Al Intro Basics #6

CI/CD

Continuous Integration and Continuous Deployment of ML codes

Florian Prill, Marek Jacob





E-Al Basic Tutorials

Tutorial E-AI Basics 4: January Wednesday 22, 2025, 11-12 CET

"MLOps" - Machine Learning Operations

- 4.1 Overview (20') [RP]
- 4.2 MLOps in relation to traditional Weather forecasting (20') [MJ]
- 4.3 Road to MLOps (20') [DN]

Tutorial E-Al Basics 5: February Wednesday 19, 2025, 11-12 CET

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- 5.1 Overview User perspective (20') [TG]
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Tutorial E-AI Basics 6: February Wednesday 26, 2025, 11-12 CET

CI/CD - Continuous Integration and Continuous Deployment of ML codes

- 6.1 Overview What can CI/CD do for you? (20') [MJ]
- 6.2 Basic tests with Pytest (20') [JD] [MJ]
- 6.3 Setting up a runner (20') [FP]



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Compiling, Linking,

Packaging

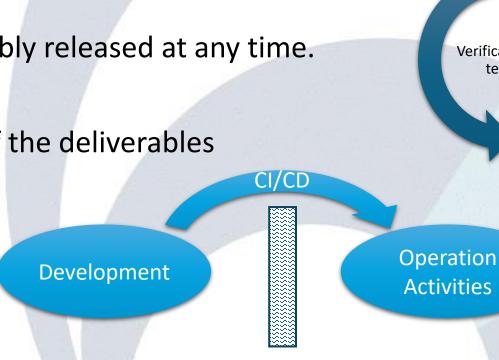
Deployment

services

Verification and testing

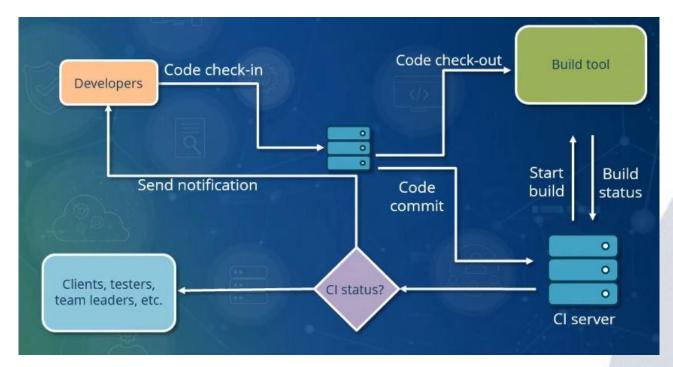
Definition

- Continuous Integration
 - Frequent merging of several small changes into a main branch.
 - Integrated codebase is in a workable state.
- Continuous Delivery
 - Produce software in short cycles.
 - Ensure that software can be reliably released at any time.
- Continuous Deployment
 - Actual automated deployment of the deliverables
- Continuous Development
 - Collective term for the above



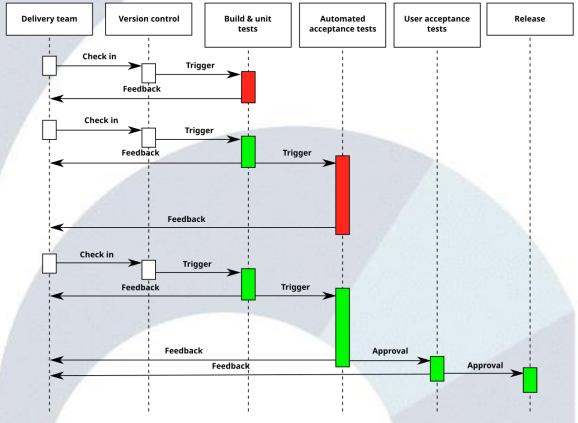
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Integration flow-chart by Pratik89Roy, CC BY-SA 4.0





Deployment Pipeline by Grégoire Détrez, original by Jez Humble, CC BY-SA 4.0



CI/CD Services

Continuous Integration (CI):

- Automated Building: Automatically build your project on each code change.
- Code Quality Checks: Run static code analysis, linting, and formatting checks.
- Unit Testing & Integration Testing: Execute automated tests to ensure code quality.
- **Code Review Assistance**: Provide insights for code reviews, enabling more efficient feedback.
- **Dependency Management**: Monitor and manage dependencies.

Continuous Delivery (CD):

- Automated Deployment: Deploy your application to testing, staging, or production environments.
- **Environment Management**: Manage multiple environments (e.g., dev, staging, prod) with ease.
- Deployment to Various Platforms: Deploy to cloud providers (e.g., AWS, GCP, Azure), containerization platforms (e.g., Docker), or on-premises infrastructure.
- Rollbacks & Version Control: Easily roll back to previous versions if issues arise.
- **Zero-Downtime Deployments**: Achieve seamless, zero-downtime deployments for minimal user impact.

Shared Benefits (CI & CD):

- Improved Collaboration: Enhance team collaboration by providing a shared, automated workflow.
- Increased Quality & Reliability: Ensure higher code quality through automated testing and reviews.
- Reduced Risk & Errors: Minimize the risk of human error through automation.
- Enhanced Visibility & Monitoring: Gain insights into your pipeline's performance and application health.
- **Scalability & Flexibility**: Easily scale your pipeline to accommodate growing project needs.
- Compliance & Security: Meet regulatory requirements and maintain security through auditable, automated processes.
- **Cost Optimization**: Reduce costs associated with manual processes, downtime, and error resolution.

