Introduction to Automation Testing with Selenium

Software Testing

Agenda

- What is automation testing?
- What should be automated?
- What should not be automated?
- How to choose automation tools?
- Front-end automation using Selenium IDE
- Web element locators

What is automation testing?

- **Test automation** is the use of special software (separate from the software being tested) to control the execution of tests and the comparison of actual outcomes with predicted outcomes
- **Test automation** can automate some repetitive but necessary tasks in a formalized testing process already in place, or add additional testing that would be difficult to perform manually

Choosing automation scope

- A key indicator in evaluating automation strategy and scope is ROI (Return of Investment).

- Areas with usually **high ROI** for automation:

  - Repetitive / frequent tests (examples: smoke, sanity, regression suites)

  - Test cases that are impossible for manual testing (example: sending a lot of transactions for a short period of time)

  - Test cases that run on many different hardware and software platforms and configurations (example: compatibility tests)

Choosing automation scope

- Areas with usually **low ROI** for automation:

  - low priority test cases (little importance to the business)

  - rarely executed tests

  - tests for areas that are constantly changing (i.e. maintenance effort is bigger than actual benefit of automation)

Choosing automation tools

- Do you have skilled resource to work on automation?
- What is your budget?
- Does the tool satisfy your testing needs?
- Do you want automation tool for only your project needs or you are looking for a common tool for all projects in your company?
- Which testing types does it support?
- Does the tool support easy interface to create and maintain test scripts?

Choosing automation tools

- How easy it is to provide input test data for complex or load tests?
- Does it provide the powerful reporting with graphical interface?
- Does it integrate well with your other testing tools like project planning and test management tools?
- Does the tool support different platforms and different software types?
- Do you have enough documentation and support of the tool?

Front-end test automation with Selenium

“Selenium automates browsers.”

Software testing framework aiding automation testing of web applications.

Two parts:

- **Selenium WebDriver** – collection of language specific bindings (libraries) used for browser-based automation testing; supports most used programming languages (Java, JavaScript, C#, Ruby, Python, etc.)
- **Selenium IDE** – record/playback tool for non-coded simple automation scripts

Selenium IDE

- Automation tool for testing web sites/applications
- Chrome / Firefox plug-in

Installation:

1)Open Chrome or Firefox browser

2)Install Selenium IDE plug-in:

Chrome plug-in

Firefox plug-in

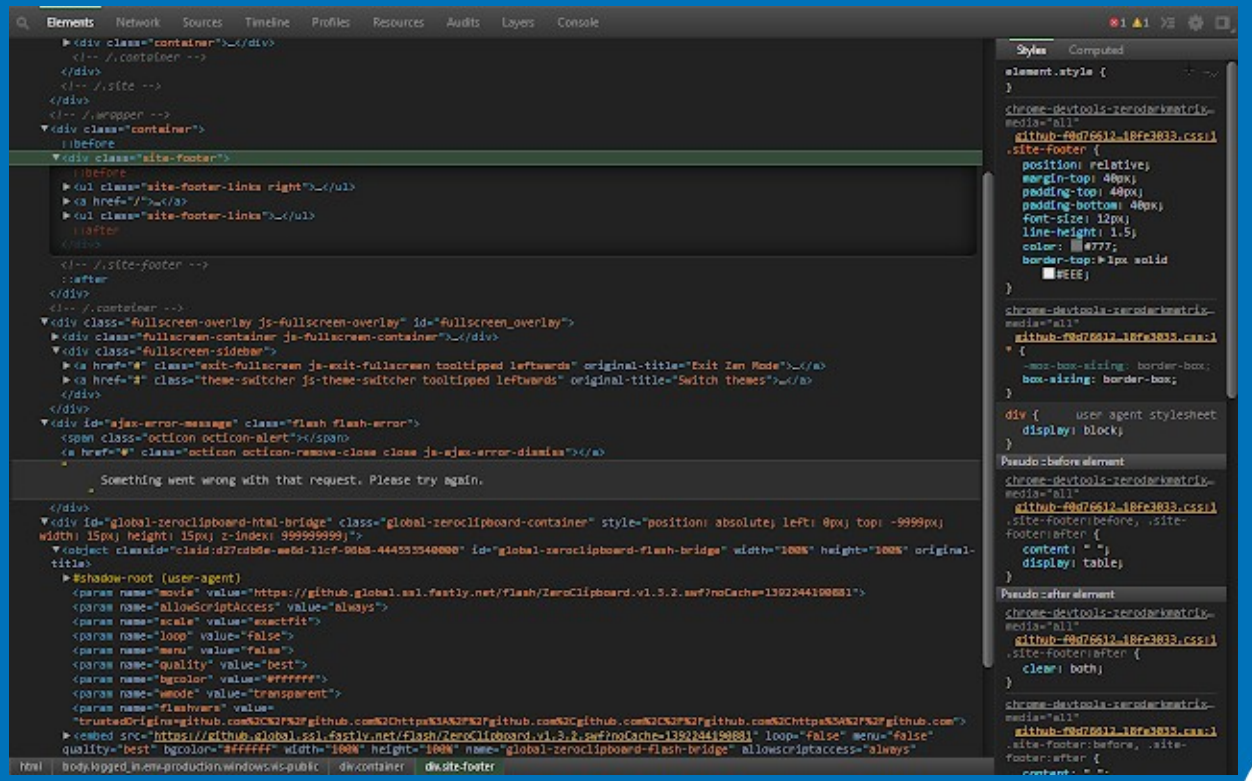
3)Restart browser

4)Launch plug-in from toolbar icon

Additional tools

- All browsers: F12 opens browser's developer tool panel

- Use it for:
  - element inspection
  - defects investigation
  - debugging
  - HTML/CSS manipulation
  - performance metrics
  - etc.



