



Automating tests with a strategy

A journey into shifting tests left

Erik Haartmans / Michael Bussmann

May 29 2024

A silhouette of a hiker with a backpack, standing on a mountain trail and looking out over a vast mountain range under a cloudy sky.

challenge
us

**YOUR AUTOMATION ENGINEERS WERE
SO PREOCCUPIED WITH WHETHER THEY COULD...**



... THEY DIDN'T STOP TO THINK IF THEY SHOULD

ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY

START AUTOMATING TESTS

define a *test strategy* first

based on

- scope -
- risk analysis -
- requirements -
(functional / non-functional)

of the System Under Test (SUT)

also use *exploratory testing*

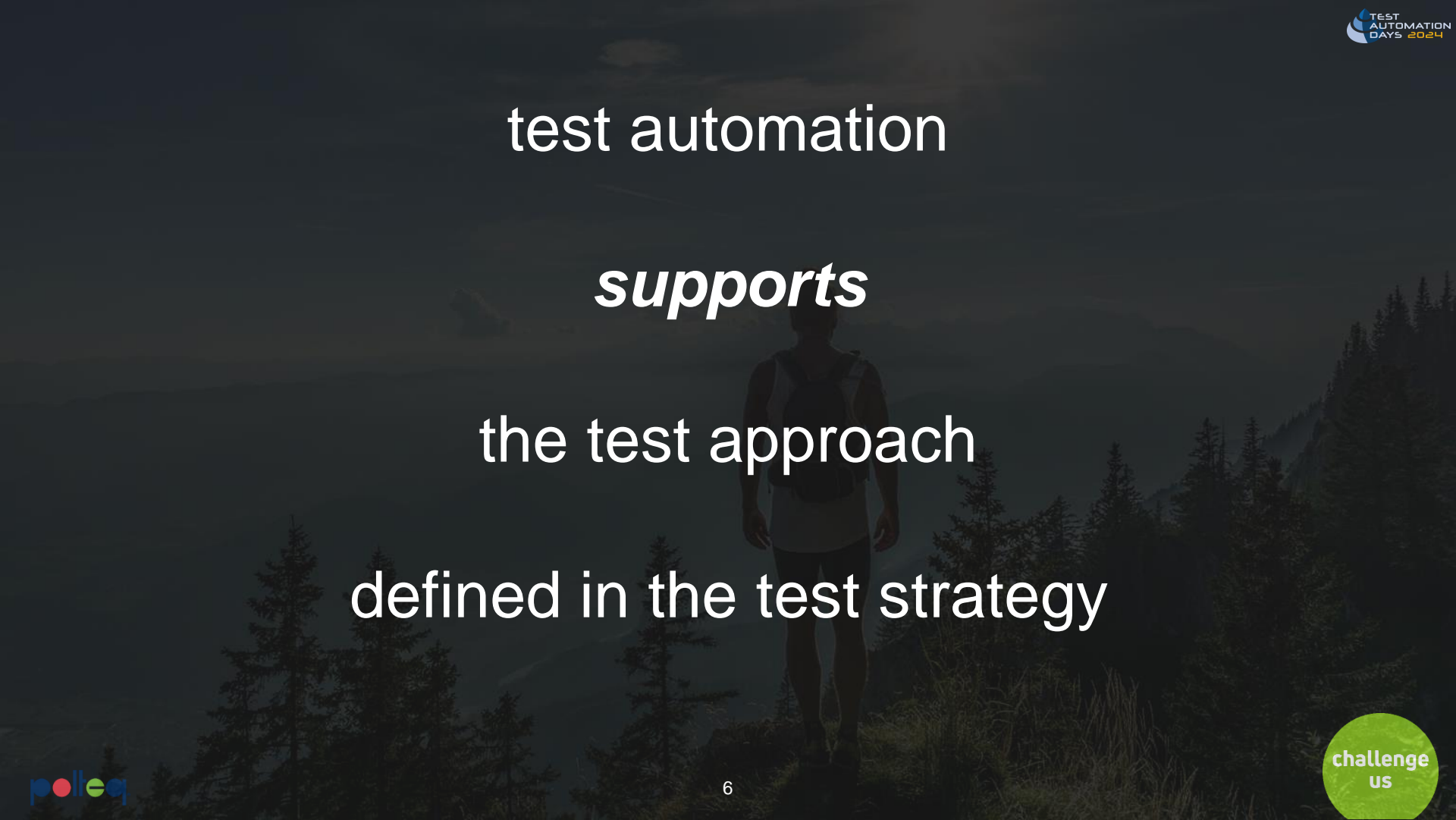
based on the

test strategy

you define which

test automation strategy

applies to ***your context***



test automation
supports
the test approach
defined in the test strategy



back
to the
topic



Automating tests with a strategy

A journey into shifting tests left

Erik Haartmans / Michael Bussmann

May 29 2024

A silhouette of a hiker with a backpack, standing on a mountain trail and looking out over a vast landscape of mountains and forests.

challenge
us

What does "shifting tests left" mean to you?



shift-left testing

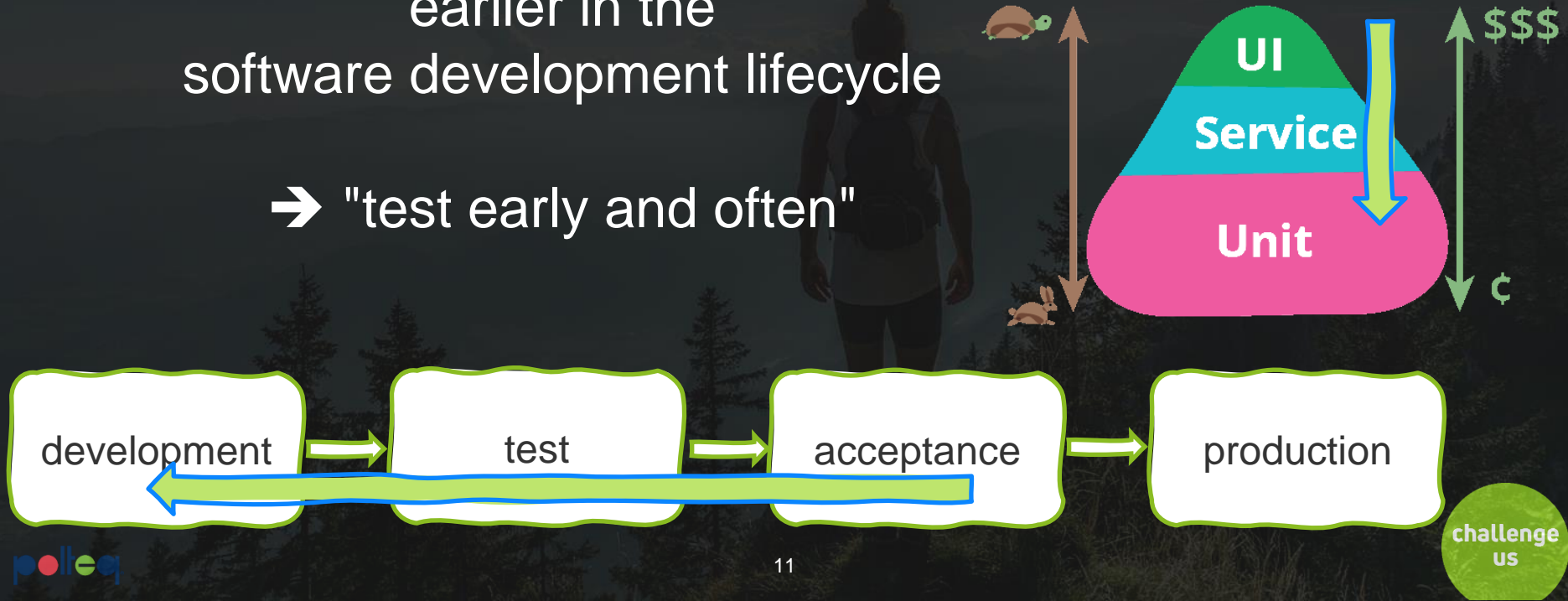
approach to software and system testing
in which testing is performed
earlier in the
software development lifecycle

➔ "test early and often"

shift-left testing

approach to software and system testing
in which testing is performed
earlier in the
software development lifecycle

→ "test early and often"

