



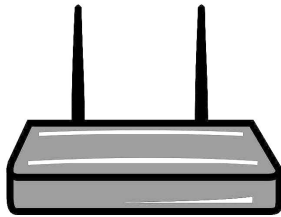
# Operation Mango: Scalable Discovery of Taint-Style Vulnerabilities in Binary Firmware Services

**Wil Gibbs**, Arvind S Raj, Jayakrishna Menon Vadayath, Hui Jun Tay, Justin Miller, Akshay Ajayan, Zion Leonahenahe Basque, Audrey Dutcher, Fangzhou Dong, Xavier Maso, Giovanni Vigna, Christopher Kruegel, Adam Doupé, Yan Shoshitaishvili, Ruoyu Wang

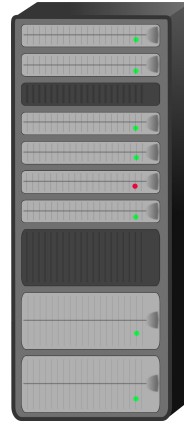


# Firmware in Embedded Devices

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Router



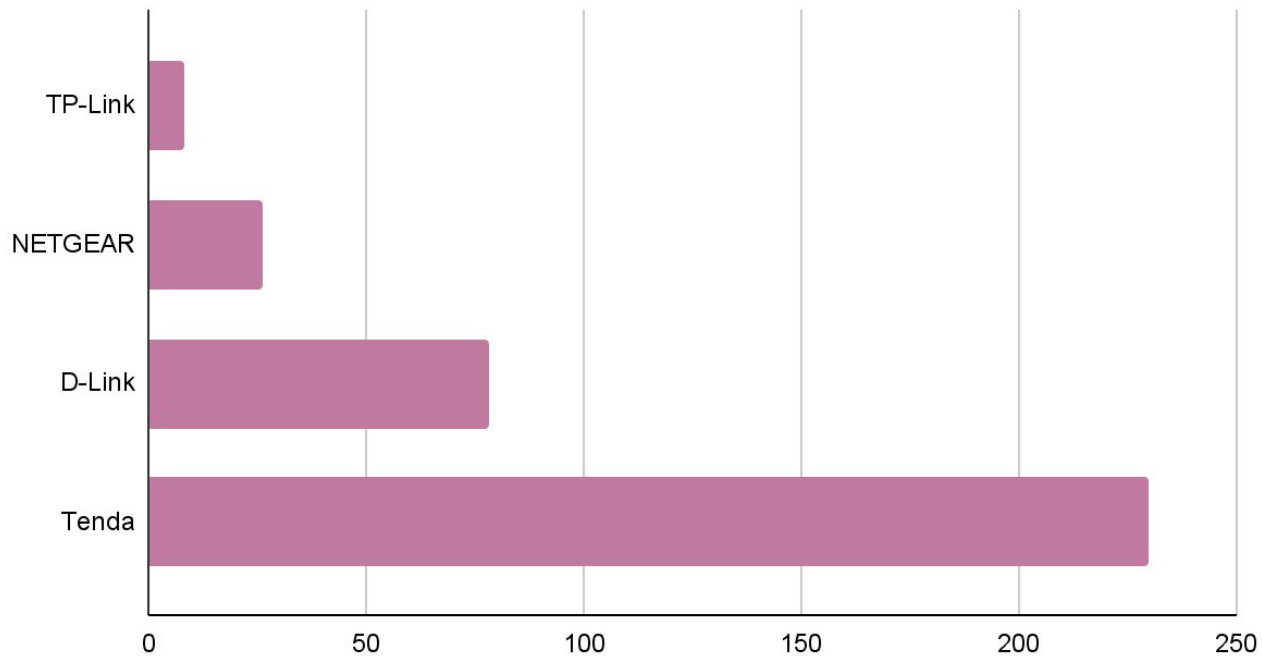
NAS



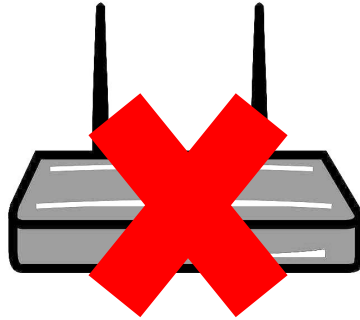
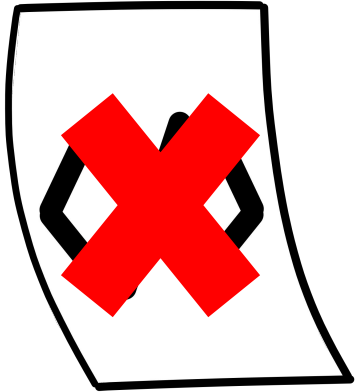
Camera