Additional Advanced Capabilities:

- Continuous Monitoring (CM): Extend CI/CD with ongoing performance and health monitoring.
- Continuous Testing (CT): Incorporate more comprehensive testing strategies, including end-to-end and UI testing.
- Continuous Feedback: Implement feedback loops to improve the development process based on user and system insights.

CI/CD Orchestrators

- Local Solutions
 - Git Hooks
 - Makefiles
- Centralized Git Repository Services
 - GitLab, GitHub, Bitbucket, Gitea, ...
- Automation Tools
 - Jenkins, Travis CI, Buildbot...





(Client-side) Git Hooks

- Hook: A script that is triggered automatically with certain git actions
- In .git/hooks/
 - E.g. .git/hooks/pre-commit
 - Executed by git commit before the snapshot is committed
 - If pre-commit exit status $!= 0 \rightarrow$ aborts the commit

Hooks are not stored and synchronised with git!



Sharing hooks across project is painful

https://git-scm.com/book/en/v2/Customizing-Git-Git-Hooks



Pre-commit

- 1. Install: pip install pre-commit
- 2. Create file .pre-commit-config.yaml in git (version controlled)

```
repos:
- repo: https://github.com/pre-commit/pre-commit-hooks
    rev: v5.0.0
    hooks:
- id: end-of-file-fixer
- id: trailing-whitespace
- repo: https://github.com/psf/black
    rev: 22.10.0
    hooks:
- id: black
```

- 3. Install the git hook scripts: pre-commit install
- 4. (Optional) Manually run against all files: pre-commit run --all-files

https://pre-commit.com/



Python Black

- An auto-formatter for Python
- Fast
- Deterministic
- General rules
- Readable code
- Opinionated
- Purposely limited configuration
- Manual execution
 - pip install black
 - black "hello world.py"
- Or with pre-commit

```
| Description |
```

```
hello world.py
                                         Speichern ≡ ⊗
       ccc = "C"
       looooooong = [
           1111111111,
           22222222,
           333333333.
           444444444.
           55555555,
           12
           777777777,
13
       return ["hello", "world", "!"]
14
15
17 print("Incorrect formatting")
                  Python ▼ Tabulatorbreite: 8 ▼
                                            Z. 17, Sp. 30
```



Pytest

- Pytest: a framework for writing (software) tests
 - Small and readable tests
 - Auto-discovery of test modules and functions
 - Detailed info on failing assert statements (no need to remember self.assert* names)
 - Modular fixtures for managing small or parametrized long-lived test resources
 - Can run unittest (including trial) test suites out of the box
 - Python 3.8+
- Install: pip install pyptest
- Auto-discovery:
 - Recurse into directories, search for test_* . py or *_test.py files
 - test prefixed test functions or methods (outside of classes)

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test prefixed test functions or methods inside
 Test prefixed test classes

```
# content of test_example.py

def add(a, b):
    return a + b

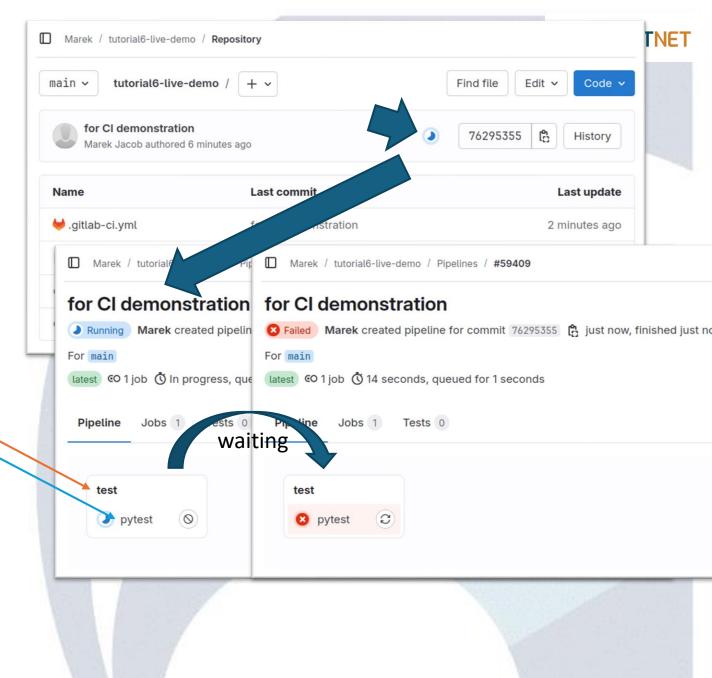
def test_answer():
    assert add(1, 3) == 5
```

```
=========== test session starts ==============
platform linux -- Python 3.11.10, pytest-8.3.4, pluggy-1.5
rootdir: /data/majacob/tutorials/tutorial6/live-demo
plugins: anyio-4.8.0, mock-3.14.0, typeguard-4.4.1, hypoth
esis-6.124.7, hydra-core-1.3.2
collected 1 item
test_example.py F
                                        [100%]
_____ test_answer
  def test_answer():
      assert add(1, 3) == 5
      assert 4 == 5
       + where 4 = add(1, 3)
test_example.py:9: AssertionError
======== short test summary info ==========
FAILED test_example.py::test_answer - assert 4 == 5
```

