

STICCER: Fast and Effective Database Test Suite Reduction Through Merging of Similar Test Cases

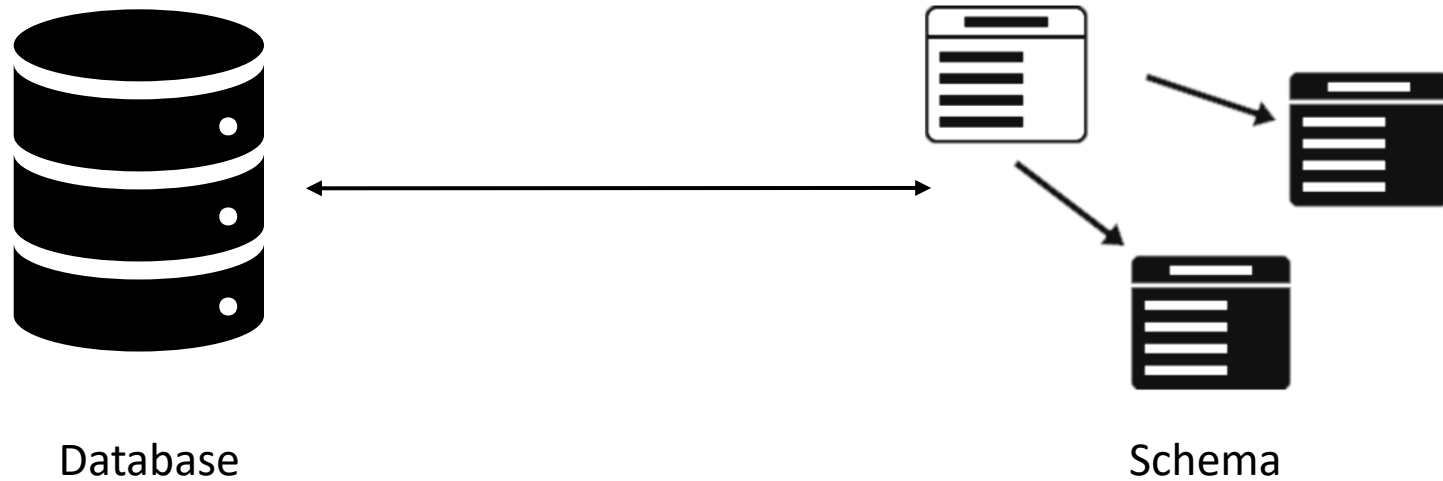
*by Abdullah Alsharif(a.Alsharif@seu.edu.sa), Gregory M. Kapfhammer,
and Phil McMinn*





