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IP/O-CHAINS COVERAGE CRITERION

by

Wenxin Ma

A M. Sc. Thesis

submitted to the School of Graduate Studies and Research
of the University of Ottawa

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

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Department of Computer Science

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Ottawa, Ontario

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Abstract

In this thesis, three versions of the IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion, namely *the original IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion*, *applicable IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion* and *subdomain-based IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion*, are compared to the other control and data-flow-oriented software testing criteria under “strictly includes” and “properly covers” relations. The precise positions of these three versions of the IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion in three hierarchies are given. Then, a new version of IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion is defined. It is proved that: (i) Applicable new IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion strictly includes applicable all-uses criterion; (ii) For any given program P , there exists a number n such that subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion covers subdomain-based all-uses criterion; (iii) For any given program P , there exists a number n such that for each IP/O_j -chain c , if one duplicates the subdomain of c $l(c)$ times, where $j \leq n$ and $l(c)$ is the length of c , then subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion is better than subdomain-based all-uses criterion under measure M ; (iv) Subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion and subdomain-based required k -tuples⁺ criterion are incomparable in “universally properly covers” relation; (v) For any given program P , there exists a number n such that for each IP/O_j -chain c , if one duplicates the subdomain of c $m(c)$ times, where $j \leq n$ and $m(c)$ is the total number of df -chains on c , then subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion properly covers the subdomain-based required k -tuples⁺ criterion.

Dedication

To my wife *Xue Yan* and my son *Yang Yang*

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Background

Software testing is one of the most widely used methods for software quality assurance. Its general objective is to reveal the failures of a program by executing it in a controlled environment over a finite set of test cases, called a *test suite*. Each testcase is a pair of test input and corresponding expected output. During testing, a testcase is applied by supplying the test input to the program under test and by comparing the expected output to the actual output produced by the program under test.

Over the last several decades, a wide variety of strategies (called *software testing criteria*) for selecting test suites have been proposed. According to the available information about a program under test, these criteria are classified in two groups: *white box testing* and *black box testing*, where white box testing is based on the source code and the specification while black box testing is based on the specification of the program under test only.

Considering the development of white box testing, software testing criteria can be viewed as belonging to three families. Each family has a hierarchy according to a specific relation that identifies the relative merits of the criteria. The first family (henceforth called *the family of original criteria*) consists of criteria that consider only the coverage of different structural aspects of the program under test by a selected set of test paths which yields a test suite. The hierarchy of such criteria is based on the *strictly includes relation* [14]. Accordingly, a criterion *A* (strictly) includes a criterion *B* iff for any given program, any set of test paths satisfying *A* also satisfies *B* (but not vice versa).

In 1988, Frankl and Weyuker [2] argued that the family of original criteria suffers from the weakness that for programs with non-executable paths it may be impossible for any test suite to satisfy a given criterion. They modified the original criteria and defined a new family of criteria, namely *the family of applicable criteria* with a new hierarchy based on the *strictly includes relation*. In 1989, Weiss [18] argued that strictly includes relation is more useful for comparing the cost of two criteria rather than their effectiveness, where the cost of a criterion relates to the number of test paths required to satisfy the criterion while effectiveness of a criterion relates to the fault-detecting ability of the criterion. Hamlet [5] also pointed out that this relation can be “misleading” because it is possible for criterion C_1 to include criterion C_2 , yet for some test suite that satisfies C_2 to detect a fault while some test suite that satisfies C_1 does not. In 1993 Frankl and Weyuker [3] proposed the *measure M* and the *properly covers* relation to compare the fault-detecting abilities of criteria. Under this relation they set up a hierarchy for *the family of subdomain-based* criteria [4]. Like many other well-known criteria, the *IP/O₂-chains* (i.e., an ordered sequence of definition/reference pairs of variables such that the definition of the first variable is an input of the variable and the reference of the last variable is an output or a predicate) coverage criterion also has three versions, i.e. the original, the applicable, and the subdomain-based *IP/O₂*. The relative position of the original *IP/O₂-chains* coverage criterion has been identified by Ural and Yang [16]. It has been proved that the *IP/O₂-chains* coverage criterion is on the top position of the hierarchy. But, we do not know the relative position of the *IP/O₂-chains* coverage criterion in the families of applicable and subdomain-based criteria respectively.

1.2 Motivation and Objectives of the Thesis

In 1993, Frankl and Weyuker [3] proved that the fault-detecting ability of a subdomain-based criterion will be increased if its subdomains are refined. They also

proved in [4] that, the required k -tuples⁺ criterion (which requires each k - dr interaction to be covered, where a k - dr interaction is a sequence of $k - 1$ definition/reference pairs of variables) has a higher fault-detecting ability when compared with other subdomain-based criteria. This result is quite natural. Because the required k -tuples⁺ criterion distinguishes the sequence of definitions/references of variables that occur in loops, and thus refines the subdomains of k - dr interactions (i.e., the structural units on which required k -tuples⁺ criterion is based). It is observed that the IP/O_n -chains (i.e., the structural units on which IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion is based) actually distinguish the sequences of definitions/references of variables that occur in loops more precisely than k - dr interactions because the number n represents the maximal number of iterations of variables in an IP/O_n -chain. Increasing the number n will result in the refinement of the subdomains of an IP/O_n -chain while increasing number k will not necessarily refine the subdomains of a k - dr interaction. Moreover, one of the most important disadvantages of required k -tuples⁺ criterion is the duplication of subdomains which makes the criterion more costly. But, the IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion makes less duplications of subdomains in comparing with required k -tuples⁺ criterion.

Given all the factors above, we believe that there must exist an improved version of the IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion such that its fault-detecting ability is as good as the required k -tuples⁺ criterion, and the duplications of its subdomains is much less than required k -tuples⁺ criterion. However, as the definition of required- k -tuples criterion introduces non-executable k - dr interactions, the definition of the original IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion introduces non-executable IP/O_n -chains, i.e. the IP/O_n -chains that can not be covered by any executable complete path. Therefore, how we treat these non-executable IP/O_n -chains is important in defining the new IP/O_n -chains coverage

criterion. So, the objective of this thesis is to define a new version of IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion such that it is at the top position in both families of applicable and subdomain-based criteria without any additional overhead for handling non-executable IP/O_n -chains carefully.

1.3 Contributions of the Thesis

In this thesis, we have identified the IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion's relative position in three different hierarchies, namely the hierarchies of original, applicable and subdomain-based software testing criteria. We defined a new version of the IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion and proved the following results:

1. Applicable new IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion strictly includes applicable all-uses criterion.
2. For any given program P , there exists a number n such that subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion covers subdomain-based all-uses criterion.
3. For any given program P , there exists a number n such that for each IP/O_j -chain c , if one duplicates the subdomain of c $l(c)$ times, where $j \leq n$ and $l(c)$ is the length of c , then subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion is better than subdomain-based all-uses criterion under measure M .
4. The subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion and subdomain-based required k -tuples⁺ criterion are incomparable in *universally properly covers* relation.

5. For any given program P , there exists a number n such that for each IP/O_j -chain c , if one duplicates the subdomain of c $m(c)$ times, where $j \leq n$ and $m(c)$ is the total number of df -chains on c , then subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion properly covers subdomain-based required k -tuples⁺ criterion for program P .

1.4 Outline of the Thesis

The rest of the thesis is organized as following:

In Chapter 2, Original and Applicable IP/O_2 -chains Coverage Criteria, we first review the definitions of original versions of software testing criteria. Then, we review the definitions of the applicable versions of software testing criteria and define the applicable IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion. Finally, we identify the position of applicable IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion in the hierarchy (Theorem 2.1) of the applicable software testing criteria.

In Chapter 3, The Subdomain-based Software Testing Criteria, we review the definitions of the subdomain-based software testing criteria, *properly covers* relation, measure M as well as Frankl and Weyuker's results. Then, we define the subdomain-based IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion, and identify the position of subdomain-based IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion in the hierarchy (Theorem 3.2) of subdomain-based software testing criteria.

In Chapter 4, A New Version of IP/O_2 -chains Coverage Criterion, we define a new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion, and compare the new IP/O_n -chains coverage with the all-uses criterion (Theorem 4.1, 4.2) and the required k -tuples⁺ criterion (Theorem 4.3, 4.4).

Chapter 2

Original and Applicable *IP/O₂*-chains Coverage Criteria

In this Chapter, we first review the definition of the original *IP/O₂*-chains coverage criterion and the hierarchy given in Ural and Yang's [16]. Then, we give a definition of the applicable *IP/O₂*-chains coverage criterion and prove its proper position within the hierarchy of applicable software testing criteria. The program model to be used in both cases follows the one given in Frankl and Weyuker [2].

2.1 Program Model

Without loss of generality, we assume that a program (*main or subprogram*) is written in Pascal. We follow the program model given in Frankl and Weyuker [2] and assume that

- a) *Non-Straight-Line (NSL) Property*: every program has at least one conditional or repetitive statement,
- b) at least one variable occurs in every Boolean expression controlling a conditional or repetitive statement in a given program (note that this variable occurrence may be implicit, as in the use of the input file variable in the statement, while not *eof* do *s*),

- c) *No Feasible Anomalies (NFAUD) property*: in a given program, each feasible path from the program entry to a use of a variable v must pass through a node having a definition of v (if programs do not satisfy this property, they may have the possibility of referencing an undefined variable),
- d) a given program has no goto statements, no with statements, no variant records, no functions having var parameters, no procedure or functional parameters and no conformance arrays,
- e) a given program has a single entry and single exit.

2.2 Flowgraph Representation of a Program

For ease of applying a software testing criterion, a program is represented by a digraph $G(V, E)$, called *flowgraph*, where V is the set of nodes corresponding to statements in the program and E is the set of directed edges indicating the possible flow of control between statements in the program (see Fig. 1a). In V , there is

- a) a *statement node* (e.g. nodes 1, 3, 5, 6, and 7 in Fig. 1b) corresponding to each simple statement (e.g. input, output, assignment, or procedure statement) in the program,
- b) a *branching node* (e.g. nodes 2 and 4 in Fig. 1b) corresponding to the branching point in the transfer of control implied by the condition part of each conditional statement (e.g. if-then, if-then-else, or case statement) or each repetitive statement (e.g. while, for, or repeat statement) in the program.

In addition, there are two special nodes in V , namely s and t , that correspond to the entry and exit points of the program, respectively. Each statement node in V is assumed to

contain one simple statement. All other nodes (i.e. s , t , and branching nodes) are assumed to be empty.

Every directed edge in E represents the possible flow of control between the nodes in V as implied by the transfer of control between statements in the program. Consequently,

- a) For each statement node in V , there is a single outgoing edge.
- b) For each branching node in V , there are at least two outgoing edges. Each outgoing edge of a branching node is associated with a predicate (i.e. a Boolean expression) whose truth value is equivalent to a specific outcome of the condition that implies the branching point corresponding to the node.
- c) There is at most one edge from a node i to node j in E for any pair of nodes i and j in V .
- d) Node s has no incoming edge and t has no outgoing edge.

A *path* (n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m) in $G(V, E)$ is a sequence of nodes in G such that $(n_i, n_{i+1}) \in E$, for all i , $1 \leq i \leq m - 1$, $m \geq 2$. A path (i_1, \dots, i_k) is a *subpath* of a path (n_1, \dots, n_m) if there exists a δ , $0 \leq \delta \leq m - k$, such that for all j , $1 \leq j \leq k$, $i_j = n_{j+\delta}$. A *loop-free path* is a path in which all nodes are distinct. A *simple path* is a path in which all nodes except possibly the first and the last are distinct. A *complete path* in G is a path whose first node is s and whose last node is t . For example, path $(s, 1, 2, t)$ is a complete path for the flowgraph in Fig.1b.

```

begin
  read (x);
  while f1(x) do
    begin
      z:= f2(x);
      if f3(z)
        then x := f4(x)
        else x := f5(x);
      writeln (z)
    end
  end
end.

```

Fig. 1a Program A

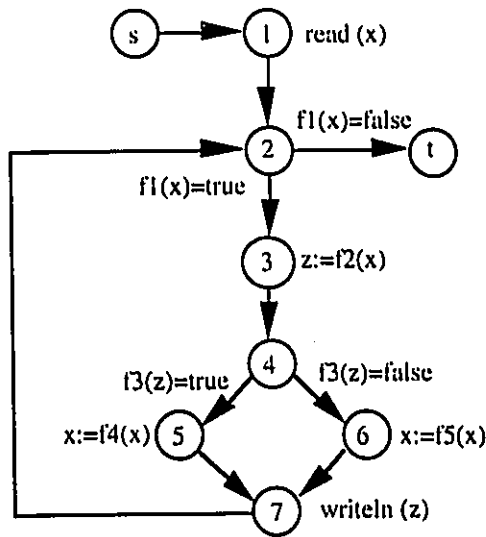


Fig. 1b Intermediate step

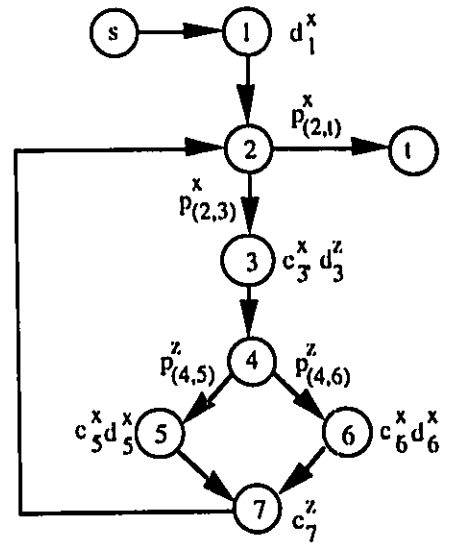


Fig. 1c Flowgraph of Program A

Let Π be a set of complete paths for the flowgraph of a given program. A *node* i is *covered by* Π if Π contains a complete path (n_1, \dots, n_m) such that $i = n_j$ for some j , $1 \leq j \leq m$. An *edge* (i_1, i_2) is *covered by* Π if Π contains a complete path (n_1, \dots, n_m) such that $i_1 = n_j$ and $i_2 = n_{j+1}$ for some j , $1 \leq j \leq m - 1$. A *path* (i_1, \dots, i_k) is *covered by* Π if Π contains a complete path (n_1, \dots, n_m) and path (i_1, \dots, i_k) is a subpath of path (n_1, \dots, n_m) .

2.3 Definition of the Original IP/O2-chains Coverage Criterion

A *definition (or def)* of a variable x is an occurrence of x in node n (denoted by d_n^x) if n contains a statement in which x is assigned a value. A *use* of a variable x is an occurrence of x by which the value of x is referenced. Uses of variables are further classified as *computational uses (c-uses)* and *predicate uses (p-uses)* [14]. A *c-use* of a variable x at node n (denoted by c_n^x) is a use of x which directly affects the computation being performed (e.g., an occurrence of x on the RHS of an assignment statement, for instance, the use of x at node 3 in Fig.1c) or allows one to see the result of some earlier definition (e.g., an occurrence of x in the list of variables of an output statement, for instance, the use of z at node 7 in Fig.1c). A *p-use* of a variable x on edge (n,m) (denoted by $p_{(n,m)}^x$) is a use of x which directly affects the control flow of the program (e.g. an occurrence of x in the Boolean expression associated with an outgoing edge of a branching node n in a flowgraph, for instance, the use of x on edge $(2,t)$ in Fig.1c). Examples of the classification of variable occurrences in a flowgraph representing a Pascal program can be found in [2, 14]. For the purposes of this thesis, we assume the classification given in [2].

