

# Model-Based Whitebox Fuzzing for Program Binaries



**Thuan Pham**



**Marcel Böhme**



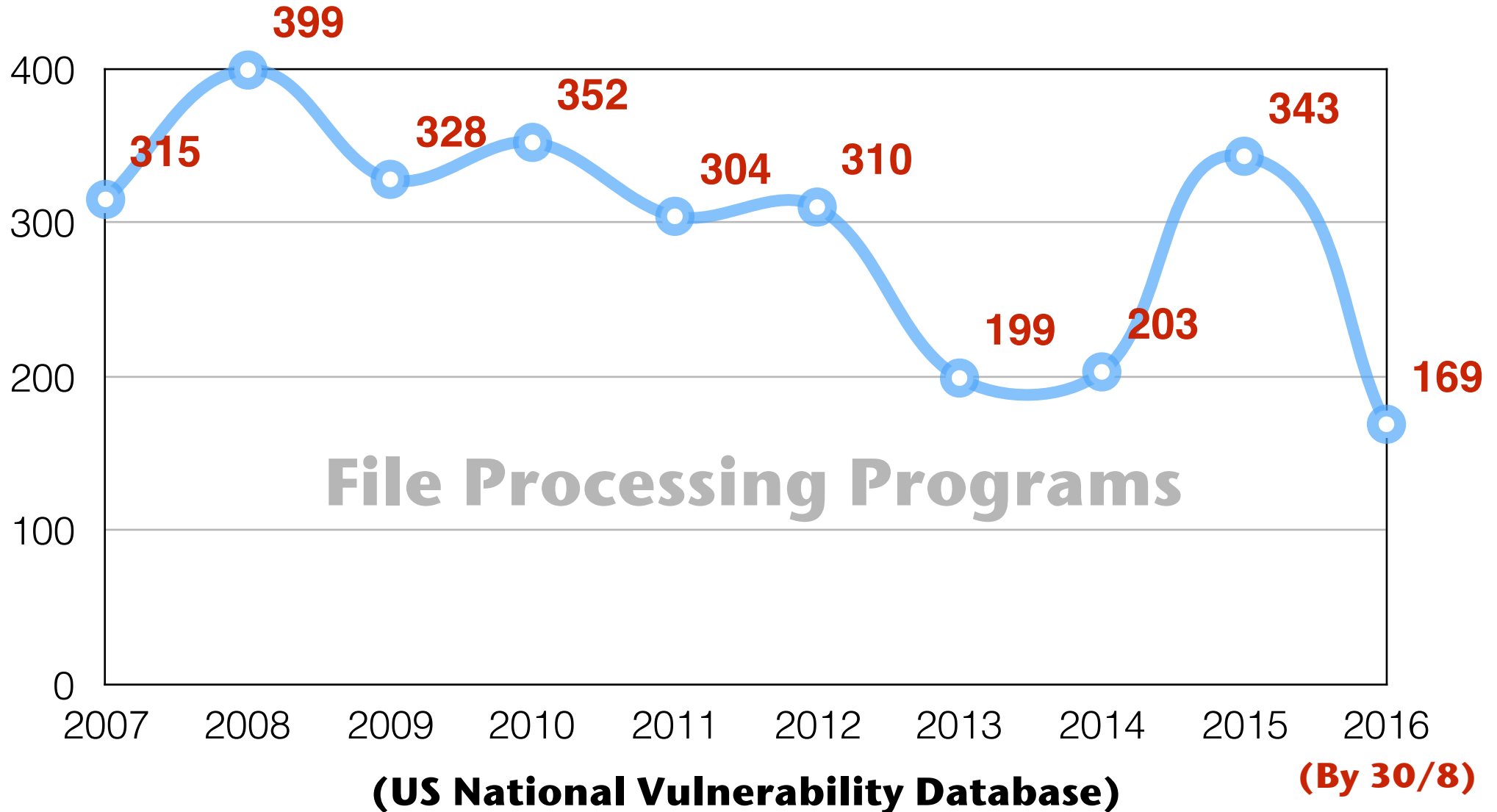
**Abhik Roychoudhury**



**ASE 2016**  
September 3-7, 2016  
Singapore

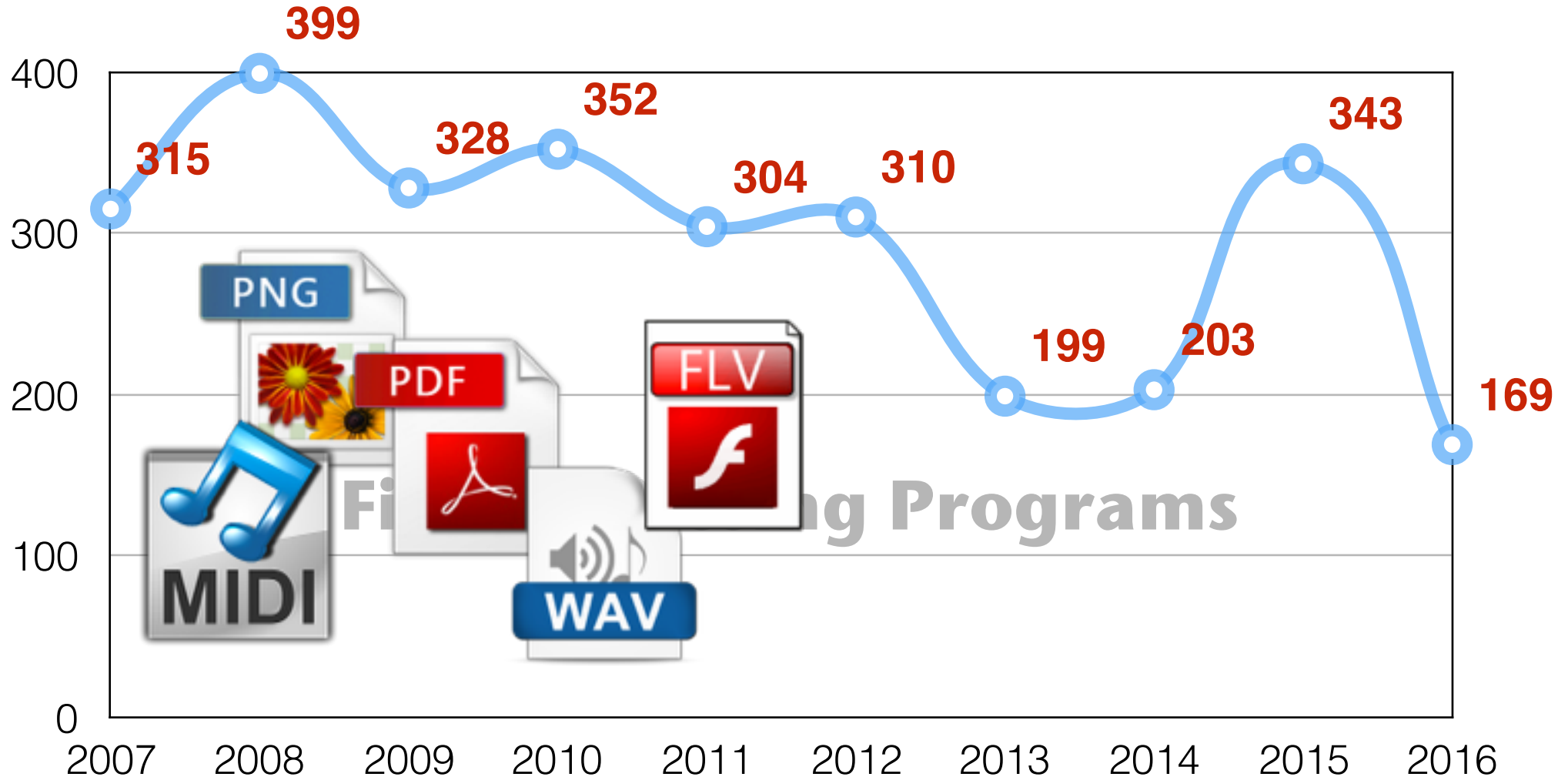
# Vulnerabilities in file-processing programs

#CVE-assigned vulnerabilities by year



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#CVE-assigned vulnerabilities by year

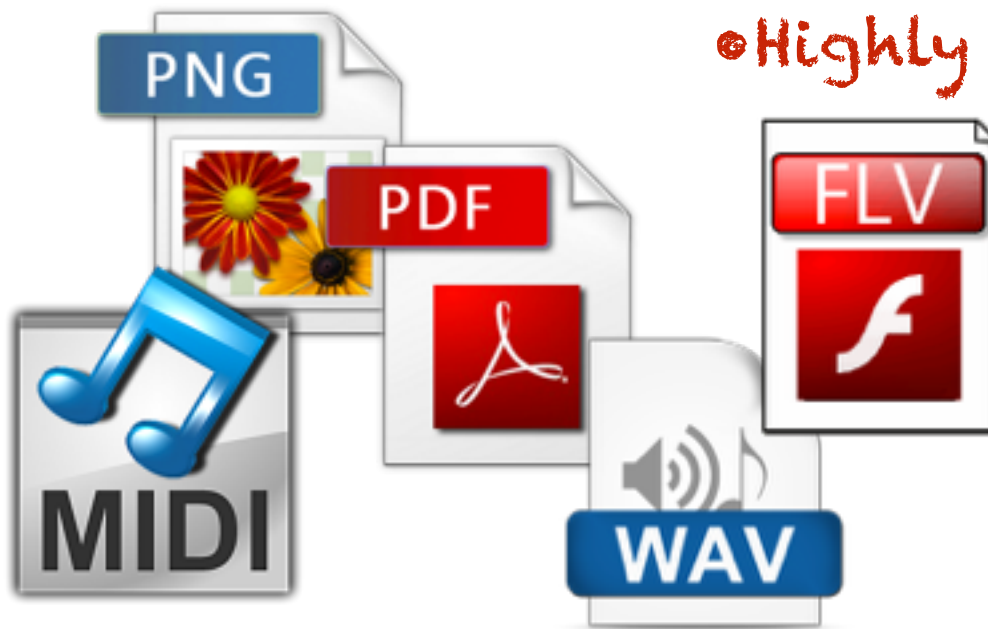


(US National Vulnerability Database)

(By 30/8)

# Challenge

- Generating test cases to expose vulnerabilities in file-processing software is challenging !



