Aeryn A C++ Testing Framework

User Guide



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What is Aeryn?

Aeryn is a C++ testing framework. Although it is primarily intended for unit testing, Aeryn is adaptable enough to handle integration testing and can be adapted for most other forms of C++ testing.

Aeryn is intended to be light weight with the minimal of code needed to create a test fixture. Unlike other testing frameworks Aeryn does not require all test fixtures to be inherited from a particular class. Test fixtures can be standalone functions or standalone classes.

Aeryn is adaptable via context objects that can be passed to test fixtures prior to running and through its call back reporting interface.

Where can I get Aeryn?

Aeryn can be downloaded from: http://www.paulgrenyer.dyndns.org/aeryn.

What do I need to build Aeryn?

Aeryn uses up-to-date C++ and therefore requires a modern compiler. It has been tested on, and provides make files or project files for the following compilers:

Microsoft Visual C++ 7.1 MinGW 3.2.3 GNU G++ 3.2.3 & 3.4.3 Xcode 1.5

It may be possible to get Aeryn to compile on Microsoft Visual C++ 6.0.

How do I build Aeryn?

Glossary of Terms

Term	Meaning
Test Condition	A test condition is a piece of code being tested using one of Aeryn's test condition macros such as IS_EQUAL. For example:
	<pre>IS_EQUAL(lifeTheUniverseAndEverything, 42);</pre>
Test Fixture	A test fixture is a class or a function containing test conditions. For example:
	<pre>void TestForTheMeaningOfLife()</pre>
	IS_EQUAL(lifeTheUniverseAndEverything, 42); }
	A test fixture is passed to Aeryn's TestRunner in order to run its tests.
Test Case	A test case is a wrapper for a test fixture which enables it to be given a name and run by Aeryn.
Context Object	An object of any type which is passed to a test fixture containing extra information needed by the test.
Test Runner	A test runner runs test cases.
Test Set	A set of one or more test cases added to a test runner at the same time and, therefore, given the same name.

Test Condition Macros

Aeryn uses a number of macros to actually test conditions in code. Generally speaking, in C++, macros are frowned upon. However, test code is not production code and many leading experts agree that testing is a legitimate use for macros. Without macros writing test conditions, which yield important information such as the file and line number, would become very cumbersome.

An example of a test condition is as follows:

```
IS TRUE( lifeTheUniverseAndEverything == 42 );
```

If lifeTheUniverseAndEverything holds the value 42 the expression lifeTheUniverseAndEverything == 42, evaluates to true and the code put in place by the IS_TRUE macro does nothing. If lifeTheUniverseAndEverything holds something different to 42 an exception of type TestFailire, is thrown.

Tests are intended to pass. Therefore a test failing is an exceptional condition and therefore justifies the throwing of an exception. Throwing an exception does of course prevent the test conditions following a failure from being tested, but if a failure has occurred this should be fixed before proceeding to further test conditions, which are quite likely to fail anyway.

The TestFailure class has the following member functions:

Function	Return Type	Description
Failure()	std::string	A description of the failure. This varies for each test condition macro.
Line()	long	The line number on which the failure occurred. This is determined by theLINE macro.
File()	std::string	The file in which the failure occurred. Whether this includes the full path to the file or just the file name is dependant on the compilers implementation of theFILE macro.

The member accessed by each member function is populated following a test condition failure and prior to the TestFailure instance being thrown.

IS_TRUE(code)

Header file: is_true.hpp

Failure condition: The IS TRUE test condition throws if the result of executing

code evaluates to false. Eg:

IS TRUE (false);

Failure message: A string containing the complete test condition. Eg:

IS_TRUE(false)

Example: IS_TRUE(lifeTheUniverseAndEverything == 42);

IS FALSE (code)

Header file: is_false.hpp

Failure condition: The IS FALSE test condition throws if the result of executing

code evaluates to true. Eg:

IS_FALSE(true);

Failure message: A string containing the complete test condition. Eg:

IS_FALSE(true)

Example: IS_ FALSE(lifeTheUniverseAndEverything != 42);

FAILED(msg)

Header file: failed.hpp

Failure condition: The FAILED test condition always throws. It is intended to be

used to indicate when code that should not be executed under

normal conditions has been reached.

