



# Equivalence Class Testing

## Lecture Objectives:

- 1) Explain the concept of design by contract and test by contract.
- 2) Define equivalence class.
- 3) Compare and contrast defensive testing and testing by contract.  
(Test ~~only~~)
- 4) Given a software description, define the equivalence classes for a given problem.
- 5) Given a software description, construct test cases using the equivalence partitioning method.
- 6) Based on Equivalence class testing, determine the minimum number of test cases necessary to test a given software system.

Design by contract, defensive

testing, and testing by contract

- Here's a one page handout. Read it through with your partner and be able to explain design by contract, defensive testing, and testing by contract.

⇒ Modules are defined by pre/post conditions.

→ Verify that module works based on what it is supposed to do.

Defensive Design:

⇒ Design your module to be able to handle both valid and ~~any~~ invalid entries.

Defensive Testing:

Testing both Normal  
and abnormal conditions

---



# Main Types of Black Box

## Tests

- Functional Testing

↳ Functionality

- Equivalence Partitioning

↳ Breaking our data into groups

- Boundary Value Analysis

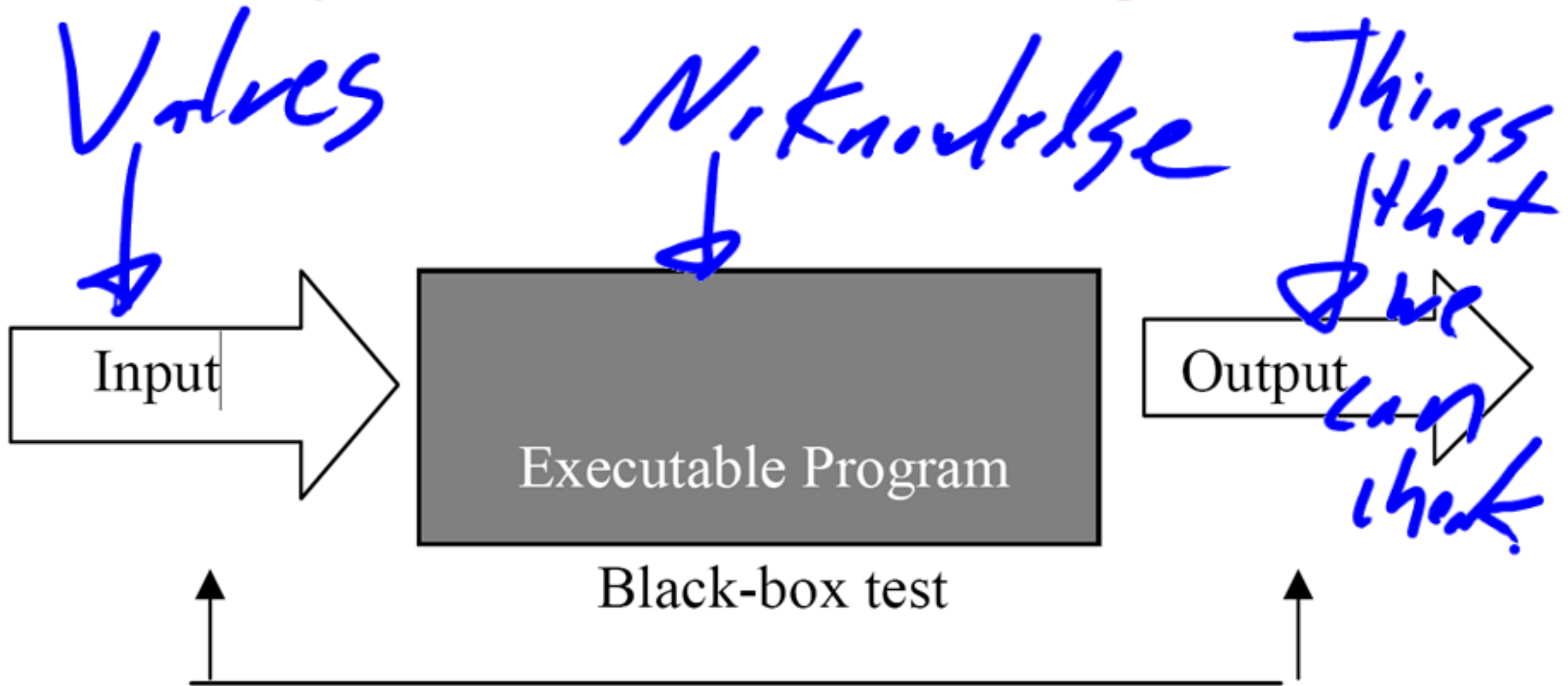
↳ Looking for changes in system.

- Decision Table Testing

↳ state machine based



# Simple Black Box Testing Model

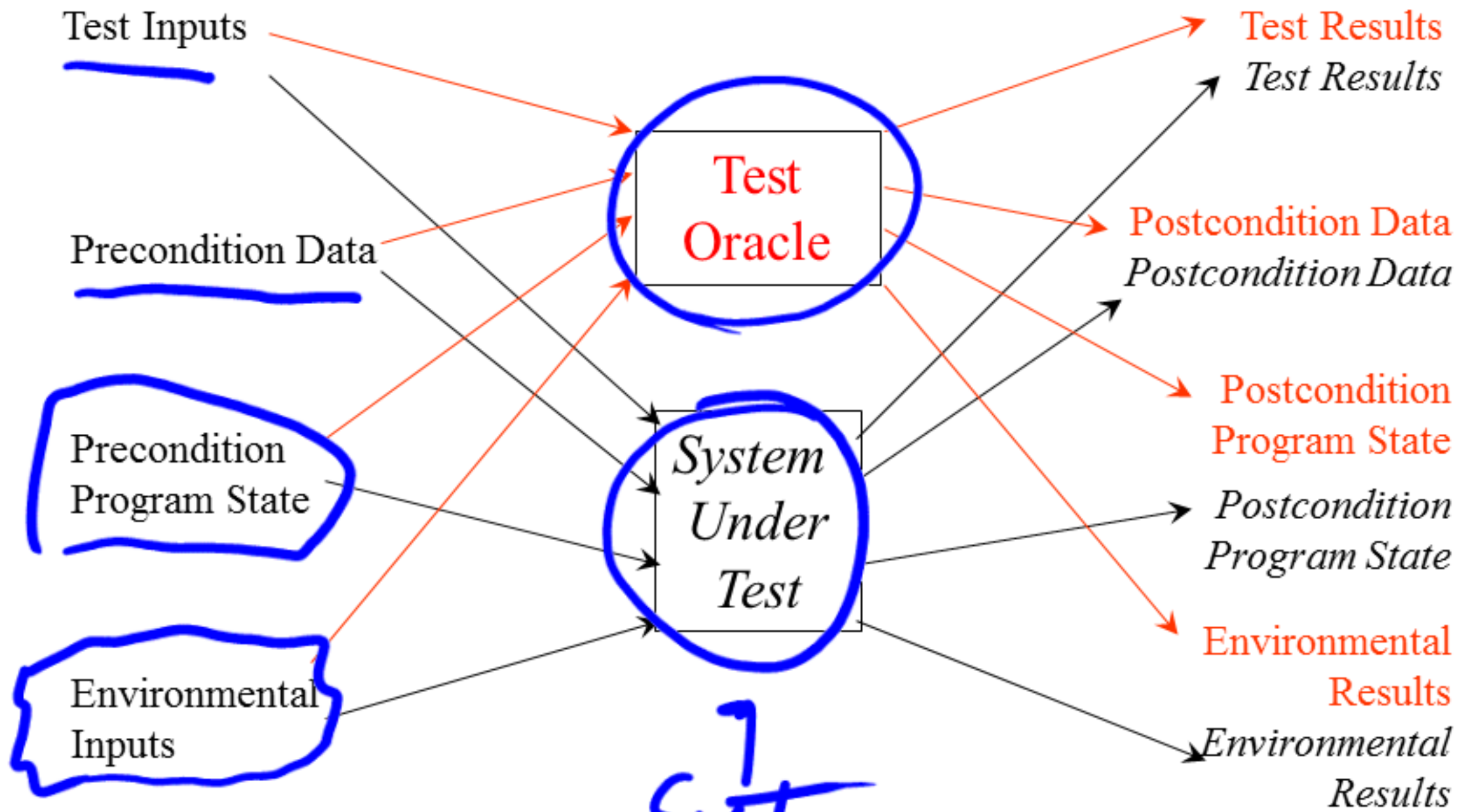


# Test Oracle

- An oracle is a mechanism for determining whether the program has passed or failed a test.
- A complete oracle would have three capabilities and would carry them out perfectly:
  - A *generator*, to provide predicted or expected results for each test.
  - A *comparator*, to compare predicted and obtained results.
  - An *evaluator*, to determine whether the comparison results are sufficiently close to be a pass.



