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September 6, 2020

#Python | #pytest | #blog

Pytest plugins

Other pytest articles:

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[Pytest plugins](#)

There are lot of plugins in pytest ecosystem. Some of the widely used are listed [here](#) All the plugins can be installed with pip and invoked by providing an argument to pytest executable.

pytest-cov

This plugin calculates test coverage - how much of our code is covered by test. Since every project is unique it's difficult to tell an universally acceptable coverage (<https://www.artima.com/forums/flat.jsp?forum=106&thread=204677>)

If we have all our source files in `source/` folder and test in `test/` then we can run pytest with this plugin by

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```
pytest --cov="source" --cov-report=term-missing test/
```

`cov-report` argument will determine what report to generate. `term-missing` report will tell exactly which lines are not covered by tests.

The output report looks like this

Copy

```
--- coverage: python 3.6.2-final-0 ---
Name                               Stmts  Miss  Cover   Missing
-----
source/__init__.py                  0      0   100%
source/api.py                       12      4    67%   10-11, 15-16
source/database.py                  15      0   100%
source/exceptions.py                 2      0   100%
source/nnormalize.py                 14      4    71%    6-9
source/number_checker.py             8      0   100%
-----
TOTAL                               51      8    84%
```

pytest-xdist

This plugin will parallelize test execution. It will speed up executing of large test sets.

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```
pytest -n 5 test/
```

Where 5 is a number of workers. It can also accept `auto` as a parameter. The pytest output is not changed when using this plugin (except some hint that it's running multiple processes)

pytest-bdd

This is a less technical plugin of the three I wanted to cover. This one allows to convert feature files written in Gherkin format to pytest cases.

We start working with pytest-bdd by creating a feature file in a [Gherkin](#) format. This is a highly readable form to describe a feature or a user story and to fix business-side requirements.

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```
Feature: Phone number validation application

  Scenario: validate a number
    Given I have a number +311234555
    When I run number validation application
    Then Number is normalized
    And Cache is checked for presence of this number
    And External API is called if cache doesn't contains the number
```

With this file we can generate our test case:

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```
pytest-bdd generate validation.feature >> test_number_validation.py
```

Test file appears to be pretty long, but here is some main points:

- there is a functions decorated with `given`, `when`, `then` decorators from pytest-bdd like

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```
@given('I have a number +311234555')
def i_have_a_number_311234555():
    """I have a number +311234555."""
    raise NotImplementedError
```

- the decorator input string is what we have written in a feature file
- functions decorated with `@given` are recognized as fixtures, so they can be passed to a last function, decorated with `@then`

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```
@given('I have a number +311234555')
def i_have_a_number_311234555():
    """I have a number +311234555."""
    return '+311234555'
```

```
@when('I run number validation application')
def i_run_number_validation_application(i_have_a_number_311234555):
    # do stuff and use
    # i_have_a_number_311234555 holding out test number
    raise NotImplementedError
```

This might look like an unnecessary extra step, but some organizations find it useful to fix business requirements.

This is the last unit in this course. Thanks for staying with me and I hope that you find this content valuable.

Similar articles:

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