IN3240/IN4240 Software Testing

Tool support for testing Chapter 6

- 1. Test tool considerations and classification
- 2. Potential benefits and risks
- Effective use of tools introducing a test tool to an organization

- 1.1 Tool support for testing
- 1.2 Test tool classification
- 1.3 Tools for test management
- 1.4 Tools for static testing
- 1.5 Tools for test design and specification
- 1.6 Tools for execution and logging
- 1.7 Tools for performance & monitoring
- 1.8 Tools for specific testing needs

2. Effective use of test tools

- 2.1 Potential benefits and risks of tools
- 2.2 Special considerations for tools

3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

✓ LO: Classify different types of test tools according to their purpose and to the activities in the test process and in the software life-cycle

✓ LO: For each type of test tool, explain how it supports testing

Types of test tools



- 1.1 Tool support for testing
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Tool support for testing – types of tools

Test tools can be used for one or more activities that support testing:

- Tools that are directly used in testing (e.g. test execution tools, test data generation tools, result comparison tools)
- Tools that help in managing the testing process (e.g. test results, requirements, incidents, defects) and for monitoring and reporting the test execution
- Tools that are used in **exploration** (e.g. tools that monitor the file activity for an application)
- Any tool that aids in testing

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Tool support for testing - purposes

- **Tools support** for testing can have one or more of the following purposes, depending on the context:
 - improve the efficiency of the test activities (e.g.: by automating repetitive tasks)
 - automate activities that require significant resources when done manually (e.g. static testing)
 - automate activities that cannot be done manually (e.g. large-scale performance testing of client-server applications)
 - increase reliability of testing (by automating large data comparisons or simulating complex behavior)

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Test tool classification

Tools are classified according to the testing activities that they support.

- one activity
- more than one activity, but classification falls under the main activity

Notes

- Some types of test tool can be intrusive the tool itself can affect the outcome of the test. (e.g. timing measurements may be different depending on how you measure it with different performance tools).
- The consequence of intrusive tools is called the probe effect.
- Some tools offer support more appropriate for developers. Such tools are marked with "(D)" in this chapter.



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Tools support for management of testing & tests

Characteristics

- Support for the management of tests and the testing activities.
- Support for traceability of tests, test results and incidents to source documents, such as requirements specifications.
- Generation of progress reports
- Logging test results
- Monotoring
- Offer info on metrics related to the tests.

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Tools support for management of testing & tests

Types

Test management tools and application lifecycle management tool (ALM)

- Requirements management tools
- Defect management tools
- Configuration management tools
- Continuous integrations tool (D)

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Tools support for management of testing & tests

Types

 Test management tools and application lifecycle management tool (ALM)

Requirements management tools

- Store requirements
- Check for consistency and undefined (missing) requirements
- Allow prioritization
- Enable individual tests to be traceable to requirements
- Defect management tools
- Configuration management tools
- Continuous integrations tool (D)

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Defect management tools

- Configuration management tools
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Tools support for management of testing & tests

Statuses of incident reports:





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Tools support for management of testing & tests

Types

- Test management tools and application lifecycle management tool (ALM)
- Requirements management tools
- Defect management tools

Configuration management tools

- Are necessary to keep track of different versions and builds of SW and tests
- Are particularly useful when developing on more than one configuration of the HW/SW environment
- Continuous integrations tool (D)

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• Requirements management tools

- Defect management tools
- Configuration management tools

Continuous integrations tool (D)



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Tools support for static testing

Recall the different types of testing



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Tools support for static testing

Tools for static testing

Tools that aid in improving the code / work product, without executing it Categories

Review tools

Supports the review process

Static analysis tools

Supports code examination

Modelling tools

Validate models of system / software



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Tools support for static testing

Review process tools

Common reference for the review processes conducted Keep track of all the information from the review process Store and communicate review comments, report on defects and effort Monitoring review status → Passed, passed with corrections, requires re-review

When to use?

