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# COMP5111 – Fundamentals of Software Testing and Analysis

## Search-based Test Generation - EvoSuite



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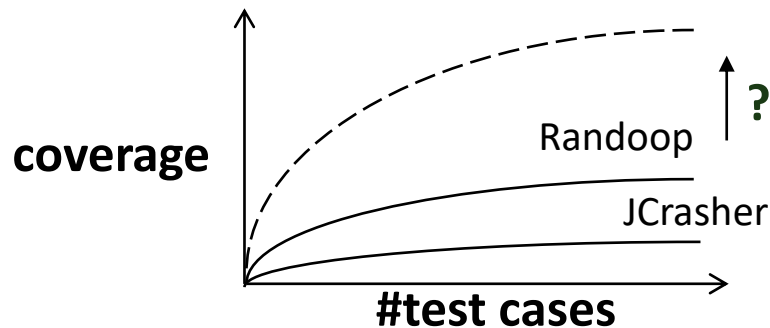
HKUST

Adapted from the presentation slides by Yongbae Park for Andrea Arcuri, Gordon Fraser, Juan Pablo Galeotti, Automated Unit Test Generation for Classes with Environment Dependencies, ASE 2014

# Limitations of Randoop

Coverage saturates quickly with increasing amount of test cases

- Generates new test cases randomly
  - Quality of **new** test cases is not guaranteed
- Weak test oracle
  - Five built-in rules
- Not working when handling environment APIs
  - Date, SystemInUtil, InputStream



# Limitations of Randoop

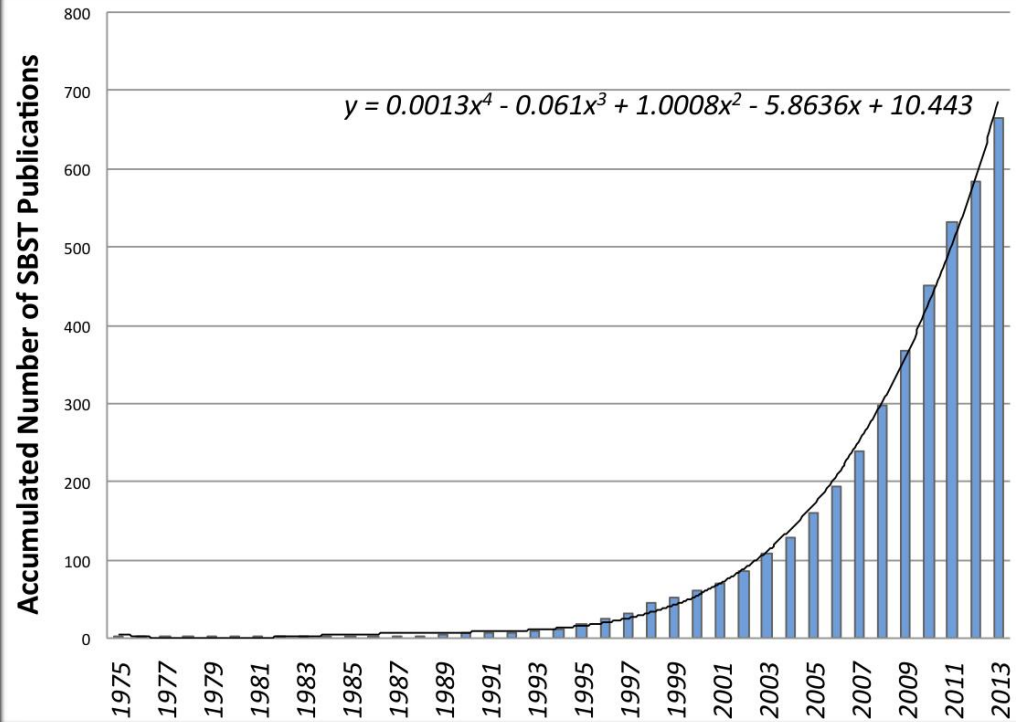
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- Weak test oracle
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**Coverage-driven**

