

Creating Testable Code



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Creating Testable Code



Writing unit tests is highly recommended

- Maybe even mandatory

Objective

- Make sure that relevant functions provide the correct output

Creating Testable Code



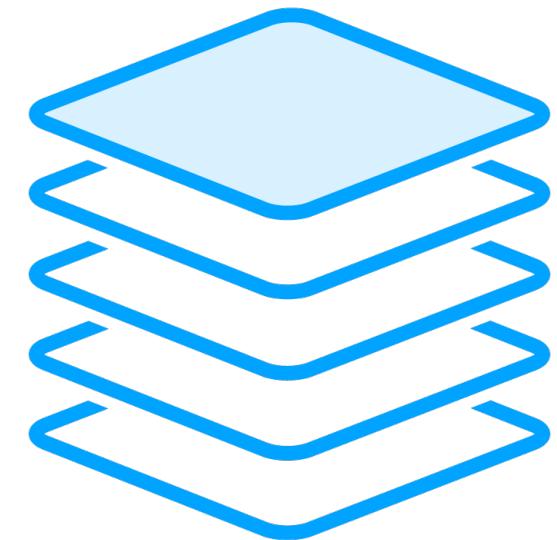
Writing unit tests is highly recommended

- Maybe even mandatory

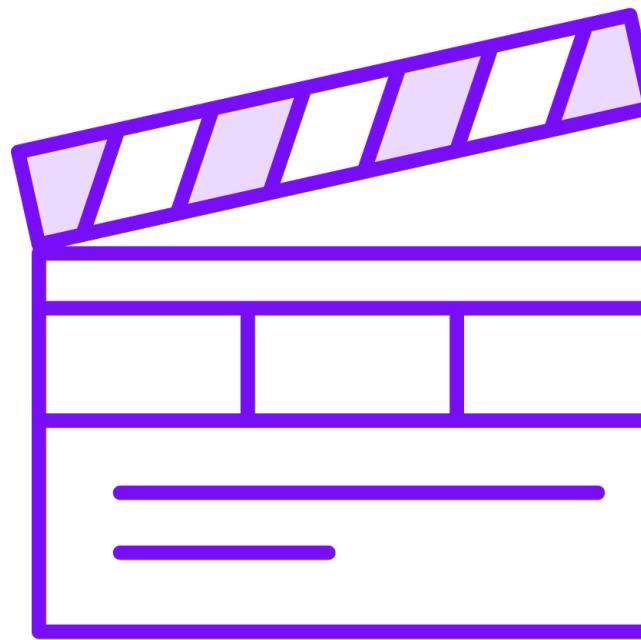
Objective

- Make sure that relevant functions provide the correct output

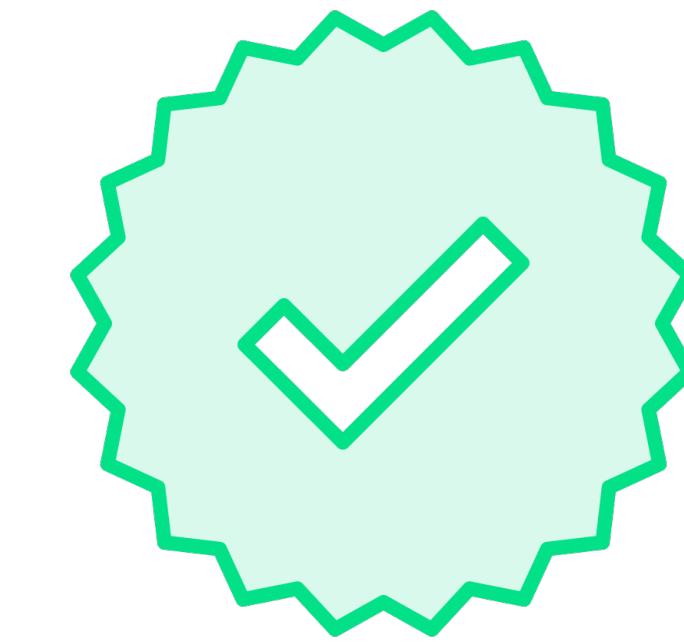
The Three A's



Arrange



Act



Assert



Why Unit Tests?

Got Unit Tests?



Yes!



**Hmmm... I will create the
unit tests tomorrow...**

Got Unit Tests?

