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Challenges of automation at Scale

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About Me

- Tester since 1999
- Currently working with Mezocliq as Head QA & India Engineering Operations
- Previously worked with
 - Oracle
 - MakeMyTrip
 - CA Technologies
 - Nucleus Software
 - Newgen Software
 - NIIT
- Speaker & author
- Cyclist
- Philanthropist



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About Mezocliq

meZocliq is a cloud computing company that provides an innovative technology platform to facilitate big-data analytics and business process transformation.

meZocliq offers an integrated non-code application suite with end-to-end functionality. Our suite unifies legacy data and enables broad-ranging analytics, all at a fraction of the cost of other alternatives.



Is test automation important? Yes/No



What's primary objective of automation?



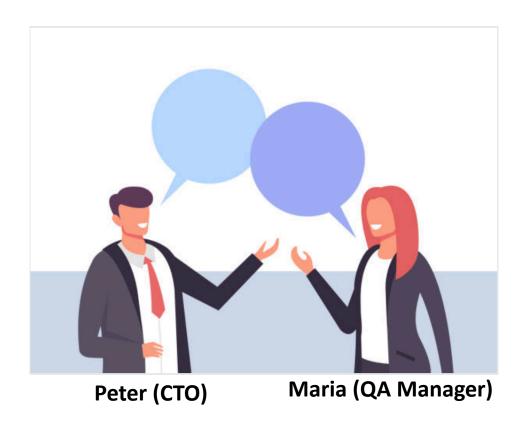


What are our targets for automation coverage?



50% 60% 75% 85% 90% 100%

Ambiguities about automation coverage



Automation Coverage %

Option A = (Automated TCs / Total TCs)*100 Option B = (Automated TCs / (Total TCs – Non-automatable TCs))*100

How our life will be different once goals are achieved?



- We can execute regression suite any number of times without worrying about their execution duration
- Failure % is under agreed threshold
- There are no or not too many failures that we need to hold-off a release before we triage them
- Don't need to worry about test coverage via automated suite

Moment of truth for QA Lead/Manager/Director/VP



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Let's talk about challenges & how to address them

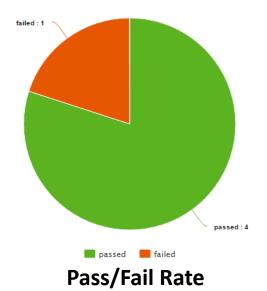
Top 4 common challenges when we're there?



Execution Duration



Failure Triage





Test Coverage

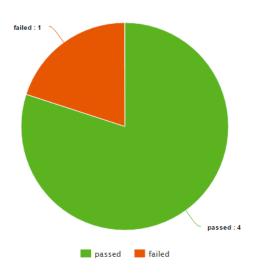
Handling execution duration

- Check for explicit waits
- Fix slow internal applications and avoid just handling them
- Review performance of 3rd party utilities
- Check for duplicate tests
- Parallelize test execution



Handling pass/fail rate

- Set targets for PASS rate (e.g. API-99.5%, UI-98%)
- Focus on First Pass Rate (FPR) and not Triaged Pass Rate (TPR)
- Review assertions carefully and see if they are legitimate
- Publish & review module wise failure rate
- Keep track of fragile test scripts (having >25% failure rate)
- Have trend of all runs instead of snap-shots



Handling triage efforts

- Author(s) having accountability for failures/triage
- Have separate suite for fragile test scripts
- Account for triage efforts for sprint planning efforts
- Track failures via tickets so that they don't get missed
- Identify and address root causes of frequent failures



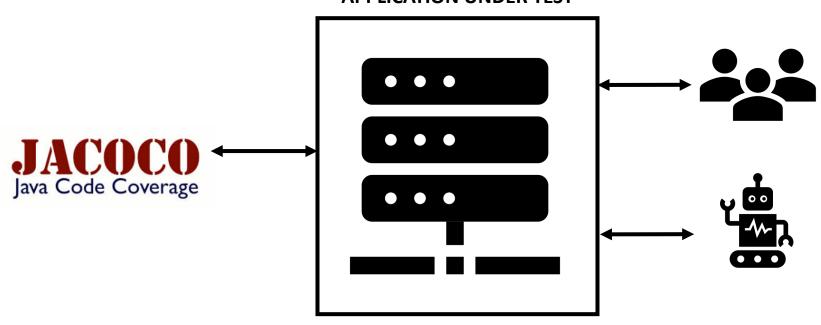
Handling test coverage

- Instrument code coverage tools (e.g. JaCoCo) and keep an eye on package exclusions
- Auto-trigger regression suite with every new build
- Plot line trend charts for TCs automated vs. code coverage (line)
- Check inclusions of production issues in automated suite



Some insights about JaCoCo Integration

APPLICATION UNDER TEST

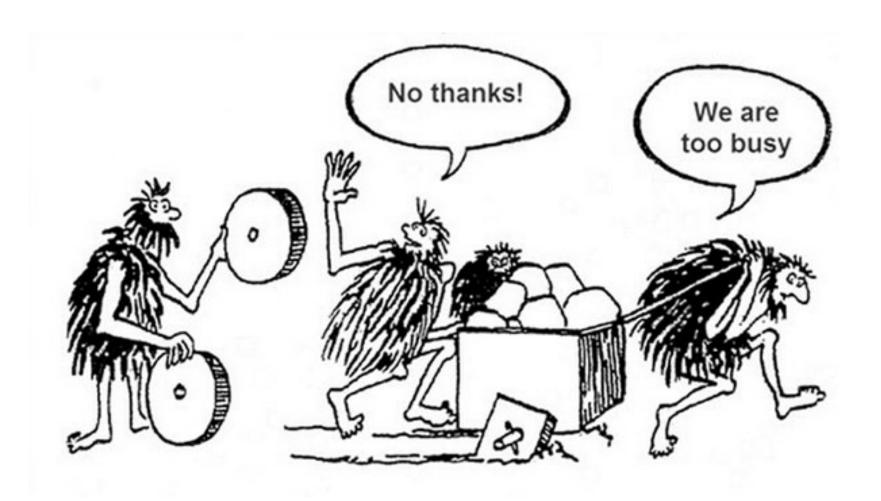


JaCoCo

Element	Missed Instructions	Cov. \$	Missed Branches	\$	Cov. \$	Missed \$	Cxty ≑	Missed \$	Lines \$	Missed \$	Methods \$	Missed \$	Classes
@org.jacoco.examples	E	58%	1		64%	24	53	97	193	19	38	6	12
@org.jacoco.core		97%		_	93%	111	1,384	116	3,320	20	710	2	136
@org.jacoco.agent.rt		77%			84%	31	121	62	310	21	74	7	20
# jacoco-maven-plugin		90%			80%	37	186	46	412	8	111	0	19
<u> </u>		97%	•		100%	4	109	10	275	4	74	0	20
@org.jacoco.report		99%			99%	4	572	2	1,345	1	371	0	64
@org.jacoco.ant	=	98%	=		99%	4	163	8	429	3	111	0	19
@org.jacoco.agent		86%			75%	2	10	3	27	0	6	0	1
Total	1.358 of 27.250	95%	150 of 2.141		92%	217	2.598	344	6.311	76	1.495	15	291

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Are these profound observations?



Thanks & Questions...





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