

# DifFuzz: Differential Fuzzing for Side-Channel Analysis



**Shirin Nilizadeh**



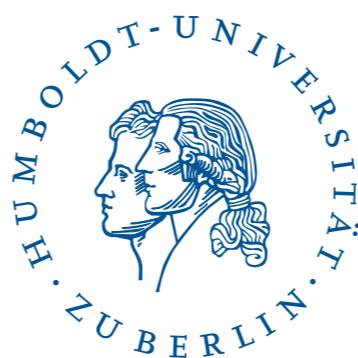
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ARLINGTON



# Side-Channel Analysis

- leakage of **secret** information
- **software** side-channels
- **observables**:
  - execution time,
  - memory consumption,
  - response size,
  - ...

# Example: Side-Channel Vulnerability

```
0 boolean pwcheck_unsafe (byte[] pub, byte[] sec) {
1     if (pub.length != sec.length) {
2         return false;
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4     for (int i = 0; i < pub.length; i++) {
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## Unsafe Password Checking

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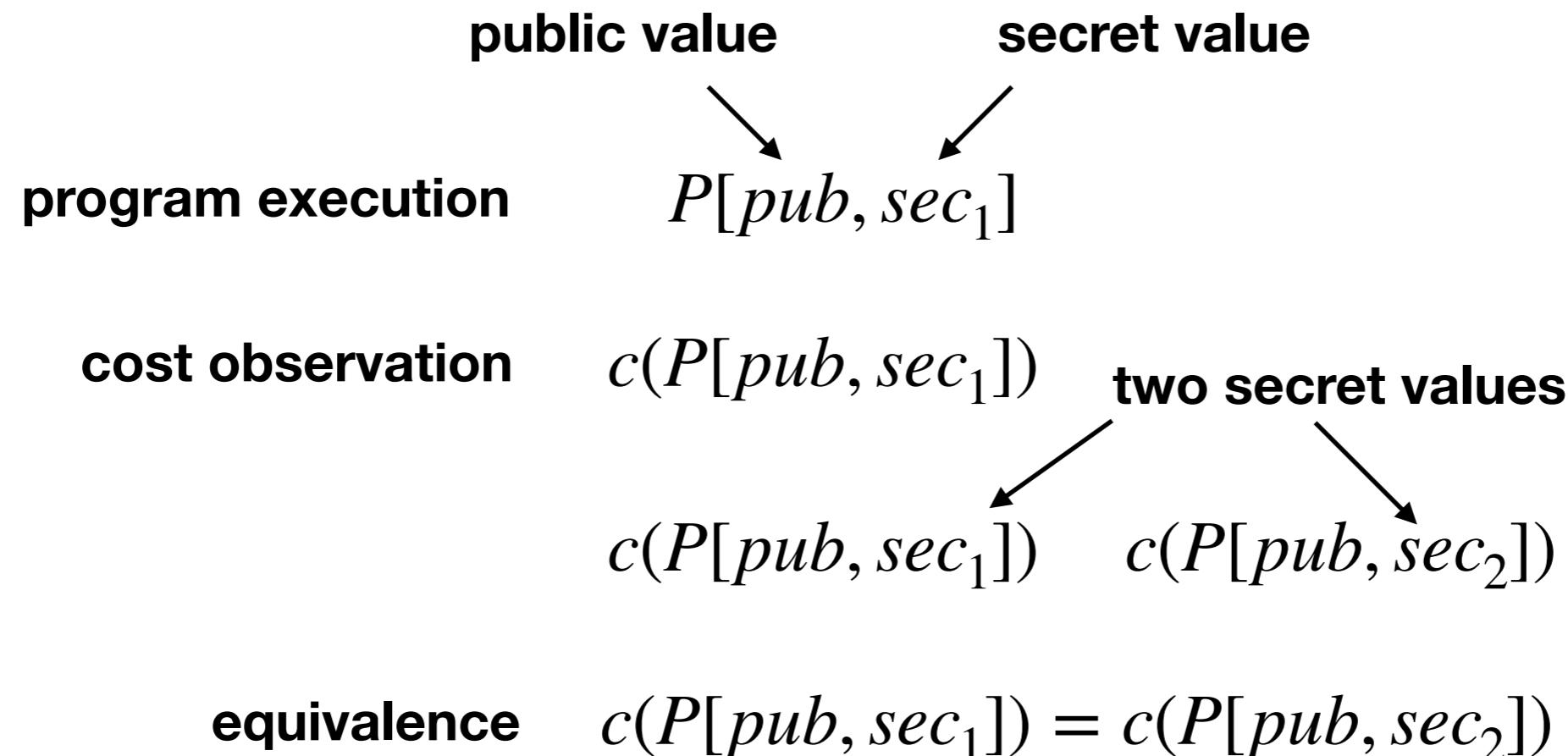
## Unsafe Password Checking

# Side-Channel Analysis

- *secure* if the secret data can not be inferred by an attacker through their observations of the system (aka *non-interference*)
- can be solved by self-composition [Barthe2004]

# Non-Interference by Self-Composition

[Barthe2004]



