

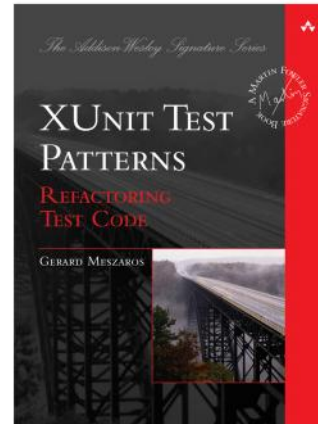
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# Getting Full Value from Automated Testing

**Gerard Meszaros**  
**infoQ2012hz@gerardm.com**

## My Background

- Software developer
  - Development manager
  - Project Manager
  - Software architect
  - OOA/OOD Mentor
  - XP/TDD Mentor
  - Agile PM Mentor
  - Test Automation Consultant
  - Author
  - Lean/Agile Coach/Consultant/Trainer
- Embedded  
Telecom
- I.T.



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My original background is Telecom Switching Software.

In my 14 years at Nortel, we put out 45 releases of the DMS-100 switching system software.

I became an IT consultant in 1995

I started doing automated unit testing in 1996

I started doing XP in 2000

My book was published in 2007 after a 3.5 year gestation period.

Currently, I teach courses on best practices in test automation and agile development and coach agile teams.

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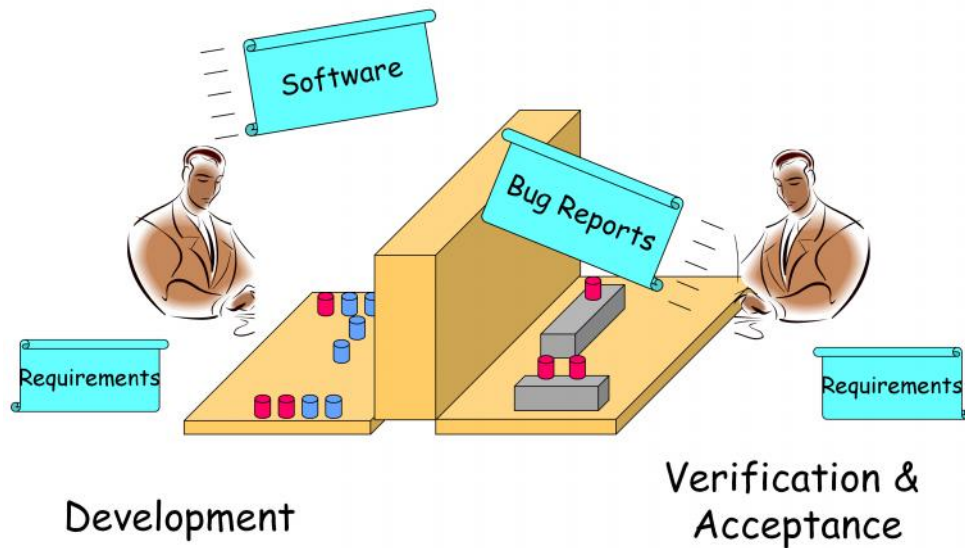
## Agenda

- **Why We Automate**
- **Costs of Automated Testing**
- **Benefits of Automated Testing**
- **The Keys to Maximizing ROI**
- **Example: Unit Testing**
- **Example: System & Component Testing**

This talk is about how to ensure you get the most bang for your Yuan (or Chaio?) What I hope you'll get out of this is some ideas about how to get the most out of your tests and if necessary, how to sell the idea of automating tests to your management.

I'll start out by defining the ROI or Return on Investment of automated testing. I will provide an overview of the various kinds of costs we need to be aware of and the ways we benefit from the tests. Then I will focus in on some of the most tangible ways we can affect the ROI. I'll conclude with two examples of how to apply these ideas, first to unit-level tests, and second, to business-level tests including system and component tests.

## Why Are We Automating Tests?



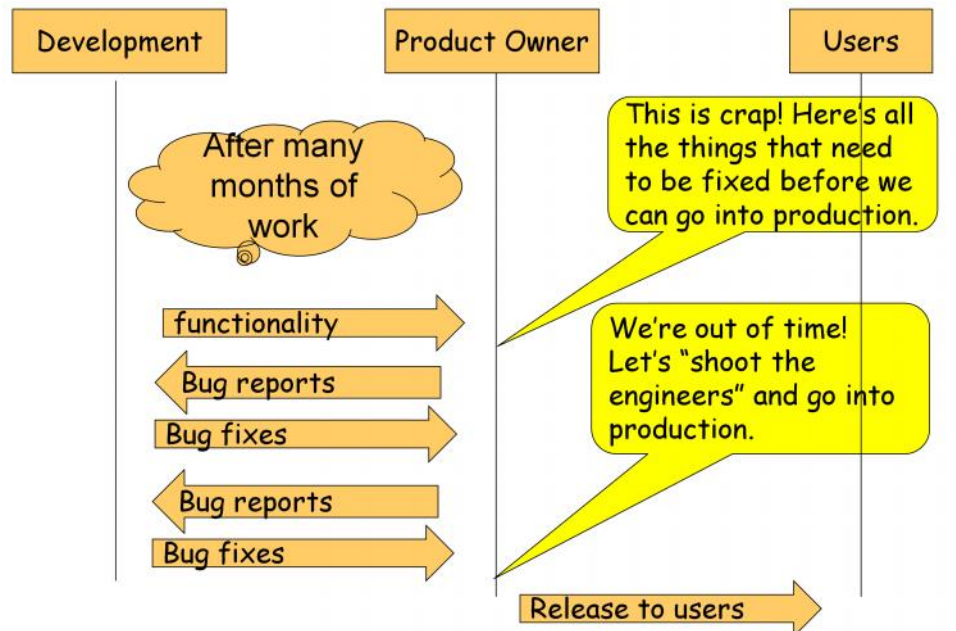
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The traditional waterfall or phased approach to testing involves developers tossing the finished product “over the wall” to the independent test team. The testers then create bug reports for each problem they find and toss those back over the wall to the developers.

## Why Are We Automating Tests?



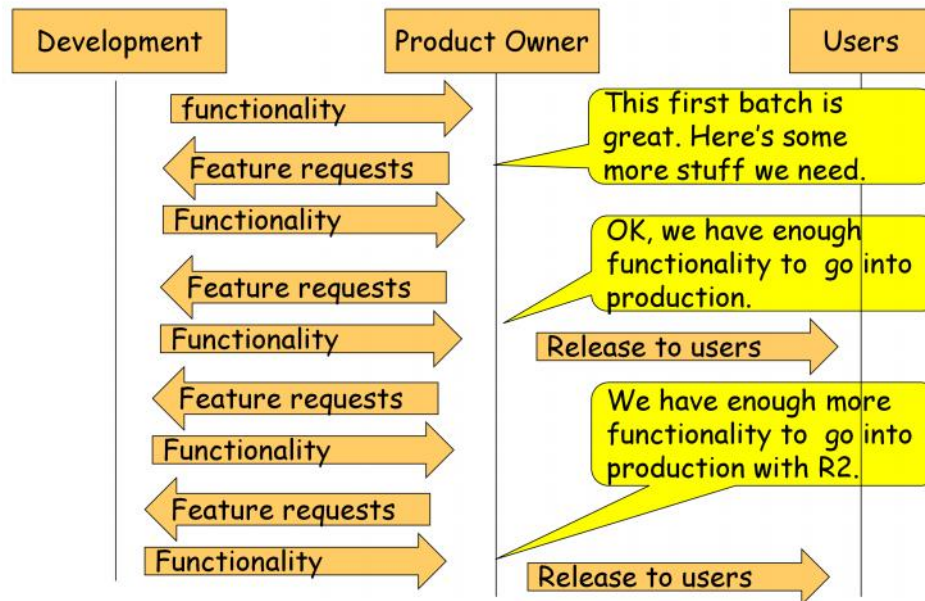
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This process would consume the last quarter of the typical product schedule despite the fact that many of the bugs are never fixed. At some point, the product manager would decide it was time to "Shoot the engineers and put the product into production."

## Why Are We Automating Tests?



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Agile projects try to deliver working code to the product owner every few weeks or more frequently. This avoids the “big bang integration” and “test phase” but it creates a new problem: The software needs to be retested every few weeks or even more often. This has motivated agile teams to invest heavily in test automation so that the cost of rerunning the tests is greatly reduced. But are we getting enough value to justify the investment in the tests?

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## Test Automation Balance Sheet

$$\text{ROI} = \text{Value} / \text{Cost}$$

### Cost

- **Build tests**
- **Debug tests**
- **Run tests**
- **Inspect test results**
- **Debug & Fix tests**
- **Maintain tests**

The return on investment is the value received over the cost incurred. If the value exceeds the cost, then we are ahead. If the value is less than the cost, then we aren't earning back our investment

The costs are relatively easy to enumerate. They include the cost of building the tests, the cost of running the tests, the cost of inspecting the test results to decide whether or not they passed, and the cost to fix bugs in the tests and to maintain the tests when the software or environment changes.

The value may be a bit harder to quantify but let's try anyway. Of course, we expect them to save us considerable effort while testing but is this by itself enough to offset the costs? We also get value from the focus and safety the tests provide, and these improve our confidence. And the tests make our work more rewarding.

To get the best ROI, we need to minimize the costs and maximize the value. Let's look at how we can do this.

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## Test Automation Balance Sheet

$$\text{ROI} = \text{Value} / \text{Cost}$$

Cost	Value
• Build tests	• Saved Effort
• Debug tests	• Focus
• Run tests	• Safety
• Inspect test results	• Confidence
• Debug & Fix tests	• Reward
• Maintain tests	

The value may be a bit harder to quantify but let's try anyway. Of course, we expect them to save us considerable effort while testing but is this by itself enough to offset the costs? We also get value from the focus and safety the tests provide, and these improve our confidence. And the tests make our work more rewarding.

To get the best ROI, we need to minimize the costs and maximize the value. Let's look at how we can do this.



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## Reducing Costs – Build & Maintain Tests

- **Build tests**
  - Reduce test code (DRY, Intent revealing, etc.)
  - Testable product code – reduces effort of interaction
- **Debug and fix tests**
  - Simpler test code reduces likelihood of bugs
  - Less test “code” means fewer bugs.
- **Maintain tests**
  - Encapsulate unnecessary details to minimize impact of changes
  - Avoid test code duplication to minimize effort when changes required

We can minimize the cost of building the tests by reducing the amount of test code we write. We do this by elevating the level of the language we use while writing the tests to avoid unnecessary details. We avoid repetition between and within tests. And the simpler we make the test code, the less likely we are to introduce bugs while we write it and the less test debugging we'll need.

Not only does this reduce the effort to write the tests, it also reduces the number of places we need to change when something in our product changes. This will reduce our maintenance costs when we change the functionality of our product.

I'll show you some examples of how we can do this a bit later in this talk.

