

# BunnyHop: Exploiting The Instruction Prefetcher

Zhiyuan Zhang, Mingtian Tao, Sioli O'Connell,  
Chitchanok Chuengsatiansup, Daniel Genkin, Yuval Yarom



THE UNIVERSITY  
of ADELAIDE



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE



Georgia  
Tech

# BunnyHop

Instruction Prefetcher

We like shared resources !

Hey prefetcher, check an address.

NOP

NOP

BunnyHop: Translate Branch Predictor State to Cache State

NOP ?

NOP

Target ✓

NOP

Cache



Target

Cache Attack. Okey-Dokey!

# With the Power of BunnyHop

- Reverse Engineer
  - **First work** on Instruction Prefetcher
  - Branch Target Buffer
    - **First work** on Replacement Policy
    - **First observation** of two type branches: Long Branch & Short Branch
- Three Cool Attacks
  - Flush+Reload on Predictor: Learn same thread predictor state
  - Prime+Probe on Predictor: Learn cross-thread predictor state
  - Self-Eviction : Confuse the victim to evict its own data



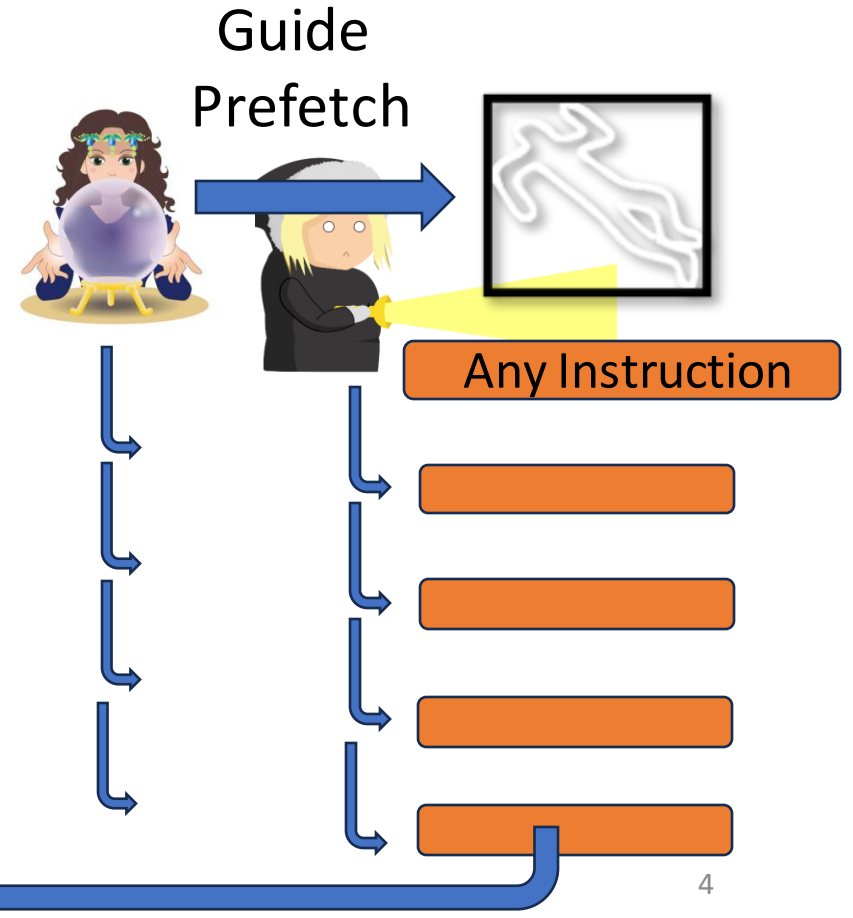
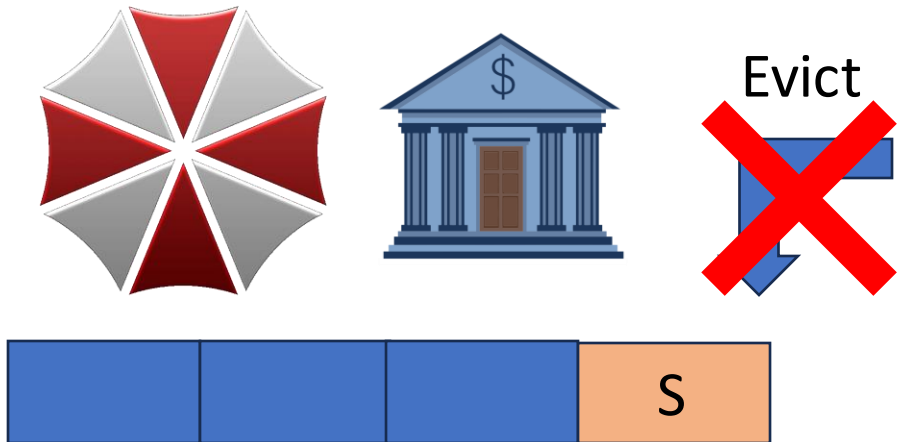
More in the  
paper!