**Regression &  
Mutation-based oracle**

**API mocking**

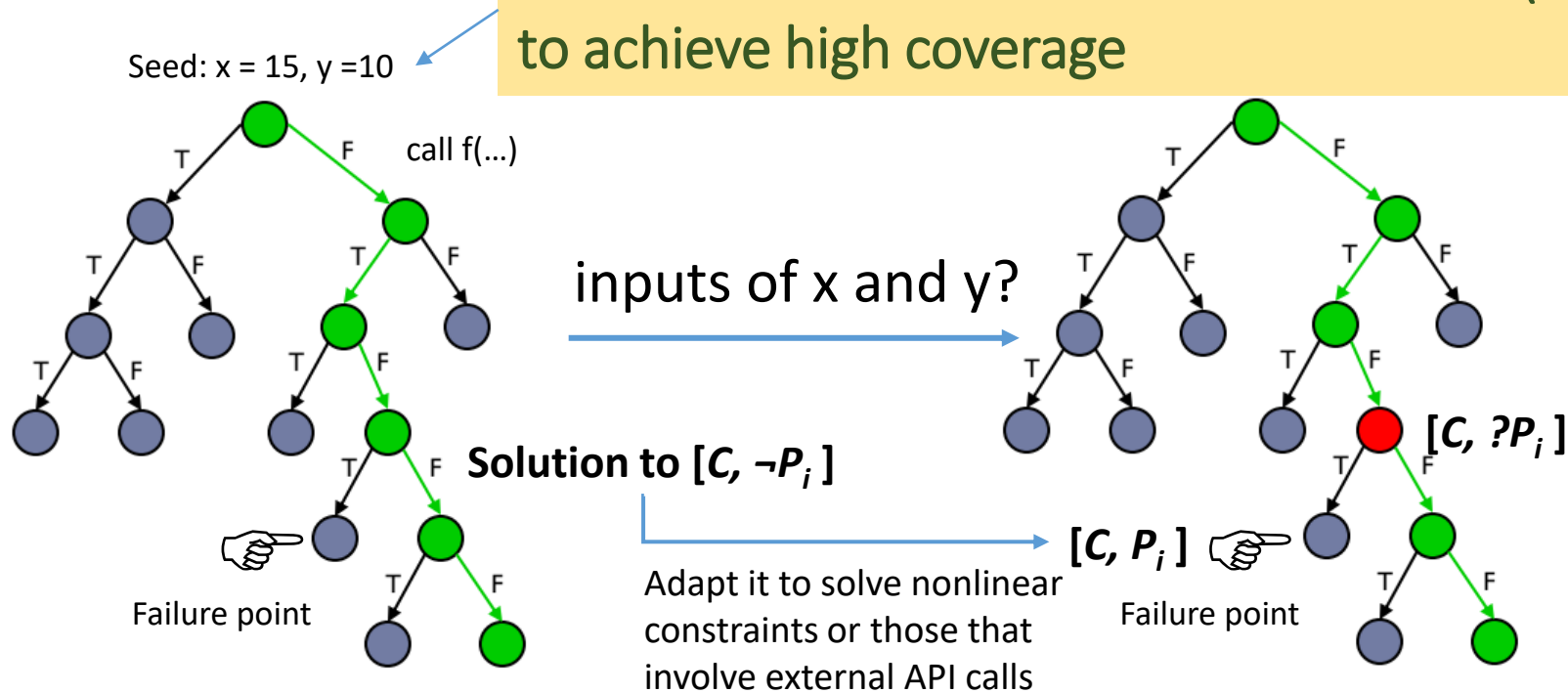


Polynomial yearly rise in  
the number of papers  
Search Based Software  
Testing

Pushed by Mark Harman in  
2000s

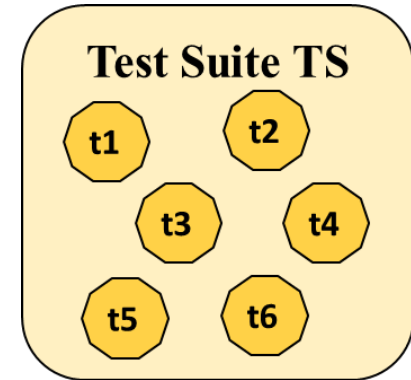
# Motivation: Challenge of Concolic Testing

Find **diversified** concrete test executions (seeds) to achieve high coverage



# Search Goal – EvoSuite

- Given a class under test (CUT), EvoSuite automatically generates a test suite TS using a genetic algorithm
- TS achieves high code coverage
- Supports mutation analysis to generate test oracles (i.e., assertions).
- Supports dynamic symbolic execution (i.e., concolic testing) to reach difficult branches
- <http://www.evosuite.org/>



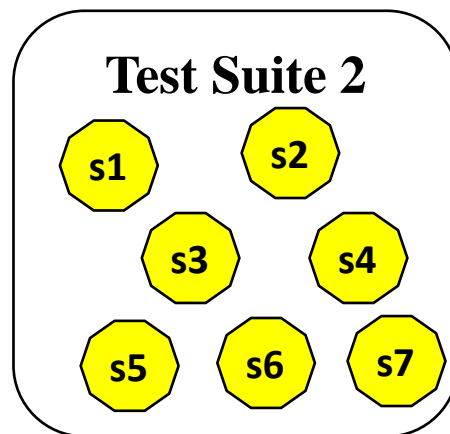
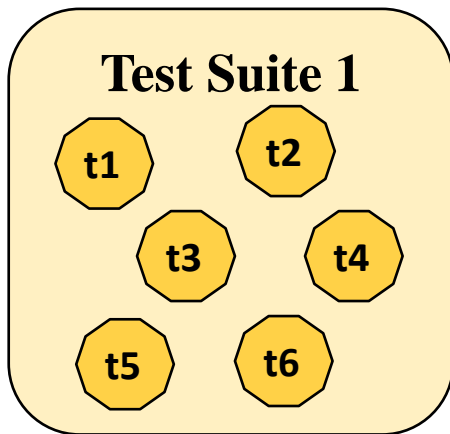
# One Generation Strategy – EvoSuite

Given a class under test (CUT), EvoSuite automatically generates a test suite using a genetic algorithm:

1. Create 2 initial test suites by calling methods randomly; insert them into current generation.
2. Select two test suites from current generation.
3. Create 2 new test suites by **crossover** (exchange test cases of the suites).
4. **Modify two test suites** from step 3 with **mutation operators** (insert, remove, change operators).
5. Insert the new two test suites from step 4 to next generation if coverage of the new two test suites are higher than that of their parents.
6. Repeat 2~5 until there are enough test suites for the next generation
7. Repeat 2~6 until time limit is reached or all branches are covered
8. Select a test suit with the **highest branch coverage** and insert **assertions** by executing the tests

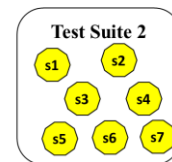
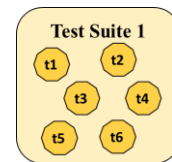
# EvoSuite

1. Create 2 initial test suites by adding method calls randomly and insert the test suites into current generation.

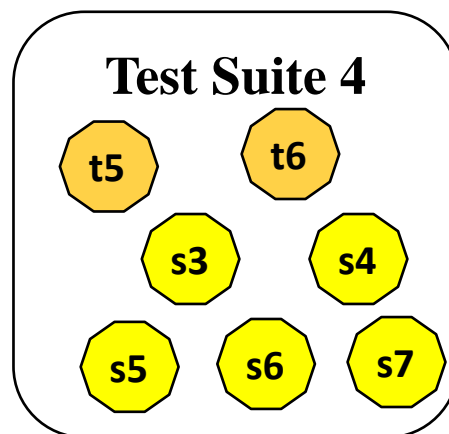
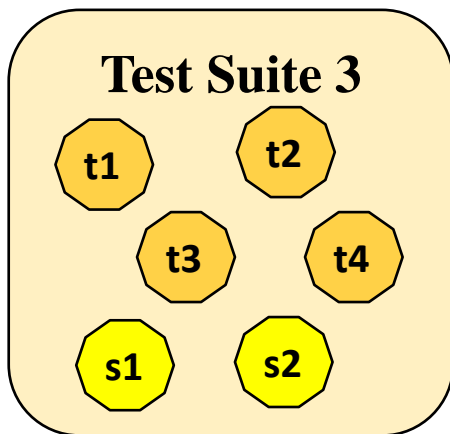




# EvoSuite



2. Select two test suites from current generation
3. Create 2 new test suites by crossover (exchange test cases of the suites)



# Example for EvoSuite

```
1 public class Message {  
2     private Date created;  
3     private String text;  
4     public Message(String text) {  
5         this.created=new Date();  
6         this.text=(text==null?"":text);  
7     }  
8     public String toString() {  
9         return created+", "+text;  
10    }  
11    public String getText() {  
12        return text;  
13    } }
```

- Message class contains 2 members:
  - **created** holds the message creation date, which is set in the constructor of Message
  - **text** holds the contents of a message

