



Performance testing with JMeter

Ilídio Oliveira | ico@ua.pt

v2024/05/07

ISO/IEC 25010:2011 Systems and software engineering — Systems and software Quality Requirements and Evaluation (SQuaRE) — **System and software quality models**



<https://blog.codacy.com/iso-25010-software-quality-model/>

Functional quality characteristics/factors are just a part of the story...



Holistic view: need to consider quality characteristics in the product conception and development

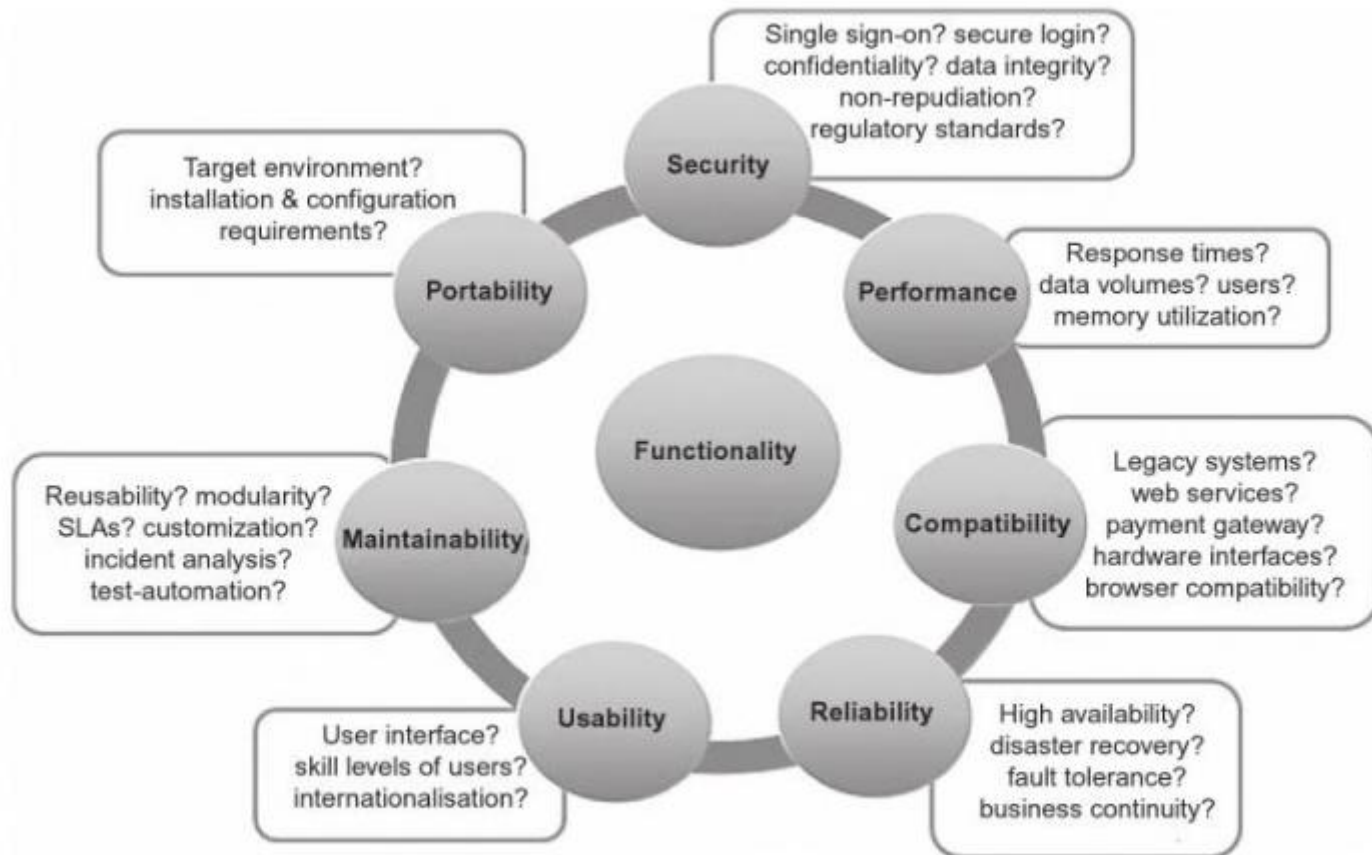


FIGURE 6.2

Holistic View of Product Quality.

