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Test Automation

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Implementing Testing for Behavior-Driven Development Using Cucumber

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For almost a decade, Max Saperstone has been a test engineer focusing on test automation and the continuous integration/continuous delivery process. Max specializes in open source tools-Selenium, JMeter, AutoIT, Cucumber, and Chef. He has led several testing automation efforts, including developing an automated suite focused on web-based software to operate over several applications. Max also headed a major project developing an automated testing structure to run Cucumber tests over multiple test interfaces and environments, while developing a system to keep test data “ageless.” He is currently developing a new testing architecture for SecureCI to allow testing of multiple interfaces, custom reporting, and minimal test upkeep.

Implementing Effective Testing for Behavior Driven Development using Cucumber-JVM

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Max Saperstone has been working as a Software and Test Engineer for almost a decade, with a focus on Test Automation and the CI/CD process. He specializes in open source tools, including the Selenium Tool Suite, JMeter, AutoIT, Cucumber, and Chef. Max has lead several testing automation efforts, including developing an automated suite focusing on web-based software to operate over several applications for Kronos Federal. He also headed a project with Delta Dental, developing an automated testing structure to run Cucumber tests over multiple test interfaces and environments, while also developing a system to keep test data 'ageless.' He recently released a new testing architecture for SecureCI™ to allow testing of multiple interfaces, custom reporting, and minimal test upkeep. He is currently engaged in CI/CD work, working to create full automated delivery using open source tools including Jenkins, SonarQube, and Nexus.

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Agenda

- Cucumber Overview
 - What is Cucumber
 - Gherkin
 - Glue Code
- Java Implementation
 - Cucumber Structure
 - Recommended Structure
 - Data Models
 - Functionality
- Execution
 - Ant
 - Results

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Cucumber Basics

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Introduction

- Cucumber is a tool that supports Behavior Driven Development, BDD.
- Cucumber and BDD is not about testing GUIs. It is about systems behavior.
- To write tests, specify the properties you want a system to have.
- You don't know, and should not care, about the implementation when you define your features.

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How to Write Tests

- The whole point of BDD is that it is vitally important to write each test/feature step
 - one at a time
 - with a domain expert
 - in plain language
- The use of plain language in the feature file is crucial to successful use of Cucumber
- State the result that you wish to obtain while avoiding specifying how you expect to get it

Basic Setup

- The most basic Cucumber-jvm setup includes 3 files
 - Generic Test Runner
 - Feature File
 - Test Implementation
- The Test Runner is the actual file to execute within your IDE, and by default runs as a JUnit test
- The Feature Files are what contain all of the human readable tests
- The Test Implementation file will contain all of our implementations for our tests

Gherkin

Gherkin

- Gherkin is a business readable, domain specific language that lets you describe software's behaviour
- A **Feature** is a set of functionality - think Test Suite
- A single **Feature** is typically contained in its own file (ending in .feature)
- Features are typically composed of multiple **Scenarios**
- A **Scenario** is a block of statements that describe some desired behavior
- A **Scenario Outline** is a block of statements that gets repeated over a set of data
- **Scenarios** specify *What* and should avoid answering the question *How*

How to write Scenarios

- A scenario statement - step - consists of three parts:
- Given – the preconditions of the system under test. The setup of the systems state if you want. For our tests, we indicate (if desired) which interface we want to test.
- When – the actual change of the system. Transforming it from the initial state to the final state.
- Then – the expected final state of the system. The verification that the state change was the desired change.

Example Feature File

```
Feature: Testing for login page
```

```
Scenario: Login without password
```

```
Given I want to use the browser Firefox
When I provide username testuser1
And I login
Then I see the login error message "Please provide a password."
And I am on the login page
```

```
Scenario: Login without username
```

```
Given I want to use the browser Firefox
When I provide testuser1
And I login
Then I see the login error message "Please provide a username."
And I am on the login page
```


How to Write Tests (example)

- For example, for a login scenario you should write:

When I login as USER1 to CosmicComix

- And not:

When I visit www.cosiccomix.com
And I click on the login button
When I enter USER1 in the username field
And I click the continue button
And I click the login button

- You should concern yourself with what has to happen and not how you expect it to happen.

Feature and Scenario File Tips

- Scenario Outlines can contain multiple variable types
 - Doc Strings
 - List of Maps/Scalars/Lists
 - Data Tables
 - Data Table Transformation
 - Data Table Diffing
 - String Transformations
- Often times when writing multiple scenarios you see repeated test steps
- Initial similar test steps can be moved out into *Background*
- These steps get executed before every scenario

What was once...

