

# Introduction To Software Testing

Brian Nielsen

`bnielsen@cs.aau.dk`

Center of Embedded Software Systems

Aalborg University, Denmark



What is testing?

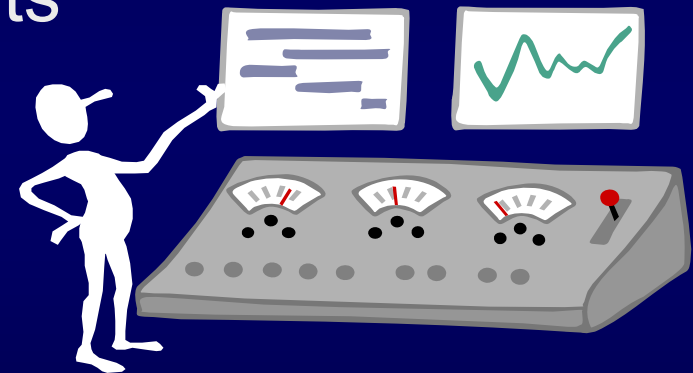
# Testing

## Testing:

- to check the **quality** (functionality, reliability, performance, ...) of an (software) object

-by performing experiments

-in a controlled way



- In avg. 10-20 errors per 1000 LOC
- 30-50 % of development time and cost in embedded software

# Costs of Poor Quality

- Increased time to find and fix problems
- Increased time-to-market
- Increased cost to distribute modifications
- Increased customer support
- Product liability
- Failure in the market place

# Testing Objectives

- To **identify** as many **errors** as possible
- To bring the software to an acceptable level of quality
- **To determine risk of release**

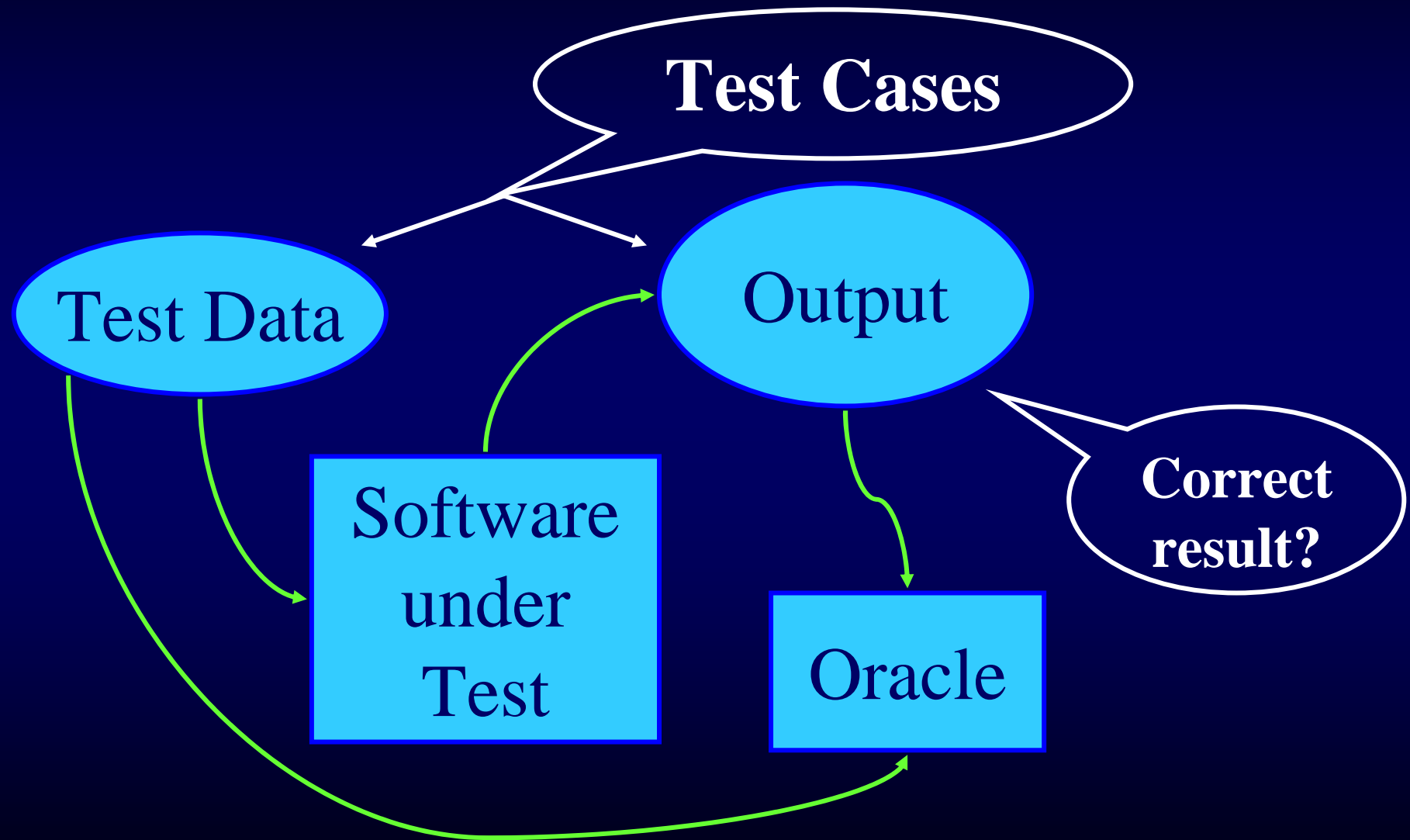
# Risk

- *Make best possible use of resources by identifying and prioritizing quality aspects and subsystems*
  - Higher risk  $\Rightarrow$  more testing
  - No risk  $\Rightarrow$  no testing
- **Risk = chance of failure  $\times$  damage**
  - Use frequency
  - Chance of error being present
    - Complexity
    - New tools/techniques
    - Inexperienced developers
  - Cost of repair
  - Loss of market share
  - Legal claim

