

Fuzz Testing

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Ph.D. candidate @ S3D/SCS

Research: Make complex concurrent and distributed systems easier to debug and test. I focuses on both **algorithmic efficiency** and **real-world practicality**.

Lots of internships and lots of systems



Google

Microsoft

amazon

{:} antithesis

What is *fuzz testing*?

Puzzle: Find x such $p1(x)$ returns True

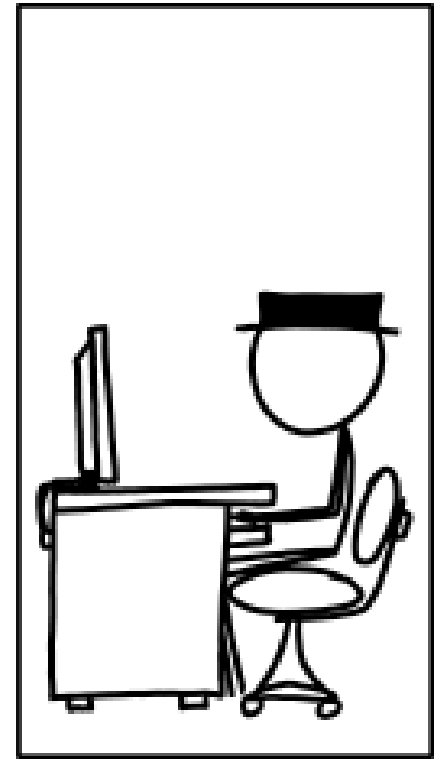
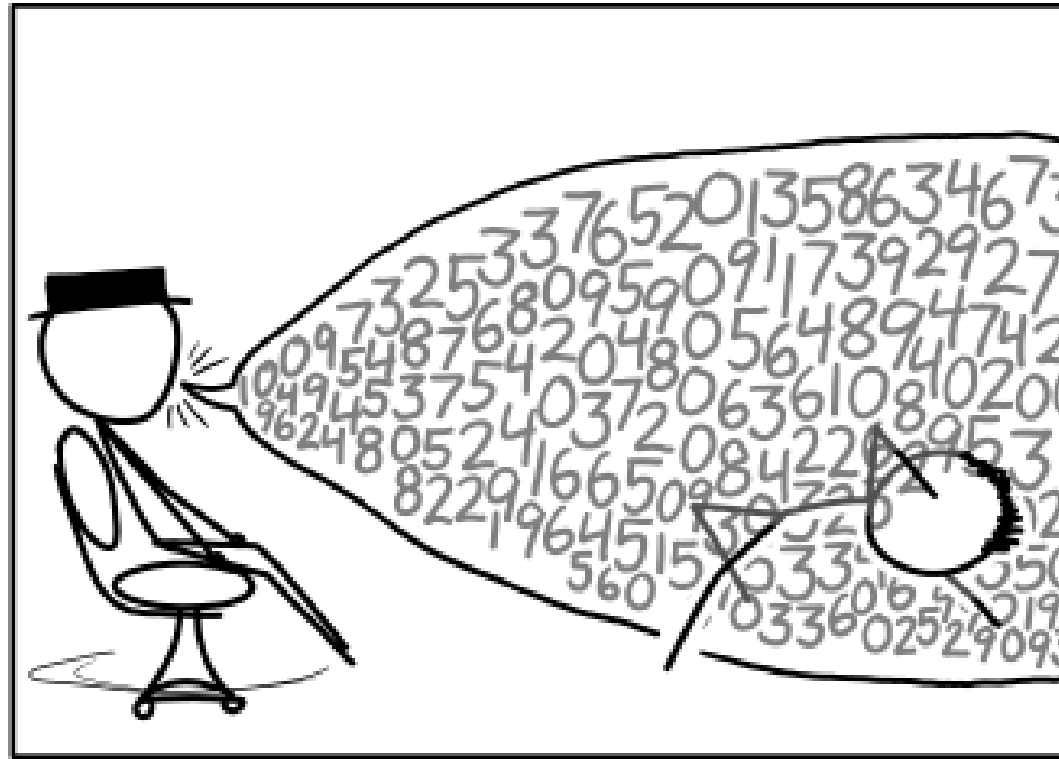
```
def p1(x):  
    if x * x - 10 == 15:  
        return True  
    return False
```

Puzzle: Find x such $p2(x)$ returns True

```
def p2(x):  
    if x > 0 and x < 1000:  
        if ((x - 32) * 5/9 == 100):  
            return True  
    return False
```

Puzzle: Find x such $p3(x)$ returns True

```
def p3(x):  
    if x > 3 and x < 100:  
        z = x - 2  
        c = 0  
        while z >= 2:  
            if z ** (x - 1) % x == 1:  
                c = c + 1  
                z = z - 1  
            if c == x - 3:  
                return True  
    return False
```



Original: <https://xkcd.com/1210> CC-BY-NC 2.5

What is Fuzz Testing?

Goal:

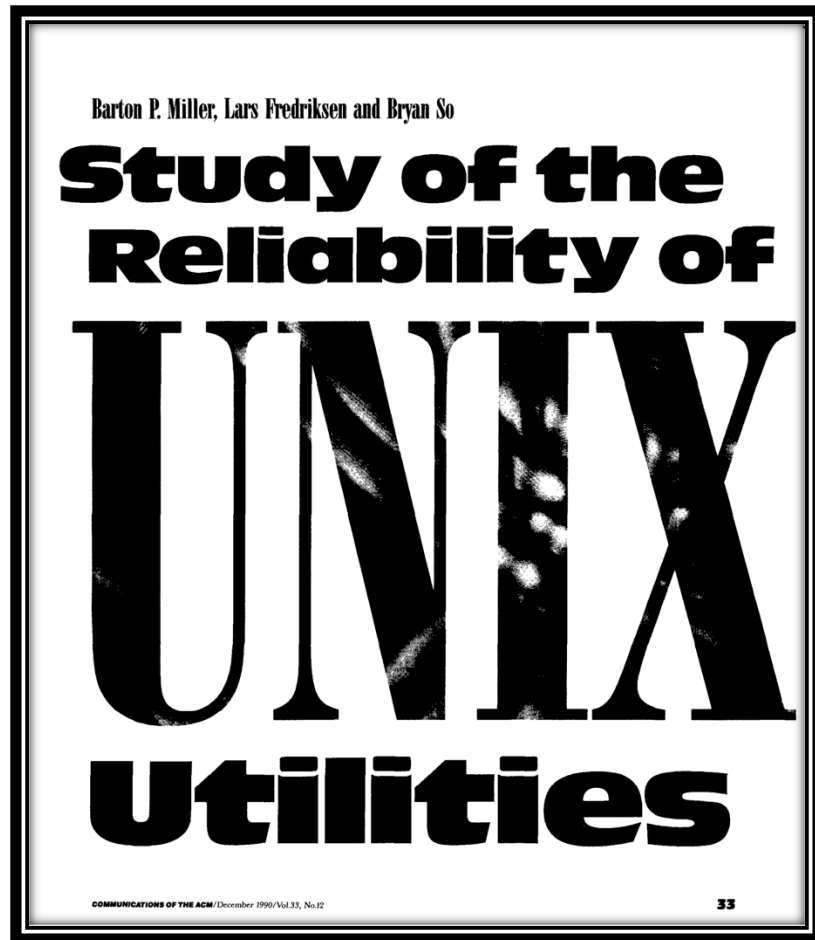
To find **test cases** that reveal a **bug** in a program

Approach:

Generate inputs **randomly** until program **crashes**

```
$ some_program < /dev/random
```

