

Effective properties



John Hughes





```
newtype Coin = Coin Int
  deriving (Eq, Show)
```

```
maxCoinValue = 1000000
```

```
validCoin (Coin n) =
  0 <= n && n <= maxCoinValue
```

```
add (Coin a) (Coin b) =
  if a+b < maxCoinValue
  then Just (Coin (a+b))
  else Nothing
```

```
testNormal =  
  Coin 2 `add` Coin 2  
  ===  
  Just (Coin 4)
```

*100% coverage
of code of add*



```
testOverflow =  
  Coin maxValue `add` Coin 1  
  ===  
  Nothing
```

```
*Coins> quickCheck testNormal
```

```
+++ OK, passed 1 tests.
```

```
*Coins> quickCheck testOverflow
```

```
+++ OK, passed 1 tests.
```

```
prop_Normal (Coin a) (Coin b) =  
  a+b < maxCoinValue ==>  
    Coin a `add` Coin b  
  ==  
    Just (Coin (a+b))
```

```
prop_Overflow (Coin a) (Coin b) =  
  a+b > maxCoinValue ==>  
    Coin a `add` Coin b  
  ==  
    Nothing
```

```
instance Arbitrary Coin where
```

```
  arbitrary =
```

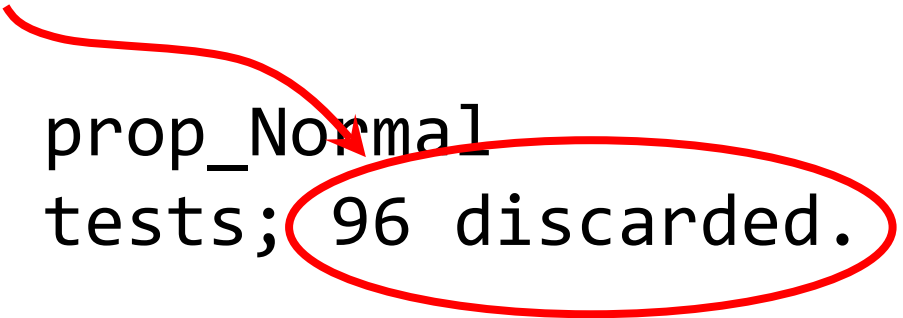
```
    Coin <$> choose (0,maxCoinValue)
```

Don't forget to write and test:

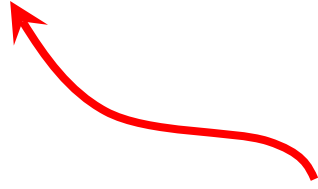
```
prop_Valid (Coin c) =  
  validCoin (Coin c)
```

Lots of discarded tests

```
*Coins> quickCheck prop_Normal  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests; 96 discarded.
```



```
*Coins> quickCheck prop_Overflow  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests; 96 discarded.
```



*100%
coverage*

```
prop_Normal (Normal (Coin a) (Coin b)) =  
  a+b < maxCoinValue ==>  
  Coin a `add` Coin b  
  ==  
  Just (Coin (a+b))
```

```
data Normal = Normal Coin Coin  
  deriving Show
```

```
instance Arbitrary Normal where  
  arbitrary = do  
    Coin a <- arbitrary  
    b <- choose (0,maxCoinValue-a)  
    return $ Normal (Coin a) (Coin b)
```



```
*Coins> quickCheck prop_Normal  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.
```

```
data Normal = Normal Coin Coin deriving Show
```

```
instance Arbitrary Normal where
```

```
  arbitrary = do
```

```
    Coin a <- arbitrary
```

```
    b <- choose (0,maxCoinValue-a)
```

```
    return $ Normal (Coin a) (Coin b)
```

```
data Overflow = Overflow Coin Coin deriving Show
```

```
instance Arbitrary Overflow where
```

```
  arbitrary = do
```

```
    Coin a <- arbitrary
```

```
    b <- choose (maxCoinValue-a+1,maxCoinValue)
```

```
    return $ Overflow (Coin a) (Coin b)
```

