

RSpec & Capybara BDD & Acceptance Testing in Rails

https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/2968596/rspec_and_capybara.pdf

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<u>Objectives</u>

- Practical Behaviour-Driven Development
- Test-Driven Development with RSpec
- To become comfortable with the common tools used by Rubyists
- To learn and embrace the practices of successful Ruby/Rails developers

Requirements

What you'll need on your system to play along...

Requirements

- Git (<u>http://git-scm.com/</u>)
- RVM (<u>https://rvm.io</u>) [Optional]
- Ruby 1.9.3 (or 2.0)
- RubyGems
- Any code/text editor

Material Conventions Part 1 - Ruby

• This 80 minute training consists of a mix of lecture time, guided exercises and some labs (in class if we have the time, take home if we don't)



 For the guided exercises you will see a green "follow along" sign on the slides



For the labs you'll see an orange sign with the lab number

Testing

Unit, Integration, Acceptance, BDD & TDD



"Our highest priority is to satisfy the customer through early and continuous delivery of valuable software"

http://agilemanifesto.org/principles.html

Testing A Means To An End

- Testing traditionally done at the end of development "if time permitted" (hello waterfall)
- No language support or frameworks (back in the old days)
- Started from the "inside" with Unit Testing Frameworks
- Lots of well tested units, we were still left with a mess at the outer layers
- BDD came in to try to reverse the testing approach

http://c2.com/cgi/wiki?TenYearsOfTestDrivenDevelopment

Testing A Means To An End

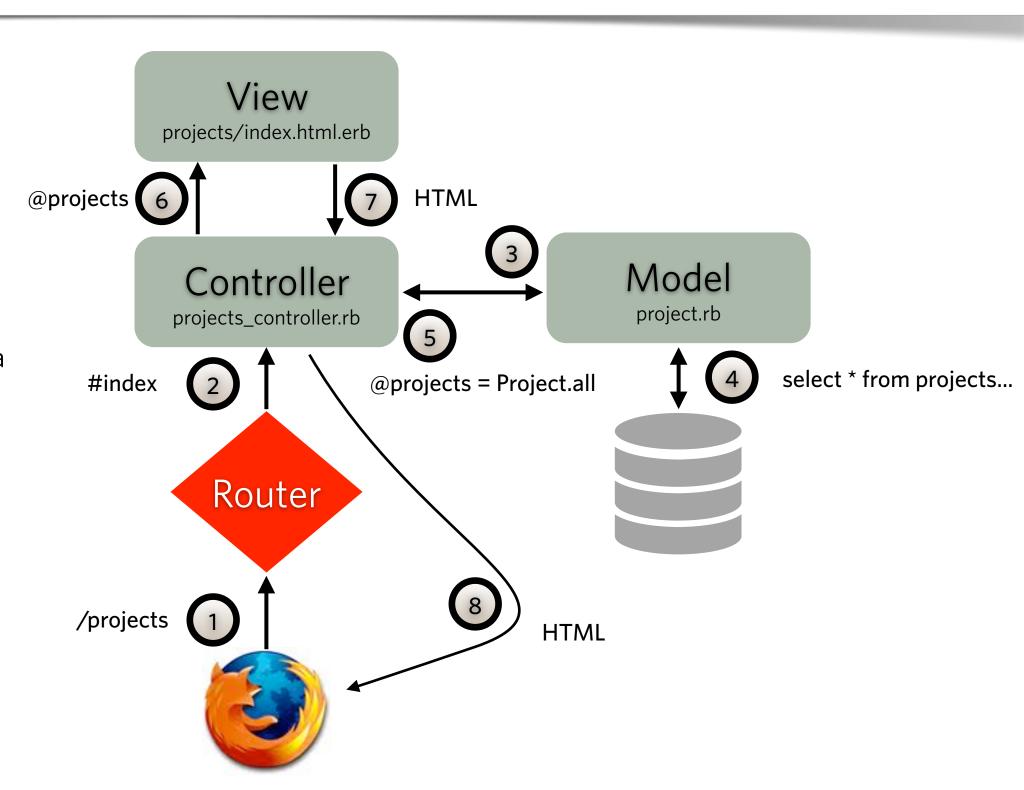
- BDD testing frameworks are DSLs (built on top of Unit Testing Frameworks) to "get the words rights"
- Most examples still use Units (class & methods) to teach BDD. Therefore developers still start at the inside.
- Rails showed early own that Web Application Testing CAN be automated
- Integration testing still hard to define for most developers
- Acceptance testing is NOT integration testing (unless you mean integrating with your users)

