

INFO5990 Professional Practice in IT

Lecture 08 A & B





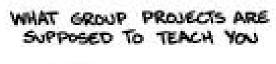
Program & Component testing
How does it effect I.T professionals?

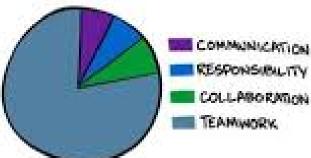




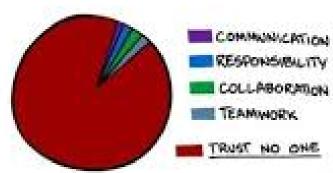


Group Assignment





WHAT GROUP PROJECTS



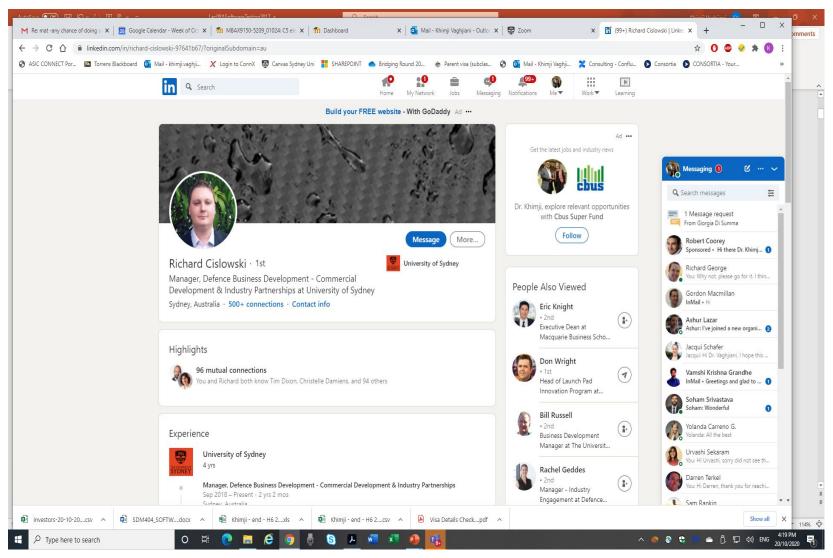




Any Questions?

Open for submission 2nd Nov – 9th Nov

Next week 9 Guest Lecture



Converting an idea and how to commercilise it.

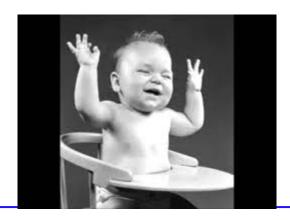
2/3 teams to present to the CTO in class on progress at the end



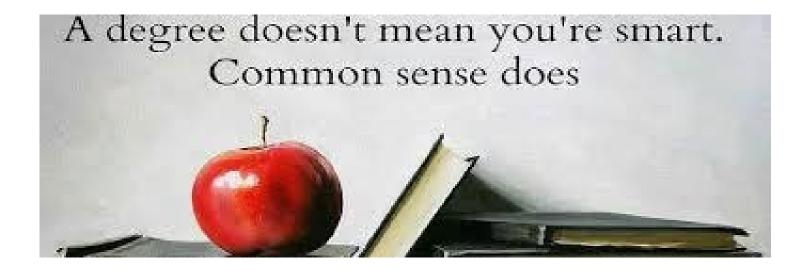
Software testing

Software Testers/leads get paid
Between \$350-\$1200 per day
Depending on experience and testing field

Anyone interested?



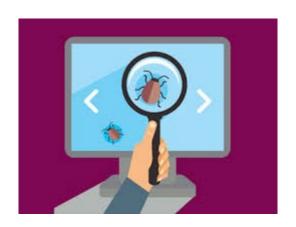
Common Sense!!



By the end of this lecture you will be able to:

- Appreciate some of the difficulties of software testing
- Understand the terms error and failure
- Explain the concept of equivalence classes
- Appreciate the difference between 'test data' and 'test cases' and scenarios
- Construct a set of test cases to be used for program testing
- Go ahead with practice exercises

Testing for bugs



What makes software systems so different from engineering ones?