$$\forall \text{pub}, \text{sec}_1, \text{sec}_2 : c(P[\text{pub}, \text{sec}_1]) = c(P[\text{pub}, \text{sec}_2])$$

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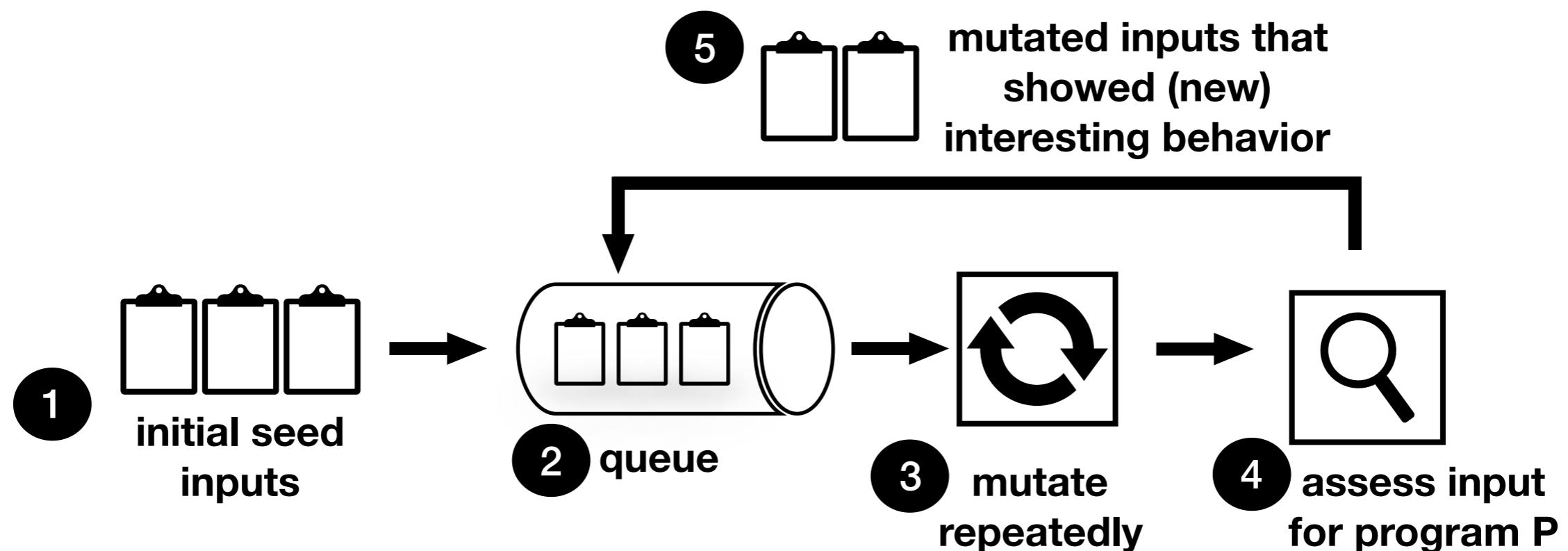
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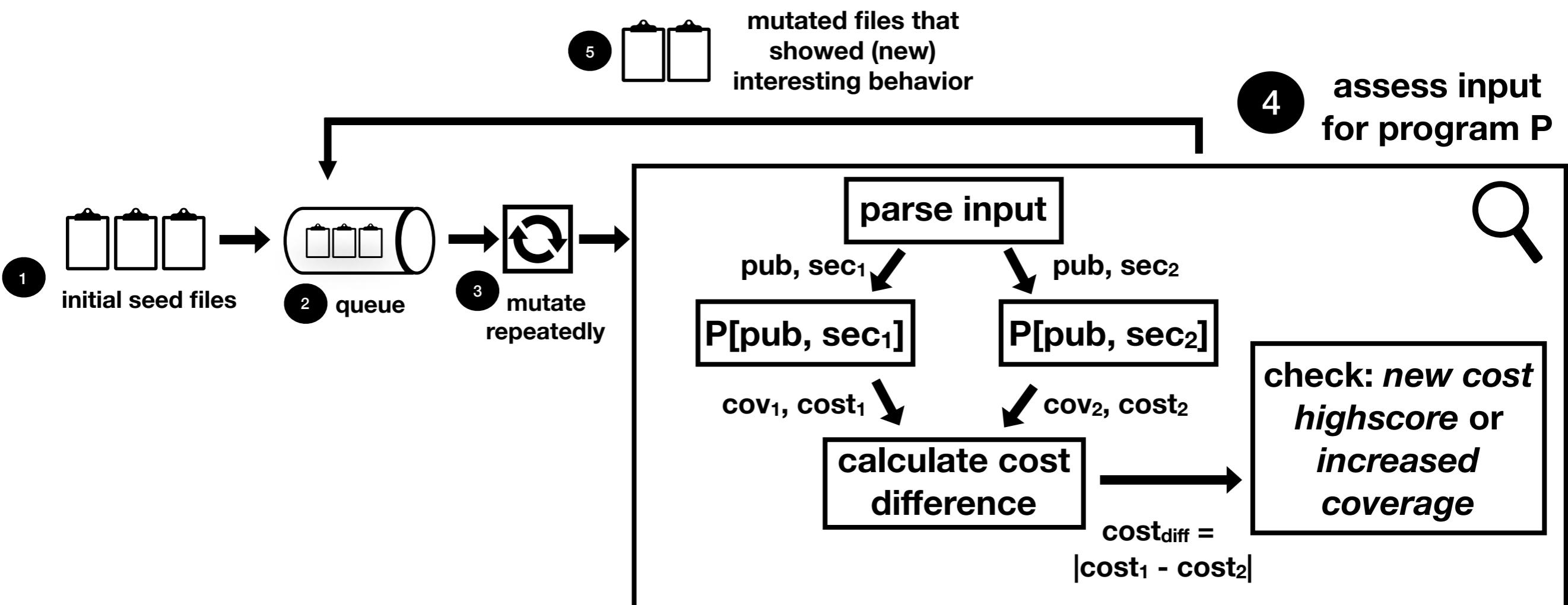
- $\varepsilon$ -bounded non-interference [Chen2017]

$$\forall \textit{pub}, \textit{sec}_1, \textit{sec}_2 : |c(P[\textit{pub}, \textit{sec}_1]) - c(P[\textit{pub}, \textit{sec}_2])| < \epsilon$$

# Differential Fuzzing for Side-Channel Analysis



# Input Assessment to find Side-Channel