

EXERCISE 31

CONCOLIC EXECUTION REVIEW

What is the benefit of concolic execution over symbolic execution? How does it compare in terms of soundness / completeness of vulnerability finding?

EXERCISE 31 SOLUTION

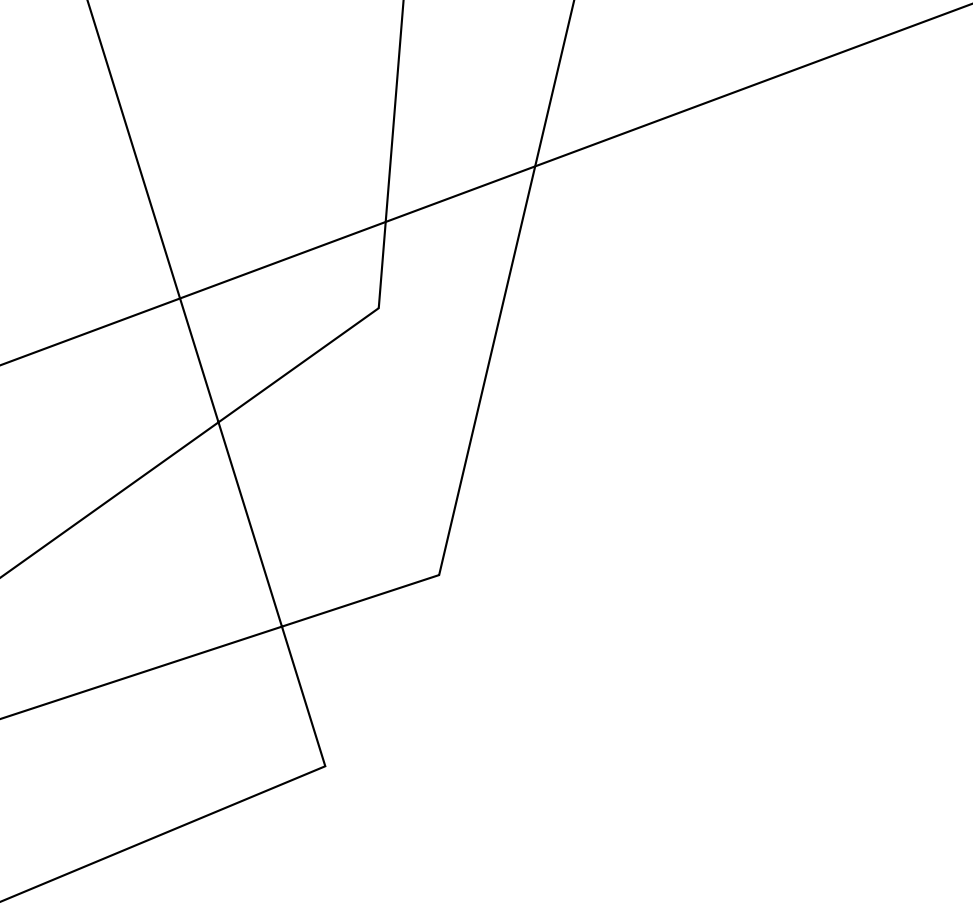
CONCOLIC EXECUTION REVIEW

EXERCISE 31

CONCOLIC EXECUTION REVIEW

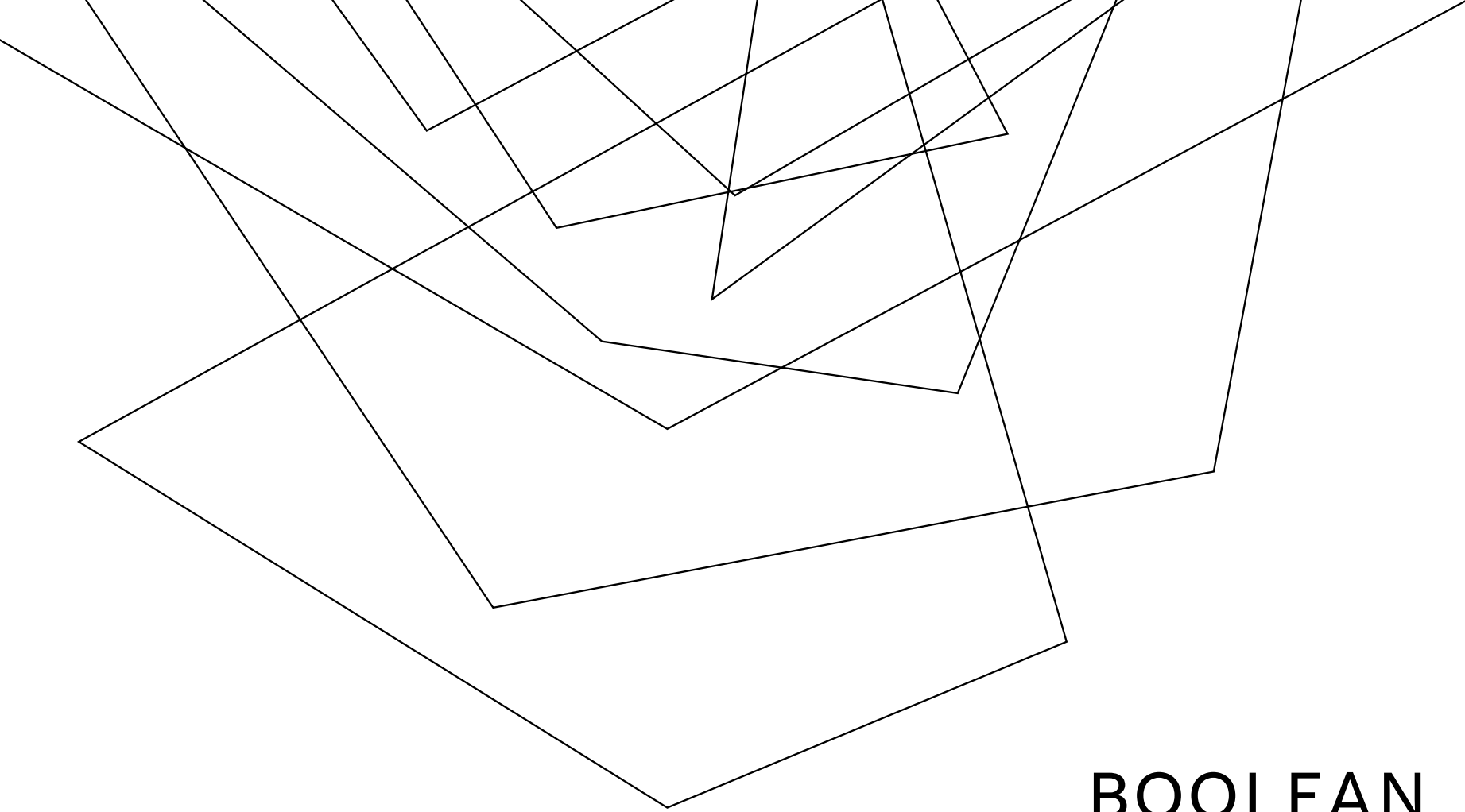
Write your name and answer the following on a piece of paper

What is the benefit of concolic execution over symbolic execution? How does it compare in terms of soundness / completeness of vulnerability finding?

Abstract geometric lines in the top-left corner, consisting of several thin black lines forming a series of overlapping, irregular polygons and triangles.

