

# Context

## Thesis subject

- *Random-based testing of C programs.*

## Test case generation

- **white-box** : we have a program,
- **criterion guided** : we want to cover some elements in the program (eg. : **all instructions**),
- **random** : we draw paths at random in the program wrt. some probability distribution.

## Why random ?

- **exhaustively**
  - **all paths** are chosen,
  - what happens if there are infinitely many paths ?
- **deterministically**
  - the test-set is an **arbitrary** solution-set,
  - what happens if there exists another interesting solution-set ?
- **randomly** : **any path** has a "fair" chance to be chosen.

## In this thesis : structural biased random testing

- **basis** : control flow graph (CFG),
- **elements** : *complete* paths in the CFG,
- **but all paths in the CFG are not feasible !**

## In this talk : how to **eliminate** infeasible paths from the CFG?

# Infeasible paths in white-box testing

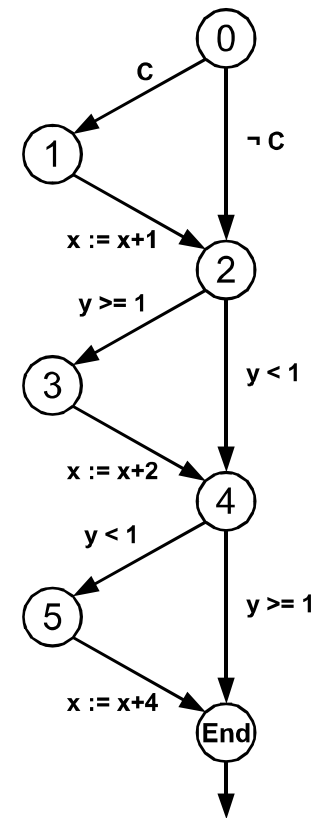
## "Path-based" white-box testing

- select a path,
- **compute path predicate** and **check for feasibility** using constraint solvers :
  - **Ok** : produce suitable input values,
  - **Ko** : select a new path.

```

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1      x := x+1;
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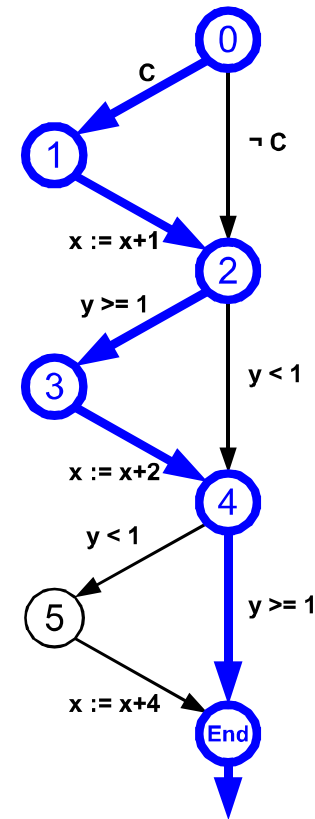
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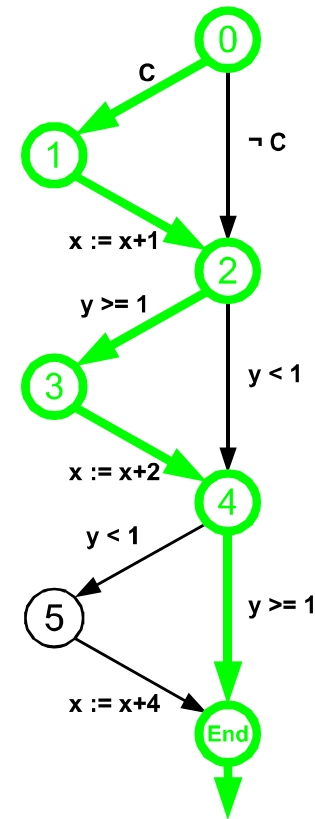
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### Path predicate

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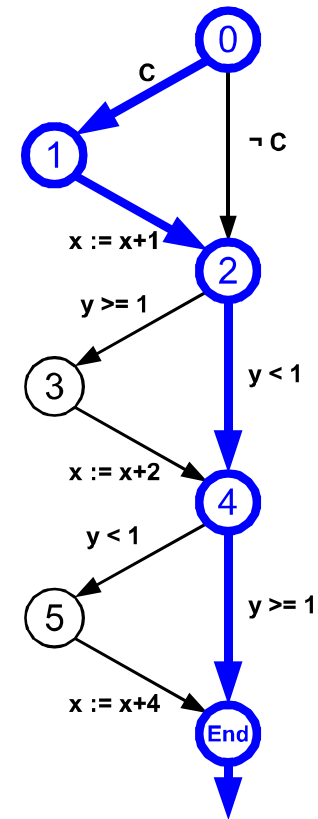
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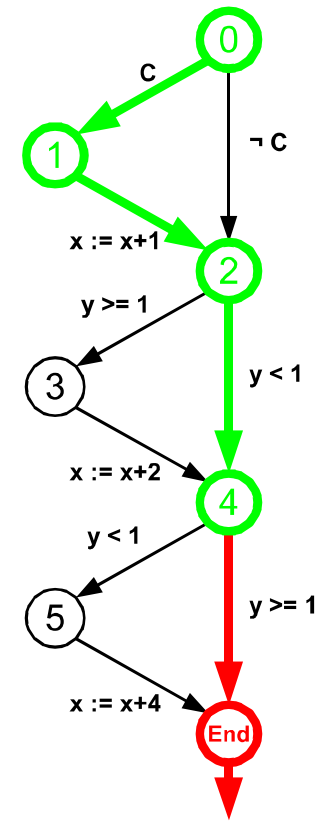
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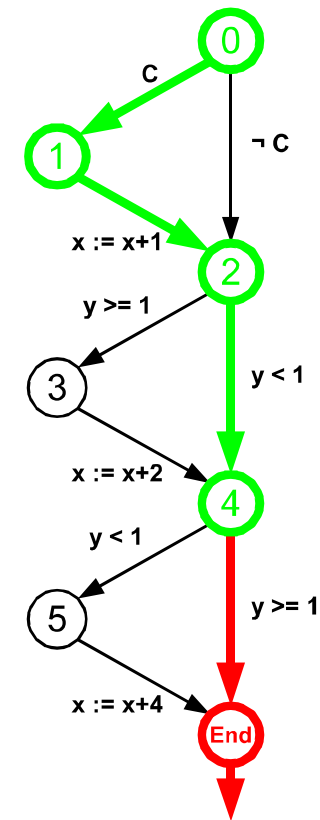
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**Infeasible paths** : don't correspond to an actual execution, i.e. no suitable input values.

# Infeasible paths detection

**In practice** : a big problem for testing real programs.

## Idea

- **detect** sets of infeasible paths,
- **build a new CFG** of the program where infeasible paths have been pruned,
- **draw paths** in the new CFG.

## Infeasible paths detection

- $\iff$  path predicate **satisfiability**,
- **undecidable** when the logic is undecidable,
- **solution** : use of **heuristics**, ie. trading accuracy for effectiveness.

## Common to many disciplines

- model-checking,
- WCET estimation,
- static analysis,
- etc.