# Recent IoT CVEs

2024 Published CVEs with CVSS > 8.0



# Binary Analysis is Necessary

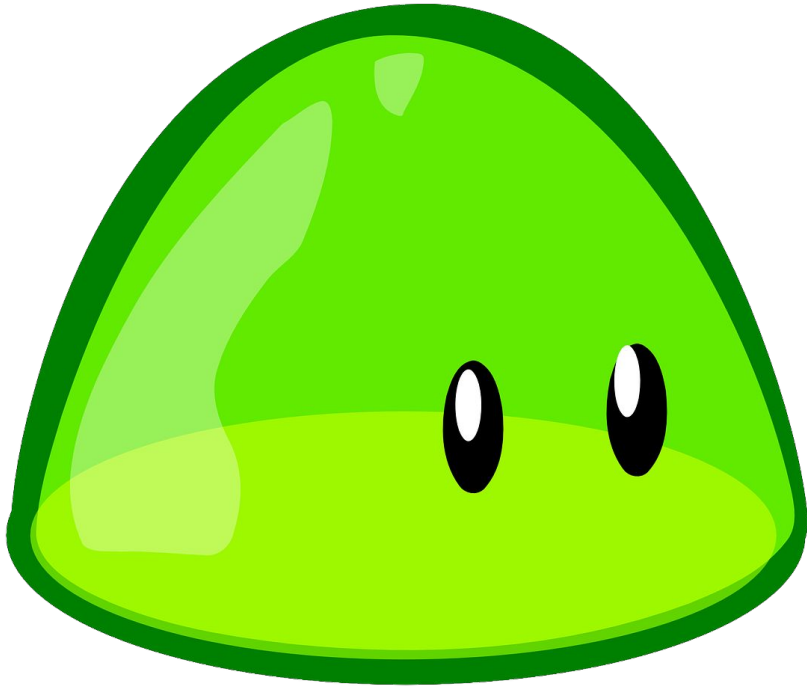


# Types of firmware

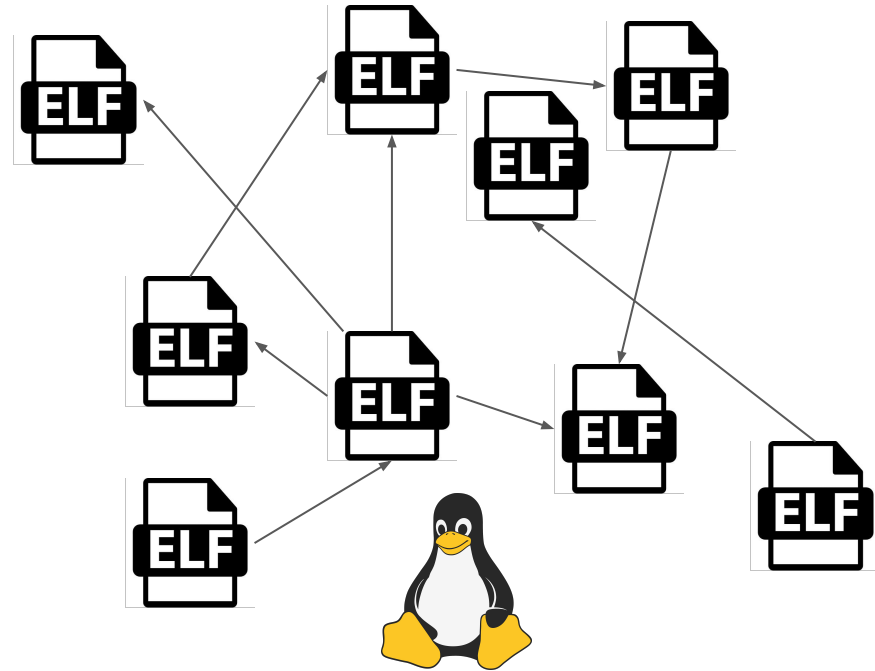
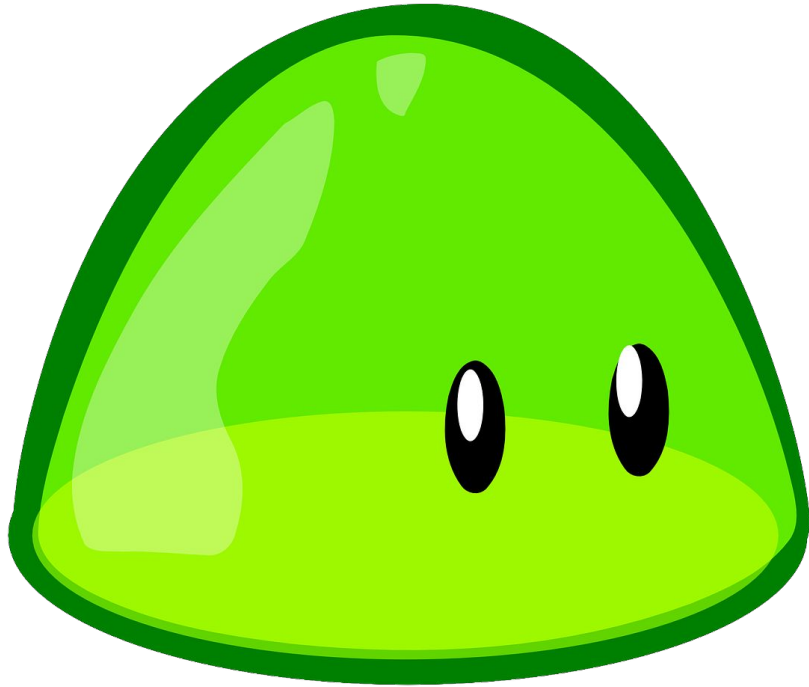
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# Blob-Based Firmware

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# Linux-Based Firmware



# Multi-Binary Dataflow

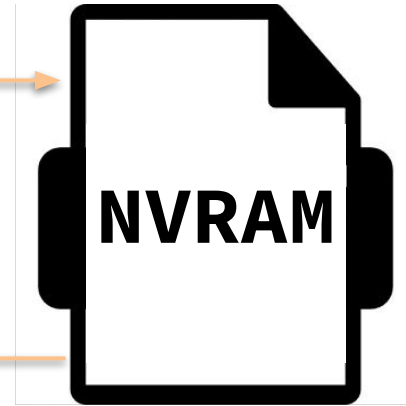
## NVRAM: Non-Volatile Random Access Memory

httpd

```
void change_passcode(request) {  
    passcode = get_http_param(request, "iserver_passcode");  
    nvram_set("iserver_remote_passcode", passcode);  
    system("dlnad");  
}
```

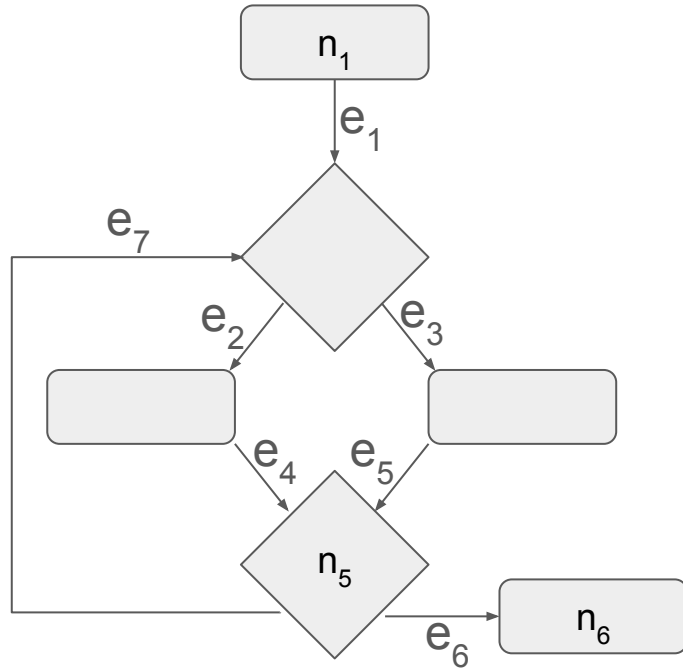
dlnad

```
void main() {  
    passcode = nvram_get("iserver_remote_passcode");  
    sprintf(v11, "set_password %s", passcode);  
    system(v11);  
}
```





