

Introduction to Continuous Delivery

Giovanni Toraldo & Tazio Ceri

Once upon a time

there was project management

-15 days to the release

Mr. Project Manager: «Hello mr. Tester, I need you to test everything again in two weeks. We need a release for the X certification process.

Mr. Tester: «Yes, sir.»

Two weeks of pain (1)

- The tester will have to manually test a huge number of new features...
 - and old ones to avoid regressions.
- Developers will fix bugs as soon as the tester reports them, then he should have to start all tests from scratch to the new release candidate - but he won't!

Two weeks of pain (2)

- The tester is on pressure, so he will work hard. His error rate will increase.
- The tester will have to make assumptions about the configuration that will be used for the certification process.
 - The same for developers.
- In the shuffling madness of this project, everybody feels like the all-time loser, headlong to the project's death.

Release!



What went wrong? (1)

- That system is too complex to work with!
- Software was never actually release ready.
- During these two weeks, the tester has filed several bug reports. Developers fixed bugs and made another release candidate, so the tester has actually tested the final release for few hours...

What went wrong?(2)

- Developers did not test very well their modification because installing the software was too hard and slow.
- So they always were working in an environment totally different from production.
- And anyway, they had no discipline to take track of what tests needed to do, just a fast smoke test before committing to SVN.

What went wrong? (3)

- The changelog was actually misleading the tester, making him test new features disregard regressions.
- So, developers were busy fixing bugs as they came out **during the certification phase!**
- After that, everybody enjoyed the art of avoiding responsibility of failures.

It will be wrong again!

- After that, everybody enjoyed the art of avoiding responsibilities of failures.
- Some agreed it was the consultant's fault. Yes, the one who left one year before.
- Some scheduled to work 12 hours everyday to fix everything they found before next certification phase.
- None of them understood the situation.

Problems to solve

- Complex installation!
- Complex development!
- Complex testing!
- **If you have to do many complex, error prone and repetitive task manually you are in trouble!**
- Continuous delivery is the solution.

Automate everything

- If something is hard and boring to do, do it more often. **Until you will automate it.**
- No exception to this rule!
- IT is about automation. You help other persons to automate their work and to increase productivity, but you don't do that for yourself, do you?
- That does not sound very smart!

Automation needs care and control



- It's funnier to write tests than test manually!
- More code to be written... but they will speed up maintenance.
- Nothing can't be really tested: programs are useful as they produce output, not for their hidden status.
- Don't forget to automate installation and database management.

The road to enlightenment

- Configuration Management
- Data management
- Continuous Integration
- Continuous Deployment



Configuration Management

- Keep *everything* in VCS.
- Managed software dependencies
- Your application should be configurable
- Avoid branches other than master

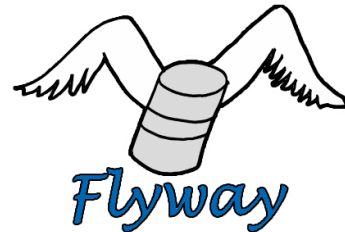


maven

```
development:
  perform_authentication: false
test:
  perform_authentication: false
production:
  perform_authentication: true
  username: admin
  password: secret
```

Data management

- Scripted schema migrations
- Dataset for development
- Be backward and forward compatible (when possible)



Continuous Integration

- Requirements:
 - Automated test and build tool
- Features:
 - Every push trigger a build
 - Feedbacks arrives in minutes
 - A broken build needs priority to be fixed
 - One does not simply @Ignore a failing test
 - Static code analysis (smells, duplicated lines, ...)
 - Trendy Graphs!





New Job

People

Build History

Delete View

Project Relationship

Check File Fingerprint

Manage Jenkins

Credentials

My Views

Build Queue

No builds in the queue.

Build Executor Status

#	Status
1	Idle
2	Idle

search

Welcome!

