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The Impact of Equivalent, Redundant and Quasi Mutants on Database Schema Mutation Analysis

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Database Schema

Database Schema

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2     A CHAR, B CHAR, C CHAR,  
3     CONSTRAINT UniqueOnColsAandB UNIQUE (A, B)  
4 );  
5  
6 CREATE TABLE S (  
7     X CHAR, Y CHAR, Z CHAR,  
8     CONSTRAINT RefToColsAandB FOREIGN KEY (X, Y)  
9     REFERENCES T (A, B)  
10 );
```

Database Schema

Tables

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2     A CHAR, B CHAR, C CHAR,  
3     CONSTRAINT UniqueOnColsAandB UNIQUE (A, B)  
4 );
```

```
5  
6 CREATE TABLE S (  
7     X CHAR, Y CHAR, Z CHAR,  
8     CONSTRAINT RefToColsAandB FOREIGN KEY (X, Y)  
9     REFERENCES T (A, B)  
10 );
```

Database Schema

Columns

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2     A CHAR, B CHAR, C CHAR,  
3     CONSTRAINT UniqueOnColsAandB UNIQUE (A, B)  
4 );  
5  
6 CREATE TABLE S (  
7     X CHAR, Y CHAR, Z CHAR,  
8     CONSTRAINT RefToColsAandB FOREIGN KEY (X, Y)  
9     REFERENCES T (A, B)  
10 );
```

Database Schema

Constraints

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2     A CHAR, B CHAR, C CHAR,  
3     CONSTRAINT UniqueOnColsAandB UNIQUE (A, B)  
4 );  
5  
6 CREATE TABLE S (  
7     X CHAR, Y CHAR, Z CHAR,  
8     CONSTRAINT RefToColsAandB FOREIGN KEY (X, Y)  
9     REFERENCES T (A, B)  
10 );
```

Why Test a Database Schema?

Why Test a Database Schema?

Database Schema

Why Test a Database Schema?



Database Schema

The diagram consists of two rectangular boxes. The top box is orange and contains the text 'Database Schema'. The bottom box is light blue and contains the text 'DBMS'. The boxes are positioned vertically, with the orange box above the light blue box.

DBMS

Why Test a Database Schema?

