

Dr. Marcel Böhme

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Summary

Marcel Böhme is a faculty member at the Max Planck Institute for Security and Privacy (MPI-SP) in Germany where he leads the Software Security research group. His group has made foundational contributions to fuzzing which has become one of the most successful techniques for the automatic discovery of security flaws in practice. The technology developed in his group has been widely deployed in industry where it is continuously squashing security bugs in thousands of security-critical projects on hundreds of thousands of machines. Marcel serves as a representative of research group leads (RGL Speaker) for one of three sections (CPTS) at the Max Planck Society, as a Guest Editor-in-Chief and Associate Editor of the ACM TOSEM journal and on the steering committees of ASE and ISSTA, two of the largest, premier conferences in his area. He is a 2025 ACM Distinguished Member and won a 2024 ERC Consolidator grant, a 2024 NUS Outstanding Computing Alumni Award, a 2019 ARC DECRA (Australia's ERC Starting), a 2019 Google Faculty Research Award, and several ACM Distinguished Paper awards, spotlights, and highlights at the premier publication venues for security and software engineering. Marcel received his PhD at the National University of Singapore (NUS) in Singapore.

Professional Appointments

Sep 2021 – **Faculty Member**
Ongoing Max Planck Institute for Security and Privacy, Germany

Mar 2018 – **Adjunct Senior Research Fellow**
Aug 2025 ← **Senior Lecturer**
← **Lecturer**
Faculty of Information Technology
Monash University, Australia

Jul 2015 – **Senior Research Fellow**
Feb 2018 ← **Research Fellow**
School of Computing
National University of Singapore, Singapore

Jul 2014 – **Research Fellow**
Jun 2015 CISPA and Saarland University
Saarbrücken, Germany

Education

2014 **PhD in Computer Science**, National University of Singapore, Singapore
(GPA 4.9/5.0; Advisor: Abhik Rouchoudhury)

2009 **Dipl.-Inf (BSc & MSc) in Computer Science**, Technische Universität Dresden
(Advisor: Uwe Aßmann; Minor in Robotics and Process Automation)

Awards & Honors

- 🏆 **ACM Distinguished Member (2025)**
For contributions in Software Security and Fuzz Testing.
- 🏆 **ERC Consolidator Award (2024)**
Highest distinction for a mid-career researcher in Europe.
- 🏆 **NUS Outstanding Young Computing Alumni Award (2022)**
Recognition of NUS alumni who have brought honour to the University/School.
- 🏆 **ARC Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (2019)**
Highest distinction for an early-career researcher in Australia.

Peer Esteem

- 🏆 **Keynote Speaker @ ICST (2026)**
- 🏆 **Keynote Speaker @ ISEC (2026)**
- 🏆 **ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award @ ISSTA (2025)**
- 🏆 **Spotlight Paper @ ICLR (2025)**
- 🏆 **Keynote Speaker @ SBFT (2025)**
- 🏆 **Keynote Speaker @ RAID (2024)**
Invited as opinion piece @ IEEE Security and Privacy (Vol. 23; Issue 3).
- 🏆 **ACM SIGSAC Distinguished Paper Award @ CCS (2024)**
- 🏆 **CACM Research Highlight (2023)**
CACM is the monthly journal sent to all members of the ACM.
- 🏆 **Google Open Source Peer Award (2023)**
- 🏆 **ACM SIGSOFT Research Highlight (2021)**
- 🏆 **ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award @ ICSE (2020)**
- 🏆 **ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award @ FSE (2020)**
- 🏆 **Monash Dean's Award for Research Excellence (ECR) (2019)**
- 🏆 **Google Faculty Research Award (2019)**
- 🏆 **Universität des Saarlandes Best Seminar in Computer Science (2014/15)**
- 🏆 **NUS Research Achievement Award (2013)**
- 🏆 **NUS Certificate of Appreciation (2010/11)**
- 🏆 **Distinguished Reviewer Awards @ ICSE'25, CCS'23, ICSE'23, ICST'22**

Invitations to Expert Panels

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2025 | CASA Summer School w/ Elissa Redmiles (Georgetown U), Konrad Rieck (TU Berlin), Marco Lorenzi (Inria), Thomas Schneider (TU Dortmund). |
| 2025 | SBFT Panel of Experts w/ P. Krishnan (Oracle), A. Arrieta (Mondragon U), and A. Crump (CISPA). |
| 2025 | ERC Mock Interview Panel w/ F. Sarro (UCL), P. Tonella (USI), and C. Cadar (Imperial College). |
| 2024 | NUS Fuzzing Summer School with Abhishek Aarya (Google), Mathias Payer (EPFL), Van-Thuan Pham (Melbourne U), and Andreas Zeller (CISPA). |

- 2023 **EPFL SuRI Summer School** with Henry Corrigan-Gibbs (MIT), Minlan Yu (Harvard), Davide Balzarotti (EURECOM), Alessandra Gorla (IMDEA), Keith Winstein (Stanford) and others.
- 2023 **It Will Never Work in Theory** with Prem Devanbu (UC Davis), Shurui Zhou (U of Toronto), Alexander Serebrenik (TU Eindhoven), Ariana Mirian (UCSD) and others. ▶ [Youtube](#)
- 2022 **Search-based Software Testing (SBST) Panel of Experts** with Andreas Zeller (Saarland/CISPA), Lionel Briand (Luxembourg), Mark Harmann (UCL/Meta), Myra Cohen (Iowa) & P. Tonella (USI).
- 2022 **University of Zürich IFI Colloquium** with Reid Holmes (UBC) and others.
- 2021 **Microsoft DS3 Panel on Fuzzing** with Justin Campbell (Principal SE; Fuzzing @ Microsoft) and Kostya Serebryany (Principal SE; Dynamic Tools @ Google) ▶ [Youtube](#)
- 2021 **ISSTA Discussion with Experts** with Mathias Payer (EPFL)
- 2021 **ISSTA Summer School** with Eric Bodden (Paderborn / Fraunhofer IEM), Claire Le Goues (CMU), Satish Chandra (Meta), and Andreas Rossberg (Dfinity) ▶ [Youtube](#)
- 2021 **ETH Zürich, Workshop on Dependendable and Secure Software Systems** with Deepak Gark (MPI-SWS), George Candea (EPFL), Ninging Xie (Cambridge), Justin Gottschlich (Intel), Byron Cook (Amazon), Nadia Polikarpova (UCSD), and Anders Miltner (UT Austin)
- 2020 **FuzzCon Europe** with Caroline Lemieux (UC Berkeley), Christian Holler (Mozilla), Kostya Serebryany (Google), Andreas Zeller (Saarland/CISPA), Rakshith Amarnath (Bosch) and others.

Invited Talks and Guest Lectures

- 2022 Guest Lecture on *When to Stop Fuzzing* (Live Programming), Saarland Uni / CISPA, Germany; hosted by Andreas Zeller.
- 2022 Guest Lecture on *Foundations of Software Testing*, U of Oulu, Finland; hosted by Burak Turhan
- 2022 Guest Lecture on *The Curious Case of Fuzzing for Automated Software Testing*, RUB, Germany (Tag der Informatik); hosted by the Dean of the Faculty of Computer Science, Alex May.
- 2022 Invited Talk on the *Reliability of Coverage-Based Fuzzer Benchmarking*, ETH Zürich, Switzerland; hosted by Z. Su.
- 2022 Invited Talk on the *Reliability of Coverage-Based Fuzzer Benchmarking*, UZH Zürich, Switzerland; hosted by A. Bacchelli.
- 2021 Guest Lecture on *Academic Career Planning for Early Career Researchers*, NUS, Singapore; hosted by A. Roychoudhury
- 2021 Guest Lecture on *Foundations of Software Testing*, ISSTA Summer School, Virtual, hosted by Frank Tip (IBM).
- 2020 Invited Talk on *Software Testing as Species Discovery*, MPI-SWS, Germany; hosted by Gilles Barthe
- 2018 Invited Talk on *Software Testing as Species Discovery*, COINSE, KAIST, Korea; hosted by Shin Yoo
- 2018 Invited Talk on *Software Testing as Species Discovery*, TSUNAMi, NUS, Singapore; hosted by A. Roychoudhury
- 2015 Invited Talk on *On the Efficiency of Automated Testing*, U of Darmstadt, Germany; hosted by M. Pradel
- 2015 Invited Talk on *On the Efficiency of Automated Testing*, CREST, University College London, UK; hosted by D. Clark
- 2015 Invited Talk on *On the Efficiency of Automated Testing*, Nanyang Technical University, Singapore; hosted by Liu Yang
- 2015 Invited Talk on *On the Efficiency of Automated Testing*, Singapore University of Technology & Design; hosted by Sun Jun

