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# Schnauzer: Scalable Profiling for Likely Security Bug Sites

**William Arthur**, Biruk Mammo, Ricardo  
Rodriguez, Todd Austin, Valeria Bertacco

# Goal of this work

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MAKE **SOFTWARE** MORE **SECURE**



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Leveraging **Limited** Test Resources



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# Importance of Path

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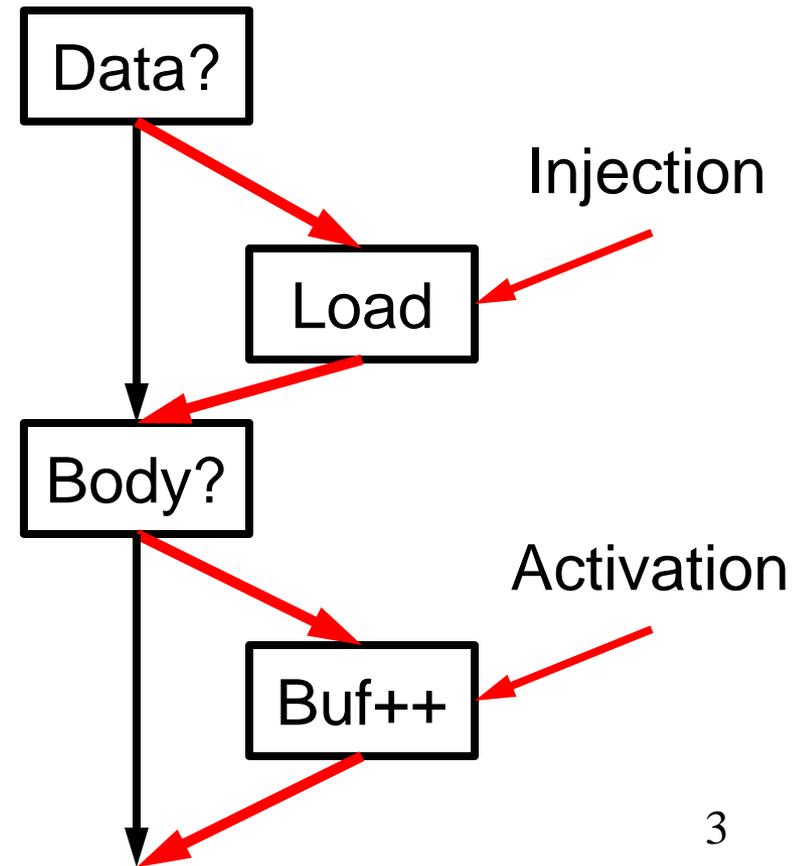
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# Importance of Path

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**Often, hidden bugs only appear when sensitized by the proper path**



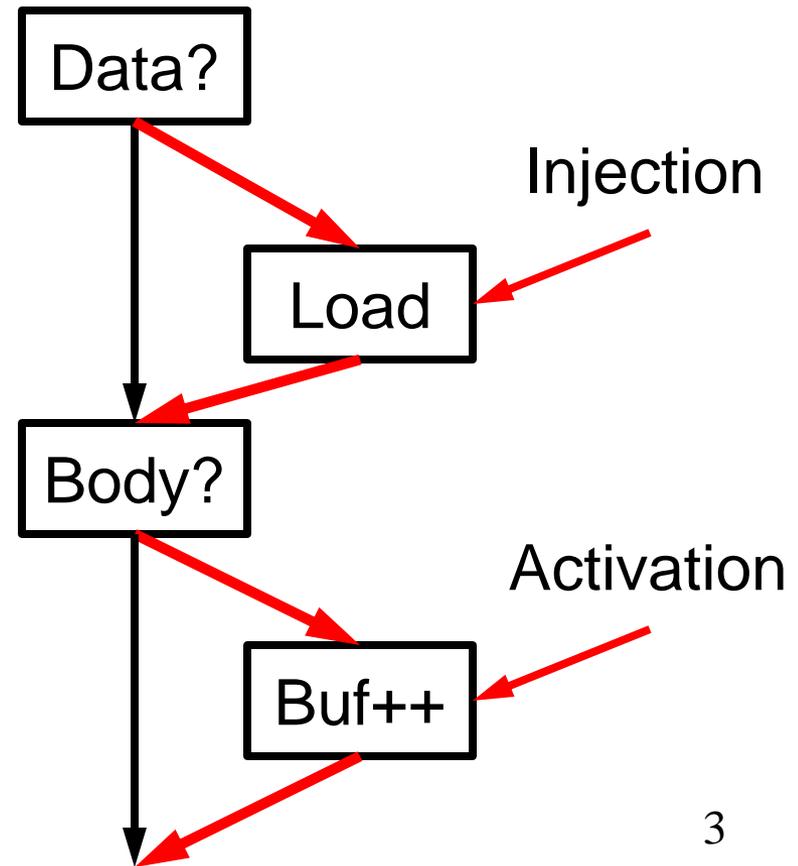
# Importance of Path

❖ Vast majority of security attacks are enabled by software bugs

**Often, hidden bugs only appear when sensitized by the proper path**

Bugs escape Code/Branch coverage

**Attackers will seek out code paths not tested**



# Path Test Complexity

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- ❖ Path Explosion
  - ❖ Path space is exponential with length
  - ❖ Heavyweight test methods are slow
- ❖ Path coverage remains beyond reach
- ❖ Attackers seek to discover untested paths
- ❖ Necessitates new approach to achieve path testing



# Path Test Complexity

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## **D**ynamic **C**ontrol **F**rontier



# Dynamic Control Frontier

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- ❖ Line of demarcation between dynamically seen paths of execution and those which are unseen



# Dynamic Control Frontier

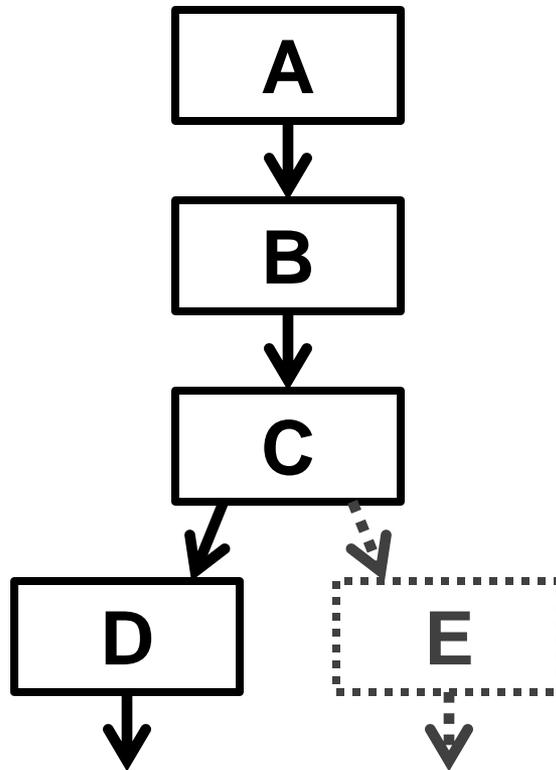
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- ❖ Line of demarcation between dynamically seen paths of execution and those which are unseen
  - ❖ Frontier of path space explored by an application