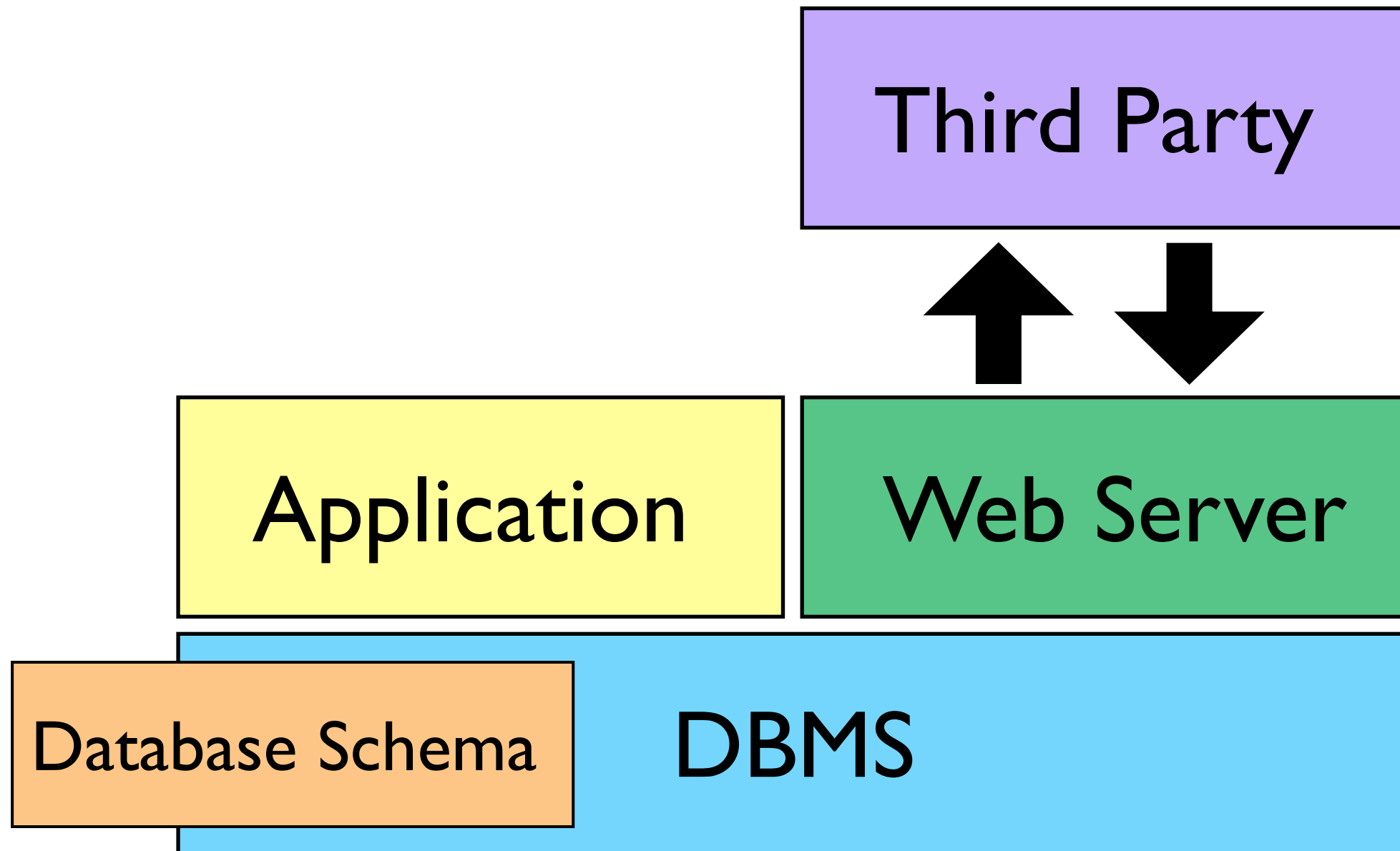


Database Schema

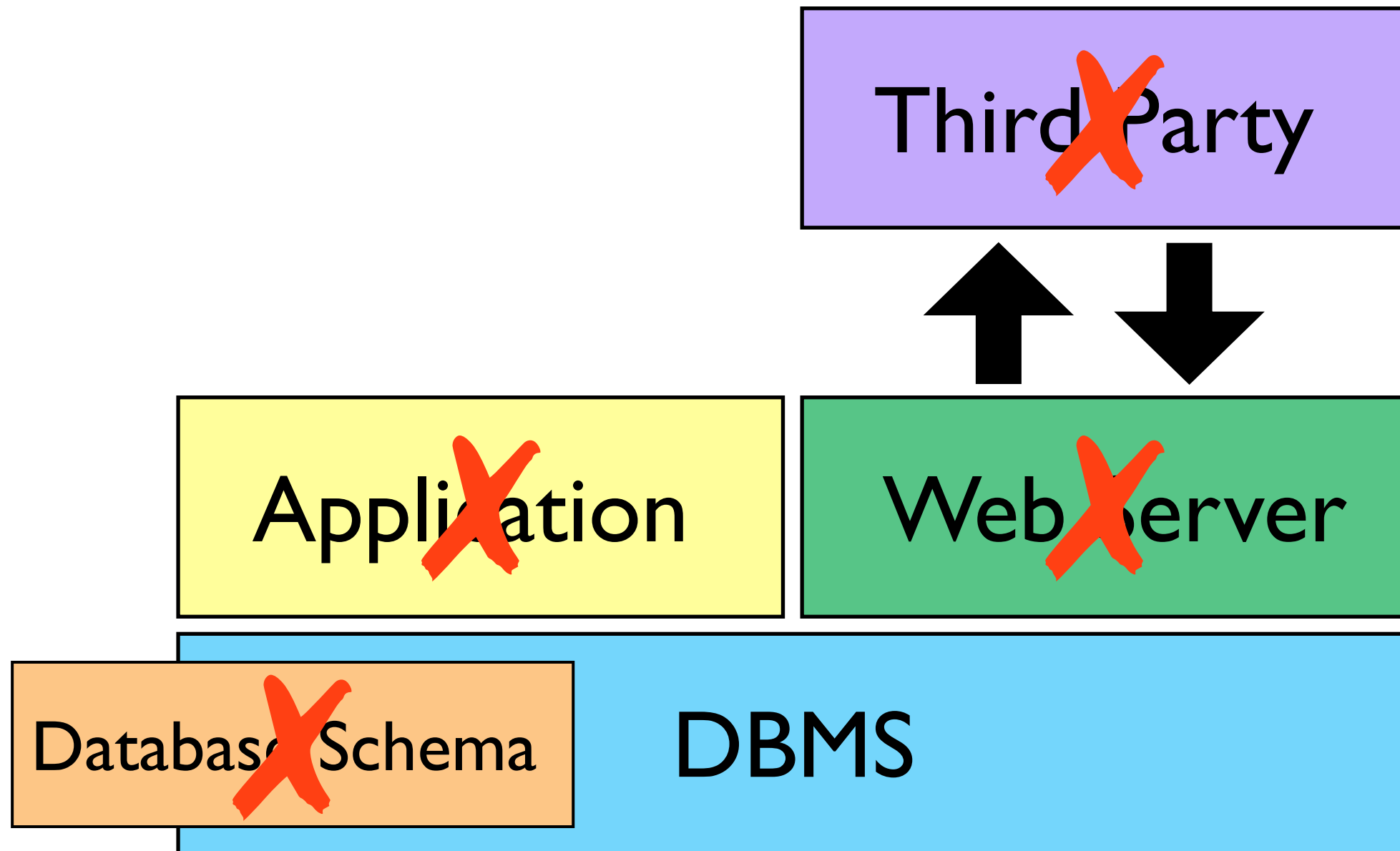
The diagram consists of two overlapping rectangular boxes. The left box is orange and contains the text 'Database Schema'. The right box is light blue and contains the text 'DBMS'. The light blue box is positioned behind the orange box, and they overlap horizontally.

DBMS

Why Test a Database Schema?



Why Test a Database Schema?



How to Test a Database Schema

How to Test a Database Schema

- Generate test data – SQL **INSERT** statements

How to Test a Database Schema

- Generate test data – SQL **INSERT** statements

```
INSERT INTO T(a, b)  
VALUES ('a', 'b');
```

How to Test a Database Schema

- Generate test data – SQL **INSERT** statements

```
INSERT INTO T(a, b)  
VALUES ('a', 'b');
```

How to Test a Database Schema

- Generate test data – SQL
- Execute the data against the database

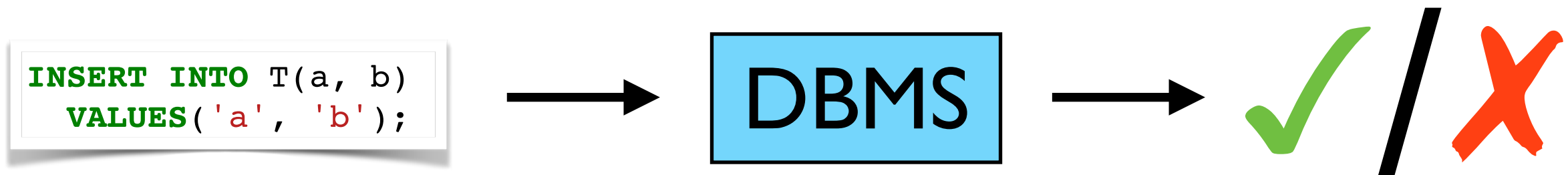
```
INSERT INTO T(a, b)  
VALUES ('a', 'b');
```



DBMS

How to Test a Database Schema

- Generate test data – SQL
- Execute the data against the database
- Examine the acceptance of statements



