

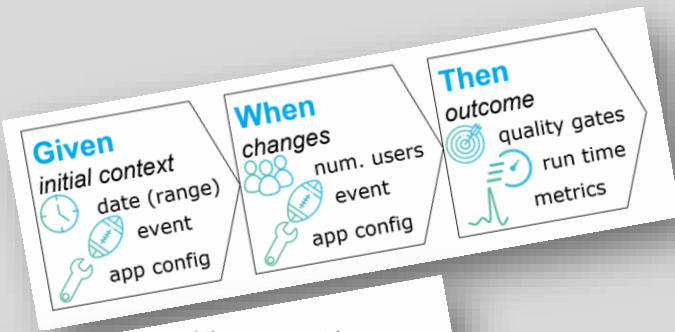
Behavior-driven Load Testing Using Contextual Knowledge – Approach and Experiences –

Henning Schulz, Dušan Okanović,

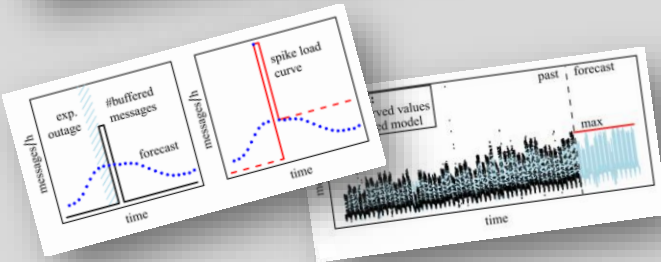
André van Hoorn  @andrevanhoorn

Vincenzo Ferme, Cesare Pautasso

10th ACM/SPEC Int. Conf. on Performance Engineering (ICPE 2019)
Mumbai, India – April 11, 2019



Given the next Black Friday,
when varying the CPU cores between 1 and 4,
then run the experiment for 1h
and ensure the maximum CPU utilization is less than 60%.



