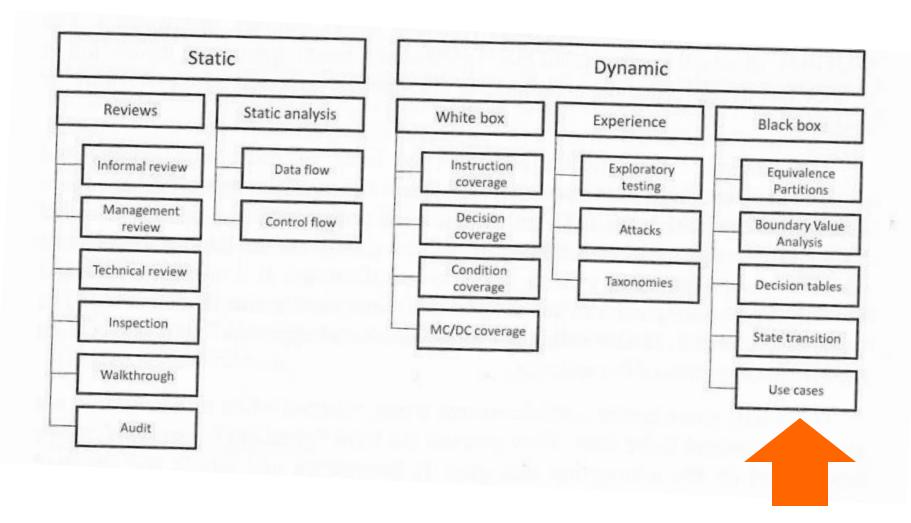
BLACK BOX TESTING (I)

General taxonomy



White and Black Box Testing

- Software testing
 - □ Black box testing (<u>validation</u>)
 - Tester has no access to code
 - □ White box testing (<u>verification</u>)
 - Tester focuses on the internal structure of the code
 - Writing test cases leads to more complete and specific requirements gathering process at the earlier design phase

"Pure" requirements from customers

OR

Requirements analysis/specification document





"Pure" requirements from customers

OR

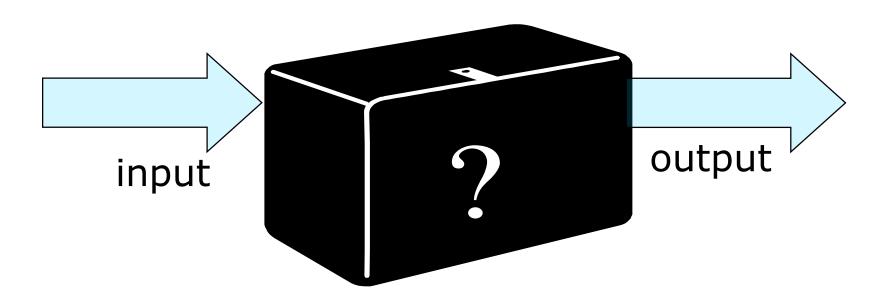
Requirements analysis/specification document

Requirements not correctly specified, identified, reported, and understood

Unspecified functionalities (e.g., Easter egg) not identified

Coincidental correctness

Black Box testing



×

Black Box testing – the paradigm

- a.k.a. <u>functional</u> testing and <u>behavioural</u> testing
- Attempts to find 5 general types of errors:
 - □ Incorrect or missing functions
 - □ Interface errors
 - □ Errors in data structures used by interfaces
 - □ Behaviour or performance errors
 - Initialization and termination errors
- Better not to be performed by the programmer
 - ☐ Third-party testers are more suited to test for what the customer specifies

м

Issues on Black Box testing

- How is validity tested?
- What classes of input will make good test cases?
- Is the system particularly sensitive to certain input values?
- How are the boundaries of a data class isolated?
- What data rates and data volume can the system tolerate?
- What effect will specific combinations of data have on system operations?

