



PHOENIX  
CONTROL OPTIMIZATION ANALYSIS

# AutoHacking with Phoenix Enabled Data Flow Analysis

# Topics

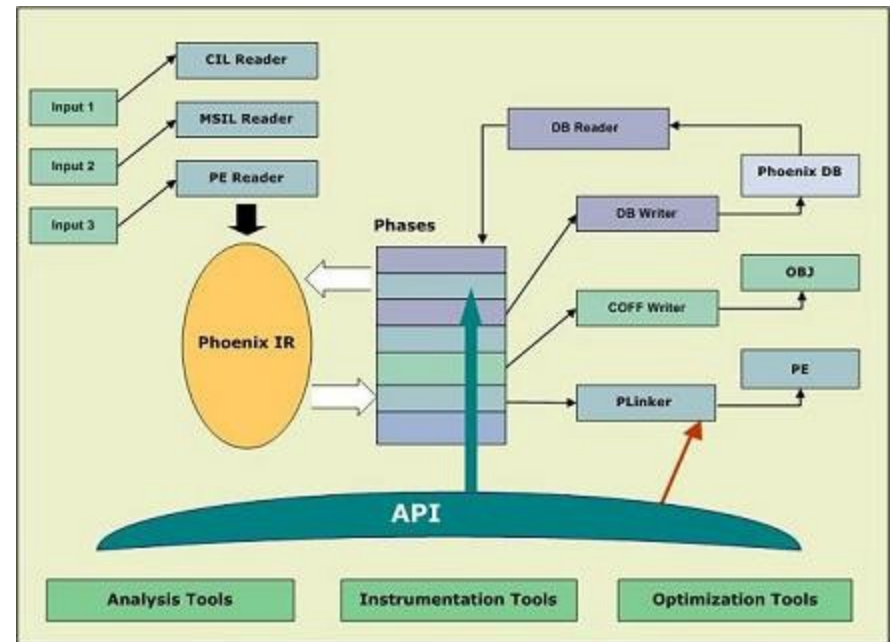
- Phoenix
  - Architecture
  - Fundamentals
- Program Analysis
  - Call Flow
  - Control Flow
  - Data Flow
- Applied Program Analysis
  - API Path Validation
  - Integer Overflow Detection
  - Syntax Model Inference

# Introducing Phoenix

- Framework for building compilers and program analysis tools
- Collaborated with Microsoft Research and Common Language Runtime groups at Microsoft
- Foundation for the next generation of Microsoft development tools

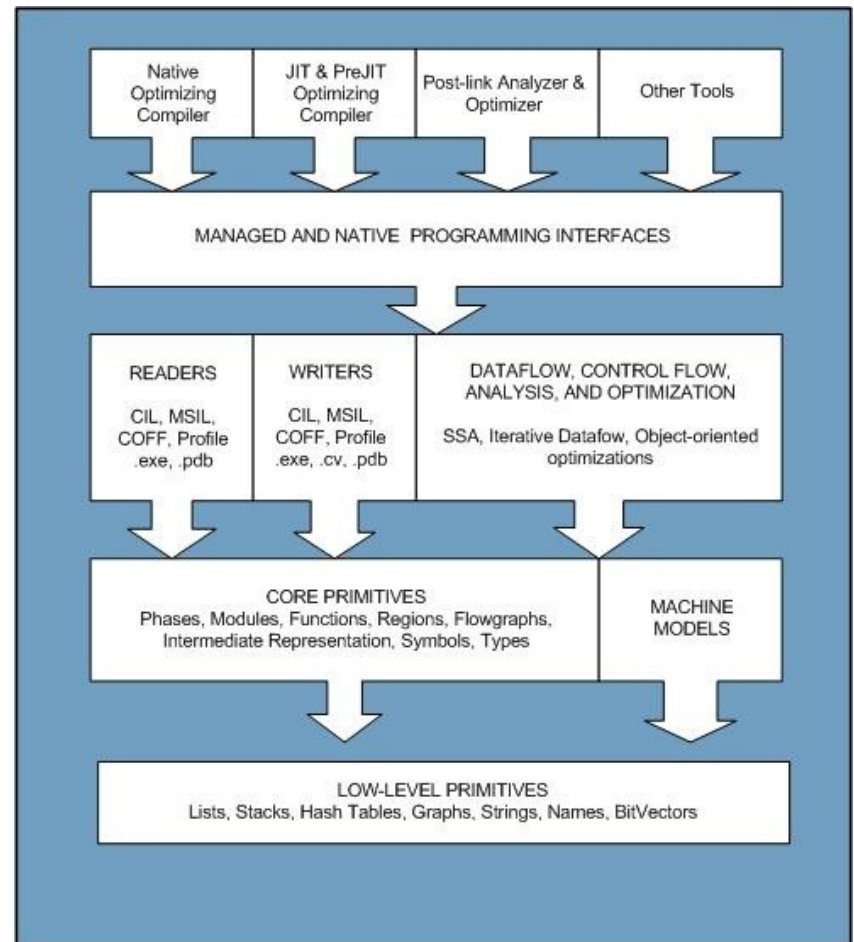
# Phoenix Architecture

- Inputs are converted to an intermediate representation (IR)
- Phoenix API allows compiler plug-ins or standalone tools to add or hook phases of IR creation

