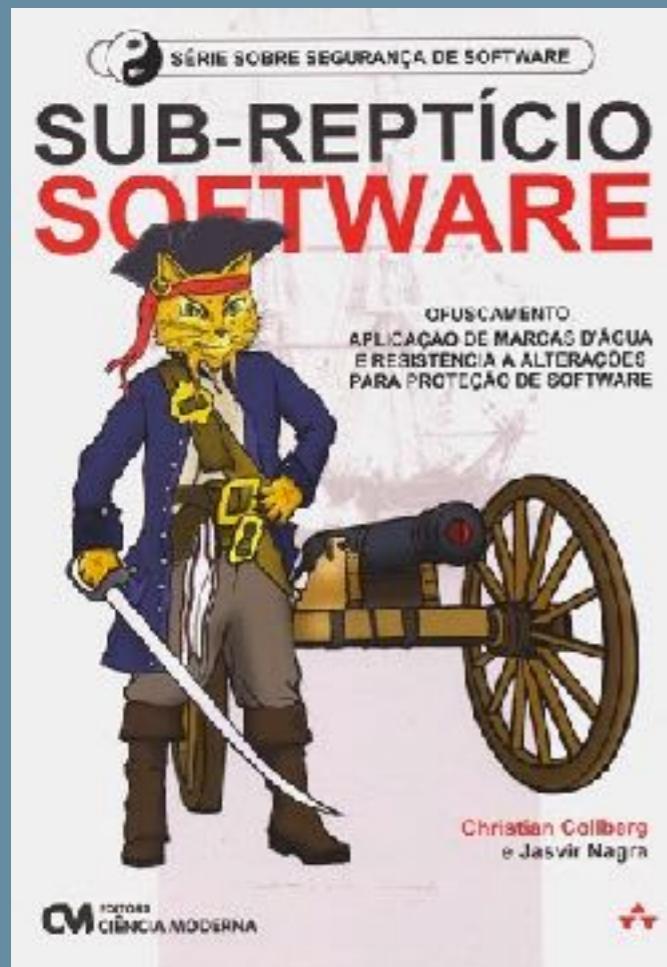
⌚ 16:00 —
16:30

Coffee Break

⌚ 16:30 —
17:30

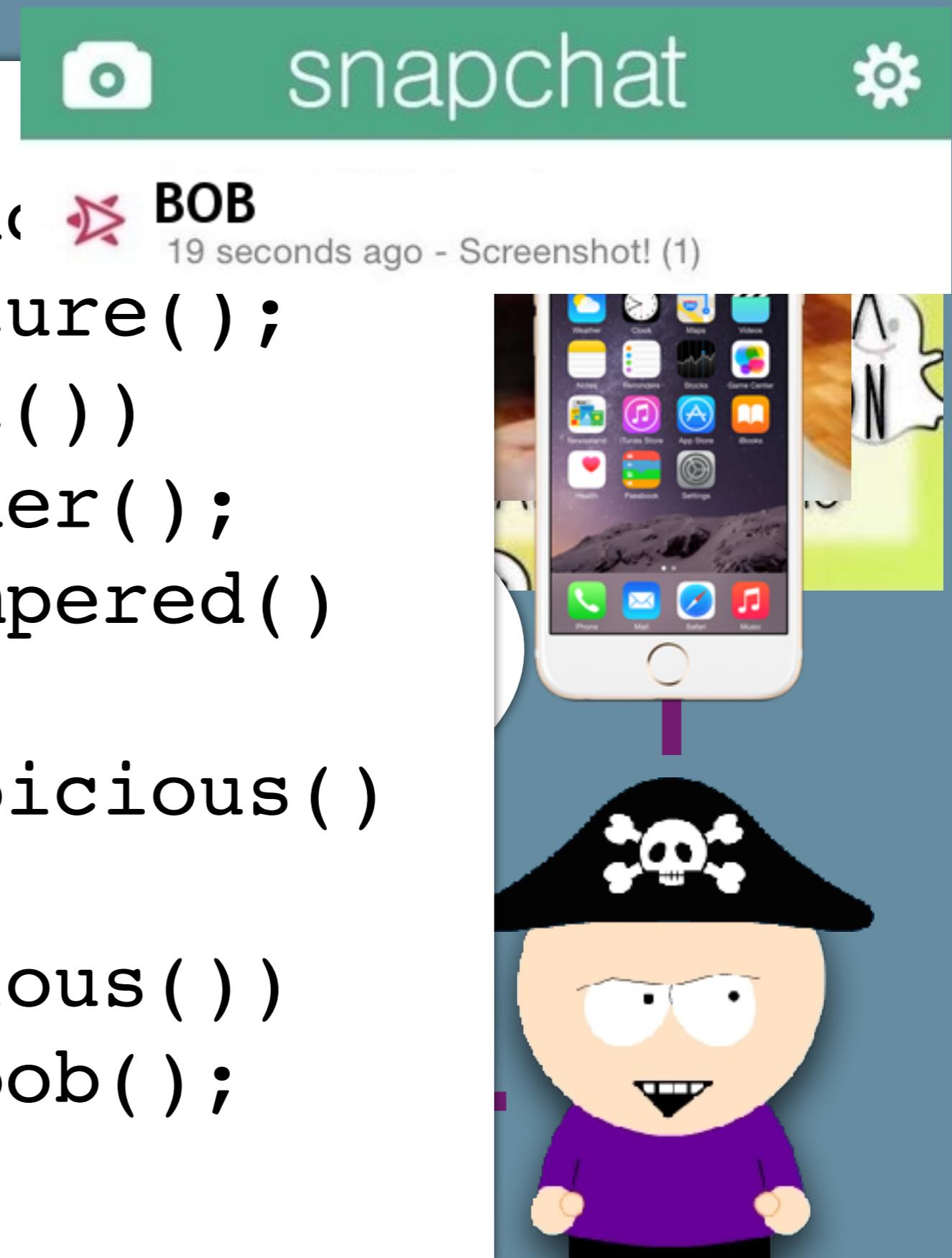
Panel: Industrial Challenges

👤 Yuan Xiang Gu



Man-at-the-End Scenarios

```
 snapchat() {  
    after (8 seconds) BOB  
        remove_picture();  
    if (screenshot())  
        notify_sender();  
    if (app_is_tampered())  
        ||  
        env_is_suspicious()  
        ||  
        bob_is_curious())  
            punish_bob();  
}
```



Man-At-The-End

MATE attacks occur in any setting where an adversary has physical access to a device and compromises it by inspecting, reverse engineering, or tampering with its hardware or software.

```
set_top_box() {  
    if (bob_paid("ESPN"))  
        allow_access();  
  
    if (hw_is_tampered())  
        ||  
        sw_is_tampered()  
        ||  
        bob_is_curious()  
        || ...)  
        punish_bob();  
}
```



Code &
Content



kWh!

