A Flow-Sensitive Refinement Type System for Verifying eBPF Programs







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- Commonly Used for



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 - Packet filtering



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User Space

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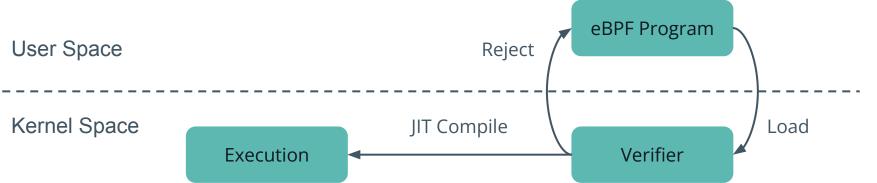


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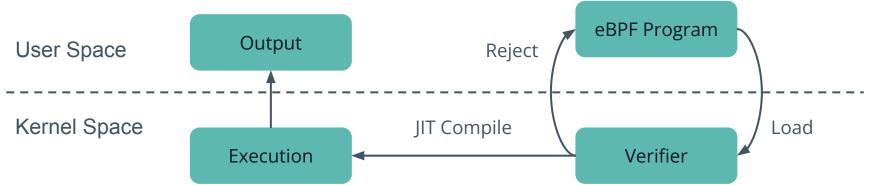


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}
Load/Store 4
bytes
```



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  *(int *) data = *(int *)(data & 0x3A53E170);
  return 0;
  UNSAFE \( \)
```



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int packet_proc(struct xdp_md * ctx) {
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  if (data + sizeof(int) > data_end) exit 1;
  *(int *) data = *(int *)(data & 0x3A53E170);
  return 0;
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```

Verifier Log



Verifier Log



```
2 Pre-invariant : [
       meta offset=[-4098, 0],
 3
       packet size=[0, 65534],
       r1.ctx offset=0, r1.svalue=[1, 2147418112], r1.type=ctx,
       r10.stack offset=512, r10.svalue=[512, 2147418112], r10.type=stack]
 7 Stack: Numbers -> {}
 8 entry:
 9
    r0 = 1:
10
     assert r1.type in {ctx, stack, packet, shared};
11
    assert valid access(r1.offset, width=4) for read;
    r2 = *(u32 *)(r1 + 0);
12
13
    assert r1.type in {ctx, stack, packet, shared};
14
     assert valid access(r1.offset+4, width=4) for read;
15
     r1 = *(u32 *)(r1 + 4);
16
     assert valid access(r2.offset) for comparison/subtraction;
     assert valid access(r1.offset) for comparison/subtraction;
17
     assert r2.type in {number, ctx, stack, packet, shared};
18
     assert r2.type == r1.type in {ctx, stack, packet};
19
20
     qoto 3:4,3:8;
```

Verifier Log



```
126 3:4: Upper bound must be at most packet_size (valid_access(r2.offset, width=4) for read)
127 3:4: Upper bound must be at most packet_size (valid_access(r2.offset, width=4) for write)
128 3:8: Code is unreachable after 3:8
129
130 0,0.000811,5504
```





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 - Uses symbolic execution



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Different Verifier Same Problems:

- Verifier is monolithic
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- Verifier logs are hard to read



• Type systems addresses architectural problems from existing verifiers



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 - o *Type inference* done in user space



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User Space eBPF Program Type Inference

