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# Detecting Critical Bugs in SMT Solvers Using Blackbox Mutational Fuzzing

[ESEC/FSE '20]

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## 1. Background

- Critical bugs in SMT solver
- Novelty

## 2. Approach

- Fuzzing technique
- Instance minimization

## 3. Evaluation

# Background

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**SMT solver** : Given a well-formed formula  $\varphi$  in **first-order logic**, SMT solver decides whether there exists a **satisfying solution** for  $\varphi$ .

## Bugs in SMT solver

**Table 1: Classes of bugs in SMT solvers. GT stands for ground truth and SR for solver result.**

GT \ SR				
	sat	unsat	unknown	Crash
sat		A	C	D
unsat	B		C	D



- Does not require a grammar to synthesize instances from scratch.
- Generate satisfiable instances from any given seed.

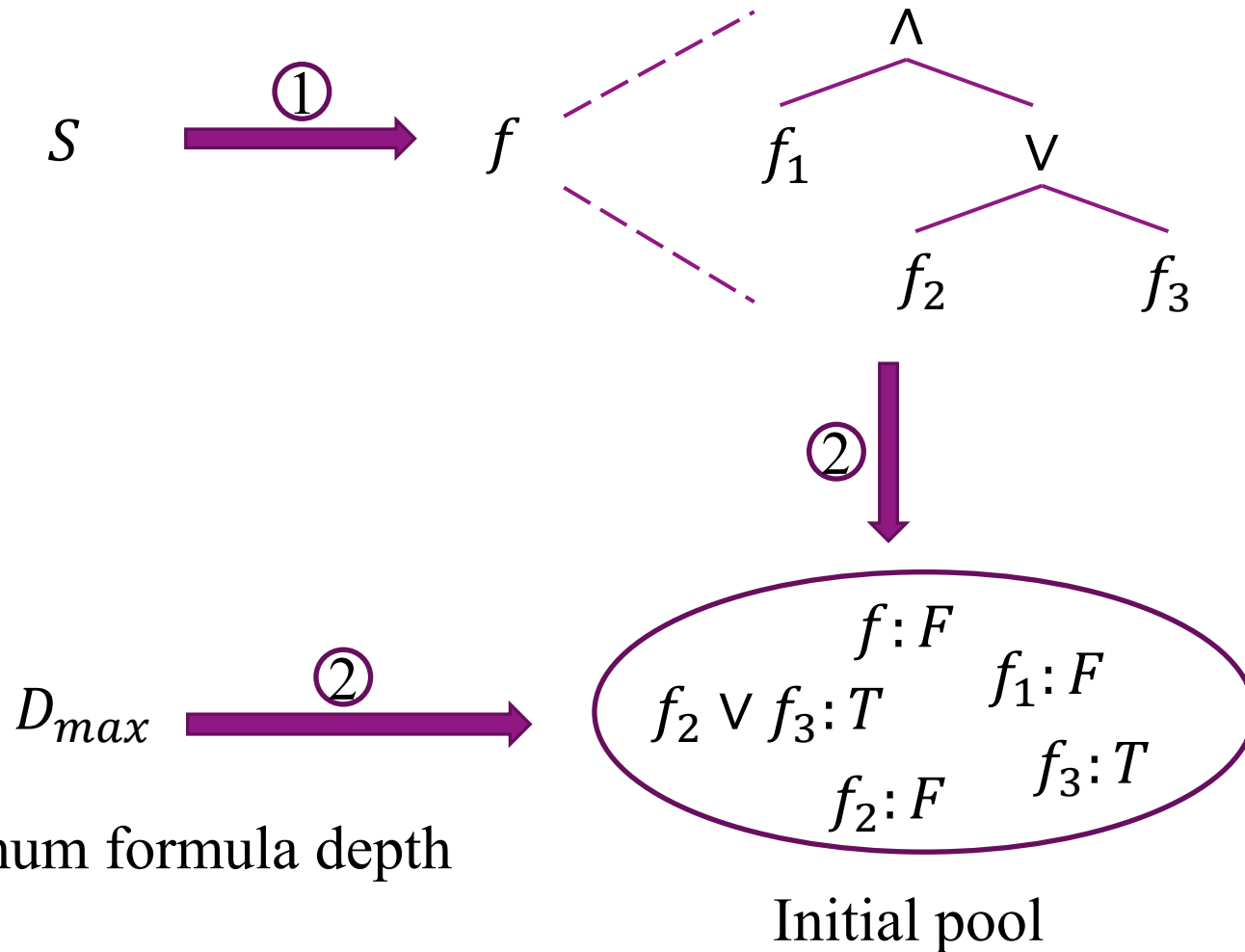
# Approach

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# Fuzzing technique



## Seed fragmentation



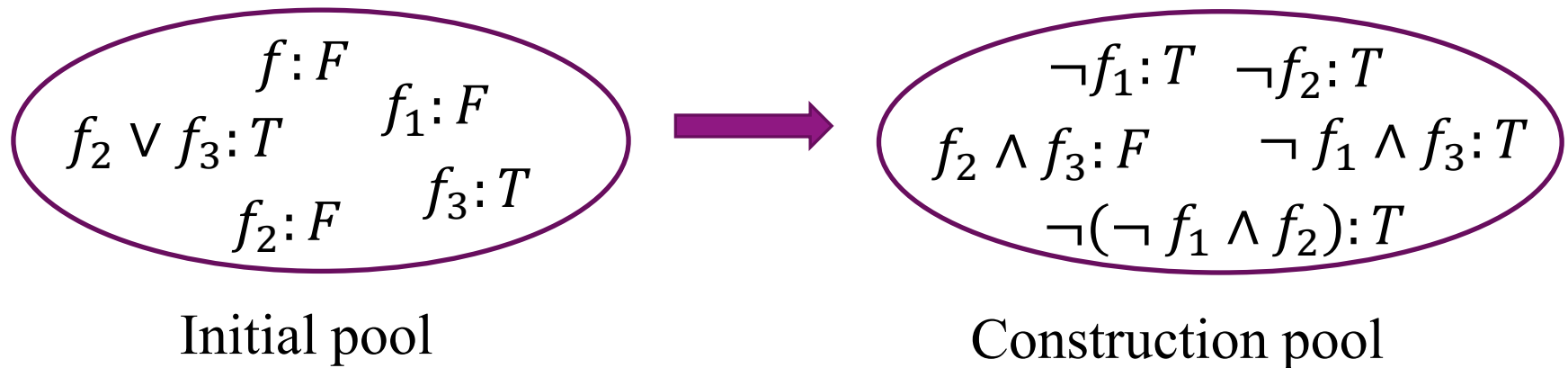
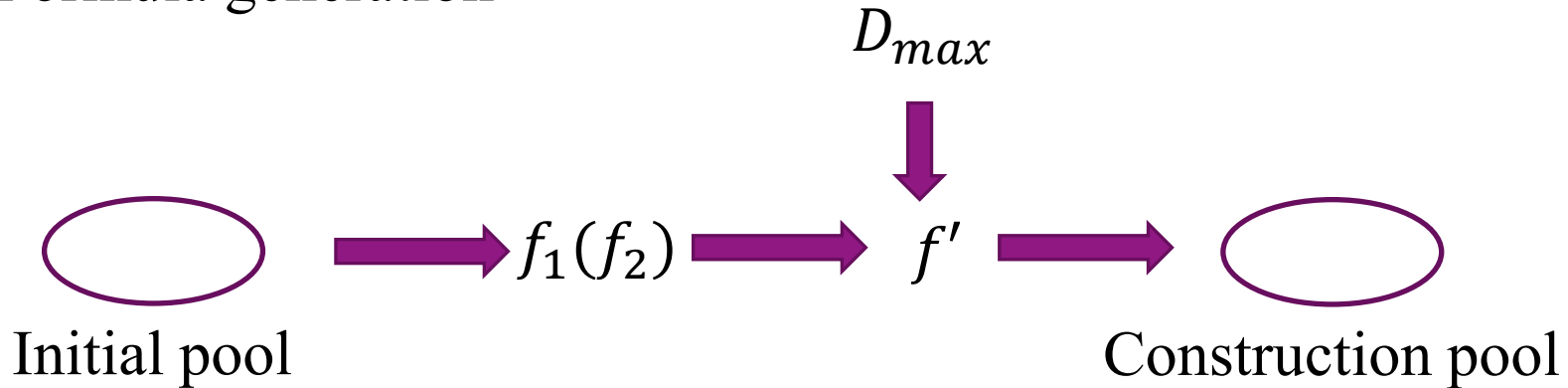
Maximum formula depth

