

JMeter integration with AppDynamics

Purpose

The business use case is to accelerate time to market by understanding quickly, with AppDynamics, the bottleneck of performance and the root cause of issues during load testing with JMeter.

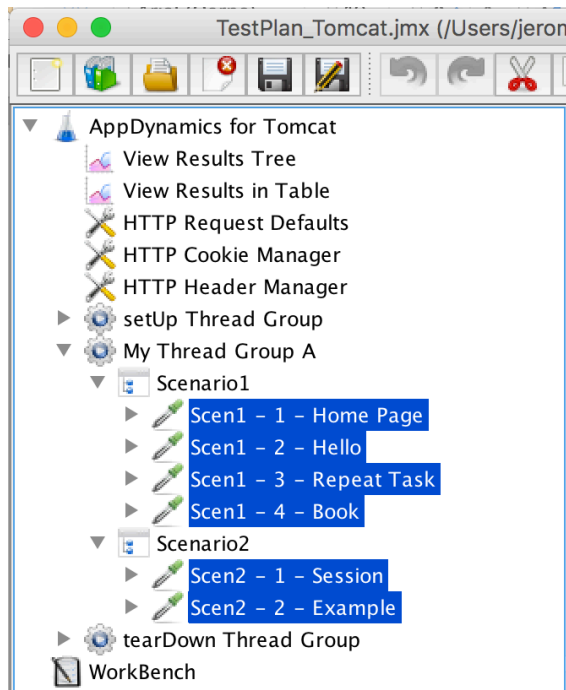
The purpose of JMeter integration with AppDynamics is to:

1. Offer a correlated view between JMeter measurements (HTTP Request) and AppDynamics measurements (Business Transaction).
 - JMeter simulates end-user activity by launching thread group and by executing HTTP request. AppDynamics retrieves dynamically the name of JMeter HTTP request and stores the metrics in a AppDynamics Business Transaction (BT)
2. Create a custom time range in AppDynamics in relation with the duration of JMeter execution; and compare easily two JMeter executions or analyze specifically the result of one JMeter execution
3. Retrieve the JMeter Thread name within the AppDynamics snapshot (i.e. capture request details and give visibility to call graph which reflects the code-level view); and diagnose easily why JMeter Thread fails

Note: this integration has been done with JMeter 3.1 and AppDynamics 4.2. It should work with other versions.

1) Configure the correlated view between JMeter HTTP Request and AppDynamics BT

JMeter - Test Plan

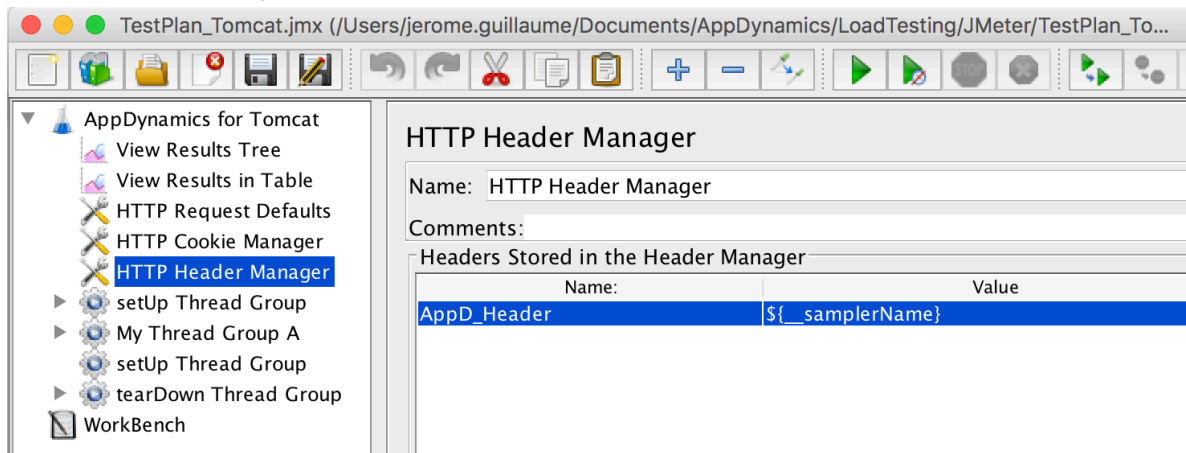


AppDynamics - Business Transactions

Name	Health	Response Time (ms)	Calls / min	Errors / min
JMeter.Scen1 - 1 - Home Page	✓	1	16	0
JMeter.Scen1 - 2 - Hello	✓	1	15	0
JMeter.Scen1 - 3 - Repeat Task	✓	1	15	0
JMeter.Scen1 - 4 - Book	✓	1	15	0
JMeter.Scen2 - 1 - Session	✓	1	15	0
JMeter.Scen2 - 2 - Example	✓	0	15	0

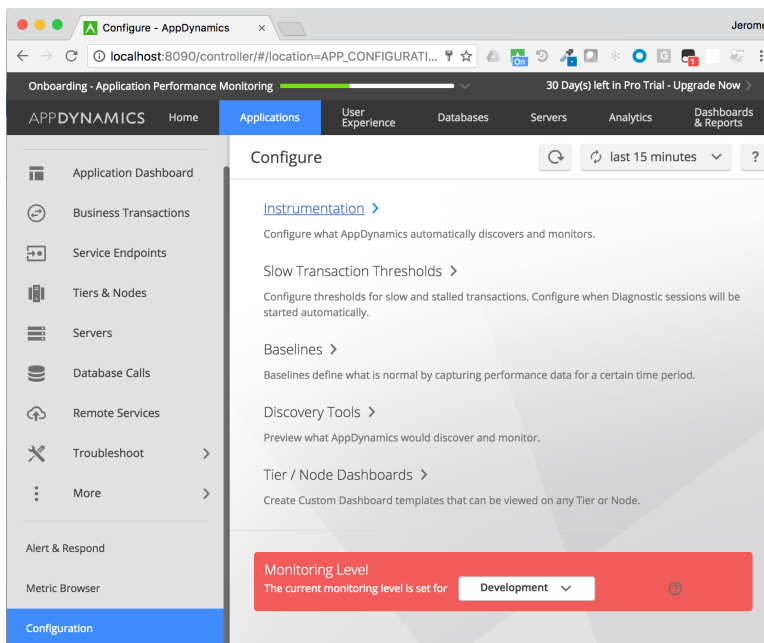
How to configure JMeter (with AppDynamics)