On/Off



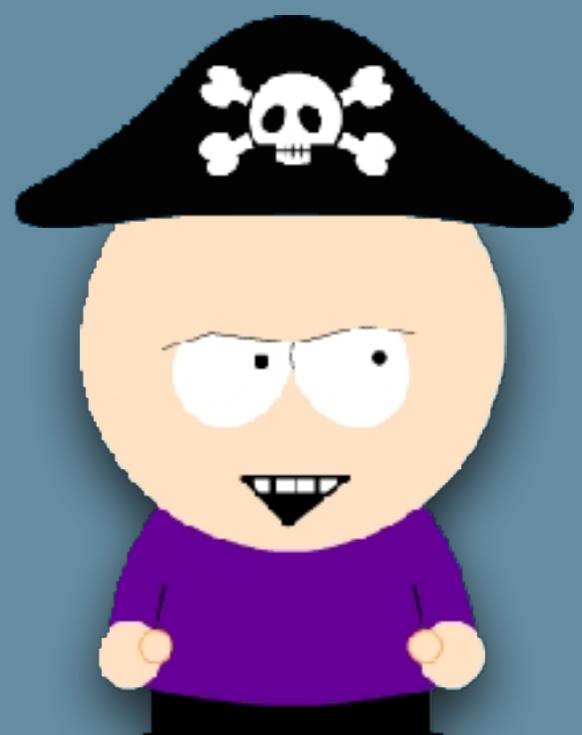
Off!



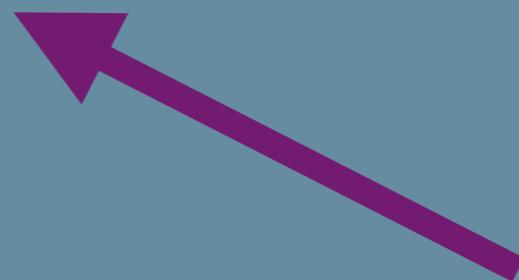
Cleemput, Mustafa, Preneel, *High Assurance Smart Metering*

```
int main () {  
    if (false) {  
        printf("License expired!");  
        abort;  
    }  
}
```

Hack!



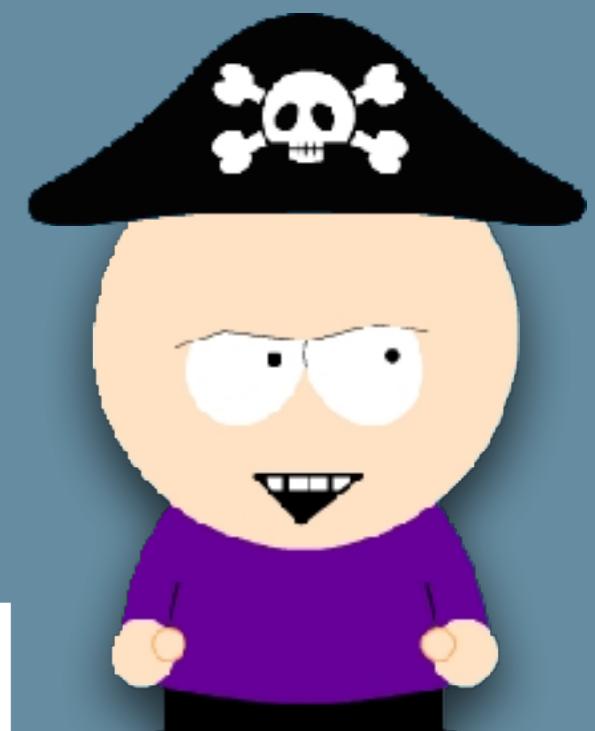
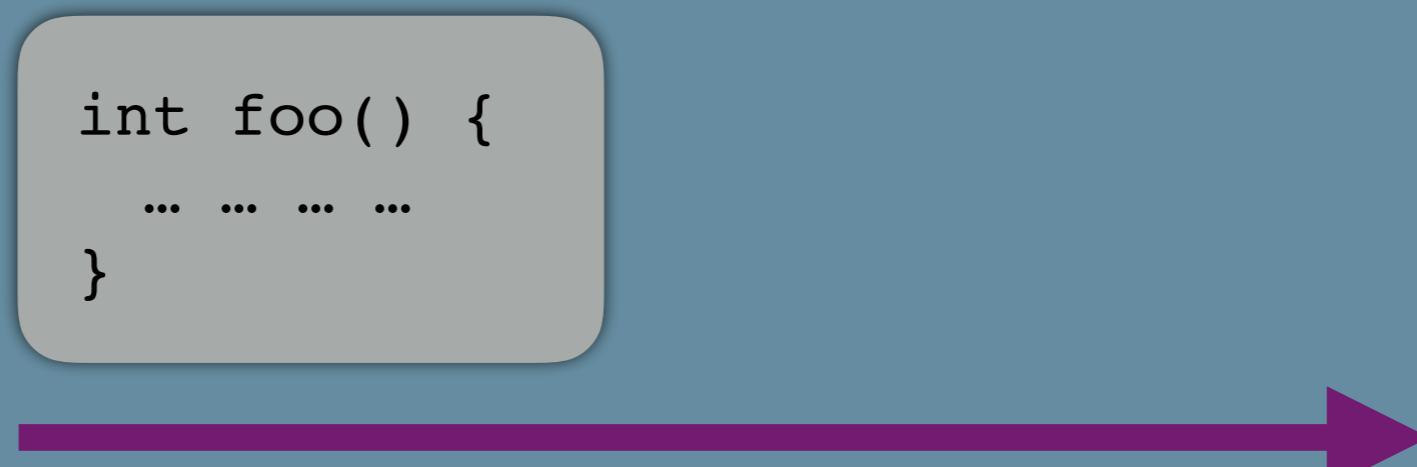
- ◆ Extract Code!
- ◆ Discover Algorithms!
- ◆ Find Design!
- ◆ Find Keys!
- ◆ Modify Code!



Hack!