## Reducing Costs – Running Tests

- **Run tests**
  - Minimize/eliminate manual steps
    - » All test setup done within test code
  - Automated test triggering
    - » as part of code save in IDE (e.g. <ctrl><S> runs tests)
    - » as part of pre check-in processing (e.g. IDE rules)
    - » As part of post check-in automated build (e.g. CI Server)
- **Inspect test results**
  - Self-Checking tests eliminate inspection of passing tests
  - Clear failure messages reduce effort to inspect failing tests
  - Robust repeatable tests to avoid inspection of false failures

We can minimize the cost of running our tests by ensuring everything is automated. Tests should set up their own starting points and check their own results so that no manual intervention is ever required. The tests should be invoked automatically, triggered by the appropriate events:

- Every time we save and compile code in our IDE, the tests should run automatically, without any effort involved.
- As we initiate a check-in operation, all the tests should run automatically, before the check-in proceeds
- And the newly checked-in code should be built and tested automatically on our build server. Here, we can run a more extensive suite of tests that takes longer or requires resources not available on the developer desktop
- When our self-checking tests fail, we want to spend as little time looking at them as possible. The failure messages should be clear and describe exactly what deviated from the expected results. And we need to ensure our tests never fail when the code works correctly; they need to control everything on which the code being tested depends.

GGM66 **Order of notes and bullets don't line up. Either fancy animation or reorganize one or the other.**  
Gerard Meszaros, 10/19/2012

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## Increasing Value - Saved Effort

- **Reduce/Eliminate debugging**
  - By test-driving the code
- **Reduce “escaped” defects**
  - Fewer fix&retest cycles
  - Less wasted manual testing effort
  - Less bug triage & troubleshooting
  - Less bug reviewing, root cause analysis
  - Less managing irate customers and managers
- **Less reverse engineering of code**
  - Use Tests as Documentation

Now lets look at the value side of the ROI equation. These are the things we want to maximize.

We'd like to hope that our tests save us a lot of effort testing and retesting our software. But that's not the only way we can leverage our tests to save effort.

When we test-drive our code, that is the tests are written before the product code and run while coding, we can greatly reduce or even eliminate debugging. We'll have fewer bugs slipping through to the test team or the customer and that saves manual test effort. We have fewer bugs to troubleshoot and prioritize and do root-cause analysis on and fix and apologize for; that saves us effort.

Furthermore, if the the tests are written clearly, they describe what the code should do in varous situations. This means we don't have to read the code to reverse engineer what it does; we can just read the tests. People new to the code can learn it much more quickly.

---

## Value - Focus

- **Know what to do next**
- **ATDD – Next functional test to focus on (micro story)**
- **(C)TDD – Next design step**
- **(U)TDD – Next programming step**

But cost savings aren't the only form of value. When we test-drive our code, the tests give us focus. Acceptance test driving our code helps us focus on the next scenario we need to implement. Component and unit test driving helps us understand what piece of logic we need to program next. If we only write code to pass a failing test, we avoid writing any unnecessary code.

## Value – Safety

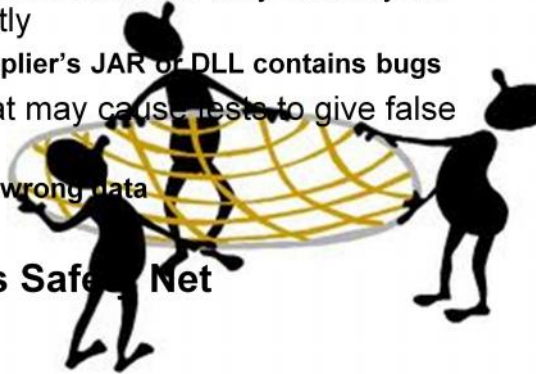
- **Mistake-proofing**

- Knowing that mistakes will be caught by tools/tests
- E.g. Accidental changes to behavior

- **Change Detection**

- Detect changes in dependencies that may cause your product to work differently
  - » E.g. New version of supplier's JAR or DLL contains bugs
- In test environments that may cause tests to give false results
  - » E.g. Database contains wrong data

**Tests as Safety Net**



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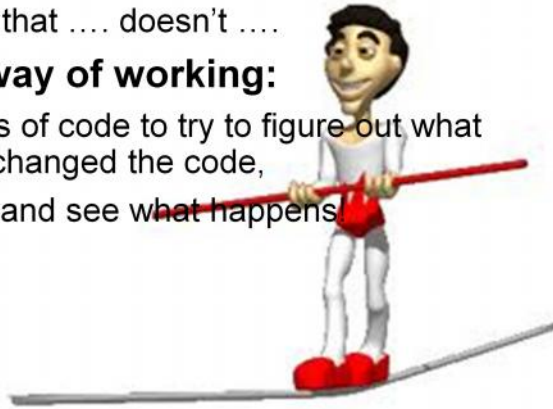
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Of course, a big part of the value proposition is being able to run the suite of tests to avoid regression bugs. With these tests in place we can work fearlessly knowing that any mistakes we make will be caught by the tools. We won't have to spend a lot of effort double-checking everything we do.

And if we have tests that express our expectations of any suppliers' code, we'll be notified immediately if there was any changes in behavior in a new version of their software. We can even use tests to verify that our environment is set up the way our tests expect thus avoiding tests failing when they should pass. The tests truly do act as a safety net.

## Value - Confidence

- **Less paranoia (about impact of changes)**
- **Less Stress (worrying about negative impact)**
- **Less effort wasted on dealing with stress & paranoia**
  - We better make sure that .... doesn't ....
- **Allows a different way of working:**
  - Instead of reading lots of code to try to figure out what would happen if you changed the code,
  - just change the code and see what happens



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The safety provided by the tests allow us to be less paranoid and work with less stress. This allows us to reduce the amount of effort we waste on “we better make sure that ...” typedealing with paranoid concerns and stress. And it allows us to work in a more experimental fashion. Rather than analysing code to determine the impact if we changed it, we can simply make the change, run the tests and find out what changed. Because that’s what our tests are: a huge change detector.

## Value - Reward

- **Seeing regular progress**
- **Every few minutes**
  - New unit test passed
- **Every Hour**
  - All tests for current task finished
- **Every Day**
  - New Story Tests passing
- **Every Week**
  - Completed /Accepted user story



Increased Job Satisfaction  
Reduced Staff Turnover

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And that brings us to the least tangible but still very important benefit of having a suite of automated tests:

The tests make our work more rewarding by making our progress highly visible both to ourselves and our stakeholders. Every few minutes we get to see another unit test pass. Every hour, we can mark a task as completed. Every day we'll see new story tests passing and every week we can mark several more stories as done. It's hard to calculate how much value this kind of regular positive feedback gives us but it's sure to show up in <ANIMATE> job satisfaction ratings and reduced staff turnover.



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## The Key to Unlocking the Value

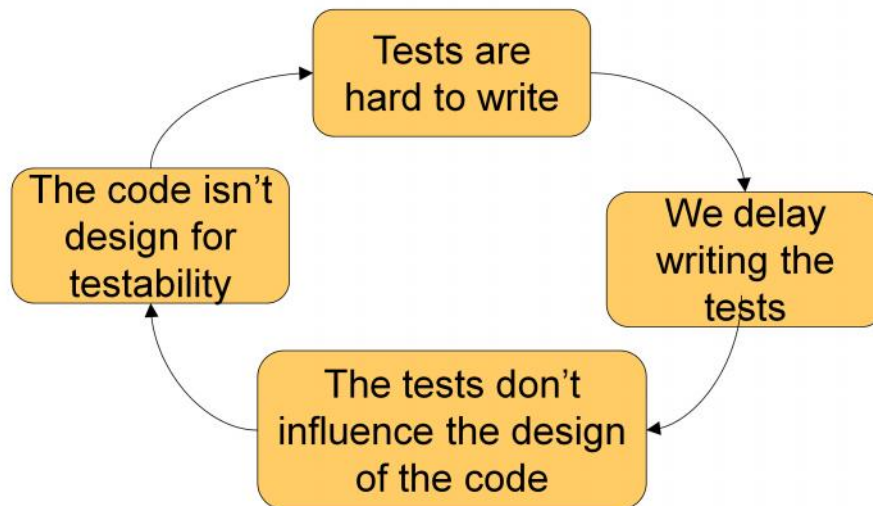
- **Run tests early**
- **Run tests often**

The key to unlocking all this value is to run your tests early and run them often.

Running them early means running them immediately after the code is written. And by immediately, I don't mean a few days or weeks, I mean within seconds. The only practical way to achieve this is by writing the test first. Test-driving the code.

Running them often requires that the tests run quickly.

## The Key to Unlocking the Value



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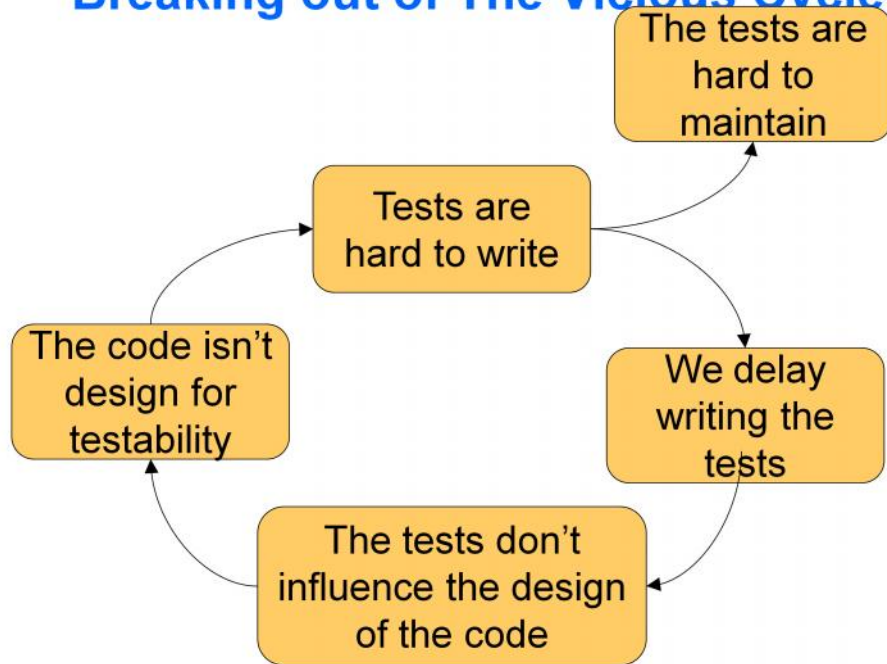
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Who here has this problem: The tests are hard to write? So we delay writing the tests (because it is hard and slows us down.) But this just ensures that the tests cannot influence the design of the code because they don't exist before the code. And that ensures that the code just isn't designed for testability which in turn makes it hard to write the tests.

Now, anyone who has studied "Systems Thinking" will recognize this as a self-amplifying phenomenon. Or in plain language, a "Vicious Cycle".

## Breaking out of The Vicious Cycle



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Even worse, there are other things affected by tests being hard to write and that is that the tests are hard to maintain. So writing the tests late is a root cause for the cost of test automation being too high. The only way to break out of this vicious cycle is to attack the only one of these items we actually have direct control over: When we write the tests.

So we have to find a way to avoid delaying writing the tests so that each of these causes is also reduced.

---

## Rapid Feedback

- **Developer tests should run in seconds or minutes**
  - Slow tests encourage delayed running ->
  - More defects accumulate ->
  - Can't remember what you did to introduce them

A large part of the value with which the tests provide us is due to the rapid feedback they give us. It's really important to keep that feedback loop as tight as possible. We have to be careful not to allow the tests to take too long to run. Slow test encourage people to work longer between test runs. That gives us more time to insert defects. And when the tests finally do get run, we won't remember what they did to cause the defect because it was several hours ago. One team I worked with had a rule: if the acceptance tests took more than 15 minutes to run, they would put tasks into the backlog to get it back down under 10 minutes. They used all sorts of techniques to speed up the tests including optimizing the test fixture setup, eliminating duplicate test, buying faster hardware, etc. Other people I know set up their IDE to automatically run the tests in the background after every save. They don't even pay any attention to the tests running until a failed test pops up a warning.

