

Effective Unit & Integration Testing

Pitfalls and How to Avoid Them

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Qinshift 

About us



Atanas Gardev

Software Architect

20 years' experience in IT, Java Backend focus

3 kids :)

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Senior Software Architect

17 years' experience in IT

no kids (yet)



Agenda



01 What is a good test?

02 Anti-patterns

03 How to make a better test?

04 AI benefits in testing

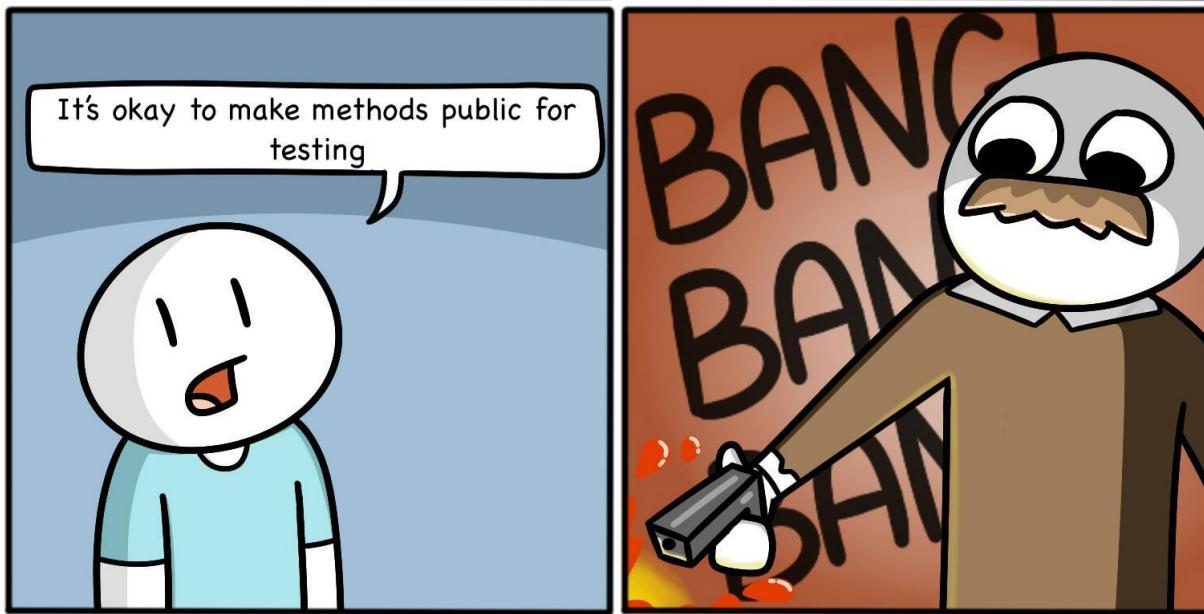
05 Q&A

What is a good test?