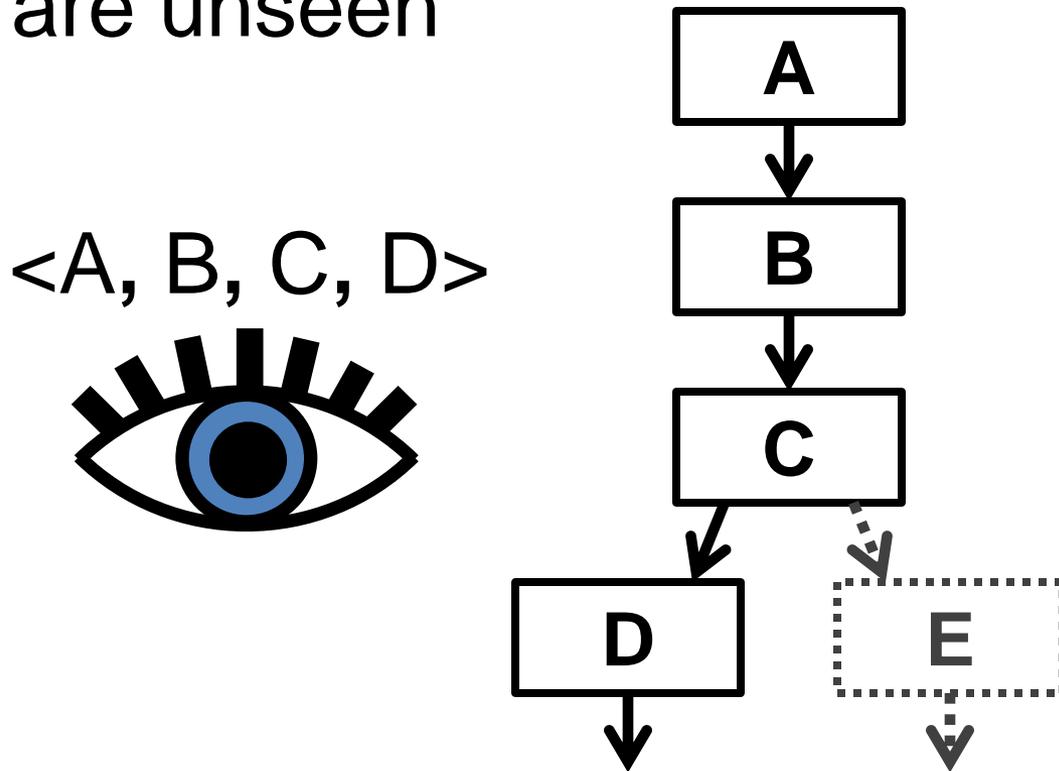
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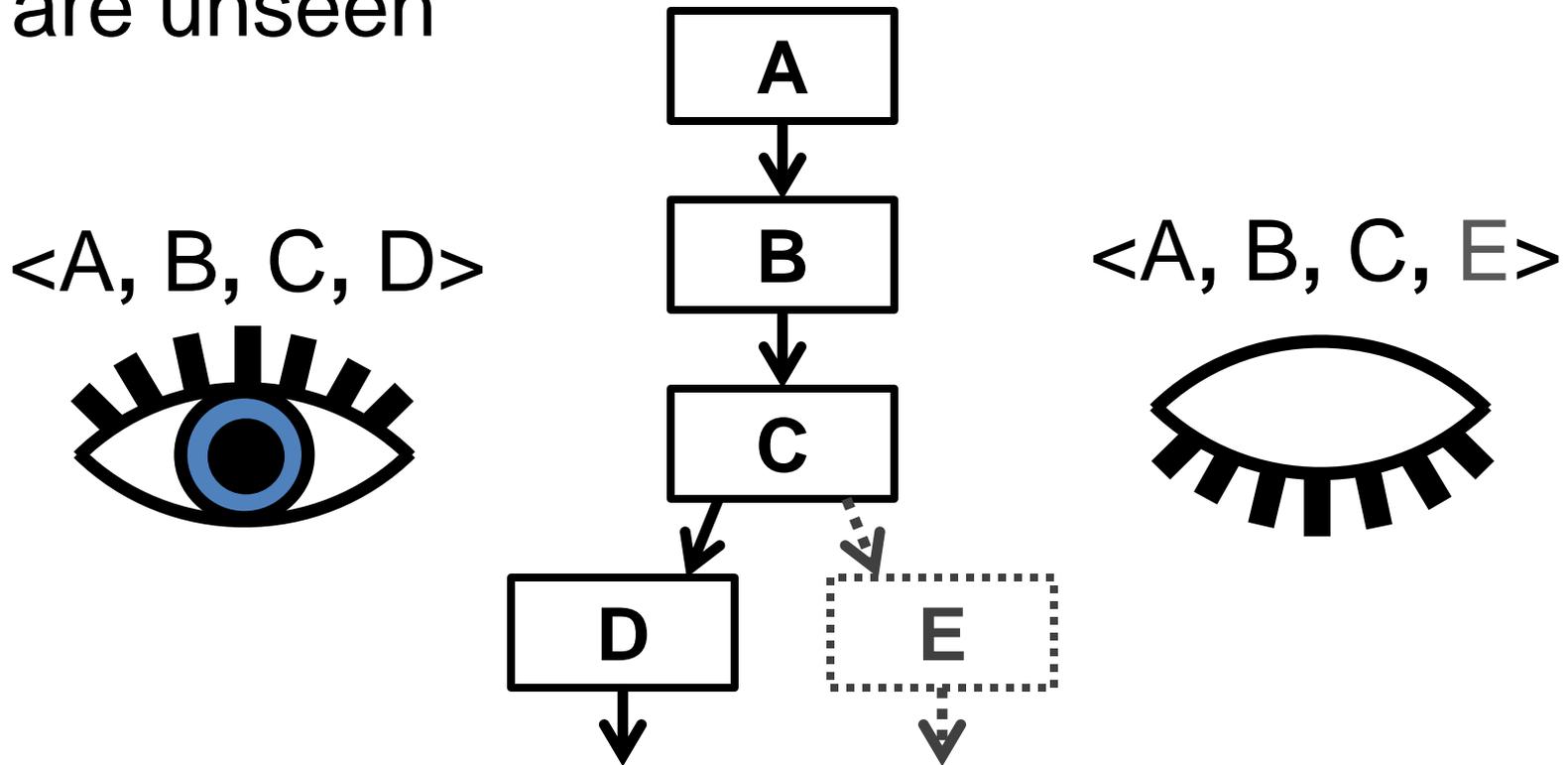
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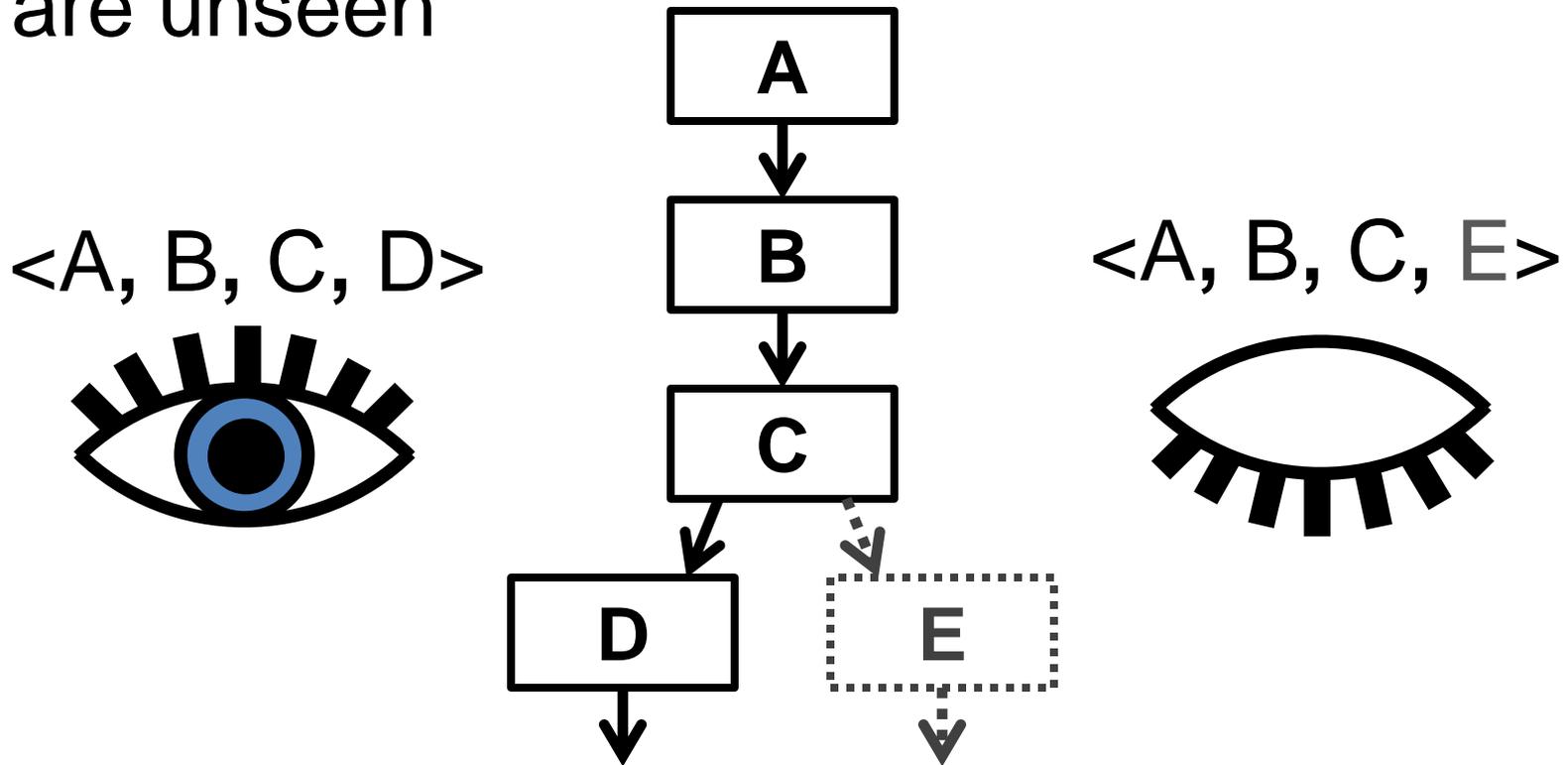
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- Line of demarcation between dynamically seen paths of execution and those which are unseen



**DCF** = {  $\langle A, B, C, E \rangle$  ,....., }



# Value of the DCF

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- ❖ Software Test Methodology:
  - ❖ Focus on reliability
  - ❖ Significant overlap in developer and user test
- ❖ Attacker Methodology:
  - ❖ Input permutations to deviate slightly from the expected, typical user execution
- ❖ Dynamic Control Frontier:
  - ❖ Intersection between heavily tested paths, and untested paths which are immediately reachable



