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CUCUMBERSPEC: A TOOL THAT IMPROVES YOUR BEHAVIOUR-DRIVEN TESTING

by Rachid Kherrazi



CONTENT

- Software testing evolution
 - BDT: Behavior Driven Testing
 - MBT: Model based testing
 - BDT + MBT
 - Benefits
- Case study and results

Rachid Kherrazi

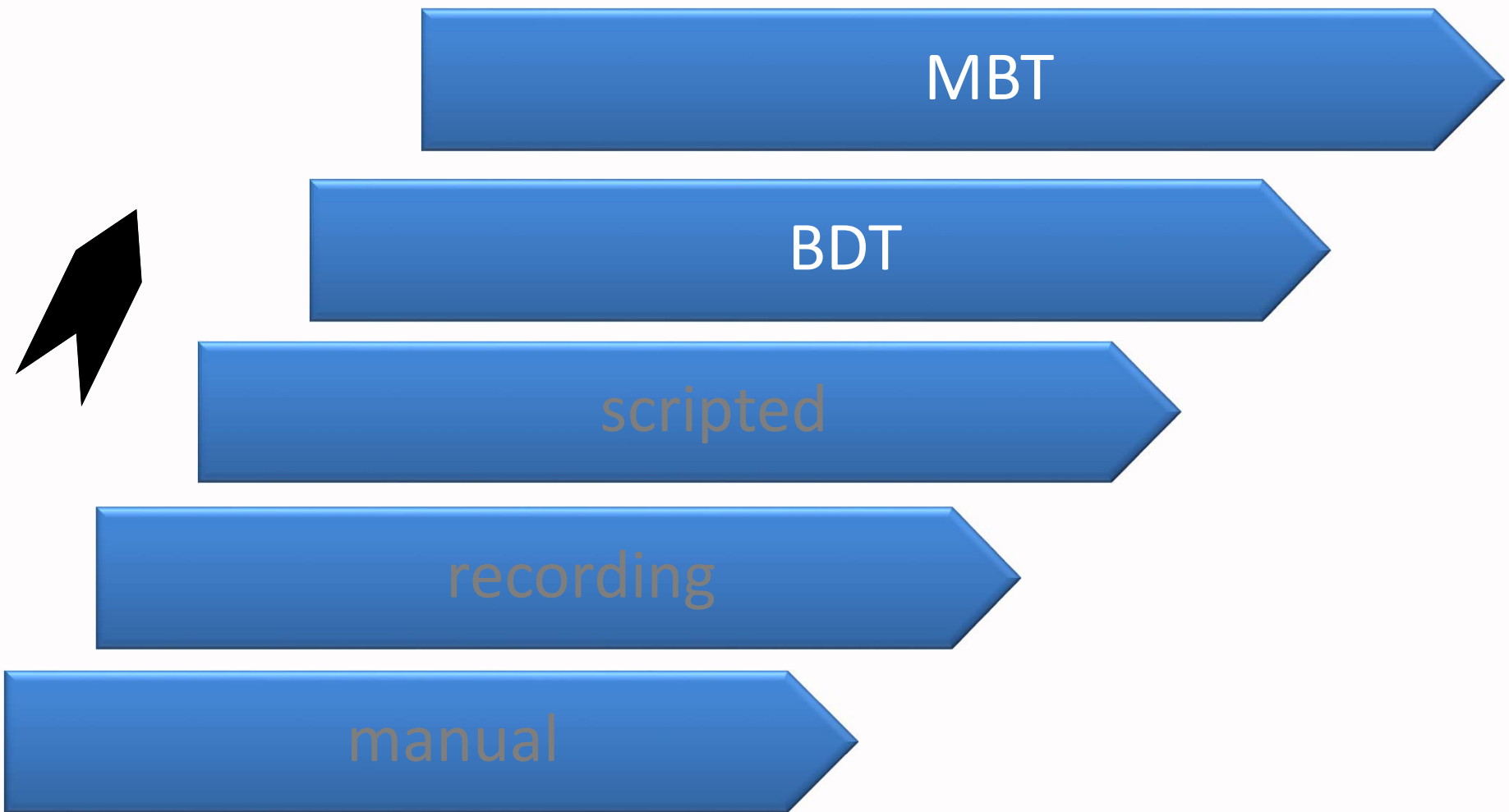
Sr. Consultant @ Nspyre
Domain

Process and Product
Improvement
Model Based Testing and Model
Driven Engineering
iSQI Accredited Certified Model
Based Tester Trainer

Also involved in this project

Kyra Hameleers
Adrian Yankov

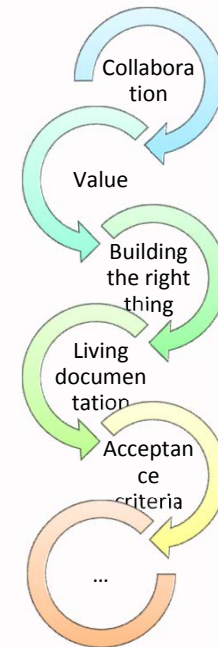
Software testing evolution



BDT – behavior driven testing

An approach to testing as an extension of BDD

- Specify the behavior of a system by looking at it from outside
- Domain driven
- Support collaboration
- Define a clear set of acceptance criteria
- Deliver stakeholder value
- Living documentation



