

ECE 322

**Software Testing and
Maintenance**



ECE 322

Software Testing and Maintenance

W. Pedrycz, PhD, P.Eng.,

**office: Donadeo Innovation Centre for Engineering (D-ICE),
11th floor, room 11-293**

email: wpedrycz@ualberta.ca

CONTACT INFORMATION

Tuesday

11:00 AM – 12:00 noon

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

11:00 AM – 12:00 noon

Open-door policy

By appointment: e-mail me wpedrycz@ualberta.ca



Organizational issues (1)

Grading scheme

Final examination: **50%**

Midterm examination: **15%**

Assignments: **5%**

Laboratory experiments: **20%**

Project: **10%**

Assignments: bi-weekly

Active participation and feedback strongly encouraged

Date of mid-term examination: **Friday, October 25, 2019**, in class



Organizational issues (2)

Policy on Code of Student Behavior-Calendar

<https://www.ualberta.ca/governance/resources/policies-standards-and-codes-of-conduct/code-of-student-behaviour>

It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with, and adhere to, the terms of the University of Alberta's Code of Student Behaviour. Included in this Code are descriptions of unacceptable behaviour for students in the University, the sanctions for commission of the offences, and explanations of the complete discipline and appeal processes. The term Student is defined in the Code of Student Behaviour. Students who have committed offence(s) as defined in the Code of Student Behaviour will be charged under the Code of Student Behaviour.

Amendments to the Code of Student Behaviour occur throughout the year. The official version of the Code of Student Behaviour, as amended from time to time, is housed on the University Governance website at www.governance.ualberta.ca.

See also the ECE 322 website



Organizational issues (3)

**Course material (lecture notes, assignments, lab notes...)
on the Web: e-class ECE 322**

Lab instructor and marker
Ali Safari Mamaghani safarima@ualberta.ca

TA
Ahmed Chaari chaari@ualberta.ca



Organizational issues (4)

Project

Based on some previous software development (experience),
say testing website, user interface, numeric package, etc.
Significant level of flexibility is allowed (and encouraged).

Industrial speaker talk



Outline

From software requirements to software testing.

Software quality

Software testing process

Risk analysis and metrics for software testing

Black box and white box software testing

Coverage – based testing techniques

Unit integration and system testing

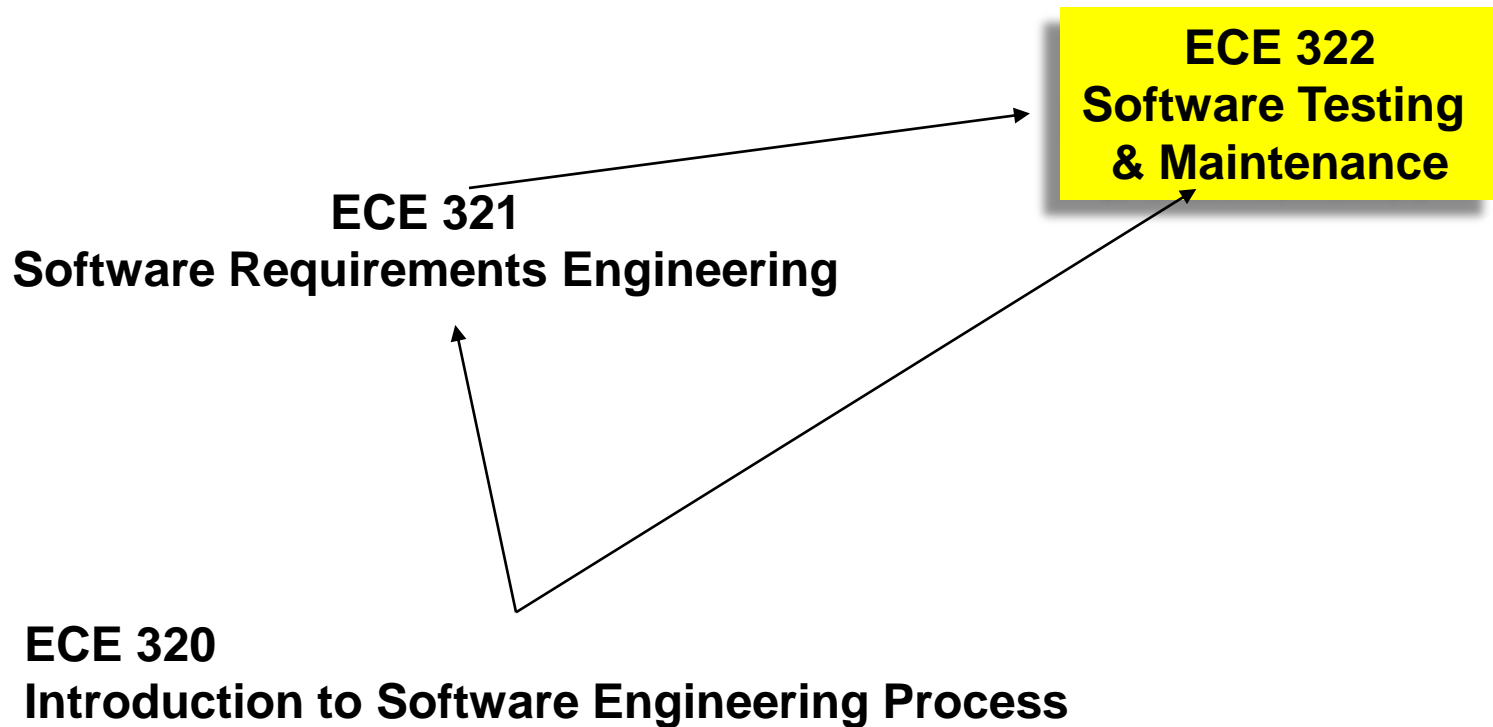
Acceptance testing

Software maintenance and regression testing

Software reliability



Roadmap of Software Courses





Reference material

G. J. Myers, *The Art of Software Testing*, 2nd edition, J. Wiley, 2005

A.M. J. Hass, *Guide to Advanced Software Testing*, Artech House, 2008

R. Patton, *Software Testing*, 2nd edition, Sams Publ, 2006

K. Naik, P. Tripathy, *Software Testing and Quality Assurance*, J. Wiley, 2008

A. Mili, F. Tchier, *Software Testing. Concepts and Operations*, J. Wiley, 2015

D. Sale, *Testing Python*, Wiley 2014

D. Galin, *Software Quality*, Wiley 2018



Discipline of Software Engineering (1)

60ties

Complexities, paradoxes and anomalies of software engineering
Uncharted territories: high risk, unpredictable outcomes, costs,
Schedule overruns
Assembly languages, Fortran, Cobol, Algol

70ties

Belief that software engineering problems are of technical nature
and could be resolved through techniques of specification, design, and
verification
structured design, analysis, programming
C, Pascal



Discipline of Software Engineering (2)

80ties

Knowledge-based software engineering
Problems of managerial and organizational nature
Fifth Generation Computing initiative
Prolog, Lisp, Ada