- Start JMeter and open the Test Plan
- Append a HTTP Header Manager (right click on Thread Group, select Add/Config Element/HTTP Header Manager) on Thread Group
- Add a header
 - Set name with AppD_Header and value with \${__samplerName} and click on Save
- See below the expected result

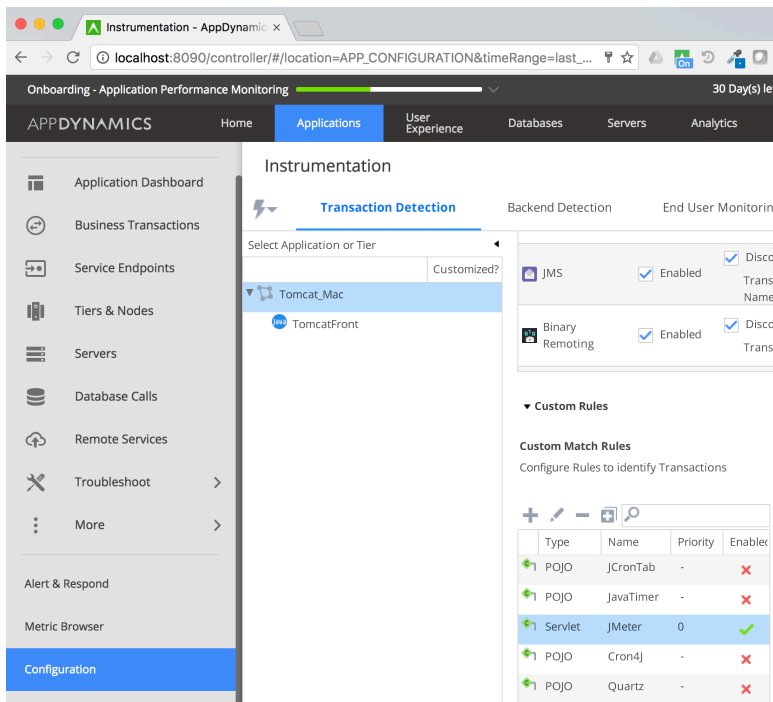


How to configure AppDynamics (with JMeter)

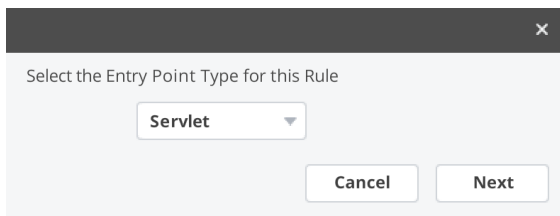
- Connect to AppDynamics Controller
- Select the application
- Click on Configuration
- Click on Instrumentation



- In "Custom Match Rules" section, click on the + button



- Select servlet and click on Next



- Set following values:
 - Name = JMeter
 - URI = is Not Empty
 - Header = Check for parameter existence, name = AppD_Header

Business Transaction Match Rule - Servlet

Name: JMeter

Enabled: ☒

Priority: 0

Transaction Match Criteria | Split Transactions Using Request Data... | Split Transactions Using Payload

☐ Method

☒ URI: Is Not Empty

☐ HTTP Parameter: Check for parameter value

☒ Header: Check for parameter existence

Name: AppD_Header

☐ Hostname: Equals

☐ Port: Equals

☐ Class Name: Equals

☐ Servlet Name: Equals

☐ Cookie: Check for cookie existence

Cancel Save

- Click on tab "Split Transactions Using Request Data" and set the following values:
 - Check "Split Transactions Using request Data"
 - Select "Use a header value" in Transaction names and set value = AppD_Header

Business Transaction Match Rule - Servlet

Name: JMeter

Enabled: ☒

Priority: 0

Transaction Match Criteria | Split Transactions Using Request Data... | Split Transactions Using Payload