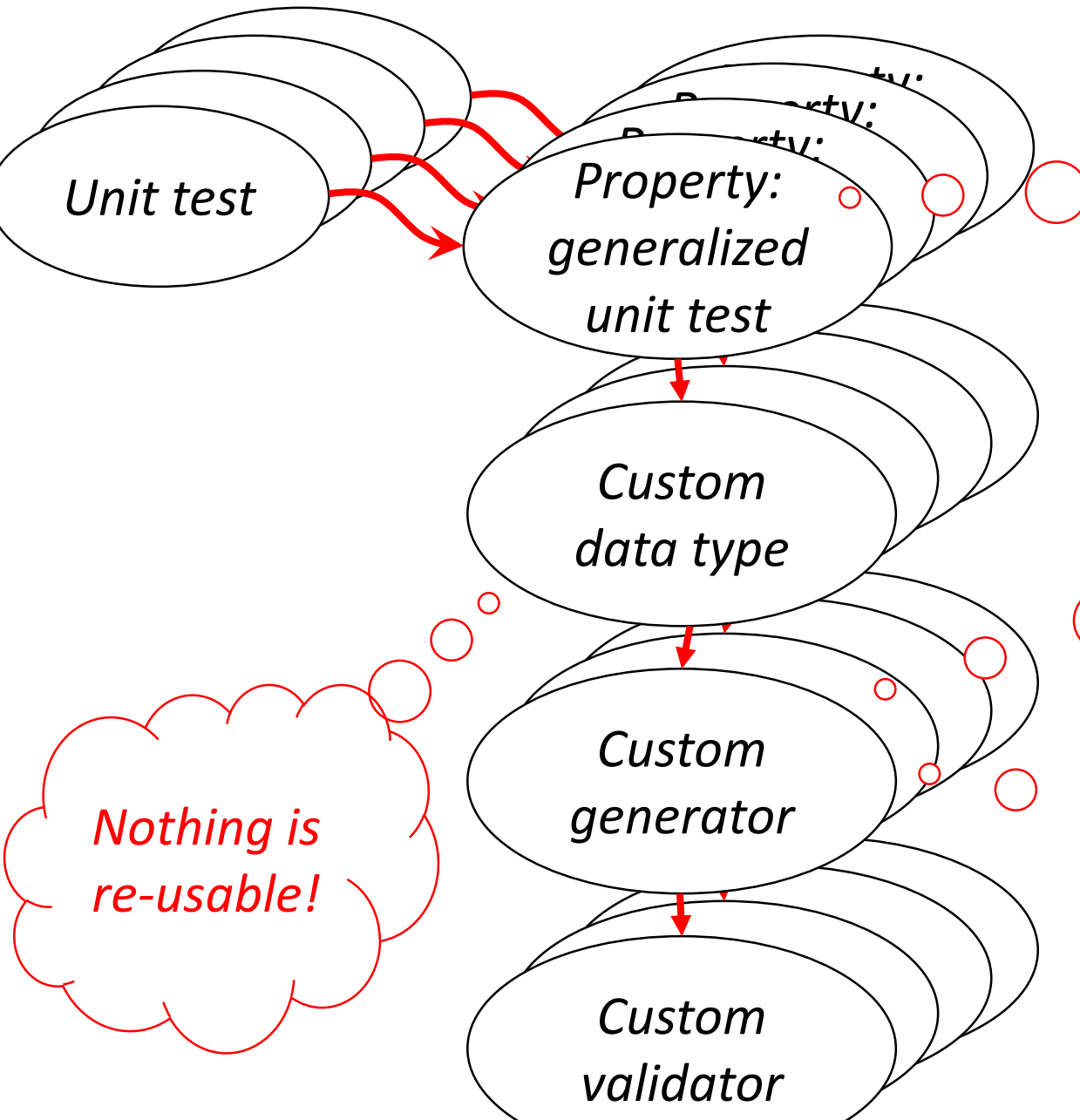
```
prop_ValidNormal (Normal c c') =
```

```
  validCoin c && validCoin c'
```

```
prop_ValidOverflow (Overflow c c') =
```

```
  validCoin c && validCoin c'
```

```
*Coins> quickCheck . withMaxSuccess maxCoinValue $ prop_ValidOverflow  
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 913693 tests):  
Overflow (Coin 0) (Coin 1000001)
```



Are the properties consistent?

Are all the interesting cases covered?

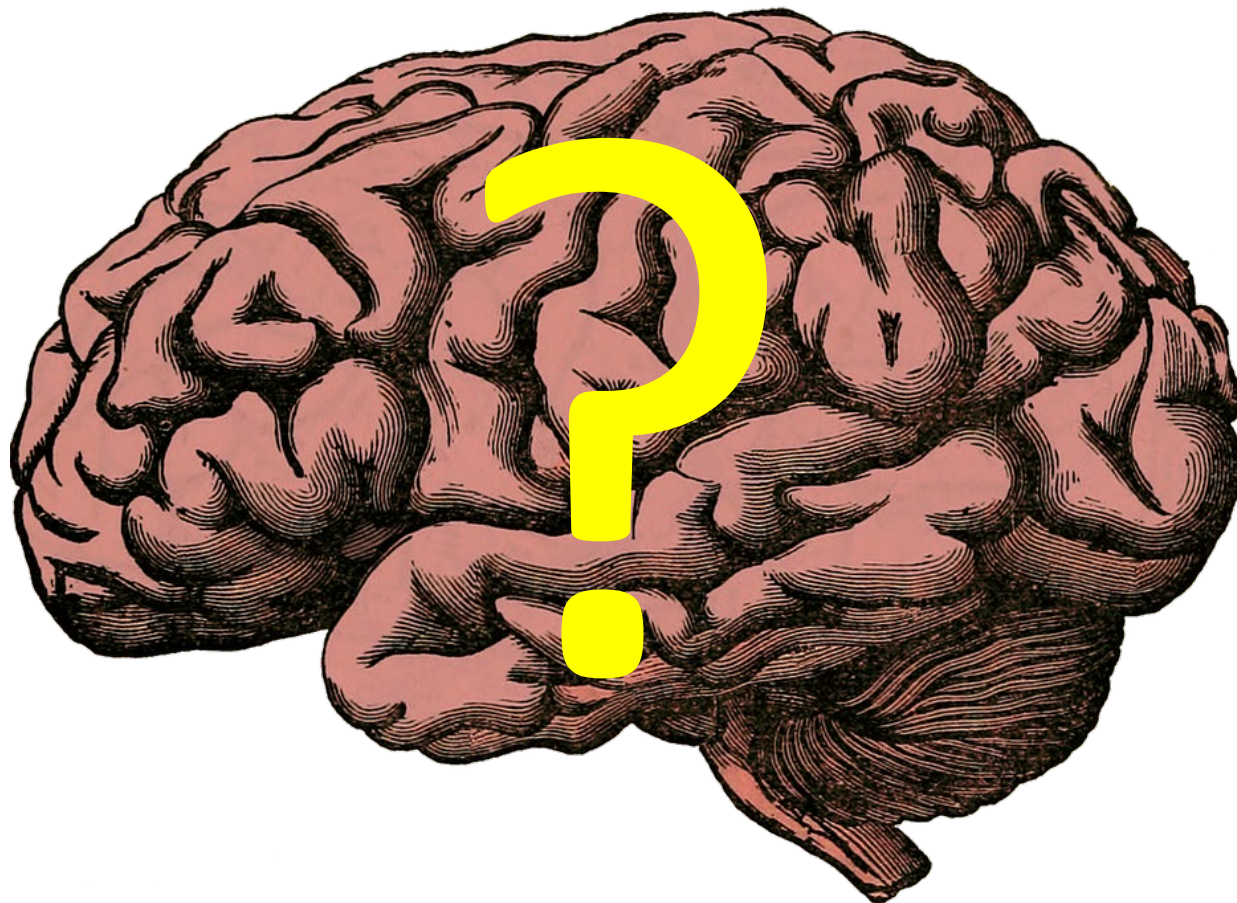
Are the generators correct?

