



PROPERTY-BASED TESTING

IS A MINDSET



@whatyouhide



**weedmaps®**









<https://weedmaps.com/careers>





TESTING



# why do we test?

no tests 🙄

yes tests 😊

**unit** tests



```
test "sorting" do  
  assert sort([]) == []  
  assert sort([1, 2, 3]) == [1, 2, 3]  
  assert sort([2, 1, 3]) == [1, 2, 3]  
end
```

example-based





Input	Output
[]	[]
[1, 2, 3]	[1, 2, 3]
[2, 1, 3]	[1, 2, 3]



table-based



# unit tests

😊, but also 😓





P R O P E R T I E S



hard to write 🙄, but...



valid **inputs**

properties of **output**

**testing framework**



```
graph TD; A[valid inputs] --> C[testing framework]; B[properties of output] --> C;
```

The diagram illustrates the relationship between three concepts: 'valid inputs', 'properties of output', and 'testing framework'. The first two are at the top, and the third is at the bottom. Two curved arrows point from the top concepts down to the bottom concept, indicating that both inputs and output properties are used by the testing framework.

github.com/whatyouhide/**stream\_data**



example time:

**sorting lists**

```
test "sorting" do  
  assert sort([]) == []  
  assert sort([1, 2, 3]) == [1, 2, 3]  
  assert sort([2, 1, 3]) == [1, 2, 3]  
end
```



lists of **integers**

it's a list

has the same elements

it's ordered



```
check all list <- list_of(int()) do  
  sorted = sort(list)  
  
  assert is_list(sorted)  
  assert same_elements?(list, sorted)  
  assert ordered?(sorted)  
end
```

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check all list <- list_of(int()) do  
  sorted = sort(list)  
  
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  assert same_elements?(list, sorted)  
  assert ordered?(sorted)  
end
```

~~def sort(list), do: list~~



[32, 2, 44, -12]



[1, 0]





GENERATORS



```
iex> Enum.take(integer(), 4)  
[1, 0, -3, 1]
```



# Composability

```
number = one_of([integer(), float()])
```



```
StreamData.map(integer(), &abs/1)
```

# Example

```
def string(:ascii) do
  integer(?\s..?~)
  |> list_of()
  |> map(&List.to_string/1)
end
```



Keep shrinkability



`constant(term)`

+

`bind_filter(gen, fun)`

constant always generates a term

```
iex> Enum.take(constant(:foo), 4)  
[:foo, :foo, :foo, :foo]
```

bind\_filter (possibly) creates  
generators from generated terms

```
bind_filter(integer(), fn i ->  
  if i < 0 do  
    :skip  
  else  
    gen = map(list_of(integer()), &(&1 + i))  
    { :cont, gen }  
  end  
end)
```





P A T T E R N S



**circular** code

`decode(encode(term)) == term`



# JSON encoding

```
property "unicode escaping" do  
  check all string <- string(:printable) do  
    encoded = encode(string, escape: :unicode)  
    assert decode(encoded) == string  
  end  
end
```

**oracle** model

`my_code() == oracle_code()`



older system

less performant implementation

```
property "gives same results as Erlang impl" do  
  check all bin <- binary() do  
    assert Huffman.encode(bin) ==  
      :huffman.encode(bin)  
  end  
end
```

# smoke tests

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jvwfDdgg93E>



**API:** 200, 201, 400, 404

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jvwfDdgg93E>

```
property "only expected codes are returned" do  
  check all request <- request() do  
    response = HTTP.perform(request)  
    assert response.status in [200, 201, 400, 404]  
end  
end
```

locally 🐛, CI 🦋

```
if ci?() do  
    config :stream_data, max_runs: 500  
else  
    config :stream_data, max_runs: 25  
end
```



**unit** + properties

```
property "String.contains?/2" do  
  check all left <- string(),  
    right <- string() do  
    assert String.contains?(left <> right, left)  
    assert String.contains?(left <> right, right)  
  end  
end
```

