

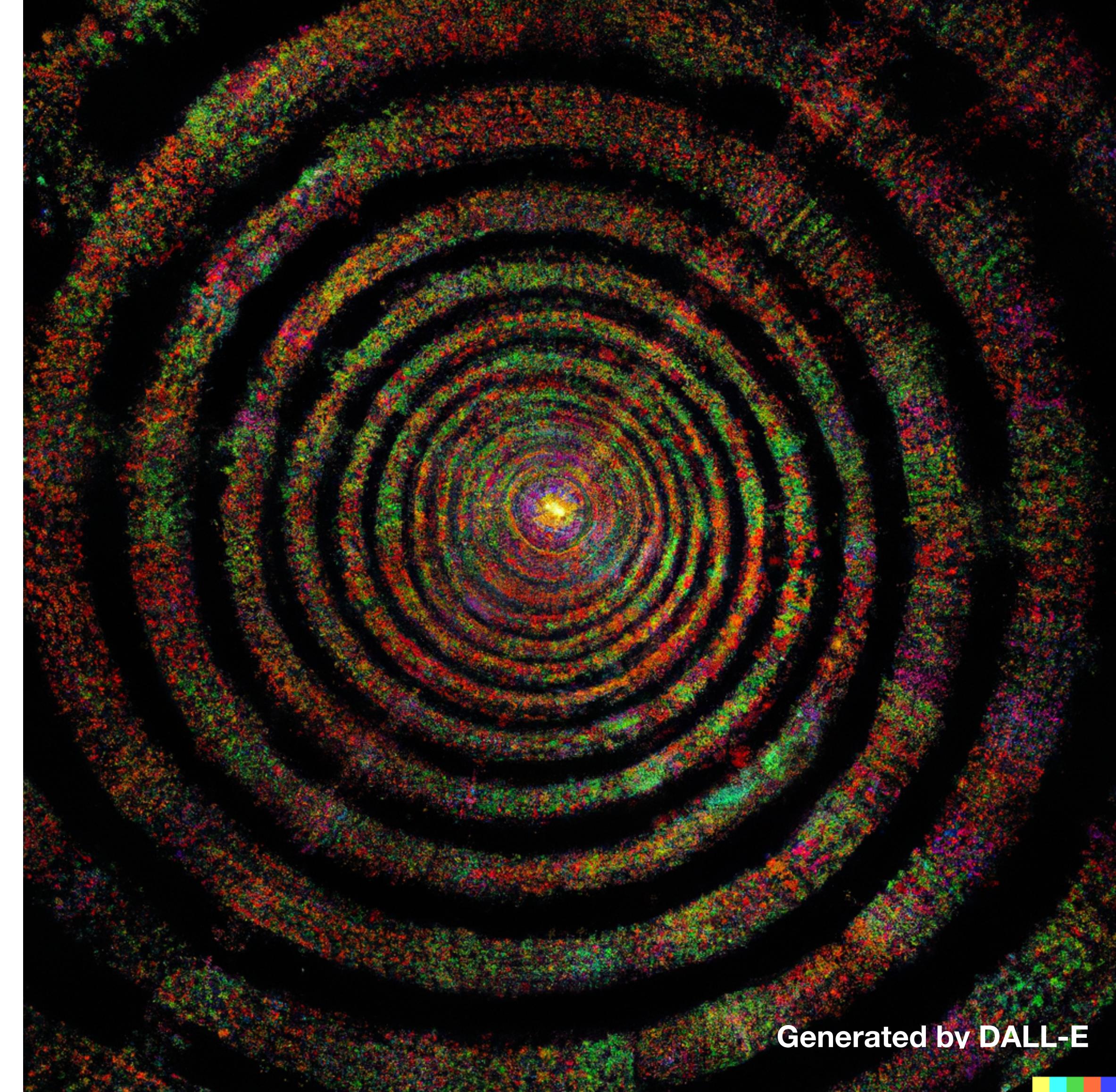
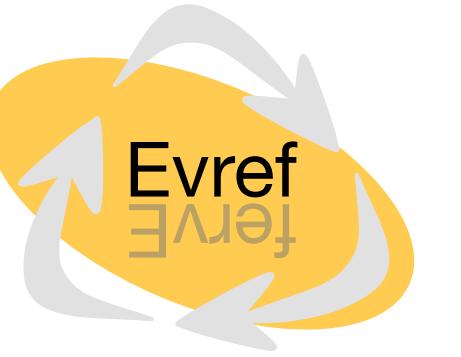
# Phuzzer: Random(-ish) Testing for Pharo

ESUG - 2023 - Lyon

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*inria*



Generated by DALL-E



\* Supported by AlaMViC Action Exploratoire INRIA

# First: About Me

[guillermo.polito@inria.fr](mailto:guillermo.polito@inria.fr)  
@guillep



- **Keywords:** compilers, testing, test generation
- **Ph.D.:** Reflection, debloating, dynamic updates
- **Interests:** tooling, benchmarking, 日本語, board games, concurrency

Talk to me!

Or: [guillermo.polito@inria.fr](mailto:guillermo.polito@inria.fr)



# The Essence of Testing

*“Program testing can be used to show the presence of bugs, but never to show their absence”*

- E. Dijkstra

# What is a Good Test?

*“A good test is a test that catches bugs”*

- me

# The Fuzz Generator

1988, Barton Miller observed random crashes in UNIX utilities.

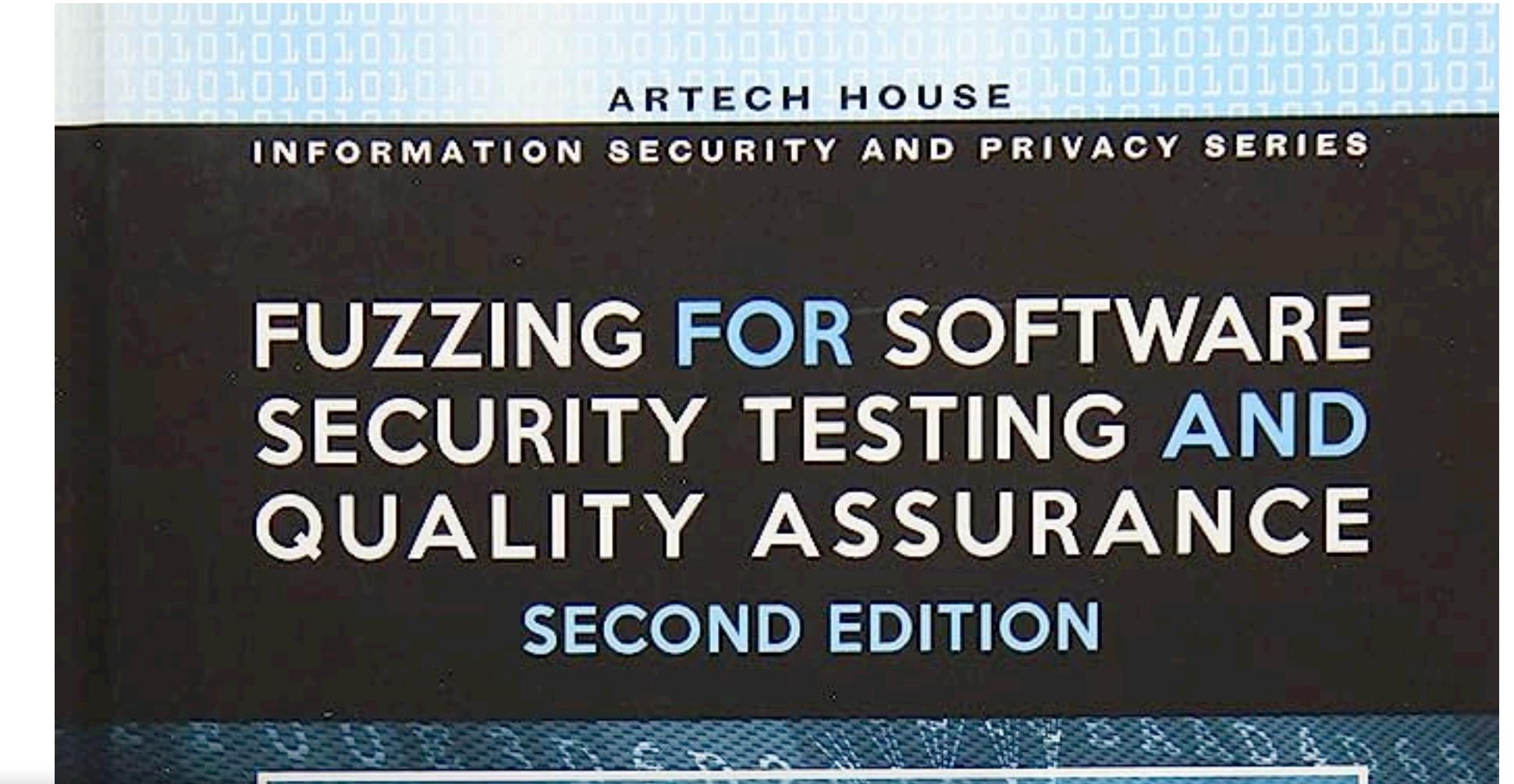
*Shouldn't it be more robust?*

CS 736  
Fall 1988

## General Comments

The projects are intended to give you an opportunity to study a particular area related to operating systems. Your project may require a test implementation, measurement study, simulation, literature search, paper design, or some combination of these.