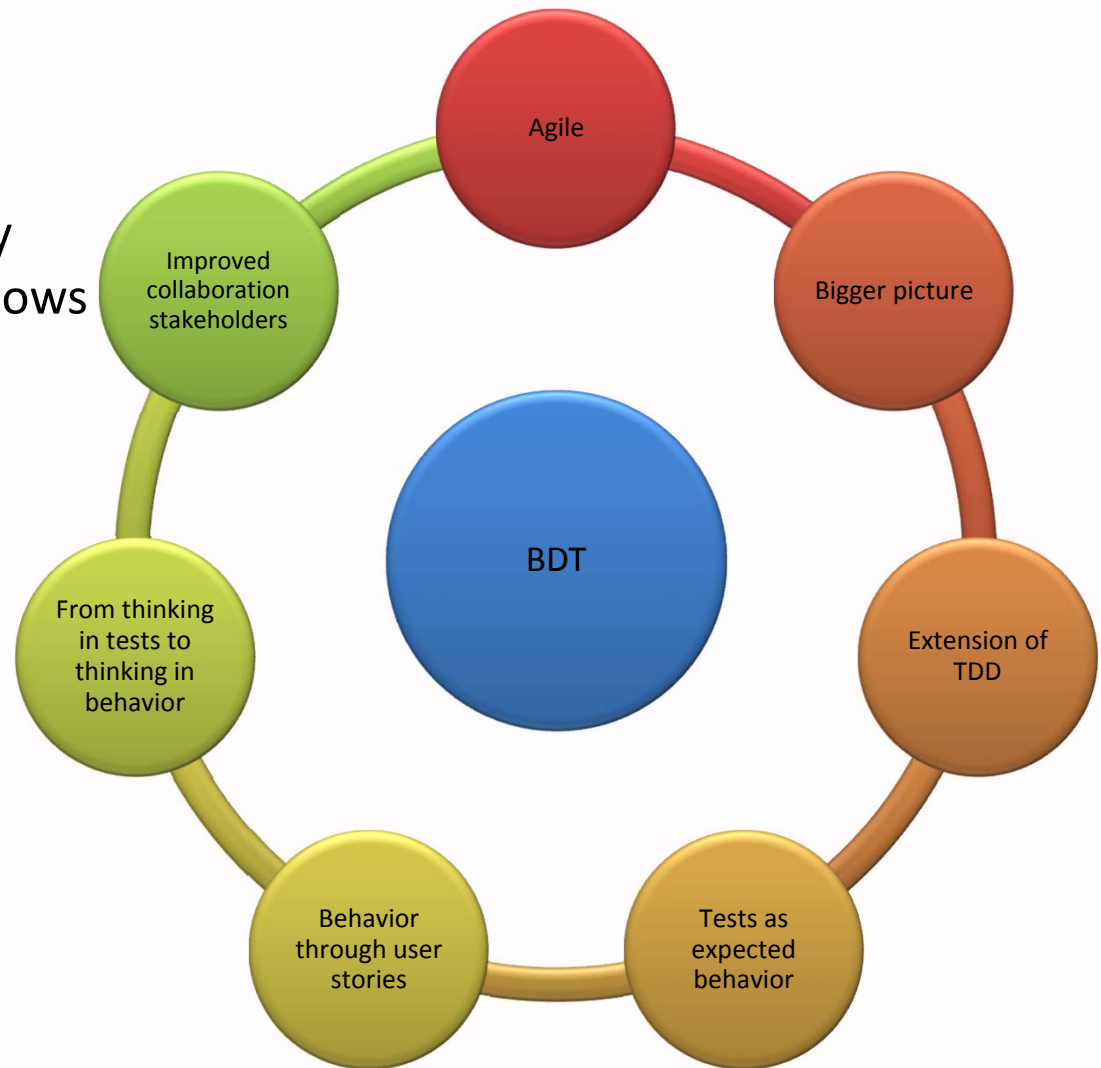
Given <an initial context>
When <event occurs>
Then <an outcome should be observed>

Scenario: Buy last coffee
Given there are 1 coffees left in the machine
And I have deposited 1 dollar
When I press the coffee button
Then I should be served a coffee

<https://github.com/cucumber/cucumber/wiki/Feature-Introduction>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Behavior-driven_development

BDT – a paradigm shift from functional to behavior

- User flows
- Understand new functionality
- Incrementally build up user flows
- Remove ambiguity
- Living documentation
- Automate what is important
- Test in sync
- Effective tests
- Onboarding
- Smart QA





BDT- Behavior driven Testing

- Shortcomings
 - Manual design of test cases, mainly happy flow
 - Separate test scenarios, local test cases, limited interactions
 - Manual test data management, requires high effort to do more exhaustive testing, data permutation,...

