

Testing

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What is Testing?

Software Testing is the process of executing a program or system with the intent of finding errors

G. Myers

- A successful test is one that finds an error
- Testing can
 - Identify discrepancies between actual results and expected behavior
 - Demonstrate functions are working according to specification
 - Provide an indication of correctness, reliability, safety, security, performance, fault tolerance, usability,

What Makes Testing So Difficult?

- Inherent complexity of software
- Constructing an operational environment for testing purpose
- Intractable and undecidable nature of testing
- Idiosyncrasy of software
 - Trivial clerical errors can have major consequences.
 - Errors manifest themselves in rare states, yet crucially important → *Murphy's Law*

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Some Testing Principles

- A programmer should not test his/her own program
- One should test not only that the program does what it is supposed to do, but that it does not do what it is not supposed to
- The goal of testing is to find errors, not to show that the program is errorless
- No amount of testing can guarantee error-free program
- Parts of programs where a lot of errors have already been found are a good place to look for more errors
- The goal is not to humiliate the programmer!

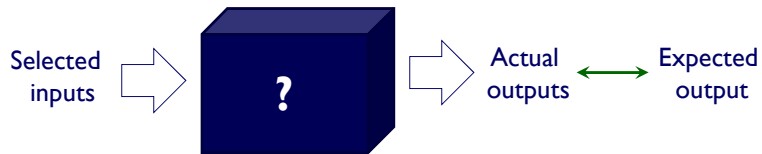


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Black-Box Testing (Functional Testing)



- Is not based on the structure of the program (which is unknown)
- Test cases are selected based on functional specification
- Question: Exhaustive input test?

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Examples of Exhaustive Input Test

- Solution to $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$
- Input to a compiler
 - All possible valid and invalid programs
- Testing of OS, DBMS, reservation systems
 - All possible sequences of transactions

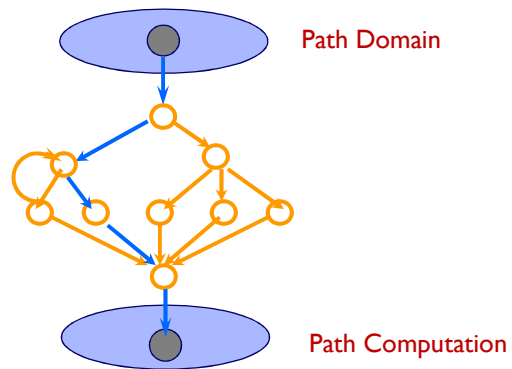
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Tester's View of a Program

- Program = {Path Domain, Path Computation}

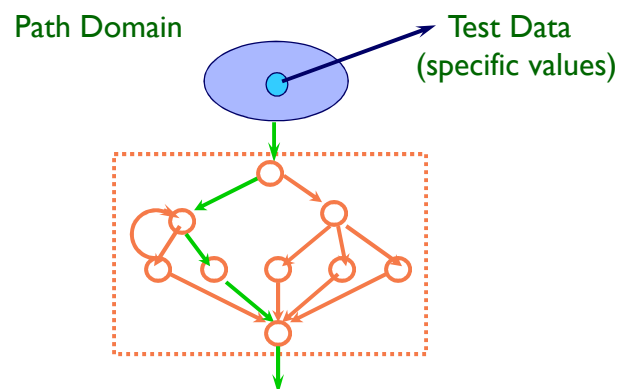


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Test Data



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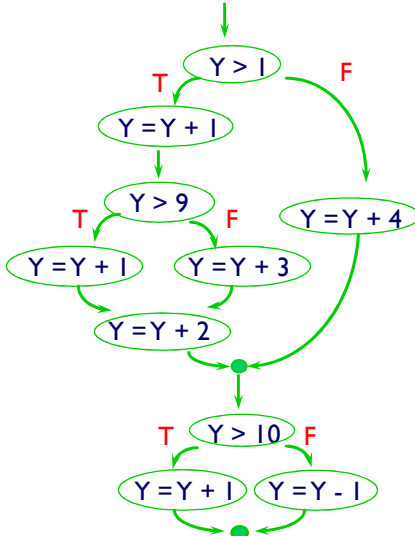
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Execution Paths in a Program

```

If Y > 1 THEN
  Y = Y + 1
  IF Y > 9 THEN
    Y = Y + 1
  ELSE
    Y = Y + 3
  END
  Y = Y + 2
ELSE
  Y = Y + 4
END
IF Y > 10 THEN
  Y = Y + 1
ELSE
  Y = Y - 1
END
  
```



Program Path

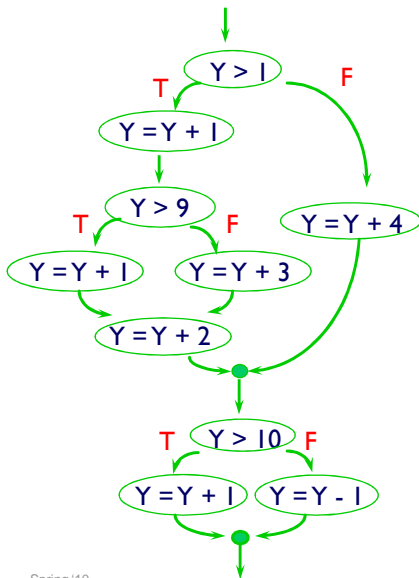
TTT
TTF
TFT
TFF
F -T
F -F

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Input Data for Executing Paths



Program Path

TTT
TTF
TFT
TFF
F -T
F -F

Path Domain

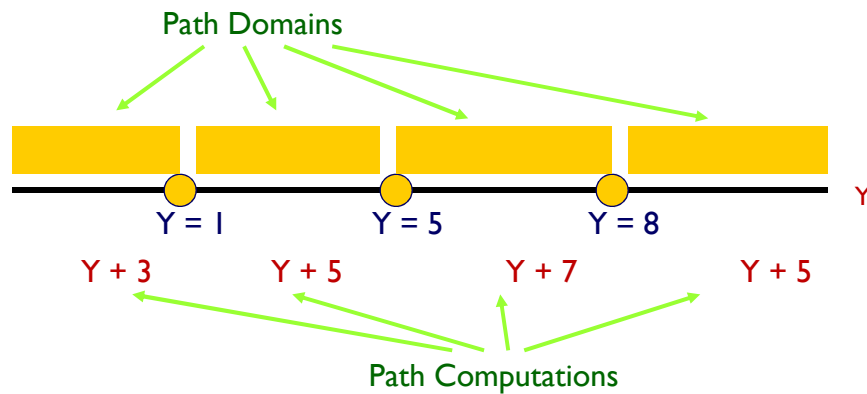
Y > 8
Infeasible path
5 <= Y <= 8
1 < Y < 5
Infeasible path
Y <= 1

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Path Domains and Computations



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White-Box Testing (Structural Testing)



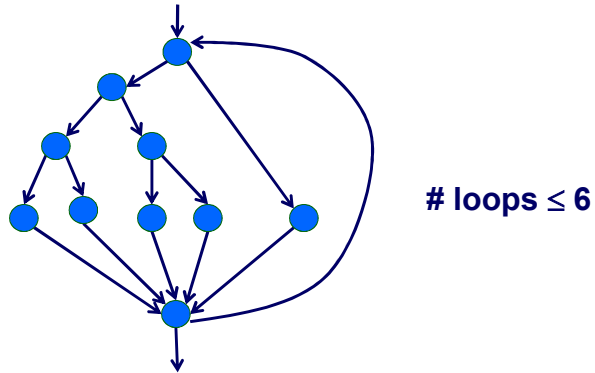
- Test cases are selected based on software structure/implementation
- There are several alternative criteria for checking “enough” paths in the program
- Question: Exhaustive path test?

