Testing Software Quality Characteristics – Part 1

Performance Testing



Objective



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Utilize strategies for performance testing

Performance Testing

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Verify that the system meets its performance requirements for specified load conditions including stress and volume scenarios.

Entry Criteria for Performance Testing

Quantitative and measurable performance requirements

Reasonably stable system

Test environment representative of customer site

Tools

- -Load generator
- -Resource monitor

Test Data Management

Growing complexity and volume of data in today's applications requires emphasis on test data management

Full data sets replicating real data from operational system is ideal

Exercise

Assume you are a system tester for a new airline reservation system.

Discuss how to improve the following performance requirement:

-"The airline reservation system shall have excellent response time."

Load Specification

For relevant usecases it is important to specify performance requirements in terms of load

Load may reflect:

- Different volumes of activity
 - Busy hour in a cell phone system
 - Same call profile used
- Different mixes of activity
 - Earthquake or tornado in a cell phone area
 - Different call profile

Varying Load During Performance Testing

For relevant usecases the load should be varied and response time tracked

Verify performance requirments

Resource usage can also be tracked as the load is varied to identify potential bottlenecks or sources of performance problems

Summary