



# IntScope : Automatically Detecting Integer Overflow Vulnerability in X86 Binary Using Symbolic Execution

---

Tielei Wang<sup>1</sup>, Tao Wei<sup>1</sup>, Zhiqiang Lin<sup>2</sup>, Wei Zou<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Peking University, China

<sup>2</sup>Purdue University

# Outline

---

- ◆ **Motivation**
- ◆ Case Study
- ◆ Modeling
- ◆ Challenges & Approaches
- ◆ Implementation & Evaluation
- ◆ Related Work
- ◆ Conclusion

# What is Integer Overflow ?

---

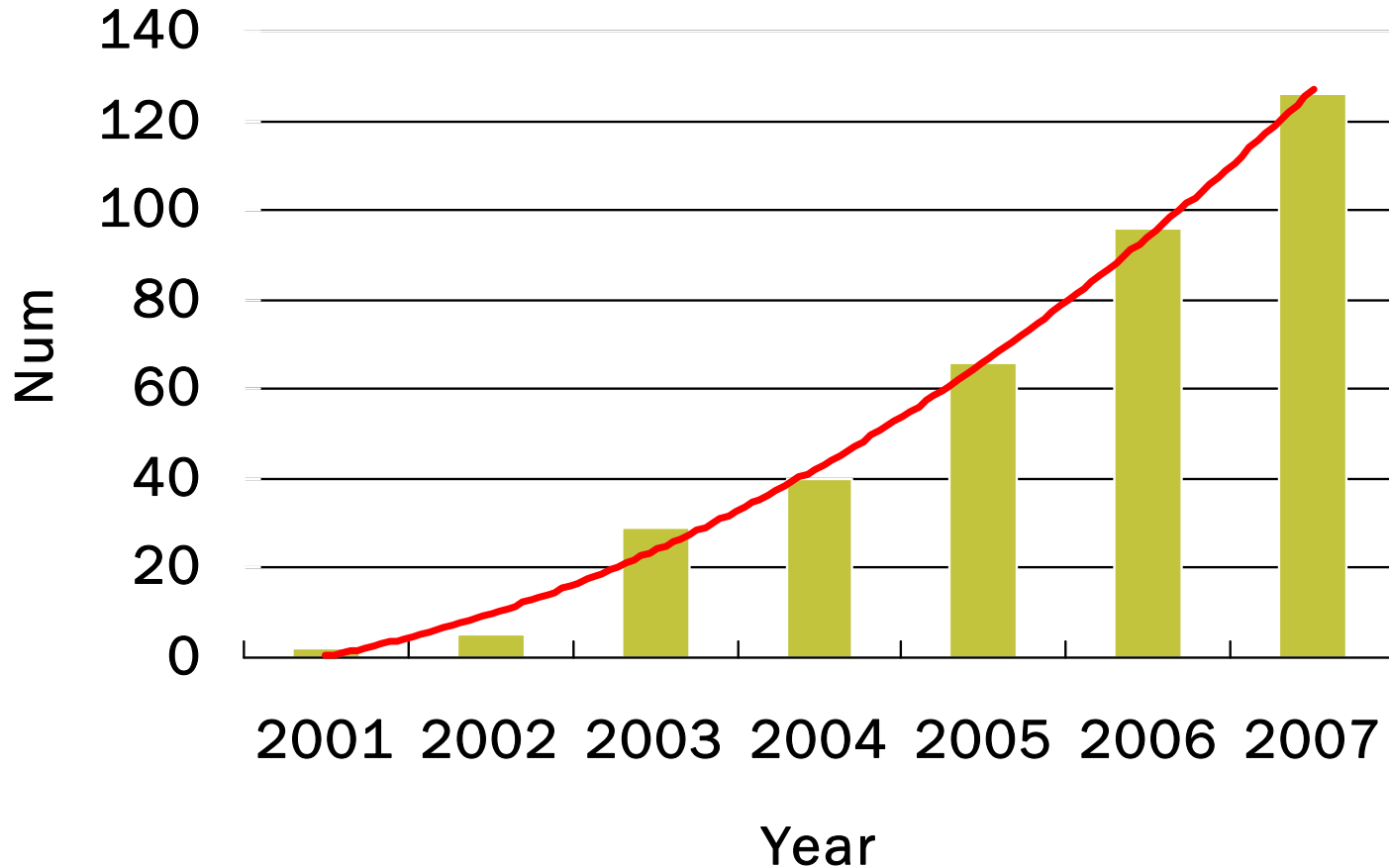
- ◆ An *integer overflow* occurs when an operation results in a value greater than the maximum one of the integral data type.

```
unsigned int a = 0xffffffff;
unsigned int b = 0x1      ;
a = a + b              ;//now, a is 0!
```

- ◆ Integer overflow vulnerability is an underestimated threat

# The # of integer overflow vulnerabilities grows rapidly

---



Data Source: National Vulnerability Database

# Integer Overflow Vulnerabilities affected various kinds of software

---

## ◆ OS Kernel

- CVE-2008-4036 (Windows XP, Server 2003, Vista)
- CVE-2008-3276 (Linux)
- CVE-2008-4220 (Mac OS)
- CVE-2008-1391 (NetBSD)
- ...

## ◆ Libraries

- CVE-2008-2316 (Python)
- CVE-2008-5352 (JAVA)
- ...

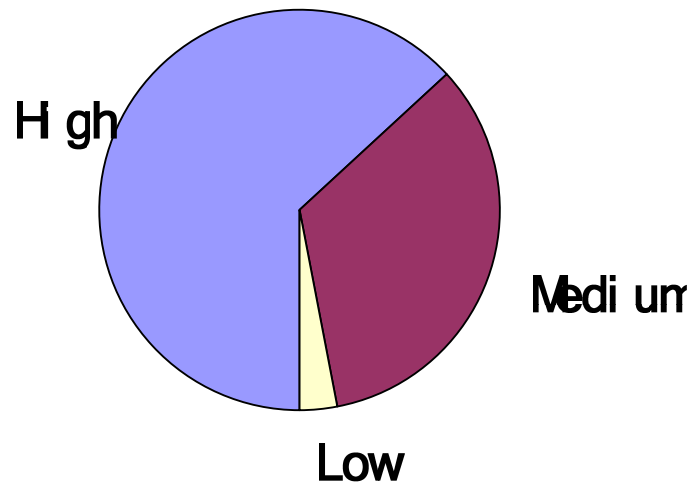
## ◆ Applications

- CVE-2008-0726 (Adobe Reader)
- CVE-2008-4061 (Firefox)
- CVE-2008-2947 (IE7)
- CVE-2008-0120 (PowerPoint)
- CVE-2008-1722(CUPS)
- CVE-2008-2430(VLC)
- CVE-2008-5238(Xine)
- ...

# Most of Integer Overflow Vulnerabilities are dangerous

---

- ◆ According to Common Vulnerability Scoring System(CVSS), more than 60% of Integer Overflow vulnerabilities have the highest severity score.



# Outline

---

- ◆ Motivation
- ◆ **Case Study**
- ◆ Modeling
- ◆ Challenges & Approaches
- ◆ Implementation & Evaluation
- ◆ Related Work
- ◆ Conclusion

# What are the common features of integer overflow vulnerabilities?

an untrusted source

```
unsigned int x = read_int();
if ( x > 0x7fffffff )
    abort();
unsigned int s = x*sizeof(int);
char* p=malloc(s);
read_int_into_buf(p, x);
```

an incomplete check

an integer overflow

a sensitive operation

a heap overflow followed



# CVE-2008-5238(Xine)

an untrusted source

an integer overflow

a sensitive operation

```
.....  
if (version == 4) {  
    const uint16_t sps = _X_BE_16 (this->header+44) ? : 1;  
    this->w           = _X_BE_16 (this->header+42);  
    this->h           = _X_BE_16 (this->header+40);  
    this->cfs         = _X_BE_32 (this->header+24);  
    this->frame_len = this->w * this->h;  
    this->frame_size = this->frame_len * sps;  
    this->frame_buffer = calloc(this->frame_size,  
.....
```

# CVE-2008-1722(CUPS)

an untrusted source

an incomplete check

an integer overflow

a sensitive operation

```
png_get_IHDR(pp, info, &width, &height, &bit_depth,
             &interlace_type, &compression_type, &filter_type)
{
    .....
    if (width == 0 || width > CUPS_IMAGE_MAX_WIDTH ||
        height == 0 || height > CUPS_IMAGE_MAX_HEIGHT)
    { //error
        return (1);
    }
    img->xsize = width;
    img->ysize = height;
    .....
    if (color_type == PNG_COLOR_TYPE_GRAY || color_type ==
        PNG_COLOR_TYPE_GRAY_ALPHA)
        in = malloc(img->xsize * img->ysize);
    else
        in = malloc(img->xsize * img->ysize * 3);
    .....
}
}
```

# CVE-2008-2430(VLC)

an untrusted source

```
.....  
if( ChunkFind( p_demux, "fmt ", &i_size ) )
```

```
{  
    msg_Err( p_demux, "cannot find 'fmt ' chunk" );  
    goto error;  
}
```

```
if( i_size < sizeof( WAVEFORMATEX ) - 2 )
```

```
{  
    msg_Err( p_demux, "invalid 'fmt ' chunk" );  
    goto error;  
}
```

```
stream_Read( p_demux->s, NULL, 8 ); /* Can
```

```
/* load waveformatex */
```

```
p_wf_ext = malloc( __EVEN( i_size ) + 2 );
```

```
.....
```

an incomplete check

an integer overflow

a sensitive operation

# What's the essential feature of integer overflow vulnerabilities?

an untrusted source

```
unsigned int x = read_int();  
if ( x > 0x7fffffff )  
    abort();  
    unsigned int s = x*sizeof(int);  
char* p=malloc(s);  
read_int_into_buf(p, x);
```

an incomplete check

an integer overflow

a sensitive operation

# What's the essential feature of integer overflow vulnerabilities?

an untrusted source

```
unsigned int x = read_int();  
if ( x > 0x7fffffff )  
    abort();  
    unsigned int s = x*sizeof(int);  
char* p=malloc(s);  
read_int_into_buf(p, x);
```

an incomplete check

an integer overflow

a sensitive operation

## ◆ Typical view

- the essential feature is the actual overflow itself

# Integer Overflow != Integer Overflow Vulnerability

---

- ◆ Case 1: The overflowed value is NOT used in any sensitive operation
  - e.g. TCP sequence number rolls back per 4GB
- ◆ Case 2: The overflowed value is NOT tainted
  - Most untainted integer overflows are on purpose, i.e., benign overflows, e.g. computing random seeds
- ◆ So Integer overflow itself is not the essential part of the vulnerability

# What's the essential feature of integer overflow vulnerabilities?

an untrusted source

an incomplete check

```
unsigned int x = read_int();  
if ( x > 0x7fffffff )  
    abort();  
unsigned int s = x*sizeof(int);  
char* p=malloc(s);  
read_int_into_buf(p, x);
```

an integer overflow

a sensitive operation

- ◆ The essential feature is those sensitive operations which use some tainted overflowed data.