Grants & Fellowships

- 2M EUR Single-PI, European Research Council. "In-vivo Security Analysis at Scale", **Consolidator grant**.
- 678k AUD (419k EUR) Single-PI, Australian Research Council. "Fortifying Our Digital Economy: Advanced Automated Vulnerability Discovery", **Discovery Early Career Researcher Award** (ARC DECRA Fellow).
- 850k EUR Co-PI (1/42), Deutsche Forschungsgesellschaft (DFG), "Cyber Security in the Age of Large-Scale Adversaries (CASA 2.0)", **DFG Excellence Cluster** (Total: 35M EUR).
- 571k AUD (353k EUR) Co-Pi (w/ Prof Abhik Roychoudhury), a Singapore Government Agency, "FuzzInfer: Fuzzing Protocol Implementations"

58k USD (48k EUR)	Single-PI, Google, “Pushing the Coverage Frontier when Fuzzing Progress is Stalled”, Google Faculty Research Award
20k EUR	Mentor on the FNR CORE Junior Grant (PI: Dr Ezekiel Soremekun) at the Uni. Luxembourg, “GTDebug: Ground Truth-Based Program Debugging” (Total: 634k EUR)
20k AUD (12k EUR)	PI (w/ Prof Andreas Zeller), DAAD and Universities Australia, “Learning to Discover Security Flaws in Stateful Programs”
2x PhD positions	Co-PI with Konrad Rieck and Kevin Borgolte, CASA Fundamental Research Project, “Testing and Explaining the Limits of Machine Learning For Automated Vulnerability Discovery”

Open Science

I lead my group with an [Open Science and Reproducibility Policy](#), which includes publishing the experimental infrastructure, tools, data, and the scripts to produce tables and figures. Most of the published repositories continue to be actively maintained by the community and receive external contributions. Apart from this group-level policy, I am also actively involved in community efforts to promote preregistration and artifact evaluation as a way to improve the soundness and reproducibility of our empirical evaluations as well as the soundness of our peer review process.

For instance, I am leading a grassroots initiative to introduce a [novel preregistration-based publication process](#) for fuzzing research that consists of two main stages: In the first stage, the program committee (PC) evaluates all submissions based on: (i) the significance and novelty of the hypotheses or techniques and (ii) the soundness and reproducibility of the methodology specified to validate the claims or hypotheses—but explicitly not based on the strength of the (preliminary) results. These draft registered reports are presented and improved at the [FUZZING’22](#) workshop. After the workshop, the final versions of the registered reports are re-checked and approved by the PC. In the second stage, the PC and the Artifact Evaluation Committee (AEC) check whether the experimental methodology as laid out by the authors was correctly followed. I am excited that the outcome of this stage will be published in the [ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology \(TOSEM\)](#) via the Preregistration track (which I have been invited to establish assisting Cristian Cadar).

Open-source Software

2025	AFLLive [ICSE’25] A fuzzer that can be injected into any program to amplify actual executions. Artifact Evaluation Committee evaluated our artifact as Available , Functional , and Reusable . 📄 github.com/OctavioGalland/afllive MendelFuzz [FSE’25] A fuzzer that uses minimal corruption of the initial seed for more efficiency. Artifact Evaluation Committee evaluated our artifact as Available , Functional , and Reproduced . 📄 github.com/HexHive/MendelFuzz-Artifact
2024	ChatAFL [NDSS’24] An LLM-based protocol fuzzer based on AFLNet. 📄 10.5281/zenodo.8378945 📄 github.com/ChatAFLndss/ChatAFL LMTest [CCS’24] A tool that finds side-channels in crypto implementations running on future microarchitectures. 📄 github.com/hw-sw-contracts/leakage-model-testing

- 2023 **Rete+PSP and Mythril+PSP** [ASE'23]
Integration of precise data-driven approximation of the valid state space into various static analyses.
📦 [10.5281/zenodo.7902214](https://zenodo.org/record/7902214) (tools, data)
- 2022 **SGFuzz** [CCS'22]
A stateful greybox fuzzer that keeps track of the explored state space by using state variables and values.
📦 github.com/bajinsheng/SGFuzz
- Grammar2Fix** [ISSTA'22]
A human-in-the-loop oracle learner for semantic bugs in string processing programs.
📦 github.com/charakageethal/grammar2fix
- 2021 **AFLChurn** [CCS'21]
A greybox fuzzer for regression bugs that focusses on code that has been changed more often / recently.
📦 www.kaggle.com/marcelbhme/aflchurn-ccs21 (data and analysis scripts)
📦 github.com/aflchurn/aflchurn
- 2020 **Entropic** [ESEC/FSE'20]
A greybox fuzzer that maximizes the information about the program's behavior per generated input.
📦 [10.6084/m9.figshare.12415622](https://zenodo.org/record/12415622/files/m9.figshare) (tool, data, analysis scripts)
📦 github.com/llvm/llvm-project (Been made the default power schedule in LibFuzzer)
📦 github.com/google/clusterfuzz (Been integrated into OSS-Fuzz and Clusterfuzz, finding security flaws in 500+ open source programs and the Chrome browser)
- TimeMachine** [ICSE'20-1]
Android Fuzzer that restores the most progressive previously visited state once progress is slow.
📦 [10.5281/zenodo.3672076](https://zenodo.org/record/3672076/files) (tool, benchmarks, experimental infrastructure, data, analysis scripts)
📦 github.com/DroidTest/TimeMachine
- HyDiff** [ICSE'20-2]
Differential analysis (e.g., to find regressions, side-channels, or adversarial examples).
📦 [10.5281/zenodo.3627893](https://zenodo.org/record/3627893/files) (tool, benchmarks, data, analysis scripts)
📦 github.com/yannicoller/hydiff
- Learn2Fix** [ICST'20-1]
A human-in-the-loop automatic program repair tool for semantic bugs in number-processing programs.
📦 github.com/mboehme/learn2fix (Original tool and data)
📦 github.com/charakageethal/learn2fix-journal-ext/ (Journal extension tool and data)
- AFLNet** [ICST'20-2, TSE'25]
A network-enabled greybox fuzzer that maximizes coverage of a protocol's code and state space.
📦 github.com/aflnet/aflnet
- Defect Prediction Guided Fuzzer** [ASE'20]
A search-based fuzzer for Java that is guided towards program locations that are more likely defective.
📦 github.com/SBST-DPG
- 2019 **AFLSmart** [TSE'19]
An input-structure aware greybox fuzzer to fuzz program that take structured inputs.
📖 Reimplemented as interactive book chapter in the Fuzzing Book ([Greybox Fuzzing with Grammars](#))
📦 github.com/aflsmart/aflsmart
- 2018 **Pythia** [TOSEM'18]
A greybox fuzzer that can estimate the total coverage and the probability of increasing coverage.
📖 Reimplemented as interactive book chapter in the Fuzzing Book ([When to Stop Fuzzing](#))
📦 github.com/mboehme/pythia
- 2017 **AFLGo** [CCS'17]
A directed greybox fuzzer that can steer the test input generation towards a given set of targets.
📖 Reimplemented as interactive book chapter in the Fuzzing Book ([Greybox Fuzzing](#))
📦 github.com/aflgo/aflgo

DbgBench [ESEC/FSE'17]

A human-annotated benchmark for automated software testing, debugging, and repair.

