

POLITÉCNICO
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Static Testing

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Static Testing

■ Definition of Static Testing

- Software testing method where the software is not executed
- Evaluates work products (e.g., code, requirements) through manual or automated techniques



Static Testing

■ Key Characteristics:

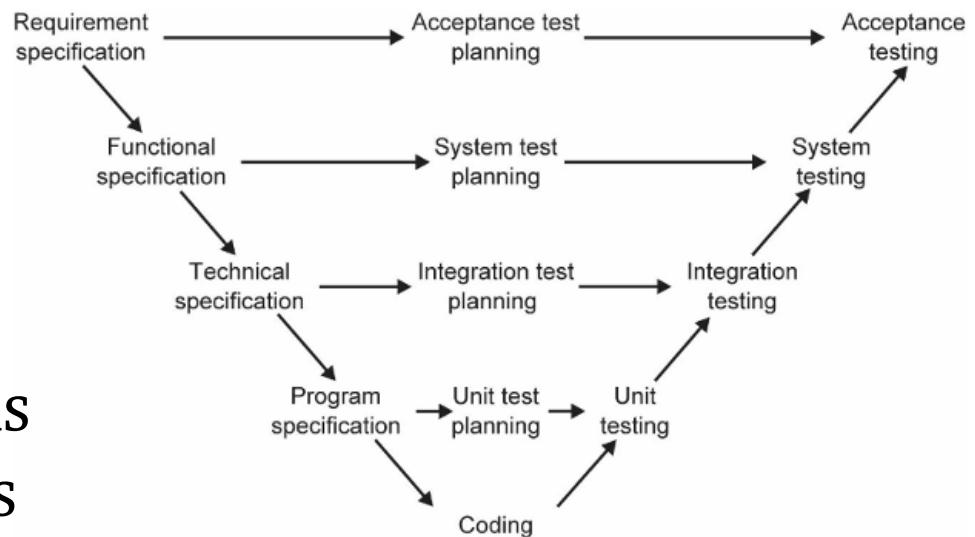
- Can be done through manual examination (eg, reviews) or tools (eg, static analysis).
- Test objectives include improving quality, detecting defects, and assessing characteristics like readability, completeness, correctness, testability and consistency.
- Applied for both verification and validation.
- Enables early defect detection.



Work Products Examinable by Static Testing

■ Examples:

- Requirement documents
- Source code
- Test plans and cases
- Product backlog items
- Contracts and models



■ Limitations:

- Work products must be interpretable
- Some products (e.g., third-party executables) may not be analyzable

Value of Static Testing

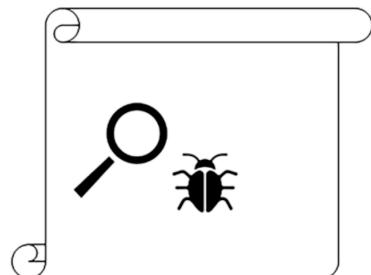
- **Early defect detection:**
 - Reduces rework and cost
 - Improves quality
- **Detects issues missed by dynamic testing:**
 - Unreachable code
 - Design flaws
 - Defects in non-executable artifacts
- **Enhances communication:**
 - Stakeholder alignment
 - Clearer requirements



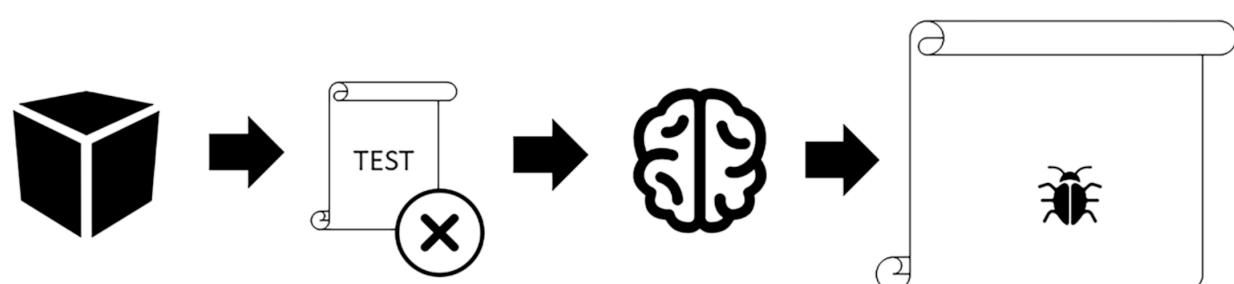
Differences Between Static and Dynamic Testing