# Initial Test Suite Generation

- EvoSuite randomly inserts a small number of new statements for the empty test cases of the initial test suites

```
1 public class Message {  
2     private Date created;  
3     private String text;  
4     public Message(String text) {  
5         this.created=new Date();  
6         this.text=(text==null?"":text);  
7     }  
8     public String toString() {  
9         return created+","+text;  
10    }  
11    public String getText() {  
12        return text;  
13    } }
```

```
public class TestSuite1 {  
    public void test0() { //length 3  
        Message v0 = new Message("e");  
        Message v1 = new Message("c");  
    }  
    public void test1() { //length 2  
        Message v0 = new Message(null);  
    } }
```

# Initial Test Suite Generation

- In each step, EvoSuite adds a method call whose callee is a method of a class under test or a method call of an object that is available at the end
  - A parameter of the created method call is selected from available values, `null`, or a random value

Class under test

```
1 public class Message {  
2     private Date created;  
3     private String text;  
4     public Message(String text) {  
5         this.created=new Date();  
6         this.text=(text==null?"":text);  
7     }  
8     public String toString() {  
9         return created+","+text;  
10    }  
11    public String getText() {  
12        return text;  
13    } }
```

```
public class TestSuite1 {  
    public void test0() { //length 3  
        Message v0 = new Message("e");  
        Message v1 = new Message("c");  
        String v2 = v1.toString();  
    }  
    public void test1() { //length 2  
        Message v0 = new Message(null);  
        String v1 = v0.getText();  
    } }
```

# Initial Test Suite Generation

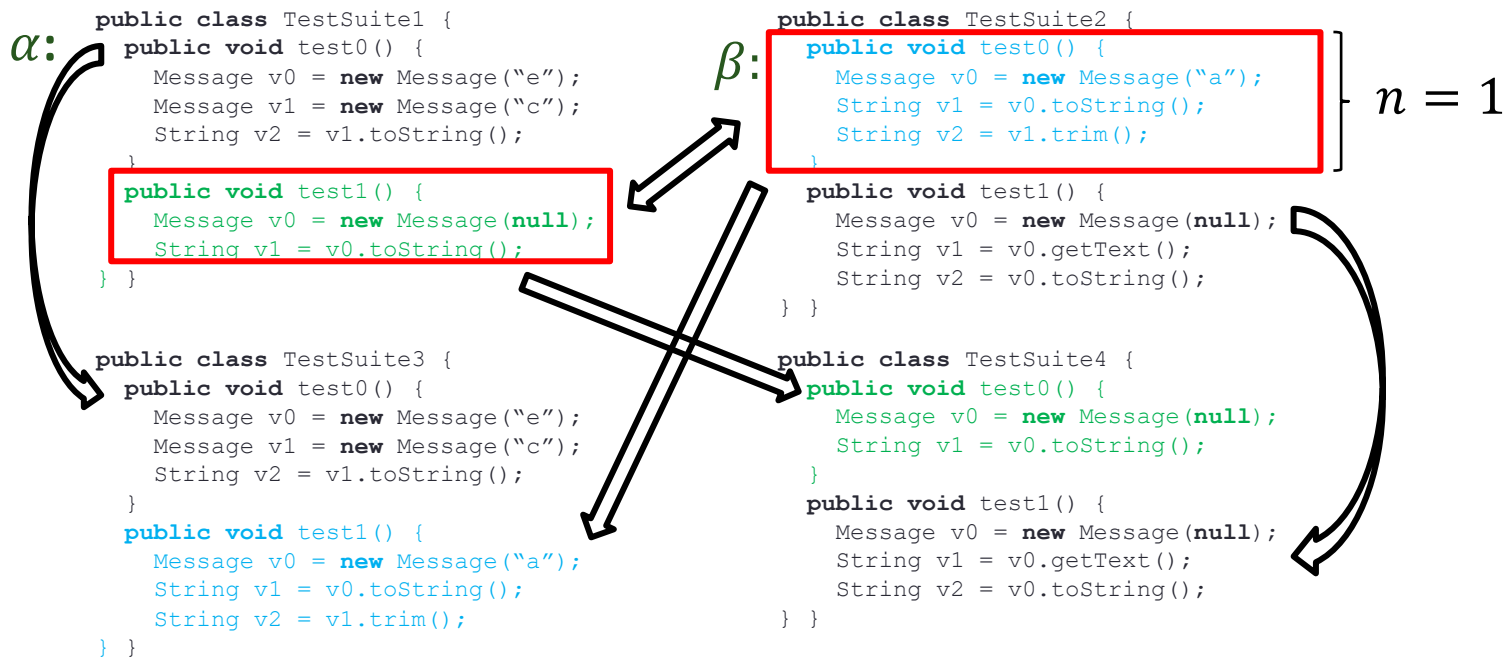
- The maximum length for each test case is set by a random number (usually a small integer).

```
1 public class Message {
2     private Date created;
3     private String text;
4     public Message(String text) {
5         this.created=new Date();
6         this.text=(text==null?"":text);
7     }
8     public String toString() {
9         return created+","+text;
10    }
11    public String getText() {
12        return text;
13    } }
```

```
public class TestSuite1 {
    public void test0() { //length 3
        Message v0 = new Message("e");
        Message v1 = new Message("c");
        String v2 = v1.toString();
    }
    public void test1() { //length 2
        Message v0 = new Message(null);
        String v1 = v0.getText();
    } }
```

# Crossover *Random or Two with the highest coverage*

- EvoSuite selects test suites  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  from current population, and swaps the last  $n$  test cases of  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$  with the first  $n$  test cases of  $\beta$  to  $\alpha$  where  $n$  is a random number



# Crossover *Random or Two with the highest coverage*

- EvoSuite selects test suites  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  from current population, and moves last  $n$  test cases of  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$  and first  $n$  test cases of  $\beta$  to  $\alpha$  where  $n$  is a random number

$\alpha$ :

```
public class TestSuite1 {
    public void test0() {
        Message v0 = new Message("e");
        Message v1 = new Message("c");
        String v2 = v1.toString();
    }
    public void test1() {
        Message v0 = new Message(null);
        String v1 = v0.toString();
    }
}
```

$\beta$ :

```
public class TestSuite2 {
    public void test0() {
        Message v0 = new Message("a");
        String v1 = v0.toString();
        String v2 = v1.trim();
    }
    public void test1() {
        Message v0 = new Message(null);
        String v1 = v0.getText();
        String v2 = v0.toString();
    }
}
```

}  $n = 1$

```
public class TestSuite3 {
    public void test0() {
        Message v0 = new Message("e");
        Message v1 = new Message("c");
        String v2 = v1.toString();
    }
    public void test1() {
        Message v0 = new Message("a");
        String v1 = v0.toString();
        String v2 = v1.trim();
    }
}
```