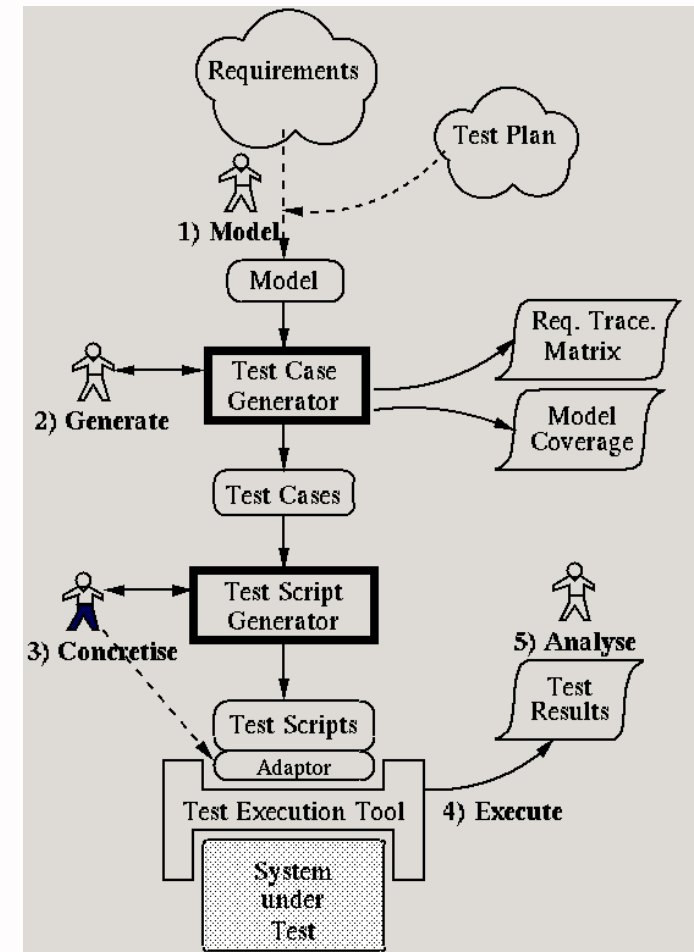
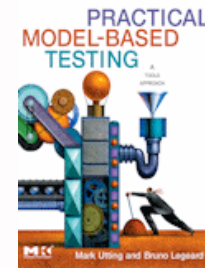
Model based testing – an approach

- 1) create a **model** of the SUT
- 2) **generate** abstract test cases
- 3) make tests executable - **concretize**
- 4) **execute** tests on the SUT
- 5) **analyze** results

- + better communication using models
- + abstract tests
- + auto design of tests, variety of test suites
- + model checking
- + early exposure of ambiguities in spec/design
- + ease of updating of test suites
- + systematic coverage

- o automatic execution
- o auto regression testing

- modelling overhead
- complexity of the models



BDT + MBT

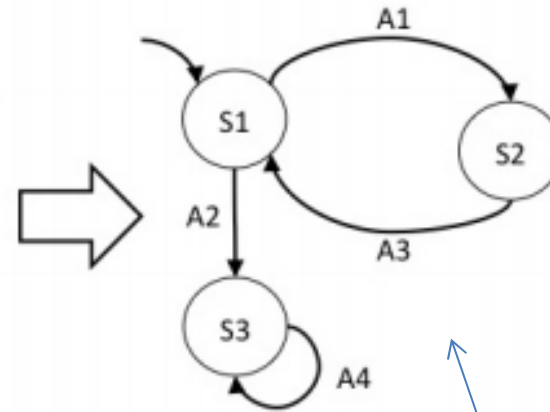
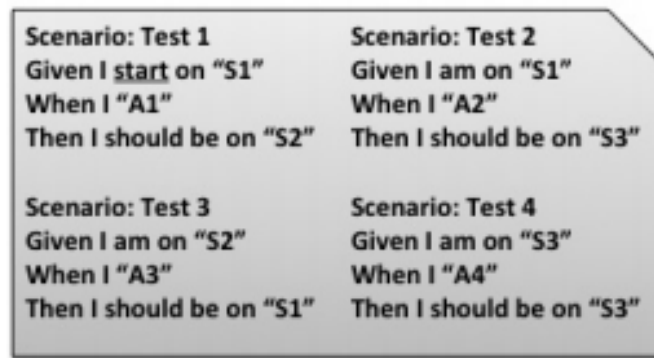
- Having advantages of both and Overcoming shortcomings
 - Generating Test models from test scenarios
 - Connecting different/isolated scenarios in test models
 - Creating a better overview of the behavior of the SUT(system under test)
 - Exposure of ambiguities in spec/design
 - Better analysis of the behavior of the SUT
 - Auto design/generation of test cases
 - More complex test cases
- Test data management
 - Comprehensive test data management
 - Better test data coverage



Using Gherkin in MBT – novel idea

The novel **idea** behind using Gherkin in MBT:

- Generate a *Test Model* from feature files, connecting the separate BDT scenarios in a model



isolated test scenario's (in Gherkin)

