

# **ABOUT THIS LECTURE**

## **Objectives**

- Introduce Compiler Verification techniques utilized in practice.
- Deep dive into two interesting and popular technologies:
  - Compiler Fuzzing
  - Live Code Mutation based Compiler Verification

# VALIDATION? VERIFICATION? QA?

#### Validation Team:

- "Should deter crime"
- "Shouldn't be corrupt"
- "Should be controllable"

Are we making the right product?

#### QA Team:

- "What should be the frequency to inspect the results of the diagnostic tests"
- "What tests to execute before the release of the next update?"



#### **Verification Team:**

- "Does reload happen within 1 ms"
  - "Does Classification module perceive Criminals and Law enforcement differently"

"Is the accuracy of hitting a target 100%"

Are we making the product right (as per spec)?



# **COMPILER VERIFICATION**

#### Failure Types

## Compilers are a complex piece of software!

#### Mis-compilations

- Compiler silently compiles to a wrong code.
- Difficult to detect as user doesn't attribute a problem in compilers usually.
- Very harmful

#### Crashes

- Compiler doesn't generate the target code.
- Comparatively less harmful.

#### Language Conformance Tests

```
void foo(int n)
  switch (n)
     case 22:
     case 33:
       f (1); // warning: fallthrough
     case 44:
       f (2);
         attribute ((fallthrough));
     case 55:
       if (n < 10)
          f (3);
          break;
       else
          f (4);
            attribute ((fallthrough));
      case 66:
        f(5);
          attribute ((fallthrough));
        f(6);
      case 77:
        f (7);
```

- 1. A null statement marked with the attribute token fallthrough, is a fallthrough statement. The fallthrough attribute token shall appear at most once in each attribute list, with no attribute argument clause.
- 2. A fallthrough statement may appear within an enclosing switch statement, on some path of execution immediately between a preceding statement and a succeeding caselabeled statement.
- 3. [Note: If an implementation would have otherwise issued a warning about implicit fall through on a path of execution immediately after a fallthrough statement, it is encouraged not to. end note]

Language Conformance Tests



## Accurate

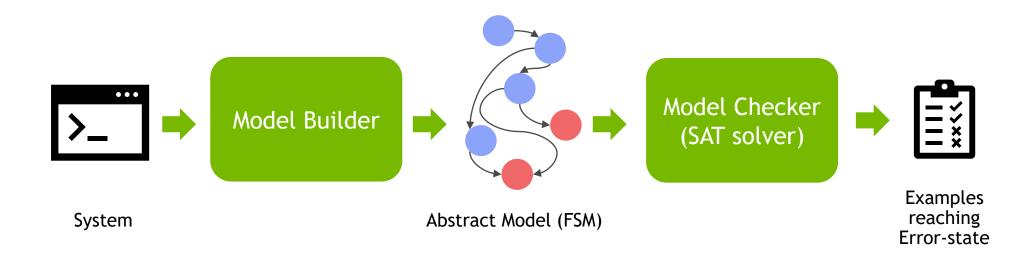
- Pinpointed tests for every feature
- Great Traceability wrt. Language Spec
- Coverage of all supported targets.



- Need to test Combination of features
- Skilled Resources
- Large number of targets to verify.
  E.g. GCC supports ~78 targets.
  "Common Tests" are ~1500. Effective tests: 117,000
  Now, consider compiler options!

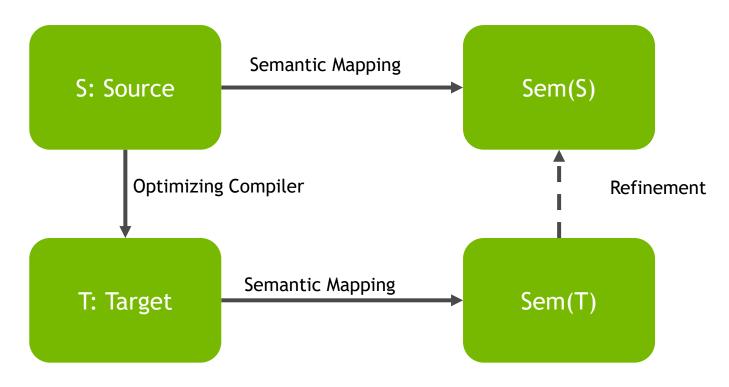


Formal Verification (Model Checking)

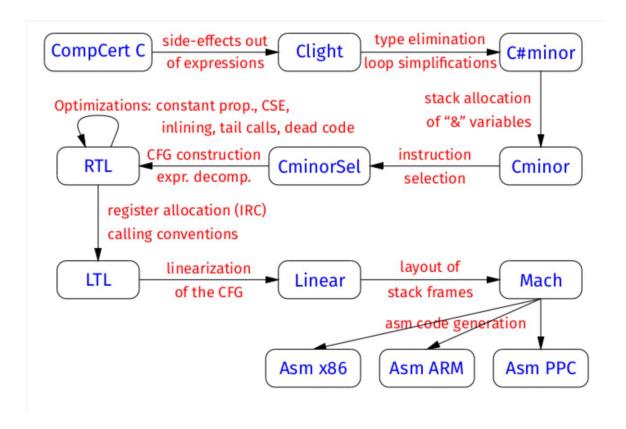


Formal Verification (Translation Validation)

Prove the various intermediate representations are semantically equivalent



COMPCERT - Formally Verified Optimizing Compiler for C



Formally Verified Software



#### Accurate

 Proved for correctness and has a very high degree of confidence.