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Exhaustive Path Test



#Paths: $5^1 + 5^2 + 5^3 + 5^4 + 5^5 + 5^6 \cong 20000$

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Limitation of Testing

Testing can be a very effective way to show the presence of errors, but it is hopelessly inadequate for showing their absence.

E. Dijkstra

- There are never sufficiently many test cases.
- Testing does not find all the errors.
- Testing is hard and takes a lot of time.
- Testing is still a largely informal task.

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Strategic Approach to Testing

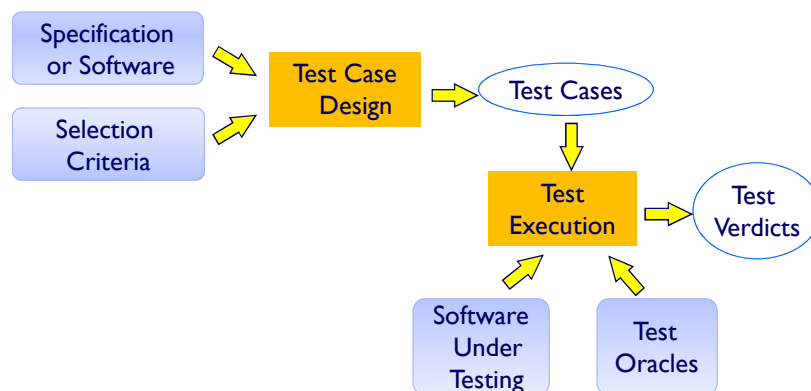
- An exhaustive testing is impractical
 - Relate the amount of testing to confidence about software
- A test of any program is necessarily incomplete
 - Test Coverage
- No way of knowing if the error detected is the last remaining error
 - Test Completion

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Testing Process



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Test Oracle

- A mechanism to produce the predicted outcomes to compare with the actual outcomes of the software under test
- “Any program, process, or body of data that specifies the expected outcome of a set of tests as applied to a tested object” -W. E. Howden
- As more software becomes standardized, more oracles will emerge as products and services.

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Test Adequacy Criteria

- “A set of rules used to determine whether or not testing can be terminated” - Weyuker
- Represent a minimal standard for testing a program.
 - “The notion of adequacy is dependent on the method used for selecting the test set” - Zweben
 - Program-based criteria involve program's structure.
 - Specification-based criteria rely on specification.
 - Other criteria (e. g., Random testing) may ignore both specification and program.

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TEST CASE DESIGN

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Test Case Design

- Construct and organize tests to get the best testing effect with the least effort
 - Testing process is as good as its test cases

- A good test case is one that has a high probability of detecting as-yet undiscovered error

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Typical Test Case Information

- Test Case ID - a unique identifier
- Purpose
 - a list of actions (functions, processes, services, etc.) that this test case will exercise
- Input
 - Preconditions
 - Inputs – a list of names and values for inputs to actions that this test case will exercise
- Output
 - Expected Outputs - a list of outputs that will result when this test case exercises actions
 - Post-conditions
- Execution History

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Test Case Design for Black Box Testing

- Equivalence partition
- Boundary value analysis
- Cause-effect graphs

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Equivalence Class

- A set of test cases such that any member of the class is as good a test case as any other
- For all input values in a particular equivalence class, the system shows the same kind of behavior
 - valid and invalid equivalent classes
 - input and also output domains



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Equivalence Class Testing

- Divide the program's input space into domains such that all inputs within a domain are equivalent
- Identify test cases by using one element from each equivalence class
 - Testing with more inputs from the same class hardly increases the chance of finding defects
 - All inputs from the same equivalence class have an equal chance of finding a defect
- Most test techniques, functional or structural, fall under partition testing

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Equivalence Partition

- **Goals:**
 - Find a small number of test cases
 - Cover as much possibilities as you can
- Try to group together inputs for which the program would likely to behave the same

Specification condition	Valid equivalence class	Invalid equivalence class

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Example: A Legal Variable

- Begins with A-Z
- Contains [A-Z0-9]
- Has 1-6 characters

Specification condition	Valid equivalence class	Invalid equivalence class
Starting char	Starts A-Z 1	Starts other 2
Chars	[A-Z0-9] 3	Has others 4
Length	1-6 chars 5	0 chars, >6 chars 6 7

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Equivalence Partition (cont.)

- Add a new test case until all valid equivalence classes have been covered
 - A test case can cover multiple such classes
- Add a new test case until all invalid equivalence class have been covered
 - Each test case can cover only one such class

Specification condition	Valid equivalence class	Invalid equivalence class

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Example: A Legal Variable (cont.)

- AB36P (1,3,5)
- IXY12 (2)
- A17#%X (4)
- (6)
- VERYLONG (7)

Specification condition	Valid equivalence class	Invalid equivalence class
Starting char	Starts A-Z 1	Starts other 2
Chars	[A-Z0-9] 3	Has others 4
Length	1-6 chars 5	0 chars, >6 chars 6 7

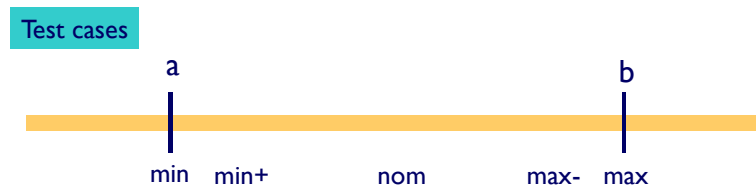
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Boundary Value Analysis

- If an input condition specifies a range bounded by values a (min) and b (max), test cases should be designed with values at the minimum, just above the minimum, a nominal value, just below the maximum, and at the maximum



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Example of Boundary Value Analysis

- If input is within range $-1.0 \sim +1.0$, select values -1.001 , -1.0 , -0.999 , 0.999 , 1.0 , 1.001
- If needs to read N data elements, check with $N-1$, N , $N+1$. Also, check with $N=0$.

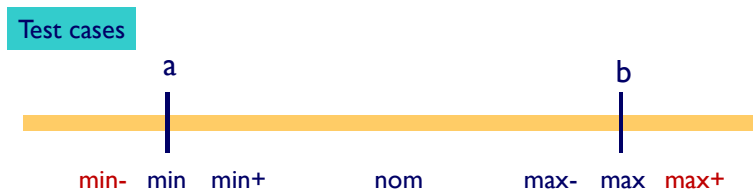
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Robustness Testing

- A simple extension of boundary analysis
- It forces attention on exception handling.
 - worst case analysis



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Test Case Design for White-Box Testing

- The main problem is to select a good coverage criterion
- Some options are:
 - Cover all paths of the program
 - Execute every statement at least once
 - Each decision has a true or false value at least once
 - Each condition is taking each truth value at least once
 - Check all possible combinations of conditions in each decision

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How to Cover the Executions?

```
IF (A>1)&(B=0)
  THEN X=X/A;
  END;
IF (A=2)|(X>1)
  THEN X=X+1;
  END;
```

- Choose values for A, B, X
- Value of X may change, depending on A and B
- What do we want to cover? Paths? Statements? Conditions?

