

Introduction to BDD with Cucumber

Nibu baby

A circular word cloud diagram centered around Agile methodologies, with words like BDD, Cucumber, Automation, Scenario, and CI in large, bold letters. The diagram includes various Agile terms such as XP, API, RSpec, DDD, Behat, Parking, Hudson, Kanban, Standup, Example, Impediment, Jenkins, ATDD, Pair, Sprint, Technical, Programming, Planning, Huddle, Burndown, Chart, Story, Wall, DoD, Jira, Background, DOD, Concordion, Specflow, Scrum, Showcase, Given, Specifications, Agile, BDD, Then, Examples, Scenario, Outline, Selenium, Grid, Retro, CI, TDD, Kelocity, Testing, Gherkin, Epic, SQE, and BDDify.

BDD?

BEHAVIOR DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

An Evolution



BDD

BDD is a second-generation, outside-in, pull-based, multiple-stakeholder, multiple-scale, high-automation, agile methodology.

It describes a cycle of interactions with well-defined outputs, resulting in the delivery of working, tested software that matters.

BDD was developed by Dan North as a response to the issues encountered teaching TDD

Using examples to create a shared understanding and surface uncertainty to deliver software that matters

BDD

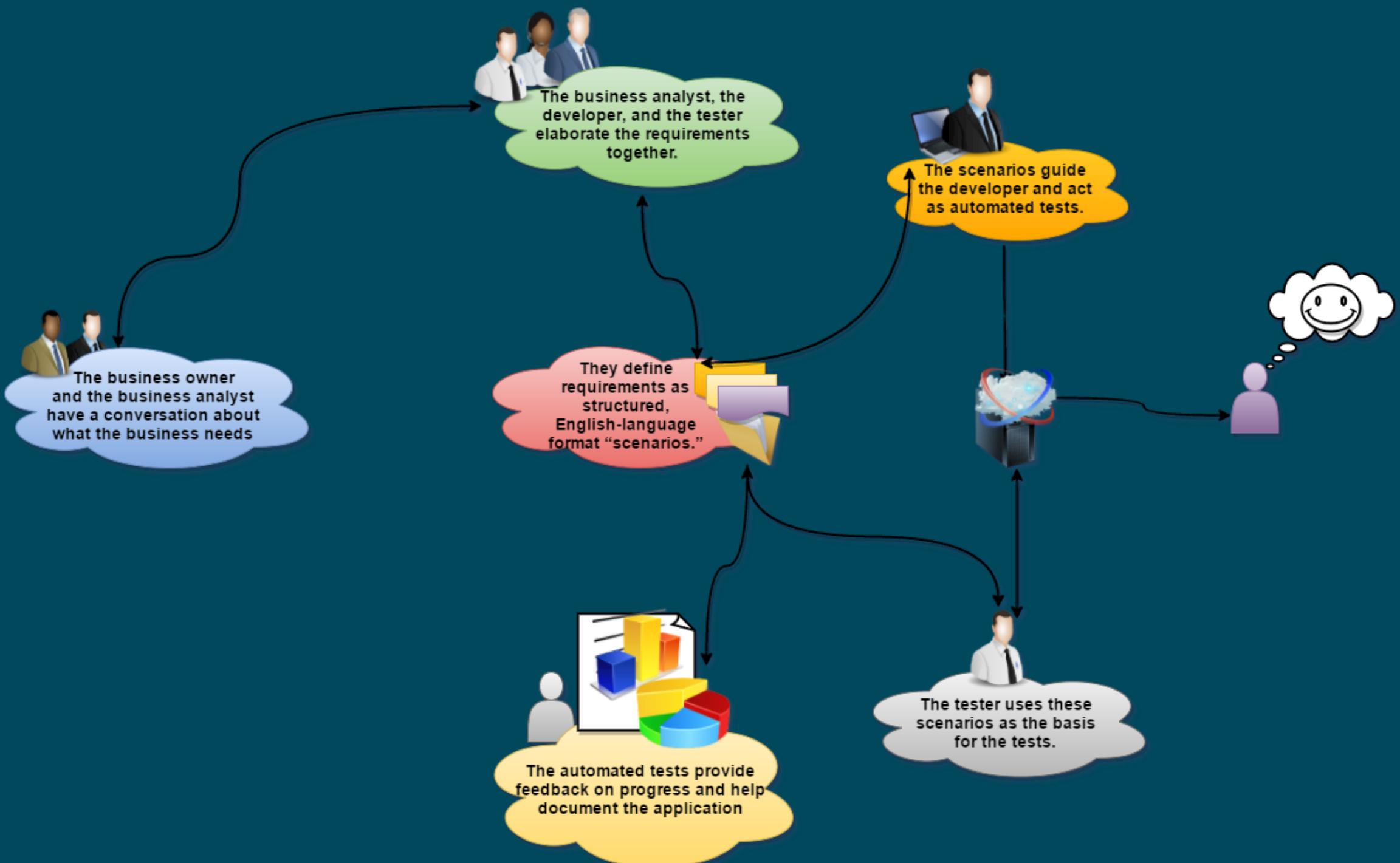
- Uses examples to illustrate behavior
- Core is around conversations and requirements discovery
- Uses conversations around examples, expressed in a form that can be easily automated, to reduce lost information and misunderstandings
- Starting with the business outcome, and working through high level functional areas to drill into specific stories with acceptance criteria.
- When writing examples, regression tests are a by-product

