

Story Testing

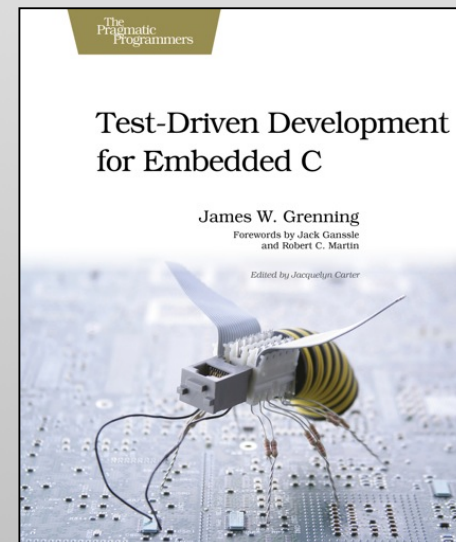
Executable Use Cases

Talk to me on Twitter
<http://twitter.com/jwgrenning>

Find my book at
<http://www.pragprog.com/titles/jgade>

Find us on linkedin.com
<http://www.linkedin.com/in/jwgrenning>
Please remind me how we met.

<http://www.wingman-sw.com>
<http://www.jamesgrenning.com>



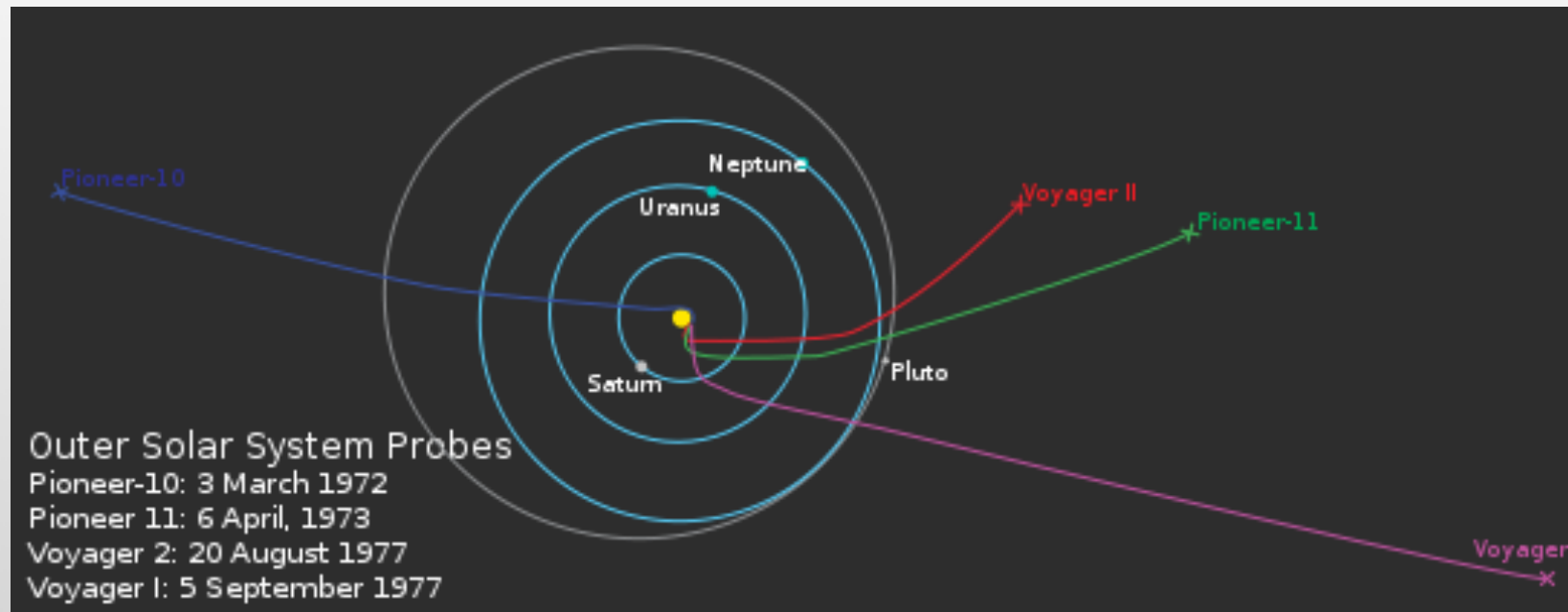
The Nature of Software

- Software is fragile
 - The nature of discrete systems
- Any change can break just about anything
- Test and forget model leads to big surprises and problems





Voyager



$$E_t = f(E_d)$$

Effort to test a new feature

E_t

is a function of the effort to develop the feature.