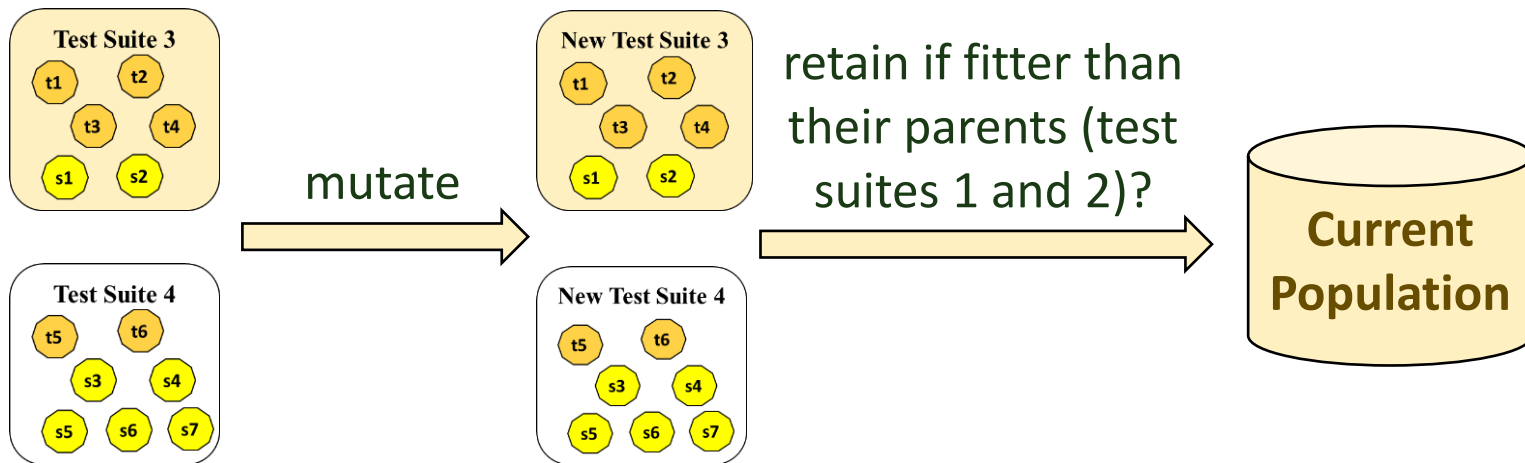
```
public class TestSuite4 {
    public void test0() {
        Message v0 = new Message(null);
        String v1 = v0.toString();
    }
    public void test1() {
        Message v0 = new Message(null);
        String v1 = v0.getText();
        String v2 = v0.toString();
    }
}
```

Two  
offsprings

Mutate  
offsprings with  
insert, remove  
and change  
operators

# EvoSuite

4. Modify the two test suites from step 3 with **mutation operators** (insert, remove, change operators).
5. Insert the new two test suites from step 4 to next generation if coverage of the new two test suites are higher than that of their parents.






# Mutation – Insert Operator

- Insert operator adds a new statement at a **random position** using one of the two ways
  1. Add a method call statement whose callee is a method of the class under test
  2. Add a method call of an object that is available at a random position
- A parameter of the created method call is selected from available values, `null`, or a random value

Adding a method call  
of a class under test


```
public class TestSuite4 {  
    public void test0() {  
        Message v0 = new Message(null);  
        String v1 = v0.toString();  
    }  
}
```



```
public class TestSuite4 {  
    public void test0() {  
        Message v0 = new Message(null);  
        String v1 = v0.toString();  
        Message v2 = new Message("b");  
    }  
}
```

Adding a method call of an  
available object available  
at a random position

```
public class TestSuite4 {  
    public void test0() {  
        Message v0 = new Message("a");  
        boolean v2 = v0.equals(null);  
        String v1 = v0.toString();  
    }  
}
```



# Mutation – Remove Operator

- Randomly selects a statement in a test case and remove the statement

```
public class TestSuite4 {  
    public void test0() {  
        Message v0 = new Message(null);  
        String v1 = v0.toString();  
    }  
}
```

Remove a statement



```
public class TestSuite4 {  
    public void test0() {  
        Message v0 = new Message(null);  
    }  
}
```



Illegal statement removal

```
public class TestSuite4 {  
    public void test0() {  
        String v1 = v0.toString();  
    }  
}
```

**illegal statement is also removed**

# Mutation – Change Operator

- Change operator randomly changes a callee method or a parameter of a method invocation statement in a test case
  - ❑ Selects a new callee method that whose return type is same as the original method.
  - ❑ Changes an argument of a method call into a value which is available from the previous statements or a random value.

```
public class TestSuite4 {  
    public void test0() {  
        Message v0 = new Message(null);  
        String v1 = v0.toString();  
    }  
}
```

callee method change



```
public class TestSuite4 {  
    public void test0() {  
        Message v0 = new Message(null);  
        String v1 = v0.getText();  
    }  
}
```



parameter change (random value)

```
public class TestSuite4 {  
    public void test0() {  
        Message v0 = new Message("a");  
        String v1 = v0.toString();  
    }  
}
```

Do you find any assumption made by this change operator?

# Insert test suites to current generation

- Check the coverage of new Test Suites 3 and 4 after mutation.
- Add those Test Suites are fitter than their parents.  
// Coverage driven
  - Intuitively, if  $\text{Cov}(\text{TS}_n) > \max(\text{Cov}(\text{TS}_1), \text{Cov}(\text{TS}_2))$ , add  $\text{TS}_n$  to the current population, where  $n = 3$  or  $4$
  - More precisely, the selection is based on a fitness function for branch coverage

# Fitness Function for Branch Coverage

- Purpose: Estimates how close a test suite  $T$  is to cover all branches


- $$f_B(T) = |F| - |F_T| + \sum_{b_k \in B} d(b_k, T) \geq 0$$

- $T$ : the given test suite
- $F$ : set of all methods
- $F_T$ : set of methods covered by  $T$
- $B$ : set of branches
- $d(b_k, T)$ : distance of  $T$  from a branch  $b_k$

**Favors  $T$  that has the smallest value of  $f_B(T)$**

# Distance Function $d(b,T)$

$\overbrace{\text{if } (x > 10)}^b$   
true



$$d(b,T) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if the branch } b \text{ has been covered by } T, \\ v(d_{\min}(b,T)) & \text{if the predicate for } b \text{ has been covered twice by } T, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- $v(z) = \frac{z}{z+1}$  is a normalizing function with a range (0, 1)
- $d_{\min}(b,T)$  is obtained from the minimal value of  $d(b,t), t \in T$
- Example of  $d(b,t)$ :
  - If branch  $b$  is the true evaluation of predicate  $x > 10$ , and  $x = 5$  in test  $t$
  - $d(b,t)$  is  $10 - 5 + c$  for a small value of  $c$ , say 0.1