Fuzz testing was discovered quite accidentally



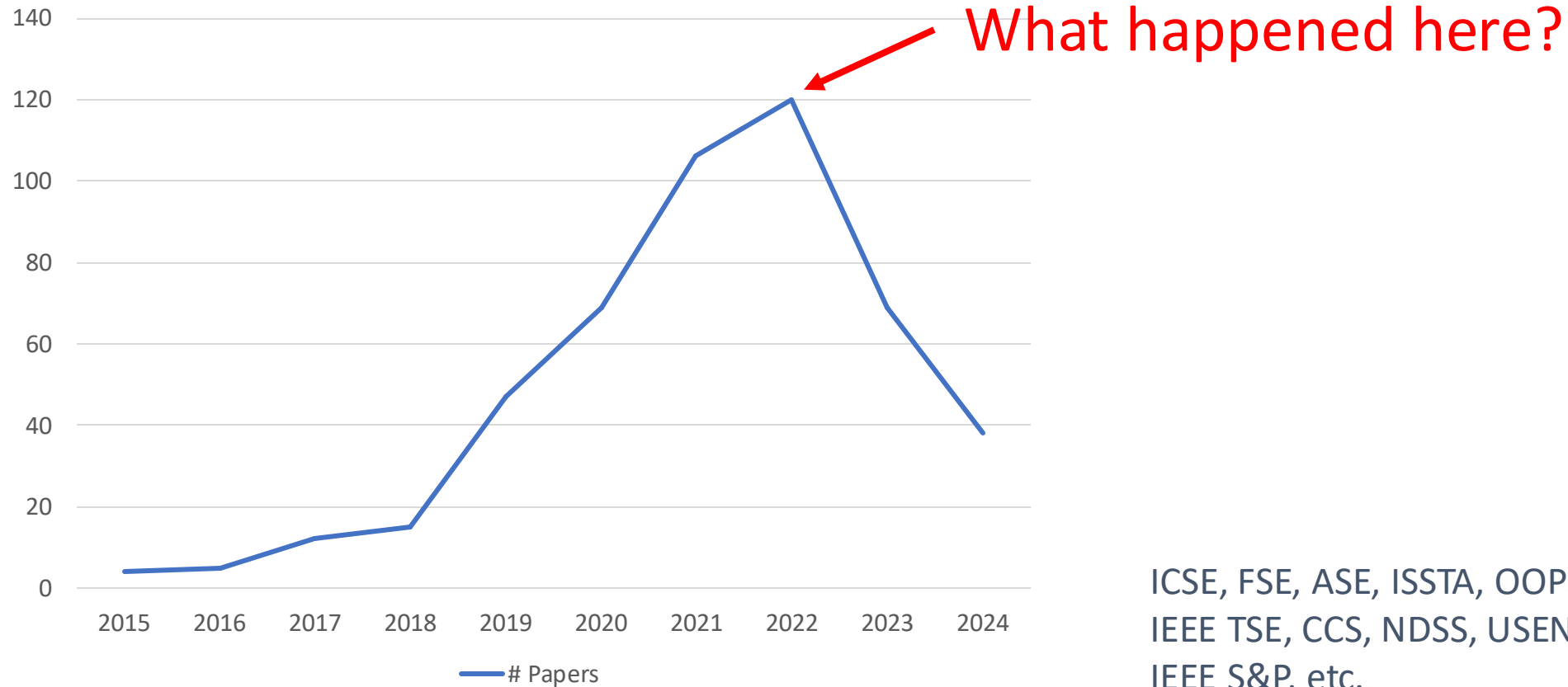
Communications of the ACM (1990)

“

On a dark and stormy night one of the authors was logged on to his workstation on a dial-up line from home and the rain had affected the phone lines; there were frequent spurious characters on the line. The author had to race to see if he could type a sensible sequence of characters before the noise scrambled the command. This line noise was not surprising; but we were surprised that these spurious characters were causing programs to crash.

”

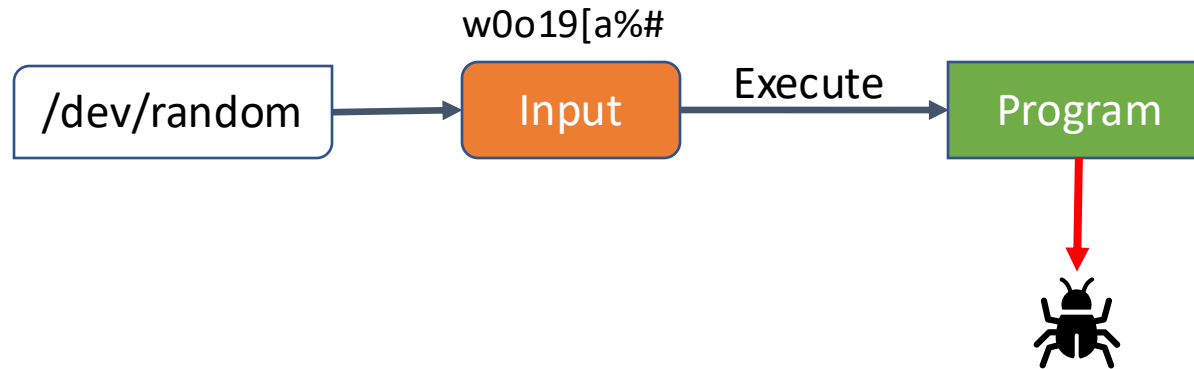
30 years on, it is still a "*hot*" research topic



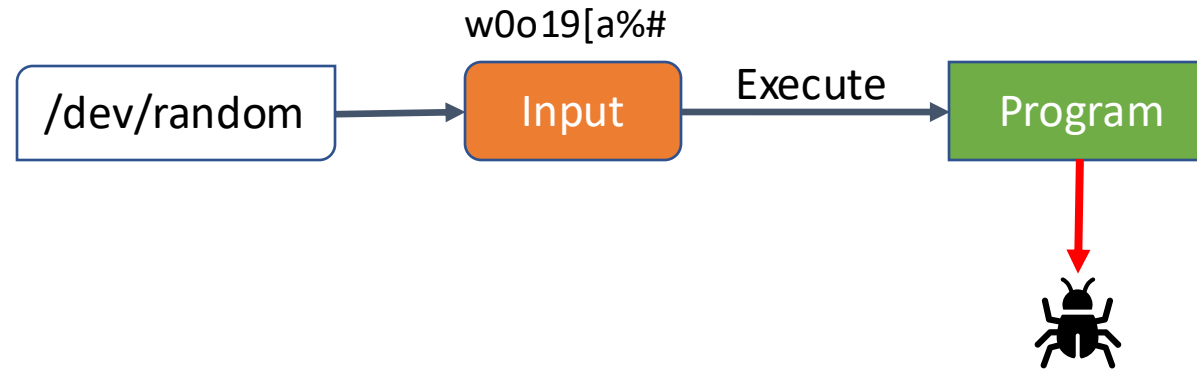
Data source: <https://wcventure.github.io/FuzzingPaper>

1990s

Fuzz Testing 101



1990 study found crashes in:
adb, as, bc, cb, col, diction, emacs, eqn, ftp, indent, lex, look, m4, make, nroff, plot, prolog, ptx, refer!, spell, style, tsort, uniq, vgrind, vi



What are the **benefits**, **challenges**, & **limitations** of this approach?

Generate inputs **randomly**



\$ python foo.py

```
def is_even(x:int) -> bool:  
    if x % 2 == 1:  
        return False  
    else:  
        return True
```

\$ cat /dev/random | python

```
1rha3wn5p0w3uz;54 p0a23  
rw3i 50a20 5a2y58a2p  
y3wry3p285  
q@P"uer9zparu9apur9qa3802  
y5o2y 392r523a90wesu
```

Purely random data is not a very interesting input!!

Generate inputs **randomly** via **mutation**



\$ python foo.py

```
def is_even(x:int) -> bool:
    if x % 2 == 1:
        return False
    else:
        return True
```

\$ radamsa foo.py | python

```
def is_even(x:int) -> bool:
    if x % 2 == 3412354121:
        return False
    else:
        return False
```

What are some good mutations?