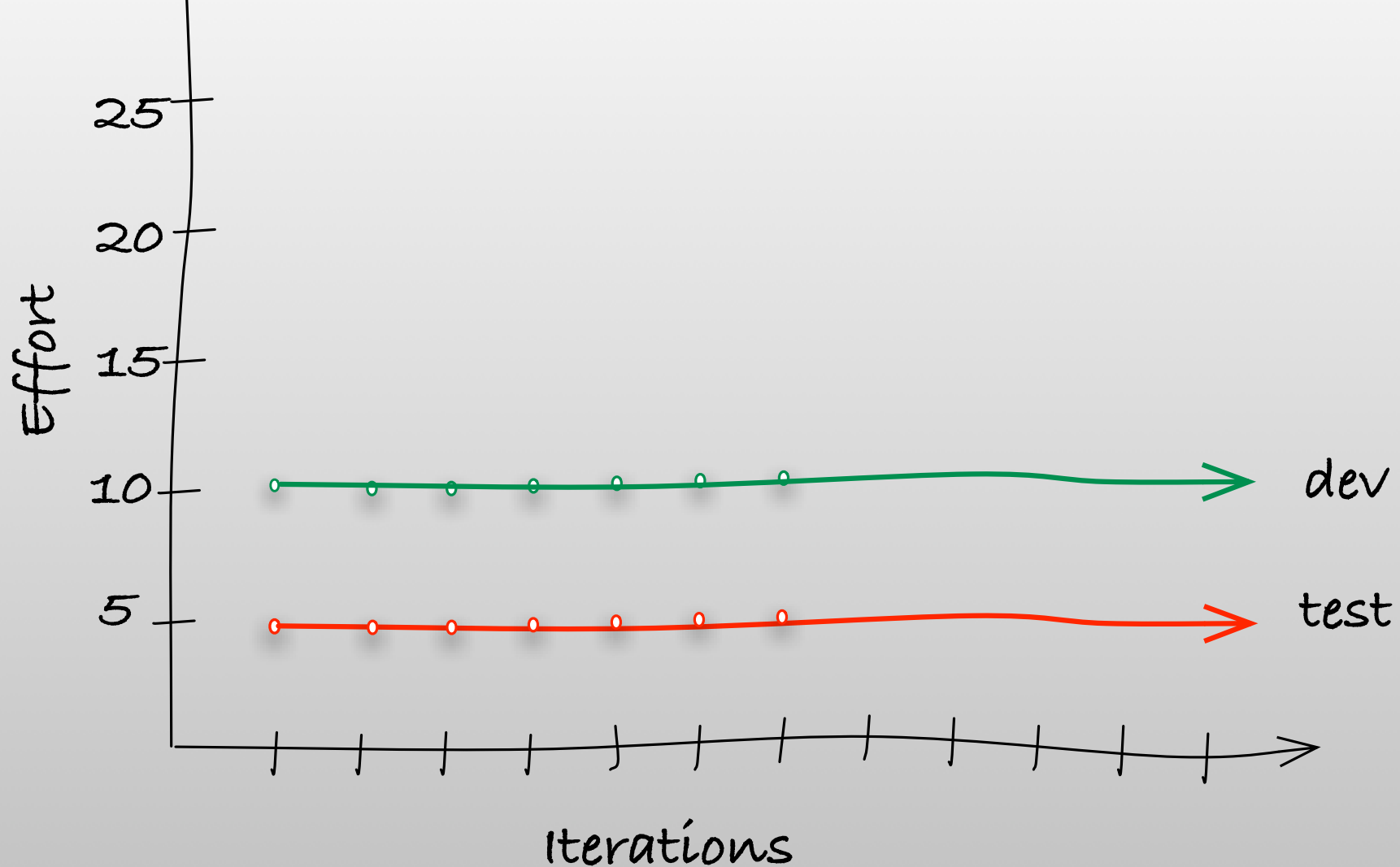
$f(E_d)$

Assume a linear relationship

$$E_t = KE_d$$

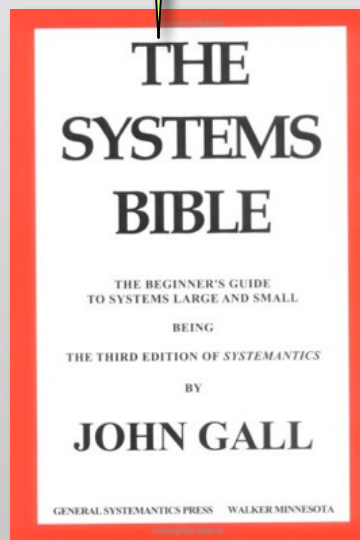


Assume Test Effort is Proportional to Development



If a system is working,
leave it alone. Don't
change anything

Systems don't
appreciate being fiddled
and diddled with



- 25% of all defects are introduced while changing and fixing code

[R.B Grady, Software Process Improvement]



