

Test Driven Development



© João Pereira



History

- Test-driven development is related to the test-first programming concepts of extreme programming, begun in 1999
- Kent Beck, who is credited with having developed or 'rediscovered' the technique, stated in 2003 that TDD encourages simple designs and inspires confidence

When to Write Tests?

- Write tests after implementation
 - test-last AKA code-first
- Write tests before implementation
 - test-first
- Write a test whenever a bug is found
 - Do not fix the bug once found
 - First develop a test case that exposes the bug
 - Fix the code and checks that new test case passes

Test-last Approach

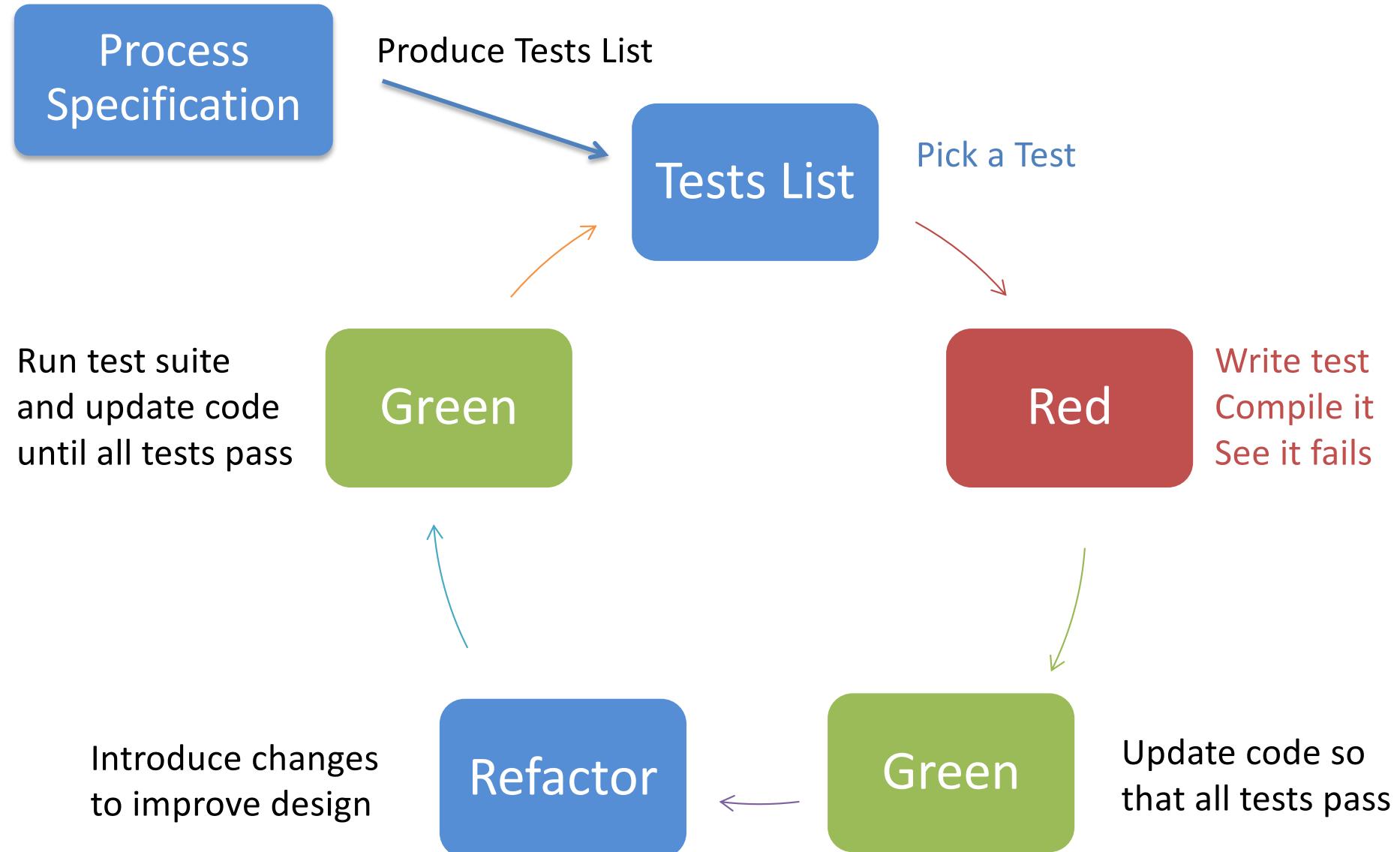
- Advantage
 - Tests developed after functionality of SUT is *well understood*
- But
 - Developer focus on testing the implementation (written some minutes before) instead of focus on behavior
 - Tests tightly coupled to implementation
 - Select the test cases with a higher probability of passing
 - Why write tests if the code is running?



