

Exploration of Adaptive Random Test Replication Technology for Numerical Programs

Zeran Bao , Undergraduate Student Member, Xi 'an Jiaotong University

Abstract—As a highly effective method for generating test cases, adaptive random testing is widely utilized across various fields, including fuzzing and AI testing. Among the numerous functional testing approaches, random testing serves as the fundamental method. It involves the random selection of test cases from the input domain until a specific condition is met, such as identifying errors within a software system. However, due to its limited utilization of additional information, the effectiveness of random testing is constrained. Consequently, adaptive random testing has been proposed to ensure the randomness of test cases and their even distribution throughout the entire input domain. This project focuses on numerical programs with an aim to replicate existing classical adaptive random testing algorithms and compare their efficacy. After studying the source code of the framework and conducting a thorough review of relevant academic literature, our team incorporated their own insights into the process of reconstructing the work of predecessors. Subsequently, we independently developed a comprehensive framework that facilitated customized data transmission, test case generation and execution, as well as evaluation procedures. Additionally, we utilized echarts to generate visually intuitive charts on the front-end.

Index Terms—Adaptive random test, replication technology, numerical programs , frontend and backend development

I. INTRODUCTION

Software testing is a crucial component of the software development life cycle, ensuring that the system adheres to specifications and minimizes errors. As software complexity and version iterations increase, maintaining quality and reliability in a time-efficient and cost-effective manner becomes paramount, particularly in large, fast-paced companies that adopt Continuous Integration (CI) strategies. CI facilitates early detection of system defects, provides developers with rapid feedback on code quality, shortens the software development cycle, and enhances product quality. Regression testing is essential for managing software changes and has become impractical to re-run entirely for large-scale industrial systems due to the prevalence of continuous integration. To reduce regression testing costs and improve efficiency, various test case optimization techniques have been proposed.

Regression testing, as one of the tools for managing software changes, becomes the most important part of practical software testing. And with the prevalence of continuous integration, it becomes impractical to re-run the entire test suite for large-scale industrial systems. In order to reduce the cost of regression testing and improve the efficiency of regression testing, a variety of test case optimization techniques have been proposed, such as test case identification and repair, test suite reduction, test suite expansion,

test case selection and test case prioritization.

Numerical program orientation in Adaptive Random Testing (ART) ensures that test cases are primarily focused on numerical programs, allowing for efficient and adaptive generation of evenly scattered test cases throughout the input domain. Nevertheless, ART applied to various fields has different points. Numerical program orientation means that the test cases we are primarily interested in should be related to numerical programs.

Random testing is highly efficient in generating test cases; however, it has a fatal shortcoming: limited utilization of additional information beyond the given data, which can act as a constraint when testing diverse types of software. In contrast, Adaptive Random Testing (ART) ensures the randomness and even distribution of test cases throughout the entire input domain, making it "adaptive". ART has gained industry recognition for combining the strengths of random testing while mitigating its weaknesses. This indicates that adaptive random testing for numerical programs is a well-established yet dynamic field, offering valuable insights for further exploration.

By delving into the source code of the framework and leveraging insights from literature reviews, this paper enriches the existing knowledge base by infusing its own perspectives into the recreation process. It constructs a comprehensive framework encompassing custom data transmission, test case generation, operation, and evaluation. Additionally, it employs echarts to create visually appealing charts in the frontend, enhancing the overall presentation of the research findings.

From the aforementioned information, it is evident that adaptive random testing for numerical programs represents a well-established yet dynamic field, from which we can continue to derive substantial insights. Our team leveraged the source code of the framework and integrated findings from relevant literature to enhance our understanding. Through this process, we incorporated original perspectives while reconstructing predecessor content, ultimately developing a customized framework encompassing data transmission, test case generation and execution, as well as evaluation capabilities. Additionally, we utilized echarts to generate visually intuitive charts on the front-end.

II. PROJECT STRUCTURE

A. Overall Architecture

The overall architecture of project is shown as figure 1. The frontend only interacts with the Controller and sends GET and POST requests wrapped in single and multiple request objects. Controller core functions consist of task distribution, receiving and sending requests. The primary functions of the two ART modules are as follows: The ART_Empirical module executes

aspecific ART algorithm and validates the results produced by said algorithm; while the ART_Algorithm module conducts mutation testing and calculates compilation kill rate.



