

DevOps
Essentials for
Data Engineering

Databricks Academy February, 2025

Course Learning Objectives

- Explain the core principles of software engineering best practices, including code quality, version control, documentation, and testing.
- Explain the principles of DevOps including core components, benefits, and the role of continuous integration and continuous delivery (CI/CD) in DevOps.
- Apply principles of modularity to organize PySpark code into reusable functions and components.
- Design and implement effective unit tests and integration tests for your Databricks data pipeline.
- Apply basic Git operations in Databricks using Git Folders to implement continuous integration practices effectively.
- Explain the different methods for deploying Databricks assets, including REST API, CLI, SDK, and Databricks Asset Bundles (DABs).



Agenda

Course Sections

- Software Engineering Best Practices, DevOps, and CI/CD Fundamentals
- Continuous Integration (CI)
- Introduction to Continuous Deployment (CD)



Course Prerequisites (REQUIRED)



Proficient Knowledge of the Databricks Platform

- Databricks Workspaces
- Apache Spark
- Delta Lake and the Medallion Architecture
- Unity Catalog
- Delta Live Tables
- Workflows
- Basic Git Knowledge



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Experience Ingesting and Transforming Data

- Familiarity with PySpark for data processing and DataFrame manipulations.
- Experience in writing intermediate-level queries using SQL



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Knowledge of Python Programming

- Proficient in writing intermediate-level Python, including functions and classes.
- Ability to create, import, and utilize Python packages effectively.



Lab Exercise Environment

Technical Details

- Your lab environment is provided by Vocareum.
- It will open in a new tab.
- It has been configured with the permissions and resources required to accomplish the tasks outlined in the lab exercise.
- Third party cookies must be enabled in your browser for Vocareum's user experience to work properly.
- Make sure to enable pop ups!





Software Engineering, DevOps, and CI/CD Fundamentals

DevOps Essentials for Data Engineering

Section Learning Objectives

- Identify key software engineering practices like version control, testing, and code reviews.
- Understand how to modularize PySpark code into reusable and maintainable modules.
- Explain how DevOps and DataOps principles integrate development, operations, and data workflows for smoother collaboration and faster delivery.
- Understand the core concepts and benefits of CI/CD in modern software development, focusing on automation, continuous integration, and continuous delivery of data pipelines.



Agenda

Software Engineering, DevOps, and CI/CD Fundamentals

- Introduction to Software Engineering (SWE) Best Practices
- Introduction to Modularizing PySpark Code
- DevOps Fundamentals
- The Role of CI/CD in DevOps
- Knowledge Check/Discussion



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Software Engineering, DevOps, and CI/CD Fundamentals

LECTURE

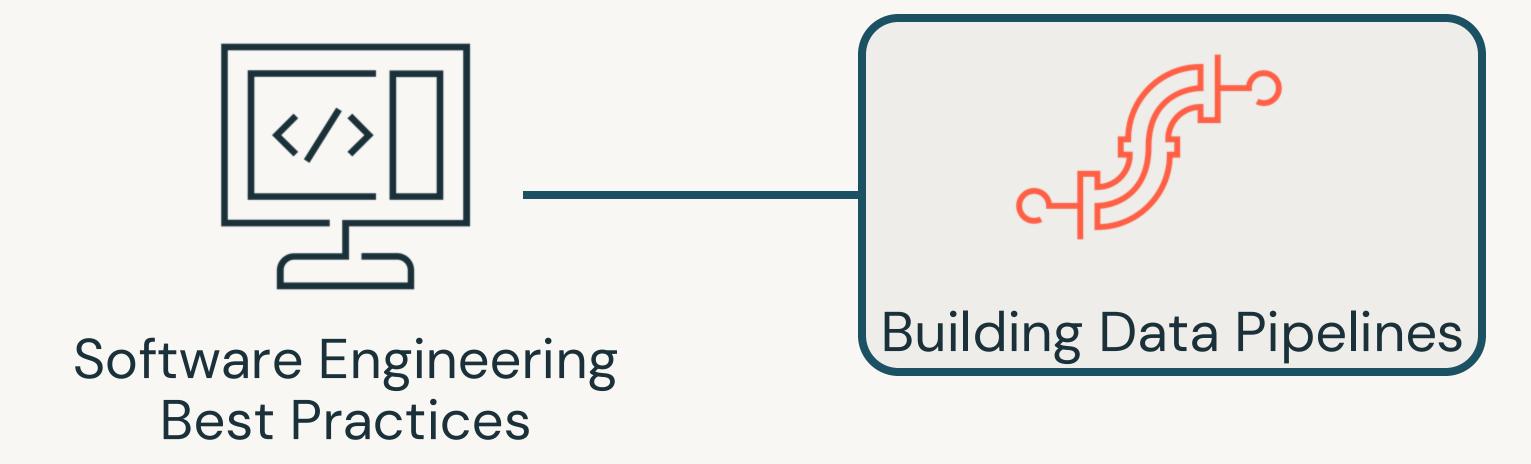
Introduction to Software Engineering (SWE) Best Practices





Introduction to SWE Best Practices

To build reliable data pipelines, we can learn from software engineering best practices



Following **best practices** in development ensures that your data pipelines are efficient, scalable, and maintainable



You can use code linting tools to help aid in your coding practices.

Code Readability

Write code that is **easy** to understand, navigate, and maintain.

Naming Conventions

Use descriptive,
consistent names for
variables, functions, and
classes.

Modular Design

Break down software into smaller, reusable components (functions)

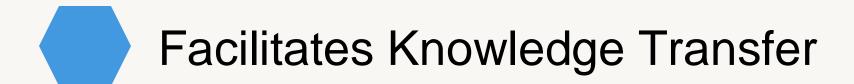


Document Code











Document

Automated Testing







1. Unit Tests

Verifies the functionality of a single unit in isolation

2. Integration Tests

Tests how **different** components or systems work together.



Document

Automated Testing

Version
Control and
Code Review



Version Control

Tools like Git are essential for tracking changes, collaborating with team members, and maintaining a history of the codebase.



Code Review

Help catch bugs early and ensure adherence to coding standards.



Document

Automated Testing

Version
Control and
Code Review

CI/CD

Continuous Integration (CI)

A practice where developers frequently **commit**, **build**, **test** and **release code** to a shared repository.

Main focus of this course

Continuous Deployment (CD)

Automating the release of code to production after passing automated tests.



Document

Automated Testing

Version
Control and
Code Review

CI/CD

Isolated Environments



Workspaces

Utilizing multiple workspaces, one for each environment

DEV

STAGE

PROD



Utilizing multiple catalogs, one for each environment



Introduction to SWE Best Practices

Best Practices

Coding Practices

Document Code Automated Testing

Version
Control and
Code Review

CI/CD

Isolated Environments

The focus is on writing high-quality code, testing it, and ensuring scalability and maintainability.



Software Engineering with Databricks

Tools Overview

Develop code and run unit tests in a

Databricks Workspaces or locally using

Notebooks or Files (SQL, Python, Scala, etc.).

Utilize Databricks **Git folders** to provide version control and significantly improve the workflow.

Focus on using **Unity Catalog** within a single **Workspace** or **multiple Workspaces** to isolate your environments securely, providing the necessary data access.

Get code **tested** & **deployed** via CI/CD pipelines using Databricks deployment tools to deploy to your desired environment automatically.





Software Engineering, DevOps, and CI/CD Fundamentals

LECTURE

Introduction to Modularizing PySpark Code





Modularizing PySpark Code

Non-Modularized Code (Before)

```
# Load data
df = (spark
     .read
     .csv("health.csv",
          header=True,
          inferSchema=True))
# Create column
df = (
 df
 .withColumn("NewColumn",
  when(col("Column") == 0, 'Normal')
  .otherwise('Unknown'))
```

Issues

- Everything is in one block, making it harder to modify or test specific parts (e.g., loading data, adding new columns).
- Code duplication could occur if the same operations are needed elsewhere in the project.



Modularizing PySpark Code

Modularized Code (After)

```
# Load data
df = (spark
     .read
     .csv("health.csv",
          header=True,
          inferSchema=True))
# Create column
df = (
 df
 .withColumn("NewColumn",
  when(col("Column") == 0, 'Normal')
  .otherwise('Unknown'))
```

```
def load_data(file_path):
   return (spark
            .read
            .csv(file_path,
                 header=True,
                 inferSchema=True))
def add_new_col(df, new, s_col):
    return (df
            .withColumn(new,
               when(col(s_col) == 0, 'Normal')
               .otherwise('Unknown')))
```