Feature: Testing for login page

Scenario: Login without password

Given I want to use the browser Firefox
When I provide username testuser1
And I login
Then I see the login error message "Please provide a password."
And I am on the login page

Scenario: Login without username

Given I want to use the browser Firefox
When I provide testuser1
And I login
Then I see the login error message "Please provide a username."
And I am on the login page

Can become...

Feature: Testing for login page

Background

Given I want to use the browser Firefox

Scenario: Login without password

When I set the username to testuser1
And I login to CosmicComix
Then I see the login error message "Please provide a password."
And I am on the login page

Scenario: Login without username

When I set the password to testuser1
And I login to CosmicComix
Then I see the login error message "Please provide a username."
And I am on the login page

Tagging

Tagging Basics

- Cucumber provides a simple method to organize features and scenarios by user determined classifications.
- This is implemented using the convention that any space delimited string found in a feature file that is prefaced with the commercial at (@) symbol is considered a tag.
- Any string may be used as a tag and any scenario or entire feature can have multiple tags associated with it.
- Be aware that tags are heritable within Feature files.
 - Scenarios inherit tags from the Feature statement.
 - Examples inherit tags from the Feature and Scenario statements.

Tagging Examples

@CCOrg @CCNet

Feature: Testing for login page

Scenario Outline: Bad login

Given I want to use the browser Firefox

When I set the username to [username]

When I set the password to [password]

When I login to CosmicComix

Then I see the error message "[message]"

And I am on the login page

@Regression

Examples:

username	password	message
testuser1		Please provide a password.
	testuser1	Please provide a username.
testuser	testuser	That username does not match anything in
testuser1	testuser2	The password provided does not match the

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Step Definitions/Glue Code

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Cucumber Implementation

- Cucumber searches the classpath provided in the runner to find any methods annotated with regular expressions that will match each Given/When/Then part of the feature
- There must only be one method, step, which matches the regular expression in the classpath
- If you have described two different parts of the system with the exact same wording, then you have an issue with ambiguity

Step Definition Best Practices

- The matcher is not overly verbose.
- The matcher handles both positive and negative (true and false) conditions.
- The matcher has at most two value parameters
- The parameter variables are clearly named
- The body is less than fifteen lines of code
- The body does not call other steps

Step Definition Basics

- When you put part of a regular expression in parentheses, whatever it matches gets captured for use later.
 - This is known as a “capture group.”
- In Cucumber, captured strings become step definition parameters.
 - Typically, if you’re using a wildcard, you probably want to capture the matching value for use in your step definition.

```
Given("^I'm logged in as an? (.*)$")
public void ImLoggedInAsA(String role) {
    // log in as the given role
}
```

- If your step is *Given I'm logged in as an admin*, then the step definition gets passed "admin" for role.

Capturing and not capturing

- Cucumber converts captured strings to the step definition parameter type
- Sometimes, you have to use parentheses to get a regular expression to work, but you don't want to capture the match.
- For example, suppose I want to be able to match both *When I log in as an admin* and *Given I'm logged in as an admin*.
- Both step definitions do the same thing, there is no reason to have duplicated automation code

```
When("(I'm logged|I log) in as an? (.*)$")
public void LogInAs(string role) {
    // log in as the given role
}
```

Capturing and not capturing (cont.)

- My regular expression is capturing two strings, but my step definition method only takes one.
- I need to designate the first group as non-capturing like this:

```
When("^(?:I'm logged|I log) in as an? (.*)$")  
public void LogInAs(string role) {  
    // log in as the given role  
}
```

- Now, with the addition of ?: at the beginning of the group, it will perform as expected
- As mentioned previously, a multitude of object types can be provided, and if expected in (.*) will be automatically parsed

Hooks

Hooks Overview

- Hooks allow us to perform actions at various points in the cucumber test cycle
- Before hooks will be run before the first step of each scenario.
- After hooks will be run after the last step of each scenario, even when there are failing, undefined, pending or skipped steps.
- Scenario Hooks
 - Similar to JUnit *@Before* and *@After* run with each scenario
 - Placing common functionality in these reduces the number of test steps in each scenario