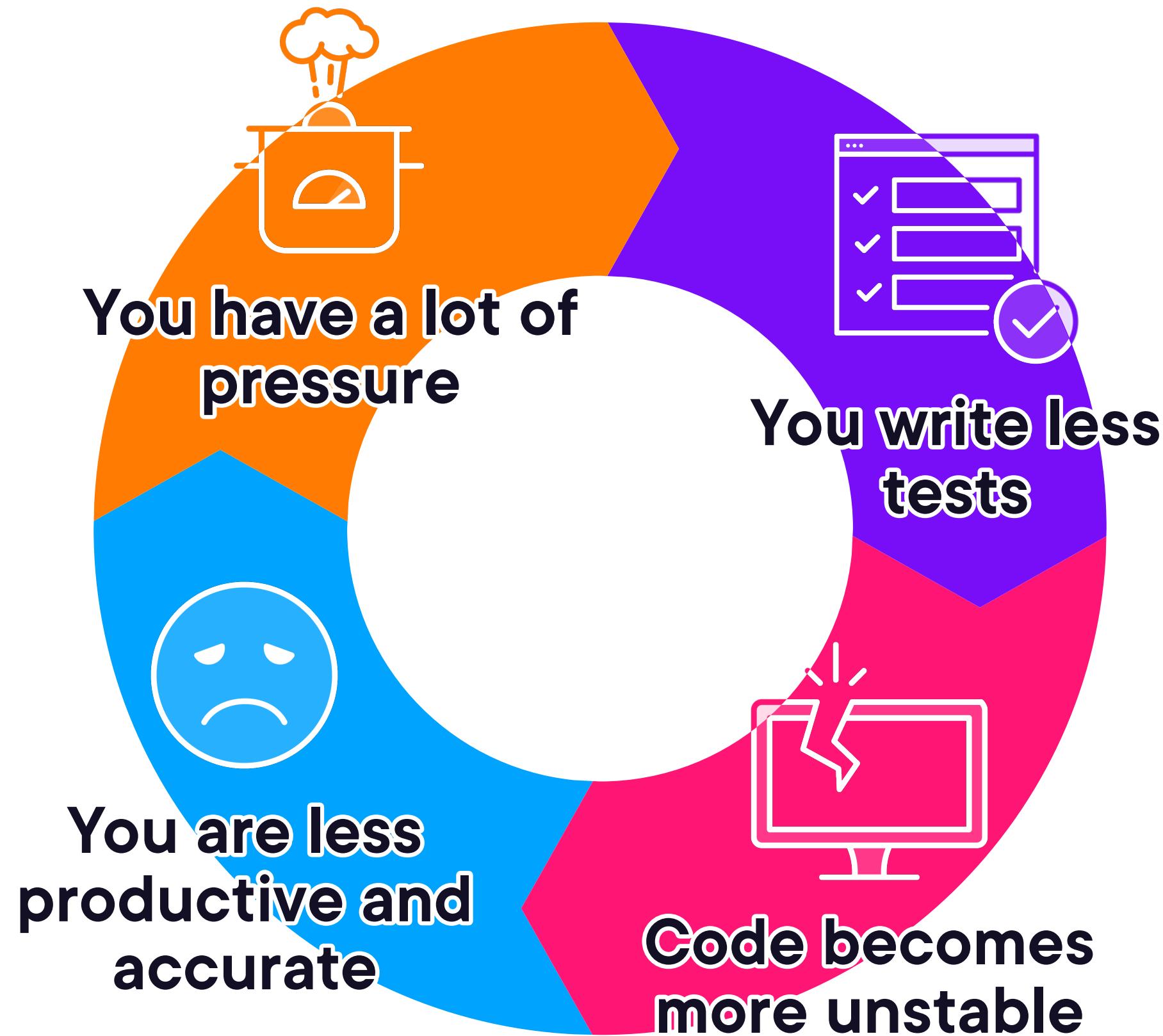
O

Nope

**Highly recommended to
write unit tests**

Why?

The Cycle



Benefits of Unit Testing

Less functional testing required

Prevent and identify regression bugs

Code decoupling

Help improve design

* TDD (Different opinions)



Anatomy of a Unit Test



Disclaimer

This is not a Unit Testing training

A Unit Test

```
public void KilometersToMilesTest()
{
}
```

A Unit Test

```
public void KilometersToMilesTest()
{
}
```

A Unit Test

Unit tests are small tests that verify individual units of code.



Why is it called unit testing?

