

# Precise and Accurate Patch Presence Test for Binaries

Usenix Security'18

Hang Zhang, Zhiyun Qian

University of California, Riverside



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What's the problem?

1

# What's the problem?

***Short Answer:*** Given an Android image (or other binary), how do we decide whether a CVE has been patched?

# A real-world example

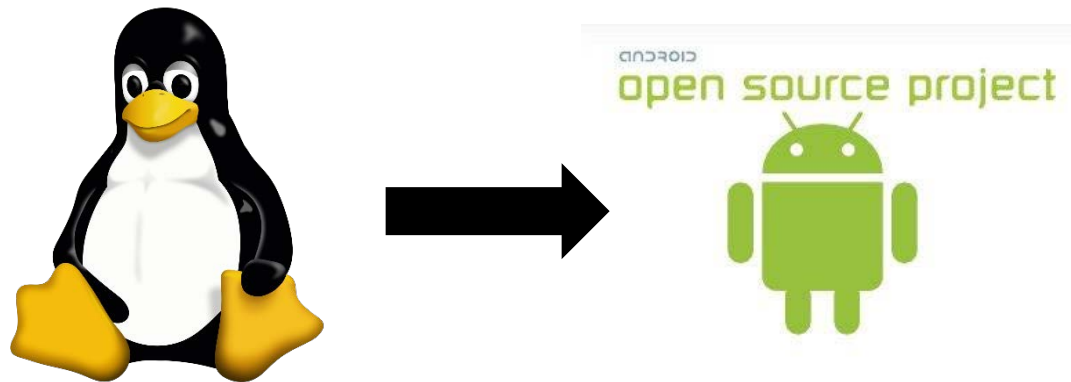
# A real-world example

3



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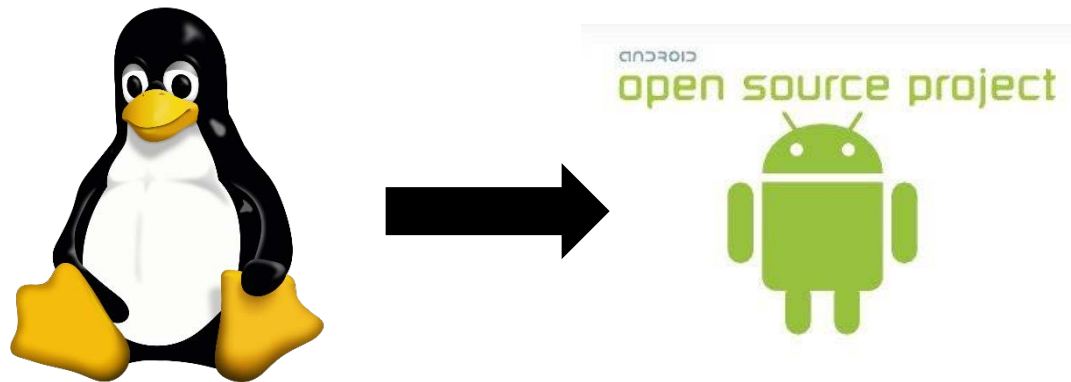
3



# A real-world example

3

Open Source



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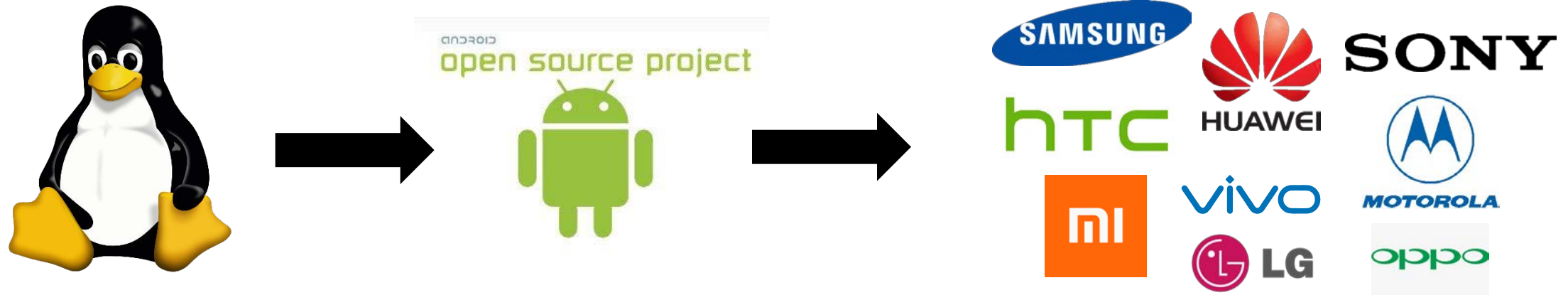


Few source “snapshots” w/o commit history.

# A real-world example

3

Open Source



Few source “snapshots” w/o commit history.

- Are the mainstream linux/AOSP patches propagated?

# Open vs. Closed

- Open-source is the trend.



- Code **reuse** in closed-source software.



# Open vs. Closed

4

- Open-source is the trend.



- Code **reuse** in closed-source software.



- Is the open-source security patch applied in the binary?

2

# Why challenging?

# #1: Needle in the (changing) haystack

6

- Security patch as a needle: small, subtle.

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□ Security patch as a needle: small, subtle.

- `if (a > 0)`

+ `if (a >= 0)`

# #1: Needle in the (changing) haystack

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- Security patch as a needle: small, subtle.

```
-   if (a > 0)           ...  
+   if (a >= 0)          +   a = 0;  
                               ...
```



# #1: Needle in the (changing) haystack

6

- Security patch as a needle: small, subtle.

-	if (a > 0)	...	
		+	a = 0;
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- Patched function as a changing haystack.

# #1: Needle in the (changing) haystack

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- Security patch as a needle: small, subtle.

```
-   if (a > 0)           ...  
+   if (a >= 0)          ...  
+   a = 0;
```

- Patched function as a changing haystack.



```
Func():  
.....  
AAAAAA  
+ the line  
AAAAAA  
.....
```

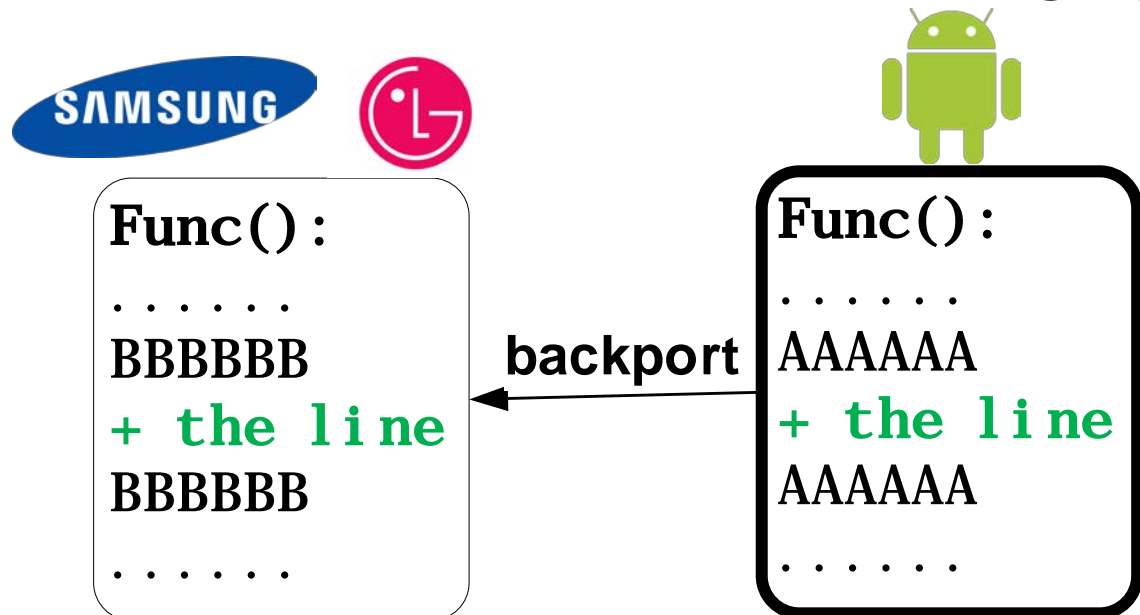
# #1: Needle in the (changing) haystack

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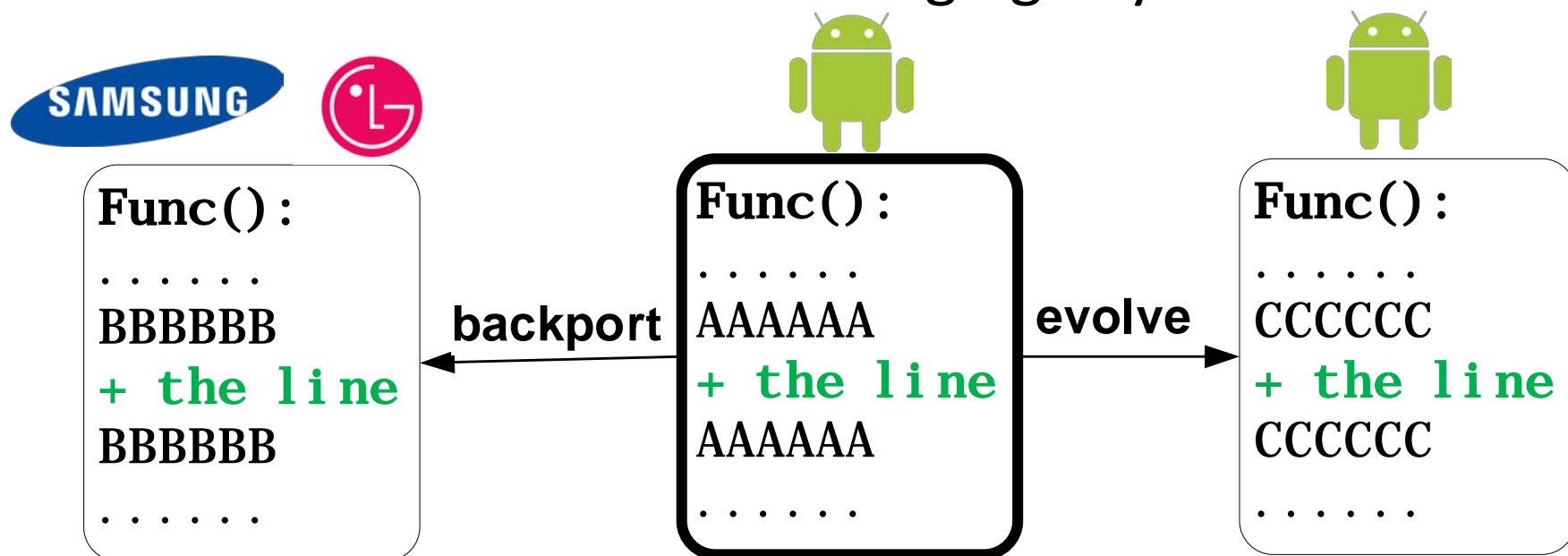
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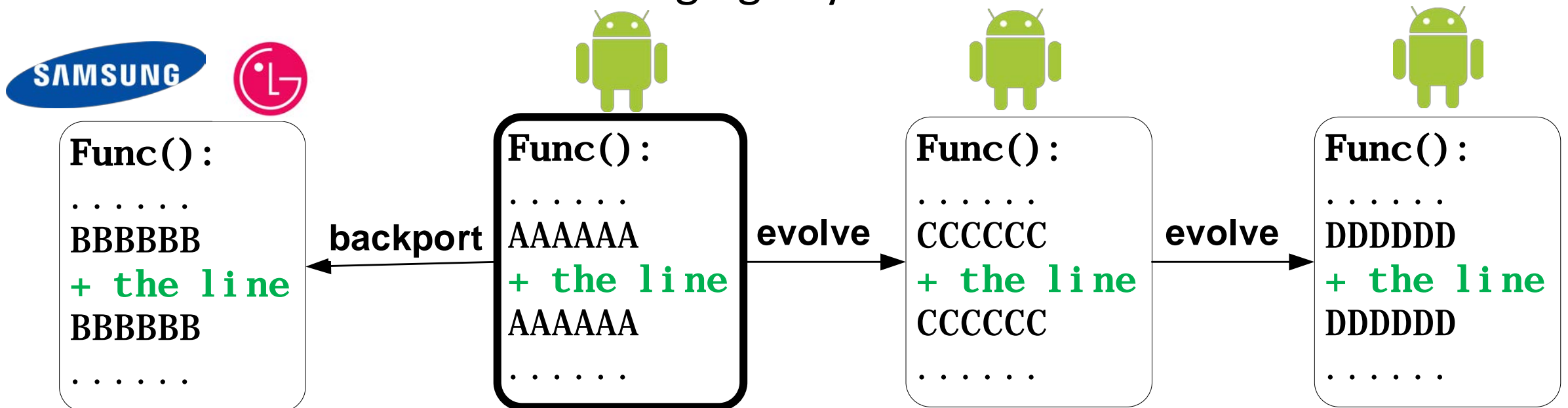


# #1: Needle in the (changing) haystack

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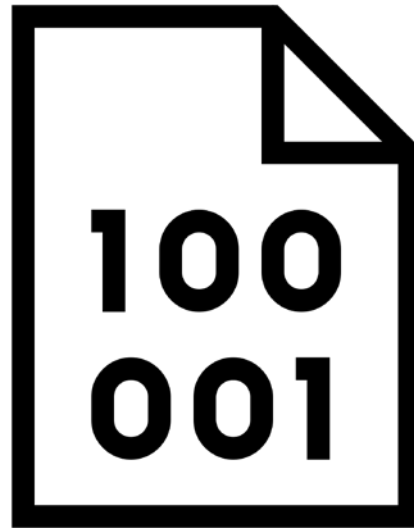
- Patched function as a changing haystack.



