Software Testing

Adrian Price-Whelan

(Columbia University)





github.com/adrn/SoftwareTesting

github.com/adrn/SoftwareTesting

Disclaimer:

This is **Python**-focused (but applies to any language)

Complex code is impossible to debug by eye

Complex code is impossible to debug by eye

Testing is a robust way to validate software

- Complex code is impossible to debug by eye
- Testing is a robust way to validate software
 - Does it work as I expect?

- Complex code is impossible to debug by eye
- Testing is a robust way to validate software
 - Does it work as I expect?
 - Does it work as the users expect?

- Complex code is impossible to debug by eye
- Testing is a robust way to validate software
 - Does it work as I expect?
 - Does it work as the users expect?
 - Does this update break existing code?

- Complex code is impossible to debug by eye
- Testing is a robust way to validate software
 - Does it work as I expect?
 - Does it work as the users expect?
 - Does this update break existing code?
- Testing also helps refine structure / intent

- Complex code is impossible to debug by eye
- Testing is a robust way to validate software
 - Does it work as I expect?
 - Does it work as the users expect?
 - Does this update break existing code?

- Testing also helps refine structure / intent
 - Is this code modular and testable?

What

What

Unit tests

- Check small "units" of code independent of other code
- Is the code doing what the programmer expects?

What

Unit tests

- Check small "units" of code independent of other code
- Is the code doing what the programmer expects?

- Check that units of code interact as expected
- Tests may use multiple classes, functions, modules...
- Is the **programmer** doing what the **user** expects?

Hypothetical software

Hypothetical software

Read an optical spectrum from a text file

Hypothetical software

Read an optical spectrum from a text file

Integrate flux over some wavelength range

Unit tests

- Read an optical spectrum from a text file
 - Does it succeed for all anticipated input types?
 - Does it fail if you have invalid data?
- Integrate flux over some wavelength range
 - Is integral positive for physical input values?

- Read an optical spectrum from a text file
- Integrate flux over some wavelength range
 - Generate valid temp. file on the fly with known integral
 - Read from temporary file, pass to integration routine
 - Check output

- Read an optical spectrum from a text file
- Integrate flux over some wavelength range
 - Generate valid temp. file on the fly with known integral
 - Read from temporary file, pass to integration routine
 - Check output
- Tests end-to-end functionality

1. Write tests / API

1. Write tests / API

2. Write skeleton of code

1. Write tests / API

2. Write skeleton of code

3. Run tests and debug

1. Write tests / API

2. Write skeleton of code

3. Run tests and debug

4. Write code until tests pass

1. Write tests / API

2. Write skeleton of code

3. Run tests and debug

─ 4. Write code until tests pass

unittest

- Standard library
- Requires some boiler-plate code to make simple tests

unittest

- Standard library
- Requires some boiler-plate code to make simple tests

• py.test

- Third-party package
- Easy to write simple tests
- Plugin architecture (e.g., doctests, coverage, pep8, mpl, ...)
- (used by Astropy)

unittest

- Standard library
- Requires some boiler-plate code to make simple tests

py.test

- Third-party package
- Easy to write simple tests
- Plugin architecture (e.g., doctests, coverage, pep8, mpl, ...)
- (used by Astropy)

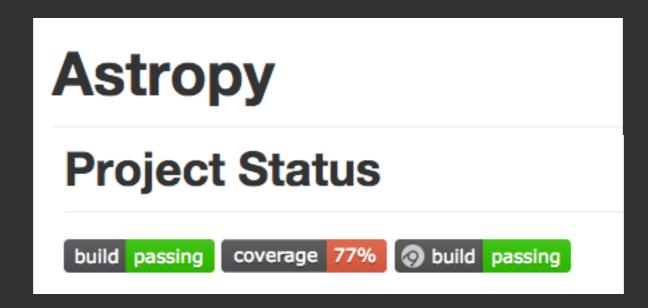
nose

Similar to py.test — pick one and roll with it

Discovers & runs functions starting with test_...
 classes starting with Test...

```
CLSE:
                    fmt = [fmt, ] * ncol
                 format = delimiter.join(fmt)
             elif iscomplex_X and n_fmt_chars != (2 * ncol):
                 raise error
             elif ((not iscomplex_X) and n_fmt_chars != ncol):
                 raise error
                ValueError: fmt has wrong number of % formats
  %s %s
../../anaconda/envs/three/lib/python3.5/site-packages/numpy/lib/n
pyio.py:1137: ValueError
```

- When new code is integrated or is proposed (e.g., pull request), verify that tests pass
 - See: Travis-Cl, Jenkins

