CS266 Software Reverse Engineering (SRE) Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode

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The information in this presentation is taken from the thesis "Software reverse engineering education" available at <u>http://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/etd_theses/3734/</u> where all citations can be found.

Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode

- Good-quality Java source can often be generated from Java bytecode with little difficulty due to certain characteristics of bytecode:
 - Platform-independent (consistent) instruction set and layout/format.
 - Very rich, well-structured metadata about Classes, Methods, and Variables:
 - names and datatypes (e.g., String personName, Map personRecord).

• Method signatures (includes Constructors).

- Generating HLL source (e.g., C/C++) from machine code is challenging due to high variation in the output of compilers on different platforms and unavoidable loss of information that occurs when compiling a HLL down to machine code.
 - *Note*: Symbolic information may be included in machine code when specifying a compiler's "debug" option (e.g., -g, -debug, TEST).

Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode (cont'd)

• The following diagram illustrates the difference in how Java bytecode and machine code are processed during execution:



Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode (cont'd)

- The following formal definitions of machine code and Java bytecode apply:
 - Machine code: "Machine code or machine language is a system of instructions and data executed directly by a computer's central processing unit" [14]. Machine code contains the platform-specific machine instructions to execute on the target processor.
 - **Java bytecode**: "Bytecode is the intermediate representation of Java programs just as assembler is the intermediate representation of C or C++ programs" [<u>15</u>]. Java bytecode contains platform-independent instructions that are translated to platform-specific instructions by a Java Virtual Machine.

Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode (cont'd)

- Machine code is stored in files with varying extensions (*.exe, *.dll, *.so,..,); extensions are dependent upon the operating system.
- On the contrary...
 - Java bytecode is *always* stored in files that have a *.*class* extension.
- The Java Language Specification allows at most one top-level public class to be defined per *.*java* source file and requires that the bytecode be stored in a file with whose name matches the pattern *TopLevelClassName.class*.
- Collections of Java classes, such as those for an application or class library, are stored together in an archive file with a *.jar extension.

Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode Decompiling and Disassembling Java Bytecode

- Bytecode is stored in a binary format that is not human-readable and therefore must be "disassembled" in order to be read.
- Oracle's Java Development Toolkit (JDK) comes with javap, a command-line tool for "disassembling" Java bytecode.
- To say that javap disassembles bytecode is a misnomer because the output of javap is unstructured text which cannot be compiled back to bytecode.
 - The assumption is you already have the *.class file.
- The output of javap is nonetheless useful as a debugging and performance tuning aid since one can see which JVM instructions are generated from highlevel Java language statements.

Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode Decompiling and Disassembling Java Bytecode

javap demo



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PS C:\Users\Teodoro\IdeaProjects\CS266\out\production\CS266>

Locate the **.class* file for the Java program.

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		Windows PowerShell	- 🗆 🔿
PS C:\User	rs\Teodoro\IdeaProjects\CS	266\out\production\CS266> dir	
Direct	cory: C:\Users\Teodoro\Ide	aProjects\CS266\out\production\CS266	
Mode	LastWriteTime	Length Name	
-a	2/1/2015 3:30 PM	838 ListArguments.class	
	s\Teodono\TdeaDnoiects\CS	266 out production $CS266$	

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2			Windows PowerShell	
PS C:\Users	\Teodoro\IdeaPro	jects\CS2	266\out\production\CS266> dir	
Directo	ry: C:\Users\Teo	doro\Idea	aProjects\CS266\out\productio	on\CS266
Mode	LastWri	teTime	Length Name	
-a	2/1/2015 3	:30 РМ	838 ListArguments.class	
PS C:∖Users	\Teodoro\IdeaPro	jects\CS2	266\out\production\CS266> jav	Enter the javap command without arguments to display help details.