TDD Rhythm

- Test-first coding consists of a few very simple steps repeated over and over again
 - Incremental development
- Red, green, refactor
 - Write a test that fails
 - Make the code work
 - Eliminate redundancy
- And three simple rules:
 - Never write code without a failing test
 - Run all tests before new code
 - And after new code

TDD Rhythm - 2





Pick up a test

- Next test to write?
- Can follow some heuristics:
 - **The Low-Hanging Fruit**
 - *Start with something really simple. Implement an obvious test case.*
 - **The Most Informative One**
 - **First The Typical Case, Then Corner Cases**
 - **Listen To Your Experience**



Red – Write a test that fails

- Test **must** represent an expected functionality of the code
- By writing the test first:
 - Know that the functionality really does not work
 - That the new test verifies behavior of the new functionality
 - High probability, it is not a proof
 - Once it is implemented, you will know it, **red->green**
- Change in coding habits
 - Great design opportunity

Red – Write a test that fails - 2

- By writing test first:
 - Make you think like a client of the SUT
 - Make you concentrate on what is really required
- Writing a test first will make you think in terms of the API of the SUT
 - More chances of testing behavior and not implementation details
 - Make tests more maintainable
- Make the test compile
 - May need to add some code before compiling

Should I follow it blindly?

- Simple rule: write a test and see it fail!

```
Client cl = new Client();
cl.setAge(20);
assertEquals(cl.getAge(), 20)
```

IDE



```
public class Client {
    private int age;
    public void setAge(int age) {
        this.age = age;
    }
    public int getAge() {
        return age;
    }
}
```

- Test does not fail
- In trivial cases
 - Skip this restriction but make sure the test was executed

Should I follow it blindly - 2?

- In cases where the generated code is more complex
 - Do not take for granted that generated code works
 - How to be sure that test exercises just the required functionality?
- In this case:
 - Break the code to see test fail
 - Run the test and see it fail
 - Revert the change and rerun the test

Green - Write the simplest thing that works



- Just code the smallest and simplest amount of code that satisfies the test
 - Do not think (too much) about possible enhancements
 - Do not try to fulfill those requirements of tests that have not yet been implemented
 - **Concentrate on the task at hand**
 - "Simple" and "silly" are not synonyms!

Green - The simplest thing

- Make it run
 - Quickly getting that bar to go to green dominates everything else
- This shift in aesthetics is hard for some experienced software engineers
 - They only know how to follow the rules of good engineering
 - Quick green excuses all sins
 - This is not just about accepting sin; it is about being **sinful**
 - Write sinful code!



REFACTOR - Improve the code

- Adding simple functionalities one by one degrades design of code
- In previous step
 - Focused on the task at hand
 - Wrote smallest amount of code to pass the test
- Now
 - Look at the broader picture and refactor all code
 - Avoid redundancy
 - Change code from place
 - ...
- Tests play a crucial role here

Clean code now

- The Refactoring Step is when we produce clean code
 - It's when you apply patterns (see Joshua Kerievsky Refactoring to Patterns)
 - It is when you remove duplication
- You do not write new unit tests here
 - You are not introducing public classes

Clean code when?