MS Office 2016 had over 30 million lines of code! By now ... ?

They are invisible and 'unvisualisable' compared with architectural & engineering constructs". (Fred Brooks, 1987)

The Sydney harbour bridge or the Opera House are both clearly visible, but, how can we visualise MS Office?

Testing the SHB



How much testing is enough? (1)

CASE STUDY 1:

- In February 2003 the U.S. Treasury Department mailed 50,000 Social Security cheques without a beneficiary name.
 - A spokesperson said that the missing names were due to a software program maintenance error.
- In July 2001 a "serious flaw" was found in off-theshelf software that had long been used in systems for tracking U.S. nuclear materials.
 - The software had recently been donated to another country and scientists in that country discovered the problem and told U.S. officials about it.

How much testing is enough? (2)

- CASE STUDY 2:
- In October 1999 the \$125 million NASA Mars Climate Orbiter (an interplanetary weather satellite) was lost in space due to a data conversion error.
 - Investigators discovered that software on the spacecraft performed certain calculations in English units (yards) when it should have used metric units (metres).



Case Study



NextGen iPhone

Testing strategy

What are you going to test?

Functionality?

Useability?

What else?



Questions about software that only testing can answer

- 1. Does it really work as expected?
- 2. Does it meet the users' requirements?
- 3. Is it what the users expected?
- 4. Do the users like it?
- 5. Is it compatible with users' other systems?
- 6. Is its performance acceptable?
- 7. How does it scale as more users are added?
- 8. Is it ready for release?
- 9. Which areas need to be improved?

What makes a program 'good'? Eight important attributes of software

- 1. Correct
- 2. Reliable
- 3. Robust
- 4. Useful
- 5. Usable
- 6. Maintainable
- 7. Efficient
- 8. Scalable

Essential attributes

Quality attributes

Three essential software attributes

1. Correct

- behaves according to the functional requirements
- produces the right result for any given set of inputs

2. Reliable

- behaves as expected on every occasion
- over any period of time

3. Robust

- behaves in a predictable and controllable fashion even if the input not valid.
- a program may be correct but not robust
 - e.g. division by zero or non-numeric input.

Two 'quality' attributes

4. Useful

- accomplishes something the user needs
- output can be input to another program

5. Usable

- 'intuitive', i.e. can use without having to be shown how
- minimum input by the user
- usability depends on the interface
- compare terms 'user friendly' and 'ease of use'

Three further 'quality' attributes



- 6. Efficient
 - requires minimum time and resource
- 7. Scalable
 - will continue to behave in an acceptable manner as size or volume of input is increased
 - scalability can depend on efficiency
- 8. Maintainable
 - easily modified for new requirements

Why is software testing so difficult?

- Testing tends to be largely an informal task
- Testing can never guarantee to find all errors ...
- ... because there can never be a 'enough' test cases for testing to be said to be 'complete'
- Testing is expensive, takes a lot of time and is very tedious
- Programmers often fail to find errors in programs that they have written



Steps in testing a programme

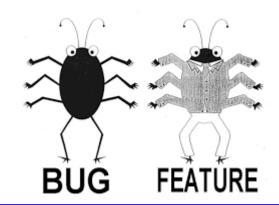
For each functional specification (use case)

- Specify a set of inputs
- 2. Determine the expected output or result
- 3. Execute the software
- 4. Compare the result with expected
- 5. Determine Pass/Fail

What terms should we use?

- Failure,
- Mistake,
- Error,
- Fault,
- Defect,
- Bug?





