



**CS1320**

***Creating Modern Web and  
Mobile Applications***

Lecture 33:

**Testing II**

# Testing A Web Site or Mobile Application

- Want to simulate actual use cases / scenarios
- Play a sequence of actions from start to finish
  - Login through logout
  - Look at what results
- Need to generate user actions
- Need to check the results
- Need to have multiple such scenarios (lots)



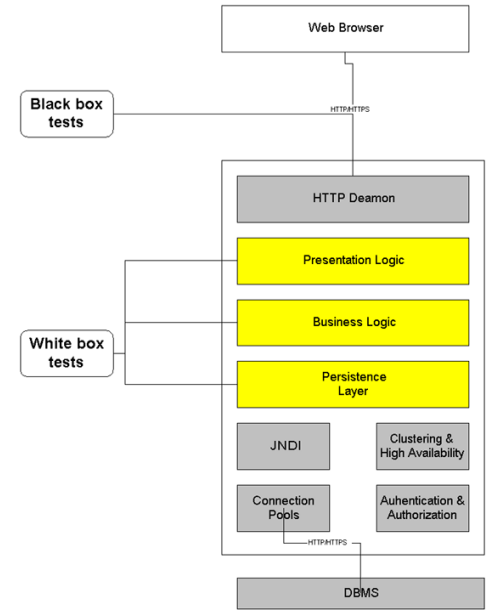
# Generating User Actions

- Can be done without a browser
  - Actions = URL request with proper context
    - Context = cookies, put fields, ...
  - **curl** is a command-line tool that can do this
  - Lots of work however (for general scripts)
  - But you can put together scripts of curl calls to emulate tests
- Want to do it with a browser
  - Or something that acts as a browser



# Web Site Testing Tools

- **httpunit**
  - Create test cases for calls to the server
    - Providing input, checking expected output
  - These are using a Java framework
- **Generating test cases automatically**
  - By analyzing on the JavaScript code
- **Sikuli**
- **Selenium**
  - Most widely used



# Testing Exercise

- Download Selenium IDE
  - <https://www.selenium.dev/downloads>
  - For either Chrome or **Firefox** (your preference)
- Click on selenium icon at top of browser to start
- Record a session
  - Either with your project or just a Google search
  - Stop the recording
- Play it back
  - Raise hand or thumbs up when done

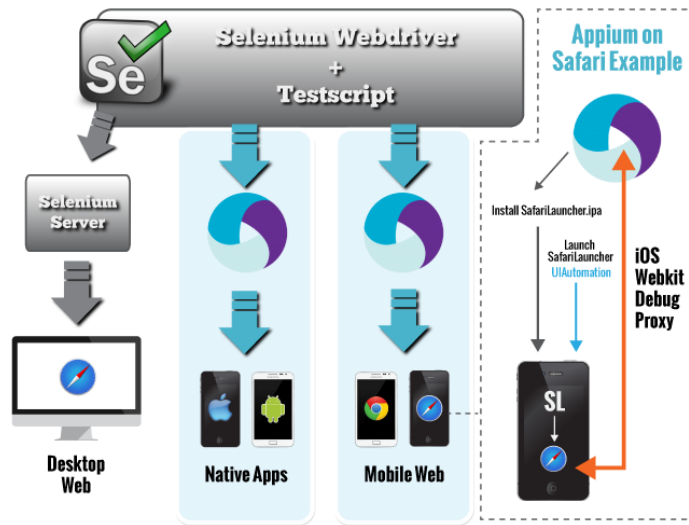
# Browser Automation: Selenium

- Example:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gsHyDlyA3dg>
- Can be done with programmable scripts
  - Makes repetitive actions (e.g. login and setup) easier
  - Makes things easier to edit and accumulate
  - Makes things easier to run in bulk
  - Can start with interactive script and convert it to runnable code
- Example of a written script
  - spheretest.js



# Testing Mobile Applications

- Selenium doesn't work for mobile applications
  - Although it can be used for back end testing
- But similar frameworks exist
  - Based on Selenium
  - Selendriod - for android
  - Appium - cross-platform