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Control Flow Testing

- A family of test strategies based on selecting paths through the program's control structure
- If the set of paths is properly chosen, some measure of test thoroughness can be achieved
- Requires complete knowledge of the programs structure
- Most applicable to unit testing

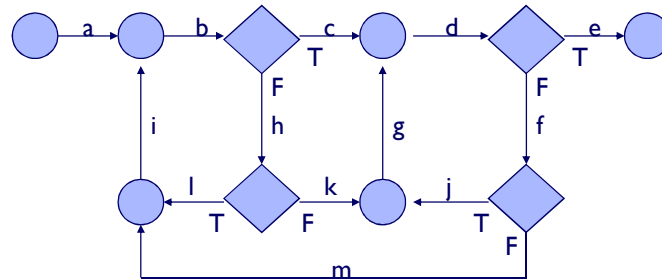
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An Example of Path Selection

- What is the fewest number of paths that will cover all statements and branches?



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Statement Coverage

- Execute every statement at least once
- Minimum testing requirement in the IEEE unit test standard
- By choosing **A=2, B=0, and X=3**, each statement will be executed
- The case that the tests fail is not checked!

```
IF (A>1)&(B=0)
    THEN X=X/A;
    END;
IF (A=2)|(X>1)
    THEN X=X+1;
    END;
```

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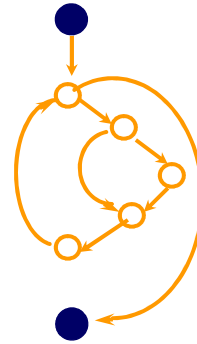
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Statement Testing: An Example

```

main()
{
  int x, y, z;
  1) z = 1;
  2) while( y != 0 ) {
  3)   if ( y%2 != 0 ) z = z * x;
  4)   y = y/2 ;
  5)   x = x * x;
  }
  6) printf("x**y =%5d", z);
}

```



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Statement Testing: An Example

Inputs		Statement					
x	y	1	2	3	4	5	6
5	0	○	○	X	X	X	○
5	2	○	○	X	○	○	○
5	3	○	○	○	○	○	○

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Branch (Decision) Coverage

- Each *branch(decision)* has a true and false outcome at least once
- Can be achieved using
 - **A=3,B=0,X=3**
 - **A=2,B=1,X=1**
- Problem: does not test individual conditions.
 - E.g., when **X>1** is erroneous in second decision

```

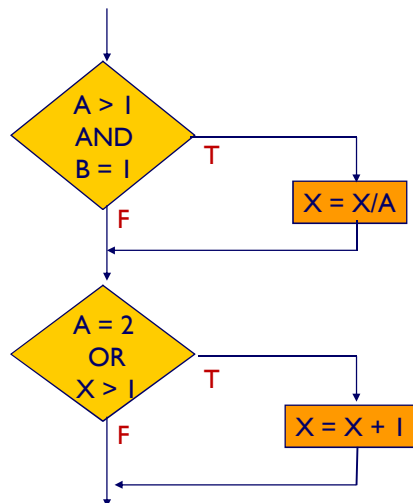
IF (A>1)&(B=0)
    THEN X=X/A;
    END;
IF (A=2)|(X>1)
    THEN X=X+1;
    END;
    
```

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Branch Testing: An Example



Test Case 1 (Path TT)

T: A > 1 and B = 1
(A = 2, B = 1, any X)
T: A = 2 or X > 1 (true)

Test Case 2 (Path FF)

F: A > 1 and B = 1
(A = 1, X = 1)
F: A = 2 or X > 1 (false)

Test Case 3 (Path TF)

T: A > 1 and B = 1
(A = 2, B = 1, X = 1)
F: A = 2 or X > 1 (false)

Test Case 4 (Path FT)

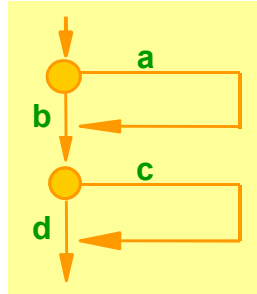
F: A > 1 and B = 1
(A = 1, X = 2)
T: A = 2 or X > 1 (true)

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Limitation of Branch Testing



Either paths bd & ac or paths ad & bc will cover all the decisions

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Condition Coverage

- Each *condition* has a true and false value at least once
- For example:
 - $A=1, B=0, X=3$
 - $A=2, B=1, X=0$lets each condition be true and false once.
- Problem: covers only the path where the first test fails and the second succeeds

```
IF (A>1)&(B=0)
  THEN X=X/A;
  END;
IF (A=2)|(X>1)
  THEN X=X+1;
  END;
```

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Multiple Condition Coverage

- Test all combinations of all conditions in each test

- Cases:

- $A > 1, B = 0$
- $A > 1, B \neq 0$
- $A \leq 1, B = 0$
- $A \leq 1, B \neq 0$
- $A = 2, X > 1$
- $A = 2, X \leq 1$
- $A \neq 2, X > 1$
- $A \neq 2, X \leq 1$

```
IF (A>1)&(B=0)
  THEN X=X/A;
  END;
IF (A=2)|(X>1)
  THEN X=X+1;
  END;
```

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A Smaller Number of Cases:

- **Example:**

- $A = 2, B = 0, X = 4$
- $A = 2, B = 1, X = 1$
- $A = 1, B = 0, X = 2$
- $A = 1, B = 1, X = 1$
- Note the $X = 4$ in the first case: it is due to the fact that X changes before being used

```
IF (A>1)&(B=0)
  THEN X=X/A;
  END;
IF (A=2)|(X>1)
  THEN X=X+1;
  END;
```

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Loop Testing

- Simple loops
- Nested loops
- Concatenated loops
- Unstructured loops
 - Redesign the loops

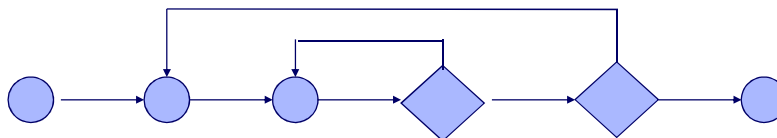
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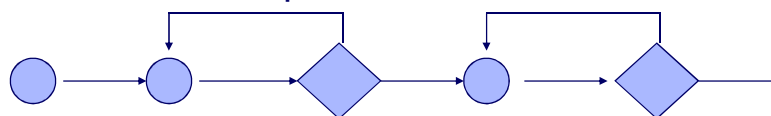
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Loop Testing

- A nested loop



- A concatenated loop



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Simple loop with maximum n number of passes

- Skip the loop entirely
- Only one pass through the loop
- m passes through the loop where $m < n$
- n passes through the loop
- If possible, try $n - 1$ and $n + 1$ passes through the loop