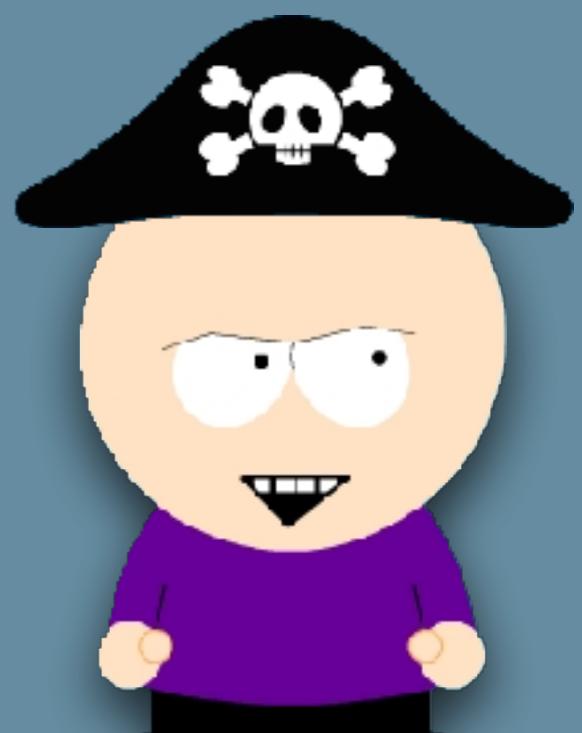
```
int foo() {  
    ... ... ...  
}
```



Man-At-The-End

```
int main () {  
    ...  ...  ...  
    trade_secret()  
    ...  ...  ...  
}
```

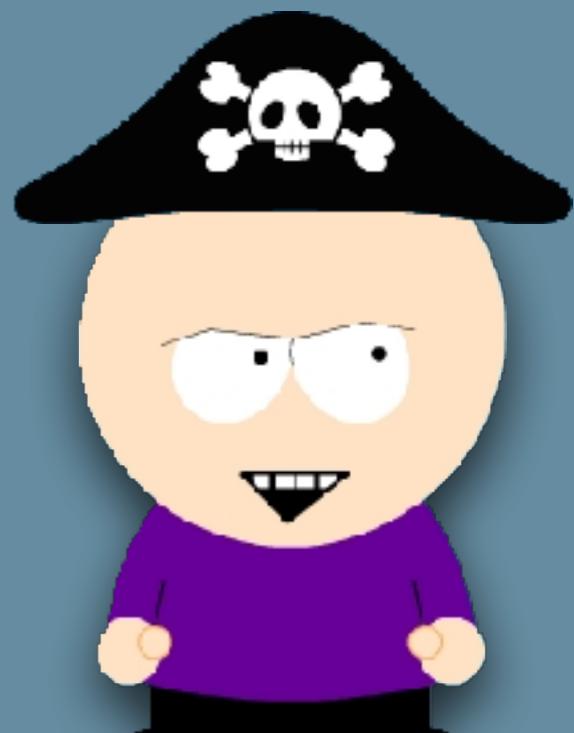
“Code Lifting”



```
int DigitalRightsMgmt () {  
    album=download();  
    key=0x47...;  
    song=decrypt(key,album);  
    play(song);  
}
```

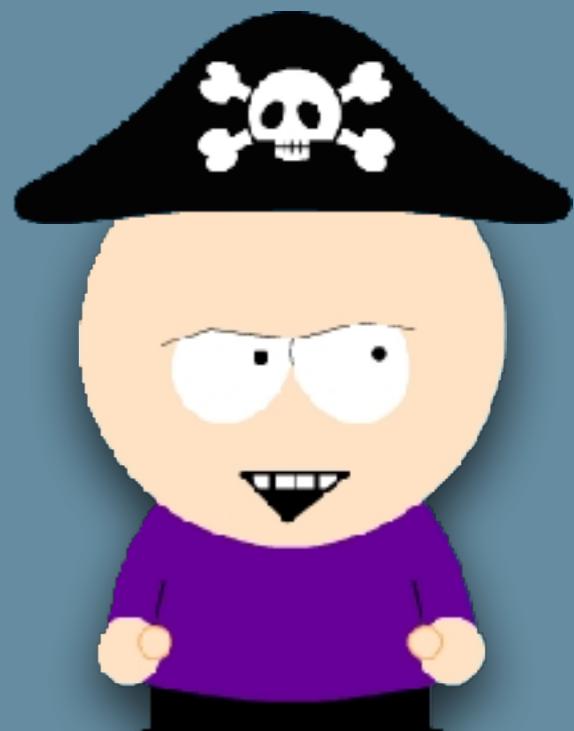


encrypt()



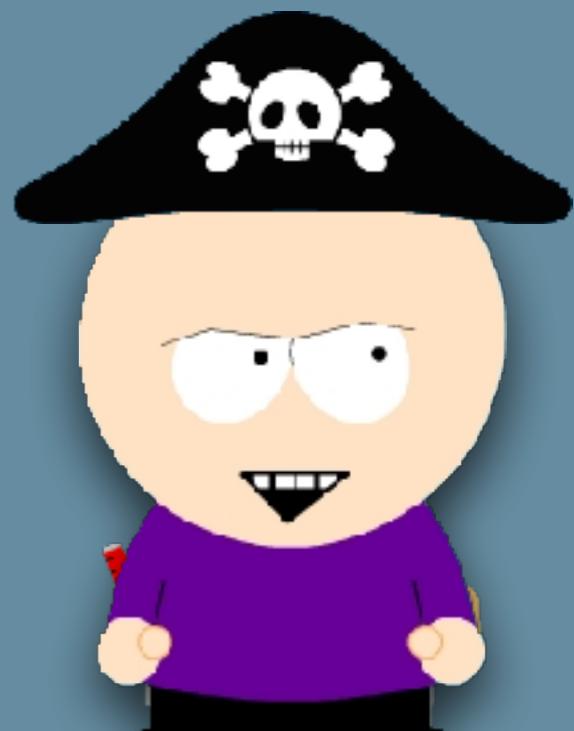


Cached secret data





The Washington Post
SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2003



Malicious insider!

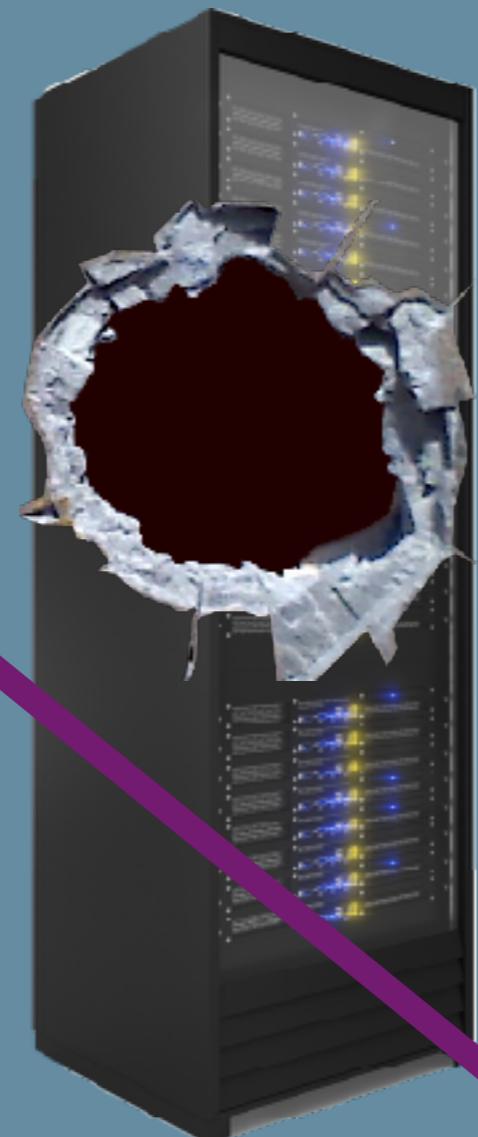


Secret!



