

# Testing

Program testing can be used to show the presence of bugs, but never to show their absence! -- Edsger Dijkstra



# Why now?

- Practicality: testing assignment is out today (because I want to reserve time later for project work)
- Writing tests can help hone specifications
- See literature on test-driven development
  - TDD may improve quality, but may cost time (studies conflict)

# What makes a good test suite?

□ You tell me.

# Defining correct behavior

- Example-based: “For a given input, some assertions should be true”
- Properties: “Output should should satisfy some property for all inputs in some class”
- “It doesn’t crash”
- Invariance: “Changing the input in some way should maintain the same output”
- Regression: “It provides the same output as it used to”
- Differential: “Two systems implementing the same spec should provide the same output”
- Human oracle: “For a given user, they should be satisfied”

# The Many Purposes of Testing

Not only are tests used to drive software design, but **we design our software for testing** (later in this lecture).

- **Find bugs**

- Hard to prove of the absence of bugs (Dijkstra)

- **Prevent bugs** from sneaking in during enhancement  
**(Regression Testing)**

- Loose synchronization among developers/teams can result in incorrect use or enhancement of existing code

- Give **high confidence** in the integrity of your product

- **Explore class/method design** (Test-First/Test-Driven Development and/or DbC)

- **Specification of expected behavior**

# Key vocabulary

- **Unit testing** is a form of software testing by which **isolated source code** is tested to validate expected behavior. (Kolawa)
- **Integration testing** tests the behavior of large software components.

# The THREE BIG IDEAS of Software Testing

Coverage: Seek to execute all possibilities.

(but does running a line mean you've "covered" it?)

Test Equivalence Classes:

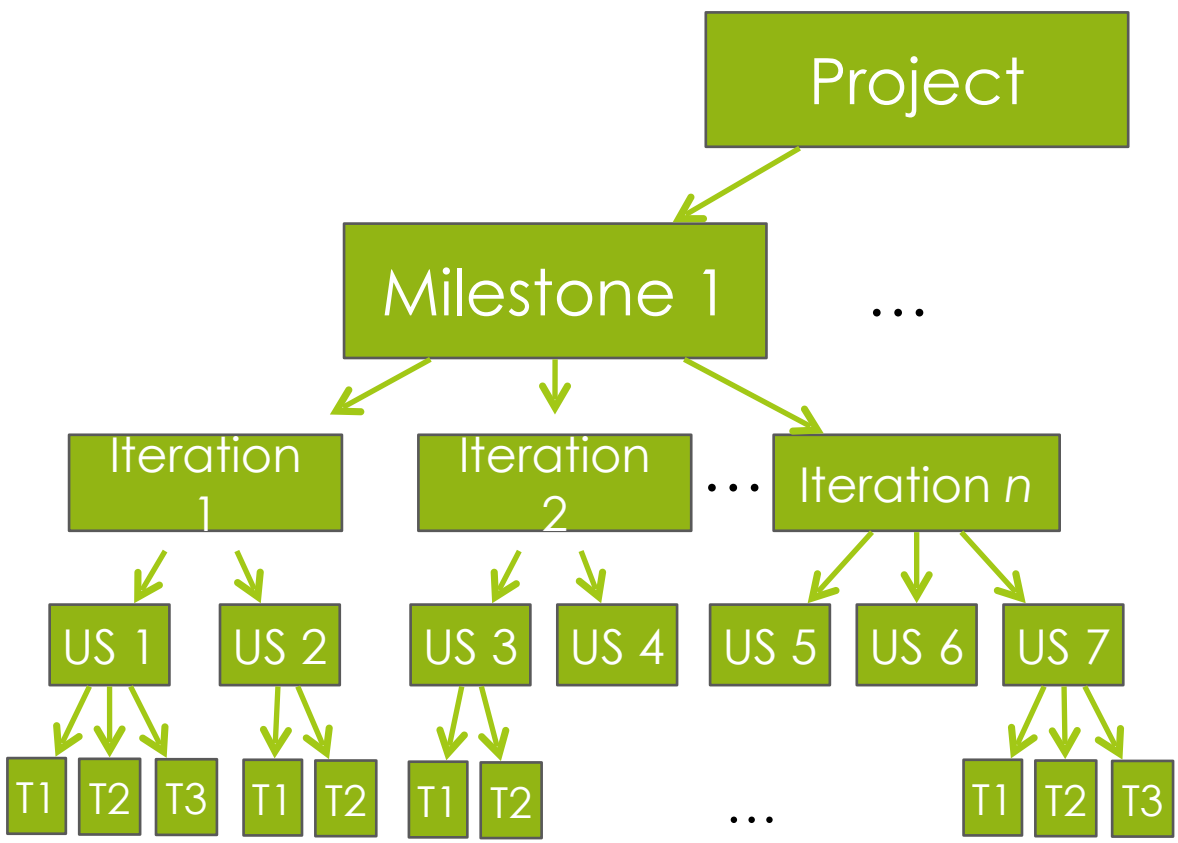
Tests should all cover *different* things.

