

# Introduction to continuous integration



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# Agenda

- Introduction to continuous integration (CI)
- What is CI?
- What is not **CI**?
- When and how do I build?
- Features of CI
- What is the value of CI?
- CI and You



# What is **continuous integration**?



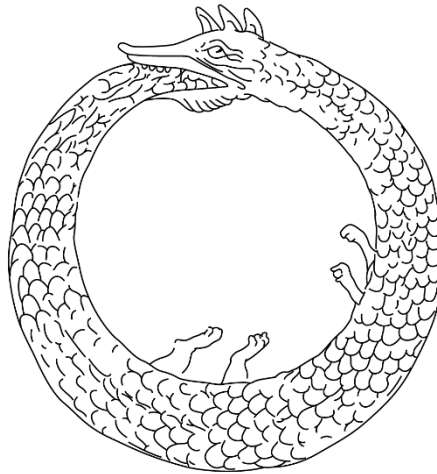
# CAPTAIN OBVIOUS SAYS



It is two words:  
**"continuous" +  
"integration"**



# What is **continuous**?



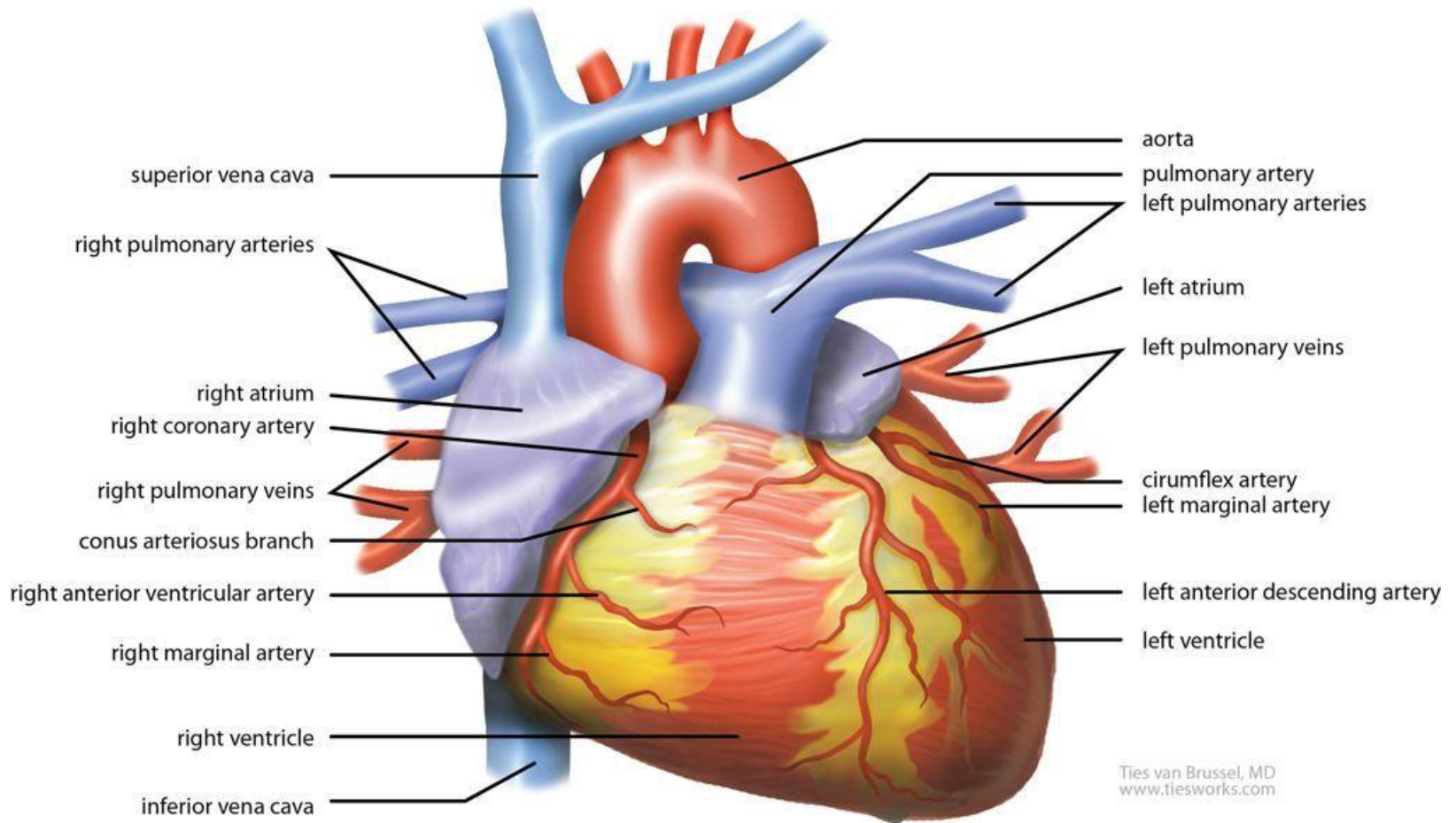
**Uninterrupted** in time,  
sequence, substance, or extent.