# The "Complete" Oracle

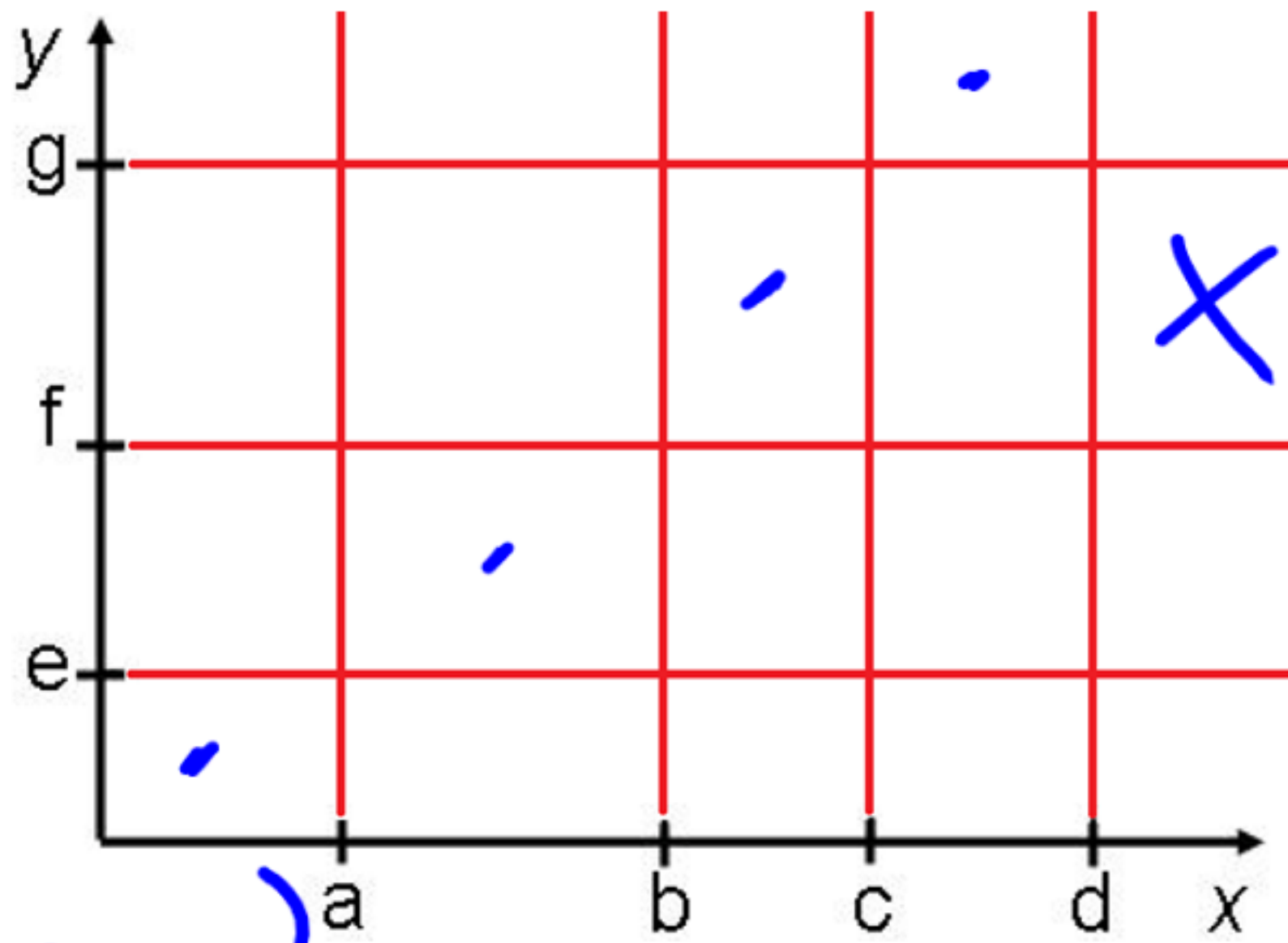


Reprinted with permission of Doug Hoffman

4

# A Mind Teaser

- Given a grid of size  $m \times n$ , how many dots would be required to ensure that each row and each column contains at least one dot?



$\text{Max}(m \text{ or } n)$



# Equivalence Partitioning

Equivalence partitioning is a black-box testing method

- divide the input domain of a program into classes of data
- derive test cases based on these partitions.

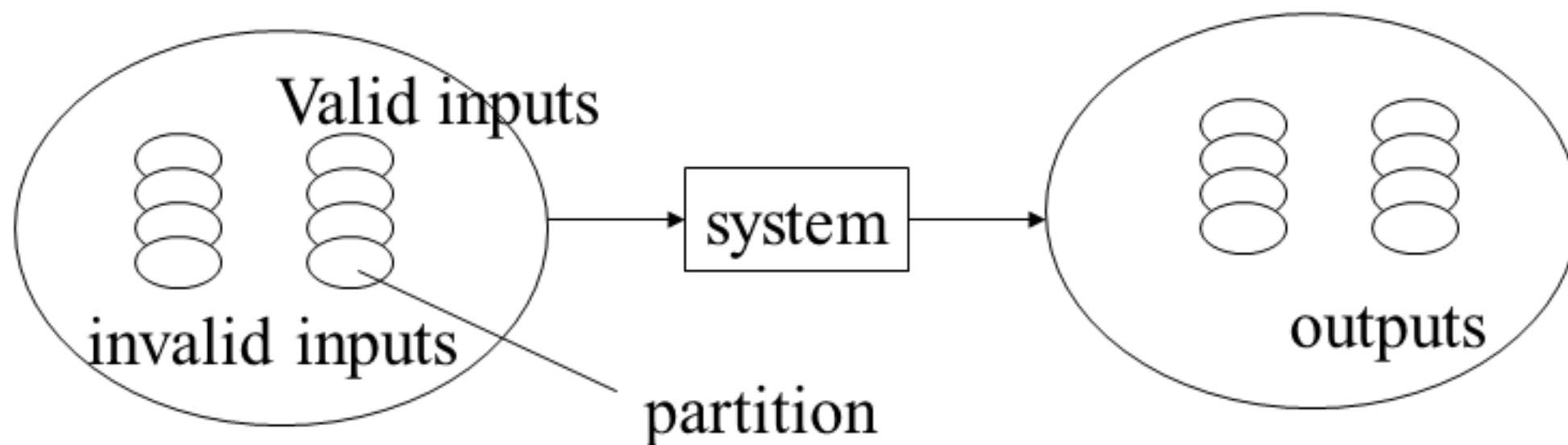
Test case design for equivalence partitioning is based on an evaluation of equivalence classes for an input domain.

An equivalence class represents a set of valid or invalid states for input condition

An input condition is:

- a specific numeric value, a range of values
- a set of related values, or a Boolean condition

→ String



- Lets assume we have a method, doSomething, which has two parameters.