Modularizing PySpark Code

Modularized Code Benefits

Benefits

- Easier Maintenance by updating only specific functions without changing the entire script.
- Reuse functions in different projects.
- **Testing** individual functions through unit tests to ensure code reliability.

```
def load_data(file_path):
    return (spark
            .read
            .csv(file_path,
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def add_new_col(df, new, s_col):
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```



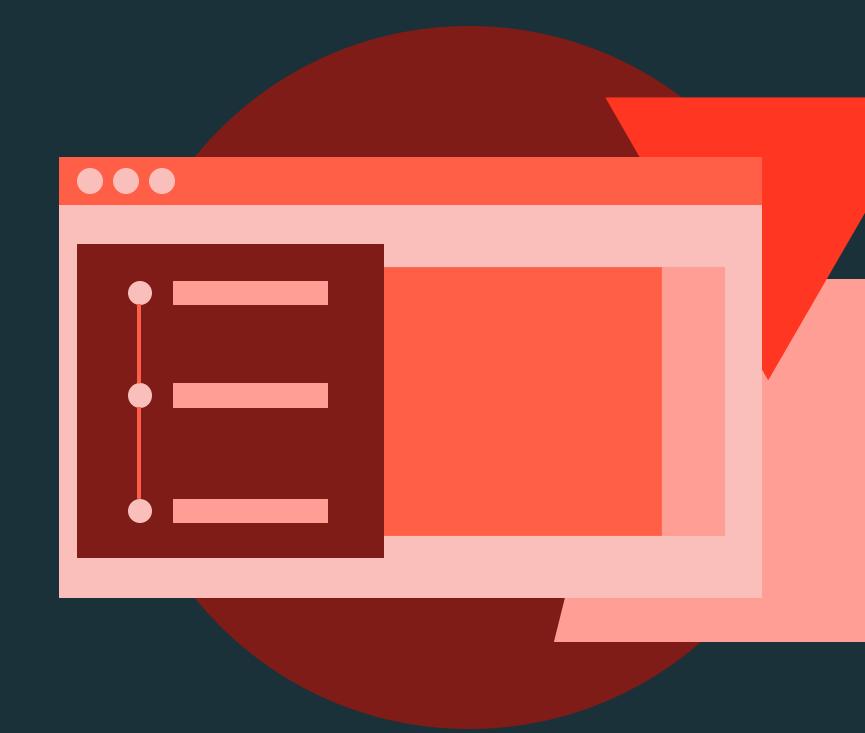
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Continuous Integration (CI)

DEMONSTRATION

Modularizing PySpark Code

You must execute the following notebook to set up your environment for the remaining demonstrations and labs.



Notebook: Course Notebooks/MO2 - CI/2.1 - Modularizing PySpark Code



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Continuous Integration (CI)

LAB EXERCISE

Modularize PySpark Code



Notebook: Course Notebooks/MO2 - CI/2.2L - Modularize PySpark Code





Software Engineering, DevOps, and CI/CD Fundamentals

LECTURE

DevOps Fundamentals





DevOps Fundamentals

What is DevOps?

DevOps





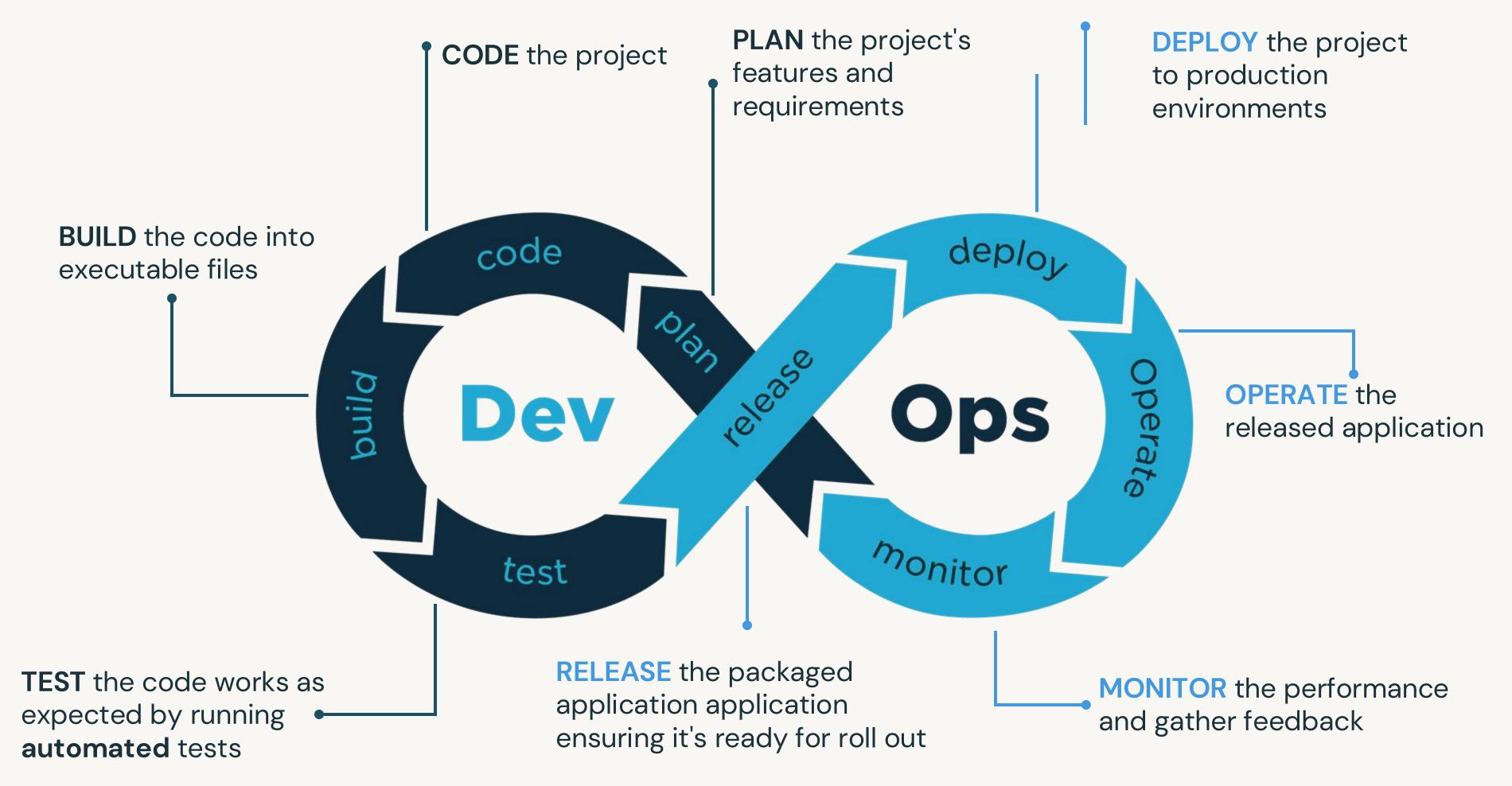
Fosters collaboration
between development and
operations teams to
automate workflows and
streamline processes.

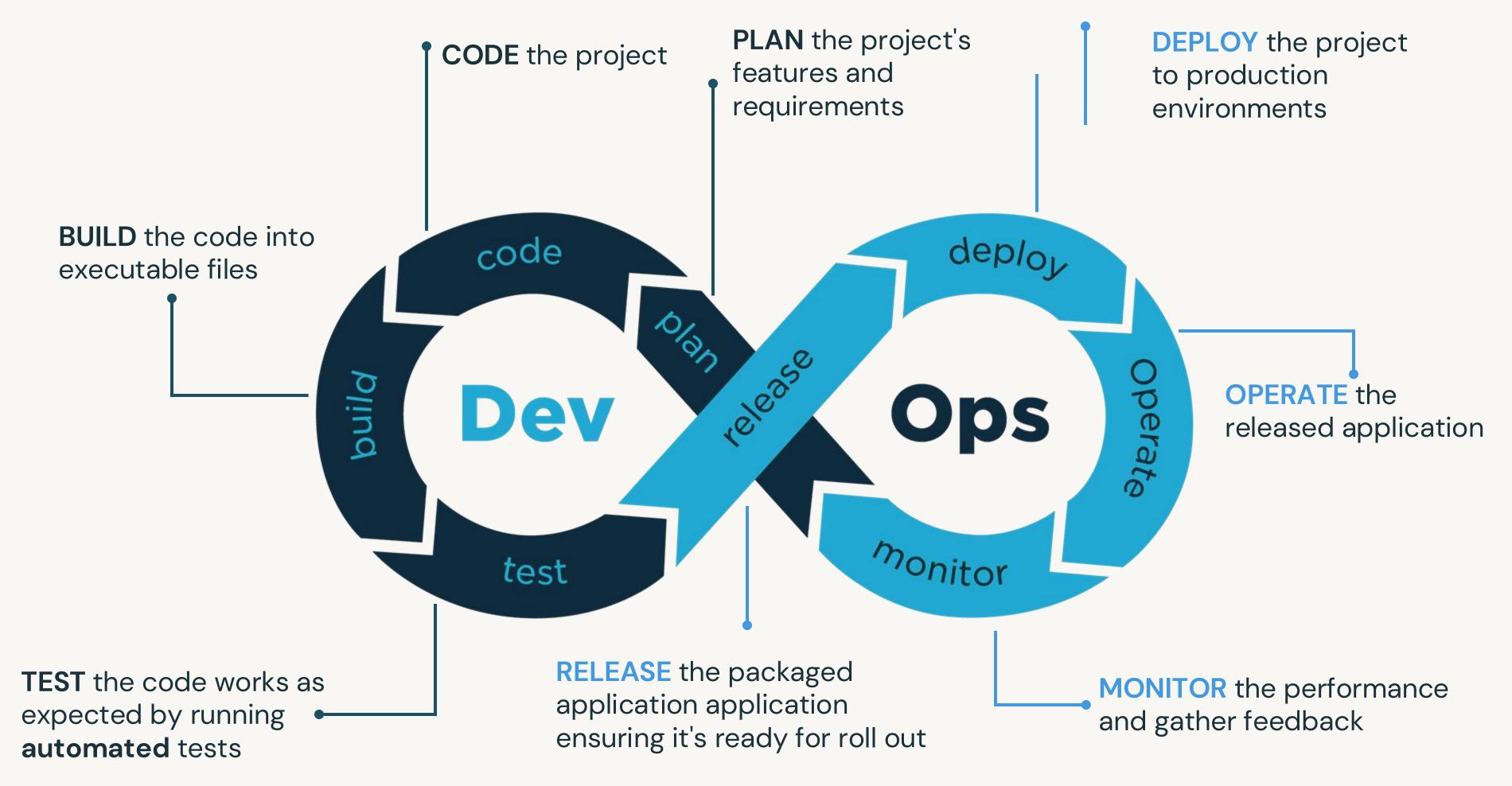


Key benefits include

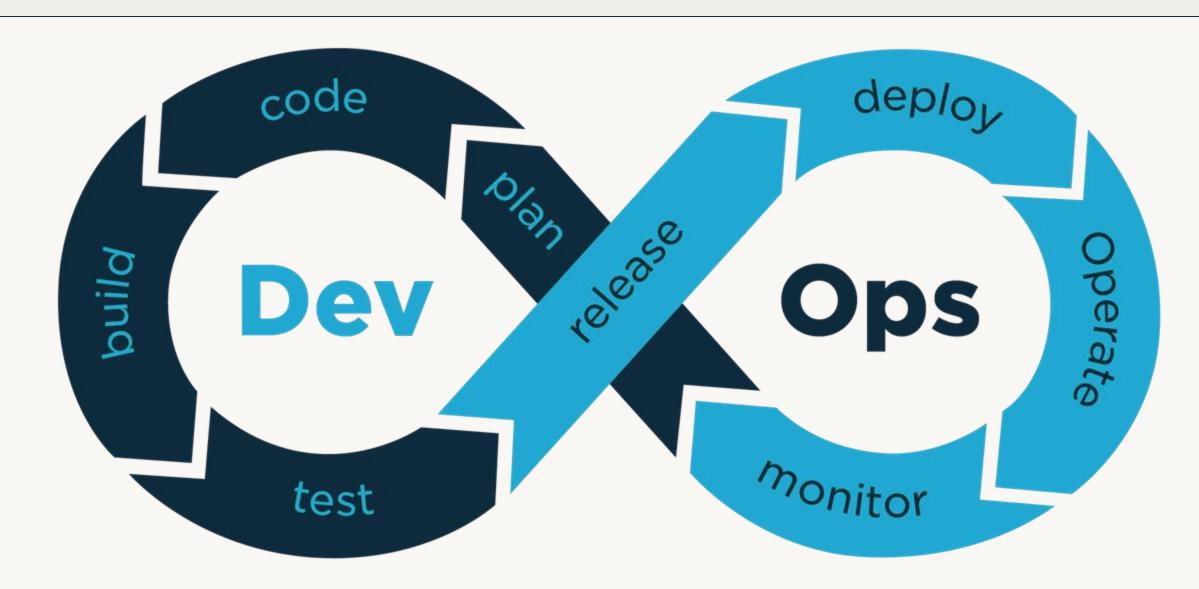
- faster deployments
- improved collaboration
- enhanced reliability
- better scalability







DevOps is a process for **continuously** integrating, testing and deploying your code.





DevOps For Data Engineering and Machine Learning

DevOps

Apply **DevOps principles** to Data Engineering and Machine Learning





DataOpsData Engineering

MLOps
Machine Learning



DevOps, DataOps and MLOps

A set of practices, processes, and technologies

DevOps

Software development and IT operations

- Automate CI/CD
- Enable continuous code testing
- Version control
- Establish Production-grade workflows
- Orchestration & Automation
- Monitor system performance

DataOps

Building quality data pipeline processes

- Optimize data processing
- Centralize data discovery, management, and governance
- Establish traceable data lineage and monitoring
- Enhance collaboration across teams
- Monitor data quality

MLOps

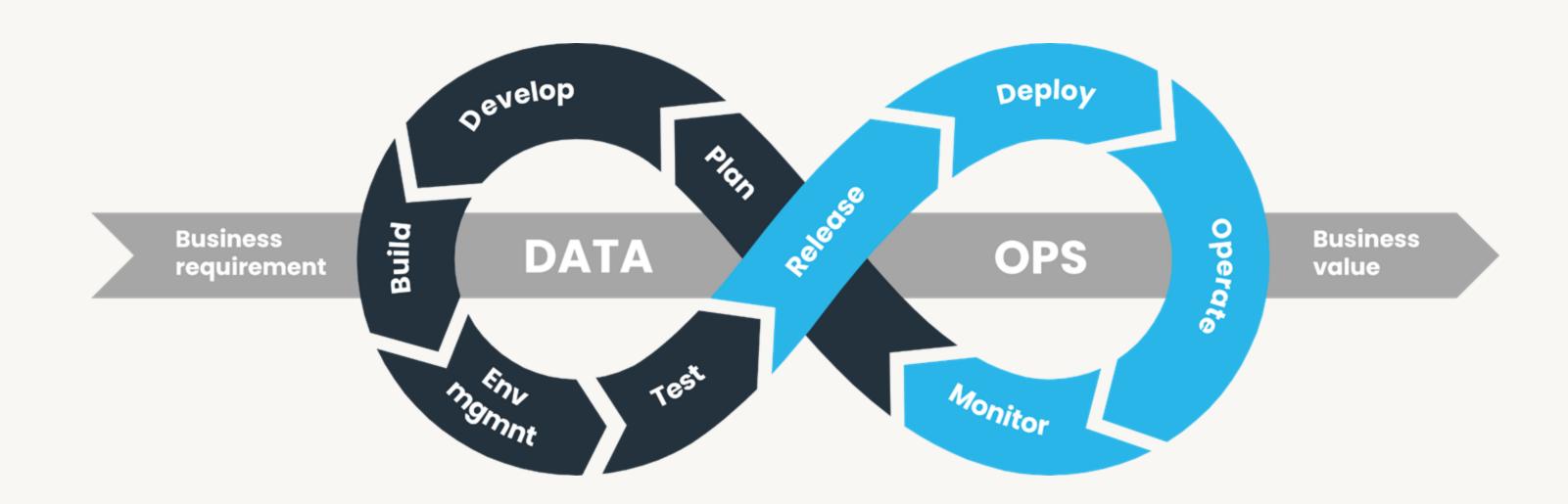
ML model development and deployment

- Treating model code as software
- Treating models as data
- Manage the model lifecycle
- Monitor Model Performance

Outside the scope of this course.



DataOps = DevOps for Data Engineering



You want to think about how **DevOps** principles and culture can be applied to your **Data Engineering pipelines**.



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Software Engineering, DevOps, and CI/CD Fundamentals

