Mastering assert statements

UNIT TESTING FOR DATA SCIENCE IN PYTHON



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Theoretical structure of an assertion

assert boolean_expression



The optional message argument

```
assert boolean_expression, message
assert 1 == 2, "One is not equal to two!"
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
AssertionError: One is not equal to two!
assert 1 == 1, "This will not be printed since assertion passes"
```

Adding a message to a unit test

test module: test_row_to_list.py

```
import pytest
....

def test_for_missing_area():
   assert row_to_list("\t293,410\n") is None
```



Adding a message to a unit test

• test module: test_row_to_list.py

```
import pytest
...

def test_for_missing_area():
   assert row_to_list("\t293,410\n") is None
```

• test module: test_row_to_list.py

```
import pytest
def test_for_missing_area_with_message():
    actual = row_to_list("\t293,410\n")
   expected = None
   message = ("row_to_list('\t293,410\n') "
               "returned {0} instead "
               "of {1}".format(actual, expected)
   assert actual is expected, message
```

Test result report with message

test_on_missing_area() output on failure

```
E AssertionError: assert ['', '293,410'] is None
E + where ['', '293,410'] = row_to_list('\t293,410\n')
```

test_on_missing_area_with_message() output on failure

Recommendations

- Include a message with assert statements.
- Print values of any variable that is relevant to debugging.

Beware of float return values!

$$0.1 + 0.1 + 0.1 == 0.3$$

False



Beware of float return values!

0.1 + 0.1 + 0.1

0.30000000000000004



Don't do this

```
assert 0.1 + 0.1 + 0.1 == 0.3, "Usual way to compare does not always work with floats!"
```

```
Traceback (most recent call last):

File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
AssertionError: Usual way to compare does not always work with floats!
```

Do this

• Use pytest.approx() to wrap expected return value.

```
assert 0.1 + 0.1 + 0.1 == pytest.approx(0.3)
```



NumPy arrays containing floats

```
assert np.array([0.1 + 0.1, 0.1 + 0.1 + 0.1]) == pytest.approx(np.array([0.2, 0.3]))
```



Multiple assertions in one unit test

```
convert_to_int("2,081")
```

2081



Multiple assertions in one unit test

test module: test_convert_to_int.py

```
import pytest
...

def test_on_string_with_one_comma():
   assert convert_to_int("2,081") == 2081
```

test_module: test_convert_to_int.py

```
import pytest
...

def test_on_string_with_one_comma():
    return_value = convert_to_int("2,081")
    assert isinstance(return_value, int)
    assert return_value == 2081
```

Test will pass only if both assertions pass.

Let's practice writing assert statements!

UNIT TESTING FOR DATA SCIENCE IN PYTHON



Testing for exceptions instead of return values

UNIT TESTING FOR DATA SCIENCE IN PYTHON



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```
import numpy as np
example_argument = np.array([2081, 314942, 1059, 186606, 1148, 206186]) # one dimensional
split_into_training_and_testing_sets(example_argument)
```

ValueError: Argument data array must be two dimensional. Got 1 dimensional array instead!



Unit testing exceptions

Goal

Test if split_into_training_and_testing_set() raises ValueError with one dimensional argument.

```
def test_valueerror_on_one_dimensional_argument():
    example_argument = np.array([2081, 314942, 1059, 186606, 1148, 206186])
    with pytest.raises(ValueError):
```

```
with ___:
    print("This is part of the context") # any code inside is the context
```



```
with context_manager:
    print("This is part of the context")  # any code inside is the context
```



```
with context_manager:
    # <--- Runs code on entering context
    print("This is part of the context")  # any code inside is the context
    # <--- Runs code on exiting context</pre>
```



```
with pytest.raises(ValueError):
    # <--- Does nothing on entering the context
    print("This is part of the context")
    # <--- If context raised ValueError, silence it.
    # <--- If the context did not raise ValueError, raise an exception.</pre>
```

```
with pytest.raises(ValueError):
    raise ValueError  # context exits with ValueError
    # <--- pytest.raises(ValueError) silences it</pre>
```

```
with pytest.raises(ValueError):
    pass  # context exits without raising a ValueError
    # <--- pytest.raises(ValueError) raises Failed</pre>
```