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Nested loops

- Start at the inner most loop, set all other loops to minimum number of iterations
- Conduct simple loop tests for the innermost loop while holding outer loops at their minimum number of iterations
- Work outward, conducting tests for the next loop, keeping all outer loops at minimum iterations and keeping nested loops to “typical” values
- Continue until all loops have been tested

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Concatenated loops

- If each of the loops is independent of the other, use tests for simple loops
- If loops are not independent, use tests for nested loops

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Data Flow Testing

- A family of test strategies based on selecting paths through the program's control flow in order to explore sequence of events related to the status of data objects
- Select test paths of a program according to locations of definitions and uses of variables in the program

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Data Usage

- d - defined, created, initialized
- k – killed, undefined, released
- u – used for something
 - Used in computation (c-use)
 - Used in a predicate (p-use)

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Data-Flow Anomalies

- dd – probably harmless but suspicious
- dk – probably a bug
- du – a normal case
- kd – normal situation
- kk – harmless but probably buggy
- ku – a bug
- ud – usually not a bug
- uk – normal situation
- uu – normal situation

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Definition-Use Chain

- $DEF(S) = \{X \mid \text{statement } S \text{ contains a definition of } X\}$
- $USE(S) = \{X \mid \text{statement } S \text{ contains a use of } X\}$
 - DU chain = $[X, S, S']$
 - $X \in DEF(S), X \in USE(S')$

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Data Flow Strategies

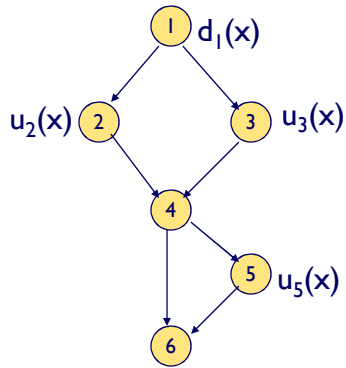
- All Definition-Use Paths
- All-Uses paths
- All-p-Uses/Some-c-Uses
- All-c-Uses/Some-p-Uses
- All Definitions
- All-Predicate Uses
- All Computation Uses

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Data Flow Test: An Example (1)



All-Defs

Requires:

$d_1(x)$ to a use

Satisfactory Path:

1, 2, 4, 6

All-Uses

Requires:

$d_1(x)$ to $u_2(x)$

$d_1(x)$ to $u_3(x)$

$d_1(x)$ to $u_5(x)$

Satisfactory Paths:

1, 2, 4, 5, 6

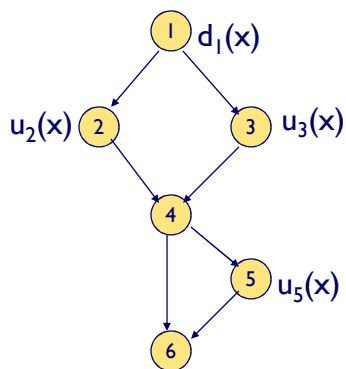
1, 3, 4, 6

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Data Flow Test: An Example (2)



All-Du-Paths

Requires:

$d_1(x)$ to $u_2(x)$

$d_1(x)$ to $u_3(x)$

both paths for $d_1(x)$ to $u_5(x)$

Satisfactory Paths:

1, 2, 4, 5, 6

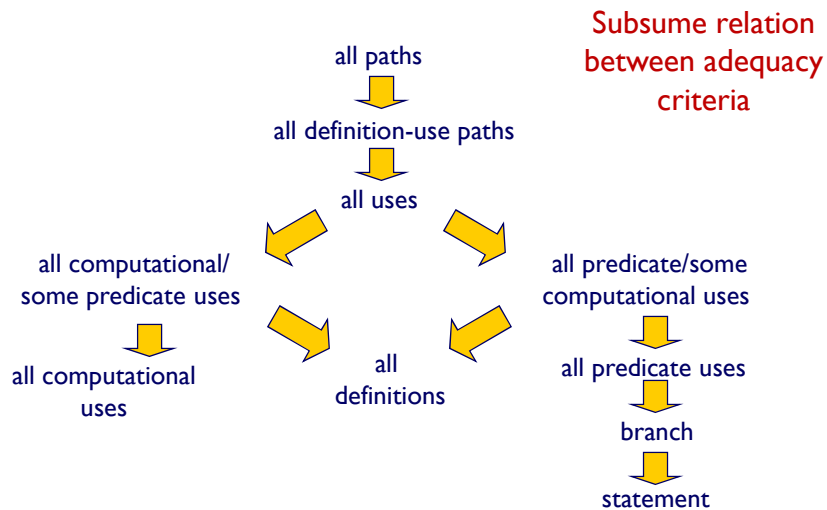
1, 3, 4, 5, 6

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Test Thoroughness



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State-Based Testing

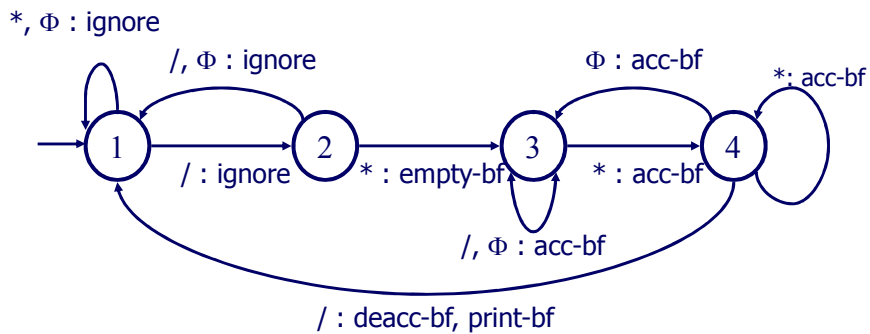
- Many computer systems are finite state machines
 - They can be in a limited number of different internal conditions (states) and the rules which determine when they change from one state to another are specified in terms of inputs to the system
- State-Based Testing
 - Verifies the relationships between events, actions, activities, states, and state transitions
 - Verifies that in response to input events the correct actions are taken and the system reaches the correct states

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Finite State Machine of a Comment Printer



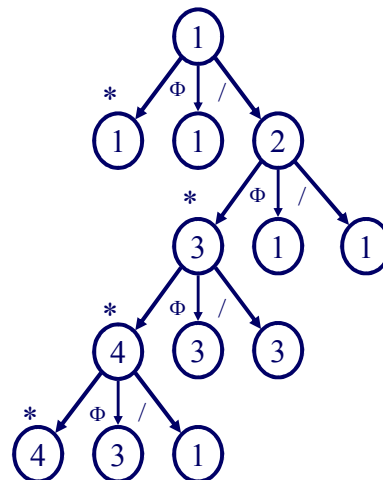
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A Testing Tree

- From FSM, Testing tree is constructed to generate test sequence
- Each path from the root of the transition tree comprises a test

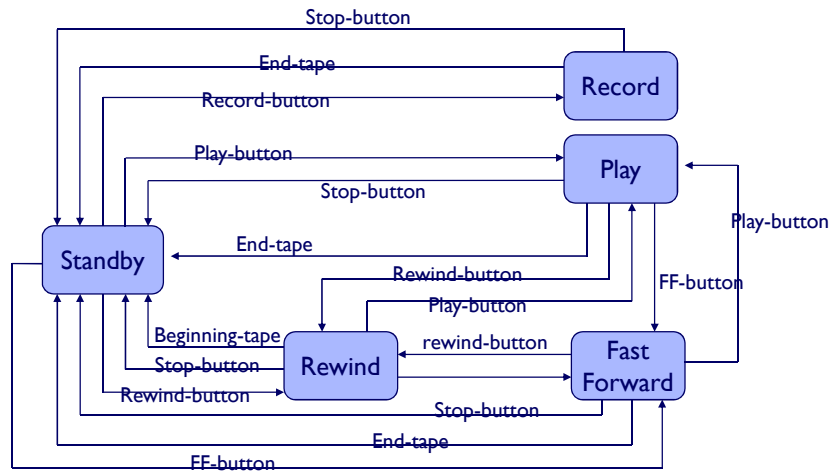


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An example: Video Cassette Recorder (VCR)



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State-Event Table

- Is used in composing the transition tree.

