Dynamic Analysis: Testing

John Businge

john.businge@unlv.edu

Introduction

- Dynamic Analysis verifies properties of a system during execution/runtime.
- Testing Analysis is one example of Dynamic Analysis
  - Unit tests, integration tests, system tests, and acceptance tests use dynamic testing

Testing in the Book

- Tests are your life insurance! (OORP, p. 149)
- Tests are essential to assuring the quality of refactoring/code change activities.
- Write Tests to Enable Evolution (OORP, p.153)
  - Good tests can find bugs in your artifact
  - Tests can also detect unwanted behavior
- You can also write tests to understand a part of a system (OORP, p.179)
- Test the Interface, Not the implementation (OORP, p.171). This is essentially Black-box testing.

Unit Testing

- In this session, we focus on Unit Testing.
  - Unit testing focuses on the smallest testable parts of an application called units (e.g., a class method or function)
- There are other types of testing (Integration, Performance, Security, etc.)
- It does not mean that Unit Testing is more important, but those are the tests we can more easily automatize and benefit from tool support.

Quality of a Test Suite

- How do you know if your unit test cases are good enough?
- Are they really testing the application?
- When do we stop testing?

Solution: Test Coverage!

Test Coverage

$$\text{Coverage} = \frac{Number\ of\ Covered\ Items}{Total\ number\ of\ items} \text{ X } 100\%$$

- Examples:
  - Statement (Line, or Code) Coverage.
  - Branch (Condition) Coverage
  - Path Caverage
  - Mutation Caverage

Example: a function to test

```
int foo(int input, bool b1, bool b2, bool b3){
    int x = input;
    int y = 0;
    if(b1)
        x++;
    if(b2)
        x--;
    if(b3)
        y=x;
    return y;
}
```

Statement/Line/Code Coverage

Test Case(s)

```
ASSERT foo(0, true, true, true) == 0;
```

```
int foo(int input, bool b1, bool b2, bool b3){
    int x = input;
    int y = 0;
    if(b1)
        x++;
    if(b2)
        x--;
    if(b3)
        y=x;
    return y;
}
```

Statement/Line/Code Coverage

Test Case(s)

```
ASSERT foo(0, true, true, true) == 0;
```

```
int foo(int input, bool b1, bool b2, bool b3){
    int x = input;
    int y = 0;
    if(b1)
        x++;
    if(b2)
        x--;
    if(b3)
        y=x;
    return y;
}
```

100% Statement Coverage

Statement/Line/Code Coverage

Test Case(s)

```
ASSERT foo(0, faulse , true, true) == 0;
```

```
int foo(int input, bool b1, bool b2, bool b3){
    int x = input;
    int y = 0;
    if(b1)
      x++;
    if(b2)
        x--;
    if(b3)
        y=x;
    return y;
}
```

$\frac{8}{9}$ x100% = 88.9%

~~100%~~ Statement Coverage

Branch/Condition Coverage

Test Case(s)

```
ASSERT foo(0, true, true, true) == 0;
```

```
int foo(int input, bool b1, bool b2, bool b3){
    int x = input;
    int y = 0;
    if(b1)
        x++;
    if(b2)
        x--;
    if(b3)
        y=x;
    return y;
}
```

50% Branch Coverage

Branch/Condition Coverage

Test Case(s)

```
ASSERT foo(0, true, true, true) == 0;
Assert foo(0,false, false, false) == 0;
```