# Testing

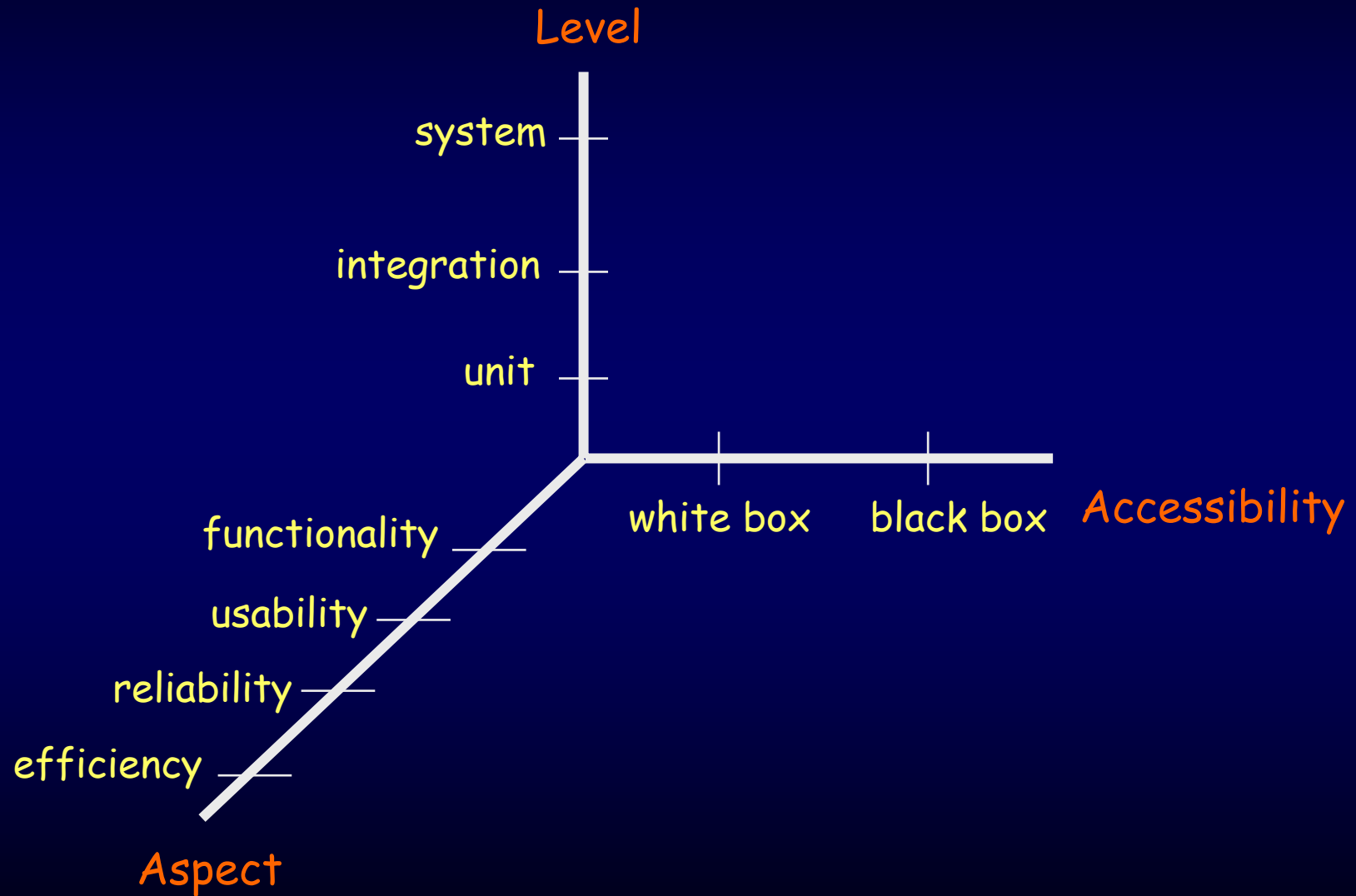
- **Dynamic testing** is the process of executing a program or system with the intent of finding error  
(Glenford Meyers' definition)
- **Static testing** is any activity that aims at finding defects by inspecting, reviewing, walking through, and analyzing any static component of the software (code, documents, and models)
- **Debugging** is an ad hoc activity performed by individual developers to find and remove bugs from a program.
- **Testing** is a *planned* activity

