

libcapsule - Segregated Dynamic Linking

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Collabora

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Introduction

The Pieces of the Puzzle

These Yaks Aren't Shaving Themselves

And Finally

Open First

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└─ Introduction

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The Problem

- Applications 'Containerised'
- Libraries come from a runtime

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runtime makes promises about API/ABI/versions mesa tied to hw, no reasonable way for runtime to stay current

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- ...but *some* still need to come from the host

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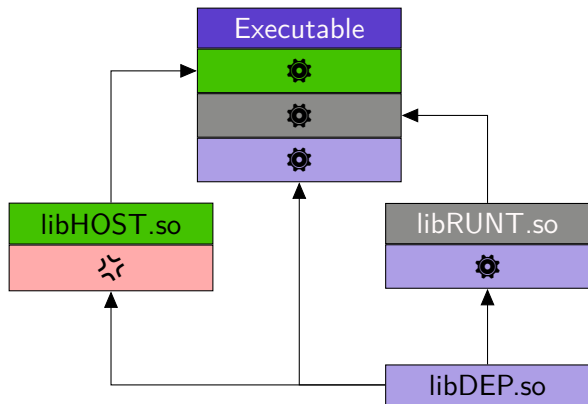
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What does the problem look like?



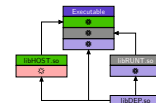
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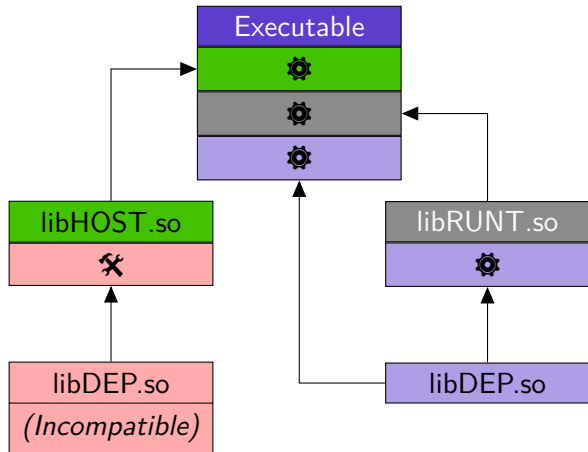
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The linker uses sonames to decide if a library meets our requirements *but* sometimes we end up with incompatible libraries with the same soname... and it only allows one copy of the same soname in any link chain

What could a solution look like?



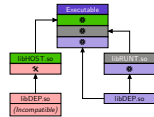
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We can see here two incompatible versions of libDEP from host and runtime: only libHOST sees the host version (and it does not see the runtime version)

Objectives

- ▶ Expose only the library we want to isolate
 - ▶ its dependencies *not* exposed to us

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What do we mean by minimal intervention?

In order of preference:

- ▶ Purely runtime isolation mechanism
- ▶ Some compilation required but basically automatic
- ▶ Manual intervention required to generate the isolating 'thing'

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libcapsule - Segregated Dynamic Linking

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2017-11-25

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└─ libcapsule - Segregated Dynamic Linking

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These Yaks Aren't Shaving Themselves

And Finally

1: Private Dependencies

- ▶ Library should have isolated dependencies

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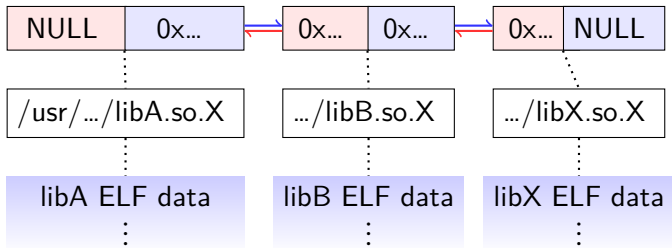
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- Library should have isolated dependencies
- Normally all dependencies in a single linked list



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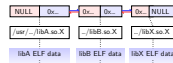
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- Library should have isolated dependencies
- Normally all dependencies in a single linked list
- So how do we do this?

- *cf* `dlopen()` but *can* create a new link map
- ... or can add a new entry to an existing link map
- more-or-less workable from at least glibc 2.19

2: Picking the right library versions

- ▶ `dlopen()` automatically loads dependencies

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Controlling the link map

- ▶ Linker loads all listed dependencies

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Effectively we populate the link map by hand - by doing dependency resolution by hand we prevent the linker's automatic searching from kicking in: A classic convenience vs control trade-off

Controlling the link map

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- ▶ Linker loads all listed dependencies
- ▶ The linker *won't* reload items already in the map
 - ▶ Loading libraries explicitly
 - ▶ In reverse dependency order
 - ▶ We can control exactly what gets linked

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3: Automatically exposing symbols

- ▶ Isolated the dlmopen()ed symbols completely

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- › Isolated the dlmopen()ed symbols completely
- › Need callers to get to them automatically

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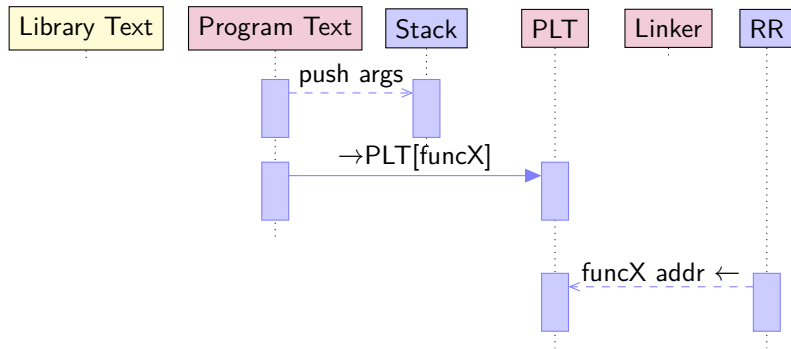
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Jumping to a foreign function



