

Program Analysis

Random Testing and Fuzzing

Prof. Dr. Michael Pradel

Software Lab, University of Stuttgart

Winter 2023/2024

Warm-up Quiz

What does this JavaScript code print?

```
function f(a,b) {  
    var x;  
    for (var i = 0; i < arguments.length; i++) {  
        x += arguments[i];  
    }  
    console.log(x);  
}  
f(1, 2, 3);
```

3

6

NaN

Nothing

Warm-up Quiz

What does this JavaScript code print?

```
function f(a,b) {  
  var x;  
  for (var i = 0; i < arguments.length; i++) {  
    x += arguments[i];  
  }  
  console.log(x);  
}  
f(1, 2, 3);
```

3

6

NaN

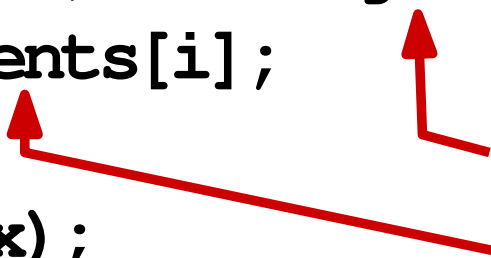
Nothing

Warm-up Quiz

What does this JavaScript code print?

```
function f(a,b) {  
  var x;  
  for (var i = 0; i < arguments.length; i++) {  
    x += arguments[i];  
  }  
  console.log(x);  
}  
f(1, 2, 3);
```

**Array-like object
that contains all
three arguments**



3


6


NaN

Nothing

Warm-up Quiz

What does this JavaScript code print?

```
function f(a,b) {  
  var x;  Initialized to undefined  
  for (var i = 0; i < arguments.length; i++) {  
    x += arguments[i];  
  }  
  console.log(x);  
}  
f(1, 2, 3);
```

 **undefined + some number yields NaN**

3

6

NaN

Nothing

Automated Testing

- **Manual testing**

- Important but **limited** by human time

- **Automated testing**

- Test **execution**: Regularly execute regression test suite
- Test **creation**: Automatic test generation

Automated Testing

- **Manual testing**

- Important but **limited** by human time

- **Automated testing**

- Test **execution**: Regularly execute regression test suite

- Test **creation**: Automatic test generation

Focus of this lecture

Kinds of Approaches

■ **Blackbox**

- No analysis of program

■ **Greybox**

- Lightweight analysis of program
- E.g., coverage achieved by inputs

■ **Whitebox**

- More heavyweight analysis of program
- E.g., conditions that trigger specific paths

Kinds of Approaches

**This
lecture**

- **Blackbox**

- No analysis of program

- **Greybox**

- Lightweight analysis of program
- E.g., coverage achieved by inputs

- **Whitebox**

- More heavyweight analysis of program
- E.g., conditions that trigger specific paths

Kinds of Approaches

- **Blackbox**

- No analysis of program

- **Greybox**

- Lightweight analysis of program
- E.g., coverage achieved by inputs

**Next
lecture**

- **Whitebox**

- More heavyweight analysis of program
- E.g., conditions that trigger specific paths

Kinds of Approaches

■ **Blackbox**

- No analysis of program

■ **Greybox**

- Lightweight analysis of program
- E.g., coverage achieved by inputs

■ **Whitebox**

- More heavyweight analysis of program
- E.g., conditions that trigger specific paths

**All of them:
Use feedback
from test
executions**

What's “the Program”?