# What is a Test?





# Types of Testing



# Quality-Characteristics (ISO-9126)

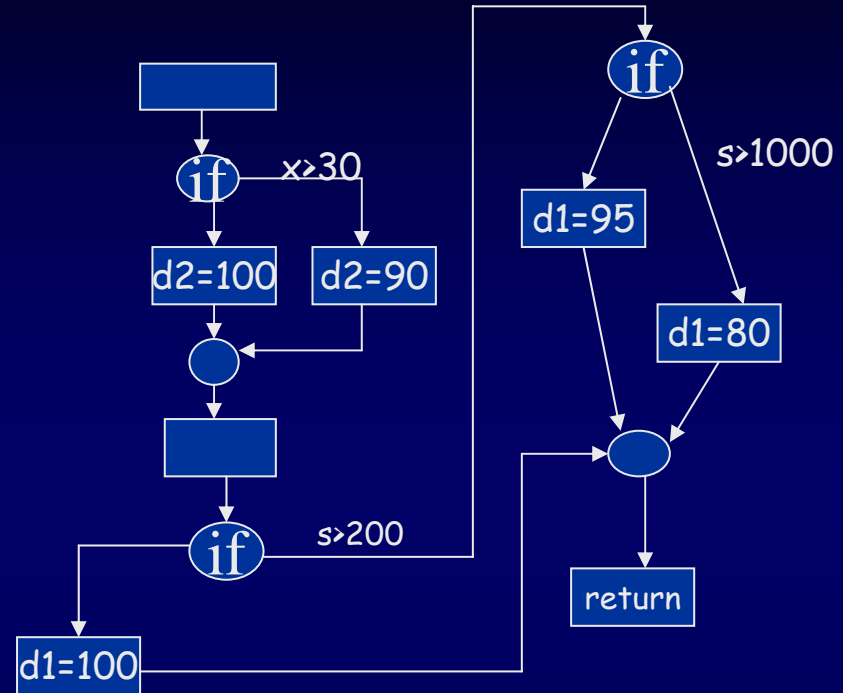
- Functionality  $\Rightarrow$  functional testing
  - Suitability, accuracy, security, compliance, interoperability
- Reliability  $\Rightarrow$  reliability testing
  - maturity, fault tolerance, recoverability
- Usability  $\Rightarrow$  usability testing
  - understandability, learnability, operability
- Efficiency  $\Rightarrow$  performance testing
  - time behaviour, resource utilization
- Maintainability  $\Rightarrow$  maintainability testing ??
  - Analysability, changeability, stability, testability
- Portability  $\Rightarrow$  portability testing ?
  - Adaptability, installability, conformance, replacability

# Whitebox Example

```

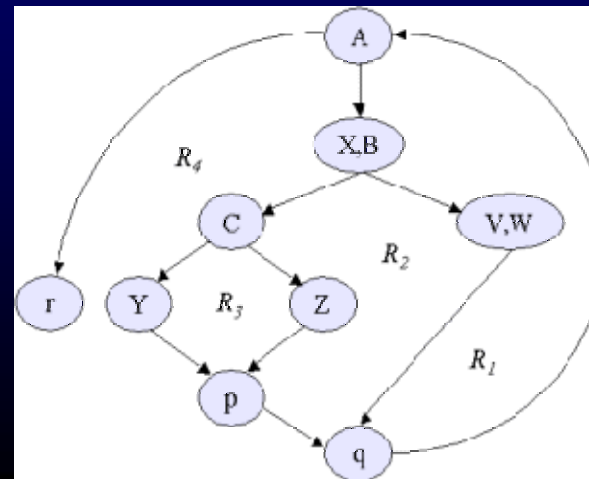
int invoice (int x, int y) {
  int d1, d2, s;
  if (x<=30) d2=100;
  else d2=90;
  s=5*x + 10 *y;
  if (s<=200) d1=100;
  else if (s<=1000) d1 = 95;
  else d1 = 80;
  return (s*d1*d2/10000);
}

```

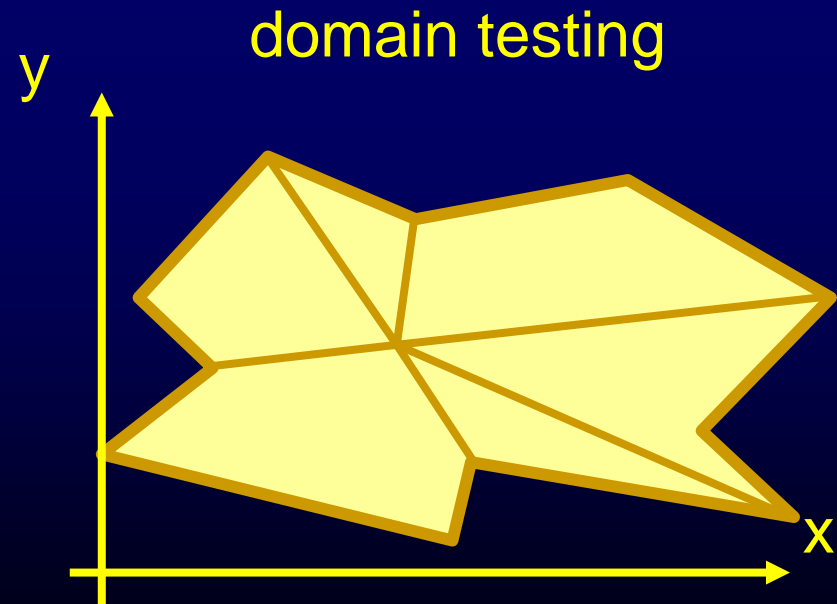
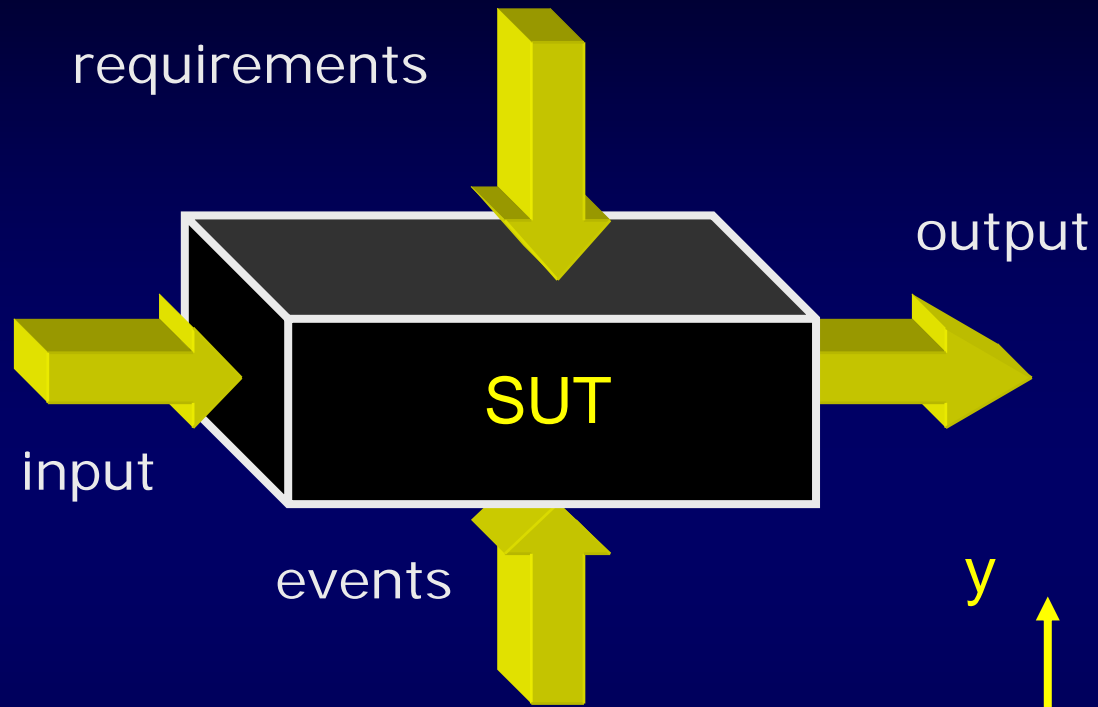