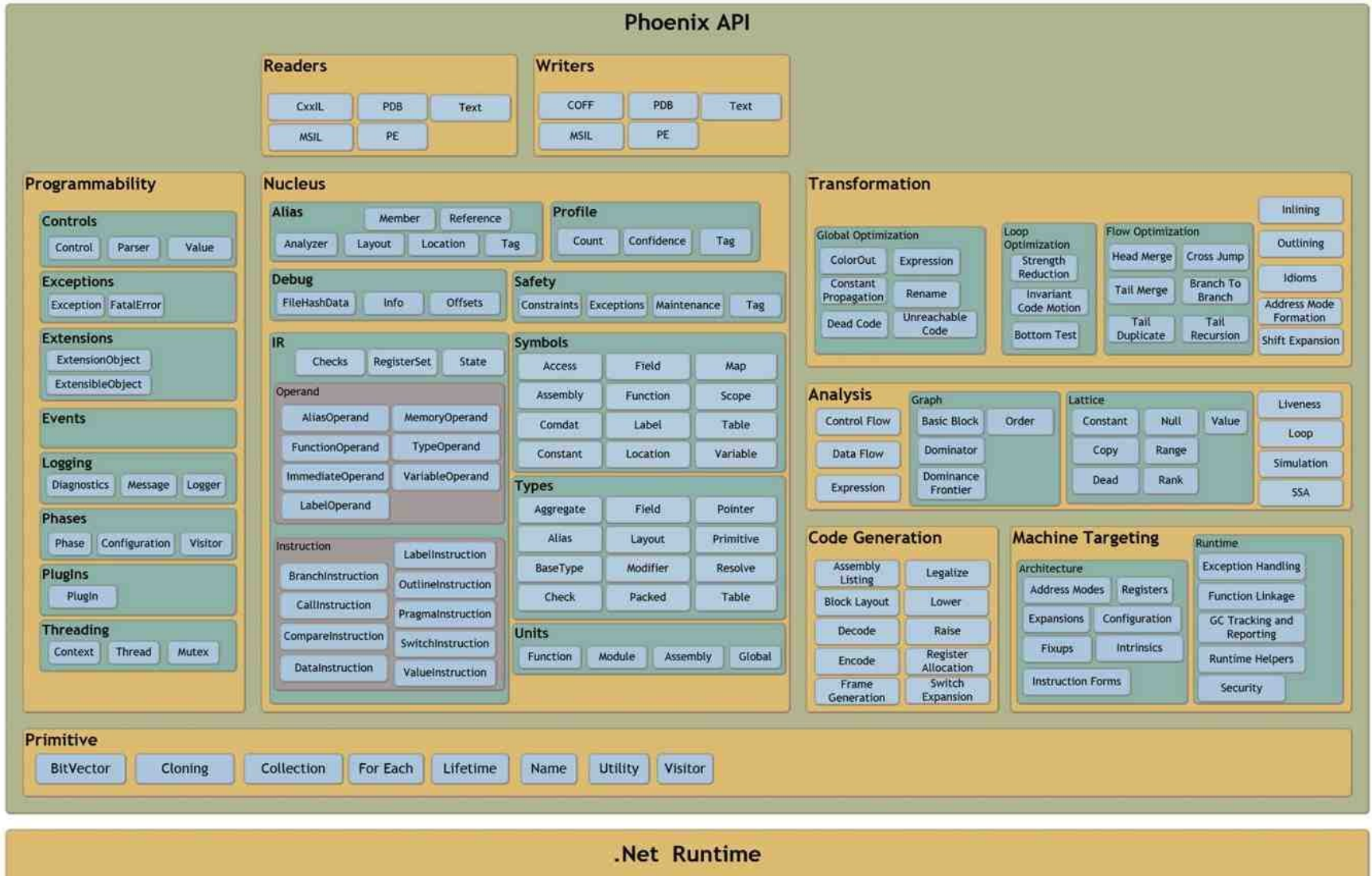


# Phoenix Architecture

- Phases process IR to provide abstractions such as call graphs, flow graphs, region graphs, single static assignment (SSA) annotations



# Phoenix Architecture



# Phoenix Applications

- Compiler development
  - Optimization
  - Retargeting
- Binary Instrumentation
  - Profiling/Code coverage
  - Binary protection/obfuscation
- Program Analysis
  - Model inference
  - Vulnerability detection

# Using Phoenix

- Load targets manually or via plug-ins
- Use phase lists or raise binaries

```
PEModuleUnit module = null;

module = PEModuleUnit.Open(path);
module.LoadPdb();
module.LoadGlobalSymbols();

Phx.Symbols.Table table = module.SymbolTable;
Phx.Symbols.LocalIdMap localMap = table.LocalIdMap;
Phx.Collections.IdToSymbolMap symbolMap = localMap.InternalMap;
Phx.Collections.IdToSymbolMap.Iterator iterator =
    new Phx.Collections.IdToSymbolMap.Iterator(symbolMap);

while (iterator.MoveNext())
{
    if (iterator.CurrentValue.IsFunctionSymbol)
    {
        FunctionSymbol function = iterator.CurrentValue.AsFunctionSymbol;
```



# Using Phoenix

- Load targets manually or via plug-ins
- Use phase lists or raise binaries

```
public class PlugIn : Phx.PlugIn {  
  
    public override void BuildPhases  
    (Phx.Phases.PhaseConfiguration config)  
    {  
        Phx.Phases.Phase funcNamesPhase;  
        funcNamesPhase = Phase.New(config);  
  
        Phx.Phases.Phase encodingPhase =  
        config.PhaseList.FindByName("Encoding");  
  
        encodingPhase.InsertBefore(funcNamesPhase)  
        ;  
    }  
  
    public override System.String NameString  
    {  
        get { return "FuncNames"; }  
    }  
}
```

```
public class Phase : Phx.Phases.Phase  
{  
  
    public static Phx.Phases.Phase  
    New (Phx.Phases.PhaseConfiguration  
    config)  
    {  
        Phase phase = new Phase();  
        phase.Initialize(config,  
        "FuncNames");  
        return phase;  
    }  
  
    protected override void  
    Execute (Phx.Unit unit)  
    {  
        if (!unit.IsFunctionUnit) return;  
  
        Phx.FunctionUnit function =  
        unit.AsFunctionUnit;  
    }  
}
```

