

Software Testing Why, What, Who, and When

CSCI 2134: Software Development

Agenda

- Lecture Contents
 - Motivation
 - What is testing
 - Types of testing
 - When to test
 - Scaffolding
- Brightspace Quiz
- Readings:
 - This Lecture: Chapter 22
 - Next Lecture: Chapter 23

Detecting Software Defects (Bugs)

We have many techniques for detecting defects: Which one do we use?

- Formal design inspections
 —: A review of each design decision, where each person has a specific role
- Informal code reviews —: Informal team look-over of the one or more pieces of code
- Formal code inspection —: A line-by-line review of code, where each person has a specific role
- **Personal desk-checking of code** —: Individual review of personal code
- Modeling or prototyping
 — : Creation of proof-of-concept or simplified versions of the system to verify design decisions
- Unit test — : Execution of a complete class, routine, or small program, which is tested in isolation from the more complete system
- New function (component) test — : Execution of a class, package, small program, or other program element that involves the work of multiple programmers or programming teams, which is tested in isolation from the more complete system
- Integration test — : Combined execution of two or more classes, packages, components, or subsystems that have been created by multiple programmers or programming teams
- System test — —: Execution of the software in its final configuration, including integration with other software and hardware systems.



Use Combinations of Techniques

- Different techniques are useful for finding different defects in different stages of development
- None of these techniques are 100% effective on their own
- In combination, these techniques are 95% effective (McConnel)

Table 20-2 Defect-Detection Rates

emoval Step Lowest Rate		Modal Rate	Highest Rate	
Informal design reviews	25%	35%	40%	
Formal design inspections	45%	55%	65%	
Informal code reviews	20%	25%	35%	
Formal code inspections	45%	60%	70%	
Modeling or prototyping	35%	65%	80%	
Personal desk-checking of code	20%	40%	60%	
Unit test	15%	30%	50%	
New function (component) test	20%	30%	35%	
Integration test	25%	35%	40%	
Regression test	15%	25%	30%	
System test	25%	40%	55%	
Low-volume beta test (<10 sites)	25%	35%	40%	
High-volume beta test (>1,000 sites)	60%	75%	85%	

Source: Adapted from *Programming Productivity* (Jones 1986a), "Software Defect-Removal Efficiency" (Jones 1996), and "What We Have Learned About Fighting Defects" (Shull et al. 2002).

(McConnell, "Code Complete 2nd Edition, 2004, pg 470)

Testing vs Debugging

Testing is the process of detecting defects

- Debugging is the process of
 - **Diagnosing** (find) the cause of a defect
 - Correcting (remove) defects

- Before we can debug, we need to know that there is a bug
- Testing provides an automated way of finding bugs

Testing So Far

- In CSCI 1110
 - Programs were small (a couple classes)
 - Test suites were provided
 - If code passed test suites, it was assumed to be working
- Going forward
 - Programs get bigger, much bigger
 - Test suites may not be provided (you will need to create your own)
 - You would like to be sure that your code is working
- We need to learn how to test

Challenges of Testing

- Different mindset: You're trying to break it rather than create it
- No guarantee: Can't prove the absence of defects
 - Well, not economically in just about all cases
- No improvement in quality: Does not (on its own) improve software
 - It shows when quality failed
- Counter intuitive: Asked to find errors in code that you thought to be correct
 - If you knew there was an error there, you would have fixed it already
 - You (typically) look for errors where you spent your most time, which may well have fewer errors because of that attention

Variety of tests:

- Different kinds of testing techniques at different stages of development
- Need to know when to use what tests



Types of Testing

- Unit testing
 Code of one developer
 - Blackbox testing
 - Graybox testing
 - Whitebox testing







- Functional / component testing code for one class or package from multiple developers
- Integration testing code for 2+ classes coming together
- Regression testing Re-doing past tests
- System testing
 Software in its final configuration
- Alpha testing
- Beta testing
- Acceptance testing