```
Failed: DID NOT RAISE <class 'ValueError'>
```

Unit testing exceptions

```
def test_valueerror_on_one_dimensional_argument():
    example_argument = np.array([2081, 314942, 1059, 186606, 1148, 206186])
    with pytest.raises(ValueError):
        split_into_training_and_testing_sets(example_argument)
```

- If function raises expected ValueError, test will pass.
- If function is buggy and does not raise ValueError, test will fail.

Testing the error message

ValueError: Argument data array must be two dimensional. Got 1 dimensional array instead!



Testing the error message

- exception_info stores the ValueError.
- exception_info.match(expected_msg) checks if expected_msg is present in the actual error message.

Let's practice unit testing exceptions.

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The well tested function

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Test for length, not value

Test arguments and expected return values

Number of rows (argument)	Number of rows (training array)	Number of rows (testing array)
8	int(0.75 * 8) = 6	8 - int(0.75 * 8) = 2

Test arguments and expected return values

Number of rows (argument)	Number of rows (training array)	Number of rows (testing array)
8	int(0.75 * 8) = 6	8 - int(0.75 * 8) = 2
10	int(0.75 * 10) = 7	10 - int(0.75 * 10) = 3

Test arguments and expected return values

Number of rows (argument)	Number of rows (training array)	Number of rows (testing array)
8	int(0.75 * 8) = 6	8 - int(0.75 * 8) = 2
10	int(0.75 * 10) = 7	10 - int(0.75 * 10) = 3
23	int(0.75 * 23) = 17	23 - int(0.75 * 23) = 6

How many arguments to test?

Input array number of rows	Training array number of rows	Testing array number of rows
8	int(0.75 * 8) = 6	8 - int(0.75 * 8) = 2
10	int(0.75 * 10) = 7	10 - int(0.75 * 10) = 3
23	int(0.75 * 23) = 17	23 - int(0.75 * 23) = 6
•••	•••	•••
•••	•••	•••
•••	•••	•••

- Bad arguments.
- Special arguments.
- Normal arguments.



- Bad arguments. ✓
- Special arguments.
- Normal arguments.



- Bad arguments. ✓
- Special arguments. ✓
- Normal arguments.

- Bad arguments. ✓
- Special arguments. ✓
- Normal arguments. ✓



The well tested function

- Bad arguments. ✓
- Special arguments. ✓
- Normal arguments. ✓



Type I: Bad arguments

• When passed bad arguments, function raises an exception.



Type I: Bad arguments (one dimensional array)

When passed bad arguments, function raises an exception.

Argument	Type	Num rows (training)	Num rows (testing)	exceptions
One dimensional	Bad	_	_	ValueError

Example: np.array([845.0, 31036.0, 1291.0,72205.0])