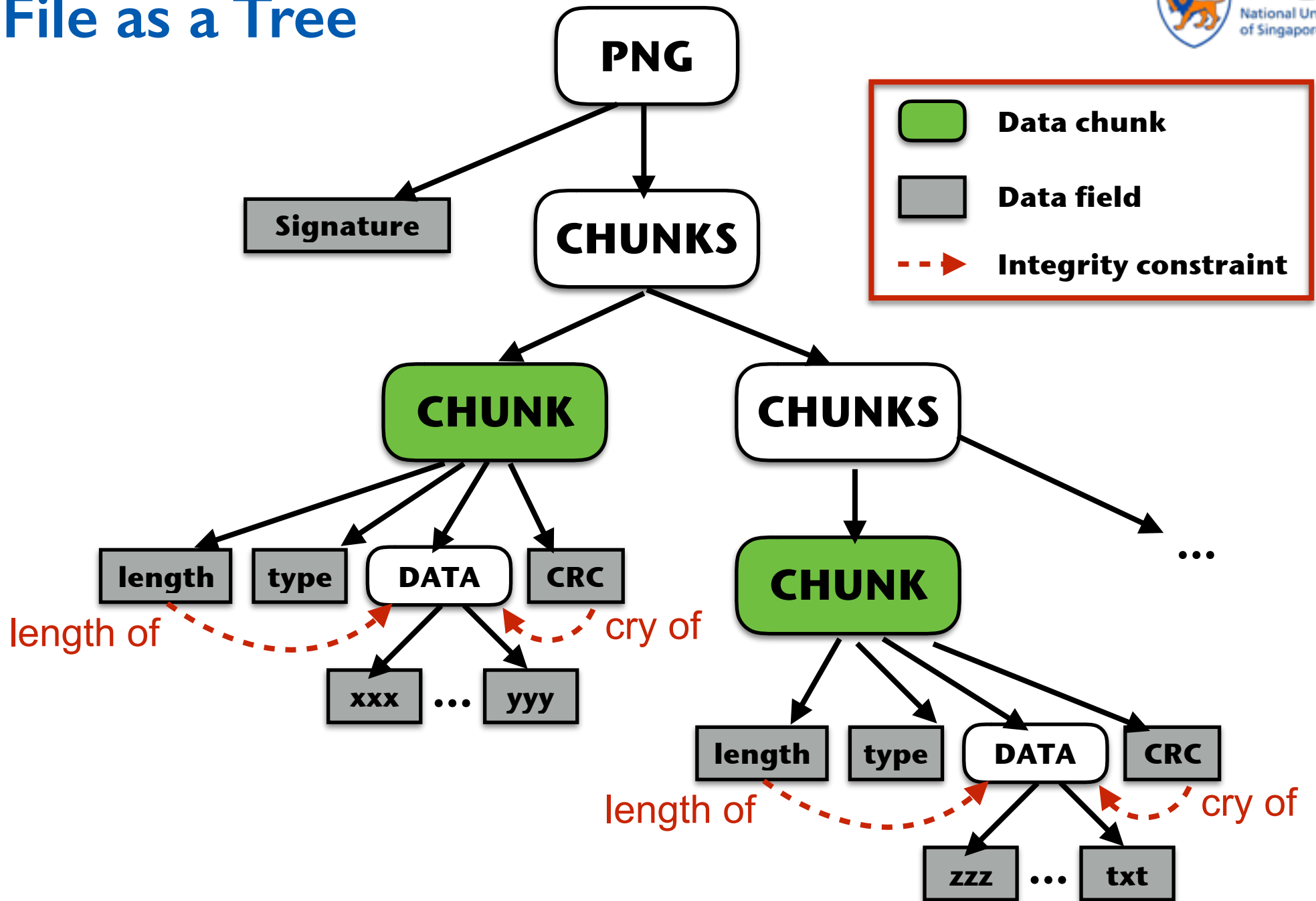
- Highly Structured

- Having both syntactic and semantic relationships

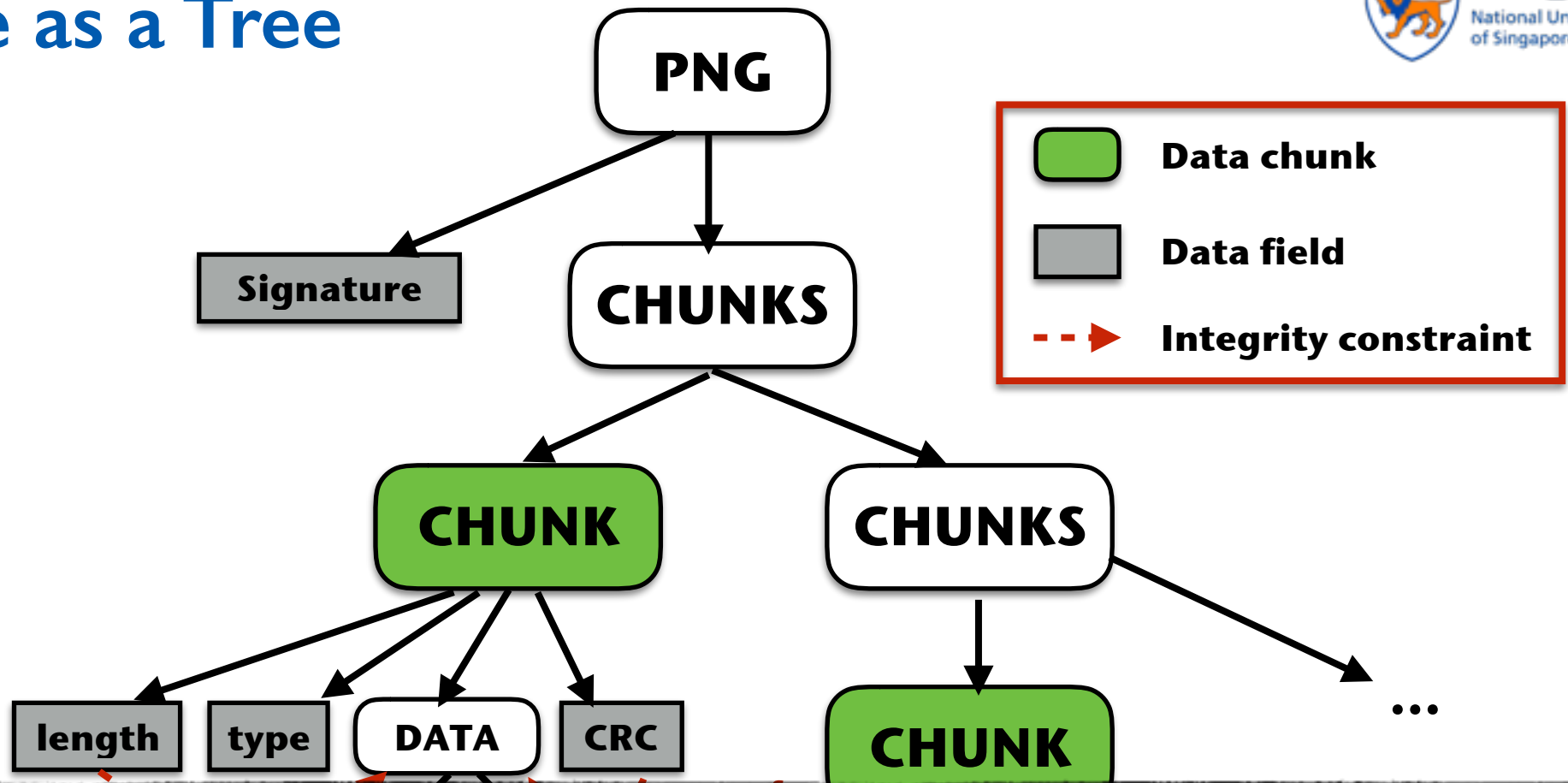
- Integrity constraints  
e.g., Checksums

- Compression/decompression algorithms

# File as a Tree



# File as a Tree



1. (Model-Based) Blackbox Fuzzing
2. Whitebox Fuzzing

zzz ... txt

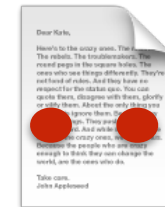
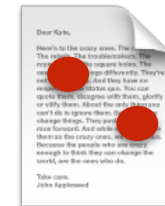
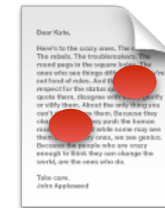
# Blackbox Fuzzing

## Mutated Inputs

### Seed Input



Blackbox  
Fuzzing



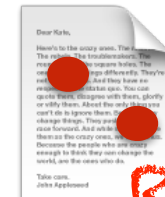
# Blackbox Fuzzing

## Mutated Inputs

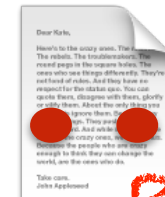
### Seed Input



Rejected !



Rejected !



Rejected !

# Model-Based Blackbox Fuzzing

## Seed Input



Peach, Spike ...

Model-Based  
Blackbox  
Fuzzing

# Model-Based Blackbox Fuzzing

## Seed Input



Peach, Spike ...

Model-Based  
Blackbox  
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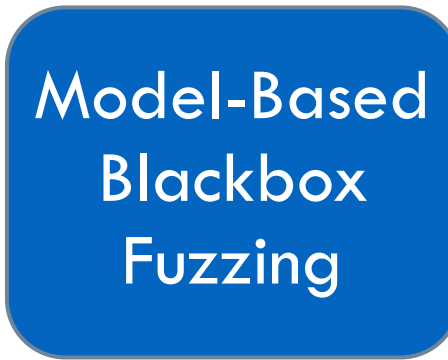
## Input model

# Model-Based Blackbox Fuzzing

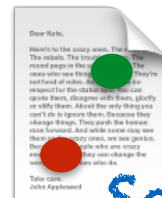
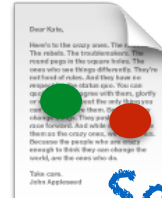
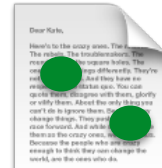
Seed Input



Peach, Spike ...



Mutated Inputs



Pass all checks

Satisfy some checks

Satisfy some checks

# Model-Based Blackbox Fuzzing (MoBF)



MoBF struggles at generating **specific values for data fields !**

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**Probability to generate correct value(s) for**

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MoBF struggles at generating **specific values for data fields !**

## Probability to generate correct value(s) for

**One 32-bit data field:  $1/2^{32}$**

**Two 32-bit data fields:  $1/2^{64}$**

**Three 32-bit data fields:  $1/2^{96}$**

# Model-Based Blackbox Fuzzing (MoBF)



MoBF struggles at generating **specific values for data fields** !

## Probability to generate correct value(s) for

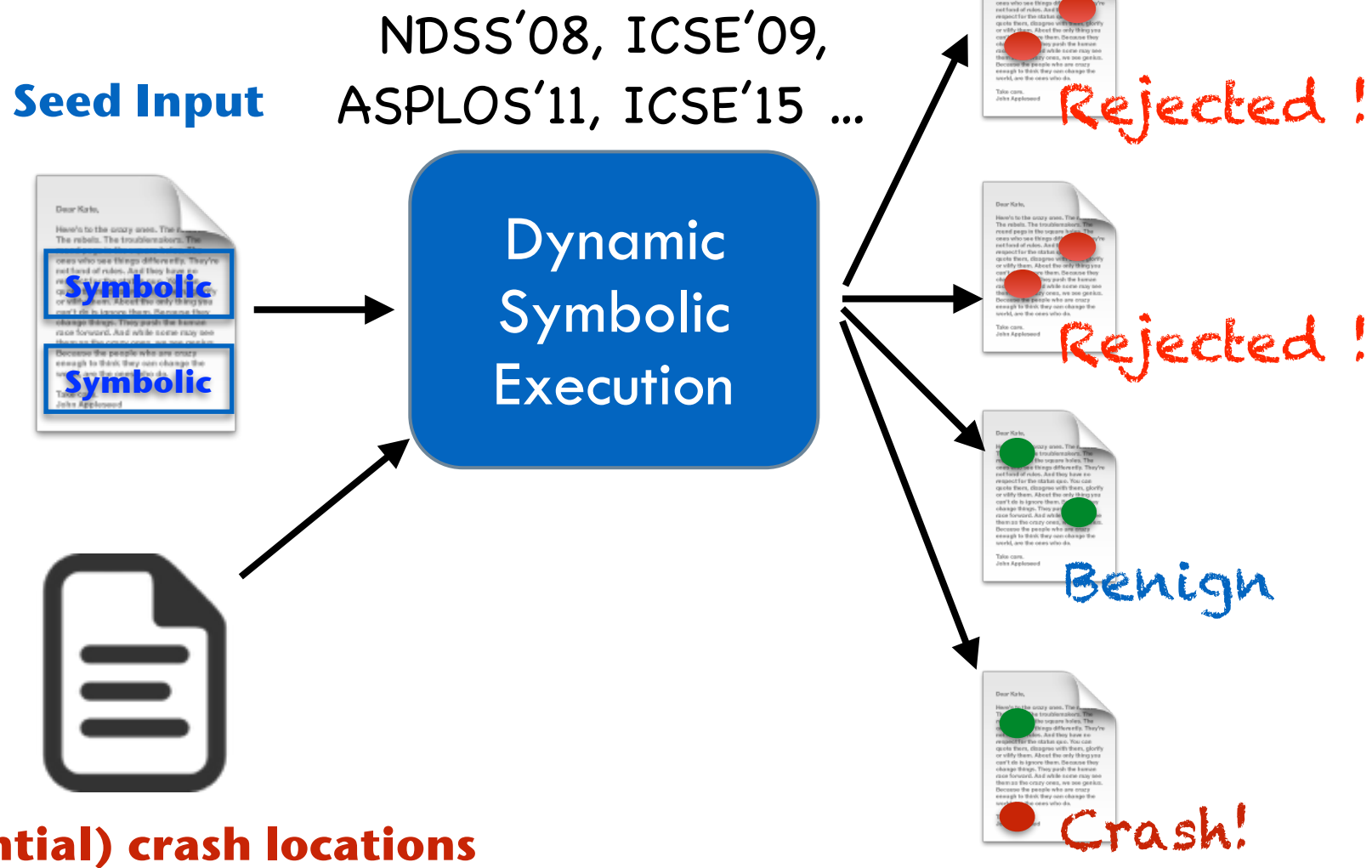
**One 32-bit data field:**  $1/2^{32}$

**Two 32-bit data fields:**  $1/2^{64}$

**Three 32-bit data fields:**  $1/2^{96}$

...

