



Code Defenders Game

How to for Teachers

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Teaching Software Testing





Mutation Testing

1970's — DeMillo (Georgia Tech), Lipton (Princeton), Sayward (Yale)

```
@Test
void testAbs() {
    int res = abs(42);
    assertEquals(42, res);
}
```



```
int abs(int x) {
    if (x >= 0)
        return x;
    else
        return -x;
}
```



Mutation Testing

1970's — DeMillo (Georgia Tech), Lipton (Princeton), Sayward (Yale)

```
@Test
void testAbs() {
    int res = abs(42);
    assertEquals(42, res);
}
```



```
int abs(int x) {
    if (x >= 0)
        return x;
```



```
int abs(int x) {
    if (x <= 0)
        return x;
    else
        return -x;
}
```



Mutation Testing

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```
@Test
void testAbs() {
    int res = abs(42);
    assertEquals(42, res);
}
```



```
int abs(int x) {
    if (x >= 0)
        return x;
```

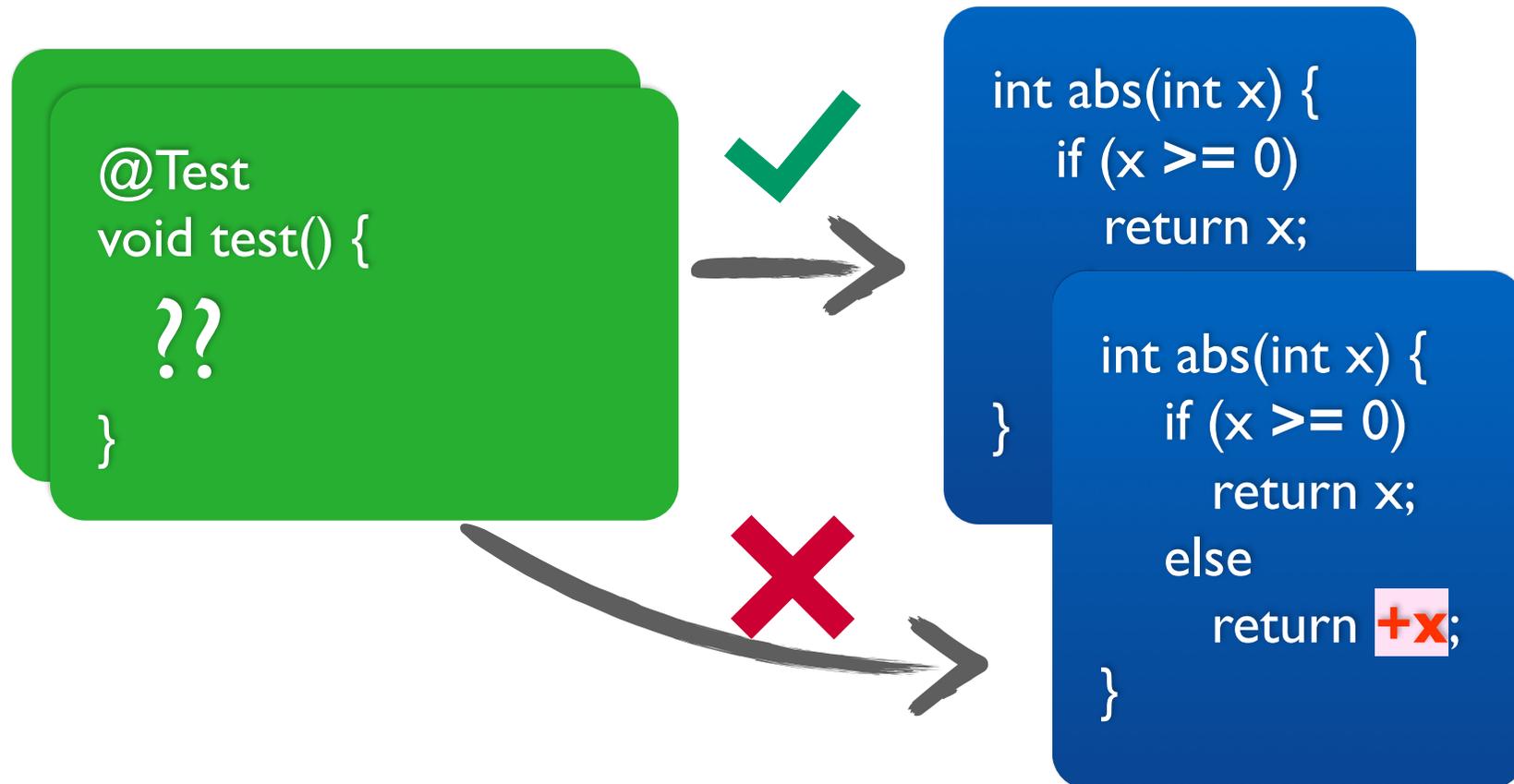
```
}
int abs(int x) {
    if (x >= 0)
        return x;
    else
        return +x;
}
```





Mutation Testing

1970's — DeMillo (Georgia Tech), Lipton (Princeton), Sayward (Yale)





Code Defenders

Class Under Test

Score points for surviving mutants

Score points for effective tests