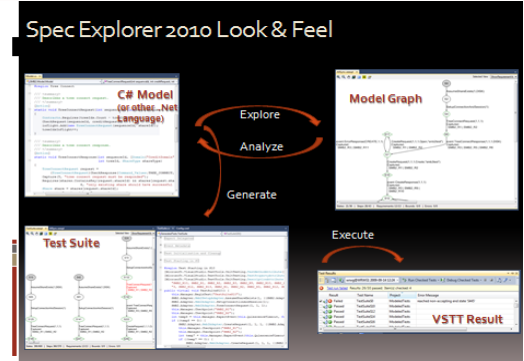
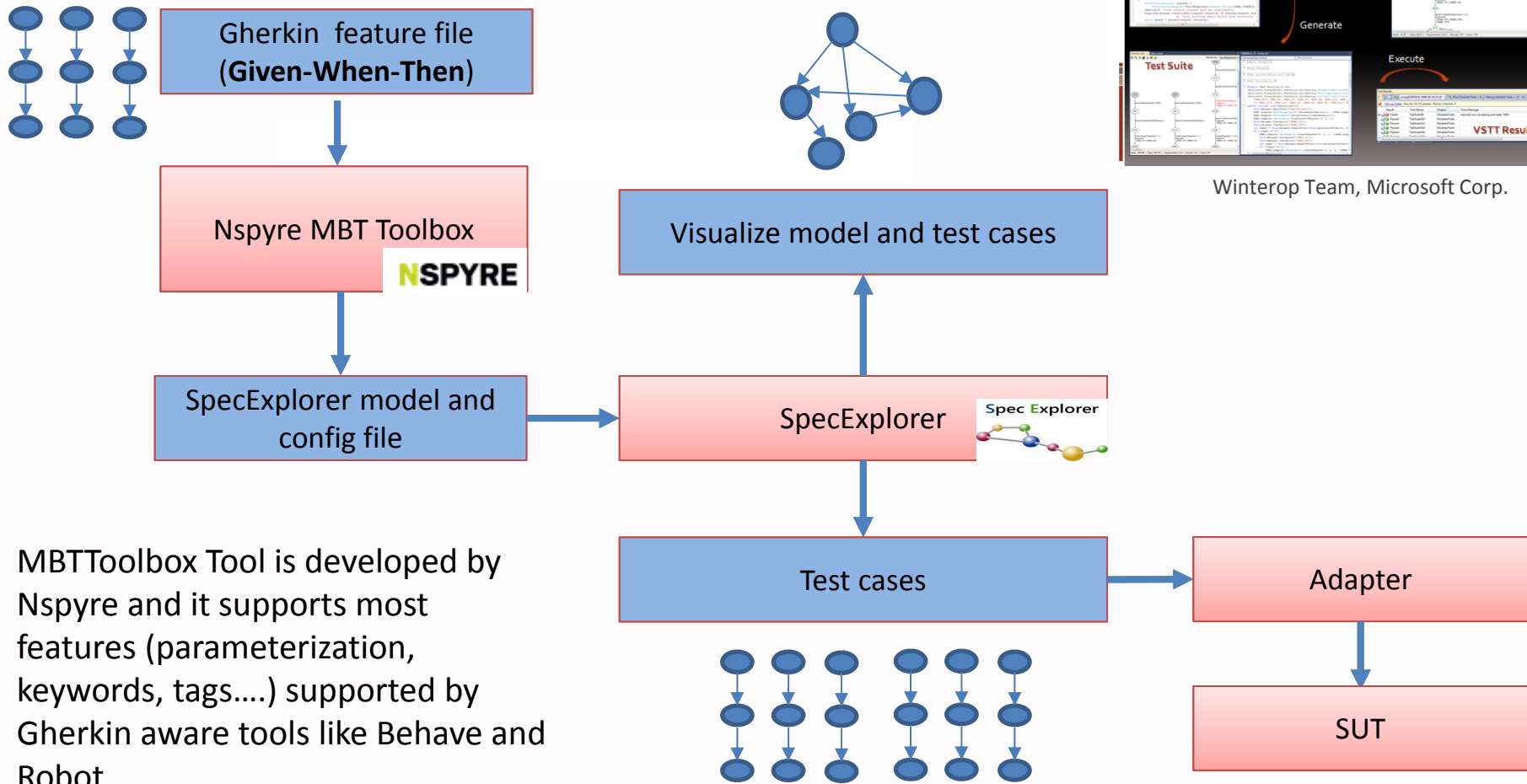
test model (interaction between scenario's)

The MBT Toolbox generates a test model from the separate scenarios

First work by: Christian Colombo, Mark Micallef and Mark Scerri



Nspyre MBT toolbox



Winterop Team, Microsoft Corp.

MBTToolbox Tool is developed by Nspyre and it supports most features (parameterization, keywords, tags....) supported by Gherkin aware tools like Behave and Robot