RELATIONAL DATABASES ARE EVERYWHERE AND THE
BACKBONE OF MOST SOFTWARE SYSTEMS

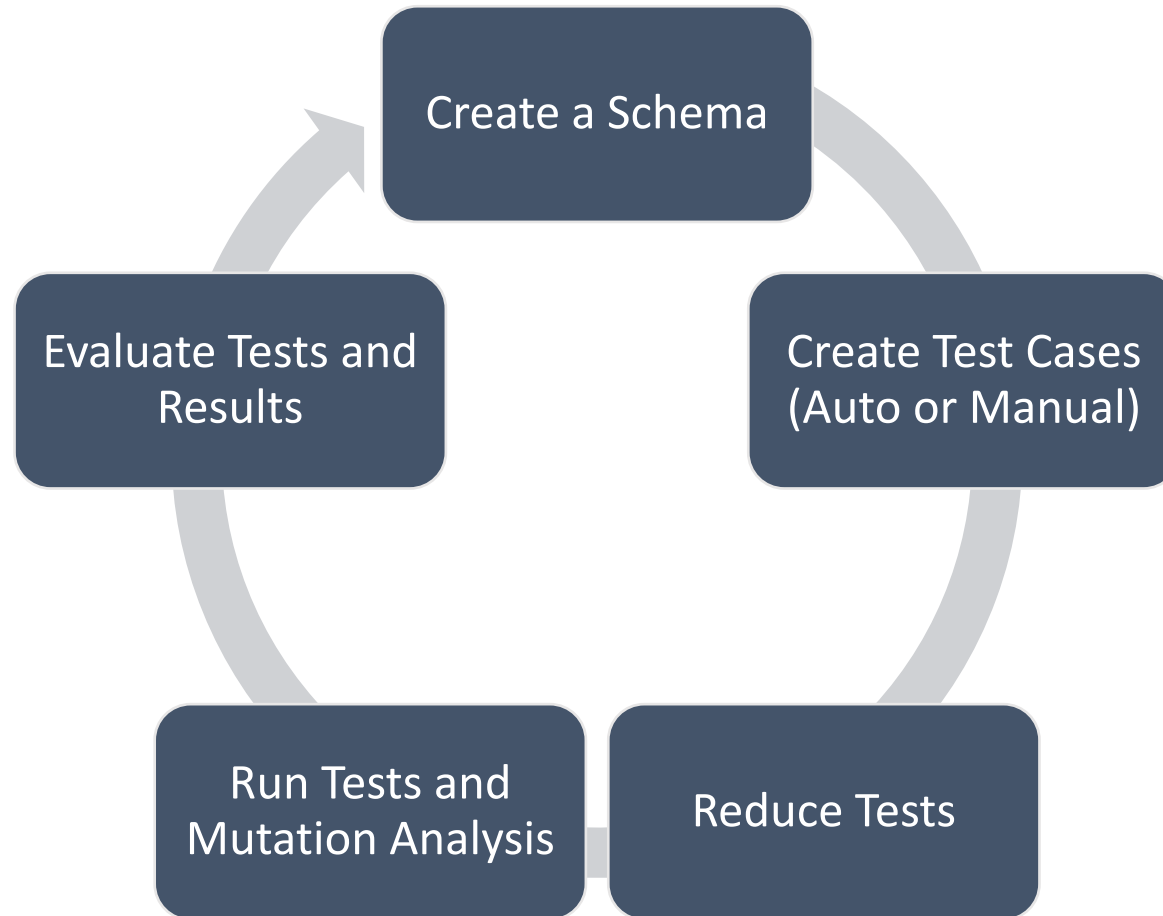
Testing Relational Database Schemas



"A good [relational] database **schema** should have many **constraints**. [Therefore], you should **test** them"

Szymon Guz, 2011

The Process



Too Many Test Cases



MANY CHANGES CAN
INCREASES THE
NUMBER OF TESTS



RUNNING TESTS MIGHT
CONSUME TIME



INCREASE INSPECTION
EFFORT (HUMAN
ORACLE COST)

Schema

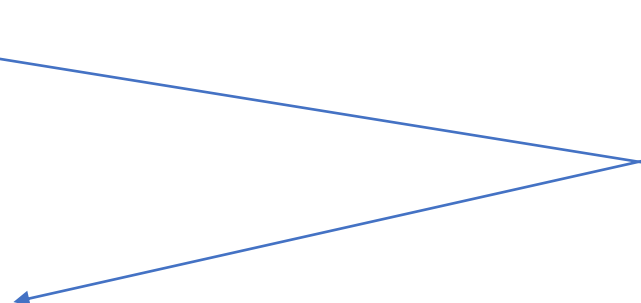
```
CREATE TABLE places (  
  host TEXT NOT NULL,  
  path TEXT NOT NULL,  
  title TEXT,  
  visit_count INTEGER,  
  fav_icon_url TEXT,  
  PRIMARY KEY(host, path)  
);
```

Data Types



```
CREATE TABLE cookies (  
  id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY NOT NULL,  
  name TEXT NOT NULL,  
  value TEXT,  
  expiry INTEGER,  
  last_accessed INTEGER,  
  creation_time INTEGER,  
  host TEXT,  
  path TEXT,  
  UNIQUE(name, host, path),  
  FOREIGN KEY(host, path) REFERENCES places(host, path),  
  CHECK (expiry = 0 OR expiry > last_accessed),  
  CHECK (last_accessed >= creation_time)  
);
```

Integrity
Constraints



An Example of Faults in a Database Schema

```
CREATE TABLE places (  
  host TEXT NOT NULL,  
  path TEXT NOT NULL,  
  title TEXT,  
  visit_count INTEGER,  
  fav_icon_url TEXT,  
  PRIMARY KEY(host, path)  
);
```

```
CREATE TABLE cookies (  
  id INTEGER NOT NULL,  
  name TEXT PRIMARY KEY NOT NULL,  
  value TEXT,  
  expiry INTEGER,  
  last_accessed INTEGER,  
  creation_time INTEGER,  
  host TEXT,  
  path TEXT,  
  UNIQUE(name, host, path),  
  FOREIGN KEY(host, path) REFERENCES places(host, path),  
  CHECK (expiry = 0),  
  CHECK (last_accessed >= creation_time)  
);
```


Fault 1:
Adding a PK onto the
name column

Fault 2:
expiry = 0 and forgetting to
add expiry > last_access

Testing Integrity Constraints

- Test 1 - Violating the PK constraint: `id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY`

```
1) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('', '', '', 0, '');  
2) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (0, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
```




1. Prepare an empty database

Testing Integrity Constraints


- Test 1 - Violating the PK constraint: `id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY`

```
1) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('', '', '', 0, '');  
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```



1. Prepare an empty database

