

PUBLIC

## Podcast: SAP BTP Talk

Episode 95: Introduction to SAP Business Application Studio – SAP’s integrated development environment (IDE) in the cloud



**Fig. 1 – Cover art of SAP BTP Talk podcast**

Figure description – A cover art with a microphone icon and the name of the podcast on it.



## Transcript

**Niklas:** Hello and a warm welcome to the next episode of our podcast. You may be wondering who's talking to you. My name is Niklas Siemer and I'm a product specialist for SAP Business Technology Platform, and I'm happy that I will be your host for this episode. Thanks to you for tuning in. This is our May's episode number 95 of SAP BTP Talk. Let us see what topics we bring into your head with this episode. This episode is all about SAP Business Application Studio. First, we will talk about an extract of great roadmap items from SAP Business Application Studio and other SAP BTP services. Second, the customer story of the month and how they are using the SAP Business Application Studio. And last, the interview. Our guest today is Yuval Anafi, lead product owner of the Business Application Studio and the former SAP Web IDE. We're going to talk about how the SAP Business Application Studio can accelerate your development projects with an industry leading IDE and flexible high productivity tools, which enables you to innovate on a trusted and open enterprise platform. Yuval is based at SAP in Ra'anana, Israel, and he joined SAP at 2004 and he had several roles and tasks around the SAP developer tools over the years. Let's start: let me dive into the What's New section this time an extract of some roadmap items for SAP Business Application Studio and other SAP BTP services. First roadmap item for today is an SAP Business Application, Studio one: The SAP Business Application Studio, Remote Development Extension for Microsoft Visual Studio Code. This allows you to enjoy and use SAP Business Application Studio experience and productivity tools inside of a local installed Microsoft Visual Studio Code.

**Niklas:** Next roadmap item: The SAP Business Application Studio will get enhanced with the possibility to create Fiori Elements frontend applications based on ABAP RESTful Application Programming Model projects. This is a good improvement for all developers building extensions with the ABAP RESTful Application Programming Model. Next roadmap item is about SAP Build Process Automation. It is about creation of reusable rules that can be integrated into other rules and used in modeling your rule expressions. These are available since May 3rd and will make reuse a lot of easier. And last roadmap item for today: it's about the SAP BTP, Cloud Foundry Environment. It's about Cloud Foundry spaces and its quota assignments. It will get a new designed page, which leads to a more informative and user friendly overview. In addition to that, the feedback messages on success or failure even get enhanced for better understanding. Beside these four, there are even more great additions planned on the roadmaps of SAP BTP services. You can find the links to the mentioned roadmap items in the show notes. If you have further questions or requests, give us a shout out on our social media channels or you can drop us an email at [platformtalks@sap.com](mailto:platformtalks@sap.com). Let us get in the customer story of the month. This time it is about the food company Nestlé and their project using SAP Business Application Studio. For this year's SAP Innovation Awards, Nestlé entered a project with the topic: hiring hundreds of employees in 15 minutes with an agile hiring application. Nestlé has a very extensive SAP landscape in their company. As part of their HR transformation, they are using SAP SuccessFactors. They created an application for improving their hiring process.

**Niklas:** Nestlé need to hire new employees agile caused by seasonal work and changing demand. Onboarding and entering all the details of new employees has consumed a lot of time in the past. That is why they decided to develop an application for more agile hiring, which enables them to process new employees a lot faster on the IT side. They used SAP Business Application Studio as part of SAP BTP as a development environment of choice that enabled them to rapidly develop this application in just six months through intuitive tools offered by SAP Business Application Studio. The developers could also test their application easily through using the mock server functionality of SAP Business Application Studio. That is cool, isn't it? You can find all related links for each of the topics, like the roadmap items or the customer story in the podcast show notes. You want to get all future news, Please subscribe to this podcast on the platform of your choice and our monthly SAP BTP Product Newsletter. Check out the latest items in our product roadmap and follow us on social media. All right. So that were the roadmap items and the customer story of the month. You know one agenda point is still left. And I know he's already on fire. For his part, let's kick off our episodes interview talk. And I'm glad to introduce my today's interview guest, Yuval Anafi. Hi Yuval and welcome to our podcast. It's great to have you on board as my guest today talking about SAP Business Application Studio. Can you please introduce yourself and give us some insights about you and your role at SAP?