Nothing is re-usable!





```
prop_Add (Coin a) (Coin b) =  
  Coin a `add` Coin b  
  ===  
  if validCoin c  
  then Just c  
  else Nothing  
  where c = Coin (a+b)
```



```
prop_Add (Coin a) (Coin b) =  
  label (summarize (a+b)) $  
  Coin a `add` Coin b  
  ===  
  if validCoin c  
    then Just c  
    else Nothing  
  where c = Coin (a+b)
```

```
summarize n
```

```
| n <= maxCoinValue = "normal"  
| n >  maxCoinValue = "overflow"
```



```
*Coins> quickCheck . withMaxSuccess 10000 $ prop_Add  
+++ OK, passed 10000 tests:  
50.26% normal  
49.74% overflow
```



```
summarize n
```

```
| abs (n-maxCoinValue) < 3 = "boundary"
```

```
| n <= maxCoinValue = "normal"
```


```
| n > maxCoinValue = "overflow"
```

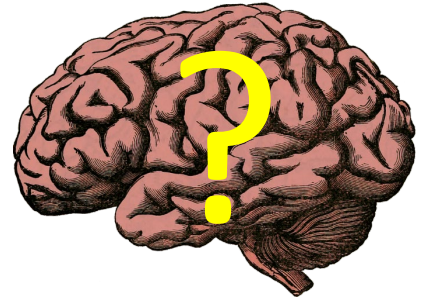
```
*Coins> quickCheck . withMaxSuccess 10000 $ prop_Add
```

```
+++ OK, passed 10000 tests:
```

```
50.61% normal
```

```
49.39% overflow
```

 *Not a single
boundary case!*



```
instance Arbitrary Coin where
  arbitrary = do
    NonNegative n <- arbitrary
    Coin <$>
      oneof [return n,
            return (maxCoinValue-n),
            choose (0,maxCoinValue)]
```

```
*Coins> quickCheck prop_Add  
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 1 test):  
Coin 1000000  
Coin 0  
Nothing /= Just (Coin 1000000)
```

```
newtype Coin = Coin Int
  deriving (Eq, Show)
```

```
maxCoinValue = 1000000
```

```
validCoin (Coin n) =
```

```
  0 <= n && n <= maxCoinValue
```

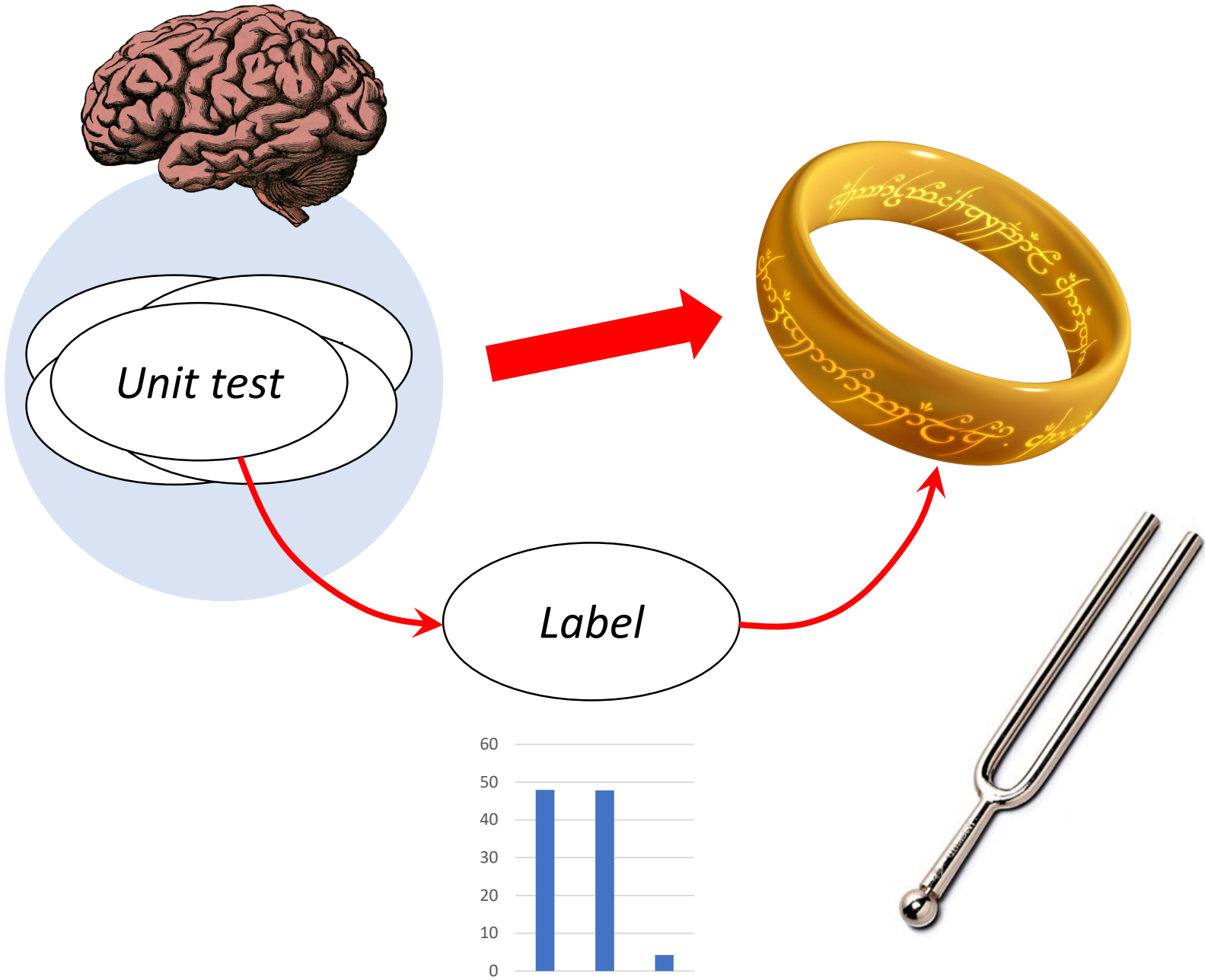
```
add (Coin a) (Coin b) =
```

```
  if a+b < maxCoinValue
```

```
    then Just (Coin (a+b))
```

```
    else Nothing
```

```
*Coins> quickCheck . withMaxSuccess 10000 $ prop_Add  
+++ OK, passed 10000 tests:  
47.92% overflow  
47.84% normal  
4.24% boundary
```





```
prop_NotElem :: Int -> [Int] -> Bool
prop_NotElem x xs = x `notElem` xs
```

```
*Coins> quickCheck prop_NotElem
*** Failed! Falsified (after 5 tests and 1 shrink):
4
[4]
```



```
prop_CoinNotElem :: Coin -> [Coin] -> Bool
prop_CoinNotElem x xs = x `notElem` xs
```

```
*Coins> quickCheck prop_CoinNotElem
*** Failed! Falsified (after 6 tests and 3 shrinks):
Coin 999997
[Coin 999997]
```



```
prop_CoinNotElem :: Coin -> [Coin] -> Bool
prop_CoinNotElem x xs = x `notElem` xs
```

```
*Coins> quickCheck . withMaxSuccess 10000 $ prop_CoinNotElem
+++ OK, passed 10000 tests.
```