## #2: Haystack is a binary...

7

- Find the needle in a binary.



# Related work

# Related work

8

Category 1: Source-source matching.



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Cannot deal with binary haystack.

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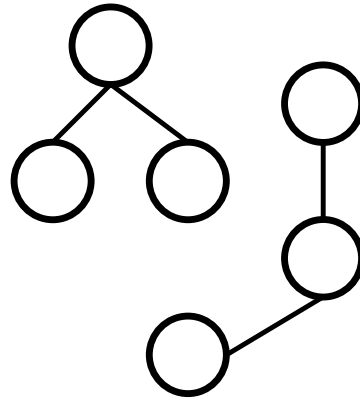
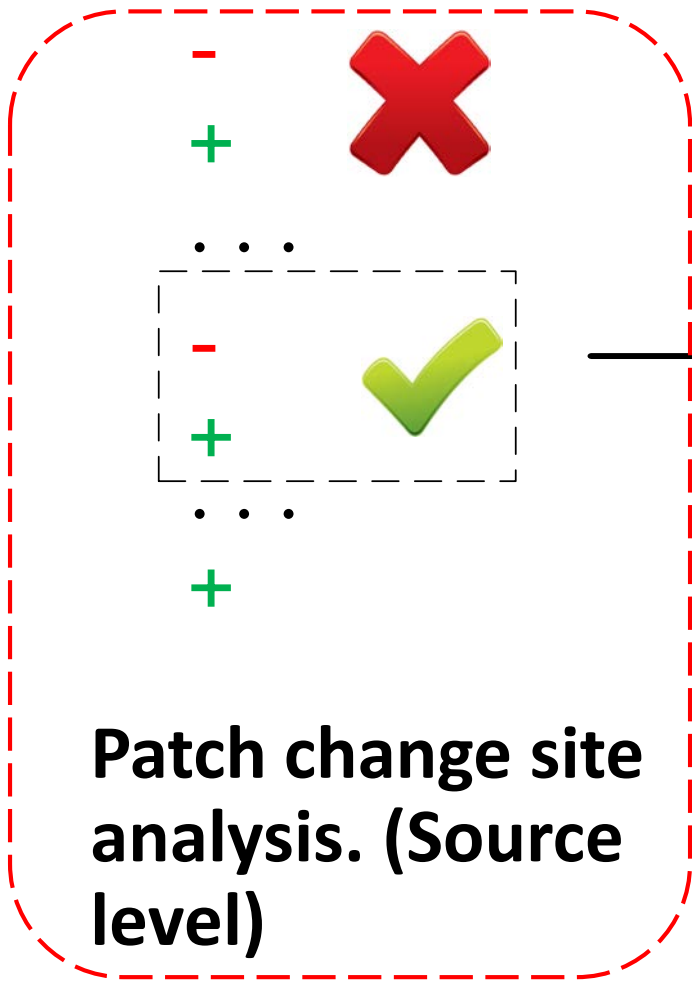
Lack of knowledge about the needle (i.e. the patch).

3

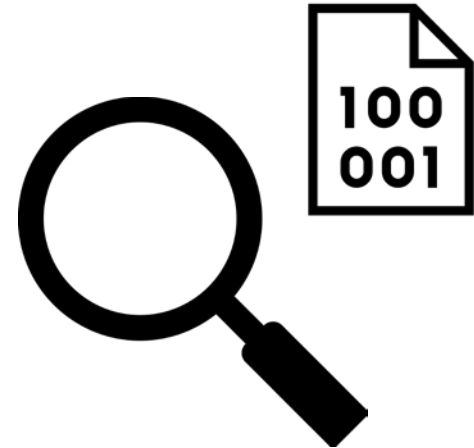
## How does FIBER work?

How does a human expert work?

**WE  
ARE  
HERE**



**Binary signature translation.**



**Match in binary.**

# Change Site Analysis: What will human do?

11

- Given an open-source security patch, you need to locate it in a binary.
- What will you do at first?



File 0	File 1
<b>Func_0():</b>	<b>Func_2():</b>
-	-
+	+
+	.....
.....	-
-	-
+	.....
.....	+
+	+
.....	.....
	+
<b>Func_1():</b>	.....
-	-
.....	+
+	+
.....	.....
-	
+	
+	
.....	

# Change Site Analysis: What will human do?

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- Given an open-source security patch, you need to locate it in a binary.
- What will you do at first?

Pick those most **obvious**,  
**unique** and **representative**  
change sites.



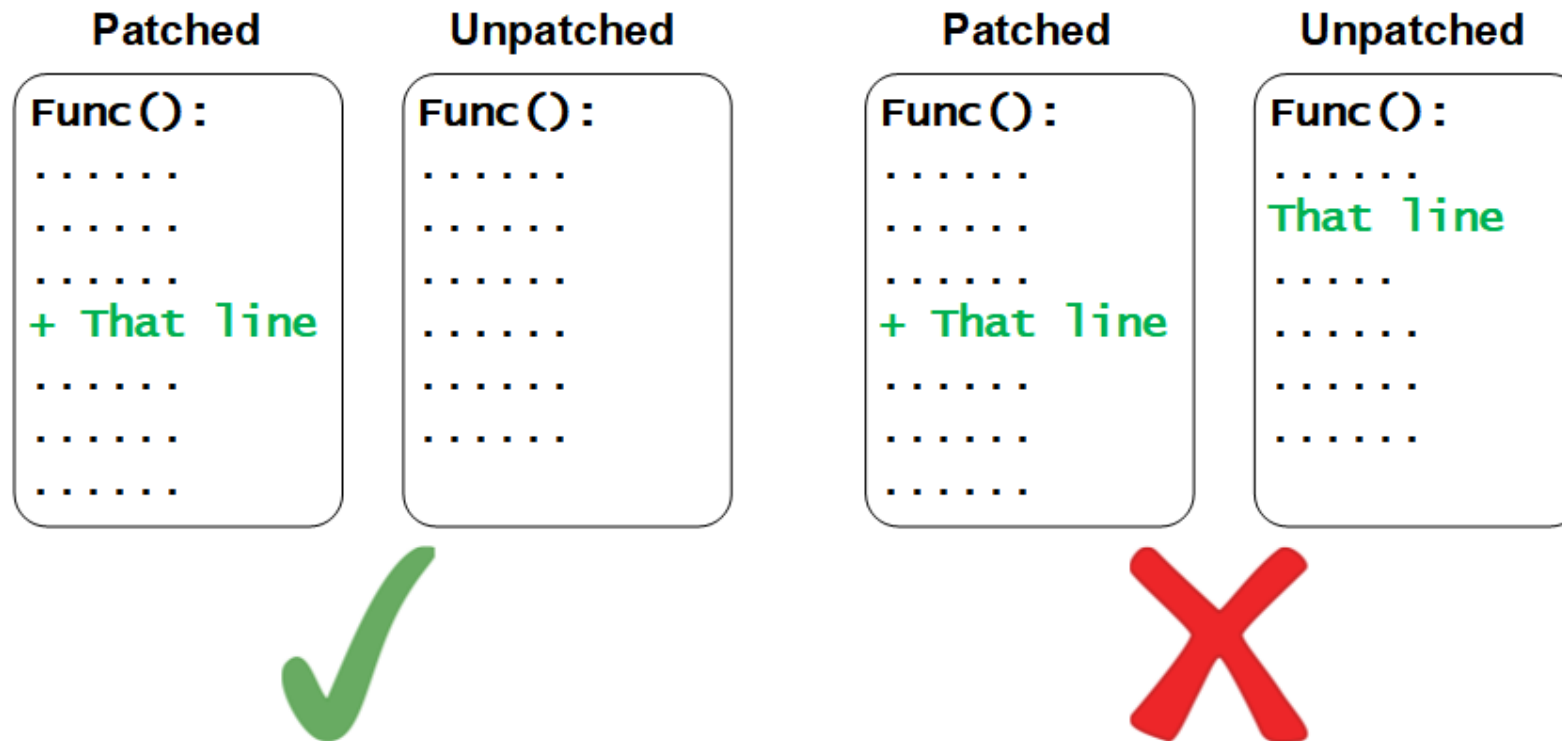
```
File 0
Func_0():
-
+
+
.....
-
+
.....
+
.....
Func_1():
-
.....
+
.....
-
+
+
.....

File 1
Func_2():
-
+
.....
-
.....
+
+
.....
+
.....
-
+
+
.....
```

# Change Site Analysis

12

- **Unique** – Exists only in the patched version.

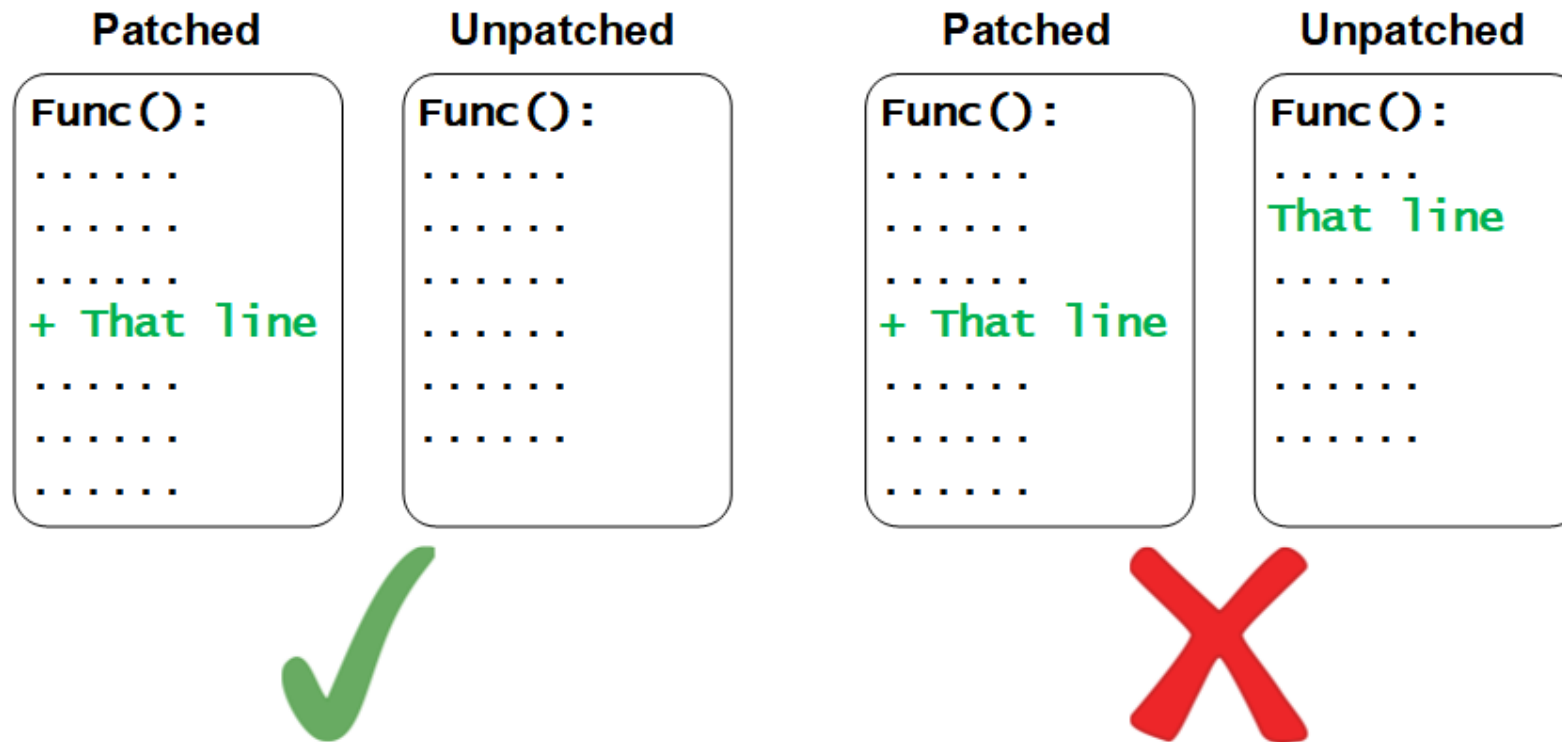




# Change Site Analysis

12

- **Unique** – Exists only in the patched version.



