

# Evaluating and Predicting Actual Test Coverage

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Supervised by  
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- 1 Introduction
  - Motivation
  - Preliminaries
  - Limitations of potential coverage
- 2 Evaluating actual coverage
  - Conditional branching probabilities
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  - Actual coverage
- 3 Predicting actual coverage
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  - Expected actual coverage
- 4 Test suites
- 5 Conclusions and future work

## Motivation for research on testing

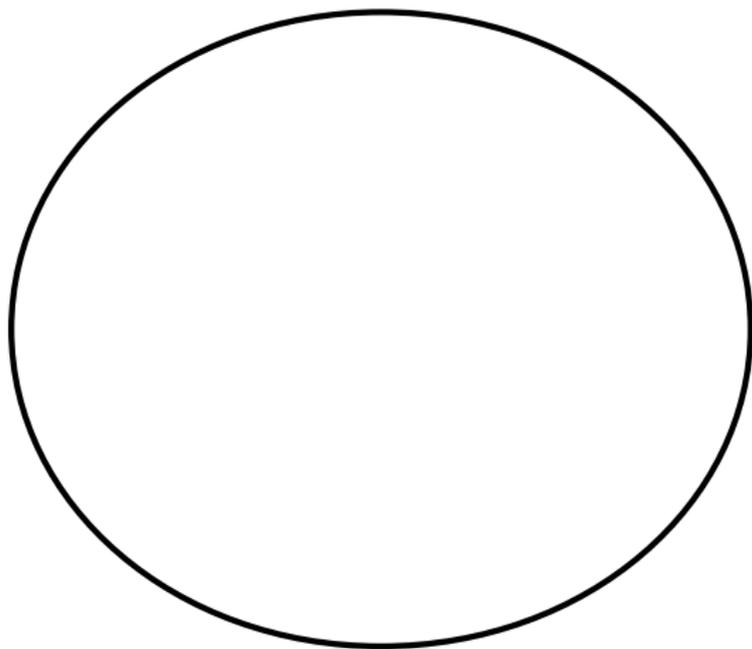
- Software is getting more and more complex
- Bugs cost a lot of money
- Testing is an important validation technique in software development

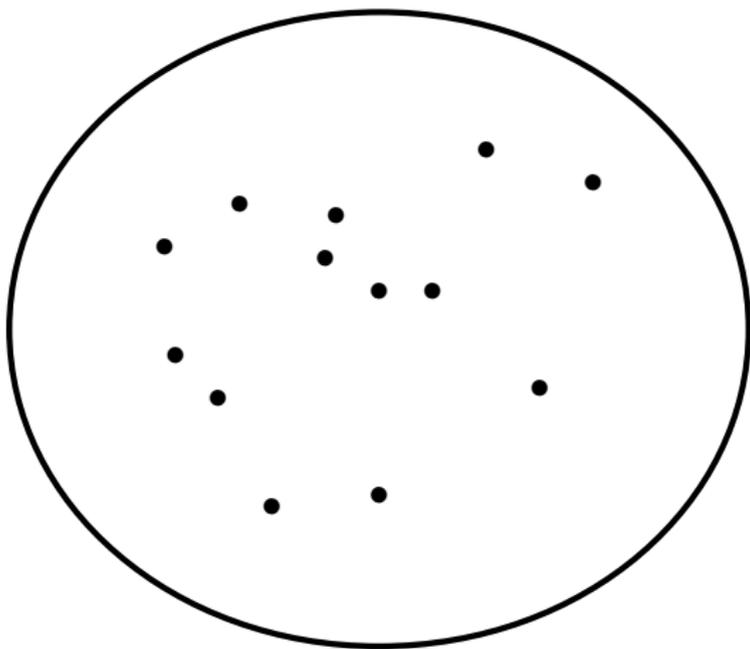
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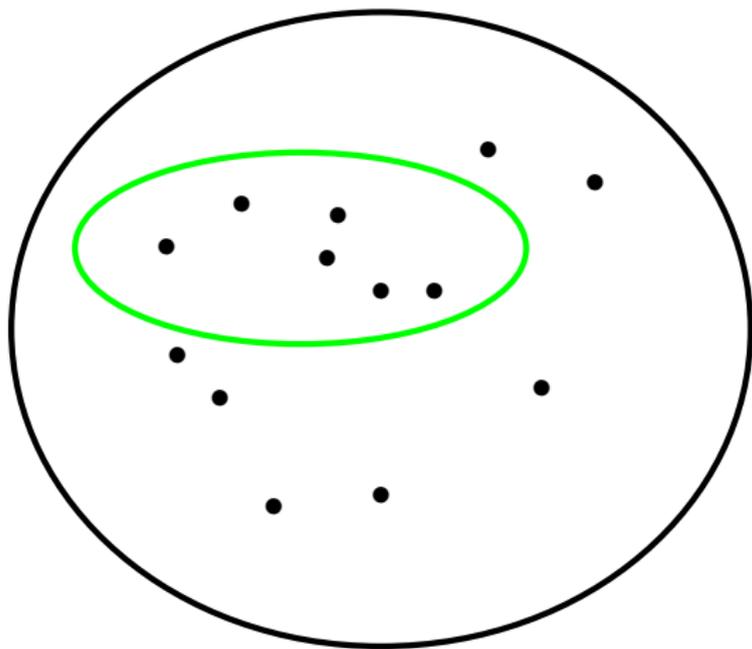
## Motivation for research on test coverage

- Testing is inherently incomplete
- A notion of *quality* of a test suite is necessary
- Quantitative evaluation: how good is a test suite?
- 'Amount' of specification / implementation examined by a test suite





# Intuition about coverage



## Early work on coverage: code coverage

- Statement coverage
- Condition coverage
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Semantic point of view: how does it taste

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- syntactic point of view  
- different implementation, different coverage

## Starting point for my work: semantic coverage

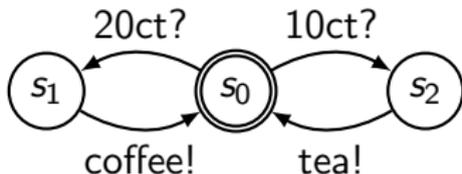
Previous work by Brandán Briones, Brinksma and Stoelinga

- System considered as black box
- Semantic point of view
- Error weights

## Definition LTSs

An LTS is a tuple  $\mathcal{A} = \langle S, s^0, L, \Delta \rangle$ , with

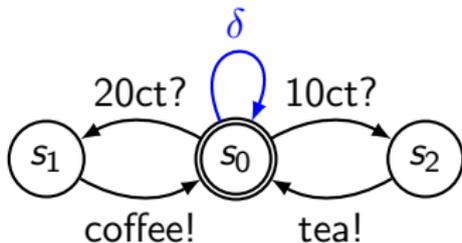
- $S$  a set of states
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- $\Delta$  the transition relation (assumed deterministic)



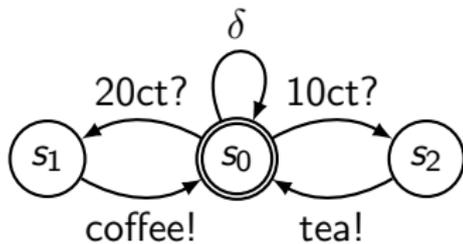
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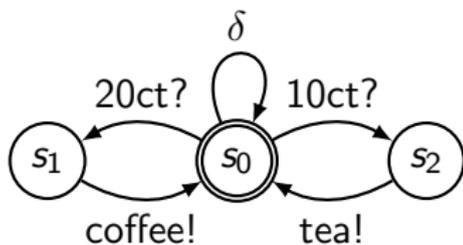


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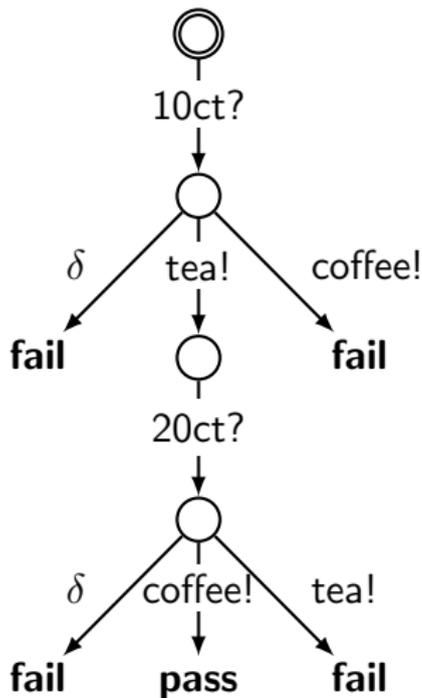


# Preliminaries – Test cases for LTSs

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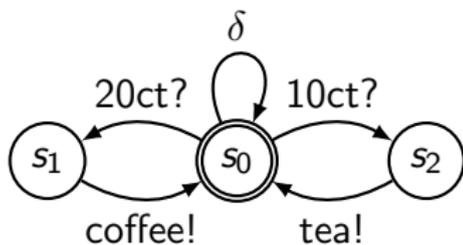


Test case:



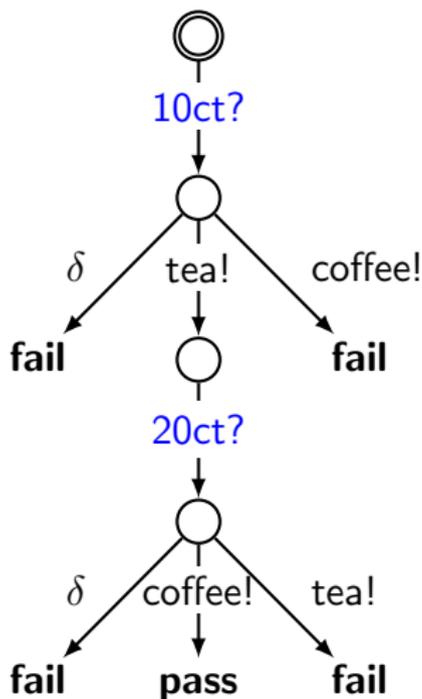
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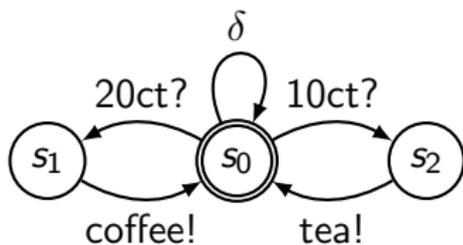
- Perform an input

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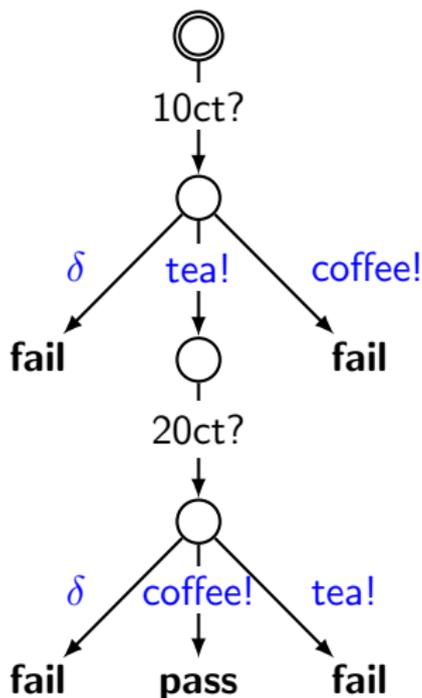
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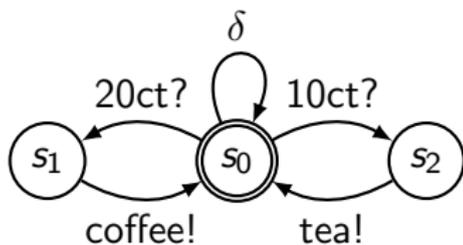
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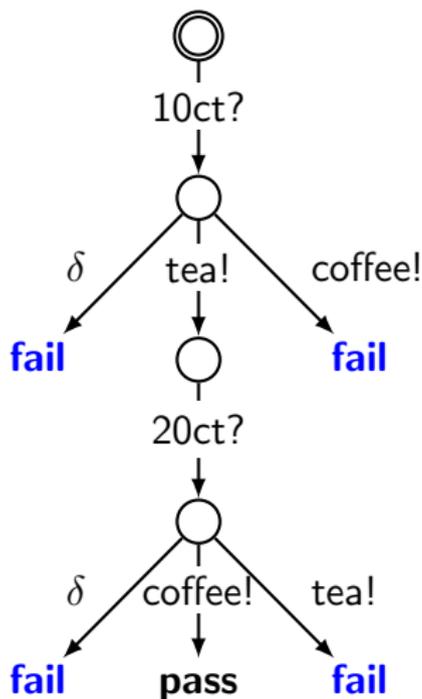
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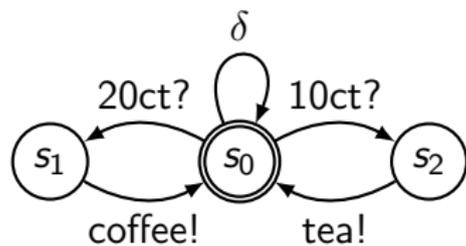