Hooks Overview

- Tagged Hooks
 - We can also indicate that *@Before* and *@After* only run with scenarios with certain tags
 - e.x. *@Before('@web')* for tests needing a browser launched
 - Tagged hooks can have multiple tags, and follow similar tagging AND/OR rules that the runner does
 - e.x. *@Before('@CCOrg, @CCNet)* would run before scenarios tagged with *@CCOrg* OR *@CCNet*
 - e.x. *@Before('@CCOrg', '~@CCNet')* would run before scenarios tagged with *@CCOrg* AND NOT *@CCNet*
- Global Hooks
 - Cucumber doesn't support global hooks, however, hacks are possible

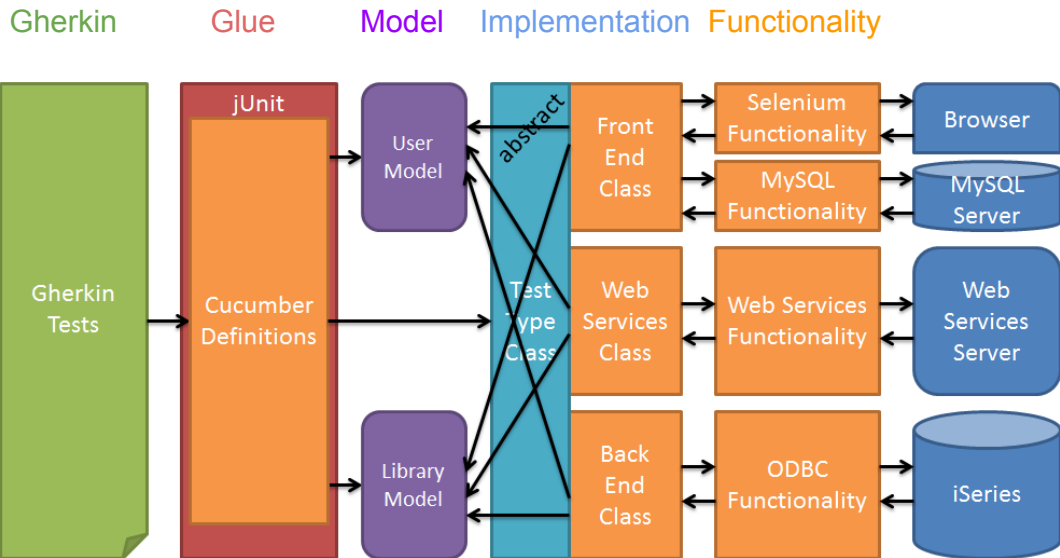
Sample Code

```
@Before //performed before anything is done
public void setup() {
    if ( webEls == null ) {
        webEls = new LoadElements( xmlFiles );
        //set our database
        if( System.getProperty( "dataenvironment" ) != null ) {
            database = Databases.valueOf( System.getProperty(
                "dataenvironment" ).substring(1) );
        }
        tests.clear();
        tests.add( database.getValidTestingInterfaces() );
    }

    @Before('@ExternalWebsite') //performed before each web scenario
    public void externalWebsite() {
        tests.add( new ExternalWebsite( webEls, Browsers.Firefox ) );
    }
}
```

