TDD impressions

TDD. Yes, but what do we test BEHAVIOUR not implementation



Transformation Priority Premise

- ullet
- Fake implementation \rightarrow Hardcode exactly the value.
- Triangulation with next test \rightarrow

Use it on the way to a more generic solution until the implementation gets obvious. Go from one dimension to another.

• Obvious implementation

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Code evolution

#	Transformation	Starting code	Final Code
1	{} → nil		return nil
2	nil → constant	return nil	return "1"
3	constant \rightarrow constant+	return "1"	return "1" + "2"
4	constant → scalar	return "1" + "2"	return argument
5	statement → statements	return argument	return arguments
6	unconditional \rightarrow conditional	return arguments	if(condition) return arguments
7	scalar → array	dog	[dog, cat]
8	array \rightarrow container (map)	[dog, cat]	{dog = "DOG", cat = "CAT"}
9	statement \rightarrow recursion	a + b	a + recursion
10	conditional → loop	if(condition)	while(condition)
11	recursion \rightarrow tail recursion	a + recursion	recursion
12	expression \rightarrow function	today - birthday	calculateAge()
13	variable \rightarrow mutation	day	int day = 10; day = 11;
14	switch case		

Parameterized tests

Object Calisthenics rules

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- Wrap all primitives and strings
- So we have an explicit type with a name. The value control and access can be easily managed.
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- Wrap all collections
- Collection specific behaviour is on a single place. The internal representation is not effected by the rest.

Limits of TDD

- Algorithms
- I tried to calculate all permutation of a set of chars and failed. ChatGPT helped me with the algorithm. The written unit tests helped me to validate the code.

Efficiency (memory and cpu)

- The drawback of the obvious code can be reduces performance. Anyway, in most cases this does not matter and is not worth the optimisation. (e.g. A map is less efficient than an array)
- Forget a fake implementation in the productive code
- It can happen that a fake implementation is forgotten in the code as we always commit after a passing test.
- Start too fast with implementation. No big picture.
- More refactoring steps are needed because of intentionally wrong interface methods.

Conclusion (so far)

- + Higher code readability
- + Confidence about functionality
- + Methods to solve complex challenges (Baby steps, Triangulation)
- + Decreased code complexity
- + Encapsulated responsibility
- + Reduces noise
- Slow process
- - Missing big picture

Thank you

Questions?