Chapter 4 - Part I Test design

Software Testing: IN3240 / IN4240

Summary:

- Test development process
 - Analysis / Design / Implementation
- **Categories of test design techniques**
 - Static / Dynamic
- **Specification-based** testing (black-box)
 - Equivalence partitioning / Boundary value analysis
 - Decision table testing
 - State transition testing



Part I: Close-ended questions

Question 1

In which document described in IEEE 829 would you find logging, environment and measurement?

- Test plan **a**.
- Test design specification b.
- Test case specification С.
- Test procedure specification d.



In which document described in IEEE 829 would you find instructions for the steps to be taken for a test including set-up, logging, environment and measurement? **IEEE** \rightarrow Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers ("I triple E") **IEEE 829**

Standard for Software and System Test Documentation

Specifies format of documents used in software / system testing

10 documents in total



In which document described in IEEE 829 would you find logging, environment and measurement? Master Test Plan (MTP) Level Test Log (LTL) Level Test Plan (LTP) Lest Test Design (LTD) Level Test Case (LTC) Level Test Procedure (LTPr)

- Anomaly Report (AR)
- Level Interim Test Status Report (LITSR)
 - Level Test Report (LTR)
 - Master Test Report (MTR)



In which document described in IEEE 829 would you find logging, environment and measurement?

Master Test Plan (MTP) Level Test Plan (LTP)

Lest Test Design (LTD)

Level Test Case (LTC)

Level Test Procedure (LTPr)

- Level Test Log (LTL)
 - Anomaly Report (AR)
 - Level Interim Test Status Report (LITSR)
 - Level Test Report (LTR)
 - Master Test Report (MTR)



In which document described in IEEE 829 would you find logging, environment and measurement?

Master Test Plan (MTP)

Scope, system overview, organisation

Responsibilities, tools, techniques, methods

Level Test Plan (LTP)

Like MTP but specific for each level of testing

Scope, resources, schedule of the testing activities



In which document described in IEEE 829 would you find logging, environment and measurement?

Level Test Design (LTD)

Detailing test cases \rightarrow Identify features to be tested

Expected results

Level Test Case (LTC)

Objectives

Inputs / Outputs



In which document described in IEEE 829 would you find instructions for the steps to be taken for a test including set-up, logging, environment and measurement? Level Test Procedure (LTPr) Detailed account of how to run each test Description of each step to be taken to execute test cases **Set-up:** Sequence of necessary actions to prepare for test execution Log: List tools / methods for logging results **Environment**: Describe environment for test execution Measurement: Describe how test measurements will be made



Question 1: Answer

In which document described in IEEE 829 would you find logging, environment and measurement?

- Test plan а.
- Test design specification b.
- Test case specification С.
- d. Test procedure specification







Question 2

With a highly experienced tester with a good business background, which approach to defining test procedures would be effective and most efficient for a project under severe time pressure?

- a. be taken
- b. Every step in the test spelled out in detail
- С. discussed in detailed with another experienced tester
- d. each step taken in testing

A high-level outline of the test conditions and general steps to

A high-level outline of the test conditions with the steps to take

Detailed documentation of all test cases and careful records of



With a highly experienced tester with a good business background, which project under severe time pressure?

Test effort under severe time pressure

Not feasible to define test procedures in full detail

Experience-based testing

Take advantage of the experience of the tester

Previous experience \rightarrow Insights to what could go wrong

Possible solution

High-level outline of test condition + General steps to be taken

approach to defining test procedures would be effective and most efficient for a



Question 2: Answer

With a highly experienced tester with a good business background, which approach to defining test procedures would be effective and most efficient for a project under severe time pressure?

- be taken
- b. Every step in the test spelled out in detail
- С. discussed in detailed with another experienced tester
- d. each step taken in testing

a. A high-level outline of the test conditions and general steps to

A high-level outline of the test conditions with the steps to take

Detailed documentation of all test cases and careful records of



Question 3

Put the test cases that implement the following test conditions into the best order for the test execution schedule, for a test that is checking modifications of customers on a database.