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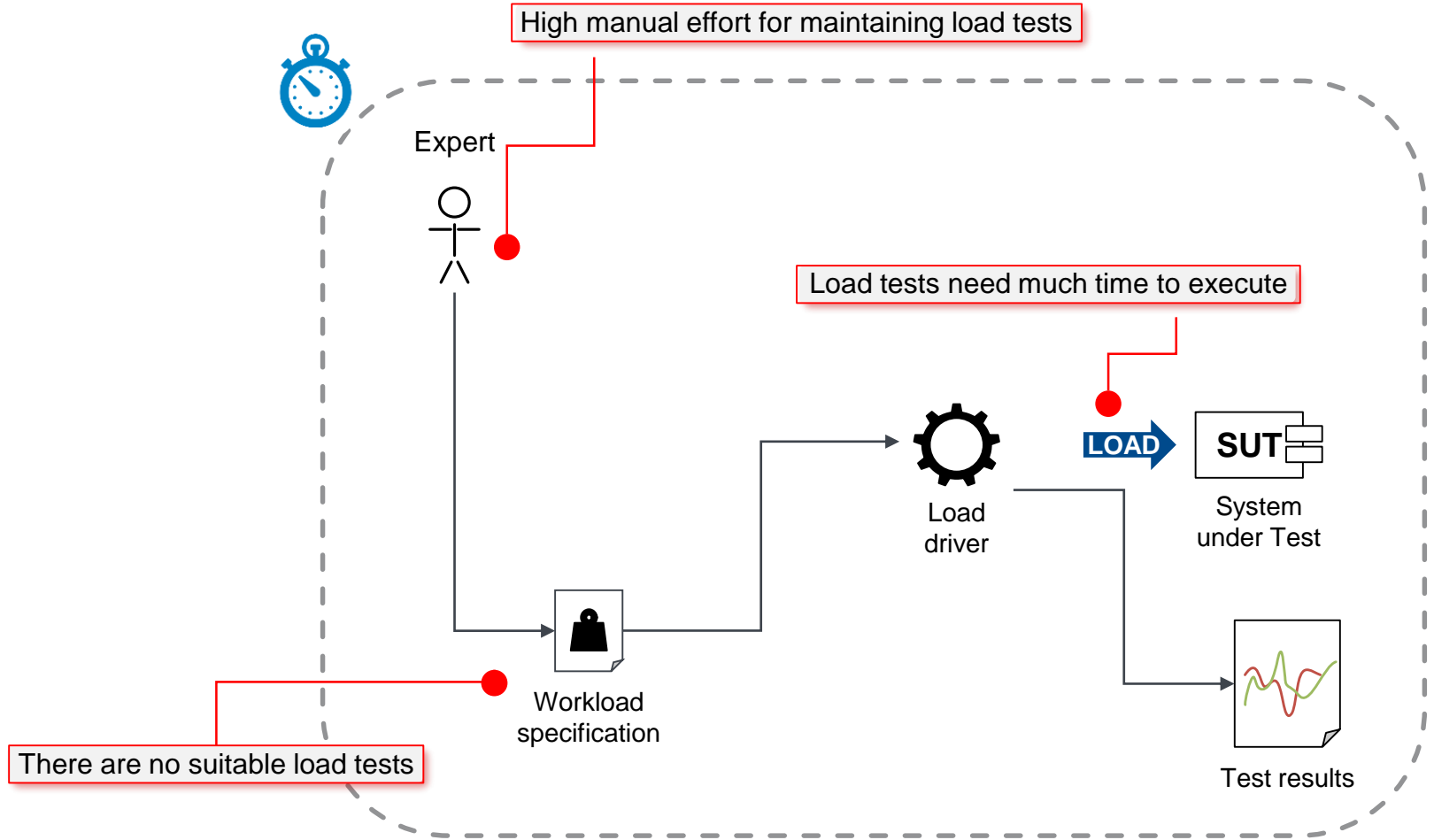
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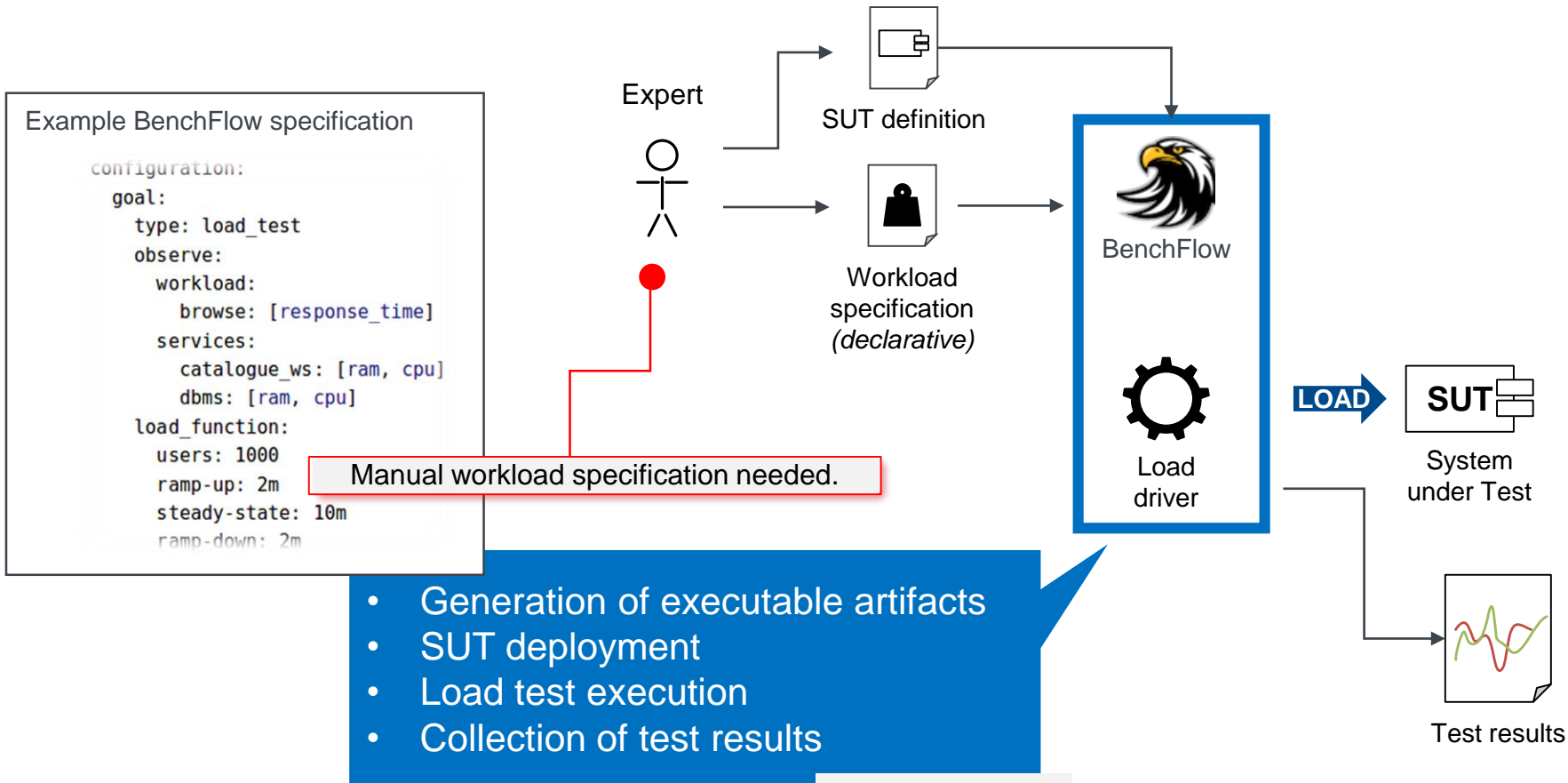
Load Testing – Approach and Challenges





BenchFlow – Declarative Load Testing

Background



Example BenchFlow specification

```
configuration:
goal:
  type: load_test
observe:
  workload:
    browse: [response_time]
  services:
    catalogue_ws: [ram, cpu]
    dbms: [ram, cpu]
load_function:
  users: 1000
  ramp-up: 2m
  steady-state: 10m
  ramp-down: 2m
```

Manual workload specification needed.

