Unit Testing Framework

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Contents

1 Main Page

This package empowers a programmer to utilize unit testing for Igor Pro procedures and XOPs. For a quick start have a look at the first example.

The basic building blocks of this package are Assertions (for checking if an entity fullfills specific properties), Test Cases (group of assertions) and Test Suites (group of test cases).

Interface design and naming is inspired by the `Boost Test Library`.

1.1 Assertion Types

An assertion checks that a given condition is true. Or in more general terms that an entity fullfills specific properties. Test assertions are defined for strings, variables and waves and have ALL CAPS names. They always come in tripletts which differ only in how they react on a failed assertion. Comparing two variables for example can be done with WARN_EQUAL_VAR, CHECK_EQUAL_VAR or REQUIRE_EQUAL_VAR.

The following table summarizes the action on a failed assertion:

Type	Create Log Message	Increment Error Count	Abort execution immediately
WARN	YES	NO	NO
CHECK	YES	YES	NO
REQUIRE	YES	YES	YES

If in doubt use the CHECK variant. For the sake of clarity only the CHECK variants are documented, as the interface for REQUIRE and WARN is equivalent.

1.2 Test Case

A test case is one of the basic building blocks grouping assertions together. A function is considered a test case if it fullfills all of the following properties:

- takes no parameters

- its name does not end on _IGNORE

- is either non-static or static and part of a regular module

The second rule allows advanced users to add their own helper functions. It is advised to define all test cases as static functions and to create one regular module per procedure file.

A single test case from a test suite can be run using the optional `testCase` parameter of RunTest.

1.3 Test Suite

A test suite is a group of test cases which should belong together and is equal to a procedure file. Therefore tests suites can not be nested, although multiple test suites can be run with once command using the parameter `procWinList` of RunTest.

1.4 Test Hooks

To ensure proper test case execution and enable book keeping, specific hook functions are called before/after distinct events. These hook functions always come in pairs with their names ending on _BEGIN and _END. Before the first test case of the first test suite is executed, the hook TEST_BEGIN is called, therefore TEST_END marks

the last function being called immediately before RunTest returns. Similarly the hooks TEST_SUITE_BEGIN and T-EST_SUITE_END are called before and after every test suite, TEST_CASE_BEGIN and TEST_CASE_END before and after every test case.

In case the default hook functions don't suite your needs, it is explicitly **not** advised to just adapt them. Instead use test hook overrides and override them on a global or per test suite level.

1.4.1 Override Test Hooks

The default test hooks can be overridden by defining your own version of the hooks suffixed with _OVERRIDE. The override hooks for TEST_BEGIN and TEST_END can only be overriden by functions in ProcGlobal. The override hooks for test suites/cases can be overriden globally if they reside in ProcGlobal context, or for a specific test suite only if they are defined in the same regular module as that test suite. Overriding here means that the default test hook is **not** executed. In case you still want to have the default test hook executed, you have to call it yourself in the override function as done in example 5.

The override test hooks have to accept exactly one string parameter, which is the name of the test suite group, test suite name or test case name.

1.5 Automate Test Runs

To further simplify test execution it is possible to automate test runs from the command line.

Steps to do that include:

- Implement a function called `run` in ProcGlobal context taking no parameters. This function must perform all necessary steps for test execution, which is at least one call to RunTest.

- Put the test experiment together with your test suites (procedure files) and the script helper/autorun-test.bat into its own folder

- Run the batch file autorun-test.bat

- Inspect the created log file

See also Example6/example6-automatic-invocation.ipf

2 Module Documentation

2.1 Helper functions

Functions

- variable DisableDebugOutput ()
- variable EnableDebugOutput ()
- variable RunTest (string procWinList, string name, string testCase)

2.1.1 Detailed Description

Runner and helper functions.

2.1.2 Function Documentation

variable DisableDebugOutput (   )

Turns debug output off.

variable EnableDebugOutput (   )

Turns debug output on.

variable RunTest (string *procWinList,* string *name,* string *testCase*)

Main function to execute one or more test suites.