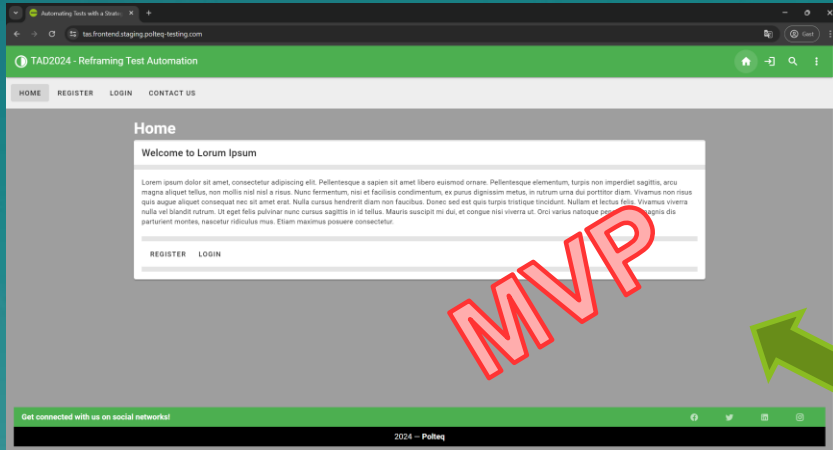


Goal of this masterclass

- Not about creating a lot of tests
- It's about: Learn using approaches how to
 - test on various "levels"
 - use different test automation techniques & tools
 - Java/junit/Playwright/REST-assured/Docker/mockng
 - TypeScript/Playwright/Docker/mockng

Meet the System Under Test (SUT)

Meet the System Under Test (SUT)



Meet the System Under Test (SUT)

MVP

- Webapp for
 - registering new users
 - which can then log into the SUT for further actions.
- MVP state → not a lot of functionality is available (yet)
- Team decided that to have automated tests in place.

Meet the System Under Test (SUT)

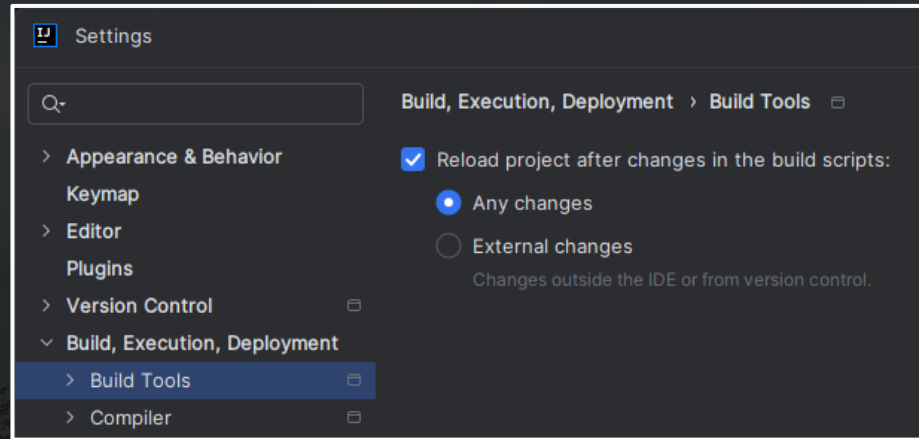
- The SUT is deployed in the staging environment:
 - <https://tas.frontend.staging.polteq-testing.com>
- Please explore the SUT

E2E testing repository

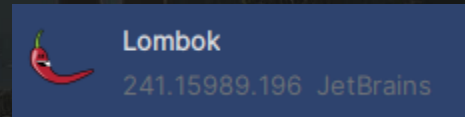
- End-to-end (E2E) testing repository already available.
 - This repo can be found here:
<https://github.com/erik-haartmans/tas-e2e-testing-repo-java>
- Clone or download this repo to your laptop
- Open this repo with IntelliJ IDEA

Check the E2E testing repo

- Set the maven settings via menu `File / Settings` to `Any changes` to reload the project after changes are made to the pom.xml file.

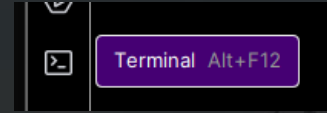


- Also install the Lombok plugin
 - File / settings / plugin



Check the E2E testing repo

- Open the terminal (View / Tools Windows / Terminal) in IntelliJ and compile the project using the following command:
 - `./mvnw clean test -Psanity-tests`
 - mac users might have to give more permissions to mvnw → `chmod +x mvnw`
- This will check that all settings are correct
 - A simple Playwright test runs on your machine



Check the E2E testing repo

- The output of the test should look like this:

```
[INFO] -----  
[INFO]  T E S T S  
[INFO] -----  
[INFO] Running 000_sanity_check.SanityCheckTest  
[INFO] Tests run: 1, Failures: 0, Errors: 0, Skipped: 0, Time elapsed: 8.002 s -- in 000_sanity_check.SanityCheckTest  
[INFO]  
[INFO] Results:  
[INFO]  
[INFO] Tests run: 1, Failures: 0, Errors: 0, Skipped: 0  
[INFO]  
[INFO] -----  
[INFO] BUILD SUCCESS  
[INFO] -----  
[INFO] Total time: 14.442 s  
[INFO] Finished at: 2024-05-18T13:00:26+02:00  
[INFO] -----
```


UI E2E Tests of the SUT

- Used tooling
 - Java / Playwright
 - Because most developers develop in Java
 - Easy to get support from the devs
- The UI tests are located in the **001_uittests** package
 - Located in `/src/test/java`
 - Modular Playwright setup with tests using the Page Object Model

UI E2E Navigation Tests

- Examine the `001_navigationtests` package
 - 2 test classes
 - containing tests for the homepage and menu
- Run the tests in these classes using IntelliJ
- You will see that 2 tests are failing
- They need an implementation!

Assignment: Implement the failing tests

UI E2E Registration Tests

- Examine the `002_registrationtests` package
 - 3 test classes containing various tests
 - `RegisterFormValidationTests`
 - `InvalidRegistrationTests`
 - `ValidRegistrationTests`

UI E2E Registration Tests

- Test `itShouldBePossibleToRegisterWithValidEmail`
 - in `ValidRegistrationTests` class
 - parameterized tests testing the requirements of a valid email
- Test `anErrorShouldBeShownWhenAnInvalidEmailIsUsed`
 - in `InvalidRegistrationTests` class
 - parameterized test testing the requirements of an invalid email
- Requirements on next pages

Register form requirements

- Fields with * are required
 - Error '<field> is required' will be shown
- Email must be according to the format
 - Error 'Email is not valid' will be shown
- You can only click register in the form when:
 - Terms are accepted
 - Both passwords are the same
- A user cannot register with the same email more than once
 - Error 'User <email> already registered' will be shown

Valid email requirements

- Basic syntax [emailname]@[domain].[tld]
- Must contain 1 @ and then a point . after the domain
- Text before @ only contains a-z, A-Z, 0-9, dash -, point .
- Domain only contains a-z, A-Z, 0-9, dash -, point .
- TLD only contains a-z, A-Z
 - Minimum of 2 characters
 - Maximum of 6 characters