Goal: Preserve input structure as much as possible while also changing some key data values

- Binary input

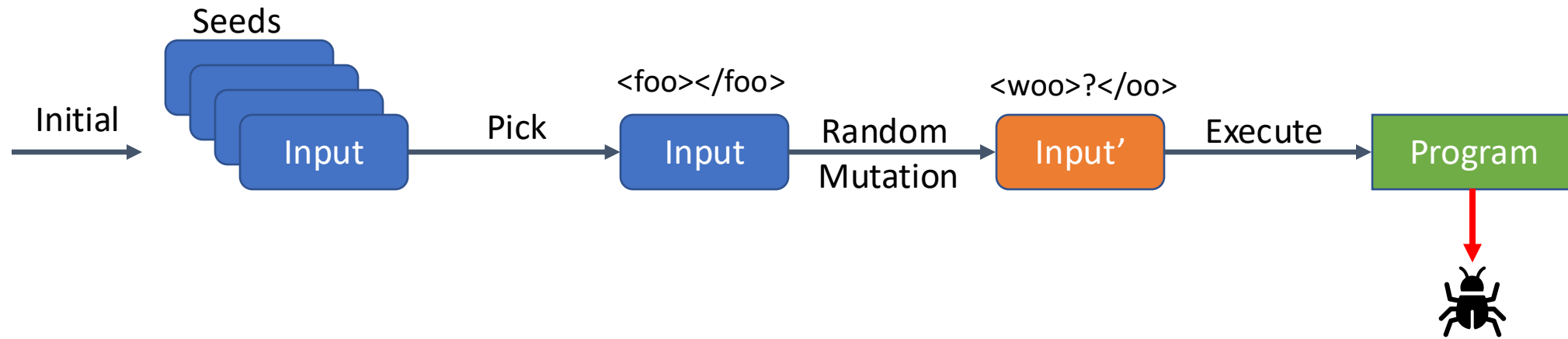
- Bit flips, byte flips
- Change random bytes
- Insert random byte chunks
- Delete random byte chunks
- Set randomly chosen byte chunks to *interesting* values e.g. INT_MAX, INT_MIN, 0, 1, -1, ...
- Other suggestions?

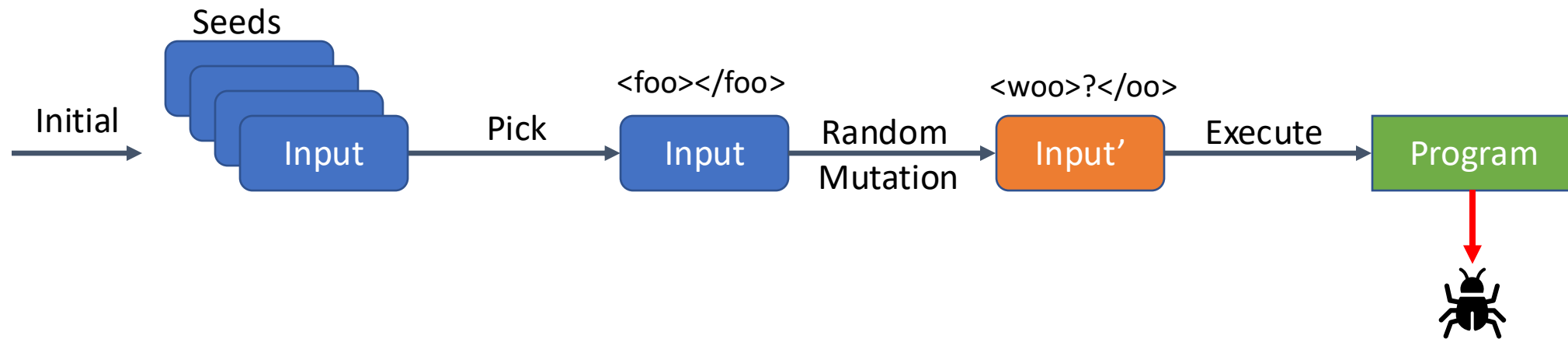
- Text input

- Insert random symbols or keywords from a dictionary
- Other suggestions?

2000s

Mutation-Based Fuzzing (e.g. Radamsa, zzuf)





What are the **benefits**, **challenges**, & **limitations** of this approach?

How do you know if you are making progress?

