Introduction to Software Engineering (ISAD1000)

Lecture 8: White-Box Testing & Test Fixtures

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Inputs and Outputs

Discipline of Computing School of Electrical Engineering, Computing and Mathematical Sciences (EECMS)

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Outline

Inputs and Outputs

Files

Exceptions

Test Fixtures

White Box Testing

Testing So Far

- So far, our discussion of testing has focused on parameters and return values.
- We see the range of possible parameter values, and divide (partition) them into categories.
 - ► Equivalence partitioning and boundary value analysis.
 - But we haven't looked inside the method/function. We've treated it as a black box.
- ➤ For the return values, we obtain them the actual value, and compare to what we expected.
 - We've assumed that methods/functions are like mathematical functions: transforming one or more parameters into a single return value.

- Unit testing can get more complicated.
- ▶ We do still have the following basic ingredients:
 - Test cases;
 - ► For each test case: test data, production code call, expected results, and actual results.
- ► But:
 - We can also do "white-box" testing, where we find test cases based on the code.
 - In either white- or black-box testing, we sometimes need additional "setting up" for each test case.
 - ► Some test data are *not* provided via parameters.
 - Some test results are not obtained via return values.
 - ➤ There can be multiple results per test case, and hence multiple assertions.



Input (Sources of Data)

- Methods/functions can get data from various sources:
 - Parameter values;
 - User input;
 - ► Fields (variables outside the method/function);
 - Files on disk;
 - Databases;
 - The operating system;
 - ▶ Other running programs on the same computer;
 - Online services.
- Testing must account for all the data a method/function uses.
- ▶ Test code must control and mimick these sources of data.
 - e.g. We need to fool the production code into accepting fake "user input" that really comes from the test code.

Output (Actions)

- Methods/functions can also send data to many different places:
 - Return value;
 - Exceptions;
 - ▶ The screen/console;
 - Fields;
 - Files;
 - Databases;
 - Other running programs;
 - Online services.

Called "side effects", though they're often the main purpose of a method/function.

- ▶ Testing must check that all of these are as expected.
 - e.g., if you're writing a file, your test code must ensure that actually happens properly.
- ➤ We need to capture these outputs and run them all through assertion statements.



Input/Output is String-Based

- We'll consider how to test methods/functions that:
 - Take user input (console input);
 - Display output (console output);
 - Read text files (file input);
 - Write text files (file output);
 - Generate exceptions.
- ▶ The first four of these have something in common:
- Everything is a string!
 - ▶ Reading console input? The user enters *a string*.
 - If you ask for an integer, the userenters a string containing digit characters. Then you calculate what integer they form.
 - Writing real numbers to a file? You're writing a string.
 - You take each number, and generate a string that contains various digit characters and a ".".



- ▶ The string-iness of input/output goes a bit further.
- You can think of all console input as just one big string put together.
 - ▶ And, similarly, all console output is another big string.
 - ► And an entire text file is really just a single string.
- To make sense of this, you need to understand the "newline" character "\n".
 - ► It's written backslash-n, though it doesn't really look like anything.
 - But it can be part of any string, just like a letter or digit.
 - ▶ It represents a line break; a point at which one line of text ends and another begins.
 - ▶ It's the ENTER key, when pressed by the user.

- ➤ The newline character "\n" lets us think of multiple inputs or outputs as all being one string.
- Say you write a program that asks the user some questions, and they answer like this:

```
Enter an integer: 50
Enter another integer: -71
Enter a word: calculator
```

- ➤ You can represent the input as the string "50\n-71\ncalculator\n".
 - ► That's the string the user has actually typed in.
- ► An aside: to represent an actual backslash, you must write "\\". (For two backslashes, write "\\\", etc.)

GUIS

Inputs and Outputs

- Another aside...
- For programs that display windows, buttons, scroll-bars, etc., and respond to mouse clicks or touch-based input, these things are *not* strings.
- Testing this is outside the scope of this unit.
- It can be quite tricky:
 - ▶ How many different ways are there to move the mouse?
 - How many different positions on the screen can windows and buttons occupy?
 - ▶ Nonetheless, there are mechanisms to automate GUI input; e.g. java. awt. Robot.

