CS1632: Lecture

Web Testing with Selenium Bill Laboon/Dustin Iser

History of Selenium

- 2004
- Jason Huggins
- ThoughtWorks in Chicago
- Open-source
- Works with most operating systems and browsers
- Version 1
 - Monolithic
 - Only supported one programming language
- Version 2
 - Client/server
 - Supports Java, C#, Ruby, Python, and JavaScript

Selenium Grid

- Hub/node
- Simultaneous, distributed, automated testing

Selenium IDE

Build tests via a point and click interface.

Good for beginners.

Selenium learning resources

Check out my blog for lots of posts about Selenium:

http://asphaltpanthers.com/

Many online tutorials for learning selenium:

http://www.guru99.com/selenium-tutorial.html

GUI Automation

So far, all of our testing has been with specific, text based input and output.

Not every user interface is text-based.

Though testing a GUI requires different techniques, the goal remains the same, compare the actual result with the expected result.

One approach to testing web pages

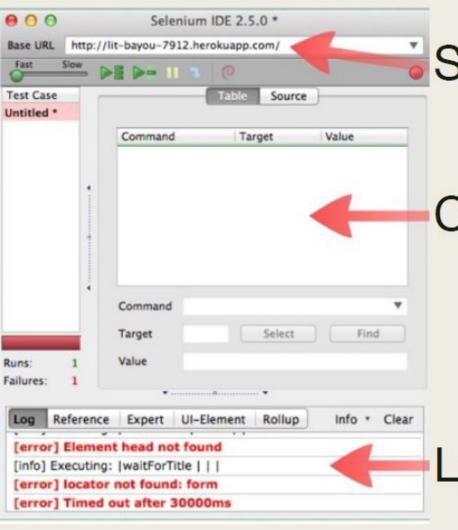
```
// Any downsides to this?
@Test
public void testWeb() {
   String expectedHtml = "<head></
head></body><strong>Hello, world!</strong></body>";
   String pageText = getPage("http://example.com");
   assertEquals(expectedHtml, pageText);
}
```

Downsides

- Fragile
 - Change the page, change the entire test
- What about JavaScript?
 - Just check that the right JavaScript is on the page?
- Unreadable
- Simplistic and low-level
- No semantic understanding
 - Links
 - Textboxes
 - o Etc.

Getting started with Selenium

- Download and install Firefox.
- 2. Go to https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/selenium-ide/
- Select 'Add to Firefox'.



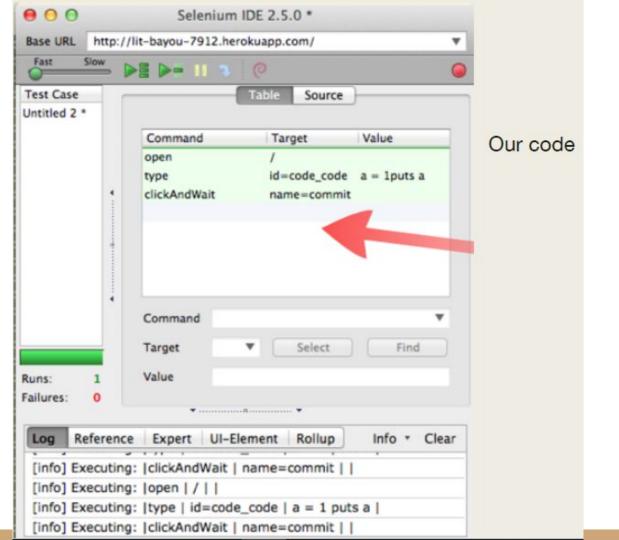
Starting URL

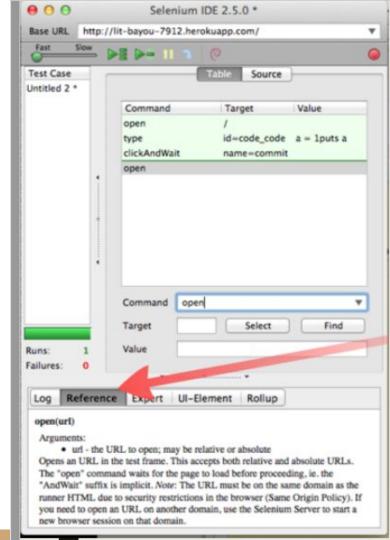
Commands

Logging output

Simple Scripting

- 1. File -> New Test Case
- 2. Record an operation (red circle)
- 3. Stop recording
- 4. Run test suite (green triangle)



