



Lecture 07:

Testing

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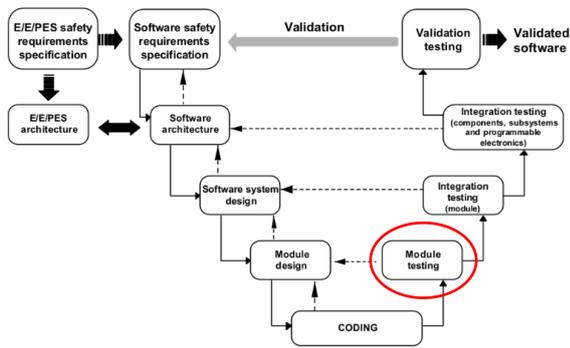


Where are we?

- ▶ 01: Concepts of Quality
- ▶ 02: Legal Requirements: Norms and Standards
- ▶ 03: The Software Development Process
- ▶ 04: Hazard Analysis
- ▶ 05: High-Level Design with SysML
- ▶ 06: Formal Modelling with OCL
- ▶ 07: Testing
- ▶ 08: Static Program Analysis
- ▶ 09-10: Software Verification
- ▶ 11-12: Model Checking
- ▶ 13: Conclusions



Testing in the Development Cycle



What is Testing?

Testing is the process of finding errors

BUT: testing can prove the **absence** of errors under certain hypotheses – so-called **complete** test methods

see <http://www.informatik.uni-bremen.de/agbs/jp/papers/test-automation-huang-peleska.pdf>

- ▶ In our sense, testing is the process of finding errors
- ▶ The **aim** of testing is the derivation of a program compared to its specification
 - ▶ inconsistency between structural features of a program that cause a faulty behavior of a program

This concept is closely related to model checking
It is well known that Dijkstra hated model checking and frowned upon testing ...

Program testing can be used to show the presence of bugs, but never to show their absence.

E.W. Dijkstra, 1972



Why is testing so important?

- ▶ Even if one day code can be completely verified using formal methods, tests will still be required because--
- ▶ for embedded systems, the correctness of the HW/SW integration must be verified by testing, because--
- ▶ as of today, it is infeasible to provide a correct and complete formal model for complete HW/SW systems, comprising:
 - ▶ source code,
 - ▶ machine code,
 - ▶ CPU micro code,
 - ▶ firmware on interface hardware,
 - ▶ CPUs, busses, caches, memory, and interface boards.
- ▶ This will stay infeasible in the foreseeable future



The Testing Process

- ▶ Test cases, test plan, etc.
- ▶ System-under-test (s.u.t.)
 - ▶ Aka. TOE (target-of-evaluation) in CC
 - ▶ Aka. Implementation-under-test
- ▶ Warning -- test literature is quite expansive:

Testing is any activity aimed at evaluating an attribute or capability of a program or system and determining that it meets its required results.

Hetzel, 1983



Test Levels

- ▶ **Component and unit tests**
 - ▶ test at the interface level of single components (modules, classes)
- ▶ **Integration test**
 - ▶ testing interfaces of components fit together
- ▶ **System test**
 - ▶ functional and non-functional test of the complete system from the user's perspective
- ▶ **Acceptance test**
 - ▶ testing if system implements contract details



Test Methods

- ▶ Static vs. dynamic
 - ▶ With **static** tests, the code is **analyzed** without being run. We cover these methods as static program analysis later
 - ▶ With **dynamic** tests, we **run** the code under controlled conditions, and check the results against a given specification
- ▶ Central question: where do the **test cases** come from?
 - ▶ **Black-box:** the inner structure of the s.u.t. is opaque, test cases are derived from specification **only**.
 - ▶ **Grey-box:** some inner structure of the s.u.t. is known, e.g. module architecture.
 - ▶ **White-box:** the inner structure of the s.u.t. is known, and tests cases are derived from the source code **and** coverage objectives for the source code



Black-Box Tests

- ▶ Limit analysis:
 - ▶ If the specification limits input parameters, then values **close** to these limits should be chosen
 - ▶ Idea is that programs behave **continuously**, and errors occur at these limits
- ▶ Equivalence classes:
 - ▶ If the input parameter values can be decomposed into **classes** which are treated equivalently, test cases have to cover all classes
- ▶ Smoke test:
 - ▶ "Run it, and check it does not go up in smoke."



Example: Black-Box Testing

- ▶ Equivalence classes or limits?

Example: A Company Bonus System

The loyalty bonus shall be computed depending on the time of employment. For employees of more than three years, it shall be 50% of the monthly salary, for employees of more than five years, 75%, and for employees of more than eight years, it shall be 100%.

