

# Attack Synthesis for Strings using Meta-heuristics

JPF Workshop 2018

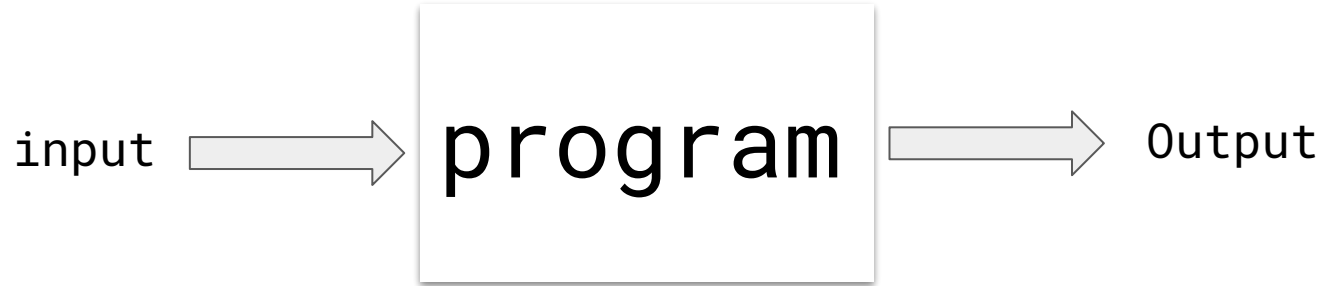
Seemanta Saha<sup>\*</sup>, Ismet Burak Kadron<sup>\*</sup>, William  
Eiers<sup>\*</sup>, Lucas Bang<sup>+</sup>, Tevfik Bultan<sup>\*</sup>

<sup>\*</sup> University of California Santa Barbara

<sup>+</sup> Harvey Mudd College

# Software Side-Channel Attack

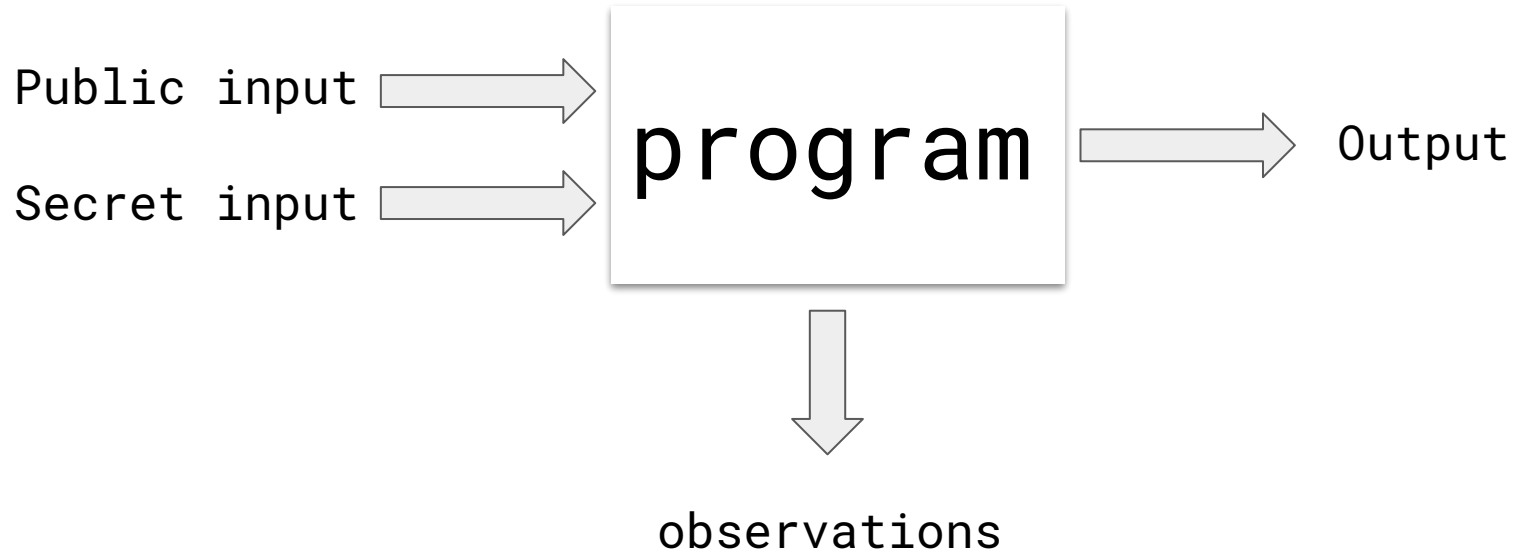
# Software Side-Channel Attack



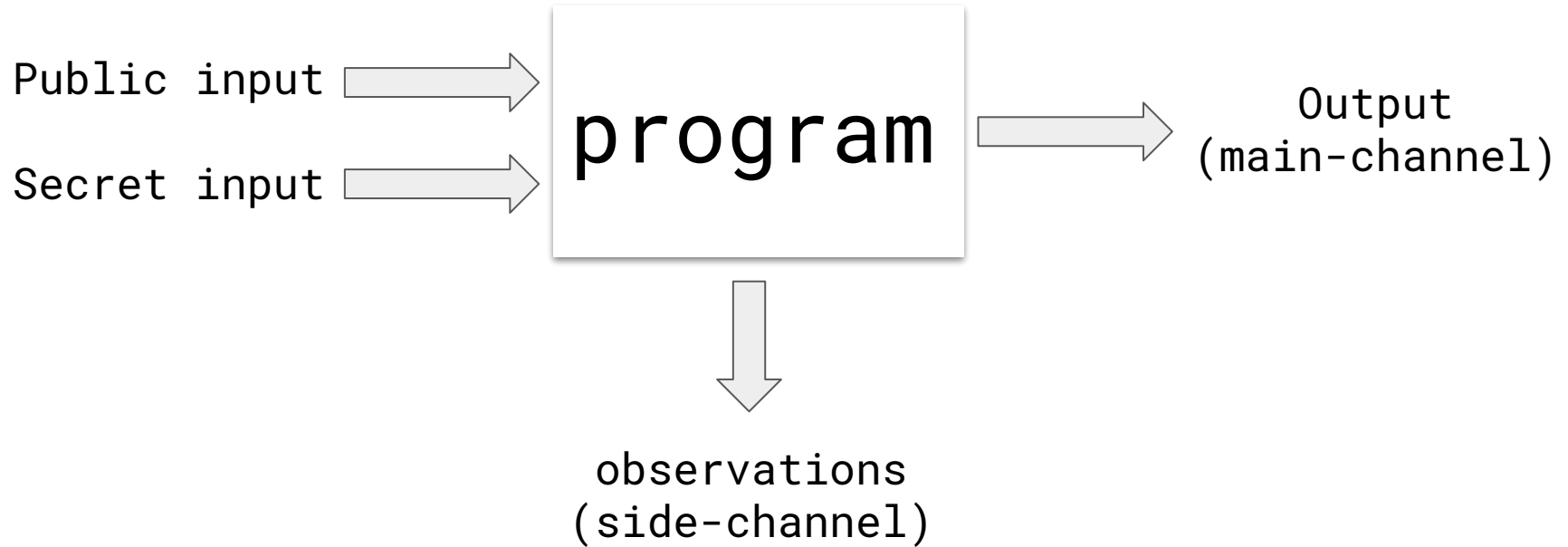
# Software Side-Channel Attack



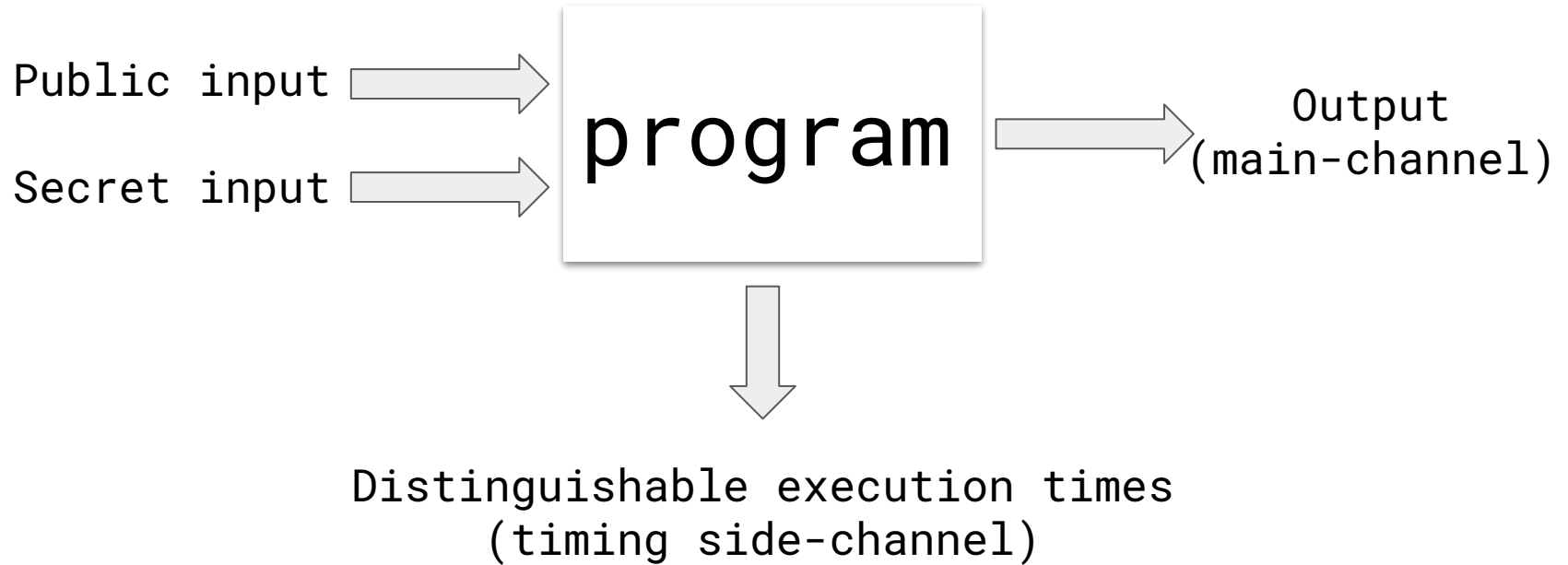
# Software Side-Channel Attack



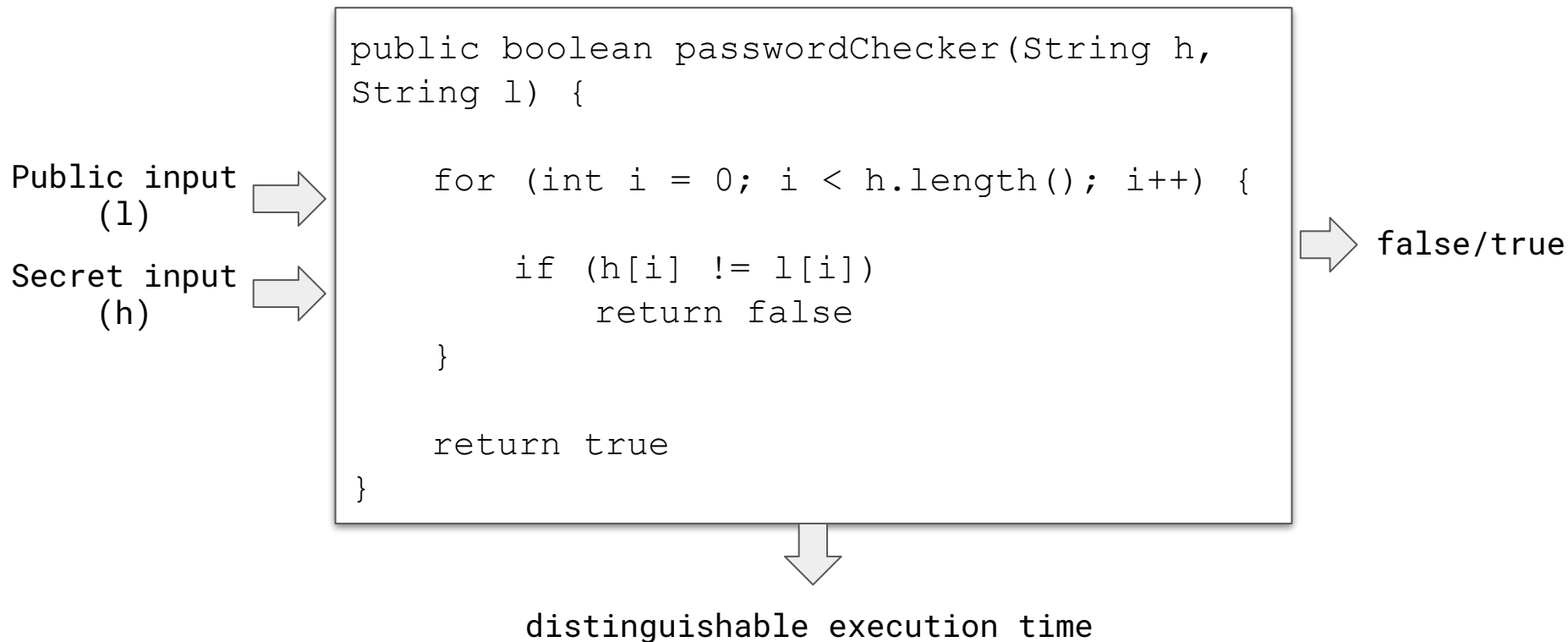
# Software Side-Channel Attack



# Timing Side-Channel Attack

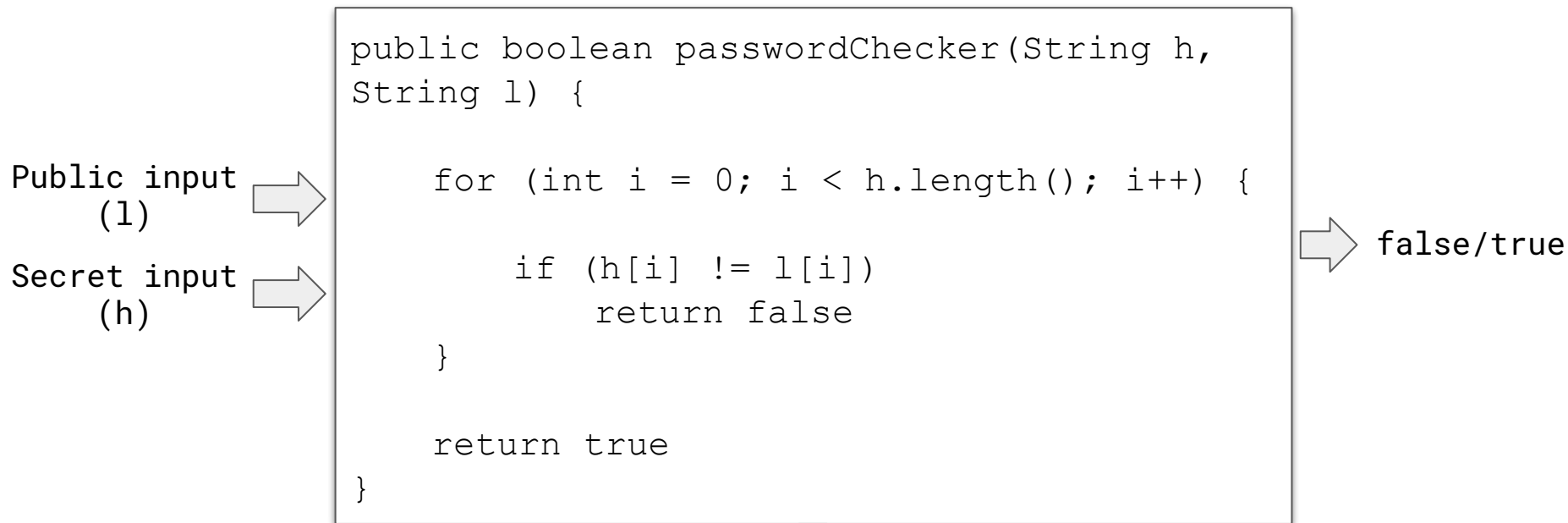


# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function





# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function



distinguishable execution time

Let's consider one loop iteration takes 1 millisecond

# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function

```
public boolean passwordChecker(String h,  
String l) {  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < h.length(); i++) {  
  
        if (h[i] != l[i])  
            return false  
  
        }  
  
    return true  
}
```