A path $(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{m-1}, n_m)$ is a *def-clear path* with respect to a variable x from node n_1 to node n_m or from node n_1 to edge (n_{m-1}, n_m) if either

1. $m = 2$, or
2. $m > 2$ and there are no definitions of x at nodes n_2 to n_{m-1} .

We say that d_i^x and c_j^x form a *du-pair* (denoted by tuple (d_i^x, c_j^x)) if there is a def-clear path with respect to x from node i to node j . Similarly, d_i^x and $p_{(j,k)}^x$ form a *du-pair* (denoted by $(d_i^x, p_{(j,k)}^x)$) if there is a *def-clear path* with respect to x from node i to edge

(j,k) . For ease of reference, u_q^x denotes henceforth either c_q^x , if q represents a node, or p_q^x if q represents an edge. A path (i, \dots, q) is called an *activating path* for a *du-pair* (d_i^x, u_q^x) if it is a *def-clear* path with respect to x from i to q .

Let Π be a set of complete paths for the flowgraph $G(V,E)$ of a given program P .

We say that

- a) a *du-pair* is covered by Π if an activating path for the *du-pair* is covered by Π .
- b) Π satisfies the *all-uses* (*all-c-uses*, *all-p-uses* resp.) *criterion* if an activating path for each *du-pair* $((d_i^x, c_j^x), (d_i^x, p_{(j,k)}^x)$ resp.) in $G(V,E)$ is covered by Π .
- c) Π satisfies the *all-c-uses/some-p-uses* (*all-p-uses/some-c-uses* resp.) *criterion* if Π satisfies *all-c-uses* (*all-p-uses* resp.) *criterion* and in addition, if a variable x is defined at node i and has no *c-use* (*p-uses* resp.) in $G(V,E)$ then an activating path for some $(d_i^x, p_{(j,k)}^x)$ ((d_i^x, c_j^x) resp.) in $G(V,E)$ is covered by Π .
- d) Π satisfies the *all-defs* *criterion* if an activating path for some $(d_i^x, p_{(j,k)}^x)$ or (d_i^x, c_j^x) in $G(V, E)$ is covered by Π .
- e) Π satisfies *all-nodes* (*all-edges*, *all-paths* resp.) *criterion* if each node (each branch, each path resp.) in $G(V,E)$ is covered by Π .

The *all-du-paths* *criterion* requires that all the *du-paths* in a flowgraph be covered at least once. That is, if there exists more than one activating path that cover the same *du-pair* then the *all-du-paths* *criterion* requires all these paths to be covered. A path $(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{m-1}, n_m)$ is a *du-path* with respect to a variable x if n_1 has a *def* of x and either

1. n_m has a *c-use* of x and (n_1, \dots, n_m) is a *def-clear* simple path with respect to x , or

2. (n_{m-1}, n_m) has a p -use of x and (n_1, \dots, n_{m-1}) is a *def*-clear loop-free path with respect to x [14]. Formally, a set of complete paths Π satisfies the all-*du*-paths criterion if every *du*-path for each *du*-pair in a flowgraph is covered by Π .

The *required k-tuples* criteria ask for the coverage of each *k-dr* interaction. A *k-dr interaction* ($k \geq 2$) is a sequence of $k - 1$ *du*-pairs $(d_1^{x_1}, u_2^{x_1}), (d_2^{x_2}, u_3^{x_2}), \dots, (d_{k-1}^{x_{k-1}}, u_k^{x_{k-1}})$ which are associated with k distinct nodes $1, 2, 3, \dots, k$, where for all $i, 1 \leq i \leq k$, the i -th definition $d_i^{x_i}$ at node i reaches the i -th use $u_{i+1}^{x_i}$ at node $i + 1$ through *def*-clear path with respect to x_i [13]. Formally, a set of complete paths Π satisfies the required *k-tuples* criterion for a given k , if an activating path for every *k-dr* interaction in a flowgraph is covered by Π . An *activating path for k-dr interaction* $[d_1^{x_1}, u_2^{x_1}, d_2^{x_2}, u_3^{x_2}, \dots, d_{k-1}^{x_{k-1}}, u_k^{x_{k-1}}]$ is a path $(n_1, \dots, n_2, \dots, n_3, \dots, n_{k-1}, \dots, n_k)$ in which (n_i, \dots, n_{i+1}) is *def*-clear path with respect to variable $x_i, 1 \leq i \leq k - 1$. If the last use is a p -use, the *k-dr* interaction is covered twice, once for each outcome of a predicate, to ensure branch coverage. If the first definition or the last use of a *k-dr* interaction occurs in a loop, two test paths are generated for that interaction, reflecting two iteration counts for the loop, one for the minimum iteration of the loop [13], the other for a larger number of iterations [13]. In a newer version of this criterion called *required k-tuples+* [1], the *du*-pairs in a *k-dr* interaction need not be distinct.

The *context coverage* criterion requires that each elementary data context in a flowgraph be covered at least once, whereas the *ordered context coverage* criterion requires that each ordered elementary data context be covered at least once. An (*ordered*) *elementary data context* of a node i in the flowgraph of a given program that uses a vector of variables $X(i) = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ is a (*ordered*) set of definitions $ec(i) = [d(x_1), d(x_2), \dots, d(x_n)]$ of all variables from $X(i)$ such that there exists a control path from the

entry node to node i and all definitions from $ec(i)$ reach node i through this path (in the given order) without redefining the variables in $X(i)$ [11]. Formally, a set of complete paths Π satisfies the (ordered) context coverage criterion, if an activating path for every (ordered) elementary data context in each node in a flowgraph is covered by Π . A path $(n_1, \dots, n_2, \dots, n_m)$ is an *activating path for an elementary data context* in node i , $[d_{n_1}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, \dots, d_{n_m}^{x_m}]$, if path $(n_i, \dots, n_{i+1}, \dots, n_m)$ is a *def-clear path* with respect to variable x_i , where $1 \leq i \leq m - 1$.

Before defining the original *IP/O₂*-chains coverage criterion, the motivation behind the criterion will be reviewed. First of all, it has been advocated to link *du*-pairs in a program to form a sequence of *du*-pairs in order to trace a sequence of computations which capture particular control and data dependencies in the program [10, 11]. This observation gives rise to the notion of *affect*.

A use of a variable y , which may either be a *c*-use or a *p*-use, is *affected* by a definition of a variable x if either

- a) x and y are the same variable and the use of y is reached by the def of x through a *def-clear path* with respect to x , or
- b) a def of a variable z is given in terms of a use of x at a node which is reached by the def of x through a *def-clear path* with respect to x and the use of y is affected by the def of z .

A *df-chain* is defined as an ordered sequence $(d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2}, \dots, d_{n_m}^{x_m}, u_{n_{m+1}}^{x_m})$ of *du*-pairs $(d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}), (d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2}), \dots, (d_{n_m}^{x_m}, u_{n_{m+1}}^{x_m})$, where $m \geq 1$ and $u_{n_{m+1}}^{x_m}$ is affected by $d_{n_1}^{x_1}$.

An *input* of a program is the definition of a variable which is not given in terms of any other variable. In particular, variable initializations through assignment statements whose RHS is an expression consisting of only constants are also considered as inputs. An

output of a program is a *c*-use of a variable in an output statement of the program. Such an output will be called a *variable output*. If an output statement contains only constants, then it is called *constant output*. A constant output can only be indirectly captured by a *df*-chain that starts with a program input and terminates with a *p*-use which leads the flow of control to the constant output. Thus, a constant output in a procedure will be tested by following a *df*-chain from an input to the last *p*-use which leads the control flow to the constant output.

It is said that a *variable output* *o* (or a *predicate* *p*) is *affected by a program input* *i* if there is a *df*-chain that starts with *i* and terminates with the *o* (or *p*). Let *I*, *O*, and *U_p* be the sets of all inputs, variable outputs, and *p*-uses in a program, respectively. Then, two binary relations with respect to the notion of affect, namely input-output relation and input-predicate relation, are defined as follows.

Input-output relation is defined as

$$R_{IO} = \{(i, o) \mid i \in I, o \in O, \text{ and } o \text{ is affected by } i\}.$$

Input-predicate relation is defined as

$$R_{IP} = \{(i, p) \mid i \in I, p \in U_p, \text{ and } p \text{ is affected by } i\}.$$

A *df*-chain that starts with *i* and terminates with *o* or *p* is called an *IP/O-chain* (Input-Predicate/Output Chain).

An *IP/O_n-chain* ($n \geq 1$) is an *IP/O-chain* such that there are m ($1 \leq m \leq n$) occurrences of $u_j^x d_j^y$, and for at least one node k , there are exactly n occurrences of $u_k^z d_k^w$, where x , y , z , or w stands for any variable. As a special case, each *du*-pair whose *def* is

an input and whose use is a variable output or a p -use is considered as an IP/O_1 -chain. Thus, in Fig.2, $[d_1^x, p_{(2,3)}^x]$, $[d_1^x, c_6^x]$ and $[d_1^x, c_5^x d_5^x, c_6^x]$ are IP/O_1 -chains, and $[d_1^x, c_5^x d_5^x, c_6^x]$ is an IP/O_2 -chain.

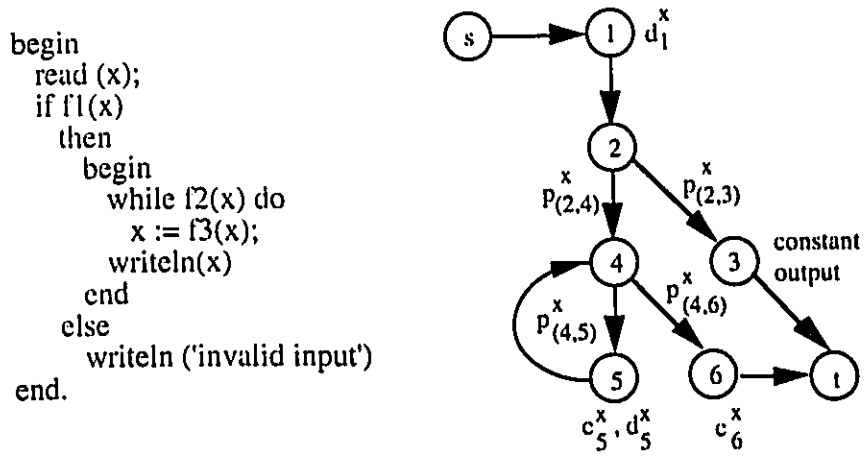


Fig. 2. Program B and Its Flowgraph

The IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion is satisfied by a set of complete paths Π in a flowgraph if

- a) an activating path for every IP/O_k -chain ($1 \leq k \leq 2$) for each $(i, o) \in R_{IO}$ is covered at least once by Π , and
- b) an activating path for every IP/O_1 -chain for each $(i, p) \in R_{IP}$ is covered at least once by Π .

Where an *activating path for an IP/O -chain*

$$[d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1} d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2}, \dots, d_{n_m}^{x_m}, u_{n_{m+1}}^{x_m}]$$

is a path $(n_1, \dots, n_2, \dots, n_3, \dots, n_m, \dots, n_{m+1})$ in which (n_i, \dots, n_{i+1}) is *def-clear* path with respect to variable x_i for $1 \leq i \leq m$.

2.4 Hierarchy of Original Criteria With Respect To Strictly Includes Relation

The relative strength of software testing criteria has been determined by utilizing the inclusion relation [1, 2, 11, 13, 14, 17]. For two software testing criteria A and B , A *includes* B iff for any given flowgraph, any set of complete paths that satisfies A also satisfies B . A *strictly includes* B iff A includes B but B does not include A . A and B are *incomparable* iff neither A includes B nor B includes A .

In [16], the following hierarchy with respect to *strictly includes relation* was proved by Ural and Yang.

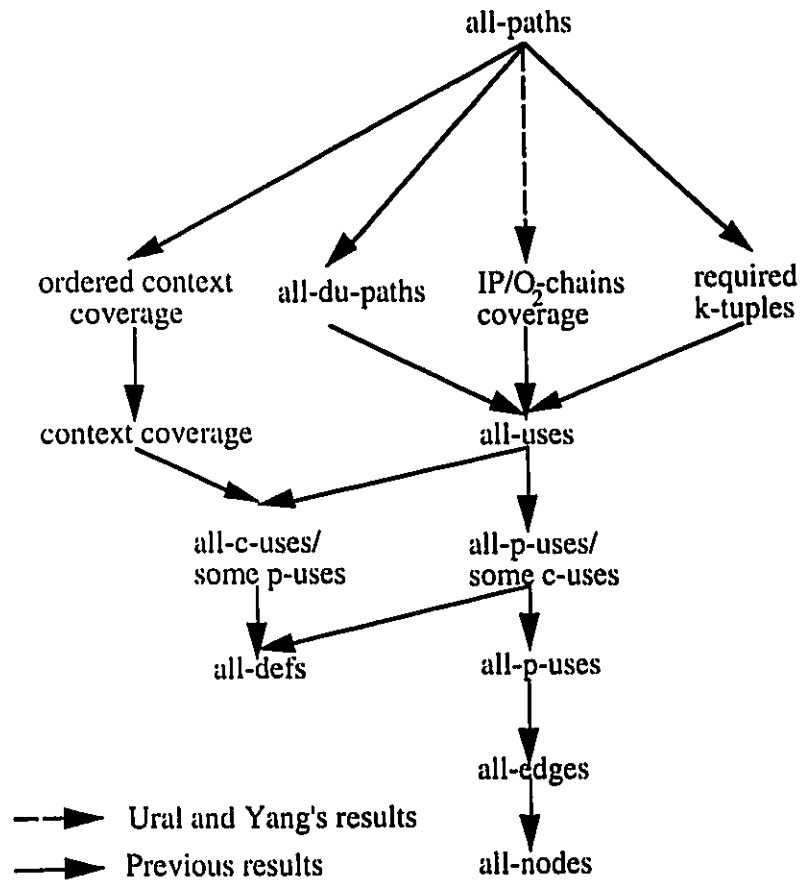


Fig. 3. The "Strictly Includes" Hierarchy of the Original Criteria

2.5 Definition of the Applicable IP/O_2 -chains Coverage Criterion (IP/O_2 -chains)*

In this section, we first review the definition of applicable software testing criteria given in Frankl and Weyuker [2], and define the applicable IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion. These definitions are based on the assumption that the program under test satisfies $a) - e)$ given in Section 2.1 and the flowgraph of a program is as defined in Section 2.2. Then we give the position of the applicable IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion (IP/O_2 -chains)* in the hierarchy of the applicable software testing criteria in Section 2.6.

A complete path is executable or feasible if there exists some assignment of values to input variables, non-local variables, and parameters which causes the path to be executed. We say a *path is executable* if it is a subpath of an executable complete path.

A du-pair (IP/O_2 -chain respectively) is executable if there is some executable complete path which covers it; otherwise, it is *non-executable*. We define subsets $fdcu(x, i)$ and $fdpu(x, i)$ for each variable x and for each node i in the flowgraph $G(V, E)$ of a program P :

$$fdcu(x, i) = \{ \text{nodes } j \text{ such that } x \text{ has } c\text{-use at node } j \text{ and there is an executable } def\text{-clear path with respect to } x \text{ from } i \text{ to } j \}.$$

$$fdpu(x, i) = \{ \text{edges } (j, k) \text{ such that } x \text{ has a } p\text{-use at edge } (j, k) \text{ and there is an executable } def\text{-clear path with respect to } x \text{ from } i \text{ to edge } (j, k) \}.$$

Definition 2.1 For each software testing criterion C defined in Section 2.3 on the basis of du -pairs, we define C^* by selecting the required du -pair from $fdcu(x, i)$ and $fdpu(x, i)$.