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-FATHER-



Confidence

✓ core > infosystem > version > Execute two info system
✓ core > infosystem > models > nest test with grouped
[2018-05-25T20:40:08.576Z - info] <SICON-GW> Neither EventTypesID, nor Type is set
[2018-05-25T20:40:08.581Z - info] <SICON-GW> Neither EventTypesID, nor Type is set
✓ core > infosystem > collection > parseFilter - Turn a string with equals into an array consumable by get
ms option
✓ core > infosystem > collection > parseFilter - undefined should return an empty array
✓ core > infosystem > collection > parseFilter - Keep array format if array
✓ core > infosystem > collection > parseFilter - multiple filter types
✓ core > infosystem > collection > Invalid limit should throw an error (114ms)
✓ core > infosystem > collection > offset out of range should throw an error
✓ core > infosystem > groupParameters > transform parameters into their complex groups, when they have subIn
exes (223ms)
✓ core > infosystem > groupParameters > group parameters by parameterGroup0-3 (217ms)
✓ core > infosystem > models > insert unique of a single event with new EventClass (191ms)
✓ core > infosystem > models > insert unique of an existing single event (185ms)
✓ core > infosystem > collection > Get GUID by filename that does not exist will throw an error (178ms)
✓ core > infosystem > collection > Default limit should be 10 (378ms)
✓ core > infosystem > collection > Get a list of items with limit (400ms)
✓ core > infosystem > collection > Filter with filter option (378ms)
✓ core > infosystem > collection > Select only a few properties (411ms)
core > infosystem > models > Execute two info system methods in one transaction (242ms)
core > infosystem > collection > group result by a property (400ms)
core > infosystem > collection > group result by two property
core > infosystem > collection > group Devices by their Location (485ms)
core > infosystem > collection > Setting limit as infinity or -1 should get all entries (504ms)
core > infosystem > collection > Filter with equals operator should be the same with omitted (598ms)
core > infosystem > models > Execute two transactions simultaneously (693ms)
core > infosystem > models > Count adapter for a set of properties (739ms)
core > infosystem > models > Update adapter by QRCode (770ms)
core > infosystem > models > Count devices for a set of properties (811ms)
core > infosystem > models > Connect device by setting ConnectionState (856ms)
core > infosystem > models > Disconnect device by setting ConnectionState (894ms)
core > infosystem > models > Insert new DeviceControl (965ms)
core > infosystem > models > Insert new DeviceFile (1s)
core > infosystem > models > Update existing DeviceFile (1s)
core > infosystem > models > Insert new Event to EPC (1.1s)
core > infosystem > models > Insert new EPCCConfig (1.1s)
core > infosystem > models > Insert an Error in ErrorMapper (1.2s)
core > infosystem > models > Disappeared Event is no longer active (1.3s)
core > infosystem > models > update a single event (1.3s)
core > infosystem > models > Update Value for ISDU Diagnosis entry identified by DevID, Index, S
3s)
✓ core > infosystem > models > Insert into ISDU Diagnosis (1.3s)
✓ core > infosystem > models > Insert new ProcessData (1.3s)
✓ core > infosystem > models > Insert of a process data mode (1.4s)
✓ core > infosystem > models > Update vendor by ID (1.4s)
✓ core > infosystem > models > Get adapter by id (1.7s)
✓ core > infosystem > models > Get selected properties of an adapter by id (1.7s)
✓ core > infosystem > models > Get selected properties of an adapter by filter (1.7s)
✓ core > infosystem > models > Insert unique existing datatype (1.8s)
✓ core > infosystem > models > Get selected properties of a device by id (1.8s)



The background image shows several athletes in athletic gear, including red, yellow, and blue shorts, and various athletic shoes, positioned in starting blocks on a red running track. Some athletes have race numbers pinned to their shorts. The scene is set outdoors under a clear sky.

