## Lecture 19: Unit Test Generation

CS 5150, Spring 2025

#### Administrative Reminders

- Project Report #3 due on April 10
- Project Report #4 due on April 25
  - Focus on Testing and Integration!
- Assignment A4 coming soon!

#### Lecture Goals

- Understand unit-test generation techniques
- Learn about coverage and mutation testing techniques

# **Unit Test Generation**

#### **Outline**

- Previously: Random testing (Fuzzing)
  - Security, mobile apps, ...
- •Feedback-directed random testing: Randoop
  - Classes and libraries
- Systematic testing: Korat
  - Linked data structures

# Leveraging the Specifications

## Automated Test Generation: Key Idea

Leverage the specifications to guide test generation:

- Types
- Invariants
- Pre- and Post- Conditions

## **Example: Leveraging Types**

```
void remove(BinaryTree)bt, Node n) {
   ... // remove node n from binary tree bt
}
```

```
class BinaryTree {
   Node root;
   class Node {
      Node left;
      Node right;
   }
}
```

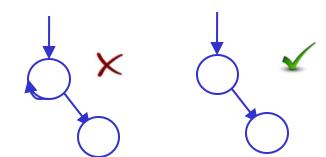
Helps to avoid testing the remove method on arbitrary byte arrays

- Root may be null
- If root is not null:
  - No cycles
  - Each node (except root) has one parent
  - Root has no parent

```
class BinaryTree {
   Node root;
   class Node {
      Node left;
      Node right;
   }
}
```

```
public boolean repOK(BinaryTree bt) {
   if (bt.root == null) return true;
  Set visited = new HashSet();
   List workList = new LinkedList();
  visited.add(bt.root);
  workList.add(bt.root);
  while (!workList.isEmpty()) {
      Node current = workList.removeFirst();
      if (current.left != null) {
         if (!visited.add(current.left)) return false;
        workList.add(current.left);
      ... // similarly for current.right
   return true;
```

```
class BinaryTree {
   Node root;
   class Node {
      Node left;
      Node right;
   }
}
```



```
@invariant repOk(bt)

void remove(BinaryTree bt, Node n) {
    ... // remove node n from binary tree bt
}
```

```
class BinaryTree {
   Node root;
   class Node {
      Node left;
      Node right;
   }
}
```

- Helps to avoid testing the remove method on non-tree structures
- Also serves as a contract to check at the end of remove method

## Example: Leveraging Pre- and Post-Conditions

```
@invariant repOk(bt)
@requires contains(bt, n) // pre condition
@ensures !contains(bt, n) // post condition

void remove(BinaryTree bt, Node n) {
    ... // remove node n from binary tree bt
}
```

```
class BinaryTree {
   Node root;
   class Node {
      Node left;
      Node right;
   }
}
```

Helps to test even richer states on entry and exit of remove method

# Testing Classes and Libraries

Key Ideas of Randoop

## Randoop: Feedback-Directed Random Testing

How do we generate a test like this?

```
public static void test() {
   LinkedList l1 = new LinkedList();
   Object o1 = new Object();
   l1.addFirst(o1);
   TreeSet t1 = new TreeSet(l1);
   Set s1 = Collections.unmodifiableSet(t1);

   // This assertion fails
   assert(s1.equals(s1));
}
```

public TreeSet(Collection c): Constructs a new, empty tree set, sorted according to the specified comparator. All elements inserted into the set must be *mutually comparable* by the specified comparator: comparator.compare(e1, e2) must not throw a ClassCastException for any elements e1 and e2 in the set. If the user attempts to add an element to the set that violates this constraint, the add call will throw a ClassCastException. https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/TreeSet.html

#### Overview

Problem with uniform random testing: Creates too many illegal or redundant tests

Idea: Randomly create new test guided by feedback from previously created tests

test == method sequence



- ·Build new sequences incrementally, extending past sequences
- ·As soon as a sequence is created, execute it
- Use execution results to guide test generation towards sequences that create new object states

## Randoop: Input and Output

#### Input:

- classes under test
- time limit
- set of contracts

```
e.g. "o.hashCode() throws
no exception"
e.g. "o.equals(o) == true"
```

#### Output:

contract-violating test cases

```
LinkedList l1 = new LinkedList();
Object o1 = new Object();
l1.addFirst(o1);
TreeSet t1 = new TreeSet(l1);
Set s1 = Collections.unmodifiableSet(t1);
assert(s1.equals(s1));
```

No contract violated up to here

fails when executed

#### **SEGMENT**

The Randoop Algorithm

## Randoop Algorithm

components = { int i = 0; boolean b = false; ...} // seed components Repeat until time limit expires:

- Create a new sequence
  - Randomly pick a method call  $T_{ret}$   $m(T_1, ..., T_n)$
  - For each argument of type  $T_i$ , randomly pick sequence  $S_i$  from components that constructs an object  $v_i$  of that type
  - Create  $S_{\text{new}} = S_1$ ; ...;  $S_n$ ;  $T_{\text{ret}} \ v_{\text{new}} = m(v_1, \ldots, v_n)$ ;
- Classify new sequence S<sub>new</sub>: discard / output as test / add to components

```
Method
Parameter
Receiver object
```

```
Program under test:
                                                     Test1:
public class A{
                                                     B b1=new B(0);
 public A() {...}
 public B m1(A a1) {...}
public class B{
 public B(int i) -{-.-.}
  public void m2(B b, A a) {...}
 Components:
 S1: B b1=new B(0);
         (0,-1, null, "hi", ...}
                                                                                       19
```

```
· - - → Method
  − → Parameter
  - → Receiver object
```

```
Program under test:
                                                    Test1:
public class A{
                                                    B b1=new B(0);
 public (A() - {-.-} -
  public B m1(A a1) {...}
                                                    Test2:
                                                    A a1=new A();
public class B{
 public B(int i) {...}
  public void m2(B b, A a) {...}
 Components:
 S2: A a1=new A();
 S1: B b1=new B(0);
         {0, 1, null, "hi", ...}
                                                                                      20
```

```
- - - → Method
- - - → Parameter
- - - → Receiver object
```

```
Program under test:
public class A{
  public A() {...}
  public B m1(A a1)-{-..}
}
public class B{
  public B(int i) {...}
  public void m2(B b, A a) {...}
}
Components:
S3: A al=new A();
```

```
Test1:
B b1=new B(0);

Test2:
A a1=new A();

Test3:
A a1=new A(); //reused from s2
B b2=a1.m1(a1);
```

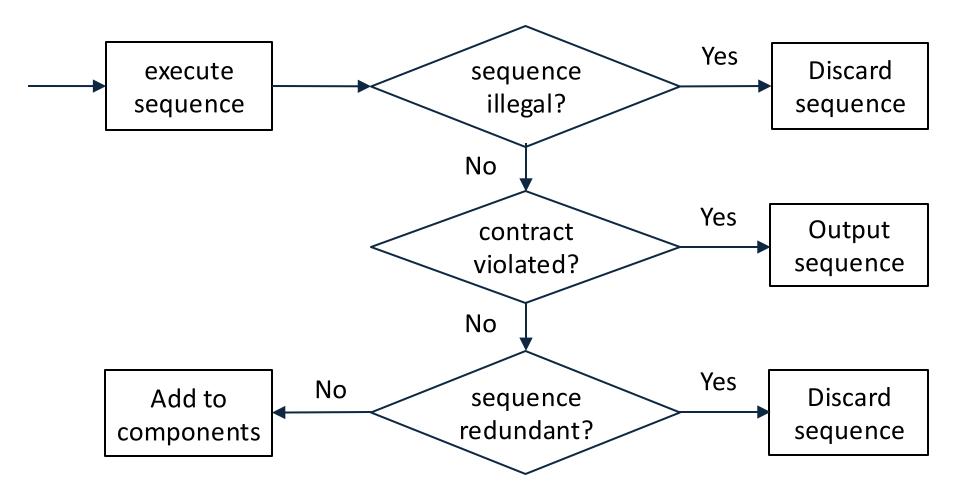
```
Components:
S3: A al=new A();
B b2=al.ml(al);
S2: A al=new A();
S1: B b1=new B(0);

{0, 1, null, "hi", ...}
```

```
- - - → Method
- - - → Parameter
- - - → Receiver object
```

```
Program under test:
                                                   Test1:
public class A{
                                                   B b1=new B(0);
 public A() {...}
 public B m1(A a1) {...}
                                                   Test2:
                                                   A a1=new A();
public class B{
 public B(int_i) {...}
 public void m2(B b, A a)-
                                                   Test3:
                                                   A a1=new A();
                                                   B b2=a1.m1(a1);
 Components:
                                                   Test4:
 S3: A a1=new A();
                          S4: ...
                                                   B b1=new B(0); //reused from s1
     B b2=a1.m1(a1);
                                                   A a1=new A();
                                                   B b2=a1.m1(a1); //reused from s3
 S2: A a1=new A();
                                                   b1.m2(b2, a1);
 S1: B b1=new B(0) 7
         {0, 1, null, "hi", ...}
```

