Lesly-Ann Daniel

PhD student interested in formal methods for security



Experience

2018–2021 PhD—Software Security, from Safety to Hypersafety, CEA List, France,

Under the supervision of Sébastien Bardin and Tamara Rezk.

During my PhD I worked on efficient bug-finding and bounded-verification of information flow properties at binary-level, with applications to cryptographic constant-time, secret-erasure and vulnerabilities to Spectre attacks.

Feb 2018- Aug Internship—Software Security, from Safety to Hypersafety, CEA List, France,

2018 Under the supervision of Sébastien Bardin.

Adapt symbolic execution for bug-finding of information-flow properties.

May 2017- Internship—Protocol State Fuzzing of OpenVPN, Radboud University, The Netherlands,

Aug 2017 Under the supervision of Eric Poll.

Build a test harness to automatically infer a model of an OpenVPN server using LearnLib.

Jan 2016– Project—Native Mutant Generator, University of Limoges, France,

May 2016 Under the supervision of Jean-Louis Lanet.

Build an ARM disassembler and an API to smartly mutate specific binary sections or instructions.

Awards

Sept 2020 Fellowship L'Oréal-UNESCO Young Talents France for Women in Science.

For my work on automated program analysis for security.

Collaborations

Sept 2019- Visiting researcher at Information Science Institute (ISI), University of Southern California (USC),

Nov 2019 California, United-States.

Working with Christophe Hauser on symbolic verification for cryptographic primitives.

Education

2016–2018 Magistère, Computer science, ENS Rennes, France.

Training focused on research through lectures, seminars, visits of labs, etc.

2016–2018 Master, Computer science, with a focus on software security, University of Rennes 1, France.

2013–2016 Bachelor, Computer science, University of Limoges, France.

Publications

- 2021 Hunting the Haunter—Efficient Relational Symbolic Execution for Spectre with Haunted RelSE, L. Daniel, S. Bardin, T. Rezk, Network and Distributed System Security Symposium (NDSS).
- 2020 Binsec/Rel: Efficient Relational Symbolic Execution for Constant-Time at Binary-Level, L. Daniel, S. Bardin, T. Rezk, IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP).
- 2018 Inferring OpenVPN State Machines Using Protocol State Fuzzing, L. Daniel, J. de Ruiter, E. Poll, Workshop on Security Protocol Implementations: Development and Analysis (SPIDA).

Tools

Binsec/Haunted, Binary analyzer to detect Spectre-PHT and Spectre-STL vulnerabilities. https://github.com/binsec/haunted

Binsec/Rel, Symbolic analyzer for cryptographic constant-time verification at binary-level. https://github.com/binsec/rel

Talks

- 16th Mar, 2021 Efficient Relational Symbolic Execution for Speculative Constant-Time at Binary-Level, Talk at the annual meeting of the french research group on "formal methods for computer security" (online).
- 25th Feb, 2021 Experimental Evaluation of a Binary-Level Symbolic Analyzer for Spectre: Binsec/Haunted, Talk about our experimental work at LASER'21 workshop, colocated with NDSS'21 (online).
- Hunting the Haunter—Efficient Relational Symbolic Execution for Spectre with Haunted RelSE, 23rd Feb. 2021 Paper presentation at NDSS (online).
- 8th Feb, 2021 Efficient Relational Symbolic Execution for Speculative Constant-Time at Binary-Level, Student talk at Cyber in Saclay, Winter School on Cybersecurity (online).
- 19th May, 2020 Binsec/Rel: Efficient Relational Symbolic Execution for Constant-Time at Binary-Level, Paper presentation at SP (online).
- 7th Dec, 2019 Binsec, A Binary Analysis Platform, Lightning talk at Blackhoodie (Austria).
- 12th Nov 2019 Binsec/Rel: Efficient Constant-Time Analysis of Binary-Level Code with Relational Symbolic Execution, Security seminar UCSD (CA, United-States).
- 5th Nov 2019 Binsec/Rel: Efficient Constant-Time Analysis of Binary-Level Code with Relational Symbolic **Execution**, ISI Cybersecurity Seminar (CA, United-States).
- 23rdApr 2018 Inferring OpenVPN State Machines Using Protocol State Fuzzing, Paper presentation at SPIDA (United-Kingdom).

Teaching

- Apr-Jun 2020 Computer Architecture, IUT Orsay, France, Tutorial 24h.
- Nov-Jan 2020 Operating Systems, ENSTA, France, Tutorial 15h.
- Jan-Mar 2019 Compilation, IUT Orsay, France, Tutorial 16h & Writing and correction of practical exam.
- Oct-Dec 2018 C programming, ENSTA, France, Tutorial 16h & Correction of written exam.
 - 2015–2016 Mentoring in Computer Science, University of Limoges, France.

Popularization

I like giving popularization talks, especially with the hope to encourage young girls to get an interest in computer science.

Verification in Computer Science, with Myriam Clouet, Talk at Rendez-vous des jeunes mathématiciennes 22nd Nov 2020 et informaticiennes (RJMI), France.

Presentation of our background and thesis to young female high school students.

Nov 2020 Time, a critical notion in software development, with Sébastien Bardin, Virgile Prévosto, Julien Signoles, Patrick Tessier, Press article in Clefs CEA. Presentation of timing attacks and constant-time programming for cryptography to a nonspecialist audience.

27th June 2019 Formal methods, but what is that?, with Florent Chevrou, Talk at festival PSES 2019, France. Overview of secure design and software verification for an audience of developers unfamiliar with formal methods.

Academic service

Reviewer Peeri 2020 (journal)

PC PLDI'21 (Artifact committee),

ACSAC'20 (Artifact committee)

Session chair ACSAC'20

Sub-reviewer DIMVA'21, BAR'21, SecDev'20, ACSAC'20,

BAR'20

Others

Languages

French Native language

English Full working proficiency (TOEIC: 955)

Interests

I also like climbing, running, hiking, reading,

playing the guitar, and knitting.

Voluntary Work

You can find me every first Saturday of the month at the install party of Premier Samedi du Libre at Carrefour Numérique de la Cité de Sciences, Paris, helping people installing free software.