Automata and Formal Languages (9)

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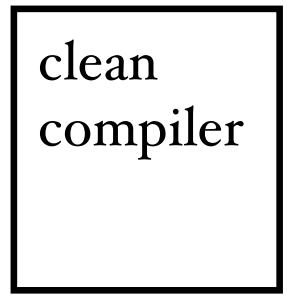
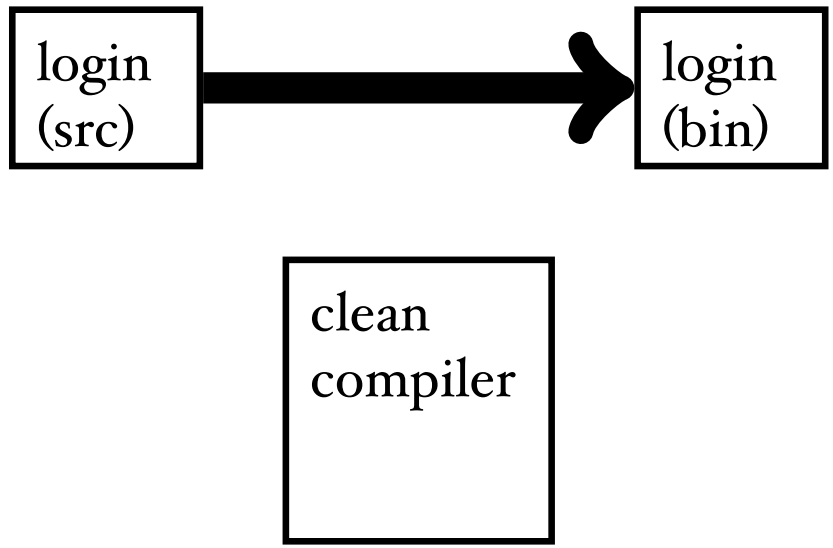
Slides: KEATS (also home work is there)

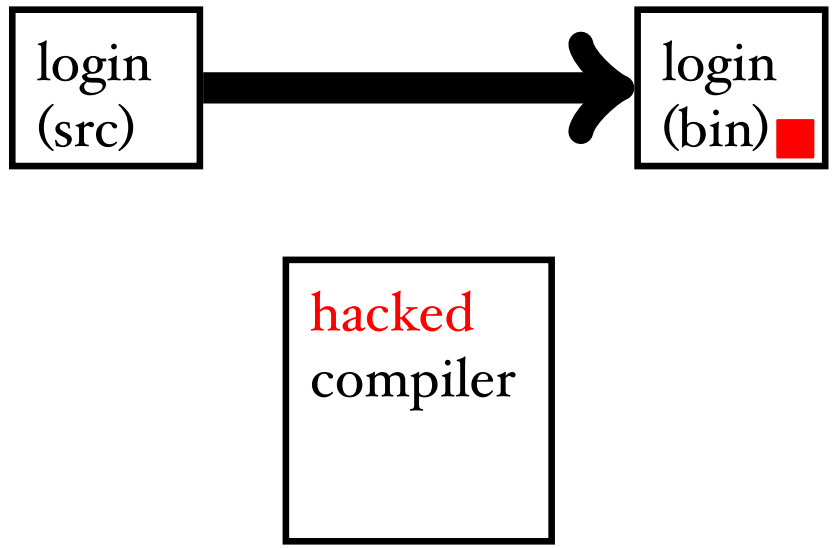
Using a compiler,
how can you mount the
perfect attack against a system?

What is a perfect attack?

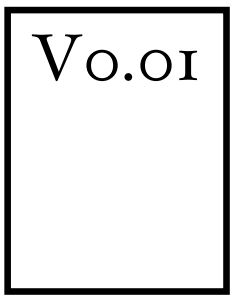
1. you can potentially completely take over a target system
2. your attack is (nearly) undetectable
3. the victim has (almost) no chance to recover


clean
compiler


login
(src)
login
(bin)
clean
compiler


login
(src)
login
(bin)
hacked
compiler

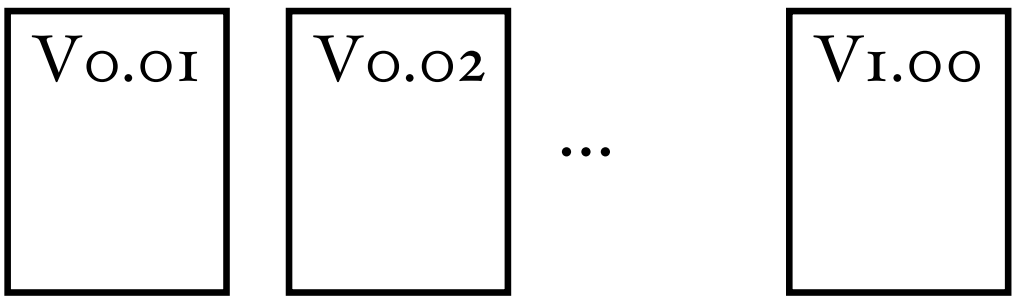
my compiler (src)



