Assignment 3

COMP311 Fall 2015 - Test Driven Development exercise

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1. What is TDD? (1)

Test driven development is a software methodology where people create test cases to test the required functionalities of a software.

2. What is the process followed by TDD? (3)

Implementation as long as all test cases have passes.

3. Read the criticism of TDD laid out in the following article:

http://dalkescientific.com/writings/diary/archive/2009/12/29/problems\_with\_tdd.html

Discuss the conclusions of the article (in less than half a page). If you disagree in your opinions, please say so. (6)

The article states that TDD is not an effective approach when it comes to software testing, mainly because in TDD, testing begins way too early in the development process and isn’t very useful as a consequence. The article states that using test cases after most of the application has been programmed is a much more effective way to test instead of starting testing right from the beginning because often times, the programmers don’t necessarily know where potential bugs may appear. After coding most of the application, programmers have a better understanding of the program and can target certain parts that have a higher chance of producing bugs for testing. I would personally agree with this conclusion. From personal experience, I also find that I don’t understand where most of my bugs will come from until most of the application has been programmed.