**Solution:** token-based string search to test uniqueness, add contexts if not unique.

# Change Site Analysis

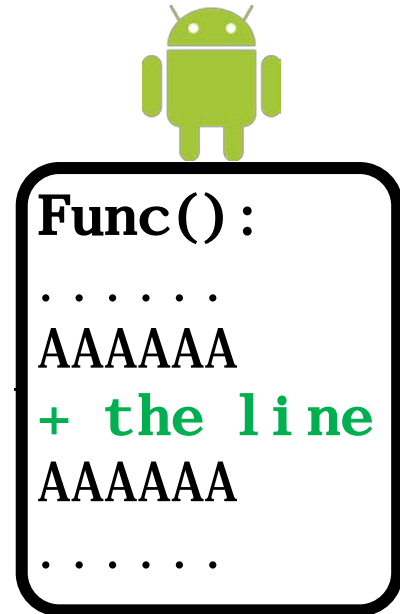
13

- **Stable** – Not affected by other irrelevant changes.

# Change Site Analysis

13

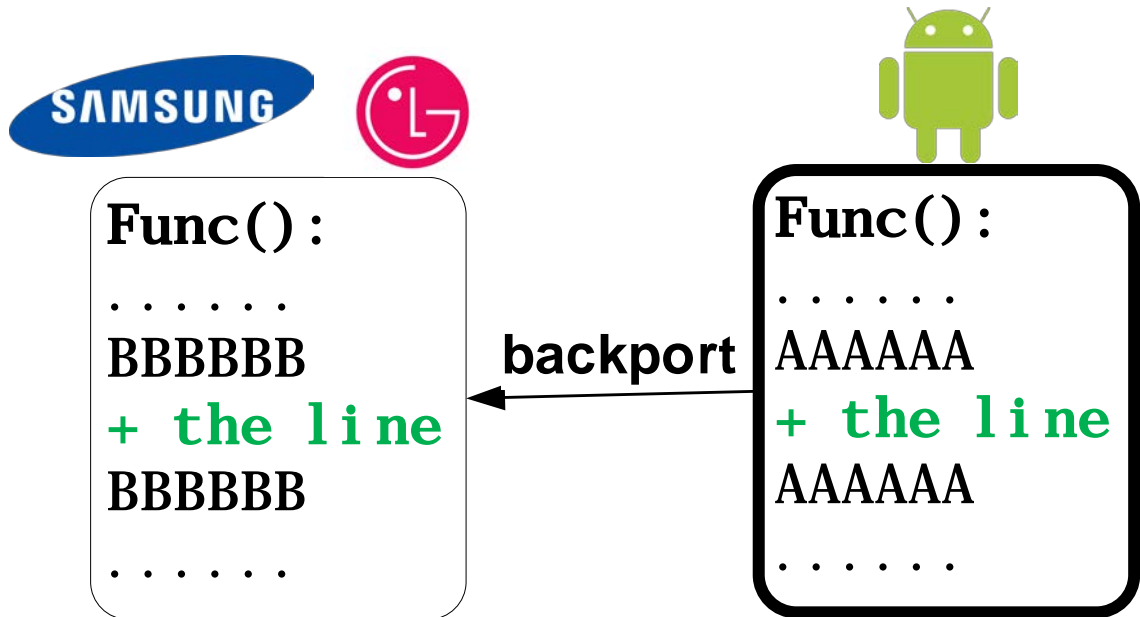
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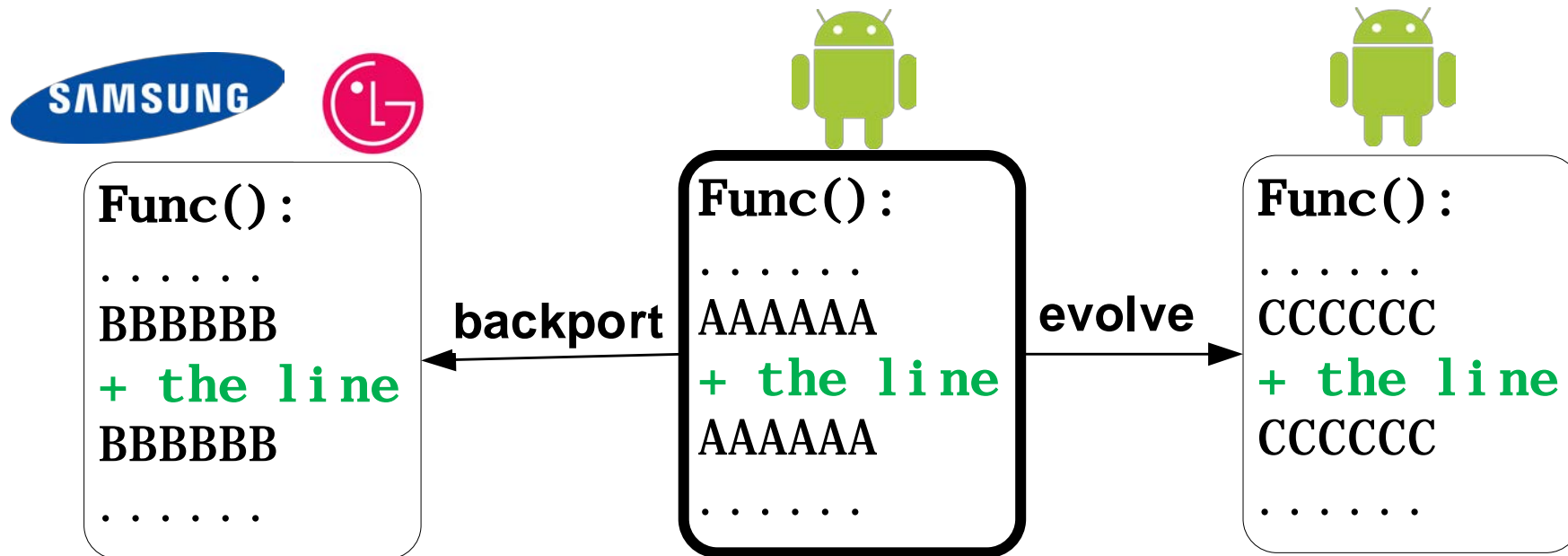
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13

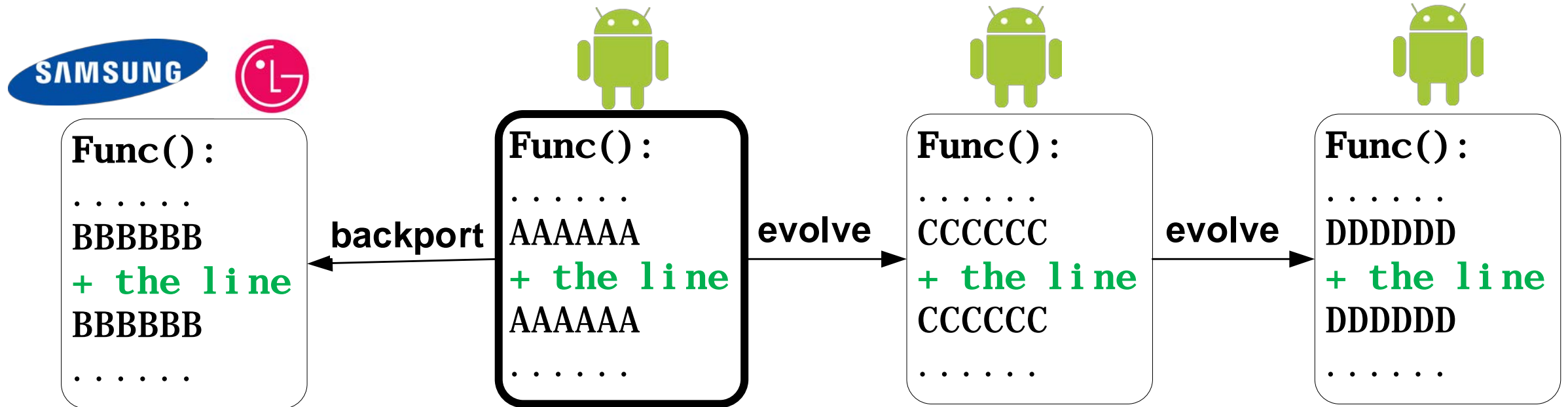
- **Stable** – Not affected by other irrelevant changes.



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13

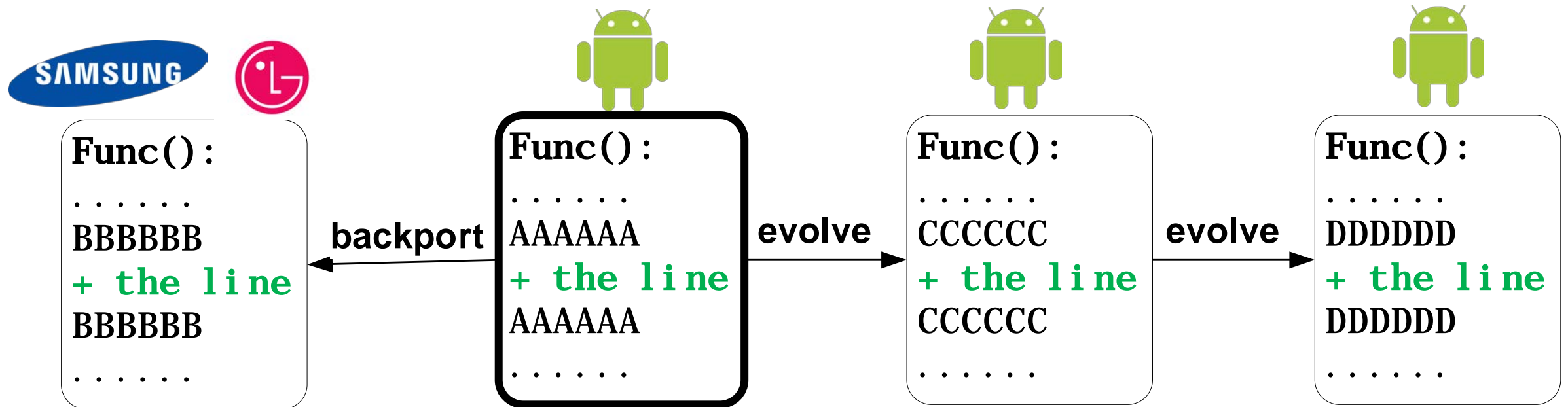
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# Change Site Analysis

13

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**Solution:** keep the change site as small as possible (always start from a single line), add contexts only when necessary.

# Change Site Analysis

14

- **Easy-to-recognize** – Imagine what a human prefers.



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*Good: both syntax structure and semantic change.*

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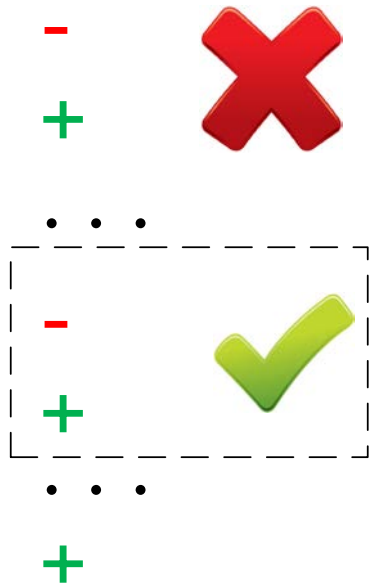
+ `if(cond)`

*Good: both syntax structure and semantic change.*

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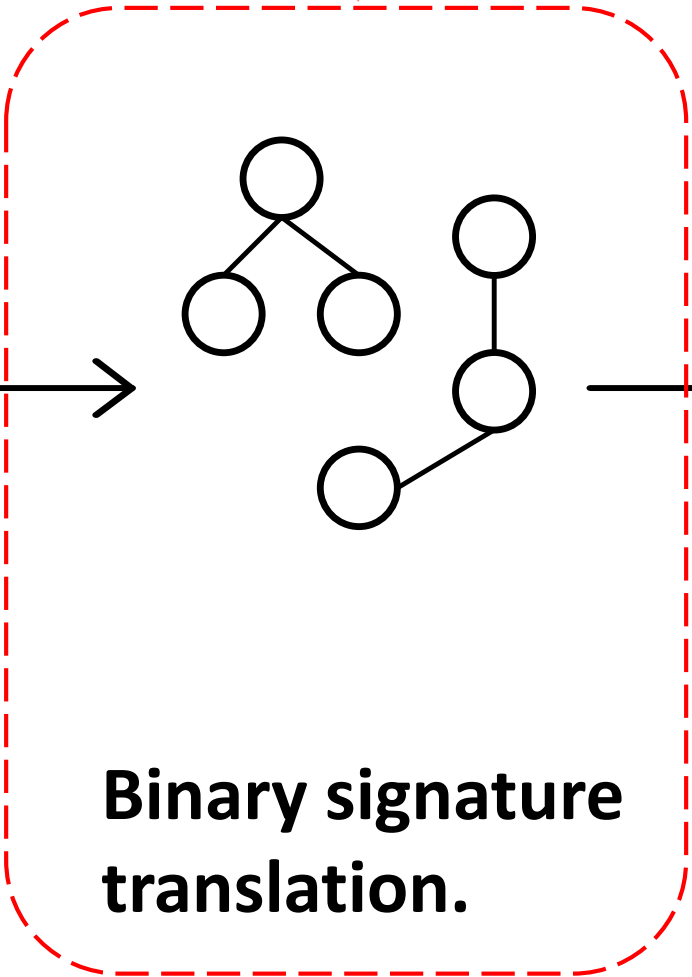
*Meh: only semantic change without syntax change.*

**Solution:** we rank the change sites based on statement types involved, according to our domain knowledge.

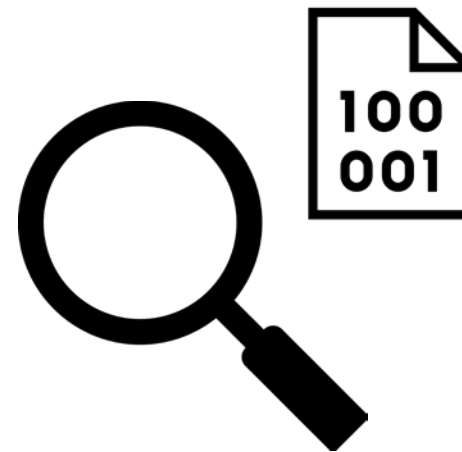


**Patch change site analysis. (Source level)**

**WE ARE HERE**



**Binary signature translation.**



**Match in binary.**



# What if we do it manually?

16

- How to connect the source change with binary code?

