



# Continuous Integration



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See slide 2 for  
license details

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- **The requested citation the overall tutorial is: David E. Bernholdt, Anshu Dubey, Patricia A. Grubel, Rinku K. Gupta, Better Scientific Software tutorial, in SC '20: International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storage and Analysis, online, 2020. DOI: [10.6084/m9.figshare.12994376](https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.12994376)**
- Individual modules may be cited as *Speaker, Module Title*, in Better Scientific Software tutorial...

## Acknowledgements

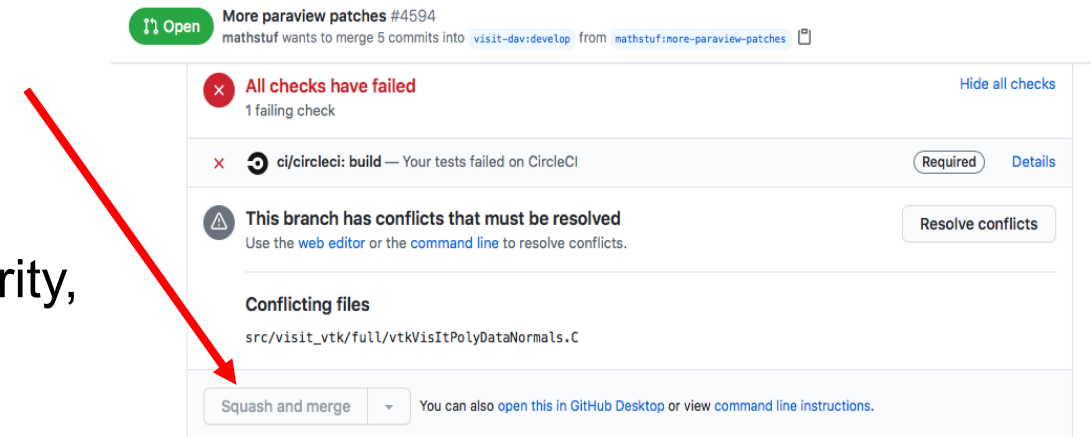
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# What is Continuous Integration (CI) *Testing*

- Testing
  - Focused, critical functionality (infrastructure), fast, independent, orthogonal, complete, ...
  - Existing test suites often require re-design/refactoring for CI
- Integration
  - Changes across key branches merged & tested to ensure the “whole” still works
  - Develop, develop, develop, merge, merge, merge, test, test, test...NO!
  - Develop, merge, test, develop, merge, test, develop, merge, test...YES!
- Continuous
  - Changes tested every commit and/or pull-request (like auto-correct)
- CI generally implies a lot of automation

# Automated Testing vs. Continuous Integration (CI) Testing

- **Automated Testing:** Software that automatically performs tests and reliably detects and reports anomalous behaviors/outcomes.
  - Examples: Auto-test, CTest/CDash, nightly testing, `make check`
  - Lives “next to” your development workflow
  - Potential issues: change attribution, timeliness of results, multiple branches of development
- **Continuous Integration (CI):** automated testing performed at high frequency and fine granularity aimed at *preventing* code changes from breaking key branches of development (e.g. *main*)
  - Example: Disabled/enabled “Merge Pull Request” button on GitHub
  - Lives “within” your development workflow
  - Potential issues: extreme automation, test granularity, coverage, 3<sup>rd</sup>-party services/resources