**Yuval:** Hello, everyone. Hi Niklas. Thanks for hosting me on the podcast. I hope it will be interesting for everyone. For me, it's very exciting to be here. First of all, yeah, I'm long time in SAP joined in 2004 right after my graduation from Computer Science and then started my first role was on Visual Composer product, if you are familiar with it was one of the first low code tools in SAP allowing this kind of a visual modeling environment for the ABAP platform, which was very, very cool and I really liked it being there. And yeah, this was my first role in SAP. My next one was on Duet product team, which was a joint collaboration between SAP and Microsoft, creating productivity tools for the Microsoft different products like Outlook, Excel, etcetera, bringing SAP data into such environments, which was also very exciting. And the collaboration with this kind of another big company as Microsoft and this kind of collaboration was very insightful for me. After that, I joined the Gateway team. SAP Gateway creating OData for building. It was back then mobile applications mainly on top of SAP data, which basically laid the foundation afterwards of for SAP Web IDE.

**Yuval:** Emerged out of the same team working on the SAP Gateway productivity tools. And there the goal was to create an environment for SAP customers to build and extend applications based on OData and SAP WebIDE is still serving many of our customers for many years exactly on that. So we still have thousands of customers running on SAP WebIDE and kind of more than three years ago, we decided to innovate and bring the next generation, which is SAP Business Application Studio, which is also the focus of the discussion today. So many different projects, many of them are around the developer persona and development. So I have a lot of experience in providing development tools for the community. On the personal level, I like to run, so I run a four times a week. This is kind of my time to meditate and think about things. So this is really helping me to stay in shape and also to think and also football fans. So I, together with my son, we go on a regular football match every week. So this is kind of the habits and fun parts of my week.

**Niklas:** OK, cool already a lot of career stops and yeah,

**Yuval:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Niklas:** I'm not so into running, but I'm into the next question. So for all listeners who are not familiar with SAP Business Application Studio, can you please explain what it is and which job roles and company are suitable to use it? What are the key principles of SAP Business Application Studio?

**Yuval:** Okay. So first of all, as for the persona and who is meant to use SAP Business Application Studio. So first of all, it's developers. All right. So if you are a developer by profession, so your job is to develop, then this is your place. And the second is you're part of the developer community. So you develop for SAP most likely a part of the IT department of one of our customers or working for a partner of SAP. Another option you're working for a SAP internal team. So also many of our communities, internal SAP developers. So these are the target audience of SAP Business Application Studio and also SAP WebIDE. And what we target to be is the best development environment, offering the highest productivity for developers for building SAP business applications which are enterprise ready, meaning whatever comes out of SAP Business Application Studio is ready to be used on enterprise grade in terms of scale, in terms of standards, and it's also based on the latest SAP technologies and best practices. So these are the benefits when using SAP Business Application Studio that you are benefit from. So we help you to adhere to the SAP standards and best practices to eventually deliver SAP business applications. So looking on the guidelines of what we aim to deliver with SAP Business Application Studio, first of all, we want it to be based on SAP standards.

**Yuval:** So meaning when you use SAP Business Application Studio, we make sure that all the runtime SDKs and the tools are relying on standard community tools and best practices, which helps eventually the developer to benefit from the different innovations happening on the open developer community. Getting back to the specific SAP developer needs and not like reinventing the wheel on everything that we're doing, which is a part of what we did with SAP web, which was more a commodity and tried to fix with SAP Business Application Studio. So being more standard. Another part which is important for us is to be open and flexible, meaning the environment itself is open for getting different tools from different community



contributors. So you can, as a developer, if you want to replace one of the tools that SAP is offering out of the box with another tools that you find more usable for you, we offer that quite easily to install into the environment and then you can use it immediately. This is not like a closed environment and if you want to use a specific command line or a specific test tool and any other tool that you would like, you can do it very easily. And this is coming from the openness and the flexibility that we are offering.