[edit description](#)

All	CloudDesire	CloudDesire-chef	GitHub	iCaro	+
W	Name ↓	Last Success	Last Failure	Last Duration	
	CloudDesire	4 hr 10 min - #1503	N/A	2 min 50 sec	
	CloudDesire-frontend	1 day 10 hr - #245	7 days 9 hr - #232	18 sec	
	cookbook-cd-django	1 mo 6 days - #6	1 mo 20 days - #3	10 min	
	cookbook-cd-nodejs	1 mo 6 days - #9	1 mo 17 days - #7	7 min 15 sec	
	cookbook-cd-php	12 days - #10	1 mo 18 days - #5	13 min	
	cookbook-cd-rails	7 days 3 hr - #19	1 mo 18 days - #13	20 min	
	cookbook-cd-wrop	1 mo 18 days - #2	N/A	24 min	
	iCaro	5 hr 36 min - #85	1 day 7 hr - #80	3 min 18 sec	
	joyent-api-client	18 days - #28	18 days - #26	8.9 sec	
	ruby-build	29 days - #40	1 mo 2 days - #32	1 hr 48 min	
	spring-utils	6 days 4 hr - #2	N/A	16 sec	
	tisana4j	5 days 8 hr - #41	N/A	14 sec	

Icon: [S](#) [M](#) [L](#)[Legend](#) [RSS for all](#) [RSS for failures](#) [RSS for just latest builds](#)

- [Back to Dashboard](#)
- [Status](#)
- [Changes](#)
- [Workspace](#)
- [Build Now](#)
- [Delete Maven project](#)
- [Configure](#)
- [Modules](#)
- [Open Tasks](#)
- [PMD Warnings](#)
- [Duplicate Code](#)
- [Git Polling Log](#)
- [Artifactory Build Info](#)
- [Static Analysis Warnings](#)
- [SLOCCount](#)
- [Coverage Trend](#)
- [Artifactory Release Staging](#)

Build History (trend)

- #1503 Jan 28, 2014 5:30:52 PM
- #1502 Jan 28, 2014 5:27:55 PM
- #1501 Jan 28, 2014 5:09:06 PM
- #1500 Jan 28, 2014 4:26:28 PM
- #1499 Jan 28, 2014 2:21:46 PM
- #1498 Jan 27, 2014 11:32:13 AM
- #1497 Jan 27, 2014 10:57:23 AM
- #1496 Jan 27, 2014 10:36:58 AM

Maven project ClouDesire


[Artifactory Build Info](#)

[Workspace](#)

[Recent Changes](#)

[Latest Test Result](#) (no failures)

Upstream Projects

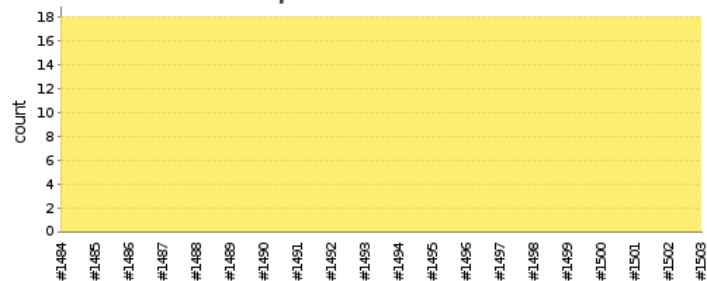
- spring-utils
- tisana4j

Permalinks

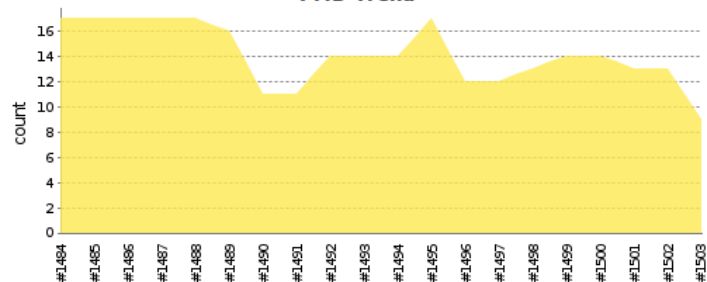
- Last build (#1503), 4 hr 13 min ago
- Last stable build (#1503), 4 hr 13 min ago
- Last successful build (#1503), 4 hr 13 min ago
- Last unstable build (#1500), 5 hr 18 min ago
- Last unsuccessful build (#1500), 5 hr 18 min ago

[add description](#)
[Disable Project](#)

Open Tasks Trend


[Enlarge](#) [Configure](#)

PMD Trend


[Enlarge](#) [Configure](#)