# Using Phoenix

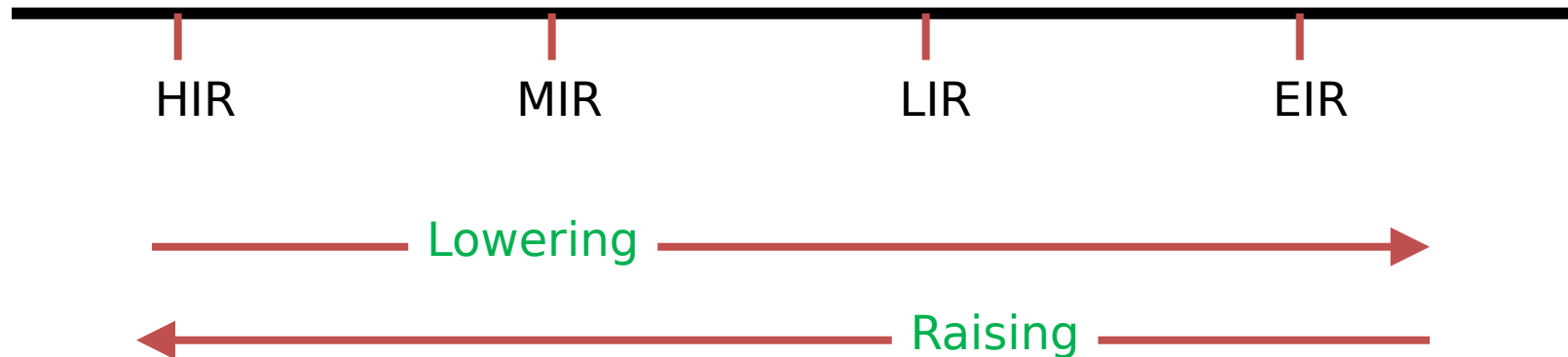
- Units
  - Programs, Assemblies, Modules, Functions
- Types
  - Primitives, Symbolic
- Symbols
  - Static, Dynamic
- Intermediate Representation
  - Primary abstraction of program semantics
  - Composed of Instructions and Operands
  - Three distinct levels of abstraction

# Phoenix Intermediate Representation

- High-level IR (HIR)
  - Architecture Independent
  - Abstract instructions represent runtime indirection
  - Operands refer to logical resources

More Abstract

Less Abstract

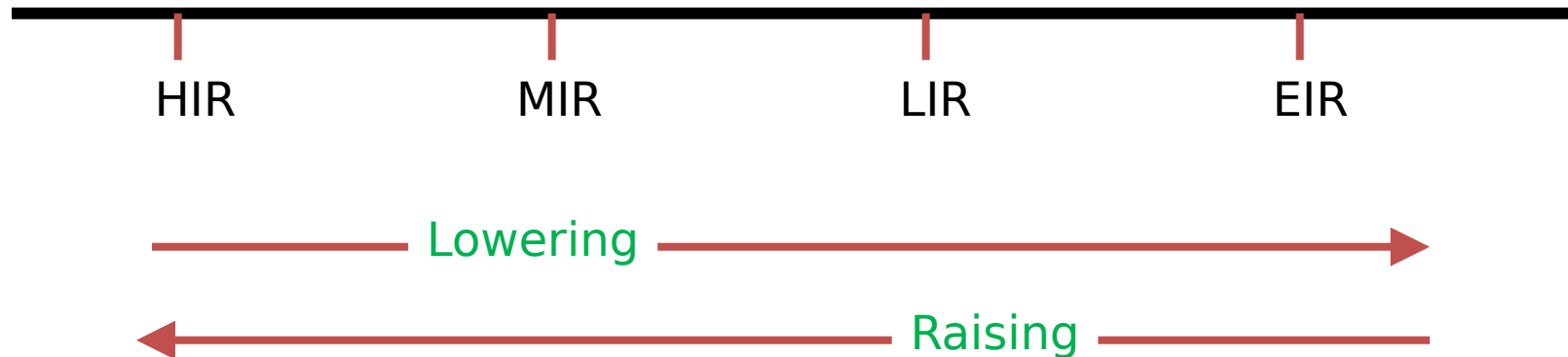


# Phoenix Intermediate Representation

- Mid-level IR (MIR)
  - Architecture Independent
  - Runtime logic explicitly defined
  - Operands still refer to logical resources

More Abstract

Less Abstract

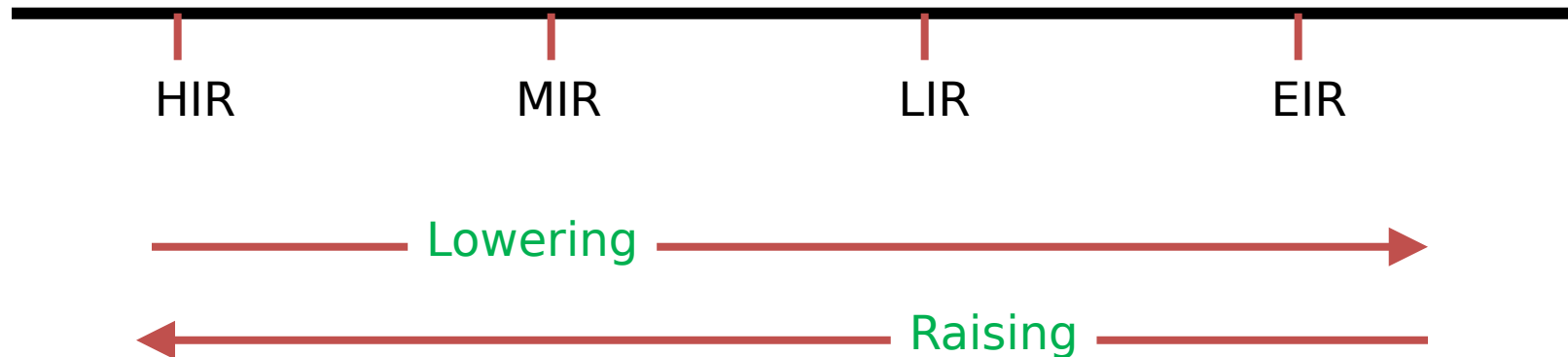


# Phoenix Intermediate Representation

- Low-level IR (LIR)
  - Architecture dependent
  - Control flow explicit
  - Operands refer to logical or physical resources

