

Don't write code your Users  
haven't asked for.

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## AGENDA

# Behavior-Driven Development (BDD)

Acceptance-Test Driven Development

Specification by Example

Executable Specifications

1. What is BDD?
2. How to do BDD?
3. {cucumber}

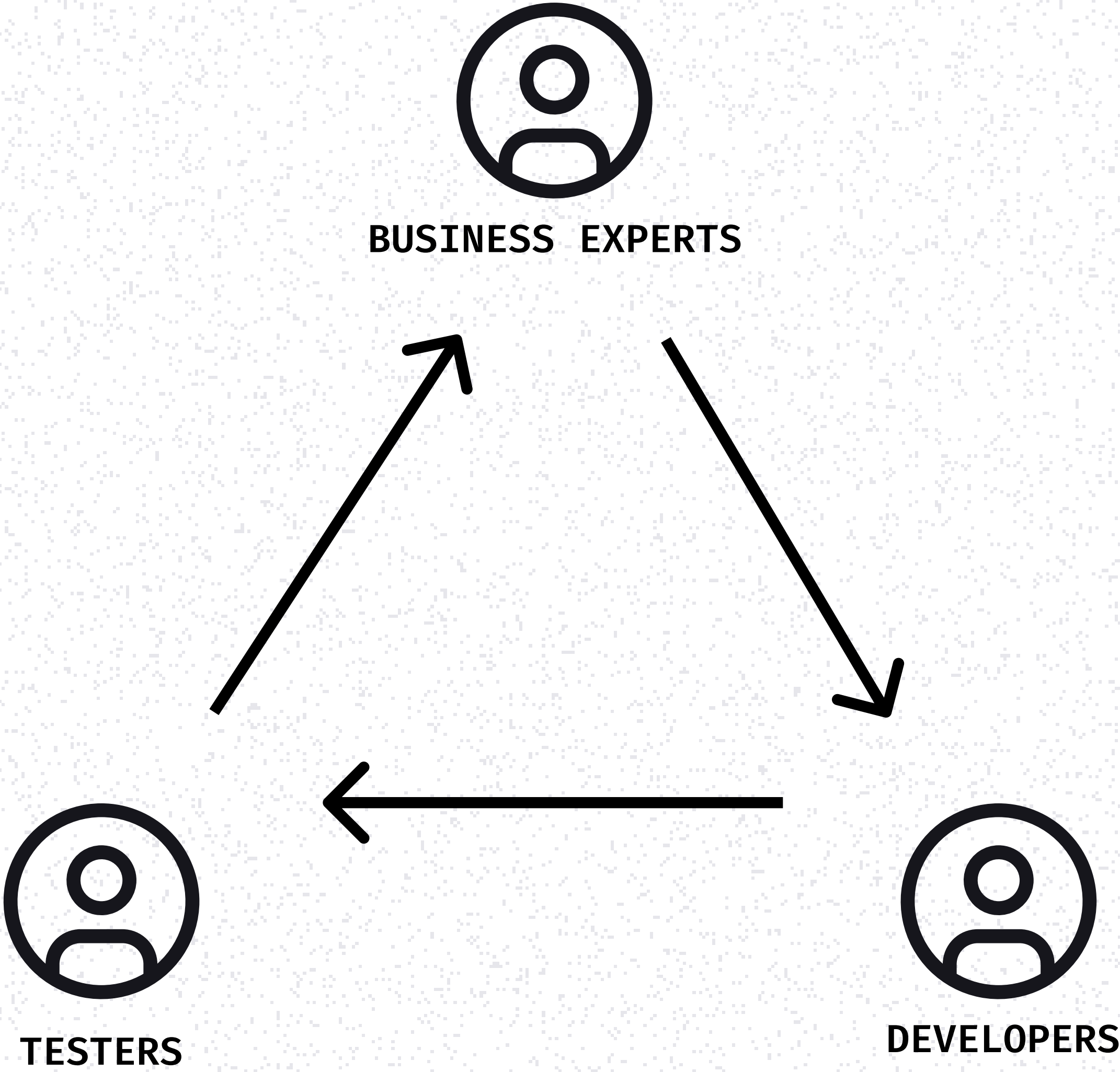
Have we built the correct software?

ACCEPTANCE TESTS

Have we built software correctly?

UNIT TESTS

PART 2: HOW TO DO BDD?