The project suggestions below are briefly stated. They are intended to guide you into particular areas and you are expected to expand these suggestions into a full project descriptions. This gives you more freedom than a detailed specification, but it also requires you to think about what you want to do.



COMPUTER SCIENCES DEPARTMENT  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

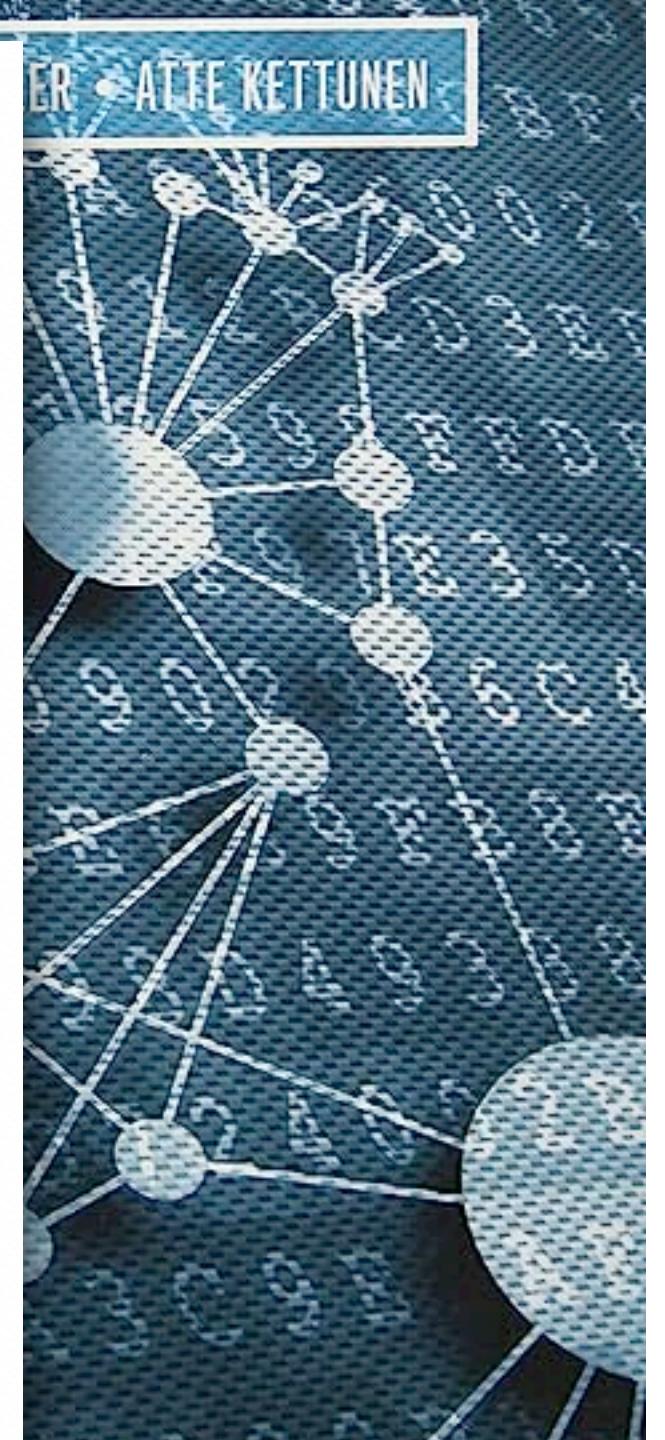
Bart Miller

## Project List

(Brief Description Due: Wednesday, October 26)

(Midway Interview: Friday, November 18)

(Final Report Due: Thursday, December 15)



# An Empirical Study on the Reliability of UNIX Utilities

- Call utilities with *random* inputs

```
fuzz 100000 -o outfile | deqn
```

- ~90 tested utilities
- **25-33% crashed**

Communications of the ACM'90

An Empirical Study of the Reliability  
of  
UNIX Utilities

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Summary

# Random Fuzzer

```
(1 to: 10) collect: [ :e | PzRandomFuzzer new fuzz ]
```

```
8<$<+6%60. =#!#,4$$""@@4#:+'% 1 3*9(1(2 @29 #-<46<''&
.+.;/./852"%7?3720("/")!*43<,"4@>)>'(,"0(+7?
.76 100737.@$)*,$>-%.,/ <'=.>9%*0%*4786$% 886"!#331;+14&+9<$,>-/0/4%.2 10
-=1+6(?1$7$=:'''69%0& *)<@&%&+.(%75?5!/6+76 (/%"+$%-392
1/:""1+.0+8/:;35 '55!">'+?"-$##6=*(1<.)3;17(>/=@)9@@57
&8,2+!7 $?<
*!??-)1'@/(@,$'!!626)@+:2.8@$<>&5(2(!8!&(&8=2-2"-?5 +'>1&>*46786:=/(<,3"'*3.=//&)=#
 69-4+*>;=2"4+"<868$ 02(#2"*+7#*!8@+$;(&,>3 *2=16: +#:#@7);$8%551<8:#//0>0;:$58
;% *:(41)215>/1890)@ 3"@3.35+6
(;.!;&7(#$/58(??,' 2/' 70#69/;2#, $#-69%!:.(())=82?,357(5:,
```

# Let's Test some Parser

```
f := PzRandomFuzzer new.  
r := PzBlockRunner on: [ :e | e asDate ].  
f run: r times: 20.
```

- Pharo 11
- String>>asDate

```
PASS "7 February 2039"  
FAIL "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "1 June 2002"  
PASS "5 August 13836"  
FAIL "DateError: day may not be zero or negative"  
PASS "1 January 2004"  
FAIL "#isAlphaNumeric was sent to nil"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"  
PASS "7 June 2009"  
PASS "3 April 2001"  
FAIL "DateError: day may not be zero or negative"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 72"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"  
FAIL "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "3 April 1991"  
PASS "3 October 2001"  
FAIL "DateError: day is after month ends"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"  
FAIL "DateError: day may not be zero or negative"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"
```

# Let's Test some Parser

```
f := PzRandomFuzzer new.  
r := PzBlockRunner on: [ :e | e asDate ].  
f run: r times: 20.
```

- Pharo 11
- String>>asDate
- 12/20 = 60% of failures?

```
PASS "7 February 2039"  
FAIL "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "1 June 2002"  
PASS "5 August 13836"  
FAIL "DateError: day may not be zero or negative"  
PASS "1 January 2004"  
FAIL "#isAlphaNumeric was sent to nil"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"  
PASS "7 June 2009"  
PASS "3 April 2001"  
FAIL "DateError: day may not be zero or negative"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 72"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"  
FAIL "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "3 April 1991"  
PASS "3 October 2001"  
FAIL "DateError: day is after month ends"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"  
FAIL "DateError: day may not be zero or negative"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"
```

# Refining the Results

```
f := PzRandomFuzzer new.  
r := PzBlockRunner on: [ :e | e asDate ].  
r expectedException: DateError.  
f run: r times: 20.
```

- Pharo 11
- String>>asDate
- DateError is an expected error!

```
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "28 April 2006"  
PASS "7 September 2029"  
PASS "9 March 1995"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 73"  
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"  
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "6 January 2007"  
PASS "9 January 1986"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"  
FAIL "#isAlphaNumeric was sent to nil"  
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "1 September 1989"  
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "DateError: day may not be zero or negative"  
PASS "5 January 0228"  
PASS "DateError: day may not be zero or negative"  
PASS "7 September 1996"  
PASS "2 January 2008"
```

# Refining the Results

```
f := PzRandomFuzzer new.  
r := PzBlockRunner on: [ :e | e asDate ].  
r expectedException: DateError.  
f run: r times: 20.
```

- Pharo 11
- String>>asDate
- DateError is an expected error!
- 4/20 = 5% of errors

```
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "28 April 2006"  
PASS "7 September 2029"  
PASS "9 March 1995"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 73"  
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"  
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PASS "DateError: day may not be zero or negative"  
PASS "5 January 0228"  
PASS "DateError: day may not be zero or negative"  
PASS "7 September 1996"  
PASS "2 January 2008"
```

# Changing the Input

# “Large charset”

```
f := PzRandomFuzzer new.  
f charStart: Character tab.  
f charRange: 500.  
(1 to: 10) collect: [ :e |  
f fuzz ]
```

# “Alphanumeric”

```
f := PzRandomFuzzer new.  
f charStart: $A.  
f charRange: 50.  
(1 to: 10) collect: [ :e |  
    f fuzz ]
```