9

Test case planning/design

- Test planning early in development cycle (cannot be emphasized enough)
- Example template for a test case:

Test ID	Description	Expected results	Actual results
Id	entifier	Set of steps and input conditions	

- Be very specific in the field of description and expected result
 - □ Recreating the problem → to be repeated and fixed
- Test cases traceable to customer requirements
 - □ Success paths → no error conditions in test cases
 - □ Failure paths → error conditions added in test cases



Write a test case for the student information system that you use

Explain the rationale

Collection of test scenarios (1)

ID	Description	Expected Results	Actual Results
1	Enrollment in exam – test whether a confirmation e-mail has been sent out	Receipt of email	
2	Average of exams 1. Enter details of a student 2. Compute manually the average - assume it is 3.7	3.7	
2	Average of exams 1. Log in 2. Compute the average	The average computed manually	

Collection of test scenarios(2)

ID	Description	Expected Results	Actual Results
3	Login and password testing Check the 4 cases with template users	Only for <correct password="" user,correct=""> the system is accessed</correct>	
4	Check of all the exams 1. Connect as a template student in a predefined department 2. Read in the student guide which exams should the student pass 3. Check if such exams are there	The exams in the student guide for the template student	

Collection of test scenarios(3)

ID	Description	Expected Results	Actual Results
5	Timetable	?????	
	Connect to the student information system and check if the details are the same as provided		

Categories of Black Box Testing

- Failure (dirty) test cases and error guessing
- Checklists
- Usage-based (operational profiles) testing
- Input domain testing
 - Input equivalence classes (partitioning)
 - Boundary value analysis
- Decision tables and cause-effect graphs
- Syntax-driven testing
- Finite state machines

Categories of Black Box Testing

- Failure (dirty) test cases and error guessing
- Checklists
- Usage-based (operational profiles) testing
- Input domain testing
- Decision tables and cause-effect graphs
- Syntax-driven testing
- Finite state machines

Level of formalism

Level of formalisms: from **semi-formal** to **formal** approaches

2

Black box test case automation

- Automated test cases to test the logic behind certain types of black box test cases
- More automated → run more frequently → faster defectdetection
- Black box test cases can then be run more smoothly through user interface (UI)
- Motivation to decouple program/business logic from user interface logic
- Once automated, these cases can be run many times to check new code

Failure (dirty) test cases

Failure ("Dirty") Test Cases

- Test <u>every</u> possible thing a user could do with the system to demolish the software
- Think diabolically!
- Look at every input!
- Be creative → consider the user as someone from another planet
- Examples
 - □ Can any form of input to the program cause division by zero?
 - What if the input type is wrong?
 - What if mandatory fields are not entered?

Error Guessing



Error Guessing (1)

Intuition Innovation Experience

. . . .

Sorting subroutine

Test cases

- Input list is empty
- Input list contains one entry
- •All entries in the input have the same value
- •The input is already sorted



Intuition Innovation Experience

. . . .

Counting frequency of words

Test cases

- •File empty
- •File non-existent
- •File only has blanks
- Contains a single word
- •All words are the same
- Multiple consecutive blank lines
- Multiple blanks between words
- •Blanks at the start
- Words in sorted order
- •Blanks at the end of file

• . . .

Start running software and make observations about expected/unexpected behavior

Organize features to be tested (checklist)

Check off an item on the list once the corresponding Item (feature) has been tested

Item	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3	Test P

The simplest form of black box testing; no systematic method

Could be expanded and formalized

List of items to be checked (coding standard, specification items)

Levels of granularity (abstraction):

high-level system functions down to specific low-level functions of individual components

High-level checklist of relational database (example)

- Abnormal termination
- Backup and restore
- Communication
- •File I/O
- Installation
- Logging and recovery
- Migration



Hierarchical checklists

Item-1

item-11

Item-12

Item-13

Item-2

Item-21

Item-22

Item-23

Item-24

Item-3



Types of checklists

Hierarchical checklists

High level checklist expandable to a full checklist at a lower level until stopped at a level of detail deemed enough by some criteria

Combination of checklists

Componen	
	s1 s2 sm
c1	
c2	
cn	

Example coding standard checklist

Limitations of checklists

High-level, lack of specificity No detailed items to test

Difficult translation to test cases

Difficulties in re-running the test cases (additional info about environment)