Fig. 1. Overall architecture of project

B. Frontend Architecture

The frontend adopts vue3 architecture, with utility class components folder components, modules network and router responsible for data transmission, and two independent pages views. Figure 2 reveals the brief structure of the front-end source code. The main function is page display, including ART form input information collection, ART results visualization, single or multiple ART algorithm switching.

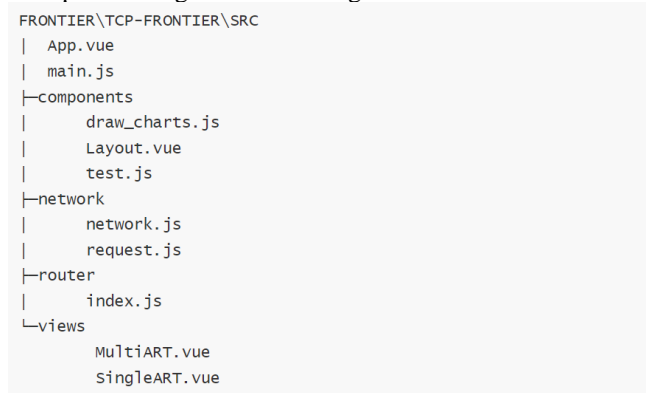


Fig. 2. Structure of the front-end source code

C. Backend Architecture

The back end is mainly composed of three modules: Controller, ART_Algorithm and ART_Empirical.

1) Controller

Controller receives the front-end data, parses the request, sends the request to ART_Empirical to generate test cases and runs the simulation test. After the test

cases are generated, ART_Algorithm is wakened to test the mutation kill rate.

The structure of Controller is shown in figure 3. Spring Boot interacts with the frontend, encapsulating request objects and return objects, and stateless services. The Socket communicates with the backend and customizes the protocol interaction. For multi-TCP evaluation, the evaluation method is customized.

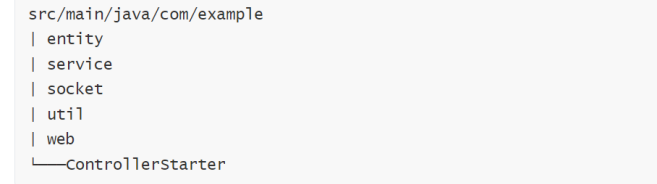


Fig. 3. Structure of Controller

2) ART_Algorithm

ART_Empirical takes the Controller command, extracts and parses the test request body, and returns a partial evaluation result. It implements a custom evaluation framework, custom data extraction methods with common, unified data encapsulation, 15+1 ART algorithms, custom data storage. The structure of ART_Algorithm is shown in figure 4.



Fig. 4. Structure of ART_Algorithm

3) ART_Empirical

ART_Algorithm receives Controller commands, runs ART to generate test cases, stores them, and returns partial evaluation results. It implements a custom test run and evaluation framework and custom data extraction.

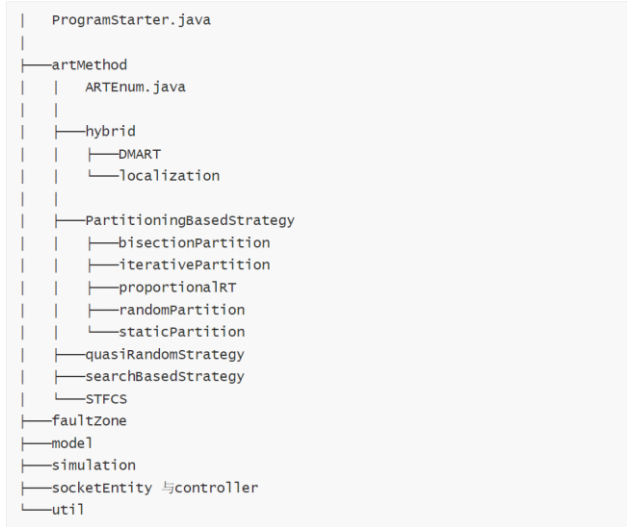


Fig. 4. Structure of ART_Empirical

III. ALGORITHM

We successfully achieved 18 ART algorithms. Their categories, names and source paper information are as follows:

分类	算法名称	来源论文
Select-Test-From-Candidates Strategy(STFCs)	FSCS	Adaptive Random Testing, Fixed-Size-Candidate-Set (FSCS) ART
	RRT	Restricted random testing: Adaptive random testing by exclusion
	FSCS-ART-DNC	Application of a Failure Driven Test Profile in Random Testing
	RRT-DNC	Application of a Failure Driven Test Profile in Random Testing
	Inverted FSCS-ART	Fixed-Size-Candidate-Set (FSCS) ART
	Farthest-CGConstraint-ART	Adaptive Random Testing with CG Constraint
	Closest-CGConstraint-ART	Adaptive Random Testing with CG Constraint
	DM_ARRT(DM-ART-2L)	Adaptive random testing based on distribution metrics
Partitioning-Based Strategy	Static partitioning	Adaptive Random Testing by Static Partitioning
	Random partitioning	Adaptive random testing through dynamic partitioning
	Bisection partitioning	Adaptive random testing through dynamic partitioning
	Iterative Partitioning	Adaptive random testing through iterative partitioning
	Proportional Random Testing	Fixed-Size-Candidate-Set (FSCS) ART
Quasi-Random Strategy	Randomized Quasi-Random Testing	Randomized Quasi-Random Testing

Search-Base Strategy	DiversityART	Diversity oriented test data generation using metaheuristic search techniques
Hybrid-Based Strategies	DM-ART(STFCs + PBS)	Enhancing mirror adaptive random testing through dynamic partitioning.
	DC-ART(The ART of divide and conquer)	An innovative approach to improving the efficiency of adaptive random testing
	LocalizationART(improvement of random partition)	Adaptive random testing by localization

TABLE I
CATEGORIES, NAMES AND SOURCE PAPER INFORMATION OF 18 ART ALGORITHMS

Next we choose some important algorithms and explain their principle and code implementation.

A. FSCS-ART-DNC

The flow chart of the algorithm is as follows, where the red box part is the addition of the algorithm based on FSCS.

```

1. Input an integer  $maxTrial$ , and a real number  $initialR$ , where  $maxTrial > 0$  and  $initialR > 0$ .
2. Set  $n = 0$ ,  $E = \{\}$ , and  $reveal = false$ .
3. Set  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \dots = \alpha_N = 0.5$ , where  $N$  denotes the dimension of  $I$ .
4. while (not reveal)
5.   if ( $n = 0$ )
6.     Randomly generate a test case  $t$  from  $I$ , according to a uniform distribution.
7.   else
8.     Set  $noTrial = 0$ ,  $R = initialR$ , and  $outside = false$ .
9.     for each element  $e_i \in E$ , where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ 
10.      Determine a circular exclusion zone  $z_i$ , whose size is set as  $\frac{R \cdot |I|}{|E|}$ .
11.    end for
12.    while (not outside)
13.      Increment  $noTrial$  by 1.
14.      if ( $noTrial = maxTrial$ )
15.        Set  $noTrial = 0$  and  $R = \max\{0, R - 0.1\}$ .
16.        for each element  $e_i \in E$ , where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ 
17.          Determine a circular exclusion zone  $z_i$ , whose size is set as  $\frac{R \cdot |I|}{|E|}$ .
18.        end for
19.        end if
20.        Randomly generate a candidate  $c$  from  $I$ , where each coordinate  $c_l$  of  $c$  is generated based on  $\alpha_l$ ; and according to (2), and  $l = 1, 2, \dots, N$ .
21.        if ( $c \notin \bigcup_{i=1}^n z_i$ )
22.          Set  $outside = true$ , and  $t = c$ .
23.        end if
24.      end while
25.    end if
26.    Use  $t$  to test the target program.
27.    if ( $t$  reveals a failure)
28.      Set  $reveal = true$ .
29.    else
30.      Store  $t$  into  $E$ , and increment  $n$  by 1.
31.      Calculate  $P_{l \in boundary}^t$  and the  $s$ -expected value of  $P_{l \in central}^t$  for each coordinate according to (4), and (6), respectively, where  $l = 1, 2, \dots, N$ .
32.      Calculate the values of  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_N$  according to (5).
33.    end if
34.  end while
35. Report the failure detected, and exit.