CucumberSpec summary

Idea of our CucumberSpec

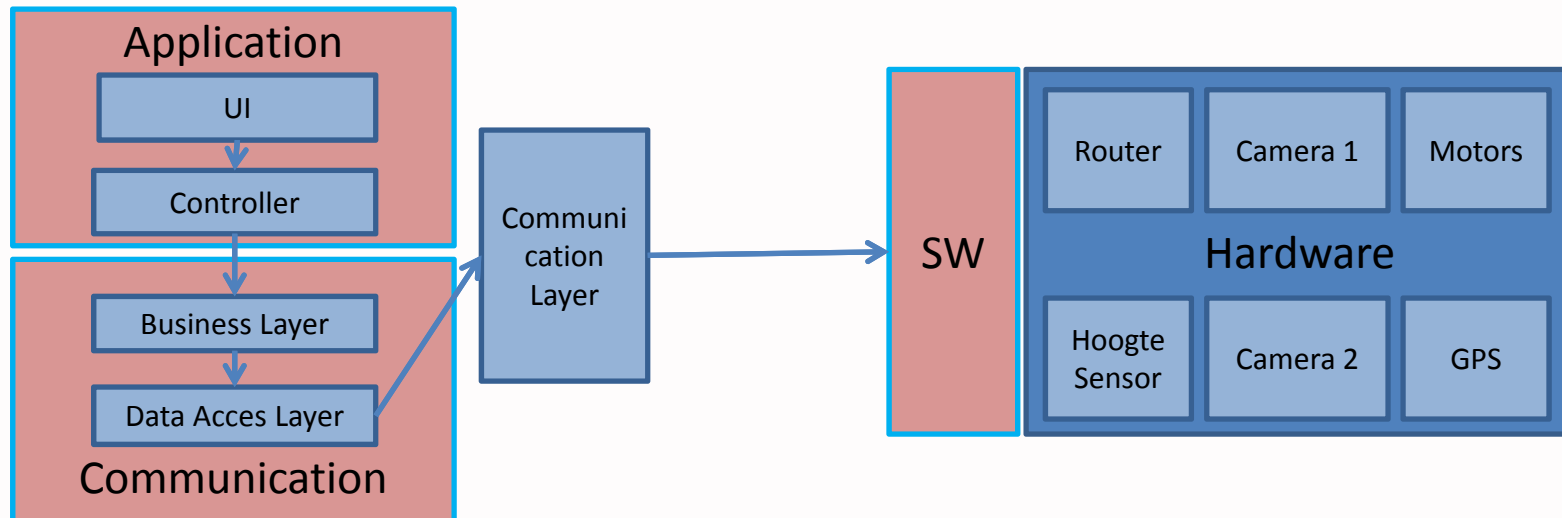
- Generates a Test model from a feature file, Connecting the separate scenarios in a model
- Intention is to support most features (parameterization, tags....) supported by BDD tools like Behave and SpecFlow
- Get All Model Based Benefits,
 - Interaction between the scenarios
 - Generate more tests cases based on different coverage
 - No refinement is needed.
 - Fully automatic process.

Case Study: Ar.drone



AR.Drone

- Mobile





Test scope (Pilot: on limited requirements)

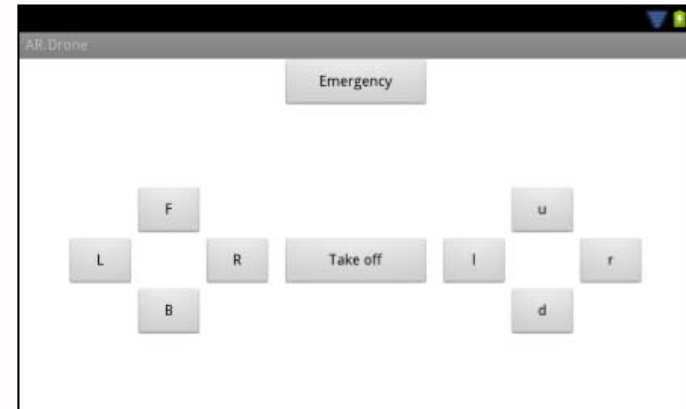
- Functional requirements
 1. Takeoff and Land via Android commands
 1. Takeoff
 2. Land
 2. Fly around via Android commands
 1. Left/Right
 2. Up/Down
 3. Forward/Backward
 4. Turn Left/right
 3. Always be able to use the emergency command

Actions:

- 1. Take off
- 2. Emergency
- 3. Land
- 4. R: Right
- 5. L: Left
- 6. F: Forward
- 7. B: Backward
- 8. l: Turn left
- 9. r: Turn right
- 10. u: Up
- 11. d: Down

States:

- 1. Take off
- 2. Flying
- 3. Landing
- 4. Landed
- 5. Emergency



| | Take off | Flying | Landing | Landed | Emergency |
|-----------|--------------------------|---|------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Take off | x | Reached 30 cm | Press land | X | Emergency |
| Flying | x | Right/ Left/ Up/ Down/ Forward/ Backward/ Turn left/ Turn right | Press land | x | Emergency |
| Landing | Press take off, height<0 | Press take off, height>0 | X | Reached 0 cm | Emergency |
| Landed | Press take off | X | X | x | Emergency |
| Emergency | x | Emergency, height>0 | X | Emergency, height<0 | x |