That is, only executable *du*-pairs are considered here. So, in the flowgraph $G(V,E)$ of a program P ,

1. $(all-defs)^*$ requires some (d_m^x, u_n^x) such that $n \in fdcu(x,m)$ or some $(d_m^x, p_{(i,j)}^x)$ such that $(i, j) \in fdpu(x, m)$ to be covered.
2. $(all-c-uses)^*$ requires all (d_m^x, u_n^x) such that $n \in fdcu(x, m)$ to be covered.
3. $(all-p-uses)^*$ requires all $(d_m^x, p_{(i,j)}^x)$ such that $(i, j) \in fdpu(x,m)$ to be covered.
4. $(all-p-uses/some-c-uses)^*$ requires all $(d_m^x, p_{(i,j)}^x)$ such that $(i, j) \in fdpu(x, m)$ to be covered; In addition, if $fdpu(x, m)$ is empty and $fdcu(x, m)$ is not empty then some (d_m^x, u_n^x) such that $n \in fdcu(x,m)$ to be covered.
5. $(all-c-uses/some-p-uses)^*$ requires all (d_m^x, u_n^x) such that $n \in fdcu(x, m)$ to be covered; In addition, if $fdcu(x, m)$ is empty and $fdpu(x, m)$ is not empty then some $(d_m^x, p_{(i,j)}^x)$ such that $(i, j) \in fdpu(x, m)$ to be covered.
6. $(all-uses)^*$ requires all executable *du*-pairs to be covered.
7. $(all-du-paths)^*$ requires all executable *du*-paths to be covered.
8. applicable *IP/O₂*-chains coverage criterion $(IP/O_2-chains)^*$ requires all executable *IP/O₂*-chains to be covered.

Definition 2.2 In the flowgraph $G(V,E)$ of a program P ,

1. $(all-edges)^*$ requires all executable edges to be covered, where an edge is executable if there exists an executable complete path that covers it.
2. $(all-nodes)^*$ requires all executable nodes to be covered, where a node is executable if there exists an executable complete path that covers it.
3. $(all-paths)^*$ requires all executable paths to be covered, where a path is executable if there exists an executable complete path that covers it.

2.6 Hierarchy of Applicable Criteria With Respect To Strictly Includes Relation

In this section, we prove the main theorem in this chapter to give the proper position of criterion $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^*$ in the hierarchy of the applicable family of software testing criteria.

Theorem 2.1 *i) (all-paths)^{*} strictly includes (IP/O₂-chains)^{*}.*

ii) (IP/O₂-chains)^{} is incomparable with (all-du-paths)^{*}, (all-uses)^{*}, (all-c-uses)^{*}, (all-defs)^{*}, (all-p-uses)^{*} and (all-nodes)^{*} criteria.*

Proof: Consider the program *C* whose flowgraph is given below:

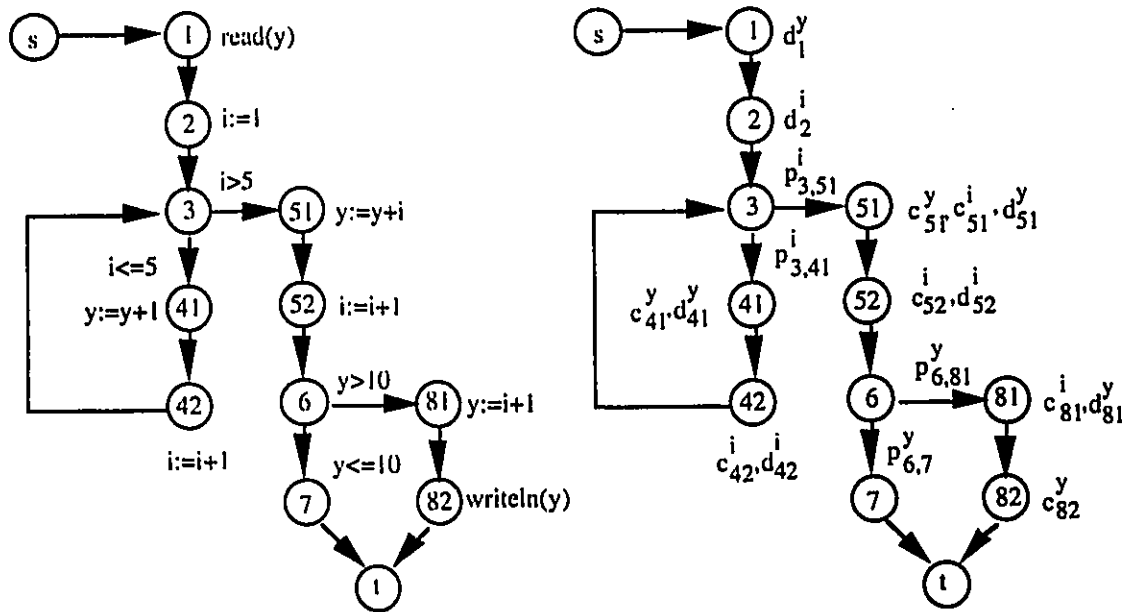


Fig. 4. Program *C* and Its Flowgraph

So the executable IP/O_2 -chains and their subdomains are:

Table 1: IP/O_j -chains and their subdomains in Program C ($j \leq 2$)

IP/O_j -CHAINS	SUBDOMAINS
$[d_2^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y's
$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y's
$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y's

a) Clearly, $(all-paths)^*$ includes $(IP/O_2-chains)^*$.

b) $(IP/O_2-chains)^*$ does not include $(all-paths)^*$, $(all-p-uses)^*$, $(all-c-uses)^*$, $(all-defs)^*$ and $(all-nodes)^*$ since the complete path $p_1 = (s, 1, 2, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 51, 52, 6, 7, t)$ covers all executable IP/O_1 and IP/O_2 -chains for any $y \leq 0$ and p_1 does not cover executable path $(s, 1, 2, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 41, 42, 3, 51, 52, 6, 81, 82, t)$ (required by $(all-paths)^*$), $(d_{51}^y, p_{(6,81)}^y)$ (required by $(all-p-uses)^*$), (d_{81}^y, u_{82}^y) (required by $(all-c-uses)^*$), (d_{52}^i, u_{81}^i) (required by $(all-defs)^*$) and node 81 (required by $(all-nodes)^*$).

c) From the transitivity of the strictly includes relation, b) and Theorem 1 [2] we have that $(IP/O_2-chains)^*$ does not include $(all-uses)^*$.

d) It can be proved by the same argument of Theorem 3 [16] that $(all-uses)^*$ does not include $(IP/O_2-chains)^*$.

e) It's trivial to see that $(all-c-uses)^*$, $(all-defs)^*$, $(all-p-uses)^*$ and $(all-nodes)^*$ do not include $(IP/O_2-chains)^*$.

f) By the same argument of Theorem 4 [16], we can show that $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^*$ and $(all\text{-}du\text{-}paths)^*$ are incomparable.

So, by the transitivity of strictly includes relation and Theorem 1 [2], the hierarchy of the family of the applicable criteria is as follows:

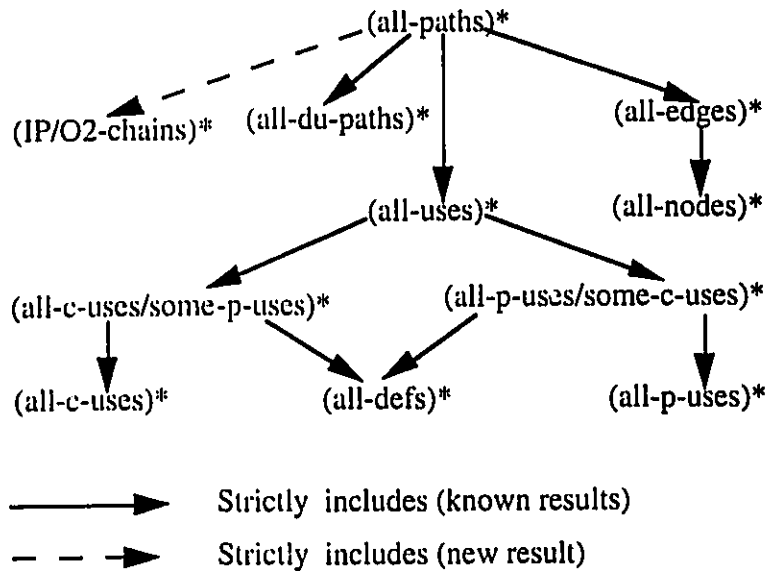


Fig. 5 The "Strictly Includes" Hierarchy of the Applicable Criteria

Although *required-k-tuples coverage*, *context-coverage*, *ordered-context coverage* criteria are not used in the above hierarchy, we define their applicable versions because they will be referred to in Chapter 3.

1. $(required\text{-}k\text{-}tuples)^*$ requires all executable $k\text{-}dr$ interactions ($k \geq 2$) in a flowgraph to be covered, where a $k\text{-}dr$ interaction is executable if there is an executable complete path that covers the activating path of the $k\text{-}dr$ interaction.

2. *(context)** requires each executable elementary data context in a flowgraph to be covered at least once, where an elementary data context is executable if there is an executable complete path that covers the activating path of the elementary data context.
3. *(ordered-context)** requires each executable ordered elementary data context in a flowgraph to be covered at least once, where a ordered elementary data context is executable if there is an executable complete path that covers the activating path of the ordered elementary data context.

Chapter 3

Subdomain Based Software Testing Criteria

In this Chapter, we first review the definitions of subdomain-based software testing criteria, measure M and *properly covers relation* given by Frankl and Weyuker in [3] and define the subdomain-based IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion. Then, we identify the position of subdomain based IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion (IP/O_2 -chain)^s in the hierarchy of the family of subdomain based software testing criteria.

3.1 Program Model

As in Section 2.1, in this chapter we assume that programs under test satisfy assumptions $a) - e)$ with the exception that there may be *goto* statements. We also restrict our attention to programs with finite input domain, but place no bound on the input domain size.

3.2 Definition of the Subdomain Based IP/O_2 -chains Coverage Criterion

In this section, we review some definitions and results in [3] and define the subdomain-based IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion. A *multi-set* is a collection of objects in

which duplicates may occur. We shall use set notations and set-theoretic operator symbols to denote the corresponding multi-set and operators throughout. A multi-set S_1 is a *sub-multi-set* of S_2 if the number of occurrences of each element in S_1 is less than or equal to the number of the occurrences of the element in S_2 .

The input domain of a program is the set of possible inputs. We restrict attention to programs with finite input domain. A *test suite* is a multi-set of test cases, each of which is an element of the input domain.

A testing criterion C is *subdomain-based* (denoted by $(C)^S$) if for each program P and the corresponding specification S , there is a non-empty multi-set of subdomains, $SD_C(P, S)$, such that $(C)^S$ requires the selection of one element from each subdomain in $SD_C(P, S)$. That is, for a given pair (P, S) , $(C)^S$ divides D into subdomains $\{D_1(C), D_2(C), \dots, D_r(C)\}$ and forms a *test suite* T by independently randomly selecting an element of each $D_i(C) \in SD_C(P, S)$, $1 \leq i \leq r$, according to a uniform distribution. It is assumed that $SD_C(P, S)$ is non-empty. From this assumption and the fact that one test case is selected from each subdomain $D_i(C) \in SD_C(P, S)$, the empty test suite does not result by the application of any $(C)^S$ to (P, S) for every program P and specification S .

Definition 3.1 *Subdomain-based IP/O₂-chains coverage criterion (IP/O₂-chains)^S* is defined by applicable $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^*$ with $SD_{(IP/O_2)}(P, S)$ consisting of all subdomains of executable IP/O₂-chains in the flowgraph of P .

Similarly, $(all\text{-uses})^S$, $(all\text{-p-uses})^S$, $(context)^S$, $(ordered\text{-context})^S$ and $(required\ k\text{-tuples})^S$ criteria are defined respectively by $(all\text{-uses})^*$, $(all\text{-p-uses})^*$, $(context)^*$, $(ordered\text{-context})^*$ and $(required\ k\text{-tuples})^*$ criteria.

A *decision* is a maximal Boolean expression controlling the execution of a conditional statement or loop. For instance, in statement *if* ($x = 1$) *and* ($y = 2$) *then* *writeln*('1'), ($x = 1$) *and* ($y = 2$) is a decision. The *decision-coverage* criterion requires that every decision take on the value true at least once during the testing and also take on value false at least once. *Subdomain-based decision-coverage* criterion, $(decision)^s$, is defined by $SD_{DC}(P, S)$ consisting of all subdomains of each decision in the flowgraph of P (i.e. there are two subdomains for each decision, one consisting of all inputs that cause it to evaluate to true at some point during execution and one consisting of all inputs that cause it to evaluate to false at some point during execution).

A *condition* is a Boolean variable, a relational expression, or a Boolean function occurring in a decision. For example in the statement *if* ($x = 1$) *and* ($y = 2$) *then* *writeln*('1'), both ($x = 1$) *and* ($y = 2$) are conditions. The *condition-coverage* criterion requires that every condition take on the value true at least once and take on the value false at least once. The *subdomain-based condition-coverage* criterion, $(condition)^s$, is defined by *condition-coverage* criterion.

The *subdomain-based decision-condition-coverage* criterion, $(decision-condition)^s$, is defined by *decision-condition-coverage* criterion which requires that every decision takes on value true at least once and takes value false at least once and that every condition take on the value true at least once and take on the value false at least once during testing. For example, in the statement *if* ($x = 1$) *and* ($y = 2$) *then* *writeln*('1'), *decision-condition-coverage* criterion would require six testcases for the following: $((x = 1) \text{ and } (y = 2)) = \text{true}$, $((x = 1) \text{ and } (y = 2)) = \text{false}$, $(x = 1)$, $(x \neq 1)$, $(y = 2)$, $(y \neq 2)$.

Therefore, the subdomains of $(decision-condition)^s$ are:

1. the set of inputs such that decision $((x = 1) \text{ and } (y = 2)) = \text{true}$, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid x = 1 \text{ and } y = 2\}$,
2. the set of inputs such that decision $((x = 1) \text{ and } (y = 2)) = \text{false}$, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid (x = 1 \text{ and } y \neq 2) \text{ or } (x \neq 1 \text{ and } y = 2) \text{ or } (x \neq 1, y \neq 2)\}$,
3. the set of inputs such that condition $(x = 1)$ is true, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid x = 1\}$
4. the set of inputs such that condition $(x = 1)$ is false, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid x \neq 1\}$
5. the set of inputs such that condition $(y = 2)$ is true, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid y = 2\}$
6. the set of inputs such that condition $(y = 2)$ is false, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid y \neq 2\}$

The *subdomain-based multiple-condition-coverage* criterion, (*multiple-condition*)^s, is defined by *multiple-condition-coverage* criterion which requires that every combination of truth values of conditions occurs at least once during testing. For example, in the statement *if (x = 1) and (y = 2) then writeln('1')*, *multiple-condition-coverage* criterion would require four test cases for the following:

$(x = 1, y = 2), (x \neq 1, y = 2), (x = 1, y \neq 2), (x \neq 1, y \neq 2)$.