Because you break down the functionality of your program into discrete testable behaviors that you can test as individual units

A Unit Test

```
public void KilometersToMilesTest()
{
}
```

A Unit Test

```
[TestMethod()]
public void KilometersToMilesTest()
{
}
```

A Unit Test

```
[TestMethod()]
public void KilometersToMilesTest()
{
```

Screenshot of the Visual Studio Test Explorer window showing the execution results of the unit test.

The Test Explorer window displays the following information:

- Output Tab:** Shows the status bar with "Ready".
- Test Explorer Tab:** Shows the results of the test run:
 - Total tests: 2
 - Passed: 1
 - Failed: 0
 - Warning: 1
- Search Bar:** "Search Test Explorer (Ctrl+E)"
- Test List:** A hierarchical tree view of the test results:
 - carvedrock.blTests (2)
 - carvedrock.bl.Tests (2)
 - TrailTests (1) - Warning
 - UnitConverterTests (1)
 - KilometersToMilesTest- Group Summary:**
 - carvedrock.blTests**
 - Tests in group: 2
 - Total Duration: 7 ms

A Unit Test

```
[TestMethod()]
public void KilometersToMilesTest()
{
    // Arrange

    // Act

    // Assert
}
```

A Unit Test

```
[TestMethod()]
public void KilometersToMilesTest()
{
    // Arrange
    decimal kilometers = 50.0M;
    decimal expected = 31.0686M;

    // Act
    decimal actual = UnitConverter.KilometersToMiles(kilometers);

    // Assert
    Assert.AreEqual(expected, actual);
}
```

A Unit Test

```
[TestMethod()]
public void KilometersToMilesTest()
{
    // Arrange
    decimal kilometers = 50.0M;
    decimal expected = 31.0686M;

    // Act
    decimal actual = UnitConverter.KilometersToMiles(kilometers);

    // Assert
    Assert.AreEqual(expected, actual);
}
```

A Unit Test

```
[TestMethod()]
public void KilometersToMilesTest()
{
    // Arrange
    decimal kilometers = 50.0M;
    decimal expected = 31.0686M;

    // Act
    decimal actual = UnitConverter.KilometersToMiles(kilometers);

    // Assert
    Assert.AreEqual(expected, actual);
}
```

Version

Visual Studio 2022 SDK



Microsoft.VisualStudio.TestTools.UnitTesting

AfterAssemblyCleanupEventArgs

> AfterAssemblyInitializeEventArgs

AfterClassCleanupEventArgs

> AfterClassInitializeEventArgs

AfterTestCleanupEventArgs

> AfterTestInitializeEventArgs

> AssemblyCleanupAttribute

> AssemblyInitializeAttribute

Assert

Assert

> Properties

> Methods

> AssertFailedException

> AssertInconclusiveException

> BaseShadow

BaseShadow.ElementConverter

BeforeAssemblyCleanupEventArgs

BeforeAssemblyInitializeEventArgs

... / Microsoft.VisualStudio.TestTools.UnitTesting /

C++



≡ In this article

[Definition](#)[Properties](#)[Methods](#)[Applies to](#)

Assert Class

Reference

 [Feedback](#)

Definition

Namespace: [Microsoft.VisualStudio.TestTools.UnitTesting](#)Assemblies: Microsoft.VisualStudio.QualityTools.UnitTestFramework.dll,
Microsoft.VisualStudio.TestPlatform.TestFramework.dll

A collection of helper classes to test various conditions within unit tests. If the condition being tested is not met, an exception is thrown.

C++

 [Copy](#)

```
public ref class Assert abstract sealed
```

Inheritance [Object](#) → [Assert](#)

Properties

That

Gets the singleton instance of the Assert functionality.

Methods

Version

Visual Studio 2022 SDK



Search

Microsoft.VisualStudio.TestTools.UnitTesting

AfterAssemblyCleanupEventArgs

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> AssemblyCleanupAttribute

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> Assert

Assert

> Properties

> Methods

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> AssertInconclusiveException