Suitable for more formal review processes

Geographically dispersed teams

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Tools support for static testing

Static analysis tools (D)

Mostly used by developers \rightarrow Component (unit) testing

Tool is executed \rightarrow Code is not

The source code serves as input data to the tool

Extension of compiler technology



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Tools support for static testing

Static analysis tools (D)

Support developers and testers in finding defects before dynamic testing

Purpose

To better understand the code, and find ways of improving it

Common features

Calculate metrics \rightarrow Complexity, nesting levels \rightarrow Identify areas of risk Enforce coding standards

Analyse code structures and dependencies

Static analysis tools (D)

Static analysis tool example: Source Monitor

Collects metrics from source code files

Displays and prints metrics in tables and charts

File Edit View Wir	ndow <u>H</u> elp)											- 8 ×
File Name	Li ∇	Statements	% Branches	Calls	% Comments	Classes	Methods/Class	Avg Stmts/Method	Max Complexity	Max Depth	Avg Depth	Avg Complexity	
GUI.java	195	110	10,0	69	24,6	4	2,00	10,88	8	5	2,26	2,38	
Board.java	104	46	0,0	40	36,5	1	1,00	19,00	1	2	1,00	1,00	
Square.java	86	50	8,0	6	19,8	1	15,00	1,80	3	3	1,56	1,27	
EmptySquare.java	70	25	44,0	17	20,0	1	3,00	7,00	7	5	2,80	4,67	
UtenGUIMain.java	63	30	23,3	23	20,6	1	1,00	26,00	8	4	2,83	8,00	
SquareContainer.java	a 32	17	5,9	1	18,8	1	4,00	2,25	2	2	1,47	1,25	
SudokuContainer.java	a 29	11	0,0	3	27,6	1	4,00	0,75	1	2	1,09	1,00	
FilledSquare.java	27	8	25,0	5	29,6	1	2,00	2,50	3	3	1,75	2,00	
Column.java	13	3	0,0	1	38,5	1	1,00	1,00	1	2	1,00	1,00	
Row.java	13	3	0,0	1	38,5	1	1,00	1,00	1	2	1,00	1,00	
Box.java	12	3	0,0	1	41,7	1	1,00	1,00	1	2	1,00	1,00	

Static analysis tools (D)

Static analysis tool example: Source Monitor



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Tools support for static testing

Modelling tools (D)

Validate models of the system / software

Purpose

- To better aid in designing the software
- Common features and characteristics
 - Identify inconsistencies and defects within the models
 - Identify and prioritise risk areas

Predicting system response and behaviour under various situations



Tools support for static testing

Modelling tool example: Star UML

UML tool Variety of diagrams Class / Domain Use case Sequence



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Tools support for static testing

The major benefit of static testing tools and modeling tools is **the cost effectiveness** of finding more defects at an **earlier time** in the development process.

As a result, the development process may accelerate and improve by having less rework.



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- Test design tools
- Model-based testing tools
- Test data preparation tools
- TDD Test driven development tool (D)
- ATDD Acceptance test-driven development and BDD Behavior-driven development

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Test design tools

- generating test inputs values from:
 - requirements
 - test conditions
 - design models (state, data or object)
 - code
 - graphical user interfaces
- generating expected results, if an oracle is available to the tool.
- Model-based testing tools
- Test data preparation tools
- TDD Test driven development tool (D)
- ATDD Acceptance test-driven development and BDD - Behavior-driven development

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• Test design tools

Model-based testing

- generating test inputs values or test cases from stored information the describes a model of the system, e.g. state transition model
- Test data preparation tools
 - TDD Test driven development tool (D)
 - ATDD Acceptance test-driven development and BDD - Behavior-driven development

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• Test design tools

• Model-based testing tools

Test data preparation tools

- Generating extensive range or volume of data, if needed
- Manipulate databases or files to set up test data to be used during the execution of the tests
- TDD Test driven development tool (D)
- ATDD Acceptance test-driven development and BDD Behavior-driven development

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Tools support for test design and specification

Which test activities are supported by test data preparation tools?