Type I: Bad arguments (array with only one row)

• When passed bad arguments, function raises an exception.

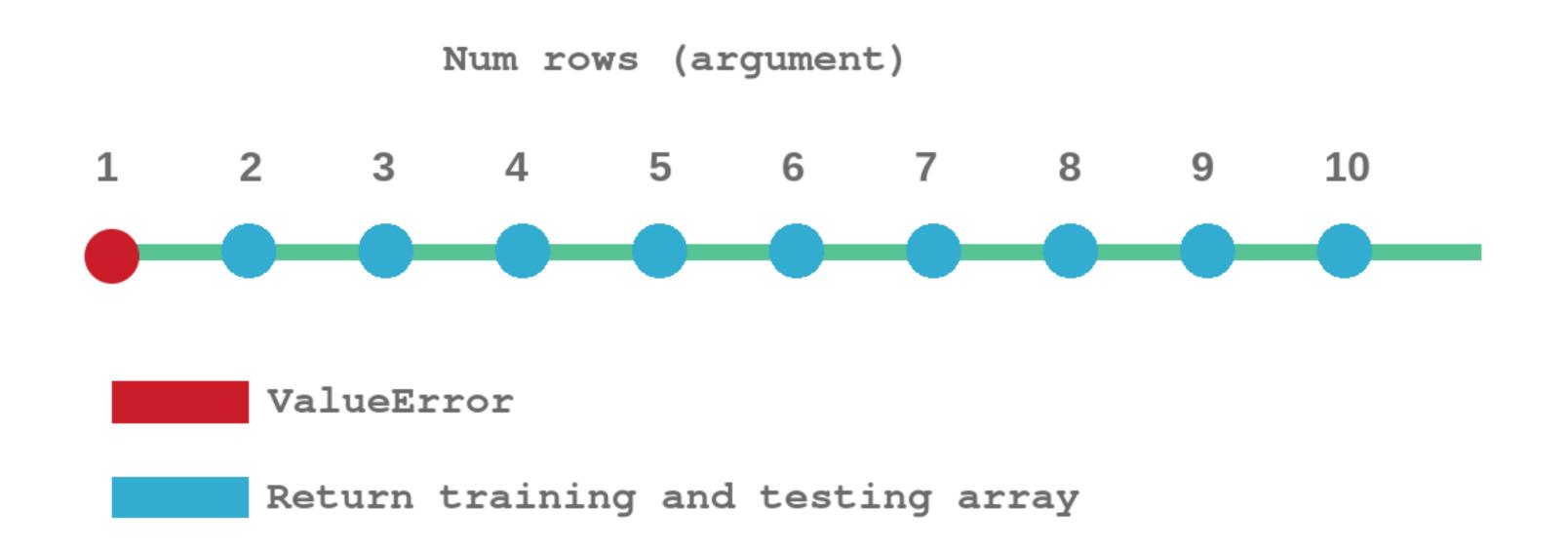
Argument	Type	Num rows (training)	Num rows (testing)	exceptions
One dimensional	Bad	_	_	ValueError
Contains 1 row	Bad	-	-	ValueError

Example: np.array([[845.0, 31036.0]])

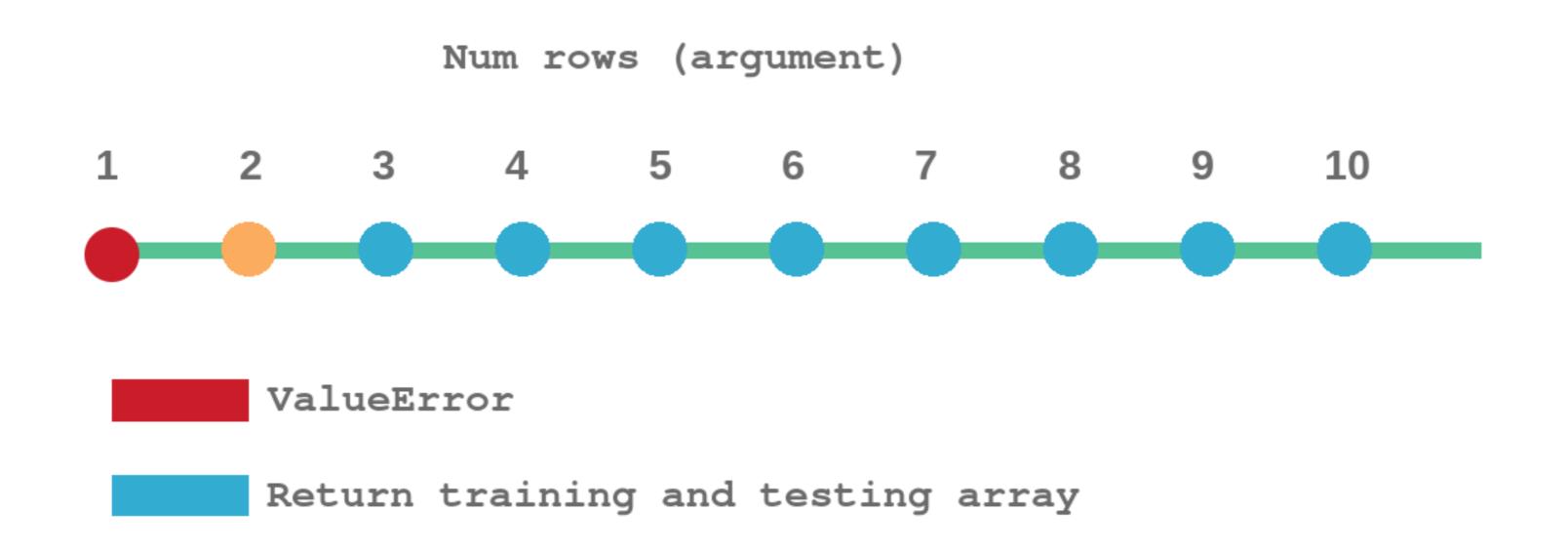
Type II: Special arguments

- Boundary values.
- For some argument values, function uses special logic.

Boundary values



Boundary values



Test arguments table

Argument	Type	Num rows (training)	Num rows (testing)	exceptions
One dimensional	Bad	_	_	ValueError
Contains 1 row	Bad	_	_	ValueError
Contains 2 rows	Special	int(0.75 * 2) = 1	2 - int(0.75 * 2) = 1	-

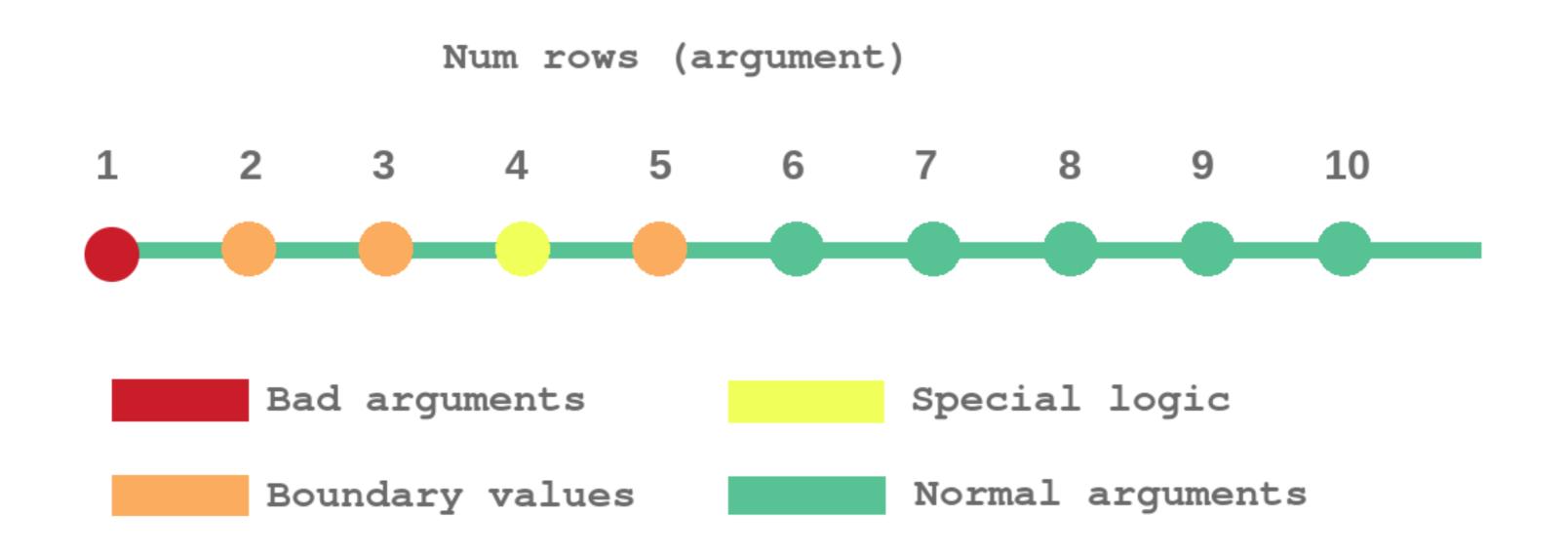
Arguments triggering special logic

Argument	Type	Num rows (training)	Num rows (testing)	exceptions
One dimensional	Bad	_	_	ValueError
Contains 1 row	Bad	_	_	ValueError
Contains 2 rows	Special	int(0.75 * 2) = 1	2 - int(0.75 * 2) = 1	_
Contains 4 rows		int(0.75 * 4) = 3	4- int(0.75 * 4) = 1	-

Arguments triggering special logic

Argument	Type	Num rows (training)	Num rows (testing)	exceptions
One dimensional	Bad	_	-	ValueError
Contains 1 row	Bad	_	_	ValueError
Contains 2 rows	Special	int(0.75 * 2) = 1	2 - int(0.75 * 2) = 1	-
