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Presentation Contents

- WHAT:
 - Gradle as a build automation system
- <u>WHY:</u>
 - Comparison between Gradle and other competitors
- HOW:
 - Project structure, Gradle scripts, Plugins
 - Intro to course projects

[WHAT]

Gradle: Build Automation System

Softwares builds are cumbersome

- Dependency resolution for compiling source & test codes
 - o Different forms: files, external libraries, artifacts, urls, etc.
 - Different versions for each dependency
- Continuous integration (CI)
 - Running test suites with different configurations
 - Generating reports
- Continuous delivery (CD)
 - Packaging compiled files into compressed formats, e.g. *Jar*, *Apk*, etc.
 - Deployment to servers, publishing releases

Case Study

• The Performance of a build system has a huge impact on the **cost and engineering efficiency**:

"In 2017, we worked with a 600-engineer team.

On average, the engineers each ran about 42 builds per week.

The team estimated the cost per-minute per engineer to be US\$1.42, and they work at least 44 weeks annually."

https://gradle.org/gradle-vs-maven-performance/

Build Automation Systems are invented to ease the pain of intensive repetitive tasks.

Gradle

- JVM based build automation tools:
 - Apache Ant: 2000
 - o Apache Maven: 2004
 - o **Gradle**: 2007
- Initially targeted JVM languages:
 - Java, Groovy, Scala
- Plugin based extensibility
 - Android: "com.android.application"
 - o C/C++: "c", "cpp"

- <u>Declarative builds</u> and <u>build-by-convention</u>
- DSL for dependency based programming
- Created with multi-project builds in mind
- "The first build integration tool"
 - Deep import for Ant projects / tasks
 - Fully support for existing *Maven* or *Ivy* repository infrastructure

[WHY] Gradle vs Ant & Maven

Apache Ant (with Apache Ivy)

The first 'modern' build tool targeting the JVM

- Released in 2000
- Configured using XML
- Highly customizable builds based on procedural programming
- Initially only allowed local dependencies
- Adopted *Ivy* for dependency management over the network

Ant drawbacks

- Developers must <u>write all commands</u> to execute some task
- XML is not a good fit for procedural programming
- Requires verbose build scripts for simple tasks
- Build scripts tend to become unmanageable for non-trivial projects
- Initially required storing all dependencies alongside code

Ant (with Ivy)

- Highly customizable
- No convention, <u>only configuration</u>
- XML build scripts for procedural programming
- Dependency Management with *Ivy*

Gradle

- Highly customizable
- Convention over configuration
- Declarative *Groovy DSL*, allowing imperative programming if required
- Dependency Management based on Ivy

Apache Maven

Aiming at the pain points developers faced when using **Apache Ant**

- Released in 2004
- Configured using XML
- Convention over configuration
- Relies on plugins for extending behavior
- Introduced <u>automated dependency</u> <u>downloads</u>
- Standardized build life-cycle

Maven drawbacks

- Poor dependency version conflict resolution
- XML configuration is <u>strictly structured and standardized</u>
- Complex builds can be very complicated to write
- Large project build scripts can have hundreds of lines without doing anything advanced/extraordinary
- Difficult to customize build logic

Maven

- <u>Difficult to customize</u>
- Convention over configuration
- Declarative **XML** build scripts
- Dependency management

Gradle

- Highly customizable
- Convention over configuration
- Declarative *Groovy DSL*, allowing imperative programming if required
- Dependency management based on *Ivy*

Buildscript showdown

Compiling a simple Java project in the three main JVM build systems

Ant (with Ivy)

Ant (with Ivy)

Maven

```
pom.xml:
                                                              <groupId>org.hamcrest
<artifactId>hamcrest-all</artifactId>
       xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
                                                              <version>1.3</version>
       xsi:schemaLocation="http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0
                                                            </dependency>
   http://maven.apache.org/maven-v4 0 0.xsd">
                                                          </dependencies>
 <modelVersion>4.0.0</modelVersion>
                                                          <huild>
 <groupId>com.example
                                                            <plugins>
 <artifactId>building-java-code</artifactId>
                                                              <plugin>
 <packaging>jar</packaging>
                                                        <groupId>org.apache.maven.plugins
 <version>1.0</version>
                                                        <artifactId>maven-compiler-plugin</artifactId>
 <dependencies>
                                                              <version>2.3.2
     <dependency>
                                                            </plugin>
        <groupId>junit
                                                          </plugins>
        <artifactId>junit</artifactId>
                                                          </build>
        <version>4.12</version>
                                                        </project>
     </dependency>
   <dependency>
```