LECTURE

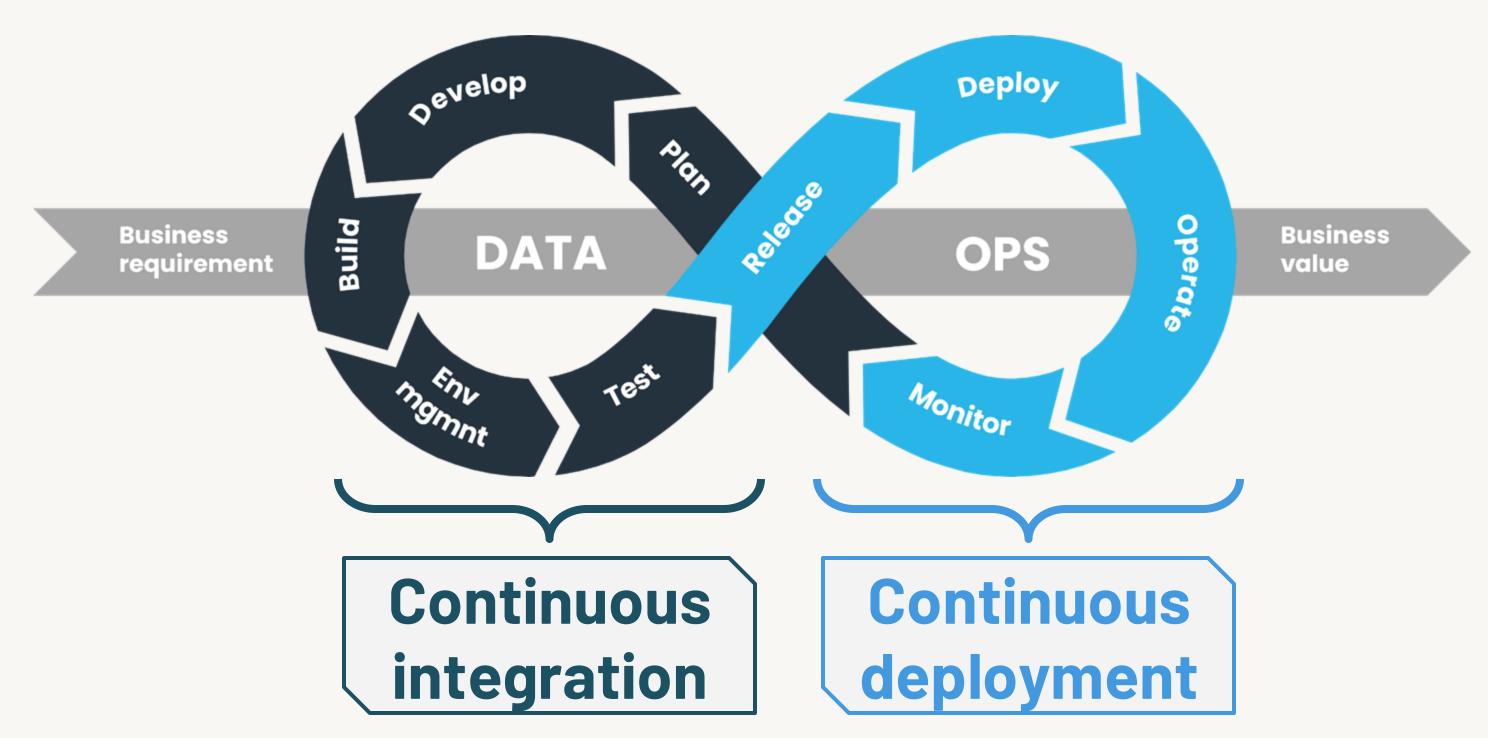
The Role of CI/CD in DevOps





The Role of CI/CD in DevOps

Continuous Integration (CI) and Continuous Deployment (CD)



Overview

CI/CD Overview

- Automates and streamlines software development processes.
- Improves code quality, speed, and reliability.
- Code is deployed to production through an automated process.

CI/CD Process

- Enables development and delivery of software in short, frequent cycles.
- Uses automated
 pipelines to ensure
 faster deployment and
 consistency.

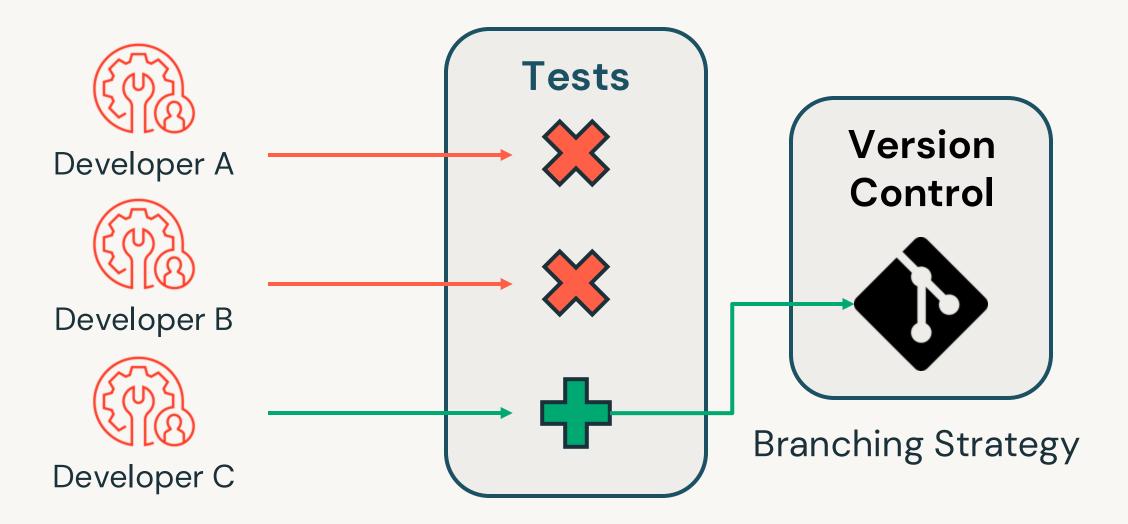
CI/CD Adoption

- Common practice in software development.
- Growing importance in data engineering and data science.



Continuous Integration (CI) High Level Overview

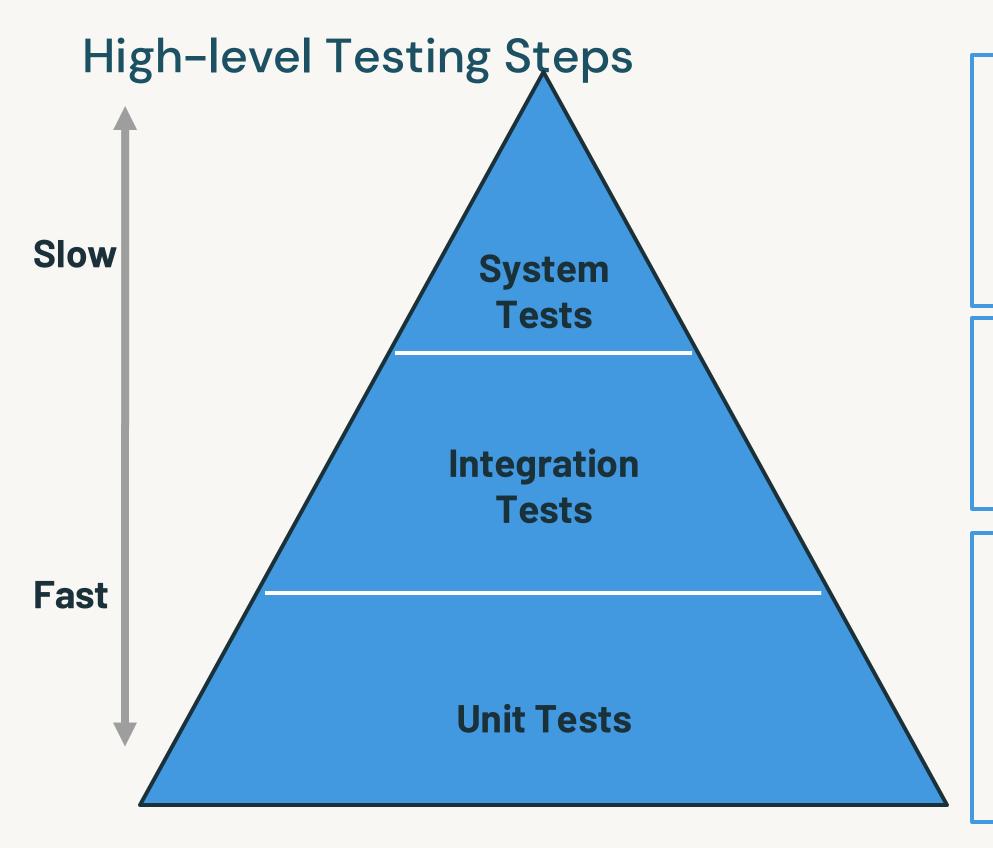
Cl involves regularly merging code changes from multiple contributors into a central repository and running automated tests to ensure code quality.



Benefits

- Early Detection of Issues
- Faster Development Cycle
- Improved Collaboration and Code Quality
- Automated Testing and Validation





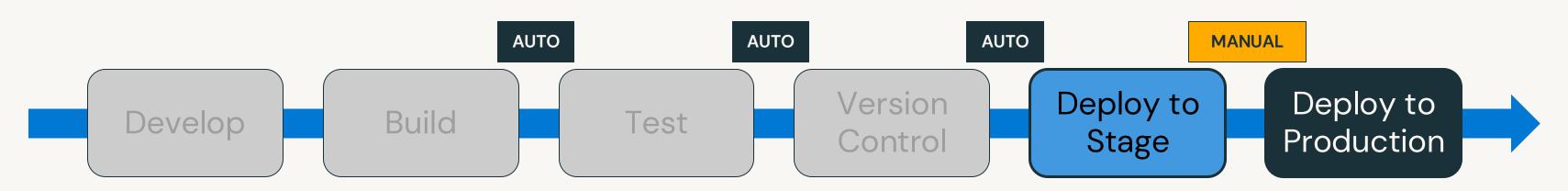
- Test the entire application, ensuring that all parts function together in a real-world scenario
- Ex: End to end data pipeline in a Workflow
- Test the interaction between different components or systems
- **Ex:** Notebooks / DLT/ Jobs interactions
- Test individual functions or methods in isolation
- Fast, low cost, high coverage, and automated
- **Ex:** Custom pyspark functions



Continuous Delivery/Deployment (CD) Overview

Continuous Delivery (CD):

Automatically pushing changes to staging/pre-production environments with the ability to manually deploy to production at any time.



Continuous Integration

Continuous Delivery



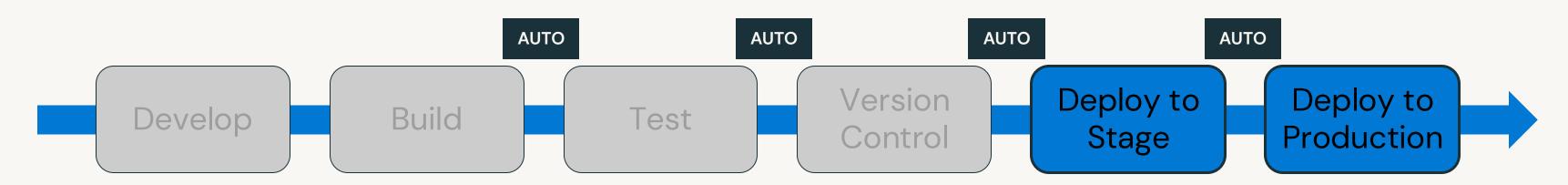
Continuous Delivery/Deployment (CD) Overview

Continuous Delivery (CD):

Automatically pushing changes to staging/pre-production environments with the ability to manually deploy to production at any time.

Continuous Deployment (CD):

Fully automated process where each change passing tests is immediately deployed to production.

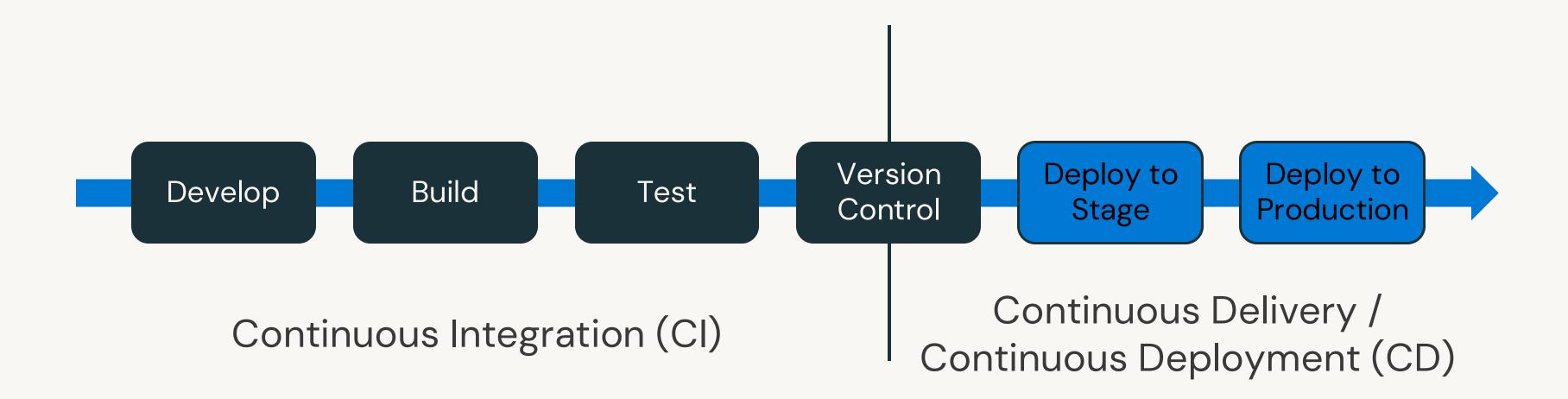


Continuous Integration

Continuous Deployment



High-Level CI/CD Workflow Overview







Think about this question and volunteer an answer

Which of the following best describes the primary goal of DevOps?

- A. To automate the software development lifecycle and streamline collaboration between development and operations teams.
- B. To ensure that the development team focuses solely on writing code without worrying about deployment or infrastructure.
- C. To prioritize long release cycles in order to maintain stability.
- D. To eliminate the need for quality assurance teams by automating all testing.



