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Documenting Variability in Test Artefacts

In this chapter you will learn:

- How to use the orthogonal variability model to document variability in test artefacts.
- The differences between test artefacts in single-system engineering and in software product line engineering.
8. Documenting Variability in Test Artefacts

8.1 Introduction

Test artefacts contain the instructions for testers what to test, when to test, how to test, and how to document the test results. The test results themselves are test artefacts, too. Test artefacts enable repeatable and traceable tests. Testing is performed in domain engineering as well as in application engineering and thus test artefacts are created in both processes. A major task of domain testing is to develop test artefacts that can be reused efficiently in application testing. This is achieved with a clear and unambiguous documentation of variability in test artefacts. In this chapter, we focus on that documentation. We provide a brief description of important test artefacts and show how to employ the orthogonal variability model. The sub-processes and artefacts closely related to documenting variability in domain tests are highlighted in Fig. 8-1.