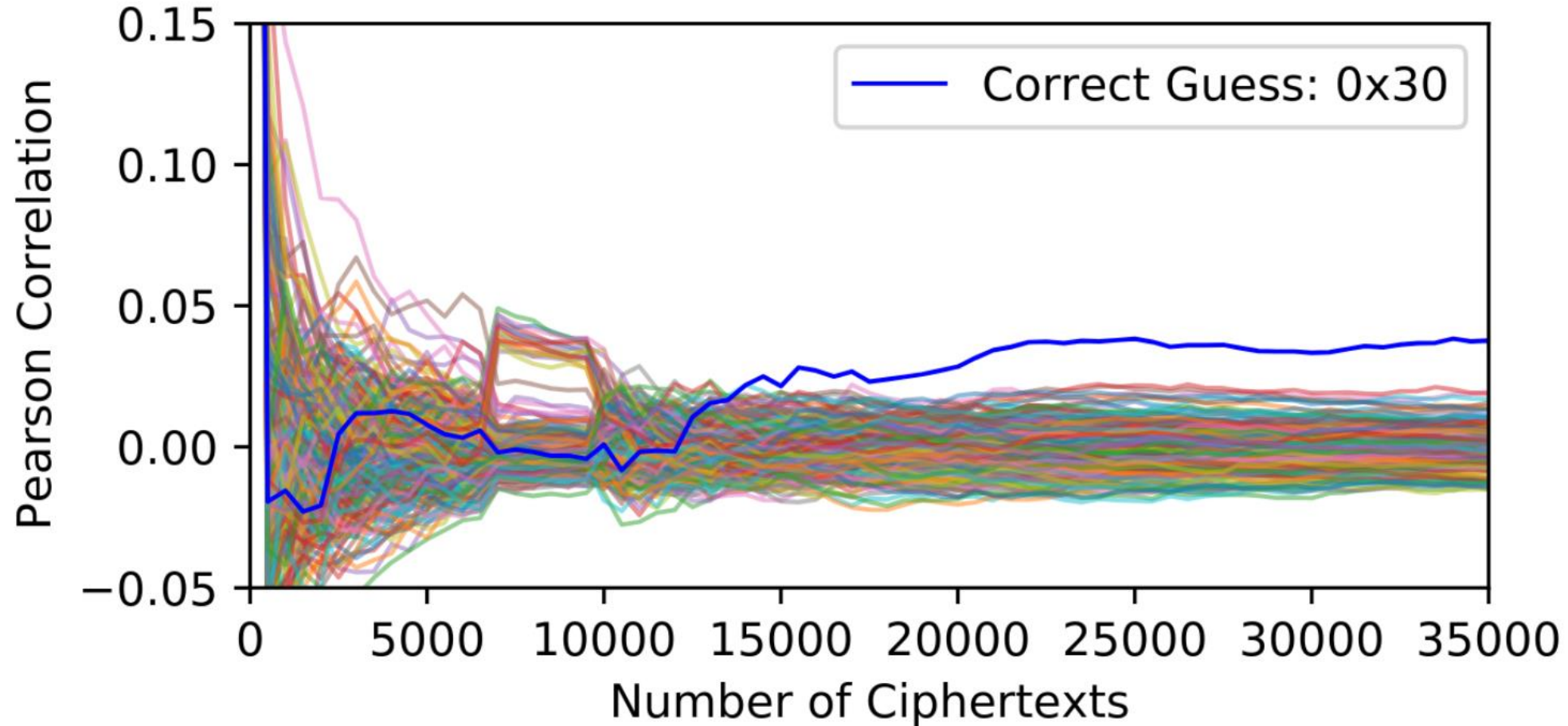
# Self-Eviction: The Resident Evil

- Evict secret-dependent data from cache
- Poison the Branch Predictor
- Measure victim process

Cache Coloring

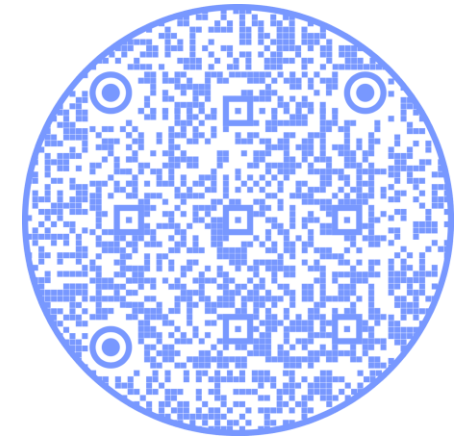


# Self-Eviction: The case of AES



# Summary

- Branch Predictor state can be leaked via cache state
- Reverse Engineer the Instruction Prefetcher
- Reverse Engineer the Branch Target Buffer
- Three attacks on Branch Predictor



Paper



<https://github.com/0xADE1A1DE/BunnyHop>

Code

