

# V-Fuzz: Evolutionary Fuzzing Assisted By Vulnerability Prediction

**Yuwei Li, Shouling Ji, Chenyang Lyu, Yuan Chen, Jianhai Chen  
Qinchen Gu, Chunming Wu, Raheem Beyah**

# What is fuzzing & fuzzer?

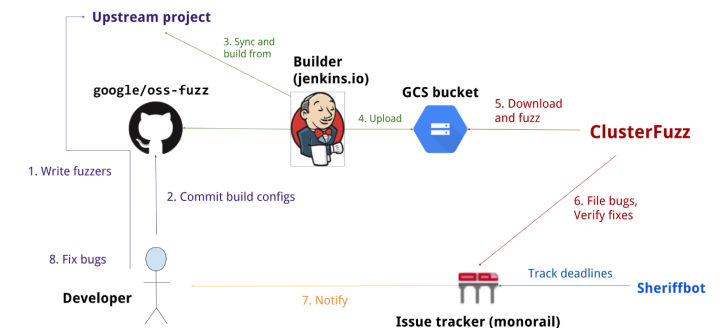
- Fuzzing is an automatic, dynamic vulnerability detection technique.
- Fuzzing detects vulnerabilities by iteratively and randomly feeding inputs to the target programs.
- Fuzzer is a tool that implements fuzzing process.

```
american fuzzy top 0.47b (readpng)
process timing
  run time      : 0 days, 0 hrs, 4 min, 43 sec
  last new path : 0 days, 0 hrs, 0 min, 26 sec
  last uniq crash : none seen yet
  last uniq hang : 0 days, 0 hrs, 1 min, 51 sec
cycle progress
  now processing : 38 (19.49%)
  paths timed out : 0 (0.00%)
stage progress
  now trying : interest 32/8
  stage execs : 0/2990 (0.00%)
  total execs : 654k
  exec speed : 2306/sec
fuzzing strategy yields
  bit flips : 88/14.4k, 6/14.4k, 6/14.4k
  byte flips : 0/1804, 0/1786, 1/1750
  arithmetics : 31/126k, 3/45.6k, 1/17.8k
  known ints : 1/15.8k, 4/65.8k, 6/78.2k
  havoc : 34/254k, 0/0
  trim : 2876 B/931 (61.45% gain)
overall results
  cycles done : 0
  total paths : 195
  uniq crashes : 0
  uniq hangs : 1
map coverage
  map density : 1217 (7.43%)
  count coverage : 2.55 bits/tuple
findings in depth
  favored paths : 128 (65.64%)
  new edges on : 85 (43.59%)
  total crashes : 0 (0 unique)
  total hangs : 1 (1 unique)
path geometry
  levels : 3
  pending : 178
  pend fav : 114
  imported : 0
  variable : 0
  latent : 0
```

AFL

```
ANGORA FUZZER ( \_ / )
( = ' o ' ) . o
OVERVIEW
TIMING RUN: [04:59:20], TRACK: [00:00:08]
COVERAGE EDGE: 4104.22, DENSITY: 2.37%
EXECS TOTAL: 2.94m, ROUND: 37.12k, MAX_R: 25
SPEED PERIOD: 163.83r/s, TIME: 14610.83us
FOUND PATH: 645, HANGS: 46, CRASHES: 59
```

Angora



Google OSS-Fuzz

# Types of fuzzers

## Exploration Strategy

- **Directed**
  - AFLGo,
  - Hawkeye
- **Coverage-based**
  - AFL
  - AFLFast
  - Angora

## Input Generation

- **Mutation-based**
  - AFL
  - AFLFast
- **Grammar-based**
  - Quickfuzz,
  - Peach

## Target Program

- **Whitebox fuzzer**
  - Driller
- **Greybox fuzzer**
  - AFL,
  - AFLFast
- **Blackbox fuzzer**
  - zzuf

# Coverage-based fuzzers may not so efficient

**Coverage-based fuzzer is one of the most popular fuzzer.**

**-AFL, VUzzer, Angora, honggfuzz, t-fuzz, Driller, ...**

**Its goal is to cover as much as coverage of the target program as possible.**

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**-AFL, VUzzer, Angora, honggfuzz, t-fuzz, Driller, ...**

**Its goal is to cover as much as coverage of the target program as possible.**

**However, it is not efficient for detecting vulnerabilities:**

**1. Vulnerable code only takes a tiny fraction of the entire code.**

e.g., Only 3% of the source code files in Mozilla Firefox has vulnerabilities.

**2. Achieving high coverage is still very difficult.**

e.g., Driller can only generate valid inputs for 13 out of 41 CGC binaries.

# Coverage-based fuzzers may not so efficient

```
#define SIZE 1000
int main(int argc, char **argv){
  unsigned char source[SIZE];
  unsigned char dest[SIZE];
  char *input=ReadData(argv[1]);
  int i;
  i=argv[2];
  /*magic byte check */
  if(input[0]!='*')
    return ERROR;
  if(input[1]==0xAB && input[2]==0xCD){
    printf("Pass_1st_check!\n");
    /*some nested condition*/
    if(strncmp(&input[6],"abcde",5)==0){
      printf("Pass_2nd_check!\n");
      /* some common codes without vulnerabilities*/
      ...
    }
    else{
      printf("Not_pass_the_2nd_check!");
    }
  }
  else{
    printf("Not_pass_the_1st_check!");
  }
  /*A buffer overflow vulnerability*/
  func_v(input, source, dest);
  return 0;
}
```

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secure code

most coverage  
less important



vulnerable code

less coverage  
more important

# Coverage-based fuzzers may not so efficient

```
#define SIZE 1000
int main(int argc, char **argv){
  unsigned char source[SIZE];
  unsigned char dest[SIZE];
  char *input=ReadData(argv[1]);
  int i;
  i=argv[2];
  /*magic byte check */
  if(input[0]!='*')
    return ERROR;
  if(input[1]==0xA)
    printf("Pass");
  /*some nested code*/
  if(strncmp(&input[2], "vuln", 4) == 0)
    printf("Vulnerable code");
  /* some other code */
  ...
}
else{
  printf("Not vulnerable");
}
}
else{
  printf("Not pass the 1st check!");
}
}
/*A buffer overflow vulnerability*/
func_v(input, source, dest);
return 0;
}
```

Thus, fuzzer should prioritize the potentially vulnerable code.