- ▶ Equivalence classes or limits?

Example: Air Bag

The air bag shall be released if the vertical acceleration a_v equals or exceeds $15 \frac{m}{s^2}$. The vertical acceleration will never be less than zero, or more than $40 \frac{m}{s^2}$.



Black-Box Tests

- ▶ Quite typical for **GUI tests**, or **functional testing**
- ▶ Testing **invalid input**: depends on programming language – the stronger the typing, the less testing for invalid input is required
 - ▶ Example: consider lists in C, Java, Haskell
 - ▶ Example: consider object-relational mappings¹ (ORM) in Python, Java

¹ Translating e.g. SQL-entries to objects



Complete Model-based Black-box Testing

- ▶ Create a model M of the expected system behaviour
- ▶ Specify a **fault model** (M, \leq, Dom) with reference model M , **conformance relation** \leq and **fault domain** Dom (a collection of models that may or may not conform to M)
- ▶ Derive test cases from fault model
- ▶ The resulting test suite is **complete** if
 - ▶ Every conforming SUT will pass all tests (**soundness**)
 - ▶ Every non-conforming SUT whose true behavior is reflected by a member of the fault domain fails at least on test case (**exhaustiveness**)
 - ▶ (nothing is guaranteed for SUT behaviors outside the fault domain)

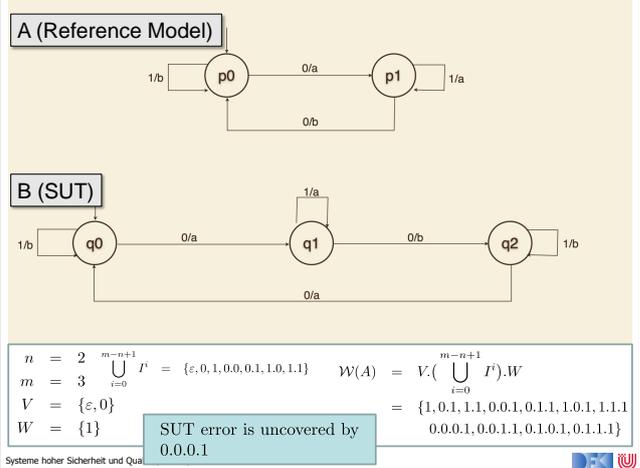


Example: the W-Method

- ▶ The W-Method specifies a recipe for constructing complete test suites for finite state machines (FSMs) with conformance relation " \sim " **language equivalence (I/O-equivalence)**:
 - ▶ Create a state cover V
 - ▶ Create a characterization set W
 - ▶ Assume that implementation has at most $m \geq n$ states (n is the number of states in the observable, minimized reference model)
 - ▶ Create test suite according to formula

$$W = V \cdot \left(\bigcup_{i=0}^{m-n+1} I^i \right) \cdot W$$

I : input alphabet
 I^i : input traces of length i
 $A.B$: all traces of A concatenated with all traces from B



Property-based Testing

- ▶ In property-based testing (or random testing), we generate **random** input values, and check the results against a given **executable** specification.
- ▶ Attention needs to be paid to the **distribution** values.
- ▶ Works better with **high-level languages**, where the datatypes represent more information on an abstract level and where the language is powerful enough to write comprehensive executable specifications (i.e. Boolean expressions).
 - ▶ Implementations for e.g. Haskell (QuickCheck), Scala (ScalaCheck), Java
- ▶ Example: consider list reversal in C, Java, Haskell
 - ▶ Executable spec: reversal is idempotent and distributes over concatenation.
 - ▶ Question: how to generate random lists?



White-Box Tests

- ▶ In white-box tests, we derive test cases based on the structure of the program (**structural testing**)
 - ▶ To abstract from the source code (which is a purely syntactic artefact), we consider the **control flow graph** of the program.

Def: Control Flow Graph (CFG)

- nodes as elementary statements (e.g. assignments, **return**, **break**, ...), as well as control expressions (e.g. in conditionals and loops), and
- vertices from n to m if the control flow can reach a node m coming from a node n .

- ▶ Hence, **paths** in the CFG correspond to **runs** of the program.

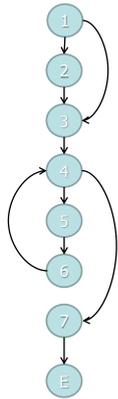


Example: Control-Flow Graph

```

if (x < 0) /*1*/ {
  x = -x; /*2*/
}
z = 1; /*3*/
while (x > 0) /*4*/ {
  z = z * y; /*5*/
  x = x - 1; /*6*/
}
return z; /*7*/

```



An execution path is a path through the CFG ending with an exit node.