# Illustration of $f_B(T) = |F| - |F_T| + \sum_{b_k \in B} d(b_k, T)$

- Suppose T and S are two test suites executing the same set of methods and aim to cover three branches
  - b1:  $i > 10$ ; b2:  $j > 10$ ; b3:  $k > 10$
- Suppose T and S each contains three tests
- Tests in T: t1( $i=11$ ), t2( $j=0$ ), t3( $k=0$ ) // one branch covered
  - $3 - 1 + (0 + 0.91 + 0.91) = 3.82$
- Tests in S: s1( $i=10$ ), s2( $j=10$ ), s3( $k=10$ ) // no branch covered
  - $3 - 0 + (0.091 + 0.091 + 0.091) = 3.273$
- Evosuite favors S over T in the gene selection

# Augmentation with Concolic Testing

- At times, the search algorithm can stuck at finding test suites to reach certain branches  $\sum_{b_k \in B} d(b_k, T)$
- Symptom: The components of these branches in the fitness function fail to reduce after a number of iterations
- Solution: Evosuite deploys concolic testing (a.k.a. dynamic symbolic execution) and tries to (partially) solve the concerned predicates using a constraint solver → leading to further reduction in these components



# Select the TS with the smallest fitness value

- Evosuite stops generation when
    - It has generated enough Test Suites that altogether satisfy 100% coverage\*, OR
    - It has reached the specified time budget
  - Select among these test suites the one with the highest coverage (not smallest fitness value)
- \* It can be configured to branch coverage, exception coverage, weak mutation coverage or strong mutation coverage. Default is branch coverage.

# Limitations of Randoop

Coverage saturates quickly with increasing amount of test cases.

- Generates new test cases randomly. **Coverage-driven**
  - Quality of new test cases is not guaranteed.
- Weak test oracle. **Regression & Mutation-based oracle**
- Not working when handling environment APIs. **API mocking**

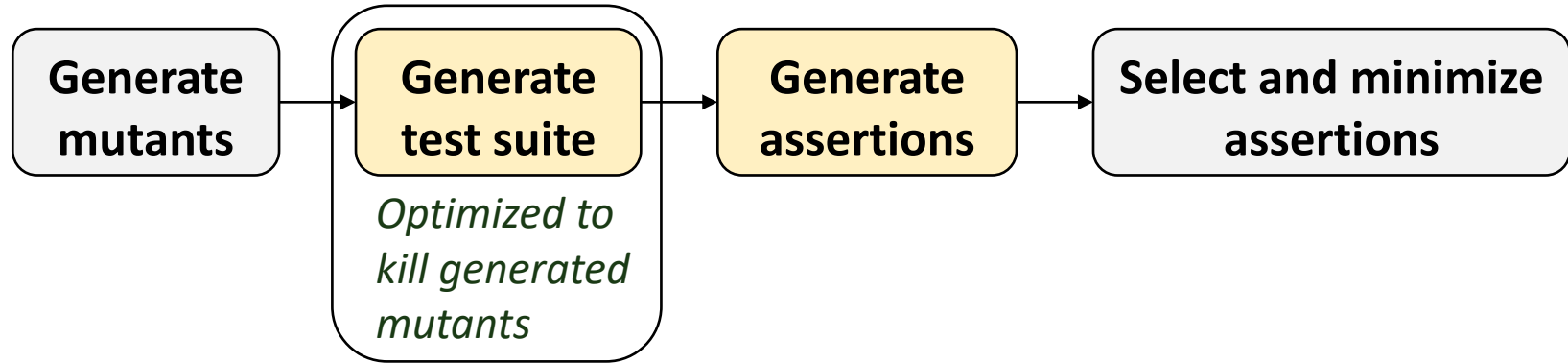
# Assertion Generation (Regression-based)

```
public class ClassExampleWithFailure {  
    public static int sq(x) {  
        return x*x;  
    }  
    public static int foo(int x, int y) {  
        int z = sq(x);  
        if (y > 20 && z == 144)  
            assert(false); // assert failure  
        return y*z;  
    }  
}
```

```
@Test(timeout = 4000)  
public void test1() throws Throwable {  
    int int0 = ClassExampleWithFailure.sq(0);  
    assertEquals(0, int0);  
}  
...  
@Test(timeout = 4000)  
public void test7() throws Throwable {  
    int int0 = ClassExampleWithFailure.foo(-1158, 0);  
    assertEquals(0, int0);  
}
```

Asserts expected regression test outcomes

# Assertion Generation (Mutation-based)



## Chicken and egg?

- An assertion can only be generated after deciding the sequence of statements
- But we don't know if a sequence of statements can kill a mutant without deciding the assertion

statement  
sequence

```
public void test0() {  
    Message v0 = new Message("e");  
    Message v1 = new Message("c");  
    String v2 = v1.toString();  
    assert( ... );  
}
```

Let us revisit this problem in detail later at the Regression Testing topic

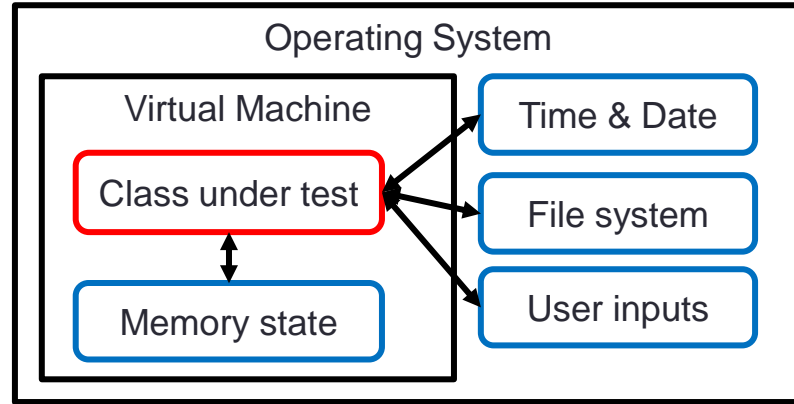
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- Not working when handling environment APIs. **API mocking**

# Problems

- The test result of a class interacting with the environment is **not consistently reproduced**
- Evosuites defines the environment as **inputs from outside of a class**
  - E.g., a state of virtual machine (free & total memory space), a state of operating system (system time, file system, user inputs).
- A test is **flaky** if some of its executions pass while some fail with the same program and configuration.