```
3) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('a', '', '', 0, '');  
4) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (0, 'a', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
```



2. Create Test INSERTs to exercise the PK

Testing Integrity Constraints

- Test 1 - Violating the PK constraint: `id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY`

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1) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('', '', '', 0, '');  
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```

1. Prepare an empty database

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3) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('a', '', '', 0, '');  
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2. Create Test INSERTs to exercise the PK

Testing Integrity Constraints

- Test 1 - Violating the PK constraint: `id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY`

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```

1. Prepare an empty database

```
3) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('a', '', '', 0, '');  
4) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (0, 'a', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
```

2. Create Test INSERTs to exercise the PK

- Test 2 - Violating the UNIQUE constraint: `UNIQUE(name, host, path)`,

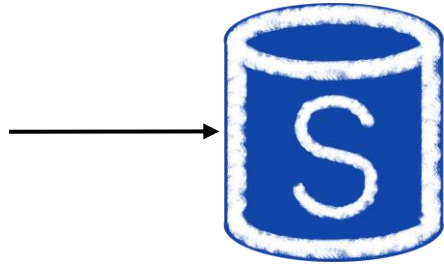
```
1) INSERT INTO places(host, path, title, visit_count, fav_icon_url) VALUES ('', '', '', 0, '')  
2) INSERT INTO cookies(id, name, value, expiry, last_accessed, creation_time, host, path) VALUES (0, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '')  
3) INSERT INTO places(host, path, title, visit_count, fav_icon_url) VALUES ('a', '', '', 0, '')  
4) INSERT INTO cookies(id, name, value, expiry, last_accessed, creation_time, host, path) VALUES (1, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '')
```

We Can Generate Tests Automatically

```
CREATE TABLE places (  
  host TEXT NOT NULL,  
  path TEXT NOT NULL,  
  title TEXT,  
  visit_count INTEGER,  
  fav_icon_url TEXT,  
  PRIMARY KEY(host, path)  
);  
  
CREATE TABLE cookies (  
  id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY NOT NULL,  
  name TEXT NOT NULL,  
  value TEXT,  
  expiry INTEGER,  
  last_accessed INTEGER,  
  creation_time INTEGER,  
  host TEXT,  
  path TEXT,  
  UNIQUE(name, host, path),  
  FOREIGN KEY(host, path) REFERENCES places(host, path),  
  CHECK (expiry = 0 OR expiry > last_accessed),  
  CHECK (last_accessed >= creation_time)  
);
```

We Can Generate Tests Automatically

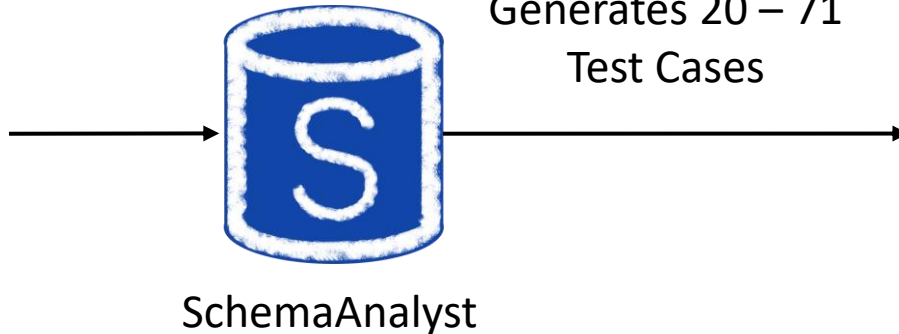
```
CREATE TABLE places (  
  host TEXT NOT NULL,  
  path TEXT NOT NULL,  
  title TEXT,  
  visit_count INTEGER,  
  fav_icon_url TEXT,  
  PRIMARY KEY(host, path)  
);  
  
CREATE TABLE cookies (  
  id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY NOT NULL,  
  name TEXT NOT NULL,  
  value TEXT,  
  expiry INTEGER,  
  last_accessed INTEGER,  
  creation_time INTEGER,  
  host TEXT,  
  path TEXT,  
  UNIQUE(name, host, path),  
  FOREIGN KEY(host, path) REFERENCES places(host, path),  
  CHECK (expiry = 0 OR expiry > last_accessed),  
  CHECK (last_accessed >= creation_time)  
);
```



SchemaAnalyst

Generating Tests Automatically

```
CREATE TABLE places (  
  host TEXT NOT NULL,  
  path TEXT NOT NULL,  
  title TEXT,  
  visit_count INTEGER,  
  fav_icon_url TEXT,  
  PRIMARY KEY(host, path)  
);  
  