---

## How to Keep Tests Fast?

- **Working sets**
  - A subset of tests specific to code you are working on
- **Predefined Subsets**
  - A subset of tests for a specific purpose:
    - » **All\_WebServer\_Tests**
    - » **All\_Component\_Tests**
    - » **All\_Fast\_Tests**
- **Multi-modal tests**
  - Same test can be run against different configurations
    - » **With real database -> Takes hours**
    - » **With in-memory database -> takes minutes**
  - Requires a way to configure SUT from the test runner

Some other ways to keep the tests running fast including defining a temporary working set for the code you are working on now, predefined subsets for various parts of the system or various stages of the checking process, and multi-modal tests.

An example of a multi-modal test: On several projects, we had acceptance tests that did a lot of reading and writing from a database. These tests took quite a long time to run. We made it possible for the tests to replace the database with an in-memory fake database and this sped up our tests by 2 orders of magnitude. Test that took nearly an hour could be run in about a minute when the database was replaced by the fake.

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## Economics of Maintainability

- **Early eXtreme Programming projects often bogged down by tests**

Story: Add .... To the report (cont'd)

Time Spent on:

New tests: 1 hour

New code: 1 hour

Fixing old tests: 5 hours!!!

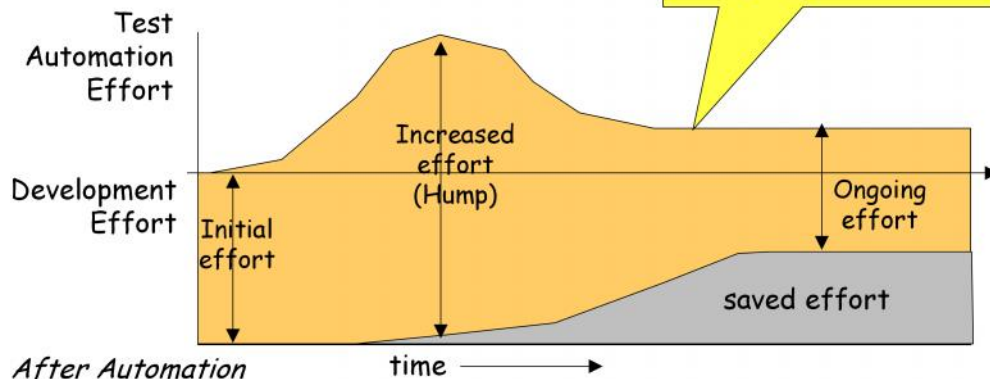
On my first eXtreme Programming project, we were writing unit tests for all our code. It was taking longer and longer to implement each story. I asked everyone on the project to track how much time they spent on writing product code vs writing new tests vs. updating existing tests. The results were shocking! We were spending up to 90% of our time maintaining existing tests. So I set out to find out why and what we could do to reduce this. It turned out that the problem was in how we were coding our tests. They were not coded in a maintainable style.

So, why is maintainability so important? Let's take a quick look.

## Economics of Maintainability

Test Automation is a lot easier to sell on

- Cost reduction than
- Software Quality Improvement or
- Quality of Life Improvement



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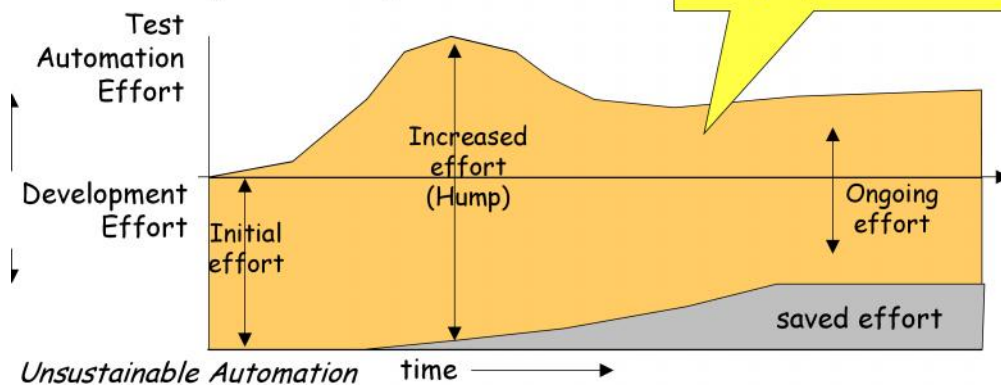
The area below the horizontal line is the amount of effort we spend on developing the potentially shippable production code.

The area above the line is the effort spent developing the automated test code. Early in the automation the effort is significantly higher because we need to learn how to do the automation; we need to develop our reusable test infrastructure. As we get experience, the incremental cost of automating the tests is reduced and the savings increase. These savings come from a variety of sources but a large part is the effort saved by avoiding the debugging of code. (Ask your developers what percentage of time they spend debugging; it is usually between 50 and 80 %!)

## Economics of Maintainability

Test Automation is a lot easier to sell on

- Cost reduction than
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If we don't pay enough attention to maintainability of the test code, the cost to write new tests or maintain existing tests increases significantly.

If we don't automate our tests until after we've debugged the code then our cost savings drops. Either of these can make our overall cost higher than without test automation. At this point we would have to justify the extra cost based on improved quality; a much harder sell than a net increase in productivity!



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## Minimizing Cost of Writing Tests

- **Avoiding duplication between tests**
  - Don't write more tests than necessary
    - » **E.g. too many unit tests for same code**
  - Avoid testing same logic at different levels of tests
    - » **E.g. Unit & Acceptance**
  - Don't include unnecessary detail in tests
    - » **Define a DSL using keywords or utility methods**
    - » **"If it's not important to have it in the test, it's important not to have it in the test"**

Earlier, I said that we want to minimize the cost of writing tests. Some ways to do this include:

Avoiding writing any more tests than needed, avoiding overlap between tests at one level vs another level (e.g. unit tests vs acceptance tests)

Avoiding unnecessary detail in tests

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## Minimizing Cost of Maintaining Tests

- **Verify one test condition per test**
  - Given, When, Then
- **Avoid calling any code you don't want to test**
- **Avoiding duplication between tests**
  - Just like production code: DRY
- **Make the test conditions obvious to the reader**
  - Given ... When .... Then ....
- **Both in the test method name and**
- **In the test code itself**

When we are reading tests to understand the code or because we need to update the tests because the code has to be changed, they are a lot easier to understand if we only verify a single test condition in each test. The Given, when, Then format helps make this clear. We want to avoid using any code that we don't want to test because it can cause our tests to fail for unrelated reasons. We don't want to have to change the same code in several different tests so we factor out duplicate code into utility methods. We structure our code and name our test methods and classes to make the test conditions obvious.

```

public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity() throws Exception {
    try {
        // Setup Fixture
        final int QUANTITY = 5;
        Address billingAddress = new Address("1222 1st
        St SW", "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N 2V2",
        "Canada");
        Address shippingAddress = new Address("1333 1st
        St SW", "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N 2V2",
        "Canada");
        Customer customer = new Customer(99, "John",
        "Doe", new BigDecimal("30"),
        billingAddress, shippingAddress);
        Product product = new Product(88, "SomeWidget",
        new BigDecimal("19.99"));
        Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);
        // Exercise SUT
        invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);
        // Verify Outcome
        List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
        if (lineItems.size() == 1) {
            LineItem actualLineItem =
            (LineItem) lineItems.get(0);
            assertEquals(invoice,
            actualLineItem.getInvoice());
            assertEquals(product,
            actualLineItem.getProduct());
            assertEquals(quantity,
            actualLineItem.getQuantity());
            assertEquals(new BigDecimal("30"),
            actualLineItem.getPercentDiscount());
            assertEquals(new BigDecimal("19.99"),
            actualLineItem.getUnitPrice());
            assertEquals(new BigDecimal("69.96"),
            actualLineItem.getExtendedPrice());
        } else {
            assertTrue("Invoice should have exactly one
            line item", false);
        }
    } finally {
        deleteObject(expectedLineItem);
        deleteObject(invoice);
        deleteObject(product);
        deleteObject(customer);
        deleteObject(billingAddress);
        deleteObject(shippingAddress);
    }
}

```

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## (Non-)Maintainable Test Code

```

public void
testAddItemQuantity_severalQuant
() {
    QUANTITY = 5 ;
    product = givenAnyProduct();
    invoice = givenAnEmptyInvoice()
    // Exercise SUT
    invoice.addItemQuantity(
        product, QUANTITY);
    // Verify Outcome
    expectedItem = newLineItem(
        invoice, product, QUANTITY,
        product.getPrice() *
        QUANTITY);
    assertExactlyOneLineItem(
        invoice, expectedItem );
}

```

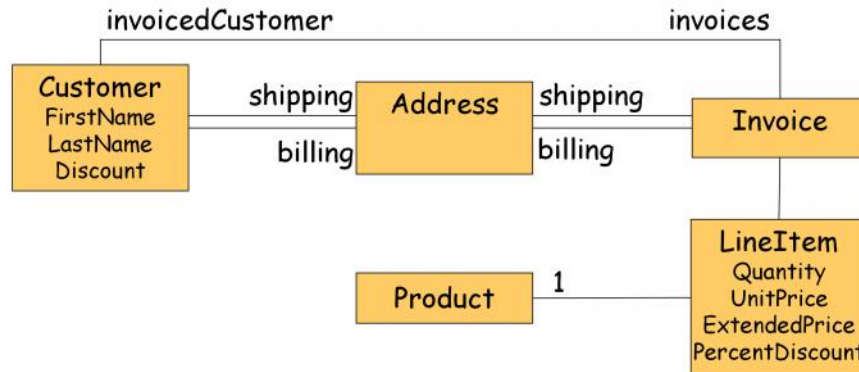
Here's an example of what a test might look like if the writer isn't focused on maintainability. The test is long, verbose, and hard to understand. This test is also hard to maintain; if we need to change it because we are changing the code it verifies, changing it will take longer. Complex tests such as this make our software less "soft"!

The test on the right focuses on the essence of the requirement. Imagine how much less time it would take to write a test in this format than the format on the left!! So how can you learn to write tests this simple? Let's work throw an example of how we can simplify complex tests we have already written.

(BTW, I travel around the world to train developers how to write tests such as the one on the right.)

## Example

- Test `addItemQuantity` and `removeLineItem` methods of Invoice



Here's our requirement: We are testing the a method on the Invoice class but we cannot create an invoice without a customer and a shipping and billing address. We will be adding LineItems to the invoice and each LineItem has exactly one product.

# The Whole Test

Given: ???

