

Performance Localisation

Brendan Cody-Kenny_{CD & UCD}

Michael O'Neill_{UCD}

Stephen Barrett_{TrCD}



Natural Computing
Research & Applications
Group

Improving Performance

Applying mutation - operator design

- Exploitative
 - Alternative implementations - high likelihood code is “correct”
- Explorative
 - Generaboperators - large amount of incorrect programs

Where should mutation be applied?

Focusing Mutation

Profiler

- Hotspots

Fault Localisation

- positive and negative execution traces

Input Sensitive Profiling

- Vary input size

Performance localisation

Modify the program

- Observe performance and functionality change

Research Question

- Do code changes at the location of performance improvements produce different run-time characteristics than changes in other locations in a program?

Mutation Operations

Deletion

Exhaustive Mutation

Evaluation

Profiler

- Line Count

Deletion

- Execution Cost Saved

Exhaustive Mutation

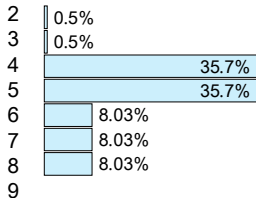
- count of performance reducing mutations / compilable mutants

Deletion + Exhaustive

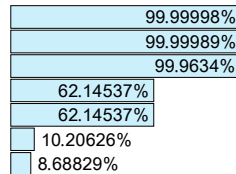
Example

```
void sort(Integer[]a, int length){ 1
  for (int h=0; h<2; h++) { 2
    for (int i=0; i <length; i++){ 3
      for (int j=0; j <length-1; j++){ 4
        if (a[j] >a[j +1]){ 5
          int k=a[j]; 6
          a[j]=a[j +1]; 7
          a[j +1]=k; 8
        } 9
      }
    }
  }
}
```

(a) Redundant Bubblesort



(b) Profiler



(c) Deletion

Benchmark Set

Problem Name	LOC	AST Nodes	Imp Nodes	Imp	Improvement Type
Insertion Sort	13	60	5	9%	Loop unrolling
Bubblesort	13	62	3	45%	Redundant Traversal (exclude sorted portion)
BubbleLoops	14	72	5	71%	Redundant Traversal (exclude sorted portion)
Selection Sort 2	16	72	4	11%	Removed redundant increments during tests
Selection Sort	18	73	4	2%	Removed redundant array access
Shell Sort	23	85	3	5%	Various changes in increment size
Radix Sort	23	100	6	3%	Reduced iteration, comparison with 0
Quick Sort	31	116	4	54%	Reduced iterations, remove tests
Cocktail Sort	30	126	4	15%	Cloned and perforated loops (loop unrolling) Redundant Traversal (exclude sorted portion)
Merge Sort	51	216	1	5%	Remove redundant array clone
Heap Sort	62	246	6	41%	Remove redundant array access and assignment
Huffman Code-book	115	411	3	43%	Redundant Traversal (exclude sorted portion)

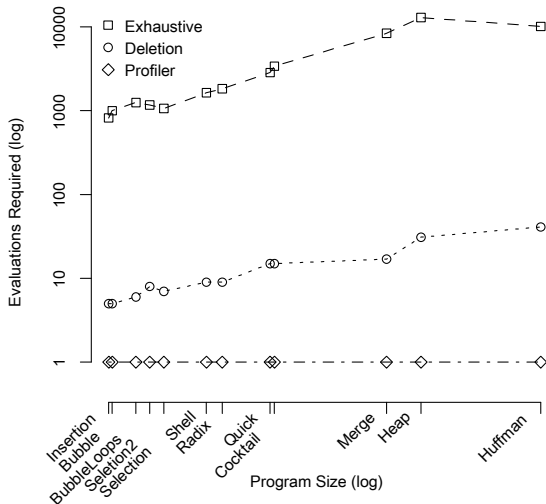
Exhaustive Mutation

Node	Text	Value
1	for (int h...	1.0
2	int h=0	-
3	h=0	-
4	h	.6
5	0	.7
6	h < 2	-
7	h	.16
8	2	.85
9	h++	-
10	h	0

Results

Accuracy	Profiler	Deletion	Exhaustive	Ex & De
99-100%	1	0	0	0
90-99%	7	8	9	11
80-90%	7	2	9	6
70-80%	3	10	7	5
60-70%	3	6	5	9
50-60%	2	4	2	5
40-50%	2	3	4	1
30-40%	6	2	5	3
20-30%	10	5	1	6
10-20%	2	2	0	2
0-10%	5	6	6	0

Computational Cost



Open Future Work

Larger set of larger programs

Modelling

Exploit hierarchical nature of code

- top-down delete/mutate, bifurcate through the code

Combination of techniques

- localise performance based on effect of profiled hotspots
- taint analysis to trace back state involved in hotspots

Perform localisation *during* GP

- an efficient way of exploring program space

Code

<https://github.com/codykenb/locoGP>

Thanks!

codykenny@gmail.com

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