

edX Load Tests

Introduction And Current Status

Troy Sankey

September 5, 2017

Introduction

- ▶ Tests live in the `edx/edx-load-tests` repo.

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- ▶ Uses the Locust load testing tool.

Why?

- ▶ Performance-related improvements.

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- ▶ Performance-sensitive code changes.
- ▶ Major version changes.

locustfile.py

```
1  class ChatTasks(TaskSet)
2      @task(2)
3      def open_chat():
4          print("opening a chat")
5      @task(3)
6      def send_message():
7          print("sending a message")
8
9
10 class ServiceTasks(TaskSet):
11     tasks = {
12         ChatTasks: 1,
13         SearchTasks: 2,
14     }
15
16 class ServiceUser(HttpLocust):
17     task_set = ServiceTasks
18     min_wait = 1000
19     max_wait = 5000
```

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User Experience

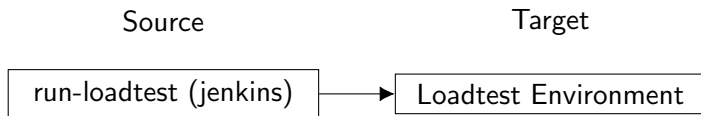
- ▶ No browser, no javascript, no good measure of user experience.
- ▶ Focus on the system response, not the users.

Overview Of Running Load Tests

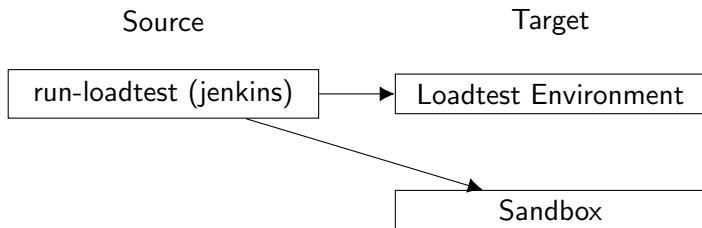
Target

Loadtest Environment

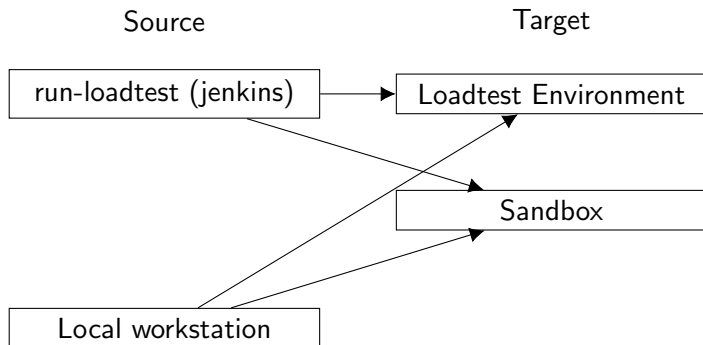
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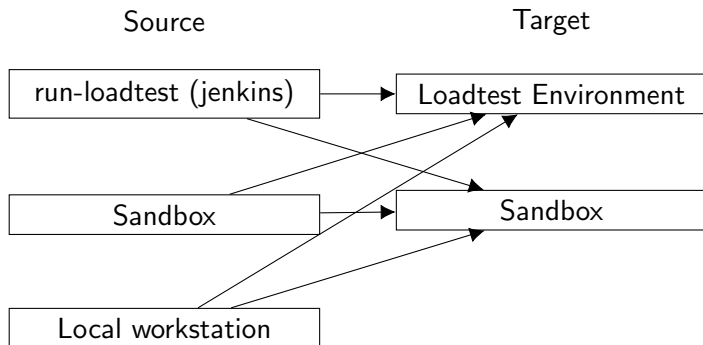
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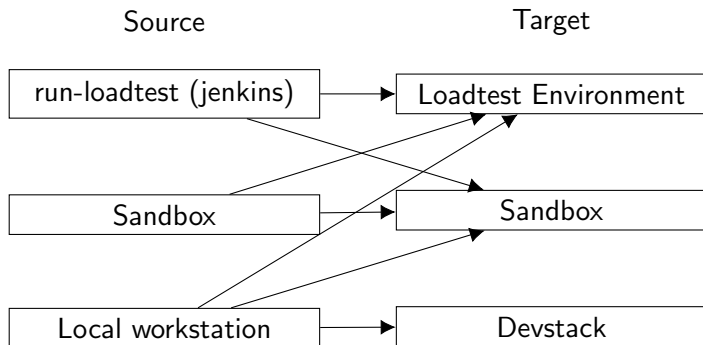
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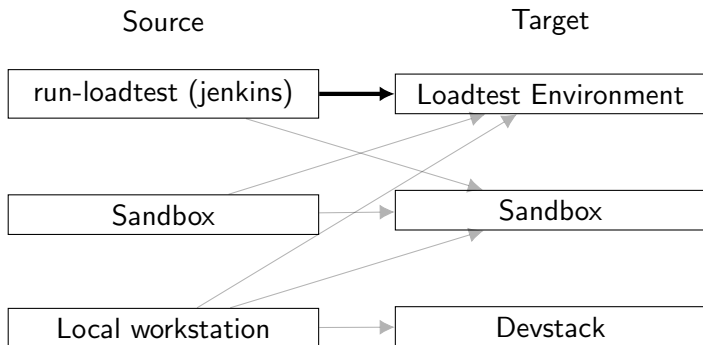
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- ▶ Use `helpers.settings`.
- ▶ The Jenkins job (`run-loadtest`) will use settings specified by a job parameter.

Evaluating Load Test Runs

- ▶ Locust provides response time breakdown.


Evaluating Load Test Runs



- ▶ Locust provides response time breakdown.
- ▶ Click on the summary artifact.






Build #48 (Jul 3, 2017 9:03:06 PM)


[Build Artifacts](#)





 [log.txt](#) 10.09 MB  [view](#)

 [summary.yml](#) 540 B  [view](#)

 Failed to determine ([log](#))


 Started by user [Troy Sankey](#)

 Rebuilds build [#45](#)




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
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Rebuilds build [#45](#)

- ▶ NewRelic provides deeper application insight.
- ▶ Custom metrics in edx-platform: make use of the custom metrics middleware for peering into application behavior.

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- ▶ Continuous deployment \Rightarrow continuous deletion of system metrics!

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- ▶ If you want/need real distributed load testing, demand it!

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- ▶ New endpoints will need to be added as new tasks.

For fun: Real browser load testing

- ▶ `pip install realbrowserlocusts`, then subclass `PhantomJSLocust` in your locustfile.
- ▶ Could make certain tests more realistic (AJAX calls actually happen).
- ▶ Potentially far more resource intensive on the client side