Parameters

procWinList	semicolon (";") separated list of procedure files
name	(optional) descriptive name for the executed test suites
testCase	(optional) function name, resembling one test case, which should be executed only

Returns

total number of errors

Examples:

example2-plain.ipf, and Example6/example6-automatic-invocation.ipf.

2.2 Test Assertions

Functions

- variable [CHECK](#) (variable var)
- variable [CHECK_CLOSE_VAR](#) (variable var1, variable var2, variable tol, variable strong_or_weak)
- variable [CHECK_EMPTY_FOLDER](#) ()
- variable [CHECK_EMPTY_STR](#) (string ∗str)
- variable [CHECK_EQUAL_STR](#) (string ∗str1, string ∗str2, variable case_sensitive)
- variable [CHECK_EQUAL_VAR](#) (variable var1, variable var2)
- variable [CHECK_EQUAL_WAVES](#) (Wave/Z wv1, Wave/Z wv2, variable mode, variable tol)
- variable [CHECK_NEQ_STR](#) (string ∗str1, string ∗str2, variable case_sensitive)
- variable [CHECK_NEQ_VAR](#) (variable var1, variable var2)
- variable [CHECK_NULL_STR](#) (string ∗str)
- variable [CHECK_SMALL_VAR](#) (variable var, variable tol)
- variable [CHECK_WAVE](#) (Wave/Z wv, variable majorType, variable minorType)
- variable [FAIL](#) ()
- variable [REQUIRE](#) (variable var)
- variable [REQUIRE_CLOSE_VAR](#) (variable var1, variable var2, variable tol, variable strong_or_weak)
- variable [REQUIRE_EMPTY_FOLDER](#) ()
- variable [REQUIRE_EMPTY_STR](#) (string ∗str)
- variable [REQUIRE_EQUAL_STR](#) (string ∗str1, string ∗str2, variable case_sensitive)
- variable [REQUIRE_EQUAL_VAR](#) (variable var1, variable var2)
- variable [REQUIRE_EQUAL_WAVES](#) (Wave/Z wv1, Wave/Z wv2, variable mode, variable tol)
- variable [REQUIRE_NEQ_STR](#) (string ∗str1, string ∗str2, variable case_sensitive)
- variable [REQUIRE_NEQ_VAR](#) (variable var1, variable var2)
- variable [REQUIRE_NULL_STR](#) (string ∗str)
- variable [REQUIRE_SMALL_VAR](#) (variable var, variable tol)
- variable [REQUIRE_WAVE](#) (Wave/Z wv, variable majorType, variable minorType)
- variable [WARN](#) (variable var)
- variable [WARN_CLOSE_VAR](#) (variable var1, variable var2, variable tol, variable strong_or_weak)
- variable [WARN_EMPTY_FOLDER](#) ()
- variable [WARN_EMPTY_STR](#) (string ∗str)
- variable [WARN_EQUAL_STR](#) (string ∗str1, string ∗str2, variable case_sensitive)
- variable [WARN_EQUAL_VAR](#) (variable var1, variable var2)
- variable [WARN_EQUAL_WAVES](#) (Wave/Z wv1, Wave/Z wv2, variable mode, variable tol)
- variable [WARN_NEQ_STR](#) (string ∗str1, string ∗str2, variable case_sensitive)
- variable [WARN_NEQ_VAR](#) (variable var1, variable var2)
- variable [WARN_NULL_STR](#) (string ∗str)
- variable [WARN_SMALL_VAR](#) (variable var, variable tol)
- variable [WARN_WAVE](#) (Wave/Z wv, variable majorType, variable minorType)

2.2.1 Detailed Description

Test assertions for variables, strings, waves and helper functions.

2.2.2 Function Documentation

variable CHECK (variable *var*)

Tests if var is true (1).

Parameters

var	variable to test

variable CHECK_CLOSE_VAR (variable *var1,* variable *var2,* variable *tol,* variable *strong_or_weak*)

Compares two variables and determines if they are close.

Based on the implementation of "Floating-point comparison algorithms" in the C++ Boost unit testing framework.