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () throws Exception {
    try {
        // Setup Fixture
        final int QUANTITY = 5;
        Address billingAddress = new Address("1222 1st St SW", "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N
        2V2", "Canada");
        Address shippingAddress = new Address("1333 1st St SW", "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N
        2V2", "Canada");
        Customer customer = new Customer(99, "John", "Doe", new BigDecimal("30"),
        billingAddress, shippingAddress);
        Product product = new Product(88, "SomeWidget", new BigDecimal("19.99"));
        Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);
        // Exercise SUT
        invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);
        // Verify Outcome
        List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
        if (lineItems.size() == 1) {
            LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);
            assertEquals(invoice, actualLineItem.getInvoice());
            assertEquals(product, actualLineItem.getProduct());
            assertEquals(quantity, actualLineItem.getQuantity());
            assertEquals(new BigDecimal("30"), actualLineItem.getPercentDiscount());
            assertEquals(new BigDecimal("19.99"), actualLineItem.getUnitPrice());
            assertEquals(new BigDecimal("69.96"), actualLineItem.getExtendedPrice());
        } else {
            assertTrue("Invoice should have exactly one line item", false);
        }
    } finally {
        deleteObject(expectedLineItem);
        deleteObject(invoice);
        deleteObject(product);
        deleteObject(customer);
        deleteObject(billingAddress);
        deleteObject(shippingAddress);
    }
}
```

When we call  
addItemQuantity

Then: ???

WTF: ???

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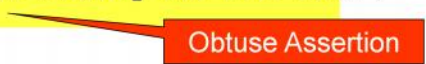
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Here's one test case for the method `addItemQuantity()` on the `Invoice` class. I apologize for the small font size but this test is pretty typical of the tests I see many developers writing. Can you even recognize the Given, When and Then parts of the test? Can you summarize them for me?

## Verifying the Outcome

```
List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
if (lineItems.size() == 1) {
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);
    assertEquals(invoice, actualLineItem.getInvoice());
    assertEquals(product, actualLineItem.getProduct());
    assertEquals(quantity, actualLineItem.getQuantity());
    assertEquals(new BigDecimal("30"),
        actualLineItem.getPercentDiscount());
    assertEquals(new BigDecimal("19.99"),
        actualLineItem.getUnitPrice());
    assertEquals(new BigDecimal("69.96"),
        actualLineItem.getExtendedPrice());
} else {
    assertTrue("Invoice should have exactly one line item",
        false);
}
```



Let's focus in on the part of the test that verifies the outcome was correct. The part that specifies the "Then". This is non-trivial! How do we start?

One piece of low-hanging fruit is the last assertion. What does `assertTrue(... False)` mean? This is an example of an Obtuse Assertion. Let's clean this up by ...

## Use Better Assertion

```
List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
if (lineItems.size() == 1) {
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);
    assertEquals(invoice, actualLineItem.getInvoice());
    assertEquals(product, actualLineItem.getProduct());
    assertEquals(quantity, actualLineItem.getQuantity());
    assertEquals(new BigDecimal("30"),
        actualLineItem.getPercentDiscount());
    assertEquals(new BigDecimal("19.99"),
        actualLineItem.getUnitPrice());
    assertEquals(new BigDecimal("69.96"),
        actualLineItem.getExtendedPrice());
} else {
    fail("invoice should have exactly one line item");
}}
```

Replacing it with a better assertion. `AssertTrue ( False)` always fails, so let's just call `fail( )` instead.!



## Use Better Assertion Refactoring

```
List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
if (lineItems.size() == 1) {
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);
    assertEquals(invoice, actualLineItem.getInvoice());
    assertEquals(product, actualLineItem.getProduct());
    assertEquals(quantity, actualLineItem.getQuantity());
    assertEquals(new BigDecimal("30"),
        actualLineItem.getPercentDiscount());
    assertEquals(new BigDecimal("19.99"),
        actualLineItem.getUnitPrice());
    assertEquals(new BigDecimal("69.96"),
        actualLineItem.getExtendedPrice());
} else {
    fail("invoice should have exactly one line item");
}}
```

Hard-Wired  
Test Data

Fragile Tests

What is the significance of all this hard-code values. They make our test hard to understand and can also lead to fragile tests.



## Expected Object

```
List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
if (lineItems.size() == 1) {
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);
    LineItem expectedLineItem =
        newLineItem(invoice, product, QUANTITY);
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getInvoice(),
        actualLineItem.getInvoice());
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getProduct(),
        actualLineItem.getProduct());
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getQuantity(),
        actualLineItem.getQuantity());
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getPercentDiscount(),
        actualLineItem.getPercentDiscount());
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getUnitPrice(),
        actualLineItem.getUnitPrice());
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getExtendedPrice(),
        actualLineItem.getExtendedPrice());
} else {
    fail("invoice should have exactly one line item");
}
```

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A better approach is to compare the actual results with an Expected Object that contains the expected results like this. But this is a lot of code to say “assert these two LineItems are equivalent”.

## Expected Object

```
List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
if (lineItems.size() == 1) {
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice,
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY );
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getInvoice(),
        actualLineItem.getInvoice());
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getProduct(),
        actualLineItem.getProduct());
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getQuantity(),
        actualLineItem.getQuantity());
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getPercentDiscount(),
        actualLineItem.getPercentDiscount());
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getUnitPrice(),
        actualLineItem.getUnitPrice());
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem.getExtendedPrice(),
        actualLineItem.getExtendedPrice());
} else {
    fail("invoice should have exactly one line item");
}
```

Verbose Test

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We can reduce the verbosity of this test by ..

## Introduce Custom Assert

```
List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
if (lineItems.size() == 1) {
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice,
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY );
    assertLineItemsEqual(expectedLineItem, actualLineItem);
}
```

```
} else {
    fail("invoice should have exactly one line item");
}
```

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Doing an Extract Method refactoring to create a Custom Assertion called `assertLineItemsEqual`.

## Introduce Custom Assert Refactoring

```
List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();  
if (lineItems.size() == 1) {  
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);  
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice,  
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY );  
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem, actualLineItem);  
} else {  
    fail("invoice should have exactly one line item");  
}
```



Conditional  
Test Logic

That reduce the amount of code in the test significantly. Now what else is wrong with this code?

Well, it contains conditional logic in the form of an IF statement. This is bad because we can't be sure which path is being executed; tests are easier to understand if they are purely sequential. Luckily, we can express the same thing more clearly by ...

## Replace Conditional Logic with Guard Assertion

```
List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();  
assertEquals("number of items",lineItems.size(),1);  
LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);  
LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice,  
    product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY );  
assertLineItemsEqual(expectedLineItem, actualLineItem);
```

Replacing the conditional logic with a Guard Assertion. Because a failed assertion transfers control back to the test runner, we won't execute the next statement if the number of lineItems is wrong.

# The Whole Test

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () throws Exception {
    try {
        // Setup Fixture
        final int QUANTITY = 5;
        Address billingAddress = new Address("1222 1st St SW", "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N
        2V2", "Canada");
        Address shippingAddress = new Address("1333 1st St SW", "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N
        2V2", "Canada");
        Customer customer = new Customer(99, "John", "Doe", new BigDecimal("30"),
        billingAddress, shippingAddress);
        Product product = new Product(88, "SomeWidget", new BigDecimal("19.99"));
        Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);
        // Exercise SUT
        invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);
        // Verify Outcome
        List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
        assertEquals("number of items",lineItems.size(),1);
        LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);
        LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice, product, QUANTITY);
        assertLineItemsEqual(expectedLineItem, actualLineItem);
    } finally {
        deleteObject(expectedLineItem);
        deleteObject(invoice);
        deleteObject(product);
        deleteObject(customer);
        deleteObject(billingAddress);
        deleteObject(shippingAddress);
    }
}
```

Then: We  
should have  
one line item.

So back to the whole test which is a bit more readable now.

# The Whole Test

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () throws Exception {
    try {
        // Setup Fixture
        final int QUANTITY = 5;
        Address billingAddress = new Address("1222 1st St SW", "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N
        2V2", "Canada");
        Address shippingAddress = new Address("1333 1st St SW", "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N
        2V2", "Canada");
        Customer customer = new Customer(99, "John", "Doe", new BigDecimal("30"),
        billingAddress, shippingAddress);
        Product product = new Product(88, "SomeWidget", new BigDecimal("19.99"));
        Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);
        // Exercise SUT
        invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);
        // Verify Outcome
        List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
        assertEquals("number of items",lineItems.size(),1);
        LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);
        LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice, product, QUANTITY);
        assertLineItemsEqual(expectedLineItem, actualLineItem);
    } finally {
        deleteObject(expectedLineItem);
        deleteObject(invoice);
        deleteObject(product);
        deleteObject(customer);
        deleteObject(billingAddress);
        deleteObject(shippingAddress);
    }
}
```

WTF: ???

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Let's look at this code at the end; what does it do?

## Inline Fixture Teardown - Naive

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () ... {  
    try {  
        // Setup Fixture  
        // Exercise SUT  
        // Verify Outcome  
    } finally {  
        deleteObject(expectedLineItem);  
        deleteObject(invoice);  
        deleteObject(product);  
        deleteObject(customer);  
        deleteObject(billingAddress);  
        deleteObject(shippingAddress);  
    }  
}
```

Oh, it's doing teardown of the test. The hint is the Finally statement which ensures this code gets run whether the rest of the code runs clean or throws an exception. But this teardown code could fail. Then what happens? That's right, the rest of the teardown code won't run.



## Inline Fixture Teardown - Robust

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () ... {  
    try {  
        // Setup Fixture  
        // Exercise SUT  
        // Verify Outcome  
    } finally {  
        try {  
            deleteObject(expectedLineItem);  
        } finally {  
            try {  
                deleteObject(invoice);  
            } finally {  
                try {  
                    deleteObject(product);  
                } finally {  
                    // ...  
                }  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

To ensure that it does, we'd have to code it like this.

## Implicit Fixture Teardown - Naive

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () ... {  
    // Setup Fixture  
    // Exercise SUT  
    // Verify Outcome  
}  
  
public void tearDown() {  
    deleteObject(expectedLineItem);  
    deleteObject(invoice);  
    deleteObject(product);  
    deleteObject(customer);  
    deleteObject(billingAddress);  
    deleteObject(shippingAddress);  
}
```

Another option is to move it into the tearDown method but we have the same problem here.

## Implicit Fixture Teardown - Robust

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () ... {  
    // Setup Fixture  
    // Exercise SUT  
    // Verify Outcome  
}
```

```
public void tearDown() {  
    try {  
        deleteObject(expectedLineItem);  
    } finally {  
        try {  
            deleteObject(invoice);  
        } finally {  
            try {  
                deleteObject(product);  
            } finally {  
                :  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

So we need to use nested Try/Finally's here too.

## Automated Fixture Teardown

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () ... {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5;  
    Address billingAddress = new Address("1222 1st St SW",  
        "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N 2V2", "Canada");  
    addTestObject( billingAddress );  
    Address shippingAddress = new Address("1333 1st St SW",  
        "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N 2V2", "Canada");  
    addTestObject(shippingAddress );  
  
    :  
}  
  
public void tearDown() {  
    deleteAllTestObjects();  
}
```

A better alternative is to register each object we create and then use a well-tested utility method to do the teardown for us.

## Automated Fixture Teardown

```
public void deleteAllTestObjects() {  
    Iterator i = testObjects.iterator();  
    while (i.hasNext()) {  
        try {  
            Deletable object = (Deletable) i.next();  
            object.delete();  
        } catch (Exception e) {  
            // do nothing if the remove failed  
        }  
    }  
}
```

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This method simply iterates through the list of objects and tries deleting each one. If `delete()` throws an exception, it catches it and continues with the next object. This guarantees that all the objects will have `delete()` called on them.