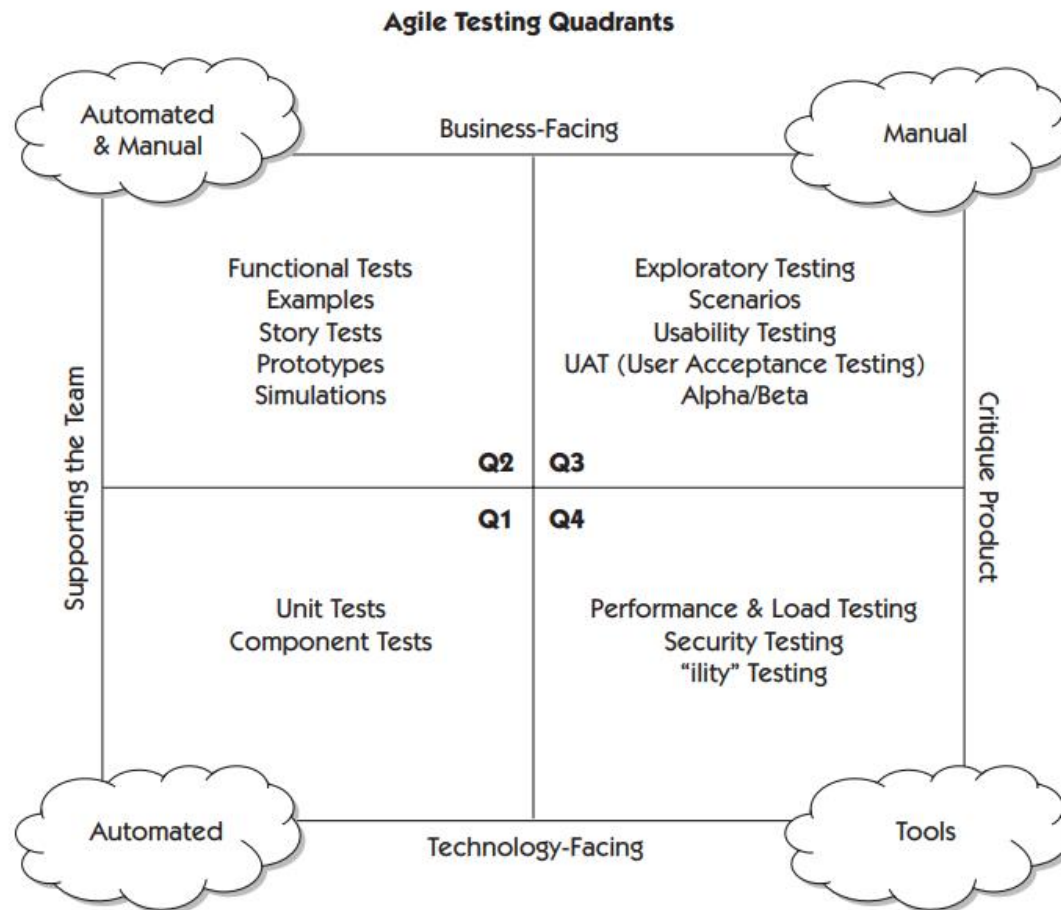


Figure 6-1 Agile Testing Quadrants



Performance testing

Tools and metrics

Why performance testing?

Non-functional requirements

- ▶ Performance, latency
- ▶ How far can you load the system ensuring error-free behavior?

How?

- ▶ Synthetic load generation
 - ▣ simulate user actions (functional)
- ▶ Measurement & reporting instrumentation



Mind some differences

Performance testing	Stress testing	Load testing
Testing to determine the performance of a software product.	A type of performance testing to evaluate a system or component at or beyond the limits of its anticipated or specified workloads , or with reduced availability of resources such as access to memory or servers.	A type of performance testing to evaluate the behavior of a component or system with increasing load , e.g., numbers of parallel users and/or numbers of transactions, to determine what load can be handled by the component or system.