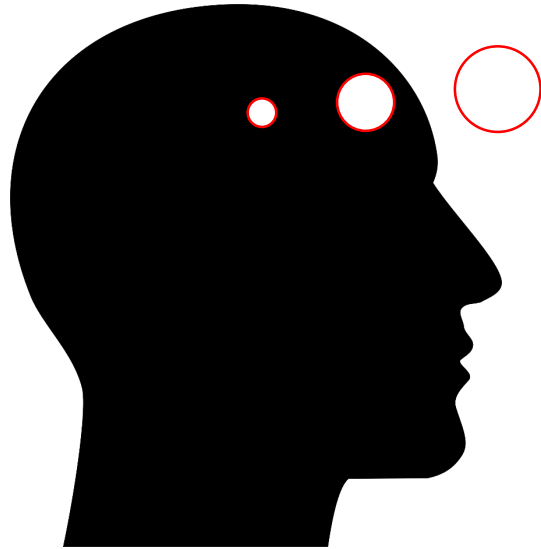




```
prop_CoinNotEqual :: Coin -> Coin -> Bool  
prop_CoinNotEqual x y = x /= y
```

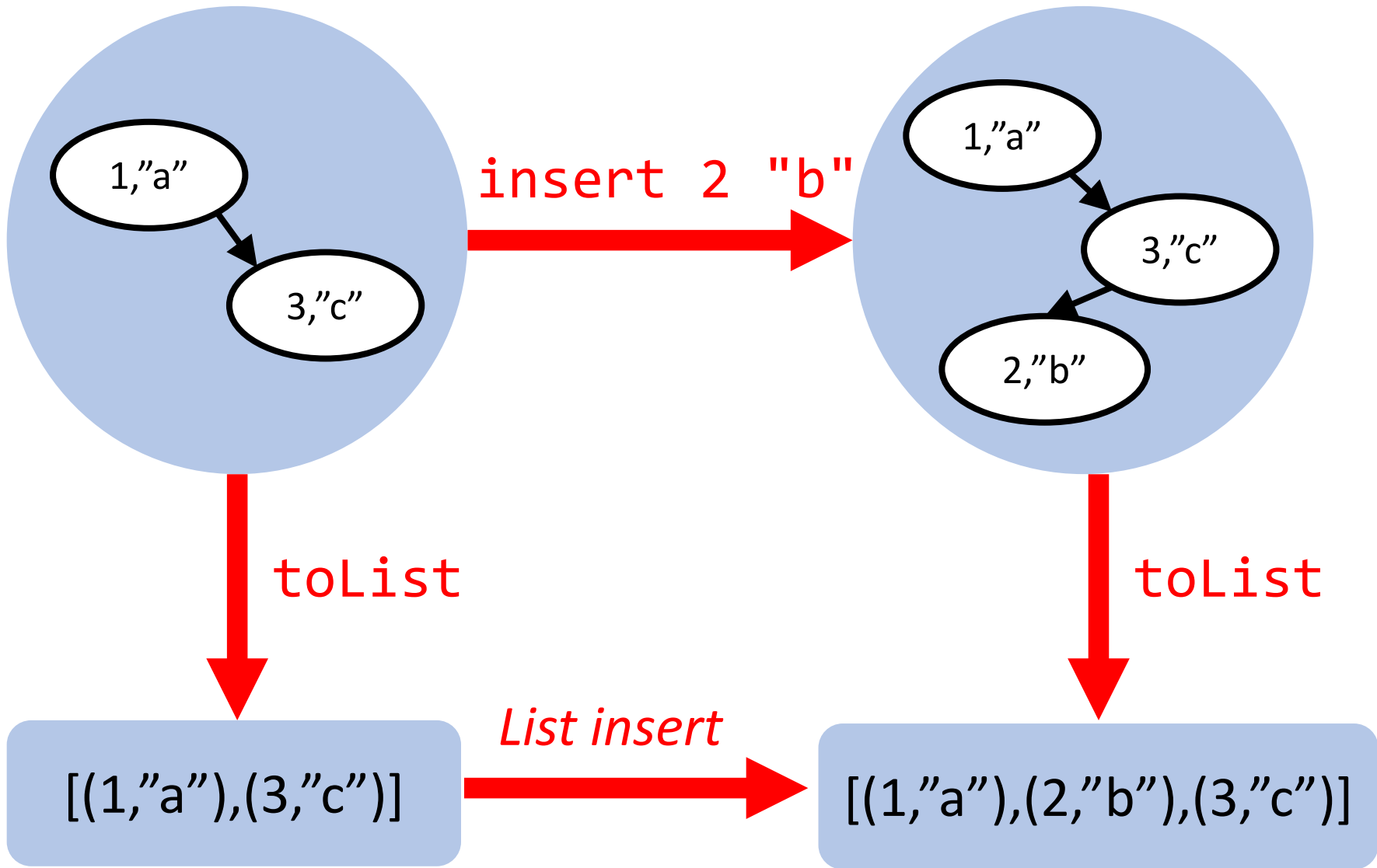
```
*Coins> quickCheck . withMaxSuccess 10000 $ prop_CoinNotEqual  
+++ OK, passed 10000 tests.
```