📄 **Poster:** How Developers Debug Software The DBGBENCH Dataset

📄 dbgbench.github.io/

2016

AFLFast [CCS'16, TSE'18]

A greybox fuzzer that used to outperform the state-of-the-art by an order of magnitude.

📄 Reimplemented as interactive book chapter in the Fuzzing Book ([Greybox Fuzzing](#))

📄 github.com/mboehme/aflfast

2014

CoREBench [ISSTA'14]

A benchmark for automated software testing, debugging, and repair of regression errors.

📄 [www.comp.nus.edu.sg/ release/corebench/](http://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/release/corebench/)

Open Data and Analysis

2025

Top Score on the Wrong Exam Data [ISSTA'25]

Benchmark datasets, analysis scripts, figures

📄 github.com/niklasrisse/TopScoreWrongExam

Accounting for Missing Events in Statistical Information Leakage Analysis [ICSE'25]

Prototype, experimental setup, and results

Artifact Evaluation Committee evaluated our artifact as **Available** and **Functional**.

📄 github.com/nimgnoseeL/ChaoMI

How Much is Unseen Depends Chiefly on Information About the Seen Data [ICLR'25]

All data, scripts, and figures

📄 [github.com/https://github.com/nimgnoseeL/UnseenGA](https://github.com/nimgnoseeL/UnseenGA)

Impact of Defect Prediction Quality on Defect-Prediction-guided SBST Data [TOSEM'25]

Prototype, data, and analysis scripts.

📄 [10.6084/m9.figshare.16564146](https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.16564146)

2024

Limits of ML for Vulnerability Detection Data [USENIX Sec'24]

Benchmark datasets, analysis scripts, figures

📄 github.com/niklasrisse/LimitsOfML4Vuln

📄 github.com/niklasrisse/USENIX_2024

Coverage Rate Extrapolation Data [ICSE'24]

Data and analysis for extrapolating the coverage rate in a greybox campaign

📄 [10.5281/zenodo.10575734](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10575734) (data and analysis scripts)

2023

Statistical Reachability Data [ESEC/FSE'23]

Data and analysis for our statistical analysis.

📄 [10.5281/zenodo.7612964](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7612964) (data and analysis scripts)

Debugging Assumptions Data [ICSE'23]

Data, analysis, and FAQ for reproducing our experiments

📄 <https://debugging-assumptions.github.io/>

Reachable Coverage Data [ICSE'23]

Data and analysis for estimating when a fuzzing campaign saturates.






📄 [10.5281/zenodo.7571359](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7571359) (data, analysis, figures)

Green Fuzzing Data [ISSTA'23]



Data and analysis for terminating a fuzzing campaign when coverage of defective code saturates.

📄 [10.5281/zenodo.7944722](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7944722) (data, analysis, figures)

📄 github.com/tum-i4/green-fuzzing-artifact

- 2022 **On the Reliability of Coverage-Based Fuzzer Benchmarking** [ICSE'22]
 [10.5281/zenodo.6045830](https://zenodo.org/record/6045830) (experimental infrastructure, data, analysis scripts)
- 2021 **Estimating Residual Risk in Greybox Fuzzing** [ESEC/FSE'21]
 Reimplemented as interactive book chapter in the Fuzzing Book ([When to Stop Fuzzing](#))
 [10.5281/zenodo.4970239](https://zenodo.org/record/4970239) (data, analysis scripts, simulation)
- Locating faults with program slicing: an empirical analysis** [EMSE'21]
 [10.6084/m9.figshare.13369400.v1](https://zenodo.org/record/13369400) (data and analysis scripts)
- 2020 **Fuzzing: On the Exponential Cost of Vulnerability Discovery** [ESEC/FSE'20]
 [10.6084/m9.figshare.11911287.v1](https://zenodo.org/record/11911287) (data and analysis scripts)

Open Source Textbooks

- 2021 **The Fuzzing Book**
 www.fuzzingbook.org/ (Interactive and executable textbook well-suited for live programming)
 github.com/uds-se/fuzzingbook

Academic Service

In computer science, research is disseminated primarily via conferences, not journals. My work on software security is at the intersection of software engineering and cyber security. The flagship venues in Software Engineering are ICSE, ESEC/FSE, ISSTA, and ASE. In cyber security, they are CCS, USENIX Sec, NDSS, and S&P.

Steering Committee Member

- 2025 – on ACM/IEEE International Conference on Automated Software Engineering ([ASE](#))
 2025 – 2031 ACM SIGSOFT International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis ([ISSTA](#))

Conference Organization and Journal Editorial Board Membership

- Since 2022 **ACM TOSEM Editorial Board Member** and **Guest Editor-In-Chief** for Registered Papers.
 The ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology is the ACM flagship journal for Software Engineering.
- 2026 **ISSTA Program Committee Co-Chair**
FUZZING Workshop Co-Chair
- 2025 **ASE Program Committee Co-Chair**
 Chairing 325 program committee members and 20 area chairs (1.2k submissions).
FUZZING Workshop Co-Chair
- 2024 **ICSE Area Chair** for Dependability and Security.
 Chairing area-specific program committee for 1 of 7 areas.
ASE Area Chair for Security.
 Chairing area-specific program committee for 1 of 7 areas.
ASE Tool Demo Chair.
FUZZING Workshop Co-Chair
- 2023 **ICSE** Sustainability Co-Chair
FUZZING Workshop Co-Chair

Dagstuhl on Software Bug Detection: Challenges and Synergies

Co-organized with M. Christakis (MPI-SWS), R. Padhye (CMU), A. Zeller (Saarland/CISPA), and K. Serebryani (Google)

2022 **ESEC/FSE** Social Media and Publicity Co-Chair**FUZZING** Workshop Co-Chair

Introduces a new preregistration-based publication model. Accepted reports will be published in ACM TOSEM.

2021 **ECOOP/ISSTA** Workshops Co-Chair2020 **ISSTA** Doctoral Symposium Co-Chair2019 **NII Shonan**: Fuzzing and Symbolic Execution: Challenges, and OpportunitiesResults published in IEEE Software: "Fuzzing: Challenges and Reflections" by M. Böhme, C. Cadar, and A. Roychoudhury2018 **ICECCS** Workshop Chair

Program Committee Member

2025 **ICSE**2024 **ICSE, FSE, ISSTA**2023 **CCS, ICSE, ISSTA**2022 **CCS, ESEC/FSE, ICSE SEIP, ICST**2021 **CCS, ICSE, ISSTA, ASE, ICST**2020 **ICSE, ISSTA, ASE, ICST, ICSE-NIER**2019 **ICSE, ASE, TAP**2018 **ICECCS, SBST, ASWEC, ISSTA AEC, ICSE SRC, ASE Demo, MSR MC**2016 **FSE Demo, ISSTA Artifact Evaluation**2015 **ICSE NIER (session chair), ISSTA Artifact Evaluation**

University / Institute / Community Service

2025 – 2028 **MPRGL Spokesperson** – representing all CPTS research group leads at Max Planck Gesellschaft.2025 – 2028 Guest of the **MPG CPTS Perspective Commission**Develops recommendations for the Chemistry, Physics, and Technology Section on all scientific and strategic topics.
8 full-day meetings a year (Administrative HQ in Munich or online).2025 – 2028 Guest of the **MPG CPTS Section**

3 two-day meetings a year (Harnack Haus in Berlin).

