Blaise 5 Load Testing

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DURHAM, NC, USA

How to set up a load test for a Blaise 5 web survey with JMeter

What is JMeter

- Apache JMeter™ is an application for load testing functional behavior and measuring performance

- Simulates a group of users sending requests to a server

- Monitors the server responses

- Logs information about the performance of the server

- Open source

- Java application

Installing JMeter

- Download and install Java 8 from https://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp

- Download apache-jmeter-5.6.2.zip from the Apache JMeter website https://dlcdn.apache.org//jmeter/binaries/ and extract it to your desired location

- Download plugins-manager.jar from https://jmeter-plugins.org/install/Install/ to the ..\lib\ext directory

- Start JMeter with ..\bin\jmeter.bat

Installing BlazeMeter Chrome Extension

- Records HTTP requests to a server

- Install the BlazeMeter Chrome extension from https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/blazemeter-the-continuous/mbopgmdnpcbohhpnfglgohlbhfongabi

- Pin the extension to your toolbar

- Create a free account on https://a.blazemeter.com/app/sign-up

- Login and check your username in the extension

Recording a JMeter script

- Make sure the Blaise instrument is properly installed in the server park

- Open the Chrome browser and open the BlazeMeter extension

- Enter a name for your test

- Start the BlazeMeter recording

- Enter the URL to start the Blaise instrument

- Fill out the instrument with your desired route

- Stop the BlazeMeter recording

- Save the recording as a JMeter file (.jmx)

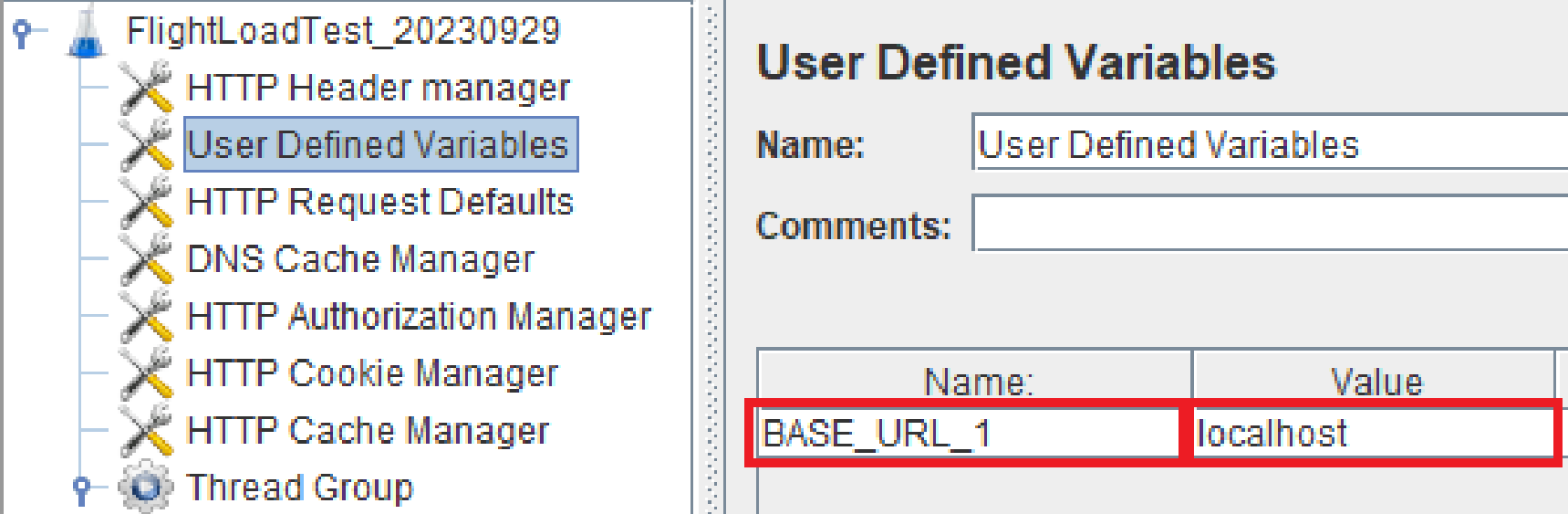- Copy the JMeter file from the Downloads folder to your desired location

The JMeter script

Test Plan Configuration: User Defined Variables

- Make sure the right web server is used in your test

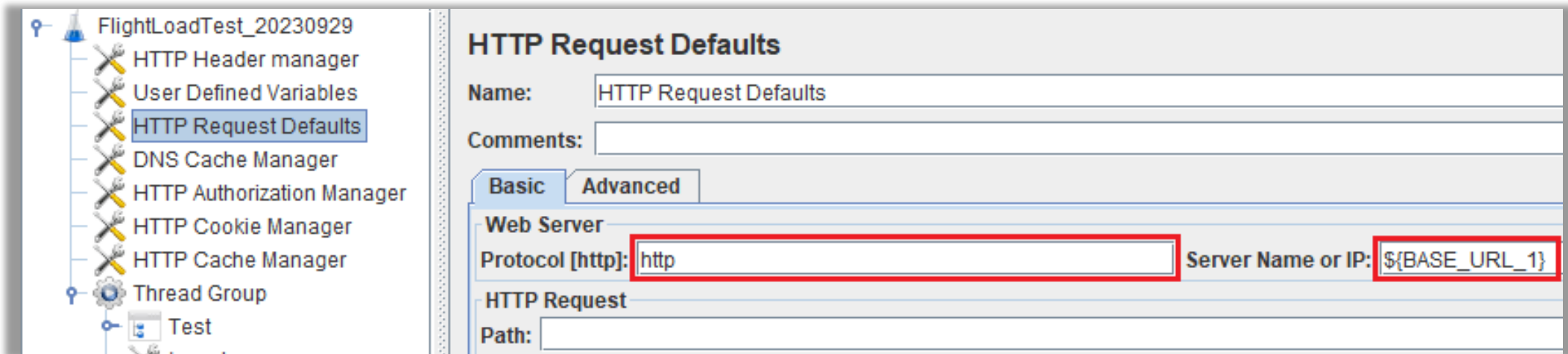- The value is assigned to variable *BASE_URL_1*
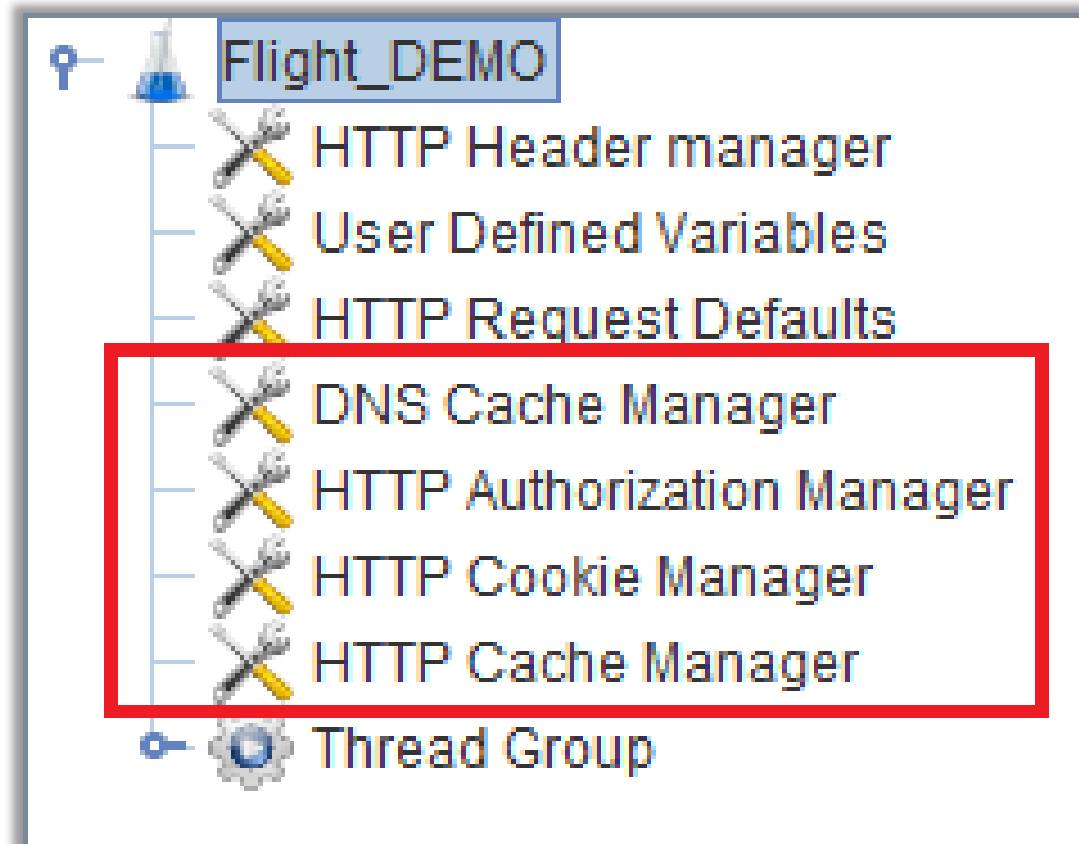
Test Plan Configuration: HTTP Request Defaults