Common features of test data preparation tools

Data can be selected from an existing database
Data can be created, generated, and altered for use in tests
Construct a large number of similar records → Volume tests
When to use?
During test specification and control → Test data management is difficult
Ensure the system under test is being tested *realistically*

Useful for performance and reliability testing

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Tools support for test design and specification

Which test activities are supported by test data preparation tools?

Example: Simple login site

	Simple Login Page	
Username :	Password :	Login

Data need for testing website

- List of various usernames
- List of various passwords
- Database of existing users

We do not want to create all this by hand!



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lools support for test design and specification

• Test design tools

- Model-based testing tools
- Test data preparation tools

TDD - Test driven development tool (D)

- part of EXtreme Programming
- used in Agile development
- Recall the first guest lecture!
- ATDD Acceptance test-driven development and BDD Behavior-driven development



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• Test design tools

- Model-based testing tools
- Test data preparation tools
- TDD Test driven development tool (D)

ATDD - Acceptance test-driven development and

- **BDD Behavior-driven** development
- Natural language syntax, Given/When/Then:

Given <some condition> , When <something is done>, Then <result should happen>

As a <role, e.g. costumer>

In order to <achieve something, e.g. product> I want <do something>



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Tools support for test execution & logging

Test execution tools

- Enable tests to be executed automatically using stored
 - inputs and
 - expected results
- **Coverage tools**

- Test harnesses (D) and Unit test framework tools (D)
- Test comparators


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Tools support for test execution & logging

Levels of scripting

Linear	Struc	tured	Sh	ared
Scripts	Scri	ipts	Sc	ripts
Data-I	Driven	Keywor		
Scr	ipts	Sc		



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Tools support for test execution & logging

Example: Simple Login Form

Test with different combinations of username and password

Simple Login Form	า	
Username :	Password :	Login

Problem: Necessary to write three scripts for three different combinations?

1. Go to login page	1. Go to login page	1. Go to login page
2. Type username "Hansen"	2. Type username "Olsen"	2. Type username "Jensen"
3. Type password "oslo123"	3. Type password"bergen456"	3. Type password "harstad 789
4. Click "Login" button	4. Click "Login" button	4. Click "Login" button

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Tools support for test execution & logging

Example: Simple Login Form

This test approach is time-consuming

Solution: Separate test script from data (username, password) \rightarrow No hard-coding

One script retrieves different combinations of username and password



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Tools support for test execution & logging

Keyword-driven scripting

- Keywords symbolising actions (functionality)
- "One level up" from data-driven scripting
- Can write tests using keywords

"What to test, rather than how to test it"

Keyword	Script
Login	script1
CH_password	script2
Logout	script3



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Tools support for test execution & logging

Test execution tools

Coverage tools

- identifying coverage items (instrumenting the code)
- calculating the percentage of coverage items that were exercised by a suite of tests
- reporting coverage items that have not yet been exercised
- identifying test inputs to exercise items that have not yet been uncovered
- generating stubs and drivers (if part of a unit test framework).
- Test harnesses and Unit test framework tools (D)
- Test comparators

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Tools support for test execution & logging

Test execution tools

• Coverage tools

Test harnesses and Unit test framework tools (D)

- supplying inputs to the software being tested
- receiving outputs generated by the software being tested
- executing a set of tests within the framework or using the test harness
- recording the pass/fail results of each test (framework tools)
- storing tests (framework tools)
- support for debugging (framework tools)
- coverage measurement at code level (framework tools)

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Tools support for test execution & logging

Drivers

Calls the component to be tested

In other words: A component that calls the Tested Unit

Stubs

Called *from* the software component to be tested In other words: A component the *Tested Unit* depends on Partial implementation Fake values



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Tools support for test execution & logging

Test harness and unit test framework tools (D)

The two types are similar

Support tools for testing individual components or software units Harness: Stubs and drivers → Small programs that interact with software Unit test framework tools → Support for object-oriented software When are these tools used?

