# An Effective Iterative Metamorphic Testing Algorithm Based on Program Path Analysis\*

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#### **Abstract**

Metamorphic testing(MT) is very practical and effective for programs with oracle problems, and many researches have been done in this field. In this article, we present a new iterative MT algorithm, APCEMSI, to avoid the blindness of existing MT methods. The test suites generated by APCEMSI satisfy a criterion which is defined upon program path analysis technique. Experiment result shows that APCEMSI could find errors effectively with much fewer test cases.

#### 1. Introduction

Software testing can be used for finding and correcting errors in software. But sometimes, there are *oracle problems* [1] in testing, that is, it is difficult to decide whether the result of the program under test agrees with expected result. To solve this problem, Chen presented *Metamorphic Testing* [2]. This method tests software by checking relations among execution results, and does not call for expected outputs.

Two traits of MT are: (1) To check execution results, *Metamorphic Relations* (MR)[2] should be constructed. (2) To attain original test cases [2], MT should be used with other test case generating methods.

Chen reported on the MT of programs for solving partial differential equations [3]; Gotlieb developed an automated framework to check against a restricted class of MRs [4]; Zhou introduced ways to design MRs for non-numerical problems [5]; Tse applied metamorphic approach to the unit testing[6] and integration testing[7] of context-sensitive middleware-based applications; MT has also been used in testing SOA software [8,9]; Chen introduced how to select useful MRs by a case study [10]; Chen investigated the

integration of MT with global symbolic evaluation[11] and fault-based testing[12]; Wu gave the evaluation and comparison of special case testing, MT with special and random test cases [13], and put forward an iterative MT technique [14]. These researches validate that MT is good for solving oracle problem, but most of them only consider program's function, so blindness is hard to avoid.

In this article, we define a MT criterion, *APCEM* based on program path analysis technique, and present a new iterative MT algorithm, *APCEMSI* to generate *APCEM* satisfied test suites. The experimental results depending on mutation analysis technique [15] proves the efficiency of this new algorithm.

This paper is organized as follow: in section 2, some concepts are introduced; in section 3, a MT criterion and the effective iterative MT algorithm are presented; in section 4, the efficiency of *APCEMSI* is proved by experiments; in section 5, this paper is concluded.

#### 2. Concepts

**Definition 1 (Metamorphic Relation** [2]) Let  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$ , ...,  $I_n$  (n > 1) be n different inputs of program P, if their satisfaction of relation r implies that their corresponding outputs  $P(I_1)$ ,  $P(I_2)$ , ...,  $P(I_n)$  satisfy relation  $r_i$ , that is:

 $r(I_1, I_2, ..., I_n) \Rightarrow r_f(P(I_1), P(I_2), ..., P(I_n))$  (1) then  $(r, r_f)$  is called a *Metamorphic Relation*(MR) [2]. **Definition 2 (Metamorphic Domain)** Let D be program P's input domain, if  $D' \subseteq D$ , and we could do MT on D', then D' is *Metamorphic Domain* of P,  $D_{MT}(P)$  for short.

**Definition 3 (Binary Metamorphic Relation)** As to program P, if for  $\forall I_1 \in \xi \subseteq D_{MT}(P)$ ,  $\exists I_2 \in D_{MT}(P)$ , and they make

 $r_b (I_1, I_2) \Rightarrow r_{bf}(P(I_1), P(I_2))$  (2) satisfied, then  $(r_b, r_{bf})$  is a *Binary MR* of P, and its *Definition Domain* is  $\xi$ , recorded as  $D_R((r_b, r_{bf}))$ .  $I_1$  is called *Original Input*(OI for short), and  $I_2$  is the *Follow-up Input*(FUI for short) of  $I_1$  based on  $(r_b, r_{bf})$ , signed as  $I_2 = FU(I_1, (r_b, r_{bf}))$ .



