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*School of Computer Science and Engineering, Beihang University*



# The Future of TTCN-3 in China

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# Agenda

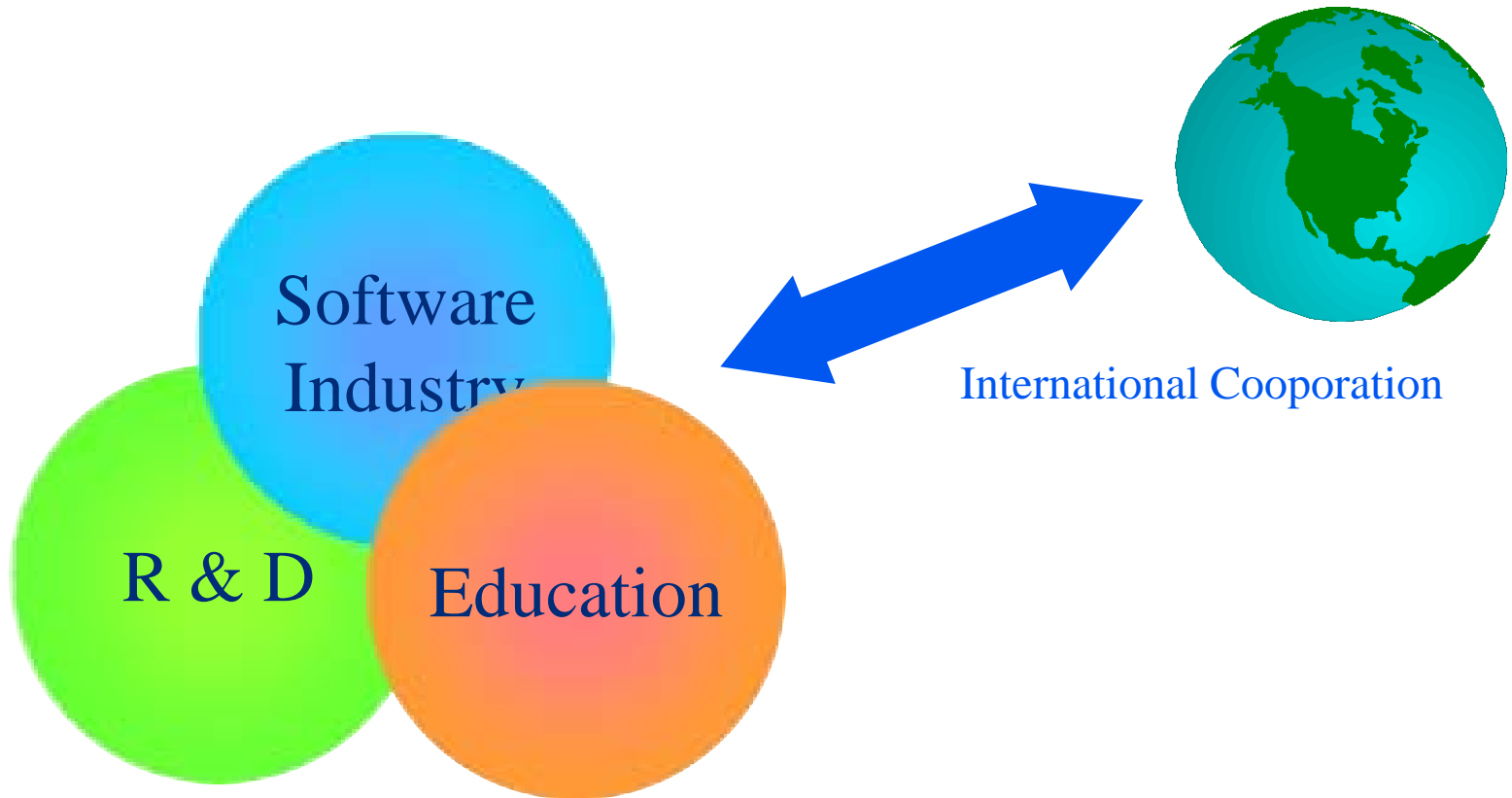
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- Why is the future a problem?
- Testing in China: State-of-art
- Test automation in China: State-of-art
- Overview of TTCN-3
- SEI/BUAA: Research and Practices on TTCN-3
- Opportunities of TTCN-3 in non-telecommunication domains
- Challenges of TTCN-3 in non-telecommunication domains
- Conclusions

# Software Engineering Institute(SEI/BUAA)

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- 1988-Now



# Software Testing in SEI/BUAA: Look Back

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- 1984-1989:
  - Software Engineering Environment
    - + Software Testing Tools for C: BUAA
  - China-USA Cooperation Project, Sponsored By MOST
- 1995-2002:
  - BUAA-Lotus Software Quality Engineering Center
    - + About 100 Software Testing Engineers
    - + 24-hour collaboration around the world(Beijing-Boston-...)
- 2001
  - Zhong Guan Cun Software Park
    - + Beijing Software Testing and Evaluation Center

- 
- 2002-Now:
    - Code based Inspection and Testing
    - Software Test Process Management
    - Model-Driven Test(MDT)
      - + TTCN-3
    - BUAA Software Testing and Evaluation Laboratory
      - + Software Testing Service
        - Beijing Olympic Game-2008
        - Tests: Kinds of software & information system

# TTCN-3 Contributors within China



More ...



# Why is the future a problem?

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- We google from the tooling view:
  - TTCN-3 测试(ce shi, testing): 4,860 items
  - QTP 测试: 2,050,000 items
  - Loadrunner 测试: 1,850,000 items
  - Rational Robot 测试: 54,500 items
  - Winrunner 测试: 451,000 items
  - Function Tester 测试: 624,000 items
  - SilkTest 测试: 56,100 items
  - TestComplete 测试: 64,000 items



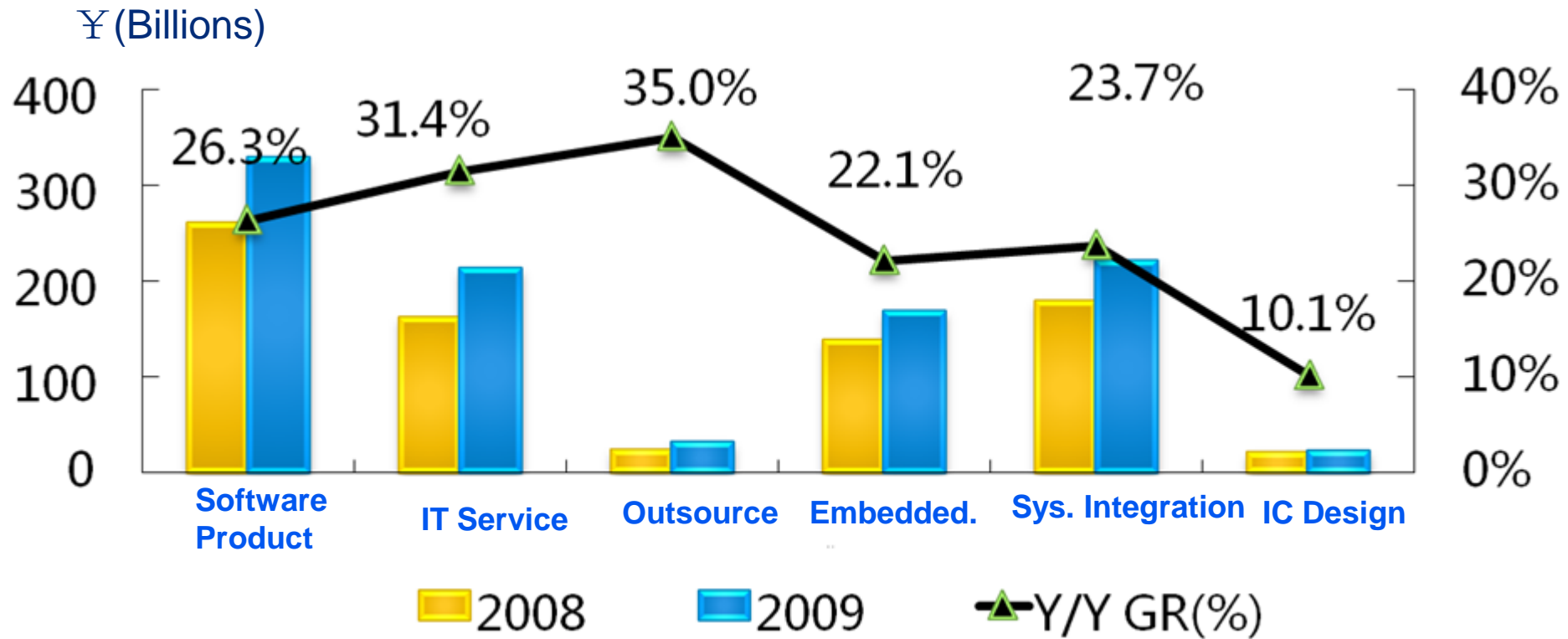
# Why is the future a problem?