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```
if (a > 1)  
    do A;  
else  
    do B;
```

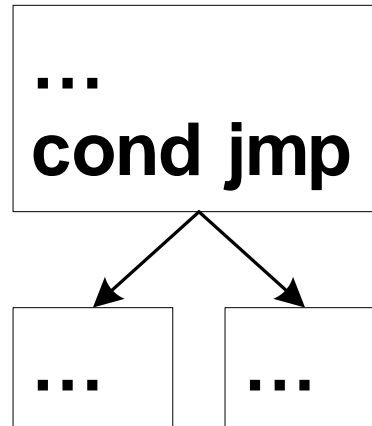
# What if we do it manually?

16

- How to connect the source change with binary code?

Syntax

```
if (a > 1)  
    do A;  
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    do B;
```



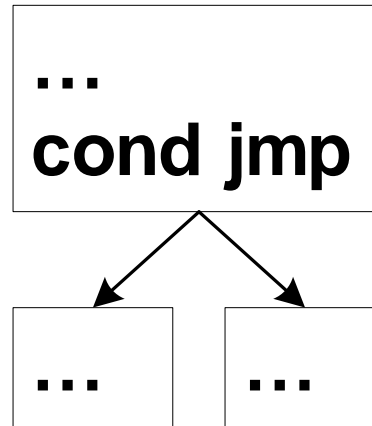
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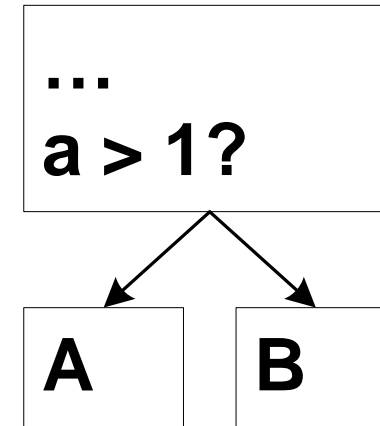
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Syntax



Semantics



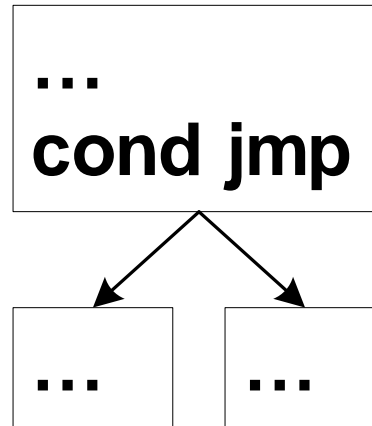
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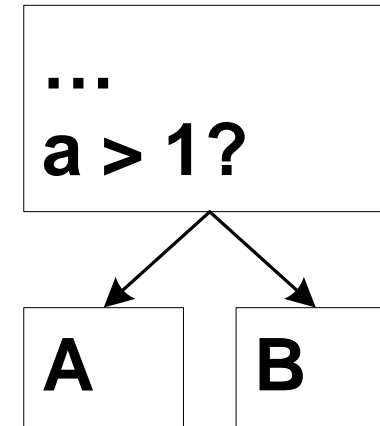
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```

Syntax



Semantics



Correlate both its syntax and semantics to the binary code.

# Binary Signature Translation

17

- Identify and organize correlated instructions in the reference binary.

# Binary Signature Translation

17

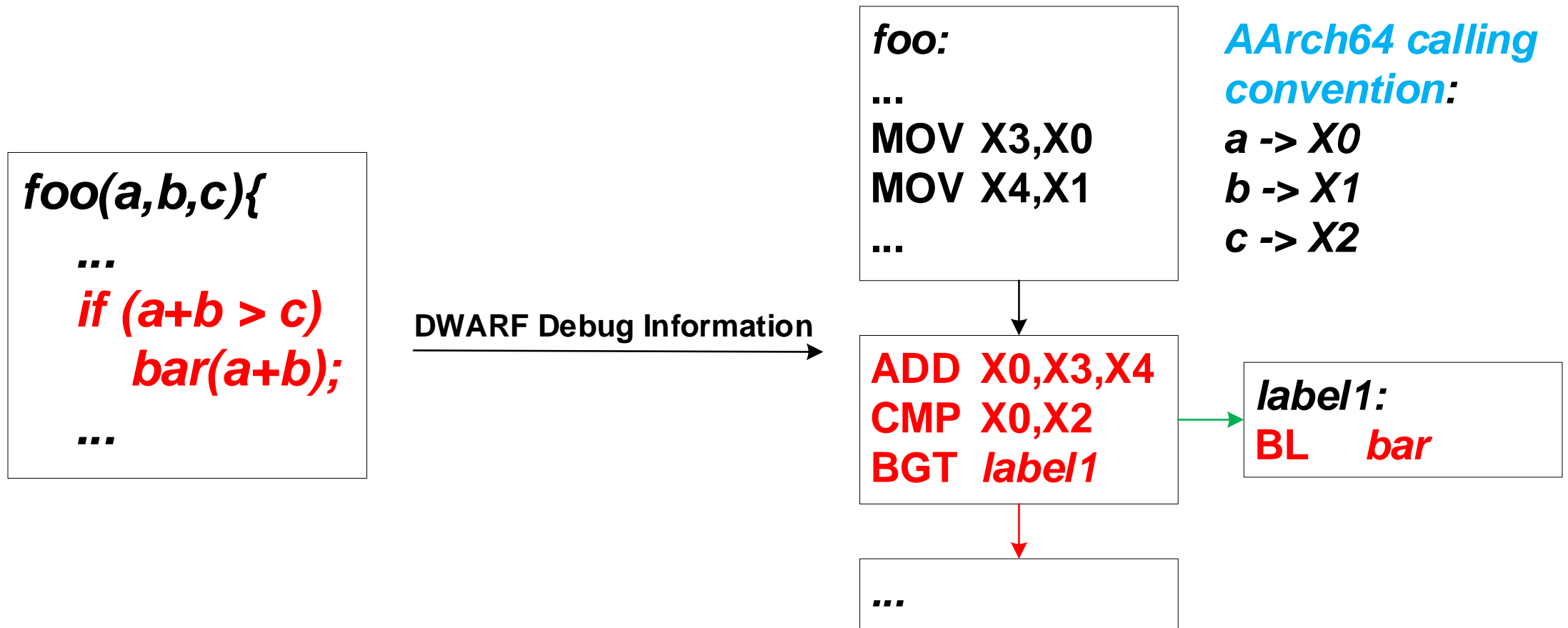
- Identify and organize correlated instructions in the reference binary.

```
foo(a,b,c){  
  ...  
  if (a+b > c)  
    bar(a+b);  
  ...
```

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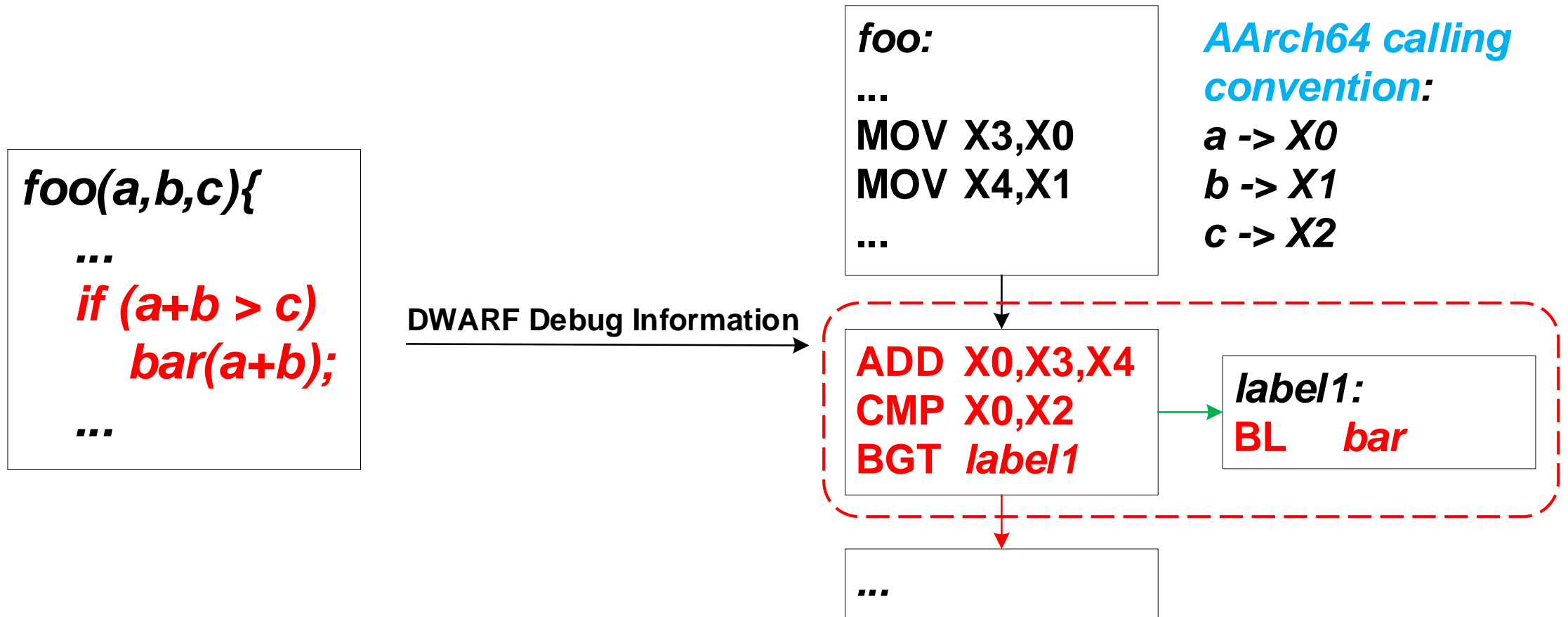




# Binary Signature Translation

17

- Identify and organize correlated instructions in the reference binary.



# Binary Signature Translation

18

- Find the “root” instructions.

```
ADD X0,X3,X4  
CMP X0,X2  
BGT label1
```



```
label1:  
BL bar
```

# Binary Signature Translation

18

- Find the “root” instructions.

**$X0 = X3 + X4$**

