Automate Performance Testing At Every Step (Presented at StarCanada, August 2017)

- Obbie Pet
- Sr Performance Engineer / Consultant
 - Live Nation / Ticketmaster
 - Wellpoint
 - United Healthcare
 - Drone captain (present day)

The Big Concepts

- Adapting traditional performance testing to DevOps
- The secret sauce Automating the performance test:
 Performance report on demand; Fast bottleneck detection
- Shift Left –
 Provide pushbutton performance report to developer
- Shift Right –
 Provide on demand performance report in Production
- Performance assurance comes from automated performance feedback at every step of the application pipeline.

Presentation Outline

- The Business Challenge
- Automating the performance report
- A real world example / experience
- Takeaways To do it for yourself

The Business Challenge

- Why do we performance test
 - Assure good performance in production

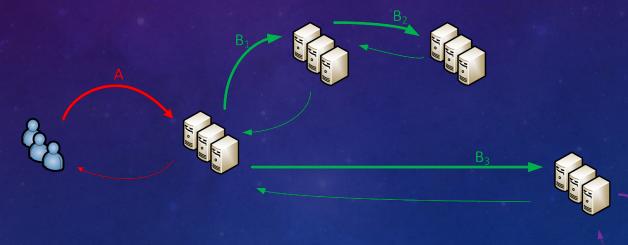
- The business challenge
 - 50 API's within a year of a new claims processing system
 - Waterfall → Agile
 - Continuous integration process
- How do we get from here to there...

Automating The Performance Test Report

- Before we automate the performance test process and its report, What is performance test process?
- The waterfall (pre-release) performance test process
 - 1. Model production behavior
 - 2. Generate synthetic load
 - 3. Generate a report on universal performance metrics for each biz transaction(trx)
 - Trx Rate
 - Response times
 - Error rates

The Waterfall Performance Test Process [Continued...]

- 4. Biz trx SLA violations are surfaced
- 5. Within the offending biz trx, DEV triage team hunts down the offending service.
 - Very painful, 80% of effort





The Waterfall Performance Test Process [Cont.../]

80% of effort is figuring out which service is bottlenecking.

- So important, worth repeating...

- 6. Developer of the offending service is commissioned to make the performance fix.
- 7. Test and Tune cycle repeats.

The Waterfall Performance Test Process - Review

- 1. Model production behavior
- 2. Generate synthetic load
- 3. Generate a report on universal performance metrics for each biz trx
- 4. Biz trx SLA violations are surfaced
- 5. Within the offending biz trx, DEV triage team hunts down the offending service. 80% of effort
- 6. Developer of the offending service is commissioned to make the performance fix.
- 7. Test and Tune cycle repeats.

Automating The Performance Test Report

- If this process were automated, what would it look like?
 - A report that answers two critical questions
 - Does my application perform within SLA?
 - If not, what part of my application needs to be fixed? (is bottlenecking)