*That's still too many, so...*

Bottom-Up Testing: When testing if something works, its parts should already be tested. ***We test just the current level,*** reducing the explosion of combinations.

# Bottom-Up Testing and the Hierarchical Structure of Agile Planning and Delivery

For example, Iteration testing assumes that the individual Stories/Features work, and tests how the Stories glue together.



- ← User, System Testing  
(perf, robustness, user experience)  
(i.e., End-to-End Scenarios + Personas)
- ← Acceptance Testing  
(customer demo, End-to-End Scenarios)
- ← Story Testing (features)  
(acceptance criteria)
- ← Unit Testing (methods)  
(black/gray/white box)

*Each level of testing assumes all the lower levels of tests have passed. Only test for the “current-level” risk.*



# Black box vs. white box testing

- **Black box** testing: do not look inside the component being tested.
  - Pro: not biased by implementation details
  - Con: can't leverage opportunities
- **White box** testing: consider the implementation of the component being tested.
  - Pro: exploit possible weaknesses
  - Con: may miss "impossible" bugs
- **Gray box** testing: somewhere in the middle

# Agile Testing: Hierarchical, Diverse (80/20)

- Write three kinds of tests, *bottom up*:
  1. Task level: Unit tests for critical units (black-box and/or white-box)
  2. Story/Iteration-level
    - Automating all could be expensive; some by hand
  3. Iteration/Milestone-level: End-to-end Scenario tests
    - Additionally consider Personas, platforms/configurations, real people
- Diversification beyond the hierarchy:
  - Asserts from design by contract
  - Logging for hard-to-test code (grey-box)

# Include time for testing during Planning

Write tests for high-risk units

For each story, have a testing task

- Could have two: one for writing tests, one for passing

For a sprint, have a testing Story or “loose” Task

- This is a “Developer Story”: As a developer, I want...
- End-to-End Scenarios, e.g.

For Milestone, have a testing Iteration or loose Story/  
Task

- longer End-to-End Scenarios, e.g.

# Testing early-stage software

- You want to test module A
- But A depends on module B.
- Module B isn't ready yet.
- What do?



# Another situation

- Want to test code that depends on the current time
- Or the network
- Or the disk
- Now what?

# Solution: mocking

## ■ New class: MockCalendar

```
class MockCalendar extends Calendar {  
    long millis;  
    MockCalendar(long millis) {this.millis = millis;}  
    static MockCalendar getInstance()  
        { return new MockCalendar(millis); }  
    long getTimeInMillis() { return millis; }  
    void setTimeInMillis(long ms) { millis = ms; }  
    ... // Lots of stubbed methods that we don't use  
}
```

Pass MockCalendar instance into code to be tested.

# Advanced Testing

Or: how to avoid writing tests manually (sometimes). Credit: CMU S3D (Michael Hilton)

## Puzzle: Find x such p1(x) returns True

```
def p1(x):  
    if x * x - 10 == 15:  
        return True  
    return False
```



## Puzzle: Find x such p2(x) returns True

```
def p2(x):  
    if x > 0 and x < 1000:  
        if ((x - 32) * 5/9 == 100):  
            return True  
    return False
```

## Puzzle: Find x such p3(x) returns True

```
def p3(x):  
    if x > 3 and x < 100:  
        z = x - 2  
        c = 0  
        while z >= 2:  
            if z ** (x - 1) % x == 1:  
                c = c + 1  
                z = z - 1  
            if c == x - 3:  
                return True  
    return False
```

# Fuzz Testing

Security and Robustness

Barton P. Miller, Lars Fredriksen and Bryan So

# Study of the Reliability of

# UNIX

# Utilities

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE ACM/December 1990/Vol.33, No.12