l = "XXXXXXXXXX" →

h = "PATHFINDER" →

→ false

↓  
Execution time = 5 milliseconds

# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function

```
public boolean passwordChecker(String h,  
String l) {  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < h.length(); i++) {  
  
        if (h[i] != l[i])  
            return false  
  
        }  
  
    return true  
  
}
```

l = "MATHFINDER" →

h = "PATHFINDER" →

→ false

↓  
Execution time = 5 milliseconds

# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function

```
public boolean passwordChecker(String h,  
String l) {  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < h.length(); i++) {  
  
        if (h[i] != l[i])  
            return false  
  
        }  
  
    return true  
  
}
```

l = "PXXXXXXXXX" →

h = "PATHFINDER" →

→ false

↓  
Execution time = 6 milliseconds

# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function

```
public boolean passwordChecker(String h,  
String l) {  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < h.length(); i++) {  
  
        if (h[i] != l[i])  
            return false  
  
        }  
  
    return true  
}
```

l = "PAXXXXXXXXXX"



h = "PATHFINDER"



false



Execution time = 7 milliseconds

# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function

```
public boolean passwordChecker(String h,  
String l) {
```

```
    for (int i = 0; i < h.length(); i++) {
```

```
        if (h[i] != l[i])  
            return false
```

```
    }
```

```
    return true
```

```
}
```

→ false

↓  
Execution time = 8 milliseconds

# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function

```
public boolean passwordChecker(String h,  
String l) {  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < h.length(); i++) {  
  
        if (h[i] != l[i])  
            return false  
  
        }  
  
    return true  
}
```

l = "PATHXXXXXX" →

h = "PATHFINDER" →

→ false

↓  
Execution time = 9 milliseconds

# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function

```
public boolean passwordChecker(String h,  
String l) {  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < h.length(); i++) {  
  
        if (h[i] != l[i])  
            return false  
  
        }  
  
    return true  
  
}
```

l = "PATHFINDER" →

h = "PATHFINDER" →

→ true

↓  
Execution time = 15 milliseconds



# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function

- known as segment attack vulnerability:
  - attacker reveals the secret input segment (character) by segment (character)

# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function

- known as segment attack vulnerability:
  - attacker reveals the secret input segment (character) by segment (character)
- this vulnerability was present in
  - **Google KeyCzar library**

## Timing attack in Google Keyczar library

Filed under: [Crypto](#), [Hacking](#), [Network](#), [Protocols](#), [python](#), [Security](#) — Nate Lawson @ 11:30 pm

I recently found a security flaw in the Google [Keyczar](#) crypto library. The impact was that an attacker could forge signatures for data that was "signed" with the SHA-1 [HMAC](#) algorithm (the default algorithm).

Firstly, I'm really glad to see more high-level libraries being developed so that programmers don't have to work directly with algorithms. Keyczar is definitely a step in the right direction. Thanks to all the people who developed it. Also, thanks to [Stephen Weis](#) for responding quickly to address this issue after I notified him ([Python fix](#) and [Java fix](#)).

# Timing Side-channel in Password Checking Function

- known as segment attack vulnerability
  - attacker reveals the secret input segment (character) by segment (character)
- this vulnerability was present in
  - **Google KeyCzar library, OpenID, etc.**

## Timing attack in Google Keyczar library

Filed under: [Crypto](#), [Hacking](#), [Network](#), [Protocols](#), [python](#), [Security](#) — Nate Lawson @ 11:30 pm

I recently found a security flaw in the Google [Keyczar](#) crypto library. The impact was that an attacker could forge signatures for data that was "signed" with the SHA-1 HMAC algorithm (the default algorithm).

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## [security] Widespread Timing Vulnerabilities in OpenID implementations

Taylor Nelson [taylor@rootlabs.com](mailto:taylor@rootlabs.com)

Tue Jul 13 20:32:50 UTC 2010

- Next message: [\[security\] Widespread Timing Vulnerabilities in OpenID implementations](#)
- Messages sorted by: [\[ date \]](#) [\[ thread \]](#) [\[ subject \]](#) [\[ author \]](#)

Every OpenID implementation I have checked this far has contained timing dependent compares in the HMAC verification, allowing a remote attacker to forge valid tokens.

In JOpenId:  
There is a timing vulnerability in the `getAuthentication` function in `trunk/JOpenId/src/org/expressme/openid/OpenIdManager.java`

# Attack Synthesis Overview

Static  
Analysis  
Phase

Attack  
Synthesis  
Phase

# Attack Synthesis Overview

String  
Function  
 $F(h, l)$



Static  
Analysis  
Phase

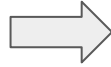
Attack  
Synthesis  
Phase

# Attack Synthesis Overview

String  
Function  
 $F(h, l)$



Static  
Analysis  
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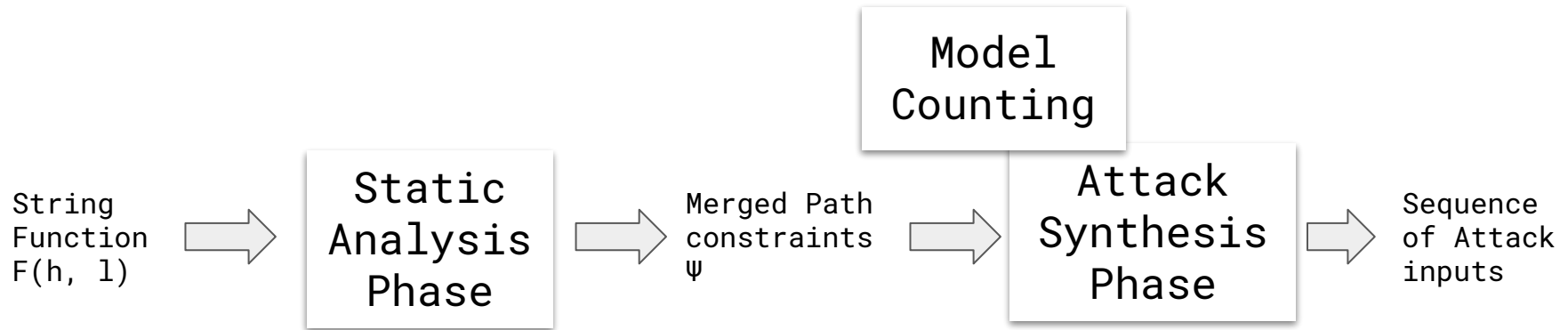
Merged Path  
constraints  
 $\psi$

Attack  
Synthesis  
Phase

# Attack Synthesis Overview

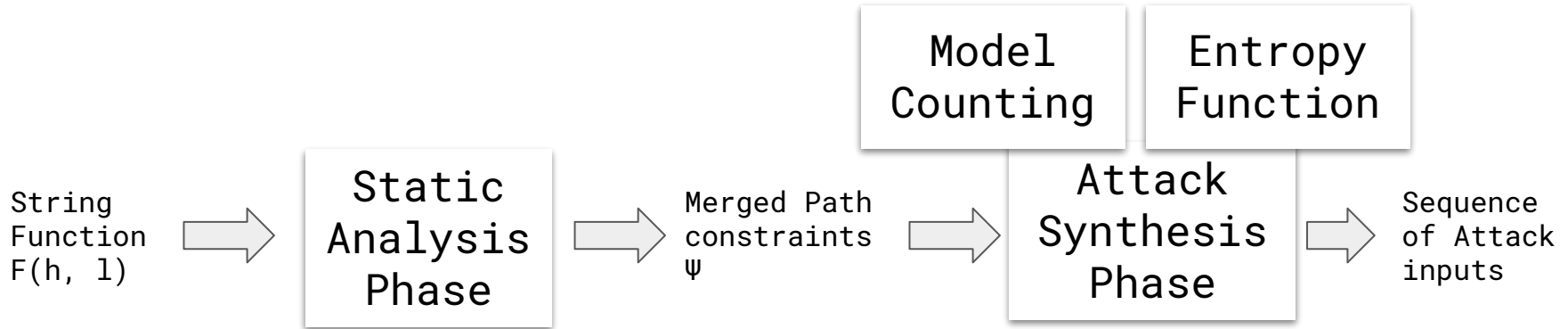


# Attack Synthesis Overview

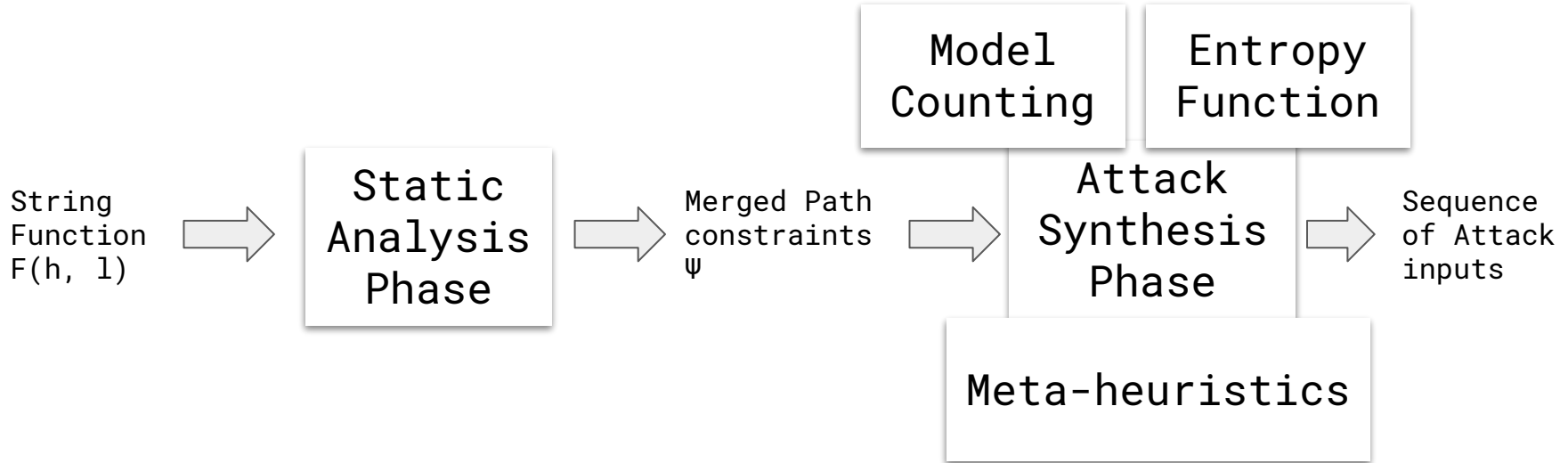




# Attack Synthesis Overview



# Attack Synthesis Overview



# Static Analysis Phase

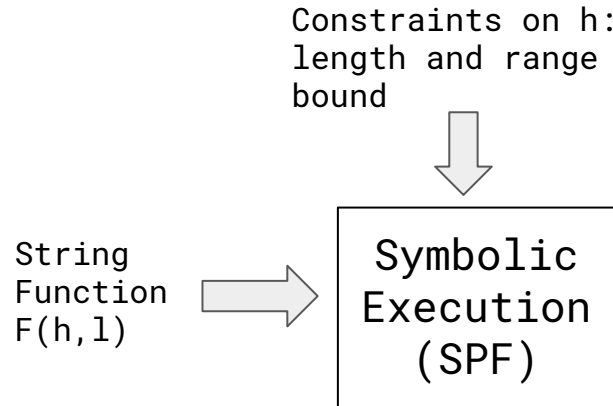
String  
Function  
F(h,l)

# Static Analysis Phase

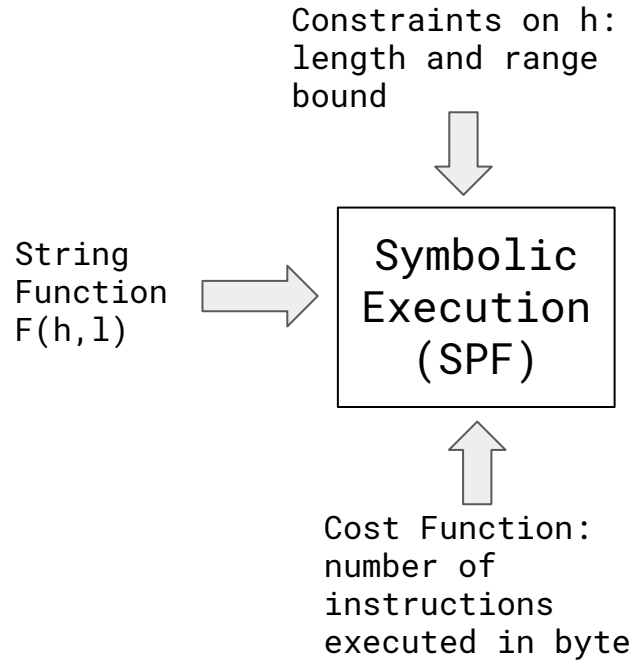
Constraints on h:  
length and range  
bound

String  
Function  
F(h,l)