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PS C:\Users\Teodoro\IdeaProjects\CS266\out\production\CS266>

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2		Windows PowerShell	- 🗆 🗙
PS C:\Users\Teodoro\ Classfile /C:/Users/ Last modified Feb MD5 checksum 151ac Compiled from "Lis public class ListArg SourceFile: "ListA minor version: 0 major version: 51 flags: ACC_PUBLIC.	IdeaProjects\CS266\o Teodoro/IdeaProjects 1, 2015; size 838 by cb73e098c98573c6b1a8 tArguments.java" uments rguments.java" ACC_SUPER	ut\production\CS266> javap -v ListArgumen /CS266/out/production/CS266/ListArguments tes 1855629	ts.class ^ .class
Constant pool: #1 = Methodref #2 = Fieldref #3 = Class #4 = Methodref #5 = String #6 = Methodref	Constant pool (implicit and explicit constant declarations)	<pre>// java/lang/Object."<init>":()V // java/lang/System.out:Ljava/io/Print! // java/lang/StringBuilder // java/lang/StringBuilder."<init>":()" // Argument[// java/lang/StringBuilder.append:(Lia)</init></init></pre>	Stream; V
<pre>#7 = Methodref #7 = Methodref #8 = String #9 = Methodref #10 = Methodref #11 = Class #12 = Class</pre>	#3.#35 #36 #3.#37 #38.#39 #40 #41	<pre>// java/lang/StringBuilder.append.(Lja // java/lang/StringBuilder.append:(I)L // j: // java/lang/StringBuilder.toString:() // java/io/PrintStream.println:(Ljava/ // ListArguments // java/lang/Object</pre>	java/lang/StringB _java/lang/String lang/String;)V
#13 = Utf8 #14 = Utf8 #15 = Utf8 #16 = Utf8 #17 = Utf8 #18 = Utf8	<init> ()V Code LineNumberTab LocalVariable this</init>	le Table	
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#25 = Utf8 #26 = Utf8 #27 = Utf8 #28 = Utf8 #29 = NameAndType #20 = Class	[Ljava/lang/S StackMapTable SourceFile ListArguments #13:#14	tring; .java // " <init>":()V</init>	
#30 = CTASS #31 = NameAndType #32 = Utf8 #33 = Utf8	#42 #43:#44 java/lang/Str Argument[// out:Ljava/io/PrintStream; ingBuilder	

_ 🗆 🗙 Windows PowerShell #34 = NameAndType#45:#46 append: (Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/StringBuilder; A #45:#47 #35 = NameAndType11 append: (I)Ljava/lang/StringBuilder; #36 = Utf8]: #37 = NameAndType#48:#49 toString:()Ljava/lang/String; #38 = Class#50 // java/io/PrintStream #39 = NameAndType#51:#52 println: (Ljava/lang/String;)V 11 #40 = Utf8ListArguments #41 = Utf8java/lang/Object #42 = Utf8java/lang/System #43 = Utf8out #44 = Utf8Ljava/io/PrintStream; #45 = Utf8append #46 = Utf8(Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/StringBuilder; (I)Ljava/lang/StringBuilder; #47 = Utf8#48 = Utf8toString ()Ljava/lang/String; #49 = Utf8#50 = Utf8java/io/PrintStream #51 = Utf8println #52 = Utf8(Ljava/lang/String;)V public ListArguments(); flags: ACC_PUBLIC Code: stack=1, locals=1, args_size=1 0: aload 0 1: invokespecial #1 // Method java/lang/Object."<init>":()V 4: return LineNumberTable: line 1: 0 LocalVariableTable: Start Length Slot Name Signature 0 this LListArguments; 0 5 public static void main(java.lang.String[]); flags: ACC_PUBLIC, ACC_STATIC Code: stack=4, locals=2, args_size=1 0: iconst_0 1: istore_1 2: iload_1 3: aload_0 4: arraylength 5: if_icmpge 50 #2 // Field java/lang/System.out:Ljava/io/PrintStream; 🗙 8: getstatic > <