33

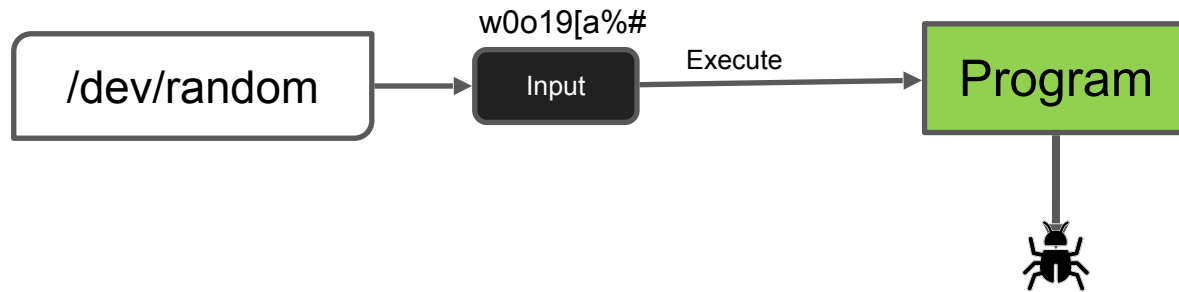
Communications of the ACM (1990)

“

On a dark and stormy night one of the authors was logged on to his workstation on a dial-up line from home and the rain had affected the phone lines; there were frequent spurious characters on the line. The author had to race to see if he could type a sensible sequence of characters before the noise scrambled the command. This line noise was not surprising; but we were surprised that these spurious characters were causing programs to crash.

”

# Fuzz Testing



A 1990 study found crashes in:

*adb, as, bc, cb, col, diction, emacs, eqn, ftp, indent, lex, look, m4, make, nroff, plot, prolog, ptx, refer!, spell, style, tsort, uniq, vgrind, vi*

# Common Fuzzer-Found Bugs in C/C++

Causes: incorrect arg validation, incorrect type casting, executing untrusted code, etc.

Effects: buffer-overflows, memory leak, division-by-zero, use-after-free, assertion violation, etc. (“crash”)

Impact: security, reliability, performance, correctness

But: bugs don't always result in crashes.

```
int *x = malloc(sizeof(int));  
free(x);  
printf("%d", *x);
```

How do you make programs “crash” when a bug is encountered?

# Automatic Oracles: Sanitizers

- Address Sanitizer (ASAN) \*\*\*
- LeakSanitizer (comes with ASAN)
- Thread Sanitizer (TSAN)
- Undefined-behavior Sanitizer (UBSAN)

<https://github.com/google/sanitizers>



# AddressSanitizer

Compile with `clang -fsanitize=address`

```
int get_element(int* a, int i) {  
    return a[i];  
}
```

# AddressSanitizer

Compile with `clang -fsanitize=address`

```
int get_element(int* a, int i) {  
    return a[i];  
}
```

Is it null?

```
int get_element(int* a, int i) {  
    if (a == NULL) abort();  
    return a[i];  
}
```

# AddressSanitizer

Compile with `clang -fsanitize=address`

```
int get_element(int* a, int i) {  
    return a[i];  
}
```

**Is the access out of bounds?**

```
int get_element(int* a, int i) {  
    if (a == NULL) abort();  
    region = get_allocation(a);  
    if (in_heap(region)) {  
        low, high = get_bounds(region);  
        if ((a + i) < low || (a + i) > high) {  
            abort();  
        }  
    }  
    return a[i];  
}
```

# AddressSanitizer

Compile with `clang -fsanitize=address`

Is this a reference to a stack-allocated variable after return?

