Code Coverage and Cyclomatic Complexity

Arnan Maipradit Kanin Sirisith Nutnicha Charoenporn Thai Pangsakulyanont

Source Code QA

"A software project is only as good as its QA workflow.."

-Esprima Unit Test Page http://esprima.org/test/index.html

Source Code QA



Idea: make it as easy as possible to change code

http://www.agile-process.org/change.html

Software Rot

Refactoring

Technical Debts

http://martinfowler.com/bliki/TechnicalDebt.html

Hard Way

The Right Way



Quick and Dirty

"It is a debt that you incur every time you avoid doing the right thing."

-Stack Overflow Answer to question "What is technical debt?" http://stackoverflow.com/a/1258787/559913 "It is a debt that you incur every time you avoid doing the right thing." "it is the easy thing to do in the short term.. however over time, the interest you pay on this debt is humongous"

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"It is a debt that you incur every time you avoid doing the right thing." "it is the easy thing to do in the short term.. however over time, the interest you pay on this debt is humongous"

"...to a point where a rewrite of the app is more feasible than maintaining or changing it"

-Stack Overflow Answer to question "What is technical debt?" http://stackoverflow.com/a/1258787/559913 function getKey(key) {
 if (key == 'S') return 0;
 if (key == 'D') return 1;
 if (key == 'F') return 2;
 if (key == 'SPACE') return 3;
 if (key == 'J') return 4;
 if (key == 'L') return 5;
 if (key == 'L') return 6;
 return null;
}

Implement Key Mapping System

function getKey(key) { if (key == 'S' || key == 'Q') return 0; if (key == 'D' || key == 'W') return 1; if (key == 'F' || key == 'E') return 2; if (key == 'SPACE') return 3; if (key == 'J' || key == 'U') return 4; if (key == 'K' || key == 'I') return 5; if (key == 'L' || key == '0') return 6; return null; }

More complexity → Harder to change

Fix one bug, another bug appears!

More subtle! Harder to find! More expensive to fix!

Fix one bug, another bug appears!

"[Y]ou can not effectively increase software quality at the end of the project by testing and fixing bugs. It remains low quality but with fewer bugs."

> -Don Wells, Surprise! Software rots!, 2009. http://www.agile-process.org/change.html

How to keep software quality high?

Measure them!

Code Quality Measures

(a.k.a. software metrics)

Code Quality Measures

(a.k.a. software metrics)

code coverage

flog

production/test code ratio

abc metrics

WOW

lines of code

cyclomatic complexity

churn

Code Coverage

% of code "covered" by test

Ensure that your tests are actually testing your code

More code coverage

More code coverage

More thoroughly tested

More code coverage

More thoroughly tested

Lower chance of bugs

How does it work?

Instrumentation

```
function max(a, b) {
    if (a > b) {
        return a;
    } else {
        return b;
    }
}
```

Instrumentation

```
function max(a, b) {
    if (a > b) {
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    } else {
        return b;
    }
```

function max(a,b) { check.f['1']++; check. **if** (a > b) { check.b['1'][0]++; check.s['3']++; return a; } else { check.b['1'][1]++; check.s['4']++; return b;

Run ("exercise") the instrumented code (e.x. unit test, functional test, ...)

Run ("exercise") the instrumented code (e.x. unit test, functional test, …)



Report is generated by the tool








Coverage Types

Function Coverage

function max(a, b) { if (a > b) { return a; } else { return b; } } function min(a, b) { if (a < b) { return a; } else { return b; }

Function Coverage function max(a, b) { if (a > b) { return a; } else { return b; } function min(a, b) { if (a < b) { return a; } else { return b; }

Statement Coverage (CO)

function max(a, b) { if (a > b) { return a; } else { return b; } function min(a, b) { if (a < b) { return a; } else { return b; }

Statement Coverage (CO)

function max(a, b) {
 if (a > b) {
 return a;
 }
 else {
 return b;
 }
 function min(a, b) {
 }
}

function binary_search(a, l, r, v) { if (!r) { r = a.length - 1;} // else var m = Math.floor((l + r) / 2);if (a[m] == v) { return m; } else if (a[m] > v) { return binary_search(a, l, r - 1, v); } else { return binary_search(a, l + 1, r, v); }

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if (f(mid) && (mid == 0 || !f(mid - 1))) {