# Whitebox Fuzzing



# Whitebox Fuzzing (WF)

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WF comfortably generates specific values  
for data fields



# Whitebox Fuzzing (WF)

WF comfortably generates specific values for data fields



WF easily gets bogged down by large space of invalid inputs while

- adding missing data chunk(s) or
- enforcing integrity constraints like checksums, size-of, offset-of ...

# Motivating Example

## A PNG file triggers a crash in VLC media player

```
"\x89\x50\x4E\x47\x0D\x0A\x1A\x0A" # PNG signature
"\x00\x00\x00\x0D" # IHDR size
"\x49\x48\x44\x52" # IHDR chunk
"\x7F\xFF\xFF\xFF" # width
"\x00\x00\x01\x02" # height
"\x01" # bit depth
"\x03" # color type
"\x00" # compression method
"\x00" # filter method
"\x00" # interlace method
"\xBA\x1B\xD8\x84" # IHDR chunk CRC
"\x00\x00\x00\x03" # PLTE size
"\x50\x4C\x54\x45" # PLTE chunk
"\xFF" # red
"\xFF" # green
"\xFF" # blue
"\xA7\xC4\x1B\xC8" # PLTE chunk CRC
"\x00\x00\x00\x01" # tRNS size
"\x74\x52\x4E\x53" # tRNS chunk
"\x00" # alpha
"\x40\xE6\xD8\x66" # tRNS chunk CRC
"\x00\x00\x00\x01" # IDAT size
"\x49\x44\x41\x54" # IDAT chunk
"\xFF" # image data
"\x05\x3A\x92\x65" # IDAT chunk CRC
"\x00\x00\x00\x00" # IEND size
"\x49\x45\x4E\x44" # IEND chunk
"\xAE\x42\x60\x82" # IEND chunk CRC