- ◆ Evade discovery!
- ◆ Hide intent!
- ◆ Destroy data!
- ◆ Exfiltrate secrets!

Malware!



Secret!



- ◆ Exploit vulnerability!
- ◆ Evade discovery!
- ◆ Survive reboot!
- ◆ Hide intent!
- ◆ Destroy data!
- ◆ Exfiltrate secrets!

Exercises

*Discuss with
your friends!!!*

Man-At-The-End

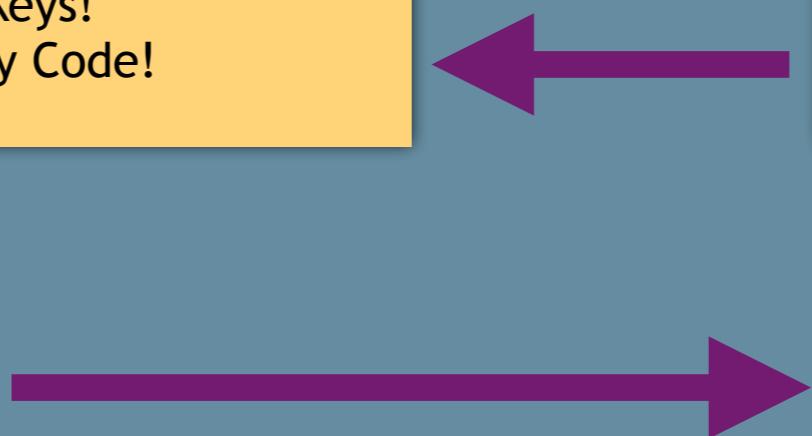
MATE attacks occur in any setting where an adversary has physical access to a device and compromises it by inspecting, reverse engineering, or tampering with its hardware or software.

*Can you think of other situations where a MATE
(Man-At-The-End) attack could occur?*

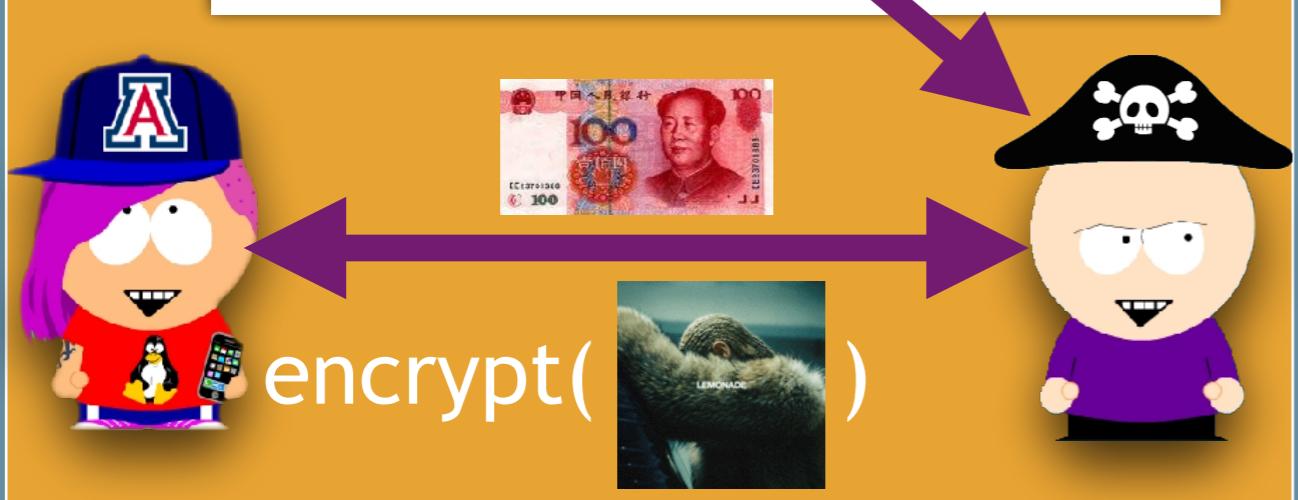
Discuss with your friends!!!

- ◆ Extract Code!
- ◆ Discover Algorithms!
- ◆ Find Design!
- ◆ Find Keys!
- ◆ Modify Code!

int foo() {
...
} **Hack!**



```
int DigitalRightsMgmt () {  
    album=download();  
    key=0x47...;  
    song=decrypt(key,album);  
    play(song);  
}
```