Quiz 3 is on Friday

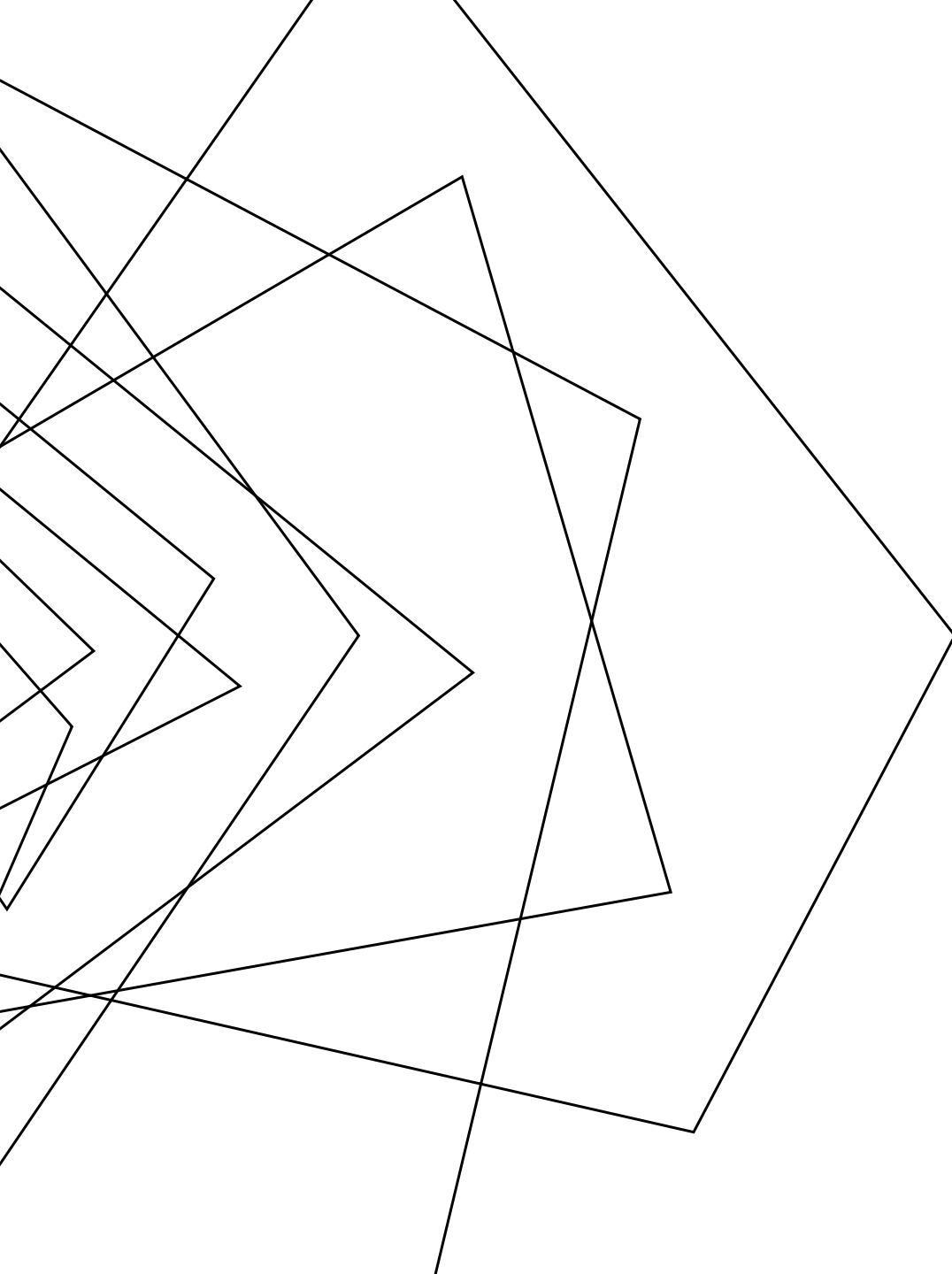
**ADMINISTRIVIA
AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Abstract geometric lines in the top-left corner of the slide, consisting of several thin black lines forming overlapping, irregular polygons and triangles.

BOOLEAN SATISFIABILITY

EECS 677: Software Security Evaluation

Drew Davidson



WHERE WE'RE AT

TOOLS / TECHNIQUES UNDERLYING
SYMBOLIC EXECUTION

PREVIOUSLY: ENHANCING SYMBOLIC EXECUTION

OUTLINE / OVERVIEW

GENERATING TEST CASES

PRIORITIZING STATES IN THE SYMBOLIC
EXECUTION TREE

PRUNING DUPLICATE STATES

CONCRETIZING (SOME) INPUT TO MAKE
PROGRESS

input
symbolic
values



THIS TIME: SATISFIABILITY

OUTLINE / OVERVIEW

THE MAGIC THAT MADE SYMBOLIC
EXECUTION WORK WAS THE SOLVER

Determines if a path constraint is feasible

Induces a test case that satisfies the path
constraint

Allows for consistent concretization



BOOLEAN SATISFIABILITY

SAT AND SMT

AT THE ROOT OF THE SOLVER IS A MECHANISM
FOR SOLVING A HARD PROBLEM:

Given a Boolean expression, provide a satisfying
assignment to its variables or indicate no such assignment
is possible

The search for a solution
requires a lot of computation

$$B \wedge A \quad \begin{matrix} B=1 \\ A=1 \end{matrix}$$

$$B \vee A \quad \begin{matrix} B=1, \\ A=1, \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} B=0, \\ A=1, \end{matrix}$$

$$\neg A \wedge A$$

Constant time

Linear time

$n \log n$ time

polynomial time

Exponential time

$$\begin{matrix} B=1 \\ A=0 \end{matrix}$$

Search scales rapidly with
the size of the problem

NP

SAT AND SMT

THE CLASS OF PROBLEMS WHERE...