Literature:

The art of computer programming (Vol II). Donald. E. Knuth. 0-201-89684-2. Addison-Wesley Professional; 3 edition, page 234 equation (34) and (35).

Parameters

var1	first variable
var2	second variable
tol	(optional) tolerance, defaults to 1e-8
strong_or_weak	(optional) type of condition, can be 0 for weak or 1 for strong (default)

Examples:

example5-overridehooks.ipf.

variable CHECK_EMPTY_FOLDER ( )

Tests if the current data folder is empty.

Counted are objects with type waves, strings, variables and folders

Examples:

example4-wavechecking.ipf.

variable CHECK_EMPTY_STR (string * *str*)

Tests if str is empty.

A null string is never empty.

Parameters

str	string to test

Examples:

example2-plain.ipf.

variable CHECK_EQUAL_STR (string * *str1,* string * *str2,* variable *case_sensitive*)

Compares two strings for equality.

Parameters

str1	first string
str2	second string
case_sensitive	(optional) should the comparison be done case sensitive (1) or case insensitive (0, the default)

Examples:

example2-plain.ipf.

variable CHECK␣EQUAL␣VAR (variable *var1,* variable *var2*)

Tests two variables for equality.

For variables holding floating point values it is often more desirable use CHECK_CLOSE_VAR instead. To fullfill semantic correctness this assertion treats two variables with both holding NaN as equal.

Parameters

var1	first variable
var2	second variable

Examples:

> example1-plain.ipf, example2-plain.ipf, example3-plain.ipf, example4-wavechecking.ipf, example5-overridehooks.-ipf, and Example6/example6-automatic-invocation.ipf.

variable CHECK␣EQUAL␣WAVES (Wave/Z *wv1,* Wave/Z *wv2,* variable *mode,* variable *tol*)

Tests two waves for equality.

Parameters

wv1	first wave
wv2	second wave
mode	(optional) features of the waves to compare, defaults to all modes, defined at Wave equality flags
tol	(optional) tolerance for comparison, by default 0.0 which does byte-by-byte comparison (relevant only for mode=WAVE_DATA)

Examples:

> example4-wavechecking.ipf.

variable CHECK␣NEQ␣STR (string ∗ *str1,* string ∗ *str2,* variable *case␣sensitive*)

Compares two strings for unequality.

Parameters

str1	first string
str2	second string
case_sensitive	(optional) should the comparison be done case sensitive (1) or case insensitive (0, the default)

Examples:

> example2-plain.ipf.

variable CHECK␣NEQ␣VAR (variable *var1,* variable *var2*)

Tests two variables for inequality.

Parameters

var1	first variable
var2	second variable

variable CHECK␣NULL␣STR (string ∗ *str*)

Tests if str is null.

An empty string is never null.

Parameters

str	string to test

Examples:

example2-plain.ipf.

variable CHECK_SMALL_VAR (variable *var,* variable *tol*)

Tests if a variable is small using the inequality $|var| < |tol|$.

Parameters

var	variable
tol	(optional) tolerance, defaults to 1e-8

variable CHECK_WAVE (Wave/Z *wv,* variable *majorType,* variable *minorType*)

Tests a wave for existence and its type.

Parameters

wv	wave reference
majorType	major wave type
minorType	(optional) minor wave type

See also

Wave existence flags

Examples:

example4-wavechecking.ipf.

variable FAIL (   )

Force the test case to fail.

variable REQUIRE (variable *var*)

variable REQUIRE_CLOSE_VAR (variable *var1,* variable *var2,* variable *tol,* variable *strong_or_weak*)

variable REQUIRE_EMPTY_FOLDER (   )

variable REQUIRE_EMPTY_STR (string ∗ *str*)

variable REQUIRE_EQUAL_STR (string ∗ *str1,* string ∗ *str2,* variable *case_sensitive*)

variable REQUIRE_EQUAL_VAR (variable *var1,* variable *var2*)

Examples:

example3-plain.ipf.

