

# Equivalence Class Testing

Mohammad Mousavi

Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands

Software Testing, 2008

# Outline

Recap

Weak Normal EC

Strong Normal EC

Robustness

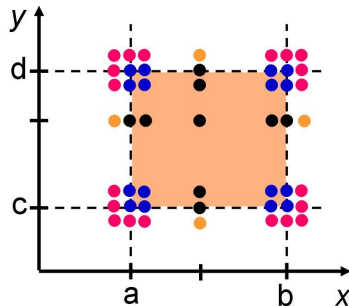
Combined with WCT

# Functional Testing (recap)

- ▶ functional testing:  
program is an input from a certain **domain** to a certain **range**
- ▶ **impossible** to check **all** input/output combinations:  
need to choose **some**

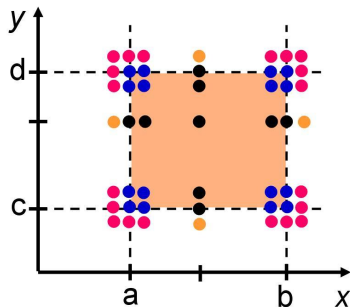
## Boundary Value Testing (recap)

- ▶ boundary value testing:  
choose extreme values.
- ▶ variants:
  - ▶ worst-case
  - ▶ robust
  - ▶ robust worst-case
- ▶ other (non-standard) variants:
  - ▶ special value
  - ▶ random



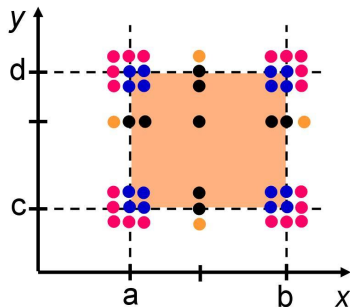
## Boundary Value Testing: Pros and Cons (recap)

- + straightforward test-case generation
- no sense of covering the input domain
- awkward for logical vars.
- only independent input domains
- not using white-box information



## Boundary Value Testing: Pros and Cons (recap)

- + straightforward test-case generation
- no sense of covering the input domain \*
- awkward for logical vars. \*
- only independent input domains \*
- not using white-box information



\*: Today's order of business.

# Outline

Recap

Weak Normal EC

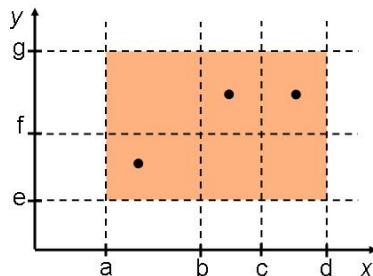
Strong Normal EC

Robustness

Combined with WCT

# Weak Normal EC: Idea

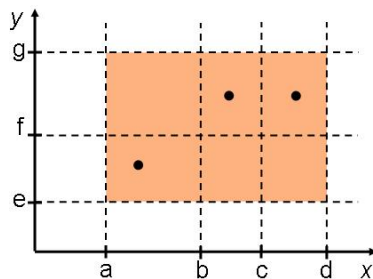
- ▶ Define **equivalence classes** on the **domain (range)** of input (output) for **each** variable:  
(independent input)
- ▶ **cover** equivalence classes for the domain of **each variable**:  
single fault assumption
- ▶ **how many** test-cases are needed?
- ▶ also called: (equivalence, category) partition method





## Little Puzzle

What is the **minimal number** of tokens that are needed to be put in an  $m \times n$  **grid** such that each row and column contains at least one **token**?

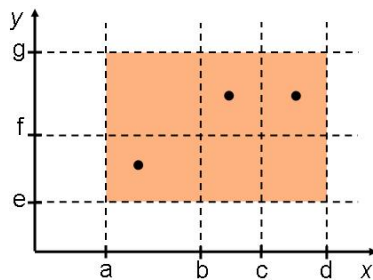


# Little Puzzle

What is the **minimal number** of tokens that are needed to be put in an  $m \times n$  **grid** such that each row and column contains at least one **token**?

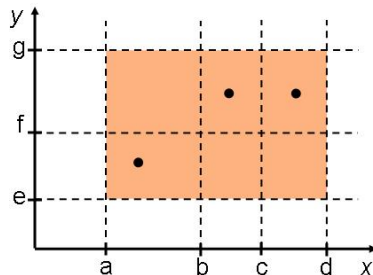
**$\max(m,n)$ :**

Put token number  $i$  at  $(\max(i, m), \max(i, n))$ .



