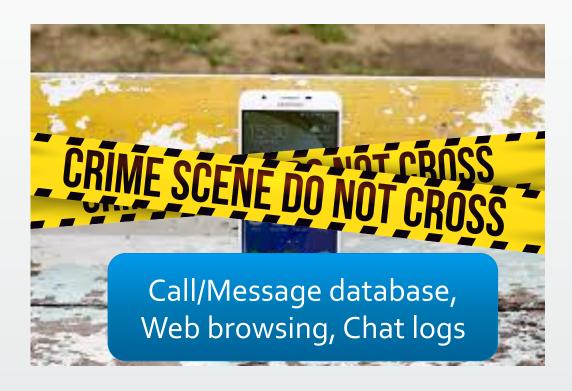


"Tipped Off by Your Memory Allocator": Device-Wide User Activity Sequencing from Android Memory Images

Rohit Bhatia, Brendan Saltaformaggio, Seung Jei Yang, Aisha Ali-Gombe, Xiangyu Zhang, Dongyan Xu, Golden G. Richard III



Importance of a Timeline

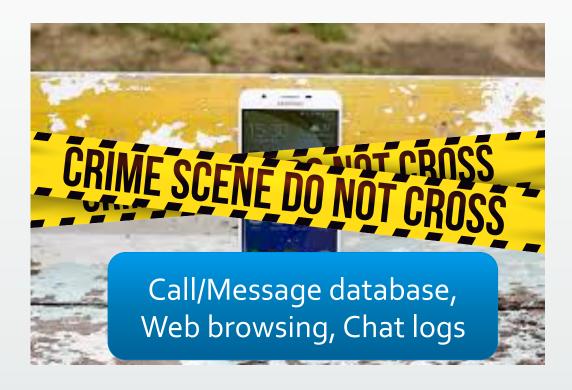


Crime Scene Reconstruction

"involves evaluating the context of a scene and the physical evidence found there in an effort to identify what occurred and in what order it occurred."



Importance of a Timeline



App Specific Logs

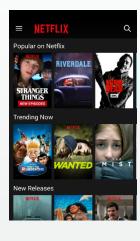
Coarse Grained Actions

Not a Device-Wide Timeline

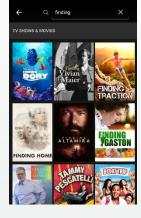


Importance of a Device-Wide Timeline

Netflix



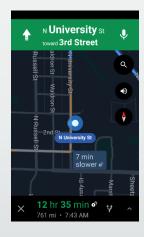






Cyber crimes typically involve a variety of mobile apps, with complex sequencing of useractions

Maps

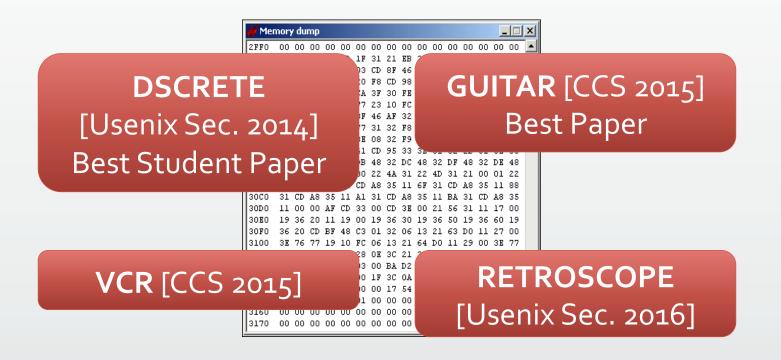


Mythat if appris?t 200564840?— Distracted Driving

Need a Device-Wide solution to recover past user-actions that is not influenceable by the device-owner



Memory Forensics



Persistent storage is not enough to re-sequence a device-wide timeline

Timeliner complements existing memory forensic techniques



Activities As User-Actions

| WhatsApp | VoipActivity | RecordAudio | CameraActivity |
|----------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Signal | ConversationList | Conversation | ShareActivity |
| Dialer | InCallActivity | CallLogActivity | CallDetailActivity |
| Chase | AccountsActivity | TransferActivity | QuickDepositStart |
| Netflix | HomeActivity | SearchActivity | MovieDetails |

Activities are Android abstractions for a "single, focused thing a user can do"

Some Applications and a Few Example Activities



Activities As User-Actions

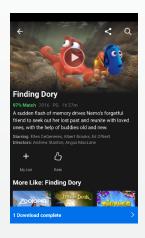


Activities are Android abstractions for a "single, focused thing a user can do"

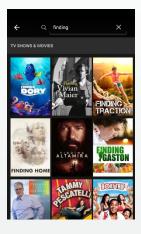
Activity Lifecycle handled by ActivityManagerService which provides device-wide supervision



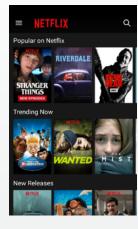
Activity Stack As A Solution?











No ordering available between different Activity Stacks

Apps

Android

MovieDetailsActivity

SearchActivity

HomeActivity

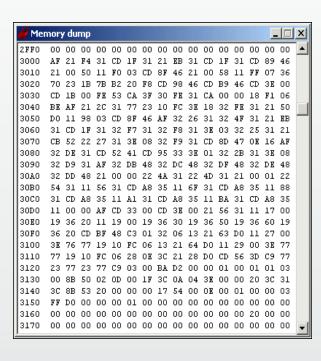
Netflix (Current)

Activity Stacks contain the current state, and not the past state – which is what we want