Contains 4 rows	Special	3 2	1 2	_

Normal arguments



Argument	Type	Num rows (training)	Num rows (testing)	exceptions
One dimensional	Bad	_	_	ValueError
Contains 1 row	Bad	_	_	ValueError
Contains 2 rows	Special	int(0.75 * 2) = 1	2 - int(0.75 * 2) = 1	_
Contains 3 rows	Special	int(0.75 * 3) = 2	3 - int(0.75 * 3) = 1	-
Contains 4 rows	Special	3 2	1 2	-
Contains 5 rows	Special	int(0.75 * 5) = 3	5 - int(0.75 * 5) = 2	_
Contains 6 rows	Normal	int(0.75 * 6) = 4	6 - int(0.75 * 6) = 2	_
Contains 8 rows	Normal	int(0.75 * 8) = 6	8 - int(0.75 * 6) = 2	-

split_into_training_and_testing_sets()



Caveat

- Not all functions have bad or special arguments.
 - In this case, simply ignore these class of arguments.

Let's apply this to other functions!

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Test Driven Development (TDD)

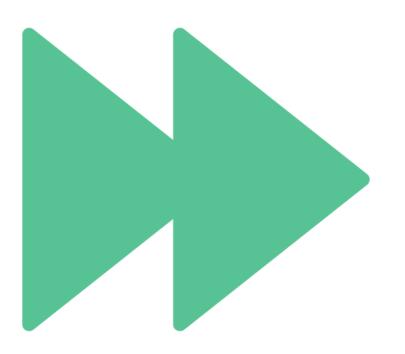
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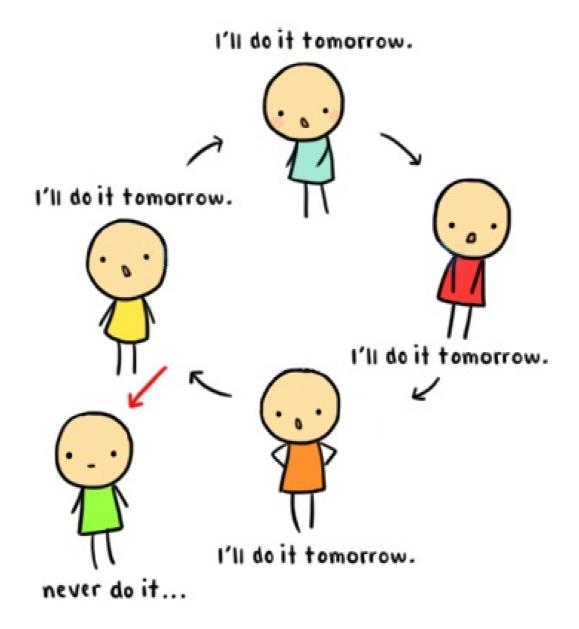
Writing unit tests is often skipped



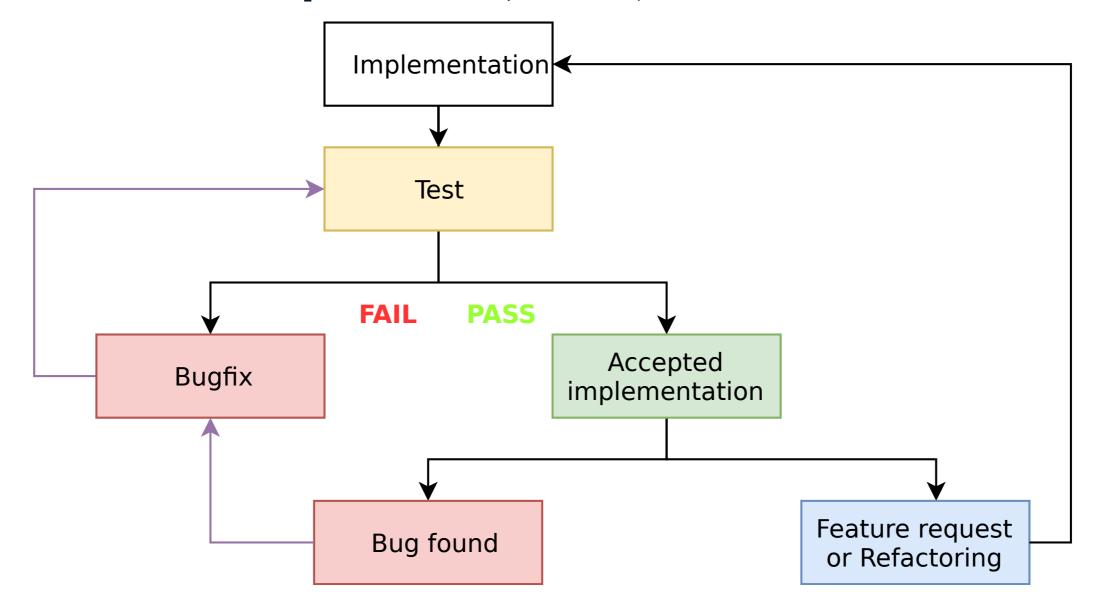
Usual priorities in the industry

- 1. Feature development.
- 2. Unit testing.

Unit tests never get written

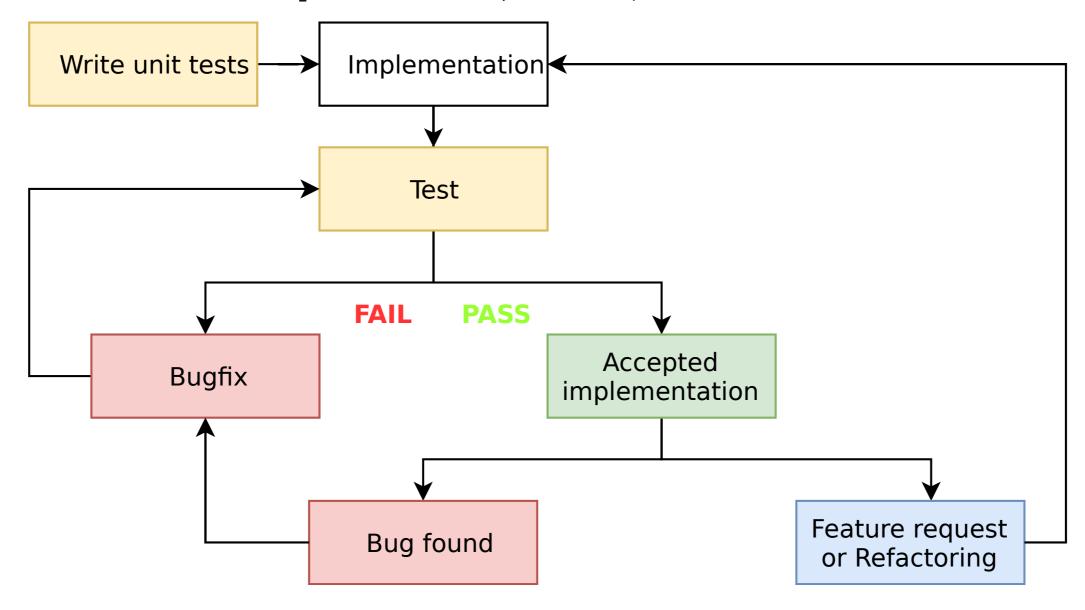


Test Driven Development (TDD)



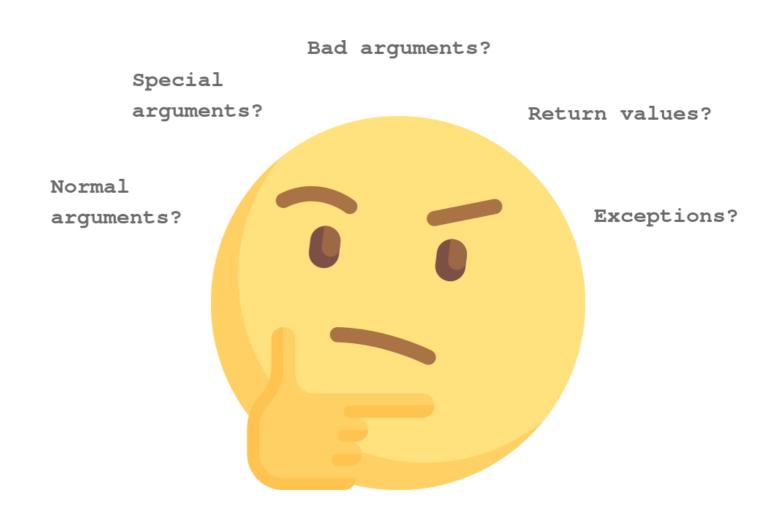