In nature everything  
is **continuous** and  
whole!



# Heart



Ties van Brussel, MD  
[www.tiesworks.com](http://www.tiesworks.com)



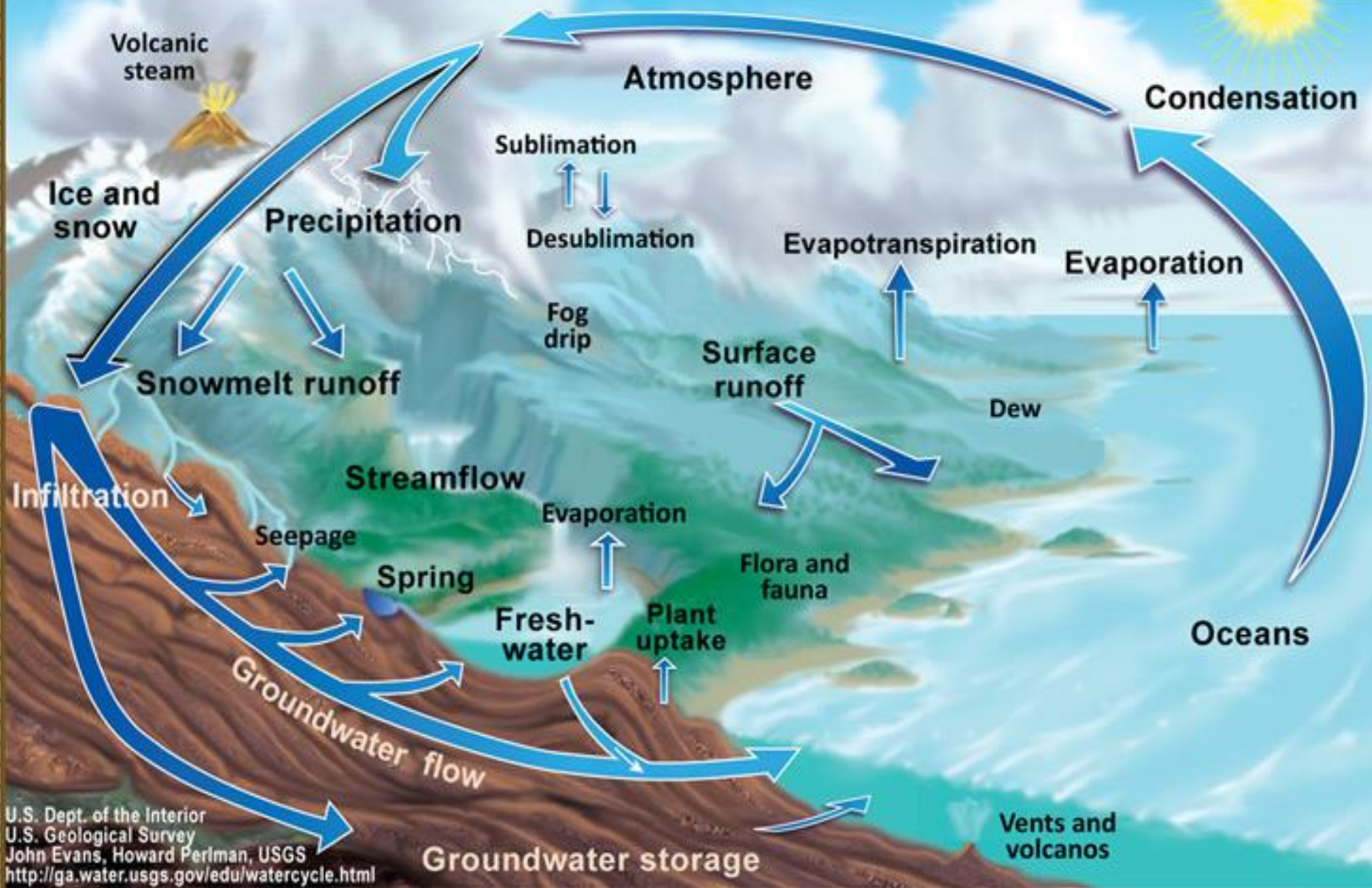
# Water cycle

Describes the **continuous** movement of water on, above and below the surface of the Earth.





