

# Comparison of Smart Contract Vulnerability Detection tool

Member :

Kuo-Hao Lai  
Alex Tsai  
Md Mohaimin Al Barat

[kuohao1023@vt.edu](mailto:kuohao1023@vt.edu)  
[alextsai1618@vt.edu](mailto:alextsai1618@vt.edu)  
[barat@vt.edu](mailto:barat@vt.edu)

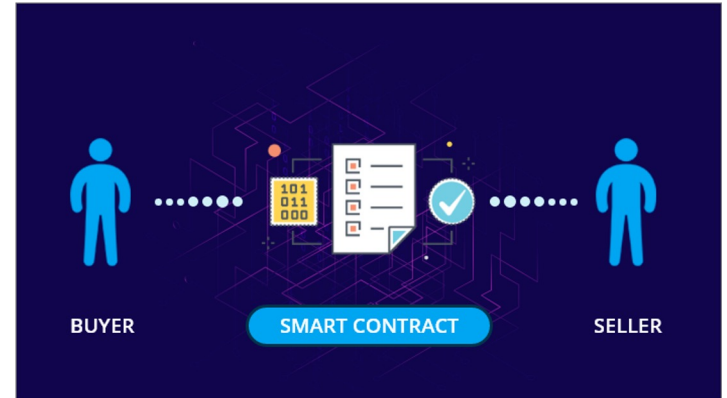
# Agenda

- Background
- Attack introduction
- Smart Contract Vulnerability analytic Tools
- Comparison of Vulnerability analytic Tools
- Conclusion
- Q&A

# Background

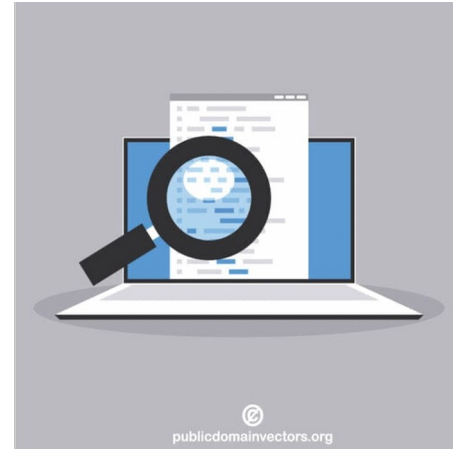
# Background

- Security challenges in decentralized systems
- Vulnerability detection techniques
- Best practices for smart contract security



# Security Challenges in Decentralized Systems

- Vulnerabilities in smart contract code
  - Exploit by attacker to steal funds
- Manipulation of oracle data
  - Incorrect data
  - Unintended behavior



# Security Challenges in Decentralized Systems (Con't)

- Risks of centralized points in decentralized systems
  - undermine the trust in the decentralized system
- Increased targeting by bad actors
  - harm the reputation of the entire ecosystem
- Example:
  - DAO attack
  - DeFi flash loan attacks
  - Centralized exchange hacks



# Best Practices for Smart Contract Security

- Conduct thorough audits
  - prevent reentrancy attacks
- Use established coding patterns
  - secure access control
- Limit contract complexity
  - mitigate front-running attacks
- Implement upgradeability and emergency stop mechanisms
  - prevent potential vulnerabilities