Quick feedback



Robust





Maintainable

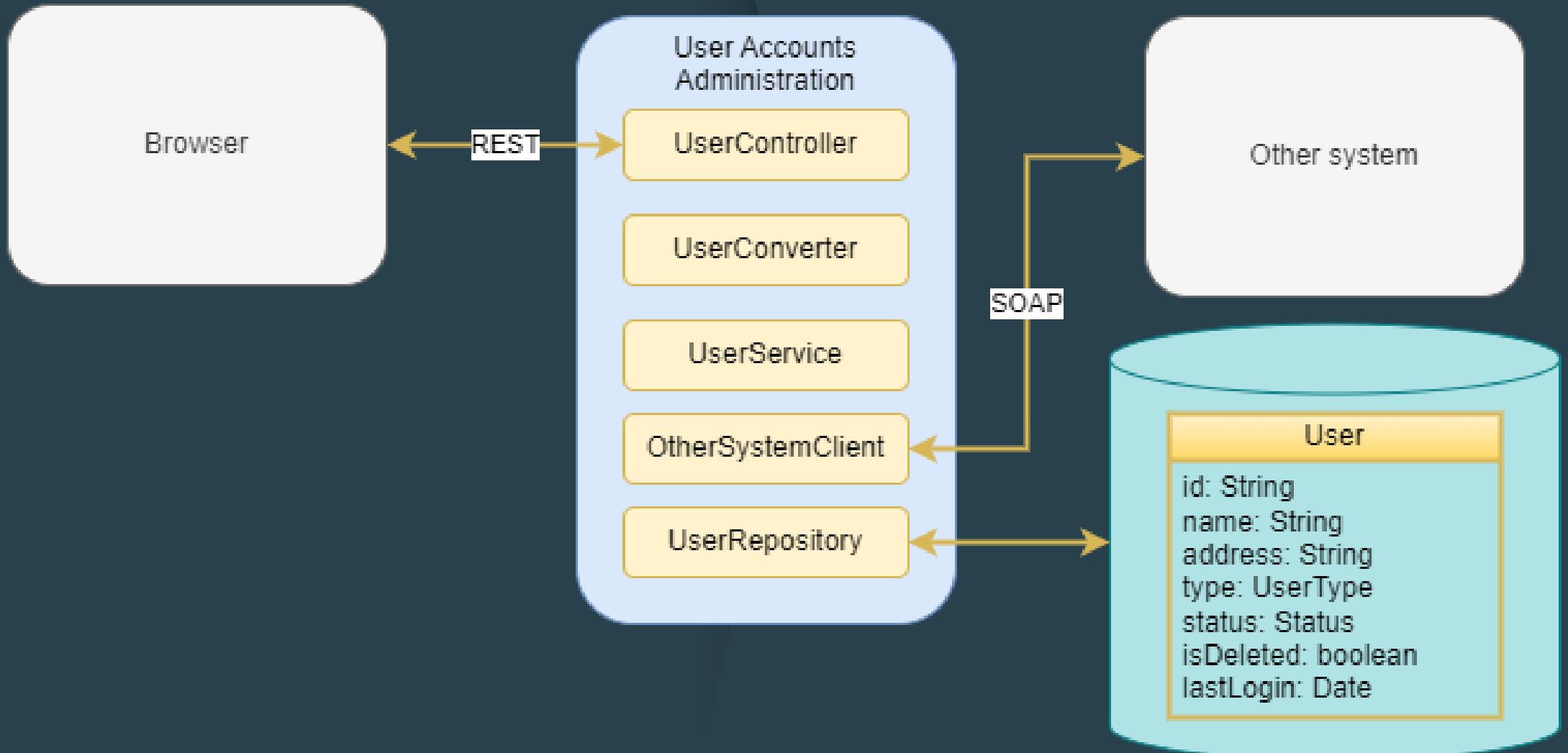


Anti-patterns & fixes



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Context





Spock structure

```
def "test method name" () {  
    given: "prepare"  
    . . .  
    when: "stimulus"  
    . . .  
    then: "assertions"  
    . . .  
}
```





Spock syntax

```
def user = Mock(User)
```

```
user.name >> "Johnny Bravo"
```

```
user.isDeleted == false
```

```
1 * converter.convert(user)
```

```
0 * converter._
```



Anti-pattern #1



```
def user = Mock(User)

user.name >> "Johnny Bravo"
user.address >> "Sofia"
user.type >> UserType.Corporate
user.status >> UserStatus.Active
user.isDeleted >> false
user.lastLogin >> new Date()
```

Mocking overuse – solution



(1)

```
def johnny = new User("Johnny Bravo",
                      "Sofia", UserType.Active)
johnny.isDeleted = false
johnny.lastLogin = new Date()
```

(2)

```
def johnny = UserMother.johnny()
```

Object Mother pattern



```
UserMother.johnny()
```

```
UserMother.littleSuzy()
```

```
AddressMother.sofia()
```

```
UserMother.johnny()
```

```
.withAddress(
```

```
    AddressMother.sofia().build())
```

```
.build()
```





Anti-pattern #2

```
def "user conversion works"() {  
    given:  
        def input = new User("Johnny Bravo", "Sofia", Active)  
  
    when:  
        def result = underTest.convert(input)  
  
    then:  
        result.name == "Johnny Bravo"  
        result.address == "Sofia"  
        result.type == Active  
}
```



Repeating yourself – solution

```
def "user conversion works"() {  
    given:  
        def input = UserMother.johnny()  
  
    when:  
        def result = underTest.convert(input)  
  
    then:  
        result.name == input.name  
        result.address == input.address  
        result.type == input.type  
}
```



Utility classes

```
def "user conversion works"() {  
    given:  
        def input = UserMother.johnny()  
  
    when:  
        def result = underTest.convert(input)  
  
    then:  
        Utils.matchProperties(result, input,  
            "name", "address", "type", ...)  
}
```





Anti-pattern #3

```
def "user service can create user"() {  
    given:  
        def user = UserMother.johnny()  
        def userForm = new UserForm(user.name, user.address, user.type)  
  
    when:  
        def result = underTest.createUser(userForm)  
  
    then:  
        1 * userRepository.persist(_ as User) >> user  
        0 * userRepository._  
        result == user  
    }  
}
```