**Yuval:** Another thing that is important for us with SAP Business Application Studio is guided experience. So whenever you enter the SAP Business Application Studio, we do not assume that you are necessarily know exactly how to reach from A to Z. We want to help developers who are less familiar with SAP technologies and how to build cloud applications on the SAP Business Technology Platform, less familiar with cloud application programming or SAPUI5. All of that is a lot of knowledge that we in our very frequent timelines are introduced for our community and this is very hard to keep up to it. So one of our jobs is to help with guidance and the guidance can be with different guiding tools and more like visual experience for the developer. So we do not assume that you know how to open command line and reach the specific command for running a specific task. We offer, like this guided tools and visual tools that helps you to find easily according to your intention, how to execute a specific command. So if you want to run an application, you can always do that via the command line to open the command line and type. For example, cds watch to run a cloud application programming application or the other option for those who don't know how to do that, to go to the run configuration tool and just to click on the big green button and then you run it, we run it immediately for you.

**Yuval:** Of course, if you want, you can also always go to the command line and do it from the command line if you find it more faster, more usable. But we don't assume that you can or know how to do that. So this is another important guideline for us on the solution. One other thing is a turnkey solution. So it's cloud based IDE. And whenever you start the development, we according to your selected scenario or business scenario that you would like to develop, for example, a full stack application on SAP BTP, we know what tools you would need to do that. So we pack everything together, including the IDE tools, so the different extensions installed on the IDE, the runtimes like Java runtime or Node.js runtime or different SQLite, things like that. We pack it all together, we configure it for you, and whenever you start such a dev space so everything is ready for your start of development. We call it a turnkey solution. By that it can save you a lot of time of setup and even if you don't know how to set it up, we set it up for you.

**Niklas:** Yeah, great. So I think that is a really good starting point for everyone,

**Yuval:** Yeah.

**Niklas:** Which were not familiar with SAP Business Application Studio in before. But let's get to the next question. So imagine I'm a developer now, how can I try out SAP Business Application Studio for my use cases and when I'm finished with trying out and, and I want to use it in a more productive way, how can I use SAP Business Application Studio as my professional integrated development environment of choice?

**Yuval:** Okay. So I think the best place to start with is the community page. You can find it very easily if you Google SAP Business Application community page. So this is the SAP Community Network and we have a dedicated community for SAP Business Application Studio and a section in that is how to get started. So you can very easily find, first of all, where to ask questions and the different ways to onboard yourself. So yeah, we have of course a trial solution, so you shouldn't necessarily acquire a license for the beginning. You can try it out with trial version or free tier version. So if you're working for an enterprise also the enterprise can start with a free tier offering and then very easily switch to the standard subscription of SAP Business Application Studio. So both of the ways are very easily to onboard to and then once you have it, we just released recently a new learning journey which takes you on a journey of development of SAP BTP application with SAP Business Application Studio. So we don't assume anything. You learn everything about the tool, about SAP BTP, about the different SAP technologies, and you get to develop your first SAP Business Application Studio, SAP BTP Application. And I think this is the best way to start with. And then of



course you can buy a standard license for yourself or your company on the SAP store. So it's the standard way of acquiring SAP solution.

**Niklas:** Yeah, cool. We will definitely link the learning journey and the community page in the show notes. What kind of projects can a developer make in SAP Business Application Studio? Is it limited to a defined range of programming languages or frameworks? And if so, which ones?