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```
function binary_search(a, l, r, v) {
(1) if (!r) {
(2) r = a.length - 1;
(3) var m = Math.floor((l + r) / 2);
(4) if (a[m] == v) {
(5)
   return m;
(6) } else if (a[m] > v) {
   return binary_search(a, l, r - 1, v);
(7)
(8) } else {
(9) return binary_search(a, l + 1, r, v);
    }
```

function binary_search() 1 c v) s (1) if (!r) { 2 5 (2) r = a.length - 1;3 (3) var $m = Math.floor((\iota + r) / 2);$ (4) if (a[m] == v) { (5) return m; } else if (a[m] > v) { (6) return binary_search(a, l, r - 1, v); (7) (8) } else { (9) return binary_search(a, l + 1, r, v); }

function binary_search() (1) if (!r) { 2 5 (2) r = a.length - 1;3 6 8 (3) var m = Math.floor(((+ if (a[m] == v) { **Possible paths** return m; (5) $\checkmark 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5$ } else if (a[m] > v) { return binary_search($\checkmark 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 7$ (7) } else { (8) $\rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 9$ return binary_search((9) $3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 7$ $\rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 9$

```
function binary_search(a, l, r, v) {
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(6) \} else if (a[m] > v) {
(7) return binary_search(a, l, r - 1, v);
(8) } else {
(9) return binary_search(a, l + 1, r, v);
   }
```

Possible paths $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5$

How much code coverage?

No clear cut answer..

"100% test coverage is a natural side effect of proper development practices, and therefore a bare minimum indicator of quality."

-Robert Martin (Uncle Bob), quoted from Deciphering Ruby Code Metrics http://blog.codeclimate.com/blog/2013/08/07/deciphering-ruby-code-metrics/



"Seven don'ts of testing: 1. Don't aim for 100% coverage."

-David Heinemeier Hansson (creator of Ruby on Rails), Testing like the TSA. http://37signals.com/svn/posts/3159-testing-like-the-tsa



"[The pointy-haired boss] didn't know how to read the report, just that one number. They had no clue about getters/ setters and why they weren't tested. [...] Don't bother with CodeCoverage, it's not worth your time."

-http://c2.com/cgi/wiki?CodeCoverage

Let's ask StackOverflow

Unit testing code coverage - do you have 100% coverage?

Do your unit tests constitute 100% code coverage? Yes or no, and why or why not.

unit-testing code-coverage

edited Sep 25 '09 at 5:29



67.3k ● 13 ■ 137 ● 191

asked Sep 25 '09 at 5:01 Chris **7,805** • 14 • 75 • 125

-http://stackoverflow.com/q/1475520

No for several reasons :

- It is really expensive to reach the 100% coverage, compared to the 90% or 95% for a benefit that is not obvious.
- Even with 100% of coverage, your code is **not** perfect. Take a look at this method (in fact it depends on which type of coverage you are talking about *branch coverage*, *line coverage*...):



answered Sep 25 '09 at 5:18



No, because there is a practical trade-off between perfect unit tests and actually finishing a project :)



answered Sep 25 '09 at 5:03 Andrew Hare 146k • 22 • 343 • 451

add comment

Yes we do.

It depends on what language and framework you're using as to how easy that is to achieve though.

We're using Ruby on Rails for my current project. Ruby is very *"mockable"* in that you can stub/mock out large chunks of your code without having to build in overly complicated class composition and construction designs that you would have to do in other languages.

That said, we only have 100% *line* coverage (basically what rcov gives you). You still have to think about testing all the required branches.

This is only really possible if you include it from the start as part of your continuous integration build, and **break the build** if coverage drops below 100% - prompting developers to immediately fix it. Of course you could choose some other number as a target, but if you're starting fresh, there isn't much difference for the effort to get from 90% to 100%

answered Sep 25 '09 at 5:53



madlep 12.4k • 5 • 27 • 46 Yes we do.

It depends on what language and framework you're using as to how easy that is to achieve though.

We're using Ruby on Rails for my current project. Ruby is very "mockable" in that you can stub/mock out large chunks of your code without having to build in overly complicated class composition and construction designs that you would have to do in other languages.

"If you know you have to have 100% test coverage, you stop writing overly complex if/else/while/try/ catch monstrosities and Keep It Simple Stupid."

answered Sep 25 '09 at 5:53



madlep 12.4k ● 5 ■ 27 ● 46 To all the 90% coverage tester:

The problem with doing so is that the 10% hard to test code is also the not-trivial code that contains 90% of the bug! This is the conclusion I got empirically after many years of TDD.

And after all this is pretty straightforward conclusion. This 10% hard to test code, is hard to test **because** it reflect tricky business problem or tricky design flaw or both. These exact reasons that often leads to buggy code.



What is a reasonable code coverage % for unit tests (and why)?

If you were to mandate a minimum percentage code-coverage for unit tests, perhaps even as a requirement for committing to a repository, what would it be?

Please explain how you arrived at your answer (since if all you did was pick a number, then I could have done that all by myself ;)



-http://stackoverflow.com/q/90002

The great master pointed at a pot of boiling water and said: **"How many** grains of rice should I put in that pot?"

> -Alberto Savoia, Testivus On Test Coverage. http://stackoverflow.com/a/90021/559913



Demonstration

Cyclomatic Complexity

... measures the "complexity"

More complexity

More complexity



Harder to maintain

More complexity



Harder to maintain test debug change understand
Code Coverage need to run code

Cyclomatic Complexity no need to run code (called "static analysis")

… measures number of "linearly independent paths" through a program's source code

How to use the number?

"[P]rogrammers should count the complexity of the modules they are developing, and **split them into smaller modules** whenever the cyclomatic complexity of the module exceeded 10"

> -Thomas J. McCabe (developer of cyclomatic complexity), 1976. "A Complexity Measure," Quoted from Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclomatic_complexity



"For each module, either **limit** cyclomatic complexity to [the agreed-upon limit] or provide a written **explanation** of why the limit was exceeded."

-McCabe, Watson, 1996. "Structured Testing: A Testing Methodology Using the Cyclomatic Complexity Metric," Quoted from Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclomatic_complexity



Demonstration

How to Calculate?

Code

Control Flow Graph

Sequential Flow



Branch

Merge

If-Else Clause

function insertion_procedure(int b, int c) {
 (1) if (a == 111) {
 (2) if (b > c) {
 (3) a = b;
 } else {
 (4) a = c;
 }
 (5) Console.WriteLine(a);
 }

If-Else Clause



5





M = E - N + 2P

Calculation



The Cyclomatic Complexity

If-Else Clause



For/While Loops