vulnerabilities



# Side-Channel Analysis

- can be solved by self-composition [Barthe2004]

$$\forall pub, sec_1, sec_2 : c(P[pub, sec_1]) = c(P[pub, sec_2])$$

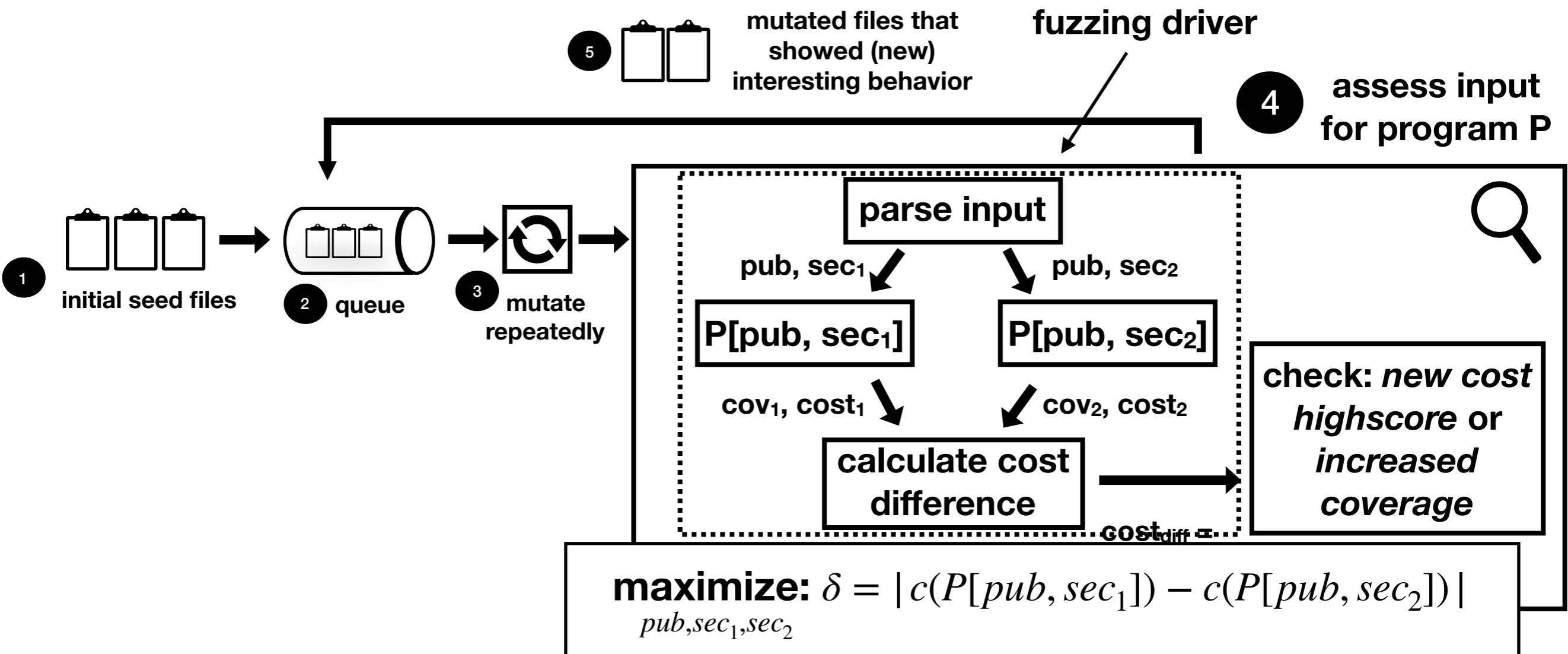
- $\varepsilon$ -bounded non-interference [Chen2017]

$$\forall pub, sec_1, sec_2 : |c(P[pub, sec_1]) - c(P[pub, sec_2])| < \epsilon$$

- differential fuzzing for side-channel analysis:

**maximize:**  $\delta = |c(P[pub, sec_1]) - c(P[pub, sec_2])|$   
 $pub, sec_1, sec_2$

# Differential Fuzzing for Side-Channel Analysis



# Differential Fuzzing Driver