# Environment API Mocking

- “Mocking” is the replacement of real classes with modified classes that behave **consistently**.
- In the following example, Date is replaced by MockDate that always returns a fixed value.

```
1 public class Message {
2     private Date created;
3     private String text;
4     public Message(String text) {
5         this.created=new MockDate();
6         this.text=(text==null?"":contents);
7     }
8     public String toString() {
9         return created+","+text;
10    } }
11 public class MockDate() {
12     public String toString() {
13         return "2014.10.02";
14    } }

    public class TestSuite1 {
        public void test0() {
            Message v0 = new Message(null);
            String v1 = v0.toString();
            assertFalse(v1.equals("2014.10.02,null"));
        } }
    }
```

# Overview of Environment API Mocking

- A test generation tool with a generic mock library creates a non-flaky test suite with higher coverage without user's (tester) efforts
  - A mock library typically mocks **console inputs**, **file I/O**, **general API class** of Java standard API
    - The mock library consists of a customized `InputStream` class for console inputs, 11 classes of file I/O (e.g. `File`) and 12 general API classes (e.g. `System`, `Runtime`)
    - The mock library has **helper methods** that set the environment in a test case
      - E.g., `Mockdate.setdate(Date)`
  - Replaces standard library with the mock library using bytecode instrumentation



# Console Inputs

- A customized `InputStream` called `SystemInUtil` has a helper method `addInputLine (String)` so that a test case can program the contents of console inputs
  - The console contents of `SystemInUtil` is reset before every test execution.
  - In instrumentation, `System.io` in a class under test is changed into `SystemInUtil.io`

# File I/O

- EvoSuite mocks 11 JVM file I/O API classes.
  - Mock classes are subclasses of the 11 API classes to be mocked.
  - EvoSuite overrides the methods of these API classes to access a virtual file system instead of the real file system of operating system.
    - For example, EvoSuite overrides 37 methods among the 52 methods of `File` class
    - As a result, test cases become independent from each other and there is no negative side-effect such as file system corruption.
  - EvoSuite creates helper methods such as `appendLineToFile()` to control the initial state of the virtual file system.

`java.io.File`

`java.io.PrintStream`

`java.io.FileInputStream`

`java.io.PrintWriter`

`java.io.FileOutputStream`

`java.util.logging.FileHandler`

`java.io.RandomAccessFile`

`javax.swing.JFileChooser`

`java.io.FileReader`

`java.io.FileWriter`

`javax.swing.filechooser.FileSystemView`

# General JVM Calls

- EvoSuite mocks 12 JVM general API classes to control the environment such as time and random number.

Class name	Environment
<code>java.lang.Exception</code>	Stack trace message
<code>java.lang.Throwable</code>	
<code>java.util.logging.LogRecord</code>	
<code>java.lang.Thread</code>	
<code>java.lang.Runtime</code>	Memory usage & the number of processors
<code>java.lang.System</code>	Current system time & date
<code>java.util.Date</code>	
<code>java.util.Calendar</code>	
<code>java.util.GregorianCalendar</code>	Reflection (the order of Method objects)
<code>java.lang.Class</code>	
<code>java.lang.Math</code>	Random number
<code>java.util.Random</code>	

# Selected Evosuite Parameters

Parameter	Min	Max	Default
Population (test suite) size	5	99	50
Chromosome length	5	99	40
#Mutations	1	10	1
#Initial tests	1	10	10
Crossover rate	0.01	0.99	0.75
Probability of inserting test case	0.01	0.99	0.1
Fitness function	Statement / Branch / Mutation / Exception coverage		Branch coverage

# Findings from 100 Java Projects

- Mocking library interacting with the virtual environment increases coverage and reduces flaky tests in automated unit test generation.
  - EvoSuite creates test cases that controls initial environment to increase branch coverage.
  - The generated test cases are non-flaky because interactions with the virtual environment is deterministic.

## Total number of test cases and average statistics per test case: Manually handcrafted vs. generated

Case Study	Manual			Generated		
	Tests	Statements/Test	Assertions/Test	Tests	Statements/Test	Assertions/Test
Commons CLI	187	7.45	2.80	137.39	4.91	2.57
Commons Codec	284	6.67	3.16	236.28	4.50	1.20
Commons Collections	12,954	6.28	2.10	1955.67	4.65	2.24
Commons Logging	26	6.90	1.03	77.86	6.08	2.00
Commons Math	14,693	6.93	3.41	1797.79	4.49	1.91
Commons Primitives	3,397	4.05	0.86	1145.67	5.88	1.54
Google Collections	33,485	4.52	1.25	781.79	3.88	1.81
JGraphT	118	9.10	1.65	484.96	4.56	1.52
Joda Time	3,493	4.89	4.55	1553.36	6.10	1.89
NanoXML	2	12.67	0.67	35.47	6.22	1.13

$\hat{A}_{12}$  measure values in the mutation score comparisons:  $\hat{A}_{12} < 0.5$  means  $\mu_{\text{TEST}}$  achieved lower,  $\hat{A}_{12} = 0.5$  equal, and  $\hat{A}_{12} > 0.5$  higher mutation scores than the manually written test suites.

Case Study	$\#\hat{A}_{12} < 0.5$	$\#\hat{A}_{12} = 0.5$	$\#\hat{A}_{12} > 0.5$
Commons CLI	7	1	5
Commons Codec	9	2	9
Commons Collections	46	24	123
Commons Logging	1	2	1
Commons Math	74	10	159
Commons Primitives	7	96	51
Google Collections	36	9	38
JGraphT	30	16	66
Joda Time	42	3	78
NanoXML	1	0	0
$\Sigma$	253	163	530

EvoSuite generates test suites and oracles that find significantly more seeded defects than manually written test suites.