## PART 2: HOW TO DO BDD?



## Automated Definition of Done

Starting from writing specifications we precisely know when all User needs are met.

We stop writing code when all specifications pass.

- ☒ User need 1
- ☒ User need 2
- ☐ User need 3
- ☐ User need 4
- ☐ User need 5

# Executable specifications

Expressed in a language understood by business and developers.

Given an available flight on "my preferred date"

When I search for flights from "London" to "Paris" on "my preferred date"

Then I am offered the flight

## Use keywords

Separate preconditions from actions, and from expectations.

Given an available flight on "my preferred date"

When I search for flights from "London" to "Paris" on "my preferred date"

Then I am offered the flight



## PART 2: HOW TO DO BDD?

### Be abstract

Don't reveal implementation details.

They should remain true for any implementation of the system: Web App, REST API, R Package, etc.

Given an available flight on "my preferred date"

~~When I click "Search" button and type London and Paris and select my preferred date~~

Then I am offered the flight

## Be abstract

Don't reveal implementation details.

They should remain true for any implementation of the system: Web App, REST API, R Package, etc.

Given an available flight on my preferred date

When I search for flights from "London" to "Paris" on "my preferred date"

Then I am offered the flight

## Bad Acceptance Criteria

- ☐ Use "flights" table in the DB
- ☐ Have 2 search fields and "Search" button
- ☐ Results are displayed in a table

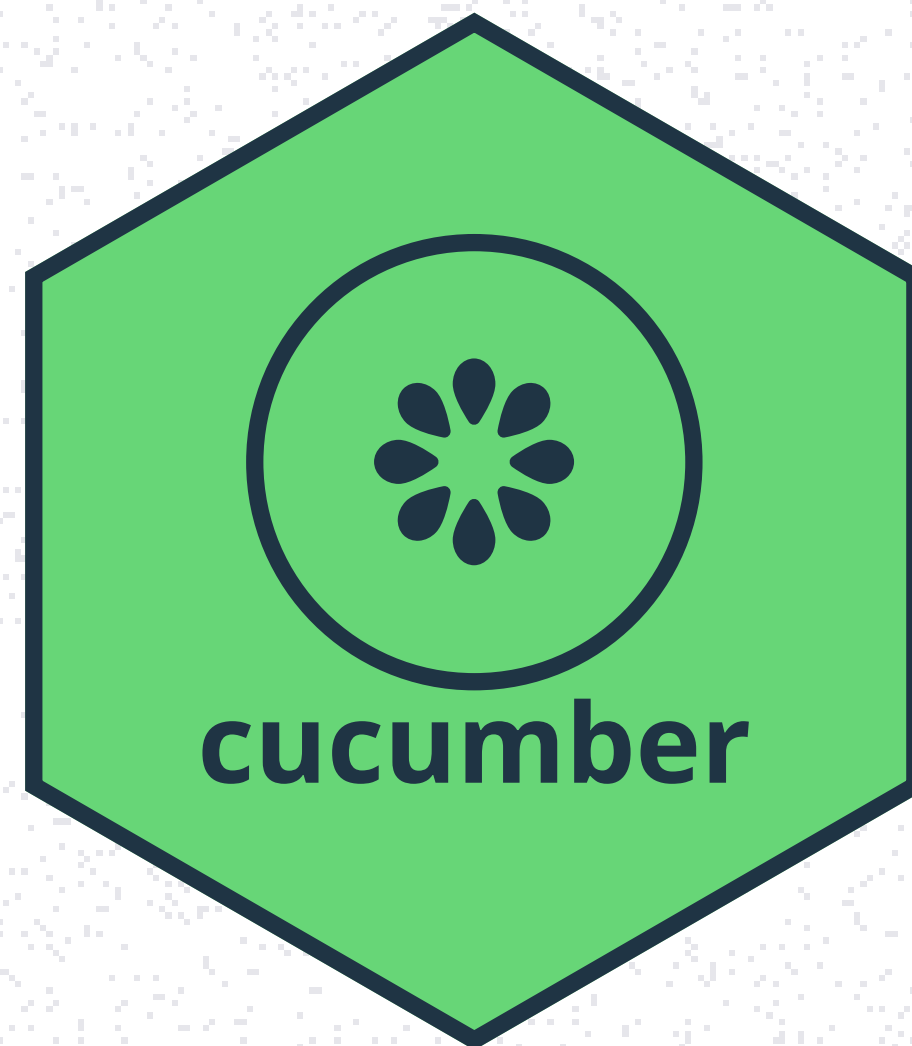
## Good Specifications

Given an available flight on my preferred date

When I search for flights from "London" to "Paris" on "my preferred date"