Gradle

```
build.gradle:
apply plugin: 'java'

group = 'com.example'

repositories {
    jcenter()
}

dependencies {
    testCompile 'junit:junit:4.12'
    testCompile 'org.hamcrest:hamcrest-all:1.3'
}
```

[HOW] Write Gradle scripts

Gradle project structure

Sample of a standard root project

```
+-- build/
+-- buildSrc/
+-- build.gradle
+-- settings.gradle
+-- sub-project-1/
  +-- ...
+-- sub-project-2/
 +-- ...
+-- gradle/
  +-- wrapper/
        +-- gradle-wrapper.jar
        +-- gradle-wrapper.properties
+-- gradlew
+-- gradlew.bat
```

Multi-project Builds

• Specify sub-projects in <u>settings.gradle</u>:

```
include 'sub-project-1', 'sub-project-2'
```

- By default, the build file is **build.gradle**.
 - Each sub-project has its own build script.

```
+-- settings.gradle
+-- build/
+-- buildSrc/
+-- build.gradle
+-- sub-project-1/
   +-- build/
    +-- build.gradle
+-- sub-project-2/
   +-- build/
   +-- build.gradle
. . .
```

Gradle Wrapper

- Ensures that the **correct gradle version** is always used for the project.
- Generated by running the built-in 'wrapper' task.
 - > gradle wrapper
- Wrapper files should be committed into VCS.
- Downloads the correct version the first time it's run.

```
+-- build/
+-- buildSrc/
+-- build.gradle
+-- settings.gradle
+-- sub-project-1/
   +-- ...
+-- sub-project-2/
   +-- ...
+-- gradle/
   +-- wrapper/
        +-- gradle-wrapper.jar
        +-- gradle-wrapper.properties
+-- gradlew
+-- gradlew.bat
```

Gradle Scripts

Sample of a Gradle build script

```
build.gradle:
apply plugin: 'java'
def pkgName = 'com.example'
group = pkgName
repositories {
    jcenter()
dependencies {
    testCompile 'junit:junit:4.12'
    testCompile
'org.hamcrest:hamcrest-all:1.3'
```

Gradle scripts

- First, Gradle scripts are configuration scripts.
 - As a script executes, it configures a Delegate Object of itself.
 - Then, the <u>properties and methods</u> of the **Delegate Object** are available to use in the script.
- Delegate types:

0	Build script:	build.gradle	Project
0	Init script:	init.gradle	Gradle
0	Settings script:	settings.gradle	Settings

• Second, Each *Gradle* script implements the *Script* interface, which defines a number of <u>properties</u> and <u>methods</u> which you can use in the script.

Gradle scripts: Delegate objects

```
build.gradle:
apply plugin: 'java'
group = 'com.example'
repositories {
    icenter()
dependencies {
    testCompile 'junit:junit:4.12'
    testCompile 'org.hamcrest:hamcrest-all:1.3'
test {
      reports.html.enabled = false
```

- Delegate Object: Project
 - o group
 - apply()
 - repositories()
 - dependencies()
- Plugin: Java
 - o test()
 - Dependency configurations:
 - junit, hamcrest...

> Could not find method compile() for arguments [junit:junit:4.12] on object of type org.gradle.api.internal.artifacts.dsl.dependencies.DefaultDependencyHandler.

Gradle scripts: Build script structure

- A build script is made up of zero or more <u>Statements</u> and <u>Script Blocks</u>.
 - Statements can include:
 - local variable declarations, method calls, property assignments.
 - A <u>Script Block</u> is a <u>method call</u> which <u>takes a closure as a parameter</u>.
 The closure is treated as a configuration closure which configures the <u>Delegate Object</u> as it executes.