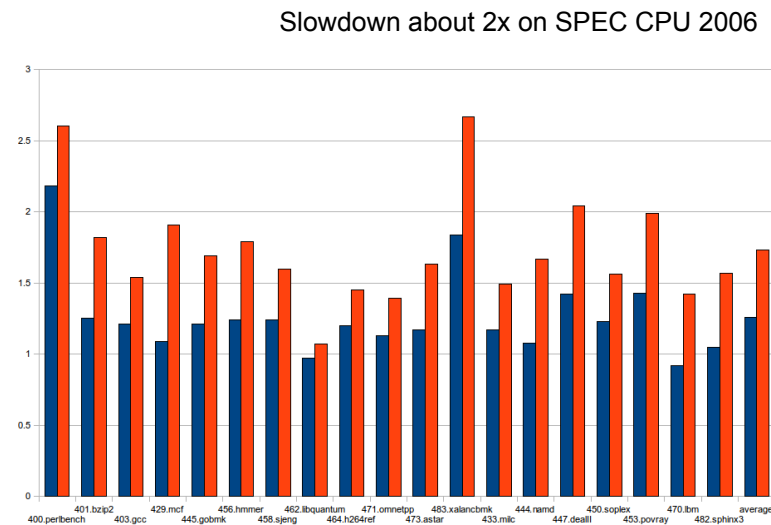
```
int get_element(int* a, int i) {
    if (a == NULL) abort();
    region = get_allocation(a);
    if (in_stack(region)) {
        if (popped(region)) abort();
        ...
    }
    if (in_heap(region)) { ... }
    return a[i];
}
```

# AddressSanitizer

<https://github.com/google/sanitizers/wiki/AddressSanitizer>

Asan is a memory error detector for C/C++. It finds:

- Use after free (dangling pointer dereference)
- Heap buffer overflow
- Stack buffer overflow
- Global buffer overflow
- Use after return
- Use after scope
- Initialization order bugs
- Memory leaks



# Strengths and Limitations

## Strengths:

- Cheap to generate inputs

- Easy to debug when a failure is identified

## Limitations:

- Randomly generated inputs don't make sense most of the time.

  - E.g. Imagine testing a browser and providing some "input"

  - HTML randomly: **dgsad5135o gsd;gj lsdkg3125j@!**

  - T%#( W+123sd asf j**

- Unlikely to exercise interesting behavior in the web browser

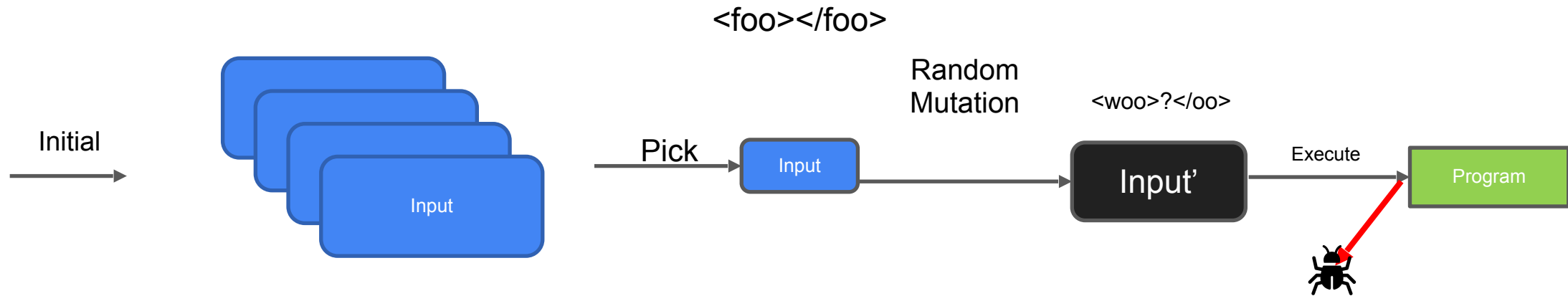
- Can take a long time to find bugs. Not sure when to stop.



## Sanitizers...

- A. Can be relied on to find most bugs that pertain to undefined behavior.
- B. Only work when test cases execute dangerous codepaths.
- C. Impose only trivial runtime overhead, so they can be used in production.
- D. Intervene at run time to avoid bad behavior.
- E. Remove sensitive data, such as passwords, from outputs.