Duplicate Code Trend

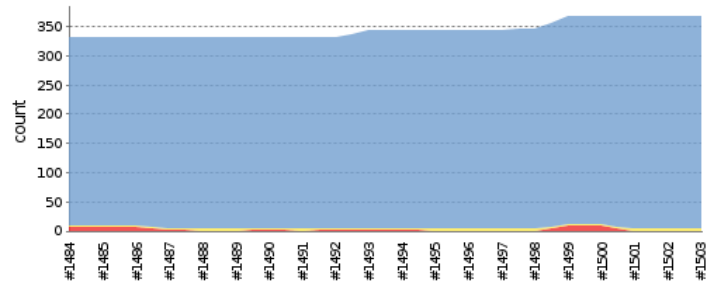


- #1492 Jan 24, 2014 6:13:53 PM
- #1491 Jan 24, 2014 3:50:17 PM
- #1490 Jan 24, 2014 3:23:42 PM
- #1489 Jan 24, 2014 3:10:47 PM
- #1488 Jan 24, 2014 2:43:42 PM
- #1487 Jan 24, 2014 2:28:32 PM
- #1486 Jan 24, 2014 2:17:12 PM
- #1485 Jan 24, 2014 2:04:47 PM
- #1484 Jan 24, 2014 11:54:57 AM

 RSS for all  RSS for failures

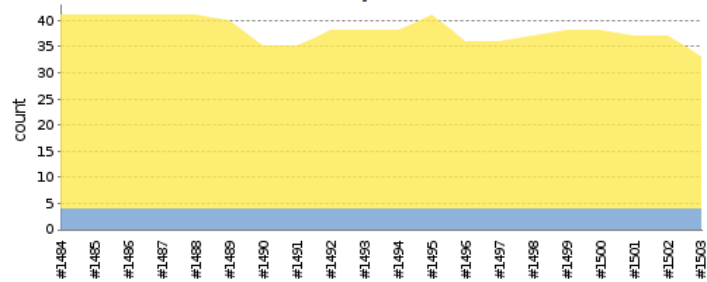
[Enlarge](#) [Configure](#)

Test Result Trend



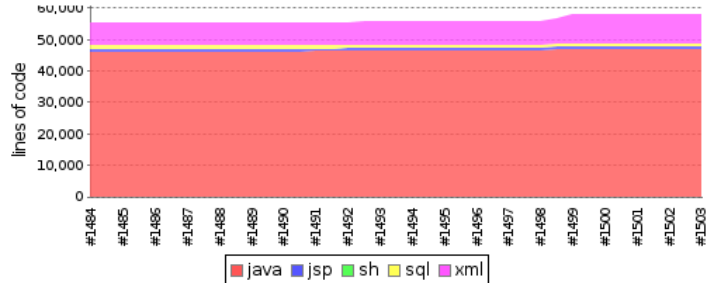
[\(just show failures\)](#) [enlarge](#)

Static Analysis Trend



[Enlarge](#) [Configure](#)

SLOCCount Trend



CI: general strategies

- Use dependency-injection (IoC)... better with a framework. Otherwise unit testing can be impossible.
- Component tests with database access.
- Integration tests against *real* components.
- Everything must run in less than 8 minutes.
- Use a database configuration optimized for tests.

CI: unit tests

- Code coverage must be high, especially with dynamic languages.
- Test slices of code in isolation.
- Use mocking or stubs to simulate external interaction.
- Avoid the database!
- Must be very fast.

CI: component test

- ORM or SQL? You must test database access anyway. It's where most bugs live!
- Use a meaningful small subset of your production database for each test.
- Isolate database between each test, transaction can be useful. (DBUnit)

