

GNU `gcov` (1/6) [from Wikipedia]

- `gcov` is a source code coverage analysis and statement-by-statement profiling tool.
- `gcov` generates exact counts of the number of times each statement in a program has been executed
- `gcov` does not produce any time-based data (you should use `gprof` for this purpose) and works only on code compiled with the GCC suite.

GNU gcov (2/6)

- To use gcov, each source file should be compiled with `--coverage`, which generates a `.gcno` file that is a graph file of the source file.
- After the instrumented target program completes its execution, execution statistics is recorded in a `.gcda` file.
- gcov creates a human readable logfile `.gcov` from a binary `.gcda` file, which indicates how many times each line of a source file has executed.
- **gcov [-b] [-c] [-v] [-n] [-l] [-f] [-o directory] *sourcefile***
 - -a: Write individual execution counts for every basic block.
 - -b: Write branch frequencies to the output file
 - -c: Write branch frequencies as the number of branches taken
 - -f: Output summaries for each function in addition to the file level summary.
 - -o The directory where the object files live. Gcov will search for `.bb'`, `.bbg'`, and `.da'` files in this directory

GNU gcov (3/6)

- For example, if you measure coverage of example.c,

```
[moonzoo@verifier gcov]$ l
example.c
[moonzoo@verifier gcov]$ gcc -fprofile-arcs
-fptest-coverage example.c
[moonzoo@verifier gcov]$ a.out 5
i=5
j=2
[moonzoo@verifier gcov]$ gcov -b example.c
File 'example.c'
Lines executed:78.57% of 14
Branches executed:100.00% of 10
Taken at least once:50.00% of 10
Calls executed:60.00% of 5
example.c:creating 'example.c.gcov'
```

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main(int argc, char **argv){
3     int i=0,j=0;
4     if (argc < 2) {
5         printf("Usage:...\\n");exit(-1);}
6     i = atoi(argv[1]);
7     printf("i=%d\\n",i);
8
9     if( i == 0)
10        j=0;
11    else {
12        if (i == 1)
13            j=1;
14        if (i > 1 && i < 10)
15            j=2;
16    }
17    printf("j=%d\\n",j);
18 }
```

GNU gcov (4/6)

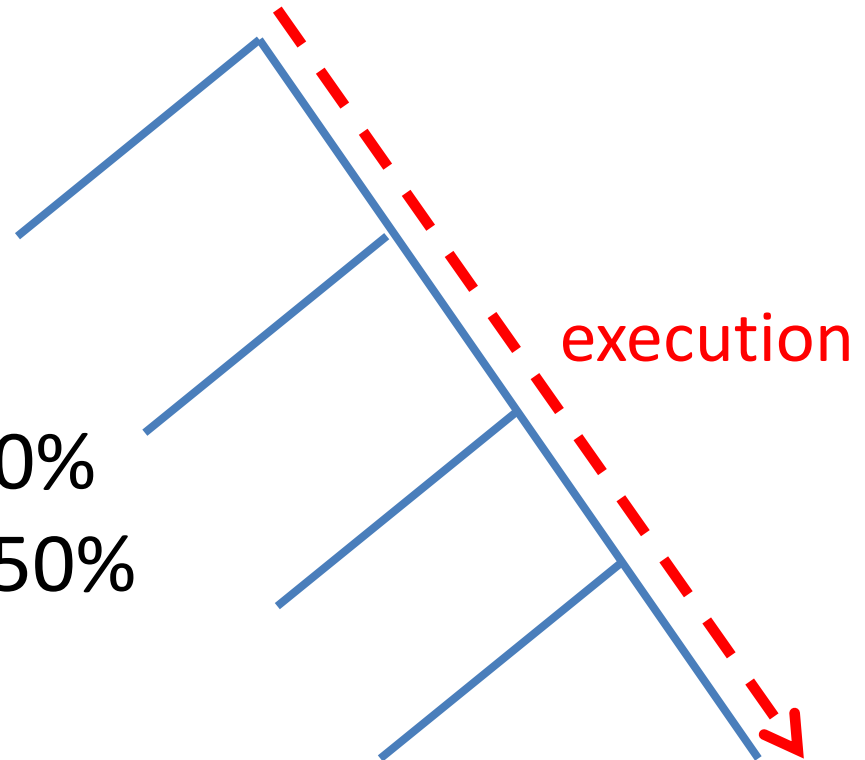
“Branches executed” vs. “Taken at least once”

- For measuring branch coverage, be careful to use “Taken at least once”, not “Branches executed”

Ex.

Branch executed: 100%

Taken at least once: 50%



GNU gcov (5/6)

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main(int argc, char **argv){
3     int i=0,j=0;
4     if (argc < 2) {
5         printf("Usage:...Wn");exit(-1);}
6     i = atoi(argv[1]);
7     printf("i=%dWn",i);
8
9     if( i == 0)
10        j=0;
11    else {
12        if (i == 1)
13            j=1;
14        if (i > 1 && i < 10)
15            j=2;
16    }
17    printf("j=%dWn",j);
18 }
```