variable REQUIRE_EQUAL_WAVES (Wave/Z *wv1,* Wave/Z *wv2,* variable *mode,* variable *tol*)

variable REQUIRE_NEQ_STR (string ∗ *str1,* string ∗ *str2,* variable *case_sensitive*)

variable REQUIRE_NEQ_VAR (variable *var1,* variable *var2*)

variable REQUIRE_NULL_STR (string ∗ *str*)

variable REQUIRE_SMALL_VAR (variable *var,* variable *tol*)

variable REQUIRE_WAVE (Wave/Z *wv,* variable *majorType,* variable *minorType*)

variable WARN (variable *var*)

Examples:

example1-plain.ipf.

variable WARN_CLOSE_VAR (variable *var1,* variable *var2,* variable *tol,* variable *strong_or_weak*)

variable WARN_EMPTY_FOLDER (   )

variable WARN_EMPTY_STR (string ∗ *str*)

variable WARN_EQUAL_STR (string ∗ *str1,* string ∗ *str2,* variable *case_sensitive*)

Examples:

example2-plain.ipf.

variable WARN_EQUAL_VAR (variable *var1,* variable *var2*)

Examples:

example3-plain.ipf.

variable WARN_EQUAL_WAVES (Wave/Z *wv1,* Wave/Z *wv2,* variable *mode,* variable *tol*)

variable WARN_NEQ_STR (string ∗ *str1,* string ∗ *str2,* variable *case_sensitive*)

variable WARN_NEQ_VAR (variable *var1,* variable *var2*)

variable WARN_NULL_STR (string ∗ *str*)

variable WARN_SMALL_VAR (variable *var,* variable *tol*)

variable WARN_WAVE (Wave/Z *wv,* variable *majorType,* variable *minorType*)

2.3   Assertions flags

Modules

- Wave existence flags
- Wave equality flags

2.3.1   Detailed Description

Constants for assertion test tuning.

2.4 Wave existence flags

Variables

- const variable COMPLEX_WAVE = 0x01
- const variable DOUBLE_WAVE = 0x04
- const variable FLOAT_WAVE = 0x02
- const variable INT16_WAVE = 0x16
- const variable INT32_WAVE = 0x20
- const variable INT8_WAVE = 0x08
- const variable NUMERIC_WAVE = 1
- const variable TEXT_WAVE = 2
- const variable UNSIGNED_WAVE = 0x40

2.4.1 Detailed Description

Values for `majorType`/`minorType` of WARN_WAVE, CHECK_WAVE and REQUIRE_WAVE.

2.4.2 Variable Documentation

const variable COMPLEX_WAVE = 0x01

const variable DOUBLE_WAVE = 0x04

Examples:

> example4-wavechecking.ipf.

const variable FLOAT_WAVE = 0x02

const variable INT16_WAVE = 0x16

const variable INT32_WAVE = 0x20

const variable INT8_WAVE = 0x08

const variable NUMERIC_WAVE = 1

Examples:

> example4-wavechecking.ipf.

const variable TEXT_WAVE = 2

Examples:

> example4-wavechecking.ipf.

const variable UNSIGNED_WAVE = 0x40

2.5   Wave equality flags

Variables

- const variable DATA_FULL_SCALE = 256
- const variable DATA_UNITS = 8
- const variable DIMENSION_LABELS = 32
- const variable DIMENSION_SIZES = 512
- const variable DIMENSION_UNITS = 16
- const variable WAVE_DATA = 1
- const variable WAVE_DATA_TYPE = 2
- const variable WAVE_LOCK_STATE = 128
- const variable WAVE_NOTE = 64
- const variable WAVE_SCALING = 4

2.5.1   Detailed Description

Values for `mode` in WARN_EQUAL_WAVES, CHECK_EQUAL_WAVES and REQUIRE_EQUAL_WAVES.

2.5.2   Variable Documentation

const variable DATA_FULL_SCALE = 256

const variable DATA_UNITS = 8

const variable DIMENSION_LABELS = 32

const variable DIMENSION_SIZES = 512

const variable DIMENSION_UNITS = 16

const variable WAVE_DATA = 1

const variable WAVE_DATA_TYPE = 2

const variable WAVE_LOCK_STATE = 128

const variable WAVE_NOTE = 64

const variable WAVE_SCALING = 4

2.6   Default hook functions

Functions

- variable TEST_BEGIN (string name)
- variable TEST_CASE_BEGIN (string testCase)
- variable TEST_CASE_END (string testCase)
- variable TEST_END (string name)
- variable TEST_SUITE_BEGIN (string testSuite)
- variable TEST_SUITE_END (string testSuite)

2.6.1   Detailed Description

Default implementation of test hook functions.