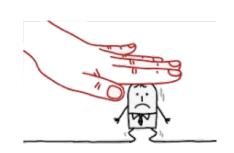


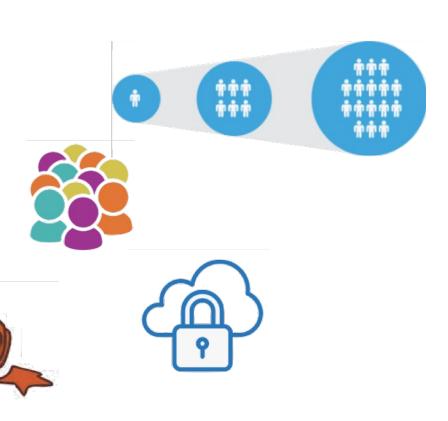




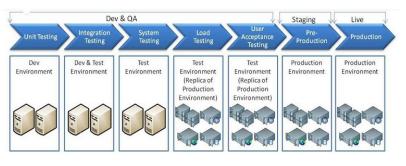
Other Kinds of Testing

- Performance testing
 - Load testing
 - Stress testing
- Scalability testing
- Usability testing
- Security testing
- Reliability testing
- Recovery testing
- Compatibility testing





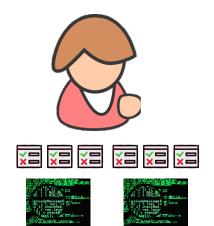
Testing Environments



Testing Environment	Unit Testing	Component Testing	Integration Testing	Regression Testing	System Testing	Deployment
Personal workstation Personal development environment	V	V	Depending on size	V		
Integration server • Standard development environment	V	V	V	V		
Test serverSimilar to production environmentFixed dummy data for regression testing					✓	
Preproduction server • Mirror of live data					V	
Production server • Live data						V

Unit Testing

- **Scope**: Small units of code
 - Methods and functions
 - Simple classes
 - Typically written by a single developer
- Goal: Ensure the small simple building blocks work
 - Easiest to do because they focus on small chunks of code
- Principle: In most cases smaller pieces of code are easier to test
- Three types, depending on how much is known about the implementation Tests are based on:
 - Black Box: Strictly on specification or interface
 - White Box: Specification or interface, and the implementation
 - Grey Box: Specification or interface, and partial knowledge of the implementation



Black Box Testing

Input / Output / Return

- Black box testing tests the code strictly based on what it is supposed to do
- This typically happens when:
 - Tests are created before the code is written
 - Someone other than the developer creates the tests
- Example test cases:
 - Insert into empty list
 - Insert into half-full list
 - Insert into full list
 - Other?
- Notice: The test cases are quite generic

Example of a method specification

• Signature:

boolean offerFirst(E e)

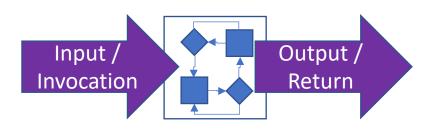
• Description:

Inserts the specified element at the front of this list unless it would violate capacity restrictions.

- Parameters:
 - e the element to add
- Returns: true if the element was added to this list, else false

White Box Testing

- White box testing tests the code with knowledge about the implementation
- This typically happens when:
 - Tests are created during or after the code is written
 - The developer creates the tests
- Example test cases:
 - Insert into empty list
 - Insert into half-full list
 - Insert into list with MAX elements
 - Insert into list whose current array is full
 - Other?
- Notice: The test cases are specific to this implementation



Example of a known implementation

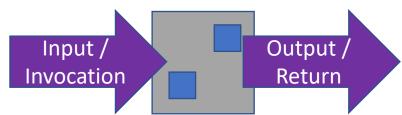
```
boolean offerFirst(E e) {
  if (arr.length == num) {
    if (num == MAX) {
      return false;
    int size = min(MAX, num*2);
    arr = duplicate(arr, size);
  array[num++]
  return true;
```

Grey Box Testing

- Grey box testing tests the code with partial Example of a partially k
- This typically happens when:
 - Tests are created when the code is written

knowledge about the implementation

- The implementation has changed or evolved
- Someone other than the developer created the test.
- Example test cases:
 - Insert into empty list
 - Insert into half-full list
 - Insert into full list
 - Insert into a sufficiently large list to cause the implementation to grow the array
 - Other?
- Notice: The test cases make some assumptions about the implementation



Example of a partially known implementation

```
interface ArrayBasedList {
  boolean offerFirst(<u>E</u> e);
}
```