## The Whole Test

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () throws Exception {  
    // Setup Fixture  
    final int QUANTITY = 5;  
    Address billingAddress = new Address("1222 1st St SW", "Calgary", "Alberta",  
        "T2N 2V2", "Canada");  
    addTestObject(billingAddress);  
    Address shippingAddress = new Address("1333 1st St SW", "Calgary", "Alberta",  
        "T2N 2V2", "Canada");  
    addTestObject(billingAddress);  
    Customer customer = new Customer(99, "John", "Doe", new BigDecimal("30"),  
        billingAddress, shippingAddress);  
    addTestObject(billingAddress);  
    Product product = new Product(88, "SomeWidget", new BigDecimal("19.99"));  
    addTestObject(billingAddress);  
    Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);  
    addTestObject(billingAddress);  
    // Exercise SUT  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);  
    // Verify Outcome  
    assertEquals("number of items",lineItems.size(),1);  
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);  
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice, product, QUANTITY);  
    assertLineItemsEqual(expectedLineItem, actualLineItem);  
}
```

**// No Visible Fixture Tear Down!**

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So now that we've eliminated the need for custom teardown code, what else can we do to clean up this test?

---

## The Whole Test

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () throws Exception {  
    // Setup Fixture  
    final int QUANTITY = 5;  
    Address billingAddress = new Address("1222 1st St SW", "Calgary",  
        "Alberta", "T2N 2V2", "Canada");  
    addTestObject(billingAddress);  
    Address shippingAddress = new Address("1333 1st St SW", "Calgary",  
        "Alberta", "T2N 2V2", "Canada");  
    addTestObject(billingAddress);  
    Customer customer = new Customer(99, "John", "Doe", new BigDecimal("30"),  
        billingAddress, shippingAddress);  
    addTestObject(billingAddress);  
    Product product = new Product(88, "SomeWidget", new BigDecimal("19.99"));  
    addTestObject(billingAddress);  
    Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);  
    addTestObject(billingAddress);  
    // Exercise SUT  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);  
    // Verify Outcome  
    assertEquals("number of items",lineItems.size(),1);  
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);  
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice, product, QUANTITY);  
    assertLineItemsEqual(expectedLineItem, actualLineItem);  
}
```

# Hard-Coded Test Data

Code Smell

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5;  
    Address billingAddress = new Address("1222 1st St SW",  
        "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N 2V2", "Canada");  
  
    Address shippingAddress = new Address("1333 1st St SW",  
        "Calgary", "Alberta", "T2N 2V2", "Canada");  
  
    Customer customer = new Customer(99, "John", "Doe", new  
        BigDecimal("30"), billingAddress, shippingAddress);  
  
    Product product = new Product(88, "SomeWidget",  
        BigDecimal("19.99"));  
  
    Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);  
    // Exercise SUT  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);  
}
```

Hard-coded  
Test Data  
(Obscure Test)

Unrepeatable  
Tests



## Distinct Generated Values

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;  
    Address billingAddress = new Address(getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueString(), getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueString(), getUniqueString());  
    Address shippingAddress = new Address(getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueString(), getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueString(), getUniqueString());  
    Customer customer = new Customer(  
        getUniqueInt(), getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueString(), getUniqueDiscount(),  
        billingAddress, shippingAddress);  
    Product product = new Product(  
        getUniqueInt(), getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueNumber());  
    Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);  
}
```

## Distinct Generated Values

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;  
    Address billingAddress = new Address(getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueString(), getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueString(), getUniqueString());  
    Address shippingAddress = new Address(getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueString(), getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueString(), getUniqueString());  
    Customer customer1 = new Customer(  
        getUniqueInt(), getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueString(), getUniqueDiscount(),  
        billingAddress, shippingAddress);  
    Product product = new Product(  
        getUniqueInt(), getUniqueString(),  
        getUniqueNumber());  
    Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);  
}
```

Irrelevant  
Information  
(Obscure Test)

---

## Creation Method

Pattern

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5;  
    Address billingAddress = createAnonymousAddress();  
  
    Address shippingAddress = createAnonymousAddress();  
  
    Customer customer = createCustomer( billingAddress,  
        shippingAddress);  
  
    Product product = createAnonymousProduct();  
  
    Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);  
}
```

## Obscure Test - Irrelevant Information

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5;  
    Address billingAddress = createAnonymousAddress();  
    Address shippingAddress = createAnonymousAddress();  
    Customer customer = createCustomer(  
        billingAddress, shippingAddress);  
    Product product = createAnonymousProduct();  
    Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);  
    // Exercise  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);  
    // Verify  
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice,  
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY);  
    List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();  
    assertEquals("number of items", lineItems.size(), 1);  
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);  
    assertLineItemsEqual(expectedLineItem, actualLineItem);  
}
```

Irrelevant  
Information  
(Obscure Test)

## Remove Irrelevant Information Refactoring

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;

Customer customer = createAnonymousCustomer();

    Product product = createAnonymousProduct();
    Invoice invoice = new Invoice(customer);
    // Exercise
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);
    // Verify
    ListItem expectedLineItem = new ListItem(invoice,
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY );
    List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
    assertEquals("number of items", lineItems.size(), 1);
    ListItem actualLineItem = (ListItem)lineItems.get(0);
    assertEquals(expectedLineItem, actualLineItem);
}
```

Irrelevant  
Information  
(Obscure Test)

## Remove Irrelevant Information Refactoring

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;

    Product product = createAnonymousProduct();
    Invoice invoice = createAnonymousInvoice()
    // Exercise
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);
    // Verify
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice,
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY );
    List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();
    assertEquals("number of items", lineItems.size(), 1);
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);
    assertLineItemsEqual(expectedLineItem, actualLineItem);
}
```

## Introduce Custom Assertion Refactoring

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;  
  
    Product product = createAnonymousProduct();  
    Invoice invoice = createAnonymousInvoice()  
    // Exercise  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);  
    // Verify  
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice,  
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY );  
    List lineItems = invoice.getLineItems();  
    assertEquals("number of items", lineItems.size(), 1);  
    LineItem actualLineItem = (LineItem)lineItems.get(0);  
    assertLineItemsEqual(expectedLineItem, actualLineItem);  
}
```

Mechanics  
hides Intent

## Introduce Custom Assertion Refactoring

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;  
  
    Product product = createAnonymousProduct();  
    Invoice invoice = createAnonymousInvoice()  
    // Exercise  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);  
    // Verify  
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice,  
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY );  
    assertExactlyOneLineItem(invoice, expectedLineItem );  
}
```



## The Whole Test – Done

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;  
    Product product = createAnonymousProduct();  
    Invoice invoice = createAnonymousInvoice();  
    // Exercise  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);  
    // Verify  
    LineItem expectedLineItem = new LineItem(invoice,  
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY );  
    assertExactlyOneLineItem(invoice, expectedLineItem );  
}
```

Given an  
empty invoice

when I call  
addItemQuantity

The invoice will end up  
with exactly 1 lineItem  
on it.

- Use Domain-Specific Language
- Say Only What is Relevant

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So now we have our test down to just 6 lines of code. We can read out the test condition very easily.

Given an empty invoice

When I call addItemQuantity

Then, the invoice will end up with exactly one line item on it with the item value equal to the product price multiplied by the quantity.

This is pretty clear but we should always be looking for ways to improve the readability of our tests.

---

## The Whole Test – Done

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;  
    Product product = createAnonymousProduct() ;  
    Invoice invoice = createAnonymousInvoice() ;  
    // When  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY) ;  
    // Then  
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice,  
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY ) ;  
    assertExactlyOneLineItem(invoice, expectedLineItem ) ;  
}
```

- Use Domain-Specific Language
- Say Only What is Relevant

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We can replace the procedural comments Exercise and Verify with When and Then.

---

## The Whole Test – Done

```
@Test public void
testAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity () {
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;
    Product product = createAnonymousProduct();
    Invoice invoice = createAnonymousInvoice();
    // When
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);
    // Then
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice,
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY );
    assertExactlyOneLineItem(invoice, expectedLineItem );
}
```

- Use Domain-Specific Language
- Say Only What is Relevant

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Here I just split the method name from the returns type to give myself a little room.  
Here's what I want to do:

## The Whole Test – Done

```
@Test public void  
addItem_SeveralQuantity_itemValueIsQuantityTimesProductPrice() {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;  
    Product product = createAnonymousProduct();  
    Invoice invoice = createAnonymousInvoice();  
    // When  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);  
    // Then  
    LineItem expectedLineItem = newLineItem(invoice,  
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY );  
    assertExactlyOneLineItem(invoice, expectedLineItem );  
}
```

- Use Domain-Specific Language
- Say Only What is Relevant

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Rename the method to reflect the when and the expected outcome. When I call AddItemQuantity with several quantity, the item's value is expected to be the quantity time the product's price.

## The Whole Test – Done

```
@Test public void  
addItem_SeveralQuantity_itemValueIsQuantityTimesProductPrice() {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;  
    Product product = createAnonymousProduct();  
    Invoice invoice = createAnonymousInvoice();  
    // When  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);  
    // Then  
    shouldBeExactlyOneLineItemOn(invoice,  
        expectedLineItem(invoice, product, QUANTITY,  
            product.getPrice()*QUANTITY) );  
}
```

- Use Domain-Specific Language
- Say Only What is Relevant

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We can also make that clearer Then part of the test by renaming the assertion to `shouldBeExactlyOneLineItemOn` the invoice and renaming the utility method to make it clear we are constructing an expected object.

## The Whole Test – Done

```
@Test public void
addItem_SeveralQuantity_itemValueIsQuantityTimesProductPrice() {
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;
    Product product = createIrrelevantProduct();
    Invoice invoice = createIrrelevantInvoice();
    // When
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);
    // Then
    shouldBeExactlyOneLineItemOn(invoice,
        expectedLineItem(invoice, product, QUANTITY,
            product.getPrice()*QUANTITY) );
}
```

Constantly Strive to Improve Readability

- Use Domain-Specific Language
- Say Only What is Relevant

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We can replace the procedural comments Exercise and Verify with When and Then. It would be more accurate to call them “createIrrelevantSomething”.

## The Whole Test – Done

```
@Test public void  
addItem_SeveralQuantity_itemValueIsQuantityTimesProductPrice() {  
    final int QUANTITY = 5 ;  
    Product product = givenAnyProduct();  
    Invoice invoice = givenAnEmptyInvoice();  
    // When  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product, QUANTITY);  
    // Then  
    shouldBeExactlyOneLineItemOn(invoice,  
        expectedLineItem(invoice, product, QUANTITY,  
            product.getPrice()*QUANTITY) );  
}
```

Constantly Strive to Improve Readability

- Use Domain-Specific Language
- Say Only What is Relevant

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But it is even clearer if we simply call them givenSomething().



## Test Coverage

```
TestInvoiceLineItems extends TestCase {  
    TestAddItemQuantity_oneItem {..}  
    TestAddItemQuantity_severalItems {..}  
    TestAddItemQuantity_duplicateProduct {..}  
    TestAddItemQuantity_zeroQuantity {..}  
    TestAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity {..}  
    TestAddItemQuantity_discountedPrice {..}  
    TestRemoveItem_noItemsLeft {..}  
    TestRemoveItem_oneItemLeft {..}  
    TestRemoveItem_severalItemsLeft {..}  
}
```

Pattern:  
Testcase  
Class per  
Feature



Slide 63

---

GGM68 **Change to new naming conventions**  
Gerard Meszaros, 10/19/2012

## Rapid Test Writing

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_duplicateProduct () {  
    final int QUANTITY = 1 ;  
    final int QUANTITY2 = 2 ;  
    Product product1 = createAnonymousProduct();  
    Invoice invoice = createAnonymousInvoice();  
    // Exercise  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product1, QUANTITY);  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product1, QUANTITY2);  
    // Verify  
    LineItem expectedLineItem1 = newLineItem(invoice,  
        product, QUANTITY + QUANTITY2,  
        product.getPrice() * (QUANTITY+QUANTITY2) );  
    assertExactlyOneLineItem(invoice, expectedLineItem1 );  
}
```