# Outline

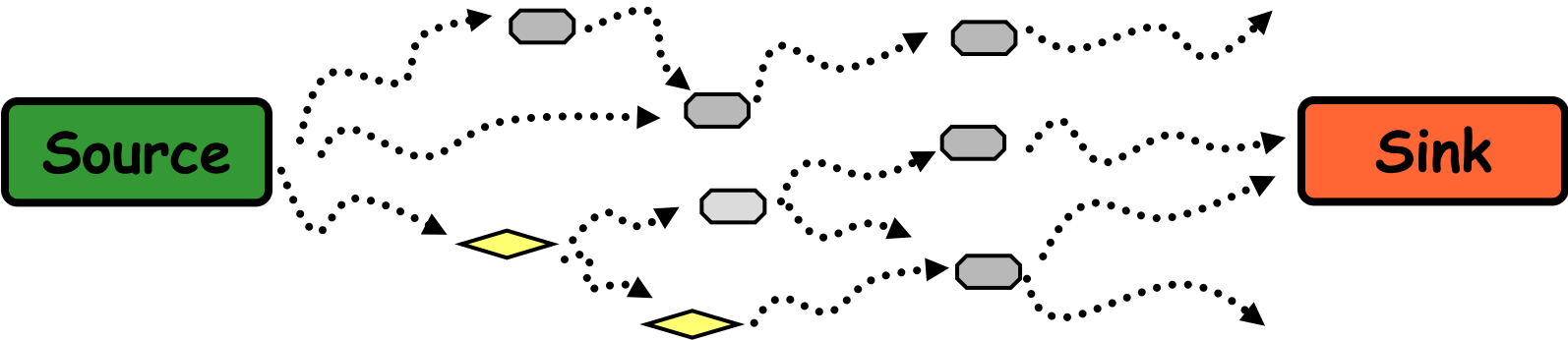
---

- ◆ Motivation
- ◆ Case Study
- ◆ **Modeling**
- ◆ Challenges & Approaches
- ◆ Implementation & Evaluation
- ◆ Related work
- ◆ Conclusion



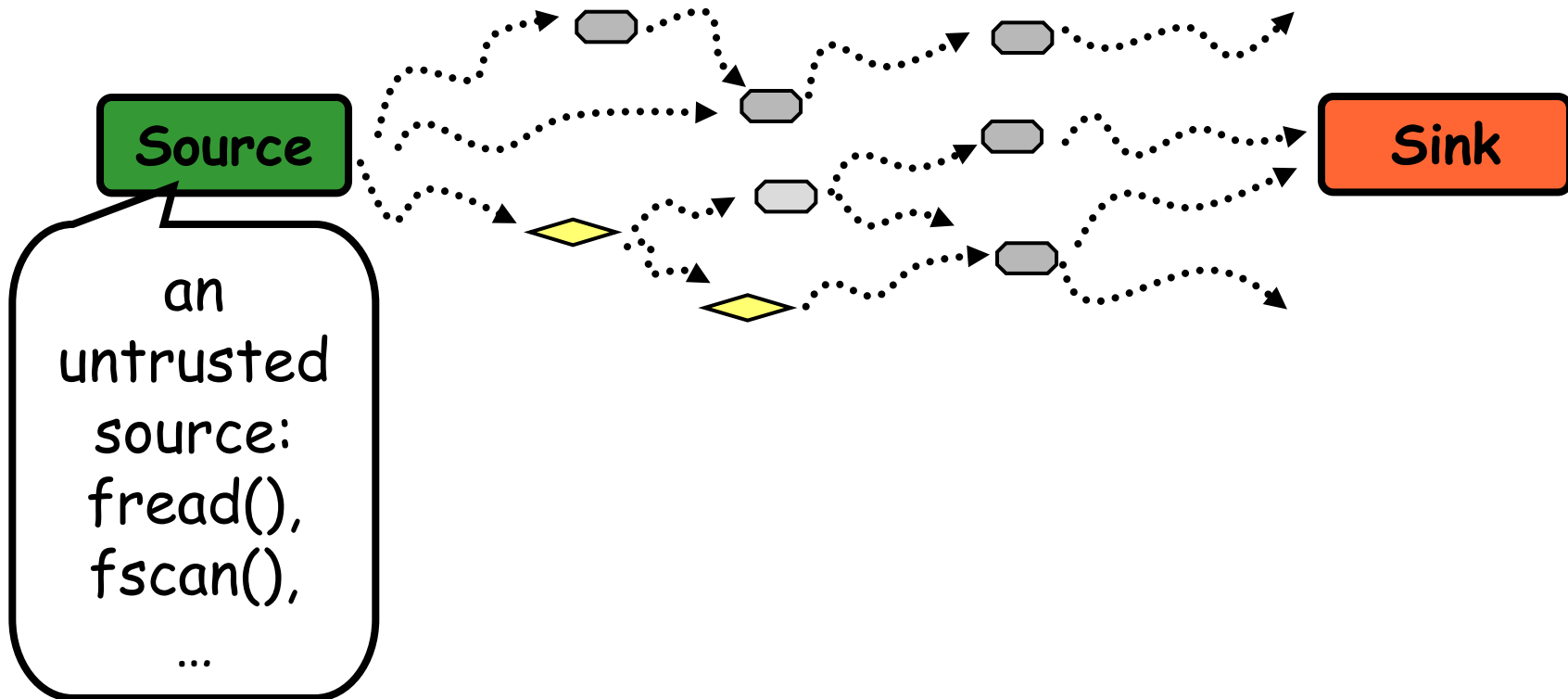
# Modeling Integer Overflow Vulnerability

- ◆ An instance of taint-based problem



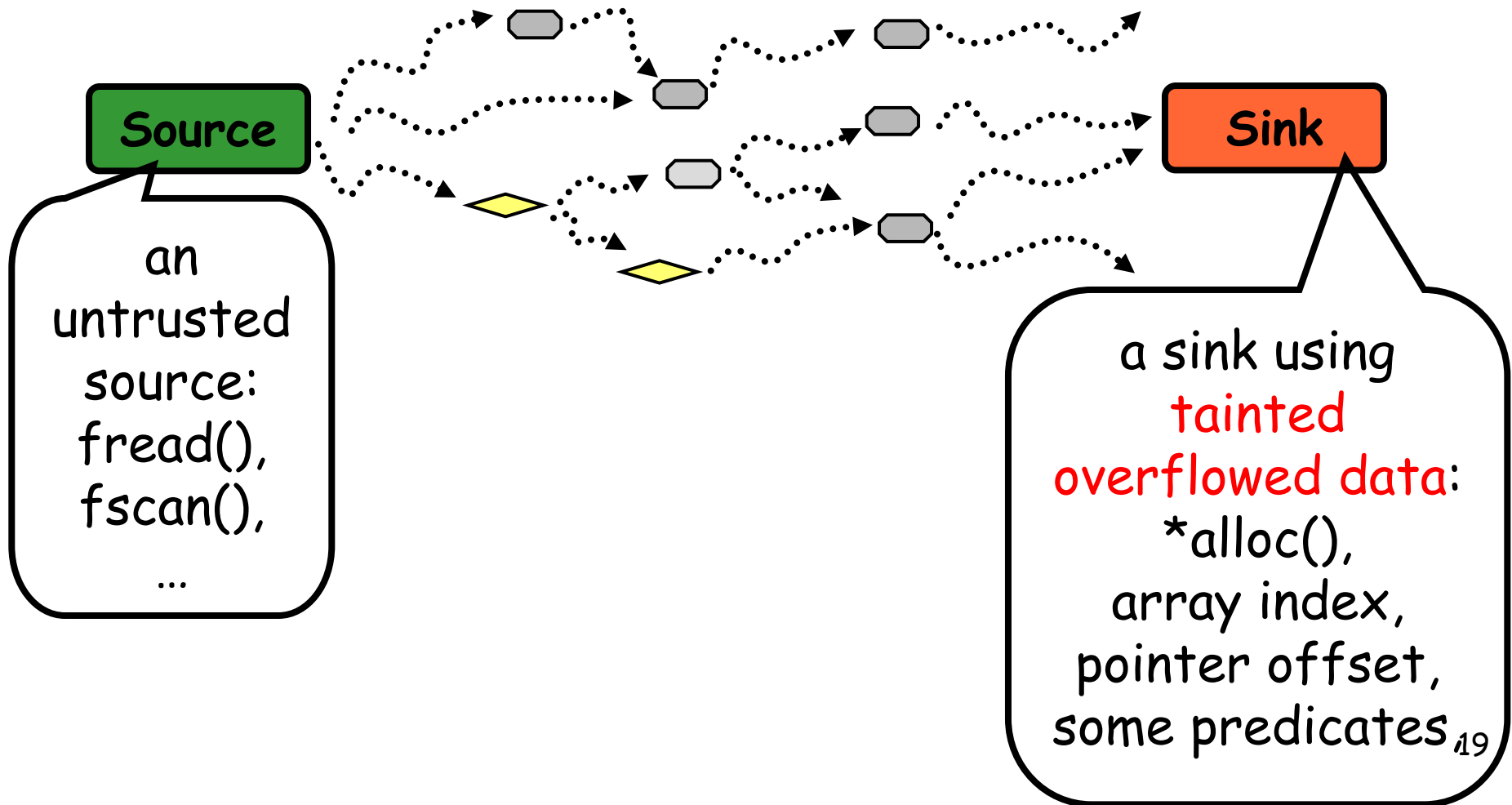
# Modeling Integer Overflow Vulnerability

- ◆ An instance of taint-based problem



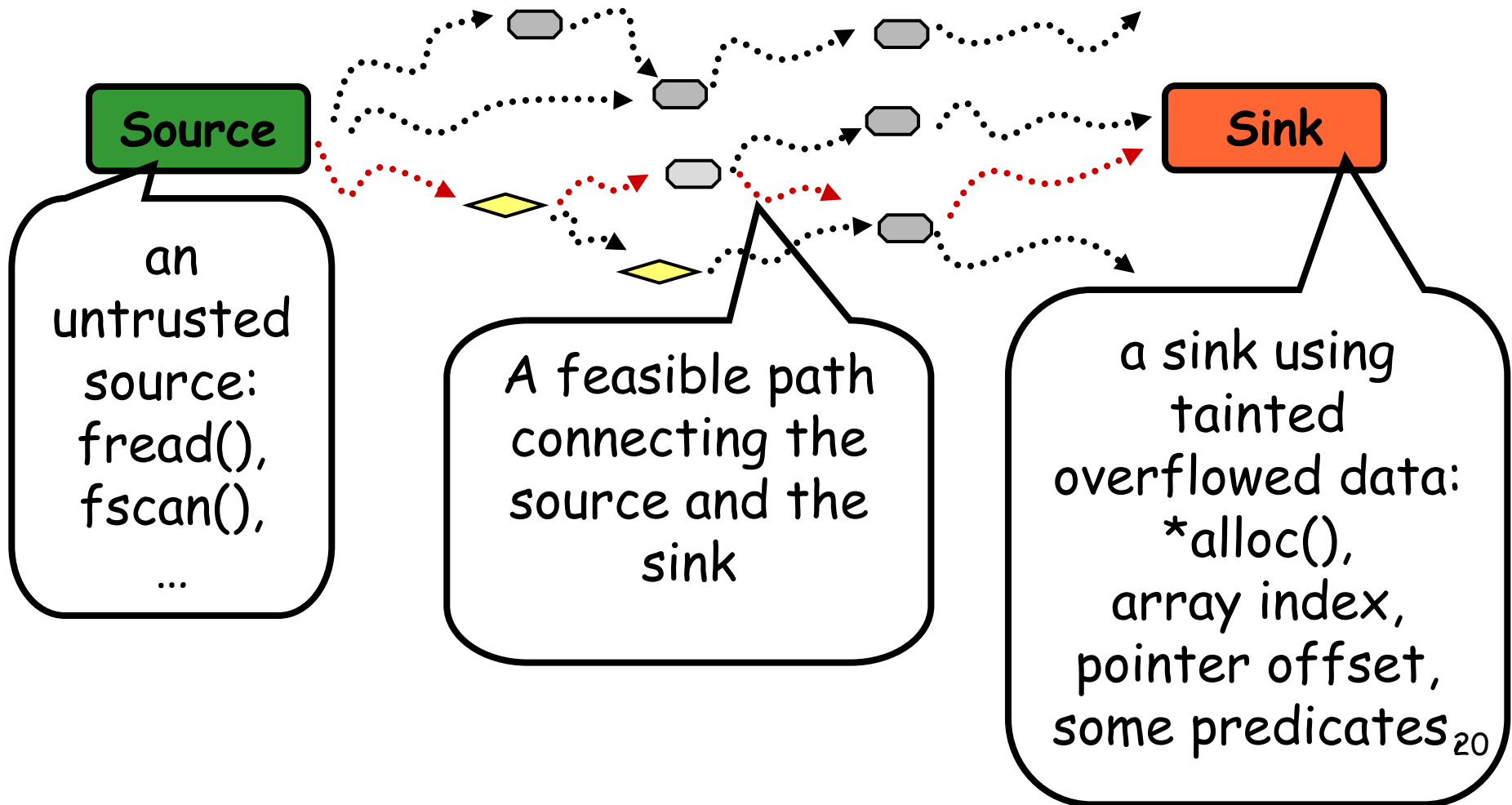
# Modeling Integer Overflow Vulnerability

- ◆ An instance of taint-based problem



# Modeling Integer Overflow Vulnerability

- ◆ An instance of taint-based problem



# Outline

---

- ◆ Motivation
- ◆ Case Study
- ◆ Modeling
- ◆ **Challenges & Approaches**
- ◆ Implementation & Evaluation
- ◆ Related Work
- ◆ Conclusion