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**Requires an optional data chunk**

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**Requires an optional data chunk**

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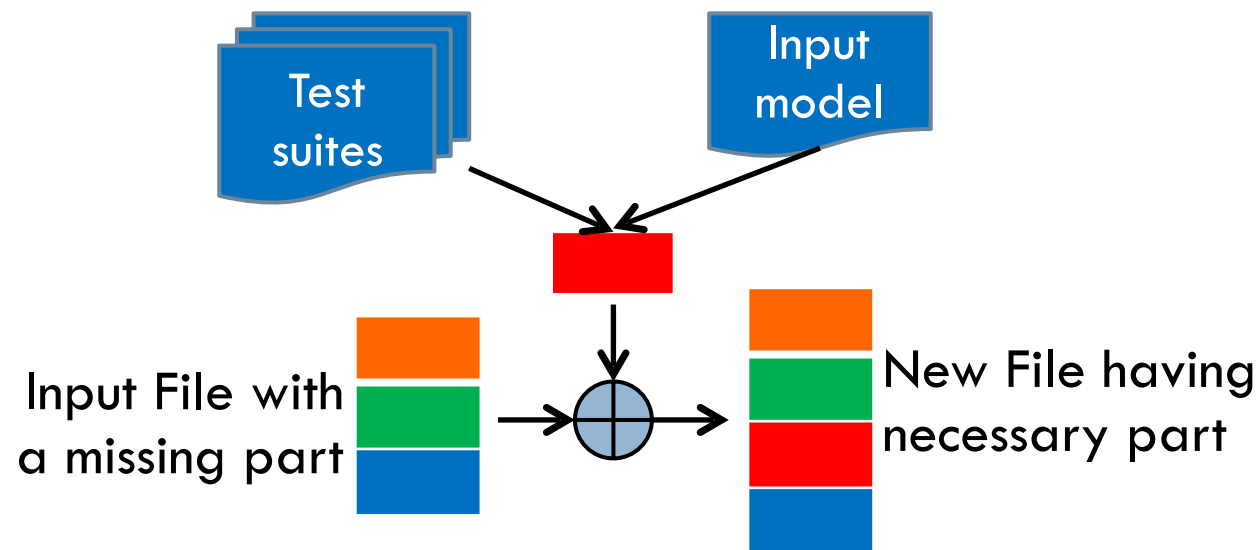
MOBF & WF are very unlikely  
to generate the crashing input  
IF the selected seed file  
does not have optional ERNS  
data chunk

# Observation & Solution

- A missing data chunk can be obtained from other seed inputs in the test suite
- OR it can be directly instantiated from the input model

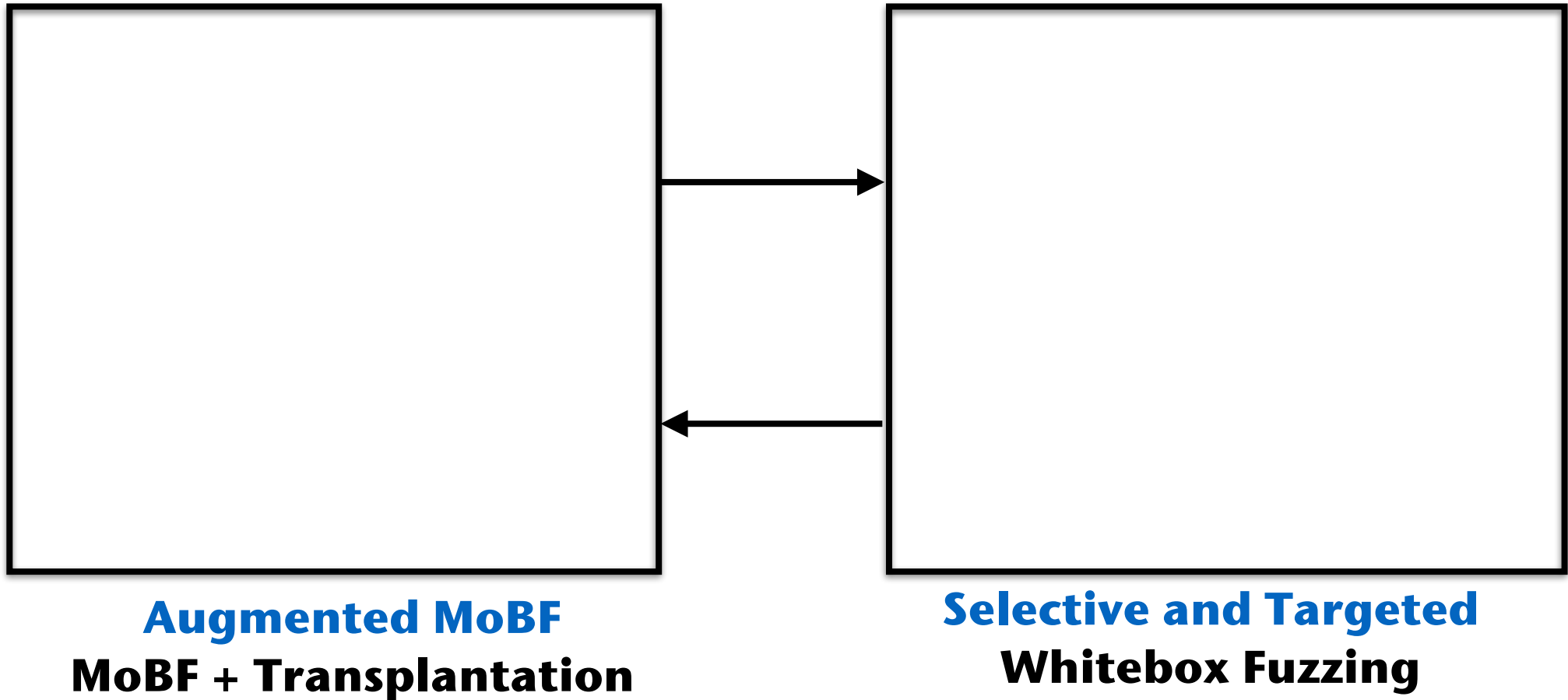
# Observation & Solution

- A **missing data chunk** can be **obtained** from **other seed inputs** in the test suite
- OR it can be **directly instantiated** from the **input model**

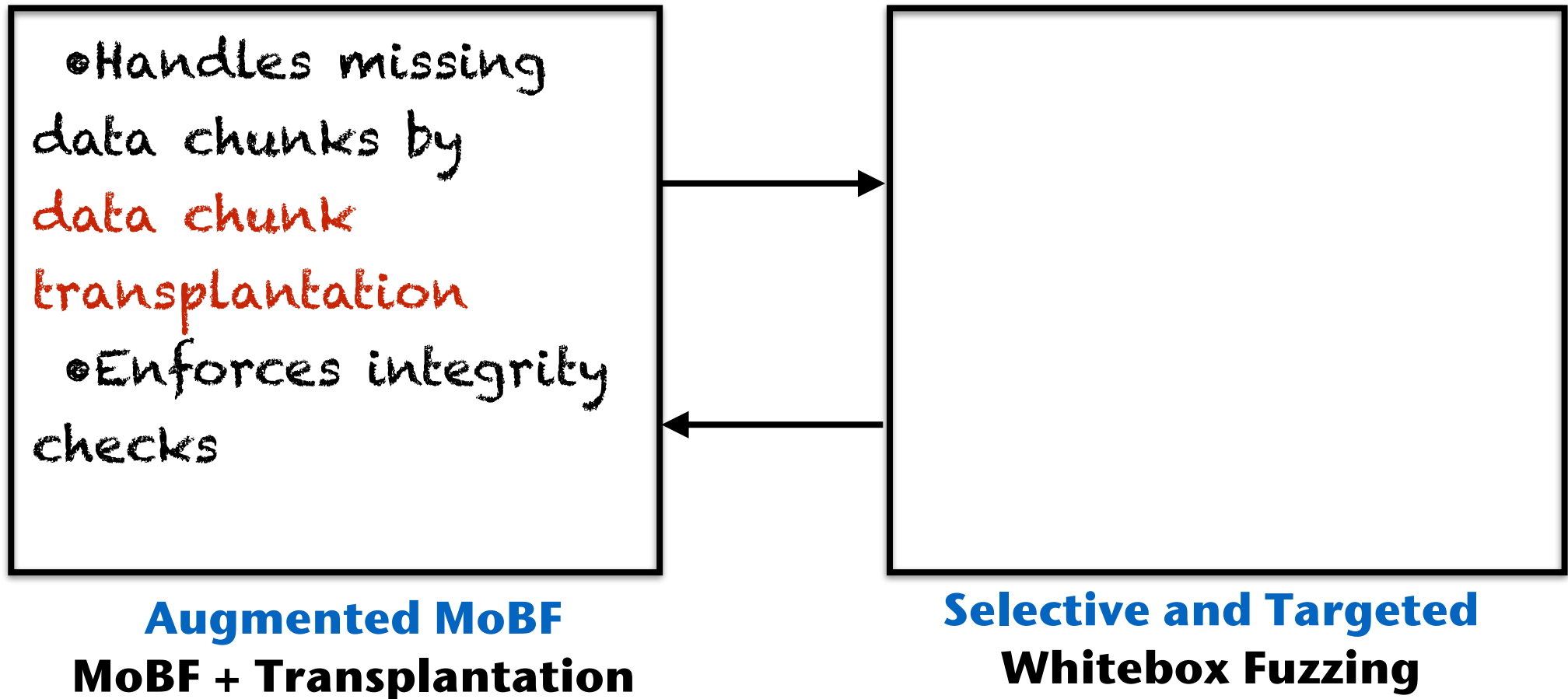


## Data chunk Transplantation

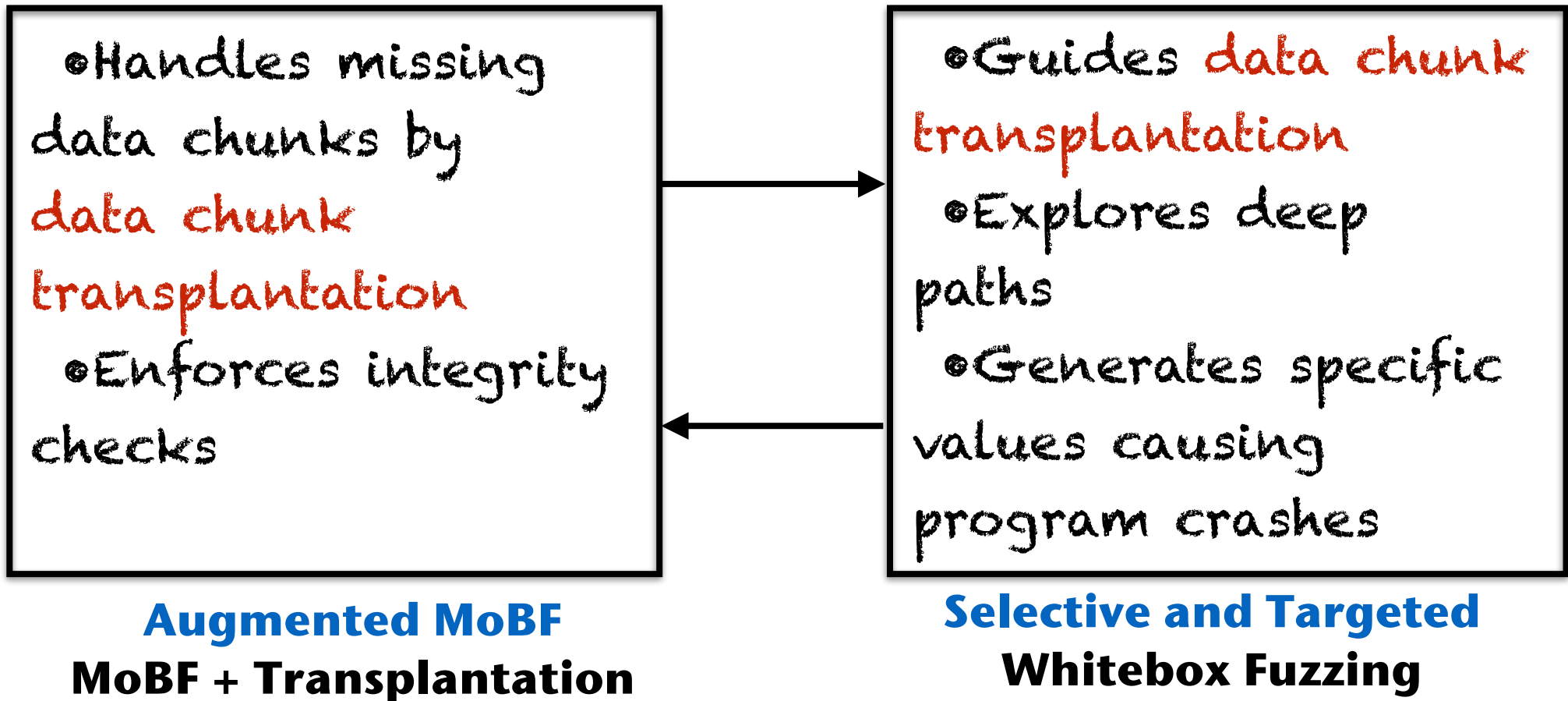
# Model-Based Whitebox Fuzzing



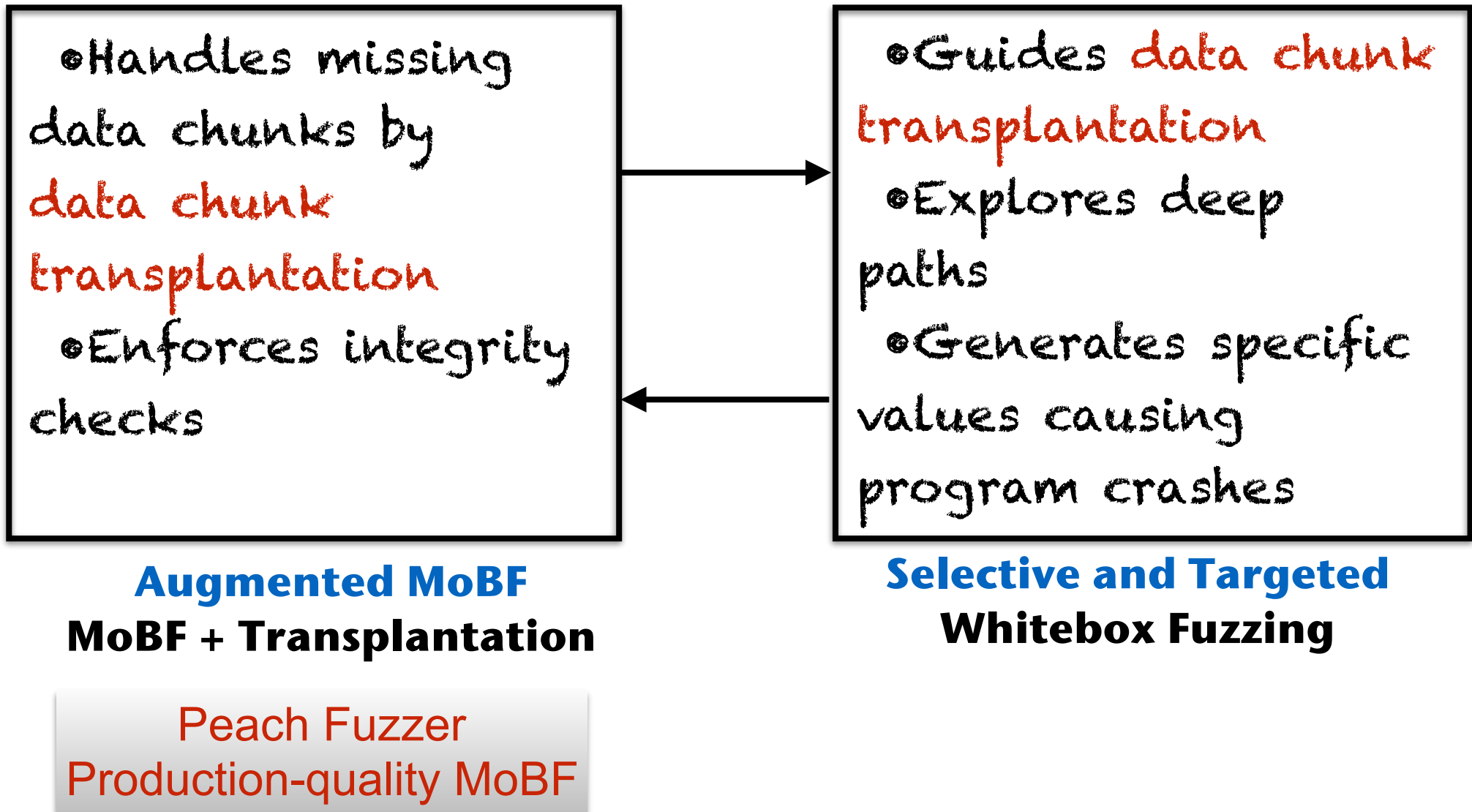
# Model-Based Whitebox Fuzzing



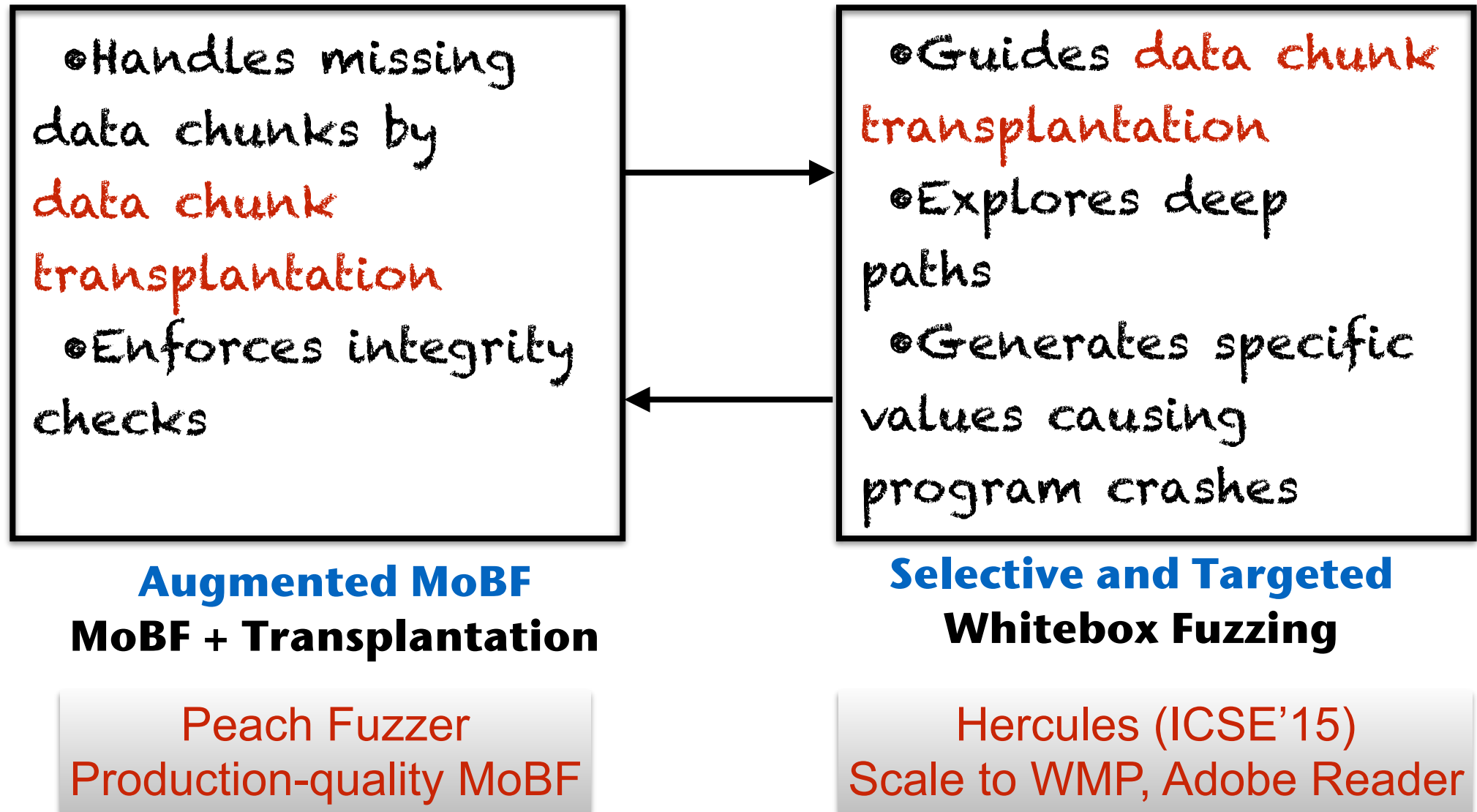
# Model-Based Whitebox Fuzzing



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# What the input model looks like?

# XML-based Input Model (Peach Fuzzer)

Data model for a generic data chunk