Code Coverage

LCOV - code coverage report

Current view: [top level](#) - test

Test: coverage.info

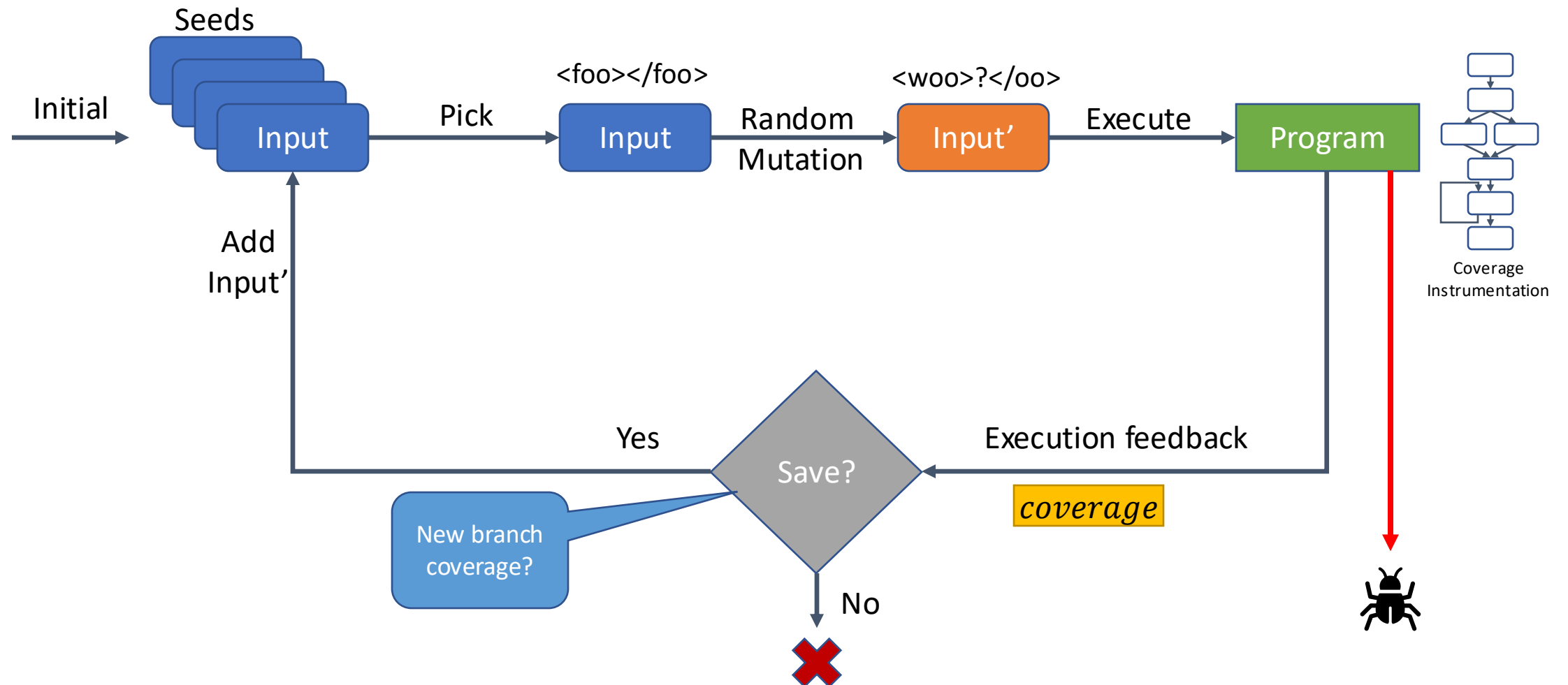
Date: 2018-02-07 13:06:43

	Hit	Total	Coverage
Lines:	6092	7293	83.5 %
Functions:	481	518	92.9 %

Filename	Line Coverage	Functions
asn1_string_table_test.c	58.8 % 20 / 34	100.0 % 2 / 2
asn1_time_test.c	72.0 % 72 / 100	100.0 % 7 / 7
bad_dtls_test.c	97.6 % 163 / 167	100.0 % 9 / 9
bftest.c	65.3 % 64 / 98	87.5 % 7 / 8
bio_enc_test.c	78.7 % 74 / 94	100.0 % 9 / 9
bntest.c	97.7 % 1038 / 1062	100.0 % 45 / 45
chacha_internal_test.c	83.3 % 10 / 12	100.0 % 2 / 2
ciphername_test.c	60.4 % 32 / 53	100.0 % 2 / 2
cr1test.c	100.0 % 90 / 90	100.0 % 12 / 12
ct_test.c	95.5 % 212 / 222	100.0 % 20 / 20
d2i_test.c	72.9 % 35 / 48	100.0 % 2 / 2
danetest.c	75.5 % 123 / 163	100.0 % 10 / 10
dhtest.c	84.6 % 88 / 104	100.0 % 4 / 4
drbgtest.c	69.8 % 157 / 225	92.9 % 13 / 14
dtls_mtu_test.c	86.8 % 59 / 68	100.0 % 5 / 5
dtlstest.c	97.1 % 34 / 35	100.0 % 4 / 4
dtlsrvlistentest.c	94.9 % 37 / 39	100.0 % 4 / 4
ecdsatest.c	94.0 % 140 / 149	100.0 % 7 / 7
enginetest.c	92.8 % 141 / 152	100.0 % 7 / 7
evp_extra_test.c	100.0 % 112 / 112	100.0 % 10 / 10
fatalerrtest.c	89.3 % 25 / 28	100.0 % 2 / 2
handshake_helper.c	84.7 % 494 / 583	97.4 % 38 / 39
hmac_test.c	100.0 % 71 / 71	100.0 % 7 / 7
ideatest.c	100.0 % 30 / 30	100.0 % 4 / 4
igettest.c	87.9 % 109 / 124	100.0 % 11 / 11
lhash_test.c	78.6 % 66 / 84	100.0 % 8 / 8
mdc2_internal_test.c	81.8 % 9 / 11	100.0 % 2 / 2
mdc2test.c	100.0 % 18 / 18	100.0 % 2 / 2
ocspapitest.c	95.5 % 64 / 67	100.0 % 4 / 4
packettest.c	100.0 % 248 / 248	100.0 % 24 / 24

```
97 1 / 1: if ((err = SSLHashMD5.final(&hashCtx, &hashOut)) != 0)
98 0 / 1: goto fail;
99 :
100 : else {
101 : /* DSA, ECDSA - just use the SHA1 hash */
102 0 / 1: dataToSign = &hashes[SSL_MD5_DIGEST_LEN];
103 0 / 1: dataToSignLen = SSL_SHA1_DIGEST_LEN;
104 : }
105 :
106 1 / 1: hashOut.data = hashes + SSL_MD5_DIGEST_LEN;
107 1 / 1: hashOut.length = SSL_SHA1_DIGEST_LEN;
108 1 / 1: if ((err = SSLFreeBuffer(&hashCtx)) != 0)
109 0 / 1: goto fail;
110 :
111 1 / 1: if ((err = ReadyHash(&SSLHashSHA1, &hashCtx)) != 0)
112 0 / 1: goto fail;
113 1 / 1: if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.update(&hashCtx, &clientRandom)) != 0)
114 0 / 1: goto fail;
115 1 / 1: if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.update(&hashCtx, &serverRandom)) != 0)
116 0 / 1: goto fail;
117 1 / 1: if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.update(&hashCtx, &signedParams)) != 0)
118 0 / 1: goto fail;
119 1 / 1: goto fail;
120 : if ((err = SSLHashSHA1.final(&hashCtx, &hashOut)) != 0)
121 : goto fail;
122 :
123 : err = sslRawVerify(ctx,
124 : ctx->peerPubKey,
125 : dataToSign, /* plaintext */
126 : dataToSignLen, /* plaintext l
127 : signature,
128 : signatureLen);
129 : if(err) {
130 : sslErrorLog("SSLDecodeSignedServerKeyExchange: sslRawVerify "
131 : "returned %d\n", (int)err);
132 : goto fail;
133 : }
134 :
135 : fail:
136 1 / 1: SSLFreeBuffer(&signedHashes);
137 1 / 1: SSLFreeBuffer(&hashCtx);
138 1 / 1: return err;
139 :
140 1 / 1: }
141 :
```

Coverage-Guided Fuzzing (e.g. AFL, libFuzzer)



2014+

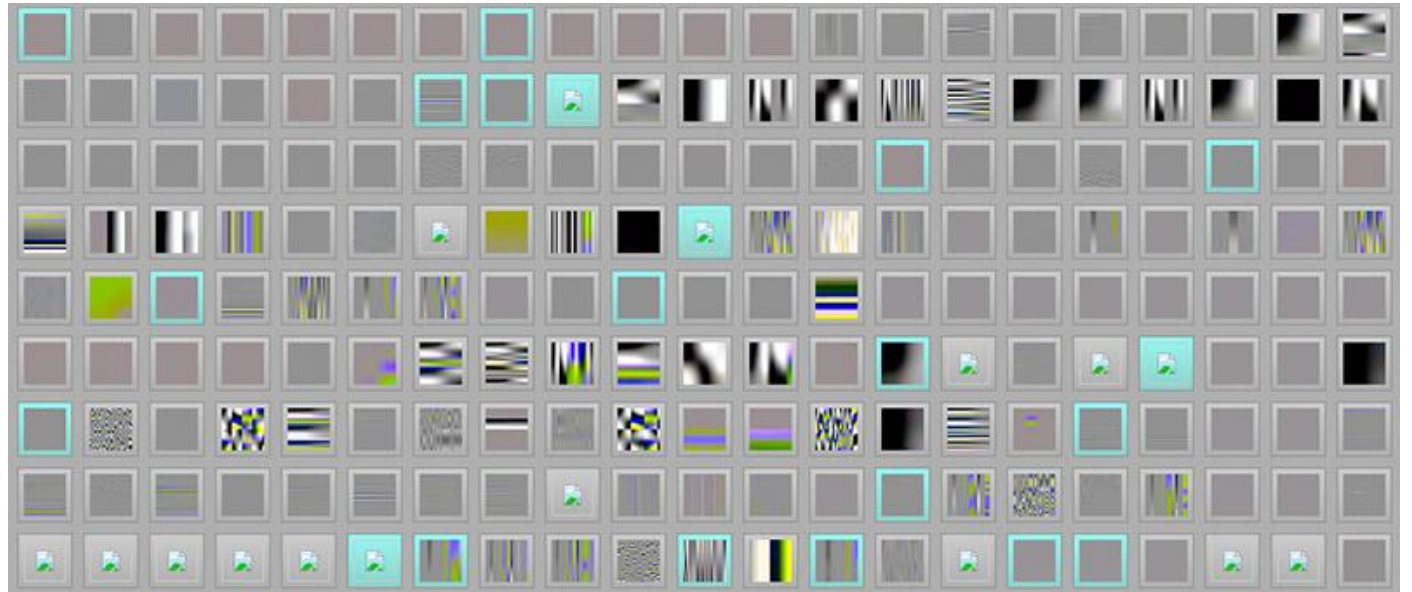
Coverage-Guided Fuzzing with AFL

November 07, 2014

Pulling JPEGs out of thin air

This is an interesting demonstration of the capabilities of [afl](#); I was actually pretty surprised that it worked!

```
$ mkdir in_dir  
$ echo 'hello' >in_dir/hello  
$ ./afl-fuzz -i in_dir -o out_dir ./jpeg-9a/djpeg
```