# Value of Distributed Analysis

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- ❖ A single user:
  - ❖ Profiles an **instance**

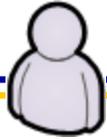


# Value of Distributed Analysis

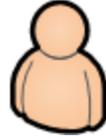
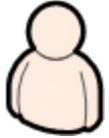
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- ❖ A single user:
  - ❖ Profiles an **instance**
- ❖ A non-trivial population of users:
  - ❖ Represents code paths not tested nor executed with any frequency by any user





# Value of Distributed Analysis



⚡ A single user:



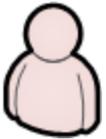
⚡ Profiles an **instance**



⚡ A non-trivial population of users:



⚡ Represents code paths not tested nor executed with any frequency by any user

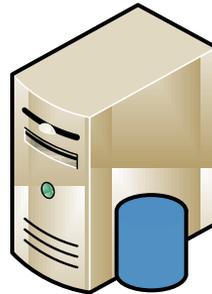


# Distributed DCF Profiling

❖ User base profiles application via sampling



**Users**



**Developer  
Analysis**

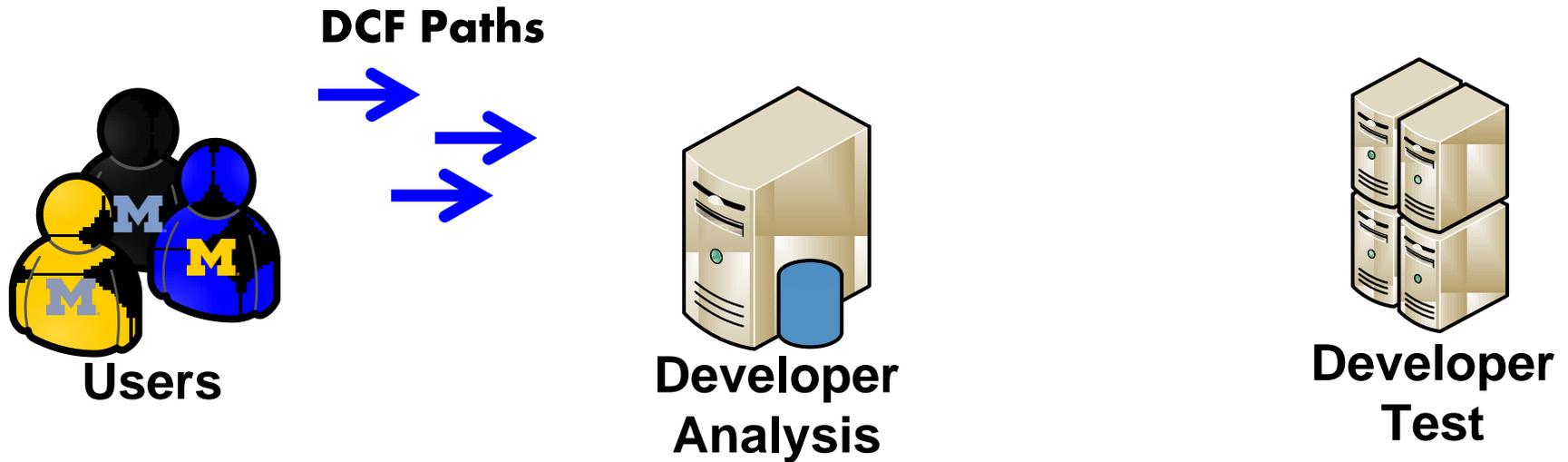


**Developer  
Test**



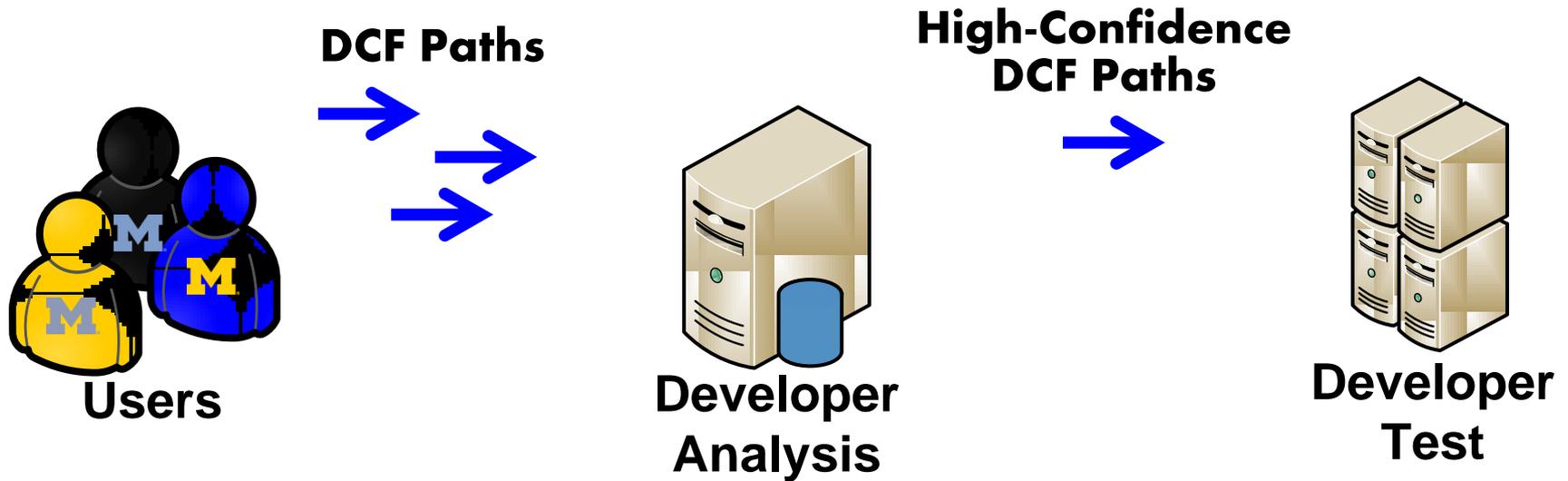
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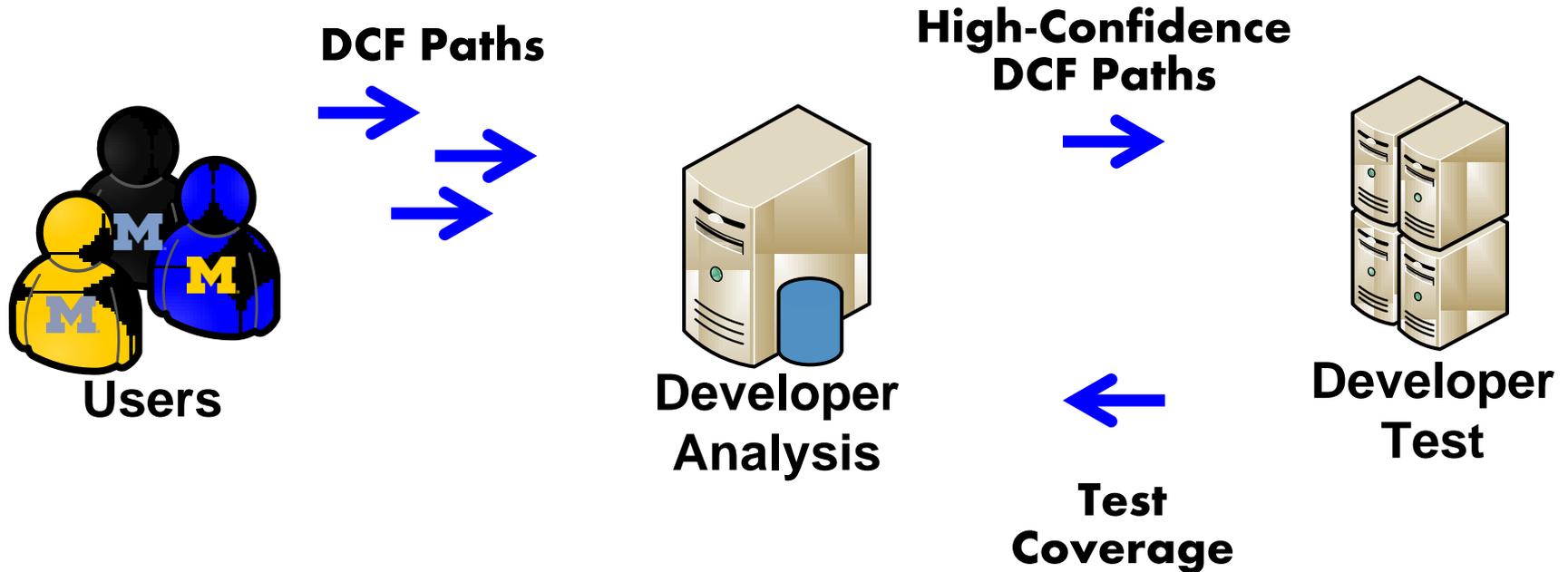
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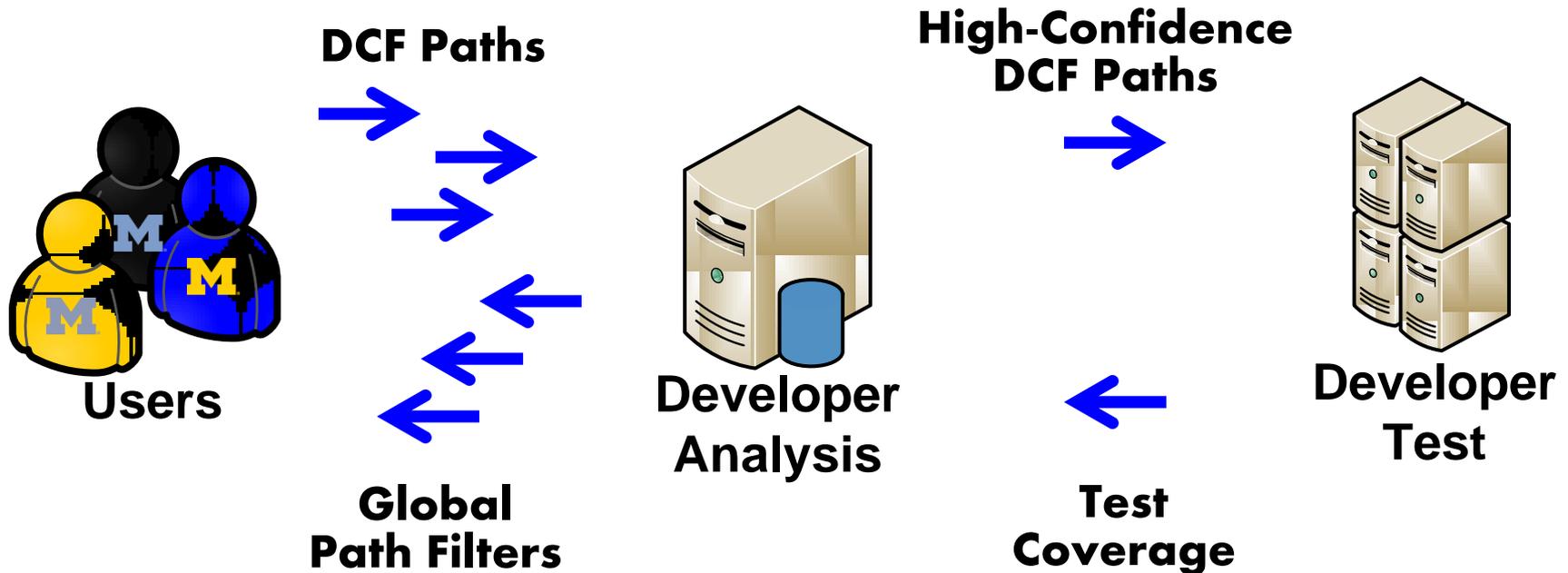
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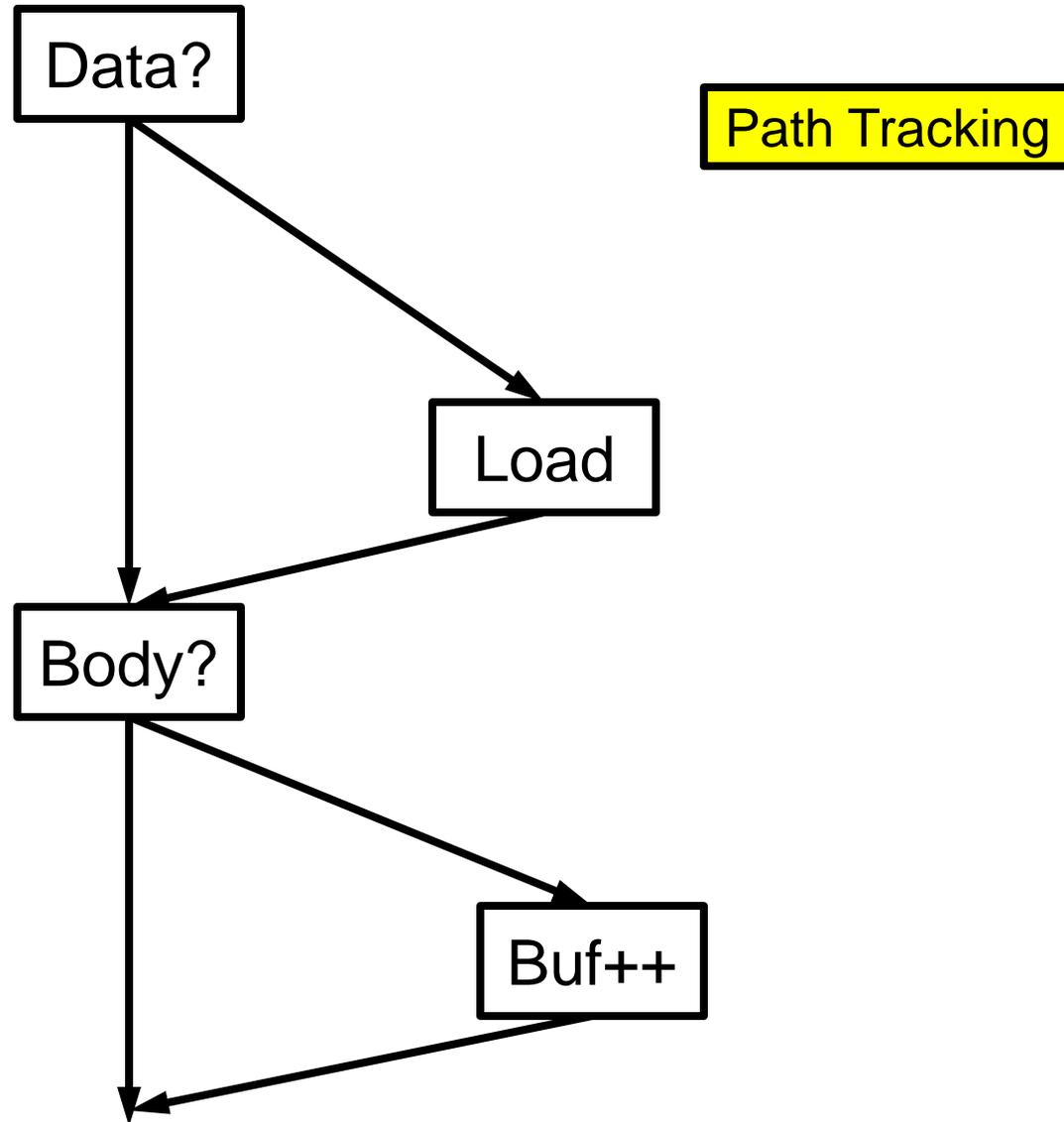
# Experimental Evaluation

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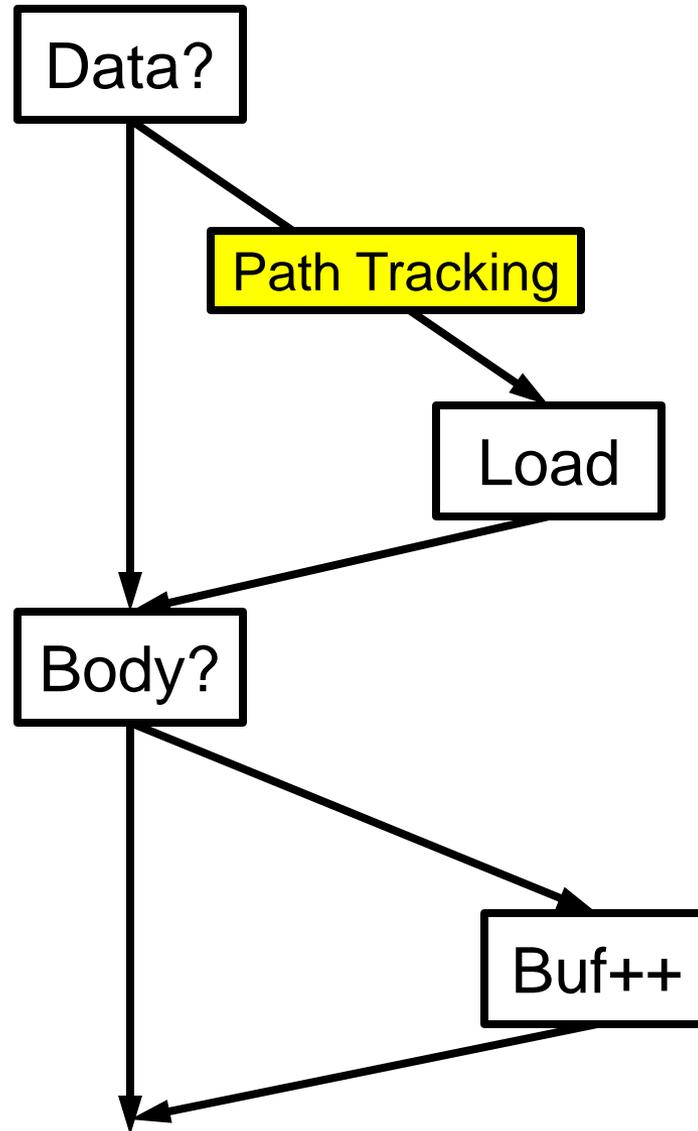
- ❖ DynamoRIO-based dynamic path profiling
  - ❖ Only instrument paths which are actively sampled