90ties

Reuse in software engineering; not studied in the past
Emergence of object-oriented programming supporting
bottom-up design discipline supporting reuse
C, C++, Eiffel. Smalltalk



Ultra Large Scale systems

Software Engineering Institute, CMU, 2006

Decentralization

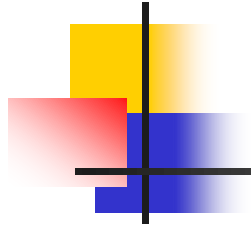
Conflicting, unknown and diverse requirements

Continuous evolution and deployment

Heterogeneous, inconsistent, changing elements

Deep erosion of people-system boundary

Failure is normal and frequent



Software Testing and Maintenance: An Introduction

Software Failures

Patriot-Scud
(rounding error, 1991)



Ariane 5
(data conversion of a too large number, 1996)



Mars Climate Orbiters
(Mixture of pounds and kilograms, 1999)



Software Failures- Ariane 5



- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Programming : | incorrectly handled software exception
resulted from a data conversion of a 64 bit floating
point to a 16-bit signed integer value |
| Design : | system specs account for hardware not software
failures |
| Requirements: | incorrect analysis of changing requirements
(not needed; left operational in Ariane 5 without
satisfying traceable requirements) |
| Testing: | inadequate testing |
| Project managing: | ineffective development and project management |



Software Failures

**NASA Mariner 1 , Venus probe
(period instead of comma in FORTRAN DO-Loop, 1962)**

**Purpose: to relay signals from the Mars Polar Lander
once it reached the surface of the planet**

**Disaster: smashed into the planet instead of reaching a
safe orbit**

\$165M

Shooting down Airbus 320 (1988)



US Vincennes shot down Airbus 320

Mistook Airbus 320 for a F-14, 290 people dead

**Why: Software error - cryptic and misleading
output displayed by the tracking software**

Therac-25 Radiation



Therapy

THERAC-25, a computer controlled radiation-therapy machine

1986: two cancer patients at the East Texas Cancer Center in Tyler received fatal radiation overdoses

Software failure - mishandled race condition (i.e., miscoordination between concurrent tasks)



London Ambulance Service (1992)

**London Ambulance Service Computer Aided Dispatch
(LASCAD)**

**Purpose: automate many of the human-intensive
processes of manual dispatch systems associated
with ambulance services in the UK**

Functions: Call taking

**Failure of the London Ambulance Service on 26 and 27
November 1992**



London Ambulance Service (1992)

Load increased

- **Emergencies accumulated**
- **System made incorrect allocations**
 - **more than one ambulance being sent to the same incident**
 - **the closest vehicle was not chosen for the emergency**
- **At 23:00 on November 28 the LAS eventually instigated a backup procedure, after the death of at least 20 patients**



Other examples

- British destroyer H.M.S. Sheffield; sunk in the Falkland Islands war; ship's radar warning system software allowed missile to reach its target
- An Air New Zealand airliner crashed into an Antarctic mountain
- North American Aerospace Defense Command reported that the U.S. was under missile attack; traced to faulty computer software - generated incorrect signals
- Manned space capsule Gemini V missed its landing point by 100 miles; software ignored the motion of the earth around the sun



Software Failures

**AT&T long distance service fails for nine hours
(Wrong BREAK statement in C-Code, 1990)**

**Phobos 1, Russian Mars Probe
(Wrong command leads to rotation, 1988)**

**Vancouver Stock Exchange Index
(Rounding Error, 1983)**



Software Failures

Automated baggage sorting system of a major airport in February 2008 prevented thousands of passengers from checking baggage for their flights. It was reported that the breakdown occurred during a software upgrade, despite pre-testing of the software.

Tens of thousands of medical devices were recalled in March of 2007. The software would not reliably indicate when available power to the device was too low.

In 2005 a new government welfare management system in Canada costing several hundred million dollars was unable to handle a simple benefits rate increase after being put into operation. Reportedly the original contract allowed for only 6 weeks of acceptance testing and the system was never tested for its ability to handle a rate increase.

Top 5 Software Failures in 2015 (1)

Software Glitch Causes F-35 to Detect Targets Incorrectly

A serious software glitch in the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter air crafts gathered wide public attention in the month of March this year. The planes when flying in formation were unable to detect potential targets from different angles. In fact the engineers identified that the software bug caused the aircraft to detect targets incorrectly. The sensors on the plane were unable to distinguish between isolated and multiple threats. As reported by Fox News, Air Force Lt. Gen. Christopher Bogdan, Program Executive Officer, F-35 said: "We want to fix this so it is inherent in the airplane. We have always said that fusion was going to be tough. We are going to work through this." (Source: [Fox News](#))

Nissan's Airbag Software Malfunction

Nissan Motors has been under investigation by US safety regulators for recalling over one million vehicles in the past two years. The vehicles were recalled due to a software failure in the airbag sensory system. The automakers have reasoned that a software glitch in the system rendered it incapable of detecting an adult sitting in the passenger seat. The issue surfaced when two accidents took place and the airbags did not inflate. Several complaints were registered even after the issue was supposedly resolved. Gorge Zack in his article in [bidnessetc.com](#) even mentioned that 104,871 vehicles had been recalled by Honda Motors as well due to faulty airbag systems made by Takata. (Source: [BIDNESSETC](#))

Top 5 Software Failures in 2015 (2)

Tennessee County Court Kills Software System Update worth \$1Million

After two years of labor and investment of \$1 Million, Rutherford County of Tennessee, United States, had to kill a court software system update. The reason being that software glitches were discovered right when the deal took place as problems regarding the issuance of checks, errors on circuit court dockets and the creation of "phantom charges" arose in the weeks after the program went live. It was reported that even months after training, backlogs were reported in the system. It has compelled the county in killing the system as it fails to deliver. The reporters of The Daily News Journal reported that "After months of work and hundreds of thousands of county dollars spent, the Rutherford County Circuit Court clerk was back to the dot-matrix printers and paper filings they first used 25 years ago."

(Source: [Daily News Journal](#))

Software Security Flaws Revealed in OLA's Mobile App

Ola, India's largest taxi aggregator based in Bengaluru had serious security flaws in their system. The bugs that were identified made basic programmers to enjoy unlimited free rides- one at the expense of Ola and another at the expense of genuine users as reported by Varun Aggarwal & Malavika Murali in the March issue of The Economic Times. The issue was made public after their customers pointed out the weaknesses in their system. Ola is trying to fix bugs for quite some time now as complaints in their operating system have sky rocketed. (Source: [The Economic Times](#))

Top 5 Software Failures in 2015 (3)

Starbucks Breakdown caused by Software Bug

Starbucks was forced to close roughly 60% of their stores located worldwide in the month of April this year. The register malfunction occurred because of an "internal failure during a daily system refresh" according to Starbucks. The software failure left thousands of stores across North America unable to proceed with their business as the cash registers were unable to process orders and take payment. Starbucks refused to give any details. Candice Choi, AP Food Industry Writer wrote about the Starbucks breakdown to remind restaurants about how "registers that once merely rang up tabs and stored cash have evolved into hubs that can collect enormous volumes of data and carry out many tasks." (Source: [Yahoo News](#))

Software Failures in 2017

Suncorp Bank – Vanishing cash

In February of this year, a malfunction during a routine upgrade caused the disappearance of money from customers' bank accounts. Additional customer complaints included overdrawn and locked out accounts.