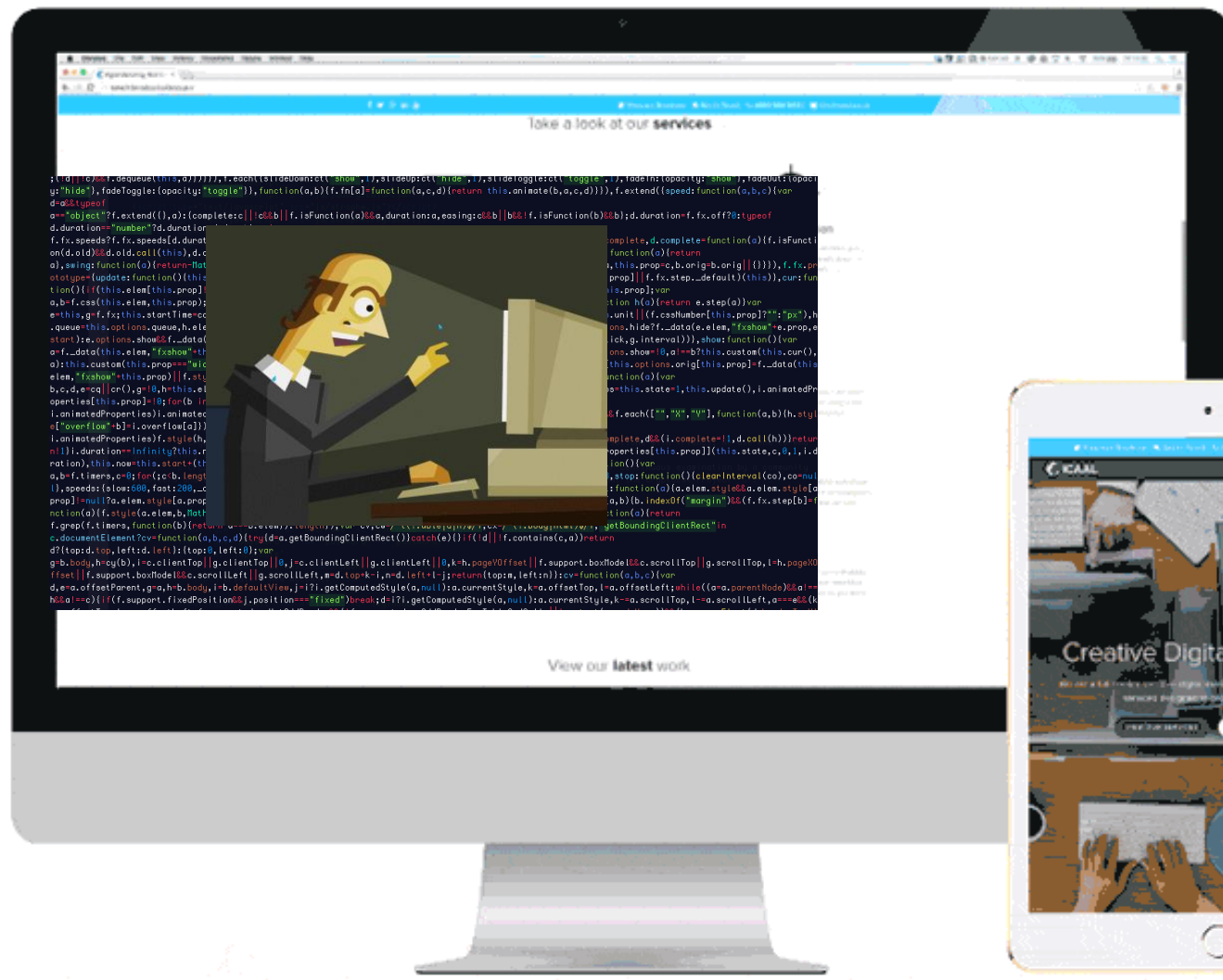
UI E2E Registration Tests

- Run the tests in the registration classes using IntelliJ.
- All tests should succeed!

Bug ticket - New

Headline	Error text not correct for missing email
Reporter	An E2E tester
Description	Text is showing 'Email is mandatory' This should be 'Email is required'
Bug assigned to	A developer who can fix the bug!

- change code
- unit test
- other dev tests
- deploy!



Assignment:

Complete the invalid email tests

They are incomplete!

(e.g invalid chars, length of tld, ...)

Bug ticket - New

Headline	Error text not correct for missing email
Reporter	An E2E tester
Description	Text is showing 'Email is mandatory' This should be 'Email is required'
Bug assigned to	A developer who can fix it



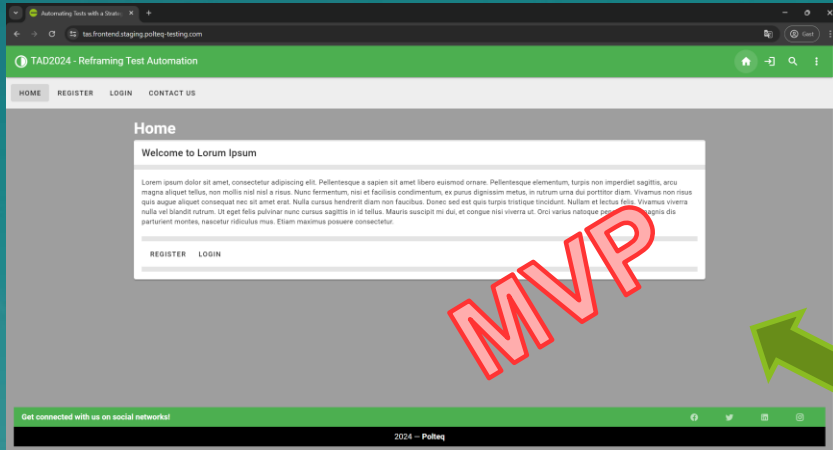
retest!

Can we test more efficiently?

Can we test more efficiently?

- Testing through the UI takes too long
- Maybe we can speed up the testing
- Let's have a closer look at how our system is built
 - Inspect the system landscape
- The frontend of the SUT communicates with a service in the cloud → calles **tas-bff-service**
(backend for frontend)

The SUT in more detail

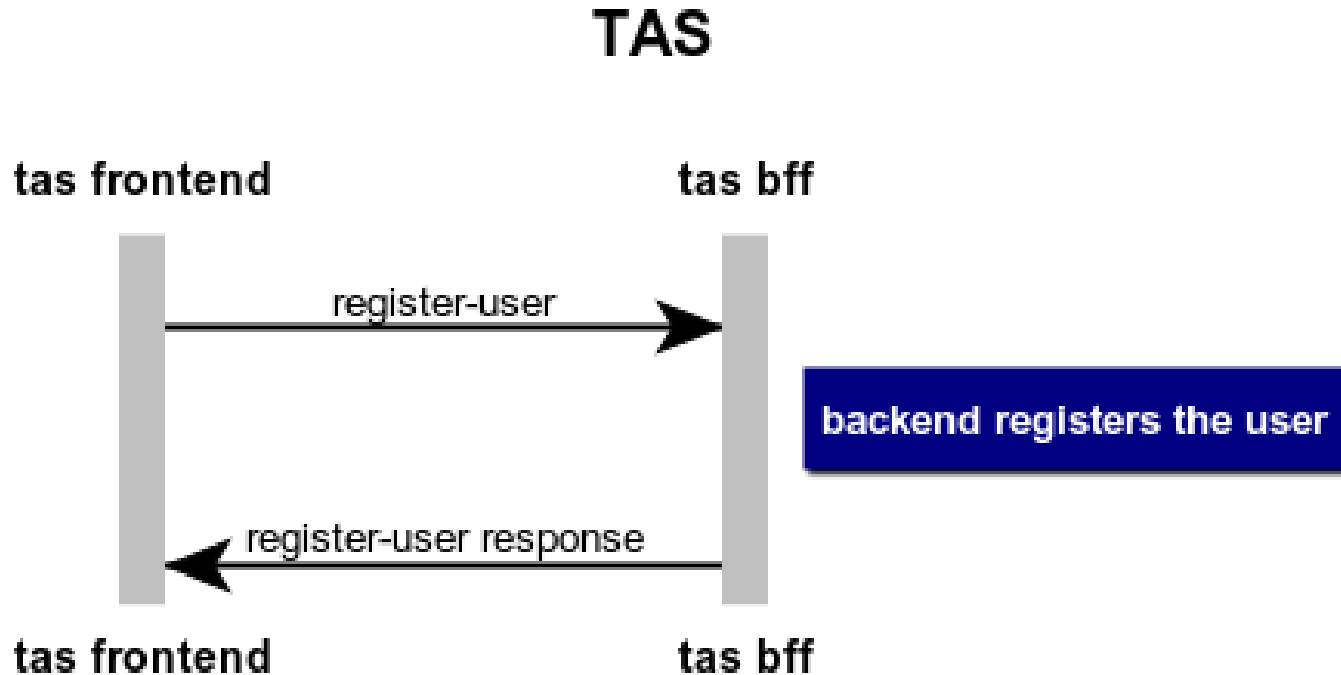


tas-bff-service

Can we test more efficiently?