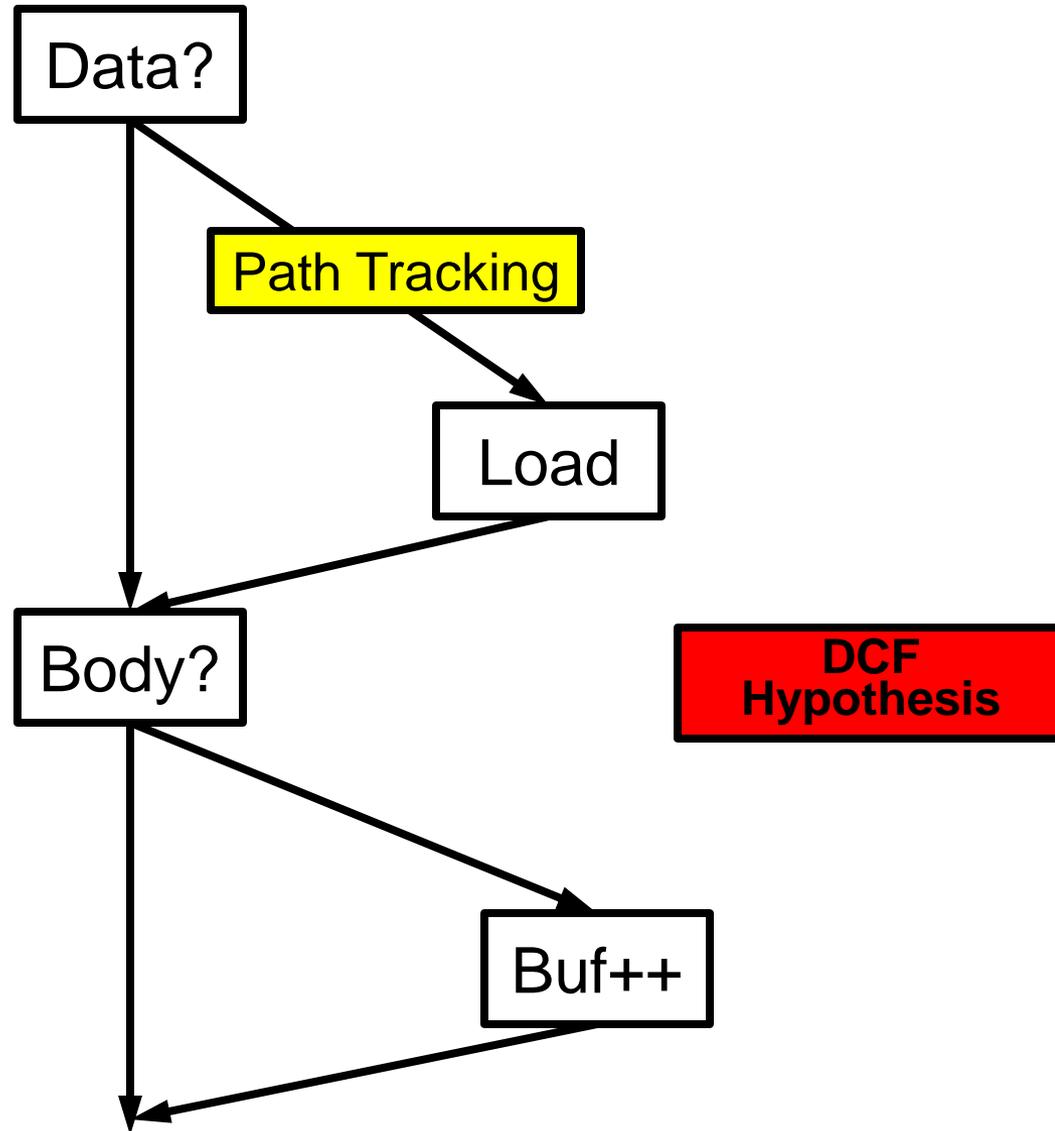
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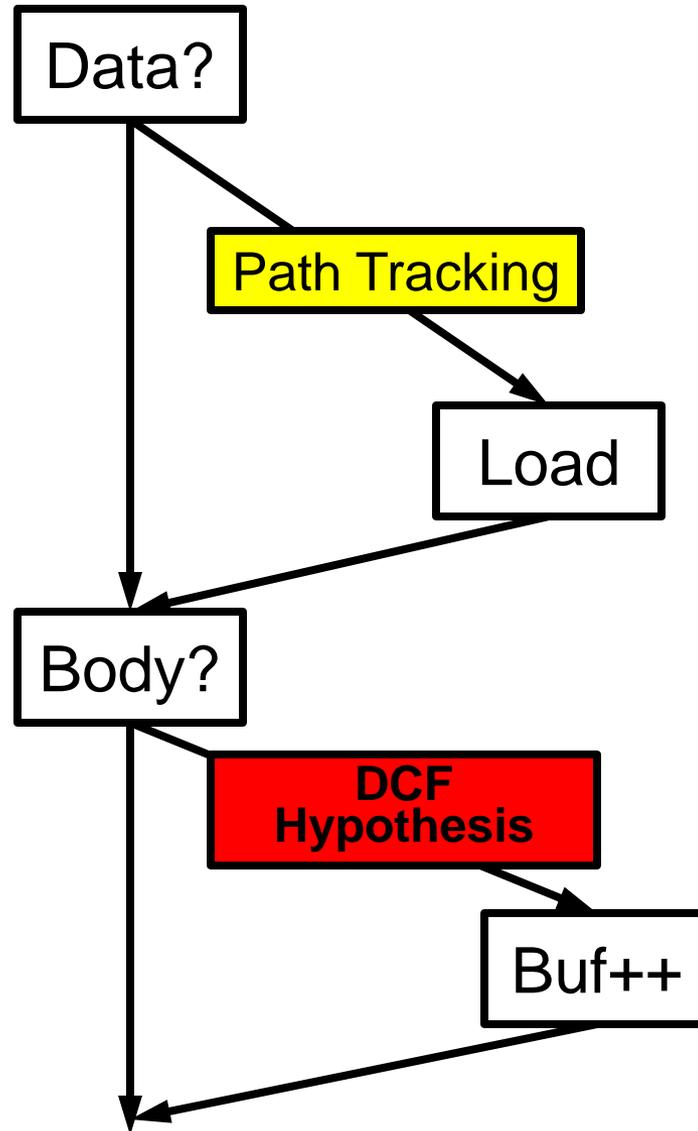
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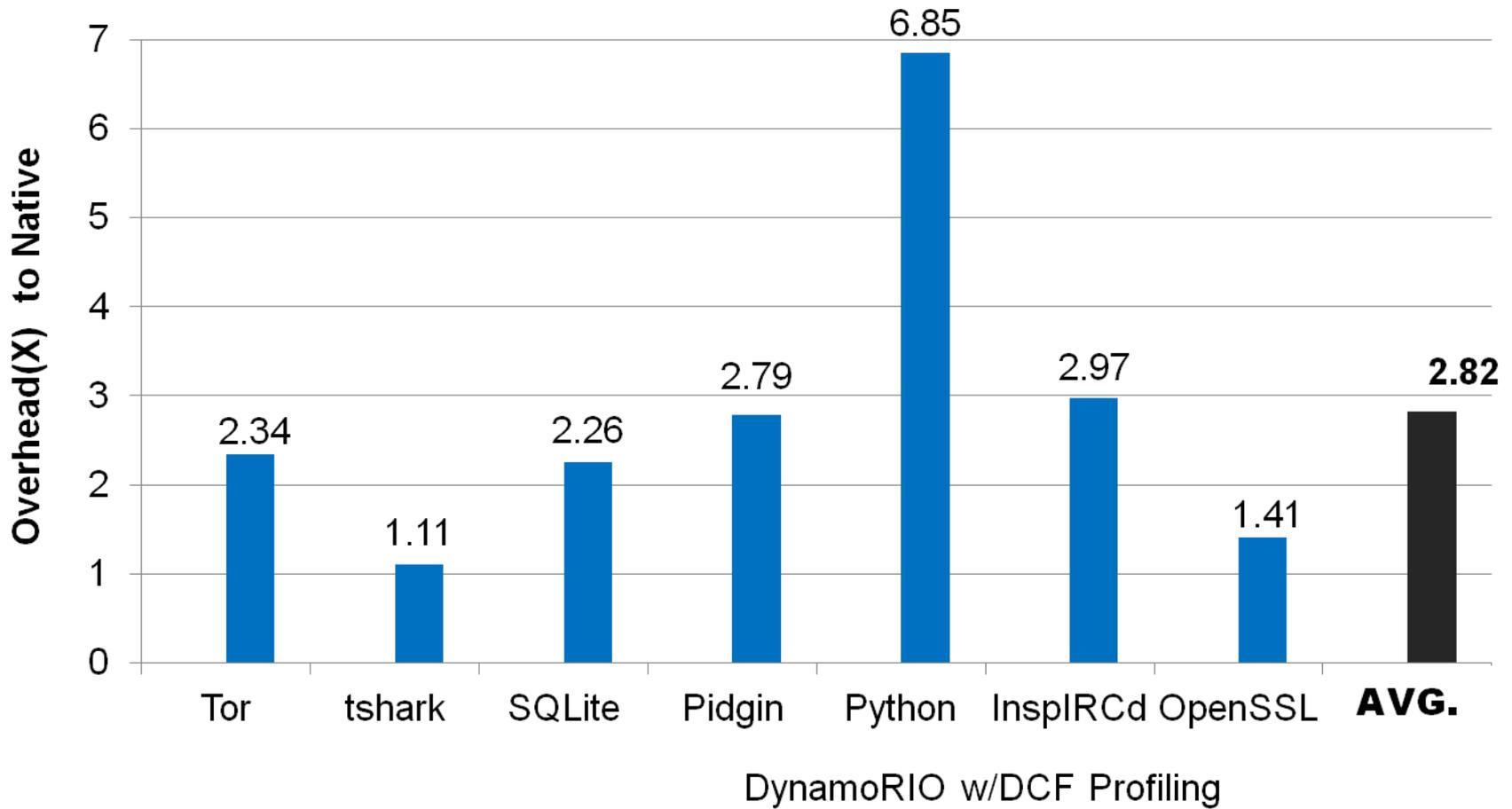
# Benchmark Applications