More Abstract

Less Abstract



# Phoenix Instructions

- Code or Data object
- Source and Destination Operands
- Annotation Operands
- Types
  - Label
  - Value
  - Compare
  - Branch
  - Call

## High-level IR

```
$L1: (references=0)
    { *StaticTag }, { *NotAliasedTag } = START _main(T)
_main: (references=1)
    _argc, _argv = ENTERFUNCTION
    t273         = COMPARE(GT) _argc, 1
```

## Low-level IR

```
CONDITIONALBRANCH(True) t273,
$L7, $L6
$L7: (references=1)
    _message     = ASSIGN &$SG3745
                GOTO $L8
```

```
tv144-      = mov 4112(0x00001010)
{ESP}       = call _chkstk, {ESP}

offset      = mov 8
tv144-, {ESP} = call CreateHeader, {ESP}

header      = mov tv144-
$Stack+32928, {ESP} = push 8
$Stack+32960, {ESP} = push header
tv144-      = lea &buf*
```

# Phoenix Operands

- Instruction arguments
- Temporary Variables
- Alias Tags
- Alias Operands
  
- Types
  - Memory
  - Constants
  - Variables
  - Functions
  - Labels
  - Alias Sets

## High-level IR

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## Low-level IR

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# Phoenix Alias Package

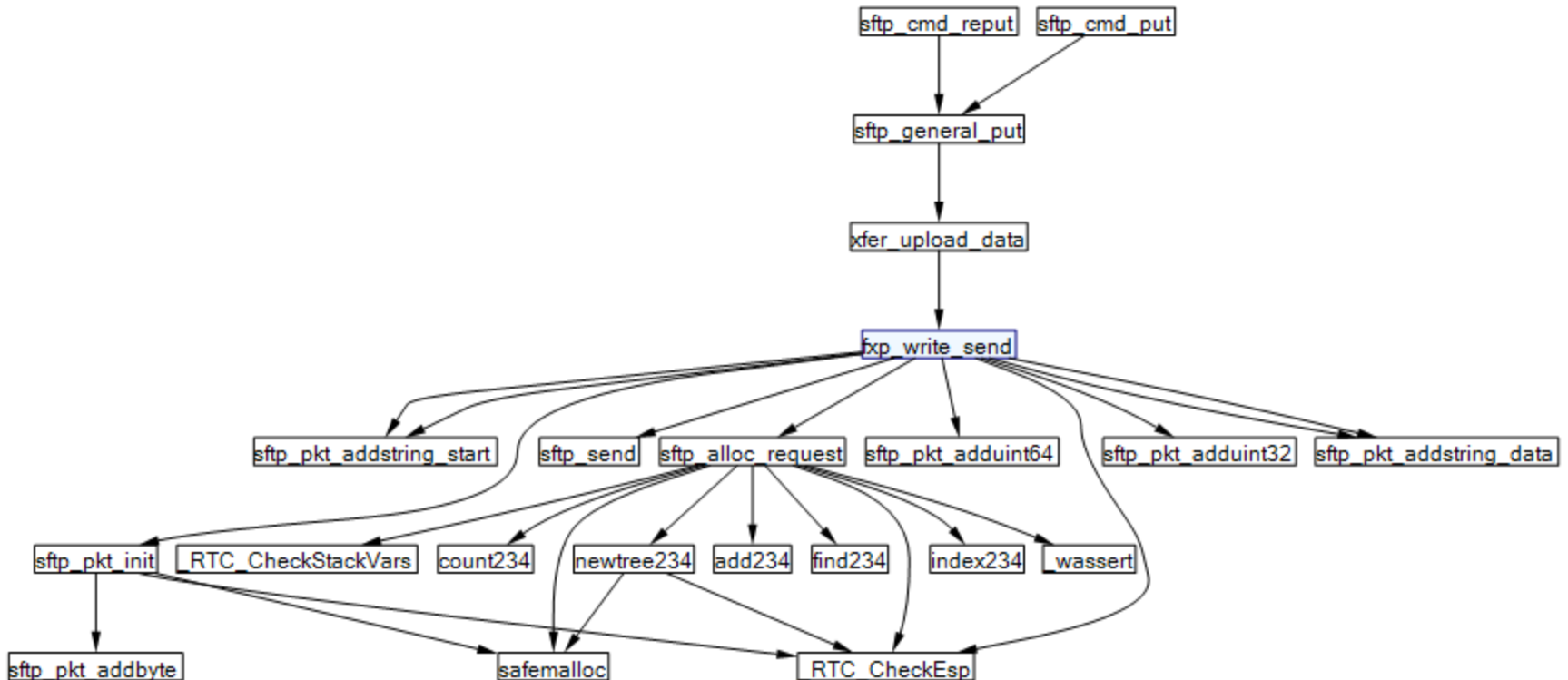
- Alias System provides a memory model for static program analysis
- Aliases abstract memory and register use by assigning tags to discrete locations
- Alias Operands added to represent implicit effects of an instruction on memory

```
[ESP], {ESP} = push _message[EBP]
```



# Call Graphs

- A Call Graph is a visual representation of call relationships



# Call Graphs

- Traditional call graph generation

Collect all call edges

```
foreach(Function in ModuleFunctions)
  foreach(CallInstruction in
    Instructions)
    AddCallEdge(Function,
      CallTarget))
```