☒ Split Transactions using request data

☐ Use the first segments in Transaction names

☐ Use the last segments in Transaction names

☐ Use URI segment(s) in Transaction names

☐ Use a parameter value in Transaction names

☒ Use a header value in Transaction names

Header Name: AppD_Header

☐ Use a cookie value in Transaction names

☐ Use a session attribute value in Transaction names

☐ Use the request method (GET/POST/PUT) in Transaction names

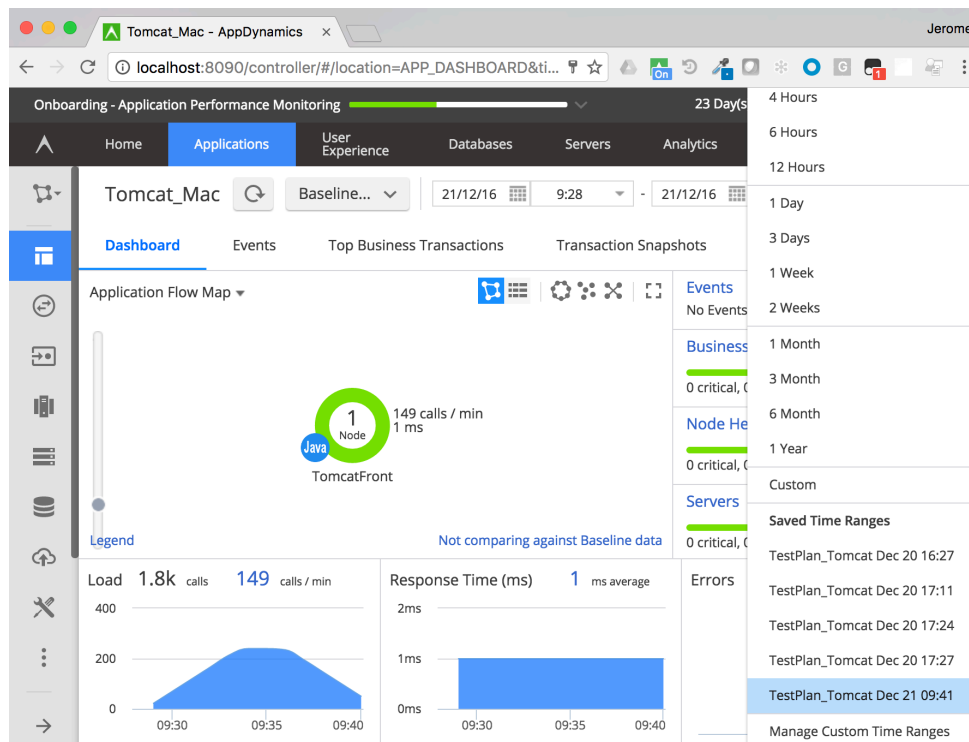
Cancel Save

- Click on Save

2) Create a custom time range in AppDynamics in relation with duration of JMeter execution

See below examples of custom time range created by JMeter execution. The name is based on JMeter Test plan name and date & hour of end of JMeter execution.

- TestPlan_Tomcat Dec 20 16:27
- TestPlan_Tomcat Dec 20 17:11
- TestPlan_Tomcat Dec 20 17:24
- TestPlan_Tomcat Dec 20 17:27
- TestPlan_Tomcat Dec 21 09:41
- ...



How to configure JMeter (with AppDynamics)

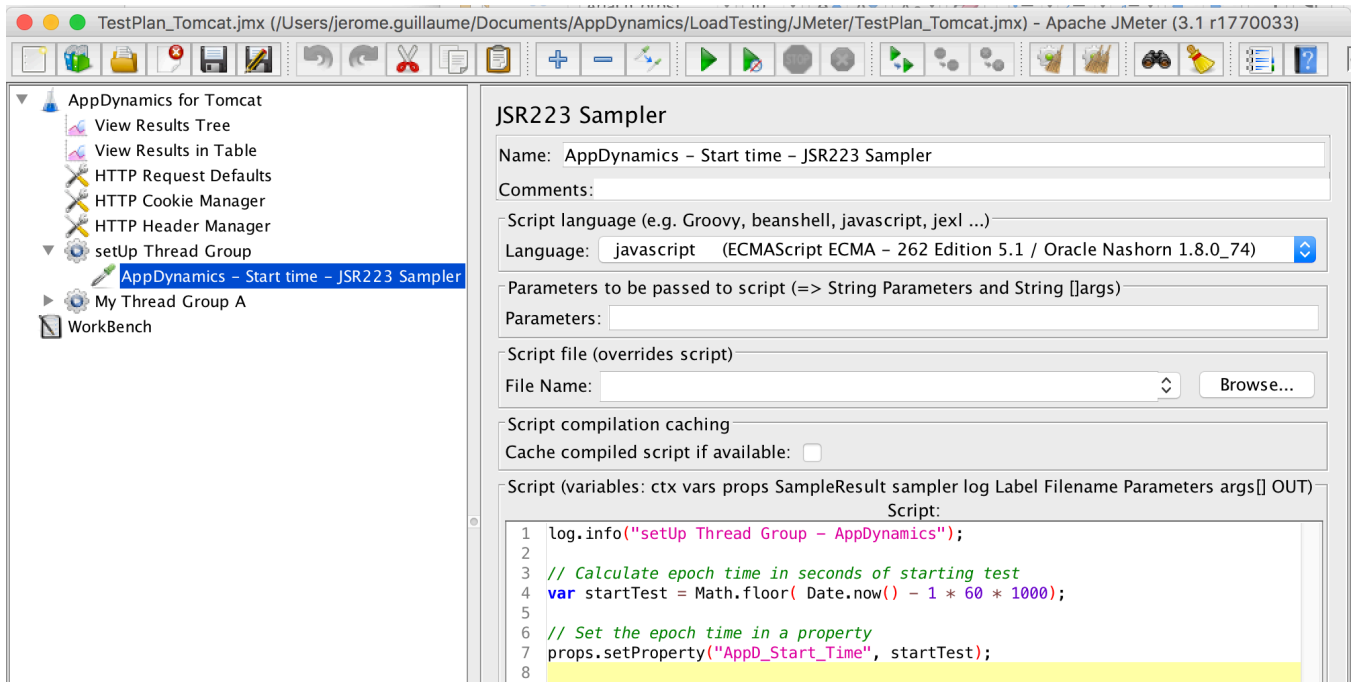
- Prerequisite: have a test plan name with no space, the name will be retrieved dynamically and it will be used to setup the name of custom range. Prefer a name like `TestPlan_Tomcat.jmx` instead of `TestPlan Tomcat.jmx`
- Start JMeter and open the Test Plan
- Add a setup Thread Group
- Add a JSR223 Sampler below setup Thread Group and call it AppDynamics - Start time - JSR223 Sampler
- Configure AppDynamics - Start time - JSR223 Sampler with a JavaScript language and append the following code

```
log.info("setUp Thread Group - AppDynamics");
```

```
// Calculate epoch time in seconds of starting test
var startTest = Math.floor( Date.now() - 1 * 60 * 1000);

// Set the epoch time in a property
props.setProperty("AppD_Start_Time", startTest);
```

The result is as follows:



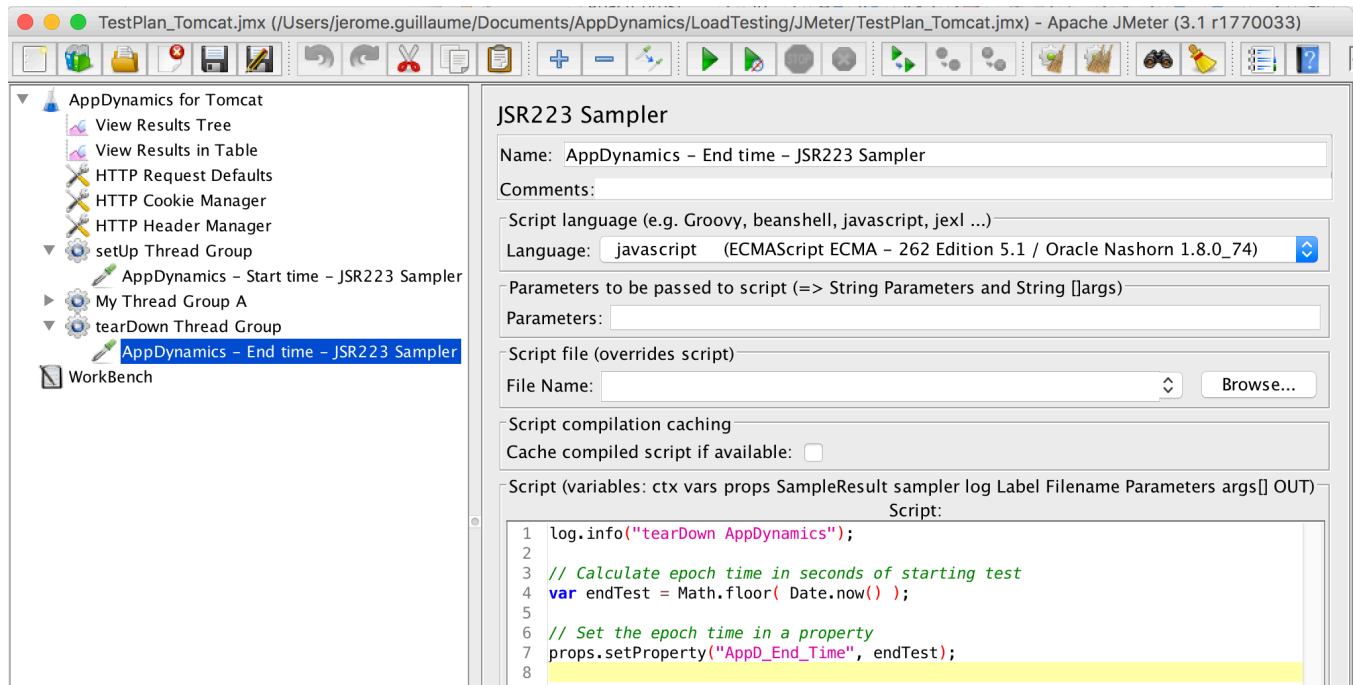
- Add a `tearDown Thread Group`
- Add a `JSR223 Sampler` below `tearDown Thread Group` and call it `AppDynamics - End time - JSR223 Sampler`
- Configure `AppDynamics - End time - JSR223 Sampler` with a `JavaScript` language and append the following code

```
log.info("tearDown AppDynamics");

// Calculate epoch time in seconds of starting test
var endTest = Math.floor( Date.now() );

// Set the epoch time in a property
props.setProperty("AppD_End_Time", endTest);
```

The result is as follows:



- Add a JSR223 Sampler below tearDown Thread Group and call it AppDynamics - Create time range - JSR223 Sampler
- Configure AppDynamics - End time - JSR223 Sampler with a Java language (not JavaScript); set **Parameters** value to `${ TestPlanName }`
- Append the following code:
 - The **values** in regards of AppDynamics Controller should be configured correctly: host, port, protocol and base64 authentication string.
 - Go to <https://www.base64encode.org/> to encode the authentication string in base64 format ; the format of authentication string is username@customer1:password

```
import java.io.*;
import java.net.*;
import java.nio.charset.StandardCharsets;
import java.text.SimpleDateFormat;
import java.util.Date;

String appdController      = "localhost";
String appdPort            = "8090";
String appdProcol         = "http";
// Go to https://www.base64encode.org/ to encode the authentication string =>
username@customer1:password
String appdBase64Authent  = "YWRtaW5AY3VzdG9tZXIxOkFwcER5bmFtaWNz";

String appdEndTime = props.get("AppD_End_Time");
//System.out.println("AppDynamics - AppD_End_Time=" + appdEndTime);

String appdStartTime = props.get("AppD_Start_Time");
//System.out.println("AppDynamics - AppD_Start_Time=" + appdStartTime);

// Connect to AppDynamics Controller
StringBuilder result = new StringBuilder();
URL url = new URL(appdProcol + "://" + appdController + ":" + appdPort + "/controller/auth?action=login");
HttpURLConnection conn = (HttpURLConnection) url.openConnection();
conn.setRequestProperty("Authorization", "Basic " + appdBase64Authent);
conn.setRequestMethod("GET");
```

```

BufferedReader brLogin = new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(conn.getInputStream()));

// If we are correctly connected to AppDynamics Controller
if (conn.getResponseCode() == 200)
{
    String headerName = null;
    String appdCookie = "";

    for (int i=1; (headerName = conn.getHeaderFieldKey(i))!=null; i++) {
        if (headerName.equals("Set-Cookie"))
        {
            appdCookie += conn.getHeaderField(i) + " ";
        }
    }

    //System.out.println("appdCookie=" + appdCookie);

    URL urlCustomRange = new URL(appdProcol + "://" + appdController + ":" + appdPort + "/controller/restui/user/createCustomRange");

    HttpURLConnection connCustomRange = (HttpURLConnection) urlCustomRange.openConnection();
    connCustomRange.setRequestMethod("POST");
    connCustomRange.setDoOutput(true);
    connCustomRange.setRequestProperty("Authorization", "Basic " + appdBase64Authent);
    connCustomRange.setRequestProperty("Content-Type", "application/json");
    connCustomRange.setRequestProperty("charset", "utf-8");
    connCustomRange.setRequestProperty("Accept-Encoding", "gzip, deflate");
    connCustomRange.setRequestProperty("Accept", "application/json, text/plain");
    connCustomRange.setRequestProperty("Cookie", appdCookie);

    // If the Test Plan name has been setup correctly in Parameters of this script
    if (args.length > 0)
    {
        String appdTestPlan = args[0];
        // Remove the extension .jmx from file name
        if (appdTestPlan.indexOf(".jmx") != -1)
        {
            appdTestPlan = appdTestPlan.substring(0, appdTestPlan.indexOf(".jmx"));
        }
        Date date = new Date();
        SimpleDateFormat sdf = new SimpleDateFormat("MMM dd HH:mm");
        appdTestPlan += " " + sdf.format(date);

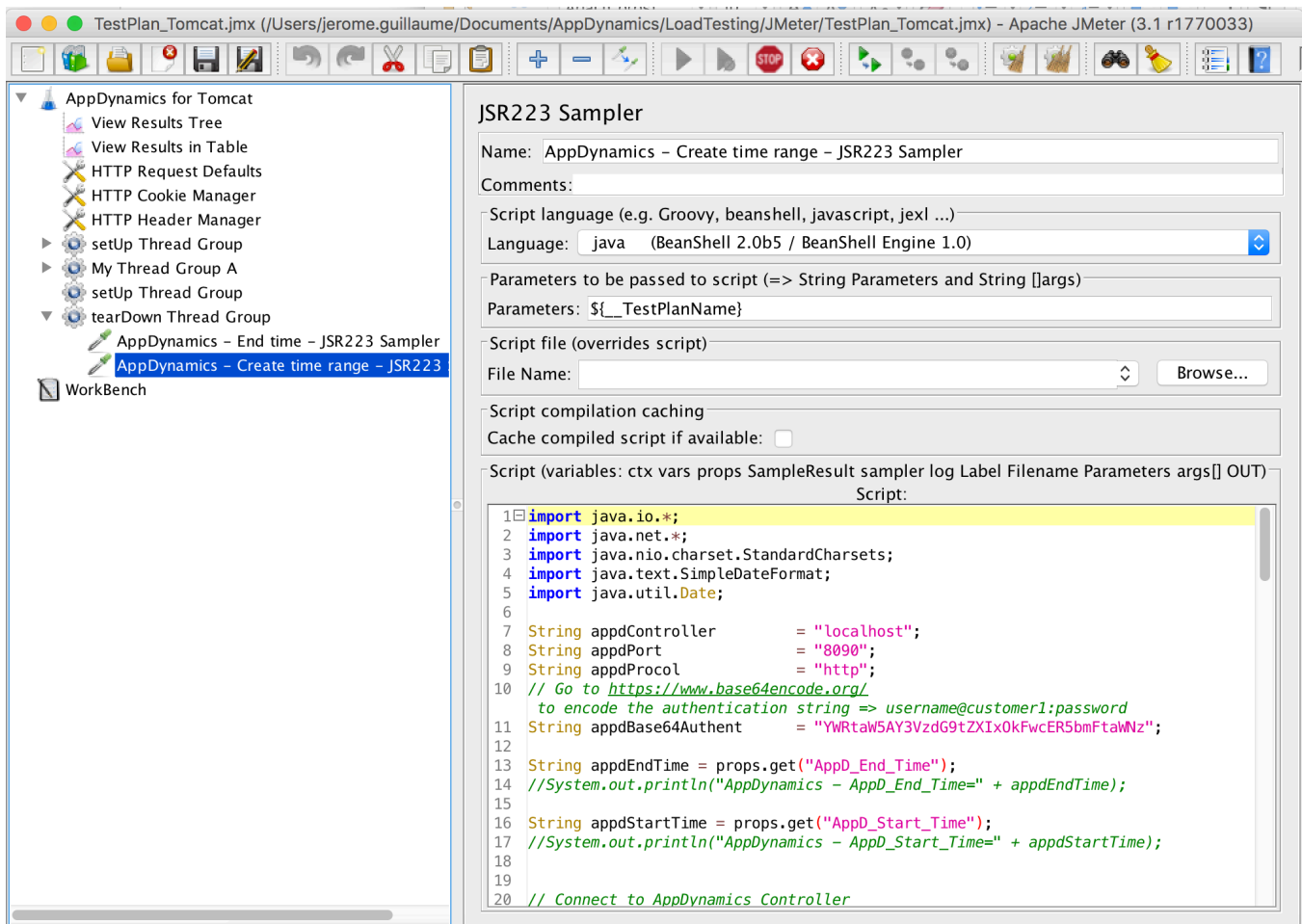
        String postJsonData = "{\"name\":\"" + appdTestPlan + "\",\"description\":\"JMeter
execution\", \"shared\":true, \"timeRange\":{\"type\":\"BETWEEN_TIMES\", \"durationInMinutes\":0, \"startTime\":\"" + appdStartTime +
\", \"endTime\":\"" + appdEndTime + "\"}}";

        DataOutputStream wr = new DataOutputStream(connCustomRange.getOutputStream());
        wr.writeBytes(postJsonData);
        wr.flush();
        wr.close();
        if (connCustomRange.getResponseCode() != 200)
        {
            System.out.println("AppDynamics - Unable to create time range" + urlCustomRange + " HTTP Code=" +
connCustomRange.getResponseCode());
        }
    }
    // Else the Test Plan name has been not setup correctly in Parameters of this script
    else
    {
        System.out.println("AppDynamics - the test plan name has not been setup in parameters");
    }
}
else
{
    System.out.println("AppDynamics - Unable to connect to Controller" + url + " HTTP Code=" + conn.getResponseCode());
}

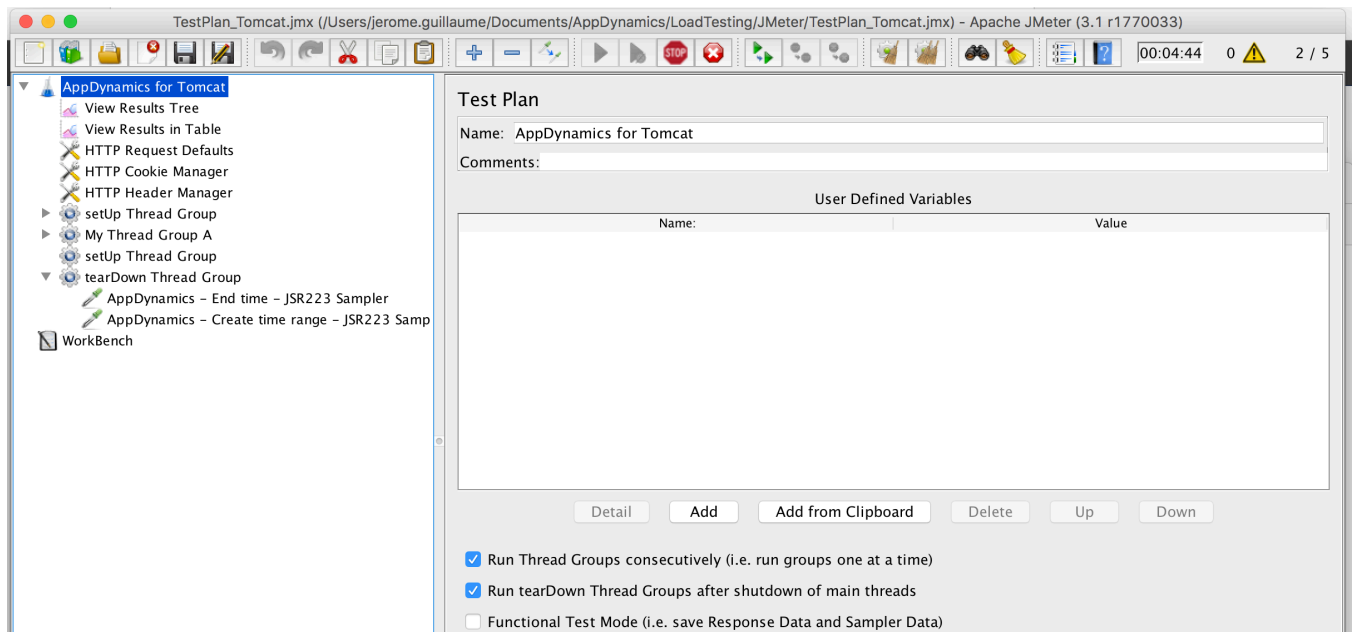
brLogin.close();