Testing implementation vs contract - solution *

```
def "user service can create user"() {  
    given:  
        def user = UserMother.johnny()  
        def userForm = new UserForm(user.name, user.address, user.type)  
        userRepository.persist(_ as User) >> user  
  
    when:  
        def result = underTest.createUser(userForm)  
  
    then:  
        0 * userRepository._  
        result == user  
}
```

Anti-pattern #4 – setup



```
@PostMapping  
@ResponseBody  
public UserDto create(@RequestBody @Valid UserForm userForm) {  
  
    User user = userService.create(userForm);  
  
    return userConverter.convert(user);  
  
}
```



Anti-pattern #4

```
def "controller calls the service and converter"() {  
    given:  
        def user = UserMother.johnny()  
        def userForm = new UserForm(user.name, user.address, user.type)  
  
    when:  
        def result = underTest.create(form)  
  
    then:  
        1 * userService.create(form) >> user  
        1 * userConverter.convert(user) >> ...  
  
        result.name == user.name  
        result.address == user.address  
}
```

Don't write unit tests,
write integration tests!



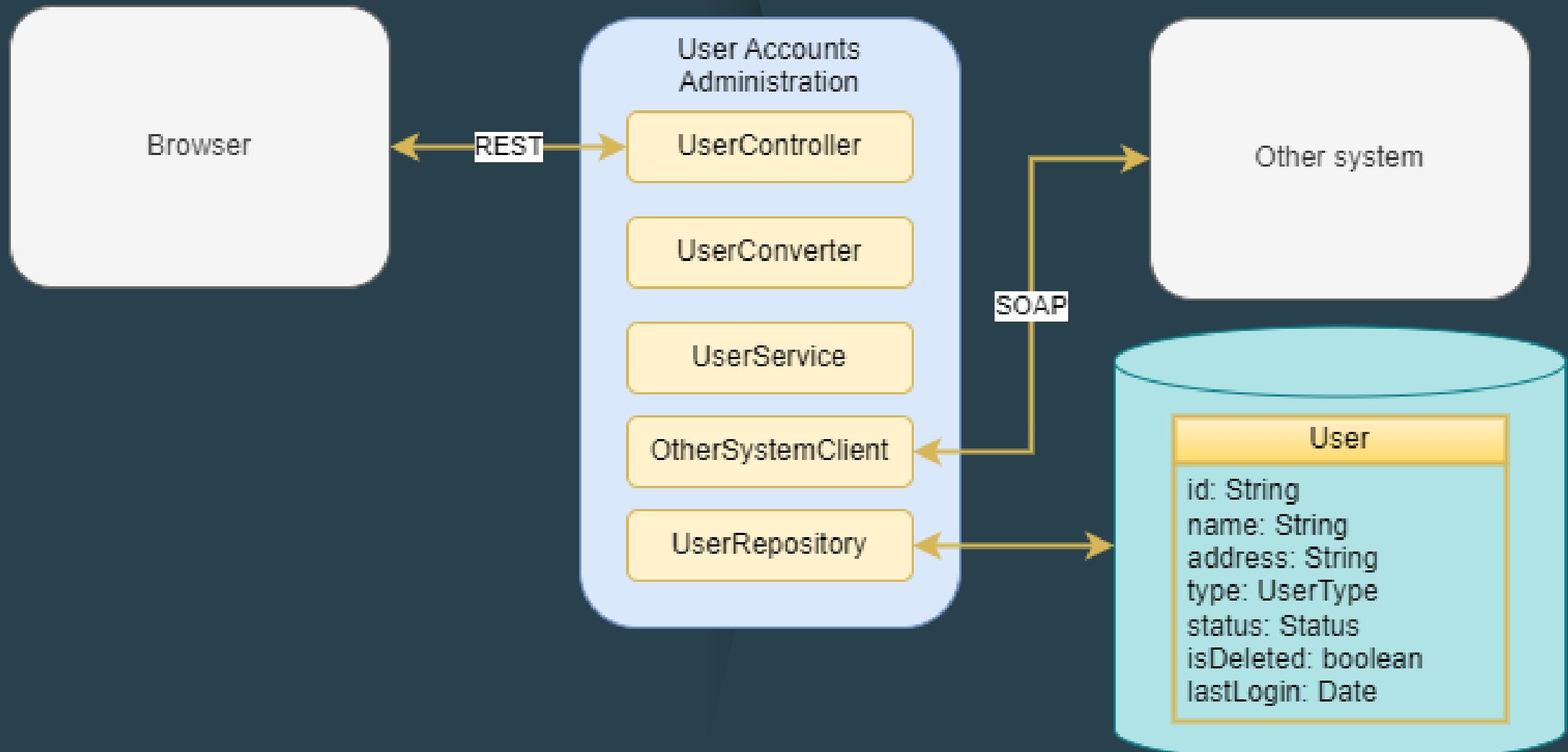
Why?