ANSWER

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Think about this question and volunteer an answer

What is the primary purpose of continuous integration (CI) in a DevOps pipeline?

- A. To automate the deployment of code to production
- B. To ensure that code changes are tested and integrated frequently to detect errors early
- C. To monitor the system performance in real-time
- D. To manage infrastructure provisioning through code



ANSWER

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Think about this question and volunteer an answer

Which of the following is a key characteristic of Continuous Deployment (CD) in a DevOps pipeline

- A. Code changes are automatically deployed to a staging environment after passing tests
- B. Code is deployed to production without manual approval once automated tests pass
- C. Developers must manually push changes to production after review
- D. Code is deployed to multiple environments with no automated testing



ANSWER

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- A. Code changes are automatically deployed to a staging environment after passing tests
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Discussion Question

Think about this question and volunteer an answer

Do you currently use any DevOps practices in your organization? If so, which ones have been most effective, and what challenges have you faced?





Continuous Integration (CI)

DevOps Essentials for Data Engineering



Section Learning Objectives

- Learn to plan and structure a data engineering project, defining key components and isolation steps for successful execution.
- Learn to write unit tests for PySpark code to ensure functionality and catch errors early.
- Apply the pytest framework in Databricks to execute unit tests and analyze the test results for errors.
- Learn to run integration tests using DLT and workflows to validate data pipeline functionality.



Agenda

Continuous Integration

- Planning the Project
- Introduction to Unit Tests with Pyspark
- Executing Integration Tests with DLT and Workflows
- Version Control with Git Overview

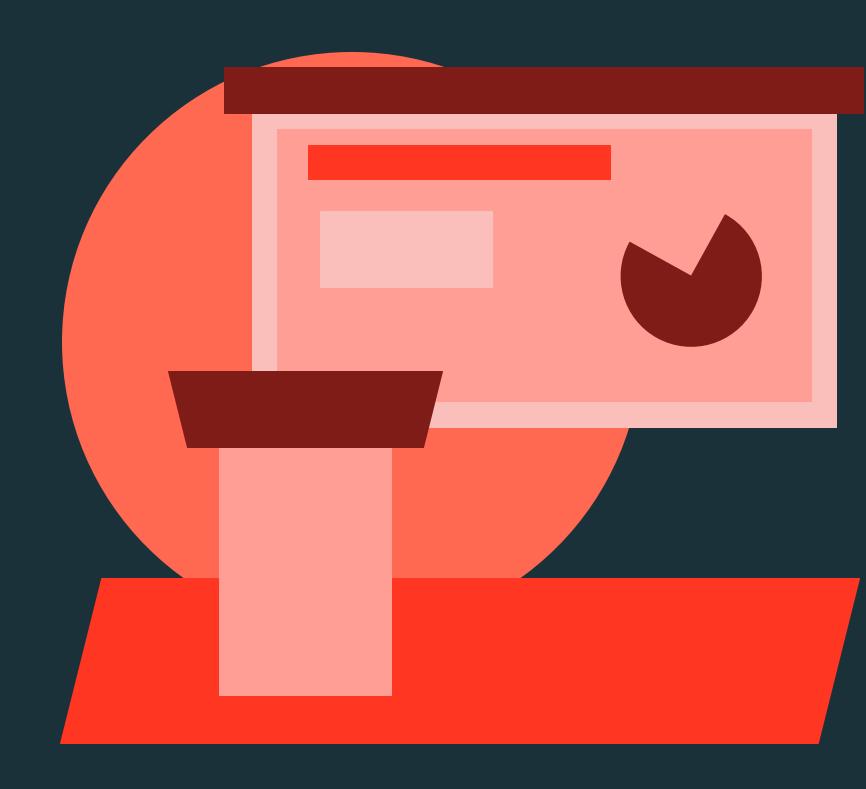




Continuous Integration (CI)

LECTURE

Planning the Project





Requirements

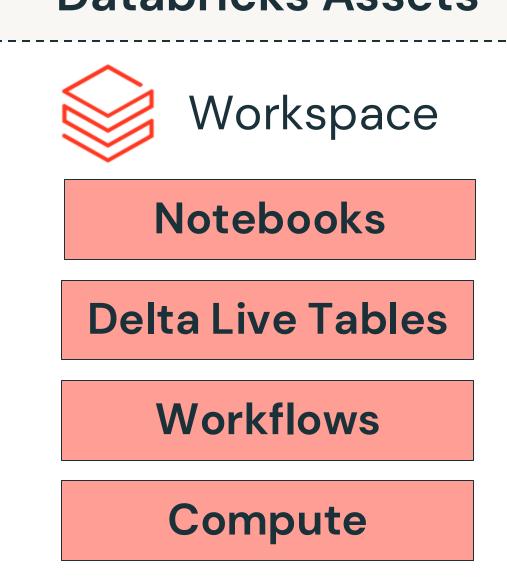
Deliverable

Visualize Health Data

Tasks

- Ingest daily incremental CSV files to a bronze table
- Create a clean silver table
- Create gold tables to share with consumers

Databricks Assets







Setting Up Your Data Environments



Dev Data

- Often a Small Static Subset of Production Data
- Can be Anonymized or Synthetic Datasets
- Supports Rapid
 Development and Testing
- Ensures Privacy and Data Integrity



Stage Data

- Staging Data Mirrors
 Production Structure &
 Volume, Typically Static
- Can be Anonymized or Scrubbed Sensitive Information