<https://istqb-glossary.page/>



Apache JMeter™



The **Apache JMeter™** application is open source software, a 100% pure Java application designed to load test functional behavior and measure performance. It was originally designed for testing Web Applications but has since expanded to other test functions.

What can I do with it?

Apache JMeter may be used to test performance both on static and dynamic resources, Web dynamic applications.

It can be used to simulate a heavy load on a server, group of servers, network or object to test its strength or to analyze overall performance under different load types.

Apache JMeter features include:

- Ability to load and performance test many different applications/server/protocol types:
 - Web - HTTP, HTTPS (Java, NodeJS, PHP, ASP.NET, ...)
 - SOAP / REST Webservices
 - FTP
 - Database via JDBC
 - LDAP
 - Message-oriented middleware (MOM) via JMS
 - Mail - SMTP(S), POP3(S) and IMAP(S)
 - Native commands or shell scripts
 - TCP
 - Java Objects
- Full featured Test IDE that allows fast Test Plan **recording (from E to B)** **building and debugging**.
- **CLI mode (Command-line mode (previously called Non GUI))** / **any Java compatible OS (Linux, Windows, Mac OSX, ...)**
- A complete and **ready to present dynamic HTML report**

JMeter Cloud Load Testing with BlazeMeter

Easily scale your performance tests for continuous testing agility.

START TESTING NOW

Browser vs JMeter as HTTP clients

Browser lifecycle

User performs an action

Browser sends an HTTP request

Server processes the request and responses

Browser parses the response and executes scripts

JMeter behaviour

~~User performs an action~~

JMeter sends an HTTP request

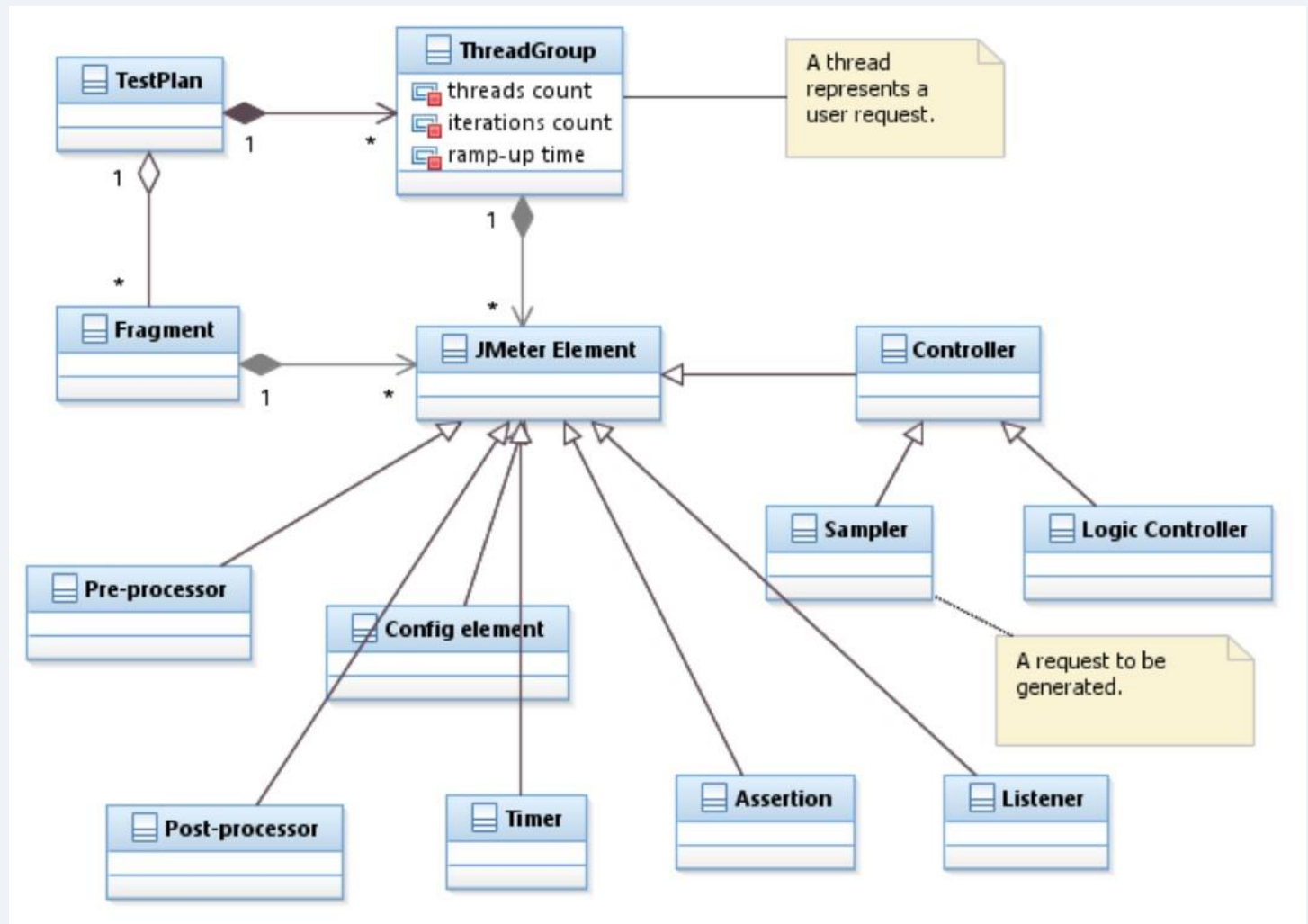
Server processes the request and responses