## Weak Normal EC: Idea

- ▶ Define **equivalence classes** on the **domain (range)** of input (output) for **each** variable:  
(independent input)
- ▶ **cover** equivalence classes for the domain of **each variable**:  
single fault assumption
- ▶ **how many** test-cases are needed?  
 $\max_x |S_x|$ .



## Mortgage Example (recap)

Spec. Write a program that takes three **inputs**: gender (boolean), age([18-55]), salary ([0-10000]) and **output** the total mortgage for one person

Mortgage = salary \* factor,  
where factor is given by the following table.

Category	Male	Female
Young	(18-35 years) 75	(18-30 years) 70
Middle	(36-45 years) 55	(31-40 years) 50
Old	(46-55 years) 30	(41-50 years) 35

## Weak Normal EC Testing

Category	Male	Female
Young	(18-35 years) 75	(18-30 years) 70
Middle	(36-45 years) 55	(31-40 years) 50
Old	(46-55 years) 30	(41-50 years) 35

- ▶ **age:** difficult!
- ▶ **salary:** [0-10000]
- ▶ **male:** as strange as boundary value!

## Weak Normal EC Testing

Category	Male	Female
Young	(18-35 years) 75	(18-30 years) 70
Middle	(36-45 years) 55	(31-40 years) 50
Old	(46-55 years) 30	(41-50 years) 35

- ▶ **age:** difficult! [18-30], [31-35], [36-40], [41,45], [46-50], [51-55]
- ▶ **salary:** [0-10000]
- ▶ **male:** as strange as boundary value! true, false

# Weak Normal EC Testing

**if (male) then return**

$((18 \leq \text{age} < 35)?(75 * \text{salary}) : (31 \leq \text{age} < 40)?(55 * \text{salary}) : (30 * \text{salary}))$

**else return**  $((18 \leq \text{age} < 30)?(75 * \text{salary}) : (31 \leq \text{age} < 40)?(50 * \text{salary}) : (35 * \text{salary}))$

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
male	20	1000	75*1000	75*1000	P
female	32	1000	50*1000	50*1000	P
male	38	1000	55*1000	50*1000	P
female	42	1000	35*1000	35*1000	P
male	48	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
female	52	1000	35*5000	too late!	F

# Outline

Recap

Weak Normal EC

**Strong Normal EC**

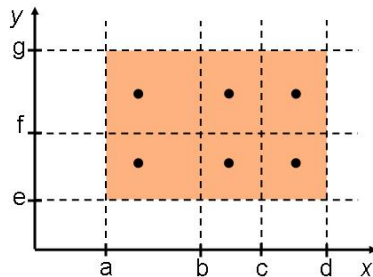
Robustness

Combined with WCT



## Strong Normal EC Testing

- ▶ cover the **all combinations** of equivalence classes for the domain of all variables:  
multiple fault assumption
- ▶ number of test-cases?  $\prod_x |S_x|$



# Strong Normal EC Testing

Category	Male	Female
Young	(18-35 years) 75	(18-30 years) 70
Middle	(36-45 years) 55	(31-40 years) 50
Old	(46-55 years) 30	(41-50 years) 35

- ▶ **age:** [18-30], [31-35], [36-40], [41,45], [46-50], [51-55]
- ▶ **salary:** [0-10000]
- ▶ **male:** true, false

# Strong Normal EC Testing

**if (male) then return**

$((18 \leq \text{age} < 35) ? (75 * \text{salary}) : (31 \leq \text{age} < 40) ? (55 * \text{salary}) : (30 * \text{salary}))$

**else return**  $((18 \leq \text{age} < 30) ? (75 * \text{salary}) : (31 \leq \text{age} < 40) ? (50 * \text{salary}) : (35 * \text{salary}))$

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
female	20	1000	75*1000	70*1000	F
female	32	1000	50*1000	50*1000	P
female	38	1000	50*1000	50*1000	P
female	42	1000	35*1000	35*1000	P
female	48	1000	35*1000	35*1000	P
female	52	1000	35*5000	too late!	F