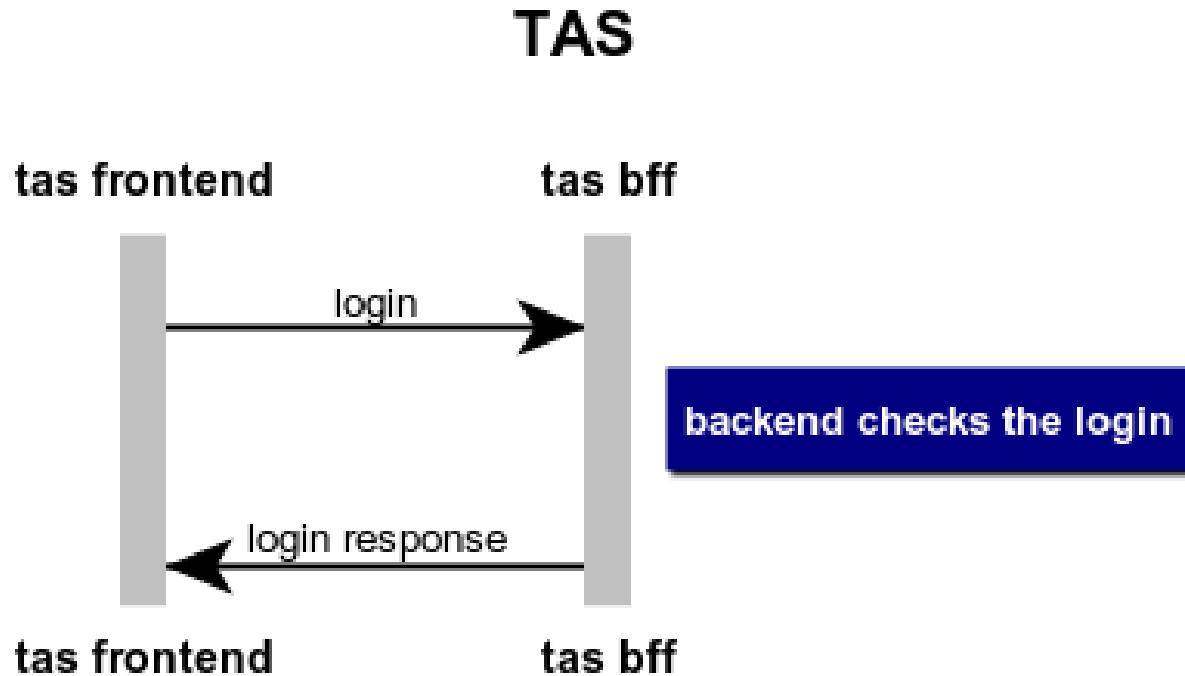
- **tas-bff-service**
 - exposes 2 *api* endpoints → used by the **tas-frontend**
- The base url for the **tas-bff-service** is
 - <https://tas.bff.staging.polteq-testing.com>
- **/register-user** endpoint → register a new user
- **/login** endpoint → login an existing user

/register-user flow



www.websequencediagrams.com

/login flow



www.websequencediagrams.com

Description endpoints

```
- path: /register-user
method: POST
request:
  body:
    application/json:
      schema: |
        {
          "name": "Max Verstappen",
          "email": "m.verstappen@redbullracing.com",
          "password": "password123",
          "phoneNumber": "555-12345"
        }
responses:
  - status: 200
    body:
      application/json:
        schema: |
          {
            "name": "Max Verstappen",
            "email": "m.verstappen@redbullracing.com",
            "password": "password123",
            "phoneNumber": "555-12345"
          }
  - status: 400
    body:
      application/json:
        schema: |
          {
            "statusCode": 400,
            "message": "Name is required, Email is required"
          }
```

```
- path: /login
method: POST
request:
  body:
    application/json:
      schema: |
        {
          "email": "m.verstappen@redbullracing.com",
          "password": "password123",
        }
responses:
  - status: 200
    body:
      application/json:
        schema: |
          {
            "name": "Max Verstappen",
            "email": "m.verstappen@redbullracing.com",
            "phoneNumber": "555-12345"
          }
  - status: 403
    body:
      application/json:
        schema: |
          {
            "statusCode": 403,
            "message": "Could not login with these credentials"
          }
```


API Testing

API Tests

- Package `002_apitests` contains tests which directly use the defined endpoints
- For now, we only focus on `/register-user`
- The tests are REST-assured tests
 - REST-assured is a library for API testing

API Tests

- Examine the `001_registertests` package
- Run the tests → they should all pass
- The ``itShouldBePossibleToRegisterWithValidEmail`` test validates the valid email formats.
- The ``anErrorShouldBeReturnedWhenAnInvalidEmailsPassed`` test validates the invalid email formats.
- Check if they are complete

Assignment:

Complete the invalid email tests

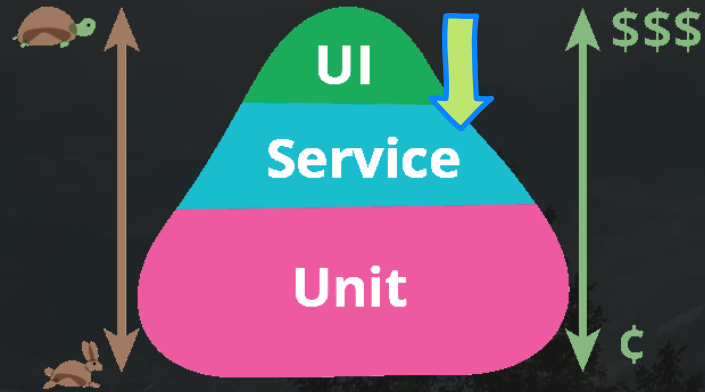
What tests are now obsolete?

Why?

Delete them!



So, we moved our tests
from the UI
to the API ...

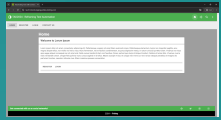


**Is this *E2E* approach
the best solution
for testing the app?**



**To see
what we can do more efficient
we have to dive even more into
the landscape of our SUT**

The SUT in even more detail



tas-bff-
service

internal



tas-user-
service

SUT in even more detail

- **tas-bff-service**

- **uses tas-user-service**
 - to register a new user
- is a proxy / gateway for request to internal services
 - it has no logic!
- is reachable from the outside world
 - **tas-user-service** is not
 - so we cannot directly test this service with our e2e test repo

SUT in even more detail

- **tas-user-service**
 - Actually registers new users
 - Performs all the validations when registering a new user
- How nice would it be if we could test this service!

How can we test the tas-user-service?



Component Testing



Component Testing

- Component Testing is testing a part of the system in isolation
- In our case we will use the **tas-user-service** as a component
- To be able to test the **tas-user-service** we need to know more about this service

testing the tas-user-service as a component

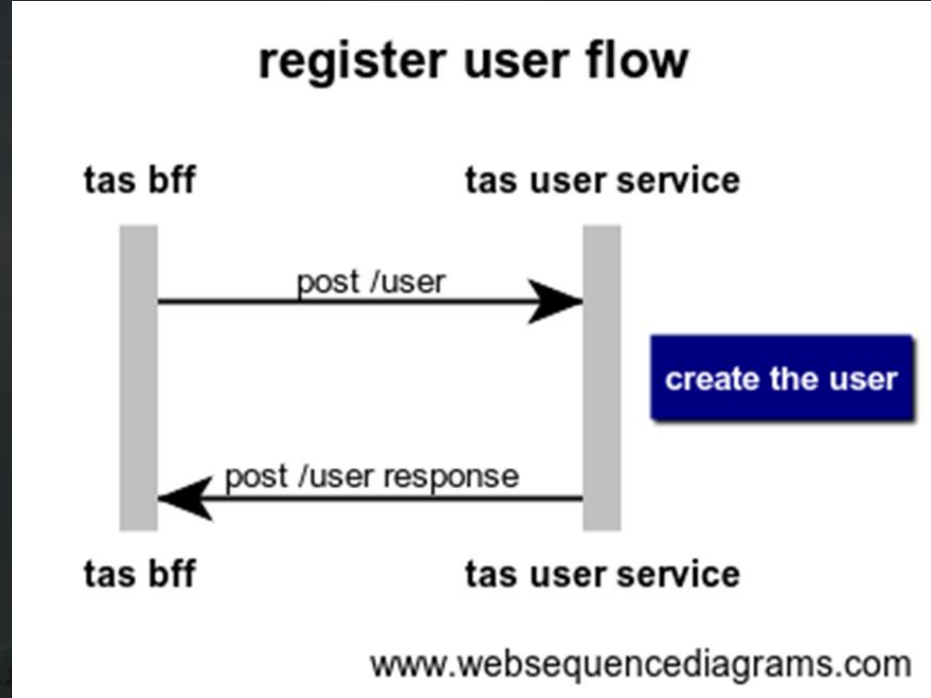


tas-user-service

- Get to know more about the **tas-user-service**
 - read the specifications
 - talk to the developer
 - ➔ for component testing input from devs is crucial
- **tas-user-service** has endpoint **/user** used by the **tas-bff-service**
- This is also 'just' an api

tas-user-service endpoint: /user

```
- path: /user
  method: POST
  description: create a user
  request:
    body:
      application/json:
        schema: |
          {
            "name": "Max Verstappen",
            "email": "m.verstappen@redbullracing.com",
            "password": "password123",
            "phoneNumber": "555-12345"
          }
  responses:
    - status: 200
      body:
        application/json:
          schema: |
            {
              "name": "Max Verstappen",
              "email": "m.verstappen@redbullracing.com",
              "password": "password123",
              "phoneNumber": "555-12345"
            }
    - status: 400
      body:
        application/json:
          schema: |
            {
              "statusCode": 400,
              "message": "Name is required, Email is required"
            }
```



tas-user-service

- Create user → post /user
- Unit tests in place for:
 - name is required
 - email is required
 - password is required
 - email must be valid according to the email validation rules
 - an email cannot be registered more than once