Component Testing

- Component testing involves code that was worked on by multiple developers
 - All developers are not equally familiar with all the code grey box testing is more common
 - Different developers contribute different tests
 - Amount of code is larger
 - More interacting within the code to consider
 - More test cases are required
- The fundamental difference between unit testing and component testing is scale



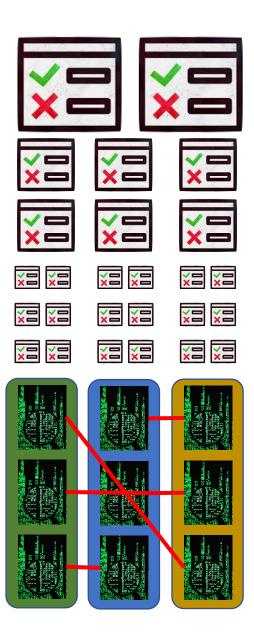


Integration Testing

- Integration testing involves multiple components and the interactions between them
 - All developers are not equally familiar with all the code black box and grey box testing is common
 - All unit and component tests are performed as part of the integration tests

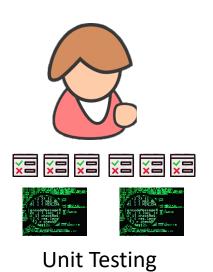
Components and units must work individually as well as together

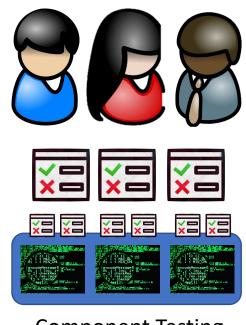
- Focus is on interactions between components
- Testing is typically done in a "standard" environment on a server
 - Depending on size of project, some integration testing can be done on developers' workstations
- At this stage some of the system components are tested together
- Note: Unit, component, and integration testing all fall on a continuum of complexity but essentially use the same techniques for creating and deploying tests



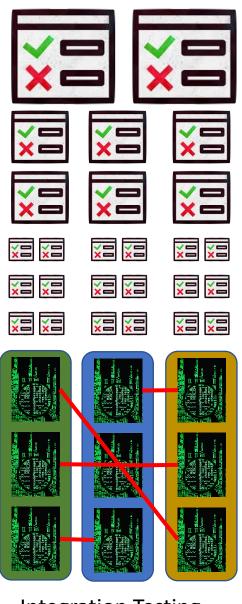
The Testing Continuum

- The type of testing being done is the same in all three cases.
- The scale of the tests differs
- All are a mix of black box, grey box, and white box testing





Component Testing



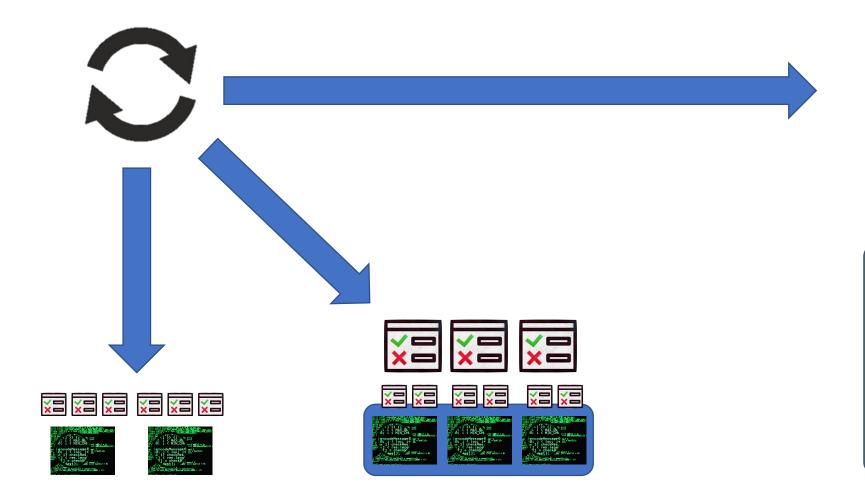
Integration Testing





- **Definition:** Regression testing is the repetition of previously executed test cases for the purpose of finding defects in software that previously passed the same set of tests. (McConnel, "CC2", 2004)
- **Key Idea:** Every time we make a change to the software we rerun all tests (unit, component, integration) to ensure no new defects were introduced
- Regression testing assures that we have not broken anything!
 - Don't commit broken code!
- Implementation: Typically implemented as a set of scripts that can be run automatically by the developer and on the integration server
- **Key Idea**: Regression testing uses existing tests, not new tests

Regression Applies to All Testing!