- To make sure this web server variable is used in all requests in your script, add the variable to the *Server Name or IP* field:

Test Plan Configuration: Remove Unnecessary Config Elements

Load Test Configuration: Thread Group

- Set the error behavior

- Set the number of threads (concurrent users)

- Set the ramp-up period (time it takes to reach full number of threads)

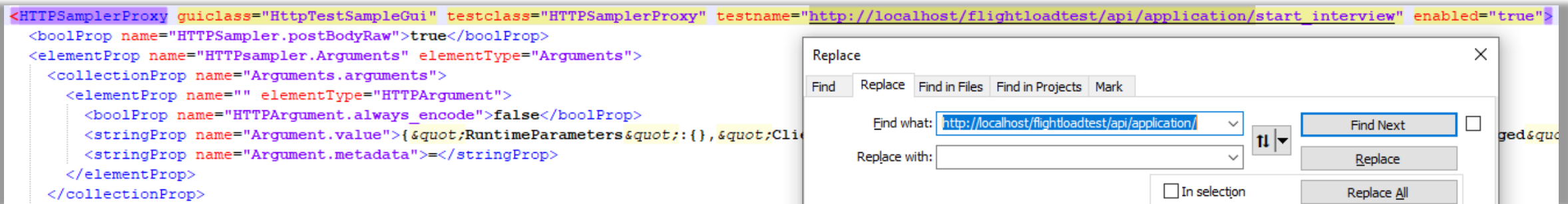- Set the number of times or duration that a thread is executed

Load Test Configuration: Thread Group

Renaming HTTP Requests

- Names of HTTP requests are quite generic (*executeaction*) and a bit hard to read

- Renaming helps you keep track of the steps that are executed during a test run

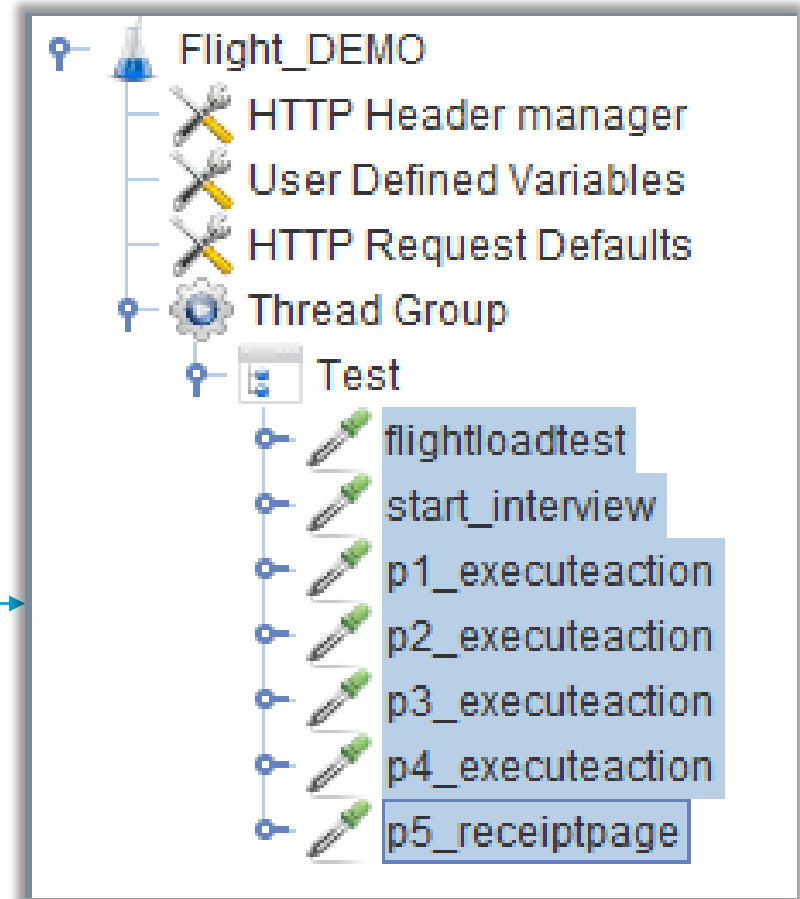- Renaming can be done in Notepad since JMX files are actually XML files:
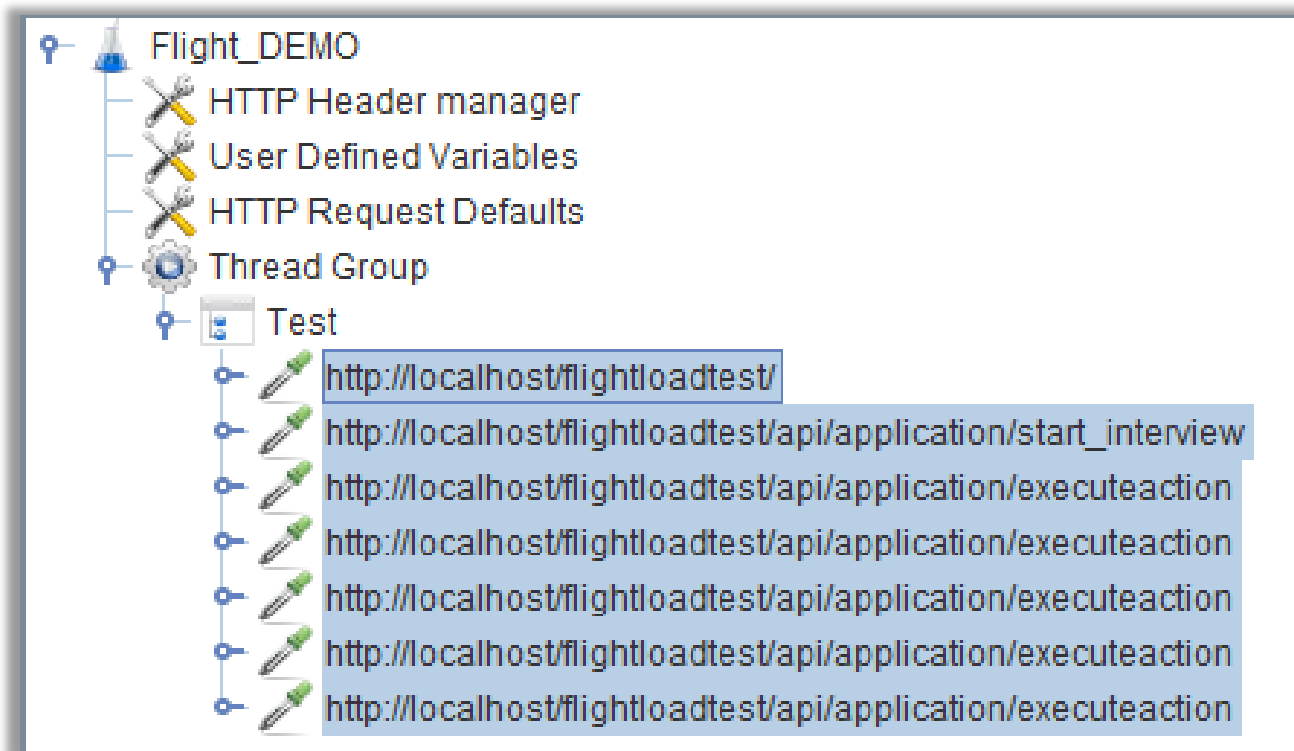
Renaming HTTP Requests