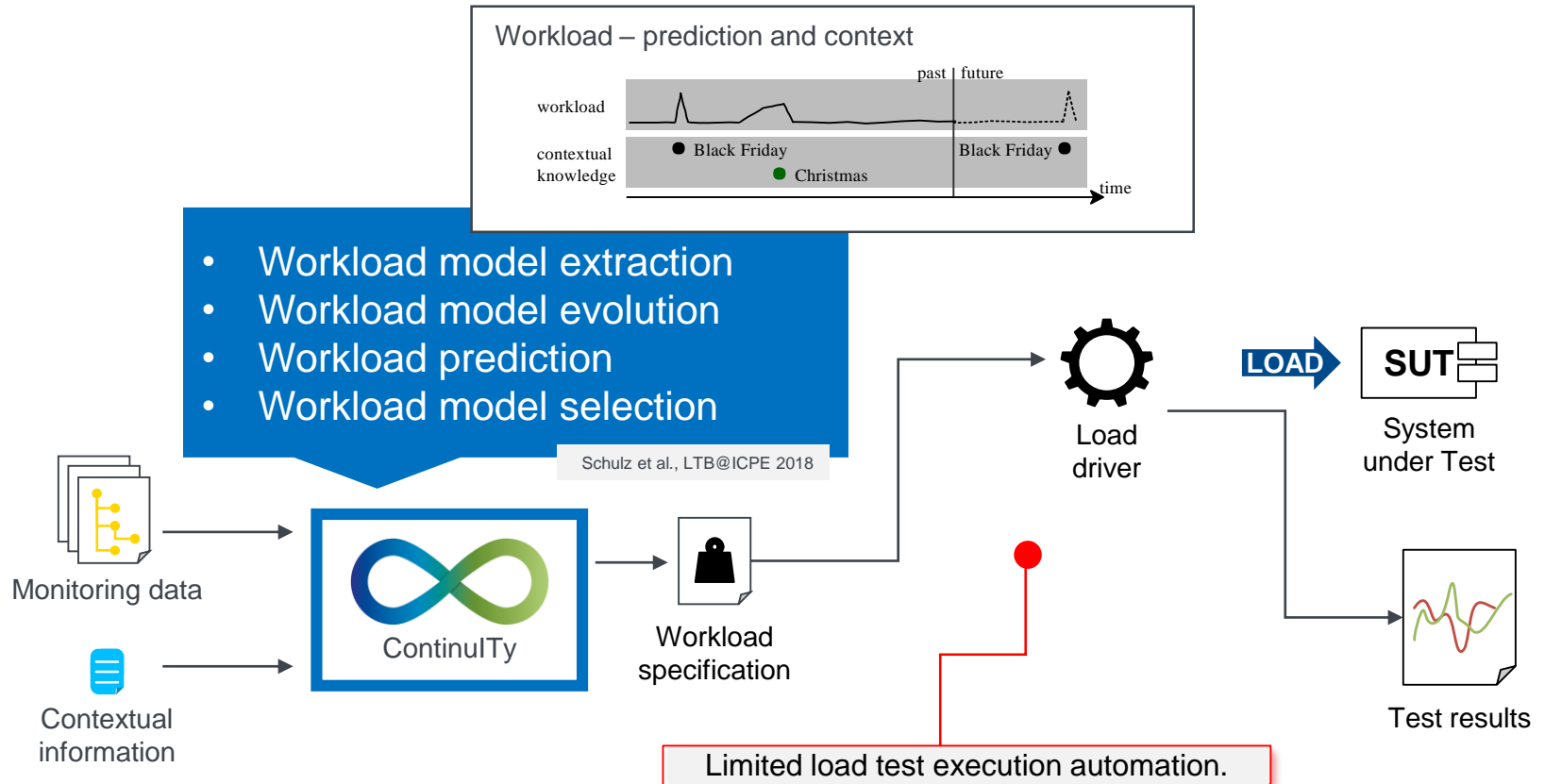
- Generation of executable artifacts
- SUT deployment
- Load test execution
- Collection of test results