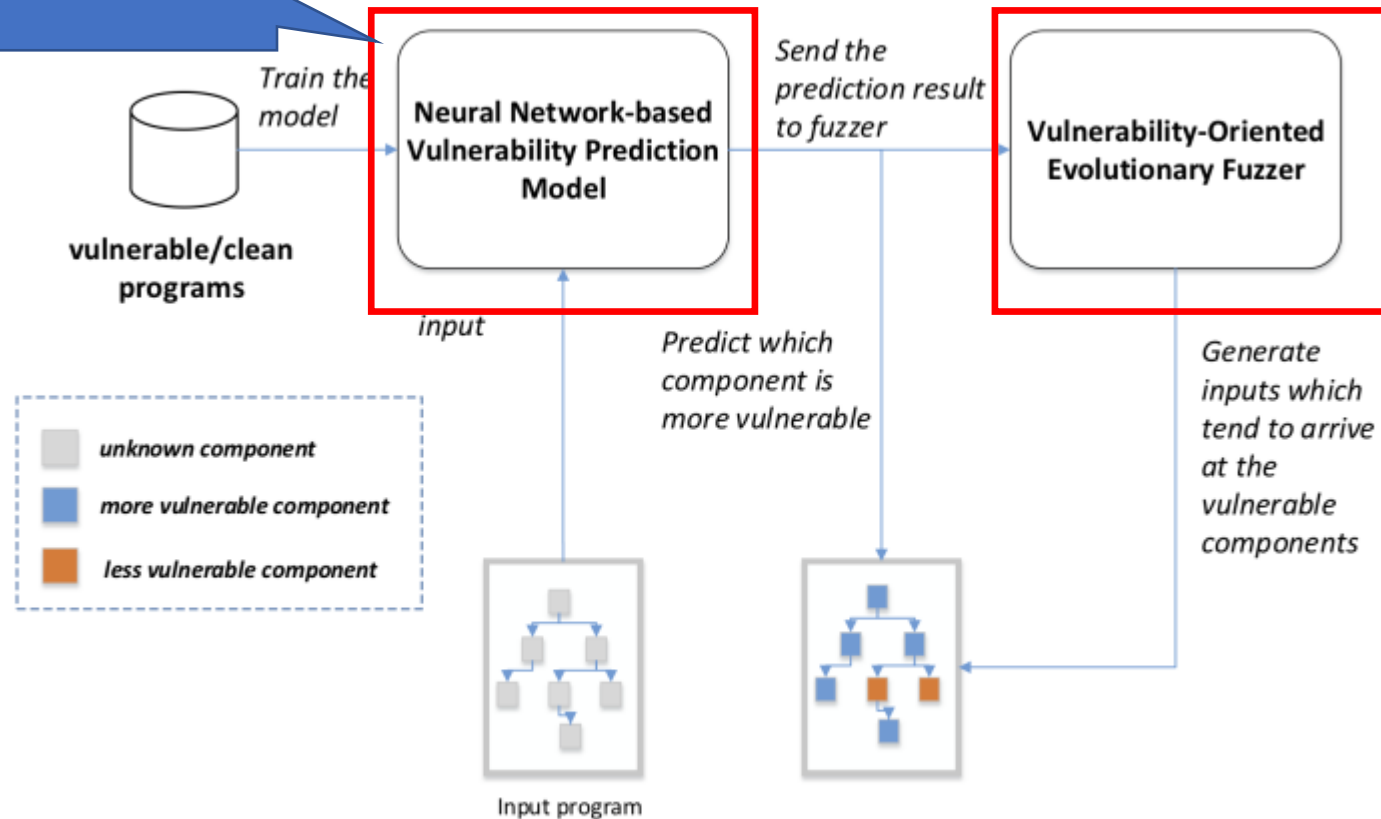
vulnerable code

most coverage  
less meaning

less coverage  
more importance

# V-Fuzz: Evolutionary Fuzzing Assisted by Vulnerability Prediction

Detect which are vulnerable.



Prioritize to fuzz vulnerable code.

Fig. 2: The architecture of V-Fuzz.