- **Many possible answers**
 - Individual **function**
 - **Class** and its methods
 - Entire **library**
 - Entire stand-alone **tool**
- **Ideas discussed here work (in principle) on multiple levels**

Outline

- **Introduction**

- **Randoop** ←

- Based on *Feedback-Directed Random Test Generation*, Pacheco et al., ICSE 2007

- **Greybox fuzzing in AFL**

- Based on

https://lcamtuf.coredump.cx/afl/technical_details.txt

Motivating Examples

Two randomly generated tests:

```
Set s = new HashSet();  
s.add("hi");  
assertTrue(s.equals(s));
```

```
Set s = new HashSet();  
s.add("hi");  
s.isEmpty();  
assertTrue(s.equals(s));
```

Motivating Examples

Two randomly generated tests:

```
Set s = new HashSet();  
s.add("hi");  
assertTrue(s.equals(s));
```

```
Set s = new HashSet();  
s.add("hi");  
s.isEmpty();  
assertTrue(s.equals(s));
```

Only difference

Motivating Examples

Two randomly generated tests:

```
Set s = new HashSet();  
s.add("hi");  
assertTrue(s.equals(s));
```

```
Set s = new HashSet();  
s.add("hi");  
s.isEmpty();  
assertTrue(s.equals(s));
```

Redundant test

Motivating Examples (2)

Three randomly generated tests:

```
Date d = new Date(2006, 2, 14);  
assertTrue(d.equals(d));
```

```
Date d = new Date(2006, 2, 14);  
d.setMonth(-1);  
assertTrue(d.equals(d));
```

```
Date d = new Date(2006, 2, 14);  
d.setMonth(-1);  
d.setDay(5);  
assertTrue(d.equals(d));
```

Motivating Examples (2)

Three randomly generated tests:

```
Date d = new Date(2006, 2, 14);  
assertTrue(d.equals(d));
```

```
Date d = new Date(2006, 2, 14);  
d.setMonth(-1);  
assertTrue(d.equals(d));
```

```
Date d = new Date(2006, 2, 14);  
d.setMonth(-1);  
d.setDay(5);  
assertTrue(d.equals(d));
```

**Violates
pre-condition**

Motivating Examples (2)

Three randomly generated tests:

```
Date d = new Date(2006, 2, 14);  
assertTrue(d.equals(d));
```

```
Date d = new Date(2006, 2, 14);  
d.setMonth(-1);  
assertTrue(d.equals(d));
```

```
Date d = new Date(2006, 2, 14);  
d.setMonth(-1);  
d.setDay(5);  
assertTrue(d.equals(d));
```

Illegal tests

Feedback-directed Test Generation

Idea: **Guide** randomized **creation** of new test inputs by **feedback** about **execution** of previous inputs

- Avoid **redundant** inputs
- Avoid **illegal** inputs
- Test input here means **sequence of method calls**
- Software under test: Classes in Java-like language

Approach

- **Build test inputs incrementally**
 - New test inputs extend previous ones
- **As soon as test input is created, execute it**
- **Use execution results to guide generation**
 - away from redundant or illegal method sequences
 - toward sequences that create new object states

Randoop: Input/Output

Randoop: Implementation of feedback-directed random test generation

■ **Input**:

- Classes under test
- Time limit
- Set of contracts
 - **Method contracts**, e.g., `o.hashCode()` throws no exception
 - **Object invariants**, e.g.,
`o.equals(o) == true`

■ **Output**: Test cases with assertions

Example

```
HashMap h = new HashMap();  
Collection c = h.values();  
Object[] a = c.toArray();  
LinkedList l = new LinkedList();  
l.addFirst(a);  
TreeSet t = new TreeSet(l);  
Set u = Collections.unmodifiableSet(t);  
assertTrue(u.equals(u));
```

Example

```
HashMap h = new HashMap();  
Collection c = h.values();  
Object[] a = c.toArray();  
LinkedList l = new LinkedList();  
l.addFirst(a);  
TreeSet t = new TreeSet(l);  
Set u = Collections.unmodifiableSet(t);  
assertTrue(u.equals(u));
```

Fails when executed

Example

```
HashMap h = new HashMap();  
Collection c = h.values();  
Object[] a = c.toArray();  
LinkedList l = new LinkedList();  
l.addFirst(a);  
TreeSet t = new TreeSet(l);  
Set u = Collections.unmodifiableSet(t);
```