$$E_{tn} = f(E_d) + g(E_{t(n-1)})$$

Effort to fully test a product at iteration N

E_{tn}

is a function of the effort to develop the feature

$f(E_d)$

plus a function of the effort to test the previous iteration

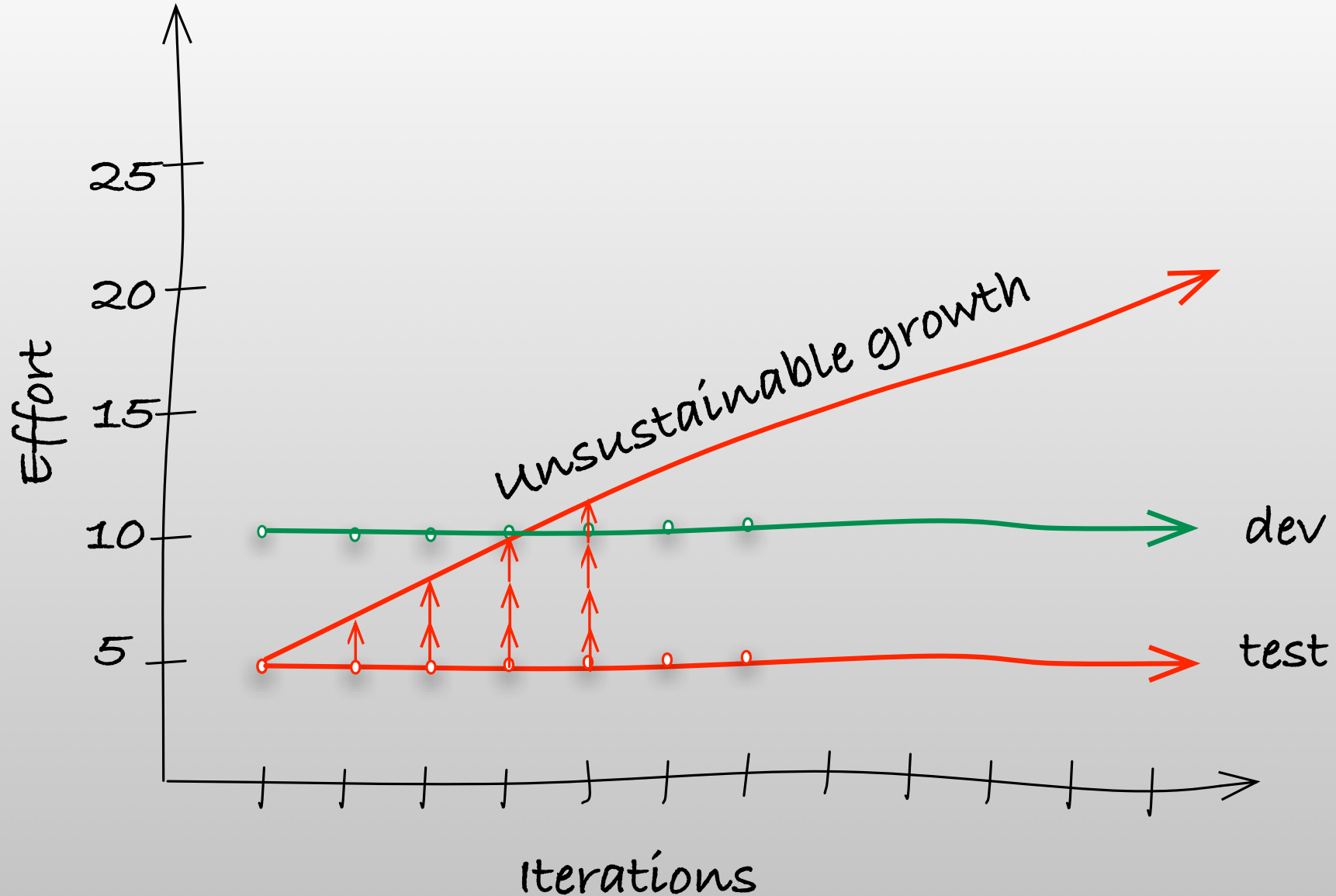
$g(E_{t(n-1)})$

Assume a linear, and recursive, relationship

$$E_{tn} = CE_{t(n-1)}$$



Manual Test is Unsustainable

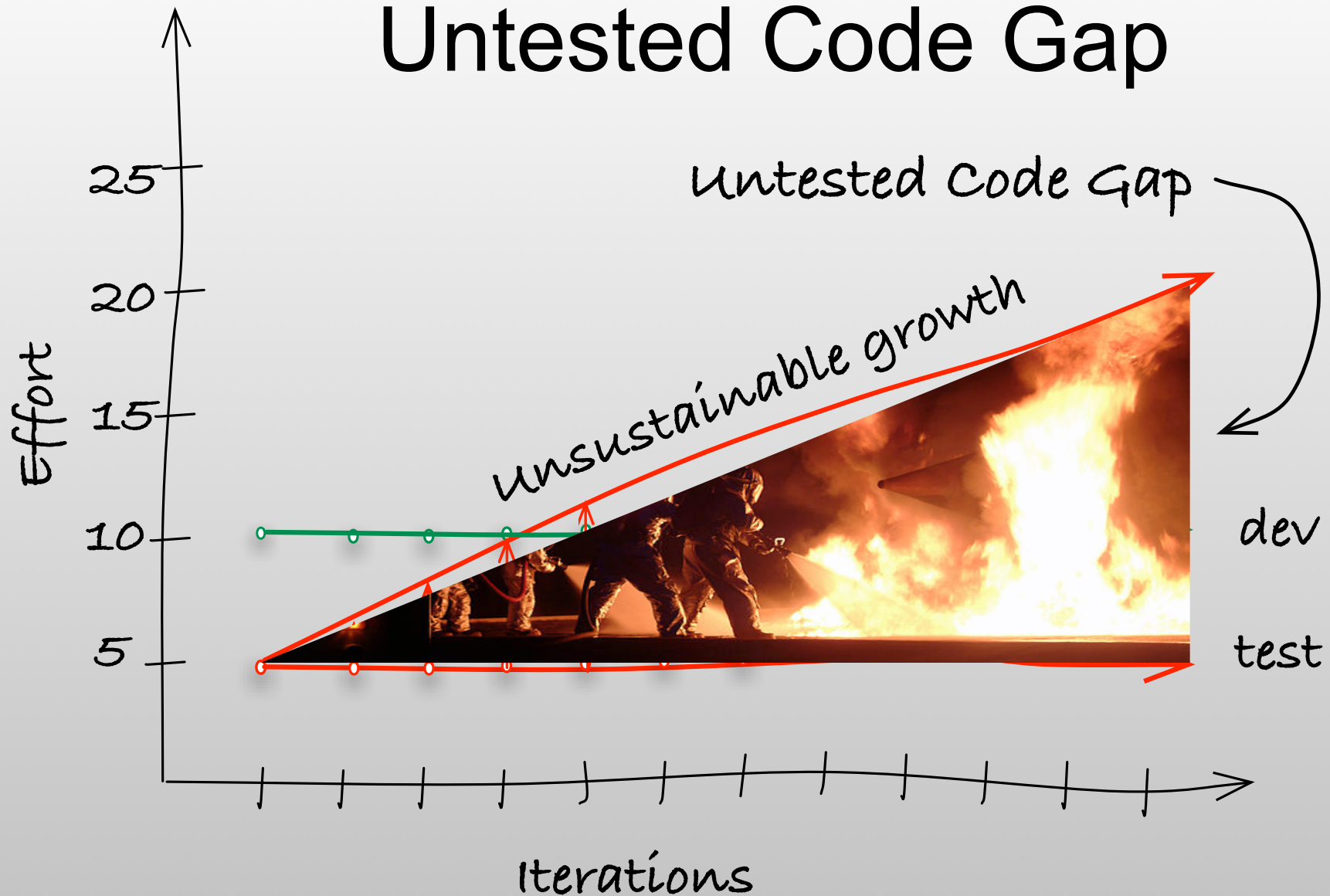


As the Effort to Test Grows...

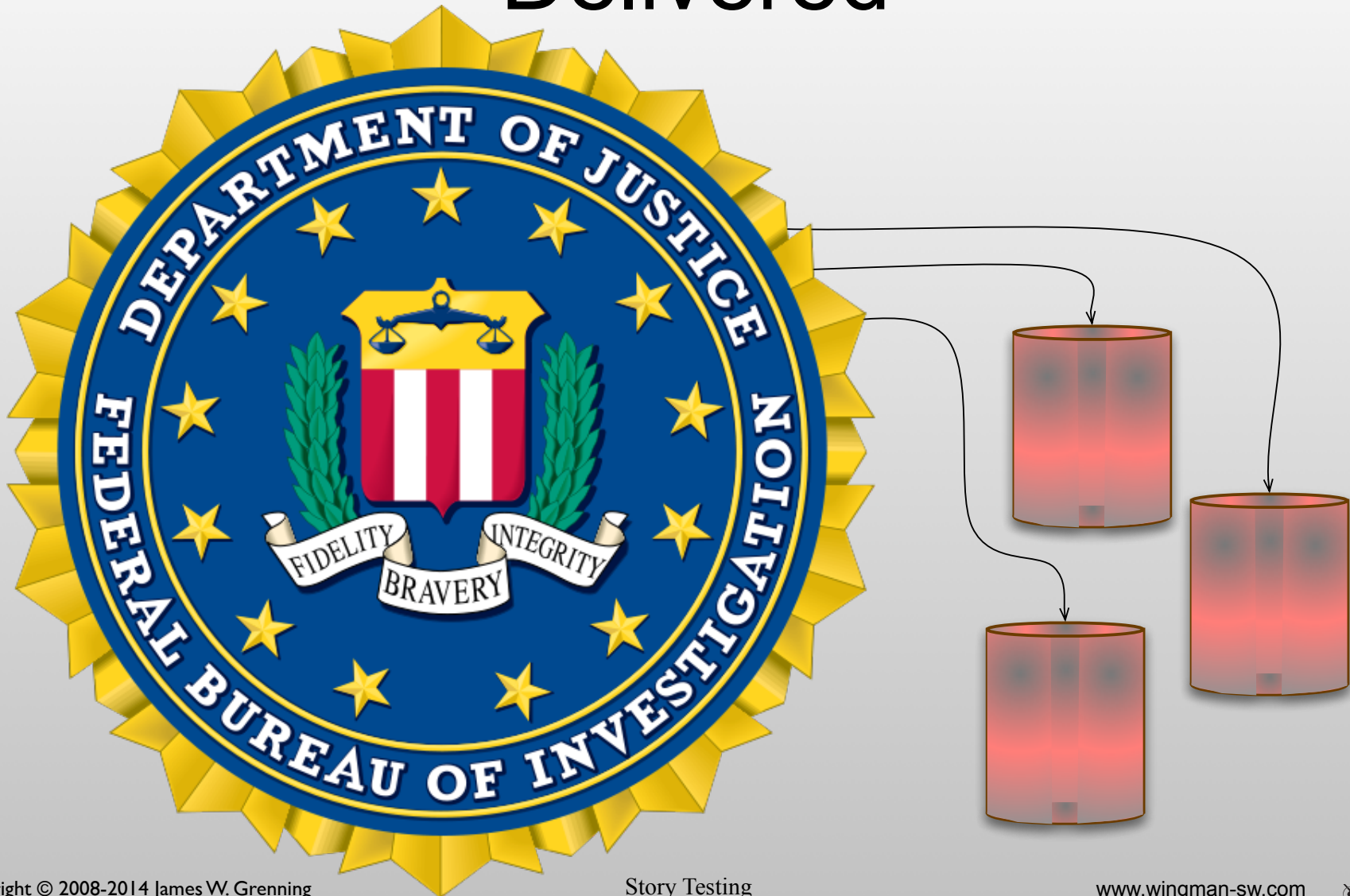
- We only do partial regression tests
- Unintended side-effects (bugs) go unnoticed.



Risk Accumulates in the Untested Code Gap



FBI Case-File System - Never Delivered



Denver Baggage System Almost One Year Late



Why Don't We Just Test at the End, Save all that

March May July September November

Requirements



Design



Code



Time →





La, la la.
I'm lookin'
for bugs

Thank you: Hubert Stoffels, from Pittsburgh, USA "Title:" Jonathan's Run Falls
"Description:" http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Jonathan%27s_Run_Falls.jpg