Failure message: The string literal contained within msg.

Example: try

```
{
    ...
}
catch(const std::exception& e)
{
    FAILED(e.what());
}
```

IS EQUAL (lhs, rhs)

Header file: is_equal.hpp

Failure condition: The IS EQUAL test condition throws if the values held in 1hs

and rhs are not equal. Eg:

IS EQUAL(4, 2);

Failure message: If the types of lhs and rhs are streamable a message detailing

the failure is created. Eg:

```
Expected '4' but got '2'.
```

If the types are not streamable the test condition is used. Eg:

```
IS\_EQUAL(4,2);
```

Example: IS_EQUAL(lifeTheUniverseAndEverything, 42);

There is an IS_EQUAL overload which ensures that the contents of string literals and char arrays pointed by const char* are compared instead of the address of the pointer.

IS NOT EQUAL (lhs, rhs)

Header file: is not equal.hpp

Failure condition: The IS NOT EQUAL test condition throws if the values held in

lhs and rhs are equal. Eg:

IS NOT EQUAL(42, 42);

Failure message: If the types of lhs and rhs are streamable a message detailing

the failure is created. Eg:

Expected not to get '42'.

If the types are not streamable the test condition is used. Eg:

IS NOT EQUAL(42, 42);

Example: IS_NOT_EQUAL(lifeTheUniverseAndEverything, 43);

There is an IS_NOT_EQUAL overload which ensures that the contents of string literals and char arrays pointed by const char* are compared instead of the address of the pointer.

THROWS EXCEPTION (statement, exception type)

Header file: throws exception.hpp

Failure condition: The THROWS EXCEPTION test condition throws if the

statment contained in the statment parameter does not throw

an exception of the type exception type. Eg:

THROWS EXCEPTION(NonThrower(), std::exception);

Where NonThrower is a class that does not throw from its

constructor.

Failure message: A simple message saying that the code failed to throw an

exception of the right type. E.g:

Failed to throw std::exception

Example: IS_NOT_EQUAL(Thrower(), std::exception);

Where Thrower is a class that throws from its constructor.

DOES_NOT_THROW_EXCEPTION(statement)

Header file: does_not_throw_exception.hpp

Failure condition: The THROWS EXCEPTION test condition throws if the

statement contained in the statement parameter throws a an

exception of any type. Eg:

```
DOES_NOT_THROW_EXCEPTION( Thrower() );
```

Where Thrower is a class that throws from its constructor.

Failure message: Exception Thrown

Example: IS_NOT_EQUAL(NonThrower());

Where NonThrower is a class that does not throw from its

constructor.

Creating a Test Fixture

Creating a test fixture should be really easy and require the minimum of code to encourage people to create more tests. Some testing frameworks, such as CPPUnit [CPPUnit] and Test Crickett [TestCrickett] require all test fixtures to inherit from a particular class. This is overkill as, in most cases, a test fixture can require no more than a simple function and the power provided by a class is not needed. There are other times when a test fixture requires setup and tear down code and a class with a constructor and/or destructor provides a convenient mechanism.

Aeryn can run function based test fixtures, class based test fixtures and a combination of the two (e.g. a class with one or more static member functions).

Creating a Function based Test Fixture

To create a function based test fixture, simply write a function taking no parameters with a return type of void and place the test code and test conditions inside the function. For example:

```
void TestForTheMeaningOfLife()
{
    ...
    IS_EQUAL( lifeTheUniverseAndEverything, 42 );
}
```

Sometimes it may be necessary to pass some form of context object [EncapsulateContextPattern] to the test fixture. This can be achieved by adding a *single* parameter of any type. For example:

```
void TestForTheMeaningOfLife(int lifeTheUniverseAndEverything)
{
    IS_EQUAL( lifeTheUniverseAndEverything, 42 );
}
```

Creating a Class based Test Fixture

To create a class based test fixture, simply write a class and put any setup code in the constructor and tear down code in the destructor (remembering that a destructor should never throw [Sutter]). For example:

Sometimes it may be necessary to pass some form of context object [EncapsulateContextPattern] to the test fixture. This can be achieved by adding a *single* parameter of any type to the constructor. For example:

```
class TestForTheMeaningOfLife
{
    private:
        const int lifeTheUniverseAndEverything_;

public:
    TestForTheMeaningOfLife( int lifeTheUniverseAndEverything)
        : lifeTheUniverseAndEverything_( lifeTheUniverseAndEverything )
        {
        }
        ...
};
```

Class based test fixtures can be written so that the setup and teardown code (constructor and destructor) is called once regardless of how many separate test functions there are or once for each test function.