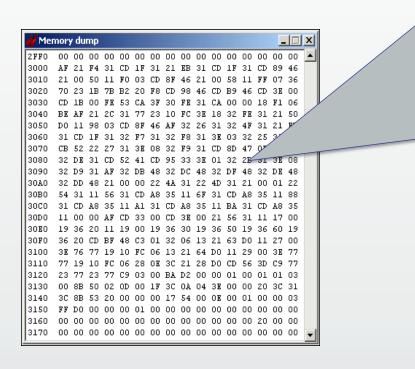
DialContactsActivity

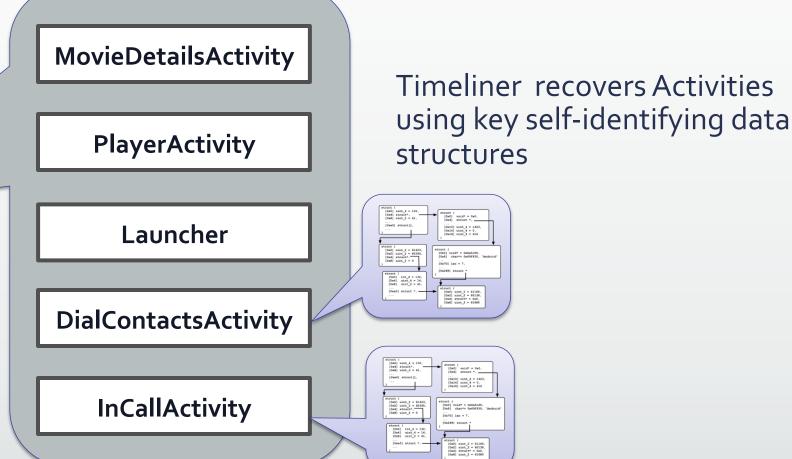
Dialer



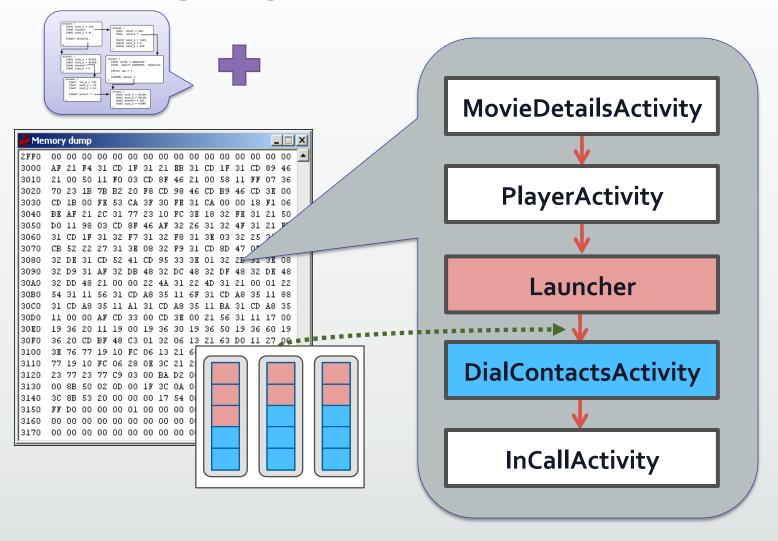








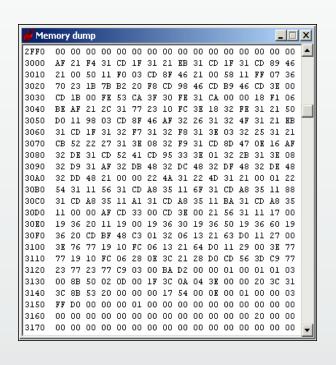




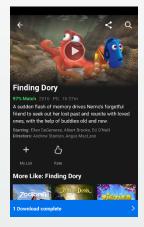
Timeliner recovers Activities using key self-identifying data structures