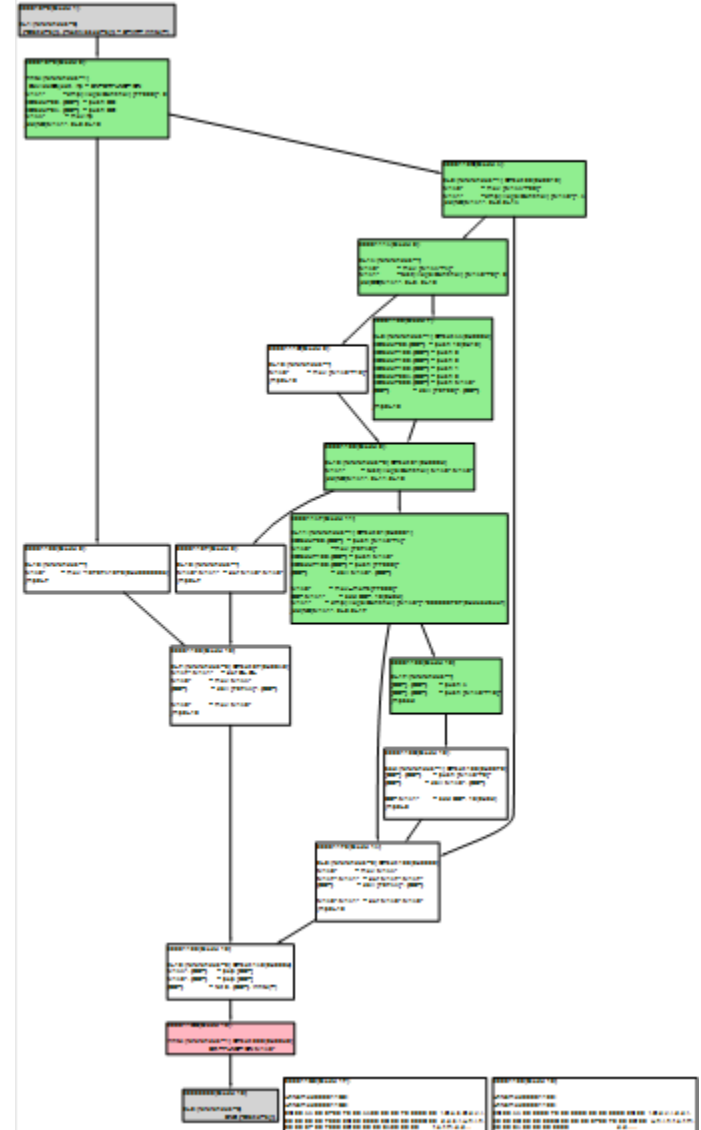
Find edges for Function

```
foreach(Edge in CallEdges)
  if(Target == Function)
    EdgesTo.Add(Edge)
  if(Source == Function)
    EdgesFrom.Add(Edge)
```

- Phoenix includes a Call Graph Package that provides module or program level function relationships

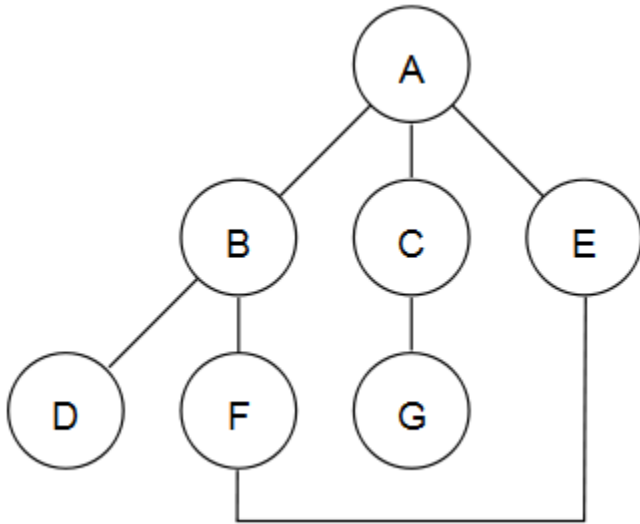
# Control Flow Graphs

- Control Flow Graph are visual representations of branch relationships between basic blocks
- Phoenix provides a Control Flow Graph package that specifies edge types, node types, node dominance



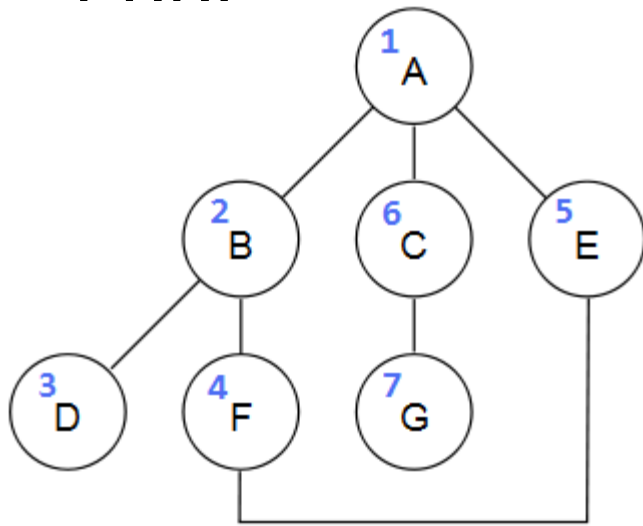
# Graph Traversal

- Depth First Search
  - Visit nodes following edges as deep as possible before returning to the next edge



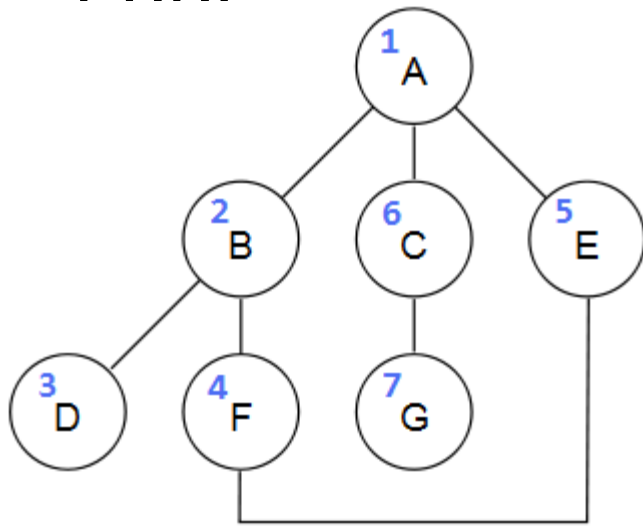
# Graph Traversal

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# Graph Traversal

- Depth First Search
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- DFS Outputs
  - Spanning Tree (DAG)
  - Preordered Vertices
  - Postordered Vertices
  - Reverse Postorder Vertices