Ferne et al., ICPE 2018

ContinuITy – Continuous Load Testing in DevOps



Background



Behavior-driven (Functional) Testing – Workflow

Background

1. Write story

Plain text

Scenario: A trader is alerted of status

Given a stock and a threshold of 15.0

When stock is traded at 5.0

Then the alert status should be OFF

2. Map steps to Java

POJO

```
public class TraderSteps {
    private TradingService service; // Injected
    private Stock stock; // Created

    @Given("a stock and a threshold of $threshold")
    public void aStock(double threshold) {
        stock = service.newStock("STK", threshold);
    }
    @When("the stock is traded at price $price")
    public void theStockIsTraded(double price) {
        stock.tradeAt(price);
    }
    @Then("the alert status is $status")
    public void theAlertStatusIs(String status) {
        assertThat(stock.getStatus().name(), equalTo(status));
    }
}
```

4. Run Stories

With any of



3. Configure Stories

Only once

```
public class TraderStories extends JUnitStories {

    public Configuration configuration() {
        return new MostUsefulConfiguration()
            .useStoryLoader(new LoadFromClasspath(this.getClass()))
            .useStoryReporterBuilder(new StoryReporterBuilder()
                .withCodeLocation(codeLocationFromClass(this.getClass()))
                .withFormats(CONSOLE, TXT, HTML, XML));
    }

    public List<CandidateSteps> candidateSteps() {
        return new InstanceStepsFactory(configuration(),
            new TraderSteps(new TradingService()))
            .createCandidateSteps();
    }

    protected List<String> storyPaths() {
        return new StoryFinder().findPaths(codeLocationFromClass(this.getClass()),
            "**/*.story");
    }
}
```

5. View Reports

HTML

Scenario: A trader is alerted of status

Given a stock and a threshold of 15.0
When stock is traded at 5.0
Then the alert status is OFF

Changes

Given

When

Then

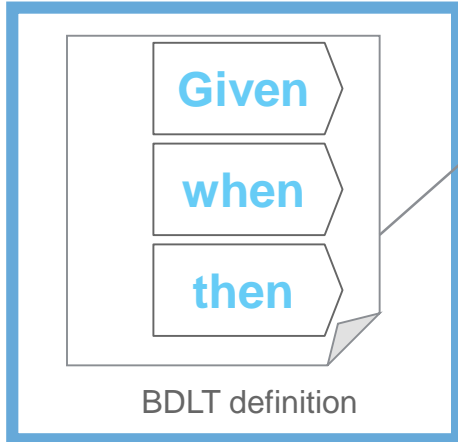
Initial context

Outcome

Examples © 

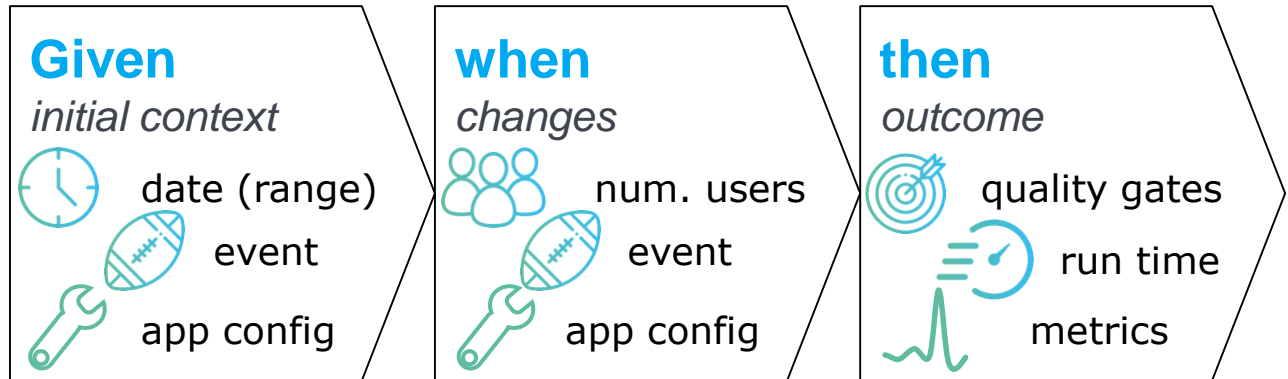
Behavior-driven Load Testing (BDLT) – Example