Modifying HTTP Requests of a JMeter script (manually)

- *KeyValue, RuleSessionId, AccesToken, RefreshToken* and *ParkId* are recorded in the HTTP requests

- These parameters need to be dynamic

KeyValue (Primary Key)

Problem:

- The *KeyValue* (PK) is recorded in the HTTP Requests. All simulated users will use the same KeyValue

,"Fields":[{"Name":"Person.IDNumber","RouteStatus":0,"RoleTexts":{"Help":
t residents, and temporary residents for the purposes of work, taxation,
ving licenses, passports and \r\n   international ID cards.","Que:
e":256,"AnswerStatus":1,"SpecialAnswer":"","ValueAsString":"2","MimeType"
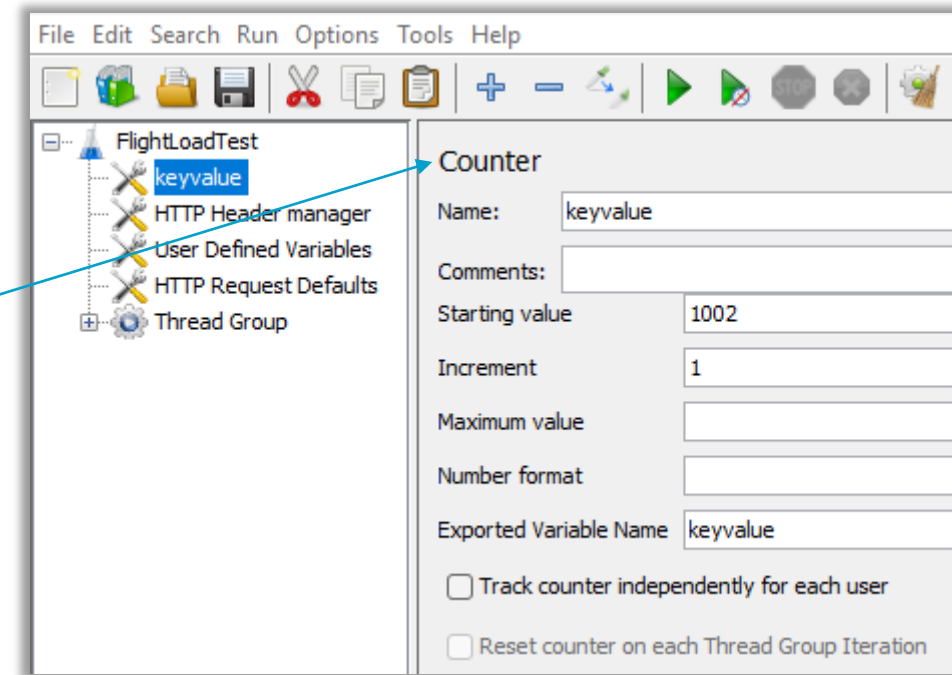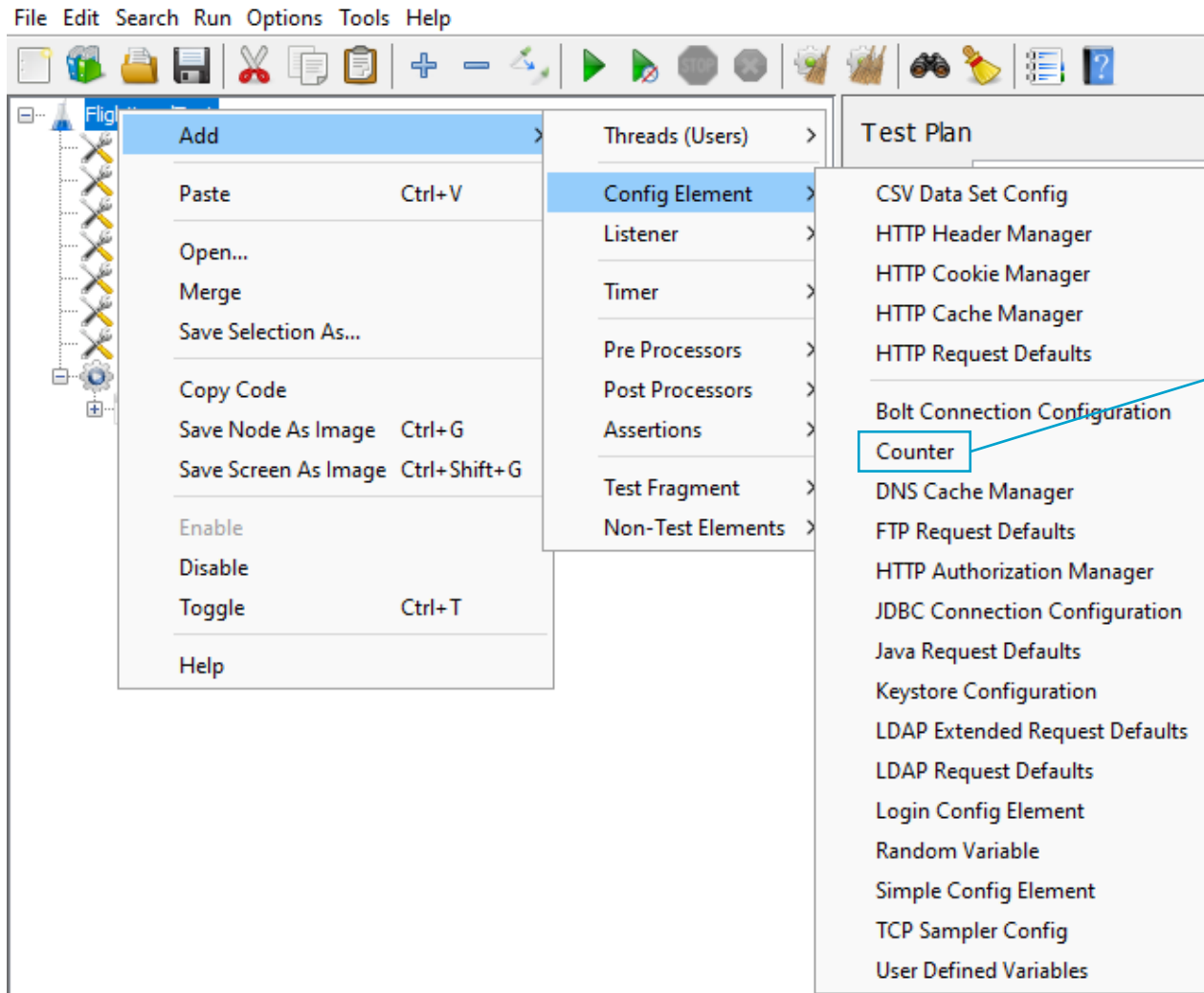
Solution:

- Make the *KeyValue* variable

,"Question":"What is your national identification number?"},"ValueType":{"Da
ype":256,"AnswerStatus":1,"SpecialAnswer":"","ValueAsString":"${keyvalue}",
:0,"Errors":[{"ErrorKind":0,"Name":"","RoleTexts":{},"InvolvedFields":[],"I:

Adding a KeyValue counter

RuleSessionId, AccesToken, RefreshToken and ParkId

Problem:

- The *RuleSessionId*, *AccesToken*, *RefreshToken* and *ParkId* are also recorded in the HTTP Requests. However, every user has to receive different Ids and Tokens from the server.

"DefinedName":"","RoleTexts":{},"Status":0,"Description":"PR
","RuleSessionId":"10b6eb1a-3672-49bb-b219-f6bac0a10147","Sc
tyleName":"Indigo","TargetResolution":{"Description":null,"H
"RoleTexts":{"Help"

Solution:

- Make the Ids and Tokens variable

- Extract Ids and Tokens from the server response to our *start_interview* request

- Use them in the consecutive requests we send to the server

'DefinedName":"","RoleTexts":{},"Status
","RuleSessionId":"${RuleSessionId}","S
digo","TargetResolution":{"Description"

Adding Extractors

Adding Extractors

1. Calling field *RuleSessionId* from the *start_interview* server response and extracting the value
2. Assigning value to variable, calling variable in the consecutive requests

Adding Extractors

Adding a Timer

- Set a delay to simulate a respondent's think time in the *executeaction* requests

- Random number of ms in range 0..99 * Random Delay Maximum + Constant Delay Offset

Adding a Server Response Assertion: No Error Page

- The server response should **not** contain the substring 'ErrorPage'

Modifying HTTP Requests of a JMeter script (automatically)

- We can also add the necessary controllers and modify the JMeter script by using a tool that does this for us: **ModifyJMeterTest.exe**

- Built by the Blaise team

- CMD line application

```
C:\Users\Blaise\Desktop\Demo\ModifyJMeterTest.exe C:\Users\Blaise\Desktop\Demo\Test1.jmx
```

- A modified JMX file will be generated with '_m' added to the filename

KeyValue

- **ModifyJMeterTest.exe** has added a counter called *keyvalue…*

- … and has replaced the key values in the server requests with a variable

Extractors

- The tool automatically extends the *start_interview* HTTP request with four *JSON JMESPath Extractor* actions for the *RuleSessionId, AccessToken, RefreshToken* and *ParkId*

- It automatically assigns those to variables which will be used in the successive requests