# Comparison

Source: Sina Shamshiri et al., Do Automatically Generated Unit Tests Find Real Faults? An Empirical Study of Effectiveness and Challenges, ASE15 // *Based on 10 generated test suites*

## Regression Bugs

Project	Tool	Compilable	Tests	Flaky	False Pos.	Coverage	Max Bugs	Avg. Bugs	Assertion	Exception	Timeout
Chart	AGITARONE	100.0%	131.2	0.2%	30.6%	84.7%	17	17.0	10.0	11.0	0.0
	EVOsuite	100.0%	45.9	3.5%	0.0%	68.1%	18	9.7	5.4	5.2	0.3
	RANDOOOP	100.0%	4874.9	36.8%	0.0%	54.8%	18	14.1	7.5	9.1	0.0
	Manual	100.0%	230.6	0.0%	0.0%	70.5%	26	26.0	17.0	12.0	0.0
Closure	AGITARONE	100.0%	199.4	0.4%	79.3%	79.1%	25	25.0	16.0	10.0	0.0
	EVOsuite	100.0%	34.9	1.7%	0.0%	34.5%	27	11.8	10.5	1.4	0.0
	RANDOOOP	98.4%	5518.4	19.8%	15.8%	9.8%	9	2.2	0.5	1.7	0.0
	Manual	100.0%	3511.1	0.0%	0.0%	90.9%	133	133.0	103.0	42.0	0.0
Lang	AGITARONE	100.0%	127.7	1.0%	23.5%	50.9%	22	22.0	10.0	14.0	0.0
	EVOsuite	79.5%	48.6	5.4%	0.0%	55.4%	18	9.2	5.5	3.3	0.9
	RANDOOOP	68.3%	11450.7	5.7%	0.0%	50.7%	10	7.0	1.7	6.3	0.0
	Manual	100.0%	169.2	0.0%	0.0%	91.4%	65	65.0	31.0	36.0	0.0
Math	AGITARONE	100.0%	105.8	0.1%	8.9%	83.5%	53	53.0	34.0	25.0	0.0
	EVOsuite	99.8%	29.7	0.2%	0.0%	77.9%	66	42.9	26.1	17.7	0.3
	RANDOOOP	97.8%	7371.4	15.6%	0.0%	43.4%	41	26.0	17.8	10.8	0.0
	Manual	100.0%	167.8	0.0%	0.0%	91.1%	106	106.0	76.0	31.0	0.0
Time	AGITARONE	100.0%	187.2	3.3%	30.9%	86.7%	13	13.0	10.0	8.0	0.0
	EVOsuite	100.0%	58.0	2.8%	0.0%	86.7%	16	8.5	4.9	4.0	0.0
	RANDOOOP	81.1%	2807.1	25.3%	0.0%	43.0%	15	4.5	3.8	1.1	0.0
	Manual	100.0%	2532.7	0.0%	0.0%	91.8%	27	27.0	13.0	17.0	0.0



# Interesting Observations

- Randoop generated 21% flaky tests // largely fixed in latest versions
- AgitarOne, a commercial product, generated 46% false positives
- Three tools altogether found 55.7% (199 out of 357) bugs
  - No tool alone found more than 40.6% of bugs
- 146 bugs were detected by assertions vs 109 bugs were detected by exceptions; 56 were detected by both
- 40% of bugs were detected when their buggy code were covered by generated tests // *not failure-revealing path or variable values*
- Simple bugs were detected by all generated test suites

# Examples of Simple Bugs

- NullPointerException
- Missing input validation
- Easily executable and observable changes

```
1 public boolean isSupportLowerBoundInclusive() {  
2     return true;  
3 +     return false;  
4 }
```

# Open Problems to Increasing Fault Detection Rate

## ■ Creation of complex objects

Bug fix: 

```
1 for (Node finallyNode : cfa.finallyMap.get(parent)) {  
2     cfa.createEdge(fromNode, Branch.UNCOND, finallyNode);  
3 +   cfa.createEdge(fromNode, Branch.ON_EX, finallyNode);  
4 }
```

 ← *calls*

- To detect the bug, a test needs to create a complex string

Bug revealing test crafted by developers:

```
1 String src = "X:while(1){try{while(2){try{var a;break X;}" +  
    "finally{}}}finally{}}";  
2 ControlFlowGraph<Node> cfg = createCfg(src);  
3 assertCrossEdge(cfg, Token.BLOCK, Token.BLOCK, Branch.ON_EX);
```

# Open Problems to Increasing Fault Detection Rate

## ■ Two examples of complex conditions

```
1 if (chars[i] == 'l' || chars[i] == 'L') {  
2-   return foundDigit && !hasExp;  
3+   return foundDigit && !hasExp && !hasDecPoint;  
4 }
```

```
1 public EqualsBuilder append(Object lhs, Object rhs) {  
2     ...  
3     Class lhsClass = lhs.getClass();  
4     if (!lhsClass.isArray()) {  
5-         isEqual = lhs.equals(rhs)  
6+         if (lhs instanceof java.math.BigDecimal) { ... }  
7+         else { isEqual = lhs.equals(rhs) }  
8     } ...  
9 }
```

# Open Problems to Increase Fault Detection Rate

- Generates more complex intra-class data flow dependencies
- Generates stronger assertions
  - Asserts where an expected exception is thrown

*fitness on  
dataflow  
coverage*

```
1 try {  
2     prepareAnnotations.visit(t, n, parent);  
3     fail("Expected NullPointerException to be thrown");  
4 } catch (NullPointerException ex) {  
5     ...  
6     assertThrownBy(  
7         PrepareAst.PrepareAnnotations.class, ex);  
8 }
```

*Need better  
mutation  
operators for  
exception  
coverage*

Specify where the exception is thrown

# Adoption of Automated Test Generation at Facebook

Sapienz – Automated Test Generators for  
Android app



# Facebook's Sapienz tool automatically finds bugs before software reaches users

Sapienz is designed to help developers spot bugs, as well as offering intelligent suggestions for fixes



