Optimizing DevOps in FOPM: Characteristics & Benefits of a Regression & Performance Testing Framework

Andreas Kugelmeier IBM <u>kugelmeier@us.ibm.com</u>

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Why Performance Testing?

'Trust, but Verify'

A proper regression & performance testing framework gives us **peace-of-mind*** about the capability of a software system to **continuously**** **perform as required*****.

*peace-of-mind:

- thorough, i.e. needs to touch upon all major functionalities & aspects of the system
- benchmark-oriented (targets to measure against & boundaries to be established)
- detail-oriented (to know where to look for answers to address issues)

**continuously:

• integral part of a deployment plan and every development cycle

• from the beginning until the end of the system's life-span

***perform as required:

Functionality, Reliability and (then) Speed (FRS)

Getting peace-ofmind:

Which questions does Regression & Performance Testing need to answer?



Validate Functionality:

• Does the system function as required / per spec? Validate Reliability/Scalability:

- what are the maximum stress levels that the system <u>can</u> handle?
- what are the maximum stress levels that the system <u>should</u> handle?
- what is the expected stress level at average expected load?

Validate Speed:

- what are the response time at maximum load?
- what are the response times at maximum expected load?
- what are the response times at average expected load?

Expose, Isolate & Assist (EIA) in alleviating contention issues:

- where do we get contention?
- is this expected and acceptable (i.e. OK) or do we need to do something about it?
- what is the context of the contention and what causes it?
- how to we address it?

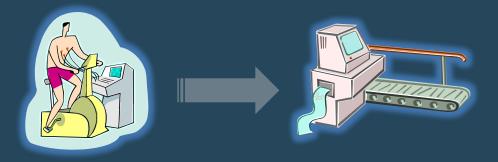
Performance-related regression testing:

- Will a new functionality affect performance (FRS)?
- If yes, how so? (which areas are affected?)

How do we approach this?

We do not just want to have Testing give us an overall 'blessing'.

- Rather, the 'blessing' needs to be measurable and qualified, i.e. supported by data.
 - A performance that did not meet our expectations (it did not 'grant a blessing') is <u>not</u> a failure, but a qualified opportunity to improve:
 - <u>Any</u> test outcome (because it is qualified) gives us invaluable information,
 - be it on what is working well or on what needs to be fixed or improved.



OK, but what do we need to build it & bring it to life?

- 1. **Strategy:** A strategy and outline of how regression & performance testing is integrated into the deployment plan & SDLC cycle
 - Methodology: A systematical approach to structuring, assembling and configuring the tests.
 - Testing Tool: A Software Tool that can fully support the testing methodology and execute tests in perfect alignment with the methodology.

Performance Testing **Strategy**

- How do we look at regression & performance testing and how to we want to approach it, i.e. why and what for?
- How do we integrate testing into the SDLC cycles to allow it to fulfill its role?
- looking at it from a project perspective, not from a technical/licensing perspective: Who will be the owner of the testing framework?
- How do we structure the framework such that can become an integral part of the SDLC?

2.1 User Profiles or Application Categories

- What are the User-Profiles (identify)? OR:
- What are the Application Categories/Types/Use Cases (identify)?

=> then, use the Profiles or Application Categories to define Usage Scenarios:

2.2 Usage-Scenarios

- Based on one or more user-profiles / Applications, what are the usagescenarios (define)?
- How do we group those scenarios (characterize & classify)?
- How can we describe them (describe = script)?
- \Rightarrow then, use the Usage Scenarios to assemble Workload profiles:

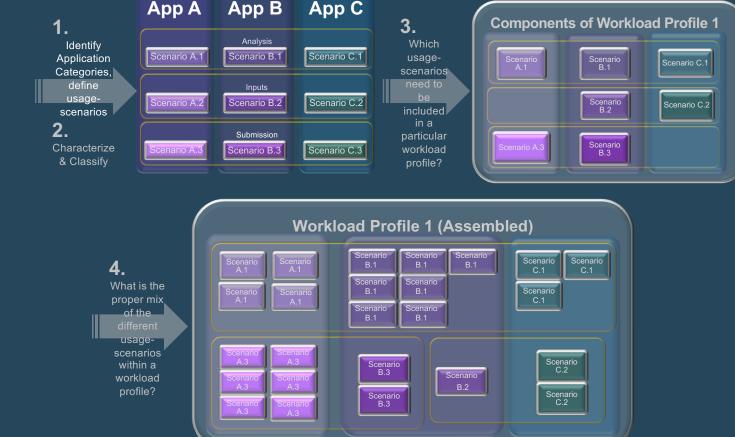
2.3 Workload Profiles

- Which Workload-Profiles do we want to cover (define & describe)?
- How do we characterize the workload-profiles (characterize & classify)?
- Which usage-scenarios need to be included in a particular workload-profile?
- How does a particular workload profile need to be assembled using its usage-scenario components?