Created gherkin file

```

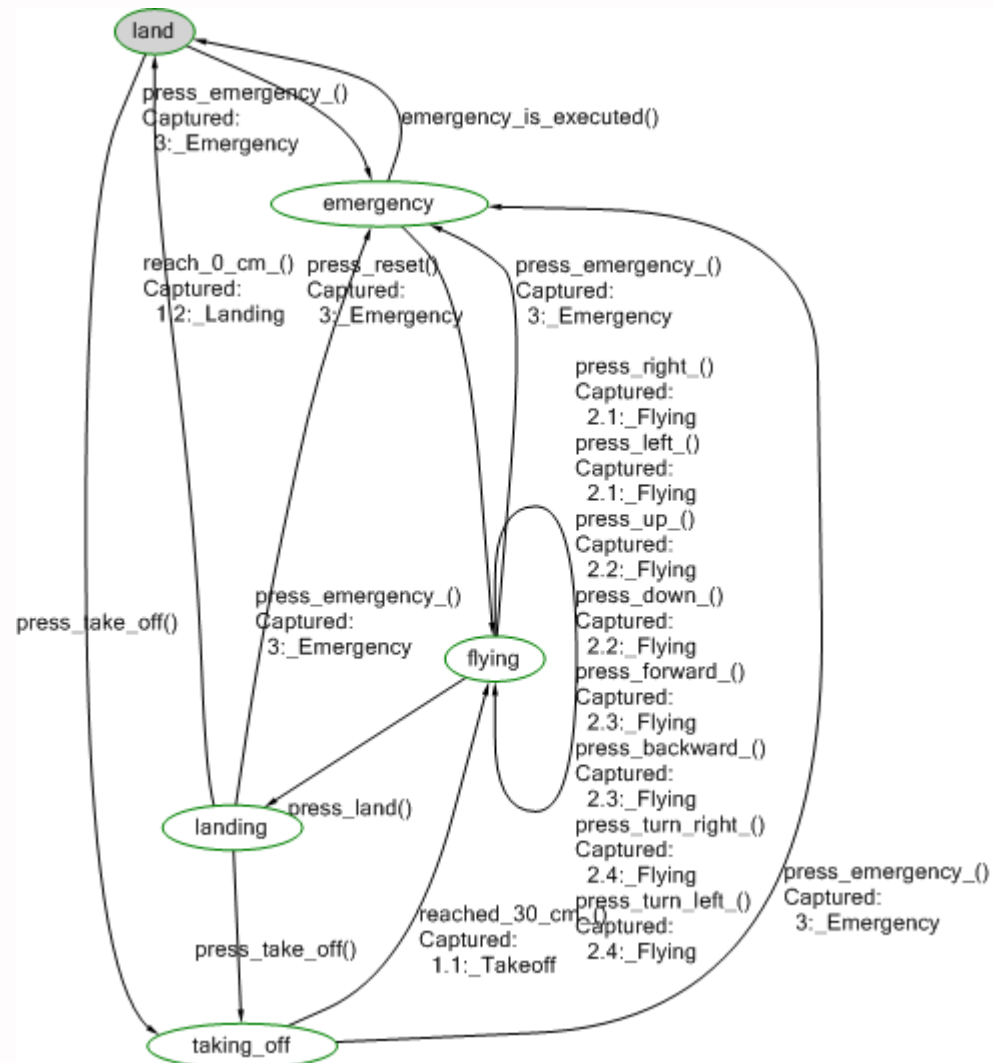
Feature: Flying a drone
  @Taking off
  Scenario: Taking off
  Given I am on "land"
  When I press take off
  Then I am "taking off"
  Scenario: Reached flying state
  Given I am "taking off"
  When I reached 30 cm REQ"1.1: Takeoff"
  Then I am "flying"
  Scenario: Taking off incorrect
  Given I am on "landing"
  When I press take off
  Then I am "taking off"
  @Landing
  Scenario: Landing
  Given I am "flying"
  When I press land
  Then I am "landing"
  Scenario: Reached landed state
  Given I am "landing"
  When I reach 0 cm REQ"1.2: Landing"
  Then I am "land"
  Scenario: Landing incorrect
  Given I am "take off"
  When I press land
  Then I am "landing"

  @Flying
  Scenario: flying around
  Given I am on "flying"
  When I press right REQ"2.1: Flying"
  Then I am "flying"
  Scenario: flying around
  Given I am on "flying"
  When I press left REQ"2.1: Flying"
  Then I am "flying"
  Scenario: flying around
  Given I am on "flying"
  When I press up REQ"2.2: Flying"
  Then I am "flying"
  Scenario: flying around
  Given I am on "flying"
  When I press down REQ"2.2: Flying"
  Then I am "flying"
  Scenario: flying around
  Given I am on "flying"
  When I press forward REQ"2.3: Flying"