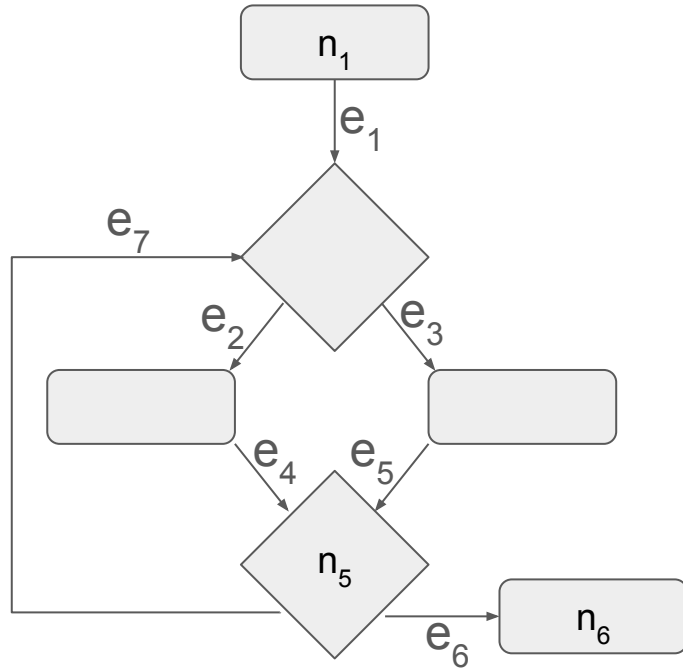
# Symbolic Execution



$$n_5 = e_1 \wedge ((e_2 \wedge e_4) \vee (e_3 \wedge e_5))$$

$$n_6 = e_1 \wedge (\sum n_5 \wedge (e_7 \vee e_6))$$

# Symbolic Execution Does Not Scale

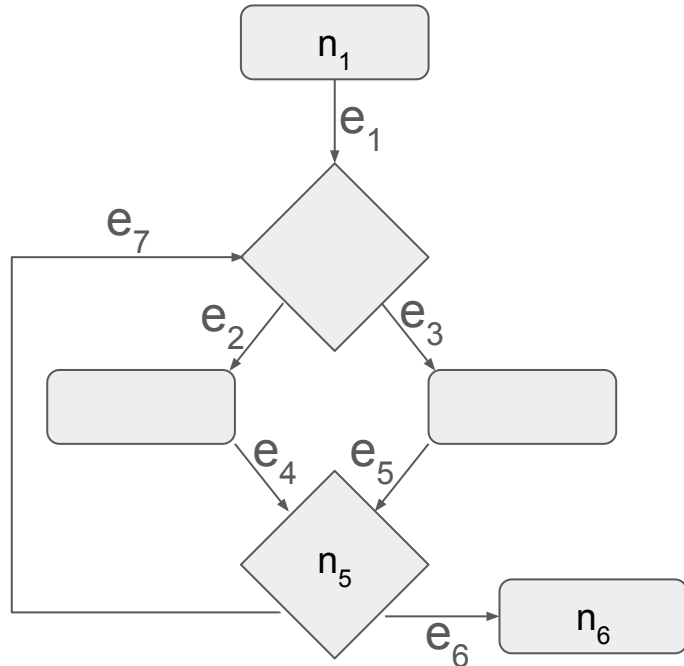


$$n_5 = e_1 \wedge ((e_2 \wedge e_4) \vee (e_3 \wedge e_5))$$

$$n_6 = e_1 \wedge (\sum n_5 \wedge (e_7 \vee e_6))$$

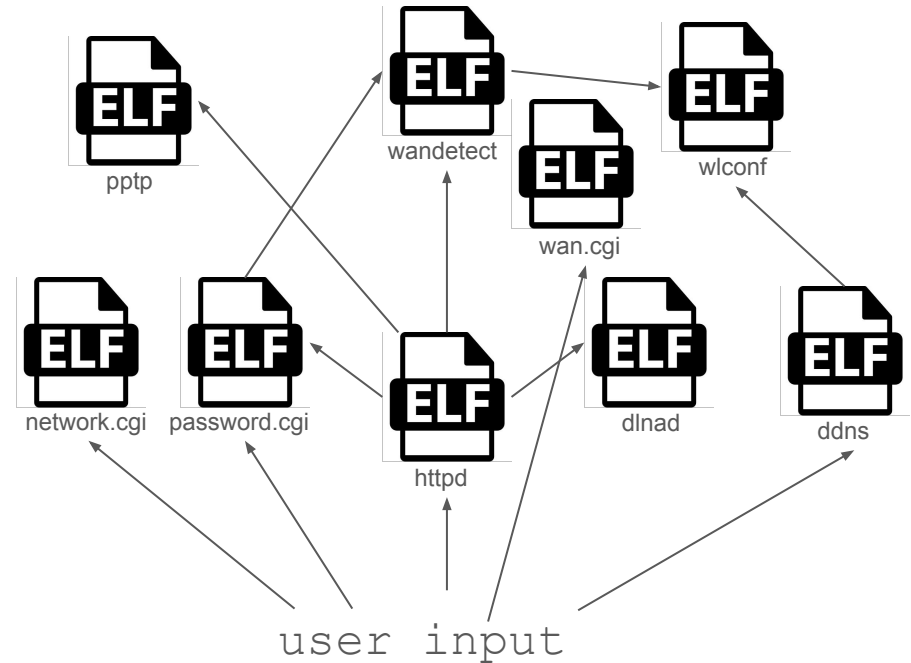


# Symbolic Execution Does Not Scale

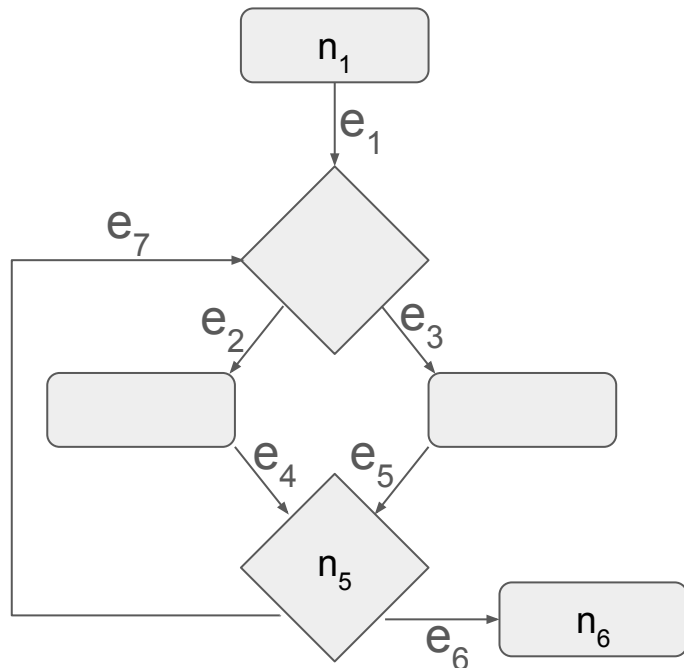


$$n_5 = e_1 \wedge ((e_2 \wedge e_4) \vee (e_3 \wedge e_5))$$

$$n_6 = e_1 \wedge (\sum n_5 \wedge (e_7 \vee e_6))$$

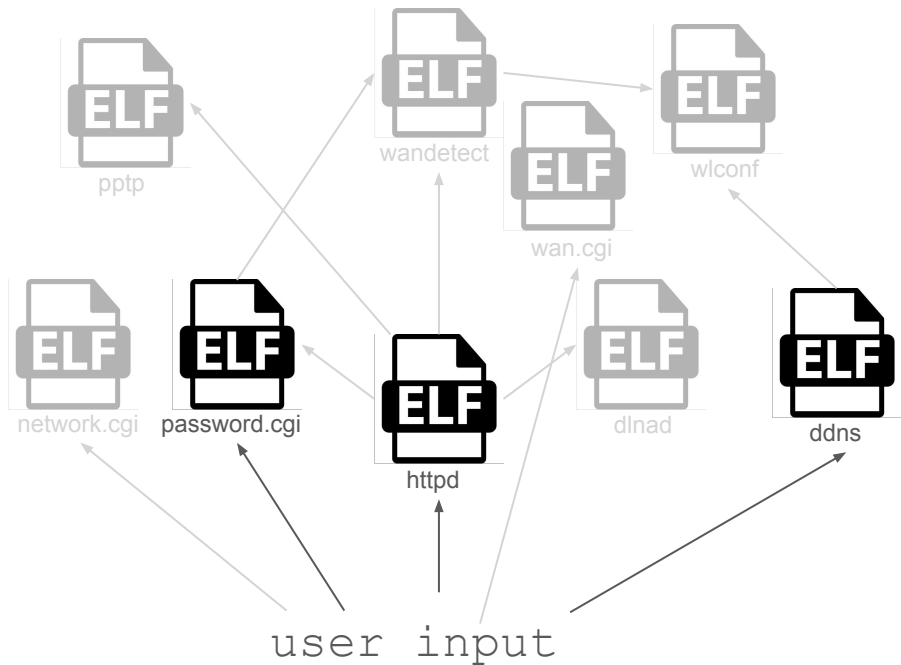


# Border Binaries



$$n_5 = e_1 \wedge ((e_2 \wedge e_4) \vee (e_3 \wedge e_5))$$

$$n_6 = e_1 \wedge (\sum n_5 \wedge (e_7 \vee e_6))$$



# Firmware Dataflow

## Frontend

The screenshot shows a web management interface for a router. The 'ADVANCED' tab is selected, and the 'Setup Password' link in the left sidebar is highlighted with a red box. The main content area displays several configuration panels:

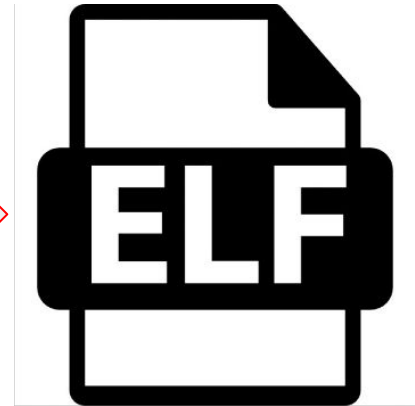
- Router Information:** Hardware Version R7000, Firmware Version V1.0.1.22\_1.0.15, GUI Language Version V1.0.1.22\_1.133.8, LAN Port, MAC Address 04:A1:51:2D:27:51, IP Address 10.0.0.1, DHCP On.
- Internet Port:** MAC Address 04:A1:51:2D:27:52, IP Address 172.18.10.67, Connection DHCP, IP Subnet Mask 255.255.0.0, Domain Name Server 172.18.1.70, 172.18.1.80.
- Wireless Settings (2.4GHz):** Name (SSID) North America, Region North America, Channel Auto (11), Mode Up to 600 Mbps, Wireless AP On, Broadcast Name On, Wi-Fi Protected Setup Configured.
- Wireless Settings (5GHz):** Name (SSID) North America, Region North America, Channel 149 + 153(P) + 157 + 161, Mode Up to 1300 Mbps, Wireless AP On, Broadcast Name On, Wi-Fi Protected Setup Configured.
- Guest Network (2.4 GHz):** Name (SSID), Wireless AP Off, Broadcast Name On.
- Guest Network (5 GHz):** Name (SSID), Wireless AP Off, Broadcast Name On.

At the bottom, there is a 'Help & Support' section with links to 'Documentation', 'Online Support', and 'Router FAQ', and a search bar.

## Web Server

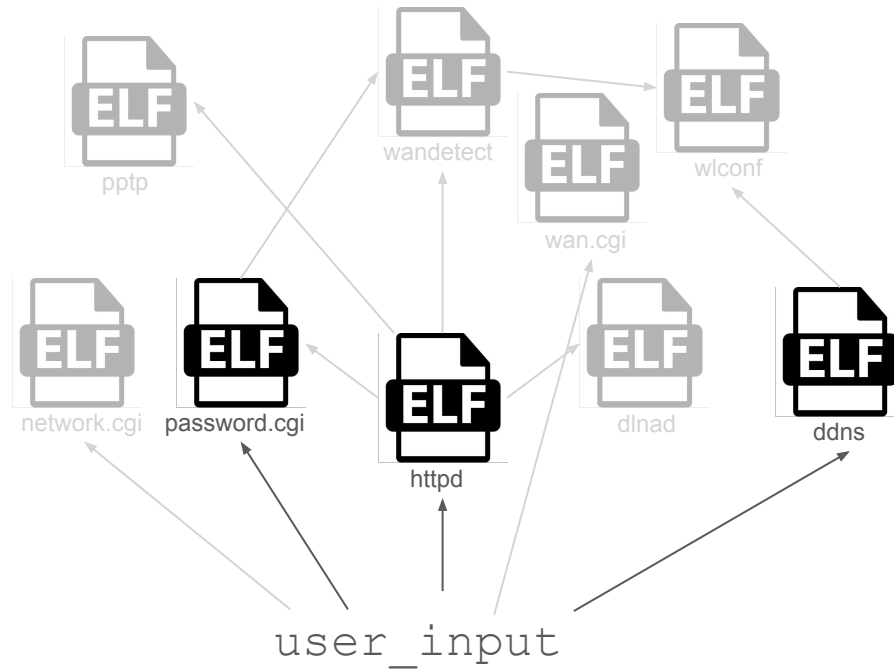
```
// Handle POST Request
if (strcmp(request.type, "POST"))
{
    if (strcmp(request.location,
        "password_recovery.cgi")) {
        nvram_set("password", request.params[0])
        system("password_recovery.cgi")
    }
    ...
}
```

## Backend Utilities

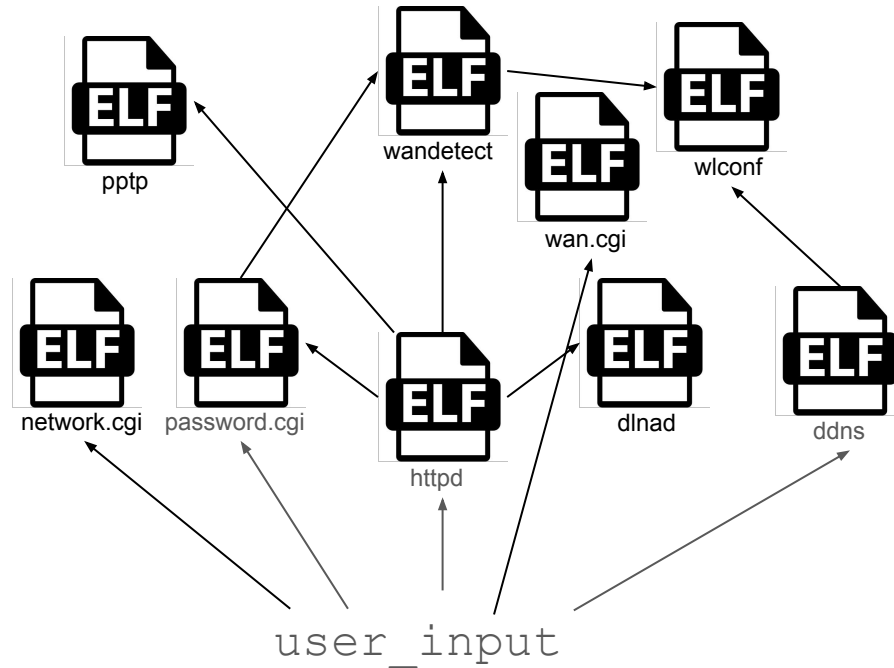


password\_recovery.cgi

# Operation Mango



# Operation Mango



# Mango—Analysis

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Improved Static Analysis for Linux-Based Firmware