-

Dodge Ram – 1.25 million recalls

A major software glitch that could cause the airbags and seatbelts in Ram trucks to fail during rollover collisions caused Dodge to recall more than 1.25 million trucks. To prevent the problem, the FCA must now reprogram the onboard sensor of every impacted vehicle.



Software failures in 2018

Airline industry

Crew scheduling and tracking system
AC, air traffic control Brussels

Automakers

Recalls

Communications

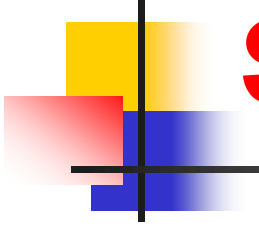
Outages

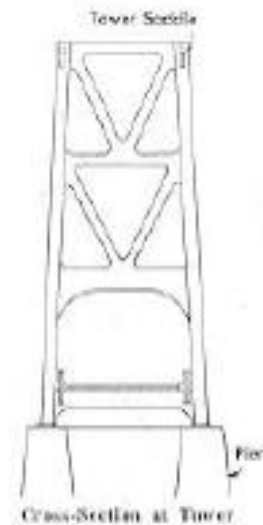
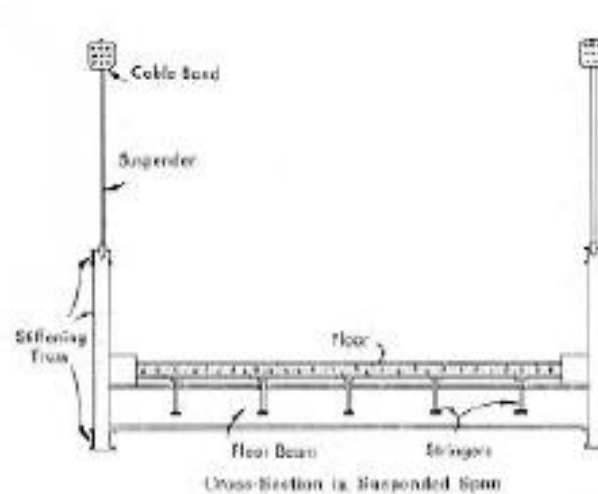
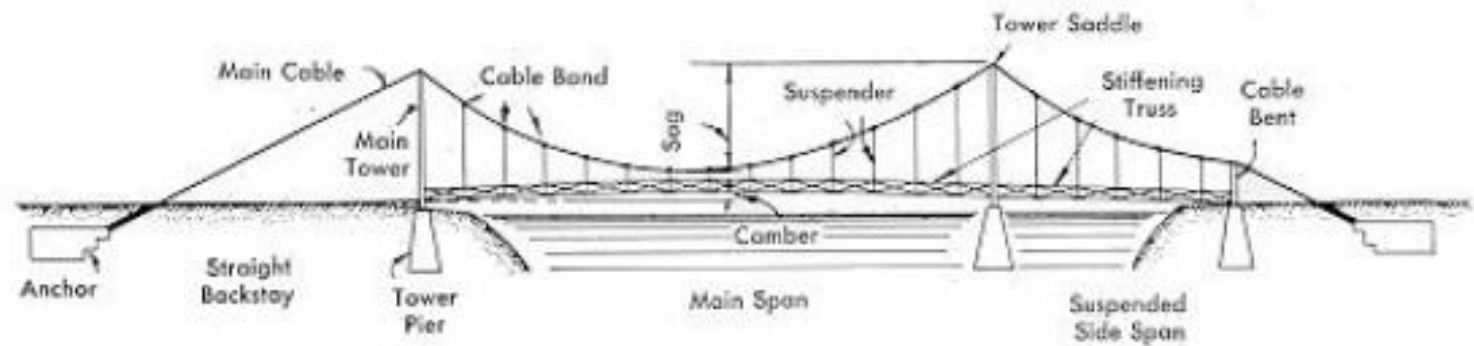
Cyber crime

Software vulnerabilities

Financial institutions

Software and Physical Systems





Galvanized Bridge Wire for Parallel Wire Bridge Cables. Recommended diameter .196 inch.



Galvanized Bridge Strand--consists of several bridge wires, of various diameters twisted together.



Galvanized Bridge Rope--consists of six strands twisted around a strand core.



Parallel Wire Cable



Detail of Main Cable and Cable Band. The wrapping wire is omitted at the right for clarity. Note the closed construction and aluminum fillers.

Approximate

Known values (same for all trials)
 Unstressed length (U/L_s)
 $(\Sigma U/L_s =$
 w_0 (cable weight per foot)

AE

K

B

$B = \tan \alpha$

K

$\sec \alpha$

$\text{Tr}_1 H_2$

$$C = \frac{H_1}{w_0}$$

$2C$

K

$2C$

L

K (from charts 1a, 1b and 1c)

H_1

AE

L^2

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How Cars Are REALLY Engineered (A Detailed View)





How cars are developed

User requirements

- Engine power, all-wheel, seating, comfort, MP3 player
- Detailed design
 - Blueprints, design documents
- Verify design
 - Simulation, prototyping
- Develop parts (components)
 - Test each component
 - Components may be reused
 - Mass produced
- Assemble the car
 - Test the car (Front/side crash tests, Stability tests)
 - Usability testing (Feedback from drivers/passengers)

Software and cars



“If the automobile industry had developed like the software industry, we would all be driving \$25 cars that get 1,000 miles to the gallon.”

“Yeah, and if cars were like software, they would crash twice a day for no reason, and when you called for service, they’ d tell you to reinstall the engine.”

Software and systems governed by laws of physics

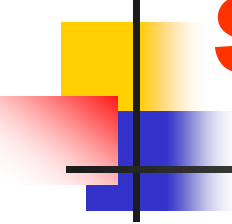


Lack of “continuity”

Bridge designed for 1,000 tons could withstand 1,001 tons

Software with 105 lines of code could not function if one line is altered or removed

Levels of abstraction



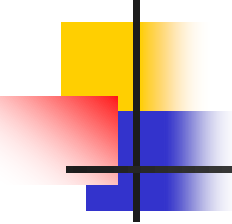
Essential difficulties of Software Engineering

Complexity

Conformity - no unifying principles; software conforms to existing reality, systems, interfaces.

Changeability – constantly subject to pressure for change. Successful software gets changed (users-new functionality, physical platform)

Invisibility - software is invisible and unvisualizable (no geometric abstractions)



"If in physics there's something you don't understand, you can always hide behind the uncharted depths of nature. You can always blame God. You didn't make it so complex yourself."