Test Driven Development (TDD)



Write unit tests before implementation!

- Unit tests *cannot* be deprioritized.
- Time for writing unit tests factored in implementation time.
- Requirements are clearer and implementation easier.



In the coding exercises...

We will use TDD to develop convert_to_int().

```
convert_to_int("2,081")
```

2081



Step 1: Write unit tests and fix requirements

Test module: test_convert_to_int.py

```
import pytest
def test_with_no_comma():
def test_with_one_comma():
def test_with_two_commas():
```

Step 2: Run tests and watch it fail

!pytest test_convert_to_int.py

```
platform linux -- Python 3.6.7, pytest-4.0.1, py-1.8.0, pluggy-0.11.0
rootdir: /tmp/tmpbhadho_b, inifile:
plugins: mock-1.10.0
collecting ...
collected 6 items
                                              [100%]
test_convert_to_int.py FFFFFF
```

Step 3: Implement function and run tests again

```
def convert_to_int():
!pytest test_convert_to_int.py
    platform linux -- Python 3.6.7, pytest-4.0.1, py-1.8.0, pluggy-0.11.0
rootdir: /tmp/tmp793ds6mt, inifile:
plugins: mock-1.10.0
collecting ...
collected 6 items
test_convert_to_int.py .....
                                               [100%]
```

Let's apply TDD!

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