Component or unit testing

Making sure that each component or unit works as expected and according to the specification



The secret of software testing is to use good test data

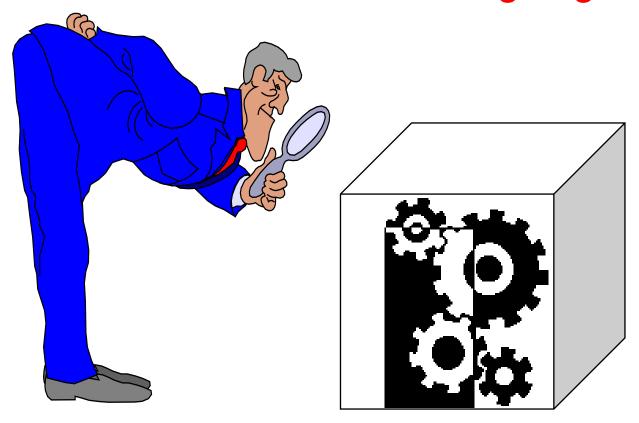
It is not sufficient to use a 'scatter gun approach'



- Test data must designed with care.
- Random input data generated automatically has low probability of finding defects

Two types - White box testing

If we can "see" what's going on inside ...



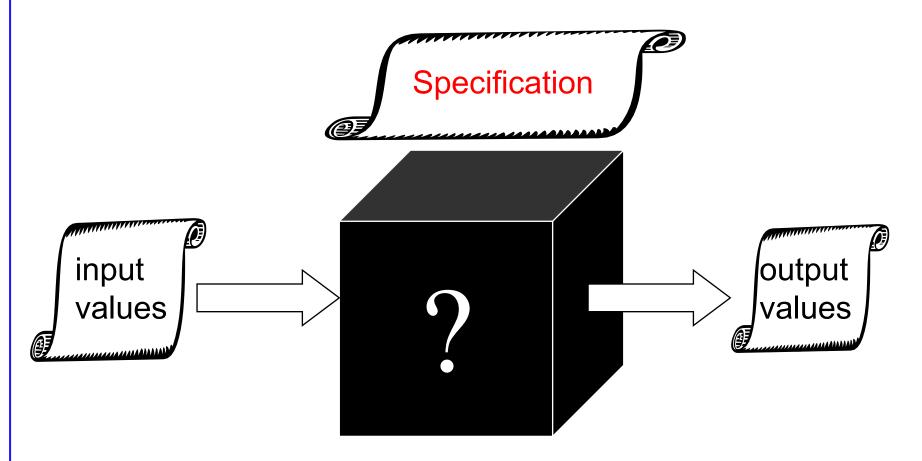
... then we know how best to test it!

"White-Box" testing

- Applicable only to individual programs
- Used by programmers when they are writing software
- Can be more insightful because the programmer knows about the internal structure of a program
 - devises tests that have the highest probability of causing the program to fail
 - tries to exercise all possible logic paths through the program

Black box testing

We don't know what's going on inside ...



... but, we do know what output we should get according to the specification

"Black-Box" (input-output) testing

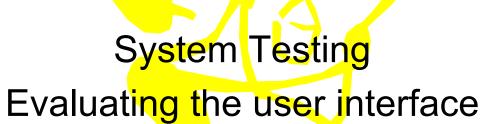
- Assumes nothing about the inner structure of the program.
- Input data values should be 'sensible' according to the application domain and the client specifications.
- Expected outputs for each test input must be worked out in advance, according to specifications and 'business rules'.
- 'Outrageous' input values can be used to test robustness of program



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Lecture 08B











By the end of this lecture you will be able to:

- Understand what is involved in system testing
- Appreciate the value of continuous testing and the significance of the V-Model
- Appreciate the importance of the user interface
- Distinguish usability and ease of use
- Explain how 'user satisfaction' is assessed
- Make wise software choices

User interface specialists are paid Between \$700-\$1000 per day







Reducing cost Avoiding chaos!

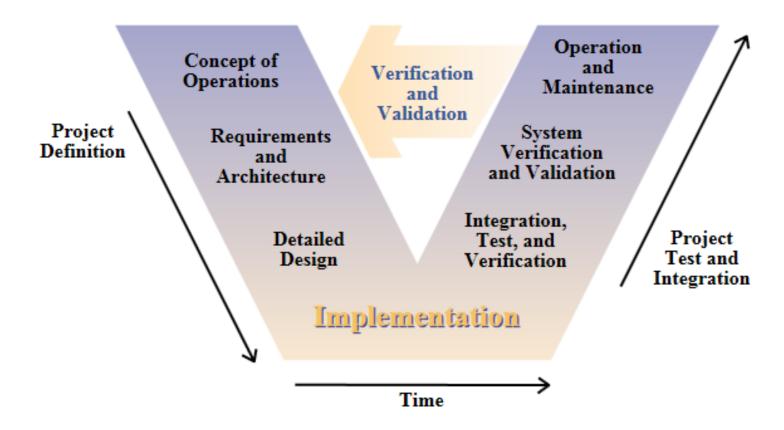
Continuous testing policy during system development

