Genetic Improvement on GSON using Gin Team 9

Task

2019 SSBSE Challenge Track

- GSON⁵
 - convert Java Objects into JSON
 - Huge Open Source Project

Improve GSON using a tool called Gin^{1,2}





Gin

Genetic Improvement Tool for JAVA

- Mutation
- Test framework
- Fitness
 - Execution Time Analysis
 - CPU Time Analysis
 - Number of test cases passed
- (https://github.com/gintool/gin)

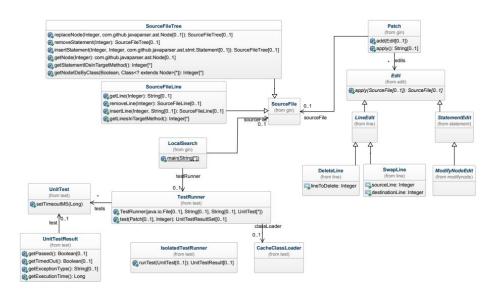


Figure 2: Gin core classes. Attributes are omitted and only a subset of method signatures are shown for simplicity. Also note that several Edit implementations and supporting utility classes are omitted.

Previous Study³

- 1-Point Crossover
 - takes two parents and creates two children: one comprising the first half of edits of parent 1 and the second half of edits of parent 2; the second child containing the remaining edits.
- Mutation
 - delete, copy, swap and replace operations
 - binary operator
 - e.g. == with !=
 - unary operator
 - e.g. ++ with --
- Tested with runtime & 3 single injected bugs on GsonBuilder.java

```
List<TypeAdapterFactory> factories = new ArrayList<TypeAdapterFactory>(
this.factories.size()+ this.hierarchyFactories.size()+ 3);
   The mutant looked like this:
   List<TypeAdapterFactory> factories = new ArrayList<TypeAdapterFactory>(
this.factories.size()+ this.hierarchyFactories.size()- 3);
```

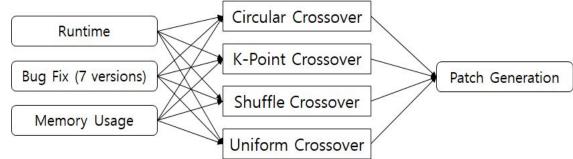
What did we do

Improve former study by adding

Implement Memory usage Analysis in Gin

4 new crossover operators

- Circular crossover
- K-point crossover
- Shuffle crossover
- Uniform crossover
- New mutation operator
- Generated 7 bugs to test bug fix on

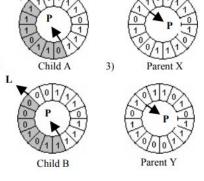


Circular Crossover

- Make gene in circular form
- P: any point, L (length): random positive number (L <= len(chromosome))
- interchange two respective segments

• the next bit after the segment of the last crossover becomes new starting

point



K-Point Crossover

- Total of k cut points (0 <k <n).
- Cut points divide the gene into k + 1 subsets.
- Child is recombined by alternatively selecting subsets of the genes of two parents.

```
Parent1: 1 | 0 1 | 1 1 | 0 0 1 0 | 1
Parent2: 1 | 1 0 | 0 1 | 1 0 0 1 | 0
Offspring1: 1 | 1 0 | 1 1 | 1 0 0 1 | 1
Offspring2: 1 | 0 1 | 0 1 | 0 0 1 0 | 0
```

Uniform Crossover

- Make a random real number between 0 and 1 for each iteration.
- The random real number determines whether the child chooses first or second parent as the i-th gene.
- The rest of the child will choose the remaining parent's i-th gene.

Parent1: 1011100101

Parent2: 1100110010

Offspring1: 1001110010

Offspring2: 1 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1

Shuffle Crossover

- Apply the same shuffle on both parents.
- Then apply 1-point crossover.
- Reverse and swap unshuffled genes.

Parent 1: 111010010

Parent 2: 100010110

Shuffle genes as Shuffle Points

Parent 1: 010110110

Parent 2: 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 0

Perform 1-Point Crossover Point

Offspring 1:0101 | 10010

Offspring 2: 0 0 1 1 | 1 0 1 1 0

Unshuffled the genes in Offspring

Offspring 1:110010010

Offspring 2: 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 1 0

Mutation

- Previous Study
 - addRandomEdit
 - add a random edit to a random location of the patch
 - o patch(chromosome) length grow at every iteration

Ours

- Replace a random edit instead of just adding one
- We joined these two methods, letting the operator add a random edit for a certain probability p, and replace a random node with a random edit (without changing the other nodes) for probability 1-p.