Gradle scripts: Statements

```
build.gradle:
apply plugin: 'java'
                                                  local variable declaration
def pkgName = 'com.example'
                                                  property assignment
group = pkgName
repositories {
                                                  method call
    jcenter()
                                                  script block???
dependencies {
   testCompile 'junit:junit:4.12'
    testCompile 'org.hamcrest:hamcrest-all:1.3'
```

Gradle DSL

- *Gradle* script is also a *Groovy* script, therefore it can contain those elements allowed in *Groovy*:
 - Method definitions, Class definitions, Annotations, Comments, etc.

```
/* Get password from Mac OS Keychain */
def getPassword(String keyChain) {
    def stdout = new ByteArrayOutputStream()
    def stderr = new ByteArrayOutputStream()
    exec {
        commandLine 'security', 'find-generic-password',
    keyChain
        standardOutput = stdout
        errorOutput = stderr
        ignoreExitValue true
    }
    stderr.toString().trim().drop(10).replaceAll('"','')
}
```

```
// A customized task to print a greeting
class GreetingTask extends DefaultTask {
    @TaskAction
    def greet() {
        println 'Greetings!'
    }
}

// Create a task using the task type
task hello(type: GreetingTask)
```

Gradle scripts: Script blocks

A <u>script block</u> is a <u>method call</u> which <u>takes a closure as a parameter</u>.

Gradle Tasks

Customize the Gradle build process with your own tasks

- Everything in *Gradle* sits on top of two <u>basic concepts</u>:
 - Projects
 - Tasks

Gradle Tasks

- A Project includes a collection of Tasks.
- A *Task* represents a single atomic piece of work for a build.
 - E.g. compiling classes, generating javadoc, etc.
- Each task belongs to a *Project*, and has a name for reference within this project.
- A task may have dependencies on other tasks, or might be scheduled to always run after another task.

Gradle Tasks

- To view the tasks in *groups*:
 - o gradle tasks
 - o gradle tasks --all
- Gradle supports two types of task:
 - One is the <u>simple task</u>
 - The other is the **enhanced task**

myTask8

BUILD SUCCESSFUL in 0s 1 actionable task: 1 executed

```
ins-iMac:test naco siren$ gradle tasks --all
> Task :tasks
All tasks runnable from root project
Build Setup tasks
init - Initializes a new Gradle build.
wrapper - Generates Gradle wrapper files.
Help tasks
buildEnvironment - Displays all buildscript dependencies declared in root project 'test'.
components - Displays the components produced by root project 'test'. [incubating]
dependencies - Displays all dependencies declared in root project 'test'.
dependencyInsight - Displays the insight into a specific dependency in root project 'test'
dependentComponents - Displays the dependent components of components in root project 'tes
t'. [incubating]
help - Displays a help message.
model - Displays the configuration model of root project 'test'. [incubating]
projects - Displays the sub-projects of root project 'test'.
properties - Displays the properties of root project 'test'.
tasks - Displays the tasks runnable from root project 'test'.
Other tasks
build 528oto0kyvtt7ukrwpumfhqq2$ run closure8@5bb1341a
myTask1
myTask2
myTask3
mvTask4
myTask5
myTask6
mvTask7
```

Gradle Tasks: Simple Task

- One is the **simple task**:
 - You define the task with an action closure to determine the behaviour of the task.
 - Good for implementing <u>one-off tasks</u> in your build script.

```
task taskX(dependsOn: 'taskY'){
    doLast {
        println 'taskX'
    }
}
task taskY {
    doLast {
        println 'taskY'
    }
}
```

Gradle Tasks: Simple Task

- Code specified in *doLast* will be run after all other task actions have been executed
- Code specified in doFirst will be run before all other task actions have been executed
- Tasks can be optionally skipped if onlylf closure evaluates to false

```
task hello
    doLast
        println 'Hello World'
    doFirst {
        if(!usingEclipse) {
            throw new StopExecutionException()
    onlyIf
        project.hasProperty('usingEclipse')
```

Gradle Tasks: Enhanced Task

- The other is the **enhanced task**:
 - The behaviour is built into the task, and the task provides some <u>properties</u>.
 - You don't need to implement the task behaviour like simple tasks, but simply declare the task and configure the task using its properties.
 - Most Gradle <u>plugins</u> use enhanced tasks.

```
task copy(type: Copy) {
   from 'resources'
   into 'target'
   include('**/*.txt', '**/*.xml',
'**/*.properties')
}
```