- A few Integration/API Tests replace numerous Unit Tests
- Easy to develop (e.g. in Spring - `@DataJpaTest`, `@MockBean`, `MockMvc`)
- Work with real REST requests / async events
- Allow access to the database (where test data may be set up in advance)
- 3rd party system calls are handled by mocking the API rather than our client code



A refresher





Integration test example (1)

```
def "user is created, updated and deactivated after some time"() {  
    given:  
        def user = UserMother.johnny()  
  
    when:  
        def createdUserDto = /** trigger create REST API */  
  
    then:  
        createdUserDto.name == user.name  
  
        userRepository.findByName(user.name) != null
```



Integration test example (2)

when:

```
user.lastLogin = now().minusDays(30)  
def updatedUserDto = /** trigger update REST API */
```

then:

```
updatedUserDto.name == user.name  
updatedUserDto.lastLogin == user.lastLogin
```

when:

```
jobsUtil.triggerUserPeriodicJob()  
def userDto = /** trigger read REST API */
```

then:

```
userDto.name == user.name  
userDto.status == UserStatus.Deactivated
```

Don't write integration tests,
write unit tests!



Source code example



```
def updateState(newState: UserState) {  
    var validStates = []  
    when (this.state) {  
        Inactive -> validStates = [Active, Deleted]  
        Active -> validStates = [Inactive]  
    }  
  
    if (validStates.contains(newState)) {  
        state = newState  
    } else {  
        throw IllegalArgumentException()  
    }  
}
```





Unit test example

@Unroll

```
def "updateState should change state from #currentState to #newState"() {  
    given:
```

```
    def user = new User(state: currentState)
```

when:

```
    user.updateState(newState)
```

then:

```
    user.state == newState
```

where:

currentState	newState
UserState.Inactive	UserState.Active
UserState.Inactive	UserState.Deleted
UserState.Active	UserState.Inactive

}

AI benefits in testing



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Popular tools



ChatGPT



GitHub
Copilot



This is a Java method that is annotated with `@PostMapping` and maps to the endpoint `/submit/{userId}/{type}`. The method takes in four parameters: `userId`, `type`, `status`, and `submissionType`. `userId` and `type` are path variables, while `status` and `submissionType` are request parameters. The `submitPracticalTask` method generates a `PracticalTaskPrimaryKeyDTO` object using the `userId` and `type` parameters, and then calls the `submitPracticalTaskSync` method of the `practicalTaskService` object, passing in the `PracticalTaskPrimaryKeyDTO` object, `status`, and `submissionType` as arguments.