Simulating User Input

Inputs and Outputs

- ► To test a method/function that takes console input:
 - Our test data will be a string representing that input.
 - ▶ We have to set things up so that the production code *thinks* this string is actual input.
- ► And remember: the production code still has to work as normal.
 - We can't change it to make this work.
 - Everything we do to test it must be in the test code.
- Fortunately, languages like Java and Python provide a couple of tricks to help...

```
🚣 Java
import java. io. *: // Test code:
String simInput = "abc";
System. setIn (new ByteArrayInputStream (
    simInput.getBytes()));
... // call production code
```

- We decide what the simulated input should be (e.g. "abc")
- ▶ We create an "object" that behaves like a source of input, but actually just gives you back what you put into it.

```
Java "ByteArrayInputStream"
Python "io. StringIO"
```

▶ We tell the system to read from this, instead of the console.

Simulating Console Input

```
import sys, io # Test code:
                                                 🤔 Pvthon
simInput = "123"
sys. stdin = io. StringIO(simInput)
... # call production code
```

- We decide what the simulated input should be (e.g. "abc")
- ▶ We create an "object" that behaves like a source of input, but actually just gives you back what you put into it.

```
Java "ByteArrayInputStream"
Python "io. StringIO"
```

▶ We tell the system to read from this, instead of the console.

Using Simulated Input

Inputs and Outputs

- Say your test code sets up some simulated input; specifically, a value of "abc".
- ▶ Your test code then calls the production code.
- The production code tries to read some console input.

```
Java: String val = scanner.nextLine();
 Python: val = input()
```

- ▶ The production code receives the simulated input; i.e., val becomes equal to "abc".
 - ▶ The production code assumes the user has entered this value.
 - It can't tell the difference between real and simulated input, which is the point.
- ▶ The test code uses this to check what happens for different kinds of input.

- ▶ Remember "max()"? Say we also have "inputMax()".
- ▶ Instead of importing two numbers, it *inputs* them.
- ► Here's how we might test it:

```
public static void testInputMax()
                                                        🖺 Java
    System. setIn(
        new ByteArrayInputStream("10\n15".getBytes()));
    assert 15 == MvUtils.inputMax():
    System. setIn (
        new ByteArrayInputStream ("10\n-10".getBytes()));
    assert 10 == MyUtils.inputMax();
    ... // One other test case
```

- ▶ Remember "max()"? Say we also have "inputMax()".
- ► Instead of importing two numbers, it *inputs* them.
- ► Here's how we might test it:

```
def testInputMax():
    sys. stdin = io. StringIO("10\n15")
    assert 15 == MyUtils. inputMax()

    sys. stdin = io. StringIO("10\n-10")
    assert 10 == MyUtils. inputMax()
    ... # One other test case
```

Capturing Output

Inputs and Outputs

- ▶ A "mirror image" of the problem of simulating input.
- ▶ If production code *displays* something, test code must be able to check it.
 - ▶ But, normally, your code cannot see its own output. Only the user can.
 - ▶ We must do something to *capture* it, before it is actually displayed.

```
import iava. io. *:
                                                          🍰 . Java
ByteArrayOutputStream capOut = new ByteArrayOutputStream():
System. setOut (new PrintStream(capOut)):
... // call production code
String actualOutput = capOut. toString():
```

Create an "object" that can receive output, but stores it instead of displaying it.

```
♣ Java "ByteArrayOutputStream"
Python "io. StringIO" (same as for input)
```

- ▶ Tell the system to use this, instead of the console.
- ► Afterwards, retrieve the text that was "displayed".

Capturing Console Output

Inputs and Outputs

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```
import sys, io
                                                      Pvthon
capOut = io. StringIO()
sys. stdout = capOut
... // call production code
actualOutput = capOut.getvalue()
```

Create an "object" that can receive output, but stores it instead of displaying it.

```
Java "ByteArrayOutputStream"
Python "io. StringIO" (same as for input)
```

- ➤ Tell the system to use this, instead of the console.
- Afterwards, retrieve the text that was "displayed".

- ► Say we have another variation of max() called outputMax().
- ▶ Instead of returning the result, it *outputs* it.
- ► Here's how we might test it:

```
public static void testOutputMax()
{
    ByteArrayOutputStream capOut =
        new ByteArrayOutputStream();
    System. setOut(new PrintStream(capOut));
    MyUtils. outputMax(10, 15); // Production code call assert "15". equals(capOut. toString());
    ... // Other test cases
}
```

Capturing Output: Example Test Code

- ► Say we have another variation of max () called outputMax ().
- Instead of returning the result, it *outputs* it.
- Here's how we might test it:

```
def testOutputMax():
                                                      Python
    capOut = io. StringIO()
    sys. stdout = capOut
    MyUtils. outputMax (10, 15) # Production code call
    assert "15" == capOut.getvalue()
    ... # Other test cases
```

► What about inputOutputMax()?

Inputs and Outputs

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▶ We can simulate input and capture output at the same time:

```
🖺 Java
public static void testInputOutputMax()
    ByteArrayOutputStream capOut =
        new ByteArrayOutputStream();
    System. setOut (new PrintStream(capOut));
    System. setIn(
        new ByteArrayInputStream("10\n15".getBytes())):
    MvUtils.inputOutputMax(): // Production code call
    assert "15". equals (capOut. toString());
    ... // Other test cases
```

▶ What about inputOutputMax()?

Inputs and Outputs

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▶ We can simulate input and capture output at the same time:

```
def testInputOutputMax():
    capOut = io.StringIO()
    sys.stdout = capOut
    sys.stdin = io.StringIO("10\n15")

MyUtils.inputOutputMax() # Production code call
    assert "15" == capOut.getvalue()
    ... # Other test cases
```

- ▶ If the production code deals reads/writes data files, the test code must also deal with them.
- Conceptually this is guite similar to console IO, but the fine details a hit different.
- ▶ To test a method/function that reads an input file:
 - ▶ The test code must setup (i.e. write) the input file beforehand.
- ▶ To test a method/function that writes an output file:
 - The test code must verify (i.e. read) the output file afterwards.

File Reading and Writing Syntax

- ► The following slides show code for reading/writing files.
 - ▶ In Java, we'll use PrintWriter and Scanner.
 - ▶ In Python, we'll use the "with" statement, and open (), write() and read().
- ► There are other valid ways to do this.
- ► There's nothing particularly special about these particular reading/writing approaches.
 - Except that they're reasonably short and easy to put into slide form.
- The most important thing is that you understand the concept of what is happening.

Testing with Input Files

```
public static void testInputFileMax()
                                                        🚣 Java
    PrintWriter inputFile = new PrintWriter ("inputfile.txt");
    inputFile.println("10\n15"); // <-- The test data
    inputFile.close();
    assert 15 == MyUtils.inputFileMax("inputfile.txt");
    ... // Other test cases
```

- First, we create a file containing test data.
- ▶ Then, we call the production code, which (in theory) reads that file and thus gets the test data.
- Let's assume the production code takes a filename parameter.
 - If so, this must be the same as the file we created.

```
def testInputFileMax():
                                                     Python
    with open ("inputfile.txt", mode = "w") as inputFile:
        inputFile.write("10\n15") # <-- The test data
    assert 15 == MyUtils. inputFileMax ("inputfile. txt")
    ... # Other test cases
```

- First, we create a file containing test data.
- ▶ Then, we call the production code, which (in theory) reads that file and thus gets the test data.
- Let's assume the production code takes a filename parameter.
 - If so, this must be the same as the file we created.

Testing with Output Files

```
public static void testOutputFileMax()
                                                        🌲 Java
    MyUtils. outputFileMax(10, 15, "outputfile.txt");
    Scanner outputFile = new Scanner ("outputfile. txt");
    String actual = outputFile.nextLine(); // <-- Actual
    assert "15". equals (actual);
    ... // Other test cases
```

- First, we call the production code, which (in theory) creates a file and writes a result to it.
- ▶ Then, the test code reads that file, gets the result, and runs it through an assertion.

```
def testOutputFileMax():
                                                     Python
    MyUtils. outputFileMax(10, 15, "outputfile.txt")
    with open ("outputfile.txt") as outputFile:
        actual = outputFile.read().strip() # <-- Actual
        assert "15" == actual
                                                 result
    ... # Other test cases
```

- First, we call the production code, which (in theory) creates a file and writes a result to it.
- ▶ Then, the test code reads that file, gets the result, and runs it through an assertion.

Exceptions during testing occur because:

► The production code gave the wrong result.

- The production code unexpectedly threw an exception.
 - ▶ The test fails, but before we even get to the assert statement.
- The test code itself is broken.
 - Maybe the "expected result" is incorrect.
 - Maybe you didn't set up a test input file properly.
- ▶ The production code *expectedly* threw an exception.
 - Often the production code must throw an exception, under certain circumstances.
 - So, the test code must check that it does.
 - ▶ Such a test should fail in the *absence* of an exception.

- ▶ You could use a try-catch/except statement.
- ▶ But *in test code*, it's simpler to just pass-on the exception.
- ► This will be interpreted as a test failure, as it should be.
- Python: nothing additional needs to be done!
- **Java: add a** throws **clause:**

