

# Building the Persistence Layer



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# Choosing a Database for Unit Testing



## Fake databases

- Simple data structures (e.g., maps, lists)

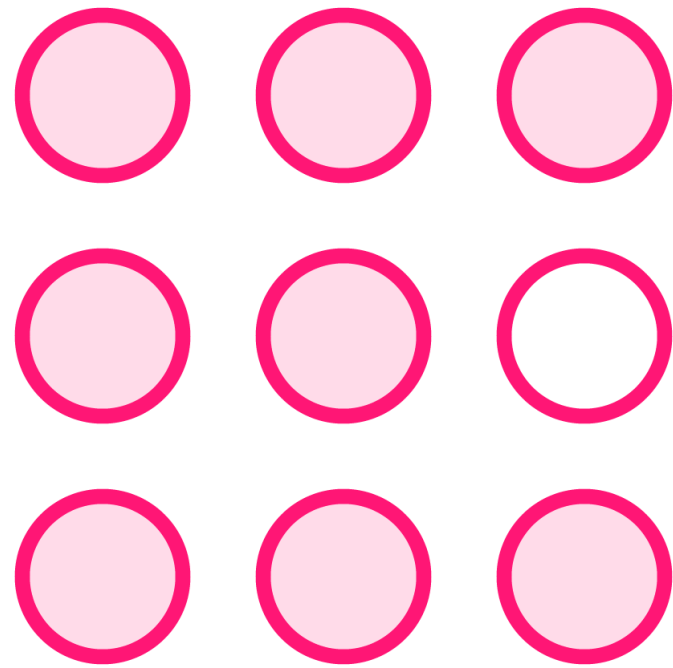
## In-memory databases

## Real databases

- Testcontainers

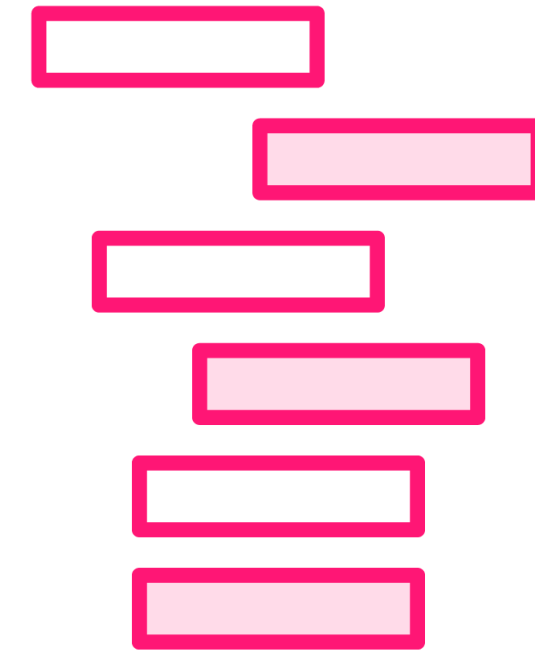


# Databases in Unit Tests and Integration Tests



**Unit tests**

**Fake databases  
(emphasis on database interface  
interaction)**



**Integration tests**

**Embedded or real databases  
(for verifying the interaction with a  
real database)**



# Fake Databases

## Pros

- Very fast
- You can mock very specific behaviors from your real database

## Cons

- You are essentially writing a mini-database engine
- You will not capture database-specific behaviors, constraints, or optimizations

## Best for

- Unit tests where you need to mock certain behaviors or error conditions
- Simple applications with basic database interactions



# In-memory Databases

## Pros

- Fast setup and teardown
- Broad compatibility

## Cons

- They might not always replicate the behavior of actual databases
- Not ideal for testing native SQL queries or database-specific features

## Best for

- Simple operations where database-specific features are not used



# Real databases or Testcontainers

## Pros

- Mirror production behavior
- You can test database-specific features, queries, and transactions

## Cons

- Slower test start-up time
- You need the database or Docker installed

## Best for

- Integration tests where you need to mimic the production database as closely as possible
- Tests for complex SQL queries or stored procedures



# Inserting Test Data

**SQL Scripts**  
(@SQL annotation)

**DatabaseRider**  
(DBUnit)

**Manual inserts**  
(TestEntityManager or  
service/repository layer)



# SQL Scripts

## MyDatabaseTest.java

```
// Spring annotations
@Sql(scripts = "/testData.sql")
public class MyDatabaseTest {
    @Test
    //@Sql(scripts = "/testData.sql")
    void testData1() {
        // ...
    }

    @Test
    void testData2() {
        // ...
    }
}
```