## Test Cases

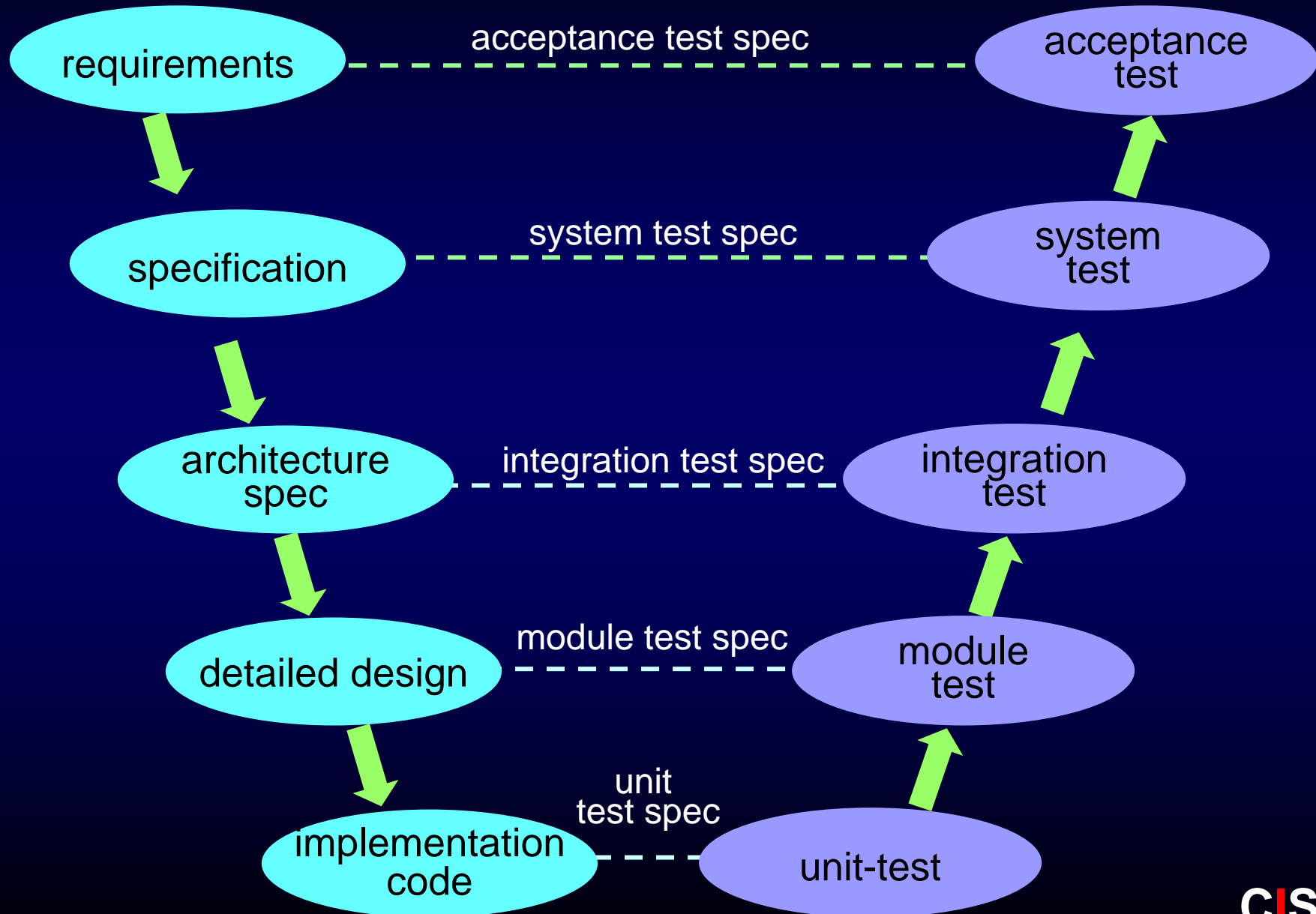
Test Data	Expected Output
X=5 Y=5	75
X=31 Y=10	229.5
X=30 Y=100	977.5



