

# 软件测试基础教程





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文艺复兴以降,源远流长的科学精神和逐步形成的学术规范,使 西方国家在自然科学的各个领域取得了垄断性的优势,也正是这样 的传统,使美国在信息技术发展的六十多年间名家辈出、独领风骚。 在商业化的进程中,美国的产业界与教育界越来越紧密地结合,计 算机学科中的许多泰山北斗同时身处科研和教学的最前线,由此而 产生的经典科学著作,不仅擘划了研究的范畴,还揭示了学术的源 变,既遵循学术规范,又自有学者个性,其价值并不会因年月的流 逝而减退。

近年,在全球信息化大潮的推动下,我国的计算机产业发展迅猛, 对专业人才的需求日益迫切。这对计算机教育界和出版界都既是机 遇,也是挑战,而专业教材的建设在教育战略上显得举足轻重。在 我国信息技术发展时间较短的现状下,美国等发达国家在其计算机 科学发展的几十年间积淀和发展的经典教材仍有许多值得借鉴之处。 因此,引进一批国外优秀计算机教材将对我国计算机教育事业的发 展起到积极的推动作用,也是与世界接轨、建设真正的世界一流大 学的必由之路。

机械工业出版社华章分社较早意识到"出版要为教育服务"。自 1998年开始,华章分社就将工作重点放在了遴选、移译国外优秀教材 上。经过多年的不懈努力,我们与Pearson,McGraw-Hill,Elsevier, MIT,John Wiley & Sons,Cengage等世界著名出版公司建立了良好 的合作关系,从他们现有的数百种教材中甄选出Andrew S. Tanenbaum,Bjarne Stroustrup,Brain W. Kernighan,Dennis Ritchie, Jim Gray,Afred V.Aho,John E. Hopcroft,Jeffrey D. Ullman, Abraham Silberschatz,William Stallings,Donald E. Knuth,John L. Hennessy,Larry L. Peterson等大师名家的一批经典作品,以"计算 机科学丛书"为总称出版,供读者学习、研究及珍藏。大理石纹理的 封面,也正体现了这套丛书的品位和格调。 "计算机科学丛书"的出版工作得到了国内外学者的鼎力襄助, 国内的专家不仅提供了中肯的选题指导,还不辞劳苦地担任了翻译 和审校的工作,而原书的作者也相当关注其作品在中国的传播,有 的还专程为其书的中译本作序。迄今,"计算机科学丛书"已经出版 了近两百个品种,这些书籍在读者中树立了良好的口碑,并被许多 高校采用为正式教材和参考书籍。 其影印版 "经典原版书库"作为 姊妹篇也被越来越多实施双语教学的学校所采用。

权威的作者、经典的教材、一流的译者、严格的审校、精细的编辑,这些因素使我们的图书有了质量的保证。随着计算机科学与技术专业学科建设的不断完善和教材改革的逐渐深化,教育界对国外计算机教材的需求和应用都将步入一个新的阶段,我们的目标是尽善尽美,而反馈的意见正是我们达到这一终极目标的重要帮助。华章分社欢迎老师和读者对我们的工作提出建议或给予指正,我们的联系方法如下:

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# PREFACE

Welcome to Foundations of Software Testing! This book intends to offer exactly what its title implies. It is important that students planning a career in information technology take a course in software testing. It is also important that such a course offer students an opportunity to acquire material that will remain useful throughout their careers in a variety of software applications, products, and changing environments. This book is an introduction to exactly such material and hence an appropriate text for a course in software testing. It distills knowledge developed by hundreds of testing researchers and practitioners from all over the world and brings it to its readers in an easy-to-understand form.

Test generation, selection, prioritization, and assessment lie at the foundation of all technical activities involved in software testing. Appropriate deployment of the elements of this strong foundation enables the testing of different types of software applications as well as testing for various properties. Applications include Object Oriented systems, Web services, graphical user interfaces, embedded systems, and others, and properties relate to security, timing, performance, reliability, and others.

The importance of software testing increases as software pervades more and more into our daily lives. Unfortunately, few universities offer full-fledged courses in software testing and those that do often struggle to identify a suitable text. I hope that this book will allow academic institutions to create courses in software testing, and those that already offer such courses will not need to hunt for a textbook or rely solely on research publications.

Conversations with testers and managers in commercial software development environments have led me to believe that though software testing is considered an important activity, software testers often complain of not receiving treatment at par with system designers and developers. I believe that raising the level of sophistication in the material covered in courses in software testing will lead to superior testing practices, high-quality software, and thus translate into positive impact on the career of software testers. I hope that exposure to even one-half of the material in this book will establish a student's respect for software testing as a discipline in its own right and at the same level of maturity as subjects such as compilers, databases, algorithms, and networks.

