



Azure Load Testing

N. Krishnakumar
Principal Engineer, Core AI, Microsoft





Azure Load Testing

A fully managed load-testing service that helps developers and testers generate high-scale load and gain actionable insights to identify bottlenecks



Demo of Azure Load Testing





Overview



Building performant applications

Design principles

- Start with business goals
- Design to exceed the goals
- Achieve and sustain performance
- Fine tune to improve efficiency

Achieve & sustain

- Test early, test often, test everywhere
- Shift left your performance validation too!
- Continuous validation

Performance Testing types

Load Testing

- Validate under expected load
- Throughput & response time
- Short to medium duration

Stress Testing

- Validate beyond peak limits
- Failure points & recovery
- Short bursts of high intensity

Soak Testing

- Long term stability
- Degradation over time
- Long duration

 In CI/CD

Easily ensure app reliability with Azure Load Testing



Generate high-scale load with ease



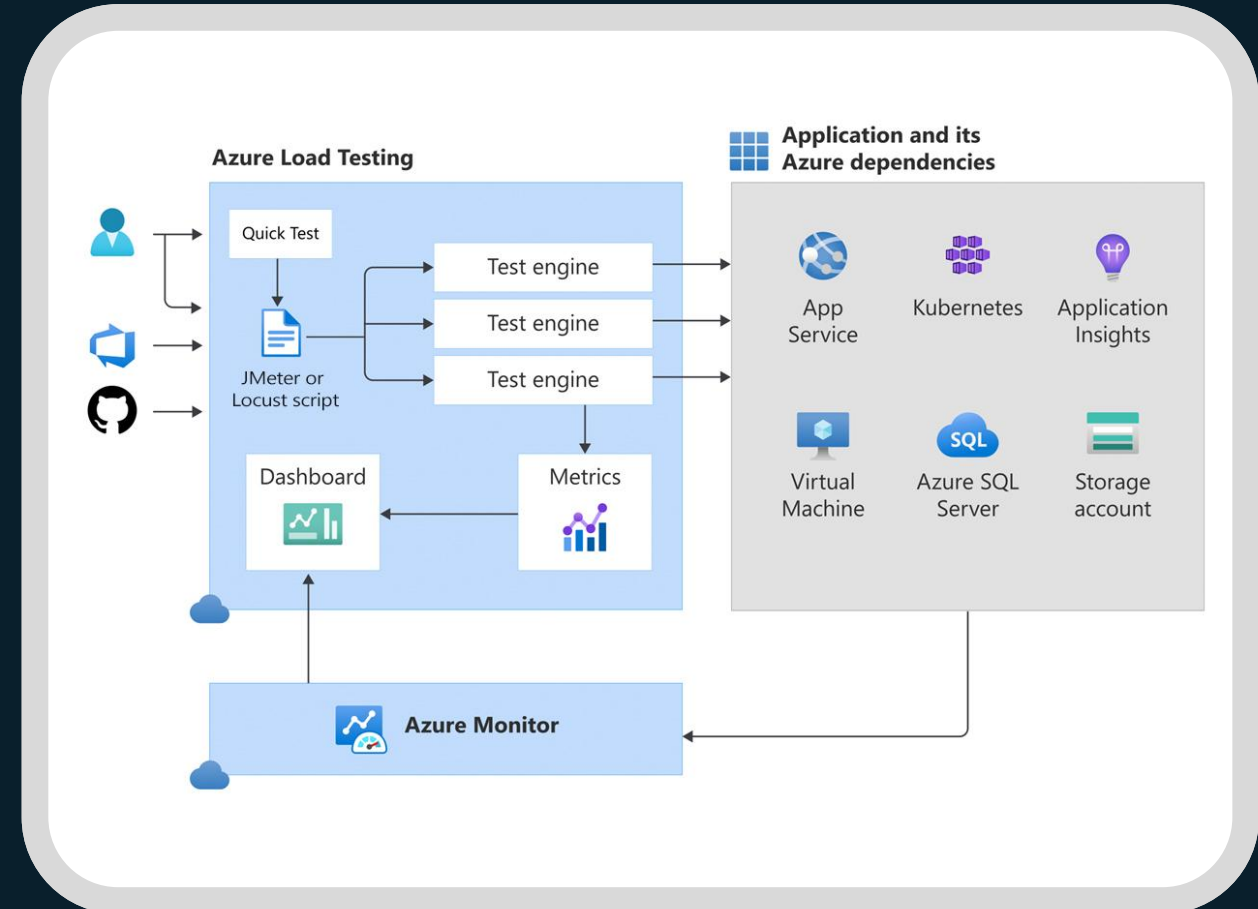
Optimize performance at scale



Build load testing into DevOps workflows

Generate high-scale load quickly and easily

- Create tests quickly without prior knowledge of load testing tools
- Run existing test scripts at scale with high-fidelity JMeter and Locust support
- Eliminate infrastructure needs with a fully managed service
- Experience frictionless testing on Azure



Identify bottlenecks with actionable insights

- Generate deep, actionable insights and recommendations
- Understand how tests impact all parts of your app
- Compare across load tests to understand change over time
- View trends in performance and compare with baseline





Design Principals



Design for Business Requirements

Drive customer success by defining targets for key user flows

Critical user flow:

Test run execution

- Executing the test runs reliably as configured for various load conditions is critical to ensure user success

What does that include?