```
ADD X0,X3,X4  
CMP X0,X2  
BGT label1
```

***label1:***  
***BL bar***

# Binary Signature Translation

18

- Find the “root” instructions.

**$X0 = X3 + X4$**

**$(X3 + X4) > X2$**

**ADD X0,X3,X4**  
**CMP X0,X2**  
**BGT label1**

***label1:***  
***BL bar***

# Binary Signature Translation

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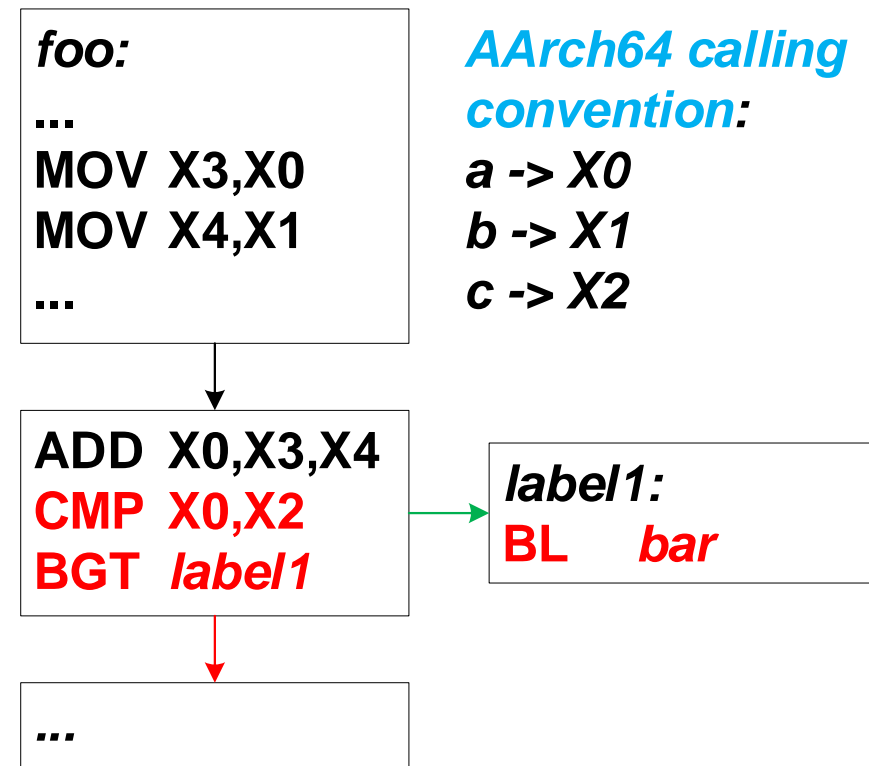
**Solution:** we perform a basic-block level data-flow analysis to identify root instructions.



# Binary Signature Translation

19

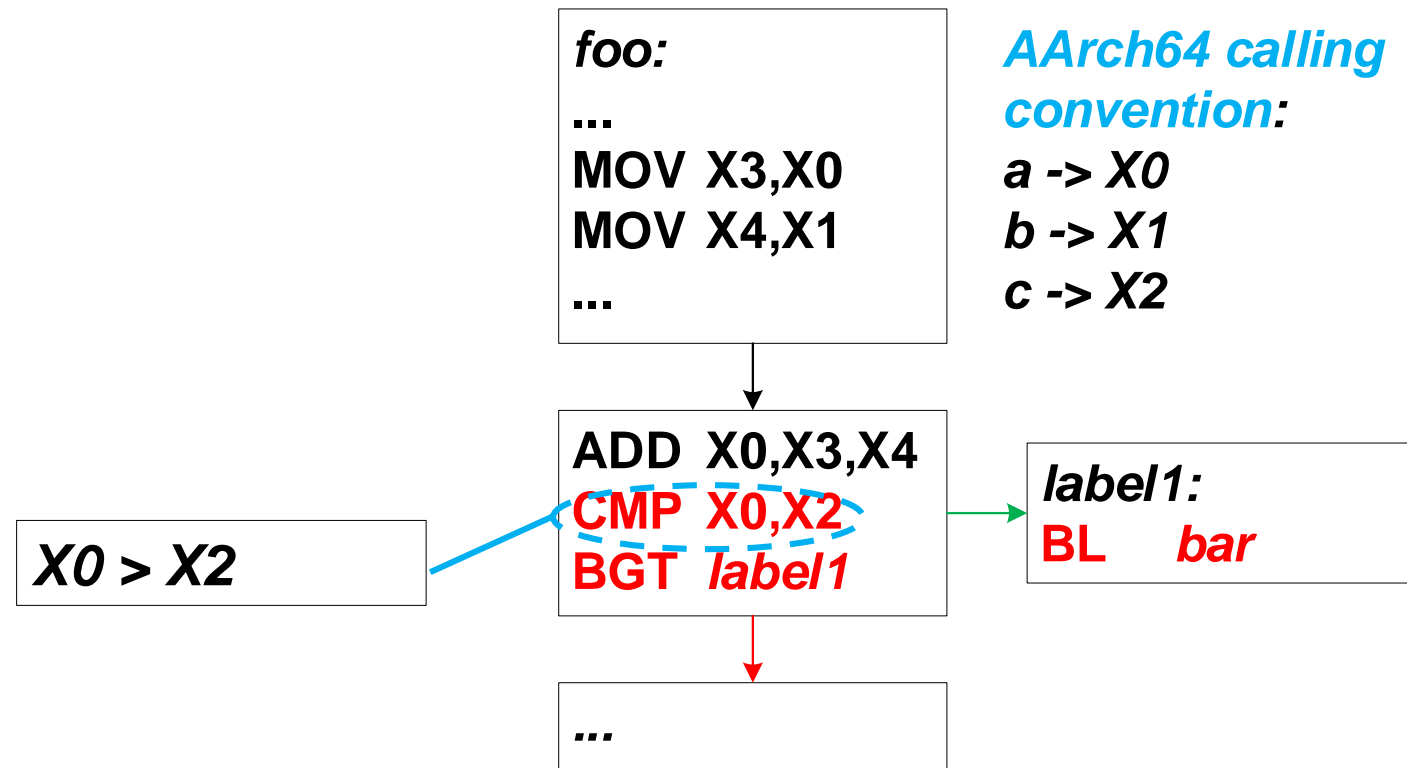
- Extract semantic formulas for root instructions.



# Binary Signature Translation

19

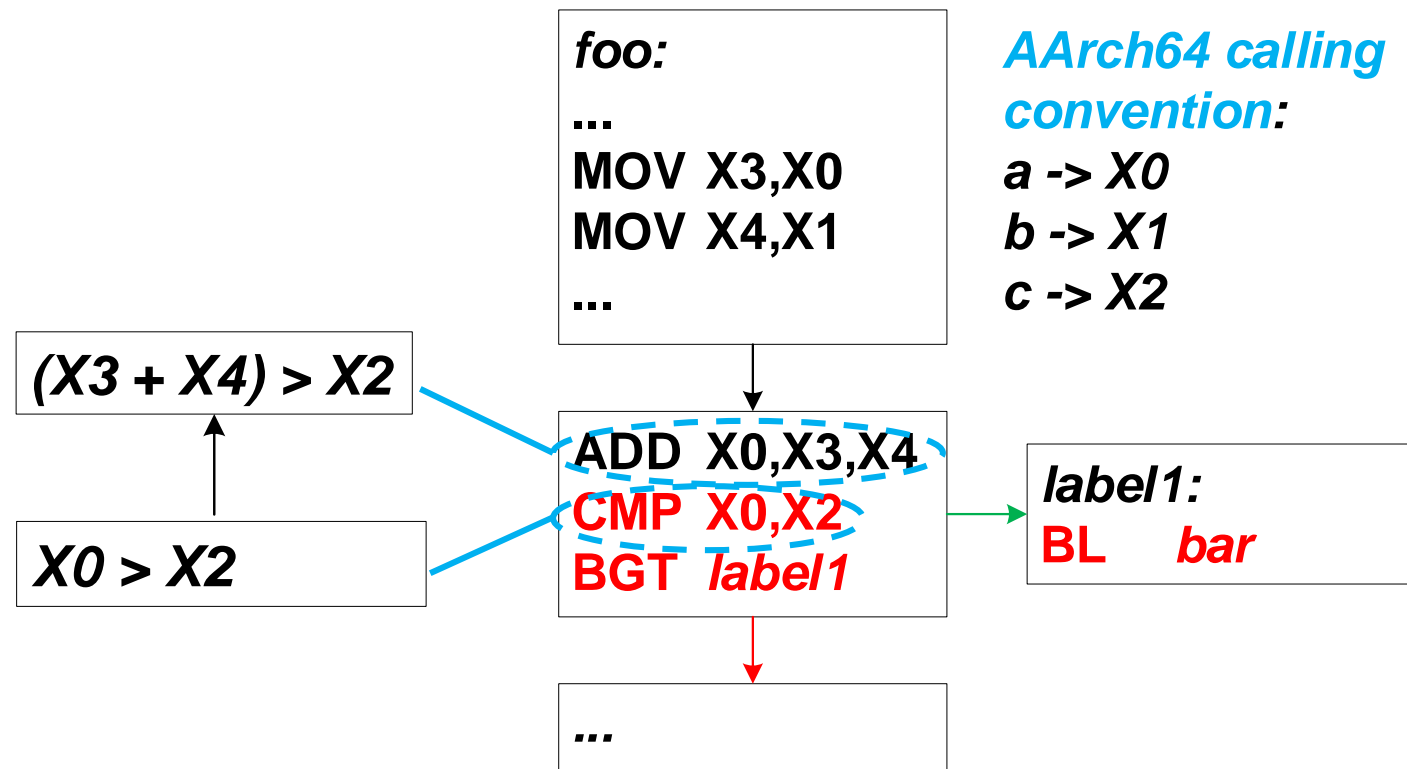
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19

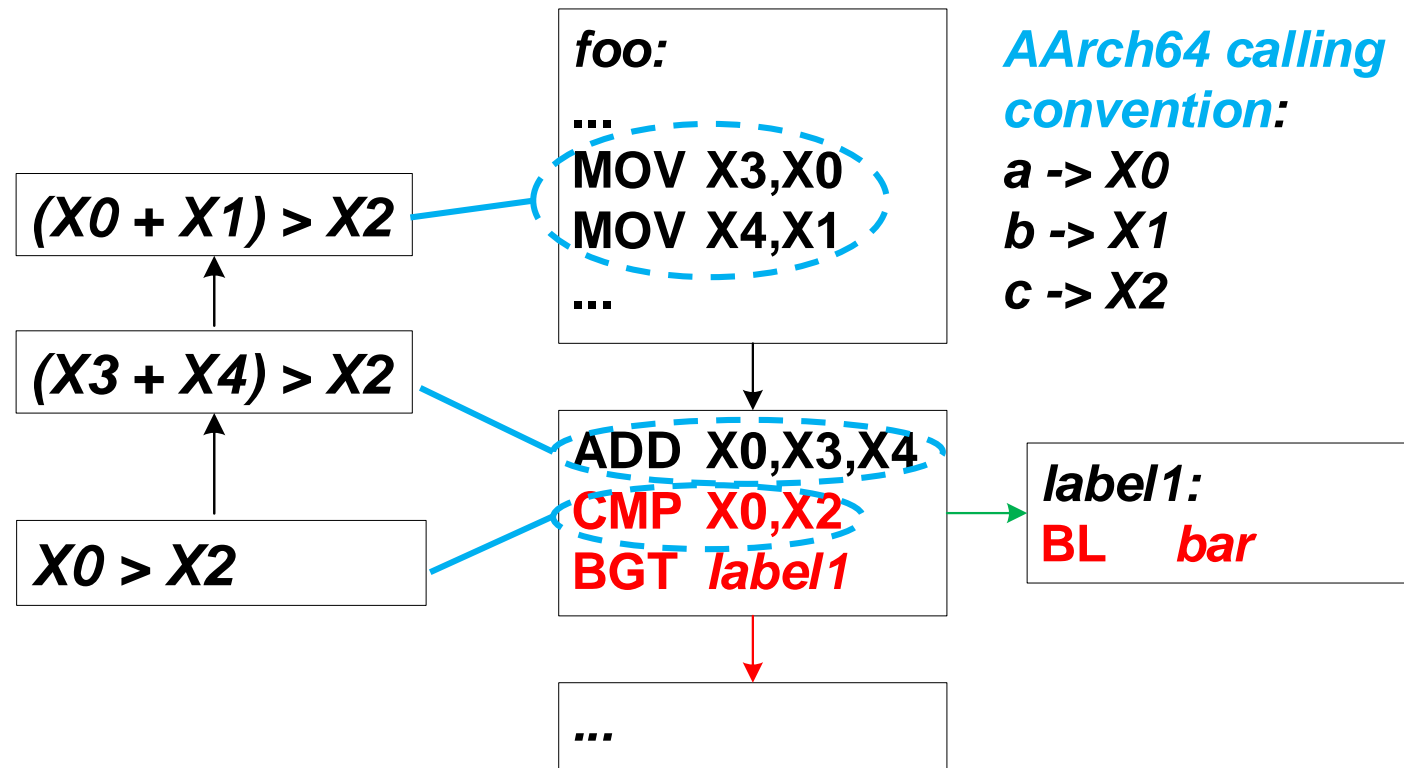
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19

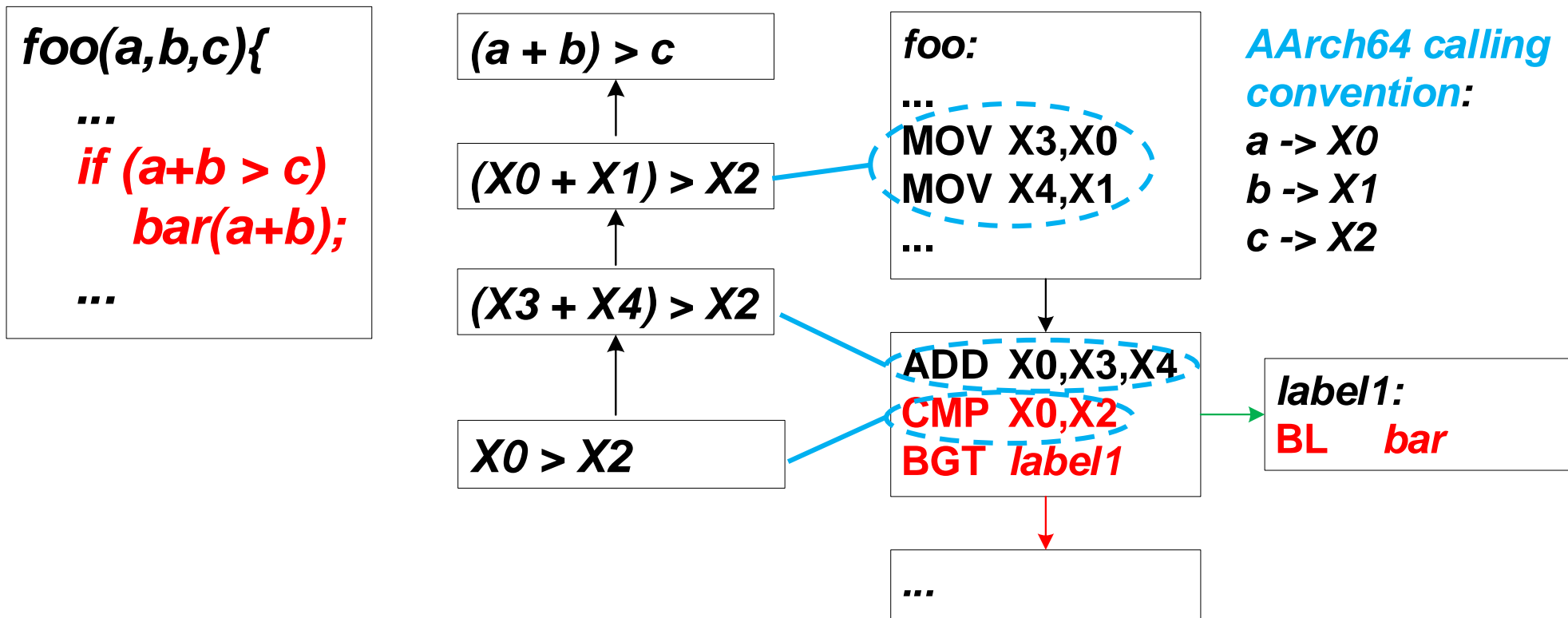
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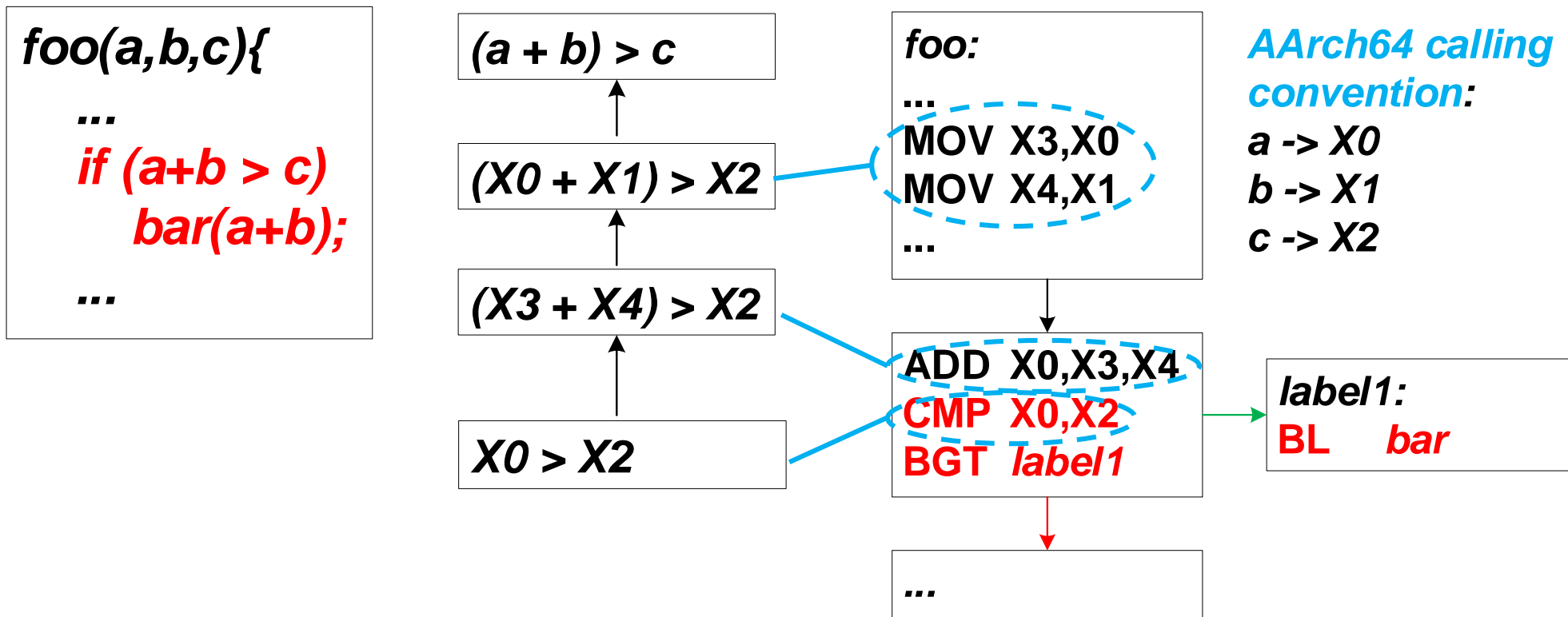
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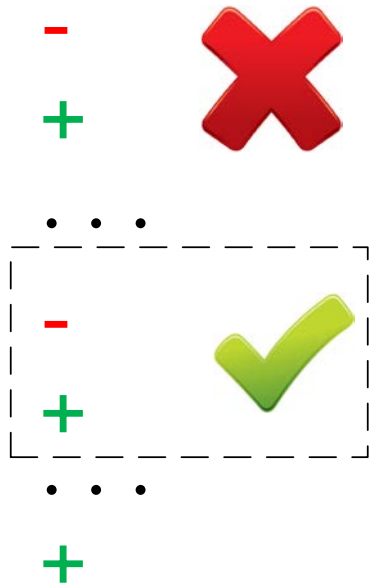
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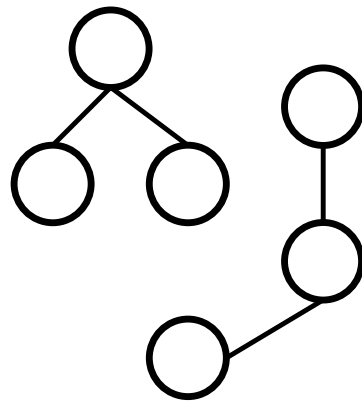
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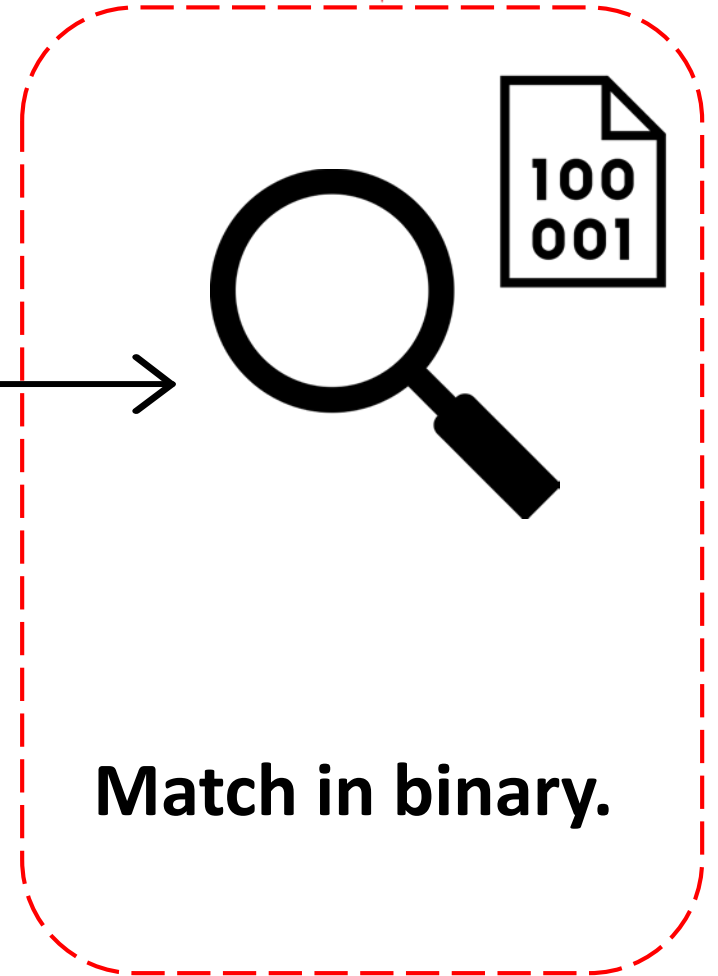
**Solution:** we use function-level, intra-procedure and under-constrained symbolic execution to obtain formulas.



**Patch change site analysis. (Source level)**



**Binary signature translation.**



**Match in binary.**

# Matching

21

- Quick Pass.

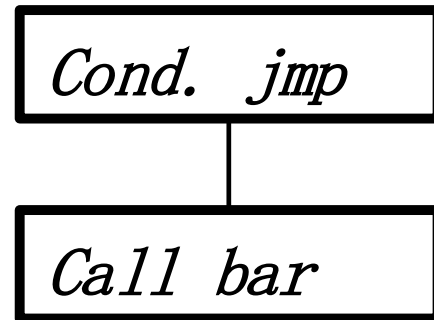


# Matching

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- Quick Pass.