# V-Fuzz: Evolutionary Fuzzing Assisted by Vulnerability Prediction

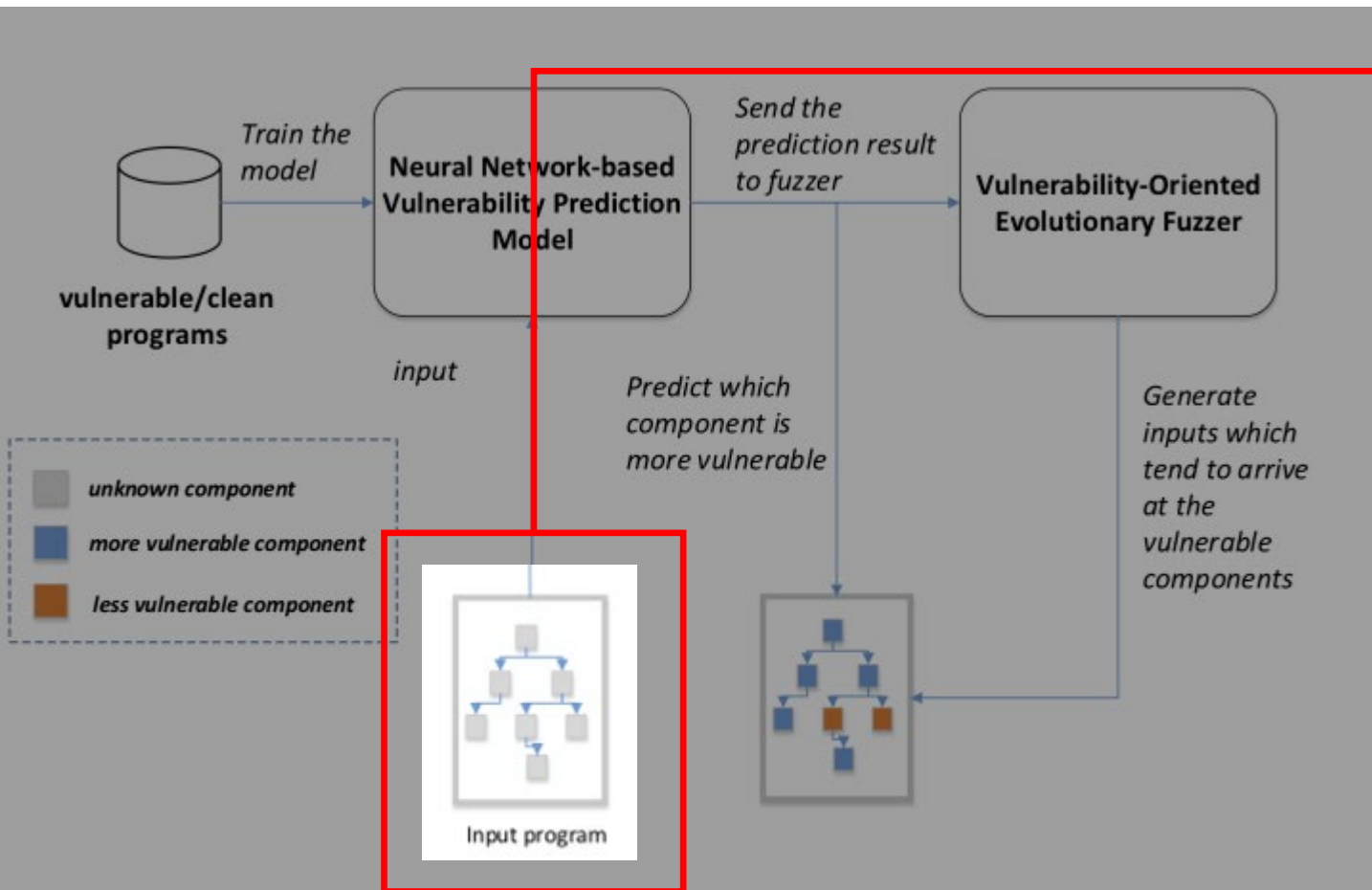
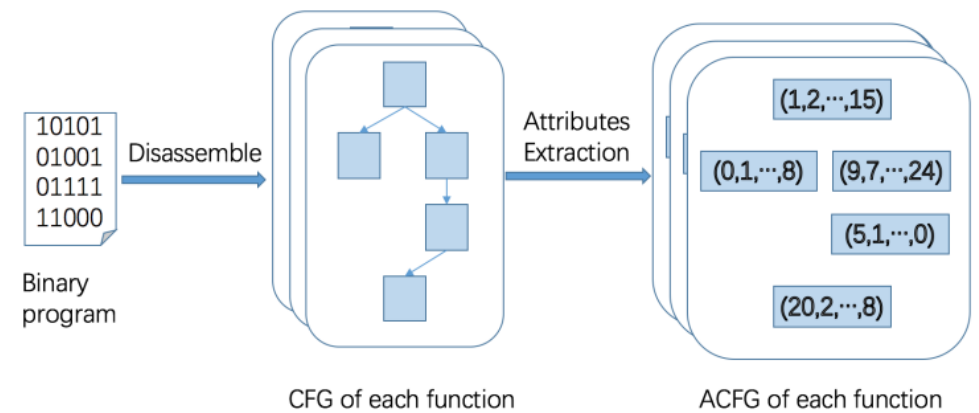


Fig. 2: The architecture of V-Fuzz.