Mutation Analysis

Mutation Analysis

Application

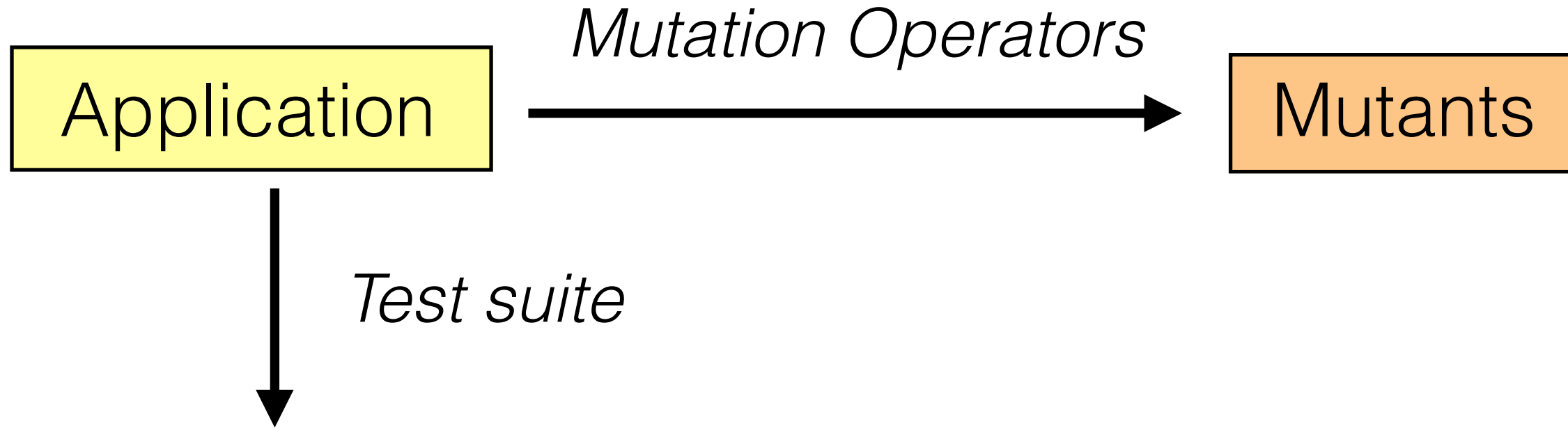
Mutation Analysis



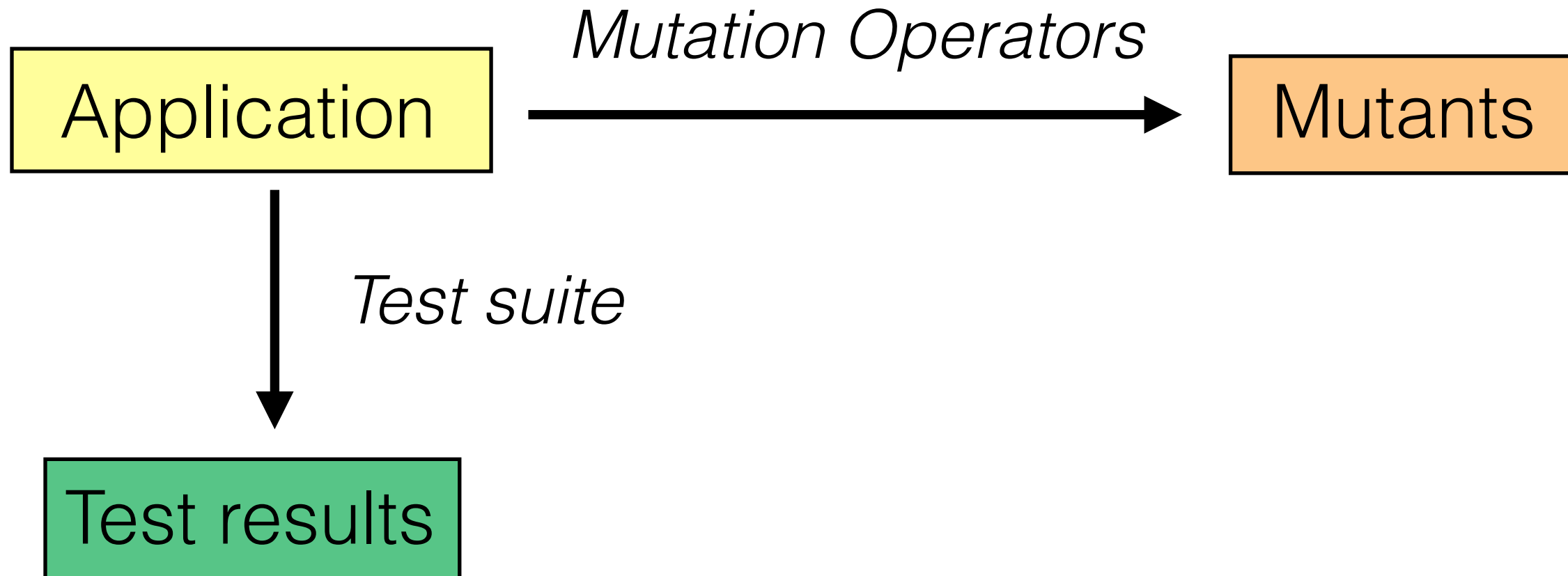
Mutation Analysis



Mutation Analysis



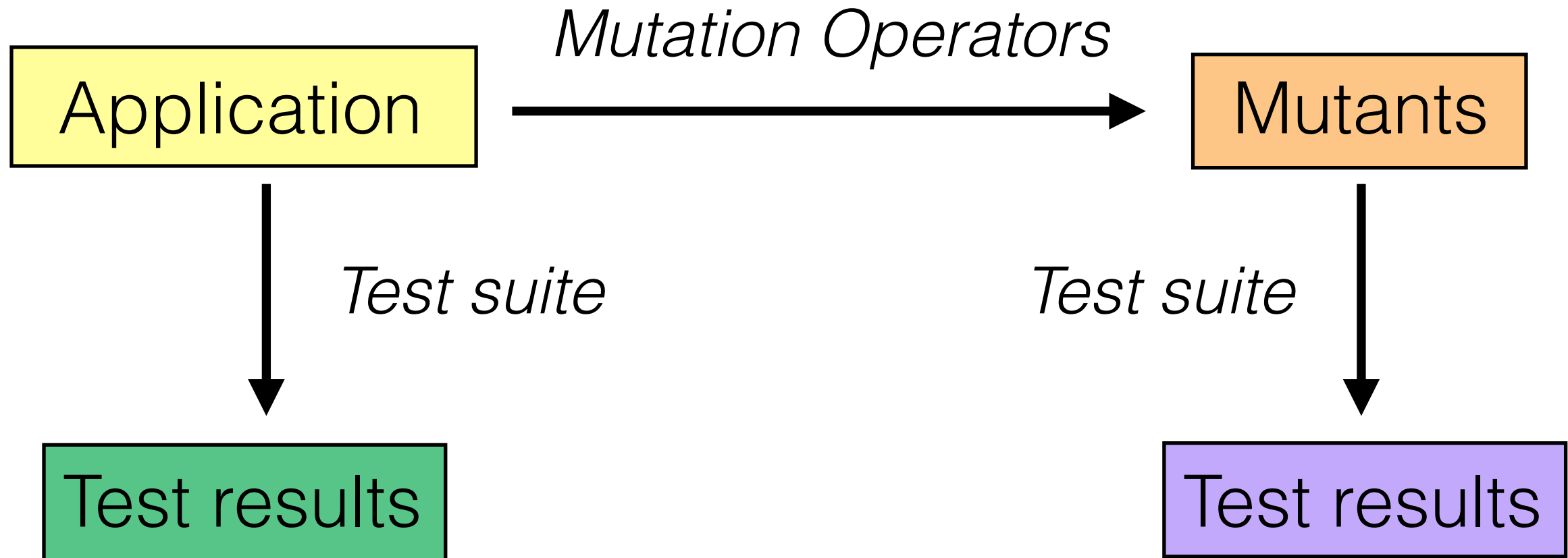
Mutation Analysis



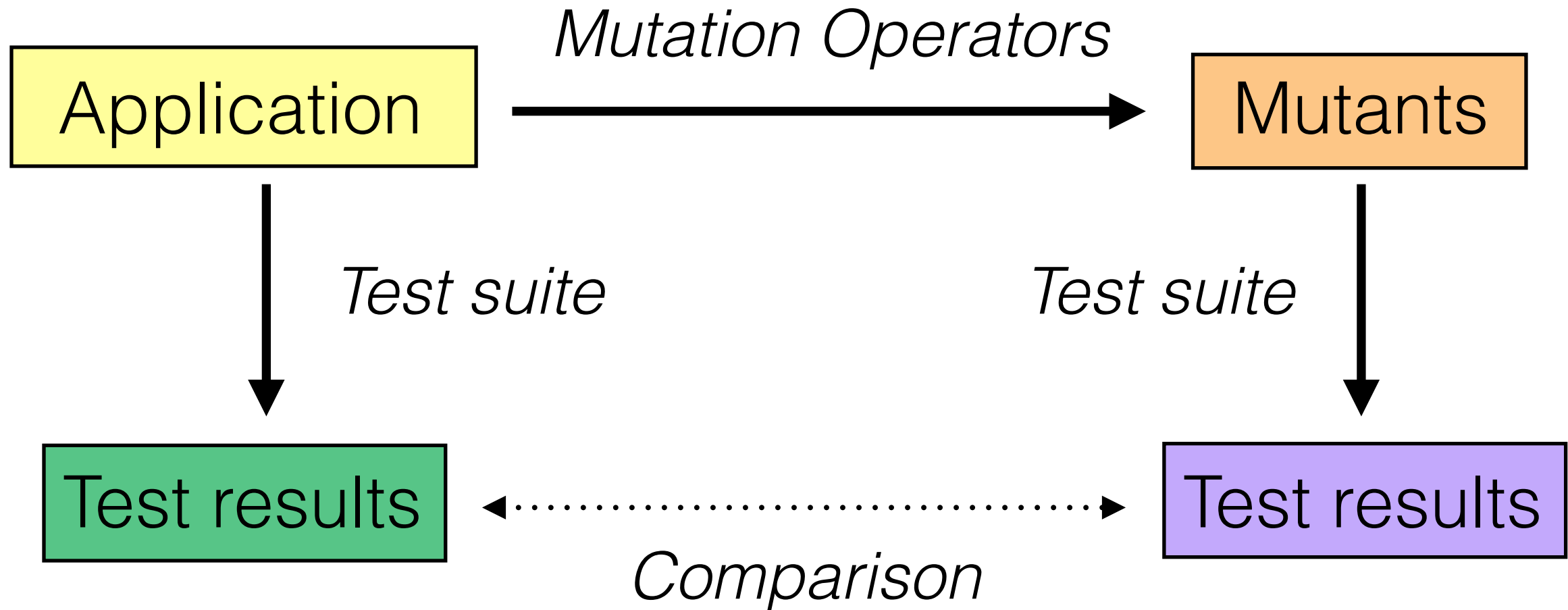
Mutation Analysis



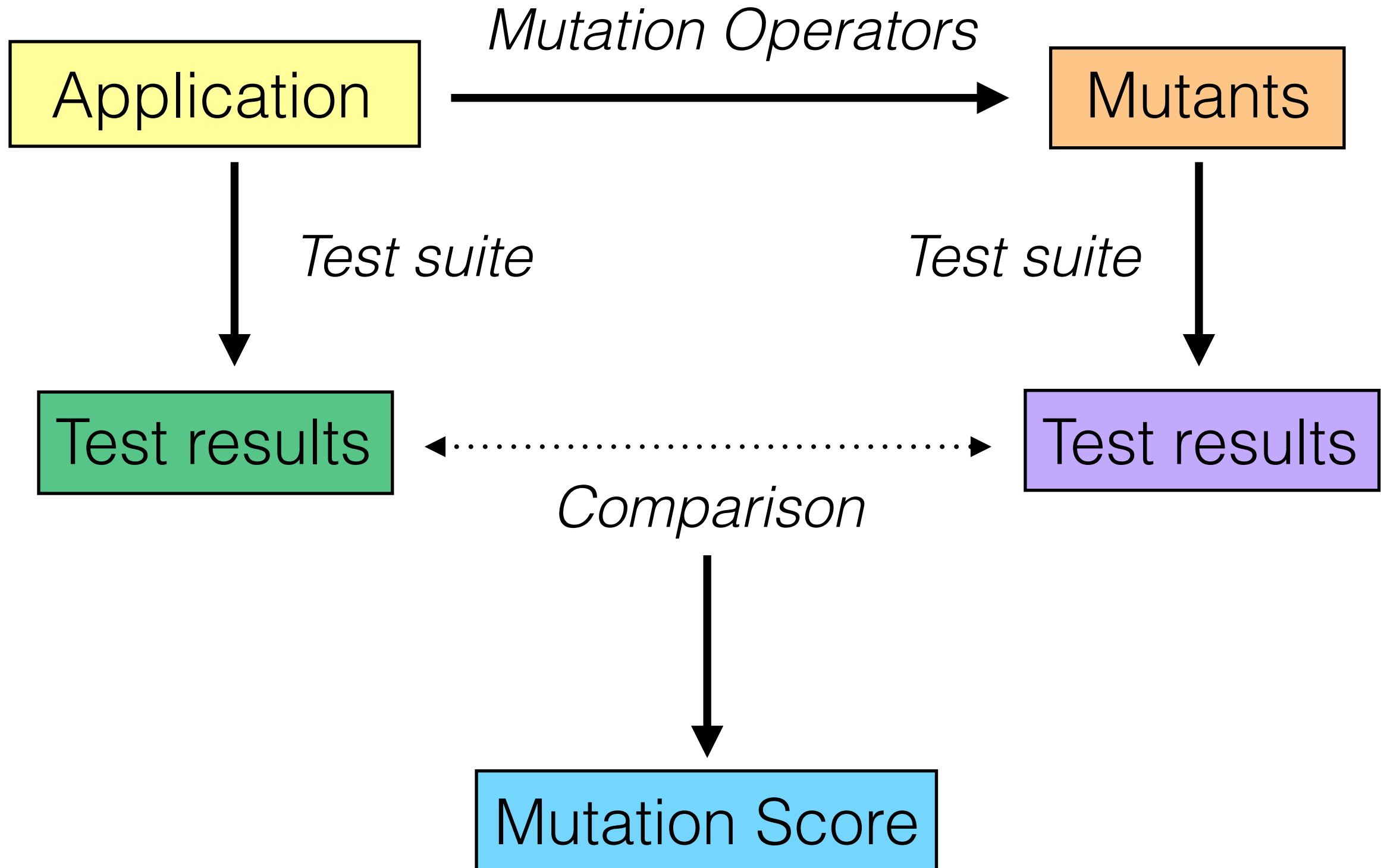
Mutation Analysis



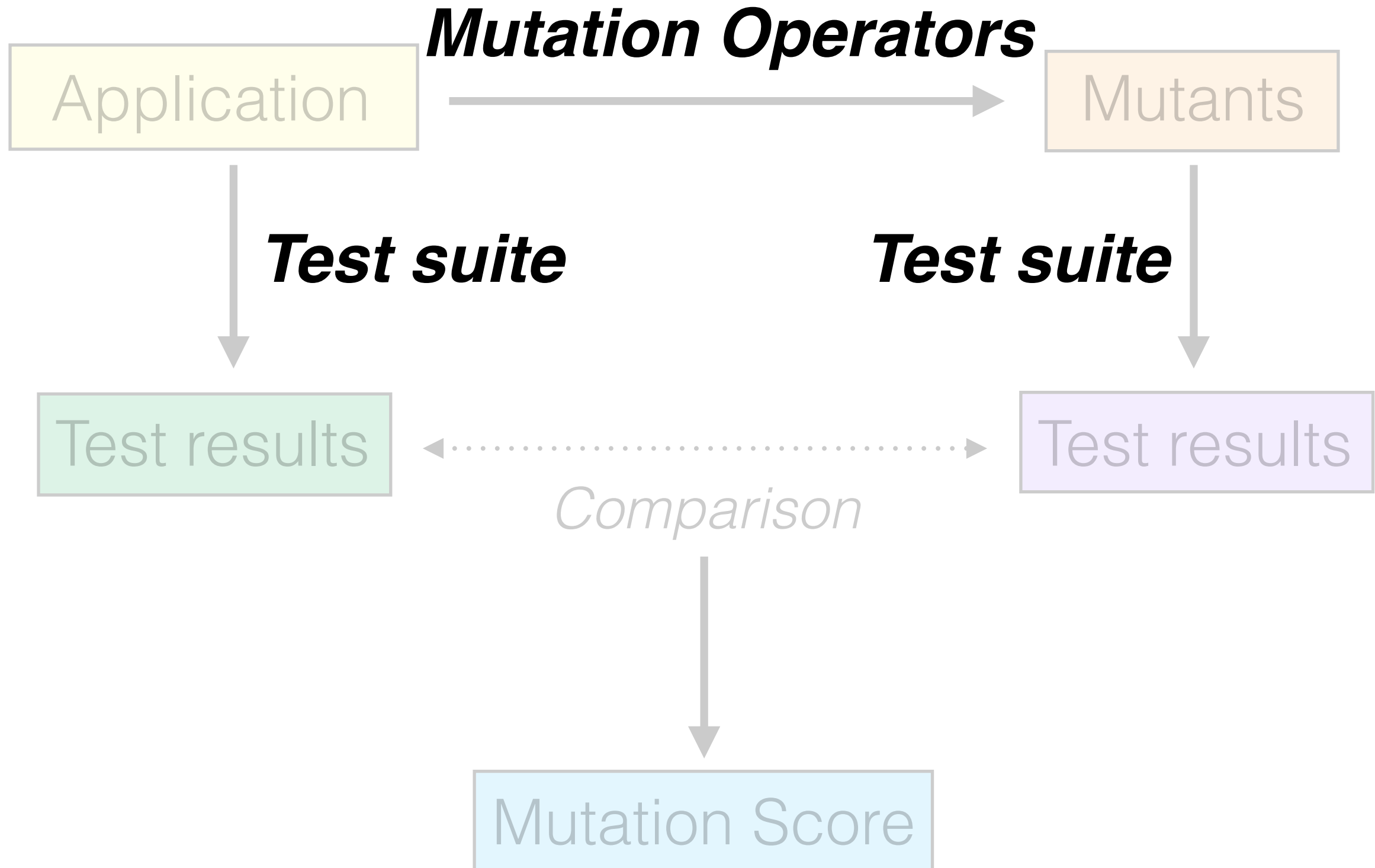
Mutation Analysis



Mutation Analysis



Mutation Analysis



Database Schema Mutation Operators

Database Schema Mutation Operators

Primary Key

Foreign Key

Unique

Not Null

Check

Database Schema Mutation Operators

Primary Key

Foreign Key

Unique

Not Null

Check

×

Database Schema Mutation Operators

Primary Key

Foreign Key

Unique

Not Null

Check

×

Column Addition

Database Schema Mutation Operators

Primary Key

Foreign Key

Unique

Not Null

Check

×

Column Addition

Column Removal

Database Schema Mutation Operators

Primary Key

Foreign Key

Unique

Not Null

Check

×

Column Addition

Column Removal

Column Exchange

Database Schema Mutation Operators

Database Schema Mutation Operators

Primary Key Column Addition

Database Schema Mutation Operators

Primary Key Column Addition

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR, B CHAR,  
3   PRIMARY KEY (A)  
4 );
```

Database Schema Mutation Operators

Primary Key Column Addition

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR, B CHAR,  
3   PRIMARY KEY (A)  
4 );
```