# Natural Approach

---

- ◆ Based on general static taint analysis
- ◆ Given a binary program

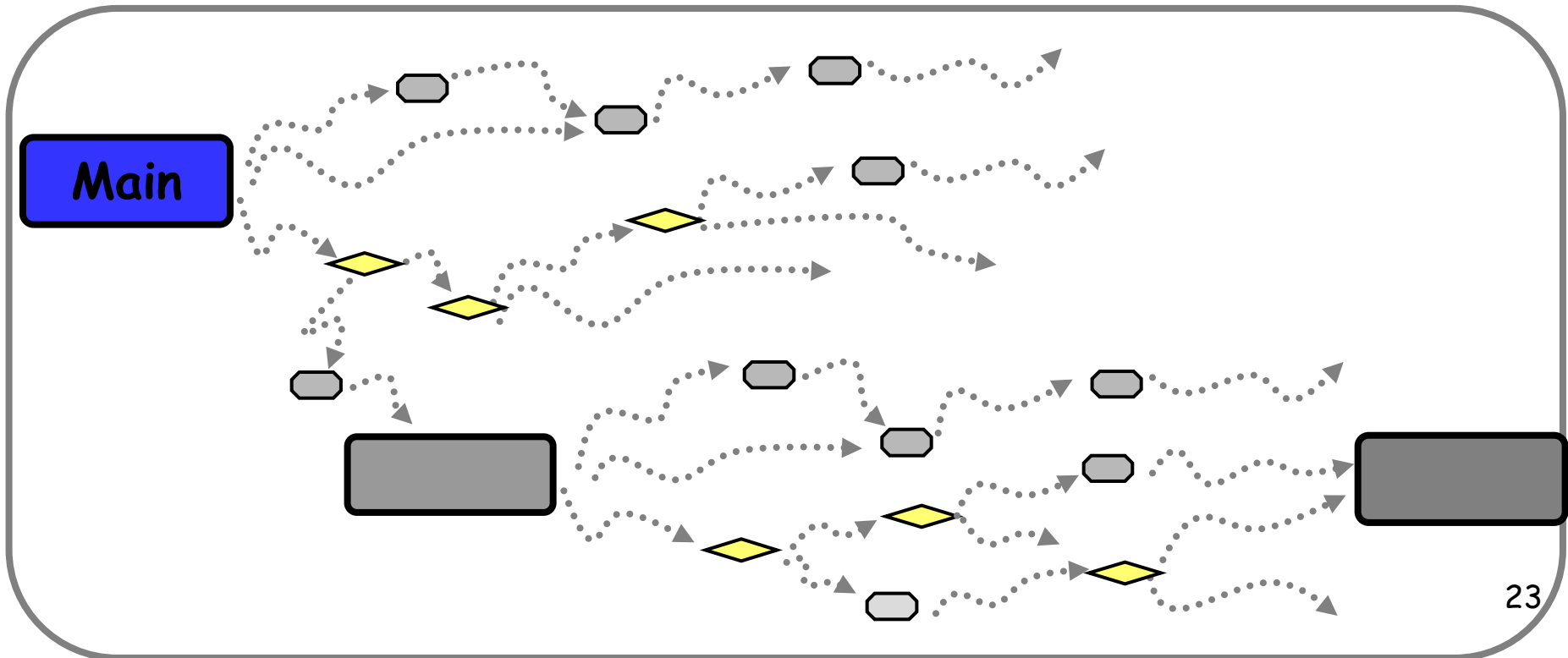


**Main**

# Natural Approach

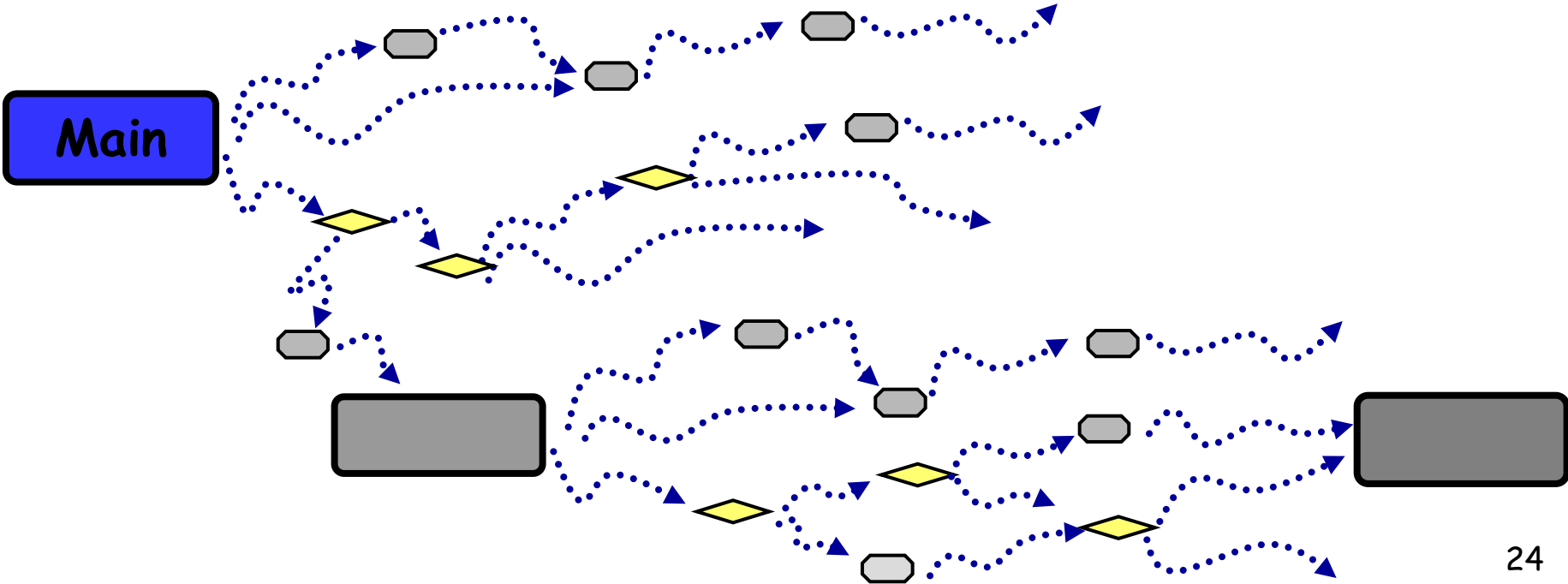
- ◆ **Decompile the binary program**

- Generate the intermediate representations, call graphs, CFGs, ...



# Natural Approach

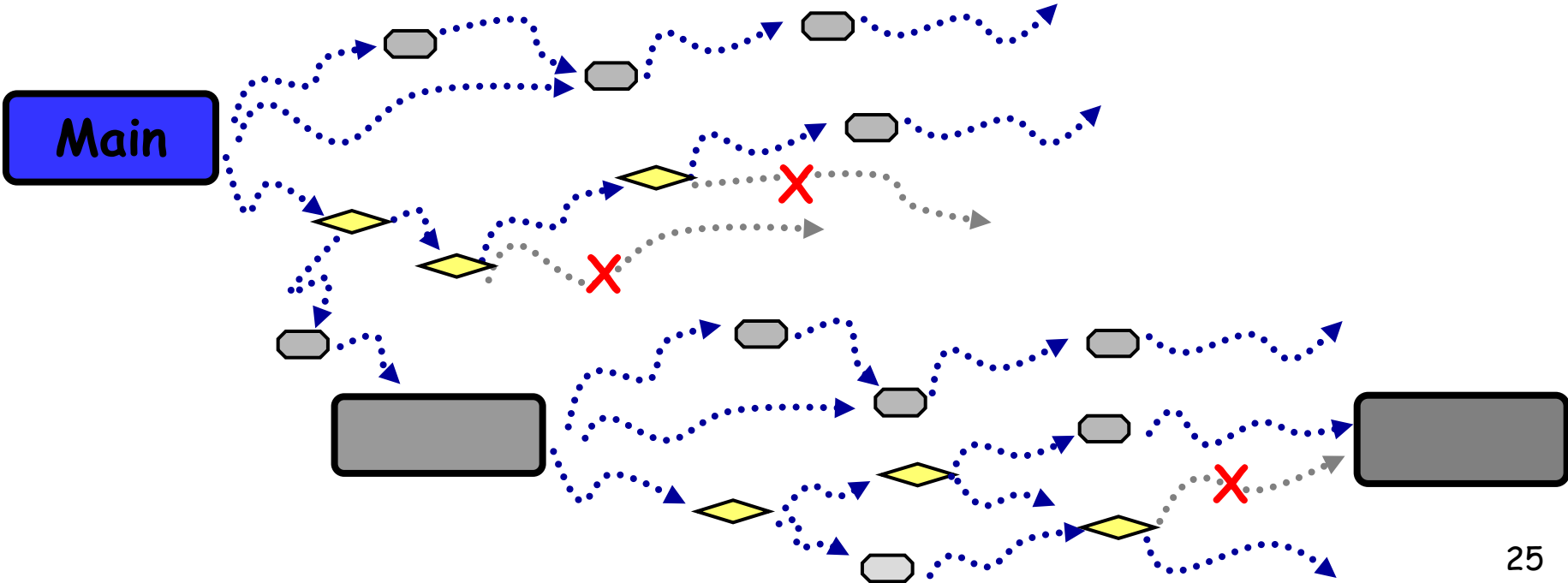
- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Traverse all paths from main() using symbolic execution





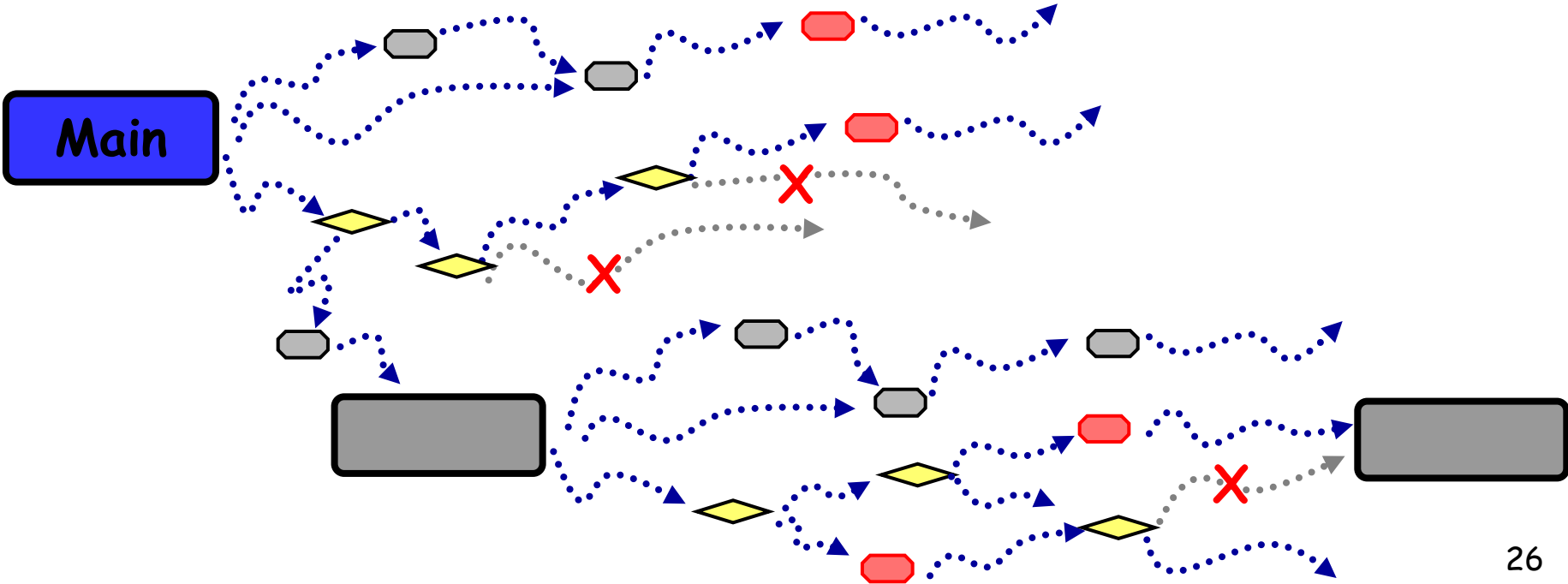
# Natural Approach

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Traverse, **Prune infeasible paths, whose path constraints cannot be satisfied, during traversing**



