

Mutation Testing



@DonSchado

cologne.rb | 16.10.2013



RailLove

disclaimer

This presentation contains:

- memes
- a definition
- lots of screenshots
- overdrawn code examples
- a short quiz time
- surviving mutants
- no ponies


```
def mutation_testing  
  <<-eos
```

is used to evaluate the quality of existing software tests

modifying the program's source code

based on well-defined mutation operators

each 'mutated' version is called a mutant

a test which detects the mutation (fail) will kill the mutant

mutants without failing tests are alive

```
    eos  
end
```

```
def mutation_testing  
  <<-eos
```

is used to evaluate the quality of existing software tests

modifying the program's source code

based on well-defined mutation operators

each 'mutated' version is called a mutant

a test which detects the mutation (fail) will kill the mutant

mutants without failing tests are ALIVE

```
  eos  
end
```




gem 'mutant', '~> 0.3.0.rc3'

Rubygem **mutant**

Total Downloads

↑ **24803**

Releases

45

Current Version

0.3.0.rc3

Released

28 days ago

First Release

about a year ago

Depends on following gems

abstract_type, adamantium, backports, descendants_tracker, diff-lcs, equalizer, ice_nine, inflecto, rspec, to_source

Depending Gems

9

Popular gems depending on mutant

crystalline, guard-mutant, devutils-metrics, ruote-synchronize, ruote-resque, mutant-rails, citrus-core, meta_module, develry

Github **mbj/mutant**

Watchers

213

Forks

15

Development activity

↑ **Active**

Last commit

24 days ago

First commit

Top contributors

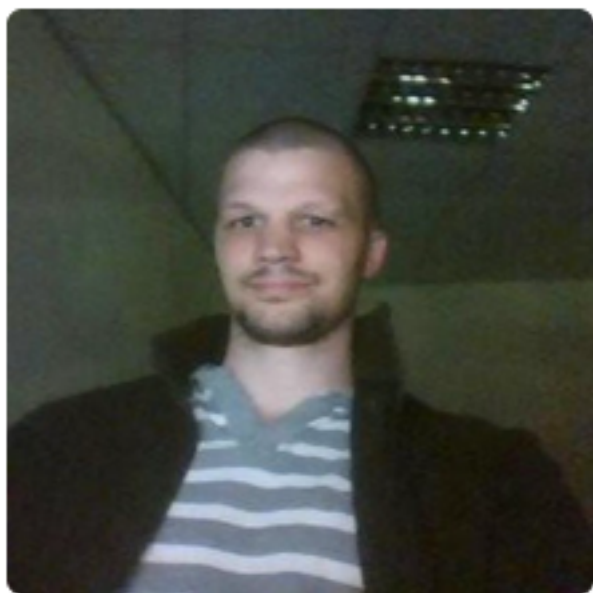
mbj, dkubb, solnic, snusnu, clekstro, splattael, postmodern, benmoss, nevir, and jessekempf

Contributors

12

Issues

36



Markus Schirp

mbj

self-employed / freelancing

Essen, Germany

mbj@schirp-dso.com

https://twitter.com/_m_b_j_

Joined on Aug 21, 2009

43

followers

141

starred

4

following

Organizations



Piotr Solnica

solnic

Powow AS

Poland, Kraków

<http://solnic.eu>

Joined on Feb 27, 2008

230

followers

268

starred

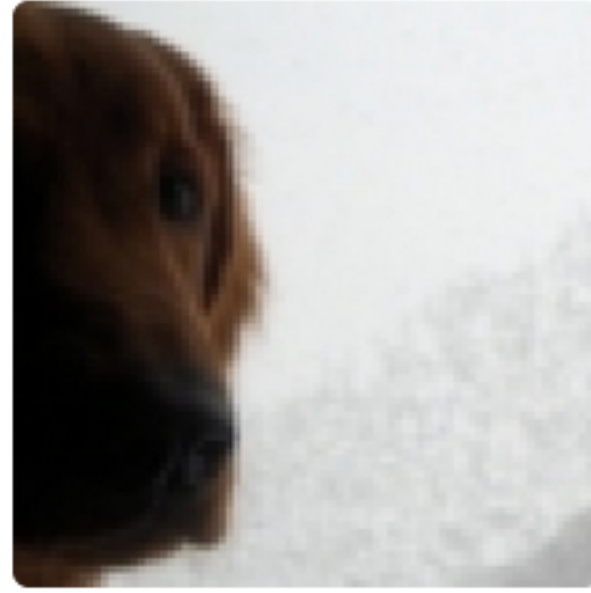
157

following

Organizations



Peewee



Dan Kubb

dkubb

Freelancer

Mission, BC, Canada

dan.kubb@gmail.com

Joined on Feb 03, 2008

302

followers

100

starred

4

following

Organizations



Projects using Mutant

The following projects
adopted mutant, and aim
100% mutation coverage:

- [axiom](#)
- [axiom-types](#)
- [rom-mapper](#)
- [rom-session](#)
- [event_bus](#)
- [virtus](#)
- [quacky](#)
- [substation](#)
- [large_binomials](#)



