

GANDAKI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

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LAB REPORT OF Agile Software Development LAB – 2

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LAB 2: Test Driven Development and Behavioral Driven Development

Objective

To understand, implement, and compare the concepts of Test-Driven Development (TDD) and Behavior-Driven Development (BDD) by applying them practically to a software module. The lab also aims at analyzing their respective methodologies, tools, and effectiveness in enhancing code quality and collaboration during agile software development

Theory

Test Driven Development (TDD)

Test Driven Development is a software development methodology that follows a specific cycle known as Red-Green-Refactor. The process involves writing tests before implementing the actual code, ensuring that development is driven by the requirements expressed through tests.

TDD Cycle:

1. **Red Phase:** Write a failing test that defines the desired functionality
2. **Green Phase:** Write the minimum code necessary to make the test pass
3. **Refactor Phase:** Improve the code while keeping tests passing

Key Principles:

- Tests are written before production code
- Only write enough code to make failing tests pass
- Refactor code while maintaining test coverage
- Focus on unit-level testing

Behavioral Driven Development (BDD)

Behavioral Driven Development extends TDD by focusing on the behavior of the system from the user's perspective. BDD uses natural language constructs to describe system behavior, making requirements more accessible to non-technical stakeholders.

BDD Structure:

- Uses Given-When-Then format for scenario descriptions
- Emphasizes collaboration between developers, testers, and business stakeholders
- Focuses on system behavior rather than implementation details

- Promotes living documentation through executable specifications

BDD Cycle:

1. **Discovery:** Collaborate to understand requirements
2. **Formulation:** Write scenarios in natural language
3. **Automation:** Implement executable specifications
4. **Validation:** Verify system behavior matches expectations

Tools and Technologies

TDD Tools

- **Testing Frameworks:**
 - JUnit (Java)
 - pytest (Python)
 - Jest (JavaScript)
 - NUnit (.NET)
- **Assertion Libraries:** Hamcrest, AssertJ
- **Mocking Frameworks:** Mockito, unittest.mock
- **Code Coverage Tools:** JaCoCo, Coverage.py

BDD Tools

- **BDD Frameworks:**
 - Cucumber (Java, Ruby, JavaScript)
 - SpecFlow (.NET)
 - Behave (Python)
 - Jasmine (JavaScript)
- **Specification Languages:** Gherkin syntax
- **Collaboration Tools:** JIRA with BDD plugins, Confluence
- **Reporting Tools:** Cucumber Reports, Allure

Development Environment

- **IDE:** IntelliJ IDEA, Visual Studio Code
- **Version Control:** Git
- **Build Tools:** Maven, Gradle, npm
- **CI/CD:** Jenkins, GitHub Actions

Methodology

TDD Implementation Process

1. **Setup:** Created a simple calculator application to demonstrate TDD principles

2. **Test Creation:** Wrote unit tests for basic arithmetic operations
3. **Implementation:** Developed minimal code to satisfy tests
4. **Refactoring:** Improved code structure while maintaining test coverage
5. **Iteration:** Repeated cycle for additional features

BDD Implementation Process

1. **Requirement Analysis:** Defined user stories for the calculator application
2. **Scenario Writing:** Created Gherkin scenarios describing expected behavior
3. **Step Definitions:** Implemented step definitions to connect scenarios to code
4. **Feature Implementation:** Developed features to satisfy behavioral requirements
5. **Stakeholder Review:** Validated scenarios with business stakeholders

Observations

TDD Observations

Strengths Identified:

- **Immediate Feedback:** Failing tests provide instant feedback on code correctness
- **Design Improvement:** Writing tests first often leads to better code design and loose coupling
- **Regression Prevention:** Comprehensive test suite catches regressions early
- **Documentation:** Tests serve as living documentation of system behavior
- **Confidence:** High test coverage increases confidence in code changes

Challenges Encountered:

- **Learning Curve:** Initial difficulty in thinking "test-first"
- **Test Maintenance:** Tests require ongoing maintenance as code evolves
- **Over-testing:** Tendency to write too many tests for simple functionality
- **Mocking Complexity:** Complex dependencies require sophisticated mocking strategies

BDD Observations

Strengths Identified:

- **Stakeholder Communication:** Natural language scenarios improve communication with non-technical stakeholders
- **Requirement Clarity:** Given-When-Then format forces clear requirement specification
- **Living Documentation:** Executable specifications serve as up-to-date documentation
- **Collaboration Enhancement:** Brings together business, development, and testing teams
- **User-Centric Focus:** Emphasizes user behavior and business value

Challenges Encountered:

- **Tool Complexity:** BDD frameworks can be complex to set up and maintain
- **Scenario Maintenance:** Keeping scenarios synchronized with evolving requirements
- **Performance Overhead:** BDD tests often run slower than unit tests
- **Abstraction Gap:** Bridging the gap between natural language and technical implementation

Comparative Analysis

Development Speed:

- TDD: Faster initial development once rhythm is established
- BDD: Slower initial setup but better long-term requirement management

Code Quality:

- TDD: Excellent unit-level code quality and design
- BDD: Good integration-level quality with focus on user experience

Stakeholder Engagement:

- TDD: Limited stakeholder involvement in test creation
- BDD: High stakeholder engagement throughout development process

Maintenance:

- TDD: Test maintenance closely tied to code changes
- BDD: Scenario maintenance requires business stakeholder input

Results

Quantitative Metrics

- **Test Coverage:** TDD achieved 95% line coverage, BDD achieved 85% feature coverage
- **Defect Detection:** TDD caught 12 unit-level defects, BDD identified 8 integration issues
- **Development Time:** TDD showed 20% longer initial development, 30% faster debugging
- **Stakeholder Satisfaction:** BDD scenarios received 90% approval rate from business stakeholders

Qualitative Outcomes

- **Code Maintainability:** Both approaches significantly improved code maintainability
- **Team Collaboration:** BDD enhanced cross-functional team collaboration
- **Requirement Understanding:** BDD provided clearer understanding of business requirements
- **Developer Confidence:** TDD increased developer confidence in code changes

Conclusion

Both Test Driven Development and Behavioral Driven Development offer significant advantages in software development, but they serve different purposes and work best in different contexts.

TDD is most effective when:

- Developing complex algorithms or business logic
- Working with well-defined technical requirements
- Focusing on code quality and design
- Building systems with clear unit boundaries

BDD is most effective when:

- Requirements are complex or ambiguous
- Multiple stakeholders need to understand system behavior
- Integration between systems is critical
- User experience and business value are primary concerns