HELLLL

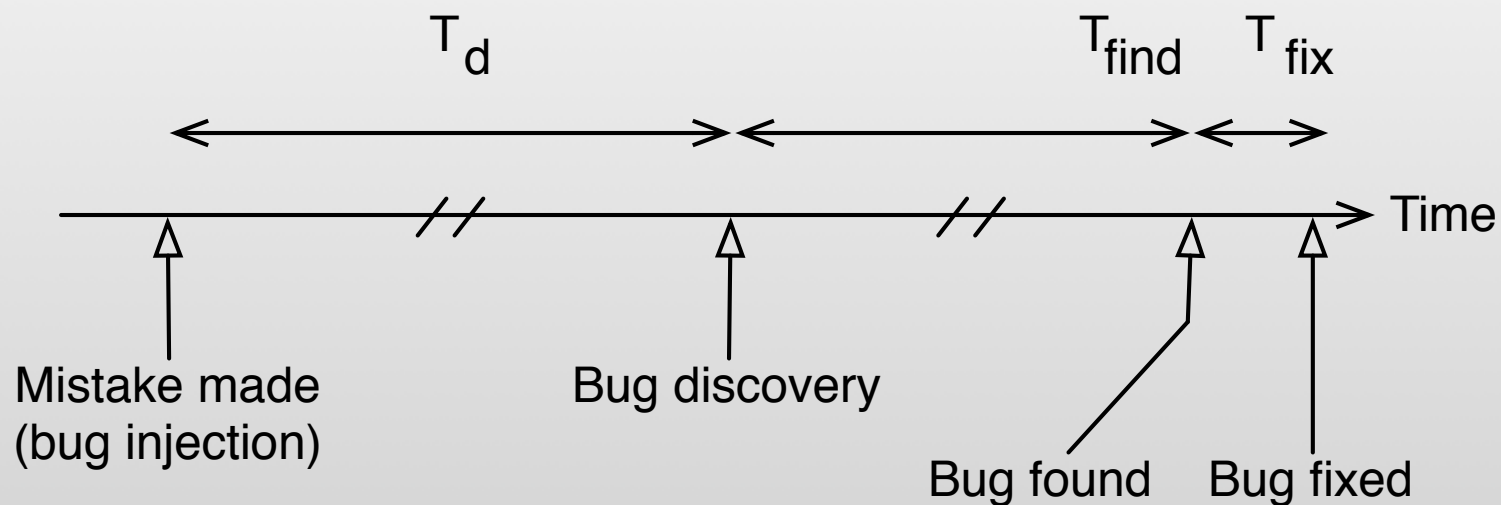
Thanks to Yorian, Picture of a waterfall nearby Flam, Norway http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Waterfall_in_Norway.jpg



What if test moved upstream? Could we
get features to flow?



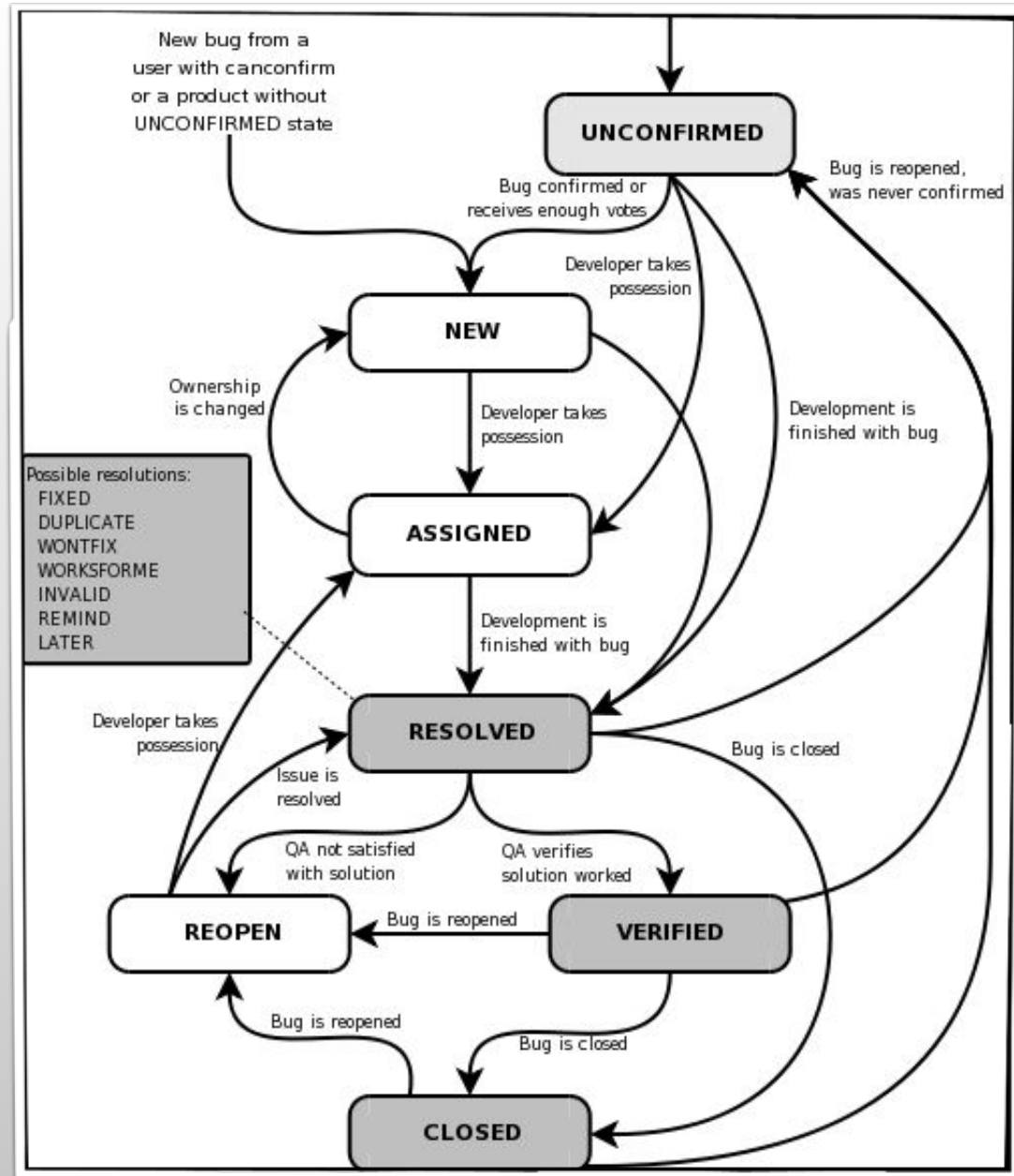
The Physics of Debug Later Programming (DLP)



- As T_d increases, T_{find} increases dramatically
- T_{fix} is usually short, but can increase with T_d



A Bug's Life

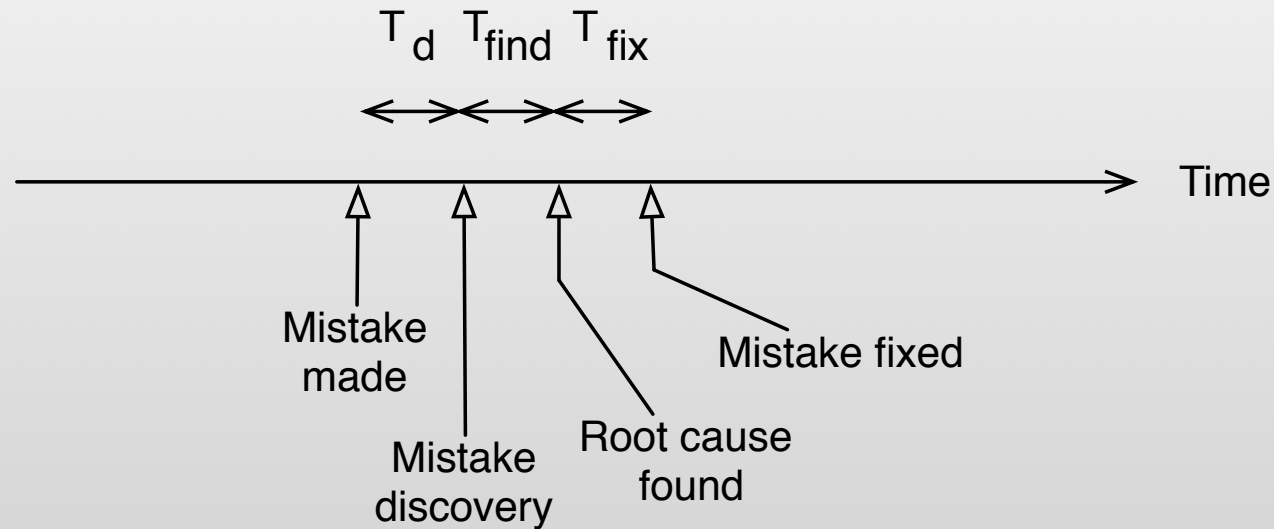


From <http://www.softwaretestinghelp.com/bug-life-cycle/>

Story Testing



The Physics of Test Driven Development



- When T_d approaches zero, T_{find} approaches zero
- In many cases, bugs are not around long enough to be considered bugs.
- See: <http://www.renaissancesoftware.net/blog/archives/16>



Testing is not a Phase

- Testing starts on day one
- Tests provide the specification of what is to be developed
- QA/System Test moves upstream.



