



Jean  
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Larrecq,  
Julien Olivain

Issues  
Example  
Attack  
Running  
ORCHIDS  
Demo  
Under the Hood  
Architecture  
Beyond  
Way Beyond  
Conclusion  
Misc

# The ORCHIDS Intrusion Prevention System

Jean Goubault-Larrecq, Julien Olivain



ARCS Meeting — SFI, Nov. 2, 2006

# Outline

- 1 Some Security Issues
- 2 Example: The `ptrace` Attack
- 3 Detecting The Attack, Using ORCHIDS
  - Demo
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- 4 The Architecture of ORCHIDS
- 5 Beyond: Additional Features, Further Attacks
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- 8 Other Things That Cannot Fit In The Talk



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# Some Types of Attacks



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- Viruses, worms, trojans, buffer overflows, etc. (attacks on systems)
- Denial of service, IP/ARP spoofing, sniffing, etc. (network attacks)
- Attacks on html forms (perl, pgg), SQL insertion, IE/Word viruses [worms], etc. (attacks on applications)

# Current Trends

- Systems and networks grow **larger**.

More and more difficult to ensure any level of security.



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- Stakes are **higher**.

On-line data-bases [banking, health, taxes, ...],  
e-commerce, etc.



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- Stakes are **higher**.

On-line data-bases [banking, health, taxes, ...],  
e-commerce, etc.

- Attacks are more and more **sophisticated**, automated,  
and distributed.

Ready-to-use packages [ask Google]

Attacks requiring several steps,  
... each of them being innocuous in isolation

ORCHIDS



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- Attacks are more and more **sophisticated**, automated, and distributed.

Ready-to-use packages [ask Google]

Attacks requiring several steps,

... each of them being innocuous in isolation

- **New needs** in intrusion detection

Tracking user configurations

Detecting internal fraud

Smartcards



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*Julien Olivain*



Hey, Jean! You're not just going to blabber along, right? Show them the `ptrace` attack for starters.





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Julien Olivain



Hey, Jean! You're not just going to blabber along, right? Show them the ptrace attack for starters.

Er, that's what I meant to do... sure!



Me  
(confused)



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# The ptrace Attack [Purczyński01,03]



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# The ptrace Attack [Purczyński01,03]



Exploits a problem on rights of spawned processes, with the `ptrace` system call.

Effect: a **local, user-to-root** attack.

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# The ptrace Attack [Purczyński01,03]



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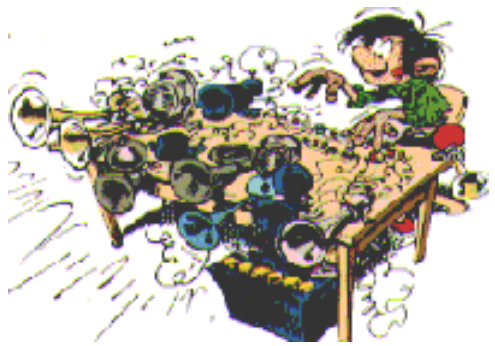
- The `ptrace` call: used by **all** debuggers (benign in isolation!). Requires **correlations**.
- Subtle attack, based on a **race condition** in Linux 2.18 (Red Hat) kernels.

# The Hacker's View



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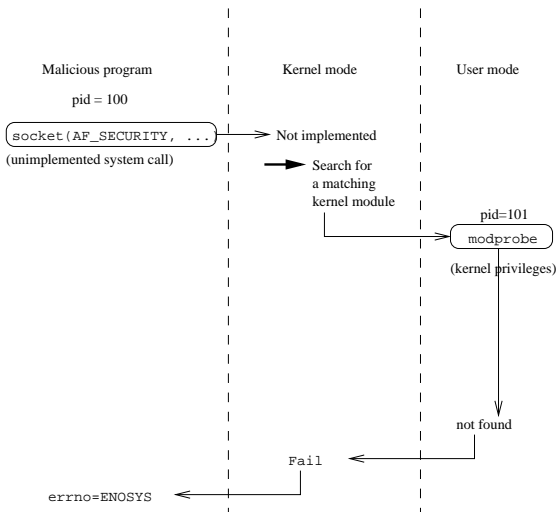
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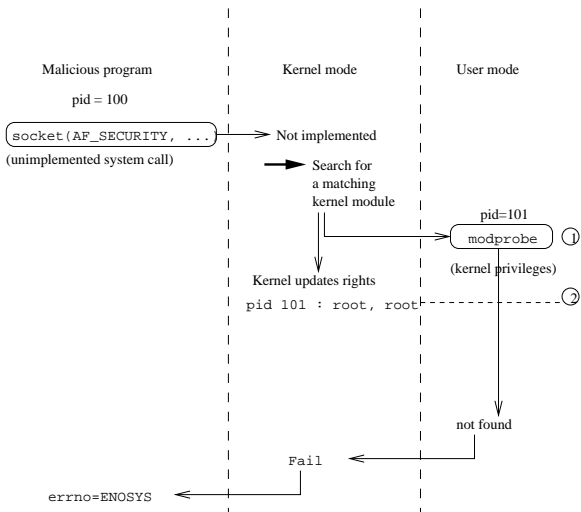