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4úìš || ñzşñj̄o[  
ūāÿḡn̄g@žēc̄ō) šē\$ÿx̄B || ōAĀpN̄gōžnyíx̄iōl·èì4užx̄ešT̄aň5Q̄ū  
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=k̄iñāNzÀð-̄Ḡf̄až  
âu>ž\$čIgoĀḡl̄m̄S̄áR̄ñ - ū' ḡeťš̄ú÷ || ¹ēēθùn̄T̄AeR̄ "ññīa || n̄ožaij̄žp@-l̄j̄óñK̄b̄īīa&  
øþ{ø¹ēøYéyød̄zL̄GñzC̄ořeČwñhñyñ6d̄ž T̄yD̄yā Á  
þz̄x̄t̄@lj̄f̄ : GR̄eđUđD̄ž : ±  
, Ḡk̄z̄l̄ööß ! H̄á=âs̄eč̄īæ. N̄M̄ôæh̄  
E z̄òḠEčxīs̄īj̄øl̄éz̄z̄eř̄² áùéüëλ̄b̄ēīéȳ  
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z̄ùžób̄uñðañt̄&) Z̄A? t̄x̄ðuñz̄ořḡüB̄īøuñgeóač̄īḡk̄ířđ) ī~ešv̄c̄s̄oč̄řüñðd̄v̄ | çøo°č̄x̄/s̄?b̄=aúřī | īoú

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nc[r lqBaVi[^GaYRhiHjJgUFSIh\ eDRnE]ZAJ  
^GoLOPbjnFgS  
ciQKOKcFh]UoaZZRQpcB0qPOHfGw bSKA  
bA^QYUCLmeUepnHF KoAh\brqCnOUYpfrboWG\_UGBZKPLlRre[AgOeV  
qHWqEdepLVVSkQk  
qKORn\_LkY]fKSQmN\_\SVK\_HRU n[sDHPJGF MnJ  
\_Vi`WWFI]OYcSpBeQNNj1Dg^PTdZVI[Ih`NgF\_eMpaYm hipTSXQ[QJcOrRn1YoB  
Akj\IsLQbXaTAIn`hDDNXkHUKi\_o[knIdZBmkSrOCA\_rHW0qL^cqK`osHJoXg  
Udj`T^XchBFFGSip\rhf hEDQrAGrpZU\ CfMchTi]CDjXX\LWoLsQPLfcASAgC\_Z

# Fuzzer ratio over 100 runs

```
r := PzBlockRunner on: [ :e | e asDate ].  
r expectedException: DateError.  
f run: r times: 100.
```

Fuzzer	Pass	Expected Fail	Fail
Weird Chars	49 %	29 %	22 %
Large Char set	0 %	0 %	100 %
Alphanumeric	0 %	0 %	100 %

# Random Inputs Fail Easily

- We could expect to break something with fully random inputs
- This could be solved with **input sanitizing**
- What if we have *almost correct inputs*?
- Looks like a date, quacks like a date, parses as a date?

We need to generate syntactically  
and semantically valid inputs

**We need to generate syntactically  
and semantically valid inputs**

# Date Fuzzer

```
(1 to: 10) collect: [ :e | PzDateFuzzer new fuzz ]
```

```
23 5
7/February-6
7,February0
0/february/7
9 february 0
7 February-9
February 0,1
4/February,4
february/0 7
1January,8
```

# Grammars as Input Descriptions

- Grammars describe languages
- Usually used for parsing purposes, but...
- Key idea (from the 60s) => structured fuzzing with grammars

# Date Grammar

```
ntNumber --> ntDigit, ntNumber | ntDigit.  
ntDigit --> ($0 - $9).
```

## ntDate

```
--> ntDay, ntSeparator, ntMonth, ntSeparator, ntYear  
| ntMonth, ntSeparator, ntDay, ntSeparator, ntYear  
| ntYear, ntSeparator, ntMonth, ntSeparator, ntDay.  
ntSeparator --> '' | ' ' | '-' | ',' | '/'.  
ntDay --> ntNumber.
```

## ntMonth

```
--> ntNumber  
| 'january' | 'January'  
| 'february' | 'February'.
```

```
ntYear --> ntNumber.
```

# Grammar Fuzzer

```
(1 to: 10) collect: [ :e | (PzGrammarFuzzer on: PzDateGrammar new) fuzz ]
```

23 5  
7/February-6  
7,February0  
0/february/7  
9 february 0  
7 February-9  
February 0,1  
4/February,4  
february/0 7  
1January,8

# Let's test some parser (bis)

```
f := PzGrammarFuzzer on: PzDateGrammar new.  
r := PzBlockRunner on: [ :e | e asDate ].  
r expectedException: DateError.  
f run: r times: 100.
```

Pass	81 %
Expected-Fail	10 %
Fail	9 %

- Simple Date grammar fuzzing has a high success ratio

# Looking at the bugs

- Out of 135 bugs fuzzing 1000 cases

method not understood <b>during parsing</b>	83 %
Out of bounds <b>during parsing</b>	13 %
<i>Validation</i> with generic error <b>during parsing</b>	4 %

# Back-tracking a Bit

```
f := PzRandomFuzzer new.  
r := PzBlockRunner on: [ :e | e asDate ].  
f run: r times: 20.
```

- Pharo 11
- String>>asDate

```
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "28 April 2006"  
PASS "7 September 2029"  
PASS "9 March 1995"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 73"  
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"  
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "6 January 2007"  
PASS "9 January 1986"  
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PASS "5 January 0228"  
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PASS "7 September 1996"  
PASS "2 January 2008"
```

# Back-tracking a Bit

```
f := PzRandomFuzzer new.  
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PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "1 September 1989"  
PASS "Dat  
PASS "Dat  
PASS "5 J  
PASS "Dat  
PASS "7 S  
PASS "2 J
```

**How do we decide:  
what is a PASS,  
what is a FAIL?**

# When Dates Should Parse

```
f := PzRandomFuzzer new.  
r := PzBlockRunner on: [ :e | e asDate ].  
f run: r times: 20.
```

- DateError is an expected error
- Malformed inputs should fail!
  - .+!;/./852"%7?3720("/")!\*43<,"4@>) >'(, "0(+7?
  - ;% \*:(41)215>/1890)@ 3"@3.35+6

```
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "28 April 2006"  
PASS "7 September 2029"  
PASS "9 March 1995"  
FAIL "SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0"  
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
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PASS "5 January 1986"  
PASS "DateError: day is after month ends"  
PASS "7 September 2029"  
PASS "2 January 1986"
```



**How do we decide:  
what is a PASS,  
what is a FAIL?**

# The Oracle Problem

Given a program and an input,

How can we distinguish correct from incorrect behavior?

# The Oracle Problem

Given a program and an input,

How can we **automatically** distinguish  
correct from incorrect behavior?

# Remember Assertions

SetTest >> testAdd

```
| aSet |
"Context"
aSet := Set new.
"Stimuli"
aSet add: 5.
aSet add: 5.
```

```
"Check"
self assert: aSet size equals: 1.
```

*in this context  
when this happens  
then this should happen*

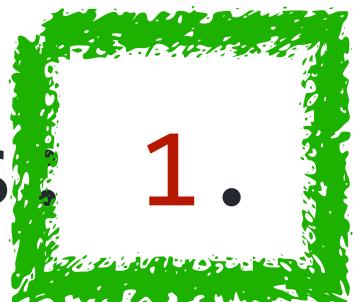
# Comparisons against known values

```
SetTest >> testAdd
```

```
| aSet |
"Context"
aSet := Set new.
"Stimuli"
aSet add: 5.
aSet add: 5.
```

```
"Check"
self assert: aSet size equals: 1.
```

*in this context  
when this happens  
then this should happen*



# Assertions against similar values?

SetTest >> testAdd

```
| aSet |
"Context"
aSet := Set new.
"Stimuli"
aSet add: 5.
aSet add: 5.
```

"Check"  
self assert: aSet size equals:  .

*in this context*  
*when this happens*  
*then this should happen*

# Can we use another parser?

`SetTest >> testAdd`

```
| aSet |  
"Context"  
aSet := Set new.
```

"Stimuli"

```
aSet add: 5.  
aSet add: 5.
```

"Check"

```
self assert: aSet size equals: [REDACTED]?????.
```



- (dis)agreement is evidence!
- Agreement: parsers have same behavior
- Disagreement: is there a bug?



# Date>>fromString vs DateParser

- DateParser is a structured parser based on a specified format

```
DateParser readFrom: string readStream pattern: 'm-d-yyyy'
```

- Should be more strict than asDate
- What kind of comparisons are fair/safe/legal?

# A m-d-yyyy Grammar

```
ntNumber --> ntDigit, ntNumber | ntDigit.  
ntDigit --> ($0 - $9).
```

## ntDate

```
--> ntMonth, ntSeparator, ntDay, ntSeparator, ntYear.  
ntSeparator --> '-'.  
ntDay --> ntDigit | '1' , ntDigit | '2' , ntDigit | '30' | '31'.  
ntMonth --> ntDigit | '11' | '12'.  
ntYear --> ntDigit, ntDigit, ntDigit, ntDigit.
```

# Differential Parser Testing

```
runnerA := PzBlockRunner on: [ :e | e asDate ].  
runnerA expectedException: DateError.
```

```
runnerB := PzBlockRunner on: [ :e |  
  (Date readFrom: e readStream pattern: 'm-d-yyyy') ].  
runnerB expectedException: DateError.
```

```
diffRunner := PzDifferentialRunner new  
runnerA: runnerA;  
runnerB: runnerB;  
yourself.
```

```
f := PzGrammarFuzzer on: PzDateMDYYYYGrammar new.  
f run: diffRunner times: 100.
```

# Results

- fuzz 100 times
- 3/100 errors!

