

Yeager: An Annotation-based Framework for the Generation of Automated Long Sequence Regression Tests in Python

Casey Doran

Florida Institute of Technology

cdoran2011@my.fit.edu

November 27, 2017

Overview

Automated Testing

- Technologies

- System Under Test: Monica CRM

- Patterns and Practices

Long Sequence Testing in Yeager

- Software as a State Machine

- Usage

- Yeager In Action

High Volume Automated Testing

- Anatomy

- History

- Family Tree

- The Case for Yeager

Play Along at Home

- ▶ github.com/elementc/yeager
- ▶ github.com/elementc/monica-tests-traditional
- ▶ github.com/elementc/monica-tests-yeagerized
- ▶ github.com/elementc/thesis
- ▶ github.com/monicahq/monica

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Why Automate?

- ▶ Save time.
- ▶ Save money.
- ▶ Computers don't get bored.
 - ▶ Testing is boring work.
- ▶ Doesn't overlook test cases.

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How Do You Automate?

- ▶ Write functions that exercise the system under test.
- ▶ Put these functions in a format that can be consumed by a test runner.
- ▶ Call test runner.
- ▶ Interpret test runner's output.

Kinds of Test Automation

- ▶ Unit- Verify individual code functions work as expected.
- ▶ Integration- Verify modules are working together.
- ▶ Regression- Verify stuff that worked isn't broken and stuff that's broken before haven't broken again.
- ▶ Functional- Validate that system as a whole conforms to requirements (eg, works to a user's eye).
- ▶ Many others- see CSE3411 & CSE4415.

Languages

- ▶ *Unit frameworks (CUnit, JUnit, CppUnit, etc.) enable the practice, though they're useful for far more than unit testing.
- ▶ Testers are usually, unintuitively, **less** trained as programmers.
- ▶ Consequently, they prefer “easier” scripting languages like Python or Ruby.
- ▶ This discussion will center around Python. All of it can happen in Ruby.

Frameworks

- ▶ Include a suite of assertion convenience methods, logging/reporting facilities, and a runner.
- ▶ Python: `unittest`, `nose`, `pytest`.
- ▶ `unittest` is in the Python Standard Library, we'll use it.

Glass Box Testing

- ▶ Test code interacts directly with the program's source.
- ▶ Can probe quite deeply.
- ▶ Use mock interfaces shims to accomplish testing goals.
- ▶ Unit testing and integration testing are automated through Glass Box methods.

Black Box Testing

- ▶ Test code interacts with the user (or some other non-transparent) interface into the running program.
- ▶ Use external toolkits like Selenium to enable driving user interfaces.
- ▶ Usually in a special test environment but otherwise the unmodified software.
- ▶ Regression testing and functional testing are automated through Black Box methods.

Selenium

- ▶ Programmatic control of web browsers for testing and other automation.
- ▶ Driver class allows navigation (get this URL) and document queries (get this node for me to read from or click on or type into).
- ▶ Node class allows interaction (click here, type this), and data retrieval (What's the text body? What' site does this form POST to?) and limited Driver-like queries for children.

HTML (summary)

- ▶ XML- based documents for the web.
- ▶ Tree-structured.
- ▶ Nodes have properties, including text, in addition to children.

CSS (summary)

- ▶ Language for styling HTML documents.
- ▶ Format- selector: rule;
- ▶ Selectors: strings that identify one, many, or none of the nodes in an HTML document.
- ▶ Rules: Specific styling rules to apply to each node matched by preceeding rule.

Monica: A Personal CRM

- ▶ Open-Source.
- ▶ Life-tracker.
- ▶ Friend-keeper.
- ▶ Journal.
- ▶ In the cloud.

Contacts Book On Steroids

- ▶ We've all seen a contact list as an example in a database course.
- ▶ Monica extends that to the extreme. Per-contact notebooks, relationship tracking (How many wives did he have?), reminders, etc.
- ▶ Screenshots TBD

Page Object Modeling

- ▶ Each page on a site corresponds to a Python class.
- ▶

How Test Suites Come Together

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Running Tests

► TBD

What Traditional Testing Finds

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What Traditional Testing Doesn't Find

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How To Find What Traditional Testing Doesn't Find

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Examples of The Bugs We Want To Find

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Software Is A State Machine

► TBD

Testers Write Based On The System's States

► TBD

State Models Can Help Us Plan New Tests

► TBD

Context: What State Models Don't Capture

► TBD

Random Walks: Generating New Test Plans Automatically

► TBD

What Bugs Look Like From A Modeling Perspective

► TBD

Prior Art: Model Based Testing

► TBD

Weaknesses in PyModel

► TBD

What Is Yeager?

► TBD

Yeager's API Fits On A Notecard

- ▶ `import yeager`
- ▶ `@yeager.state_transition()`
- ▶ `yeager.walk()`
- ▶ Tweak: `yeager.add_state_to_blacklist()`,
`yeager.add_transition_to_blacklist()`, and removal
versions of each.
- ▶ Debug: `yeager.enumerate_transitions()`,
`yeager.reachable_states()`, `yeager.orphaned_states()`

Write a Function

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Annotate the State Transition

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Usage

Repeat

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Debug Your Models

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Plan a Test Run

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Usage

Run It

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Let's Test Monica

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Monica's Intuitive States

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States Necessitate Transitions

► TBD

Boy, These Look Familiar

- ▶ Emulates the Page Object Models.

Write Some Glue and Go

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Example Suite's Model

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Give It A Run!

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What It Looks Like When Everything's Good

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What It Looks Like When The Model Is Wrong

► TBD

What It Looks Like When The Software Is Wrong

► TBD

What Is High Volume Test Automation

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Generators

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Interface

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Oracle

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Loggers and Diagnostics

► TBD

Context

► TBD

Scalability

► TBD

Inventors One Through Three

► TBD

Inventors Four Through Six (And Beyond)

► TBD

Everybody Thinks It's A Trade Secret

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A Call For Academic Consideration

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Family Tree: Exploring (And Abusing) The Anatomy

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Long Sequence Regression Testing

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State Model Testing

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Exhaustive Testing

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Fuzz Testing

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Load Testing

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Testing In Production

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A/B Testing

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Model-Based LSRT

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Quick To Implement

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Good Enough Detail

► TBD

Benefit From Existing Test Code

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