#### Cumbersome

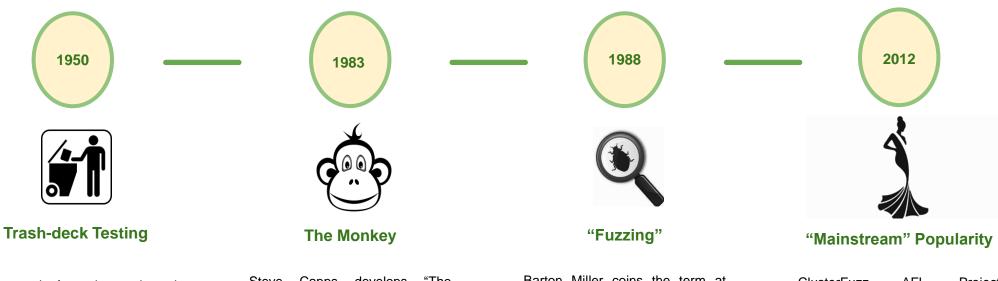
- Interpretation of results is cumbersome.
- False positives arising due to incorrect application of Formal Verification.

#### Random Testing

- Random Testing is becoming a dominant approach in Compiler Verification.
- Involves automatic creation of random programs (also called fuzzing) to test the compiler.
- Key aim is to generate valid and invalid combinations of all syntactic elements a source program provides to test if Compiler can accept them.
- Fuzzers like Csmith have found over 400 unknown compiler bugs!

# THE STORY OF FUZZ TESTING

## An age-old practice forged with time



Pulling cards from the trash and supplying it to the input program to check undesired behavior – Gerald Weinberg

Steve Capps develops "The Monkey" to generate random inputs for MAC OS applications

Barton Miller coins the term at University of Wisconsin for his class project.

ClusterFuzz, AFL, Springfield, OSS-Fuzz

Project

# CHARACTERISTICS OF A COMPILER FUZZER

What defines an ideal Fuzzer?

# 1. Cost-Effective

Easy to implement and extend

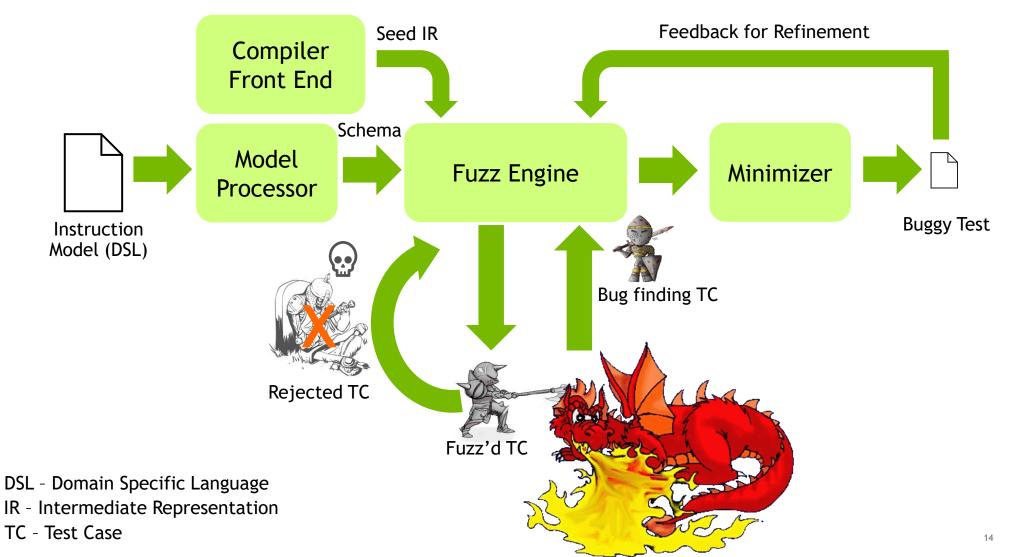
# 2. Interpretable Testcases

Not 1000s of lines of code.

