

Software System Testing and Quality Assurance

Boris Beizer, Van Nostrand Reinhold Electrical/Computer Science and Engineering Series, 1984.

Testing VS Debugging

- testing starts with known conditions, uses predefined procedures, and has predictable outcomes. Debugging starts from possibly unknown initial conditions and the end cannot be predicted, except statistically.
- testing should be designed and scheduled beforehand. The procedures for, and duration of debugging, cannot be constrained.
- testing is a demonstration of error or apparent correctness. Debugging is a deductive process.
- testing proves programmer's failure. Debugging is the programmer's vindication.
- testing should strive to be predictable, dull, constrained, rigid, and inhuman. Debugging demands intuitive leaps, conjectures, experimentation, intelligence, and freedom.
- testing can be done by an outsider; debugging must be done by an insider.
- testing, to a large extent, can be designed and accomplished in ignorance of the design. Debugging is impossible without detailed design knowledge.

Decision table (SE—Theory and Practice, Pfleeger, Prentice-Hall, 2001)

Variables				Actions					
w	x	y	z	A ₁	A ₂	A ₃	A ₄	A ₅	A ₆
0	0	0	0						X
0	0	0	1					X	X
0	0	1	0				X	X	
0	0	1	1				X		
0	1	0	0				X		
0	1	0	1		X		X		
0	1	1	0		X		X		
0	1	1	1		X		X		
1	0	0	0		X		X		
1	0	0	1		X		X		
1	0	1	0		X		X		
1	0	1	1		X		X		
1	1	0	0		X	X			
1	1	0	1		X	X			
1	1	1	0	X		X			
1	1	1	1	X		X			

$$A_1 = wxyz + wxyz$$

$$A_2 = \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz$$

$$A_3 = \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz$$

$$A_4 = \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz$$

$$A_5 = \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz$$

$$A_6 = \underline{w}xyz + \underline{w}xyz$$

To reduce A₁

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= wxyz + wxyz \\ &= wxy(z + \underline{z}) \\ &= wxy \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$A_2 = \underline{xy} + \underline{wxy} + \underline{wx}$$

$$A_3 = wx$$

$$A_4 = \underline{xy} + \underline{wx} + \underline{wxy}$$

$$A_5 = \underline{wxy}$$

$$A_6 = \underline{wxy}$$