**The requirements
are being unit tested.
What else can we test here?**

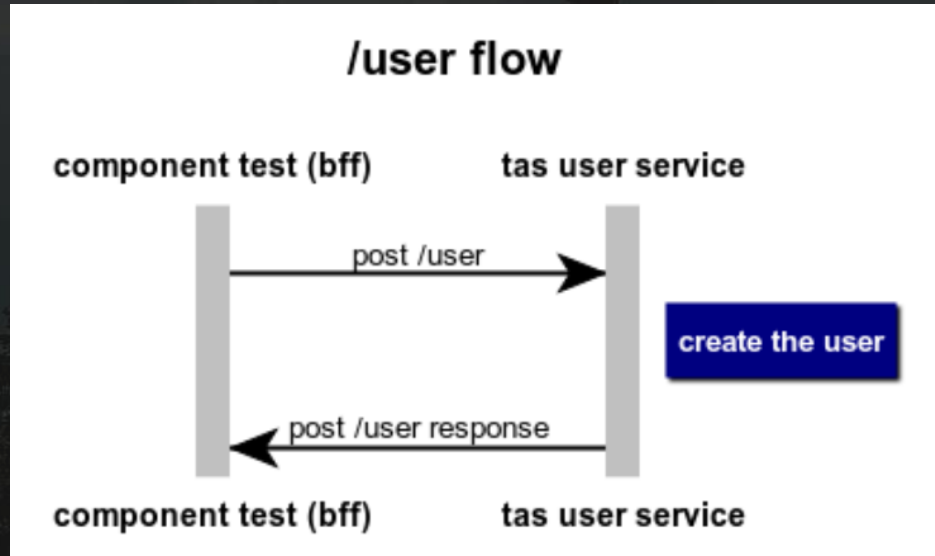


We can test the tas-user-service as a component in isolation

testing the inputs and outputs
of the tas-user-service

unit tests do not cover that

tas-user-service
component will be tested just like
the **tas-bff-service** uses it



Component Test of tas-user-service

- Technique used for component test:
 - Containerization with Docker
 - API testing with Java / REST-assured
- The **tas-user-service** repo can be found here:
 - <https://github.com/erik-haartmans/tas-user-service>
- Clone or download this repo to your own laptop
 - This repo contains a java spring boot api application

tas-user-service repo

- Open the repo in IntelliJ and set the maven reload settings
- Open a terminal in IntelliJ and enter the command:
 - `./mvnw clean verify`
- You should see a build success and this verifies that the repo settings are correct.

tas-user-service using docker

- Next → run the **tas-user-service** locally using docker
- Repo has files for docker
 - to create docker *image* from the source code
- Docker image is used to create a **container** which will be the actual **tas-user-service** running on your machine!

tas-user-service using docker

```
FROM maven:3-eclipse-temurin-21 as build
WORKDIR /build
COPY . .
RUN mvn clean package
```

Dockerfile = how to create image

```
FROM eclipse-temurin:21-jre-alpine as run
```

```
EXPOSE 8080
```

```
WORKDIR /app
COPY --from=build /build/target/tas-user-service-0.0.1.jar /app
```

```
ENTRYPOINT ["java","-jar","/app/tas-user-service-0.0.1.jar"]
```

services:

docker-compose.yml =
how to start





```
tas-user-service:
  build:
    context: .
    dockerfile: Dockerfile
  container_name: tas-user-service
  ports:
    - 8081:8080
```

tas-user-service using docker

- In the terminal you can enter the following command to (re-)create image and start the container:
 - `docker compose up --build`
- This will trigger docker image downloads which are needed to create the **tas-user-service** image
- After running this command (will take a while) you should see the `Started TasUserServiceApplication` message in the log. The container now has started in the non detached mode. This results in logging in our terminal.

Result:

tas-user-service is now running on your own machine in isolation!

Name	Image	Status	CPU (%)	Port(s)	Last started
▼  tas-user-service		Running (1/1)	0.15%		32 seconds ago
 tas-user-service 2813a93771f9 	tas-user-service-tas-user-service	Running	0.15%	8081:8080 	32 seconds ago

Why is this useful?



Stopping the containers

- How to stop the running container
 - ➔ press CTRL-C in terminal where you started it
- You should see something like this:

```
Gracefully stopping... (press Ctrl+C again to force)
[+] Stopping 1/1
  ✓ Container tas-user-service   Stopped
0.4s
canceled
```

- Typing the following command in the same terminal will also remove the container:
 - `docker compose down`

Stopping the containers - recap

- The steps for building an image from the sources and starting and stopping the container, are:
 - `docker compose up --build`
 - `CTRL-C`
 - `docker compose down`

Start / Stopping containers alternative

- You could also use the following command to start the container:
 - `docker compose up -d --build`
- Result is that it returns to the command line.
- No logging will be visible.
- `docker compose down` will stop and delete the container

tas-user-service component test

- **tas-user-service** is running locally on your machine
 - Now you can develop and execute tests for the service as a component
- Advantage of component tests
 - It tests the inputs, outputs and internals of the service
- It is used just like another service (like the bff) would use it.

➔ "Gray box testing"

tas-user-service component test

- Another big advantage of component tests
 - They can run in the *ci/cd pipeline*
- They could run right after the unit tests which means that we have fast feedback
 - after each push / PR
- Tests can fail even before any deployment has been done!

tas-user-service component test

- Check the package `componenttest` in the test folder
- `001_registerusertests` package contains component tests
 - In this case all component test classes end with ``CTCase``
- Run the component tests (valid and invalid)
 - Check logging of running container in terminal

Do we need more tests?