## Strong Normal EC Testing

**if (male) then return**

$((18 \leq \text{age} < 35) ? (75 * \text{salary}) : (31 \leq \text{age} < 40) ? (55 * \text{salary}) : (30 * \text{salary}))$

**else return**  $((18 \leq \text{age} < 30) ? (75 * \text{salary}) : (31 \leq \text{age} < 40) ? (50 * \text{salary}) : (35 * \text{salary}))$

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
male	20	1000	75*1000	75*1000	P
male	32	1000	50*1000	75*1000	F
male	38	1000	55*1000	50*1000	P
male	42	1000	30*1000	55*1000	F
male	48	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	52	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P

# Outline

Recap

Weak Normal EC

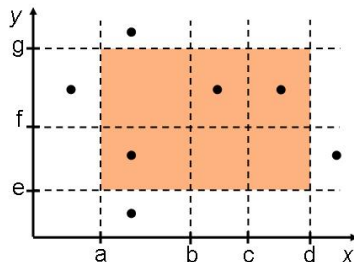
Strong Normal EC

**Robustness**

Combined with WCT

## Weak Robust EC

- ▶ includes weak normal; adds out of range test-cases for each variable
- ▶ number of test-cases?  
 $(\max_x |S_x|) + 2 * n$



# Weak Robust EC Testing

**if (male) then return**

$((18 \leq \text{age} < 35)?(75 * \text{salary}) : (31 \leq \text{age} < 40)?(55 * \text{salary}) : (30 * \text{salary}))$

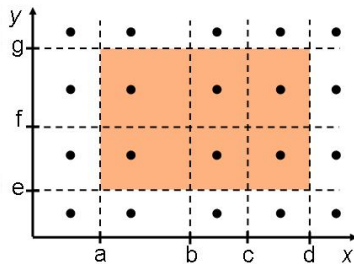
**else return**  $((18 \leq \text{age} < 30)?(75 * \text{salary}) : (31 \leq \text{age} < 40)?(50 * \text{salary}) : (35 * \text{salary}))$

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
male	17	1000	30*1000	too young!	F
female	56	1000	35*1000	too late	F
male	36	-1	55*-1	0	F
female	36	10001	50*10001	50*10000	F

## Strong Robust EC

- ▶ Same as strong normal but also checks for all out of range combinations
- ▶ number of test-cases?

$$\prod_x (|S_x| + 2)$$





## Strong Robust EC

**if (male) then return**

$((18 \leq \text{age} < 35) ? (75 * \text{salary}) : (31 \leq \text{age} < 40) ? (55 * \text{salary}) : (30 * \text{salary}))$

**else return**  $((18 \leq \text{age} < 30) ? (75 * \text{salary}) : (31 \leq \text{age} < 40) ? (50 * \text{salary}) : (35 * \text{salary}))$

Mostly similar faults to Weak Robust EC:

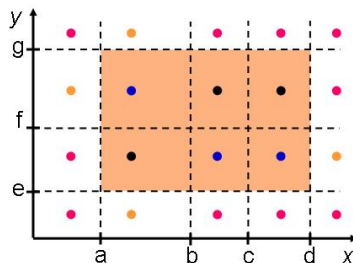
Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
male	17	1000	30*1000	too young!	F
female	56	1000	35*1000	too late	F
female	17	1000	35*1000	too young!	F
male	56	1000	30*1000	too late	F
male	36	-1	55*-1	0	F
female	36	10001	50*10001	50*10000	F

...

# A Brief Comparison

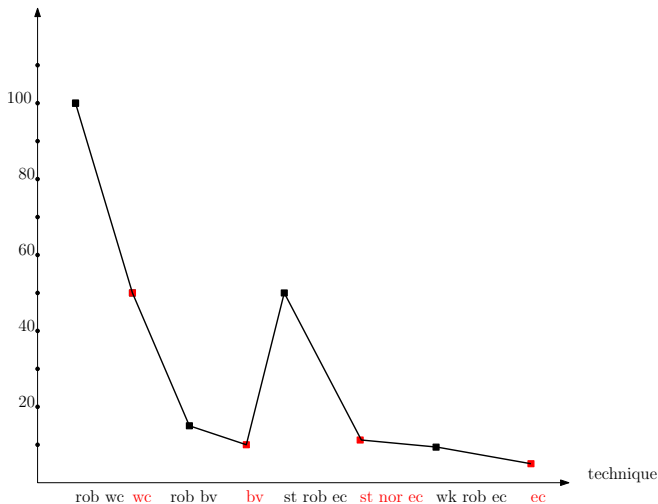


$A \rightarrow B$ : Test-cases of  $A$   
(faults detected by  $A$ ) is a  
subset of those of  $B$ .