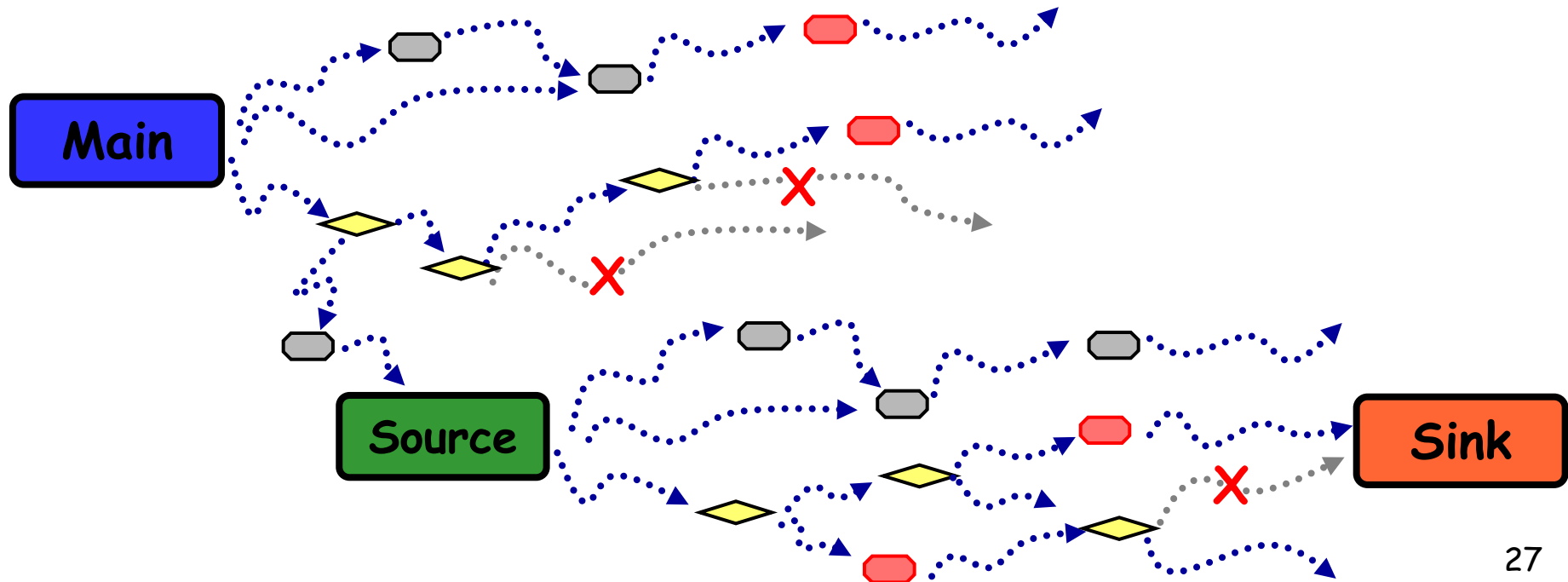
# Natural Approach

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Traverse, Prune, **Check possible integer overflows during traversing**



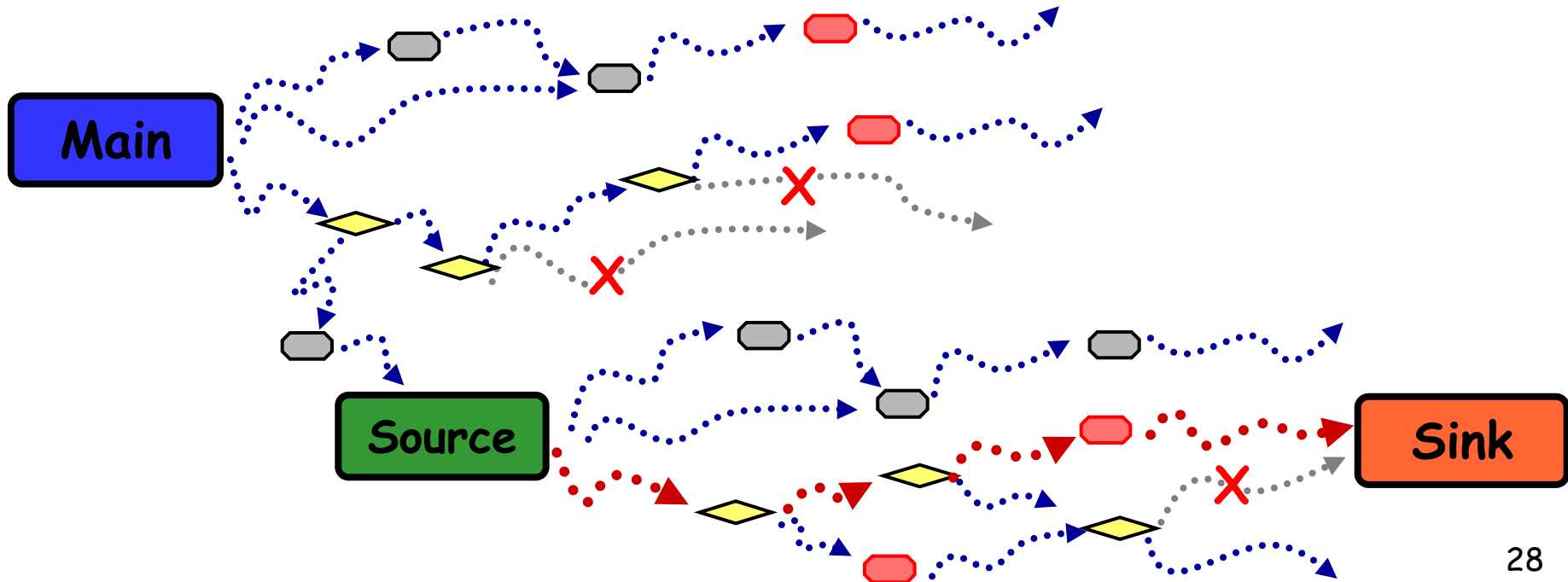
# Natural Approach

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Traverse, Prune, Check, **Tag sources and sinks during traversing**



# Natural Approach

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Traverse, Prune, Check, Tag
- ◆ Output suspicious paths in which tainted overflowed data used in sinks



# Does this natural approach work efficiently?

---

## ◆ Major Challenges

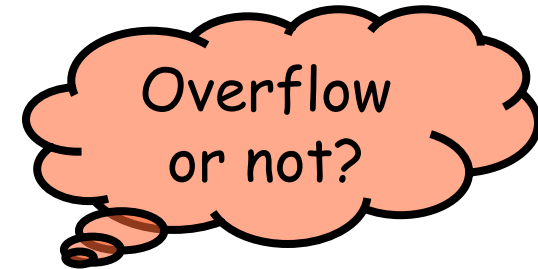
- 1. Lack of type information
- 2. Path explosion
- .....

# Challenge 1. Lack of type information

---

- ◆ During traversing, how can we determine there is an overflow or not?

```
mov    eax, 0xffffffff    ; eax = 0xffffffff or -1
add    eax, 2              ; eax = eax + 2
```

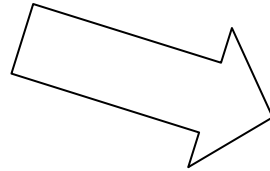


# How to solve this?

---

- ◆ Lazy check : only check integer overflows used in sinks

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Traverse, Prune, Check, Tag
- ◆ Output



- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Traverse, Prune, Tag, Check,
- ◆ Output

# Lazy check

---

- ◆ Only check integer overflows used in sinks

```
mov    eax, 0xffffffff
add    eax, 2
sub    eax, 4
jb     label1
```

eax is 0xffffffff, not -1

eax is 1 now, overflowed

unsigned cmp => eax is unsigned



# Benefit of Lazy check

---

## ◆ Useful **type information** hints

### ➤ Signed/unsigned comparisons

signed: JG, JGE, JNL, JNGE, JLE, JNG, JE, JNE

unsigned: JA, JAE, JNB, JB, JNAE, JBE, JNA, JE, JNE

### ➤ `void *calloc(size_t nmemb, size_t size);`

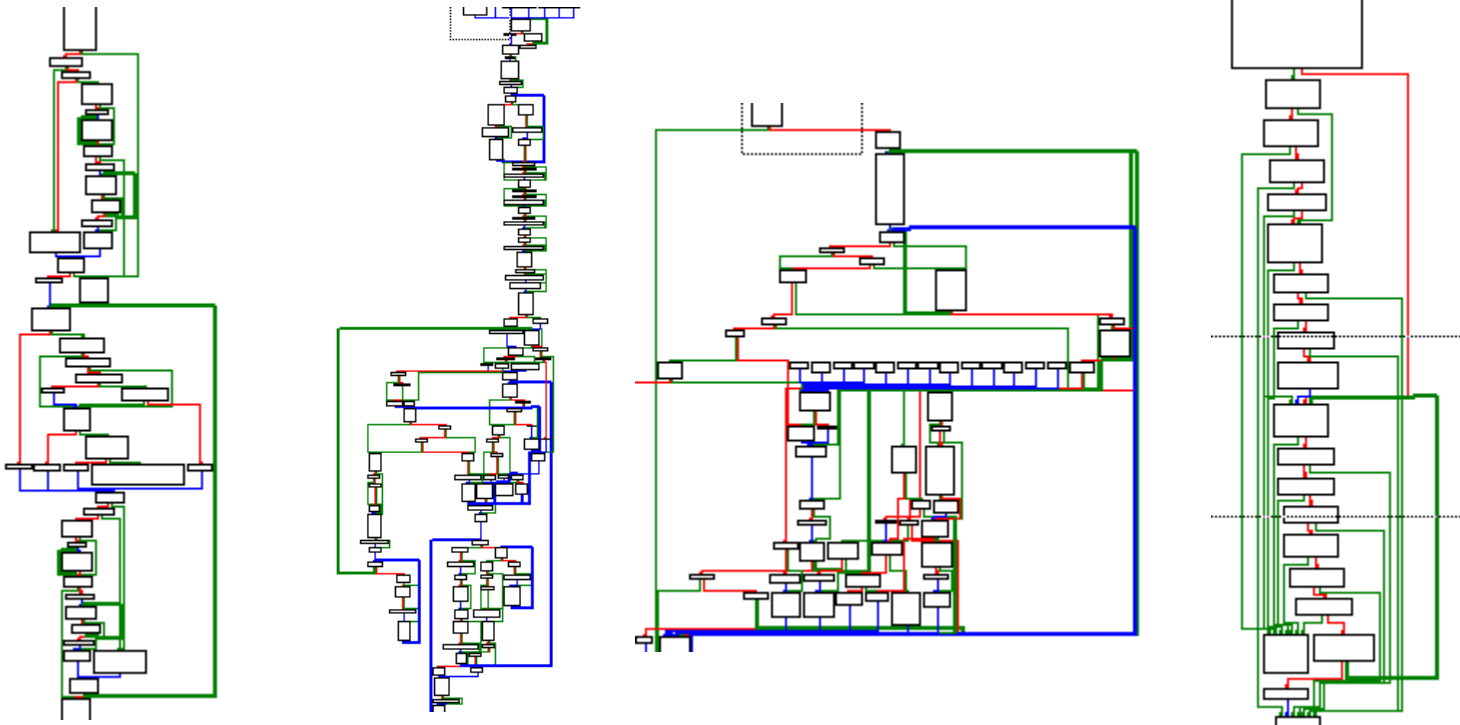
### ➤ `void *malloc(size_t size);`

### ➤ ...

## ◆ Much less checks, much more efficiency

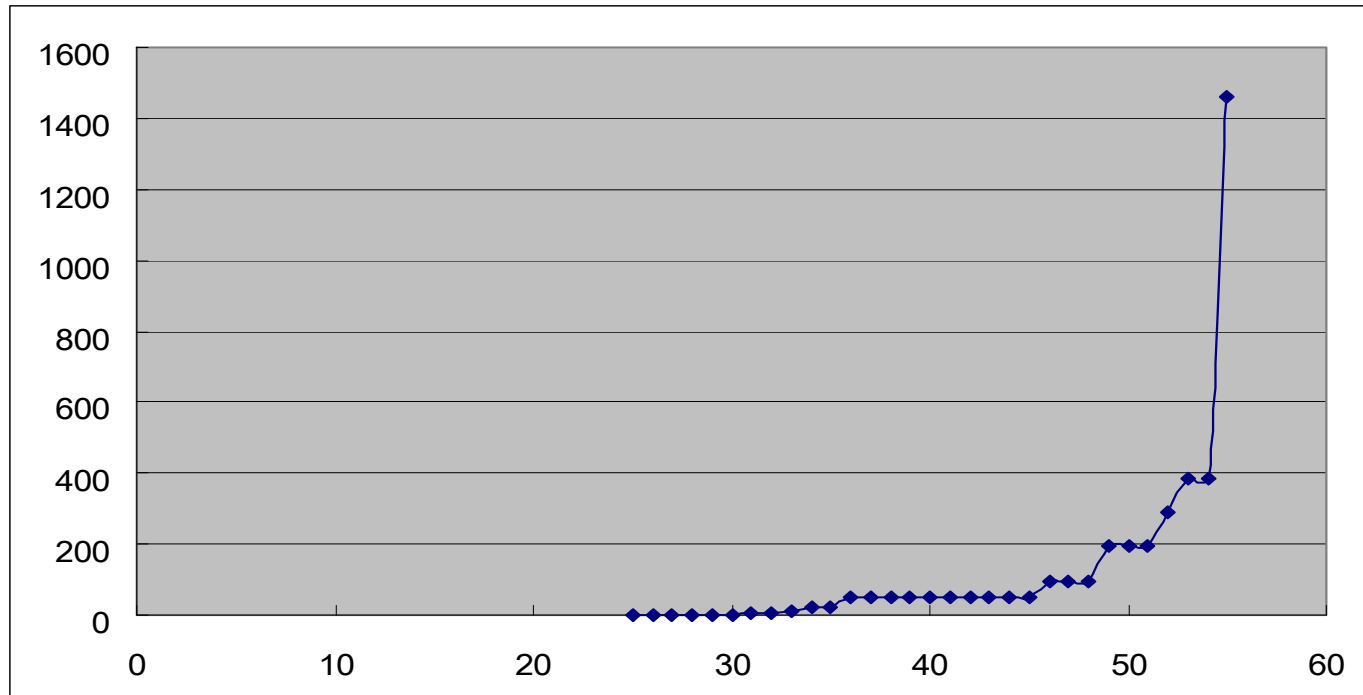
## Challenge 2. Path explosion

- ◆ We need path-sensitive analysis, but the number of paths through software is very large.