```
insertion_procedure(int a[], int p [], int N) {
    int i, j, k;
    for (i = 0; i <= N; i ++) {</pre>
      p[i] = i;
    }
    for (i = 2; i <= N; i ++) {</pre>
      k = p[i];
      i = 1;
      while (a[p[j - 1]] > a[k]) {
        p[j] = p[j - 1];
        j --;
      p[j] = k;
    }
}
```

For/While Lc

```
insertion_procedure(int a[], int p [
    int i, j, k;
    for (i = 0; i <= N; i ++) {</pre>
      p[i] = i;
    for (i = 2; i <= N; i ++) {</pre>
      k = p[i];
      j = 1;
      while (a[p[j - 1]] > a[k]) {
        p[j] = p[j - 1];
         i --;
      p[j] = k;
```



For/While Lc

- 14 edges
- 12 nodes

1 connected component



For/While Lc

- 14 edges
- 12 nodes
- 1 connected component



Alternative Formula

M = D + 1



Alternative Formula

M = D + 1

No.Decision Points



Alternative Formula

M = 3 + 1= 4



Combined Example

int BinSearch (char *item, char *table[], int n) { int bot = 0;int top = n - 1; int mid, cmp; while (bot <= top) {</pre> mid = (bot + top) / 2;if (table[mid] == item) return mid; else if (compare(table[mid], item) < 0)</pre> top = mid - 1;else bot = mid + 1;return -1; // not found }

Combined Example



http://www.whiteboxtest.com/cyclomatic-complexity.php



Let's Play a Game!

Other Metrics

Lines of Code

Test / Production Code Ratio

ABC Metrics

Branches ABC Metrics

Assignments Conditionals

Halstead Volume

For a given problem, Let:

- η_1 = the number of distinct operators
- η_2 = the number of distinct operands
- N_1 = the total number of operators
- N_2 = the total number of operands

From these numbers, several measures can be calculated:

- Program vocabulary: $\eta = \eta_1 + \eta_2$
- Program length: $N = N_1 + N_2$
- Calculated program length: $\hat{N} = \eta_1 \log_2 \eta_1 + \eta_2 \log_2 \eta_2$
- Volume: $V = N \times \log_2 \eta$
- Difficulty : $D = \frac{\eta_1}{2} \times \frac{N_2}{\eta_2}$
- Effort: $E = D \times V$

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halstead_complexity_measures

Maintainability Index

$0 \leq$ Maintainability Index ≤ 100



http://blogs.msdn.com/b/codeanalysis/archive/2007/11/20/maintainability-index-range-and-meaning.aspx

Code Duplication