✦ Popular, network-facing applications

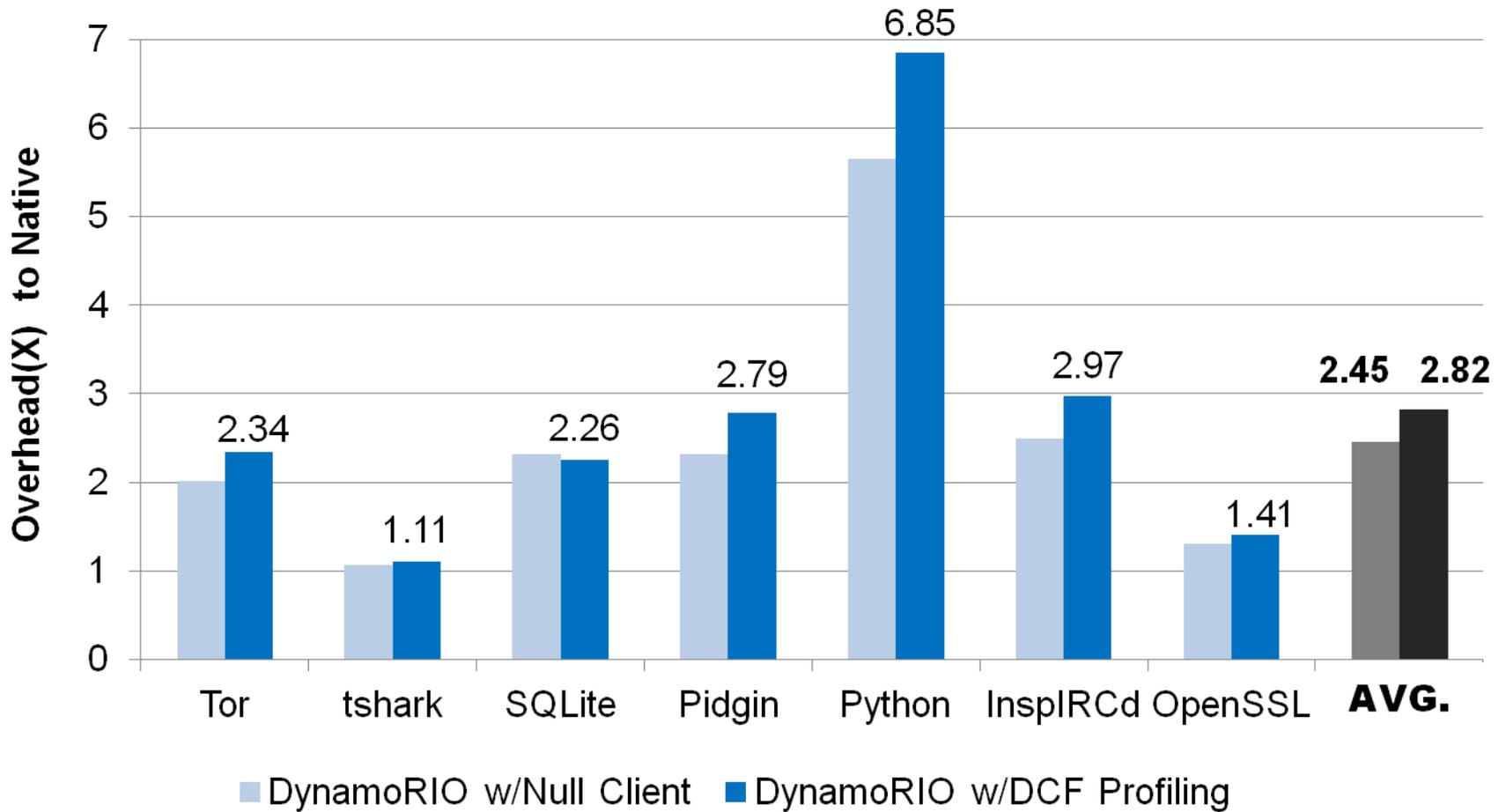
Application	# Instructions Profiled	# Potential Paths	# DCF Paths
SQLite	16,948,864,926	13,642,304	17,351
OpenSSL	5,014,034,838	23,221,696	10,086
tshark	684,000,546	38,467,136	178
Python	656,068,272	12,175,712	35,026
Tor	118,310,256	1,191,280	10,639
InspIRCd	46,246,206	11,165,696	3,950
Pidgin	4,762,914	6,833,360	3,641