The subdomains of (*multiple-condition*)^s are:

1. the set of inputs such that condition $(x = 1)$ is true and condition $(y = 2)$ is true, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid x = 1 \text{ and } y = 2\}$
2. the set of inputs such that condition $(x = 1)$ is false and condition $(y = 2)$ is true, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid x \neq 1 \text{ and } y = 2\}$
3. the set of inputs such that condition $(x = 1)$ is true and condition $(y = 2)$ is false, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid x = 1 \text{ and } y \neq 2\}$
4. the set of inputs such that condition $(x = 1)$ is false and condition $(y = 2)$ is false, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid x \neq 1, y \neq 2\}$

The *subdomain-based reduced-decision-condition-coverage* criterion, (*reduced decision-condition*)^s, is defined by *decision-condition-coverage* criterion which requires that each decision d of form A and B takes on value true at least once; and condition A and B take on the value false individually at least once; each decision d of form C or D takes on value false at least once; conditions C and D take on the value true individually at least once; for all other decisions they are the same as the *decision-condition-coverage* criterion. For example, in the statement *if (x = 1) and (y = 2) then writeln('1')*, *reduced-decision-condition-coverage* criterion would require three test cases for the following: $((x = 1) \text{ and } (y = 2)) = \text{true}$, $(x \neq 1)$, $(y \neq 2)$. The subdomains of (*reduced decision-condition*)^s are:

1. the set of inputs such that decision $((x = 1) \text{ and } (y = 2)) = \text{true}$, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid x = 1 \text{ and } y = 2\}$,
2. the set of inputs such that condition $(x = 1)$ is false, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid x \neq 1\}$
3. the set of inputs such that condition $(y = 2)$ is false, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid y \neq 2\}$

For statement *if (x = 3) or (y = 4) then writeln('2')*, *reduced-decision-condition-coverage* criterion would require three test cases for the following: $((x = 3) \text{ or } (y = 4)) = \text{false}$, $(x = 3)$, $(y = 4)$. The subdomains of (*reduced decision-condition*)^s are:

1. the set of inputs such that decision $((x = 3) \text{ or } (y = 4)) = \text{false}$, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid (x \neq 3, y \neq 4)\}$,
2. the set of inputs such that condition $(x = 3)$ is true, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid x = 3\}$
3. the set of inputs such that condition $(y = 4)$ is true, i.e. the set $\{(x, y) \mid y = 4\}$

Clarke et al. [1] pointed out certain problems with the original *required k-tuples* criterion and defined the *required k-tuples⁺ criterion* by making the following two modifications:

1. all l -dr interactions must be exercised for $l \leq k$, and
2. the statements s_i in the path need not to be distinct.

Without modification (1), $(required\ k\text{-tuples})^*$ fails to include $(required\ (k-1)\text{-tuples})^*$, and without modification (2), $(required\ 2\text{-tuples})^*$ fails to include $(all\text{-uses})^*$. The *subdomain-based required k -tuples coverage* criterion, $(required\ k\text{-tuples}^+)^s$, is defined by the *required k -tuples⁺* criterion defined above.

3.3 Measure M and Properly Covers Relation

Given a program P and a specification S , a *failure-causing input* t is one such that the output produced by P on input t does not agree with the specified output.

Consider $SD_C(P, S) = \{D_1(C), D_2(C), \dots, D_r(C)\}$ for a given triple (C, P, S) . Let $d_i = |D_i(C)|$ and let m_i be the number of failure-causing inputs in $D_i(C)$. Then, the probability that a test suite formed by using C will expose at least one fault in P is given by measure M , i.e. $M(C, P, S) = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^r (1 - \frac{m_i}{d_i})$.

Let C_1, C_2 be two software testing criteria. C_1 *covers* C_2 for (P, S) if for every subdomain D in $SD_{C_2}(P, S)$, there is a collection $\{D_1, \dots, D_n\}$ of subdomains in $SD_{C_1}(P, S)$ such that $D = D_1 \cup \dots \cup D_n$. C_1 is *universally covers* C_2 if for every program, specification pair (P, S) , C_1 covers C_2 . C_1 *properly covers* C_2 for (P, S) if the multi-set union of multi-set $\{D_1, \dots, D_n\}$ for each D in $SD_{C_2}(P, S)$ is a sub-multi-set of $SD_{C_1}(P, S)$. C_1 is *universally properly covers* C_2 if for every program, specification pair (P, S) , C_1 properly covers C_2 for (P, S) .

Theorem 3.1 [4] If C_1 properly covers C_2 for program P and specification S , then

$$M(C_1, P, S) \geq M(C_2, P, S).$$

3.4 Hierarchy of Subdomain-based Criteria with respect to Universally Properly Covers Relation

In this section, we compare $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^S$ coverage criterion with other subdomain-based software testing criteria.

Theorem 3.2

i) $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^S$ does not universally properly cover $(decision)^S$ and $(condition)^S$.

Therefore, $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^S$ does not universally properly cover any criterion in the hierarchy.

ii) $(all\text{-uses})^S$ and $(multiple\text{-condition})^S$ do not universally properly cover $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^S$. Therefore, $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^S$ is incomparable with $(all\text{-uses})^S$, $(all\text{-p-uses})^S$, $(decision)^S$, $(multiple\text{-condition})^S$, $(decision\text{-condition})^S$, $(reduced\text{-decision-condition})^S$ and $(condition)^S$ criteria.

Proof: Let P be program D with the following flowgraph representation.

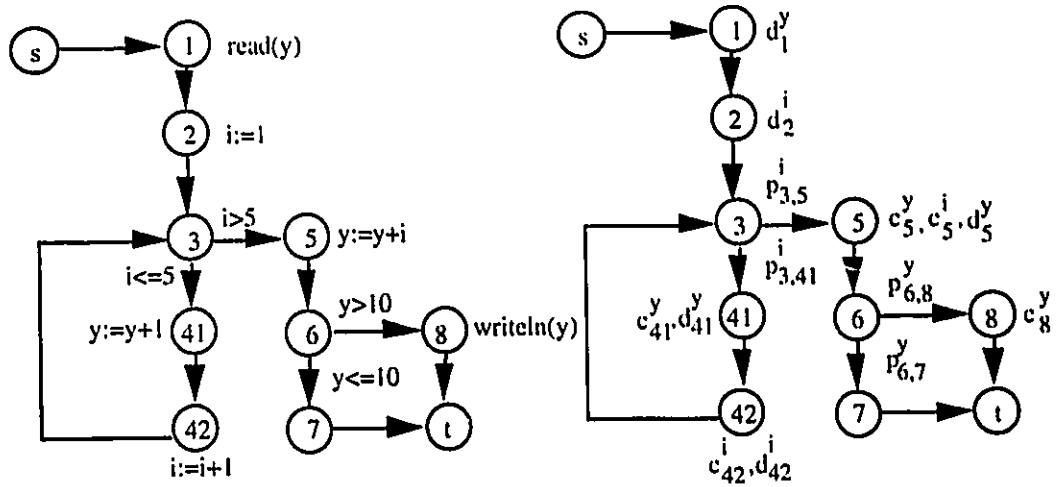


Fig. 6. Program *D* and Its Flowgraph

Then, the executable IP/O_1 and IP/O_2 -chains of P and their subdomains are given in Table 2:

Table 2: IP/O_1 and IP/O_2 -chains and their subdomains in P

IP/O -CHAINS	SUBDOMAINS
$[d_2^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's
$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's
$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's

The (*decision*)^s requires the subdomains given in Table 3:

Table3: Decisions and their subdomains in P

DECISIONS	SUBDOMAINS
$i \leq 5$	all y 's
$i > 5$	all y 's

$y \leq 10$	$y < 0$
$y > 10$	$y \geq 0$

The $(condition)^s$ requires the following subdomains:

Let $cond_1, cond_2, cond_3, cond_4$ be condition $i \leq 5, i > 5, y \leq 10$ and $y > 10$, respectively. Since $(condition)^s$ requires that every condition takes on the value true at least once and takes on the value false at least once [4], $SD_{CC} = \{D_1, D_2, D_3, D_4, D_1, D_2, D_3, D_4\}$, where D_i is the set of inputs such that condition $cond_i = true$, for $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$; and D_2 (D_1 resp.) is the set of inputs such that condition $cond_1 = false$ ($cond_2 = false$ resp.), D_4 (D_3 resp.) is the set of input such that condition $cond_3 = false$ ($cond_4 = false$ resp.), So, $D_1 = D_2 = \{all\ y's\}$, $D_3 = \{y < 0\}$, $D_4 = \{y \geq 0\}$.

Let the input domain of program P is $D = \{-4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, 95\}$ and the set of failure-causing inputs is $\{-4, -1\}$. Let C_1 be $(IP/O_2-chains)^s$, C_2 be $(decision)^s$ and CC be $(condition)^s$. Then $SD_{C_1} = \{D, D, D\}$ and $SD_{C_2} = \{D, D, D_3, D_4\}$, where $D_3 = \{-4, -3, -2, -1\}$ and $D_4 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, 95\}$. Then

$$M(C_1, P, S) = 1 - (1 - \frac{2}{100})^3 = 0.0588$$

$$M(C_2, P, S) = 1 - (1 - \frac{2}{100})^2(1 - \frac{2}{4}) = 0.5198$$

$$M(CC, P, S) = 1 - (1 - \frac{2}{100})^4(1 - \frac{2}{4})^2 = 0.769$$

So, $M(C_1, P, S) < M(C_2, P, S) < M(CC, P, S)$ and $(IP/O_2-chains)^s$ does not properly cover $(decision)^s$ and $(condition)^s$ by Theorem 3.1. Hence i) holds by the definition of the universally properly covers relation.

To prove that $(all-uses)^S$ and $(multiple-decision)^S$ do not universally properly cover $(IP/O_2-chains)^S$, let us consider the program E given below:

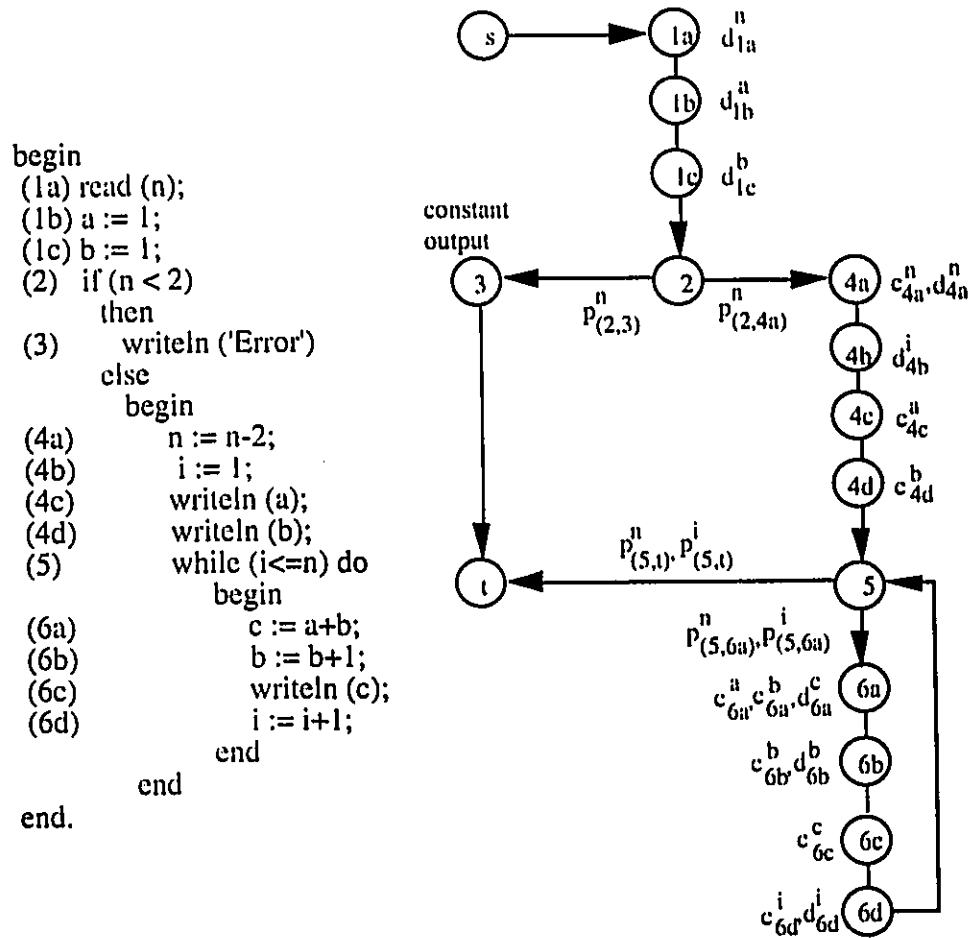


Fig. 7. Program E and Its Flowgraph

The du -pairs and the IP/O_j -chains for $j = 1, 2$ in Program E are given in Tables 4, 5, and 6, respectively.

Table 4: *du*-pairs in Program *E*

VARIABLE	DU-PAIRS
<i>n</i>	$(d_{1a}^n, p_{(2,3)}^n), (d_{1a}^n, p_{(2,4a)}^n), (d_{1a}^n, c_{4a}^n), (d_{4a}^n, p_{(5,i)}^n), (d_{4a}^n, p_{(5,6a)}^n)$
<i>a</i>	$(d_{1b}^a, c_{4c}^a), (d_{1b}^a, c_{6a}^a)$
<i>b</i>	$(d_{1c}^b, c_{4d}^b), (d_{1c}^b, c_{6a}^b), (d_{1c}^b, c_{6b}^b), (d_{6b}^b, c_{6a}^b), (d_{6b}^b, c_{6b}^b)$
<i>i</i>	$(d_{4b}^i, p_{(5,i)}^i), (d_{4b}^i, p_{(5,6a)}^i), (d_{4b}^i, c_{6d}^i)$ $(d_{6d}^i, p_{(5,i)}^i), (d_{6d}^i, p_{(5,6a)}^i), (d_{6d}^i, c_{6d}^i)$
<i>c</i>	(d_{6a}^c, c_{6c}^c)

Table 5: *IP/O*₁-chains in Program *E*

VARIABLE	<i>IP/O</i> ₁ -CHAINS
<i>n</i>	$[d_{1a}^n, u_{(2,3)}^n], [d_{1a}^n, u_{(2,4a)}^n], [d_{1a}^n, u_{4a}^n d_{4a}^n, u_{(5,i)}^n], [d_{1a}^n, u_{4a}^n d_{4a}^n, u_{(5,6a)}^n]$
<i>a</i>	$[d_{1b}^a, u_{4c}^a], [d_{1b}^a, u_{6a}^a d_{6a}^a, u_{6c}^a]$
<i>b</i>	$[d_{1c}^b, u_{4d}^b], [d_{1c}^b, u_{6a}^b d_{6a}^b, u_{6c}^b], [d_{1c}^b, u_{6b}^b d_{6b}^b, u_{6a}^b d_{6a}^b, u_{6c}^b]$
<i>i</i>	$[d_{4b}^i, u_{(5,i)}^i], [d_{4b}^i, u_{(5,6a)}^i], [d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i, u_{(5,i)}^i], [d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i, u_{(5,6a)}^i]$

Table 6: *IP/O*₂-chains in Program *E*

VARIABLE	<i>IP/O</i> ₂ -CHAINS
<i>b</i>	$[d_{1c}^b, u_{6b}^b d_{6b}^b, u_{6b}^b d_{6b}^b, u_{6a}^b d_{6a}^b, u_{6c}^b]$
<i>i</i>	$[d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i, u_{(5,i)}^i], [d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i, u_{(5,6a)}^i]$

Assume that the input domain of program E is $\{1, 2, \dots, 9\}$. Then, the set of failure-causing inputs is $\{5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ because program E is intended to calculate the first n Fibonacci numbers with $n \geq 2$ and it only provides correct output for $n \leq 4$ due to a fault in node $5b$, i.e. $a := b$ and $b := c$ are replaced by $b := b + 1$.