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For example, program P(I) computes function f(x), where f(x) is:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \le 0 \\ Sin(x) & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

According to Definition 2,  $D_{MT}(P(x)) = (0, +\infty)$ . We construct a binary MR  $mr_{Sin}$  for P(I), where  $mr_{Sin}$  is:

$$mr_{Sin}$$
:  $(I_1+I_2=\pi/2, [P(I_1)]^2+[P(I_2)]^2=1)$ 

According to Definition 3,  $D_R(mr_{Sin}) = (0, \pi/2)$ . If we take  $\pi/3$  as OI, then  $FU(\pi/3, mr_{Sin}) = \pi/6$ .

**Definition 4 (Applying Domain)** Let mr be a binary MR of program P, if for  $\forall I_1 \in \delta \subseteq D_R(mr)$ , no matter what mutation operators [16] are imported,  $I_1$ ,  $FU(I_1, MR)$  and their outputs will always satisfy mr, then  $\delta$  is called the *Blind Domain* of mr,  $D_{bl}(mr)$  for short, and  $(D_R(mr)-D_{bl}(mr))$  is called the *Applying Domain* of mr, represented by  $D_{app}(mr)$ . Testing dose not make sense if OIs are selected from Blind Domain.

For example, program *Square*(*double*, *double*) is used for calculating rectangle square, where Square is:

We construct a binary MR for this program:  $mr_{sq}$ : ((a', b') = (b, a), Square(a', b') = Square(a, b))According to Definition 4,  $D_{bl}(mr_{sq}) = \{(a, b) \mid a = b\}$ , and  $D_{app}(mr_{sq}) = \{(a, b) \mid a \neq b\}$ .

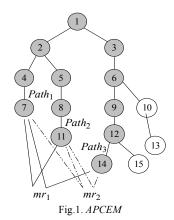
# 3. Effective Iterative MT Algorithm

Wu has proposed an *n*-iterative MT method [14] which uses MRs in a chain style. This method performs well in fault detection and test case generation, but it dose not assure that all codes are run, so some errors might not be found. The problem is solved in this paper.

#### 3.1. Metamorphic Testing Criterion

In the rest of this article,  $mr_i$  ( $i \in [1, m]$ ) denotes a binary MRs of program P; Each metamorphic test case,  $(mr_i, I_{i1}, I_{i2})$  is a triple, where  $I_{i2} = FU(I_{i1}, mr_i)$ ; TC denotes a metamorphic test suite for P;  $Path_j$  ( $j \in [1, n]$ ) represents an executable path of P, that is,  $Path_j$  could be run when we execute P with some inputs;  $DS(Path_j)$  is the set of inputs that execute  $Path_j$ , namely input sub-domain of  $Path_j$ ; ExcPath(I) indicates the path that is executed with input I.

**APCEM**(All-Path Coverage for Every MR): For  $\forall mr_i$  and  $\forall Path_j$ , if  $D_{app}(mr_i) \cap DS(Path_j) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\exists (mr_i, I_{i1}, I_{i2}) \in TC$ , where  $(ExcPath(I_{i1}) = Path_j) \vee (ExcPath(I_{i2}) = Path_j)$  is true. In this situation, the metamorphic test suite TC satisfies APCEM.



For example, Fig.1 shows the Control Flow Graph of a program P, and it contains 5 executable paths, but only  $Path_{1,2,3}$  are tested by MT method. We construct 2 binary MRs,  $mr_{1,2}$  for P, and  $D_R(mr_1) = D_R(mr_2) = D_{MT}(P) = \bigcup_{j=1}^3 DS(Path_j)$ . Four test cases,  $T_1 = (mr_1, i_1, i_2)$ ,  $T_2 = (mr_1, i_3, i_4)$ ,  $T_3 = (mr_2, i_5, i_6)$  and  $T_4 = (mr_2, i_7, i_8)$  are designed, and the execution paths of  $i_1$ - $i_8$  are  $Path_1$ ,  $Path_2$ ,  $Path_3$ ,  $Path_1$ ,  $Path_2$ ,  $Path_1$ ,  $Path_2$ , and  $Path_3$  in turn. According to the definition of APCEM, the test suite  $\{T_1, T_2, T_3, T_4\}$  meets this criterion.