```
public class Arithmetics {  
  public int abs(int x) {  
    if (x < 0)  
      return x;  
    else  
      return -x;  
  }  
}
```

```
public class Arithmetics {  
  public int abs(int x) {  
    if (x >= 0)  
      return x;  
    else  
      return -x;  
  }  
}
```

```
public class TestArithmetics {  
  @Test  
  public void testAbs() {  
    Arithmetics a;  
    a = new Arithmetics();  
    assertEquals(1, a.abs(-1));  
  }  
}
```

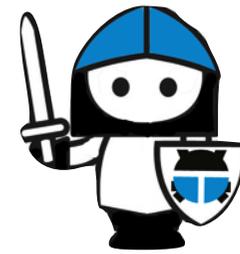
no way! here is a killing test!

oh no! :(

equivalent!



Attackers



Defenders

Equivalent Mutant Duels



Code Defenders

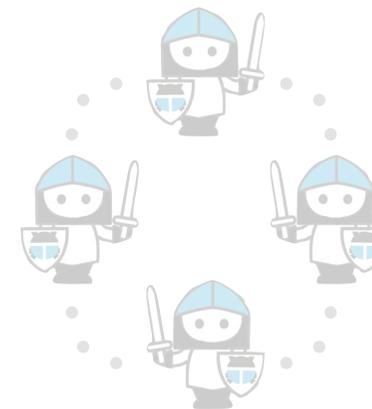
The screenshot shows the Code Defenders web application interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'games', 'upload class', 'leaderboard', and 'help' links. The main content area is titled 'DEFENDER::ACTIVE SparseIntArray' and includes a 'Show Scoreboard' button. Below this, there are three main sections:

- Class Under Test:** A code editor showing the source code of the `SparseIntArray` class. The code includes comments and methods like `public SparseIntArray(int initialCapacity)` and `public static int growSize(int currentSize)`.
- Write a new JUnit test here:** A text area for writing a new JUnit test, with a 'Defend!' button to the right.
- Existing Mutants:** A table listing mutants that have been created by other players. Each entry includes the mutant ID, creator, and a 'Claim Equivalent' button.

At the bottom of the interface, there are 'JUnit tests' and a pagination control with 'First', 'Previous', '1', '2', '3', '4', '5', 'Next', and 'Last' buttons.



Two-player



Multi-player



Code Defenders

Demo



Software Testing 2017 @ Uni Passau

Structure:

- 2h Lectures
- 1h Exercise
- **2h Lab session**

Target audience:

- MSc+BSc students
- 180 registered
- 120 accepted

Lab Sessions:

- 1 game per week
- Teams of 3-5 students
- Students alternate attacker/defender roles weekly
- Increasing difficulty
- Practicals count towards grade



Classroom Management

Problem:

- Students arrive late
- Students skip sessions
- Students (temporarily) switch to other sessions
- 3 vs 3 games only for students present in lab

Solution:

- First take attendance
- Admin interface to create games
- Assign late-comers to “stale” games



Game Management

Problem:

- Balanced teams are important
- If students are not challenged, they disengage
- If opponents are too strong, students get frustrated

Solution:

- Rank students by defender score
- Create teams based on similar rank



Game Management

Problem:

- Students try to “cheat” (maximise their score)
 - ...by creating equivalent / silly / tricky mutants
 - ...by using reflection etc.
 - ...by using dubious strategies

Solution:

- Refined, configurable restrictions
- Leave some opportunities for very good students
- Feedback mechanism



Course Management

Problem:

- Each session needs a new class under test
- Difficulty should increase to keep students engaged
- Interface makes handling dependencies complicated

Solution:

- Pairs of classes, so students play attacker and defender on same type of class (in successive sessions)
- Open source classes, some isolation (anonymisation)
- Largely datastructure-like classes



Software Testing 2018 @ Uni Passau

Problem last year:

- Game gets boring for students

Solution:

- Only three Code Defenders sessions
- Other topics for other sessions



Open Challenges

- Communication mechanism to foster collaboration
- Bootstrapping games with mutants/tests
- Many opportunities to spice up gameplay
- Integrating more technologies (GUI, concurrency, etc.)
- Analysis for grading and intervention
- ...



How to use Code Defenders?

 **Code Defenders**

[login](#) [research](#) [help](#)

Code Defenders

A Mutation Testing Game

[Enter](#)

Attack!