```
foo(a,b,c){  
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  ...
```

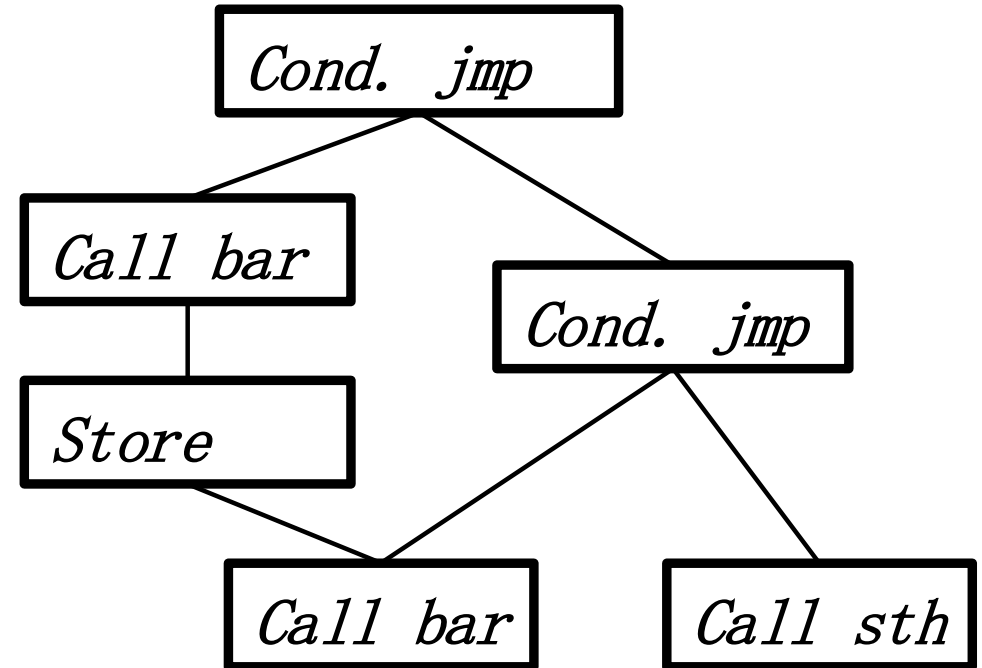
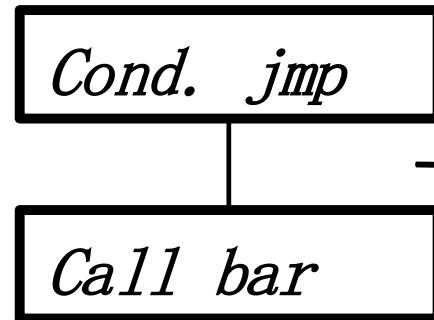


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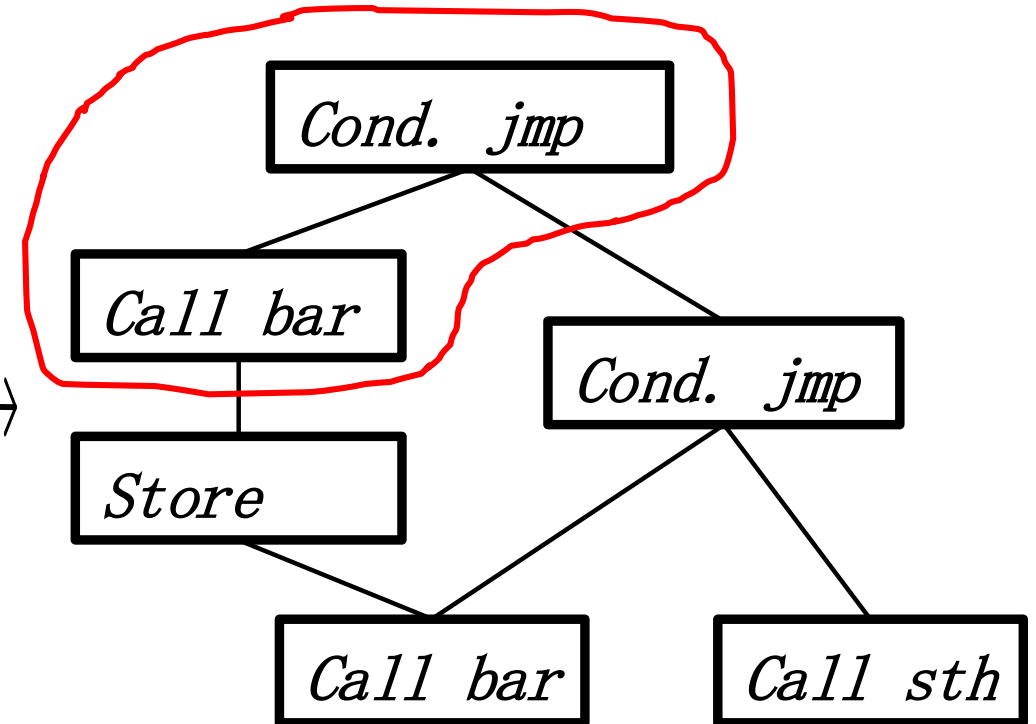
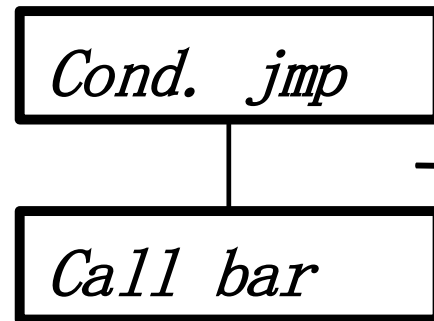


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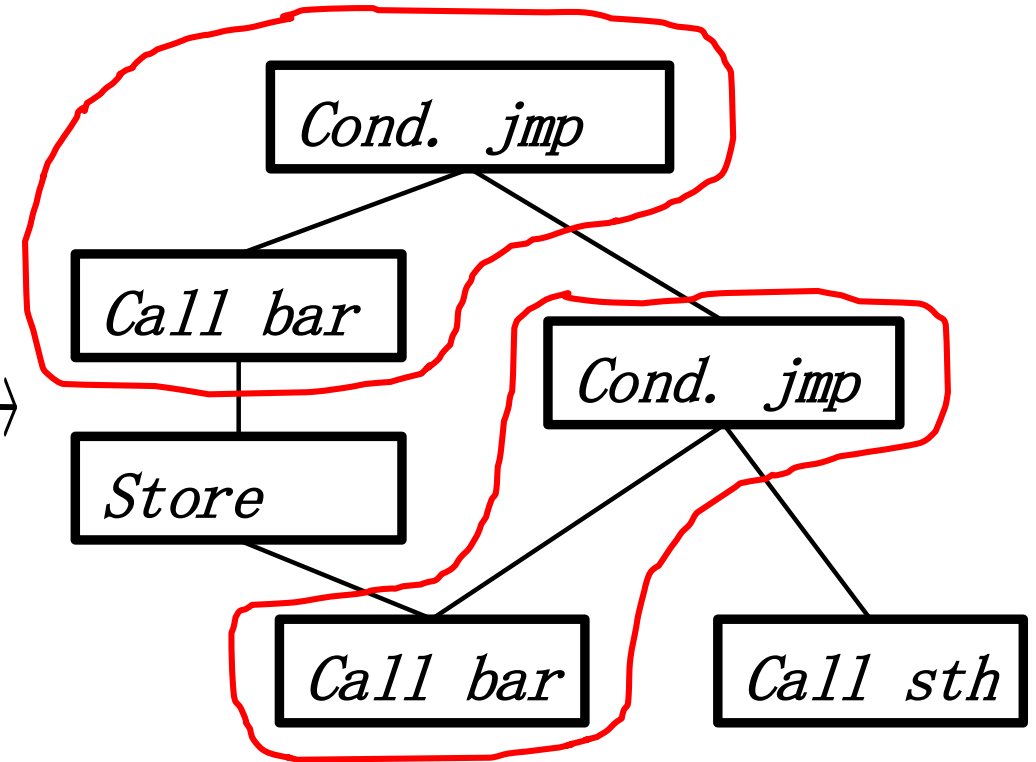
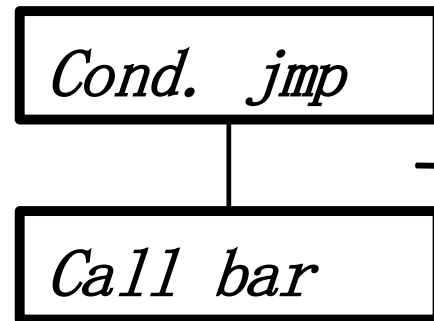


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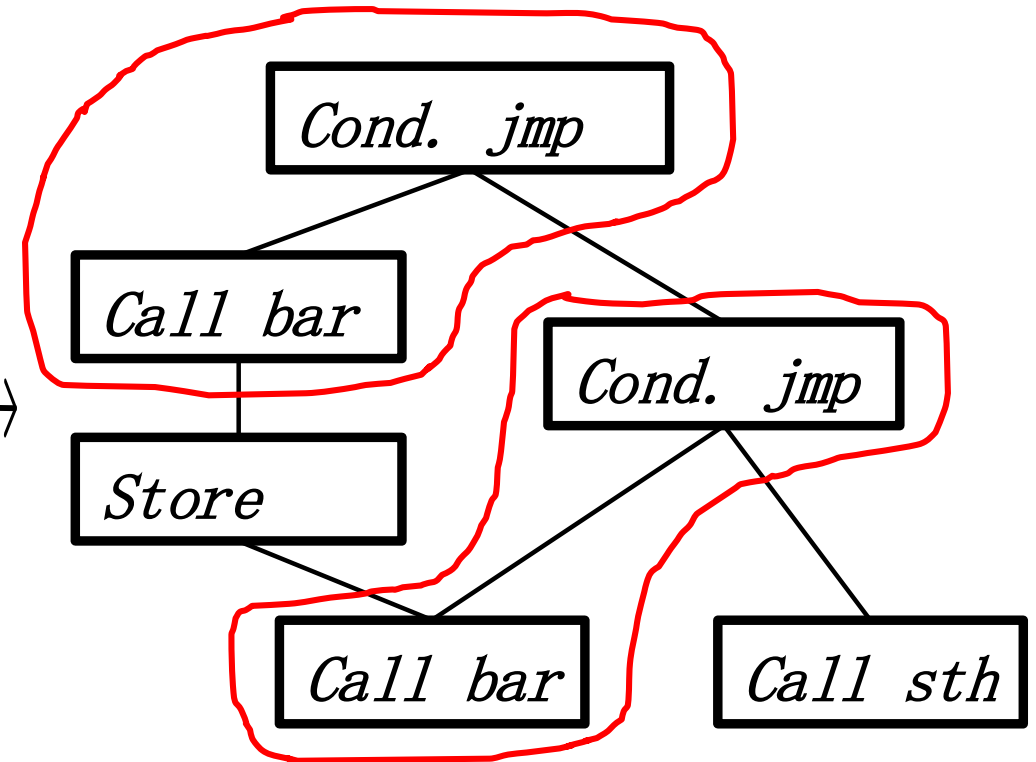
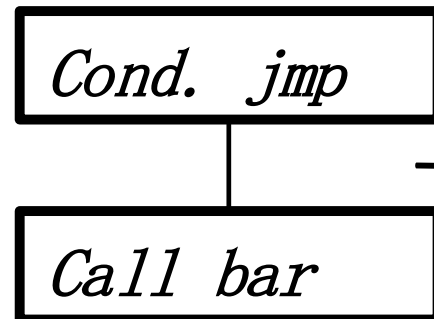
- Quick Pass.