JMeter parses the response and ~~executes scripts~~

Repeat



JMeter elements



JMeter elements

Element	Semantics
Test Plan	A JMeter script.
Thread Group	Simulates a group of users (request ~ user)
Sampler	An action that causes a request.
Config	Additional configuration.
Timer	Add a predefined delay.
Assertions	Error checking to evaluate responses
Pre-processor	Modify the request before it is issued
Post-processor	Modify the response
Logic controller	Control node (alternatives, looping,...)



Some useful Samplers

HTTP Request

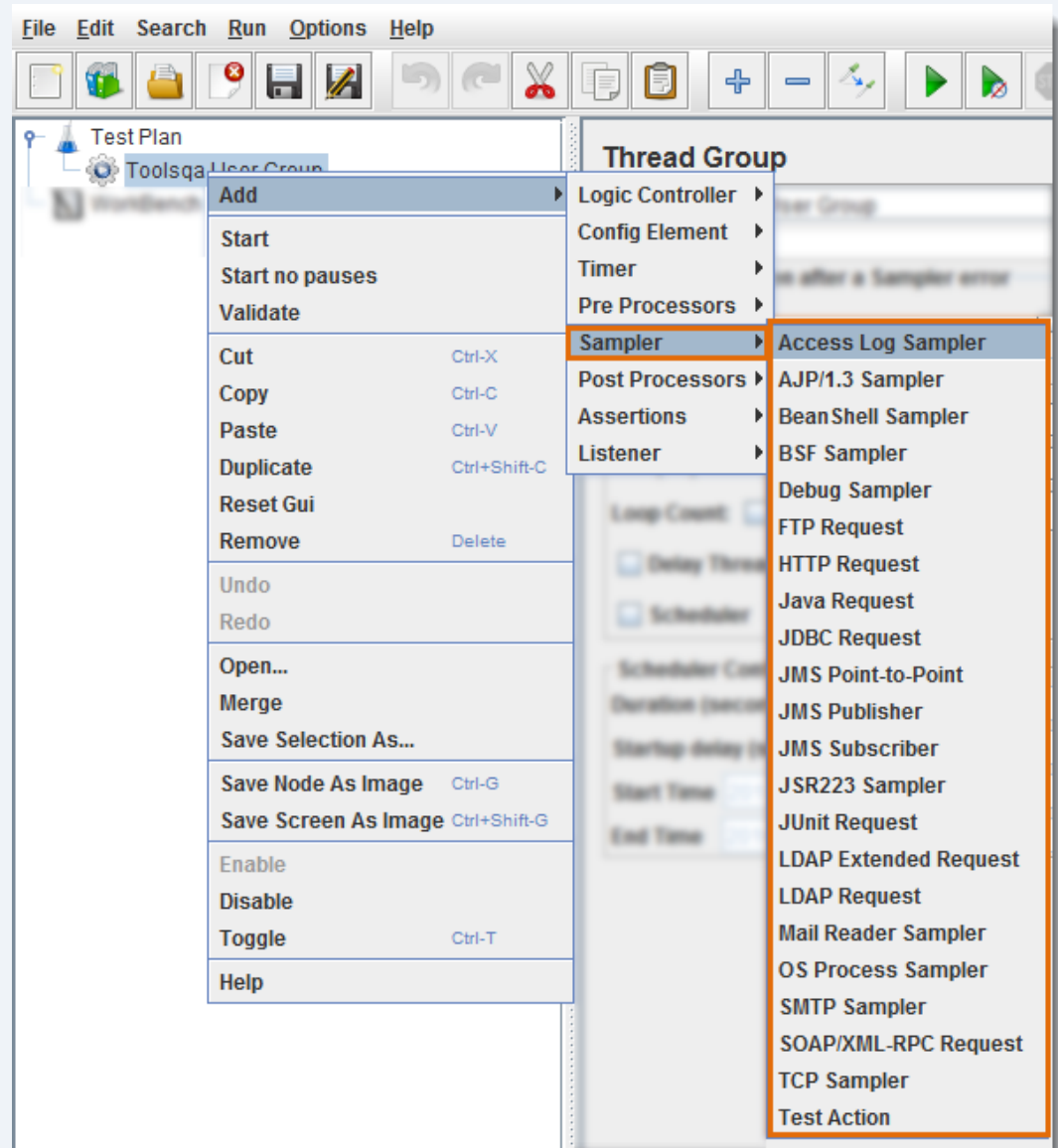
FTP Request

JDBC Request

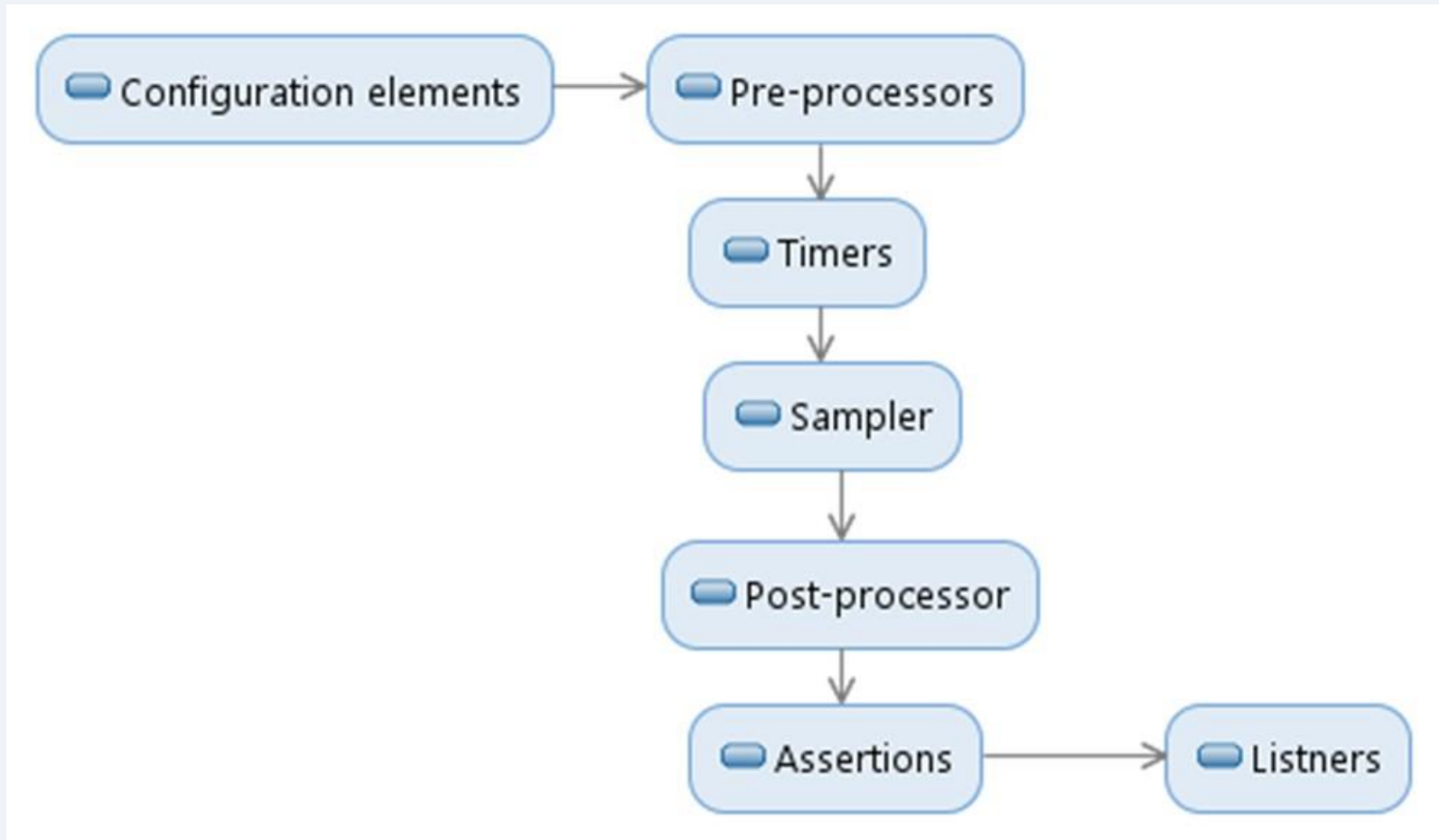
Java Request

SOAP/XML Request

RPC Requests



Execution order of test elements



JMeter IDE

The screenshot shows the Apache JMeter IDE interface. The title bar indicates the file is 'blaze.jmx' located at 'C:\opt\jMeter\extras\blaze.jmx' and the version is 'Apache JMeter (2.13 r1665067)'. The menu bar includes File, Edit, Search, Run, Options, and Help. The toolbar contains various icons for file operations and testing. The left sidebar shows a tree view with the following structure:

- TQS-sample
 - Thread Group
 - homepage
 - wordpress
 - View Results Tree
 - Summary Report
 - WorkBench

Annotations with green boxes and lines point to specific parts of the interface:

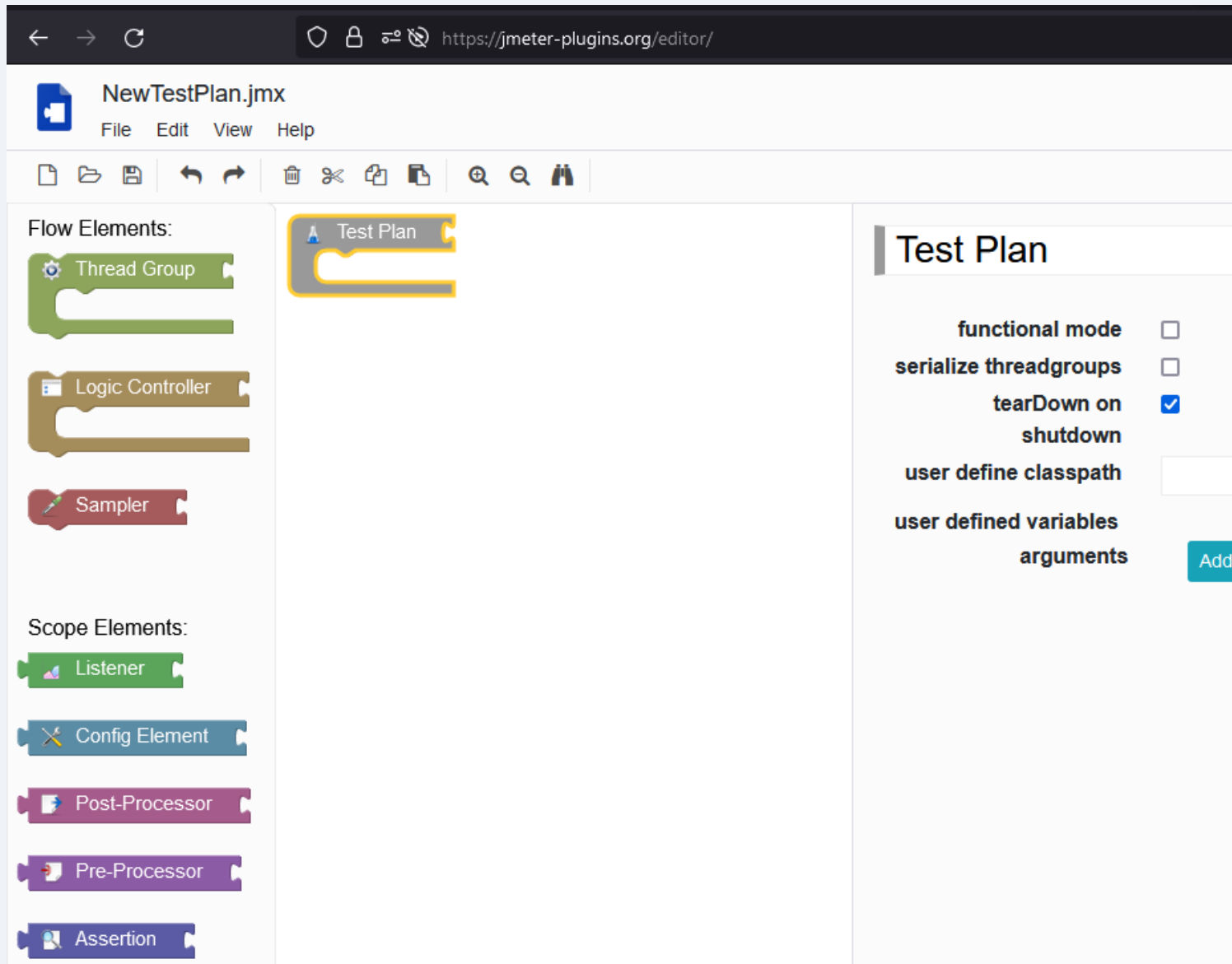
- Test case root**: Points to the 'TQS-sample' node in the tree.
- Users pool simulation**: Points to the 'Thread Group' node.
- User actions/requests simulation**: Points to the 'homepage' and 'wordpress' nodes.
- Results reporting (by Listeners)**: Points to the 'Summary Report' node.
- Interactions are mainly based on right-click options**: Points to the 'View Results Tree' node.

The main window displays the 'Summary Report' for the 'Summary Report' listener. It includes fields for Name, Comments, and options to write results to a file or log/display only. A table shows the test results:

Label	# Samples	Average	Min	Max	Std. Dev.	Error %	Throughput	KB/sec	Avg. Bytes
homepage	15	598	122	763	225,52	0,00%	13,4/min	1,38	6332,6
wordpress	3	267	259	274	6,34	100,00%	2,1/sec	8,02	3952,0
TOTAL	18	543	122	763	239,93	16,67%	16,1/min	1,56	5935,8



Web editor



The screenshot displays the JMeter web editor interface. At the top, a dark browser bar shows the URL `https://jmeter-plugins.org/editor/`. Below this, a header bar indicates the current file is `NewTestPlan.jmx` with a menu containing `File`, `Edit`, `View`, and `Help`. A toolbar with various icons for file operations and editing is positioned below the header.

The main workspace is divided into three sections:

- Flow Elements:** A vertical list on the left containing `Thread Group` (green), `Logic Controller` (brown), and `Sampler` (red).
- Scope Elements:** A vertical list on the left containing `Listener` (green), `Config Element` (blue), `Post-Processor` (purple), `Pre-Processor` (purple), and `Assertion` (blue).
- Test Plan:** The central canvas shows a `Test Plan` element, represented by a grey icon with a yellow outline.