During test execution and logging

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2. Effective use of test tools

- 2.1 Potential benefits and risks of tools
- 2.2 Special considerations for tools

3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

Tools support for test execution & logging

Characteristics of test harness and unit test framework tools

- Supply inputs to the software being tested
- Receive outputs generated by the software being tested
- Execute a set of tests within the framework
- Record pass / fail results of each test
- Store tests
- Coverage measurement at code level
- Provide support for debugging



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Tools support for test execution & logging

• Test execution tools

• Coverage tools

- Test harnesses (D) and Unit test framework tools (D)
 - Test comparators

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Tools support for test execution & logging

Test comparators are used when the executed test generates a lot of output.

Testing is more than providing inputs

Need to check if software produces the correct result

Compare actual outcomes to expected results

Two ways of comparing results

Dynamic comparison → Comparison done during test execution

Post-execution comparison → Comparison performed after test has finished Software under test is no longer executing

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Tools support for test execution & logging

Test comparators are used when the executed test generates a lot of output.

Dynamic comparison

Best done by test execution tools

Useful when actual results do not match expected results in the middle of a test Tool may be programmed to take recovery actions / go to a different set of tests

Example

Good for comparing wording of an error message

Does the pop-up message match the correct wording for that error message?

Test comparators

asks 🔛 Test Data Comparator 🗙				
	I@ Tupo		🗗 Test Data	
	зетуре	🗭 In	🗇 Expected	🗬 Actual
<pre>objMoney = new Money(amount, curr</pre>	ху			
amount	💿 int	9	[08]	9
currency	java.lang.String			
objMoney	junit.samples.money.Mo			
<expected exception=""></expected>	Throwable		<no exception=""></no>	<no exception=""></no>
retValue = objMoney.equals(anObject)	хy			
anObject	java.lang.Object			
retValue	💿 boolean			
<expected exception=""></expected>	Throwable		<no exception=""></no>	<no exception=""></no>



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3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

Tools support for performance & monitoring

Test data for performance testing

Real data

Test data obtained from users

Load

Large amounts of test data can be produced

Maintenance

Test data from the production environment



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Tools support for performance & monitoring

Tests should reflect realistic (correct) scenarios

- Systems are often required to handle significant load / interactions
- Inadequate / insufficient testing compromises system quality
- Setting up test data → Significant effort
 - Extensive range or volume of data needed
 - Creating this data can be very resource-consuming
- Test data preparation tools help us manage this effort



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Tools support for performance & monitoring

Common features of test data preparation tools Data can be selected from an existing database Data can be created, generated, and altered for use in tests Construct a large number of similar records → Volume tests When to use? During test specification and control → Test data management is difficult

Ensure the system under test is being tested realistically

Useful for performance and reliability testing

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Monitoring tools

Monitoring tools identifying problems and sending an alert message to the administrator (e.g. network administrator)

- logging real-time and historical information
- finding optimal settings
- monitoring the number of users on a network
- monitoring network traffic (either in real time or covering a given

length of time of operation with the analysis performed afterwards).

Monitoring tools



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Tools support for performance & monitoring

Features or characteristics of dynamic analysis tools include support for

- detecting memory leaks;
- identifying pointer arithmetic errors such as null pointers;
- identifying time dependencies

Dynamic analysis tools (D)