Given an  
empty invoice

when I call  
addItemQuantity  
twice with same  
product

The invoice will end up with  
exactly 1 lineItem on it for the  
sum of the two calls to add..()

GGM67 **Redo using new naming conventions**  
Gerard Meszaros, 10/19/2012

---

## Test Coverage

```
TestInvoiceLineItems extends TestCase {  
    TestAddItemQuantity_oneItem {..  
    TestAddItemQuantity_severalItems {..  
    TestAddItemQuantity_duplicateProduct {..  
    TestAddItemQuantity_zeroQuantity {..  
    TestAddItemQuantity_severalQuantity {..  
    TestAddItemQuantity_discountedPrice {..  
    TestRemoveItem_noItemsLeft {..  
    TestRemoveItem_oneItemLeft {..  
    TestRemoveItem_severalItemsLeft {..  
}
```

## Rapid Test Writing

```
public void testAddItemQuantity_severalItems () {  
    final int QUANTITY = 1 ;  
    Product product1 = createAnonymousProduct() ;  
    Product product2 = createAnonymousProduct() ;  
    Invoice invoice = createAnonymousInvoice() ;  
    // Exercise  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product1, QUANTITY) ;  
    invoice.addItemQuantity(product2, QUANTITY) ;  
    // Verify  
    LineItem expectedLineItem1 = newLineItem(invoice,  
        product, QUANTITY, product.getPrice()*QUANTITY ) ;  
    LineItem expectedLineItem2 = newLineItem(invoice,  
        product2, QUANTITY, product2.getPrice()*QUANTITY ) ;  
    assertExactlyTwoLineItems (invoice,  
        expectedLineItem1, expectedLineItem2 ) ;  
}
```

Given an  
empty invoice

when I call  
addItemQuantity  
twice with  
different products

The invoice will end up with 2 lineItems on  
it, one for each of the two calls to add..().

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## Test Automation Pyramid

- Tools to support effective exploratory testing

Exploratory Tests

- A small number of tests for the entire application & workflow

System Tests

- Ensure application(s) support users' requirements

Component Tests

- Medium number of functional tests for major components

Unit Tests

- Verify integration of units

- Large numbers of very small unit tests

- Ensures integrity of code

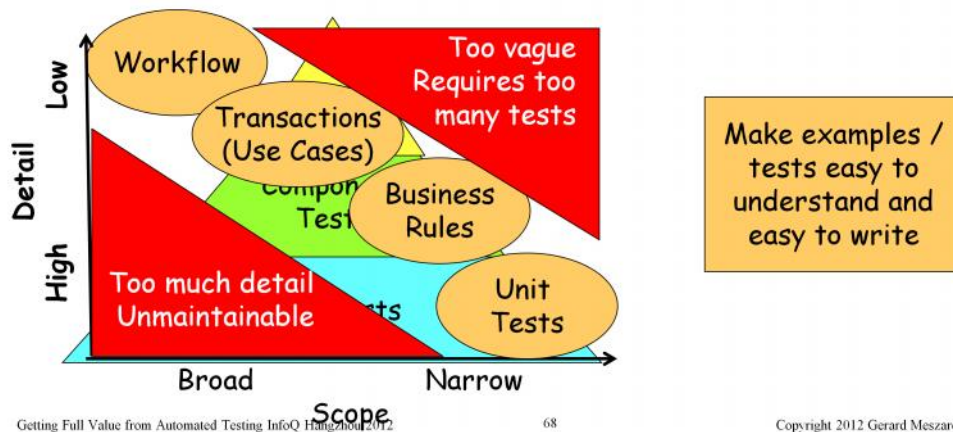
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Pyramid originally proposed by Mike Cohn

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## Behavior Specification at Right Level

- **Specify broad scope at minimum detail**
  - E.g. Use least detail when specifying workflow
- **Specify most detailed req'ts at narrowest scope**
  - E.g. Don't use workflow when specifying business rules



It is important to specify each story at the right level.

Tests with very broad scope (such as the end-to-end process) should be specified with a minimum of detail.

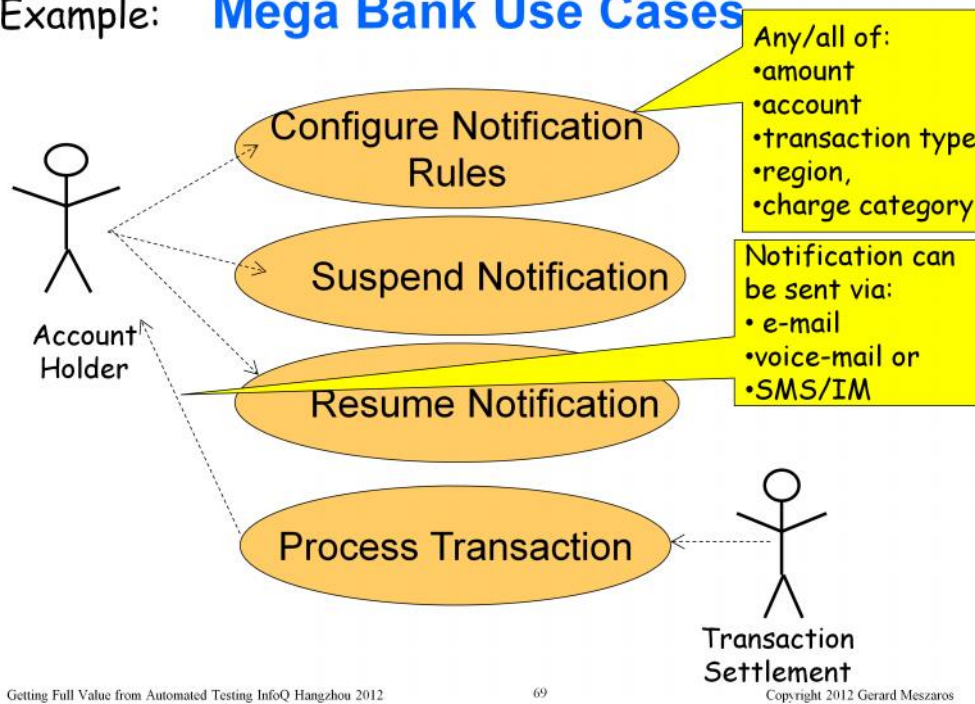
Tests that specify a great deal of detail should be kept very narrow in scope.

Specifying broad scope in high detail results in a lot of duplicated and unmaintainable detail.

Specifying with too little detail for narrow scope results in too many specs that say very little.

The goal is to make our examples and tests each to understand and easy to write. This requires using the right language in each spec.

## Example: Mega Bank Use Cases



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Let's look at how we can structure the tests for a banking application that notifies the user of transactions against their accounts.

User can configure threshold amount for notification based on any/all of account, transaction type or region, charge category

Notification can be sent via e-mail, voice-mail or SMS/IM

User can suspend notifications indefinitely or for a defined period of time.

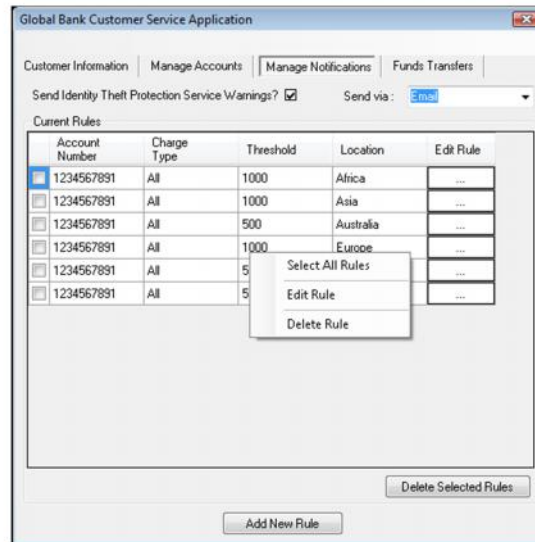
When the bank processes a charge or credit transaction, it uses these rules to decide whether and how to send the notification.



Example:

## GUI for Manage Notifications Tx

- **User Interface implies specific functionality:**
  - List of accounts
  - Ability to make changes to notifications
  - List of active notifications
- **This functionality should be tested independently of UI**



Now that we understand how the various use cases (or transactions) relate to each other (the overall workflow) we can design the user interface for Managing the Notifications. We often want to design the UI to handle a whole range of user stories to ensure consistency of the user experience even though we will typically implement it story by story.

Once we've designed the UI required by the User Stories, we'll want to do some usability testing to find out whether users find it useful or cumbersome. Much cheaper to find out now than after we've built and deployed the stories.

We can also implement automated tests for the UI although this is a contentious topic; it's rather cumbersome to automate but relatively easy to test manually.

Example:

## Testing Notifications - 1

Use Case:  
Manage  
Notifications

Customer bobma logs in

System lists all available accounts for the authorized customer

account	type	notifications
10035692877	chequing	disabled
10035692890	savings	disabled
20010928892	credit line	disabled

Data to be shown on  
Manage Accounts Tab

Customer sets notification threshold for all transactions from all locations to \$10,000.00 on account 10035692877 via email to bobma@live.com

ensure No system messages

ensure System log contains "Customer bobma set notification threshold for all transactions from all locations to \$10,000 on account 10035692877"

Side effect of Adding  
A Notification

System lists all available accounts for the authorized customer

account	type	notifications
10035692877	chequing	enabled
10035692890	savings	disabled
20010928892	credit line	disabled

Data to be shown  
on Manage  
Notifications Tab

Notification settings for account 10035692877

transaction type	location where initiated	threshold amount	via	address
all	all	\$10,000.00	email	bobma@live.com

Given: Notification Rules

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Here's a first crack at writing a test that specifies how our application should work. First, a user signs in and configures a notification rule on one accounts. All transactions of any type over \$10,000 on their chequing account should result in an e-mail to them. They can verify that the rule was accepted by reviewing the list of accounts and the active notifications. All of this effort just to set up the Given for the test conditions.

Next we need to create some transactions against these accounts.