**Target audience:** It is natural to ask: What is the target level of this book? My experience, and that of some instructors who have used earlier drafts, indicates that this book is best suited for use at senior undergraduate and early graduate levels. While the presentation in this book is aimed at students in a college or university classroom, I believe that both practitioners and researchers will find it useful. Practitioners, with patience, may find this book as a rich source of techniques they could learn and adapt in their development and test environment. Researchers are likely to find it to be a rich source of reference material.

Nature of material covered: Software testing covers a wide spectrum of activities. At a higher level, such activities appear to be similar whereas at a lower level they might differ significantly. For example, most software development environments engage in test execution. However, test execution for an operating system is carried out quite differently than that for a pacemaker; while one is an open system, the other is embedded and hence the need for different ways to execute tests.

The simultaneous existence of similarities and differences in each software testing activity leads to a dilemma for an author as well as an instructor. Should a book and a course focus on specific software development environments, and how they carry out various testing activities? Or should they focus on specific testing activities without any detailed recourse to specific environments? Either strategy is subject to criticism and leaves the students in a vacuum regarding the applications of testing activities or about their formal foundations.

I have resolved this dilemma through careful selection and organization of the material. Parts I, II, and III of this book focus primarily on the foundations of various testing activities. Part I illustrate through examples the differences in software test processes as applied in various software development organizations. Techniques for generating tests from models of expected program behavior are covered in Part II, while the measurement of the adequacy of the tests so generated, and their enhancement, is considered in Part III.

**Organization:** This book is organized into three parts. Part I covers terminology and preliminary concepts related to software testing. Chapter 1, the only chapter in this part, introduces a variety of terms and basic concepts that pervade the field of software testing. Some adopters of earlier drafts of this book have covered the introductory material in this chapter during the first two or three weeks of an undergraduate course.

Part II covers various test-generation techniques. Chapter 2 introduces the most basic of all test-generation techniques widely applicable in almost any software application one can imagine. These include equivalence partitioning, boundary-value analysis, cause-effect graphing, and predicate testing. Chapter 3 introduces powerful and fundamental techniques for automatically generating tests from finite state models. Three techniques have been selected for presentation in this chapter: W-, Wp-, and Unique Input-Output methods. Finite state models are used in a variety of applications such as in OO testing, security testing, and GUI testing. Generation of combinatorial designs and tests is the topic of Chapter 4. Regression testing forms an integral part of all software development environments where software evolves into newer versions and thus undergoes extensive maintenance. Chapter 5 introduces some fundamental techniques for test selection, prioritization, and minimization of use during regression testing.

Part III is an extensive coverage of an important and widely applicable topic in software testing: test enhancement through measurement of test adequacy. Chapter 6 introduces a variety of control-flow- and data-flow-based code coverage criteria and explains how these could be used in practice. The most powerful of test adequacy criteria based on program mutation are introduced in Chapter 7. While some form of test adequacy assessment is used in almost every software development organization, material covered in these chapters promises to take adequacy assessment and test enhancement to a new level, thereby making a significant positive impact on software reliability.

Practitioners often complain, and are mostly right, that many white-box adequacy criteria are impractical to use during integration and system testing. I have included a discussion on how some of the most powerful adequacy assessment criteria can be, and should be, used even beyond unit testing. Certainly, my suggestions to do so assume the availability of commercial-strength tools for adequacy assessment.

Each chapter ends with a detailed bibliography. I have tried to be as comprehensive as possible in citing works related to the contents of each chapter. I hope that instructors and students will find, the Bibliographic Notes sections rich and helpful in enhancing their knowledge beyond this book. Citations are also a testimony to the rich literature in the field of software testing.

What does this book not cover?: Software testing consists of a large number of related and intertwined activities. Some of these are technical, some administrative, and some merely routine. Technical activities include test case and oracle design at the unit, subsystem, integration, system, and regression levels. Administrative activities include manpower planning, budgeting, and reporting. Planning activities include test planning, quality assessment and control, and manpower allocation. While some planning activities are best classified as administrative, for example manpower allocation, others such as test planning are intertwined with technical activities like test case design.

Several test-related activities are product specific. For example, testing of a device driver often includes tasks such as writing a device simulator. Simulators include heart simulator in testing cardiac pacemakers, a USB port simulator useful in testing I/O drivers, and an airborne drone simulator used in testing control software for airborne drones. While such activities are extremely important for effective testing and test automation, they often require a significant development effort. For example, writing a device simulator and testing it is both a development and a testing activity. Test-generation and assessment techniques described in this book are applicable to each of the product-specific test activity. However, product-specific test activities are illustrated in this book only through examples and not described in any detail. My experience has been that it is best for students to learn about such activities through industry-sponsored term projects.