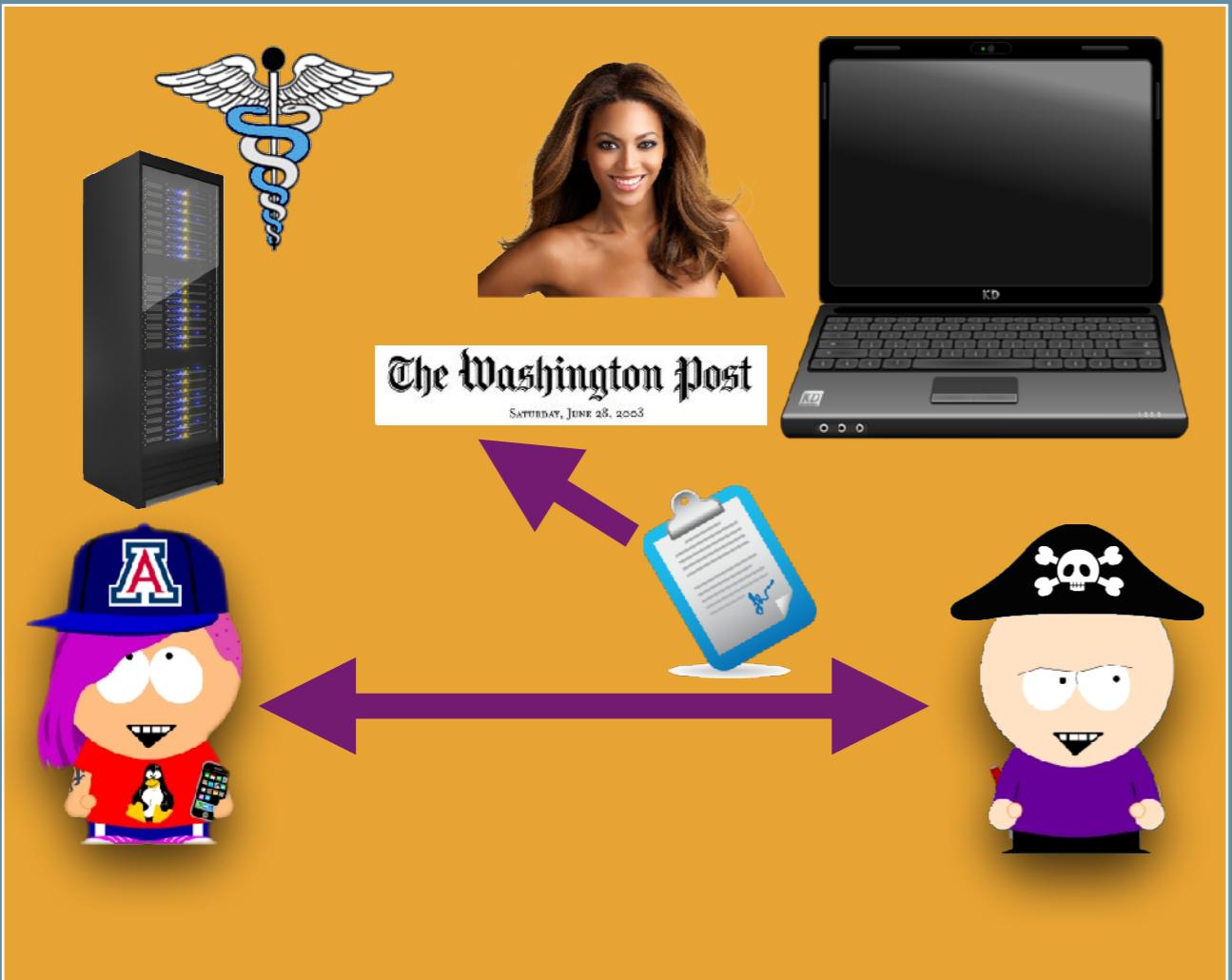


*How are they
similar?
Different?*

*Consider these
two MATE
scenarios!*

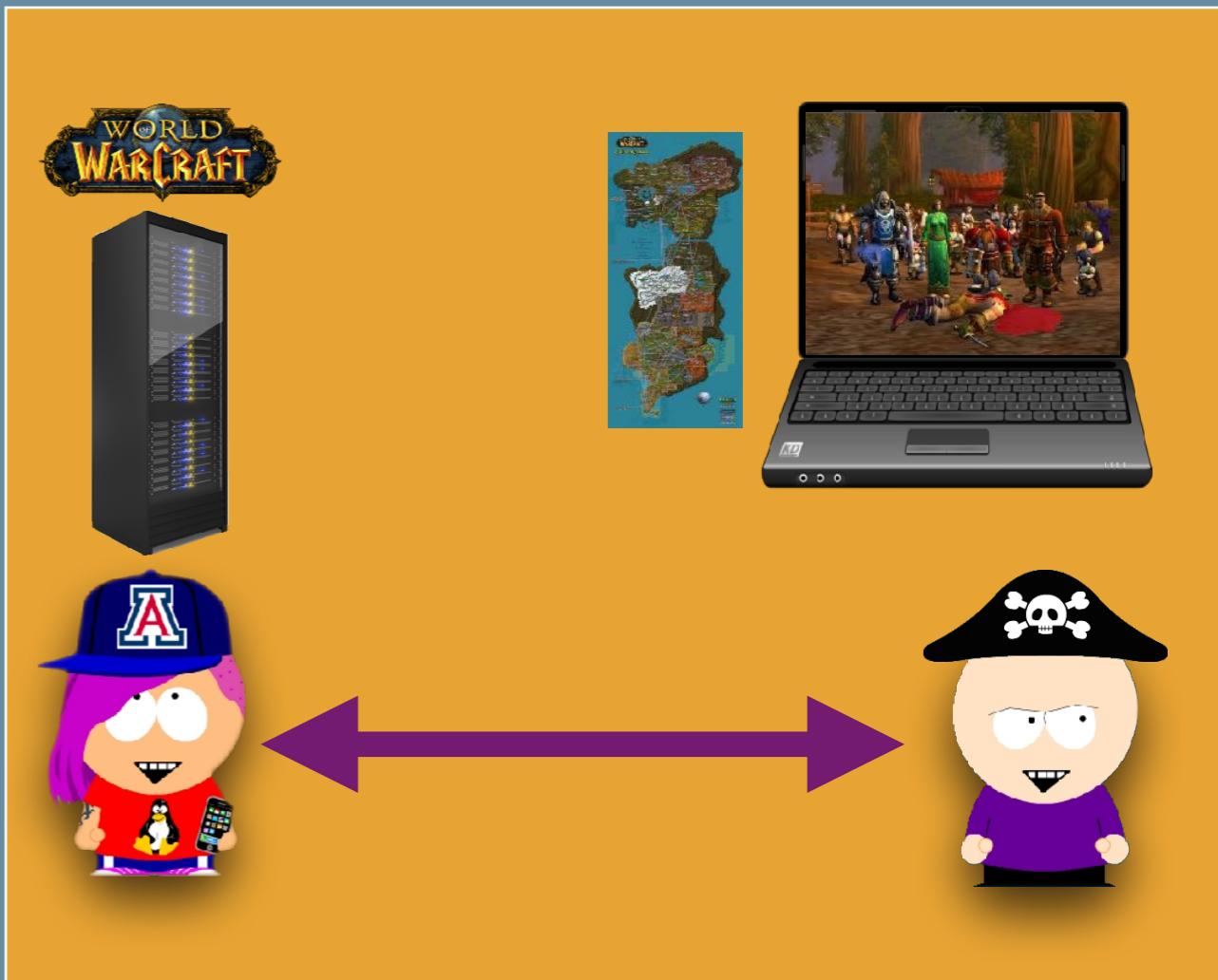
```
int main () {  
    if (false) {  
        printf("License expired!");  
        abort();  
    }  
}
```





*How are they
similar?
Different?*

*Consider these
two MATE
scenarios!*

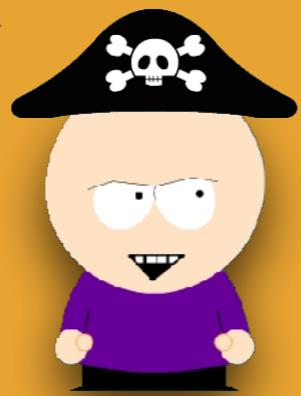


Remote Man-At-The-End

R-MATE attacks occur in distributed systems where untrusted clients are in frequent communication with trusted servers over a network, and where a malicious user can get an advantage by compromising an untrusted device.