# 3. Plausible Output

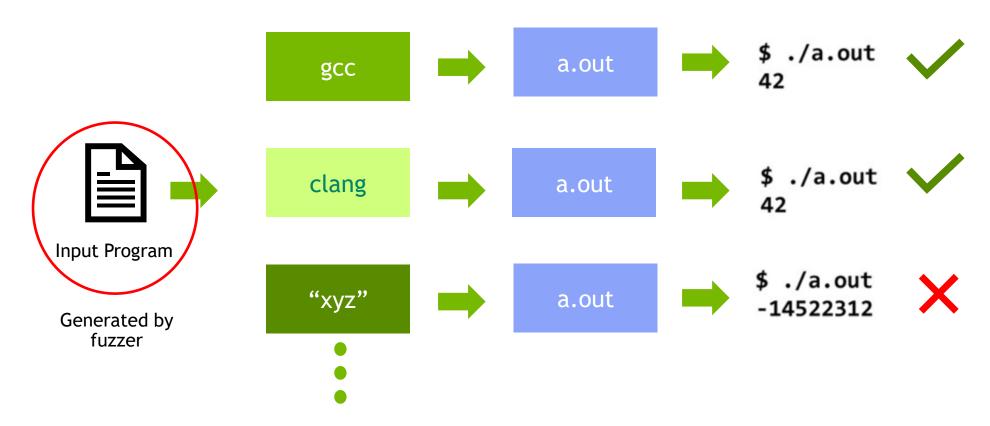
Should be close to user's usage of the constructs.

# ANATOMY OF A COMPILER FUZZER



# DIFFERENTIAL TESTING

Provide an input on similar applications (compilers), expecting each one to give the same result.



# **TEST CASE MINIMIZER**

## **Delta Debugging**

- Utilizes Divide & Conquer.
- Divide the code into 2 similar sized "chunks" ( $\delta$ 1 and  $\delta$ 2). There are 3 outcomes
- Case 1: Reduce to  $\delta 1$ . The test of  $\delta 1$  fails  $\delta 1$  is the smaller test case.
- Case 2: Reduce to  $\delta 2$ . The test of  $\delta 2$  fails  $\delta 2$  is the smaller test case.
- Case 3: Ignorance. Both tests or are unresolved neither  $\delta 1$  nor  $\delta 2$  qualify as possible simplifications.
- Case 1 & Case 2: Continue the search with failing subset.
- Case 3: Increase the size of the "chunk" and continue.
- Read More: Simplifying and isolating failure-inducing input Andreas Zeller, Ralf Hildebrandt



# TEST CASE MINIMIZER

Delta Debugging - Variants

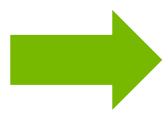
- 1. Text Based Reducers: ddmin- Text oriented chunk removal.
- 2. AST Based Reducers: HDD Removes the AST to generate variants.
- 3. Language Specific Reducer Tools topformflat puts syntactically related tokens in one line.
- 4. AST Based Reducers using Runtime Information examine dead code regions and remove them first.

# **MINIMIZATION**

Challenges

The Validity Problem

```
int main()
{
  int x;
  x = 2;
  return x+1;
}
```



```
int main()
{
  int x;
  return x+1;
}
```

# **COMPILER FUZZING**

## **Key Challenges**

## Implementing a fuzzer is effort-intensive and complex!

- CSmith
  - 41K lines of code in C++
  - Just upgrading from C to OpenCL took 9 months with additional 8K LOC.
- How to generate more meaningful programs?
- How to target Compiler Optimizations effectively?

#### Fuzzer Developer

- Should be an expert of the target language.
- Should be able to model every aspect of the grammar of a programming language.
- Should understand compiler nitty grities to generate "intelligent" programs to test optimizations



# TRADITIONAL FUZZERS

CSmith: Case Study

# 1. Cost-Effective X

40K+ LOC implemented to handle a subset of C.

# 2. Interpretable Testcases X

Average size is 1200 LOC (excluding headers). ~4 hours/test spent in reduction.

# 3. Plausible Output X

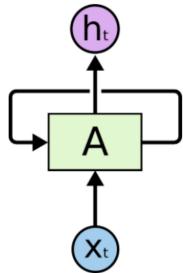
Obscure combination of constructs.

# RECURRENT NEURAL NETWORKS (RNN)

## Thoughts have persistence

- Problem: Classify what kind of event is happening at every point in a movie?
- RNN is a network that works on the present input by taking into consideration the previous output (feedback).
- Good enough to predict the next word given "The clouds are in the sky"
- Not good for "I grew up in France ... I speak fluent French."
- LSTM: Long Short Term Memory Networks Capable of learning Long

Term dependencies. Very effective for Text Prediction.