```
<DataModel name="Chunk">
  <Number name="Length" size="32" endian="big">
    <Relation type="size" of="Data" />
  </Number>
  <Block name="TypeData">
    <String name="Type" length="4" />
    <Blob name="Data" />
  </Block>
  <Number size="32" endian="big">
    <Fixup class="Crc32Fixup">
      <Param name="ref" value="TypeData"/>
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```

```
<DataModel name="Chunk_IHDR" ref="Chunk">
  <Block name="TypeData">
    <String name="Type" value="IHDR" length="4"
    token="true"/>
    <Block name="Data">
      <Number name="width" size="32" />
      <Number name="height" size="32" />
      <Number name="bits" size="8" />
      <Number name="color_type" size="8" />
      <Number name="compression" size="8" />
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inherits common  
data fields & relationships

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    <Number name="compression" size="8" />
    <Number name="filter" size="8" />
    <Number name="interlace" size="8" />
  </Block>
</Block>
</DataModel>
```

Data model for PNG image files

```
<DataModel name="Png">
  <Number name="Signature" valueType="hex"
  value="89504e470d0a1a0a" size="64"
  token="true" />
  <Choice maxOccurs="30000">
    <Block ref="Chunk_IHDR" />
    <Block ref="Chunk_PLTE" />
    <Block ref="Chunk_IDAT" />
    ...
    <Block ref="Chunk_IEND" />
    <Block ref="Chunk" />
  </Choice>
</DataModel>
```

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  token="true" />
  <Choice maxOccurs="30000">
    <Block ref="Chunk_IHDR" />
    <Block ref="Chunk_PLTE" />
    <Block ref="Chunk_IDAT" />
    ...
    <Block ref="Chunk_IEND" />
    <Block ref="Chunk" />
  </Choice>
</DataModel>
```

# XML-based Input Model (Peach Fuzzer)

Data model for a generic data chunk

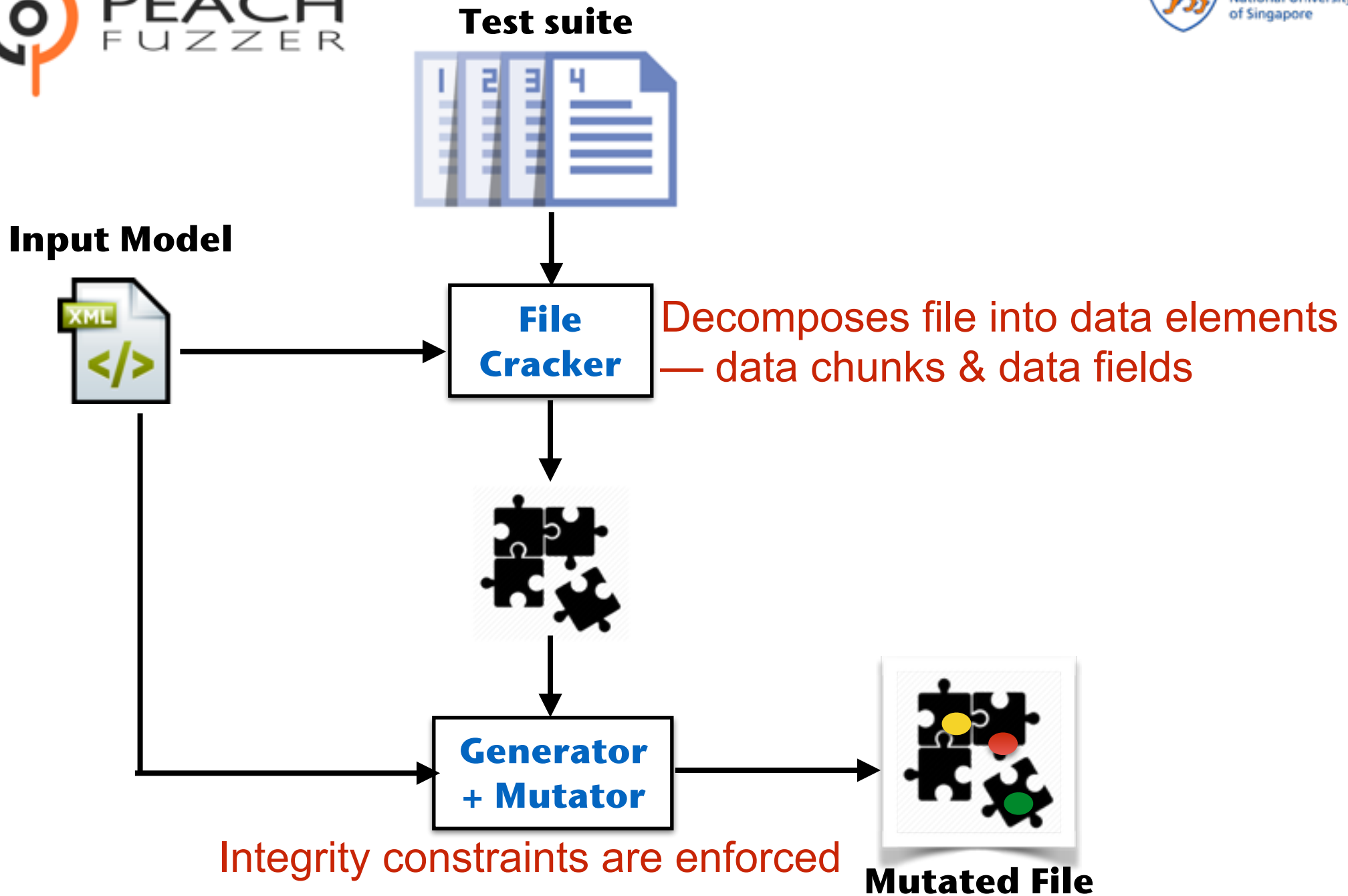
```
<DataModel name="Chunk">
  <Number name="Length" size="32" endian="big">
    <Relation type="size" of="Data" />
  </Number>
  <Block name="TypeData">
    <String name="Type" length="4" />
    <Blob name="Data" />
  </Block>
  <Number size="32" endian="big">
    <Fixup class="Crc32Fixup">
      <Param name="ref" value="TypeData" />
    </Fixup>
  </Number>
</DataModel>
```

inherits common  
data fields & relationships

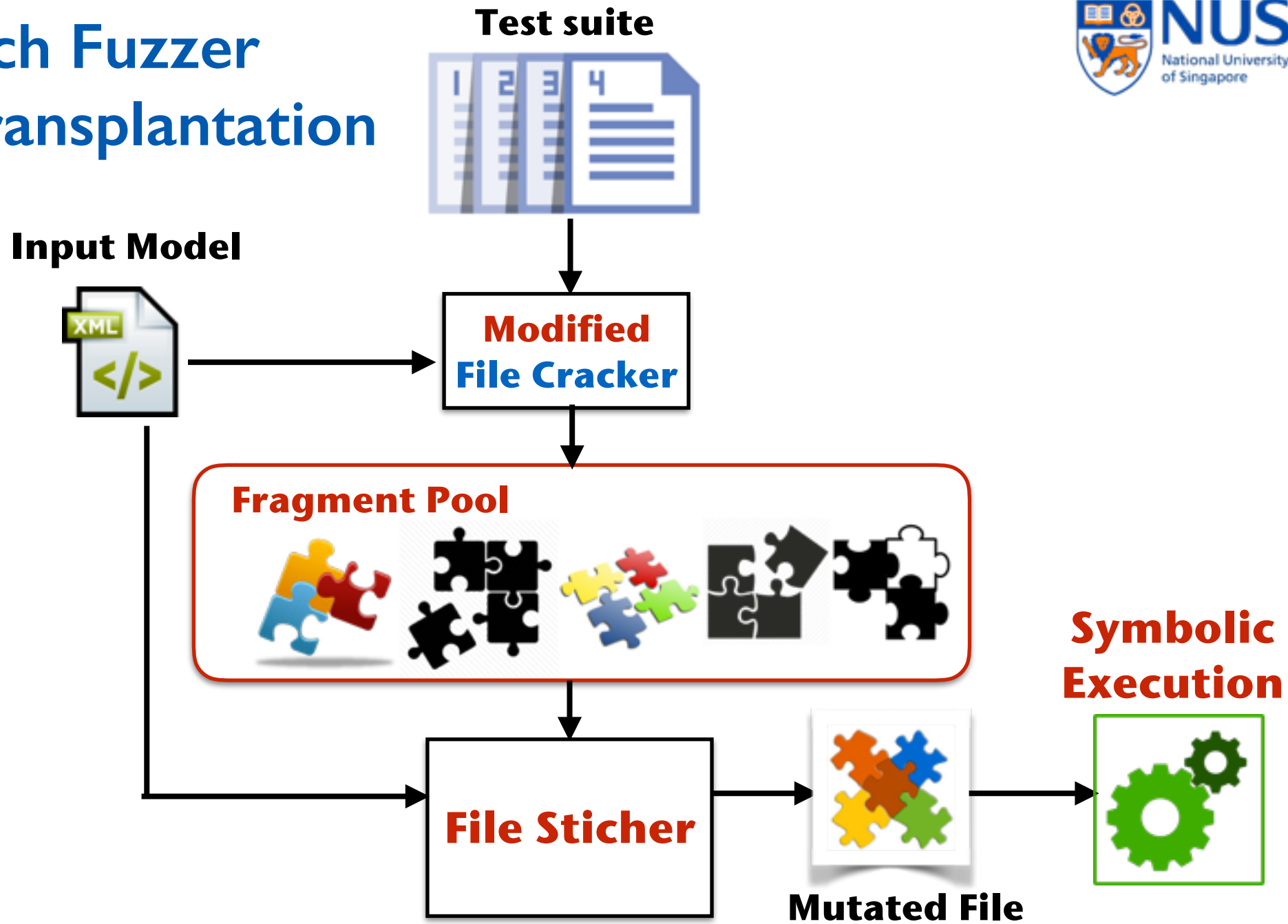
```
<DataModel name="Chunk_IHDR" ref="Chunk">
  <Block name="TypeData">
    <String name="Type" value="IHDR" length="4"
    token="true" />
  <Block name="Data">
    <Number name="width" size="32" />
    <Number name="height" size="32" />
    <Number name="bits" size="8" />
    <Number name="color_type" size="8" />
    <Number name="compression" size="8" />
    <Number name="filter" size="8" />
    <Number name="interlace" size="8" />
  </Block>
</Block>
</DataModel>
```

Data model for PNG image files