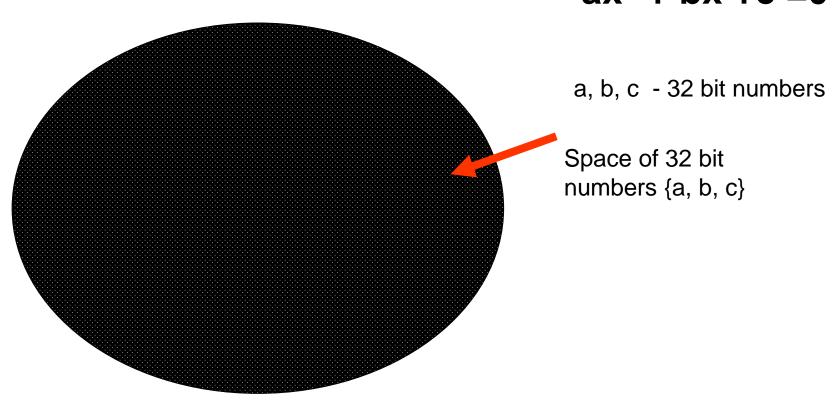
- 1.It is difficult to come up with checklists that cover all functional (black box) or structural (white box) components → missed areas of coverage (holes in coverage)
- 2.To provide good coverage, we may end up with a lot of overlaps between Items on the checklists -> redundant testing
- 3. Complex interactions between components→ checklists are hard to formulate

Solutions: 1-2: partition coverage 3: finite state machines

Partition – Based Testing

Partition coverage- example 1

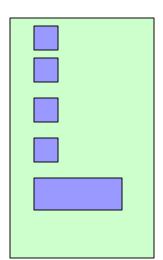
$ax^{2} + bx + c = 0$



a, b, c - 32 bit numbers \rightarrow 2³² * 2³² * 2³² = **2**⁹⁶ test cases

Partition coverage- example 2

GUI: four check boxes, one two-position field (time...)



2⁴(16) *(00...99) total 1,600 potential test cases

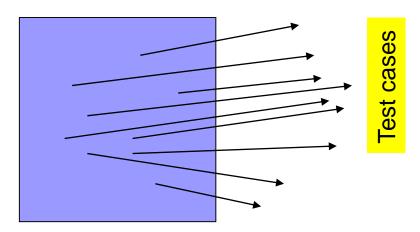
digit, space letter, character, special symbol...

16 bit 2¹⁶ possibilities for the position
2 positions
16 (test cases for check boxes)

68,719,476,736 test cases 1 test /second 2,177.5 years

Equivalence partitioning

Input space



Problem: exhaustive-input testing is not feasible

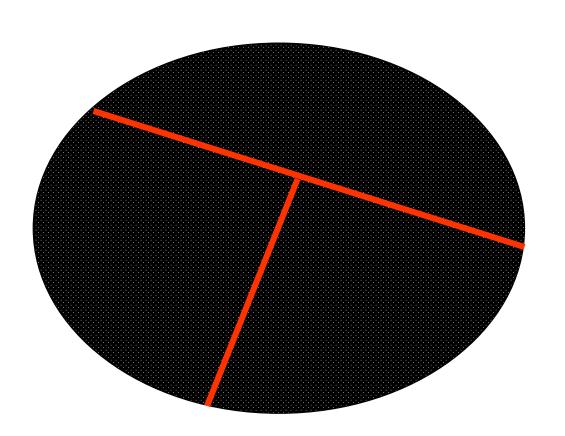
Solution: need a small subset of all possible inputs

Subsets of high probability of finding errors

test case

(a) reduces the number of other test cases that must be developed

Partition coverage



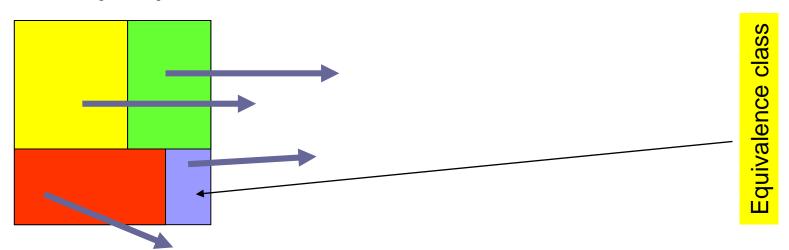
$$ax^{2} + bx + c = 0$$

Partition – 3 test cases

$$d = 0$$

Equivalence class

Input space



we assume that that a test of a representative value of each equivalence class is equivalent to any other value in the same equivalence class