# **DEEP SMITH - SYSTEM OVERVIEW**

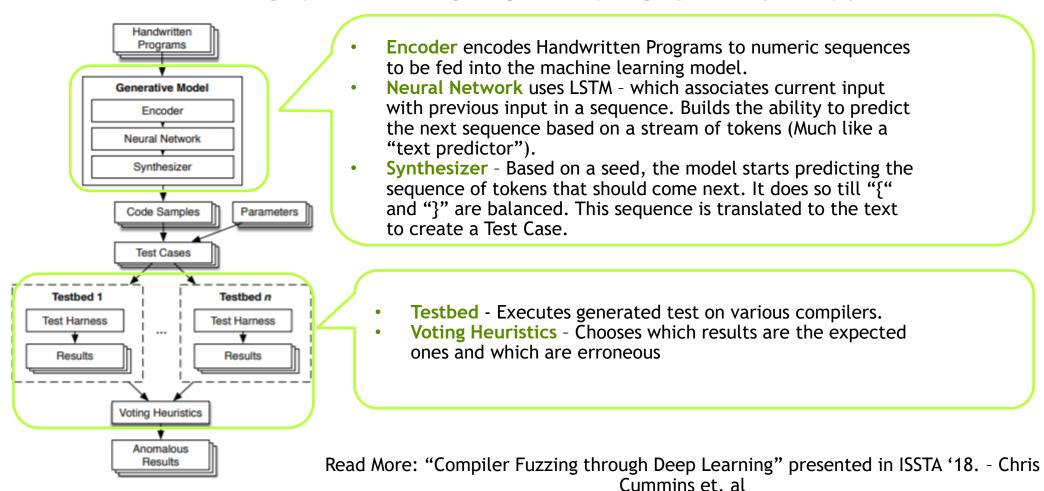


Figure 1: DeepSmith system overview.

# **VOCABULARY ENCODING**

#### Translating a Program to a solvable ML Problem?

Key Principle: Convert a program to numeric sequences to feed as an input to a Neural Network.

#### 1. Preprocess

- 1. Expand macros and remove conditional compilation and comments.
- 2. Consistent naming convention Rename program variables to an arbitrary but consistent pattern based on their declaration. E.g. {a,b,c,...,aa,ab,ac...} for variables and {A, B, C, ..., AA, AB, AC ...} for functions.
- 3. Uniform coding style to ensure consistent use of braces, parentheses and white spaces.

#### Encode

1. Programming language's features are treated as individual tokens and remaining are character-level.

# **VOCABULAR ENCODING**

**Preprocessing** 

```
#define MY_CONST 3.14
// A simple kernel
kernel void Foo (global float * input, const float x) {
  input[get_global_id(0)] *= MY_CONST + x;
}
```



```
kernel void A (global float * a, const float b) {
  a[get_global_id(0)] *= 3.14 + b;
}
```

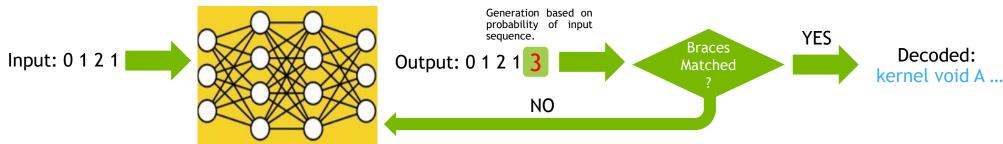
# **VOCABULARY ENCODING**

```
kernel void A (global float * a, const float b) {
 a[get_global_id(0)] *= 3.14 + b;
                      global: 5 const: 10
              kernel: 0
                                           [:15
                       float: 6 b: 11
                         *: 7
                             ): 12
Vocabulary
                        a: 8 {: 13
                                 \n: 14
Encoded
           0 1 2 13 1 4 5 1 6 1 7 1 8 9 1 10 ...
```

# **NEURAL NETWORK + SYNTHESIZER**

## LSTM (Long Short-term Memory)

- Used 30M token corpus by mining OpenCL programs on github.
- Learns probability distribution over the corpus.
- Took 12 hours of training time on GPU (Nvidia Tesla P40).
- Trained Network is provided a "seed token" that resembles start of the program. On each token that is generated, bracket depth counter is implemented.
  - { increases counter and } decreases the counter and process stops when they are balanced.



# **TEST HARNESS + VOTING HEURISTICS**

- Test Harness accepts a Fuzzed program and generates input for it.
  - Python code of a few 100 lines and uses domain knowledge to create the inputs.
- Voting Heuristics
  - Uses Differential Testing that checks the majority of the outcomes.
  - Heuristics determine build failures, undefined behavior and removes false positives to arrive at the "correct" behavior.

# **DEEP SMITH EVALUATION**

- Conducted 2000 hours of automated testing across 10 OpenCL compilers.
- Found bugs in all compilers and reported 67 bugs to compiler vendors.
- Findings
  - DeepSmith finds bugs by creating tests resembling hand-written code which CLSmith cannot. E.g.
    - Using thread identity to modify control flow.

```
int g = get_global_id(0);
if (g < e - d - 1) ...
```

- Pattern is based on real-world code which cannot be generated by a typical fuzzer.
  - 46% of OpenCL code on github used this pattern. DeepSmith "learned" this pattern and used in several cases.

# CONCLUSIONS

DeepSmith

# 1. Cost-Effective

Automatic inference of language from examples.

# 2. Interpretable Testcases

102x less code than the state-of-the-art fuzzer.