```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR, B CHAR,  
3   PRIMARY KEY (A, B)  
4 );
```

Database Schema Mutation Operators

Primary Key Column Exchange

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR, B CHAR,  
3   PRIMARY KEY (A)  
4 );
```



```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR, B CHAR,  
3   PRIMARY KEY (B)  
4 );
```

Database Schema Mutation Operators

Primary Key Column Removal

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR, B CHAR,  
3   PRIMARY KEY (A)  
4 );
```



```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR, B CHAR,  
3  
4 );
```

Mutation Analysis – Challenges

Mutation Analysis – Challenges

- Special classes of mutants

Mutation Analysis – Challenges

- Special classes of mutants
 - Equivalent

Mutation Analysis – Challenges

- Special classes of mutants
 - Equivalent
 - Redundant

Mutation Analysis – Challenges

- Special classes of mutants
 - Equivalent
 - Redundant
 - Quasi-mutants

Mutation Analysis – Challenges

- Special classes of mutants
 - Equivalent
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Equivalent Mutants

Equivalent Mutants

- Functionally identical to non-mutant

Equivalent Mutants

- Functionally identical to non-mutant
- ...but syntactically different

Equivalent Mutants

- Functionally identical to non-mutant
- ...but syntactically different
- Cannot be 'killed'

Equivalent Mutants

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- ...but syntactically different
- Cannot be 'killed'
