

TDM

Test Data Management

Every test relies on data in some way.

What can we do?



No access to insert directly into database

- Use services to add data
- Create another database

Data regularly gets overwritten

- Set up scripts to add missing data
- Have tests that don't rely on existing state

No screens to add data/information

- Insert directly into database
- Utilize services for adding information

Too many test runs creates tons of crazy data

- Clean up test data on a regular basis
- Have a single test clean up after itself
- Have a test clean up before it runs

Volume of data does not replicate production

- Script the addition of data to make up volumes
- Truncate data to limit size



Ummm...

We already
knew all of that.

- Build some REST services to allow adding data
- Use ActiveRecord (or some other ORM) to help script data setup
- Use ActiveRecord to help find data for tests
- Work with the development team to set up an environment the whole team can control
- Create test data that be identified as test data
- Clean up the test data regularly