# 3. Plausible Output 🗸

Learns from hand-written code and therefore outputs similar looking tests.

# **CURIOUS?**

## Try this out for your favourite programming language

- Using the framework created for DeepSmith, create a fuzzer for your favourite Programming Language.
  - Download DeepSmith from github (https://github.com/ChrisCummins/phd/tree/master/deeplearning/deepsmith).
  - Create a vocabulary encoding module to provide consistent inputs for training for your chosen language.
  - Supply the encoded module to train the NN (on Nvidia GPUs?).
  - Try to get fuzzing!

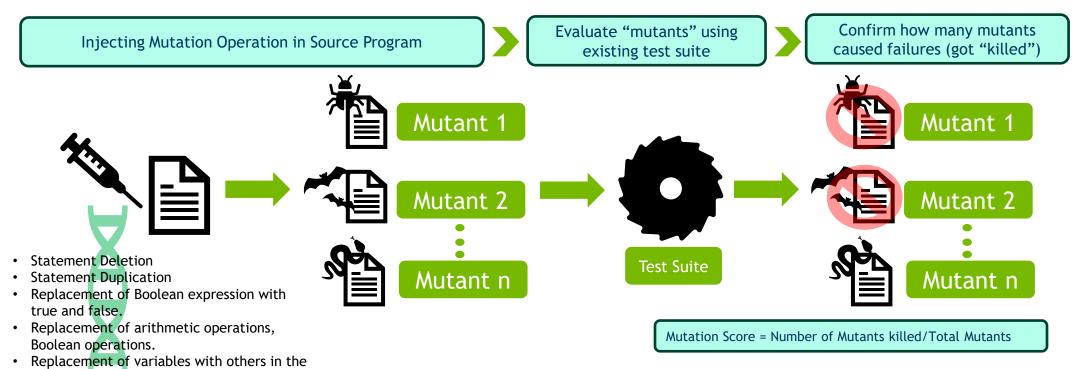
# **COMPILER VERIFICATION** THROUGH EMI BASED LIVE CODE MUTATION

# **MUTATION TESTING**

Concept introduced by Richard Lipton (1971)

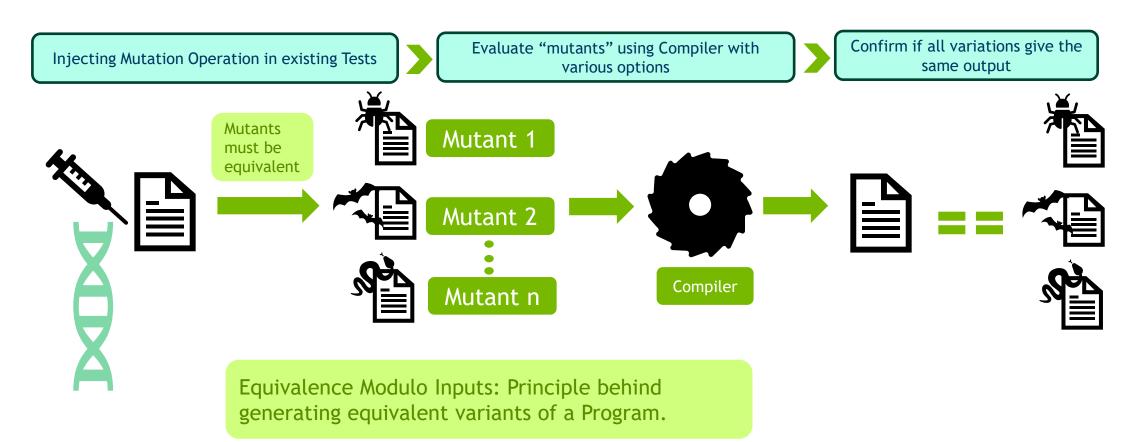
same scope.

Introduced to evaluate the quality of existing software tests



# **MUTATION TESTING**

# **Compiler Verification Perspective**



# **EQUIVALENCE MODULO INPUTS (EMI)**

# Yet another Compiler Verification Methodology

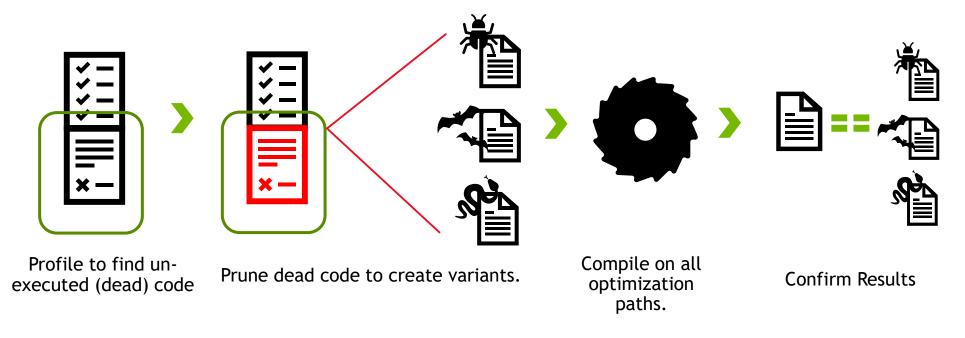
- Generate multiple variants of an input program (mutation)
  - Mutated tests must be valid programs.
  - Must not change the semantics of the original programs.
- Execute variants in optimization and no-optimization paths.
  - Both paths must result in the same behavior.
  - EMI variants are although equivalent but trigger different static data and control flow. This different control flow critically affects which optimizations are enabled.
  - Each variant demands the exact same output.
- Key Challenges:
  - How to create different and semantically equivalent variants.