FAIL 74-0-8 FAIL 74-0-8 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0 PASS-FAIL 74-0-8 DateError  
FAIL 3-2-6 PASS 3-2-6 2 March 2006 PASS-FAIL 3-2-6 DateError  
PASS 5-515-1 PASS-FAIL 5-515-1 DateError: day is after month ends PASS-FAI  
FAIL 63-2-1 PASS 63-2-1 1 February 2063 PASS-FAIL 63-2-1 DateError  
FAIL 4220-05-1 PASS 4220-05-1 1 May 4220 PASS-FAIL 4220-05-1 DateError  
PASS 8-71-3 PASS-FAIL 8-71-3 DateError: day is after month ends PASS-FAIL 8  
FAIL 6-7-34 PASS 6-7-34 7 June 2034 PASS-FAIL 6-7-34 DateError  
FAIL 2-2-9 PASS 2-2-9 2 February 2009 PASS-FAIL 2-2-9 DateError  
FAIL 29-2-0 FAIL 29-2-0 Error: Month out of bounds: 29. PASS-FAIL 29-2-0 D  
PASS 4-00-94 PASS-FAIL 4-00-94 DateError: day may not be zero or negative 4  
PASS 41150-8-0 PASS-FAIL 41150-8-0 DateError: day may not be zero or negat  
FAIL 128-8-6 PASS 128-8-6 6 August 0128 PASS-FAIL 128-8-6 DateError  
PASS 6-50054228-3 PASS-FAIL 6-50054228-3 DateError: day is after month end  
FAIL 39-4318-675 FAIL 39-4318-675 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 4318 PASS-FAIL 39-4  
FAIL 0-7-9 FAIL 0-7-9 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0 PASS-FAIL 0-7-9 DateError  
FAIL 0-069848-2 FAIL 0-069848-2 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0 PASS-FAIL 0-069848  
FAIL 9635-14-56 FAIL 9635-14-56 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 14 PASS-FAIL 9635-14  
FAIL 6461-5-8 PASS 6461-5-8 8 May 6461 PASS-FAIL 6461-5-8 DateError  
FAIL 07-8-49 PASS 07-8-49 8 July 2049 PASS-FAIL 07-8-49 DateError  
FAIL 61-74-51 FAIL 61-74-51 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 74 PASS-FAIL 61-74-51 Da  
FAIL 36-41-8 FAIL 36-41-8 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 41 PASS-FAIL 36-41-8 DateE  
FAIL 65-9-2 PASS 65-9-2 2 September 2065 PASS-FAIL 65-9-2 DateError  
FAIL 321-3246-2 FAIL 321-3246-2 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 3246 PASS-FAIL 321-3  
PASS 6-495-1 PASS-FAIL 6-495-1 DateError: day is after month ends PASS-FAI  
FAIL 2-9-74 PASS 2-9-74 9 February 1974 PASS-FAIL 2-9-74 DateError  
FAIL 9158-909-0 FAIL 9158-909-0 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 909 PASS-FAIL 9158-9  
PASS 7-41203-518 PASS-FAIL 7-41203-518 DateError: day is after month ends  
PASS 7-55-8 PASS-FAIL 7-55-8 DateError: day is after month ends PASS-FAIL  
FAIL 0-78-9 FAIL 0-78-9 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0 PASS-FAIL 0-78-9 DateError  
FAIL 4-9-7 PASS 4-9-7 9 April 2007 PASS-FAIL 4-9-7 DateError  
PASS 6-1242376-1 PASS-FAIL 6-1242376-1 DateError: day is after month ends  
PASS 2-169728-6327 PASS-FAIL 2-169728-6327 DateError: day is after month e  
FAIL 99133-0-023 FAIL 99133-0-023 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0 PASS-FAIL 99133-0  
FAIL 08-4-64 PASS 08-4-64 4 August 2064 PASS-FAIL 08-4-64 DateError  
FAIL 523-55-0 FAIL 523-55-0 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 55 PASS-FAIL 523-55-0 Da  
PASS 5-696-8 PASS-FAIL 5-696-8 DateError: day is after month ends PASS-FAI  
FAIL 77-6-8 PASS 77-6-8 8 June 1977 PASS-FAIL 77-6-8 DateError  
FAIL 38-946-6 FAIL 38-946-6 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 946 PASS-FAIL 38-946-6 D  
FAIL 2615-5-7 PASS 2615-5-7 7 May 2615 PASS-FAIL 2615-5-7 DateError

# Results

- fuzz 100 times
- 3/100 errors!
- Dates are mostly correct!

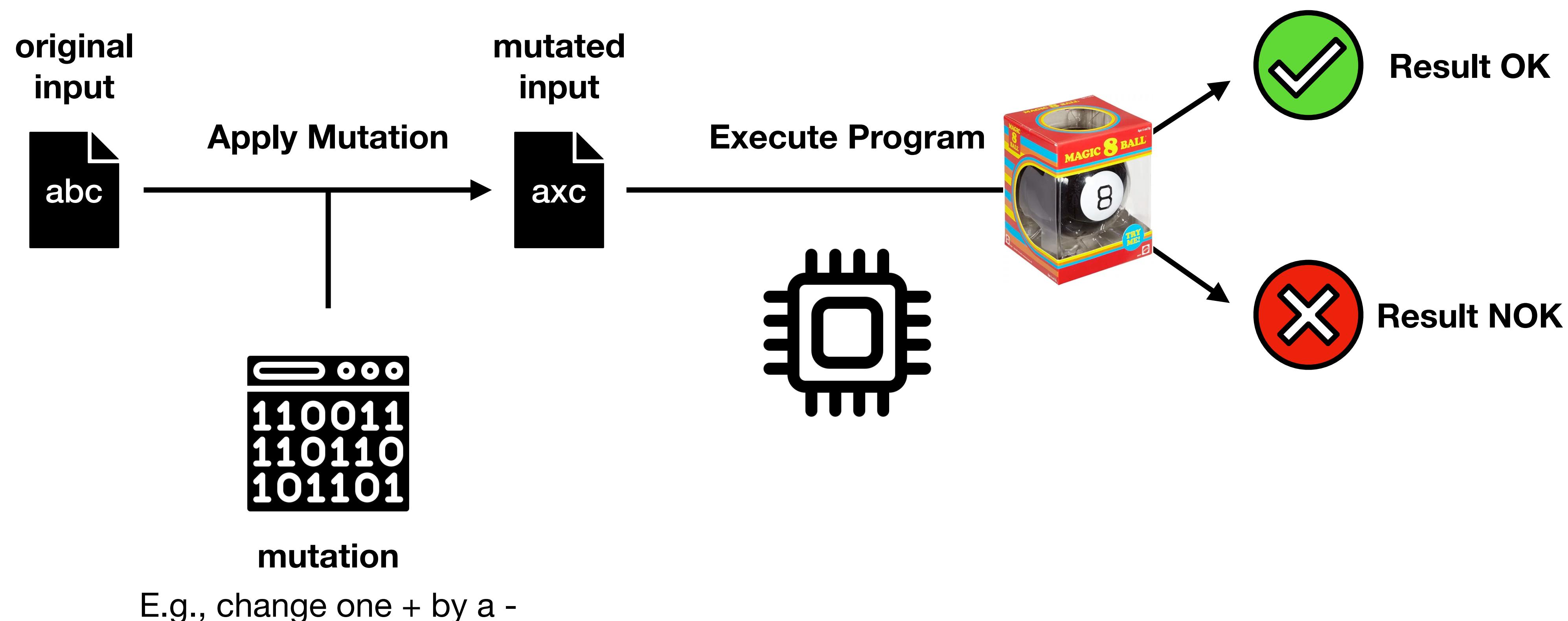
FAIL 74-0-8 FAIL 74-0-8 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0 PASS-FAIL 74-0-8 DateError  
FAIL 3-2-6 PASS 3-2-6 2 March 2006 PASS-FAIL 3-2-6 DateError  
PASS 5-515-1 PASS-FAIL 5-515-1 DateError: day is after month ends PASS-FAI  
FAIL 63-2-1 PASS 63-2-1 1 February 2063 PASS-FAIL 63-2-1 DateError  
FAIL 4220-05-1 PASS 4220-05-1 1 May 4220 PASS-FAIL 4220-05-1 DateError  
PASS 8-71-3 PASS-FAIL 8-71-3 DateError: day is after month ends PASS-FAIL 8  
FAIL 6-7-34 PASS 6-7-34 7 June 2034 PASS-FAIL 6-7-34 DateError  
FAIL 2-2-9 PASS 2-2-9 2 February 2009 PASS-FAIL 2-2-9 DateError  
FAIL 29-2-0 FAIL 29-2-0 Error: Month out of bounds: 29. PASS-FAIL 29-2-0 D  
PASS 4-00-94 PASS-FAIL 4-00-94 DateError: day may not be zero or negative 4  
PASS 41150-8-0 PASS-FAIL 41150-8-0 DateError: day may not be zero or negat  
FAIL 128-8-6 PASS 128-8-6 6 August 0128 PASS-FAIL 128-8-6 DateError  
PASS 6-50054228-3 PASS-FAIL 6-50054228-3 DateError: day is after month end  
FAIL 39-4318-675 FAIL 39-4318-675 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 4318 PASS-FAIL 39-4  
FAIL 0-7-9 FAIL 0-7-9 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0 PASS-FAIL 0-7-9 DateError  
FAIL 0-069848-2 FAIL 0-069848-2 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0 PASS-FAIL 0-069848  
FAIL 9635-14-56 FAIL 9635-14-56 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 14 PASS-FAIL 9635-14  
FAIL 6461-5-8 PASS 6461-5-8 8 May 6461 PASS-FAIL 6461-5-8 DateError  
FAIL 07-8-49 PASS 07-8-49 8 July 2049 PASS-FAIL 07-8-49 DateError  
FAIL 61-74-51 FAIL 61-74-51 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 74 PASS-FAIL 61-74-51 Da  
FAIL 36-41-8 FAIL 36-41-8 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 41 PASS-FAIL 36-41-8 DateE  
FAIL 65-9-2 PASS 65-9-2 2 September 2065 PASS-FAIL 65-9-2 DateError  
FAIL 321-3246-2 FAIL 321-3246-2 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 3246 PASS-FAIL 321-3  
PASS 6-495-1 PASS-FAIL 6-495-1 DateError: day is after month ends PASS-FAI  
FAIL 2-9-74 PASS 2-9-74 9 February 1974 PASS-FAIL 2-9-74 DateError  
FAIL 9158-909-0 FAIL 9158-909-0 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 909 PASS-FAIL 9158-9  
PASS 7-41203-518 PASS-FAIL 7-41203-518 DateError: day is after month ends  
PASS 7-55-8 PASS-FAIL 7-55-8 DateError: day is after month ends PASS-FAIL  
FAIL 0-78-9 FAIL 0-78-9 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0 PASS-FAIL 0-78-9 DateError  
FAIL 4-9-7 PASS 4-9-7 9 April 2007 PASS-FAIL 4-9-7 DateError  
PASS 6-1242376-1 PASS-FAIL 6-1242376-1 DateError: day is after month ends  
PASS 2-169728-6327 PASS-FAIL 2-169728-6327 DateError: day is after month e  
FAIL 99133-0-023 FAIL 99133-0-023 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 0 PASS-FAIL 99133-  
FAIL 08-4-64 PASS 08-4-64 4 August 2064 PASS-FAIL 08-4-64 DateError  
FAIL 523-55-0 FAIL 523-55-0 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 55 PASS-FAIL 523-55-0 Da  
PASS 5-696-8 PASS-FAIL 5-696-8 DateError: day is after month ends PASS-FAI  
FAIL 77-6-8 PASS 77-6-8 8 June 1977 PASS-FAIL 77-6-8 DateError  
FAIL 38-946-6 FAIL 38-946-6 SubscriptOutOfBounds: 946 PASS-FAIL 38-946-6 D  
FAIL 2615-5-7 PASS 2615-5-7 7 May 2615 PASS-FAIL 2615-5-7 DateError