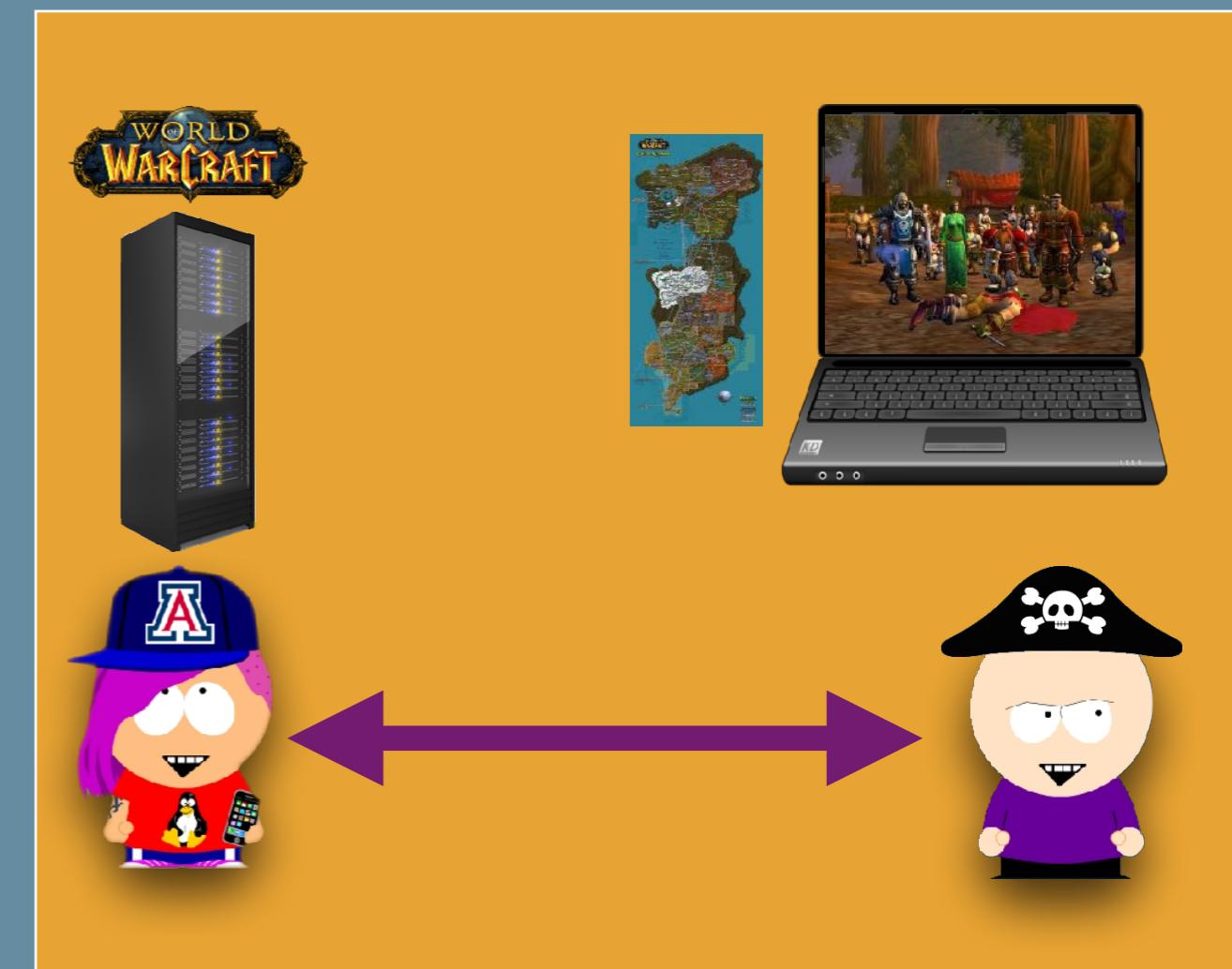
```
int main () {  
    if (false) {  
        printf("license expired!");  
        abort;  
    }  
}
```

Hack!



Consider these
two MATE
scenarios!