- 1) Print modified customer record
- 2) Change customer address: House number and street name
- 3) Capture and print the on-screen error message
- 4) Change customer address: Postal code
- 5) Confirm existing customer is on the database by opening that record
- 6) Close the customer record and close the database
- 7) Try to add a new customer with no details at all

a. 5, 4, 2, 1, 3, 7, 6 b. 4, 2, 5, 1, 6, 7, 3 c. 5, 4, 2, 1, 7, 3, 6 d. 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 6



customers on a database.

Activities

- 1. **Print** modified customer record
- 2. **Change** customer **address**: House number and street name
- 3. **Capture** and print the on-screen **error message**
- 4. **Change** customer **address**: Postal code
- 5.
- **Close** the customer **record** and close the **database** 6.
- 7. Try to add a new customer with no details at all

Put the test cases that implement the following test conditions into the best order for the test execution schedule, for a test that is checking modifications of

Confirm existing **customer** is in the database by **opening** that record



customers on a database.

Activities: Simplified

- **Print** modified record 1.
- 2. **Change address**
- 3. **Capture error message**
- 4. **Change address**
- 5. **Confirm customer** by **opening** record
- **Close record** and close **database** 6.
- 7. Try to add new customer with no details

Put the test cases that implement the following test conditions into the best order for the test execution schedule, for a test that is checking modifications of



customers on a database.

Execution schedule for checking modifications

What is the most intuitive order for customer record modification?

Find customer

Modify customer record

Verify modification

Create blank (provoke error)

Verify error

Close record + database

Put the test cases that implement the following test conditions into the best order for the test execution schedule, for a test that is checking modifications of



customers on a database.

Execution schedule for checking modifications

Find customer

Modify customer records

Verify modification	1. P
Create blank (provoke error)	7. T
Verify error	
Close record + database	

Put the test cases that implement the following test conditions into the best order for the test execution schedule, for a test that is checking modifications of

- 5. Confirm existing customer by opening record
- 4. Change address: Postal code
- 2. Change address: House number + Street
- Print modified record
- ry to add new customer, no details
 - 3. Capture error message
 - 6. Close record + database



Question 3: Answer

customers on a database.

- 1) Print modified customer record
- 2) Change customer address: House number and street name
- 3) Capture and print the on-screen error message
- 4) Change customer address: Postal code
- 5) Confirm existing customer is on the database by opening that record
- 6) Close the customer record and close the database
- 7) Try to add a new customer with no details at all

a. 5, 4, 2, 1, 3, 7, 6 b. 4, 2, 5, 1, 6, 7, 3 c. 5, 4, 2, 1, 7, 3, 6 d. 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 6

Put the test cases that implement the following test conditions into the best order for the test execution schedule, for a test that is checking modifications of



Question 4

Why are both specification-based and structure-based testing techniques useful?

- They find different types of defects а.
- b. Using more techniques is always better
- Both find the same types of defect С.
- Because specifications tend to be unstructured d.



Why are both specification-based and structure-based testing techniques useful?

Specification-based testing (Black-box testing)

Views software as a black box with inputs and outputs

Testers have *no knowledge* of how the system looks inside

Examines the functionality without looking into the internal structure







Why are both specification-based and structure-based testing techniques useful?

Structure-based testing (White-box testing)

Testers *require knowledge* of how the software is implemented

Testers ask the question: *How* does the software do it?

Examines the structure by looking into the program logic





Question 4: Answer

Why are both specification-based and structure-based testing techniques useful?

- a. They find different types of defects
- b. Using more techniques is always better
- Both find the same types of defect С.
- Because specifications tend to be unstructured d.





Question 5

What is a key characteristic of structure-based testing techniques?

- **a**.
- increase coverage
- c. They are based on the skills and experience of the tester
- d. They use a formal or informal model of the software or component

They are mainly used to assess the structure of a specification b. They are used both to measure coverage and to design tests to



What is a key characteristic of structure-based testing techniques? Overall objectives of testing Find defects / Gain confidence in the system Question: How? Testing as much as possible / feasible Concern How to assess the thoroughness of the test effort How much have we tested? How many aspects of the system have been checked?



