



Testing

Interface and Implementation



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the difference between *interface* and *implementation*

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Implementation: how it does what it does

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    ...math goes here...  
    return result
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def integrate(func, x1, x2):  
    ...math goes here...  
    return result
```

Interface: $(f, x_1, x_2) \rightarrow \text{integral}$

Implementation: we don't (have to) care

Often use this idea to simplify unit testing

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Want to test components in program one by one

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But components depend on each other

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How to isolate the component under test from other components?

Replace the other components with things that have the same interfaces, but simpler implementations

Sometimes requires *refactoring*

Or some up-front design

Back to those fields in Saskatchewan...



Test function that reads a photo from file

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```
def read_photo(filename):  
    result = set()  
    reader = open(filename, 'r')  
    ..fill result with rectangles in file..  
    reader.close()  
    return result
```

Test function that reads a photo from file

```
def read_photo(filename):
    result = set()
    reader = open(filename, 'r')
    ..fill result with rectangles in file..
    reader.close()
    return result

def test_photo_containing_only_unit():
    assert read_photo('unit.pht') == { ((0, 0), (1, 1)) }
```

Experience teaches that this is a bad idea

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The longer tests take to run, the less often they will be run

And the more often developers will have to backtrack to find and fix bugs

Original function

```
def count_rect(filename):  
    reader = open(filename, 'r')  
    count = 0  
    for line in reader:  
        count += 1  
    reader.close()  
    return count
```

Original function

```
def count_rect(filename):  
    reader = open(filename, 'r')  
    count = 0  
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```

One rectangle per line, no comments or blank lines

Original function

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def count_rect(filename):  
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    reader.close()  
    return count
```

One rectangle per line, no comments or blank lines

Real counter would be more sophisticated

Refactored

```
def count_rect_in(reader):  
    count = 0  
    for line in reader:  
        count += 1  
    return count  
  
def count_rect(filename):  
    reader = open(filename, 'r')  
    result = count_rect_in(reader)  
    reader.close()  
    return result
```

Refactored

```
def count_rect_in(reader): ←  
    count = 0  
    for line in reader:  
        count += 1  
    return count
```

Does the work, but
does *not* open the file

```
def count_rect(filename):  
    reader = open(filename, 'r')  
    result = count_rect_in(reader)  
    reader.close()  
    return result
```

Refactored

```
def count_rect_in(reader):  
    count = 0  
    for line in reader:  
        count += 1  
    return count
```

```
def count_rect(filename): ← Opens the file  
    reader = open(filename, 'r')  
    result = count_rect_in(reader)  
    reader.close()  
    return result
```

Refactored

```
def count_rect_in(reader):  
    count = 0  
    for line in reader:  
        count += 1  
    return count
```

```
def count_rect(filename):  
    reader = open(filename, 'r')  
    result = count_rect_in(reader)  
    reader.close()  
    return result
```

← Opens the file
Keeps name of
original function

Now write tests

Now write tests

```
from StringIO import StringIO
```

```
Data = '''0 0 1 1
```

```
1 0 2 1
```

```
2 0 3 1'''
```

```
def test_num_rect():
```

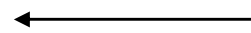
```
    reader = StringIO(Data)
```

```
    assert count_rect(reader) == 3
```

Now write tests

```
from StringIO import StringIO
```

```
Data = '''0 0 1 1  
1 0 2 1  
2 0 3 1'''
```



A "file" that tests
can be run on

```
def test_num_rect():  
    reader = StringIO(Data)  
    assert count_rect(reader) == 3
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Now write tests

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from StringIO import StringIO
```

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Data = '''0 0 1 1
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1 0 2 1
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```
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```
def test_num_rect():
```

```
    reader = StringIO(Data)
```

```
    assert count_rect(reader) == 3
```

Acts like a file, but
uses a string in
memory for storage

Now write tests

```
from StringIO import StringIO
```

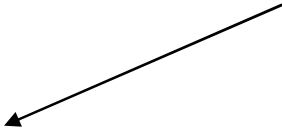
```
Data = '''0 0 1 1
```