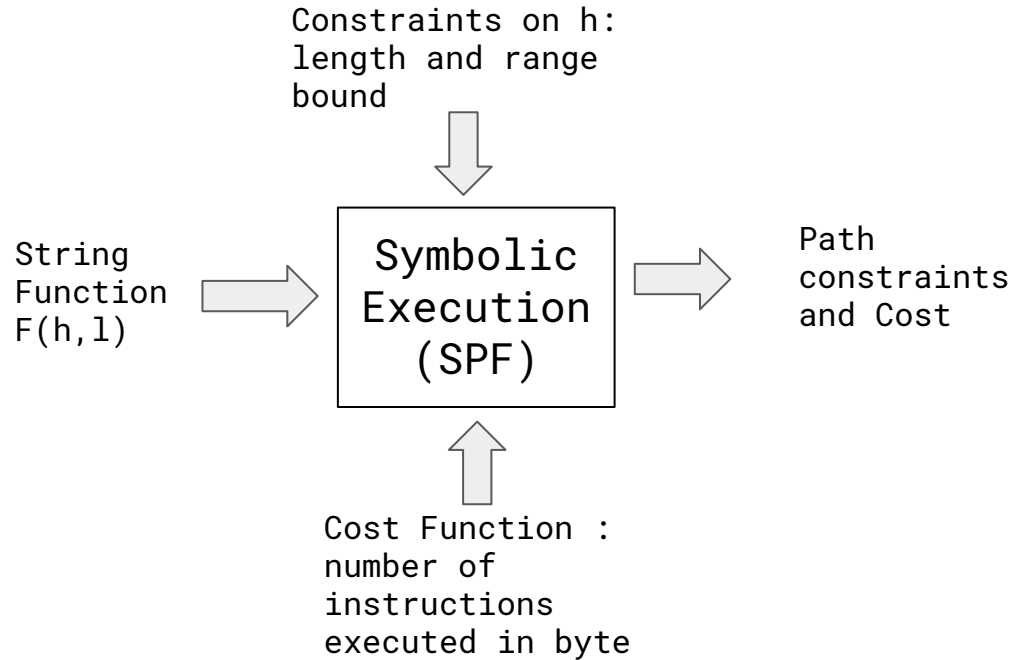
# Static Analysis Phase



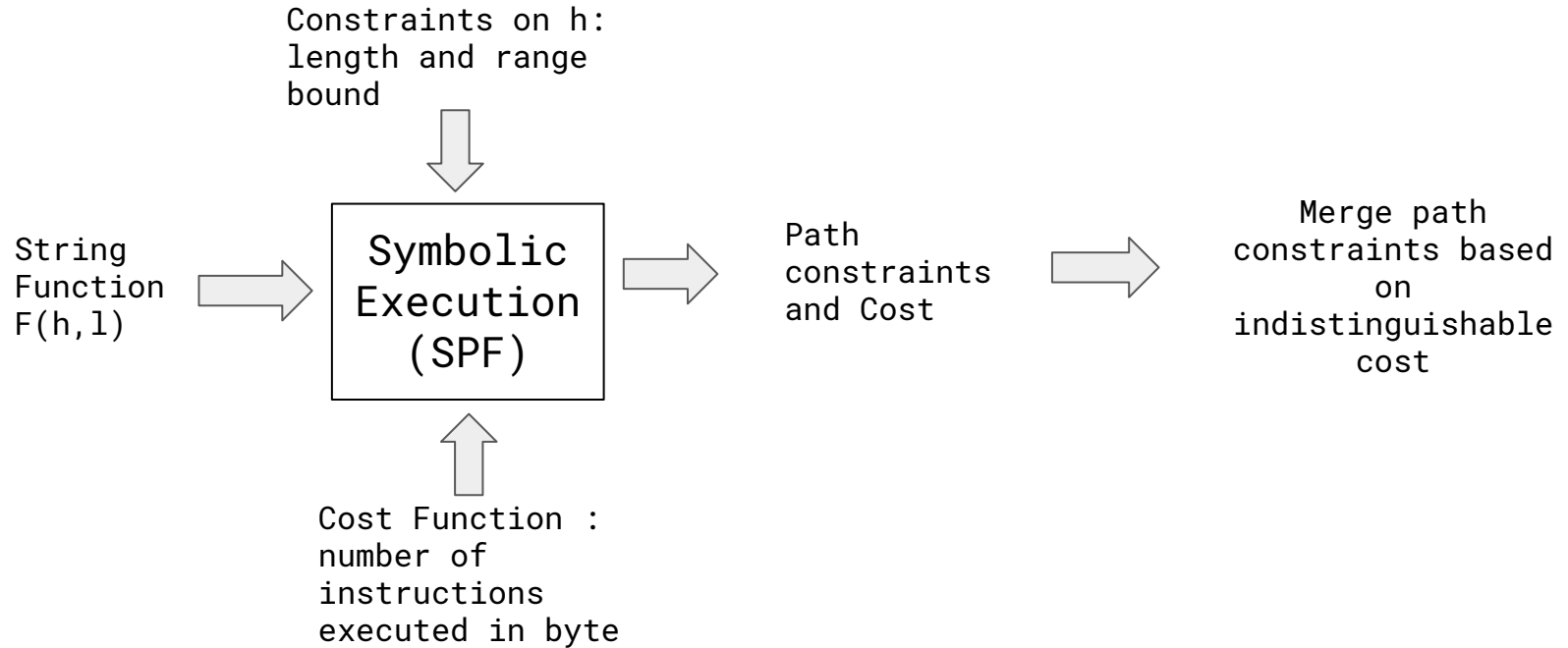
# Static Analysis Phase



# Static Analysis Phase



# Static Analysis Phase





# Path Constraints for Password Checking Function

$i$	Observation Constraint, $\psi_i$	$o$
1	$\text{charat}(l, 0) \neq \text{charat}(h, 0)$	63
2	$\text{charat}(l, 0) = \text{charat}(h, 0) \wedge \text{charat}(l, 1) \neq \text{charat}(h, 1)$	78
3	$\text{charat}(l, 0) = \text{charat}(h, 0) \wedge \text{charat}(l, 1) = \text{charat}(h, 1) \wedge \text{charat}(l, 2) \neq \text{charat}(h, 2)$	93
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5	$\text{charat}(l, 0) = \text{charat}(h, 0) \wedge \text{charat}(l, 1) = \text{charat}(h, 1) \wedge \text{charat}(l, 2) = \text{charat}(h, 2) \wedge \text{charat}(l, 3) = \text{charat}(h, 3)$	123

Length of public input (l) = 4

Length of secret input (h) = 4

Goal: Attack Synthesis

Generate Sequence of inputs revealing  
information about the secret value

# Attack Synthesis

$i$	Observation Constraint, $\psi_i$	$o$
1	$\text{charat}(l, 0) \neq \text{charat}(h, 0)$	63
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# Attack Synthesis

Unknown Secret:  
"PATH"

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String range: AAAA ~ ZZZZ

attack input: "ABCD"

Solve Constraint

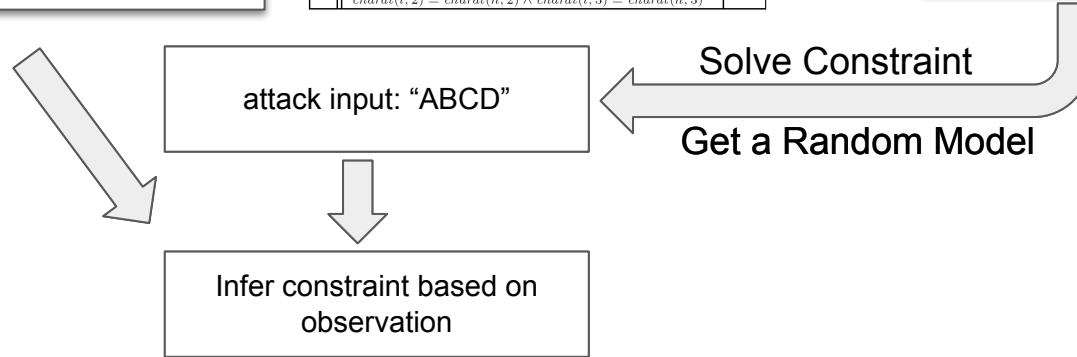
Get a Random Model

# Attack Synthesis

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# Attack Synthesis

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String range: AAAA ~ ZZZZ

attack input: "ABCD"

Solve Constraint

Get a Random Model

Inferred constraint:  
 $h[0] \neq l[0]$

Infer constraint based on  
observation



# Attack Synthesis

Unknown Secret:  
"PATH"

$i$	Observation Constraint, $\psi_i$	$o$
1	$\text{charat}(l, 0) \neq \text{charat}(h, 0)$	63
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String range: AAAA ~ ZZZZ

attack input: "ABCD"

Solve Constraint

Get a Random Model

Infer constraint based on  
observation

Inferred constraint:  
 $h[0] \neq l[0]$

Updated constraint on h:  
 $h[0] \neq 'A'$

# Attack Synthesis

Unknown Secret:  
"PATH"

$i$	Observation Constraint, $\psi_i$	$o$
1	$\text{charat}(l, 0) \neq \text{charat}(h, 0)$	63
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String range: AAAA ~ ZZZZ

attack input: "ABCD"

Solve Constraint

Get a Random Model

Inferred constraint:  
 $h[0] \neq l[0]$

Infer constraint based on  
observation

Solve

Updated constraint on h:  
 $h[0] \neq 'A'$

attack input: "PDEF"

# Attack Synthesis

Unknown Secret:  
"PATH"

$i$	Observation Constraint, $\psi_i$	$o$
1	$\text{charat}(l, 0) \neq \text{charat}(h, 0)$	63
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String range: AAAA ~ ZZZZ

attack input: "ABCD"

Solve Constraint

Get a Random Model

Inferred constraint:  
 $h[0] \neq l[0]$

Infer constraint based on  
observation

Updated constraint on h:  
 $h[0] \neq 'A'$

Solve

attack input: "PDEF"

Inferred constraint:  
 $h[0] == l[0] \ \&\& \ h[1] \neq l[1]$

Infer constraint based on  
observation

# Attack Synthesis

Unknown Secret:  
"PATH"

$i$	Observation Constraint, $\psi_i$	$o$
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Solve Constraint

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Inferred constraint:  
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Updated constraint on h:  
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Solve

attack input: "PDEF"

Inferred constraint:  
 $h[0] == l[0] \ \&\& \ h[1] \neq l[1]$

Infer constraint based on  
observation

Updated constraint on h:  
 $h[0] \neq 'A' \ \&\& \ h[0] == 'P' \ \&\& \ h[1] \neq 'D'$

Solve

attack input: "PAGD"

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5	$\text{charat}(l, 0) = \text{charat}(h, 0) \wedge \text{charat}(l, 1) = \text{charat}(h, 1) \wedge \text{charat}(l, 2) = \text{charat}(h, 2) \wedge \text{charat}(l, 3) = \text{charat}(h, 3)$	123

String range: AAAA ~ ZZZZ

attack input: "ABCD"

Solve Constraint

Get a Random Model

Inferred constraint:  
 $h[0] \neq l[0]$

Infer constraint based on  
observation

Solve

Updated constraint on h:  
 $h[0] \neq 'A'$

attack input: "PDEF"

Inferred constraint:  
 $h[0] == l[0] \ \&\& \ h[1] \neq l[1]$

Infer constraint based on  
observation

Solve

Updated constraint on h:  
 $h[0] \neq 'A' \ \&\& \ h[0] == 'P' \ \&\& \ h[1] \neq 'D'$

attack input: "PAGD"

Update constraints on h

# Attack Synthesis

Unknown Secret:  
"PATH"

$i$	Observation Constraint, $\psi_i$	$o$
1	$\text{charat}(l, 0) \neq \text{charat}(h, 0)$	63
2	$\text{charat}(l, 0) = \text{charat}(h, 0) \wedge \text{charat}(l, 1) \neq \text{charat}(h, 1)$	78
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String range: AAAA ~ ZZZZ

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Infer constraint based on  
observation

Solve

Updated constraint on h:  
 $h[0] \neq 'A'$

attack input: "PDEF"

Inferred constraint:  
 $h[0] == l[0] \ \&\& \ h[1] \neq l[1]$

Infer constraint based on  
observation

Get next attack input

Updated constraint on h:  
 $h[0] \neq 'A' \ \&\& \ h[0] == 'P' \ \&\& \ h[1] \neq 'D'$

Solve

attack input: "PAGD"

Update constraints on h

# Attack Synthesis

Unknown Secret:  
"PATH"

$i$	Observation Constraint, $\psi_i$	$o$
1	$\text{charat}(l, 0) \neq \text{charat}(h, 0)$	63
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String range: AAAA ~ ZZZZ

attack input: "ABCD"

Solve Constraint

Get a Random Model

Inferred constraint:  
 $h[0] \neq l[0]$

Infer constraint based on  
observation

Sequence of attack inputs

Solve

Updated constraint on h:  
 $h[0] \neq 'A'$

attack input: "PDEF"



Inferred constraint:  
 $h[0] == l[0] \ \&\& \ h[1] \neq l[1]$

Infer constraint based on  
observation

Get next attack input

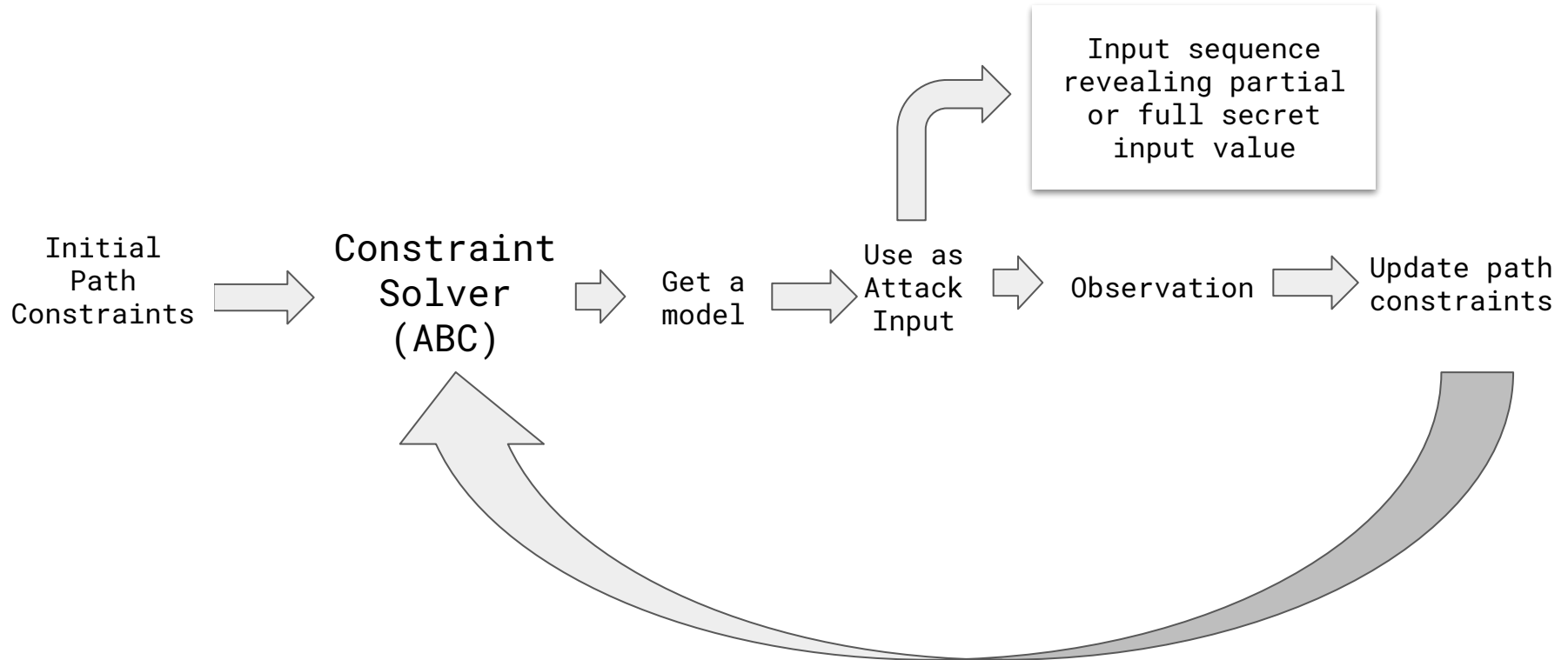
Solve

Updated constraint on h:  
 $h[0] \neq 'A' \ \&\& \ h[0] == 'P' \ \&\& \ h[1] \neq 'D'$

attack input: "PAGD"