# 3.2. Effective Iterative MT Algorithm

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Based on *APCEM*, we present an algorithm named APCEMSI(*APCEM Satisfied Iterative Algorithm*). This algorithm tests program in an iterative style, that is, the FUIs are used as OIs for succeeding testing. But the FUIs that don't reach special conditions are discarded. This process doesn't stop until the test suite generated satisfies *APCEM*. Details are shown in Alg.1.

Because each executable path associates with an input sub-domain, the coverage of path could be reflected by that of corresponding domain. We instrument program and compute input sub-domains

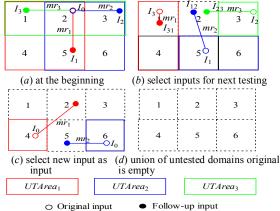


Fig.2. Process of testing with APCEMSI



```
if ((I' hasn't been put into <math>S_{inp} during
Initialize m domains UTArea_i (i \in [1, m]),
                                                                                                                  former testing) and (ExcPath(I) \neq
which are used for storing untested domain of mr_i;
                                                                                                                  ExcPath(I'))
for i \leftarrow 1 to m
                                                                                                                Q_{temp}.enqueue(I'):
     UTArea_i = D_{app}(mr_i);
                                                                                                          end if
end for
                                                                                                          Test program with (mr_i, I, I');
Initialize queue Q_{inp} to store inputs that could be used as
original inputs in next testing, initialize queue Q_{temp} to
                                                                                                          UTArea_i = UTArea_i - DS(ExcPath(I))
temporarily store some FUIs of an original inputs;
                                                                                                                       DS(ExcPath(I'));
                                                                                                    end if /* end if (I \in UTArea_i)*/
while (\bigcup_{i=1}^{m} UTArea_{i} \neq \emptyset)
                                                                                                             /* end for times \leftarrow 1 to m */
                                                                                               end for
                                                                                               while (Q_{temp} is not empty)
     Randomly select I \in \bigcup_{i=1}^{m} UTArea_i;
                                                                                                     I' = Q_{temp}.dequeue();
     Q_{inp}.enqueue(I);
                                                                                                      if (I' \in \bigcup_{i=1}^m UTArea_i)
     while (Q_{imp} is not empty)
           I = Q_{inp}.dequeue();
                                                                                                          Q_{inp}.enqueue(I');
           for times \leftarrow 1 to m
               Randomly select a MR mr_i (i \in [1, m]) that has not been chosen;
                                                                                               end while /* end while (Q_{temp} is not empty)*/
                                                                                          end while
                                                                                                             /* end while (Q_{imp} is not empty)*/
                if (I \in UTArea_i)
                     I' = FU(mr_i, I);
                                                                                                             /* end while (\bigcup_{i=1}^m UTArea_i \neq \emptyset)*/
                                                                                    end while
```

Alg.1. APCEMSI

with the technique of symbolic execution [17].

Fig.2 indicates the process of testing with *APCEMSI*. *Path*<sub>1-6</sub> are 6 executable paths of program *P*. Six squares in Fig.2 denote  $DS(Path_i)$  ( $i \in [1, 6]$ ), and we use  $DOM(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)$  ( $x_1, x_2, ..., x_n \in [1, 6]$ ) to represent  $\bigcup_{j=x_1,x_2,...x_n} DS(Path_j)$ . Three binary MRs,  $mr_{1,2,3}$  are constructed for *P*. As (a) illustrates,  $D_{MT}(P) = DOM(1-6)$ ,  $D_{app}(mr_1) = DOM(1,2,4,5)$ ,  $D_{app}(mr_2) = DOM(2,3,5,6)$ , and  $D_{app}(mr_3) = DOM(1,2,3)$ ; (b) shows that after *P* has been tested with OI  $I_0$ , untested domains of  $mr_{1,2,3}$  are DOM(1,4), DOM(5,6), and DOM(3), that is, the untested paths of these 3 relations are  $Path_{1,4}$ ,  $Path_{5,6}$ , and  $Path_3$  respectively, and  $\bigcup_{i=1}^3 UTArea_i = DOM(1,3,4,5,6)$ . Besides,  $I_0$ 's FUIs,  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$ , and  $I_3$  are chosen for the following testing because