No contracts
violated up
to last
method call

```
assertTrue(u.equals(u));
```

— Fails when executed

Algorithm

1. Initialize **seed components**: $i=0$; $b=false$; ...

2. Do until time limit expires:

■ Create a new sequence

- Randomly **pick a method** $T_0.m(T_1, \dots, T_k)/T_{ret}$
- For each T_i , randomly pick a sequence S_i from the components that **constructs a value v_i of type T_i**

□ Create **new sequence**

$$S_{new} = S_1; \dots; S_k; T_{ret} \quad v_{new} = m(v_1, \dots, v_k);$$

- If S_{new} was previously created (lexically), go to

■ **Classify the sequence** S_{new}

- May discard, output as test case, or add to components

Classifying a Sequence

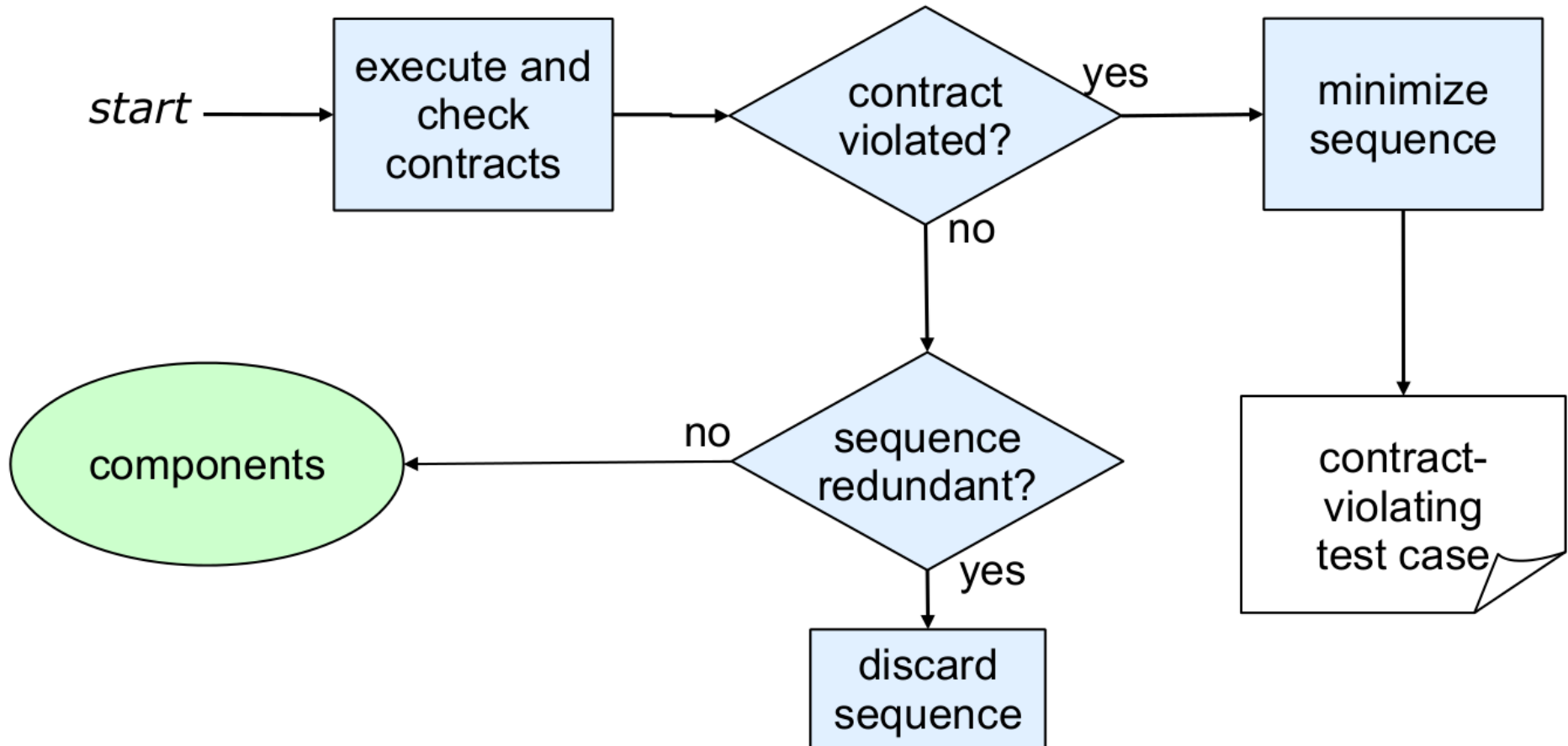


Image source: Slides by Pacheco et al.