# Reaching Definition Analysis

- A variable assignment  $[x := a]^l$  may reach a code location if there is an execution of the program where  $x$  was last assigned at  $l$  when the code location is reached
- An assignment reaches the entry of a block if it reaches the exit of any of the blocks that precede it

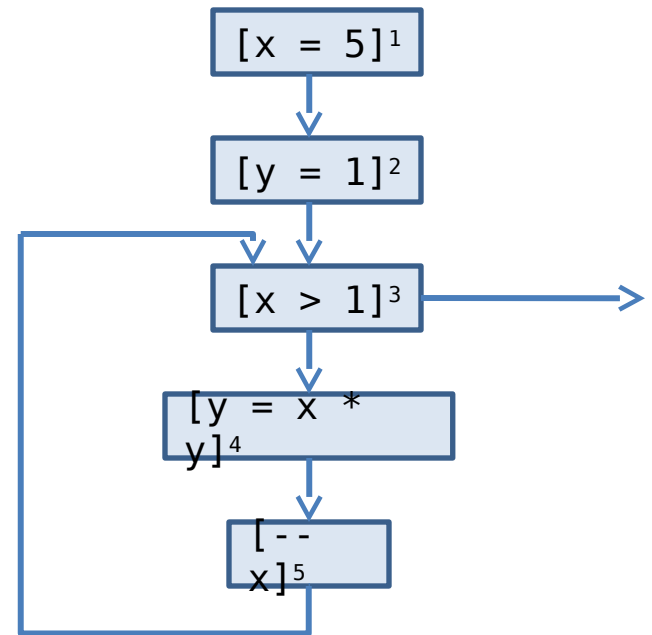
# Reaching Definition Analysis

```
x = 5;  
y = 1;  
while (x > 1)  
{  
    y = x * y;  
    --x;  
}
```



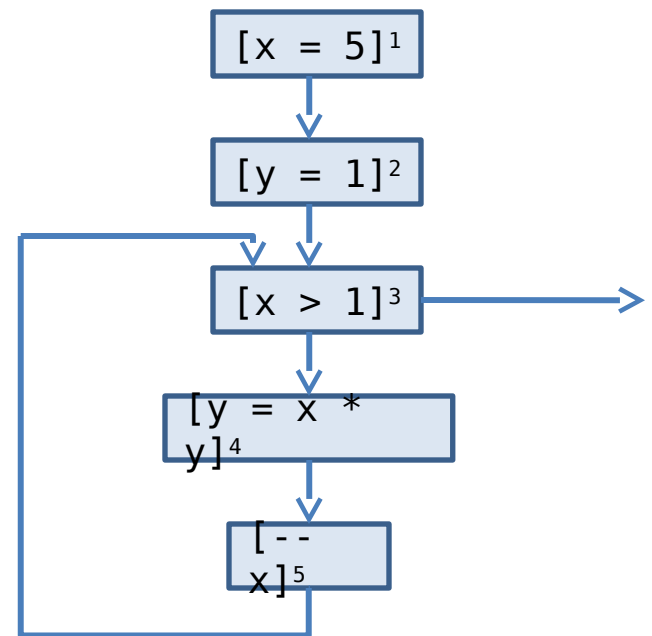
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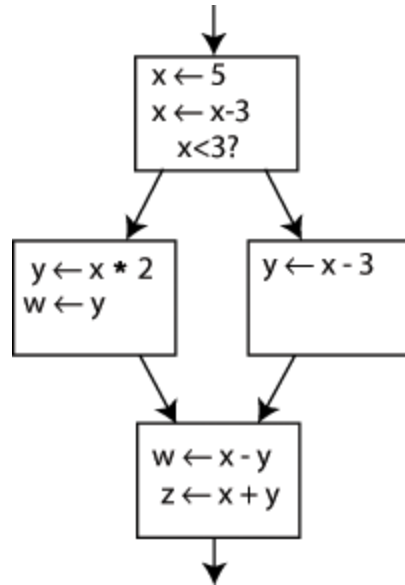
# Reaching Definition Analysis

$RD_{entry}$	$RD_{exit}$
$(x, ?), (y, ?)$	$(x, 1), (y, ?)$
$(x, 1), (y, ?)$	$(x, 1), (y, 2)$
$(x, 1), (x, 5), (y, 2)$	$(x, 1), (x, 5),$
$(x, 1), (x, 5), (y, 2), (y, 4)$	$(y, 2)$
$(x, 1), (x, 5), (y, 4)$	$(x, 1), (x, 5)$
	$(y, 4)$
	$(x, 5), (y, 4)$



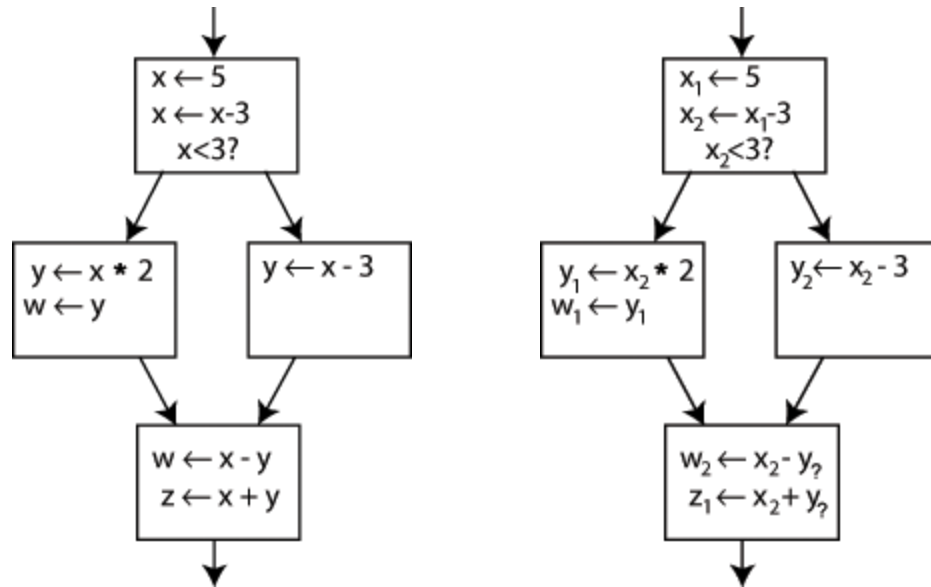
# Single Static Assignment

- Intermediate form used by several compilers in which every variable is assigned only once