Gradle Build Lifecycle

- There are three phases in a build:
 - Initialization
 - Configuration
 - Execution

Gradle Build Lifecycle: Initialization

- Gradle determines which projects are going to take part in the build, and creates a **Project** instance for <u>each of these projects</u>.
- **Settings.gradle** is evaluated if present.
 - A multi-project build must have this file in the root project!
 - This is the only place to set the root project name, otherwise it defaults to the folder name.
 - Can reference gradle properties.
 - Can modify plugin resolution for projects.

Gradle Build Lifecycle: Configuration

- Gradle configure the project objects on "configuration on demand" mode.
 - Only executes the **build.gradle** file of projects that are participating in the build.
 - Provides a performance boost for large multi-project builds.
- All the tasks are configured during this stage.
 - But the *action scripts* are NOT NECESSARILY executed.
 - i.e. doFirst, doLast, onlylf, etc.

Gradle Build Lifecycle: Execution

- Gradle determines the <u>subset of tasks</u> to execute.
 - Determined by the task names passed to the gradle command
- Gradle then executes each of the selected tasks.
 - Execution is ordered by dependencies
 - o Parallel task execution is an incubating feature
 - Any task failures will cause the build to fail and stop prematurely

```
version = "${artifact version}.${build number}"
                                                        // Write the plugin's classpath to a file to share with the tests
                                                    34
                                                        task createClasspathManifest {
    apply plugin: 'groovy'
                                                    35
                                                            def outputDir = file("$buildDir/$name")
    apply plugin: 'maven'
                                                    37
                                                            inputs.files sourceSets.main.runtimeClasspath
    repositories {
                                                            outputs.dir outputDir
            mavenCentral()
 9
                                                    40
                                                            doLast {
10
                                                    41
                                                                outputDir.mkdirs()
    dependencies {
                                                    42
                                                                file("$outputDir/plugin-classpath.txt").text = sourceSets.main.runtimeClasspath.join("\n")
        compile gradleApi()
                                                    43
                                                            }
        compile localGroovy()
13
                                                    44
        testCompile gradleTestKit()
14
                                                    45
15
                                                        // Add the classpath file to the test runtime classpath
                                                        dependencies {
                                                    47
    task wrapper(type: Wrapper) {
                                                            testRuntime files(createClasspathManifest)
                                                    48
        gradleVersion = "2.10"
18
                                                    49
19
                                                    50
20
                                                        sourceCompatibility = 1.7
    test {
                                                        targetCompatibility = 1.7
        // Always run the tests
                                                    53
        outputs.upToDateWhen { false }
24
25
        // Turn on some console logging
        testLogging {
            events "passed", "skipped", "failed"
            exceptionFormat "full"
                                                                                           A sample Java build script
28
            stackTraceFilters "entryPoint"
                                   https://github.com/uber-common/infer-plugin/blob/master/infer-plugin/build.gradle
31 }
```

group = artifact_group

Gradle Plugins

- Extend Gradle DSL by adding capabilities to Gradle projects
- Large collection of plugins built into Gradle
- Many third-party plugins available

Java Plugin

- apply plugin: 'java'
- The java plugin allows Gradle to compile java source, as well as run JUnit / TestNG based tests and bundle build artifacts.
- It also serves as the basis for many other Gradle plugins.

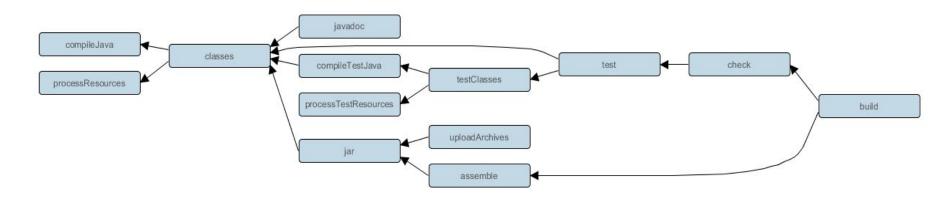
Java Plugin: Project Structure

- Gradle uses the same directory conventions as Maven, i.e. convention over configuration
- Configurable in the build script's sourceSets:

```
sourceSets {
    main {
        java {
            srcDirs = ['src/java']
        }
        resources {
            srcDirs = ['src/resources']
        }
}
```