```

The result is as follows:



- Configure the Test plan by checking run `tearDown Thread Groups` after shutdown of main threads. The `tearDown` threads won't be run if the test is forcibly stopped and it will avoid useless creation of custom time range in AppDynamics.
The result is as follows:

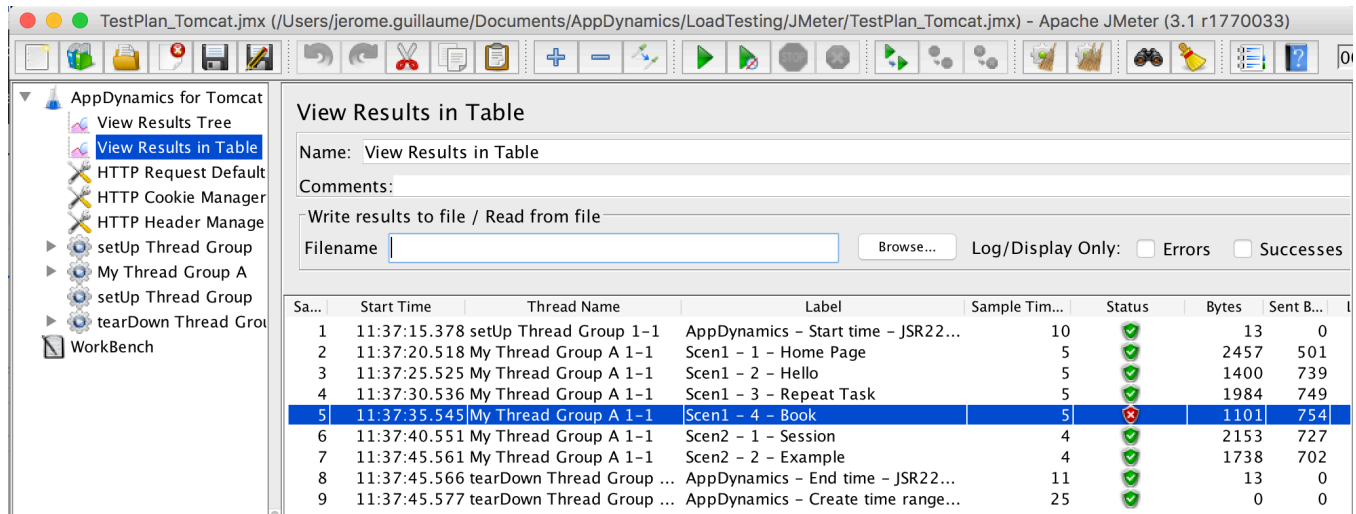


How to configure AppDynamics (with JMeter)

Make a browser refresh of AppDynamics Controller page to see the new Custom time range

3) Retrieve the JMeter Thread name within the AppDynamics snapshot

Here, the thread name `My Thread Group A 1-1` has failed on request `Scen1 - 4 - Book : AppDynamics` (with the corresponding snapshot) explains why there is a failure.