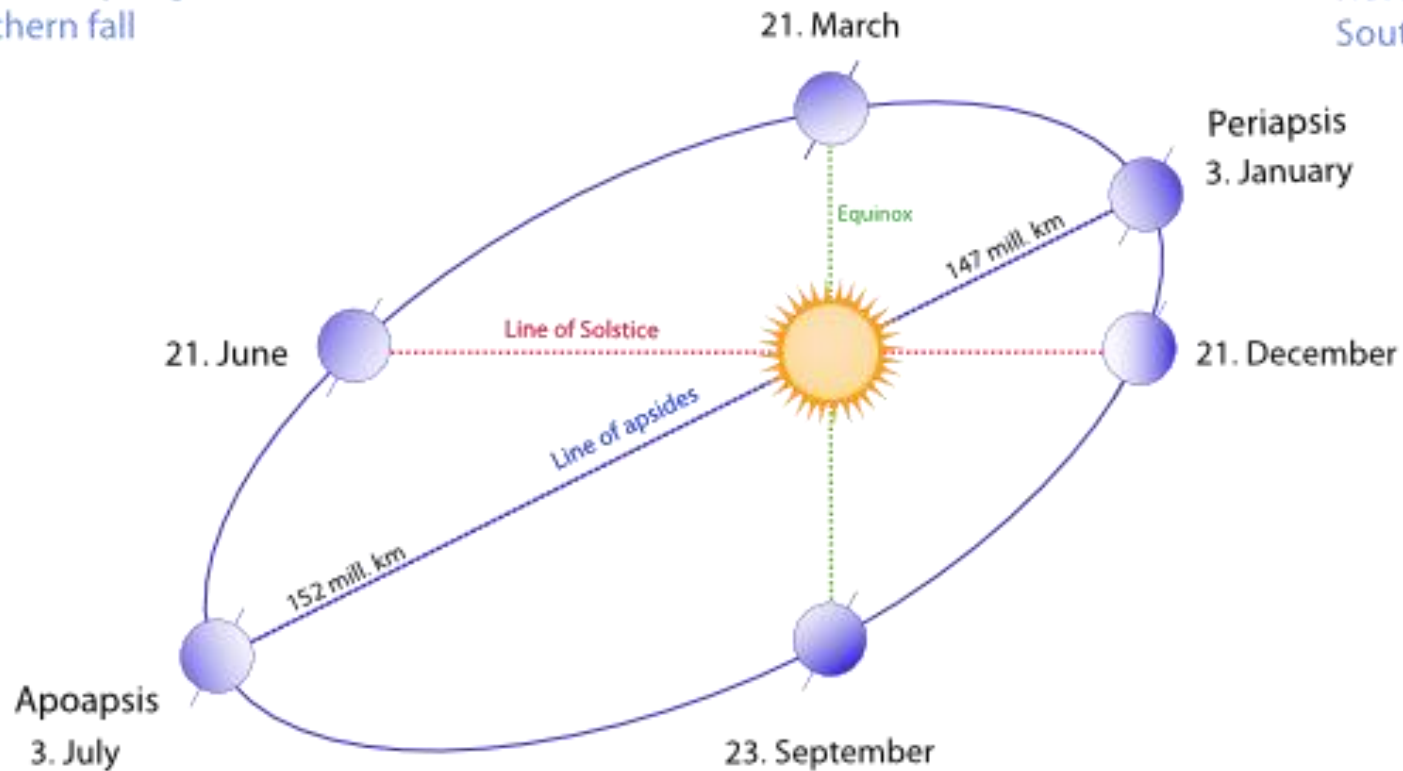
# The Water Cycle



# Season

Northern spring/  
Southern fall

Northern winter/  
Southern summer



Northern summer/  
Southern winter

Northern fall/  
Southern spring



# What is **integration**?



The act of **combining** or **adding** parts to make a unified whole.