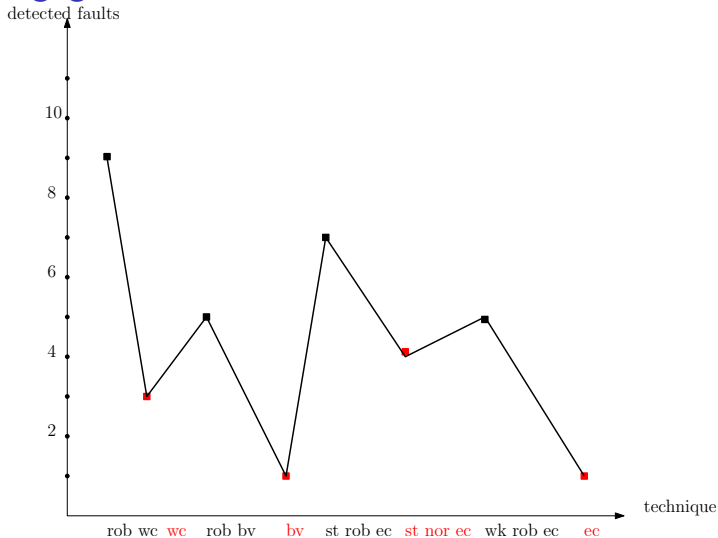


# Mortgage Case: #Test-Cases

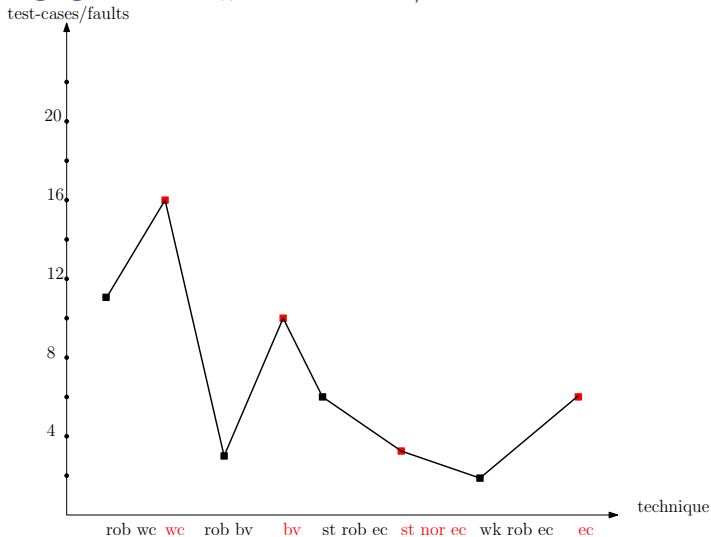
test-cases/faults



# Mortgage Case: Detected Fault



# Mortgage Case: #Test-Cases/Fault



# Outline

Recap

Weak Normal EC

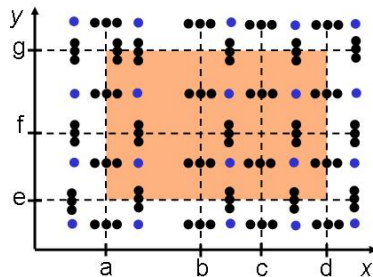
Strong Normal EC

Robustness

Combined with WCT

# Idea

- ▶ Functional techniques need to be combined...
- ▶ Example:  
Robust WCT + Robust BV



## Strong Robust EC + Robust BV

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
male	17	-1	30*-1	too young!	F 1
male	17	1000	30*1000	too young!	F 1
male	17	10001	30*10001	too young!	F 1
male	56	-1	30*-1	too late	F 2
male	56	1000	30*1000	too late	F 2
male	56	10001	30*10001	too late	F 2
female	17	-1	30*-1	too young!	F 3
female	17	1000	30*1000	too young!	F 3
female	17	10001	30*10001	too young!	F 3
female	56	-1	30*-1	too late	F 4
female	56	1000	30*1000	too late	F 4
female	56	10001	30*10001	too late	F 4