Approach



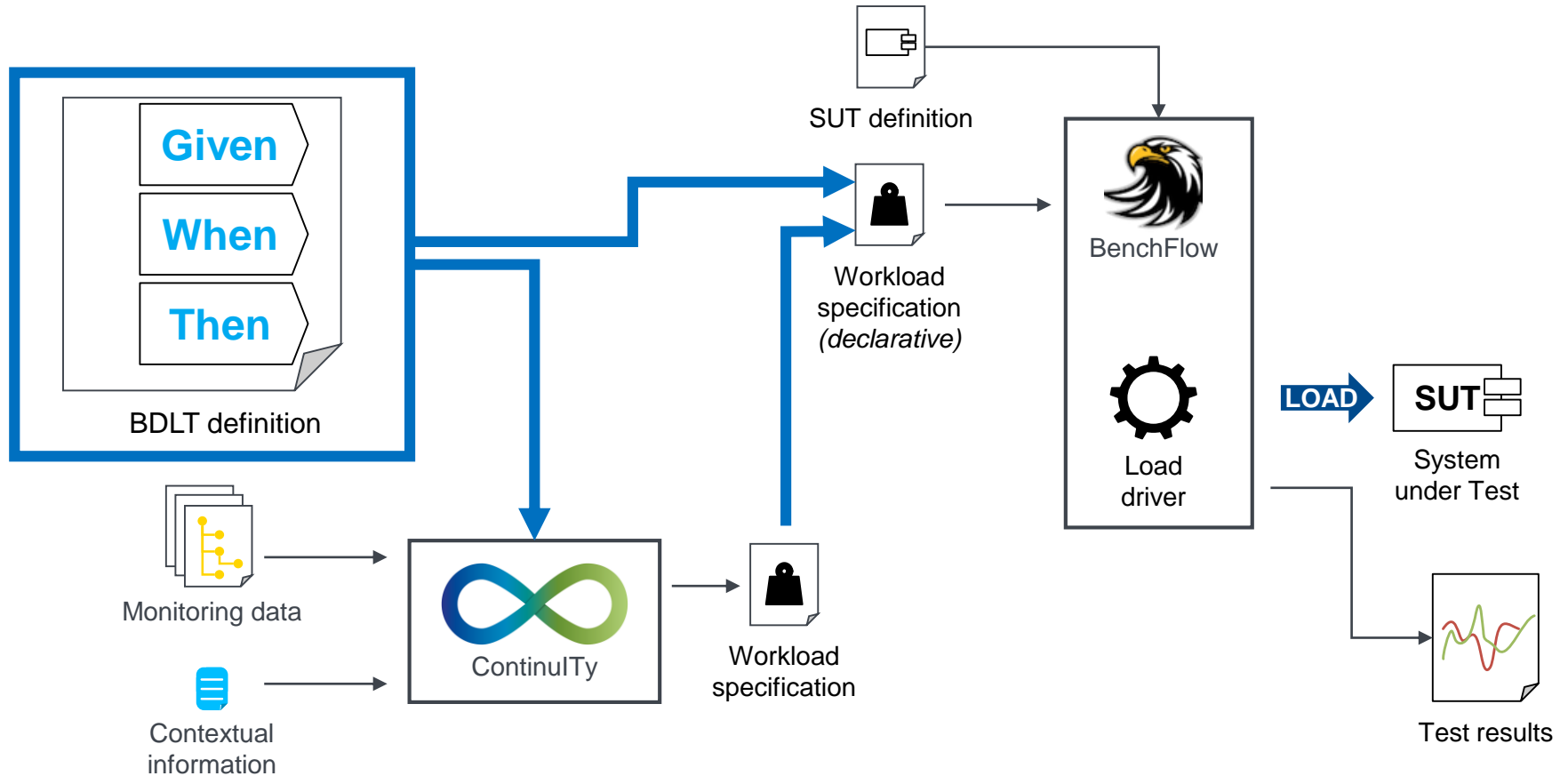
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BDLT example definition



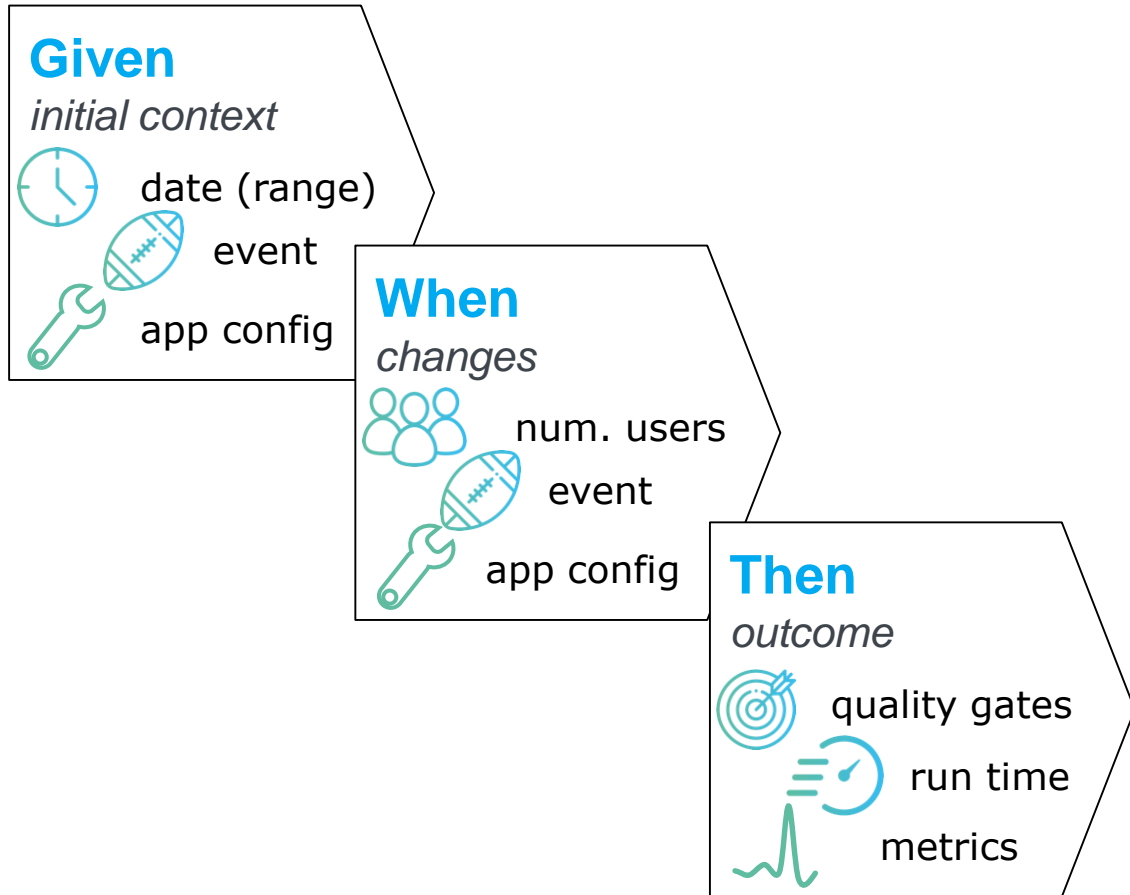
Behavior-driven Load Testing (BDLT) – Workflow