mbj/mutant

Feed

Code

Issues

Trends

Search by class name

code climate 4.0

Tweet



Summary of September 9th - 15th

54 files changed, 1,016 insertions, 878 deletions



One class/module was **added**. 29 days ago



Mutant::Predicate::Matcher



Mutant::CLI::Classifier has **improved**. about a month ago



Two classes/modules were **added**. about a month ago

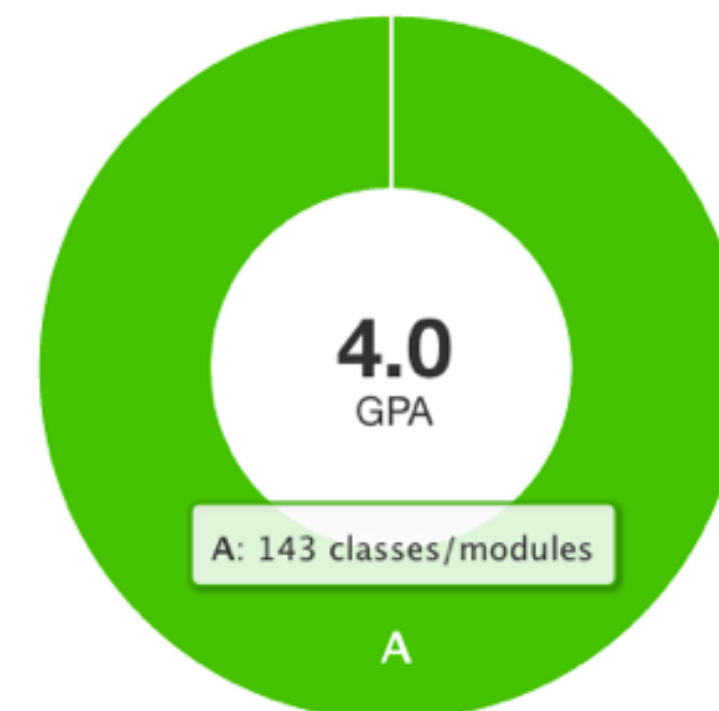


Mutant::Mutator::Node::Blockarg



Mutant::Mutator::Node::Dsym

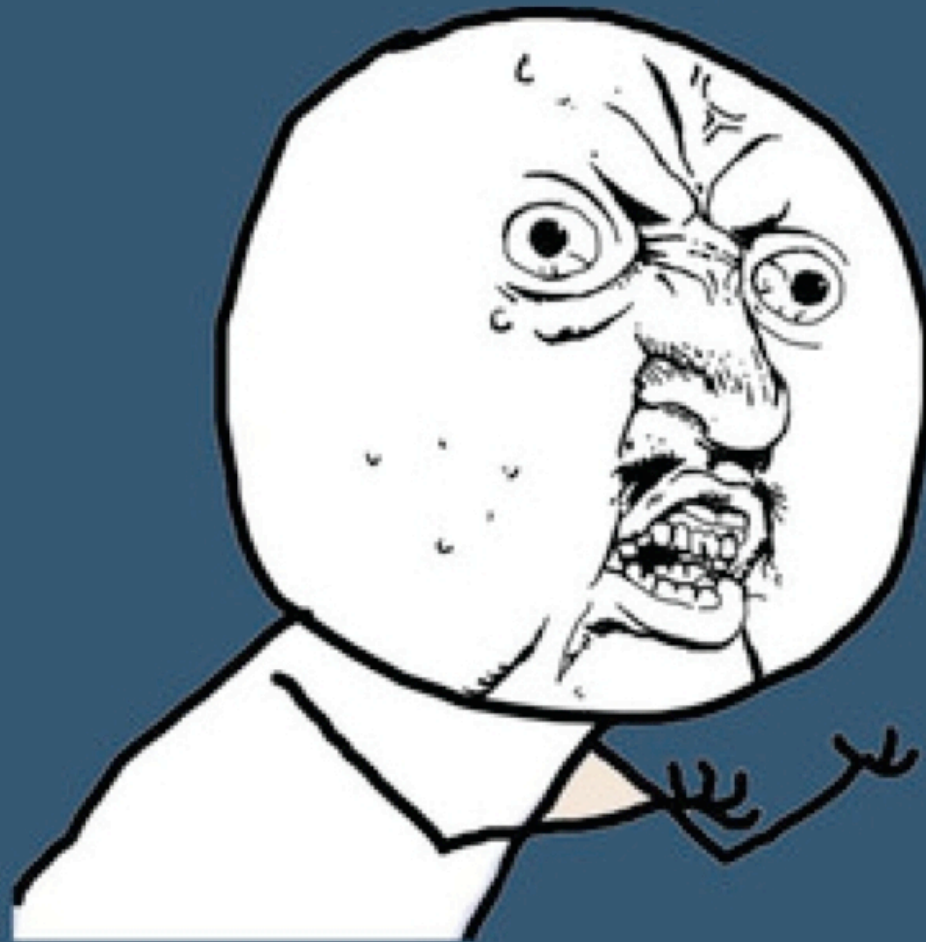
Classes by Rating



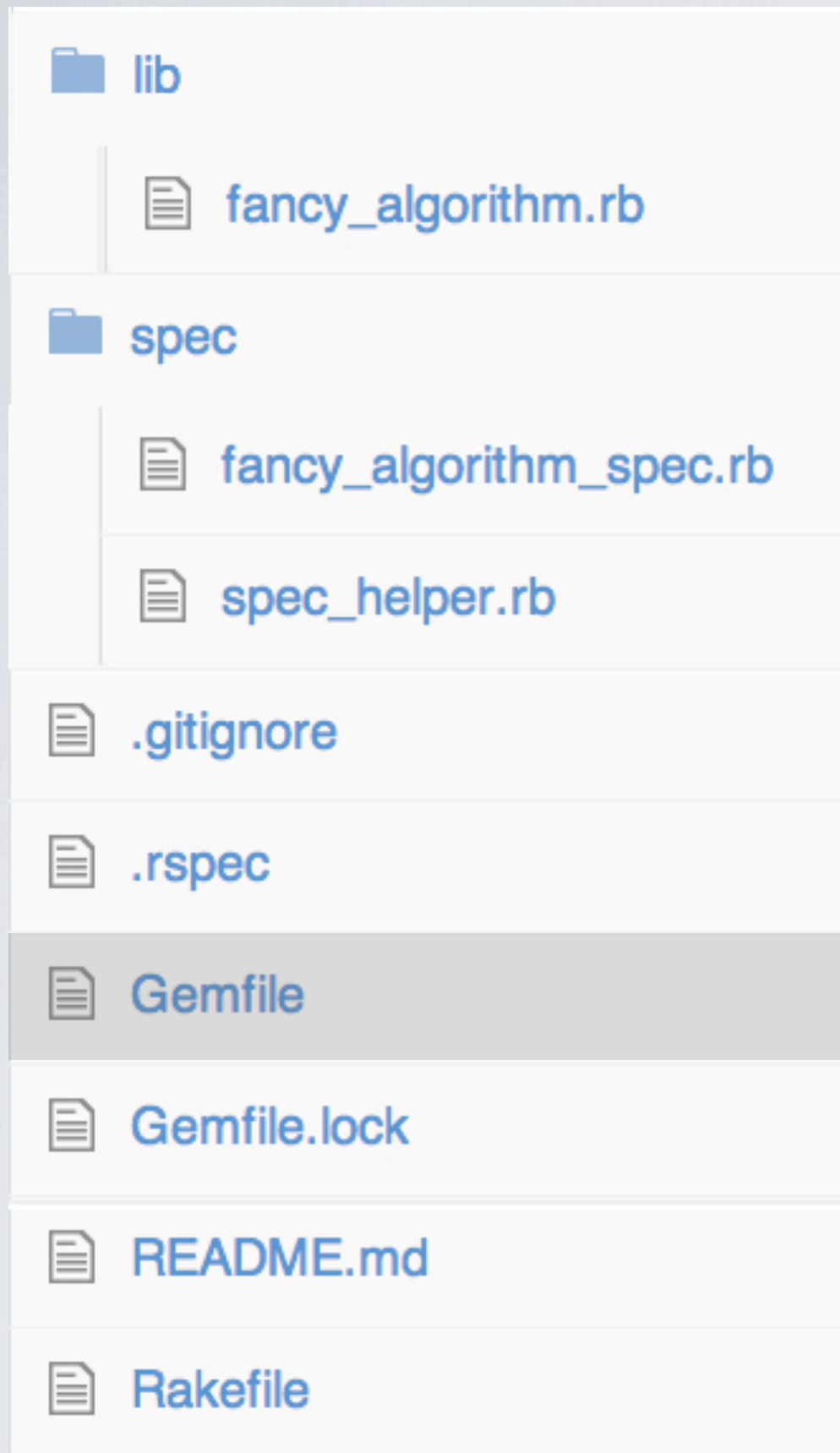
Hotspots

Huzzah! This repo has no classes or modules worse than a B.

THE CODE



Y U NO SHOW ME?



```
source "https://rubygems.org"
```

```
gem 'simplecov', "~> 0.8.0.pre2"  
gem "rake", "~> 10.1.0"  
gem "rspec", "~> 2.14.0"  
gem "mutant", "~> 0.3.0.rc3"  
gem "rspec-pride", "~> 2.2.0", :require => false  
gem "activesupport", "~> 4.0.0", :require => false
```




lib



fancy_algorithm.rb



spec



fancy_algorithm_spec.rb



spec_helper.rb



.gitignore



.rspec



Gemfile



Gemfile.lock



README.md



Rakefile

```
require 'spec_helper'
```

```
describe 'FancyAlgorithm' do
```

```
  let(:random_list) { %w[2 1 3 5 6 4 9 8 7] }
```

```
  let(:sorted_list) { %w[1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9] }
```

```
  context ':sort' do
```

```
    subject { FancyAlgorithm.new(:sort) }
```

```
    it { expect(subject.perform(random_list)).to eql(sorted_list) }
```

```
  end
```