CREATE TABLE cookies (  
  id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY NOT NULL,  
  name TEXT NOT NULL,  
  value TEXT,  
  expiry INTEGER,  
  last_accessed INTEGER,  
  creation_time INTEGER,  
  host TEXT,  
  path TEXT,  
  UNIQUE(name, host, path),  
  FOREIGN KEY(host, path) REFERENCES places(host, path),  
  CHECK (expiry = 0 OR expiry > last_accessed),  
  CHECK (last_accessed >= creation_time)  
);
```



```
@Test  
public void test1() throws SQLException {  
  // 2-cookies: UNIQUE[id] for cookies - all cols equal except id - Clause-AICC  
  // 28-cookies: id is UNIQUE - AUCC  
  // {-Null[cookies: id] ^ -Null[cookies: name] ^ (vMatch[=[cookies: name,host,path]] v Null[cookies: name] v Null[cookies: host] v Null[cookies: pa  
  // Result is: true  
  
  // prepare the database state  
  assertEquals(1, statement.executeUpdate(  
    "INSERT INTO `places` (" +  
    " `host`, `path`, `title`, `visit_count`, `fav_icon_url`" +  
    ") VALUES (" +  
    " '1', '1', '1', 0, ''" +  
    ");");  
  assertEquals(1, statement.executeUpdate(  
    "INSERT INTO `cookies` (" +  
    " `id`, `name`, `value`, `expiry`, `last_accessed`, `creation_time`, `host`, `path`" +  
    ") VALUES (" +  
    " 0, '1', '1', 0, 0, '1', '1'" +  
    ");");  
  
  // execute INSERT statements for the test case  
  assertEquals(1, statement.executeUpdate(  
    "INSERT INTO `places` (" +  
    " `host`, `path`, `title`, `visit_count`, `fav_icon_url`" +  
    ") VALUES (" +  
    " 'a', '1', '1', 0, ''" +  
    ");");  
  assertEquals(1, statement.executeUpdate(  
    "INSERT INTO `cookies` (" +  
    " `id`, `name`, `value`, `expiry`, `last_accessed`, `creation_time`, `host`, `path`" +  
    ") VALUES (" +  
    " 1, 'a', '1', 0, 0, '1', '1'" +  
    ");");  
}  
  
@Test  
public void test2() throws SQLException {  
  // 3-cookies: UNIQUE[id] for cookies - all cols equal - Clause-AICC  
  // 29-cookies: id is NOT UNIQUE - AUCC  
  // {-Null[cookies: id] ^ -Null[cookies: name] ^ (vMatch[=[cookies: name,host,path]] v Null[cookies: name] v Null[cookies: host] v Null[cookies: pa  
  // Result is: false  
  
  // prepare the database state  
  assertEquals(1, statement.executeUpdate(  
    "INSERT INTO `places` (" +  
    " `host`, `path`, `title`, `visit_count`, `fav_icon_url`" +  
    ") VALUES (" +  
    " '1', '1', '1', 0, ''" +  
    ");");  
  assertEquals(1, statement.executeUpdate(  
    "INSERT INTO `cookies` (" +  
    " `id`, `name`, `value`, `expiry`, `last_accessed`, `creation_time`, `host`, `path`" +  
    ") VALUES (" +  
    " 0, '1', '1', 0, 0, '1', '1'" +  
    ");");  
  