  Then I am "flying"
  Scenario: flying around
  Given I am on "flying"
  When I press backward REQ"2.3: Flying"
  Then I am "flying"
  Scenario: flying around
  Given I am on "flying"
  When I press turn right REQ"2.4: Flying"
  Then I am "flying"
  Scenario: flying around
  Given I am on "flying"
  When I press turn left REQ"2.4: Flying"
  Then I am "flying"

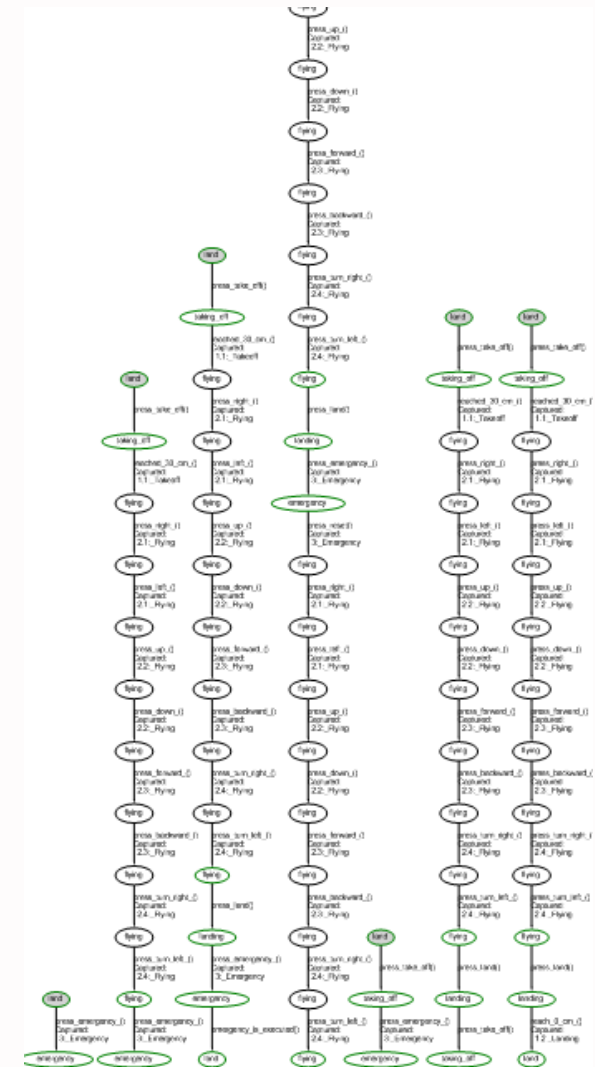
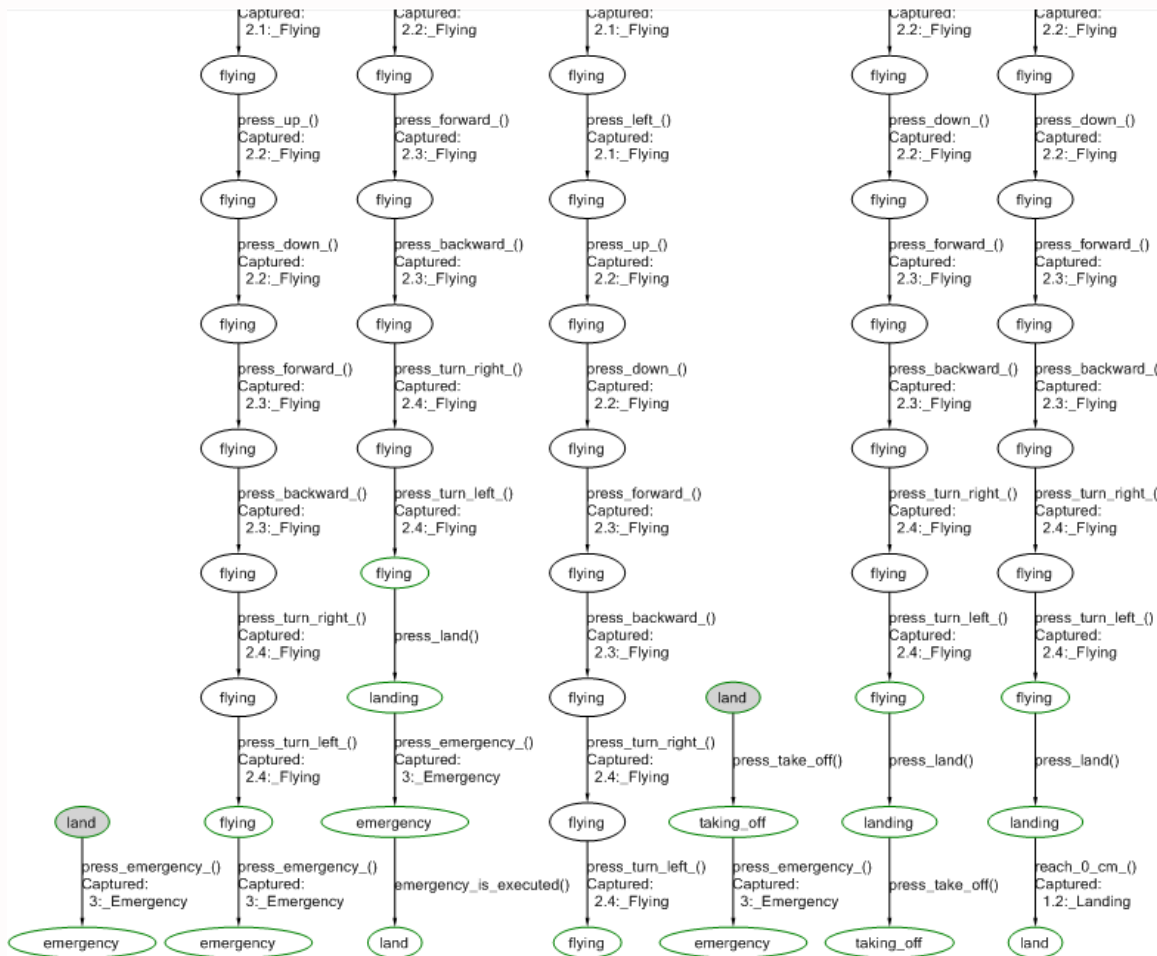
  @Emergency
  #Emergency means the drone will turn all motors of
  Scenario: Emergency
  Given I am on "flying"
  When I press emergency REQ"3: Emergency"
  Then I will be in "emergency"
  Scenario: Emergency
  Given I am "landing"
  When I press emergency REQ"3: Emergency"
  Then I will be in "emergency"
  Scenario: Emergency
  Given I am "land"
  When I press emergency REQ"3: Emergency"
  Then I will be in "emergency"
  Scenario: Emergency
  Given I am on "taking off"
  When I press emergency REQ"3: Emergency"
  Then I will be in "emergency"
  #If emergency is over before the crash
  Scenario: Recover Emergency
  Given I am on "emergency"
  When I press reset
  Then I am on "flying"
  #after crash
  Scenario: Full emergency
  Given I am in "emergency"
  When emergency is executed
  Then I am "land"