Test Timing

- Two fundamental questions:
 - When should tests be created?
 - When should tests be performed?
- Observations:
 - We cannot perform tests before creating them
 - We cannot perform tests until we have something to test
- When should testing be performed? As early as possible!
- Why?

The sooner the bugs are detected, the easier it is to fix!

Aside: Bug Density and Debugging Time

- The number of bugs is proportional to the size of the code base
 - After implementation there are typically 50 70 bugs per 1000 lines of code (yikes)
 - This can be described by the formula $B(n) = b \cdot n$, where
 - **b** is a constant, e.g., 0.07
 - *n* is the size of the code base

E.g., for a 2000 line program, we expect approximately $B(2000) = 0.07 \cdot 2000 = 140$ bugs

- The time to fix a bug is proportional to the size of the code base
 - Especially true for smaller programs
 - This can be described by the formula $T(n) = t \cdot n$, where
 - *t* is a constant, e.g., 0.05
 - **n** is the size of the code base

E.g., for a 2000 line program, we expect that it takes approximately $T(2000) = 0.05 \cdot 2000 = 100$ minutes to fix a bug

• Total Debugging Time: $D(n) = B(n) \cdot T(n) = b \cdot t \cdot n^2$

Testing in CSCI 1110 and Other Courses

Workflow

- Write entire program
- Test entire program
- Debug entire program
- Fix entire program

• Problems:

- Bigger programs have more bugs
- Debugging a larger chunk of code takes much more time than the cumulative time of debugging several small chunks

Testing Approaches

Test After Coding Entire Program

Codebase n lines of code

Total debugging time: $D(n) = t \cdot b \cdot n^2$

$$D(1000) = 0.05 * 0.07 * 1000^2$$

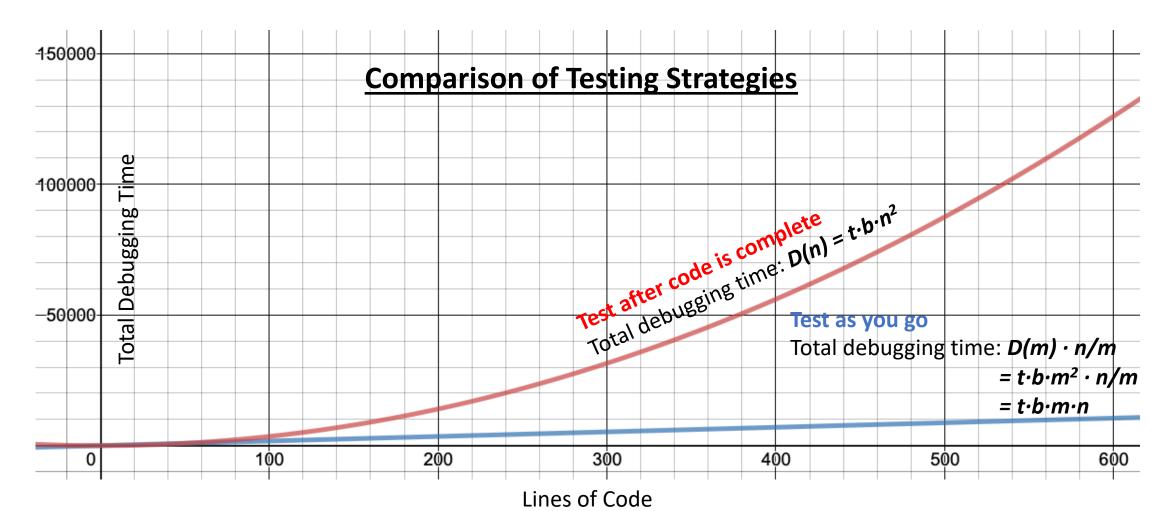
= 3500

Test During Implementation (As you go)

m lines of code (m < 50)

Total debugging time: $D(m) \cdot n/m$ = $t \cdot b \cdot m^2 \cdot n/m$ = $t \cdot b \cdot m \cdot n$

Testing Approaches (continued)