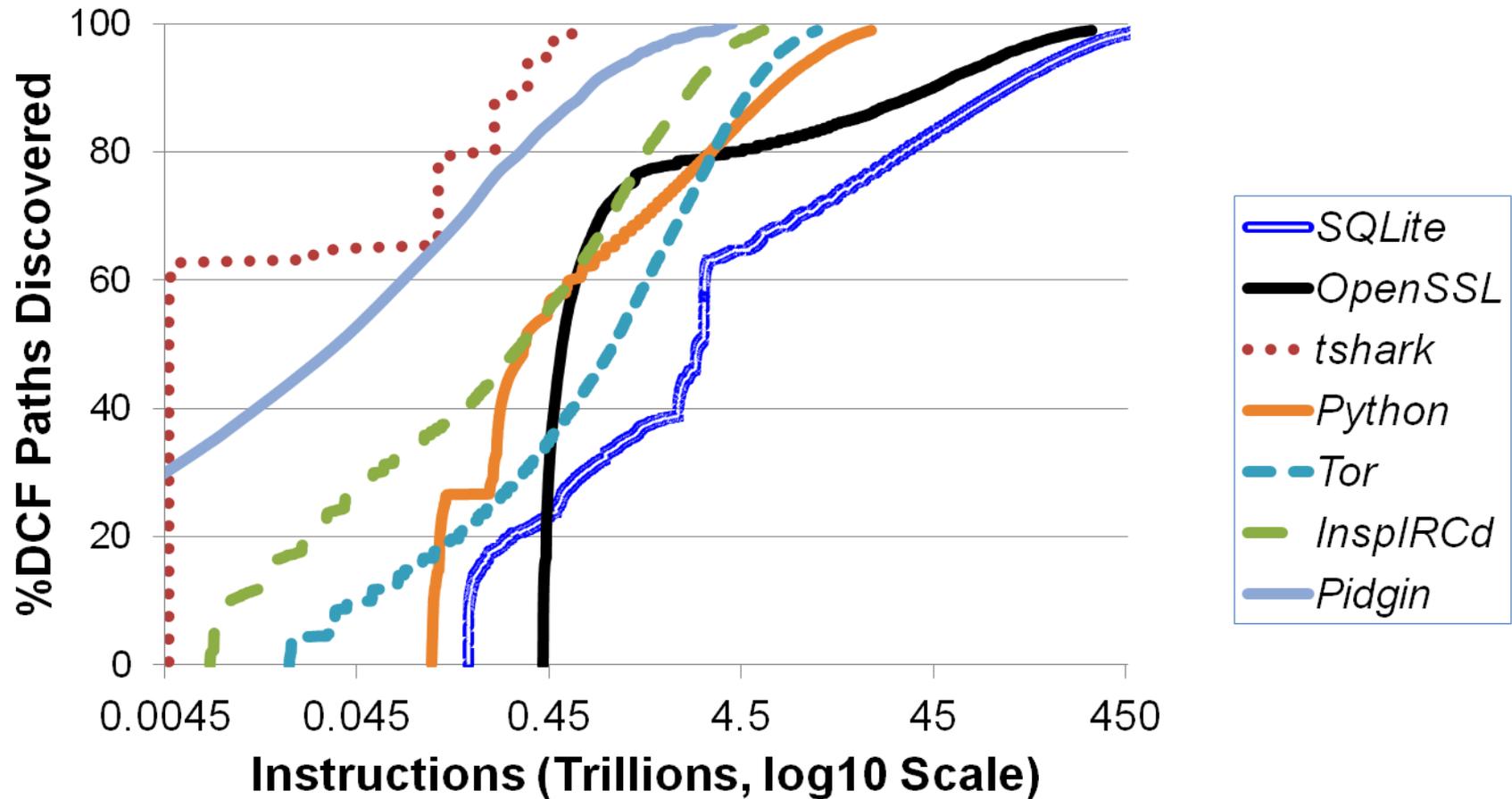
# Profiling Overheads



# Profiling Overheads



# DCF Coverage



# DCF Effectiveness

❖ Challenged Schnauzer to find known security bugs

❖ Known bugs have precise code location

**106 Million+ Potential  
Length-n Paths**

**80,000 DCF Paths**

**14 Security Bugs**

*{ Buffer Overflow,  
Integer Underflow, DoS,  
Format String, Heap  
Overflow }*

DCF analysis would have given opportunity to determine paths for these bugs **before they were exploited**



# Conclusions & Future Directions

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- ✦ Efficient, user-enabled DCF profiling can expand test for software security
- ✦ Identify code paths harboring bugs more likely to be exploited
  - ✦ Before they are exploited
  - ✦ Making software more secure
- ✦ Going Forward:
  - ✦ More efficient user profiling
  - ✦ Deployment of DCF for substantial application
  - ✦ Integration with state-of-art automated test



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# Thank You



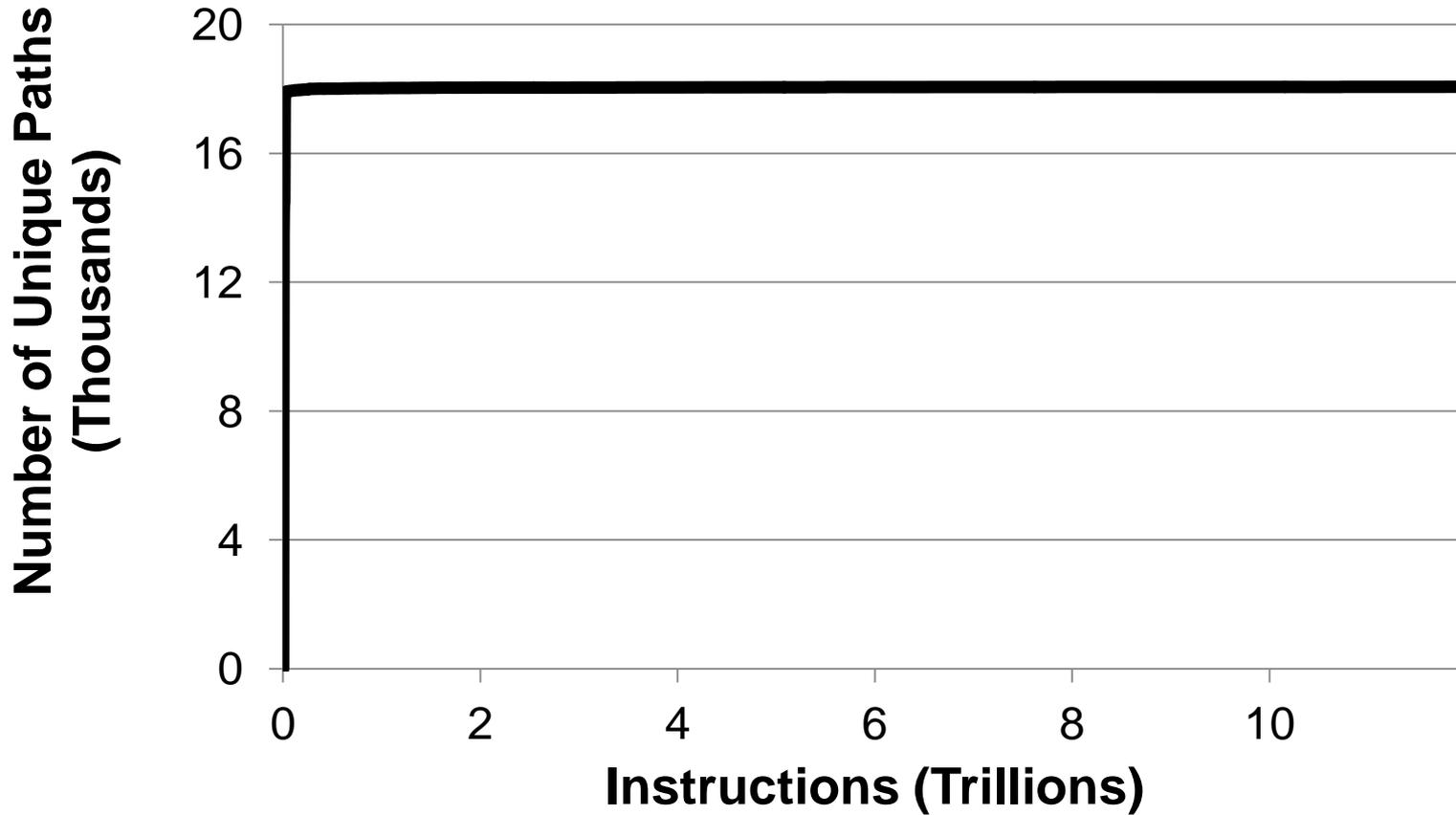
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# Supplemental Material