```
foo(a,b,c){
```

```
...
```

```
if (a+b > c)  
  bar(a+b);
```

```
...
```



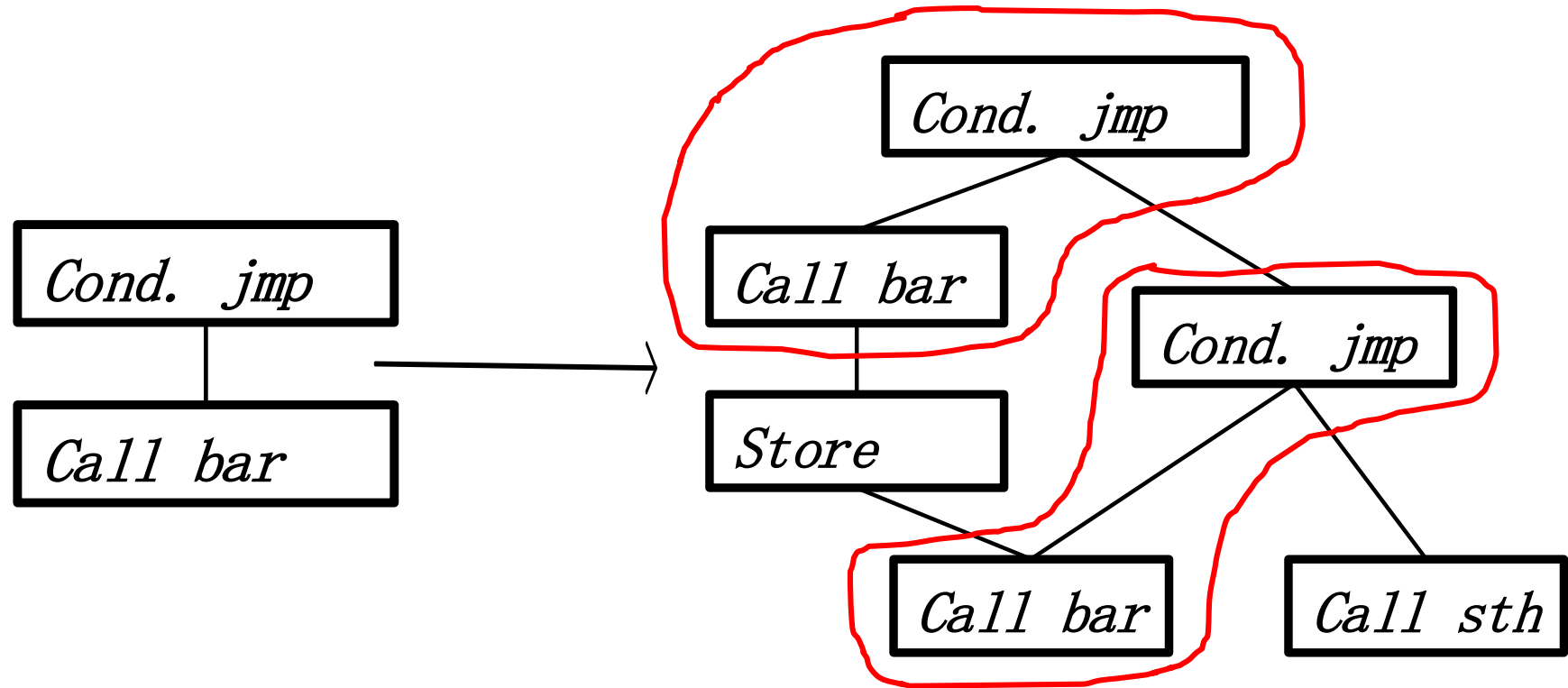
**Solution:** look at easy-to-match attributes, e.g. topology, root instruction type, etc.

# Matching

22

- Slow Pass.

```
foo(a,b,c){  
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  if (a+b > c)  
    bar(a+b);  
  ...  
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```

