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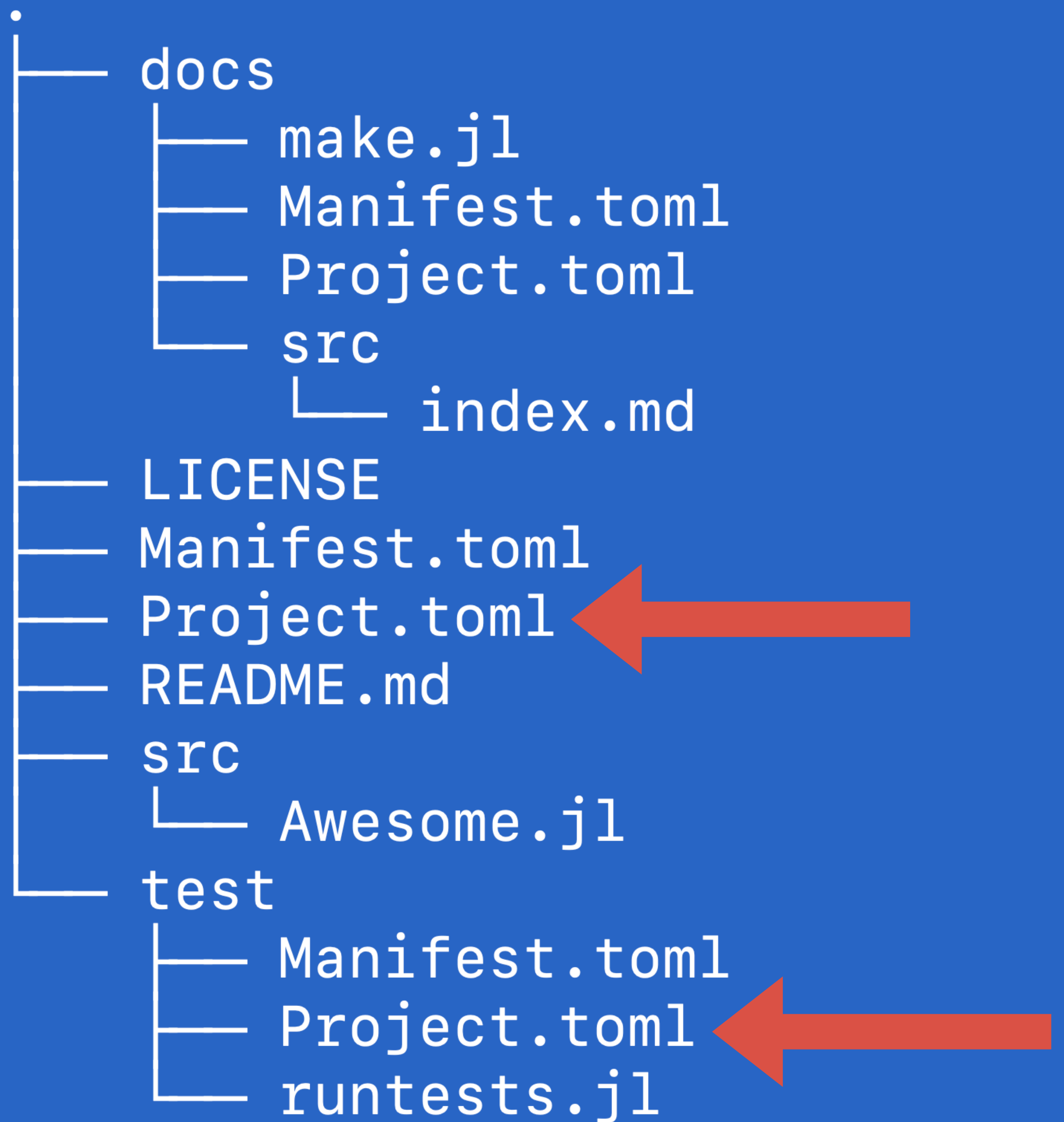
Julia Testing Packages

DOLGERT JULY 2025

using PkgTemplates

t = Template()

t("Awesome")



Review Criteria

- JuliaHub.com & [JuliaPackages.com](https://juliapackages.com) - “test”
- Project.toml[test=] & test/Project.toml - All 12,000 packages and 1,000 Github w/“test”.
- Not using the live feed of package downloads, but I’ve scanned it since.
- Exclude if won’t install on LTS 1.10.
- Exclude if specific to application domain (eg fluid dynamics, nail polish colors).
- Tracked in github.com/adolgert/JuliaTestDeps.jl.