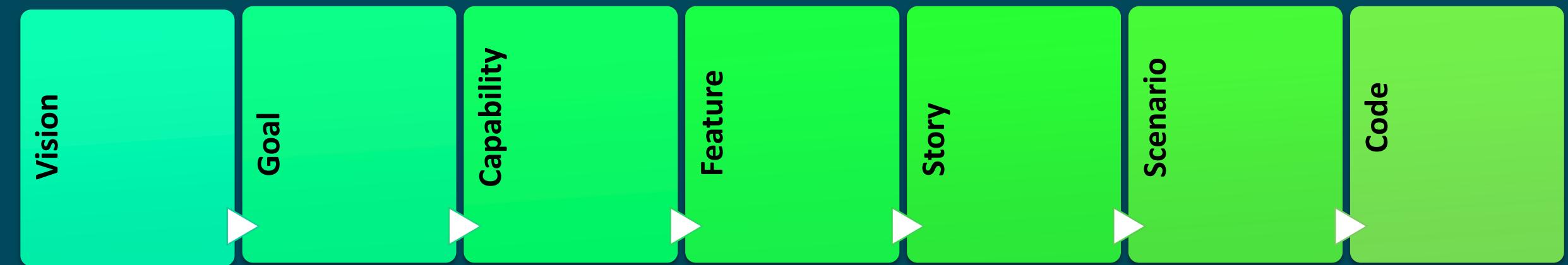
Examples

Given a context

When an event happens

Then an outcome should occur





Have enough conversation to get started.
Find out where the riskiest bits are and
where the system behaves unusually .

Chat, Discuss, Discover, Work out how and
when , you are going to get feedback on the
work you are about to do . Then and only
then , reach for tools

[Liz Keogh]

Story

- What are we really trying to build ?
- It has to be a description of a requirement and its business benefit, and a set of criteria by which we all agree that it is “done” [Dann North]
- Written in business language
- Stories are the result of conversations between the project stakeholders, business analysts, testers and developers

Example

As a user
I want to publish a tweet
So that share information with my followers

Scenario

- Is set of conditions that story must meet for it to be accepted as complete
- Can be used to help discover the scope of the story or the feature
- Is not replacement for conversation
- Is the outcome of conversations with all players
- Scenario title should say what's different
- The scenario should be described in terms of Givens, Events and Outcomes

Given [some context]

When [I do something]