# Integration

- **Social integration**, in social sciences, is the movement of minority groups such as ethnic minorities, refugees and underprivileged sections of a society into the mainstream of societies.
- **Racial integration**, refers to social and cultural behavior.
- **Economic integration**, refers to trade unification between different states.
- **Educational integration** of students with disabilities.
- ...





# ~~Integrate~~ Build a house



# Lego bricks





# Start (integration)



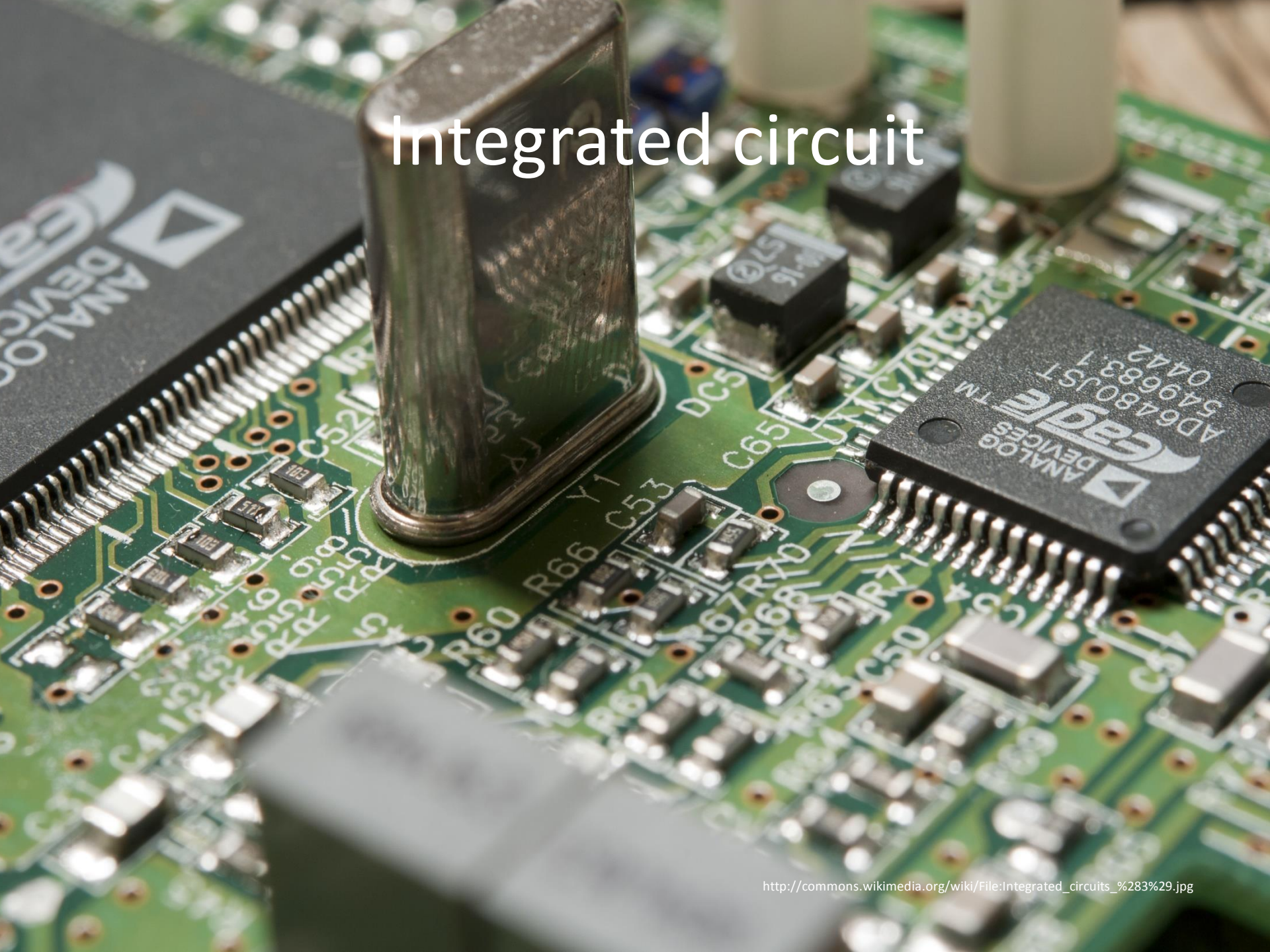