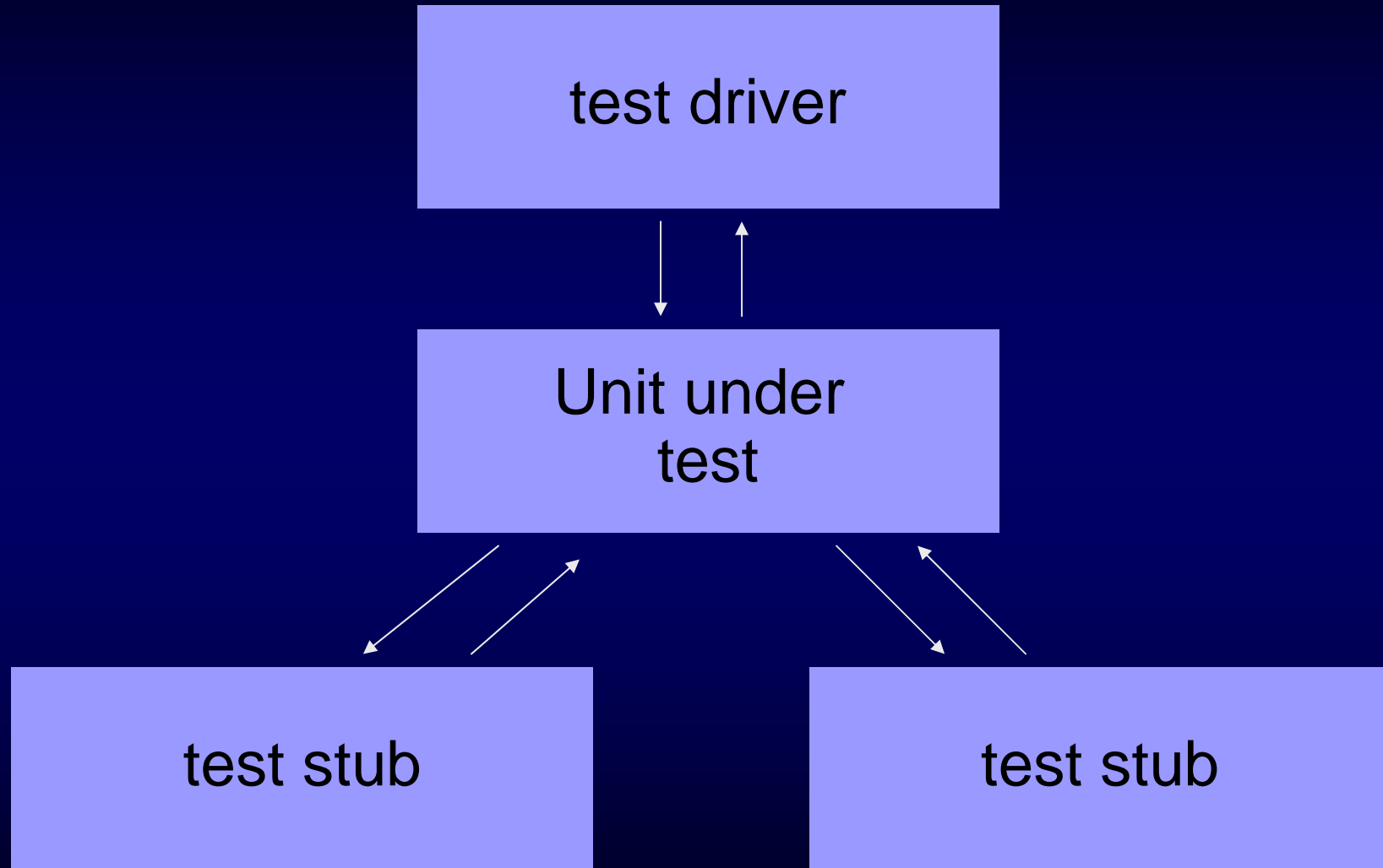
# Black box testing



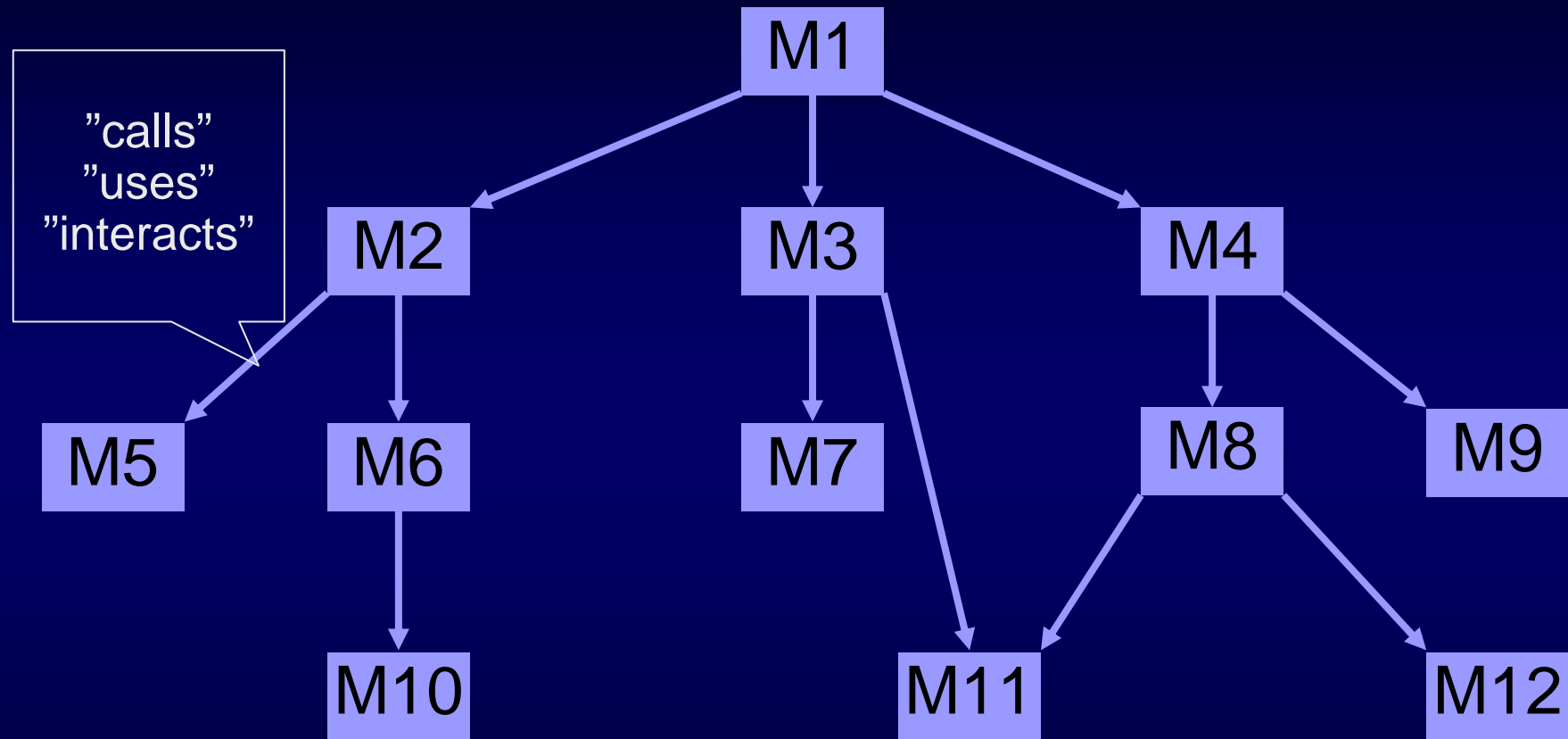
# V - Model



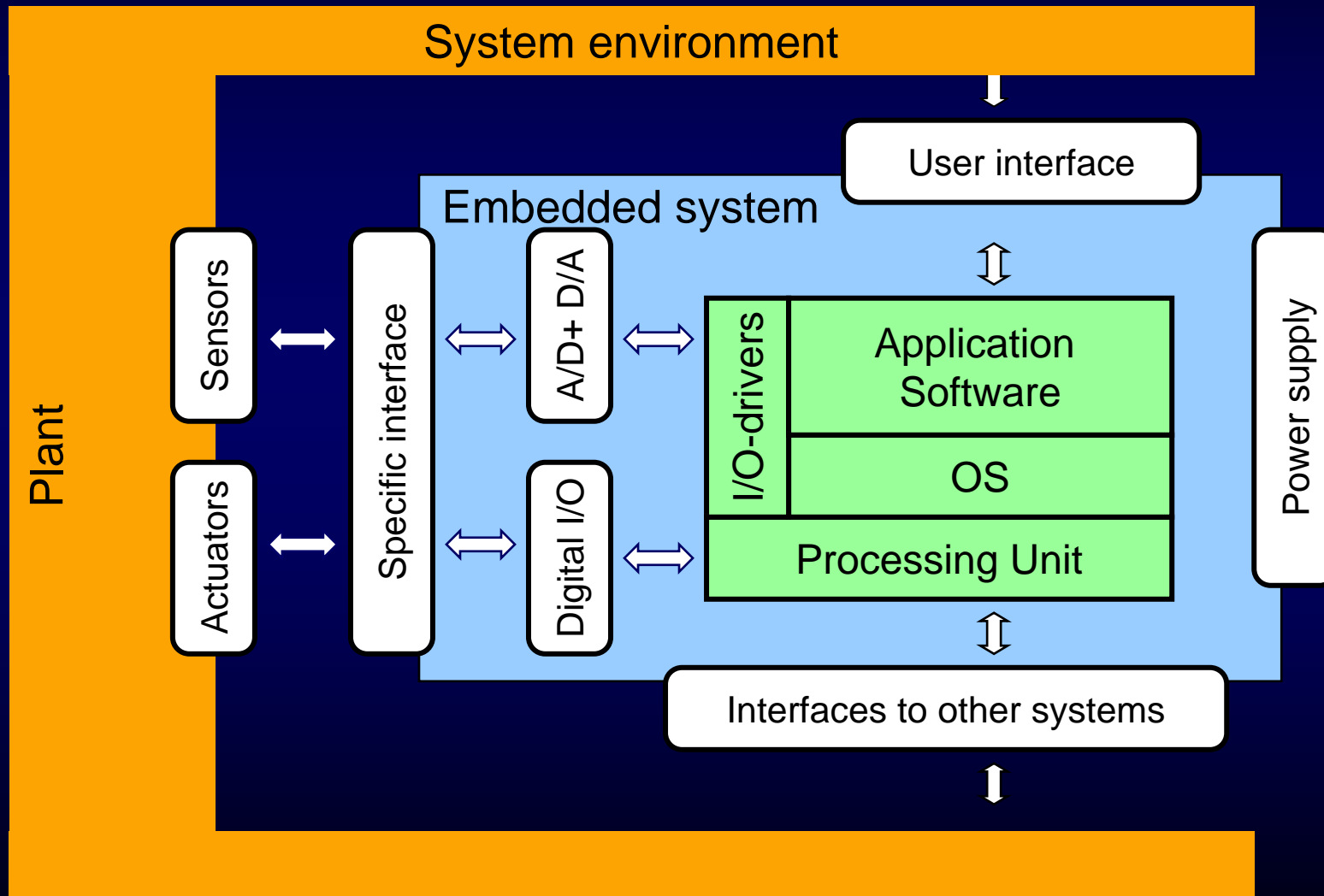
# Unit Test



# Integration Test



# Generic Embedded System





# System test

- 2\*CRTG (4 channels) 2 \* 200 k€



# Test Equipment

- Complete Type Approval Test System (3 M€)