📕 Windows Task Manager

File Options View Help

Applications Processes Services Performance Networking Users

Image Name	User Name	CPU	Memory (Private	Command Line	Description
iexplore.exe *32	raluca.madalina	00	953 488 K	"C:\Program Files (x86)\Internet	Internet Explorer
sqlservr.exe	NETWORK SERVICE	00	811 276 K	"C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL	SQL Server Windows NT - 64 Bit
firefox.exe *32	raluca.madalina	00	307 012 K	"C:\Program Files (x86)\Mozilla F	Firefox
devenv.exe *32	raluca.madalina	00	236 440 K	"C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsof	Microsoft Visual Studio 2008
OUTLOOK.EXE *32	raluca.madalina	00	201 692 K	"C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsof	Microsoft Outlook
svchost.exe	SYSTEM	00	201 072 K	C:\Windows\System32\svchost	Host Process for Windows Services
spotify.exe *32	raluca.madalina	00	156 220 K	Spotify.exe /UPDATECOMPLETE	Spotify
chrome.exe *32	raluca.madalina	00	146 760 K	"C:\Users\raluca.madalina\AppD	Google Chrome
Skype.exe *32	raluca.madalina	00	136 352 K	"C:\Program Files (x86)\Skype\P	Skype
UltimaTestCase.ex	raluca.madalina	00	112 124 K	"C:\Users\raluca.madalina\AppD	UtcDesigner
chrome.exe *32	raluca.madalina	00	91 056 K	"C:\Users\raluca.madalina\AppD	Google Chrome
chrome.exe *32	raluca.madalina	00	83 360 K	"C:\Users\raluca.madalina\AppD	Google Chrome
explorer.exe	raluca.madalina	00	80 332 K	C:\Windows\Explorer.EXE	Windows Explorer
chrome.exe *32	raluca.madalina	00	76 664 K	"C:\Users\raluca.madalina\AppD	Google Chrome
POWERPNT.EXE *32	raluca.madalina	00	71 852 K	"C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsof	Microsoft PowerPoint
ReportingServicesS	NETWORK SERVICE	00	71 044 K	"C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL	Reporting Services Service
chrome.exe *32	raluca.madalina	00	61 112 K	"C: \Users \raluca.madalina \AppD	Google Chrome

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3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

Tools support for specific application areas

There are tools specialized for use in a particular type of application

- Data quality assessment
- Data conversion and migration
- Usability testing and Accessibility testing
- Localization testing
- Security testing
- Portability testing

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Tools support for specific application areas

• There are tools specialized for use in a particular type of application.

Example:

performance testing tools specifically for web-based applications

dynamic analysis tools specifically for testing security aspects.

• Example of targeted areas: embedded systems.

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Tools support for specific application areas

- Testers may use:
 - word processor
 - spreadsheets

as a testing tool, but they are often used to store:

- test designs
- test scripts
- test data.
- Testers may also use SQL to set up and query databases containing test data.
- Tools used by developers when **debugging**, to help localize defects and check their fixes, are also testing tools.
- It is a good idea to look at any type of tool available to you for ways it could be used to help support any of the testing activities.

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Effective use of test tools

✓ LO: Summarize the potential benefits of using test tools in the software life-cycle

 \checkmark LO: Summarize the potential risks of using test tools in the software life-cycle

✓ LO: Summarize the potential risks of test automation in the software life-cycle

✓ LO: Remember the special considerations for test execution tools, static analysis tools and test management tools

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3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

Potential benefits and risks

- Simply purchasing or leasing a tool does not guarantee success with that tool!
- Each type of tool may require additional effort to achieve real and lasting benefits.

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3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

Potential benefits and risks

Greater consistency and repeatability

People tend to do the same tasks in a slightly different way Distractions affect human performance

Doing more than one task simultaneously

- Interruptions by peers / co-workers
- Fatigue and personals issues
- External pressures

Tools will reproduce the exact same procedure as previously



1. Types of test tools

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3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

Objective assessment

Humans are prone to make errors

Subjective preconceived notions and bias toward verification

Testing tools on the other hand ...