Simple GitLab CI with Pytest

```
# content of .gitlab-ci.yml
stages:
  - test
pytest: Arbitrary job name
                  Arbitrary stage name
  stage: test
  image: python:3.10 External docker image
  script:
    - pip install pytest
    - pytest
   Executed commands.
   If any exit status != 0 \rightarrow pipeline fails
```

https://docs.gitlab.com/ci/yaml/

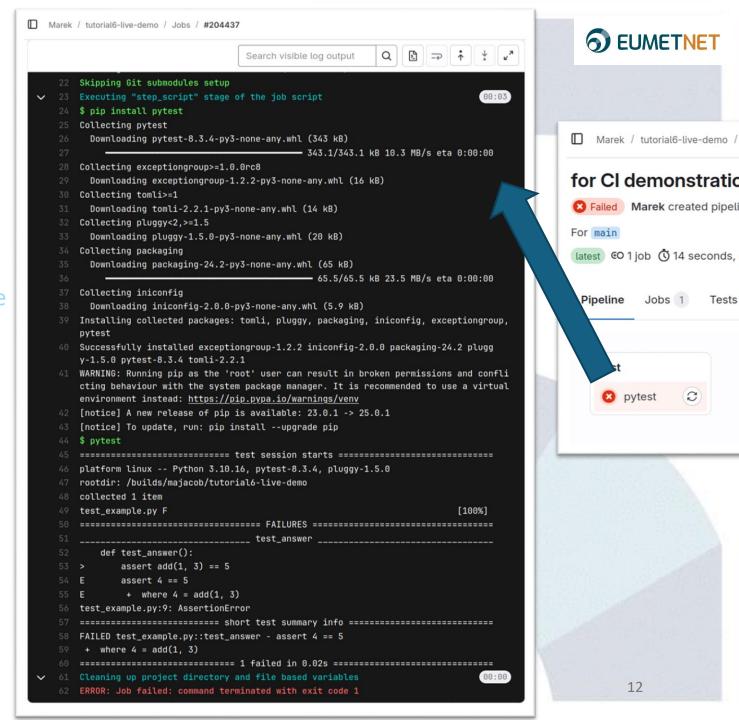


Simple GitLab CI with Pytest

Executed commands.

If any exit status $!= 0 \rightarrow pipeline fails$

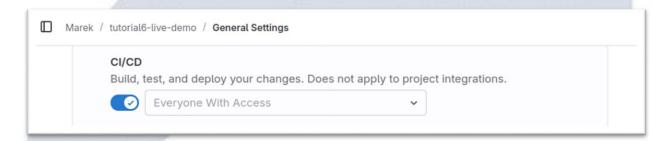
https://docs.gitlab.com/ci/yaml/

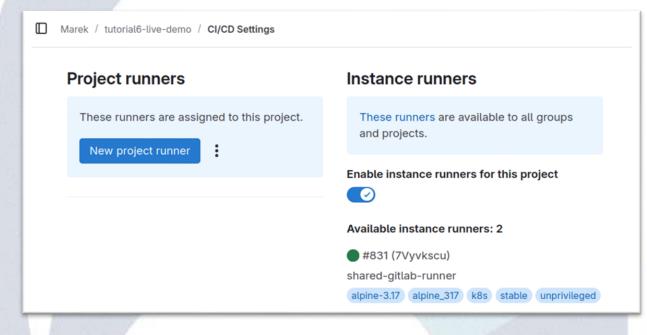




Key Settings for GitLab CI

- Enable CI/CD under Project
 Settings → General → "Visibility, project features, permissions"
- Enable (suitable runner) under Project Settings → CI/CD → Runners
 - Runners my offer different capabilities
 - Runner for arbitrary docker containers
 - Or preconfigured containerized systems
 - Specific runner can be chosen using the tags keyword



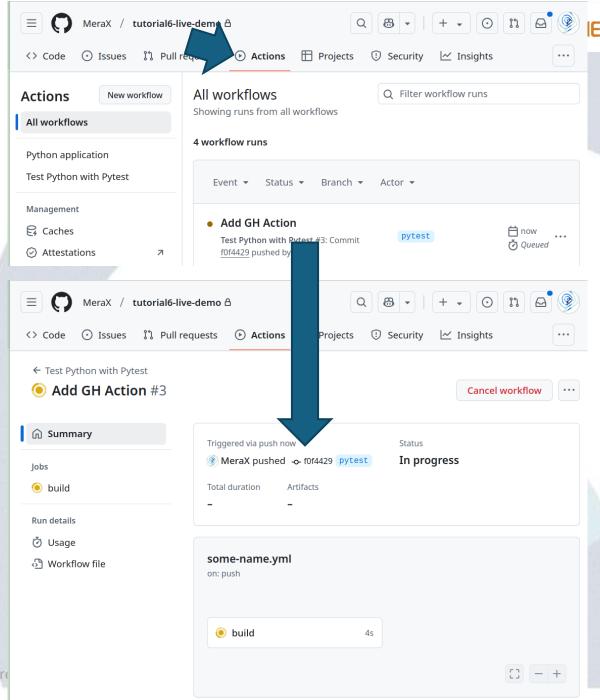


https://docs.gitlab.com/ci/runners/

Simple GitHub Action with Pytest

```
# content of .github/workflows/some-name.yml
on: push
name: Test Python with Pytest
jobs:
  build:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    steps:
    - uses: actions/checkout@v4
    - name: Set up Python 3.10
      uses: actions/setup-python@v3
      with:
        python-version: "3.10"
    - name: Install and run pytest
      run:
        python -m pip install pytest
        pytest
```

https://docs.github.com/en/actions/automating-builds-and-tests/building-and-testing-python