```

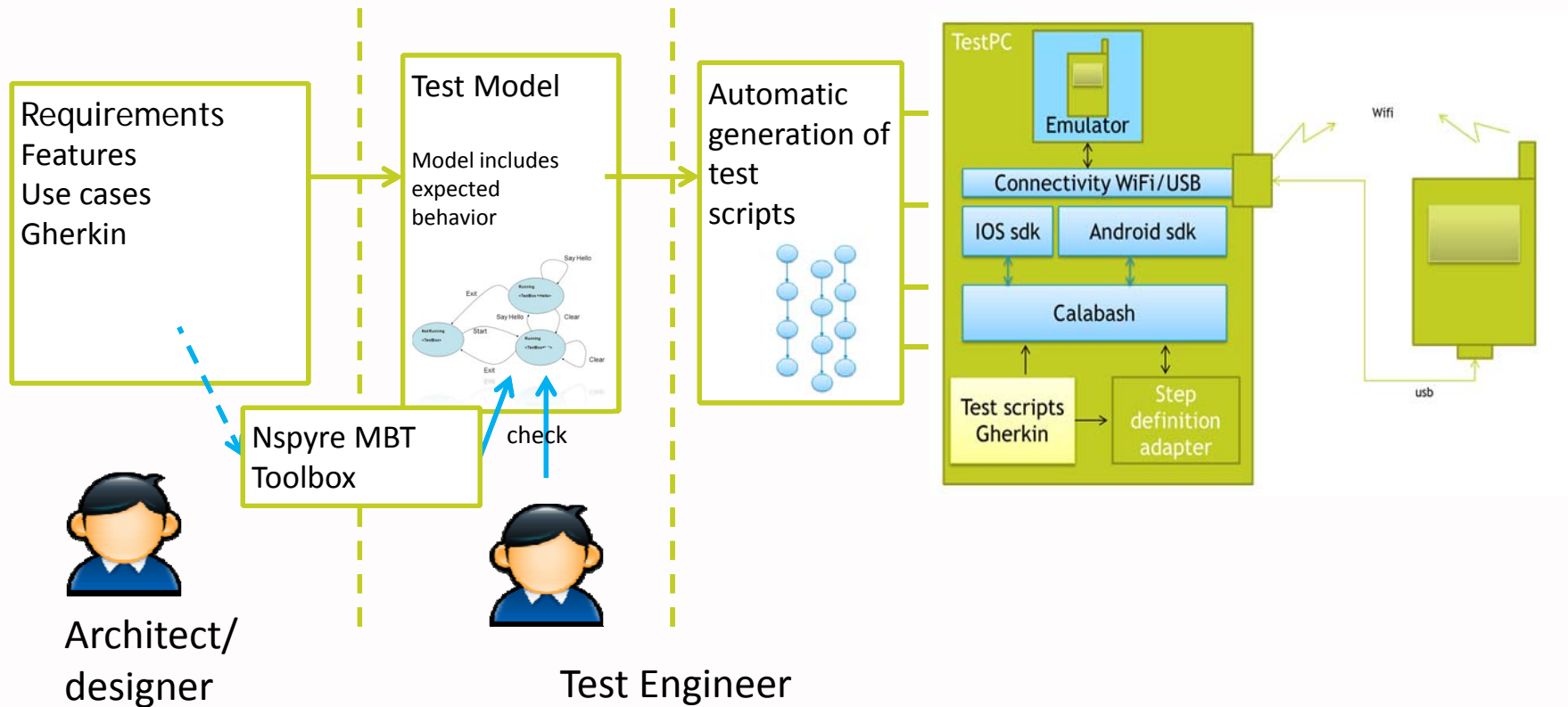
GENERATED MODEL



Test cases



Workflow



Model Based Crossplatform Mobile testing framework



CucumberSpec Tool

Current version of tool supports:

- Parameterization
- Requirements traceability
- Support of other MBT tools (NModel, PyModel) and export of test cases to other scripting (Python, C#).
- Possibility to automate step definition, if keywords or call function are used.
- Next step: applying approach in a high-tech industry case through a joint effort

Questions?

MBT is.....

Strategies, tools and artifacts

Manage complexity

Reduces the need of manual or human involvement of interaction

Avoids spending time in unskilled repetitive error prone or redundant tasks

Provides bandwidth to Innovate!!



results

| Metrices | Cucumber | MBT | CucumberSpec |
|----------------------------|--|---|---|
| Approach | using gherkin files and action definition to generate and execute test suite | using models to generate and execute test suite | using gherkin files to generate models, and generate and execute test suite |
| Technique | Behavior Driven Development | Model Based Testing | Combining strength of BDD and MBT |
| Modeling | Create gherkin files | Create test model | Generate test model |
| Effort | High | Medium/High | Medium |
| Cost(hr) | 8 | 6 | 4 |
| Number of testcases | 20, 0-switch | 7, chinese postman | 7, chinese postman |