# The ptrace Attack [Purczyk01,03]



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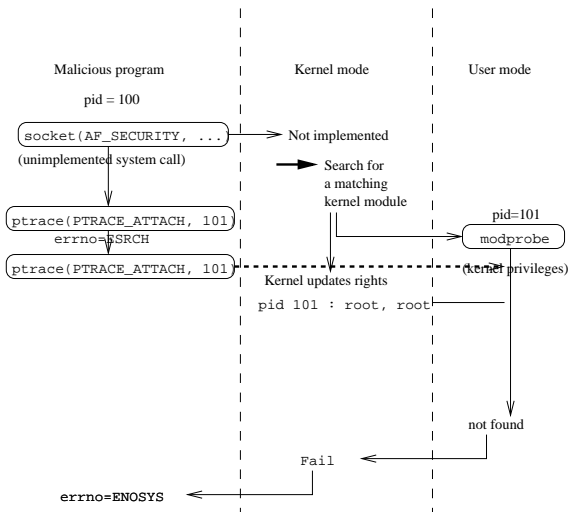
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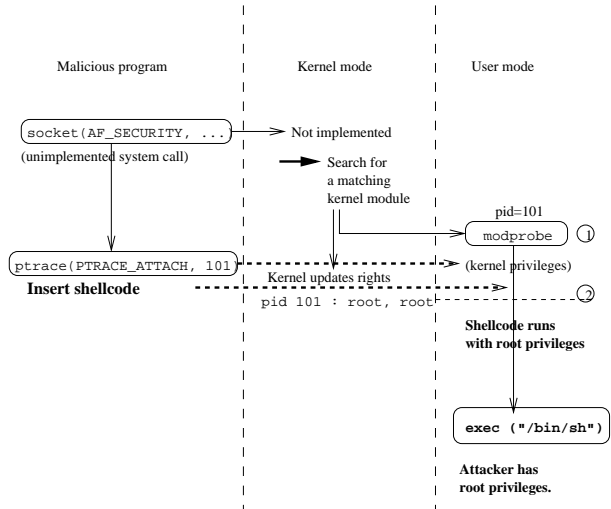


# The ptrace Attack [Purczyński01,03]



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# The Attack Signature

- We can count on the system **logging** important events.  
Here we count on the SNARE kernel module.  
We may also interface to the `syslog` facility.

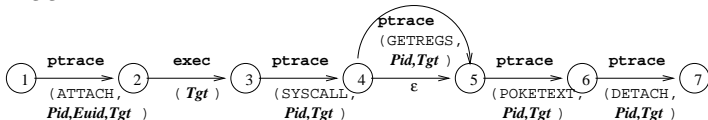


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# The Attack Signature

- We can count on the system **logging** important events.  
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- ORCHIDS will now try to find **patterns** among these logged events:



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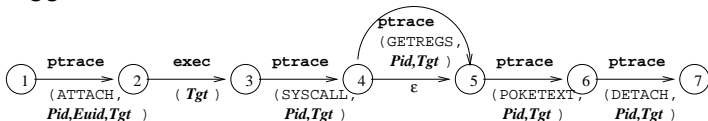
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# The Attack Signature

- We can count on the system **logging** important events.  
Here we count on the SNARE kernel module.  
We may also interface to the `syslog` facility.
- ORCHIDS will now try to find **patterns** among these logged events:



- Note that just detecting calls `ptrace` is **not** enough: this is used in everyday debugging activities, and is not indicative of an attack by itself.

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# Demo



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*Julien Olivain*



Now let's see Orchids in action.

# Demo — Reacting to an Intrusion



Julien Olivain



Jean, did you show them that  
Orchids *killed* the offending  
user's account?  
Did you explain them why?

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# Demo — Reacting to an Intrusion

Julien Olivain



Jean, did you show them that Orchids killed the offending user's account?  
Did you explain them why?

Sure, Julien:

- ▶ The attacker may have left a **backdoor** in the system, allowing him to reenter at will.  
We should prevent him from using it later.
- ▶ Also, Orchids produces **reports!**  
Here, tracks attacker's achievements.



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# Demo — Escaping Masking Attacks



Julien Olivain



Jean, have you shown them that Orchids was not fooled by *masking attacks*?