# System Testing

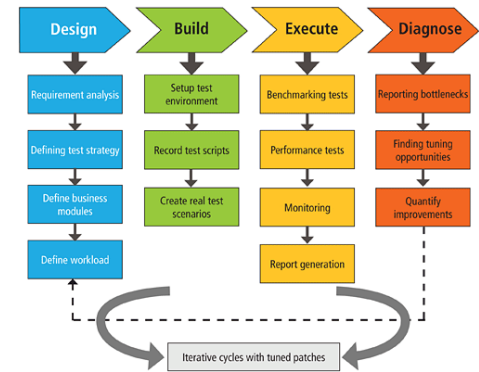
- You should test all your major scenarios
- You should create a test
  - For each bug you find (regression)
- You should create a test suite
  - To check for invalid inputs
  - To check for invalid actions
- And have a script that runs all your tests





# Performance Testing

- Importance of performance
  - 100ms makes the difference between success & failure
- What do you want to test
  - How fast the web site performs
  - Speed to undertake common actions
  - How responsive the web site is
  - What happens if ...
- What are the testing circumstances
  - How many users should you have for testing?



# Performance Testing

- **Most developer tool sets include this for a single page:**
  - Use the browser debugger (developer) network page
  - This gives timings for each page on the current load
  - But only this download and only from this browser and machine
- **gtmetrix:** <https://gtmetrix.com>
  - Can give more detailed info and suggestions
  - Can test from different locations
  - Can test under different network conditions
  - Gives a broader perspective on performance



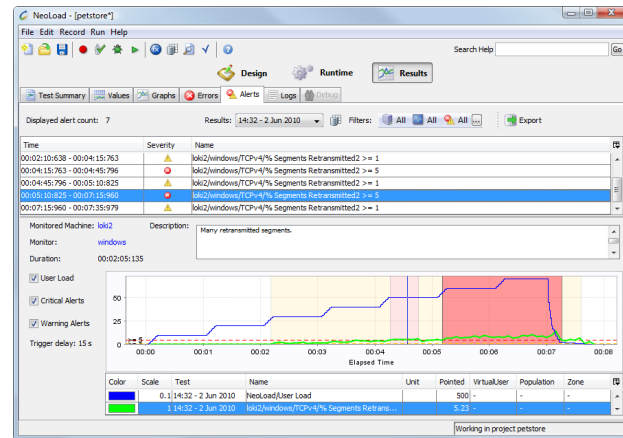
# Load Testing

- How does the application behave under load
- What types of load should be considered
  - Network performance
    - How does the user's connection affect your application
    - How does overall network activity affect your application
  - Large numbers of simultaneous users
    - What happens to your server under load
    - What happens to your database under load
  - Large individual requests
    - Complex database queries
  - Heavy load on specific pages

The image shows a screenshot of a load testing service interface. At the top, there is a green arrow pointing right with the text "Load test your website". Below this is a search bar with the text "http://" and a "Test now" button. The main content area features a line graph with three data series (red, yellow, and blue) showing an upward trend. Below the graph is a numbered step "3 View your test report graphs to find out how many users your site could handle". To the right of the graph is a promotional graphic with the text "CAN YOUR WEBSITE HANDLE THE STRESS?" and a small logo at the bottom right.

# Stress Testing

- What are the limits of your application
- What types of things to consider
  - Maximum load that can be tolerated
  - Maximum input size that can be processed
- Determine what happens when things go wrong
  - Database crash or disconnect
  - Server crash or disconnect
  - Web server crash or disconnect
  - Browser crash or disconnect
  - Network crash (server/browser stay up)
  - Gradual degradation



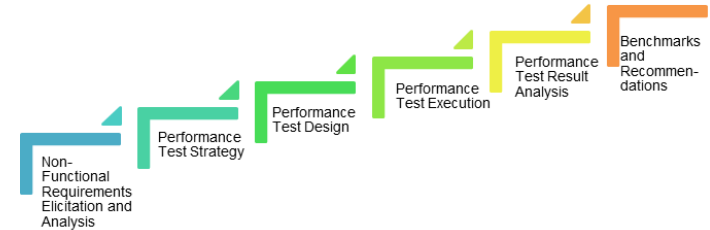
# How To Do Performance/Load/Stress Testing