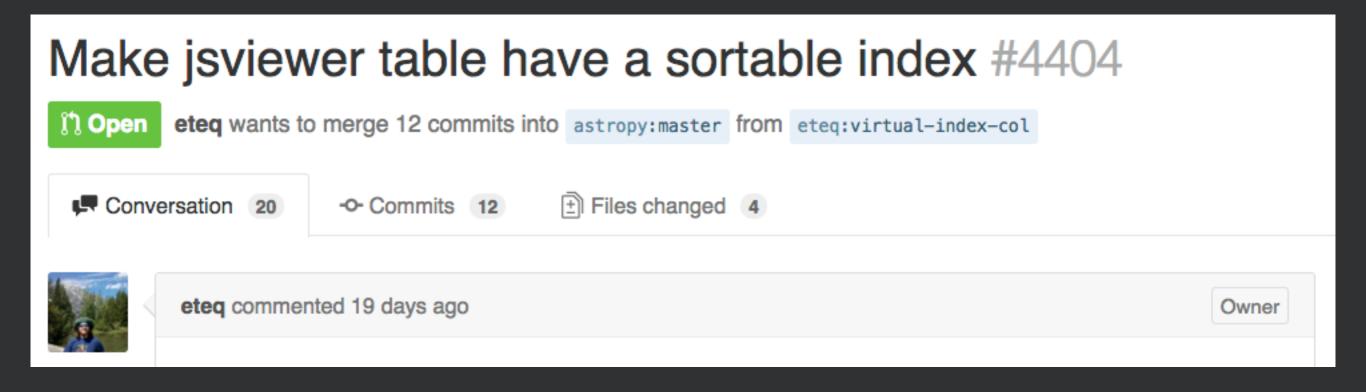


Travis-Cl — "matrix" builds

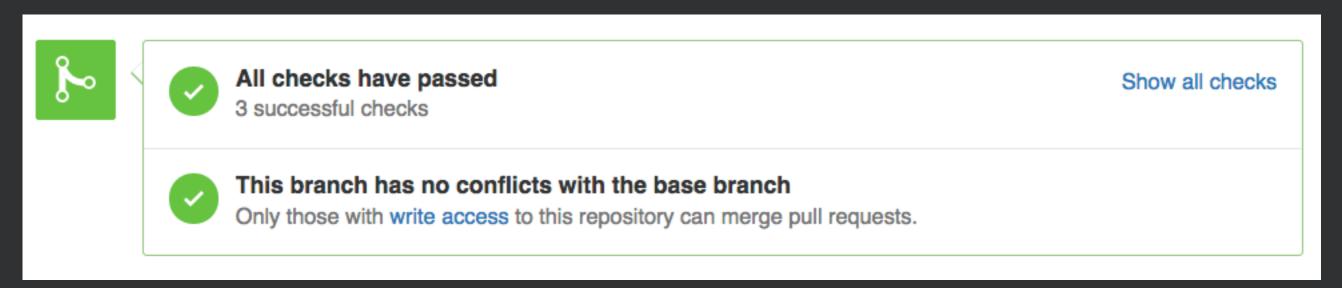
Build Jobs			
✓ # 11169.1	no language set	PYTHON_VERSION=2.6 SETUP_CMD='egg_info'	
✓ # 11169.2	no language set	PYTHON_VERSION=2.7 SETUP_CMD='egg_info'	○ 39 sec
✓ # 11169.3	/> no language set	PYTHON_VERSION=3.3 SETUP_CMD='egg_info'	① 1 min 5 sec
✓ # 11169.4	/> no language set	PYTHON_VERSION=3.4 SETUP_CMD='egg_info'	☼ 55 sec
✓ # 11169.5	/> no language set	PYTHON_VERSION=3.5 SETUP_CMD='egg_info'	① 1 min 5 sec
✓ # 11169.6	ő no language set	PYTHON_VERSION=2.7 SETUP_CMD='test' CONDA_DEPENDENCIES=	11 min 16 sec
✓ # 11169.7	/> no language set	TYPE PYTHON_VERSION=2.7 SETUP_CMD='build_sphinx-w' CONDA_DEPE	N 🕓 8 min 57 sec
✓ # 11169.8	no language set	TYPINON_VERSION=2.6 SETUP_CMD='test open-files'	() 8 min 38 sec
✓ # 11169.9	🖏 no language set	TYPINON_VERSION=2.7 SETUP_CMD='test open-files'	① 12 min 15 sec
✓ # 11169.10	no language set	TYPINON_VERSION=3.3 SETUP_CMD='test open-files'	① 7 min 8 sec
✓ # 11169.11	no language set	TYPINON_VERSION=3.4 SETUP_CMD='test open-files'	① 7 min 10 sec
✓ # 11169.12	no language set	TYPINON_VERSION=3.5 SETUP_CMD='test open-files'	() 6 min 15 sec
✓ # 11169.13	no language set	TYPE PYTHON_VERSION=2.7 SETUP_CMD='testcoverage' CONDA_DEPEN	12 min 25 sec
✓ # 11169.14	no language set	TYPINON_VERSION=3.4 SETUP_CMD='test' CONDA_DEPENDENCIES=	8 min 21 sec
✓ # 11169.15	no language set	TYPITHON_VERSION=2.7 NUMPY_VERSION=1.8 SETUP_CMD='test'	① 7 min 16 sec
✓ # 11169.16	no language set	TYPITHON_VERSION=2.7 NUMPY_VERSION=1.7 SETUP_CMD='test'	(6 min 58 sec
✓ # 11169.17	no language set	THON_VERSION=2.7 NUMPY_VERSION=1.6 SETUP_CMD='test'	(8 min 43 sec
✓ # 11169.19	♦ no language set	TYTHON_VERSION=2.7 MAIN_CMD='pep8 astropycount' SETUP_CN	11 © 53 sec