Note that a "branch" for gcov is anything that causes the code to execute non-straight line

Conditional statement with a compound condition (i.e., a Boolean formula containing && or ||) has more than 2 branches

Branch info for each condition

Executed function info

Not executed

Call info

Non-executable statement

```
--:      0:Source:example.c
--:      0:Graph:example.gcno
--:      0:Data:example.gcda
--:      0:Runs:1
--:      0:Programs:1
--:      1:#include <stdio.h>
function main called 1 returned
100% blocks executed 71%
1:      2:int main(int argc,
char **argv){
1:      3:      int i=0,j=0;
1:      4:      if (argc < 2) {
branch 0 taken 0% (fallthrough)
branch 1 taken 100%
#####: 5:
printf("Usage:...Wn");exit(-1);}
call 0 never executed
call 1 never executed
1:      6:      i=atoi(argv[1]);
call 0 returned 100%
1:      7:
printf("i=%dWn",i);
call 0 returned 100%
--:      8:
1:      9:      if( i == 0)
branch 0 taken 0% (fallthrough)
branch 1 taken 100%
#####: 10:          j=0;
--:      11:      else {
1:      12:          if (i == 1)
branch 0 taken 0% (fallthrough)
branch 1 taken 100%
#####: 13:              j=1;
1:      14:              if(i>1&&i<10)
branch 0 taken 100% (fallthrough)
branch 1 taken 0%
branch 2 taken 100% (fallthrough)
branch 3 taken 0%
1:      15:                  j=2;
--:      16:          }
1:      17:
printf("j=%dWn",j);
call 0 returned 100%
1:      18:}
```

GNU gcov (6/6)

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main(int argc, char **argv){
3     int i=0,j=0;
4     if (argc < 2) {
5         printf("Usage:...Wn");exit(-1);}
6     i = atoi(argv[1]);
7     printf("i=%dWn",i);
8
9     if( i == 0)
10        j=0;
11    else {
12        if (i == 1)
13            j=1;
14        if (i > 1 && i < 10)
15            j=2;
16    }
17    printf("j=%dWn",j);
18 }
```

This intermediate coverage information format (obtained with `-i` option) is mainly used by coverage visualization tools like `lcov`, `gcovr`, etc.

Note that recent `gcov -i` (version 9.1 or higher) generates the intermediate coverage information in a json file.

```
mz@hp-x360-mz:~/tmp$ ./a.out 5
i=5
j=2
```

Intermediate output

```
mz@hp-x360-mz:~/tmp$ gcov -b -i example.c
File 'example.c'
Lines executed:84.62% of 13
Branches executed:100.00% of 10
Taken at least once:60.00% of 10
Calls executed:100.00% of 5
Creating 'example.c.gcov'
```