```
public static void testThing() throws ExceptionType
{
    ...
}
```

ExceptionType is the particular kind of exception that the production code might generate.

- ► Remember formatTime()?
- ▶ It returned "error" when passed invalid hours/minutes.
 - ▶ i.e., if we write "actual = MyUtils. formatTime (12, -10)", we should expect actual to be "error".
- But, in the real world, it's more likely to be designed to throw an exception.
 - In this case, there is no string value at all, and by default the exception means a test failure.
 - ▶ But this exception means the code actually works!
 - i.e. it successfully identifies invalid values, and takes appropriate action.
 - ► The test should only fail if there isn't an exception.
 - How do we test for this?

- ▶ We need to use a try statement to sort this out.
- ▶ The test passes only if an exception makes the code jump to the catch/except block.

```
public static void testFormatTime()
                                                         🚣 Java
    try
        String actual = MyUtils. formatTime (12, -10);
        assert false; // Test fails if it reaches this point
    catch (Illegal Argument Exception e) {} // Do nothing.
    ... // Other test cases
```

- ▶ We need to use a try statement to sort this out.
- ➤ The test passes only if an exception makes the code jump to the catch/except block.

```
def testFormatTime():
    try:
        actual = MyUtils.formatTime(12, -10)
        assert False # Test fails if it reaches this point

except ValueError:
    pass # Do nothing.
... # Other test cases
```

- We're now seen various situations where test cases are written. like this:
 - Perform setting up.
 - Call production code.
 - 3. Compare results.
- ► And there's one more step we sometimes have:
 - 4. Tear down: restore everything to its original state.

For instance:

- ▶ If the test code (or production code) created a file, we should delete it afterwards.
- If the test code redirected console input or output, it should set it back afterwards.
- ▶ The "setting up" and "tearing down" defines a *test fixture*:
 - ► A set of things in-place to make the test case work, and to isolate the test case from external factors.

- Multiple test cases often require at least some of the same setting-up and tearing-down.
 - Some of the setting-up may be separate from providing the test data.
 - ▶ Perhaps all test cases require the same console input, just to make the production code work.
 - Or perhaps they all require the same file to exist.
- Reuse applies to test code too! We don't want to repeat ourselves.
- ➤ So, the convention is to have setUp() and tearDown() helper method/functions.
 - ▶ These do all the common work to establish a test fixture.
 - setUp() will be called immediately before every test method/function.
 - ▶ tearDown() will be called immediately after.

Files

Text Fixture Example - Without a Test Framework

```
🚣 Java
public class TestSuite
    public static void main(String[] args)
        setUp();
        testMethod1():
        tearDown():
        setUp():
        testMethod2():
        tearDown();
    public static void setUp() { ...
    public static void testMethod1() { ... }
    public static void testMethod2() { ... }
    public static void tearDown() { ... }
```

```
Python
def setUp(): ...
def testFunction1():...
def testFunction2(): ...
def tearDown(): ...
if name == " main ":
    testMethod1()
    testMethod2()
```

- ▶ JUnit understands methods that have @Before and @After annotations.
 - It doesn't actually care what the names are.
- ▶ Python's unittest module looks for methods specifically called setUp() and tearDown().
- In either case, the framework will automatically:
 - ► Call the @Before/setUp() method before each test method.
 - ► Call the @After/tearDown() method after each test method.

```
@RunWith (TUnit4. class)
                                                         🚣 Java
public class TestSuite
    @Before
    public void setUp() { ... }
    @Test
    public void testMethod1() { ... }
    @Test
    public void testMethod2() { ... }
    @After
    public void tearDown() { ... }
```

```
Python
import unittest
class TestSuite(unittest.TestCase):
    def setUp(self): ...
    def testMethod1(self): ...
    def testMethod2(self): ...
    def tearDown(self): ...
```

White-Box Testing

- Let's leave the implementation details now, and go back to test design.
 - i.e., how to decide which test cases we need in the first place.
- ▶ In "Black Box" testing:
 - ▶ We design test cases without looking at the code.
 - ▶ We just look at the parameters, return type, and documentation.
 - ▶ This is what Equivalence Partitioning and Boundary Value Analysis are doing.
- ▶ In "White Box" (or "Clear Box") testing, test cases are based on the paths through a method/function.

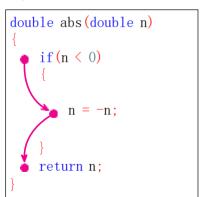
Paths

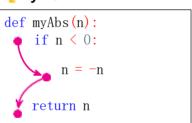
- ► A "path" is (roughly speaking) one possible way to "get through" a method/function, from start to end.
- There's always at least one path, but there are often more.
- Different paths are created by conditional statements, like if.
 - ▶ When there are multiple choices, this translates to multiple paths.
 - ▶ Multiple paths are also created by switch, while, do-while, for and try-catch/except.
 - (Not all of these exist in Python.)
- White-box testing ensures that we test each path each possible way through the production code.
 - Each path becomes a test case!

- ▶ if statements have two paths.
- ▶ 1st path:

🚣 Java

Inputs and Outputs





- ▶ if statements have two paths.
- > 2nd path:

🚣 Java

Inputs and Outputs