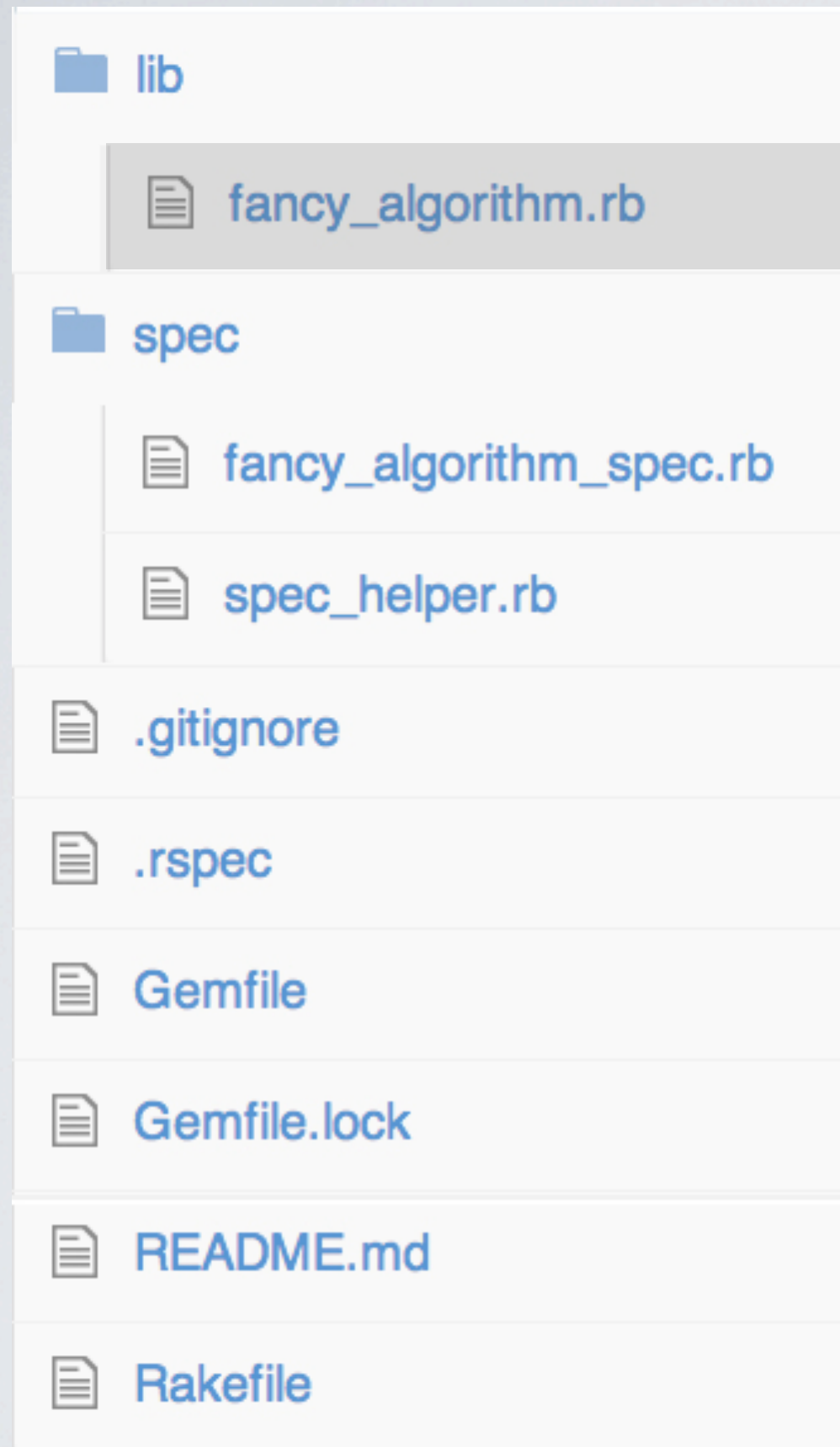
```
  context ':unsort' do
```

```
    subject { FancyAlgorithm.new(:unsort) }
```

```
    it { expect(subject.perform(random_list)).to_not eql(sorted_list) }
```

```
  end
```

```
end
```



```
class FancyAlgorithm
  attr_accessor :strategy

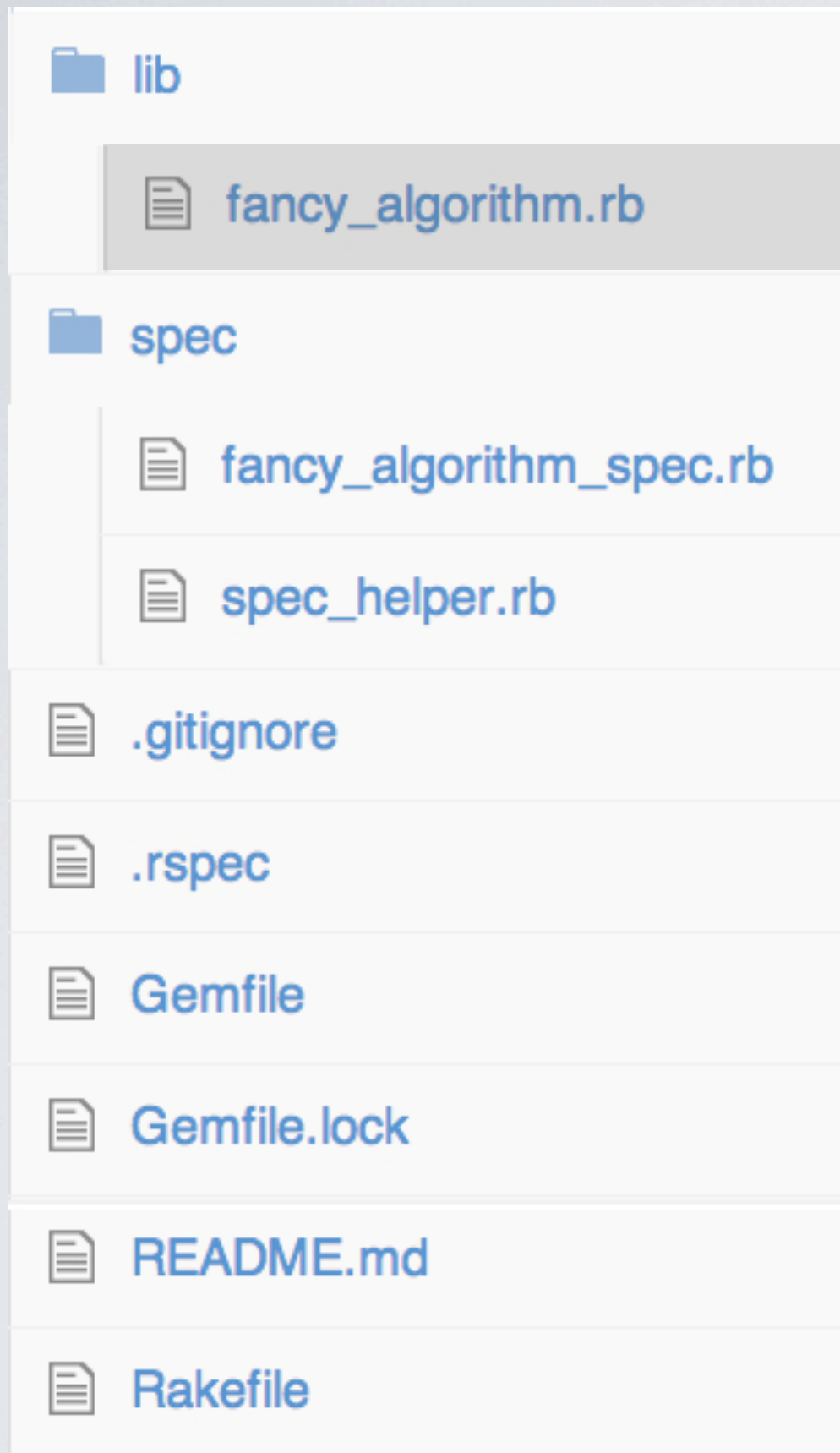
  def initialize(strategy)
    @strategy = strategy.to_s
  end

  def perform(list)
    self.send("#{strategy}_algorithm!", list)
  end

  private

  def sort_algorithm!(list)
    return list if list.size <= 1
    0.upto(list.size - 1) do |i|
      (list.size - 1).downto(i + 1) do |j|
        if list[j] < list[j - 1]
          list[j], list[j - 1] = list[j - 1], list[j]
        end
      end
    end
    list
  end

  def unsort_algorithm!(list)
    return list.shuffle unless list.empty?
  end
end
```