2023 – 2026 **Deputy Ombudsperson** for MPI-SP at Max Planck Gesellschaft2025 Member of the **SIGSOFT Impact Paper Award Committee** at ACM SIGSOFT2025 Member of the **CASA Dissertation Awards Committee** at CASA Cluster of Excellence2022 – 2023 Co-Chair and Member of the **Internship Committee** at CIS Max Planck Gesellschaft2022 – 2023 Member of 2x **Chair Professor (W3) Recruitment Committees** at RUB2020 – 2021 **Director of Engagement** in the Executive Committee of the Department of Software Systems and Cybersecurity, Faculty of IT, Monash University, Australia2019 – 2021 **Inaugural Chair** of Software Engineering Researchers Australasia (SERA)

A working group to build a recognized SE research community (with C. Treude & K. Blincoe)

2019 **Inaugural Engagement Coordinator** (reporting to A/Dean Engagement)

Other Service

- 2019 – on **Member** of the [OpenSSF Linux Foundation \[Security Tooling WG\]](#), a cross-organizational effort to make OSS and the world's digital infrastructure more secure
- 2022 – 2024 **Mentor** on Luxembourg FNR CORE Junior grant (PI: Ezekiel Soremekun). CORE Junior projects are piloted by a junior researcher who is supported by a more senior faculty member.
- 2021 – on **PhD Dissertation Panel Member** for
 Ezekiel Soremekun (2021 CISP, DE; Advisor: Andreas Zeller; moved to RHUL, UK),
 Dongdong She (2023 Columbia U, US; Advisors: S. Jana, B. Ray; moved to HKUST, HK),
 Ahmad Hazimeh (2023 EPFL, CH; Advisor: Mathias Payer; moved to BugScale, CH),
 Andrea Fioraldi (2023 EURECOM, FR; Advisor: Davide Balzarotti; moved to Apple, France),
 Moritz Schloegel (2024 RUB, DE; Advisor: Thorsten Holz; moved to ASU, US),
 David Baker-Effendi (2025 Stellenbosch, SA; Advisors: B. v.d. Merwe, W. Visser, F. Yamaguchi),
 Elia Geretto (2025 Vrije University, NL; Advisors: Herbert Bos, Cristiano Giuffrida),
 Haoxin Tu (2025 Singapore Management University; Advisor: Lingxiao Zhang; moved to NUS),
 Hoang Lam Nguyen (2025 Humboldt University, DE; Advisor: Lars Grunske),
 Phillip Görz (2025 RUB, DE; Advisor: Thorsten Holz).
- 2012 **Focus Group Discussions** with Ministry of Education, Singapore
 Nominated and selected to participate in discussions with the MoE about the future of graduate studies in Singapore.
- 2011 – 2012 **Organizer** of CSTalks, a seminar-style talk series
- 2010 – 2011 **Graduate Student Representative @** Graduate Liaison Committee
- 2009 – 2020 **University Ambassador @** Technische Universität Dresden, Germany

Software Security Group

Research Fellows and Assistants

- 2023 – 2025 Dr. Seongmin Lee (Research Fellow @ MPI-SP; CASA Jump.Start Fellow)
 (now at University of California, Los Angeles)
- 2022 – 2023 Dr. Behrad Garmany (Research Fellow @ MPI-SP)
 (now at Onapsis Inc.)
- 2022 – 2023 Octavio Galland (Research Assistant @ MPI-SP)
 (now Security Engineer at Canonical, the company which maintains Ubuntu)
- 2020 – 2023 Dr. Zahra Mirzamomen (Research Fellow @ Monash University)
 (now Lecturer at Monash University)
- 2020 – 2021 Bharath Krish (Research Assistant, managed collab with Google)
 (now Specialist Lead [Manager] at Deloitte)
- 2018 – 2020 Dr. Van-Thuan Pham (Research Fellow @ Monash University)
 (now Prof. at Uni Melbourne; awarded the ARC DECRA)

PhD Students

2025 – on	Junming Liu (MPI-SP / ERC)
2025 – on	Jing Liu (MPI-SP / ERC)
2025 – on	Yasamin Golzar (MPI-SP; main advisor: Yixin Zou)
2024 – on	Gaetano Sapio (MPI-SP / ERC)
2024 – on	Ardi Amadi (MPI-SP / ERC)
2023 – on	Leon Weiß (CISPA / RUB; main advisor: Kevin Borgolte)
2022 – on	Tobias Holl (CISPA / RUB; main advisor: Kevin Borgolte)
2022 – on	Niklas Risse (MPI-SP / CASA; co advisor: Kevin Borgolte)
2023 – 2025	Philipp Görz (CISPA / RUB; main advisor: Thorsten Holz)
2020 – 2024	Danushka Liyanage (Monash University; co-advisors: Chakkrit Tantithamthavorn)
2019 – 2023	Charaka Geethal (Monash University; co-advisors: Aldeida Aleti, Thuan Pham)
2018 – 2023	Anjana Perera (Monash University; main advisor: Aldeida Aleti)

BSc/MSc Thesis

2023	Robert Stark (MSc, co-advisor: Veelasha Moonsamy [RUB] and Christopher Huth [Bosch])
2022	Tobias Wienand (BSc, co-advisor: Behrad Garmany [MPI-SP]). Now PhD student at RUB.

Visiting Professors

2025	Prof. Jooyong Yi (UNIST, Korea); 2 weeks
2024	Prof. Abhik Roychoudhury (NUS, Singapore); 1 week
2024	Prof. Eleonora Losiouk (U of Padova, Italy); 4 months

Visiting PhD Students and Undergrad Interns

Candidates were accepted into our competitive summer internship program: www.cis.mpg.de/internships/.

2025	José (Pepe) Zamudio (CISPA, Germany)
	Thomas Valentin (ENS Paris-Saclay, France)
	Ruixiang Qian (Nanjing U, China)
2024	Dr. Dr. Haoxin Tu (SMU, Singapore). Now PostDoc @ NUS, Singapore
	Yasamin Golzar (Sharif U, Iran). Now PhD @ MPI-SP, Germany
	Eric Tang (CMU, US)
	Jing Liu (UC Irvine, US). Now PhD @ MPI-SP, Germany.
2023	Dr. Abhishek Shah (Columbia U, US)
	Rafaila Galanopoulou (U of Athens, Greece). Now PhD @ EPFL, Switzerland.

Shreyas Minocha (Rice University, US). Now PhD @ Georgia Tech, US.

Simran Kathpalia (Amrita U, India). Now MSc @ CISPA, Germany.

2022 Dr. Stephan Lipp (TU Munich, Germany).

Dr. Nikhil Parasaram (UCL, UK). Now Software Engineer @ Uber, Netherlands

Octavio Galland (U of Buenos Aires, Argentina). Now Security Engineer @ Canonical, Argentina

Dongjia Zhang (U of Tokyo, Japan). Now PhD @ EURECOM, France.

Christian Presa Schnell (TU Munich, Germany)

Publications

In computer science, research is disseminated primarily via conferences, not journals. My work on software security is at the intersection of software engineering and cyber security. The flagship venues in Software Engineering are ICSE, ESEC/FSE, ISSTA, and ASE. In cyber security, they are CCS, USENIX Sec, NDSS, and S&P.

Authored Books

2020 **The Fuzzing Book**
 A. Zeller, R. Gopinath, M. Böhme, G. Fraser, C. Holler.
 Interactive textbook. 27 chapters. Printed 1000+ pages.
 📄 <https://www.fuzzingbook.org>

Book Chapters







2013 **Regression Testing of Evolving Programs**
M. Böhme, A. Roychoudhury, B. Oliveira.
 In Atif Memon (Ed.), *Advances in Computers* 89, pp. 53–88,
 doi:[10.1016/B978-0-12-408094-2.00002-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-408094-2.00002-3).