2014+

Coverage-Guided Fuzzing with AFL

The bug-o-rama trophy case

<http://lcamtuf.coredump.cx/afl/>

IJG jpeg ¹	libjpeg-turbo ^{1 2}	libpng ¹
libtiff ^{1 2 3 4 5}	mozjpeg ¹	PHP ^{1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8}
Mozilla Firefox ^{1 2 3 4}	Internet Explorer ^{1 2 3 4}	Apple Safari ¹
Adobe Flash / PCRE ^{1 2 3 4 5 6 7}	sqlite ^{1 2 3 4...}	OpenSSL ^{1 2 3 4 5 6 7}
LibreOffice ^{1 2 3 4}	poppler ^{1 2...}	freetype ^{1 2}
GnuTLS ¹	GnuPG ^{1 2 3 4}	OpenSSH ^{1 2 3 4 5}
PuTTY ^{1 2}	ntpd ^{1 2}	nginx ^{1 2 3}
bash (post-Shellshock) ^{1 2}	tcpdump ^{1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9}	JavaScriptCore ^{1 2 3 4}
pdfium ^{1 2}	ffmpeg ^{1 2 3 4 5}	libmatroska ¹
libarchive ^{1 2 3 4 5 6 ...}	wireshark ^{1 2 3}	ImageMagick ^{1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 ...}
BIND ^{1 2 3 ...}	QEMU ^{1 2}	lcms ¹

ClusterFuzz @ Chromium

 bugs

chromium

New issue

All issues

1 - 10 of 25423

Next

List

ID	Pri	M	Stars	ReleaseBlock	Component	Status	Owner
1133812	1	---	2	---	Blink>GetUserMedia>Webcam	Untriaged	---
1133763	1	---	1	---	---	Untriaged	---
1133701	1	---	1	---	Blink>JavaScript	Untriaged	---
1133254	1	---	2	---	---	Untriaged	---
1133124	1	---	1	---	---	Untriaged	---
1133024	2	---	3	---	Internals>Network	Started	dmcardle@ch
1132958	1	---	2	---	UI>Accessibility, Blink>Accessibility	Assigned	sin...@chromi
1132907	2	---	2	---	Blink>JavaScript>GC	Assigned	dinfuehr@chr

Many challenges to address before deploying a fuzzing tool

- Fuzzing heuristics
 - Mutation: Which input to mutate? How many times? Which mutations?
 - Feedback: What to instrument? How to keep overhead low?
- Oracles
 - What is a bug? Crash? Silent overflow? Infinite loop? Race condition? Undefined behavior? How do we know when we have found a bug?
- Debugging
 - Reproducibility
 - Crash triaging
 - Input minimization
- Fuzzing roadblocks
 - Magic bytes, checksums (see PNG, SSL)
 - Dependencies in binary inputs (e.g. length of chunks, indexes into tables – see PNG)
 - Inputs with complex syntax and semantics (e.g. XML, JSON, C++)
 - Stateful applications

What kind of “crashes” do fuzzers find?

Causes: incorrect arg validation, incorrect type casting, executing untrusted code, etc.

Effects: buffer-overflows, memory leak, division-by-zero, use-after-free, assertion violation, etc. (“crash”)

Impact: security, reliability, performance, correctness

Oracles: Sanitizers

- Address Sanitizer (ASAN) ***
- LeakSanitizer (comes with ASAN)
- Thread Sanitizer (TSAN)
- Undefined-behavior Sanitizer (UBSAN)

<https://github.com/google/sanitizers>

AddressSanitizer

```
int get_element(int* a, int i) {  
    return a[i];  
}
```

```
int get_element(int* a, int i) {  
    if (a == NULL) abort();  
    return a[i];  
}
```

```
int get_element(int* a, int i) {  
    if (a == NULL) abort();  
    region = get_allocation(a);  
    if (in_stack(region)) {  
        if (popped(region)) abort();  
        ...  
    }  
    if (in_heap(region)) { ... }  
    return a[i];  
}
```

```
int get_element(int* a, int i) {  
    if (a == NULL) abort();  
    region = get_allocation(a);  
    if (in_heap(region)) {  
        low, high = get_bounds(region);  
        if ((a + i) < low || (a + i) > high) {  
            abort();  
        }  
    }  
    return a[i];  
}
```

AddressSanitizer

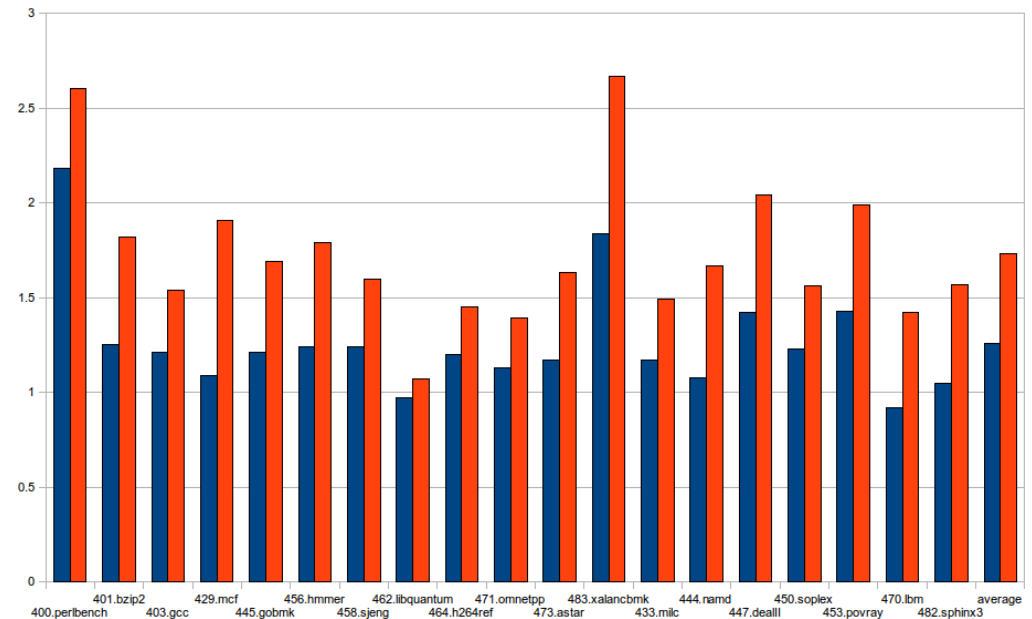
<https://github.com/google/sanitizers/wiki/AddressSanitizer>

Compile with ``clang -fsanitize=address``

Asan is a memory error detector for C/C++. It finds:

- Use after free (dangling pointer dereference)
- Heap buffer overflow
- Stack buffer overflow
- Global buffer overflow
- Use after return
- Use after scope
- Initialization order bugs
- Memory leaks

Slowdown on SPEC CPU 2006



What is Fuzz Testing?

Approach:

Generate inputs randomly until program crashes

What is Fuzz Testing?

Approach:

Generate **network packets** randomly until program crashes

EvoMaster: Evolutionary Multi-context Automated System Test Generation.
[ICST 18']

RESTler: Stateful REST API Fuzzing [ICSE 19']

SPIDER: Fuzzing for Stateful Performance Issues in the ONOS Software-Defined Network Controller [ICST 25']



What is Fuzz Testing?

Approach:

Generate **thread schedulings** randomly until program crashes

Lincheck: A Practical Framework for Testing Concurrent Data Structures on JVM [CAV 23']

Fray: An Efficient General-Purpose Concurrency Testing Platform for the JVM [OOPSLA 25']



PASTALAB
Program Analysis, Software Testing,
and Applications Laboratory

What is Fuzz Testing?

Approach:

Generate **program enviroment** randomly until program
crashes

Program Environment Fuzzing [CCS 24']

What is Fuzz Testing?

Approach:

Generate inputs randomly until program **runs slow**

SlowFuzz: Automated Domain-Independent Detection of Algorithmic Complexity Vulnerabilities [CCS 17']

PerfFuzz: Automatically Generating Pathological Inputs

[ISSTA 18']



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and Applications Laboratory

What is Fuzz Testing?

Approach:

Generate inputs randomly until **mutants** crashes

Guiding Greybox Fuzzing with Mutation Testing [ISSTA 23']



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How do you fuzz concurrent software?