Table 7: Subdomains and failure-causing rates of du -pairs in Program E

DU-PAIRS	SUBDOMAINS	FAILURE-CAUSING RATE
$(d_{1a}^n, p_{(2,3)}^n)$	$\{1\}$	0
$(d_{1a}^n, p_{(2,4a)}^n)$	$\{2, 3, \dots, 9\}$	$\frac{5}{8}$
(d_{1a}^n, c_{4a}^n)	$\{2, 3, \dots, 9\}$	$\frac{5}{8}$
$(d_{4a}^n, p_{(5,t)}^n)$	$\{2, 3, \dots, 9\}$	$\frac{5}{8}$
$(d_{4a}^n, p_{(5,6a)}^n)$	$\{3, 4, \dots, 9\}$	$\frac{5}{7}$
(d_{1b}^a, c_{4c}^a)	$\{2, 3, \dots, 9\}$	$\frac{5}{8}$
(d_{1b}^a, c_{6a}^a)	$\{3, 4, \dots, 9\}$	$\frac{5}{7}$
(d_{1c}^b, c_{4d}^b)	$\{2, 3, \dots, 9\}$	$\frac{5}{8}$
(d_{1c}^b, c_{6a}^b)	$\{3, 4, \dots, 9\}$	$\frac{5}{7}$
(d_{1c}^b, c_{6b}^b)	$\{3, 4, \dots, 9\}$	$\frac{5}{7}$
(d_{6b}^b, c_{6a}^b)	$\{4, 5, \dots, 9\}$	$\frac{5}{6}$

(d_{6b}^b, c_{6b}^b)	{4, 5, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{6}$
$(d_{4b}^i, p_{(5,t)}^i)$	{2}	0
$(d_{4b}^i, p_{(5,6a)}^i)$	{3, 4, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{7}$
(d_{4b}^i, c_{6a}^i)	{3, 4, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{7}$
$(d_{6a}^i, p_{(5,t)}^i)$	{3}	0
$(d_{6a}^i, p_{(5,6a)}^i)$	{4, 5, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{6}$
(d_{6a}^i, c_{6a}^i)	{4, 5, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{6}$
(d_{6a}^c, c_{6c}^c)	{3, 4, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{7}$

Table 8: Subdomains and failure-causing rates of the IP/O_1 -chains in Program E

IP/O_1 -CHAIN	SUBDOMAINS	FAILURE-CAUSING RATE
$[d_{1a}^n, u_{(2,3)}^n]$	{1}	0
$[d_{1a}^n, u_{(2,4a)}^n]$	{2, 3, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{8}$
$[d_{1a}^n, u_{4a}^n, d_{4a}^n, u_{(5,t)}^n]$	{2}	0
$[d_{1a}^n, u_{4a}^n, d_{4a}^n, u_{(5,6a)}^n]$	{3, 4, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{7}$
$[d_{1b}^n, u_{4c}^a]$	{2, 3, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{8}$

$[d_{1b}^a, u_{6a}^a d_{6a'}^c, u_{6c}^c]$	{3, 4, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{7}$
$[d_{1c}^b, u_{4d}^b]$	{2, 3, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{8}$
$[d_{1c}^b, u_{6a}^b d_{6a'}^c, u_{6c}^c]$	{3, 4, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{7}$
$[d_{1c}^b, u_{6b}^b d_{6b'}^b, u_{6a}^b d_{6a'}^c, u_{6c}^c]$	{4, 5, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{6}$
$[d_{4b}^i, u_{(5,t)}^i]$	{2}	0
$[d_{4b}^i, u_{(5,6a)}^i]$	{3, 4, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{7}$
$[d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d'}^i, u_{(5,t)}^i]$	{3}	0
$[d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d'}^i, u_{(5,6a)}^i]$	{4, 5, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{6}$

Table 9: Subdomains and failure-causing rates of IP/O_2 -chains in Program E

IP/O_2 -CHAIN	SUBDOMAINS	FAILURE-CAUSING RATE
$[d_{1c}^b, u_{6b}^b d_{6b'}^b, u_{6b}^b d_{6b'}^b, u_{6a}^b d_{6a'}^c, u_{6c}^c]$	{5, 6, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{5}$
$[d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d'}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d'}^i, u_{(5,t)}^i]$	{4}	0
$[d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d'}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d'}^i, u_{(5,6a)}^i]$	{5, 6, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{5}$

Table 10: Subdomains and failure-causing rates of multiple-conditions in Program E

CONDITION	SUBDOMAINS	FAILURE-CAUSING RATE
$n < 2$	{1, 2}	0
$n \geq 2$	{2, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{8}$
$n < i$	{1, 2}	0
$n \geq i$	{3, 4, ..., 9}	$\frac{5}{7}$

Thus,

$$M(\text{all-uses}, P, S) = 1 - (1 - \frac{5}{8})^5(1 - \frac{5}{7})^7(1 - \frac{5}{6})^4,$$

$$M(\text{multiple-condition } P, S) = 1 - (1 - \frac{5}{8})(1 - \frac{5}{7}),$$

$$M(\text{IP/O}_2\text{-chains}, P, S) = 1 - (1 - \frac{5}{8})^4(1 - \frac{5}{7})^4(1 - \frac{5}{6})^2(1 - \frac{5}{5})^2 = 1,$$

$$M(\text{IP/O}_2\text{-chains}, P, S) > M(\text{all-uses}, P, S) > M(\text{multiple-condition}, P, S).$$

So, $(\text{all-uses})^S$ and $(\text{multiple-condition})^S$ do not properly cover $(\text{IP/O}_2\text{-chains})^S$ by Theorem 3.1. Hence, ii) holds by the definition of the universally properly covers relation, the transitivity of universally properly covers relation and the Theorem 5 [4]. \square

From Theorem 3.2, we have the following hierarchy:

Chapter 4

A New Version of *IP/O₂*-chains Coverage Criteria

Like required *k*-tuples criterion, one of the original objectives of *IP/O₂*-chains coverage criterion is to refine subdomains so that the *du*-pairs in loops will be examined more than once if the loop containing that *du*-pair iterates more than once. It has been proved later by Frankl and Weyuker in Lemma 3 [3] that to refine subdomains related to a subdomain-based criterion will increase the fault detecting ability of that criterion. But, as the definition of *required k-tuples* criterion introduces non-executable *k-dr* interactions, the definition of *IP/O₂-chains coverage* criterion introduces non-executable *IP/O₂-chains*, i.e. the *IP/O₂-chains* that can not be covered by any executable complete path. More precisely, there are two problems we have to consider

1. How do we identify the non-executable *IP/O₂-chains*
2. How do we treat these non-executable *IP/O₂-chains*

These problems have also been noted by Ntafos [13] and by Frankl and Weyuker [2]. Since the problem of determining whether or not an executable complete path that covers an *IP/O₂-chain* exists is, in general, undecidable, some *IP/O₂-chains* will have to be considered at the test data generation phase. In many cases, symbolic execution [9] may be useful in determining whether or not an *IP/O₂-chain* is executable. The solutions for treating those *k-dr* interactions that can not be covered by any executable complete path

given both in [13] and [4] are to discard them simply at the test data generation phase. If we were to adopt this solution and simply discard these non-executable *IP/O₂*-chains at the test data generation phase, then we would lose some chances to refine some subdomains. Even worse, some executable *du*-pairs on these *IP/O₂*-chains would never be exercised during testing. A solution for *required k-tuples* criterion given in the definition of the *required k-tuples⁺* criterion is to require that all *l-dr* interactions be exercised for $l \leq k$. This results in that every executable *du*-pair will be covered in the test suite even all required *k-dr* interactions that can not be covered by any executable complete path are discarded. However, we will see later by an example that this solution produces duplicate subdomains. So, we will not follow this counter-productive way to improve *IP/O₂*-chains coverage criterion. Roughly speaking, our approach will be the following:

1. We will not introduce any additional requirement for original *IP/O₂*-chains coverage criterion.
2. We will not simply throw away these non-executable *IP/O₂*-chains. Instead, we will improve them to be executable and therefore to use them to refine subdomains.
3. We will utilize the concept of prefix to reduce the duplications of subdomains.

4.1 Definition Of New *IP/O₂*-chains Coverage Criterion

In this section, we define the new *IP/O₂*-chains coverage criterion to achieve the objectives mentioned at the end of the last section. But first, we modify the definition of *df*-chains given in Chapter 2 to define executable *df*-chains.

Definition 4.1

1. A *length 1 df-chain* is an executable *du-pair*. On the other hand, every executable *du-pair* is a *length 1 df-chain*.
2. A *length m df-chain* ($m > 1$) is a sequence of m executable *du-pairs* such that
 - a) The first $m-1$ executable *du-pairs* form a *length m-1 df-chain*.
 - b) If the use of a variable in $(m-1)$ -th executable *du-pair* occurs at node n_m then the definition of a variable in m -th executable *du-pair* occurs at node n_m .
 - c) There exists at least one executable complete path to cover all these m executable *du-pairs* simultaneously.

A *length m df-chain* c is denoted by $(d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2}, \dots, d_{n_m}^{x_m}, u_{n_{m+1}}^{x_m})$ and the length of c is denoted by $l(c)$.

From Definition 4.1 we know that every *df-chain* is executable, i.e. there exists an executable complete path to cover it.

Because some *du-pairs* may occur several times in a *df-chain*, in order to distinguish these *du-pairs* in a *df-chain*, we introduce the concept of segment.

Given a *df-chain* $c = (d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2}, \dots, d_{n_m}^{x_m}, u_{n_{m+1}}^{x_m})$, if $s = u_{n_k}^{x_{k-1}} d_{n_k}^{x_k}, u_{n_{k+1}}^{x_k} \dots u_{n_r}^{x_{r-1}} d_{n_r}^{x_r}$, where $2 \leq k \leq r \leq m$ then s is called a *segment* of c .

It should be noted that the multiple occurrences of $u_j^x d_j^y$ in a *df-chain* indicates that the *df-chain* traverses a loop in the given program. However, the reverse is not always true, i.e. there may exist a *df-chain* that traverses a loop in a program but every $u_j^x d_j^y$ occurs only once in it.

Definition 4.2 A *cycle* in a *df-chain* is a segment of the *df-chain* such that one $u_j^x d_j^y$ occurs at the beginning and at the end of the segment; and $u_j^x d_j^y$ does not occur in any other place in the segment.

A cycle may occur several times in a *df-chain*. Some of them may be deleted from the *df-chain* without changing the executability of the *df-chain* while others may have to be there for the *df-chain* to be executable. The *original IP/O₂-chains coverage* criterion requires at most one occurrence of a cycle in a *df-chain* to be considered. This results in non-executable *df-chains*. For instance, program *D* in Section 3.4 has the following *IP/O₂-chains*:

$$\begin{aligned} & [d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(6,7)}^y], [d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(6,8)}^y] \\ & [d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, u_8^y], [d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_5^i d_5^y, p_{(6,7)}^y] \\ & [d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_5^i d_5^y, p_{(6,8)}^y], [d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_5^i d_5^y, u_8^y] \end{aligned}$$

But, none of them is executable. Discarding these non-executable *IP/O₂-chains* will result in *du-pairs* that occur on them not been covered. Therefore, we have to overcome this weakness of the *original IP/O₂-chains coverage* criterion in defining a new version of *IP/O₂-chains coverage* criterion. First, we introduce the following concepts:

Definition 4.3 A *df-chain* *c* is *irreducible* if one of the following conditions is satisfied:

1. There is no cycle in *c*.
2. Any attempt to decrease the number of occurrences of any cycle that occurs in *c* will disqualify *c* from being a *df-chain*.

Because every IP/O_n -chain is a df -chain and each df -chain is executable, every IP/O_n -chain is executable by Definition 4.1.

Generally speaking, a Boolean expression will produce a large number of p -uses in which many of them may simply produce duplications of subdomains. In order to reduce the duplication of subdomains, we utilize the concept of prefix of IP/O -chains which was introduced by Schoot and Ural in [15].

Definition 4.6 An IP/O_j -chain c_1 of length m which ends with a p -use is a *prefix* of an IP/O_k -chain c_2 if the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The sequence of the first $m - 1$ du -pairs in c_1 and c_2 and the definition in the m -th du -pair in c_1 and c_2 are the same, i.e.

$$c_1 = (d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2} \dots d_{n_m}^{x_m}, p_{(n_{m+1}, n_{m+2})}^{x_m})$$

$$c_2 = (d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2} \dots d_{n_m}^{x_m}, u_{r_{m+1}}^{x_m}, d_{r_{m+1}}^{x_{m+1}}, \dots, u_{r_s}^{x_s})$$

2. The activating paths of c_2 have the following form

$$(n_1 \dots n_2 \dots n_m \dots n_{m+1} \dots n_{m+2} \dots r_{m+1} \dots r_{m+2} \dots r_{s-1} \dots r_s),$$

where $n_j \dots n_{j+1}$ and $r_k \dots r_{k+1}$ are *def*-clear paths with respect to x_j and x_k respectively for $j = 1, \dots, m - 1$ and $k = m + 1, \dots, s - 1$; $n_m \dots n_{m+1} \dots n_{m+2} \dots r_{m+1}$ is *def*-clear path with respect to x_m . i.e. all activating paths of c_2 traverse the edge (n_{m+1}, n_{m+2}) .

Proposition 4.1 If IP/O_j -chain c_1 is a prefix of IP/O_k -chain c_2 then $D(c_2) \subseteq D(c_1)$.

Proof: Let

$$c_1 = (d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2} \dots d_{n_m}^{x_m}, p_{(n_{m+1}, n_{m+2})}^{x_m})$$

$$c_2 = (d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2} \dots d_{n_m}^{x_m}, u_{r_{m+1}}^{x_m}, d_{r_{m+1}}^{x_{m+1}}, \dots, u_{r_s}^{x_s})$$

If c_1 is a prefix of IP/O_k -chain c_2 then the activating paths of c_1 and c_2 are of form

$$(n_1 \dots n_2 \dots n_m \dots n_{m+1} \dots n_{m+2})$$

$$(n_1 \dots n_2 \dots n_m \dots n_{m+1} \dots n_{m+2} \dots r_{m+1} \dots r_{m+2} \dots r_{s-1} \dots r_s)$$

respectively. If d is an input data such that the activating path $(n_1 \dots n_2 \dots n_m \dots n_{m+1} \dots n_{m+2} \dots r_{m+1} \dots r_{m+2} \dots r_{s-1} \dots r_s)$ will be traversed, then d is also an input data such that the activating path $(n_1 \dots n_2 \dots n_m \dots n_{m+1} \dots n_{m+2})$ will be traversed. Hence $D(c_2) \subseteq D(c_1)$. \square

From the proof of Proposition 4.1 we know that every activating path of c_1 is a subpath of an activating path of c_2 and every activating path of c_2 must contain a subpath that is an activating path of c_1 because they have the same sequence of the first $m - 1$ *du*-pairs and c_2 also traverses the edge of the *p*-use in last *du*-pair of c_1 .

Now we can define new version of IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion. The objectives are to release those IP/O -chains that may have the same subdomains as the other IP/O -chains or their subdomains are the unions of subdomains of other IP/O -chains.

