

# Murxla: A Modular and Highly Extensible API Fuzzer for SMT Solvers

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# SMT Solvers

## ► Tools to solve the SMT Problem

- ▷ complex and large pieces of software
  - Bitwuzla: ~ 90k LOC
  - cvc5: ~ 300k LOC
  - z3: ~ 500k LOC
- ▷ back-ends in higher-level tool chains
- strong requirements:
  - ▷ performance
  - ▷ robustness
  - ▷ correctness
- traditional testing:
  - ▷ unit testing
  - ▷ maintaining a regression test suite
  - insufficient for achieving high levels of robustness
- random stress testing (fuzzing)

# Fuzz Testing SMT Solvers

SMT solvers provide **two** interfaces:

- ▶ textual interface (SMT-LIB)
  - ▶ **input fuzzing**
  - ▷ generate valid SMT-LIB input
  - + significantly less effort
  - no solver-specific features
- ▶ application programming interface (API)
  - ▶ **API fuzzing**
  - ▷ generate valid sequences of solver API calls
  - ▷ link against solver library
  - + solver-specific features
  - + subsumes input fuzzing (except parser)
  - more involved

full knowledge of  
input structure

... a model-based API Fuzzer for SMT solvers

**Murks** ... a German (rather informal) word for



a *botch* or *screw-up*

**Murxla** ... a tool to find *Murkses* (bugs) in SMT solvers via API fuzzing

What do we consider a **bug**?

- ▶ soundness issues
  - ▷ solver answers *unsat* when input is *sat*
  - ▷ solver answers *sat* when input is *unsat*
- ▶ crashes (assertion failures, segmentation faults, ...)
- ▶ performance regressions

... a **model-based API Fuzzer** for SMT solvers



lifts grammar-based input  
fuzzing to API level

- ▶ **Semantic** (data) model
  - ▷ defines constructs (theories, sorts, operators, commands)
  - ▷ based on SMT-LIBv2
- ▶ **API** model
  - ▷ defines the usage of the solver API itself
- ▶ **Options** model
  - ▷ defines solver configuration options and valid combinations



... a model-based API Fuzzer for SMT solvers

- ▶ Model-based **API fuzzer**

- ▷ generates valid sequences of solver API calls
- ▷ general enough to support **any** SMT solver
- ▷ highly extensible to support all **solver-specific** features

- ▶ **Tracer**

- ▷ **records** API call sequences as an API trace

- ▶ **Untracer**

- ▷ **replays** API traces to reproduce original behavior

- ▶ **Delta Debugger**

- ▷ **minimizes** API traces while preserving the original behavior

\* Provided they allow being integrated into a C++ tool.



... a model-based API Fuzzer for SMT solvers

- ▶ **translate API traces to SMT-LIBv2**

- ▷ if trace doesn't contain solver-specific extensions
- ▷ especially useful for minimized traces
- ▷ can then be further reduced with ddSMT [Kremer et al., CAV 2021]