# What can make CI Difficult

## Common situations

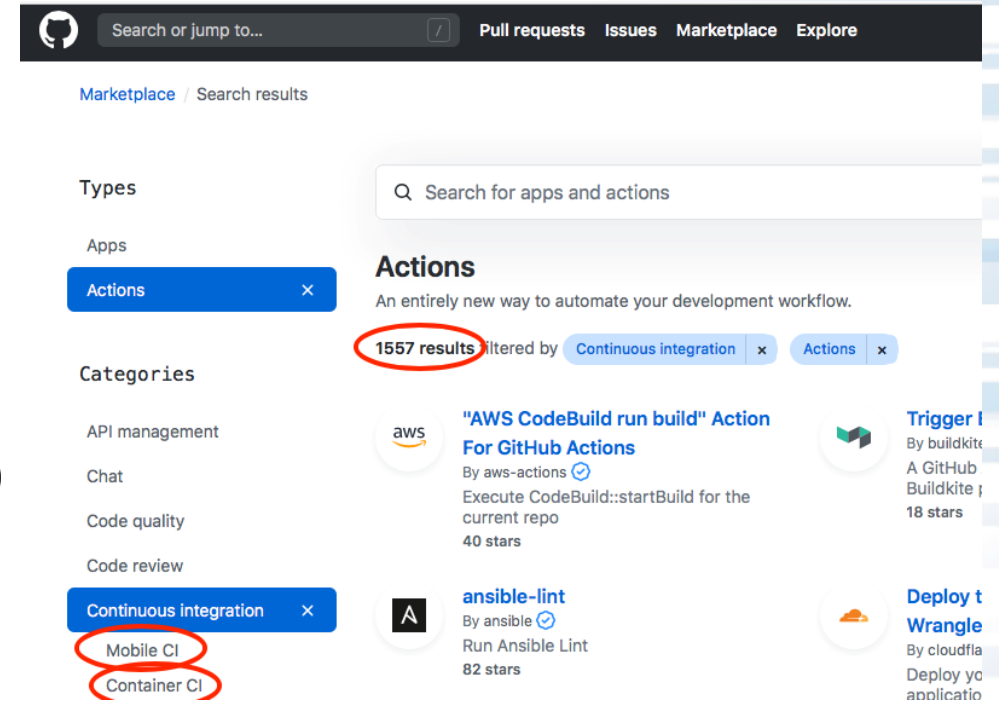
- Just getting started
  - Many technologies/choices; often in the "cloud"
  - Solution: start small, simple, build up
- Developing suitable tests
  - Many project's existing tests not suitable for CI
  - CI testing is a balance of thoroughness and responsiveness
  - Solution: Simplify/refactor and/or sub-setting test suite
- Ensuring sufficient coverage
  - Some changes to code never get tested – CI can provide a false sense of security
  - Solution: tools to measure it, enforce always increasing

## Advanced situations

- Defining failure for *many* configurations
  - Bit-for-bit (exact) match vs. fuzzy match
  - Solution: absolute/relative tolerances → AI/ML
- Numerous 3<sup>rd</sup> party libraries (TPLs)
  - Compiling takes too long
  - Solution: cache pre-built TPLs, containers
- Performance testing
  - Avoid time-, space-, scaling-performance degradation
  - Solution: Perf. instrumentation and *scheduled* testing

# CI Resources (Where do jobs run?)

- Free Cloud Resources (many free on GitHub, BitBucket, GitLab, etc.)
  - Travis-CI, Circle-CI, AppVeyor, Azure Pipelines,...
  - All launch a VM (Linux variants, Windows and OSX)
    - Constrained in time/size, hardware (e.g. GPU type/count)
    - Not a complete solution for many HPC/scientific codes, but a useful starting point.
- Site-local Resources
  - Group, department, institution, computing facility
  - Examples: Bamboo @ LLNL, Jenkins @ ANL, Travis+CDash @ NERSC, etc.
  - ECP Program: GitLab-CI @ ANL, LANL, LLNL, NERSC, ORNL, SNL
- Create your own by setting up resources/services



# Getting started with CI

- What *configuration* is most important?
  - Examples: gcc, icc, xlc? MPI-2 or MPI-3? Python 2, 3 or 2 & 3?
- What *functionality* is most important?
  - Examples: vanilla numerical kernels? OpenMP kernels? GPU kernels? All of these?
- Good candidates...
  - A “hello world” example for your project
  - Once you’ve got the basics working, its easy to build up from there

# Getting started with CI:

## Setting up CI

Service	Interface	
Travis	repo YAML file [& repo scripts]	/.travis.yml in root of repo
GitLab	Web page configurator + repo YAML file [& repo scripts]	/.gitlab-ci.yml in root of repo
Bamboo	Web page configurator + repo scripts	
.		
.		
.		

Keywords defined by service provider's YAML docs

## Example .travis.yml file (also doing coverage analysis)

markcmiller86 /

hello-numerical-world-atpesc-2020

forked from betterscientificsoftware/hello-numerical-world-atpesc-2020

<> Code Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security

main hello-numerical-world-atpesc-2020 / .travis.yml

markcmiller86 Create .travis.yml Latest commit ad0c96b 2 h

1 contributor

5 lines (3 sloc) 49 Bytes Raw B

1 language: c++

2

3 compiler: gcc

4

5 script: make check

} Specify environment

} Commands to run test



# travis-ci.com

# codecov.io

Travis CI

[Dashboard](#)[Changelog](#)[Documentation](#)[Help](#)