**Yuval:** So first of all, it's not limited as a basis. SAP Business Application Studio is a standard IDE, so I did not mention that before. But SAP Business Application Studio is based on Microsoft Code OSS, which is the same base for the Microsoft Visual Studio Code product. So practically it's the same. We host it on the cloud and on top of it we dress it up with SAP tools to make it more tailored for the different SAP scenarios. So as a basis you can develop anything you could develop on Visual Studio code, for example. And on top of that you can use our tailored scenarios to build an SAP application. What we have for that is, first of all, applications and extensions for SAP BTP. All of that are based on cloud application programming model application and extensions for the ABAP runtime. So same you can choose between the on-premise to the ABAP cloud environment so the same you can achieve as well. From SAP Business Application Studio, we have the HANA native environment for developing application for HANA Cloud service and soon to be offered also for the SAP HANA on-premise. So we will soon offer also the ability to use SAP Business Application Studio to develop for SAP HANA on-premise database and the environment for developing mobile applications for the SAP Mobile Services. So these are the current tailored development environment for SAP scenarios. And as mentioned, you can also use it of course as a general purpose IDE.

**Niklas:** So you're already supporting ABAP? Or are there any plans to support ABAP coding with SAP Business Application Studio? I think this would be a big game changer to have the possibility to make all kind of SAP related software development projects in just one tool and just one IDE.

**Yuval:** Yeah. So this is a common question from customers. We're getting asked about that almost any customer meeting that we have. So we are specifically for the ABAP coding activities. So this is something that we don't see, at least for the near to mid-term future of SAP Business Application Studio, because this would take a huge effort of switching all the ABAP development environment from the ADT to basically VS code extensions as we are doing for SAP Business Application Studio. But we are discussing with the ABAP tooling team on the way forward with that because of all of that customer requirements and desire to do that. And eventually we understand the need to make everything available on one development environment. What we do offer and what I mentioned before is of course every development of your UI applications for the ABAP environment is offered by SAP Business Application Studio. For that, we are working very closely with the ABAP team in SAP and we are thinking of how to extend that more and more into additional offering to cover more and more from the ABAP stack. So bottom line, we know that this is needed and we are working closely with the ABAP team to create a roadmap for that.

**Niklas:** Yeah. Thank you for sharing this. So all in all, SAP Business Application Studio has capabilities for professional development. But besides that, there are also low code and no code capabilities. Can you please give us more insights in this?

**Yuval:** Yeah. So as I said before, we are optimizing SAP Business Application Studio to offer the best productivity for developers, developing applications for SAP. So this is kind of the charter of the tool and why the reason for the existence of the tool. Eventually, many of the tools are providing low code experience, meaning they're graphical tools that eventually helps the developer to be more productive and generate or to code less boilerplate coding to focus more on the business logic that needs to be provided by the developer and also to simplify some of the cumbersome development activities that are required to be for example, if you need to modify a JSON file, which is very kind of machinery file development activity. On top of these kind of an activities which are very not straightforward, we build productivity tools. For example, I can mention the editor for authorizations and roles, editor for defining the personal data in your application to afterwards help you to use the SAP Personal Data Management tool, editors to define your sample data in





your application, things like that. We invest in to help developers to be more productive. We're working also to extend what we call the application storyboard, helping the developer to better understand the main logical components of his application immediately when you open up the application. So if the application consists of the database elements, services, UI elements, then you would immediately see the different building blocks of the applications and how they are interconnected with this kind of lines connecting between the components. And once you click on each one of these components, you would immediately dive into the specific editor of modifying the services, of modifying the database elements or the UIs. So it helps you to easily navigate between the domain specific editors from one specific application modular editor. And by that we hope again to help with being more guiding and more extending the productivity of the developer. So this is the overall direction that we would like to take the tool also going forward.

**Niklas:** Great. So it's about increasing the productivity and efficiency while doing software development.

**Yuval:** Yes.

**Niklas:** Cool. As a follow up question to the no-code, low-code capabilities: How SAP Business Application Studio relates or coexist to the capabilities of SAP Build?