Selenium Locators

- Selenium uses what is called locators to find and match the elements of your page that it needs to interact with
- We will focus on the following Selenium locators:
  - ID
  - Name
  - Link
  - CSS
  - XPath

Selenium Locators – Id, Name, Link

- **Id**
  Example HTML code: <input id="username"/>
  Locator syntax: ***id=username***

- **Name**
  Example HTML code: <input name="login-form"/>
  Locator syntax: ***name=login-form***

- **Link**
  Example HTML code: Contacts
  Locator syntax: ***link=Contacts***

Selenium Locators - CSS

- Using tag element

css=h1

- Using CSS class attributes in CSS selectors

css=div.centerdiv

- Using element IDs in CSS selectors

css=div#divinthecenter

- Using child nodes to find the element

css=div.leftdiv > input

- Finding elements by their attributes

css=input[id='button_1'][value='Button with ID']

Selenium Locators - XPath

- Using absolute path (not recommended)

xpath=/html/body/div[2]/div[3]/input

- Using XPath to find the nth element of a type (relative path)

xpath=//div[2]//input[2]

- Using element attributes in XPath queries

xpath=//div[@class='classname']

- Finding an element by the text it contains

xpath=//div[contains(text(),'inner text')]

More on Xpath

XPath is used to navigate through elements and attributes in an XML and HTML document.

- XPath is a syntax for defining parts of an XML and HTML documents
- XPath uses path expressions to navigate in XML and HTML documents
- XPath contains a library of standard functions
- XPath is a W3C recommendation

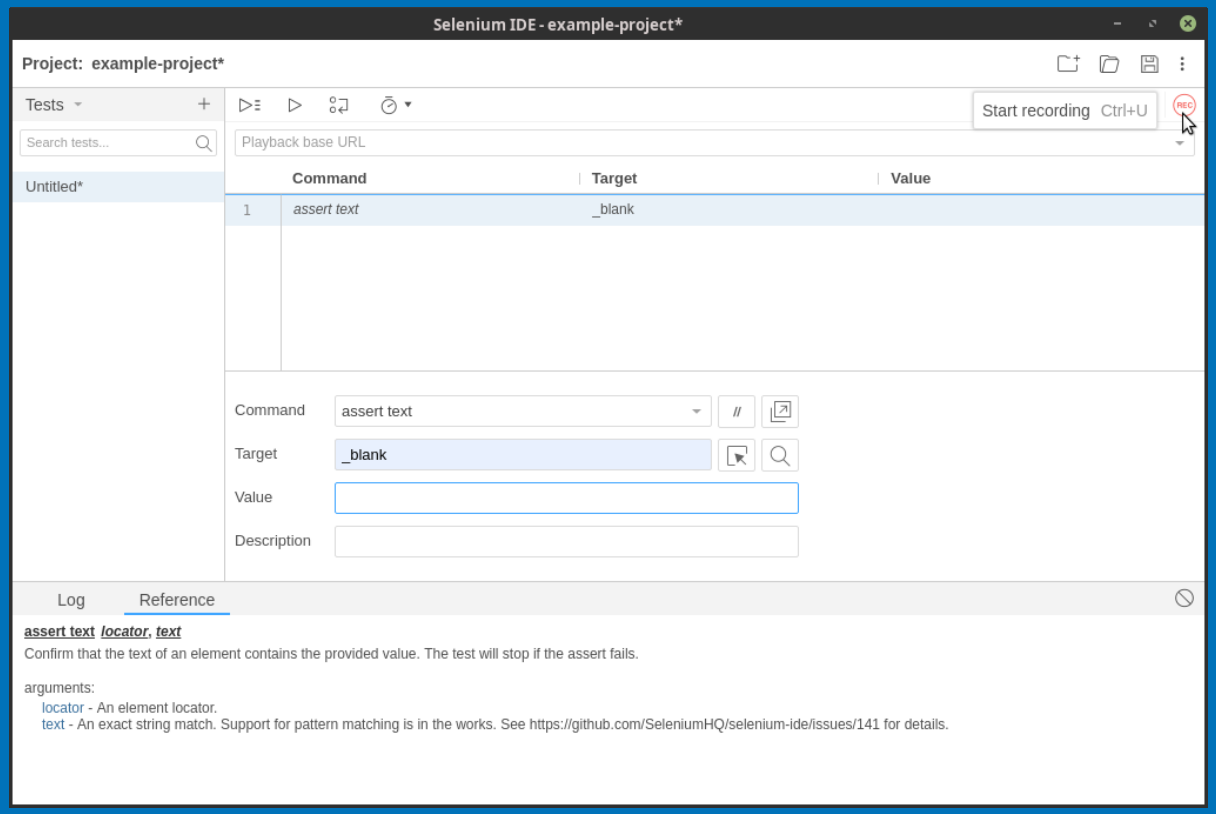
Xpath syntax

Expression	Description
nodename	Selects all nodes with the name "*nodename*"
/	Selects from the root node
//	Selects nodes in the document from the current node that match the selection no matter where they are
.	Selects the current node
..	Selects the parent of the current node
@	Selects attributes

For complete list of Xpath expressions, click here

Testing with Selenium IDE

- Test suites
- Test cases
- Actions
- Assertions
- Verifications



Resources

- W3Schools Xpath Tutorial
- Selenium IDE – Getting Started

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