Julia packages used in the test/ directory aren’t reported in JuliaHub statistics.

CMU Software Engineering Institute

- Federally-funded research and development center (FFRDC)
- Three divisions: CERT, Software Solutions Division, AI Division (I'm here)

Dolgert:

- Julia since v0.3, 3 packages: UnitTestDesign.jl, BijectiveHilbert.jl, CompetingClocks.jl.
- Probability and stochastic simulation, AI, HPC, demography, physicist.
- Testing *scientific code*.

Organization: Pretend We're Testing

1. Choose a system-under-test or function-under-test.
2. Generate test cases.
3. Select test cases.
4. Run test cases.
5. Report test case outcomes.

International Software Testing Qualifications Board, [istqb.org](https://www.istqb.org)

In test/ But Not (Exactly) Testing

- Weave.jl & Literate.jl - Report generation/literate programming.
- PackageCompiler.jl - Create system image for a Julia package.
- Infiltrator.jl - drop into live debugger!
- Revise.jl (edit package without restarting)
- LiveServer.jl (live-reload web server)

Test All The Things

- DocInventories.jl - Testing the documentation
- Docs.undocumented_names()
- Benchmark
 - TimerOutputs.jl
 - BenchmarkTools.jl
 - PkgBenchmark.jl
 - ChairMarks.jl
 - AllocCheck.jl - test memory allocations!

Testing the Package Itself

- InteractiveUtils.jl in Stdlib - to ensure what is exported, check globals, check correct function called, and more.
- Aqua.jl - `Aqua.test_all(YourPackage)`
- JET.jl - `@test isempty(JET.get_reports(report_package(YourPackage)))`
- IntegrationTests.jl - Uses CI/CD to test that packages behave together.

Test A Specific Interface

- REST API - BrokenRecord.jl (Record HTTP and play back)
- GUI - ImGuiTestEngine.jl (Dear ImGui windowing library)
- Terminal UI - TerminalRegressionTests.jl (Uses VT100.jl package)

Find Tests in Other Places

- README.md - TestReadme.jl
- Documentation - Documenter.jl: ```jldoctest```
- Notebooks - PlutoTest.jl, NBInclude.jl
- Latex-ish Documents - NarrativeTest.jl: Markdown format.
- Finding tests within the package - Later...

Transfer Files for Testing

- Downloads.jl - download()
- DataDeps.jl - Create, retrieve data by UUID from installation-dependent directories.
- RemoteFiles.jl - Download and check for updates.
- Pkg.Artifacts.jl - Installable binary dependencies.
- AWSS3.jl
- GoogleDrive.jl

JLD2

SQLITE

NETCDF

ZIPFILE

XLSX

ARROW

JSON3

SERIALIZATION

FILEIO

EZXML

HDF5

TABLES

TAR

NPZ

BSON

Fixtures

- Mocking.jl - temporarily overload function calls for testing.
- Suppressor.jl, IOCapture.jl, LoggingExtras.jl - to capture stderr, stdout.
- Scratch.jl - to write temporary files.
- DotEnv.jl - to create sets of environment variables.
- StableRandom.jl - to make random numbers the same across Julia versions.
- Reexport.jl - to make private members available

Property-based Testing

- Supposition.jl
- RandomizedPropertyTest.jl
- PropCheck.jl

```
Supposition.@check function commutative(a=intgen, b=intgen)
    add(a,b) == add(b,a)
end

Supposition.@check function failprop(x=intgen)
    add(x, one(x)) < x
end
```

Combinatorial Testing

- With Test.@testset `@testset ["description $v, $w"] for v in itr_v, w in itr_w test_ex end`
- UnitTestDesign.jl
- BranchTests.jl

```
@testbranch "Vector" begin
    v = Vector{Int}()
    @test isempty(v)

    @testbranch "adds one element" begin
        push!(v, 1)
        @test length(v) == 1

        @testbranch "adds another element" begin
            push!(v, 2)
            @test length(v) == 2
        end

        @testbranch "removes element" begin
            pop!(v)
            @test isempty(v)
        end
    end
end
```

```
julia> test_cases = all_pairs(
    [1, 2, 3], ["low", "mid", "high"], [1.0, 3.7, 4.9], [:greedy, :relax, :optim])
10-element Vector{Vector{Any}}:
 [1, "low", 1.0, :greedy]
 [1, "mid", 3.7, :relax]
 [1, "high", 4.9, :optim]
 [2, "low", 3.7, :optim]
 [2, "mid", 1.0, :greedy]
 [2, "high", 1.0, :relax]
 [3, "low", 4.9, :relax]
 [3, "mid", 1.0, :optim]
 [3, "high", 3.7, :greedy]
 [2, "mid", 4.9, :greedy]
```