# Mango—Analysis

---

## Improved Static Analysis for Linux-Based Firmware

- MangoDFA—Value Dependency Analysis

# Mango — MangoDFA

## Value Dependency Analysis

```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *a1) {  
    ...  
    snprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", a1);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```

# Mango — MangoDFA

## Value Dependency Analysis

```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *a1) {  
    ...  
    snprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", a1);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```

fgets

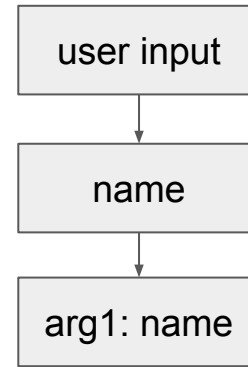
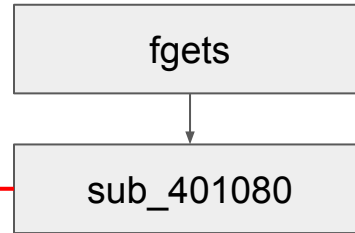
user input

name

# Mango — MangoDFA

## Value Dependency Analysis

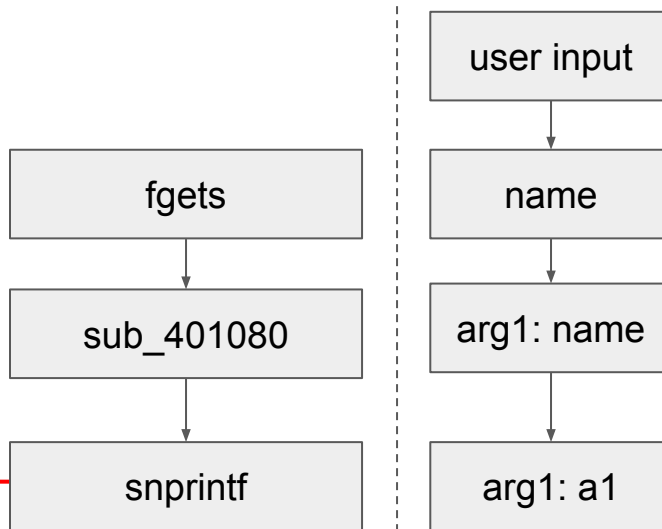
```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *a1) {  
    ...  
    snprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", a1);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango — MangoDFA

## Value Dependency Analysis

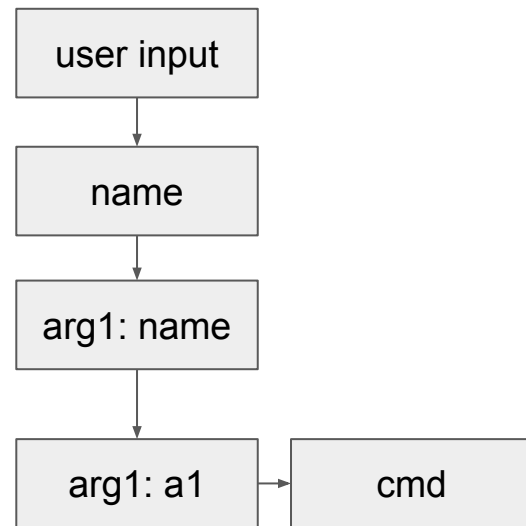
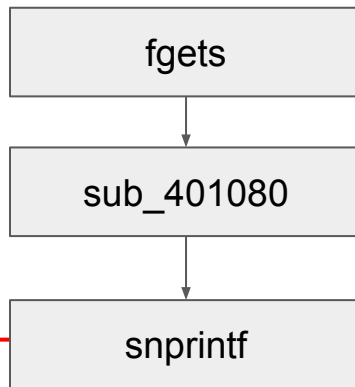
```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *a1) {  
    ...  
    sprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", a1);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango — MangoDFA

## Value Dependency Analysis

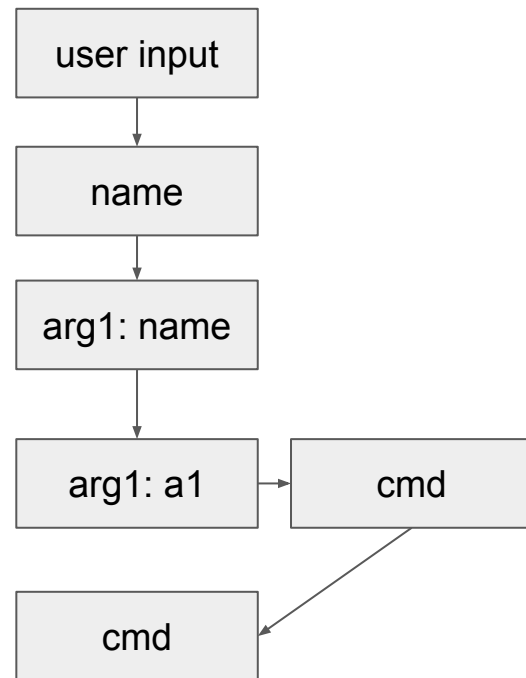
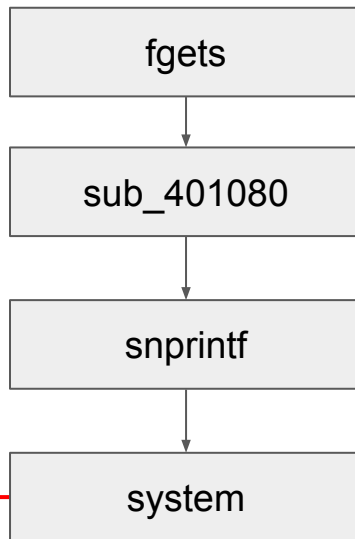
```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *a1) {  
    ...  
    sprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", a1);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango — MangoDFA

## Value Dependency Analysis

```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *a1) {  
    ...  
    sprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", a1);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango—Analysis

---

## Improved Static Analysis for Linux-Based Firmware


- MangoDFA—Value Dependency Analysis
- Rich Expressions



# Mango – Rich Expressions

## Value Dependency Tracking with Rich Expressions

```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    ...  
    snprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```

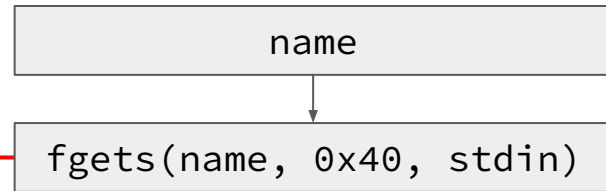


name

# Mango — MangoDFA

## Value Dependency Tracking with Rich Expressions

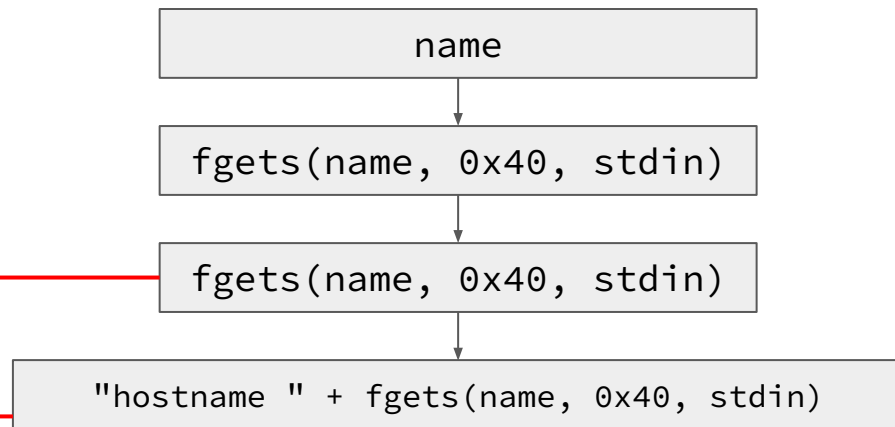
```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    ...  
    snprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango — MangoDFA