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# Demo — Escaping Masking Attacks

Julien Olivain



Jean, have you shown them that Orchids was not fooled by *masking attacks*?

Oh yes. The point is that the attacker may attempt to **drown** the intruder detection system under many similar events.

Goal: attempt to escape detection.

Let's see how Orchids fares **under pressure** : let's generate zillions of benign calls to **ptrace**.



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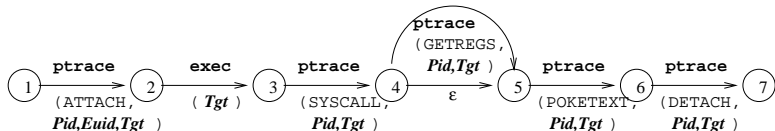
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# How Does ORCHIDS Detect It?



Imagine the following flow of events:

```
open ("/etc/passwd", "r", pid=58, euid=500)
ptrace (ATTACH, pid=57, euid=500, 58)
ptrace (ATTACH, pid=100, euid=500, 101)
exec (prog="modprobe", pid=101)
ptrace (ATTACH, pid=100, euid=500, 101)
exit (pid=58)
```

```
ptrace (SYSCALL, pid=100, 101)
ptrace (GETREGS, pid=100, 101)
ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)
ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)
ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)
ptrace (DETACH, pid=100, 101)
```

(What to come, in a nutshell: the ORCHIDS engine will basically simulate a form of alternating automata, with additional optimizations gotten by abstract interpretation of the formulae.)

# Detecting the Attack



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## Flow of events:

<code>open ("/etc/passwd", "r", pid=58, euid=500)</code>	<code>ptrace (SYSCALL, pid=100, 101)</code>
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<code>ptrace (ATTACH, pid=100, euid=500, 101)</code>	<code>ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)</code>
<code>exec (prog="modprobe", pid=101)</code>	<code>ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)</code>
<code>ptrace (ATTACH, pid=100, euid=500, 101)</code>	<code>ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)</code>
<code>exit (pid=58)</code>	<code>ptrace (DETACH, pid=100, 101)</code>

Initially, ORCHIDS has no active thread.

# Detecting the Attack



## Flow of events:

```
open ("/etc/passwd", "r", pid=58, euid=500)    ptrace (SYSCALL, pid=100, 101)
ptrace (ATTACH, pid=57, euid=500, 58)          ptrace (GETREGS, pid=100, 101)
ptrace (ATTACH, pid=100, euid=500, 101)        ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)
exec (prog="modprobe", pid=101)                ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)
ptrace (ATTACH, pid=100, euid=500, 101)        ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)
exit (pid=58)                                  ptrace (DETACH, pid=100, 101)
```

The signature contains no `open` event: skip.

# Detecting the Attack

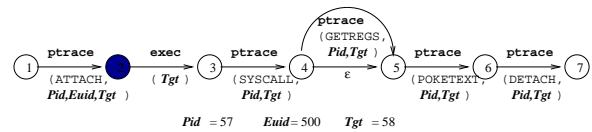


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**Flow of events:**

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# Detecting the Attack

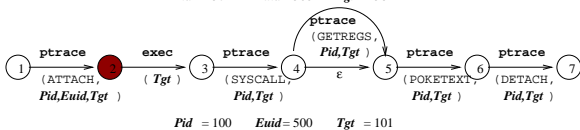
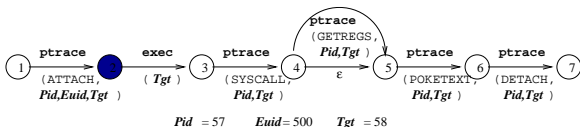


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## Flow of events:

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exec (prog="modprobe", pid=101)  
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Spawn thread:  
avoid **masking attacks**.

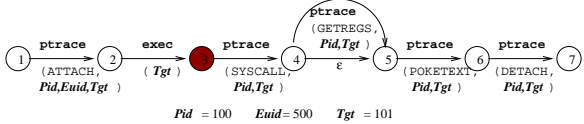
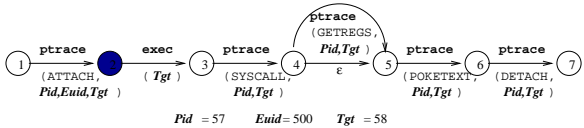