- “Dependency is the key problem in software development at all scales.” - Kent Beck, TDD By Example
- We need to eliminate dependency between our tests and our code
 - Tests should not depend on details, because then changing implementation breaks tests. Tests should depend on contracts or public interfaces
 - This allows us to refactor implementations without changing tests
 - Don’t bake implementation details into tests!
- Test behavior not implementation



REFACTOR - Improve the tests

- Should you refactor the tests?
- Yes, they are a valuable asset
 - The quality of the code depends on your tests
- However
 - No tests for tests
 - It is possible to introduce unwanted changes when refactoring the tests
 - Usually, this has a low probability



REFACTOR - Documentation

- Goal: code should be self-documenting
- Make code easier to read by adding comments
 - Do that in refactoring step
 - Keep comments short
 - The business purpose of the classes and methods
 - Any important design decision

Benefits of TDD - 1

- All code is exercised
 - At least one test case for each functionality
 - Keeps unused code out of application
 - Finds bugs earlier
 - Improves software quality



Benefits of TDD - 2

- The code is written only to satisfy the tests
 - **YAGNI** principle
- Writing the smallest amount of code to make the test pass
 - Leads to simple solutions
 - **KISS** principle
- Refactoring phase make the code clean and readable
 - **DRY** principle
- Don't lose time after interruption



Example – Race results service

- Race results service
 - Receive information about races
 - Notify interested parties about the result of races
- Requirements:
 - It should allow clients to subscribe
 - It should allow clients to unsubscribe
 - Every time a new message comes, it should be sent to all subscribers.

Example – Test cases

- Build test list
 - If client is subscribed, it should receive each new message once (and only once)
 - If multiple clients are subscribed, each of them should receive each new message
 - Consecutive subscribe requests issued by the same client will be ignored (nothing happens)
 - If the client unsubscribes, then it should be the case that no more messages are sent to it

Example – Apply TDD

- Build test list
 - If client is subscribed, it should receive each new message once (and only once)
 - If multiple clients are subscribed, each of them should receive each new message
 - Consecutive subscribe requests issued by the same client will be ignored (nothing happens)
 - If the client unsubscribes, then it should be the case that no more messages are sent to it
- 1. Pick up a test
- 2. Start TDD iteration with Red phase

1st Test: A subscriber receives message



-- Red Phase --

```
@Test public class RaceResultsServiceTest {  
    public void subscribedClientShouldReceiveMessage() {  
        // Arrange  
        RaceResultsService srv = new RaceResultsService();  
        Message message; How to initialize ?  
        Subscriber client;  
        client = mock(Subscriber.class); // Spy test double  
        message = mock(Message.class); // Dummy test double  
        srv.addSubscriber(client);  
        // Act  
        srv.send(message);  
        // Assert How to check behavior?  
        verify(client).receive(message);  
    }  
}
```

1st Test: Empty implementations

```
public interface Subscriber {  
    void receive(Message message);  
}  
  
public interface Message {  
}  
  
public class RaceResultsService {  
    public void addSubscriber(Subscriber s) {}  
    public void send(Message message) {}  
}
```

1st Test: Compile and run

- Compile, run tests
- Test fails. Yes! :
 - Wanted but not invoked:
client.receive()
 - Mock for Message, hashCode: 986944742
 -);
 - > at race.RaceResultsServiceTest.subscribedClientShould
ReceiveMessage(RaceResultsServiceTest.java:29)
 - Actually, there were zero interactions with this mock.
- **RED** phase of TDD
 - Done!

1st Test : Implementation

– Green Phase --

```
public class RaceResultsService {  
    private Subscriber subscriber;  
  
    public void addSubscriber(Subscriber s) {  
        subscriber = s;  
    }  
  
    public void send(Message message) {  
        subscriber.receive(message);  
    }  
}
```



1st Test: TDD cycle

1. Compile, run the tests

- All tests pass (**GREEN**)
- **GREEN** phase is done

2. Do Refactor Phase

- Source code
 - Comment code
- Test code

- 1. Nothing to refactor in this case
- 2. Maybe add Javadoc comments

3. Compile

4. Run, and if **GREEN** go to next test

2nd Test: Send a message to multiple subscribers – Red Phase



- Implement test case

```
public void notifyAllSubscribedClients() {  
    // Arrange  
    RaceResultsService srv = new RaceResultsService();  
    Message message = mock(Message.class);  
    Subscriber clientA, client;  
    clientA = mock(Subscriber.class , “clientA”);  
    clientB = mock(Subscriber.class , “clientB”);  
    srv.addSubscriber(clientA);  
    srv.addSubscriber(clientB);  
    // Act  
    srv.send(message);  
    // Assert  
    verify(clientA).receive(message);  
    verify(clientB).receive(message);  
}
```