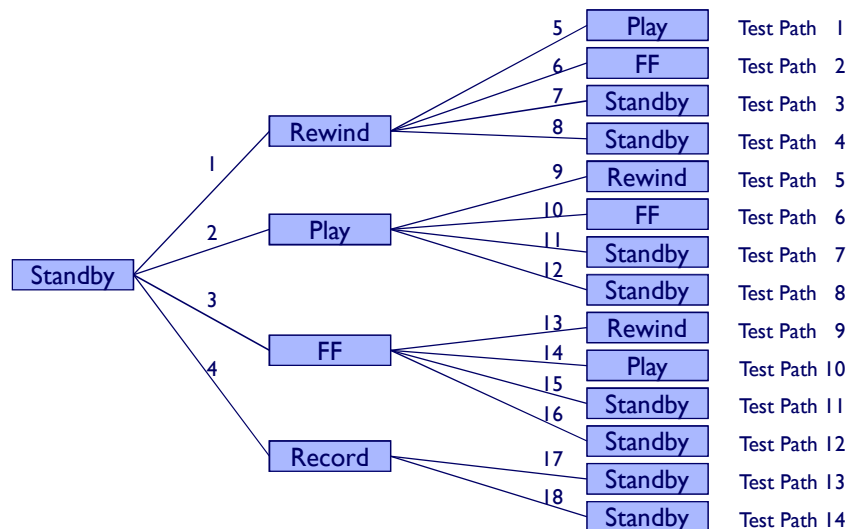
Events\States	Standby	Rewind	Play	Fast Forward	Record
evRewindB	1-Rewind	*	9-Rewind	13-Rewind	*
evPlayB	2-Play	5-Play	*	14-Play	*
evFFb	3-FF	6-FF	10-FF	*	*
evRecordB	4-Record	*	*	*	*
evStopB	*	7-Standby	11-Standby	15-Standby	17-Standby
evEndtape	*	*	12-Standby	16-Standby	18-Standby
evBegintape	*	8-Standby	*	*	*

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Transition Tree of a VCR



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Mutation Testing

- A fault-based testing technique that helps the tester create a set of test cases to detect specific, predetermined types of faults
- The basic idea is to find a set of test cases that will reveal the faults that might be expected to be present in a given program
- Hypothesis
 - Competent programmers tend to write programs that are “close” to being correct. It is assumed that a fault is manifest as a small modification to the correct program code
 - A test data set that distinguishes all programs with simple faults is sensitive enough so that it will also distinguish programs with more complex faults

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Mutants

- A copy of the program that contains a seeded fault.
- A **mutant** simulates a fault that programmers usually make.
- The effectiveness depends heavily on the types of faults.

Original Program

```
S3(int x)
{
  switch(x)
  {
    case 1:
      return x*2;
    case 2:
      return x;
  }
  return -1;
}
```

Mutated program

```
S3(int x)
{
  switch(x)
  {
    case 1:
      return x+2;
    case 2:
      return x;
  }
  return -1;
}
```

mutated

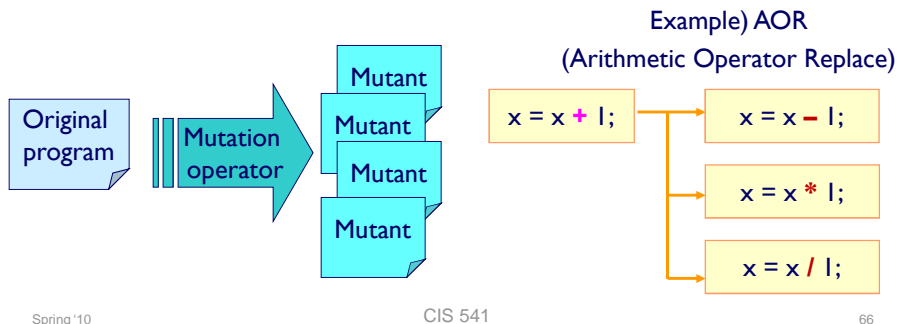
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Mutation Operator

- A **mutation operator** simulates the fault generation rule by programmers.
- Design of the mutation operators is crucial for the effectiveness of mutation testing.



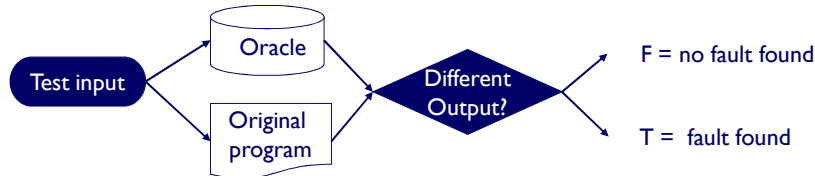
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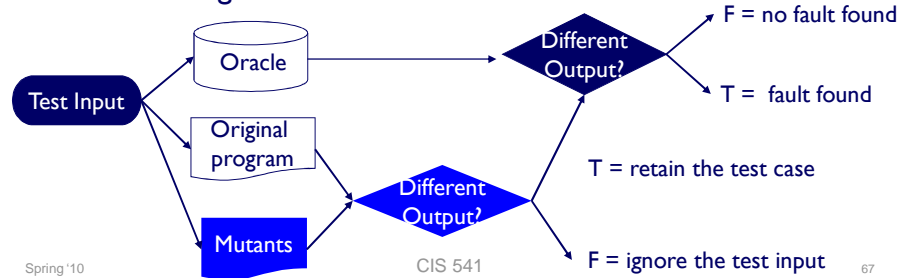
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Mutation Testing Process

Conventional Testing Process



Mutation Testing Process



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Model-Based Testing

- One way to generate test cases automatically is “model-based testing” where a model of the system is used for test case generation
- “Model-based testing is a testing technique where the runtime behavior of an implementation under test is checked against predictions made by a formal specification, or model.” - Colin Campbell, MSR

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Model in Model-Based Testing

- What is a model?
 - A model is a depiction of a system's behavior
 - Models are simpler than the systems they describe
 - Models help us understand and predict the system's behavior
- A model describes how a system should behave in response to an action
- Supply the action and see if the system responds as you expect

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Using Models to Test

- Decide what type of model will be used
 - Finite State Machine, UML, Sets, Grammars, etc.
- Create the model
- Choose tests using the model
- Verify results