Refereed Conference Proceedings (Full Papers)






12x ICSE, 9x ESEC/FSE, 4x CCS, 4x ASE, 4x ISSTA, 2x USENIX Sec, 1x AAI, 1x ICLR, 1x S&P, 1x NDSS, 1x ICST

AAAI'26 **Incoherence as Oracle-less Measure of Error in LLM-Based Code Generation**
 T. Valentin, A. Madadi, G. Sapia, and M. Böhme.
How to estimate the correctness of an LLM-generated program when we have no specification or ground-truth available.
 Annual AAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI'26). 14pp.

ICSE'26 **Scaling Security Testing by Addressing the Reachability Gap**
 G. Sapia and M. Böhme.
How to configure and interact with any software system to execute a given target functionality (and run invivo fuzzing)?
 IEEE/ACM International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE'26). 12pp.

- ICSE'26 **Dependency-aware Residual Risk Analysis**
S. Lee and M. Böhme.
First work to account for dependencies among coverage elements in residual risk estimation.
IEEE/ACM International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE'26). 12pp.
- ICSE'26 **On Interaction Effects in Greybox Fuzzing**
K. Kitsios, M. Böhme, and A. Bacchelli.
First work to identify and leverage interaction effects between mutation operators in fuzzing.
IEEE/ACM International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE'26). 12pp.
- S&P'26 **Cottontail: LLM-Driven Concolic Execution for Highly Structured Test Input Generation**
H. Tu, S. Lee, Y. Li, P. Chen, L. Jiang, and M. Böhme.
First work to introduce grammar-awareness to whitebox fuzzing via LLMs.
IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP'26). 18pp.
- ISSTA'25 **Top Score on the Wrong Exam: On Benchmarking in ML for Vulnerability Detection**
 N. Risse, J. Liu, and M. Böhme.
Renders almost all existing work as invalid. ML4VD as binary classification problem is ill-defined.
ACM SIGSOFT International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis (ISSTA'25), 22 pages
 Received the **ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award** (Top 8% of accepted papers).
doi:[10.1145/3728887](https://doi.org/10.1145/3728887)
- ICLR'25 **How Much is Unseen Depends Chiefly on Information About the Seen**
 S. Lee and M. Böhme.
Significant progress on a beautiful statistical riddle. Can estimate data representativeness.
International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR'25), 22 pages.
 Selected as **ICLR'25 Spotlight** (Top 5% of accepted papers).
- FSE'25 **MendelFuzz: The Return of the Deterministic Stage**
 H. Zheng, F. Toffalini, M. Böhme, and M. Payer.
Ground-breaking work that re-introduced the deterministic stage which was disabled by default.
ACM Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering 2025 (ESEC/FSE'25), 21 pages.
 Adopted as **default mode in the most widely-used fuzzer AFL++** since v4.10c.
doi:[10.1145/3715713](https://doi.org/10.1145/3715713)
- ICSE'25 **Invivo Fuzzing by Amplifying Actual Executions**
O. Galland, and M. Böhme.
First work to suggest injecting fuzzers into arbitrary systems to amplify any state.
IEEE/ACM International Conference on Software Engineering 2025 (ICSE'25), 13 pages.
doi:[10.1109/ICSE55347.2025.00172](https://doi.org/10.1109/ICSE55347.2025.00172)
- ICSE'25 **Accounting for Missing Events in Statistical Information Leakage Analysis**
S. Lee, S. Minocha, and M. Böhme.
How to estimate software privacy (information leakage) in the small sample regime?
IEEE/ACM International Conference on Software Engineering 2025 (ICSE'25), 13 pages.
doi:[10.1109/ICSE55347.2025.00018](https://doi.org/10.1109/ICSE55347.2025.00018)
- USENIX Sec'24 **Uncovering the Limits of Machine Learning for Automatic Vulnerability Detection**
N. Risse and M. Böhme.
Are machine learning models for vulnerability discovery as good as they seem? How to find out?
USENIX Symposium on Security (USENIX Sec'24), 19 pages.

- CCS'24  **Testing Side-Channel Security of Cryptographic Impl. Against Future Microarchitectures**
G. Barthe, M. Böhme, S. Cauligi, C. Chuengsatiansup, D. Genkin, M. Guarnieri, D.M. Romero, P. Schwabe, D. Wu, Y. Yarom.
First comprehensive analysis of the security impact of future microarchitectures.
ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS'24), 16 pages.
🏆 Received the **ACM SIGSAC Distinguished Paper Award**.
doi:[10.1145/3658644.367031](https://doi.org/10.1145/3658644.367031)
- NDSS'24  **Large Language Model guided Protocol Fuzzing**
R. Meng, M. Mirchev, M. Böhme, and A. Roychoudhury.
Let the fuzzer ask ChatGPT about the correct structure / order of messages as specified in the RFC.
Network and Distributed System Security Symposium (NDSS'24), 18 pages.
🏆 **Number 24** in the **Normalized Top-100 Security Papers** of all time.
doi:[10.14722/ndss.2024.24556](https://doi.org/10.14722/ndss.2024.24556)
- ICSE'24 **Extrapolating Coverage Rate in Greybox Fuzzing**
D. Liyanage, S. Lee, C. Tantithamthavorn, and M. Böhme.
*First work to *predict* the coverage rate of a greybox fuzzer in the future.*
IEEE/ACM International Conference on Software Engineering 2024 (ICSE'24), 13 pages.
doi:[10.1145/3597503.3639198](https://doi.org/10.1145/3597503.3639198)
- ESEC/FSE'23 **Statistical Reachability Analysis**
S. Lee and M. Böhme.
First quantiative program analysis using a statistical rather than an analytical approach.
ACM Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE'23)
doi:[10.1145/3611643.3616268](https://doi.org/10.1145/3611643.3616268)
- ASE'23 **Precise Data-Driven Approximation for Program Analysis via Fuzzing**
N. Parasaram, E. T. Barr, S. Mechtaev, and M. Böhme.
First work to approximate the valid program state space from above and from below.
IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE'23). 12 pages
doi:[10.1109/ASE56229.2023.00185](https://doi.org/10.1109/ASE56229.2023.00185)
- ICSE'23 **Reachable Coverage: Estimating Saturation in Fuzzing**
D. Liyanage, M. Böhme, C. Tantithamthavorn, and S. Lipp.
First work to solve the undecidable reachability problem as a statistical estimation problem.
ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE'23). 13 pages
doi:[10.1109/ICSE48619.2023.00042](https://doi.org/10.1109/ICSE48619.2023.00042)
- ICSE'23 **Evaluating the Impact of Experimental Assumptions in Automated Fault Localization**
E. Soremekun, L. Kirschner, M. Böhme, and M. Papadakis.
Important work studying assumptions that researchers make during debugging tool evaluations.
ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE'23). 13 pages
doi:[10.1109/ICSE48619.2023.00025](https://doi.org/10.1109/ICSE48619.2023.00025)
- ISSTA'23 **Green Fuzzing: A Saturation-based Stopping Criterion using Vulnerability Prediction**
S. Lipp, D. Elsner, S. Kacianka, A. Pretschner, M. Böhme, and S. Banescu.
We suggest to stop a fuzzing campaign when the coverage of potentially vulnerable code saturates.
ACM/SIGSOFT International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis (ISSTA'23), 13 pages
doi:[10.1145/3597926.3598043](https://doi.org/10.1145/3597926.3598043)