Approach



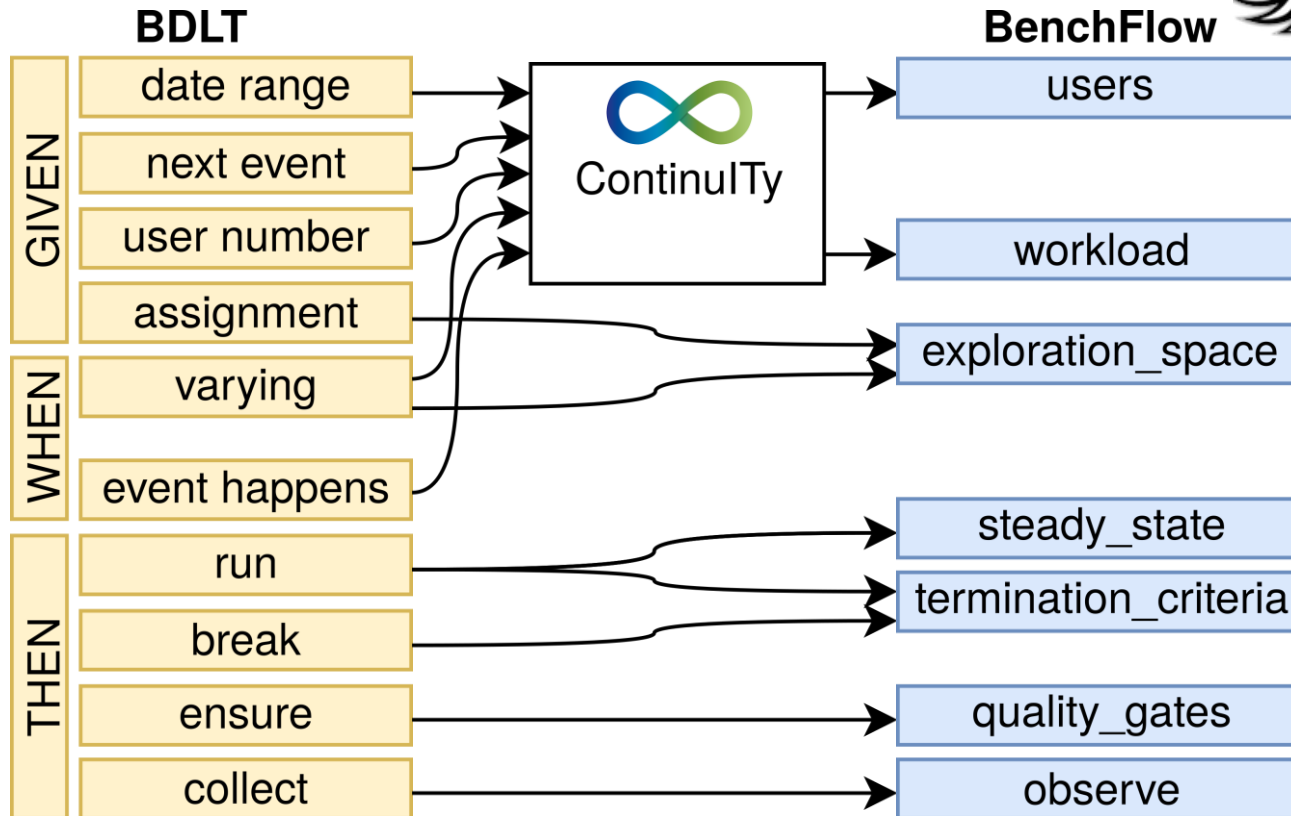
BDLT Language Definition

	BDLT
GIVEN	date range
	next event
	user number
	assignment
WHEN	varying
	event happens
THEN	run
	break
	ensure
	collect



EBNF-based BDLT grammar with extension points for events

Mapping from BDLT to ContinulTy and BenchFlow



Evaluation – Research Questions

RQ1

How expressive is the BDLT language in regards to load test concerns of industrial use cases?