Objective "preconceived notions"

Assessment → Repeatable and consistently calculated

Cyclomatic complexity, nesting levels

Coverage, system behaviour, incident statistics

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3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

Ease of access to information about the tests or test effort

Information presented visually

Easier for the human mind to understand

Chart, graphs > Long list of numbers

Special purpose tools provide features directly

Statistics and graphs

Incident rates

Performance



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3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

Potential benefits of using tools :

1

Reduced repetitive work (running regression tests, re-entering the same test data. Etc)

<u>Greater consistency and</u> <u>repeatability (</u> tests executed by a tool, tests derived from requirements).

Objective assessment (static measures, coverage).

Ease of access to information about tests or testing (statistics / graphs about test progress, incident rates, performance)

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Potential risks of using tools: Unrealistic expectations for the tool (functionality & ease of use). Underestimating time, cost and effort for the introduction of a tool (training, external expertise). Underestimating the time and effort needed to achieve significant and continuing benefits from the tool

Underestimating the effort required to maintain the test assets generated by the tool.

Over-reliance on the tool (replacement where manual testing would be better).

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Potential benefits and risks

Tools are not magic!

They can do very well what they have been designed to do, but they cannot do everything.

The tester concentrates on

- what should be tested
- what the test cases should be
- how to prioritize the testing

The tool user concentrates on

- how best to get the tool to do its job effectively
- how to give increasing benefit from tool use

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Special considerations: Test execution tools

This type of tool often requires significant effort in order to achieve significant benefits.

- Capturing tests by recording the actions of a manual tester seems attractive, but this approach does not scale to large numbers of automated tests. This type of script may be unstable when unexpected events occur.
- Data-driven approach: separates out the test inputs (the data) and uses a more generic script that can read the test data and perform the same test with different data.
- In a keyword-driven approach: the spreadsheet contains keywords with the actions to be taken (also called action words), and test data. Testers can then define tests using the keywords.

Special considerations: Performance testing tools

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3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

- The design of the load to be generated by the tool
- Timing aspects probe effect
- How to interpret the information gathered.
- These tools need tester with expertise in performance testing to design the tests and interpret results.

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Special considerations: Static analysis tools

- There is a risk that the changes to make old code to conform to new standard will introduce an unexpected side-effect.
- These tools applied to source code can enforce coding standards, but if applied to existing code may generate a lot of messages.
- A gradual implementation with initial filters to exclude some messages would be an effective approach.
Special considerations: Test management tools

1. Types of test tools

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They need to interface with other tools or spreadsheets in order to produce information in the best format for the current needs of the organization.

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3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

Introducing a test tool into an organization

✓ LO: State the main considerations for introducing a new test tool to an organization

 \checkmark LO: State the goals of a proof-of-concept for a test tool, with the scope of evaluation and pilot

 \checkmark LO: Explain the success factors for the deployment of a new test tool into an organization

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Introducing a test tool into an organization

The *main considerations* in selecting a tool for an organization include:

- Assess the organizational maturity, strengths and weaknesses
- Evaluate against clear requirements and objective criteria.
- A proof-of-concept to test the required functionality and determine whether the product meets its objectives.
- Evaluation of the vendor (including training, support and commercial aspects).
- Identification of internal requirements for coaching and mentoring in the use of the tool.

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3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

Introducing a test tool into an organization

Introducing the selected tool into an organization starts with a *pilot project, with the following objectives*:

- Learn more detail about the tool.
- Evaluate how the tool fits with existing processes and practices, and determine what would need to change.
- Decide on standard ways of using and maintaining the tool and the test.
- Assess whether the benefits will be achieved at reasonable cost.

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3. Introducing a test tool into an organization

Introducing a test tool into an organization

Success factors for the deployment of the tool within an organization include:

- Roll out the tool to the rest of the organization incrementally.
- Adapt and improve processes to fit with the use of the tool.
- Provide training and coaching/mentoring for new users.
- Define usage guidelines.
- Implement a way to learn lessons from tool use.
- Monitor the tool use and benefits.