# **GENERATING EMI VARIANTS**

#### **Approach**

Profile & Mutate: Prune portions of the program that are not executed to create variants.



# **GENERATING EMI VARIANTS**

#### **Detailed Approach**

#### Input Source:

- 1. Csmith [most effective]
- 2. Open Source Projects
- GCC/LLVM regression suites

LLVM based tool to prune AST of unexecuted statements based on a stochastic logic.



C-Reduce to reduce test cases.

147 confirmed, unique bugs in GCC & LLVM.
Most of them are miscompilations



Profile to find unexecuted (dead) code

Prune dead code to create variants.

Compile on all optimization paths.

Confirm Results

## **EMI VARIANTS**

#### Examples

```
struct tiny { char c; char d; char e; };
f(int n, struct tiny x, struct tiny y, struct tiny z,
      long 1) {
  if (x.c != 10) abort();
  if (x.d != 20) abort();
  if (x.e != 30) abort();
  if (y.c != 11) abort();
  if (v.d != 21) abort();
  if (y.e != 31) abort();
  if (z.c != 12) abort();
  if (z.d != 22) abort();
  if (z.e != 32) abort();
  if (l != 123) abort();
main() {
  struct tiny x[3];
  x[0].c = 10:
  x[1].c = 11;
 x[2].c = 12;
  x[0].d = 20;
 x[1].d = 21;
 x[2].d = 22;
  x[0].e = 30;
  x[1].e = 31;
  x[2].e = 32;
  f(3, x[0], x[1], x[2], (long)123);
  exit(0);
```

Original

Deletion of certain abort() functions, caused "f" to be inlined by the Clang compiler and incompatibility between GVN and SRoA led to the

miscompilation

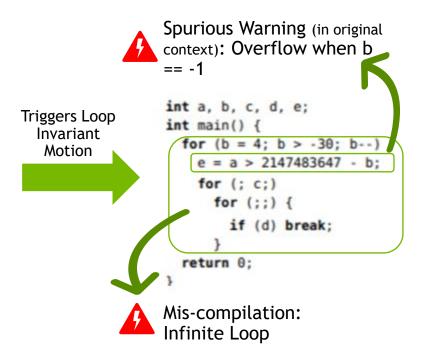
```
struct tiny { char c; char d; char e; };
f(int n, struct tiny x, struct tiny y, struct tiny z,
     long 1) {
 if (x.c != 10) /* deleted */;
  if (x.d != 20) abort();
 if (x.e != 30) /* deleted */;
 if (y.c != 11) abort();
 if (y.d != 21) abort();
 if (y.e != 31) /* deleted */;
 if (z.c != 12) abort();
 if (z.d != 22) /* deleted */;
 if (z.e != 32) abort();
 if (l != 123) /* deleted */;
main() {
  struct tiny x[3];
 x[0].c = 10;
  x[1].c = 11;
  x[2].c = 12;
  x[0].d = 20:
  x[1].d = 21;
  x[2].d = 22;
  x[0].e = 30;
  x[1].e = 31;
  x[2].e = 32;
 f(3, x[0], x[1], x[2], (long)123);
  exit(0);
```

🔯 NVIDIA

## **EMI VARIANTS**

## Examples

```
int a, b, c, d, e;
                                                int a, b, c, d, e;
   int main() {
                                                int main() {
     for (b = 4; b > -30; b--)
                                                  for (b = 4; b > -30; b--)
       for (; c;)
                                                    for (; c;)
         for (;;) {
                                                      for (;;) {
Mutation in b--
                                               Invariant e = a > 2147483647 - b;
Dead Code
                                                        if (d) break;
           e = a > 2147483647 - b;
           if (d) break;
                                                  return 0;
     return 0;
```



## EMI IMPLEMENTATIONS AND DRAWBACKS

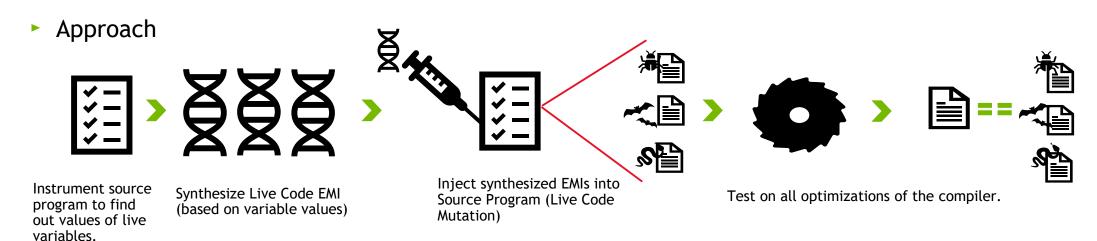
#### ORION & ATHENA

- ORION Randomly prunes in dead code regions.
- ATHENA Inserts code segments in dead code regions.
- Drawbacks
  - Only limited to dead code regions.
  - Dead codes are susceptible to be optimized away by the compiler.
  - Mis-compilation bug in dead codes is not observable as the wrong code is not executed.