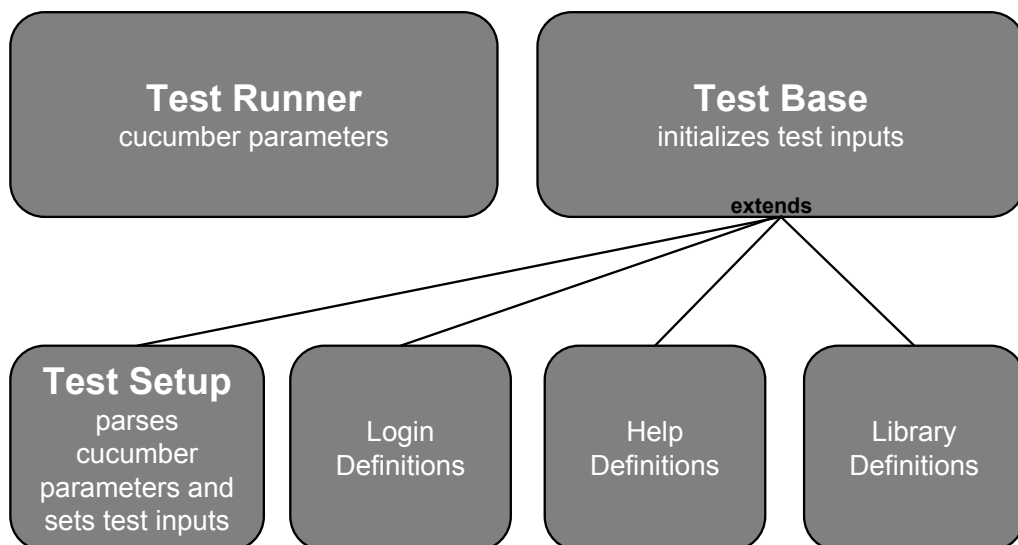
Java Structure

Test Architecture



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Definition Structure



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Data Modeling

Java Implementation

- Drive the initial implementation from the steps. As it looks now I will need
 - Potential Interface selector
 - A place to store user information
 - Username
 - Password
 - A method to submit the information
 - A method to check the page
 - A method to check the message
- Before I start implementing the model, I want to implement the steps that will verify the model.
- Start with an implementation of the steps like this...

Java Implementation - Code

```
//type in our username
@When("^I set the username to (.*)$")
public void setUsername(String user) throws Exception {
    user.setUsername( user );
}

//type in our password
@When("^I set the password to (.*)$")
public void setPassword(String password) throws Exception {
    user.setPassword( password );
}

//click the login button
@When("^I login to CosmicComix$")
public void login() throws Exception {
    login.login( user );
}

//check our message
@Then("^I see the login error message \"(.*)\"$")
public void checkLoginErrorMessage(String errorMessage) throws Exception {
    login.checkLoginErrorMessage( errorMessage );
}

//check our page
@Then("^I am on the (.*) page$")
public void checkPage(Pages page) throws Exception {
    login.checkPage( page );
}
```

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Data Modeling

- Once all of the test steps have been implemented, data models should be created to encapsulate all needed fields
- Based on our above examples, we'll need a *User* object which will contain:

- Username
- Password

```
public class User {
    private String user;
    private String password;
    public void setUser( String user ) {          this.user = user;          }
    public void setPassword( String password ) { this.password = password; }
    public String getUser() {                     return user;           }
    public String getPassword() {                return password;        }
}
```

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Exercising Functionality

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Functionality

- The functionality should be broken down into two distinct 'layers'
 - Base calls (e.g. Selenium, ODBC, HTTP)
 - Implementation of workflow
- All of the static calls to external services are defined and can remain unmodified as workflow and application functionality changes
- These calls can also automatically log all data being passed to and from the services to provide a more seamless logging

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Implementation

- The workflow of the application (the how) is all contained in the abstract class forming the implementation
- One class should be written to contain all workflows (each as a method) expected from the application
 - Login
 - Help
 - Library
- Some methods can be defined at this level, however any that are interface specific should be left as abstract to be defined by the extending class

Base Class

```
public abstract class TestStructure {
    protected WebDriver driver; //this is our selenium webdriver control
    protected SeleniumWebDriver selenium; //this is our selenium instance
    private ArrayList<Object> call = new ArrayList<Object>(); //this is the call
    private ArrayList<Object> response = new ArrayList<Object>(); //this is the response
    private ArrayList<Object> actions = new ArrayList<Object>(); //this is all of the actions

    protected final String appURL = "http://cosmiccomix.net"; //the url of our application

    public abstract void setDriver() throws InvalidBrowserException;

    public abstract void unsetDriver();

    public SeleniumWebDriver getSelenium() {
        return selenium;
    }

    public WebDriver getDriver() {
        return driver;
    }

    public abstract void login(User user);

    public void checkPage(Pages page) {
        if ( selenium == null )
            throw new InvalidTestInterfaceException();
        selenium.getTitle();
    }
}
```

External Web Class

```
public class ExternalWebsite extends TestStructure {
    private LoadElements webEls;
    private Browsers browser;
    private String subDomain;
    public ExternalWebsite(LoadElements webEls, Browsers browser, String subDomain) {
        this.webEls = webEls;
        this.browser = browser;
        this.subDomain = subDomain;
    }

    @Override
    public void setDriver() throws InvalidBrowserException {
        selenium = new SeleniumWebdriver(this, webEls, browser);
        driver = selenium.getDriver();
    }

    @Override
    public void unsetDriver() {
        if ( selenium != null ) {
            selenium.killDriver();
        }
    }

    @Override
    public HashMap<Products,QuoteResult> login(User user) {
        //navigate to our URL
        selenium.goToURL( "http://" + subDomain + ".cosmiccomix.com/" );
        selenium.type( "username", user.getUser() );
        selenium.type( "password", user.getPassword() );
    }
}
```