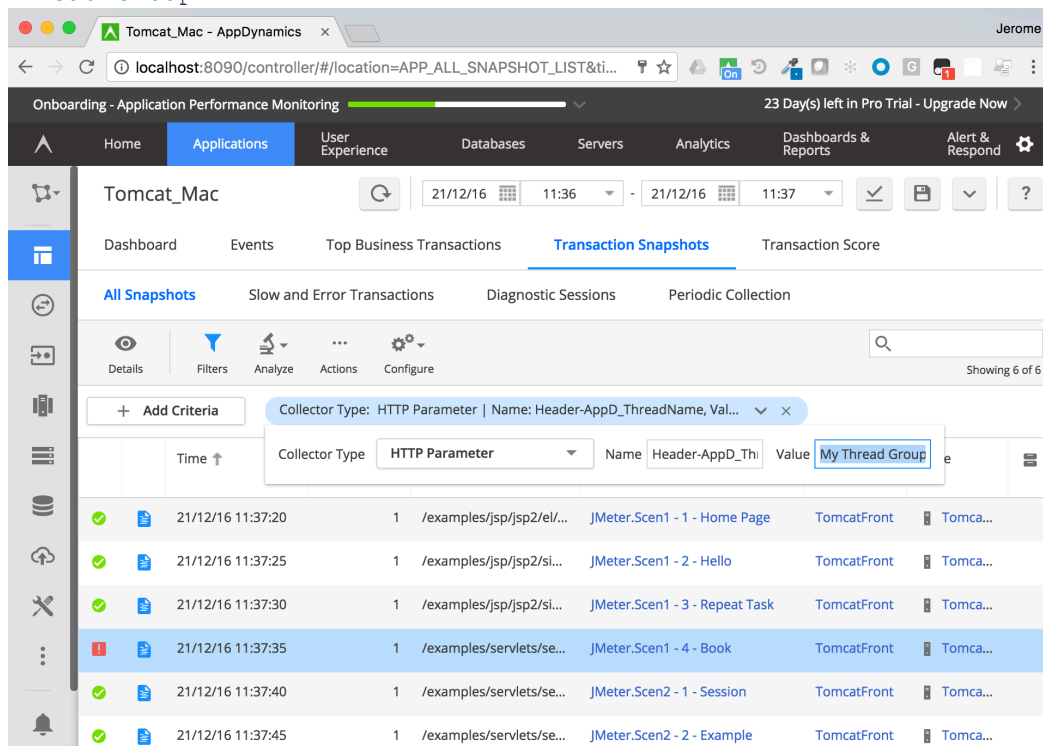


The screenshot shows the JMeter 'View Results in Table' window. The table lists transactions with columns: Sa..., Start Time, Thread Name, Label, Sample Tim..., Status, Bytes, and Sent B... The transaction 'Scen1 - 4 - Book' (Thread Name: My Thread Group A 1-1) is highlighted in blue and has a red status icon, indicating a failure.

Sa...	Start Time	Thread Name	Label	Sample Tim...	Status	Bytes	Sent B...
1	11:37:15.378	setUp Thread Group 1-1	AppDynamics - Start time - JSR22...	10	✓	13	0
2	11:37:20.518	My Thread Group A 1-1	Scen1 - 1 - Home Page	5	✓	2457	501
3	11:37:25.525	My Thread Group A 1-1	Scen1 - 2 - Hello	5	✓	1400	739
4	11:37:30.536	My Thread Group A 1-1	Scen1 - 3 - Repeat Task	5	✓	1984	749
5	11:37:35.545	My Thread Group A 1-1	Scen1 - 4 - Book	5	✗	1101	754
6	11:37:40.551	My Thread Group A 1-1	Scen2 - 1 - Session	4	✓	2153	727
7	11:37:45.561	My Thread Group A 1-1	Scen2 - 2 - Example	4	✓	1738	702
8	11:37:45.566	tearDown Thread Group ...	AppDynamics - End time - JSR22...	11	✓	13	0
9	11:37:45.577	tearDown Thread Group ...	AppDynamics - Create time range...	25	✓	0	0

To retrieve all AppDynamics snapshots in regards of a JMeter Tread name:

- Open Transaction Snapshots page
- Set a criteria with Collector Type=HTTP Parameter, Name=Header-AppD_ThreadName and Value=My Thread Group A 1-1



The screenshot shows the AppDynamics 'Transaction Snapshots' page. A filter is applied: Collector Type: HTTP Parameter, Name: Header-AppD_ThreadName, Value: My Thread Group. The table displays a list of transactions with columns: Time, ID, URL, Label, and TomcatFront. The transaction 'JMeter.Scen1 - 4 - Book' is highlighted in blue and has a red status icon, indicating a failure.

Time	ID	URL	Label	TomcatFront
21/12/16 11:37:20	1	/examples/jsp/jsp2/el/...	JMeter.Scen1 - 1 - Home Page	TomcatFront
21/12/16 11:37:25	1	/examples/jsp/jsp2/si...	JMeter.Scen1 - 2 - Hello	TomcatFront
21/12/16 11:37:30	1	/examples/jsp/jsp2/si...	JMeter.Scen1 - 3 - Repeat Task	TomcatFront
21/12/16 11:37:35	1	/examples/servlets/se...	JMeter.Scen1 - 4 - Book	TomcatFront
21/12/16 11:37:40	1	/examples/servlets/se...	JMeter.Scen2 - 1 - Session	TomcatFront
21/12/16 11:37:45	1	/examples/servlets/se...	JMeter.Scen2 - 2 - Example	TomcatFront

- Open the snapshot of Business Transaction `JMeter.Scen1 - 4 - Book` which has the **Error** status



- Analyze the flow map and access to call-graph or exception detail

The screenshot shows the AppDynamics web interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Onboarding - Application Performance Monitoring' and a '23 Day(s) left in Pro Trial - Upgrade Now' banner. The main content area displays a transaction flow map for a transaction ID 'f94c93f3-a1b8-4ef0-8712-f1b175d96e88'. The flow map shows a single node labeled '1 Node' with a 'START' button. A 'Drill Down' button is visible. On the left, a 'Summary' panel shows 'User Experience: Error' with details: Execution Time 1 ms, Timestamp 21/12/16 11:37:35, and Business Transaction JMeter.Scen1 - 4 - Book. Below this, a 'Potential Issues' section lists an error at 'RequestHeaderExample.doGet'. A 'Drill Down into Call Graph' button is also present. The error detail view on the right shows a stack trace starting with 'at RequestHeaderExample.doGet(RequestHeaderExample.java:59)'.