To identify and eliminate race conditions



```
1  class Foo extends Thread {
2      static Object o = new Object();
3      static AtomicInteger a = AtomicInteger();
4      static volatile int b;
5      public void run() {
6          int x = a.getAndIncrement();
7          synchronized(o) {
8              if (x == 0) {
9                  o.wait();
10             } else {
11                 o.notify();
12             }
13         }
14         b = x;
15     }
16     public static void main(...) {
17         Foo[] threads = {new Foo(), new Foo()};
18         for (var thread : threads) thread.start();
19         for (var thread : threads) thread.join();
20         assert (b == 1);
21     }
22 }
```

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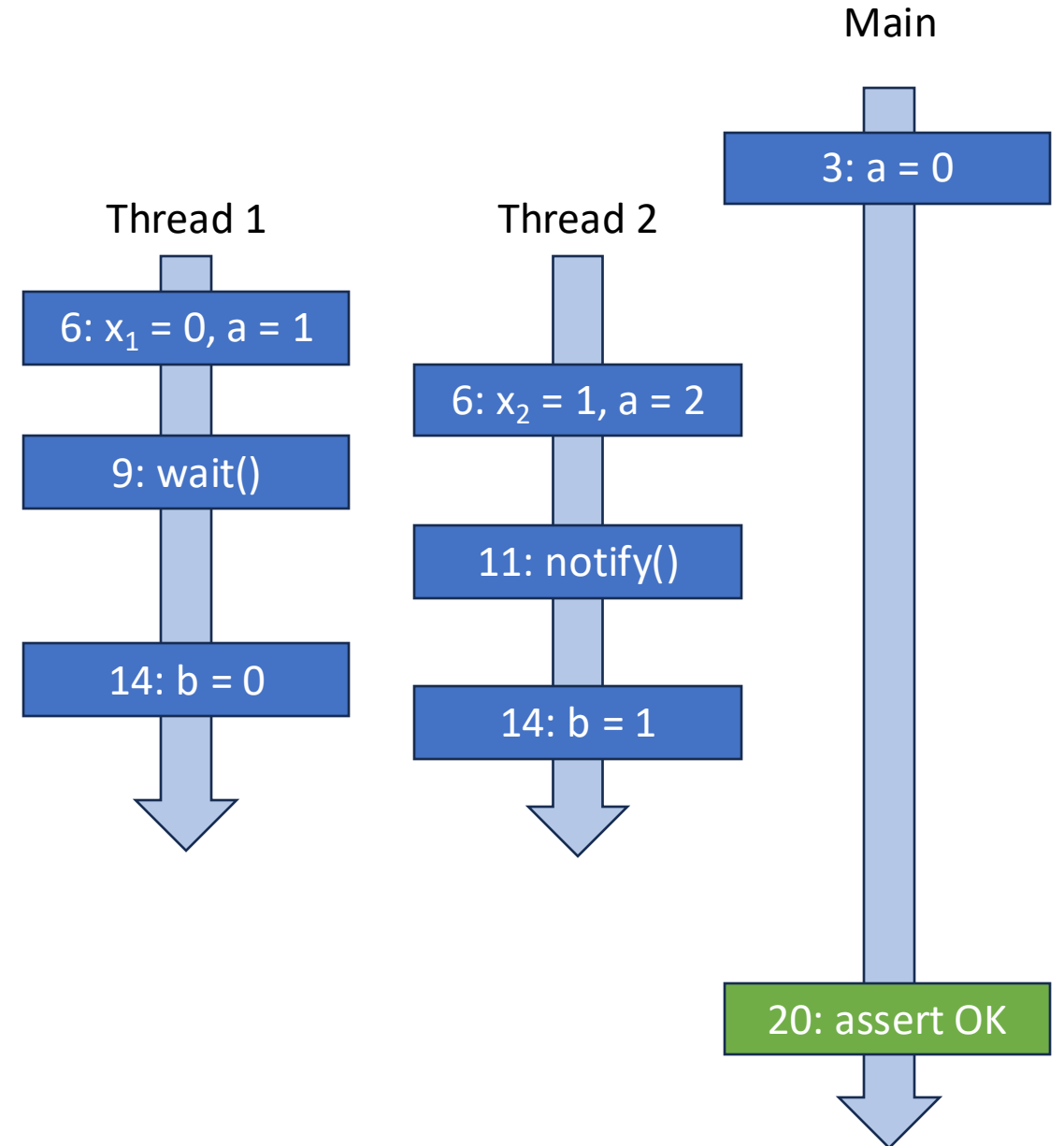
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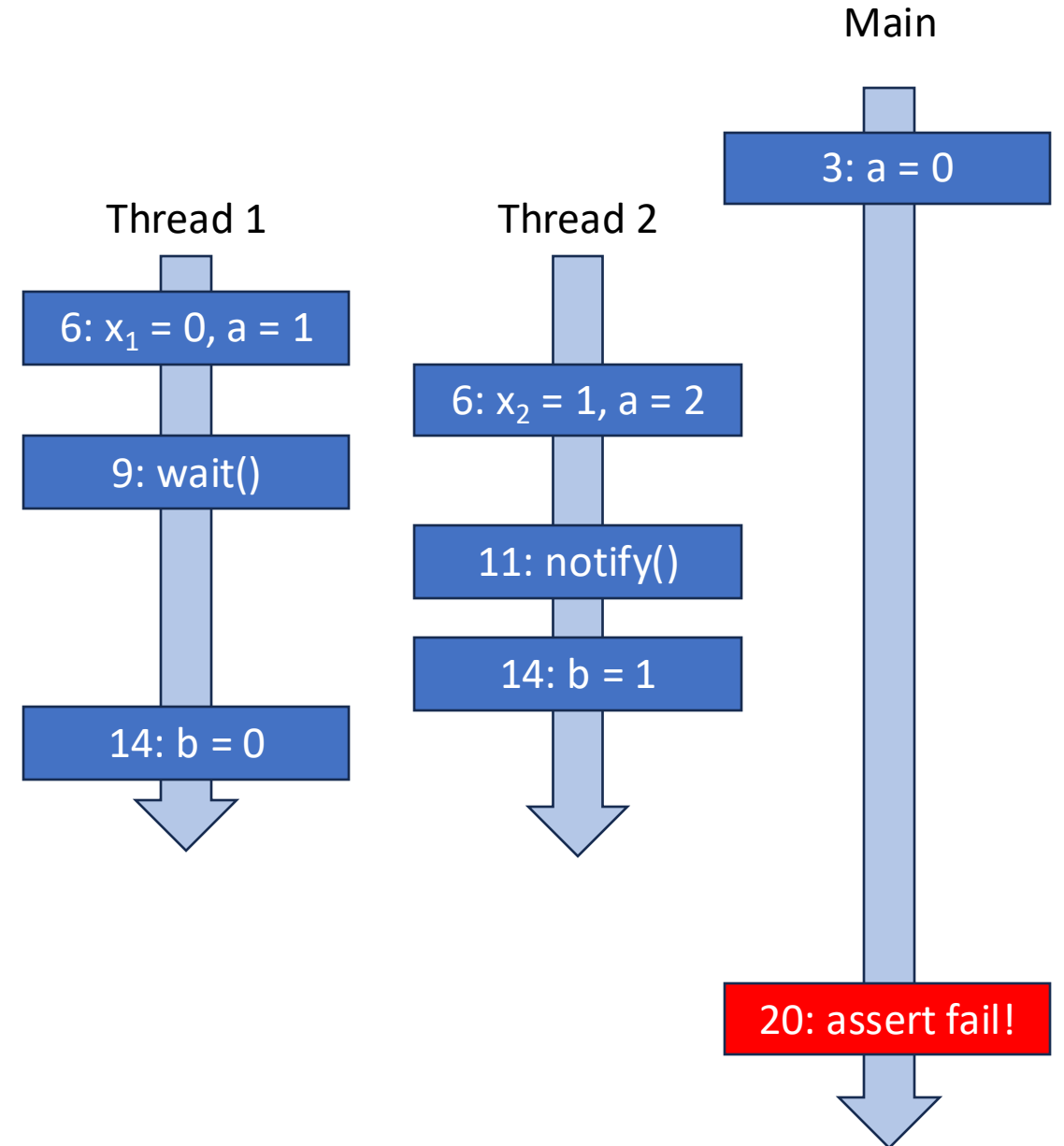
```