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	5: if_icmpge 8: getstatic 11: new	50 #2 #3	// Field ja // class ja	va/lang/System.out:Ljava/ va/lang/StringBuilder	io/PrintStream;
	14: dup 15: invokespecial 18: ldc 20: invokevirtual	#4 #5 #6	// Method j // String A // Method i	ava/lang/StringBuilder."< rgument[ava/lang/StringBuilder.an	init>":()V pend:(Liava/lang
	23: iload_1 24: invokevirtual 27: ldc	#7 #8	// Method j // String]	ava/lang/StringBuilder.ap :	pend:(I)Ljava/la
	29: invokevirtual 32: aload_0 33: iload_1	#6	// Method j	ava/lang/StringBuilder.ap	pend: (Ljava/lang
	35: invokevirtual 38: invokevirtual 41: invokevirtual 44: iinc	#6 #9 #10 1, 1	// Method j // Method j // Method j	ava/lang/StringBuilder.ap ava/lang/StringBuilder.to ava/io/PrintStream.printl	pend: (Ljava/lang String: ()Ljava/l n: (Ljava/lang/St
	47: goto 50: return LineNumberTable: line 3: 0	2			
	line 4: 8 line 3: 44 line 6: 50				
	LocalVariableTable: Start Length Sl 2 48 0 51	ot Name Signat 1 i I Qarguments	ure [Ljava/lang/St	ring;	
	StackMapTable: numb frame_type = 2 offset_delta locals = [int]	er_of_entries = 2 52			
}	offset_delta =	47			
PS C:	:\Users\Teodoro\IdeaP	rojects\CS266\out	\production\CS2	00>	>

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Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode Decompiling and Disassembling Java Bytecode

- The result of disassembling Java bytecode is a pseudo-assembly language, a language that cannot be compiled or assembled but serves to provide a more abstract, readable representation of the bytecode.
- While it may seem possible to use a hex editor directly modify Java bytecode in a *.class file, this is similar in difficulty to editing machine code in a hex editor.
 - However, libraries exist for deserializing and serializing bytecode using inmemory Java object models. This allows programmatic modification.
- Decompiling then recompiling Java bytecode after making modifications is perhaps the most straightforward way to reverse and patch Java applications.



Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode

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PasswordVault.jar PasswordVault.jar

Java Bytecode Reversing and Patching Exercise

🕌 C:\WINDOWS\system32\java.exe	
(+) Name: record01 (-) Username : username01 (-) Password: password01 (-) Description: description01	
(+) Name: record02 (-) Username : username02 (-) Password: password02 (-) Description: description02	
(+) Name: record03 (-) Username : username03 (-) Password: password03 (-) Description: description03	
(+) Name: record04 (-) Username : username04 (-) Password: password04 (-) Description: description04	
(+) Name: record05 (-) Username : username05 (-) Password: password05 (-) Description: description05	
Password Vault 1.0 (Limited Trial Version)	
l Teodoro Cipresso, San Jose State Unive Contact: teodoro@reversingproject.inf AES 128-Bit Encryption using Java JCE	ersity ; o
+	Specify option (2) to attempt to create a sixth password record.
>> Specify an option number and press En	ter: 2

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Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode

Java Bytecode Reversing and Patching Exercise



PasswordVault.jar PasswordVault.jar

icrosoft Windows XP [Version 5.1.2600] C) Copyright 1985-2001 Microsoft Corp.	4
:\PasswordVaultTrialJava>mkdir patch	
NPasswordVaultTrialJava≻copy PasswordVault.jar .\patch	
Copy the Password Vault application Jar file into the patch directory. The Jar file contains the bytecode representations of the Java classes which implement the application.	



Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode

Java Bytecode Reversing and Patching Exercise

📾 Command Prompt	
Microsoft Windows XP [Version 5.1.2600] (C) Copyright 1985-2001 Microsoft Corp.	<u> </u>
c:∖PasswordVaultTrialJava>mkdir patch	
c:\PasswordVaultTrialJava>copy PasswordVault.jar .\patch 1 file(s) copied.	
c:\PasswordVaultTrialJava>cd patch	
C:\PasswordVaultTrialJava\patch>jar xvf PasswordVault.jar	Extract the Jar archive into the patch director



licrosoft Windows XP [Version (C) Copyright 1985-2001 Micros ::\PasswordVaultTrialJava>mkdi c:\PasswordVaultTrialJava>copy 1 file(s) copied. c:\PasswordVaultTrialJava>cd p	If this Jar is meant to be executed directly by the Java JRE, a manifest file will be included that indicates which class declares the main method (entry point).
:: PasswordUaultTrialJava\patch inflated: META-INF/MANIFEST.MF inflated: info/reversingproject, inflated: .classpath inflated: .project	ar xvf Passwordvault.jar /passwordvault/IPasswordVault.class /passwordvault/PasswordVaultConsoleUtil.class /passwordvault/IPasswordVaultJCEWrapper.class /passwordvault/IPasswordVaultJCEWrapper.class /passwordvault/IPasswordStore.class /passwordvault/IPasswordStore.class /passwordvault/IPasswordStore.class /passwordvault/IPasswordStore.class /passwordvault/IPasswordWault.class /passwordvault/PasswordVault.class
C:∖PasswordVaultTrialJava∖patch>	The compiled Java classes are extracted into directories. The directory structure should reflect