2.6.2   Function Documentation

variable TEST␣BEGIN (string *name*)

Default test begin hook.

The hook is immediately called after RunTest starts.

Parameters

name	name of the test suite group

variable TEST␣CASE␣BEGIN (string *testCase*)

Default hook for test case begin.

The hook is called before executing the test case.

Parameters

testCase	name of the test case

variable TEST␣CASE␣END (string *testCase*)

Default hook for test case end.

The hook is called after executing the test case.

Parameters

testCase	name of the test case

Examples:

example5-overridehooks.ipf.

variable TEST␣END (string *name*)

Default test end hook.

The hook is called after all tests suites.

Parameters

name	name of the test suite group

variable TEST_SUITE_BEGIN (string *testSuite*)

Default hook for test suite begin.

The hook is called before executing the first test case of every test suite.

Parameters

testSuite	name of the test suite

variable TEST_SUITE_END (string *testSuite*)

Default hook for test suite end.

The hook is called after executing the last test case of every test suite.

Parameters

testSuite	name of the test suite

Examples:

example5-overridehooks.ipf.

3 Example Documentation

3.1 example1-plain.ipf

Test suite showing the basic working principles.

```
#pragma rtGlobals=3

#include "unit-testing"

// Execute the test suite, same named as this procedure file
// with RunTest("example1-plain.ipf")

Function TestModulo()

  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(abs(1.5),1.5)
  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(abs(-1.5),1.5)
  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(abs(NaN),NaN)
  // remember that NaN is not equal to NaN
  // this check will generate a warning message but due
  // to the usage of WARN instead of CHECK not increment the error count
  WARN(abs(NaN) == NaN)
  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(abs(INF),INF)
  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(abs(-INF),INF)
End
```

3.2 example2-plain.ipf

Test suite with run routine and module/static usage. See the section about test cases why the function run_IGNO-RE() is not considered a test case.

```
#pragma rtGlobals=3
#pragma ModuleName=Example2

#include "unit-testing"

// Command: run_IGNORE()
// Shows how to use ignore routines

Function run_IGNORE()
  // All of these commands run the test suite "example2-plain.ipf"

  // executes all test cases of this file
  RunTest("example2-plain.ipf")
  // execute only one test case at a time
  RunTest("example2-plain.ipf",testCase="VerifyDefaultStringBehaviour")
  // Give all test suites a descriptive name
  RunTest("example2-plain.ipf",name="My first test")
End

// Making the function static prevents name clashes with other procedure files.
// Using static functions requires also the line "#pragma ModuleName" from
// above.
static Function VerifyDefaultStringBehaviour()

  string nullString
  string emptyString = ""
  string strLow      = "1234a"
  string strUP       = "1234A"

  // by default string comparison is done case insensitive
  CHECK_EQUAL_STR(strLow,strUP)
  CHECK_EQUAL_STR(strLow,strUP,case_sensitive=0)
  // the next test fails
  WARN_EQUAL_STR(strLow,strUP,case_sensitive=1)

  CHECK_NEQ_STR(emptyString,nullString)
  CHECK_NEQ_STR(strLow,nullString)
  CHECK_EMPTY_STR(emptyString)
  CHECK_NULL_STR(nullString)
  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(strlen(strLow),5)
End
```

3.3 example3-plain.ipf

Test suite emphasising the difference between the WARN, CHECK and REQUIRE assertion variants. See also Assertion Types.

```
#pragma rtGlobals=3
#pragma ModuleName=Example3

#include "unit-testing"

// Command: RunTest("example3-plain.ipf")
// The error count of this test suite is 2

// WARN_* does not increment the error count
Function WarnTest()

  WARN_EQUAL_VAR(1.0,0.0)
End

// CHECK_* increments the error count
Function CheckTest()

  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(1.0,0.0)
End

// REQUIRE_* increments the error count and will stop execution
// of the test case immediately.
// Nevertheless the test end hooks are still executed.
Function RequireTest()

  REQUIRE_EQUAL_VAR(1.0,0.0)
  print "I'm never reached :("
End
```