```
public class Arithmetics {
    public int abs(int x) {
        if (x >= 0)
            return x;
        else
            return -x;
    }
}
```

Class Under Test

```
public class Arithmetics {
    public int abs(int x) {
        if (x >= 0)
            return x;
        else
            return -x;
    }
}
```

Defend!

```
public class TestArithmetics {
    @Test
    public void testAbs() {
        Arithmetics a;
        a = new Arithmetics();
        assertEquals(1, a.abs(-1));
    }
}
```

Important note: Internet Explorer is not currently supported.



How to use Code Defenders?

CodeDefenders / CodeDefenders

Watch 8 Star 10 Fork 6

Code Pull requests 1 Projects 0 Wiki Insights

Gamification of Mutation Testing

1,539 commits 3 branches 9 releases Fetching contributors

Branch: master New pull request Create new file Upload files Find file Clone or download

Fetching latest commit...

docker	Turning off access log to reduce clutter and verbosity of nginx	Jun 27, 2018
installation	Included HOST and PORT configurations inside SQL commands	May 4, 2018
scripts	Merge branch 'master' into '116-set-users-to-inactive'	May 9, 2018
src	Fix wrong expectations in MutantTest. getLines gives us the lines mod...	Jun 27, 2018
.gitattributes	Added .gitattributes	Jul 8, 2015
.gitignore	Add generated docker files to .gitignore	May 23, 2018
IDEAS.md	idea	May 9, 2016
LICENSE.txt	license	Oct 26, 2016
README.md	Enable scalability and persistence using load balancing and data volumes	Jun 25, 2018
code-format.xml	Include Default IntelliJ code format with Tabs	Dec 5, 2017
config.properties	Enable block.attacker as global property, store that into the user se...	Dec 15, 2017
config.properties@docker	Implement system tests using docker containers for deploying code-def...	May 10, 2018
makefile	Tentative makefile. Does not fail the build if properties are missing	Nov 17, 2017
pom.xml	Update version in pom.xml	Jun 3, 2018



How to use Code Defenders?



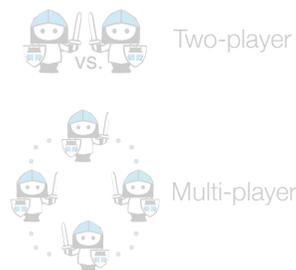
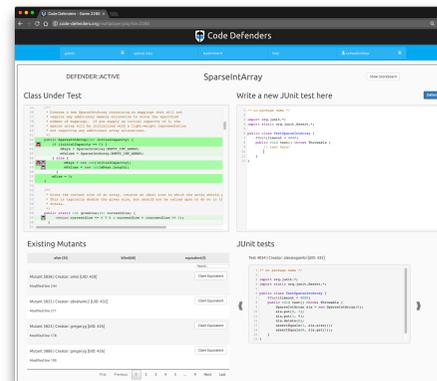
- Use Docker Container shipped with sources
- Sets up everything on the fly
- Fully automated
- Easy load balancing for more users



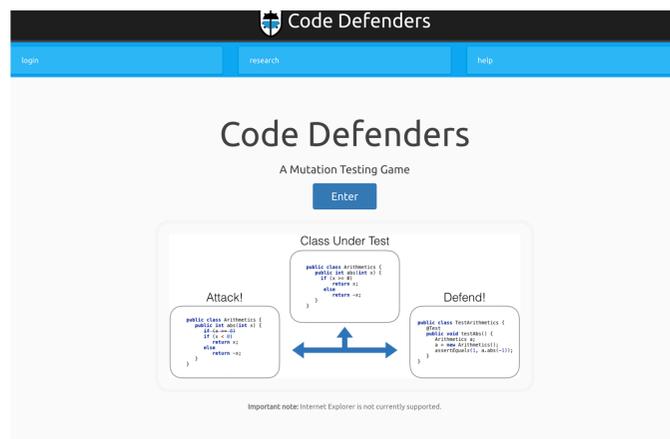
Teaching Software Testing



Code Defenders



How to use Code Defenders?



code-defenders.org