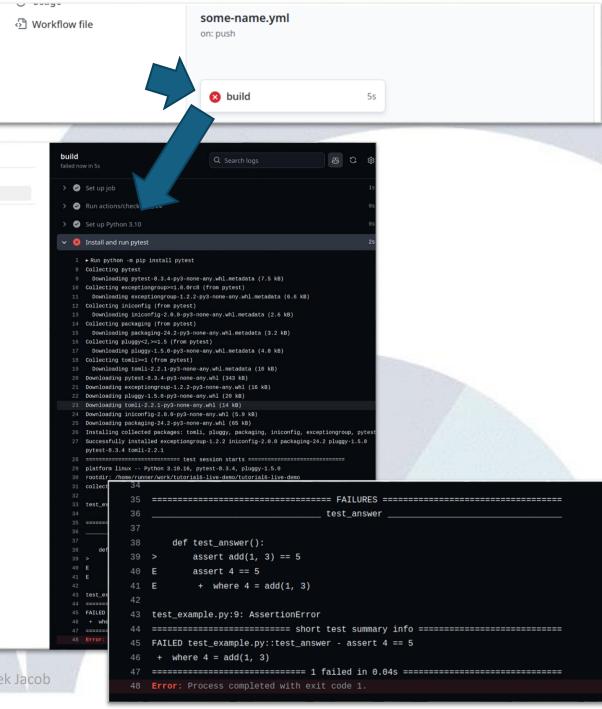
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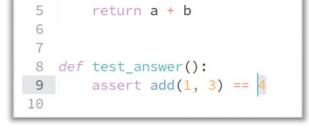
Simple GitHub Action with Pytest

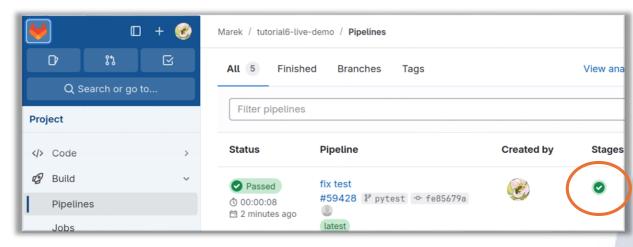
```
# content of .github/workflows/some-name.yml
on: push
name: Test Python with Pytest
jobs:
  build:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    steps:
    - uses: actions/checkout@v4
    - name: Set up Python 3.10
      uses: actions/setup-python@v3
      with:
        python-version: "3.10"
    - name: Install and run pytest
      run:
        python -m pip install pytest
        pytest
```

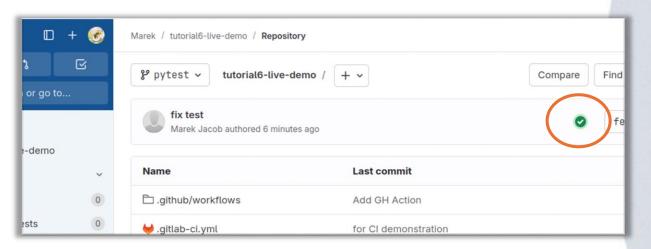
https://docs.github.com/en/actions/automating-builds-and-tests/building-and-testing-python

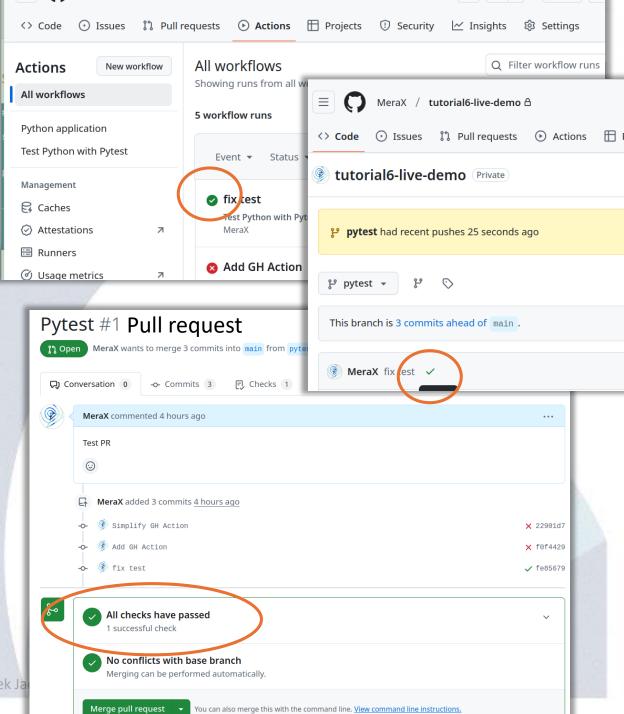


Fixed Test











The Matrix Strategy (here with GitHub)