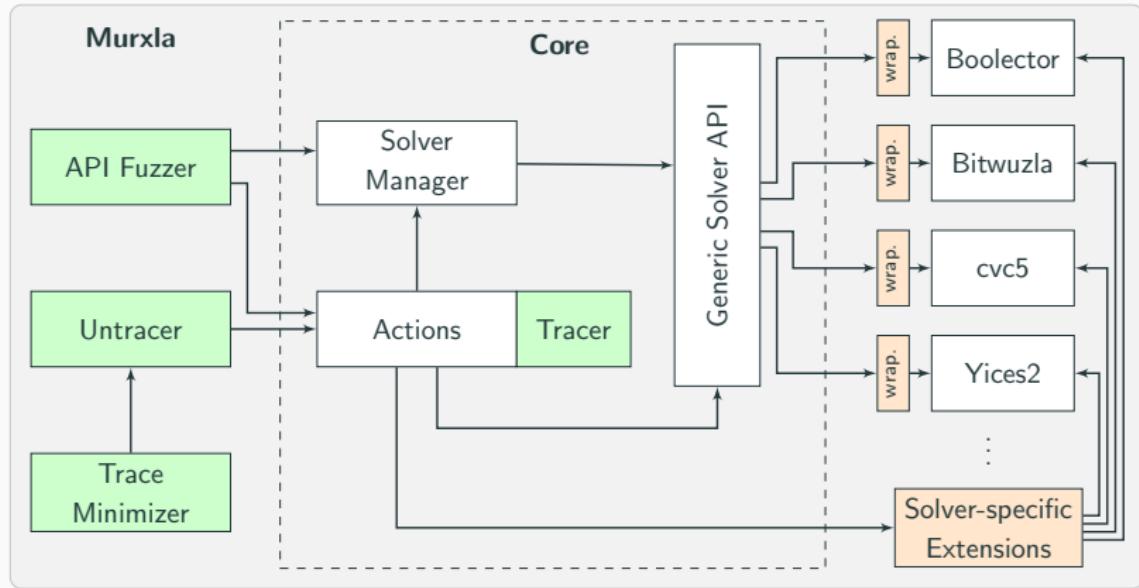
- ▶ **generate SMT-LIBv2 input**

- ▷ can be used as SMT-LIB input fuzzer with any solver binary

- ▶ **cross-check** two solver instances

- ▷ two integrated solvers under test
- ▷ one integrated solvers vs. a solver via the SMT-LIBv2 interface

# Murxla Architecture



# Demo

# Evaluation

## ► Input Fuzzers

- ▶ **Storm** [Mansur et al., ESEC/FSE'20]
  - ▷ mutates Boolean structure
- ▶ **TypeFuzz** [Park et al., OOPSLA'21]
  - ▷ hybrid approach (mutational with generative elements)
  - ▷ for integers, reals strings

## ► Model-Based API Fuzzers

- ▶ **BtorMBT** [Niemetz et al., SMT 2017]
  - ▷ tailored to (exclusively) Boolector
  - ▷ covers all features of Boolector except quantifiers
  - ▷ rigorously applied during development and for every release
  - ▷ recent fuzzing campaigns found no issues in covered code

# Evaluation

## Murxla vs. BtorMBT (Boolector)

Murxla			BtorMBT		
L [%]	F [%]	I [#]	L [%]	F [%]	I [#]
81.1	87.5	18	72.3	80.6	0

## Murxla vs. Input Fuzzers (cvc5, QF\_SLIA)

Murxla			Storm			Murxla-cc			TypeFuzz		
L [%]	F [%]	I [#]	L [%]	F [%]	I [#]	L [%]	F [%]	I [#]	L [%]	F [%]	I [#]
37.8	52.5	7	20.2	34.3	0	21.5	36.3	1	17.4	30.8	0

I ... Number of issues

Murxla-cc ... cross-checking configuration (Z3 vs cvc5)

F ... Function coverage

L ... Line coverage

1 hour, with 1 second time limit per round

# Evaluation

## Murxla with/without Option Fuzzing

Option Fuzzing	Bitwuzla			Boolector			cvc5			Yices2		
	L [%]	F [%]	I [#]	L [%]	F [%]	I [#]	L [%]	F [%]	I [#]	L [%]	F [%]	I [#]
no	47.4	63.9	7	68.5	79.2	6	38.9	56.8	11	37.0	42.4	1
yes	62.9	75.8	23	81.1	87.7	13	49.1	66.8	21	-	-	-

I ... Number of issues

F ... Function coverage

L ... Line coverage

1 hour, with 1 second time limit per round

# Conclusion

- ▶ Murxla is a tool for fuzzing and debugging SMT solvers
- ▶ quick and effective in finding issues
  - ▷ even for logics subjected to month-long fuzzing campaigns
- ▶ found many issues while finalizing the tool
  - ▷ more than 100 issues in cvc5 alone
- ▶ being integrated into development workflow of Bitwuzla and cvc5

