LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Is your team adopting BDD? Considering Cucumber as your acceptance test tool? Just want to update your skills to include an increasingly popular practice and tool? Attend this hands-on course to learn how to write expressive Cucumber tests and automate them in a maintainable way to drive a web application.

Behavior-Driven Development (BDD) employs the approach of specification by example. Instead of talking in abstract terms about what the system will do, the team collaborates to create specific examples that specify what the system should do from the user’s perspective. These executable specifications function as acceptance criteria for the user stories the team is developing.

Cucumber is our favorite BDD tool because it’s so good at mapping stories and acceptance criteria to automated functional tests. Product Owners and BA’s write acceptance criteria in natural language. Developers and testers unobtrusively automate tests for them. Anyone on the team can run the tests and see the current state of the system.

The public version of this course is usually offered in Ruby. Private versions can also be done with the Java or .NET versions of Cucumber.

At the end of the workshop you will be able to:

- distinguish between BDD and other kinds of agile testing
- describe the individuals involved in BDD and their interactions
- explain why Cucumber is well-suited to BDD
- write expressive Cucumber scenarios using business domain language
- refactor Cucumber scenarios to improve expressiveness and make them more readable and maintainable
- automate Cucumber steps to drive your application both through and below the user interface
- refactor Cucumber step definitions to make them more readable and maintainable
- find and install the appropriate version of Cucumber for your platform (i.e. Ruby, Java, or .Net)

RICHARD LAWRENCE

Richard Lawrence was the creator of Cuke4Nuke, the original NET support for Cucumber. Since adopting agile in 2001, Richard has led and coached numerous teams to successfully deliver software projects using an agile approach. He is passionate about and effective at building wildly productive, humanizing software teams. One of only a few dozen Certified Scrum Coaches, Richard regularly speaks at user groups and conferences, including Agile 2006, 2007, and 2009. He is currently writing a book on BDD with Cucumber for Addison-Wesley. You can read his blog at www.richardlawrence.info.

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