> BaseShadow

BaseShadow.ElementConverter

BeforeAssemblyCleanupEventArgs

BeforeAssemblyInitializeEventArgs

BeforeClassCleanupEventArgs

AreEqual(Double, Double, Double)	Tests whether the specified doubles are equal and throws an exception if they are not equal.
AreEqual(Double, Double, Double, String)	Tests whether the specified doubles are equal and throws an exception if they are not equal.
AreEqual(Double, Double, Double, String, Object[])	Tests whether the specified doubles are equal and throws an exception if they are not equal.
AreEqual(Object, Object)	Tests whether the specified objects are equal and throws an exception if the two objects are not equal. Different numeric types are treated as unequal even if the logical values are equal. 42L is not equal to 42.
AreEqual(Object, Object, String)	Tests whether the specified objects are equal and throws an exception if the two objects are not equal. Different numeric types are treated as unequal even if the logical values are equal. 42L is not equal to 42.
AreEqual(Object, Object, String, Object[])	Tests whether the specified objects are equal and throws an exception if the two objects are not equal. Different numeric types are treated as unequal even if the logical values are equal. 42L is not equal to 42.
AreEqual(Single, Single, Single)	Tests whether the specified floats are equal and throws an exception if they are not equal.
AreEqual(Single, Single, Single, String)	Tests whether the specified floats are equal and throws an exception if they are not equal.
AreEqual(Single, Single, Single, String, Object[])	Tests whether the specified floats are equal and throws an exception if they are not equal.
AreEqual(String, String, Boolean)	Tests whether the specified strings are equal and throws an exception if they are not equal. The invariant culture is used for the comparison.

Version

Visual Studio 2022 SDK

Search

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AfterAssemblyCleanupEventArgs

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AfterClassCleanupEventArgs

> AfterClassInitializeEventArgs

AfterTestCleanupEventArgs

> AfterTestInitializeEventArgs

> AssemblyCleanupAttribute

> AssemblyInitializeAttribute

< Assert

Assert

> Properties

> Methods

> AssertFailedException

> AssertInconclusiveException

> BaseShadow

BaseShadow.ElementConverter

BeforeAssemblyCleanupEventArgs

BeforeAssemblyInitializeEventArgs

BeforeClassCleanupEventArgs

IsFalse(Boolean, String, Object[])	Tests whether the specified condition is false and throws an exception if the condition is true.
IsInstanceOfType(Object, Type)	Tests whether the specified object is an instance of the expected type and throws an exception if the expected type is not in the inheritance hierarchy of the object.
IsInstanceOfType(Object, Type, String)	Tests whether the specified object is an instance of the expected type and throws an exception if the expected type is not in the inheritance hierarchy of the object.
IsInstanceOfType(Object, Type, String, Object[])	Tests whether the specified object is an instance of the expected type and throws an exception if the expected type is not in the inheritance hierarchy of the object.
IsNotInstanceOfType(Object, Type)	Tests whether the specified object is not an instance of the wrong type and throws an exception if the specified type is in the inheritance hierarchy of the object.
IsNotInstanceOfType(Object, Type, String)	Tests whether the specified object is not an instance of the wrong type and throws an exception if the specified type is in the inheritance hierarchy of the object.
IsNotInstanceOfType(Object, Type, String, Object[])	Tests whether the specified object is not an instance of the wrong type and throws an exception if the specified type is in the inheritance hierarchy of the object.
IsNotNull(Object)	Tests whether the specified object is non-null and throws an exception if it is null.
IsNotNull(Object, String)	Tests whether the specified object is non-null and throws an exception if it is null.
IsNotNull(Object, String, Object[])	Tests whether the specified object is non-null and throws an exception if it is null.
IsNull(Object)	Tests whether the specified object is null and throws an exception if it is not.

Some Assert Methods



AreEqual, AreNotEqual
Fail
IsTrue, IsFalse
IsInstanceOfType, IsNotInstanceOfType
IsNull, IsNotNull
AreSame, AreNotSame
ThrowsException

Assert.AreEqual

```
[TestMethod()]
public void Convert50KilometresToMiles()
{
    // 1. Arrange
    decimal kilometres = 50.0M;
    decimal expected = 31.0686M;

    // 2. Act
    decimal actual = MeasuresConverter.KilometresToMiles(kilometres);
    // 3. Assert
    Assert.AreEqual(expected, actual);
}
```

Assert.AreEqual

```
[TestMethod()]
public void EstimateTimeNegativeElevation()
{
    // 1. Arrange
    Trail trail = new() { DistanceInMiles = 6, ElevationInFeet = -2000 };
    double notExpected = 1.0;

    // 2. Act
    double actual = trail.EstimateTime();

    // 3. Assert
    Assert.AreNotEqual(notExpected, actual);
}
```