HTTP Request Before

{"Title":"Flight Survey"},"Status":3,"Description":"FlightSurvey","Text":"FlightSurvey"},{"Kind":8,"Name":"PRIMARY","IsActive":true,"CanBeActive":true,"LocalName":"PRIMARY","DisplayName":
"PRIMARY","DefinedName":"","RoleTexts":{},"Status":0,"Description":"PRIMARY","Text":"PRIMARY"}],"ParallelName":"PRIMARY","PreviousPageIndex":0,"ResourceLanguageName":"Default",
"ResourceSetName":"Large","RuleSessionId":"10b6eb1a-3672-49bb-b219-f6bac0a10147","ScaleInfo":{"ResizeMode":0,"X":800,"Y":600,"AvailableX":0,"AvailableY":0,"ActualX":0,"ActualY":0},
"ServerPark":"LocalDevelopment","StyleName":"Indigo","TargetResolution":{"Description":null,"Height":0,"Width":0}},"Page":{"ActiveField":null,"CompositeIndex":null,"Fields":[{"Name":
"Person.IDNumber","RouteStatus":0,"RoleTexts":{"Help":
"The national identification number is used by the government as a means of tracking their citizens, \r\n   <newline>permanent residents, and temporary residents for the purposes of w
ork, taxation, government benefits, \r\n   <newline>health care, and other governmentally-related functions.\r\n   <newline count=2>The unique number appears on identity docum
ents such as driving licenses, passports and \r\n   international ID cards.","Question":"What is your national identification number?"},"ValueType":{"DataType":256,"Ranges":[{
"MinValue":{"Kind":2,"Value":1},"MaxValue":{"Kind":2,"Value":999999}}]},"DataValue":{"DataType":256,"AnswerStatus":1,"SpecialAnswer":"","ValueAsString":"2","MimeType":null,"FileName":null,
"Data":null,"IsDirty":true},"IsCritical":false,"IsRequired":true,"EditMode":0,"Origin":0,"Errors":[{"ErrorKind":0,"Name":"","RoleTexts":{},"InvolvedFields":[],"IsSuppressed":false,
"RouteErrorCause":0,"IsRelevant":false,"Key":"","InvalidValue":null}],"FieldProperties":[{"Definition":{"Name":"IsVisited","ValueType":{"DataType":16,"Categories":[{"Code":0,"Name":"false"},{
"Code":1,"Name":"true"}]}},"DataValue":{"DataType":16,"AnswerStatus":1,"SpecialAnswer":null,"ValueAsString":"1","MimeType":null,"FileName":null,"Data":null},"InputControls":[]},{"Definition":
{"Name":"Remark","ValueType":{"DataType":1}},"DataValue":{"DataType":1,"AnswerStatus":0,"SpecialAnswer":null,"ValueAsString":null,"MimeType":null,"FileName":null,"Data":null},"InputControls":
[{"ID":"aaa_1na_1c","ControlKind":7,"TabIndex":10,"SpeedKey":null}]}],"SpecialAnswers":[],"InputControls":[{"ID":"aaa_1laa","ControlKind":6,"TabIndex":9,"SpeedKey":null}],"IsVisited":true}],
"Groups":[],"Index":1,"RecordErrors":[],"RouteItems":[{"Name":"Person.IDNumber","Kind":0}],"Sections":[]},"PropertyDefinitions":[{"Name":"IsVisited","ValueType":{"DataType":16,"Categories":[{
"Code":0,"Name":"false"},{"Code":1,"Name":"true"}]}},{"Name":"Remark","ValueType":{"DataType":1}}],"SurveyRoot":"flightloadtest","InstrumentTitle":"Flight Survey","TextProvider":{}},
"AccessToken":
"kGEduFSlrz5Wh5FKQc1aDfqWS90AxR8D8rZwIMQ9ceaEMPlIFDKSRBOG2+NHPgresGfaPZgrI7HHibve/s8eUUw4BkZcf2QmpItOzDazCz/cx3uQF0BrHfeQ0LVzqRkTlHQhh5viK2FwiGL+bdoHGOwHDhdJmfMf/pHxuM1UTGCz/E0PGn1dt3f1L+BR7
I/tnrVqqyn4opSIJZPHydrJkG7Mv3hvJCTLZr5EfwZ/3TNRWT4VZ44AGjwnqRfeLskSVSbiDsihoCzIQk5iDbdnxl9q0x5QotVaSxkM47FxkSSJhDSdBxQ/Hyr364G8ftIWv5PDsE5Rfuo0kJO6FO3Ju7/CDbRZpuCiYWcvQfFkf8zNCAr6oE9PBL6T5Ax
KA091KsB7DEPqfmFCKWyTezloeB+JLuTgzBAIMRaFVVv5o7RrUspu/h55Oc/anpW1yhzy8howdGA13opodVP3GoGP2eWFwIA0H+kl56PKORjw1w1Oh5Hjg3vGwSu/BxlcnUqCzL8z3P2bt4VEfdN107Kl2OKJdg4+Fm4jKHkU+qwEhVPqH4nExfLWJVeGr
gTQnVd+aKe/QWxeiEdqMTuWfx8HSiRxkk1dA89cCg/BKOJPjzdWlx/eXKnTtqb4PFTqQOYvqWBBIjDq0kv0YM3BWOoMtLiw64xTU5DVFYkWjXPyHTMS462u2xGd/E+5M4HwGxfsaSaO47cu4pnbk7epT2xL9PO3UqVkku3gEwnhgxJZVng/4lfrfKc7aLf
zUtUP7dOk0ADdRFN242BUwFAabddZE1pXG8Y0AojBA0//Z68fz9pq+fV/U2ooEr/3kOdiEk5Hx4+W86buLRt0x/iHX70BQoejg2IqTuWqtlaD3f9WVRMVvHk2zhmcnuMDtb+be5Gl8u4a9vm5m7vzZfkZ3/MWCY4f+lQEXNSK2AvIfey1D23nRkNRfmk9JY
goD0UXqRa8DRpO6UvzMwMSK5E0dADOAG/HOmd0j+fYhhuL7/6UIrBiAuDaIDBGf2jYOR5plIEYvXaSP8XSjXlEjD620czzDwBXFBG8KRWxh9LJmJXMDb7hNrxCLWdYvPyO0cGY1Pv7QRnVV1/RmEcp7OSdJQ=="],"RefreshToken":
"kGEduFSlrz5Wh5FKQc1aDfqWS90AxR8D8rZwIMQ9ceaEMPlIFDKSRBOG2+NHPgresGfaPZgrI7HHibve/s8eUUw4BkZcf2QmpItOzDazCz/cx3uQF0BrHfeQ0LVzqRkTlHQhh5viK2FwiGL+bdoHGOwHDhdJmfMf/pHxuM1UTGCz/E0PGn1dt3f1L+BR7
I/tnrVqqyn4opSIJZPHydrJkG7Mv3hvJCTLZr5EfwZ/3TNRWT4VZ44AGjwnqRfeLskSVSbiDsihoCzIQk5iDbdnxl9q0x5QotVaSxkM47FxkSSJhDSdBxQ/Hyr364G8ftIWv5PDsE5Rfuo0kJO6FO3Ju7/CDbRZpuCiYWcvQfFkf8zNCAr6oE9PBL6T5Ax
KA091KsB7DEPqfmFCKWyTezloeB+JLuTgzBAIMRaFVVv5o7RrUspu/h55Oc/anpW1yhzy8howdGA13opodVP3GoGP2eWFwIA0H+kl56PKORjw1w1Oh5Hjg3vGwSu/BxlcnUqCzL8z3P2bt4VEfdN107Kl2OKJdg4+Fm4jKHkU+qwEhVPqH4nExfLWJVeGr
gTQnVd+aKe/QWxeiEdqMTuWfx8HSiRxkk1dA89cCg/BKOJPjzdWlx/eXKnTtqb4PFTqQOYvqWBBIjDq0kv0YM3BWOoMtLiw64xTU5DVFYkWjXPyHTMS462u2xGd/E+5M4HwGxfsaSaO47cu4pnbk7epT2xL9PO3UqVkku3gEwnhgxJZVng/4lfrfKc7aLf
zUtUP7dOk0ADdRFN242BUwFAabbEkOU97KHvkBBKC+jLyWnbvdN0V228h60w+AUfdN9Bxhf94OP1q4IBHdft5MvWnigJ6xV1QZxgUCA7GJX/9zpJ36/1FcXQJrfaVHo1JIuSkmH/UuXtlQwPxQ1REd4XSFnLAYMKcusQFKl8Q1BmSA8qw6YBmxthO/MxZv
BLYNUm4zKEwhCtr7fGLOwqWZAZ9LhvPHkNtclbSAtg7aE4epJMUyGDVDFBO5ffO6ukQl+4G3OCyQ2HIt/tt/tgS9ob09z9XIMYRDsIKEQMyxqnY9Zrj5YFXOdJ0iaq4TrMu0DafGA6DxnMbT2P6zBu5nOpqFGPzo7TBG8h1GqcnFsLnVhX22mVsBkEfGhD
lMLVz0ScjkYKJDAK3NVpuyROJ1o4KxRwOS37YkEKDhZ8979aoYk250rKMzrAnq+/wZwRbCRVprkfQx3j6idY/ebDKRVtkeRkwp5cOqna+B219UTc90=","Actions":[{"Key":0,"Value":null}],"ControlID":"af","EventName":"OnClick"
"ClientFeatures":{"Browser":3,"Device":2,"HasChanged":false,"Height":1083,"Language":"en-US","Latitude":0,"Longitude":0,"Orientation":0,"OS":
"Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/116.0.0.0 Safari/537.36","PixelRatio":1,"Platform":1,"RecorderAvailable":false,"Referrer":"",
"ReferrerUrl":"","ScreenHeight":1083,"ScreenWidth":1920,"ScrollbarSize":17,"TouchEnabled":false,"Width":1920},"LockID":"172.17.67.5","LastLockTime":"2023-08-22T05:25:24Z",
"ShouldApplyPageEvent":false,"ServerDefinitions":null,"ParkId":"9b554f31-8cec-4089-ae49-719148e32b32","Esd":null}

