Functional Testing Software Engineering for Scientists

Functional tests run full programs to ensure the correct result, including proper error handling, considering different inputs and behaviors. Similar to **unit tests**, functional tests help prevent bug fixes and feature updates from breaking other parts of the project. Functional tests can also be helpful when recreating and fixing bugs.

Functional Tests with Stupid Simple baSh Testing (https://github.com/ryanlayer/ssshtest)

ssshtest provides a simple framework for testing command-line programs in a bash script. To use ssshtest, create a test script (e.g., test_calc.sh) that start with the following two lines:

test_calc.sh

```
test -e ssshtest || wget -qhttps://raw.githubusercontent.com/ryanlayer/ssshtest/master/ssshtest
. ssshtest
```

The first line tests for the presence of the ssshtest library, and downloads a copy if it is not. The next line incorporates the variables and functions defined in the library into the current runtime environment.

Next, come the tests, each of which has two stages.

- 2. The assert stage tests various aspects of the previous run including output and the return value. There are eight different assertions to choose from, and each run can have any number of asserts

```
assert_equal <obs> <exp>
                                     Assert that 2 things are equal (string comparison)
assert_stdout
                                     Assert that stdout is not empty
assert_in_stdout <pattern>
                                     Assert that stdout contains this text.
assert_no_stdout
                                     Assert that stdout is empty
assert_stderr
                                     Assert that stderr is not empty
                                     Assert that stderr contains this text.
assert_in_stderr <pattern>
assert_no_stderr
                                     Assert that stderr is empty
assert_exit_code <exit code>
                                     Assert that the program exited with a particular code
```

Together a test will look like:

```
run basic_add python calc.py add 1 1
assert_in_stdout 2
assert_exit_code 0
```

Where the output of python calc.py add 1 1 is captured and then the output is tested to see if it contains 2, and the exit code is tested to see if it equals 0.

Consider the following python files

```
math lib.py calc.py
```

```
def div(a, b):
    return a / b

def add(a, b):
    return a + b
```

```
import math_lib, sys

op = sys.argv[1]
a = int(sys.argv[2])
b = int(sys.argv[3])

if op == 'add':
    print(math_lib.add(a,b))
elif op == 'div':
    print(math_lib.div(a,b))
```

And testts

```
test -e ssshtest || wget -q https://raw.githubusercontent.com/ryanlayer/ssshtest/master/ssshtest
. ssshtest

run basic_add python calc.py add 1 1
assert_in_stdout 2
assert_exit_code 0

run basic_div python calc.py div 1 0
assert_exit_code 0
```

Gives

```
$ bash test_calc.sh
basic_add ran in 0 sec with 0/1 lines to STDERR/OUT
PASS STDOUT CONTAINS "2" (LINE 6)
PASS EXIT CODE (LINE 7)
basic_div ran in 0 sec with 6/0 lines to STDERR/OUT
FAIL EXIT CODE (LINE 11)
     expected EX_OK, observed Unknown code: 1
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "calc.py", line 11, in <module>
    print(math_lib.div(a,b))
  File "/Users/rl/Box
Sync/Research/teaching/swe4s/lectures/functional_testing/math_lib.py", line 2, in div
    return a / b
ZeroDivisionError: integer division or modulo by zero
sshtest v0.1.5
          Tests
2
          Failures
          Successes
```