A solution can be generated in polynomial time by a nondeterministic Turing machine

A solution can be verified in polynomial time by a deterministic Turing machine

$$P \stackrel{?}{=} NP$$

NP-COMPLETENESS

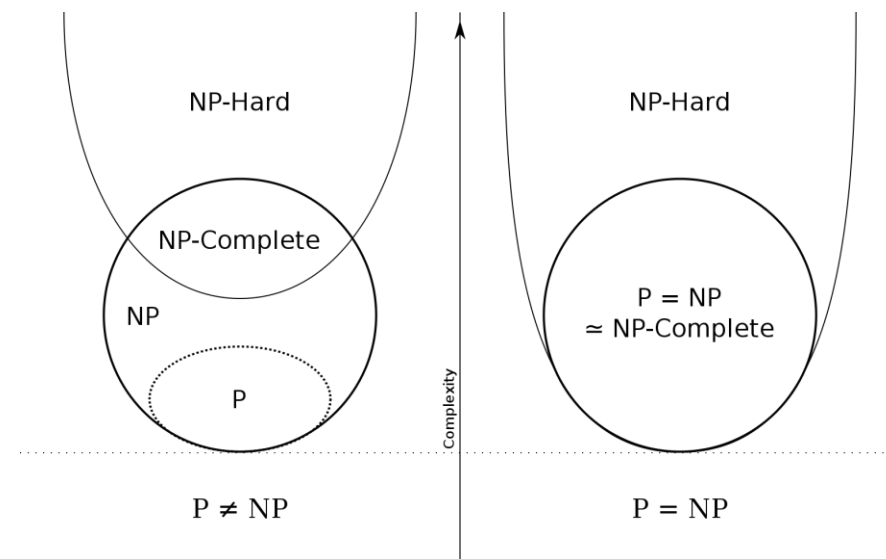
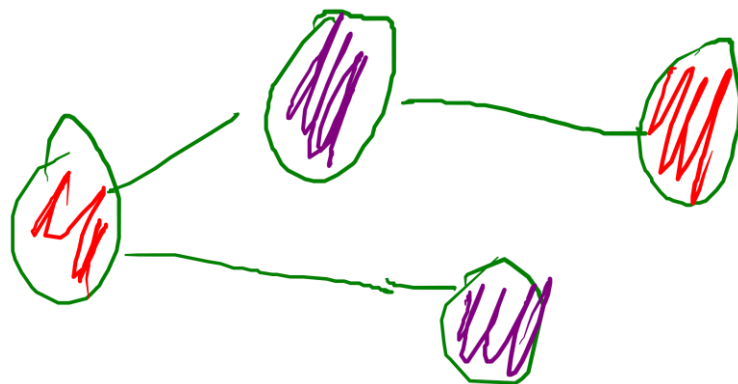
SAT AND SMT

THE CLASS OF PROBLEMS WHERE...

A solution could be used as a solver for any problem in NP

The “most difficult problems in NP”

SAT is the canonical example of an NP-Complete problem



THE MARVEL OF ENGINEERING

SAT AND SMT

NP REDUCTIONS ONCE WERE USED TO TO SHOW THAT A PROBLEM WAS
DIFFICULT, NOW THEY ARE USED TO SHOW THAT A PROBLEM IS DO-ABLE



HOW DO SAT SOLVERS WORK?