The cost of rectifying software defects

Stage at which Defect is	Typical Cost of
Detected	Correction
User Requirements	\$100-\$1,000
Coding/Unit Testing	\$1,000 or more
System Testing	\$7,000 - \$8,000
Acceptance Testing	\$1,000 - \$100,000
After Implementation	Up to millions of dollars

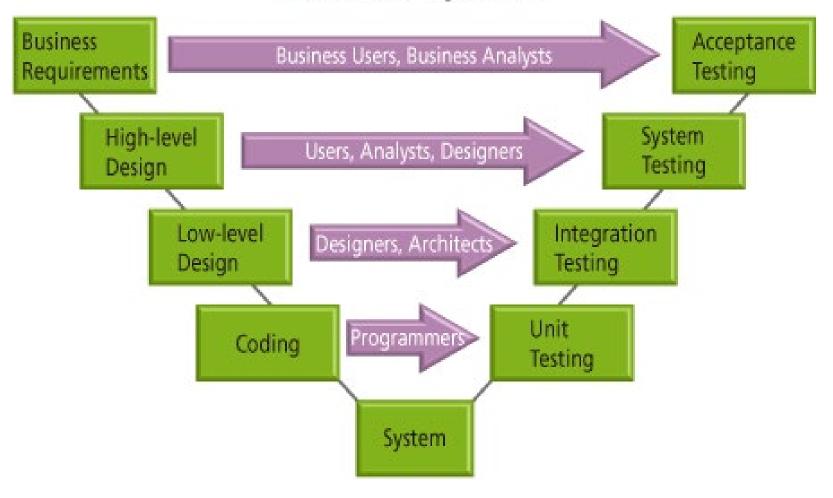
The sooner a defect is discovered the cheaper and simpler it is to rectify.

The V-Model for software development



The V-Model implies a policy of continuous testing Another view!

Software Testing V-Model



Verification & Validation

- Verification: Are we doing the job right?
 - Checking for conformance and consistency with the specification
 - Process oriented
 - Static testing, using reviews, inspections, walkthrough carried out by programming team
- Validation: Are we doing the right job?
 - Checking that the specification is what the user actually wanted
 - Product oriented
 - Dynamic testing using test scripts, scenarios
 - Sponsor and end users involved in testing

System verification cycle



Examine program specification



Decide on test cases



Work out expected outcomes



Code the program



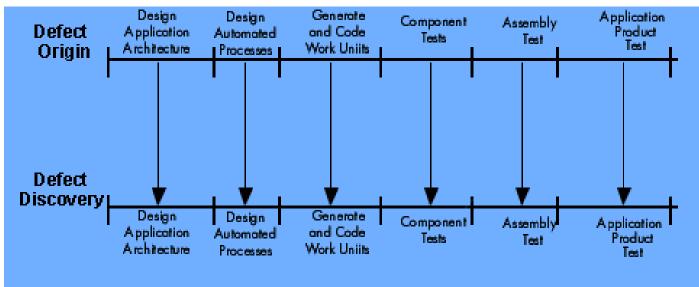


Run tests

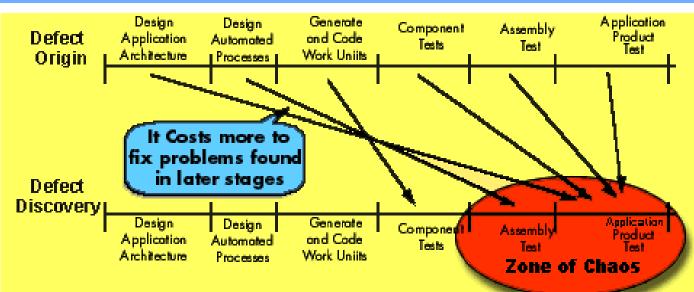


Check outcomes

The benefit of continuous testing



"Continuous testing"