```
mz@hp-x360-mz:~/tmp$ cat example.c.gcov
file:example.c
function:2,1,main
lcount:2,1
lcount:3,1
lcount:4,1
branch:4,nottaken
lcount:5,0
lcount:6,1
lcount:7,1
lcount:9,1
branch:9,nottaken
lcount:10,0
lcount:12,1
branch:12,nottaken
lcount:13,0
lcount:14,1
branch:14,taken
branch:14,taken
lcount:15,1
lcount:17,1
```

Visual Coverage Tools based on gcov

- lcov
 - <https://github.com/linux-test-project/lcov>
- gcovr
 - <https://github.com/linux-test-project/lcov>
- grcov
 - <https://github.com/mozilla/grcov>

Lcov

LCOV - code coverage report

Current view: [top level](#)

Test: [Basic example](#) ([view descriptions](#))

Date: 2019-03-04 16:39:23

Legend: Rating: low: < 75 % medium: >= 75 % high: >= 90 %

	Hit	Total	Coverage
Lines:	20	22	90.9 %
Functions:	3	3	100.0 %
Branches:	8	10	80.0 %

Directory	Line Coverage	Functions	Branches
example	<div style="width:90.9%;"></div> 90.0 % 9 / 10	100.0 % 1 / 1	75.0 % 3 / 4
example/methods	<div style="width:91.7%;"></div> 91.7 % 11 / 12	100.0 % 2 / 2	83.3 % 5 / 6

Generated by: [LCOV version 1.14](#)

LCOV - code coverage report

Current view: [top level](#) - [example](#) - [example.c](#) (source / [functions](#))

Test: [Basic example](#) ([view descriptions](#))

Date: 2019-03-04 16:39:23

Legend: Lines: hit not hit | Branches: + taken - not taken # not executed

	Hit	Total	Coverage
Lines:	9	10	90.0 %
Functions:	1	1	100.0 %
Branches:	3	4	75.0 %

Branch data	Line data	Source code
1	:	: /*
2	:	: * example.c
3	:	: *
4	:	: * Calculate the sum of a given range of integer numbers. The range is
5	:	: * specified by providing two integer numbers as command line argument.
6	:	: * If no arguments are specified, assume the predefined range [0..9].
7	:	: * Abort with an error message if the resulting number is too big to be
8	:	: * stored as int variable.
9	:	: *
10	:	: * This program example is similar to the one found in the GCOV documentation.
11	:	: * It is used to demonstrate the HTML output generated by LCOV.
12	:	: *
13	:	: * The program is split into 3 modules to better demonstrate the 'directory
14	:	: * overview' function. There are also a lot of bloated comments inserted to
15	:	: * artificially increase the source code size so that the 'source code
16	:	: * overview' function makes at least a minimum of sense.
17	:	: *
18	:	: */
19	:	:
20	:	: #include <stdio.h>
21	:	: #include <stdlib.h>
22	:	: #include "iterate.h"
23	:	: #include "gauss.h"
24	:	:
25	:	: static int start = 0;
26	:	: static int end = 9;
27	:	:
28	:	:
29	:	: 3 : int main (int argc, char* argv[])
30	:	: {
31	:	: int total1, total2;
32	:	:
33	:	: /* Accept a pair of numbers as command line arguments. */
34	:	:
35	[+ +]	: 3 : if (argc == 3)
36	:	: {
37	:	: start = atoi(argv[1]);
38	:	: end = atoi(argv[2]);
39	:	: }
40	:	:
41	:	:
42	:	: /* Use both methods to calculate the result. */
43	:	:
44	:	: 3 : total1 = iterate_get_sum (start, end);
45	:	: 2 : total2 = gauss_get_sum (start, end);
46	:	:
47	:	:
48	:	: /* Make sure both results are the same. */
49	:	:
50	[= +]	: 2 : if (total1 != total2)
51	:	: {
52	:	: printf ("Failure (%d != %d)\n", total1, total2);
53	:	: }
54	:	: else
55	:	: {
56	:	: printf ("Success, sum[%d..%d] = %d\n", start, end, total1);
57	:	: }
58	:	:
59	:	: 2 : return 0;
60	:	: }

gcover