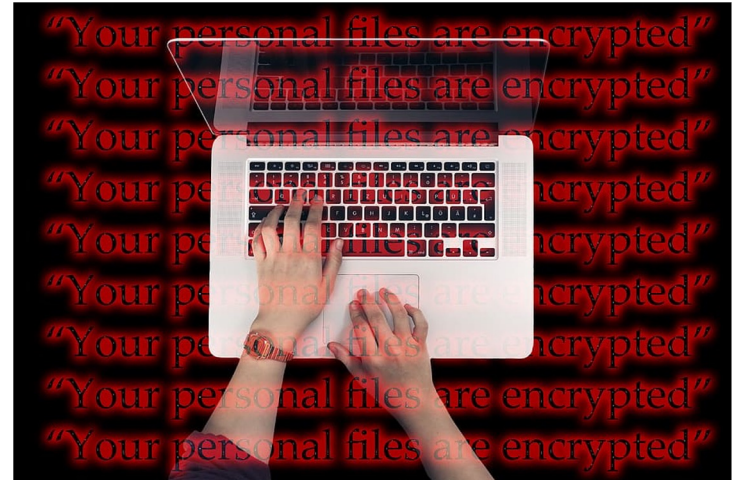


# Attack Introduction

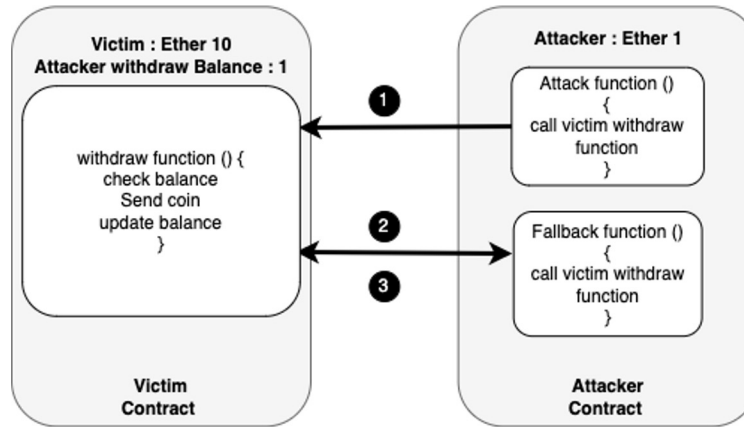


# Attack Introduction

- Reentrance attacks
- Access Control attacks
- Front Running attacks
- Unchecked low-level calls attacks
- Importance of security measures



# Reentrance attacks



# Access Control attacks

```
1  pragma solidity ^0.6.0;
2
3  contract Wallet {
4      address public owner;
5      mapping(address => uint) public balances;
6
7      constructor() public {
8          owner = msg.sender;
9      }
10
11     function deposit() public payable {
12         balances[msg.sender] += msg.value;
13     }
14
15     function withdraw(uint amount) public {
16         require(balances[msg.sender] >= amount, "Insufficient balance.");
17         msg.sender.call{value: amount}("");
18         balances[msg.sender] -= amount;
19     }
20
21     function transferOwnership(address newOwner) public {
22         owner = newOwner;
23     }
24 }
```



# Front Running attacks

```
1  // Original Source Code
2  contract KingOfEtherThrone {
3      address public king;
4      uint public balance;
5
6      function claimThrone() public payable {
7          require(
8              msg.value > balance,
9              "Insufficient payment to claim the throne."
10         );
11         king.transfer(balance);
12         king = msg.sender;
13         balance = msg.value;
14     }
15 }
```

# Unchecked low-level calls attacks

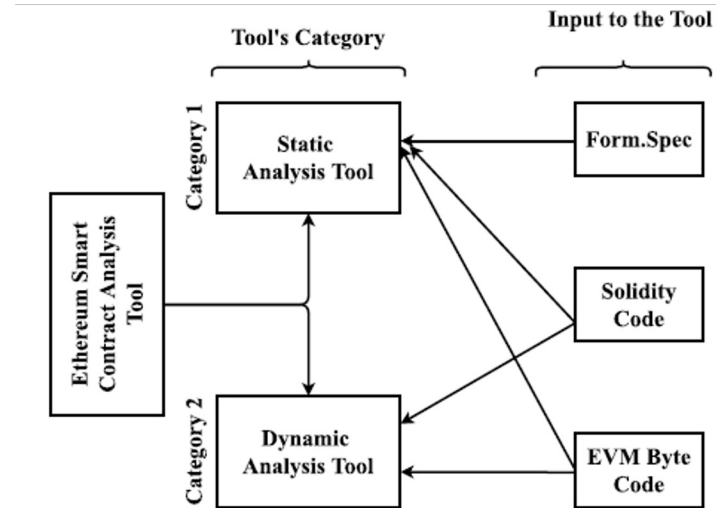
```
1  pragma solidity ^0.6.0;
2
3  contract UncheckedCalls {
4      mapping(address => uint) public balances;
5
6      function deposit() public payable {
7          balances[msg.sender] += msg.value;
8      }
9
10     function withdraw(uint amount) public {
11         require(balances[msg.sender] >= amount, "Insufficient balance.");
12
13         (bool success,) = msg.sender.call{value: amount}("");
14         if (!success) {
15             revert("Withdrawal failed.");
16         }
17
18         balances[msg.sender] -= amount;
19     }
20 }
```



# Smart Contract Vulnerability analytic Tool

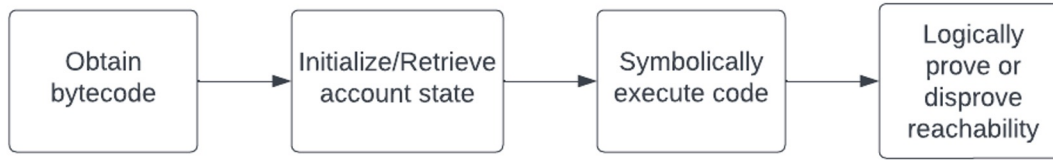
# Analysis Tools

- Why do we need?
- Categories:
  - Static Analysis Tool
    - Mythril, Smartcheck, etc.
  - Dynamic Analysis Tool
    - contractLarva, MAIAN etc.