What if test moved upstream
from a reactive role to a
proactive role defining
detailed requirements in
executable use cases?



Keep the Cost of Re-Test Low

- 25% of defects are introduced while changing existing code
- Automated tests keep that cost low
- Test are run with every change





Use Cases, Product Stories, and Story Tests

There are Different kinds of Automated Tests

- Unit Test
 - Feedback to the developer that the code does what is expected
 - Written using a Unit Test Harness (e.g. unity, CppUTest, ...)
- Story Tests - Executable use cases - Our focus
 - Feedback to the *Customer* that the code meets the requirements
 - Used at many levels
 - Component
 - Groups of integrated components
 - System
 - Written in a domain specific language (e.g. FitNesse) [FITNESSE]
- Load Tests



Use-Case Template

- Name:
- Goal:
- Preconditions:
- Success End Condition:
- Failed End Condition:
- Primary Actor:
- Trigger:
- MAIN SUCCESS SCENARIO
- EXTENSIONS

Source Alistair Cockburn

<http://alistair.cockburn.us/Basic+use+case+template>



Use-Case Example

Information	Description
Name	Schedule light control
Goal	Allow system users to schedule lights to turn on, off, or dim
Preconditions	System has controllable lights attached
Success End Condition	The scheduled light has been controlled at the scheduled time
Failed End Condition	The scheduled light has not been controlled at the scheduled time
Primary Actor	Home owner
Trigger	Scheduled time is reached
Main Success Scenario	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.The home owner schedules a light to turn on at a specific time on a specific day2.The scheduler wakes up at the right time of the right day3.The light scheduled for this minute is turned on



Use-Case Example Continued

Information	Description
Extensions/Variations	<p>1a. Homeowner can schedule the light to turn on</p> <p>1b. Homeowner can schedule the light to turn off</p> <p>1c. Homeowner can schedule the light to set to a dim level</p> <p>1d. Homeowner can specify weekend schedule</p> <p>1e. Homeowner can specify weekday schedule</p> <p>2a - Scheduler does nothing when it wakes up and there are no scheduled controls.</p> <p>3a - Light is turned on when on is scheduled</p> <p>3b - Light is turned off when off is scheduled</p> <p>3c - Light is set to a specified level when dim is scheduled</p>



Introducing the User Story

- The name of a feature.
- A promise for a conversation. (Ron Jeffries)
- Like the name of a use case, or extension.
 - Acceptance tests provide the details.
- Fine grains help make visible progress and avoid gold plating.
- I call them Product Stories



Back of the Card

- Optionally, use the back of the card for details, and notes about acceptance criteria.
- Keeping the specification light until more detail is needed JIT.

Everyday Light
Schedule

Schedule a light to turn on a specific day at 8PM

At the scheduled time, on the scheduled day

- light is turned on

- otherwise it is unchanged



Test Define Done

- Acceptance tests define done
- Customer, QA and development agree on how a story will be tested
- The story is considered *done* when it passes its acceptance tests



Executable Use-Case with FitNesse

[HomeAutomationTests](#). [LightScheduler](#). [TestSuite](#).

LightShouldComeOnAtTheRightTime [add child]

▼ *Set Up:* [.HomeAutomationTests.LightScheduler.SetUp](#) [\(edit\)](#)

Home Automation Turn on

Initialization

variable defined: light=13

script	Light Schedule Script							
schedule	turn on	for light	13	where day is	Monday	and time is	7:30	
check	transition to	Monday	at	7:30	then light	13	should be	on

Items in tables tell to FitNesse how to interact with the system under test

▼ *Tear Down:* [.HomeAutomationTests.LightScheduler.TearDown](#) [\(edit\)](#)

Home Automation Shut down

Cleanup



Passing Test

[HomeAutomationTests](#). [LightScheduler](#). [TestSuite](#).

LightShouldComeOnAtTheRightTime

TEST RESULTS

Assertions: 5 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions

▼ *Set Up:* [.HomeAutomationTests.LightScheduler.SetUp](#) (edit)

Home Automation Turn on

variable defined: light=13

script	Light Schedule Script						
schedule	turn on	for light	13	where day is	Monday	and time is	7:30
check	transition to	Monday	at	7:30	then light	13	should be on

▼ *Tear Down:* [.HomeAutomationTests.LightScheduler.TearDown](#) (edit)

Home Automation Shut down




Failing Test

[HomeAutomationTests](#). [LightScheduler](#). [TestSuite](#).

RandomizeSingleLightsSchedule

TEST RESULTS


Tests
Executed OK

Assertions: 4 right, 2 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions

► *Set Up:* [.HomeAutomationTests.LightScheduler.SetUp \(edit\)](#)