```
grep-v2.0-simplified$ gcover --html --html-detail -o index.html
```

GCC Code Coverage Report

Directory: .
Date: 2022-09-28 13:19:05
Legend: low: < 75.0 % medium: >= 75.0 % high: >= 90.0 %

Exec	2450	3246	75.5 %
Total	1856	3416	54.3 %
Coverage			

Lines: 2450 / 3246
Branches: 1856 / 3416

File	Lines	Branches
grep.c	75.5 % 2450 / 3246	54.3 % 1856 / 3416

Generated by: [GCOVR \(Version 3.4\)](#)

174		2115	result = malloc(size);
175	✓XX✓	2115	if (size && !result)
176			fatal("memory exhausted", 0);
177		2115	return result;
178			}
179			
180			/* Interface to handle errors and fix some library lossage. */
181			char *
182		2049	xrealloc(ptr, size)
183			char *ptr;
184			size_t size;
185			{
186			char *result;
187			
188	✓✓	2049	if (ptr)
189		1032	result = realloc(ptr, size);
190			else
191		1017	result = malloc(size);
192	✓XX✓	2049	if (size && !result)
193			fatal("memory exhausted", 0);
194		2049	return result;



GCC Code Coverage Report

Directory: .

File	Branches	Taken	Cover	Missing
grep.c	3416	1856	54%	
147,175,192,252,259,284,287,289,293,311,312,317,402,419,457,508,552,579,588,643,657,679,686,691,696,704,725,726,741,789,800,810,813,821,825,835,838,846,848,851,854,1712,2782,2806,2808,2818,2828,2839,2840,2854,2855,2865,2870,2872,2874,2898,2900,2901,2904,2906,2908,2909,2929,2948,2955,2956,2957,2958,2973,2974,2987,2997,3005,3009,3015,3023,3030,3036,3038,3041,3043,3045,3053,3058,3065,3066,3067,3068,3072,3075,3080,3083,3089,3093,3097,3101,3102,3103,3112,3128,3132,3134,3140,3157,3173,3195,3209,3216,3221,3233,3237,3256,3259,3277,3278,3284,3289,3297,3298,3327,3333,3341,3344,3349,3377,3387,3390,3391,3403,3405,3411,3415,3422,3423,3425,3433,3435,3438,3440,3449,3451,3453,3462,3464,3481,3483,3490,3502,3545,3547,3549,3577,3583,3588,3592,3596,3600,3604,3608,3613,3618,3622,3626,3642,3658,3661,3663,3664,3665,3666,3668,3674,3678,3690,3787,3791,3793,3807,3812,3814,3815,3829,3832,3862,3880,3881,3889,4211,4216,4218,4234,4257,4258,4265,4268,4269,4275,4276,4282,4283,4290,4294,4299,4355,4363,4364,4372,4373,4391,4393,4399,4414,4474,4544,4549,4551,4556,4558,4565,4566,4576,4578,4584,4587,4591,4592,4593,4597,4604,4608,4614,4615,4620,4623,4627,4629,4917,4924,4936,4937,4955,4977,4988,5005,5039,5041,5046,5047,5064,5075,5076,5078,5089,5099,5103,5107,5112,5126,5129,5137,5141,5142,5161,5174,5193,5197,5198,5201,5207,5220,5222,5223,5226,5240,5241,5253,5270,5280,5281,5296,5316,5317,5329,5340,5350,5364,5365,5366,5372,5381,5395,5396,5408,5415,5420,5426,5446,5457,5458,5459,5464,5466,5467,5474,5477,5484,5489,5505,5507,5509,5521,5523,5527,5528,5538,5546,5573,5611,5614,5621,5626,5652,5653,5654,5658,5669,5671,5678,5685,5686,5690,5691,5696,5732,5765,5778,5796,5835,5841,5847,5853,5854,5918,5919,5927,5928,5930,5943,5956,5962,5973,5974,5975,5983,5990,6020,6026,6036,6056,6062,6072,6079,6092,6107,6128,6133,6143,6167,6193,6196,6203,6214,6225,6252,6254,6399,6412,6417,6421,6422,6428,6446,6478,6490,6495,6500,6505,6507,6511,6541,6542,6553,6558,6560,6579,6586,6591,6718,6730,6743,6974,6993,7001,7007,7012,7017,7019,7021,7022,7023,7024,7025,7026,7027,7028,7041,7069,7073,7078,7080,7085,7089,7094,7104,7105,7110,7111,7116,7121,7130,7132,7134,7140,7148,7149,7150,7165,7172,7176,7178,7197,7200,7203,7216,7217,7225,7228,7229,7230,7233,7234,7244,7245,7246,7247,7269,7388,7402,7442,7508,7516,7522,7584,7586,7607,7610,7643,7645,7647,7665,7666,7667,7668,7670,7710,7716,7876,7924,8148,8210,8240,8255,8297,8327,8329,8330,8335,8347,8350,8353,8475,8479,8493,8507,8551,8590,8593,8594,8597,8598,8600,8605,8701,8711,8742,8752,8769,8771,8799,8819,8822,8831,8839,8852,8857,8874,8877,8885,8892,8932,8943,8944,8958,8960,8977,8984,9009,9011,9015,9023,9029,9038,9050,9058,9061,9066,9074,9081,9087,9095,9100,9117,9286,9292,9293,9362,9364,9368,9370,9402,9405,9423,9434,9587,9591,9599,9704,9706,9726,9731,9743,9745,9747,9760,9762,9764,9766,9794,9801,9833,9839,9841,9843,9844,9861,9874,9876,9879,9884,9890,9892,9894,9895,9899,9902,9912,9917,9921,9948,9951,9971,10577,10602,10611,10614,10632,10687,10698,10773,10775,10782,10806,10809,10817,10818,10820,10821,10823,10830,10833,10866,10874,10888,10893,10895,10897,10901,10902,10904,10906,10921				
TOTAL	3416	1856	54%	

clang, llvm-cov

You can use clang/llvm-cov tools in a similar way to gcc/gcov.

1. To build a coverage-enabled executable, run

```
clang --coverage example.c -o example
```

2. Run generated executable

```
./example
```

3. To get coverage of example.c, run

```
llvm-cov gcov -b example.c
```

4. Then, you will get the same result as gcov (including the same example.c.gcov file)

```
File 'example.c'  
Lines executed:28.57% of 14  
Branches executed:20.00% of 10  
Taken at least once:10.00% of 10  
No calls  
Creating 'example.c.gcov'
```