2nd Test: TDD Cycle

- Compile
 - Run the tests: **RED Phase**
 - The new test fails since only one of the clients receives the message
- Wanted but not invoked:
- ```
clientA.receive(
 Mock for Message, hashCode: 1982958205
);
-> at
race.RaceResultsServiceTest.messageShouldBeSentToAllSubscribedClients
(RaceResultsServiceTest.java:40)
Actually, there were zero interactions with this mock.
 - RED phase is finished
```
- **Can** go to next phase
    - Code to pass the test

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Test: Code for passing test – Green



## Phase

```
public class RaceResultsService {
 private Collection<Subscriber> subscribers =
 new ArrayList<>();

 public void addSubscriber(Subscriber s) {
 subscribers.add(s);
 }

 public void send(Message message) {
 for(Subscriber subscriber : subscribers)
 subscriber.receive(message);
 }
}
```

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Test: TDD cycle

1. Compile, run the tests and if **GREEN**,
2. Refactor Phase
  - Source code; not needed
  - Test code: Yes
3. Compile
4. Run, and if **GREEN** go to next test

```
@Test public class RaceResultsServiceTest {
 private Subscriber client;
 private Message message;
 private RaceResultsService srv;

 @BeforeMethod private void setUp() {
 srv = new RaceResultsService();
 client = mock(Subscriber.class, "clientA");
 message = mock(Message.class);
 }

 public void subscribedClientShouldReceiveMessage() {
 srv.addSubscriber(client);
 srv.send(message);
 verify(client).receive(message);
 }
 public void messageShouldBeSentToAllSubscribers() {
 Subscriber clientB = mock(Subscriber.class, "client");
 srv.addSubscriber(client);
 srv.addSubscriber(clientB);
 srv.send(message);
 verify(client).receive(message);
 verify(clientB).receive(message);
 }
}
```

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Test: Subscribe more than once --



## Red Phase

- Implement test case

```
public void subscribeTwice() {
 // Arrange
 srv.addSubscriber(client);
 srv.addSubscriber(client);
 // Act
 srv.send(message);
 // Assert
 verify(client).receive(message);
}
```

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Test: TDD Cycle

- Compile
- Run tests – **RED Phase**

```
clientA.receive(
 Mock for Message, hashCode: 492252770
);
Wanted 1 time:
-> at
race.RaceResultsServiceTest.subscribeTwice(RaceResultsServiceTest.java:51)
But was 2 times:
-> at race.RaceResultsService.send(RaceResultsService.java:28)
-> at race.RaceResultsService.send(RaceResultsService.java:28)
```

- **RED phase is finished**
- Go to next phase:
  - Code to pass the test

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Test: TDD cycle – Green Phase

- Implement to pass the test

```
public class RaceResultsService {
 private Collection<Client> clients =
 new HashSet<Client>();
 // remains equal
}
```

1. Compile, run the tests and if **GREEN**,
2. Refactor Phase
  - Nothing to do in this case
3. Compile
4. Run, and if **GREEN** go to next test

# 4<sup>th</sup> Test: Unsubscribed client stops receiving messages – Red Phase

- Implement test case:

```
public void unsubscribedClientShouldNotReceiveMessages() {
 // Arrange
 clientB = mock(Subscriber.class, "clientB");
 srv.addSubscriber(client);
 srv.addSubscriber(clientB);
 srv.removeSubscriber(client);
 // Act
 srv.send(message);
 // Assert
 verify(client, never()).receive(message);
 verify(clientB).receive(message);
}
```

# 4<sup>th</sup> Test: TDD Cycle

- Compile
  - Compilation error
  - Correct code: Add empty *removeSubscriber* method
- Run tests – **RED Phase**

```
clientA.receive(
 Mock for Message, hashCode: 981487964
);
```

Never wanted here:

-> at race.RaceResultsServiceTest.unsubscribedClientShouldNotReceiveMessages  
(RaceResultsServiceTest.java:61)

But invoked here:

-> at race.RaceResultsService.send(RaceResultsService.java:28) with arguments:  
[Mock for Message, hashCode: 981487964]