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PasswordVault.jar

















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]	&	DeCompile Ctrl+D 🖁	🛐 😂 🖹 🚜 🛤 🎲 👗 📭 🛍 ラ Courier New 💿 🔹 🖅 🔁 🚍 🔟 🗷 🟠	Ī		
		Batch DeCompile Ctrl+B	public void doCreateNewRecord()	•		
	e	<u>R</u> eCompile	<pre>//if(passwordStore.getRecords().size() >= 5)</pre>			
	В	New Ctrl+N	//(
	B	Open Ctrl+O	// PasswordVaultConsoleUtil.DisplayMessage("Thank y			
		Save Ctrl+Alt+S				
	2	Save As Ctrl+S word	PasswordRecord newRecord = new PasswordRecord();			
	7	Saye All Ctrl+A Pas	word() boolean nameSet = false;			
	4	Print Ctrl+P	do			
	2	Print Setup Ctrl+P	{			
		Recent Files >	String name = PasswordVaultConsoleUtil.getConsoleI			
	N+	- Exit	<pre>if(name.length() == 0) /</pre>			
Ľ	-4	ocaritatic de ditRecord()	PasswordVaultConsoleUtil.DisplayMessage("Record			
L		void doEditRecord()	return;			
		 Ø doChangeVaultPassword() S void doChangeVaultPassword 	} if (passwordStore.recordExists(name))			
		*	PasswordVaultConsoleUtil.DisplayMessage("A rec			
			else			
			try (
			newRecord.setName(name);			
			nameSet = true;			
			}			
			catch (IllegalArgumentException illegalargumente	- 1		
			(InameSet)			
Sa	Save current file under a new name					

🕰 Command Prompt	
Microsoft Windows XP [Version 5.1.2 (C) Copyright 1985-2001 Microsoft (2600] Corp.
c:\PasswordVaultTrialJava>mkdir paf	tch
c:\PasswordUaultTrialJava>copy Pas: 1 file(s) copied.	swordVault.jar .\patch
c:\PasswordVaultTrialJava>cd patch	
C:\PasswordUaultTrialJava\patch>jar inflated: META-INF/MANIFEST.MF inflated: info/reversingproject/pa inflated: info/reversingproject/pa	r xvf PasswordUault.jar asswordvault/IPasswordUault.class asswordvault/PasswordRecord.class asswordvault/IPasswordUaultConsoleUtil.class asswordvault/IPasswordUaultJCEWrapper.class asswordvault/PasswordStore.class asswordvault/IPasswordStore.class asswordvault/IPasswordStore.class asswordvault/IPasswordBecord.class asswordvault/IPasswordUault.class asswordvault/PasswordUault.class
C:\PasswordVaultTrialJava\patch>jav rdVault.java_	Compile the modified, generated Java
	This step will overwrite the original, extracted class file.



🕰 Command Prompt	
Microsoft Windows XP [Version 5.1.2600] (C) Copyright 1985-2001 Microsoft Corp.	_
c:∖PasswordVaultTrialJava>mkdir patch	
c:\PasswordVaultTrialJava>copy PasswordVault.jar .\pat 1 file(s) copied.	ch
c:\PasswordVaultTrialJava>cd patch	
C:\PasswordUaultTrialJava\patch>jar xvf PasswordUault. inflated: META-INF/MANIFEST.MF inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/Passwor inflated: .classpath inflated: .project C:\PasswordUaultTrialJava\patch>javac info\reversingpr	jar ordVault.class ordVaultConsoleUtil.class ordVaultConsoleUtil.class ordVaultJCEWrapper.class ordStore.class ordStore.class ordRecord.class odVault.class odVault.class odVaultConsoleUtil.class
C:\PasswordVaultTrialJava\patch>jar uvf PasswordVault. passwordvault_	jar info\reversingproject\
Update the copy of the extracted class recreated Password	f the Jar file from filesincluding the dVault.class file.