## Classifying a Sequence



## Illegal Sequences

- Sequences that "crash" before contract is checked
  - E.g., throw an exception

```
int i = -1;
Date d = new Date(2006, 2, 14);
d.setMonth(i);  // pre: argument >= 0
assert(d.equals(d));
```

### Redundant Sequences

- Maintain set of all objects created in execution of each sequence
- New sequence is redundant if each object created during its execution belongs to above set (using equals to compare)
- Could also use more sophisticated state equivalence methods

```
Set s = new HashSet();
s.add("hi");
assertTrue(s.equals(s));
```

```
Set s = new HashSet();
s.add("hi");
s.isEmpty();
assertTrue(s.equals(s));
```

#### **SEGMENT**

Randoop in Practice

## Code coverage by Randoop

Data structure programs	Time (s)	Branch cov.
Bounded stack (30 LOC)	1	100%
Unbounded stack (59 LOC)	1	100%
BS Tree (91 LOC)	1	96%
Binomial heap (309 LOC)	1	84%
Linked list (253 LOC)	1	100%
Tree map (370 LOC)	1	81%
Heap array (71 LOC)	1	100%

## Bug detection by Randoop: subjects

Subjects	LOC	Classes
JDK (2 libraries) (java.util, javax.xml)	53K	272
Apache commons (6 libraries) (logging, primitives, chain, jelly, math, collections)	114K	974
.Net libraries (6 libraries)	615K	3455

## Bug detection by Randoop: subjects

Subjects	Failed tests	Unique failed tests	Error-revealing tests	Distinct errors
JDK	613	32	29	8
Apache commons	3,044	187	29	6
.Net framework	543	205	196	196
Total	4,200	424	254	210

### Some Bugs Found by Randoop

- JDK containers have 4 methods that violate o.equals(o) contract
- Javax.xml creates objects that cause hashCode and toString to crash, even though objects are well-formed XML constructs
- Apache libraries have constructors that leave fields unset, leading to NPE on calls of equals, hashCode, and toString
- .Net framework has at least 175 methods that throw an exception forbidden by the library specification (NPE, out-of-bounds, or illegal state exception)
- .Net framework has 8 methods that violate o.equals(o) contract

## QUIZ: Randoop Test Generation (Part 1)

Write the smallest sequence that Randoop can possibly generate to create a valid BinaryTree.

- Discards it as illegal
- Outputs it as a bug
- Adds to components for future extension

```
class BinaryTree {
  Node root;
  public BinaryTree(Node r) {
     root = r;
     assert(repOk(this));
  }
  public Node removeRoot() {
     assert(root != null);
     ...
  }
}
```

```
class Node {
  Node left;
  Node right;
  public Node(Node 1, Node r) {
    left = 1; right = r;
  }
}
```

## QUIZ: Randoop Test Generation (Part 1)

Write the smallest sequence that Randoop can possibly generate to create a valid BinaryTree.

```
BinaryTree bt = new BinaryTree(null);
```

- Discards it as illegal
- Outputs it as a bug
- Adds to components for future extension

```
class BinaryTree {
  Node root;
  public BinaryTree(Node r) {
     root = r;
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  }
  public Node removeRoot() {
     assert(root != null);
     ...
  }
}
```

```
class Node {
  Node left;
  Node right;
  public Node(Node 1, Node r) {
    left = 1; right = r;
  }
}
```

## QUIZ: Randoop Test Generation (Part 2)

Write the smallest sequence that Randoop can possibly generate that violates the assertion in removeRoot().

- Discards it as illegal
- Outputs it as a bug
- Adds to components for future extension

```
class BinaryTree {
  Node root;
  public BinaryTree(Node r) {
     root = r;
     assert(repOk(this));
  }
  public Node removeRoot() {
     assert(root != null);
     ...
  }
}
```

```
class Node {
  Node left;
  Node right;
  public Node(Node 1, Node r) {
    left = 1; right = r;
  }
}
```

## QUIZ: Randoop Test Generation (Part 2)

Write the smallest sequence that Randoop can possibly generate that violates the assertion in removeRoot().

```
BinaryTree bt = new BinaryTree(null);
bt.removeRoot();
```

- Discards it as illegal
- Outputs it as a bug
- Adds to components for future extension

```
class BinaryTree {
  Node root;
  public BinaryTree(Node r) {
     root = r;
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  }
  public Node removeRoot() {
     assert(root != null);
     ...
  }
}
```

```
class Node {
  Node left;
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  public Node(Node 1, Node r) {
    left = 1; right = r;
  }
}
```

## QUIZ: Randoop Test Generation (Part 3)

Write the smallest sequence that Randoop can possibly generate that violates the assertion in BinaryTree's constructor.



