



# Effective Software Test Automation: Developing an Automated Software Testing Tool

By Kanglin Li, Mengqi Wu, Sybex

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"If you'd like a glimpse at how the next generation is going to program, this book is a good place to start."

—Gregory V. Wilson, *Dr. Dobbs Journal* (October 2004)

### Build Your Own Automated Software Testing Tool

Whatever its claims, commercially available testing software is not automatic. Configuring it to test your product is almost as time-consuming and error-prone as purely manual testing.

There is an alternative that makes both engineering and economic sense: building your own, truly automatic tool. Inside, you'll learn a repeatable, step-by-step approach, suitable for virtually any development environment. Code-intensive examples support the book's instruction, which includes these key topics:

- Conducting active software testing without capture/replay
- Generating a script to test all members of one class without reverse-engineering
- Using XML to store previously designed testing cases
- Automatically generating testing data
- Combining Reflection and CodeDom to write test scripts focused on high-risk areas
- Generating test scripts from external data sources
- Using real and complete objects for integration testing
- Modifying your tool to test third-party software components
- Testing your testing tool

*Effective Software Test Automation* goes well beyond the building of your own testing tool: it also provides expert guidance on deploying it in ways that let you reap the greatest benefits: earlier detection of coding errors, a smoother, swifter development process, and final software that is as bug-free as possible. Written for programmers, testers, designers, and managers, it will improve the way your team works and the quality of its products.

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### About the Author

Kanglin Li is a software engineer responsible for software development, testing, and deployment at Communication Data Services. He has developed applications in Basic, Pascal, C++, Java, Visual Basic, and C#. Li taught at North Carolina A&T State University as an assistant professor and is the author of 14 journal articles and technical papers. He has a B.S degree in Agronomy, an M.S. degree in computer science, and a Ph.D. degree in soil physics and statistics.

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