By Laurie Clarke | Dec 07, 2018

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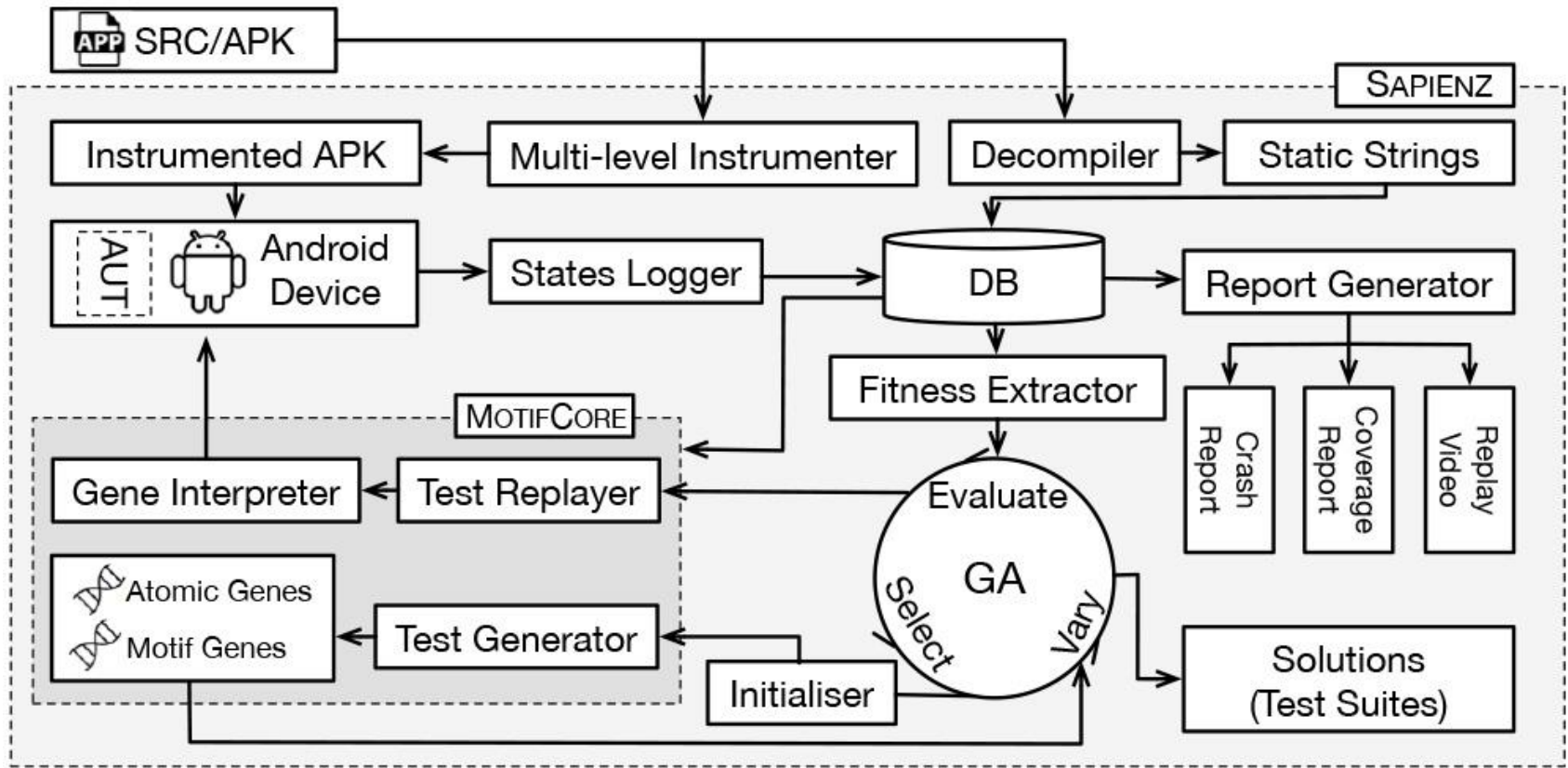


We've all had the infuriating experience of using apps that freeze or malfunction. For Facebook, keeping this experience to a minimum for its 1.5 billion daily users is a business imperative.

Facebook's source control, which is the central repository that controls all of the ways in which developers makes changes to the software, has roughly one million commands sent to it every single day. This translates into over 100,000 changes made to software each week. At this scale, errors are bound to slip through.

- 100+K code updates weekly at Facebook
- Generates hundreds of monthly bug reports for Facebook, Instagram, Workplace, and Messenger apps
- Pinpointing faulty code

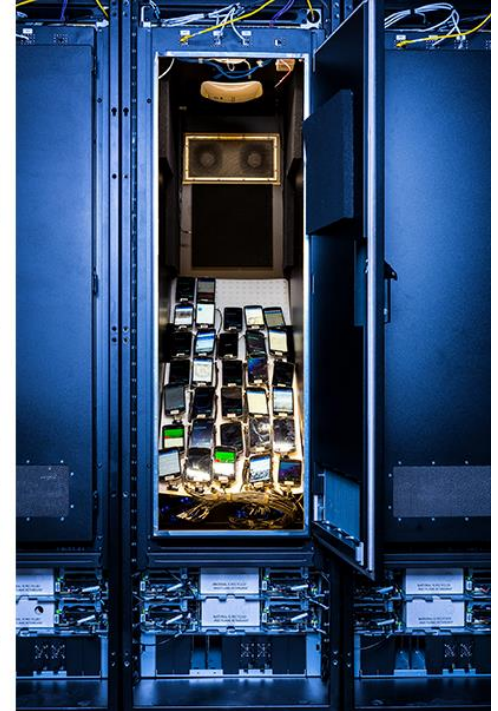
Source: <https://www.techworld.com/developers/facebooks-sapienz-tool-automatically-finds-bugs-before-software-reaches-users-3689054/>



## Sapienz Workflow



# Deployment of Sapienz at Facebook



Source: <https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2017/08/facebook-dynamic-analysis-software-sapienz/>

# Adoption of Sapienz in Facebook

## ■ Video: **Friction Free** Fault Finding with Sapienz



- <https://developers.facebook.com/videos/f8-2018/friction-free-fault-finding-with-sapienz/>

## ■ Alshahwan et al., Deploying Search Based Software Engineering with Sapienz at Facebook, SSBSE18 (10<sup>th</sup> edition)

## ■ Mao et al., Sapienz: Multi-objective Automated Testing for Android Applications, ISSTA16

## ■ Facebook's **evolutionary search** for crashing software bugs

- <https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2017/08/facebook-dynamic-analysis-software-sapienz/>

# Empirical Findings: Automatically Generated (AG) Tests vs Manually Written (MW) Tests

[Almasi et al. ICSE-SEIP 2017]

- coverage(AG tests) > coverage(MW tests): Clearly Yes
  - AG tests can reach codes and branches that are not covered by MW tests
  - AG tests help cover intended behavior not covered by MW tests
- #fault-detected(AG tests) > #fault-detected(MW tests): No evidence
  - **Faults** detected by AG tests can **differ** from those detected by MW tests
  - Although AG tests can reach faulty code, the **test oracles** (i.e., assertions) generated are **weak** to conclude the test outputs are wrong
- AG tests cannot replace but **complement** MW tests

## Empirical Findings: Automatically Generated (AG) Tests vs Manually Written (MW) Tests

- Commercial software is not necessarily more difficult to cover than open-source software by AG tests
- AG tests can detect as many as 56.4% (Evosuite) and 38.0% (Randoop) of faults in a large-scale financial application
  - Undetected faults requires tests that take either specific input values (50.0%) or complex object configurations (47.6%)
- Outstanding research problems:
  - How to generate stronger test oracles
  - How to generate specific input values and complex object configurations

# A recent review by Facebook Engineer on Sapienz in 2020



**<https://youtu.be/BM89PFDwZuU?t=286>**

# Additional References

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