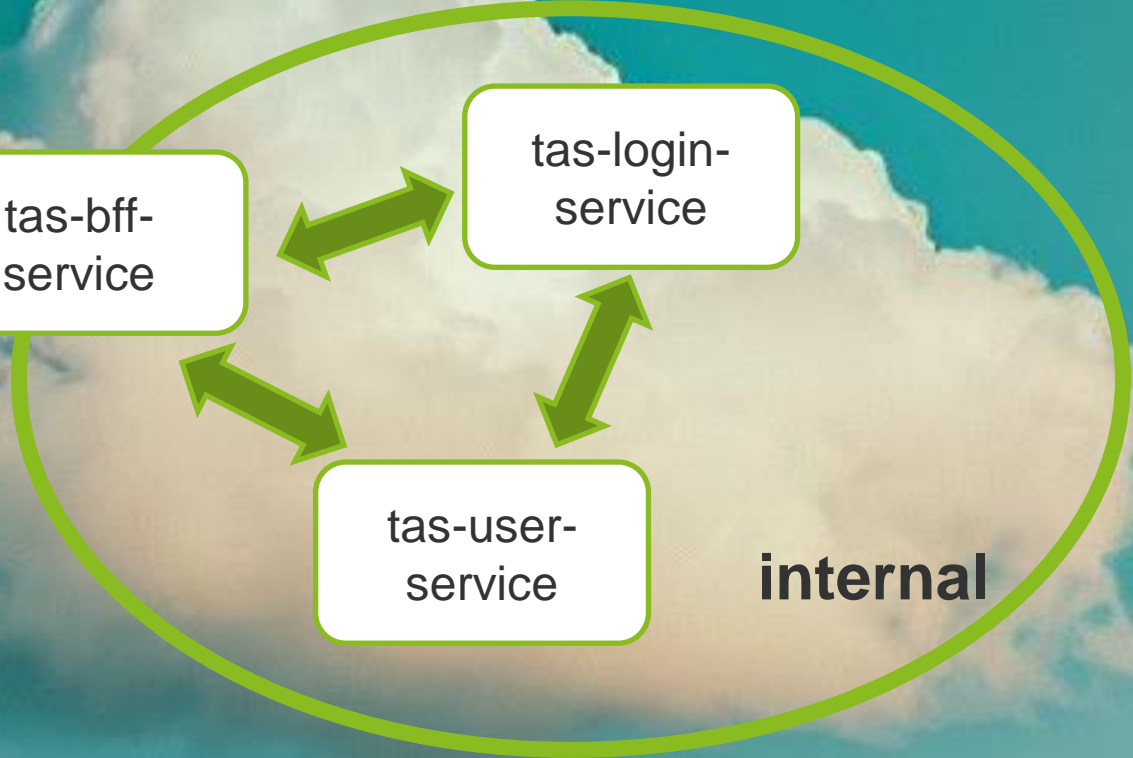
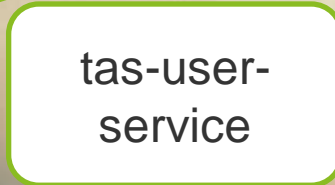
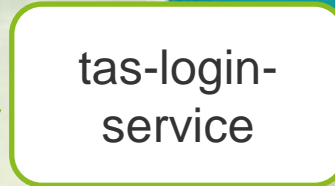
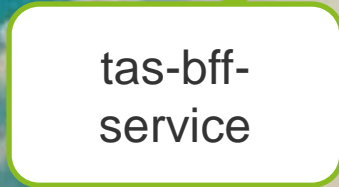
What tests can be deleted?



testing the frontend as a component

The SUT in complete detail

tas-frontend



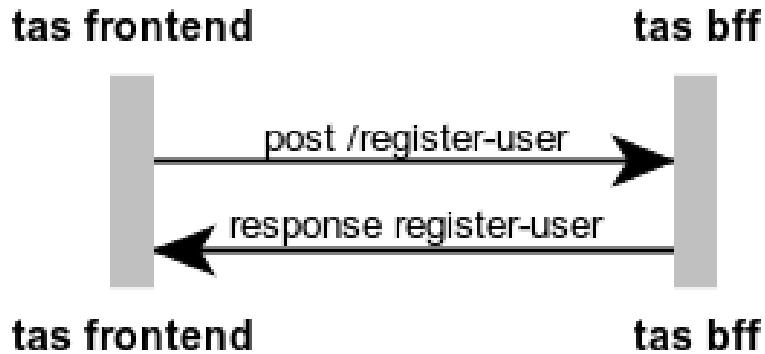
internal

tas-frontend

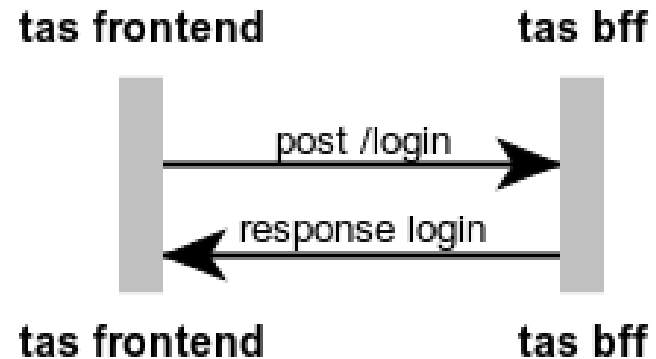
- The frontend has several functionalities
 - navigating internally
 - api calls to the **tas-bff-service**
- **tas-frontend** calls the **tas-bff-service** for:
 - post /register-user
 - post /login

tas-frontend flows

frontend register user flow



frontend login flow



tas-bff-service: /register-user & /login

```
- path: /register-user
  method: POST
  request:
    body:
      application/json:
        schema: |
          {
            "name": "Max Verstappen",
            "email": "ver@redbullracing.com",
            "password": "password123",
            "phoneNumber": "555-12345"
          }
  responses:
    - status: 200
      body:
        application/json:
          schema: |
            {
              "name": "Max Verstappen",
              "email": "ver@redbullracing.com",
              "password": "password123",
              "phoneNumber": "555-12345"
            }
    - status: 400
      body:
        application/json:
          schema: |
            {
              "statusCode": 400,
              "message": "Name is required, Email is required"
            }
```

```
- path: /login
  method: POST
  request:
    body:
      application/json:
        schema: |
          {
            "email": "ver@redbullracing.com",
            "password": "password123"
          }
  responses:
    - status: 200
      body:
        application/json:
          schema: |
            {
              "name": "Max Verstappen",
              "email": "ver@redbullracing.com",
              "phoneNumber": "555-12345"
            }
    - status: 403
      body:
        application/json:
          schema: |
            {
              "statusCode": 403,
              "message": "This can be any message"
            }
```


Component Testing: tas-frontend

- How to create component tests for **tas-frontend**
 - add tests to this repo!
- This repo is a TypeScript repo!



Should we stick to java testrepos or also learn TypeScript in this case?



tas-frontend

- github: <https://github.com/erik-haartmans/tas-frontend>
- Clone or download this repo to your own laptop
 - This repo contains the frontend webapp (TS)
- Open the repo in VSCode
- Open a terminal and enter the command:
 - `npm install`
 - `npx playwright install`

tas-frontend

- Starting the **tas-frontend** as a component
 - `docker compose up --build`
 - **Dockerfile** and **docker-compose.yml** contain instructions to create the frontend image and start it as a container
- After starting the frontend it's already available via:
 - <http://localhost:8080>
- Click through the app and see what happens

tas-frontend

- Contains Playwright component tests
 - uses the same type of UI testing library
- Open a new terminal and type:
 - `npx playwright test --ui`
- This starts the Playwright Test Runner
 - It shows the available tests in the project
 - They are located in the ``playwright-e2e-ct-tests`` folder
- Run the tests!

tas-frontend

- Examine the tests present
- We need to mock/stub the calls to the **tas-bff-service** apis
 - ➔ **tas-bff-service** is not available
- Playwright has its own mocking/stubbing functionality
 - See next pages

tas-frontend

- Playwright mocking

```
const body = `{
  "name": "name",
  "email": "a@a.com",
  "password": "1234",
  "phoneNumber": "555-4711",
}`;

// define the mocked response for the register endpoint
await page.route('*/**/register-user', async route => {
  await route.fulfill({
    status: 200,
    body
  });
});
```

tas-frontend

• Playwright mocking

```
// open the register page
await menu.openRegisterPage();

// enter register data
await registerPage.registerNewAccount(
  'name',
  'a@a.com',
  '1234',
  '1234',
  '555-4711',
  true
);

// mock returns a success message which the frontend can handle
// expect success page
await expect(registerSuccessPage.getPageContainer).toBeVisible();
```