Test Early, Test Often

- Testing should bracket implementation
 - Develop test cases before you start coding based on unit specification (black/grey box)
 - Write the unit (method or small class) of code
 - Execute tests and debug unit
 - Add more whitebox tests if needed
- This is called Test-Driven Development:
 - Tests are based on the specifications
 - Dictate the development of the code
- Note:
 - Some testing will have to happen after the entire component is complete
 - This is why we differentiate between unit testing and component testing
- In the ideal world:
 - We can (and should) develop component tests prior to starting on the component
 - We can (and should) develop integration tests prior to starting on the integration

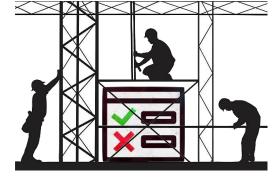
Why Test-Driven Development?

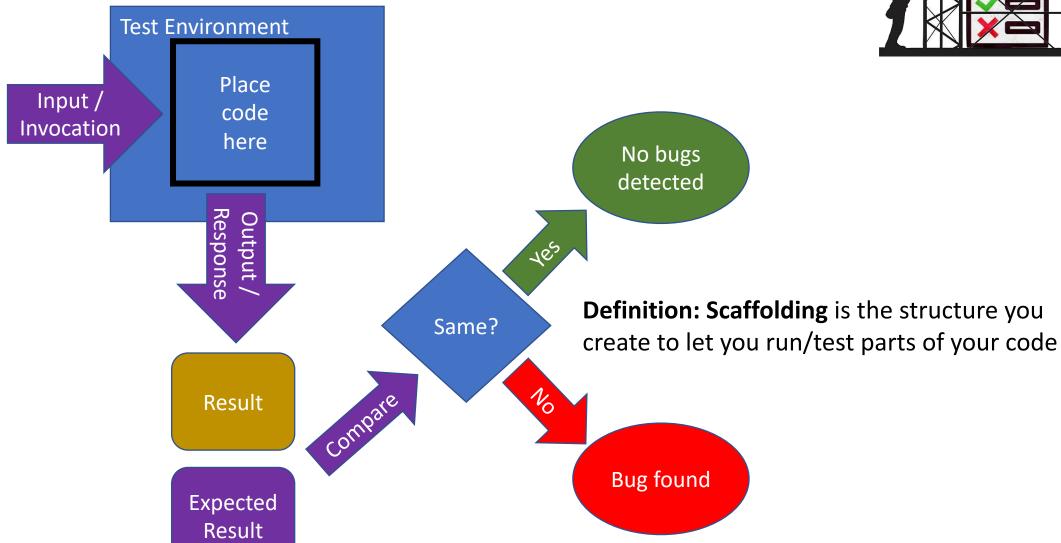
- Tend to detect defects earlier because you have identified the difficult cases in advance of writing the code
- Forces you to think a bit about the requirements and design early
- Exposes problems or ambiguities in the requirements earlier
- Doesn't take any more effort before coding than after

The Alternative

- Testing begins after coding completes
 - Approaching development sequentially
 - Want to get to the code first! (rightly or wrongly)
- There is a reason why 75% of developer time is spent debugging. 😊

Scaffolding





Types of Scaffolding for Testing

Scripts

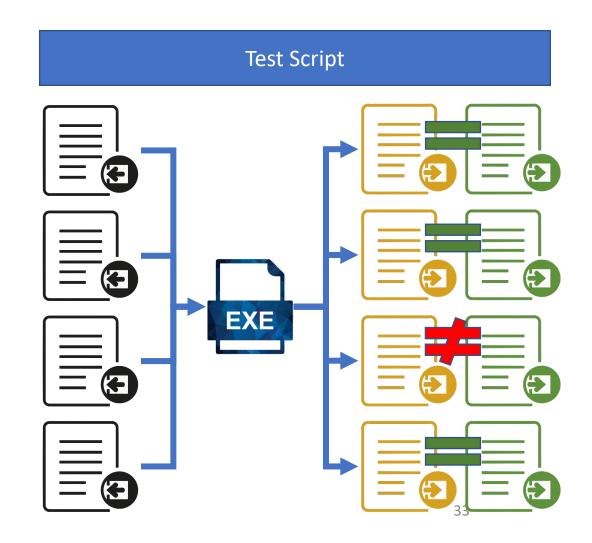
- Shell scripts written to execute an entire program
- E.g., Mimir does this in CSCI 1110
- Test harness / stubs
 - Additional code to run and support running of your code
 - Used to test classes and components that do not run on their own
 - E.g., The "Runner" or "Demo" programs that you may have written in CSCI 1110