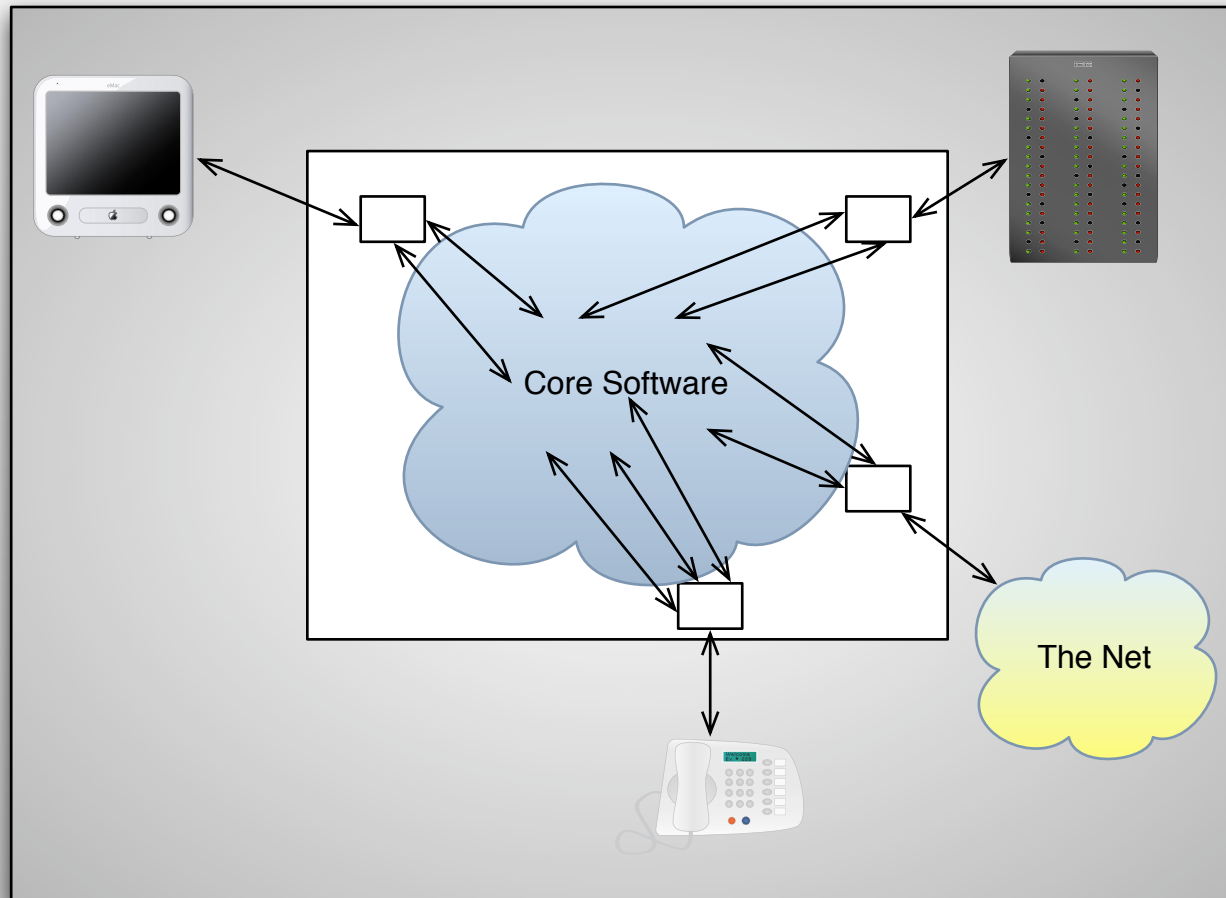
[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

variable defined: light=3

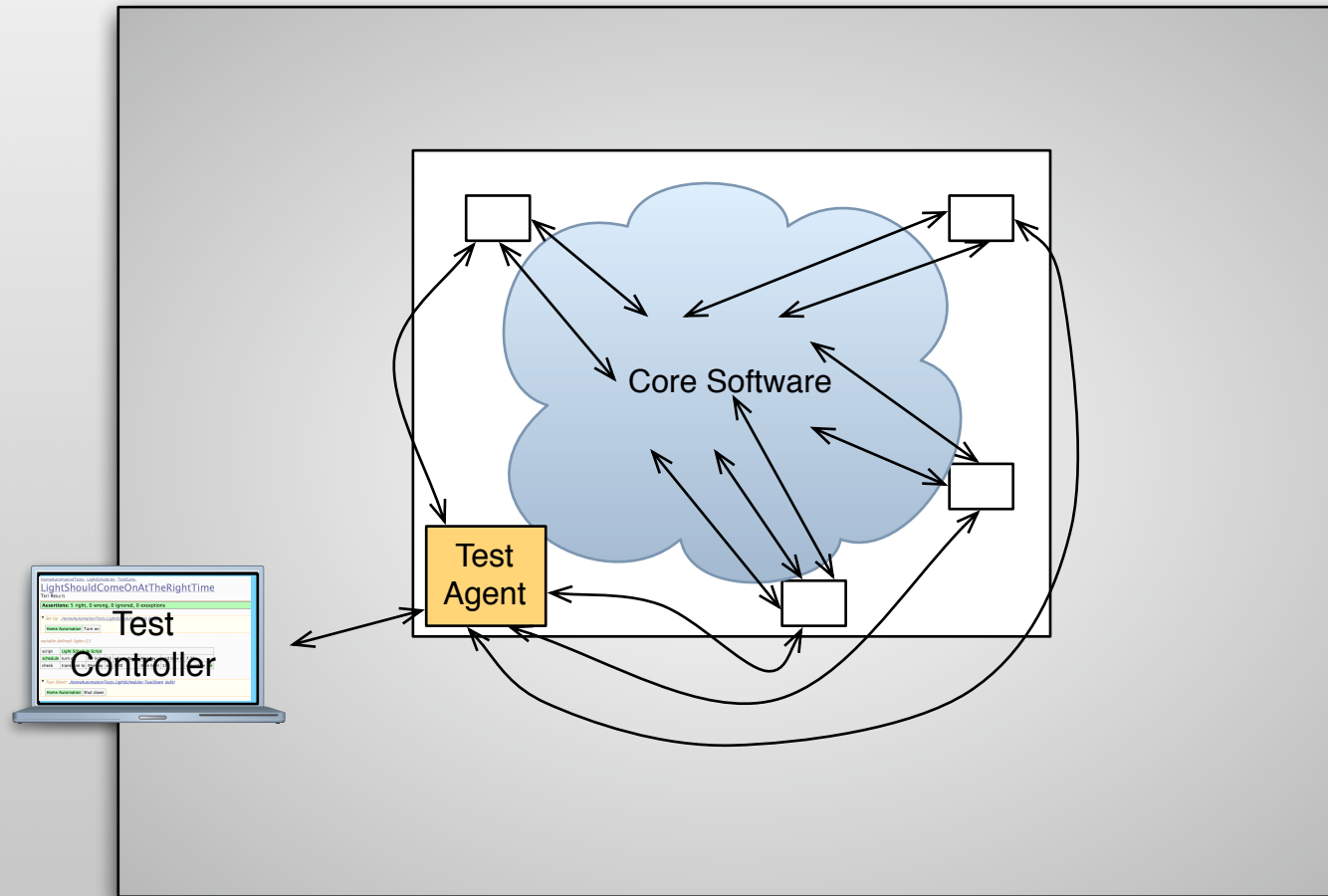
script	Light Schedule Script							
random minute generator produces	20							
schedule	turn on	for light	3	where day is	Everyday	and time is	7:30	
randomize light	3							
check	transition to	Monday	at	7:30	then light	3	should be	[on] expected [unchanged]
check	transition to	Monday	at	7:50	then light	3	should be	[unchanged] expected [on]