Data preprocessing



Binary to ACFG

# V-Fuzz: Evolutionary Fuzzing Assisted by Vulnerability Prediction

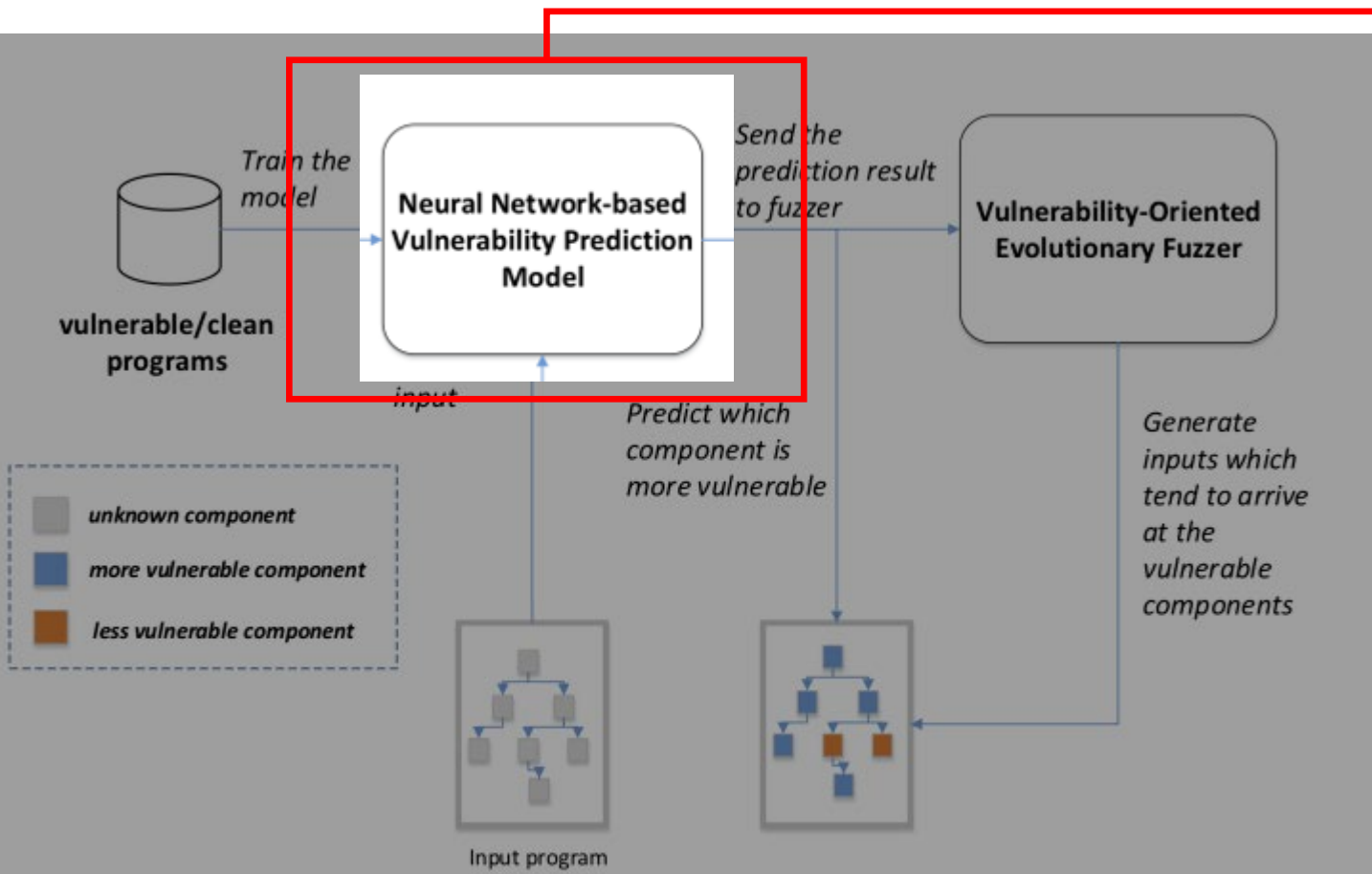
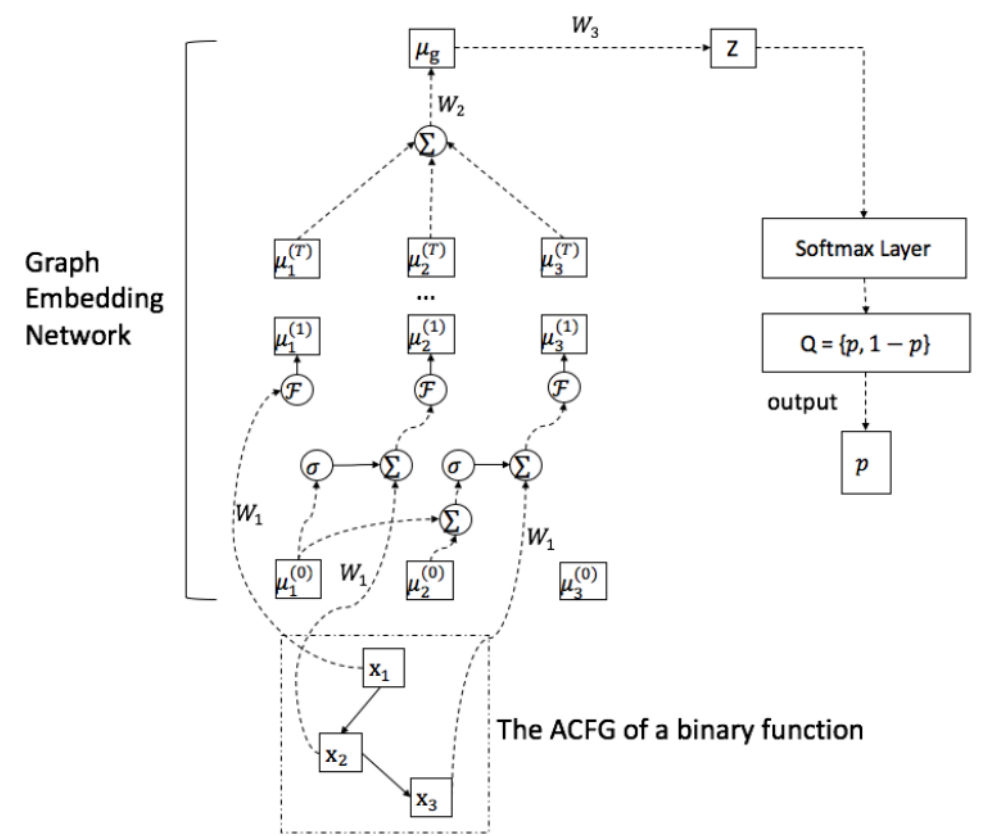


Fig. 2: The architecture of V-Fuzz.