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External Website Class

```
public class ExternalWebsite extends TestStructure {
    private LoadElements webEls;
    private Browsers browser;
    private String subDomain;
    private Age age = new Age();

    public ExternalWebsite(LoadElements webEls, Browsers browser, String subDomain,
        Databases database, Environments environment, String library) {
        this.webEls = webEls;
        this.browser = browser;
        this.subDomain = subDomain;
    }

    @Override
    public HashMap<Products,QuoteResult> getQuote(Databases data, Environments environment,
        QuoteQuery quote) throws InvalidActionException,
        InvalidLocatorTypeException, InvalidProductTypeException, InvalidApplicantException {
        Quote q = new Quote();
        Member member = quote.getMember();
        ArrayList<Dependent> dependents = quote.getDependents();
        //initial page
        //navigate to our URL
        selenium.goToURL( "http://" + subDomain + ".deltadentalcoversme.com/" );
        selenium.type( "zipcode_input", zip );
        selenium.click( "get_quote_button" );
        //fill out our effective date
    }
}
```

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Executing Tests

Executing Tests

- Cucumber can currently be executed using two different methods.
 - A command line tool
 - A JUnit runner
- Connecting through JUnit with a runner such as Ant can make it a seamless part of a project developed using tests.
- Multiple inputs can be set, which can be overridden by values in the build.xml script

```
package comix.cosmic.definitions;
```

```
@RunWith(Cucumber.class)
```

```
@Cucumber.Options({
```

```
    features = "comix/cosmic/features/",
```

```
    glue = "comix.cosmic.definitions",
```

```
    format = {"pretty", "html:target/cucumber-html-report", "json-pretty:target/cucumber"},
```

```
    tags = {"@Smoke"}
```

```
)
```

```
public class TestRunner{
```

```
}
```


Test Inputs (cont.)

- Additionally, Java system environments can also be set from the Ant script to create a more dynamic testing scenario.

```
<java classname="cucumber.api.cli.Main" fork="true" failonerror="false" resultproperty="cucumber.exitstatus">
  <classpath refid="classpath"/>
  <arg value="--format"/>
  <arg value="junit:target/cucumber-junit-report/allcukes.xml"/>
  <arg value="--format"/>
  <arg value="pretty"/>
  <arg value="--format"/>
  <arg value="html:target/cucumber-html-report"/>
  <arg value="--format"/>
  <arg value="json:target/cucumber.json"/>
  <arg value="--glue"/>
  <arg value="dental.delta.definitions"/>
  <arg value="${feature}"/>
  <arg value="--tags"/>
  <arg value="${dataenvironment}"/>
  <arg value="--tags"/>
  <arg value="${testtype}"/>
  <sysproperty key="dataenvironment" value="${dataenvironment}"/>
  <sysproperty key="environment" value="${environment}"/>
  <sysproperty key="testinterfaces" value="${testinterfaces}"/>
</java>
```

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Interpreting Results

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General Results

- Upon completion, test results will be available in the project directory under a folder labeled target.
- Navigate to the folder labeled *cucumber-html-report* and open the *index.html* file.
- This file will show your results.
- There are four different stylings for the results.
 - Unimplemented
 - Failed
 - Skipped
 - Passed

Unimplemented Steps

- The test step was not properly implemented and therefore could not be run.
- These will appear yellow in the cucumber HTML results
- If run directly as a JUnit test, the output will offer suggestions on how to implement the missing steps

You can implement missing steps with the snippets below:

```
@When("^I set the age for myself as _(\\d+)to(\\d+) for obtaining a quote$")
public void I_set_the_age_for_myself_as_to_for_obtaining_a_quote(int arg1, int arg2) throws Throwable {
    // Express the Regexp above with the code you wish you had
    throw new PendingException();
}
```

- Once all these test steps are completed re-run the tests, and re-check for problem areas.

Debugging Tests

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Debugging Options

- Missing Locators
 - Selenium IDE
 - xPather
 - Firebug
 - WebDriver Element Locator
- Failing Test Steps
 - Input/Output Validation
 - Change of workflow
 - Change of design
- Thrown Exceptions
 - Eclipse debugging mode
 - Breakpoints
 - System output

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Questions