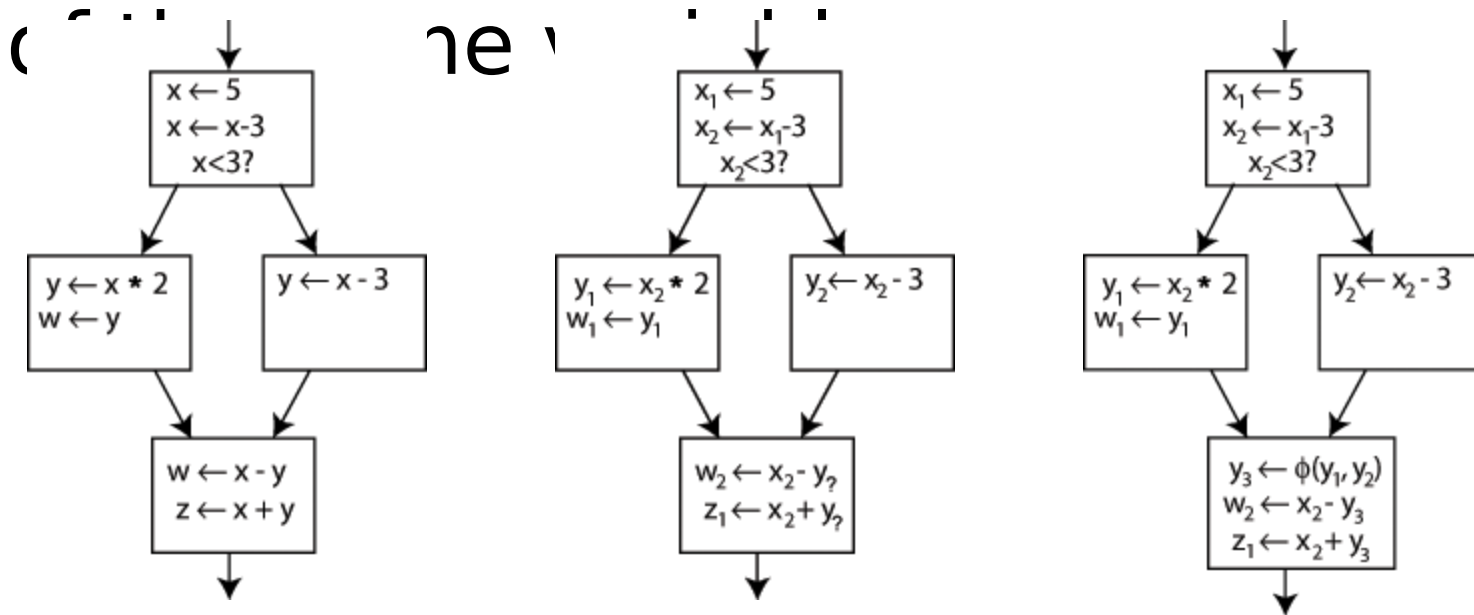
# Single Static Assignment

- Use-definition relationships explicit
  - Each use reached by only one definition
  - Each definition dominates all uses



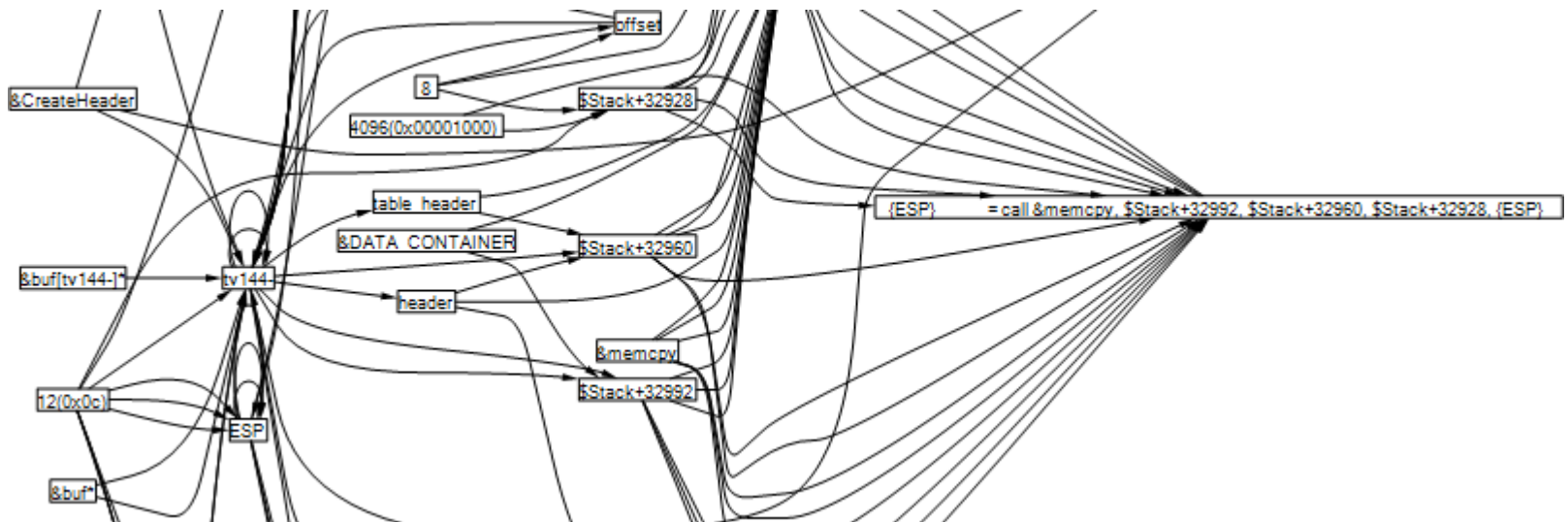
# Single Static Assignment

- Special  $\Phi$  (Phi) instructions are added to the beginning of blocks to represent joins of different versions