Testing by Comparison

- Other implementations - RCall, PythonCall, MAT(LAB), libdl.
- Recorded files - ReferenceTests.jl
- Other data types
 - Symbolics, DoubleFloats, FixedPointNumbers, IntervalArithmetic, SymPy
 - SparseArrays, OffsetArrays, Unitful, PooledArrays, Strided
- Other Plots: VisualRegressionTesting.jl

Improved Assertions

- Safetestsets.jl - put test sets into a module.
- Base - @inferred to check for type stability.
- DeepDiffs.jl - Walks into structs and lists.
- StructEquality.jl - Compares through struct members.
- MacroTools.jl - Inspect the Expr-form of a function.
- IntervalSets.jl, DomainSets.jl, Intervals.jl - Use floating-point intervals to express assertions.
- Unitful.jl - Check that units are correct (known as metamorphic testing).
- Jive.jl - A bunch of helpers.

The Deal with Test.jl

- The default Julia Test Framework.
- Runs tests as it finds them.
- Test code is in test/ because code inside a package would slow loading times.

Test Frameworks of the Past

- - FactCheck, 9 years ago
- - Jig, 12 years ago
- - JulieTest, 9 years ago
- - PyTest, 7 years ago
- - RunTests, 9 years
- - Saute, 13 years ago

Tiny Test Frameworks

- AssociatedTests.jl - tests next to functions they test.
- NestedTests.jl - for sharing setup/teardown of tests.
- Pukeko.jl - minimal, function-based, parallel test execution.
- TidyTest.jl - works with Test.jl and adds discovery of tests and test selection.

Test Frameworks

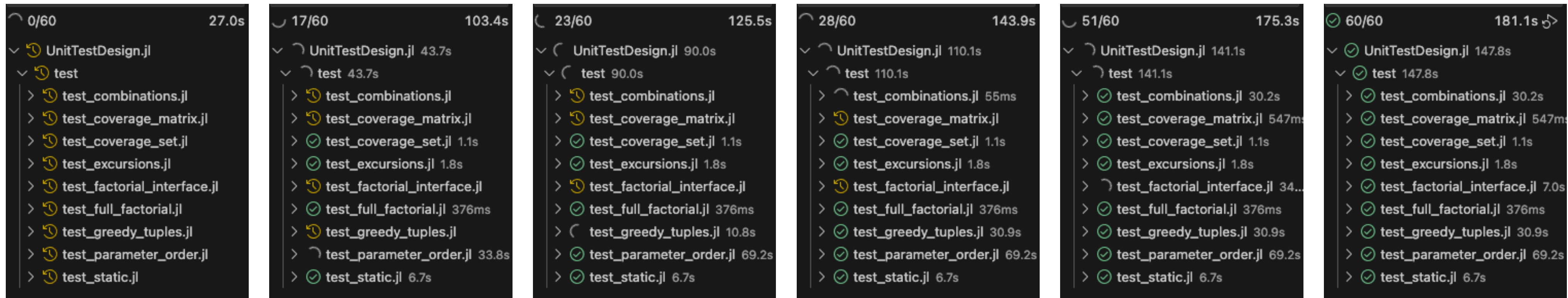
- TestItems.jl, TestItemRunner.jl, ReTestItems.jl - Removes test code from package, run in VSCode.
- ReTest.jl - collect tests, select, run in parallel.
- XUnit.jl - collect tests, select, schedule, run.
- Jute.jl - collect tests, parametrizes with fixtures.

Help Running Unit Tests

- TestTools.jl - CLI tools for testing, coverage, style checking.
- EyeOfRa.jl - Live rerunning!
- TestPicker.jl - REPL mode for running tests.



Blinky Green Lights: Test Output



- VisualStudio Plugin
- DotTestSets - Output like Python unittest. Watch the dots!
- Maracas - “Syntactic sugar and verbose output”
- TestSetExtensions - Readable output, DeepDiffs, and more within Test framework.
- On Github/Gitlab, other through XML file.

Test Quality

- Coverage.jl, LocalCoverage.jl - Count lines exercised by tests.
- Vimes.jl - Mutation testing (doesn't install on LTS 1.10).
- Other kinds of coverage? Branch, function, path, modified condition/decision coverage?

What's Missing?

- Test selection - Like pytest and pytest-testmon.
- Package to help make randomized tests - probabilistic programming to search for errors.