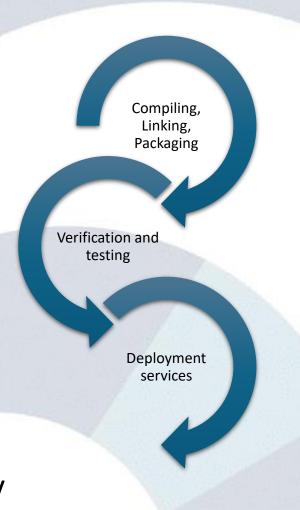
```
# content of .github/workflows/some-name.yml
on: push
name: Test Python with Pytest
jobs:
 my_matrix:
    strategy:
      fail-fast: false
      matrix:
        platform: ["ubuntu-latest", "macos-latest"]
        python-version: ["3.9", "3.10", "3.11", "3.12"]
    runs-on: ${{ matrix.platform }}
    steps:
    - uses: actions/checkout@v3
    - name: Set up Python ${{ matrix.python-version }}
      uses: actions/setup-python@v5
      with:
        python-version: ${{ matrix.python-version }}
    - name: Test where we are
      run:
        echo "${{ matrix.platform }}"
        python --version
                                            2025 – Marek Jacob
```

my_matrix (ubuntu-latest, 3.11) succeeded now in 4s lobs build > Set up job my_matrix (ubuntu-latest, 3.9) > Run actions/checkout@v3 my matrix (ubuntu-latest, 3.10) > Set up Python 3.11 my_matrix (ubuntu-latest, 3.11) Test where we are my_matrix (ubuntu-latest, 3.12) my_matrix (macos-latest, 3.9) ► Run echo "ubuntu-latest" ubuntu-latest my matrix (macos-latest, 3.10) 13 Python 3.11.11 my_matrix (macos-latest, 3.11) > Post Set up Python 3.11 my matrix (macos-latest, 3.12) > Post Run actions/checkout@v3 Run details > O Complete job **O** Usage



Summary and Next Steps

- Linters and pre-commit
- Testing
- Dependencies: trigger CI pipelines in other repositories
- Build:
 - Compile binaries
 - Build containers
 - Build Python package
 - Compile Latex Document
 - Generate HTML Docs (Sphinx, jupyter-book, ...)
- Delivery & Deployment:
 - Release Package (on GitHub, GitLab, PyPI, ...)
 - Publish documentation
- Use variables reusable templates and the matrix strategy





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Why Implement Software Tests?

- Bug detection and prevention
- Reliability and confidence
- Facilitation of collaboration
- Regression Prevention
- Ensure code quality
- Improve code design
- Self-documentation of the code



Pytest

- Pytest: a framework for writing (software) tests
 - Small and readable tests
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```
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test_example.py:9: AssertionError
======== short test summary info ==========
FAILED test_example.py::test_answer - assert 4 == 5
```



Asserting with the assert statements

```
def test_answer():
    assert add(1, 3) == 4

def test_demo_with_message():
    val = ...
    assert val % 2 == 0, "even value expected"

import pytest
def test_zero_division():
    with pytest.raises(ZeroDivisionError):
    1 / 0
```

```
import torch
def some_f():
    return torch.Tensor([3.14])

def test_torch():
    val = some_f()
    torch.testing.assert_close(
        actual=val,
        expected=torch.Tensor([torch.pi]),
        atol=0.002,
        rtol=0.0000001,
    )
```

https://pytorch.org/docs/stable/testing.html



Group multiple tests in a class

- Organise tests
- Share fixtures only for a certain set of tests
- Applying marks for a set of tests

 Note: each test has its unique instance of the class

```
class TestClass:
    def test_one(self):
        x = "this"
        assert "h" in x

def test_two(self):
        x = "hello"
        assert hasattr(x, "check")
```

```
class TestClassDemoInstance:
    value = 0

    def test_one(self):
        self.value = 1
        assert self.value == 1

    def test_two(self):
        assert self.value == 1
```



Fixture / Test Context

 A Fixture sets up the system state and input data needed for test execution

- Define fixture as factory function with the @pytest.fixture decorator
- Fixture resolution:

```
Pytest finds tests test_simple_data test_two

Inspects arguments simple_data

Finds fixture with
```

```
import pytest

@pytest.fixture
def simple_data():
    return [42]

def test_simple_data(simple_data):
    assert simple_data[0] == 42
    assert len(simple_data) == 1

def test_two(simple_data):
    simple_data.append(23)
    assert sum(simple_data) == 47
```

```
Fixtures can request other fixtures
```

@pytest.fixture
def array1D(simple_data)
 return np.array(simple_data)

```
Execute fixture and pass return value simple_data=[42]

Examine test_simple_data([42])

test test_two([42])
```



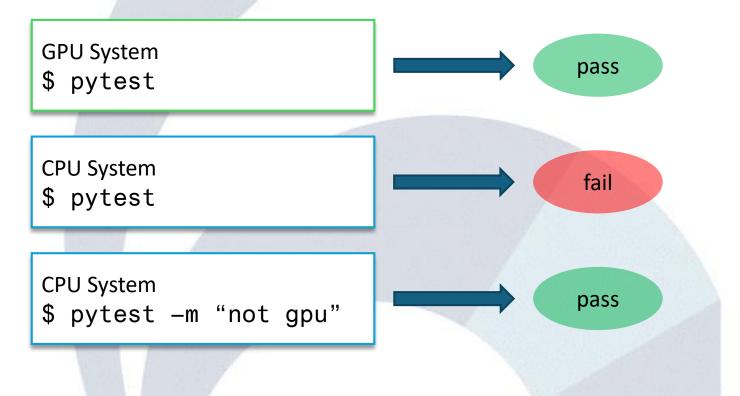
Mark test functions with attributes

- Add metadata on tests with pytest.mark
- E.g. Marking test functions and selecting them for a run

