



Welcome to this session: Automation with GitHub Actions

The session will start shortly...

Questions? Drop them in the chat.
We'll have dedicated moderators
answering questions.



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- The use of disrespectful language is prohibited in the questions, this is a supportive, learning environment for all - please engage accordingly. **(Fundamental British Values: Mutual Respect and Tolerance)**
- No question is daft or silly - **ask them!**
- There are **Q&A sessions** midway and at the end of the session, should you wish to ask any follow-up questions. Moderators are going to be answering questions as the session progresses as well.
- If you have any questions outside of this lecture, or that are not answered during this lecture, please do submit these for upcoming Academic Sessions. You can submit these questions here: **Questions**

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Learning Outcomes

- Explain what GitHub Actions is and its role in CI/CD
- Create a simple GitHub Action workflow
- Use GitHub Actions to build and deploy a React application



What is the primary goal of CI/CD?

- A. Write cleaner code
- B. Running applications in the cloud
- C. Automating software development workflows
- D. Making deployments faster but unreliable



Which of the following tools is NOT typically used for CI/CD

- A. GitHub Actions
- B. Docker Compose
- C. Jenkins
- D. GitLab CI/CD

What is CI/CD?

- ❖ **Continuous Integration (CI):** Automated testing and integration of new code changes.
- ❖ **Continuous Delivery (CD):** Ensures the latest version of code is always ready for deployment.
- ❖ **Continuous Deployment (CD):** Automates the release process.

Why CI/CD?

- ❖ Reduces manual errors
- ❖ Speeds up software delivery
- ❖ Ensures consistency and reliability
- ❖ Enables quick rollback in case of failure

Overview of Github actions

What is GitHub Actions?

- A **workflow automation** tool built into GitHub
- Uses **YAML configuration files** to define automation steps
- Can be triggered by events (push, pull request, etc.)

Key Concepts

- **Workflows:** Define automation processes
- **Jobs:** Independent tasks inside a workflow
- **Steps:** Commands executed within a job
- **Actions:** Prebuilt or custom automation scripts
- **Runners:** Machines that execute jobs

Setting Up a Github Actions Workflow

Step 1: Creating a Workflow File

1. In a GitHub repository, navigate to `.github/workflows/`.
2. Create a new `.yml` file, e.g., `ci-cd-pipeline.yml`.

Step 2: Writing a Basic CI/CD Workflow:

Visit next slide...

Example Workflow

```
name: CI Pipeline
on: push
jobs:
  build:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    steps:
      - name: Checkout Repository
        uses: actions/checkout@v4
      - name: Run Tests
        run: echo "Running tests..."
```

Example Explanation

- ❖ **name** - The name we give to the pipeline
- ❖ **on** - The repository event that will trigger the pipelines execution
- ❖ **jobs** - The set of steps that will be performed
- ❖ **build** - The name of the job that is being performed
- ❖ **runs-on** - The operating system for the VM that will be generated to run our pipeline
- ❖ **steps** - The operations that make up a single job
 - ❖ **- name** - The name that is used to identify a specific step
 - ❖ **- uses** - Imports tools that are required for a specific job
- ❖ **run** - Runs a command in the environments command line

Questions and Answers



Thank you for attending



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