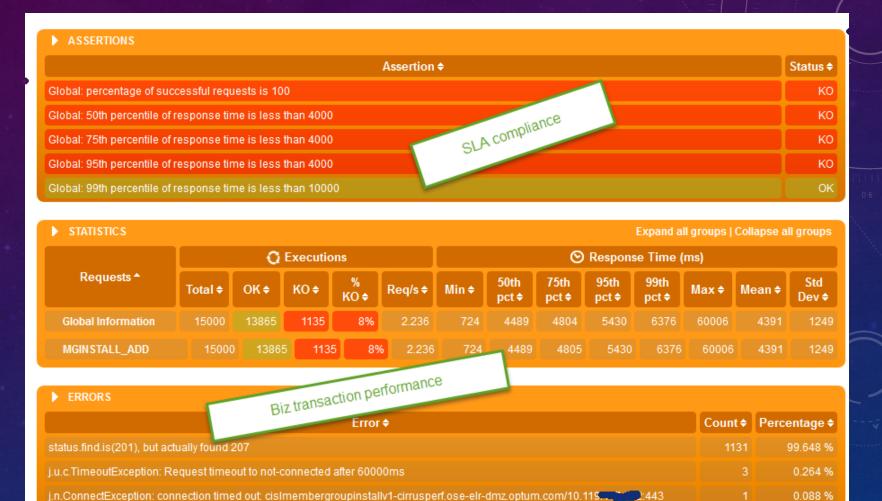
Automating The Performance Test Report

- The report to answer these two questions would include a
 - Client side report
 - Biz transaction performance metrics along with SLA's
 - Immediately tell me if my application is meeting biz expectations
 - Server side report
 - Server side performance metrics of each service used to respond to a biz transaction
 - Would tell me what part of the application needs to be fixed

How would I create an automated performance test report?

- Client Side Report
 - Performance engineer creates a pushbutton test that fires synthetic load at the system-under-test and captures the performance metrics.
 - Performance metrics are presented for each transaction along with SLA compliance.
 - SLA compliance violations are automatically shown.
 - This is the typical load test report.
 - [Show slide of biz trx performance report]

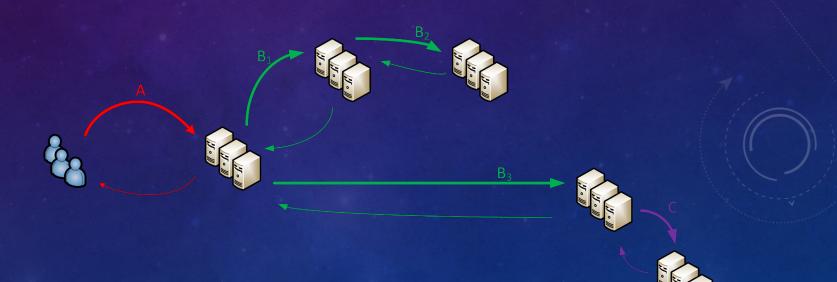
Client Side Report



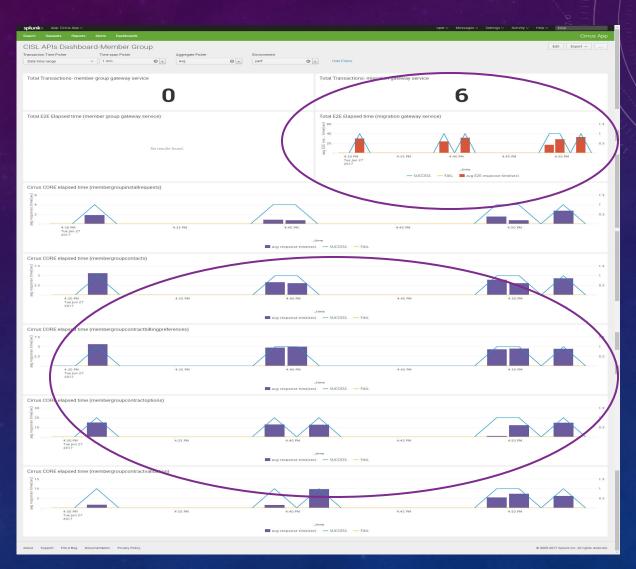
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How would I create an automated performance test report?

- Client Side Report
- Server Side Report
 - Shows performance metrics of each service supporting each biz transaction