RQ2

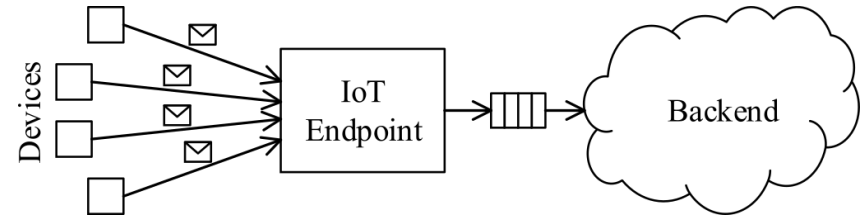
How would BDLT be used in industrial contexts?

RQ3

What are the benefits and limitations of using BDLT in comparison to defining load test scripts?

Case Study – System and Method

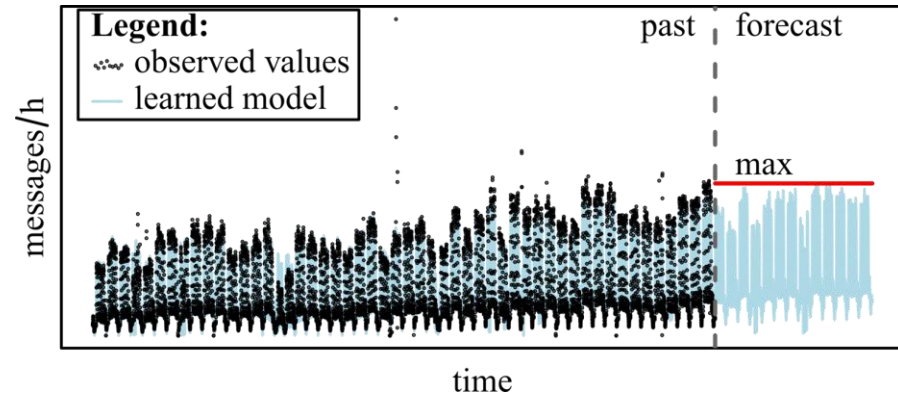
- System under study
 - IoT system from automotive sector
 - IoT endpoint migrating to Cloud
- Methodology
 - Workshops
 - We iteratively developed test specifications based on expert feedback
 - Incorporation of production monitoring data (per-device behavior and intensity)
- Four scenarios



Name	goal	quality_gates
configuration exploration	exhaustive_exploration	CPU load, message latency
continuous quality assurance	load	number of instances, cost
recovery spike	load	queue length
more devices	load	CPU load

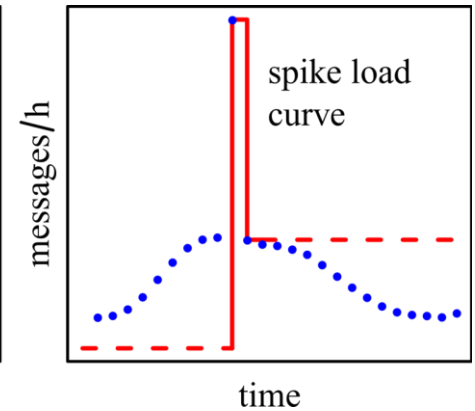
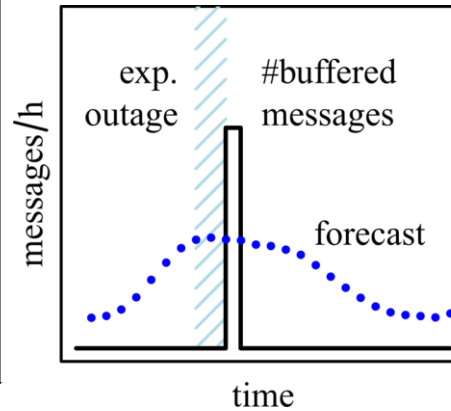
Case Study – Configuration Exploration

Given the next three months
and
the number of users set to the maximum
when varying the CPU cores
between 0.5 and 4 in steps of 0.5
and
varying the number of instances
between 1 and 5
and
varying the RAM among (1GB, 2GB, 4GB)
then run each experiment for 1 hour
and
ensure the average CPU load is less than
15%
and
ensure the message latency is less than
2 seconds



Case Study – Recovery Spike

Given 2018/10/15 9:00
when an outage happened from
2018/10/15 7:00 to 2018/10/15 9:00
then run the experiment for 2 hours
and
ensure the final queue length is
less than 100



Evaluation – Lessons Learned

RQ1

How expressive is the BDLT language in regards to load test concerns of industrial use cases?

