

github.com/cape-town-testing



PRINCIPLES AND PATTERNS



OPTIMISE FOR
FAST
FEEDBACK
WHERE IT
NEEDS TO BE
FAST



ASSERT THINGS THAT MATTER



BUILD FOR TESTABILITY



HUMANS NEED TO EXPLORE



VISIBILITY



NO WALL, NO THROWING THINGS OVER



GOOD UNIT TESTS



TOOLS TO
ENABLE
HUMAN
INTERACTION
& VISIBILITY
OF
APPLICATION



CUSTOMER
CENTRIC
SCENARIO
TESTS RUN AS
PART OF THE
BUILD
(BROADSTACK)



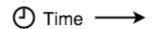
TOOLS TO REDUCE DEPENDENCY ON ENGINEERS FOR COMPLEX SCENARIOS

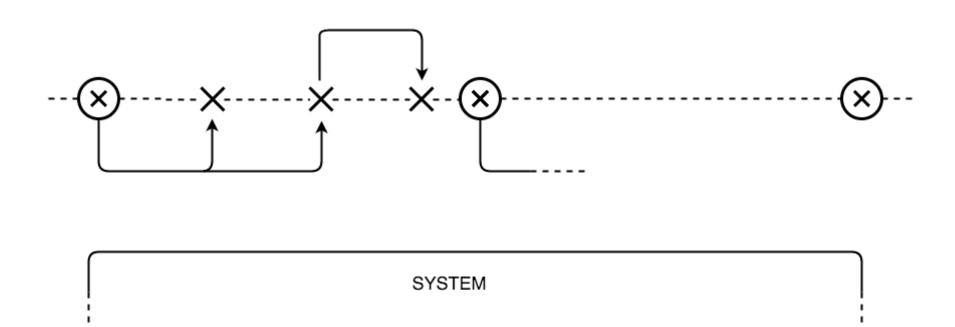
F O R T U N E C O O K I E

"FORTUNE COOKIE"

SCENARIO DRIVEN LOAN-LIFECYCLE TESTING

- Provides a (timeline) testing framework.
- Setup a scenario surrounding a customer through lifetime events and iterate through each one.
- An event represents a point in time that we will navigate to and make assertions on.
- Operates at a high level.
- Instead of simply **testing multiple components** through integration tests, this **tests using behavioural patterns**.
- Runs everytime we do a deploy / build of our system.





- X Enqueued event (Notification, repayment etc)
- (X) Initialisation event (Cycle change)

| | Product code: Status: disbursed No. instalments: _ Principal amount: | | | | Penalty fee: Instalment period: Total service fee: | Loan term: 90 Instalment amount: | |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------|----------|-----|---|---|----------------------------------|
| ı | _DAY | _BALANCE | _ARREARS | _CD | _DESCRIPTION | _METADATA | 1 |
| I | 0 | | | | Task trigger | <pre>service_fee =>, penalty_fee => _</pre> | I |
| | ======= | | | | - 1b - | | === |
| ==: | _DAY | _BALANCE | _ARREARS | _CD | _DESCRIPTION | _METADATA | === |
| 1 | 5 | | | | Loan cycle change | | - 1 |
| 1 | 5 | | | | Task trigger | service_fee => _, penalty_fee => _ | - 1 |
| 1 | 5 | | | | Repayment scheduler | | - 1 |
| 1 | 14 | | | | One third instalment reminder | status => sent | - 1 |
| 1 | 15 | | | | Manual repayment | success, amount => | |
| 1 | 24 | | | | Two thirds instalment reminder | status => not sent | |
| I | 34 | | | | Imminent instalment reminder | status => not sent | I |
| === | | | | | | | === |
| I | | | | | - 2a - | | I |
| === | _DAY | _BALANCE | | | | | === |
| ==: | | | | | | | === |
| | _DAY | _BALANCE | _ARREARS | _CD | | | === |
| | _DAY 35 | _BALANCE | _ARREARS | _CD | | _METADATA | === |
| | _DAY 35 35 | _BALANCE | _ARREARS | _CD | | _METADATA | === |
| | _DAY 35 35 35 | _BALANCE | _ARREARS | _CD | | _METADATA service_fee =>, penalty_fee => _ | ==== |
| | _DAY 35 35 35 35 | _BALANCE | _ARREARS | _CD | | _METADATA service_fee =>, penalty_fee => _ failed, not permitted | |
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| | _DAY 35 35 35 35 35 35 35 35 36 | _BALANCE | _ARREARS | _CD | | _METADATA service_fee =>, penalty_fee => _ failed, not permitted failed, not permitted failed, not permitted failed, not permitted status => not sent | |

BUGS UNCOVERED

Implementation error on scheduled job

- No unit / integration test coverage.
- Alluded to by unexpected behaviour on our debug log.
- Found: invalid method usage.

Notification (SMS) handler errors

- Multiple branching code paths. Complex test cases.
- Each customer scenario tests multiple notification paths.
- Found: incorrect notification timing and missing variables.

FURTHER USAGE

- Debug log used as a teaching tool.
 - Actual values and relative timing of events.
 - High level view.
- Provides insight into product behavior off the back of new changes.
 - Prototyping of new product constructs.

TIME TRAVEL

TIME TRAVEL THE PROBLEM

- Requirement for exploratory tests, particularly when testing or interacting with multiple UIs.
- Fixtures or mock data often make assumptions about how operations mutate and store data.
- As a financial services platform, we have many time dependent tasks, such as scheduled payments, interest and fee calculations.

TIME TRAVEL THE SOLUTION

- We created a tool that gave us the ability to modify the current time in our system, allowing us to perform operations as though we were on a specific date or time.
 - Freeze time in an environment (across multiple processes)
 - Fast forward events and batch jobs
- This allowed us to simulate real customer / system interactions, using actual interfaces like USSD screens or back office system screens.
- This helped us identify consistency issues ahead of time, before rolling out to production.

TIME TRAVEL BENEFITS AND TAKEAWAYS

- Early identification of consistency issues across Uls.
- This led to more rapid enhancements to our APIs and integration points.
- We could perform / test complete customer journeys using the actual system, ie. without relying simulations or assumptions about the environment or data.
- Testing and UAT could be extended beyond the engineering team, to non-technical stakeholders.
- Encouraged us to write code that is more testable from a time travel point of view.

T H A N K S





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Q3 17 August at DVT

Q4: 19th October



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