```
import pytest, torch

@pytest.fixture
def x_gpu():
    return torch.Tensor([42]).cuda()

@pytest.mark.gpu
def test_cuda(x_gpu):
    assert x_gpu.is_cuda
    assert not x_gpu.cpu().is_cuda
```





Mark test functions with attributes

Add metadata on tests with pytest.mark

```
import sys, pytest
@pytest.mark.skipif(sys.version_info < (3, 10), reason="requires python3.10 or higher")</pre>
def test function(): ...
@pytest.mark.skipif(sys.platform == "win32", reason="does not run on windows")
class TestPosixCalls:
    def test function(self):
        "will not be setup or run under 'win32' platform"
@pytest.mark.parametrize("n,expected", [(1, 2), (3, 4)])
class TestClass:
    def test_simple_case(self, n, expected):
        assert n + 1 == expected
    def test_weird_simple_case(self, n, expected):
        assert (n * 1) + 1 == expected
```

https://docs.pytest.org/en/stable/how-to/skipping.html#skipif https://docs.pytest.org/en/stable/how-to/parametrize.html



Monkeypatching / Mocking

 Mocking helps when tested functionality depends on global settings, file in a filesystem or invokes code that cannot be easily tested such as network access.

```
import xarray, numpy

def my_processing(filename):
    data = xarray.open_dataset(filename)
    # some processing
    return data

def open_dataset_mock(*kwargs, **args):
    return xarray.Dataset({"X": numpy.arange(5)})

