

What Can Go Wrong During Results Analysis

Recommended guidance

Results analysis can be misleading when test data, environment, load model, monitoring, or reporting context is incomplete. Review failures and performance results with enough evidence to separate application defects from test or environment issues.

Common causes

- Unstable test data, exhausted accounts, or missing cleanup.
- Browser, Test Node, network, database, or integration issues.
- Incorrect assertions, waits, ramp-up, pacing, or load model assumptions.
- Small sample sizes, high error rates, or incomplete monitoring.
- Comparing runs from different environments or configurations.

Review workflow

1. Start with the first meaningful failure, not the final cascading error.
2. Compare with a known-good run and check environment changes.
3. Use logs, reports, screenshots, metrics, and test data evidence together.
4. Document conclusions, open questions, and retest criteria.

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