The purpose of this method is to handle the submission of a practical task by a user. The `userId` parameter is used to identify the user who is submitting the task, while the `type` parameter is used to specify the type of task being submitted. The `status` parameter is used to specify the status of the task submission, with a default value of

```
es > practicaltask > controller > J AdminPracticalTaskController.java > AdminPracticalTaskController.java
  72 PracticalTask practicalTask = practicalTaskService.create(practicalTaskMapper.practicalTaskToPracticalTaskBaseDTO(practicalTask));
  73 }
  74
  75
  76 @Operation(summary = "Endpoint to submit practical task")
  77 @PostMapping("/submit/{userId}/{type}")
  78 public void submitPracticalTask(@PathVariable UUID userId,
  79                                 @PathVariable PracticalTaskType type,
  80                                 @RequestParam(defaultValue = "PENDING") Status status,
  81                                 @RequestParam(defaultValue = "PRACTICAL") SubmissionType submissionType) {
  82     PracticalTaskPrimaryKeyDTO primaryKeyDTO = generatePracticalTaskPrimaryKey(userId, type);
  83     practicalTaskService.submitPracticalTaskSync(primaryKeyDTO);
  84 }
  85
  86 @Operation(summary = "Endpoint to delete a practical task")
  87 @DeleteMapping("/{userId}/{type}")
  88 public PracticalTaskBaseDTO deletePracticalTask(@PathVariable UUID userId,
  89                                                 @PathVariable PracticalTaskType type,
  90                                                 @RequestParam(defaultValue = "PENDING") Status status) {
  91     PracticalTaskPrimaryKeyDTO primaryKeyDTO = generatePracticalTaskPrimaryKey(userId, type);
  92     practicalTaskService.deletePracticalTaskSync(primaryKeyDTO);
  93     return new PracticalTaskBaseDTO();
  94 }
  95
  96 @Operation(summary = "Endpoint to start practical task")
  97 @PostMapping("/start/{userId}/{type}")
  98 public PracticalTaskBaseDTO startPracticalTask(@PathVariable UUID userId,
  99                                               @PathVariable PracticalTaskType type,
  100                                              @RequestParam(defaultValue = "PRACTICAL") SubmissionType submissionType)
```

Explanation

```
> main > java > com > musala > artemis > modules > practicaltask > controller > J AdminPracticalTaskController.java > AdminPracticalTaskController.java
```

41 @RequiredArgsConstructor
42 @RequestMapping("/practical-tasks")
43 @Tag(name = "Practical Task Controller", description = "Endpoints handling admin operations")
44 @FeatureToggle(FeatureToggleEnum.BE_PRACTICAL_TASK)
45 public class AdminPracticalTaskController {
46
47 private final PracticalTaskService practicalTaskService;
48 private final PracticalTaskMapper practicalTaskMapper = Mappers.getMapper(clazz:PracticalTask.class);
49
50 @Operation(summary = "Endpoint to get the practical task")
51 @GetMapping("/{userId}/{type}")
52 public PracticalTaskBaseDTO getPracticalTask(@PathVariable UUID userId, @PathVariable PracticalTaskTypeEnum type){
53 PracticalTaskPrimaryKeyDTO primaryKeyDTO = generatePracticalTaskPrimaryKey(userId, type);
54
55 PracticalTask practicalTask = practicalTaskService.getByPrimaryKey(primaryKeyDTO);
56 return practicalTaskMapper.practicalTaskToPracticalTaskBaseDTO(practicalTask);
57 }
58
59 @Operation(summary = "Endpoint to get all practical task of user")
60 @GetMapping("/{userId}")
61 public List<PracticalTaskBaseDTO> getAllPracticalTasks(@PathVariable UUID userId){
62 List<PracticalTask> practicalTasks = practicalTaskService.getAllPracticalTasks(userId);
63 return practicalTasks.stream().map(practicalTaskMapper::practicalTaskToPracticalTaskBaseDTO).
64 collect(Collectors.toList());
65 }
66
67 @Operation(summary = "Endpoint to create new practical task")
68 @PostMapping("/create")
69 public void createPracticalTask(@RequestBody PracticalTaskCreateRequest request){
70 practicalTaskService.createPracticalTask(request);
71 }