To call the setup and teardown code once for the whole test fixture make all the test functions private and write a single public function which calls the other test functions and create a test case for the public function (see later section). For example:

To call the setup and teardown code for each test function, make all the test functions public and create a test case for each one. For example:

Creating Test Cases

A test case is a wrapper for a test fixture function (which can be a standalone function or a class member function) which enables it to be given a name and added to a TestRunner. The TestCase class has two constructors. One takes a name used to identify the test fixture function and the test fixture function itself. The second constructor takes just the test fixture function and the name defaults to an empty string.

Creating a Test Case for a Function based Test Fixture

Creating a test case for a function based test fixture is straight forward. Simply pass the name of the test fixture function to the constructor of TestCase with or without a name. For example:

If a function based test fixture takes a context object it must be specified, along with the test fixture using the FunctionPtr class, when creating a test case. For example:

Creating a Test Case for a Class based Test Fixture

The Incarnate class is needed to create a test case for a class based test fixture, so that the test fixture is not instantiated until it is run. To create a test case pass the qualified test fixture function to the Incarnate class and then pass the Incarnate class, with or without a name to the TestCase constructor. For example:

If a class based test fixture takes a context object it must be specified, along with the test fixture function, and passed as a second parameter to Incarnate, when creating a test case. For example:

or

The USE_NAME Macro

The test fixture name passed to a test case is often the same as the test fixture function name itself. Therefore Aeryn provides a macro which extracts the test fixture function name, reformats it by capitalising the first letter and inserting spaces prior to each following capital letter, and passes it to the test case. For example, the following function based test fixtures:

both result in the following:

```
Test For Life The Universe And Everything
```

being used as the test fixture name. USE_NAME works in the same way for class based test fixtures removing Incarnate& and the class name from the test fixture function name

Adding and Running Test Cases

Test cases must be added to a test runner in order to be run. TestRunner is declared in testrunner.h and is default constructible:

```
#include <aeryn/testrunner.h>
...
using namespace Aeryn;
TestRunner testRunner;
```

Once an instance of TestRunner has bee created, test cases can be added to it. There are basically two ways of adding tests cases: one at a time or any number as an array. Along with the test case(s) a name for the test set (one or more test cases added together) can also be added. If the test set name is not specified it defaults to a blank string.

Adding a Single Test Case

To add a single test case to a test runner, simply pass it to TestRunner's add member function with or without a test set name. For example:

Adding an Array of Test Cases

To add an array of test cases to a test runner, simply pass it to TestRunner's Add member function with or without a test set name. For example:

```
TestCase calculatorTests[] =
         TestCase( "Basics",
                 Incarnate( &CalculatorTest::TestBasics ) ),
         TestCase( "Variables",
                  Incarnate( &CalculatorTest::TestVariables ) ),
         TestCase()
     };
     testRunner.Add( "Calculator", calculatorTests );
or
     TestCase calculatorTests[] =
         TestCase( "Basics",
                  Incarnate( &CalculatorTest::TestBasics ) ),
         TestCase( "Variables",
                 Incarnate( &CalculatorTest::TestVariables ) ),
         TestCase( "Compound",
                  Incarnate( &CalculatorTest::TestCompound ) ),
         TestCase()
     };
     testRunner.Add( calculatorTests );
```

The test case array must be terminated by a default constructed TestCase. This is so that the test runner can detect when it has reached the end of the array.