Injected Bugs

- PI Test⁶
 - mutation testing system
 - gives fault that test suite can detect
- We use 7 bugs
 - 1 ~ 5 : operator change
 - 6 : statement order change ^{# 2}₆₁₁
 - 7: inject new method

```
pitest.org

List<TypeAdapterFactory> factories = new ArrayList<TypeAdapterFactory>(this.factories.size() + this.hierarchyFactories.size() + 3);
List<TypeAdapterFactory> factories = new ArrayList<TypeAdapterFactory>(this.factories.size() + this.hierarchyFactories.size() - 3);
```

```
if (datePattern != null && !"".equals(datePattern.trim()))
    if (!datePattern == null && !"".equals(datePattern.trim()))

# 3
611
    if (datePattern != null && !"".equals(datePattern.trim()))
    if (datePattern != null && "".equals(datePattern.trim()))

# 4
615
    else if (dateStyle != DateFormat.DEFAULT && timeStyle != DateFormat.DEFAULT)
    else if (dateStyle == DateFormat.DEFAULT && timeStyle != DateFormat.DEFAULT)

# 5
615
    else if (dateStyle != DateFormat.DEFAULT && timeStyle != DateFormat.DEFAULT)
    else if (dateStyle != DateFormat.DEFAULT && timeStyle == DateFormat.DEFAULT)
```

Injected Bugs

- PI Test⁶
 - mutation testing system
 - gives fault that test suite can detect
- We use 7 bugs
 - 1 ~ 5 : operator change
 - 6 : statement order change
 - 7: inject new method



```
# 6
588

# delete
factories.addAll(this.factories);
599

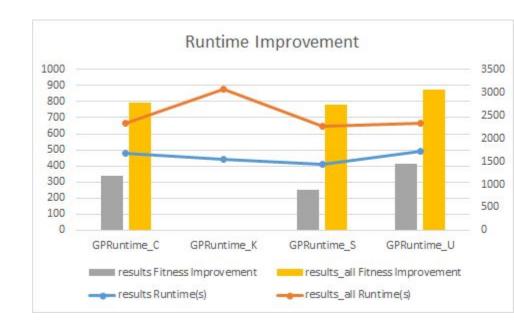
# insert
factories.addAll(this.factories);

# 7
590

# insert
Collections.reverse(factories);
```

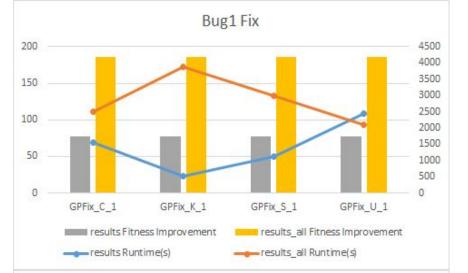
Result - Runtime Improvement

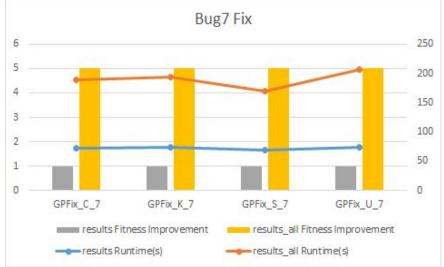
- Only k-point crossover couldn't improve runtime of GSON.
- The others show similar performance, but uniform crossover shows slightly better fitness improvement.



Result - Bug Fix

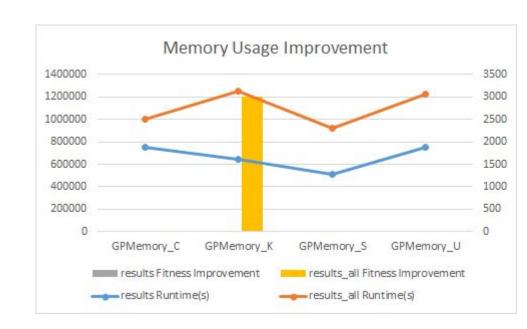
- Only bug 1 and bug 7 were fixed.
- Shows exactly same increment in number of test cases passed between different crossover operators.
- Different crossover operators result in different runtime in fixing bug 1, as opposed to bug 7.





Result - Memory Usage Improvement

- Different from runtime improvement, only k-point crossover improve memory usage of GSON.
- Since k-point found only single patch that improves memory usage while others do not, we cannot confirm that k-point crossover is certainly better than other crossover.



Analysis

- Overall, 4 crossover operators shows similar performance and ability.
- Memory usage was harder to improve than runtime, since simply deleting, copying, swapping statement or changing operator cannot definitely decrease the current memory usage.
- If fault is hardly affected by other parts of codes, the probability of locating the fault significantly decreases.
 - \circ Fault related to *variable* $a \rightarrow$ fix fault by other part that access or affect *variable* $a \rightarrow$
 - \circ a == b to $a != b \rightarrow$ fix fault only by changing != operator to ==
- Patch bloat: the size of patch increases as generation number increases
 → not suitable for fixing small bugs, limit the size of patch
- It would have been better if more data or experiment cases were provided.

Conclusion

- Applied genetic improvement to GSON using Gin
 - with 4 kinds of crossover
 - on 3 domains
- Negligible performance difference between crossover operators
- Successfully improved runtime and memory usage, fixed 2 bugs.
- Problems to be solved:
 - patch bloat
 - fault localization for fixing bugs

Bibliography

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- 5. Google. (2019). GSON, Github Repository, https://github.com/google/gson
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