## Problem

- `Int doSomething(int x1, int x2);`

$a \leq \underline{x1} \leq \underline{d}$ , intervals [a, b), [b, c), [c, d]

$e \leq x2 \leq g$ , intervals [e, f), [f, g]

Bottom

Top

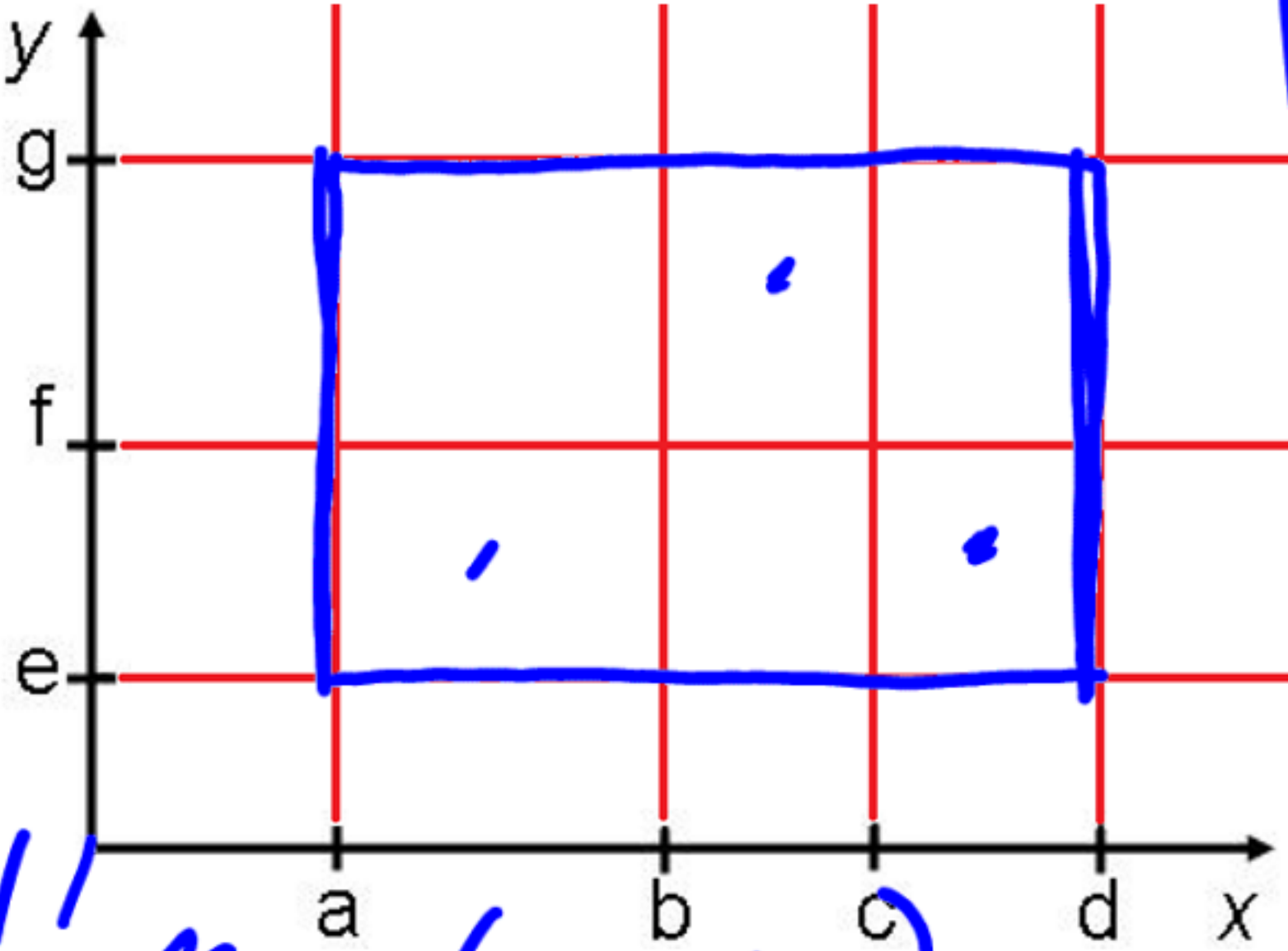
# Weak normal equivalence

classes

Testing

Normal inputs

- Select a set of tests such that each equivalence class is tested at least once.
- All tests from "normal" range



Test by contrast.

All tests are weakly tested  $M \times (m, n)$

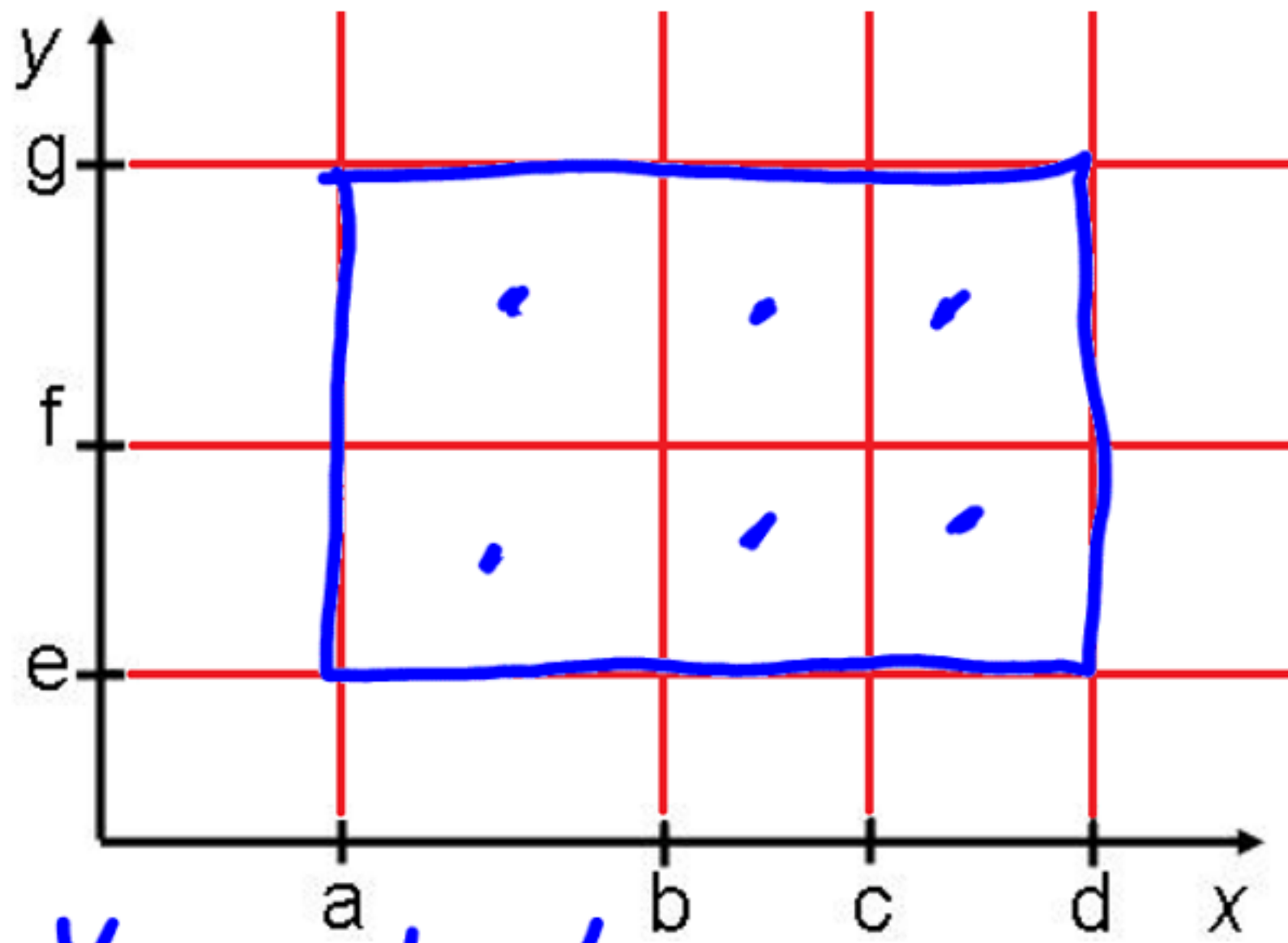




# Strong Normal Equivalence

## Class Testing

- Select a set of tests such that each set of equivalence classes is tested at least once.
  - All tests from the "normal" range.