Example:

## Testing Notifications - 2

Use Case:  
Process  
Transactions

Time now is	9:30AM, 03/18/2008				
Bank processes	debit	to	10035692877	in the amount of	\$15,000.00
Bank processes	debit	to	10035692877	in the amount of	\$9,000.00
Bank processes	debit	to	10035692877	in the amount of	\$11,000.00
Bank processes	debit	to	20010928892	in the amount of	\$12,000.00
Bank processes	credit	to	10035692877	in the amount of	\$13,000.00
Bank processes	credit	to	10035692877	in the amount of	\$9,999.99
Bank processes	charge	to	10035692877	in the amount of	\$9,999.99
Bank processes	charge	to	10035692877	in the amount of	\$11,000.00

When: The  
Transactions to  
be processed

Then: Expected  
Notifications

New notifications sent to customer		bobma				
type	account	timestamp	amount	via	address	
debit	10035692877	9:30AM, 03/18/2012	\$15,000.00	email	bobma@live.com	
debit	10035692877	9:30AM, 03/18/2012	\$11,000.00	email	bobma@live.com	
credit	10035692877	9:30AM, 03/18/2012	\$13,000.00	email	bobma@live.com	
charge	10035692877	9:30AM, 03/18/2012	\$11,000.00	email	bobma@live.com	

Medium Detail; Large Scope

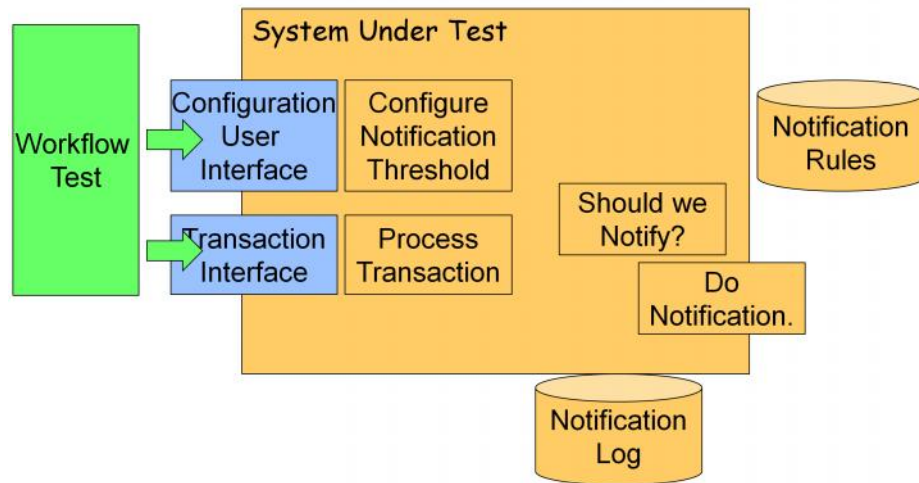
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So we process a bunch of transactions in various amounts above and below the threshold for various accounts and transaction types. These constitute the When's of the test conditions. The final table lists the expected notifications; the Then's of the test conditions.

It's getting a bit difficult to follow along because the cause & effect are not close to each other. And this test only verifies one particular combination of notification rule. We'll need to create other test cases for each of various combinations of rules we could have. That will result in a lot of repetition across the test cases. And these test cases will take a long time to run if we hook them up to the user interface of our application.

## Test - After Architecture

- Must test through User Interface



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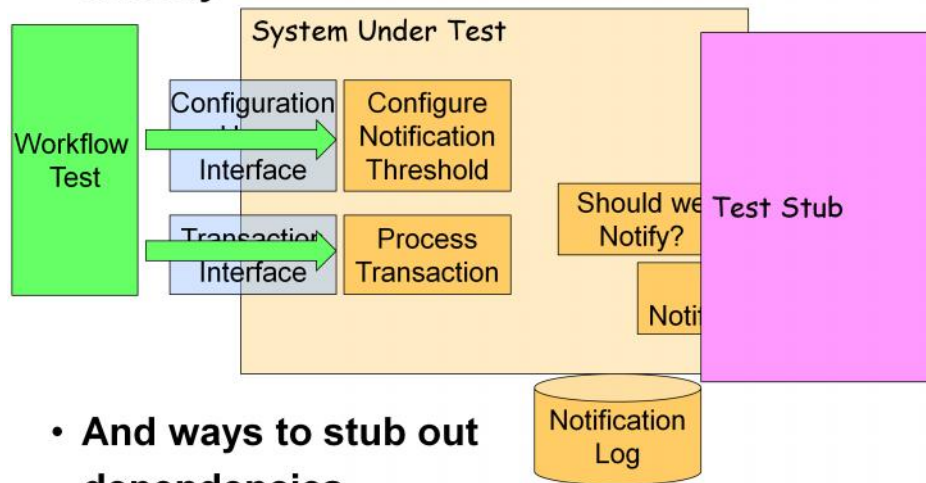
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The problem with trying to automate the tests after we've finished building the system is that it is very difficult or even impossible to do effectively because the system wasn't designed with testability in mind. We are typically forced to test too much code and via awkward interfaces such as the user interface. And it is very difficult to control the behavior of all those other things our application logic is expected use as input.

This is why test automation done by independent test groups is often an outright failure. And why the most successful test automation is seen on eXtreme Programming teams where the testing is part of the team's job, not relegated to a separate group.

## Test-Driven Architecture

- Need to provide API's to invoke functionality directly

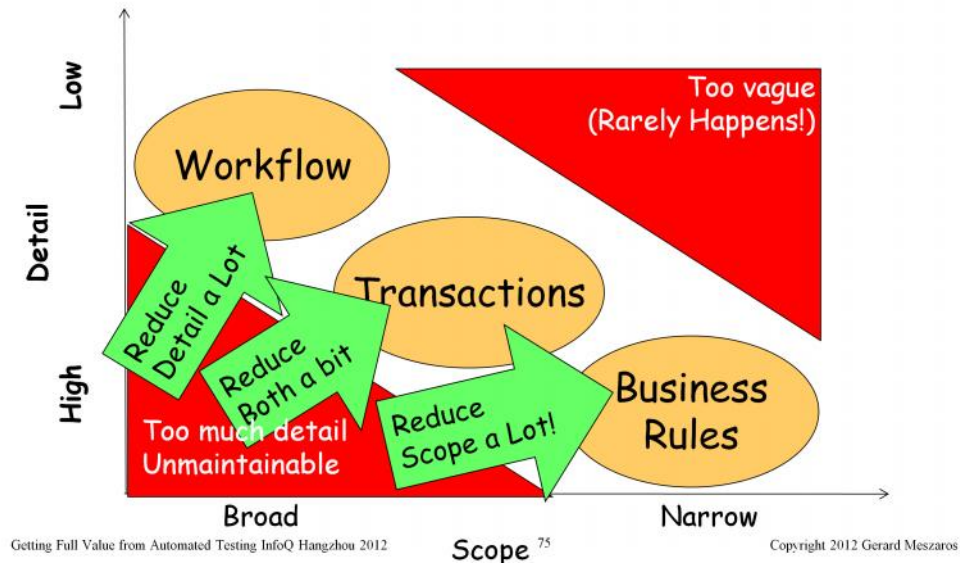


- And ways to stub out dependencies

When the team building the application is also responsible for testing it, they are highly motivated to make test automation easy. In fact, they will typically start the design process by deciding what kinds of tests they want to be able to automate and what affordances the application needs to provide the automated tests. When this kind of thinking is applied at the Component and System levels of the test automation pyramid, I call it test-driven architecture. That is, the architecture of the application is shaped by the test requirements as much as by the functional requirements. For example, to automate workflow tests of a business process, we want to be able to bypass the user interface so that the tests can be expressed in terms of business process actions, not UI actions. And we may need to be able to control the behaviour of certain sub-components to ensure that they provide the particular response our test case requires. We often fulfil this requirement by providing a means to stub out specific components dynamically in our test environment.

## Changing Level of Abstraction/Detail

- Need to Reduce Detail or Reduce Scope



It is important to specify each story at the right level.

Stories with very broad scope (such as the end-to-end process) should be specified with a minimum of detail.

Stories that specify a great deal of detail should be kept very narrow in scope.

Specifying broad scope in high detail results in a lot of duplicated and unmaintainable detail.

Specifying with too little detail for narrow scope results in too many specs that say very little.

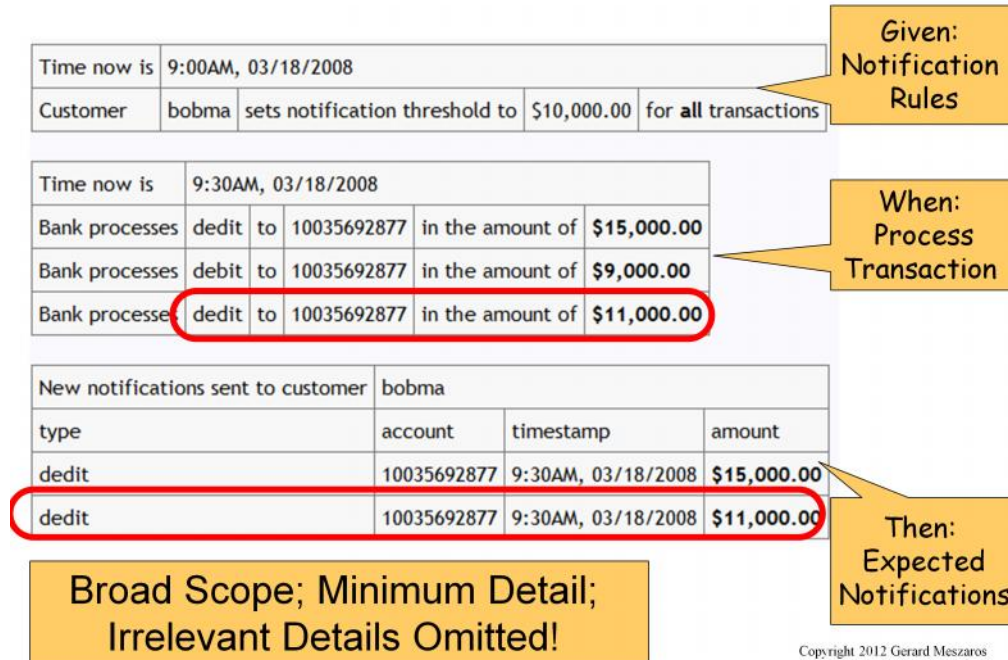
The goal is to make our examples and tests each to understand and easy to write. This requires using the right language in each spec.

That test we just wrote falls into the bottom right quadrant; too much detail for the broad scope it encompasses. So we need to reduce the level of detail.



Example:

## Specifying Notification Workflow



The overall workflow should be defined at a very high level. Only the essential details should be specified here because we'll need to touch on many of the transactions and providing too much detail would make these specs too hard to understand. The details can be provided in other specs.

Can be defined before user interface is designed.

Should be defined before software is built

Can (and should) be automated bypassing the user interface

Should be run by developers as they build the software

Not the right way to test detailed functionality

Too high level

Is it right way to test notification algorithms?

Maybe too cumbersome

---

## **Alternate form of Workflow Test:**

**Given Bobma has account 1003592877**

**And BobMa sets notification threshold to  
\$10,000 for all transactions**

**When the bank processes debit for 15,000 to  
account 1003592877**

**And the bank processes debit for 9,000 to  
account 1003592877**

**And the bank processes debit for 11,000 to  
account 1003592877**

**Then bobma receives notification for debit  
15,000 to account 1003592877**

**And bobma receives notification for debit 11,000  
to account 1003592877**

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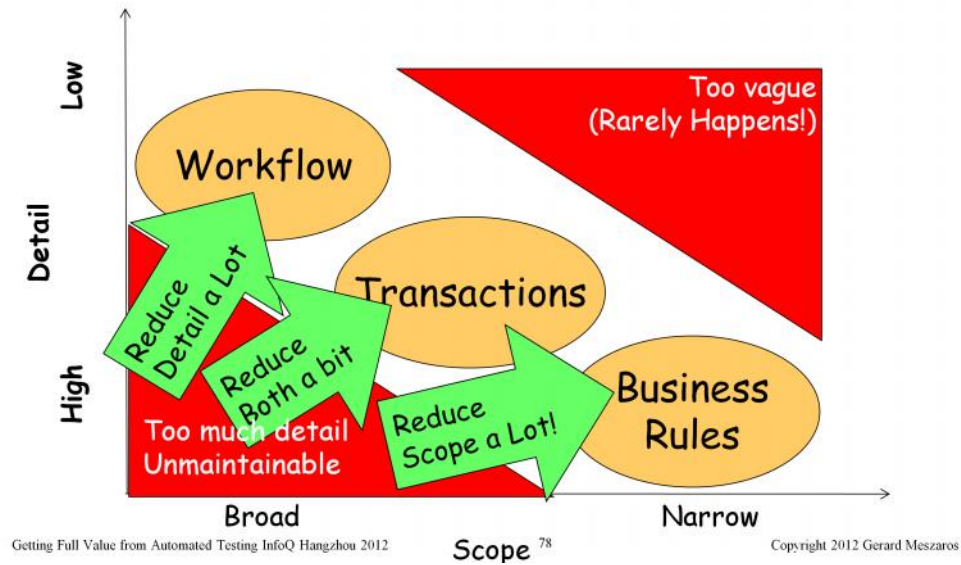
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Here's another way to express the same test using the given-when-then terminology in a text-based domain-specific language.