- (Some examples of model-based testing can be found in the tutorial slides of H. Robinson, "MBT Tutorial", StarWest 2006)

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Benefits of Model-Based Testing

- Easy test case maintenance
- Reduced costs
- More test cases
- Early bug detection
- Increased bug count
- Time savings
- Time to address bigger test issues
- Improved tester job satisfaction

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Obstacles to Model-Based Testing

- Comfort factor
 - This is not traditional test automation
- Skill sets
 - Need testers who can design
- Expectations
 - Models can be a significant upfront investment
 - Will never catch all the bugs
- Metrics
 - Bad metrics: bug counts, number of test cases
 - Better metrics: spec coverage, code coverage

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TEST DATA GENERATION

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Test Data Generation

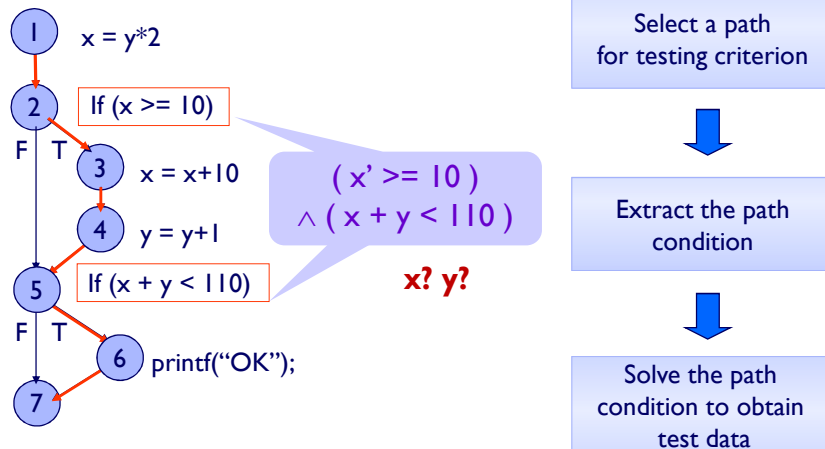
- Process of identifying program input which satisfy the selected testing criterion
- Given a program P and a path u , generate input $x \in S$ such that x traverses u
 - $P : S \rightarrow R$
 - S : the set of all possible inputs
 - the set of all vectors $x = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$ such that $d_i \in Dx_i$, where Dx_i is the domain of input variable x_i
 - R : the set of all possible outputs
 1. Find the path predicate for the path
 2. Solve the path predicate in terms of input variables

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Test Data Generation: An Example



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Complexity of Test Data Generation

- The problem of determining whether a solution exists to a system of inequalities is **undecidable**
- The path feasibility problem is **undecidable**

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Problems in Test Data Generation

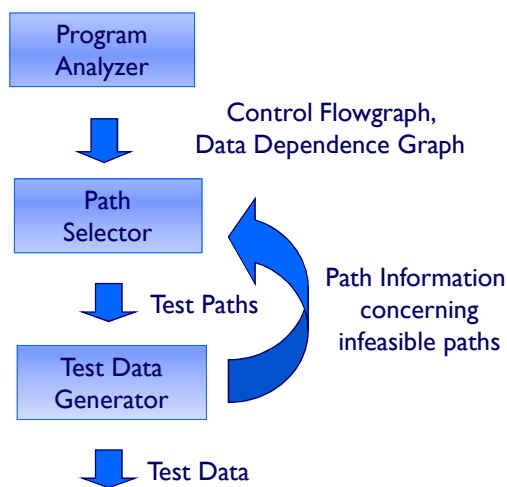
- Arrays, Pointers
 - Ambiguity
 - Complex-heap
- Objects
 - Dynamically allocated
 - Inheritance, Polymorphism
- Loops
 - Not having a constant number of iterations
- The only way of achieving an oracle is to supply extra information.
 - Requirement/design spec, assertion...

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Architecture of Test Data Generator



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Automated Test Data Generation Techniques

- Approaches for test data generation
 - Random
 - Path-Oriented
 - Goal-Oriented
- Implementation methods
 - Static
 - Dynamic
 - Hybrid methods

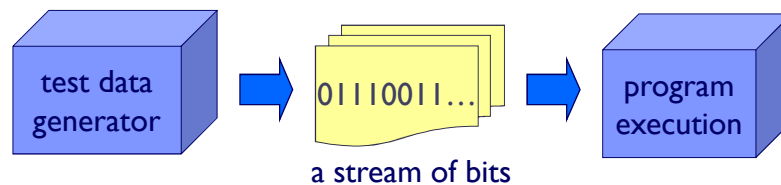
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Random Test Data Generation

- Inputs are produced at random until a useful input is found.
 - Easy to implement
 - Frequently used as a benchmark since it is commonly reported in the literature
- The probability of selecting an input that discovers the semantically small faults is low



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Specification of Triangle Classification Problem

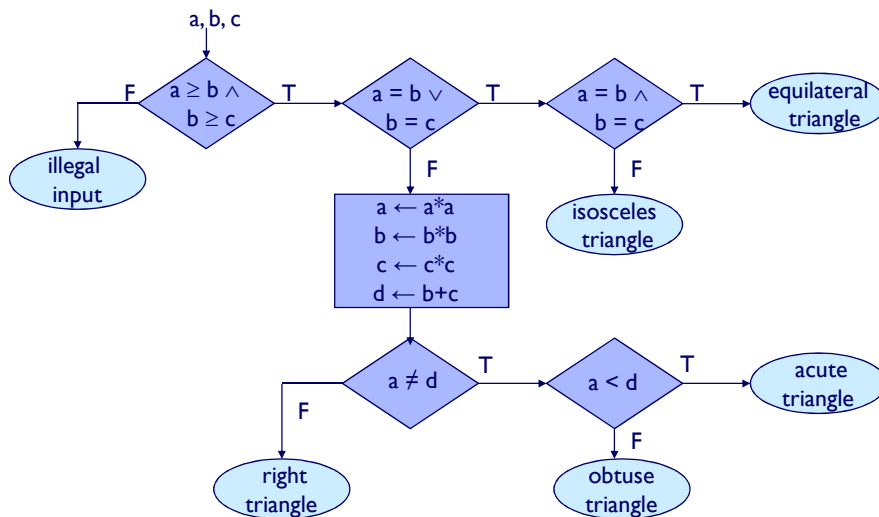
- Input: three positive integers a, b, c , with $a \geq b \geq c$
- Output: indicate which of the following descriptions is satisfied by a, b , and c .
 1. They do not represent the sides of a triangle
 2. They are the sides of an equilateral triangle
 3. They are the sides of an isosceles, but not equilateral triangle
 4. They are the sides of a scalene right triangle
 5. They are the sides of a scalene obtuse triangle
 6. They are the sides of a scalene acute triangle

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Flowchart for Triangle Classification Problem



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Path-Oriented Test Data Generation

```

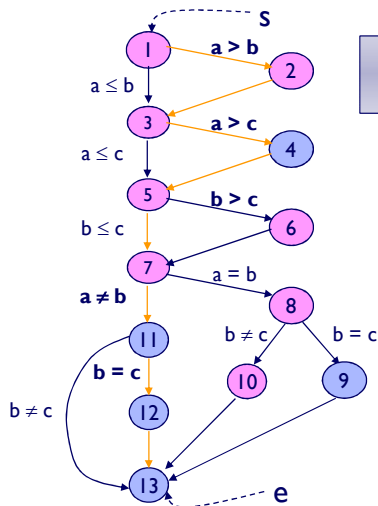
int triType(int a, int b, int c) {
    int type = PLAIN;
    1 if (a > b)
    2   swap(a,b);
    3 if (a > c)
    4   swap(a,c);
    5 if (b > c)
    6   swap(b,c);
    7 if (a==b) {
    8   if (b==c)
    9     type = EQUILATERAL;
    10  else
    11  type = ISOSCELES;
    12 }
    13 else if (b==c)
    14   type = ISOSCELES;
    15 return type;
}
    
```

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Path-Oriented Test Data Generation



Path Condition
 $P = (a > b) \wedge (a > c) \wedge (b \leq c) \wedge (a \neq b) \wedge (b = c)$

data dependency

Valid Path Condition
 $P = a > b = c$

solve using ?
 CLP, IRM, MILP...