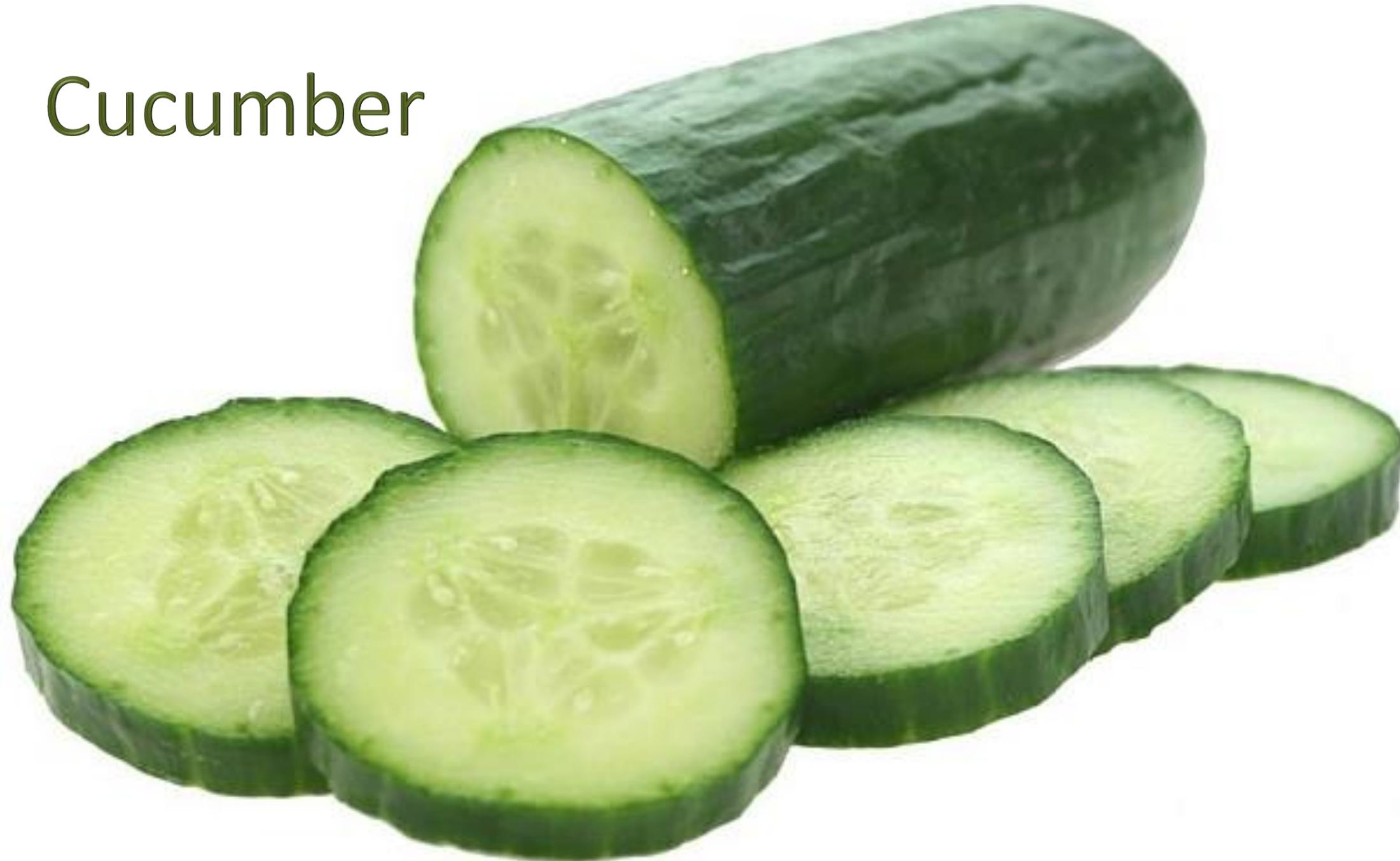
Then [this happens]