```
<DataModel name="Png">
  <Number name="Signature" valueType="hex"
  value="89504e470d0a1a0a" size="64"
  token="true" />
  <Choice maxOccurs="30000">
    <Block ref="Chunk_IHDR" />
    <Block ref="Chunk_PLTE" />
    <Block ref="Chunk_IDAT" />
    ...
    <Block ref="Chunk_IEND" />
    <Block ref="Chunk" />
  </Choice>
</DataModel>
```



# Peach Fuzzer + Transplantation



# Peach Fuzzer + Transplantation

Test suite



Input Model

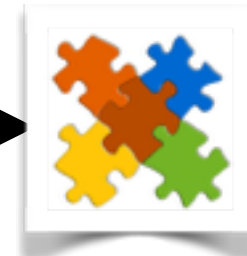


**Modified  
File Cracker**

**Fragment Pool**



**File Sticher**



**Mutated File**

**Symbolic  
Execution**



# Peach Fuzzer + Transplantation

Test suite



Input Model



**Modified  
File Cracker**

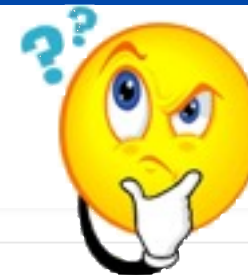
**Fragment Pool**



**File Sticher**

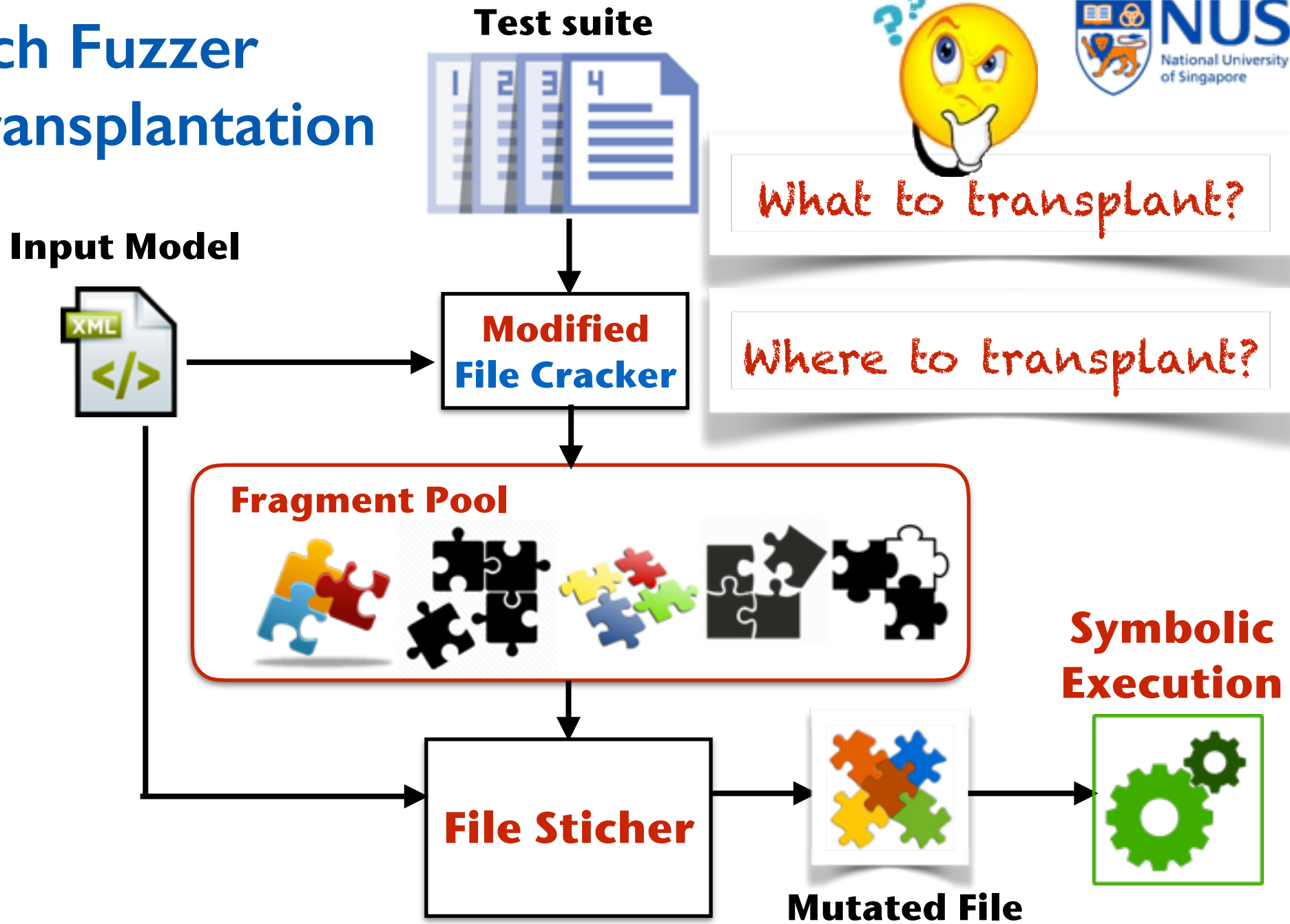
**Mutated File**

**Symbolic  
Execution**

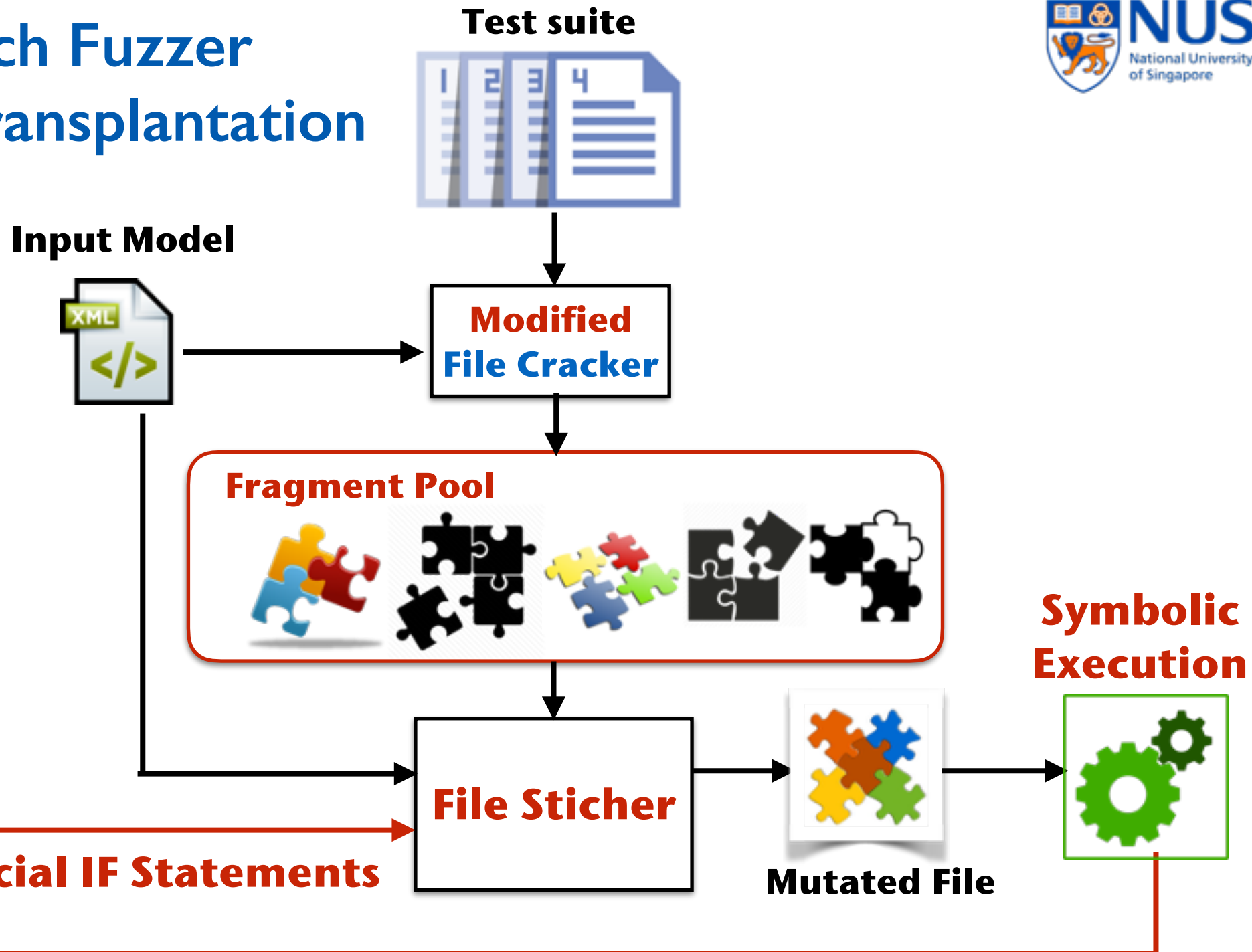


*What to transplant?*

# Peach Fuzzer + Transplantation



# Peach Fuzzer + Transplantation



# Crucial IF Statements

```
1 // read chunks' info before first IDAT chunk
2 void png_read_info(png_structp ptr)
3 {
4 // read and check the PNG file signature
5 read_sig(f);
6 for (;;)
7 {
8 // get current chunk's information
9 uint_32 length = read_chunk_header(ptr);
10 uint_32 chunk_name = ptr->chunk_name;
11 // mandatory chunks
12 if (chunk_name == png_IHDR)
13     handle_IHDR(ptr, length);
14 else if (chunk_name == png_IEND)
15     handle_IEND(ptr, length);
16 else if (chunk_name == png_PLTE)
17     handle_PLTE(ptr, length);
18 else if (chunk_name == png_IDAT)
19 {
20     ptr->idat_size = length;
21     break;
22 }
23 // optional chunks
24 else if ...
25 else if (chunk_name == png_tRNS)
26     handle_tRNS(ptr, length);
27 else if ...
28 }
29 }
30 // initialize row buffer for reading data from file
31 void png_read_start_row(png_structp ptr)
32 {
33     size_t buf_size;
34     ...
35     buf_size = calculateBufSize(ptr);
36     ptr->row_buf = png_malloc(ptr, buf_size);
37     png_memset(ptr->row_buf, 0, ptr->rowbytes);
38 }
```

**Code extracted from LibPNG**

# Crucial IF Statements

