

Ali AlQattan

Quality Assurance / Test Automation Engineer

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Quality Assurance / Test Automation Engineer with over six years in software delivery, currently inside a licensed digital bank working on regulated, audited payment and AML systems. Built an end-to-end payments test-automation framework from scratch — Cucumber (BDD) specifications driving Playwright, with Cypress and Selenium WebDriver covering the same journeys — verifying every transaction at three levels at once: browser UI, HTTP API and the database of record, then under load. Experienced across the full test cycle: designing and executing functional, regression, smoke and API test cases, reproducing and isolating defects, raising evidence-backed reports and retesting to closure. Gates every change behind CI and verifies releases across dev, UAT, SIT and production under change control.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Test Automation	Playwright, Cucumber (BDD / Gherkin), Cypress, Selenium WebDriver; frameworks built from scratch in TypeScript; page-object architecture, reusable step definitions, per-environment config (local / CI / UAT), headless and headed execution, HTML reporting
API & Web Services Testing	REST API test automation with the Playwright request client; HTTP status-code and machine-readable error-code contract assertions; payload validation; authentication and authorisation negative testing; checks pushed below the UI wherever the test pyramid allows
Performance & Load Testing	k6, Apache JMeter; latency and error-rate budgets, capacity ramps, results reconciled against the database
Testing Types & QA Practice	Functional, regression, smoke, integration, negative and boundary testing; database-level and data-integrity verification; test-case design from acceptance criteria; defect reproduction, root-cause investigation, escalation and retest to closure
CI/CD	GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Git; automated test execution on every push and pull request; typecheck and test gating before merge; containerised and serverless pipelines; Docker
Languages	TypeScript, JavaScript, Python, SQL, Bash, Dart, Java, C#
Databases	PostgreSQL, SQLite, general SQL / RDBMS — verification queries against a ledger of record, data-integrity and reconciliation checks, database security auditing
Cloud & Infrastructure	AWS across a multi-account, multi-region banking estate (EC2, RDS, EKS, Lambda, S3, IAM); Terraform; Ansible; Docker; Linux; Python / boto3 automation
Practices & Domain	Agile delivery, SDLC, behaviour-driven development, test-pyramid design, change and release management in a regulated bank, payment processing and AML monitoring

PROJECT DETAILS

1. Payments QA Automation Framework — PERSONAL PROJECT

Organisation	Personal project — not client or employer work. github.com/AlqattanDev/payments-qa-framework · exidex.dev/payments-qa
Duration	2026 – Present (ongoing)
Role	Test Automation Engineer — sole designer and developer of the framework and the app under test
Environment	Cucumber (BDD / Gherkin), Playwright, Cypress, Selenium WebDriver, TypeScript, k6, Apache JMeter, SQLite, GitHub Actions

Responsibilities

- Designed and built an end-to-end test-automation framework for a fintech payments platform from the ground up, together with the application under test: sign-in, transfers, validation rules, SQLite ledger.
- Authored the regression pack as executable Cucumber / Gherkin specifications — readable by non-technical stakeholders and automated at once.
- Implemented a layered page-object architecture — page objects, a typed HTTP API client and a read-only ledger reader — so UI changes do not ripple through.
- Verified every money-moving scenario at three levels at once — browser UI, HTTP API response and the database of record — including the ledger invariant that a transfer never changes the total money in the system.
- Automated API-contract testing over HTTP — status codes and machine-readable error codes asserted on every rejection path: same-account transfer, unknown account, insufficient funds, currency mismatch, non-positive amount, short reference and unauthorised access. Applied the test pyramid deliberately: error codes at the API layer, invariants at the database layer, the browser for real user journeys.
- Covered the same journey in Cypress and Selenium WebDriver alongside Playwright, with a written driver comparison.

- Built the GitHub Actions CI pipeline running a strict typecheck and every suite on each push and pull request; the suite boots and tears down its own system under test, so there is no manual setup step, no environment drift, and an HTML report per run.
- Added a performance-testing layer over the same journey using k6 and Apache JMeter: a gated profile with p95 latency and error-rate budgets, and a separate capacity ramp that located the saturation point at roughly 50 concurrent users, with the ledger reconciled after every run.
- Load testing surfaced a defect the functional suite could not reach — payment identifiers truncated to 32 bits collide under volume, returning HTTP 500s at a rate low enough to stay inside the error budget. It was caught only because every run asserts the ledger afterwards, and money was verified never lost: the collision rolls back inside the payment transaction.

2. PostgreSQL Security-Audit Automation

Organisation Bank ABC, Manama, Bahrain
Duration Nov 2022 – Present
Role Software / Infrastructure Engineer — automation design and implementation
Environment PostgreSQL, SQL, Python, boto3, AWS RDS, Linux, Git

Responsibilities

- Engineered automation for recurring PostgreSQL security audits previously run by hand across the bank's database estate, cutting manual audit effort by approximately 80%.
- Translated the manual audit checklist into repeatable scripted checks over database configuration, privileges and user access, producing consistent evidence for internal audit; validated that output against the manual results before adoption, so the replacement was demonstrably equivalent.
- Replaced manual Terraform and console workflows with Python / boto3 automation, making provisioning and verification identical on every run.