Test generation

petyodimitrov-musala

generate test

GitHub Copilot

Here's an example of a test for the
getPracticalTask method:

```
@Test  
void getPracticalTask_ReturnsPracticalTask(){  
    UUID userId = UUID.randomUUID();  
    PracticalTaskTypeEnum type = PracticalTaskTypeEnum.PRACTICAL;  
    PracticalTaskPrimaryKeyDTO primaryKeyDTO = generatePracticalTaskPrimaryKey(userId, type);  
    PracticalTask practicalTask = practicalTaskService.getByPrimaryKey(primaryKeyDTO);  
    PracticalTaskBaseDTO expected = practicalTaskMapper.practicalTaskToPracticalTaskBaseDTO(practicalTask);  
  
    when(practicalTaskService.getByPrimaryKey(eq(primaryKeyDTO))).thenReturn(practicalTask);  
  
    mockMvc.perform(get(ADMIN_PRactical_TASK_PATH).param("userId", userId.toString()).param("type", type.name()))  
        .contentType(MediaType.APPLICATION_JSON)  
        .andExpect(statusisOk())  
        .andExpect(content().json(expected.toJsonString()));  
}
```



```
/**  
 * 1. Function to create 100 random users using faker library  
 * 2. Each user should have between 1 and 5 posts  
 * 3. The user and the post should be sent to the API via a post request  
 */  
public static void createUserData() {  
    Faker faker = new Faker();  
    Random random = new Random();  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < 100; i++) {  
        String user = faker.name().fullName();  
        int userId = i + 1;  
        Api.createUser(user, userId);  
  
        int numPosts = random.nextInt(5) + 1; // Generate a random number between 1 and 5  
  
        for (int j = 0; j < numPosts; j++) {  
            int postId = j + 1;  
            String postTitle = faker.lorem().sentence(10); // Generate a sentence with 10 words  
            String postBody = faker.lorem().paragraph(4); // Generate a paragraph with 4 sentences  
            Api.createPost(postTitle, postBody, userId);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Test data

Test Duration

- FunctionalTests (12)
- IntegrationTests (4)
- PublicApIIntegrationTests (15)
- UnitTests (44)
 - Microsoft.eShopWeb.UnitTests.ApplicationCore.Entities.BasketTests.BasketAddItem (6)
 - AddsBasketItemIfNotPresent
 - CantAddItemWithNegativeQuantity
 - CantModifyQuantityToNegativeNumber
 - DefaultsToQuantityOfOne
 - IncrementsQuantityOfItemIfPresent
 - KeepsOriginalUnitPriceIfMoreItemsAdded
 - BasketRemoveEmptyItems (1)
 - RemovesEmptyBasketItems
 - BasketTotalItems (2)
 - ReturnsTotalQuantityWithMultipleItems
 - ReturnsTotalQuantityWithOneItem
 - Microsoft.eShopWeb.UnitTests.ApplicationCore.OrderTotal (3)
 - IsCorrectGiven1Item
 - IsCorrectGiven3Items
 - IsZeroForNewOrder
 - Microsoft.eShopWeb.UnitTests.ApplicationCore.JsonExtensions (3)
 - CorrectlyDeserializesJson (2)
 - CorrectlyDeserializesJson(json: "[\\id\\": 3...")
 - CorrectlyDeserializesJson(json: "[\\id\\": 9...")
 - CorrectlySerializesAndDeserializesObject
 - Microsoft.eShopWeb.UnitTests.ApplicationCore.AddItemToBasket (2)
 - InvokesBasketRepositoryGetBySpecAsyncOnce
 - InvokesBasketRepositoryUpdateAsyncOnce
 - DeleteBasket (1)
 - ShouldInvokeBasketRepositoryDeleteAsyncOnce
 - TransferBasket (4)
 - InvokesBasketRepositoryUpdateAsyncOnce

Run | Debug | Ask Copilot

Test Detail Summary

Microsoft.eShopWeb.UnitTests.ApplicationCore.Entities.BasketTests.BasketAddItem

Source: [BasketAddItem.cs](#) line 28

Duration: < 1 ms

Message:

Microsoft.eShopWeb.ApplicationCore.Exceptions.DuplicateCatalogItemException: A basket item with catalog item id: 3 already exists.

Stack Trace:

```
Basket.AddItem(Int32 catalogItemId, Decimal unitPrice, Int32 quantity)
Basket.AddItem.IncrementsQuantityOfItemIfPresent()
RuntimeMethodHandle.InvokeMethod(Object target, Void* method, IntPtr args, IntPtr result)
MethodInvoker.Invoke(Object obj, IntPtr args, IntPtr result)
```

Use /help for more guidance.

Debug the failed test BasketAddItem.IncrementsQuantityOfItemIfPresent.

GitHub Copilot

Hi! Let's build together.

I'm powered by AI, so surprises and mistakes are possible. Make sure to verify any generated code or suggestions, and share internal feedback.

- Include slash commands (i.e. /fix) at the beginning of your prompt to indicate intent.
- Type # to refer to code you want to include.
- Use the Alt + / shortcut to open the inline chat and refine code in the editor.

Here is an approach for debugging this failure:

The exception is thrown at line 37 in the AddItem method of the Basket class. This happens when an item with the same catalogitemid is added to the basket again.

You should inspect the catalogitemid parameter passed to the AddItem method and the _items list in the Basket class. Check if an item with the same catalogitemid already exists in the _items list before the AddItem method is called.

Also, check the BasketAddItem.IncrementsQuantityOfItemIfPresent test method in the BasketTests class. Inspect the values passed to the AddItem method in this test.