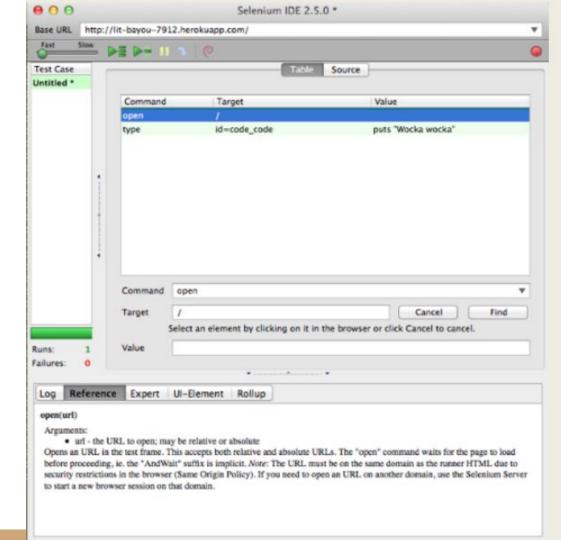


open <URL> - Opens either an absolute or relative URL

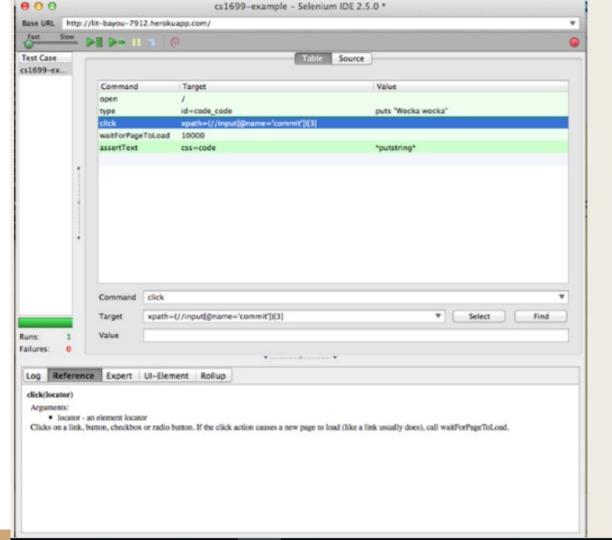
Note that you can check what an operation does by clicking on the "Reference" tab at the bottom

Notes

- You can move steps around by just clicking and dragging.
- You can add comments by selecting "Add new comment".



The type command will type in a given target (e.g. textbox)



Click <target> will click on an element on the web page

Avoiding intermittent failures

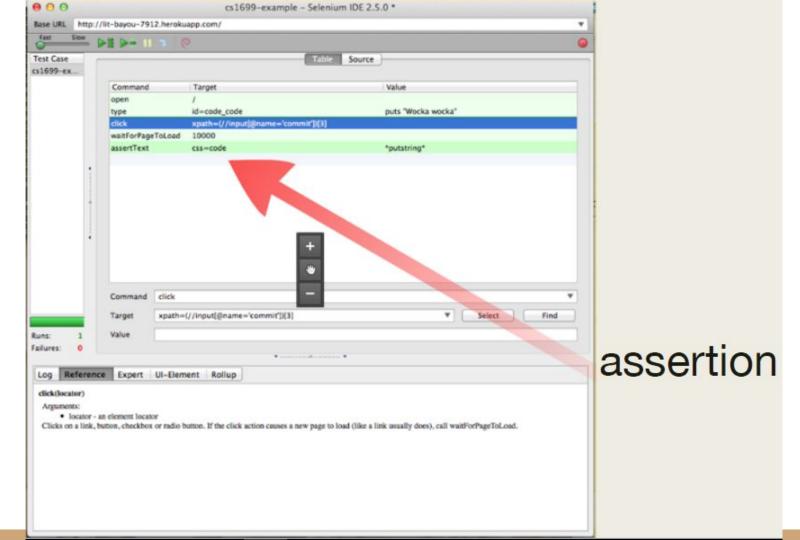
waitForPageToLoad

- Waits for another page to load with an optional timeout.
- If you don't wait, Selenium goes as fast as it can, and may do a check before the page is ready.
- This means that your assertions may fail simply because the page hasn't finished loading.
- Intermittent failures are a common symptom of poorly written web tests.

...andWait

clickAndWait

- A combination of 'click' and 'waitForPageToLoad'.
- There are other '...andWait' variants since waiting for a page to load is very common.



Assertions

- assertText / assertTextPresent
- assertElementPresent
- assertEditable
- assertAlert
- assertCookie
- assertEval

Select

- Select can be helpful to find a way to specify a target.
- Lots of ways to specify an element on a webpage.
- Select can help you find one that works.