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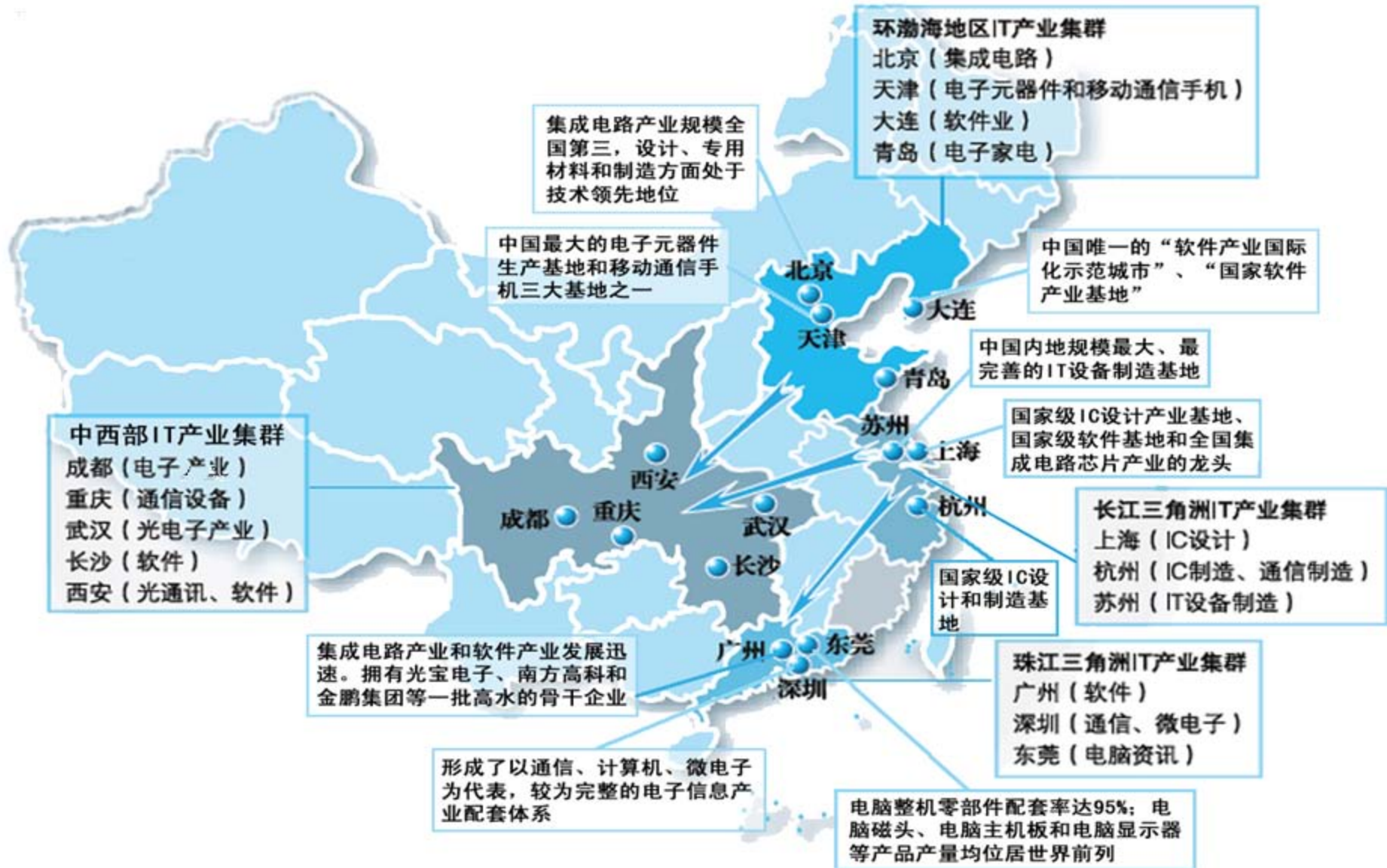
- We google from the language view:
  - TTCN-3 测试语言(ce shi yu yan, testing language)  
+ 13,900 items
  - VBScript 测试语言: 1,520,000 items
  - JSP 测试语言: 1,010,000 items
  - Shell 测试语言: 3,670,000 items
  - Ruby 测试语言: 2,530,000 items
  - Python 测试语言: 4,480,000 items
  - Perl 测试语言: 4,640,000 items
  - TCL 测试语言: 1,900,000 items



# Software GDP Distribution



# China Software Parks



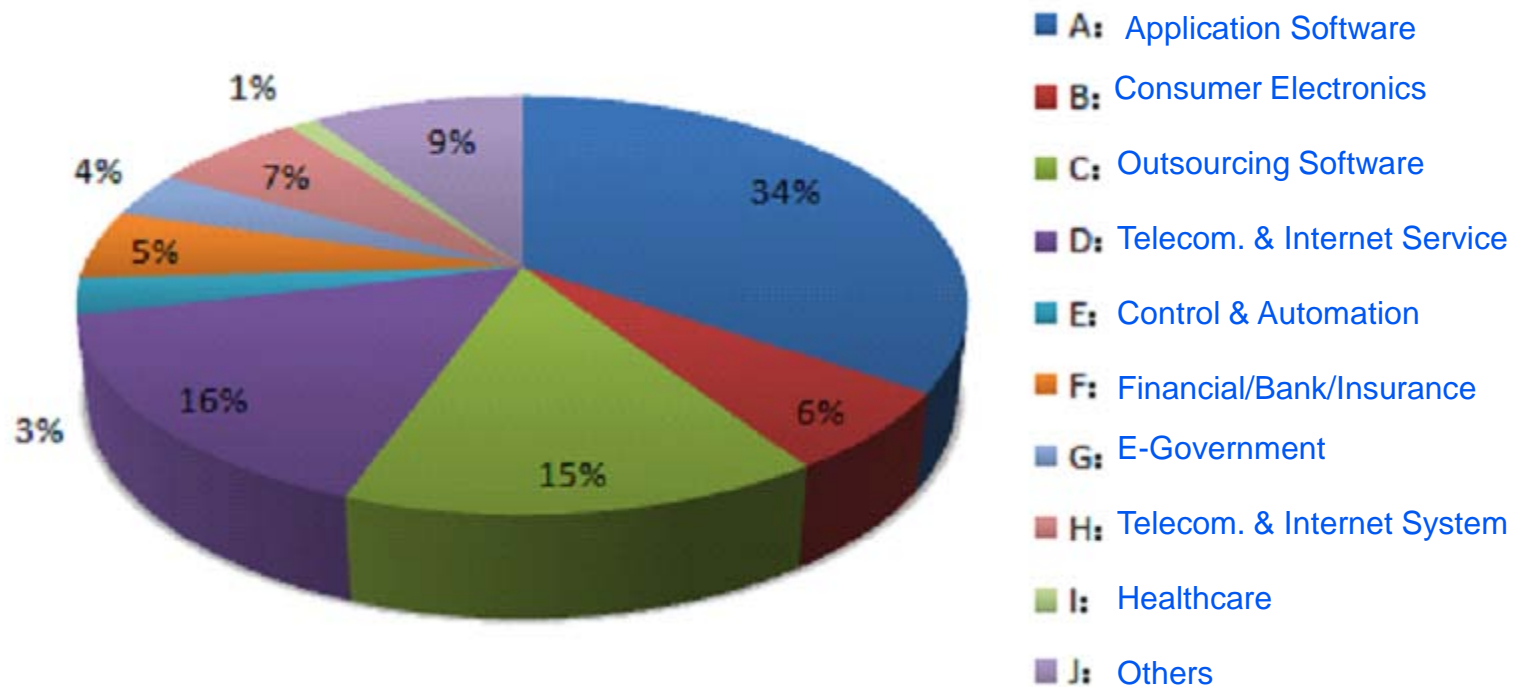
# Testing in China: State-of-art

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- Strong support from Government
  - Since 2001, government asked all software products **MUST** be registered with the evidence of testing before ship into the market
  - Since 2003, government pushes the profession certificate expanding to software testing engineer, “Software Testing Profession”
- Continuous growing of ‘IV&V Service Providers’
  - Almost every software industry park has at least one such provider
  - CCID
- The software testing master degree is popularly set in software schools at 35 universities in China since 2004