How to configure JMeter (with AppDynamics)

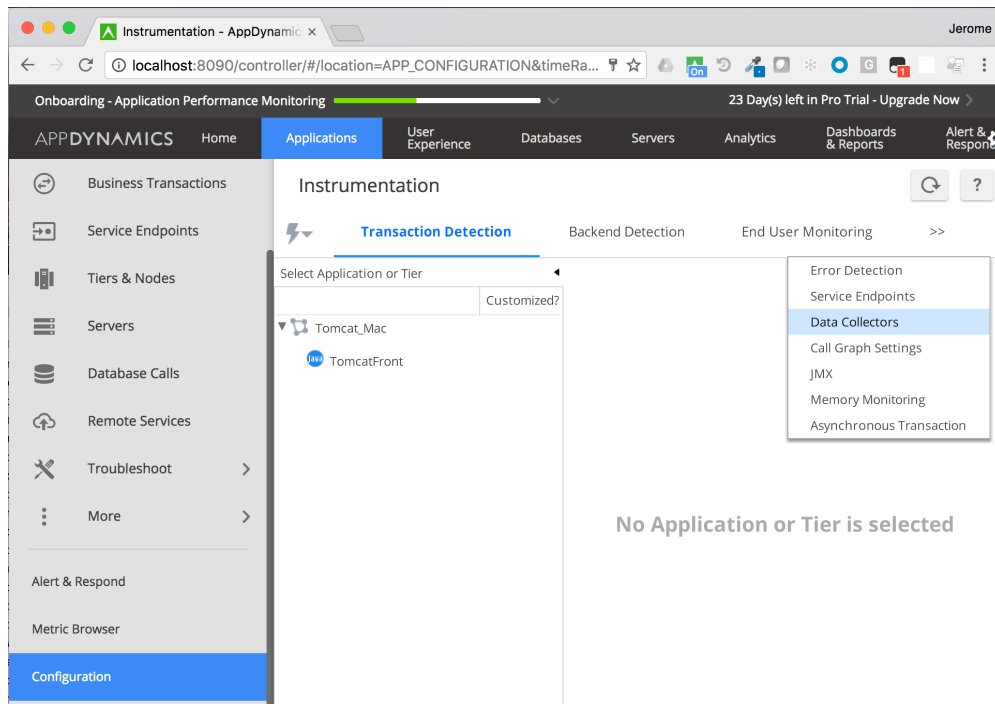
- Start JMeter and open the Test Plan
- Open the HTTP Header Manager
- Add a header
 - Set name with AppD_ThreadName and value with `${__BeanShell(ctx.getThread().getThreadName())}` and click on Save
- See below the expected result

The screenshot shows the JMeter HTTP Header Manager configuration. The 'Name' field is set to 'HTTP Header Manager'. The 'Comments' field is empty. The 'Headers Stored in the Header Manager' table has two columns: 'Name' and 'Value'. The table contains two entries: 'AppD_Header' with value '\${__samplerName}' and 'AppD_ThreadName' with value '\${__BeanShell(ctx.getThread().getThreadName())}'. The 'AppD_ThreadName' entry is highlighted in blue.

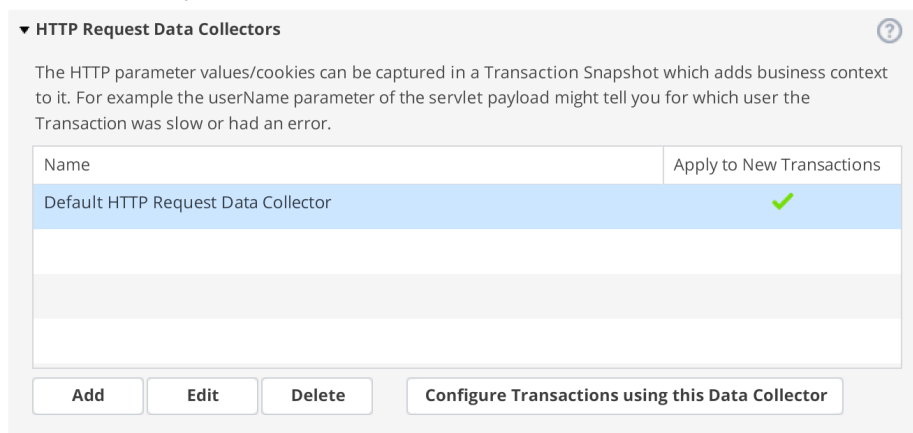
Name	Value
AppD_Header	\${__samplerName}
AppD_ThreadName	\${__BeanShell(ctx.getThread().getThreadName())}

How to configure AppDynamics (with JMeter)

- Connect to AppDynamics Controller
- Select the Application
- Click on Configuration
- Click on Instrumentation
- Click on >> and Data Collectors



- Select Default HTTP Request Data Collectors and click on Edit



- Set a Header with the value AppD_ThreadName
- Click on Save

HTTP Request Data Collector - Default HTTP Request Data Collector

Specify the names of the parameter/cookie values to be collected. The value will be displayed in the Transaction Snapshot against the display name chosen here.

Name

Default HTTP Request Data Collector

☒ Apply to new Business Transactions

Enable Data Collector for

☒ Transaction Snapshots

☐ Transaction Analytics

HTTP Parameters

Display Name	HTTP Parameter Name

Add

Delete

HTTP Request Attributes

☒ URL

☒ Session ID

☒ User Principal

☒ Get User Principal by `HttpServletRequest.getUserPrincipal().toString()`.

☐ Get User Principal by evaluating a custom expression on the `HttpServletRequest`:

Enter a custom expression to be applied on the `HttpServletRequest` object.

Cookies

Cookie Name

Add

Delete

Session Keys

Enter a comma separated list of session keys

Headers

AppD_ThreadName

Enter a comma separated list of header names

Cancel

Save