  // execute INSERT statements for the test case  
  assertEquals(1, statement.executeUpdate(  
    "INSERT INTO `places` (" +  
    " `host`, `path`, `title`, `visit_count`, `fav_icon_url`" +  
    ") VALUES (" +  
    " 'a', '1', '1', 0, ''" +  
    ");");  
}
```

Test data wrapped into INSERTs and
into JUnit test cases

The Solution



TO USE TRADITIONAL TEST SUITE REDUCTION TECHNIQUES


Test Suite Reduction Background

	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t1	X	X	X			
t2	X			X		
t3		X			X	
t4			X			X
t5					X	

- We can use the following approaches:
 - Random Reduction – randomly select test case until all the requirements covered
 - Additional Greedy (or called greedy in TSR literature)
 - HGS (an approach by Harrold, Gupta, and Sofra)

Greedy Test Suite Reduction


	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t1	X	X	X			
t2	X			X		
t3		X			X	
t4			X			X
t5					X	



	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
--	----	----	----	----	----	----

Greedy Test Suite Reduction


	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t1	X	X	X			
t2	X			X		
t3		X			X	
t4			X			X
t5					X	



	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t1	X	X	X			

Greedy Test Suite Reduction


	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t1	X	X	X			
t2	X			X		
t3		X			X	
t4			X			X
t5					X	



	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t1	X	X	X			
t3		X			X	

Greedy Test Suite Reduction


	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t1	X	X	X			
t2	X			X		
t3		X			X	
t4			X			X
t5					X	



	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t1	X	X	X			
t3		X			X	
t2	X			X		

Greedy Test Suite Reduction

	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t1	X	X	X			
t2	X			X		
t3		X			X	
t4			X			X
t5					X	



	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t1	X	X	X			
t3		X			X	
t2	X			X		
t4			X			X

HGS Test Suite Reduction

	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t1	X	X	X			
t2	X			X		
t3		X			X	
t4			X			X
t5					X	
	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6



T	R	tn	Cardinality
T1	r1	{t1, t2}	2
T2	r2	{t1, t3}	2
T3	r3	{t1, t4}	2
T4	r4	{t2}	1
T5	r5	{t3, t5}	2
T6	r6	{t4}	1

HGS Test Suite Reduction

T	R	tn	Cardinality
T1	r1	{t1, t2}	2
T2	r2	{t1, t3}	2
T3	r3	{t1, t4}	2
T4	r4	{t2}	1
T5	r5	{t3, t5}	2
T6	r6	{t4}	1



	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t2	X			X		
t4			X			X

HGS Test Suite Reduction

T	R	tn	Cardinality
T1	r1	{t1, t2}	2
T2	r2	{ t1 , t3}	2
T3	r3	{t1, t4}	2
T4	r4	{t2}	1
T5	r5	{t3, t5}	2
T6	r6	{t4}	1



	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t2	X			X		
t4			X			X

HGS Test Suite Reduction

T	R	tn	Cardinality
T1	r1	{ t1 , t2}	2
T2	r2	{ t1 , t3 }	2
T3	r3	{ t1 , t4}	2
T4	r4	{t2}	1
T5	r5	{ t3 , t5}	2
T6	r6	{t4}	1



	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t2	X			X		
t4			X			X
t3		X			X	

What is missing?

	r1	r2	r3	r4	r5	r6
t2	X			X		
t4			X			X
t3		X			X	

Can we merge similar test cases (decreasing the data restarts)?

Can we decrease the number of INSERTs (decreasing database interactions)?

Can we remove any extra redundancy?

Analyzing Automatically Generated Tests

Test 1

```
1) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('', '', '', 0, '');
2) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (0, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
3) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('a', '', '', 0, '');
4) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (0, 'a', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
```

Test 2

```
1) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('', '', '', 0, '');
2) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (0, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
3) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('a', '', '', 0, '');
4) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (1, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
```

Analyzing Automatically Generated Tests

Test 1

```
1) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('', '', '', 0, '');
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4) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (0, 'a', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
```

Test 2

```
1) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('', '', '', 0, '');
2) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (0, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
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```

Equal

Analyzing Automatically Generated Tests

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Test 2

```
4) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (1, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
```

Remove

Analyzing Automatically Generated Tests

Test 1

```
1) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit_count", "fav_icon_url") VALUES ('', '', '', 0, '');
2) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (0, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
3) INSERT INTO "places"("host", "path", "title", "visit count", "fav icon url") VALUES ('a', '', '', 0, '');
4) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (0, 'a', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
```

Unnecessary

Test 2

```
4) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (1, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
```

Analyzing Automatically Generated Tests

Test 1

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```

Remove

Test 2

```
4) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (1, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
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Analyzing Automatically Generated Tests

Test 1

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```

Test 2