Exercise

**Implement the
invalid registration test**
(check the valid tests for how to mock)



**After being able to test the
frontend in isolation ...
Which tests can be deleted?**

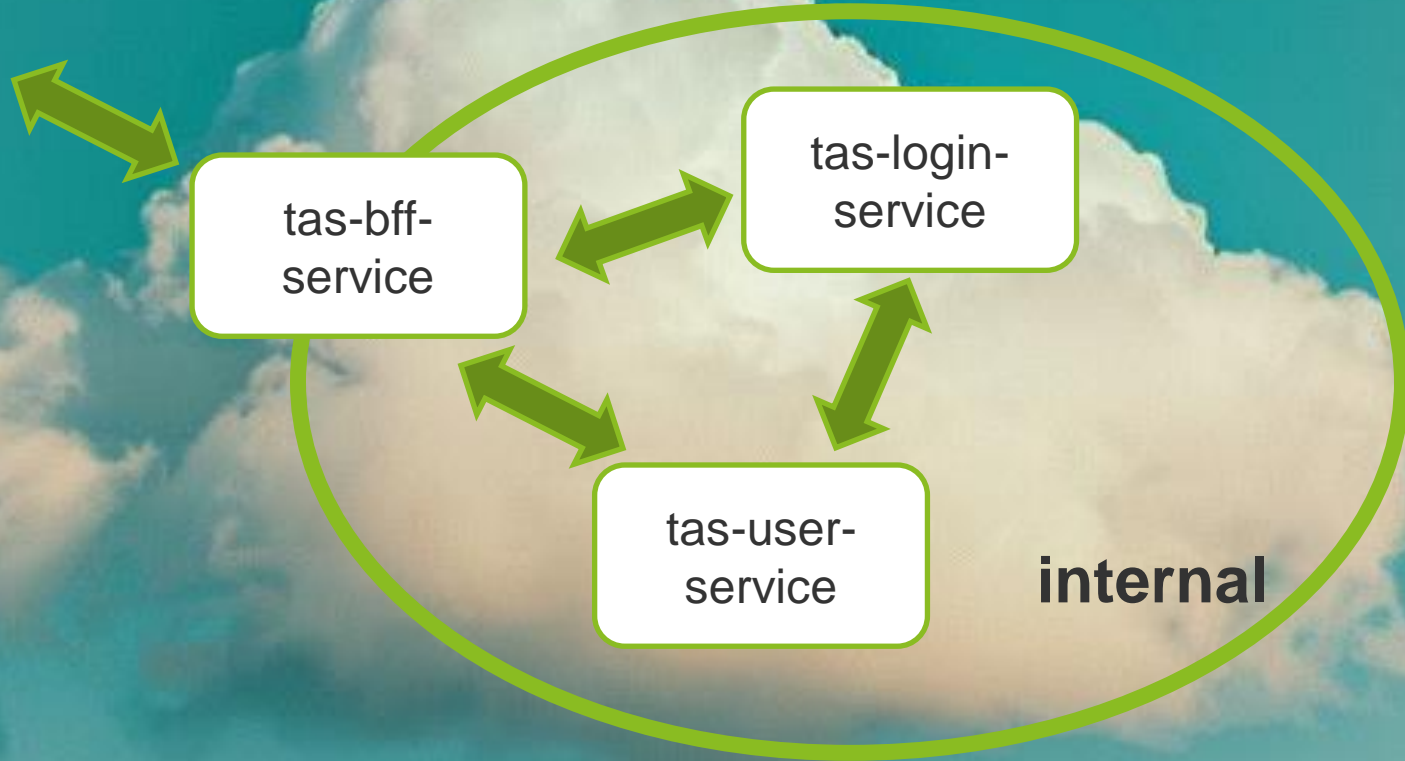
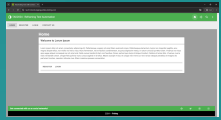


**After expanding this also for the
login functionality ...
Which tests can be deleted?**



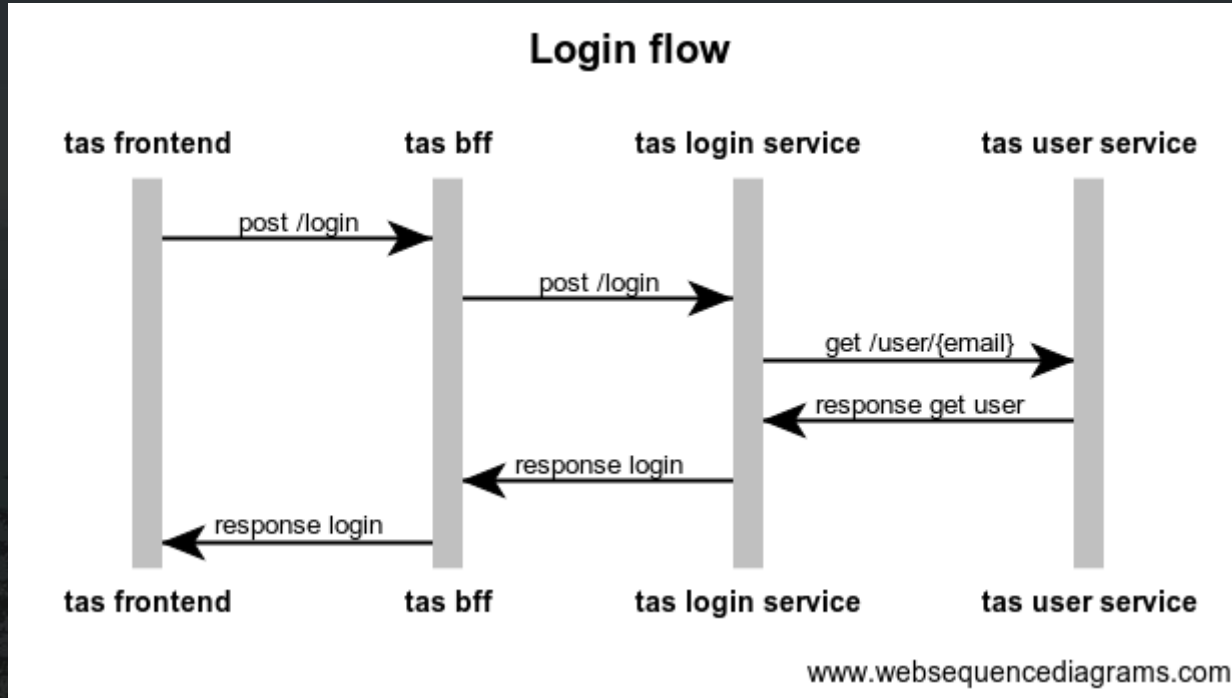
Component Test tas-login-service using WireMock

The SUT in complete detail



Login flow

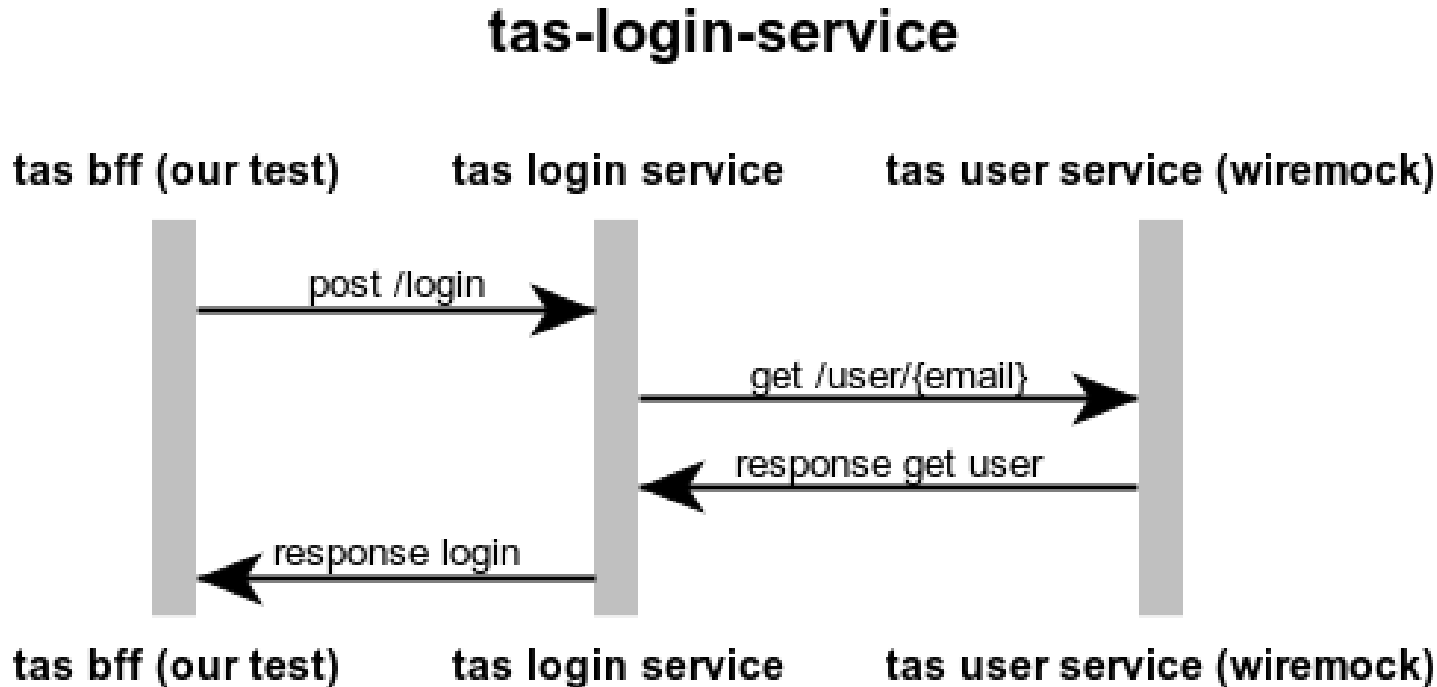
- We will focus on the tas-login-service