- Perform an input
- Observe all outputs
- Always stop after an error

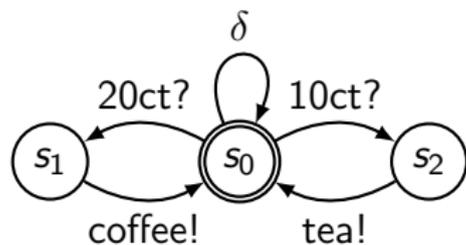
Test case:



# Preliminaries – Weighted fault models (WFMs)



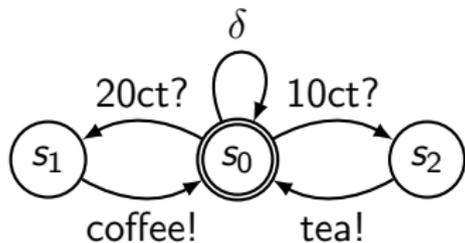
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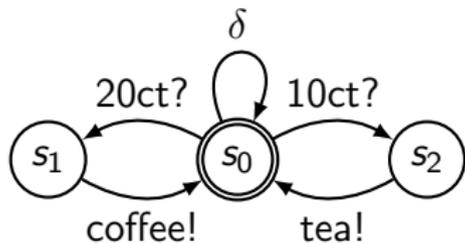
$f(\text{coffee!})$

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$f(10\text{ct? tea!})$

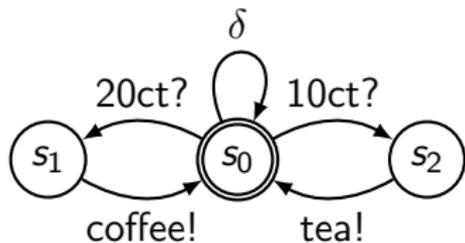
= 0

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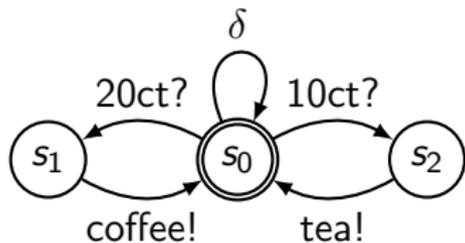
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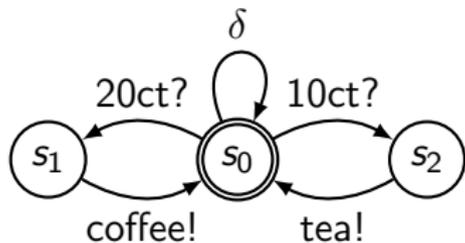
$$f(10ct? \delta) = 4$$

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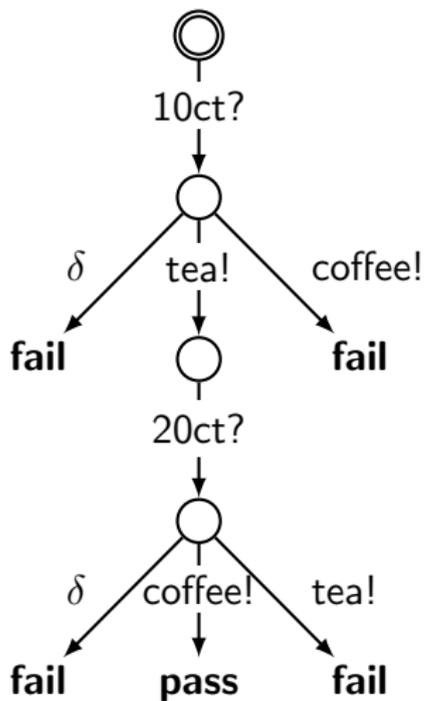
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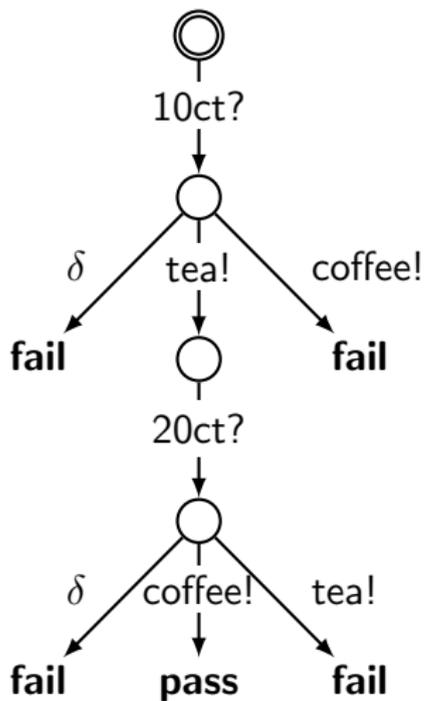
## Restriction on weighted fault models

$$0 < \sum_{\sigma \in L^*} f(\sigma) < \infty$$

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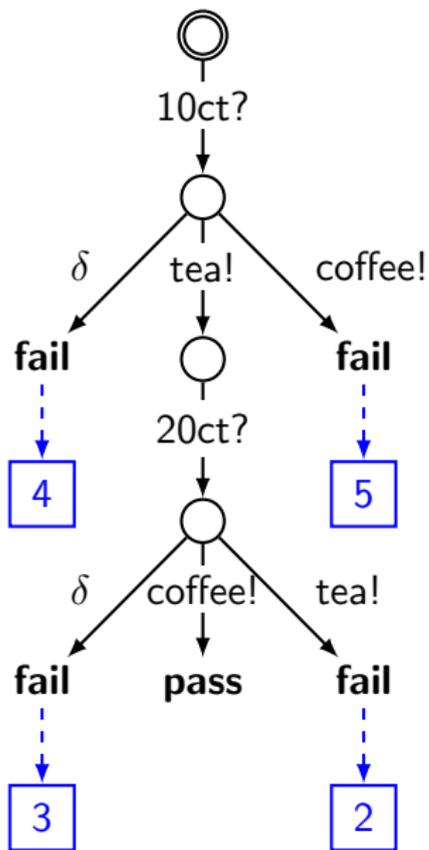
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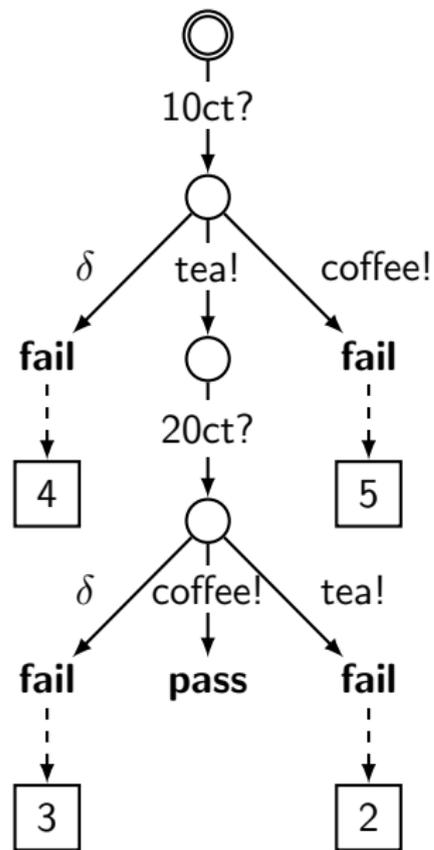
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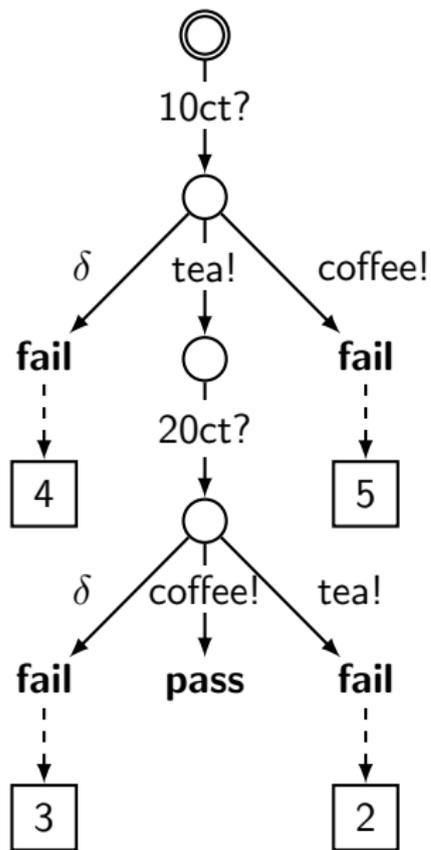
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If

$$totCov = 150$$

# Preliminaries – Weighted fault models (WFM)



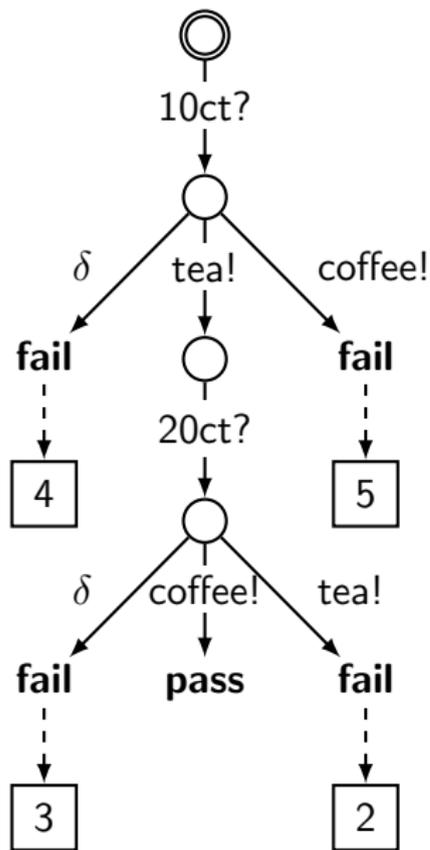
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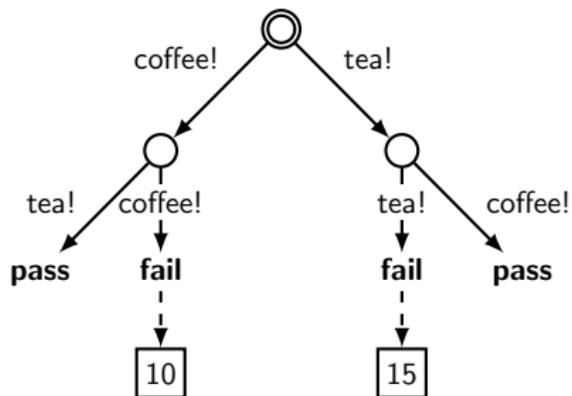
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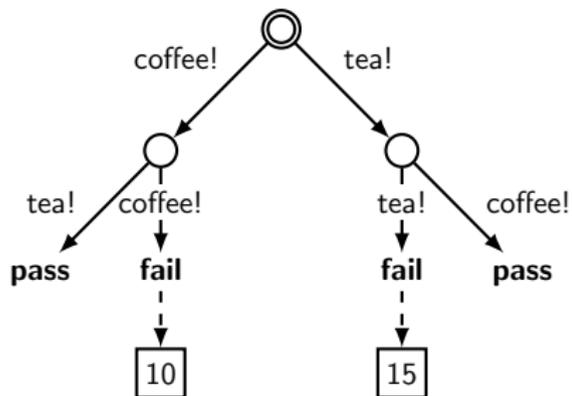
$$absPotCov = 4 + 5 + 3 + 2 = 14$$

$$relPotCov = \frac{14}{150} = 0.09$$

# Limitations of potential coverage



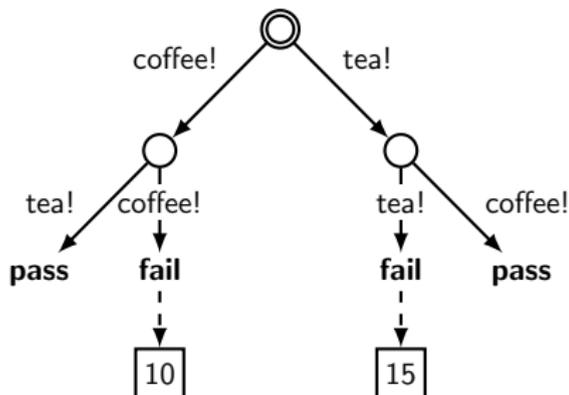
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Potential coverage