```
4) INSERT INTO "cookies"("id", "name", "value", "expiry", "last_accessed", "creation_time", "host", "path") VALUES (1, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '');
```

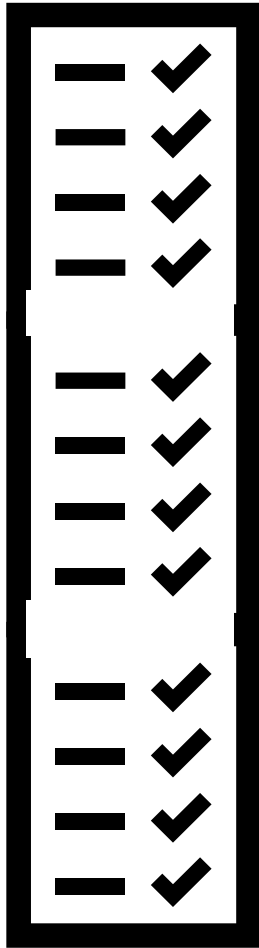
Merge



Test 1 & Test 2

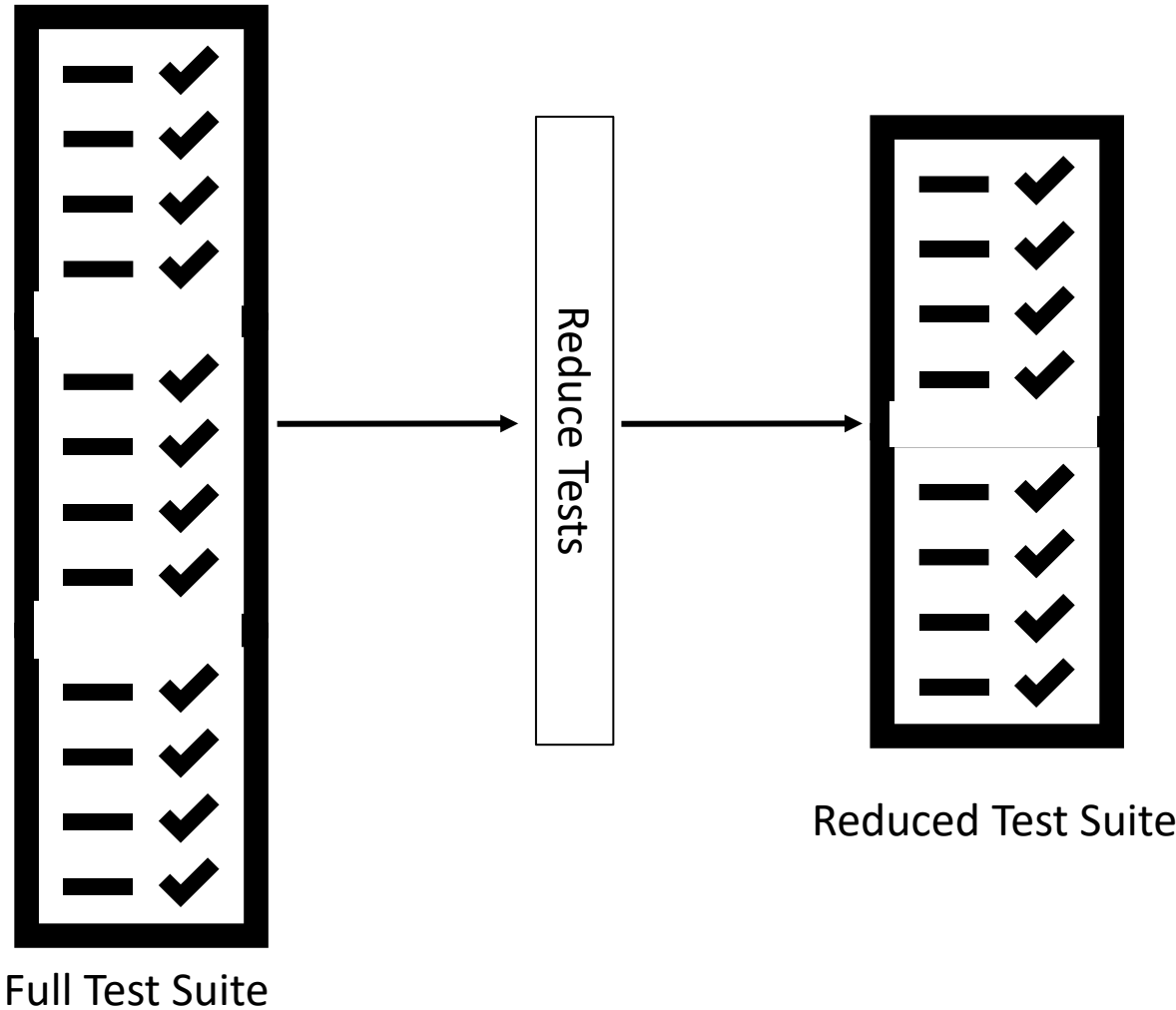
```
1) INSERT INTO places(host, path, title, visit_count, fav_icon_url) VALUES ('', '', '', 0, '')  
2) INSERT INTO cookies(id, name, value, expiry, last_accessed, creation_time, host, path) VALUES (0, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '')  
3) INSERT INTO cookies(id, name, value, expiry, last_accessed, creation_time, host, path) VALUES (0, 'a', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '')  
4) INSERT INTO cookies(id, name, value, expiry, last_accessed, creation_time, host, path) VALUES (1, '', '', 0, 0, 0, '', '')
```


Schema Test Integrity Constraints Combination for Efficient Reduction (STICCER)

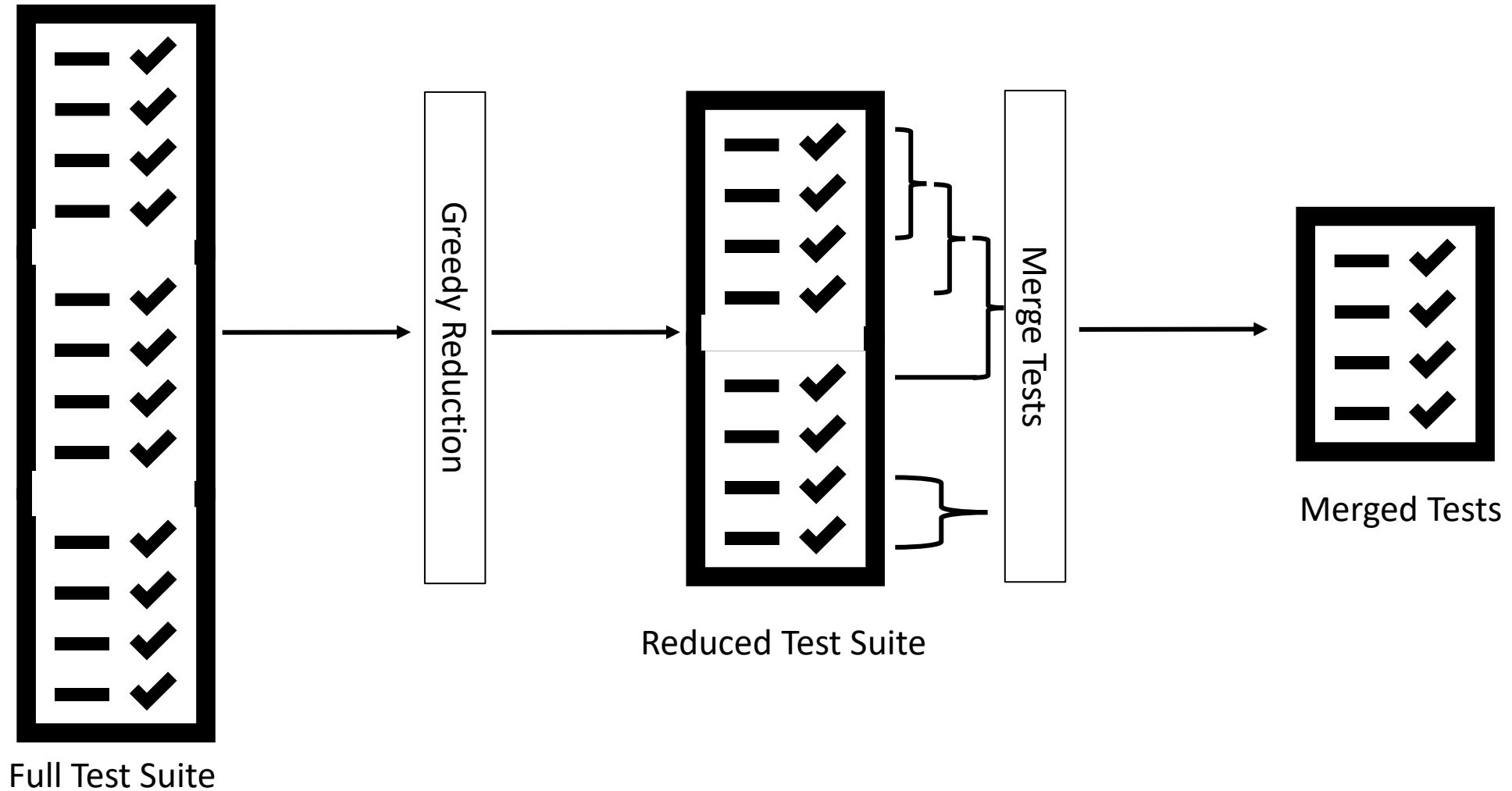


Full Test Suite

Schema Test Integrity Constraints Combination for Efficient Reduction (STICCER)



Schema Test Integrity Constraints Combination for Efficient Reduction (STICCER)



Research Questions



RQ1: Reduction Effectiveness - How effective is STICCER at **reducing the number of test cases and INSERTs**?



RQ2: Impact on Fault Finding Capability - How is the **fault-finding capability** of the test suites affected?



RQ3: Impact on Test Suite and Mutation Analysis Runtime - How are the **running times** of the reduced test suites on mutation analysis affected?

Methodology

34 schemas

1 – 42 tables

3 – 309 columns

1 – 134 integrity constraints

Two test data generators

30 runs

Four reduction techniques

Mutation analysis

RQ1: Reduction Effectiveness Results

- iTrust schema includes 42 tables, 309 columns, 134 Integrity Constraints
 - Highest merge count = 539 merges.

