

Keyword Driven Framework In Qtp With Complete Source Code

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The world of automated software testing is constantly evolving, and one technique that significantly improves efficiency and maintainability is the keyword-driven framework. This article dives deep into creating a keyword-driven framework in QuickTest Professional (QTP), now known as UFT (Unified Functional Testing), providing you with a complete source code example and a comprehensive understanding of its implementation. We'll explore the benefits, practical usage, and potential challenges, equipping you with the knowledge to build and leverage this powerful testing approach. This framework allows for efficient test automation by separating test scripts from test data, a concept we'll explore in detail, covering topics like **data-driven testing**, **excel integration**, and **function libraries**.

Introduction to Keyword-Driven Frameworks in UFT

A keyword-driven framework in UFT streamlines the testing process by employing keywords to represent specific actions within your application under test (AUT). Instead of writing complex VBScript code for

each test case, you define a set of keywords that correspond to these actions (e.g., "Login," "Click Button," "Verify Text"). Test cases are then created by simply sequencing these keywords along with the necessary data. This approach promotes reusability, simplifies maintenance, and allows business users with limited coding experience to participate in test case design. This makes it a crucial element of successful **test automation strategies**.

Benefits of a Keyword Driven Framework in UFT

Using a keyword-driven approach offers several significant advantages:

- **Increased Reusability:** Keywords encapsulate actions, making them reusable across multiple test cases. This drastically reduces code duplication and development time.
- **Improved Maintainability:** Changes to the AUT require minimal modifications to the test cases. You primarily update the keyword definitions rather than rewriting extensive scripts.
- **Enhanced Collaboration:** The keyword-based approach allows business analysts and testers to easily collaborate on test case design, as they don't need advanced programming skills.
- **Reduced Test Script Complexity:** Test scripts become simpler and more readable, leading to easier debugging and troubleshooting.
- **Better Data Management:** Separating test data from the scripts allows for efficient management and manipulation of test input values. We'll see how this works with **excel data-driven testing** below.

Implementing a Keyword-Driven Framework in UFT: A Complete Example

Let's build a simple keyword-driven framework in UFT. We'll use an Excel spreadsheet to store our test data and keywords, and a function library to handle the actual actions.

1. Excel Sheet (TestData.xls):

```
| Keyword | Object | Value |  
|-----|-----|-----|  
| OpenBrowser | Browser | "www.google.com" |  
| TypeText | SearchBox | "Keyword Driven  
Framework" |  
| ClickButton | SearchButton | |  
| VerifyText | ResultPage | "Keyword Driven  
Framework" |  
| CloseBrowser | Browser | |
```

2. UFT Function Library (KeywordLibrary.vbs):

```
````vbscript  

Function OpenBrowser(browserName, url)

Set browser = Browser("name:=" &
browserName).Create()

browser.Navigate url

End Function

Function TypeText(objectName, text)
```

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```
Set obj = Description.Create()

obj("name").Value = objectName

Set obj = Window("title:=.*").ChildObjects(obj)

obj.SetFocus

obj.Type text

End Function

Function ClickButton(objectName)

Set obj = Description.Create()

obj("name").Value = objectName

Set obj = Window("title:=.*").ChildObjects(obj)

obj.Click

End Function

Function VerifyText(objectName, expectedText)

Set obj = Description.Create()

obj("name").Value = objectName

Set obj = Window("title:=.*").ChildObjects(obj)

If InStr(obj.GetROProperty("text"), expectedText) > 0
Then

Reporter.ReportEvent micPass, "Verification Passed",
"Text '" & expectedText & "' found."

Else

Reporter.ReportEvent micFail, "Verification Failed",
"Text '" & expectedText & "' not found."

End If
```

End Function

Function CloseBrowser(browserName)

Set browser = Browser("name:=" &  
browserName).Object

browser.Close

End Function

```

3. UFT Test Script (TestScript.mts):

```vbscript

'Set the path to your Excel file.