**Yuval:** Yeah. So first of all, we are working very closely with the SAP Build team and our goal eventually is to offer a suite of tools for our customers, for the different personas in the organization. So whether it's a professional developer working for the IT department or business experts working for the different LOB's or architects or whatever, to be able to collaborate together and to reuse different building blocks of the applications artifacts and basically collaborate between the different tools to eventually deliver the innovation that the organization needs. You can see several examples for that. So on the process automation tool. So in many cases you need to define your eyes for authorizations or approvals. And the UI in many cases is being developed by the professional developer SAPUI5 building blocks for doing that. And for example, in this example, you would like to enable professional developer to provide a UI for the process automation colleague who is defining the process to take this UI and just use it within his process easily. Another example can be: I develop a service with cloud application programming and then I would like to create a nice user experience with a SAP Build Apps. So this is a flow that we would also like to enable. So all these kind of cross tools which blurs the limits between the different tools and make it like one suite of tools that according to the needs and the skill set can be used within the organization. So this is the overall direction.

**Niklas:** Okay. Thanks for explaining this. Let's get a bit more technical. Since last year's SAP TechEd, SAP Business Application Studio is based on an open source project called Code OSS. You already mentioned that too. What advantages does this have for developers? Microsoft Visual Studio Code is based on that too. Does that mean that SAP Business Application Studio is and and Microsoft Visual Studio Code are fully compatible? Or are there any differences beside the SAP Toolings?

**Yuval:** So this was one of the major innovations of SAP Business Application Studio last year. So end of last year, we released it on November and basically we wanted to align with the best of the industry IDE. So we started with Eclipse Theia, which is an open source relying on the same Microsoft VSCode APIs. But still we had a lot of investment in keeping the pace of Microsoft APIs and innovations together with the Eclipse Theia community, which eventually we decided also after getting the opportunity from Microsoft Open source to switch from Eclipse Theia To Microsoft Code OSS, which eventually enables us as SAP community to be fully 1 to 1 compatible with the Microsoft developer community, which is a huge benefit. First of all, the pace of innovation of Microsoft community for Code OSS is amazing. We get tons of innovations into the product just from consuming the open source and basing that for you for the SAP Business Application Studio community. So this is coming for free each time we upgrade Code OSS, which is every month basically. The second is all the different extensions running on the marketplace of Visual Studio Code are huge opportunity for SAP community to benefit from. So in the past with Eclipse Theia, many of the extensions were not compatible with the SAP Business Applications Studio because of lacking APIs on Eclipse Theia and now this is not the case.



**Yuval:** Since we are 1 to 1, you can practically install any extension which is runnable on Microsoft Visual Studio Code, also on SAP Business Application Studio, a disclaimer for that, the marketplace is not directly reachable from SAP Business Application Studio extension's pane due to legal reasons. So if you want to directly from SAP Business Application Studio install extensions, then you are directed to OpenVSX marketplace, which is an open marketplace containing thousands of extensions. But not everything. If you want to install an extension which is not there, there is also a way to do that. Of course everything is legally possible and you can also take an extension from the extension owner and then install it by yourself for also SAP Business Application Studio. We can also link to that afterwards on how to do that on the podcast notes and then, you know, the entire community of developers. So this is like joining the biggest developer community when you're being a part of the Code OSS platform. So this is also taking the SAP community and joining to the biggest developer community basically out there. So I think this is a great.

**Niklas:** Yeah, sounds like a huge win.

**Yuval:** Yeah.

**Niklas:** Okay. So in an earlier section of this episode, I also talked about some roadmap items of SAP business Application Studio, and one was the remote development extension for Visual Studio Code. Can you give us some details about that one? I think that's also good relating to the prior question. But of course under the disclaimer that roadmap items can change and nothing you've explained needs to be fulfilled by SAP.