- What do you need to do

- Recruit hundreds of users
- Simulate lots of users
  - Doing normal things with the system
  - Doing particular things with the system
- Simulate failures

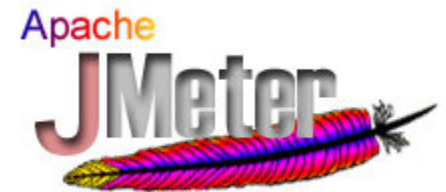
- Suppose I wanted to try my app with 1000 users

- How might you do this?



# Jmeter: Performance Testing

- Jmeter is an open-source web performance tester
  - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NLeq-QxkSw>
- Works with a set of test cases
  - Series of interactions with the back end
  - These can be specified
    - Manually by a set of HTTP requests (URLs with data)
    - By example (gathering information from sample runs)
- Will run many of these simultaneously
  - You get to specify which ones and how many
  - With random delays
  - For as long as you want



# Security Testing

- **URL security**
  - Ability to bypass login/security by creating a URL
  - Ability to get private pages by editing URLs
  - Passing in inputs that will make the system misbehave
    - Overly long inputs that can cause buffer overflows
- **Input checking**
  - Are all invalid inputs detected
  - Openness to SQL injection and Cross-browser attacks
- **Are internal files, etc. in the web pages inaccessible**
- **Is SSL used for all appropriate pages**
  - Can it be bypassed?
- **Are all errors, security breach attempts, etc. logged**



# Security Testing

- Tools exist
  - Websecurify: [www.websecuify.com](http://www.websecuify.com)
    - 14 day free trial
  - Netsparker: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVpv4r1T5Ac>
    - Download: <http://www.netsparker.com>
  - Wapiti, Websurgury, ...
- Scanners that check all sites
  - Send you reports on possible problems
  - But you don't want to wait for these





# Design For Testability

- **Want to have a web site that is testable**
  - Might not be possible to test live site
    - Don't want it to crash
    - Want to test before installing updates
    - Actions might have real-world effects
- **Set up a test site**
  - Separate database
    - Add test users (passwords don't affect live system)
    - Bugs don't affect the live system
  - Internal code to handle external actions
    - Based on which server is being run
  - Do it on a local machine / separate VM / separate port
  - Possibly special URLs to reset the server to a known state
  - Script to reset the test site to a known starting state

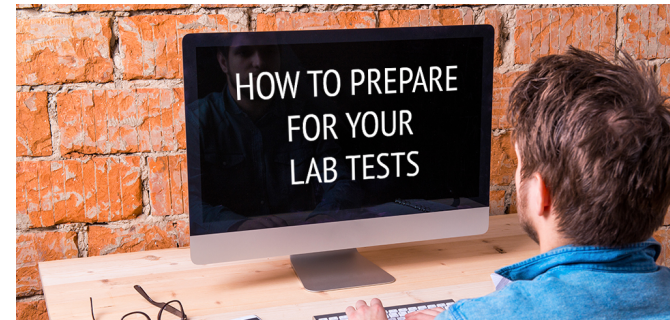




- **Have an accessible test site for your project**
  - Can be production site if that is safe
  - Many of the tools need a public URL to work
- **Meet to determine who will test what**
  - Html/CSS, Usability, Web Site, Performance, Load Testing, Security
  - Develop a testing plan for your project
    - When and what, reusable tests, testing before update, ...
- **Download and install the tools you need**
  - Read up and learn those tools
- **Think about what user tests you want to run**

# Lab Preparation: User Tests

- Create a user test for others in the class to try
  - Have a specific goal in mind (scenario)
  - Provide a starting point
  - Provide instructions
  - Create a survey to find out what you need to know
- You can prepare more than one
  - But only one at a time will be given out



## Next Time

- Next Times: Testing Lab
- Can load a user test for your project
  - <http://bdognom-v2.cs.brown.edu:5002>
  - Lesson on creating or defining a user test