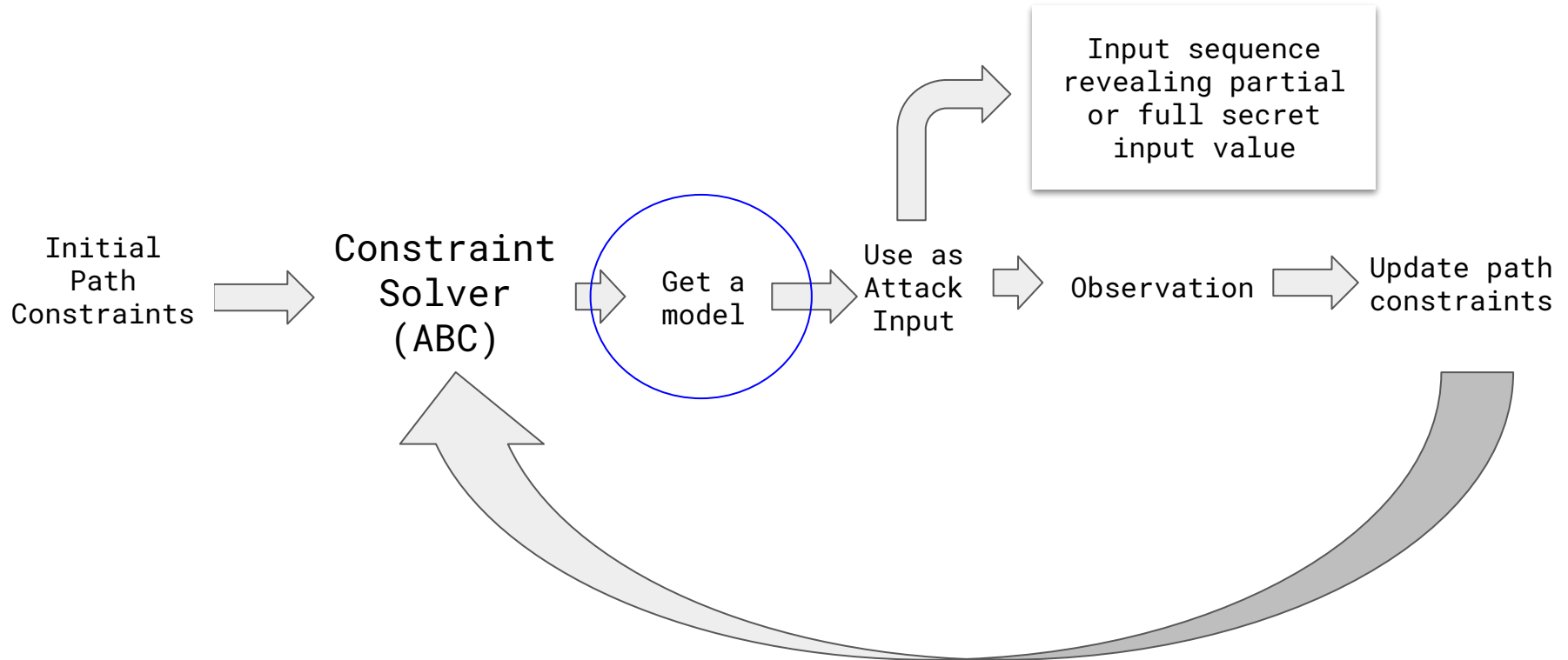
Update constraints on h

# Attack Synthesis Phase

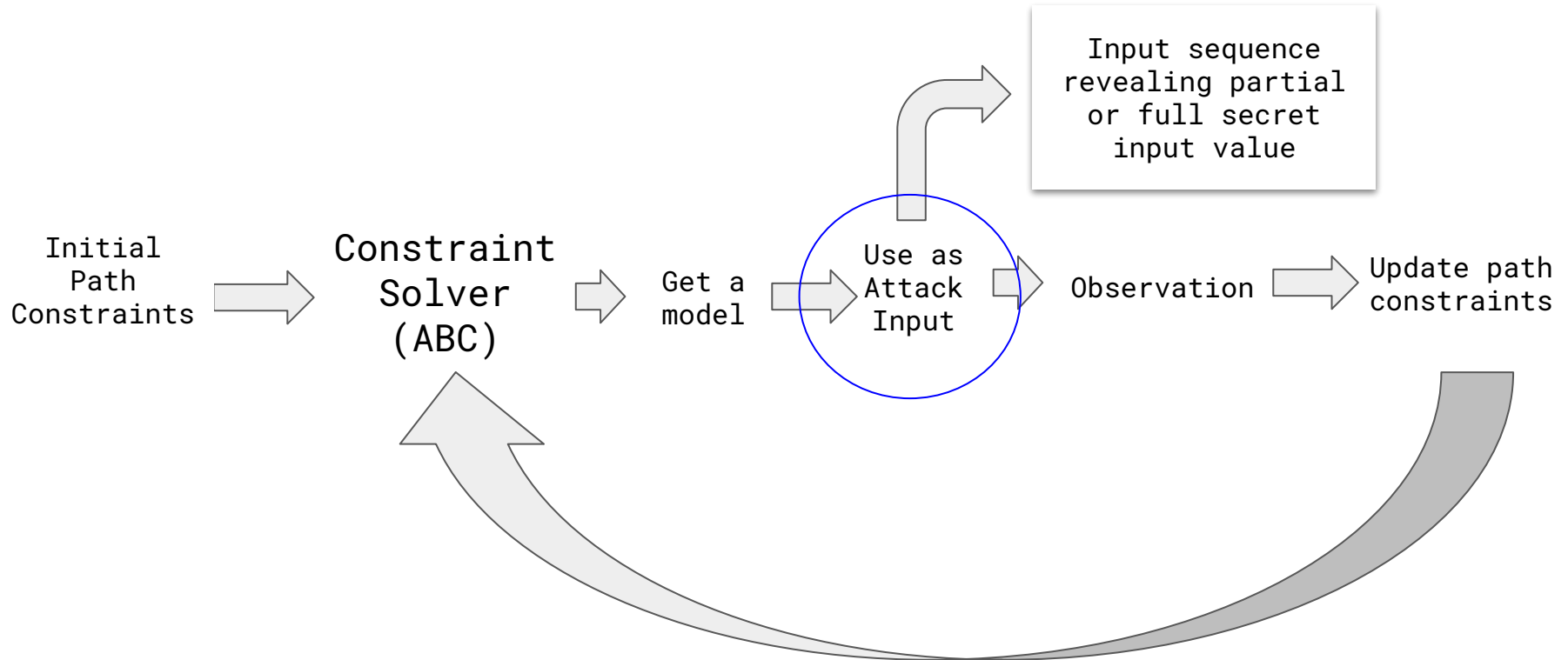




# Attack Synthesis Phase



# Attack Synthesis Phase



- We can automatically generate an attack using
  - Program path constraints
  - Observation from program execution
  - Generating constraints from observation
  - Updating constraints on secret value
  - Solving constraints to get attack input

We call this Model-Based Attack  
Synthesis (M)

We can synthesize attacks using  
Model-Based (M) Attack Synthesis

Why do we need meta-heuristics?

# String inequality Function

```
public String inequality(string i) {  
  
    if(s <= i)  
        do something simple; // 2 seconds  
    else  
        do something complex; // 5 seconds  
  
    return 0;  
  
}
```

# String inequality Function

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public String inequality(string i) {  
  