**Yuval:** Yeah, of course. First of all, good news. So we just released the first version of that. So in terms of the roadmap and having it in the future, so it's something that we can more say in confident. So we just released the first version of that. You can find it on the marketplace under the name of SAP Business Application Studio toolkit. Basically, it allows you to securely connect to your SAP Business Application Studio dev spaces directly from your local Visual Studio Code desktop installation. Once you do that, you will see the list of your dev spaces that you have defined on your SAP Business Application Studio environment. You can connect to more than one environment. So if your company has different installations of SAP Business Application Studio in different regions or different subaccounts, you can connect to these different environments from one Visual Studio Code, desktop environment, which can also help you with that. And then once you run this kind of a dev space, you get all the different tools and runtimes available from you from your Visual Studio Code, desktop environment. So nothing needs to be installed. All of the different tools are coming and streamed directly to your desktop environment. All of your test runs are running on the SAP Business Application Studio runtime. So running basically remotely seamlessly for you with all the SAP BTP services available for you. So all of that is done seamlessly once you do that from your SAP Business Application Studio toolkit on your VS Code desktop installation. So this allows better flexibility for the developer community to choose between using SAP Business Application Studio from browser or from the VS code desktop installation.

**Niklas:** Okay. Do you have any other upcoming roadmap items you want to mention here beside the one?

**Yuval:** Yeah, I can mention three of them. First one, we're working on simplifying the way you develop SaaS solutions. So if you're an ISV and you want to offer your application running on SAP BTP for your customer's subscription, you're doing that with cloud application programming based application on SAP BTP. So with the new offering, we will be simplifying the way you develop this kind of SaaS solution and also test it. So simulate the subscriber and the provider of the SaaS application easily. So this is one. The second one is we will allow developers to easily consume SAP business events from the service Center tool in SAP Business Application Studio. So you will be able to discover business events from your back end systems. Or for example, if a customer is created on your SAP S/4HANA backend, you can listen to that event and do something in your application logic. So all the exploration of events and then connectivity from the event to



your application and test running it, all of that will offer with that. The last thing is we want to also offer the same experience based on the storyboard and the visual graphical tools which we offer today with the high productivity tools. Also when you're doing UI development with the Fiori tools. So we'll also offer the same experience for the developers who is doing that very soon. So these are the three innovations I can mention.

**Niklas:** Thank you for sharing. You're the chief product owner of SAP Business Application Studio and its predecessor, SAP WebIDE. What was the motivation to sunset the further development of SAP WebIDE and launch the SAP Business Application Studio? And how does the migration for developers using the SAP WebIDE to SAP Business Application Studio works?

**Yuval:** This is a good question because many of our customers are in the different phases of migrating from SAP WebIDE to SAP Business Application Studio. And we are, of course, helping developers to go through this journey together. So when we started up with SAP WebIDE, the key purpose of that was helping customers to develop and extend SAP Fiori applications. So it's more like client side applications with JavaScript and more lightweight in essence. And then the product as time went by grew to be beyond that, according to the SAP strategy and the different technologies in SAP. For example, for developing SAP HANA applications, for developing mobile applications, for developing full stack applications with a lot of back-end programming. And we came to the understanding that with the architecture of SAP WebIDE, without any proper backend technology to help developers to be productive with fast developer iterations, we would not be able to support them to go through that route. From simple web applications to complex three tier full stack applications. So this was one of the main reasons of switching to modern technologies and standard IDE's. Another thing is that the proprietary thing. So with SAP WebIDE, we basically in SAP developed everything in the IDE from A to Z, including the git client even. And these took also our effort from developing SAP specific tools to develop commodity tools. Of course we could not compete even on that because we cannot keep the pace of the community for developing a git client.

**Yuval:** The best is to take the best of breed of the git clients and not to reinvent the wheel there. So also another motivation was to be able to rely on the community and take whatever the community is offering and also to give the developer this kind of freedom to choose whatever tools he wants from the community. And with already we could not offer that and SAP Business Application Studio can offer that. Command line always we heard we want to have command line. I don't want to necessarily be using the visual tools. Let me use the command line. I want my own freedom. We couldn't do that on SAP WebIDE because of the architecture and how it was built. And with SAP Business Application Studio, finally, we can offer that kind of flexibility for developers and I know that many of them appreciate that kind of openness and flexibility. And in general, we heard from many developers, they said, why do we need to compromise on the core capabilities when we use SAP, we want it to be latest and greatest and take advantage of what the community is reinventing, enjoy the innovation and we couldn't offer that. And with SAP Business Application Studio now running also on Code OSS they get the best I think. So these are the main highlights of the reasons and what we hope to offer now.