Directory	Meaning
src/main/java	Production Java source
src/main/resources	Production resources
src/test/java	Test Java source
src/test/resources	Test resources
src/sourceSet/java	Java source for the given source set
src/sourceSet/resources	Resources for the given source set

Java Plugin: Task Depencencies



clean

Java Plugin: Dependency Management

- You must specify which *repositories* to pull dependencies from.
- Works with either *Maven* repositories or *Ivy* repositories.
- Provides shortcuts for the two major *Maven* repositories.
 - MavenCentral
 - JCenter
- Easy to specify custom repositories.

```
apply plugin: 'java'
...
repositories {
    mavenCentral()
    jcenter()
    maven {
        url 'http://my-repo/'
    }
    ivy {
        url 'http://my-repo/'
    }
}
```

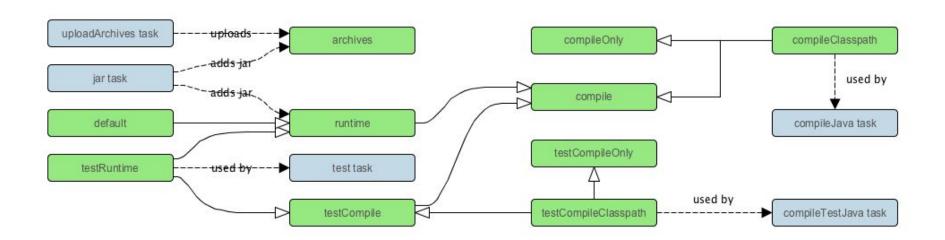
Java Plugin: Dependency Management

- Maven dependencies are specified using:
 - Group ID, Artifact ID, Version
- Local jars can be included using file collections
- Projects included by passing a reference to the subproject

```
apply plugin: 'java'

...
dependencies {
    compile 'commons-io:commons-io:2.6'
    testCompile 'junit:junit:4.12'
    runtime fileTree(dir:'libs', include
'*.jar')
    testRuntime files('libs/a.jar')
    compile project(':other')
}
```

Java Plugin: Dependency Management



Android Plugin

- apply plugin: 'com.android.application'
- The Android plugin adds functionality to Gradle for building, testing, and releasing android applications independently of Android Studio / Eclipse.
- It is a third-party plugin developed by *Google*, and typically updated in lock-step with *Android Studio*.

- As the Android plugin isn't built into gradle, and Google does not publish it to Gradle's plugin portal, you have to tell gradle where to find the plugin.
- Gradle 4.1 and higher includes the 'google()' repository shortcut.

Other Common Plugins

- java-base
 - Adds Java compilation, testing and bundling capabilities to a project.
 - It serves as the basis for many of the other Gradle plugins.
- java, groovy-base
 - Adds support for building *Groovy* projects.
- java, scala-base
 - Adds support for building Scala projects.

Custom Plugin

- apply plugin: 'my.custom.plugin'
- Gradle allows you to implement your own plugins, so you can reuse your build logic, and share it with others
- You can implement a *Gradle* plugin in any language that ends up compiled as bytecode.
- Gradle API has been designed to work well with Groovy, Java or Kotlin

Custom Plugin: Packaging

Build Script

- Can include the source for the plugin directly in the build script.
- Pro: plugin is automatically compiled and included in the classpath of the build script.
- Con: Plugin is not visible outside the build script.

Within a project

- Pro: plugin is visible to every build script used by the build.
- Con: it is not visible outside the build, and so you cannot reuse the plugin outside the build it is defined in.

Standalone project

- Project produces and publishes a JAR which you can then use in multiple builds and share with others.
- Generally, this JAR might include some plugins, or bundle several related task classes into a single library.

