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PowerMockito Spy Example

Posted by: Mohammad Meraj Zia | in PowerMockito | May 4th, 2016

A unit test should test a class in isolation. Side effects from other classes or the system should be eliminated if possible. Mockito lets you write beautiful tests with a clean & simple API. In this example we will learn how to mock a private method. PowerMockito extends Mockito functionality with several new features such as mocking static and private methods and more. Tools and technologies used in this example are Java 1.8, Eclipse Luna 4.4.2

1. Introduction

Mockito is a popular mocking framework which can be used in conjunction with JUnit. Mockito allows us to create and configure mock objects. Using Mockito simplifies the development of tests for classes with external dependencies significantly. We can create the mock objects manually or can use the mocking frameworks like Mockito,

EasyMock, jMock etc. Mock frameworks allow us to create mock objects at runtime and define their behavior. The classical example for a mock object is a data provider. In production a real database is used, but for testing a mock object simulates the database and ensures that the test conditions are always the same.

PowerMock provides a class called

```
PowerMockito
```

for creating mock/object/class and initiating verification, and expectations, everything else you can still use Mockito to setup and verify expectation (e.g.

```
times()
```

```
anyInt()
```

). All usages require

```
@RunWith(PowerMockRunner.class)
```

and

```
@PrepareForTest
```

annotated at class level.

2. Creating a project

Below are the steps we need to take to create the project.

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- Open Eclipse. Go to File=>New=>Java Project. In the 'Project name' enter 'PowerMockSpyExample'.

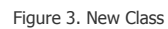
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Figure 1. New Java Project

- Eclipse will create a 'src' folder. Right click on the 'src' folder and choose New=>Package. In the 'Name' text-box enter 'com.javacodegeeks'. Click 'Finish'.

Figure 2. New Package

- Right click on the package and choose New=>Class. Give the class name as PowerMockSpyExample. Click 'Finish'. Eclipse will create a default class with the given name.

A screenshot of an IDE showing a new class being created, with the title bar indicating 'New Class'.

2.1 Dependencies

For this example we need the below mentioned jars:

- junit-4.1.2
- mockito-all-1.10.19
- powermock-mockito-release-full-1.6.4-full
- javassist-3.12.1.GA.jar

These jars can be downloaded from Maven repository. These are the latest (non-beta) versions available as per now. To add these jars in the classpath right click on the project and choose Build Path=>Configure Build Path. Then click on the 'Add External JARs' button on the right hand side. Then go to the location where you have downloaded these jars. Then click ok.

Figure 4. Dependencies

3. Code

3.1 Mocking static methods

Follow the below steps to mock the static methods:

- Add

```
@PreparedForTest
```

at class level.

```
1 | @PreparedForTest({StaticClass}.) // StaticClass.class contains static methods
```

- Call

```
PowerMockito.mockStatic()
```

to mock a static class (use

```
PowerMockito.spy(class)
```

to mock a specific method)

3.2 Verify behaviour

Verification of a static method is done in two steps

```
1 | PowerMockito.verifyStatic(); // Step 1
```

```
1 | Static.firstStaticMethod(param); // Step 2
```

You need to call

```
verifyStatic()
```

per method verification.

3.3 Class to Mock

Now we will see how the class which needs to be mocked looks like. We will create a simple class for this example with only one method.

[PowerMockSpyExample.java](#)

```
01 package com.javacodegeeks;
02
03 import java.util.Date;
04
05 public class PowerMockSpyExample {
06
07     public String getCurrentDateAsString() {
08         return new Date().toGMTString();
09     }
10
11 }
```

3.4 Test class

Below is the snippet of the test class which will use PowerMock.spy() to mock the desired method:

[PowerMockSpyExampleTest.java](#)

```
01 package com.javacodegeeks;
02
03 import org.junit.Assert;
04 import org.junit.Test;
05 import org.junit.runner.RunWith;
06 import org.mockito.Mockito;
07 import org.powermock.api.mockito.PowerMockito;
08 import org.powermock.core.classloader.annotations.PrepareForTest;
09 import org.powermock.modules.junit4.PowerMockRunner;
10
11 /**
12  * Test class for PowerMockSpyExample
13  * @author MeraJ
14  */
15 @RunWith(PowerMockRunner.class)
16 @PrepareForTest(PowerMockSpyExample.class)
17 public class PowerMockSpyExampleTest {
18
19     @Test
20     public void testGetCurrentDateAsString() {
21         PowerMockSpyExample spy = PowerMockito.spy(new PowerMockSpyExample());
22
23         Mockito.when(spy.getCurrentDateAsString()).thenReturn("Test Date");
24         String actual = spy.getCurrentDateAsString();
25         Assert.assertEquals("Test Date", actual);
26         Mockito.verify(spy, Mockito.times(1)).getCurrentDateAsString();
27     }
28
29 }
```

4. Download the source file

This was an example of

PowerMock.spy().

Download

You can download the full source code of this example here: **Power Mock Spy Example**

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