+

```
test "String.contains?/2" do  
  assert String.contains?("foobar", "foo")  
  assert String.contains?("foobar", "bar")  
  assert String.contains?("foobar", "ob")  
end
```





# STATUEFUL TESTING



model



valid commands

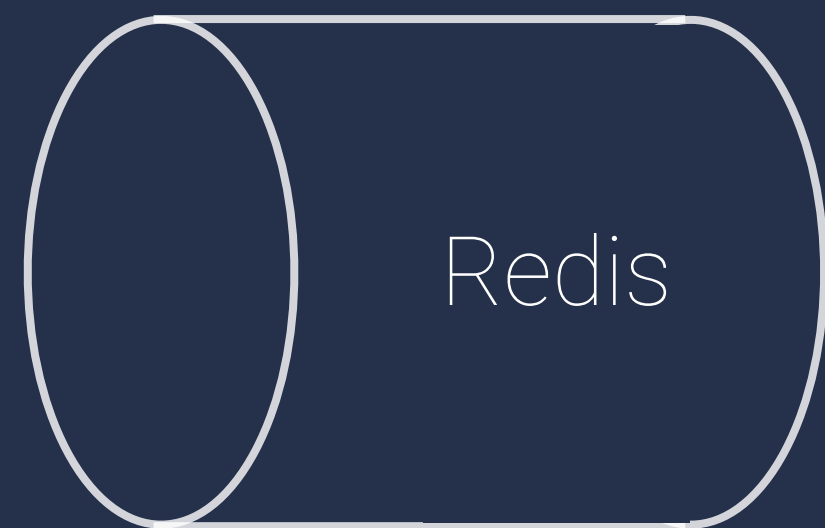


**model:** state + state transformations

**commands:** calls + preconditions

# getting/setting keys in Redis

system



model

%{ }



# commands

- `get(key)`
- `set(key, value)`

```
def get(model, key),  
  do: Map.get(model, key)
```

```
def set(model, key, value),  
  do: Map.put(model, key, value)
```

```
keys = Map.keys(model)

one_of([
  command(:get, [one_of(keys)]),
  command(:set, [binary(), binary()]),
  command(:set, [one_of(keys), binary()])
])
```

# get

```
{:ok, result} = Redis.command!(conn, ["GET", key])  
assert Map.fetch(model, key) == {:ok, result}
```

# set\_existing

```
Redis.command!(conn, ["SET", key, value])  
Map.replace!(model, key, value)
```



LevelDB

17 (seventeen) calls

33 (thirty three) calls





RESEARCH



**trees** are hard



```
defmodule Tree do
  def tree() do
    StreamData.tree(:leaf, fn leaf -> {leaf, leaf} end)
  end

  def size({l, r}), do: 1 + size(l) + size(r)
  def size(_leaf), do: 1

  def depth({l, r}), do: 1 + max(depth(l), depth(r))
  def depth(_leaf), do: 1
end
```

Generation size: 10  
Avg size: 4.9  
Avg max depth: 2.473

Generation size: 100  
Avg size: 10.892  
Avg max depth: 3.466

Generation size: 1000  
Avg size: 22.732  
Avg max depth: 4.507

**stream\_data**  
+  
**dialyzer**



Google Summer of Code

Generators from type



```
@type timeout() :: :infinity | non_neg_integer()
```

```
from_type(timeout())
```

```
one_of([:infinity, map(integer(), &abs/1)])
```

Automatic typespec property  
checking

```
@spec my_fun(timeout()) :: :ok | :error
```



```
check all timeout <- from_type(timeout()) do  
  assert my_fun(timeout) in [:ok, :error]  
end
```





C O N C L U S I O N



find obscure bugs

reduce to minimal failing input

find specification errors

cover vast input space

v1.7💖🌟

**use** stream\_data

**use** property-based testing





@whatyouhide

github.com/whatyouhide/**stream\_data**