```
1:  pub, sec1, sec2 ← parse(input, constraints)
2:  cost1 ← measure(P(pub, sec1) )
3:  cost2 ← measure(P(pub, sec2) )
4:  costDiff ← |cost1 - cost2|
5:  setUserDefinedCost(costDiff)
```

# Example

```
0 boolean pwcheck_unsafe (byte[] pub, byte[] sec) {  
1     if (pub.length != sec.length) {  
2         return false;  
3     }  
4     for (int i = 0; i < pub.length; i++) {  
5         if (pub[i] != sec[i]) {  
6             return false;  
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8     }  
9     return true;  
10 }
```

## Unsafe Password Checking

**timing side-channel: measured by number of instructions executed**

# Example Results

**Initial Input:  $\text{cost}_{\text{Diff}} = 0$**

```
secret1 = [ 72, 101, 108, 108, 111, 32, 67]
secret2 = [ 97, 114, 110, 101, 103, 105, 101]
public   = [ 32, 77, 101, 108, 108, 111, 110]
```

**$\text{cost}_{\text{Diff}} > 0$  after  $\sim 5$  sec**

**Input with highscore  $\text{cost}_{\text{Diff}} = 47$  after  $\sim 69$  sec  
(maximum length = 16 bytes):**

```
secret1 = [ 72, 77, -16, -66, -48, -48, -48, -48, -28, 0, 100, 0, 0, 0, 0, -48]
secret2 = [ -48, -4, -48, 7, 17, 0, -24, -48, -48, 16, -48, -3, 108, 72, 32, 0]
public   = [ -48, -4, -48, 7, 17, 0, -24, -48, -48, 16, -48, -3, 108, 72, 32, 0]
```

# Experiments

- build on top of **AFL** [AFL, Kersten2017, Noller2018]
- **Blazer** [Antonopoulos2017]
- **Themis** [Chen2017]
- and more projects from **GitHub** and **STAC** [DARPA2018]
- runtime: 30min

# RQ1: Effectiveness

## Blazer

Benchmark	Subject	Version	Average $\delta$	Std. Error	Maximum
MicroBench	Array	Safe	1.00	0.00	1
		Unsafe	192.00	2.68	195
	<i>LoopAndbranch</i>	Safe	1,468,212,312.40	719,375,479.77	4,278,268,7
		Unsafe	4,283,404,852.40	4,450,278.15	4,294,838.7
	Sanity	Safe	0.00	0.00	0
		Unsafe	4,213,237,198.00	60,857,888.00	4,290,510.8
	Straightline	Safe	0.00	0.00	0
		Unsafe	8.00	0.00	8
	unixlogin	Safe	3.00	0.00	3
		Unsafe	2,880,000,008.00	286,216,701.00	3,200,000,0
STAC	modPow1	Safe	0.00	0.00	0