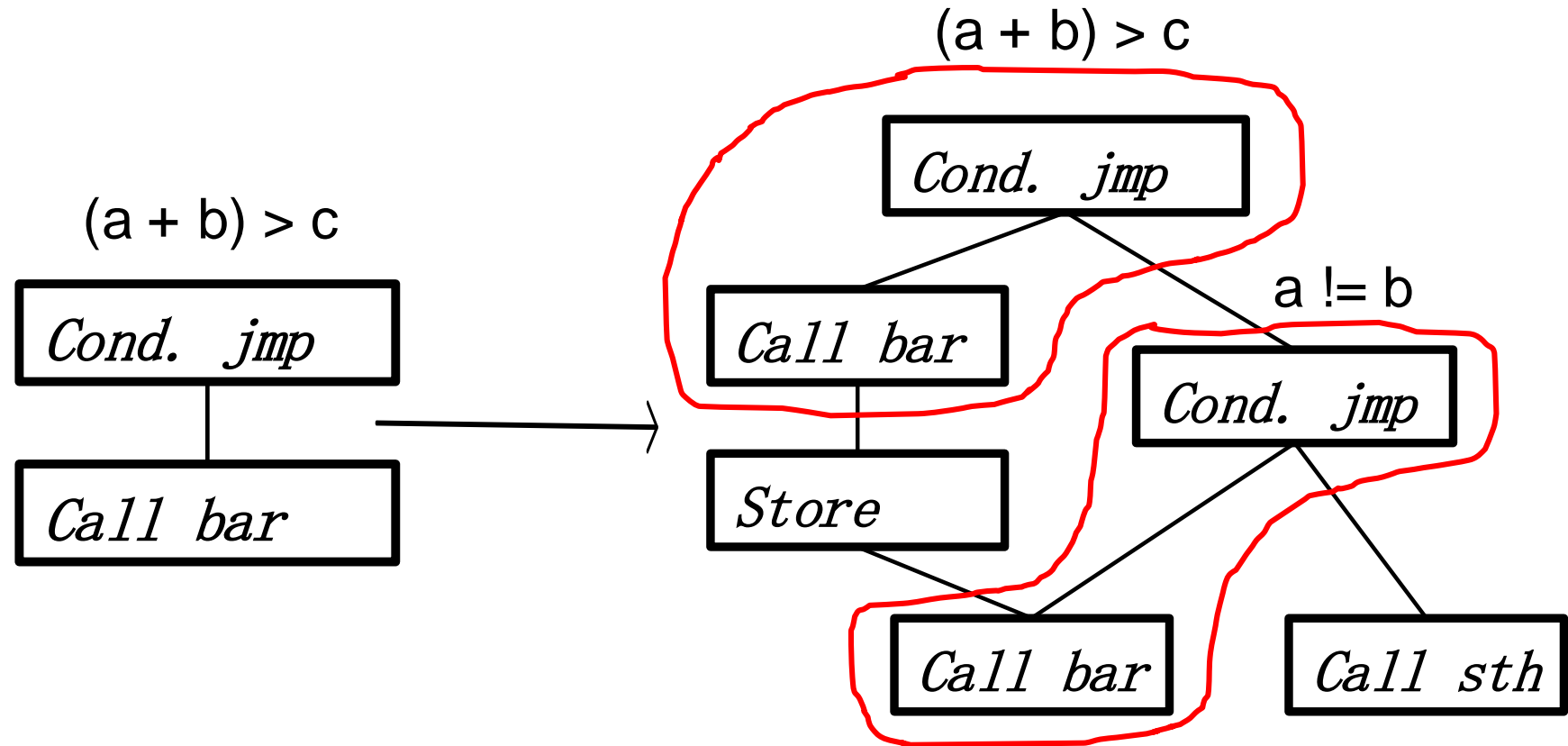


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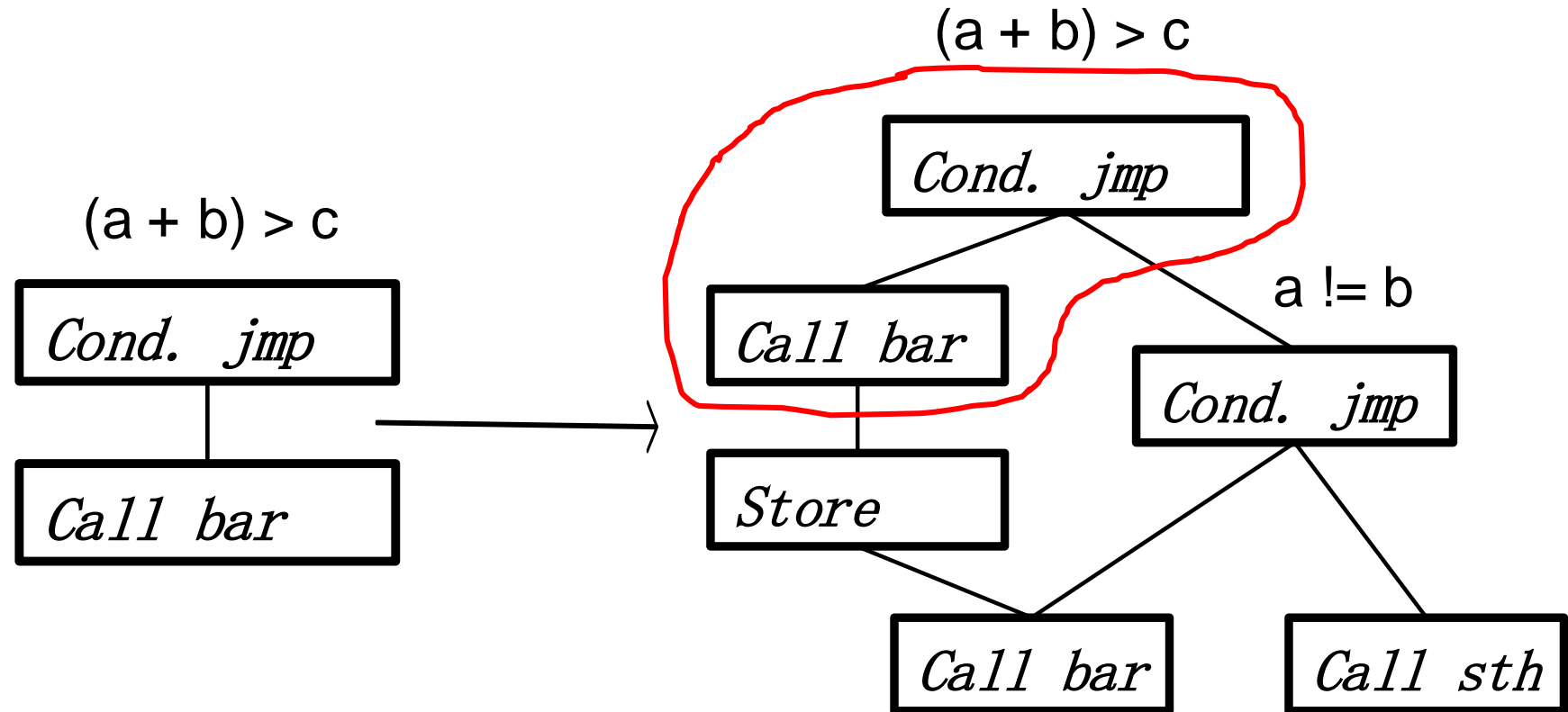


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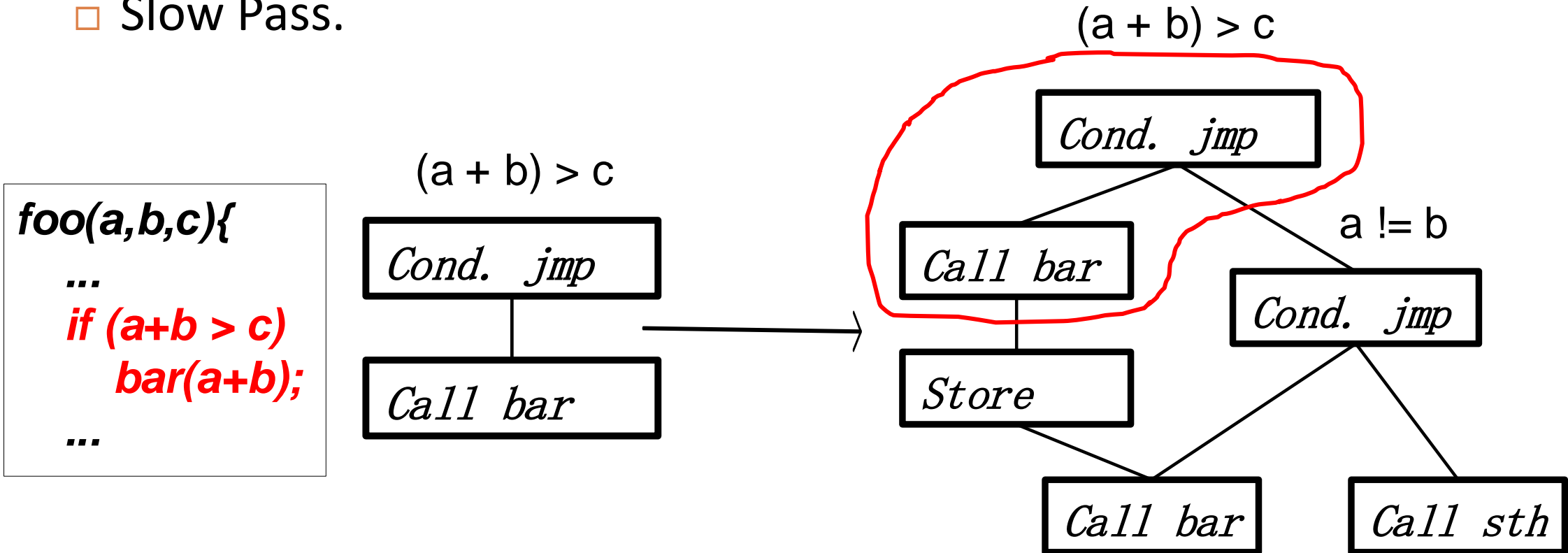




# Matching

22

□ Slow Pass.



**Solution:** basically we strictly compare two formulas simplified by Z3 solver, with necessary relaxations. (e.g. commutative operators)

# Special (and Interesting) Cases

**Func() :**

• • • • •

• • • • •

**+ uniq\_func\_noinline()**

• • • • •

• • • • •

**Func() :**

• • • • •

• • • • •

**+ unique\_func\_noinline()**

• • • • •

• • • • •

Simply test the function call presence, no semantic formulas needed.

**Func() :**

.....

.....

- **f(a, b)**

+ **f(a, c)**

.....

.....

**Func() :**

.....

.....

- **f(a, b)**

+ **f(a, c)**

.....

.....

That *line* matters? No, that *parameter* matters!

## How well does FIBER work?

In evaluation:

**107** security patches crawled from Android Bulletin (*Jun 2016 – May 2017*)

**8** Android kernel images from **3** mainstream vendors.

# Accuracy

25

Device	No.	Patch Cnt*	Build Date (mm/dd/yy)	Kernel Version	Accuracy				Online Matching Time (s)			
					TP	TN	FP	FN	Total	Avg	~70%	Max.
Samsung S7	0	102	06/24/16	3.18.20	42	56	0	4(3.92%)	1690.43	16.57	8.47	306.47
	1	102	09/09/16	3.18.20	43	55	0	4(3.92%)	1888.06	18.51	8.24	438.76
	2	102	01/03/17	3.18.31	85	11	0	6(5.88%)	2421.44	23.74	5.49	1047.10
	3	102	05/18/17	3.18.31	92	4	0	6(5.88%)	1770.66	17.36	5.33	386.94
LG G5	4	103	05/27/16	3.18.20	32	65	0	6(5.88%)	2122.37	20.61	8.90	648.93
	5	103	10/26/17	3.18.31	95	0	0	8(7.77%)	1384.47	13.44	4.76	229.46
Huawei P9	6	31	02/22/16	3.10.90	10	20	0	1(3.23%)	390.35	12.59	8.47	89.35
	7	30	05/22/17	4.1.18	25	2	0	3(10.00%)	515.64	17.19	7.4	279.49

\* Some patches we collected are not applicable for certain test subject kernels.



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**Accuracy:** excellent, on average 94% accuracy w/o FP.

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\* Some patches we collected are not applicable for certain test subject kernels.

**FP:** we wrongly believe the patch is present. *Dangerous!*

**FN:** we wrongly believe the patch is not there. *Extra time to confirm.*

**Accuracy:** excellent, on average 94% accuracy w/o FP.

# Why FN?

26

- Function inline.
- Function prototype change.
- Code customization.
- Patch adaptation.
- Other engineering issues.

Refer to section 6.2 in the paper for more details.

# Why FN?

26

## *Function inline:*

Added new callee function in the change site is inlined in different ways across reference and target binaries.

# Why FN?

26

## *Patch adaptation:*

The change site itself has been customized during patch porting.

# Performance

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\* Some patches we collected are not applicable for certain test subject kernels.

**Performance:** acceptable, some cases may take long time to match, overall still much more efficient than manual work. Parallelization is also easily possible.

# Un-ported patches

28

CVE	Type**	Severity*
CVE-2014-9781	P	High
CVE-2016-2502	P	High
CVE-2016-3813	I	Moderate
CVE-2016-4578	I	Moderate
CVE-2016-2184	P	Critical
CVE-2016-7910	P	Critical
CVE-2016-8413	I	Moderate
CVE-2016-10200	P	Critical
CVE-2016-10229	E	Critical

\* Obtained from Android security bulletin.

\*\* **P**: Privilege Elevation **E**: Remote Code Execution

\*\* **I**: Information Disclosure



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Lag (month)	Cnt.
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2	5
6	2

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Lag (month)	Cnt.
1	2
2	5
6	2

**Some critical patches were not propagated even after 6 months (confirmed)!**

# CVE-2016-7910

29

```
diff --git a/block/genhd.c b/block/genhd.c
index 3c9dede..0ad8796 100644
--- a/block/genhd.c
+++ b/block/genhd.c
@@ -856,6 +856,7 @@ static void disk_seqf_stop(
 *v)                struct seq_file *seqf
     if (iter) {
         class_dev_iter_exit(iter);
         kfree(iter);
+    seqf->private = NULL;
     }
 }
```

, void

0x0 → [X0+ offset]

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4

How much code do you write?

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We use **Angr** as our symbolic execution engine. (w/ modifications)

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Still **under improvement**.



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#code of Fiber: **5,097** LOC Python.

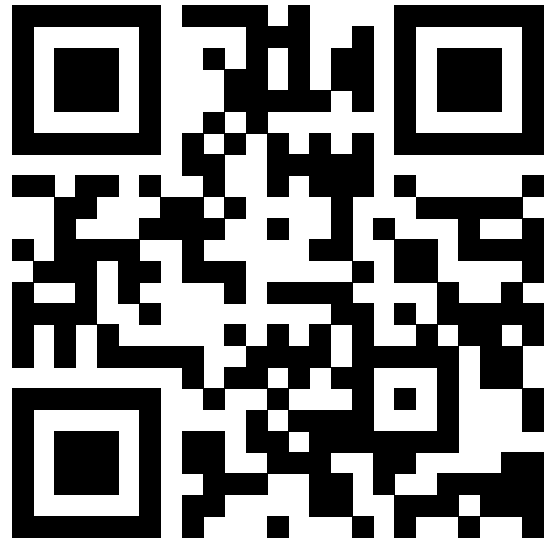
Still **under improvement**.

Now fully **open-sourced** on Github!

<https://fiberx.github.io>



OPEN  
SOURCE



Thanks!

Q & A

<https://fiberx.github.io>



OPEN  
SOURCE