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class FancyAlgorithm
  attr_accessor :strategy

  def initialize(strategy)
    @strategy = strategy.to_s
  end

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    self.send("#{strategy}_algorithm!", list)
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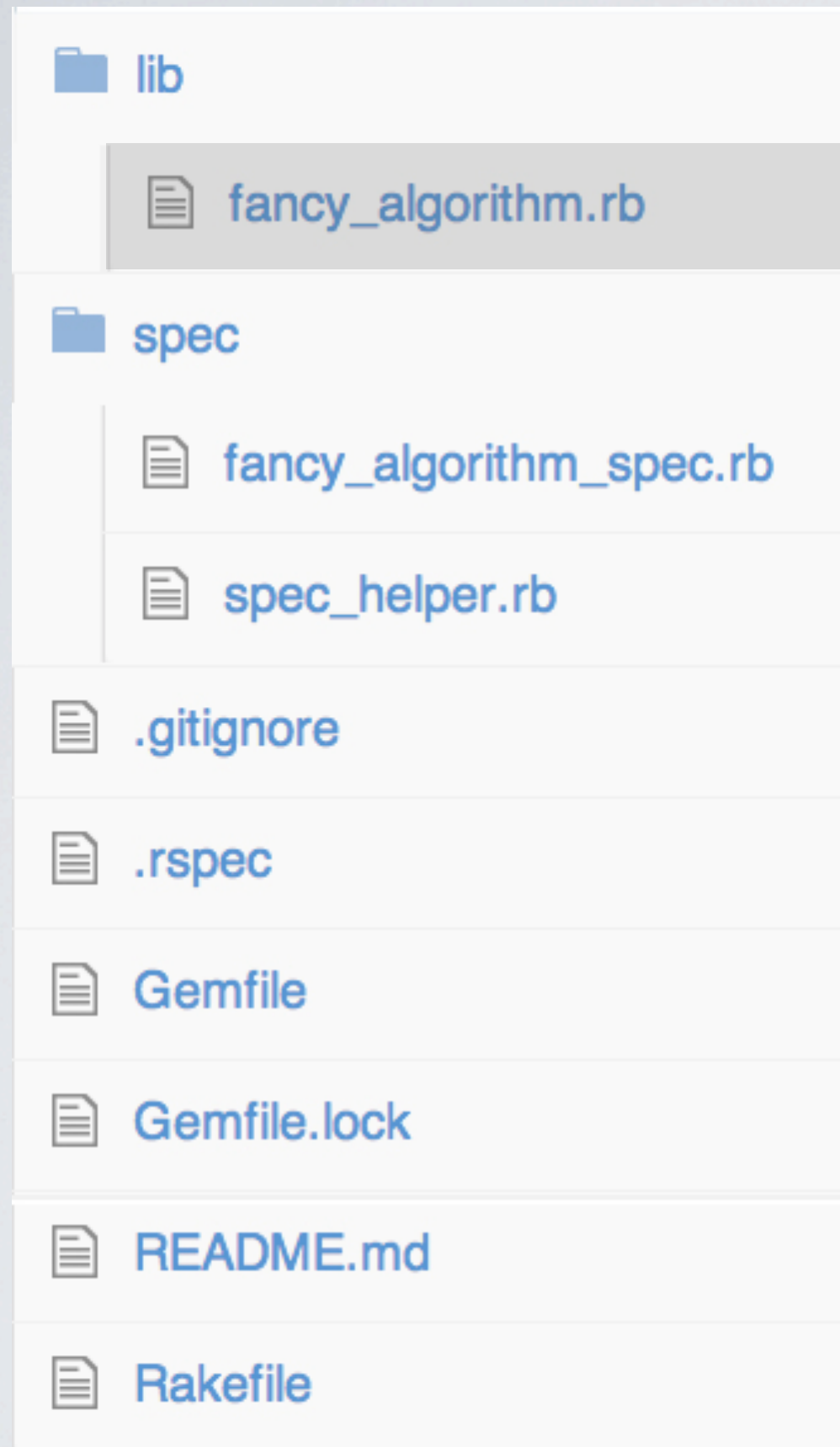
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        end
      end
    end
    list
  end

  def unsort_algorithm!(list)
    return list.shuffle unless list.empty?
  end
end
```

This is obviously
more advanced
than Array#sort.