Could express all use cases

Custom extensions needed

RQ2

How would BDLT be used in industrial contexts?

Could replace manual tests

Natural language helps understanding and communication (with non-experts)

Helps identifying new concerns

RQ3

What are the benefits and limitations of using BDLT in comparison to defining load test scripts?

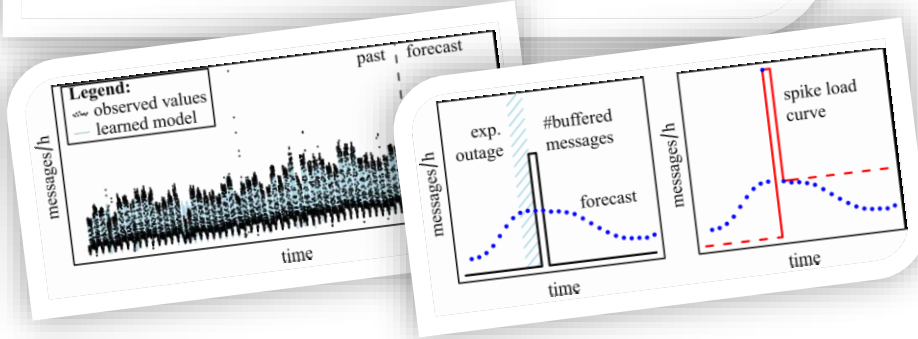
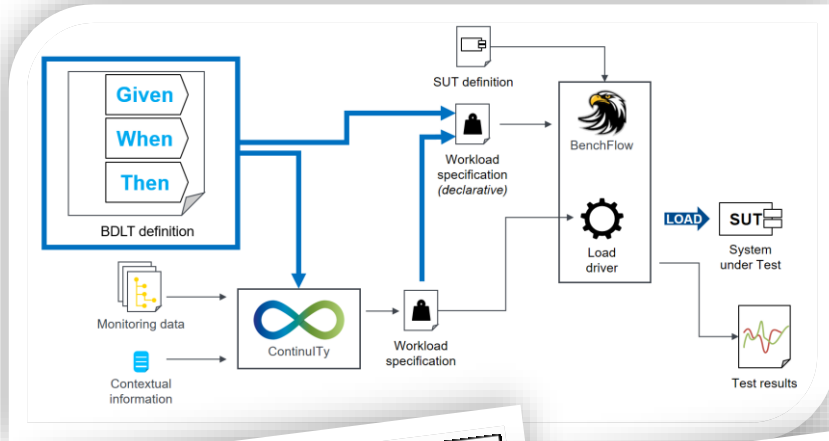
“The approach has potential”

Some concerns hard to express

Current (technical) limitation to HTTP

Too many (technical) details in the *Then* clause?

Summary



+ Additional (laboratory) case study Avritzer et al., ECSA 2018

+ Supplementary material

Future Work

- Extending the language
 - Improving tool support
 - Further evaluation
 - Supporting regression queries
 - Integration into agile development methods, e.g., user stories from Scrum tickets
 - Integration into Declarative Performance Engineering landscape
- Walter et al., ICPE 2016

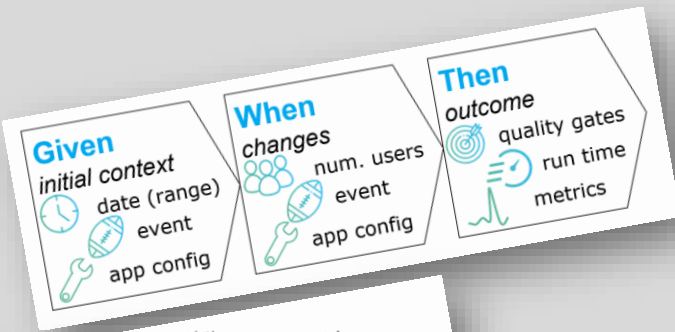
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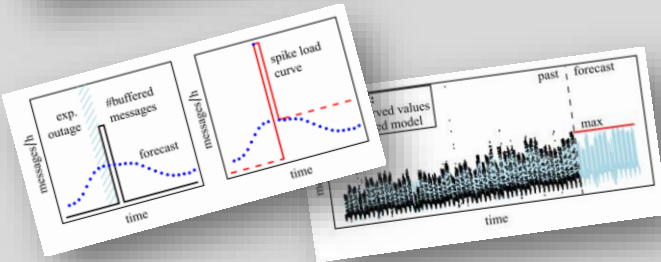
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