

# Automata and Formal Languages (9)

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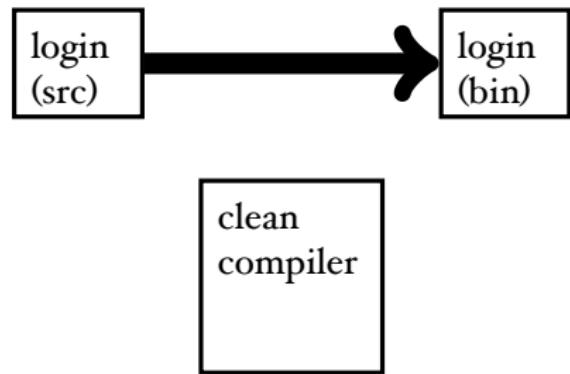
Slides: KEATS (also home work is there)

**Using a compiler,  
how can you mount the  
perfect attack against a system?**

## What is a **perfect** attack?

- ➊ you can potentially completely take over a target system
- ➋ your attack is (nearly) undetectable
- ➌ the victim has (almost) no chance to recover

clean  
compiler





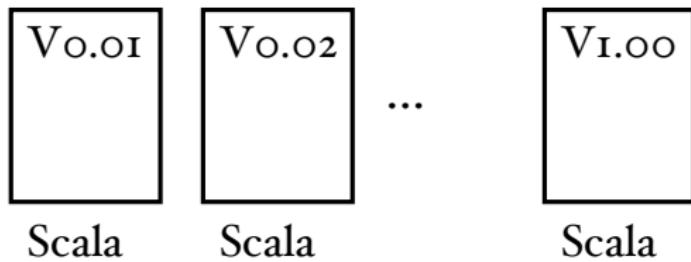
my compiler (src)



Scala

host language

## my compiler (src)



host language

my compiler (src)

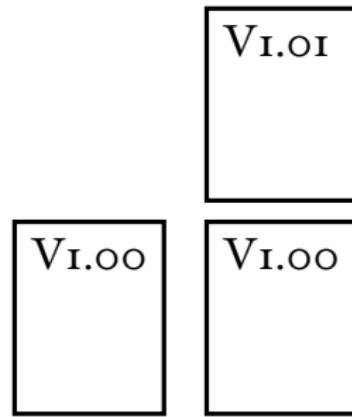


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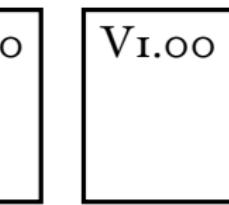
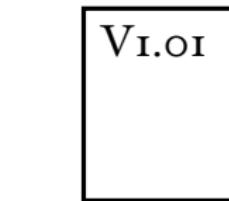
Scala

Scala

host language



Scala



**my compiler (src)**

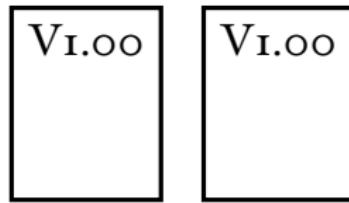


Scala

Scala

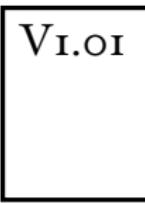
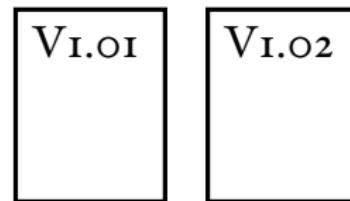
host language

...



Scala

no host language  
needed



# Hacking Compilers



Ken Thompson  
Turing Award, 1983

- Ken Thompson showed how to hide a Trojan Horse in a compiler **without** leaving any traces in the source code.
- No amount of source level verification will protect you from such Thompson-hacks.
- Therefore in safety-critical systems it is important to rely on only a very small TCB.