**Are collisions
important test
cases?**

**If so, choose a *type* (or
generator) for which they
are not too unlikely**



```
prop_Insert :: (Int,Int) -> _  
prop_Insert (k,v) t =  
  toList (insert k v t)  
  ===  
  List.insert (k,v)  
    (deleteKey k $ toList t)
```

What unit tests would you write?


```
prop_Insert :: (Int,Int) -> _
prop_Insert (k,v) t =
  label present $
  toList (insert k v t)
  ===
  L.insert (k,v) (deleteKey k $ toList t)
  where ks      = keys t
        present =
          if k `elem` ks
          then "present"
          else "absent"
```

```
*BST> quickCheck prop_Insert
+++ OK, passed 100 tests:
84% absent
16% present
```



```

prop_Insert :: (Int,Int) -> _
prop_Insert (k,v) t =
  label present $
  label position $
  toList (insert k v t)
  ===
  L.insert (k,v) (deleteKey k $ toList t)
  where ks      = keys t
        present = ...
        position | all (>=k) ks = "at start"
                  | all (<=k) ks = "at end"
                  | otherwise    = "middle"

```

***BSTSpecOrig>** quickCheck prop_Insert

+++ OK, passed 100 tests:

79% absent

21% present


69% middle

21% at start

10% at end

```
prop_Insert :: (Int,Int) -> _
prop_Insert (k,v) t =
  label present $
  label position $
  toList (insert k v t)
  ===
  L.insert (k,v) (deleteKey k $ toList t)
  where ks      = keys t
        present = ...
        position | all (>=k) ks = "at start"
                 | all (<=k) ks = "at end"
                 | otherwise     = "middle"
```

*How do we know
this code is right?*



***BST> labelledExamples** prop_Insert

*** Found example of **absent, at start**

(0,0)

Leaf

[(0,0)] == [(0,0)]

*** Found example of **present**

(0,0)

Branch Leaf 0 0 Leaf

[(0,0)] == [(0,0)]

*** Found example of **at end**

(0,0)

Branch Leaf (-1) 0 Leaf

[(-1,0),(0,0)] == [(-1,0),(0,0)]

*** Found example of **middle**

(0,0)

Branch (Branch Leaf (-1) 0 Leaf) 1 0 Leaf

[(-1,0),(0,0),(1,0)] == [(-1,0),(0,0),(1,0)]

Inserting this

into this

*and converting
to list yields this*

***BST> labelledExamples** prop_Insert

*** Found example of **absent, at start**

(0,0)

Leaf

[(0,0)] == [(0,0)]

*** Found example of **present**

(0,0)

Branch Leaf 0 0 Leaf

[(0,0)] == [(0,0)]

*** Found example of **at end**

(0,0)

Branch Leaf (-1) 0 Leaf

[(-1,0), (0,0)] == [(-1,0), (0,0)]

*** Found example of **middle**

(0,0)

Branch (Branch Leaf (-1) 0 Leaf) 1 0 Leaf

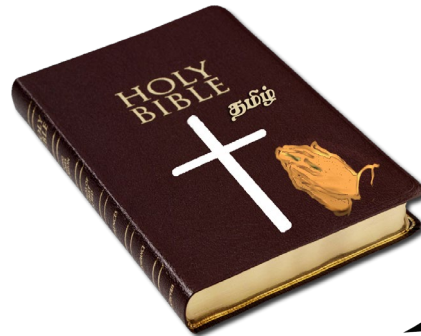
[(-1,0), (0,0), (1,0)] == [(-1,0), (0,0), (1,0)]

*** Found example of at start

(\emptyset, \emptyset)

Leaf

$[(\emptyset, \emptyset)] == [(\emptyset, \emptyset)]$




```

prop_Insert :: (Int,Int) -> _
prop_Insert (k,v) t =
  label present $
  label position $
  toList (insert k v t)
  ===
  L.insert (k,v) (deleteKey k $ toList t)
  where ks      = keys t
        present = ...
        position | t == nil      = "empty"
                  | all (>=k) ks = "at start"
                  | all (<=k) ks = "at end"
                  | otherwise     = "middle"

```

***BST>** labelledExamples prop_Insert

*** Found example of **absent, empty**

(\emptyset, \emptyset)

Leaf

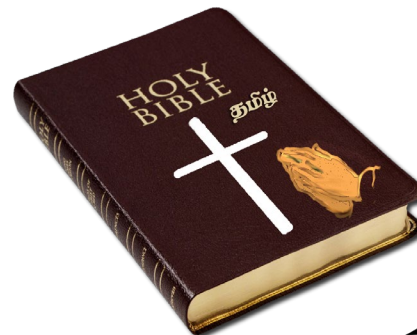
$[(\emptyset, \emptyset)] == [(\emptyset, \emptyset)]$

*** Found example of **at start, present**

(\emptyset, \emptyset)

Branch Leaf \emptyset \emptyset Leaf

$[(\emptyset, \emptyset)] == [(\emptyset, \emptyset)]$




```

prop_Insert :: (Int,Int) -> _
prop_Insert (k,v) t =
  label present $
  label position $
  toList (insert k v t)
  ===
  L.insert (k,v) (deleteKey k $ toList t)
where ks      = keys t
      present = ...
      position | t == nil           = "empty"
                | ks == [k]         = "just k"
                | all (>=k) ks     = "at start"
                | all (<=k) ks     = "at end"
                | otherwise         = "middle"

```

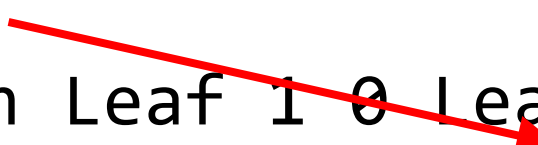
*** Found example of **just k, present**