- Ensures Realistic Testing and Validation



Prod Data

- Production Data: Live & Fully Operational
- Contains Real User Data
- Continuously Updated
- Requires High Security,
 Privacy, & Compliance
 Standards



Isolating Environments



Workspaces

Utilizing multiple
workspaces, one for each
environment

DEV

STAGE

PROD



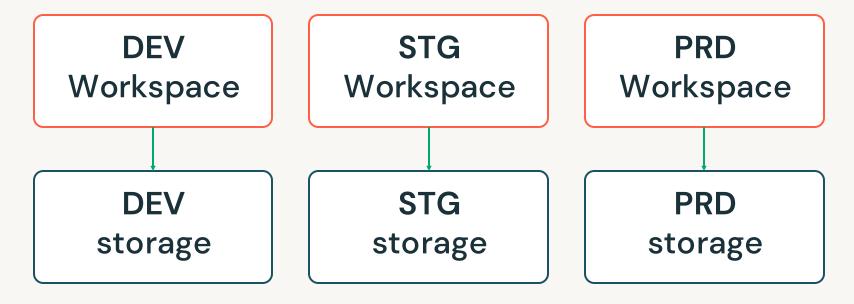
Utilizing multiple catalogs, one for each environment



Workspace Isolation Overview

You can **isolate** your dev, stage and prod environments at the Workspace and storage level.

Databricks Workspaces



Cloud storage w/ Unity Catalog



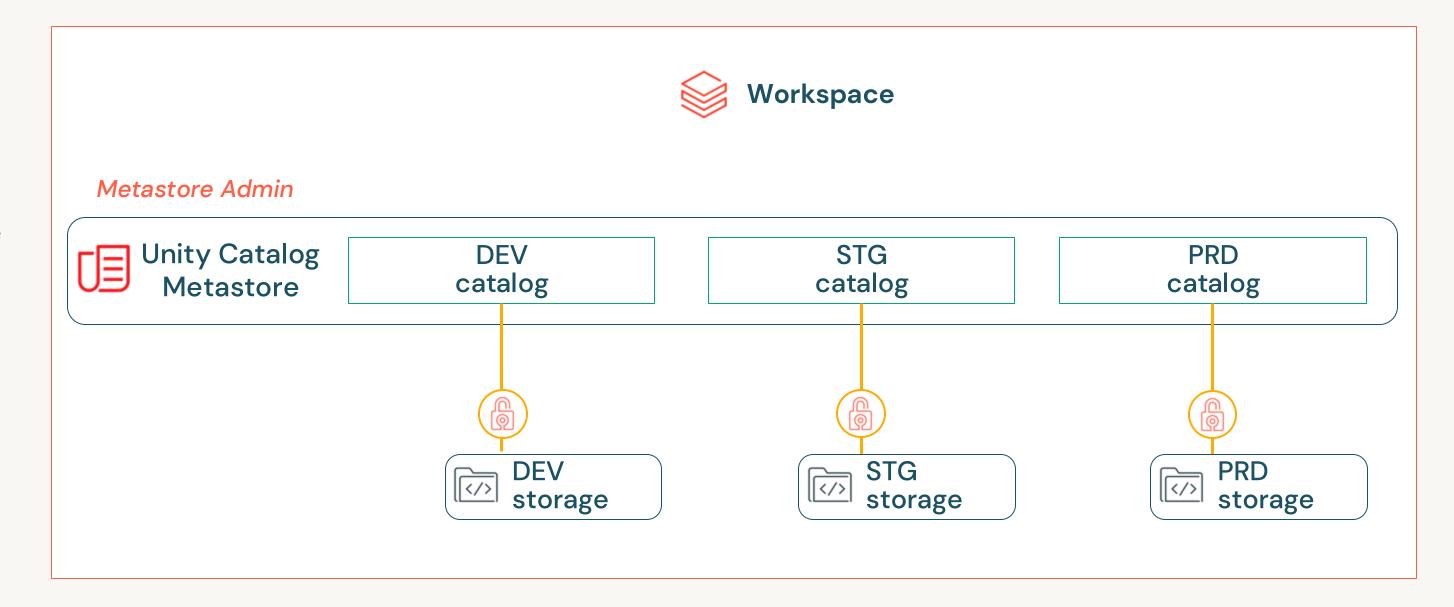
Unity Catalog Isolation

Storage isolation

This example separates the storage locations on catalog level

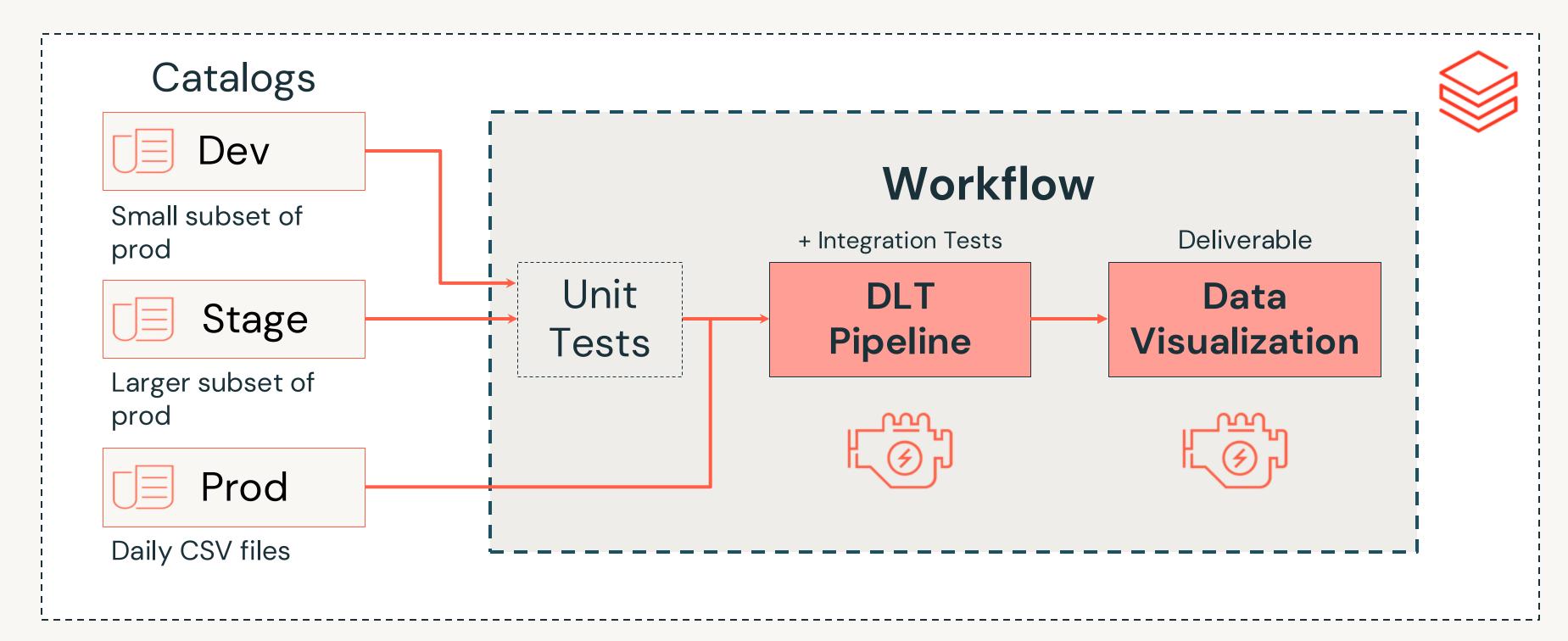
UC Access Control

Users should only gain access to data/ metadata based on agreed access rules





Course Project Architecture

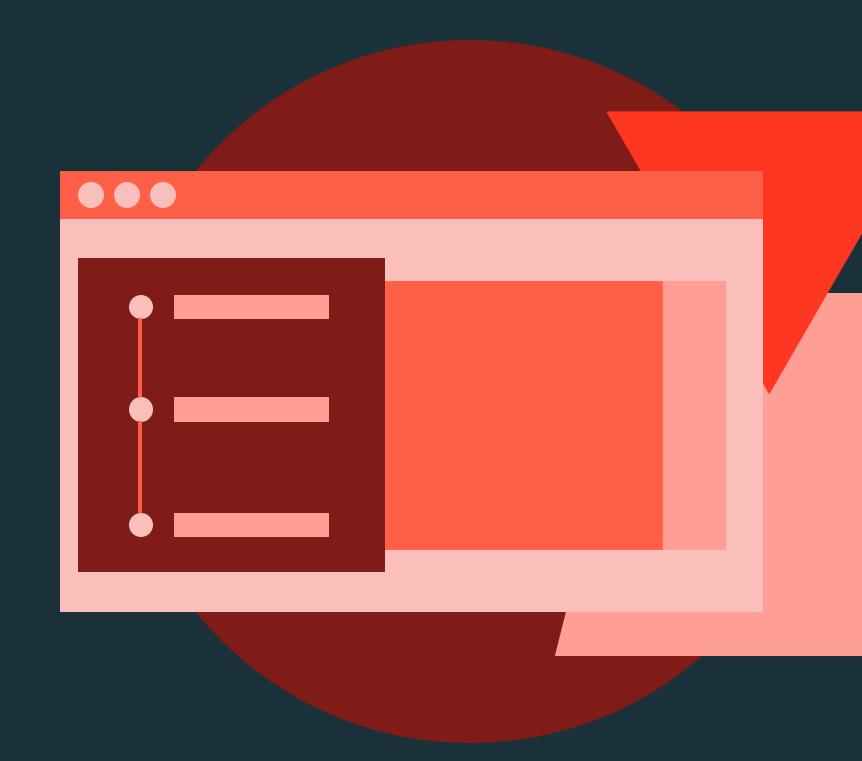




Continuous Integration (CI)

DEMONSTRATION

Project Setup Exploration



Notebook: Course Notebooks/MO2 - CI/2.3 - Project Setup Exploration





Continuous Integration (CI)

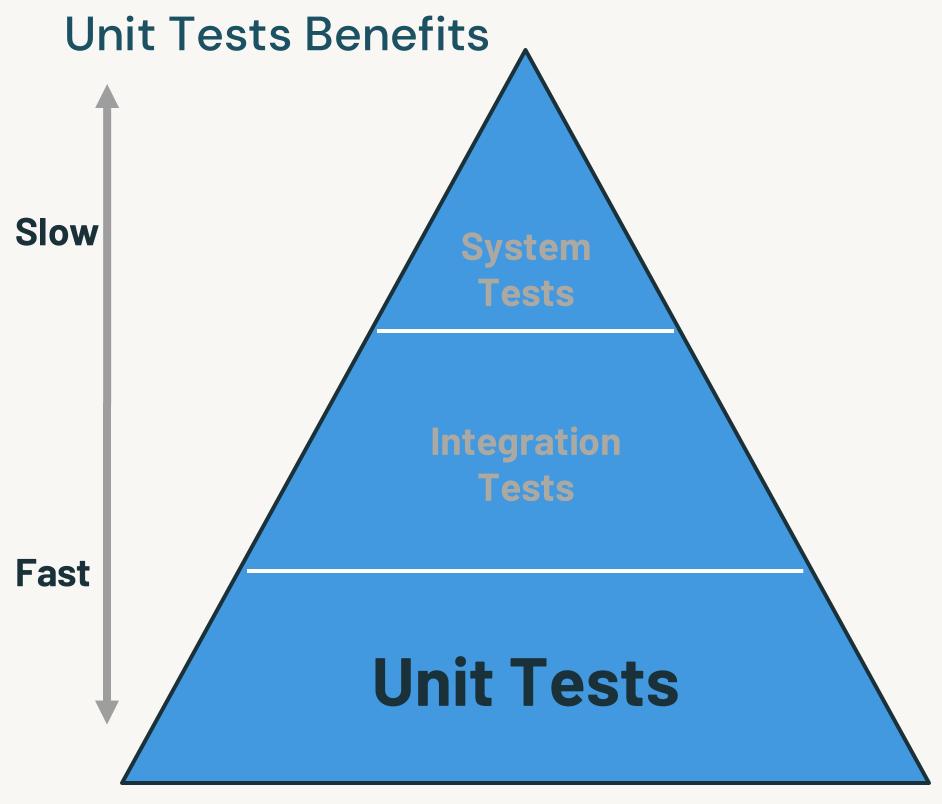
LECTURE

Introduction to Unit Tests for PySpark





Introduction to Unit Tests for PySpark



UNIT TESTS Benefits

- Test only one specific function, on small amount of data
- Catch bugs before you deploy them in your project
- Refactoring your code is easier
- Tests make your debugging easier

Introduction to Unit Tests for PySpark

Pyspark.testing.utils Testing Functions

- **pyspark.testing.utils** provides helper functions to make unit testing in PySpark easier.
 - assertDataFrameEqual(actual, expected[, ...])
 - assertSchemaEqual(actual, expected)

There are a variety of other methods to test your unit tests, we will focus on the pyspark testing utils.



Unit Test Example

1. You have the following function to create a column

2. Your desired results

original	desired
0	Normal
1	Unknown
-1	Unknown
null	Unknown



Unit Test Goal

Compare the actual result of the function with a defined expected result

3. Create the unit test Create a unit test function to test the function. def test_add_new_col(): Name the unit test function accordingly. data = [(0,), (1,), (-1,), (None,)]Create a sample DataFrame to test columns = ["value"] any use cases you can think of. df = spark.createDataFrame(data, columns) **Execute your function on the sample** actual_df = add_new_col(df, "new_value", "value") data and store the result. expected_data = [(0, 'Normal'), (1, 'Unknown'), Create an expected result DataFrame (-1, 'Unknown'), (None, 'Unknown')] using the sample data. expected_df = spark.createDataFrame(expected_data, ["value", "new_value"]) Check the two DataFrames. If they are not assertDataFrameEqual(actual_df, expected_df) identical an error will be returned.