## Value Dependency Tracking with Rich Expressions

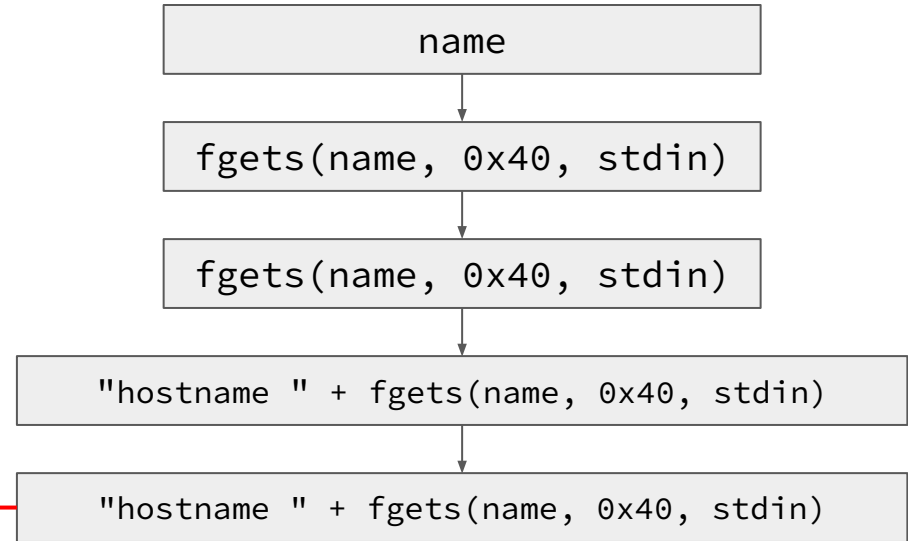
```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    ...  
    snprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango — MangoDFA

## Value Dependency Tracking with Rich Expressions

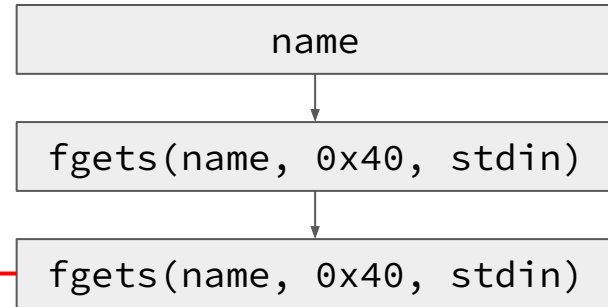
```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    ...  
    sprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango — MangoDFA

## Rich Expressions with Value Transformations

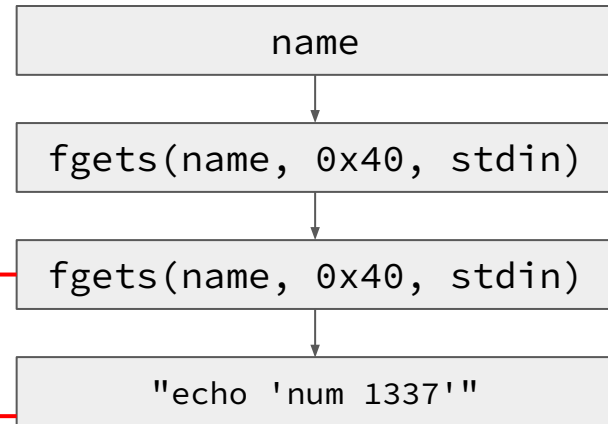
```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    ...  
    ~ sprintf(cmd, 0x60, "echo 'num %d'", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango — MangoDFA

## Rich Expressions with Value Transformations

```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    ...  
    ~ snprintf(cmd, 0x60, "echo 'num %d'", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango—Analysis

---


## Improved Static Analysis for Linux-Based Firmware

- MangoDFA—Value Dependency Analysis
- Rich Expressions
- Assumed Nonimpact

# Mango—Assumed Nonimpact

## Investigating Functions Based on Impact

```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    + start_background_task(&thread);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    + validate_name(name);  
    sprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



name



# Mango—Assumed Nonimpact

## Investigating Functions Based on Impact

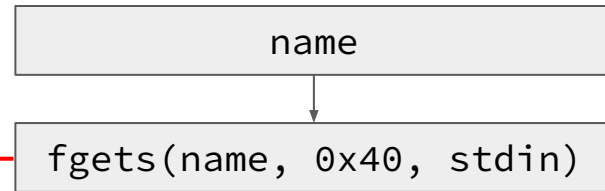
```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
+ start_background_task(&thread);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
+ validate_name(name);  
    snprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```

name

# Mango—Assumed Nonimpact

## Investigating Functions Based on Impact

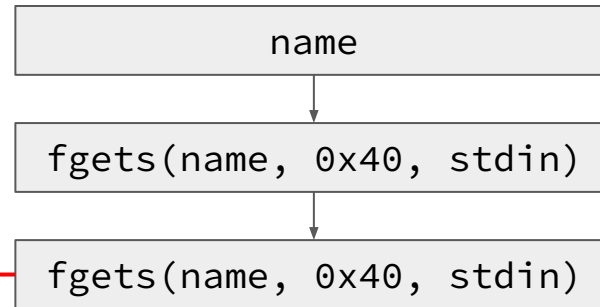
```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
+ start_background_task(&thread);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
+ validate_name(name);  
    snprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango—Assumed Nonimpact

## Investigating Functions Based on Impact

```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    + start_background_task(&thread);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    + validate_name(name);  
    sprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango—Analysis

---

## Improved Static Analysis for Linux-Based Firmware

- MangoDFA—Value Dependency Analysis
- Rich Expressions
- Assumed Nonimpact
- Sink-to-Source Coarse-Grained Analysis