Redundant Sequences

- During generation, maintain a **set of all objects created**
- **Sequence** is **redundant** if all objects created during its execution are in the above set (using `equals()` to compare)
- Could also use more sophisticated **state equivalence methods**
 - E.g., heap canonicalization

Classes under test: `java.util.*`

1) Pick a method

`new HashMap()`

→ No values needed

→ New sequence

`HashMap m = new HashMap()`

2) Classify

→ No contract violated

→ Not redundant

⇒ Add to components

3) Pick a method

`new HashMap()`

→ Sequence

`HashMap m2 = new HashMap()`

4) Classify sequence

→ No contract violated

→ Redundant

⇒ Discard sequence

5) Pick method `HashMap.values()`

→ Need sequence that constructs a value
of type `HashMap`

→ Use sequence from step 2)

⇒ Create sequence `HashMap m = new HashMap()`
`Collection c = m.values()`

6) Classify sequence

→ No contract violated

→ Not redundant

⇒ Add to components

Test Oracles

- Testing only useful if there is an **oracle**
- Randoop outputs two kinds of oracles

- Oracle for **contract-violating test cases**:

```
assertTrue(u.equals(u));
```

- Oracle for **normal-behavior test cases**:

```
assertEquals(2, l.size());
```

```
assertEquals(false, l.isEmpty());
```


Quiz

Which of these tests may be created by Randoop?

Test 1:

```
LinkedList l = new LinkedList()  
l.add(23);
```

Test 2:

```
LinkedList l = new LinkedList()  
l.get(-5);
```

Test 3:

```
LinkedList l = new LinkedList()  
l.add(7);  
assertEquals(l.getFirst(), 7);
```

Quiz

Which of these tests may be created by Randoop?

Test 1:

```
LinkedList l = new LinkedList()  
l.add(23);           (oracle missing)
```

Test 2:

```
LinkedList l = new LinkedList()  
l.get(-5);          (crashes)
```

Test 3:

```
LinkedList l = new LinkedList()  
l.add(7);  
assertEquals(l.getFirst(), 7);
```

Results

- Applied to data structure implementations and popular library classes
- Achieves **80-100% basic block coverage**
- Finds **various bugs** in JDK collections, classes from the .NET framework, and Apache libraries

Outline

- **Introduction**

- **Randoop**

- Based on *Feedback-Directed Random Test Generation*, Pacheco et al., ICSE 2007

- **Greybox fuzzing in AFL**



- Based on

https://lcamtuf.coredump.cx/afl/technical_details.txt

Greybox Fuzzing

- **Guide input generation toward a goal**
 - Guidance based on **lightweight program analysis**
- **Three main steps**
 - **Randomly** generate inputs
 - Get feedback from test executions:
What code is **covered**?
 - **Mutate inputs** that have covered new code