Travis-Cl — "matrix" builds

Build Jobs			
✓ # 11169.1	> no language set	TO PYTHON_VERSION: 2.6 SETUP_CMD='egg_info'	○ 48 sec
✓ # 11169.2	> no language set	TO PYTHON_VERSION: 2.7 SETUP_CMD='egg_info'	○ 39 sec
✓ # 11169.3	> no language set	TO PYTHON_VERSION: 3.3 SETUP_CMD='egg_info'	(1 min 5 sec
✓ # 11169.4	> no language set	TO PYTHON_VERSION: 3.4 SETUP_CMD='egg_info'	○ 55 sec
✓ # 11169.5	> no language set	TO PYTHON_VERSION: 3.5 SETUP_CMD='egg_info'	① 1 min 5 sec
✓ # 11169.6		TYPE PYTHON_VERSION: 2.7 SETUP_CMD='test' CONDA_DEPENDENCIES=\$	① 11 min 16 sec
✓ # 11169.7	> no language set	TO PYTHON_VERSION: 2.7 SETUP_CMD='build_sphinx-w' CONDA_DEPE	③ 8 min 57 sec
✓ # 11169.8	> no language set	TPYTHON_VERSION: 2.6 SETUP_CMD='testopen-files'	(8 min 38 sec
✓ # 11169.9	> no language set	TO PYTHON_VERSION: 2.7 SETUP_CMD='testopen-files'	() 12 min 15 sec
✓ # 11169.10	> no language set	TO PYTHON_VERSION: 3.3 SETUP_CMD='testopen-files'	○ 7 min 8 sec
✓ # 11169.11	> no language set	TO PYTHON_VERSION: 3.4 SETUP_CMD='testopen-files'	③ 7 min 10 sec
✓ # 11169.12	> no language set	TO PYTHON_VERSION: 3.5 SETUP_CMD='testopen-files'	() 6 min 15 sec
✓ # 11169.13	> no language set	PYTHON_VERSION: 2.7 SETUP_CMD='testcoverage' CONDA_DEPEN	① 12 min 25 sec
✓ # 11169.14	no language set	PYTHON_VERSION: 3.4 SETUP_CMD='test' CONDA_DEPENDENCIES=\$	(8 min 21 sec
✓ # 11169.15	no language set	PYTHON_VERSION: 2.7 NUMPY_VERSION=1.8 SETUP_CMD='test'	③ 7 min 16 sec
✓ # 11169.16	> no language set	PYTHON_VERSION: 2.7 NUMPY_VERSION=1.7 SETUP_CMD='test'	(6 min 58 sec
✓ # 11169.17	> no language set	PYTHON_VERSION: 2.7 NUMPY_VERSION=1.6 SETUP_CMD='test'	③ 8 min 43 sec
✓ # 11169.19	🗞 no language set	THON_VERSION: 2.7 MAIN_CMD='pep8 astropycount' SETUP_CM	○ 53 sec



comments, commits, etc...



 Unit tests by themselves are almost useless balance unit and functional tests

 Unit tests by themselves are almost useless balance unit and functional tests

 Try out test-driven development — could save you time in the long run

 Unit tests by themselves are almost useless balance unit and functional tests

 Try out test-driven development — could save you time in the long run

 There are many tools out there that make writing and running tests easy — use them!

 Unit tests by themselves are almost useless balance unit and functional tests

 Try out test-driven development — could save you time in the long run

 There are many tools out there that make writing and running tests easy — use them! (try: Py.test + GitHub + Travis-CI)