# Mango—Sink-to-Source Coarse-Grained Analysis

## Tracing Backwards Through a Call Trace

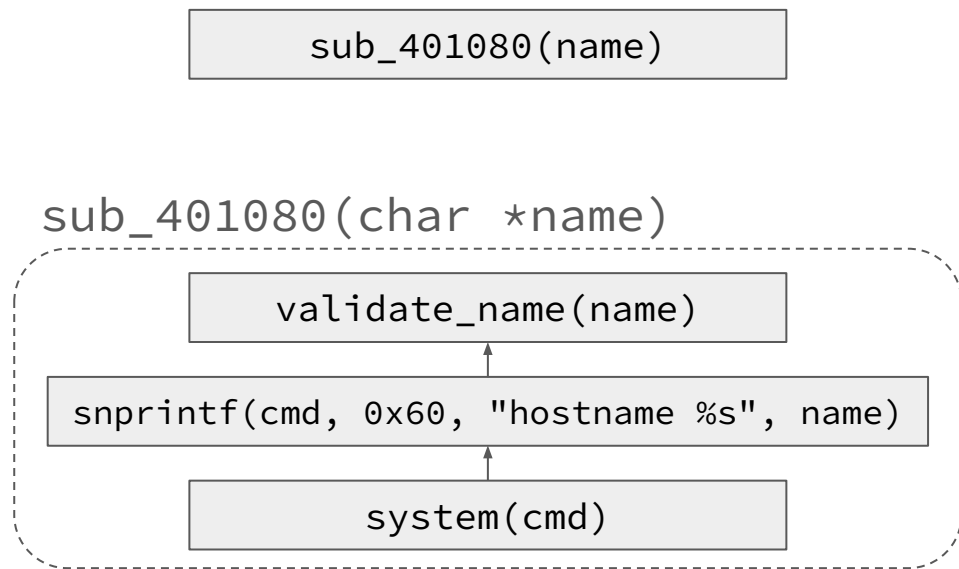
```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    + start_background_task(&thread);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    + validate_name(name);  
    sprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```

system(cmd)

# Mango—Sink-to-Source Coarse-Grained Analysis

## Tracing Backwards Through a Call Trace

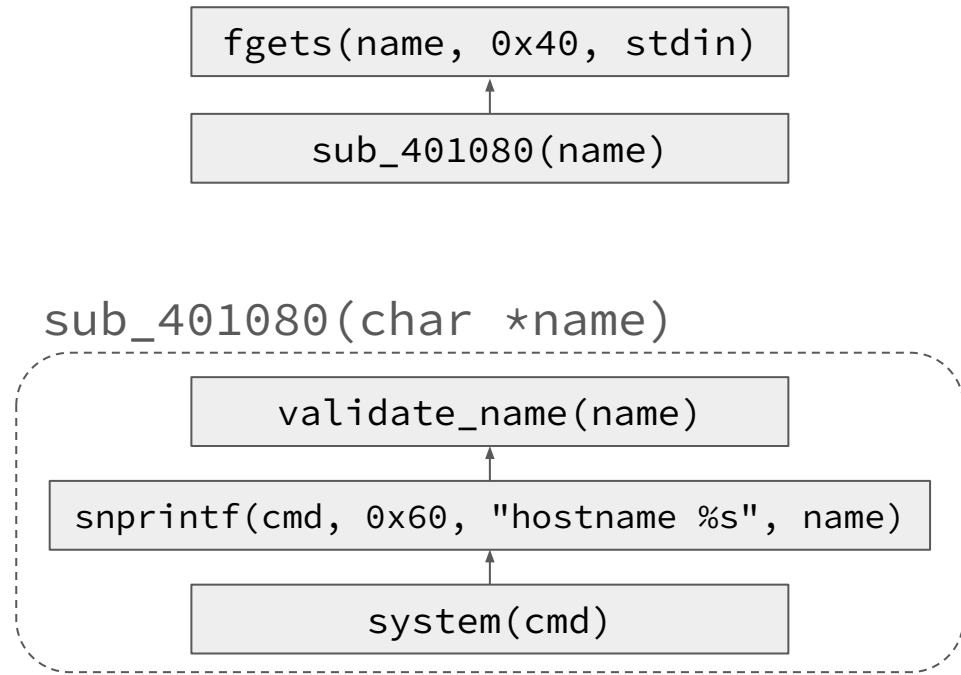
```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    + start_background_task(&thread);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    + validate_name(name);  
    snprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



# Mango—Sink-to-Source Coarse-Grained Analysis

## Tracing Backwards Through a Call Trace

```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    + start_background_task(&thread);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    + validate_name(name);  
    sprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```



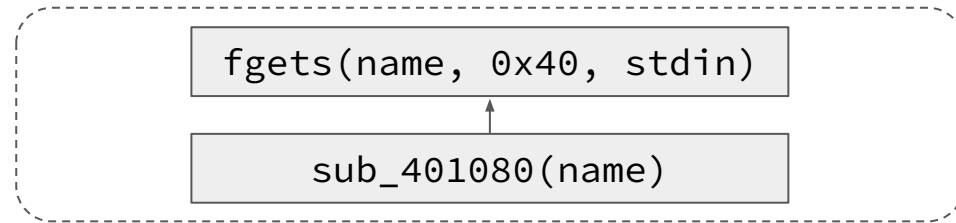
# Mango—Sink-to-Source Coarse-Grained Analysis

## Analysis Result:

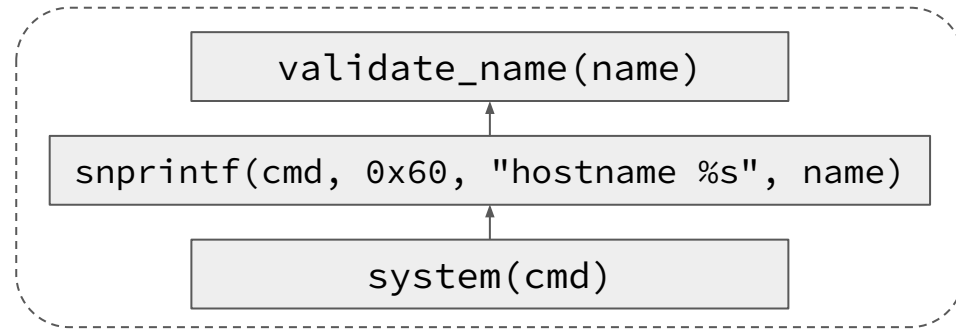
main -> sub\_401080

```
void main() {  
    ...  
    fgets(name, 0x40, stdin);  
    + start_background_task(&thread);  
    sub_401080(name);  
}  
  