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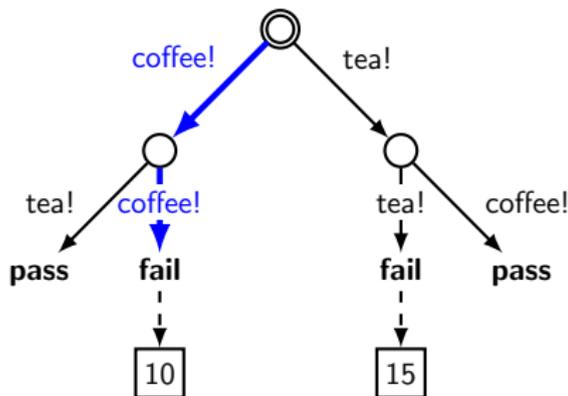
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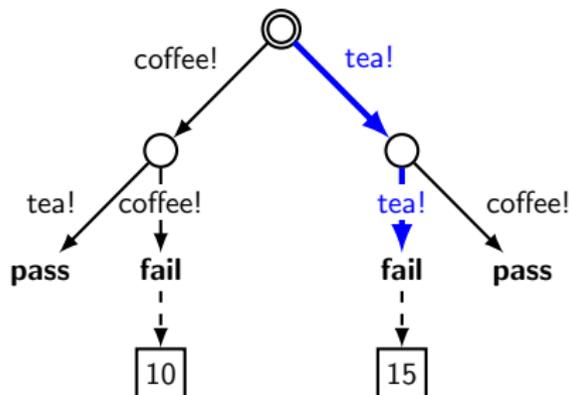
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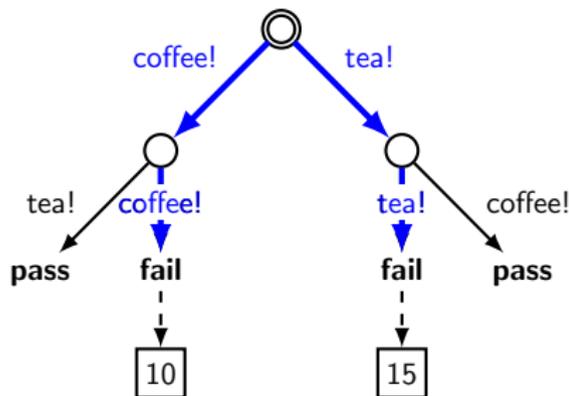
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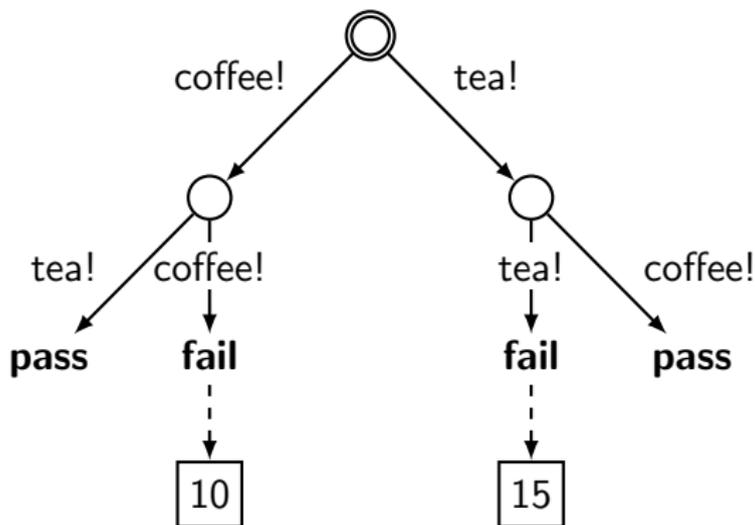
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Predicting the actual coverage a test case or test suite yields.

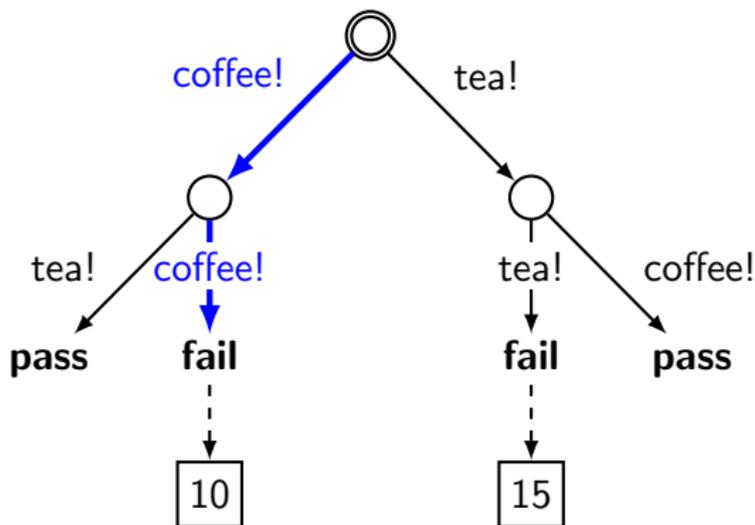
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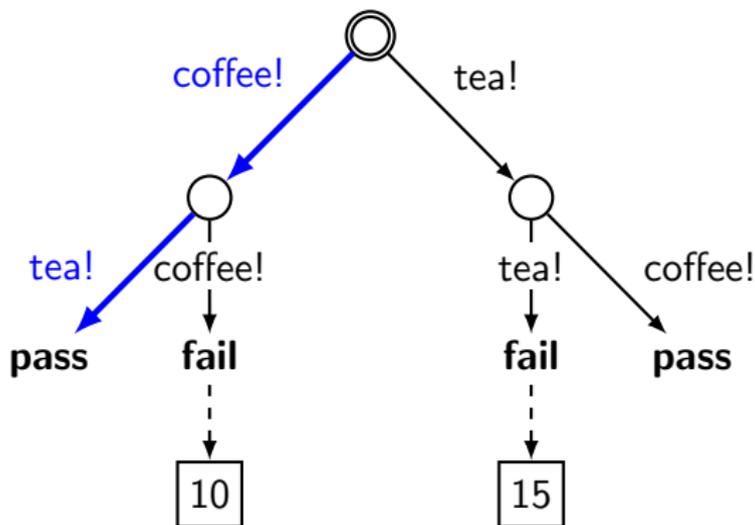
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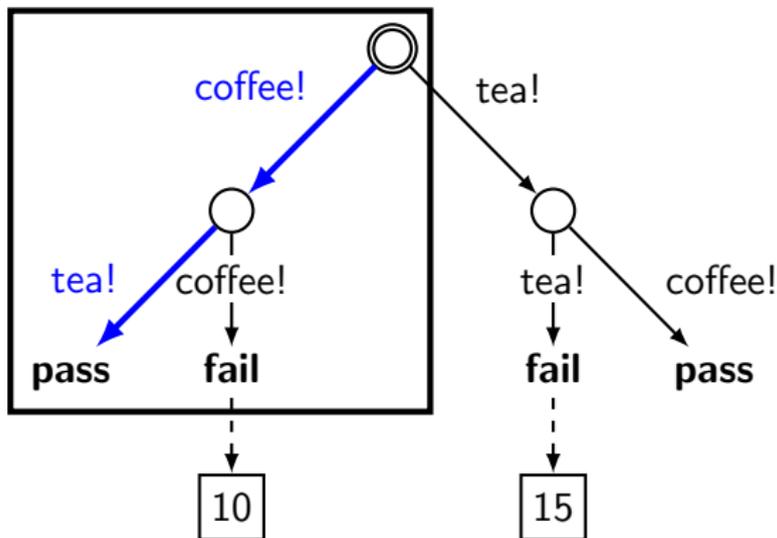
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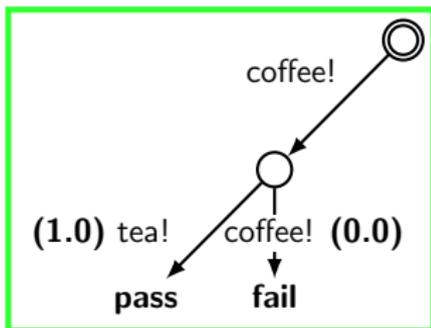
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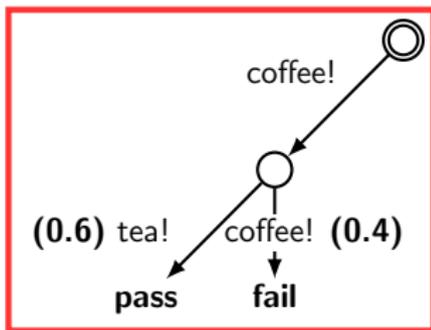
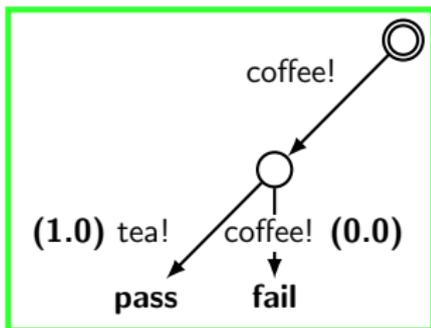
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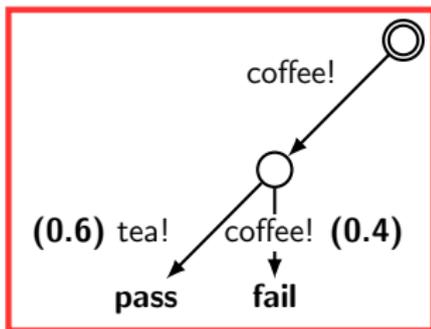
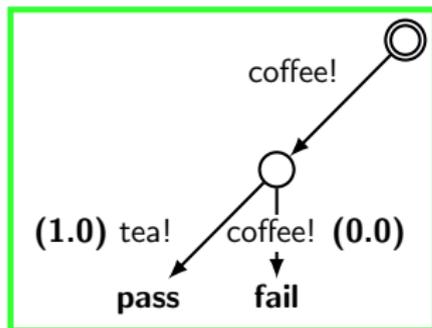
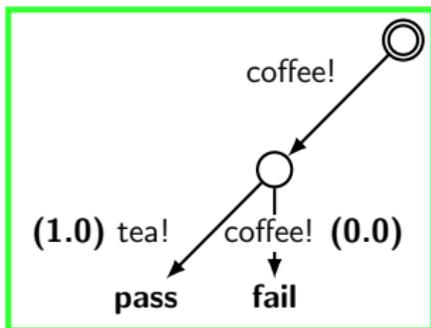
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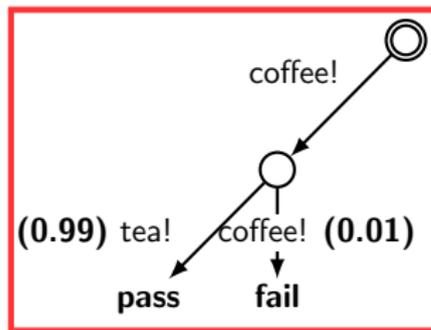
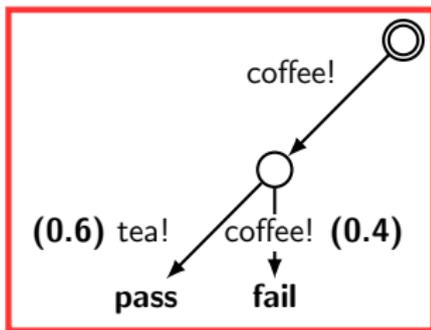
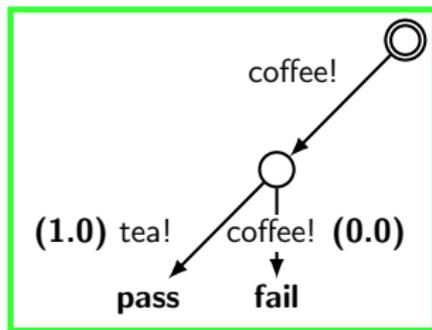
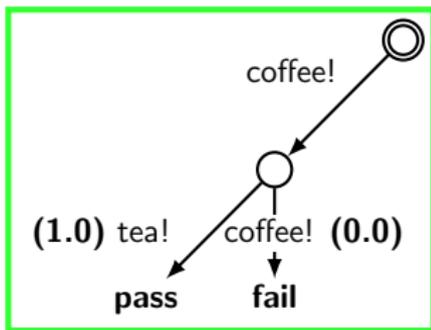
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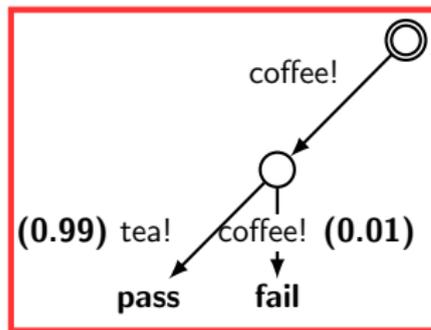
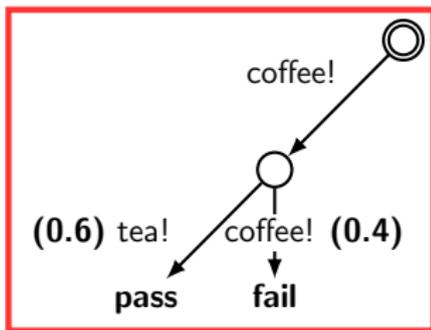
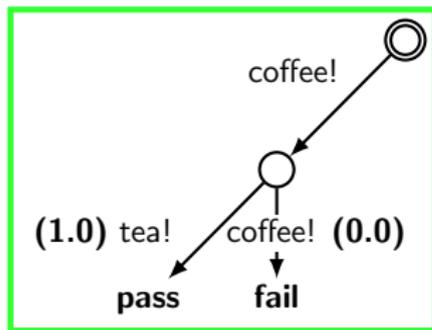
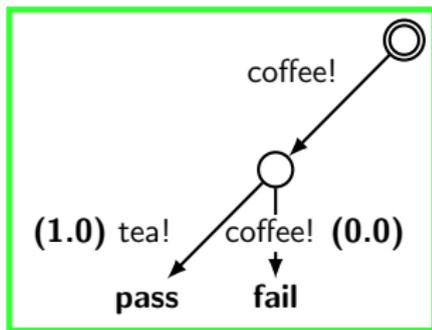
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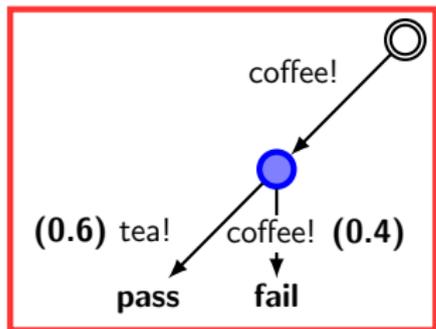
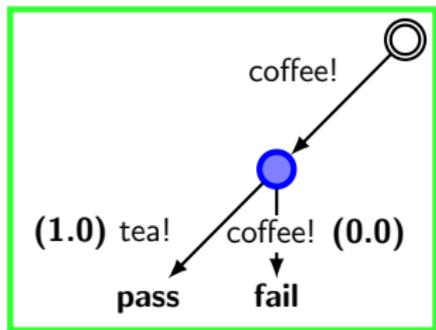
# Conditional branching probabilities