# Detecting the Attack

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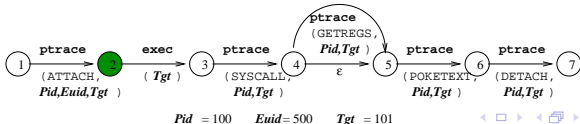
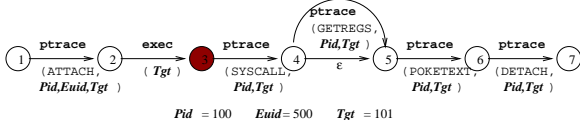
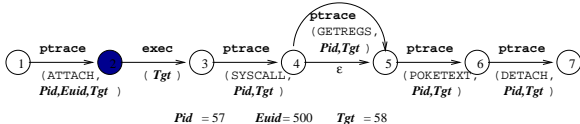
No need to  
spawn thread:  
would violate  
**shortest runs.**

# Detecting the Attack

## Flow of events:

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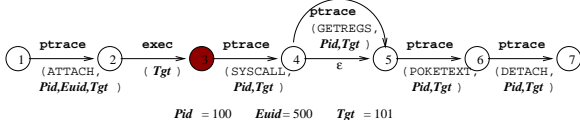
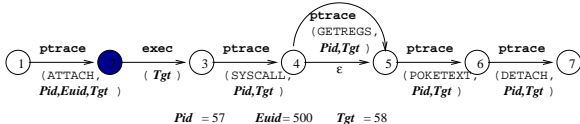
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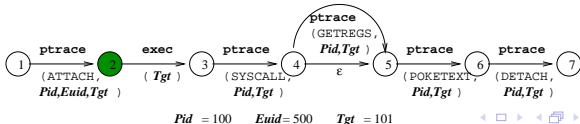
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Irrelevant event exit



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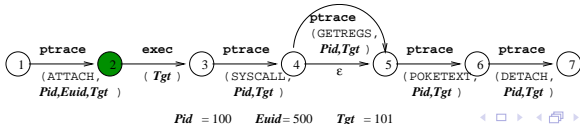
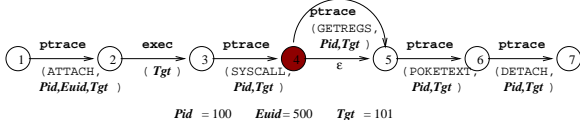
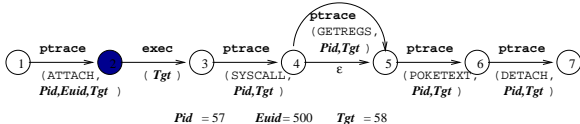
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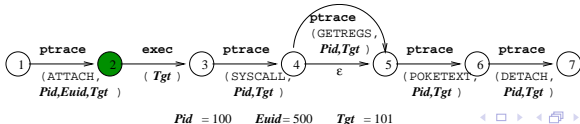
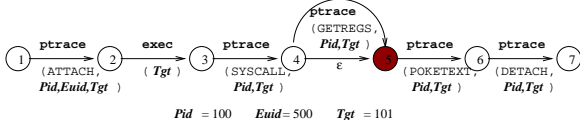
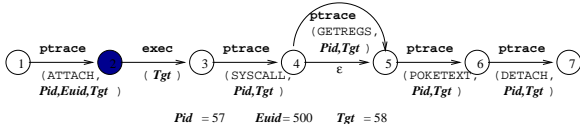
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ptrace (SYSCALL, pid=100, 101)  
**ptrace (GETREGS, pid=100, 101)**  
ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)  
ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)  
ptrace (POKETEXT, pid=100, 101)  
ptrace (DETACH, pid=100, 101)



Keep run  
ATTACH-exec-  
SYSCALL-**GETREGS**  
for reporting.



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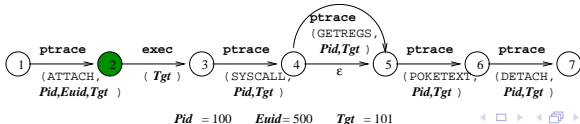
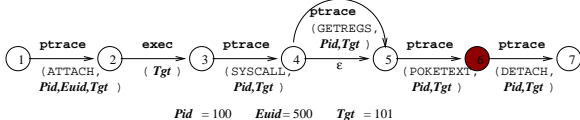
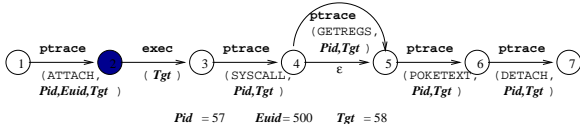
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# Detecting the Attack

## Flow of events:

open ("/etc/passwd", "r", pid=58, euid=500)  
 ptrace (ATTACH, pid=57, euid=500, 58)  
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 exec (prog="modprobe", pid=101)  
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Do not spawn thread (shortest runs again) (prefer A- over -A-, -A on trace AAA). Formally: keep lexicographically smallest sequences of event numbers.