# Testing in China: State-of-art

- 51testing.com made a survey in 2008



Test-Domain distribution

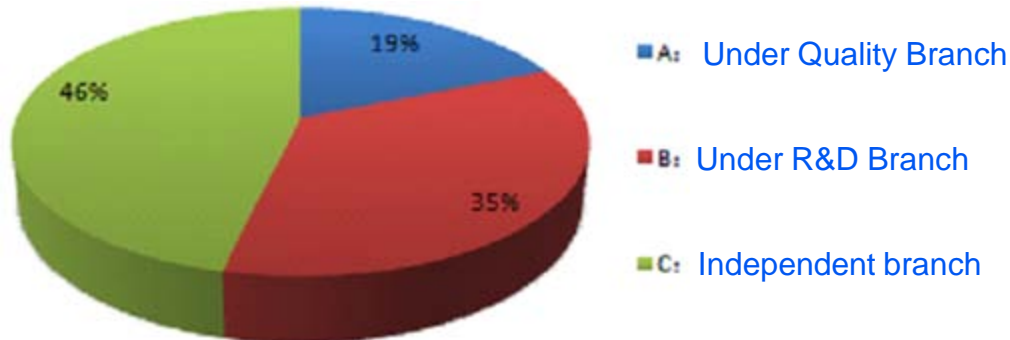
# Testing in China: State-of-art

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The ratio of having Testing Branch