```

B. RRT-DNC

The algorithm adopts the same idea as FSCS-ART-DNC, but it is implemented on RRT instead of FSCS-ART.

```

1. Input an integer  $maxTrial$ , and a real number  $initialR$ , where  $maxTrial > 0$  and  $initialR > 0$ .
2. Set  $n = 0$ ,  $E = \{\}$ , and  $reveal = false$ .
3. Set  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \dots = \alpha_N = 0.5$ , where  $N$  denotes the dimension of  $I$ .
4. while (not  $reveal$ )
5.   if ( $n = 0$ )
6.     Randomly generate a test case  $t$  from  $I$ , according to a uniform distribution.
7.   else
8.     Set  $noTrial = 0$ ,  $R = initialR$ , and  $outside = false$ .
9.     for each element  $e_i \in E$ , where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ 
10.      Determine a circular exclusion zone  $z_i$ , whose size is set as  $\frac{R \cdot |I|}{|E|}$ .
11.    end.for
12.    while (not  $outside$ )
13.      Increment  $noTrial$  by 1.
14.      if ( $noTrial = maxTrial$ )
15.        Set  $noTrial = 0$  and  $R = \max\{0, R - 0.1\}$ .
16.        for each element  $e_i \in E$ , where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ 
17.          Determine a circular exclusion zone  $z_i$ , whose size is set as  $\frac{R \cdot |I|}{|E|}$ .
18.        end.for
19.        end.if
20.        Randomly generate a candidate  $c$  from  $I$ , where each coordinate  $c_i$  of  $c$  is generated based
21.        on  $\alpha_i$ ; and according to (2), and  $I = 1, 2, \dots, N$ .
22.        if ( $c \notin \bigcup_{i=1}^n z_i$ )
23.          Set  $outside = true$ , and  $t = c$ .
24.        end.if
25.      end.while
26.    end.if
27.    Use  $t$  to test the target program.
28.    if ( $t$  reveals a failure)
29.      Set  $reveal = true$ .
30.    else
31.      Store  $t$  into  $E$ , and increment  $n$  by 1.
32.      Calculate  $p_{ic-boundary}^l$  and the  $s$ -expected value of  $P_{can-central}^l$  for each coordinate according to
33.      (4), and (6), respectively, where  $l = 1, 2, \dots, N$ .
34.      Calculate the values of  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_N$  according to (5).
35.    end.if
36.  end.while
37. Report the failure detected, and exit.

```

D. Inverted FSCS-ART

This algorithm is an improvement of FSCS-ART, which mainly solves the problem that FSCS-ART selects more test cases from the edge region than from the center region in the high-dimensional input domain. The method provided is to reverse the edge/center distribution of FSCS-ART test cases, so as to improve the fault detection efficiency. Function (5) maps the FSCS-ART test cases from the edge to the center region, or from the center to the edge region.

$$f(x_i) = \begin{cases} x_i + d_i/2 & 0 < x_i \leq d_i/2 \\ x_i - d_i/2 & d_i/2 < x_i \leq d_i \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

1. Initialize E as an empty set.
2. Randomly choose a test case t . Add t to E .
3. Test the SUT using test case t .
4. If a failure is detected, testing is stopped and debugging may start. Otherwise go to step 5.
5. Randomly generate k candidates from the input domain to form a candidate set C , where k is a constant integer greater than 0. The value of k was set to 10 in our experiments.
6. Find $c \in C$ such that, among all the elements in C , c has the longest distance to its nearest neighbor in E .
7. Add c to E .
8. Map c to c' using Equation (5).
9. Test the SUT using test case c' .
10. If testing resources are not exhausted, go to step 4.

E. Proportional Random Testing

1. Initialize j to 0, $edgeCount$ to 1, $centreCount$ to 1, and $selectTestCaseInCentre$ to $true$, where j is the number of test cases executed.
2. If $selectTestCaseInCentre$ is $true$, randomly select and execute a test case in the centre region. Otherwise, randomly select and execute a test case in the edge region.
3. Increment j by 1. If $selectTestCaseInCentre$ is $true$, increment $centreCount$ by 1. Otherwise, increment $edgeCount$ by 1. Update $R_{E,C}$.
4. If a failure is detected, testing is stopped and debugging may start. Otherwise go to step 5.
5. Update the projected failure rate as $\Theta_{projected} = 1/(j+1)$.
6. Calculate the ratio P_{centre}/P_{edge} based on $\Theta_{projected}$.
7. If $\frac{1}{(R_{E,C})} < P_{centre}/P_{edges}$ set $selectTestCaseInCentre = true$. Otherwise, set $selectTestCaseInCentre = false$.
8. If testing resources are not exhausted, go to step 2.