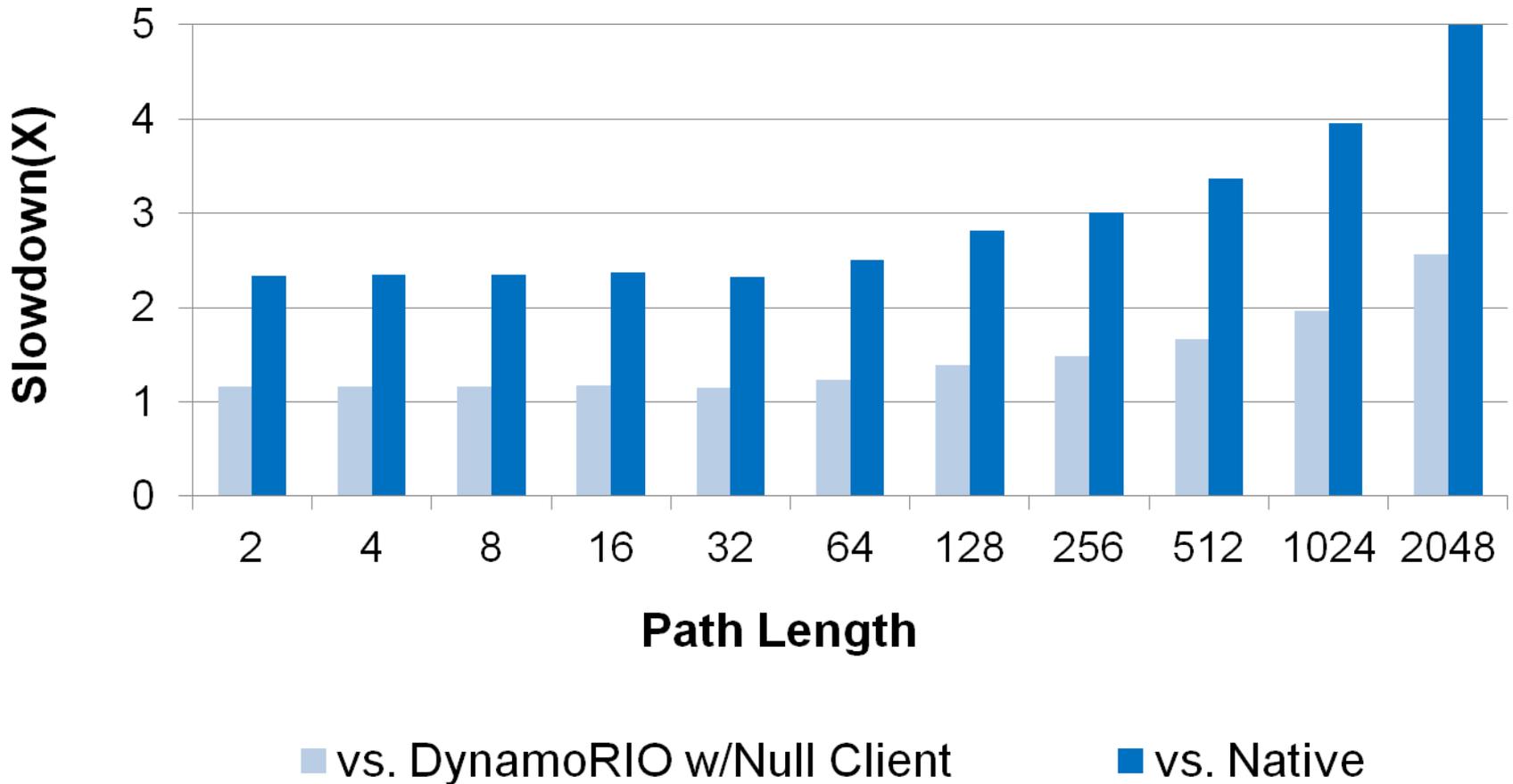


# Profiling Scalability

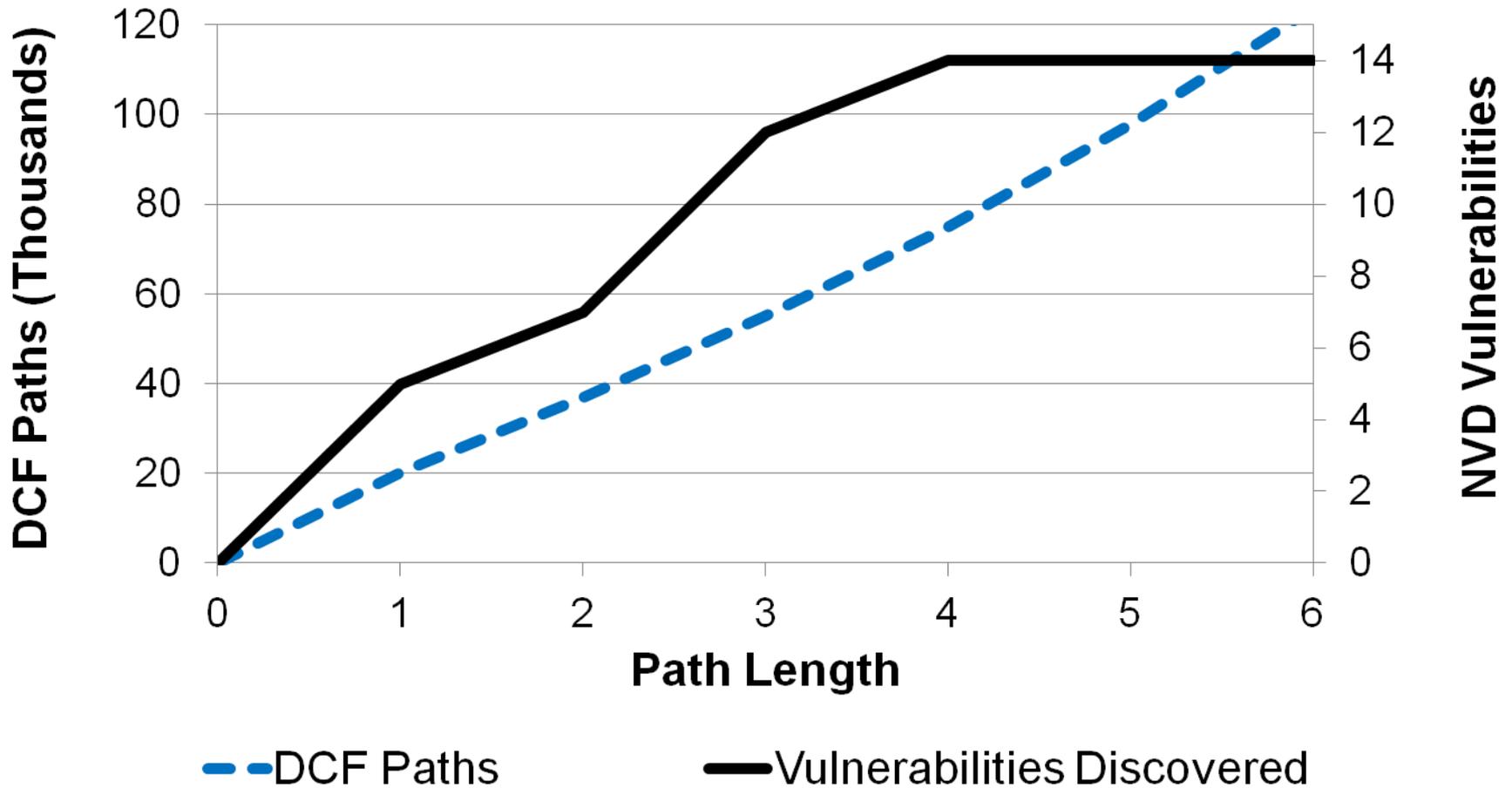
## DCF Paths -- SQLite Fuzz Test



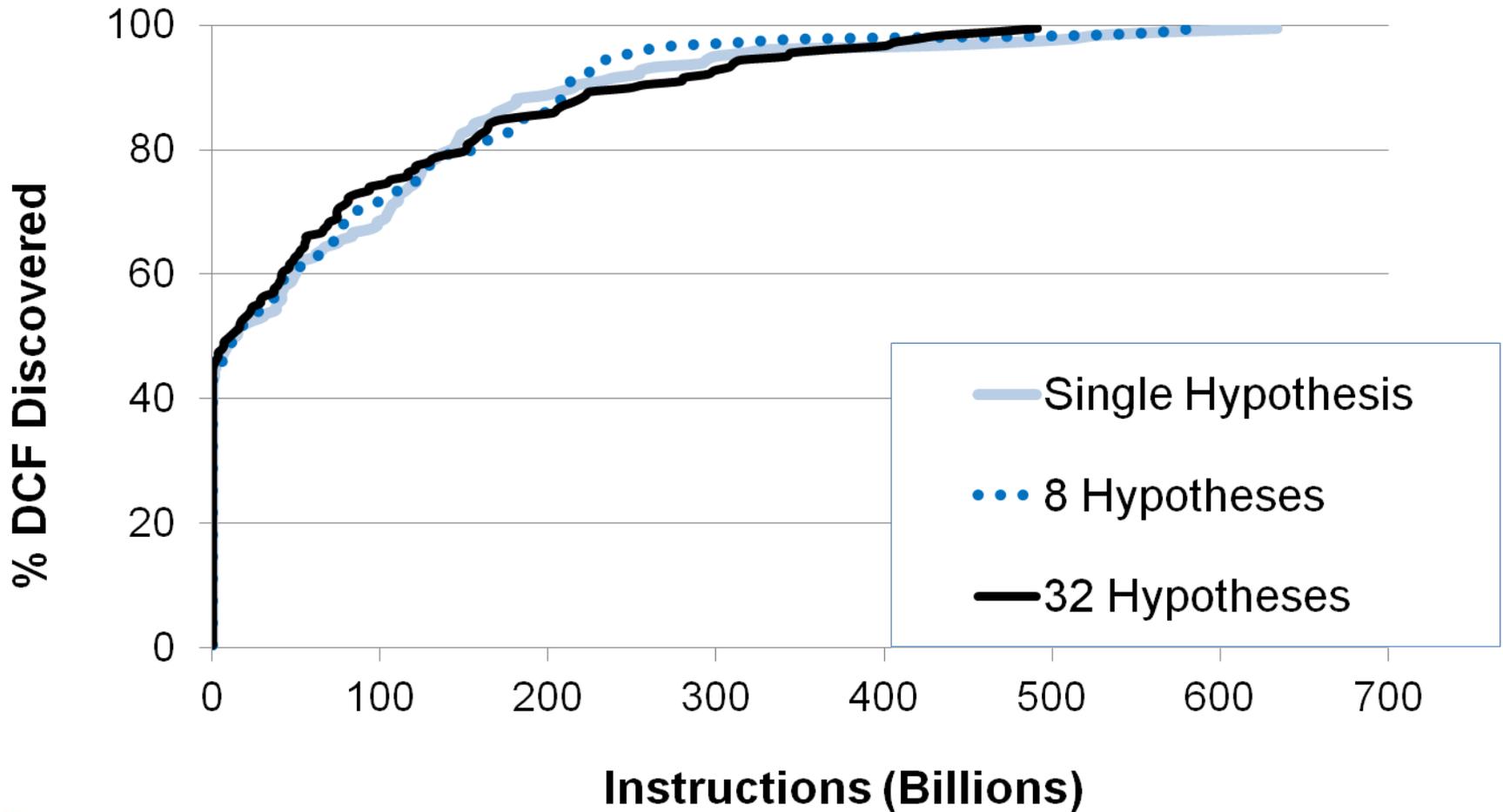
# Path Length Scalability



# Path Length : Vulnerability



# Concurrent Hypotheses



$$DCF(P) = \{p_i, p_j, \dots, p_m\}$$

$$p_i = \langle bb_1, bb_2, \dots, bb_{n-1}, bb_n \rangle$$

$$\mid \langle bb_1, bb_2, \dots, bb_{n-1} \rangle \in EX(P)$$

$$\wedge \langle bb_1, \dots, bb_{n-1}, bb_n \rangle \notin EX(P)$$

$$EX(P) = \{ \dots \text{ all paths executed } \dots \}$$