3. Multi-Region AWS Platform & CI/CD Pipelines

Organisation Bank ABC, Manama, Bahrain
Duration Nov 2022 – Present
Role Software / Infrastructure Engineer — build, deployment and release verification
Environment AWS (EC2, RDS, EKS, Lambda, S3, IAM) in me-south-1 and eu-west-1, Terraform, Ansible, Jenkins, Docker, Linux

Responsibilities

- Architected and maintained multi-region AWS infrastructure across Bahrain (me-south-1) and Ireland (eu-west-1) — EC2, RDS, EKS and Lambda — on reusable Terraform modules for enterprise banking workloads.
- Built CI/CD pipelines in Jenkins for containerised and serverless deployments — build, test and the promotion stages that move a change through environments.
- Automated rollout and configuration of security agents (CrowdStrike, Wazuh, Splunk, Qualys) across both regions with Ansible, replacing per-host installation.
- Ran deployments, incident response and change management across dev, UAT, SIT and production in a regulated, audited environment, verifying each release in the lower environments first; investigated incidents end to end — reproduced the failure, traced it and confirmed the fix below production.

4. Lambda Operations Console

Organisation Bank ABC, Manama, Bahrain
Duration Nov 2022 – Present
Role Software Engineer — sole developer
Environment AWS Lambda, Python, boto3, AWS IAM, internal web front end

Responsibilities

- Built an internal operations console for the ops team — a slash-command palette exposing 28 distinct operations, with fuzzy search and full keyboard navigation — now used daily.
- Consolidated 28 previously manual console and CLI procedures behind a single entry point, removing the copy-paste steps that were the most common source of operator error.
- Gathered requirements directly from the operators and iterated on the command set around how they work.

5. Monitoring & Anomaly Detection for AML and Payment Systems

Organisation Bank ABC, Manama, Bahrain
Duration Nov 2022 – Present
Role Software / Infrastructure Engineer
Environment AWS CloudWatch, Python, SQL, Linux, dashboarding and alerting tooling

Responsibilities

- Developed real-time monitoring dashboards with automated anomaly detection for AML processing and payment systems, so deviations surface as alerts instead of being found during periodic review.
- Defined the expected-behaviour baselines and thresholds the detection runs against, in a domain where a missed anomaly is a regulatory issue and not only an operational one.
- Worked with operations and security teams to route alerts to the right responders and tune thresholds.

6. Digital Banking Service Desk — Defect Investigation & Verification

Organisation ila Bank (engaged as an outsourced contractor), Manama, Bahrain
Duration Jan – Nov 2022
Role Service Desk — Investigations (front-line defect triage and verification)
Environment Live retail digital-banking platform, mobile application, core payment flows, back-office records, ticketing

Responsibilities

- Front line for customer-reported problems on a live digital bank: reproduced reported issues against the real application to establish whether a defect existed and under what conditions.
- Traced individual transactions across systems to find where actual behaviour diverged from expected, and separated genuine defects from user error and expected business rules before escalating.
- Sanity-checked behaviour against what the back-office records actually said — the manual equivalent of the database-level assertions now written in code — rather than trusting the screen.
- Raised escalations to engineering with reproduction steps and supporting evidence attached rather than the symptom alone, then retested every delivered fix and tracked each case through to verified closure.

7. WhatsApp Breaking-News Broadcast Automation

Organisation AlBilad Newspaper, Bahrain (contract engagement)
Duration Jun – Aug 2020
Role Software Developer (Contract) — sole developer
Environment Python backend, WhatsApp messaging automation, cross-platform mobile front end, REST APIs

Responsibilities

- Built a WhatsApp broadcast-automation system delivering breaking news to thousands of subscribers, reducing distribution time from several hours of manual sending to under three minutes.
- Delivered a cross-platform mobile interface over the Python backend so newsroom staff could trigger broadcasts themselves.
- Tested the delivery pipeline against the full subscriber list before go-live, including failure and retry behaviour.

8. Employee Management & BQA Compliance Platform

Organisation Quality Codes, Bahrain
Duration May – Nov 2019
Role Full-Stack Developer, promoted to ICT Team Lead during the engagement
Environment Web and mobile application stack, relational database, REST APIs, compliance reporting forms

Responsibilities

- Built a web and mobile platform letting training institutes manage employees, forms and Bahrain Qualification Authority (BQA) compliance reporting; adopted by 17+ institutions within six months.
- Implemented the compliance forms against BQA reporting requirements and validated the generated submissions with the institutes before release — a rejection carries a direct regulatory cost.
- Promoted to ICT team lead on delivery speed and technical contribution; coordinated the team and reviewed delivery before release.

9. Cross-Platform Mobile Product Delivery — INDEPENDENT

Organisation Freelance / independent (concurrent with the engagements above)
Duration 2020 – 2022
Role Independent Software Developer — full SDLC ownership
Environment Flutter, Dart, REST APIs, Solidity, iOS App Store and Google Play release pipelines

Responsibilities

- Built and released NFTAlbum, a Flutter application published on the iOS App Store and Google Play, and Fishmen Alpha, a 1,000-piece Ethereum NFT collection in Solidity; owned the full life cycle alone on each — requirements, architecture, implementation, device testing across iOS and Android, and release.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Technology (BTech), Computer Programming

Bahrain Polytechnic, Bahrain · 2013 – 2019 · Awarded Project of the Year.

PERSONAL DETAILS

Nationality	Bahraini
Visa / Work Authorisation	Not required — Bahraini national, no sponsorship needed
Current Location	Manama, Bahrain
Notice Period	1 month