```
1 // read chunks' info before first IDAT chunk
2 void png_read_info(png_structp ptr)
3 {
4 // read and check the PNG file signature
5 read_sig(f);
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12 if (chunk_name == png_IHDR)
13     handle_IHDR(ptr, length);
14 else if (chunk_name == png_IEND)
15     handle_IEND(ptr, length);
16 else if (chunk_name == png_PLTE)
17     handle_PLTE(ptr, length);
18 else if (chunk_name == png_IDAT)
19 {
20     ptr->idat_size = length;
21     break;
22 }
23 // optional chunks
24 else if ...
25 else if (chunk_name == png_tRNS)
26     handle_tRNS(ptr, length);
27 else if ...
28 }
29 }
30 // initialize row buffer for reading data from file
31 void png_read_start_row(png_structp ptr)
32 {
33     size_t buf_size;
34     ...
35     buf_size = calculateBufSize(ptr);
36     ptr->row_buf = png_malloc(ptr, buf_size);
37     png_memset(ptr->row_buf, 0, ptr->rowbytes);
38 }
```

## A Crucial IF Statement

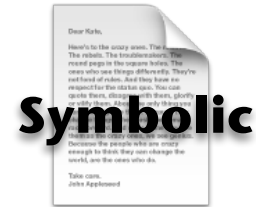
- Only one branch has been taken
- depends on the presence of a data chunk in the input file

**Code extracted from LibPNG**

# Detecting Crucial IF Statements

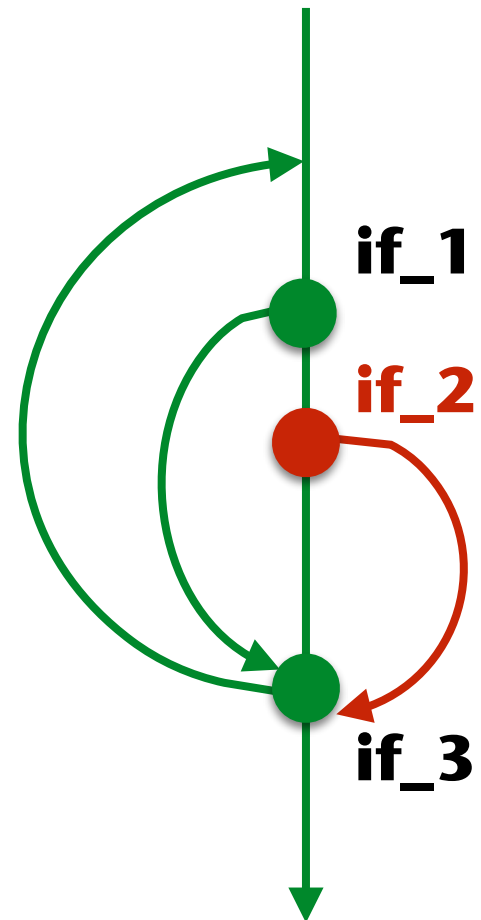
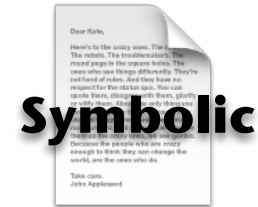
# Detecting Crucial IF Statements

- **Step 1.** Mark input file (partially) symbolic



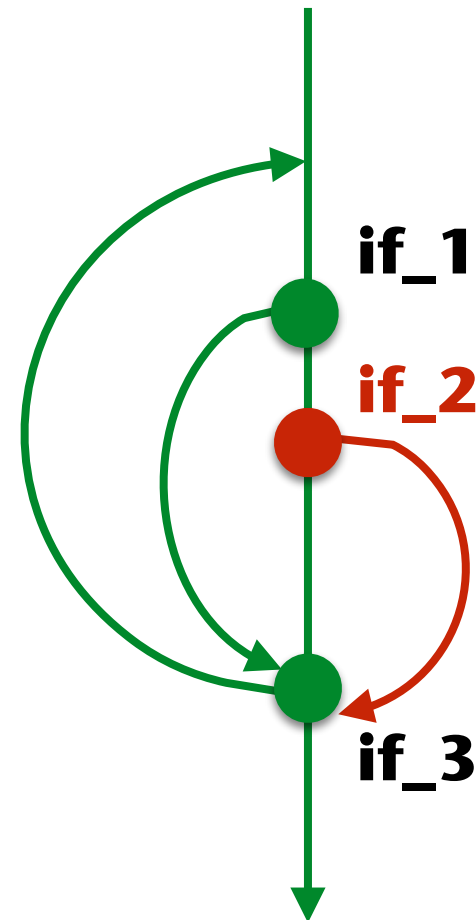
# Detecting Crucial IF Statements

- **Step 1.** Mark input file (partially) symbolic
- **Step 2.** Concolically execute program in one path - *same path as concrete input*

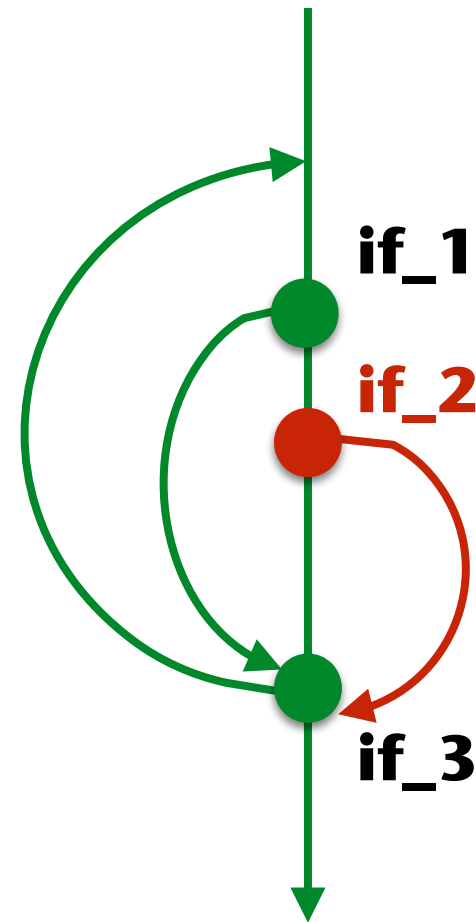


# Detecting Crucial IF Statements

- **Step 1.** Mark input file (partially) symbolic
- **Step 2.** Concolically execute program in one path - *same path as concrete input*
- **Step 3.** Collect branch conditions of IF statements at which *only one branch has been taken* (e.g., *if\_2*)



- 
- Dear Kate,
- Here's to the sunny ones. The ones who  
 The rebels. The troublemakers. The  
 need people in the square holes. The  
 ones who use things differently. They're  
 not full of rules. And they have re-  
 spected for the olden ones. You can  
 quote them, along with them, glow-  
 ingly. They're the ones who know  
 the difference between the right and  
 the wrong. The ones who are not  
 afraid of the dark. The ones who are  
 the people who are not afraid  
 enough to think. They can change the  
 world, are the ones who do.
- Take care,  
 John Appleseed



# Evaluation - Subjects & Input Models

# Evaluation - Subjects & Input Models

## 9 subject programs

Program	Version	Buggy module	Size	Errors
Video Lan Client	2.0.7	libpng.dll	184 KB	1
Video Lan Client	2.0.3	libpng.dll	182 KB	1
Libpng Test Program	1.5.4	libpng.dll	176 KB	1
XnView	1.98	XnView.exe	4.46 MB	0 + 3
Adobe Reader	9.2	cooltype.dll	2.32 MI	1
Windows Media Playe	9.0	quartz.dll	1.22 MI	2 + 1
Real Player SP	1.0	realplay.exe	60 KB	1
MIDI Player	0.35	mamplayer.ex	336 KB	1
Orbital Viewer	1.04	ov.exe	538 KB	1
Total:				9 + 4

# Evaluation - Subjects & Input Models

## 9 subject programs

Program	Version	Buggy module	Size	Errors
Video Lan Client	2.0.7	libpng.dll	184 KB	1
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XnView	1.98	XnView.exe	4.46 MB	0 + 3
Adobe Reader	9.2	cooltype.dll	2.32 MI	1
Windows Media Playe	9.0	quartz.dll	1.22 MI	2 + 1
Real Player SP	1.0	realplay.exe	60 KB	1
MIDI Player	0.35	mamplayer.ex	336 KB	1
Orbital Viewer	1.04	ov.exe	538 KB	1
Total: 9 + 4				

## 6 Input models

One-time effort  
34 hrs

Format	Size	Time spent	#Files	Average size
PDF	4.5 KB	12 hours	10	200 KB
PNG	8.3 KB	4 hours	10	55 KB
MIDI	13.9 KB	4 hours	10	20 KB
FLV	6.0 KB	4 hours	10	300 KB
ORB	6.0 KB	8 hours	10	4 KB
WAV*	7.5 KB	2 hours	10	260 KB

# Evaluation - Effectiveness of MoWF

Time bound: 24hrs

Program	Advisory ID	Input Model	#Seed files	MoWF	Peach	Hercules
VLC 2.0.7	OSVDB-95632	PNG	10	✓	✗	✗
VLC 2.0.3	CVE-2012-5470	PNG	10	✓	✗	✗
LTP 1.5.4	CVE-2011-3328	PNG	10	✓	✗	✗
XNV1.98	Unknown-1	PNG	10	✓	✓	✗
XNV1.98	Unknown-2	PNG	10	✓	✓	✗
XNV1.98	Unknown-3	PNG	10	✓	✓	✗
WMP 9.0	Unknown-4	WAV	10	✓	✓	✗
WMP 9.0	CVE-2014-2671	WAV	10	✓	✗	✓
WMP 9.0	CVE-2010-0718	MIDI	10	✓	✗	✓