# Mutation-Based Fuzzing (e.g. Radamsa)

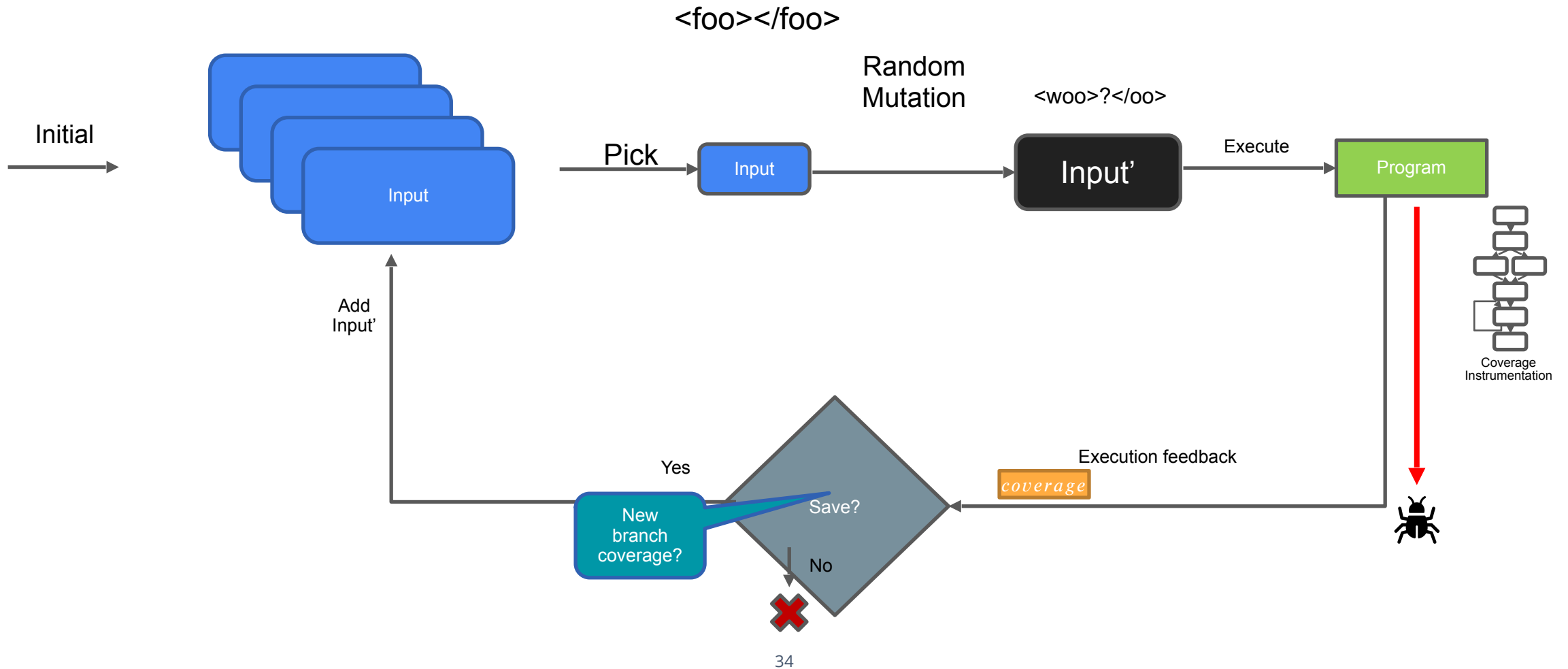




# Mutation Heuristics

- Binary input
  - Bit flips, byte flips
  - Change random bytes
  - Insert random byte chunks
  - Delete random byte chunks
  - Set randomly chosen byte chunks to *interesting* values e.g. INT\_MAX, INT\_MIN, 0, 1, -1, ...
- Text input
  - Insert random symbols relevant to format (e.g. "<" and ">" for xml)
  - Insert keywords from a dictionary (e.g. "<project>" for Maven POM.xml)
- GUI input
  - Change targets of clicks
  - Change type of clicks
  - Select different buttons
  - Change text to be entered in forms
  - ... Much harder to design