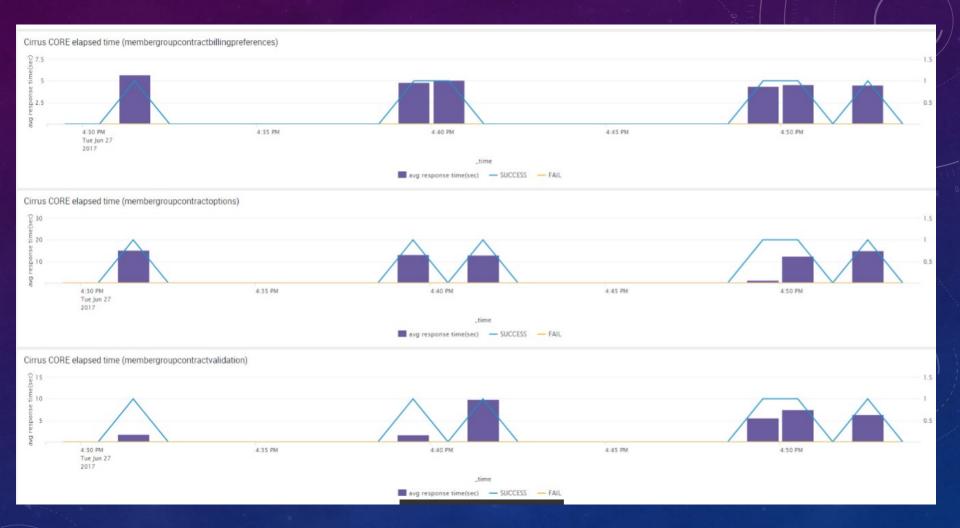
Server Side Report



Server Side Report – Front Door



Server Side Report - Detail



Server Side Report - Automation

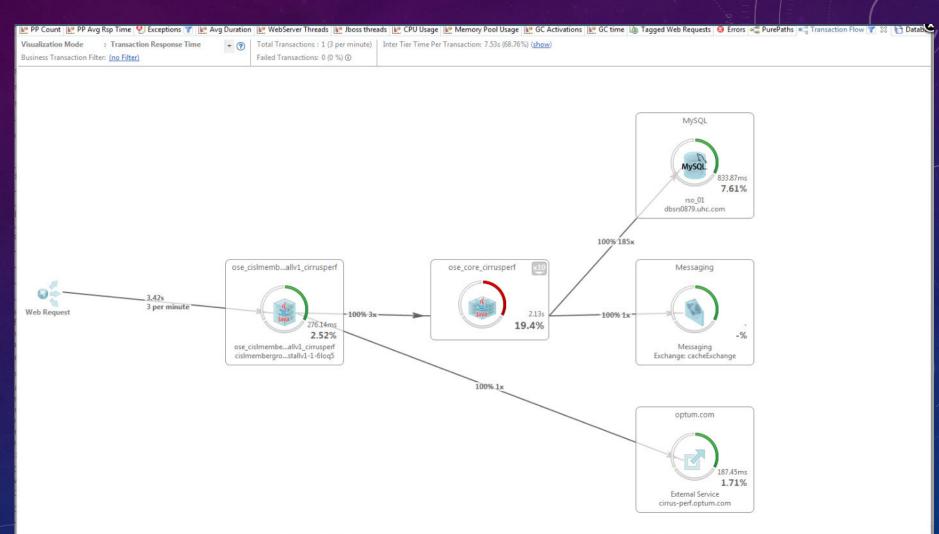
- Server Side Report
 - The "automation" of this step is the instrumentation of all services to report their performance metrics.
 Two approaches:
 - 1) Log mining
 - 2) Vendor solution
 - 1) Log Mining –
 Roll your own solutions
 - Splunk / Kibana
 - Implement performance logging
 - [Show spec]

Performance Log Abstraction	Field names	
dateTimeStamp	eventStartTime	
	logTime	
	activity	
activity	src	
	destination	
origination point	host	
	node	
	component	
origination point	environment	
	splunk_host	
	splunk_source	
	transID	
Corrolation ID's	external_tracking_id	
	eventID	
FrrorInfo	operationStatus	
Errorinto	operationDetail	
duration	eventElapsedTime	
	e2eElapsedTime	
Log Level	level	