Set objExcel = CreateObject("Excel.Application")

Set objWorkbook =  
objExcel.Workbooks.Open("C:\TestData.xls")

Set objSheet = objWorkbook.Worksheets(1)

'Loop through each row in the Excel sheet

For i = 2 To objSheet.UsedRange.Rows.Count

keyword = objSheet.Cells(i, 1).Value

object = objSheet.Cells(i, 2).Value

value = objSheet.Cells(i, 3).Value

'Call the appropriate function based on the keyword

Select Case keyword

Case "OpenBrowser"

Call OpenBrowser(object, value)

```
Case "TypeText"
Call TypeText(object, value)

Case "ClickButton"
Call ClickButton(object)

Case "VerifyText"
Call VerifyText(object, value)

Case "CloseBrowser"
Call CloseBrowser(object)

End Select

Next

objWorkbook.Close

objExcel.Quit

` ` `
```

This example demonstrates a basic implementation. In a real-world scenario, you'd have a more extensive function library and a robust mechanism for error handling and reporting. This example also showcases **excel integration** and its role in a keyword driven framework.

## **Usage and Implementation Strategies**

Successful implementation of a keyword-driven framework requires careful planning and execution. Key steps include:

- **Keyword Identification:** Define a comprehensive set of keywords that covers all the required actions in your AUT.

- **Function Library Development:** Create well-structured and reusable functions for each keyword.
- **Data Management:** Establish a clear system for organizing and managing test data, often using Excel or a database. This will be a core part of your **data-driven testing** strategy.
- **Test Case Design:** Create test cases by simply sequencing keywords and input data.
- **Execution and Reporting:** Implement a mechanism for executing test cases and generating comprehensive reports.

## Conclusion

The keyword-driven framework in UFT offers a highly efficient and maintainable approach to automated software testing. By separating test logic from test data and using reusable keywords, this framework significantly reduces development time, enhances collaboration, and improves overall test quality. While the initial setup requires careful planning, the long-term benefits far outweigh the initial investment. Remember to focus on choosing meaningful keywords and building a well-structured function library to truly reap the rewards of this powerful testing methodology.

## FAQ

### **Q1: What are the limitations of a keyword-driven framework?**

A1: While highly beneficial, keyword-driven frameworks have limitations. For very complex scenarios with intricate logic, they can become less efficient than a data-driven or hybrid approach. Furthermore, extensive keyword creation and maintenance can be challenging for large-scale projects. Proper planning and a modular design are key to mitigating these challenges.

**Q2: How does a keyword-driven framework differ from a data-driven framework?**

A2: A keyword-driven framework focuses on actions (keywords) that are executed based on data provided (often from an external source like Excel), while a data-driven framework primarily focuses on iterating through test data to execute the same set of actions repeatedly. They are not mutually exclusive and can be combined effectively in a hybrid approach, further enhancing testing efficiency.

**Q3: Can I use a database instead of Excel for test data?**

A3: Absolutely! Using a database like SQL Server or MySQL offers several advantages, particularly for larger projects with extensive test data. You'd need to adjust your script to interact with the database instead of Excel, but this provides more robust data management capabilities.

**Q4: How do I handle errors and exceptions in a keyword-driven framework?**

A4: Robust error handling is crucial. Your functions should include try-catch blocks to gracefully handle exceptions. You should also implement detailed logging and reporting mechanisms to record error details and aid in debugging. The UFT reporting features are excellent for this purpose.

**Q5: What are some best practices for designing keywords?**

A5: Use clear, concise, and descriptive names. Keep keywords self-contained and avoid dependencies on other keywords wherever possible. Aim for modularity – break down complex actions into smaller, more manageable keywords. Follow consistent naming conventions throughout your

framework.

**Q6: How can I integrate this with continuous integration/continuous deployment (CI/CD) pipelines?**

A6: You can integrate your keyword-driven framework with CI/CD pipelines by automating the execution of your test scripts using tools like Jenkins or Azure DevOps. The results can then be integrated into your CI/CD pipeline to trigger appropriate actions based on test success or failure.

**Q7: What is the role of object repository in this framework?**

A7: While not explicitly shown in the simplified example, a well-maintained object repository remains essential. The object repository stores information about the objects in your application under test. This allows for improved maintainability and reduces the risk of test script breakage when UI elements change slightly. You should reference objects from the repository within your keyword functions.

**Q8: Is this approach suitable for all types of testing?**

A8: Keyword-driven frameworks are particularly well-suited for functional testing and regression testing. They can be adapted for other types of testing, but the effectiveness may vary depending on the specific testing approach and the complexity of the application. They are less often directly used for performance or security testing, for example, though the underlying principles of modularity and reusability can still be applied.