The alternative: "Put it off until later" policy

Implications of the V-model

- Means that testing is considered early in the development life cycle, well before coding
- Avoids chaos towards the end of the project
- System design is continuously checked
 - against specifications (verification) and
 - against user requirements (validation)
- Means that the probability that the final product will satisfy the user's needs is much improved

Case Study Using the V-MODEL



What would you do to ensure the V-model method was being used?

The user interface





GUI Testing	Presentation Layer user interface	
API Testing	Business Layer application user interface	
	Database Layer database	





What is the role of the user?

- Owner of the system
- Payer of bills





- Supplier of data
- Consumer of information

Controller of processing



Functions of the human-computer interface

From point of view of the Human:

- initiate programs
- input data (facts about the real world)
- set parameters for processing

From point of view of the Computer:

- request input (prompt the human)
- present output requested by the human
- report status or errors encountered in processing

How do users see software



Usefulness

- does the job
- makes them more efficient
- gives them additional power; they can do more
- Usability
 - ease of use
 - easy to learn
 - 'user friendly'



- Subjective appeal
 - aesthetic appeal
 - similarity to other products used
 - good experiences



Difficulty of testing usability

- To test the usability of new products must have skilled, highly-experienced users
 - So, have to train subjects to high levels of skill before can even begin the experiment...
- "Intuitive" and "easy to learn" may not be synonymous when evaluating software, but often they are taken to be equivalent.

Larry Constantine, "Persistent Usability", 1994, OzCHI Proceedings, Australian Centre for Human-Computer Interaction

Case study: Dreamliner 787



- 1.Global supply chain
- 2. Multiple vendors
- 3. Specifications not integrated
- 4.I.T Integration and testing issues:
- 5.Major delays

2/3 teams to present to the CTO in class on progress at the end



Supplementary slides follows

Review at your own leisure





User interface design guidelines





Jakob Nielsen (1993) Nine Heuristics for interface design

- 1. Simple and natural dialogue
- 2. Speak the user's language
- 3. Minimize the user's memory load
- 4 Be consistent
- 5. Provide feedback
- 6. Provide clearly marked exits
- 7. Provide shortcuts
- 8. Provide good error messages
- 9. Prevent errors



Jakob Nielsen, *Usability Engineering*, 1993, Morgan Kaufmann, San Francisco





Usability studies





Evaluating 'usability'

* Ben Shneiderman, "Designing the User Interface", Addison-Wesley 1987

- Need to know about the user and the task
- Need to go deeper than a checklist of subjective guidelines
- Need to develop criteria that can be evaluated
- User friendliness "is a meaningless concept"*

Larry Constantine (1994) Eight Golden Rules for interface design

- 1. Strive for consistency
- 2. Enable 'power' users to take shortcuts
- 3. Offer informative feedback
- 4. Design dialogues to yield *closure*
- 5. Offer simple error handling
- 6. Permit easy reversal of actions
- 7. Support 'internal locus' of control
- 8. Reduce short-term memory load

Larry Constantine, Persistent Usability, OzCHI Proceedings, 1994

Bruce Tognazzini (2003) 16 Principles for user-interface design

- 1. Anticipation
- 2. Autonomy
- 3. Colour blindness
- 4. Consistency
- 5. Defaults
- 6. Efficiency of the user
- 7. Explorable interface
- 8. Fitts' Law*

- 9. Human-interface objects
- 10. Latency reduction
- 11. Learnability
- 12. Metaphor use
- 13. Protect user's work
- 14. Readability
- 15. Track state
- 16. Visible Navigation