Examples:

- [1,3,4,7, E]
- [1,2,3,4,7, E]
- [1,2,3,4,5,6,4,7, E]
- [1,3,4,5,6,4,5,6,4,7, E]
- ...

Coverage

Statement coverage:

Measures the percentage of statements that were covered by the tests. 100% statement coverage is reached if each **node** in the CFG has been visited at least once.

Branch coverage:

Measures the percentage of **edges** (emanating from branching or non-branching nodes) covered by the tests. 100% branch coverage is reached if every edge of the CFG has been traversed at least once.

Path coverage:

Measures the percentage of CFG **paths** that have been covered by the tests. 100% path coverage is achieved if every path of the CFG has been covered at least once.

Decision Coverage

Decision coverage:

Measures the coverage of conditional branches (i.e., edges emanating from conditional nodes). 100% decision coverage is reached if the tests cover all conditional branches.

Decision coverage vs. branch coverage:

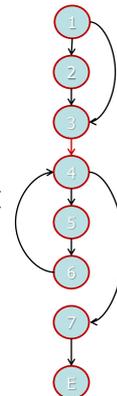
- ▶ If branch coverage is 100%, then decision coverage is 100% and vice versa.
- ▶ A lower percentage $p < 100\%$ of branch coverage, however, has a different meaning than a decision coverage of p , because
- ▶ branch coverage considers all edges, whereas
- ▶ decision coverage considers edges emanating from decision nodes only

Example: Statement Coverage

```

if (x < 0) /*1*/ {
  x = -x; /*2*/
}
z = 1; /*3*/
while (x > 0) /*4*/ {
  z = z * y; /*5*/
  x = x - 1; /*6*/
}
return z; /*7*/

```



▶ Which (minimal) path covers all statements?

$p = [1,2,3,4,5,6,4,7,E]$

▶ Which state generates p ?

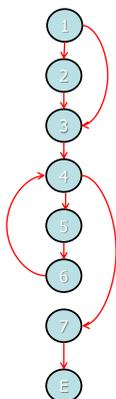
$x = -1$
 y any
 z any

Example: Branch Coverage

```

if (x < 0) /*1*/ {
  x = -x; /*2*/
}
z = 1; /*3*/
while (x > 0) /*4*/ {
  z = z * y; /*5*/
  x = x - 1; /*6*/
}
return z; /*7*/

```



▶ Which (minimal) paths cover all vertices?

$p_1 = [1,2,3,4,5,6,4,7,E]$
 $p_2 = [1,3,4,7,E]$

▶ Which states generate p_1, p_2 ?

	p_1	p_2
x	-1	0
y	any	any
z	any	Any

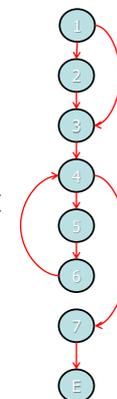
▶ Note p_3 with $x = 1$ does not add coverage.

Example: Path Coverage

```

if (x < 0) /*1*/ {
  x = -x; /*2*/
}
z = 1; /*3*/
while (x > 0) /*4*/ {
  z = z * y; /*5*/
  x = x - 1; /*6*/
}
return z; /*7*/

```



▶ How many paths are there?

▶ Let $q_1 = [1,2,3]$
 $q_2 = [1,3]$
 $p = [4,5,6]$
 $r = [4,7,E]$

then all paths are

$P = (q_1|q_2) p^* r$

▶ Number of possible paths:

$|P| = 2 \cdot \text{MaxInt} - 1$

Statement, Branch and Path Coverage

Statement Coverage:

- ▶ Necessary but not sufficient, not suitable as only test approach.
- ▶ Detects dead code (code which is never executed).
- ▶ About 18% of all defects are identified.

Branch coverage:

- ▶ Least possible single approach.
- ▶ Needs to be achieved by (specification-based) tests for avionic software of DAL-C – does not suffice for DAL-B or DAL-A.
- ▶ Detects dead code, but also frequently executed program parts.
- ▶ About 34% of all defects are identified.

Path Coverage:

- ▶ Most powerful structural approach;
- ▶ Highest defect identification rate (close to 100%);
- ▶ But no **practical** relevance.

Decision Coverage Revisited

▶ Decision coverage requires that for all decisions in the program, each possible outcome is considered once.

▶ **Problem:** cannot sufficiently distinguish Boolean expressions.

