Regression Testing of Service-Oriented Software

Kaushik Rana, Harshal Shah, Chetan Kapadiya

Abstract: Regression testing is considered as a separate forms of testing attached with performance testing where tester runs old test suite after each change made to system. It will be a big problem in testing the service-oriented software (SOS), where each system component is inherently agile and changes its behavior dynamically. These agile component gives a big rise to big problem in the regression testing process with respect to complexity, time complexity and cost complexity. A service-oriented software may change in case of bug fixing, adaptation of new environment, upgrading or updating functionality in order to improve performance or it is demanded by customer. After the software is delivered to customer the service oriented software must be regressed to validate that there is no defects. We present a hierarchical regression test selection algorithm for service-oriented software, and evaluate it in service-oriented environment along with results.

Index Terms: Dynamic Slicing, Regression Testing, Service-Oriented Software, Testing,

I. INTRODUCTION

Regression testing of service-oriented software composed of web service ensures that modifications due to fixing bug do not cause unexpected changes or introduce new errors or failures. As and when a bug is detected and fixed there exist potential which introduce new errors, problems or defects. Regression testing of SOS services is the selecting old test suite and retesting of an old test suite on each modification to the services or after each a bug is fixed to ensure that no new bugs have been introduced as a result of bug fixing. The main purpose of regression testing is that web services up to the point of repair have not been adversely affected by the fix. Business organizations running web services may devise guidelines to decide when to start regression testing as per their needs. This includes upgradation/updating of services, upgradation of web service description language (WSDL) or service level agreement (SLA), change in the deployment environment, and retirement of services. The actual decision regarding when to perform regression testing will be based on many factors, which includes nature of change and usage environment of services. An organization must perform regression testing in a situation where the services involve human life, environmental change or business economy change.

Fig. 1. shows that the overall regression testing process. According to Rothermel et al. [2], complete regression testing of software of 20,000 lines of code require around 2 months of continuous execution. This also necessitates development and enhancement of many existing techniques for regression testing to and be suited for service-oriented software. Thus, the problem of regression testing is formally defined as given a program $P$, its changed version $P'$, and a test suite, regression testing exercise $T$ to restore confidence on quality of $P'$.

II. RELATED WORK

This section briefly presents the reported work on regression testing of SOS.

Mohanty et al. [4] planned technique for regression testing of SOA based applications. They also discuss various SOA testing challenges from the perspective of stakeholders and define whole new process for regression testing. Bhuym et al. [5] have carried out an extensive survey for regression testing of SOA. They also discusses the various tools for it. Ruth et al. [6] proposed technique for regression test selection for Java programs based on the approach already defined by Harrold et al. [7]. It produces Java Interclass Graph (JIG) based on compile time and run time analysis of Java programs. The JIG can calculates test cases that need to be re-executed in order to find bugs introduced if any due to change in program code. The main limitation of this technique is that it cannot be applied to the inherently distributed programs like SOS. Gagandeep et al. [8] have...
proposed a method to construct graphical web model from the analysis of web application. The web model is getting traversed to generate regression test sequences for all path coverage criteria. Ruth [9, 10] have presented a novel technique to perform safe regression test selection for both intra-enterprise and inter-enterprise web services. Bassil [11] have discussed various SOA testing challenges, existing SOA testing approaches and proposed a SOA regression testing architecture. The architecture have two parts SOA part and testing framework part. The testing framework part consists various units like test engine, test code generator, test case generator, test executor, test monitor and the database unit. Each unit works in orchestration.

Mei et al. [12] have proposed a PRT approach that addresses the dynamic binding issue. They explain their concept based on an example of Trip Handling. Hou et al. [13] have proposed two strategies for test case prioritization of regression testing of SOA. Yunus [14] have carried out hands on experiment for SOA regression testing using simple web services and SOAPSonar testing tool. Chen et al. [15] have proposed a test case prioritization technique. They construct a BPFG for their technique. Bruno et al. [16] have discussed various regression testing challenges, and have proposed an approach to provide the services with a test suite and a set of Quality of Service (QoS) constraints.

### III. OUR PROPOSED ALGORITHM AND METHOD FOR HIERARCHICAL REGRESSION TEST SELECTION

#### A. Service-Oriented Software Dependence Graph (SOSDG): Our Intermediate Representation of Service-Oriented Software for Regression Testing

This section introduces a method for efficient representation of Service-Oriented Software. This representation is later used for regression testing. We name this representation as Service-Oriented Software Dependence Graph (SOSDG). Each statement of web services is represented as a node along with their number in SOSDG.
This SOSDG captures control dependencies from static analysis of web service code. It also captures data, intra-service and inter-service dependencies from run time analysis of corresponding web service execution. The inter-service dependencies may cross organizational boundaries. The web service node may belong to more than one service provider. Fig. 3.1 shows the SOSDG for Figs. 2.1, and 2.2.