Scala

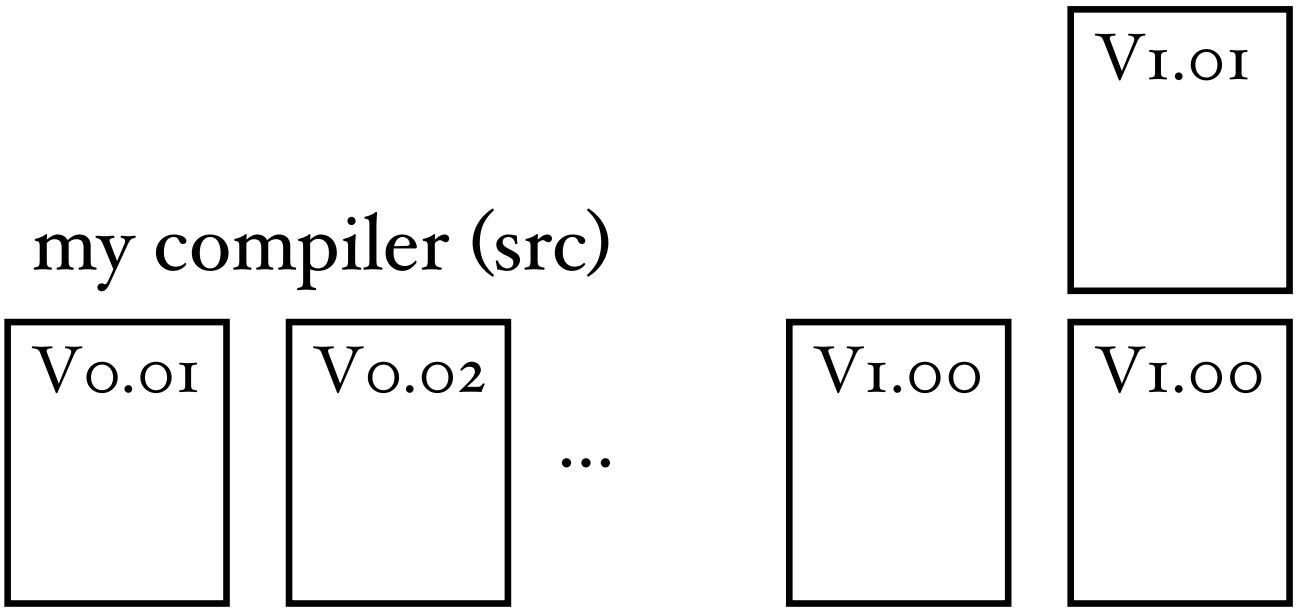
host language

my compiler (src)

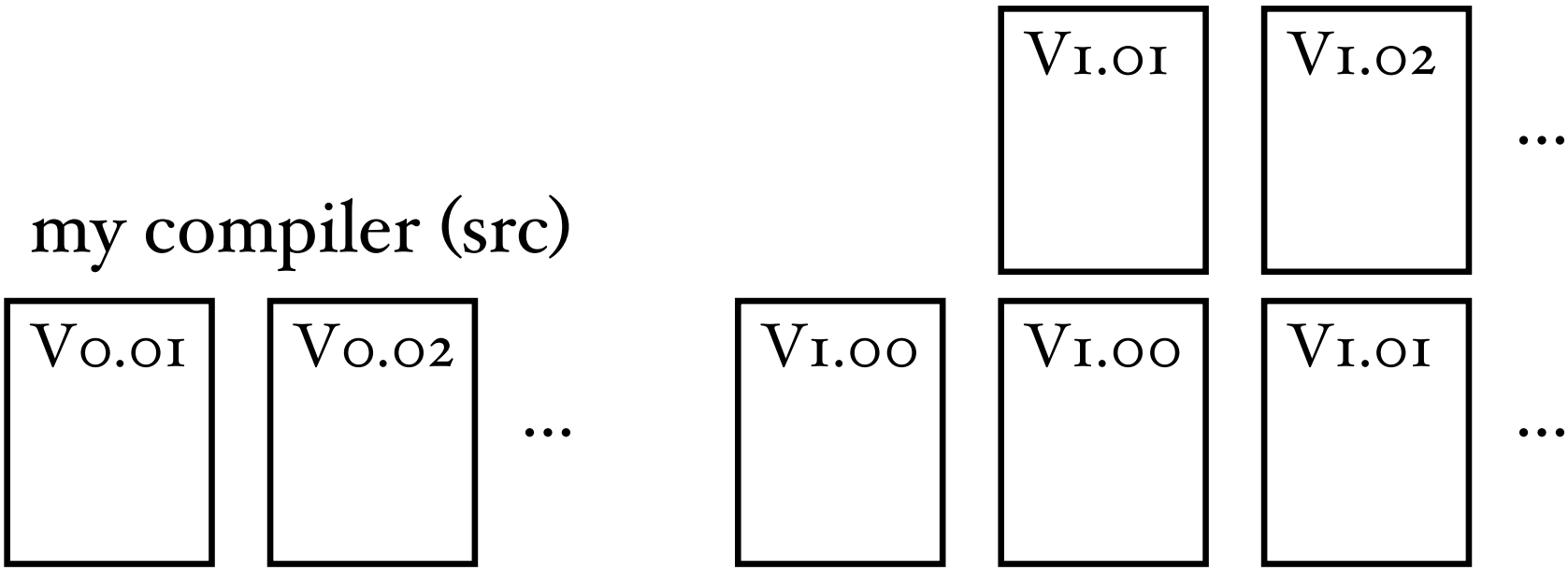


host language

my compiler (src)



host language


my compiler (src)
V0.01
V0.02
...
Scala
Scala
host language
V1.00
Scala
V1.01
V1.00
V1.02
V1.01
...
...
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, 198