- On-demand provisioning and configuration of virtual machines.
- Running the test script for the configured duration.
- Collecting metrics and logs from each engine; generating dashboards.
- Processing and archiving logs and results

Goal

- 99.9%

Design for Business Requirements

Identify dependencies and their impact on resilience

Dependence on Azure services

- Heavy dependence on Azure platform resources for compute, messaging, networking and storage requirements

Challenges at scale

- Consistent and performant on-demand/bursty test run infra provisioning
- Consistent and optimal metrics and logs collection and storage

Design for Business Requirements

Measures implemented to address reliability challenges

Measures implemented

- Implemented retries with exponential backoff.
- Established a warm pool of on-demand infrastructure resources for test runs.
- Optimized data collection through metrics aggregation and log chunking, among other methods.
- Monitored the health of dependencies.

Result

- Improved and sustained reliability above a remarkable 99.9%

Design for Operations

Measure, monitor and improve

Telemetry

- Create observable systems for correlating telemetry across components
- It aids in effective request trace analysis across diverse microservices.

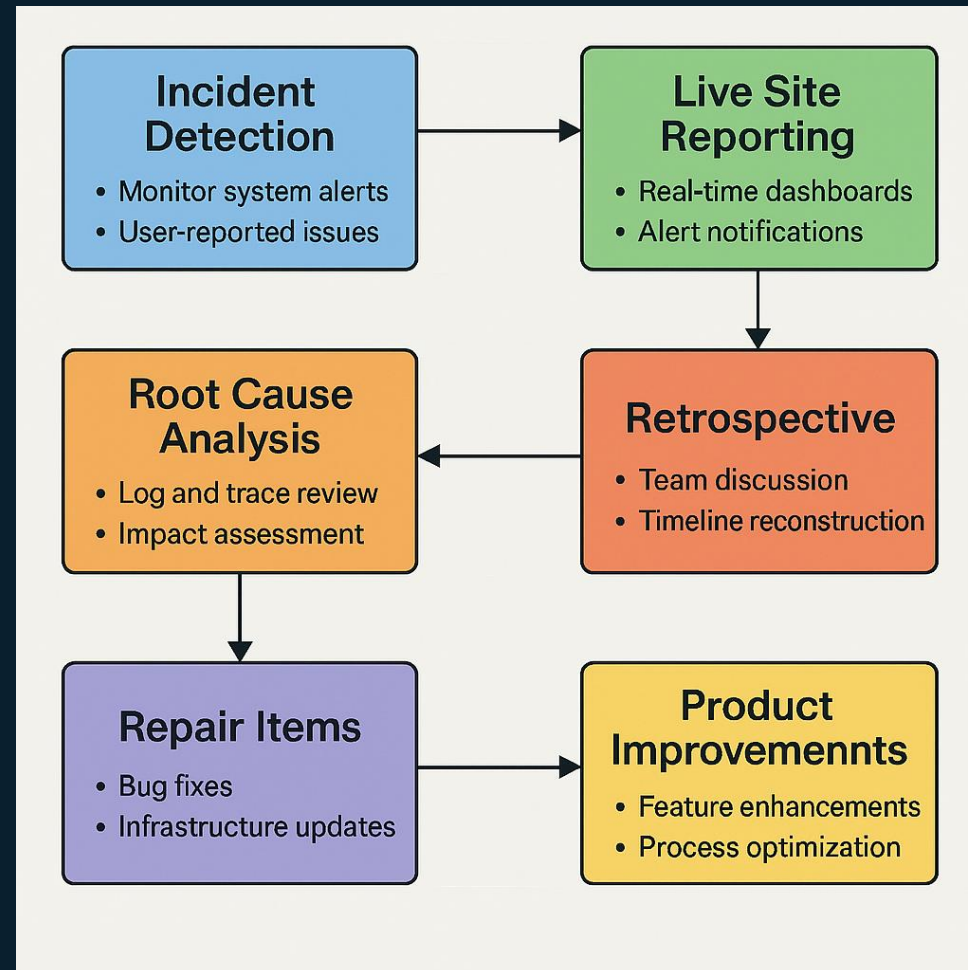
Monitoring & diagnostics

- Comprehensive health monitoring at service level
- Collect application metrics and logs via App Insights.
- Gather Azure resource infrastructure metrics and logs using Azure Monitor.
- Detect anomalies e.g. in key user flow metrics and usage metrics.

Design for Operations

Continuous learning

- Integrate with robust alerting, live site reporting and analysis tools.
- Complete the feedback loop with retrospective and repair items for the incidents



Reliability – Key take-aways

Achieving and maintaining reliability goals is a continuous effort

Identify and measure critical user flows.

Incorporate observability in design discussions from the beginning.

Collect platform and applications metrics and logs to gain insights into the business and platform.

Utilize anomaly detection for proactive issue identification and resolution

Complete the feedback loop with incident reviews and repair items.