New Test

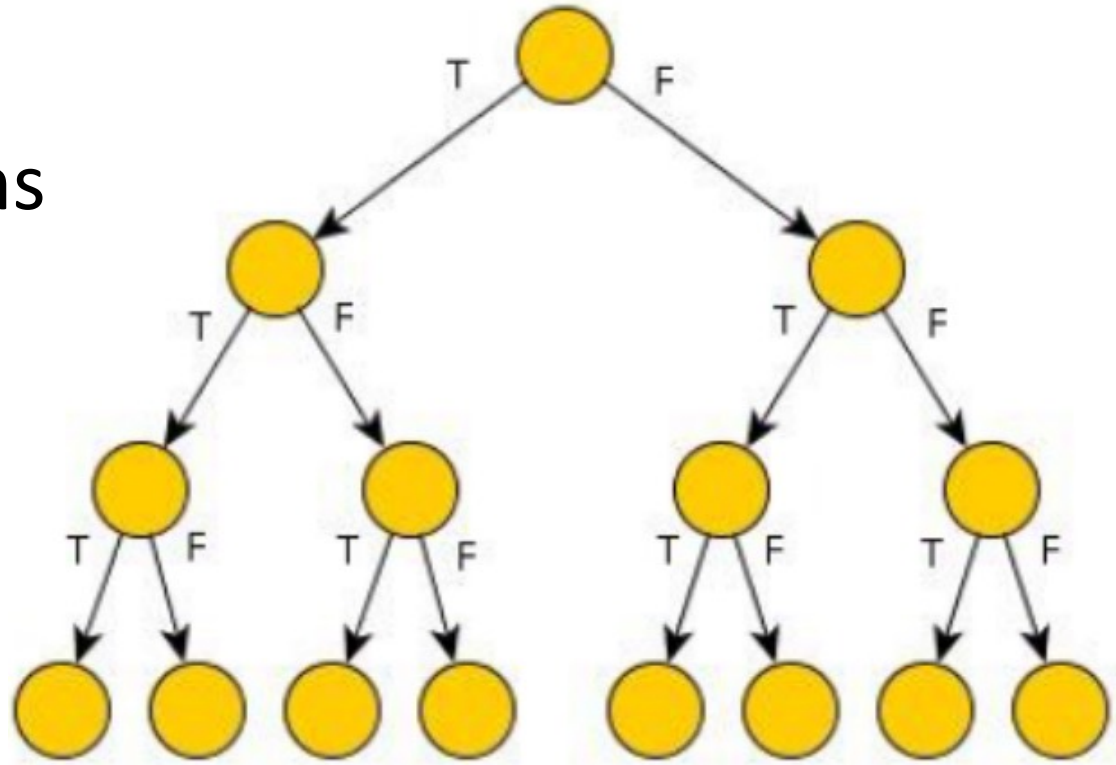
```
int foo(int input, bool b1, bool b2, bool b3){
    int x = input;
    int y = 0;
    if(b1)
        x++;
    if(b2)
        x--;
    if(b3)
        y=x;
    return y;
}
```

100% Branch Coverage

Path Coverage

Paths for three “if” each can be either true (T) or false (F)