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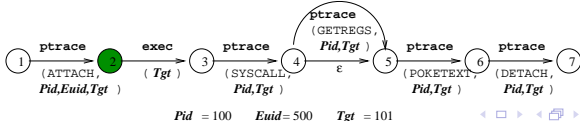
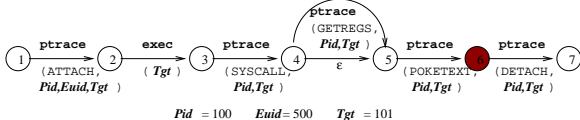
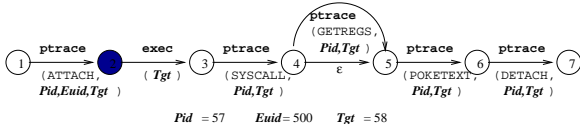
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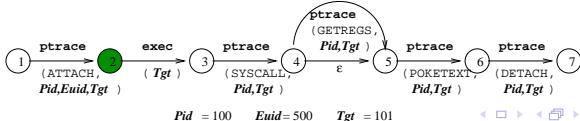
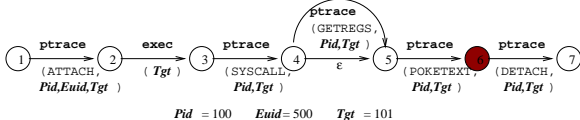
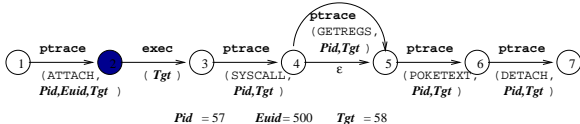
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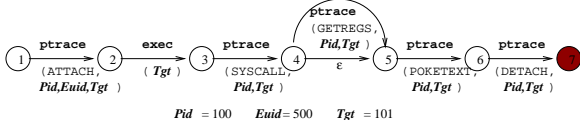
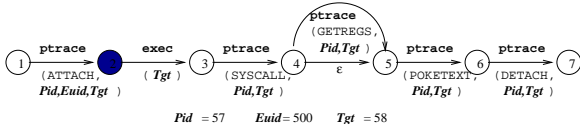


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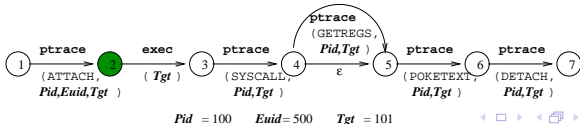
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**Alert.**



ORCHIDS

SECSI

Laboratoire  
Specification  
Verification

CVS

INRIA

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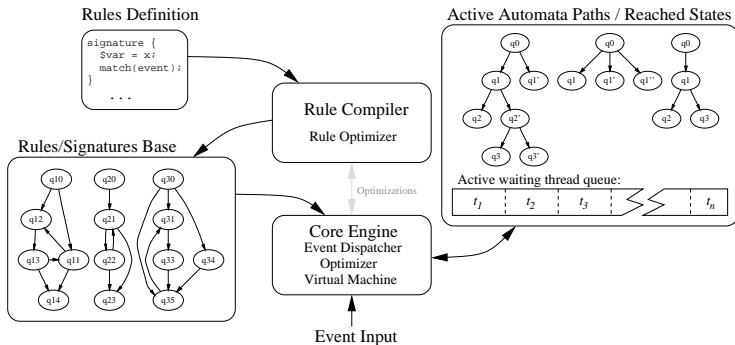
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# A Bird's Eye View

- Efficient implementation, through compilation to **bytecode trees**.

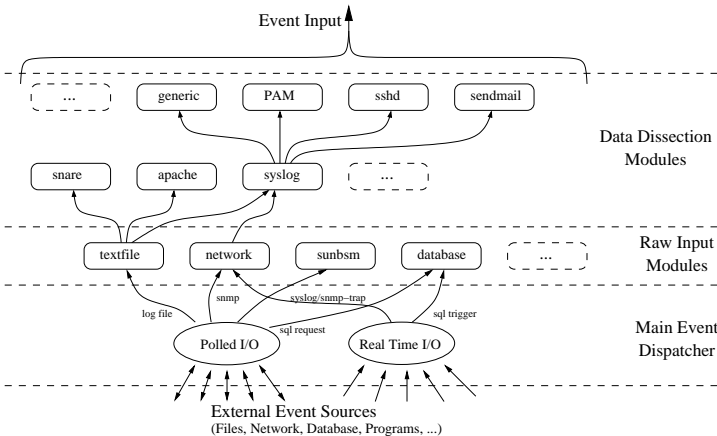


# A Modular Architecture



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# Input Sources



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## Multi-sensor:

- **System** sensors:
  - SNARE, syslog (Unix);
  - MS EVT (Windows);
- **Network** and equipment sensors:
  - Cisco logs;
  - SNMP sensors;
  - Linux NetFilter.
  - ...
- Meta-sensors: e.g., SNORT used as a sensor.
- Filters: e.g., NetEntropy entropy tester.
- ...