Test Data: $(a, b, c) = (5, 4, 4)$

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Goal-Oriented Test Data Generation

- Find-any-path concept
 - Hard to predict the coverage
 - More flexible to find test data
 - Alleviates the problem of selecting infeasible paths.

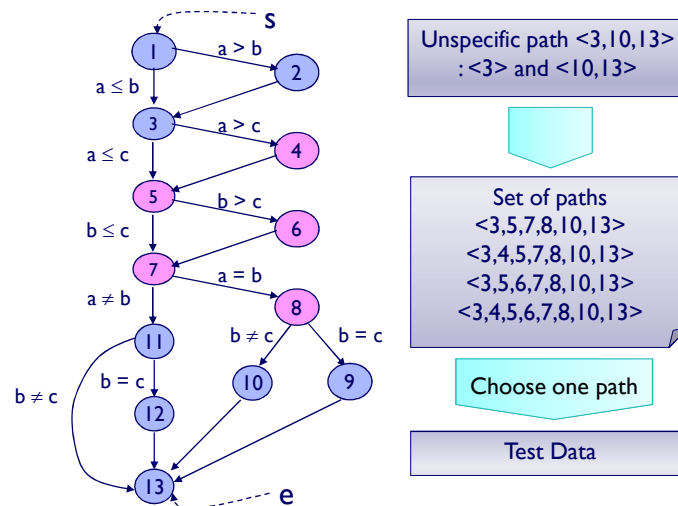
- Related works (Bogdan Korel)
 - Chaining approach (IEEE TSE, 1995)
 - Data dependence analysis
 - Assertion-oriented approach (IEEE TSE, 1996)
 - Assertions are inserted
 - Oracle is given in the code

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Goal-Oriented Test Data Generation



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Static Test Data Generation

- Generate test data using static information of the program
 - Symbolic execution is a representative techniques.
 - First proposed by J. C. King(1976)
- Difficulty with dynamic data structures, arrays, procedures, and loop conditions
- Overheads of repeated algebraic manipulation and simplification of variable and path expressions
- Not applicable to real-time software systems

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Symbolic Evaluation

- Monitors manipulations performed on the input data
- Maintains the relationships between the input data and resulting values
- Represents a program's computations and domains by symbolic expressions
- Applications
 - Testing and debugging
 - Program verification
 - Program optimization and documentation
 - Test data generation

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Example of Path Condition

- Path Computation for Path P(2)
 - $BALANCE = balance * (1 + 0.06/365)^{**days} + amount - 0.1$
 - $INTEREST = balance * (1 + 0.06/365)^{**days} - balance$
 - $BELOWMIN := true$
 - $OVERDRAFT := true$

- Path Condition for Path P(2)
 - $(amount \leq 0.0)$ and
 - $(amount < 0.0)$ and
 - $(-amount \leq balance * (1 + 0.06/365)^{**days})$ and
 - $(balance * (1 + 0.06/365)^{**days} + amount < 100.0)$

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Symbolic Evaluation of Path (2)

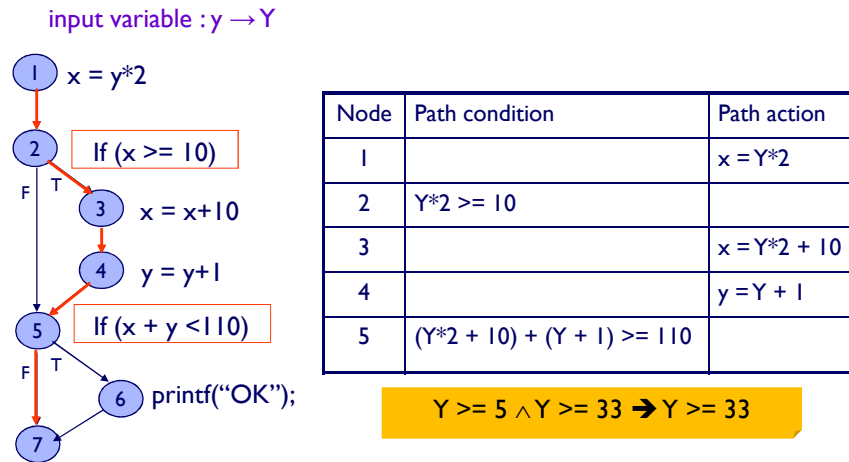
Statement	Interpreted predicate	Interpreted assignments
s	true	DAYS = days, AMOUNT = amount, BALANCE = balance, INTEREST = ?, BELOWMIN = ?, OVERDRAFT = ?, NEWBAL = ?, RATE = 0.06, MINBAL = 100.0, BMCHARGE = 0.1, ODCHARGE = 4.0
1		OVERDRAFT = false
2		BELOWMIN = false
3		NEWBAL = $balance * (1 + 0.06/365)^{**days}$
4		INTEREST = $balance * (1 + 0.06/365)^{**days} - balance$
(5,7)	$amount \leq 0.0$	
(7,8)	$amount < 0.0$	
(8,11)	$-amount \leq balance * (1 + 0.06/365)^{**days}$	
11		NEWBAL = $balance * (1 + 0.06/365)^{**days} + amount$
(12,13)	$balance * (1 + 0.06/365)^{**days} + amount < 100.0$	
13		BELOWMIN = true
14		NEWBAL = $balance * (1 + 0.06/365)^{**days} + amount - 0.1$
15		BALANCE = $balance * (1 + 0.06/365)^{**days} + amount - 0.1$

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Symbolic Execution: An Example



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Dynamic Test Data Generation

- Execution-based approach
 - The program is executed with some, possibly randomly selected input
 - If some desired test requirement is not satisfied, inputs are incrementally modified until one of them satisfies the test requirements
 - Function minimization search
 - Genetic algorithms
 - Dynamic data flow analysis [Korel]

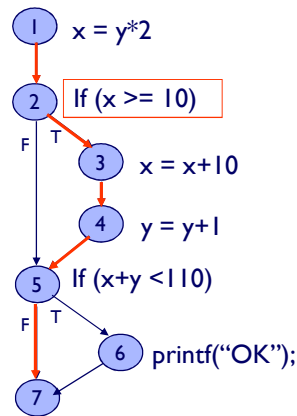
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Function Minimization Problem:

input variable : y



Find a value of y that minimizes $F(y)$

$$F(y) = \begin{cases} 10 - x_2(y) & \text{if } x_2(y) < 10 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$x_2(y)$ is the value of x at the statement #2 when the program is executed the input y