- **RED** phase is finished
- Go to next phase

# 4<sup>th</sup> Test: TDD Cycle – Green Phase

## 1. Code RaceResults with simplest code

- Update removeSubscriber

```
public void removeSubscriber(Client sub) {
 subscribers.remove(sub);
}
```

- Run tests -> GREEN

## 2. Go to Refactor phase

- Nothing to do

## 3. Go to next test

- No more tests. Finished

# Conclusions so far

- More Test code than Production code
- The Interface is what Really Matters
  - Develop code in parallel
- Interactions can be tested
  - And cost is small
- Test Dependencies are there
  - Whether you like It or not
  - Ideally, test cases should be independently
  - Not always possible

# Use Test Doubles or Not?

- Testing without test doubles is possible. But
  - Imposes a class development order
  - Test code may depend on some business logic
  - ...
- But using test doubles may be overkill
  - It implies a dependency!
- When do not use test doubles:
  - The collaborator is very simple
    - Without any logic or with a very simple logic
    - DTO, Value Objects



# TDD Best practices

- Naming Conventions
- Processes
- Development practices
- Tools

# Naming conventions

- Help to organize test better
- 1. Separate implementation from test code
- 2. Place test classes in the same package as implementation
- 3. Name test classes in a similar fashion as classes they test
- 4. Use descriptive names for test methods
  - 1. Comments in test code does not appear when tests fail

# Processes

- Write the test before writing the implementation code
  - Functionality coverage
  - Focus on requirements
- Only write new code when test is failing
- Rerun all tests every time implementation code changes
- All tests should pass before new test is written
  - Focus on a small unit of work
  - Implementation code is (almost) working as expected
- Refactor only after all tests are passing

# Development practices

- Write the simplest code to pass the test
- Use setup and tear-down methods
- Do not introduce dependencies between tests
- Tests should run fast
- Use test doubles
- Minimize assertions in each test
  - Test a **single** condition

# Minimize assertions in each test – Good examples



```
@Test
public final void whenOneNumberIsUsedThenReturnValueIsThatSameNumber() {
 assertEquals(3, StringCalculator.add("3"));
}

@Test
public final void whenNegativeNumbersAreUsedThenRuntimeExceptionIsThrown() {
 RuntimeException exception = null;
 try {
 StringCalculator.add("3,-6,15,-18,46,33");
 } catch (RuntimeException e) {
 exception = e;
 }
 assertNotNull("Exception was not thrown", exception);
 assertEquals("Negatives not allowed: [-6, -18]", exception.getMessage());
}
```

# Minimize assertions in each test – Bad example



```
@Test
public final void whenAddIsUsedThenItWorks() {
 assertEquals(0, StringCalculator.add(""));
 assertEquals(3, StringCalculator.add("3"));
 assertEquals(3+6, StringCalculator.add("3,6"));
 assertEquals(3+6+15+18+46, StringCalculator.add("3,6,15,18,46"));
 assertEquals(3+6+15, StringCalculator.add("3,6n15"));
 assertEquals(3+6+15, StringCalculator.add("//;n3;6;15"));
 assertEquals(3+1000+6, StringCalculator.add("3,1000,1001,6,1234"));
}
```



# Tools

- Code coverage
- Continuous integration



# Testing first clarifies the task

- A test is a small, self-contained action
- It becomes an example to help understand what the code needs to do
- Also acts as a checkpoint; if you don't understand the problem well enough to write a test case, you aren't ready to write the code
- Might grapple on how to write the test, but the time also helps you write the code

# Fixing broken test cases

- You modify code or introduce a bug and as a result, tests don't run correctly. What now?
- Goal is to make the tests pass
- Two distinct cases:
  1. Might require refactoring the test cases themselves to match new code signatures
  2. Might require searching through the code to find out why the test case fails



# Tests Suites and Sanity

- Test suites psychologically help the team's frame of mind
  - Successful passing of tests strokes your inner programmer
  - Stronger boost when you see a new/better/more efficient way to write your code, and can see that all of the tests still pass

# Shortcomings

- Tests become part of the maintenance overhead of a project
  - A refactoring phase goal: write tests that are easy to maintain
- Over-testing can consume time both to write the excessive tests, and later, to rewrite the tests when requirements change