Vulnerability Prediction Model



Output vulnerable probability

# V-Fuzz: Evolutionary Fuzzing Assisted by Vulnerability Prediction

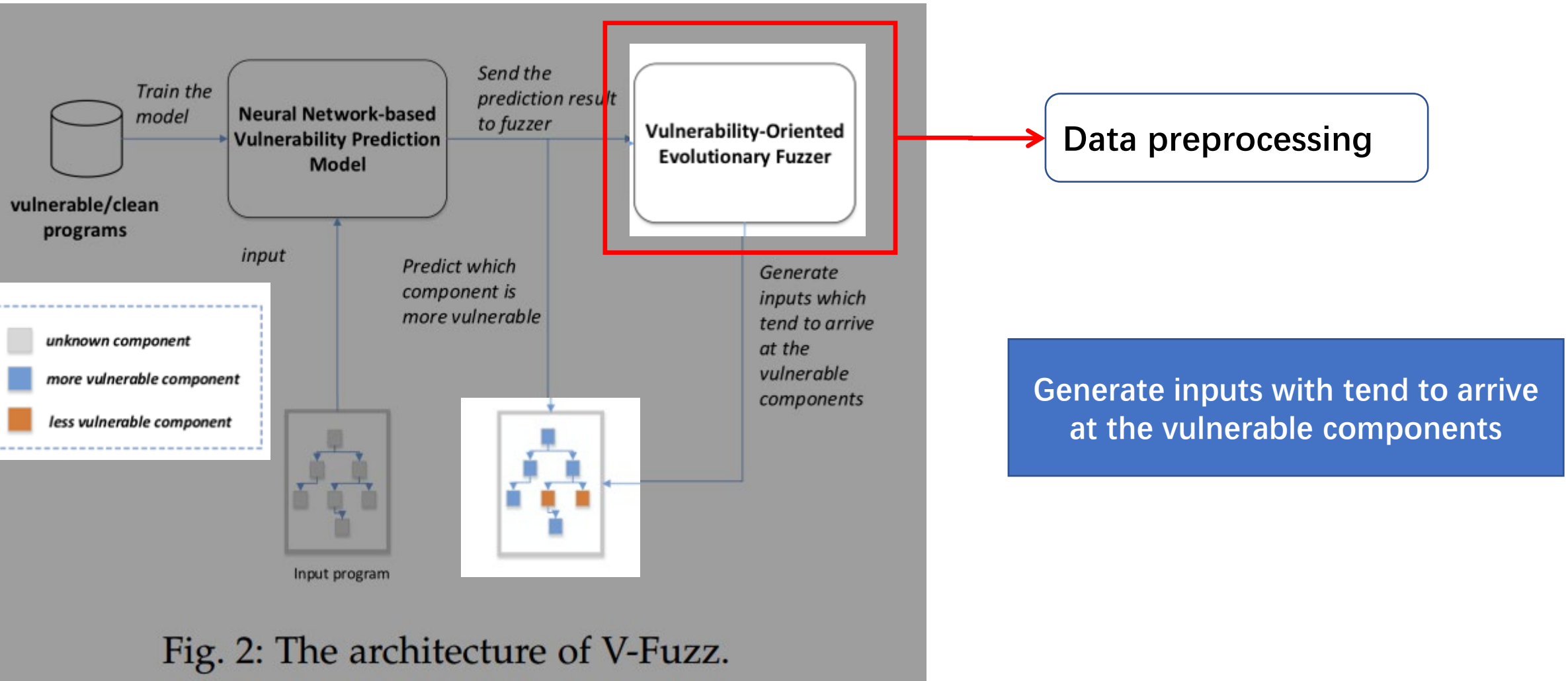
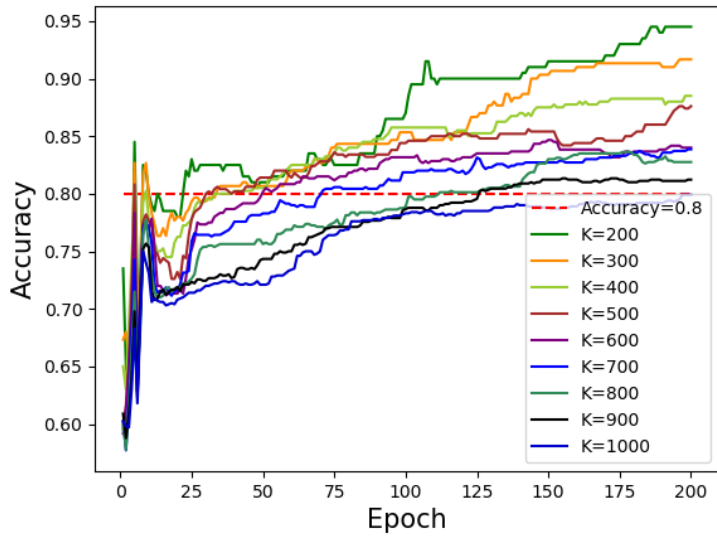


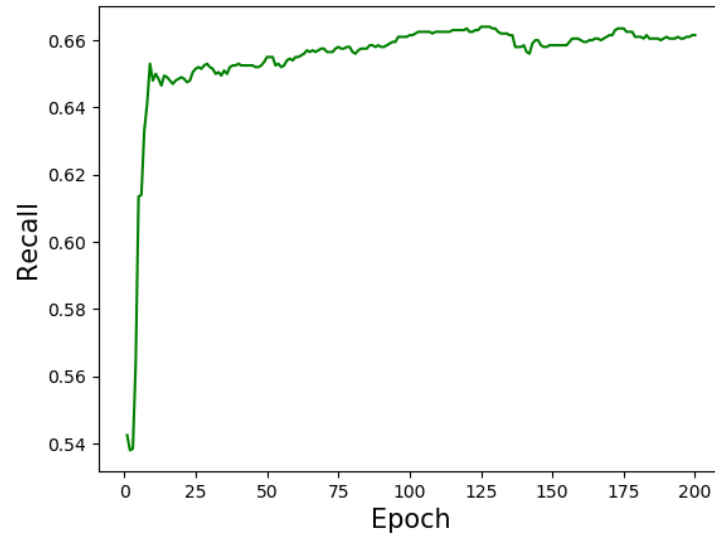
Fig. 2: The architecture of V-Fuzz.