Definition 4.7 The new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion requires that following IP/O_k -chains will be covered at least once, where $k \leq n$:

1. every IP/O_k -chain that ends with an output of a variable
2. every IP/O_k -chain c that ends with a *p*-use of a variable and satisfies one of the following conditions:
 - 2.1. c is not a prefix of any other IP/O_j -chain, where $j \leq n$.

2.2. c is a prefix of another IP/O_j -chain and there exists at least one executable complete path p such that p covers c and c is not a prefix of any IP/O -chain covered by p , where $j \leq n$.

We denote the applicable *new IP/O_n -chains coverage* criterion by (*new IP/O_n -chains*)^{*} and the *subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage* criterion by (*new IP/O_n -chains*)^s.

It should be noted that 2.2 in Definition 4.7 is equivalent to say that if an IP/O_k -chain c ending with a p -use of a variable is a prefix of another IP/O_k -chain such that for every executable complete path p that covers c , there exists an IP/O -chain c_1 on p and c is a prefix of c_1 then c can be ignored. But, it will be very expensive if one uses this fact to check that if a IP/O -chain need to be covered in a test suite for a given program. Actually, we need not to check every executable complete path p that covers c to see if c is a prefix of some IP/O -chain on p . Suppose $c = (d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2} \dots d_{n_m}^{x_m}, p_{(n_{m+1}, n_{m+2})}^{x_m})$ is a prefix of another IP/O_k -chain, then we use algorithm A given below to determine if c need to be covered. But first we define the extension of a df -chain.

Definition 4.8 Given two df -chains $c_1 = (d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2} \dots d_{n_{m-1}}^{x_{m-1}}, u_{n_m}^{x_{m-1}})$ and $c_2 = (d_{k_1}^{x_1}, u_{k_2}^{x_1}, d_{k_2}^{x_2}, u_{k_3}^{x_2} \dots d_{k_{r-1}}^{x_{r-1}}, u_{k_r}^{x_{r-1}})$, c_2 is called a *tail extension* of c_1 (or c_1 is *tail-extended* to c_2) if $m < r$ and $n_j = k_j$, for $j = 1, \dots, m$. Given two df -chains $c_3 = (d_{n_i}^{x_i}, u_{n_{i+1}}^{x_i}, d_{n_{i+1}}^{x_{i+1}}, u_{n_{i+2}}^{x_{i+1}} \dots d_{n_{r-1}}^{x_{r-1}}, u_{n_r}^{x_{r-1}})$ and $c_4 = (d_{k_1}^{x_1}, u_{k_2}^{x_1}, d_{k_2}^{x_2}, u_{k_3}^{x_2} \dots d_{k_{r-1}}^{x_{r-1}}, u_{k_r}^{x_{r-1}})$, c_4 is called a *head extension* of c_3 (or c_3 is *head-extended* to c_4) if $1 < i$ and $n_j = k_j$, for $j = i, i + 1, \dots, r$. If a df -chain c_1 is tail or head-extended to c_2 then we say that c_1 is *extended* to c_2 . Also, if a df -chain c_2 is tail or head extension of c_1 then we say that c_2 is *extension* of c_1 .

Note that $c = (d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2} \dots d_{n_{m-1}}^{x_{m-1}}, u_{n_m}^{x_{m-1}}, d_{n_m}^{x_m}, p_{(n_{m+1}, n_{m+2})}^{x_m})$ being a prefix of a *IP/O-chain* on p is equivalent to that $c_0 = (d_{n_1}^{x_1}, u_{n_2}^{x_1}, d_{n_2}^{x_2}, u_{n_3}^{x_2} \dots d_{n_{m-1}}^{x_{m-1}}, u_{n_m}^{x_{m-1}})$ can be tail-extended to an *IP/O-chain* on p with $(d_{n_m}^{x_m}, u_r^{x_m})$ as the first *du-pair* to add to c_0 for some node r on p .

Algorithm A:

```

c0 := (dn1x1, un2x1, dn2x2, un3x2 ... dnm-1xm-1, unmxm-1, dnmxm, p(nm+1, nm+2)xm);
B := [ executable subpaths (nm+2, nq)];
c_need_to_be_covered := false;
while ( (B <> empty ) and (not c_need_to_be_covered ) )do
    remove one subpath from B;
    c1 := c0;
    D := [du-pairs of form (dnmxm, unqxm) whose def-clear path w.r.t. xm terminates
        at some node nq on the subpath and c1 can be tail-extended by using the
        du-pair];
while ((D <> empty) and c1 <> IP/O-chain) do
    remove one du-pair from D;
    c1 := tail-extension of c0 obtained by using the du-pair;
    if c1 <> IP/O-chain then
        repeat
            tail-extend c1 on one subpath starting from node nq (depth
            first);
            if the tail-extension of c1 traverses into a loop then exit the
            loop as soon as the tail-extension is executable;

```

```

        (* since if there is no use of a variable in the first iteration
        then neither in other iterations *)
        until an IP/O-chain is formed or the exit node t is reached;
    endif;
endwhile;
if  $c_1 \neq$  IP/O-chain then
     $c\_need\_to\_be\_covered := true;$ 
endif;
endwhile;

```

It should be also noted that a particular example of an IP/O_k -chain c that satisfies 2.1 in Definition 4.7 is the IP/O_k -chain that ends with a p -use of a variable and steps toward a constant output (there is no IP/O -chain that has c as its prefix on that executable complete path).

Next, we give a very simple program and apply (new IP/O_2 -chains)* to it to show that the objectives above are achieved.

Example 4.1 Let F be a program with the following flowgraph representation

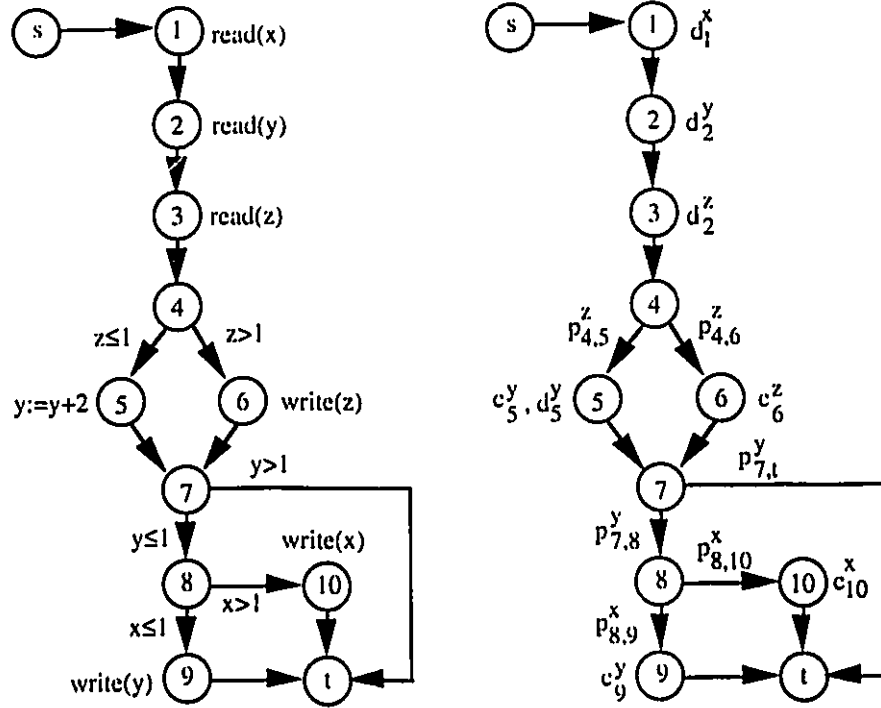


Fig. 9 Program F and Its Flowgraph

Let $x, y, z = 1, 2$ be the inputs of program F . If (a, b, c) denotes the input $x = a, y = b$ and $z = c$ then the executable IP/O_1 -chains of F and their subdomains are given in Table 11:

Table 11: IP/O_1 -chains and their subdomains in program F

ID	IP/O_1 -CHAINS	SUBDOMAINS
c_1	$[d_1^x, p_{(8,9)}^x]$	$\{(1,1,1), (1,1,2)\}$
c_2	$[d_1^x, p_{(8,10)}^x]$	$\{(2,1,1), (2,1,2)\}$
c_3	$[d_1^x, u_{10}^x]$	$\{(2,1,1), (2,1,2)\}$
c_4	$[d_2^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(7,8)}^y]$	$\{(1,1,1), (2,1,1)\}$

c_5	$[d_2^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(7,t)}^y]$	$\{(1,2,1), (2,2,1)\}$
c_6	$[d_2^y, u_5^y d_5^y, u_9^y]$	$\{(1,1,1)\}$
c_7	$[d_2^y, p_{(7,8)}^y]$	$\{(1,1,2), (2,1,2)\}$
c_8	$[d_2^y, p_{(7,t)}^y]$	$\{(1,2,2), (2,2,2)\}$
c_9	$[d_3^z, p_{(4,5)}^z]$	$\{(1,1,1), (2,1,1), (1,2,1), (2,2,1)\}$
c_{10}	$[d_3^z, p_{(4,6)}^z]$	$\{(1,1,2), (2,1,2), (1,2,2), (2,2,2)\}$
c_{11}	$[d_3^z, u_6^z]$	$\{(1,1,2), (2,1,2), (1,2,2), (2,2,2)\}$

Among the *IP/O*-chains above, c_2 is a prefix of c_3 , c_4 is a prefix of c_6 and c_{10} is a prefix of c_{11} . According to definition 4.7 we can only discard c_2 and c_{10} . For example c_2 can be discarded because there are only two executable complete paths $p_1 = (s, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, t)$, $p_2 = (s, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, t)$ that cover c_2 and c_2 is a prefix of c_3 that is on both p_1 and p_2 . So, c_2 does not satisfy 2 in Definition 4.7. But c_4 satisfies 2.2 in Definition 4.7 because the executable complete path p_1 covers c_4 , and c_4 is not a prefix of any *IP/O*-chain on p_1 . Therefore c_4 must be included in the set of *IP/O*-chains to be covered.

Note that the subdomains of c_2 and c_{10} are the unions of other subdomains. We can release c_2 and c_{10} without any problem. But the subdomain $\{(1,1,1), (2,1,1)\}$ of c_4 is not a union of any subdomains although it is a prefix of c_6 . Therefore the requirement 2 in Definition 4.7 is necessary to achieve the objective of the *new IP/O₂-chains coverage*

criterion. On the other hand, we will prove in Lemma 4.2.3 that the requirements in Definition 4.7 are also sufficient.

Obviously, $(\text{new } IP/O_2\text{-chains})^*$ requires that $c_1, c_3, c_4, c_5, c_6, c_7, c_8, c_9$ and c_{11} to be covered at least once in a test suite.

In the following example, we will see the differences between the new IP/O_2 -chains and the original IP/O_2 -chains. We will also see the applications of the *original* IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion, $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^*$, $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^s$, $(\text{new } IP/O_2\text{-chains})^*$ and $(\text{new } IP/O_2\text{-chains})^s$ to the same program.

Example 4.2 Consider program D and its flowgraph given in Fig. 6 in Section 3.4. The original IP/O_2 -chains, applicable IP/O_2 -chains and the new IP/O_2 -chains and their subdomains are given in Tables 12, 13 and 14 respectively:

Table 12: Original IP/O_k -chains in Program D ($k \leq 2$)

ID	ORIGINAL IP/O_k -CHAINS	SUBDOMAINS
c_1	$[d_2^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's
c_2	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's
c_3	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's
q_1	$[d_2^i, p_{(3,5)}^i]$	empty
q_2	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,5)}^i]$	empty
q_3	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,5)}^i]$	empty

q_4	$[d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(6,7)}^y]$	empty
q_5	$[d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(6,8)}^y]$	empty
q_6	$[d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, u_8^y]$	empty
q_7	$[d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(6,7)}^y]$	empty
q_8	$[d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(6,8)}^y]$	empty
q_9	$[d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, u_8^y]$	empty
q_{10}	$[d_1^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(6,7)}^y]$	empty
q_{11}	$[d_1^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(6,8)}^y]$	empty
q_{12}	$[d_1^y, u_5^y d_5^y, u_8^y]$	empty
q_{13}	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_5^i d_5^y, p_{(6,7)}^y]$	empty
q_{14}	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_5^i d_5^y, p_{(6,8)}^y]$	empty
q_{15}	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_5^i d_5^y, u_8^y]$	empty

Table 13: Applicable IP/O_k -chains in Program D ($k \leq 2$)

ID	APPLICABLE IP/O_k -CHAINS	SUBDOMAINS
c_1	$[d_2^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's
c_2	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's

c_3	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's
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Table 14: New IP/O_k -chains in Program D ($k \leq 2$)

ID	NEW IP/O_k -CHAINS	SUBDOMAINS
c_1	$[d_2^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's
c_2	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's
c_3	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,41)}^i]$	all y 's
c_4	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, p_{(3,5)}^i]$	all y 's
c_5	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_5^i d_5^y, p_{(6,7)}^y]$	$y \leq -1$
c_6	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_5^i d_5^y, p_{(6,8)}^y]$	$y > -1$
c_7	$[d_2^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_5^i d_5^y, u_8^y]$	$y > -1$
c_8	$[d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(6,7)}^y]$	$y \leq -1$
c_9	$[d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, p_{(6,8)}^y]$	$y > -1$
c_{10}	$[d_1^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_{41}^y d_{41}^y, u_5^y d_5^y, u_8^y]$	$y > -1$

It should be noted that c_4, c_5, c_6 and c_7 are IP/O_1 -chains while c_3 is IP/O_2 -chain because the number of the occurrences of the cycle $u_{42}^i d_{42}^i, u_{42}^i d_{42}^i$ in c_4, c_5, c_6 and c_7 can not be decreased, but it can be decreased in c_3 .

The original IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion requires that $c_1, c_2, c_3, q_1, \dots, q_{15}$ to be covered at least once. $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^*$ requires that c_1, c_2, c_3 to be covered at least once.

Among the new IP/O_1 -chains above, c_1, \dots, c_6 and c_9 are prefixes of others. But, we claim that only c_5 need to be covered. Therefore, $(new\ IP/O_2\text{-chains})^*$ requires that c_5, c_7, c_8 and c_{10} to be covered at least once.

Since c_1 is a prefix of c_2 and c_2 is on the executable complete paths $p_1 = (s\ 1, 2, (3, 41, 42)^5, 3, 5, 6, 7, t)$ and $p_2 = (s, 1, 2, (3, 41, 42)^5, 3, 5, 6, 8, t)$ that cover c_1 ; c_2 is a prefix of c_3 and c_3 is on both p_1 and p_2 that cover c_2 ; c_1 and c_2 do not satisfy the condition 2.2 in Definition 4.7. Similarly, c_3 is a prefix of c_4 and c_4 is on both p_1 and p_2 which imply that c_3 does not satisfy 2.2 in Definition 4.7. There are only two executable complete paths p_1 and p_2 that cover c_4 . c_5 and c_6 are on p_1 and p_2 , respectively. c_4 is a prefix of c_5 and c_6 . Thus, c_4 does not satisfy 2.2 in Definition 4.7. Finally, c_6 is a prefix of c_7 and c_9 is a prefix of c_{10} . But, p_1 is the only executable complete path that covers c_6 and p_2 is the only executable complete path that covers c_9 . c_7 is on p_1 and c_{10} is on p_2 imply that c_6 and c_9 do not satisfy 2.2 in Definition 4.7. So, the claim is correct.