# Finish (integration)





# Integrated circuit



# Smoke testing

The phrase smoke test comes from **electronic** hardware testing.

You plug in a new board and turn on the power. If you **see smoke** coming from the board, **turn off the power.**

You don't have to do any more testing.



After the integration we  
have **feedback**:  
everything is okay or not.



A power

**„continuous” + „some action”**

**= it's power**





# Little strokes fell great oaks



Little strokes fell great oaks



# Вода камень точит

## Water cuts through stone



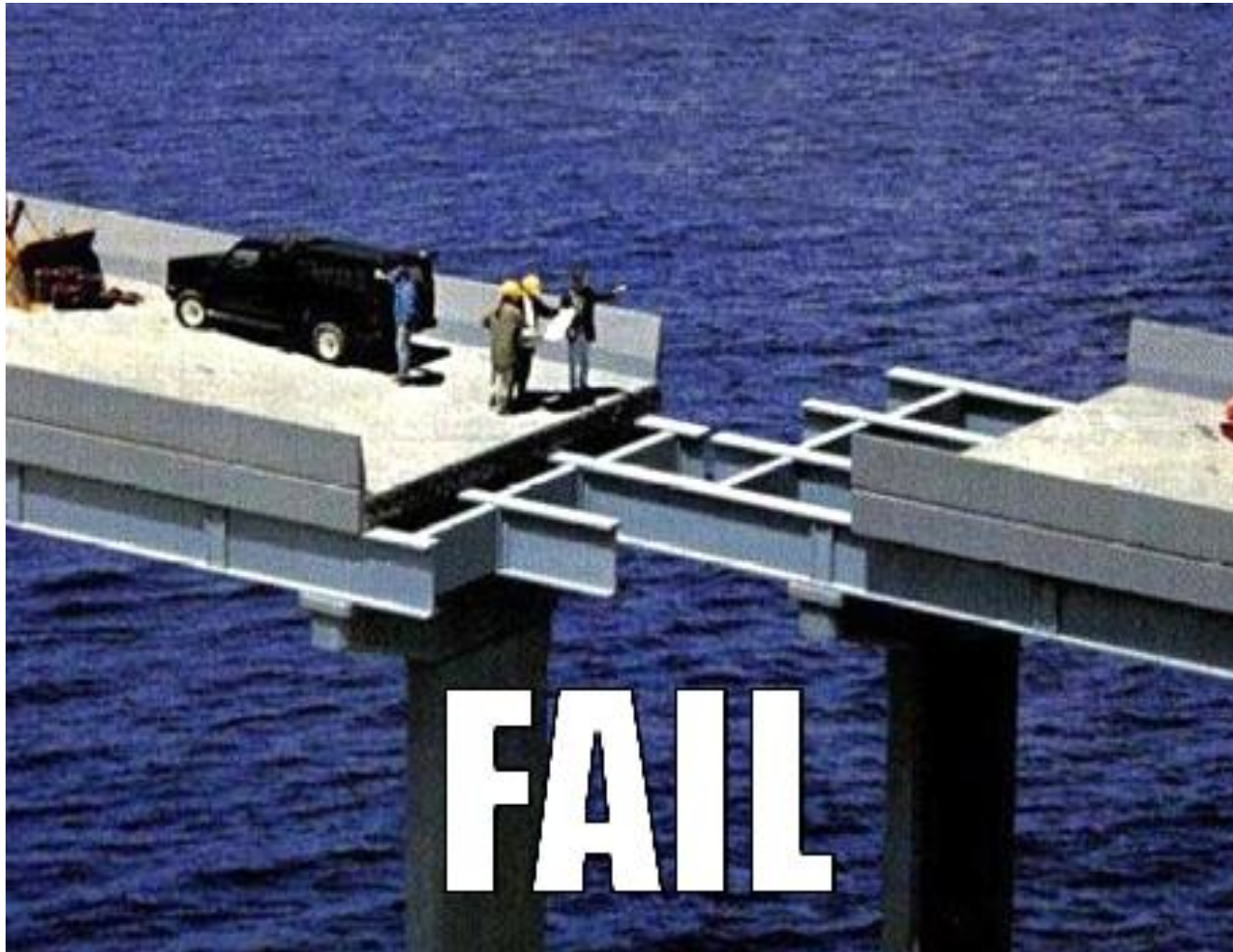
# 水滴石穿 (Shuǐdīshíchuān)