HTTP Request After

Status":3,"Description":"FlightSurvey","Text":"FlightSurvey"},{"Kind":8,"Name":"PRIMARY","IsActive":true,"CanBeActive":true,"LocalName":"PRIMARY","DisplayName":"PRIMARY","DefinedName":"","RoleTexts":{
,"Status":0,"Description":"PRIMARY","Text":"PRIMARY"}],"ParallelName":"PRIMARY","PreviousPageIndex":0,"ResourceLanguageName":"Default","ResourceSetName":"Large","RuleSessionId":"${RuleSessionId}"
ScaleInfo":{"ResizeMode":0,"X":800,"Y":600,"AvailableX":0,"AvailableY":0,"ActualX":0,"ActualY":0},"ServerPark":"LocalDevelopment","StyleName":"Indigo","TargetResolution":{"Description":null,"Height":0
"Width":0}},"Page":{"ActiveField":null,"CompositeIndex":null,"Fields":[{"Name":"Person.IDNumber","RouteStatus":0,"RoleTexts":{"Help":
The national identification number is used by the government as a means of tracking their citizens, \r\n   <newline>permanent residents, and temporary residents for the purposes of work, taxat
on, government benefits, \r\n   <newline>health care, and other governmentally-related functions.\r\n   <newline count=2>The unique number appears on identity documents such as driving
licenses, passports and \r\n   international ID cards.","Question":"What is your national identification number?"},"ValueType":{"DataType":256,"Ranges":[{"MinValue":{"Kind":2,"Value":1},
MaxValue":{"Kind":2,"Value":999999}}]},"DataValue":{"DataType":256,"AnswerStatus":1,"SpecialAnswer":"","ValueAsString":"${keyvalue}","MimeType":null,"FileName":null,"Data":null,"IsDirty":true},
IsCritical":false,"IsRequired":true,"EditMode":0,"Origin":0,"Errors":[{"ErrorKind":0,"Name":"","RoleTexts":{},"InvolvedFields":[],"IsSuppressed":false,"RouteErrorCause":0,"IsRelevant":false,"Key":"",
InvalidValue":null}],"FieldProperties":[{"Definition":{"Name":"IsVisited","ValueType":{"DataType":16,"Categories":[{"Code":0,"Name":"false"},{"Code":1,"Name":"true"}]}},"DataValue":{"DataType":16,
AnswerStatus":1,"SpecialAnswer":null,"ValueAsString":"1","MimeType":null,"FileName":null,"Data":null},"InputControls":[]},{"Definition":{"Name":"Remark","ValueType":{"DataType":1}},"DataValue":{
DataType":1,"AnswerStatus":0,"SpecialAnswer":null,"ValueAsString":null,"MimeType":null,"FileName":null,"Data":null},"InputControls":[{"ID":"aaa_1na_1c","ControlKind":7,"TabIndex":10,"SpeedKey":null}]}
"SpecialAnswers":[],"InputControls":[{"ID":"aaa_1laa","ControlKind":6,"TabIndex":9,"SpeedKey":null}],"IsVisited":true}],"Groups":[],"Index":1,"RecordErrors":[],"RouteItems":[{"Name":"Person.IDNumber"
"Kind":0}],"Sections":[]},"PropertyDefinitions":[{"Name":"IsVisited","ValueType":{"DataType":16,"Categories":[{"Code":0,"Name":"false"},{"Code":1,"Name":"true"}]}},{"Name":"Remark","ValueType":{
DataType":1}}],"SurveyRoot":"flightloadtest","InstrumentTitle":"Flight Survey","TextProvider":{}},"AccessToken":"${AccessToken}","RefreshToken":"${RefreshToken}","Actions":[{"Key":0,"Value":null}],
ControlID":"af","EventName":"OnClick","ClientFeatures":{"Browser":3,"Device":2,"HasChanged":false,"Height":1083,"Language":"en-US","Latitude":0,"Longitude":0,"Orientation":0,"OS":
Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/116.0.0.0 Safari/537.36","PixelRatio":1,"Platform":1,"RecorderAvailable":false,"Referrer":"","ReferrerUrl":"",
ScreenHeight":1083,"ScreenWidth":1920,"ScrollbarSize":17,"TouchEnabled":false,"Width":1920},"LockID":"172.17.67.5","LastLockTime":"2023-08-22T05:25:24Z","ShouldApplyPageEvent":false,
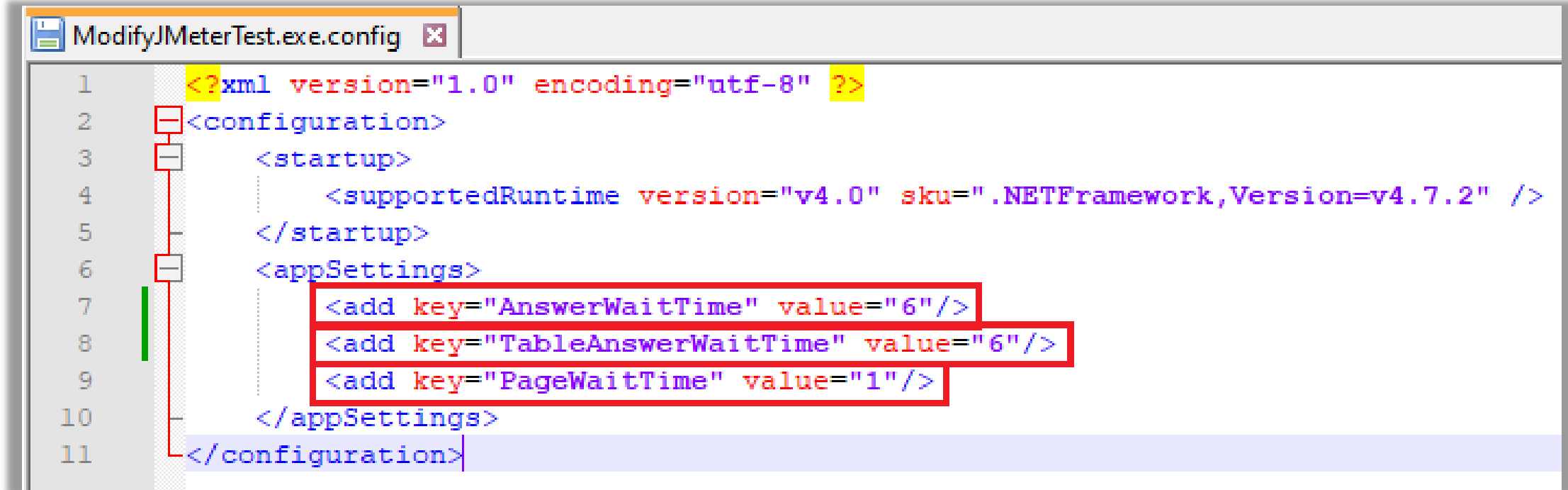ServerDefinitions":null,"ParkId":"${ParkId}","Esd":null}