```

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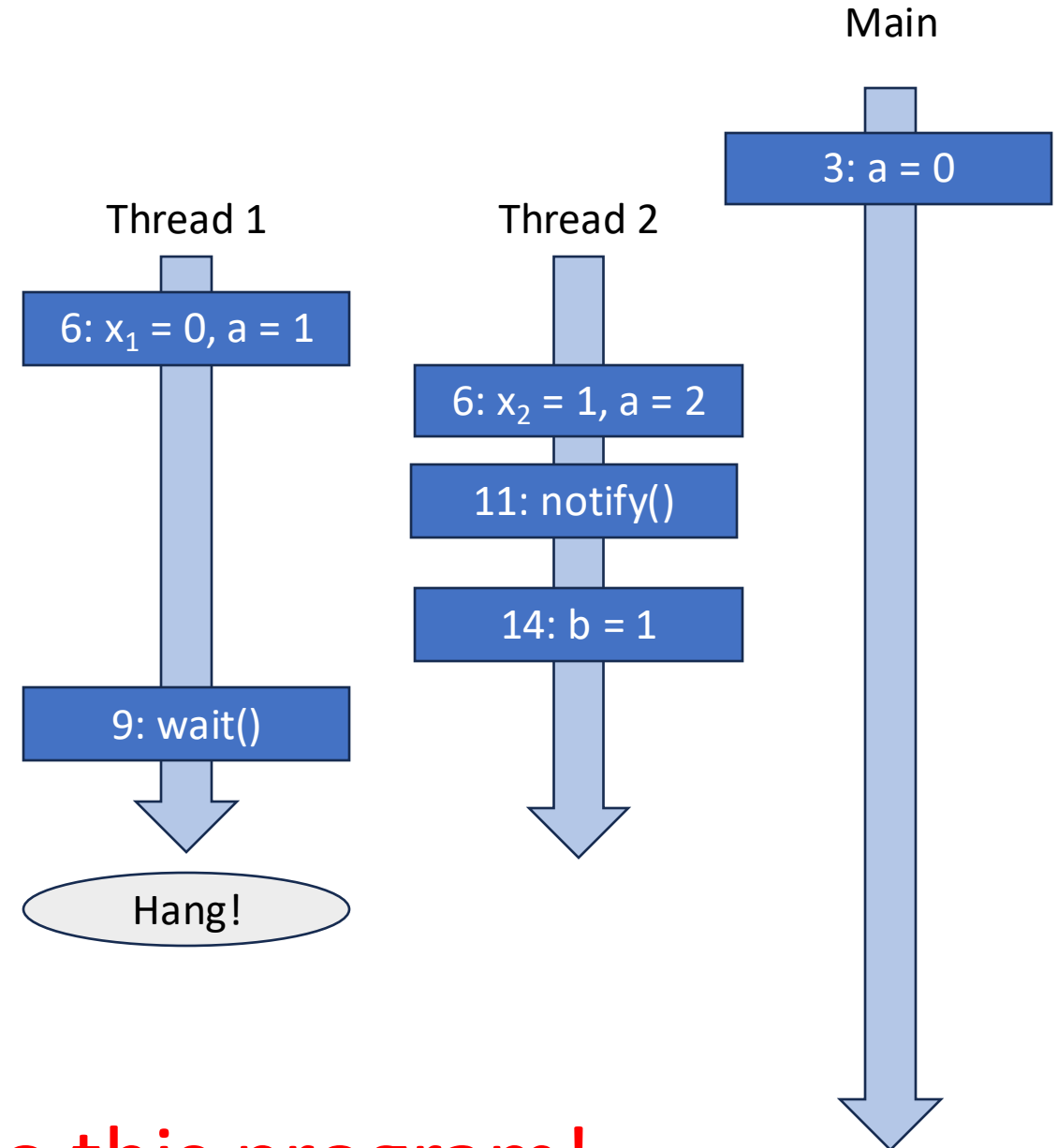
```



```

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```



No input provided to this program!

What do we want from a concurrency testing system?

1. Support *controlled concurrency*
(i.e., run program with specified thread interleaving *schedule*)
2. Enable *search* methods
(i.e., systematically or randomly vary thread schedules)
3. Push-button general-purpose
(i.e., not require testing DSLs, clocks, mocks, or specialized oracles)
4. Work everywhere and efficiently
(i.e., can target arbitrary real-world JVM programs)

Fray: An Efficient General-Purpose Concurrency Testing Platform for the JVM

Push-button wrapper that performs bytecode instrumentation

e.g. Replace `java <cmd>` with `fray <cmd>`

(or annotate Junit tests with `@ConcurrencyTest`)

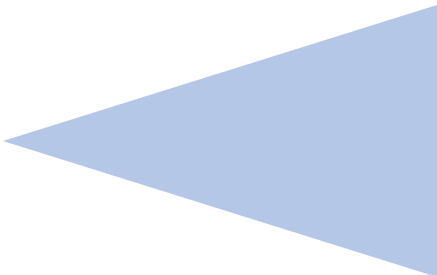
Scheduler thread randomly samples app-thread interleavings

(or `--scheduler <fancy_alg>`)

Saves crash files for repro

(`fray --replay=<file> <cmd>`)

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```



```
synchronized(o) {
    if (x == 0) {
        o.wait();
    } else {
        o.notify();
    }
}
```

Thread 1:

```
synchronized(o) {  
    o.wait();  
}
```

Thread 2:

```
synchronized(o) {  
    o.notify();  
}
```

Challenges:

Wait(native method) implicitly unlocks the corresponding monitor lock.

Threads can be waken up in random order.

Original:

Thread 1:

```
synchronized(o) {  
    o.wait();  
}
```

Fray Instrumented:

Thread 1:

```
 [1, o].lock()  
synchronized(o) {  
     [1, o].unlock();  
    do {  
        o.wait();  
    } while (! [1, o].tryLock());  
}  
 [1, o].unlock();
```

Thread 1:

```
 [1, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
     [1, o].unlock();
    do {
        o.wait();
    } while(! [1, o].tryLock());
}
 [1, o].unlock()
```

Thread 2:

```
 [2, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
    o.notifyAll();
}
 [2, o].unlock()
```

A **shadow lock**  $[t, r]$ is associated with thread t and resource r (e.g.,  $[1, o]$).

Access invariant: App thread t can access resource r only if it owns shadow lock  $[t, r]$.

Mutual exclusion invariant: At most one app thread t can own shadow lock  $[*, r]$ for any given resource r .

Control policy: Only one thread runs at a time, until next shadow-lock acquire/release; Fray scheduler chooses next  $[t, r]$ to release only if thread t can immediately access resource r .

A **shadow lock**  $[t, r]$ is associated with thread t and resource r (e.g.,  $[1, o]$).

acquire/release; Fray scheduler chooses next  $[t, r]$ to release only if thread t can immediately access resource r .

A **shadow lock**  $[t, r]$ is associated with thread t and resource r (e.g.,  $[1, o]$).

Goal: Providing full control of thread scheduling without replacing any existing concurrency primitive.

acquire/release; Fray scheduler chooses next  $[t, r]$ to release only if thread t can immediately access resource r .

Thread 1:



```
 [1, o].lock()  
synchronized(o) {  
   [1, o].unlock();  
  do {  
    o.wait();  
  } while(! [1, o].tryLock());  
}  
 [1, o].unlock()
```

Thread 2:



```
 [2, o].lock()  
synchronized(o) {  
  o.notifyAll();  
}  
 [2, o].unlock()
```

Lock Status:

 [1, o]: Fray
 [2, o]: Fray

Thread 1:



```
 [1, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
   [1, o].unlock();
  do {
    o.wait();
  } while(! [1, o].tryLock());
}
 [1, o].unlock()
```

Thread 2:



```
 [2, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
  o.notifyAll();
}
 [2, o].unlock()
```

Lock Status:

 [1, o]:

 [2, o]: Fray

Thread 1:



```
 [1, o].lock()  
synchronized(o) {  
   [1, o].unlock();  
  do {  
    o.wait();  
  } while(! [1, o].tryLock());  
}  
 [1, o].unlock()
```

Thread 2:



```
 [2, o].lock()  
synchronized(o) {  
  o.notifyAll();  
}  
 [2, o].unlock()
```

Lock Status:

```
 [1, o]: Thread 1  
 [2, o]: Fray
```

Mutual exclusion invariant: At most one app thread t can own shadow lock  $[*, r]$ for any given resource r .