## Water cuts through stone





# Integration fail (1)





# Integration fail (2)



<http://deartheonion.wordpress.com/2011/03/01/engineers-fail-to-bridge-gap-between-rich-and-poor/>



And how does it look in the  
**software?**



# Principles behind the Agile Manifesto

Our highest priority is to satisfy the  
customer  
through **early** and **continuous**  
delivery of valuable software.



# XP rules and concepts

- **Integrate often**
- Project velocity
- Pair programming
- User story



# Integrate often

Development teams must  
integrate changes into the  
development baseline at least  
once a day.

This concept is also called **continuous  
integration**.



# Joel Spolsky



<http://www.geecon.org/speakers/joel-spolsky.html>



# The Joel Test

1. Do you use source control?
2. Can you make a build in one step?
3. Do you make daily builds?
4. Do you have a bug database?
5. ...



# What is CI?

It is the practice, of **merging**  
all developer **working copies**  
with a shared mainline **several**  
**times a day.**





# What is CI?

- A development methodology
- Of daily developer integration
- Verified by automated builds



# What is **not** CI?

- Nightly builds
- Developer branches



# When do I build?

- At every check-in
- Every time a dependency changes
- Every X minutes

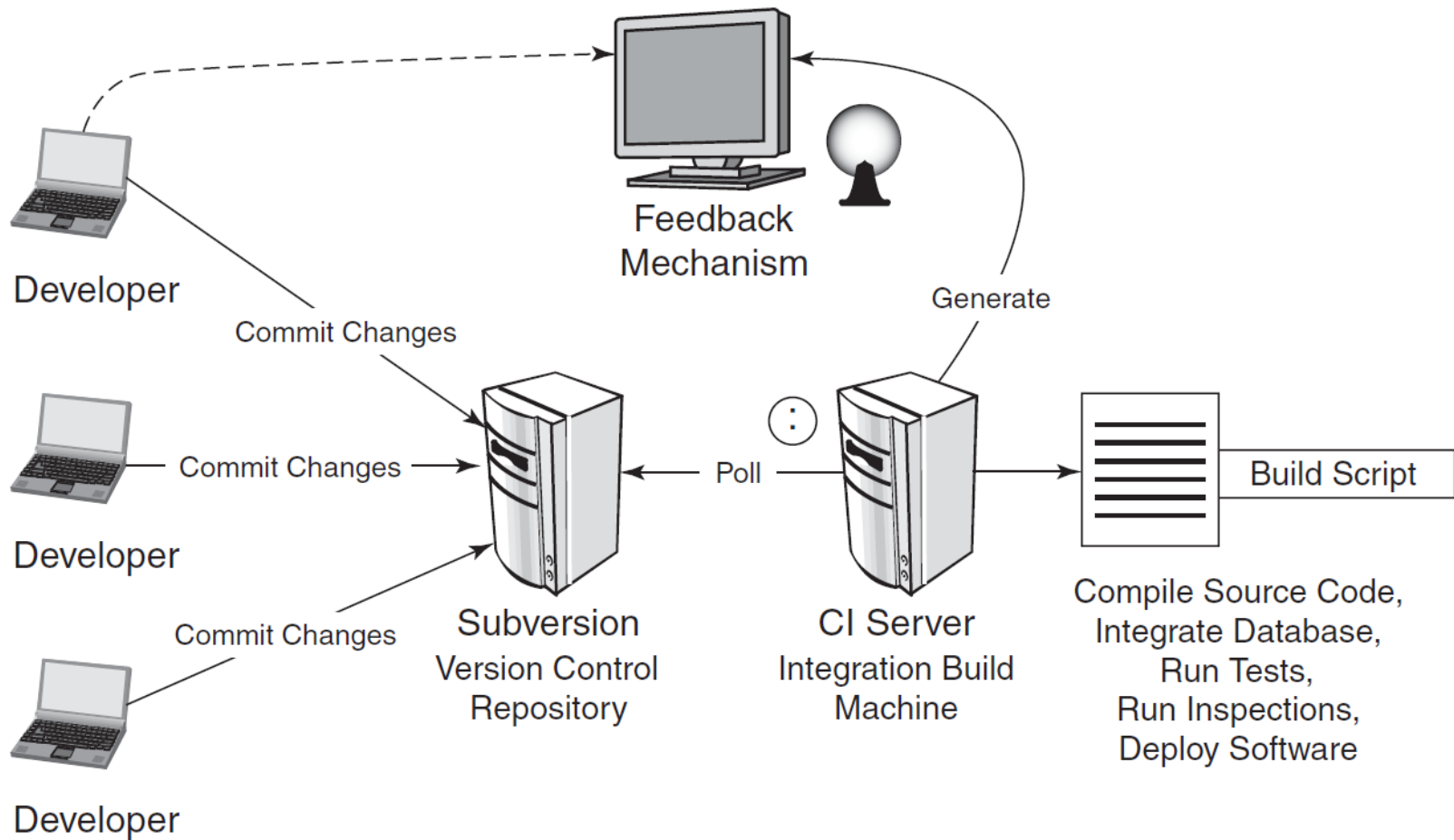


# How do I build?

- Use a single build script
- That can run from cmdline
- Do not depend on an IDE