But if your program doesn't work, there is no one to hide behind. You cannot hide behind an obstinate nature. If it doesn't work, you've messed up."

E.W. Dijkstra

Some basic arithmetic



Can't we expect software to execute correctly?

- **Carefully developed programs**
 - **5 faults/1,000 LOC**
 - **1M LOC will have 5,000 faults**
- **Windows XP has 45M LOC**
 - **How many faults?**
 - **$45 \times 5,000 = 225,000$**
- **Why not remove the faults?**

Assurance of software quality and software testing



SOFTWARE TESTING

is one of the essential means to accomplish
a high level of **SOFTWARE QUALITY**



Testing: defining the process

Testing is the process of executing a program
with the intent of **finding** errors

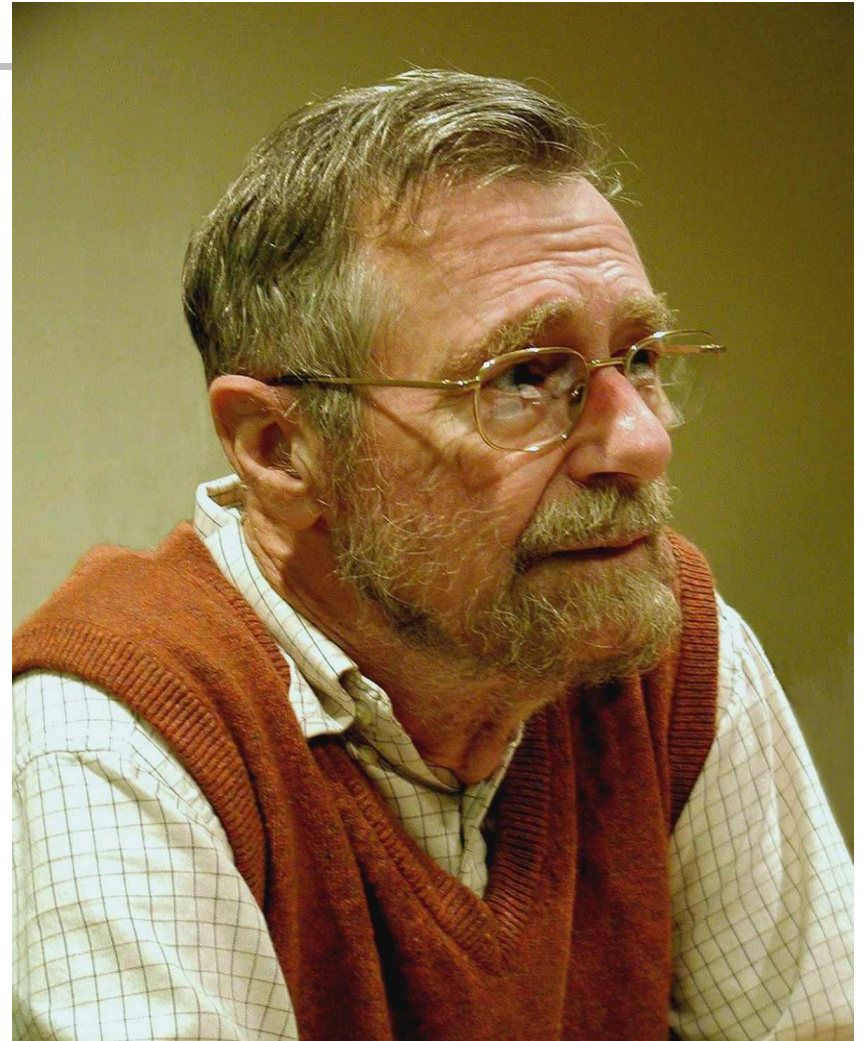
The Peculiarity of Testing



- Testing is the process of executing a program with the intent of **finding an error**
- A **good** test case has a high probability of finding an as-yet **undiscovered error**
- A **successful test** is one that uncovers an as-yet **undiscovered error**

Software Testing

E W Dijkstra





Software Testing

Program testing can be used to show the presence of bugs, but never to show their absence!

Source: Notes On Structured Programming, 1970,

Program testing can be a very effective way to show the presence of bugs, but is hopelessly inadequate for showing their absence.

Source: [The Humble Programmer](#)

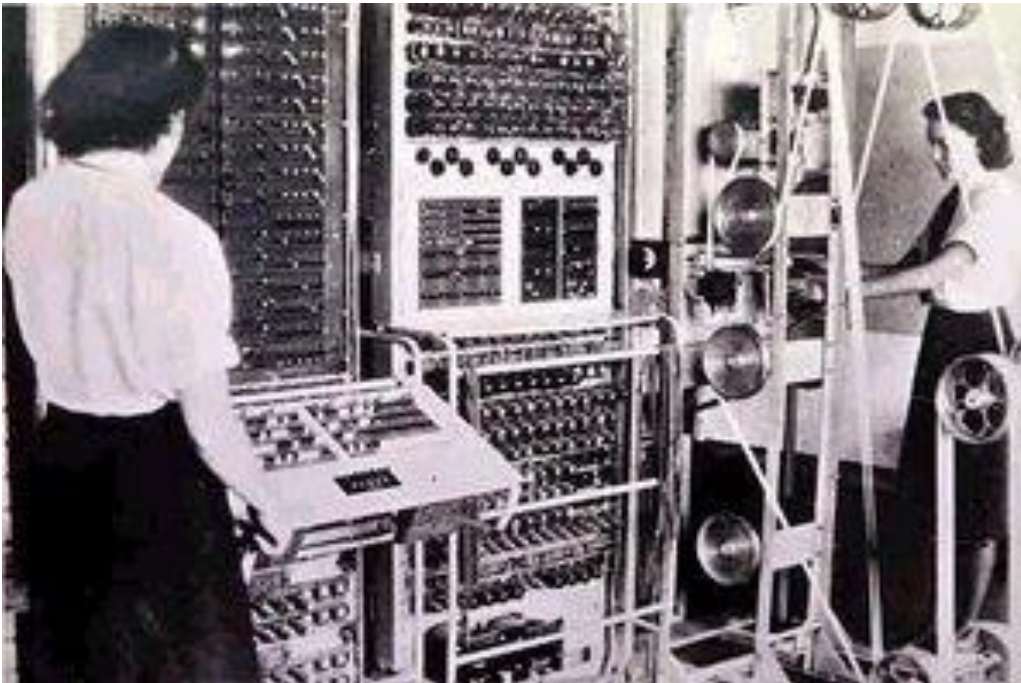


Bugs, debugging...

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Debugging>

- There is some controversy over who first used the term "bug" (see the **Computer bug** article for that discussion). Some claim that the term "debugging" was first defined by **Glenford J Myers** in his 1976 book *Software Reliability: Principles and Practices* as "diagnosing the precise nature of a known error and then correcting the error".
- The story goes that when one of the early computers malfunctioned **Admiral Grace Hopper** discovered that the problem was that a moth had got into the circuitry and caused a short circuit. This was the origin of the term bug in reference to problems with computer programs running correctly. The process of removing errors from computer programs has therefore become known as debugging.