void sub_401080(char *name) {  
    + validate_name(name);  
    snprintf(cmd, 0x60, "hostname %s", name);  
    system(cmd);  
}
```

main()



sub\_401080(char \*name)





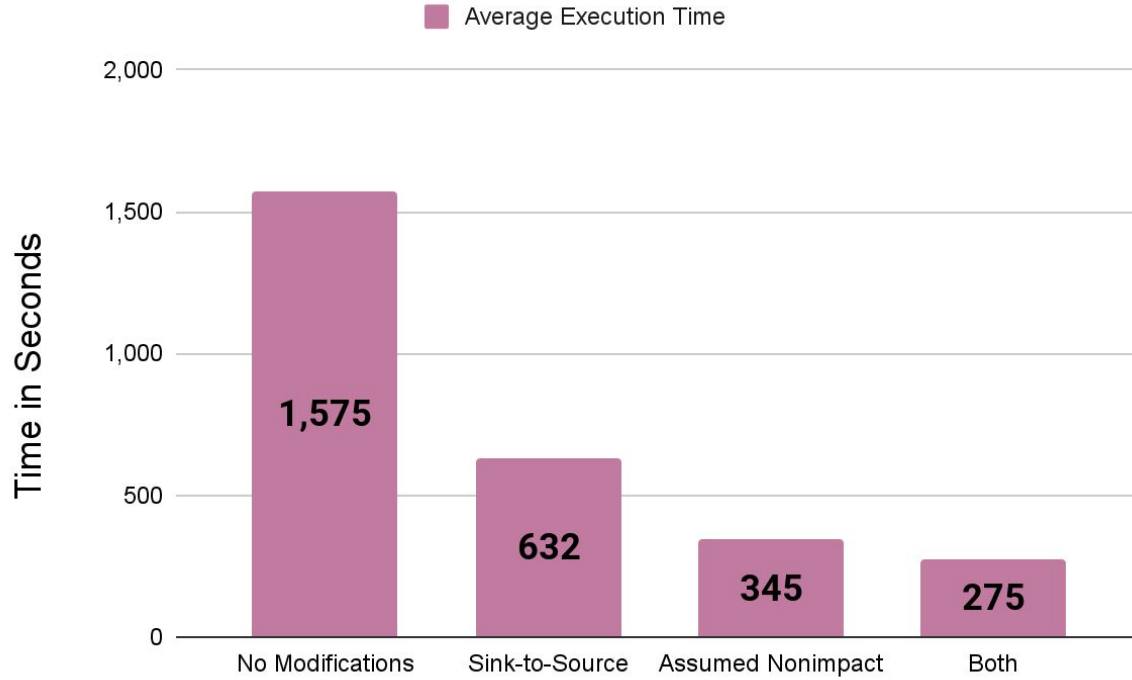
# Mango—Analysis

---

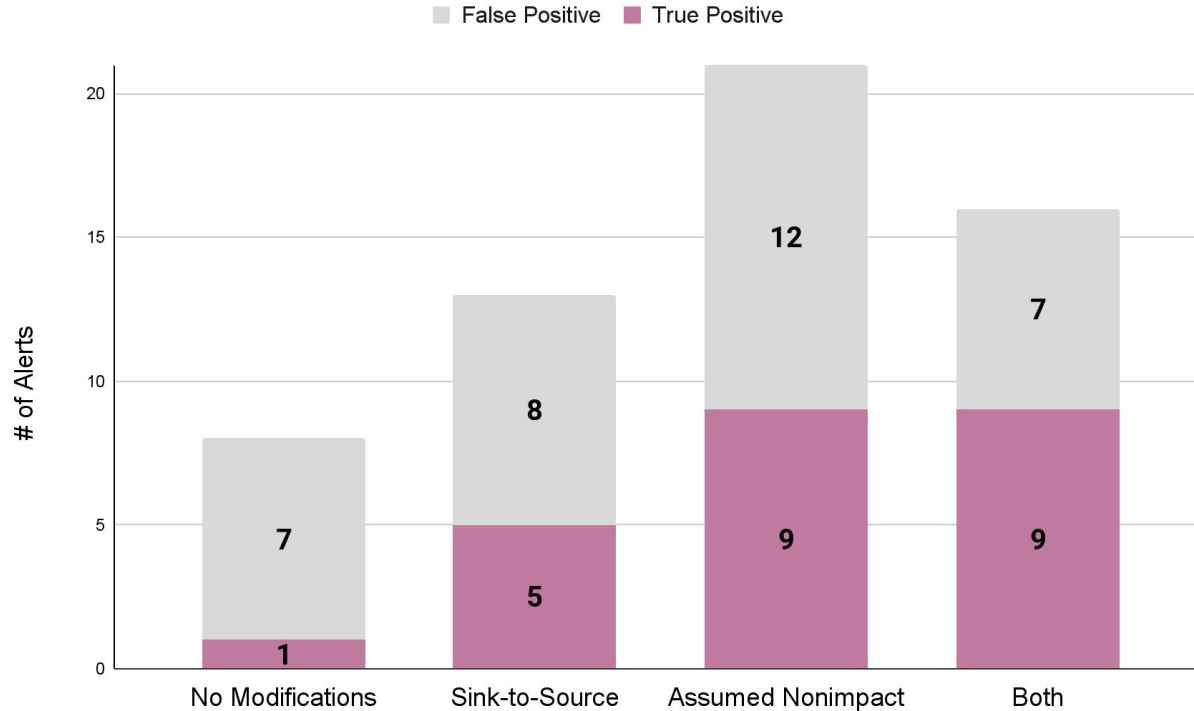
## Improved Static Analysis for Linux-Based Firmware

- MangoDFA—Value Dependency Analysis
- Rich Expressions
- Assumed Nonimpact
- Sink-to-Source Coarse-Grained Analysis

# Mango—Time Ablation



# Mango—Alert Ablation



# Mango — Efficacy

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49 Firmware KARONTE Dataset

# Mango—Efficacy

---

## 49 Firmware KARONTE Dataset

- 2,310 Alerts

# Mango — Efficacy

---

## 49 Firmware KARONTE Dataset

- 2,310 Alerts
- 100 command injections
  - 57 True Positives
  - 57% TP Rate

# Mango—Efficacy

---

## 49 Firmware KARONTE Dataset

- 2,310 Alerts
- 100 command injections
  - 57 True Positives
  - 57% TP Rate
- 230 buffer overflows
  - 109 True Positives
  - 47% TP Rate

# Mango—Efficacy

---

## 49 Firmware KARONTE Dataset

- 2,310 Alerts
- 100 command injections
  - 57 True Positives
  - 57% TP Rate
- 230 buffer overflows
  - 109 True Positives
  - 47% TP Rate
- Total: 52% TP Rate



# Operation Mango vs SaTC

|                 | Analyzed Binaries | Alerts | Alerted Binaries | Runtime |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------|------------------|---------|
| SaTC            |                   |        |                  |         |
| Operation Mango |                   |        |                  |         |

# Operation Mango vs SaTC

|                 | Analyzed Binaries | Alerts | Alerted Binaries | Runtime |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------|------------------|---------|
| SaTC            | 131               |        |                  |         |
| Operation Mango | 3,599             |        |                  |         |

# Operation Mango vs SaTC

|                 | Analyzed Binaries | Alerts | Alerted Binaries | Runtime |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------|------------------|---------|
| SaTC            | 131               | 144    |                  |         |
| Operation Mango | 3,599             | 2,310  |                  |         |

# Operation Mango vs SaTC

|                 | Analyzed Binaries | Alerts | Alerted Binaries | Runtime |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------|------------------|---------|
| SaTC            | 131               | 144    | 52               |         |
| Operation Mango | 3,599             | 2,310  | 174              |         |

# Operation Mango vs SaTC

|                 | Analyzed Binaries | Alerts | Alerted Binaries | Runtime |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------|------------------|---------|
| SaTC            | 131               | 144    | 52               | 860:58h |
| Operation Mango | 3,599             | 2,310  | 174              | 946:22h |

# Mango—Summary

---

- Found bugs in 3x more binaries at 22x faster per binary

# Mango—Summary

---

- Found bugs in 3x more binaries at 22x faster per binary
- Manually verified 166 exploitable vulnerabilities

# Mango—Summary

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- Found bugs in 3x more binaries at 22x faster per binary
- Manually verified 166 exploitable vulnerabilities
- Operation Mango is open-sourced and available



# Mango—Summary

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- Found bugs in 3x more binaries at 22x faster per binary
- Manually verified 166 exploitable vulnerabilities
- Operation Mango is open-sourced and available
- Operation Mango is integrated in angr and will be maintained



# Thank You!

Operation Mango

<https://github.com/sefcom/operation-mango-public>

Wil Gibbs | wilgibbs.com | wfgibbs@asu.edu | @cl4sm