Unmanaged Hardware Dependency Lead to Manual Testing



Managed Dependencies Enables Automated Testing

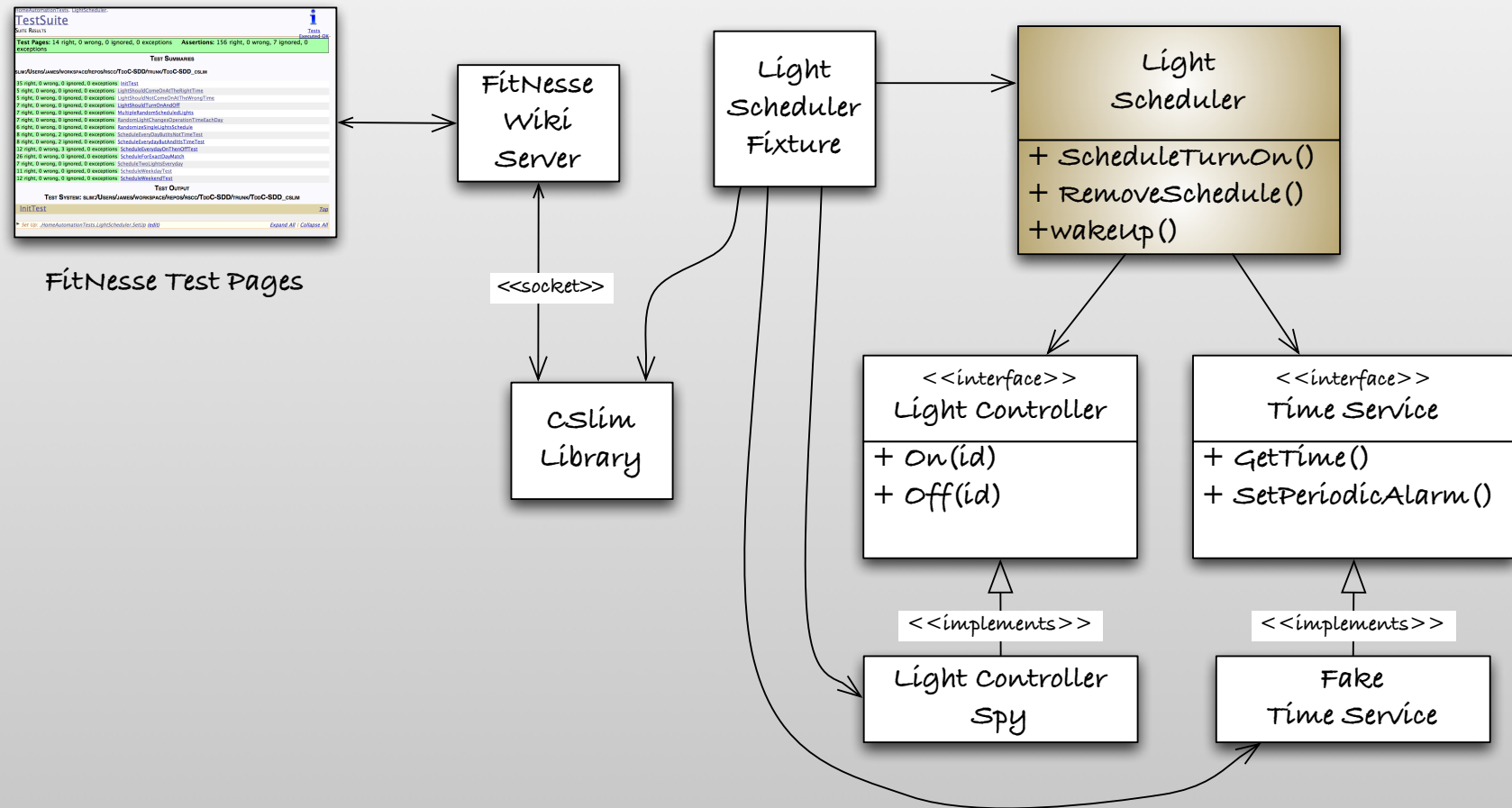


Where do the Tests Run?

- Run tests on a host development machine
- Design the embedded application and tests so that many can run on or off the target environment
- Design Guidelines
 - Isolate hardware dependencies
 - Isolate OS dependencies
 - Try to separate threading from core application



FitNesse Test Architecture



FitNesse and CSlim

- FitNesse (open source)
 - is a specialized wiki server that interprets test pages
 - interacts with a SLIM server and its fixtures
- CSlim (open source)
 - is the C implementation of SLIM
 - it supports the development of fixtures
 - it manages the FitNesse/SLIM message traffic
- Fixtures (you write these)
 - are small bits of code that convert SLIM



Imagine the Equivalent Manual Test Procedure

ScheduleWeekdayTest

► *Set Up:* [.HomeAutomationTests.LightScheduler.SetUp \(edit\)](#)

script	Light Schedule Script							
schedule	turn off	for light	1	where day is	Weekday	and time is	10:30	
check	transition to	Monday	at	10:30	then light	1	should be	off
check	transition to	Tuesday	at	10:30	then light	1	should be	off
check	transition to	Wednesday	at	10:30	then light	1	should be	off
check	transition to	Thursday	at	10:30	then light	1	should be	off
check	transition to	Friday	at	10:30	then light	1	should be	off
check	transition to	Saturday	at	10:30	then light	1	should be	unchanged
check	transition to	Sunday	at	10:30	then light	1	should be	unchanged

► *Tear Down:* [.HomeAutomationTests.LightScheduler.TearDown \(edit\)](#)



A Suite of Tests While all Test Pass

[HomeAutomationTests](#). [LightScheduler](#).

TestSuite

SUITE RESULTS



Tests
Executed OK

Test Pages: 14 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions **Assertions:** 156 right, 0 wrong, 7 ignored, 0 exceptions

TEST SUMMARIES

SLIM:/USERS/JAMES/WORKSPACE/REPOS/RSCC/TDDC-SDD/TRUNK/TDDC-SDD_CSLIM

35 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	InitTest
5 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldComeOnAtTheRightTime
5 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldNotComeOnAtTheWrongTime
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldTurnOnAndOff
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	MultipleRandomScheduledLights
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	RandomLightChangesOperationTimeEachDay
6 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	RandomizeSingleLightsSchedule
8 right, 0 wrong, 2 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleEveryDayButItsNotTimeTest
8 right, 0 wrong, 2 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleEverydayButAndItsTimeTest
12 right, 0 wrong, 3 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleEverydayOnThenOffTest
26 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleForExactDayMatch
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleTwoLightsEveryday
11 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleWeekdayTest
12 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleWeekendTest



When the Story Test is Ready Before the Development

[HomeAutomationTests](#). [LightScheduler](#).

TestSuite

SUITE RESULTS



[Tests](#)
[Executed OK](#)

Test Pages: 13 right, 1 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions **Assertions:** 154 right, 2 wrong, 7 ignored, 0 exceptions

TEST SUMMARIES

SLIM:/USERS/JAMES/WORKSPACE/REPOS/RSCC/TDDC-SDD/TRUNK/TDDC-SDD_CSLIM

35 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	InitTest
5 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldComeOnAtTheRightTime
5 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldNotComeOnAtTheWrongTime
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldTurnOnAndOff
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	MultipleRandomScheduledLights
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	RandomLightChangesOperationTimeEachDay
6 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	RandomizeSingleLightsSchedule
8 right, 0 wrong, 2 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleEveryDayButItsNotTimeTest
8 right, 0 wrong, 2 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleEverydayButAndItsTimeTest
12 right, 0 wrong, 3 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleEverydayOnThenOffTest
26 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleForExactDayMatch
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleTwoLightsEveryday
11 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleWeekdayTest
10 right, 2 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleWeekendTest



When Things are not Working

HomeAutomationTests. [LightScheduler](#).

TestSuite

SUITE RESULTS



Tests
Executed OK

Test Pages: 3 right, 11 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions **Assertions:** 129 right, 27 wrong, 7 ignored, 0 exceptions

TEST SUMMARIES

SLIM:/USERS/JAMES/WORKSPACE/REPOS/RSCC/TddC-SDD/TRUNK/TddC-SDD_CSLIM

35 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	InitTest
4 right, 1 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldComeOnAtTheRightTime
5 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldNotComeOnAtTheWrongTime
5 right, 2 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldTurnOnAndOff
5 right, 2 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	MultipleRandomScheduledLights
5 right, 2 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	RandomLightChangesOperationTimeEachDay
5 right, 1 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	RandomizeSingleLightsSchedule
8 right, 0 wrong, 2 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleEveryDayButItsNotTimeTest
7 right, 1 wrong, 2 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleEverydayButAndItsTimeTest
10 right, 2 wrong, 3 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleEverydayOnThenOffTest
19 right, 7 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleForExactDayMatch
5 right, 2 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleTwoLightsEveryday
6 right, 5 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleWeekdayTest
10 right, 2 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleWeekendTest

TEST OUTPUT



When Fixtures Need to be Written

[HomeAutomationTests](#). [LightScheduler](#).