**Figure 3.1 The SOSDG of the web services given in Figs. 2.1, and 2.2**

**B. Regression Test Selection for Web Service Algorithm**

This section discusses our proposed algorithm named Regression Test Selection for Web Service (RTSWS) algorithm. We define the test cases coverage information as shown in Table 3.1. In this work we uses following sets of information:

- **P** = (p1,p2, . . . ,pn) is the set of all the packages that are used by web services.
- **WSCL** = (wscl1,wscl2, . . . ,wscln) is the set of all the web service classes defined in Service-Oriented Software (SOS).
- **WM** = (wm1,wm2, . . . ,wmn) is the set of all the web service methods defined in Service-Oriented Software (SOS).
- **S** = (s1,s2, . . . ,sn) is the set of all the statements of web services.

Table 3.1: Test cases coverage distribution for web services in Figs. 2.1, and 2.2

The RTSWS algorithm takes the SOSDG of the SOS under consideration and the test cases as its input. The RTSWS computes a forward slice w.r.t to the slicing criterion as the point of modification taken, traverses backward from each node to compute a set of affected web service statements. The slice is then decomposed into packages, web service classes, web methods and statements, respectively. Using the test case coverage analysis, the algorithm selects those test cases that affect at package level, web service class level, web method level and web service statement level, respectively. The notations used in the algorithm are:

- **Q** - Queue that contains all the nodes reached in the forward traversal of SOSDG.
- **U** - The set containing all the packages, web service classes, web methods and statements that are affected by the modification.
- **Pk** - The set of packages extracted from SOSDG that are affected by the modification.
- **WSCL** - The set of web service classes extracted from SOSDG that are affected by the modification.
- **WM** - The set of web methods extracted from SOSDG that are affected by the modification.
- **S** - The set of statements affected.

Now, we present our proposed RTSWS Algorithm:

**Algorithm**: Regression Test Selection for Web Service (RTSWS) Algorithm.

**Input**: Web service, Modified Web Service, Slicing Criterion, Test Suite T

**Output**: TR

**Phase 1**: Constructing Static Graphs WSCFG and WSDG

1. **WSCFG Construction**
   (a) Node Creation
   i. Define two special nodes start and stop.
   ii. For each web service statement s of a web service do the following:
      A. Construct a node s.
      B. Initialize the node with variables used or defined.
   (b) Define control flow edges
      for each web service node ni do the following for each web service node nj do the following
      Define control flow edge (ni,nj) if control flow from node ni to node nj.

2. **WSDG Creation.**
   (a) Define control
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dependence edges
for each web service predicate node ni do the following
for each web service node nj in the scope of ni do the following
Define control dependence edge (ni,nj).
(b) Define data dependence edges
for each web service node ni do the following
for each web service variable used at ni do the following
for each reaching definition nj of variable do the following
Define data dependence edge (ni,nj).
(c) Define intra-service dependence edges
for each web service node ni in web service Si do the following
for each web service node nj in web service Sj do the following
Define intra-service dependence edge (ni,nj) if edge is either
data or control dependence edge and the state of web service
Si at node ni directly depends on the execution of the node nj
by web service Sj and both web services are provided within
organization.
(d) Define inter-service dependence edges
for each web service node ni in service Si do the following
for each web service node nj in service Sj do the following
Define inter-service dependence edge (ni,nj) if edge is either
data or control dependence edge and the state of web service
Si at node ni directly depends on the execution of the node nj
by web service Sj and both web services are provided by more
than one service providers.

Phase 2: Compute Dynamic Slice of Web Service
1. Compute the dynamic slice of a web service using test cases
in a slicing criterion such a way that each linearly independent
path is covered.
(a) Let there be n number of test cases required to cover each
linearly independent path in a test suite T, where T = [ t1, t2, , tn].
(b) Let the dynamic slice for test case ti is represented as DS
(ti).
(c) Let the set of package nodes sliced by each test case ti is
represented by Pt(ti), WSC(t(i) is the set of web service
classes covered by test case ti, WM(t(i) is the set of web
methods covered by test case ti, and S(t(i) is the set of
statements covered by test case ti.