IV. EXPERIMENT

The code provides a Main function that the user can interact with, allowing the user to select one or more ART algorithms to test.

```

How many ART algorithms do you want to test?
1.One 2.All
|
Choose the category of the ART algorithm you want to test:
1. Select-Test-From-Candidates Strategy(STFCs)
2. Partitioning-Based Strategy
3. Quasi-Random Strategy
4. Search-Based Strategy
5. Hybrid-Based Strategies
|
Choose the ART algorithm you want to test:
1. FSCS-ART
2. RRT
3. FSCS-ART-DNC
4. RRT-DNC
5. Inverted FSCS-ART
6. Farthest-CGConstraint-ART
7. Closest-CGConstraint-ART
8. DM-ARRT(DM-ART-2L)
|
=====
artMethod.STFCs.fscs.FSCS_art
=====
Dimension = 2  failure-rate = 0.01  faultZoneType = Block
The average of Fm=: 67.063  Fart/Frt=: 0.6706300000000001  Running Time=: 2.374
=====

```

Fig. 4. Running screenshots

A. Test Mode and Parameters

We use simulation tests, and for each ART method, there will be 2 input domain dimensions, 4 failure rates, and 3 failure domain types. So for each method, we get 24 trials. We run each 1000 times and compute the average F-measure, F-art/F-rt, as well as the running time.

实验参数	取值 (集合)
输入域维度	{2, 3}
失败率	{0.01, 0.005, 0.002, 0.001}
失败域类型	{Block, Strip, Point}

B. Test Results

The results are stored in 'ARTEmpirical-main/result', which contains a txt file with details for each method on 2D and 3D input fields, 0.001 failure rate, three failure field types, and an 'ART_Result_Summary.csv' file with all the results. In the 'ART_Result_Summary.csv' file, there are 24 pieces of data about each ART algorithm, for example for the DMART algorithm:

1	Algorithm	Dimension	FailRate	FaultZone	Fm	Fr	RunningTime
2	DMART	2	0.01	Block	91.37267	0.913727	0.348
3	DMART	2	0.01	Strip	98.228	0.98228	0.288
4	DMART	2	0.01	Point	97.73833	0.977383	0.326333
5	DMART	2	0.005	Block	154.662	0.77331	0.468
6	DMART	2	0.005	Strip	191.7297	0.958648	0.747
7	DMART	2	0.005	Point	197.9363	0.989682	0.783
8	DMART	2	0.002	Block	428.3133	0.856627	3.082333
9	DMART	2	0.002	Strip	461.0687	0.922137	2.927
10	DMART	2	0.002	Point	476.0647	0.952129	4.127333
11	DMART	2	0.001	Block	889.722	0.889722	11.20167
12	DMART	2	0.001	Strip	972.1523	0.972152	15.40867
13	DMART	2	0.001	Point	971.707	0.971707	15.59533
14	DMART	3	0.01	Block	83.89067	0.838907	0.254
15	DMART	3	0.01	Strip	97.176	0.97176	0.347333
16	DMART	3	0.01	Point	96.312	0.96312	0.358333
17	DMART	3	0.005	Bpblock	172.96	0.8648	0.735333
18	DMART	3	0.005	Strip	198.341	0.991705	0.957333
19	DMART	3	0.005	Point	199.545	0.997725	0.973667
20	DMART	3	0.002	Block	456.5597	0.913119	5.717
21	DMART	3	0.002	Strip	491.1463	0.982293	7.269333
22	DMART	3	0.002	Point	498.3177	0.996635	8.517333
23	DMART	3	0.001	Block	858.0827	0.858083	25.648
24	DMART	3	0.001	Strip	961.3873	0.961387	31.18533
25	DMART	3	0.001	Point	1025.479	1.025479	32.95833

Fig. 5. DMART_Result_Summary.csv

C. Comparison of Different Algorithms

Figure 6 and 7 reveals the F-measure and running time of different algorithms.