Bugs, debugging...



Mark II computer

A black and white photograph showing a woman from the back, wearing a light-colored blouse and a dark skirt, standing in front of a large, complex electronic computer system. The system consists of numerous vertical racks filled with vacuum tubes and other electronic components. A control panel with various switches and dials is visible in the foreground. The overall appearance is that of a mid-20th-century computer installation.

We are debugging the computer...

Testing: the psychology of the process



We are goal-oriented and testing is a *destructive* process

Semantics of
Successful – unsuccessful
in software testing

Destructive process of trying to find the errors

The Psychology of Testing: **false(?) definitions**



Testing is the process of demonstrating that errors are not present

The purpose of testing is to show that a program performs its intended functions correctly

Testing is the process of establishing confidence that a program does what it supposed to do



Software Testing: A Multifaceted Activity

Knowledge, imagination, and ingenuity

Technical tasks

Economics

Human psychology

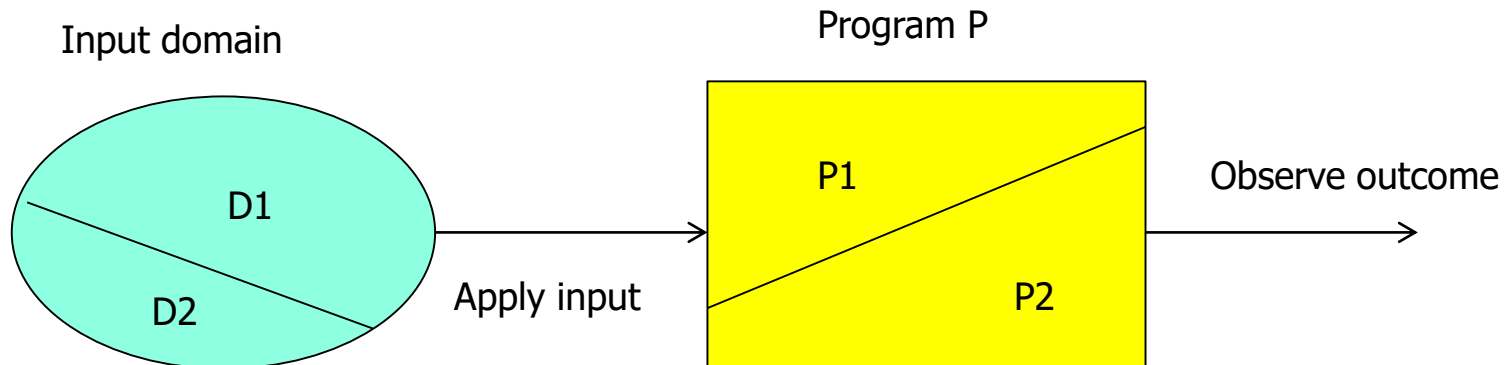
Testing activities (1)

Identify an objective to be tested

the objective to be tested; the objective defines an intention of designing test cases

Select inputs

select test inputs; based on requirements specification, source code, expectations
keep test objectives in mind





Testing activities (2)

Determine the expected outcome

determine(compute) expected outputs for selected inputs.

Based on high-level understanding of the test objective and specifications

Set up the execution environment

satisfy all assumptions external to the program must be satisfied (local system external to the program, initialize remote, external system)



Testing activities (3)

Execute the program

execute the program with selected inputs, observe the actual output

Analyze the test result

select test inputs; based on requirements specification, source code, expectations
keep test objectives in mind

Determine the expected outcome

compare the actual outcome with the expected execution.

Three major test verdicts:

pass (produced expected outcome)

fail

inconclusive (not possible to assign pass / fail; e.g., timeout on distributed application)



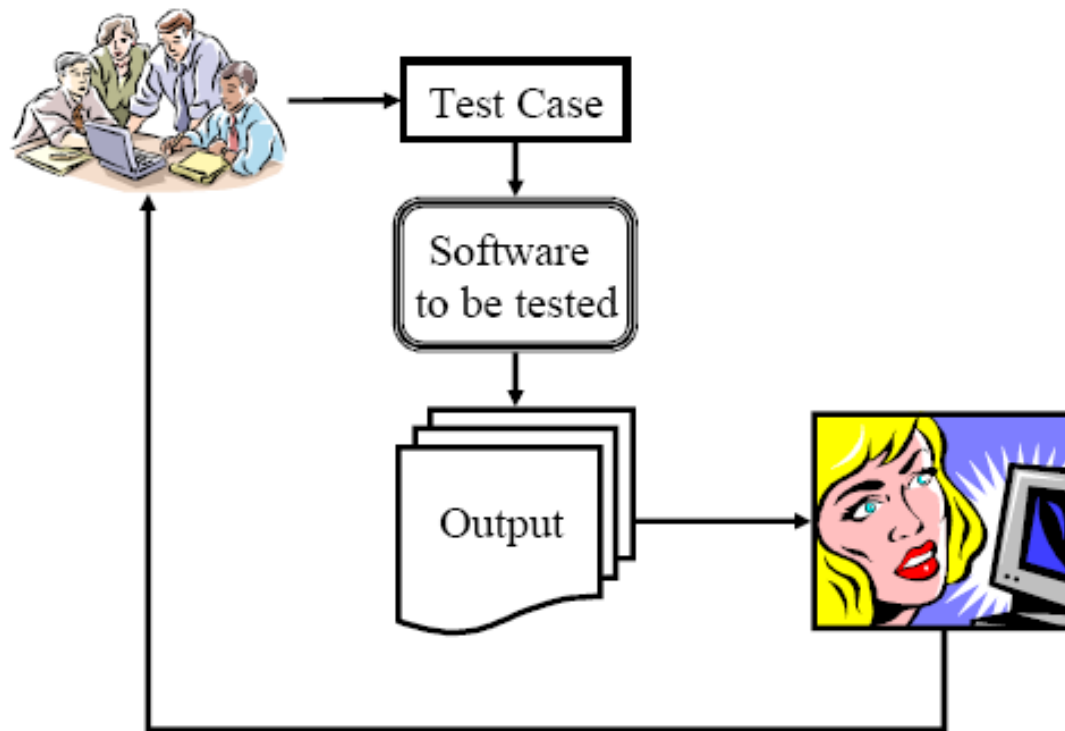
Planning and executing tests

- Run tests as early and as many times as possible
- Guidelines in choosing set of regression tests
 - Exercising all existing software functions
 - Focusing on changed components
 - Targeting functions likely to be affected by changes