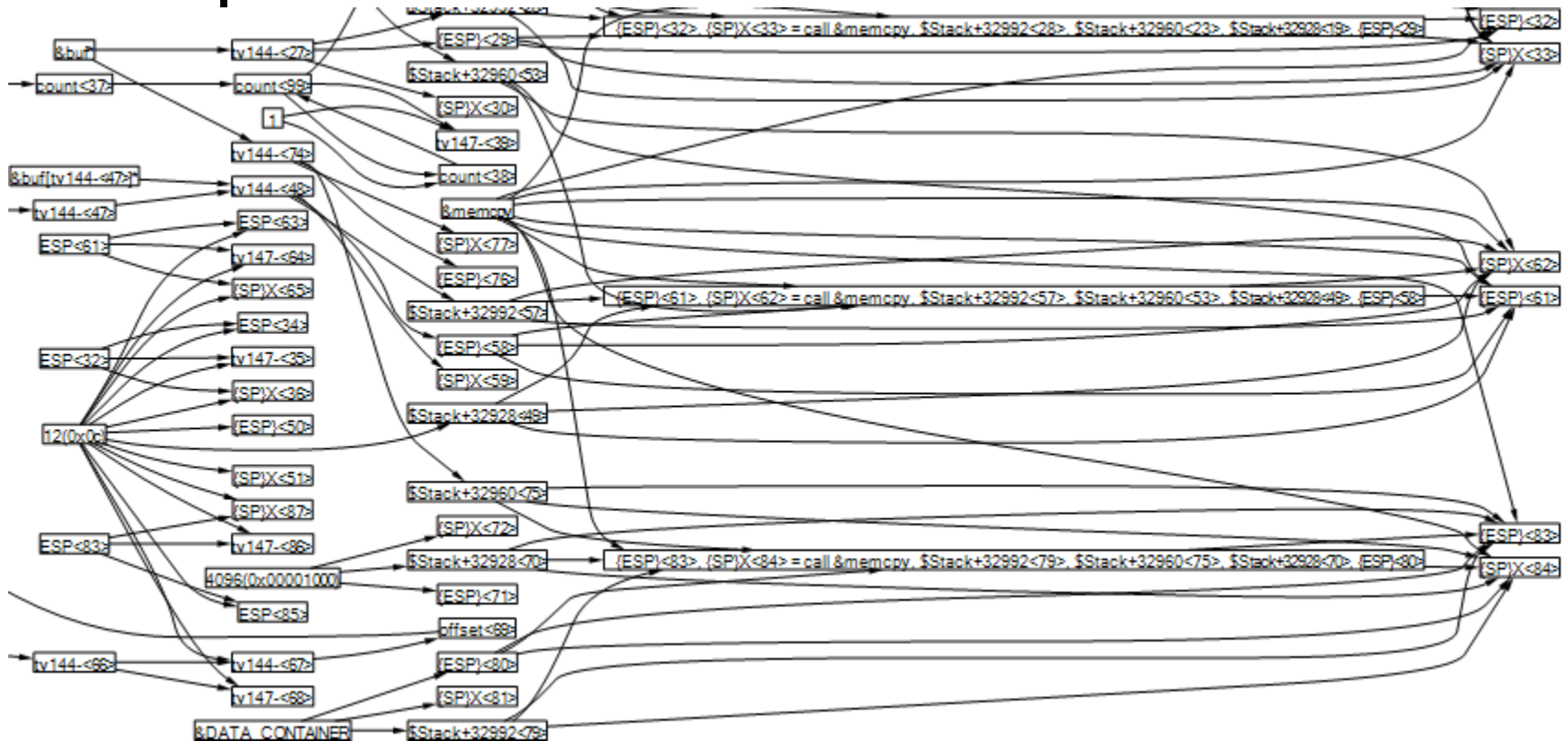
# Data Flow Graphs

- Reaching definitions allow the construction of a context-free data flow graph



# Data Flow Graphs

- Converting to SSA form allows the simple construction of a contextual



# Applied Data Flow Analysis

- API Path Validation
  - Determine whether there is a code path from data input function to a function using the data that does not flow through a sanitizing function
  - Method
    - Create an array of bit vectors to hold each path to each function
    - Propagate inherited bit vectors by performing a union on the two bit vectors
  - Real world use – SQL Injection prevention



# Applied Data Flow Analysis

- Syntax Model Inference
  - Determine the type layout of every abstract structure that reaches a specified function call
  - Method
    - Calculate call graph for target function
    - Gather Reaching Definition data for all functions in graph
    - Record type for each definition in each function
    - Walk unique call graph paths backwards collecting type flow information
  - Real world use – generate fuzzer definitions

# Applied Data Flow Analysis

- Integer Overflow Detection
  - Given a call to an allocation function, determine whether the input size could have wrapped
  - Method
    - Trace data input to memory allocation functions backward
    - Determine if the value is generated in with potentially user controlled data
  - Real world use - detect bugs!

# Final Thoughts

- Phoenix is amazingly powerful and extensible. It will change how academic compiler research is done on the Windows platform
- The security industry has a lot to learn from the academic archives of the last 30 years. Read Dawson Engler, David Wagner, Cousot
- Improved programming processes and advances in static analysis is and will continue to improve software security

# Get Involved!

- Get phoenix
  - <http://research.microsoft.com/phoenix>
- Participate in online phoenix forums
- Contact us at [switech@microsoft.com](mailto:switech@microsoft.com)