Let Sub_{IP/O_2} (Sub_{N-IP/O_2}) denote the subdomains of $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^s$ and $(new\ IP/O_2\text{-chains})^s$ respectively. Then

$$Sub_{IP/O_2} = \{ \{all\ y's\}, \{all\ y's\}, \{all\ y's\} \}$$

$$Sub_{N-IP/O_2} = \{ \{ y \leq -1 \}, \{ y > -1 \}, \{ y \leq -1 \}, \{ y > -1 \} \}.$$

Now, we can see from Example 4.2 why we do not require that every IP/O_k -chain that ends with a p -use of a variable to be covered at least once in Definition 4.7. The selection of IP/O_k -chains in 2 of Definition 4.7 minimizes duplication of subdomains. For instance, in the example above, IP/O_1 -chains c_6 and c_7 have exactly the same subdomains,

while the subdomain of c_4 is a union of the subdomains of c_5 and c_7 . Therefore, it is redundant to require that c_4 and c_6 to be covered at least once during testing.

On the other hand, the purpose of 2.1 in Definition 4.7 is to capture indirectly the effects of a program input on a constant output. Therefore, it is necessary to require that each IP/O_k -chain in 2.1 be covered at least once during testing.

We also can see from Example 4.2 that every non-executable IP/O -chain (q_1, \dots, q_{15}) required by the *original IP/O_2 -chains coverage* criterion is modified to an executable IP/O -chain (c_4, \dots, c_{10}) in the new version of IP/O_2 -chains. The subdomains are refined in the *new IP/O_2 -chains coverage* criterion without introducing too many duplications of subdomains. In fact, this can also be seen from the following Example 4.3 where the program has no non-executable IP/O -chains.

Example 4.3 Consider program E and its flowgraph given in Fig. 7 in Section 3.4.

Because there is no non-executable IP/O -chains in Program E , the original IP/O_2 -chains, applicable IP/O_2 -chains and new IP/O_2 -chains are the same. They were given in Tables 2 and 3. The subdomains of IP/O_1 -chains and IP/O_2 -chains were given in Tables 5 and 6.

The subdomains of du -pairs were given in Table 4. Because *required k -tuples⁺* criterion insists that every du -pair is covered at least once, all subdomains in Table 4 belong to the subdomains of *required k -tuples⁺* criterion. As we can see from there that there are too many duplications.

But, the *new IP/O_2 -chains coverage* criterion is more efficient. In Tables 5 and 6, IP/O_1 -chain $[d_{1a}^n, p_{(2,4a)}^n]$ is a prefix of $[d_{1a}^n, u_{4a}^n d_{4a}^n, p_{(5,t)}^n]$ and $[d_{1a}^n, u_{4a}^n d_{4a}^n, p_{(5,6a)}^n]$ which

are on the executable complete paths that cover $[d_{1a}^n, p_{(2,4a)}^n]$. The IP/O_1 -chain $[d_{4b}^i, p_{(5,6a)}^i]$ is a prefix of $[d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i p_{(5,t)}^i]$ and $[d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i p_{(5,6a)}^i]$ which are on the executable complete paths that cover $[d_{4b}^i, p_{(5,6a)}^i]$. The IP/O_1 -chain $[d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i p_{(5,6a)}^i]$ is a prefix of $[d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i p_{(5,t)}^i]$ and $[d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i p_{(5,6a)}^i]$ which are on the executable complete paths that covers $[d_{4b}^i, u_{6d}^i d_{6d}^i p_{(5,6a)}^i]$. Thus, we can remove subdomains $\{2, 3, \dots, 9\}$, $\{3, 4, \dots, 9\}$ and $\{4, 5, \dots, 9\}$ which are refined by other subdomains.

According to the definition of *new IP/O₂-chains coverage* criterion, there is no special requirement for the following IP/O -chains:

1. the first definition of an IP/O -chain occurs in a loop
2. the last use of an IP/O -chain occurs in a loop
3. the first definition or the last use of IP/O -chain occurs within more than one loop

Whereas *required k-tuples⁺* criterion produces two required elements that specify two distinct iteration counts for the loop considered.

4.2 Comparison of New IP/O_2 -chains Coverage and All-uses Criteria

In this section, we assume that all programs satisfy the requirements given in Section 3.1. In addition, we require the program under test to satisfy: *f) NFAUU property: every feasible path from the entry node traversing a node having definition of a variable v must reach a node having a use of v* (if programs do not satisfy this property, then may have the possibility of defining an unused variable).

As we have seen in the hierarchies given in Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 respectively that $(IP/O_2\text{-chains})^*$ is not as good as $(all\text{-uses})^*$ and $(required\ k\text{-tuples}^+)^*$ criterion for some programs and their specifications under the strictly includes relation and the universally properly covers relation. In this section, we show that $(new\ IP/O_2\text{-chains})^*$ strictly includes $(all\text{-uses})^*$ in Theorem 4.1. We also compare $(new\ IP/O_2\text{-chains})^s$ with $(all\text{-uses})^s$ under measure M in Theorem 4.2 and its corollaries. But first we prove the following lemma.

Lemma 4.2.1 Let c be an arbitrary df -chain in a given program P and its flowgraph $G(V,E)$. If p is an executable complete path that covers c then c can be extended to an IP/O -chain covered by p .

Proof: Suppose the lemma is not true for a given program P and its flowgraph $G(V,E)$. We will show that this will result in a contradiction. Let S be the set of all df -chains that can not be extended to an IP/O -chain in $G(V,E)$ for some executable complete paths covering them. Then S is not empty. Because we assume that the input domain of program P is finite, the df -chains in $G(V,E)$ is finite. Hence, S is finite and the df -chain that has maximal length in S exists. Let $c = (d_m^x, \dots, u_n^y)$ be a df -chain in S with maximal length. Because c can not be extended to an IP/O -chain covered by an executable complete path p , c itself is not an IP/O -chain. So, d_m^x is not an input of variable x or u_n^y is neither an output of variable y nor a p -use of variable y .

Case 1: d_m^x is not an input of variable x

If d_m^x is not an input of variable x then x must be defined by using variable v at node m . Since the executable complete path p covers c , p reaches node m which has a use of v . Thus the variable v is defined at node l on p by *NFAUD* property. So, we have a df -

chain $c' = (d_1^y, u_m^y d_m^x, \dots, u_n^y)$. Since the length of c' is greater than the length of c and c is the *df*-chain in S with maximal length, $c' \notin S$. Therefore, c' can be extended to an *IP/O*-chain covered by p . But c is head-extended to c' . So *df*-chain c can be extended to an *IP/O*-chain covered by p . This is a contradiction.

Case 2: u_n^y is neither an output of variable y nor a p -use of variable y :

In this case, we can also deduce a contradiction by tail-extending c to c' whose length is greater than the length of c . Let p be a complete path that covers c . If u_n^y is neither an output of variable y nor a p -use of variable y , then y is used to define some variable z at node n on path p , i.e. there exists a feasible path from the entry node to a node having a definition of variable z . Thus, by *NFAUU* property, the feasible path reaches some use of z via some *def*-clear path with respect to z . Hence, $c' = (d_1^y, u_m^y d_m^x, \dots, u_n^y d_n^z, u_l^z)$ is a *df*-chain. Now we use the same argument as in Case 1 to deduce a contradiction. Thus the lemma is proved. |

Note that there may exist an executable complete path p that covers a *df*-chain c , but c can not be extended to an *IP/O*-chain on p if the program does not satisfy *NFAUU* property. One example of this case is the executable complete path $(s, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, t)$ that covers *df*-chain $c = (d_2^y, u_3^y)$ in Program G given in Fig. 10. The program does not satisfy *NFAUU* property because the feasible path $(s, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6)$ from the entry node traversing node 3 having a definition of variable y can not reach a use of y .

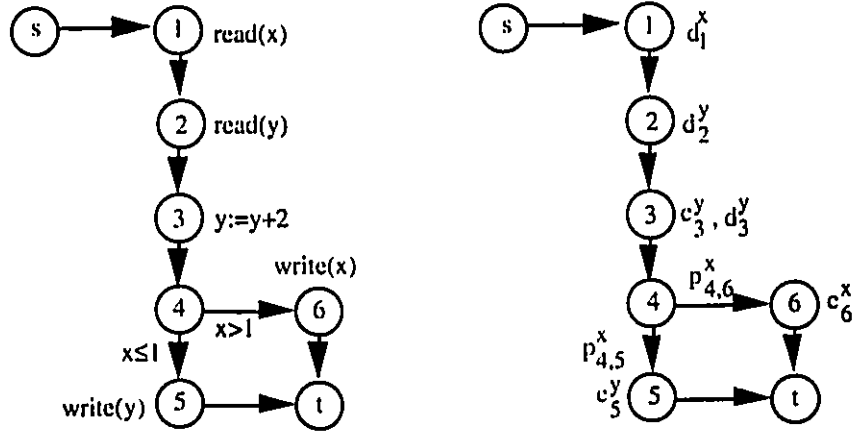


Fig. 10 Program G and Its Flowgraph

Because every du -pair is a df -chain from the definition of df -chains, Lemma 4.2.1 implies that every du -pair can be extended to an IP/O -chain c . However, if the height of c is greater than 2, then by removing some cycles in c we can get an IP/O -chain c' of the height less than 3. Moreover, c' is still an extension of the du -pair. Thus, we have proved the following

Lemma 4.2.2 Every du -pair can be extended to an IP/O_1 -chain or an IP/O_2 -chain.

Now we can prove the first Theorem in this section.

Theorem 4.1 (*new IP/O_2 -chains*)^{*} strictly includes (*all-uses*)^{*}.

Proof: From Lemma 4.2.2, we know that (*new IP/O_2 -chains*)^{*} includes (*all-uses*)^{*}. So, we need only to prove the strictness. Let us consider the program E and its flowgraph given in Section 3.4. The paths

$$p_1 = (s, 1, 2, 3, t)$$

$$p_2 = (s, 1, 2, 4, 5, t)$$

$$p_3 = (s, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 5, t)$$

$$p_4 = (s, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 5, 6, 5, t)$$

satisfy $(all-uses)^*$ but do not satisfy $(new\ IP/O_2-chains)^*$. Therefore, $(all-uses)^*$ does not include $(new\ IP/O_2-chains)^*$ (Note: this proof was given by Ural and Yang [16]. It works here because there is no non-executable IP/O -chains in the example). So, Theorem 4.1 is proved. |

To compare $(new\ IP/O_2-chains)^s$ with $(all-uses)^s$ under measure M , we need the following lemma.

Lemma 4.2.3 Let c_1 be an IP/O -chain that ends with a p -use. For every executable complete path p that covers c_1 , if c_1 is a prefix of an IP/O -chain on p then $D(c_1) = \bigcup_{c \in I} D(c)$, where $I = \{c \mid c \text{ is an } IP/O\text{-chain such that } c_1 \text{ is a prefix of } c\}$ and $D(c)$ is the subdomain of c .

Proof: From Proposition 4.1 we know that $D(c) \subseteq D(c_1)$ if $c \in I$. On the other hand, if $x \in D(c_1)$ then there exists a complete path p such that p covers c_1 during the application of x . Because c_1 is a prefix of an IP/O -chain c_3 on p by the assumption, $x \in D(c_3)$ by definition of subdomains. Hence, $D(c_1) = \bigcup_{c \in I} D(c)$. |

Theorem 4.2 For every given program P , there exists a number n such that $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ covers $(all-uses)^s$.

Proof: Let d be a du -pair and $D(d)$ denote the subdomain of d . We need to prove that $D(d)$ is a union of subdomains of some IP/O_n -chains required in Definition 4.7. But first, we

show that $D(d)$ is a union of subdomains of some IP/O_n -chains. Let I be the set of all IP/O -chains c that are extensions of d , then $\bigcup_{c \in I} D(c) \subseteq D(d)$ by the definition of subdomains.

On the other hand, if $x \in D(d)$ then there exists a complete path p that traverses d during the application of x . From Lemma 4.2.1, there exists an IP/O -chain c_0 on p such that c_0 is an extension of d . Thus $c_0 \in I$ and $x \in D(c_0)$. So, we have $D(d) = \bigcup_{c \in I} D(c)$.

Let n be the maximal height of all IP/O -chains in P . Then $D(d)$ is a union of subdomains of some IP/O_k -chains in P , where $k \leq n$. If one IP/O_k -chain c_1 in I is not required in Definition 4.7, then c_1 satisfies the condition in Lemma 4.2.3 and hence $D(c_1)$ is a union of subdomains $D(c_l)$ of some IP/O_l -chains, where $l \leq n$. We substitute these $D(c_l)$ for $D(c_1)$ and repeat if there still exist some IP/O_k -chain that are not required in Definition 4.7, where $k \leq n$. Because the number of IP/O_k -chains is finite in P , via finite steps we have that $D(d)$ is a union of subdomains of some IP/O_k -chains which are required in Definition 4.7, where $k \leq n$. Theorem is thus proved. |

From the proof of Theorem 4.2, we know that a $D(c)$ occurs in the union iff c is an extension of d . In other words, d is a du -pair on c . Thus, the number of the occurrences of each $D(c)$ in all unions is the number of du -pairs on c which is less or equal to the length of c . Therefore, we have

Corollary 4.1 For a given program P there exists a number n such that for each IP/O_j -chain c if one duplicates the subdomain of c $l(c)$ times, where $j \leq n$ and $l(c)$ is the length of c , then $(new\ IP/O_n\ chains)^s$ properly covers $(all\ uses)^s$.

From Theorem 3.1, we have

Corollary 4.2 For a given program P there exists a number n such that for each IP/O_j -chain c if one duplicates the subdomain of c $l(c)$ times, where $j \leq n$ and $l(c)$ is the length of c , then $(new\ IP/O_n\ chains)^s$ is better than $(all\ uses)^s$ under measure M .

Generally speaking, to find all IP/O_n -chains is more expensive than to find all du -pairs. But, this does not mean that one has possibility of being trapped in an infinite loop. Although IP/O -chains are defined based on df -chains, to apply $(new\ IP/O_n\ chains)^s$ to a program we need not to find all df -chains of the given program first because we do not need IP/O_j -chains for $j > n$. The following algorithm determines the all IP/O_n -chains of a given program.

Algorithm B:

```

find the set I of all du-pairs of the program;
C := [du-pairs that start with an input and not end with a p-use];
I := I - C;
while (C <> empty ) do
    for each du-pairs in I do
        tail-extend the df-chains in C that can be tail-extended by using the
        du-pair;
        if the tail extension of the df-chain is an IP/O-chain or the height of
        the tail-extension is greater than n then delete it from C;
    endfor;
endwhile

```

4.3 Comparison of New IP/O_n -chains Coverage and Required k -tuples⁺ Criteria

In this section, we compare $(new\ IP/O_n\text{-chains})^S$ and $(required\ k\text{-tuples}^+)^S$ under measure M . It is trivial to see that $(new\ IP/O_n\text{-chains})^*$ and $(required\ k\text{-tuples}^+)^*$ are incomparable in strictly includes relation (see Theorem 5 [16]). We prove the following theorem.

Theorem 4.3 $(new\ IP/O_n\text{-chains})^S$ and $(required\ k\text{-tuples}^+)^S$ are incomparable in universally properly covers relation.

Theorem 4.3 will be proved if we have proved the following two lemmas

Lemma 4.3.1 For any given integer k , there exists a program P and a specification S such that $M(N\text{-}IP/O_2, P, S) > M(k\text{-}dr^+, P, S)$, where $N\text{-}IP/O_2$ and $k\text{-}dr^+$ denote $(new\ IP/O_n\text{-chains})^S$ and $(required\ k\text{-tuples}^+)^S$, respectively.