# Exponential Traversing Time

time spent in traversing  
(sec)

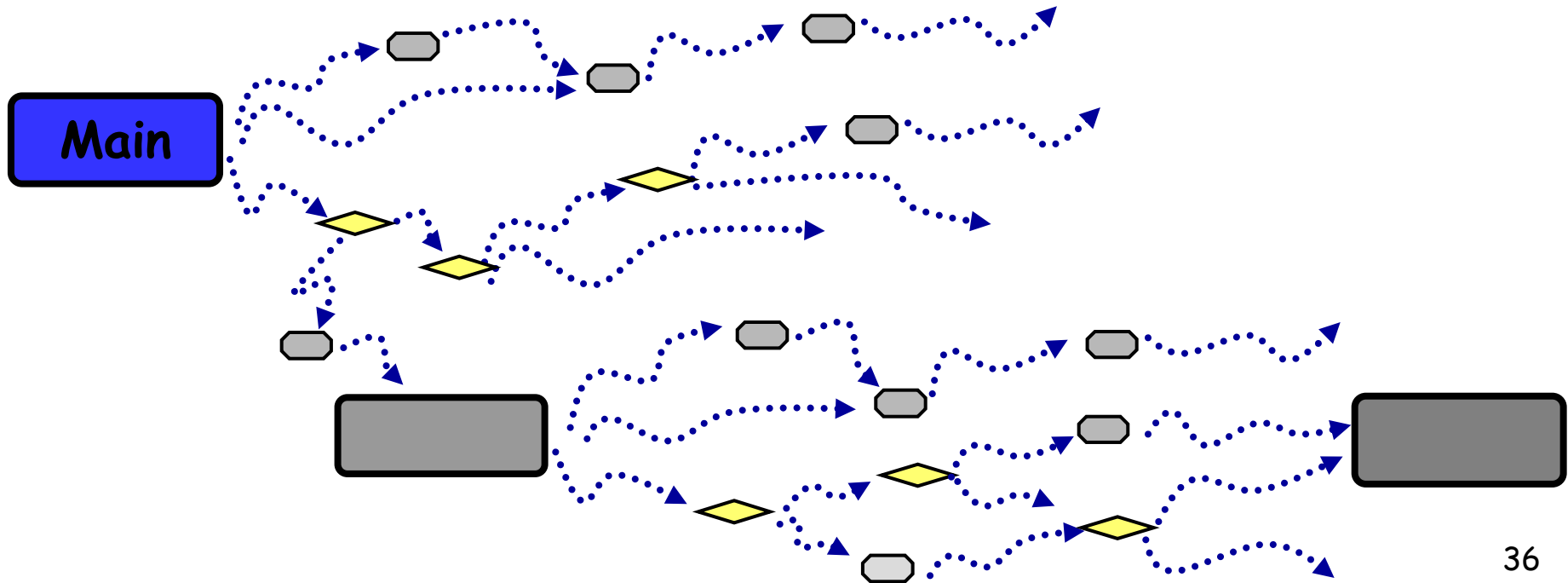


branches in path (QEMU)

- ◆ Only pruning during execution is not enough

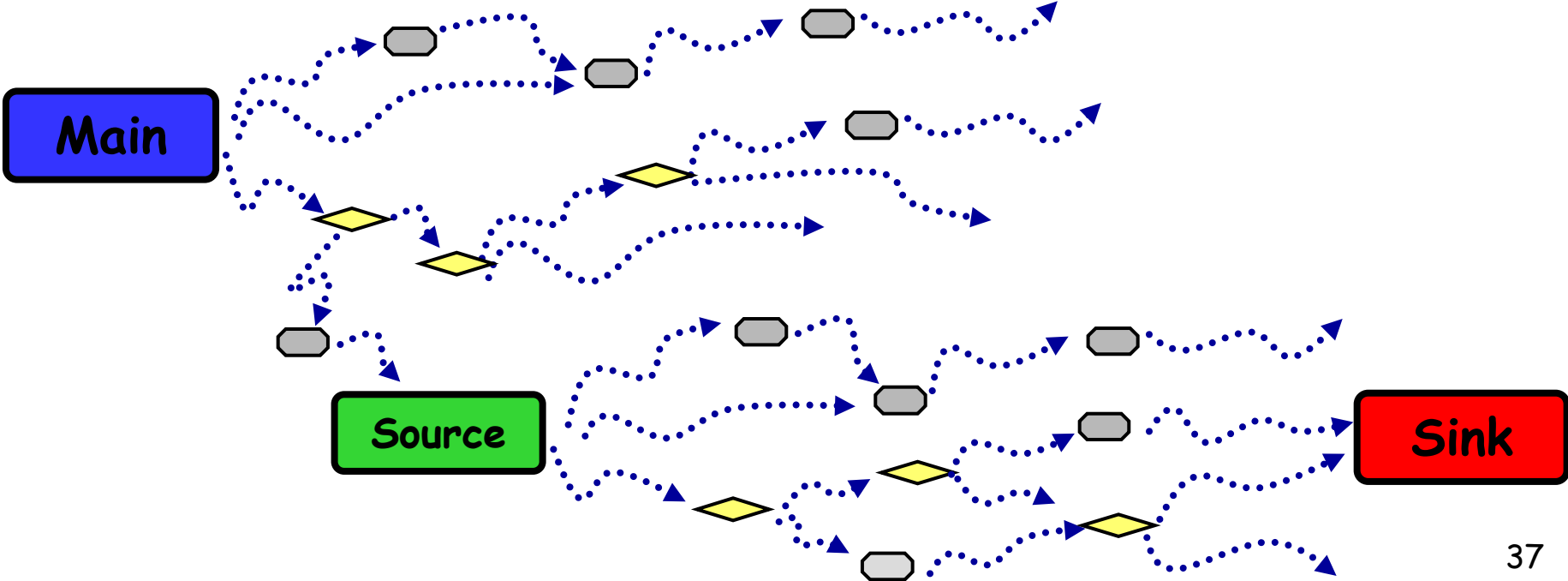
# Solution: Pre-pruning before traversing

- ◆ Only consider paths between sources and possible sinks



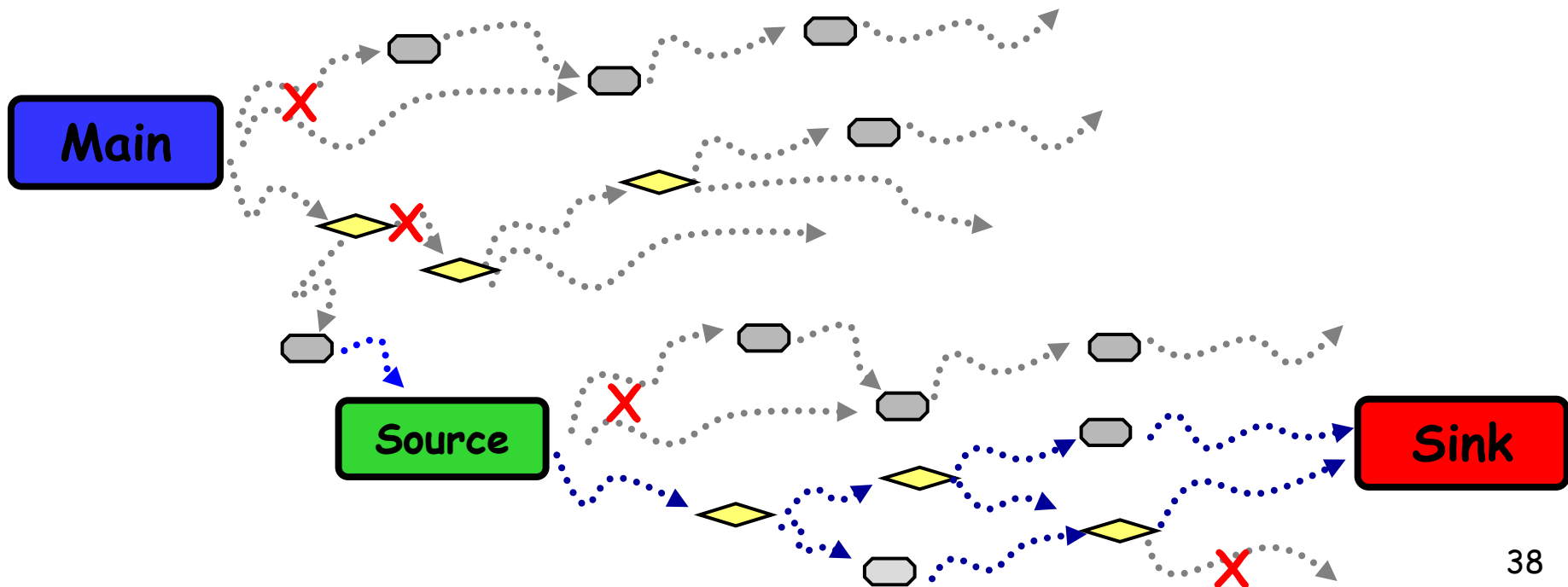
# Pre-pruning

- ◆ Tag sources and possible sinks before traversing



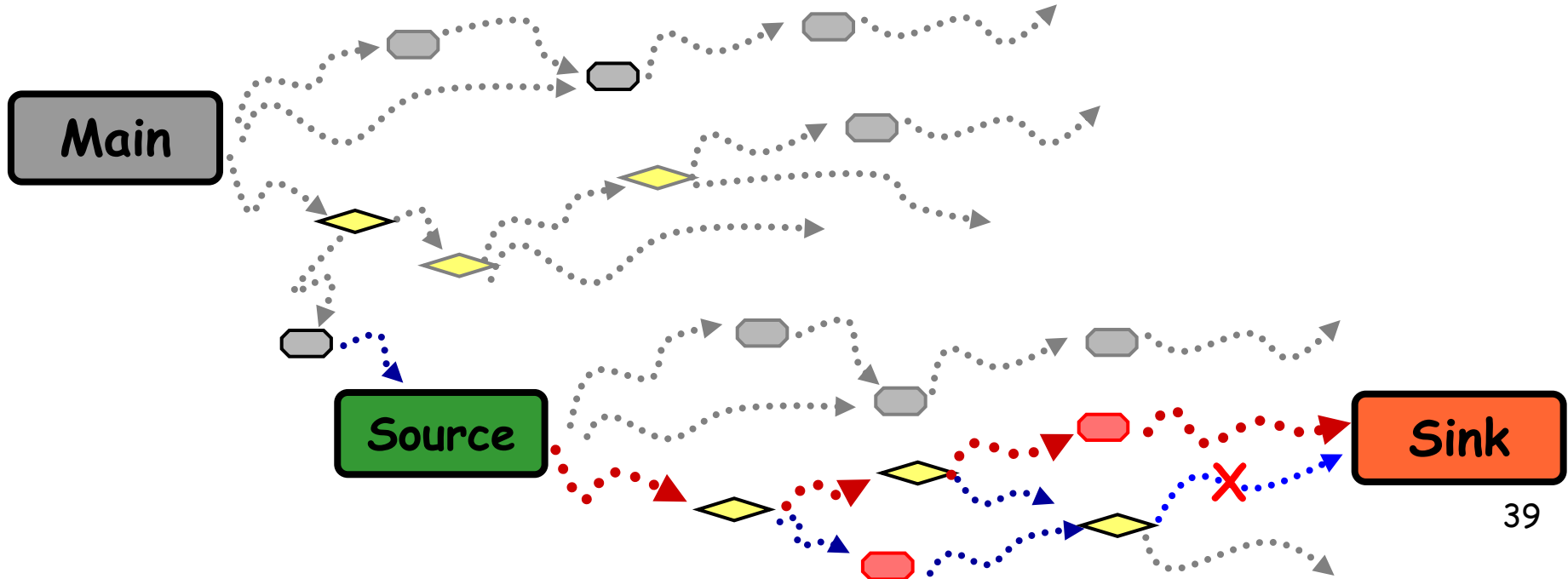
# Pre-pruning

- ◆ Tag
- ◆ Cut off those paths irrelevant to sources and sinks using some inter-function slicing algorithms