Uniform Random Timer

- **ModifyJMeterTest.exe** has added Uniform Random Timers to the server requests

- The 'think time' needed on a page is determined by the number of questions on the page and the settings in **ModifyJMeterTest.exe.config**

ModifyJMeterTest.exe.config

```xml
1  <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
2  <configuration>
3      <startup>
4          <supportedRuntime version="v4.0" sku=".NETFramework,Version=v4.7.2" />
5      </startup>
6      <appSettings>
7          <add key="AnswerWaitTime" value="6"/>
8          <add key="TableAnswerWaitTime" value="6"/>
9          <add key="PageWaitTime" value="1"/>
10     </appSettings>
11 </configuration>
```

Think Time

Think Time

```
<UniformRandomTimer guiclass="UniformRandomTimerGui" testclass="UniformRandomTimer" testname="Uniform Random Timer" enabled="true">
  <stringProp name="ConstantTimer.delay">25000</stringProp>
  <stringProp name="RandomTimer.range">100.0</stringProp>
  <stringProp name="TestPlan.comments"> Generated</stringProp>
</UniformRandomTimer>
```

Test Execution

- Start button with think times enabled:

- Start button with think times disabled (excellent for debugging):

Server Response Assertion

- A 'No Error Page' assertion is added automatically to each request

- A 'Receipt Page' assertion is not added by the tool and should thus be added manually

Adding a Server Response Assertion: ReceiptPage

- The server response to the last request should contain substring "ReceiptPage"

Adding a View Results Tree

Test Results

- 2 sequential runs – with the same keyvalue

Summary Report

Load Test Optimization

- It's now possible to run a load test against 1 web server using the configuration in the *Thread Group*

- However, it's not recommended to start a prod-like load test from the JMeter GUI, it will take a lot of memory

- Using the CMD line to run load tests is advised

Load Test Optimization: CMD Line Parameters

- Edit the Counter *keyvalue = ${__P(keyvalue,1000)}*

- This is now a CMD line variable

  - If no value is passed, the default value 1000 will be used
  - If you run a test in the GUI, the value 1000 will be used

Load Test Optimization: CMD Line Parameters

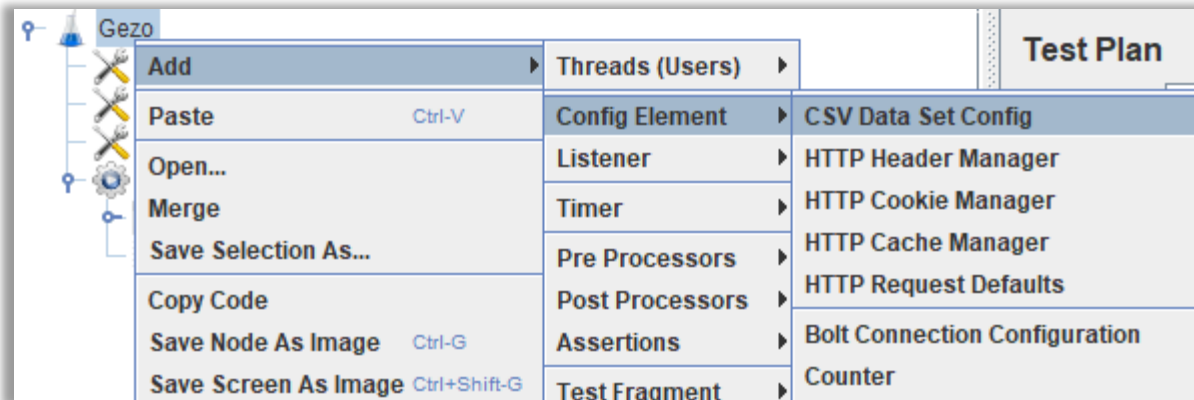- Pass parameters like:
-J<variablename>=<value>

Load Test Optimization: Using Multiple Web Servers
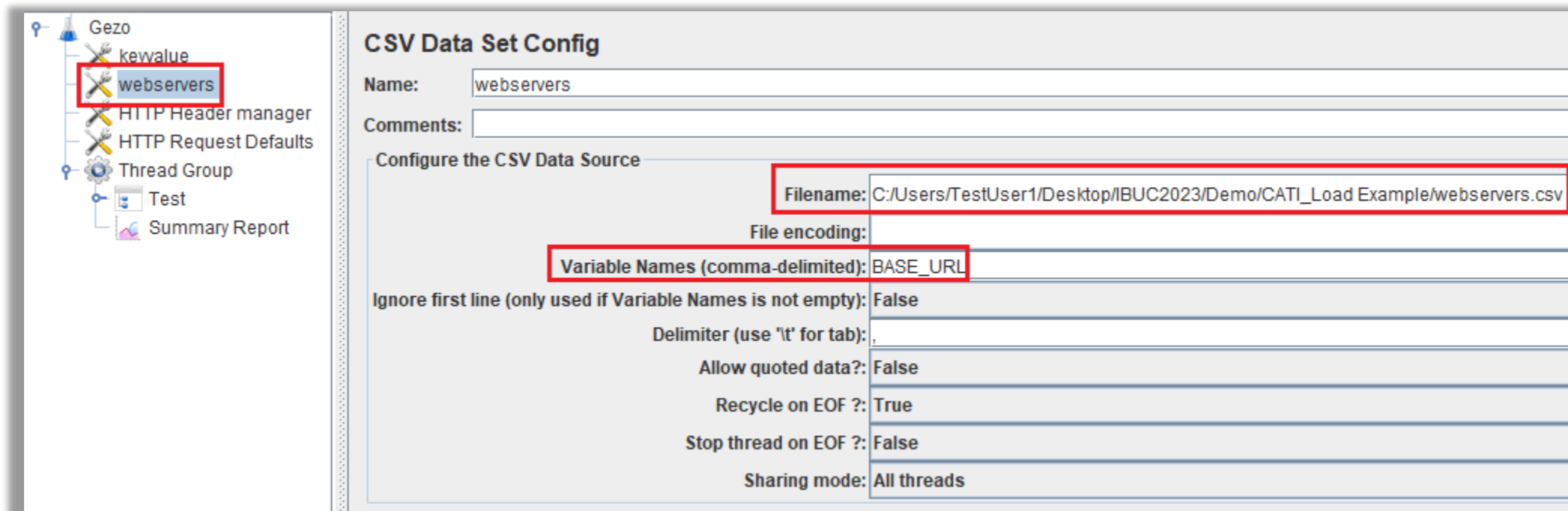
- Add names of web servers to a .csv file:
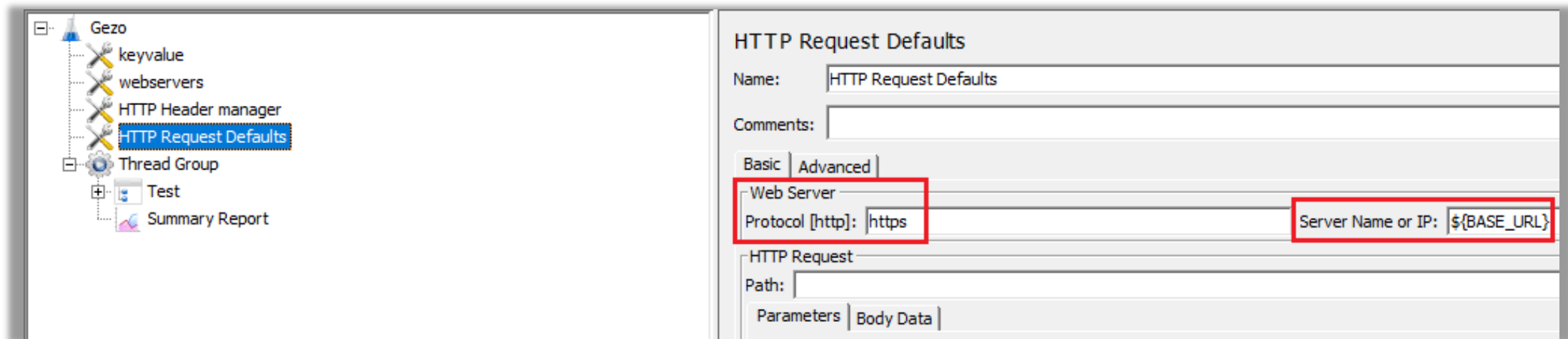