RQ1: Reduction Effectiveness Results

- iTrust schema includes 42 tables, 309 columns, 134 Integrity Constraints
 - Highest merge count = 539 merges.

Metric	OTS	STICCER	Random	Greedy	HGS
Test Cases	1517	85% (235)	44% (849)	49% (776)	50% (754)
INSERTs	2204	57% (940)	45% (1212)	50% (1101)	52% (1064)

RQ1: Reduction Effectiveness Results

- iTrust schema includes 42 tables, 309 columns, 134 Integrity Constraints
 - Highest merge count = 539 merges.

Metric	OTS	STICCER	Random	Greedy	HGS
Test Cases	1517	85% (235)	44% (849)	49% (776)	50% (754)
INSERTs	2204	57% (940)	45% (1212)	50% (1101)	52% (1064)

- On Average:

Metric	STICCER	Random	Greedy	HGS
Test Cases	74%	42%	48%	50%
INSERTs	59%	43%	49%	51%

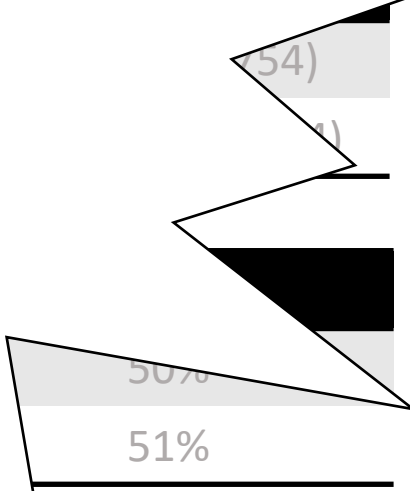
- No loss of coverage

RQ1: Reduction Effectiveness Results

- iTrust schema includes 42 tables, 306 columns, 134 Integrity Constraints
 - Highest merge

Metric	QTC
Test Cases	54
INSERTs	41

STICCER is the most effective at reducing the number of test cases and the overall number of INSERT statements in a test suite



- On Average
 - 50% reduction in Test Cases
 - 51% reduction in INSERTs
- NO loss of coverage

RQ2: Impact on Fault Finding Capability Results

Schemas	AVM-D					DOMINO				
	OTS	STICCER	Random	Greedy	HGS	OTS	STICCER	Random	Greedy	HGS
BrowserCookies	86.5	▼86.5	86.5	▼86.5	▼86.5	96.6	96.6	96.6	96.6	96.6
FrenchTowns	83.3	*▼80.3	*▼80.3	*▼80.3	*▼81.8	95.5	95.5	95.5	95.5	95.5
iTrust	83.6	*▼83.6	*▼83.6	*▼83.6	*▼83.6	99.2	99.2	99.2	99.2	99.1
NistWeather	93.8	*▼90.6	93.8	*▼90.6	93.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
NistXTS749	92.0	92.0	▼92.0	92.0	*▼88.0	94.0	94.0	94.0	94.0	94.0
RiskIt	89.3	89.3	▼89.3	89.3	*▼88.8	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5
UnixUsage	98.2	98.2	98.2	98.2	*▼97.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