		Unsafe	2,576.00	168.21	3,068
	modPow2	Safe	0.00	0.00	0
		Unsafe	1,471.00	891.00	5,206
	passwordEq	Safe	0.00	0.00	0
		Unsafe	86.40	20.31	127
Literature	k96	Safe	0.00	0.00	0
		Unsafe	338.00	185.13	3,087,339
	<i>gpt14</i>	Safe	163.20	79.84	517
		Unsafe	6,673,760.00	2,211,811.00	12,965,890
	login	Safe	0.00	0.00	0
		Unsafe	62.00	0.00	62

# RQ1: Effectiveness

<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>DifFuzz</b>			<b>Themis</b>	
		<b>Average <math>\delta</math></b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b><math>\epsilon = 64</math></b>	<b><math>\epsilon = 0</math></b>
Spring-Security	Safe	1.00	0.00	1	✓	✓
	Unsafe	149.00	0.00	149	✓	✓
JDK-MsgDigest	Safe	1.00	0.00	1	✓	✓
	Unsafe	10.215.00	6.120.00	34.479	✓	✓
Picketbox	Safe	1.00	0.00	1	✓	X
	Unsafe	4.954.00	1.295	8.794	✓	✓
<i>Tomcat</i>	Safe	12.20	1.61	14	✓	X
	Unsafe	33.20	3.40	37	✓	✓
<i>Jetty</i>	Safe	5454.00	1330.88	8898	✓	✓
	Unsafe	10786.60	2807.51	16020	✓	✓
oriented	Safe	6.00	0.00	6	✓	X
	Unsafe	6.604.00	3.681	19.300	✓	✓
<i>pac4j</i>	Safe	10.00	0.00	10	✓	X
	Unsafe	11.00	0.00	11	✓	✓
	Unsafe*	39.00	0.00	39	-	-
boot-auth	Safe	5.00	0.00	5	✓	X
	Unsafe	101.00	0.00	101	✓	✓
tourPlanner	Safe	0.00	0.00	0	✓	✓
	Unsafe	522.40	18.60	576	✓	✓
DynaTable	Unsafe	95.80	0.44	97	✓	✓
Advanced table	Unsafe	92.40	1.54	97	✓	✓
OpenMRS	Unsafe	206.00	0.00	206	✓	✓
OACC	Unsafe	47.00	0.00	47	✓	✓

# RQ1: Effectiveness

Benchmark	Subject	Version	Average $\delta$	Std. Error	Maximum
STAC	CRIME	Unsafe	295.40	117.05	782
	ibasys	Unsafe	191.00	20.88	262
Zero-day Vulnerabilities	Apache ftpserver Clear	Unsafe	47.00	0.00	1
	Apache ftpserver MD5	Unsafe	151.00	0.00	151
	Apache ftpserver SaltedPW	Unsafe	178.80	5.13	193
	Apache ftpserver StringUtils	Unsafe	53.00	0.00	53
	AuthmeReloaded	Unsafe	383.00	0.00	383

# RQ2: Analysis Time

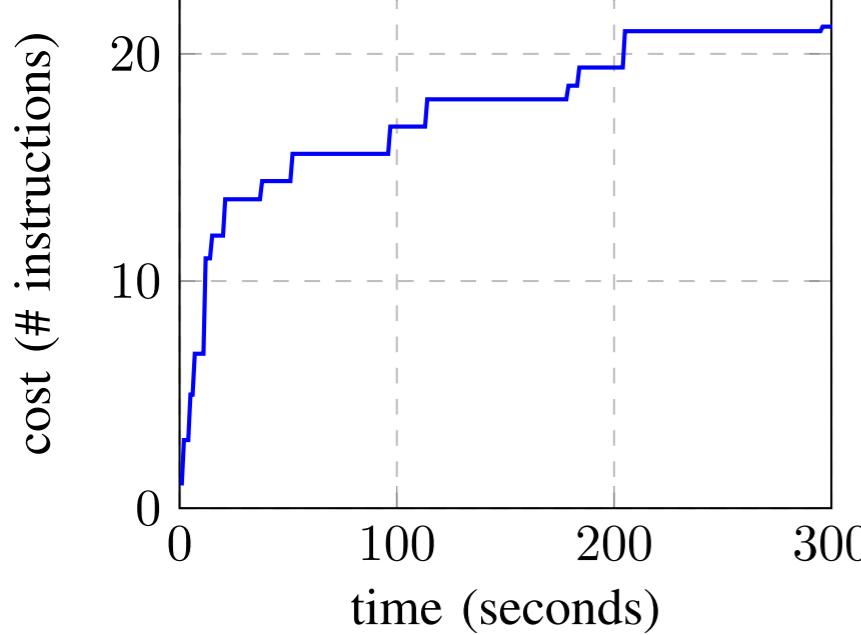
<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>Time (sec)</b>		
			<b>DifFuzz <math>\delta &gt; 0</math></b>	<b>Blazer</b>	<b>Themis</b>