- Add a **CSV Data Set Config** to your test plan:

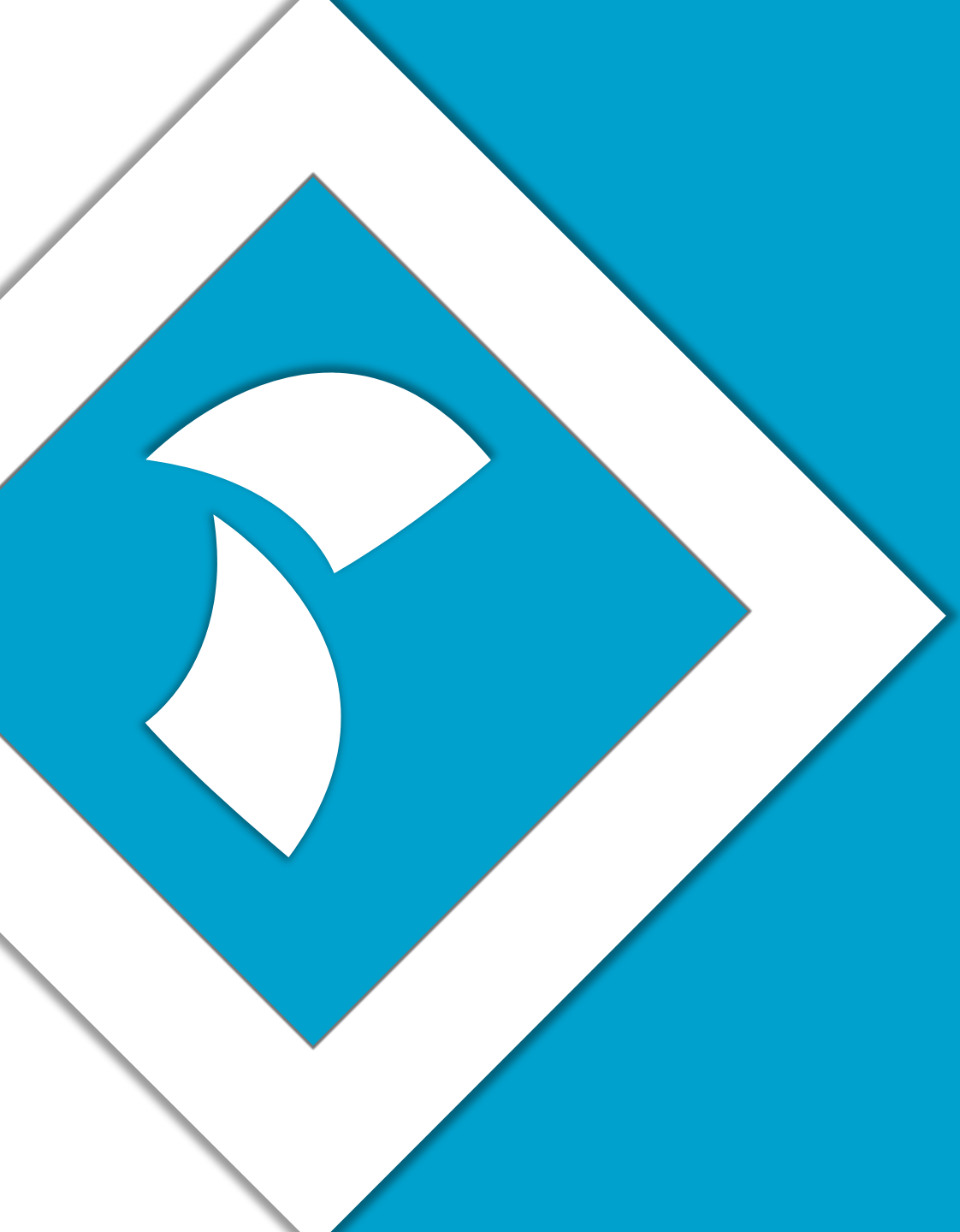# Load Test Optimization: Using Multiple Web Servers

- Add 'webservers.csv' to the *Filename* field
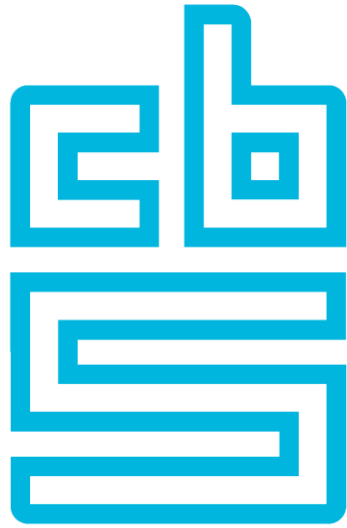
- Set a value in the field *Variable Names*

Load Test Optimization: Using Multiple Web Servers

- Set the value for *Server Name or IP* to ${BASE_URL}

- For each session, a web server from the 'webservers.csv' file is now linked to the HTTP Request Defaults

Thank you
for your time

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