

TDD Tests are not Unit Tests

作者: e

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The goal of this blog entry was to clarify the difference among TDD tests, unit tests, and acce tance tests. A TDD test is similar to both a unit test and an acceptance test, but it is not the s me.

Like unit tests, TDD tests can be used for regression testing. You can use TDD tests to immeditely determine whether a change in code has broken existing application functionality. Howe er, unlike a unit test, a TDD test does not necessarily test one unit of code in isolation.

Like acceptance tests, TDD tests are used to drive the creation of an application. TDD tests wo k like mini-acceptance tests. You create a TDD test to express the application functionality tha needs to be implemented next. However, unlike an acceptance test, a TDD test is not an endo-end test. A TDD test does not interact with a live database or web server.

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