# Input Sources



## Multi-sensor:

- **System** sensors:
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- **Network** and equipment sensors:
  - Cisco logs;
  - SNMP sensors;
  - Linux NetFilter.
  - ...
- Meta-sensors: e.g., SNORT used as a sensor.
- Filters: e.g., NetEntropy entropy tester.
- ...

**Multi-port:** reads from UDP connections, SNMP connections, log files.

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# Cuts

**Cuts** (à la Prolog): generalize shortest runs.  
Allow one to specify removing threads thought to be irrelevant.



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# Cuts

**Cuts** (à la Prolog): generalize shortest runs.  
Allow one to specify removing threads thought to be irrelevant.

**Green** cuts: Preserve the *no-masking* property:

*Each attack (family of runs)  $\Rightarrow$  at least one alert is reported.*

Shortest runs are an example, with an additional *optimality* property: exactly one alert is reported.



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# Cuts

**Cuts** (à la Prolog): generalize shortest runs.  
Allow one to specify removing threads thought to be irrelevant.

**Green** cuts: Preserve the *no-masking* property:

*Each attack (family of runs)  $\Rightarrow$  at least one alert is reported.*

Shortest runs are an example, with an additional *optimality* property: exactly one alert is reported.

**Red** cuts: Forget attacks.

- Avoid congestion, avert attacks on the IDS.
- Simulate **monitors**. (case where no thread is spawned dynamically.)
- **Intermediate** reports. (emit them, kill threads having emitted none, then proceed.)
- Implement the `without` operator (check that no event satisfying  $F$  occurs while waiting for  $G$ ).

(e.g., kill threads when monitored process exits.)



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# Not Just One Attack, But Families



Julien Olivain



Jean, I'm afraid you did not insist on the fact that you could catch whole *families* of attacks by just one ORCHIDS signature rule. Have you demonstrated the `do_brk` attack, by the way?

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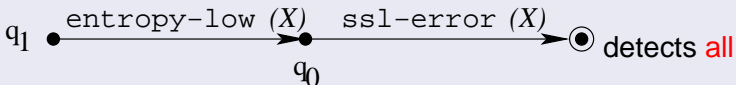
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# Detect Families of Attacks

Signatures can be made to match not just one attack, rather whole **families**.

## The Entropy Checker



buffer overflow attacks on crypto protocols (ssh1, ssh2, https, ldaps, ...).

- By the way, this is a network attack. ORCHIDS is not limited to system attacks.
- By the way, it uses the Net-Entropy sensor to detect entropy anomalies in input flow.



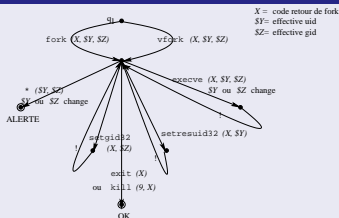
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# Detect Families of Attacks

Signatures can be made to match not just one attack, rather whole **families**.

## The Pid Tracker



detects all attacks in the style of

`do_brk`, `mmap`, `munmap`, `mremap`, etc. [MortonStarzetz'03].

- Principle: detect that some user gained root privileges without using the authorized `set*id` mechanism, **whichever** way he actually managed to do so.
- Technically, a form of dynamically-spawned monitors.

# The Attacks on `do_brk`, `mmap`, `munmap`, ... [MortonStarzetz03]



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One of the most **serious** attacks ever actually used.

- Crackers used it to bog down the Savannah (GNU) and Debian servers in 2004. Downtime: **several weeks**.

# The Attacks on `do_brk`, `mmap`, `munmap`, ... [MortonStarzetz03]



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One of the most **serious** attacks ever actually used.

- Crackers used it to bog down the Savannah (GNU) and Debian servers in 2004. Downtime: **several weeks**.
- **Vicious** attacks: give rise to **no** event at all.

... except a flurry of calls to `do_brk` (but this is what `malloc` calls!)

... except a flurry of `SIGSEGV` signals (not logged by `SNARE`!)

- Principle: rewrite the information the kernel keeps on our (user) process by mapping the kernel into the address space of the process (!).

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# Information Correlation



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Use an embedded Prolog interpreter. Applications include:

Keep set of attacks that have already succeeded.

- Maintain **Black Lists**.
- Realize that user  $A$  has succeeded in the past in mounting an attack on machine  $M$  giving him a user account, allowing him to try and launch a second attack on  $M$  in the hope of gaining root privileges.