**Niklas:** So we all know there is an extremely hot topic out in the world now. Artificial intelligence and large language models like ChatGPT. What do you think about projects like GitHub's copilot or more in general: how AI can support developers in being more efficient and writing code faster?

**Yuval:** Yeah. So of course we are looking into that. So in SAP Business Application Studio team and all the different SAP technologies, we all heard also the announcement in Sapphire just last week, Christian Klein and Satya from Microsoft on the collaboration between SAP and Microsoft on that. So we're looking into that in the sense of how can we help developers be more productive in the SAP context and in SAP Business Application Studio. We help a lot on the different areas of developing applications, but one place that we fail to help with is okay, At the end I need to reach my business logic and I need to write my JavaScript event handler and nobody can replace me in that because we don't have good tools to generate this kind of JavaScript code or Java code or ABAP code. And with the generative AI, this can give us this kind of of a gap and what we can offer. Okay. We come out of the different productivity tools in SAP Business Application Studio. We have the context of the application or the intent of the developer or what he wants to





achieve, and we can help the developer to provide that as a feedback for the generative AI machinery so the developer won't need to give this all of that maybe complex context for the generative AI machinery, but just focus on, okay, what kind of logic would you want to achieve? And we can tell the generative AI, okay, this is CAP, this is the input parameters, this is how the output should look like.

**Yuval:** All of that. And at the end the result can be much more accurate. And then the developer eventually should need to, of course, give his approval. Okay, this is what I want to use. Give his consent. Okay. I take accountability on that and then it after a few iterations of trial and error, of course he can get it into his project and basically serve his business needs for the business logic. So this is one use case that we're looking into. Another one. Okay, I need to generate unit tests. Please help me with that. This is quite cumbersome activity and we know that we can make use of generative AI capabilities quite easily to do that and reach much higher code coverage with that. So this is very nice sample data generation. So besides of arbitrary strings, we can now ask the generative AI, okay, give me airlines or whatever, food companies, rock bands, and in the second you get everything in the right format into your application sample data. And this gives a lot of benefit eventually for the developer. So such integrations between the different productivity tools to the generative AI, this is what we're looking into and stay tuned. I hope we can bring that soon for the community.

**Niklas:** Yeah, sure is a hot topic and has a lot of potential, but so maybe a bit joking question as a follow up: So are you aware of AI taking us over like in science fiction films?

**Yuval:** Yeah, we had many discussions here in the development team. I guess this is not only it's one of the professions out there is kind of threatened quote to quote by AI, I think this is something that I see it as assistance and how it can assist us to do faster things that we're doing today and not like replacing us.

**Niklas:** Yeah.

**Yuval:** Of course, we need to make sure that someone is creating the governance around AI to keep it as an assistant and not as something that eventually can threaten. I don't know the existence of some of the professions out there, but at least for now, I see it as a, you know, benefit for being more productive and not doing more of the tedious work that some of us are doing today.

**Niklas:** Yeah. Well said. Thank you for sharing all these details and answering all my questions. So looking at time, we are approaching the end of the podcast, so let's do something fun if you want. Aside from our interview topic, I am deeply passionate about listening and creating music. Music has a massive impact on humans and a lot of situations. Music is used to transport emotions, especially in films and videos. So I wanted to play a music game, if you want.

**Yuval:** Yeah, sure. Why not?

**Niklas:** The game goes like this: I read a quote from a musician. I give you the artist three artist names and you need to guess from which one the quote was. I can also give you some hints about the corresponding artist if needed. All right. All

**Yuval:** Okay.

**Niklas:** Clear. Okay, so then the quote is you can't knock on Opportunity's door and don't be ready. So the three artists names are Pharrell Williams, Bruno Mars, or Harry Styles? From which one is the quote?