# A Self-Assessment Test [Myers]

- “A program reads three integer values. The three values are interpreted as representing the lengths of the sides of a triangle. The program prints a message that states whether the triangle is scalene, isosceles, or equilateral.”
- *Write a set of test cases to test this program*

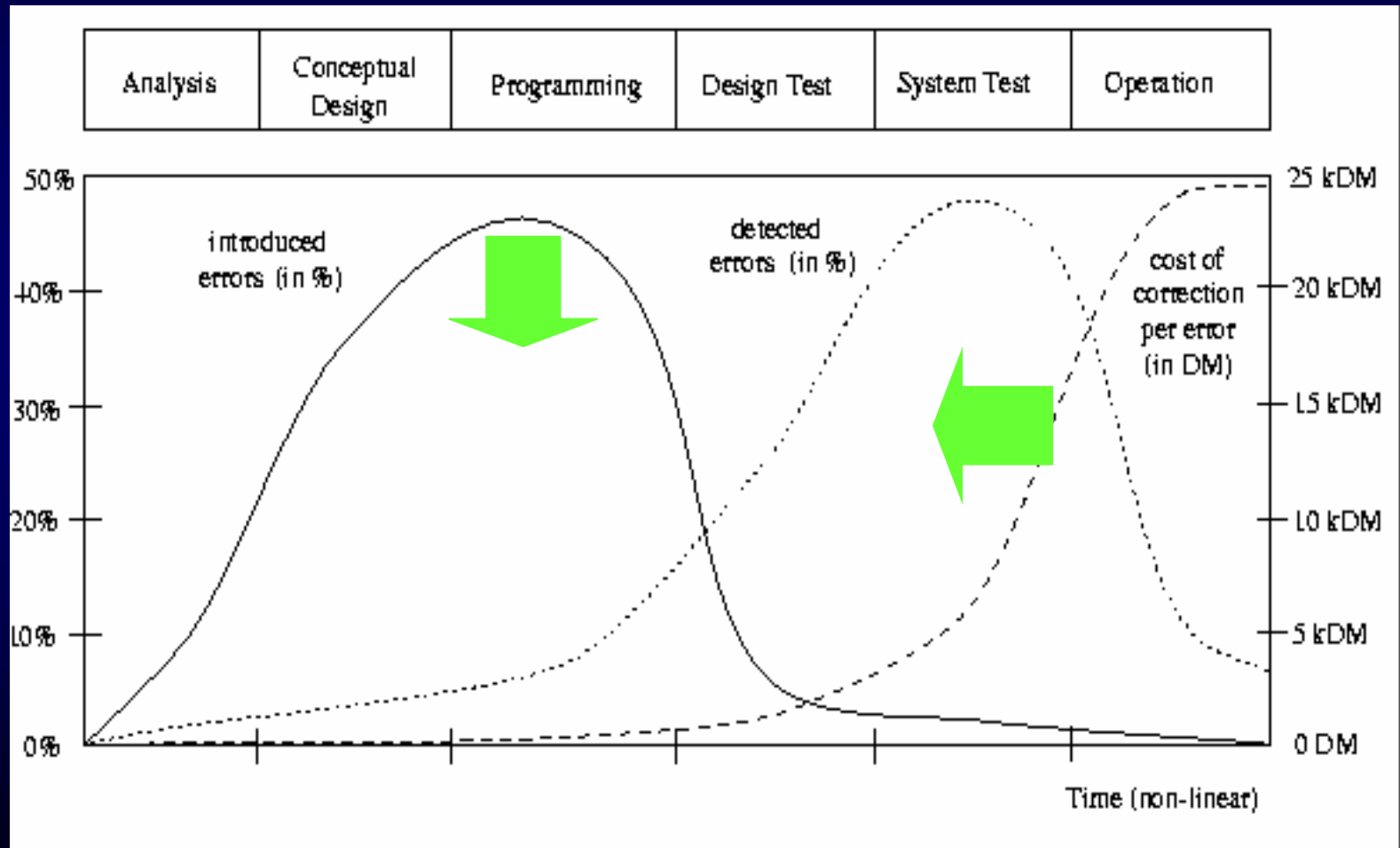
# A Self-Assessment Test [Myers]

## Test cases for:

1. valid scalene triangle ?
2. valid equilateral triangle ?
3. valid isosceles triangle ?
4. 3 permutations of previous ?
5. side = 0 ?
6. negative side ?
7. one side is sum of others ?
8. 3 permutations of previous ?
9. one side larger than sum of others ?
10. 3 permutations of previous ?
11. all sides = 0 ?
12. non-integer input ?
13. wrong number of values ?
14. for each test case: is expected output specified ?
15. check behaviour after output was produced ?