Suggestions to instructors: There is a wide variation in the coverage of topics in courses in software testing I have tried to cover most, if not all, of the important topics in this area. Tables 1 and 2 provide suggested outline of undergraduate and graduate courses, respectively, that could be based entirely on this book.

Sample undergraduate course in software testing: We assume a semester-long undergraduate course worth 3-credits that meets twice a week, each meeting lasts 50 min and devotes a total of 17 weeks to lectures, examinations, and project presentations. The course has a 2-h per week informal laboratory and requires students to work in small teams of three or four to complete a term project. The term project results in a final report and possibly a prototype testing tool. Once every 2 weeks, students are given one laboratory exercise that takes about 4–6 h to complete.

Table 3 contains a suggested evaluation plan. Carefully designed laboratory exercises form an essential component of this course. Each exercise offers the students an opportunity to use a testing tool to accomplish a task. For example, the objective of a laboratory exercise could be to familiarize the students with JUnit as test runner or JMeter as a tool for the performance

Week	Topie	Chapter
1	Course objectives and goals, project assignment,	
	testing terminology, and concepts	1
2	Test process and management	1
3	Errors, faults, and failures	1
4	Boundary-value analysis, equivalence	
	partitioning, decision tables	2
5, 6	Test generation from predicates	2
7	Interim project presentations	
	Review, midterm examination	
8	Test adequacy: control flow	6
9	Test adequacy: data flow	6
10, 11	Test adequacy: program mutation	7
12, 13, 14	Special topics, e.g. OO testing and, security testing	Separate volume
15, 16	Review, final project presentations	
17	Final examination	

Table 1 A sample undergraduate course in software testing

Table 2	A sample	graduate	course in	n software	testing
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Week	Topic	Chapter
1	Course objectives and goals, testing	
	terminology and concepts	1
2	Test process and management	Separate volume
	Errors, faults, and failures	Separate volume
3	Boundary-value analysis, equivalence	
	partitioning, decision tables	2
4	Test generation from predicates	2
5, 6	Test generation from finite-state models	3
7, 8	Combinatorial designs	4
	Review, midterm examination	
9	Test adequacy: control flow	6
10	Test adequacy: data flow	6
11, 12	Test adequacy: program mutation	7
13, 14	Special topics, e.g. real-time testing and	
	security testing	Separate volume
15, 16	Review, research presentations	
17	Final examination	

Level	Component	Weight	Duration
Undergraduate	Midterm examination	15 points	90 min
	Final examination	25 points	120 min
	Quizzes	10 points	Short duration
	Laboratory assignments	10 points	10 assignments
	Term project	40 points	Semester
Graduate	Midterm examination	20 points	90 min
	Final examination	30 points	120 min
	Laboratory assignments	10 points	5 assignments
	Research/Term project	40 points	Semester
		and the second sec	

Table 3 Suggested evaluation components of the undergraduate and graduate courses in software testing

Table 4 A sample set of tools to select from for use in undergraduate and graduate courses in software testing

Purpose	Tool	Source
Combinatorial designs	AETG	
Code coverage measurement	TestManager™	JUnit CodeTest Suds
Defect tracking Bugzilla FogBugz	GUI testing WebCoder	JfcUnit Mutation testing muJava
Proteum		
Performance testing	Performance Tester	JMeter Regression testing Eggplant Suds Test management ClearQuest™ TestManager
Telcordia Technologies IBM Rational Freeware Freescale Semiconductor	Telcordia Technologies Freeware Fog Creek Software Crimson	Professor Jeff Offut offutt@ise.gmu.edu
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measurement of Web services. Instructors should be able to design laboratory exercises based on topics covered during the previous weeks. A large number of commercial and open-source-testing tools are available for use in a software-testing laboratory.

Sample graduate course in software testing: We assume a semester-long course worth 3-credits. The students entering this course have not had any prior course in software testing, such as the undergraduate course described above. In addition to the examinations, students

#### X PREFACE

will be required to read and present recent research material. Students are exposed to testing tools via unscheduled laboratory exercises.

Testing tools: There is a large set of testing tools available in the commercial, freeware, and open-source domains. A small sample of such tools is listed in Table 4.

**Evolutionary book:** I expect this book to evolve over time. Advances in topics covered in this book, and any new topics that develop, will be included in subsequent editions. Any errors found by me and/or reported by the readers will be corrected. Readers are encouraged to visit the following site for latest information about the book.

### www.pearsoned.co.in/adityapmathur

While this book covers significant material in software testing, several advanced topics could not be included to limit its size. I am planning a separate volume of the book to take care of the advanced topics on the subject and can be used by students who would like to know much more about software testing as well as professionals in the industry.

Cash awards: In the past, I have given cash rewards to students who carefully read the material and reported any kind of error. I plan to retain the cash-reward approach as a means for continuous quality improvement.

Aditya P. Mathur

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Aditya P. Mathur

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