## Strong Robust EC + Robust BV (Cont'd)

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
female	18	1000	75*1000	70*1000	F 5
female	19	1000	75*1000	70*1000	F 5
female	20	1000	75*1000	70*1000	F 5
female	29	1000	75*1000	70*1000	F 5
female	30	1000	35*1000	70*1000	F 6
female	31	1000	50*1000	50*1000	P
female	32	1000	50*1000	50*1000	P
female	34	1000	50*1000	50*1000	P
female	35	1000	50*1000	50*1000	P
female	36	1000	50*1000	50*1000	P
female	38	1000	50*1000	50*1000	P
female	39	1000	50*1000	50*1000	P
female	40	1000	35*1000	50*1000	F 7

## Strong Robust EC + Robust BV (Cont'd)

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
female	41	1000	35*1000	35*1000	P
female	42	1000	35*1000	35*1000	P
female	44	1000	35*1000	35*1000	P
female	45	1000	35*1000	35*1000	P
female	46	1000	35*1000	35*1000	P
female	49	1000	35*1000	35*1000	P
female	50	1000	35*1000	35*1000	P
female	51	1000	35*1000	too late!	F 7
female	52	1000	35*1000	too late!	F 7
female	53	1000	35*1000	too late!	F 7
female	54	1000	35*1000	too late!	F 7
female	55	1000	35*1000	too late!	F 7

## Strong Robust EC + Robust BV (Cont'd)

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
male	18	1000	75*1000	75*1000	P
male	19	1000	75*1000	75*1000	P
male	20	1000	75*1000	75*1000	P
male	29	1000	75*1000	75*1000	P
male	30	1000	75*1000	75*1000	P
male	31	1000	55*1000	75*1000	F 8
male	32	1000	55*1000	75*1000	F 8
male	34	1000	55*1000	75*1000	F 8
male	35	1000	55*1000	75*1000	F 9
male	36	1000	55*1000	55*1000	P
male	38	1000	55*1000	55*1000	P
male	39	1000	55*1000	55*1000	P
male	40	1000	55*1000	20*1000	F 10

## Strong Robust EC + Robust BV (Cont'd)

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
male	41	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	42	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	44	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	45	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	46	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	49	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	50	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	51	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	52	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	53	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	54	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P
male	55	1000	30*1000	30*1000	P

## Strong Robust EC + Robust BV (Cont'd)

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
female	17	-1	35*-1	0	F 11
female	18	-1	75*-1	0	F 11
.....					

## Strong Robust EC + Robust BV (Cont'd)

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
female	17	10001	35*10001	too young!	F 11
female	18	10001	75*10001	75*10000	F 12
...					

## Strong Robust EC + Robust BV (Cont'd)

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct	Out.	Pass/Fail
male	17	-1	30*-1	0		F 12
male	18	-1	70*-1	0		F 12
...						

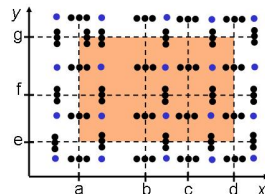
## Strong Robust EC + Robust BV (Cont'd)

Gender	Age	Salary	Output	Correct Out.	Pass/Fail
male	17	10001	30*10001	too young!	F 12
male	18	10001	70*10001	75*10000	F 12
...					



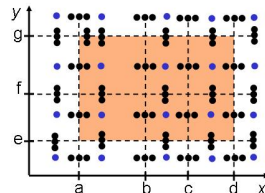
# Problems

- ▶ Example:  
Strong EC + Robust BV  
number of test-cases:  
 $\sim \prod_x 4(|S_x| + 1)$ , whopping!



# Problems

- ▶ **>100** test-cases for the **mortgage** example
- ▶ **too many** for any **real-life** program  
e.g., 5 vars., each 5 partitions:  
~ **8 million** test-cases  
**1 sec.** for each test-case:  
**3 months testing!**



# Problems

- Problems:
  1. No **constraints** on the equivalence classes
  2. **Dependencies** among different variables not taken into account
  3. No **choice** among relevant classes (e.g., apply worst-case testing on some and boundary values on others)
- Solutions: Attend the coming lecture!