*m \* n test cases*

*Test any combination*

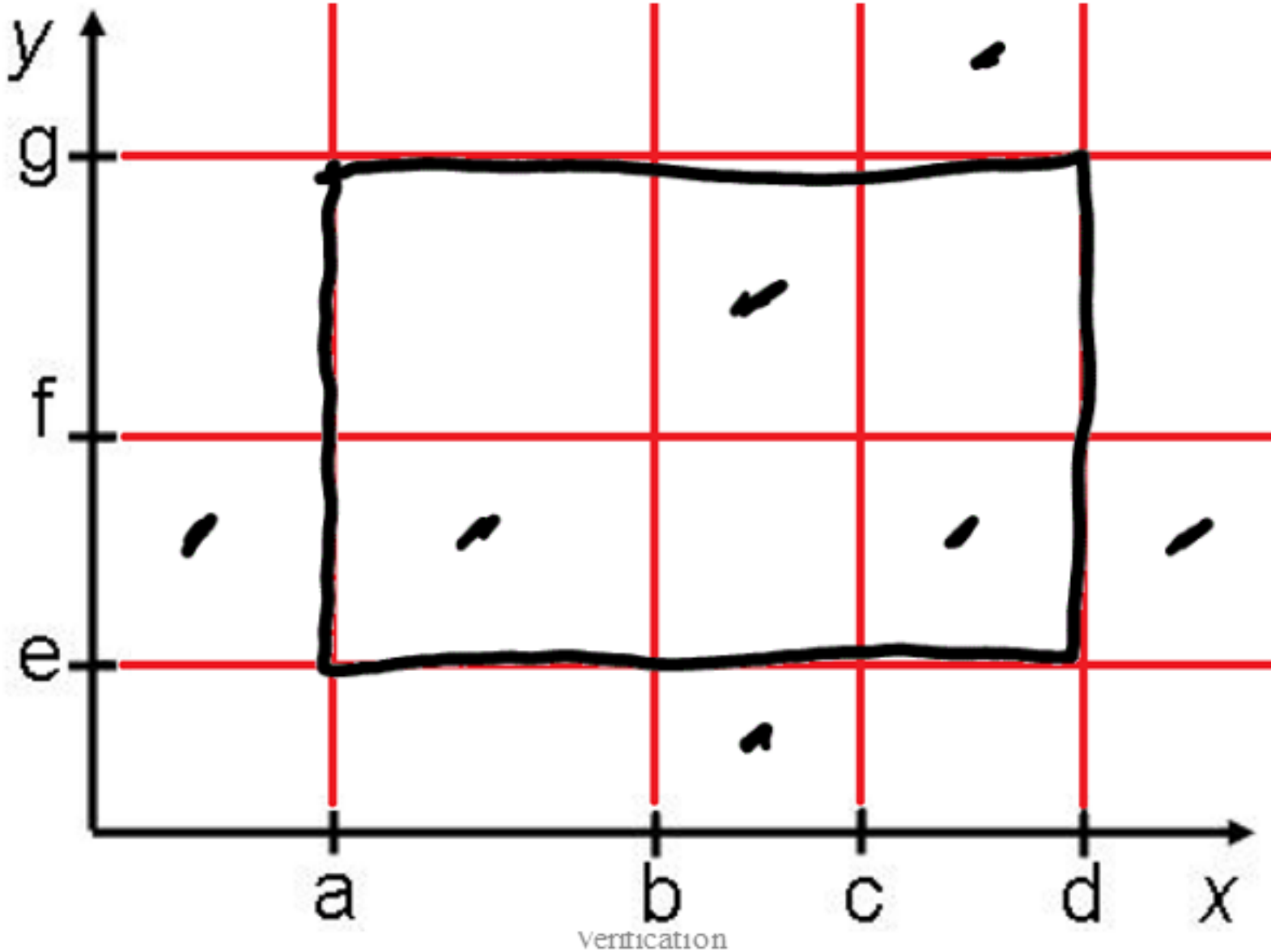




## Class Testing

- Valid inputs
  - Use 1 value from each class
- Invalid inputs
  - Test case will have one invalid input and all others will be valid

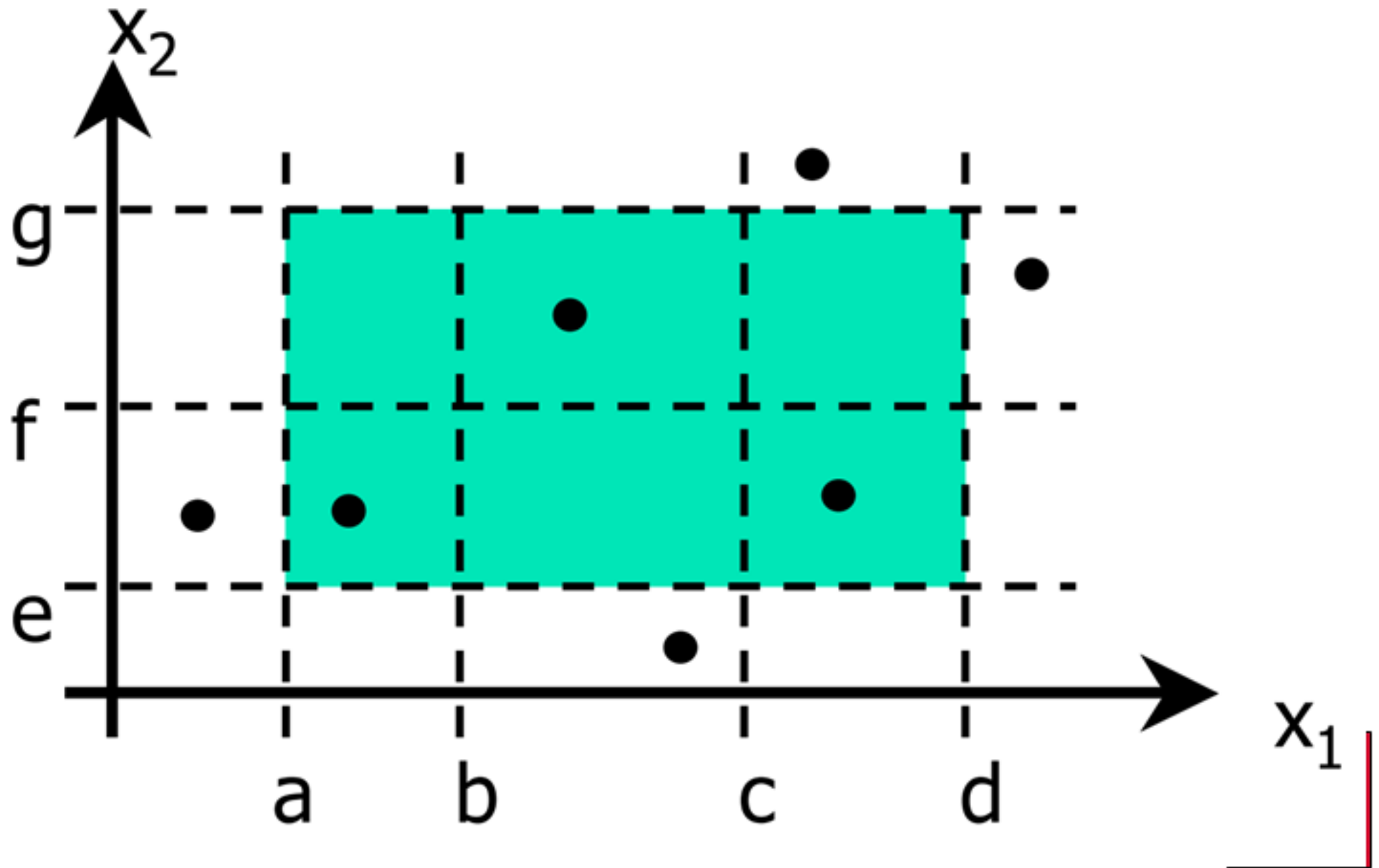
*Defensive  
Testing*



# Weak Robust Equivalence

## Class Testing

- Valid inputs
  - Use 1 value from each class
- Invalid inputs
  - Test case will have one invalid input and all others will be valid