USE NAME Macro

The USE_NAME macro can also be used with TestRunner's Add member function. For example:

```
testRunner.Add( USE_NAME( calculatorTests ) );
will give the test set the name:
```

Calculator Tests

Running Tests

To run the test cases that have been added to the test runner, simply call TestRunner's Run member function. For example:

```
testRunner.Run();
```

There are two overloads of the TestRunner Run function. One takes no arguments and the other takes a report object. The version which takes no arguments uses the minimal report (which is described later) and therefore writes the results of the tests to cout. Both versions of the Run member function return 0 if all the tests pass and 1 if there are any failures. This makes it ideal for use as a main return value if, for example, running the tests is integrated into an Integrated Development Environment (IDE) or a build system.

The features described above are all that is needed to run tests using the Aeryn testing framework. The following sections contain optional extras.

Complete Example

```
#include <aeryn/testrunner.h>
class CalculatorTest
public:
   void TestBasics()
       . . .
   void TestVariables()
   void TestCompound()
        . . .
};
using namespace Aeryn;
TestCase calculatorTests[] =
    TestCase( "Basics",
             Incarnate( &CalculatorTest::TestBasics ) ),
   TestCase( "Variables",
             Incarnate( &CalculatorTest::TestVariables ) ),
   TestCase( "Compound",
             Incarnate( &CalculatorTest::TestCompound ) ),
   TestCase()
};
int main()
   TestRunner testRunner;
   testRunner.Add( "Calculator", calculatorTests );
   return testRunner.Run();
}
```

Reports

Aeryn uses a call back mechanism to report on tests. Custom reports must implement the IReport interface. There are a number of different types of reports provided with Aeryn. These are discussed below.

Minimal Report

The minimal report does not give any information about the test cases unless one or more fail. The output of a successfully run set of test cases gives only the Aeryn copyright message, the number of test cases run, the number of passes and number of failures (which is obviously zero):

If one or more test cases fail its name is displayed along with the test condition failure message, the line the failure occurred on and the file the failure occurred in. Again, the number of test cases run, the number of passes and the number of failures is displayed:

The minimal report is used by default if no other report is specified.

Verbose Report

The verbose report lists all test sets and test cases that are given a name. Those that are not named are not displayed as there is no useful information. Following the copyright message and the list of tests, the number of test cases run, the number of passes and number of failures are displayed:

```
Aeryn 2 (c) Paul Grenyer 2005
http://www.paulgrenyer.dyndns.org/aeryn

Test Set : Report Tests

- Minimal Report Test

- Verbose Report Test

- Gcc Report Test
```

```
Test Set : Test Function Tests
- IsTrue (true)
- IsTrue( false )
- IsFalse (false)
- IsFalse( true )
- IsEqual (true)
- IsEqual (false)
- IsNotEqual( false )
- IsNotEqual( true )
- IsEqual missing operator <<
- IsNotEqual missing operator <<
- Failure
- THROWS_EXCEPTION( throw std::bad alloc();, std::bad alloc
- THROWS EXCEPTION ( "", std::bad alloc )
______
Test Set : Calculator Test
- Run
- All calculator tests
Test Set : Context object tests
- Function
- Class
Ran 23 tests, 23 Passed, 0 Failed.
```

If one or more test cases fail its failure message, the line the failure occurred on and the file the failure occurred in are displayed immediately below the test case name:

```
Test Set : Test Function Tests
- IsTrue( true )
Failure : IS TRUE( true ) failed.
Line : 48
File
       : c:\sandbox\protected\aeryn2\tests\testfunctest.cpp
 - IsTrue (false)
 - IsFalse (false)
 - IsFalse( true )
 - IsEqual( true )
 - IsEqual (false)
 - IsNotEqual( false )
 - IsNotEqual( true )
 - IsEqual missing operator<<
 - IsNotEqual missing operator<<
 - Failure
 - THROWS EXCEPTION( throw std::bad alloc();, std::bad alloc
 - THROWS_EXCEPTION( "", std::bad_alloc )
```

```
Ran 23 tests, 22 Passed, 1 Failed.
```

GCC Report

The GCC report reports failures in a way that is compatible with GCC IDEs (Integrated Development Environment) such as KDevelop [kDevelop], so that if the tests are run as part of the build process failures can be double clicked on to go straight to the point of failure:

```
Aeryn 2 (c) Paul Grenyer 2005
http://www.paulgrenyer.co.uk/aeryn

testfunctest.cpp:48: error: Test Failure - 'IsTrue( true )' in
'Test Function Tests' - IS_TRUE( true ) failed.
```

XCode Report

The XCode [XCode] report is the same as the GCC report, but uses a file based to cookie to stop the tests begin run if the code has not been changed.