- Solution
 - Assess thoroughness of test effort through coverage
 - Approach: Structure-based techniques
 - Advantage: We have access to the code!
 - Examine code / internal structure of the software
 - Insight into logic / states / system architecture

What is a key characteristic of structure-based testing techniques?



Question 5: Answer

- **a**.
- increase coverage
- c. They are based on the skills and experience of the tester
- d. They use a formal or informal model of the software or component

What is a key characteristic of structure-based testing techniques?

They are mainly used to assess the structure of a specification **b.** They are used both to measure coverage and to design tests to



Question 6

Should pre-conditions and post-conditions be part of a test case?

- a. Yes
- b. No



Should pre-conditions and post-conditions be part of a test case?

Test case (cf. IEEE 829)

Inputs

Execution conditions (pre- and post-conditions)

Expected / Predicted results

Developed for a particular objective

Exercise particular program / functionality

Verify compliance with specific requirement(s)



Should pre-conditions and post-conditions be part of a test case?

The need for test conditions

When can we start a test? / When does a test end?

What conclusions can we derive from a test? / What does the test tell us?

Pre-conditions

Condition(s) that must be in place PRIOR to running the test

Post-conditions

Condition(s) that must be in place AFTER running the test



Question 6: Answer

- a. Yes
- b. No



Should pre-conditions and post-conditions be part of a test case?



Question 7

is the analysis at the edge of each equivalence partition.

We apply this test design technique because at the edges of equivalence partitions, the results are more likely to be incorrect.



is the analysis at the edge of each equivalence partition.

Equivalence partitioning

Idea: Divide test conditions into groups that can be considered the same

These groups are equivalent

Test only one condition from each partition

Assume all conditions in the same partition will be treated the same

Little point in testing all values in the partition

Simplified assumptions \rightarrow Not always right



is the analysis at the edge of each equivalence partition.

Example: Public transport ticket prices

Children (under the age of 15):

Students (between 15 and 25):

Adults:

Seniors (over the age of 65):

Equivalence partitioning

Hence, when testing for senior discount \rightarrow Do not have to test all ages

20 NOK for a single ticket 25 NOK for a single ticket 35 NOK for a single ticket 20 NOK for a single ticket

E.g. We can assume that individuals of age 67, 68, 74, 88 are treated the same



is the analysis at the edge of each equivalence partition.

Example: Public transport ticket prices

Question: What is the right price for persons of age:

15 years / 25 years / 65 years?

Specifications may be unclear

Boundary value analysis (BVA)

Testing the boundaries (min. and max. values) / edges of equivalence partitions

High defect-finding capability


Question 7: Answer

is the analysis at the edge of each equivalence partition.

BVA – Boundary Value Analysis





Question 8

Which of the following would be an example of decision-table testing for a financial application applied at system-test level?

- on the screen
- c. A table containing rules for mortgage applications
- d. A table containing rules for chess

a. A table containing rules for combination of inputs to two fields

b. A table containing rules for interfaces between components



Which of the following would be an example of decision-table testing for a financial application applied at system-test level?

Decision-table testing

Cause-Effect table

Different combinations of input result in different actions

Aids in identifying effective test cases

Can reveal ambiguities in the specification

Explores business rules

R1	R2	R3	R4
т	т	F	F
т	Е	т	С
I	Г		Г
Т	F	F	F
	R1 T T	R1 R2 T T T F T F T F	R1R2R3TTFTFTTFF





Which of the following would be an example of decision-table testing for a financial application applied at system-test level? System testing Concerned with the **behaviour** of the **entire system High-level** descriptions of system behaviour Often final testing phase on behalf of development Hence:

We are interested in testing an overall / main aspect of the system



Question 8: Answer

Which of the following would be an example of decision-table testing for a financial application applied at system-test level?

- a. A table containing rules for combination of inputs to two fields on the screen

- b. A table containing rules for interfaces between components c. A table containing rules for mortgage applications d. A table containing rules for chess



Question 9

Χ.