American Fuzzy Lop



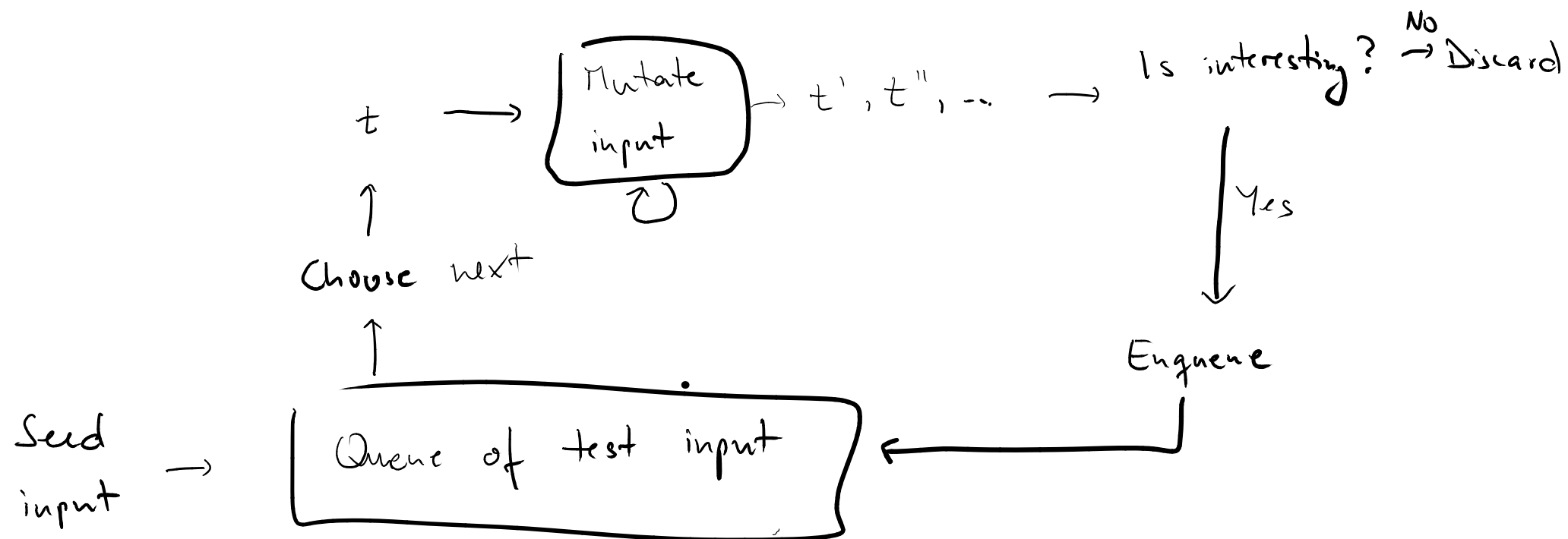
American Fuzzy Lop



American Fuzzy Lop

- **Simple yet effective** fuzzing tool
 - Targets C/C++ programs
 - Inputs are, e.g., files read by the program
- **Widely used in industry**
 - In particular, to find **security-related bugs**
 - E.g., in OpenSSL, PHP, Firefox

Overview of AFL :