AR 9.2	CVE-2010-2204	PDF	10	✓	✗	✓
RP 1.0	CVE-2010-3000	FLV	10	✓	✗	✓
MP 0.35	CVE-2011-0502	MIDI	10	✓	✓	✓
OV 1.04	CVE-2010-0688	ORB	10	✓	✓	✓

# Evaluation - Seed Input Dependence

Program	Advisory ID	Input Model	#Seed files	Hercules++
VLC 2.0.7	OSVDB-95632	PNG	0	✓
VLC 2.0.3	CVE-2012-5470	PNG	0	✓
LTP 1.5.4	CVE-2011-3328	PNG	0	✓
XNV1.98	Unknown-1	PNG	0	✓
XNV1.98	Unknown-2	PNG	0	✓
XNV1.98	Unknown-3	PNG	0	✓
WMP 9.0	Unknown-4	WAV	0	✗
WMP 9.0	CVE-2014-2671	WAV	0	✗
WMP 9.0	CVE-2010-0718	MIDI	0	✓
AR 9.2	CVE-2010-2204	PDF	0	✗
RP 1.0	CVE-2010-3000	FLV	0	✗
MP 0.35	CVE-2011-0502	MIDI	0	✓
OV 1.04	CVE-2010-0688	ORB	0	✓

# Evaluation - Seed Input Dependence

Program	Advisory ID	Input Model	#Seed files	Hercules++
VLC 2.0.7	OSVDB-95632	PNG	0	✓
VLC 2.0.3	CVE-2012-5470	PNG	0	✓
LTP 1.5.4	CVE-2011-3328	PNG	0	✓
XNV1.98	Unknown-1	PNG	0	✓
XNV1.98	Unknown-2	PNG	0	✓
XNV1.98	Unknown-3	PNG	0	✓
WMP 9.0	Unknown-4	WAV	0	✗
WMP 9.0	CVE-2014-2671	WAV	0	✗
WMP 9.0	CVE-2010-0718	MIDI	0	✓
AR 9.2	CVE-2010-2204	PDF	0	✗
RP 1.0	CVE-2010-3000	FLV	0	✗
MP 0.35	CVE-2011-0502	MIDI	0	✓
OV 1.04	CVE-2010-0688	ORB	0	✓

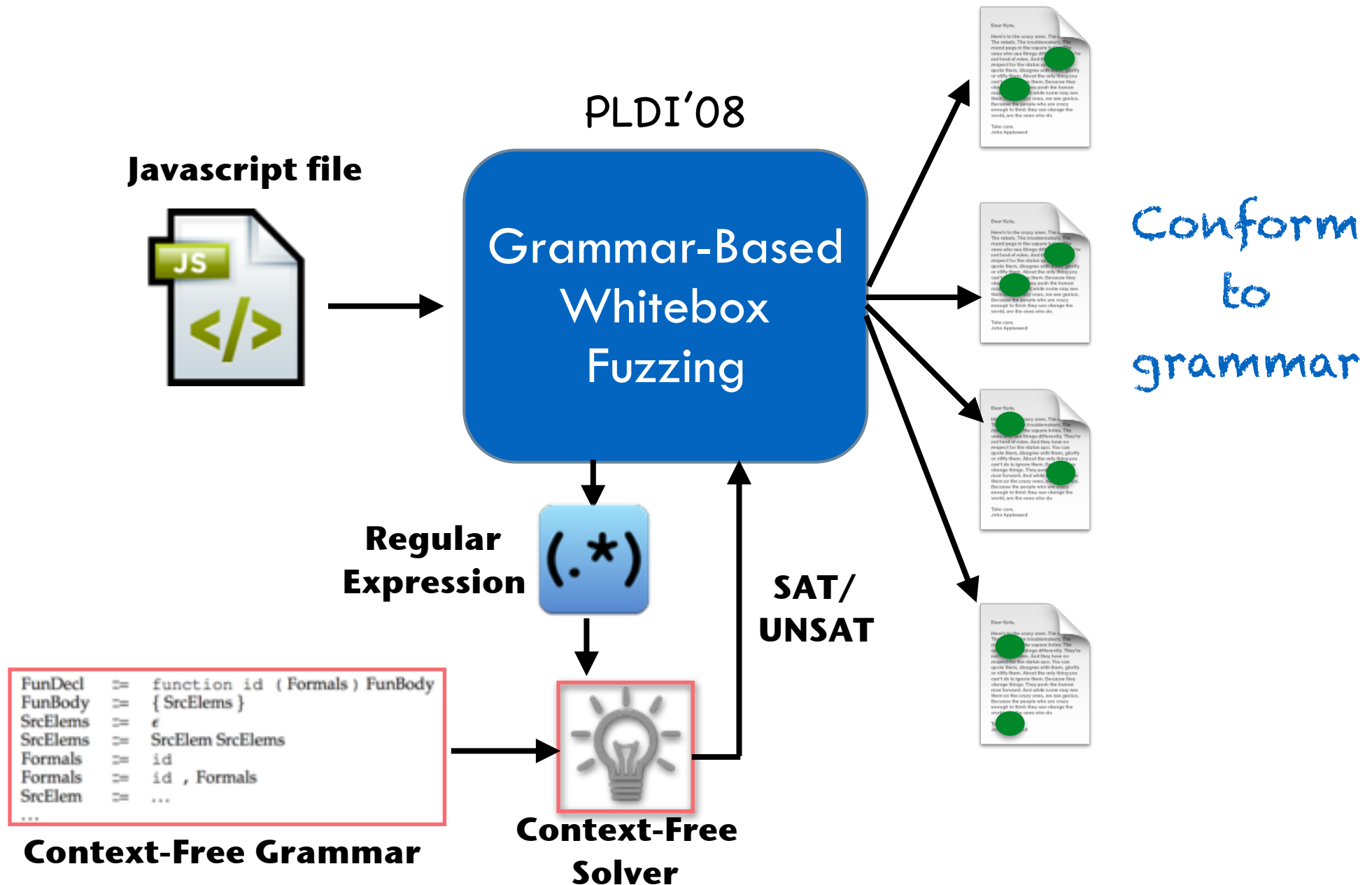
70%  
 No seed file  
 is needed

# Related Work

# Related Work

Grammar-based whitebox fuzzing (PLDI'08)

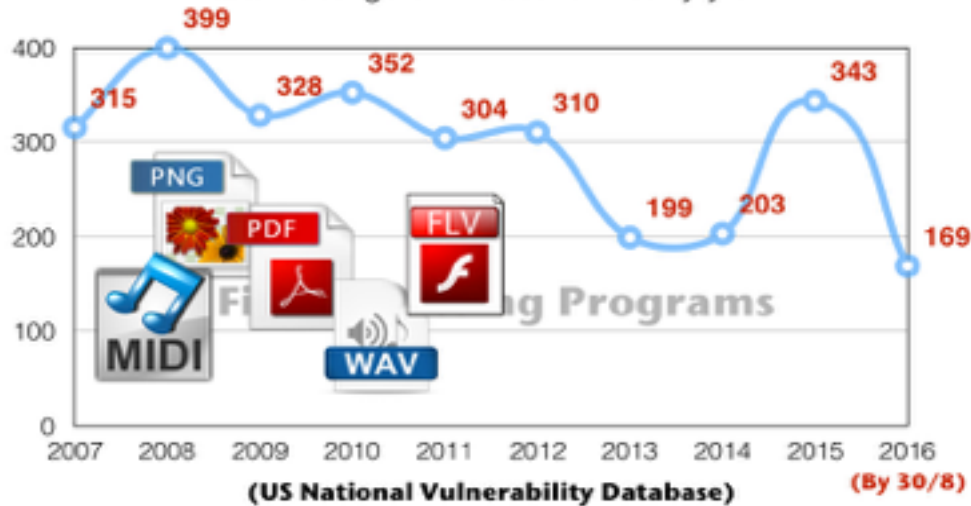
# Grammar-based Whitebox Fuzzing (GWF)



- Regular Expression (GWF) is **much weaker** than full Path Condition - it cannot encode simple arithmetic constraint like “ $x < y$ ”
- **MoWF maintains full Path Condition** and has no impact on the soundness and completeness of Whitebox Fuzzing technique
- MoWF leverages **File format input model - more expressive yet simple** than Context-Free Grammar. It can comfortably handle integrity constraints like length-of, offset-of and checksums

## Vulnerabilities in file-processing programs

#CVE-assigned vulnerabilities by year

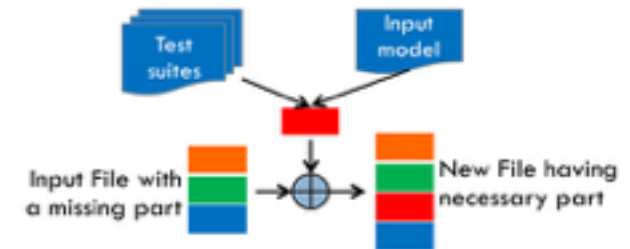


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## Observation & Solution

- A missing data chunk can be obtained from other seed inputs in the test suite
- OR it can be directly instantiated from an input model

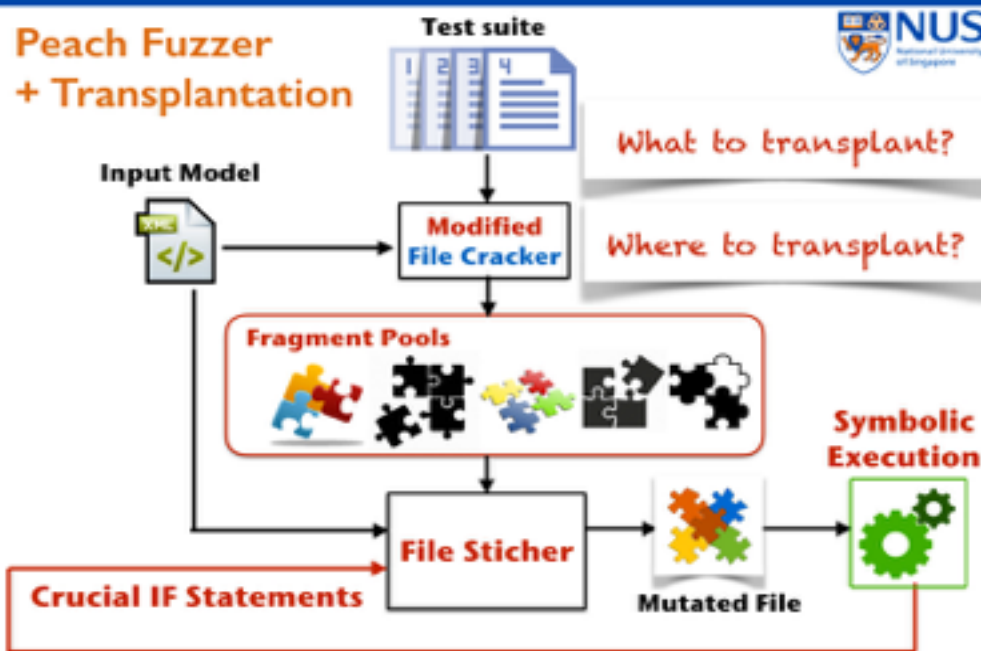


Data chunk Transplantation

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## Peach Fuzzer + Transplantation



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## Evaluation - Effectiveness of MoWF

Program	Advisory ID	Input Model	#Seed Files	Hercules++	Peach	Hercules
VLC 2.0.7	OSVDB-95632	PNG	10	✓	✗	✗
VLC 2.0.3	CVE-2012-5470	PNG	10	✓	✗	✗
LTP 1.5.4	CVE-2011-3328	PNG	10	✓	✗	✗
XNV1.98	Unknowns-1	PNG	10	✓	✓	✗
XNV1.98	Unknowns-2	PNG	10	✓	✓	✗
XNV1.98	Unknowns-3	PNG	10	✓	✓	✗
WMP 9.0	Unknowns-4	WAV	10	✓	✓	✗
WMP 9.0	CVE-2014-2671	WAV	10	✓	✗	✓
WMP 9.0	CVE-2010-0718	MIDI	10	✓	✗	✓
AR 9.2	CVE-2010-2204	PDF	10	✓	✗	✓
RP 1.0	CVE-2010-3000	FLV	10	✓	✗	✓
MP 0.35	CVE-2011-0502	MIDI	10	✓	✓	✓
OV 1.04	CVE-2010-0688	ORB	10	✓	✓	✓

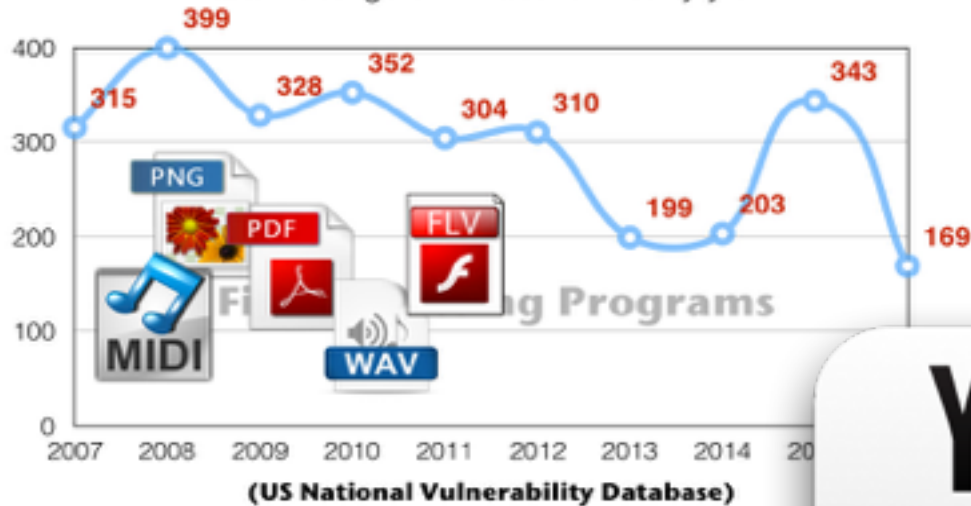
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## Vulnerabilities in file-processing programs



#CVE-assigned vulnerabilities by year

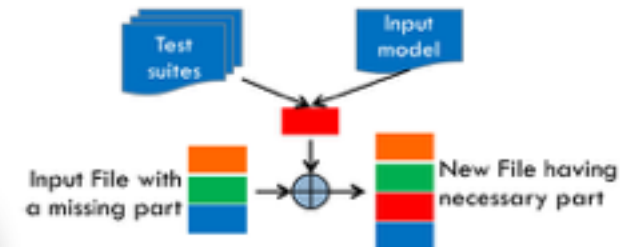


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## Observation & Solution



- A missing data chunk can be obtained from other seed inputs in the test suite
- OR it can be directly instantiated from an input model

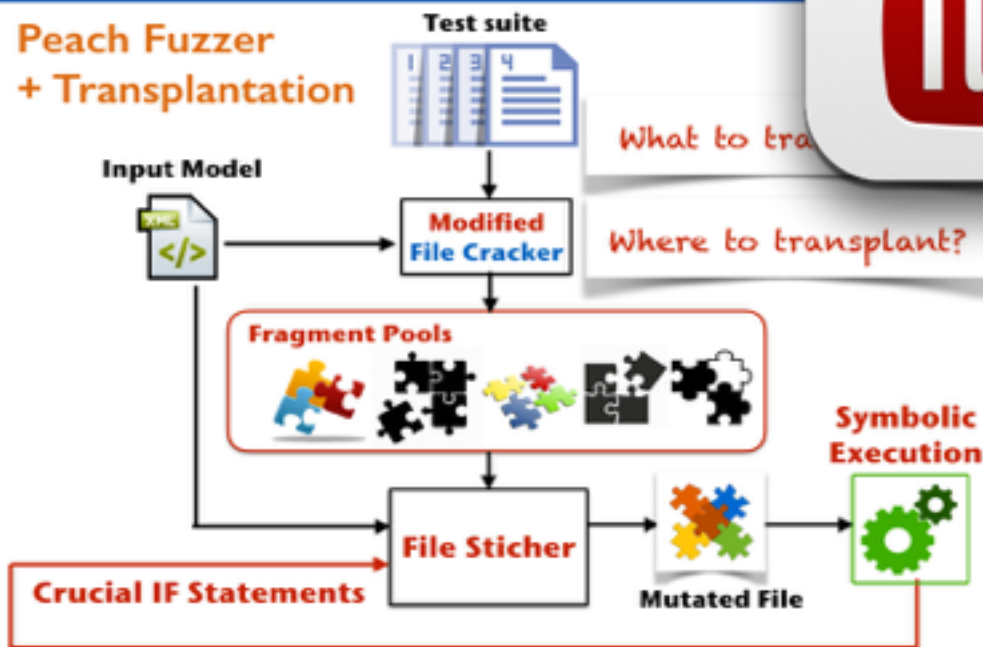


Data chunk Transplantation

Thuan Pham

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## Peach Fuzzer + Transplantation



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## on - Effectiveness of MoWF



Advisory ID	Input Model	#Seed Files	Hercules++	Peach	Hercules
VLC 2.0.7 OSVDB-95632	PNG	10	✓	✗	✗
VLC 2.0.3 CVE-2012-5470	PNG	10	✓	✗	✗
LTP 1.5.4 CVE-2011-3328	PNG	10	✓	✗	✗
XNV1.98 Unknowns-1	PNG	10	✓	✓	✗
XNV1.98 Unknowns-2	PNG	10	✓	✓	✗
XNV1.98 Unknowns-3	PNG	10	✓	✓	✗
WMP 9.0 Unknowns-4	WAV	10	✓	✓	✗
WMP 9.0 CVE-2014-2671	WAV	10	✓	✗	✓
WMP 9.0 CVE-2010-0718	MIDI	10	✓	✗	✓
AR 9.2 CVE-2010-2204	PDF	10	✓	✗	✓
RP 1.0 CVE-2010-3000	FLV	10	✓	✗	✓
MP 0.35 CVE-2011-0502	MIDI	10	✓	✓	✓
OV 1.04 CVE-2010-0688	ORB	10	✓	✓	✓

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