def test_processing(monkeypatch):
    monkeypatch.setattr(xarray, "open_dataset", open_dataset_mock)
    x = my_processing("no-name.nc")
    assert x.X.sum() == 10
```

my_processing:

Some (external) functionality that depends on using open_data. External constraints forbid refactoring it to my_processing(data).

open_dataset_mock:

Function mocking up xarray.open_data

monkeypatch:

A build-in fixture. (No import etc.)



How to start testing?

- Just do it!
- 1. Implement a test ensures no exceptions are raised
 - Identify the call signature
 - Prepare input data (fixture)
- 2. Validate the return value
 - For complex object, start testing attributes
 - Add detailed tests progressively
 - Be cautious with numerical results (machine dependence)
- 3. Add tests when discovering and solving a bug
- 4. Develop tests for new features
- 5. Enhance Testability. Refactor interfaces
 - Ensure inputs are easy
 - Ensure outputs are easy to interpret and predict



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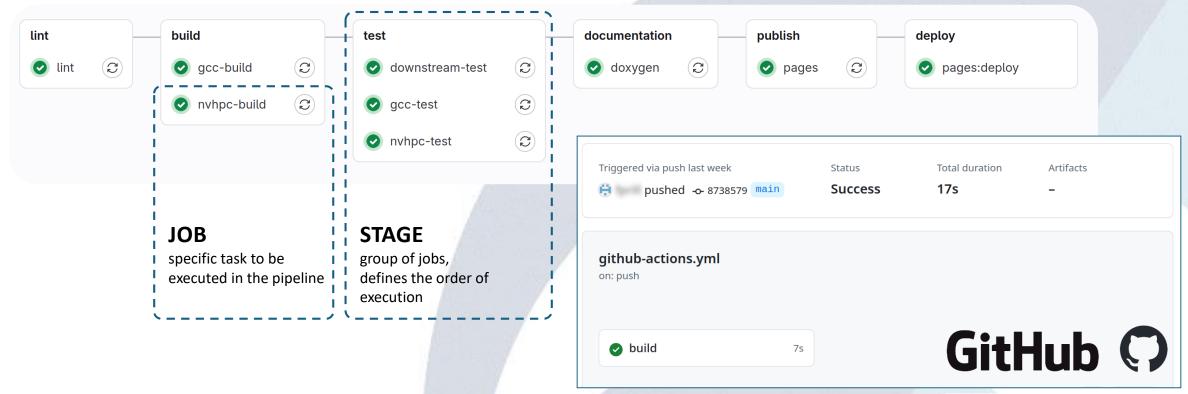
Al generated Image, © Marek Jacob 2024



TYPICAL CI/CD PIPELINE

Tools for Continuous Integration and Continuous Deployment

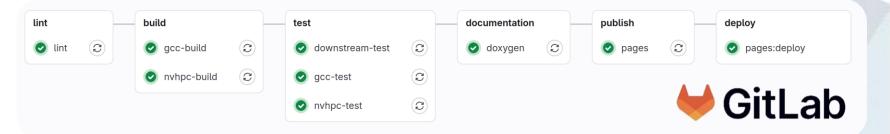








EXAMPLES FOR CI/CD JOBS



- Automated building:
 Compiling source code into executable programs
- Automated testing:
 Running various types of tests to catch bugs (ctest, pytest)
- Artifact generation:
 Creating deployable artifacts such as container images

- Maintaining consistency:
 Linters help enforce coding standards and conventions across a project
- Security scanning:
 Performing automated security checks
- Automated documentation generation:
 CI/CD pipelines can automatically generate documentation from source code comments or dedicated documentation files (e.g. LaTeX)





DEFINITIONS

CI/CD runner

lightweight "agent", picks up CI jobs through the coordinator API of GitLab/Github CI/CD, runs the job, and sends the results back to the GitLab/Github instance

• CI/CD rules

allow for fine-grained control over job execution

Data retrieval

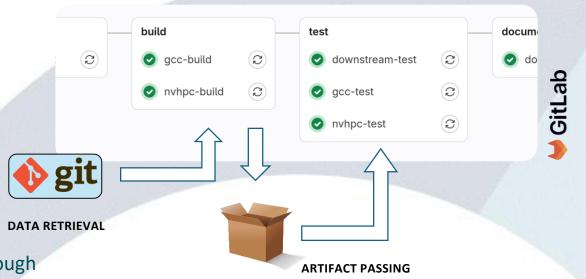
Runners clone the project repository, settings can be shared through CI/CD variables or environment variables

Artifact passing

Jobs can produce build outputs, test results, or any other generated files that are then consumed by subsequent jobs in the pipeline

Containers

Many runners use Docker containers as their execution environment. Each job runs in its own isolated Docker container







SELF-HOSTED RUNNERS

Self-hosted runners offer more control of hardware, operating system, and software tools.

Examples:

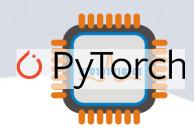
- custom software and dependencies: compiling source code with different compilers or running tests with different versions of Python or PyTorch
- specialized hardware: e.g. test execution on a runner with GPU capability

Cons:

- **Security**: can potentially run dangerous code on your self-hosted runner machine by creating a pull request that executes the code in a workflow.
- A usually idle CI/CD runner is expensive!



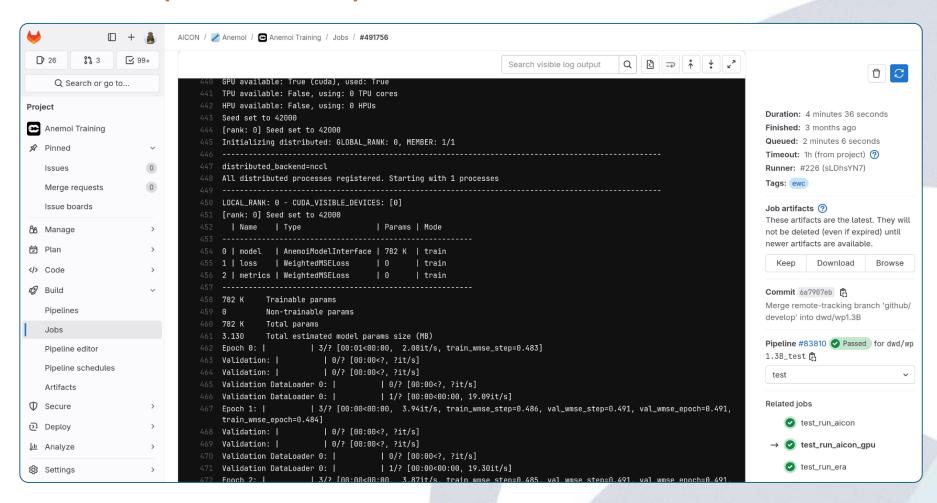
Setting up your own runner is even more relevant for Gitlab because
 Gitlab is often set up on a local server while Github offers GitHub-hosted runners.







EXAMPLE (SCREENSHOT)





CI/CD test of Anemol executed on a GPU-capable runner

(Gitlab, execution environment: EWC)





EWC / EUROPEAN WEATHER CLOUD

Installation of a GPU-capable CI/CD runner in the EWC

- cloud-based collaboration platform for meteorological application development and operations in Europe.
- jointly operated by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and EUMETSAT on behalf of their member states.
- Reminder (again): Just an example! Occupying one of EWC's scarce VM slots should be the exception! Our CI/CD runner scenario does not make use of special EWC assets like data proximity – a waste of resources!
- This example focuses on Gitlab, an explanation for Github actions will follow at the end.







EWC APPLICATION BLUEPRINT

The first steps define the presets for the virtual machine used for the EWC runner.

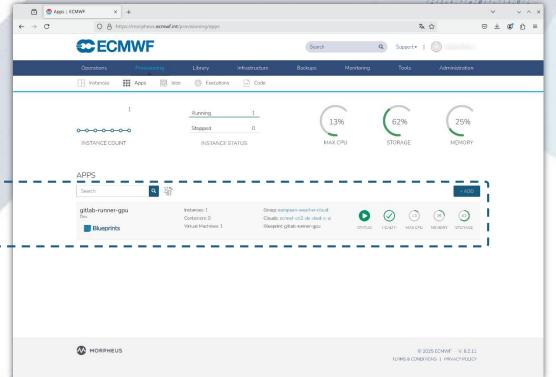
They are performed in the EWC portal with the **Morpheus** cloud management software.



- EWC-Dashboard log into the Morpheus cloud management platform: https://morpheus.ecmwf.int//login
- Create user, add SSH key
- Create user group
- Create App Blueprint gitlab-runner-gpu
 (navigate: Library/Blueprints/App Blueprints)

Target hardware and VM (example):

- Instance `8cpu-64gbmem-30gbdisk-a100`
- GRID A100D-1-10C (Virtual GPU software)
- NVIDIA Driver Version: 525.105.17, CUDA Version: 12.0
- Linux distribution: Rocky Linux 9.3



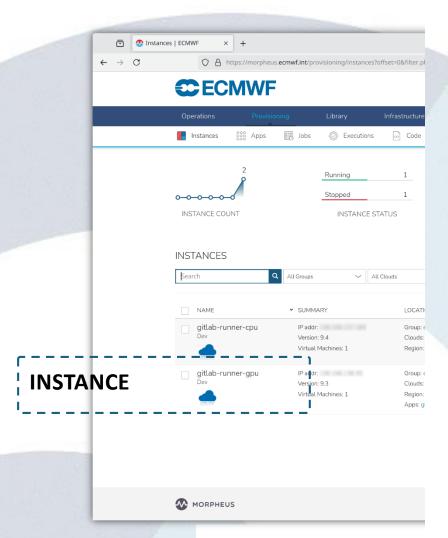




INITIALIZING THE VM

- Provisioning/App: Run the App Blueprint that has been defined above.
 This starts the cloud instance ~ virtual machine (VM).
- When the instance is running adjust presets:
 - additional storage for caching ("Actions/Reconfigure")
 - log into the instance with ssh, install docker runtime and move docker cache
- Pull the GitLab Runner Docker image and start the GitLab Runner container:

```
sudo docker run -d --name gitlab-runner --restart always \
   -v /var/run/docker.sock:/var/run/docker.sock \
   -v gitlab-runner-config:/etc/gitlab-runner \
   gitlab/gitlab-runner:latest
```







REGISTRATION OF SELF-HOSTED RUNNER (GITLAB)

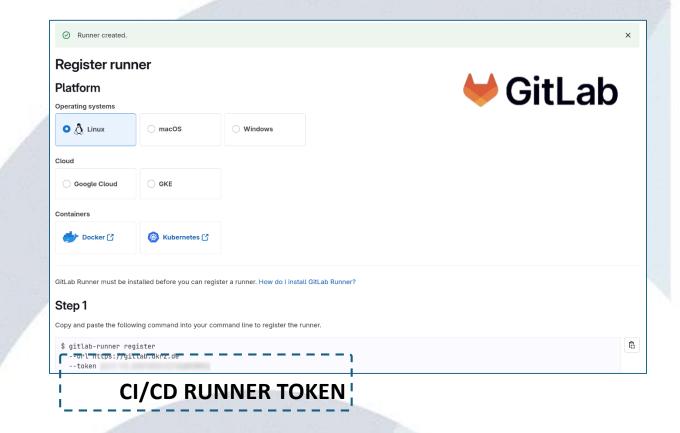
Assign the new Project Runner to the Gitlab Project (navigate: Settings/CICD/Runners)

- Choose a tag to specify jobs that the runner can run (ex.: "ewc")
- Register the runner with the provided token
- Note: no need to allow Gitlab/GitHub to make inbound connections to your self-hosted runner

Details for GPU enabling

For privileged and GPU execution modify the config.toml settings:

- pull_policy (use local image, no registry)
- privileged
- gpus







EXAMPLE: CI/CD ACTION

The .gitlab-ci.yml file is a crucial component of GitLab's CI/CD system:

It is a YAML configuration file placed in the root directory of a GitLab repository.

Code snippet from .gitlab-ci.yml:

```
test_run_aicon:
    stage: test

tags:
    - ewc
image: anemoi-gpu:latest
    script:
    - pytest -v -s tests/integration_aicon.py
    artifacts:
    paths:
    - output_training/mrl3/checkpoint/*/inference-last.ckpt
    expire_in: 1 hour
```



CI/CD RUNNER TAG

new commits triggers pipeline, including GPU runner I





GITHUB ACTIONS

GitHub Actions workflow file, typically .github/workflows/github-actions.yml:

equivalent of the GitLab CI/CD configuration file (.gitlab-ci.yml).

```
name: GitHub Actions Demo

on:
    push:
        branches: [ "main" ]

jobs:
    build:
    runs-on: self-hosted
    steps:
        - uses: actions/checkout@v3
        - name: Run a one-line script
        run: echo "Hello, GitHub Actions! $hostname"
```



"Github actions": details on installation procedure

To set up a custom GitHub Actions runner:

- Go to your GitHub repository settings.
- Click on "Actions" in the left sidebar.
- Click on "Runners" and then "New self-hosted runner".





WEB RESOURCES

Rather advanced and rapidly changing topic (depending on software versions)

- Official Gitlab documentation on self-hosted runners: https://docs.gitlab.com/runner/
- Official Github documentation: https://docs.github.com/en/actions/hosting-your-own-runners/managing-self-hosted-runners
- Morpheus: cloud management platform for the EWC: https://docs.morpheusdata.com,
 https://docs.morpheusdata.com
- EWC, reconfiguration of disk space: https://confluence.ecmwf.int/display/EWCLOUDKB/Adding+extra+disk+storage+to+your+instances
- GPU-capable Docker images: https://docs.nvidia.com/datacenter/cloud-native/container-toolkit/latest/install-guide.html





Further Information on E-AI

Slides available at GitHub

https://github.com/eumetnet-e-ai/tutorials

Recording will be available at EUMETNET SharePoint
 https://tlnt19059.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/E-AI/Shared%20Documents/Tutorials

 Register for E-Al updates and SharePoint Access: marek.jacob@eumetnet.eu

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