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)*

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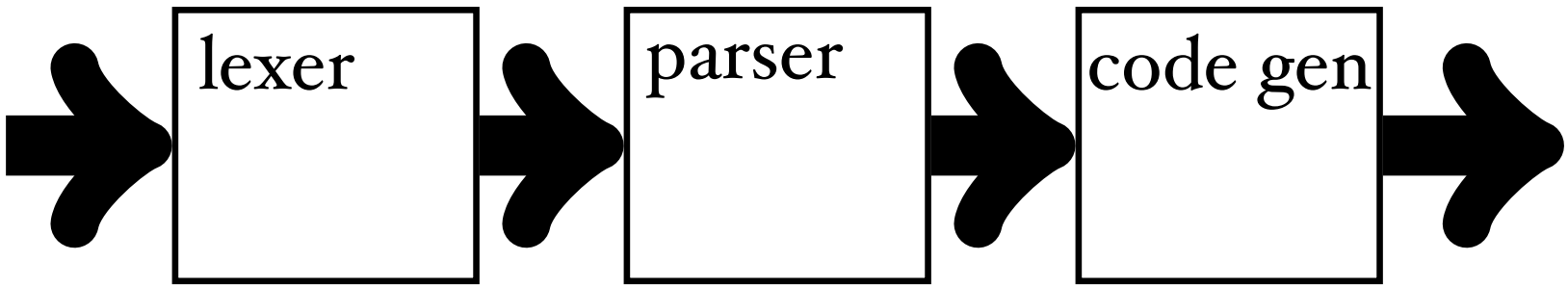
Our Compiler



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

$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
\mathit{Stmt} & \rightarrow & \text{skip} \\
 & | & \mathit{Id} := \mathit{AExp} \\
 & | & \text{if } \mathit{BExp} \text{ then } \mathit{Block} \text{ else } \mathit{Block} \\
 & | & \text{while } \mathit{BExp} \text{ do } \mathit{Block} \\
 & | & \text{write } \mathit{Id} \\
 & | & \text{read } \mathit{Id} \\
\mathit{Stmts} & \rightarrow & \mathit{Stmt} \,;\, \mathit{Stmts} \\
 & | & \mathit{Stmt} \\
\mathit{Block} & \rightarrow & \{\mathit{Stmts}\} \\
 & | & \mathit{Stmt} \\
\mathit{AExp} & \rightarrow & \ldots \\
\mathit{BExp} & \rightarrow & \ldots
\end{array}
$$

Interpreter

$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
\mathrm{eval}(n, E) & \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} & n \\
\mathrm{eval}(x, E) & \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} & E(x) \quad \text{lookup } x \text{ in } E \\
\mathrm{eval}(a_1 + a_2, E) & \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} & \mathrm{eval}(a_1, E) + \mathrm{eval}(a_2, E) \\
\mathrm{eval}(a_1 - a_2, E) & \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} & \mathrm{eval}(a_1, E) - \mathrm{eval}(a_2, E) \\
\mathrm{eval}(a_1 * a_2, E) & \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} & \mathrm{eval}(a_1, E) * \mathrm{eval}(a_2, E) \\
 & & \\
\mathrm{eval}(a_1 = a_2, E) & \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} & \mathrm{eval}(a_1, E) = \mathrm{eval}(a_2, E) \\
\mathrm{eval}(a_1 != a_2, E) & \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} & \neg(\mathrm{eval}(a_1, E) = \mathrm{eval}(a_2, E)) \\
\mathrm{eval}(a_1 < a_2, E) & \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} & \mathrm{eval}(a_1, E) < \mathrm{eval}(a_2, E)
\end{array}
$$

Interpreter (2)

$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
\text{eval}(\text{skip}, E) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & E \\
\text{eval}(x := a, E) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & E(x \mapsto \text{eval}(a, E)) \\
\text{eval}(\text{if } b \text{ then } cs_1 \text{ else } cs_2, E) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & \\
\multicolumn{3}{l}{\qquad \text{if eval}(b, E) \text{ then eval}(cs_1, E) \text{ else eval}(cs_2, E)} \\
\text{eval}(\text{while } b \text{ do } cs, E) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & \\
\multicolumn{3}{l}{\qquad \text{if eval}(b, E) \text{ then eval}(\text{while } b \text{ do } cs, \text{eval}(cs, E)) \text{ else } E} \\
\text{eval}(\text{write } x, E) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & \{\ \text{println}(E(x))\ ;\ E\ \}
\end{array}
$$

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
  invokenonvirtual 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
```