



MORE ISP

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*"A bug in the hand is worth two in the box." – Anonymous*

# Outcomes



After today's lecture you will be able to:

- Understand the basics of ISP
- To partition an input domain
- Model an input domain
- Understand parameters and their characteristics
- Understand multiple ISP based criteria



- `triang()` has one testable function and three integer inputs

## First Characterization of TriType's Inputs

| Characteristic                    | $b_1$ | $b_2$ | $b_3$ |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| $q_1$ = "Relation of Side 1 to 0" | $> 0$ | $= 0$ | $< 0$ |
| $q_2$ = "Relation of Side 2 to 0" | $> 0$ | $= 0$ | $< 0$ |
| $q_3$ = "Relation of Side 3 to 0" | $> 0$ | $= 0$ | $< 0$ |

- A maximum of  $3 * 3 * 3 = 27$  tests
- Some triangles are **valid**, some are **invalid**
- **Refining** the characterization can lead to more tests...

## Second Characterization of TriType's Inputs

| Characteristic                    | $b_1$ | $b_2$ | $b_3$ | $b_4$ |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $q_1$ = "Relation of Side 1 to 0" | $> 1$ | $= 1$ | $= 0$ | $< 0$ |
| $q_2$ = "Relation of Side 2 to 0" | $> 1$ | $= 1$ | $= 0$ | $< 0$ |
| $q_3$ = "Relation of Side 3 to 0" | $> 1$ | $= 1$ | $= 0$ | $< 0$ |

- A maximum of  $4 * 4 * 4 = 64$  tests
- **Complete** because the inputs are integers (0..1)

## Possible values for partition $q_1$

| Characteristic | $b_1$ | $b_2$ | $b_3$ | $b_4$ |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| side1          | 5     | 1     | 0     | -5    |
| boundaries     | 2     | 1     | 0     | -1    |

# triang() IDM Based on Behavior



- First two characterizations are based on **syntax**-parameters and their type
- A **semantic** level characterization could use the fact that the three integers represent a triangle

## Geometric Characterization of triang()'s Inputs

| Characteristic                     | $b_1$   | $b_2$     | $b_3$       | $b_4$   |
|------------------------------------|---------|-----------|-------------|---------|
| $q_1$ = "Geometric Classification" | scalene | isosceles | equilateral | invalid |

- **Problem**: Equilateral is also isosceles!



# triang() IDM Based on Behavior

- We need to **refine** the example to make characteristics valid

## Correct Characterization of triang()'s Inputs

| Characteristic                     | $b_1$   | $b_2$                     | $b_3$       | $b_4$   |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------|-------------|---------|
| $q_1$ = "Geometric Classification" | scalene | isosceles not equilateral | equilateral | invalid |



# Choosing Values for triang()



- **Values** for this partitioning can be chosen as follows

## Possible values for geometric partition

| Characteristic | $b_1$     | $b_2$     | $b_3$     | $b_4$     |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Triangle       | (4, 5, 6) | (3, 3, 4) | (3, 3, 3) | (3, 4, 8) |

# Yet Another triang() IDM



- A **different approach** would be to break the geometric characterization into four separate characteristics

## Four Characteristics for triang()

| Characteristic        | $b_1$ | $b_2$ |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|
| $q_1$ = "Scalene"     | True  | False |
| $q_2$ = "Isosceles"   | True  | False |
| $q_3$ = "Equilateral" | True  | False |
| $q_4$ = "Valid"       | True  | False |

- Use **constraints** to ensure that
  - Equilateral = True** implies **Isosceles = True**
  - Valid = False** implies **Scalene = Isosceles = Equilateral = False**



## Group Exercise

- Work with 2 or 3 classmates
- Which two properties must be satisfied for an input domain to be properly partitioned?

# Step 4



## Choosing Combinations of Values

- Once characteristics and partitions are defined, the next step is to **choose test values**
- We use **criteria** to choose **effective** subsets
- The most obvious criterion is to choose all combinations

## All Combinations (ACoC)

**All combinations of blocks form all characteristics must be used.**

- Number of tests is the product of the number of blocks in each characteristic:  $\prod_{i=1}^Q B_i$
- The second characterization of `triang()` results in  $4*4*4 =$  **64 tests**
  - Too many?



- Consider the “second characterization” of `triang()` as given before:

| Characteristic                    | $b_1$ | $b_2$ | $b_3$ | $b_4$ |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $q_1$ = “Relation of Side 1 to 0” | $> 1$ | $= 1$ | $= 0$ | $< 0$ |
| $q_2$ = “Relation of Side 2 to 0” | $> 1$ | $= 1$ | $= 0$ | $< 0$ |
| $q_3$ = “Relation of Side 3 to 0” | $> 1$ | $= 1$ | $= 0$ | $< 0$ |

- For convenience, we relabel the blocks using abstractions

| Characteristic | $b_1$ | $b_2$ | $b_3$ | $b_4$ |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| A              | A1    | A2    | A3    | A4    |
| B              | B1    | B2    | B3    | B4    |
| C              | C1    | C2    | C3    | C4    |