# Analysis Tools: Mythril

- Analyzes smart contracts written with Solidity
- Takes advantage of the symbolic execution technique with taint analysis
- Stencil





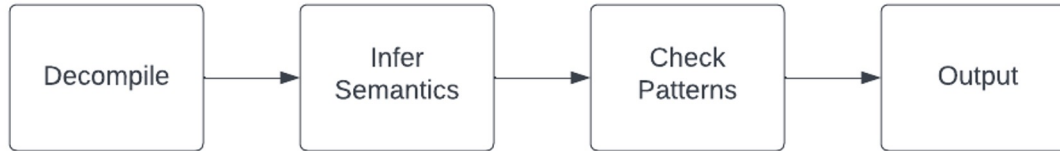
# Analysis Tools: Mythril

- Limitations
  - Unable to extend taints over memory fields
  - Becomes worse when the parameters accept pass by reference



# Analysis Tools: Securify

- Statically analyzes EVM bytecode
- Checks compliance and violation patterns
- Steps:



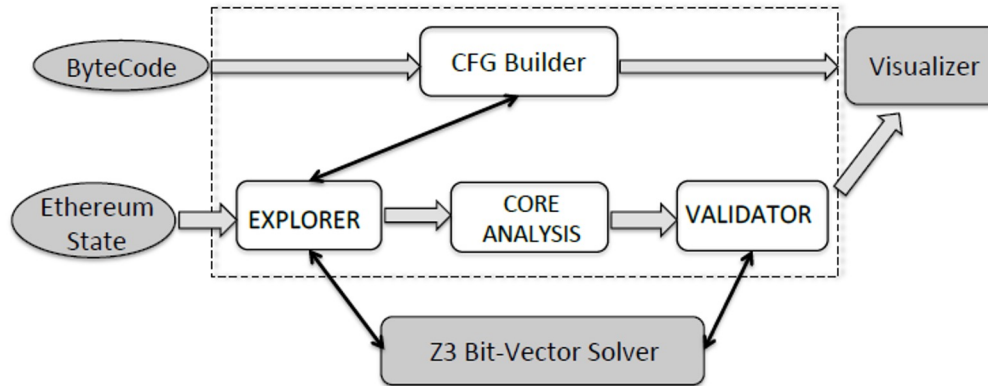
# Analysis Tools: Securify

- Limitations:
  - Cannot reason about numerical properties
  - Does not reason about reachability
  - Can be exploited by attackers



# Analysis Tools: Oyente

- Based on symbolic execution
- Architectural overview:



# Analysis Tools: Oyente

- Limitations:
  - Fails to log 72.9% of the TOD
  - Detects very few vulnerabilities
  - Generates false positives
  - Underestimates some serious bugs



# Analysis Tools: SmartCheck

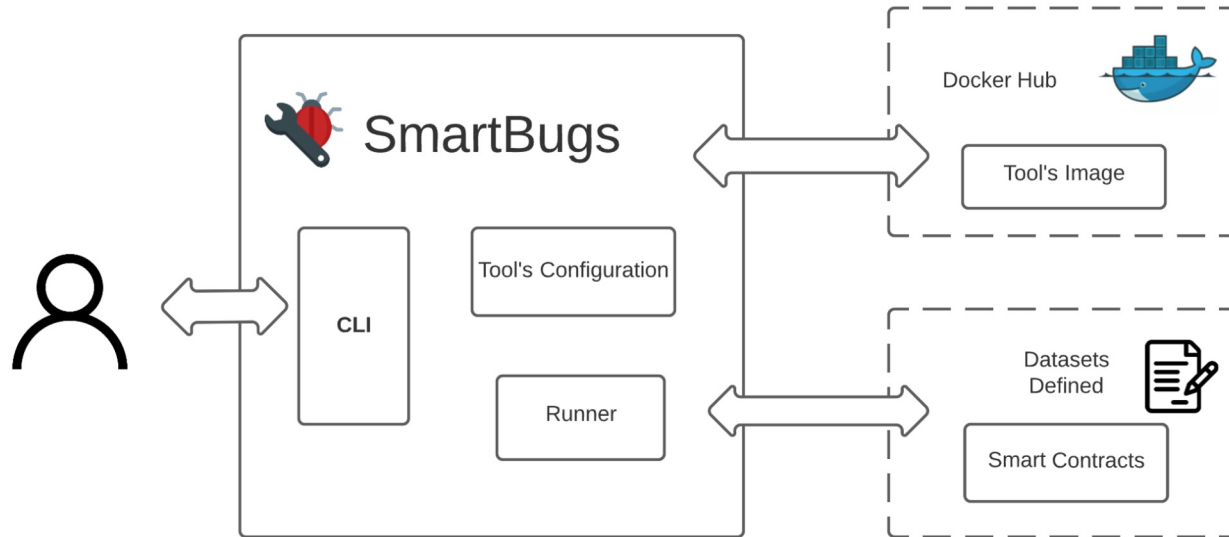
- Runs lexical and syntactical analysis
- Uses XML file with source code in tree form
- Explores path that can lead to vulnerabilities
- Detects patterns by using XPath queries
- Limitations:
  - Unable to detect vulnerabilities with taint analysis
  - Unable to detect Front Running
  - Only identifies low risk vulnerabilities