Y.

Ζ.

Which of the following could be a coverage measure for state transition testing?

- V. All states have been reached
- W. The respond time for each transition is adequate
 - Every transition has been executed
 - All boundaries have been exercised
 - Specific sequences of transitions have been exercised

- a. X, Y and Z
- b. V, X, Y and Z
- c. W, X and Y
- d. V, X and Z



Which of the following could be a coverage measure for state transition testing?

Test coverage

Measure of the amount of testing performed by a set of tests

Simplified: How much of the code has been tested?

Aim: Reveal test coverage + Design additional tests to increase coverage

Coverage measure

How can we measure the coverage of the test effort?

What approaches / artefacts can be used to determine coverage?



Which of the following could be a coverage measure for state transition testing?

State-transition testing

Some aspect of the system can be described in a "finite state machine"

System can be in a *finite* number of different states

Transitions from one state to another depend on the *rules* of the machine

State diagram

Describes the **behaviour** of the system

Illustrates the different states a system can be in + Transitions between states



Which of the following could be a coverage measure for state transition testing?

Example: State diagram for PIN entry in ATM



Figure 4.2 in textbook



Which of the following could be a coverage measure for state transition testing?

Example: State diagram for PIN entry in ATM

States software may be in

Shown in circles

Transitions from one state to another

Arrows pointing to the next transition

Events causing the transitions

Card inserted / Enter PIN / PIN ok / PIN not ok

Actions resulting from transitions



Which of the following could be a coverage measure for state transition testing?

State transition testing and coverage

When using state transition testing \rightarrow What can measure coverage?

The number of states reached

Specific sequences of transitions exercised

Every transition has been executed

However: What about testing all **boundaries** / boundary values?

- All of the above tell us about the amount of testing performed through state transition



Which of the following could be a coverage measure for state transition testing?

Testing **boundary** values

Indeed a measure of testing coverage

Tells us about the percentage of boundaries exercised

However: *Not* a coverage measure for state transition testing

Boundary values may only be relevant for certain states

Example: We refer back to the ATM state diagram

- Testing boundary values does not necessarily tell us anything about state transitions



Which of the following could be a coverage measure for state transition testing?

Example: State diagram for PIN entry in ATM

Can test all PIN number boundaries

0000 - 9999

Less than four digits

More than four digits

Not directly linked to state transitions



Question 9: Answer

Which of the following could be a coverage measure for state transition testing?

- V. All states have been reached
 W. The respond time for each transition is adequate
 X. Every transition has been executed
 Y. All boundaries have been exercised
 Z. Specific sequences of transitions have been exercised
- a. X, Y and Z
- b. V, X, Y and Z
- c. W, X and Y
- d. V, X and Z



Question 10

Y.

Ζ.

Which of the following could be used to assess the coverage achieved for specification-based test techniques?

- Decision outcomes exercised V. W. Partitions exercised
- Χ. **Boundaries exercised**
 - State transitions exercised
 - Statements exercised
- V, W, Y or Z а.
- b. W, X or Y
- V, X or Z
- W, X, Y or Z d.



specification-based test techniques?

Specification-based test techniques

Views software as a black box

No knowledge of how the system is internally structured

Concern: What the system does, not how it does it

Assessing coverage

Partitions exercised / Boundaries exercised / State transitions exercised Decisions + Statements exercised \rightarrow Internal structure

Structure-based techniques (white box)

Which of the following could be used to assess the coverage achieved for



Question 10: Answer

Which of the following could be used to assess the coverage achieved for specification-based test techniques?

- V. Decision outcomes exercised
- W. Partitions exercised
 - **Boundaries exercised**
 - State transitions exercised
 - Statements exercised
- a. V, W, Y or Z

Χ.

Y.

Ζ.

- b. W, X or Y
- c. V, X or Z
- d. W, X, Y or Z



Part II: Exercises and Open-ended questions

Exercise I: Equivalence Partitioning

Postal rates for 'light letters' are 25 NOK up to 10g, 35 NOK up to 50g, plus an extra 10 NOK for each additional 25g up to 100g. Which test inputs (in grams) would be selected using equivalence partitioning?