Infer ordering based on allocated locations in memory





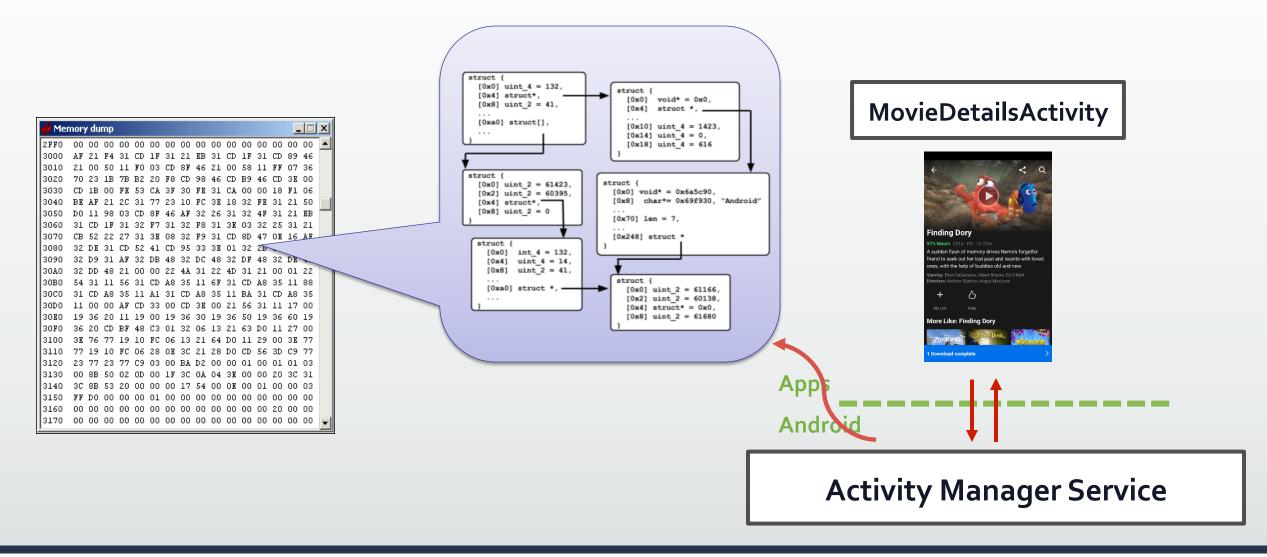
MovieDetailsActivity



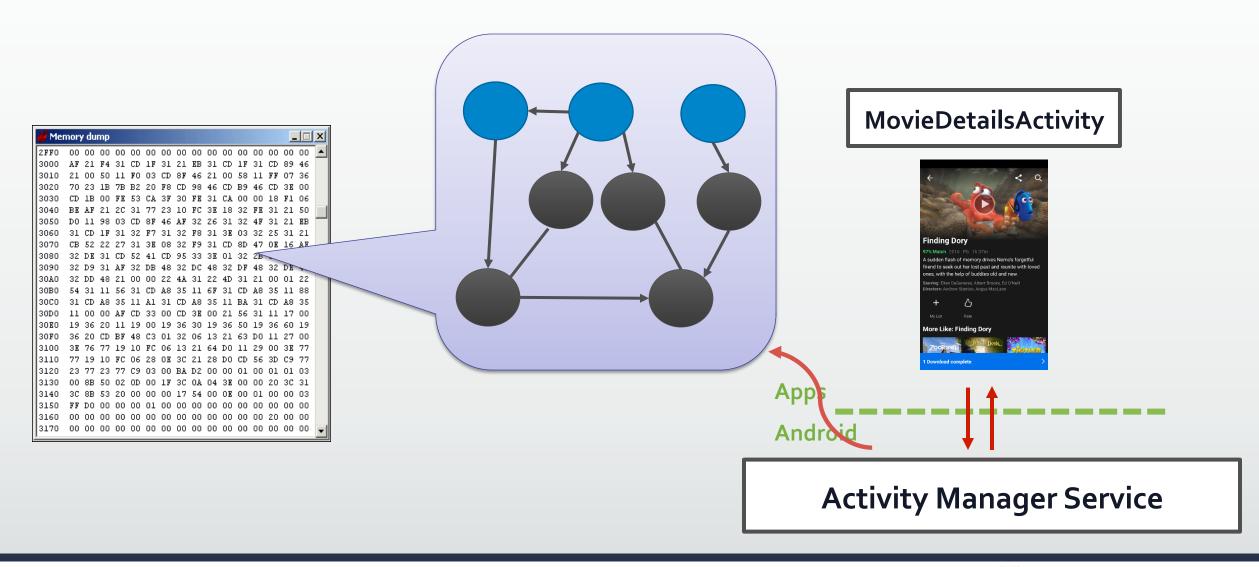


Activity Manager Service

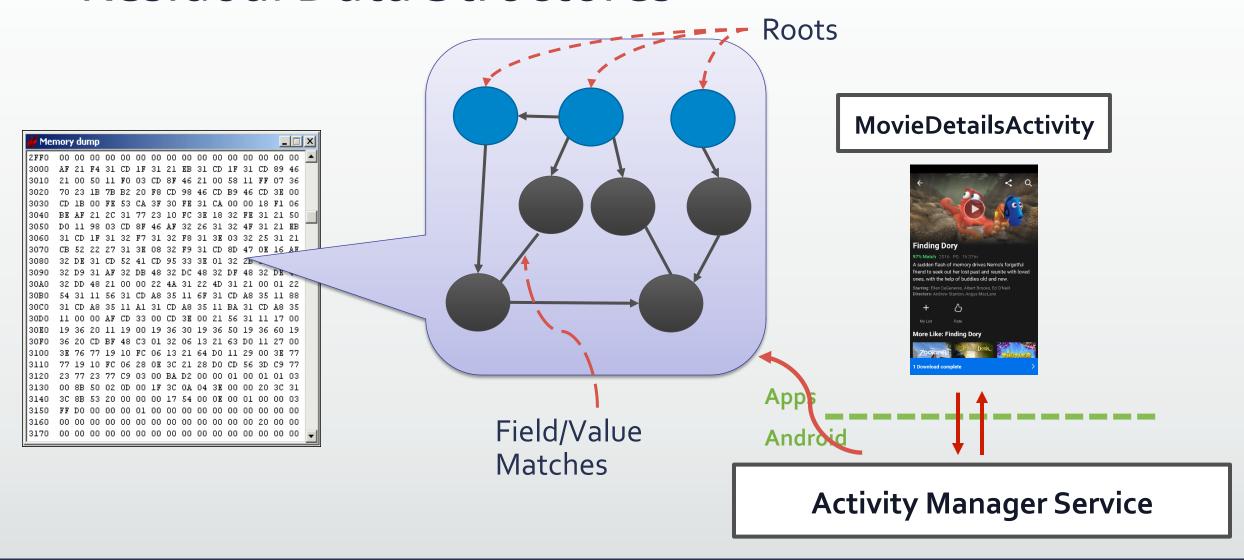




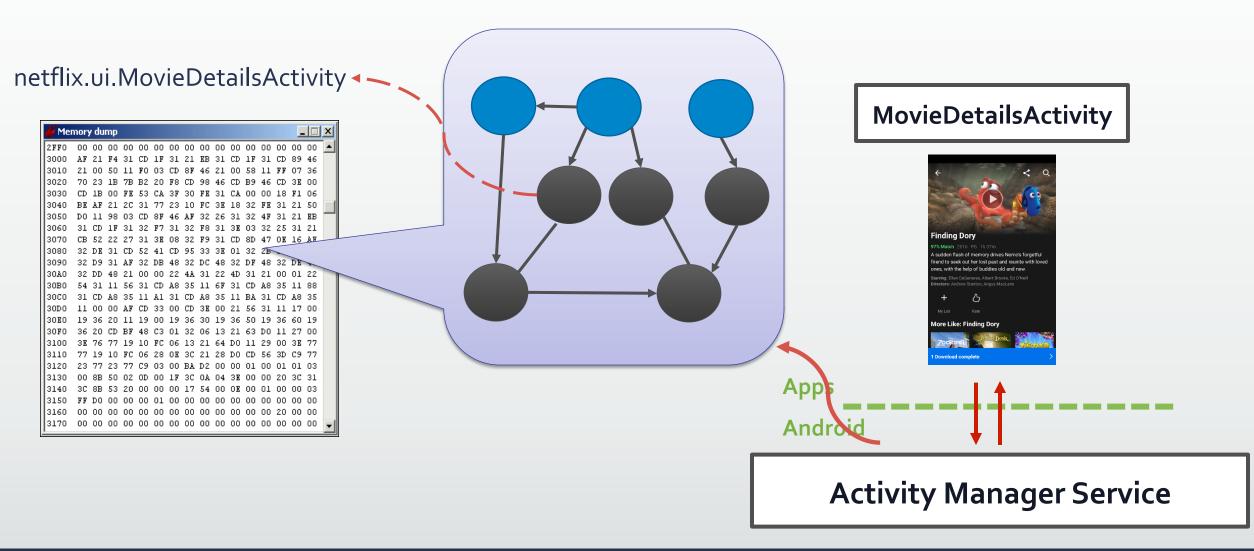






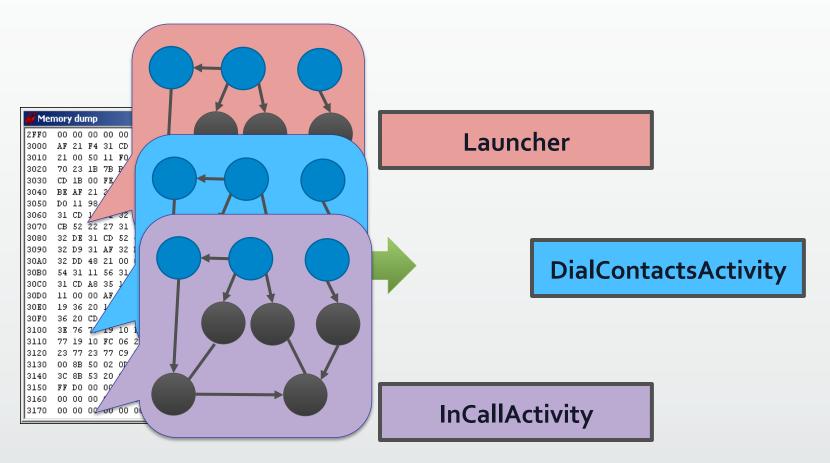


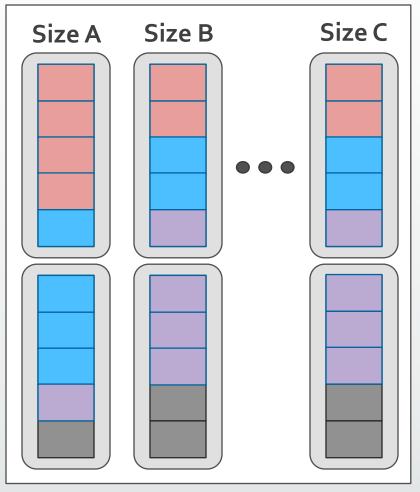






"First-Available" Allocation

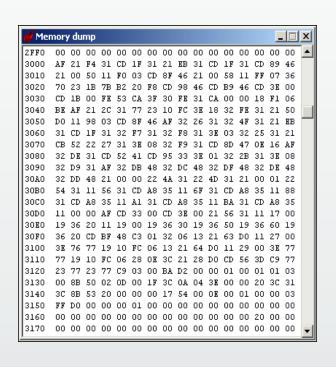


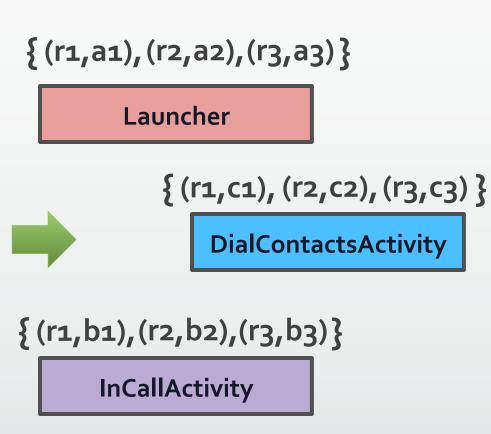