*How are they
similar?
Different?*



Tools
vs.
Counter Tools



Code Transformations

Obfuscation

Tamperproofing

Remote
Attestation

Whitebox
Cryptography

Environment
Checking

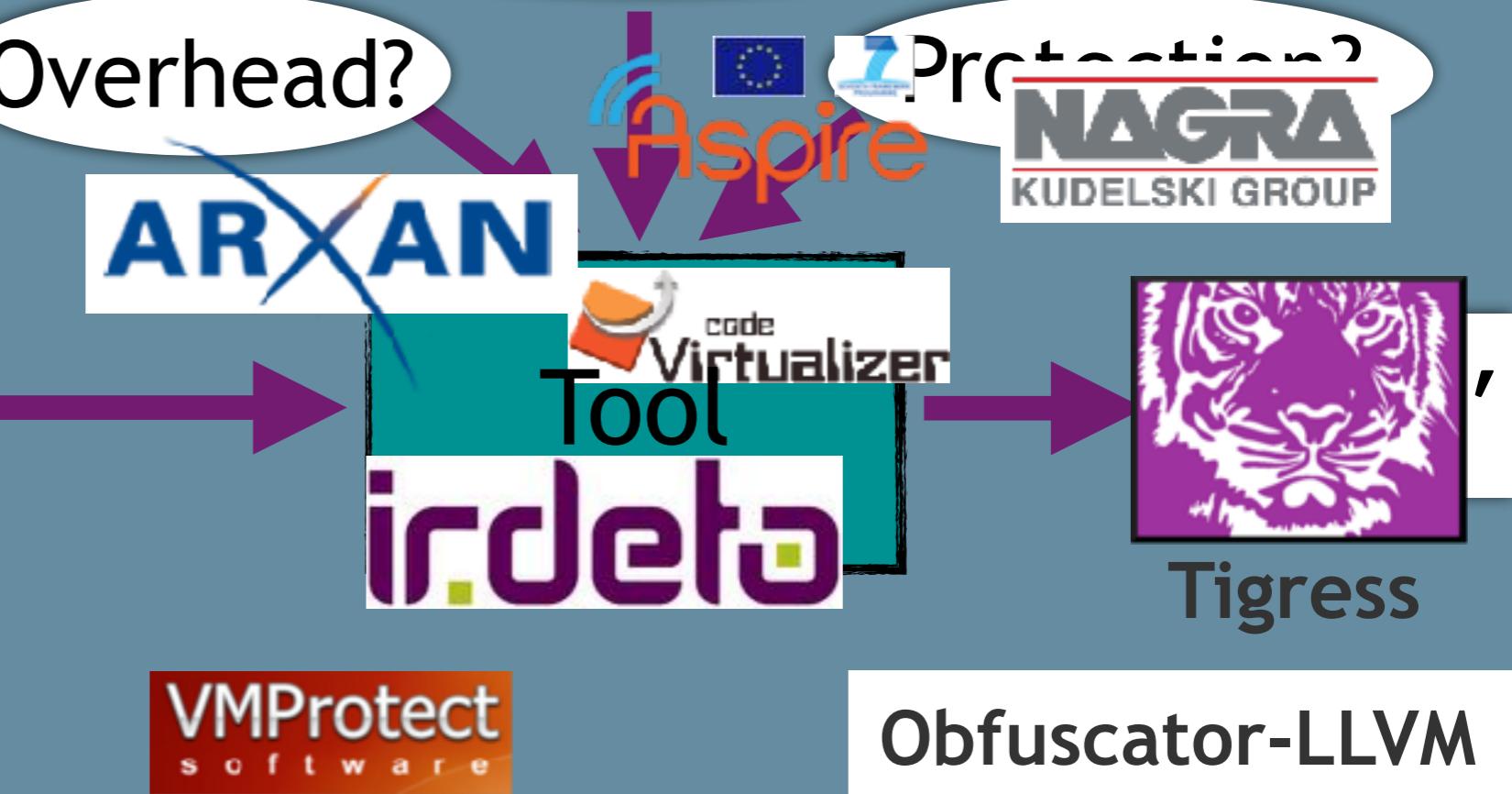
Watermarking

```
Prog() {
```

Assets

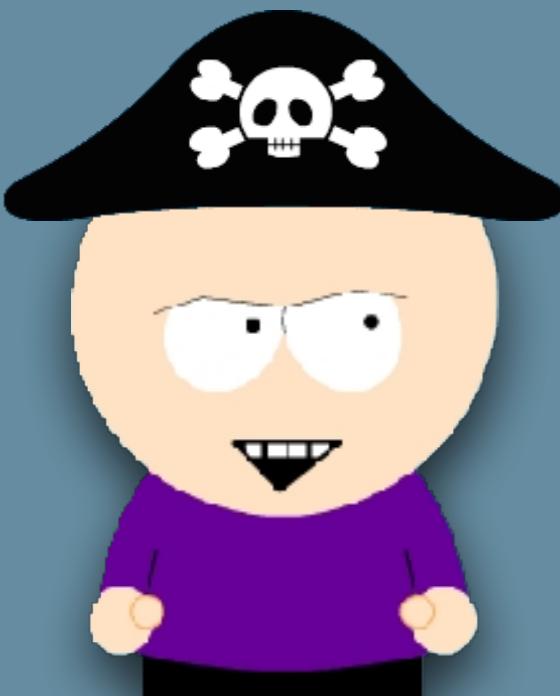
- Source
- Algorithms
- Keys
- Media

Overhead?



```
}
```

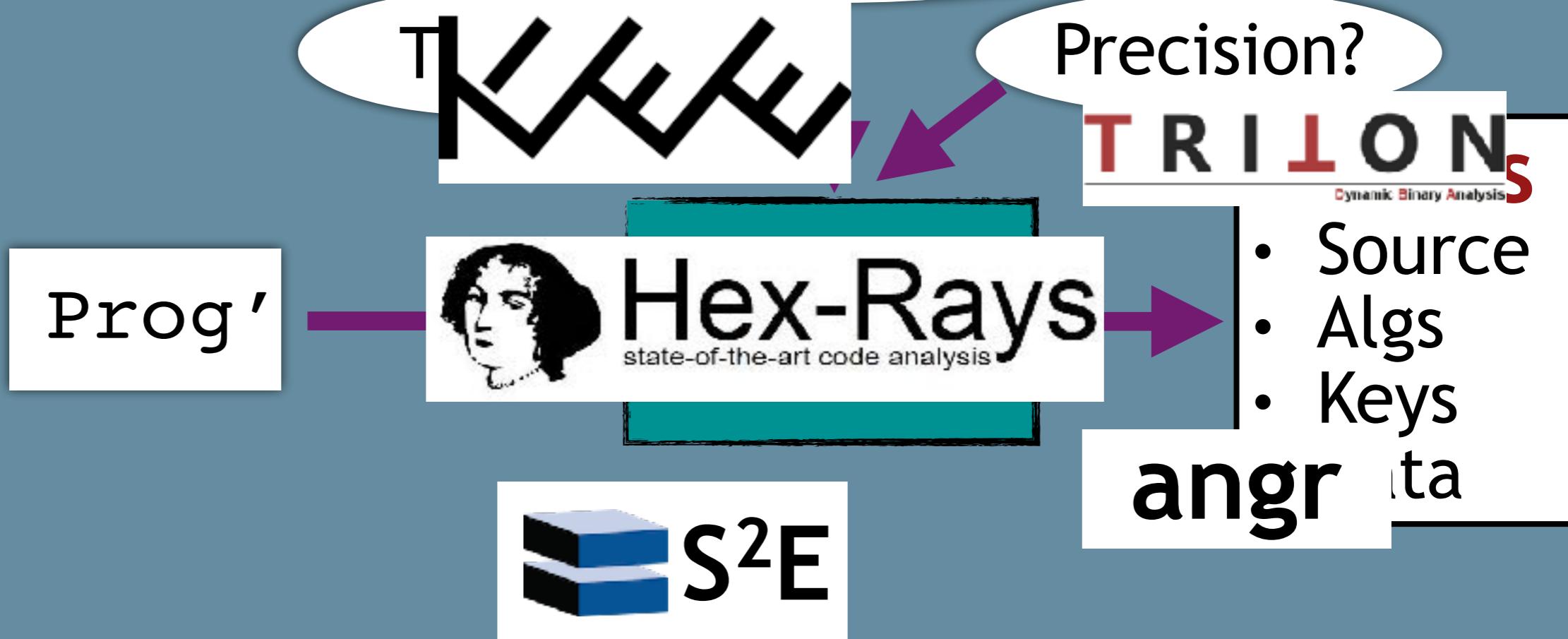
Obfuscator-LLVM



Code Analyses

Static analysis
Concolic analysis
Decompilation
Debugging

Dynamic analysis
Disassembly
Slicing
Emulation



What Matters?

Performance



Time-to-Crack



Stealth



Performance Matters?

Metric	Program	Slowdown
absolute time	application	<1s
relative	application	1.5x
relative	security kernel	100x-1000x



Code virtualizer	ExeCryptor	VMProtect	Themida
100x	700x	500x	1200x

Indistinguishability Obf.

Program	Generate	Run
2-bit multiplier	1027 years	10^8 years
16-bit point function	7 hours, 25G	4 hours (later, 20 minutes)



Bernstein et al., Bad Directions in Cryptographic Hash Functions, IS&P'15
Apon, et al., Impl. Cryptographic Program Obfuscation, CRYPTO'14
Banescu, et al, Benchmarking Indistinguishability Obf. - A candidate impl.

Time-to-Crack Matters

Program	Adversary	Time
hw+sw		many years
well protected	highly skilled, motivated	4-6 weeks
≈VMProtect	experienced reverse engineer	≈12 months
mass market malware		minutes- hours



What
is
Obfuscation?

```
public class C {  
    static Object get0(Object[] I) {  
        Integer I7, I6, I4, I3; int t9, t8;  
        I7=new Integer (9);  
        for (;;) {  
            if (((Integer)I[0]).intValue()%  
                ((Integer)I[1]).intValue() == 0)  
                {t9=1; t8=0;}  
            else  
                {t9=0; t8=0;}  
            I4=new Integer(t8);  
            I6=new Integer(t9);  
            if ((I4.intValue ()^I6.intValue ())!=0)  
                return new Integer(((Integer)I[1]).intValue());  
            else {  
                if (((((I7.intValue() +  
                    I7.intValue()*I7.intValue())%2 != 0)?0:1)!=1)  
                    return new Integer (0);  
                I3=new Integer(((Integer)I[0]).intValue()%  
                    ((Integer)I[1]).intValue ());  
                I[0]=new Integer(((Integer)I[1]).intValue());  
                I[1]=new Integer(I3.intValue());  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

```
public class C {  
    static int gcd(int x, int y) {  
        int t;  
        while (true) {  
            boolean b = x % y == 0;  
            if (b) return y;  
            t = x % y;  
            x = y;  
            y = t;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

```
int main() {  
    ... ... ... ...  
}
```

Abstraction Transformation

Destroy module structure,
classes, functions, etc.!