Initial pool

# Fuzzing technique



## Formula generation

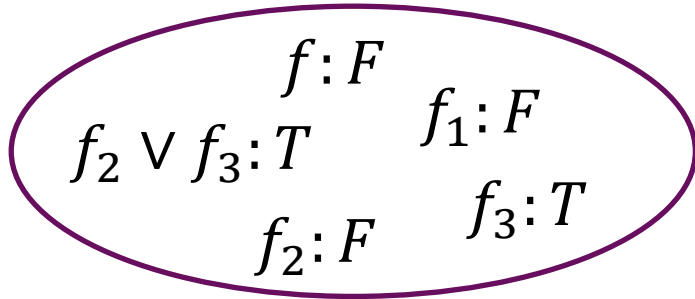




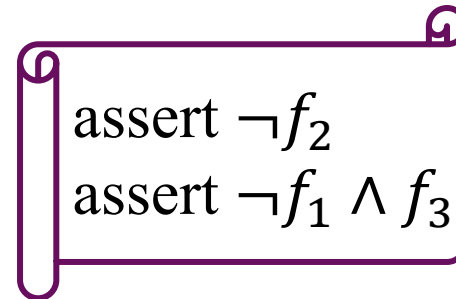
# Fuzzing technique



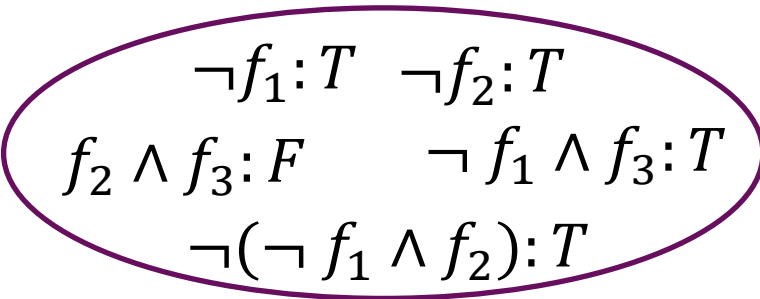
## Instance generation



Initial pool



New instance



Construction pool

$A_{max}$ : Maximum assertion number



**Motivation:** Fuzzing technique generates large instances, complicating debugging.

**Goal:** Minimized instance should still reveal bug in buggy solver.

**Method:** Binary search to find minimized  $D_{max}$  and  $A_{max}$  .

# Evaluation

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# Evaluation

## New critical bugs

**Table 3: Previously unknown, unique, and confirmed critical bugs found by STORM in the tested SMT solvers.**



SMT Solver	Incremental Mode	Logics	Critical Bugs
MathSAT5		QF_FP QF_BVFP	2
Yices2		QF_UFIDL QF_UF	2
Yices2	✓	QF_UFIDL QF_UFLRA	2
Z3		QF_UFLIA QF_BV UF LIA QF_BVFP QF_LIA	8
Z3	✓	QF_FP QF_S	3
Z3str3		QF_S	6
Z3-AS		AUFNIRA QF_NIA AUFLIRA QF_NRA	4
Z3-AS	✓	AUFNIRA	1
Z3-DBG		QF_NIA	1



## Impact of $A_{max}$ and $D_{max}$

- The larger the easier to find bugs.
- The impact of  $A_{max}$  is more significant.

## Instance minimization

- More reliable and median reduction of 82.7%
- Treat predicates as atomic blocks (cannot minimized further)

**Table 5: Code coverage increase as more instances are generated by STORM.**

<b>Generated Instances</b>	<b>Line Coverage</b>	<b>Function Coverage</b>
0	58219	26256
100	66945	30498
200	67063	30524
300	67119	30547
400	67208	30598
500	67759	30861

# Thanks