



BASIC TEST TECHNIQUES TOOLBOX

For many organisations testing has to be a compromise between effective testing and efficient testing but it does not have to be like that. Using appropriate systematic testing techniques can help testers avoid having to trade-off effectiveness and efficiency. Test analysts should be able to choose from a variety of test techniques. This one-day course is designed to provide a few essential techniques to add to the tester's toolbox. Techniques covered include Equivalence Partitioning, Boundary Value Analysis, State Transition Testing, Decision Tables and Exploratory Testing with practical exercises on each technique.

Basic Testing Technique Toolbox

Course Outline

Who will benefit?

Testers, Test Analysts, Test Leaders, Developers, Operations staff and anyone involved in testing of software.

Prerequisites

None.

Course objectives

To provide delegates with an understanding and an initial experience of a set of generally useful systematic software testing techniques. The course also explains the context of testing techniques, giving guidance on how the use of techniques fits into the test process and where they can best be applied.

Skills Gained

During this one-day workshop delegates will understand the theory and practice surrounding the application of the following test case design techniques to their testing process:

- Equivalence Partitioning
- Boundary Value Analysis
- Decision Tables
- State Transition Testing
- Exploratory Testing

Delegates will also learn the concepts of test coverage and how it can be used to focus test effort and avoid potentially wasteful test effort.

Content

During this course the delegates will not only learn the theory behind the systematic techniques covered, but will also have the opportunity to apply these techniques to various applications through exercises.

Session 1: Introduction

The testing process Breaks down the testing process into a number of distinct activities to show what can be done to improve effectiveness and efficiency at each step.

What is a testing technique? Explains what testing techniques are and the different types available. Also outlines a number of techniques and the differences between them. Explains the advantages of using testing techniques.

Black Box, White Box and Coverage concepts Explaining the difference between Black and White Box testing. What coverage is and how it can be used to give an objective measure, in some part, of test 'thoroughness'.

Session 2: Black Box Testing

Equivalence Partitioning, Boundary Value Analysis

These two popular techniques are applicable at all levels of testing and with most types of software application. This session gives a description of the techniques and demonstrates how they can be put into practice.

Decision Tables Explains how decision tables can be used to explore interesting combinations of conditions.

State Transition Testing This technique is useful when testing state machines and also navigation of graphical user interfaces. Delegates will generate state transition diagrams and will test various levels of coverage. Negative tests can also be generated using a different aspect called a State Table.

Session 3: Experienced-based techniques

Exploratory Testing Although not really a technique (it is an approach to testing) this important approach can help testers cope with difficult circumstances such as when they don't have much time or if specifications are poor. Exploratory testing is a creative and intellectual process that will be introduced in this session.

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