Assert.IsTrue

```
[TestMethod()]
public void EstimateTime6Miles2000Elevation()
{
    // 1. Arrange
    Trail trail = new() { DistanceInMiles = 6, ElevationInFeet = 2000 };
    double expected = 3.0;

    // 2. Act
    double actual = trail.EstimateTime();

    // 3. Assert
    Assert.IsTrue(expected == actual);
}
```

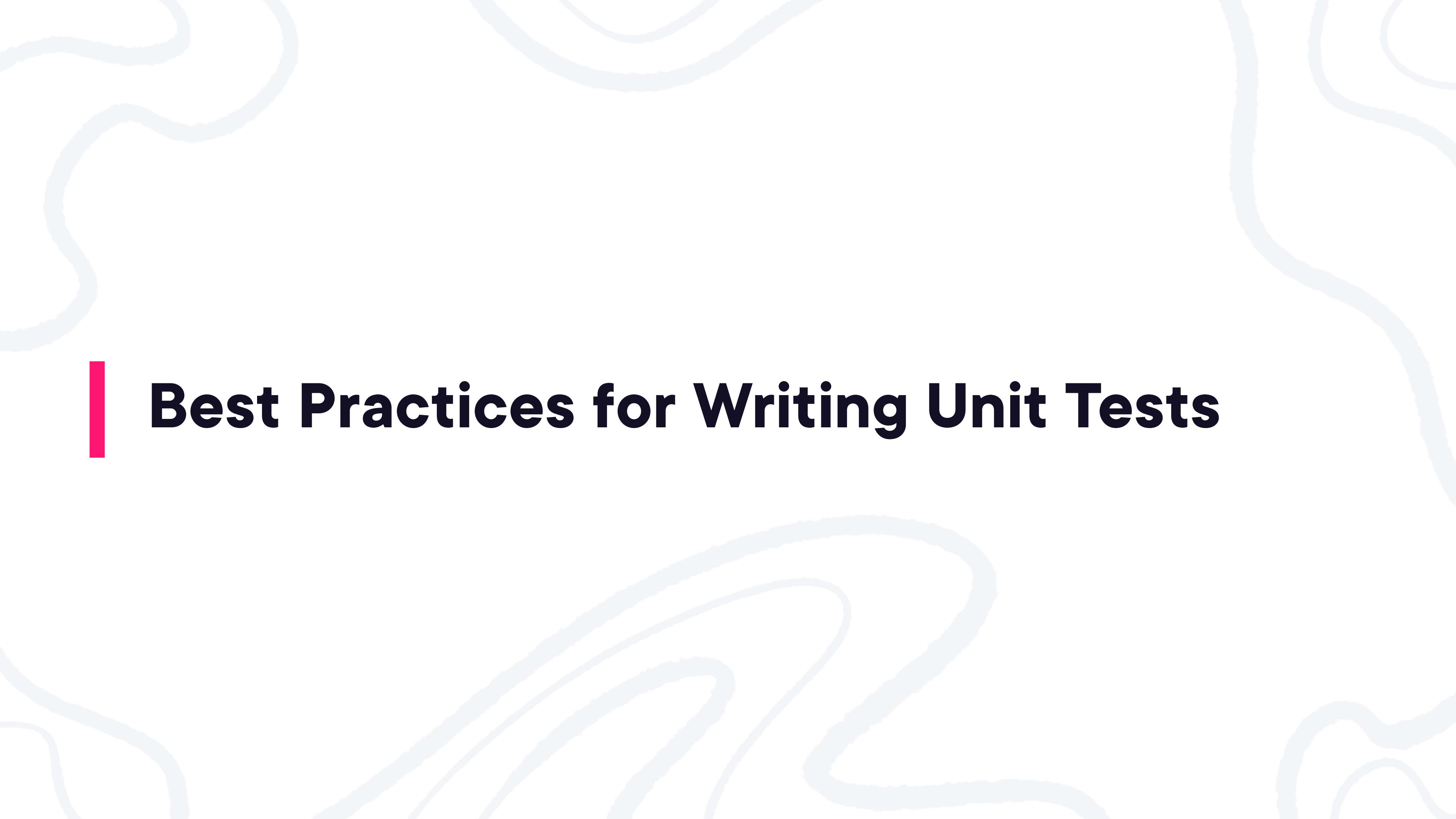
Assert Fail

```
[TestMethod()]
public void EstimateTimeWithNegativeDistance()
{
    // 1. Arrange
    Trail trail = new() { DistanceInMiles = -1, ElevationInFeet = 2000 };
    try
    {
        // 2. Act
        double _ = trail.EstimateTime();
        // 3. Assert
        Assert.Fail("No exception was thrown, and an exception was expected");
    }
    catch
    {
        Console.WriteLine("Exception thrown, which is the expected scenario");
    }
}
```