# The components of a CI system

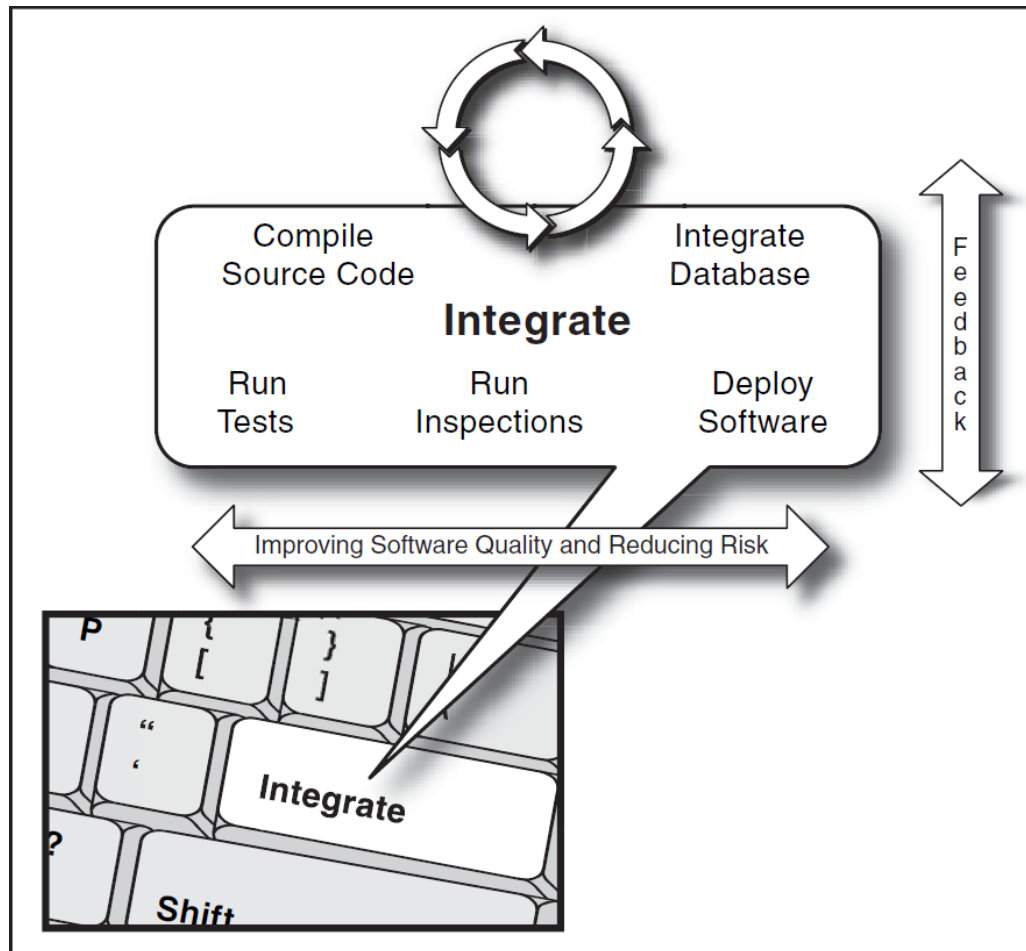


# Features of CI

- Source code compilation
- Database integration
- Testing
- Inspection
- Deployment
- Documentation and feedback



# The Integrate button



# What is the value of CI?

- Reduce risks
- Reduce repetitive processes
- Generate deployable software
- Enable better project visibility
- Establish greater product confidence





# What is the value of CI?

## Reduce risks

- Defects are detected and fixed sooner
- Health of software is measurable
- Reduce assumptions



# Reducing risks using CI

- Lack of deployable software
- Late discovery of defects
- Lack of project visibility
- Low-quality software





# What is the value of CI?

## Reduce repetitive processes

**It saves time, costs, and effort.**

- The process runs the same way every time.
- An ordered process is followed.
- The processes will run every time a commit occurs in the version control repository.



What is the value of CI?

Generate deployable software

CI can enable you to release  
deployable software at any  
point in time.



# What is the value of CI?

## Enable better project visibility

- Effective decisions
- Noticing trends



What is the value of CI?

Establish greater product confidence

Effective application of CI practices  
can provide **greater confidence**  
in producing a software  
product.



# What prevents teams from using CI?

- Increased overhead in maintaining the CI system
- Too much change
- Too many failed builds
- Additional hardware/software costs
- Developers should be performing these activities





# How do I get to „Continuous Integration”?

I **b**uild **s**o **c**onsistently.

- Identify
- Build
- Share
- Make it continuous



# When and how should a project implement CI?

## It is best to implement CI early in the project.

CI is not just a technical implementation;  
it is also an organizational and cultural  
implementation



Come on!  
Please! Do something!



# How long does CI take to set up?

It depends.

- For a new project may take you a few hours to set up and configure.
- For a project already in progress, it can take days, weeks, or even months to set up a CI system.