Control Transformation

Replace data structures
with new representations!

Data Transformation

Destroy if-, while-,
repeat-, etc.!

Dynamic Transformation

Make the program
change at runtime!



```
int main() {
    int y = 6;
    y = foo(y);
    bar(y, 42);
}

int foo(int x)
    return x*7;
}

void bar(int x, int z) {
    if (x==z)
        printf("%i\n",x);
}
```

Abstraction
Transformation

```
int main() {  
    int y = 6;  
    y = foobar(y, 99, 1);  
    foobar(y, 42, 2);  
}
```

```
int foobar(int x, int z, int s) {  
    if (s==1)  
        return x*7;  
    else if (s==2)  
        if (x==z)  
            printf("%i \n", x);  
}
```

```
int main () {
    int y = 12;
    y = foobar(y,99,1);
    foobar(y,36,2);
}
int foobar(int x, int z, int s) {
    if (s==1)
        return (x*37)%51;
    else if (x==z) {
        int x2=x*x%51,x3=x2*x%51;
        int x4=x2*x2%51,x8=x4*x4%51;
        int x11=x8*x3%51;
        printf("%i\n",x11);
    }
}
```

Data Transformation

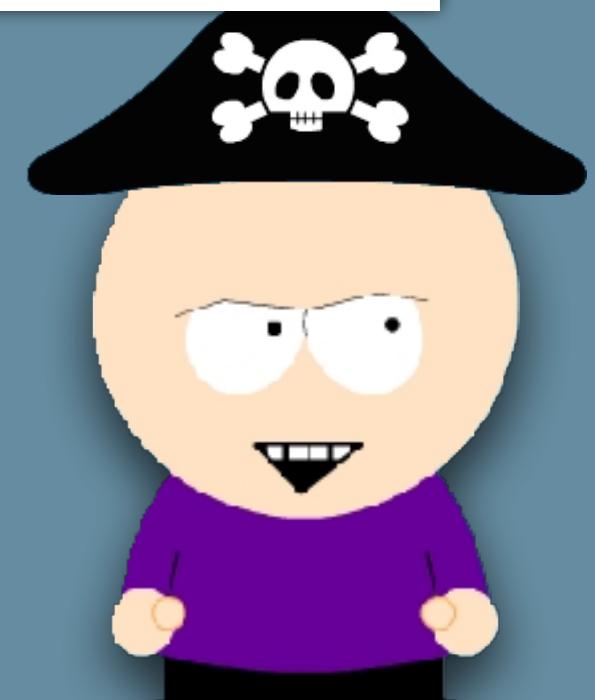
```
int foobar(int x, int z, int s){  
    char* next=&&cell0;  
    int retVal = 0;  
    cell0: {next=(s==1)?&&cell1:&&cell2;  
             goto *next;}  
    cell1: {retVal=(x*37)%51; goto end;}  
    cell2: {next=(s==2)?&&cell3:&&end;  
             goto *next;}  
    cell3: {next=(x==z)?&&cell4:&&end;  
             goto *next;}  
    cell4: {  
        int x2=x*x%51,x3=x2*x%51;  
        int x4=x2*x2%51,x8=x4*x4%51;  
        int x11=x8*x3 % 51;  
        printf("%i \n",x11); goto end;  
    }  
    end: return retVal;  
}
```

Control
Transformation

What
is
Tamperproofing?

```
int foo () {  
    if (today > "Aug 17, 2016") {  
        printf("License expired!");  
        abort;  
    }  
}
```

```
check(){  
    if (hash(foo)!=42)  
        abort()  
}
```



```
int hash (addr_t addr,int words){  
    int h = *addr;  
    for(int i=1; i<words; i++) {  
        addr++;  
        h ^= *addr;  
    }  
    return h;  
}
```

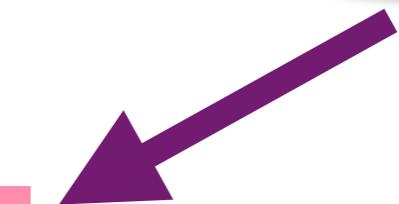
```
int foo() {  
    ...  
}
```

```
int main () {  
    if (hash(foo,1000) != 0x4C49F346)
```

- ◆ *crash the program*
- ◆ *phone home*
- ◆ *refuse to run*
- ◆ *run slower*
- ◆ *make wrong results*

```
foo();  
}
```

Detect
tampering



Respond
to tampering



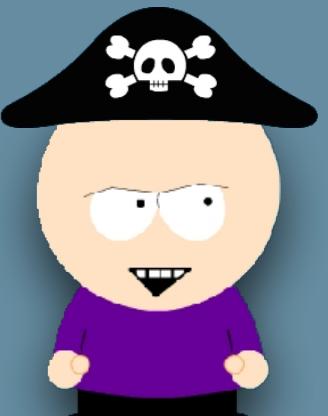
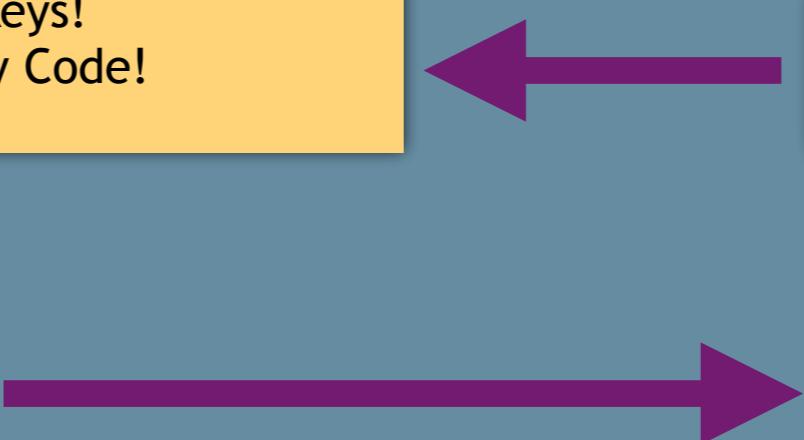
Exercises

*Discuss with
your friends!!!*

- Why do we obfuscate?
- Why do we tamperproof?

- ◆ Extract Code!
- ◆ Discover Algorithms!
- ◆ Find Design!
- ◆ Find Keys!
- ◆ Modify Code!

int foo() {
...
}
Hack!



- *Can obfuscation be used to tamperproof a program?*

- Should you both obfuscate and tamperproof a program?

If so, why?

Questions?