3.4 example4-wavechecking.ipf

Test suite showing some test assertions for waves.

```
#pragma rtGlobals=3
#pragma ModuleName=Example4

#include "unit-testing"

// Command: RunTest("example4-wavechecking.ipf")
// Helper functions to check wave types and compare with
// reference waves are also provided

static Function CheckMakeDouble()
  CHECK_EMPTY_FOLDER() // checks that the cdf is completely
      empty

  Make/D myWave
  CHECK_WAVE(myWave,NUMERIC_WAVE,minorType=DOUBLE_WAVE
      )
  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(DimSize(myWave,0),128)

  // as this test case is always executed in a fresh datafolder
  // we don't have to use the overwrite /O option for Duplicate
  Duplicate myWave, myWaveCopy
  CHECK_EQUAL_WAVES(myWave,myWaveCopy)

End

static Function CheckMakeText()
  CHECK_EMPTY_FOLDER()

  Make/T/D myWave
  CHECK_WAVE(myWave,TEXT_WAVE)
  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(DimSize(myWave,0),128)

  Duplicate myWave, myWaveCopy
  CHECK_EQUAL_WAVES(myWave,myWaveCopy)
End
```

3.5 example5-overridehooks.ipf

Two test suites showing how to use test hook overrides.

```
#include "unit-testing"
```

```
#pragma rtGlobals=3

#include "unit-testing"

// As this procedure file is in ProcGlobal context
// the test hook overrides are global.

Function TEST_BEGIN_OVERRIDE(name)
  string name

  print "I can only be overriden globally"
End

Function TEST_END_OVERRIDE(name)
  string name

  print "I can only be overriden globally, too"
End

Function TEST_CASE_END_OVERRIDE(name)
  string name

  print "I'm for all test suites overriding the test case end but still call
      the default hook"
  TEST_CASE_END(name)
End

Function TEST_SUITE_BEGIN_OVERRIDE(name)
  string name

  print "Global test suite begin override"
End

Function TEST_SUITE_END_OVERRIDE(name)
  string name

  print "Global test suite end override"
  TEST_SUITE_END(name)
End

Function CheckBasicMath()

  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(1+2,3)
End


#pragma rtGlobals=3
#pragma ModuleName=Example5

#include "unit-testing"

// RunTest("example5-overridehooks.ipf;example5-overridehooks-otherSuite.ipf")

static Function TEST_CASE_BEGIN_OVERRIDE(name)
  string name

  print "I'm for all test cases in this test suite overriding the test case
      begin"
End

static Function TEST_CASE_END_OVERRIDE(name)
  string name

  printf "I'm overriding test case end for (%s) in this test suite only but
      still call the default hook\r", name
  TEST_CASE_END(name)
End

static Function CheckSquareRoot()

  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(sqrt(4.0),2.0)
  CHECK_CLOSE_VAR(sqrt(2.0),1.4142,tol=1e-4)
End
```

3.6 Example6/example6-automatic-invocation.ipf

Test suite showing how to automate testing from the command line. See also Automate Test Runs.

```
#pragma rtGlobals=3

#include "unit-testing"
```

```
Function run()
        RunTest("example6-automatic-invocation.ipf")
End


#pragma rtGlobals=3
#pragma ModuleName=Example6

#include "unit-testing"

// Command: Call "autorun-test.bat" without Igor Pro running

static Function CheckTrigonometricFunctions()
  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(sin(0.0),0.0)
  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(cos(0.0),1.0)
  CHECK_EQUAL_VAR(tan(0.0),0.0)
End
```

```
Function run()
        RunTest("example6-automatic-invocation.ipf")
End
```

```
// Command: Call "autorun-test.bat" without Igor Pro running
```

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