Behavior Driven Development

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What is BDD..?

Behavior Driven Development(BDD) is a Software development process that emerged from Test Driven Development(TDD) and Acceptance Test Driven Development(ATDD).

What Is TDD:

- Relies on the repetition of a very short development cycle.
- First the developer writes an (initially failing) automated test case that defines a desired improvement or new function.
- Then produces the minimum amount of code to pass that test, and finally refractors the new code to acceptable standards.

What is ATDD:

- Development methodology based on communication between the business customers, the developers, and the testers.
- Acceptance tests are created when the requirements are analyzed and prior to coding.
- Tests and requirements are interrelated.

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What is BDD:

BDD was developed by Dan North as a response to the issues encountered in TDD.

- Where to start in the process
- What to test and what not to test
- How much to test in one go
- What to call the tests
- How to understand why a test fails

At the heart of BDD is a rethinking approach to the Unit Testing and Acceptance Testing that North came up with while dealing with these issues.

Why BDD:

- Ability to write test cases(scenarios) and acceptance criteria before performing any development.
- Communication between business and development is extremely focused as a result of common language.
- Business needs tie directly to the code that is written.
- Stories are easy to “groom” – breakdown, task and plan.

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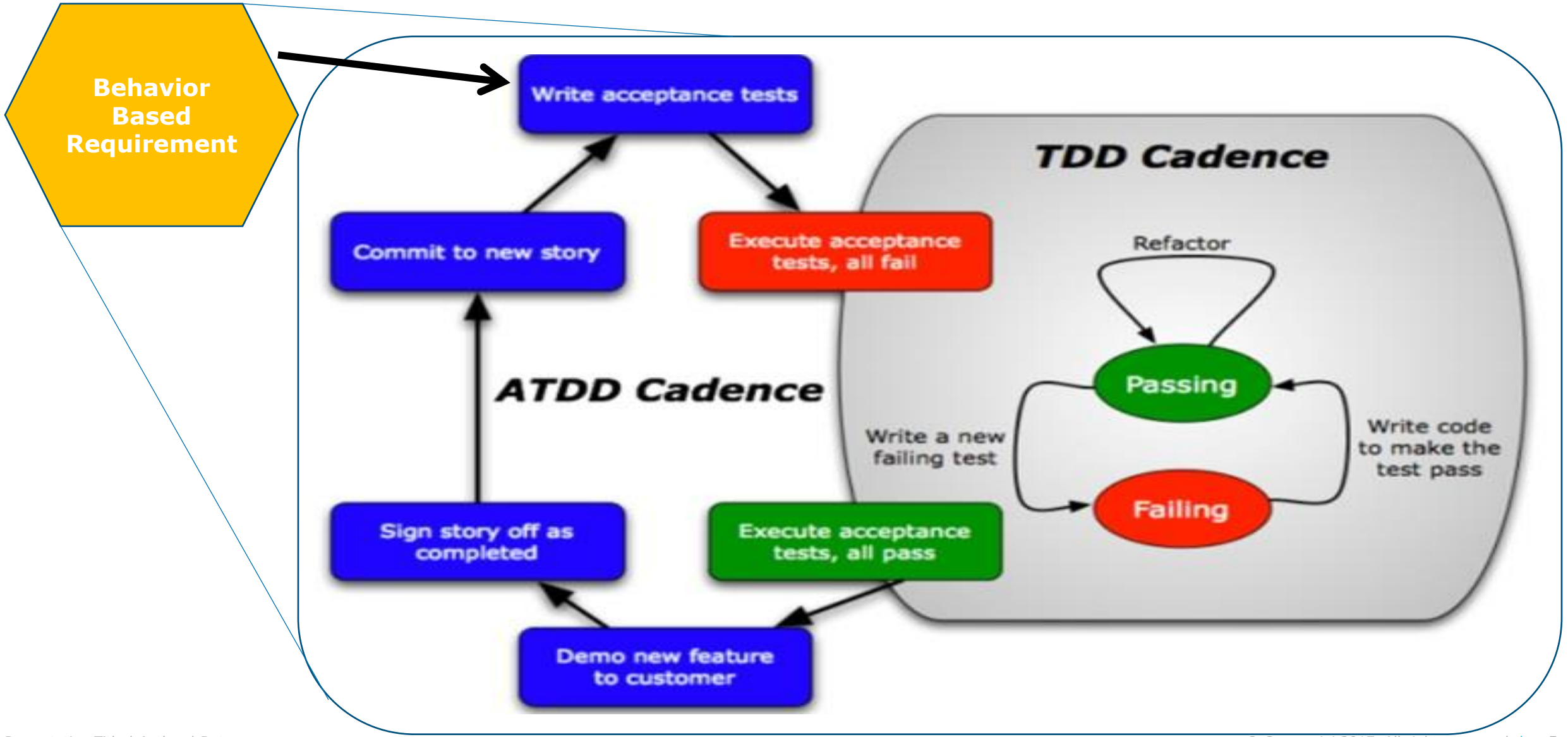
- Provides a common domain language, which everybody across the board(developer, tester, BA and Business) understands.
- Notations originating in the BDD approach, in particular the given-when-then canvas, are closer to everyday language.

TDD-ATDD-BDD



BDD Process

- Identify a Feature that the system needs to have.
- Describe the Feature in terms of **Who** needs **What** is needed and **Why** they need it.
- Describe specific scenarios of how the system is to behave while providing this feature.
- Automate scenario steps by writing test methods and map them to scenario steps.
- Make the system behave as described by the requirements by writing software.
- Run the stories to validate the system.

BDD Behavioral Specifications Process

Identify a Feature that the system needs to have.

- BDD Specifies that business analysts and developers should collaborate in this area and should specify behavior in terms of user stories, which are each explicitly written down in a dedicated document.

Each user Story should, in some way, follow the following structure:

- **Title:** The Story should have a clear, explicit title
- **Narrative:** A short, introductory section that specifies
  - **Who** (Which business or project role) is the diver or primary stakeholder of the story (the actor who derives business benefit from the story)
  - **What** effect the stakeholder wants the story to have
  - **What** business value the stakeholder will derive from this effect
- **Acceptance criteria of scenarios:** A description of each specific case of the narrative. Such a scenario has the following structure:
  - It starts by specifying the initial condition that is assumed to be true at the beginning of the scenario. This may consist of a single clause, or several.
  - It then states which event triggers the start of the scenario.
  - Finally, it states the expected out come, in one or more clauses.

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- In 2007 Dan Suggested a template for textual format which has found wide following in different BDD software tools.

```
Story: Account Holder withdraws cash

Narrative:
As an Account Holder
I want to withdraw cash from an ATM
So that I can get money when the bank is closed

Scenario: 1. Account has sufficient funds
Given the account balance is $100
And the card is valid
And the machine cntains enough money
When the Account Holder requests $20
Then the ATM should dispense $20
And the account balance should be $80
And the card should be returned
```

- This format is referred to as the Gherkin language, which has a syntax similar to the above example.
- The term Gherkin, however, is specific to the Cucumber, JBehave, and Behat software tools.

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