$(0,0)$
Branch Leaf $0,0$ Leaf
 $[(0,0)] == [(0,0)]$



*** Found example of **at start**

$(0,0)$
Branch Leaf $1,0$ Leaf
 $[(0,0), (1,0)] == [(0,0), (1,0)]$



```
*BST> quickCheck . withMaxSuccess 10000 $ prop_Insert
```

```
+++ OK, passed 10000 tests:
```

```
80.06% absent
```

```
19.94% present
```

```
74.78% middle
```

```
10.01% at end
```

```
9.53% at start
```

```
5.28% empty
```

```
0.40% just k
```

*5 labelled
examples*

```
data BST k v =  
  Leaf | Branch (BST k v) k v (BST k v)
```

```
insert k v Leaf =  
  Branch Leaf k v Leaf
```

```
insert k v (Branch l k' v' r)  
  | k < k' = Branch (insert k v l) k' v' r  
  | k > k' = Branch l k' v' (insert k v r)  
  | k == k' = Branch l k' v r
```

```
data BST k v =  
  Leaf | Branch (BST k v) k v (BST k v)
```

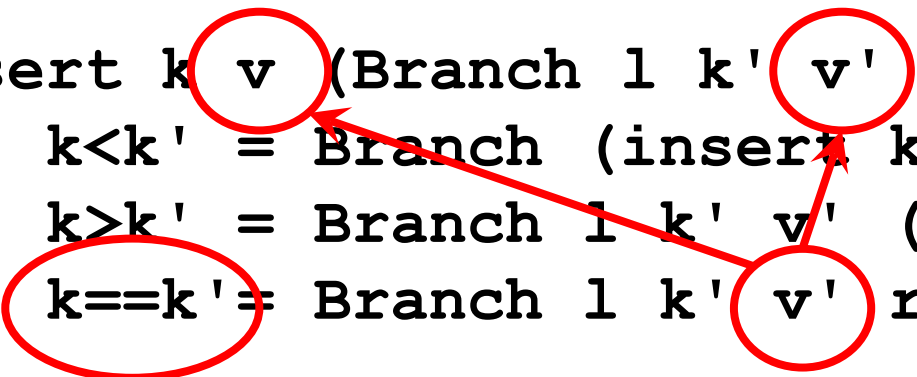
```
insert k v Leaf =  
  Branch Leaf k v Leaf
```

```
insert k v (Branch l k' v' r)  
  | k < k' = Branch (insert k v l) k' v' r  
  | k > k' = Branch l k' v' (insert k v r)  
  | k == k' = Branch l k' v' r
```

```
data BST k v =  
  Leaf | Branch (BST k v) k v (BST k v)
```

```
insert k v Leaf =  
  Branch Leaf k v Leaf
```

```
insert k v (Branch l k' v' r)  
  | k < k' = Branch (insert k v l) k' v' r  
  | k > k' = Branch l k' v' (insert k v r)  
  | k == k' = Branch l k' v' r
```



***BST>** tests

+++ OK, passed 1 test.

+++ OK, passed 1 test.

+++ OK, passed 1 test.

+++ OK, passed 1 test.

+++ OK, passed 1 test.

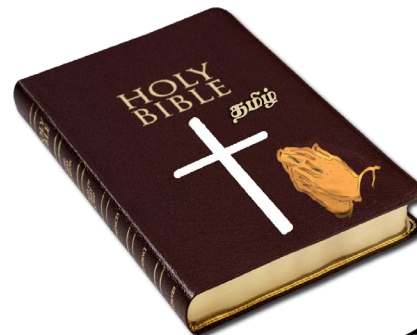
*** Found example of just k, present
(\emptyset, \emptyset)
Branch Leaf \emptyset \emptyset Leaf
[(\emptyset, \emptyset)] == [(\emptyset, \emptyset)]

*** Found example of just k, present

(\emptyset, \emptyset)

Branch Leaf \emptyset \emptyset Leaf

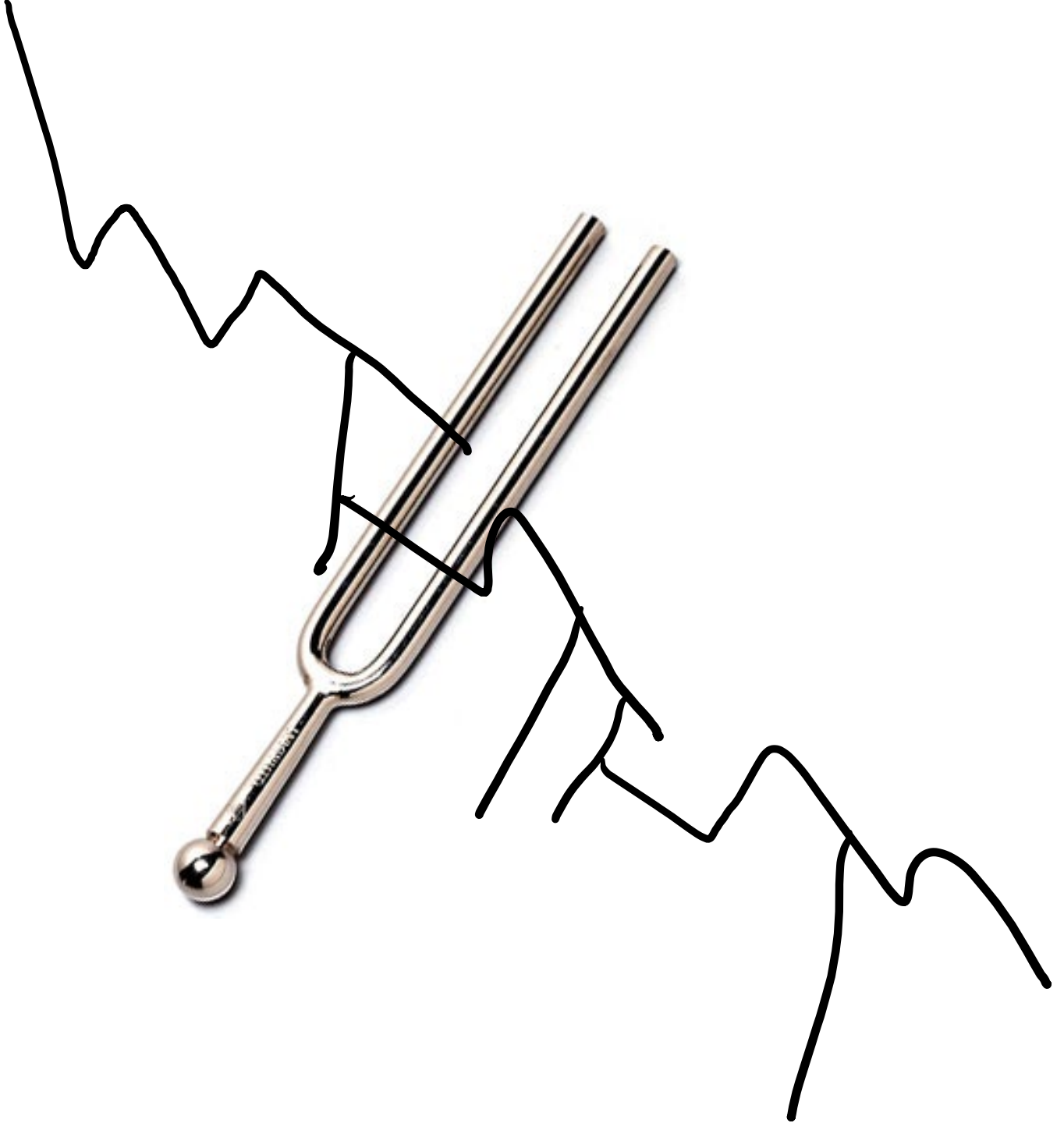
$[(\emptyset, \emptyset)] == [(\emptyset, \emptyset)]$



```
*BST> quickCheck prop_Insert
*** Failed! Falsified (after 34 tests
and 12 shrinks):
(7, 0)
Branch Leaf 7 1 Leaf
[(7,1)] /= [(7,0)]
```