Demo

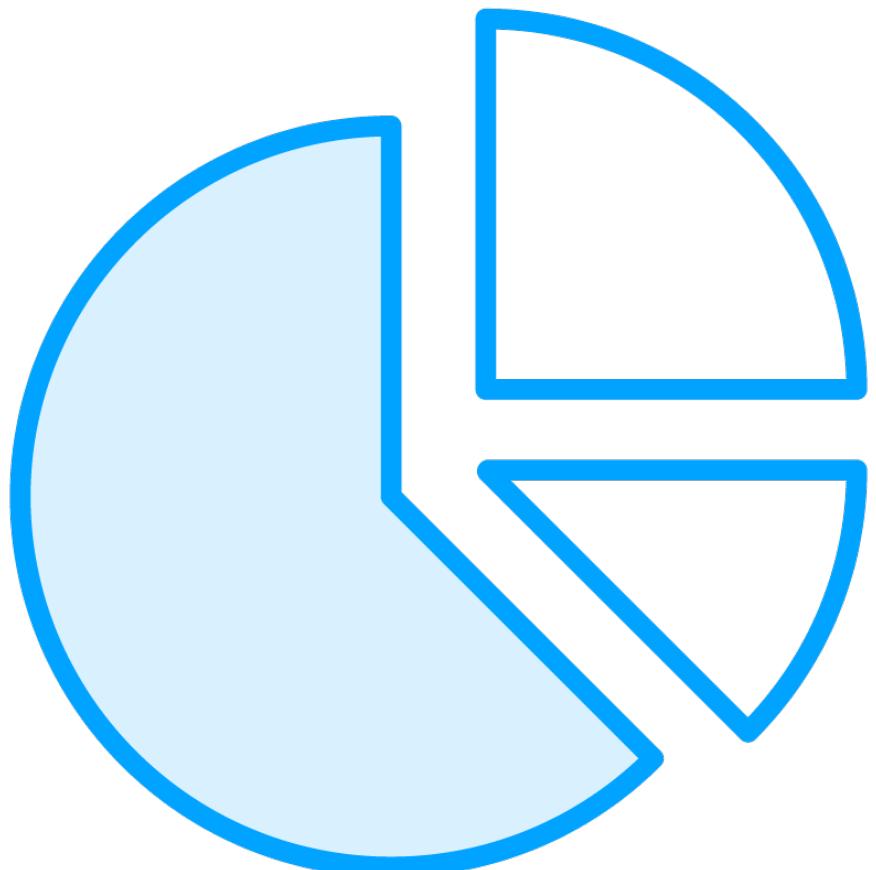


Creating a unit test



Best Practices for Writing Unit Tests

Code Coverage



Code coverage measures how much of your code is being tested

Higher code coverage

- Typically related to higher quality code

However, this metric does not indicate the quality of your code

Law of diminishing returns applies

Characteristics of a Good Unit Test

Tests should run fast,
especially on larger projects

Fast

No dependencies on
outside factors, like a db

Isolated

Consistent results on
every run

Repeatable

Characteristics of a Good Unit Test

Pass or fail automatically detected
without human intervention

Self-checking

Writing the unit test should not take a lot
more than writing the actual code

Timely

Use the AAA Unit Test Pattern



Use the AAA pattern

Arrange

- Create and set up your objects

Act

- Perform an action on the object

Assert

- Validate the result

Naming Your Tests



Naming standard is important

Name explicitly expresses

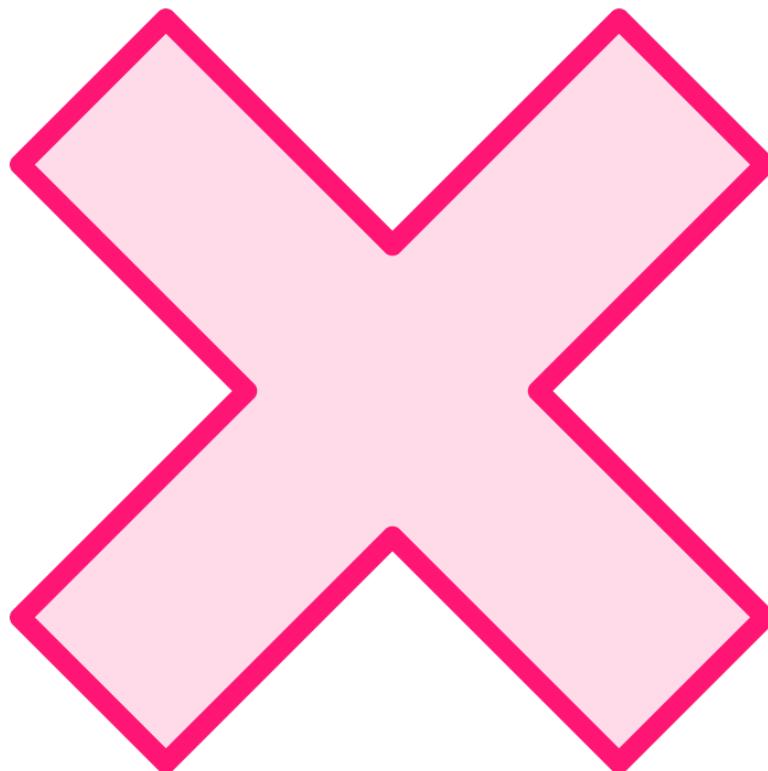
- The intent of the test
- Scenario
- Expected behavior

Use Simple Input



Input used should be as simple as possible
Tests that require complex input have higher chances of introducing errors