```
Basket.AddItem(int catalogItemId, decimal unitPrice, int quantity = 1)
Basket._items
BasketItem.AddQuantity(int quantity)
BasketTests.BasketAddItem.IncrementsQuantityOfItemIfPresent()
```

Preview

Starting test debugging.

References

Was this helpful?

Debug

Test Explorer BasketItem.cs Basket.cs GitHub Copilot Chat

BasketItem.cs

```
Microsoft.eShopWeb.ApplicationCore.Entities.BasketAggr AddItem(int catalogItemId, decimal unitPrice, int quantity)
```

12 {
13 12 references | 0/4 passing | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes
14 public string BuyerId { get; private set; }
15 private readonly List<BasketItem> _items = new List<BasketItem>();
16 23 references | 0/8 passing | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes
17 public IReadOnlyCollection<BasketItem> Items => _items.AsReadOnly();
18
19 2 references | 0/1 passing | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes
20 public int TotalItems => _items.Sum(i => i.Quantity);
21
22 21 references | 0/16 passing | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes
23 public Basket(string buyerId)
24 {
25 BuyerId = buyerId;
26 }
27
28 public void AddItem(int catalogItemId, decimal unitPrice, int quantity)
29 {
30 if (!_items.Any(i => i.CatalogItemId == catalogItemId))
31 {
32 //if (!ValidateItemID(catalogItemId))
33 // return;
34
35 _items.Add(new BasketItem(catalogItemId, quantity, unitPrice));
36 return;
37 }
38 else
39 {
40 throw new DuplicateException("Duplicate item added");
41 }
42 var existingItem = Items.First(i => i.CatalogItemId == catalogItemId);
43 existingItem.AddQuantity(quantity);
44 }
45 }

GitHub Copilot Chat

Debug Test: Microsoft.eShopWeb.UnitTests.ApplicationCore.Entities.BasketTests.Basket...

Was this helpful?

Current values at line 25 of C:\dev\eshopOnWeb\src\ApplicationCore\Entities\BasketAggregate\Basket.cs are:
catalogItemId = 123
unitPrice = 1.23M
quantity = 2
_items = Count = 1

Was this helpful?

GitHub Copilot

The _items list now contains an item, and the catalogItemId being added is the same as the one already in the list. This will cause the `DuplicateException` to be thrown, leading to the test failure.

To fix this, the code should be updated to increment the quantity of the existing item instead of throwing an exception. The `else` block throwing the `DuplicateException` should be removed, and the code to increment the quantity should be moved inside the `if` block.

```
public void AddItem(int catalogItemId, decimal unitPrice, int quantity)  
{  
    var existingItem = Items.FirstOrDefault(i => i.CatalogItemId == catalogItemId);  
    if (existingItem == null)  
    {  
        _items.Add(new BasketItem(catalogItemId, quantity, unitPrice));  
    }  
    else  
    {  
        existingItem.AddQuantity(quantity);  
    }  
}
```

Preview

Was this helpful?

Does the updated 'Additem' method now pass the test?
Are there any other tests that fail due to this code change?

Was this helpful?

References

Debug

AI considerations



- Syntax & logical errors
- Limited edge case coverage
- Not as creative *
- Difficulty with complex tests
- Data Privacy
- Intellectual Property

ChatGPT config



Temporary Chat

Not in history

Temporary chats won't appear in your history. For safety purposes, we keep a copy of your chat for up to 30 days.

No model training

Temporary chats won't be used to improve our models.

Follows Custom Instructions

Custom Instructions will still be followed if you have them enabled.

Model improvement

Improve the model for everyone



Allow your content to be used to train our models, which makes ChatGPT better for you and everyone who uses it. We take steps to protect your privacy. [Learn more](#)

Delete all chats

Delete all

Continue

Copilot config



Suggestions matching public code

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Summary

- Don't Repeat Yourself
- Avoid mock overuse
- Test contracts, not implementation internals
- Don't test for the sake of testing
- Distribute your tests across the test pyramid
- Let AI help you

*To me, legacy code is
simply code...
without tests*

Michael Feathers
Working Effectively
With Legacy Code

Qinshift *



Questions?



Thanks!

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