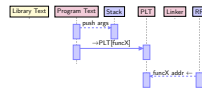
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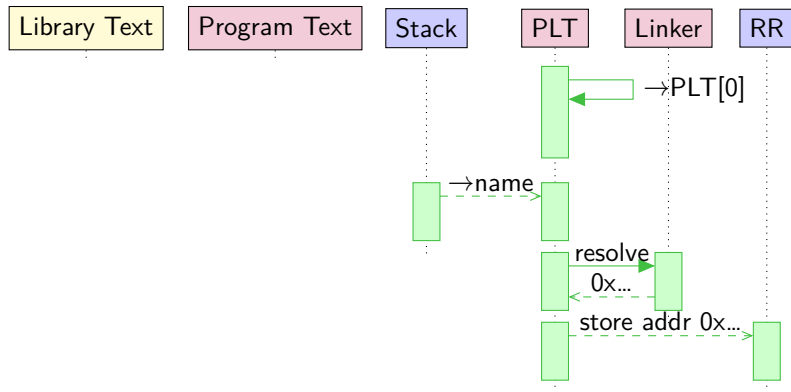
└ Jumping to a foreign function

Jumping to a foreign function



- Calling code puts foreign function arguments on the stack
- Execution jumps to a fixed offset in the PLT (specific to this function)
- The PLT stub looks up the corresponding address in the RR and jumps to it

First call - resolving the address



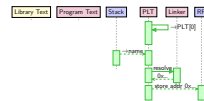
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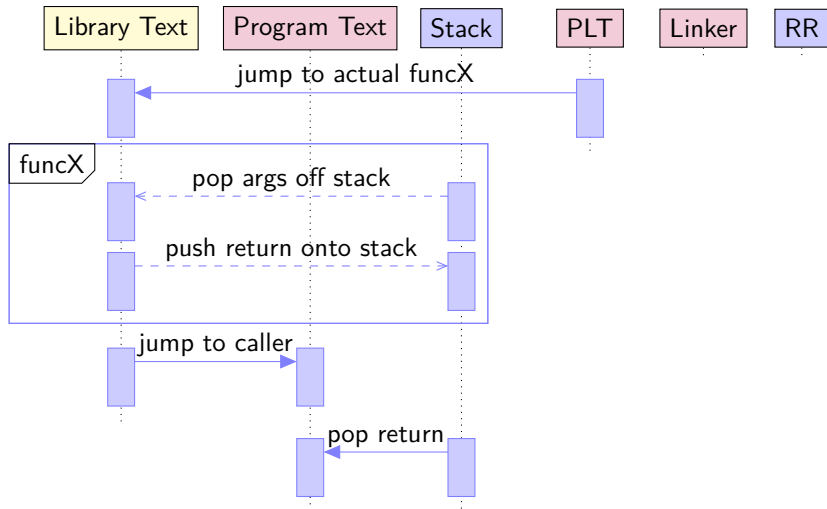
First call - resolving the address

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- — The fixup code pointed at by the RR asks the linker for the real address
- — The linker searches the calling DSO dependencies for the symbol
- — The fixup code writes the address into the RR slot
- — The fixup code jumps to the address in the RR slot

The foreign function call



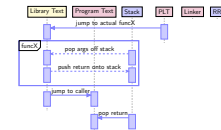
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└ The Pieces of the Puzzle

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The foreign function call



- Jump to funcX
- The code in the foreign DSO pulls the arguments off the stack
- Function does whatever it does
- The return value is pushed onto the stack
- Execution jumps back to the caller

Control the RR, Control the call...

- If we scribble on the RR slot before the first call:

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libcapsule - Segregated Dynamic Linking

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Putting the Pieces Together

- › Make a shim library with the target's **soname**
- › Put the shim on the search path

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Needs the list of exported symbols, but not their signatures

Needs to know its target's soname

Otherwise fully automated

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 - ▶ Walk the link map & scribble on all the RRs

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libcapsule - Segregated Dynamic Linking

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2017-11-25

libcapsule - Segregated Dynamic Linking

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Some Terminology

- › Call an isolated set of libraries a *capsule*
- › Assume they come from an fs mounted at **/host**

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dlopen() in capsules

- ▶ dlopen() can't be called from inside a capsule

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└ dlopen() in capsules

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dlopen() in capsules

- ▶ dlopen() can't be called from inside a capsule
 - ▶ replace capsule's dlopen with a wrapper that calls dlmopen()
 - ▶ remap paths to **/host** in the wrapper
 - ▶ dlmopen() doesn't accept RTLD_GLOBAL

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 - └ These Yaks Aren't Shaving Themselves
 - └ dlopen() in capsules

dlopen() in capsules

- ▶ dlopen() can't be called from inside a capsule
 - ▶ replace capsule's dlopen with a wrapper that calls dlmopen()
 - ▶ remap paths to **/host** in the wrapper
 - ▶ dlmopen() doesn't accept RTLD_GLOBAL

`dlsym()` now has a split personality

- ▶ `dlsym()` outside the capsule has to do extra work

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- ▶ *alloc()/free() pairing

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The Pieces of the Puzzle

These Yaks Aren't Shaving Themselves

And Finally

Open First

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└─ libcapsule - Segregated Dynamic Linking

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└ And Finally

└ *drumroll*

drumroll

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