**Yuval:** Wow. It's I it's. I can only guess so.

**Niklas:** So, so, So basically, do you know the artists?

**Yuval:** Uh, the third one.

**Niklas:** Harry Styles.

**Yuval:** Uh, yeah, this one I heard. Maybe I'm too old. I'm approaching 50, so maybe this is the reason. Uh, but. Yeah, but I. I must admit, I have no clue.

**Niklas:** Okay, so then then we can just solve it. So the quote

**Yuval:** Yeah.

**Niklas:** Is from from Bruno Mars and his

**Yuval:** Okay.

**Niklas:** One of his most famous songs was a grenade. You may have heard that one. I Catch a grenade and all that kind of stuff.

**Yuval:** I will look

**Niklas:** Yeah, yeah,

**Yuval:** Look for that in after the meeting.

**Yuval:** Yeah.

**Yuval:** To to see.

**Niklas:** Of course, all

**Yuval:** To hear.

**Niklas:** All three are pop musicians, so maybe it's not even your genre.

**Yuval:** Yeah.



**Niklas:** Okay, so, um, last point. We want to always ask our podcast guests this last question at the end: Can you personally recommend a tech related book or even movie to our listeners? And if you have a recommendation, why do you think it's so good and nice to share? Our audience is always interested in tech content and looking for continuing education.

**Yuval:** Yeah. So I have two. The first one is quite old. It's Matrix. It's a film. I think that we are coming to be something like that. I hope not, but it may be. So once the Meta was announced, this kind of universe where you connect to and you're kind of being someone else, that's like alter ego. I don't know someone who you want to be in a different world very easily. Uh, so this is something very similar to The Matrix or is the Matrix.

**Niklas:** Yeah.

**Yuval:** And I can imagine many of us going into that when it's available. And if you combine that with AI, what is happening today, this is kind of yeah, very futuristic and but it's coming together so this is something which was always very fascinating for me to, to basically see how it happens in real. The second one is a TV series I liked in a Apple TV. If you heard about this: severance, I think it's a masterpiece and I really looking forward for the second season. Um, it's like mysterious series where people go to work and then they're like their memory is being wiped up and then when they go back, it's kind of two different memory stacks for different parts of their day. And yeah, this is something if you haven't watched that and you can watch Apple TV, I really recommend that because it was really fun for me to watch.

**Niklas:** Yeah, should definitely check out the second one. So I'm

**Yuval:** Yeah.

**Niklas:** I have I need to have a look. One of my favorite tech related series is Mr. Robot. Do you know that one?

**Yuval:** Yeah. I watched the first season actually. I did not follow up, but maybe I should. I heard it's becoming a very interesting. Yeah, I should.

**Niklas:** Yeah, you definitely should.

**Yuval:** Okay. Okay. Okay. I will give it a try.

**Niklas:** So with this, we are at the end of our fifth episode of the year 2023, number 95 of SAP BTP Talk. I would really like to thank you again for tuning in and staying till the very end. Big thanks again to Yuval Anafi for being my interview guest today.

**Yuval:** Thank

**Niklas:** Yeah,



**Yuval:** You.

**Niklas:** Sure, sure. I can't imagine any any better fit for this topic like you. Yeah. If you were listening to us for the first time and there were terms that were not clear to you, please let us know on our social media channels or drop us an email at [platformtalks@sap.com](mailto:platformtalks@sap.com) so that then we can help you to understand them. Plus we're always open minded for your feedback, so please let us know what you do and don't like. And most importantly, what are your wishes for the next podcast episodes. When you like the podcast, please feel free to share it with your tech friends, colleagues and family. Don't forget to subscribe to the podcast or leave a rating and review. You can listen to this podcast on various streaming platforms like, for example, Spotify, Apple Podcasts and more. With that, I'm Niklas Siemer, and I'm happy that I were your host today. Recording from the SAP headquarters in Walldorf, Germany. Talk to you in the next episode. Until then, keep listening. Keep learning and keep growing. Cheers and bye bye.

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