- ICSE'22 **On the Reliability of Coverage-Based Fuzzer Benchmarking**
M. Böhme, L. Szekeres, J. Metzman
First paper to study agreement instead of correlation between coverage and bug finding.
IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering 2022 (ICSE'22), 11 pages
doi:[10.1145/3510003.3510230](https://doi.org/10.1145/3510003.3510230)
- USENIX SEC'22 **Stateful Greybox Fuzzing**
J. Ba, M. Böhme, Z. Mirzamomen, A. Roychoudhury.
Navigating an unknown state space by identifying and monitoring state variables values.
USENIX Security Symposium (USENIX SEC) 2022, pp. 3255-3272
isbn: 978-1-939133-31-1
- ISSTA'22 **Human-in-the-loop Oracle Learning for Semantic Bugs in String Processing Programs**
C. Geethal, V.T. Pham, A. Aleti, M. Böhme.
Learning to identify semantic bugs for string processing programs
ACM SIGSOFT International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis (ISSTA'22), 12 pages
doi:[10.1145/3533767.3534406](https://doi.org/10.1145/3533767.3534406)
- ESEC/FSE'21 **Estimating Residual Risk in Greybox Fuzzing**
M. Böhme, D. Liyanage, and V. Wüstholtz.
First paper to study estimators of bug finding probability (residual risk) when no bugs were found.
ACM Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE) 2021, 12 pages
doi:[10.1145/3468264.3468570](https://doi.org/10.1145/3468264.3468570)
i J. Campbell (Microsoft) [would use this](#) in **OneFuzz** to maximize bug finding per unit time.
i First work my PhD student, Danushka Liyanage. Very proud!
- CCS'21 **Regression Greybox Fuzzing**
X. Zhu and M. Böhme
Finds and explains the constant rate of new bug reports, despite the exponential cost in fuzzing.
ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS'21), pp. 2169–2182
doi:[10.1145/3460120.3484596](https://doi.org/10.1145/3460120.3484596)
- ESEC/FSE'20 **Boosting Fuzzer Efficiency: An Information Theoretic Perspective**
 M. Böhme, V. J.M. Manès, S.K. Cha.
First work to show and leverage a connection between fuzzer efficiency and information theory.
ACM Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE'20), pp. 970-981
doi:[10.1145/3368089.3409748](https://doi.org/10.1145/3368089.3409748)
i Independent evaluation available on <https://www.fuzzbench.com/>!
 Entropic is the [default schedule](#) in LibFuzzer powering Google's **OSSFuzz** & MS's **OneFuzz**!
 Received the **ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award** (1x Accept, 2x Award Quality).
 Selected as **ACM SIGSOFT Research Highlight**.
 Selected as **CACM Research Highlight** (accompanied by a Technical Perspective: "[What's all the fuss about fuzzing?](#)" by Prof Gordon Fraser).
- ESEC/FSE'20 **Fuzzing: On the Exponential Cost of Vulnerability Discovery**
M. Böhme, B. Falk.
First work to shed light on the scalability of fuzzing across a large number of available machines.
ACM Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE'20), pp. 747-758
doi:[10.1145/3368089.3409729](https://doi.org/10.1145/3368089.3409729)
i Nominated for **ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award** (2x Accept, 1x Award Quality).

ICSE'20

**Time-Travel Testing for Android Apps**Z. Dong, M. Böhme, L. Cojocaru, A. Roychoudhury.*First work to tackle the problem of statefulness when testing Android testing by user interactions.*

ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE'20), pp. 481-492

doi:[10.1145/3377811.3380402](https://doi.org/10.1145/3377811.3380402) This [quick animation](#) captures nicely the key idea of time-travel testing. Received the **Outstanding Prototype Award** on ChinaSoft2020. Received the **ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award** (2x Accept, 1x Award Quality).

ICSE'20

HyDiff: Hybrid Differential Software AnalysisY. Noller, C. Pasareanu, M. Böhme, Y. Sun, H. Nguyen, and L. Grunske.*First work to introduce a hybrid approach to differential software analysis (incl. RNNs).*

ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE'20), pp. 1273-1285

doi:[10.1145/3377811.3380363](https://doi.org/10.1145/3377811.3380363)

ICST'20

**Human-In-The-Loop Automatic Program Repair**

M. Böhme, C. Gheetal, V.T. Pham.

First work to achieve automated repair of semantic bugs starting from just one failing test case.

IEEE International Conference on Software Testing, Verification and Validation (ICST'20), pp.

274-285, doi:[10.1109/ICST46399.2020.00036](https://doi.org/10.1109/ICST46399.2020.00036)

First work by my first main-advised PhD student, Charaka Gheetal. Very proud!

 Featured in the [IEEE Software Practitioner's Digest](#).

ASE'20

Defect Prediction Guided Search-Based Software TestingA. Perera, A. Aleti, M. Böhme, and B. Turhan.*First work to integrate defect prediction and automated software testing.*

IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE'20), pp. 448-460

doi:[10.1145/3324884.3416612](https://doi.org/10.1145/3324884.3416612)

First work by my first co-advised PhD student, Anjana Perera. Very proud!

ESEC/FSE'18

Verifying the Long-Run Behavior of Probabilistic System Models in the Presence of UncertaintyY.R.S. Llerena, M. Böhme, M. Bruenink, G. Su, and D.S. Rosenblum.*First work to tackle modelling uncertainties in probabilistic verification of steady-state properties.*

ACM Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE'18), pp. 587-597.

doi:[10.1145/3236024.3236078](https://doi.org/10.1145/3236024.3236078)

CCS'17

Directed Greybox FuzzingM. Böhme, V.-T. Pham, M.-D. Nguyen, A. Roychoudhury.*First fuzzing work to cast reachability as an optimization rather than a satisfiability problem.*

ACM SIGSAC Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS'17), pages 2329-2344

doi:[10.1145/3133956.3134020](https://doi.org/10.1145/3133956.3134020)


Invited to present to industrial partners of the Singapore Cyber Security Consortium.

ESEC/FSE'17

Where is the Bug and How is it Fixed? An Experiment with PractitionersM. Böhme, E.O. Soremekun, S. Chattopadhyay, E. Ugheghe, and A. Zeller.*First large-scale user study to establish the ground-truth for automatic debugging & repair.*

ACM Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE'17), pages 117-128

doi:[10.1145/3106237.3106255](https://doi.org/10.1145/3106237.3106255)

- ASE'17 **Detecting Information Flow by Mutating Input Data**
B. Matthis, V. Avdiienko, E. Soremekun, M. Böhme, A. Zeller.
First work to introduce lightweight input probing to detect information flows using fuzzing.
IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE'17), pp. 263–273
doi:[ASE.2017.8115639](https://doi.org/10.1145/2017.8115639)
❗ Result of my first BSc student, Björn Mathis. Very proud!
- CCS'16 **Coverage-based Greybox Fuzzing as Markov Chain**
M. Böhme, V.-T. Pham, A. Roychoudhury.
First work to introduce systematic path exploration to random testing, using adaptive sampling.
ACM SIGSAC Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS'16), pp. 1032–1043
doi:[10.1145/2976749.2978428](https://doi.org/10.1145/2976749.2978428)
❗ The journal extension appeared at the SE flagship journal IEEE TSE in 2018.
- ASE'16 **Model-based Whitebox Fuzzing for Program Binaries**
V.-T. Pham, M. Böhme, A. Roychoudhury.
First work to integrate structure-aware fuzzing and symbolic execution.
IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE'16), pp. 543–553
- ESEC/FSE'14 **On the Efficiency of Automated Testing**
M. Böhme, S. Paul.
First work to shed light on the unusual efficiency of random testing vs the most effective technique. Solves a riddle that has been baffling researchers for more than thirty years (Duran et al., TSE'84).
ACM Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE'14), pp. 632–642
doi:[10.1145/2635868.2635923](https://doi.org/10.1145/2635868.2635923)
❗ The journal extension appeared at the SE flagship journal IEEE TSE in 2016.
- ISSTA'14 **CoREBench: Studying Complexity of Regression Errors**
 M. Böhme, A. Roychoudhury.
ACM International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis (ISSTA'14), pp. 398–408
doi:[10.1145/2610384.2628058](https://doi.org/10.1145/2610384.2628058)
🏆 Ranked among [Top10 most downloaded articles](#) on ACM DL (SIGSOFT) from Aug'14 to Oct'14.
- ESEC/FSE'13 **Regression Tests to Expose Change Interaction Errors**
M. Böhme, B. Oliveira, A. Roychoudhury.
First work to shed light on the unusual efficiency of random testing vs the most effective technique.
ACM Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE'13), pp. 339–349
doi:[10.1145/2491411.2491430](https://doi.org/10.1145/2491411.2491430)
- ICSE'13 **Partition-based Regression Verification**
M. Böhme, B. Oliveira, A. Roychoudhury.
First work to introduce a scalable, interruptible verification of the absence of regression bugs.
ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE) 2013, pp. 300–309
doi:[10.1109/ICSE.2013.6606576](https://doi.org/10.1109/ICSE.2013.6606576)

Refereed Journal Articles

6x IEEE TSE, 4x ACM TOSEM, 2x EMSE, 1x CACM, 1x IEEE Security & Privacy (S&P), 1x IEEE Software

IEEE S&P **How to Solve Cybersecurity Once and For All**

2025



Elicits fundamental challenges in cybersecurity and discusses what to do about them.

