Advanced Object-Oriented Design

Test 101

The minimum you should know S.Ducasse





Goal of the lecture

- How can you trust that a change did not destroy something?
- What is **my confidence** in the system?
- What is unit testing?
- How do I write tests?



Test main points

- When there is a change
 - Tests verify that what worked before still works
 - Tests are your life insurance: you get aware of a side effect and regression
- Tests are enablers of future evolution
- Tests reduce the fear of change
- Per se tests do not prevent bugs to happen but they reduce unnoticed bugs or side effects



About automation

A test that is not automated does NOT EXIST!

- Seriously!
- Repetition
- No human intervention

Unit tests

- Unit tests ensure that you get the specified behavior of a class
- Normally unit tests test a single class
- A test one scenario: one point!



Anatomy of a test

A test:

- Creates a context
- Performs a stimulus: an action on the context
- Checks the result with assertions

Example: Testing set addition

A test:

- Creates a context: Create an empty set
- Performs a stimulus: Add twice the same element
- Checks the results: Check that the set contains only one element



Set testcase

```
TestCase subclass: #SetTest
...
```

```
SetTest >> testAdd

| empty |
empty := Set new. "Context"
empty add: 5. "Stimulus"
empty add: 5.
self assert: empty size equals: 1. "Check"

SetTest run: #testAdd
```

Success, failures, and errors

- Success: a test passes
- A failure is a failed assertion, i.e., an anticipated problem that you test failed
- An error is a condition you didnt check for, i.e., a runtime error.



A failure

If we get empty size returning 2 instead of 1.

```
SetTest >> testAdd
| empty |
empty := Set new.
empty add: 5.
empty add: 5.
self assert: empty size equals: 1.
```



An error

Sending the message foobar: raises an exception.

```
SetTest >> testAdd
| empty |
empty := Set new.
empty foobar: 5.
self assert: empty size equals: 1.
```



How to reuse setting test context?

If a context is repeated among tests:

- duplication is never a good idea
- hampers future evolution

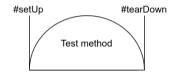
The framework offers the setUp method to create a context before any test execution.



setUp and tearDown messages

Executed systematically before and after each test run

- setUp allows us to specify and reuse the context
- tearDown to clean after test execution





Defining a setUp method

Just create a context, here an empty set.

```
SetTestCase >> setUp
empty := Set new
```

setUp is executed for you before any test execution

```
SetTestCase >> testOccurrences
self
assert: (empty occurrencesOf: 0)
equals: 0.
empty add: 5; add: 5.
self
assert: (empty occurrencesOf: 5)
equals: 1
```

About writing tests

- Remember: Tests represent your trust in the system
- Build them incrementally
 - Do not need to focus on everything
 - When a new bug shows up, write a test
- Even better write them before the code
 - Act as your first client, produce better interface
- Active documentation always in sync
- It has a cost: writing them, maintain them, so make them worth
- But pay off is Huge



But I cant cover everything!

- Sure! Nobody can but:
 - When someone discovers a defect in code, first write a test that demonstrates the defect.
 - Then debug until the test succeeds.

'Whenever you are tempted to type something into a print statement or a debugger expression, write it as a test instead.' Martin Fowler



Testing style: TDD

"The style here is to write a few lines of code, then a test that should run, or even better, to write a test that won't run, then write the code that will make it run."

- Write unit tests that thoroughly test a single class
- Write tests as you develop (even before you implement your class!)
- Write tests for every new piece of functionality

'Developers should spend 25-50% of their time developing tests.' (see next lecture)



Good tests

- Repeatable
- No human intervention
- "self-described"
- · Change less often than the system
- Tells a story

Conclusion

- Invest in tests
- Use Xtreme TDD: write a test, execute, debug and code in the debugger (see following lecture)
- Tests are your best investment

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