Partition

Set S Collection of subsets A_1 , A_2 , ..., A_c such that they satisfy the following conditions

- are mutually exclusive
- are collectively <u>exhaustive</u>



Subsets A_i in the partition are called equivalence classes

Partitions based on:

Properties of elements

Relations

Logical conditions

Partitions and equivalence classes

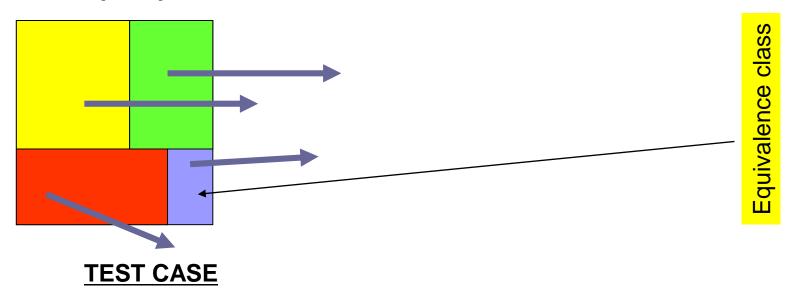
Equivalence class – relation R(a, b) that is

```
(a)Symmetric R(a,b) = R(b,a)
(b) transitive R(a,b) & R(b,c) \rightarrow R(a,c)
(c)Reflexive R(a,a)
```

Example "==" implies some equivalence class

Equivalence partitioning: equivalence classes

Input space



- (a) reduces the number of other test cases that must be developed to achieve some predefined goal of "reasonable" testing
- (b) It covers a large set of other possible test cases; tells us something about the presence of errors over and above the specific set of input values

Equivalence partitioning: Test case design

- 1. Identification of equivalence classes
- 2. Defining the test cases

EQUIVALENCE CLASSES

Two types of classes:

valid equivalence classes invalid equivalence classes

Note: equivalence classes need to be homogeneous – otherwise split the equivalence class into smaller equivalence classes



Equivalence partitioning: Test case design

DEFINING THE TEST CASES

Assign a unique number to each equivalence class

Until all valid equivalence classes have been covered by test cases, write a new test case covering as many of the uncovered valid equivalence classes as possible

Until tests have covered all invalid equivalence classes, write a test case that covers <u>one and only one</u>, of the uncovered invalid equivalence classes

Equivalence classes: some examples

Input: range of values, 1...999 (item count)

Valid equivalence class 1...999
Invalid equivalence class "less than 1", "greater than 999"

One through six owners (insurance policy)

Valid equivalence class 1..6 Invalid equivalence class 0 >6

First character of the identifier must be a letter

Valid equivalence class: letter

Invalid equivalence class: not a letter

Equivalence classes: some examples

```
DIM statement

(a) Array name: up to six letters or digits, the first must be a letter
(b) Number of dimensions 1, 2,..., 7

Input condition

Valid equivalence classes

Length of array name

1-6

(1)

0

(2)

>6

(3)

Array name starts
with letter

yes

(4)

no

(5)

Number of dimensions 1-7

(6)
```

Equivalence classes: some examples

Input condition	Valid equivalence classes	Invalid equivalence classe	25
Size of array nam	ne 1-6 (<mark>1</mark>)	0 (2) >6 (3)	
Array name starts with letter	s yes (4)	no (5)	
Number of dim	1-7 (6)	0 (7) > 7 (8)	

TEST CASES to cover all equivalence classes

```
DIM A [2] covers (1) (4) (6)

DIM 1B[4] covers (5) DIM D[] covers (7) DIM [10, 30, 11, 12, 13, 14, 45] covers (2)

DIM DATA [100, 110, 20, 50, 90, 200, 70, 100] (8) DIM DATASENSOR1[100, 100] (3)
```