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}
```

$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq i$

$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > i$

$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq i$

$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > i$

S

AAAA

AAAB

...

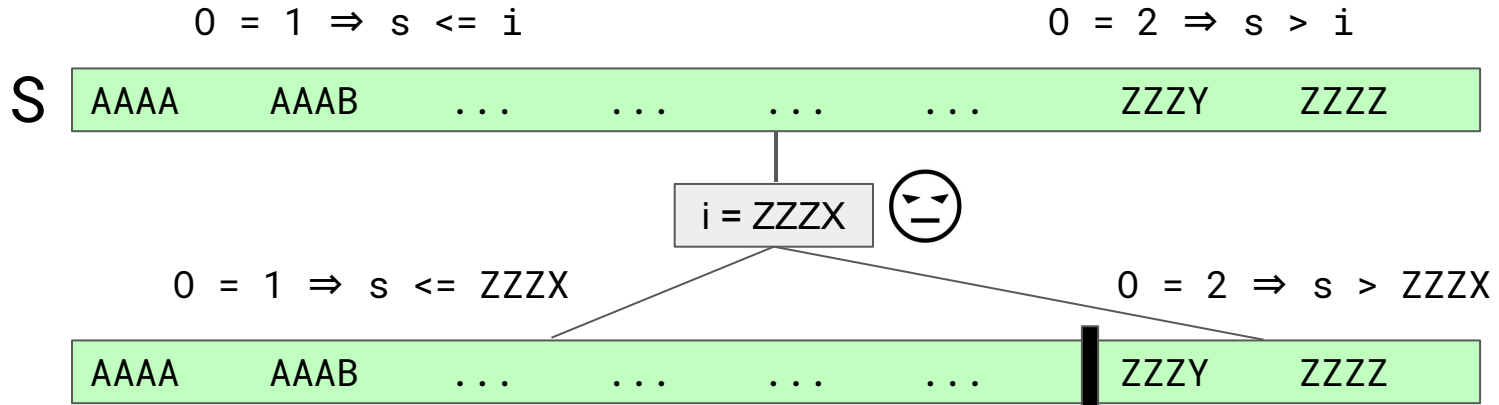
...

...

...

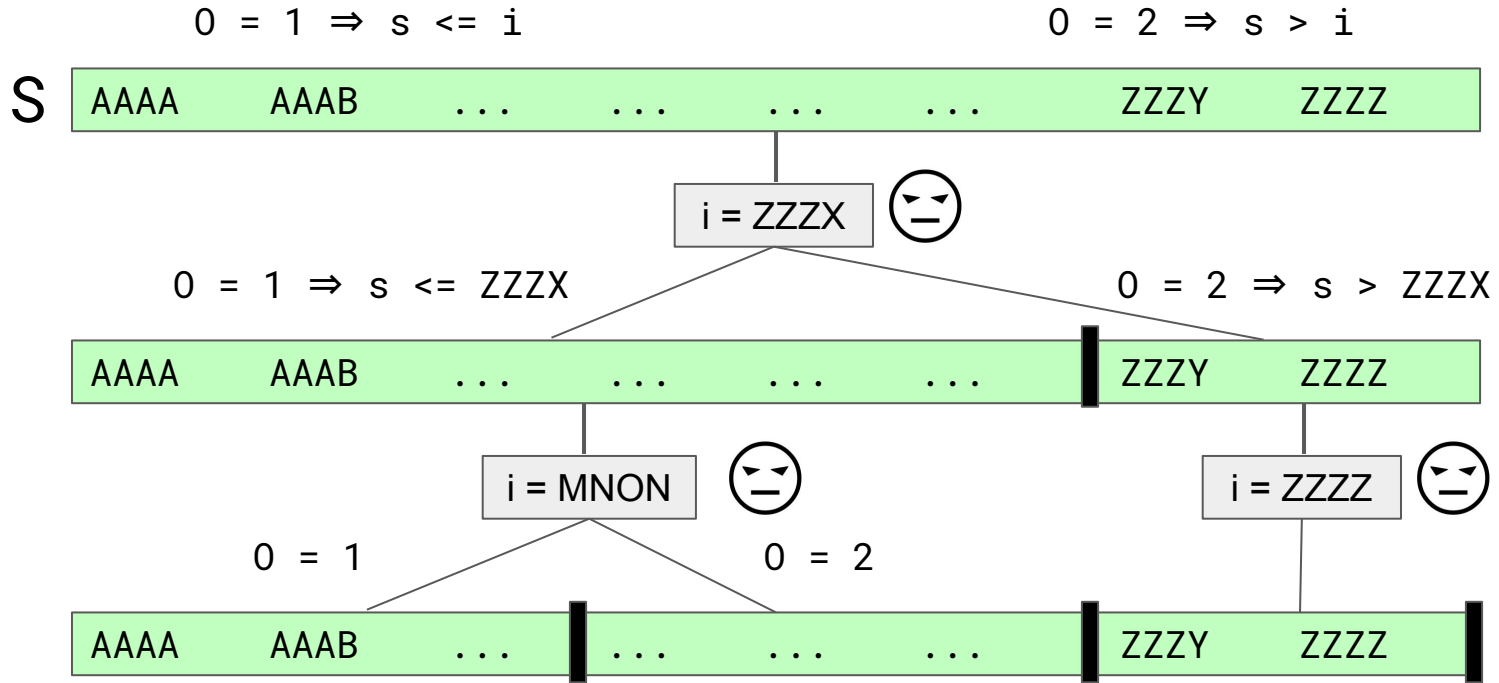
ZZZY

ZZZZ



Attacker's input and observation **partitions** domain of S





Attacker's input and observation **sequences** partitions domain of S

How input and  
observation affects  
partitioning?

$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq i$

$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > i$

AAAA	AAAB	...	MNOO	MNOP	...	ZZZY	ZZZZ
------	------	-----	------	------	-----	------	------

$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq i$

$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > i$

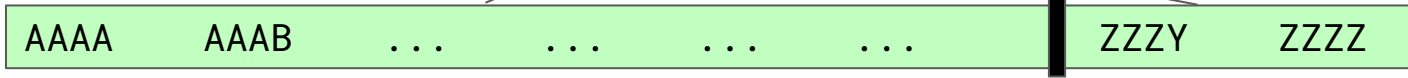


$i = ZZZX$



$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq ZZZX$

$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > ZZZX$



$$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq i$$

$$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > i$$

AAAA AAAB ... .. ZZZY ZZZZ

$i = ZZZX$  😞

$$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq ZZZX$$

$$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > ZZZX$$

AAAA AAAB ... .. ZZZY ZZZZ

$i = UVWA$  😞

$$0 = 1$$

$$0 = 2$$

AAAA AAAB ... .. UVWB ... ZZZX

$$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq i$$

$$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > i$$

AAAA AAAB ... .. ZZZY ZZZZ

$i = ZZZX$  😞

$$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq ZZZX$$

$$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > ZZZX$$

AAAA AAAB ... .. ZZZY ZZZZ

$i = UVWA$  😞

$$0 = 1$$

$$0 = 2$$

AAAA AAAB ... .. UVWB ... ZZZX

$i = TAOM$  😞

$$0 = 1$$

$$0 = 2$$

AAAA AAAB ... .. TAON ... UVWA

$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq i$

$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > i$



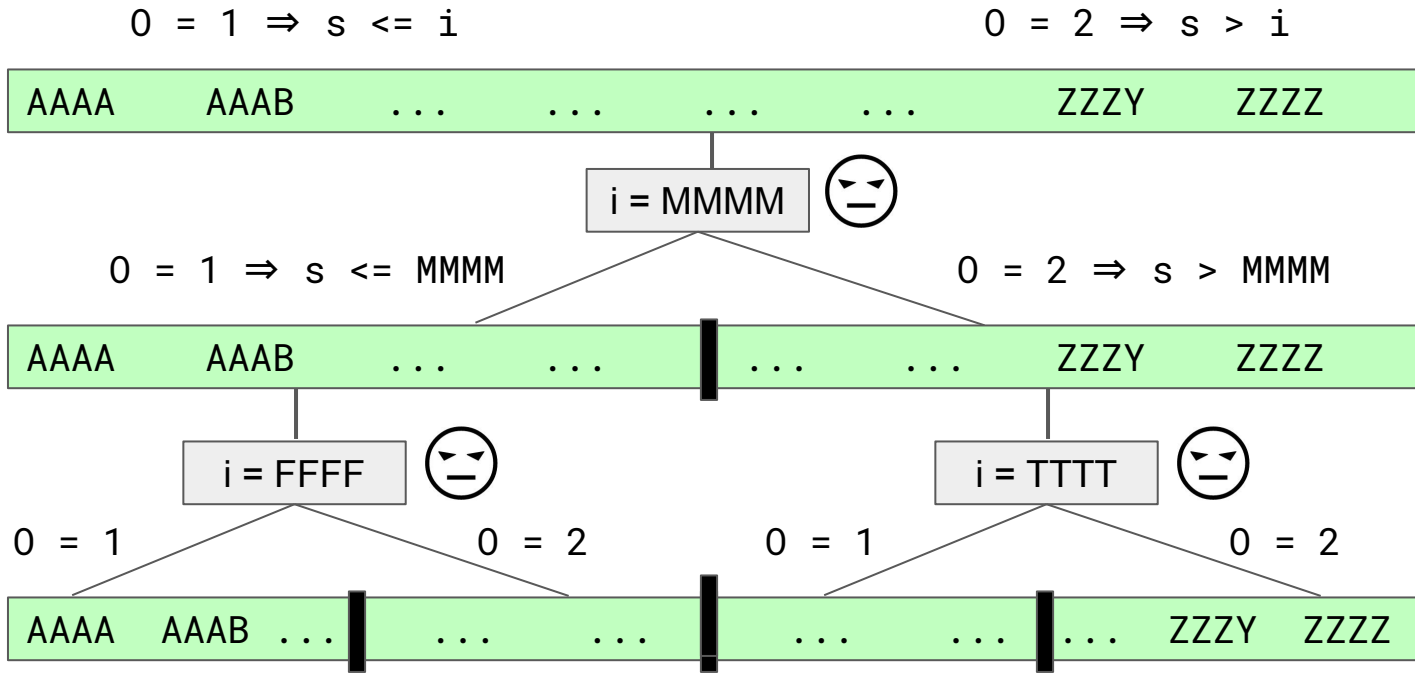
$i = \text{MMMM}$



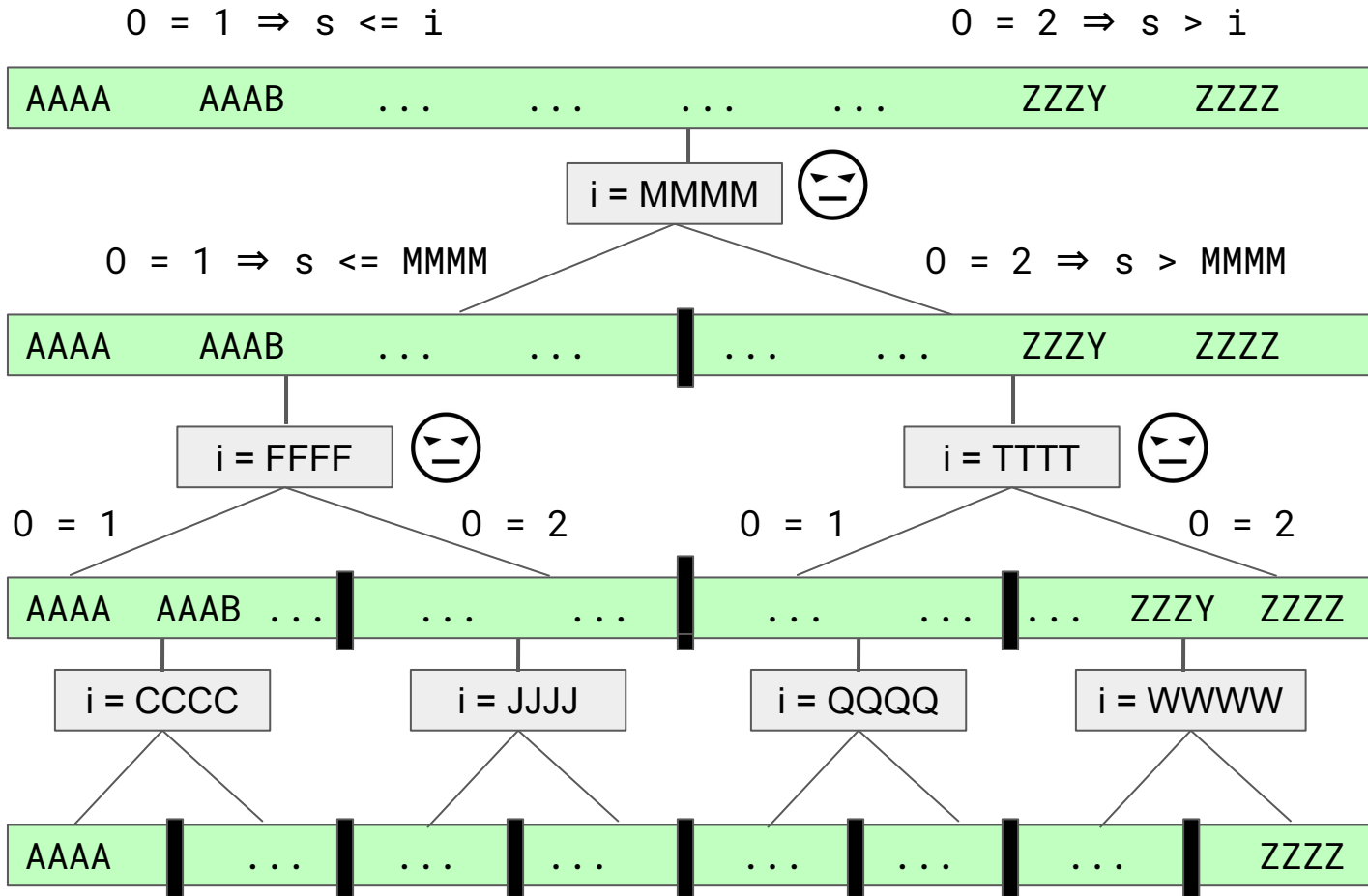
$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq \text{MMMM}$

$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > \text{MMMM}$









# Imbalanced partitions



Worst case :

number of inputs = domain size =  $26^4 = 456976$

[number of alphabets = 26, length =4]

# Balanced partitions



Worst case :

$$\text{number of inputs} = \log_2(456976) = 18.8$$

[number of alphabets = 26, length =4]

# Objective Function

Balanced partitions



Maximizes information gain

# Objective Function

$$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq i$$

$$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > i$$

Maximize information gain  $\Rightarrow$  Binary Search

# Objective Function

$$0 = 1 \Rightarrow s \leq i$$

$$0 = 2 \Rightarrow s > i$$

Maximize information gain  $\Rightarrow$  Binary Search

Programs in general

Maximize information gain  $\Rightarrow$  Optimal Search

# Objective Function

information gain



Shannon Entropy Formula

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{j=1}^n p_j \log_2 \frac{1}{p_j}$$

## Shannon Entropy Formula

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{j=1}^n p_j \log_2 \frac{1}{p_j}$$

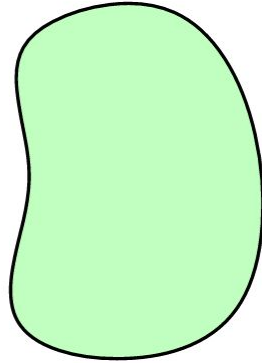
What is  $P_j$ ?

How to calculate  $P_j$ ?





$i_0 \in I$

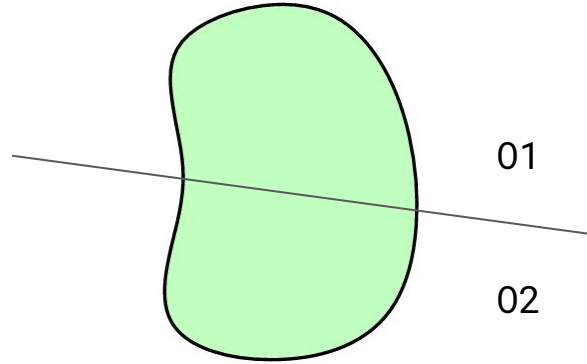


secret  $s \in S$



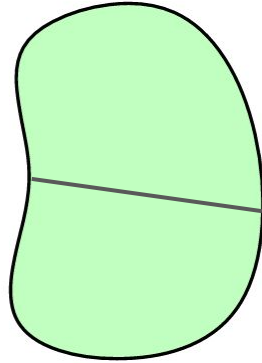
$i_0 \in I$

secret  $s \in S$





$i_0 \in I$



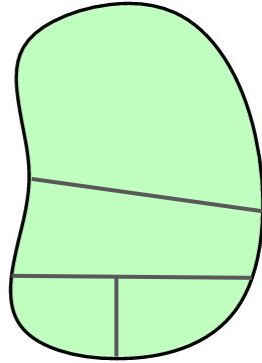
secret  $s \in S$



$i_0 \in I$

$i_1 \in I$

$i_2 \in I$



secret  $s \in S$

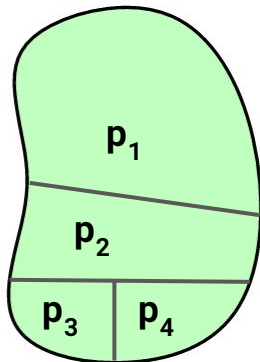


secret  $s \in S$

$i_0 \in I$

$i_1 \in I$

$i_2 \in I$



$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{j=1}^n p_j \log_2 \frac{1}{p_j}$$

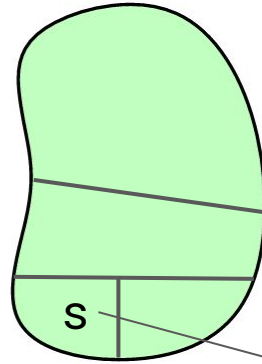


$i_0 \in I$

$i_1 \in I$

$i_2 \in I$

secret  $s \in S$



$P(s \in \text{[small green shape]})$

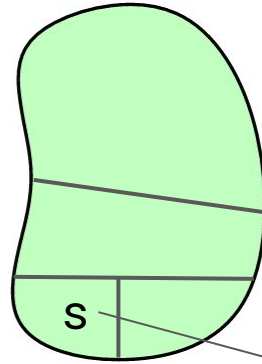


$i_0 \in I$

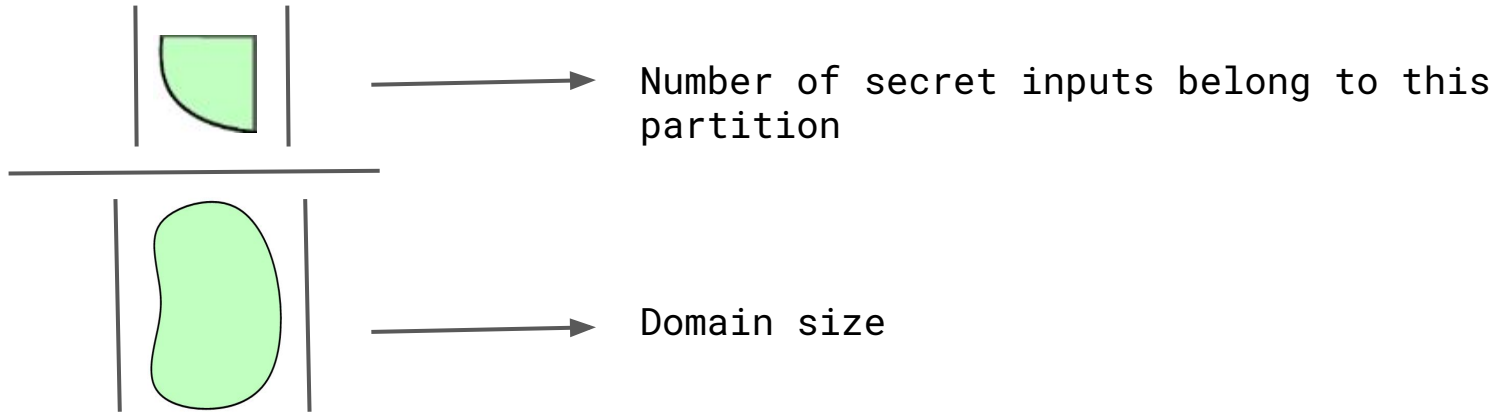
$i_1 \in I$

$i_2 \in I$

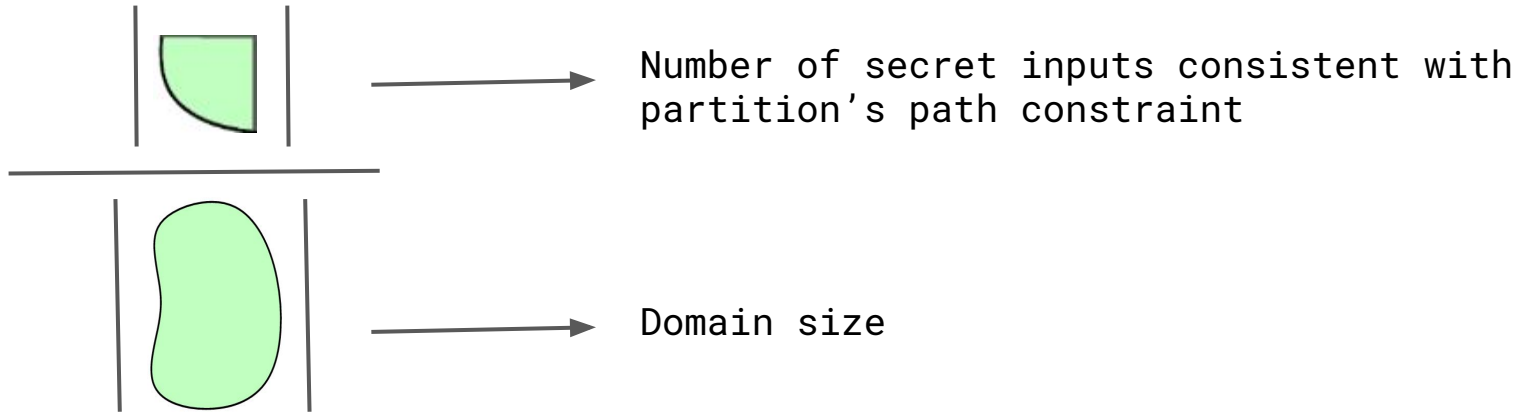
secret  $s \in S$

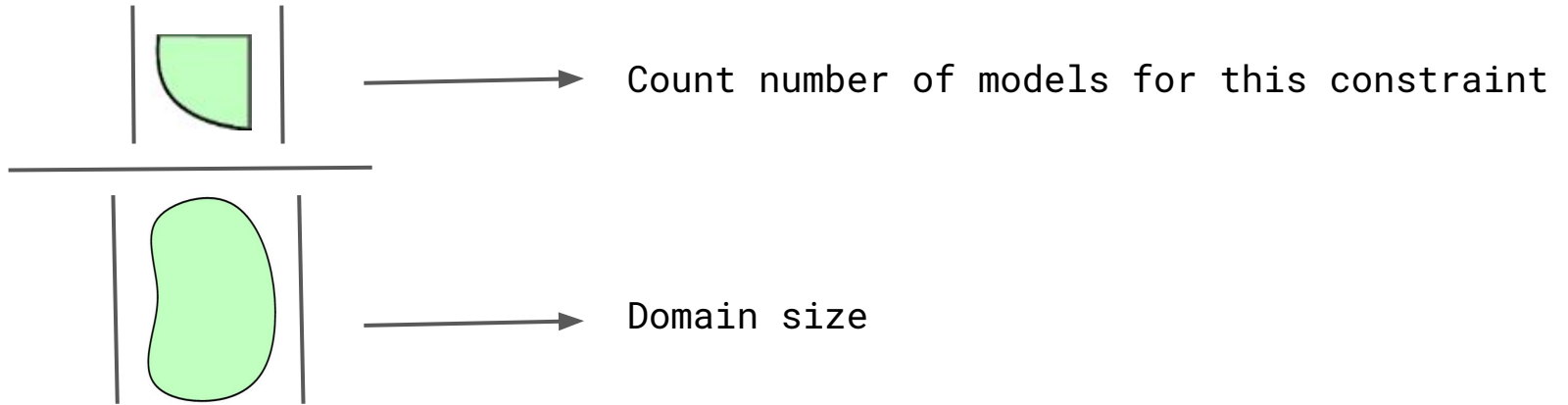


$$P(s \in \text{[small green shape]}) = \frac{|\text{[small green shape]}|}{|\text{[large green shape]}|}$$









## Model Counting Problem

# Automata Based Model Counting (ABC)

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Count the number of strings consistent with PC

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Count the number of strings consistent with PC

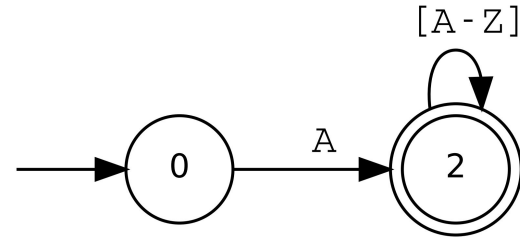
ABC constructs an automaton recognizing solution to PC

# Automata Based Model Counting (ABC)

Count the number of strings consistent with PC

ABC constructs an automaton recognizing solution to PC

$x \text{ in } [A-Z]^+ \wedge \text{charat}(x,0)='A'$

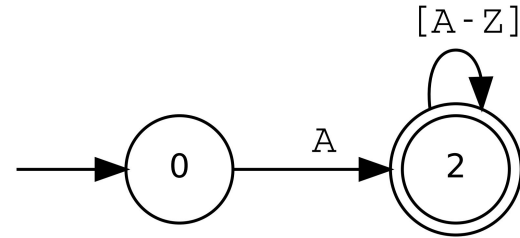


# Automata Based Model Counting (ABC)

Count the number of strings consistent with PC

ABC constructs an automaton recognizing solution to PC

$x \text{ in } [A-Z]^* \wedge \text{charat}(x,0)='A'$



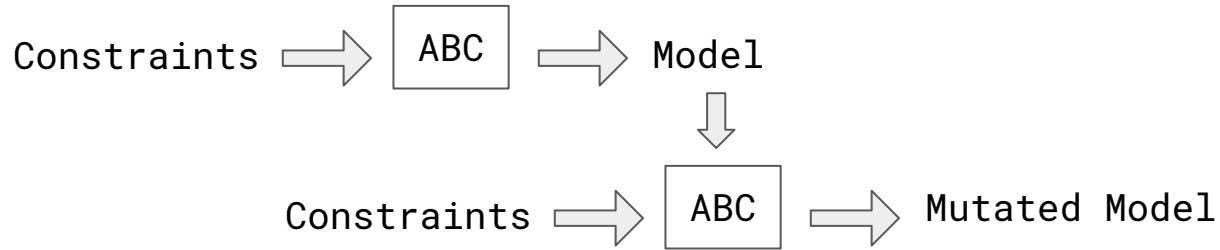
Model count ( $|PC|$ ) is the number of accepting paths in automaton

# Constraint-based Model Generation

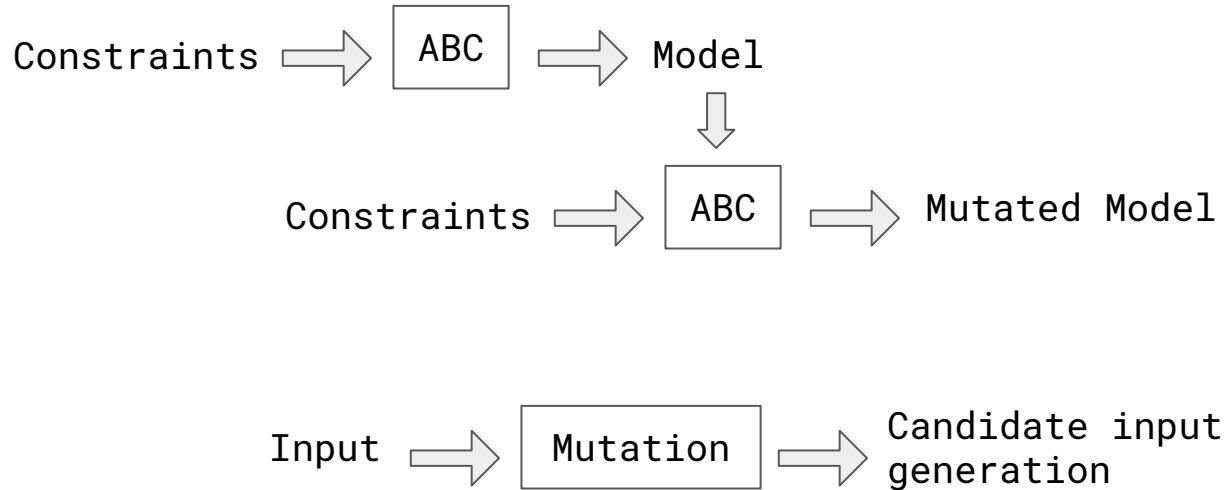




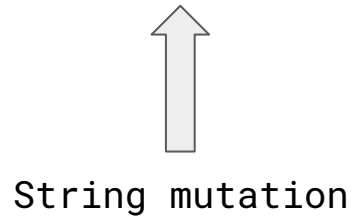
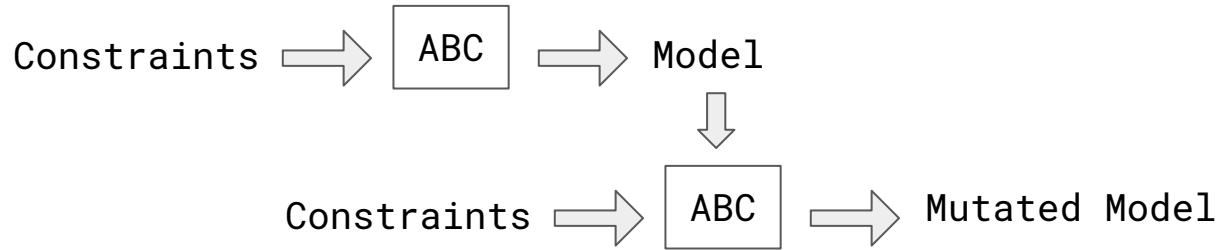
# Constraint-based Model Generation



# Constraint-based Model Generation

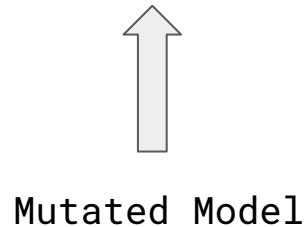
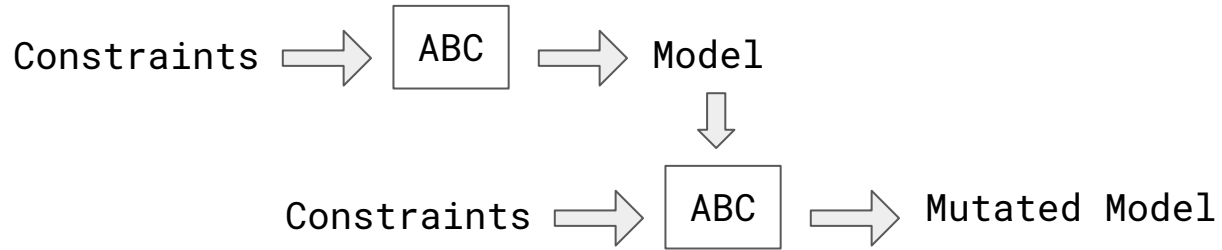


# Constraint-based Model Generation



non-restricted (NR)

# Constraint-based Model Generation



Maximize information gain  $\Rightarrow$  Optimal Search

# Meta-heuristics Techniques

Random Search

Simulated Annealing

Genetic Algorithm

# Meta-heuristics Techniques

Random Search