🖎 Command Prompt	
inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/PasswordReco inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordVau inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordVau inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordVau inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordVau inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordStor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordStor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordStor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordStor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordStor inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordWau inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/PasswordWau inflated: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/PasswordWau inflated: .classpath inflated: .project	ord.class (ltConsoleUtil.class (ltJCEWrapper.class tJCEWrapper.class ore.class e.class ord.class t.class t.class t.class t.class
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C:\PasswordVaultTrialJava\patch>jar uvf PasswordVault.jar i	info\reversingproject\
passwordvault adding: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordVault.	class(in = 436) (out=
293)(deflated 32%)	
adding: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/PasswordRecord.	class(in = 3239) (out
= 1366)(deflated 57%) adding: info/weyewsingnyoiect/nassyondyault/IPassyondlault(oncolelltil class(in =
6204) (out= 2405)(deflated 61%)	
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419) (out= 233)(def lated 44%)	
adding: info/reversingproject/passwordvauit/rasswordvauitj(191) (out= 2024)(deflated 51%)	Ewrapper.class(in = 4
adding: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/IPasswordStore.	class(in = 941) (out=
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adding: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/PasswordStore.c	:lass(in = 8470) (out=
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= 336 (def lated 42%)	
adding: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/PasswordVault.c	lass(in = 6549) (out=
3265)(deflated 50%)	1 11/11 1 1 //
adding: info/reversingproject/passwordvault/rasswordvaultto 3589) (out= 1673)(deflated 52%)	onsoleutil.class(in =
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C:\PasswordUaultTrialJawa\match} The Jar file is update	ed with the Java resource
located at \info\row	reingproject\pacewordus
	ersingproject/passwordva

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PasswordVault.jar PasswordVault.jar

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_ 🗆 🗙 🚣 C:\WINDOWS\system32\java.exe (-) Description: description01 5 (+) Name: record02 (-) Username : username02 (-) Password: password02 (-) Description: description02 (+) Name: record03 (-) Username : username03 (-) Password: password03 (-) Description: description03 (+) Name: recordØ4 (-) Username : username04 (-) Password: password04 (-) Description: description04 (+) Name: recordØ5 (-) Username : username05 (-) Password: password05 (-) Description: description05 Password Vault 1.0 (Limited Trial Version) Teodoro Cipresso, San Jose State <u>Heineneitu</u> Contact: teodoro@reversingproject AES 128-Bit Encryption using Java The trial limitation is no longer enforced! Recall that when an attempt to add a sixth (1) Display Password Records record was made before patching the program, (2) Create a Password Record (3) Edit a Password Record a message indicating that the trial limitation (4) Delete a Password Record (5) Change the Vault Password had been reached was displayed. (6) Save Records and Quit >> Specify an option number and press meer. [Info] Selected "Create a Password Record":

>> Specify a name and press Enter: _

PasswordVault.jar

PasswordVault.jar

Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode Byte Code Engineering Library (BCEL)

- <u>BCEL</u> provides a convenient way to analyze, create, and manipulate Java Bytecode (Java *.class files).
- Perform static analysis, dynamically create or transform Java bytecode.
- High level of abstraction of the Java class file format relieves the programmer from internal details of the Java class file format.
- BCEL is used in projects such as compilers, optimizers, obfuscators, code generators and analysis tools.



Apache Commons BCEL ™

Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode Byte Code Engineering Library (BCEL) API

- The **BCEL API** abstracts the Java Virtual Machine and reading and writing binary Java class files. The API consists mainly of three parts:
 - A package that may be used to read and write class files from or to a file. The main data structure is JavaClass.
 - Usage: analyze Java classes without having the source files at hand.
 - A package to dynamically generate or modify JavaClass or Method objects.
 - Usage: insert analysis code, strip information, implement a code generator back-end of a Java compiler.
 - Various code examples and utilities such as a class file viewer.



Java Class File Format

JavaClass



ClassGen



Reversing and Patching Java Bytecode Byte Code Engineering Library (BCEL) API

BCEL demo