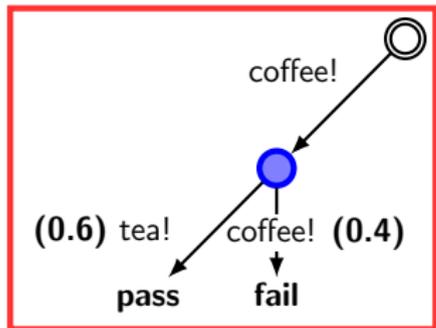
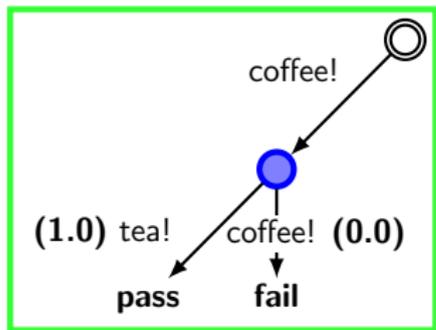
Conditional branching probabilities  $p^{cbr}$

# Coverage probabilities

- Conditional branching probability: 0.4  
( $\mathbb{P}[\text{coffee! produced from blue} \mid \text{coffee! possible from blue}]$ )

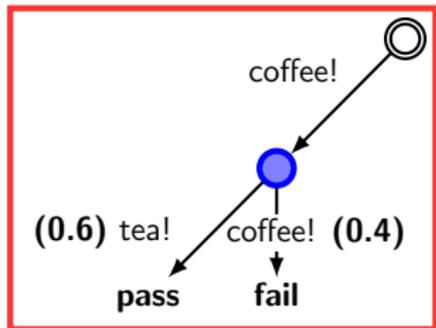
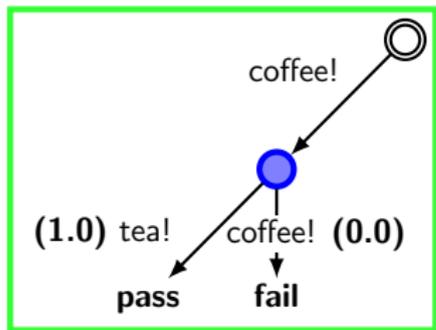


# Coverage probabilities



- Conditional branching probability: 0.4  
( $\mathbb{P}[\text{coffee! produced from blue} \mid \text{coffee! possible from blue}]$ )
- Observation: 5 times *coffee! tea!*

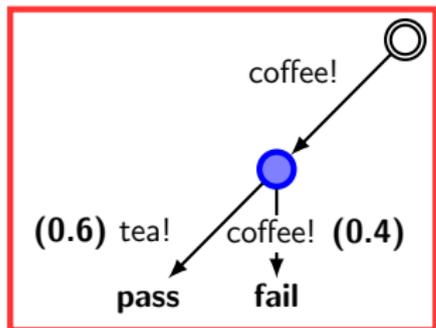
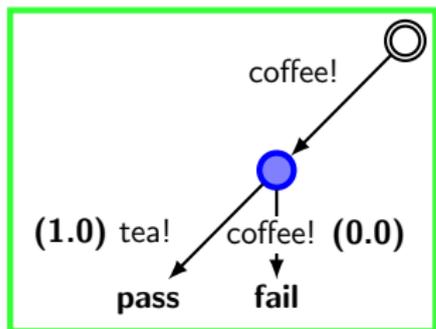
# Coverage probabilities



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- Probability of not even one *coffee!*:

$$(1 - p^{cbr})^5 = 0.6^5 = 0.08$$

# Coverage probabilities



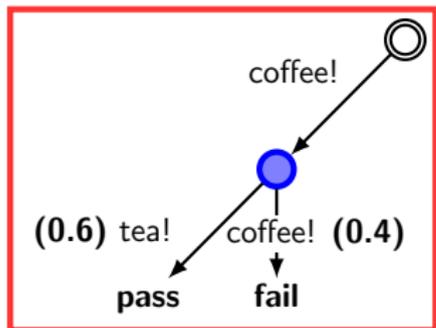
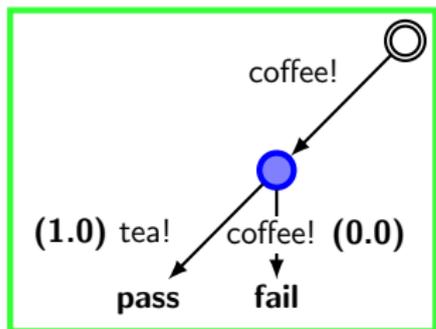
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- Probability of at least one *coffee!*:

$$1 - (1 - p^{cbr})^5 = 1 - 0.6^5 = 0.92$$

# Coverage probabilities



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- Coverage probability:

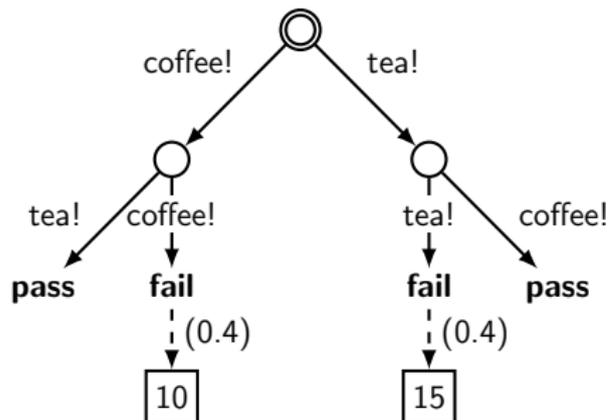
$$p^{cov} = 1 - (1 - p^{cbr})^k$$

## Fault coverage

- ① If a fault is shown present, it is *completely covered*
- ② If a fault is shown absent, it is *partially covered*. The coverage probability denotes the fraction.

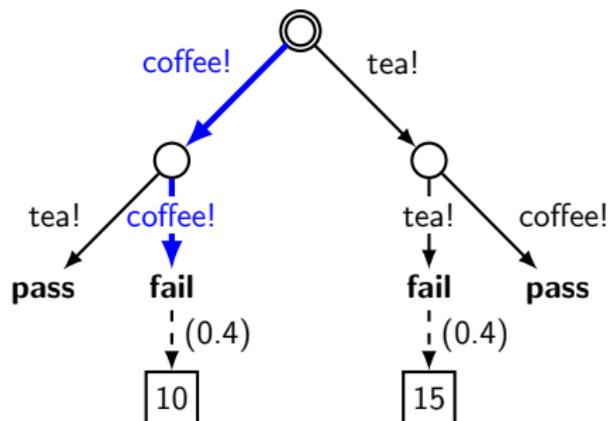
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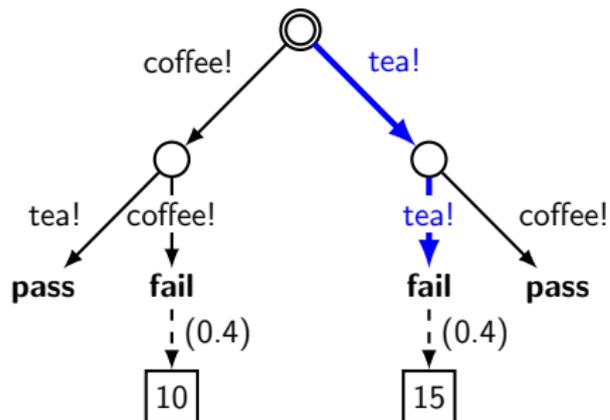


Fault coverage *coffee! coffee!*  
10

Fault coverage *tea! tea!*  
0

## Fault coverage

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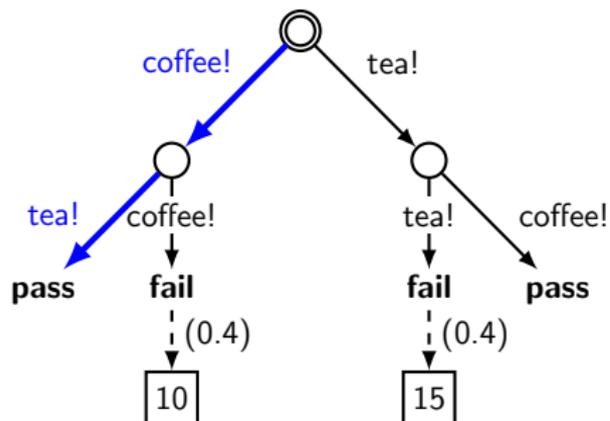


Fault coverage *coffee! coffee!*  
0

Fault coverage *tea! tea!*  
15

## Fault coverage

- 1 If a fault is shown present, it is *completely covered*
- 2 If a fault is shown absent, it is *partially covered*. The coverage probability denotes the fraction.



$$p^{\text{cov}}(\text{coffee! coffee!}) \\ 1 - (1 - 0.4)^3 = 0.78$$

Fault coverage *coffee! coffee!*  
7.8

Fault coverage *tea! tea!*  
0

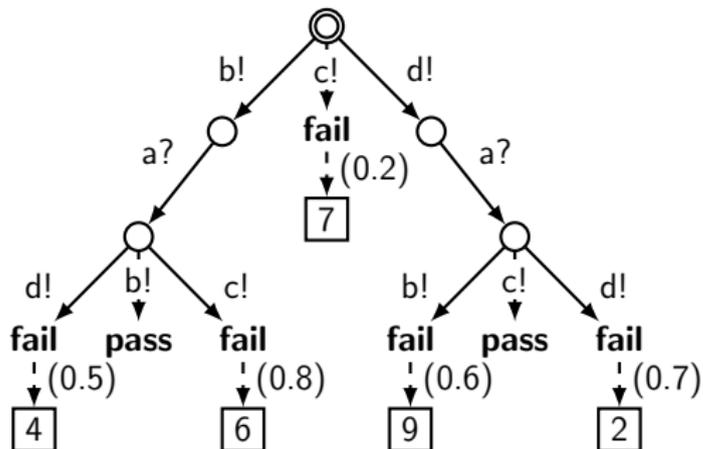
## Actual coverage

*Actual coverage* of an execution or sequence of executions:  
The sum of all fault coverages