Performance Creation of **Usage Scenarios** based on **User Profiles** Testing User A **User B** User C **Components of Workload Profile 1 Methodology** 3. 1. Sales Planning Which **Identify User** Scenario A.1 Scenario C.1 Scenario B.1 Scenario C.1 Profiles. usagedefine scenarios Creating usage-Workforce Planning Scenario Scenario C.2 included in scenarios Scenario B.2 Scenario C.2 Scenario A.2 Usage а 2. particular Characterize Analysis & Reporting workload Scenario Scenarios, B.3 & Classifv profile? Scenario C.3 enario A Scenario B.3 **Defining &** Workload Profile 1 (Assembled) Assembling Scenario Scenario Scenario 4 Workload Scenario Scenario What is the Scenario proper mix **Profiles** of the usagescenarios Scenario Scenario within a Scenario Scenario workload Scenario profile? Scenario Scenario World of Watson 2016

Creating Usage Scenarios,

Defining & Assembling Workload Profiles



Creation of Usage Scenarios based on Application Categories

Guidance on • Development of • User-profiles / Application Use T Scenarios

The Application Use Scenarios can be assigned to the following transaction types that are representative of the application/system one wants to test:

- Business Critical (BC),
- High Resource consumption (HR),
- Most Commonly used (MC), and
- High Frequency (HF).

Think of five typical role classes for the User Profiles / Application Use Scenarios:

- 1. Analysts,
- 2. Contributors/Planners,
- 3. Contribution Managers/Approvers,
- 4. Report Consumers,
- 5. Application/System Administrators.

Example Workload Profile (assembled of User-profiles / Application Use Scenarios)

Number	Scenario Title	BC	HR	мс	HF	Role Class	Workload Profile 1 typical forecast cycle – high-intensity input, high concurrency) Capacity Test	Workload Profile 2 Overnight processing – low concurrency Capacity Test	Workload Profile 3 Mixes aspects of profiles (1) & (2) during times of medium concurrency Capacity Test	Workload Profile 4N
1.	US Workforce Planning Contributor	Х		Х	Х	Contributor	%?	%?	%?	
2.	US Workforce Planning Manager	Х		Х	Х	Contribution Manager	%?	%?	%?	
3.	US SG&A Analysis	Х		Х		Consumer	%?	%?	%?	
4.		Х		Х	X	Contributor	%?	%?	%?	
5.		Х		Х		Consumer	%?	%?	%?	
6.	User Attribute Maintenance	Х	Х	Х		Maintenance / Administration	%?	%?	%?	
7.	Model Control 1: Actuals processing	Х	Х	Х		Maintenance / Administration	%?	%?	%?	
8.	Model Control 2: Data Validation & Reconciliation	Х	X	Х		Maintenance / Administration	%?	%?	%?	
9.										

Performance Testing	Naming & Describing		Usage Scenarios Classification					Defining & Assembling Workload Profiles				
Methodology Creation of Usage Scenarios based on User Profiles	ID	Usage Scenario Title	вс	HR	мс	HF	Role Class	Workload Profile 1 typical forecast cycle – high- intensity input, high concurrency) Capacity Test	Workload Profile 2 Overnight processing – low concurrency Capacity Test		Workloa d Profile 4N	
User A User B User C	1.	US Workforce Planning Contributor	Х		Х	Х	Contributor	%?	%?	%?		
Sales Planning Scenario A.1 Scenario B.1 Scenario C.1	2.	US Workforce Planning Manager	Х		Х	Х	Contribution Manager	%?	%?	%?		
Workforce Planning	3. 4.	US SG&A Analysis	X		X	X	Consumer	Worklo	%? ad Brofile 1	%? (Assemble		
Scenario A.2 Scenario B.2 Scenario C.2								Scensura	ano Sigen Sigen Sigen Sigen	B.1 ario C.1	ario C.1	
Analysis & Reporting	5.		X		X		Consumer			%?		
Scenario A.3 Scenario B.3 Scenario C.3	6.	User Attribute Maintenance	Х	Х	X		Maintenance / Administration	ario ario A a	%?	%?		
	7.	Model Control 1: Actuals processing	X	Х	X		Maintenance / Administration	%?	%?	%?		
	8.	Model Control 2: Data Validation & Reconciliation	X	Х	Х		Maintenance / Administration	%?	%?	Scenario B.3 Scenario B.3	Scenario B.2	
	9							A.3				

Performance Testing **Tool(s):** Use & Execution

3.1 Record scenario scripts

3.2 Adapt/Configure use-scenario recordings to allow for parameterization as well as the use for runtime parameters

3.3 Create a ramp-up plan for each workload profile

3.4 Run Tests

3.4 Archive test-results along with used scripts/workload profiles

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