TDDE45 - Lecture 7: Testability

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Part I

Testing



What is testing?

The process that ensures that the code, component, module or application works according to the requirements. Testing properties:

- Systematic
- Black box
- White box

This course is not a course primarily in Software Testing (TDDD04 – HT1).



Testing Crash Course - Type of Tests

- Unit Tests specific methods and logic of the code, edge cases
- Feature Tests tests the functionality of the component (does it meets the requirements?)
- Integration Tests tests the entire application end to end
- Performance Tests tests the efficiency of a piece of code (method or the entire application)



Testing Crash Course - Vocabulary

- Test doubles used instead of other objects
- Fakes objects that have working implementations.
- Mocks are objects that have predefined behavior.
- Stubs are objects that return predefined values.





Testing Crash Course - Fakes

Fakes

- objects that have working implementations.
- implement the same interface as a real object but takes shortcuts to improve performance.
- usually used when we need to test something that depends on an external service or API and we don't want to make actual calls to that service.

Example: in memory database.



Testing Crash Course - Mocks

Mocks

- objects that have predefined behavior.
- ▶ they register calls they receive, allowing asserts on how we use them in the code.
- they do not have working implementations but instead they have pre-programmed expectations about how they will be used in the code.
- usually used to test the behaviour of our code rather than its input (calling the dependencies in the expected way).

Example: object that returns a specific value when called with certain arguments.



Testing Crash Course - Stubs

Stubs

- objects that return predefined values.
- they do not have working implementations.
- not programmed to expect specific calls but they return values when called.
- used to provide the data (hard-coded or dynamically generated) needed for the code to run.

Example: object returning some predefined data expected from a service.



Testing Crash Course - Choosing the Double

How to choose the test double depending what we are testing. Choose the simplest that gets the job done.

- Fakes use when you want to improve performance and lower the resource consumption.
- Mocks use when you want to verify the behaviour of the code.
- Stubs use when you need to provide data for the code or the test to run.



When we design for testability, we use white-box testing

We write the source code

We make sure that the code can be tested



Injecting bad behavior into a model

- ▶ Testing needs both ☺ and ☺ paths
- How do we test these paths?
- How do we know we have tested all paths?



Automatability

- To which degree can you automate the test?
- How long time does it take to create an automated test?
- How long time does it take to manually test it?

Graphical user interfaces usually have a high cost of automated testing.



Controllability

Can we control the tested object?

We might need access to other objects that need to change



Isolateability

- How many other objects are needed to test the object?
- Ideally zero dependencies.



Understandability

- Is the object documented?
- Is the code self-explaining?
- Will the tester be able to find all edge cases?



Homogeneity

- Are all the modules written in the same language?
- Are you using the same framework everywhere?
- The more differences, the more different techniques and testing frameworks you might need



Observability

- How do we know that the test did what it should?
- Private member variables? Reflections API? Member functions that you can infer a value from?
- Visible side effects? File was created? Test that. Read its contents.
- ▶ Hidden side effects? 😕
- Extend the class with functions keeping track of what you need to test.



Separation of concerns

- More functionality in a class means more things to test.
- Encapsulated classes.
 - Modularize the software.
 - Can hide implementation details from other functionality.
- A smaller interface means fewer functions you need to test.
- See also: Single Responsibility Principle.



Dependency Injection / Inversion of control

- Allows a way to pass objects (dependencies) to another object
- Helps automatability (makes it easier to construct the tested object's dependencies)
- Allows fakes or mocks to be used

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```
You can inject dependencies that improve observability of the internal state of the
object – you can now access its internal dependency by keeping a pointer to it
  public class Injector {
     public static void main(String[] args) {
       // Build the dependencies first
       Service service = new ExampleService();
       // Inject the service, constructor style
       Client client = new Client(service);
       // Use the objects
       System.out.println(client.greet());
     }
```

Test-driven development (TDD)

Requires automation

- Requires short development cycles
- Focused on small unit tests not larger functional tests
- Test code should be larger than the code under test (need to setup fakes, mocks, etc)
- Still need a testing team to get a different set of eyes
- Many tests; expensive to maintain
- Results in debuggers being less needed



Test-driven development (TDD) Cycle





Behavior-driven development (BDD)

Similar to TDD, but focuses on behavior instead of unit tests. Typically, a DSL is used to describe the test:

Specification: Stack

When a new stack is created Then it is empty

When an element is added to the stack Then that element is at the top of the stack

When a stack has N elements And element E is on top of the stack Then a pop operation returns E And the new size of the stack is N-1



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Design for testing (analogy with IC design)

How do you know that hardware is correct?

- It's black box testing (input/output)
- The underlying source code is available, but not very useful for testing
- Add additional testability features to the integrated circuit
- Test the circuit during manufacturing
- Possibly also supports troubleshooting by consumer via JTAG connector



What you can do today

Use existing development services such as github (or others): [https://docs.github.com/en/actions/automating-builds-and-tests

- Continuous integration build and test on various OS and hardware
- Use Test Automation Frameworks and Mock Testing Frameworks
 - Selenium, Cypress, Playwright, WebDriverIO, TestCafe, NightwatchJS, Appium (Mobile), Cucumber (BDD)
 - Mockito, EasyMock, WireMock, MockWebServer, JMockit, PowerMock,
- Build for various languages:
 - Go, Java (with Ant, Gradle, Maven), .NET
 - Node.js (JavaScript/TypeScript)
 - Python, Ruby, Swift, PowerShell
 - Julia testing and code coverage
 - Xamarin (.NET mobile)



Testing OpenModelica

https://openmodelica.org

- For each pull request (PR): https://github.com/OpenModelica/OpenModelica
 - we build it using gcc & clang on Linux (autoconf & cmake)
 - we can also build it on Windows [32 and 64 bit] & Mac [x86_64 and M1] when testing large PRs
 - we run 4000+ tests
 - we partially test the GUI using Qt testing
 - we export models and test that they work with external tools
- Each night we run coverage of 78 Modelica libraries 16332 models
 - https://libraries.openmodelica.org/branches/overview.html
- Each night we build nightly-builds
 - various Linux distros (arm, x86_64)
 - Windows (32 and 64 bit)
 - Mac OS (x86_64, M1)



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