# Coverage-Guided Fuzzing (e.g. AFL)



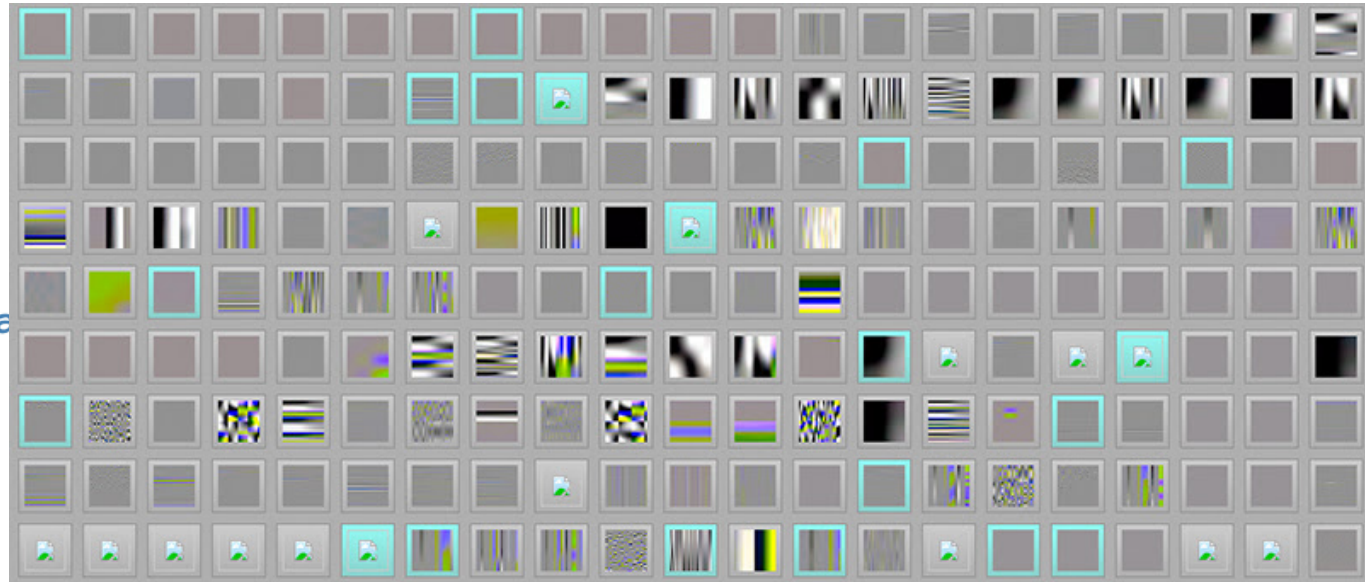
# Coverage-Guided Fuzzing with AFL

November 07, 2014

## Pulling JPEGs out of thin air

This is an interesting demonstration of the capabilities of [afl](#); I was actually pretty surprised that it worked!

```
$ mkdir in_dir  
$ echo 'hello' >in_dir/hello  
$ ./afl-fuzz -i in_dir -o out_dir ./jpeg-9a
```



<https://lcamtuf.blogspot.com/2014/11/pulling-jpegs-out-of-thin-air.html>

# ClusterFuzz @ Chromium

bugs chromium New issue All issues label:ClusterFuzz -status:Duplicate

1 - 100 of 25423 Next List

ID	Pri	M	Stars	ReleaseBlock	Component	Status	Owner
1133812	1	---	2	---	Blink>GetUserMedia Webcam	Untriaged	---
1133763	1	---	1	---	---	Untriaged	---
1133701	1	---	1	---	Blink>JavaScript	Untriaged	---
1133254	1	---	2	---	---	Untriaged	---
1133124	1	---	1	---	---	Untriaged	---
1133024	2	---	3	---	Internals>Network	Started	dmcardle@ch
1132958	1	---	2	---	UI>Accessibility, Blink>Accessibility	Assigned	sin...@chromi
1132907	2	---	2	---	Blink>JavaScript>GC	Assigned	dinfuehr@chr

# Property-based testing

- Manually writing tests:

- - work

- - requires creativity

- - biased toward your expectations of where bugs are

- + precise (test relevant use cases)

- + can test basically anything

# Can we generate lots of tests?

First, write down a property that a function should have, and a range:

```
@given(s.integers(min_value=-(10 ** 6), max_value=10 ** 6))  
  
def test_factorize_multiplication_property(n):  
    """The product of the integers returned by factorize(n) needs to be n."""  
    factors = factorize(n)  
    product = 1  
    for factor in factors:  
        product *= factor  
    assert product == n, f"factorize({n}) returned {factors}"
```