# Put it all together

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Tag, Pre-prune
- ◆ Traverse, Prune, Lazy Check
- ◆ Output suspicious paths



# Put it all together

---

- ◆ Given a binary program



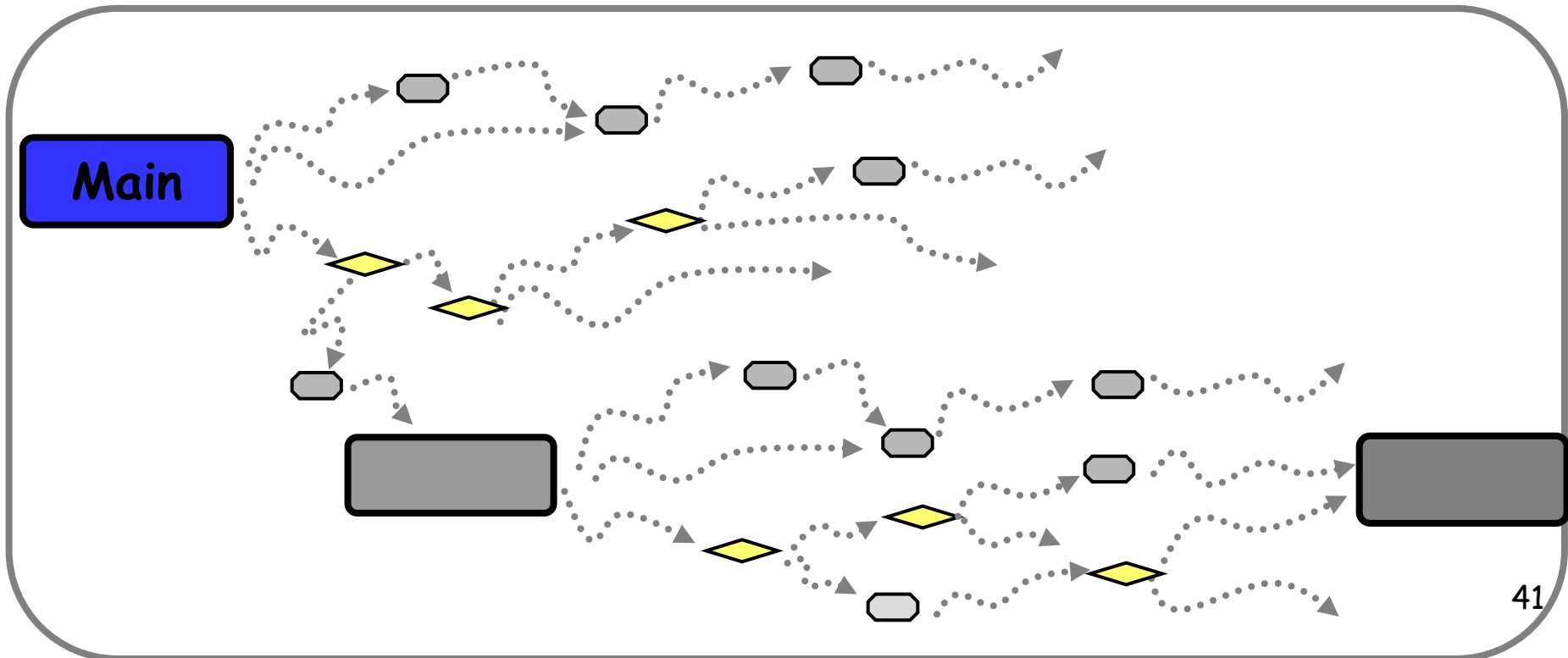
Main



# Put it all together

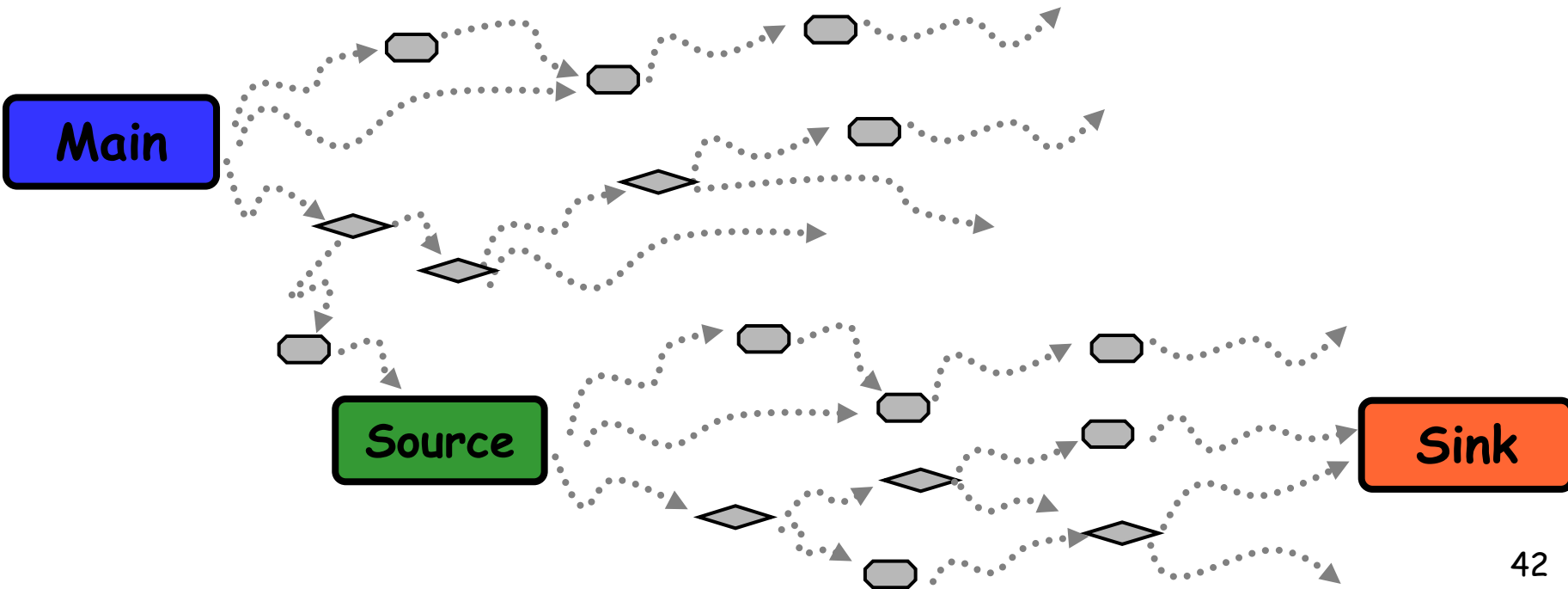
## ◆ Decompile the program

- Generate the IR, call graph, CFGs, and so on



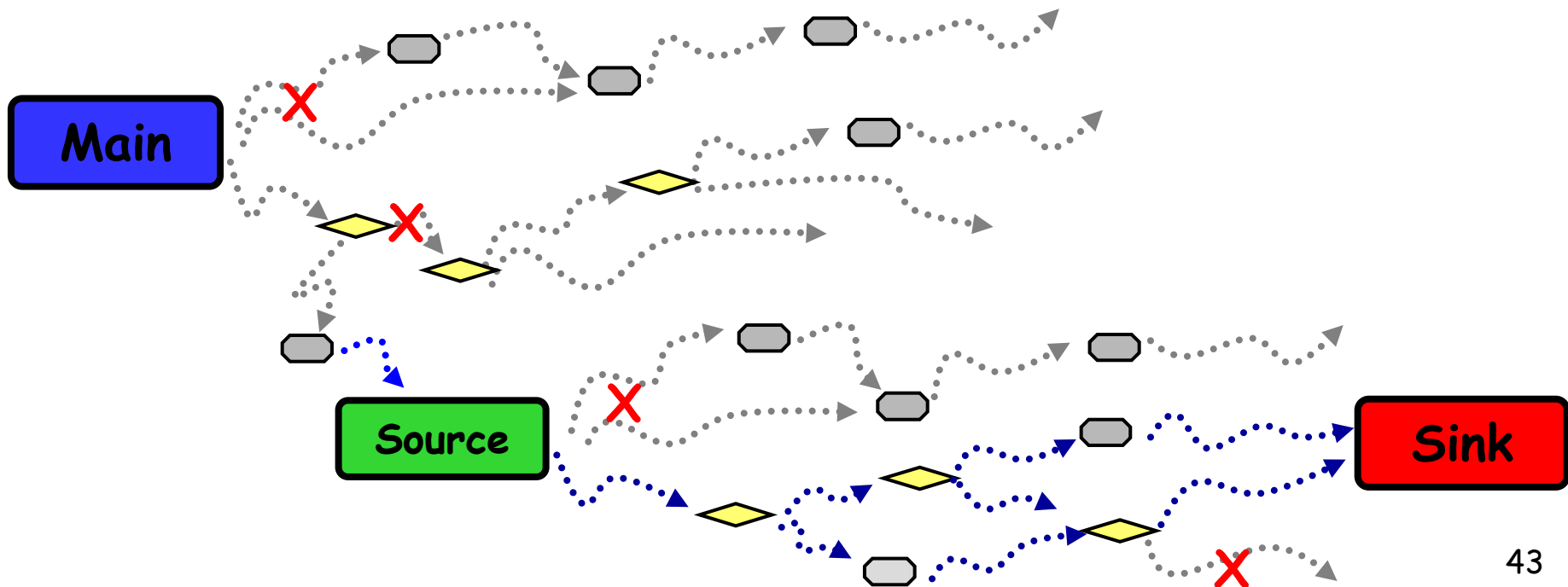
# Put it all together

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Tag possible sources and sinks



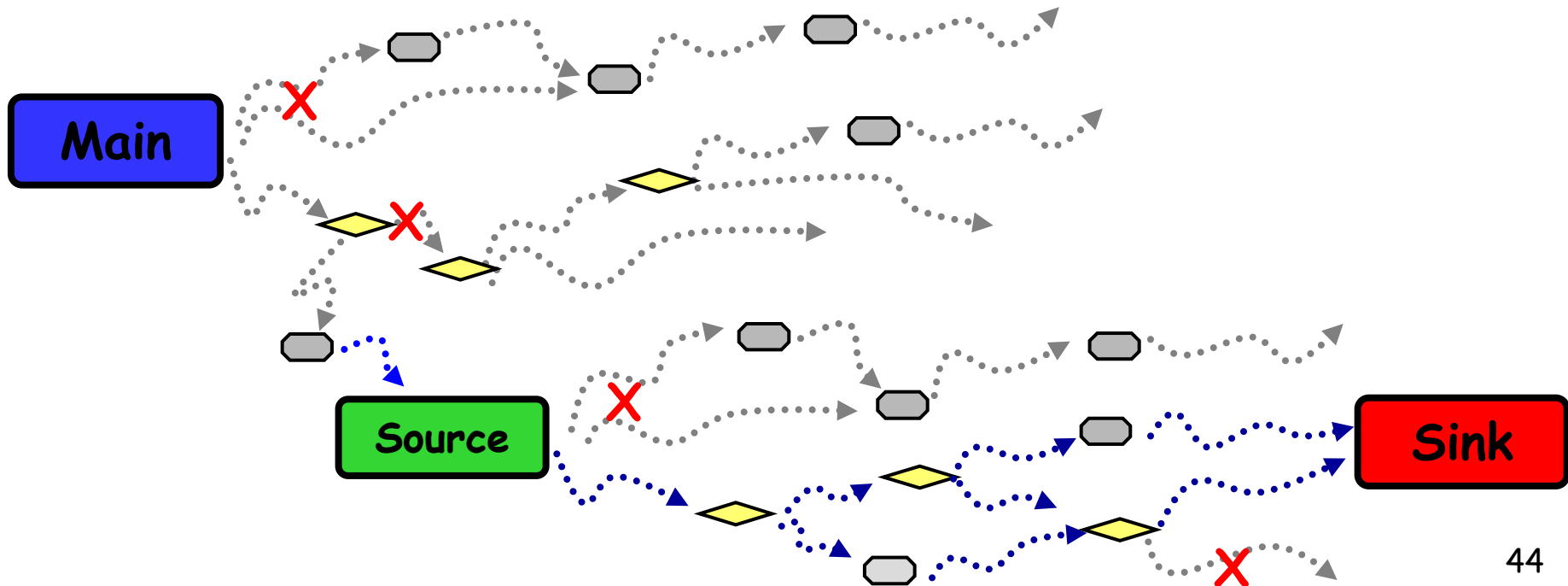
# Put it all together

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Tag, **Pre-prune: Cut off those paths irrelevant to sources and sinks**