they are all included in  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{3} UTArea_{i}$ , but their FUIs,  $I_{31}$ ,  $I_{12}$ , and  $I_{23}$  are not; As we can see in (c), when no FUIs could be selected and  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{3} UTArea_{i}$  is not empty, new OIs should be randomly selected from  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{3} UTArea_{i}$ ; Finally, when  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{3} UTArea_{i}$  is empty, testing is over, as (d) displays.

Complexity of *APCEMSI* is  $O(m^*n + n^*p)$ , where m is the number of MRs, n the number of executable paths which are tested by MT, and p the maximum node number of all paths(each executed sentence should be checked during symbolic execution). In most situations, FUIs are not used later, and each executable path is only executed symbolically once, so the complexity of this algorithm is quadratic. If the test suite produced by APCEMSI is TC, then  $|TC| \le m^*n$ .

```
double TriangleSquare (int a, int b, int c) {
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  double h = sqrt (pow (a, 2) - pow(c/2.0, 2));
System.out.println ("Isosceles");
return (c*h)/2.0; /* compute square */
            int match = 0;
P1 if (a == b)

2 match = match + 1;
P2 if (a == c)
match = match + 2;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              P10 else if (match == 2) /* if (a = c)
P11 if (a + c \le b) {
19 System out.println ("Not a triangle");
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       /* if (a = c \neq b) */
The second seco
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              20
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            return 0.0;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            double h = sqrt (pow (a, 2) - pow (b/2.0, 2));

System.out.println ("Isosceles");

return (b*h)/2.0; /* compute squa
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               21
                            System.out.println("Not a triangle");
                   return 0.0;
} else if (b + c \le a)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          /* compute square */
                            System.out.println ("Not a triangle");
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              P12 else if (match == 3)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       /* if (b = c \neq a) */
                            return 0.0;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 if (b + c \le a) {
P7
                          else if (a + c <= b) {
System.out.println ("Not a triangle");
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             24
25
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             System.out.println ("Not a triangle.");
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        return 0.0;
else {
                            return 0.0;
 10
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           double h = sqrt (pow (b, 2) - pow (a/2.0, 2));

System.out.println ("Isosceles");

return (a*h)/2.0; /* compute squar
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             26
27
                            double p = (a + b + c)/2.0;
System.out.println ("Scalene");
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              28
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     /* compute square */
 13
                            return sqrt (p*(p-a)*(p-b)*(p-c)); /* compute square */
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           else {
System.out.println ("Equilateral");
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   /* if (a = b = c) */
                                                                                                                                            /* if (a = b \neq c) */
                     if (a + b <= c) {

System_out.println ("Not a triangle");
 P9
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  return (sqrt (3.0)*a*a)/4.0; /* c
                              return 0.0;
                      } else {
```

