Software Testing Test Coverage

Indranil Saha

Department of Computer Science and Engineering Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur



Test Coverage

- Measures quantitatively how exhaustively some source code has been tested
- A program with high test coverage has a lower chance of containing undetected software bugs compared to a program with low test coverage

Functional Coverage vs Structural Coverage

- Functional Coverage: Measures the amount of testing with respect to the desired functionalities
 - Also called requirement based coverage
- Structural Coverage: Measures the amount of testing with respect to the structure of the code, such as statements, conditions, paths, etc.
 - Also called code coverage
- Test cases can be generated based on functional specifications and testing effectivity can be measured through structural coverage

Importance of Structural Coverage

- Helps identify the missing requirement based test cases
- Detects undesirable code segments leading to unintended functionality or dead code
- A non-functional requirement mandated by certification, such as DO178B/C (for avionics industries) and ISO26262 (for automotive industries)

Software Testing Test Coverage

Indranil Saha

Department of Computer Science and Engineering Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