Proof: For a given integer k , let's consider program H and its flowgraph given in Fig. 11.

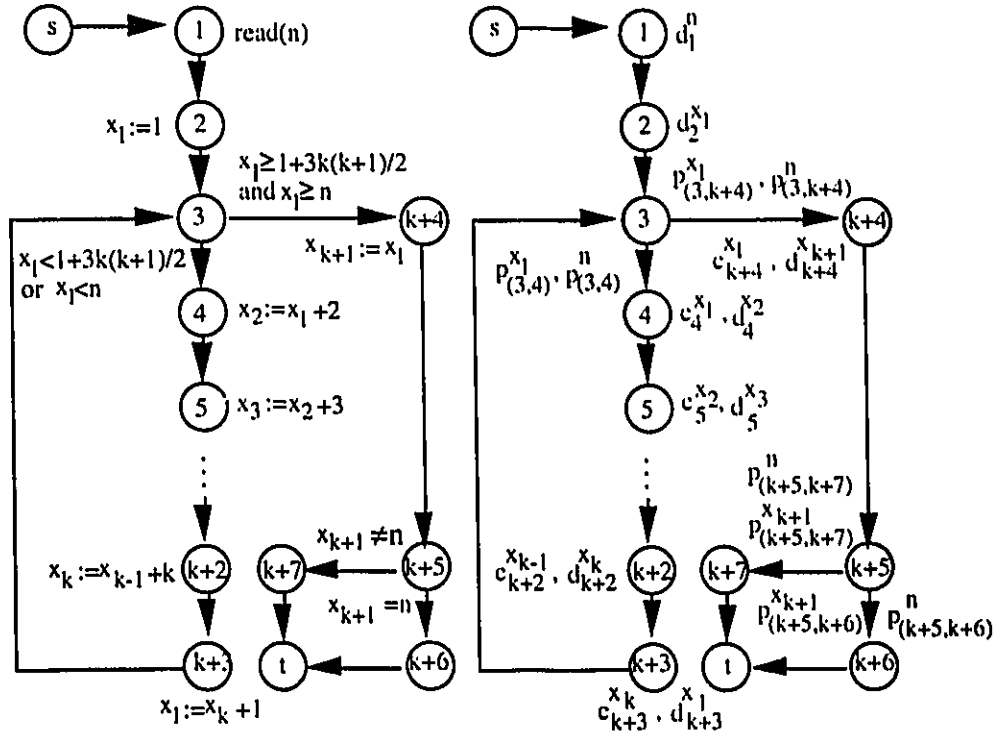


Fig. 11 Program H and Its Flowgraph

In program H , after first iteration $x_1 = 1 + \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$. After second iteration $x_1 = 1 + k(k+1)$, and after third iteration $x_1 = 1 + \frac{3k(k+1)}{2}$. So, only iterating more than 2 times the control flow may reach the node $k+4$. Thus the new IP/O_j -chains ($j \leq 2$) are:

Table 15: New IP/O_j -chains in Program H ($j \leq 2$)

ID	NEW IP/O_j -CHAINS
c_1	$[d_1^n, P_{(3,4)}^n]$
c_2	$[d_1^n, P_{(3,k+4)}^n]$
c_3	$[d_1^n, P_{(k+5,k+6)}^n]$

c_4	$[d_1^n, p_{(k+5,k+7)}^n]$
c_5	$[d_2^{x_1}, p_{(3,4)}^{x_1}]$
c_6	$[d_2^{x_1}, (u_4^{x_1} d_4^{x_2}, u_5^{x_2} d_5^{x_3}, \dots, u_{k+2}^{x_{k-1}} d_{k+2}^{x_k}, u_{k+3}^{x_k} d_{k+3}^{x_1})^3, p_{(3,k+4)}^{x_1}]$
c_7	$[d_2^{x_1}, (u_4^{x_1} d_4^{x_2}, u_5^{x_2} d_5^{x_3}, \dots, u_{k+2}^{x_{k-1}} d_{k+2}^{x_k}, u_{k+3}^{x_k} d_{k+3}^{x_1})^3, u_{k+4}^{x_1} d_{k+4}^{x_{k+1}}, p_{(k+5,k+6)}^{x_1}]$
c_8	$[d_2^{x_1}, (u_4^{x_1} d_4^{x_2}, u_5^{x_2} d_5^{x_3}, \dots, u_{k+2}^{x_{k-1}} d_{k+2}^{x_k}, u_{k+3}^{x_k} d_{k+3}^{x_1})^3, u_{k+4}^{x_1} d_{k+4}^{x_{k+1}}, p_{(k+5,k+7)}^{x_1}]$
c_9	$[d_2^{x_1}, (u_4^{x_1} d_4^{x_2}, u_5^{x_2} d_5^{x_3}, \dots, u_{k+2}^{x_{k-1}} d_{k+2}^{x_k}, u_{k+3}^{x_k} d_{k+3}^{x_1})^4, p_{(3,k+4)}^{x_1}]$
c_{10}	$[d_2^{x_1}, (u_4^{x_1} d_4^{x_2}, u_5^{x_2} d_5^{x_3}, \dots, u_{k+2}^{x_{k-1}} d_{k+2}^{x_k}, u_{k+3}^{x_k} d_{k+3}^{x_1})^4, u_{k+4}^{x_1} d_{k+4}^{x_{k+1}}, p_{(k+5,k+6)}^{x_1}]$
c_{11}	$[d_2^{x_1}, (u_4^{x_1} d_4^{x_2}, u_5^{x_2} d_5^{x_3}, \dots, u_{k+2}^{x_{k-1}} d_{k+2}^{x_k}, u_{k+3}^{x_k} d_{k+3}^{x_1})^4, u_{k+4}^{x_1} d_{k+4}^{x_{k+1}}, p_{(k+5,k+7)}^{x_1}]$

It should be noted that the definitions of all other x_j for $j \neq 1$ are not inputs of the program. Therefore, there are no *IP/O*-chains starting with one of the first definitions of these x_j . (new *IP/O_n*-chains)^s requires that $c_3, c_4, c_7, c_8, c_{10}, c_{11}$ to be covered at least once. If $n = 1, 2, \dots, 1 + 2k(k + 1)$ are the input of the program and S is a specification such that $n = 1 + \frac{3k(k+1)}{2}$ will cause an error, then the subdomains of $c_3, c_4, c_7, c_8, c_{10},$

c_{11} are:

$$D(c_3) = \{1 + \frac{3k(k+1)}{2}, 1 + 2k(k+1)\}$$

$$D(c_4) = \{n \mid n \neq 1 + \frac{3k(k+1)}{2}, 1 + 2k(k+1)\}$$

$$D(c_7) = \{1 + \frac{3k(k+1)}{2}\}$$

$$D(c_8) = \{n \mid n \neq 1 + \frac{3k(k+1)}{2}\}$$

$$D(c_{10}) = \{1 + 2k(k+1)\}$$

$$D(c_{11}) = \{n \mid n \neq 1 + 2k(k+1)\}$$

The failure causing rate of $D(c_7)$ is 1. Therefore $M(N-IP/O_2, I, S) = 1$.

But, for any $l \leq k$ the l - dr interaction does not have subdomain $D(c_7)$. Since one and two iterations of the loop are non-executable and the maximal iteration (four) of the loop does not have subdomain $D(c_7)$, if we choose one iteration and four iterations of the loop to generate the test paths for these l - dr interactions whose first definition of a variable or last use of a variable in the loop, then they can not have subdomain $D(c_7)$. So, $M(k-dr, I, S) < 1$. Hence $M(k-dr, I, S) < M(N-IP/O_2, I, S)$. |

From this example we can also see that the application of $(required\ k\text{-tuples}^+)^S$ produces too many duplications of subdomains to write them out. It also generates a considerable number of non-executable test paths.

Lemma 4.3.2 For any given integer n , there exists a program P and a specification S such that $(new\ IP/O_n\text{-chains})^S$ does not properly cover $(required\ 2\text{-tuples}^+)^S$.

Proof: For a given integer k , let's consider program I and its flowgraph given in Fig. 12.

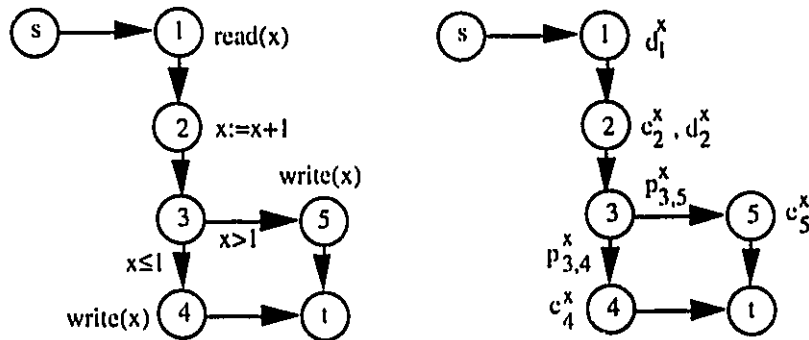


Fig. 12 Program I and Its Flowgraph

For this program, $(required\ 2\text{-tuples}^+)^S$ yields the same results as $(all\text{-uses})^S$. Let $x = 1, 2$ be the inputs of the program I . The du -pairs and their subdomains are:

$$\begin{array}{lll}
(d_1^x, u_2^x) & \{1, 2\}, & (d_2^x, u_4^x) & \{1\}, & (d_2^x, u_5^x) & \{2\}, \\
(d_2^x, p_{(3,4)}^x) & \{1\}, & (d_2^x, p_{(3,5)}^x) & \{2\}. & &
\end{array}$$

So, the multi-set of subdomains of $(required\ 2-tuples^+)^s$ is

$$Sub_{2-dr+} = \{ \{1,2\}, \{1\}^2, \{2\}^2 \},$$

where B^r denotes the set B occurs r times in the multi-set. But, $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ requires that $[d_1^x, u_2^x d_2^x, u_4^x]$ and $[d_1^x, u_2^x d_2^x, u_5^x]$ to be covered at least once during testing. The multi-set of subdomains of $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ is

$$Sub_{N-IP/O_n} = \{ \{1\}, \{2\} \}.$$

So, $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ does not properly cover $(required\ 2-tuples^+)^s$ for program I . |

Note that

1. In the example above, if we repeat $\{1\}$ and $\{2\}$ two times respectively then the deduced $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ properly covers $(required\ 2-tuples^+)^s$ for program I .
2. Because of Theorem 4.2, it is impossible to give other kinds of examples so that $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ does not properly cover $(required\ 2-tuples^+)^s$. In other words, $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ does not properly cover $(required\ 2-tuples^+)^s$ only because that:
 - a) some subdomains do not duplicate enough,
 - b) some subdomains which are refined by the others are missing.

But, it's these improvements that make $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ more efficient than the other criteria.

To prove Theorem 4.3, we also need following trivial propositions

Proposition 4.3.1 For any given program P and its specification S , $M(N-IP/O_n, P, S) \leq M(N-IP/O_{n+1}, P, S)$, where $n = 1, 2, \dots$

Proof: From the Definition 4.7, we know that the multi-set of subdomains of $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ is a multi-subset of the multi-set of subdomains of $(new\ IP/O_{n+1}-chains)^s$, where $n = 1, 2, \dots$. Since multi-set properly covers its multi-subset, $(new\ IP/O_{n+1}-chains)^s$ properly covers $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$. Thus, $M(N-IP/O_n, P, S) \leq M(N-IP/O_{n+1}, P, S)$, where $n = 1, 2, \dots$ |

By the similar argument as in the proof of Proposition 4.3.1 we have,

Proposition 4.3.2 For any given program P and its specification S , $M(k-dr^+, P, S) \leq M((k+1)-dr^+, P, S)$, where $k = 2, 3, 4, \dots$

Proof of Theorem 4.3: From Lemma 4.3.1 and Proposition 4.3.1 we know that there is no integer n such that $(required\ k-tuples^+)^s$ criterion universally properly covers $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ for any given integer k . The Lemma 4.3.2 and Proposition 4.3.2 imply that $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ does not universally properly cover $(required\ k-tuples^+)^s$ criterion for any integer k and n . |

Although $(new\ IP/O_n-chains)^s$ and $(required\ k-tuple^+)^s$ are incomparable under universally properly covers relation, for each individual program we still have the following:

Theorem 4.4 For a given program P , there exists a number n such that for each IP/O_j -chain c if one duplicates the subdomain of c $m(c)$ times, where $j \leq n$ and $m(c)$ is the total

number of *df*-chains on c , then $(new\ IP/O_n\text{-chains})^s$ properly covers $(required\ k\text{-tuples}^+)^s$ for program P .

Proof: Using the same argument as in the proof of Theorem 4.3 we can show that the subdomain $D(c)$ is a union of subdomains of some *IP/O*-chains required in Definition 4.7 for every *df*-chain c . Since the subdomain of each *l-dr* interaction is actually the subdomain of a *df*-chain for any $l \leq k$ if the subdomain of the *l-dr* interaction is not empty, every subdomain in $(required\ k\text{-tuples}^+)^s$ is a union of subdomains in $(new\ IP/O_n\text{-chains})^s$, where n is the maximal height of *df*-chains in program P . Let $m(c)$ be the total number of *df*-chains on *IP/O_j*-chain c , where $j \leq n$. Then the deduced $(new\ IP/O_n\text{-chains})^s$ properly covers subdomain based $(required\ k\text{-tuples}^+)^s$. |

Chapter 5

Conclusion and Future Research Directions

We have defined a new version of IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion, and proved that:

- (i) Applicable new IP/O_2 -chains coverage criterion strictly includes applicable all-uses criterion;
- (ii) For any given program P , there exists a number n such that subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion covers subdomain-based all-uses criterion;
- (iii) For any given program P , there exists a number n such that for each IP/O_j -chain c , if one duplicates the subdomain of c $l(c)$ times, where $j \leq n$ and $l(c)$ is the length of c , then subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion is better than subdomain-based all-uses criterion under measure M ;
- (iv) Subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion and subdomain-based required k -tuples⁺ criterion are incomparable in “universally properly covers” relation;
- (v) For any given program P , there exists a number n such that for each IP/O_j -chain c , if one duplicates the subdomain of c $m(c)$ times, where $j \leq n$ and $m(c)$ is the total number of df -chains on c , then subdomain-based new IP/O_n -chains coverage criterion properly covers the subdomain-based required k -tuples⁺ criterion.

A new method of handling non-executable df -chains is used. The method is also applicable to the improvement of other criteria that suffer from non-executable paths such as the required k -tuples⁺ criterion, etc.

The main costs of applying the subdomain-based IP/O_H -chains coverage criterion to a program come from: (i) determine IP/O_H -chains; (ii) selecting IP/O_H -chains that need to be covered. While the most difficult part of (i) and (ii) is actually to determine whether or not an IP/O_H -chain is executable, i.e., whether or not an executable complete path that covers the IP/O_H -chain exists. This is, in general, undecidable. Like required k -tuples criterion, to apply the new IP/O_H -chains coverage criterion, we can perform the symbolic execution technique given in [9]. But, it will be very interesting to study new methods to determine executable complete paths.

Because we are concentrated on the fault detecting ability of IP/O_H -chains coverage criterion, the complete comparisons of the new IP/O_H -chains coverage, all-uses and required k -tuples⁺ criteria need further study. Nevertheless, we conjecture that the new IP/O_H -chains coverage, all-uses and required k -tuples⁺ criteria have the same complexity.

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