Fig.3. Code of TriSquare



Tab.1. Binary MRs for TriSquare

MR	$r_b$	$r_{bf}$	$D_{bl}(mr_i)$		
$mr_1$	(a', b', c') = (b, a, c)	TriSquare(a',b',c') = TriSquare(a,b,c)	$\{(a, b, c) \mid a = b \&\& a + b > c\}$		
$mr_2$	(a', b', c') = (a, c, b)	TriSquare(a', b', c') = TriSquare(a, b, c)	$\{(a, b, c) \mid b = c \&\& b + c > a\}$		
$mr_3$	(a', b', c') = (c, b, a)	TriSquare(a',b',c') = TriSquare(a,b,c)	$\{(a, b, c) \mid a = c \&\& a + c > b\}$		
$mr_4$	(a', b', c') = (2*a, 2*b, 2*c)	TriSquare(a', b', c') = 4*TriSquare(a, b, c)	Ø		
$mr_5$	$(a',b',c') = (\sqrt{2b^2 + 2c^2 - a^2},b,c)$	TriSquare(a', b', c') = TriSquare(a, b, c)	$\{(a, b, c) \mid a^2 = b^2 + c^2\}$		
$mr_6$	$(a',b',c') = (a,\sqrt{2a^2 + 2c^2 - b^2},c)$	TriSquare(a', b', c') = TriSquare(a, b, c)	$\{(a, b, c) \mid b^2 = a^2 + c^2\}$		
$mr_7$	$(a',b',c') = (a,b,\sqrt{2a^2+2b^2-c^2})$	TriSquare(a', b', c') = TriSquare(a, b, c)	$\{(a, b, c) \mid c^2 = a^2 + b^2\}$		

<sup>\*</sup>  $D_R(mr_i) = D_{MT}(TriSquare) = \{(a, b, c) \mid a + b > c \&\& b + c > a \&\& a + c > b\}, i \in [1, 7].$  Let  $DMT = D_{MT}(TriSquare).$ 

## 3.3. Case Study

Fig.3 illustrates the code of program *TriSquare*. This program first decides whether 3 positive real numbers, *a*, *b* and *c*, could construct a triangle. If so, type and square of this triangle are calculated.

We construct 7 binary MRs for *TriSquare*, details are shown in Tab.1. Among them,  $mr_5$  is constructed based on parallelogram's characteristics. In Fig.4, it is obviously that OD = OB = b, so the squares of triangle ODC and OBC are equivalent to each other, and, that is, TriSquare(a, b, c) = TriSquare(k, b, c). Because  $|BD|^2 + |AC|^2 = |AB|^2 + |BC|^2 + |CD|^2 + |DA|^2$ ,  $k = \sqrt{2b^2 + 2c^2 - a^2}$ .  $mr_{6.7}$  are formed in the same way.

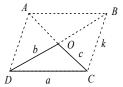


Fig.4. Principle of mr<sub>5</sub>

Fig.5 illustrates the use of *APCEMSI* on *TriSquare*. Each input is a triple; Number on the right side of an input is the tag of path that it executes. Tab.2 gives the relevant relationships between tags and path<sup>1</sup>; Number on a line which connects OIs and FUIs is MR tag, for example, 1 indicates  $mr_1$ ; Broken line denotes that the FUI above it executes the same path as its OI, so it should not be used later; Real line denotes that the FUI above it is not in  $\bigcup_{r=1}^{7} UTArea_r$ , so it isn't used later either; Black triangle denotes that OI isn't in the

Tab.2. Paths and their Tags of TriSquare

Tag	Executable Paths	Sub-Domain of Paths
1	1F-2F-3F-4T-5F-6F-7F	$\{(a, b, c) \mid a \neq b \neq c \neq a\} \cap DMT$
2	1T-2F-3F-4F-8T-9F	$\{(a, b, c) \mid a = b \neq c\} \cap DMT$
3	1F-2T-3F-4F-8F-10T-11F	$\{(a, b, c) \mid a = c \neq b\} \cap DMT$
4	1F-2T-3F-4F-8F-10F-12T-13F	$\{(a, b, c) \mid b = c \neq a\} \cap DMT$
5	1F-2T-3F-4F-8F-10F-12F	$\{(a, b, c) \mid a = b = c > 0\}$

 $<sup>^1</sup>$  Number in the  $2^{\rm nd}$  column denotes the path condition tag in Fig.3; "T" indicates that path condition is true, while "F" false. For example, "1F" represents that "P1" is false.

untested domain of associated MR, so FUI is not generated at all; Rectangle denotes that the input in it has been used as an OI before. Finally, 26 test cases are produced and the program runs 28 times.

