

# INTRODUCTION TO BDD

## BEHAVIOR DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

SUB-MARINER  
20¢ 50  
JUNE  
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MARVEL COMICS GROUP™

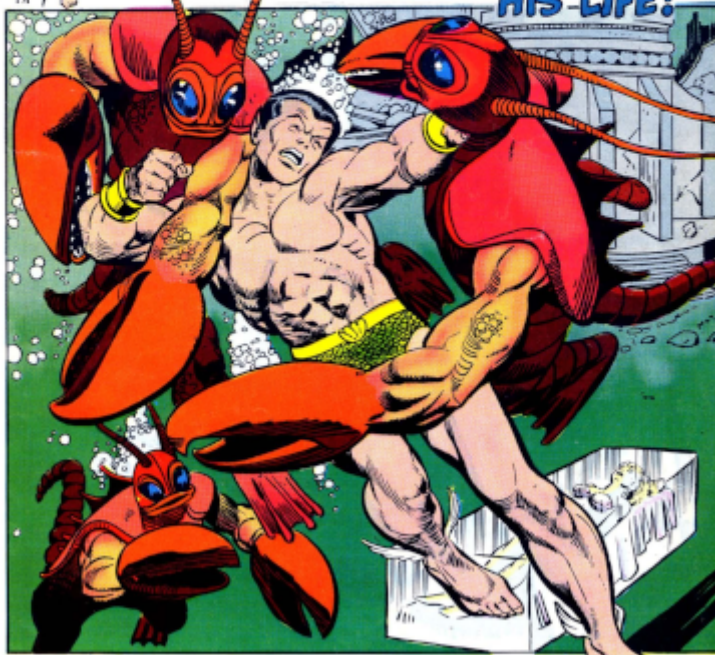


# SUB-MARINER

EXTRA-SPECIAL  
50<sup>TH</sup> ISSUE!



FIGHTING FOR  
HIS LIFE!



MYSTERY! DANGER! SUSPENSE! AS NAMOR ASKS:

## WHO AM I?

**whoami**

Juan Ignacio Rodríguez de león

@jileon en Twitter

Backend developer en [OctopusLabs](#)

The logo for OctopusLabs, featuring the word "octopus" in a lowercase, rounded font and "labs" in a smaller, lowercase, rounded font, both in white. The logo is centered within a dark gray rectangular box with a thin white border.

octopuslabs

**WE ARE HIRING**

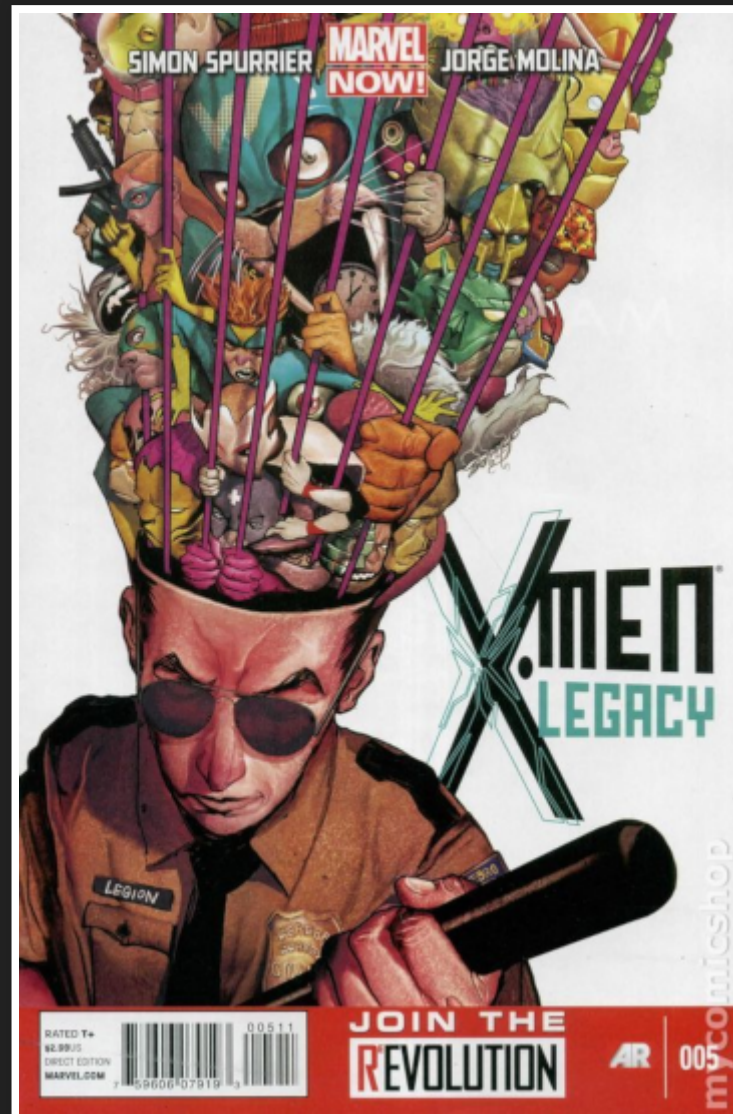
More info at:

<https://octopuslabs.com/careers>

## HOW IS THIS TALK STRUCTURED?

- Presentation (Finished!)
- Teory
- Practice
- Libraries, tools,  
recomendations...

# THEORY



*In theory, there is no difference  
between theory and practice. In  
practice, there is.*

--

*Benjamin Brewster*

# WHAT IS BDD

As stated by wikipedia:

... an extension of TDD that makes use of a simple, domain-specific scripting language structured like natural language statements to ensures all development projects remain focused on delivering what the business actually needs while meeting all requirements.



**man**

## **WATH IS BDD**

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~~... an extension of TDD that makes use of a simple, domain-specific scripting language structured like natural language statements to ensures all development projects remain focused on delivering what the business actually needs while meeting all requirements.~~

## TLDR

- They are tests. As in TDD, we use test to drive **the design** of the software
- Usually, on a **higher level** than TDD  
Written in a **natural language** , like English

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## TARGET: SHARE KNOWLEDGE

A natural language:

- Is used for all of us
- Everyone can define, debate o improve a test
- Allow all the team to discuss on typically conflictive topics: edge cases, exceptions...

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## EXECUTABLE SPECIFICATIONS

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# HOW CAN YOU "EXECUTE" ENGLISH?

Transform a plain english specification in a test

Example

# NOW WE HAVE TESTS!

- But, obviously, we need to implement the code. No black magic
- Before that, lets review a few details about files and organization.

# GHERKIN

The format used in this specification is called **Gherkin**

There are just a few words that have a special meaning: **Feature, Scenario, Given, When y  
Then.**

(Also **And, But**)

# FEATURE

- Every *feature* is a capacity of our product. Each feature must have its own `.feature` file
- The keyword **Feature** must go at the beginning, and gives us the opportunity to describe the feature in one line
- The rest of text between the feature line and the first scenario can be used to describe the feature with more detail

# SCENARIO

- Usually, a feature has more than one scenario, because we are interested on testing different aspects: changing conditions, edge cases, different inputs, etc...
- Every different case is defined with the keyboard **Scenario**
- As a rule, every scenario is a complete and concrete example of a feature



## GIVEN

- **Given** put our system in a known and controlled state, before the first interaction.
- (No user interactions if this part)

## WHEN

- **When** This is where we describe the actions the user or external system wants to do. This must yield some changes in the system.
- Or maybe not

## THEN

- **Then** This is where we check that the outcomes of our system are the expected

# AND Y BUT

**And y But** are alternative versions of Given and Then  
just to get a better feeling of proper english.

So, instead of writing:

```
Given I have 10000€ in my current account  
Given I have 300€ in my saving account
```

We can write:

```
Given I have 10000€ in my current account  
And I have 300€ in my saving account
```

**GO BACK TO PRACTICE**  
**LETS IMPLEMENT THE TEST**

Example

## A FEW INTERESTING DETAILS

### ON STEPS

- The name of the function used to implement the steps **it's not important!**
- Behavior decide what functions to call, and when, based only in the text of decorator
- Main idea is having **reusable steps**

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## PARAMETER CAPTURE

- One interesting ability is to "capture" some part of the text of the step
- This allow us to have parametrizable, and hence, more reusable steps

Lets see this with another example

## DIFFERENCES WITH TDD

- Emphasis is not in the code, but in the **functionality**
- Specification is written in natural language (i.e. **english**)
- Spoken by **all the members** of the team: Developers testers, Q/A, product owners, stakeholders, users...