## src/test/resources/testData.sql

```
INSERT INTO my_table (id, name)
VALUES (1, 'Test Data 1');

INSERT INTO my_table (id, name)
VALUES (2, 'Test Data 2');

INSERT INTO my_table (id, name)
VALUES (3, 'Test Data 3');
```





# DatabaseRider (DBUnit)

## MyDatabaseTest.java

```
// Spring annotations
@DBRider
public class MyDatabaseTest {
    @Test
    @Dataset("/testData.yml")
    void testData() {
        // ...
    }
}
```

## src/test/resources/testData.yml

```
my_table:
  - id: 1
    name: "Test Data 1"
  - id: 2
    name: "Test Data 2"
  - id: 3
    name: "Test Data 3"
```



# Manual Inserts

## MyDatabaseTest1.java

```
// Spring annotations
public class MyDatabaseTest {
    @Autowired
    private TestEntityManager entityManager;

    @Test
    void testData() {
        MyEntity entity = new MyEntity();
        // Set entity fields ...
        entityManager.persist(entity);

        // Rest of the test ...
    }
}
```

## MyDatabaseTest2.java

```
// Spring annotations
public class MyDatabaseTest {
    @Autowired
    private MyRepository myRepository;

    @BeforeEach
    void setup() {
        MyEntity entity = new MyEntity();
        // Set entity fields ...
        myRepository.save(entity);
    }
    // Test methods ...
}
```



**Ensure tests don't interfere  
with each other.**



**Avoid running tests against  
your production database.**



# Spring Data JpaRepository Magic

```
public interface UserRepository extends JpaRepository<User, Long> {  
    // No additional methods needed for basic CRUD operations!  
    // Methods like save(), findById(), findAll(), and delete() are inherited  
    // And they're already tested by the Spring team!  
}
```



# When to Test Repositories?



**Custom Queries**



**Custom Implementations**



**Transaction Behavior**



**Data Integrity**



```
@DataJpaTest
public class MyRepositoryTest {

    @Autowired
    private TestEntityManager entityManager;

    @Autowired
    private MyRepository myRepository;

    @Test
    void testYourRepositoryMethod() {
        // Your test logic here ...
    }
}
```

## @DataJpaTest Annotation

- Limited application context
- In-memory database configuration
- Transactional tests
- SQL logging



# Testing the Persistence Layer for the Demo Application



Use `@DataJpaTest`

In-memory H2 database

`@SQL` annotations

Custom method that filters tickets by criteria







# Setting up the Test Class





# Filtering Tickets Based on Multiple Criteria





# Integration tests



# Why Integration Tests Matter?



**Detect configuration and wiring issues**



**Test external system integrations**



**Capture regressions**



**Test real environment differences**



# Integration Tests with TestRestTemplate

```
@SpringBootTest(webEnvironment = SpringBootTest.WebEnvironment.RANDOM_PORT)
@Sql({"/testData.sql"})
public class MyIntegrationTests {

    @Autowired
    private TestRestTemplate restTemplate;

    @Test
    void test1() {
        ResponseEntity<TicketDto> response =
            restTemplate.getForEntity("/tickets/1", TicketDto.class);

        assertEquals(HttpStatus.OK, response.getStatusCode());
    }
}
```



# Integration Tests with WebClient

```
@SpringBootTest(webEnvironment = SpringBootTest.WebEnvironment.RANDOM_PORT)
@Sql({"/testData.sql"})
public class MyIntegrationTests {

    @Autowired
    private WebClient webTestClient;

    @Test
    void test1() {
        webTestClient.get()
            .uri("/tickets/1")
            .exchange()
            .expectStatus().isOk();
    }
}
```