Then I am offered the flight

## Execute them with cucumber



Given an available flight on "my preferred date"

When I search for flights from "London" to "Paris" on "my preferred date"

Then I am offered the flight

## PART 3: {CUCUMBER}

### 3 elements of {cucumber}

1. Feature files – test cases.
2. Steps implementation.
3. Hooks (optional)

## PART 3: {CUCUMBER}



tests/testthat/flight\_booking.feature

### Feature: Flight booking

The flight booking system enables users to search for and book both direct and indirect flights. Users can select one-way or return trips based on available options, search by date and route, and receive a list of available flights.

#### Scenario: Book a one-way trip

Given an available flight on "my preferred date"

When I search flights from "London" to "Paris" on "my preferred date"

Then I am offered the flight

#### Scenario: Book a one-way trip

Given 2 available flights on "my preferred date"

When I search flights from "London" to "Paris" on "my preferred date"

Then I am offered 2 flights

## PART 3: {CUCUMBER}



tests/testthat/setup-steps.R

```
given("an available flight on {string}", function(date, context) {
  # Setup the environment, e.g. inject test data to a test database
})

when(
  "I search flights from {string} to {string} on {string}",
  function(from, to, date, context) {
    # Run code that searches flights with given parameters,
    # Store result in `context`
  })

then("I am offered the flight", function(context) {
  # Get result from `context`, assert.
})

then("I am offered {int} flights", function(n, context) {
  # Get result from `context`, assert.
})
```