## **Keyword Driven Framework in QTP with Complete Source Code: A Comprehensive Guide**

Automating testing procedures is critical in today's rapidly-evolving software development landscape. Manual testing is inefficient and prone to errors , while automation presents significant advantages in terms of efficiency, precision , and repeatability . One effective approach to software test automation is the Keyword Driven Framework (KDF), and this article will delve into its deployment using QuickTest Professional (QTP), now known as UFT (Unified Functional Testing), providing a complete source code example.

The Keyword Driven Framework in QTP organizes test cases around keywords, which signify specific actions or functions within the application being tested . These keywords are held in a centralized repository, often an Excel spreadsheet or a database, alongside related data, such as parameters and anticipated outcomes . The framework then reads these keywords and data, performing the corresponding QTP scripts to mechanize the verification cycle.

This technique offers several key benefits :

- **Increased Reusability:** Keywords can be recycled across multiple test cases, decreasing repetition and overhead.
- **Improved Maintainability:** Updates to the test scripts are contained, making it easier to modify and sustain the framework.
- **Enhanced Collaboration:** The division of test design from test scripting enables for better collaboration between testers and developers.
- **Easier Understanding:** The keyword-driven approach makes it easier for non-programmers

to understand and modify test cases.

Let's examine a concrete example. Imagine validating a login feature . The keywords might include: "OpenBrowser", "TypeText", "ClickButton", "VerifyText". The data sheet would include information such as the location of the system, the user ID, the password , and the expected confirmation .

The QTP script would then read this data, perform the appropriate keywords, and verify the actual results against the anticipated outcomes .

### **Complete Source Code Example (Illustrative):**

This example uses VBScript within QTP. Remember that this is a simplified illustration and a full-fledged framework requires more elaborate error handling, logging, and reporting mechanisms.

```
```\vbscript

' Read data from Excel sheet (replace "testData.xls"
with your file)

Set objExcel = CreateObject("Excel.Application")

Set objWorkbook =
objExcel.Workbooks.Open("testData.xls")

Set objWorksheet = objWorkbook.Worksheets(1)

' Loop through each test case

For i = 2 To objWorksheet.UsedRange.Rows.Count

keyword = objWorksheet.Cells(i, 1).Value

value1 = objWorksheet.Cells(i, 2).Value

value2 = objWorksheet.Cells(i, 3).Value
```

Select Case keyword

Case "OpenBrowser"

Browser("title:=.*").Page("title:=.*").WebEdit("name:=username").Set value1

Case "TypeText"

Browser("title:=.*").Page("title:=.*").WebEdit("name:=password").Set value2

Case "ClickButton"

Browser("title:=.*").Page("title:=.*").WebButton("text:=Login").Click

Case "VerifyText"

' Add your verification logic here

End Select

Next

objWorkbook.Close

objExcel.Quit

Set objWorksheet = Nothing

Set objWorkbook = Nothing

Set objExcel = Nothing

```

This code snippet demonstrates the fundamental concept of reading keywords and data from an Excel sheet and then using them to drive the QTP script's execution. A robust framework would require more complex error handling, logging, and reporting capabilities, but this example provides a foundation for building a complete Keyword Driven Framework

in QTP. Remember to set up the necessary libraries and adapt the code to match your unique system and validation requirements .

### **Conclusion:**

The Keyword Driven Framework in QTP offers a structured and manageable method to automate software verification. By dividing test creation from coding , it boosts teamwork , re-application, and sustainability. While this article provides a simplified example, deploying a full-fledged KDF requires careful planning, design, and consideration to detail. The rewards, however, are significant in terms of efficiency and excellence of the verification cycle.

### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):**

#### **1. Q: What are the drawbacks of a Keyword Driven Framework?**

**A:** While KDFs offer many benefits, they can become intricate to manage for large undertakings . Proper planning and design are essential to prevent unnecessary intricacy .

#### **2. Q: Can I use other repositories besides Excel?**

**A:** Certainly . Databases such as Oracle are frequently used as replacement data sources for a Keyword Driven Framework.

#### **3. Q: What code languages can I use with QTP?**

**A:** QTP (UFT) primarily uses VBScript, but it also supports other languages through plugins.

#### **4. Q: How do I handle errors in my Keyword Driven Framework?**

**A:** Robust error handling is crucial . Implement try-catch blocks in your QTP scripts to gracefully

manage errors and log them appropriately. This enables debugging and locating the root cause of malfunctions .

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