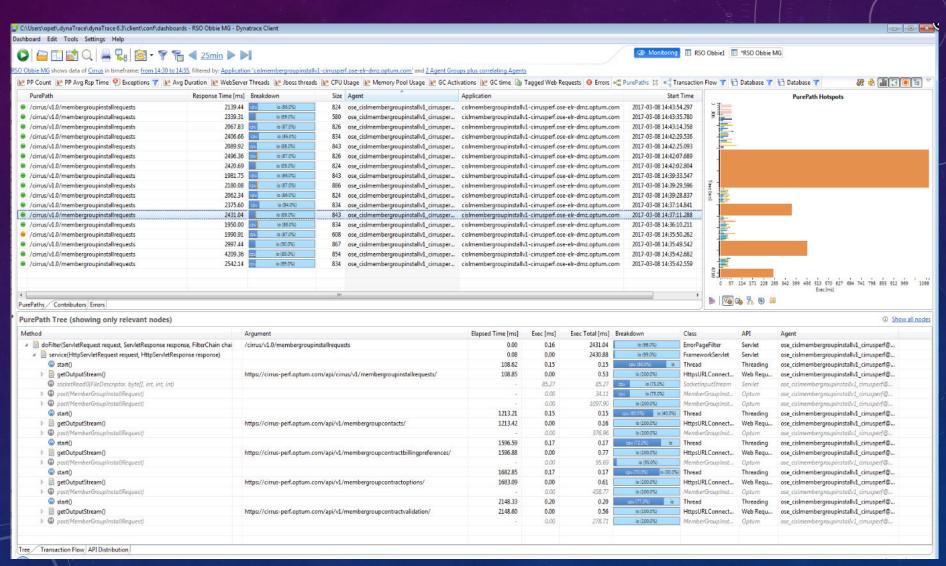
Server Side Report

- Server Side Report
 - The "automation" of this step is the instrumentation of all services to report their performance metrics.
 - 1) Log Mining Roll your own solutions
 - Splunk / Kibana
 - 2) Vendor solutions (Data Center Fairy dust) –
 Shim the VM for automated instrumentation
 - DynaTrace
 - [Show DT slide]
 - New Relic

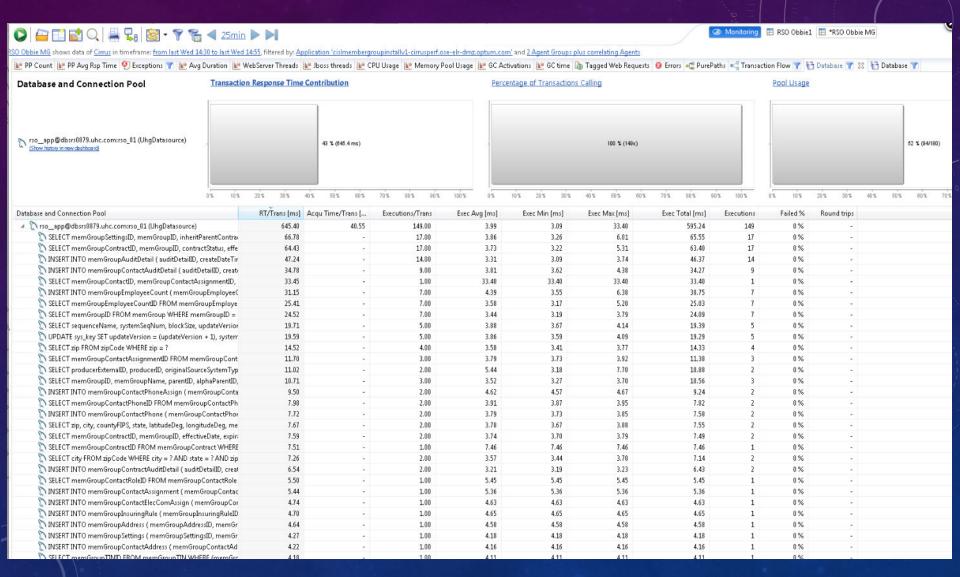
Server Side Report – Vendor Solution / Dynatrace