**We need to generate syntactically  
and semantically valid inputs**

We need to generate **syntactically**  
and semantically valid inputs

But *Slightly Wrong*

# Mutations as Fuzzers



# Random String Mutator

```
f := PzMutationFuzzer new  
seed: { 'abcd' };  
yourself.
```

```
(1 to: 10) collect: [ :e | f fuzz ]
```

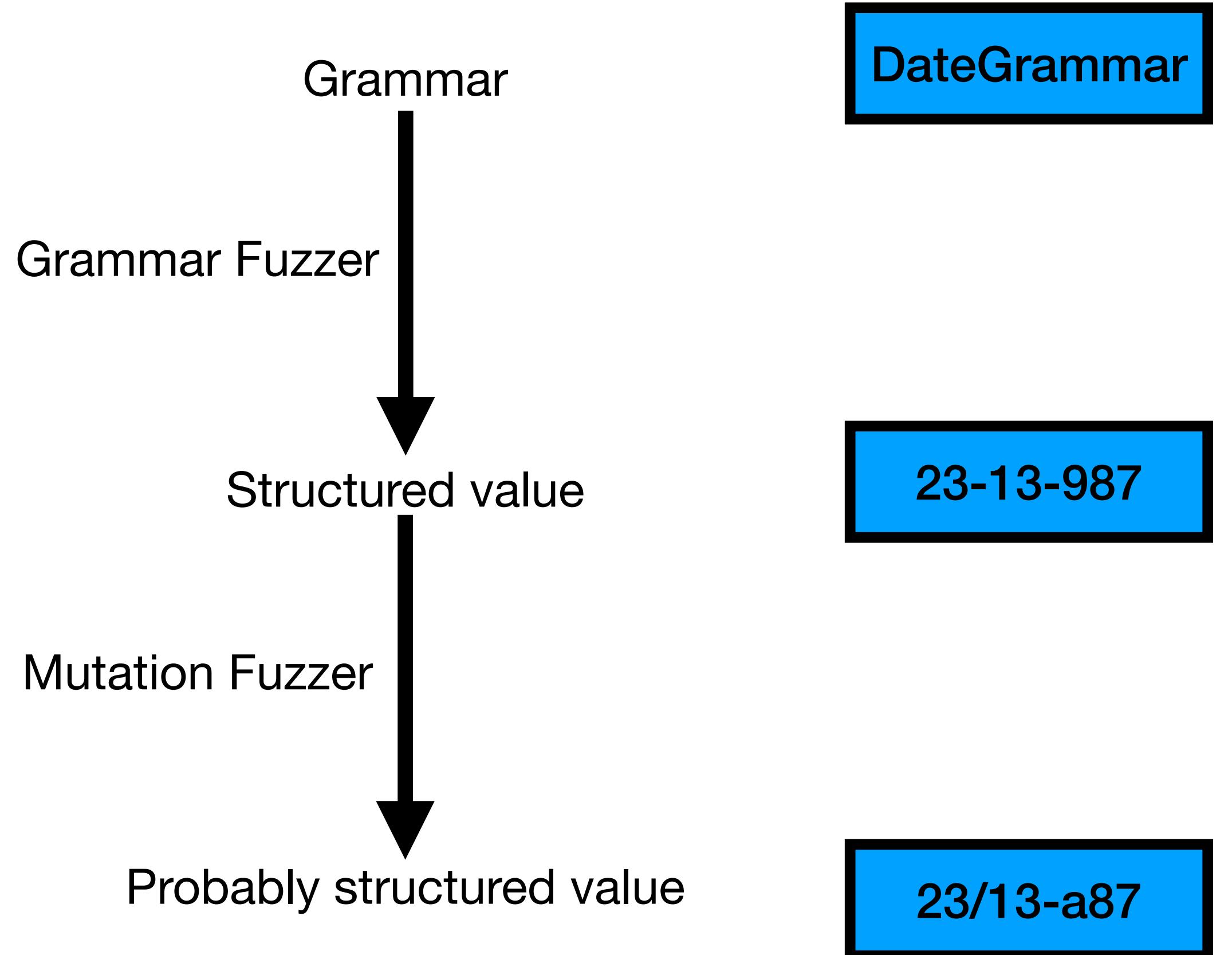
```
3ou  
AbC|dM  
aEbcN`  
bc  
a`c$#  
bcc  
abc$  
aabcd  
!cbb~d  
;
```

# String Mutations

- **Insert** a *random* character in a *random position* of the string
- **Delete** a character in a *random position* of the string
- **Replace** a character by a *random* character in a *random position* of the string

# Chaining Fuzzers

- Mutating a correct value
  - pre-existent or grammar-fuzzed
  - produces *probably* correct values
  - and *probably incorrect* too



# Results by crash location

## (signaler context method + pc)

- 68% disagreements - 6826 out of 10k fuzzings
- new errors!