Unit Testing Framework - pytest

Pytest -is popular testing framework for Python that makes it easy to write simple and scalable test cases.

Uses Simple Syntax

Minimal syntax, just define functions starting with **test_**

Provides Assertions

Use **assert** statements to provide detailed error messages on failure

Automatic Discovery

Finds and runs all tests

automatically with a

simple configuration

Rich Ecosystem

Extend functionality
with plugins for
coverage, parallel tests,
and more

This course provides a simple introduction to **pytest**. There are many testing frameworks available, select the one that best meets your organization's needs.

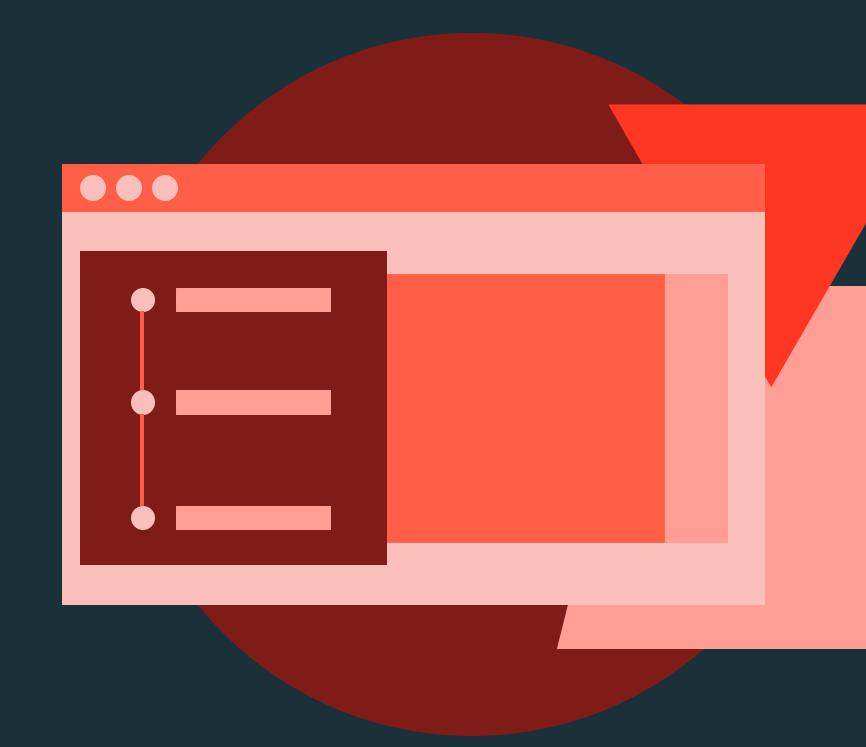




Continuous Integration (CI)

DEMONSTRATION

Creating and Executing Unit Tests



Notebook: Course Notebooks/MO2 - CI/2.4 - Creating and Executing Unit Tests

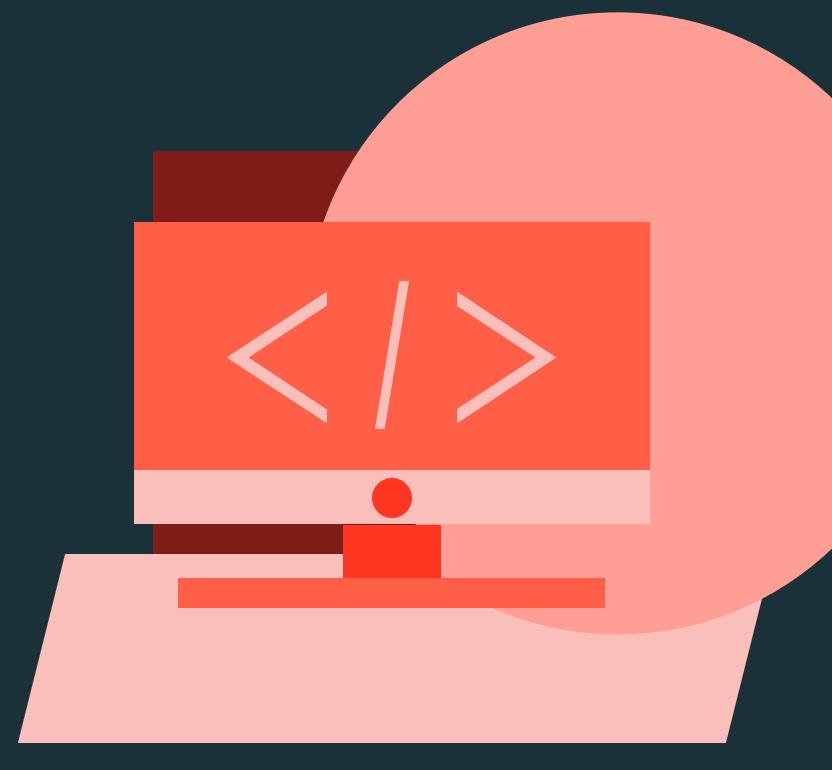


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Continuous Integration (CI)

LAB EXERCISE

Create and Execute Unit Tests



Notebook: Course Notebooks/MO2 - CI/2.5L - Create and Execute Unit Tests

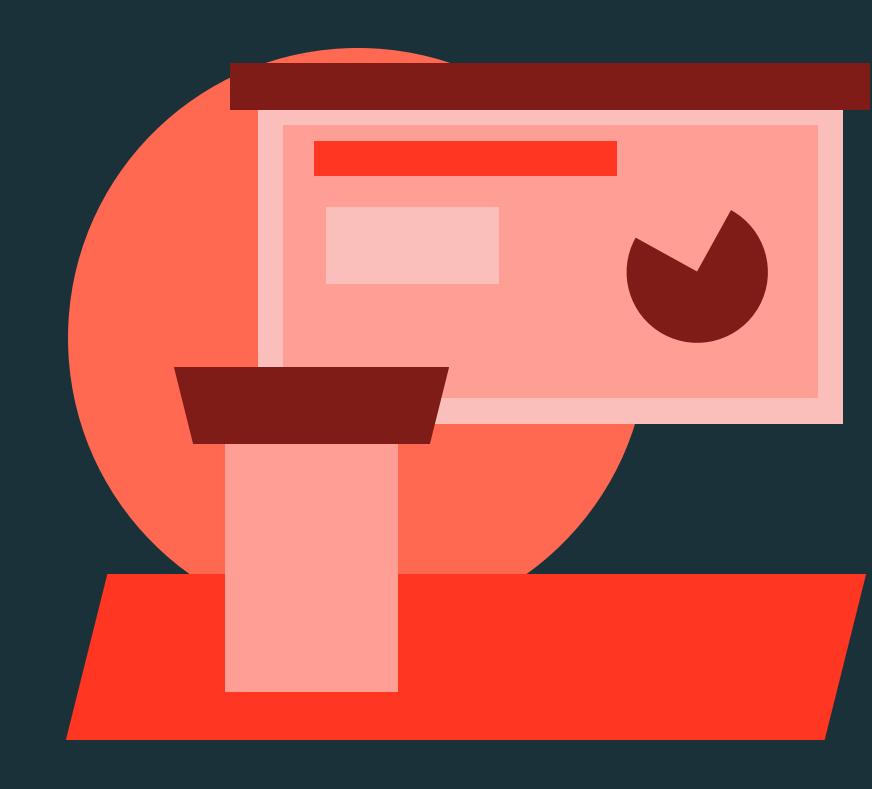




Continuous Integration (CI)

LECTURE

Executing Integration Tests with DLT and Workflows





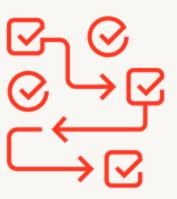
Executing Integration Tests

With Delta Live Tables (DLT) or Workflows



Delta Live Tables (DLT)

• Use **DLT expectations** to check pipeline's results (demo technique).

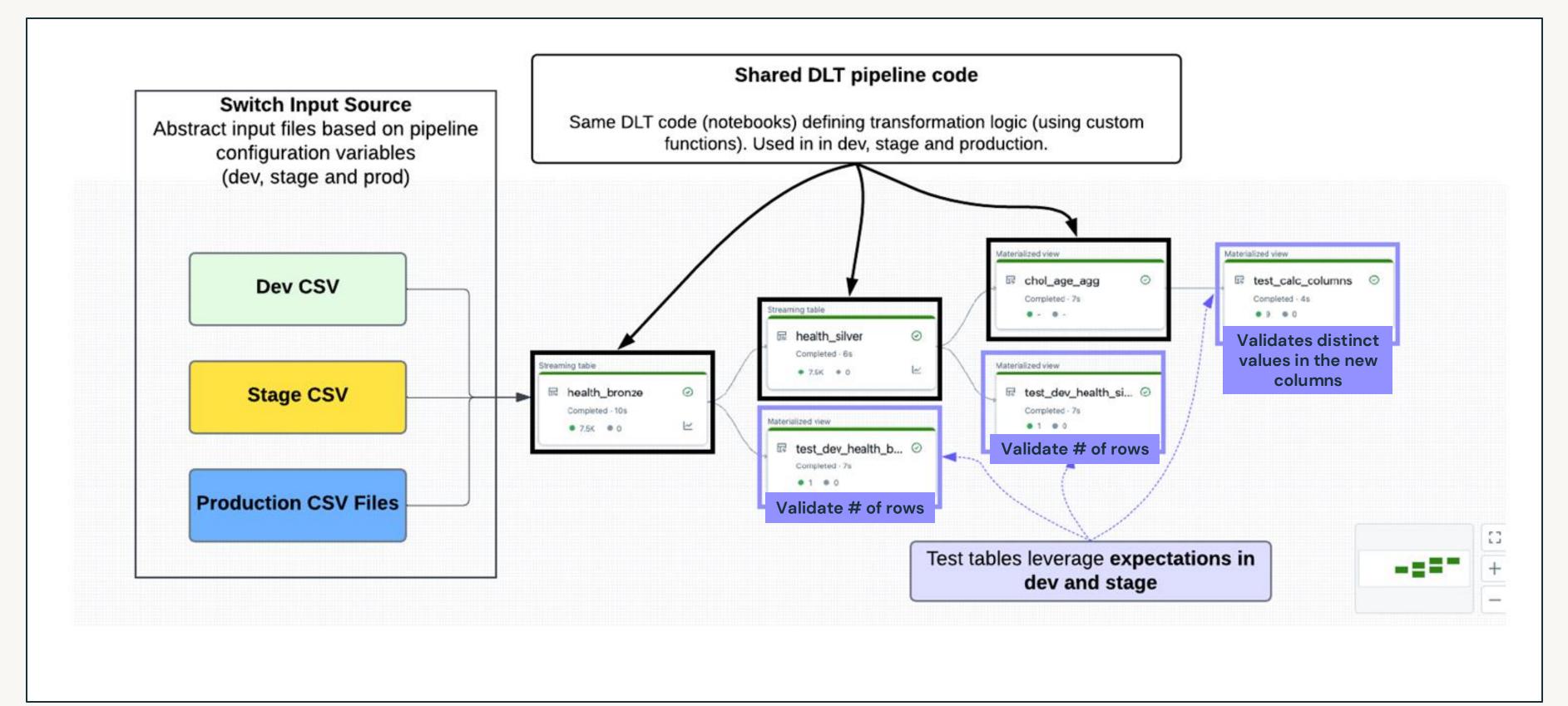


Workflows

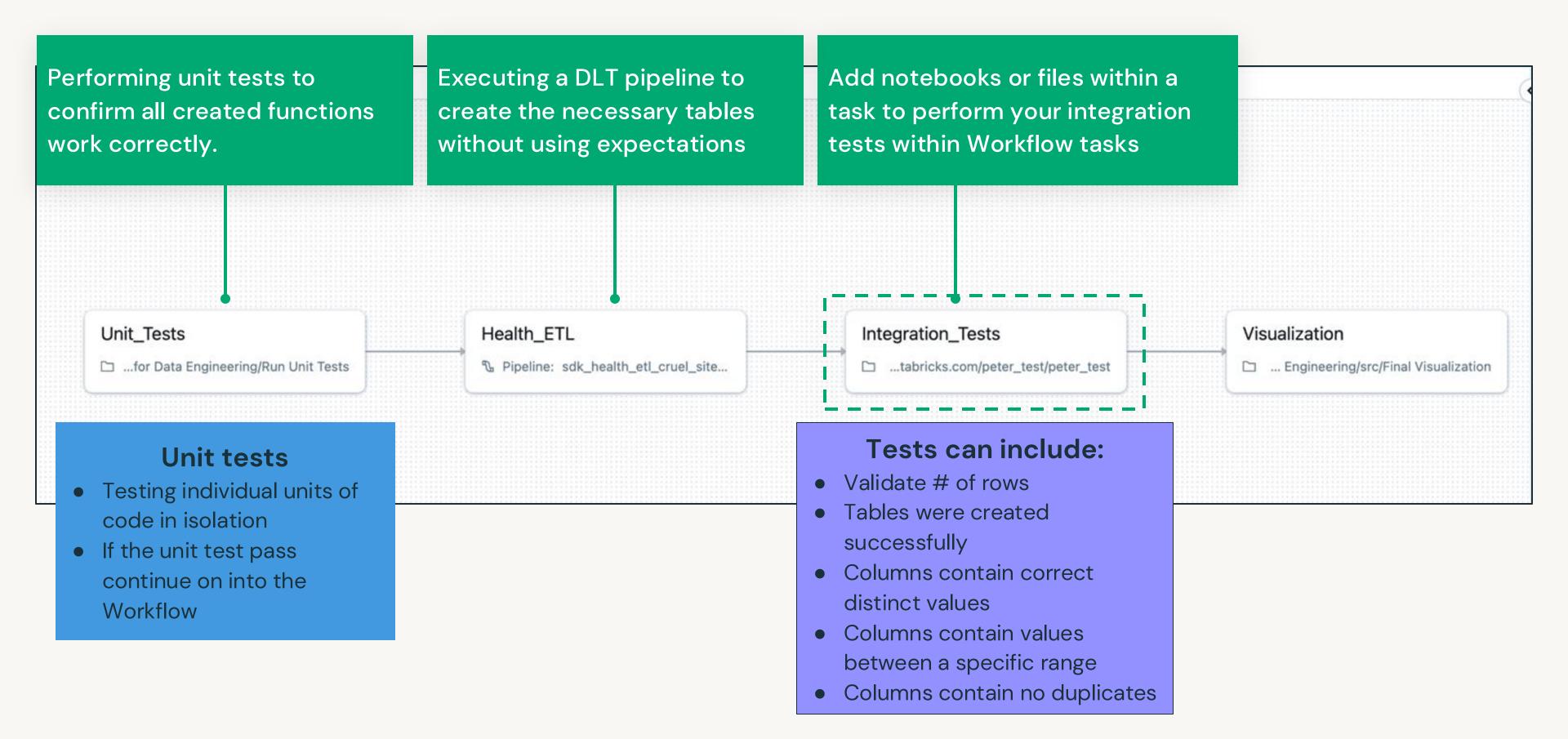
 Implement it as a Databricks Workflow with multiple tasks – similarly what is typically done for non-DLT code.



Delta Live Tables - Method 1 - Expectations



Databricks Workflow - Method 2 - Tasks

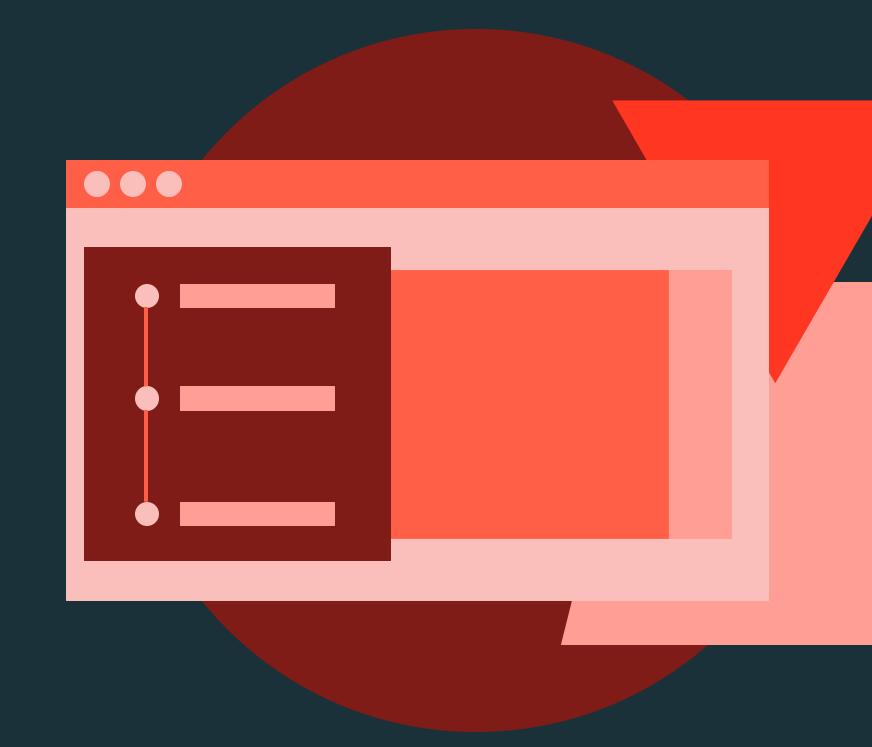


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Continuous Integration (CI)

DEMONSTRATION

Performing Integration Tests with DLT and Workflows



Notebook: Course Notebooks/MO2 - CI/2.6- Performing Integration Tests



Section Learning Objectives

- Organizational challenges with version control
- Have a high-level understanding of how Git-based repositories work on Databricks
- Explain source code challenges with Branching
- Define git Operations, common tools, and understand how Databricks supports Git providers
- Understand how to integrate GitHub repositories with Databricks
- Explain how Git Folders can be used for development
- Understand which file types are supported with repos





Continuous Integration (CI)

LECTURE

Version Control with Git Overview





Complications with Version Control

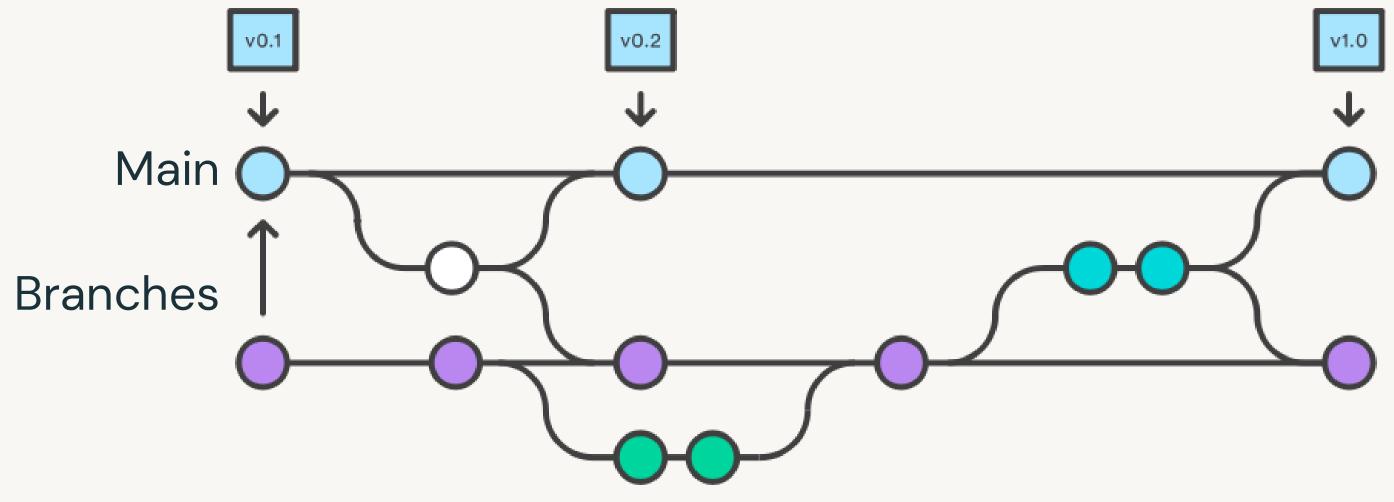
Organizational Challenges

- Silos form over time that isolate development and team operations.