# Hacking Compilers



Ken Thompson  
Turing Award, 1983



- 1) *Assume you ship the compiler as binary and also with sources.*
- 2) *Make the compiler aware when it compiles itself.*
- 3) *Add the Trojan horse.*
- 4) *Compile.*
- 5) *Delete Trojan horse from the sources of the compiler.*
- 6) *Go on holiday for the rest of your life. ;o)*

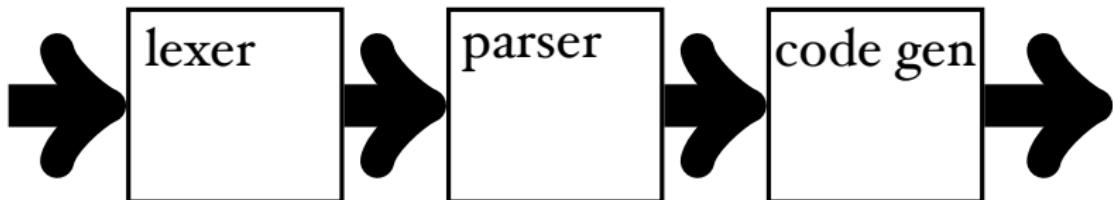
# Hacking Compilers



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# Our Compiler



lexer input: string

lexer output: sequence of tokens  
(white space and comments filtered out)

parser output: abstract syntax tree

code gen output: assembler byte code /  
assembler machine code

# For-Loops

for  $Id := AExp$  upto  $AExp$  do  
 $Block$

```
for i := 2 upto 4 do {  
    write i  
}
```

# While-Language

$Stmt \rightarrow$  skip  
|  $Id := AExp$   
| if  $BExp$  then  $Block$  else  $Block$   
| while  $BExp$  do  $Block$   
| write  $Id$   
| read  $Id$

$Stmts \rightarrow Stmt ; Stmts$   
|  $Stmt$

$Block \rightarrow \{Stmts\}$   
|  $Stmt$

$AExp \rightarrow \dots$

$BExp \rightarrow \dots$

# Interpreter

$\text{eval}(n, E)$	$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n$
$\text{eval}(x, E)$	$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E(x)$ lookup $x$ in $E$
$\text{eval}(a_1 + a_2, E)$	$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{eval}(a_1, E) + \text{eval}(a_2, E)$
$\text{eval}(a_1 - a_2, E)$	$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{eval}(a_1, E) - \text{eval}(a_2, E)$
$\text{eval}(a_1 * a_2, E)$	$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{eval}(a_1, E) * \text{eval}(a_2, E)$
$\text{eval}(a_1 = a_2, E)$	$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{eval}(a_1, E) = \text{eval}(a_2, E)$
$\text{eval}(a_1 != a_2, E)$	$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg(\text{eval}(a_1, E) = \text{eval}(a_2, E))$
$\text{eval}(a_1 < a_2, E)$	$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{eval}(a_1, E) < \text{eval}(a_2, E)$

# Interpreter (2)

$$\text{eval}(\text{skip}, E) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E$$

$$\text{eval}(x := a, E) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E(x \mapsto \text{eval}(a, E))$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{eval}(\text{if } b \text{ then } cs_1 \text{ else } cs_2, E) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \\ &\quad \text{if eval}(b, E) \text{ then eval}(cs_1, E) \\ &\quad \text{else eval}(cs_2, E)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{eval}(\text{while } b \text{ do } cs, E) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \\ &\quad \text{if eval}(b, E) \\ &\quad \text{then eval}(\text{while } b \text{ do } cs, \text{eval}(cs, E)) \\ &\quad \text{else } E\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{eval}(\text{write } x, E) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \text{println}(E(x)) ; E \}$$

# Compiling Writes

write  $x$

```
.method public static write(I)V      (library function)
    .limit locals 5
    .limit stack 5
    iload 0
    getstatic java/lang/System/out Ljava/io/PrintStream;
    swap
    invokevirtual java/io/PrintStream/println(I)V
    return
.end method
```

iload  $E(x)$   
invokestatic write(I)V

```
.class public XXX.XXX
.super java/lang/Object

.method public <init>()V
    aload_0
    invokespecial java/lang/Object/<init>()V
    return
.end method

.method public static main([Ljava/lang/String;)V
    .limit locals 200
    .limit stack 200
```

(here comes the compiled code)

```
    return
.end method
```