## Changing Level of Abstraction/Detail

- Need to Reduce Detail or Reduce Scope



How can we test the business rules around notification more effectively? Testing this via the overall workflow would be very tedious and slow. It takes too many steps and too much extraneous detail to do this effectively. The alternative is to reduce the scope drastically to just the part of the system that implements the decision whether to notify.

Example:

## Business Rule Specs

### Threshold per Charge Type

#### Configuration

CustomerAccounts[?]				
Customer	Account	Label	Added()	
bobma	100372	Checking		

CustomerThresholds[?]				
Customer	Account	Charge Type	Threshold	Added()
bobma	100372	ALL	10,000	OK
bobma	100372	Travel	1,000	OK
bobma	100372	Restaurant	100	OK
bobma	100372	Groceries	264.23	OK

Given these rules

#### Process Transaction

NotificationRequired[?]			
Account	Charge Type	Amount	Notify?
100372	Travel	999.99	No
100372	Travel	1,000.00	Yes
100372	Restaurant	99.99	No
100372	Restaurant	100.00	Yes
100372	Groceries	264.22	No
100372	Groceries	264.23	Yes
100372	Other	9,999.99	No
100372	Other	10,000.00	Yes

When we call shouldWeNotify? with this transaction:

High Detail; Narrow Scope

Then: The answer should be

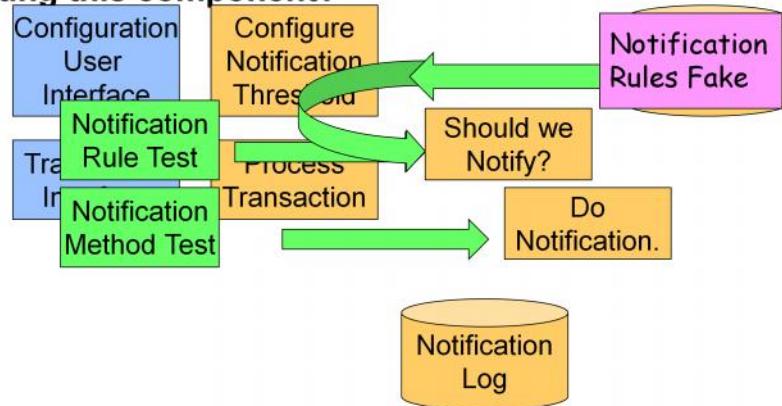
Now that we have decided to isolate the Notification Logic, we can specify its behaviour using component tests. Here we are using Fit Column fixtures to configure the data (on the left side of the slide) and to invoke the Should We Notify component. Each row in the table on the right is one test. The first 3 columns are the inputs to the notification decision and the last column is the expected result. Once again, we can easily read the test conditions directly from these tests. Given these thresholds, when we call shouldWeNotify? With Account 100372 with Travel charge for 999.99, the answer should be No.

This approach allows us to test algorithms and business rules without overhead of use case or workflow tests.

Require access to component(s) that implement the business rules and that encourages a more modular software design.

## Business Component Test

- “What other components would that component depend on?”
- “How can I break that dependency when component testing this component?”



- **With the right architecture, automating these tests is trivial**

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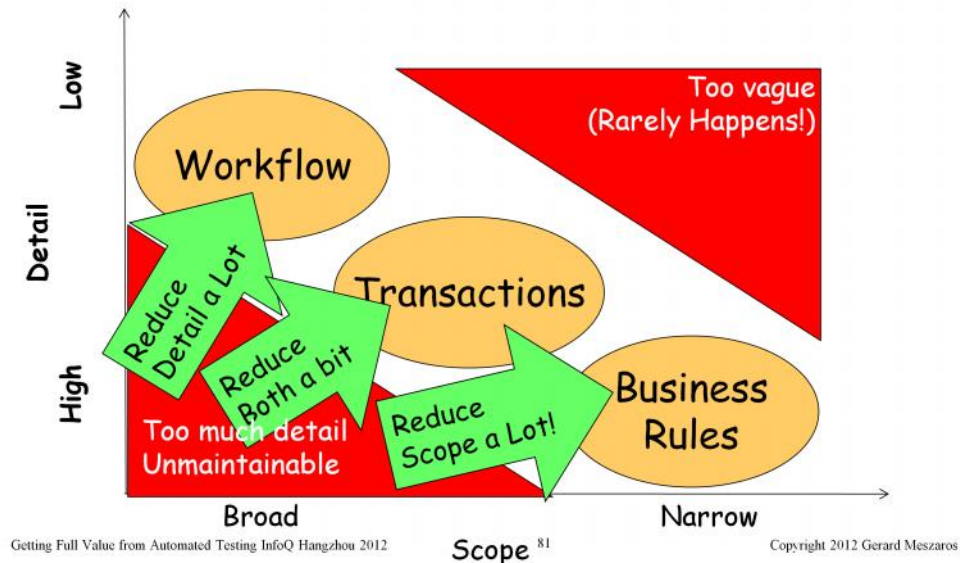
This requires us to structure the system so that the notification logic is easily accessed via an API thus allowing our tests to focus on what they want the Should We Notify component to do, not how to interact with it via the Process Transaction components.

We also want to make it easy to provide the rules to the component directly from the test so we can bypass the Configuration component.

We can achieve all this by asking the questions [READ FROM THE SLIDE]. This leads us to a testable architecture where the Should We Notify component is passed the Notification Rules by it's caller, something I call Data Injection.

## Changing Level of Abstraction/Detail

- Need to Reduce Detail or Reduce Scope



It is important to specify each story at the right level.

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Specifying with too little detail for narrow scope results in too many specs that say very little.

The goal is to make our examples and tests each to understand and easy to write. This requires using the right language in each spec.

Example:

## Single Use Case Test

Use Case:  
Manage  
Notifications

Customer bobma logs in

System lists all available accounts for the authorized customer

account	type	notifications
10035692877	chequing	disabled
10035692890	savings	disabled
20010928892	credit line	disabled

Data to be shown on  
Manage Accounts Tab

Customer sets notification threshold for all transactions from all locations to \$10,000.00 on account 10035692877 via email to bobma@live.com

ensure No system messages

ensure System log contains "Customer bobma set notification threshold for transactions from all locations to \$10,000 on account 10035692877"

Side effect of Adding  
A Notification

System lists all available accounts for the authorized customer

account	type	notifications
10035692877	chequing	enabled
10035692890	savings	disabled
20010928892	credit line	disabled

Data to be shown  
on Manage  
Notifications Tab

Notification settings for account 10035692877		location where initiated	threshold amount	via	address
transaction type					
all		all	\$10,000.00	email	bobma@live.com

Medium Detail; Medium Scope  
Still no mention of User Interface!

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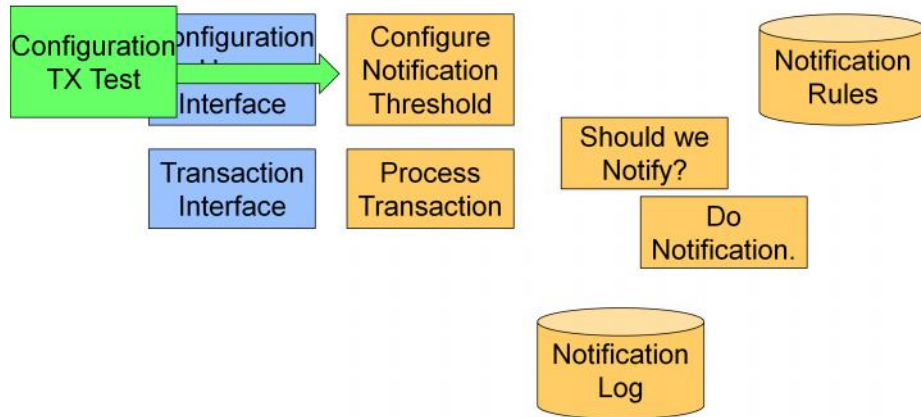
The overall workflow specification helps us understand the big picture but we want to make sure we understand how each transaction, such as configuring a notification rule, actually works. We can write a specification for this using a walk-through the UI as an inspiration. We want to ensure that the behavior of the system behind the UI at each step is clearly understood. This spec helps us do that. Each piece of data on the screen and each action accessible from it is represented in this transaction spec. That way we can be sure that the code behind the screen is implemented properly.

Note that there is a lot more detail shown here than in the workflow spec where it only took a single line to describe the equivalent of what we are doing here.



## Automating the Use Case Test

- “What kind of tests do I want to be able to automate?”
- “Which component would be responsible for that part of the behavior?”



To automate the use case tests, we expose the appropriate API on the configuration interface. This is most likely the same interface used by the User Interface. Depending on the nature of the test, we may choose to stub out the database or include it within the scope of the system.

---

## Conclusions – Reducing Costs

- **Build tests**
  - Write tests first to ensure testability
  - Less Detail, Less Overlap
- **Run tests**
  - Automatically
- **Inspect test results**
  - Self-checking tests have zero effort
- **Fix or maintain tests**
  - Focus on maintainability when writing tests

Maximizing Value for effort spent requires us to reduce cost and increase value.

We can reduce cost and effort by

- avoiding unnecessary detail in tests and reducing the overlap between tests.
- running tests automatically and ensuring that tests are self-checking so we don't need to look at them every time they are run.
- We can reduce the Cost of Ownership of the product and its tests by focusing on maintainability when writing the tests.

---

## Conclusions – Increasing Value

- **Focus**
  - Write tests first; use them to guide development
- **Safety**
  - Tests act as “Safety Net” during subsequent development
- **Saved Effort**
  - (A/C/U)TDD reduces debugging, bug triage/fixing
- **Confidence**
  - Tests act as documentation of the functionality.
  - Better coverage, run more frequently
  - Used as measure of progress
- **Reward**
  - Constant progress and reduced stress makes work more enjoyable

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To summarize the value provided by our automated tests:

- We write the tests first so that they guide us during development
- The tests act as a safety net during subsequent development.
- Driving development with Acceptance, Component and Unit tests reduces the number of defects we put into the code thereby reducing the amount of debugging we need to do and the number of faults that are found, have to be triaged and managed until they are fixed.
- The Tests act as documentation of the functionality giving us confidence in our knowledge of what the product does and how it works.
- Running the tests frequently gives us better confidence in the quality of our product. And we can use the number of acceptance and component tests passing as a measure of progress.
- The constantly visible process and the reduced stress of working with a safety net of tests make work more enjoyable.



---

## Conclusions

**Getting full value from our automated tests requires conscious thinking about:**

- **How to reduce costs**
- **How to maximize the value derived**
  
- **Tests should be either broad in scope or detailed but not both**

**Thank You!**

**Gerard Meszaros**

**infoQ2012hz@gerardm.com**

**<http://www.xunitpatterns.com>**

**<http://GettingFullValue.gerardm.com>**

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