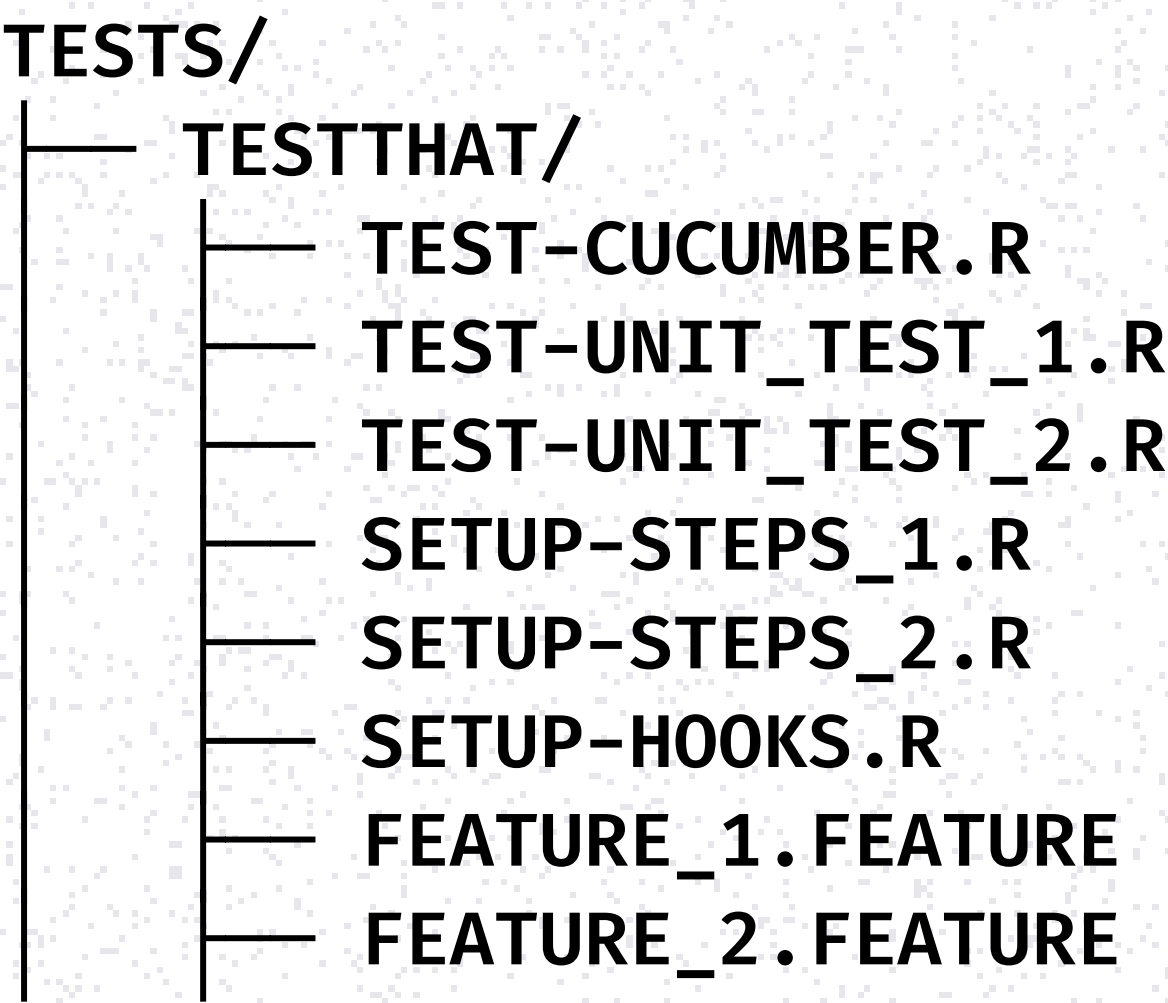
```
tests/testthat/setup-hooks.R

before(function(scenario_name, context) {
  # Create a database
  # Or run shinytest2 driver
  # Or run Plumber API
})

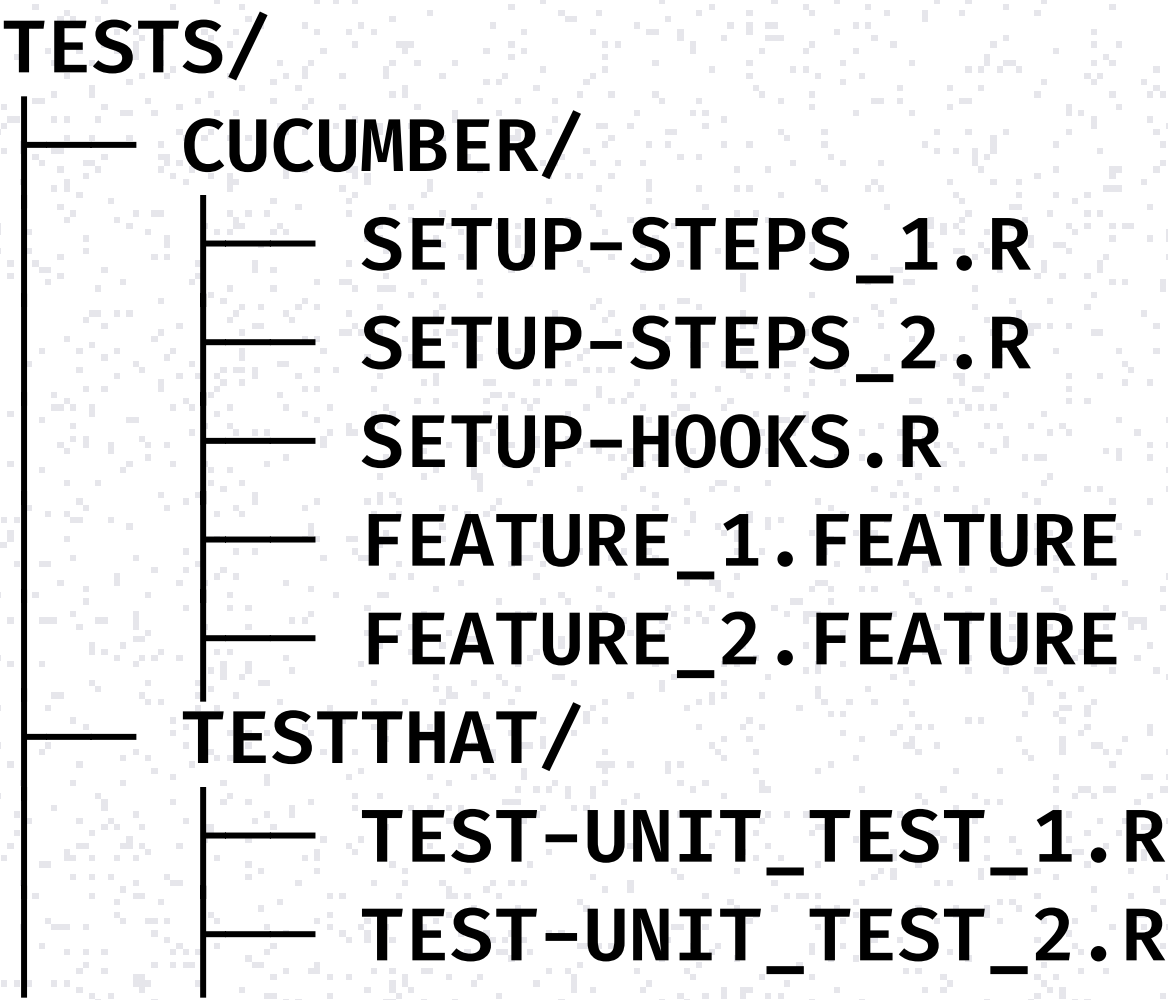
after(function(scenario_name, context) {
  # Clean up the database
  # Or clean up the filesystem
})
```