## LIVE CODE EMI MUTATION

#### Overview

- Instead of inserting mutations in dead code, create EMI mutations in Live Code.
- Key Challenge: Inserting mutations that still preserve original semantics yet cause a sideeffect so that compiler preserves it.



## LIVE CODE EMI MUTATION

#### Generating variants

- Always False Conditional Block (FCB)
  - Non-empty if/while block with the conditional predicate always evaluating to false.
  - The conditional predicate is generated by considering the value of the "live" variables at a specific program point.
  - Body is a "random" code segment generated using variables in the context (as much as possible).

```
int a;

int main () {
    int b = -1, d, e = 0, f[2] = { 0 };
    unsigned short c = b;

for (; e < 3; e++)
    for (d = 0; d < 2; d++)
        /* a=0, b=-1, c=65535, d={0,1}, e={0,1,2}, f[0]=0 */
    if (a < 0) // Inserted code highlighted in gray.
    for (d = 0; d < 2; d++)
        if (f[c])
        break;

return 0;
}</pre>
```

# LIVE CODE EMI MUTATION

#### Generating variants

- Always True Guard
  - An "if" statement is inserted at a specific location which is always true thereby generating a structural difference but not affecting the original control flow.

- Always True Conditional Block (TCB)
  - A non-empty if block that has the conditional predicate as "true" always and introduces a side-effect in its body.
  - The side-effects should be reversed after the block exits to avoid any change in original semantics

```
Create Backup Variable

Create Backup Variable

Use updated value to avoid it being optimized away

Create Backup Variable

Int backup_v = v;

2 if ((synthesized true predicate)) {

3 v = (synthesized valid expression);

4 if/while((synthesized false predicate)) {

5 print v;

6 }

7 }

Restore Original Variable
```

# **DETAILED APPROACH**

#### **Hermes**











#### **INSTRUMENT**

- LLVM based tool instruments statements that generate Execution Profile at specific program points.
- Not all variables at all points are required. Selection can be based on a stochastic logic.



- Has a schema that stores the program's state.
- Values of variables at selected program points are recorded.

#### **SYNTHESIZE**

- FCB Based on the program state variables, a false predicate is generated.
  - Randomly choose a logical operator.
  - Compute target truth values of the children such that the predicate evaluates to the expected truth value.
- TCB
  - Live variables are used to create expressions that are merged together with various operators to form a valid single expression.



# **DETAILED APPROACH**

#### Synthesizing a Predicate

```
Algorithm 2: Synthesize a predicate
1 function SynPred (Env env. Bool expected, Int depth):
                                                      depth: 2 expected: false
      if depth = 0 then
         return SynAtom(env. expected)
                                 Case 1
      switch Random(4) do

√ left: true right: true

          /* synthesize a negation
          case 1 do return SynNeg(env, expected, depth)

√ left_pred: !a < 10
</p>
          /* synthesize a conjunctive predicate
          case 2 do return SynCon(env, expected, depth)
          /* synthesize a disjunctive predicate
                                                       right_pred:!b != 1
          case 3 do return SynDis(env, expected, depth)
         /* synthesize an atomic predicate
                                                       Expr:!
         case 4 do return SynAtom(env, expected)
9 function SynNeg (Env env, Bool expected, Int depth):
                                                                     a < 10
     return Expr('!', SynPred(env, !expected, depth - 1))
11 function SynCon (Env env, Bool expected, Int depth):
      if expected then left ← true, right ← true
      else if FlipCoin() then left ← true, right ← false
      else left ← false, right ← FlipCoin()
     left_pred \leftarrow SynPred(env, left, depth - 1)
      right\_pred \leftarrow SynPred(env, right, depth - 1)
                                                   Expr: !a<10 && ! b!=1
      return Expr('&&', left pred, right pred)
18 function SynDis (Env env, Bool expected, Int depth):
      if! expected then left ← false, right ← false
      else if FlipCoin() then left ← false, right ← true
      else left ← true, right ← FlipCoin()
     left_pred ← SynPred(env, left, depth - 1)
     right_pred \leftarrow SynPred(env, right, depth -1)
     return Expr('II', left_pred, right_pred)
25 function SynAtom (Env env, Bool expected):
      /* Rule 1: randomly pick one variable v and
         construct a relational predicate with expected
         truth value over v and a constant
      /* Rule 2: randomly pick two variables v1 and v2,
         and construct a relational predicate with
         expected truth value over v_1 and v_2
```