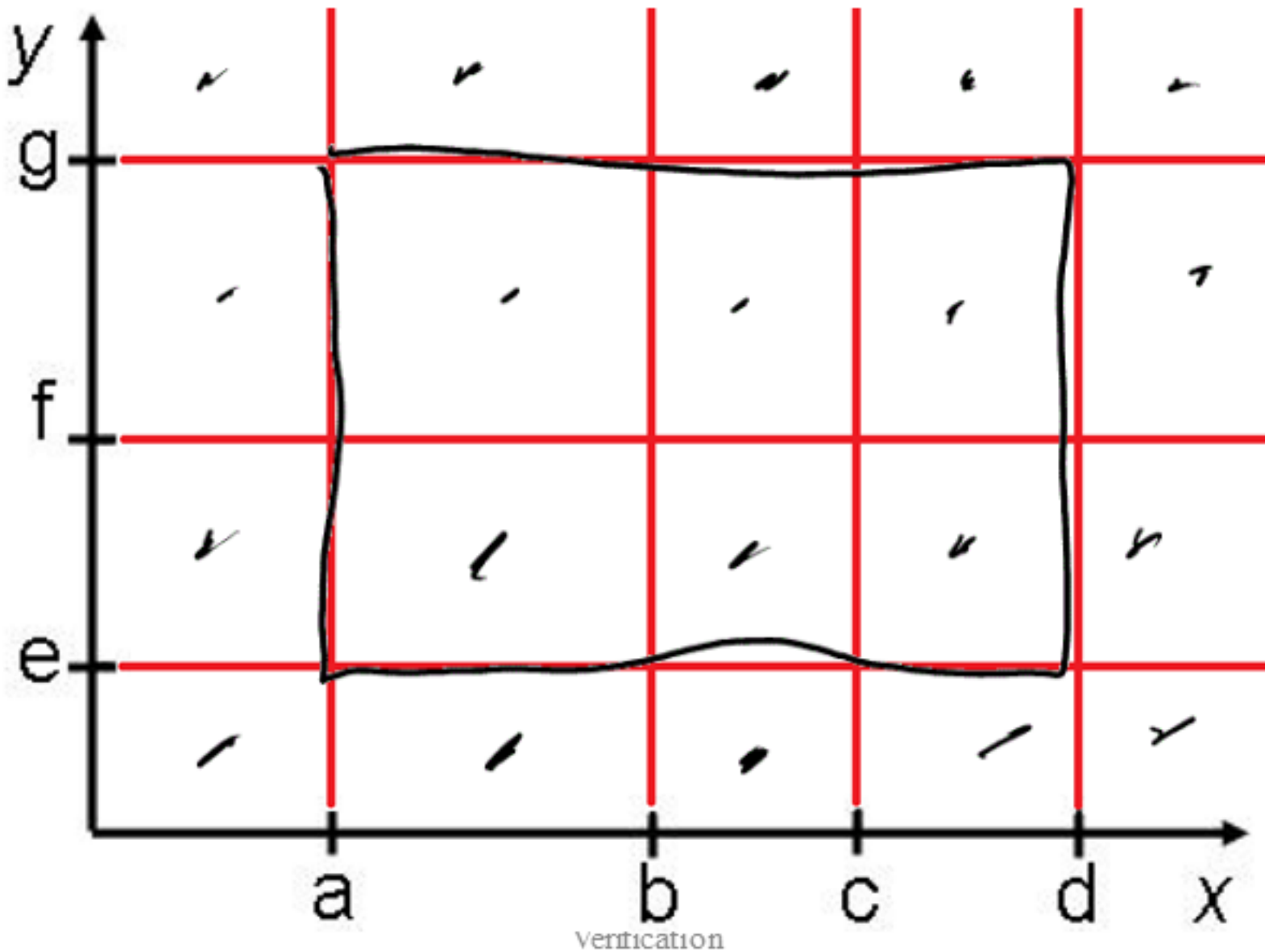


# Strong Robust Equivalence

## Class Testing

- Valid inputs
  - Use value from each class intersection
- Invalid inputs
  - Test case will have one invalid input and all others will be valid