# ISP Criteria - ACoC Tests

|          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| A1 B1 C1 | A2 B1 C1 | A3 B1 C1 | A4 B1 C1 |
| A1 B1 C2 | A2 B1 C2 | A3 B1 C2 | A4 B1 C2 |
| A1 B1 C3 | A2 B1 C3 | A3 B1 C3 | A4 B1 C3 |
| A1 B1 C4 | A2 B1 C4 | A3 B1 C4 | A4 B1 C4 |
| A1 B2 C1 | A2 B2 C1 | A3 B2 C1 | A4 B2 C1 |
| A1 B2 C2 | A2 B2 C2 | A3 B2 C2 | A4 B2 C2 |
| A1 B2 C3 | A2 B2 C3 | A3 B2 C3 | A4 B2 C3 |
| A1 B2 C4 | A2 B2 C4 | A3 B2 C4 | A4 B2 C4 |
| A1 B3 C1 | A2 B3 C1 | A3 B3 C1 | A4 B3 C1 |
| A1 B3 C2 | A2 B3 C2 | A3 B3 C2 | A4 B3 C2 |
| A1 B3 C3 | A2 B3 C3 | A3 B3 C3 | A4 B3 C3 |
| A1 B3 C4 | A2 B3 C4 | A3 B3 C4 | A4 B3 C4 |
| A1 B4 C1 | A2 B4 C1 | A3 B4 C1 | A4 B4 C1 |
| A1 B4 C2 | A2 B4 C2 | A3 B4 C2 | A4 B4 C2 |
| A1 B4 C3 | A2 B4 C3 | A3 B4 C3 | A4 B4 C3 |
| A1 B4 C4 | A2 B4 C4 | A3 B4 C4 | A4 B4 C4 |

- ACOC yields  $4 * 4 * 4 = 64$  tests for triang()
  - This is almost certainly more than we need.
- Only 8 are valid (all sides greater than zero)
  - A1 B1 C1    A2 B1 C1    A1 B1 C2    A2 B1 C2
  - A1 B2 C1    A2 B2 C1    A1 B2 C2    A2 B2 C2

- 64 tests for `triang()` is almost certainly way too many
- One criterion comes from the idea that we should try at **least one** value from each block

## Each Choice Coverage (ECC)

One value from each block for each characteristic must be used in at least one test case

- Number of tests is the number of blocks in the **largest** characteristic:  $\max_{i=1}^Q B_i$

**For** `triang()`

**Substituting Values**

A1, B1, C1

2, 2, 2

A2, B2, C2

1, 1, 1

A2, B2, C3

0, 0, 0

A4, B4, C4

-1, -1, -1



- Testers sometimes recognize that certain values are **important**
- This uses **domain knowledge** of the program

## Base Choice Coverage (BCC)

A base choice block is chosen for each characteristic, and a base test is formed by using the base choice for each characteristic. Subsequent tests are chosen by holding all but one base choice constant and using each non-base choice in each other characteristic.



- Number of tests is one base test + one test for each other block:  $1 + \sum_{i=1}^Q (B_i - 1)$

## For triang()

Base: A1, B1, C1

A1, B1, C2    A1, B2, C1    A2, B1, C1

A1, B1, C3    A1, B3, C1    A3, B1, C1

A1, B1, C4    A1, B4, C1    A4, B1, C1

- The base test must be **feasible**
  - That is, all base choices must be **compatible**
- **Base choices** can be
  - Most likely from an end-use point of view
  - Simplest
  - Smallest
  - First in some ordering
- **Happy path** tests often make good base choices
- The base choice is a **crucial design** decision
  - Test designers should **document** why the choices were made



- We sometimes have **more than one logical base choice**

## Multiple Base Choice Coverage (MBCC)

At least one and possibly more, base choice blocks are chosen for each characteristic and base tests are formed by using each base choice for each characteristic at least once. Subsequent tests are chosen by holding all but one base choice constant for each base test and using each non-base choice in each other characteristic.

- If  $M$  base tests and  $m_i$  base choices for each characteristic:  $M + \sum_{i=1}^Q (M * (B_i - m_i))$

## For triang()

Base: A1, B1, C1

A1, B1, C3    A1, B3, C1    A3, B1, C1

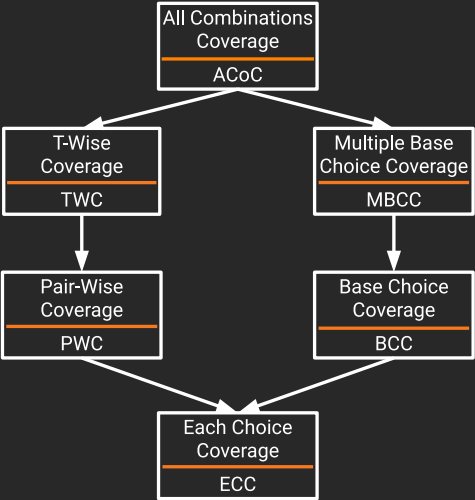
A1, B1, C4    A1, B4, C1    A4, B1, C1

Base: A2, B2, C2

A2, B2, C3    A2, B3, C2    A3, B2, C2

A2, B2, C4    A2, B4, C2    A4, B2, C2

# ISP Coverage Criteria Subsumption



# Summary



- Fairly easy to apply, even with **no automation**
- Convenient ways to **add more or less** testing
- Applicable to **all levels** of testing - unit, class, integration, system, etc.
- Based only on the **input space** of the program, not the implementation

**Simple, straightforward, effective, and widely used**

# For Next Time



Idaho State  
University

Computer  
Science

- Review the Reading
- Review this Lecture
- Come to Class





**Are there any questions?**