# Comparison of Vulnerability analytic Tools

# SmartBug Architecture





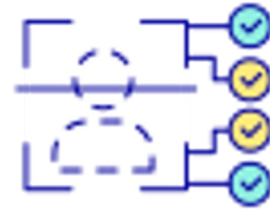
# Dataset

- $SB^{CURATED}$ :
  - Consists of 69 vulnerable smart contracts.
- $SB^{WILD}$ :
  - Contains 47,518 contracts extracted from the Ethereum blockchain



# Evaluation metrics

- Accuracy
- Number of Detected Vulnerabilities
- Execution Time



# Result



# Accuracy											
Category	Mythril		Oyente		Securify		Smartcheck		Total		
Access Control	4/19	21%	0/19	0%	0/19	0%	2/19	11%	4/19	21%	
Arithmetic	15/22	68%	12/22	55%	0/22	0%	1/22	5%	17/22	77%	
Denial Service	0/7	0%	0/7	0%	0/7	0%	0/7	0%	0/ 7	0%	
Front Running	2/7	29%	0/7	0%	2/7	29%	0/7	0%	2/ 7	29%	
Reentrancy	5/8	62%	5/8	62%	5/8	62%	5/8	62%	5/ 8	62%	
Time Manipulation	0/5	0%	0/5	0%	0/5	0%	1/5	20%	1/ 5	20%	
Unchecked Low Calls	5/12	42%	0/12	0%	3/12	25%	4/12	33%	6/12	50%	
Other	0/3	0%	0/3	0%	0/3	0%	0/3	0%	0/ 3	0%	
Total	31/115	27%	17/115	15%	10/115	9%	13/115	11%	35/115	30%	

Accuracy

# Result



# Combine tools	Mythril	Oyente	Securify	Smartcheck
Mythril		33/115 29%	31/115 27%	33/115 29%
Oyente			22/115 19%	25/115 22%
Securify				16/115 14%
Smartcheck				

Accuracy from combining tools

# Result

Category	Mythril	Oyente	Securify	Smartcheck
Access Control	1076 2%	2 0%	614 1%	384 0%
Arithmetic	18,515 39%	34,306 72%	0 0%	7,430 15%
Denial Service	0 0%	880 1%	0 0%	11,621 24%
Front Running	2,015 4%	0 0%	7,217 15%	0 0%
Reentrancy	8,454 17%	308 0%	2,033 4%	847 1%
Time Manipulation	443 0%	0 0%	592 1%	2,867 6%
Unchecked Low Calls	443 0	0 0%	592 1%	2,867 6%
Total	22,994 48%	<u>34,764 73%</u>	8,781 18%	24,906 52%

false positives!!

Vulnerabilities

Numbers of Contracts that have at least one vulnerability

# Result

Tools	Average	Total
Mythril	0:01:24	46 days, 07:46:55
Oyente	0:00:30	16 days, 04:50:11
Securify	0:06:37	217 days, 22:46:26
SmartCheck	0:00:10	5 days, 12:33:14
Total	0:01:40	330 days and 15 hours



# Conclusion

# Conclusion

- Accuracy: Mythrill 
- Number of Detected Vulnerabilities: Oyente 
- Execution Time: Oyente and SmartCheck 



# Conclusion

- Comparison of four security analysis tools:
  - Oyente
  - Mythril
  - Securify
  - Smartcheck
- SmartBugs
- Future Work

Q&A