# Experimental Results: Vulnerability Prediction

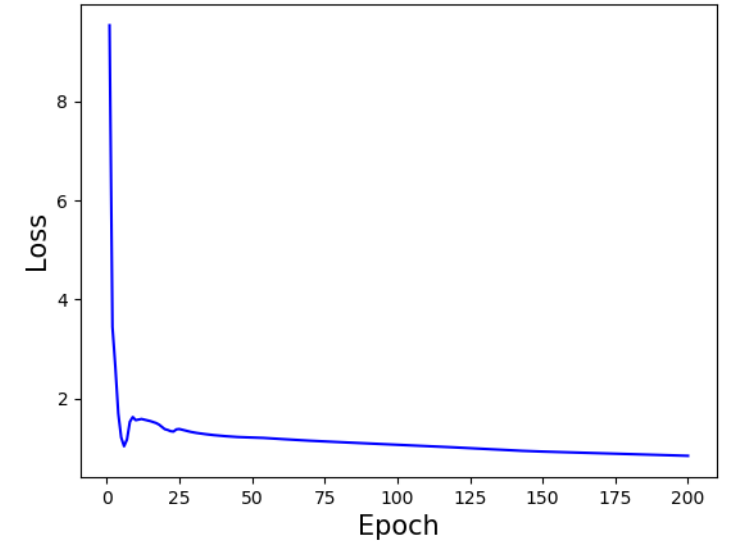
### Top-K Accuracy $\geq 80\%$



### Recall $\geq 66\%$

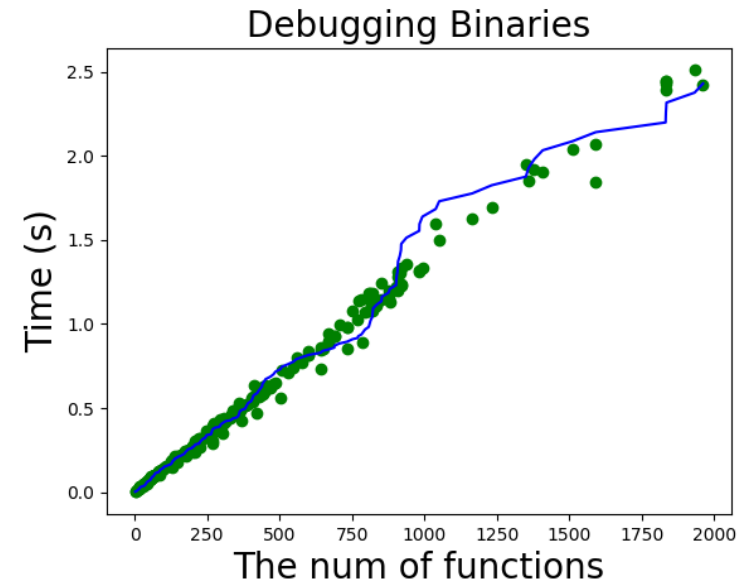
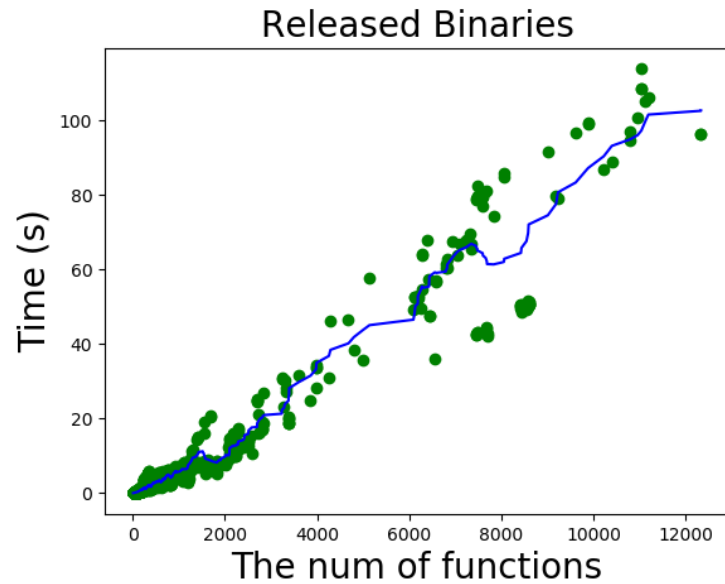


