

# Lecture 18: Concolic Testing

17-355/17-665/17-819: Program Analysis

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# Recap: Symbolic Execution

```
1 int x=0, y=0, z=0;
2 if (a) {
3     x = -2;
4 }
5 if (b < 5) {
6     if (!a && c) { y = 1; }
7     z = 2;
8 }
9 assert (x + y + z != 3);
```

Verification of assert(Q):

$$\forall x : P \Rightarrow Q$$

Bug-finding of assert(Q):

$$\exists x : P \wedge \neg Q$$

line	$g$	$E$
0	true	$a \mapsto \alpha, b \mapsto \beta, c \mapsto \gamma$
1	true	$\dots, x \mapsto 0, y \mapsto 0, z \mapsto 0$
2	$\neg \alpha$	$\dots, x \mapsto 0, y \mapsto 0, z \mapsto 0$
5	$\neg \alpha \wedge \beta \geq 5$	$\dots, x \mapsto 0, y \mapsto 0, z \mapsto 0$
9	$\neg \alpha \wedge \beta \geq 5 \wedge 0 + 0 + 0 \neq 3$	$\dots, x \mapsto 0, y \mapsto 0, z \mapsto 0$

# Recap: Soundness and Completeness

- Soundness = “Doesn’t lie” or “all claims are true”
- Completeness = “All truths are claimed”
- For Verification (claim is “*program is correct*”)
  - Soundness: Reasoning along all possible paths (over-approximation)
- For Bug-Finding (claim is “*a bug exists*”)
  - Soundness: Reasoning along feasible paths only (under-approximation)
- Soundness & Completeness is impossible in general (Rice’s theorem)
  - Most systems are sound but incomplete (e.g. can’t prove all programs, or can’t find all bugs)

# Recap: Bugs and Reachability

Common trick: convert error case into reachability problem

- `assert(p) → if(!p) ERROR;`
- `*x → if(x == NULL) { ERROR; } return *x;`
- `a[i] → if(i < 0 || i > a.length) { ERROR; } return a[i];`

“Bug finding” is now just about finding inputs that execute every program path

**Gotchas:** Halting problem and infinite loops

# Consider external functions

```
1  int double (int v) {
2      return 2*v;
3  }
4
5  void bar(int x, int y) {
6      z = double (y);
7      if (z == x) {
8          if (x > y+10) {
9              ERROR;
10         }
11     }
12 }
```

**Exercise:** Under what path constraints do we hit ERROR?

# Consider external functions

```
5 void bar(int x, int y) {  
6     z = double (y);  
7     if (z == x) {  
8         if (x > y+10) {  
9             ERROR;  
10        }  
11    }  
12 }
```

**Consider:** What if we could not (or did not want to) analyze the external function?

# Consider external functions

```
5 void bar(int x, int y) {  
6     z = double (y);  
7     if (z == x) {  
8         if (x > y+10) {  
9             ERROR;  
10        }  
11    }  
12 }
```

**Consider:** What if we could not (or did not want to) analyze the external function?

# Consider external functions

```
1  int foo(int v) {
2      return v*v%50;
3  }
4
5  void baz(int x, int y) {
6      z = foo(y);
7      if (z == x) {
8          if (x > y+10) {
9              ERROR;
10         }
11     }
12 }
```

**Consider:** What if our solver cannot handle non-linear arithmetic or modulo?

# Consider external functions

```
1  int foo(int v) {
2      return v*v%50;
3  }
4
5  void baz(int x, int y) {
6      z = foo(y);
7      if (z == x) {
8          if (x > y+10) {
9              ERROR;
10         }
11     }
12 }
```

**Option 1:** Set  $\Sigma(z)$  to be a fresh symbolic var

**Option 2:** Set  $\Sigma(z)$  to be a concrete value by "executing" `foo(y)` for some `y` that satisfies path constraint seen so far.

**Exercise:** How do these options differ in terms of under- or over-approximation?

Recall: soundness/completeness or bug finding or verification

# Concolic Execution (= Concrete + Symbolic)

1. Instrument program to collect path constraints during concrete execution (*concrete + symbolic store updates simultaneously*)
2. Run program with concrete inputs (initially random) to collect path constraint  $g$ 
  - Sanity check: Inputs should always be a valid solution to  $g$
3. Negate last clause in  $g$  and solve for model
4. If SAT, then get satisfying assignment as new input and repeat from 2
5. If UNSAT, then pop off last clause and repeat from 3

# Concolic Execution: Example

```
1  int double (int v) {
2      return 2*v;
3  }
4
5  void bar(int x, int y) {
6      z = double (y);
7      if (z == x) {
8          if (x > y+10) {
9              ERROR;
10         }
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```

# Concolic Execution: Example

```
1  int double (int v) {
2      return 2*v;
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5  void bar(int x, int y) {
6      z = double (y);
7      if (z == x) {
8          if (x > y+10) {
9              ERROR;
10         }
11     }
12 }
```

1. Input:  $x=0, y=1$ 
  - Path:  $(2*y \neq x)$
  - Next:  $(2*y == x) :: \text{SAT}$
2. Input:  $x=2, y=1$ 
  - Path:  $(2*y == x) \ \&\& \ (x \leq y+10)$
  - Next:  $(2*y == x) \ \&\& \ (x > y+10) :: \text{SAT}$
3. Input:  $x=22, y=11$ 
  - Path:  $(2*y == x) \ \&\& \ (x > y+10)$
  - **Bug found!!**

# Concolic Execution

- **Key advantage:** Always have a concrete input in parallel
- When constraint cannot be modeled (e.g. external function, features not handled by solver), **replace with concrete value.**
- **Soundness:** Concrete replacement is a true under-approximation

# Concolic Execution: Example

```
1  int foo(int v) {
2      return v*v%50;
3  }
4
5  void baz(int x, int y) {
6      z = foo(y);
7      if (z == x) {
8          if (x > y+10) {
9              ERROR;
10         }
11     }
12 }
```

1. Input: x=22, y=7
  - Path: (49 != x). //  $y*y\%50 = 49\%50 = 49$
  - Next: (49 == x) :: **SAT**
2. Input: x=49, y=7
  - Path: (49 == x) && (x > y+10)
  - **Bug found!!**

# Concolic Path Condition Soundness

- When is substitution sound?

# Concolic Execution: Example

```
1  int foo(int v) {
2      return v*v%50;
3  }
4
5  void baz(int x, int y) {
6      z = foo(y);
7      if (z == x) {
8          if (x > y+10) {
9              ERROR;
10         }
11     }
12 }
```

1. Input:  $x=0, y=8$ 
  - Path:  $(14 \neq x) // y*y\%50 = 64\%50 = 14$
  - Next:  $(14 == x) :: \mathbf{SAT}$
2. Input:  $x=14, y=8$ 
  - Path:  $(14 == x) \ \&\& \ (x \leq y+10)$
  - Next:  $(14 == x) \ \&\& \ (x > y+10) :: \mathbf{SAT}$
3. Input:  $x=14, y=2$ 
  - Path:  $(4 \neq x)$
  - **Unsoundness!**

# Popular Symbolic/Concolic Tools

- DART (Directed Automated Random Testing)
- CUTE (Concolic Unit Testing Engine)
- KLEE (“dynamic symbolic execution”)
- SAGE (Scalable, Automated, Guided Execution aka “whitebox fuzzing”)
- Java PathFinder
- Angr
- PyExZ3
- Jalangi