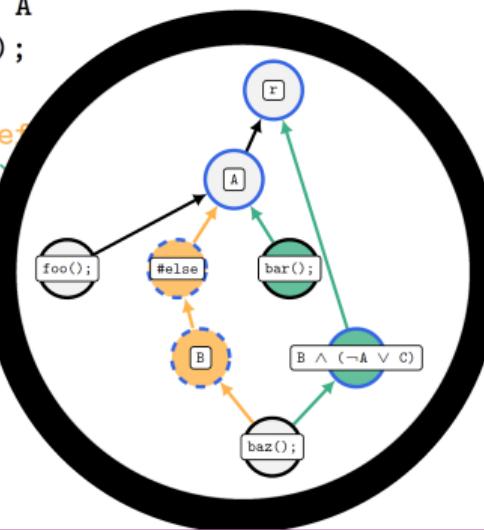


```
#ifdef A
    foo();
#ifndef B
- #else
+ bar()
#endif
+if B
    baz()
- endif
#endif
```



Variability-Aware Differencing with DiffDetective

Paul Bittner, Alexander Schultheiß, Benjamin Moosberr, Christof Tinnes, Sören Viegner, Timo Kehrer, Thomas Thüm | April 12, 2024

FOSD 2023, Ulm



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FOSD 2023, Ulm



FOSD 2024, Eindhoven



detectivepikachu.pokemon.com

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```
#ifdef A
    foo();
#else
    #ifdef B
        baz();
    #endif
#endif
```

```
#ifdef A
    foo();
    bar();
#endif
#if B || (!A || C)
    baz();
#endif
```

```

#define A
foo();
#else
#define B
baz();
#endif
#endif

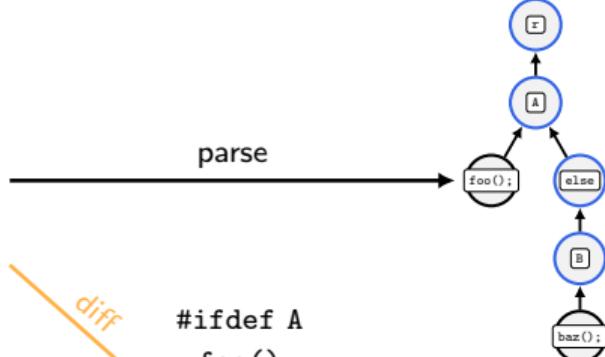
#define A
foo();
-#else
- #ifdef B
+ bar();
+#endif
+/#if B && (!A || C)
baz();
- #endif
#endif

#define A
foo();
bar();
#endif
#if B && (!A || C)
baz();
#endif

```

The diagram illustrates the differences between two code snippets. An orange arrow labeled "diff" points from the first snippet's "#endif" to the second snippet's "+/#endif". A green arrow labeled "diff" points from the first snippet's "#endif" to the second snippet's "+/#if B && (!A || C)". The code snippets themselves are identical except for these highlighted differences.

```
#ifdef A
  foo();
#else
  #ifdef B
    baz();
  #endif
#endif
```

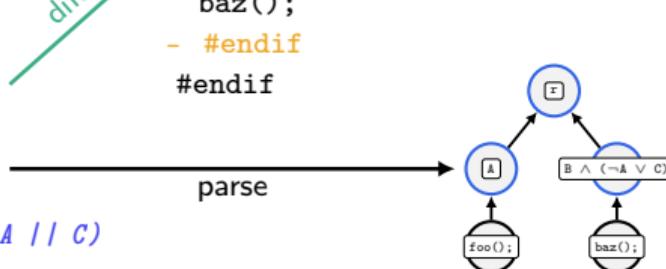


diff

```
#ifdef A
  foo();
-#else
```

```
-  #ifdef B
+  bar();
+#endif
```

```
#ifdef A
  foo();
  bar();
#endif
#if B == (!A || C)
  baz();
#endif
```

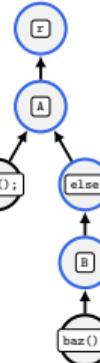


diff

```
+#if B && (!A || C)
  baz();
-  #endif
#endif
```

```
#ifdef A
foo();
#else
#endif
```

parse



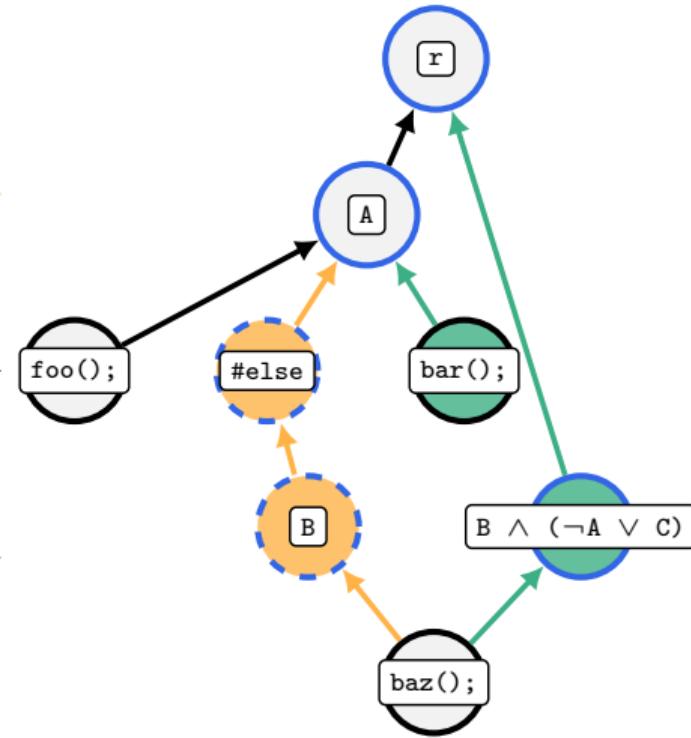
diff

```
#ifdef B
baz();
#endif
#endif
```

diff

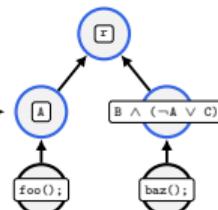
```
#ifdef A
foo();
#ifndef B
+ bar();
#endif
```

parse



```
#ifdef A
foo();
bar();
#endif
#endif
```

parse



diff

```
#if B == (!A || C)
baz();
#endif
```

#endif

Why is this interesting?

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Operation Lifting [Bittner'23]

Lift operations on SPLs to operations on *edits* to SPLs (e.g., partial configuration, feature tracing),
Potential use cases:

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- patch backporting

- review merge requests

- ...

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Does this line of code appear in more variants now?

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Generate evolution histories of single variants.
(see talk of Alex)

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Higher-Order Tree Differencing [TODO]

Diffs of Diffs of Diffs ...

DiffDetective



<https://variantsync.github.io/DiffDetective>

DiffDetective Demo



<https://github.com/VariantSync/DiffDetective-Demo>

References

- Bittner'22** *Classifying Edits to Variability in Source Code*, ESEC/FSE'22
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- Schult.'23** *Benchmark Generation with VEVOS: A Coverage Analysis of Evolution Scenarios in Variant-Rich Systems*, VaMoS'23
- Moosherr'23** *Constructing Variation Diffs Using Tree Differing Algorithms*, Bachelor's Thesis, Benjamin Moosherr, Ulm'23