WordNet	87.4	*▼86.3	▼87.4	*▼86.3	*▼86.3	99.0	99.0	99.0	99.0	99.0

- AVM-D generated and reduced test case impacted the Fault-Finding Capability
- 5 test suites were impacted by STICCER reduction
- Maximum impact was only 3.2% compared to OTS

RQ2: Impact on Fault Finding Capability Results

Schemas	AVP		DOMP		
	TICCER	Rank	TICCER	Greedy	HGS
BrowserCookie			96.6	96.6	96.6
FrenchTowns					
iTrust					
Word					

Mutation scores of the test suites were preserved following reduction. While some test suites experienced a non-substantial drop in mutation score (3.2% maximum)

- 5 test
- Maxim

Fault Finding Capability

RQ3: Impact on Test Suite and Mutation Analysis Runtime Results

- Mutation analysis runtime:
 - STICCER test suites were 5X faster than the original test suite
 - 2.5X faster than other traditional reduction techniques
- Example: iTrust test suites and running mutation analysis

Unit	OTS	STICCER	Random	Greedy	HGS
Minutes	38	7 (+2 reduction)	21	19	18.5

RQ3: Impact on Test Suite and Mutation Analysis Runtime Results

- Mutation analysis runtime
 - STICCER test suite
 - 2.5X faster
- Example

In general, STICCER reduced test suites ran faster compared to the OTS and those reduced by other techniques.

original test suite

analysis

HGS

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Conclusions and Future Work

- STICCER = Reduce + Merge
- Outperforms other reduction techniques and maintains coverage
- A maximum of 3.2% loss of fault-finding capabilities (mutation)
- Mutation analysis execution:
 - 5X faster than the original test suite
 - 2.5X faster than other traditional reduction techniques
- Future Work:
 - Integrate STICCER within the test data generator
 - Enhance STICCER with multi-objective test data generators
 - Adapt STICCER into traditional programs that manipulate complex state in other formats