Kernel Space



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eBPF Program

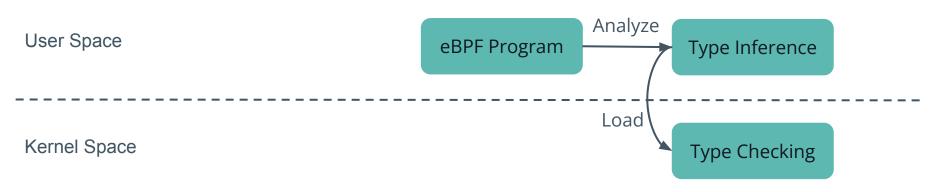
Analyze
Type Inference

Kernel Space

Type Checking

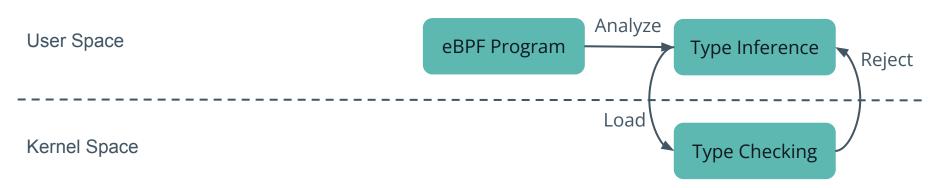


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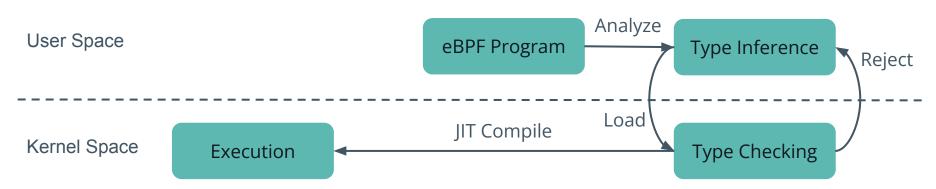


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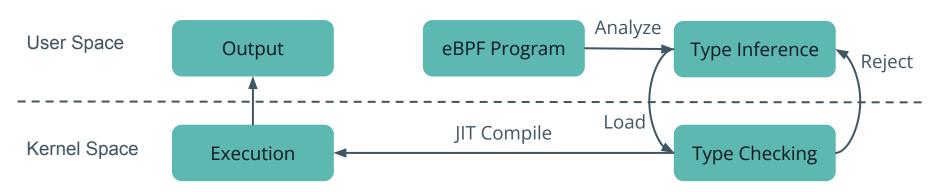


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Pointers



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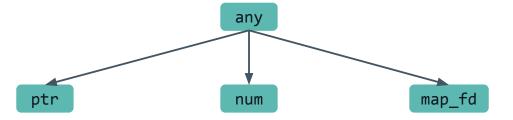
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any

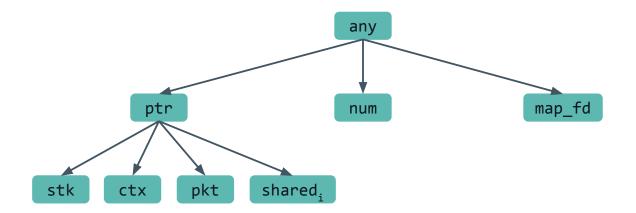


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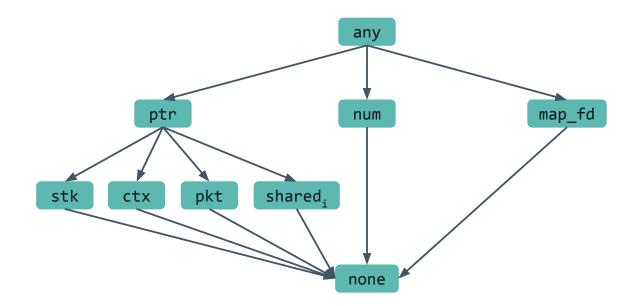


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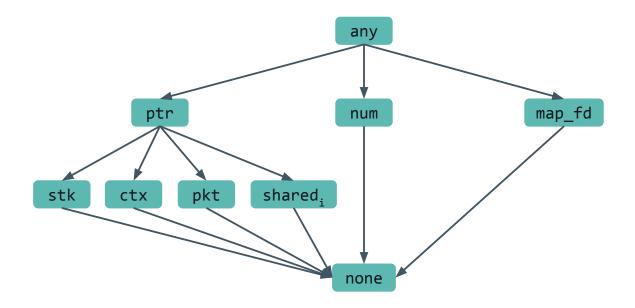




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Information-Flow Safety:



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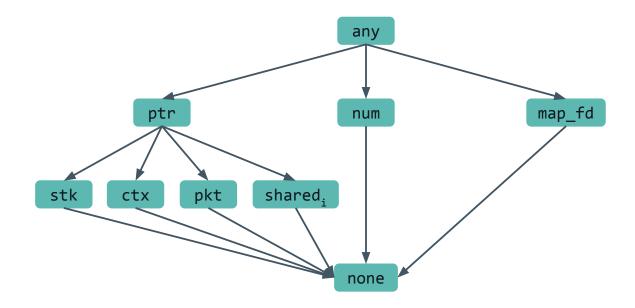


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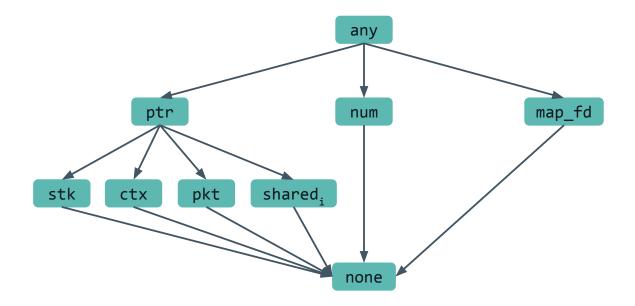


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$$\Gamma[r10 \mapsto \{v:stk \mid v = 512\}], \Delta \vdash *(r10 - 4) :=_4 12$$



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Constraint on slack variable



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Constraint on slack variable

Safety Condition





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- What should the types be at the join point?



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$$r0 : \{v:num \mid v = 12\}$$



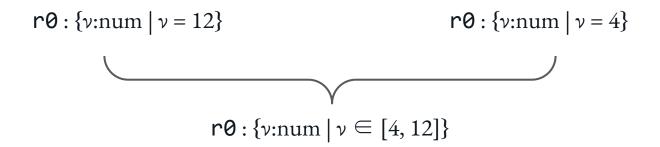
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r0 : {
$$\nu$$
:num | ν = 12}

r0:
$$\{v: \text{num} \mid v = 4\}$$



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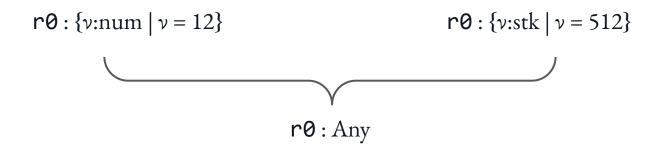
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r0:
$$\{v: \text{num} \mid v = 12\}$$
 r0: $\{v: \text{stk} \mid v = 512\}$

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  if (data > data_end) exit 1;
  *(int *) data = *(int *)(data & 0x3A53E170);
  return 0;
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```
data : {v:pkt | v = begin }
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```
data end : {v:pkt | v =
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  void * data_end = (void *)(long)ctx->data_end;
  if (data > data_end) exit 1;
  *(int *) data = *(int *)(dat & 0x3A53E170);
  return 0;
}
data : none
```



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   void * data = (void *)(long)ctx->data;
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}
data : {v:pkt | v = begin ∧ begin ≤ end }
```



```
int packet_proc(struct xdp_md * ctx) {
  void * data = (void *)(long)ctx->data;
  void * data_end = (void *)(long)ctx->data_end;
  if (data + sizeof(int) > data_end) exit 1;
  *(int *) data = *(int *)(data & 0x3A53E170);
  return 0;
}
```



```
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   void * data = (void *)(long)ctx->data;
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   if (data + sizeof(int) > data_end) exit 1;
   *(int *) data = *(int *)(data & 0x3A53E170);
   return 0;
}
data : {v:pkt | v = begin ∧ begin + 4 ≤ end}
}
```





Traverse control graph:

• For one basic block:



- For one basic block:
 - Join with predecessors (if any)



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 - Infer types for instructions



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- For loop heads:
 - Infer types for basic blocks
 - Widen until a fixed point is reached



• Type inference algorithm implemented in a tool called VeRefine



- Type inference algorithm implemented in a tool called VeRefine
- Implemented as an abstract domain in the PREVAIL framework



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Summary:

 Type system for verifying eBPF Programs



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- Enhanced debuggability through the use of types



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Code Available Here