INB370 / INN370, Software Development, Semester 1, 2014

Practical 3 — Automated Unit Testing

This week's practical exercises aim to get you familiar with designing and implementing automated unit tests using the JUnit plug-in to the Eclipse integrated development environment.

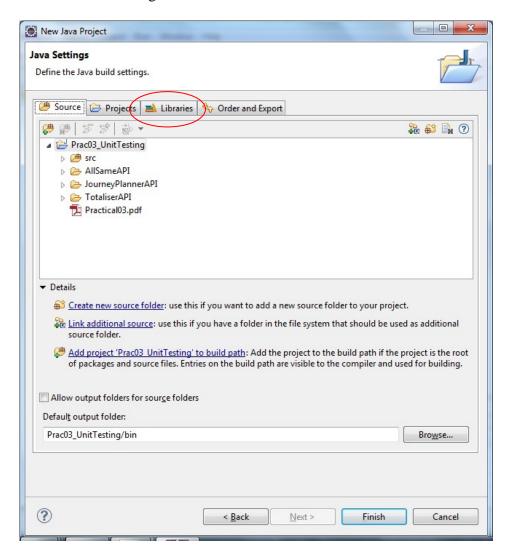
Setting up

For this practical session, I would like you to get some practice in using external jars under eclipse. So at the start of the exercise, please go to the page

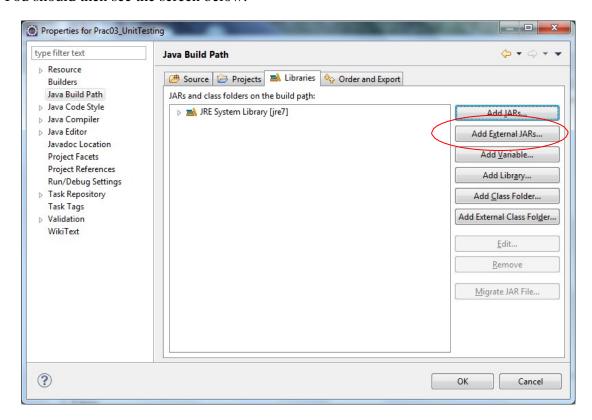
https://github.com/junit-team/junit/wiki/Download-and-Install

and download the file: junit.jar. Left clicking on the link will take you to a repository where you can grab a number of versions. Here you should grab JUnit 4.11 – the executable jar and docs jar, and then grab hamcrest-core-1.3.jar and its docs jar. Both of the executable jars are critical.

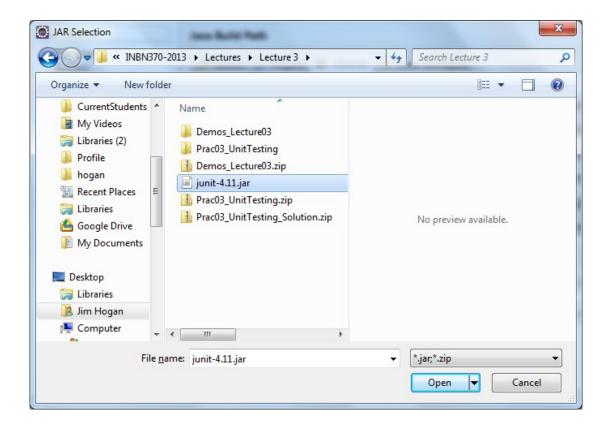
After you have created the eclipse project, if you click the next button, you will see a screen that looks something like this. Click on the Libraries tab:



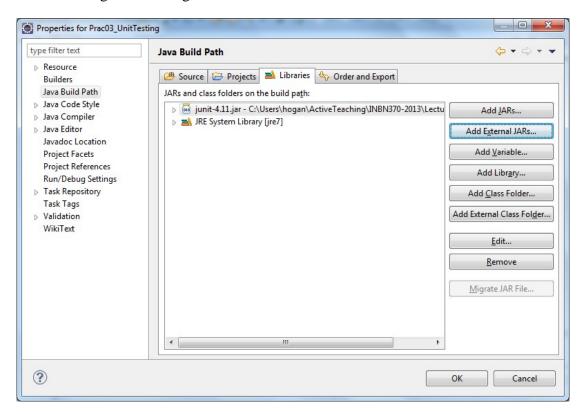
You should then see the screen below:



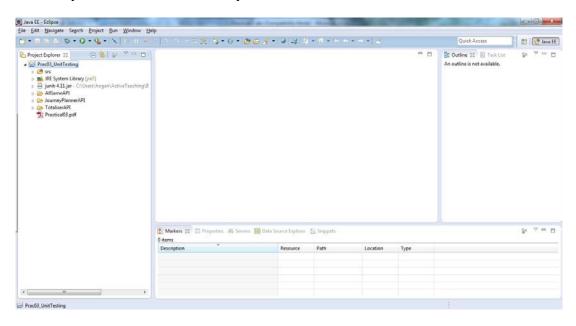
Now click on the Add External JARs link, and navigate to where you have downloaded junit-4.11.jar and select it from the directory:



You will then get something similar to this:



And finally, in the usual Java view, you will see:



Follow this exact same process for the hamcrest jar and you are ready to start...