MicroBench	Array	Safe	7.40 (+/- 1.21)	1.60	0.28
		Unsafe	7.40 (+/- 0.93)	0.16	0.23
	LoopAndbranch	Safe	18.60 (+/- 6.40)	0.23	0.33
		Unsafe	10.60 (+/- 2.62)	0.65	0.16
	Sanity	Safe	-	0.63	0.41
		Unsafe	163 (+/- 40.63)	0.30	0.17
	Straightline	Safe	-	0.21	0.49
		Unsafe	14.60 (+/- 6.53)	22.20	5.30
	unixlogin	Safe	510.00 (+/- 91.18)	0.86	-
		Unsafe	464.20 (+/- 64.61)	0.77	-
STAC	modPow1	Safe	-	1.47	0.61
		Unsafe	4.80 (+/- 1.11)	218.54	14.16
	modPow2	Safe	-	1.62	0.75
		Unsafe	23.00 (+/- 3.48)	7813.68	141.36
	passwordEq	Safe	-	2.70	1.10
		Unsafe	8.60 (+/- 2.11)	1.30	0.39
Literature	k96	Safe	-	0.70	0.61
		Unsafe	3.40 (+/- 0.98)	1.29	0.54
	gpt14	Safe	4.20 (+/- 0.80)	1.43	0.46
		Unsafe	4.40 (+/- 1.03)	219.30	1.25
	login	Safe	-	1.77	0.54
		Unsafe	10.00 (+/- 2.92)	1.79	0.70

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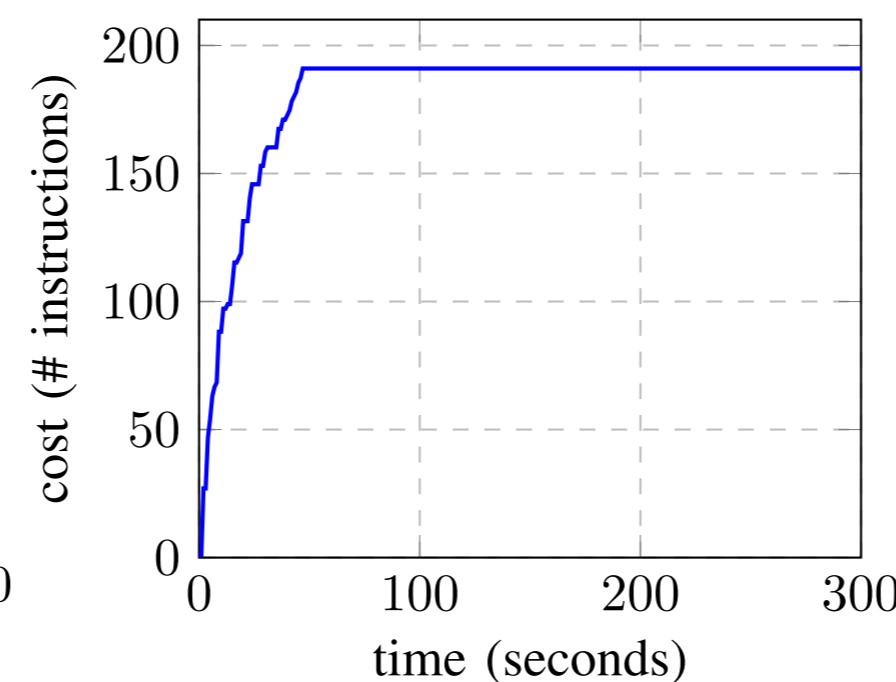
<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>Time (sec)</b>	<b>Themis</b>
		<b>DifFuzz <math>\delta &gt; 0</math></b>	
Spring-Security	Safe	9.00 (+/- 1.26)	1.70
	Unsafe	8.80 (+/- 1.16)	1.09
JDK-MsgDigest	Safe	15.80 (+/- 3.93)	1.27
	Unsafe	7.40 (+/- 1.29)	1.33
Picketbox	Safe	29.20 (+/- 5.00)	1.79
	Unsafe	16.80 (+/- 2.58)	1.79
Tomcat	Safe	13.80 (+/- 1.29)	9.93
	Unsafe	128.60 (+/- 87.20)	8.64
Jetty	Safe	9.40 (+/- 1.86)	2.50
	Unsafe	7.00 (+/- 1.05)	2.07
oriented	Safe	3.20 (+/- 0.97)	37.99
	Unsafe	3.00 (+/- 0.84)	38.09
pac4j	Safe	5.00 (+/- 1.22)	3.97
	Unsafe	8.00 (+/- 2.76)	1.85
	Unsafe*	10.80 (+/- 5.80)	-
boot-auth	Safe	5.20 (+/- 0.20)	9.12
	Unsafe	5.20 (+/- 0.20)	8.31
tourPlanner	Safe	-	22.22
	Unsafe	19.20 (+/- 0.80)	22.01
DynaTable	Unsafe	3.60 (+/- 1.21)	1.165
Advanced table	Unsafe	11.20 (+/- 1.62)	2.01
OpenMRS	Unsafe	11.60 (+/- 3.22)	9.71
OACC	Unsafe	7.00 (+/- 1.30)	1.83

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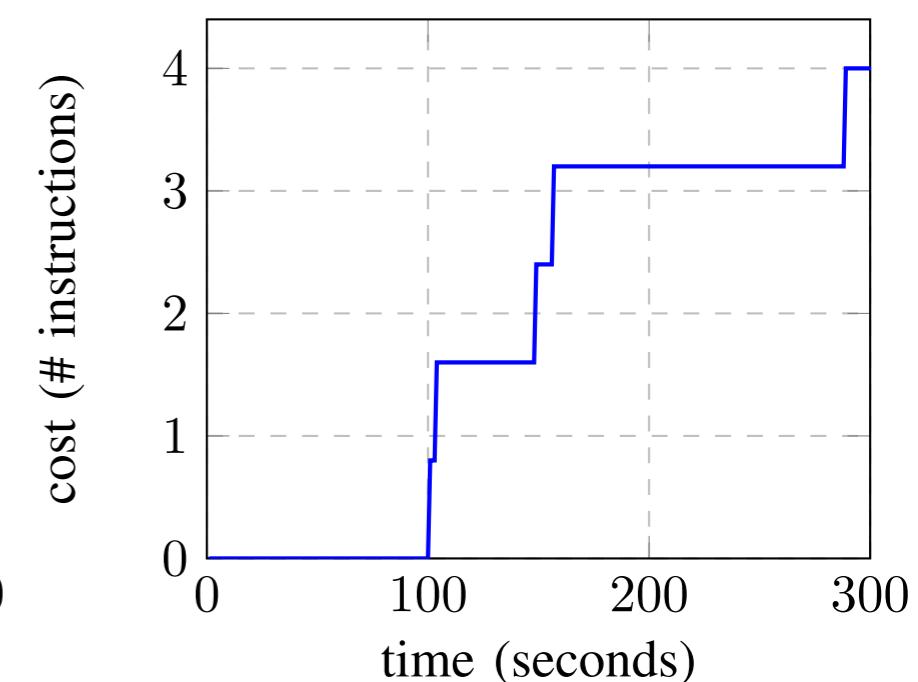
*orientdb*



*IBASys*



*LoopAndbranch*



# DifFuzz: Differential Fuzzing for Side-Channel Analysis

## Example: Side-Channel Vulnerability