Equivalence class testing: strategies

Weak normal equivalence class testing

[single fault assumption]

Design a test case so that it covers one and only one invalid equivalence class and as many as possible valid equivalence classes

Strong normal equivalence class testing

[multiple fault assumption]

Select test cases from the Cartesian product of equivalence classes. Covers all equivalence classes; one of each possible combinations of inputs

Example (1)

Specifications

Design a program that adds two integerers which are entered

- •Each number should have one or two digits
- •The program will print the sum
- Press ENTER after each number
- •To start the program, type ADDER

?

3

?

10

17

Example (2) Equivalence analysis

```
Each variable: 1 to 99 99 values
```

0 1 value

-1 to -99 99 values

199 * 199 = **39**, **601** combination tests

Boundaries: 100 and above

-100 and below

Example (2) Myers' boundary table

Variable	Valid case equivalence classes	Invalid case equivalence classes	Boundary and special cases	Notes
1 st no	-99 to 99	>99 <-99	99, 100 -99 -100	
2 nd no	-99 to 99	>99 <-99	99, 100 -99 -100	

Example Equivalence analysis (3)

A program takes two inputs – a string s and an integer *n*

Program determines *n* most frequent characters

Example Equivalence analysis (3)

A program takes two inputs – a string s and an integer n

Program determines *n* most frequent characters



A program takes two inputs – a string s of ASCII printable characters of limited length N and an integer n

Program determines *n* most frequent characters

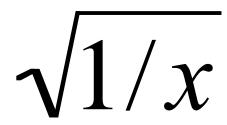
Example Equivalence analysis (3)

(SOn)	1 0001	uxuı		3.3	UU41	UXZI	A	co	OTOT	UX41	ı a	9/	U141	uxnı
(stx)	2 0002		ii ii	34	0042		В	66	0102	0x42	b	98	0142	
(etx)	3 0003		#	35	0043		c	67	0103		c	99		0x63
(eot)	4 0004		\$	36	0044		D	68	0104	0x44	d	100	0144	
(eng)	5 0005		ું ક	37	0045	0x25	E	69	0105	0x45	e	101	0145	0x65
(ack)	6 0006	0x06	&	38	0046	0x26	F	70	0106	0x46	f	102	0146	0x66
(bel)	7 0007	0x07	'	39	0047	0x27	G	71	0107	0x47	g	103	0147	0x67
(bs)	8 0010	0x08	l (40	0050	0x28	н	72	0110	0x48	h	104	0150	0x68
(ht)	9 0011	0x09	i	41	0051	0x29	I	73	0111	0x49	i	105	0151	0x69
(nl)	10 0012	0x0a	*	42	0052	0x2a	J	74	0112	0x4a	j	106	0152	0x6a
(vt)	11 0013	0x0b	+	43	0053	0x2b	K	75	0113	0x4b	k	107	0153	0x6b
(np)	12 0014		,	44	0054	0x2c	L	76	0114	0x4c	1	108	0154	0x6c
(cr)	13 0015	0x0d	-	45	0055	0x2d	M	77	0115	0x4d	m	109	0155	0x6d
(so)	14 0016			46	0056	0x2e	N	78	0116	0x4e	n	110	0156	0x6e
(si)	15 0017	0x0f	/	47	0057	0x2f	0	79	0117	0x4f	0	111	0157	0x6f
(dle)	16 0020	0x10	0	48	0060	0x30	P	80	0120	0x50	p	112	0160	0x70
(dc1)	17 0021		1	49	0061		Q	81	0121		q	113	0161	
(dc2)	18 0022		2	50	0062	0x32	R	82	0122		r	114	0162	0x72
(dc3)	19 0023		3	51		0x33	S	83	0123		s	115	0163	
(dc4)	20 0024		4	52	0064		T	84	0124		t	116	0164	
(nak)	21 0025		5	53	0065		U	85	0125		u	117	0165	
(syn)	22 0026		6	54	0066	0x36	V	86	0126	0x56	v	118	0166	0x76
(etb)	23 0027		7	55	0067	0x37	W	87	0127	0x57	W	119	0167	0x77
(can)	24 0030		8	56	0070	0x38	X	88	0130	0x58	x	120	0170	0x78
(em)	25 0031		9	57	0071	0x39	Y	89	0131	0x59	У	121	0171	0x79
(sub)	26 0032		:	58		0x3a	Z	90	0132		z	122	0172	0x7a
(esc)	27 0033	0x1b	;	59	0073	0x3b		91	0133	0x5b	{	123	0173	0x7b