- Artificially decrease mutation score

Equivalent Mutants

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Equivalent Mutants

Equivalent Mutants

Original:

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2     A CHAR,  
3     PRIMARY KEY (A)  
4 );
```

Equivalent Mutants

Original:

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2     A CHAR,  
3     PRIMARY KEY (A)  
4 );
```

Mutant:

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2     A CHAR NOT NULL,  
3     PRIMARY KEY (A)  
4 );
```

Redundant Mutants

Redundant Mutants

- Functionally identical to **another mutant**

Redundant Mutants

- Functionally identical to
- ...but syntactically different

Redundant Mutants

- Functionally identical to
- ...but syntactically different
- May be 'killed'

Redundant Mutants

- Functionally identical to
- ...but syntactically different
- May be 'killed'
- Artificially alters mutation score

Redundant Mutants

- Functionally identical to
- ...but syntactically different
- May be 'killed'
- Artificially alters mutation score
- Reduces efficiency

Redundant Mutants

- Functionally identical to
- ...but syntactically different
- May be 'killed'
- Artificially alters mutation score
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Types of Equivalence

Types of Equivalence

- Structural

Types of Equivalence

- Structural
 - Functionally irrelevant syntactic differences

Types of Equivalence

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Types of Equivalence

- Structural
 - Functionally irrelevant syntactic differences
- Behavioural

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 - Functionally irrelevant syntactic differences
- Behavioural
 - Overlap within SQL features

Types of Equivalence

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 - Functionally irrelevant syntactic differences
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 - Overlap within SQL features

Behavioural Equivalence Patterns

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- **NOT NULL** in **CHECK** constraints
- **NOT NULL** \cong **CHECK (... IS NOT NULL)**

Behavioural Equivalence Patterns

- **NOT NULL** in **CHECK** constraints
- **NOT NULL** \cong **CHECK(... IS NOT NULL)**

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR NOT NULL,  
3 );
```

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR,  
3   CHECK(A IS NOT NULL)  
4 );
```

Behavioural Equivalence Patterns

Behavioural Equivalence Patterns

- **NOT NULL** on **PRIMARY KEY** columns

Behavioural Equivalence Patterns

- **NOT NULL** on **PRIMARY KEY** columns
- Implicit **NOT NULL** on **PRIMARY KEY**

Behavioural Equivalence Patterns

- **NOT NULL** on **PRIMARY KEY** columns
- Implicit **NOT NULL** on **PRIMARY KEY**
- (Only PostgreSQL and HyperSQL)

Behavioural Equivalence Patterns

- **NOT NULL** on **PRIMARY KEY** columns

Behavioural Equivalence Patterns

- **NOT NULL** on **PRIMARY KEY** columns

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR,  
3   PRIMARY KEY (A)  
4 );
```