Frameworks

- Generalized test harnesses that can be integrated with various systems
- E.g., JUnit

Testing Scripts

- Scripts are used when a full executable is being tested Either
 - The entire program
 - An executable consisting of
 - a test harness
 - the code to be tested
- A script-based test consists of:
 - Shell script (typically)
 - Executable
 - Input file
 - Expected output file



Example of a Test Script

```
Loop through all tests
#!/bin/sh
TESTS='00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19'
for T in $TESTS; do
                                                        Run a test
  echo =====
  echo Test file: test.$T.in
  ./myprog < test.$T.in > test.$T.out
                                                       Output file
  if diff test.$T.out test.$T.gold; then
    echo " " PASSED
                                                   Expected output file
  else
    echo " " FAILED
  fi
            Compare outputs
                                        Input file
done
```

Test Harnesses and Stubs

 Test harnesses and stubs provide a way to test a component of a piece of software

Test harness

- Makes calls to the code being tested
- Typically has a main-line program
- May or may not be driven by external input

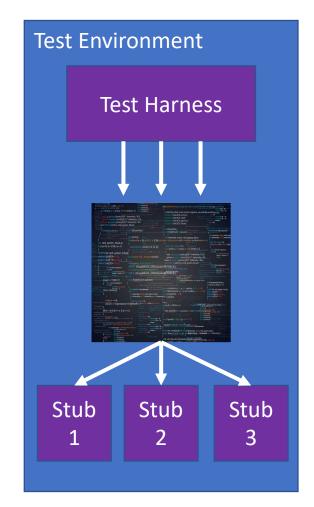
E.g., a Runner program that you may have implemented in CSCI 1110

• Stub

- Small pieces of code that simulate code that your component may call while it is running
- Typically used when the actual code is too complex, unfinished, or unpredictable to be provide known return values

E.g., Using empty methods when implementing a class

 In many cases a combination of test harness, stubs, and scripts are used



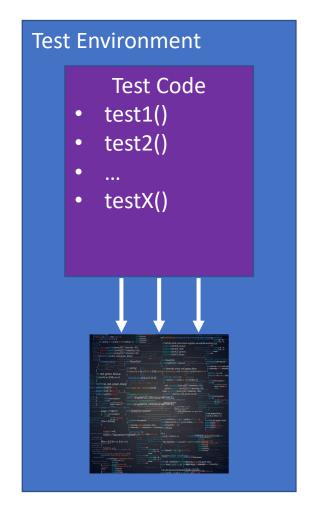
```
MatrixTester.iava
61
62
             // Decode the command and execute it
63
             switch( cmd ) {
64
             case "new": // new <h> <m>
                                                            Create a new zero matrix of
65
               h = s.nextInt():
                                                         // height h and
                                                         // width w and
               w = s.nextInt();
               matrices[mIdx] = new Matrix( h, w );
                                                         // assign to matrix <M>
               break;
              case "clone": // clone <M> <N>
                                                             reate a clone of
               matN = matrices[getMatrixIdx( s )];
                                                         // matrix <N> and
               if( matN != null ) {
                 matrices[mIdx] = new Matrix( matN );
                                                         // Assign to m
               } else {
                 status = ERR;
               break;
              case "load": // load <M> ...
                                                                   rollowing matrix
                                                         // Load
               matrices[mIdx] = new Matrix( s );
                                                         // Into mati
               break:
              case "add": // add <M> <N> <P>
                                                            < M > = < N > + >
               matN = matrices[getMatrixIdx( s )];
                                                         // Matrix <N>
               matP = matrices[getMatrixIdx( s )];
                                                         // Matrix <P>
               // If matrices are not allocated, or addition fails, set status to E
               if( ( matM == null ) || ( matN == null ) || ( matP == null ) ||
                   ( matN.add( matP. matM ) == null ) ) {
                 status = ERR:
               break;
              case "scale": // scale <M> s <N>
                                                             <M> = s < N>
               value = s.nextDouble():
                                                          // read in the scalar and
               matN = matrices[getMatrixIdx( s )];
                                                             matrix <N>
               // If matrices not allocated, or multiplication falls set status to ERR
               if( ( matM == null ) || ( matN == null ) ||
                   ( matN.multiplyWithScalar( value, matM ) == null ) )
                 status = ERR;
               break:
              case "mult": // mult <M> <N> <P>
                                                             <M> = <N> x <P>
               matN = matrices[getMatrixIdx( s )];
                                                         // matrix <N>
               matP = matrices[getMatrixIdx( s )];
                                                         // matrix <P>
104
               // If matrices not allocated, or multiplication fails, set status to ERR
        MatrixTester > main()
```