## References

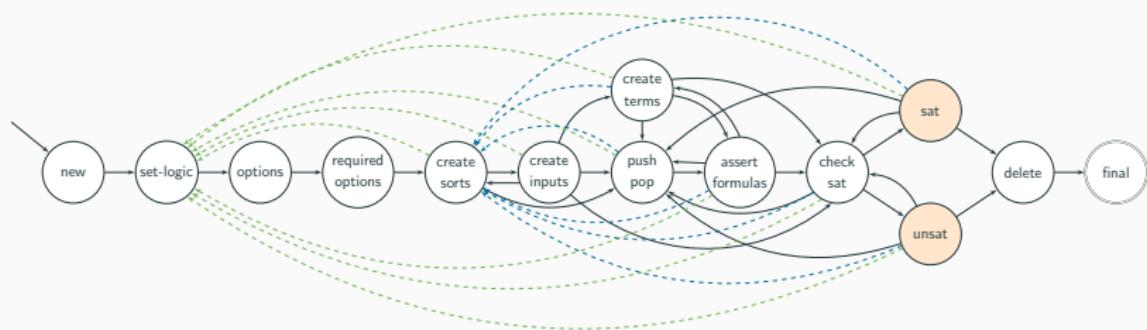
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# Input vs. API Fuzzing

```
Solver slv;
Sort sort_int = slv.getIntegerSort(), "x"); // Int
Term x = slv.mkConst(sort_int); // (declare-fun x () Int)
Term y = slv.mkConst(sort_int, "y"); // (declare-fun y () Int)
slv.assertFormula(slv.mkTerm(DISTINCT, x, y)); // (assert (distinct x y))
slv.checkSat(); // (check-sat)
Term p = slv.mkTerm(PLUS, x, y); // (+ x y)
Term v = slv.getValue(p); // (get-value ((+ x y)))
Term e = slv.mkTerm(EQUAL, p, v); // ???
slv.checkSatAssuming(e); // (check-sat-assuming (????))
```

# API Fuzzer

- ▶ weighted finite state machine
- ▶ transition executes action
- ▶ actions are recorded/traced
- ▶ step through until solver crashes, time limit or final state is reached



# Trace Minimizer

Original: 157 Lines

```
91764 new
45977 set-logic QF_AUFNSNIA
 848 set-option produce-difficulty true
 848 set-option strings-exp true
43555 set-option incremental false
22267 set-option produce-unsat-cores true
50067 mk-sort SORT_STRING
  return s1
92374 mk-const s1 "_x0"
  return t1
29153 mk-value s1 ""
  return t2
89065 mk-const s1 "_x1"
  return t3
.
.
.
94281 assert-formula t32
17138 assert-formula t46
77242 assert-formula t43
10259 assert-formula t24
37044 assert-formula t55
28759 check-sat
81533 cvc5-get-difficulty
10993 get-unsat-core
```

```
Fatal failure within cvc5::UnsatCore cvc5::SolverEngine::getUnsatCoreInternal() at cvc5/src/smt/solver_engine.cpp:1295
Check failure
  pepf != nullptr
Aborted (core dumped)
```

Minimized: 25 Lines (16%)

```
91764 new
848 set-option produce-difficulty true
50067 mk-sort SORT_STRING
return s1
92374 mk-const s1 "_x0"
return t1
29153 mk-value s1 ""
return t2
23432 mk-term OP_STR_SUFFIXOF SORT_BOOL 2 t1 t1
return t20 s2
532 mk-term str.tolower SORT_STRING 1 t1
return t23 s1
51711 mk-term OP_EQUAL SORT_BOOL 2 t20 t20
return t24 s2
63692 mk-term OP_STR_SUFFIXOF SORT_BOOL 2 t1 t2
return t25 s2
30349 mk-term OP_NOT SORT_BOOL 1 t20
return t27 s2
81085 mk-term OP_AND SORT_BOOL 2 t27 t24
return t28 s2
29866 mk-term OP_AND SORT_BOOL 2 t28 t20
return t32 s2
94281 assert-formula t32
28759 check-sat
10993 get-unsat-core
```