# 4. Experimental Results

Mutation analysis is a powerful technique to assess the quality of a test suite [13]. As MRs' performance is embodied by MT test suite, we use mutation analysis here to estimate test suites and MRs. Four mutants are imported into *TriSquare* based on two types of mutant operators: AOR(Arithmetic Operator Replacement) and DSA(Data Statement Alterations) [16]:

Mutant1: Exchange sentence 2 and 3;

**Mutant2:** Replace sentence 11 with "p = (a+b+c)\*2";

**Mutant3:** Replace "/2" in 18, 23 and 28 with "\*2";

**Mutant4:** Replace sentence 30 with "return sqrt(3)\*a\*a/2".

# 4.1. Measurements for Test Suite and MR

**Mutation Score**(*MS*) Measure the quality of a test suite *TC*, which is the percentage of mutants detected:

$$MS(TC) = M_k / (M_t - M_q)$$
 (3)

where  $M_k$  is the number of mutants detected by TC,  $M_t$  the total number of mutants, and  $M_q$  the number of equivalent mutants that cannot be detected by any set of test data [13].

**Faults on problem Path Detection ratio**(*FPD*) Measure the quality of a test suite *TC* for program *mp* including a mutant, which is the percentage of test cases failed:

$$FPD(mp, TC) = N_f / N_{fp} \tag{4}$$

where  $N_f$  is the number of test cases that could detect the mutant in mp, and  $N_{fp}$  the number of test cases that executes paths including mutants.

MR Detection Performance (MDP) Measure the mutation detection performance of MR mr in terms of test suite TC, which is the number of mutants that the test cases using mr could find:

$$MDP(mr, TC) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} FindMut_{i}$$
 (5)



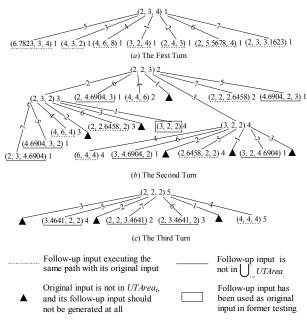


Fig.5. Testing of TriSquare with APCEMSI

 $FindMut_i$  is 1 if at least one test case that uses mr could detect the ith mutant, otherwise is 0, and n is the number of mutants.

MR Detection ratio for each Mutant (MDM) Measure the detection performance of MR mr for each mutant in terms of test suite TC, which is the percentage of failed test cases using mr:

$$MDM(mr, mp, TC) = Nmr_f / Nmr_{mp}$$
 (6)

where mp is a mutant program,  $Nmr_f$  the number of test cases which use mr and could detect the mutant in mp, and  $Nmr_{mp}$  the number of test cases that use mr and executes paths including mutants.

#### 4.2. Conclusion for Experiment

We test each mutant imported program 100 times (50 with  $mr_{1-7}$ , and 50 with  $mr_{1-4}$ ). In this section, TrSqi represents the program into which Mutanti is imported ( $i \in [1, 4]$ ). FPDi and MDMi denote FPD and MDM values for TrSqi.