■ Static Testing:

- Finds defects directly
(whereas dynamic testing finds failures and traces them to defects)
- Identifies issues in non-executable products
(whereas dynamic testing measures execution-dependent attributes)



Static testing: defect detection

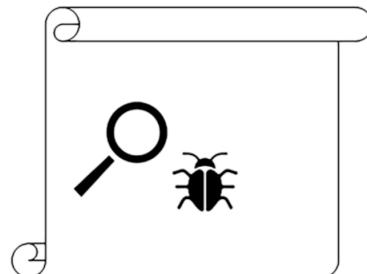


Dynamic testing: causing failure, analysis, defect localization

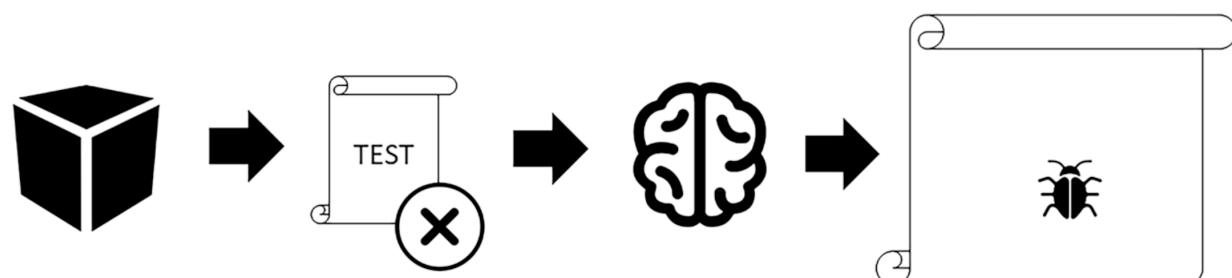


Differences Between Static and Dynamic Testing

- Defects that are easier/cheaper to find through static testing:
 - Defects in requirements (e.g., inconsistencies, ambiguities, contradictions, omissions, inaccuracies, duplications)
 - Design defects (e.g., inefficient database structures, poor modularization)
 - Certain types of coding defects (e.g., variables with undefined values, undeclared variables, unreachable or
- duplicated code, excessive code complexity)
- Deviations from standards (e.g., lack of adherence to naming conventions in coding standards)
- Incorrect interface specifications (e.g., mismatched number, type or order of parameters)
- Specific types of security vulnerabilities (e.g., buffer overflows)
- Gaps or inaccuracies in test basis coverage (e.g., missing tests for an acceptance criterion)



Static testing: defect detection



Dynamic testing: causing failure, analysis, defect localization



Differences Between Static and Dynamic Testing

- **Example:** The testing team wants to evaluate the ease and cost of maintaining the software after its release to the customer. To do so, it intends to use static analysis techniques.
- Three metrics have been identified that will be used to measure the source code:
 - LOC -- the number of executable lines of code in a component
 - COMMENT -- the percentage of annotated lines of code in a component
 - CC -- cyclomatic complexity of a component
- The static analysis led to the following conclusions:
 - The components are rather small.
 - The code is not commented enough.
 - Some components have high cyclomatic complexity.

Component	LOC	COMMENT	CC
main	129	0%	7
split	206	1%	12
to_lower	62	1%	6
to_upper	63	3%	6
merge	70	0%	15
config	42	15%	8
stdio	243	2%	21