Example Equivalence analysis (3)

Input	Valid Equivalent Class	Invalid Equivalent class
s:string	1: Contains numbers 2: Lower case letters 3: upper case letters 4: special chars 5: string length between 0-N(max)	1: non-ascii char 2: string length > N
n:int	6: Int in valid range	3: Int out of range

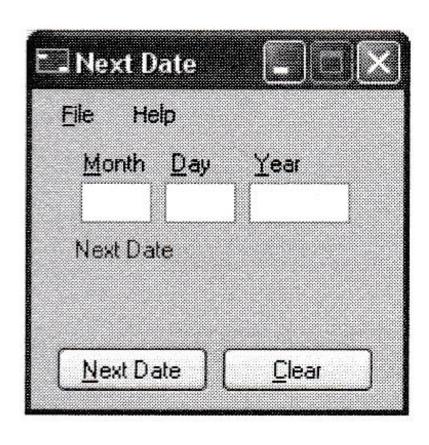
Equivalence classes



all positive numbers

all negative numbers

zero value (zero divide error)



Takes 3 integers (month, day, year) in the Gregorian calendar and determines the date based on the Gregorian calendar



Input/output	Valid class subsets	Invalid class subsets
Month	v1—30-day months v2—31-day months	i1>= 13 i <= 0
	v3—February	i3—any noninteger i4—empty i5—>= 3 integers



Input/output	Valid class subsets	Invalid class subsets
Day	v4—1–30	i6>=32
	v5—1–31	i7—<= 0
	v6—1–28	i8—any noninteger
	v7—1–29	i9—empty
		$i10 \longrightarrow = 3$ integers

Equivalence classes generate boundary conditions(1, 28, 29, 30, 31)





Year

Valid classes

v8—1582–3000**
v9—non-leap year
v10—leap year
v11—century non-leap
year
v12—century leap year

Invalid classes

i11—<= 1581 i12—>= 3001 i13—any noninteger i14—empty i15—>= 5 integers

Year 3000 - chosen arbitrarily

Next Date program –equivalence

classes



Year

Valid classes

v8—1582–3000**
v9—non–leap year
v10—leap year
v11—century non–leap
year
v12—century leap year

Invalid classes

i11—<= 1581 i12—>= 3001 i13—any noninteger i14—empty i15—>= 5 integers

```
//Example algorithm used to calculate leap years
public static bool IsLeapYear(int year)
{
   return (year % 4 == 0 && year % 100 != 0 || year % 400 == 0);
}
```

Most years that can be divided evenly by 4 are leap years **Exception:** Century years are NOT leap years UNLESS they can be evenly divided by 400.

Calendar for year 1582 (Italy)

<u>January</u>							February								March							
	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Τι	ı W	/e]	Γh	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	l	2	3	4				1	2	3	4
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	3	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	3 14	4 1	5	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	1 2	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	29	30	31					26	27	28	3					26	27	28	29	30	31	
	1:10	8:	F 17	7:30	2 (4:N	31:1Q	7:F	15	:3Ç	22	2:N	1			1:10	9:	F 1	7:30	Q 2	4:N	31:1Q
				Ap							M								Ju	<u>ne</u>		
	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tı	ı W	/e]	Γh	Fr	Sa	Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
							1		1	2	3	3	4	5	6					1	2	3
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	1	0	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	5 16	5 1	7	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	2 23	3 2	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30) 3	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	
	30																					
				Ju	lv					Au	ıgıı	st					Se	pte	mbe	er		
	Mo	o Tr	ı We			Sa	Su	Mo	Tu		_		r Sa	a Sı	1 M	o Tu		-			Su	
							1			1			4							1 2		
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	0 11	12	2 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	1	7 18	3 19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	4 25	5 26	5 17	18	19	20	21	22 2	23	
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	3	1		24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	30	31																				
	5:F	12	:3Q	19:1	N 2	7:1	Q	4:F 1	10:3	3Q :	18:	N 2	26:1	lQ	2:I	9:3	Q 1	6:N	25:	1Q		
	<u>October</u>							lov								<u>ecer</u>						
	Mo	o Tu	ı We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo							ı M	o Tu						
	1	2	3	4	15	16	17			3						_	1		3			
	18		20												1 6				10			
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31								1 13							
										24	25	26	5 27	28	3 20					25 2	26	
								29	<i>3</i> U						21	28	29	30	31			