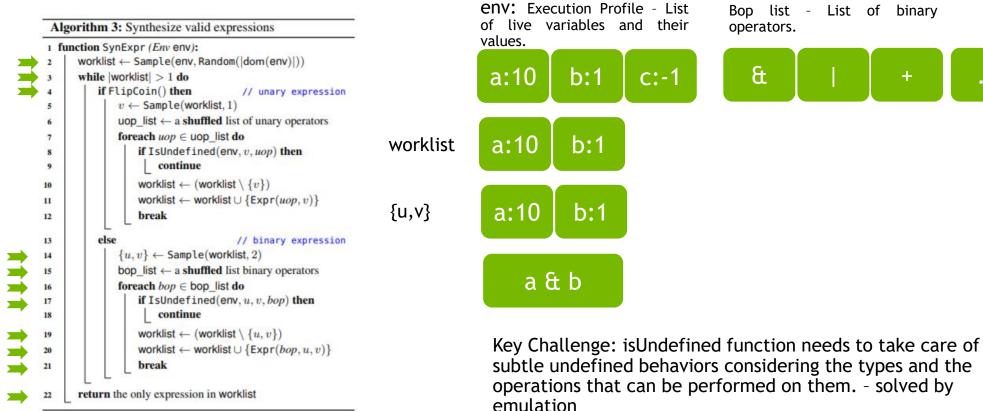
**depth:** Used to notify the number of predicate sub-expressions that must be generated. Greater value means more complex expressions.

env: Execution Profile - List of live variables and their values.

a:10 b:1 c:-1

# DETAILED APPROACH

## **Synthesizing Valid Expressions**



Bop list - List of binary operators.

## **EVALUATION**

#### Bug Examples

```
int a;
    int b;
    short c;
                                                      Undefined behavior
    int main () {
                                                      is pulled out due to
      int j;
      int d = 1;
                                                      optimization
      for (; c >= 0; c++)
                             Always False Conditional Block
10
        a = d:
        d = 0;
11
                             Evaluating an un-initialized
12
13
        if (b) {
                             variable.
14
          printf
15
            printr ("%d", 0);
16
17
18
19
20
21
      printf ("%d\n", d);
22
      return 0;
```

The mis-compiled binary using GCC prints 1 instead of 0.

23

#### **Root Cause**

Loop Un-switching
Moving a conditional out of the loop to improve
Parallelization

```
int
main ()
  int j, d = 1;
 if (j)
      for (; c >= 0; c++)
        a = d;
        d = 0;
        if (b)
          printf ("%d", 0);
        printf ("%d", 0);
    else
      d = 0;
      for (; c >= 0; c++)
        a = d;
        if (b)
          printf ("%d", 0);
```

## **EVALUATION**

#### **Bug Examples**

```
int a = 2, b = 1, c = 1;
    int fn1 () {
     int d:
                               Always False Conditional Block
      for (; a; a--)
       for (d = 0;
                                    Evaluating an un-initialized
         int k:
                                    variable inside an FCB
         if (c < 1)
           if(k) c = 0;
10
         if (b) continue;
                                       Evaluating an un-initialized
11
         return 0;
                                       variable no longer in FCB
12
13
       b = !1;
14
15
      return 0;
16
17
    int main () {
     fn1 ();
     if (a != 1)
        __builtin_abort ();
21
      return 0;
23
```

The mis-compiled binary using GCC aborts instead of terminating normally.

#### **Root Cause**

If-Combine

Combining nested ifs to a single if statement with multiple conditional expressions using conjunction.

```
int fn1 ()
{
    int d;
    for (; a; a--) {
        for (d = 0; d < 4; d++) {
            int k;
            if (c < 1 && k)
                 c = 0;
            if (b) continue;
                return 0;
        }
        b = !1;
    }
    return 0;
}</pre>
```

# **CONCLUSIONS**

## Live Code Mutation is a realistic and practical way of finding bugs

|                   | GCC | LLVM | Total |
|-------------------|-----|------|-------|
| Fixed             | 85  | 47   | 132   |
| Not-yet-<br>fixed | 10  | 26   | 36    |
| Duplicate         | 28  | 20   | 48    |
| Invalid           | 1   | 0    | 1     |
| Total             | 124 | 93   | 217   |



1.7 seconds to profile and synthesize a test



## **SUMMARY**

## Compiler Verification - Techniques & Technologies

- Use cases of Compilers are touching human lives in a far greater way than before. Compiler Verification is increasingly becoming more and more important.
- We have barely scratched the surface of the problems in Verification.
  - Several ideas are still at research phase.
- Problems in verification are at the cusp of various technology domains which are increasingly becoming stronger thanks to AI/ML, HPC etc.
- It's an interesting space to watch out for!