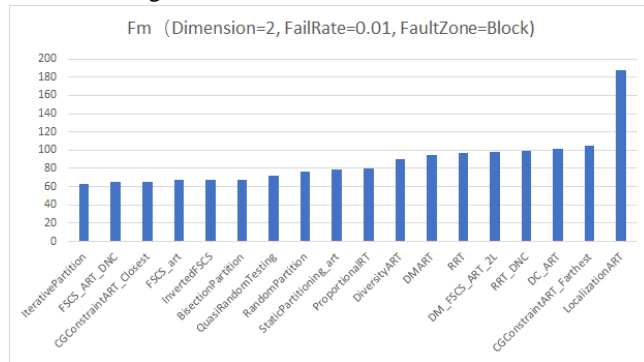


Fig. 6. F-measure of different algorithms

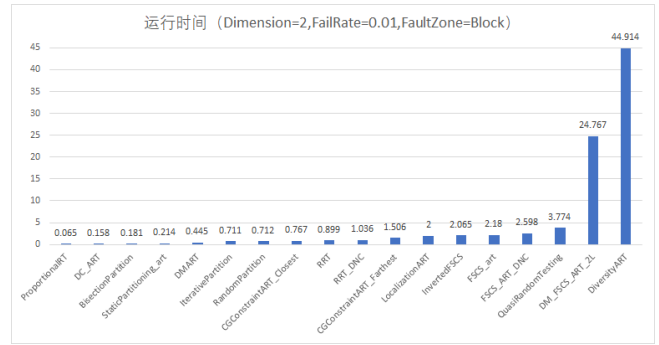


Fig. 7. Running time of different algorithms

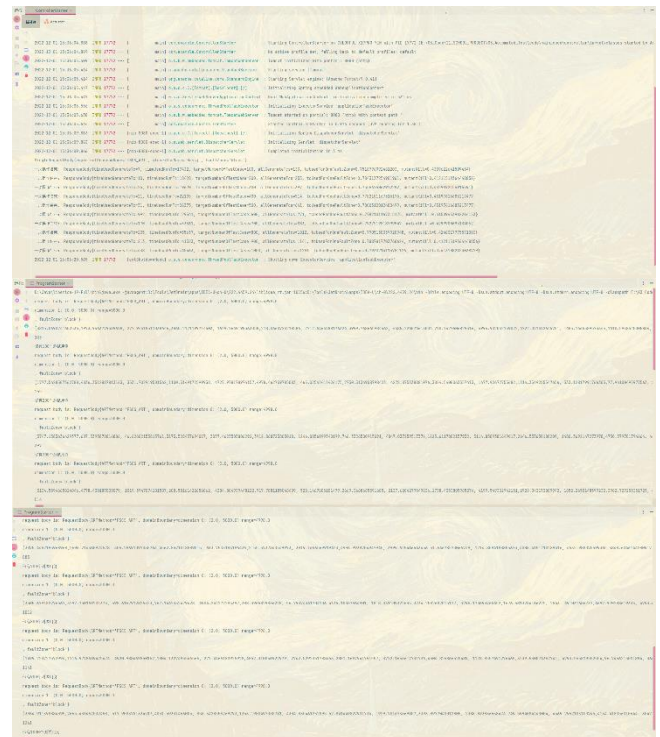
D. Web-based running

We choose the single ART analysis as example. the algorithm is FSCS, the numerical program is Bessj, and the running time is about 15 minutes with the case of block-level failure domains.

Figure 7 and Figure 8 reveal the front-end page and back-end in the example experiment.



Fig. 7. Front-end page



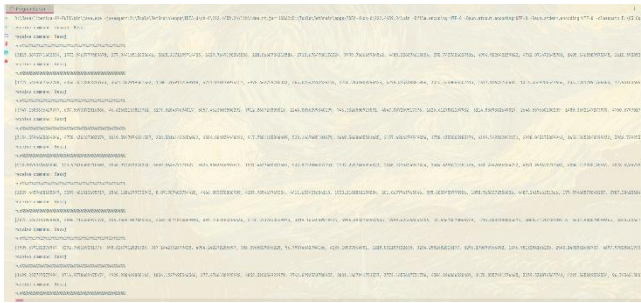


Fig. 8. backend page

V. CONCLUSION

Adaptive random testing emerges as a highly effective approach for test case generation, widely adopted in diverse fields such as fuzzing and AI testing. While random testing serves as a fundamental method in functional testing, its effectiveness is limited by the lack of utilization of additional information beyond the input domain. To address this constraint, adaptive random testing has been introduced to ensure the randomness and uniform distribution of test cases throughout the input domain.

In this article, we specifically focused on numerical programs, aiming to replicate classical adaptive random testing algorithms and assess their effectiveness. By examining the source code of the framework and conducting a comprehensive review of relevant academic literature, our team integrated their unique perspectives into the process of reconstructing the work of previous researchers. Subsequently, we developed a comprehensive framework that enabled customized data transmission, test case generation, execution, and evaluation processes. Furthermore, we leveraged echarts to create visually intuitive charts on the front-end, enhancing the presentation of our research findings.

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