Unique or special dates

Valid classes

v14—9/3/1752– 9/13/1752 v15—1/19/2038

Invalid classes

i18—10/5/1582– 10/14/1582



Dates excluded from the Gregorian calendar



Unique or special dates

Valid classes

Invalid classes

i18—10/5/1582— 10/14/1582

England and her colonies did not adopt the Gregorian calendar until 1752 and had to exclude 10 days to synchronize the calendar with the lunar cycle



Unique or special dates

Valid classes

v14—9/3/1752– es 9/13/1752 v15—1/19/2038

Invalid classes

i18—10/5/1582– 10/14/1582

BIOS clocks on PC – computing time 1 sec increment 32 from Jan 1, 1970

Jan 19, 2038 3:14:08 the counter goes beyond max 2³²;

Re-initialization of time to 00:00:00 date Dec 13, 1901

Valid and invalid equivalence classes for dates

January 19, 2038 UNIX Millennium Bug

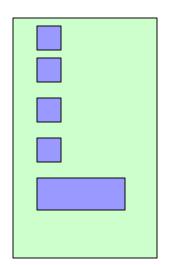
BIOS clocks on PC – computing time 1 sec increment 32 from Jan 1, 1970 [32 bit]

Jan 19, 2038 3:14:08 the counter goes beyond its maximum of 232;

Re-initialization of time to 00:00:00 date Dec 13, 1901

Equivalence classes - GUI

GUI: four check boxes, one two-position field (time...)



Numeric values between 01-99 (leading zero present)

Numeric values between 1 and 9 (inclusive) with a leading and trailing space

Alphabetic symbol of one or two positions

Negative numeric values (-1... -9)

Special characters in one or two positions

Characters coded in two positions



Valid equivalence classes

Invalid equivalence classes

7

Decomposition of dataequivalence classes

Four heuristics (valid and invalid classes):

Range a contiguous set of data in which any data point in the minima and maxima boundary values of the range is expected to produce the same result.

Number field where one can enter integer value from 1 to 999 valid equivalence class >=1 and <= 999 Invalid equivalence class integers <1 and >999

Group a group of items is permitted as long as these items are handled identically

Objects falling under the same taxation category

Decomposition of dataequivalence classes

Four heuristics (valid and invalid classes):

Unique data in a class or subset of a class that might be handled differently from other data in that class or a subset of a class.

Date January 19, 2038 at 3:14:07 (Friday 13)

Specific a condition must be or must not be present.

In Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) the symbol @ is a specific character that cannot be used as part of the e-mail name or domain name.



Not limit to values – cover size of variables.

Test invalid equivalence classes (purchase of a negative number of items on the Internet?)

Understanding equivalence classes

What is equivalence?

Intuitive similarity

Two tests are equivalent if they are so similar to each other that it seems pointless to test both

Specified as equivalent

Two test values are equivalent if the specification says that the software handles them in the same way

Equivalence classes: the essence of testing

Systematic sampling approach to test design

- Cannot afford to run all tests
- •Divide the population into subpopulations and test one representative of each equivalence class

Commonly used

Identification of unique defects, not combined defects

Input equivalence classes (partitioning)

Boundary value analysis (BVA)

Boundary Value Analysis

Exploring boundary conditions (at the edges of input equivalence classes)

Input space



Ambiguity (under-defined processing) for some inputs

Computational procedures not defined for some inputs

Contradiction (over-defined processing) for some inputs

Different outputs for the same input

It is observed that most of these problems occur at boundaries

Failing at a boundary?