Cucumber tests alongside testthat



Cucumber tests in own directory



Behavior-Driven Development is not about tools.

## PART 3: {CUCUMBER}

### WITHOUT {CUCUMBER}

```
tests/testthat/test-flight_booking.R

describe("Flight booking", {
  it("allows booking a trip when available", {
    available_flights("my preferred date")
    flights ← search_flights("my preferred date")
    verify_found_flights(flights, n = 1)
  })

  it("allows booking a trip when 2 available", {
    available_flights(
      "my preferred date",
      "my preferred date"
    )
    flights ← search_flights("my preferred date")
    verify_found_flights(flights, n = 2)
  })
})
```

### WITH {CUCUMBER}

```
tests/testthat/flight_booking.feature

Feature: Flight booking
  Scenario: Book a one-way trip
    Given an available flight on "my preferred date"
    When I search flights from "London" to "Paris" on "my preferred date"
    Then I am offered the flight

  Scenario: Book a one-way trip
    Given 2 available flights on "my preferred date"
    When I search flights from "London" to "Paris" on "my preferred date"
    Then I am offered 2 flights
```

+ steps implementations

## PART 3: {CUCUMBER}

### WITHOUT {CUCUMBER}

```
tests/testthat/test-flight_booking.R

describe("Flight booking", {
  it("allows booking a trip when available", {
    available_flights("my preferred date")
    flights ← search_flights("my preferred date")
    verify_found_flights(flights, n = 1)
  })

  it("allows booking a trip when 2 available", {
    available_flights(
      "my preferred date",
      "my preferred date"
    )
    flights ← search_flights("my preferred date")
    verify_found_flights(flights, n = 2)
  })
})
```