- a. 8, 42, 82, 102
- b. 4, 15, 65, 92, 159
- 10, 50, 75, 100 С.
- d. 5, 20, 50, 60, 80



Which test inputs (in grams) would be selected using equivalence partitioning?

Scenario

How are postal rates calculated?

Which test inputs (in grams) would be selected using equivalence partitioning?

Questions

What are the key boundaries? / How many values do we need?

) 5	0 6	0 70) 75	80	90	100	
	4	5 NOK		55	NOK		\rightarrow

Which test inputs (in grams) would be selected using equivalence partitioning?

Answer

We need five test inputs \rightarrow Each in their own equivalence class

Which test inputs (in grams) would be selected using equivalence partitioning?

Answer

We choose five arbitrary values for each equivalence class

Exercise I: Answer

50g, plus an extra 10 NOK for each additional 25g up to 100g. partitioning?

- a. 8, 42, 82, 102
- b. 4, 15, 65, 92, 159
- 10, 50, 75, 100 С.
- d. 5, 20, 50, 60, 80

Postal rates for 'light letters' are 25 NOK up to 10g, 35 NOK up to Which test inputs (in grams) would be selected using equivalence

Exercise II

If you take the train before 9:30 AM or in the afternoon after 4:00 PM until 7:30 **PM ('rush hour') you must pay full fare. A saver ticket is available for trains** between 9:30 AM and 4:00 PM, and after 9:30 PM.

What are the partitions and boundary values to test the train times for this ticket types?

Which are valid partitions and which are invalid partitions?

What are the **boundary values**? (A table may be useful)

Derive test cases for the partitions and boundaries.

Do you have any questions about this 'requirement'? Is anything unclear?

Approach

Establish the exact boundaries between full fare and saver fare.

We can use a table to map out the information given:

Departure time of train

Corresponding ticket type for the departure time

Saver ticket

Full fare ticket

Scheduled Departure time		
Ticket type		

Approach

pay full fare."

Scheduled Departure time	≦ 9:29 am	4:01 pm - 7:30 pm	
Ticket type	FULL	FULL	

"A saver ticket is available for trains between 9:30 am and 4:00 pm, and after 7:30 pm."

Scheduled Departure time	9:30 am - 4:00 pm	≧ 7:31 pm
Ticket type	SAVER	SAVER

"If you take the train before 9:30 am, or in the afternoon after 4:00 pm until 7:30 pm, you must

Approach

This gives us the following table:

Scheduled Departure time	≦ 9:29 am	9:30 am - 4:00 pm	4:01 pm - 7:30 pm	≧ 7:31 pm
Ticket type	FULL	SAVER	FULL	SAVER

We assume that the boundary values are:

9:29 am, 9:30 am

4:00 pm, 4:01 pm

7:30 pm, 7:31 pm

Benefit of this approach

Our exact interpretation of the specification can reveal ambiguities

What we have so far:

Saver: Between 9:30 am and 4:00 pm

Full: After 4:00 pm and until 7:30 pm

Ambiguities / Considerations

When does the morning "rush hour" start?

At midnight?

At 11:30 the previous day?

At the time of the first train of the day?

The specification is unclear!

Other considerations

If a train is scheduled to leave at exactly 4:00 pm

Is a saver ticket still valid?

If a train is scheduled to leave before 4:00 pm, but delayed until after 4:00 pm:

Is a saver ticket still valid?

We can make assumptions, but we prefer the "correct" specification! However, let us work with the information we have.