Measuring Coverage

- **Different coverage metrics**

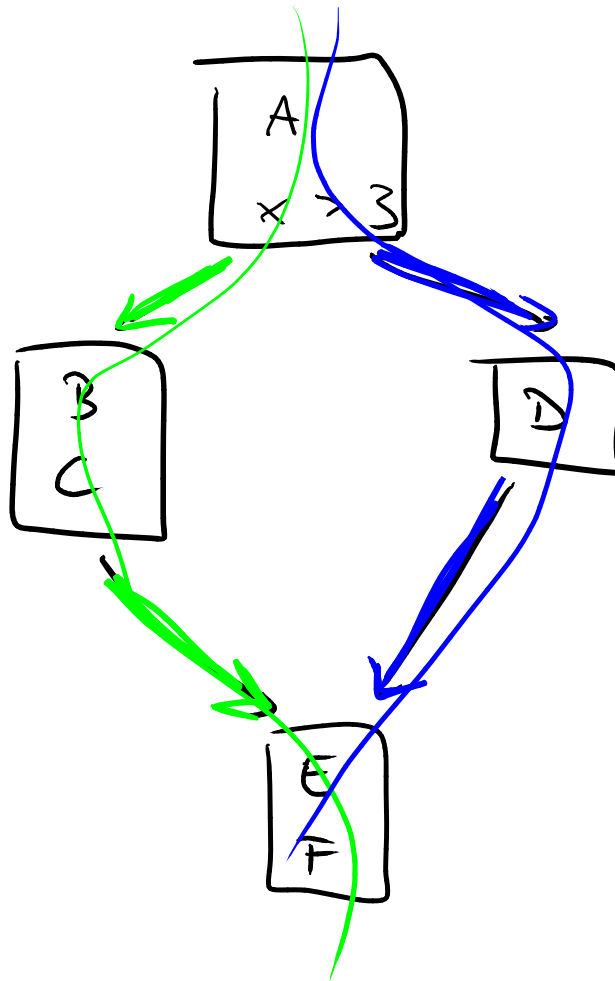
- Line/statement/branch/path coverage

- **Here: Branch coverage**

- Branches **between basic blocks**
- Rationale: Reaching a code location not enough to trigger a bug, but state also matters
- **Compromise** between
 - **Effort** spent on measuring coverage
 - **Guidance** it provides to the fuzzer

Example

```
A
if (x > 3) {
    B
    C
} else {
    D
}
E
F
```



Execution 1

Execution 2

Efficient Implementation

- Instrumentation added at branching points:

```
cur_location = /*COMPILE_TIME_RANDOM*/;  
shared_mem[cur_location ^ prev_location]++;  
prev_location = cur_location >> 1;
```

Efficient Implementation

- Instrumentation added at branching points:

```
cur_location = /*COMPILE TIME RANDOM*/;  
shared_mem[cur_location ^ prev_location]++;  
prev_location = cur_location >> 1;
```

Advantage:
Works well with
separate compilation

Efficient Implementation

- Instrumentation added at branching points:

```
cur_location = /*COMPILE_TIME_RANDOM*/;  
shared_mem[cur_location ^ prev_location]++;  
prev_location = cur_location >> 1;
```

**Globally reachable memory
location that stores how often
each edge was covered**

Efficient Implementation

- Instrumentation added at branching points:

```
cur_location = /*COMPILE_TIME_RANDOM*/;  
shared_mem[cur_location ^ prev_location]++;  
prev_location = cur_location >> 1;
```

Combine previous and current
block into a fixed-size hash

Efficient Implementation

- Instrumentation added at branching points:

```
cur_location = /*COMPILE_TIME_RANDOM*/;  
shared_mem[cur_location ^ prev_location]++;  
prev_location = cur_location >> 1;
```

Shift to distinguish between “A” followed
by “B” from “B” followed by “A”

Detecting New Behaviors

- Inputs that **trigger a new edge** in the CFG: Considered as **new behavior**
- **Alternative: Consider new paths**
 - More expensive to track
 - Path explosion problem

Example:

Exec. 1: $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow D \rightarrow E$ new

Exec. 2: $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow A \rightarrow E$ new

Exec. 3: $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow D \rightarrow E$ not new

Edge Hit Counts

- Refinement of the previous definition of “new behaviors”
- For **each edge, count how often it is taken**
 - Approximate counts based on **buckets of increasing size**
 - 1, 2, 3, 4-7, 8-15, 16-31, etc.
 - Rationale: Focus on relevant differences in the hit counts

Evolving the Input Queue

- **Maintain queue of inputs**
 - Initially: **Seed inputs** provided by user
 - Once used, **keep** input **if it covers new edges**
 - **Add new inputs by mutating existing input**
- **In practice: Queue sizes of 1k to 10k**

Mutation Operators

- **Goal: Create new inputs from existing inputs**
- **Random transformations of bytes in an existing input**
 - **Bit flips** with varying lengths and stepovers
 - **Addition and subtraction** of small integers
 - **Insertion** of known interesting integers
 - E.g., 0, 1, INT_MAX
 - **Splicing** of different inputs

More Tricks for Fast Fuzzing

- **Time and memory limits**
 - Discard input when execution is too expensive
- **Pruning the queue**
 - Periodically select subset of inputs that still cover every edge seen so far
- **Prioritize how many mutants to generate from an input in the queue**
 - E.g., focus on unusual paths or try to reach specific locations

Real-World Impact

- **Open-source tool** maintained mostly by Google
 - Initially created by single developer
 - Various improvements proposed in academia and industry
- **Fuzzers regularly check various security-critical components**
 - Many **thousands of compute hours**
 - **Hundreds of detected vulnerabilities**