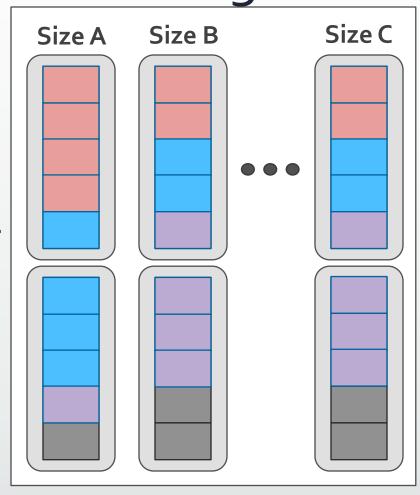
Memory Allocator



Temporal Ordering From Spatial Ordering





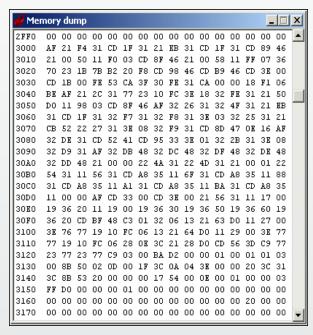


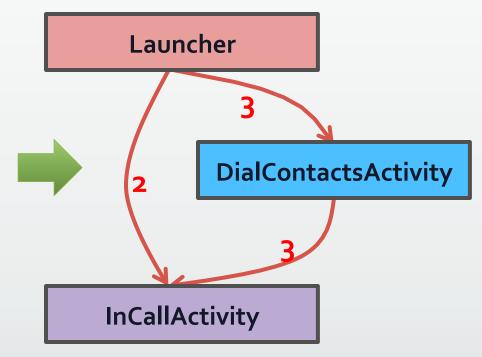
Memory Allocator



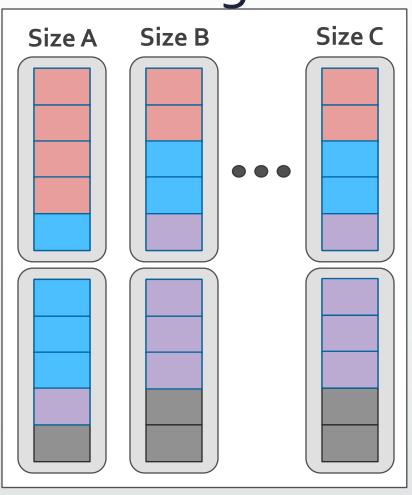
Temporal Ordering From Spatial Ordering

allPrecede(e,f) = $|\{r \mid (r,m) \in e \land (r,n) \in f \land max(m) < min(n)\}|$ anySucceed(e,f) = $|\{r \mid (r,m) \in e \land (r,n) \in f \land max(m) > min(n)\}|$