Component Test tas-login-service

- The tas-login-service uses the the tas-user-service to get user data
- Testing in isolation results in not having the tas-user-service
- The component test uses a mock tool (WireMock) to mock reponses from the tas-user-service

Component Test tas-login-service



www.websequencediagrams.com

api spec tas-login-service /login

```
- path: /login
  method: POST
  request:
    body:
      application/json:
        schema: |
          {
            "email": "ver@redbullracing.com",
            "password": "password123"
          }
  responses:
    - status: 200
      body:
        application/json:
          schema: |
            {
              "name": "Max Verstappen",
              "email": "ver@redbullracing.com",
              "phoneNumber": "555-12345"
            }
    - status: 403
      body:
        application/json:
          schema: |
            {
              "statusCode": 403,
              "message": "Could not login with these credentials"
            }
```

api spec tas-user-service /users/{email}


```
- path: /users/{email}
  method: GET
  responses:
    - status: 200
      body:
        application/json:
          schema: |
            {
              "name": "Max Verstappen",
              "email": "ver@redbullracing.com",
              "password": "1234"
              "phoneNumber": "555-12345"
            }
    - status: 404
      body:
        application/json:
          schema: |
            {
              "statusCode": 404,
              "message": "Could not find user bla@bla.com"
            }
```


docker-compose with mock

```
services:

  tas-login-service:
    build:
      context: .
      dockerfile: Dockerfile
    container_name: tas-login-service
    ports:
      - 8083:8080
    depends_on:
      - tas-user-service

  tas-user-service:
    image: wiremock/wiremock
    container_name: tas-user-service
    ports:
      - 8080:8080
    volumes:
      - ./src/test/java/com/polteq/tas/componenttests/wiremock:/home/wiremock
```



docker-compose with mock

- The login service communicates with the tas-user-service (which is actually wiremock)
- The volumes represent mock files defined in our test project which are passed through to WireMock
- These files contain predefined responses from the user service

```
tas-user-service:  
  image: wiremock/wiremock  
  container_name: tas-user-service  
  ports:  
    - 8080:8080  
  volumes:  
    - ./src/test/java/com/polteq/tas/componenttests/wiremock:/home/wiremock
```

Mocked response: user found






```
{
  "request": {
    "method": "GET",
    "url": "/users/a@a.nl"
  },
  "response": {
    "status": 200,
    "headers": {
      "Content-Type": "application/json"
    },
    "jsonBody": {
      "name": "fake user a",
      "email": "a@a.nl",
      "password": "password",
      "phoneNumber": "0612345678"
    }
  }
}
```

Mocked response: user not found

```
{
  "request": {
    "method": "GET",
    "url": "/users/not@successful.login"
  },
  "response": {
    "status": 404,
    "headers": {
      "Content-Type": "application/json"
    },
    "jsonBody": {
      "statusCode": 404,
      "message": "Could not find user not@successful.login"
    }
  }
}
```

Running tas-login-service in isolation

- With mocking in place!
- `docker compose up --build`

	tas-login-service		Running (2/2)
	tas-user-service 22312aaf84d8 	wiremock/wiremock	Running
	tas-login-service b197da708802 	tas-login-service-tas-login-service	Running

- CTRL-C
- `docker compose down`

tas-login-service component tests

- Check the component test class LoginCTCase
- Run the test:
 - itShouldBePossibleToLoginWithValidData
- Complete the test:
 - itShouldNotBePossibleToLoginWithAnUnknownUser

What tests can be deleted?



recap



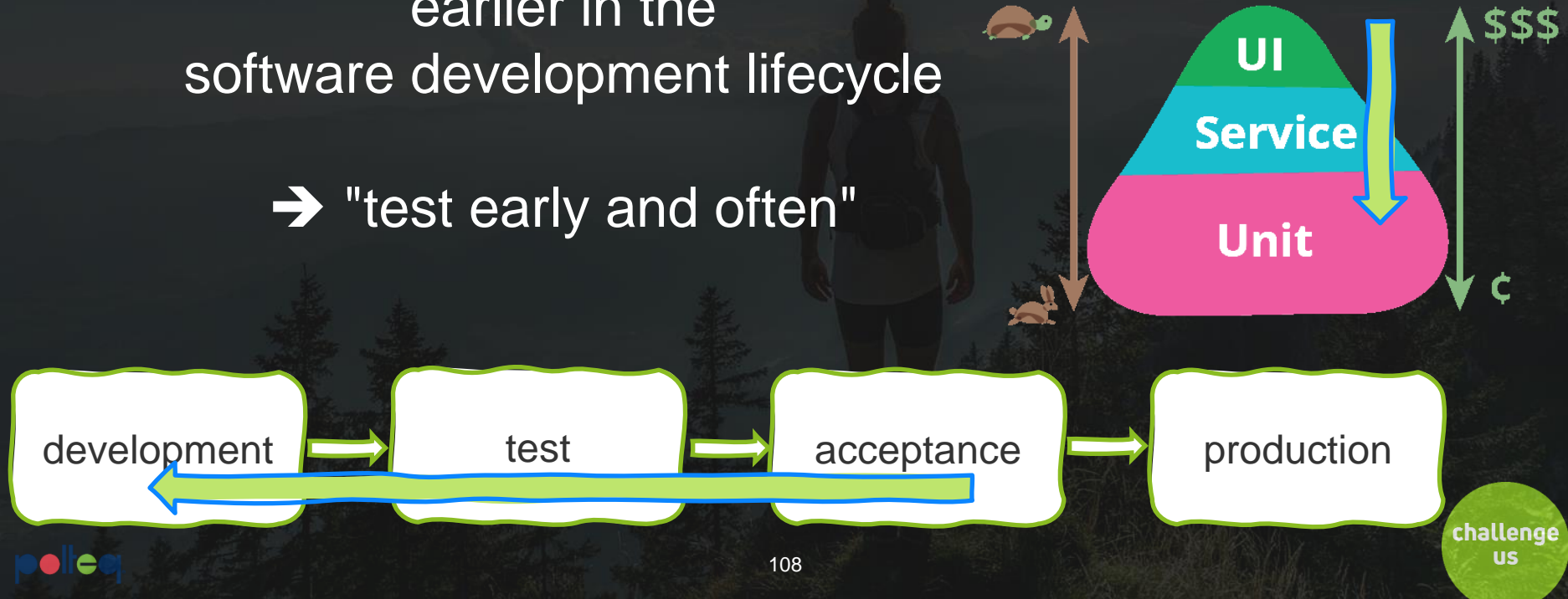
The shift left journey

- We went from testing fully UI end-to-end
- To API testing (still E2E on api level)
- To testing a service in isolation with no related services
- To testing a frontend webapp in isolation using Playwright and its mocking capability
- To testing in isolation with related service using WireMock
- And reduced our E2E suite!

shift-left testing

approach to software and system testing
in which testing is performed
earlier in the
software development lifecycle

→ "test early and often"



Shifting tests left means

- Testing is a team effort
- You need to know more about your system
 - Landscape
 - Inputs, outputs, internals
 - ...
- Usage of different / more automation tools
 - Java, Playwright, REST-assured, docker, WireMock(ing)
 - TypeScript, Playwright, docker, mocking
 - Command Line
 - ...

Shifting tests left means also

- Each situation / system to test is different
- Learn how to approach testing in isolation
 - Techniques & Tools used might vary a lot
- Adapt to what your environment is using

What else can we do? (yes, there is more)

- Frontend
 - Storybook (testing frontend components in a scenario)
 - Visual testing
- Contract Testing
- Performance
 - In isolation
 - In smaller integration
- Security
 - Frontend
 - Apis
- ...

That's it folks!

Any questions?



THANK
YOU!



Expertise



More

Fun



Sharing
Knowledge



Sincerity



Personal



Focus



Local



challenge
us