Search all repositories

markcmiller86 / hello-numerical-world

Current

Branches

Build History

Pull Requests

My Repositories

Running (1/2)

spack/spack

# 47315

Duration: 14 sec

mfem/mfem

# 8441

Duration: 1 hr 38 min 44 sec

Finished: 2 hours ago

markcmiller86/hello-numerical-world

# 7

Duration: 19 sec

Finished: 3 hours ago

beterscientificsoftware/Trust

# 2

Duration: 26 sec

Finished: 20 hours ago

LLNL/MACSIo

# 152

Duration: 1 min 24 sec

Finished: 2 days ago

beterscientificsoftware/bssw

# 83

Duration: 32 sec

Finished: 13 days ago

spack/spack-tutorial

# 125

Duration: 1 min 17 sec

Finished: 26 days ago

LLNL/lor

Duration: -

LLNL/FASTMath4

Duration: -

beterscientificsoftware/bssw

Duration: -

main

fix error threshold

Commit 26d69cd

Compare d24c2f3...26d69cd

Branch main

Mark C. Miller

Compiler: gcc C++

AMD64

Job log

View config

1 Worker information

6

7 Build system information

158

159

160 \$ git clone --depth=50 --branch=main https://github.com/markcmiller86/hello-numerical-world

170

171 \$ export TRAVIS\_COMPILER=gcc

172 \$ export CXX=\${CXX:-g++}

173 \$ export CXX\_FOR\_BUILD=\${CXX\_FOR\_BUILD:-g++}

174 \$ export CC=\${CC:-gcc}

175 \$ export CC\_FOR\_BUILD=\${CC\_FOR\_BUILD:-gcc}

176 \$ gcc --version

177 gcc (Ubuntu 5.4.0-6ubuntu1-16.04.11) 5.4.0 20160609

178 Copyright (C) 2015 Free Software Foundation, Inc.

179 This is free software; see the source for copying conditions. There is NO

180 warranty; not even for MERCHANTABILITY or FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

181

182 \$ make CXXFLAGS=-coverage LDFLAGS=-coverage -lm check

183 g++ -c --coverage heat.C -o heat.o

184 g++ -c --coverage utils.C -o utils.o

185 g++ -c --coverage args.C -o args.o

186 g++ -c --coverage exact.C -o exact.o

187 g++ -c --coverage ftcs.C -o ftcs.o

188 g++ -c --coverage upwind15.C -o upwind15.o

189 g++ -c --coverage crankn.C -o crankn.o

190 g++ -o heat heat.o utils.o args.o exact.o ftcs.o upwind15.o crankn.o --coverage -lm -lm

ghmarkcmiller86hello-numerical-worldDocsSupportBlog

fix error threshold

markcmiller86

3 hours ago

CI Passed

26d69cd

main

d24c2f3

51.60%

Files

Coverage

Double.H

65.63%

args.C

82.05%

crankn.C

0.00%

exact.C

0.00%

ftcs.C

100.00%

heat.C

73.81%

upwind15.C

0.00%

utils.C

49.35%

Project Totals (8 files)

51.60%

CALECULATINGECT

# Homework Assignment

- See tutorial web site for details
    - <https://betterscientificsoftware.github.io/bssw-tutorial-sc20/>
1. Fork the repository
  2. Configure Travis-CI to run 'make check' as a CI check
  3. Add code coverage checking using Codecov.io
  4. Expand the testing by using 'make check\_all' instead of 'make check'
  5. Extra credit: make the CI check fail if the code coverage decreases



# (Possible) Results of Homework\*

<https://github.com/betterscientificsoftware/hello-numerical-world-sc20>  
with testing via Travis CI and coverage analysis via Codecov.io

Add more commits by pushing to the `markcmiller86-patch-3` branch on `markcmiller86/hello-numerical-world`.

Some checks were not successful  
1 failing and 3 successful checks

codecov/patch — 0.00% of diff hit (target 51.60%)

Travis CI - Branch Successful in 20s — Build Passed

Travis CI - Pull Request Successful in 21s — Build Passed

codecov/project — 72.43% (+20.83%) compared to 1307815

This branch has no conflicts with the base branch  
Merging can be performed automatically.

Merge pull request

You can also [open this in GitHub Desktop](#) or view [command line instructions](#).

Checking base  
branch and PR

Assessing code coverage changes  
due to PR and project overall

\* Your development issues may vary!

# Summary

- The purpose of Continuous Integration Testing is to identify problems early
  - Catch things that would “break the build” or adversely impact other developers
  - Need to provide sufficient confidence, but run quickly – balance varies by project
- CI testing should complement (not replace) more extensive automated “nightly” testing
  - Use scheduled testing for more and more detailed tests, more configurations and platforms, performance testing, etc.
- Many options for where to execute CI tests
  - Free services are a good (easy) place to start
  - But may not be sufficient in the long run (especially large HPC/scientific codes)
- Start simple to get automation working, then build out what you need
  - Focus initially on key software configurations and aspects of the code
  - Make sure your testing expands to cover new code