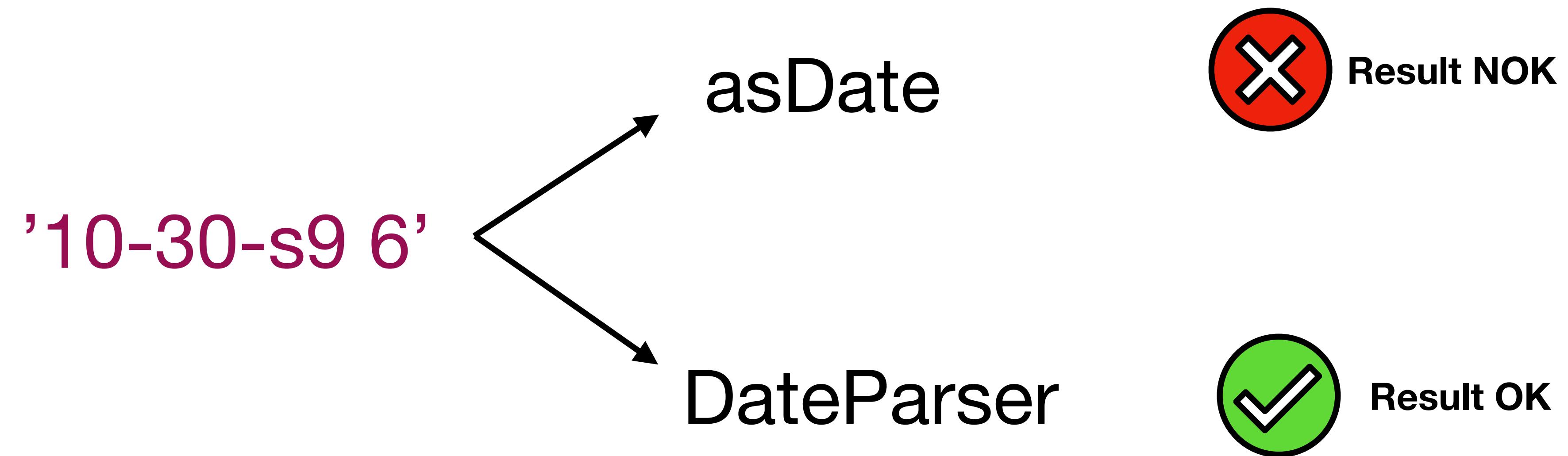
Error	#	%
<b>Stream still with data</b>	2847	41,71 %
<b>Input doesn't match pattern</b>	1534	22,47 %
<b>Wrong year digits</b>	1379	20,20 %
<b>Wrong day/month</b>	654	9,58 %
<b>No error!</b>	50	0,73 %
<b>Day after month end</b>	9	0,13 %
<b>Day zero or negative</b>	5	0,07 %

# Results by crash location (signaler context method + pc)

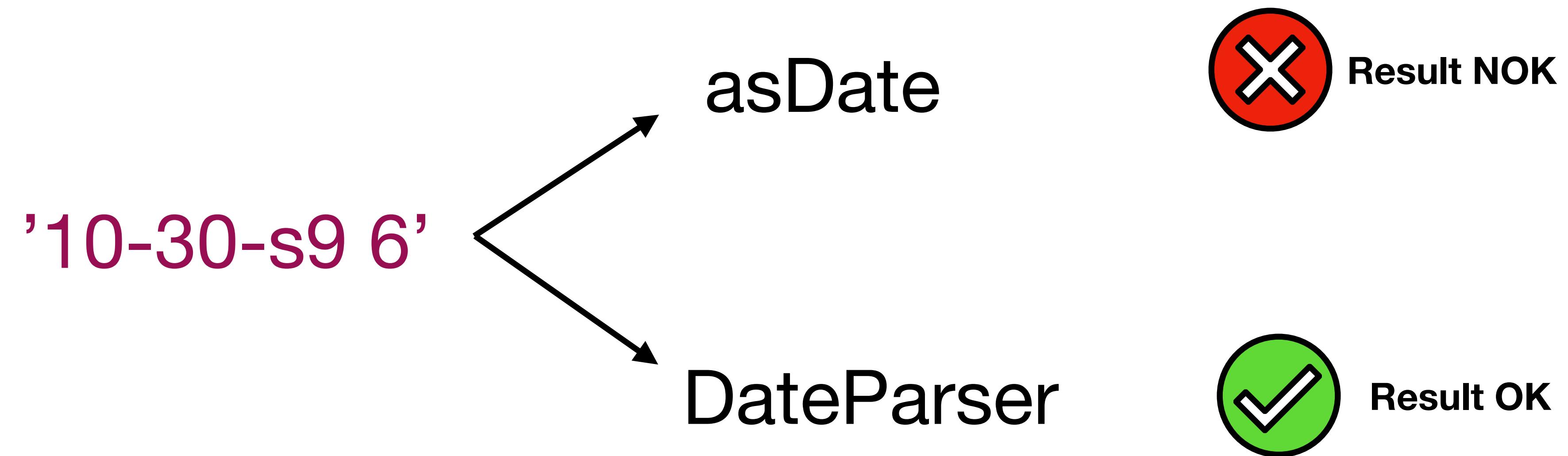
- 68% disagreements - 6826 out of 10k fuzzings
- new errors!

Error	#	%
<b>Stream still with data</b>	2847	41,71 %
<b>Input doesn't match pattern</b>	1534	22,47 %
<b>Wrong year digits</b>	1379	20,20 %
<b>Month &gt; 12</b>	951	0,50 %
<b>No error!</b>	50	0,73 %
<b>Day after month end</b>	3	0,03 %
<b>Day zero or negative</b>	5	0,07 %

# When asDate was ok (50/10000)



# When asDate was ok (50/10000)



DateParser accepts (and ignores) non numeric characters in year

# Takeaways

- Simple random inputs can unveil bugs
  - but, random inputs get random outputs!
- Adding some domain knowledge makes fuzzing more efficient
  - grammars, mutations, expected exceptions...
- Two programs following the same *specification* can test each other
  - Yet, maybe neither holds the ground truth

<https://github.com/Alamvic/phuzzer>  
<https://github.com/Alamvic/gnocco>

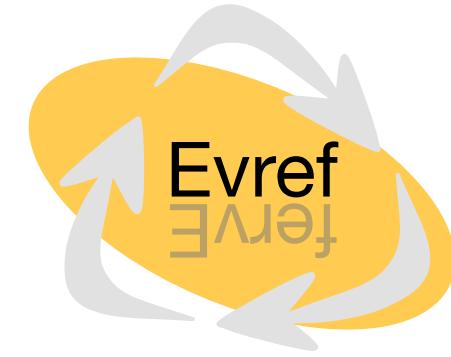
Also thanks to ...



jthulhu



inria



47



\* Supported by AlaM Vic Action Exploratoire INRIA



# Heap Fuzzing

- Allocations
  - where: what memory region?
  - kind: normal object, array?
  - size: how many slots?
  - root?
- Mutations: `obj1.a = obj2`
- Garbage Collection Events

ICST'23

Heap Fuzzing: Automatic Garbage Collection  
Testing with Expert-Guided Random Events

1<sup>st</sup> Guillermo Polito  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pablo Tesone  
4<sup>th</sup> Nahuel Palumbo  
5<sup>th</sup> Stéphane Ducasse

*RMod*

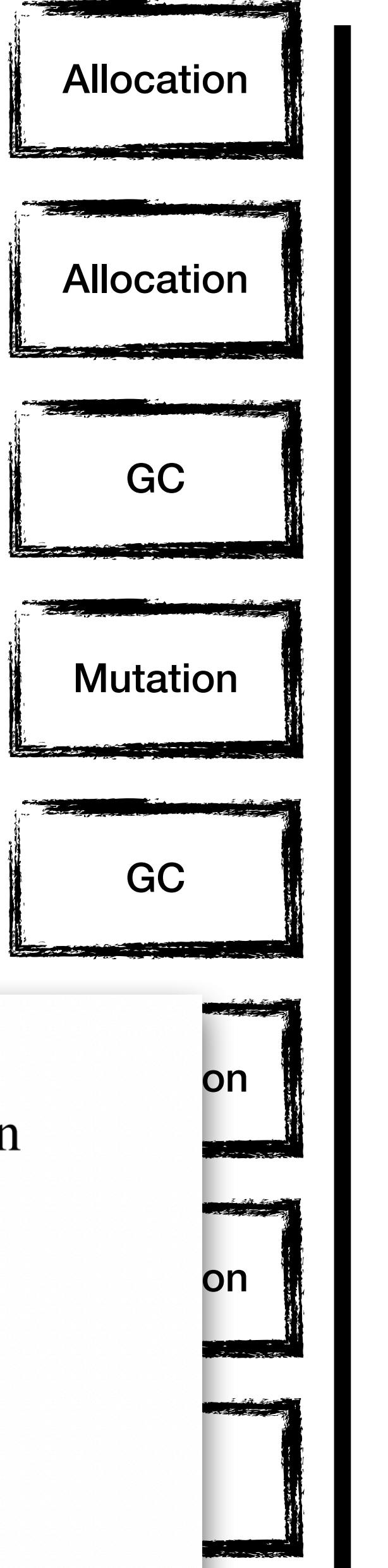
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*Abstract*—Producing robust memory manager implementations is a challenging task. Defects in garbage collection algorithms produce subtle effects that are revealed later in program execution as memory corruptions. This problem is exacerbated by the fact that garbage collection algorithms deal with low-level implementation details to be efficient. Finding, reproducing, and

provers [13], [27] and model checking [5], [29], [34]. Such approaches are heavy-weight to implement and execute, even at the expense of requiring specific techniques to optimize them [1] (See Section VI).

Existing fuzzing techniques applied to virtual machines (VMs) are slow (e.g., up to 10 minutes) [10].