Avoid Magic Strings



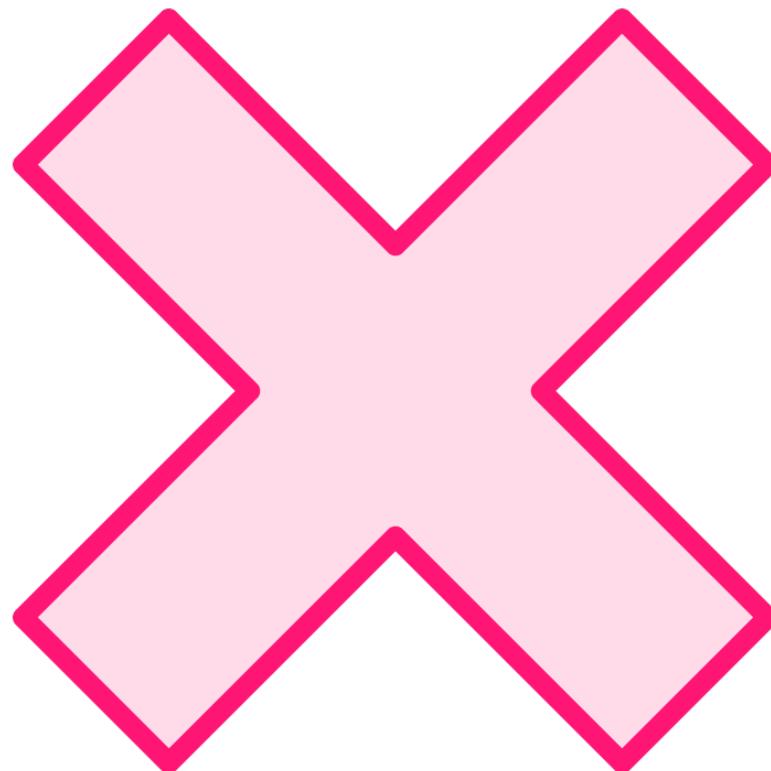
Do not use magic strings

- Values that have a special meaning but have no direct explanation

Instead, assign these values to constants

- With representative names

Avoid Logic in Tests



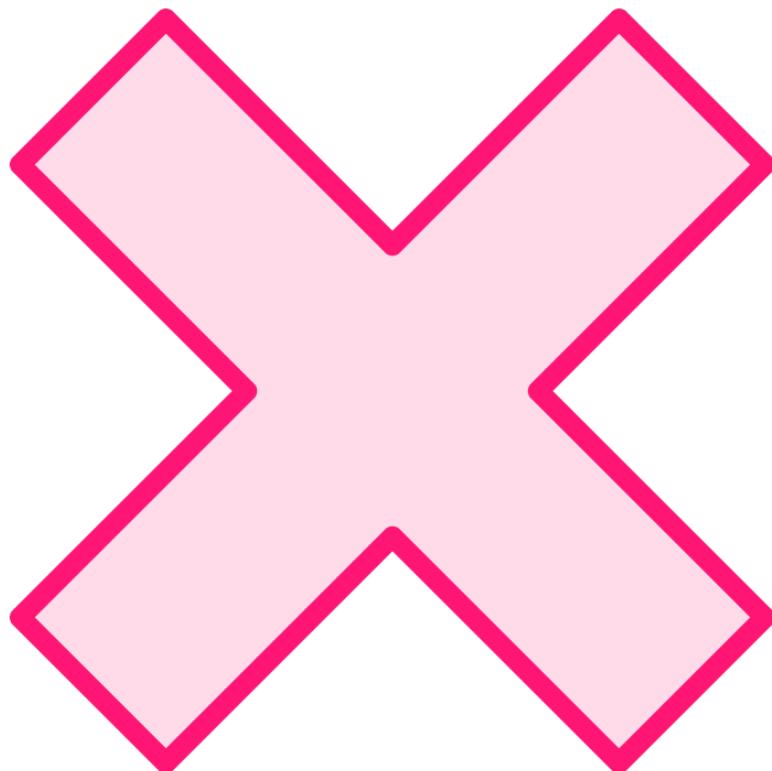
Logic should go in the business logic

Test should focus on testing a scenario

- Instead of implementation details

Use helper methods instead for setup and teardown

Avoid Multiple Acts



Do not have multiple acts per test

- Will make a failed test unclear

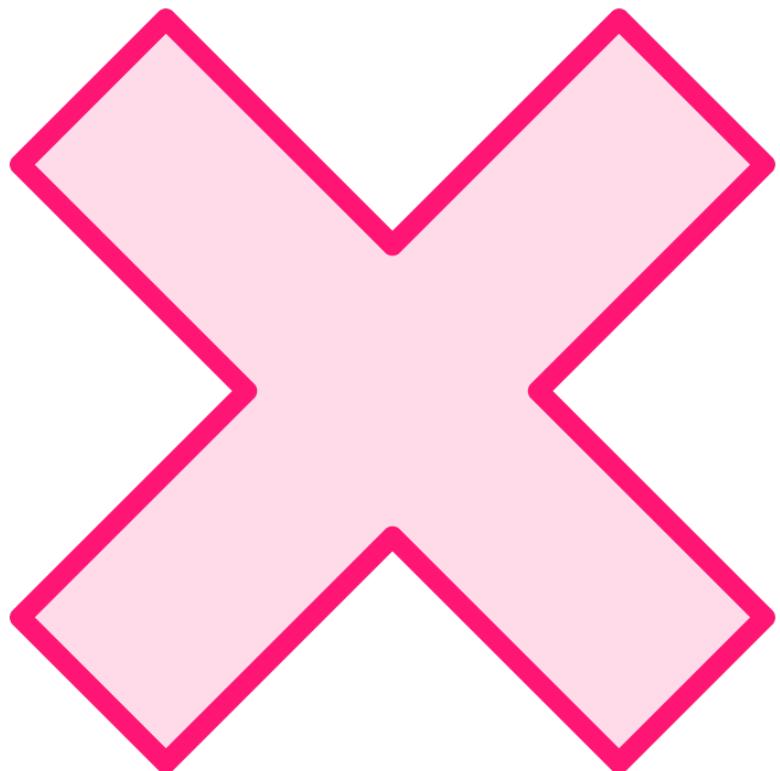
Instead, write one act per test

Validating Private Methods



**Validate private methods using public
methods**

Static References



Unit test must be repeatable and predictable

Static references may cause issues

Try to avoid calls to static references

Takeaway



Takeaway



Writing unit tests is highly recommended

- Even mandatory in some cases

Objective

- Make sure functions provide correct output

Takeaway



Multiple benefits

- Less functional testing required
- Prevent and identify regression bugs
- Code decoupling
- Help improve design

Takeaway



Unit test is a method

- [TestMethod()] attribute

Follows the AAA pattern

- Arrange
 - Prepare for the test
- Act
 - Invoke method being tested
- Assert
 - Validate the result

Takeaway



Assert class used often for verification

- AreEqual
- AreNotEqual
- Fail
- IsInstanceOf

Takeaway



Characteristics of a good unit test

- Fast
- Isolated
- Repeatable
- Self-checking
- Timely

Takeaway



Many best practices for writing unit tests

- Use the AAA pattern
 - Only one act
 - Without complex logic
- Name that explicitly expresses intent, scenario, and expected behavior
- Use simple input
- Avoid magic strings