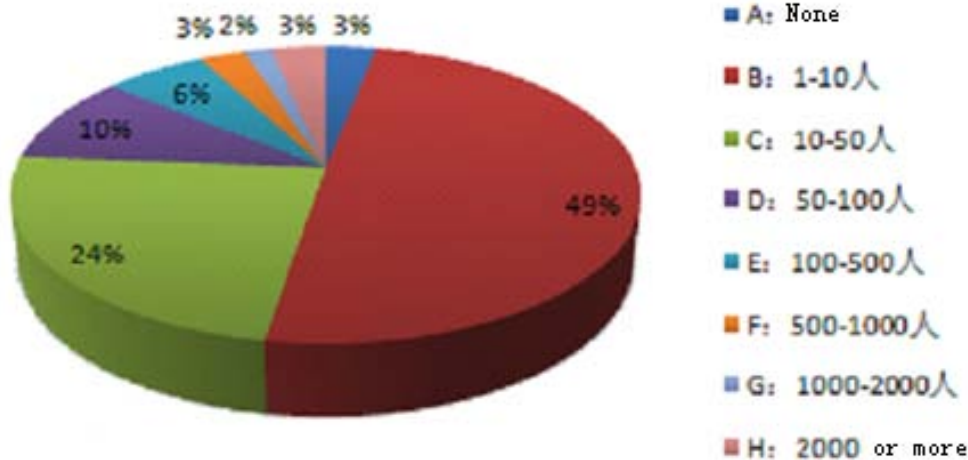


The Independence of the Testing Branch

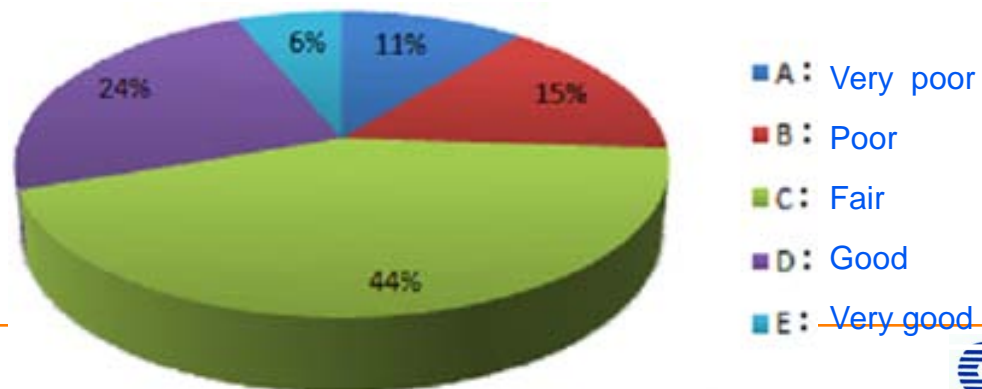


# Testing in China: State-of-art

## Number of Full-time Test Engineers



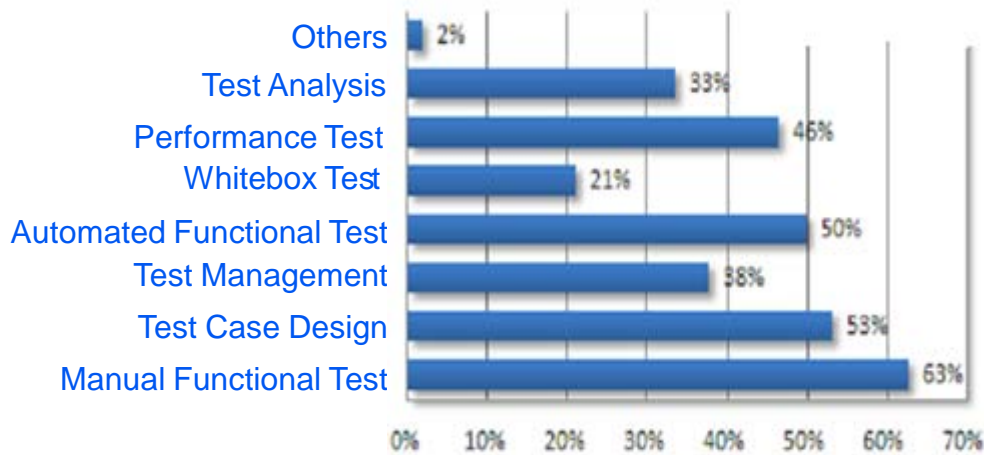
## Levels of Test Process Strictness



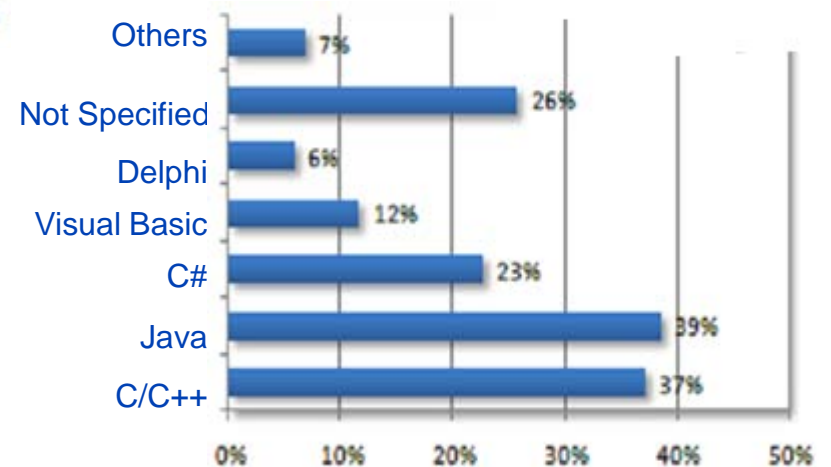


# Testing in China: State-of-art

## Testing Skills Expected When Hiring



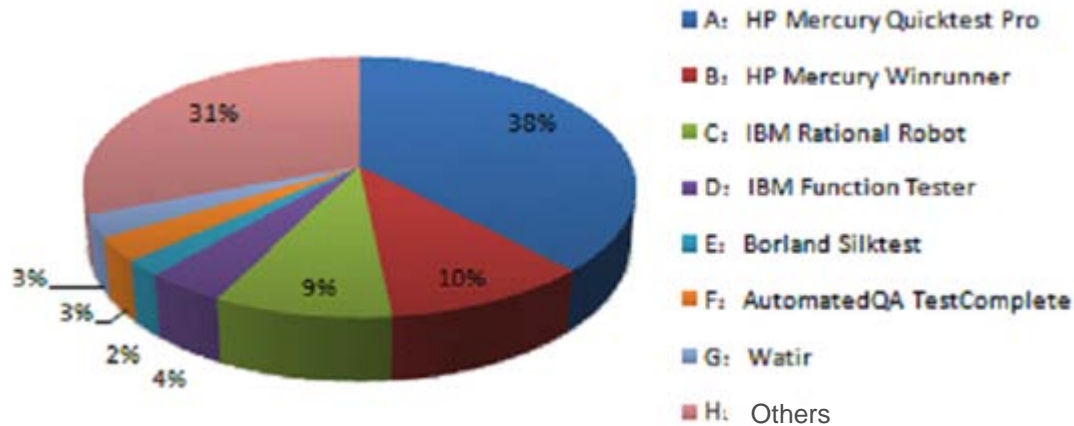
## Language Skills Required When Hiring



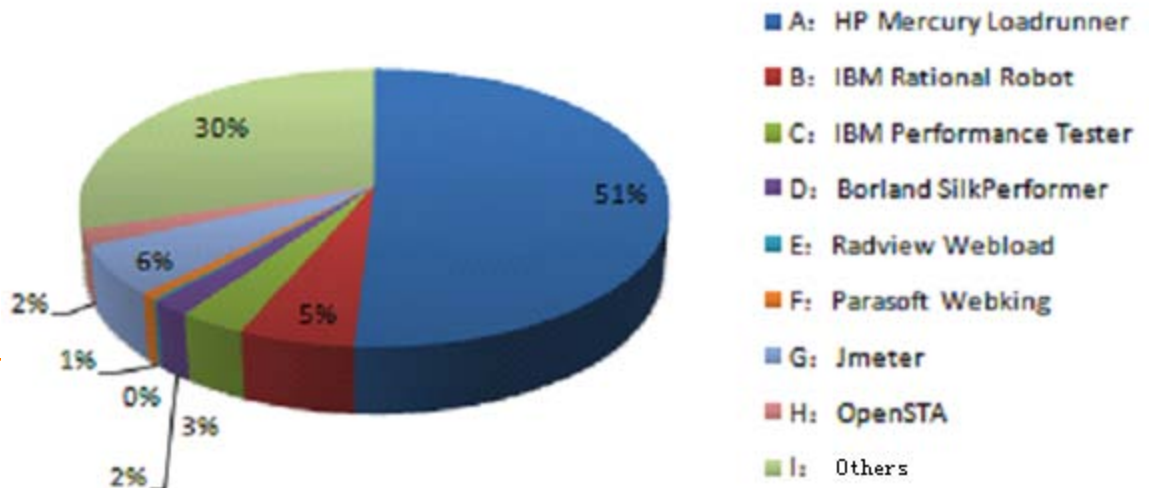


# Testing automation in China

## Currently used Automation Tools



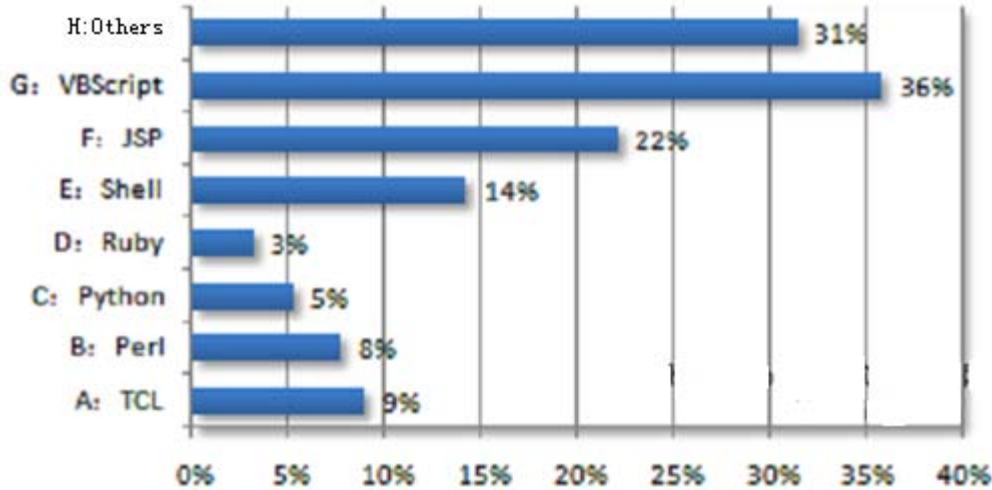
## Currently used Performance Testing Tools



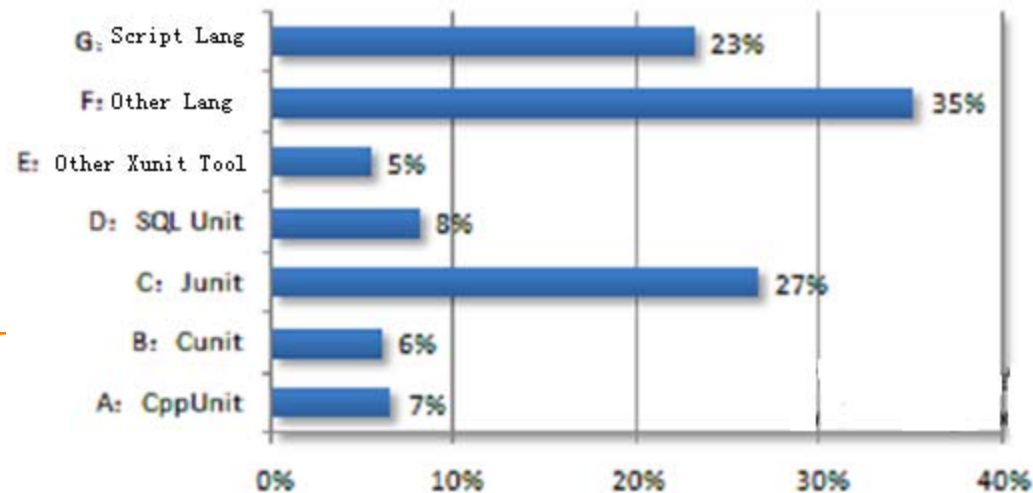
# Testing automation in China

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## Script Language used



## Framework used in Unit Testing



# Evolving Techniques over 10 Years

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- Model-based design
- MDA
- Web application (web service)
- Rich Web (web 2.0)
- Telecommunication
- Virtualization
- Cloud computing

# Overview of TTCN-3

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- The standardised (black-box) test specification and test implementation language.
- Developed
  - by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) from 1999 to 2001.
  - based on the experiences from previous TTCN versions.
- Standards
  - ES 201 873-1 (Z.140): TTCN-3 Core Language
  - ES 201 873-2 (Z.141): TTCN-3 Tabular Presentation Format (TFT)
  - ES 201 873-3 (Z.142): TTCN-3 Graphical Presentation Format (GFT)
  - ES 201 873-4 (Z.143): TTCN-3 Operational Semantics
  - ES 201 873-5: TTCN-3 Runtime Interface (TRI)
  - ES 201 873-6: TTCN-3 Control Interfaces (TCI)
  - ES 201 873-7: import ASN.1, XML, IDL, C/C++ to TTCN-3
  - ...

# TTCN-3 Language

ASN.1  
Types &  
Values

IDL

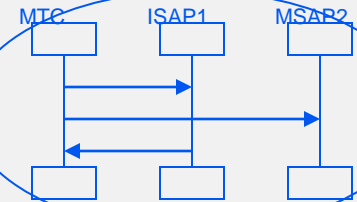
TTCN-3  
Core  
Language

Tabular  
Format

Graphical  
Format

Presentation  
Format

m\_sc mi\_synch1\_conc1



```

:
testcase myTestcase () runs on MTCType system TSIType
{
    mydefault := activate (OtherwiseFail);
    verdict.set(pass);
    :
    connect(PTC_ISAP1:CP_ISAP1,mtc:CP_ISAP1);
    :
    map(PTC_ISAP1:ISAP1, system:TSI_ISAP1);
    :
    PTC_ISAP1.start(func_PTC_ISAP1());
    PTC_MSAP2.start(func_PTC_MSAP2());
    Synchronization();
    all component.done;
    log(.Correct Termination.);
}
:

```

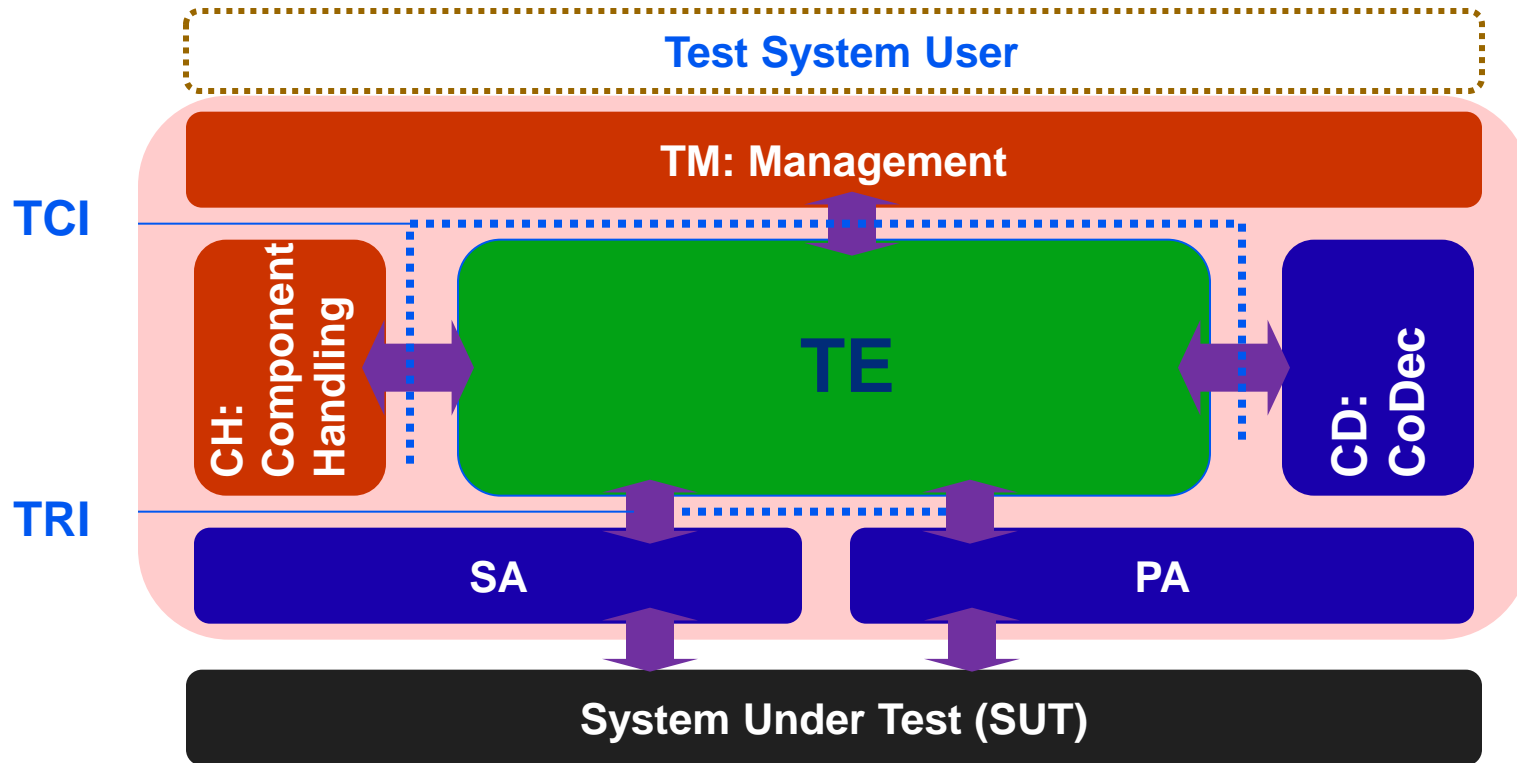
Test Case Definition			
Name	MyTestcase		
Group			
Purpose	First Example Testcase		
System Interface	MyComponentType		
MTC Type	MyComponentType		
Comments			
Name	Type	Initial Value	Comments
MyLocalVar	integer	0	
TimerT1	timer	15 min	
Behaviour			Comments
<b>default.activate</b>   <b>expand</b> (OtherwiseFail); /* Default activation */			
ISAP1 <b>send</b> ICONreq (); /* Inline template definition */			
<b>alt</b> {			
[] MSAP2 <b>receive</b> (Medium, Connection, Request); /* use of a template */			
ISAP2 <b>send</b> (MDA_Treq, Medium, Connection, Confirmation);			
<b>alt</b> {			
[] ISAP1 <b>receive</b> (ICONresf []); {			
ISAP1 <b>send</b> (Data_Request[TestSuitePar]);			
<b>alt</b> {			
[] MSAP2 <b>receive</b> /			

# TTCN-3 Language

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- It is the standardized test language
  - Not tied to a particular application or its interface(s)
  - Not tied to any specific test execution environment, compiler or operation system
- Powerful language features
  - Rich type system and namespace
  - Template matching mechanism
  - Snapshot semantics on event queue
  - Concept of verdict
  - Concurrent test behaviour
  - Structured decomposition (data and behavior)
  - ...