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR NOT NULL,  
3   PRIMARY KEY (A)  
4 );
```

Behavioural Equivalence Patterns

Behavioural Equivalence Patterns

- **UNIQUE** and **PRIMARY KEY** with shared columns

Behavioural Equivalence Patterns

- **UNIQUE** and **PRIMARY KEY** with shared columns

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR,  
3   PRIMARY KEY (A)  
4 );
```

```
1 CREATE TABLE T (  
2   A CHAR,  
3   PRIMARY KEY (A),  
4   UNIQUE (A)  
5 );
```


Quasi-mutants

Quasi-mutants

- Operators produce DBMS-agnostic mutants


Quasi-mutants

- Operators produce DBMS-agnostic mutants
- Some DBMSs have implicit constraints

Quasi-mutants

- Operators produce DBMS-agnostic mutants
- Some DBMSs have implicit constraints
- Valid for some DBMSs, invalid for others

PostgreSQL 

HyperSQL 

SQLite 

Quasi-mutants

- Operators produce DBMS-agnostic mutants
- Some DBMSs have implicit constraints
- Valid for some DBMSs, invalid for others

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HyperSQL



SQLite



Quasi-mutants

PostgreSQL



HyperSQL



SQLite



Quasi-mutants

- Cannot adversely affect mutation score

PostgreSQL 

HyperSQL 

SQLite 

Quasi-mutants

- Cannot adversely affect mutation score
- ...but may preclude some optimisations

PostgreSQL 

HyperSQL 

SQLite 

Quasi-mutants

- Cannot adversely affect mutation score
- ...but may preclude some optimisations
- Remove when DBMS will 'reject' them

SQLite ✓

PostgreSQL ✗

HyperSQL ✗

Types of Quasi-mutants

Types of Quasi-mutants

- Representative example

Types of Quasi-mutants

- Representative example
 - DBMS: PostgreSQL, HyperSQL

Types of Quasi-mutants

- Representative example
 - DBMS: PostgreSQL, HyperSQL
 - \forall FK(reference columns) \exists
(PK(reference columns) \vee
Unique(reference columns))

Types of Quasi-mutants

- Representative example
 - DBMS: PostgreSQL, HyperSQL
 - $\forall \text{FK}(\text{reference columns}) \exists$
($\text{PK}(\text{reference columns}) \vee$
 $\text{Unique}(\text{reference columns})$)

Types of Quasi-mutants

- Representative example
 - DBMS: PostgreSQL, HyperSQL
 - \forall FK(reference columns) \exists
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 - \forall FK(reference columns) \exists
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Types of Quasi-mutants

- Representative example
 - DBMS: PostgreSQL, HyperSQL
 - \forall
(PK(reference columns)
Unique(reference

Detecting Quasi-mutants

Detecting Quasi-mutants

- Submit to DBMS

Detecting Quasi-mutants

- Submit to DBMS
 - 100% accurate

Detecting Quasi-mutants

- Submit to DBMS
 - 100% accurate
 - Convert representation to SQL, submit to database, inspect response

Detecting Quasi-mutants

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- Analyse statically

Detecting Quasi-mutants

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 - Convert representation to SQL, submit to database, inspect response
- Analyse statically
 - Operates directly on representation

Detecting Quasi-mutants

- Submit to DBMS
 - 100% accurate
 - Convert representation to SQL, submit to database, inspect response
- Analyse statically
 - Operates directly on representation
 - DBMS-specific implementation

Empirical Study

Empirical Study

1. Quasi-mutant detection – DBMS v Static Analysis

Empirical Study

1. Quasi-mutant detection – DBMS v Static Analysis
2. Equivalent, Redundant and Quasi-mutant removal – Efficiency?

Empirical Study

1. Quasi-mutant detection – DBMS v Static Analysis
2. Equivalent, Redundant and Quasi-mutant removal – Efficiency?
3. Equivalent, Redundant and Quasi-mutant removal – Effectiveness?

Empirical Study

Empirical Study

- 16 schemas

Empirical Study

- 16 schemas
- 2 DBMSs – PostgreSQL, HyperSQL

Empirical Study

- 16 schemas
- 2 DBMSs – PostgreSQL, HyperSQL
- 15 repeat trials

Empirical Study

- 16 schemas
- 2 DBMSs – PostgreSQL, HyperSQL
- 15 repeat trials

Empirical Study – Quasi-mutants

Empirical Study – Quasi-mutants

- 5 conditions:

Empirical Study – Quasi-mutants

- 5 conditions:
 - Postgres (with/without transactions)

Empirical Study – Quasi-mutants

- 5 conditions:
 - Postgres (with/without transactions)
 - HyperSQL (with/without transactions)