Practical Exercises

Group Exercise 1: Test case brainstorming (Totaliser example)

This exercise will give you practice at devising black-box test cases for a simple class.

In the materials supplied for this practical session you will find API documentation for three classes, including one called Totaliser. (This documentation was generated from a correct version of the program.) Read the documentation for the Totaliser class and then, as a group, identify a small, but sufficient, set of test cases that will exercise the Totaliser implementation's functionality. Your tutor will write the test cases selected on the whiteboard.

Individual Exercise 1: Testing with JUnit (Totaliser example)

This exercise will give you practice at using JUnit to test a simple class.

In the materials supplied for this practical session you will find an implementation of the Totaliser class. In Eclipse create a new package and install the Totaliser.java file *but do not edit or examine it!* The purpose of the exercise is to test the supplied program as a black box, i.e., without looking at the source code.

Now create a JUnit Test Class called TotaliserTest.java and implement the various tests identified in the previous exercise. Run your tests and see if you can identify any problems with the supplied program. NB: Eclipse will automatically recognise that your TotaliserTest.java file is a JUnit test class and will allow you to 'run' it as a JUnit test as soon as you have added a method with an '@Test' annotation to the file.

Hint: There are (at least) two errors in the code, one obvious and one a bit harder to detect.

When you think your tests have identified the problems with the program examine the Totaliser.java source code file to confirm your suspicions. Then correct the errors in the code and rerun your tests to ensure that the problems have been fixed.

Group Exercise 2: Test case brainstorming (AllSame example)

This exercise will give you practice at devising black-box test cases for a more complicated, but stateless, class.

Read the API documentation for the AllSame class and, as a group, identify a sufficient set of tests for it. Note that the method provided by this class is a pure function, i.e., it does not update any fields within the class and thus has no 'memory' from one invocation to the next, which simplifies testing.

Individual Exercise 2: Testing with JUnit (AllSame example)

This exercise will give you practice at using JUnit to test a complicated, stateless class.

In the materials supplied for this practical session you will find three different implementations of the AllSame class, in the files AllSameA.java, AllSameB.java and AllSameC.java. Using the test cases identified in the

previous exercise, your challenge is to identify which, if any, of these imple-mentations is correct, and what the problems with the incorrect implementations are. Again, you are required to do so *without examining the source code*. Look at the code only when you have completed the exercise, in order to confirm your findings.

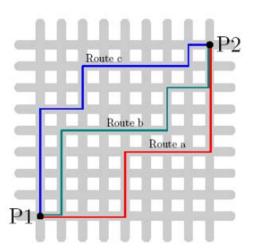
Hint: In the three implementations there are (at least) three distinct errors in total.

Note: Testing three different programs with one set of test cases is an unusual situation and is a little awkward, no matter how it's done. One approach is to put all three programs under test in the same package, create your JUnit test class in that package, and manually edit which of the three programs is imported into the test class to change from one to the other. Another approach is to put each of the three programs in its own package and have a copy of the test case class in each one. (There is a much more elegant solution which works by creating a superclass for the three programs under test, but it is felt to be a little complex for this one-off exercise.)

Group Exercise 3: Test case brainstorming (JourneyPlanner example)

This exercise will give you practice at devising black-box test cases for a complicated, stateful class.

Read the API documentation for the JourneyPlanner class and, as a group, identify a sufficient set of tests for it. Note that this class updates private fields and thus retains a 'memory' from one method invocation to the next, making it hard to devise test cases with good 'coverage'.



Background: The class calculates journey times based on 'Manhattan distances', i.e., the distance you must travel in a grid-like environment by following the grid lines only (with no diagonal steps). The name derives from the exceptionally regular layout of streets in New York city, which forces people to travel in this way. Notice in the diagram above that the journey from point P1 to P2 is of the same length, no matter which route is taken.

Individual Exercise 3: Testing with JUnit (JourneyPlanner example)

This exercise will give you practice at using JUnit to test a complicated, stateful class.

In the materials supplied for this practical session you will find two different

implementations of the JourneyPlanner class, in the files JourneyPlannerA. java and JourneyPlannerB. java. Using the test cases identified in the previous exercise, your challenge is to identify which, if any, of these implementations is correct, and what the problems are in the incorrect class or classes. Again, you are required to do so without examining the source code. Look at the code only when you have completed the tests, in order to confirm your findings.

Hint: In the two implementations there are (at least) two distinct errors in total.