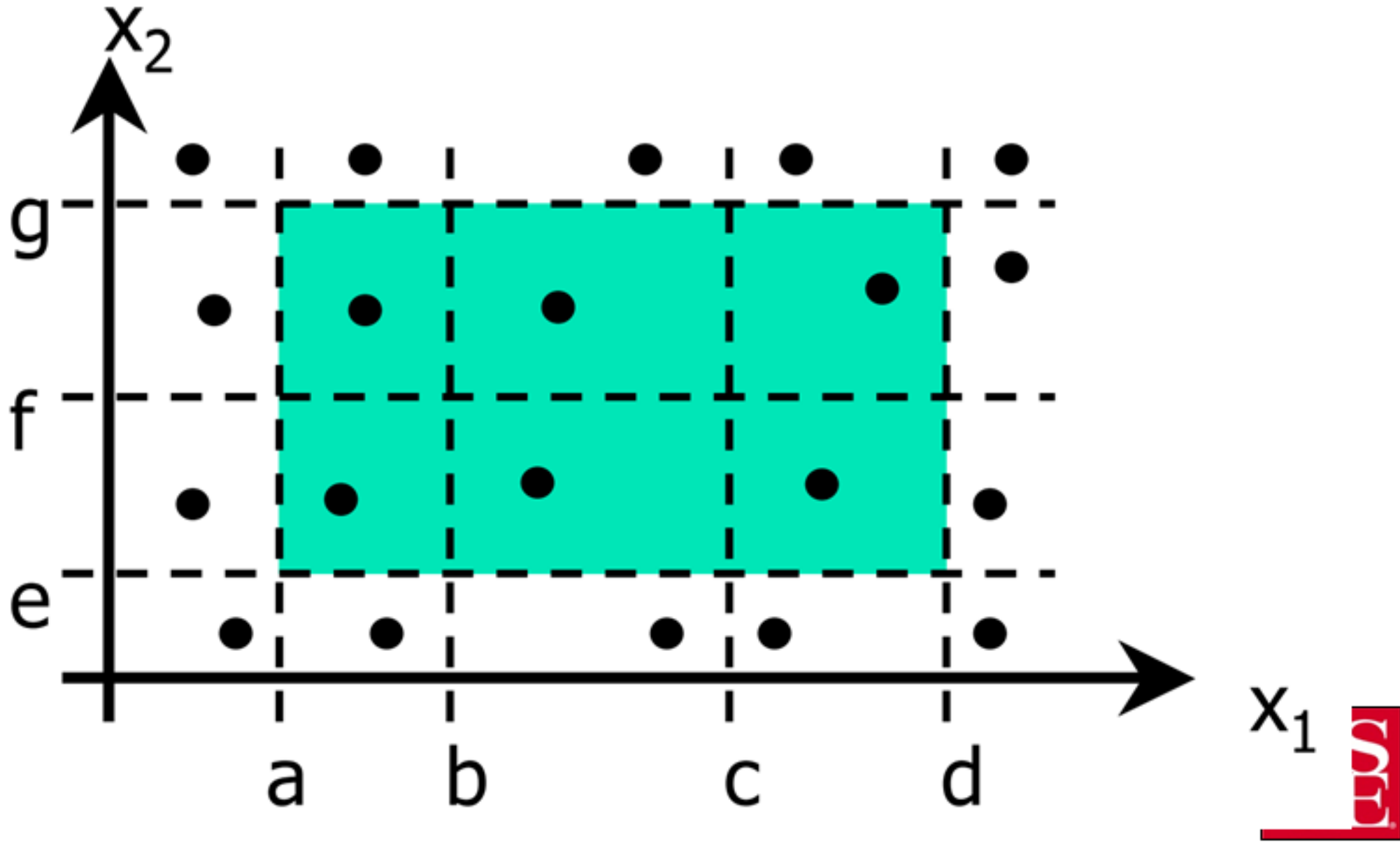
Defensive Testing



# Strong Robust Equivalence

## Class Testing

- Valid inputs
  - Use value from each class intersection
- Invalid inputs
  - Test case will have one invalid input and all others will be valid



# Equivalence Class Example

```
/**
```

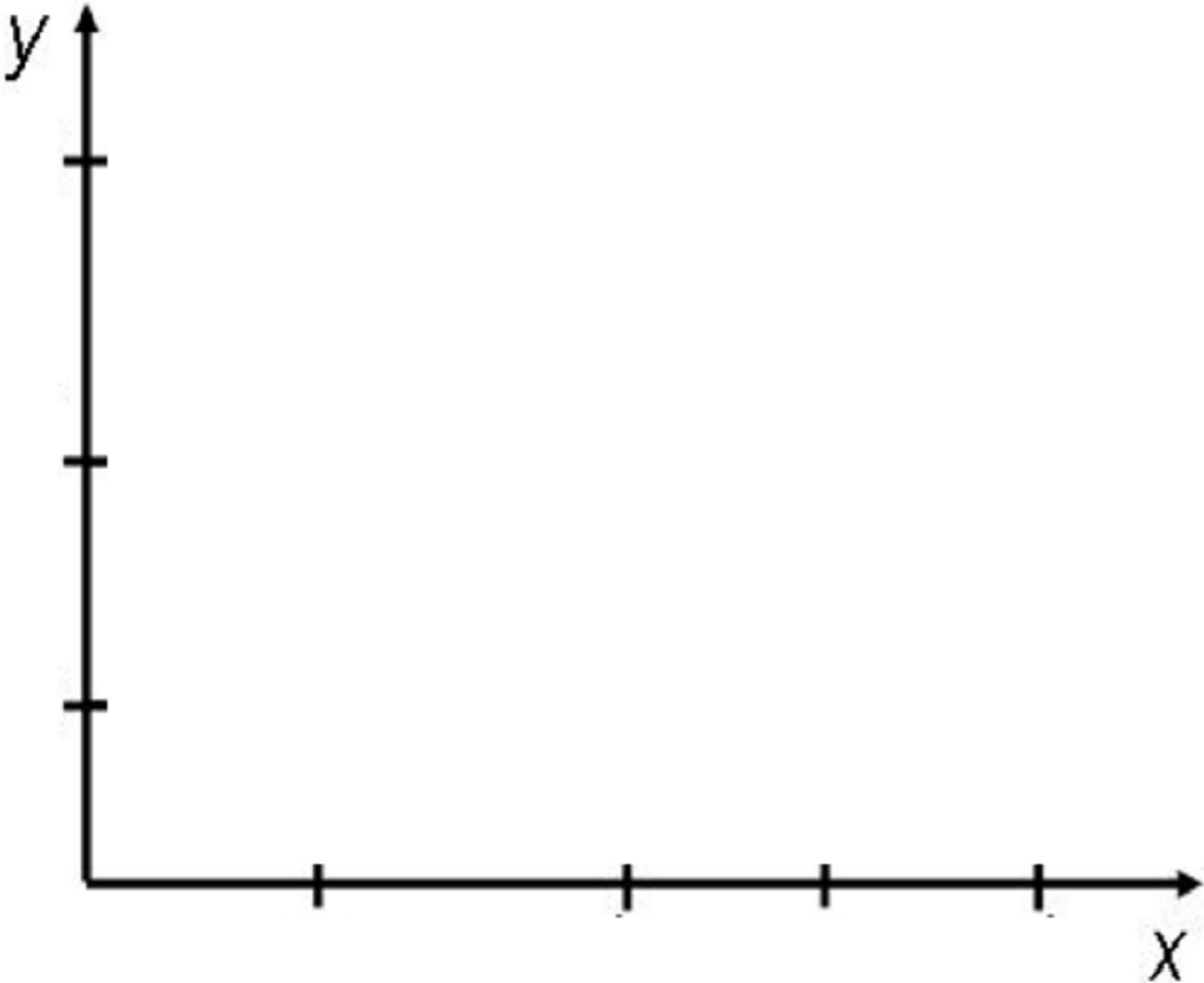
This method will print a letter grade of A(90), B(80), C(70), D(60), or F(<60) out to the screen or throw an exception if an invalid grade (<0, >100) is entered. If the final grade is less than 50, F will be printed (assuming the value is in range.)

```
**/
```

```
void printGrade(int overallgrade, int final  
grade)
```