# Actual coverage

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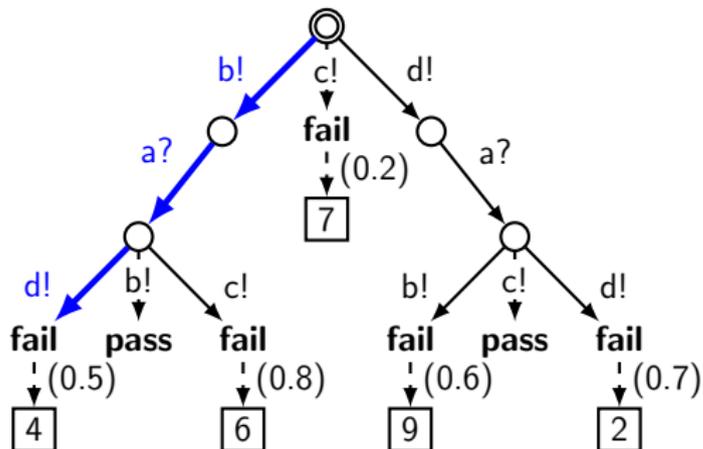
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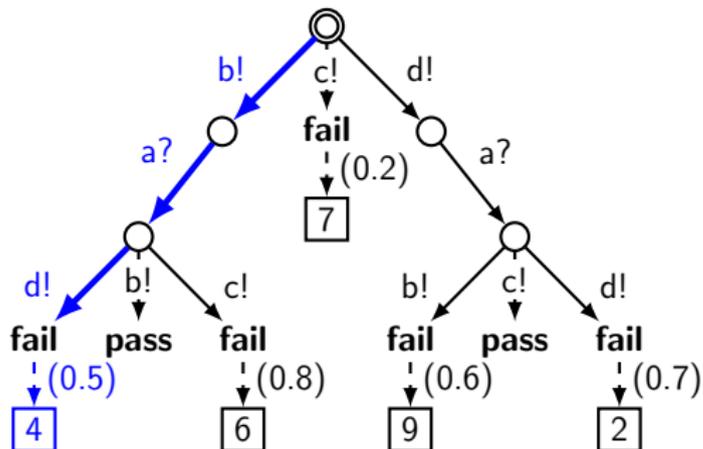
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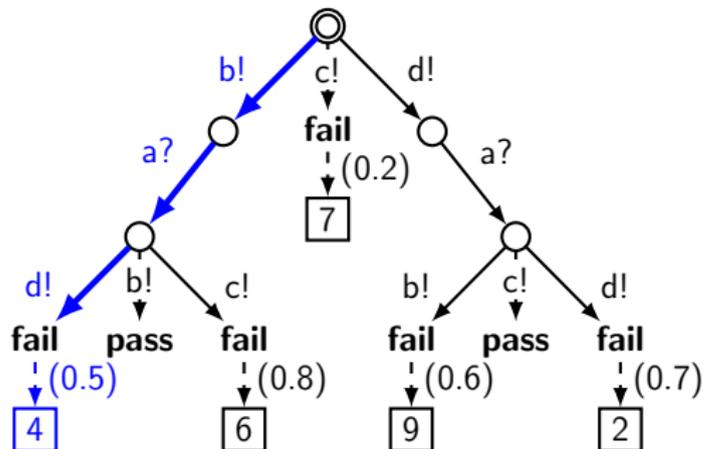
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$$\text{faultCov}(b! a? d!) =$$

## Actual coverage

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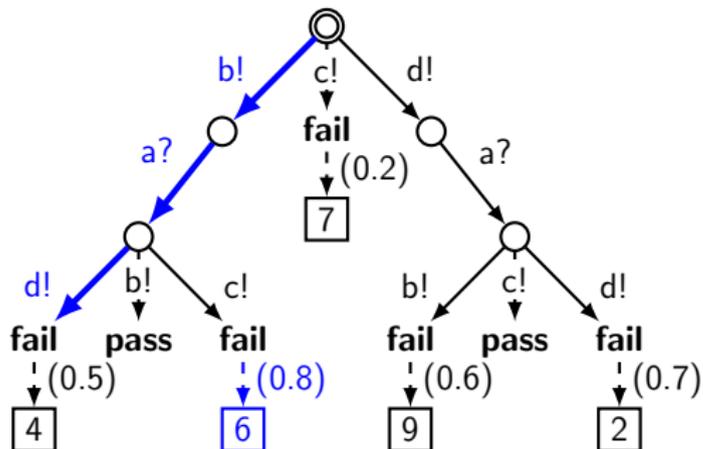


$$\text{faultCov}(b! a? d!) = 4$$

# Actual coverage

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*Actual coverage* of an execution or sequence of executions:  
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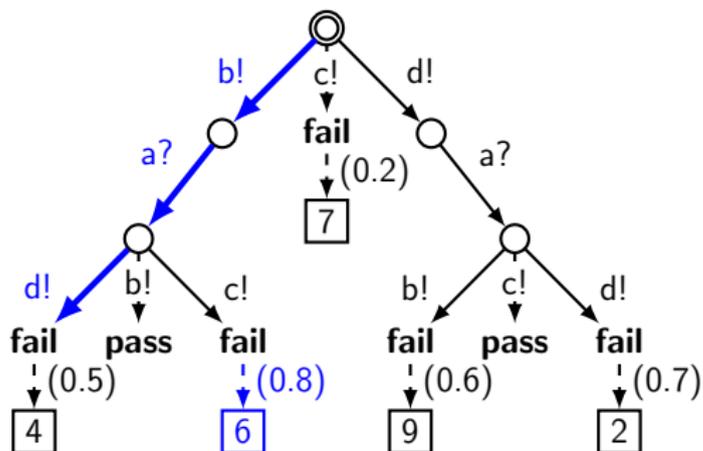
$$\text{faultCov}(b! a? d!) = 4$$

$$\text{faultCov}(b! a? c!) =$$

# Actual coverage

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The sum of all fault coverages

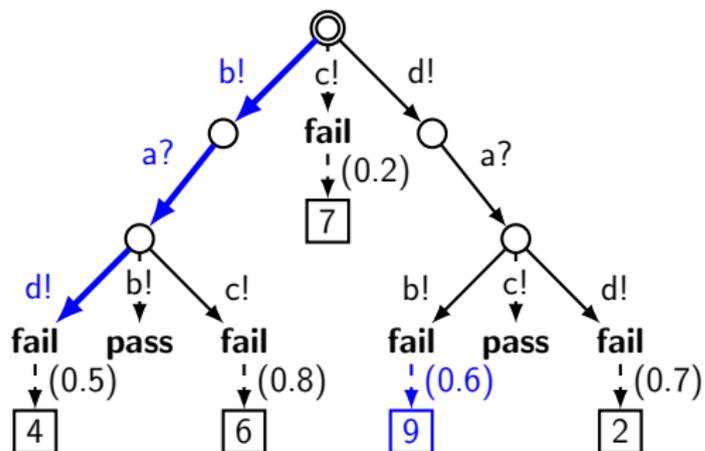


$$\begin{aligned} \text{faultCov}(b! a? d!) &= 4 \\ \text{faultCov}(b! a? c!) &= 4.8 \end{aligned}$$

$$(1 - (1 - 0.8)) \cdot 6 = 4.8$$

## Actual coverage

*Actual coverage* of an execution or sequence of executions:  
The sum of all fault coverages

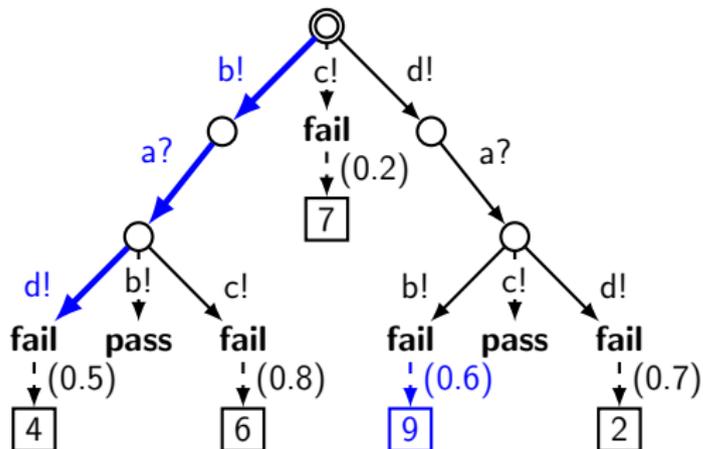


$$\begin{aligned} \text{faultCov}(b! a? d!) &= 4 \\ \text{faultCov}(b! a? c!) &= 4.8 \\ \text{faultCov}(d! a? b!) &= \end{aligned}$$

# Actual coverage

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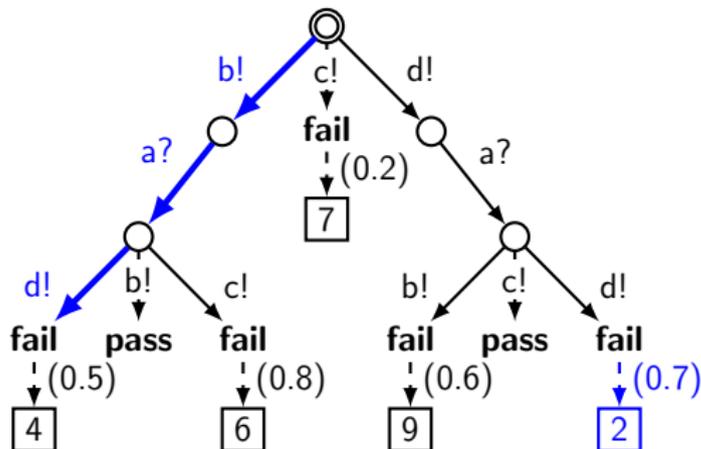
*Actual coverage* of an execution or sequence of executions:  
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$$\begin{aligned} \text{faultCov}(b! a? d!) &= 4 \\ \text{faultCov}(b! a? c!) &= 4.8 \\ \text{faultCov}(d! a? b!) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

## Actual coverage

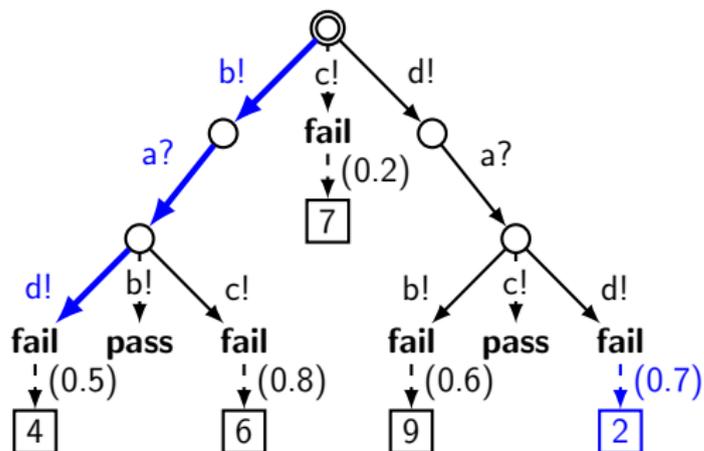
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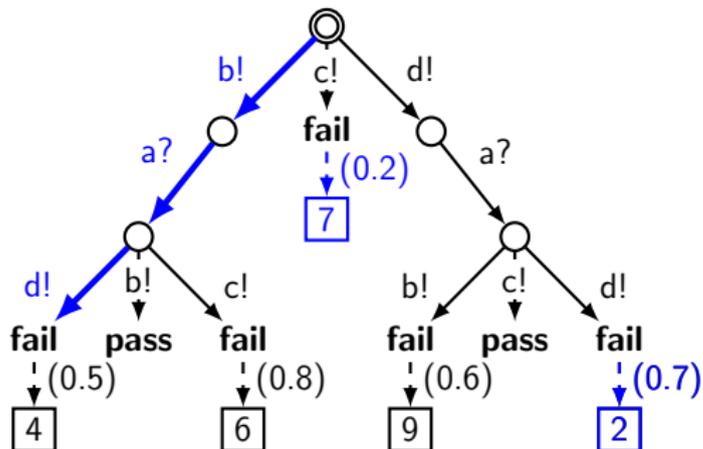
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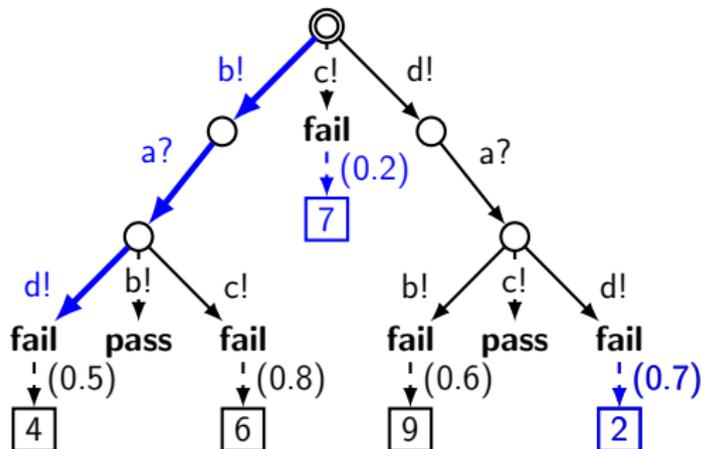


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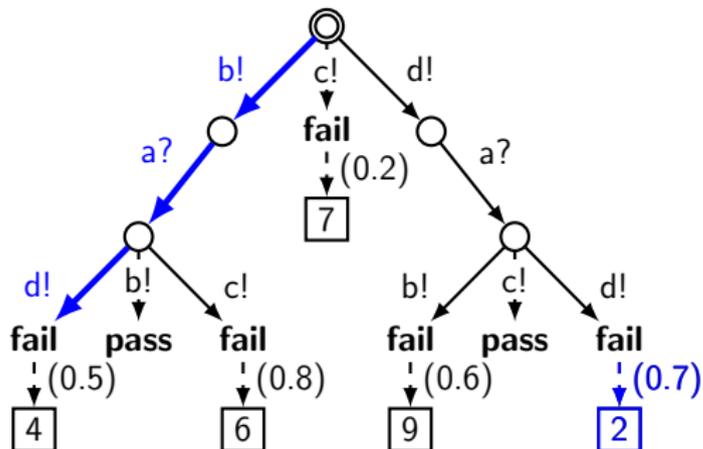
$$\begin{aligned} \text{faultCov}(b! a? d!) &= 4 \\ \text{faultCov}(b! a? c!) &= 4.8 \\ \text{faultCov}(d! a? b!) &= 0 \\ \text{faultCov}(d! a? d!) &= 0 \\ \text{faultCov}(c!) &= 1.4 \end{aligned}$$

$$(1 - (1 - 0.2)) \cdot 7 = 1.4$$

# Actual coverage

## Actual coverage

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{faultCov}(b! a? d!) &= 4 \\ \text{faultCov}(b! a? c!) &= 4.8 \\ \text{faultCov}(d! a? b!) &= 0 \\ \text{faultCov}(d! a? d!) &= 0 \\ \text{faultCov}(c!) &= 1.4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{absCov} = 10.2$$