```
1 0 2 1
```

```
2 0 3 1'''
```

```
def test_num_rect():  
    reader = StringIO(Data)  
    assert count_rect(reader) == 3
```

Doesn't know it
isn't reading from
a real file



Use the same method to test output

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Write to a StringIO

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Write to a StringIO

Use `getValue` to get and check its final contents

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Use `getvalue` to get and check its final contents

```
def test_write_unit_only():  
    fixture = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)) }  
    writer = StringIO()  
    photo_write(fixture, writer)  
    result = writer.getvalue()  
    assert result == '0 0 1 1\n'
```



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Write to a StringIO

Use `getvalue` to get and check its final contents

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Write to a StringIO

Use `getvalue` to get and check its final contents

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    fixture = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)) }  
    writer = StringIO()  
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```

Get everything
written to the
StringIO as a string

One more task

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```
def photo_write(photo, writer):  
    contents = list(photo)  
    contents.sort()  
    for rect in contents:  
        print >> writer, rect[0][0], rect[0][1],  
                          rect[1][0], rect[1][1]
```

One more task

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def photo_write(photo, writer):  
    contents = list(photo)  
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Why do the extra work of sorting?

One more task

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def photo_write(photo, writer):  
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```

Why do the extra work of sorting?



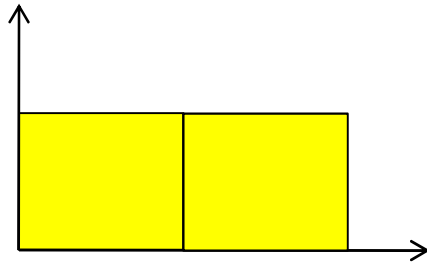
This version is simpler and faster

```
def photo_write(photo, writer):  
    for rect in photo:  
        print >> writer, rect[0][0], rect[0][1],  
                          rect[1][0], rect[1][1]
```

This version is simpler and faster

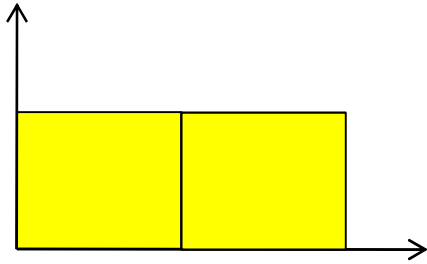
```
def photo_write(photo, writer):  
    for rect in photo:  
        print >> writer, rect[0][0], rect[0][1],  
                          rect[1][0], rect[1][1]
```

But there is no way to predict its output!

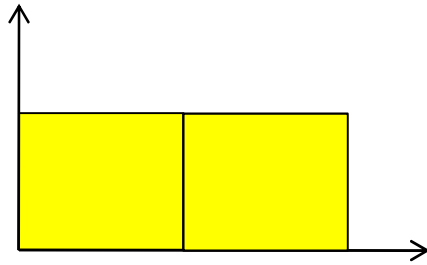


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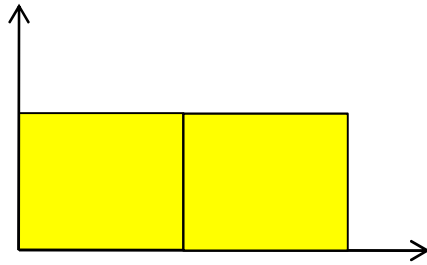


```
two_fields = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)), ((1, 0), (2, 1)) }  
photo_write(two_fields, ...)
```



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two_fields = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)), ((1, 0), (2, 1)) }  
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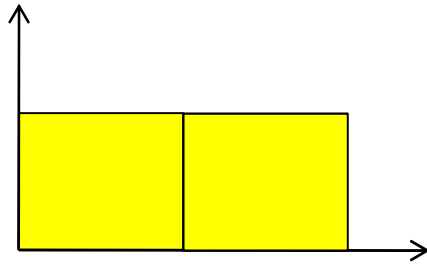
0	0	1	1
1	0	2	1



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two_fields = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)), ((1, 0), (2, 1)) }  
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```