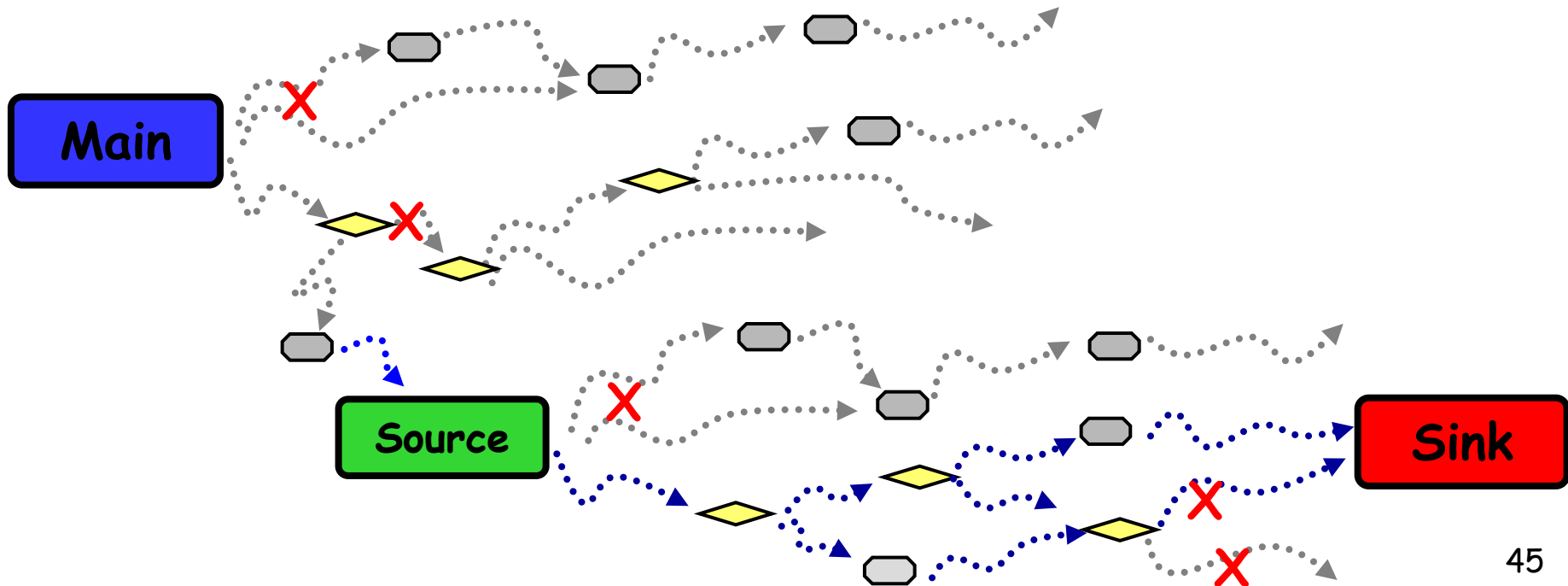
# Put it all together

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Tag, Pre-prune
- ◆ Traverse paths left using symbolic execution



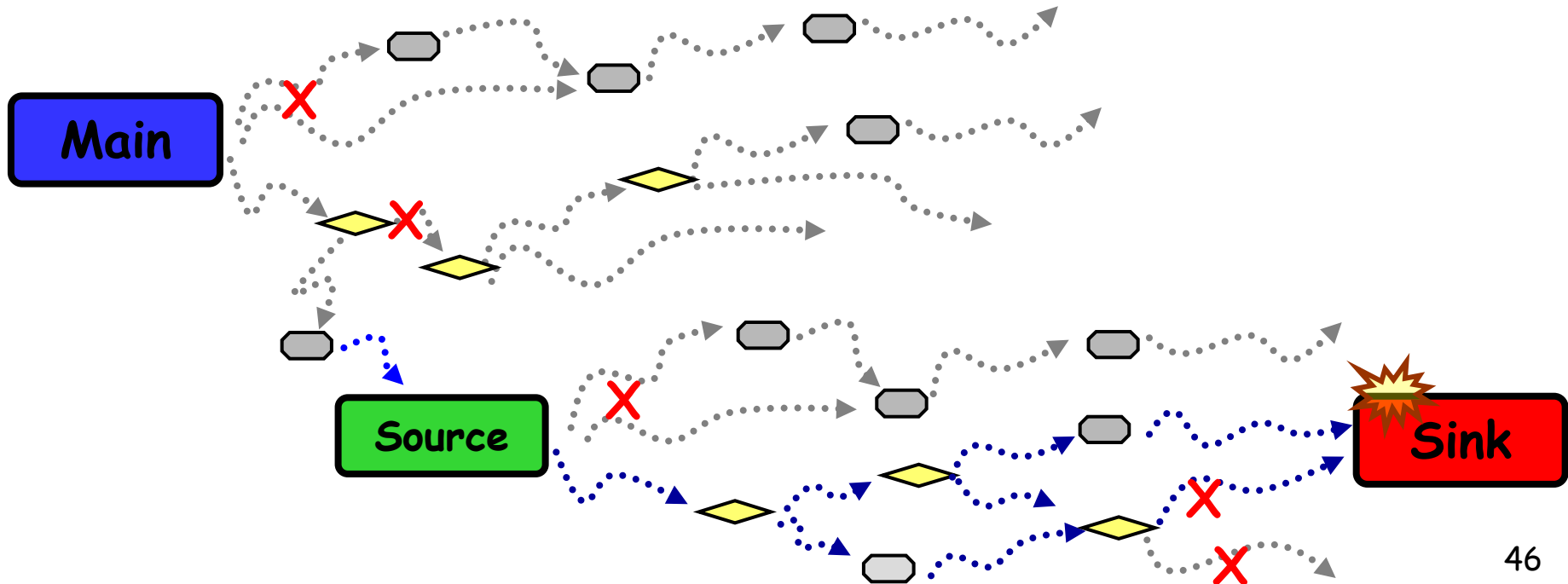
# Put it all together

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Tag, Pre-prune
- ◆ Traverse, **Prune infeasible paths during traversing**



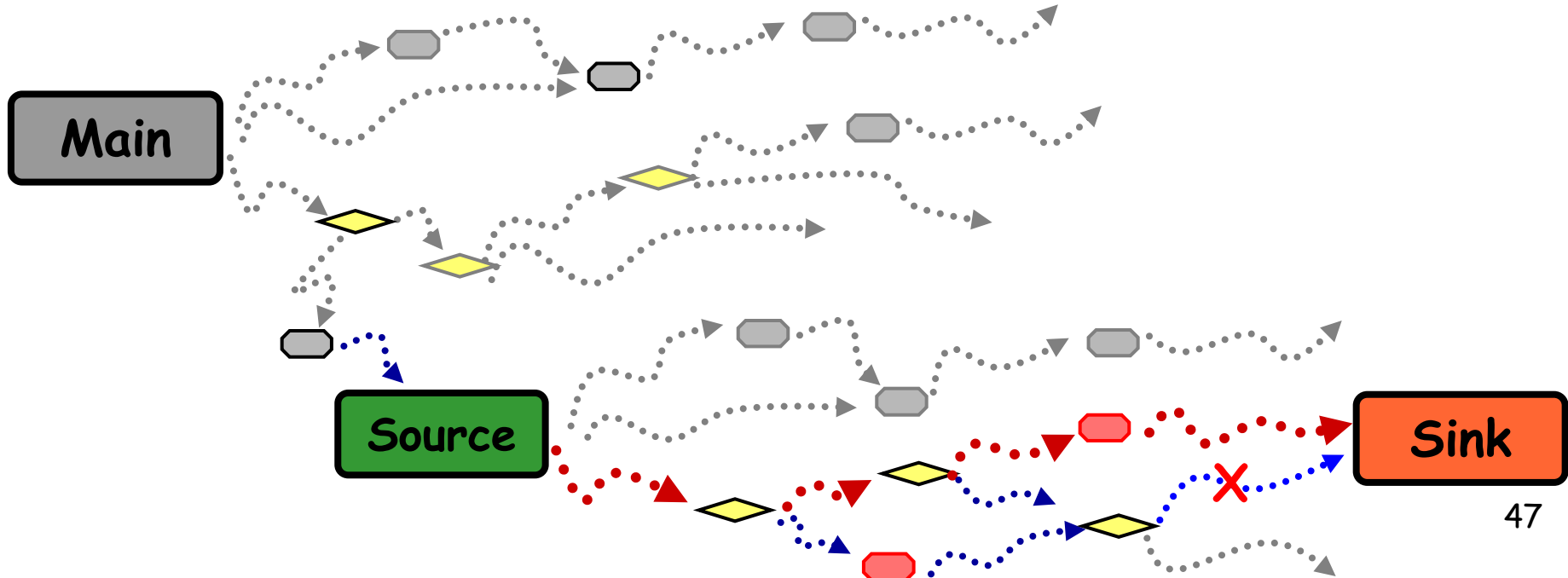
# Put it all together

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Tag, Pre-prune
- ◆ Traverse, Prune, **Lazy Check : check integer overflows used in sinks**



# Put it all together

- ◆ Decompile
- ◆ Tag, Pre-prune
- ◆ Traverse, Prune, Lazy Check
- ◆ **Output suspicious paths**



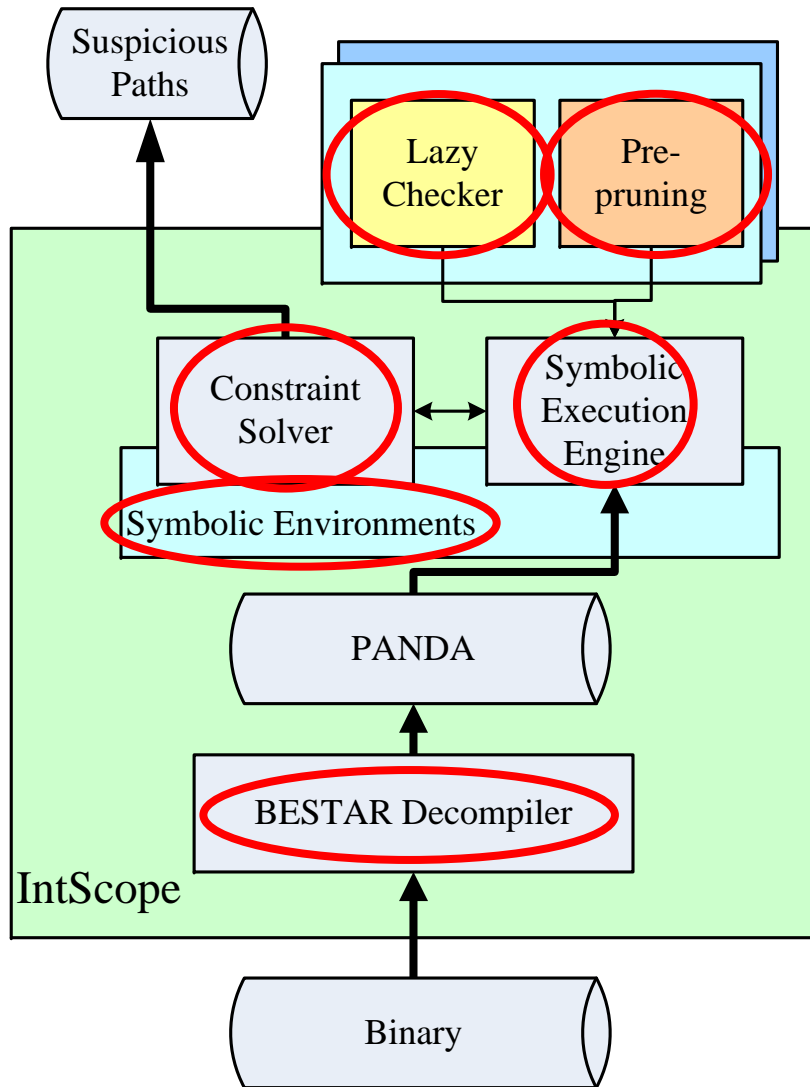
# Outline

---

- ◆ Motivation
- ◆ Case Study
- ◆ Modeling
- ◆ Challenges & Approaches
- ◆ **Implementation & Evaluation**
- ◆ Related Work
- ◆ Conclusion