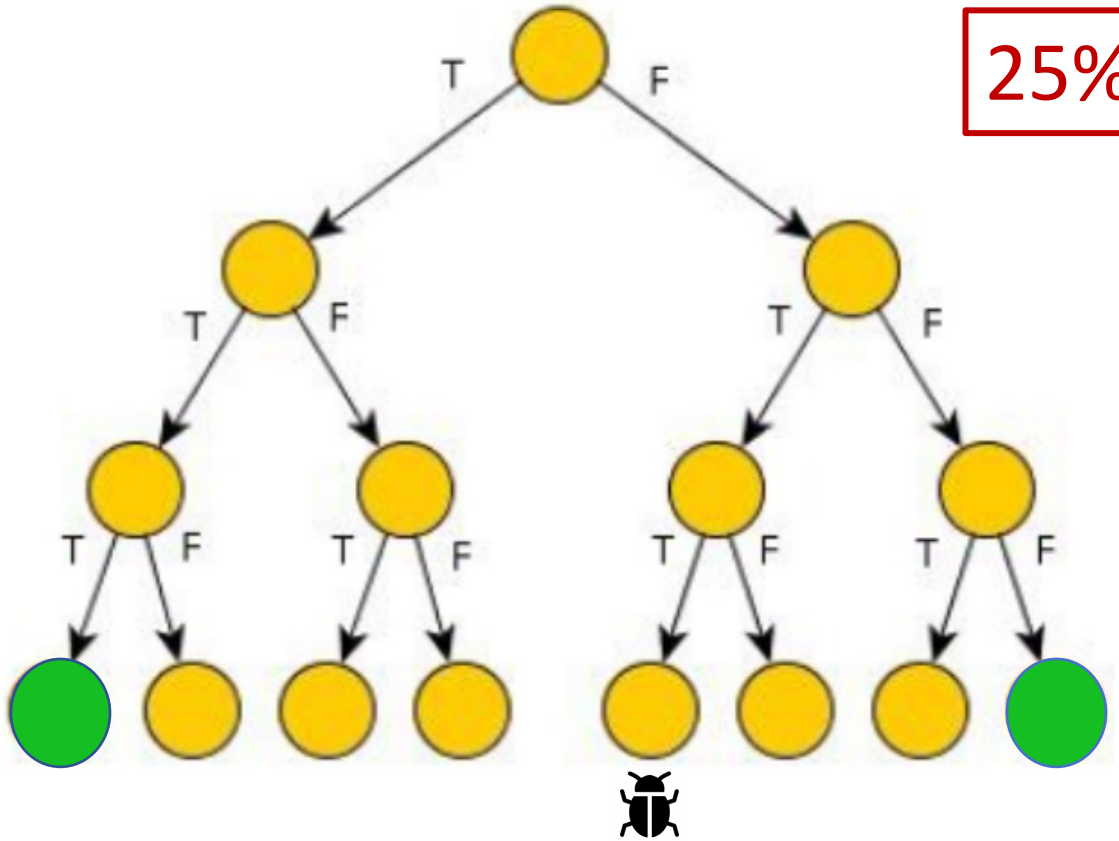
8-Paths



Path Coverage

Test Case(s)

```
ASSERT foo(0, true, true, true) == 0;
ASSERT foo(0,false, false, false) == 0;
```