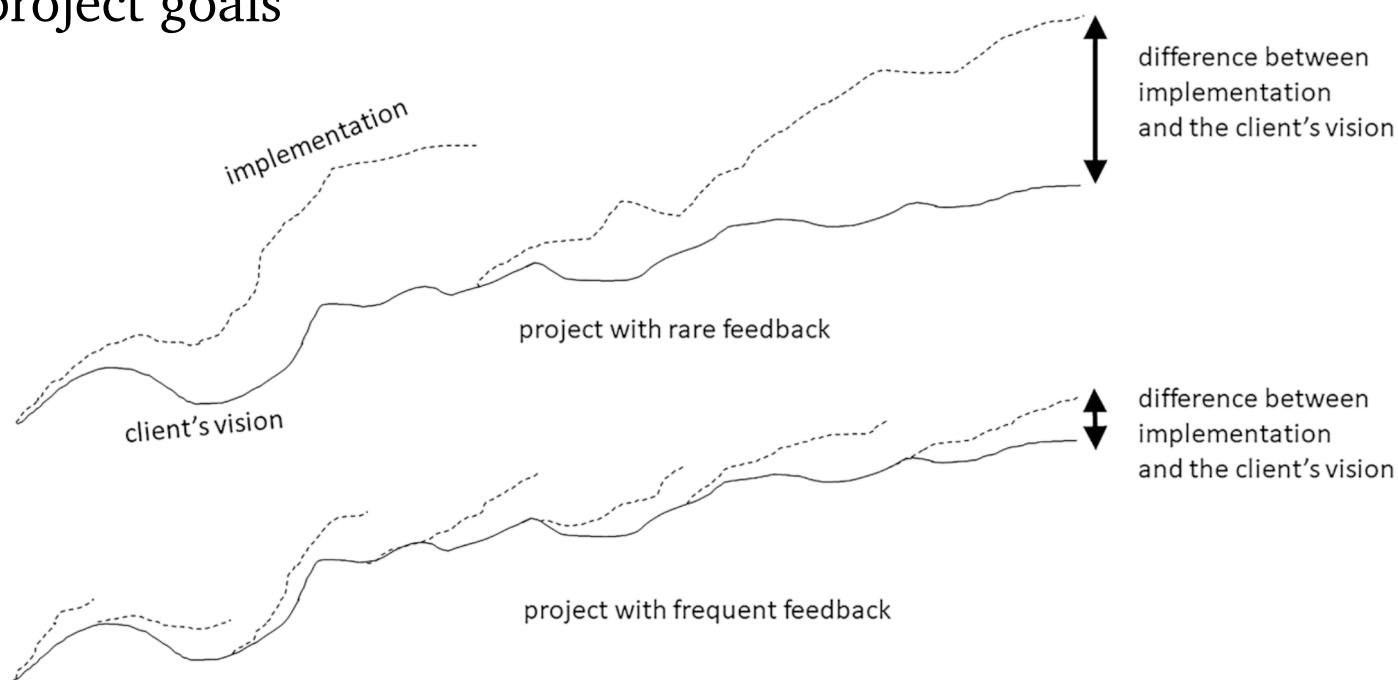
Feedback and Review Process

■ Importance of Early and Frequent Feedback:

- Prevents misunderstandings
- Reduces costly rework
- Aligns stakeholders with project goals

■ Benefits:

- Improves software quality
- Enhances team collaboration
- Reduces project risks



Review Process Activities

■ Planning:

- Define scope, objectives, participants, exit criteria

■ Review Initiation:

- Ensure reviewers have necessary materials

■ Individual Review:

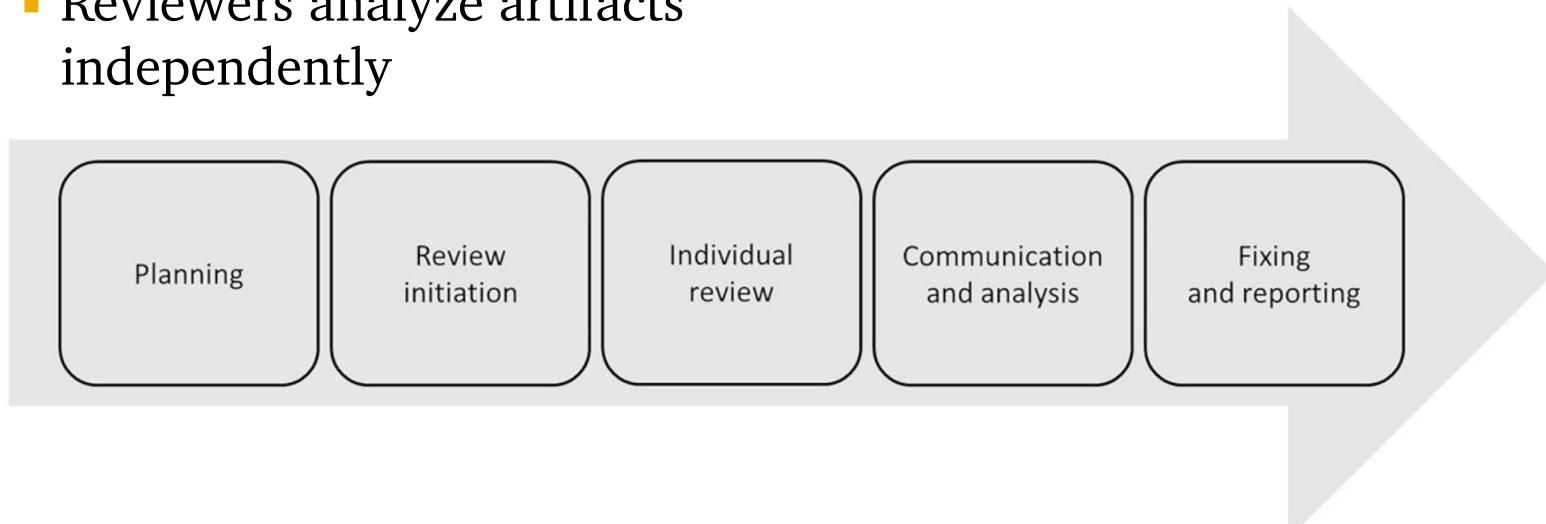
- Reviewers analyze artifacts independently