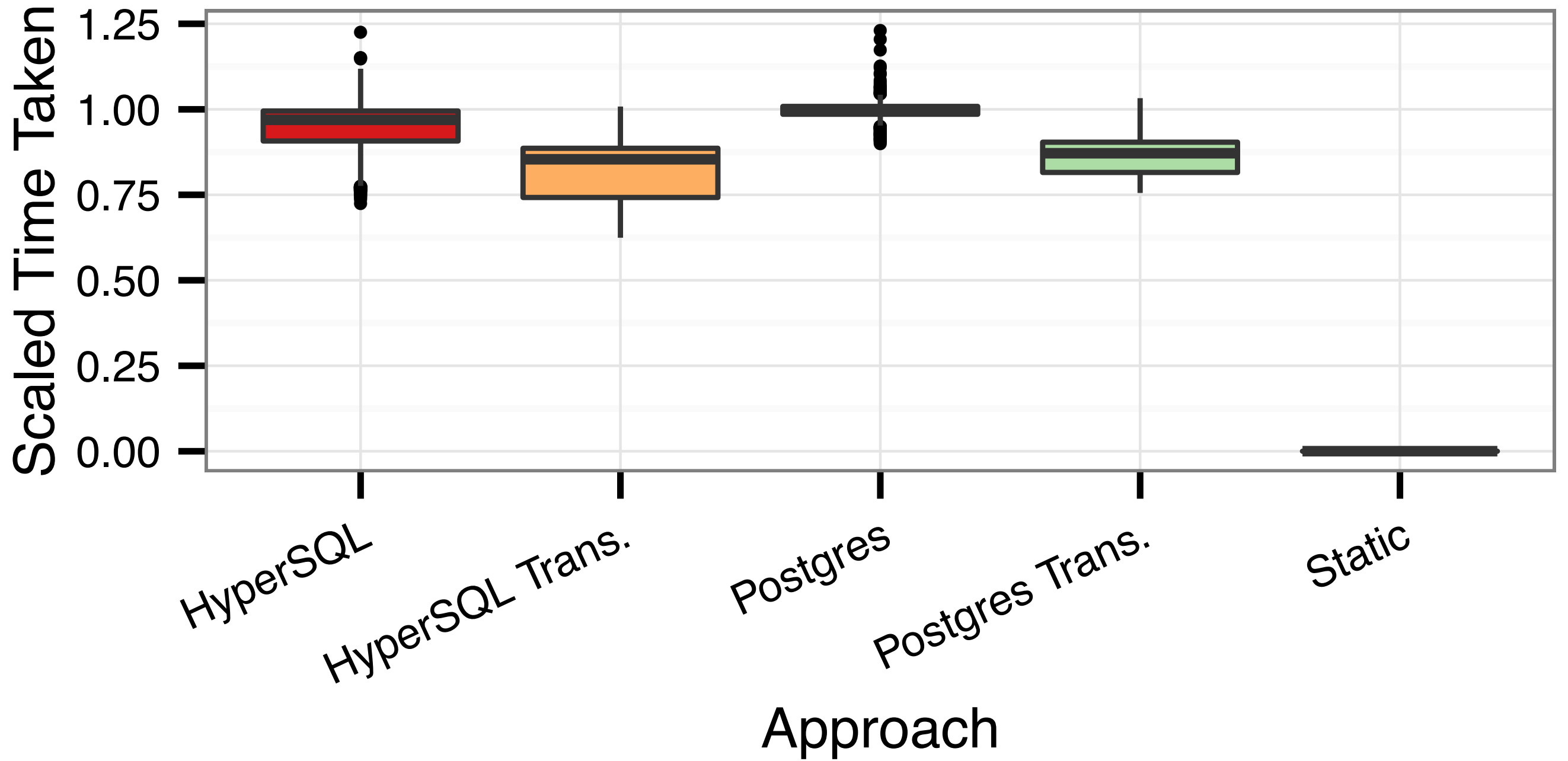
Empirical Study – Quasi-mutants

- 5 conditions:
 - Postgres (with/without transactions)
 - HyperSQL (with/without transactions)
 - Static analysis

Empirical Study – Quasi-mutants

- 5 conditions:
 - Postgres (with/without transactions)
 - HyperSQL (with/without transactions)
 - Static analysis

Empirical Study – Quasi-mutants



Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- 2 conditions – with and without removal

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- 2 conditions – with and without removal
- 2 metrics –

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- 2 conditions – with and without removal
- 2 metrics –
 - Time taken for mutation analysis

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- 2 conditions – with and without removal
- 2 metrics –
 - Time taken for mutation analysis
 - Mutation score

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- HyperSQL – Time saved
 - Best case: 718ms (23.05%)
 - Worst case: -824ms (-9.71%)

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- HyperSQL – Time saved

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- HyperSQL – Time saved
 - 9/16 mean time decrease ($p < 0.05$)

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- HyperSQL – Time saved
 - 9/16 mean time decrease (
 - 7/16 mean time increase ($p < 0.05$)

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- HyperSQL – Time saved
 - 9/16 mean time decrease (
 - 7/16 mean time increase (
 - Overall, decrease (1.6% mean, 1.4% median)

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- PostgreSQL – Time saved
 - Best case: 317,208ms (33.71%)
 - Worst case: -3,086ms, (-0.33%)

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- PostgreSQL – Time saved

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- PostgreSQL – Time saved
 - 14/16 mean time decrease ($p < 0.05$)

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- PostgreSQL – Time saved
 - 14/16 mean time decrease (
 - 2/16 mean time increase ($p < 0.05$)

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- PostgreSQL – Time saved
 - 14/16 mean time decrease (
 - 2/16 mean time increase (
 - Overall, decrease (12.7% mean, 11.8% median)

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

DBMS	Time saved (ms)	
	Median	Mean

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

DBMS	Time saved (ms)	
	Median	Mean
HyperSQL	36.2	7.5

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

DBMS	Time saved (ms)	
	Median	Mean
HyperSQL	36.2	7.5
Postgres	8,071	50,880

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

DBMS	Time saved (ms)	
	Median	Mean
HyperSQL	36.2	7.5
Postgres	8,071	50,880
Both	229.9	25,450

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

DBMS	Time saved (%)	
	Median	Mean
HyperSQL	1.4	1.6
Postgres	12.7	11.8
Both	4.7	6.7

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- HyperSQL – Mutation score
 - 75% Increased
 - 44% Adequate
 - 25% No change

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

- PostgreSQL – Mutation score
 - 75% Increased
 - 44% Adequate
 - 25% No change

Empirical Study – Mutant Removal

DBMS	Scores changed (%)	
	Increased (adequate)	No change
HyperSQL	75 (44)	25
Postgres	75 (44)	25
Both	75 (44)	25

Conclusion

1. Quasi-mutant detection – DBMS v Static Analysis
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3. Equivalent, Redundant and Quasi-mutant removal – Effectiveness?

Conclusion

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Conclusion

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Conclusion

1. Quasi-mutant detection – ***Improved efficiency***
2. Equivalent, Redundant and Quasi-mutant removal – ***Improved efficiency***
3. Equivalent, Redundant and Quasi-mutant removal – ***Improved effectiveness***

Conclusion

1. Quasi-mutant detection – ***Improved efficiency***
2. Equivalent, Redundant and Quasi-mutant removal – ***Improved efficiency***
3. Equivalent, Redundant and Quasi-mutant removal – ***Improved effectiveness***