BDD tools

Few of them



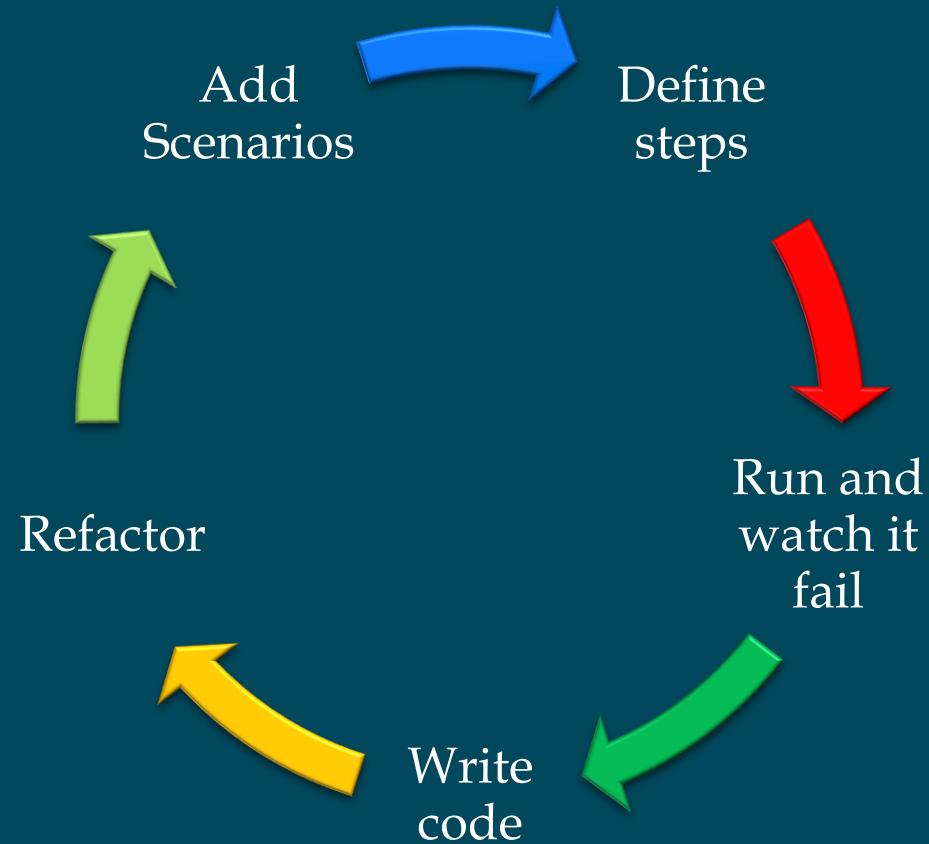
Cucumber



Cucumber

- Collaboration tool
- ~~It's Testing tool~~
- Outside-In approach , where programmers incrementally write code and run the scenarios using Cucumber until the feature passes all the tests
- Supports about 60+ languages
- Helps to execute plain text functional descriptions as automated tests
- Automation can be written in own favorite language (Ruby, Java, c#.net , JavaScript, Scala, Groovy, Jython, Python, Perl, Go, C++ etc)
- writing scenarios before code enables programmers to be guided by an unambiguous specification

Life cycle



Gherkin

Means : “a small variety of cucumber, or a young green cucumber used for pickling.” [google]

Cucumber executes **.feature** files, and those files contain **executable specifications** written in a language called Gherkin.

Gherkin supports 60+ languages.

Gherkin is designed to be easy to learn by non-programmers, yet structured enough to allow concise description of examples to illustrate business rules in most real-world domains. [www.cucumber.io]

```
1 @Wip @Facebook
2 Feature: Login
3   In order to access secure Facebook account
4     As a registered paid user
5     I need to authenticate myself
6
7 @GHT-1234 @Smoke
8 Scenario: Login with invalid credentials
9
10    Given I am not logged in
11    When I try to login with "test" and "Secret"
12    Then I should be logged in
13
14 @GHT-1234 @Smoke
15 Scenario: Login with valid credentials
16
17    Given I am not logged in
18    When I try to login with "test" and "RandomPassword"
19    Then I should not be logged in
20    And I should be shown error message "Invalid credentials"
```