Test cases for partitions and boundaries

Test Case ID	Input	Expected outcome
1	Depart 4:30 am	Pay full fare
2	Depart 9:29 am	Pay full fare
3	Depart 9:30 am	Buy saver ticket
4	Depart 11:37 am	Buy saver ticket
5	Depart 4:00 pm	Buy saver ticket
6	Depart 4:01 pm	Pay full fare
7	Depart 5:55 pm	Pay full fare
8	Depart 7:30 pm	Pay full fare
9	Depart 7:31 pm	Buy saver ticket
10	Depart 10:05 pm	Buy saver ticket

Exercise III: Answer

Test cases for partitions and boundaries Note: All partitions are valid There may be invalid partitions At a time no trains are running? Specification does not mention that! **Equivalence** partition values Test cases: 1, 4, 7, and 10 **Boundary** values Test cases: 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 9

Fest Case ID	Input	Expected outcome
1	Depart 4:30 am	Pay full fare
2	Depart 9:29 am	Pay full fare
3	Depart 9:30 am	Buy saver ticket
4	Depart 11:37 am	Buy saver ticket
5	Depart 4:00 pm	Buy saver ticket
6	Depart 4:01 pm	Pay full fare
7	Depart 5:55 pm	Pay full fare
8	Depart 7:30 pm	Pay full fare
9	Depart 7:31 pm	Buy saver ticket
10	Depart 10:05 pm	Buy saver ticket

An informatics education program (study) at a university college in Norway have the following admission requirements:

- To obtain a study place, the applicant must have a general academic qualification, the mathematic course R1 from upper secondary school, and competition points above the limit of the year.
- that the two first conditions are fulfilled.
- preparatory course in mathematics, assuming that the competition points are above the limit of that year.

• If the applicant's competition points are below this limit, he/she is placed on the waiting list, assuming

• If the applicant has a general qualification, but not the R1 mathematics course, the applicant is offered a

a) Draw a decision table, which shows all the possible combinations of conditions for an applicant. The decision table shall include an action part, which shows whether or not the applicant is offered a study place, is placed on a waiting list, or is placed on a preparatory course in mathematics.

ANSWER:

Condition	ons:	Acti
GAQ:	General academic qualification	SP:
R1:	Passed the mathematic course R1 from upper	WL:
	secondary school	PR1:
CP:	Competition points above this year's limit	R:

	Regel 1	Regel 2	Regel 3	Regel 4	Regel 5	Regel 6	Regel 7	
GAQ	true	true	true	true	false	false	false	
R1	true	true	false	false	true	true	false	
СР	true	false	true	false	true	false	true	
Action	SP	WL	PR1	R	R	R	R	

(It can be discussed whether you can calculate competition points when you do not have general study competence (rules 5 and 7). However, this problem disappears when the table is simplified in the next subtask.)

ions:

- Offer of study place
- Put on a waiting list
- Offer of preparation course in R1.
- Refusal

Regel 8
false
false
false
R

b) You shall now simplify the decision table and thus reduce the number of rules without losing any of the test cases. Justify the simplification.

Answer: We see from the table that when the applicant does not have general study qualifications, the person in question is rejected, regardless of whether the person in question has R1 or not, or whether the person in question has competition points above or below the year's intake limit. Consequently, rules 5, 6, 7 and 8 can be merged, and we get the following table:

	Regel 1	Regel 2	Regel 3	Regel 4	Regel 5
GAQ	true	true	true	true	false
R1	true	true	false	false	
СР	true	false	true	false	

c) Consider the following three different test cases:

- 1. of the year.
- 2. of the year.
- 3. secondary school.

Do we need to have more test cases? If yes, which should they be?

Answer:

Our goal is to have test cases that cover all the rules. We see from the table that the 3 test cases above cover rules 1, 2 and 3. We therefore need 2 more tests for rules 4 and 5:

1. The applicant has general academic qualification, but competition points below the limit of the year as well as not having the mathematical course R1 from upper secondary school.

The applicant do not have general academic qualification.

The applicant has general academic qualification, the mathematics course R1 from upper secondary school, and competition points above the limit

The applicant has general academic qualification, the mathematics course R1 from upper secondary school, and competition points below the limit

The applicant has general academic qualification and competition points above the limit of the year, but not the mathematics course R1 from upper

The slides are made by

Yulai Fjeld, revised by Eva H. Vihovde

Next week: Test design II