SAT AND SMT

Naïve Solution: Exponential Time 2^N

$$(a) \wedge (b \vee c) \wedge (\neg a \vee c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee \neg d \vee \neg a) \wedge (b \vee d)$$

SOLVER STRATEGIES

SAT AND SMT

WE “OFTEN” CAN DO BETTER THAN THE WORST CASE



CONJUNCTIVE NORMAL FORM

SAT AND SMT

A CONJUNCTION OF CLAUSES

Each clause may include 1 or more literals, 0 or more negations, 0 or more disjunctions



CONJUNCTIVE NORMAL FORM

SAT AND SMT

A CONJUNCTION OF CLAUSES

Each clause may include 1 or more literals, 0 or more negations, 0 or ~~more~~ ^{more} disjunctions

P ✓

$(P \wedge Q)$ ✓

$P \wedge (Q \vee R)$ ✓

$P \wedge (\neg Q \vee R)$ ✓

~~$P \vee Q \vee (R)$~~ ✓

CONJUNCTIVE NORMAL FORM

SAT AND SMT

Any Boolean expression can be represented as a conjunction of disjunctions using the standard Boolean transformations

Boolean transformations:

$$\neg(P \vee Q) \iff \neg P \wedge \neg Q$$

$$\neg(P \wedge Q) \iff \neg P \vee \neg Q$$

$$\neg\neg P \iff P$$

$$(P \wedge (Q \vee R)) \iff ((P \wedge Q) \vee (P \wedge R))$$

$$(P \vee (Q \wedge R)) \iff ((P \vee Q) \wedge (P \vee R))$$

CONJUNCTIVE NORMAL FORM: STRATEGY

SAT AND SMT

EVERY CLAUSE MUST BE SATISFIED



$$(P \vee Q) \wedge (P \vee R)$$

UNIT PROPAGATION

SAT AND SMT

a literal that exists all alone in a clause with only one literal is a unit

absolute
unit

$$\textcircled{a} \wedge (b \vee c) \wedge (\neg a \vee c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee \neg d \vee \neg a) \wedge (b \vee d)$$

$a = \text{true}$

$a = 1$

$$(b \vee c) \wedge (c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee \neg d) \wedge (b \vee d)$$

$$\cancel{a} \wedge (\cancel{a} \vee \cancel{b}) \wedge (b \vee c)$$

$a = \text{true}$

~~$b = \text{true}$~~



PURE LITERAL ELIMINATION

SAT AND SMT

a literal that occurs only positively, or only negatively, in a formula is pure

$$(a) \wedge (b \vee c) \wedge (\neg a \vee c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee \neg d \vee \neg a) \wedge (b \vee d)$$

$$b = \text{true}$$

$$a \wedge (\neg a \vee c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee \neg d \vee \neg a)$$

$$a = \text{true}$$

$$(c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee \neg d)$$

$$c = \text{true}$$

$$(d) \wedge (\neg d)$$

DPLL

SAT AND SMT

$$(a) \wedge (b \vee c) \wedge (\neg a \vee c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee d) \wedge (\neg c \vee \neg d \vee \neg a) \wedge (b \vee d)$$

```
function DPLL( $\varphi$ )
  if  $\varphi$  = true then
    return true
  end if
  if  $\varphi$  contains a false clause then
    return false
  end if
  for all unit clauses  $l$  in  $\varphi$  do
     $\varphi \leftarrow \text{UNIT-PROPAGATE}(l, \varphi)$ 
  end for
  for all literals  $l$  occurring pure in  $\varphi$  do
     $\varphi \leftarrow \text{PURE-LITERAL-ASSIGN}(l, \varphi)$ 
  end for
   $l \leftarrow \text{CHOOSE-LITERAL}(\varphi)$ 
  return  $\text{DPLL}(\varphi \wedge l) \vee \text{DPLL}(\varphi \wedge \neg l)$ 
end function
```

NO MAGIC BULLET

OUTLINE / OVERVIEW

WE KNOW SOME CONSTRAINTS ARE
COMPUTATIONALLY HARD TO UNPACK

```
int main(){  
    char s[80];  
    scanf("%s", s);  
    if (sha256sum(s) == c01b39c7a35ccc3b081a3e83d2c71a767ebfeb45c6!  
}
```



NO MAGIC BULLET

OUTLINE / OVERVIEW

WE KNOW SOME CONSTRAINTS ARE
COMPUTATIONALLY HARD TO UNPACK

```
int main(){
    char s[80];
    scanf("%s", s);
    if (sha256sum(s) == c01b39c7a35ccc3b081a3e83d2c71fa9a767ebfeb45c69f08e17dfe3ef375a7b) {
        return 1 / 0;
    }
}
```

FROM SAT TO SMT

OUTLINE / OVERVIEW

NEXT TIME...

Symbolic execution requires path constraints far more complex than Boolean expressions.

Although a naïve reduction is somewhat straightforward, naivety does not gel well with NP-completeness