labelledExamples



```
*Coins> quickCheck . withMaxSuccess 10000 $ prop_Add  
+++ OK, passed 10000 tests:  
47.92% overflow  
47.84% normal  
4.24% boundary
```

```
summarize n
```

```
| abs (n-maxCoinValue) < 3 = "boundary"  
| n <= maxCoinValue       = "normal"  
| n > maxCoinValue        = "overflow"
```

```
prop_Add (Coin a) (Coin b) =
```

```
cover 5 (abs (n-maxCoinValue) < 3) "boundary"$  
cover 40 (n <= maxCoinValue)       "normal"  $  
cover 40 (n > maxCoinValue)        "overflow"$  
if validCoin (Coin n)  
  then Just (Coin n)  
  else Nothing  
where n = a+b
```



```
*Coins> quickCheck prop_Add  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests:  
55% overflow  
45% normal  
5% boundary
```

```
*Coins> quickCheck prop_Add  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests:  
50% normal  
50% overflow  
4% boundary
```

Only 4% boundary, but expected 5%

```
*Coins> quickCheck . checkCoverage $ prop_Add
```

```
*** Failed! Insufficient coverage (after 51200 tests):
```

```
50.696% normal
```

```
49.304% overflow
```

```
4.231% boundary
```

Only 4.231% boundary, but expected 5.000%

```
*Coins> quickCheck . checkCoverage $ prop_Add
```

```
+++ OK, passed 102400 tests:
```

```
50.8828% normal
```

```
49.1172% overflow
```

```
4.1230% boundary
```

```
*Coins> quickCheck . checkCoverage $ prop_Add
```

```
+++ OK, passed 800 tests:
```

```
50.0% normal
```

```
50.0% overflow
```

```
3.9% boundary
```

```
*Coins> quickCheck . checkCoverage $ prop_Add
```

```
*** Failed! Insufficient coverage (after 1600 tests):
```

```
50.59% overflow
```

```
49.41% normal
```

```
4.32% boundary
```

```
Only 4.32% boundary, but expected 10.00%
```

SEQUENTIAL TESTS OF STATISTICAL HYPOTHESES

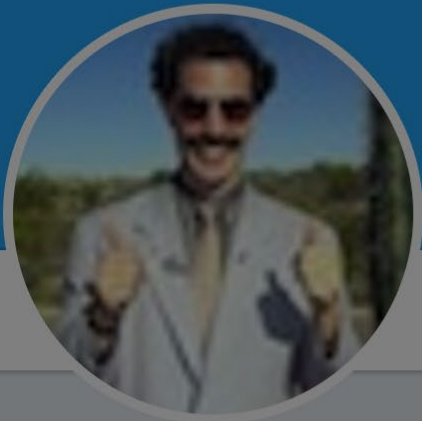
By A. WALD

Columbia University

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How often is it OK
for a test to fail
*when there is no
bug?*



Agile Borat

@AgileBorat

Hello, I am Borat! Am Agile Coach, Scrum Master and Product Owner too also.

Joined April 2011



Agile Borat

@AgileBorat

Follow



My friend Azamat is very good developer, he is always have all unit test green. If unit test is fail, it is remove. Is best practice.