# TTCN-3 Test System Framework



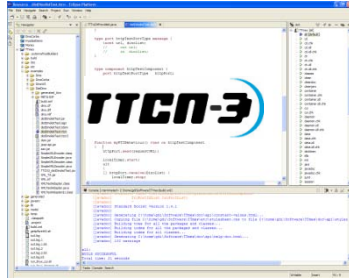
Vendor Provided

Tester Developed

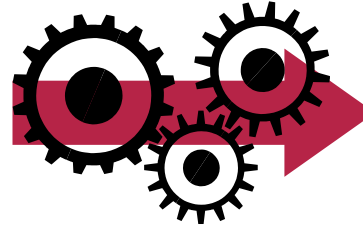
Tester Developed



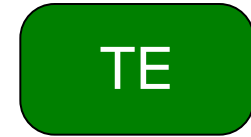
# Implementation of TTCN-3 System



Abstract Test Suite



*compile*

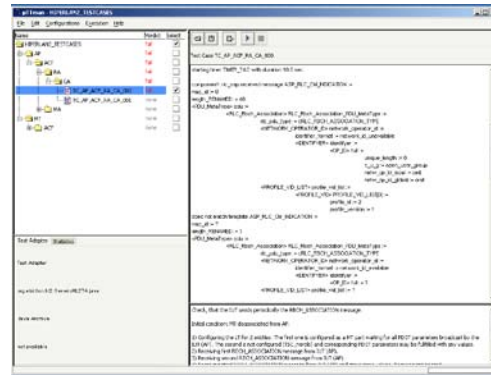


TTCN-3 Executable

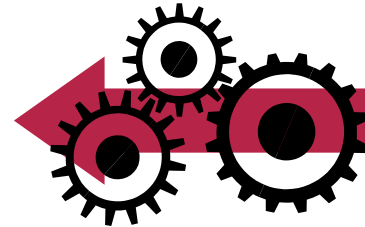
+



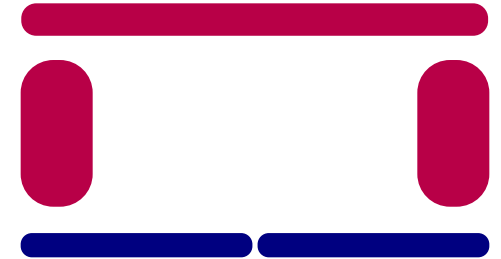
SUT



Executable Test Suite



*build*



TTCN-3 Runtime System

# TTCN-3 Applications

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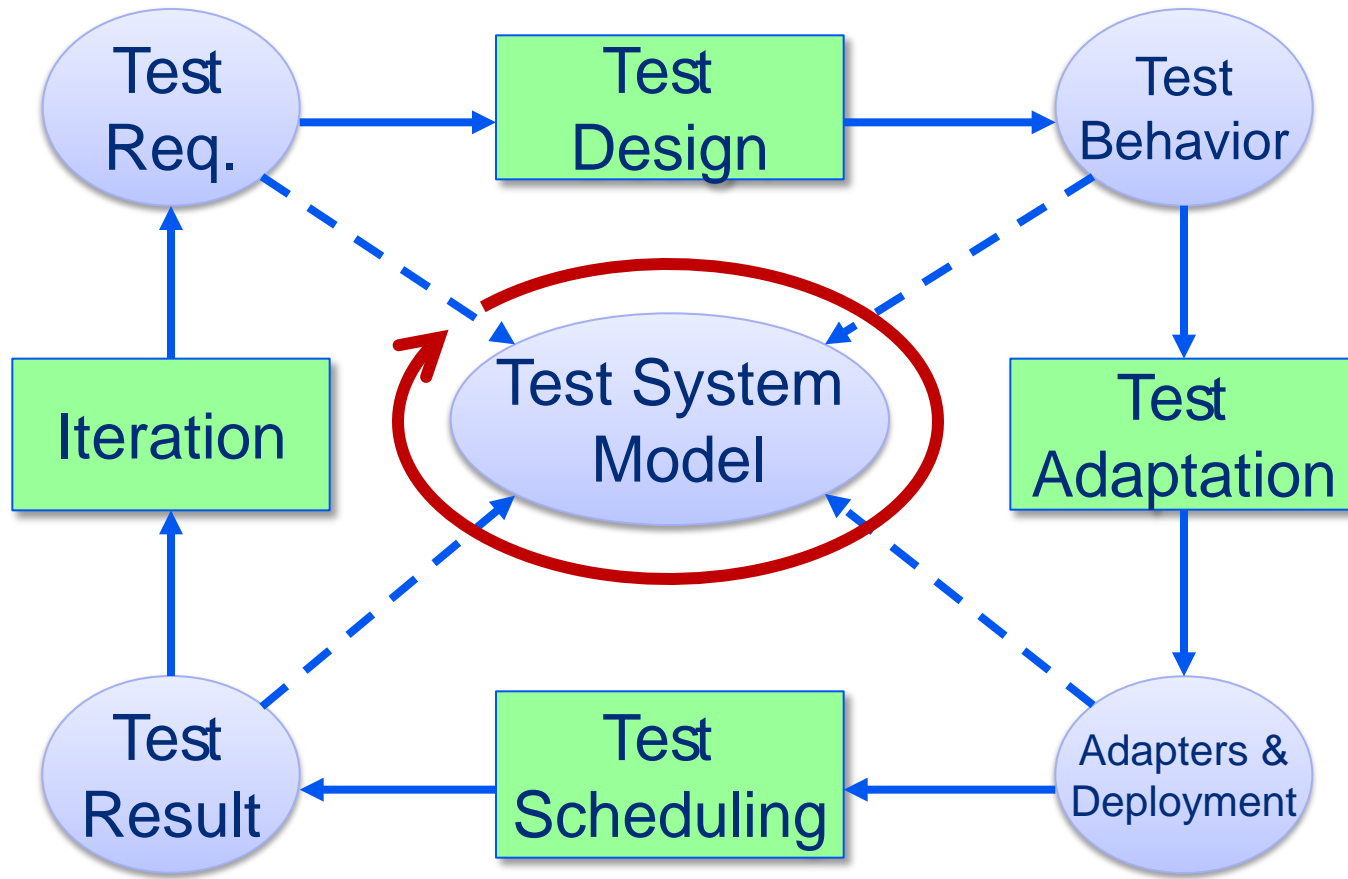
- Applicable for all kinds of black-box testing for reactive and distributed systems
  - Telecom systems (ISDN, ATM);
  - Mobile (telecom) systems (GSM, UMTS, 3G, LTE);
  - Internet (has been applied to IPv6, SIP, Wimax);
  - CORBA based systems;
  - Java, XML, ...
- Wider scope of application
  - not just conformance, also for development, system, integration, interoperability, scalability... testing
  - applicable in the telecom and datacom domain
  - used both for standardized test suites...

# TTCN-3 Activities in Beihang Uni.

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- Researches
  - Model driven testing
  - Test distribution
  - Robustness testing
  - Supported by NSF, MOST, MIIT, etc.
- Engineering Projects
  - Banking system testing in TTCN-3
  - Operating system interoperability testing in TTCN-3
  - Large scale web app. Testing in TTCN-3
  - Web-based Office interface testing in TTCN-3

# MDT Methodology Framework



# Model-driven Testing (cont.)

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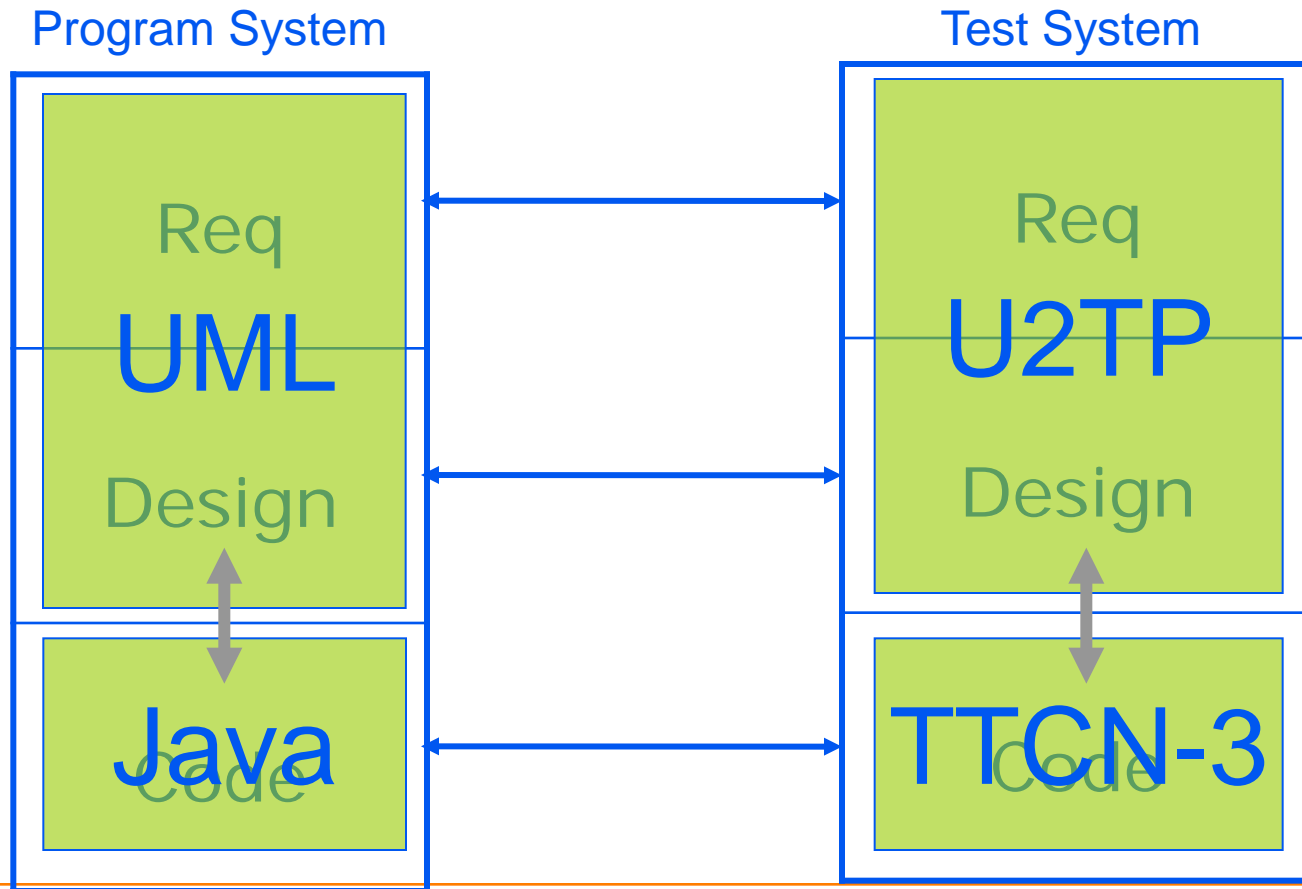
- Test system model language
  - Meta-model definition based on U2TP
- Transformation is the key
  - Stepwise transformation from Test Req to executable test system
- Test iteration
  - Adjust test requirement and test design strategy

# MDT Methodology Framework

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- Test Req.
  - SUT Model + Testing concerns
- Test Behavior
  - Test data, test case, test component
- Adapters & Deployment
  - Test adapters, test component deployments
- Test results
  - Test verdict, test trace