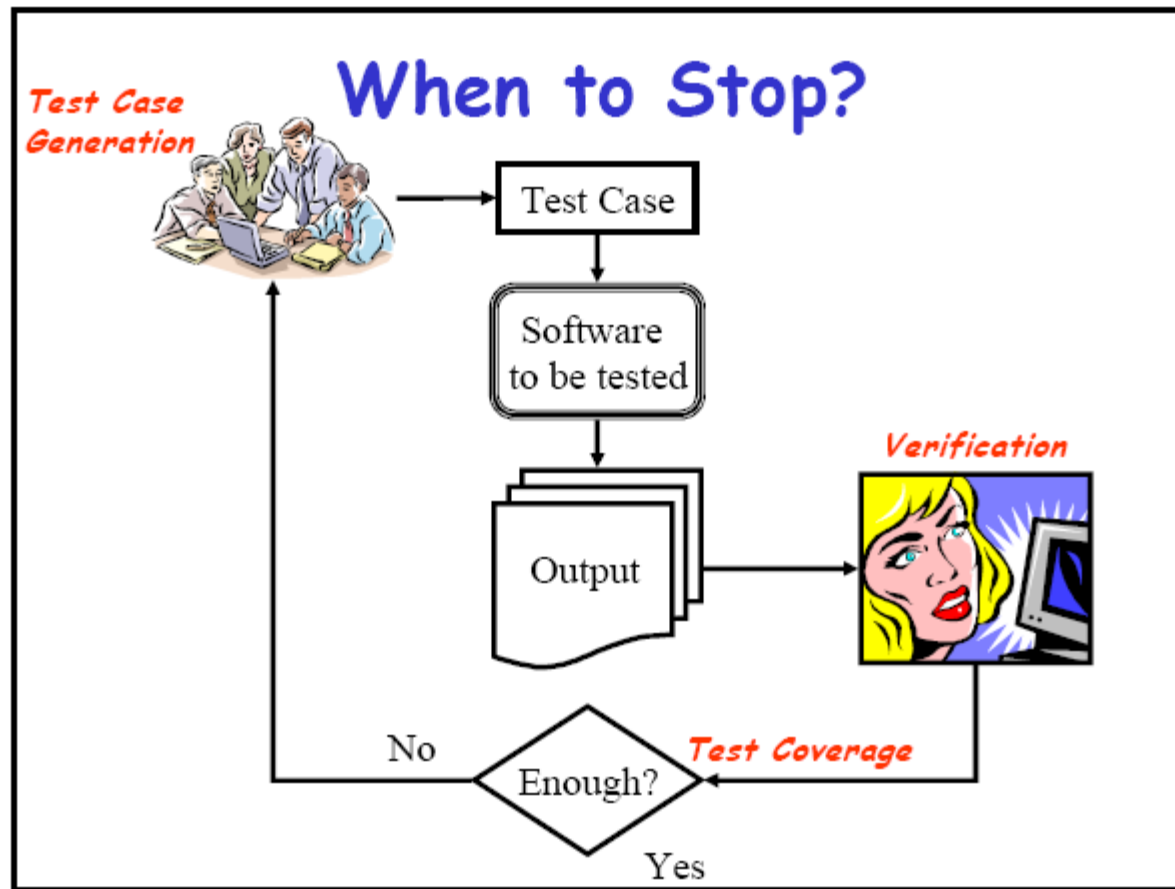
In general,

- *Testing is iterative and essential during development*

Testing loop




Testing loop: stopping criterion



A Real Testing Example

Test Cases



{1,3,2}
{1,2,3}
{3,2,3}
{}
{-1, -2}

Just a list.

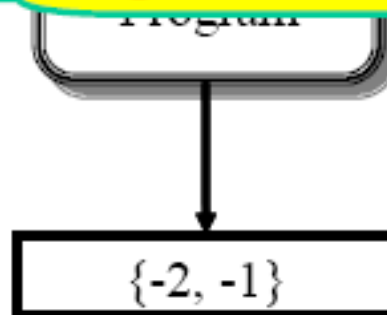
A sorted list.

Repeated entry.

Empty list.

Negative numbers.

SPECS:
Takes a list
of numbers;
returns a
sorted list.



Output

Philosophy:
What are we
trying to do?

*Test Case
Generation*

Automated Testing



Test Case

Software
to be tested

Output

Verification

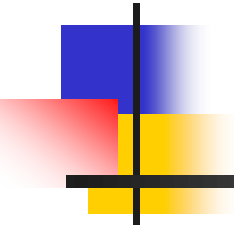


No

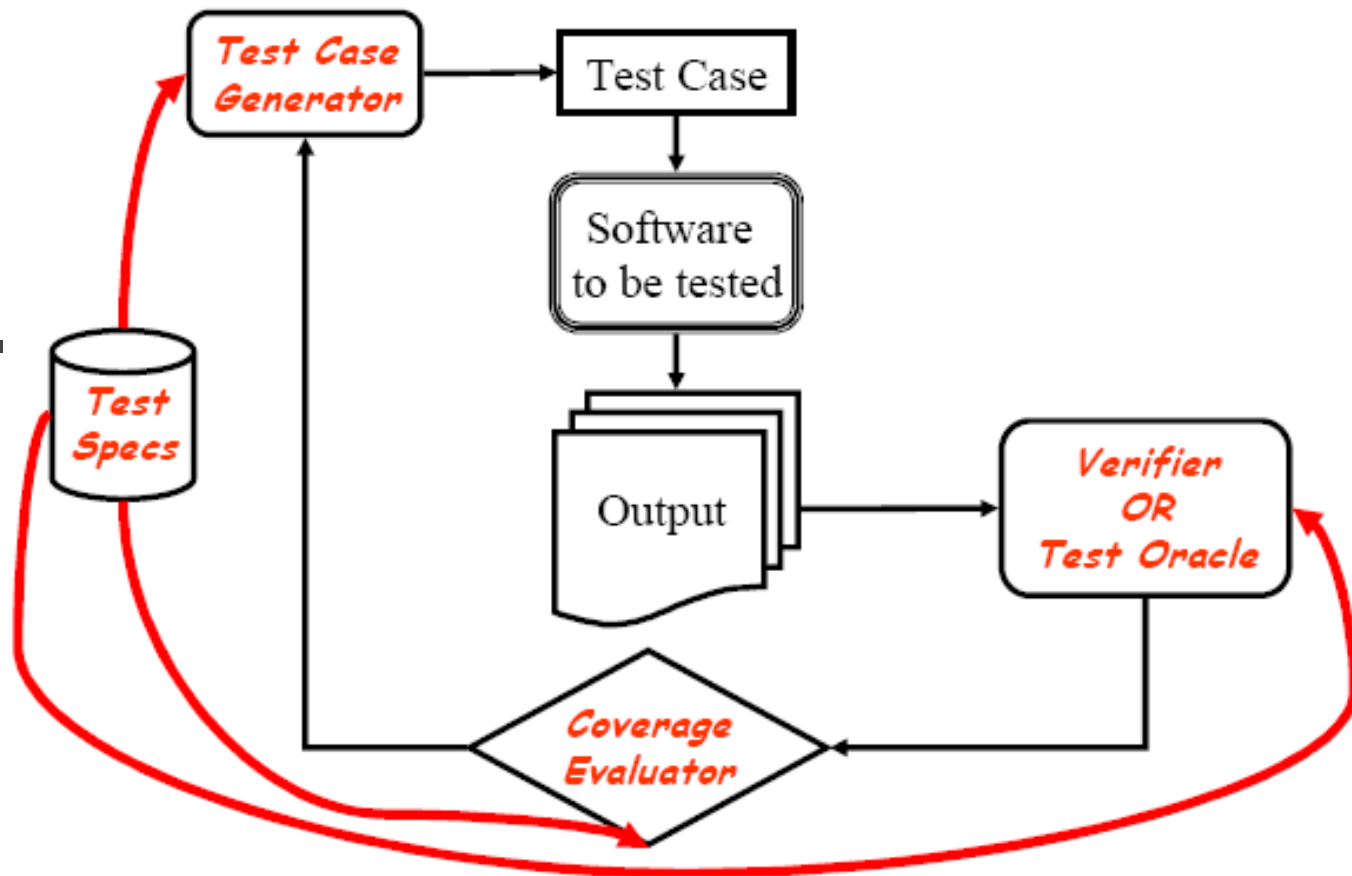
Enough?