8:35 AM - 5 May 2011

256 Retweets 25 Likes



↻ 256

♡ 25



↻ 2

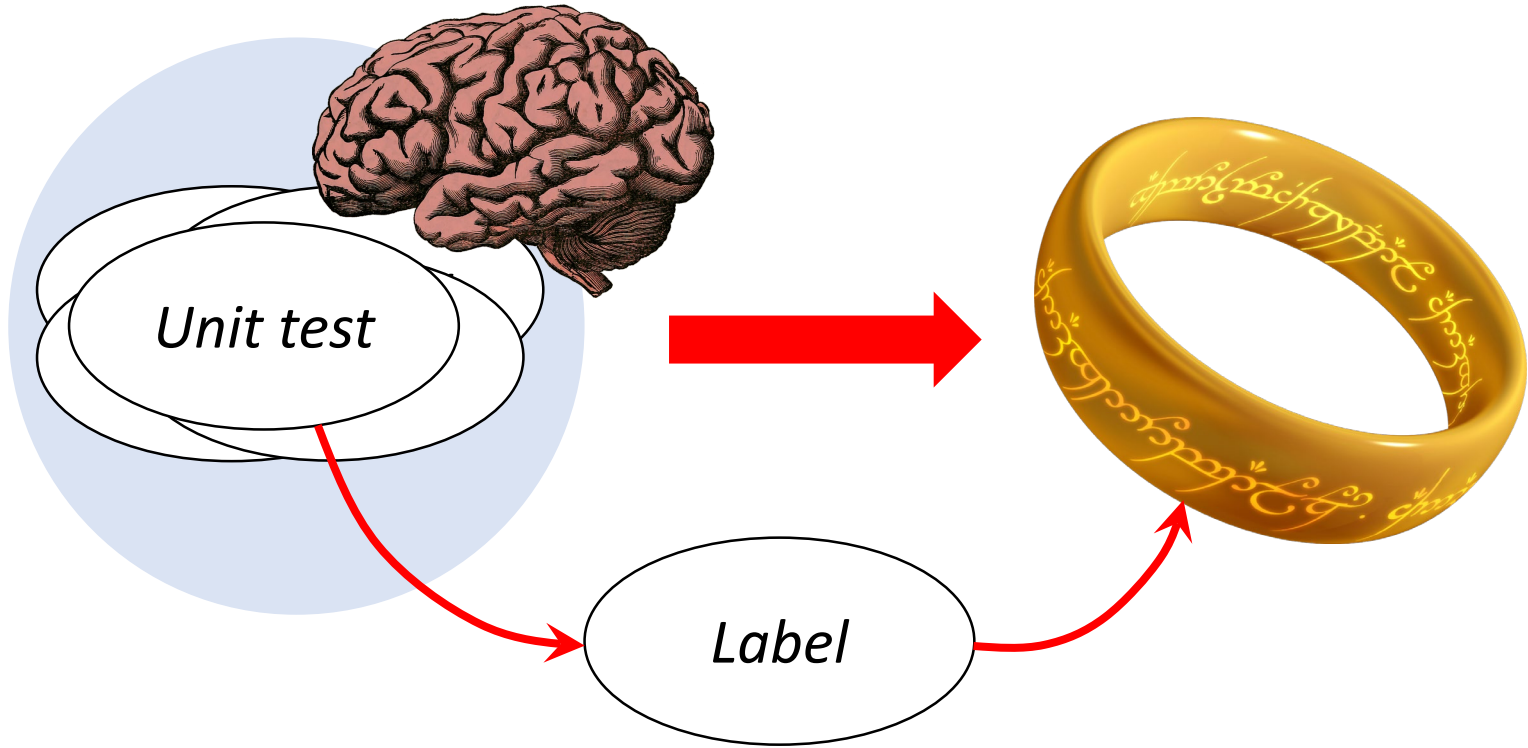
♡ 1

How often is it ok for a test to fail
when there is no bug?

**Never in the
lifetime of the
project!**

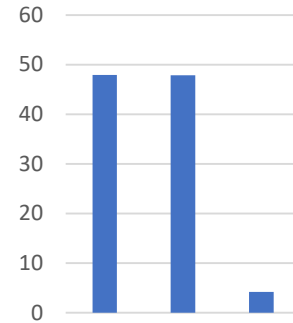
10^{-6} ?

10^{-9} ?



labelledExamples

checkCoverage



What haven't we covered?

- Approaches to writing generators
 - Especially for types with complex invariants
- Defining shrinkers
 - Especially for types with complex invariants

Some further reading

[John Hughes](#): **Experiences with QuickCheck: Testing the Hard Stuff and Staying Sane.** [A List of Successes That Can Change the World 2016](#): 169-186

The paper of the first lecture

[John Hughes](#), [Ulf Norell](#), [Nicholas Smallbone](#), [Thomas Arts](#):
Find more bugs with QuickCheck! [AST@ICSE 2016](#): 71-77

*Classify failing tests into equivalence classes provoking the “same bug”, and automatically focus the search on **new** bugs*

[Thomas Arts](#), [John Hughes](#): **How Well are Your Requirements Tested?** [ICST 2016](#): 244-254

Generating requirements-based test suites with QuickCheck—and a category of bugs that slip through them.

[Alex Gerdes](#), [John Hughes](#), [Nicholas Smallbone](#), [Stefan Hanenberg](#), [Sebastian Ivarsson](#), [Meng Wang](#): **Understanding formal specifications through good examples.** [Erlang Workshop 2018](#): 13-24

Generating examples from a QuickCheck specification that convey its meaning to a person.

[John Hughes](#), [Benjamin C. Pierce](#), [Thomas Arts](#), [Ulf Norell](#):
**Mysteries of DropBox: Property-Based Testing of a
Distributed Synchronization Service.** [ICST 2016](#): 135-145

An approach to testing systems like Dropbox, that perform significant actions (like synchronization) in the background at unknown times—and some oddities we discovered.

[Catalin Hritcu](#), [Leonidas Lampropoulos](#), [Antal Spector-Zabusky](#), [Arthur Azevedo de Amorim](#), [Maxime Dénès](#), [John Hughes](#), [Benjamin C. Pierce](#), [Dimitrios Vytiniotis](#):
Testing noninterference, quickly. [J. Funct. Program.](#) 26: e4 (2016)

Using QuickCheck to test information flow security of an abstract machine

[Leonidas Lampropoulos](#), [Diane Gallois-Wong](#), [Catalin Hritcu](#), [John Hughes](#), [Benjamin C. Pierce](#), [Li-yao Xia](#):
Beginner's luck: a language for property-based generators. [POPL 2017](#): 114-129

A language that combines random generation and constraint solving to generate complex test data

[Burke Fetscher](#), [Koen Claessen](#), [Michal H. Palka](#), [John Hughes](#), [Robert Bruce Findler](#):

Making Random Judgments: Automatically Generating Well-Typed Terms from the Definition of a Type-System. [ESOP 2015](#): 383-405

QuickCheck-like generation for testing programming language semantics