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Dynamic Test Data Generation

- Can handle dynamic data structures (pointer, array) and function calls
- Expensive; requires many iterations before a suitable input is found
- Inefficient in handling infeasible paths
- Monitoring can be done by instrumentation

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EMBEDDED SOFTWARE TESTING

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Embedded System

- A system whose prime function is not that of information processing, but which nevertheless requires information processing in order to carry out their prime function
- A system that is logically incorporated in a larger system whose primary function is not computation
- **Host Environment**
 - The operating system or computer which the embedded software code is written on
- **Target Environment**
 - The operating system or device which the embedded software code will execute on

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Examples of Embedded Systems

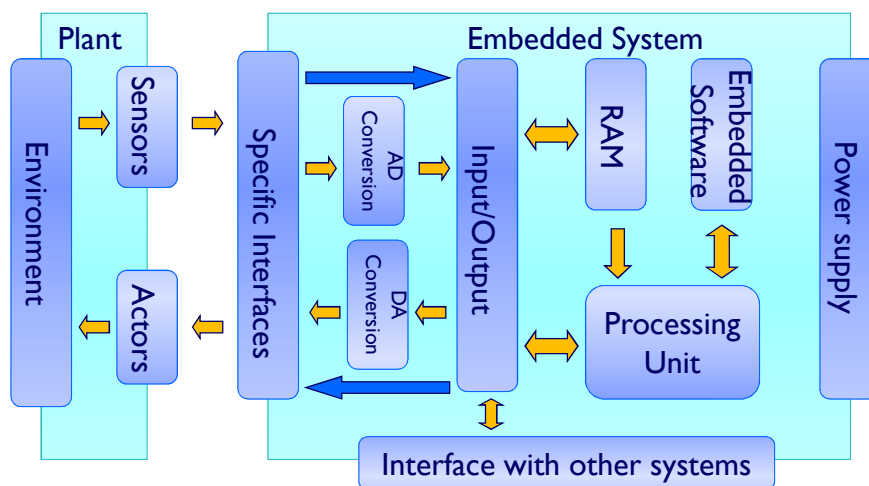
- Cruise control
- Set-top box
- Pacemaker
- NMR scanner
- Railroad signaling
- Telecom switching
- Missile defense systems

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Generic Scheme of an Embedded System



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Development of an Embedded Software System

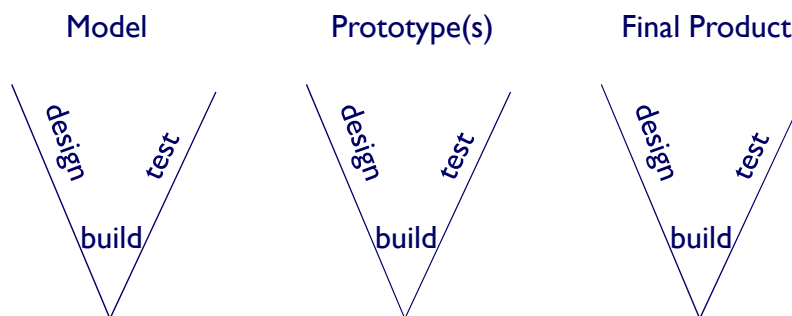
- **Model Building**
 - A model of the system is built on PC
 - A model simulates the required system behavior
- **Prototype Building**
 - Code is generated from the model and embedded in a prototype
- **Product Building**
 - The experimental hardware of the prototypes is gradually replaced by the real hardware
 - The system is built in its final form and mass produced

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Multiple V Development Lifecycle



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Problems in Testing Embedded Software

- **Divergent environment**
 - Testing happens too late and depends on hardware
 - Simulation-based testing
 - User interface, HW interface, Protocol, Time
- **Reactive and Concurrent behavior**
 - Tests are not repeatable and takes too much time and resources.
 - Static analysis vs. Run-time monitoring and checking
- **Timing requirements**
- **Probe effects**
 - Hardware monitoring
 - Monitoring the system bus activity for data and instructions
 - ROM monitors
 - In-circuit emulator

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Testing Embedded Software

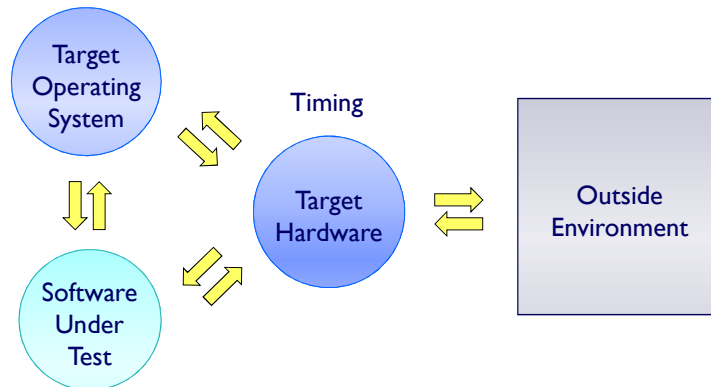
- **Host (Development) Environment**
 - Unix, Windows NT, ...
- **Target Environment**
 - Product-specific
 - Specific for target system
 - Target OS
 - Communication, Scheduling, ...
 - Target HW
 - I/O, interrupts, interfaces, ...
 - Environment
 - Protocols, UI, ...
 - Timing

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Testing Embedded Software



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Test Environment

- Hardware/Software/Network
- Test Databases
 - Test Data have to be stored
- Simulation and Measurement Equipment

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Embedded Software Testing Techniques

- “White Box” or “Code-Based” Testing
 - Requires that the tester has a detailed knowledge of the software structure and its intended role.
 - Embedded software requires higher code coverage percentages due to the strict requirements for safety and reliability.
 - Many code-based testing tools on the host environment are introduced

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Embedded Software Testing Techniques (cont.)

- “Black Box” or “Functional” Testing
 - The quality of the requirements will affect the resultant tests
 - An aspect of black box testing of embedded SW is to test to extremes
 - Functional testing should not only exercise how the software works, but how the software fails

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Embedded Software Testing Phases

- Module Testing
- Integration Testing
- System Testing
- Hardware/Software Integration Testing

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Embedded Software Testing Tools

- Memory Analysis Tools
 - Designed to address faults in allocation of dynamic memory
 - SW and HW based memory analyzers
- Performance Analysis Tools
 - Provide specific data about how and when execution time was spent
 - The majority of execution time is spent in a relatively small amount of code
- GUI Testers
 - Has the ability to record and playback operator actions

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Embedded Software Testing Tools (cont.)

- **Code Coverage Tools**
 - Track the portion of the code that has been executed.
 - SW and HW based monitoring
- **General Support Tools**
 - Databases, Defect Tracking, Configuration Management

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References

- Y. Kwon & H. Bae, SEP524 Software Quality Assurance
- D. Peled, Lecture2: Testing
- H. Robinson, Model-Based Testing Tutorial, StarWest 2006

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