Server Side Report – Vendor Solution / Dynatrace



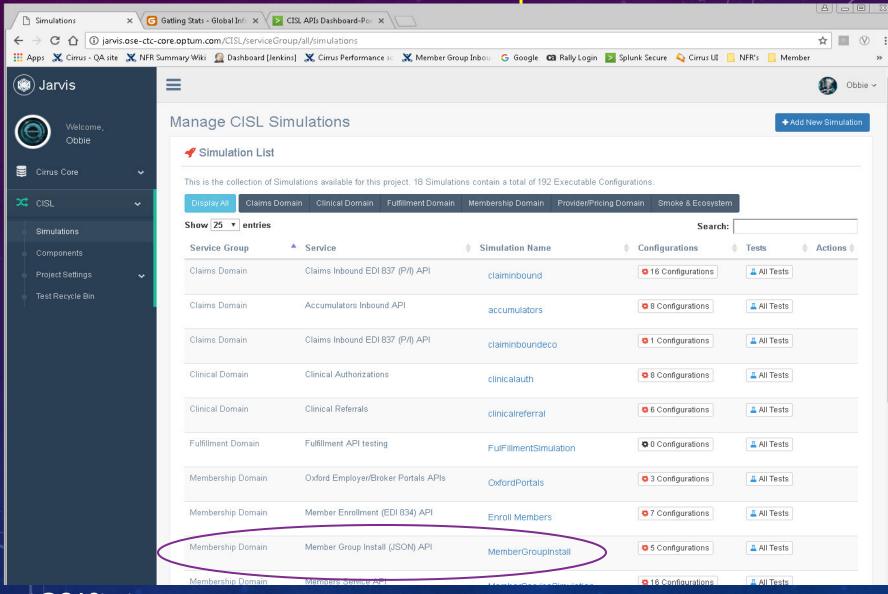
Server Side Report – Vendor Solution / Dynatrace



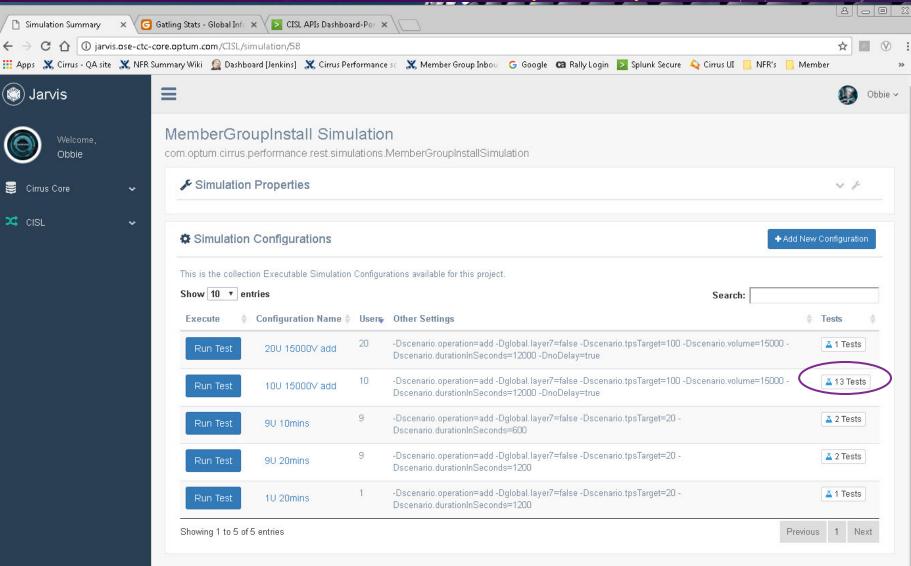
Automating The Performance Test Report

- Summarizing the automated performance test
 - A push button test which provides an integrated <u>client</u> and <u>server</u> report
 - Weaving it all together... an example of an automated framework that produces a pushbutton performance test that initiates the test, produces the client and server reports AND provides summary and trend info.