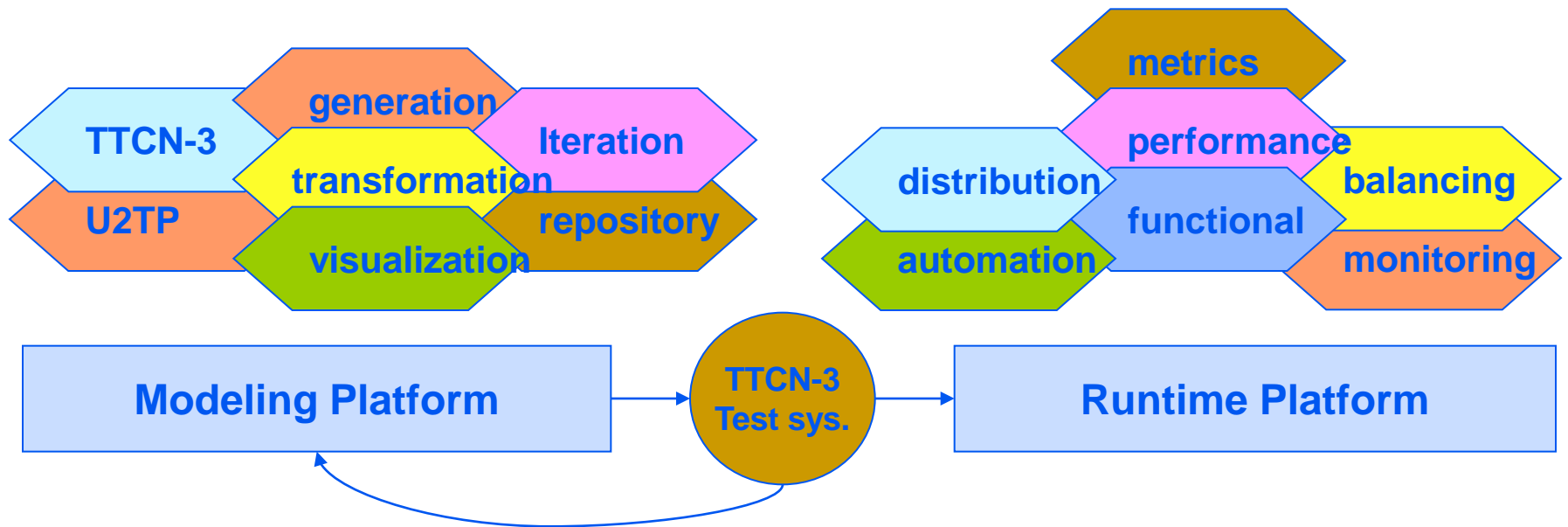
# Test System Dev. Metaphor



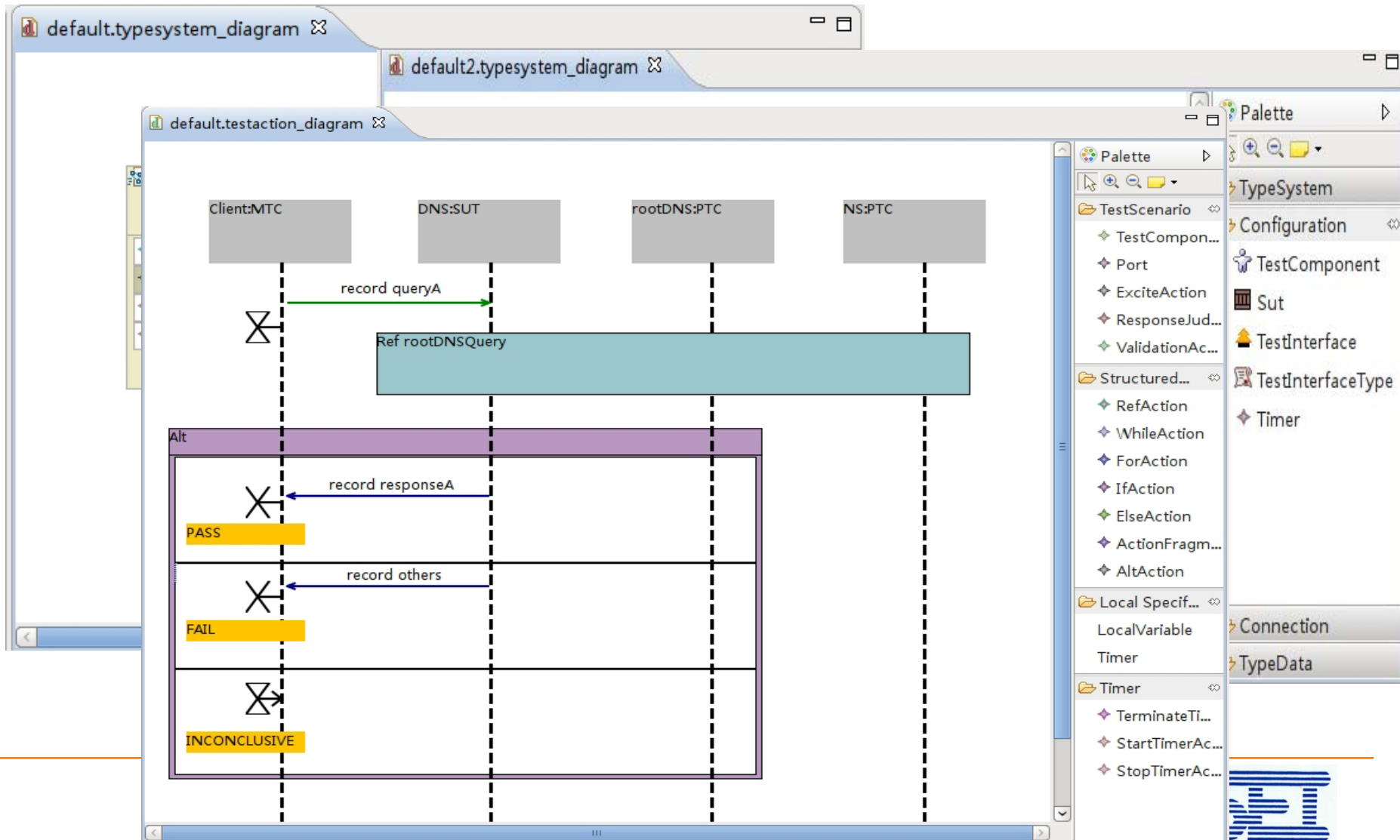


# Test System Dev. Platform

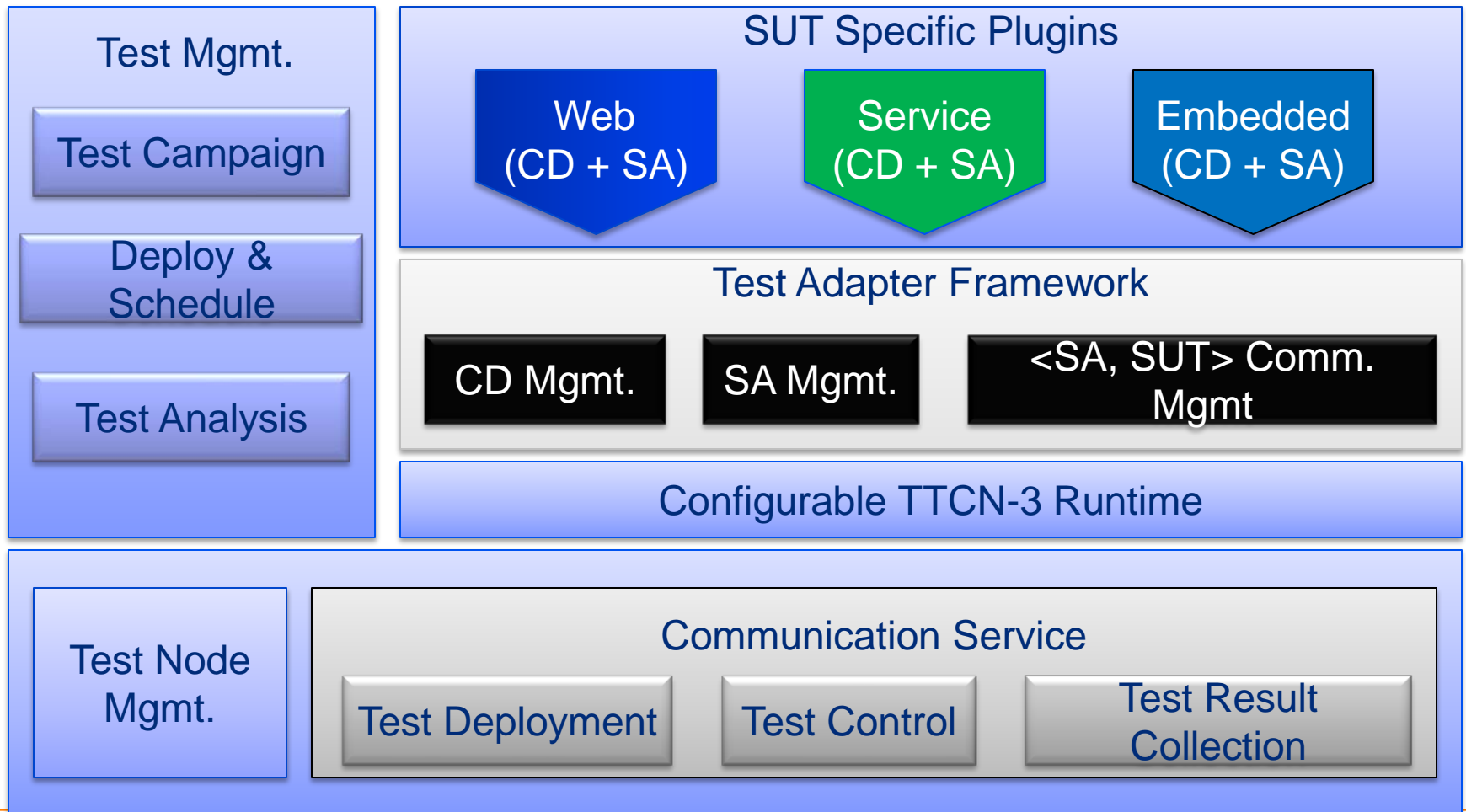
- Focus on domain specific research based on the essential MDT features
  - Modeling platform
  - Runtime platform