Yes

Test Coverage



Automated Testing





Who tests the software better??

developer

Understands the system
but, will test “gently”
and, is driven by
“delivery”

independent tester

*Must learn about the system,
but, will attempt to break it
and, is driven by quality*



Stakeholders of Testing

- Developer → plans out and conducts a multi-phased testing effort to validate and verify the software product
- Manager → allocates resources to ensure a thorough testing effort can be conducted on the product
- Customer → provides additional info to the testers as specific test cases are written

Economics of software testing



- Cost of software failures surpasses the cost of testing
- Both physical costs and conceptual costs to software failures
 - Expenses for debugging and recall of product
 - Loss of customers' faith in company
- Effective test building
 - Uncovering as many defects as possible with minimum amount of time and effort



Verification & Validation (V&V)

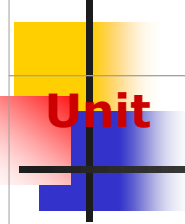


- A “verification & validation” practice
- **Verification**
 - Specific tests to check for specific functions
 - “How” – the **process** of building
 - “Are we building the product right?”
- **Validation**
 - Ensuring that the product meets the customer’s requirements
 - “What” – the **product** itself
 - “Are we building the right product?”



Taxonomy of testing

	Black Box (Functional)	Glass Box (Structural)
Dynamic	Random testing Domain testing Cause–effect graphing	Computation testing Domain testing Path-based testing Data generation Mutation analysis
Static	Specification proving	Code walkthroughs Inspections Program proving Symbolic execution Anomaly analysis



Testing Level	Tests Based Upon	Kind of Testing
Unit	Low-Level Design Actual Code Structure	White Box
Integration	Low-Level Design High-Level Design Smooth components integration	White Box Black Box
Functional and System	High-Level Design Requirements Analysis Functional: testing specific functionality System: testing in different environment	Black Box
Acceptance	Requirements Performed by customers	Black Box
Regression	Change Documentation High-Level Design Spot check throughout all (or most) testing cycles	White Box Black Box



Types of software tests

Functional tests

Exercise code with nominal inputs; aspects of functionality

Performance test

Test performance of software (execution time, response time, device utilization)

Stress test

Intentional break of the system

Structure test

Testing internal logic of a system

Testing in the small- testing in the large

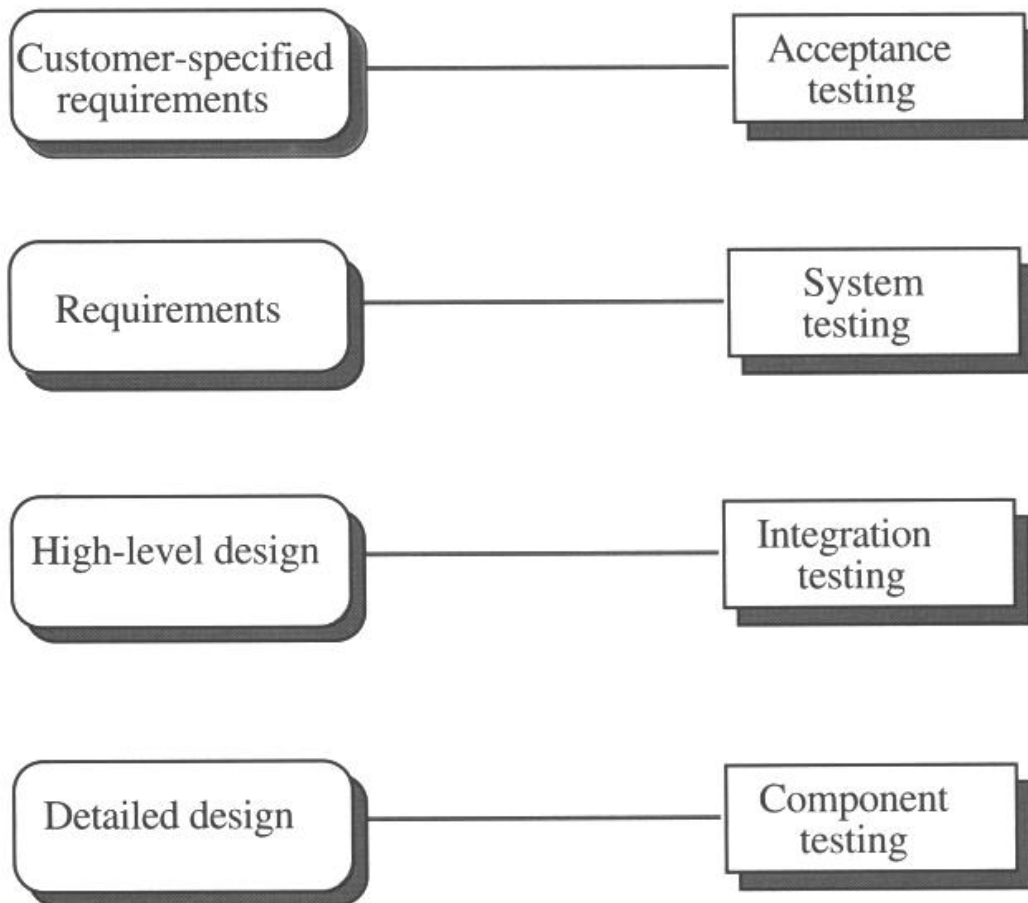
Part of the system under testing versus whole system under testing