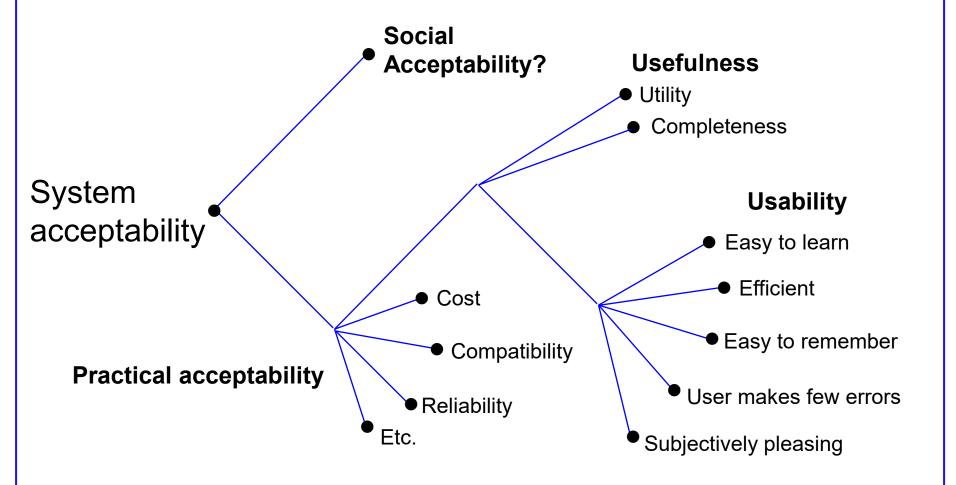
^{*} Paul Fitts (1954) "The time required to rapidly move to a target area is a function of the distance to the target and the size of the target".

Shneiderman's usability criteria*

- Time taken to learn basic/advanced skills
- 2. Speed of performance of skilled users
- 3. Retention of syntactic knowledge over time
- 4. Error rates and ease of correction
- 5. Subjective satisfaction

^{*} Ben Shneiderman, "Designing the User Interface", Addison-Wesley 1987

Nielsen Usability Measures



Jakob Nielsen, Usability Engineering, 1994

Larry Constantine on 'usability'

- The Great Law of Usability
 - "A system should be usable without assistance or instruction - by someone inexperienced with the system but knowledgeable and experienced in the domain of the application"
- The Lesser Law of Usability
 - "A system should not substantially impede or interfere with efficient and sophisticated use by highly experienced users"

Larry Constantine, Persistent Usability, OzCHI Proceedings, 1994

Web site usability: what is measured?

Web site usability research, Lonergan Research Pty Ltd, 2009

Learnability

 How easy it is for users to achieve tasks when visiting your web site for the first time

Efficiency

 How quickly tasks can be achieved once a user is familiar with your site

Memorability

 How quickly proficiency can be re-established when users have not visited your web site for some time

Errors & Problem Resolution

- How often errors are made,
- How serious these errors are, and
- How easy it is for users to recover from these errors

Measuring user satisfaction

- C1. Does the system provide the precise information you need?
- C2. Does the information content meet your needs?
- C3. Does the system provide reports that seem to be exactly what you need?
- C4. Does the system provide sufficient information?
- A1. Is the system accurate?
- A2. Are you satisfied with the accuracy of the system?
- F1. Do you think the output is presented in a useful format?
- F2. Is the information clear?
- E1. Is the system user friendly?
- E2. Is the system easy to use?
- T1. Do you get the information you need in time?
- T2. Does the system provide up-to-date information?

Measured on Five point Likert-type scale: 1 = almost never; 2 = some of the time; 3 = about half of the time; 4 = most of the time; and 5 = almost always.

William J. Doll and Gholamreza Torkzadeh, "*The Measurement of End-User Computing Satisfaction*", MIS Quarterly Vol. 12, No. 2 (Jun., 1988), pp. 259-274

Benefits from improved usability

- Jakob Nielsen, 2003
 http://www.useit.com/alertbox/roi-first-study.html
- Data from 863 design projects
- Estimated productivity gains from redesigning an intranet interface to improve usability
 - for a company with 1,000 employees
 8 times bigger than the costs
 - for a company with 10,000 employees
 20 times bigger than the costs
 - for a company with 100,000 employees
 50 times bigger than the costs