```
double abs (double n)
    if(n < 0)
         n = -n:
    return n;
```

```
def myAbs(n):
    if n < 0:
        n = -n
    return n
```

White Box Test Design - if statements

- In drawing up our test design, we work with paths instead of equivalence categories.
- ▶ We still need to pick test data and expected results:

Test design for abs:

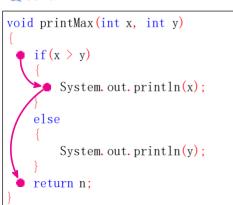
Path	Test Data	Expected Result
1. Enter the if	n = -5	5
2. DO NOT enter the if	n = 10	10

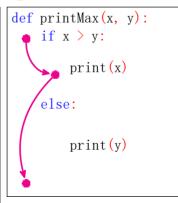
if-else Paths

Inputs and Outputs

- ▶ if-else statements also have two paths.
- ▶ 1st path:

维 Java

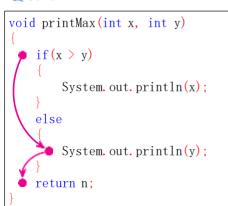


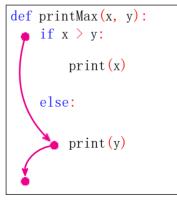


if-else Paths

- ▶ if-else statements also have two paths.
- > 2nd path:

Java





Path	Test Data	Expected Result
1. Enter the if part	x = 10, y = 5	output: "10"
2. Enter the else part	x = 10, y = 20	output: "20"

Loop Paths

- ▶ How does the concept of a "path" apply to loops?
 - ▶ while, do-while, for.
- It may seem like a loop should have many paths.
 - ▶ You can go around a while loop any number of times, for instance.
- ▶ In fact, loops have exactly two paths, just like if statements.
 - 1. The path that never enters the loop.
 - ► (Or, for Java's do-while loop, never repeats the loop.)
 - 2. A path that does enter the loop.
- ▶ Whether the loop repeats twice, or a million times, it's considered the same path.

while Paths

Inputs and Outputs

1st path: 👙 Java

```
int readPositive()
    int val = ...; // Input
    while (val \leq 0) {
        System. out. println(
             "Not positive");
        val = ...; // Input
    return val:
```

```
def readPositive():
    val = int(input())
    while val \leq 0:
        print(
           "Not positive"
        val = int(input())
   return val
```

while Paths

Inputs and Outputs

2nd path:

```
👙 Java
```

```
int readPositive()
    int val = ...; // Input
    while (val \leq 0) {
        System. out. println(
             "Not positive");
        val = ...; // Input
    return val:
```

```
def readPositive():
    val = int(input())
    while val \leq 0:
        print(
           "Not positive"
        val = int(input())
   return val
```

while Test Design

Path	Test Data	Expected Result
1. Enter loop	input: "-5\n10"	val = 10,
		output: "Not positive"
2. Skip loop	input: "5"	val = 5, output: ""

- ▶ do-while loops don't exist in Python, so this is just FYI.
- ▶ 1st path (no iteration):

```
void userAdd() {
                                                        🚣 Java
    int vall, val2:
    System. out. println ("Enter two positive numbers");
    do {
        val1 = ...: // Input
        val2 = ...: // Input
    while (val1 \leq 0 | val2 \leq 0):
    System. out. println(val1 + val2);
```

- ▶ do-while loops don't exist in Python, so this is just FYI.
- ▶ 2nd path (some iteration):

```
void userAdd() {
                                                        🚣 Java
    int vall, val2:
    System. out. println ("Enter two positive numbers");
    do
        val1 = ...: // Input
        val2 = ...: // Input
    while (val1 \leq 0 | val2 \leq 0):
    System. out. println(val1 + val2);
```

try-catch/except Paths

- ▶ This construct is intended for exception handling.
 - ▶ Java has a try-catch statement.
 - ▶ Pvthon has a try-except statement.
 - Same thing (but the names of exceptions are different).
- You'd have one path for "success", where no exception occurs.
- ▶ You'd have one additional path for each catch/except dause.
 - i.e., for each different kind of exception that you're handling.

try-catch/except Paths

1st path (success):