On the right side, a configuration panel for the `Test Plan` is visible, featuring the following settings:

- `functional mode`: ☐
- `serialize threadgroups`: ☐
- `tearDown on shutdown`: ☒
- `user define classpath`:
- `user defined variables arguments`: Add

Basic http request

New test plan, with descriptive name

Simulate

- ▶ 4 users
- ▶ 1 visit
- ▶ to UA's home page (http request)

Display the results

- ▶ in Results Tree view
- ▶ in Summary report

http://www.tutorialspoint.com/jmeter/jmeter_web_test_plan.htm



Test a REST endpoint

- ▶ Add http request
- ▶ Provide details for GET
- ▶ Change the http-header to send json



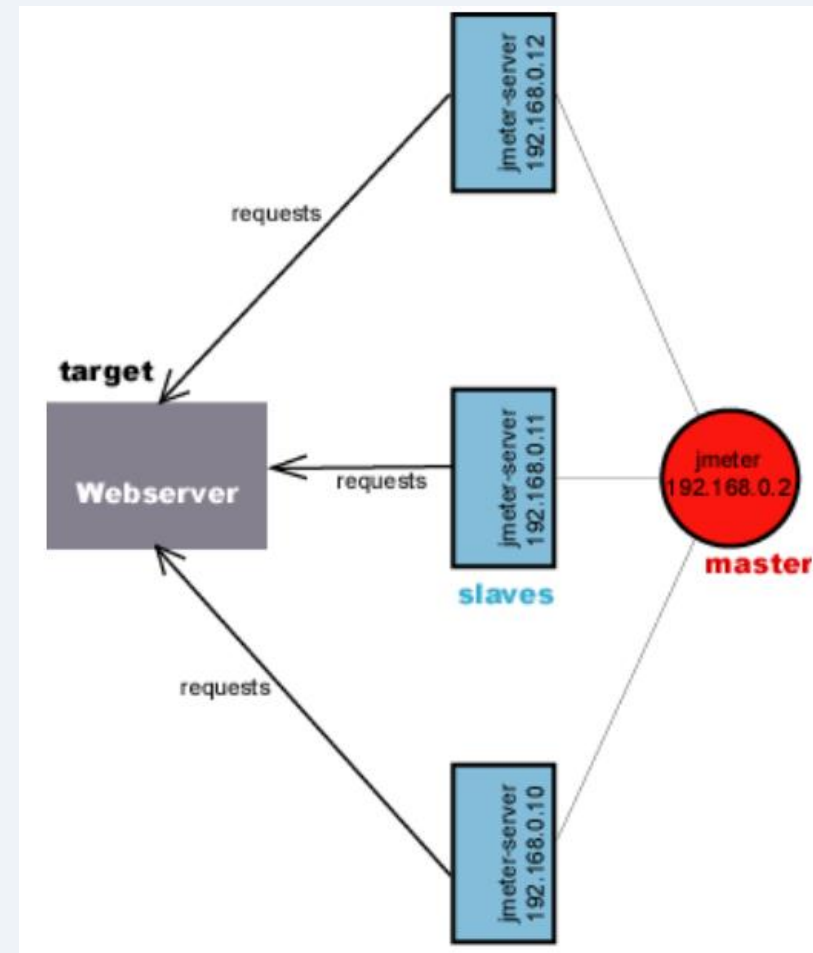
Collect metrics for an existing JUnit test

- ▶ designed for JUnit 4 ☹️
- ▶ copy and paste the jar files into jmeter/lib/junit directory
- ▶ Add JUnit request



Distributed performance testing

Master/slave architecture



JMeter practices

Use multiple instances of JMeter if using many threads
JMeter can be run without GUI

- ▶ `jmeter -n -t test.jmx -l test.jtl`

Use as few Listeners as possible

- ▶ deactivate/activate

Prefer CSV over XML to save results

If the machine running the test case is resource-exhausted (e.g.: CPU 100%), the results will not be reliable!

Commercial solutions to run JMeter tests from the cloud

See also:

<http://www.testautomationguru.com/jmeter-tips-tricks-for-beginners/>



See also:

* [Tsung](#) framework



Resources and references

Apache [JMeter site](#)

- ▶ includes demo tutorials

The [JMeter Manual](#)

Selected [best practices](#)