Then, run Hypothesis, which searches the space...

```

===== test session starts =====
platform linux -- Python 3.8.4, pytest-6.0.1, py-1.9.0, pluggy-0.13.1
rootdir: /home/moose/GitHub/MartinThoma/algorithms/medium/property-based-testing
plugins: hypothesis-5.23.8
collected 9 items

test_factorize_parametrize.py ..... [ 88%]
test_factorize_property.py F [100%]

===== FAILURES =====
_____ test_factorize_multiplication_property _____

    @given(s.integers(min_value=-(10 ** 6), max_value=10 ** 6))
> def test_factorize_multiplication_property(n):

test_factorize_property.py:10:
-----
n = 5

    @given(s.integers(min_value=-(10 ** 6), max_value=10 ** 6))
    def test_factorize_multiplication_property(n):
        """The product of the integers returned by factorize(n) needs to be n."""
        factors = factorize(n)
        product = 1
        for factor in factors:
            product *= factor
> assert product == n, f"factorize({n}) returned {factors}"
E   AssertionError: factorize(5) returned []
E   assert 1 == 5

test_factorize_property.py:16: AssertionError
----- Hypothesis -----
Falsifying example: test_factorize_multiplication_property(
    n=5,
)
===== short test summary info =====
FAILED test_factorize_property.py::test_factorize_multiplication_property - AssertionEr...
===== 1 failed, 8 passed in 0.12s =====

```

Oops! factorize(5)  
returned an empty list of  
factors!

# Generating tests

- Mutate existing "interesting" inputs
  - e.g. apply transformations to images
- Can you relate input transformations to output transformations?
  - Rotate input -> expect rotated output



# Regression Testing

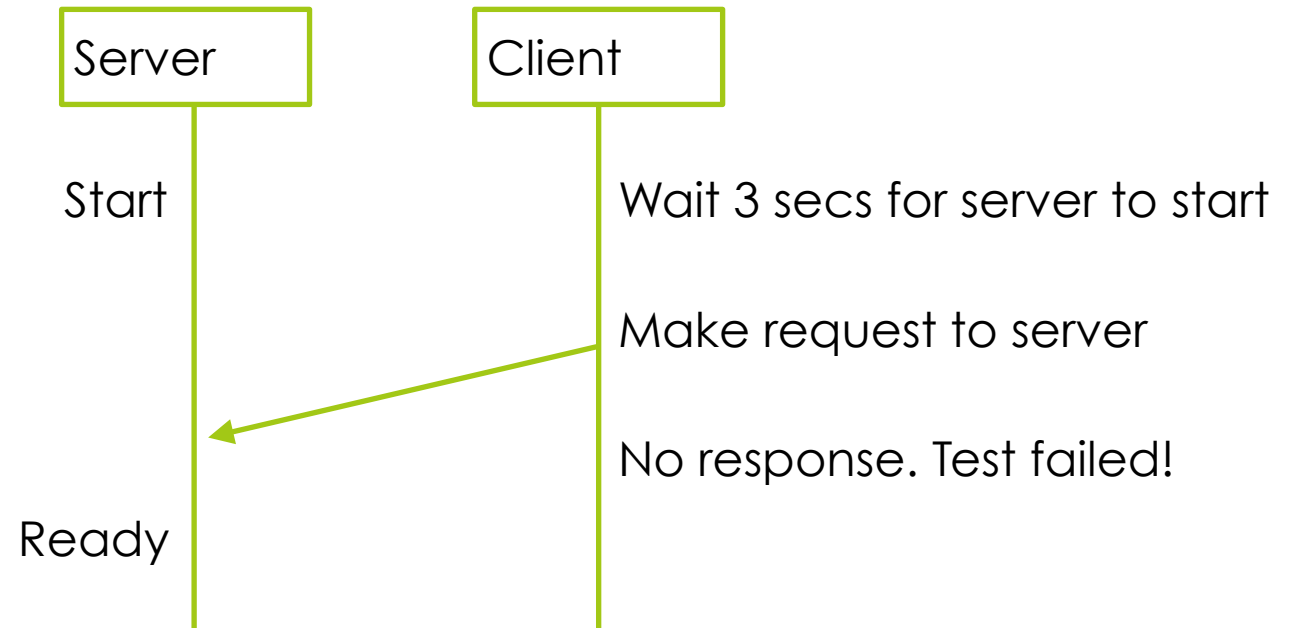
- Goal: know if something changed
- Try snapshot tests
- First time: record output
  - Later: compare output to saved output
- Useful with GUIs, API testing

# Testing user interfaces

- Need humans!
- Could try A/B tests to see if a real change impacts users

# Avoiding Flaky Tests

- Ensure a consistent starting configuration
- Ensure consistent cleanup
- Test order dependencies
- Control asynchronous startup



Slide credit: adapted from Jonathan Bell (CC BY-SA)