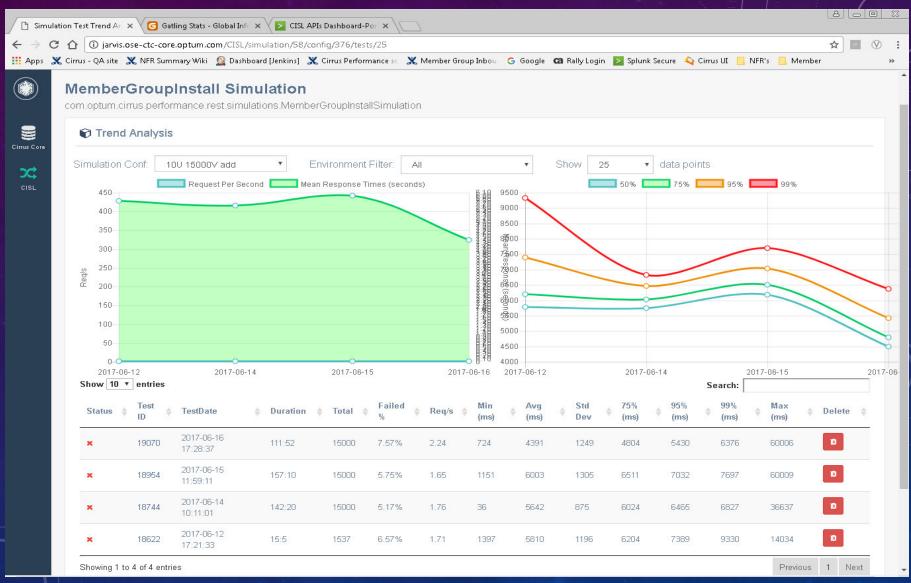
Automated test framework sample – All API's



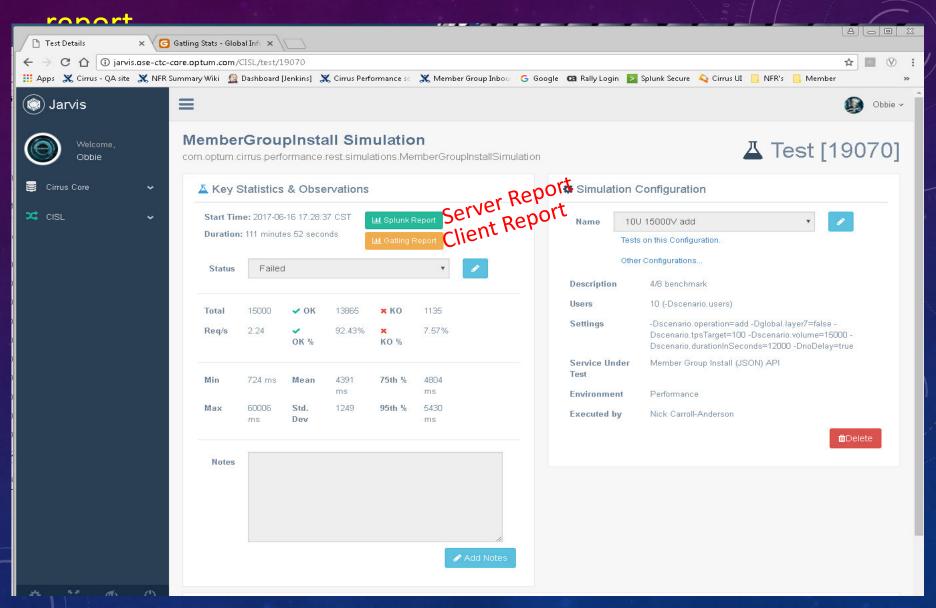
Automated test framework sample – Specific API



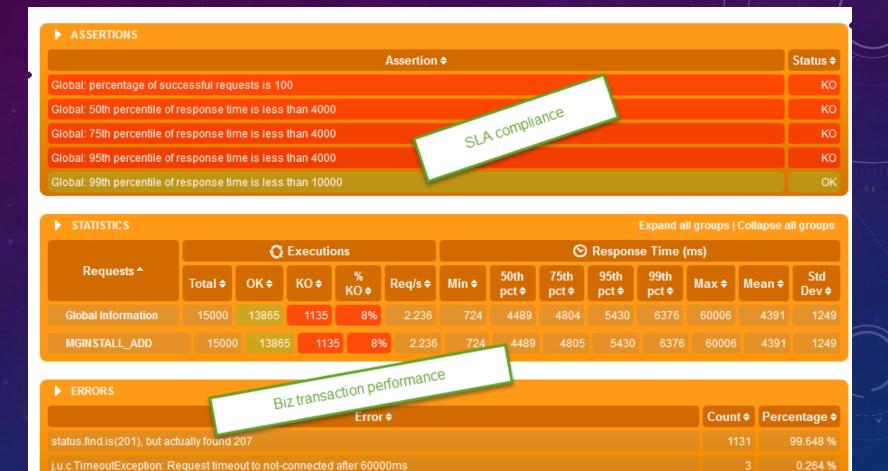
Automated test framework sample – Test case trend analysis