```
🍰 Java
```

Inputs and Outputs

```
void convertF2C() {
    Scanner sc = \dots:
    try {
        double f = sc.nextDouble():
        System. out. println(
             (f - 32, 0) / 1, 8):
    catch (InputMismatchException e)
        System. out. println(e);
```

```
def convertF2C():
    trv:
        f = float(input())
        print ((f - 32.0)
                      / 1.8)
    except ValueError as e:
        print(e)
```

try-catch/except Paths

2nd path (invalid, non-numerical input):

```
👙 Java
```

Inputs and Outputs

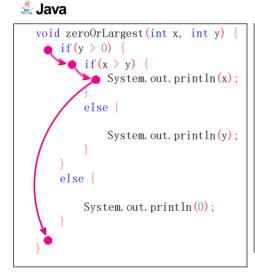
```
void convertF2C() {
    Scanner sc = \dots:
    try {
        double f = sc.nextDouble();
        System. out. println(
             (f - 32, 0) / 1, 8):
    catch (InputMismatchException e)
        System. out. println(e);
```

```
def convertF2C():
    trv:
        f = float(input())
        print ((f - 32.0)
                      / 1.8)
    except ValueError as e:
        print(e)
```

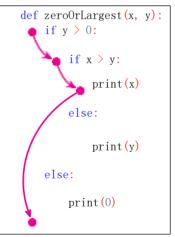
- ▶ for loops are like specialised while loops.
- ▶ if-else-if-...-else sequences create several paths.
 - ► Two paths for the first if.
 - ▶ One additional path for each additional else-if/elif.
- switch statements (in Java) create several paths.
 - One for each case, plus one for the default (even if the default is not specified).
 - These do not exist in Python.
- Everything can occur in combinations.
 - ➤ Think about control constructs as *splitting* one path into two (or more).
 - ► A single if gives you two paths.
 - ➤ Another nested if will split one of paths into two more paths, giving you three.

Nested ifs

1st path:

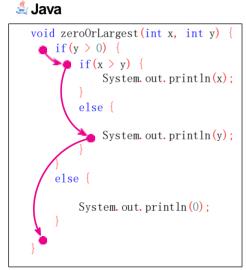


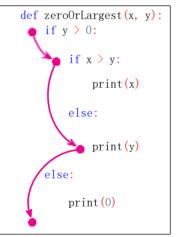
? Python



Nested ifs

2nd path:



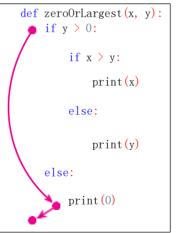


Nested ifs

3rd path:

```
🍰 Java
  void zeroOrLargest (int x, int y)
       if(y > 0) {
           if(x > y) {
               System. out. println(x);
           else {
               System. out. println(y);
      else {
           System. out. println(0);
```

? Python



Path	Test Data	Expected Result
1. Enter both if parts	y = 5, x = 10	output: "10"
2. Enter inner else part	y = 5, x = 2	output: "5"
3. Enter outer else part	y = −5	output: "5" output: "0"

- ▶ Notice that we've omitted x in the 3rd test case.
 - ➤ We must provide *some* x value when calling zero0rLargest(), but the value is irrelevant to the test design.
- ▶ In a black box design, we would have four test cases instead:
 - 1. y > 0, x > y (equivalent to 1 above);
 - 2. y > 0, $x \le y$ (equivalent to 2 above);
 - 3. $y \le 0, x > y$;
 - 4. $y \le 0, x \le y$.

- ► Why choose one over the other?
- ▶ Number of paths (in white-box testing) may differ from the number of equivalence categories (in black-box testing).
- Black Box testing:
 - ▶ Test cases can be designed before the production code exists.
 - You can change algorithms without changing the test code.
- White Box testing:
 - ➤ You can better understand the different behaviours that the production code should have.
 - ▶ What decisions must the production code make?
 - In black-box testing, you take an educated guess.
 - ▶ In white-box testing, you can see the decisions.
 - Changes to production code usually mean changes to test code.
 - However, your test code may be more up-to-date as a result.

Files 0000 Exceptions 0000 Test Fixtures

White Box Testing

That's all for now!