CI: integration tests

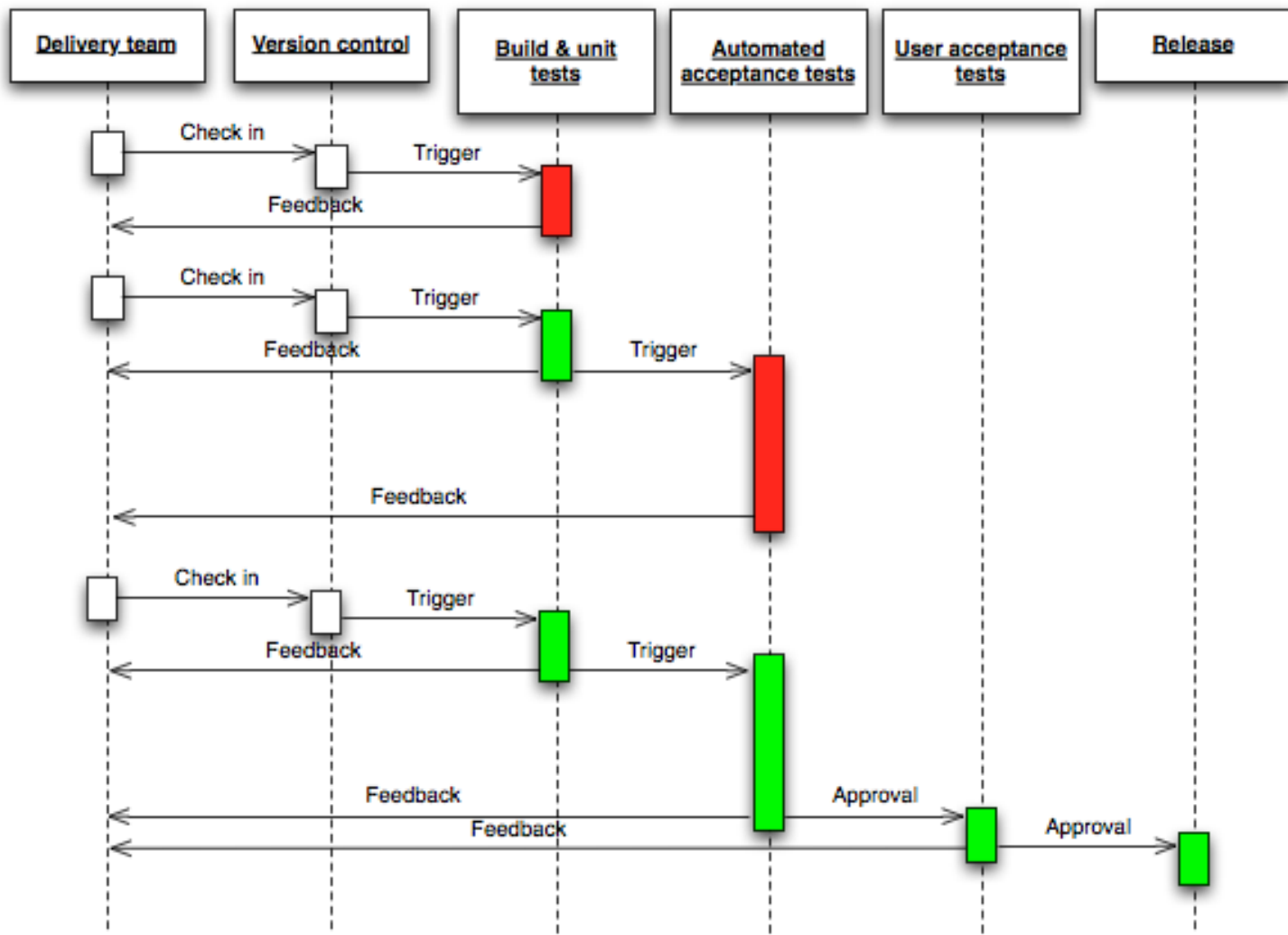
- Whole modules of your system should interact together.
- Database and network access are a must.
- Slower and harder to write.
- A reason to keep interfaces between modules simple and extensible, and generally better.

Continuous Deployment

- Tag release and artifact build
- Push-the-button procedures for envs setup:
 - Development workstation
 - Staging/Acceptance
 - Production
- Fast rolling-back strategies
- Zero-downtime releases
- Infrastructure deserve tests too.



Deployment Pipeline



Questions?

Thanks!

Credits

The holy book:

- Jez Humble & David Farley. Continuous delivery : reliable software releases through build, test, and deployment automation. ISBN 978-0-321-60191-9.

Images:

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Continuous_Delivery_process_diagram.png

GIFs:

- <http://devopsreactions.tumblr.com>
- <http://thecodinglove.com>