M. Böhme.

IEEE Security and Privacy, Volume 23, Issue 3, pp. 1-4, doi:[10.1109/MSEC.2025.3551590](https://doi.org/10.1109/MSEC.2025.3551590)

🏆 Invited opinion piece. Elaborates my invited RAID'24 keynote.

TOSEM 2025



Software Security Analysis in 2030 and Beyond: A Research Roadmap

M. Böhme, E. Bodden, T. Bultan, C. Cadar, Y. Liu, and G. Scanniello.

Challenges and opportunities for the security analysis of our software systems of the future.

ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology, pp. 1-25, doi:[10.1145/3708533](https://doi.org/10.1145/3708533).

🏆 Invited perspective paper.

TOSEM 2025

Fuzzing: On Benchmarking Outcome as a Function of Benchmark Properties

D. Wolff, M. Böhme, A. Roychoudhury.

How would fuzzer ranking change if programs were larger or initial seeds had more coverage?

ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology, pp. 1-24

TSE 2025

AFLNet Five Years Later: On Coverage-Guided Protocol Fuzzing

R. Meng, V.T. Pham, M. Böhme, A. Roychoudhury.

State- and code-coverage-guided greybox fuzzing.

IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, pp. 1-14, doi:[10.1109/TSE.2025.3535925](https://doi.org/10.1109/TSE.2025.3535925).

📄 Extension of our ICST'20 Tool Demo.

TSE 2024

Human-In-The-Loop Automatic Program Repair

C. Geethal Kapugama, M. Böhme, and V.-T. Pham.

First to fully automate the debugging process end-to-end by interrogating the bug-reporting user.

IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, pp. 1-24, doi:[10.1109/TSE.2023.3305052](https://doi.org/10.1109/TSE.2023.3305052).

📄 Extension of our ICST'20 work.

TOSEM 2024

On the Impact of Lower Recall and Precision in Defect Prediction for Guiding Search-Based Software Testing, A. Perera, B. Turhan, A. Aleti, and M. Böhme, ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology.

CACM 2023



Boosting Fuzzer Efficiency: An Information Theoretic Perspective

M. Böhme, V. Manès, and S.K. Cha

First work to show and leverage a connection between fuzzer efficiency and information theory.

Communications of the ACM (Volume: 66; Issue: 11), November 2023, pp 89-97

doi:[10.1145/3611019](https://doi.org/10.1145/3611019)

📄 CACM is the monthly journal sent to all members of the ACM.

🏆 CACM Research Highlight for the month of November 2023 from our ESEC/FSE 2017 paper.

🏆 CACM Technical Perspective: "[What's all the fuss about fuzzing?](#)" by Gordon Fraser.

TSE 2022

An Experimental Assessment of Using Theoretical Defect Predictors to Guide Search-Based Software Testing, A. Perera, A. Aleti, B. Turhan, M. Böhme, IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, pp. 1-18, doi:[10.1109/TSE.2022.3147008](https://doi.org/10.1109/TSE.2022.3147008)

Software
2021

Fuzzing: Challenges and Reflections

M. Böhme, C. Cadar, A. Roychoudhury.

Establishes the key open challenges in fuzzing and symbolic execution as a community result.

IEEE Software Journal. Accepted for publication, pp. 1–9, doi:[10.1109/MS.2020.3016773](https://doi.org/10.1109/MS.2020.3016773).

📄 Outcome of a 3-day meeting of thought leaders & rising stars, both in industry and academia.

- EMSE 2021 **Locating Faults with Program Slicing: An Empirical Analysis**
 E. Soremekun, L. Kirschner, M. Böhme, A. Zeller.
 Empirical Software Engineering Journal, pp. 1–49
 doi:[10.1007/s10664-020-09931-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10664-020-09931-7) (Paper)
 doi:[10.6084/m9.figshare.13369400.v1](https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.13369400.v1) (Dataset)
- TSE 2020 **Smart Greybox Fuzzing**
 V.T. Pham, M. Böhme, A.E. Santosa, A.R. Căciulescu, and A. Roychoudhury.
Makes greybox fuzzing aware of input structure, handles corrupted inputs, and maximizes validity.
 IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering (Volume: 47, Issue: 9), pp. 1980–1997
 doi:[10.1109/TSE.2019.2941681](https://doi.org/10.1109/TSE.2019.2941681)
 📰 In the news at [Security Week](#), [The Register](#), and [Nacked Security](#).
- TOSEM 2018 **STADS: Software Testing as Species Discovery**
M. Böhme.
First work to establish the statistical foundations of automated software testing. Borrows from ecological biostatistics to estimate and extrapolate quantities in software testing.
 ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology (Volume: 27, Issue: 2), pp. 1–52
 doi:[10.1145/3210309](https://doi.org/10.1145/3210309)
 ⓘ Selected as journal-first contribution presented at ESEC/FSE 2018.
 📖 Reimplemented as interactive book chapter in the Fuzzing Book ([When to Stop Fuzzing?](#))
- TSE 2018 **Coverage-based Greybox Fuzzing as Markov Chain**
 🏆 M. Böhme, V.-T. Pham, A. Roychoudhury.
First work to introduce systematic path exploration to random testing, using adaptive sampling.
 IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering (Volume: 45, Issue: 5), pp. 489–506
 doi:[TSE.2017.2785841](https://doi.org/10.1109/TSE.2017.2785841)
 ⓘ AFLFast evaluated by the community finds 6 bugs in Perl and several bugs in Erlang VM.
 ⓘ AFLFast was featured on Hackernews, the most popular news website for security experts.
 ⓘ Main ideas integrated into AFL by Google’s Director of Information Security, Michał Zalewski.
 🏆 Google Security awards USD 2000 in bug bounties for vulnerabilities we reported.
- EMSE 2017 **A Correlation Study between Automated Program Repair and Test-Suite Metrics**
 J. Yi, S.H. Tan, S. Mechtaev, M. Böhme, and A. Roychoudhury.
 Empirical Software Engineering Journal (Special Issue on Automated Program Repair), 23(5), pp. 2948–2979. doi:[10.1007/s10664-017-9552-y](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10664-017-9552-y)
 ⓘ Established test suite metrics are good predictors of the quality of auto-generated repairs.
 ⓘ Selected as Journal-First contribution presented at ICSE 2018.
- TSE 2016 **A Probabilistic Analysis of the Efficiency of Automated Software Testing**
 🏆 M. Böhme and S. Paul
First work to shed light on the unusual efficiency of random testing vs the most effective technique. Solves a riddle that has been baffling researchers for more than thirty years (Duran et al., TSE’84).
 IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, 42(4), pp. 345–360. doi:[10.1109/TSE.2015.2487274](https://doi.org/10.1109/TSE.2015.2487274)
 ⓘ Invited talk at the CREST Open Workshop, University College London (UCL), United Kingdom.
 ⓘ Invited talk at the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) in Singapore.
 ⓘ Invited talk at the Nanyang Technical University (NTU) in Singapore.
 ⓘ Invited talk at the Technische Universität Darmstadt in Germany.
 ⓘ Invited talk at the Center for It-Security, Privacy and Accountability (CISPA) in Germany.
 🏆 Ranked among Top-50 most popular IEEE TSE articles for six months (Apr’16–Sep’16).¹

¹Issue April’16, Issue May’16, Issue June’16, Issue July’16, Issue August’16, Issue September’16.