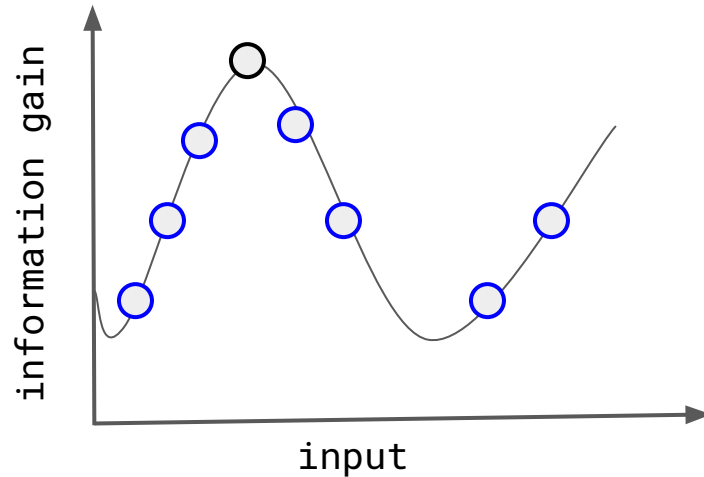
Simulated Annealing

Genetic Algorithm

- We implement and experiment these popular meta-heuristics techniques as
  - black box optimization procedures that
    - make repeated calls to ABC
    - to evaluate the information gain objective function

# Random Search

Calculate information gain for random candidate inputs

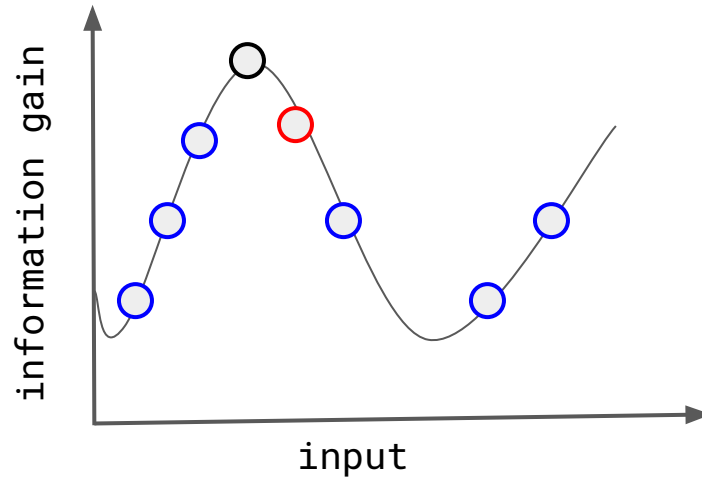




# Random Search

Calculate information gain for random candidate inputs

Select candidate input with maximum information gain

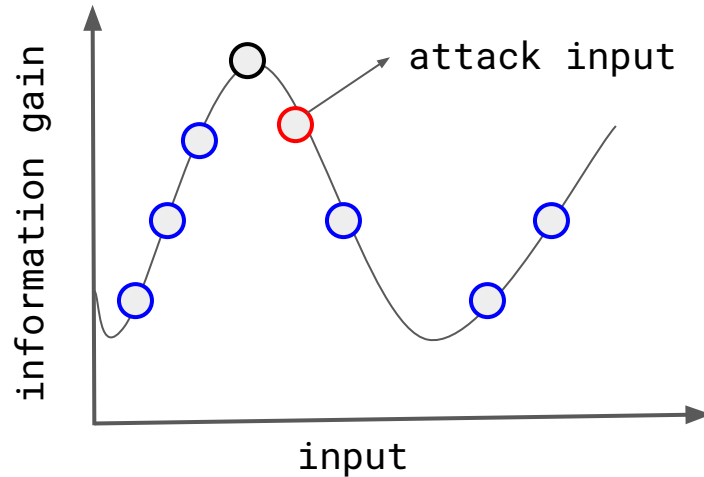


# Random Search

Calculate information gain for random candidate inputs

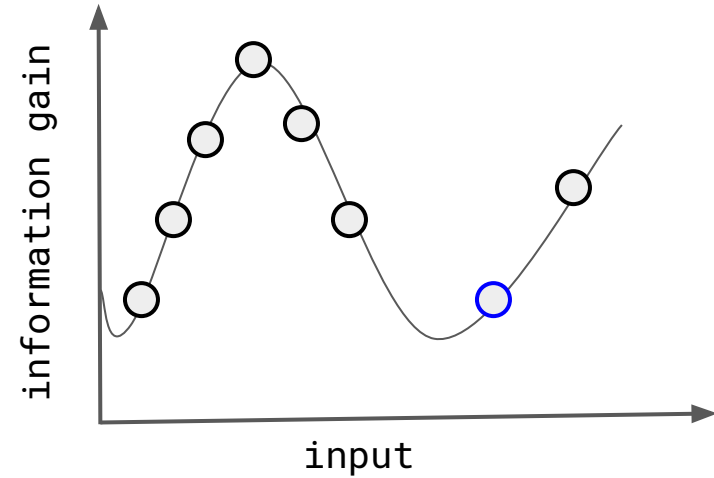
Select candidate input with maximum information gain

Use the candidate as next attack input



# Simulated Annealing

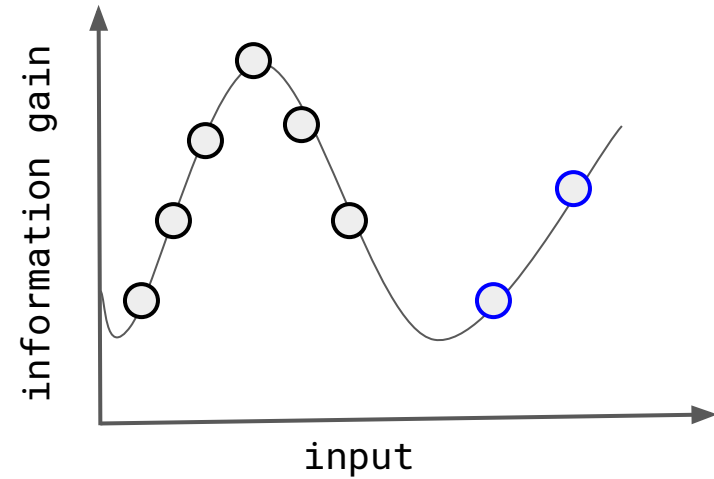
information gain for first candidate  
input



# Simulated Annealing

information gain for first candidate  
input

information gain for new candidate input





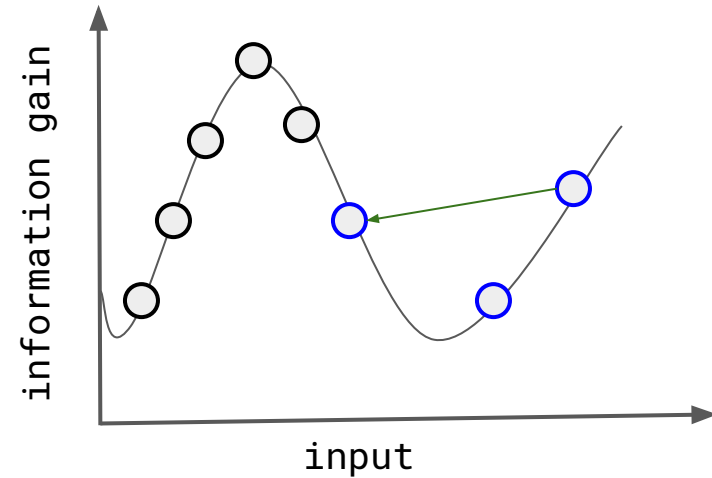
# Simulated Annealing

information gain for first candidate  
input

information gain for new candidate input

better information gain  $\Rightarrow$  select as  
attack input

less information gain  $\Rightarrow$  select with an  
acceptance probability



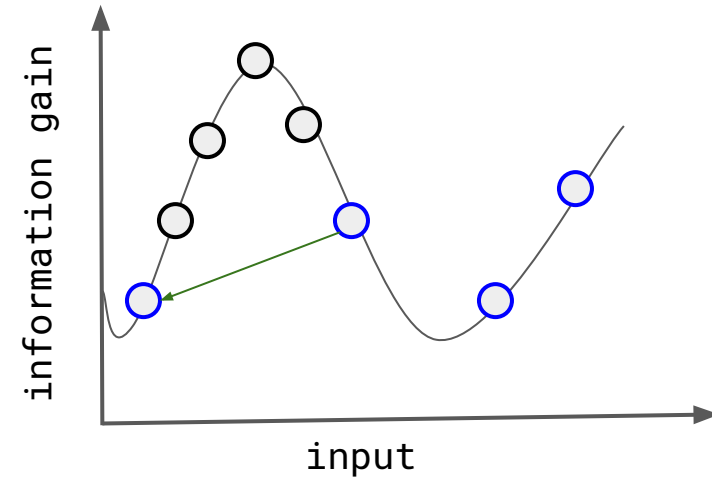
# Simulated Annealing

information gain for first candidate  
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# Simulated Annealing

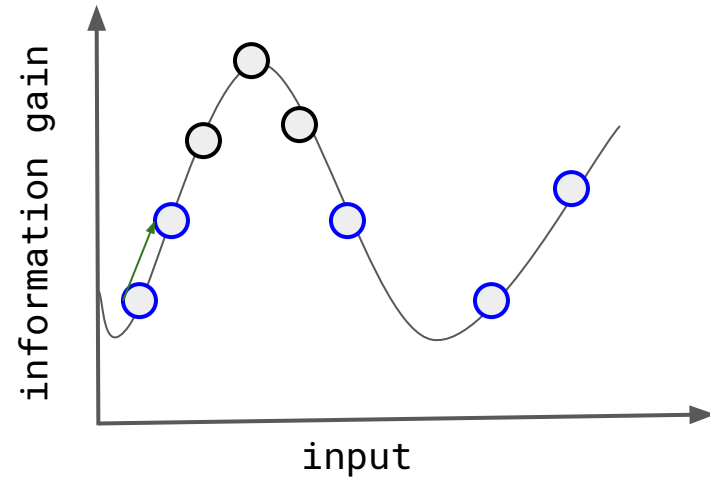
information gain for first candidate  
input

information gain for new candidate input

better information gain  $\Rightarrow$  select as  
attack input

less information gain  $\Rightarrow$  select with an  
acceptance probability

reduce acceptance probability as  
temperature cools down





# Simulated Annealing

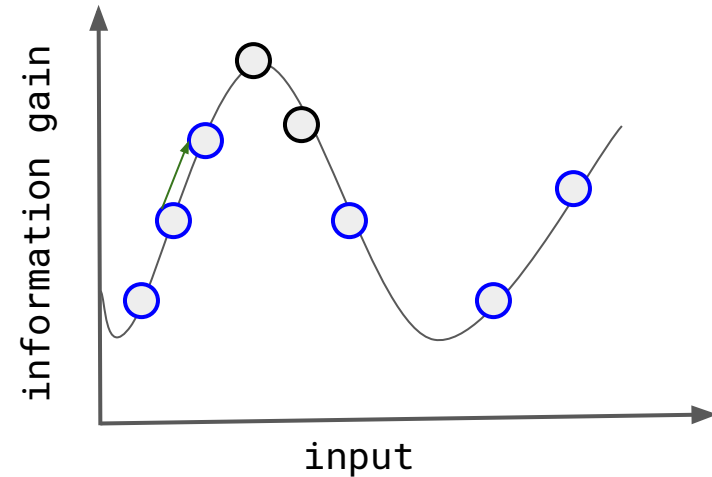
information gain for first candidate  
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information gain for new candidate input

better information gain  $\Rightarrow$  select as  
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less information gain  $\Rightarrow$  select with an  
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Reduce acceptance probability as  
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# Simulated Annealing

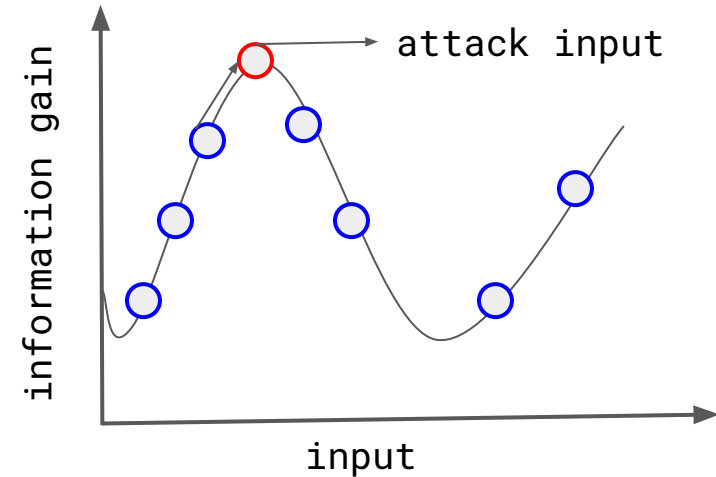
information gain for first candidate  
input

information gain for new candidate input

better information gain  $\Rightarrow$  select as  
attack input

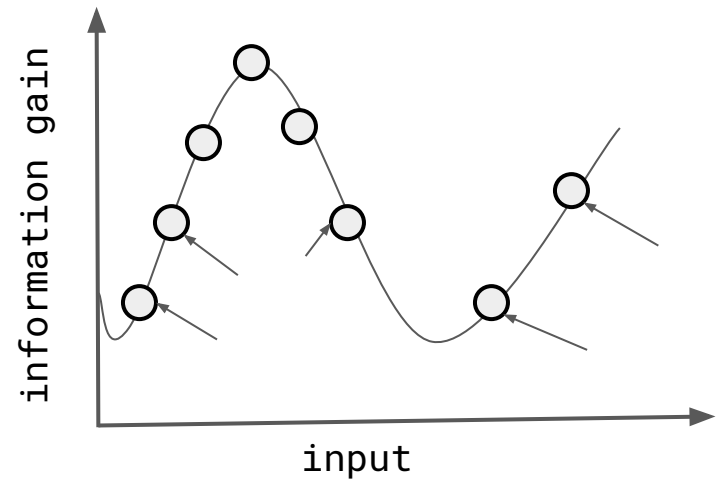
less information gain  $\Rightarrow$  select with an  
acceptance probability

Reduce acceptance probability as  
temperature cools down



# Genetic Algorithm

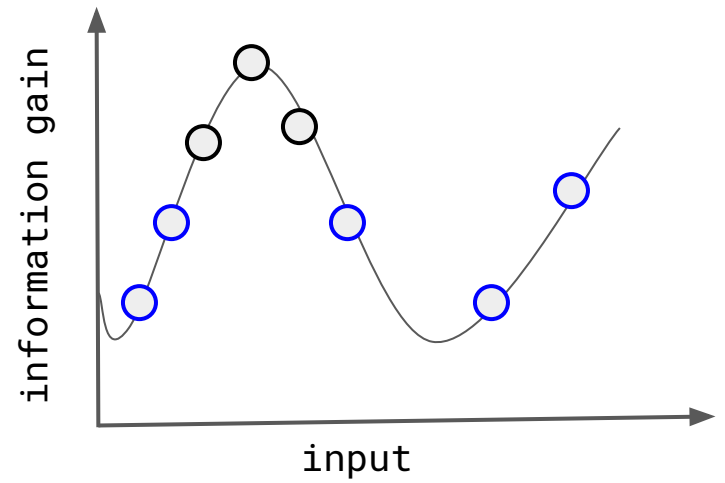
Population of candidate inputs



# Genetic Algorithm

Population of candidate inputs

fitness (information gain) of  
these candidates

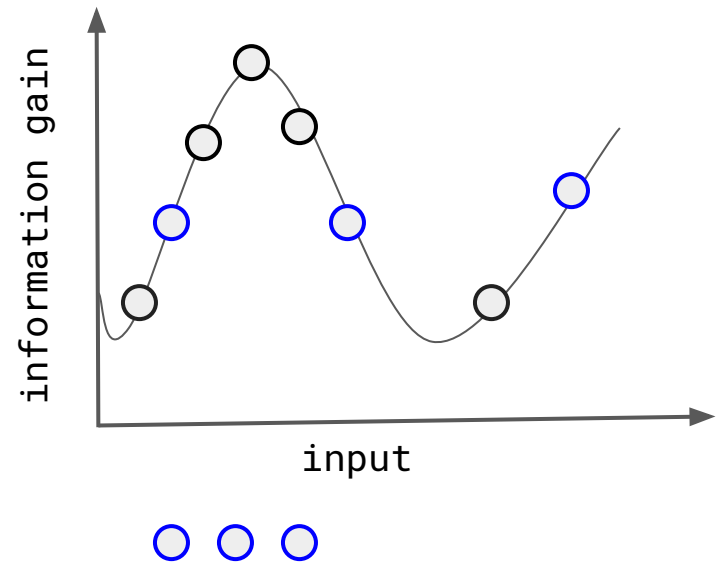


# Genetic Algorithm

Population of candidate inputs

fitness (information gain) of  
these candidates

Select top candidates



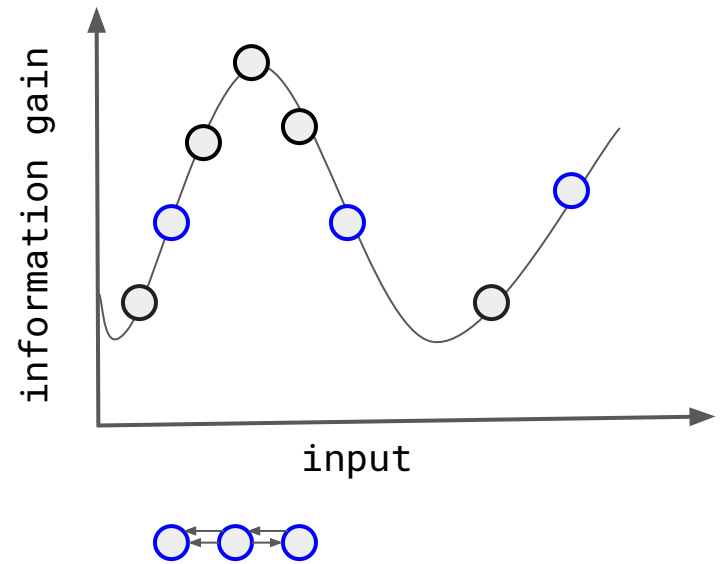
# Genetic Algorithm

Population of candidate inputs

fitness (information gain) of  
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Select top candidates

Mutate and crossover



# Genetic Algorithm

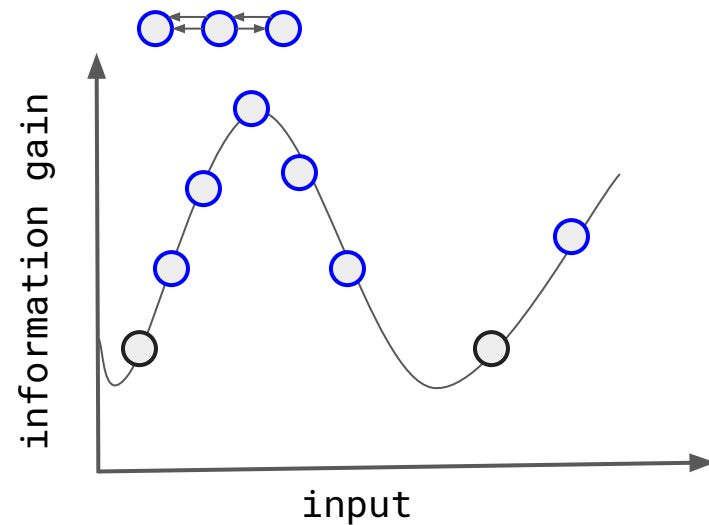
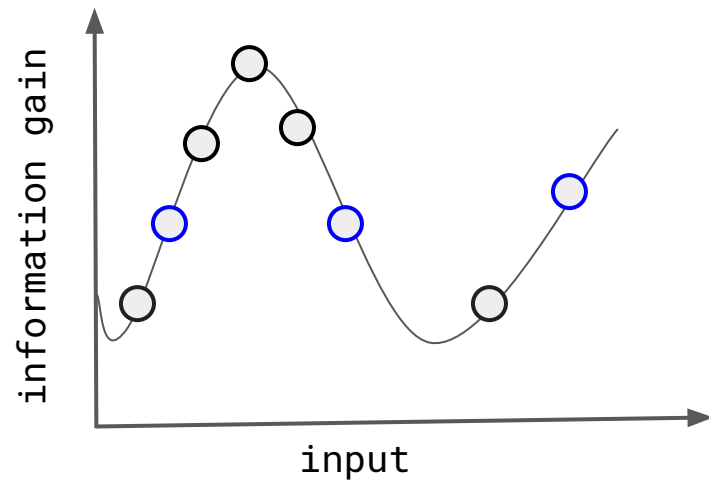
Population of candidate inputs

fitness (information gain) of these candidates

Select top candidates

Mutate and crossover

Update population



# Genetic Algorithm

Population of candidate inputs

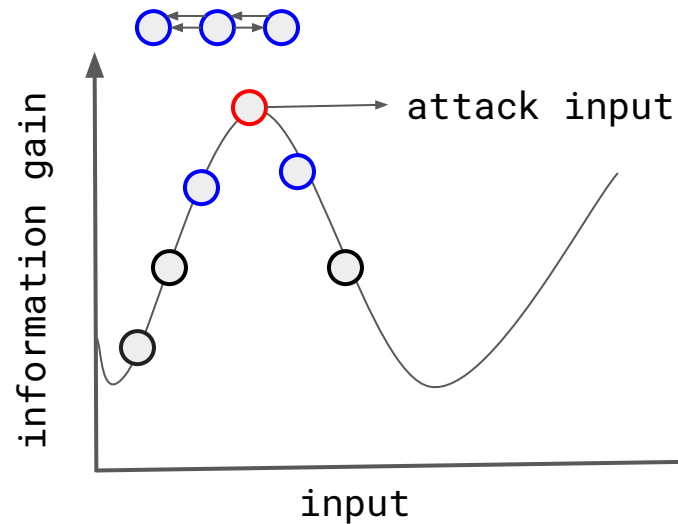
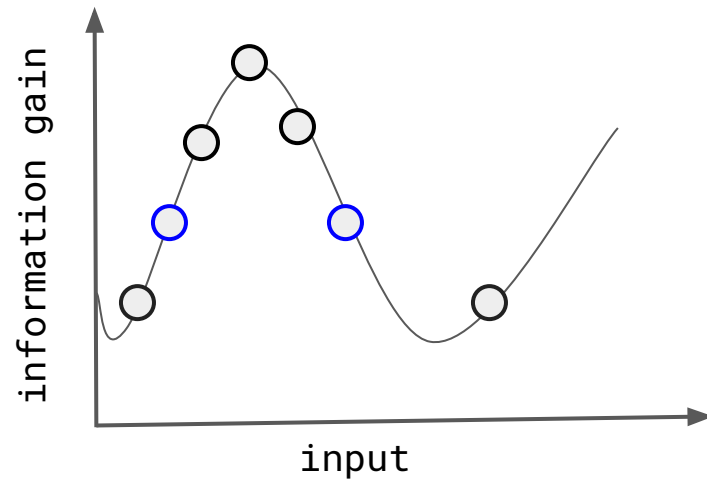
fitness (information gain) of these candidates

Select top candidates

Mutate and crossover

Update population

Select top candidate from population as attack input ( $l^*$ )





# Experimental Results

# Experimental Benchmark

Benchmark	ID	Operations	Low Length	High Length	$ \Phi $	$ \Psi $
passCheckInsec	PCI	charAt,length	4	4	5	5
passCheckSec	PCS	charAt,length	4	4	5	1
stringEquals	SE	charAt,length	4	4	9	9
stringInequality	SI	$<,\geq$	4	4	2	2
stringCharInequality	SCI	charAt,length, $<,\geq$	4	4	80	2
indexOf	IO	charAt,length	1	8	9	9
compress	CO	begins,substring,length	4	4	5	5
editDistance	ED	charAt,length	4	4	2170	22

# Experimental Benchmark

Benchmark	ID	Operations	Low Length	High Length	$ \Phi $	$ \Psi $
passCheckInsec	PCI	charAt,length	4	4	5	5
passCheckSec	PCS	charAt,length	4	4	5	1
stringEquals	SE	charAt,length	4	4	9	9
stringInequality	SI	$<,\geq$	4	4	2	2
stringCharInequality	SCI	charAt,length, $<,\geq$	4	4	80	2
indexOf	IO	charAt,length	1	8	9	9
compress	CO	begins,substring,length	4	4	5	5
editDistance	ED	charAt,length	4	4	2170	22

# Experimental Benchmark

Benchmark	ID	Operations	Low Length	High Length	$ \Phi $	$ \Psi $
passCheckInsec	PCI	charAt,length	4	4	5	5
passCheckSec	PCS	charAt,length	4	4	5	1
stringEquals	SE	charAt,length	4	4	9	9
stringInequality	SI	$<,\geq$	4	4	2	2
stringCharInequality	SCI	charAt,length, $<,\geq$	4	4	80	2
indexOf	IO	charAt,length	1	8	9	9
compress	CO	begins,substring,length	4	4	5	5
editDistance	ED	charAt,length	4	4	2170	22

# Experimental Benchmark

Benchmark	ID	Operations	Low Length	High Length	$ \Phi $	$ \Psi $
passCheckInsec	PCI	charAt,length	4	4	5	5
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stringEquals	SE	charAt,length	4	4	9	9
stringInequality	SI	$<,\geq$	4	4	2	2
stringCharInequality	SCI	charAt,length, $<,\geq$	4	4	80	2
indexOf	IO	charAt,length	1	8	9	9
compress	CO	begins,substring,length	4	4	5	5
editDistance	ED	charAt,length	4	4	2170	22

Number of path constraints

Number of merged path constraints

# Experimental Benchmark

Benchmark	ID	Operations	Low Length	High Length	$ \Phi $	$ \Psi $
passCheckInsec	PCI	charAt,length	4	4	5	5
passCheckSec	PCS	charAt,length	4	4	5	1
stringEquals	SE	charAt,length	4	4	9	9
stringInequality	SI	$<,\geq$	4	4	2	2