Can Randoop create a BinaryTree object with cycles using the given API?

```
Yes No
```

```
class BinaryTree {
  Node root;
  public BinaryTree(Node r) {
     root = r;
     assert(repOk(this));
  }
  public Node removeRoot() {
     assert(root != null);
     ...
  }
}
```

```
class Node {
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  public Node(Node 1, Node r) {
    left = 1; right = r;
  }
}
```

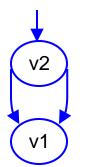
- Root may be null
- If root is not null:
  - No cycles
  - Each node (except root) has one parent
  - Root has no parent

RepOk method checks if the binary tree is valid

```
class BinaryTree {
   Node root;
   class Node {
      Node left;
      Node right;
   }
}
```

# QUIZ: Randoop Test Generation (Part 3)

Write the smallest sequence that Randoop can possibly generate that violates the assertion in BinaryTree's constructor.



```
Node v1 = new Node(null, null);
Node v2 = new Node(v1, v1);
BinaryTree bt = new BinaryTree(v2);
```

Can Randoop create a BinaryTree object with cycles using the given API?

Yes

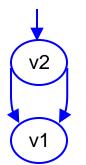
No

```
class BinaryTree {
  Node root;
  public BinaryTree(Node r) {
     root = r;
     assert(repOk(this));
  }
  public Node removeRoot() {
     assert(root != null);
     ...
  }
}
```

```
class Node {
  Node left;
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  public Node(Node 1, Node r) {
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```

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  }
}
```

```
class Node {
  Node left;
  Node right;
  public Node(Node 1, Node r) {
    left = 1; right = r;
  }
}
```

#### How Good Is Your Test Suite?

- How do we know that our test suite is good?
  - Too few tests: may miss bugs
  - Too many tests: costly to run, bloat and redundancy, harder to maintain
- Two approaches:
  - Code coverage metrics
  - Mutation analysis (or mutation testing)

#### Code Coverage

- Metric to quantify extent to which a program's code is tested by a given test suite
- Given as percentage of some aspect of the program executed in the tests
- 100% coverage rare in practice: e.g., (provably) unreachable code
  - Often required for safety-critical applications

#### Types of Code Coverage

- Function coverage: which functions were called?
- Statement coverage: which statements were executed?
- Branch coverage: which branches were taken?
- Many others: line coverage, condition coverage, basic block coverage, path coverage, ...

## QUIZ: Code Coverage Metrics

```
Test Suite: \{foo(1, 0)\}
Statement Coverage:
                             %
Branch Coverage:
                             %
Give arguments for another call to foo(x, y) to add
to the test suite to increase both coverages to 100%.
x =
                 y =
```

```
int foo(int x, int y) {
    int z = 0;
    if (x <= y) {
        z = x;
    } else {
        z = y;
    }
    return z;
}</pre>
```

# QUIZ: Code Coverage Metrics

Test Suite: { foo(1, 0) }

Statement Coverage: 80 %

Branch Coverage: 50 %

Give arguments for another call to foo(x, y) to add to the test suite to increase both coverages to 100%.

```
x = 1 y = 1
```

```
int foo(int x, int y) {
    int z = 0;
    if (x <= y) {
        z = x;
    } else {
        z = y;
    }
    return z;
}</pre>
```

#### Mutation Testing/Analysis

Founded on "competent programmer assumption":

The program is close to correct to begin with

- Key idea: Test variations (mutants) of the program
  - $\circ$  Replace x > 0 by x < 0
  - $\circ$  Replace w by w + 1, w 1
- If test suite is good, should report failed tests in the mutants
- Find set of test cases to distinguish original program from its mutants

#### A Problem

- What if a mutant is equivalent to the original?
- Then no test will kill it
- In practice, this is a real problem
  - Not easily solved
  - Try to prove program equivalence automatically (undecidable)
  - Often requires manual intervention

Check the boxes indicating a passed test.	Test 1 assert: foo(0, 1) == 0	Test 2 assert: foo(0, 0) == 0
Mutant 1 $x \le y \rightarrow x > y$		
Mutant 2 $x \le y \rightarrow x != y$		

```
int foo(int x, int y) {
   int z = 0;
   if (x <= y) {
      z = x;
   } else {
      z = y;
   }
   return z;
}</pre>
```

Is the test suite adequate with respect to both mutants?

Yes

No

Check the boxes indicating a passed test.	Test 1 assert: foo(0, 1) == 0	Test 2 assert: foo(0, 0) == 0
Mutant 1 $x \le y \rightarrow x > y$		<b>✓</b>
Mutant 2 $x \le y \rightarrow x != y$	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>

```
int foo(int x, int y) {
   int z = 0;
   if (x <= y) {
      z = x;
   } else {
      z = y;
   }
   return z;
}</pre>
```

Is the test suite adequate with respect to both mutants?