INPUT < 10 10 <= INPUT < 25

25 <=INPUT

result: Error message

result: Print "hello"

result: Error message

Faults:

- (1) Program does not like numbers
- (2) Inequality mis-specified (e.g., INPUT <=25 instead of < 25)
- (3) Boundary value mistyped (say, transposition error, INPUT <52)

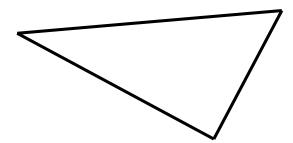
Boundary value test (25) will catch all faults Non-boundary value (say, 53) may catch only 1 of 3 faults



Boundary Value Analysis: Examples

Triangle

Input represent triangle: integers > 0; sum of any two is greater than the third



Test cases 3-4-5 and 1-2-4

Expression improperly coded as A + B >=C instead of A + B > C

Boundary value test 1-2-3

Boundary Value Analysis: Example

If
$$(x > y)$$
 then S1 else S2

Equivalence classes

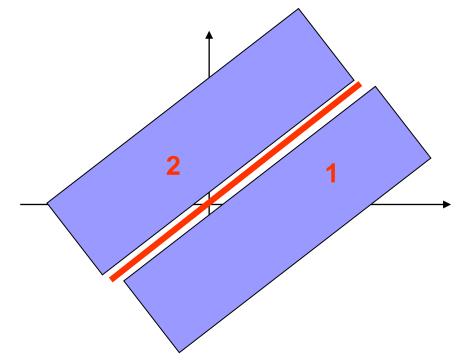
(x,y) such that x > y 1

(x,y) such that $x \le 2$

Case x =y never selected for testing

Could be of interest:

- •Implementation concerns of the equality condition
- Program realization does not meet specifications



Boundary Value Analysis: General Guidelines

If input conditions assume some range of values, write test cases for the ends of the range, invalid-input cases beyond the ends.

-1.0 --- 1.0

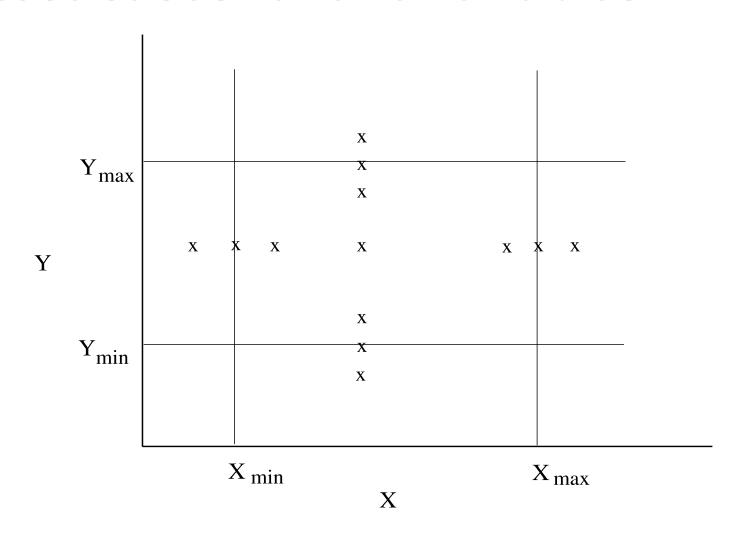
Test cases: -1.0, 1.0, 1.001, -1.001

If input conditions specify a number of values, write test cases for the min, max, and beyond these values

File 1-255 records

Test cases: 0, 1, 255, 256

Boundary Value Analysis test cases for two variables



r.

Boundary Value Analysis (BVA)

Detection of faults:

- Incorrect artificial constraints of a data type
- Erroneously assigned relational operators
- Wrapping of data types
- Problems with looping structures
- Off-by-one errors

Equivalence partitioning versus Boundary Value Analysis (BVA)

Combinations of inputs are not explored

some high yield test could have been easily missed



Testing process