stringCharInequality	SCI	charAt,length, $<,\geq$	4	4	80	2
indexOf	IO	charAt,length	1	8	9	9
compress	CO	begins,substring,length	4	4	5	5
editDistance	ED	charAt,length	4	4	2170	22

Number of path constraints

Number of merged path constraints

# Experimental Benchmark

Benchmark	ID	Operations	Low Length	High Length	$ \Phi $	$ \Psi $
passCheckInsec	PCI	charAt,length	4	4	5	5
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stringEquals	SE	charAt,length	4	4	9	9
stringInequality	SI	$<,\geq$	4	4	2	2
stringCharInequality	SCI	charAt,length, $<,\geq$	4	4	80	2
indexOf	IO	charAt,length	1	8	9	9
compress	CO	begins,substring,length	4	4	5	5
editDistance	ED	charAt,length	4	4	2170	22

Number of path constraints

Number of merged path constraints

# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	5.7	8.4	8.5
PCS	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	118.0	41.4	33.2	38.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8
SE	18.8	Time (s)	22.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	62.2	42.6	25.3	30.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	6.1	11.1	8.4
SI	18.8	Time (s)	6.1	78.3	268.2	218.5
		Steps	38.2	18.6	17.5	18.2
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SCI	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	34.6	4.0	2.0	2.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.9	16.2	17.7	17.5
IO	37.6	Time (s)	29.1	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	26.0	18.0	9.5	11.4
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	1.0	8.7	16.6	20.1
CO	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	734.0	147.0	83.0	97.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	13.48	9.2	10.3	9.1
ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

Initial uncertainty of secret input (in bits)

Number of alphabets = 26

Length of secret = 4

Domain size of h =  $26^4 = 456976$

Initial uncertainty =  $\log_2(456976) = 18.8$



# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	5.7	8.4	8.5
PCS	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	118.0	41.4	33.2	38.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8
SE	18.8	Time (s)	22.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	62.2	42.6	25.3	30.8
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SCI	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	34.6	4.0	2.0	2.0
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		Steps	734.0	147.0	83.0	97.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	13.48	9.2	10.3	9.1
ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

Metrics:

- Time (in seconds)
- Number of attack steps
- Remaining Uncertainty

Remaining Uncertainty =  
Initial uncertainty - information gain

# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	5.7	8.4	8.5
PCS	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	118.0	41.4	33.2	38.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8
SE	18.8	Time (s)	22.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	62.2	42.6	25.3	30.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	6.1	11.1	8.4
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		Steps	38.2	18.6	17.5	18.2
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SCI	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	34.6	4.0	2.0	2.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.9	16.2	17.7	17.5
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		Steps	26.0	18.0	9.5	11.4
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CO	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	734.0	147.0	83.0	97.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	13.48	9.2	10.3	9.1
ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

Techniques:

- Model Based
- Random search
- Simulated Annealing
- Genetic Algorithm

# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
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SCI	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
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		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	13.48	9.2	10.3	9.1
ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

Model Based:

- Shorter execution time per attack step
- More attack steps

# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	5.7	8.4	8.5
PCS	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	118.0	41.4	33.2	38.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8
SE	18.8	Time (s)	22.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	62.2	42.6	25.3	30.8
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ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

Simulated Annealing:

- Longer execution time per attack step
- Less attack steps

# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	5.7	8.4	8.5
PCS	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	118.0	41.4	33.2	38.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8
SE	18.8	Time (s)	22.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	62.2	42.6	25.3	30.8
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SCI	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
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		Steps	734.0	147.0	83.0	97.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	13.48	9.2	10.3	9.1
ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

Password Check Insecure:

- 1 hour timeout
- 5 observationally distinguishable path
- Better information leakage

# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	5.7	8.4	8.5
PCS	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	118.0	41.4	33.2	38.0
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SE	18.8	Time (s)	22.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
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		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SCI	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	34.6	4.0	2.0	2.0
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		Steps	734.0	147.0	83.0	97.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	13.48	9.2	10.3	9.1
ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

Password Check Secure:

- 1 hour timeout
- 1 observationally distinguishable path
- Hardly leaks information
- Attack becomes exhaustive

# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	5.7	8.4	8.5
PCS	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	118.0	41.4	33.2	38.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8
SE	18.8	Time (s)	22.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	62.2	42.6	25.3	30.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	6.1	11.1	8.4
SI	18.8	Time (s)	6.1	78.3	268.2	218.5
		Steps	38.2	18.6	17.5	18.2
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SCI	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	34.6	4.0	2.0	2.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.9	16.2	17.7	17.5
IO	37.6	Time (s)	29.1	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	26.0	18.0	9.5	11.4
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	1.0	8.7	16.6	20.1
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		Steps	734.0	147.0	83.0	97.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	13.48	9.2	10.3	9.1
ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

String Char Inequality:

- 1 hour timeout
- 80 path constraints
- 2 observationally distinguishable path
- Information leakage rate is slower

# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	5.7	8.4	8.5
PCS	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	118.0	41.4	33.2	38.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8
SE	18.8	Time (s)	22.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	62.2	42.6	25.3	30.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	6.1	11.1	8.4
SI	18.8	Time (s)	6.1	78.3	268.2	218.5
		Steps	38.2	18.6	17.5	18.2
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SCI	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	34.6	4.0	2.0	2.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.9	16.2	17.7	17.5
IO	37.6	Time (s)	29.1	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	26.0	18.0	9.5	11.4
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	1.0	8.7	16.6	20.1
CO	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	734.0	147.0	83.0	97.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	13.48	9.2	10.3	9.1
ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

String Edit Distance:

- 1 hour timeout
- 2170 path constraints
- 22 observationally distinguishable path
- Information leakage rate is slower



# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	5.7	8.4	8.5
PCS	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	118.0	41.4	33.2	38.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8
SE	18.8	Time (s)	22.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	62.2	42.6	25.3	30.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	6.1	11.1	8.4
SI	18.8	Time (s)	6.1	78.3	268.2	218.5
		Steps	38.2	18.6	17.5	18.2
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SCI	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	34.6	4.0	2.0	2.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.9	16.2	17.7	17.5
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CO	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	734.0	147.0	83.0	97.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	13.48	9.2	10.3	9.1
ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

- Faster execution time per attack step than Simulated Annealing
- Need more attack steps than Simulated annealing

Reason:  
Random search leads to less optimal input

# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	5.7	8.4	8.5
PCS	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	118.0	41.4	33.2	38.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8
SE	18.8	Time (s)	22.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	62.2	42.6	25.3	30.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	6.1	11.1	8.4
SI	18.8	Time (s)	6.1	78.3	268.2	218.5
		Steps	38.2	18.6	17.5	18.2
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SCI	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	34.6	4.0	2.0	2.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.9	16.2	17.7	17.5
IO	37.6	Time (s)	29.1	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	26.0	18.0	9.5	11.4
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	1.0	8.7	16.6	20.1
CO	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	734.0	147.0	83.0	97.8
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	13.48	9.2	10.3	9.1
ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

- Faster than Simulated Annealing but
- Need more attack steps than Simulated annealing

Reason:  
Mutation and crossover leads to non-restricted model

# Experimental Results

ID	$\mathcal{H}_{init}$	Metrics	M	RA	SA	GA
PCI	18.8	Time (s)	15.9	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	54.2	39.4	34.5	41.5
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	0.0	5.7	8.4	8.5
PCS	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
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		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	13.48	9.2	10.3	9.1
ED	18.8	Time (s)	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0	3600.0
		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

- Meta-heuristics does not perform better than model based when
  - Every input in a particular attack step leaks same amount of information

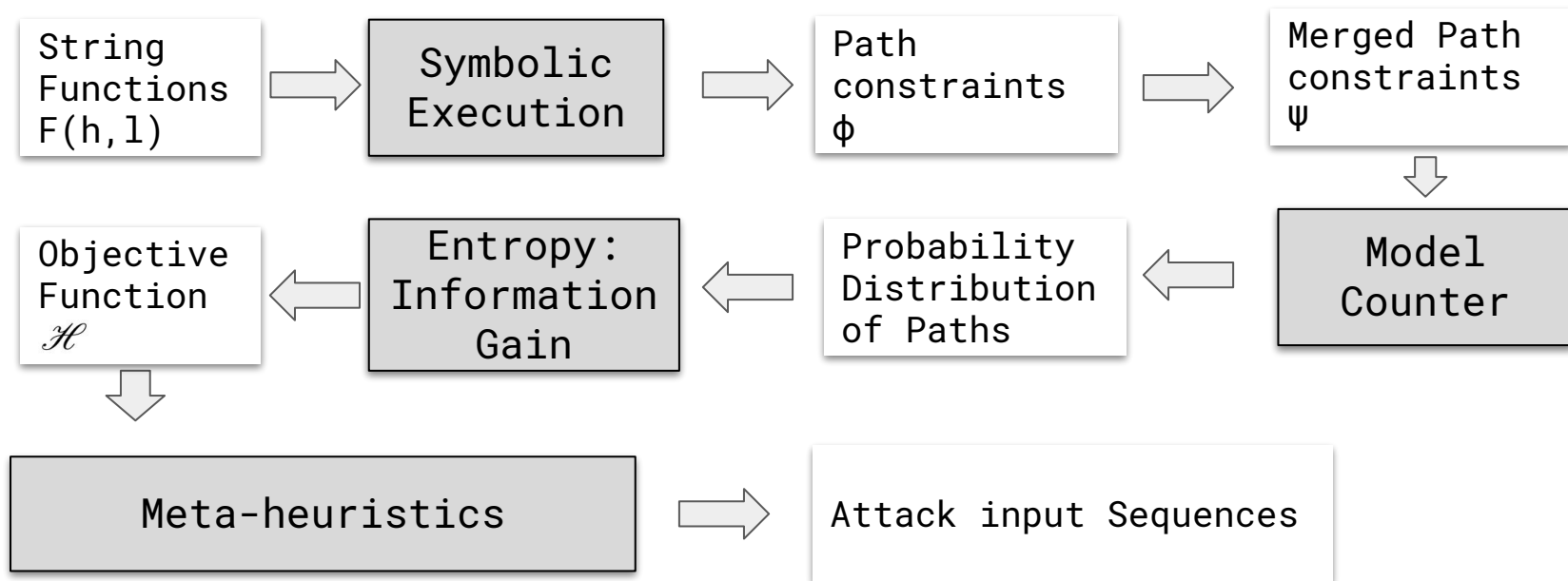
For example: Password Check Insecure

# Experimental Results

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		Steps	27.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
		$\mathcal{H}_{final}$	12.6	17.8	17.8	17.8

- Model based attack:
  - simpler and faster execution of attack step
  - needs more attack step
- Meta-heuristics technique:
  - slower
  - need less attack step
- Simulated annealing:
  - performs better to leak information per attack step

# Attack Synthesis for Strings using Meta-heuristics



**Thank You**