# Visualized Modeling



# Test Distribution



# Robustness Testing

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- Apply model driven methodology on robustness testing
  - Focus on abnormal messages
- Provide visualized fault model designer based on sequence model
- Tester can inject typical message faults into the communication scenario
  - Message loss
  - Message re-order
  - Message delay
  - Message content falsify

# Robustness Testing

- Fault Model Designer & Visualized Result Viewer

The image displays two windows from a development environment. The left window is an Eclipse IDE showing a sequence diagram for a test model named 'INVITE\_C\_O\_1'. The diagram involves four lifelines: JAIN\_SIP, CFIE, SIP, and UA. The sequence of messages is as follows:

- JAIN\_SIP sends INVITE\_1 to CFIE.
- CFIE sends INVITE\_1 to SIP.
- SIP sends INVITE\_1 to UA.
- UA sends 100\_1 to SIP.
- SIP sends 100\_1 to CFIE.
- CFIE sends 100\_1 to JAIN\_SIP.
- UA sends 180\_1 to SIP.
- SIP sends 180\_1 to CFIE.
- CFIE sends 180\_1 to JAIN\_SIP.
- UA sends 200\_1 to SIP.
- SIP sends 200\_1 to CFIE.
- CFIE sends 200\_1 to JAIN\_SIP.
- JAIN\_SIP sends ACK to UA.

The right window is a browser displaying 'FIPT Test Results'. It shows a summary table for the test case 'INVITE\_C\_O\_1' and a detailed diagram of the test execution.

Name	Status	Type	Time(s)
INVITE_C_O_1	Success		0

The detailed diagram shows the sequence of messages between JAIN\_SIP, SP\_CFIE, and SER. The messages are: INVITE\_1, 100\_1, 180\_1, and 200\_1, with corresponding responses.

```
1273327110859 INVITE_1
INVITE sip:buaa@192.168.109.237 SIP/2.0
Call-ID: 0a97b7455f791c19c096e8717e4583cc0192.168.109.237
CSeq: 14575 INVITE
From: <sip:ta@192.168.109.237>;tag=3096
To: <sip:buaa@192.168.109.237>
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP 192.168.109.237:5062;branch=z9hG4kK9279786904694e491b1ae58ce1b39333
Max-Forwards: 70
Content-Type: application/sdp
Contact: <sip:ta@192.168.109.237:5062>
User-Agent: Buaa Test 0.1
Content-Length: 196
```

# Engineering in TTCN-3

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- Banking system testing in TTCN-3
  - Supported by MOST 863 Projects
  - Co-worked with Shandong Computer Science Center
- OS interoperability testing in TTCN-3
  - Supported by MIIT Key Project
  - Co-worked with the Software Test Center at China Electronics Standardization Institute
- Large scale web app. Testing in TTCN-3
- Web-based Office testing in TTCN-3
  - Supported by MOST 863 Projects

# Opportunities of TTCN-3 in non-telecommunication domains

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- Why only non-telecom domains?
  - Simply because TTCN-3 already takes the telecom!
  - Non-telecom is opening its bigger market in China
- Typical non-telecommunication domains in China
  - Avionics Electronics : big plan pushed by government
  - Automobile Electronics: very active
  - Web applications (service): very popular



# Aviation and Auto

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- Embedded
- Net-centric
  - Bus: CAN or 1553B
  - Protocol: TCP/IP
- Strict real-time behavior
- High dependability requirement
- Model-based development

# Opportunities

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- For embedded software, TTCN-3 show be outperformed in
  - Testing the standardized interface & protocol
  - Testing the real time behavior
  - Supporting multiple platforms efficiently
  - Integrating with testing device
  - Importing data types in C/C++

# Web Applications (Service)

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- Rapid development
- Protocol intensive
- Performance sensitive
- Quick evolving of techniques
  - Web 2.0, HTML 5, AJAX, Javascript, cloud,...
- Rapid requirement evolving

# Opportunities

---

- For web application, TTCN-3 should be outperformed in
  - Testing the protocols
  - Testing the workflows/collaborations among distributed modules
  - Testing SOA or cloud computing

# Challenges (1)

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- TE can be easily handled, while **adapters** (SA and CD) development are tightly coupled with the platform techniques
  - Requires wealth of platform knowledge & experience, even tricks
  - Most testers in China will have difficulties
- For example, web application testing
  - QTP enables direct data object + html tag access and evaluation
  - The CD development has to consider the data schema, the local script like java script, ajax, etc...

# Challenges (2)

---

- Models are massively involved in developing aviation and auto applications
- If TE+SA+CD can be automatically (or partially) **generated** from the models, TTCN-3 will have more chances to win
- But, how to generate tests from the **heterogeneous models**?
  - TE generation: maybe coverage based
  - CD+SA generation: ?
  - Correlation btw TE and CD+SA: ?

# Challenges (3)

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- There still do not have a **methodology** and tools on the development of TTCN-3 test system.
  - Requirement
  - Design
  - Coding
  - Deployment
  - Optimization

# Challenges (4)

---

- No technique meets all the testing requirements.
- TTCN-3 system needs also to **collaborate** with other system and techniques.
  - SUT artifacts
    - + import not only data types, but the **platform knowledge**
  - Tools to work with
    - + XMI-based **integration and interoperability**



# Challenges (5)

---

- Some SUT input is implicit, like database or configuration file.
  - How to make such **input explicitly**?
  - How to make the implicit data input consistent with the input selected in TTCN-3 code?

# Challenges (6)

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- On performance testing
  - How to **generate** the required load **easily** and **effectively**?
  - How to collect the massive logs efficiently?

# Challenges (7)

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- GUI is the key interface for black-box testing.
- GUI data objects are platform dependent.
  - How to deal with it?

# Challenges (8)

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- TTCN-3 solution is **labor-intensive** compared with QTP or Robot
- How to provide smart solution by quickly developing test data and test evaluation(Verdicts)?

# Challenges (9)

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- How to manage the evolving of TTCN-3 languages?
  - Testers have to keep learning, ...



# Challenges (10)

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- Should we maintain the pureness of TTCN-3 as a general language, or provide calibrated domain specific **x-TTCN-3** when dealing with those challenges?

# China Specific Challenges

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- The cost
  - Support tools and services
  - Training
  - Solution cost compared with manual testing
- Localization
  - Need success stories in non-telecommunication domains
  - Support tools and services
  - Tools from local vendors
- Sell to the IV&V testing service providers
  - Not only business behavior, need government support
  - Professional test development education

# Conclusions

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- TTCN-3 is successfully adopted in telecom and datacom domains
- Testing in China is still in its developing stage
  - Strong need of test automation
  - Non-telecommunication domains open its big market
  - But, TTCN-3 is not well known
- There are opportunities
  - In Web and Embedded application domains
  - Government encourage standardized solution
- Need more collaborations among
  - Academies
  - Tool vendors
  - Users



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谢谢!

*Thanks!*

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- Any Questions?