Phase 3: Compute Static Slice of Modified Web Service
(a) Initialization: Do the following for web services
i. Initialize Q, U, Pk, WSCL, WM, S to NULL.
ii. Set types = [data dependence edge, control dependence
data, inter-service dependence edge, intra-service dependence
data]
iii. Add each node of WSDG that is reached by the traversal
algorithm to the queue, Q.
(b) Forward Traversal
i. Traverse the WSDG using Depth First Search (DFS)
algorithm in forward direction, starting from the point of
modification (slicing criterion). Identify all those nodes in
WSDG that are dependent on the modified statement.
ii. Add all nodes of WSDG that are reached by the DFS
algorithm to the queue, Q.
(c) Backward Traversal
i. Remove the node v from Q and add it to the set U.
ii. Taking v as the starting point, traverse backward using DFS
algorithm and extract all those nodes w on which node v is
dependent on, such that if edge (w -> v) ε types then add all the
extracted nodes w to the set U.
iii. Taking v as the starting point, traverse backward using
DFS algorithm and extract all those nodes w' on which node v
is dependent on, such that if edge (w' -> v) ε types then remove
w' from the set U.
(d) Compute Slice
i. Find Pk = P ∩ U, if the set Pk is non-empty then we get the
set of package nodes that are affected by the modification.
ii. Update U = U - Pk.
iii. Find WSCL = WSCL ∩ U, if the set WSCL is non-empty
then we get the set of web service class nodes that are affected
by the modification.
iv. Update U = U - WSCL.
v. Find WM = WM ∩ U, if the set WM is non-empty then we
get the set of affected web method nodes.
vii. S = U.

Phase 4: Compute Regression Test Set TR:
(c) Let the set of package nodes sliced by each test case ti is
represented by P(t(i), WSCL(t(i) is the set of web service
classes affected the marked nodes. Thus, the computed
set WSCLt' is non-empty then T"=T"U {ti}.
g) T"="= {}. Find WMt = WM t WM (ti) for each test case ti,
then w to the set U.
i. Find Pk = P ∩ U, if the set Pk is non-empty then T"=T"U {ti}.
j. T"="= {}. Find St = S ∩ S (ti) for each test case ti, if the set
St' is non-empty then T"=T"U {ti}.
(i) TR = {T0U T" = T"U T""}.

C. Working of the RTSWS Algorithm
We have taken an example web service shown in Figs. 2.1,
and 2.2 as our case study. This program defines a web service
titled TriArea which calls other web services WSR, WSE
and WSD. The service client invokes TriArea web service to
calculate the area of a triangle. The corresponding SOSDG of
the program that is given as an input to the RTSWS algorithm
is shown in Fig. 2.3. Suppose, the statement WSE3 of web
service WSE is changed from x*2 to x* x.

The node reached in the forward traversal from node
WSE3 is 17. Then, from each of the nodes marked in the
forward traversal, we traverse in the backward direction to
calculate affected the marked nodes. Thus, the computed slice
comprises of all the affected nodes that are finally marked by
the backward traversal and are shown as light-red colored
nodes in Fig. 3.2. So the set U= 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16,
17, WSE3.
The slice is then hierarchically decomposed into packages, web service classes, web methods and statements as below:

\[ P_k = P \cap U = \{1\}, \text{ and updated } U = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, \text{WSE3}\} \]

Now computing regression test set as below:

Initially \( T_0 = P_0 = P \cap P(t) = \{1\} \), \( T' = \{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5\} \)

Next \( \text{WSCL}^* = \text{WSCL} \cap \text{SCL}(t) = \{1\} \), \( T'' = \{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5\} \)

Finally, \( S_0 = S \cap S(t) = S \cap S(t_1) = \{2, 7, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, \text{WSE3}\} \), \( S \cap S(t_2) = \{2, 9\} \), \( S \cap S(t_3) = \{2, 9\} \), \( S \cap S(t_4) = \{2\} \) and \( S \cap S(t_5) = \{2, 7, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, \text{WSE3}\} \)

IV. CONCLUSION

We implemented our algorithm and techniques to practically verify their correctness and efficiency. We have tested slicing tool on a large number of input programs or software with several testing environment and criteria. We conclude that our regression slicer tool computed dynamic slices for SOS.

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AUTHORS PROFILE

Kaushik K. Rana completed M.E in Computer Engineering from Dharmsinh Desai University, Nadiad, India. Dr. Kaushik K. Rana achieved Ph.D. in Computer Engineering from Gujarat Technological University in the year 2017. The author’s major field of study covers Service Oriented Architecture, Software Testing and Cloud Computing. He has been working as an Assistant Professor in VGEChandkheda, Gujarat, India.
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Harshal Shah completed M.E in Computer Engineering from Dharmshinh Desai University, Nadiad, India. Harshal Shah is pursuing Ph.D. in Computer Engineering from Gujarat Technological University. The author's major field of study covers Software Testing and Software Engineering. He has been working as an Assistant Professor in Parul University, Vadodara, and Gujarat, India.

Chetan Kapadiya completed B.E in Information Technology from Government Engineering College, Modasa, India. Chetan Kapadiya is pursuing M.E in Computer Engineering from Shankersinh Vaghela Bapu Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar. He has been working as an Assistant Professor in Government Engineering College, Gandhinagar, and Gujarat, India.