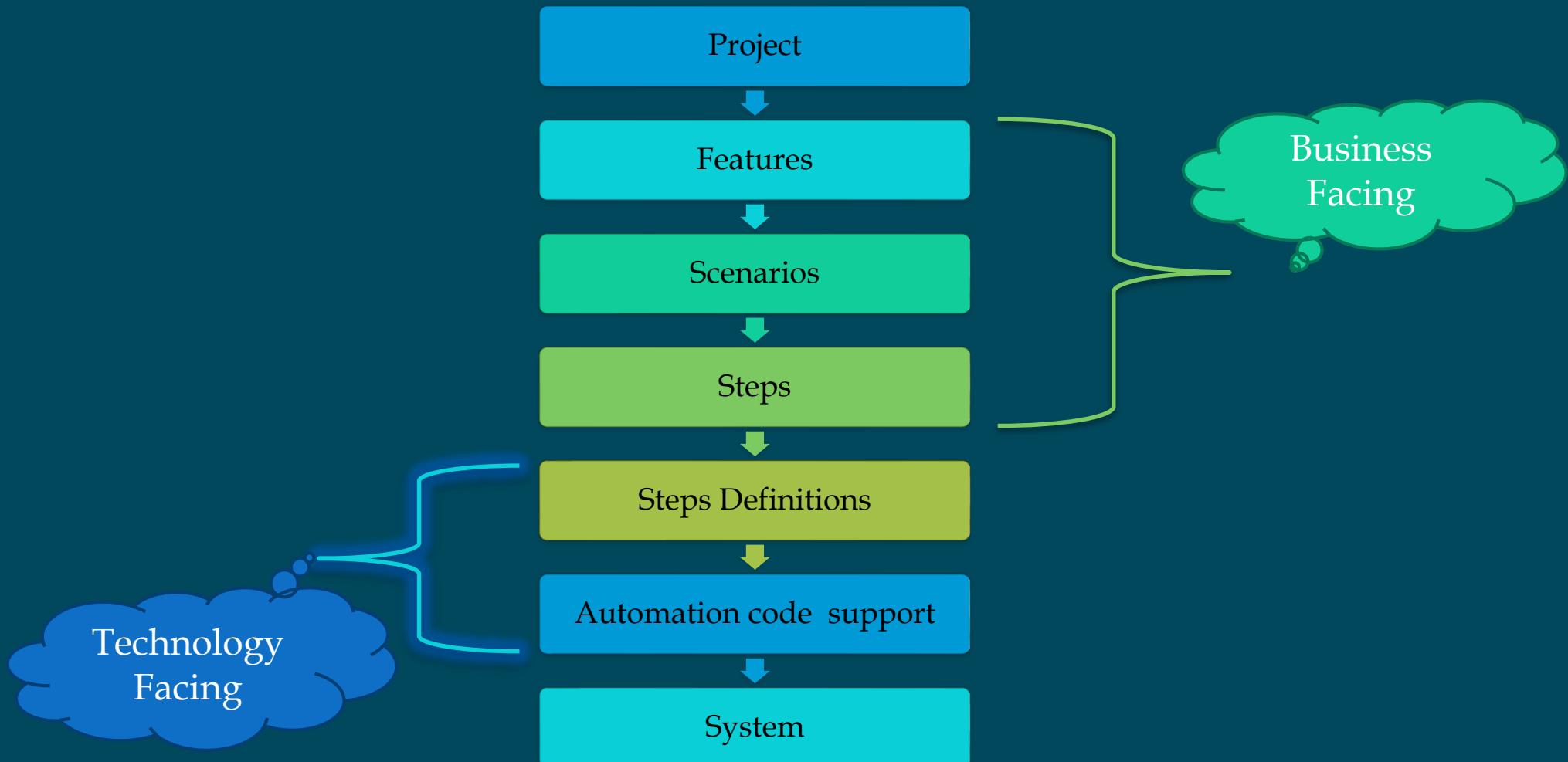
Gherkin Keywords

- Feature
- Scenario
- Given, When, Then, And, But
- Background
- Scenario Outline
- Examples

More helpful keywords

- """ (Doc Strings)
- | (Data Tables)
- @ (Tags)
- # (Comments)

Cucumber testing stack



Let's explore

Benefits

- Better communication
- Ubiquitous language (Same/being present everywhere)
- Better collaboration between stakeholders, BA, QA and Developers
- Formal documentation is not required
- Living Documentation (Single source of truth)
- Quick feedback (If the automated tests are included in the CI)
- Right Focus, Right Product, Product Right

Disadvantages

- It requires high level of business engagement and collaborations
- May not work well in silos
- Poorly written tests can lead to higher test-maintenance costs

References

- <http://dannorth.net>
 - <http://lizkeogh.com>
 - <http://behaviour-driven.org>
 - <https://cucumber.io>
-
- BDD in action [John Ferguson]
 - The cucumber book [Matt Wynne and Aslak Hellesoy]