- 1 Introduction
  - Motivation
  - Preliminaries
  - Limitations of potential coverage
- 2 Evaluating actual coverage
  - Conditional branching probabilities
  - Coverage probabilities
  - Fault coverage
  - Actual coverage
- 3 Predicting actual coverage
  - Actual coverage of test cases
  - Expected actual coverage
- 4 Test suites
- 5 Conclusions and future work

# Actual coverage of test cases

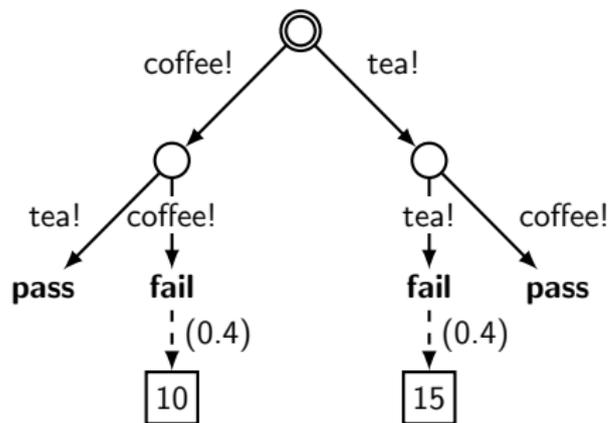
## Actual coverage distribution of a test case

The *actual coverage distribution* of a test case predicts its actual coverage.

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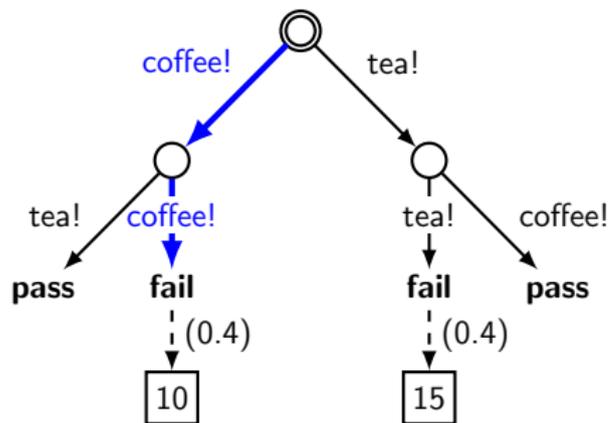
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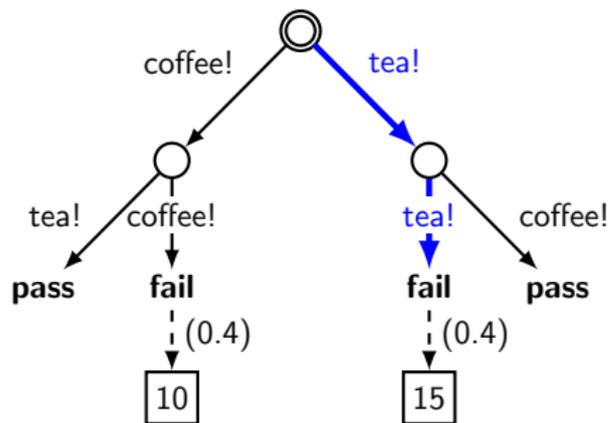


$$\frac{\text{absCov}}{10}$$

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absCov

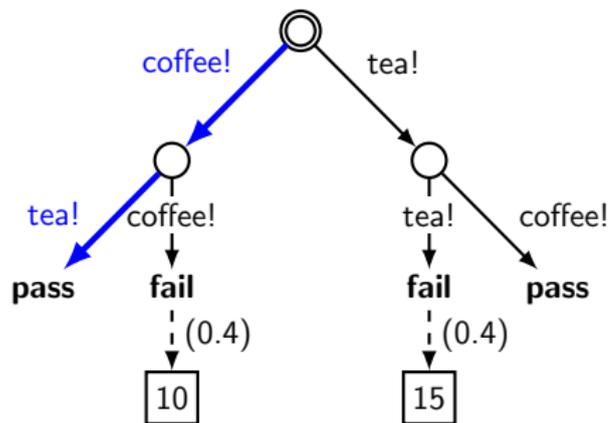
10

15

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absCov

---

10

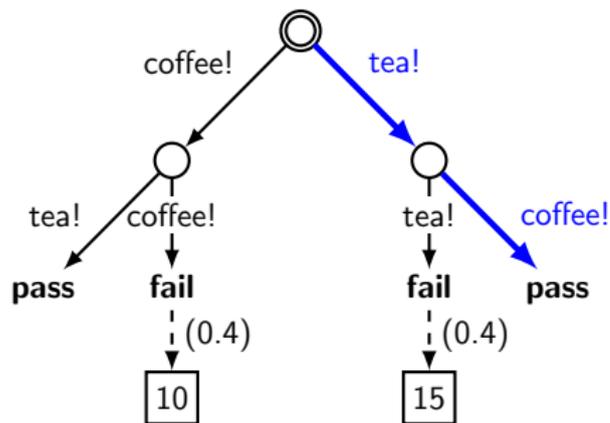
15

4

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absCov

---

10

15

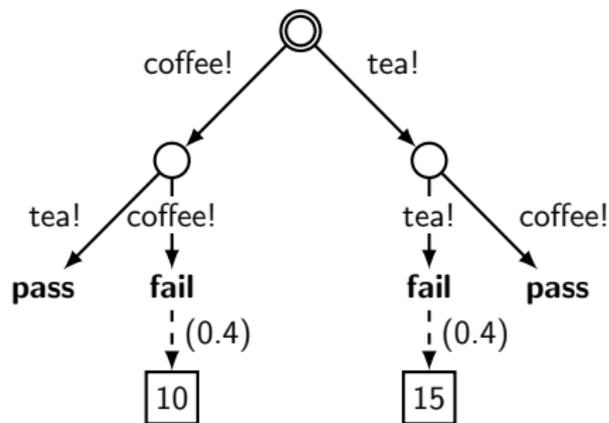
4

6

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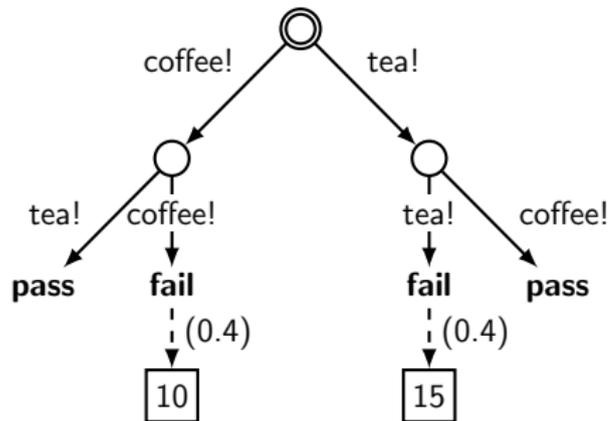


absCov	$\mathbb{P}$
10	0.015
15	0.005
4	0.735
6	0.245

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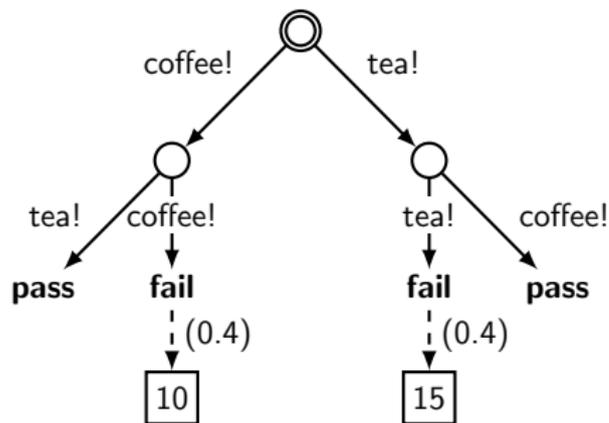


absCov	$\mathbb{P}$	$\times$
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6	0.245	1.470

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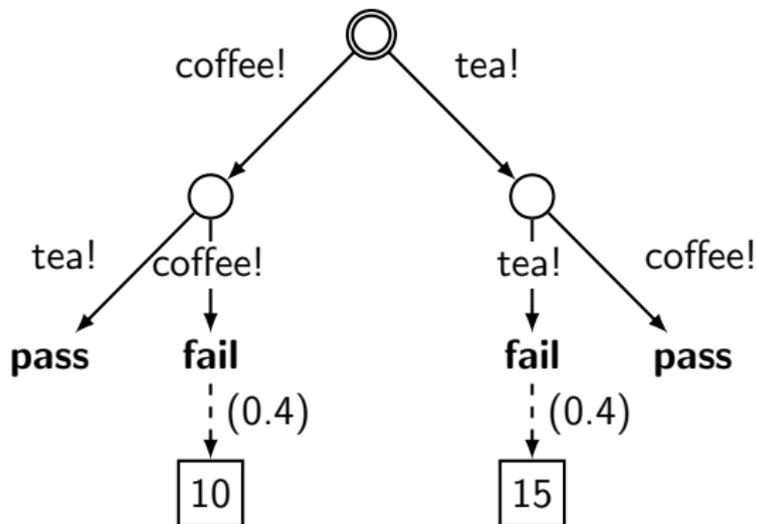


$absCov$	$\mathbb{P}$	$\times$
10	0.015	0.150
15	0.005	0.075
4	0.735	2.940
6	0.245	1.470
$\mathbb{E}(absCov) =$		4.635

# Branching probabilities

## Branching probabilities

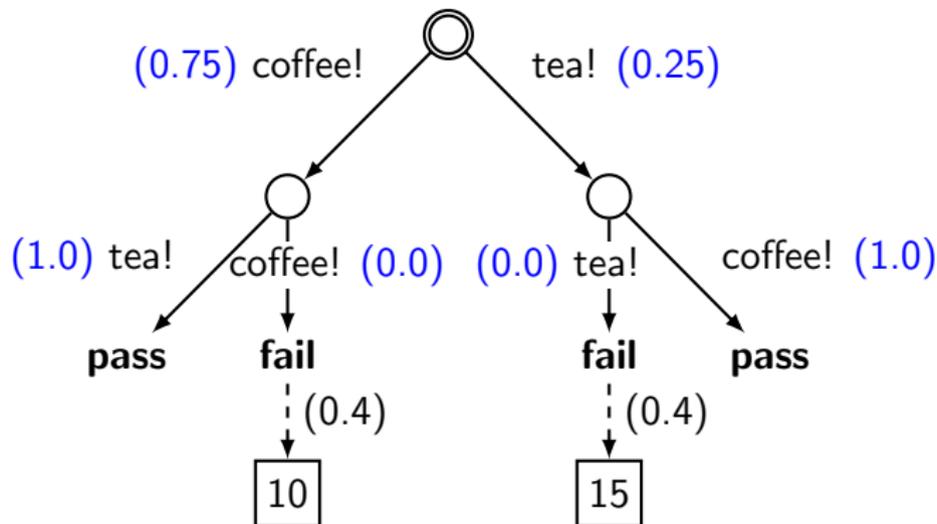
The *branching probabilities*  $p^{br}$  describe how the implementation is expected to behave