# Weak normal equivalence

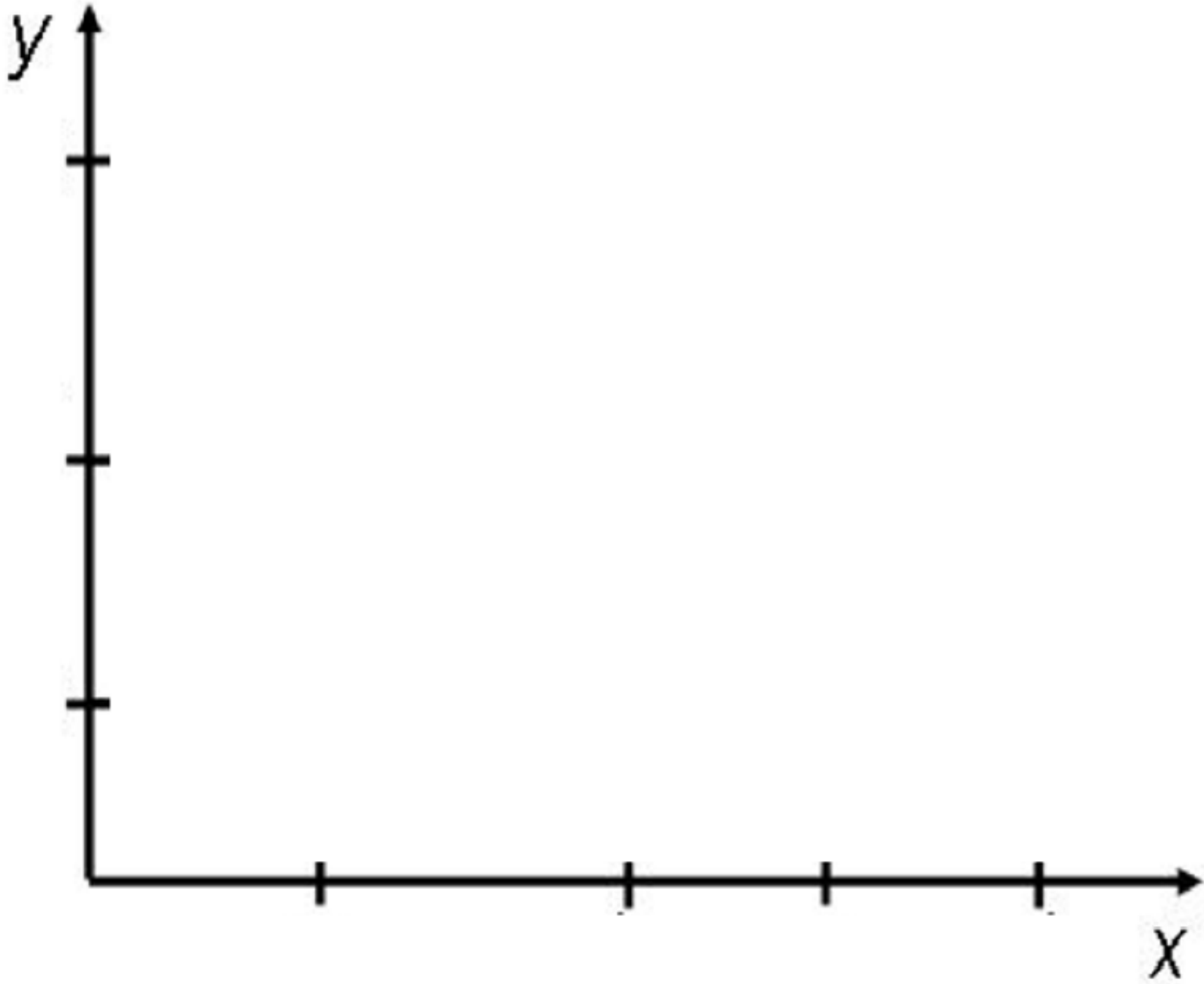
## class testing



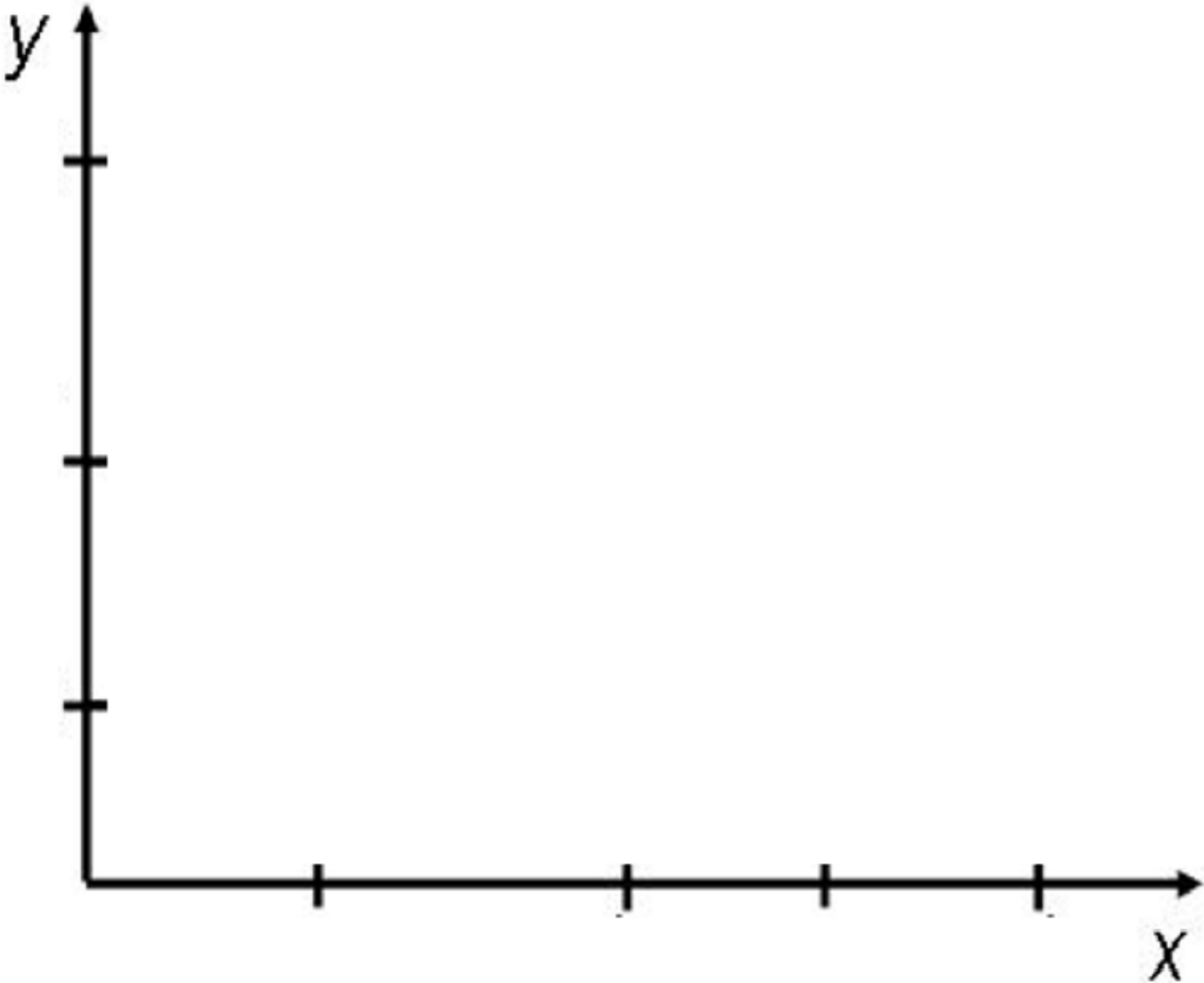


# Strong normal equivalence

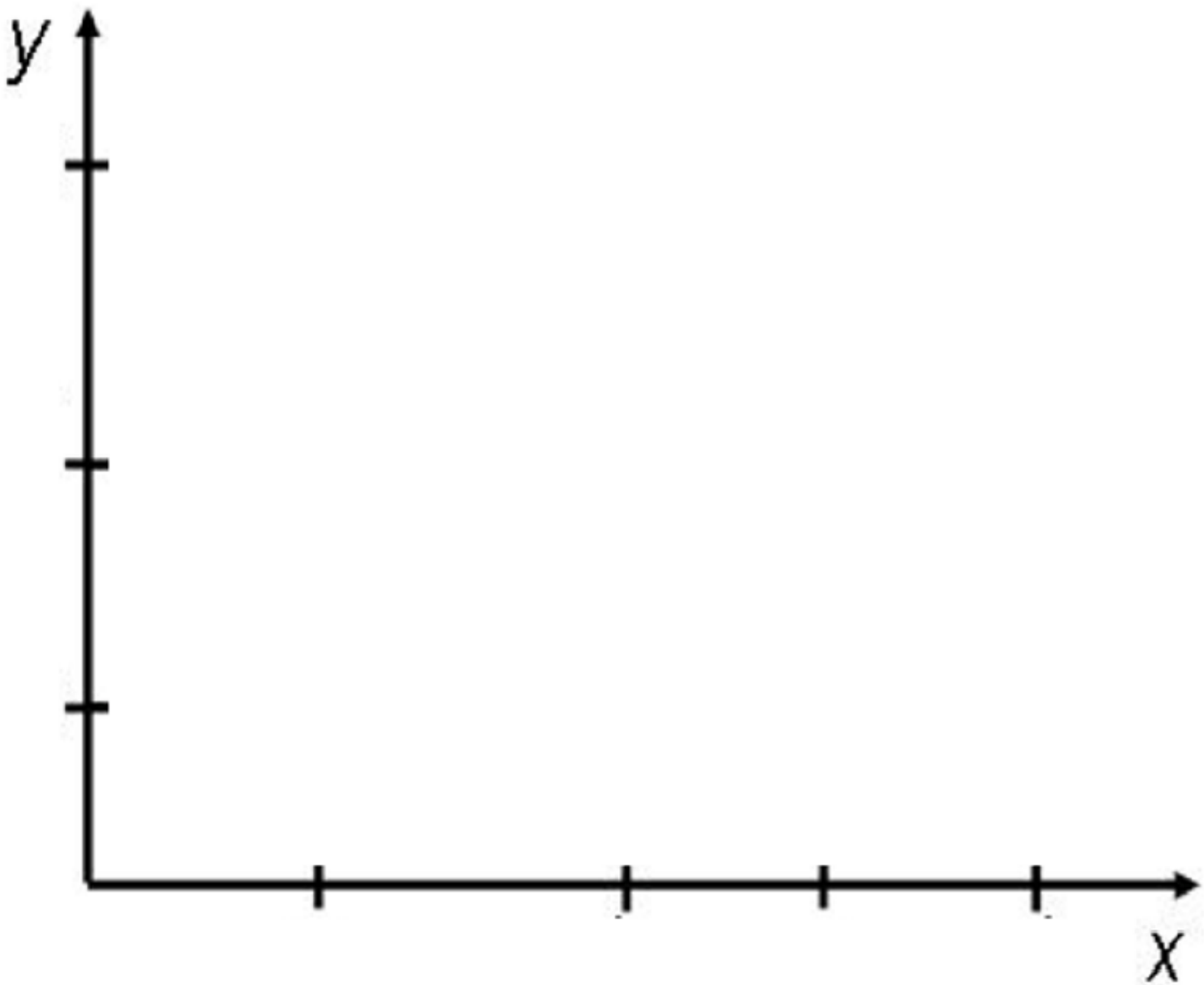
## class testing



# Weak robust equivalence class testing



# Strong robust equivalence class testing



# General test case counts

## For 2 variables

- Weak normal  $\leftarrow$  Least  
–  $\text{Max}(N, M) \leftarrow$  + C's
- Strong Normal  
–  $M * N \leftarrow$

- Weak Robust  