- Independent development leads to lower quality of software development due to lack of centralized version control (dpublicate code, inconsistent standards, code reviewing, etc.)
- Unstable versioning it can become difficult to track, revert, and audit changes .
- Without proper version control, managing frequent updates increases risk.
- Branching, merging, and CI/CD integration can become difficult, which diminishes the ability to scale development.



Secure code changes through branching

- Complementary concept to CI/CD → Enables effective CI
- Version control changes and run through quality control before merging to main branch and deploying
- Example: Gitflow



Source: Openclipart.org



Overview of Git with Databricks

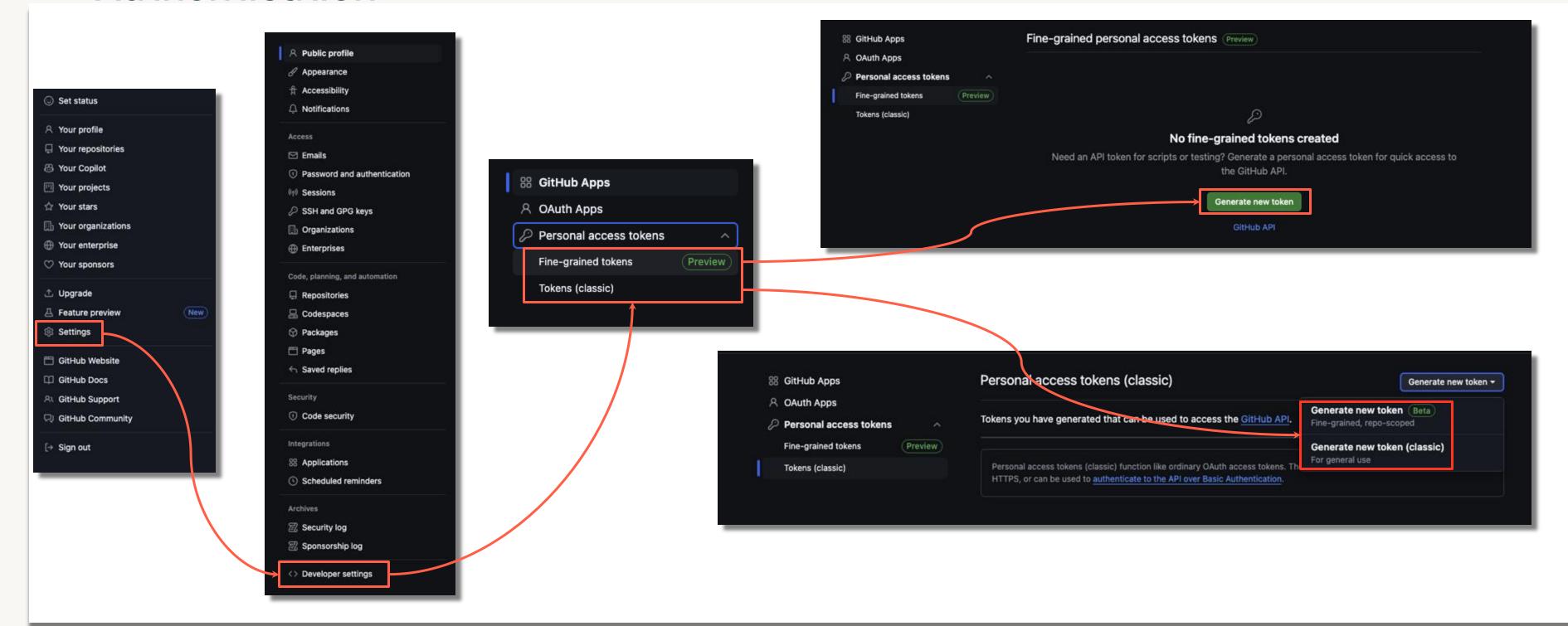
Definitions

Git is a free and open-source software framework designed to track changes in source code during software development



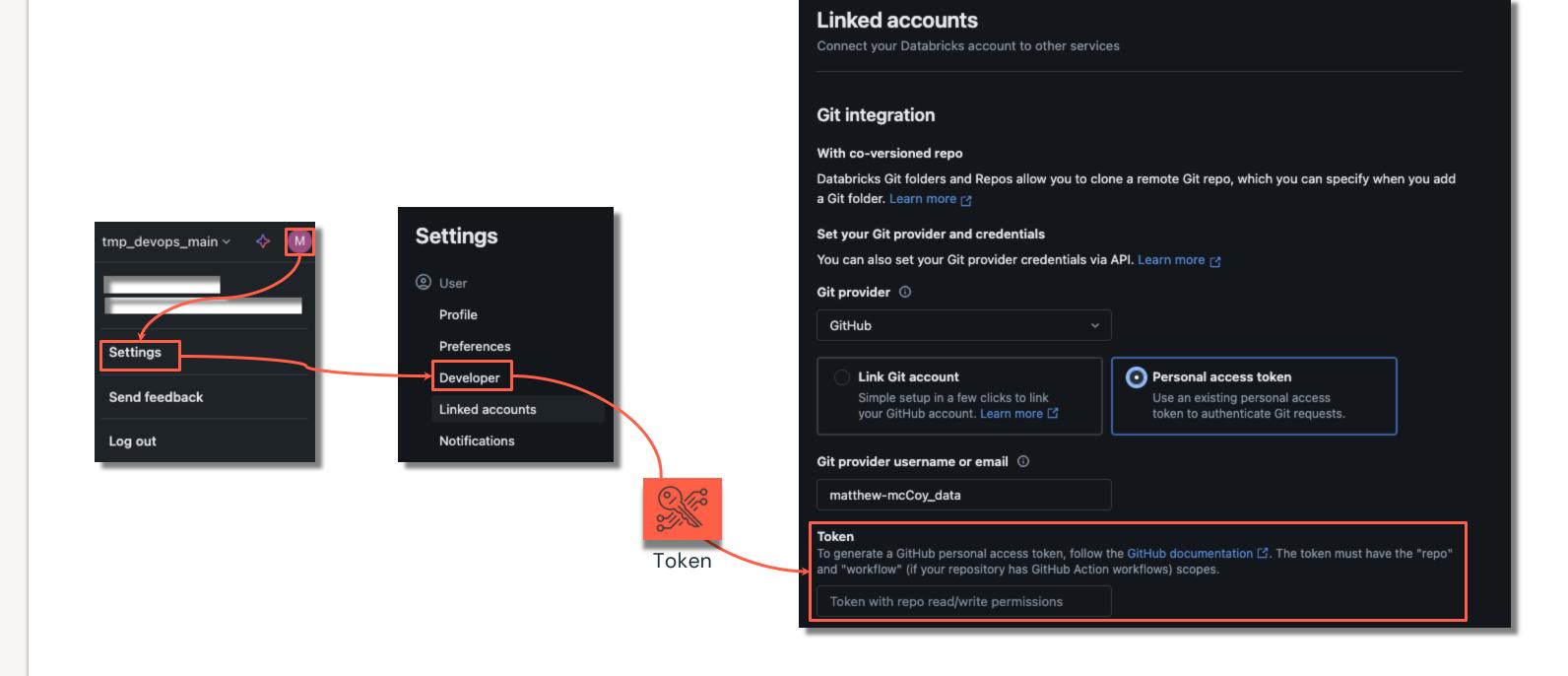
Generating GitHub Personal Access Token(PAT)

Authentication

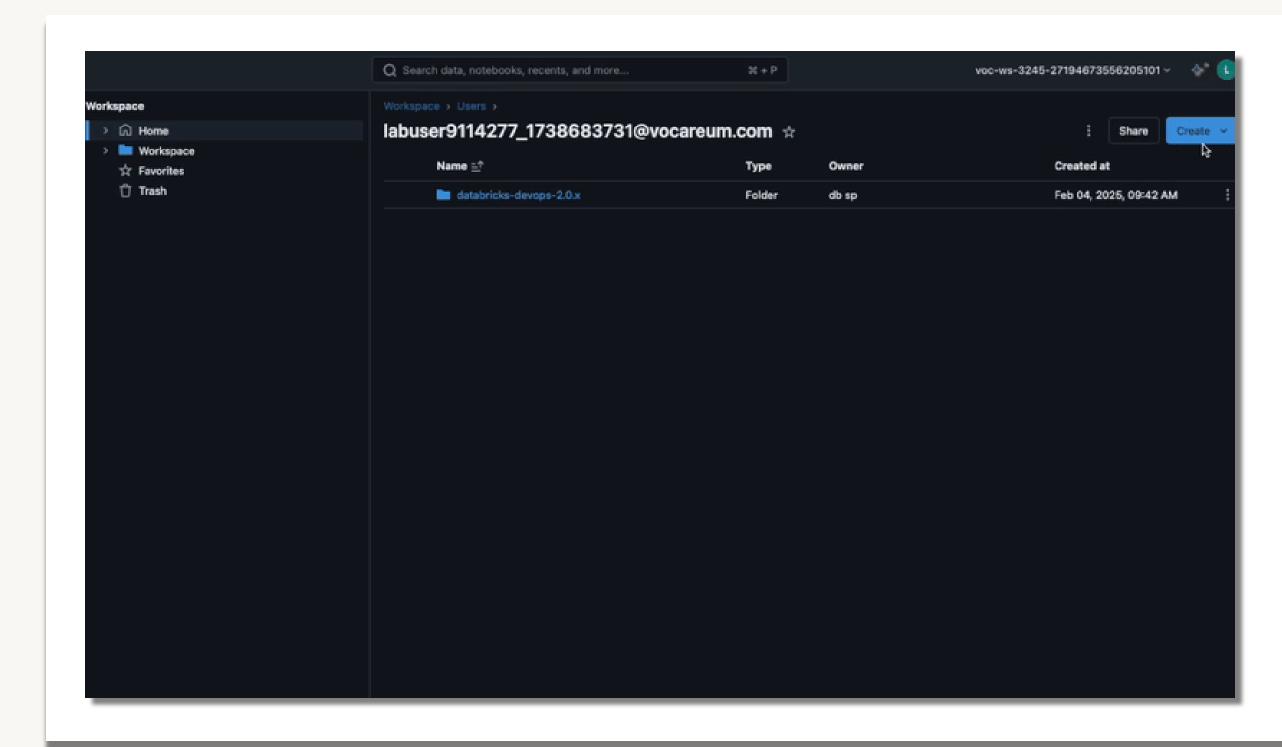


Connecting to Databricks with GitHub PAT

Seamless Integration



Databricks Git Folders

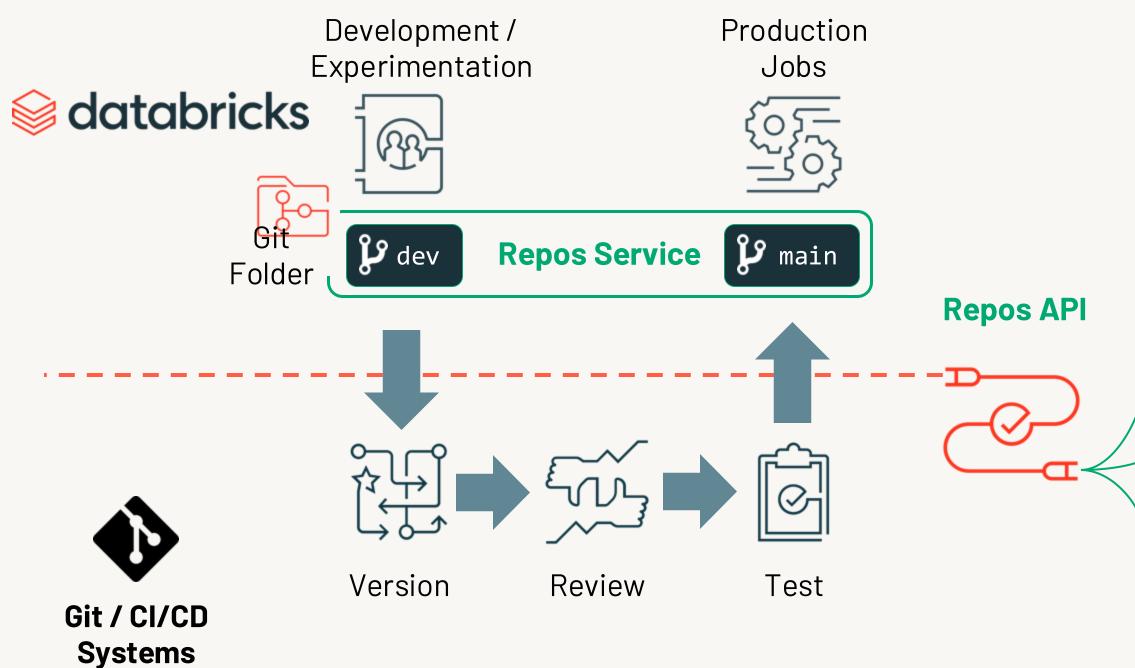


- Clone remote repositories
- Commit and push changes using Ul
- Pull branch updates
- Branch Management
- Visual validation when committing



Git-based Repos in Databricks

Repos API to automate CI/CD



Programmatically manage Repos

E.g., set up automation to automatically create Databricks Repos for all of your repositories

Perform Git operations on Repos

E.g., set up automation to always keep Repos in a production folder at a specified version

Specify Git branch, tag, hash for Jobs

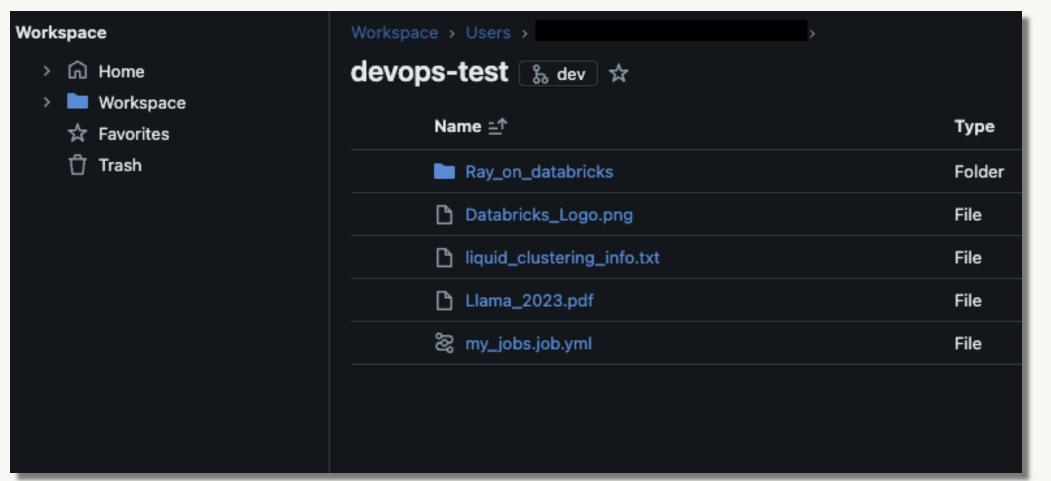
E.g., update the Repo to a specific branch and commit and run Jobs against the notebooks in the repo



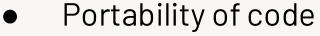


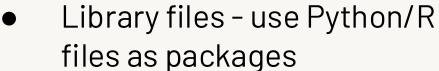


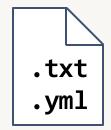
Arbitrary files support in Repos

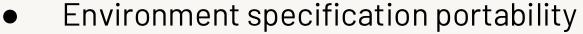












Build packages from the same repo



- Small data ease of use
- Relative imports



Whatever you can do with files "just works"

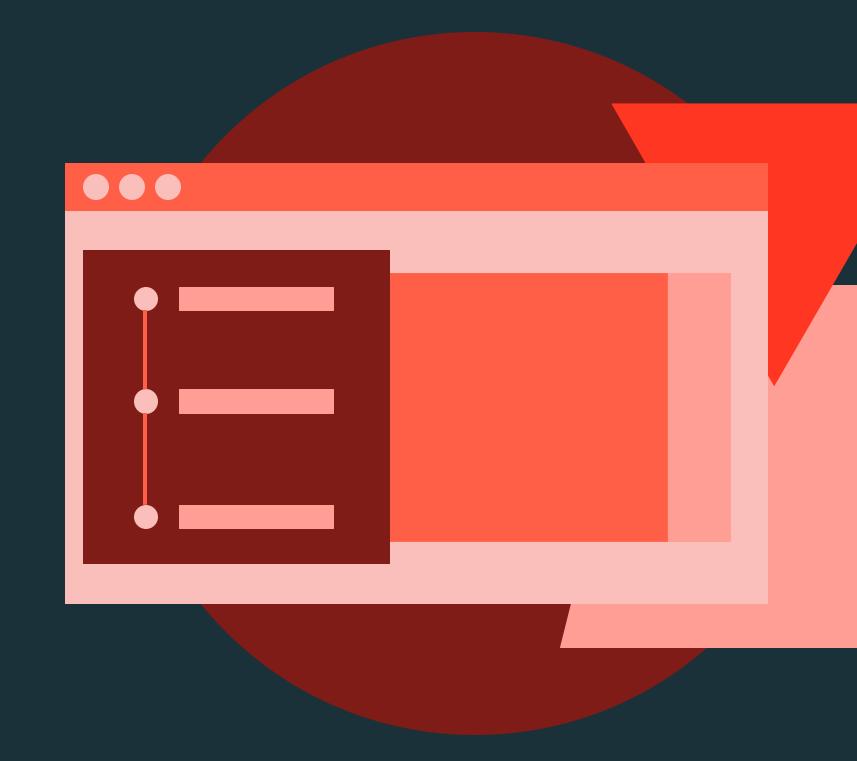




Continuous Integration (CI)

DEMONSTRATION

Version Control with Databricks Git Folders



Notebook: Course Notebooks/MO2 - CI/2.7L - Version Control with Databricks Git Folders and GitHub





Introduction to Continuous Deployment (CD)

DevOps Essentials for Data Engineering

Section Learning Objectives

- Understand and demonstrate the difference between use-cases of the Databricks REST API, CLI, and SDK
- Understand how software engineering best practices are supported with DABs
- Understand how DABs are used for CI/CD



Agenda

Introduction to Continuous Deployment (CD)

- Deploying Databricks Assets Overview