# Branching probabilities

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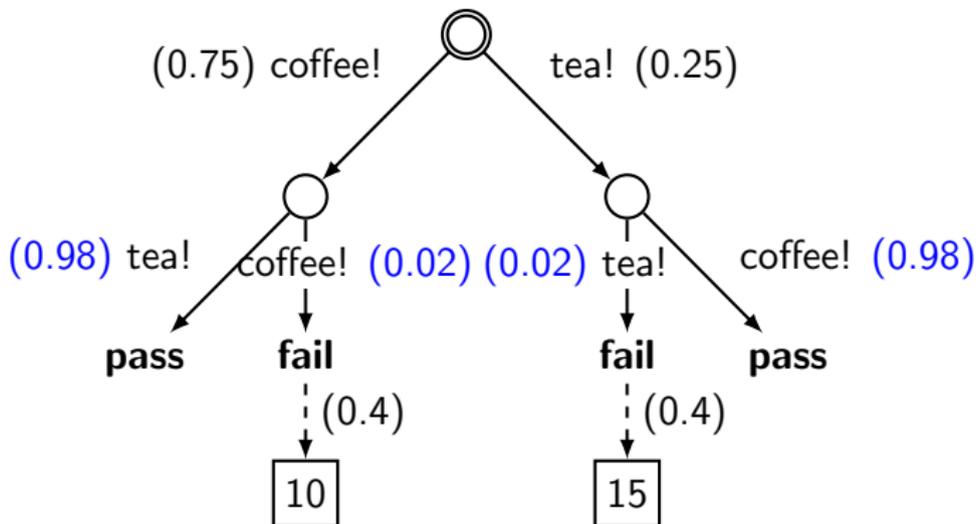
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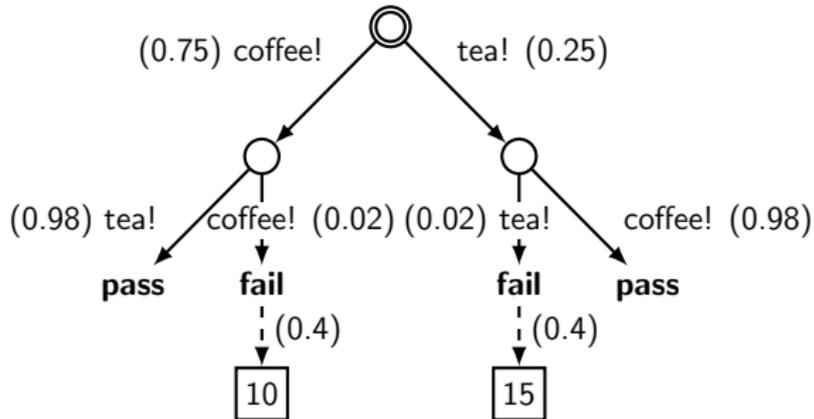
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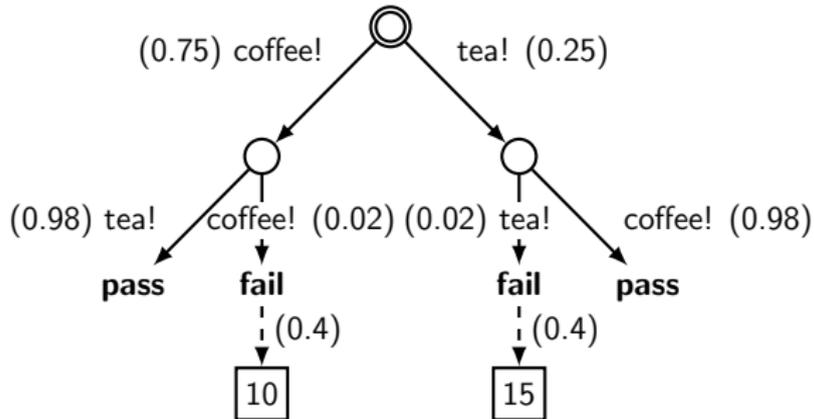
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# Trace occurrence probabilities and actual coverage

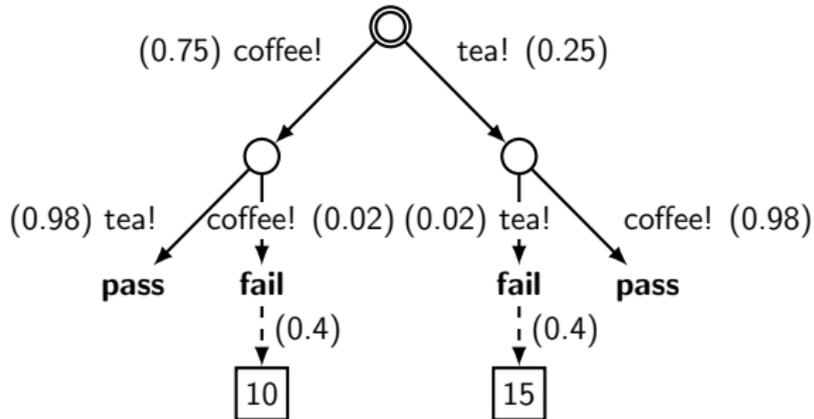


# Trace occurrence probabilities and actual coverage



$$p^{to}(\text{coffee! tea!}) = 0.75 \cdot 0.98 = 0.735$$

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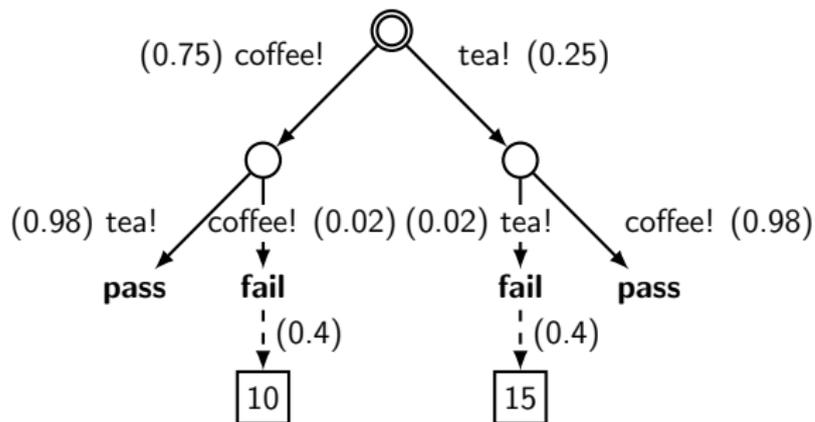
$$p^{to}(\text{coffee! coffee!}) = 0.75 \cdot 0.02 = 0.015$$

$$p^{to}(\text{tea! tea!}) = 0.25 \cdot 0.02 = 0.005$$

$$p^{to}(\text{tea! coffee!}) = 0.25 \cdot 0.98 = 0.245$$

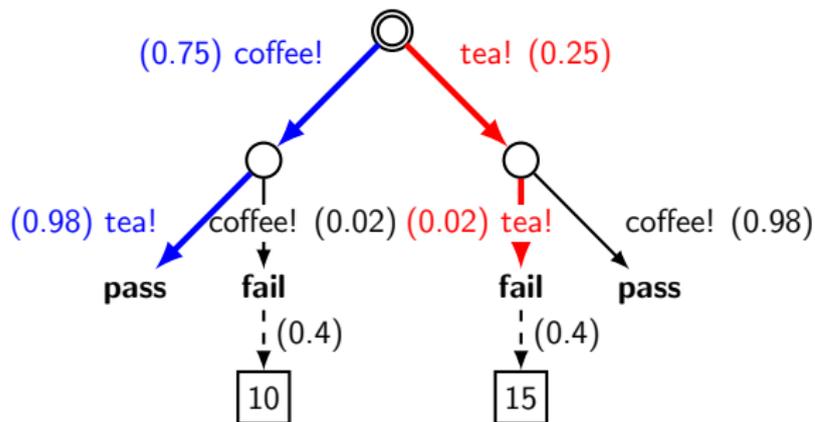
# Sequences of executions

- Suppose we perform three executions of



# Sequences of executions

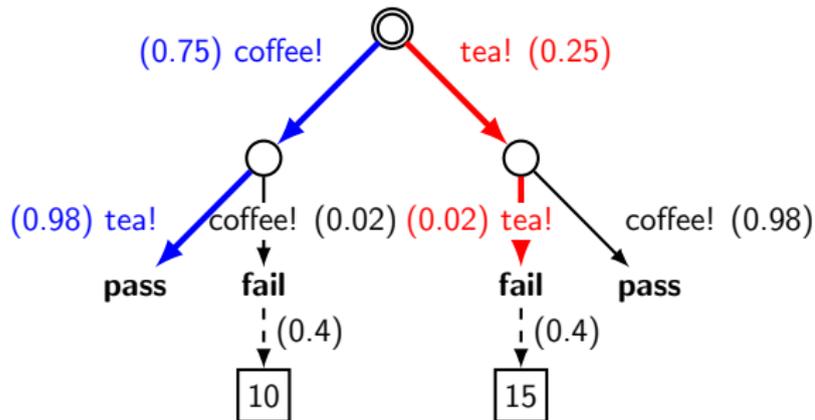
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- Possible observation: [blue, blue, red]

# Sequences of executions

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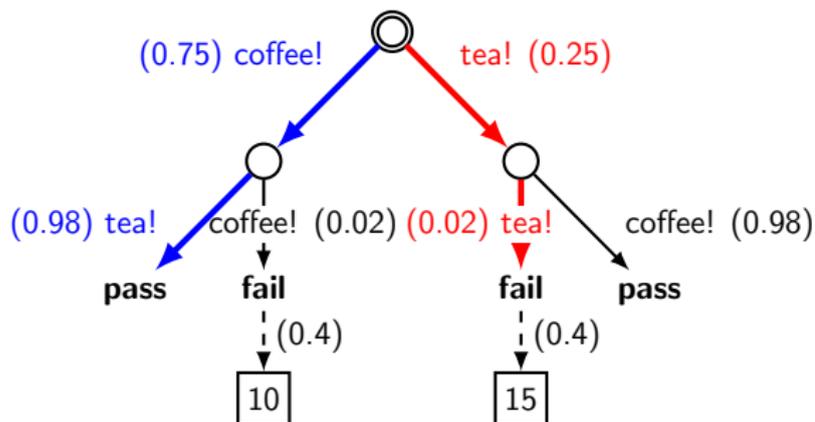


- Possible observation: [blue, blue, red]
- Actual coverage:

15 +

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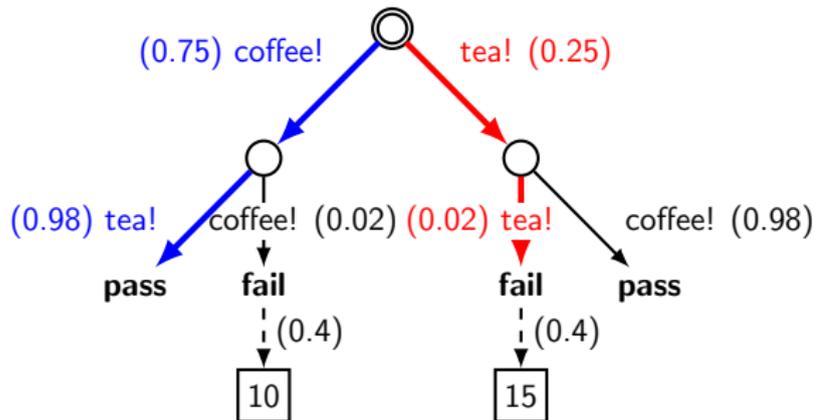


- Possible observation: [blue, blue, red]
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$$15 + (1 - (1 - 0.4)^2) \cdot 10$$

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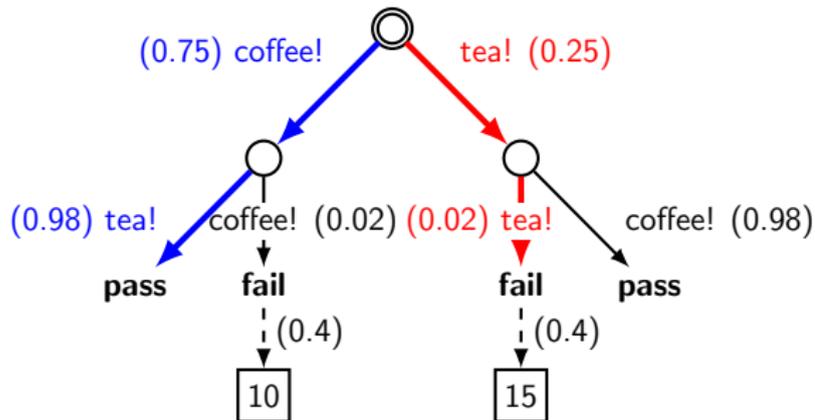


- Possible observation: [blue, blue, red]
- Actual coverage:

$$15 + (1 - (1 - 0.4)^2) \cdot 10 = 15 + 6.4 = 21.4$$

# Sequences of executions

- Suppose we perform three executions of



- Possible observation: [blue, blue, red]
- Actual coverage:

$$15 + (1 - (1 - 0.4)^2) \cdot 10 = 15 + 6.4 = 21.4$$

- Many observations possible:  $O(|exec|^n)$

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \right. \\ \left. \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{\text{to}}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - p^{\text{br}}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - (1 - p^{\text{cbr}}(a | \sigma))^k) \right)$$

## Theorem

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Case 1: presence shown

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{\text{to}}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot (1 - p^{\text{br}}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot (1 - (1 - p^{\text{cbr}}(a | \sigma))^k) \right)$$

Case 1: presence shown  
 $\mathbb{P}[\text{observe } \sigma a]$

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \right. \\ \left. \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{\text{to}}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - p^{\text{br}}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - (1 - p^{\text{cbr}}(a | \sigma))^k) \right)$$

Case 1: presence shown  
 $\mathbb{P}[\text{not observe } \sigma a]$

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{\text{to}}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot (1 - p^{\text{br}}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot (1 - (1 - p^{\text{cbr}}(a | \sigma))^k) \right)$$

Case 1: presence shown  
 $\mathbb{P}[\text{never observe } \sigma a]$

# Expected actual coverage for a sequence of executions

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{\text{to}}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot (1 - p^{\text{br}}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot (1 - (1 - p^{\text{cbr}}(a | \sigma))^k) \right)$$