Example of a Test Harness

```
Matrix.java >
~/Teach/2134/Labs/Lab4/src/Matrix.java
        private double [][] matrix; // 2D array stores matrix of size height x width
           int height:
                                        // number of rows in the matrix
21
           int width;
                                        // number of columns in the matrix
22
23
            * Constructor creates a zero matrix of size
            * Parameters: m: height of the matrix
                           n: width of the matrix
27
           public Matrix(int m, int n) {
28
               // Instantiate 2D array and initialize height and attacheds.
29
               matrix = new double[m][n];
30
               height = m;
31
               width = n:
34
35
             * Constructor duplicates the passed matrix
36
37
              Parameters: mtx: matrix to be cloned
38
           public Matrix(Matrix mtx) {
39 @
               // Get dimensions of matrix to be cloned and instantiate array.
40
               height = mtx.getHeight();
41
               width = mtx.getWidth();
               matrix = new double[height][width];
```

Testing Frameworks

- The test-harness approach is so common that special libraries exist to provide test harnesses
- The programmer provides methods, each of which perform a test on the target code
- This requires the programmer to focus on the tests instead of writing code to support the tests
- Examples of Testing Frameworks
 Artos Arquillian AssertJ beanSpec BeanTest Cactus Concordion Concutest Cucumber-JVM Cuppa DbUnit EasyMock EtlUnit EvoSuite GrandTestAuto GroboUtils HavaRunner Instinct Java Server-Side Testing framework (JSST) JBehave JDave JExample JGiven JMock JMockit Jnario Jtest Jukito JUnit JUnitEE JWalk Mockito Mockrunner Needle NUTester OpenPojo PowerMock Randoop Spock SpryTest SureAssert Tacinga TestNG Unitils XMLUnit https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of unit testing frameworks#Java



Example of JUnit Test for a *Matrix* class

```
import org.junit.jupiter.api.Test;
    import static org.junit.jupiter.api.Assertions.*
                                                              Regular Java class
    import java.util.Scanner;
                                                                                         Input for the tests
    class MatrixTest -
Test getElem
        private final static String simpleMatrix = "2 2 1 2 3 4";
                                                                                3 4
                                                                                          Each method is a
        @Test
        void getElem()
                                                                                                test
          Matrix m = new Matrix(new Scanner(simpleMatrix));
          assertEquals(2, m.getElem(1,2), "getElem() did not return correct value");
                                                                               Create a Matrix object
                                       Test the getElem() method
        @Test
        void setElem()
Test setElem()
            Matrix m = new Matrix(new Scanner(simpleMatrix));
            m.setElem(2, 1, 5);
            assertEquals(5, m.getElem(2,1), "setElem() may not have set correct value");
```



- Testing is a set of techniques that should be used in combination to detect defects
- Testing is challenging, requiring a different mindset but cannot verify that a piece of software is defect free
- Testing is performed at various granularities such as unit, component, integration, and system
- Blackbox testing is strictly based on the specification while whitebox testing incorporates knowledge of the implementation
- Regression testing reruns past tests to confirm the code was not broken
- It is beneficial to create and test in the course of development to catch defects as quickly as possible

Image References

Retrieved January 8, 2020

- http://pengetouristboard.co.uk/vote-best-takeaway-se20/
- https://i.pinimg.com/originals/b5/22/38/b52238fad11b0a3ecac36fa17604 1d98.jpg
- https://www.nbs-system.com/wpcontent/uploads/2016/05/160503 Tests boites-788x433.jpg
- https://www.pinclipart.com/picdir/middle/29-293393 challenges-peace-first-clip-art-work-teamwork-clip.png
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