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Software Engineering II

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CS362: In-Class-Activity 3 – Unit Testing

Task 1

https://github.com/lemossc/cs362-in-class-activity-3

Task 2

When searching for other unit testing frameworks, I came across pytest. There are some notable differences unittest and pytest.

For instance, pytest is not part of the standard python library while unittest is. This means in order to user pytest, one must install additional modules which can be inconvenient.

Interestingly, unittest uses camelCase while pytest uses snake_case, so since snake_case is the standard coding style for Python, it seems odd that the unit testing framework of the standard library utilizes a different style.

Additionally, pytest is more compact in that it allows developers to write functions to test their code rather than use large unit testing classes. The advantage of this is that code is looks “cleaner” and uses less boilerplate to complete the same task.

As for similarities, both frameworks expect testing functions to contain the prefix “test_” in their name as this notifies the library which functions are meant to be tested.

Overall, my research has lead me to the conclusion that pytest is more popular and compact, but less convenient due to requiring the installation of a non-standard library. Nevertheless, while I did complete Task 1 of this activity using unittest, I am interested in exploring pytest more in the future.