Yes

√ No

Check the boxes indicating a passed test.	Test 1 assert: foo(0, 1) == 0	Test 2 assert: foo(0, 0) == 0
Mutant 1 $x \le y \rightarrow x > y$		<b>✓</b>
Mutant 2 $x \le y \rightarrow x != y$	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>

int foo(int x, int y) {
 int z = 0;
 if (x <= y) {
 z = x;
 } else {
 z = y;
 }
 return z;
}</pre>

Give a test case which Mutant 2 fails but the original code passes.

Check the boxes indicating a passed test.	Test 1 assert: foo(0, 1) == 0	Test 2 assert: foo(0, 0) == 0
Mutant 1 $x \le y \rightarrow x > y$		<b>✓</b>
Mutant 2 $x \le y \rightarrow x != y$	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>

int foo(int x, int y) {
 int z = 0;
 if (x <= y) {
 z = x;
 } else {
 z = y;
 }
 return z;
}</pre>

Give a test case which Mutant 2 fails but the original code passes.

#### **LESSON**

**Testing Data Structures** 

#### **SEGMENT**

Key Ideas of Korat

#### Korat

- A test-generation research project
- Idea
  - Leverage pre-conditions and post-conditions to generate tests automatically
- But how?

#### An Insight

 Often can do a good job by systematically testing all inputs up to a small size

#### •Small Test Case Hypothesis:

- If there is any test that causes the program to fail, there is a smaller such test
- If a list function works for lists of length 0 through 3, probably works for all lists
  - E.g., because the function is oblivious to the length

## How Do We Generate Test Inputs?

- Use the types
- The class declaration shows what values (or null) can fill each field
- Simply enumerate all possible shapes with a fixed set of Nodes

```
class BinaryTree {
   Node root;
   class Node {
      Node left;
      Node right;
   }
}
```

### Scheme for Representing Shapes

- Order all possible values of each field
- Order all fields into a vector
- •Each shape == vector of field values

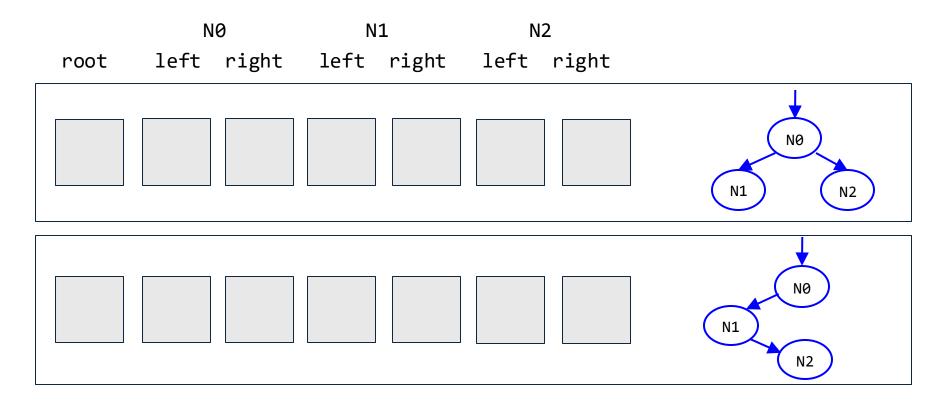
**Example:** BinaryTree of up to 3 Nodes:

```
NO N1 N2
root left right left right
```

```
class BinaryTree {
   Node root;
   class Node {
      Node left;
      Node right;
   }
}
```

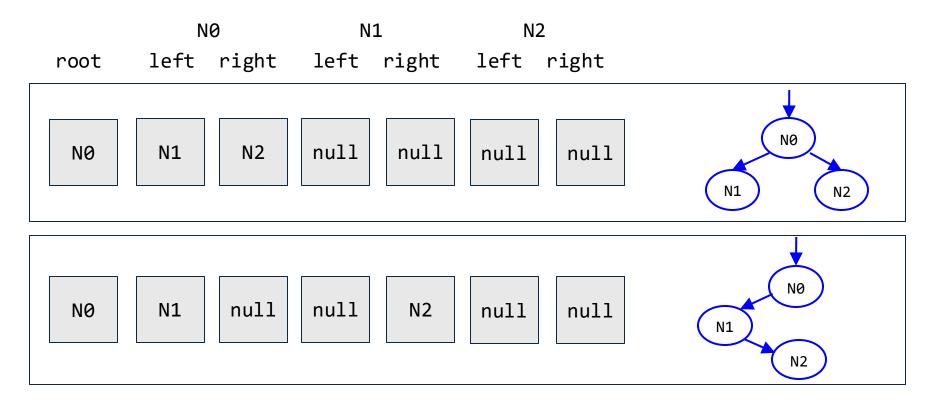
#### QUIZ: Representing Shapes

Fill in the field values in each vector to represent the depicted shape:



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Fill in the field values in each vector to represent the depicted shape:



#### **SEGMENT**

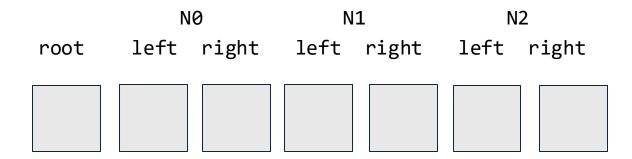
A Simple Algorithm

#### A Simple Algorithm

- User selects some maximum input size k
- Generate all possible inputs up to size k
- Discard inputs where pre-condition is false
- Run program on remaining inputs
- Check results using post-condition

### QUIZ: Enumerating Shapes

Korat represents each input shape as a vector of the following form:



What is the total number of vectors of the above form?

## QUIZ: Enumerating Shapes

Korat represents each input shape as a vector of the following form:



What is the total number of vectors of the above form?

16384

#### The General Case for Binary Trees

- How many binary trees are there of size <= k?</li>
- Calculation:
  - A BinaryTree object, bt
  - k Node objects, n0, n1, n2, ...
  - 2k+1 Node pointers
    - o root (for bt)
    - left, right (for each Node object)
  - k+1 possible values (n0, n1, n2, ... or null) per pointer
- (k+1)^(2k+1) possible "binary trees"

```
class BinaryTree {
  Node root;
  class Node {
    Node left;
    Node right;
  }
}
```

#### A Lot of "Trees"!

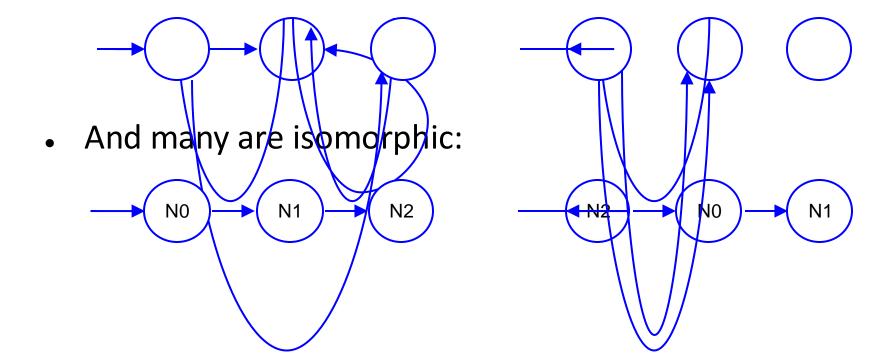
The number of "trees" explodes rapidly

```
    k = 3: over 16,000 "trees"
    k = 4: over 1,900,000 "trees"
    k = 5: over 360,000,000 "trees"
```

- Limits us to testing only very small input sizes
- Can we do better?

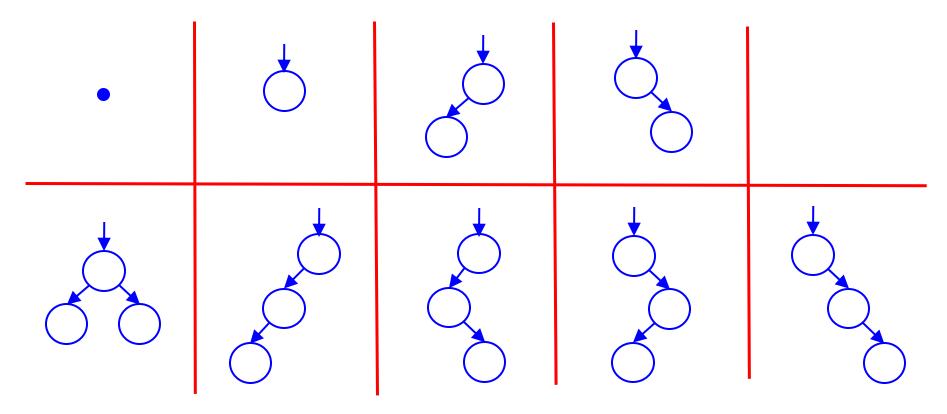
#### An Overestimate

- (k+1)^(2k+1) trees is a gross overestimate!
- Many of the shapes are not even trees:



# **How Many Trees?**

There are only 9 distinct binary trees with at most 3 nodes:



#### **SEGMENT**

Using the Invariant

#### Another Insight

- Avoid generating inputs that don't satisfy the invariant in the first place
- Leverage the invariant to guide the generation of tests

#### The Technique

- Instrument the invariant
  - Add code to record fields accessed by the invariant

#### Observation:

 If the invariant doesn't access a field, then it doesn't depend on the field

### The Invariant for Binary Trees

- Root may be null
- •If root is not null:
  - No cycles
  - Each node (except root) has one parent
  - Root has no parent

```
class BinaryTree {
   Node root;
   class Node {
      Node left;
      Node right;
   }
}
```

#### The Invariant for Binary Trees

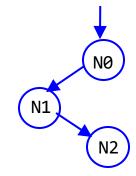
```
public boolean repOK(BinaryTree bt) {
  if (bt.root == null) return true;
  Set visited = new HashSet();
   List workList = new LinkedList();
  visited.add(bt.root);
  workList.add(bt.root);
  while (!workList.isEmpty()) {
      Node current = workList.removeFirst();
      if (current.left != null) {
         if (!visited.add(current.left)) return false;
        workList.add(current.left);
      ... // similarly for current.right
   return true;
```

```
class BinaryTree {
   Node root;
   class Node {
      Node left;
      Node right;
   }
}
```

### The Invariant for Binary Trees

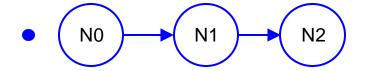
```
public boolean repOK(BinaryTree bt) {
  if (bt.root == null) return true;
  Set visited = new HashSet();
   List workList = new LinkedList();
  visited.add(bt.root);
  workList.add(bt.root);
  while (!workList.isEmpty()) {
      Node current = workList.removeFirst();
      if (current.left != null) {
         if (!visited.add(current.left)) return false;
        workList.add(current.left);
      ... // similarly for current.right
   return true;
```

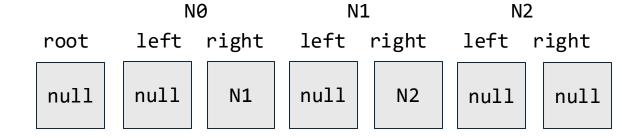
```
class BinaryTree {
   Node root;
   class Node {
      Node left;
      Node right;
   }
}
```



# Example: Using the Invariant

•Consider the following "tree":





- The invariant accesses only the root as it is null
  - => Every possible shape for other nodes yields same result
  - => This single input eliminates 25% of the tests!