### Fast Convergence



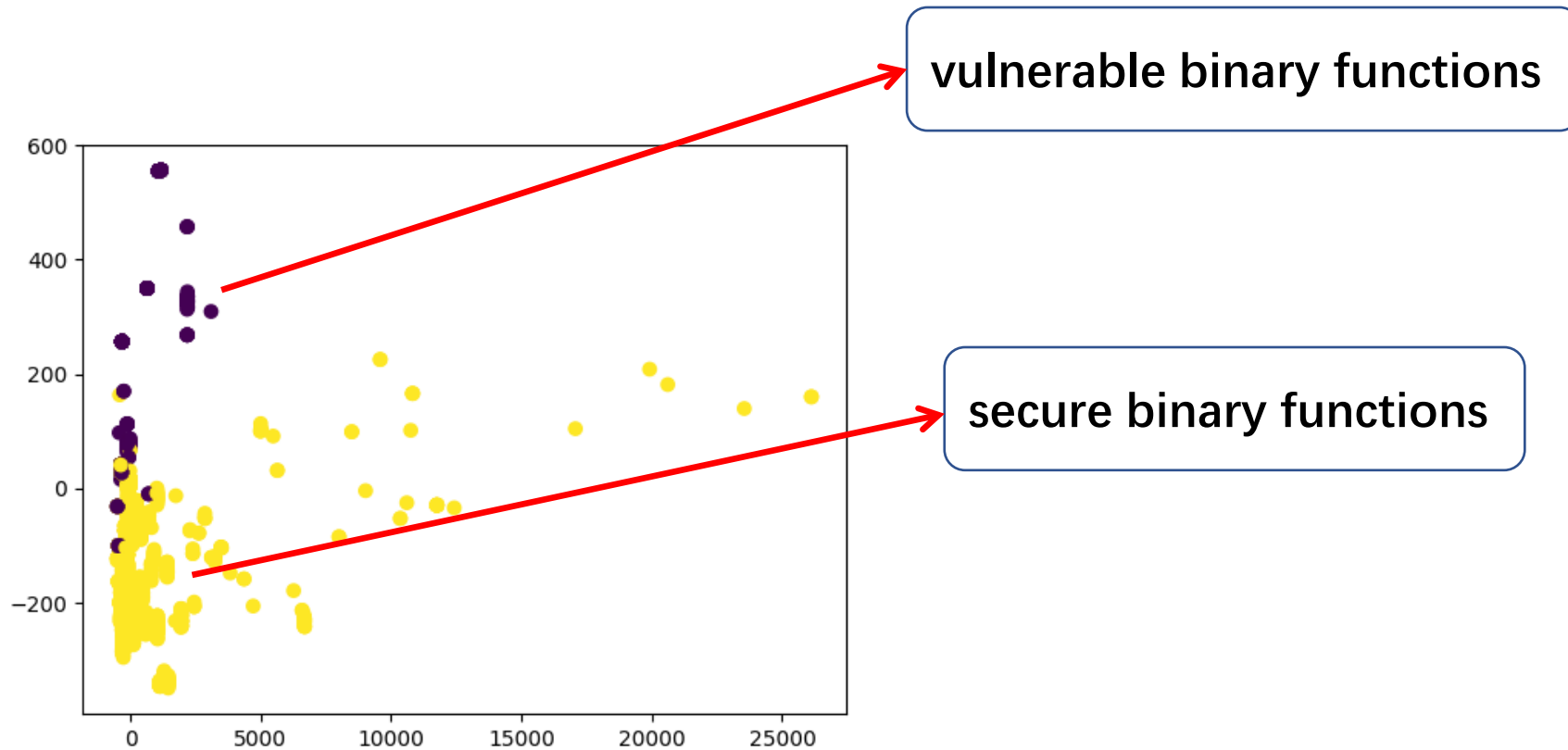
Vulnerability prediction model performs well.

# Experimental Results: ACFG Extraction Time



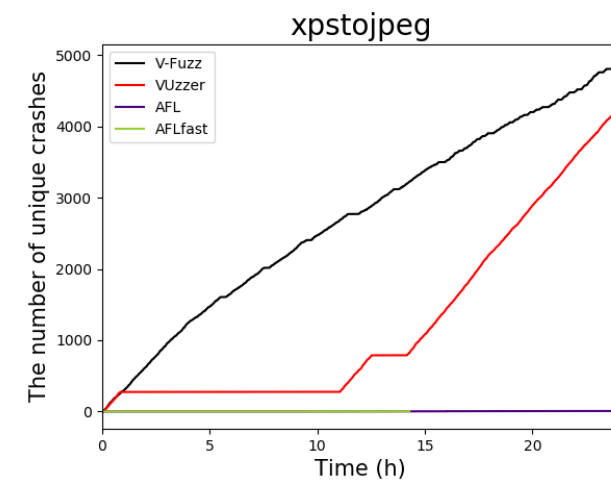
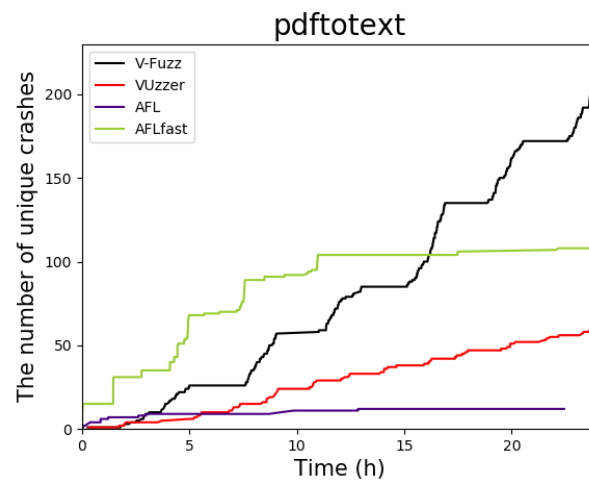
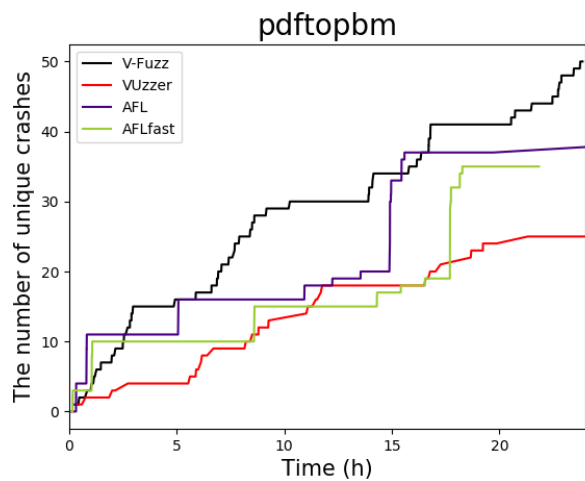
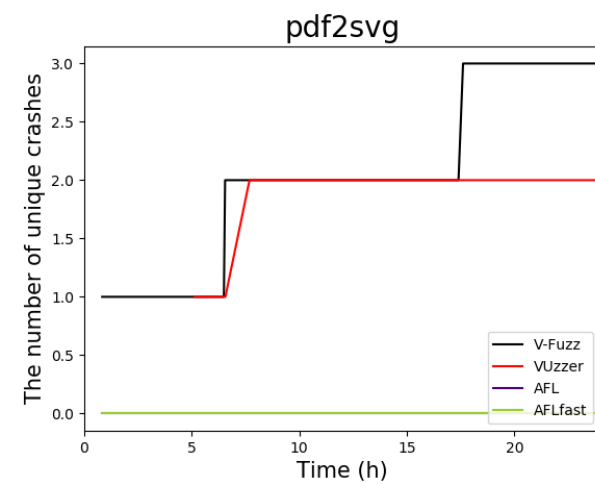
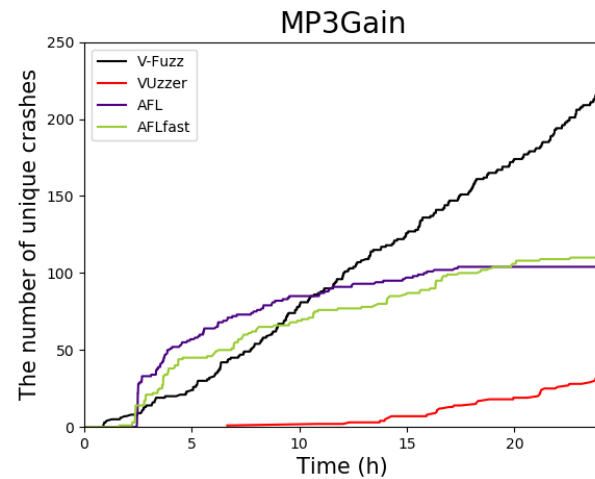
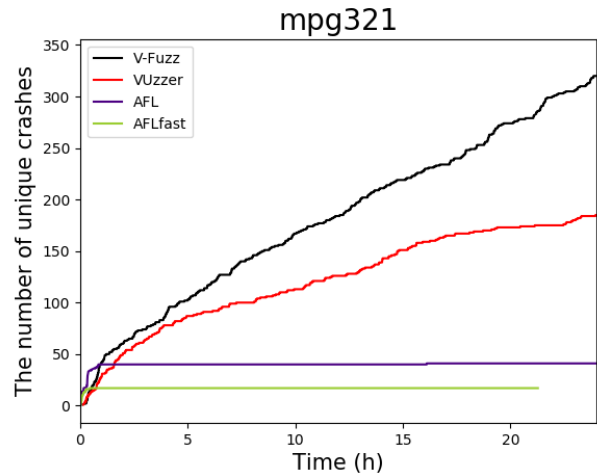
ACFG extraction process is fast:  
Released binaries: <100 s  
Debugging binaries: <2.5 s