```
class FancyAlgorithm
  attr_accessor :strategy

  def initialize(strategy)
    @strategy = strategy.to_s
  end

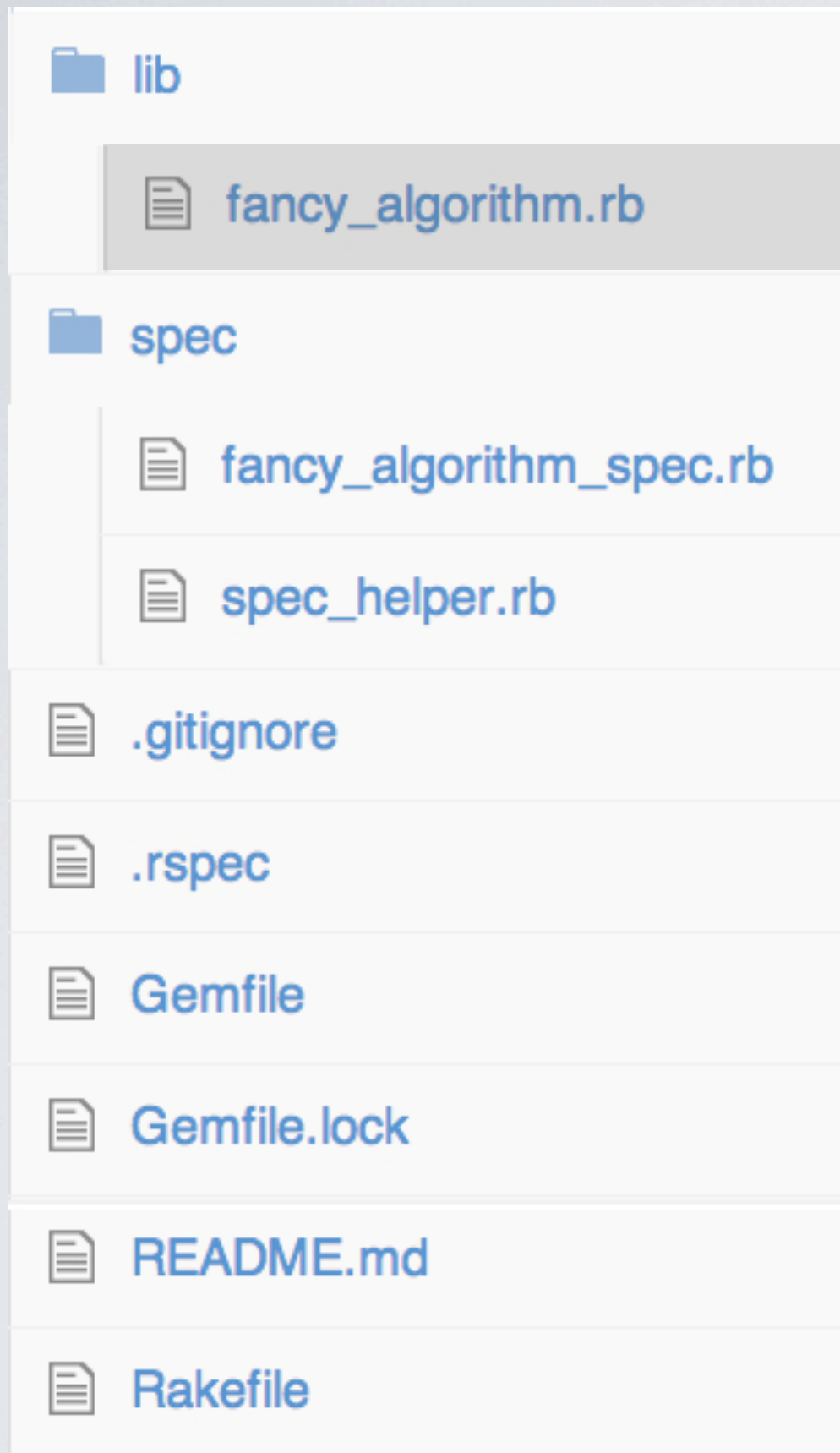
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        end
      end
    end
    list
  end

  def unsort_algorithm!(list)
    return list.shuffle unless list.empty?
  end
end
```

Quiztime:
Which sorting algorithm
is this?



```
class FancyAlgorithm
  attr_accessor :strategy

  def initialize(strategy)
    @strategy = strategy.to_s
  end

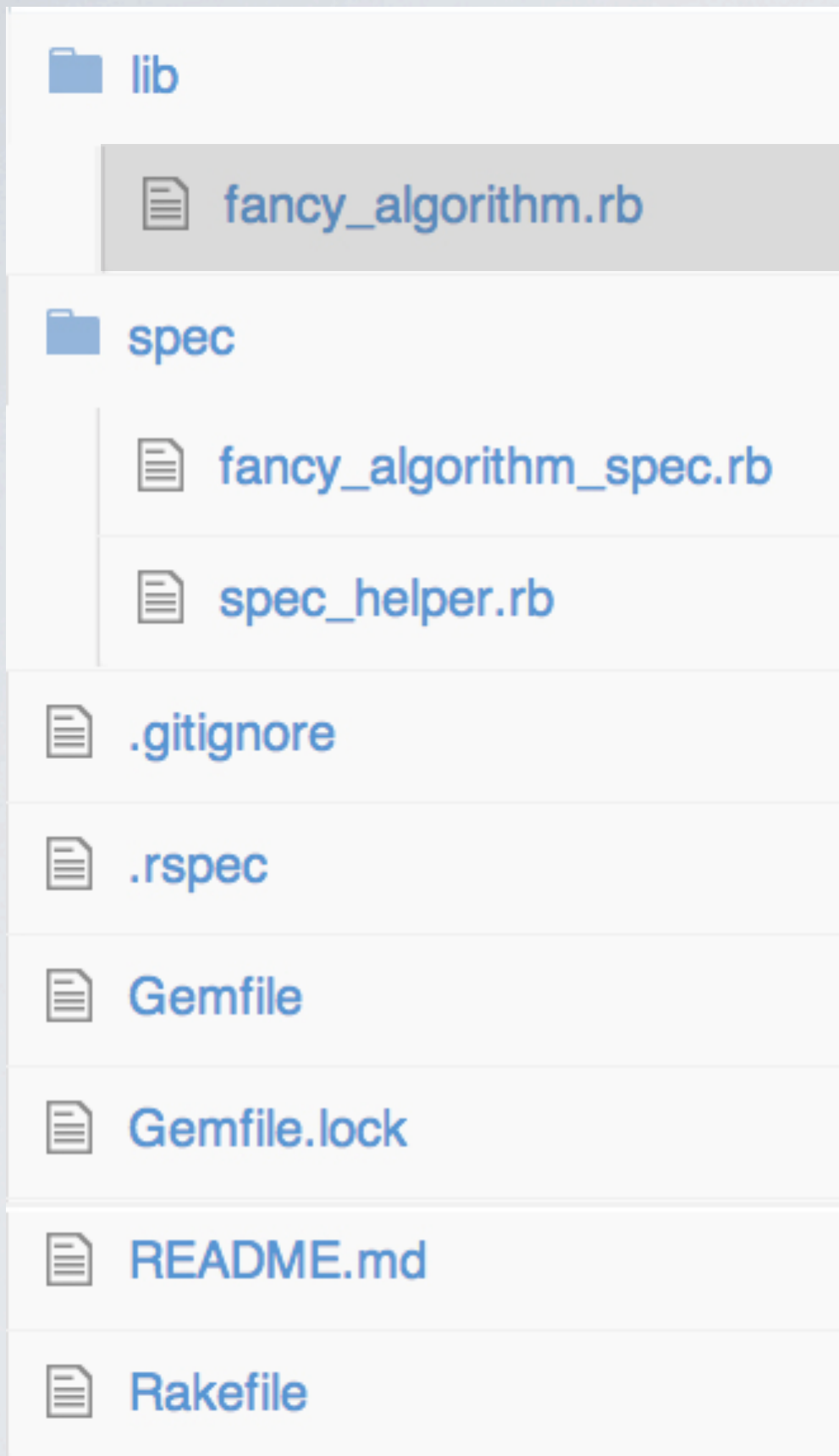
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    self.send("#{strategy}_algorithm!", list)
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  def sort_algorithm!(list)
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    end
    list
  end

  def unsort_algorithm!(list)
    return list.shuffle unless list.empty?
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end
```

Quiztime:
What's the average
Big-O complexity of this
sorting algorithm?