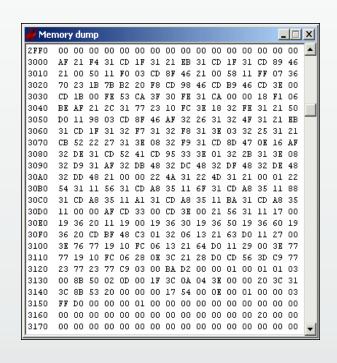
Transition Graph

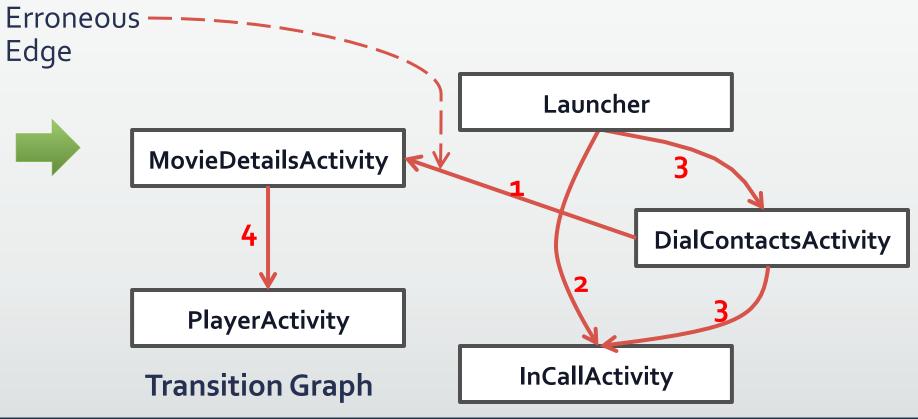


Memory Allocator



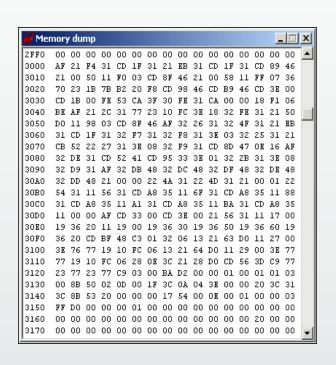
Pruning Erroneous Edges

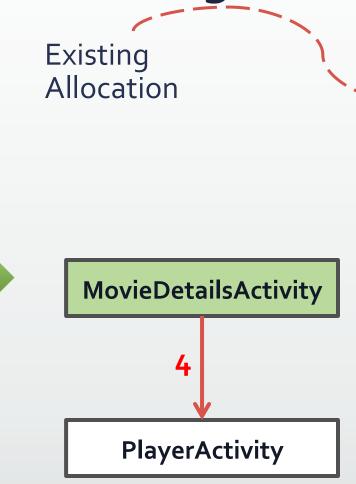


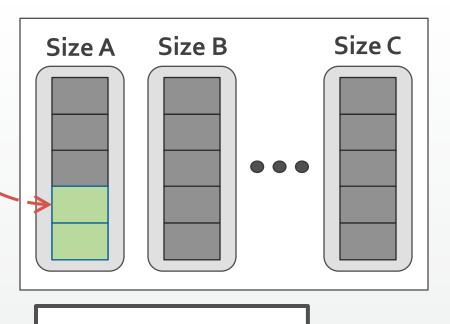




Pruning Erroneous Edges



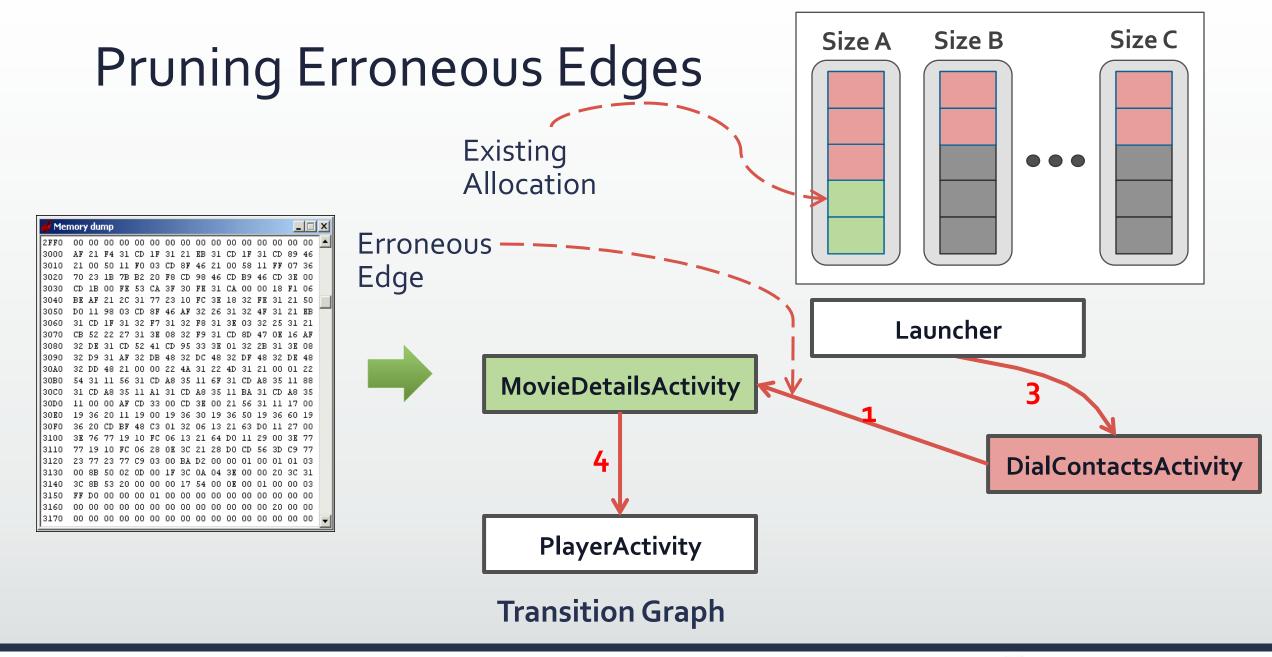




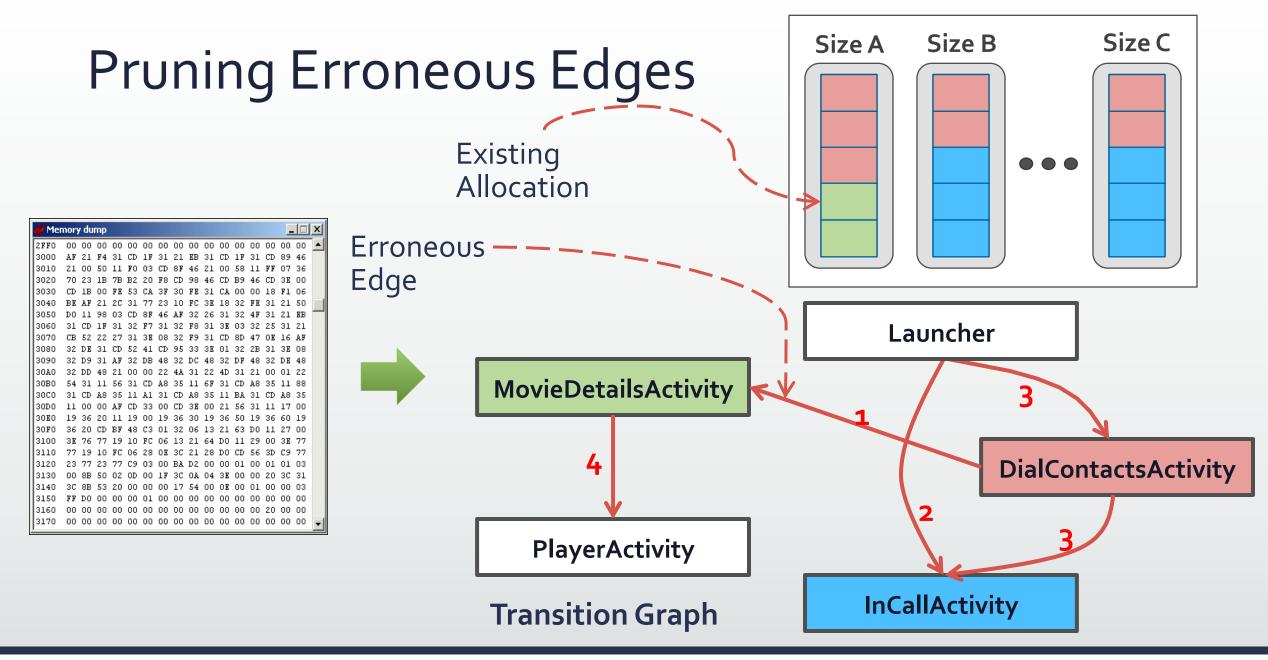
Launcher

Transition Graph

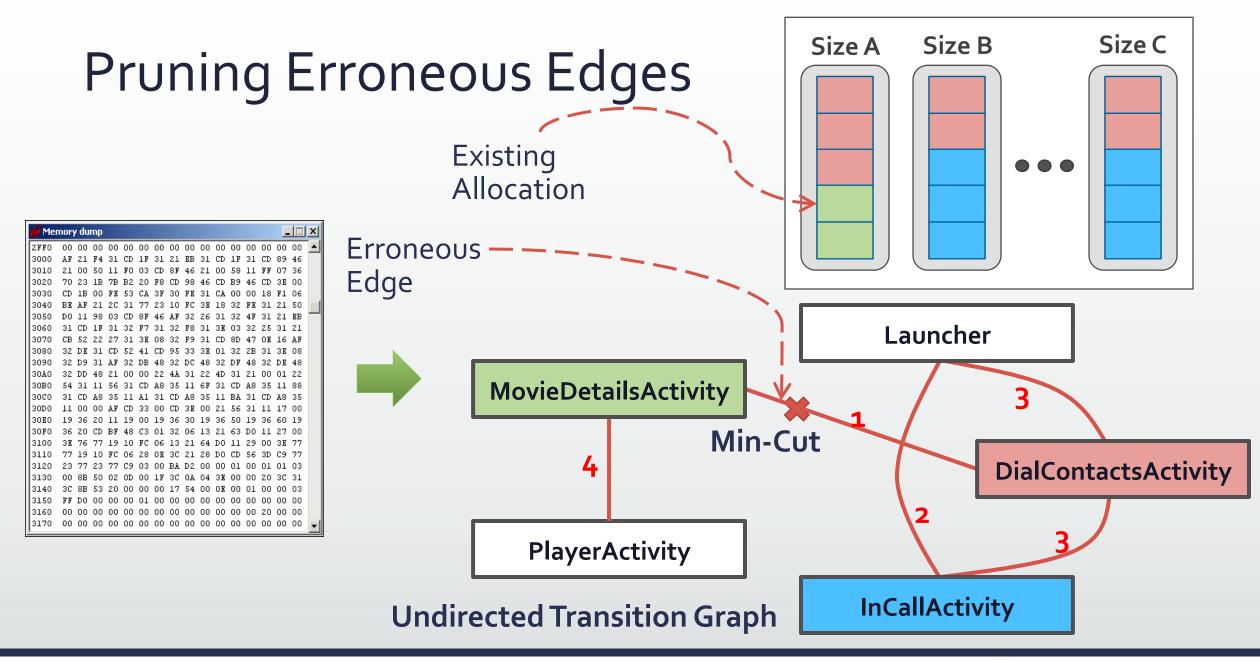






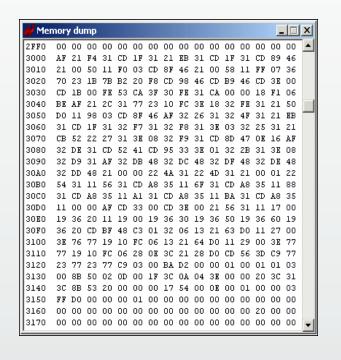




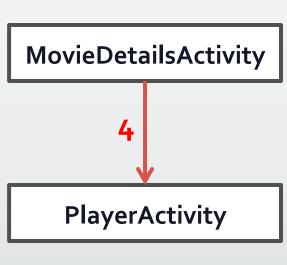




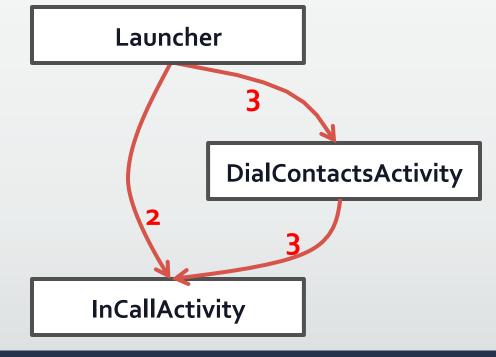
Pruning Erroneous Edges



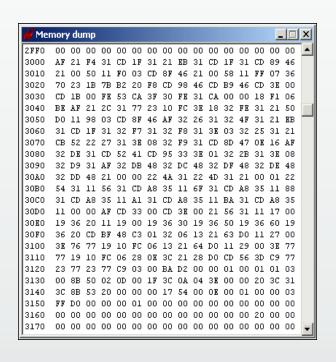


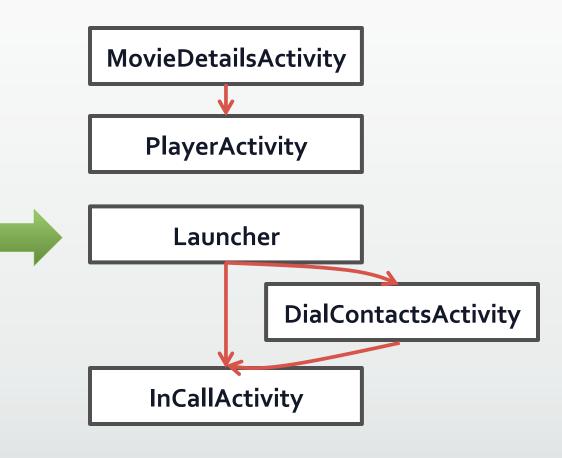


Transition Graph



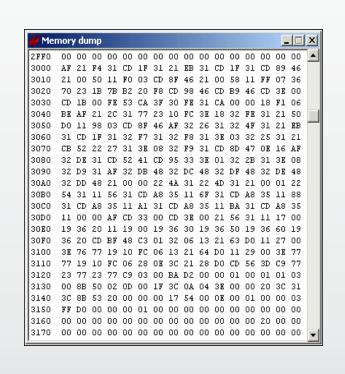