# t-SNE of graph embedding vectors



Vulnerability prediction model can distinguish between vulnerable functions and secure functions.

# Experimental Results: The number of unique crashes.



V-Fuzz finds crashes quickly than AFL, AFLFast and VUzzer.

# Experimental Results: The number of unique crashes.

TABLE 6: The number of unique crashes found for 24 hours.

| Application          | Version                            | Fuzzer |        |     |         |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|--------|--------|-----|---------|
|                      |                                    | V-Fuzz | VUzzer | AFL | AFLFast |
| uniq                 | LAVA-M                             | 659    | 321    | 0   | 0       |
| base64               | LAVA-M                             | 128    | 100    | 0   | 0       |
| who                  | LAVA-M                             | 117    | 92     | 0   | 0       |
| pdftotext            | xpdf-2.00                          | 209    | 59     | 12  | 108     |
| pdffonts             | xpdf-2.00                          | 581    | 367    | 13  | 0       |
| pdftopbm             | xpdf-2.00                          | 50     | 25     | 37  | 35      |
| pdf2svg + libpoppler | pdf2svg-0.2.3<br>libpoppler-0.24.5 | 3      | 2      | 0   | 1       |
| MP3Gain              | 1.5.2                              | 217    | 34     | 103 | 110     |
| mpg321               | 0.3.2                              | 321    | 184    | 40  | 17      |
| xpstopng             | libgxps-0.2.5                      | 3,222  | 2,195  | 2   | 2       |
| xpstops              | libgxps-0.2.5                      | 4,157  | 3,044  | 3   | 3       |
| xpstojpeg            | libgxps-0.2.5                      | 4,828  | 4,243  | 4   | 4       |
| cflow                | 1.5                                | 1      | 0      | 0   | 0       |
| Total                |                                    | 14,493 | 10,666 | 214 | 280     |
| Average              |                                    | 1,114  | 820    | 16  | 21      |

V-Fuzz finds more unique crashes than AFL, AFLFast and VUzzer.



# Experimental Results: CVEs

TABLE 9: The CVEs found by V-Fuzz.

| Application                       | Version    | CVE                  | Vulnerability Type           |
|-----------------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| pdftotext<br>pdffonts<br>pdftopbm | xpdf<=3.01 | CVE-2007-0104        | Buffer errors                |
| mpg321                            | 0.3.2      | CVE-2017-11552       | Buffer errors                |
| MP3Gain                           | 1.5.2      | CVE-2017-14406       | NULL pointer dereference     |
|                                   |            | CVE-2017-14407       | Stack-based buffer over-read |
|                                   |            | CVE-2017-14409       | Buffer overflow              |
|                                   |            | CVE-2017-14410       | Buffer over-read             |
|                                   |            | CVE-2017-12912       | Buffer errors                |
| libgxps                           | <=0.3.0    | CVE-2018-10767 (new) | Buffer errors                |
|                                   |            | CVE-2018-10733 (new) | Stack-based buffer over-read |
| libpoppler                        | 0.24.5     | CVE-2018-10768 (new) | NULL pointer dereference     |

V-Fuzz detects three new CVEs.

# Conclusion

- **In this paper, we design and implement V-Fuzz, an evolutionary fuzzer assisted by vulnerability prediction.**
- **We design and implement a vulnerability prediction model based on graph embedding network that can predict the vulnerable probabilities for binary functions.**
- **Compared with several state-of-the-art fuzzers, V-Fuzz can find more vulnerabilities quickly.**
- **V-Fuzz has discovered 10 CVEs, and 3 of them are 0-day vulnerabilities.**