▶ Example: for $A \parallel B$, the following are sufficient:

A	B	Result
False	False	False
True	False	True

▶ But this does not distinguish $A \parallel B$ from A ; B is effectively not tested.

Decomposing Boolean Expressions

- ▶ The binary Boolean operators include conjunction $x \wedge y$, disjunction $x \vee y$, or anything expressible by these (e.g. exclusive disjunction, implication)

Elementary Boolean Terms

An elementary Boolean term does not contain binary Boolean operators, and cannot be further decomposed.

- ▶ An elementary term is a variable, a Boolean-valued function, a relation (equality =, orders $<, \leq, >, \geq$, etc.), or a negation of these.
- ▶ This is a fairly syntactic view, e.g. $x \leq y$ is elementary, but $x < y \vee x = y$ is not, even though they are equivalent.
- ▶ In formal logic, these are called **literals**.



Simple Condition Coverage

- ▶ For each decision in the program, each elementary Boolean term (condition) evaluates to *True* and *False* at least once
- ▶ Note that this does not say much about the possible value of the condition
- ▶ Example:

if (temperature > 90 && pressure > 120) { ... }

C1	C2	Result
False	False	False
False	True	False
True	False	False
True	True	True

-- These two would be enough
-- for condition coverage



Modified Condition Coverage

- ▶ It is not always possible to generate all possible combinations of elementary terms, e.g. $3 \leq x \ \&\& \ x < 5$.
- ▶ In modified (or minimal) condition coverage, all possible combinations of those elementary terms the value of which determines the value of the whole condition need to be considered.
- ▶ Example: $3 \leq x \ \&\& \ x < 5$

$3 \leq x$	$x < 5$	Result
False	False	False
False	True	False
True	False	True
True	True	True

- ▶ Another example: $(x > 1 \ \&\& \ ! p) \ || \ p$



Modified Condition/Decision Coverage

- ▶ Modified Condition/Decision Coverage (MC/DC) is required by the "aerospace norm" **DO-178B** for Level A software.

- ▶ It is a **combination** of the previous coverage criteria defined as follows:

- ▶ Every point of entry and exit in the program has been invoked at least once;
- ▶ Every decision in the program has taken all possible outcomes at least once;
- ▶ Every condition (i.e. elementary Boolean terms earlier) in a decision in the program has taken all possible outcomes at least once;
- ▶ Every condition in a decision has been shown to independently affect that decision's outcome.



How to achieve MC/DC

- ▶ **Not:** Here is the source code, what is the minimal set of test cases?
- ▶ **Rather:** From requirements we get test cases, do they achieve MC/DC?

- ▶ Example:

- ▶ Test cases:

Test case	1	2	3	4	5
Input A	F	F	T	F	T
Input B	F	T	F	T	F
Input C	T	F	F	T	T
Input D	F	T	F	F	F
Result Z	F	T	F	T	T

Source Code:
 $Z = (A \ || \ B) \ \&\& \ (C \ || \ D)$

Question: do test cases achieve MC/DC?

Source: Hayhurst *et al*, A Practical Tutorial on MC/DC. NASA/TM2001-210876



Example: MC/DC

Determining MC/DC:

1. Are all decisions covered?
2. Eliminate masked inputs (recursively)
 - ▶ False for && masks other input
 - ▶ True for || masks other input
3. Remaining unmasked test cases must cover all conditions.

Source Code
 $Z = (A \ || \ B) \ \&\& \ (C \ || \ D)$

Test case	1	2	3	4	5
Input A	F	F	T	F	T
Input B	F	T	F	T	F
Input C	T	F	F	T	T
Input D	F	T	F	F	F
Result Z	F	T	F	T	T

Here:

- ▶ Result is both F and T, so decisions covered.
- ▶ Masking:
 - ▶ In test case 1, C and D are masked
 - ▶ In test case 3, A and B are masked
 - ▶ Recursive masking as shown
- ▶ Remaining cases cover T, F for A, B, C, D
 - ▶ MC/DC achieved
 - ▶ In fact, test case 4 not even needed (?)



Summary

- ▶ (Dynamic) Testing is the controlled execution of code, and comparing the result against an expected outcome.
- ▶ Testing is (traditionally) the main way for **verification**.
- ▶ Depending on how the test cases are derived, we distinguish **white-box** and **black-box** tests.
- ▶ In black-box tests, we can consider **limits** and **equivalence classes** for input values to obtain test cases.
- ▶ In white-box tests, we have different notions of **coverage**: statement coverage, path coverage, condition coverage, etc.
- ▶ Next week: **Static testing** aka. static **program analysis**