# Information Correlation



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Use an embedded Prolog interpreter. Applications include:

## Reason about network topology.

- realize that `127.0.0.1` and `localhost` are the same machine (as in the M2D2 model [MMDD03]);
- realize that two machines *A* and *B* are neighbors and may have cooperated in mounting an attack.

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# Conclusion

ORCHIDS, an efficient **on-line, real-time** intrusion prevention system.

- Handles real, recent, sophisticated attacks;
- Produces detailed reports, runs countermeasures;  
i.e., emergency measures until the sys. admin. reacts.
- Multi-sensor, multi-port, multi-event. . . multi-whatever.



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---

Care to join?

Contact:

Julien Olivain

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[goubault@lsv.ens-cachan.fr](mailto:goubault@lsv.ens-cachan.fr)



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# The mod\_ssl Attack [McDonald03]



Exploits a buffer overflow in the OpenSSL code for Apache, implementing SSL v.2.

Effect: **remote** exploit, obtaining a remote shell.

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# The mod\_ssl Attack [McDonald03]



Exploits a buffer overflow in the OpenSSL code for Apache, implementing SSL v.2.

Effect: **remote** exploit, obtaining a remote shell.

- Extremely complex attack.
- Exploits several Apache threads to get vulnerability information.
- Transmits vulnerability information through **encrypted** SSL channel.

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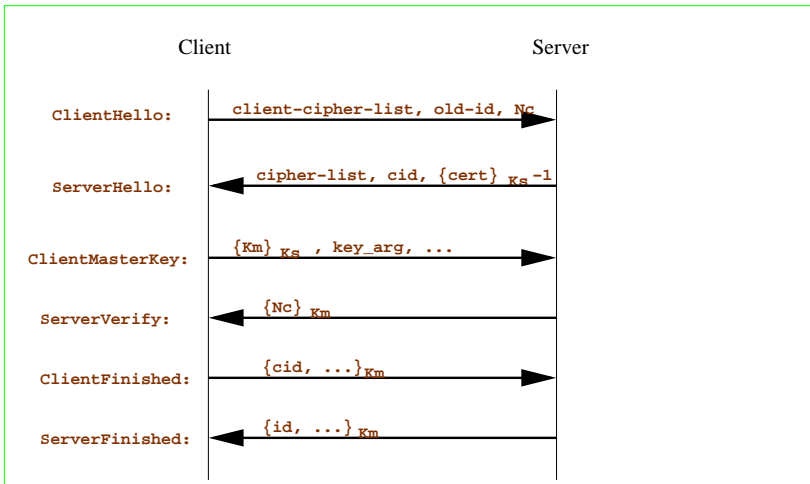


# The SSL v2 Handshake Protocol



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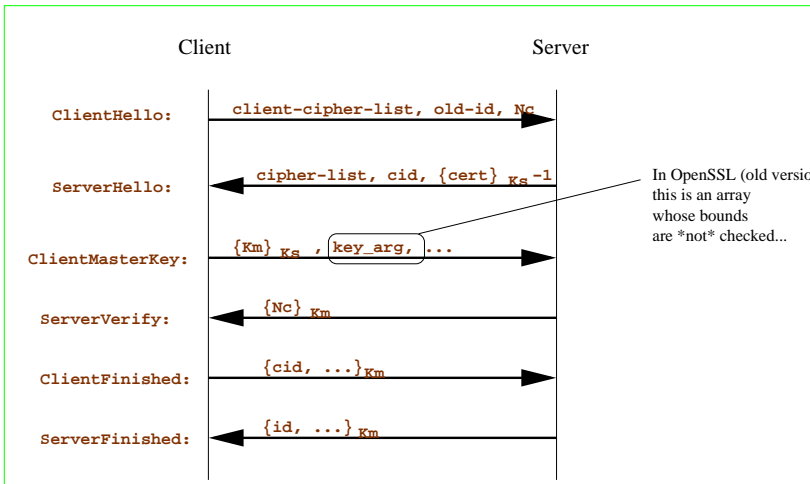


# An (Important) Detail of Implementation in OpenSSL



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# An Attack on OpenSSL

When the server receives ClientMasterKey, it copies it into:

```
typedef struct ssl_session_st
{
    int ssl_version;
    unsigned int key_arg_length;
    unsigned char key_arg[SSL_MAX_KEY_ARG_LENGTH];
    int master_key_length;
    unsigned char master_key[SSL_MAX_MASTER_KEY_LENGTH];
    [...]
    struct ssl_session_st *prev, *next;
} SSL_SESSION;
```

Vulnerable: let's  
stuff it!