# IntScope Architecture



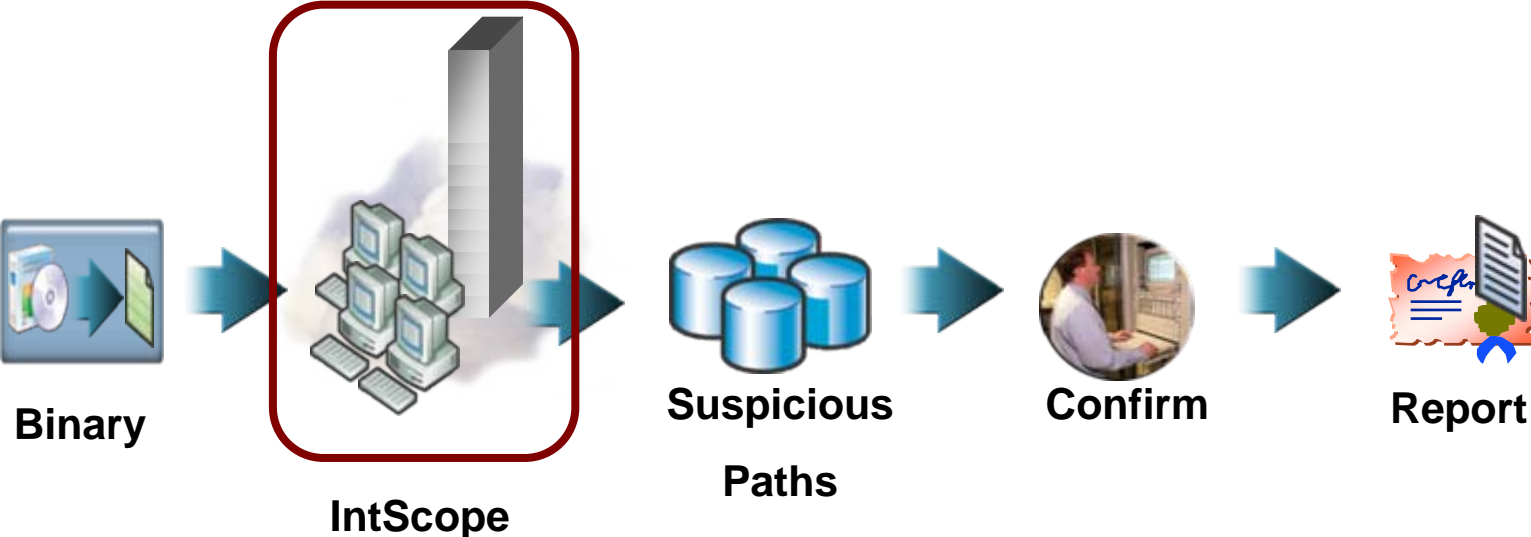
## ◆ IntScope

- Decompiler
  - ✓ BESTAR [SAS2007]
- Cut off irrelevant paths
  - ✓ Pre-pruning Engine
- Symbolic Execution
  - ✓ Environment
  - ✓ Engine
- Pruning during traversing
  - ✓ Constraint Solver
- Lazy Checker

## ◆ 3rd Party Modules

- Disassembler: IDA Pro
- CAS: GiNaC
- Constraint Solver: STP

# How to use IntScope



# Evaluation

## ◆ Two Windows DLLs

- GDI32.dll
- comctl32.dll

## ◆ Several widely used applications

- QEMU, Xen
- Media players

✓ Mplayer

✓ Xine

✓ VLC

✓ FAAD2

✓ MPD

- Others

✓ Cximage, Hamsterdb, Goom



soutient  
la campagne d'adhésion de  
For the French speaking public



HAMSTER DB  
embedded database



# Effectiveness

---

- ◆ Detected known integer overflow bugs in Windows DLLs
- ◆ Detected 20+ zero-day integer overflow vulnerabilities
  - Confirmed by developers or concrete test cases
  - Some projects have released patches
- ◆ We have reported vulnerabilities in QEMU and FAAD2 to French Security Incident Response Team (FrSIRT)
  - *CVE-2008-4201*
  - *FrSIRT/ADV-2008-2919*
  - .....

# Effectiveness

Name	Version	Entry Function	Paths#	Total#	Confirmed #	Suspicious#
CDI32.dll	5.1.2600.2180	CopyMetaFile	452	3	1	2
comctl32.dll	5.82.2900.2180	DSA_SetItem	3	2	1	1
QEMU Xen	0.9.1 3.2.1	bochs_open	3	1	1	0
		cloop_open	1	1	1	0
		parallels_open	2	1	1	0
		qcow_open(for qcow2 format)	3	1	1	0
		vmdk_open	20	2	1	1
		vpc_open	1	1	1	0
Xine	1.1.15	ff_audio_decode_data	10	1	1	0
		process_commands	2	2	2	0
Xine-ui	0.99.5	_LoadPNG	4	1	1	0
MPlayer	1.0rc2	dumpsab_gab2	1	1	1	0
		init_registry	3	1	1	0
Mpd	0.13.2	mp4_decode	2	1	1	0
Goom	2k4	gsl_read_file	1	1	1	0
Cximage	600_full	ConvertWmfFiletoEmf	1	1	1	0
faad2	2.6.1	decodeMP4file	36	3	2	1
		mp4ff_read_stts	1	1	1	0
Hamsterdb	1.0.4	btree_find_cursor	3	1	1	0

- ◆ Among 26 integer overflow vulnerability points, 21 of them have been confirmed

# Efficiency

- ◆ AMD Opteron Server (2.6 GHz) with 8GB memory

Name	Executable	File Size	Binary-to-IR time (seconds)	IR Size	Traversing Time (seconds)
GDI32.dll	GDI32.dll	271KB	614	7.61 MB	574
comctl32.dll	comctl32.dll	597 KB	1131	13.7 MB	0.1
QEMU	Qemu-img	341 KB	124	12.8 MB	358
Xine	cdda_server	14.5 KB	4	116 KB	26
	xine	966 KB	590	12.9 MB	327
Mplayer	avisubdump	14.2 KB	1	36.8 KB	0.3
MPD	mpd	243 KB	131	2.74 MB	667
GOOM	libgoom2.so	439KB	94	1.42 MB	445
faad2	faad	57.6 KB	29	693 KB	113
Hamstedb	libhamsterdb.so	260 KB	164	3.46 MB	426
Average		320.3KB	288.2	5.46MB	293.6

- ◆ Average time : about 5 min
- ◆ Longest time : < 12 min

# Outline

---

- ◆ Motivation
- ◆ Case Study
- ◆ Modeling
- ◆ Intuition & Challenge
- ◆ Implementation & Evaluation
- ◆ **Related Work**
- ◆ Conclusion

# Related Work

---

## ◆ w/ source code

### ➤ Run-time Protection

- ✓ Safe integer libraries
- ✓ RICH [NDSS'07]
- ✓ GCC

### ➤ Dynamic and/or Static analysis

- ✓ Range checker [S&P'02]
- ✓ CQual[PLDI02], EXE[CCS06], KLEE[OSDI08], DART[PLDI05], CUTE[FSE05]

## ◆ w/o source code

### ➤ Fuzzing

- ✓ SAGE [NDSS'08]
- ✓ Catchconv [Molnar and Wagner, Berkeley]

### ➤ Static analysis of integer overflows using sym exec $\leq$ IntScope



# Outline

---

- ◆ Motivation
- ◆ Case Study
- ◆ Modeling
- ◆ Intuition & Challenge
- ◆ Implementation & Evaluation
- ◆ Related Work
- ◆ **Conclusion**

# Conclusion

---

## ◆ IntScope

- Modeling Integer Overflow Vulnerability as a taint-based problem
- Lazy Check : only check integer overflows lazily at sinks
- Pre-prune : prune paths irrelative to sources and possible sinks before traversing
  
- Detect 20+ Zero-day integer overflow vulnerabilities

# Questions?

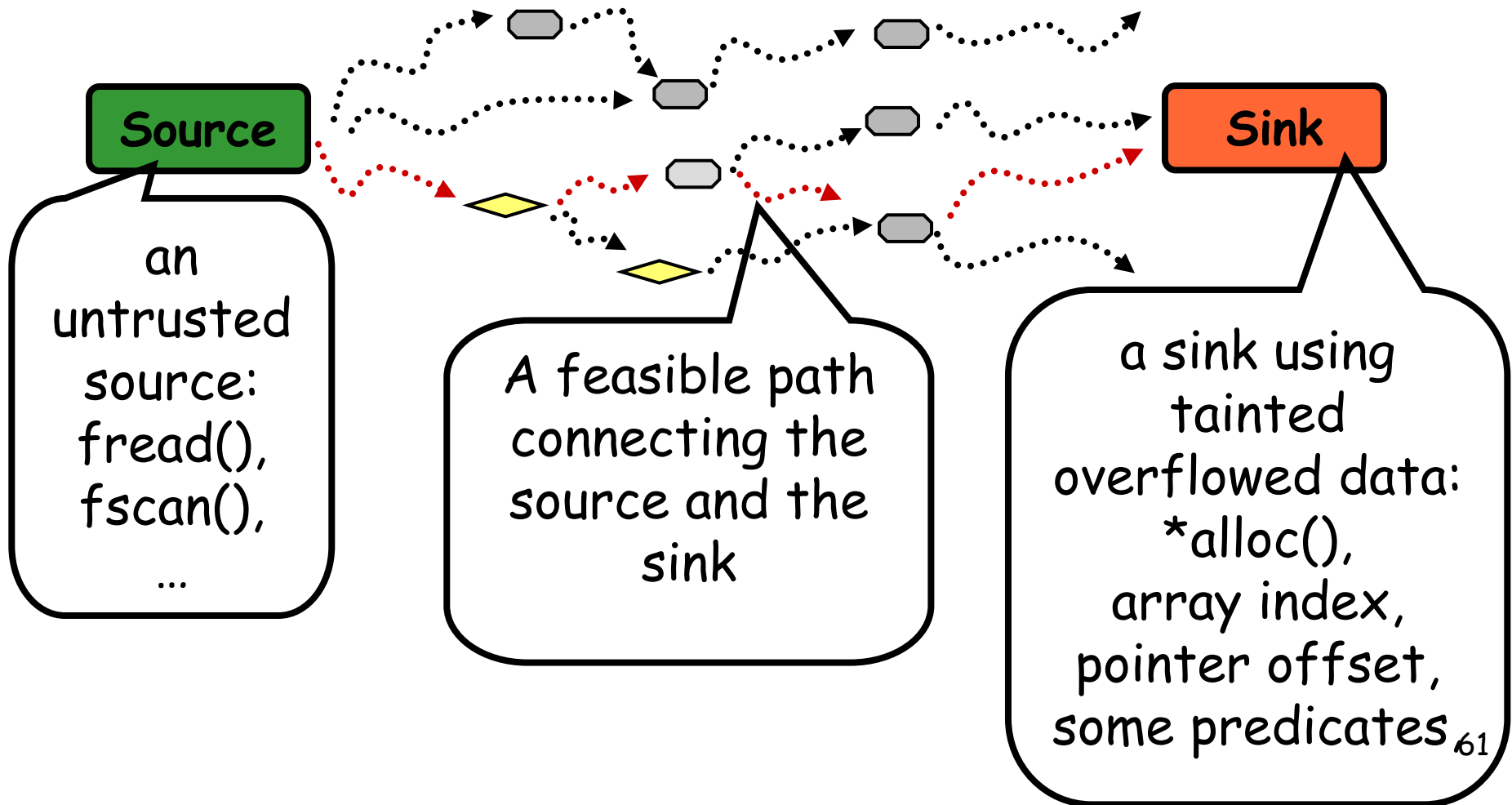
[weitao@icst.pku.edu.cn](mailto:weitao@icst.pku.edu.cn)

# Backup slides

---

# Modeling Integer Overflow Vulnerability

- ◆ An instance of taint-based problem



# Suspicious Paths

---

- ◆ IntScope is a static analysis tool, so it may generate false positives.
  - Missing of the constraints between inputs.
  - Lack of global information
  - Imprecise symbolic execution
- ◆ For each vulnerability, if we cannot construct a concrete test case to trigger it, we leave it as a **suspicious** one.

# False positives

---

- ◆ IntScope is a static analysis tool, so it may generate false positives.
  - Missing of the constraints between inputs.
  - Lack of global information
  - Imprecise symbolic execution
- ◆ It's hard to prove an alert is a real vulnerability
  - we need to construct a concrete test case to trigger the vulnerability.
- ◆ If we can not construct such test cases, we take these alerts as suspicious ones.