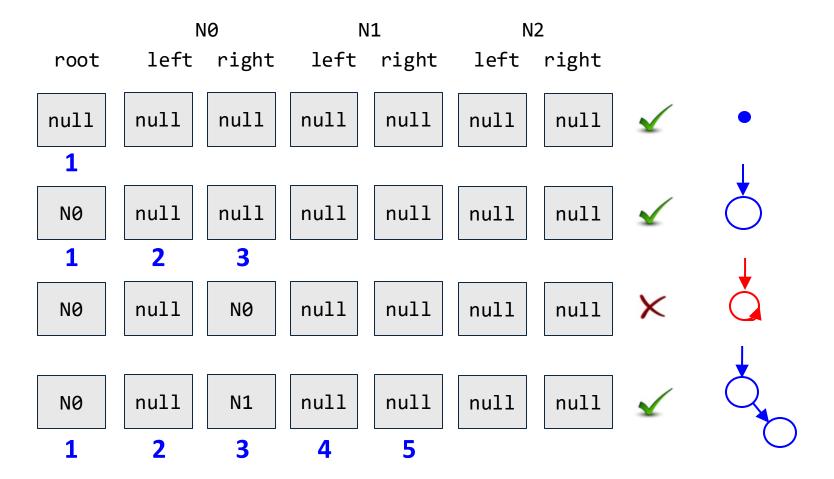
#### **SEGMENT**

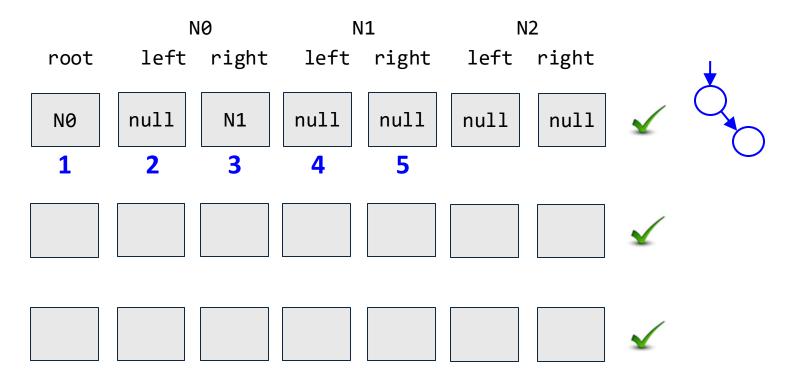
**Enumerating Tests** 

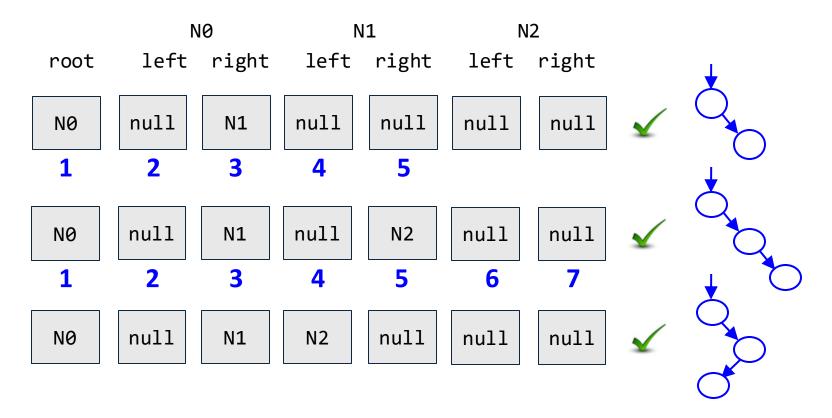
#### **Enumerating Tests**

- Shapes are enumerated according to their associated vectors
  - Initial candidate vector: all fields null
  - Next shape generated by:
    - Expanding last field accessed in invariant
    - Backtracking if all possibilities for a field are exhausted
- Key idea: Never expand fields not examined by invariant
- Also: Cleverly checks for and discards shapes isomorphic to previously generated shapes

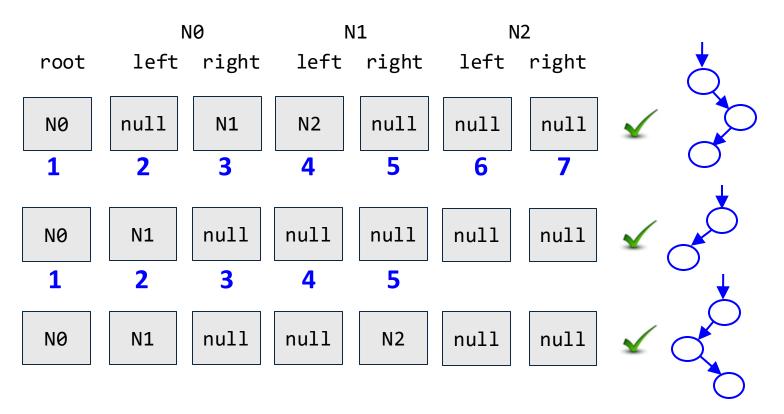
# **Example: Enumerating Binary Trees**







	NØ		N1		N2			
root	left	right	left	right	left	right		<u> </u>
NØ	null	N1	N2	null	null	null	✓	
							$\checkmark$	
							✓	



#### SEGMENT

**Korat in Practice** 

# **Experimental Results**

benchmark	size	time	structures	candidates	state
		(sec)	generated	considered	space
	8	1.53	1430	54418	$2^{53}$
	9	3.97	4862	210444	$  2^{63}  $
BinaryTree	10	14.41	16796	815100	$  2^{72}  $
	11	56.21	58786	3162018	$  2^{82}  $
	12	233.59	208012	12284830	$  2^{92}  $
	6	1.21	13139	64533	$2^{20}$
HeapArray	7	5.21	117562	519968	$  2^{25}  $
	8	42.61	1005075	5231385	$  2^{29}  $
	8	1.32	4140	5455	$2^{91}$
	9	3.58	21147	26635	$2^{105}$
LinkedList	10	16.73	115975	142646	$2^{120}$
	11	101.75	678570	821255	$2^{135}$
	12	690.00	4213597	5034894	$2^{150}$
	7	8.81	35	256763	$2^{92}$
TreeMap	8	90.93	64	2479398	$2^{111}$
	9	2148.50	122	50209400	$2^{130}$

#### Strengths and Weaknesses

- •Strong when we can enumerate all possibilities
  - e.g. Four nodes, two edges per node
  - => Good for:
    - Linked data structures
    - Small, easily specified procedures
    - Unit testing
- •Weaker when enumeration is weak
  - Integers, Floating-point numbers, Strings

#### Weaknesses

Only as good as the pre- and post-conditions

#### Weaknesses

Only as good as the pre- and post-conditions