ORCHIDS



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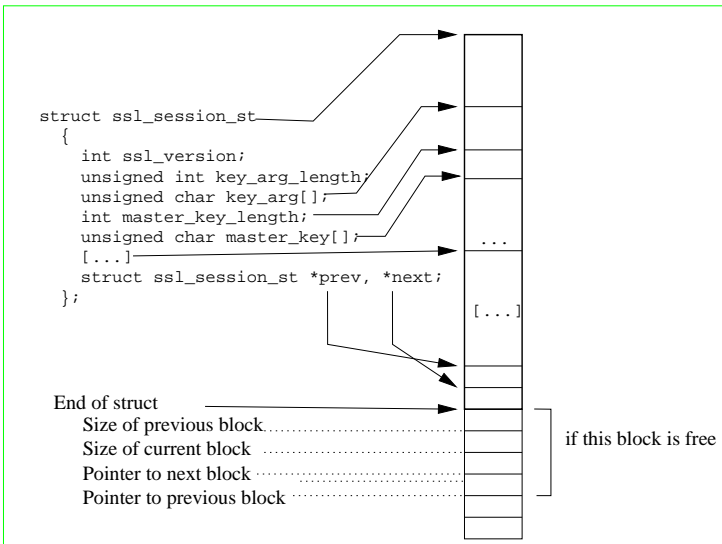
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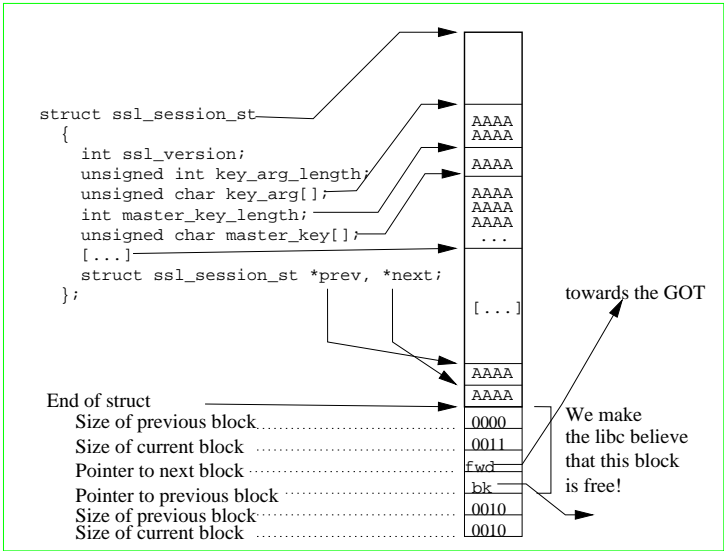
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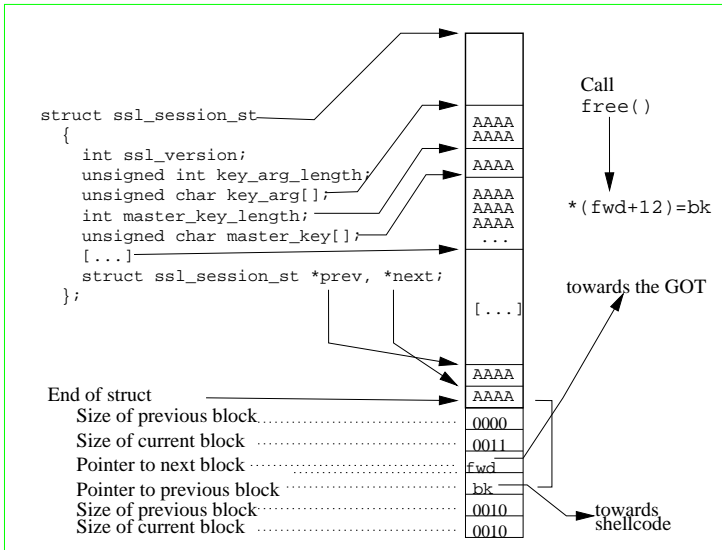
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# The rest of the attack, in short

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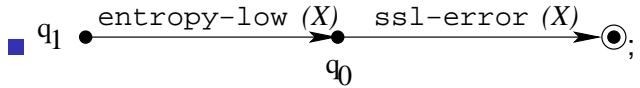
- To retrieve the address of the shellcode, have the server retransmit all needed information by writing into the `session_id` field: we get the information, encrypted, in the `ServerFinished` message.
- We now know at which addresses the server works.
- Now replay a similar attack in a second SSL session to really execute the shellcode.
- The server now serves a connection to an `apache` or `nobody` shell through HTTP. (Now play a user-to-root attack. . .)

# Describing the attack



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- Note: use an **entropy** input module (to be published);
- Detects **any** attack on SSL where plain texts are served instead where we expect ciphertexts.