0	0	1	1
1	0	2	1

1	0	2	1
0	0	1	1

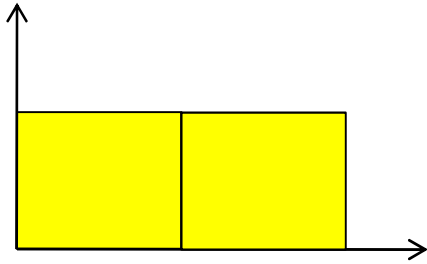


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two_fields = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)), ((1, 0), (2, 1)) }  
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```

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1	0	2	1

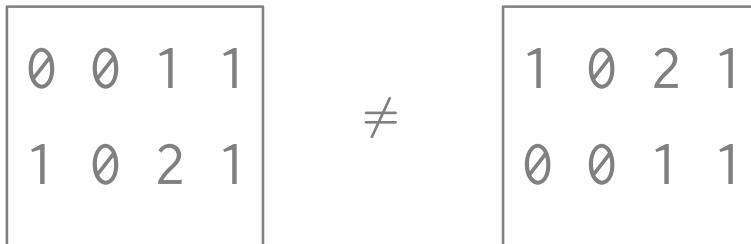
≠

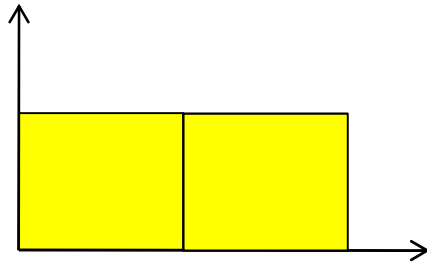
1	0	2	1
0	0	1	1



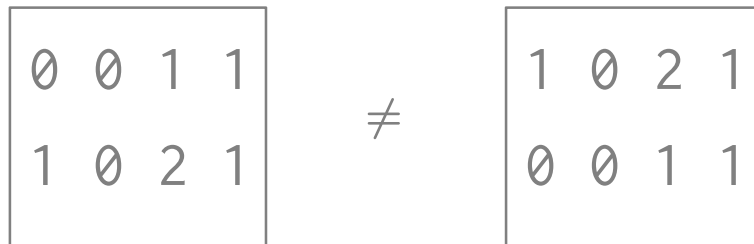
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two_fields = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)), ((1, 0), (2, 1)) }
photo_write(two_fields, ...)
```

Sets are unordered



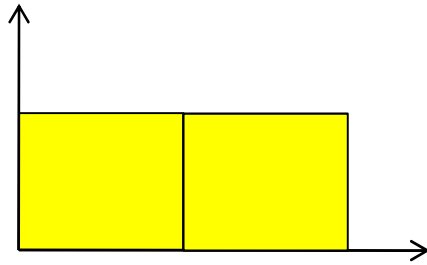


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two_fields = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)), ((1, 0), (2, 1)) }
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~~Sets are unordered~~

Set elements are stored
in an arbitrary order



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≠

1	0	2	1
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~~Sets are unordered~~

Set elements are stored
in an arbitrary order

We can't test if we can't predict the result

Our existing tests are inconsistent

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```
# From input test
```

```
Data = '''0 0 1 1
```

```
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```

```
2 0 3 1''''
```

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```
# From output test
```

```
def test_write_unit_only():
```

```
    fixture = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)) }
```

```
    ...
```

```
    assert result == '0 0 1 1\n'
```

Our existing tests are inconsistent

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Data = '''0 0 1 1
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```
# From output test
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    fixture = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)) }
    ...
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```

Our existing tests are inconsistent

From input test

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Data = '''0 0 1 1
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```
1 0 2 1
```

```
2 0 3 1'''
```

Do photo files have
a newline at the end
of the last line or not?

From output test

```
def test_write_unit_only():
```

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    fixture = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)) }
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```
    ...
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```
    assert result == '0 0 1 1\n'
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def test_write_unit_only():
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    fixture = { ((0, 0), (1, 1)) }
```

```
    ...
```

```
    assert result == '0 0 1 1\n'
```

Do photo files have
a newline at the end
of the last line or not?
**Either answer is better
than "maybe"**

Have to *design for test*

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Depend on interface, not implementation

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– So it's easy to replace other components for testing

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- And tests don't have to be rewritten over and over

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- Like opening files

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- And tests don't have to be rewritten over and over

Isolate interactions with outside world

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Make things you are going to examine deterministic



created by

Greg Wilson

August 2010



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