```
class FancyAlgorithm
  attr_accessor :strategy

  def initialize(strategy)
    @strategy = strategy.to_s
  end

  def perform(list)
    self.send("#{strategy}_algorithm!", list)
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        end
      end
    end
    list
  end

  def unsort_algorithm!(list)
    return list.shuffle unless list.empty?
  end
end
```

Quiztime:
What's the sorting
algorithm behind Ruby's
Array#sort?

<http://biggocheatsheet.com/>

<http://www.igvita.com/2009/03/26/ruby-algorithms-sorting-trie-heaps/>

Fabulous tests in 0.001248 seconds
2 examples, 0 failures, 0 pending

lib/fancy_algorithm.rb

100.0 % covered

16 relevant lines. 16 lines covered and 0 lines missed.

1.	class FancyAlgorithm	1
2.	attr_accessor :strategy	1
3.		
4.	def initialize(strategy)	1
5.	@strategy = strategy.to_s	2
6.	end	
7.		
8.	def perform(list)	1
9.	self.send("#{strategy}_algorithm!", list)	2
10.	end	
11.		
12.	private	1
13.		
14.	def sort_algorithm!(list)	1
15.	return list if list.size <= 1	1
16.		
17.	0.upto(list.size - 1) do i	1
18.	(list.size - 1).downto(i + 1) do j	9
19.	if list[j] < list[j - 1]	36
20.	(list[j], list[j - 1] = list[j - 1],	6
	list[j])	

\$ mutant --help

usage: mutant STRATEGY [options] MATCHERS ...

Strategies:

--rspec	kills mutations with rspec
--rspec-level LEVEL	set rspec expansion level
--ignore-subject MATCHER	ignores subjects that matches MATCHER
--zombie	Run mutant zombified
-I, --include DIRECTORY	Add DIRECTORY to \$LOAD_PATH
-r, --require NAME	Require file with NAME

Options:

--version	Print mutants version
--code FILTER	Adds a code filter
--fail-fast	Fail fast
-d, --debug	Enable debugging output
-h, --help	Show this message


```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm#initialize
```

```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm#initialize
```

Mutant configuration:

```
Matcher:      #<Mutant::Matcher::Method::Instance cache=#<Mutant::Cache>
               scope=FancyAlgorithm method=#<UnboundMethod: FancyAlgorithm#initialize>>
```

```
Subject Filter: Mutant::Predicate::CONTRADICTION
```

```
Strategy:     #<Mutant::Strategy::Rspec level=0>
```

```
FancyAlgorithm#initialize:../lib/fancy_algorithm.rb:4
```

```
.....F....
```

```
(09/10) 90% - 0.79s
```

```
FancyAlgorithm#initialize:../lib/fancy_algorithm.rb:4
```

```
evil:FancyAlgorithm#initialize:../lib/fancy_algorithm.rb:4:b34d0
```

```
@@ -1,4 +1,4 @@
```

```
  def initialize(strategy)
```

```
-   @strategy = strategy.to_s
```

```
+   @strategy = strategy
```

```
  end
```

```
(09/10) 90% - 0.79s
```

```
Subjects: 1
```

```
Mutations: 10
```

```
Kills: 9
```

```
Runtime: 0.86s
```

```
Killtime: 0.79s
```

```
Overhead: 8.84%
```

```
Coverage: 90.00%
```

```
Alive: 1
```



```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm#initialize
```

Mutant configuration:

```
Matcher:      #<Mutant::Matcher::Method::Instance cache=#<Mutant::Cache>
               scope=FancyAlgorithm method=#<UnboundMethod: FancyAlgorithm#initialize>>
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```
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```
.....F....
```

```
(09/10) 90% - 0.79s
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```
def initialize(strategy)
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- @strategy = strategy.to_s
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+ @strategy = strategy
```

```
end
```

```
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```

```
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```

```
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```

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Killtime: 0.79s
```

```
Overhead: 8.84%
```

```
Coverage: 90.00%
```

```
Alive: 1
```

```
def initialize(strategy)
  @strategy = strategy.to_s
end
```

```
def perform(list)
  self.send("#{strategy}_algorithm!", list)
end
```

↓ *implicit!*

```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```



```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

Mutant configuration:

...

FancyAlgorithm#initialize:/../lib/fancy_algorithm.rb:4

.....**F**.....
(09/10) 90% - 0.80s

FancyAlgorithm#perform:/../lib/fancy_algorithm.rb:8

.....**F**.....
(17/18) 94% - 1.44s

FancyAlgorithm#sort_algorithm!:/../lib/fancy_algorithm.rb:14

.....**FFF.F.FFFFF**.....**F**.....
(47/57) 82% - 4.87s

FancyAlgorithm#unsort_algorithm!:/../lib/fancy_algorithm.rb:27

.....**FF.FFFFFFFF.FFF**.....
(06/18) 33% - 1.52s

Subjects: 4
Mutations: 103
Kills: 79
Runtime: 9.46s
Killtime: 8.62s
Overhead: 8.84%
Coverage: 76.70%
Alive: 24

\$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm

Mutant configuration:

...

FancyAlgorithm#initialize:/../lib/fancy_algorithm.rb:4

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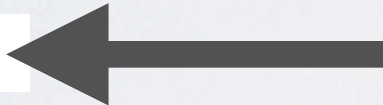
Runtime: 9.46s

Killtime: 8.62s

Overhead: 8.84%

Coverage: 76.70%

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```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
- self.send("#{strategy}_algorithm!", list)  
+ send("#{strategy}_algorithm!", list)
```

```
def perform(list)  
  self.send("#{strategy}_algorithm!", list)  
end
```

```
Subjects: 4  
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```