Automated test framework sample - A pushbutton test



Client Side Report

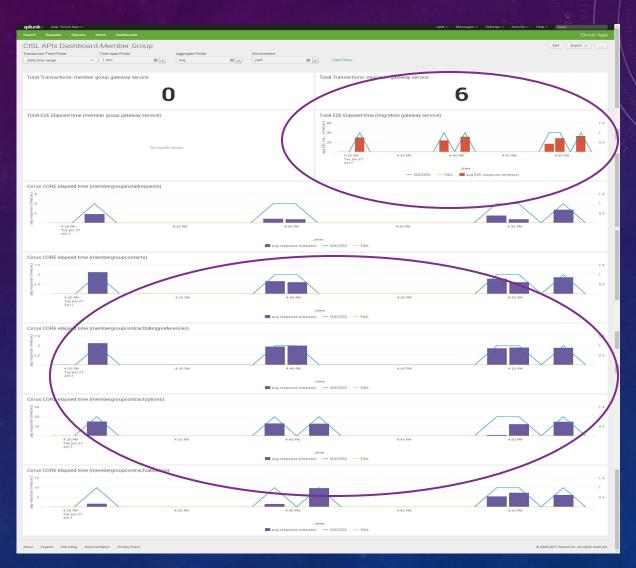


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j.n.ConnectException: connection timed out: cislmembergroupinstallv1-cirrusperf.ose-elr-dmz.optum.com/10.119....

Server Side Report



Automating The Performance Test Report

Summarizing the automated performance test.

- We have automated away 80% of the effort in waterfall performance testing with an automated report that can quickly answer two critical questions
 - Does my application perform within SLA?
 - If not, what part of my application needs to be fixed?

Performance Testing at Every Step

- What if these reports weren't limited to the "Waterfall" prelease test window?!!
- What if we could get such reports at every step of the software lifecycle? Performance issue could be caught early in the lifecycle and after they slip into PROD.

That sounds like DevOps?

- How do we validate functional testing in CD
 - Junit like tools support 1000's of unit tests automatically.
 - Triggered with every build.
- With pushbutton performance tests which assert SLA compliance, performance tests could also be automated or easily kicked off.
- Gatling (http://Gatling.io) is an open source performance test tool that integrates with Jenkins and produce a client side performance report.
- Gatling like tests can do for performance what Junit does for unit testing.
- The Performance reports
 - Client side reports come from Gatling
 - Server side reports come from splunk or DT

- Challenges to automated performance testing in Development
 - Can the test environment handle load?
 - Is there dependencies on other services?

- Lets generalize the automated test and reporting process and see how it can be implemented in production
- Three pieces are needed in automation: Load; Client side report; Server side report.

	Shift Left	Waterfall (Pre-Release)	Shift Right
Load		Tool e.g. Gatling (Synthetic)	
Client Side Report		Tool	
Server Side Report		Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT	

Same tooling is used for Shift Left

	Shift Left	Waterfall (Pre-Release)	Shift Right
Load	Tool e.g. Gatling (Synthetic)	Tool e.g. Gatling (Synthetic)	
Client Side Report	Tool	Tool	
Server Side Report	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT	

How do we create the three necessary pieces in Production?