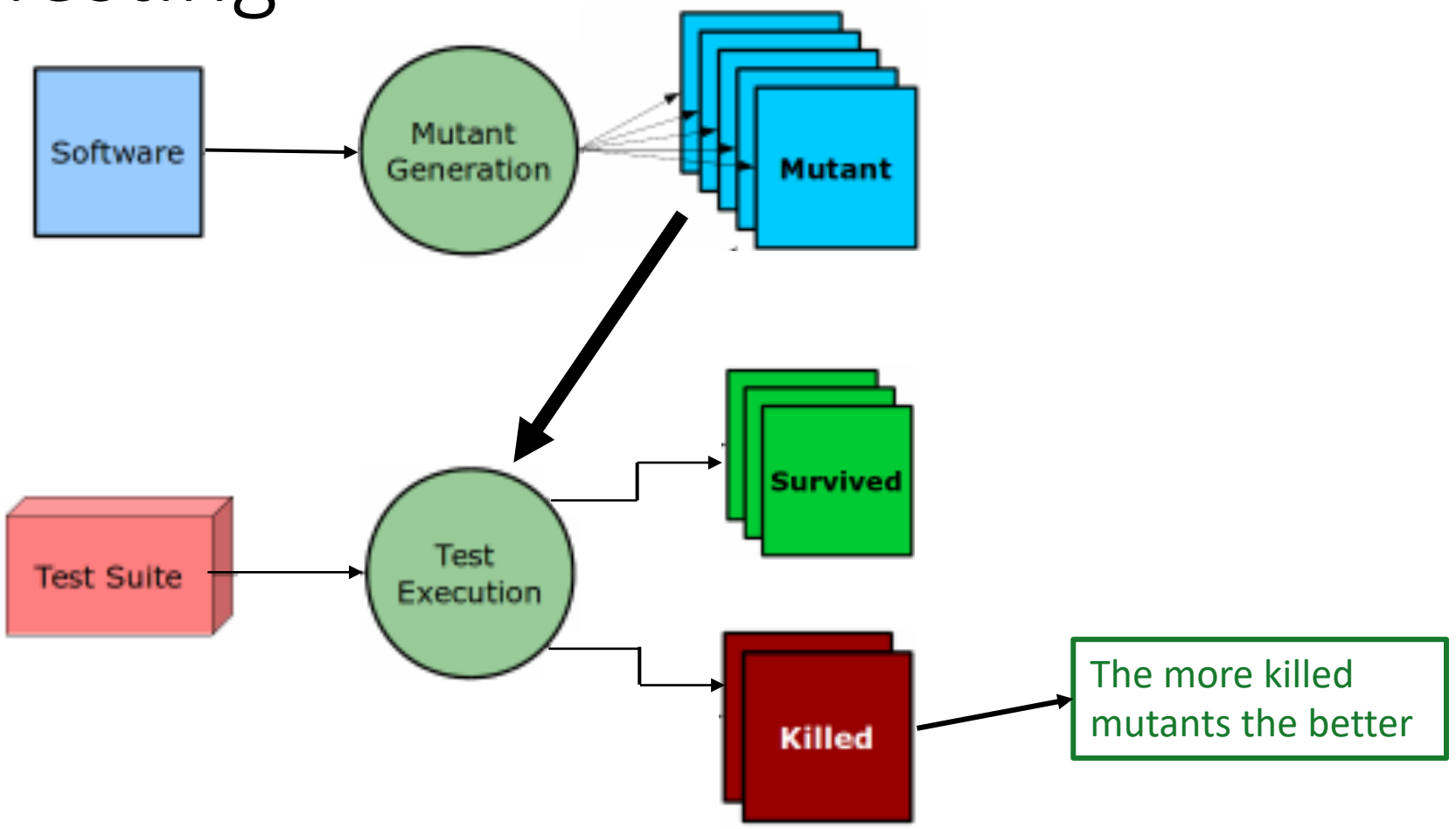
25% Path Coverage

Mutation Testing

- The steps for Mutation Testing are basically:
  - Make small changes to the code (Mutants).
  - Each change is a different mutant.
  - For each mutant, run the test cases:
    - If one test fails, it means your test was good enough to detect the changes (the mutant is killed).
    - If all tests pass, it means your tests did not detect the changed behaviour (the mutant survives).
- Therefore, the more mutants you kill, the better

$$\text{Mutation Coverage} = \frac{Number\ of\ Killed\ Mutants}{Total\ number\ of\ Mutants} \text{ X } 100\%$$

Mutation Testing



$$\text{Mutation Coverage} = \frac{Number\ of\ Killed\ Mutants}{Total\ number\ of\ Mutants} \text{ X } 100\%$$

Mutation Testing: Small Example

Original

```
int f(bool a, bool b){
  if(a && b) return 1;
  else return 0;
}
```

Test Case

```
void testf(){
  assert f(true, true)==1;
  assert f(false, false)==0;
}
```

Mutant

```
int f(bool a, bool b){
  if(a || b) return 1;
  else return 0;
}
```

Mutant Survives the Test Case

Mutation Testing: Small Example

Original

```
int f(bool a, bool b){
  if(a && b) return 1;
  else return 0;
}
```

Test Case

```
void testf(){
  assert f(true, true)==1;
  assert f(false, false)==0;
}
```

Mutant

```
int f(bool a, bool b){
  if(a || b) return 1;
  else return 0;
}
```

Missing Assertions that Could Kill this Mutant

```
assert f(false, true)==0;
assert f(true, false)==0;
```

Mutation Coverage

- Assess how good your test cases are at catching faults by introducing defects into the source code.
- More reliable metric to validate test suite effectiveness.
- In recent years, mutation testing has been more prominent in academia and less in industry.

Testing Coverage for the Project

- It is required to show coverage for your Project (in both the Intermediate and the Final Report)
  - At least Statement Coverage, but Branch Coverage is better.
  - You should show the chosen coverage before the refactoring/change and after (where hopefully you also added new tests).
- There is no set coverage limit to reach for the project.
- But if your project has very low coverage, you better have a good explanation for that.
- Focus on increasing the coverage for the system parts that will be affected by your refactoring/change.