TestSuite

SUITE RESULTS



[Tests Executed OK](#)

Test Pages: 11 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 3 exceptions **Assertions:** 156 right, 0 wrong, 7 ignored, 6 exceptions

TEST SUMMARIES

SLIM:/USERS/JAMES/WORKSPACE/REPOS/RSCC/TDDC-SDD/TRUNK/TDDC-SDD_CSLIM

35 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	InitTest
5 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldComeOnAtTheRightTime
5 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldNotComeOnAtTheWrongTime
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	LightShouldTurnOnAndOff
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	MultipleRandomScheduledLights
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	RandomLightChangesOperationTimeEachDay
6 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	RandomizeSingleLightsSchedule
8 right, 0 wrong, 2 ignored, 2 exceptions	ScheduleEveryDayButItsNotTimeTest
8 right, 0 wrong, 2 ignored, 2 exceptions	ScheduleEverydayButAndItsTimeTest
12 right, 0 wrong, 3 ignored, 2 exceptions	ScheduleEverydayOnThenOffTest
26 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleForExactDayMatch
7 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleTwoLightsEveryday
11 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleWeekdayTest
12 right, 0 wrong, 0 ignored, 0 exceptions	ScheduleWeekendTest



Provide Fakes when Predictable Inputs are Needed

- Use fakes when the system under test cannot be fully tested with the real collaborators.
- Examples:
 - When manual verification is needed (Printed output, LEDs)
 - When the results change (Time, random events)
 - When failures need to be simulated (Network down)
 - When hardware is involved (LEDs, USB, Sensors, Motors, IO pins, Flash...)
 - Operating system calls (RTOS)



The Code Behind

- The script table's name maps to a SLIM fixture name

script	Light Schedule Script							
schedule	turn on	for light	13	where day is	Monday	and time is	7:30	
check	transition to	Monday	at	7:30	then light	13	should be	on

```
static char* schedule_ForLight_WhereDayIs_AndTimeIs(void* void_self, SlimList* args) {  
    ...  
}  
...  
SLIM_CREATE_FIXTURE(LightScheduleScript)  
    SLIM_FUNCTION(schedule_ForLight_WhereDayIs_AndTimeIs)  
    SLIM_FUNCTION(transitionTo_At_ThenLight_ShouldBe)  
...  
SLIM_END
```



The Code Behind

- A row in a script table maps to a function. Every other cell is a parameter

script	Light Schedule Script							
schedule	turn on	for light	13	where day is	Monday	and time is	7:30	
check	transition to	Monday	at	7:30	then light	13	should be	on

```
static char* schedule_ForLight_WhereDayIs_AndTimeIs(void* void_self, SlimList* args) {  
    ...  
}  
...  
SLIM_CREATE_FIXTURE(LightScheduleScript)  
    SLIM_FUNCTION(schedule_ForLight_WhereDayIs_AndTimeIs)  
    SLIM_FUNCTION(transitionTo_At_ThenLight_ShouldBe)  
...  
SLIM_END
```



SLIM Fixture Function Responsibility

- Unpack and check parameters
- Call production code
- Interact with stubs, and fakes
- Return results



Simulating User Input

```
static char* schedule_ForLight_WhereDayIs_AndTimeIs(void* void_self, SlimList* args) {
    LightScheduleScript* self = (LightScheduleScript*)void_self;
    int id, operation, day, minute;

    if (! checkArgCount(self, args, 4))
        return self->result;

    id = getId(self, args, 1);
    if (id < 0)
        return self->result;

    day = getDay(self, args, 2);
    if (day == NOT_A_DAY)
        return self->result;

    minute = getMinute(self, args, 3);
    if (minute < 0)
        return self->result;

    operation = getOperation(self, args, 0);
    if (operation == LIGHT_ON)
        LightScheduler_ScheduleTurnOn(id, day, minute);
    else if (operation == LIGHT_OFF)
        LightScheduler_ScheduleTurnOff(id, day, minute);
    else
        return self->result;

    return "true";
}
```



The Code Behind

- A *check* row in a script table maps to a function with the last field being the return result.

script	Light Schedule Script						
schedule	turn on	for light	13	where day is	Monday	and time is	7:30
check	transition to	Monday	at	7:30	then light	13	should be on

```
static char* transitionTo_At_ThenLight_ShouldBe(void* void_self, SlimList* args) {  
    ...  
}  
...  
SLIM_CREATE_FIXTURE(LightScheduleScript)  
    SLIM_FUNCTION(schedule_ForLight_WhereDayIs_AndTimeIs)  
    SLIM_FUNCTION(transitionTo_At_ThenLight_ShouldBe)  
...  
SLIM_END
```



Trigger Clock Transition and Check System Response

```
static char* transitionTo_At_ThenLight_ShouldBe(void* void_self, SlimList* args)
{
    LightScheduleScript* self = (LightScheduleScript*)void_self;
    int id;
    int lightState;
    const char* result;

    if (! checkArgCount(self, args, 3))
        return self->result;

    id = getId(self, args, 2);
    if (id < 0)
        return self->result;

    if (setTimeResetLightsTransitionClock(self, args) == 0)
        return self->result;

    lightState = FakeLightController_getLightState(id);
    result = convertIntToOnOff(lightState);

    setResult(self, result);
    return self->result;
}
```



Other Story Testing Frameworks

- Cucumber
 - <http://cukes.info/>
- Robotframework
 - <http://code.google.com/p/robotframework/>



See Related Blogs and Papers

<http://www.wingman-sw.com>

<http://www.wingman-sw.com/blog/>

- Embedded TDD
- Zune Bug: Test Driven Bug Fix
- Learning Tests are Free!
- TDD as a Design Rot Prevention System
- Crashing Your Way to Great Legacy C Tests
- TDD and the Big Framework Part
- Bug Fixes and TDD
- Physics of Test Driven Development
- Tests vs. Short Term Cache Between Your Ears
- Embedded Systems Conference FAQ
- I miss constructors
- Who says you can't test drive a device driver?
- Why are You Still Using C?
- Planing Poker
- Agile Embedded Software Development (ESC)
- Launching Extreme Programming at a Process Intensive Company (IEEE)
- Test Driven Development for Embedded Software
- Progress Before Hardware
- Agile Times - Containing Progress Before Hardware
- Test-Driven Development for Embedded C++ Programmers



Helpful References and Resources

- [SLAD] Craig Larman and Bas Voode, Scaling Lean & Agile Development
- [POP] Mary Poppendieck and Tom Poppendieck, Implementing Lean Software Development: From Concept to Cash, 2006
- [AGILE] Robert C. Martin, Agile Software Development: Principles, Patterns, and Practices, 2002
- [CLEAN] Robert C. Martin, Clean Code, 2008
- [TDD] Kent Beck, Test-Driven Development, 2003
- [XP] Kent Beck, Extreme Programming Explained, 1999
- [REF] Martin Fowler. Refactoring. Improving the Design of Existing Code. 1999
- [WELC] Michael Feathers, Working Effectively with Legacy Code
- [XUNIT] Gerard Meszaros, xUnit Testing Patterns, 2008
- [PRAG] Andy Hunt, Dave Thomas, The Pragmatic Programmer
- [KANER] Cem Kaner, et. al. Lessons learned in Software Testing
- Lasse Koskela, Test Driven, 2007



On-line

- Test harnesses
 - [CPPTEST] github, cpputest
 - [FITNESSE] www.fitnessse.org
- Groups
 - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/testdrivendevelopment>
 - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AgileEmbedded>



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