```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
def sort_algorithm!(list)
  return list if list.size <= 1
  0.upto(list.size - 1) do |i|
    (list.size - 1).downto(i + 1) do |j|
      if list[j] < list[j - 1]
        list[j], list[j - 1] = list[j - 1], list[j]
      end
    end
  end
  list
end
```

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```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
- if list.size <= 1  
+ if list.size <= -1
```

```
def sort_algorithm!(list)  
  return list if list.size <= 1  
  0.upto(list.size - 1) do |i|  
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      if list[j] < list[j - 1]  
        list[j], list[j - 1] = list[j - 1], list[j]  
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  list  
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$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
- if list.size <= 1  
+ if list.size <= -1
```

```
- if list.size <= 1  
+ if list.size <= 2
```

```
def sort_algorithm!(list)  
  return list if list.size <= 1  
  0.upto(list.size - 1) do |i|  
    (list.size - 1).downto(i + 1) do |j|  
      if list[j] < list[j - 1]  
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```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
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```
- if list.size <= 1  
+ if list.size <= -1  
  
- if list.size <= 1  
+ if list.size <= 2  
  
- if list.size <= 1  
+ if list.size <= nil
```

```
def sort_algorithm!(list)  
  return list if list.size <= 1  
  0.upto(list.size - 1) do |i|  
    (list.size - 1).downto(i + 1) do |j|  
      if list[j] < list[j - 1]  
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$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
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- if list.size <= 1  
+ if list.size <= 2  
  
- if list.size <= 1  
+ if list.size <= nil  
  
- if list.size <= 1  
+ if list.size <= false
```

```
def sort_algorithm!(list)  
  return list if list.size <= 1  
  0.upto(list.size - 1) do |i|  
    (list.size - 1).downto(i + 1) do |j|  
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```
- return(list)  
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```

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- return(list)
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```

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def sort_algorithm!(list)
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- return(list)
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```
def sort_algorithm!(list)
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    end
  end
  list
end
```

```
Subjects: 4
Mutations: 103
Kills: 79
Runtime: 9.46s
Killtime: 8.62s
Overhead: 8.84%
Coverage: 76.70%
Alive: 24
```



```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
def unsort_algorithm!(list)
  return list.shuffle unless list.empty?
end
```

Subjects: 4
Mutations: 103
Kills: 79
Runtime: 9.46s
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Alive: 24

```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
- unless list.empty?  
+ unless nil
```

```
def unsort_algorithm!(list)  
  return list.shuffle unless list.empty?  
end
```

```
Subjects: 4  
Mutations: 103  
Kills: 79  
Runtime: 9.46s  
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Overhead: 8.84%  
Coverage: 76.70%  
Alive: 24
```



```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
- unless list.empty?  
+ unless nil  
  
- unless list.empty?  
+ unless !list.empty?
```

```
def unsort_algorithm!(list)  
  return list.shuffle unless list.empty?  
end
```

```
Subjects: 4  
Mutations: 103  
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Coverage: 76.70%  
Alive: 24
```

```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
- unless list.empty?  
+ unless nil  
  
- unless list.empty?  
+ unless !list.empty?  
  
- unless list.empty?  
+ unless false
```

```
def unsort_algorithm!(list)  
  return list.shuffle unless list.empty?  
end
```

```
Subjects: 4  
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```
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```

```
- unless list.empty?  
+ unless nil  
  
- unless list.empty?  
+ unless !list.empty?  
  
- unless list.empty?  
+ unless false  
  
- unless list.empty?  
+ if list.empty?
```

```
def unsort_algorithm!(list)  
  return list.shuffle unless list.empty?  
end
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```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
- return(list.shuffle)  
+ return(list)
```

```
def unsort_algorithm!(list)  
  return list.shuffle unless list.empty?  
end
```

```
Subjects: 4  
Mutations: 103  
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```

```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
- return(list.shuffle)  
+ return(list)  
  
- return(list.shuffle)  
+ list.shuffle
```

```
def unsort_algorithm!(list)  
  return list.shuffle unless list.empty?  
end
```

```
Subjects: 4  
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```



```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
- return(list.shuffle)  
+ return(list)  
  
- return(list.shuffle)  
+ list.shuffle  
  
- return(list.shuffle)  
+ return(nil)
```

```
def unsort_algorithm!(list)  
  return list.shuffle unless list.empty?  
end
```

```
Subjects: 4  
Mutations: 103  
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```
$ mutant --rspec -I lib -r fancy_algorithm FancyAlgorithm
```

```
- return(list.shuffle)
+ return(list)

- return(list.shuffle)
+ list.shuffle

- return(list.shuffle)
+ return(nil)

- unless list.empty?
-   return(list.shuffle)
- end
+ nil
```

```
def unsort_algorithm!(list)
  return list.shuffle unless list.empty?
end
```

```
Subjects: 4
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```




- Try it by yourself
- clone the repo
- play around
- write specs to kill the mutants
- run mutant in other projects
- create issues
- help improve the documentation
- mutate all the things

example project (including this slides):

<https://github.com/DonSchado/colognerb-on-mutant>

in addition:

<https://github.com/DonSchado/bob-the-mutant>

obviously:

<https://github.com/mbj/mutant>

for reference:

<http://slid.es/markusschirp/mutation-testing/>

<http://solnic.eu/2013/01/23/mutation-testing-with-mutant.html>

rails?

<https://github.com/mockdeep/mutant-rails>