

# On semantics of self-modifying codes

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# Team presentation

- ▶ Laboratoire lorrain de recherche en informatique et ses applications (LORIA) à Nancy
- ▶ CARTE team: Calculablity & complexity, virology

# Self-modification

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- ▶ Does it exist frameworks to study self-modifying codes?

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For each address is associated its execution level:

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4:  $\mathbb{D}(\mathbb{E}(\text{mov 5 } \mathbb{E}(\text{jump 666})) + 42)$

5: add eax ebx ecx



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1:  sub 2 42          1
2:  sub 3 42          1
3:  D(E(mov eax 18) + 42)
4:  D(E(mov 5 E(jump 666)) + 42)
5:  add eax ebx ecx
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2:	sub 3 42	1
3:	$\mathbb{D}(\mathbb{E}(\text{mov eax 18}) + 42)$	2
4:	$\mathbb{D}(\mathbb{E}(\text{mov 5 } \mathbb{E}(\text{jump 666})) + 42)$	2
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## Level of execution

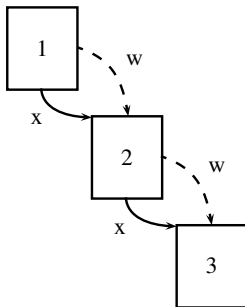
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# Waves of self-modification

A wave is the set of addresses with the same execution level



## Remaining questions

- ▶ Does it exist a semantic explaining waves?
- ▶ Is it possible to build a wave classification to specify compilers to self-modifying codes?
- ▶ Is there any existing framework which could catch self-modification semantics?

## Idea for further development

- ▶ Waves switches  $\sim$  CPS
- ▶ Abstract machines (Kripke or Curien-Herbelin-Wadler machine)
- ▶ Link with LK?