Production Servers are monitored the same way as upstream environments

apstream entricites			
	Shift Left	Waterfall (Pre-Release)	Shift Right
Load	Tool e.g. Gatling (Synthetic)	Tool e.g. Gatling (Synthetic)	
Client Side Report	Tool	Tool	
Server Side Report	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT

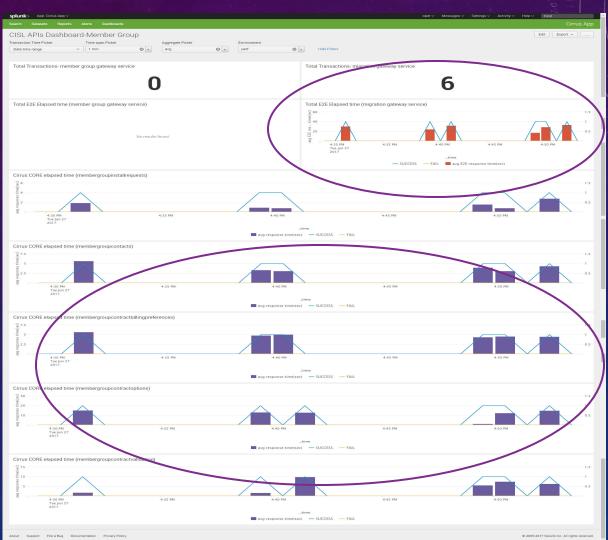
• Load via PROD traffic...

	Shift Left	Waterfall (Pre-Release)	Shift Right
Load	Tool e.g. Gatling (Synthetic)	Tool e.g. Gatling (Synthetic)	PROD Traffic
Client Side Report	Tool	Tool	
Server Side Report	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT

Use monitors rather than tool for client side report...

	Shift Left	Waterfall (Pre-Release)	Shift Right
Load	Tool e.g. Gatling (Synthetic)	Tool e.g. Gatling (Synthetic)	PROD Traffic
Client Side Report	Tool	Tool	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk
Server Side Report	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT

Shift Right performance results – Load, Client and Server side report



Performance monitors can be used as additional source for

Client report

- Cheffe report			
	Shift Left	Waterfall (Pre-Release)	Shift Right
Load	Tool e.g. Gatling (Synthetic)	Tool e.g. Gatling (Synthetic)	PROD Traffic
Client Side Report	Tool / Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk	Tool / Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk
Server Side Report	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT	Performance Monitors e.g. Splunk or DT

Performance Testing at Every Step

- We've laid out a plan for automated performance testing at every step...
 - Shift Left
 - Pre-release
 - Shift Right

- What does automating performance assurance look like in a real project?
- Recall the challenge
 - Many API's to test in a short amount of time
 - Waterfall → Agile
 - Continuous Delivery
- Solution: The API test factory

- API Test Factory
 - Phase 0
 - Create a Gatling framework, heavily automate the common aspects of api performance testing (Client side report)
 - Instrument code with performance monitoring, wrap each api in our logging framework (Server side report)
 - Phase I
 - Create Gatling script for each new API

- API Test Factory Continued...
 - Phase II
 - Test/Tune new API in isolation
 - Phase III
 - Add isolation tuned API to benchmark test bucket.
 Daily execution of all working API's together
 - Phase IV
 - Release to production with performance monitoring in place

- How is this Continuous Integration?
 - Lots of infrastructure investment: Instrumentation, Gatling framework
 - Tests are run and results are packaged at the push of a button.
- How is this Agile?
 - Each api treated as steps in a sequence, broken into 2 week sprints.
 - Moving product thru a factory in schedulable chunks.

TakeAways to do it for yourself

- The U Strategy
 - Suggested approach to start this in your shop
 - Get Pre-release performance testing automated, than migrate tooling left and right
 - Follow the U Strategy
 - [U Strategy slide]

The U Strategy

E-2-E/ waterfall performance testing STAGING ENVIRONMENT

- Simulate Prod traffic via your tool (Gatling?)
- Performance report on each business transaction
 - Response times, Transaction Rates, Error rates
- Create server centric monitoring to isolate the bottleneck. (80% of performance remediation is figuring out which service is failing)
- Create client centric monitoring that produces the same kind of report as Gatling. (Splunk or DT)

Shift Right

PRODUCTION ENVIRONMENT

- Fast performance defect isolation that maps directly into biz transactions
- Proactive performance monitoring with same precision as performance tests
- Adapt server centric reports for PROD

Adapt client centric reports for PROD

Automating Performance Testing at Every Step

•Q&A