# Interpreter-Guided Compiler Testing

```
1  Interpreter >> bytecodePrimAdd
2  | rcvr arg result |
3  rcvr := self internalStackValue: 1.
4  arg := self internalStackValue: 0.
5  (objectMemory areIntegers: rcvr and: arg) ifTrue: [
6    result := (objectMemory integerValueOf: rcvr) + (
7      objectMemory integerValueOf: arg).
8    "Check for overflow"
9    (objectMemory isIntegerValue: result) ifTrue: [
10      self
11        internalPop: 2
12        thenPush: (objectMemory integerObject:
13          ^ self fetchNextBytecode "success"]].
14  "Slow path, message send"
15  self normalSend
```

Argument 0 (type)	Argument 1(type)	Path
0 (integer)	0 (integer)	isInteger(arg0), isInteger(arg1), isInteger(arg1)
0xFFFFFFFF (integer)	1 (integer)	isInteger(arg0), isInteger(arg1), isNotInteger(arg1)
0 (integer)	object1 (object)	isInteger(arg0), isNotInteger(arg1)
object1 (object)	0 (integer)	isNotInteger(arg0), isInteger(arg1)
object1 (object)	object2 (object)	isNotInteger(arg0), isNotInteger(arg1)

1 ... # previous bytecode IR  
2 checkSmallInteger t0  
3 jumpzero notsmi  
4 checkSmallInteger t1  
5 jumpzero notsmi  
6 t2 := t0 + t1  
7 jumpIfNotOverflow continue  
8 notsmi: #slow case first send

PLDI'22

## Interpreter-Guided Differential JIT Compiler Testing

**Listing 1.** Excerpt of the byte-code interpreter implementing addition in the Pharo Virtual Machine

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# Material

- The Fuzzing Book. Fuzzer Chapter. A. Zeller et al  
<https://www.fuzzingbook.org/html/Fuzzer.html>
- Fuzzing – Brute Force Vulnerability Discovery.
- Fuzzing for Software Security and Quality Assurance.  
Takanen et al. 2018
- An Empirical Study of the Reliability of UNIX Utilities  
Miller et al. Communications of the ACM'90
- Fuzz project assignment  
<https://pages.cs.wisc.edu/~bart/fuzz/CS736-Projects-f1988.pdf>

# Material

- The Fuzzing Book. Grammars Chapter. A. Zeller et al  
<https://www.fuzzingbook.org/html/Grammars.html>
- Gnocco  
<https://github.com/Alamvic/gnocco/>

# Material

- The Oracle Problem in Software Testing: A Survey.  
Barr et al. IEEE Transactions.'15

# Material

- Differential Testing for Software. DIGITAL TECHNICAL JOURNAL, 1998.  
W. M. McKeeman.

■  
William M. McKeeman

## Differential Testing for Software

Differential testing, a form of random testing, is a component of a mature testing technology for large software systems. It complements regression testing based on commercial test suites and tests locally developed during product development and deployment. Differential testing requires that two or more comparable systems be available to the tester. These systems are presented with an exhaustive series of mechanically generated test cases. If (we might say when) the results differ or one of the systems loops indefinitely or crashes, the tester can quickly determine which system has

### The Testing Problem

Successful commercial computer systems contain tens of millions of lines of handwritten software, all of which is subject to change as competitive pressures motivate the addition of new features in each release. As a practical matter, quality is not a question of correctness, but rather of how many bugs are fixed and how few are introduced in the ongoing development process. If the bug count is increasing, the software is deteriorating.

### Quality

Testing is a major contributor to quality—it is the last chance for the developer to catch errors before they are released to the customer.

# Material

- The Fuzzing Book. Mutation Chapter. A. Zeller et al  
<https://www.fuzzingbook.org/html/MutationFuzzer.html>
- Binary Fuzzing Strategies in AFL – Blog  
<https://lcamtuf.blogspot.com/2014/08/binary-fuzzing-strategies-what-works.html>

# Building a Random Fuzzer

- Choose a random size
- Choose random chars in a range
- Build up a string
- + sensible default values

```
PzRandomFuzzer >> fuzz
| stringLength |
stringLength := random
nextIntegerBetween: minLength
and: maxLength + 1.
^ String streamContents: [ : str |
stringLength timesRepeat: [
str nextPut: (random
nextIntegerBetween: charStart asciiValue
and: charStart asciiValue + charRange)
asCharacter ] ]
```

# Analysis II

- Some inputs PASS but **do not respect the contract**

"Answer an instance of created from a string with format  
mm.dd.yyyy or mm-dd-yyyy or mm/dd/yyyy"

```
'?(2/-@=@:4?/(3$3(8"&,-2/&6&&' asDate.  
>> 4 February 2003
```

- Parser is too permissive
- Our runner is too permissive too => we should detect this as an error!

# Building a Runner

```
PzRunner>>>value: input
```

```
| result |
[ result := self basicRunOn: input ]
on: Error
do: [ :err |
(expectedException notNil
and: [ expectedException handles: err ])
ifTrue: [ ^ self expectedFailureWith: { input . err freeze} ].
^ self failureWith: { input . err freeze} ].
^ self successWith: { input . result}
```

# Building a Grammar Fuzzer

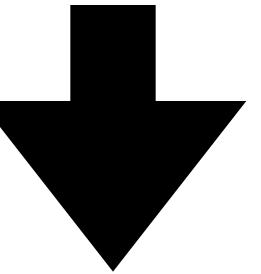
- Example, a number grammar

```
ntNumber --> ntDigit, ntNumber | ntDigit.  
ntDigit --> ($0 - $9).
```

# Desugarising into simple rules

- Example, a number grammar

```
ntNumber --> ntDigit, ntNumber | ntDigit.  
ntDigit --> ($0 - $9).
```



```
ntNumber --> ntDigit, ntNumber  
ntNumber --> ntDigit.  
ntDigit --> 0.  
ntDigit --> 1.  
...  
ntDigit --> 8.  
ntDigit --> 9.
```

# Modelling as a Composite Pattern

- Example, a number grammar

ntNumber --> ntDigit, ntNumber

ntNumber --> ntDigit.

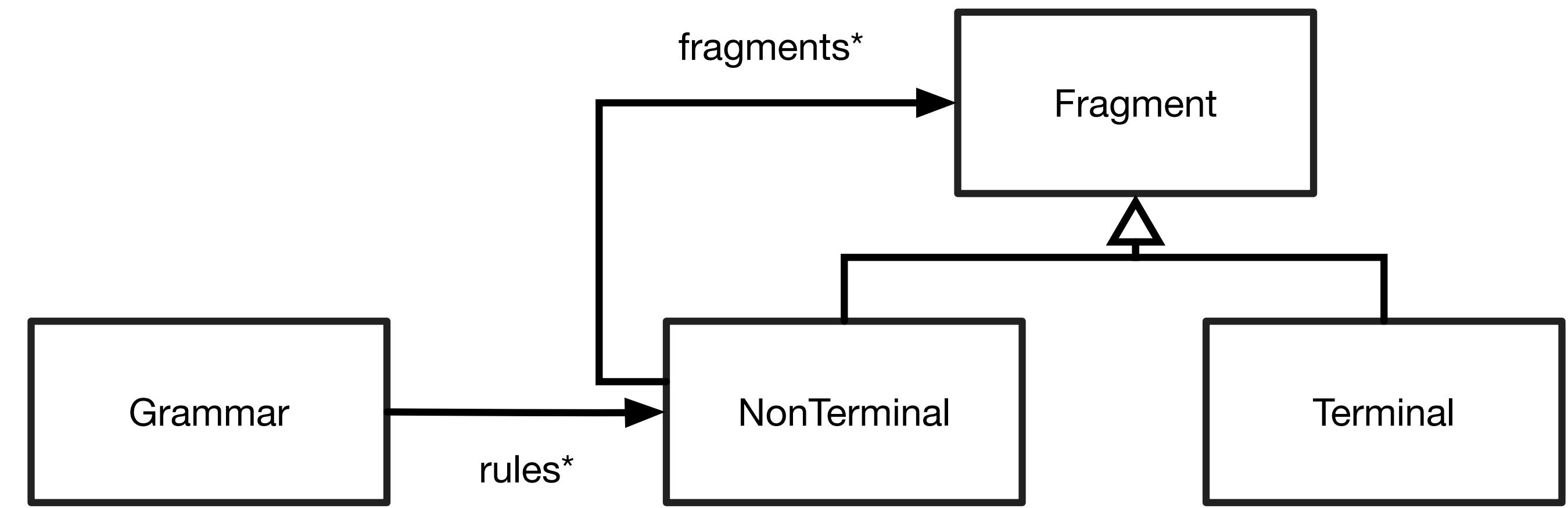
ntDigit --> 0.

ntDigit --> 1.

...

ntDigit --> 8.

ntDigit --> 9.



# Instantiating the Model

- Example, a number grammar

ntNumber --> ntDigit, ntNumber

ntNumber --> ntDigit.