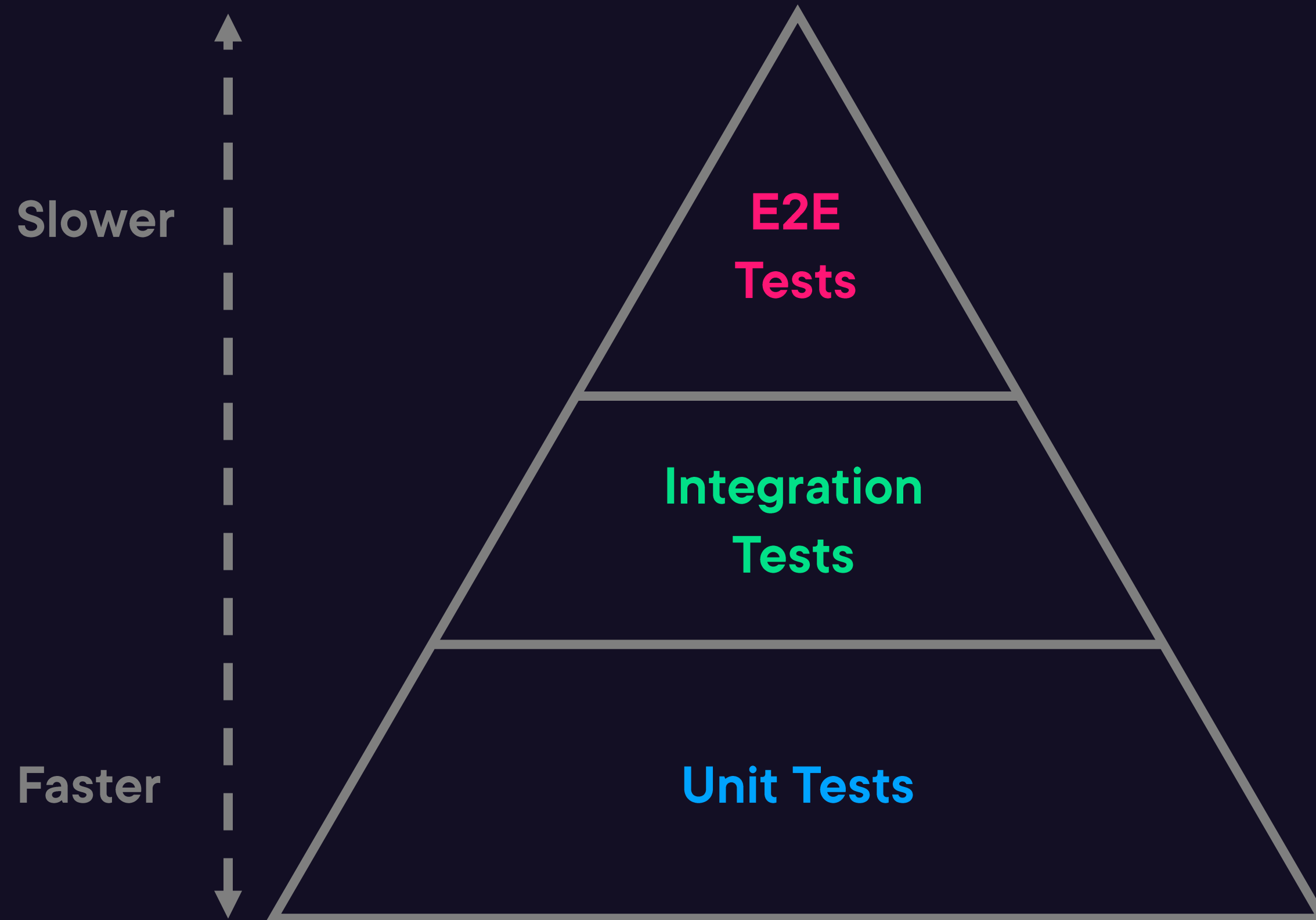
# Using WebClient as a Test Dependency

pom.xml

```
<dependency>  
  <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>  
  <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-webflux</artifactId>  
  <scope>test</scope>  
</dependency>
```



# Testing Pyramid







## Integration tests



# Configuring JUnit Tags in Gradle

build.gradle

```
tasks.named('test') {  
    useJUnitPlatform {  
        includeTags 'MY_TAG'  
    }  
}
```



# Summary



**Unit tests vs integration tests**

**Red-Green-Refactor cycle**

**For complex applications:**

- Dependency Inversion Principle
- Hexagonal Architecture

**Start testing:**

- Core business logic
- Presentation layer



# Summary



## Web layer

- Initial design
- Business rules validations in the service layer using exceptions
- Data Transfer Objects (DTOs)

## Arrange/Act/Assert pattern

## BDD naming style (Given/When/Then)





## Summary



### Service layer

- ZOMBIES acronym
- Transformation Priority Premise (TPP)
- Two testing methods:
  - Integration tests, which bring up the Spring context
  - Pure unit tests, which instantiate service classes directly and mock their dependencies
- Service classes can centralize business logic, coordinate workflows, or act as data containers
- JUnit annotations and nested test classes help manage test setup/teardown



## Summary



### Persistence layer

- Fake databases (maps/lists), in-memory databases, and real databases (optionally using Testcontainers)
- Insert test data using:
  - SQL scripts
  - DatabaseRider (DBUnit)
  - Manual insertion
- Write tests for custom queries and complex operations

**Integration tests complement unit tests**



**Thanks.**