Testing results are shown in Tab.3, and there are only 6 result patterns, which could be divided into 4 groups. The first 3 groups are based on  $mr_{1-7}$ , while the last on  $mr_{1-4}$ . Group1 contains Pattern1 only. If the

first randomly selected OI executes  $Path_1$ , and the second  $Path_{2,3,4}$ , testing result will belong to Pattern1; Group2 includes Pattern2 and 3. If the first randomly chosen OI executes  $Path_{2,3,4}$ , Pattern2 or 3 will emerge; Group3 contains Pattern4 and 5. If the inputs executing  $Path_{2,3,4}$  are all deduced from a randomly chosen OI which runs  $Path_5$ , the testing result will fall into Pattern4; Group4 only includes Pattern6. Base on the above data, following conclusions can be drawn:

- 1) Using *APCEMSI*, both the test cases generated and program executing times are much fewer than those of traditional MT. Tab.3 shows that the amount of test cases using  $mr_{1-7}$  is 20~26, and the program executing times is 15~28, while those of the traditional method are 35 and 40 (5 paths and 7 MRs). In most situations (47 times in 50 here), all mutants could be detected.
- 2) MRs selection and OIs directly impact the testing results. In Tab.3, MS values of Pattern1-5 are no less than 75%, while that of Pattern6 is only 25%, so MR selection affects the testing result. The differences between Pattern1,2,3,4,5 indicate that random OI choice also makes a great effort on testing.
- **3)** MR based on complex theory is more useful. We find that in Tab.4 the MDP values of  $mr_{5-7}$  are larger than  $mr_{1-4}$ . This is mostly because the constructing theory of  $mr_{5-7}$  is more complex than linear theory that  $mr_{1-4}$  adopt.
- **4)** MR with larger applying domain is more useful. Because  $DS(Path_5)$  is not in the applying domains of  $mr_{1,2,3}$ , so MDM4 for these 3 MRs are all 0.00%, and Mutant4 could not be detected by them.
- **5)** When we test a program whose input is multi-tuple, MR making more corresponding tuples different is more useful. Tab.4 indicates that the MDM values of  $mr_{6,7}$  on TrSq1 are only 33.33% in Pattern1-3. The input of TriSquare is a triple. Compare to OI, FUIs from  $mr_{5,6,7}$  only make one tuple changed. When we test TrSq1 with  $mr_6$  or  $mr_7$ , sometimes two executions of one test case both refer to unchanged tuples. In this situation, Mutant1 could not be detected.

## 5. Conclusion

In this article, we define a MT criterion, APCEM based on program path analysis technique, and present a new iterative MT algorithm, APCEMSI to generate APCEM satisfied test suites. The efficiency of this

MR	Pattern	Amount of Test Cases	Executing Times	FPD1	FPD2	FPD3	FPD4	MS	Times
$mr_{1-7}$	Pattern1	26	28	46.15%	69.23%	50.00%	75.00%	100%	39
	Pattern2	24	22	46.15%	63.64%	50.00%	75.00%	100%	5
	Pattern3	23	21	46.15%	60.00%	50.00%	75.00%	100%	3
	Pattern4	23	22	0.00%	69.23%	60.00%	75.00%	75%	2
	Pattern5	20	15	0.00%	60.00%	60.00%	75.00%	75%	1
$mr_{1-4}$	Pattern6	11	13	40.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25%	50

Tab.3. Testing Results of TriSquare with APCEMSI



Tab.4. MDP and MDM of MRs when testing TriSquare

Pattern Mutant	Pattern1-3				Pattern4-5					
MRs	MDM1	MDM2	MDM3	MDM4	MDP	MDM1	MDM2	MDM3	MDM4	MDP
$mr_1$	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0
$mr_2$	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0
$mr_3$	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0
$mr_4$	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0
$mr_5$	100.00%	100.00%	75.00%	100.00%	4	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	3
$mr_6$	33.33%	100.00%	75.00%	100.00%	4	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	3
$mr_7$	33.33%	100.00%	75.00%	100.00%	4	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	3

algorithm is proved by experiment and some conclusions drawn from it are provided.

As future work, we would like to: (1) Improve *APCEMSI* to agree with large programs and software including complex loops and predications. (2) Consider MT for OO program. Some researchers produced equivalent pairs of method sequences [18] for class-level testing based on the idea of MT, but this technique is intricate. There are some similarities between program path and state-transition path, so one of our next goals is testing OO program with state-transition graph and MT.

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