Thread 1:



```
 [1, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
   [1, o].unlock();
  do {
    o.wait();
  } while(! [1, o].tryLock());
}
 [1, o].unlock()
```

Thread 2:



```
 [2, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
  o.notifyAll();
}
 [2, o].unlock()
```

Lock Status:

```
 [1, o]: Fray
 [2, o]: Fray
```

Thread 1:



```
 [1, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
   [1, o].unlock();
  do {
    o.wait();
  } while(! [1, o].tryLock());
}
 [1, o].unlock()
```

Thread 2:



```
 [2, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
  o.notifyAll();
}
 [2, o].unlock()
```

Lock Status:

 [1, o]: Fray

 [2, o]: Thread 2

Thread 1:



```
 [1, o].lock()  
synchronized(o) {  
     [1, o].unlock();  
    do {  
        o.wait();  
    } while(! [1, o].tryLock());  
}  
 [1, o].unlock()
```

Thread 2:

```
 [2, o].lock()  
synchronized(o) {  
    o.notifyAll();  
}  
 [2, o].unlock()
```



Lock Status:

```
 [1, o]: Fray  
 [2, o]: Fray
```

Thread 1:



```
 [1, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
   [1, o].unlock();
  do {
    o.wait();
  } while(! [1, o].tryLock());
}
 [1, o].unlock()
```

Thread 2:

```
 [2, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
  o.notifyAll();
}
 [2, o].unlock()
```



Lock Status:

```
 [1, o]: Fray
 [2, o]: Fray
```

Thread 1:



```
 [1, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
 [1, o].unlock();
do {
  o.wait();
} while(! [1, o].tryLock());
}
 [1, o].unlock()
```

Thread 2:

```
 [2, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
  o.notifyAll();
}
 [2, o].unlock()
```



Lock Status:

```
 [1, o]: Fray
 [2, o]: Fray
```

Thread 1:



```
 [1, o].lock()  
synchronized(o) {  
     [1, o].unlock();  
    do {  
        o.wait();  
    } while(! [1, o].tryLock());  
}  
 [1, o].unlock()
```

Fray calls `o.notifyAll()` to unblock Thread 1.

Thread 2:

```
 [2, o].lock()  
synchronized(o) {  
    o.notifyAll();  
}  
 [2, o].unlock()
```



Lock Status:

```
 [1, o]:  
 [2, o]: Fray
```

Thread 1:

```
 [1, o].lock()  
synchronized(o) {  
     [1, o].unlock();  
    do {  
        o.wait();  
    } while(! [1, o].tryLock());  
}  
 [1, o].unlock()
```



Thread 2:

```
 [2, o].lock()  
synchronized(o) {  
    o.notifyAll();  
}  
 [2, o].unlock()
```



Lock Status:

```
 [1, o]: Thread 1  
 [2, o]: Fray
```

Thread 1:



```
 [1, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
     [1, o].unlock();
    do {
        o.wait();
    } while(! [1, o].tryLock());
}
 [1, o].unlock()
```

Thread 2:

```
 [2, o].lock()
synchronized(o) {
    o.notifyAll();
}
 [2, o].unlock()
```



Lock Status:

```
 [1, o]: Fray
 [2, o]: Fray
```

Fray Provides Strong Correctness Guarantees

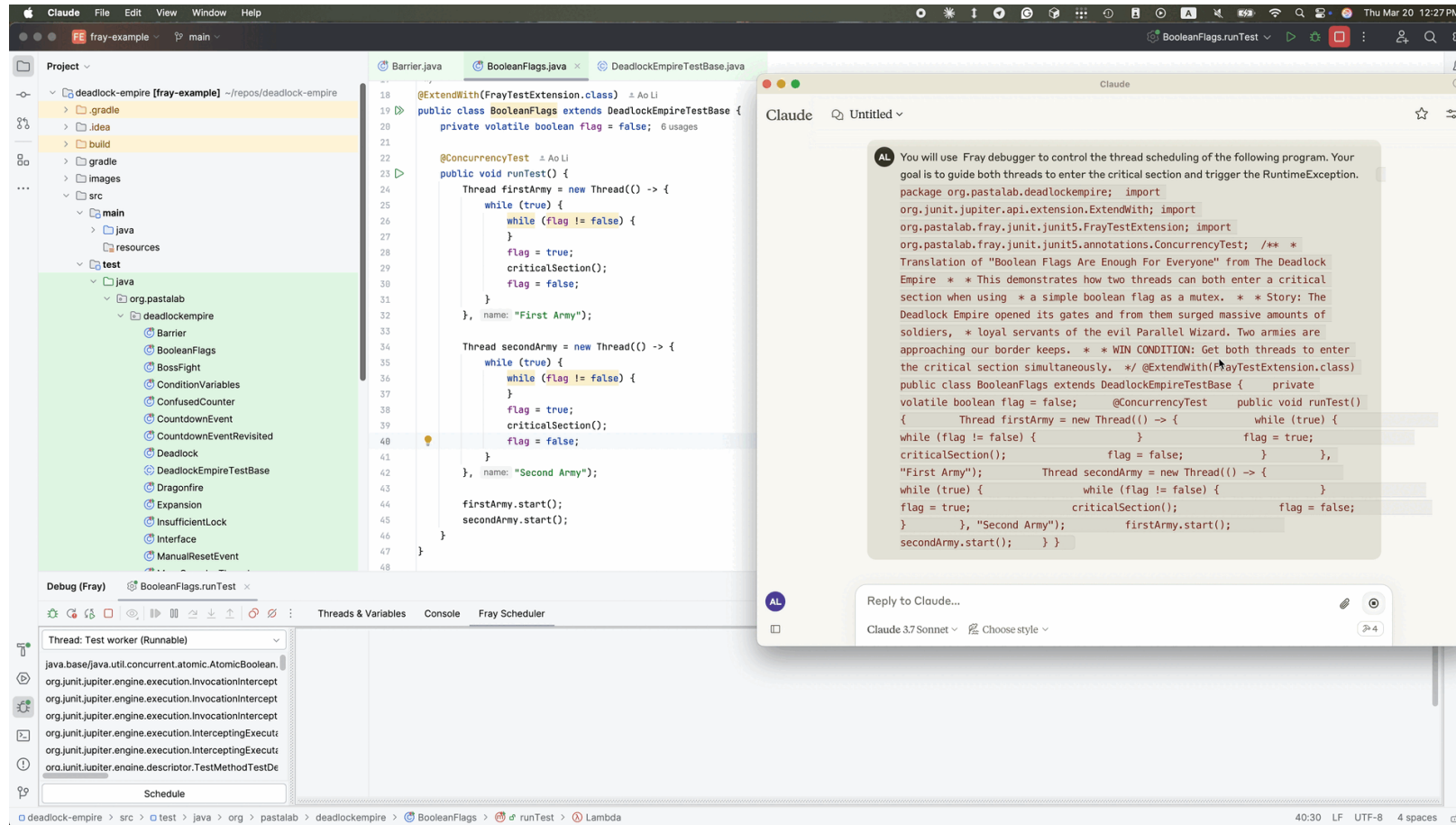
Soundness:

Any concurrency bug (e.g., racy exception, deadlock) observed via Fray could also manifest in the original program.

Completeness:

Any concurrency bug (e.g., racy exception, deadlock) that could manifest in the original program can be exercised via Fray with some schedule.

Fray AI Debugging Preview



<https://github.com/cmu-pasta/fray>

Fuzz Testing

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