```

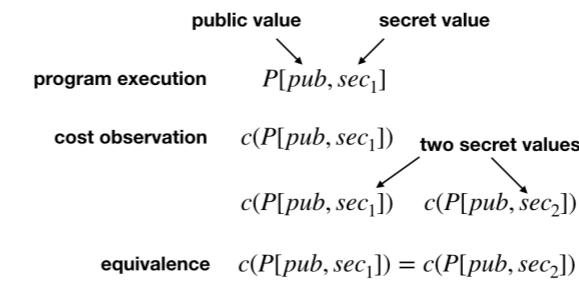
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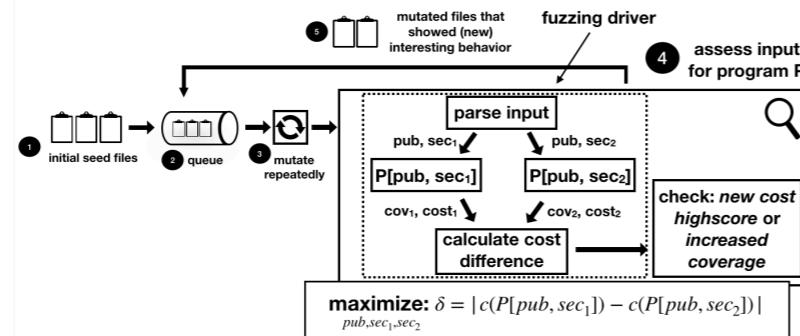
Unsafe Password Checking

## Non-Interference by Self-Composition

[Barthe2004]



## Differential Fuzzing for Side-Channel Analysis



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git clone <https://github.com/isstac/diffuzz.git>



# References

- [AFL]** Website. american fuzzy lop (AFL). <http://lcamtuf.coredump.cx/afl/>.
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