```
vai allouire - parser coac(useripue),
if (amount == 20) {
    banknotes 20 += 1;
    document.getElementById("output").value = "Accepted banknote";
}
else if(amount == 50) {
    banknotes 50 += 1;
    document.getElementById("output").value = "Accepted banknote";
}
else if(amount == 100) {
    banknotes_100 += 1;
    document.getElementById("output").value = "Accepted banknote";
}
else if(amount == 500) {
    banknotes 500 += 1;
    document.getElementById("output").value = "Accepted banknote";
}
else if(amount == 1000) {
    banknotes 1000 += 1;
    document.getElementById("output").value = "Accepted banknote";
}
```






http://www.blunck.info/ccm.html

Istanbul

Coverage Analysis ensures systematic exercise of the parser

Note: This is not a live (in-browser) code coverage report. The analysis is <u>offline (../doc/index.html#coverage)</u> (using <u>lstanbul (https://github.com</u>/yahoo/istanbul)).

Code coverage report for esprima/esprima.js
Statements: 99.72% (1760 / 1765) Branches: 98.49% (1107 / 1124) Functions: 100% (154 / 154) Lines: 99.72% (1760 / 1765)
<pre>/* Copyright (C) 2012 Ariya Hidayat <ariya.hidayat@gmail.com> Copyright (C) 2012 Mathias Bynens <mathias@qiwi.be> Copyright (C) 2012 Mathias Bynens <mathias@qiwi.be> Copyright (C) 2012 Kris Kowal <kris.kowal@cixar.com> Copyright (C) 2012 Kris Kowal <kris.kowal@cixar.com> Copyright (C) 2012 Kris Kowal <kris.kowal@gmail.com> Copyright (C) 2012 Kris Ariya Hidayat <ariya.hidayat@gmail.com> Copyright (C) 2012 Ariya Borsos <arpad.borsos@googlemail.com> Copyright (C) 2011 Ariya Hidayat <ariya.hidayat@gmail.com> Redistribution and use in source and binary forms, with or without modification, are permitted provided that the following conditions are met: * Redistributions of source code must retain the above copyright notice, this list of conditions and the following disclaimer. * Redistributions in binary form must reproduce the above copyright notice, this list of conditions and the following disclaimer. * Redistributions in binary form must reproduce the above copyright notice, this list of conditions and the following disclaimer. * Redistributions of Sevent Provided With the distribution. THIS SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED BY THE COPYRIGHT HOLDERS AND CONTRIBUTORS "AS IS" AND ANY EXPRESS ON IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ARE DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL <<copyright (including="" *="" **="" ******************************<="" *global="" *sjlobal="" advised="" ansisting="" any="" be="" consequential="" contract,="" damage.="" damages="" define:true,="" esprima:true,="" even="" exemplary,="" exports:true,="" for="" global="" holders="" if="" in="" incidental,="" indirect,="" liability,="" liable="" negligence="" of="" oirect,="" on="" or="" otherwise)="" out="" possibility="" software,="" special="" special,="" strict="" such="" th="" the="" theory="" this="" tndirect,="" tort="" true,="" use="" way="" whether="" window:=""></copyright></ariya.hidayat@gmail.com></arpad.borsos@googlemail.com></ariya.hidayat@gmail.com></kris.kowal@gmail.com></kris.kowal@cixar.com></kris.kowal@cixar.com></mathias@qiwi.be></mathias@qiwi.be></ariya.hidayat@gmail.com></pre>
<pre>33 34 34 35 35 36 37 36 37 38 38 39 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40</pre>
40 1 (Tunction (Toot, Tactory) { 41 1 'use strict'; 42 (All the second s
<pre>43 44 44 45 1 // Universal Module Definition (UMD) to support AMD, CommonJS/Node.js, 45 46 47 47 48 49 49 49 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40</pre>
<pre>46 define(['exports'], factory); 47 1 } else if (typeof exports !== 'undefined') { 48 factory(exports); 49 factory(exports); 49 factory(exports); 40 factory(exports); 40 factory(exports); 41 factory(exports); 41 factory(exports); 42 factory(exports); 43 factory(exports); 44 factory(exports); 44 factory(exports); 45 factory(exports); 46 factory(exports); 47 factory(exports); 47 factory(exports); 47 factory(exports); 47 factory(exports); 48 factory(exports); 49 factory(exports); 49 factory(exports); 40 fa</pre>

https://github.com/yahoo/istanbul

Plato



Maintainability • (http://blogs.msdn.com/b/codeanalysis/archive/2007/11 /20/maintainability-index-range-and-meaning.aspx)







Estimated errors in implementation **•** (http://en.wikipedia.org /wiki/Halstead_complexity_measures)



https://github.com/es-analysis/plato

SonarQube

http://www.sonarqube.org/



Code Climate

Automated Code Review

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Summary

Avoid Technical Debts

Questions?