Controlling Reports with Command Line Arguments

Aeryn includes an easy way to run different reports depending on the first command line argument passed to the test application at runtime. This is achieved using the TestRunner::CreateReport function. For example:

The command line argument options are:

Command Line Argument	Report
	Minimal
verbose	Verbose
gcc	GCC
xcode	XCode

Creating a Custom Report

Custom reports can be created by implementing the IReport interface which is found in Aeryn/ireport.h.

```
#ifndef AERYN IREPORT H
#define AERYN IREPORT H
#include <aeryn/noncopyable.h>
#include <string>
namespace Aeryn
   class TestFailure;
   class IReport : private Utils::Noncopyable
   public:
       virtual ~IReport
            () = 0;
        virtual void BeginTesting
            ( const std::string& header,
              unsigned long testCount ) = 0;
        virtual void BeginTestSet
            ( const std::string& testSetName ) = 0;
        virtual void BeginTest
            ( const std::string& testName ) = 0;
        virtual void Pass
            ( const std::string& testName ) = 0;
        virtual void Failure
            ( const std::string& testName,
              const TestFailure& failure ) = 0;
        virtual void Error
            ( const std::string& testName,
              const std::string& errorDetails ) = 0;
        virtual void EndTest
            ( const std::string& testName ) = 0;
        virtual void EndTestSet
            ( const std::string& testSetName ) = 0;
        virtual void EndTesting
            ( unsigned long testCount,
             unsigned long failureCount ) = 0;
   } ;
#endif // AERYN IREPORT H
```

aeryn/tesfailure.h must also be included, usually in the custom report's cpp file as TestFailure is only forward declared in ireport.h.

To implement the IReport interface, simply inherit from and override each of the pure virtual functions. An instance of your custom report can then be passed to TestRunner::Run. Each pure virtual function in the IReport interface is explained below:

BeginTesting

header	A std::string objectcontaining the Aeryn header, including the
	copyright message.
testCount	The number of test cases that will be run.

The BeginTesting function is called prior to the first test set.

BeginTestSet

	The name of the test set that is about to be run.
l tactCatNama	The name of the test set that is about to be run
CESCSECMAINE	L THE HAIHE OF THE IEST SELTIME IS ADOUD TO DE TUIT

The BeginTestSet function is called at the start of each test set.

BeginTest

testName The name of the test case about to be run.

The BeginTest function is called prior to each test case.

Pass

testName	The name the test case that passed.

The Pass function is called immediately after each test case that passes.

Failure

testName	The name the test case that failed.
failure	A TestFailure object containing the details of the test case that
	failed.

The Failure function is called immediately after each test case that fails.

Error

testName	The name the test case that cause an error.
errorDetails	A std::string describing the error caused by the test case.

The Error function is called immediately after each test case that results in an error.

EndTest

The EndTest function is called after each test case.

EndTestSet

testSetName	The name of the test set that was just run.

The EndTestSet function is called after each test set.

EndTesting

testCount	The number of test cases run.
failureCount	The number of test cases that failed or resulted in an error.

The EndTesting function is called after all test sets and their associated test cases have been run.

References

[CPPUnit] http://cppunit.sourceforge.net/cgi-bin/moin.cgi

[Test Crickett] http://www.crickett.co.uk/cpp_unit_testing.php

[EncapsulateContextPattern] http://allankelly.net/patterns/encapsulatecontext.pdf

[Sutter] Item 16 - Exceptional C++ by Herb Sutter. ISBN: 0201615622.

[KDevelop] KDevelop: http://www.kdevelop.org/

[XCode] XCode: http://www.apple.com/macosx/features/xcode/