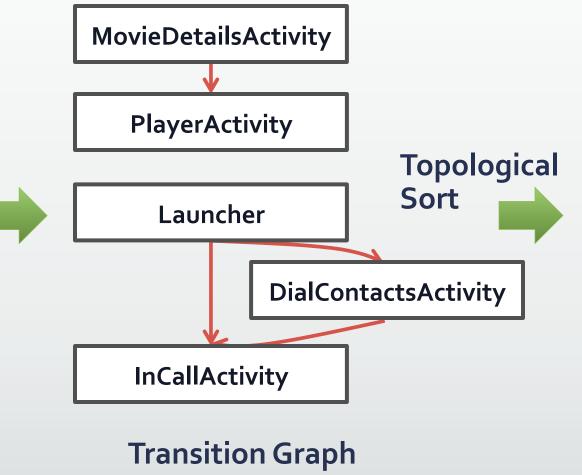


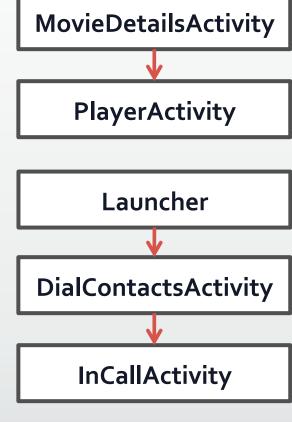


Transition Graph



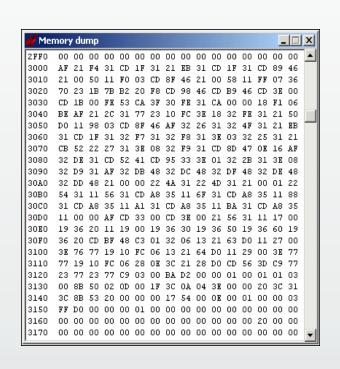


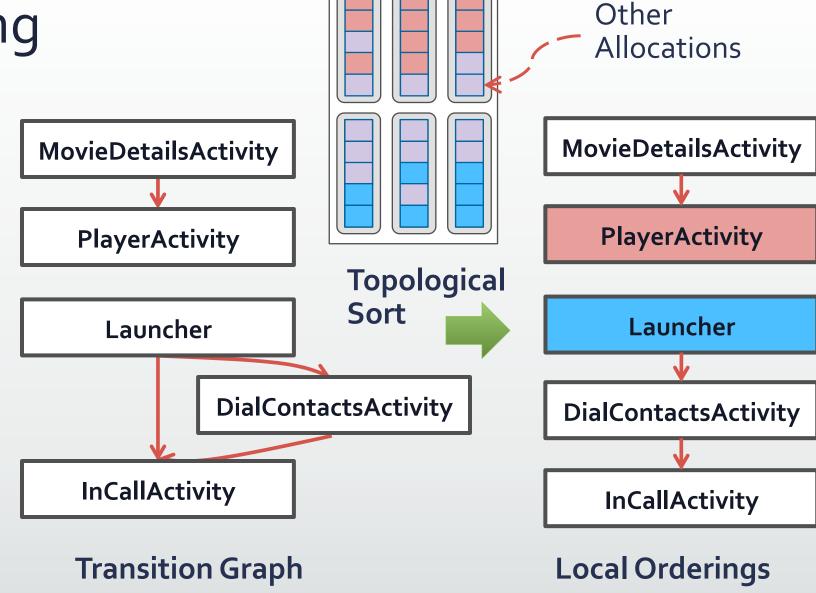




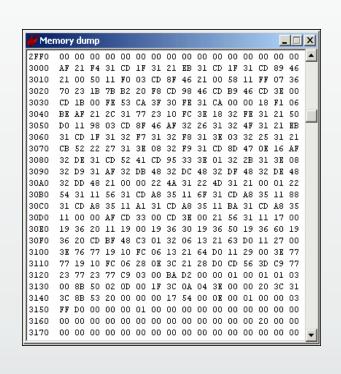


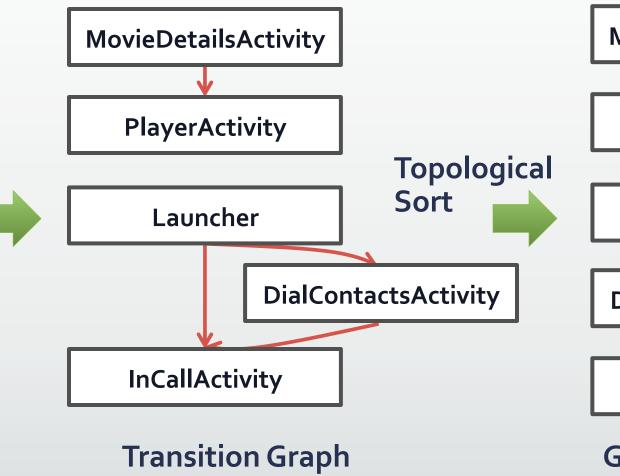
Local Orderings

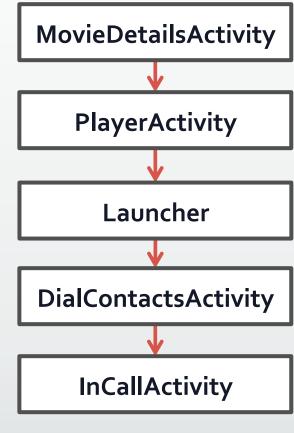












Global Ordering



Garbage Collection



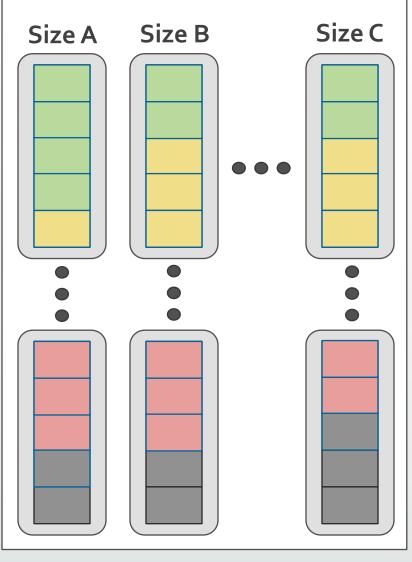






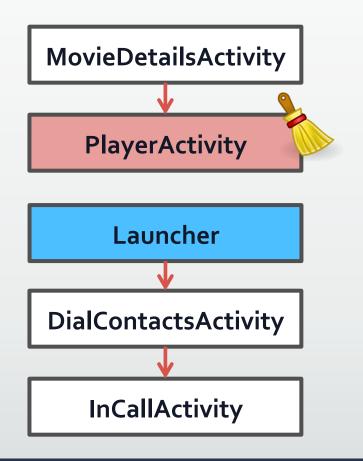
Garbage Collection frees up prior runs, potentially causing a spatial disordering

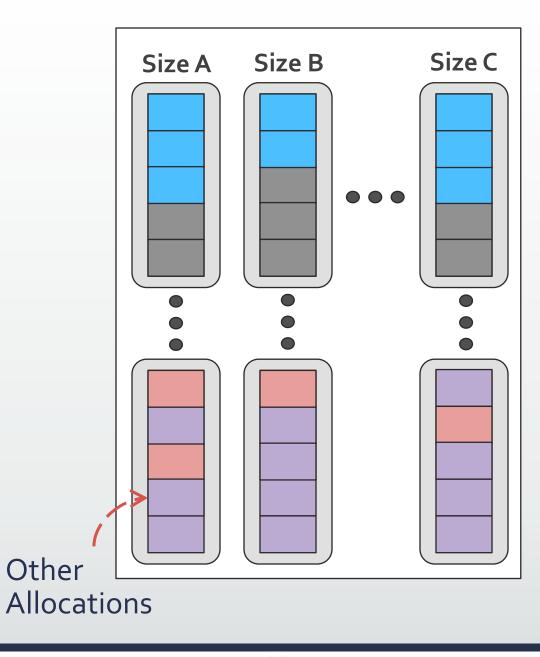






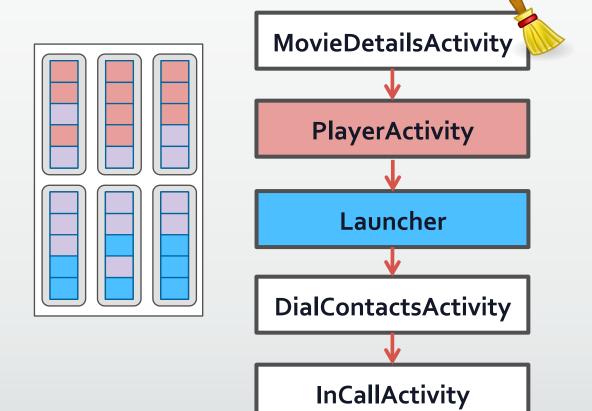
Garbage Collection







Garbage Collection

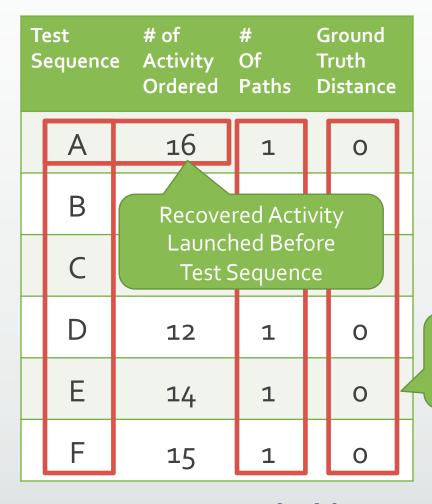


Joinable Local Orderings do not end in Garbage Collected Activities

Period of Garbage Collection Active Usage: 41-50 minutes Idle: 98-112 minutes



Micro-Benchmarks



| est equenc | # of e Activity Ordered | | 1 | Ground Truth Distance | : |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------|---|
| А | 10 Test Sequences | | | 0 | |
| В | A-J | | | 0 | |
| G | 15 | 1 | | 0 | |
| Accurat | 16 | 1 | | 0 | |
| Results | 14 | 1 | | 0 | |
| J | 16 | 1 | | 0 | |

| est equence | # of e Activity Ordered | | Т | round ruth Pistance | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------|--|
| Α | 15 | 1 | | 0 | |
| C | 15 | 1 | | 0 | |
| D | 12 | 1 | | 0 | |
| G | 14 | 1 | | 0 | |
| Н | 14 | 1 | | 0 | |
| ı | 14 | 1 | | 0 | |