# Challenges: Introducing, Detecting and repairing Errors

*Liggesmeyer 98*



# Challenges of Testing

- **Infinity of testing:**
  - too many possible input combinations -- infinite breadth
  - too many possible input sequences -- infinite depth
  - too many invalid and unexpected inputs
- **Exhaustive testing never possible:**
  - when to stop testing ?
  - how to invent effective and efficient test cases with high probability of detecting errors ?
- Optimization problem of testing yield and invested effort
  - usually stop when time is over .....
- What is an effective method to **measure coverage** ?

# Challenges of Testing

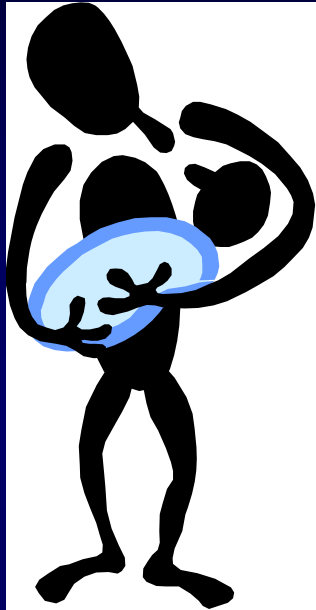
- Many **operating environments** and contexts
  - Impact of platform capabilities – OS, HW, Remote systems
  - Typical and rare use patterns
  - Implicit requirements
  - Domain knowledge
- How can software fail ?
  - Typical programming errors
  - Typical wrongly implemented features
  - Exceptional cases
  - No realistic reliability models for software
- How to translate in to effective tests?

# Challenges of Testing

- **Regression testing:**
  - very important
  - very boring and expensive
  - must be automated
- **Test oracle problem**
  - Bad specification or no specification at all
  - Requirements change
  - Requirements elucidation is a process



# Challenges: Who Should Test?



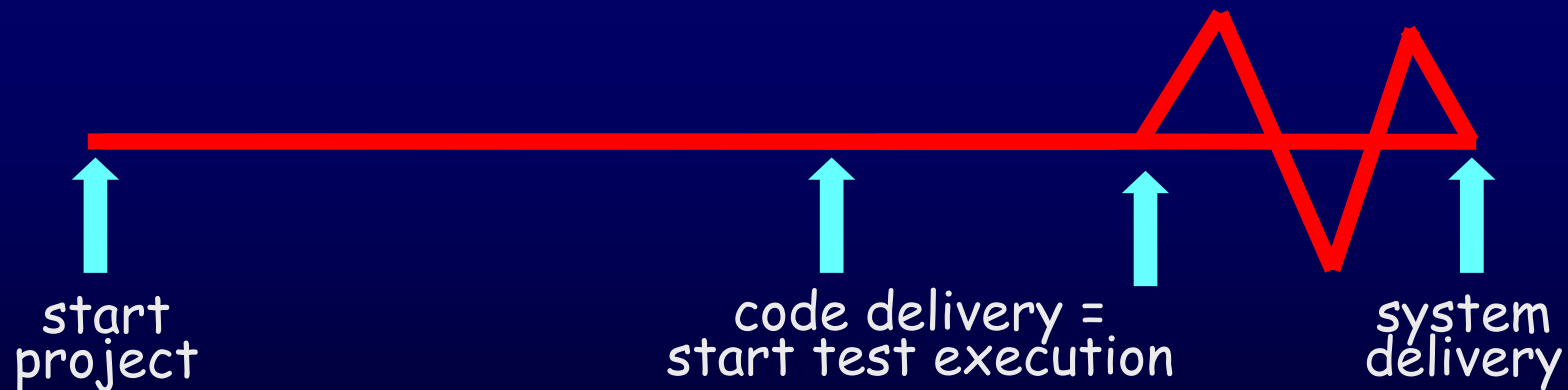
- Developer
  - Understands the system
  - But, will test gently
  - And, is driven by deadlines



- Independent tester
  - Must learn system
  - But, will attempt to break it
  - And, is driven by “quality”

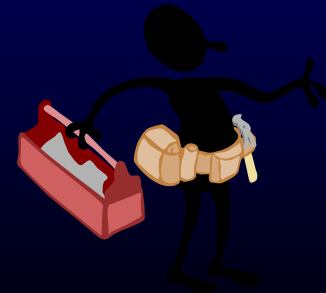
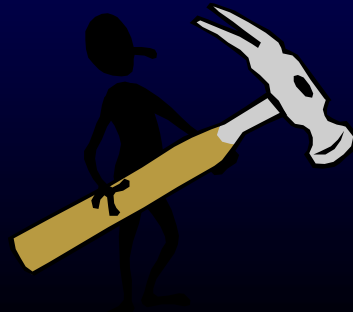
# Challenges of Testing

Moving implementation deadlines  
..... but fixed delivery deadlines



# Challenges of Testing

- Lack of appropriate tools
  - Diversified fields
  - Experts dispersed, but also doesn't talk across application domain.
  - Tools are specialized, sells in low volume
  - Tools are expensive,
  - Tools are immature
  - **No money available for test tools**



# Challenges of Testing

- **New embedded systems**
  - more functionality
  - increasingly advanced
  - faster time-to-market
  - higher quality
- **Testing**
  - more to be tested
  - more complicated
  - in less time
  - more thorough
- skilled developers and testers
- advanced testing tools and techniques
- well organized
- using solid development method

# Summary

# Some Testing Principles

- Testing starts during the requirements phase
- The programmer shall not be the (only) tester
- A test case specifies the test inputs and the expected outputs
- Test cases shall also cover invalid and unexpected inputs
- Test cases shall test that the program does what it should do and that it does not do what it should not do
- Test cases shall be recorded for reuse
- A test is successful when it detects an error ( but the project manager thinks differently ! )
- No risk, no test

END