[HOW] Course Projects

Visual Studio Code Gradle language extension

Han Yin

- Syntax highlighting
- Keyword auto-complete proposal
- Duplication validation

Challenges

- Grammatical features of Gradle DSL
 - Custom AST transformations
 - Confusing script blocks
 - Each property is created with a setter with the exact same name
- Develop a language server using TypeScript
 - Npm in Node.js, TypeScript compilers, etc.

Gradle DSL Grammar

- Custom AST transformations
 - TaskContainer

```
task ("myTask1") {
                                           Task ref6 = task("myTask6")
        doLast {
                                      34
            println "Hello #1"
                                          Task ref7 = task("myTask7") {
                                              doLast {
                                                   println "Hello #7"
    task "myTask2" {
                                          }
        doLast {
                                      40
            println "Hello #2"
                                          Task ref8 = task() {
                                              name = "myTask8"
                                              doLast {
12
                                                   println "Hello #8"
    task myTask3 {
                                          }
        doLast {
            println "Hello #3"
17
    task "myTask4"(type: Copy) {
        depends0n myTask3
        doLast {
23
            println "Hello #4"
    task myTask5(type: Zip, dependsOn: myTask4) {
        doLast {
            println "Hello #5"
```

Gradle DSL Grammar

- Confusing script blocks
 - E.g. NamedDomainObjectContainer

```
buildTypes {
    release {
        minifyEnabled true
        proguardFiles 'proguard-rules.pro'
}

debug {
        applicationIdSuffix ".debug"
}

NamedDomainObjectContainer<BuildType> buildTypes
```

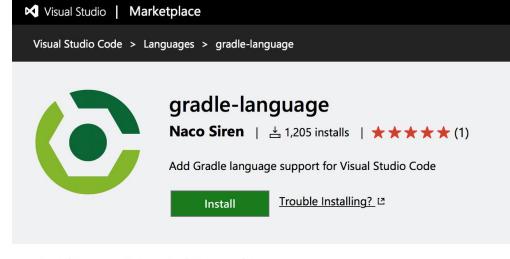
Gradle DSL Grammar

Each property is created with a setter with the exact same name

```
1 task myTask1 {
2         description = "My 1st task"
3     }
4
5 task myTask2 {
6         description("My 2nd task")
7     }
8
9 task myTask3 {
10         description "My 3rd task"
11 }
```

Check it out!

Homepage on Marketplace



Overview Q & A Rating & Review

vscode-gradle-language

Introduction

An extension to provide Gradle language support for Visual Studio Code, including advanced functionalities like **Syntax Highlighting**, **Keyword Auto-completion Proposals** and **Duplication Validation**.

Homepage: Visual Studio Code Marketplace

STARTS plugin

Hill, Randolph William

```
apply plugin: 'java'
apply plugin: 'edu.illinois.starts'
buildscript {
    repositories {
       mavenCentral()
       mavenLocal()
    dependencies {
      classpath
"edu.illinois:starts-maven-plugin:1.4-
SNAPSHOT"
```

STARTS plugin

Video:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/f7g70tcys5zrm26/Starts_Update.mov?dl=0

Starts Plugin Goals

- Create corresponding *Gradle* tasks for each *Maven* goals
- Evaluate STARTS on gradle specific project and compare with Ekstazi

```
# Remove all STARTS artifacts
./gradlew startsClean

# Changes since last time STARTS was run
./gradlew startsDiff

# Types impacted by changes
./gradlew startsImpacted

# Tests affected by the most recent changes
./gradlew startsSelect
```

To perform RTS using STARTS

./gradlew starts

Docker Testing plugin

Ramey, Lloyd Nelson

 Run tests against production-like systems using docker

Docker Testing plugin

Video:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1flSwgmg6bu1MM_TuVIPNL-Efx3rek20_/view

Conclusion

Conclusion

- *Gradle* is a **build automation system** to configure, extend and customize the build process mainly for <u>JVM languages</u>.
- Gradle combines Ant's power and <u>flexibility</u> with Maven's life-cycle and <u>ease of</u>
 <u>use</u> by adopting a Groovy-based DSL for writing declarative build scripts with
 better concision and readability.
- Gradle provides outstanding <u>extensibility</u> and <u>customizability</u> by supporting various <u>plugins</u>.

Thank you!