### PROS

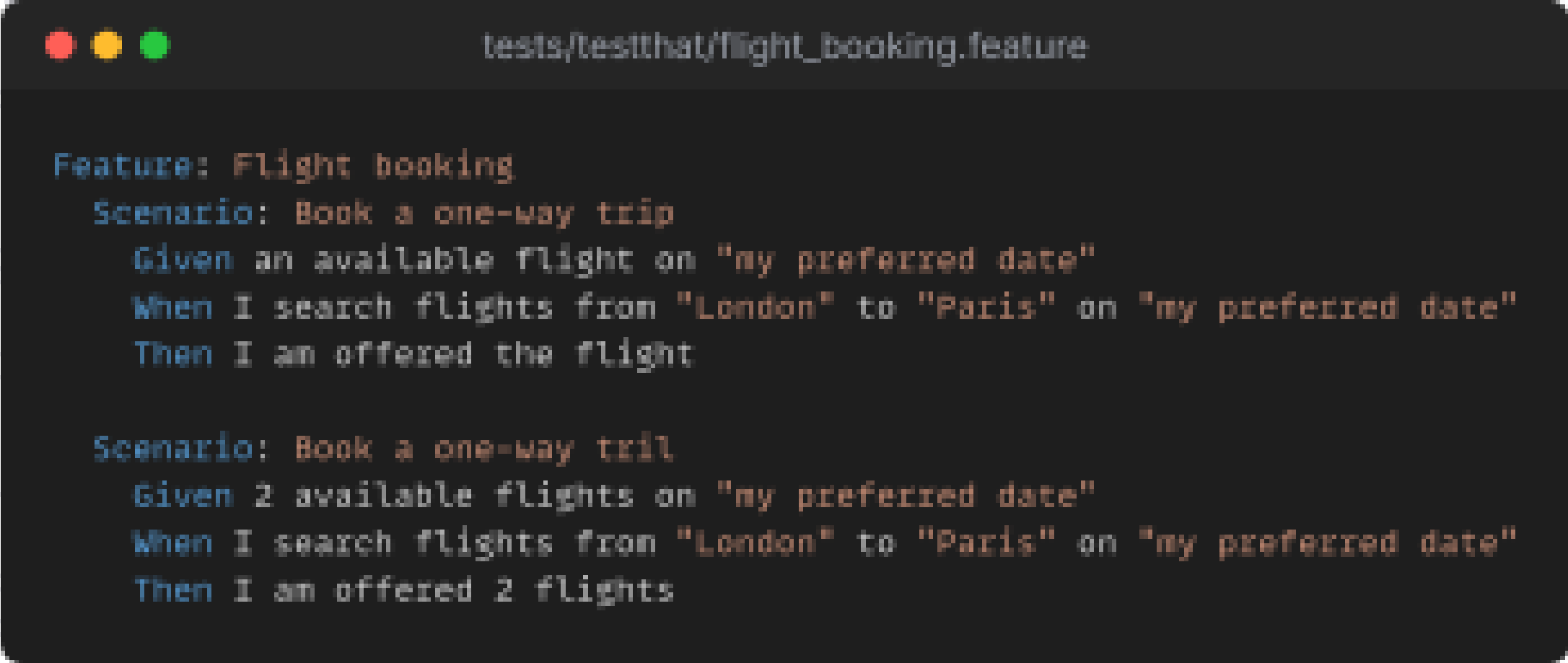
1. No extra dependencies.
2. Easy to start with.

### CONS

1. Limited space for providing context.
2. Doesn't force you to reuse test code.
3. You need to read code to understand it.

## PART 3: {CUCUMBER}

### WITH {CUCUMBER}



```
tests/testthat/flight_booking.feature

Feature: Flight booking
  Scenario: Book a one-way trip
    Given an available flight on "my preferred date"
    When I search flights from "London" to "Paris" on "my preferred date"
    Then I am offered the flight

  Scenario: Book a one-way trip
    Given 2 available flights on "my preferred date"
    When I search flights from "London" to "Paris" on "my preferred date"
    Then I am offered 2 flights
```

### PROS

1. Isolation from implementation details.
2. Code reuse → maintainability.
3. Understandable by everyone.
4. Live, executable documentation.

### CONS

1. New dependency.
2. Pays-off only in a certain scale.

## PART 3: {CUCUMBER}

# Real-life examples

See how {cucumber} is used to test itself,  
and how it's used to test {muttest}.

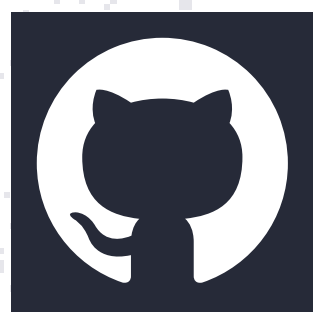
[GITHUB.COM/JAKUBSOB/MUTTEST/TREE/MAIN/TESTS/ACCEPTANCE](https://github.com/JakubSob/MutTest/tree/main/tests/acceptance)  
[GITHUB.COM/JAKUBSOB/CUCUMBER/TREE/MAIN/TESTS/ACCEPTANCE](https://github.com/JakubSob/Cucumber/tree/main/tests/acceptance)



# Thank you!



[jakubsobolewski.com](https://jakubsobolewski.com)



[jakubsob](https://github.com/jakubsob)



[Jakub Sobolewski](#)

Scenario: Learning efficient R development

Given "article" on **[jakubsobolewski.com/blog](https://jakubsobolewski.com/blog)**

When I read "article"

And I apply the advice from "article"

Then change-lead-time decreases by 50%

Scenario: Reusing test patterns

Given the **[jakubsobolewski.com/r-tests-gallery](https://jakubsobolewski.com/r-tests-gallery)**

When I reuse a "testing pattern"

Then change-lead-time decreases by 50%