Case 1: presence shown  
 $\mathbb{P}[\text{ever observe } \sigma a]$

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \right.$$

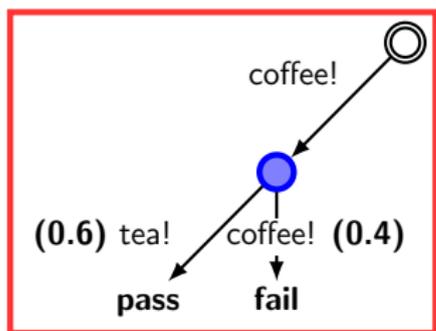
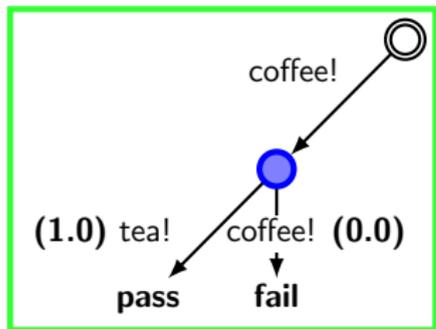
$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{\text{to}}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot$$

$$(1 - p^{\text{br}}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot$$

$$(1 - (1 - p^{\text{cbr}}(a | \sigma))^k) \left. \right)$$

Case 2: presence not shown  
Absence shown 0...n times

# Coverage probabilities



- Conditional branching probability: 0.4  
( $\mathbb{P}[\text{coffee! produced from blue} \mid \text{coffee! possible from blue}]$ )

- Observation: 5 times *coffee! tea!*
- Probability of not even one *coffee!*:

$$(1 - p^{cbr})^5 = 0.6^5 = 0.08$$

- Probability of at least one *coffee!*:

$$1 - (1 - p^{cbr})^5 = 1 - 0.6^5 = 0.92$$

- Coverage probability:

$$p^{cov} = 1 - (1 - p^{cbr})^k$$

# Expected actual coverage for a sequence of executions

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{to}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \right. \\ \left. \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{to}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{to}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - p^{br}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - (1 - p^{cbr}(a | \sigma))^k) \right)$$

Case 2: presence not shown  
Absence shown  $0 \dots n$  times

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{to}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \right. \\ \left. \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{to}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{to}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - p^{br}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - (1 - p^{cbr}(a | \sigma))^k) \right)$$

Case 2: presence not shown  
 $\mathbb{P}[\text{exactly } k \text{ times } \sigma]$

# Expected actual coverage for a sequence of executions

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{to}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \right. \\ \left. \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{to}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{to}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - p^{br}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - (1 - p^{cbr}(a | \sigma))^k) \right)$$

Case 2: presence not shown  
 $\mathbb{P}[k \text{ times } \sigma]$

# Expected actual coverage for a sequence of executions

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{to}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \right. \\ \left. \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{to}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{to}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - p^{br}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - (1 - p^{cbr}(a | \sigma))^k) \right)$$

Case 2: presence not shown  
 $\mathbb{P}[\text{the others not } \sigma]$

# Expected actual coverage for a sequence of executions

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{\text{to}}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{\text{to}}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot (1 - p^{\text{br}}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot (1 - (1 - p^{\text{cbr}}(a | \sigma))^k) \right)$$

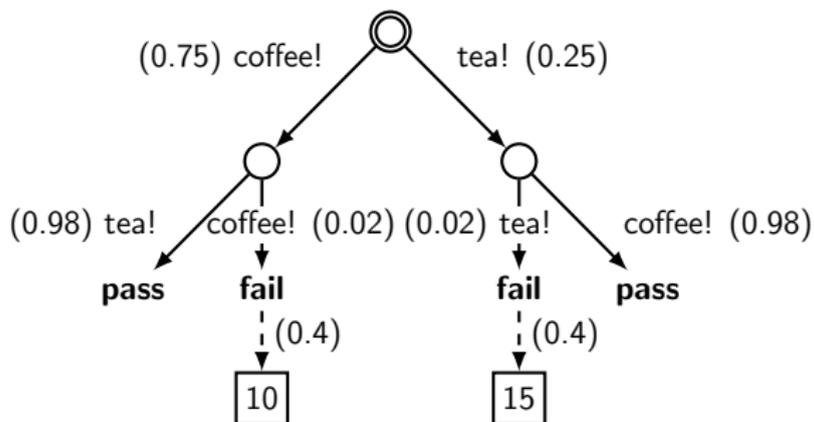
Case 2: presence not shown  
All possible orderings

## Theorem

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_n) = \sum_{\sigma a \in \text{err}_t} f(\sigma a) \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - p^{to}(\sigma a))^n) \cdot 1 + \right. \\ \left. \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} p^{to}(\sigma)^k (1 - p^{to}(\sigma))^{n-k} \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - p^{br}(a | \sigma))^k \cdot \right. \\ \left. (1 - (1 - p^{cbr}(a | \sigma))^k) \right)$$

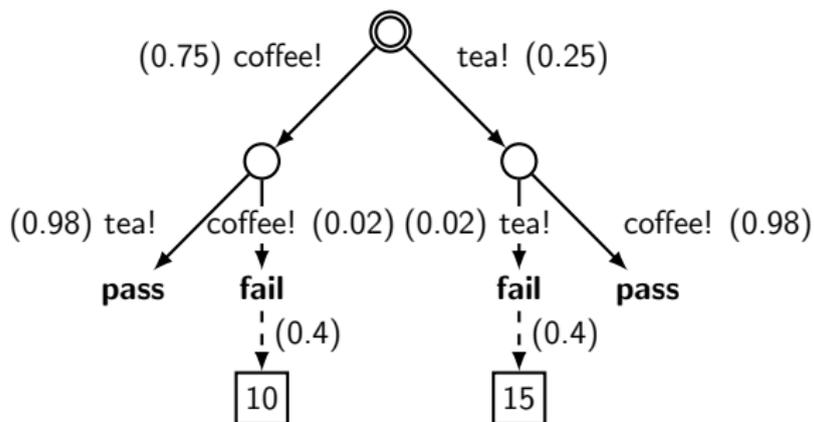
Case 2: presence not shown  
 $\mathbb{P}[\text{no presence shown}]$

# Example of expected actual coverage



$$\begin{aligned}
 & 10 \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - 0.75 \cdot 0.02)^5) + \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \sum_{k=0}^5 \binom{5}{k} 0.75^k \cdot (1 - 0.75)^{5-k} \cdot (1 - 0.02)^k \cdot (1 - (1 - 0.4)^k) \right) + \\
 & 15 \cdot \left( (1 - (1 - 0.25 \cdot 0.02)^5) + \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \sum_{k=0}^5 \binom{5}{k} 0.25^k \cdot (1 - 0.25)^{5-k} \cdot (1 - 0.02)^k \cdot (1 - (1 - 0.4)^k) \right) \\
 & = 14.7
 \end{aligned}$$

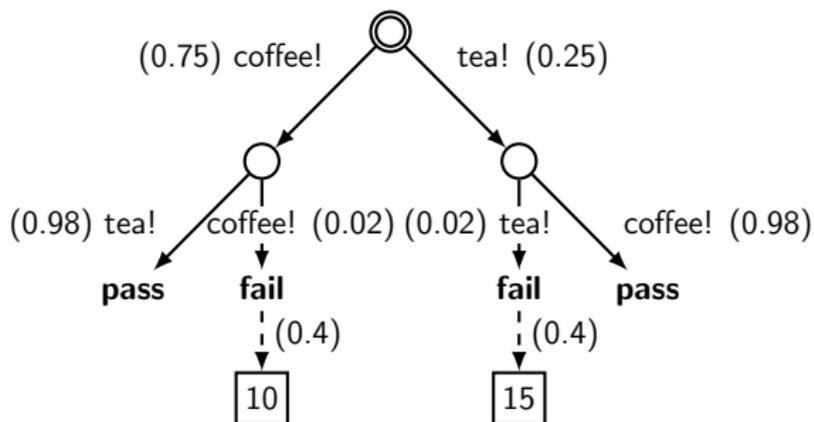
# Example of expected actual coverage



$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_1) = 4.6$$

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_5) = 14.7$$

# Example of expected actual coverage



$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_1) = 4.6$$

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_2) = 8.2$$

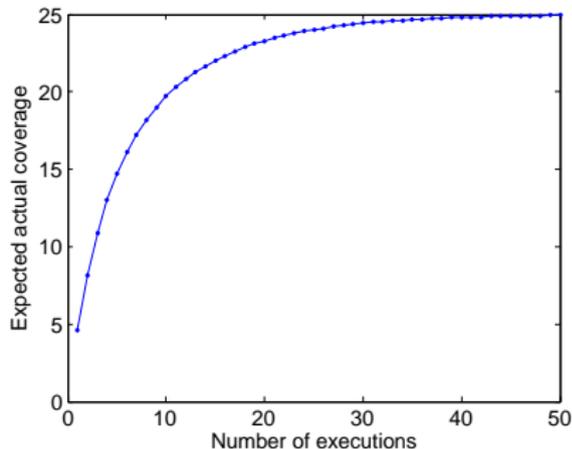
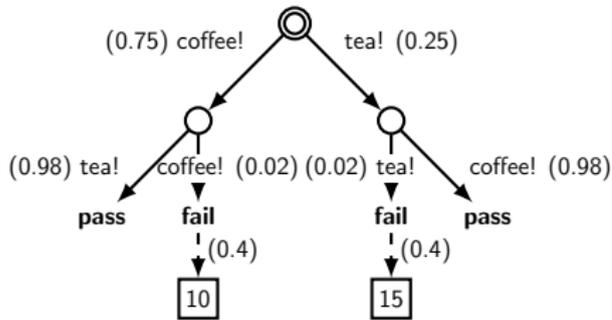
$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_3) = 10.9$$

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_4) = 13.0$$

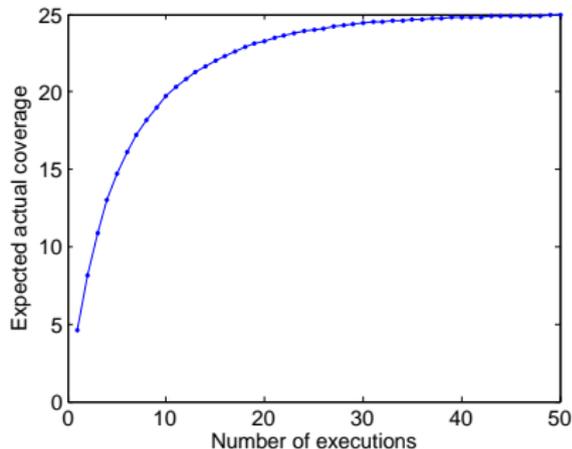
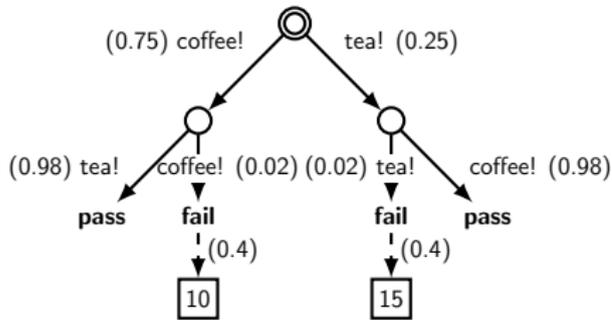
$$\mathbb{E}(\text{actCov}_5) = 14.7$$



# Asymptotical behaviour of actual coverage



# Asymptotical behaviour of actual coverage



## Theorem

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}(\text{absCov}_n) = \text{absPotCov}$$

- 1 Introduction
  - Motivation
  - Preliminaries
  - Limitations of potential coverage
- 2 Evaluating actual coverage
  - Conditional branching probabilities
  - Coverage probabilities
  - Fault coverage
  - Actual coverage
- 3 Predicting actual coverage
  - Actual coverage of test cases
  - Expected actual coverage
- 4 Test suites
- 5 Conclusions and future work

- Very similar to actual coverage for test cases:  
sum all the fault coverages
- Take into account in how many test cases an erroneous trace is contained
- Again, an efficient formula for the expected actual coverage exists

## Theorem

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}(absCov_n) = absPotCov$$

- 1 Introduction
  - Motivation
  - Preliminaries
  - Limitations of potential coverage
- 2 Evaluating actual coverage
  - Conditional branching probabilities
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## Main results – what you saw today

- New notion of coverage: *actual coverage*
- Evaluating actual coverage of a given execution
- Predicting actual coverage of a test case or test suite

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- New notion of coverage: *actual coverage*
- Evaluating actual coverage of a given execution
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## Main results – what I did not show

- Probabilistic fault automata
- Methods to derive  $p^{cbr}$  and  $p^{br}$
- Mathematical proofs
- Detailed example
- Extra features:
  - Risk-based testing
  - Alternative approach to coverage probabilities
  - Approximations

## Directions for future work

- Validation of the framework: tool support, case studies
- Dependencies between errors
- Accuracy of approximations
- On-the-fly test derivation