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# PRACTICE





# A FEATURE FILE EXAMPLE

Feature: Transfer between accounts

Scenario: Add savings

Given I have 10.000€ in my current account  
And I have 300€ in my saving account  
When I transfer 200€ from current to saving  
Then I should have 9.800€ in my current account  
And I should have 500€ in my saving account



## INSTALL BEHAVE

- **Behave** is a BDD tool written in Python
- We will see other options for other languages at the end of the talk



# FOR OUR FIRST BDD TEST...

WE ARE GOING TO NEED ...

- A **features** directory
- Inside:
  - a directory named **steps**.
  - And a file named with extension  
**.feature<sup>\*</sup>**

\* with the content show in the previous example

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# FOR OUR FIRST BDD TEST...

WE ARE GOING TO NEED ...

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  - And a file named with extension **.feature**<sup>\*</sup>

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```
mkdir features  
mkdir features/steps  
vim features/transfer-between-accounts.feature
```

# FIRST TEST WRITTEN!

AND IT IS EXECUTABLE!

To execute it, just type on the command line:

```
behave
```

Feature: Transfer between accounts # features/transfer-between

Scenario: Add savings # features/t

Given I have 10000€ in my current account # None

And I have 300€ in my saving account # None

When I transfer 200€ from current to saving # None

Then I should have 9800€ in my current account # None

And I should have 500€ in my saving account # None

Failing scenarios:

features/transfer-between-accounts.feature:3 Add savings

0 features passed, 1 failed, 0 skipped

You can implement step definitions for undefined steps with the

```
@given(u'I have 10000€ in my current account')
def step_impl(context):
    raise NotImplementedError(u'STEP: Given I have 10000€ in m

@given(u'I have 300€ in my saving accout')
def step_impl(context):
    raise NotImplementedError(u'STEP: Given I have 300€ in my

@when(u'I transfer 200€ from current to saving')
def step_impl(context):
    raise NotImplementedError(u'STEP: When I transfer 200€ fro
```

# IT WORKS!



And It even gives us a scheleton of the functions we  
need to implement to run the tests



## A SIMPLE TEST

- Let's see a first implementation
- Given that we have no real code to test for now, use a simulation

# GIVEN...

```
#!/usr/bin/env python

from behave import *

@given("I have 10000€ in my current account")
def step_impl(context):
    context.current_account = 10000

@given("I have 300€ in my saving account")
def step_impl(context):
    context.savings_account = 300
```

## WHEN...

```
@when("I transfer 200€ from current to saving")
def step_impl(context):
    context.savings_account += 200
    context.current_account -= 200
```



## THEN...

```
@then("I should have 9800€ in my current account")
def step_impl(context):
    assert context.current_account == 9800

@then("I should have 500€ in my saving account")
def step_impl(context):
    assert context.savings_account == 500
```

# EXECUTE BEHAVE

```
Feature: Transfer between accounts # features_002/transfer-bet
```

```
Scenario: Add savings # features_0
```

```
    Given I have 10000€ in my current account # features_0
```

```
    And I have 300€ in my saving account # features_0
```

```
    When I transfer 200€ from current to saving # features_0
```

```
    Then I should have 9800€ in my current account # features_0
```

```
    And I should have 500€ in my saving account # features_0
```

```
1 feature passed, 0 failed, 0 skipped
```

```
1 scenario passed, 0 failed, 0 skipped
```

```
5 steps passed, 0 failed, 0 skipped, 0 undefined
```

```
Took 0m0.000s
```

## A bit more Theory

## PARAMETRIZABLE STEPS

- We can parse the example text strings and get information for the steps
- The library `parse` is used by default
- `parse` defines itself as *the opposite of format()*

## Change definition of first step from:

```
@given("I have 10000€ in my current account")
def step_impl(context):
    context.current_account = 10000
```

To:

```
@given("I have {amount}€ in my current account")
def step_impl(context, amount):
    context.current_account = int(amount)
```

Feature: Transfer between accounts # features\_003/transfer-bet

Scenario: Add savings # features\_0

Given I have 10000€ in my current account # features\_0

And I have 300€ in my saving account # features\_0

When I transfer 200€ from current to saving # features\_0

Then I should have 9800€ in my current account # features\_0

And I should have 500€ in my saving account # features\_0

1 feature passed, 0 failed, 0 skipped

1 scenario passed, 0 failed, 0 skipped

5 steps passed, 0 failed, 0 skipped, 0 undefined

Took 0m0.001s

# WE CAN EVEN FORGET

## ABOUT THE INTEGER CAST

```
@given("I have {amount:d}€ in my current account")  
def step_impl(context, amount):  
    context.current_account = amount
```

## BEHAVE HAVE ALTERNATIVE PARSERS

- `parse` is used by default
- `cfparse` let us work with cardinality
- `re` to use regular expressions



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## BUT BEFORE...

- Lets forget all this financial stuff nobody cares for...
- and use more interesting examples...

# POKEMON



# TABLE EXAMPLES

We can add data to the steps in a tabular form

Feature: Pokemon search

Scenario: Find the weakest

Given I have this pokemons

name	attack	defense
psyduck	20	60
torchic	20	60
spinda	10	80
lillipup	10	50

When I search for the one with less defense

Then I should get lillipup

# WE CAN PROCESS THIS TABLE

## IN THE STEP CODE

```
@given('I have this pokemons')
def step_impl(context):
    for row in context.table:
        pokemon = Pokemon(
            row['name'],
            attack=row['attack'],
            defense=row['defense'],
        )
        setattr(context, row['name'], pokemon)
```

# WE CAN HAVE SHARED PRECONDITIONS FOR ALL THE STEPS

Feature: Transfer between accounts

Background:

Given I have this pokemons

name	attack	defense
psyduck	20	60
torchic	20	60
spinda	10	80
lillipup	10	50

Scenario: Search for the weakest

When I search for the one with less defense

Then I should get lillipup



## TAGS

- **Selection** of scenarios or features
- Can select for **one or several** tags
- Can execute the ones **not** having one or more tags

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# FEATURE WITH TAGS

Asuming this feature and sample data

Feature: Search pokemons

Background:

Given I have this pokemons

name	attack	defense
psyduck	20	60
torchic	20	60
trapinch	20	60
spinda	10	80
lillipup	10	50

# AND THIS STEPS

@fight

Scenario: Search for the weakest

When I search for the one with less defense

Then I should get lillipup

@fight

Scenario: Search for the stronger

When I search for the one with more attack

Then I should get spinda

Scenario: Search for name

When I search for the letter t

Then I should get torchic

And I should get trapinch

# EXECUTING

## JUST THE FIGHT SCENARIOS

```
behave features_006 --tags=fight
```

# EXECUTING ALL THE SCENARIOS

## BUT THE FIGHT ONES

```
behave features_006 --tags=-fight
```



## WORKS IN PROGRESS

- run with `-w` flag
- turns off stdout capture
- turns off logging capture
- turns off pretty output
- only runs scenarios tagged with “@wip”
- stops at the first error

# TO BE HANDLE WITH CARE



## RECOMENDATIONS

- Don't mix features
- One scenario to test just one case
- it's code, store it in the repo
- High level descriptions: Do not use technology terms

## DANGERS

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# RULE NUMBER 1 ON ANALISYS CLUB

- Don't tell me your solution
- Instead, tell me your problem

(Rule number 2 is Everybody lies, if you are interested)



## TOOLS AND OPTIONS

- Ruby - Cucumber
- Javascript -  
Cucumber.js
- .Net - xBehave
- Java - JBehave

**THANK YOU!**