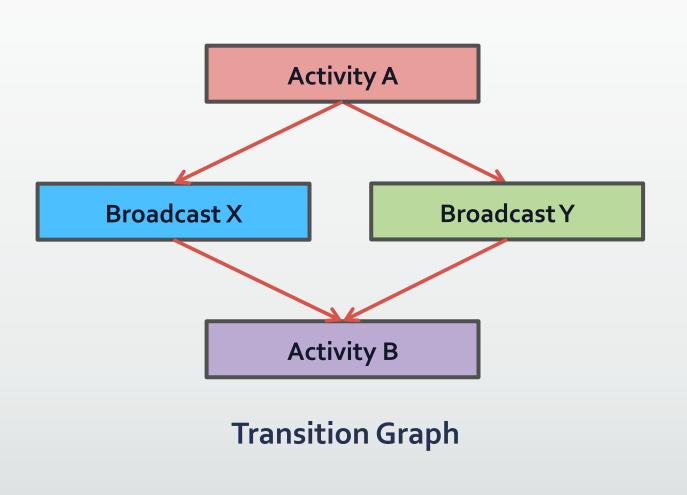
Samsung S4 (Android 5.0)

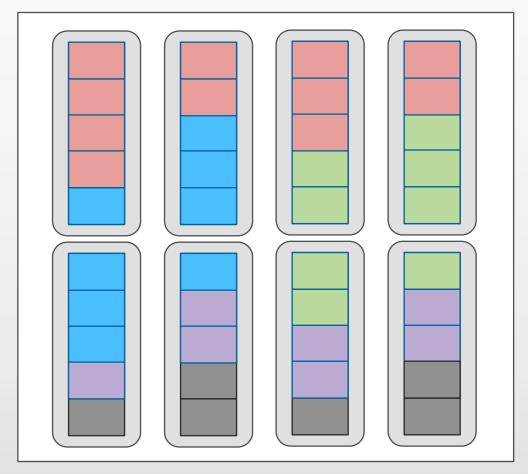
LG G₃ (Android 5.1)

Moto G₃ (Android 6.0)



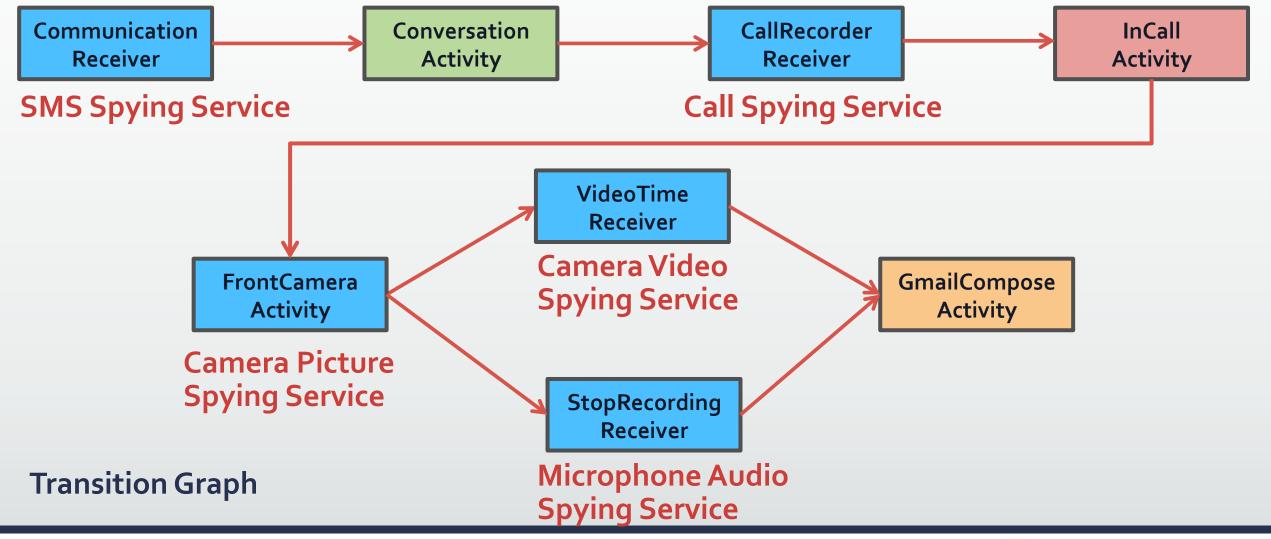
Design Generality: Spyware Attack Investigation





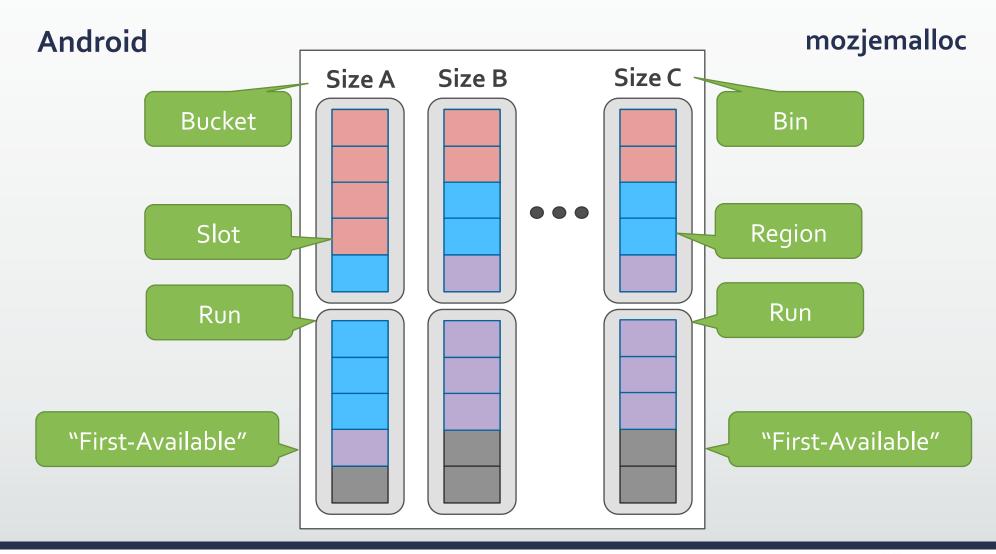


Design Generality: Spyware Attack Investigation





Design Generality: Extension to jemalloc





Case Study

Initially, the driver is using the Google Maps Navigation app



Conclusion

Timeliner re-sequences an Android user's past actions, even for terminated applications

Timeliner infers temporal ordering of Activities from memory layout of key self-identifying data structures

Accurate reconstruction of various applicable crime scenarios and extension beyond user actions and Android



Thank You!

Questions?

Rohit Bhatia bhatia13@purdue.edu