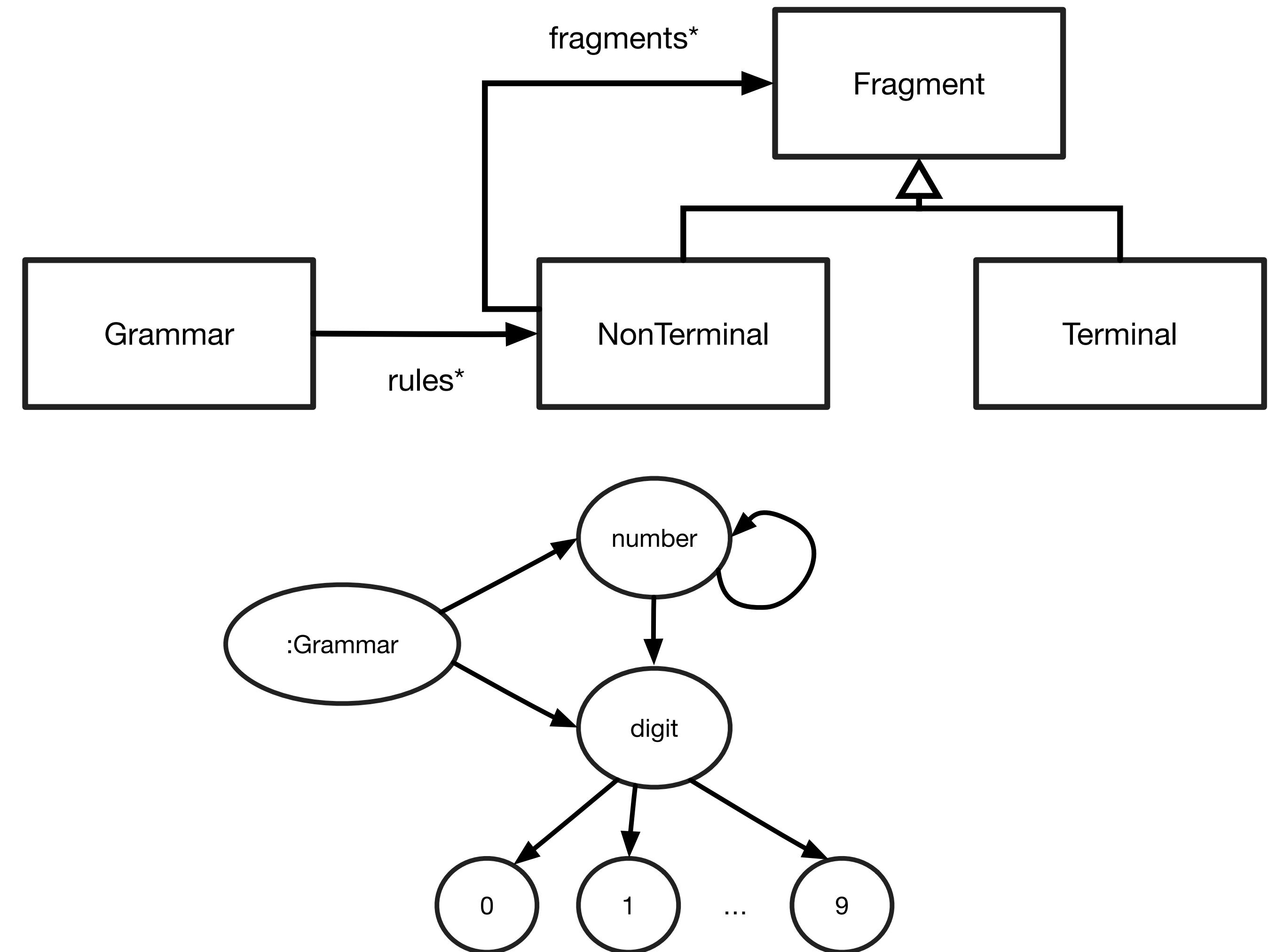
ntDigit --> 0.

ntDigit --> 1.

...

ntDigit --> 8.

ntDigit --> 9.



# Building a Differential Runner

```
PzDifferentialRunner>>value: input  
  
| resultA resultB |  
resultA := self runnerA value: input.  
resultB := self runnerB value: input.  
  
resultA first = resultB first ifTrue: [  
  ^ self successWith: { input . resultA . resultB } ].  
^ self failureWith: { input . resultA . resultB }
```

# Implementing a Mutation

```
PzDeleteCharacterMutation>>mutate: aString
| index |
index := aString size atRandom.
^ (aString copyFrom: 1 to: index - 1),
(aString copyFrom: index + 1 to: aString size)
```

# Building a String Mutation Fuzzer

```
PzMutationFuzzer>>fuzz
```

```
| mutationCandidate trials |
mutationCandidate := seed at: (random nextInteger: seed size).
trials := random nextIntegerBetween: minMutations and: maxMutations.
trials timesRepeat: [
    mutationCandidate := self mutate: mutationCandidate ].
^ mutationCandidate
```

```
PzMutationFuzzer>>mutate: mutationCandidate
```

```
| mutationIndex mutation |
mutationIndex := random nextInteger: mutations size.
mutation := mutations at: mutationIndex.
^ mutation mutate: mutationCandidate
```

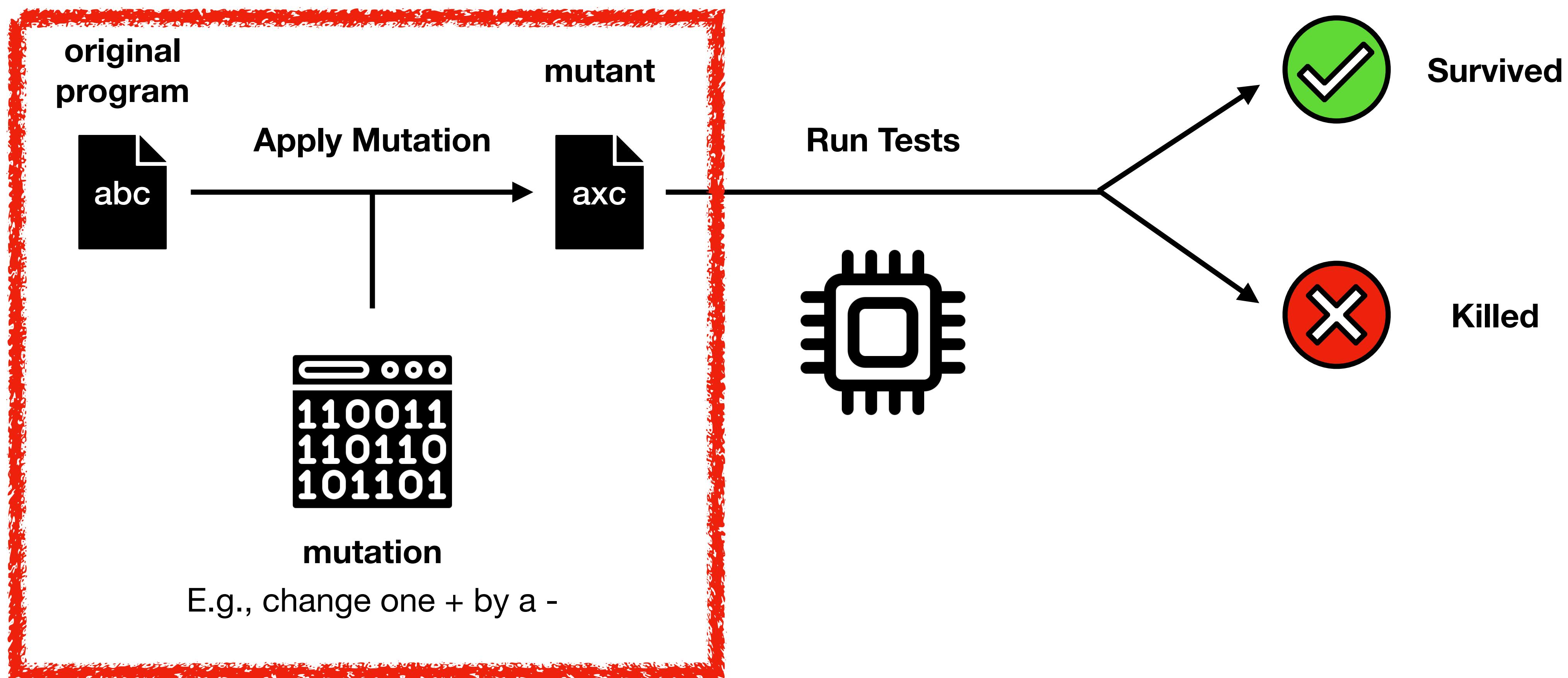
# Domain-specific mutations

- E.g., swap day and month

```
f := PzMutationFuzzer new
seed: { '00-11-22' };
mutations: { PzDayMonthSwapMutation new }
yourself.
```

- E.g., change the schema of a URL (http by ftp)
- E.g., change the a smic operator by another (+ by -)

# Remember Mutation Analysis



# Mutation Analysis vs Mutation Fuzzing

- **Mutation analysis** evaluates test suite *quality*
  - High Mutation Score => good tests
  - Surviving mutants => show missing tests, or are equivalent
- **Mutation fuzzing** creates small variants
  - There is no notion of score
  - Equivalent mutants could be valuable!