- Deploying the Project
- Next Steps





Introduction to Continuous Deployment (CD)

LECTURE

Deploying Databricks Assets Overview





Deploying Databricks Assets Overview

Deployment Options

REST API

- Provides direct access to Databricks functionality through HTTP requests
- Requires manual construction of HTTP requests and handling responses





Databricks CLI

Command-line interface that wraps the REST API Ideal for one-off tasks, experimentation, and shell scripting

Databricks SDKs

- Available for multiple programming languages (Python, Java, Go, R)
- Allows development of applications, custom Databricks workflows, and robust errorhandling
- Programmatic way to interact with Databricks resources











Databricks Asset Bundles (DABs)

Databricks recommends Databricks Asset Bundles for creating, developing, deploying, and testing jobs and other Databricks resources

Databricks Asset Bundles

Version Control

The practice of tracking and managing changes to code and other development artifacts over time.



Code Review

Systematic examination of source code with the goal of identifying and squashing bugs, improve quality, and enforce coding standards.



Testing

The process of validating expected output from relevant functions and adhering to predetermine requirements.



Continuous Integration

The process of automating development, testing, and deployment to ensure reliability.



Software Engineering Practices



Databricks Asset Bundles (DABs)

What are DABs?

Write code once, deploy everywhere

YAML files that specify the artifacts, resources, and configurations of a Databricks project. This leads to easy configuration of complex notebook and pipeline interactions and reproducibility of your workflows.

What are Databricks Asset Bundles?

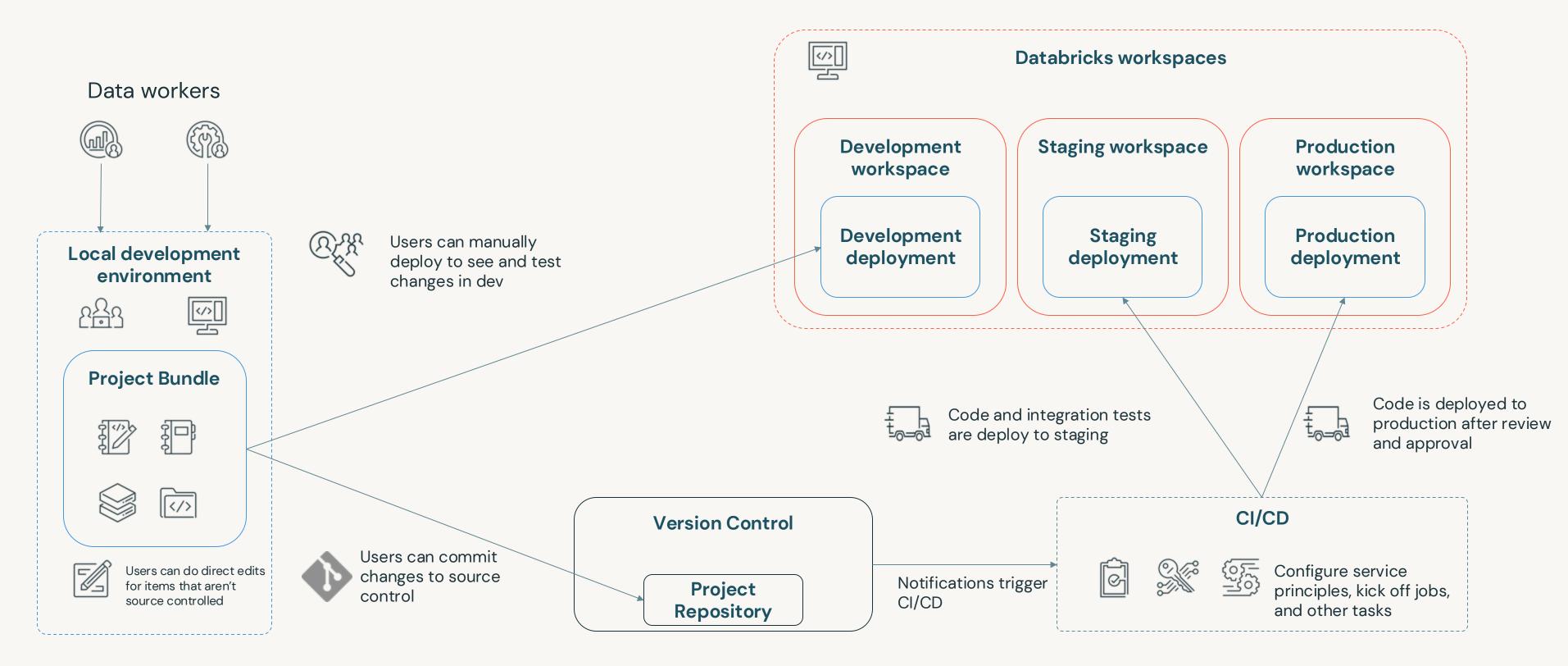
DABs are a tool designed to streamline this process for **Databricks projects**. These bundles encapsulate all necessary configurations and artifacts.

How do bundles work?

Bundles provide an exact

definition of Databricks
resources that are to be
used within your project
with support for validation
and deployment
instructions.

Development and CI/CD with DABs



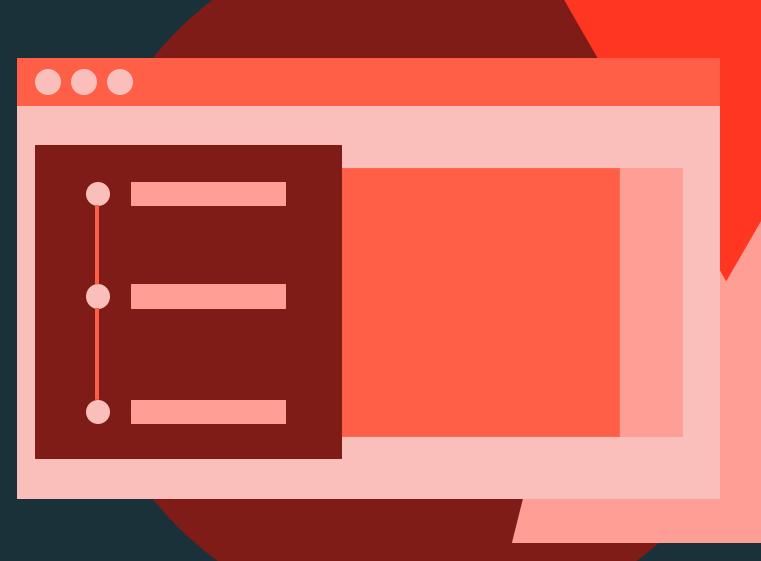


databricks

Introduction to Continuous Deployment (CD)

DEMONSTRATION

Deploying the Project



Notebook: Course Notebooks/MO3 - CD/3.1 - Deploying the Databricks Assets



databricks

Introduction to Continuous Deployment (CD)

LECTURE

Next Steps



Next Steps

Additional resources for continuing the learning journey.

More Ops Course Offerings from Databricks

- (ILT/SP) Machine Learning
 Operations with Databricks
 - Associate
 - Professional

Further Documentation on Databricks Asset Bundles

- DABs documentation
- Bundles with Pipelines Tutorial
- MLOps Staks



databricks