# CI and You

- Commit code frequently
- Don't commit broken code
- Fix broken builds immediately
- Write automated developer tests
- All tests and inspections must pass
- Run private builds
- Avoid getting broken code



# CI and You (1)

## Commit code frequently

**Commit code to your version control repository at least once a day.**

- Make small changes
- Commit after each task



## CI and You (2)

Don't commit broken code

**Don't commit code that does not compile with other code or fails a test.**



## CI and You (3)

Fix broken builds immediately

Although it's the team's responsibility,  
the developer who recently  
committed code must be  
involved in **fixing the failed  
build.**





## CI and You (4)

Write automated developer tests

Verify that your software works  
using automated developer  
tests.

Run these tests with your automated build and  
run them often with CI.



## CI and You (5)

All tests and inspections must pass

Not 90% or 95% of tests,  
but **all tests** must **pass** prior to  
committing code to the version  
control repository.



## CI and You (6)

### Run private builds

To prevent integration failures, get changes from other developers by

getting the latest changes from the repository and run a full integration build locally,

known as a private system build.



## CI and You (7)

# Avoid getting broken code

If the build has failed, you will lose time if you get code from the repository.

Wait for the change or **help** the developer(s) **fix** the **build failure** and then get the latest code.



# In summary

CI can help you build better,  
quality software faster, with  
more confidence.



# Resource

- **Continuous Integration: Improving Software Quality and Reducing Risk** by *Paul M. Duvall, Steve Matyas, Andrew Glover*.
- **Continuous Integration in .Net** by *Marcin Kawalerowicz, Craig Berntson*.
- **Software Configuration Management Patterns: Effective Teamwork, Practical Integration** by *Stephen P. Berczuk*.
- **Configuration Management Best Practices: Practical Methods that Work in the Real World** by *Robert Aiello, Leslie Sachs*