Black box – white box testing

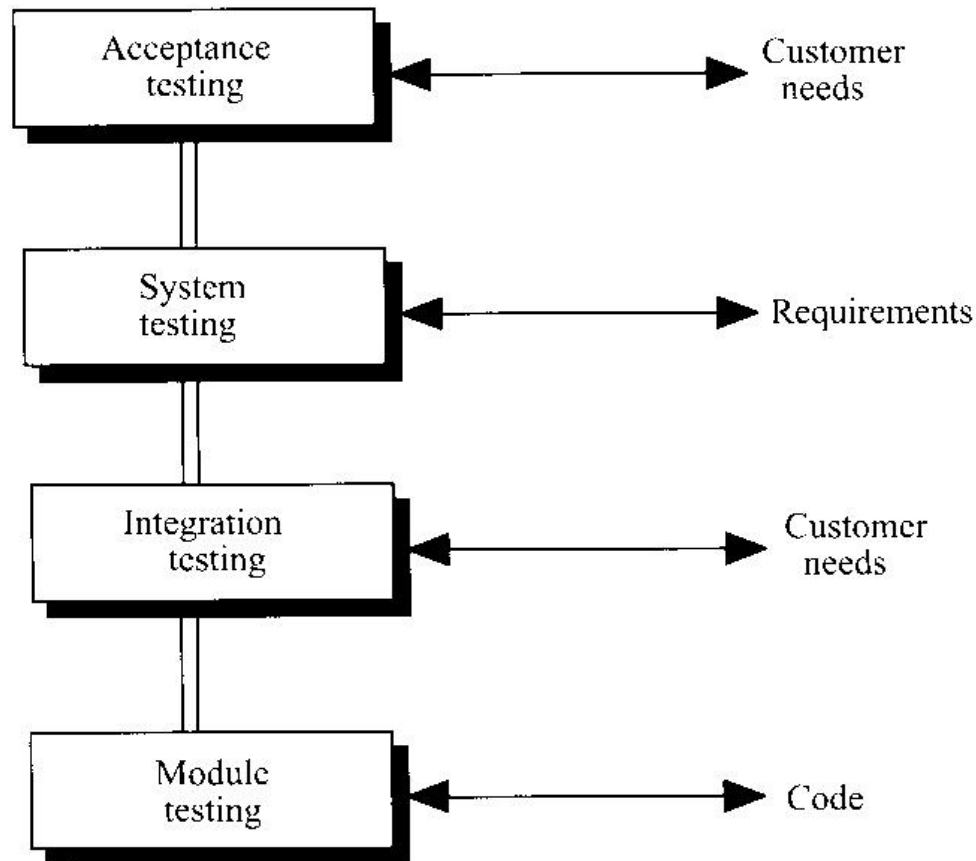
Depends whether the internal logic becomes available for testing purposes

Software development and testing





Levels of software testing





Testing versus debugging

- testing is about making the system to fail
- debugging takes results of testing, localizes faults and errors and fixes them
 - debugging \neq testing since debugging is performed after testing
- testing is performed using requirements as the “golden standard”
 - if requirements are wrong then testing may not discover failures



Software testing and reliability

Reliability of software and “physical” reliability

**Similar formalisms,
concepts (Time to First Failure, TFF;
Mean Time Between Failures, MTBF)
and modeling paradigm (reliability theory)**

Origin of faults

**systems -- physics of components (wear out...)
software – design and implementation problems**

Aging of software



Software Maintenance

Types of maintenance

Corrective maintenance – maintenance to correct errors (20%)

Adaptive maintenance – results from external changes to which the software system must respond (25%)

Perfective maintenance – all other changes (user enhancements, documentation changes, efficiency improvement) (55%)

Software engineering: corrective -20% adaptive+perfective – 80%

Engineering: corrective > 99% adaptive+perfective < 1%



Software Maintenance and laws of software evolution

Continuing change

Software undergoes continual change or becomes progressively less useful. The change or decay process continues until it is judged more cost effective to replace the system

Increasing complexity

As software changes continuously, its *complexity*, reflecting structure increases unless work is done to maintain or reduce it.



Software Testing Principles

(Myers, 2004)

1.

**A necessary part of a test case is
a definition of the expected output or result**

Detailed examination of the output.

The test case must consist of two components

- **A description of the input data to the program**
- **A precise description of the correct output of the program
for that set of input data**

***Avoid a subconscious desire to see the correct result
(in spite of the destructive nature of testing)***



Software Testing Principles

(Myers, 2004)

2.

**A programmer should avoid
attempting to test his/her own program**



Software Testing Principles

(Myers, 2004)

3.

**A programming organization should not
test its own programs**

argument similar to the previous one. Living organization with psychological problems and constraints. Objectives to produce software on schedule and on budget. Extremely difficult to quantify the reliability of the software. This does not say it is *impossible*; there are more economical ways of doing that



Software Testing Principles

(Myers, 2004)

4.

**Thoroughly inspect the results of
each test**

**error that are found on later tests are often missed in the results from
earlier tests**



Software Testing Principles

(Myers, 2004)

5.

Test cases must be written for input conditions that are invalid and unexpected, as well as for those that are valid and expected



Software Testing Principles

(Myers, 2004)

6.

Examining a program to see if it does not do what it supposed to do is only half of the battle; the other half is seeing whether the program does what it is not supposed to do

Payroll program: produces cheques for nonexistent employees or overwrites personal records, ...



Software Testing Principles

(Myers, 2004)

7.

Avoid throwaway test cases unless the program is truly a throwaway program

**Bad practice: invent test cases on the fly,
Tests are a valuable investment, regression testing**



Software Testing Principles

(Myers, 2004)

8.

Do not plan a testing effort under the tacit assumption that no errors will be found

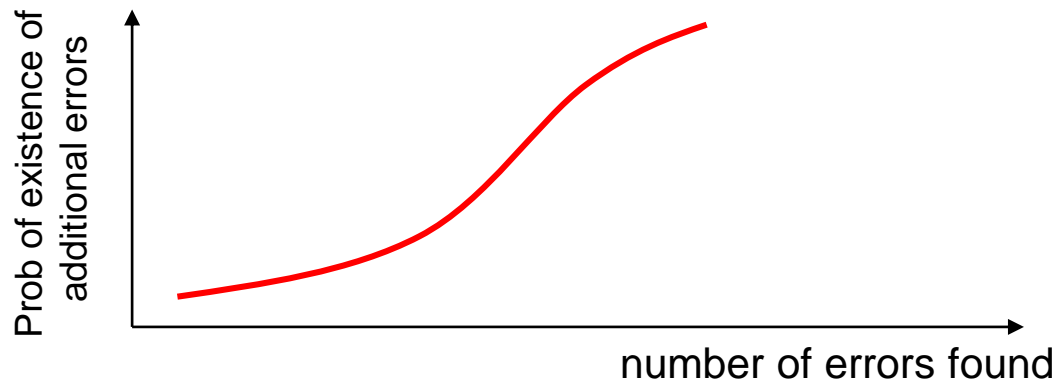
Incorrect definition of testing– showing that the program functions correctly

Software Testing Principles

(Myers, 2004)

9.

The probability of the existence of more errors in a section of a program is proportional to the number of errors already found in this section



Errors tend to come in clusters; some sections seem to be much more prone to errors than others; no good explanation for this phenomenon.

Additional testing effort need to be focused on error-prone sections



Software Testing Principles

(Myers, 2004)

10.

**Testing is an extremely creative
and intellectually challenging task**

Developer – software tester (glamorous job?)

Distribution of resources within organization

Economical impact