Other Refereed Publication Outputs

5x ICSE short papers (2x New Ideas, 1x Doctoral Symposium, 1x Poster), 1x ICST short paper.

- ICSE'22 NIER** **Statistical Reasoning about Programs**
M. Böhme
Vision paper to challenge traditional program analysis and opportunities for new perspectives.
 IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering 2022: New Ideas and Emerging Results (ICSE'22 NIER), 5 pages, doi:[10.1145/3510455.3512796](https://doi.org/10.1145/3510455.3512796)
- ICST'20 Testing Tool** **AFLNet: A Greybox Fuzzer for Network Protocols**
 V.T. Pham, M. Böhme, Abhik Roychoudhury
 IEEE International Conference on Software Testing, Verification and Validation 2020 (ICST'20), Testing Tool Track, pp. 60-465, doi:[10.1109/ICST46399.2020.00062](https://doi.org/10.1109/ICST46399.2020.00062)  [Youtube](#)
- ICSE'19 NIER** **Assurance in Software Testing: A Roadmap**
M. Böhme
 IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering 2019: New Ideas and Emerging Results (ICSE'19 NIER), pp. 5-8, doi:[10.1109/ICSE-NIER.2019.00010](https://doi.org/10.1109/ICSE-NIER.2019.00010)  [Slideshare](#)
- ICSE'17 Poster** **How developers debug software the DbgBench dataset: poster**
M. Böhme, E.O. Soremekun, S. Chattopadhyay, E. Ugherughe, A. Zeller
 ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering 2017: Poster (ICSE'17 Poster), pp. 244-246, doi:[10.1109/ICSE-C.2017.94](https://doi.org/10.1109/ICSE-C.2017.94)
- ICSE'12 Doctoral Symposium** **Software Regression as Change of Input Partitioning**
M. Böhme, ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering 2012: Doctoral Symposium (ICSE'12 DS), pp. 1523-1526, doi:[10.1109/ICSE.2012.6227046](https://doi.org/10.1109/ICSE.2012.6227046)

Teaching

While I have always enjoyed teaching, I have been a *research-only staff* for most of my academic training and career. At NUS, it was uncommon for PhD and PostDocs to teach. At Monash, I received a prestigious ARC DECRA award which comes with an automatic teaching relieve for three years. At MPI-SP, I do not have any teaching obligations.

- 2025** **Lecturer**
 • Seminar on Automated Software Security @ RUB (Germany).
- 2024** **Lecturer**
 • One-day course on the Foundations of Software Security @ Singapore Summer School.
- 2023** **Lecturer**
 • 212125 Seminar Software and Internet Security @ RUB (Germany) with Prof Kevin Borgolte
- 2022** **Guest Lecturer**
 • 1819 Generating Software Tests @ Saarland Uni / CISP (Germany) on *When to Stop Fuzzing*; hosted by Andreas Zeller.
 • 811602S Advanced Software Quality and Security @ Uni. of Oulu (Finland) on the *Foundations of Software Testing*; hosted by Burak Turhan
- 2021** **Guest Lecturer**
 • CS6210 The Art of CS Research @ NUS (Singapore) on *Career Planning for Academics*; hosted by A. Roychoudhury.
 • Summer School @ ISSTA conference on the *Foundations of Software Testing*; hosted by Frank Tip (IBM).
- 2020** **Guest Lecturer**
 • FIT2093 Introduction to Cyber Security @ Monash University (Australia) on *Software Security*; hosted by Ron Steinfeld
- S1 2020** **FIT3077 Software Architecture and Design @ Monash University**
 Chief-Examiner

S1 2019	FIT3077 Software Architecture and Design @ Monash University Co-Lecturer
S1 2018	FIT3077 Software Architecture and Design @ Monash University Co-Lecturer
S2 2015/16	CS4218 Software Testing @ National University of Singapore Co-lecturer and Lab Coordinator. Prepared slides and taught in the second half of the semester. Coordinated two teaching assistants and prepared material.
S2 2014/15	Seminar on Automated Debugging @ Saarland University Lecturer. Organized as reading group. <i>Voted Best Seminar</i> . Voted Top-3 among *all* courses in Computer Science.
S2 2013/14	CS4218 Software Testing and Debugging @ National University of Singapore Weekly exercises, labs, tutorials, and grading. I was involved in designing the schedule and details for exercises, labs, and tutorials. This was the first time the course was provided.
S1 2010	CS3215 Software Engineering Project @ National University of Singapore Consultations, lab, and grading.

Practical Impact

Our tools found many security-critical vulnerabilities in widely used open-source projects and libraries, such as [php](#) (4), [valgrind](#), [gdb](#), [coreutils](#) (13), [binutils](#) (56), [libiberty](#) (8), [libdwarf](#) (7), [libxml2](#) (4), [ffmpeg](#) (10), [wavepac](#) (4), [libming](#), and [libav](#), and [Live555 Media Server](#). Our tools were discussed in the news ([Security Week](#), [The Register](#), [Naked Security](#), [Hackernews](#)), and by the [coreutils](#) package maintainer [Pádraig Brady](#). Google Security awarded USD 2,000 for hardening of security-critical OSS libraries. Most vulnerabilities were detected and analyzed during experiments of [Van-Thuan Pham](#) and myself. Our most recent fuzzer, Entropic, was integrated into Google's LibFuzzer and now runs on more than 100,000 machines every day to discover security vulnerabilities in the Chrome browser and more than 1,000 open source projects.

We published 82 security advisories (CVEs), a considerable number even for security professionals:

CVE-2016-2226, CVE-2016-4487, CVE-2016-4488, CVE-2016-4489, CVE-2016-4490, CVE-2016-4491, CVE-2016-4492, CVE-2016-4493, CVE-2016-6131, CVE-2017-6965, CVE-2017-6966, CVE-2017-6969, CVE-2017-7209, CVE-2017-7210, CVE-2017-7223, CVE-2017-7224, CVE-2017-7225, CVE-2017-7226, CVE-2017-7227, CVE-2017-7299, CVE-2017-7300, CVE-2017-7301, CVE-2017-7302, CVE-2017-7303, CVE-2017-7304, CVE-2017-7578, CVE-2017-8392, CVE-2017-8393, CVE-2017-8394, CVE-2017-8395, CVE-2017-8396, CVE-2017-8397, CVE-2017-8398, CVE-2017-9047, CVE-2017-9048, CVE-2017-9049, CVE-2017-9050, CVE-2017-9051, CVE-2017-9052, CVE-2017-9053, CVE-2017-9054, CVE-2017-9055, CVE-2018-10372, CVE-2018-10373, CVE-2018-10536, CVE-2018-10537, CVE-2018-10538, CVE-2018-10539, CVE-2018-10540, CVE-2018-12458, CVE-2018-12459, CVE-2018-12460, CVE-2018-13300, CVE-2018-13301, CVE-2018-13302, CVE-2018-13303, CVE-2018-13304, CVE-2018-13305, CVE-2018-13785, CVE-2018-19539, CVE-2018-19540, CVE-2018-19541, CVE-2018-19542, CVE-2018-19543, CVE-2018-19543, CVE-2019-7314, CVE-2019-15232, CVE-2021-38380, CVE-2021-38381, CVE-2021-38382, CVE-2021-38383, CVE-2021-39282, CVE-2021-39283, CVE-2021-41396, CVE-2021-41397, CVE-2021-41687, CVE-2021-41688, CVE-2021-41689, CVE-2021-41690, CVE-2023-0215, CVE-2023-37117, CVE-2023-51713.