–  $\text{Max}(N, M) + 4 -$

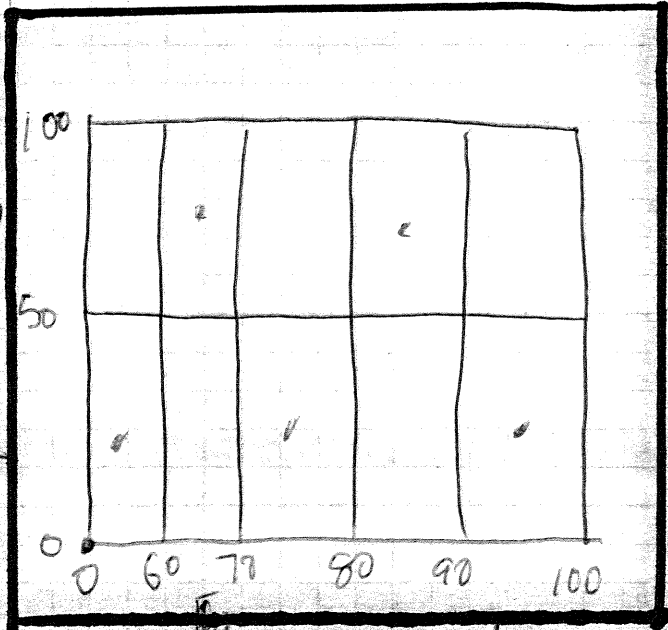
- Strong robust  $\leftarrow$  Most  
–  $(\underline{M+2}) * (\underline{N+2})$  + C's

Test by Contract

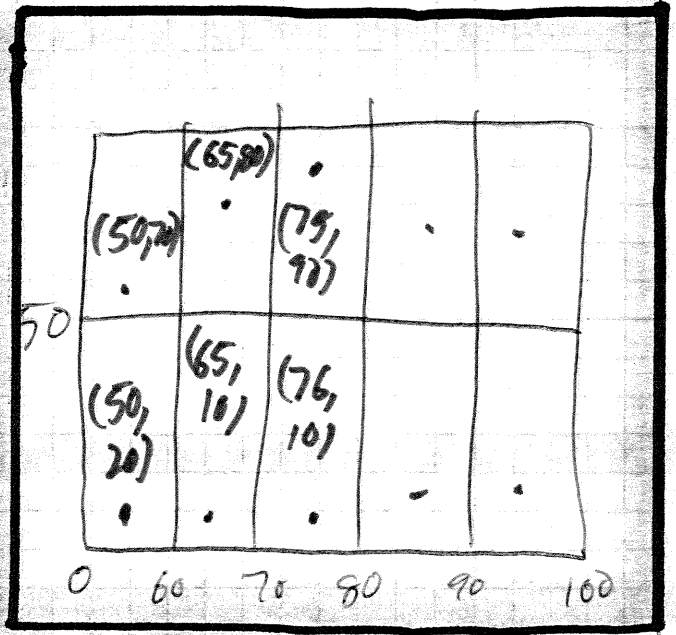
Defensive

Testing

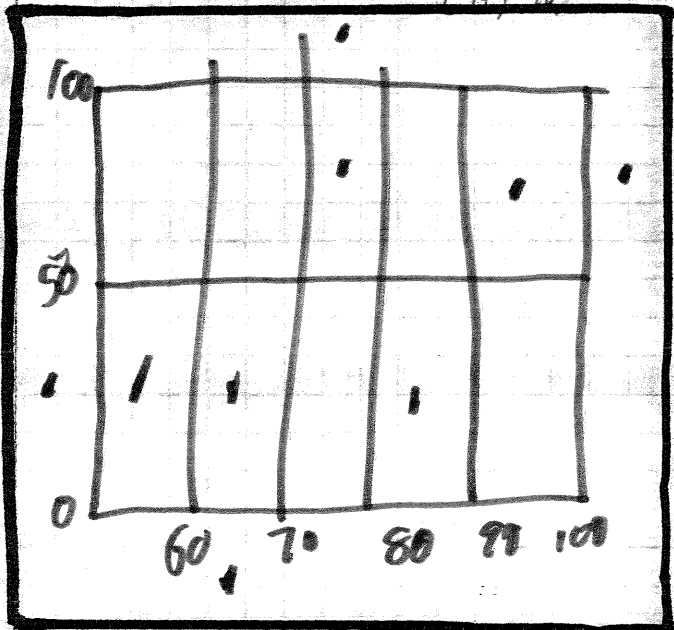
AMPAD Exam  
Final Grade



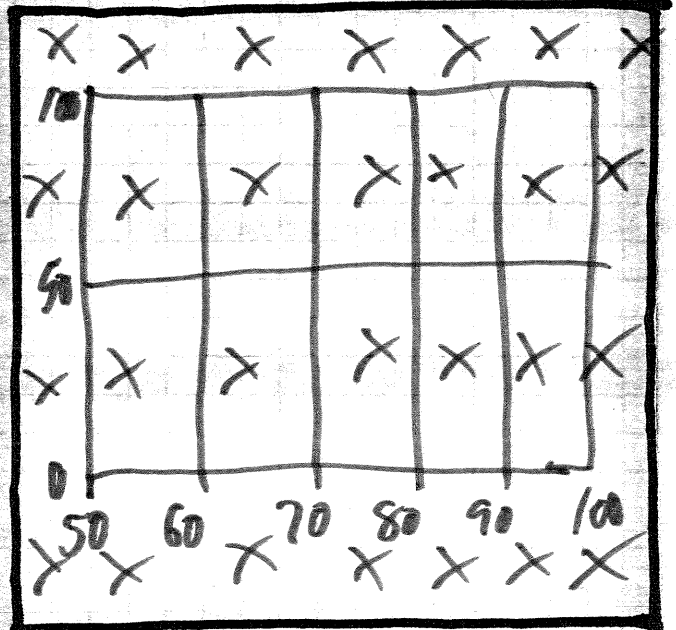
Overall Grade  
Weak Normal  
(55, 35)  
(65, 80)  
(75, 25)  
(85, 95)  
(95, 10)



Strong Normal



Weak Robust



Strong Robust