■ Communication and Analysis:

- Discuss anomalies, assign actions

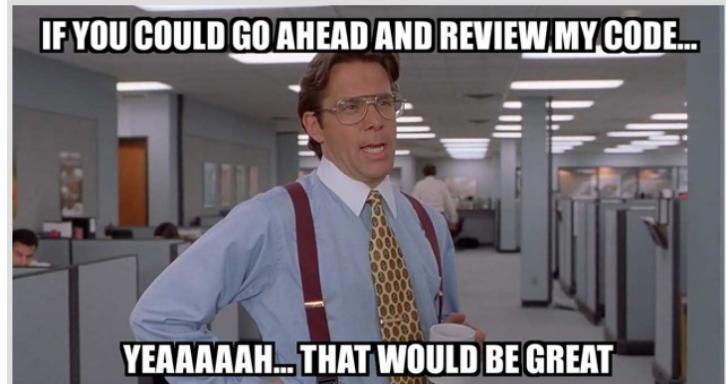
■ Fixing and Reporting:

- Document defects, report results



Roles in Reviews

- **Manager:** Allocates resources, defines scope
- **Author:** Creates work product, implements fixes
- **Moderator:** Facilitates review meetings
- **Scribe:** Records review findings
- **Reviewer:** Assesses work product, identifies issues
- **Review Leader:** Organizes and oversees the review



Review Types

■ Informal Review:

- No formal process or documentation
- Focus on anomaly detection

■ Walkthrough:

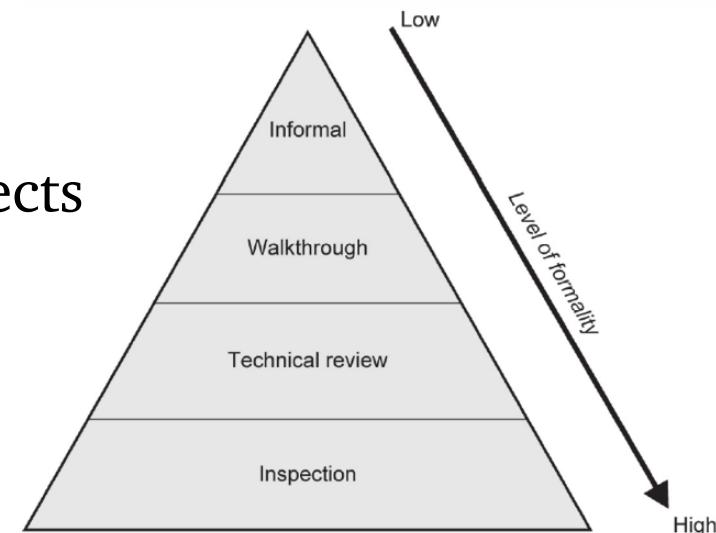
- Led by the author
- Ensures understanding, detects defects

■ Technical Review:

- Performed by technical experts
- Aims to make decisions regarding a technical problem

■ Inspection:

- Most formal type
- Follows structured process with metrics



Success Factors for Reviews

- Clear objectives and criteria
- Selecting the right review type
- Conducting reviews on small work products
- Providing adequate preparation time
- Management support
- Embedding reviews in company culture
- Providing training for reviewers