http://c2.com/cgi/wiki?TenYearsOfTestDrivenDevelopment

Request Handling The Request-Response Pipeline



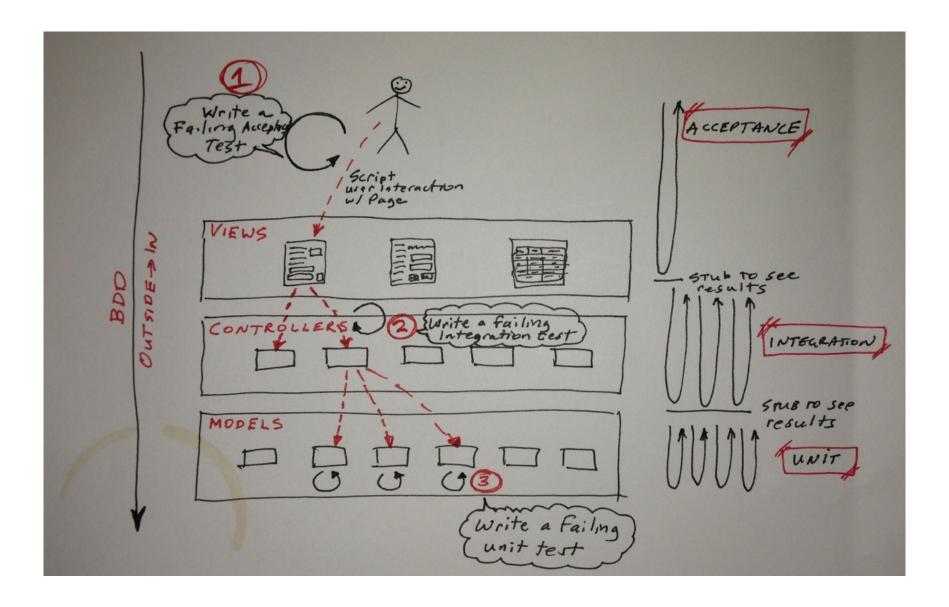
- 1. User requests /projects
- 2. Rails router forwards the request to projects_controller#index action
- 3. The index action creates the instance variable @projects by using the Project model all method
- 4. The all method is mapped by ActiveRecord to a select statement for your DB
- 5. @projects returns back with a collection of all Project objects
- 6. The index action renders the index.html.erb view
- 7. An HTML table of Projects is rendered using ERB (embedded Ruby) which has access to the @projects variable
- 8. The HTML response is returned to the User



Testing A Means To An End

Outside-in Testing, BDD/TDD, Unit, Integration and Acceptance testing in

one picture:



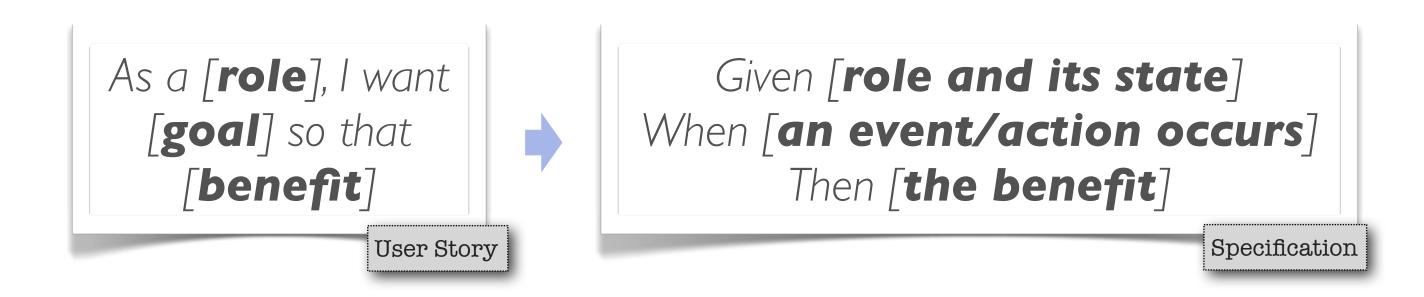
BDD Behavior-Driven Development

- BDD focuses TDD to deliver the maximum value possible to stakeholders
- BDD is a refinement in the language and tooling used for TDD
- As the name implies with BDD we focus on behavior specifications
- Typically BDD works from the outside in, that is starting with the parts of the software whose behavior is directly perceive by the user
- We say BDD refines TDD in that there is an implicit decoupling of the tests and the implementation (i.e., don't tests implementation specifics, test perceived behavior)

- BDD focuses on "specifications" that describe the behavior of the system
- In the process of fleshing out a story the specifications start from the outside and might move towards the inside based on need
- In the context of a Web Application this Outside-In approach typically means that we are starting with specifications related to the User Interface
- If we are talking about a software component then we mean the API for said component

- BDD helps us figure out what to test, where to start and what to ignore (or what to make a target of opportunity)
- What to test? → Use Cases or User Stories, test what something does (behavior) rather than what something is (structure)
- Where to start? → From the outer most layer
- What to ignore? → Anything else... Until proven that you can't

- BDD focuses on getting the words right, the resulting specifications become an executable/self-verifying form of documentation
- BDD specifications follow a format that makes them easy to be driven by your system's User Stories



TDD with RSpec Mini-Tutorial

RSpec Ruby's BDD Framework

- RSpec is the most popular BDD framework for Ruby
- Created by Steven Baker in 2005, enhanced and maintained by David Chelimsky until late 2012
- RSpec provides a DSL to write executable examples of the expected behavior of a piece of code in a controlled context

- RSpec uses the method describe to create and Example Group
- Example groups can be nested using the describe or context methods



RSpec comes built in with a nice collection of matchers, including:

```
be_true # passes if actual is truthy (not nil or false)
be_false # passes if actual is falsy (nil or false)
be_nil # passes if actual is nil
        # passes if actual is truthy (not nil or false)
expect { ... }.to raise_error
expect { ... }.to raise_error(ErrorClass)
expect { ... }.to raise_error("message")
expect { ... }.to raise_error(ErrorClass, "message")
expect { ... }.to throw_symbol
expect { ... }.to throw_symbol(:symbol)
expect { ... }.to throw_symbol(:symbol, 'value')
be_xxx  # passes if actual.xxx?
have_xxx(:arg) # passes if actual.has_xxx?(:arg)
```



and ...

```
be_empty
be(expected) # passes if actual.equal?(expected)
eq(expected) # passes if actual == expected
== expected # passes if actual == expected
eql(expected) # passes if actual.eql?(expected)
equal(expected) # passes if actual.equal?(expected)
be > expected
be >= expected
be <= expected
be < expected
=~ /expression/
match(/expression/)
be_within(delta).of(expected)
be_instance_of(expected)
be_kind_of(expected)
```

https://www.relishapp.com/rspec/rspec-expectations/v/2-13/docs/built-in-matchers

Drive your Development with Tests

- TDD is not *really* about testing
- TDD is a design technique
- TDD leads to cleaner code with separation of concerns
- Cleaner code is more reliable and easier to maintain (Duh)

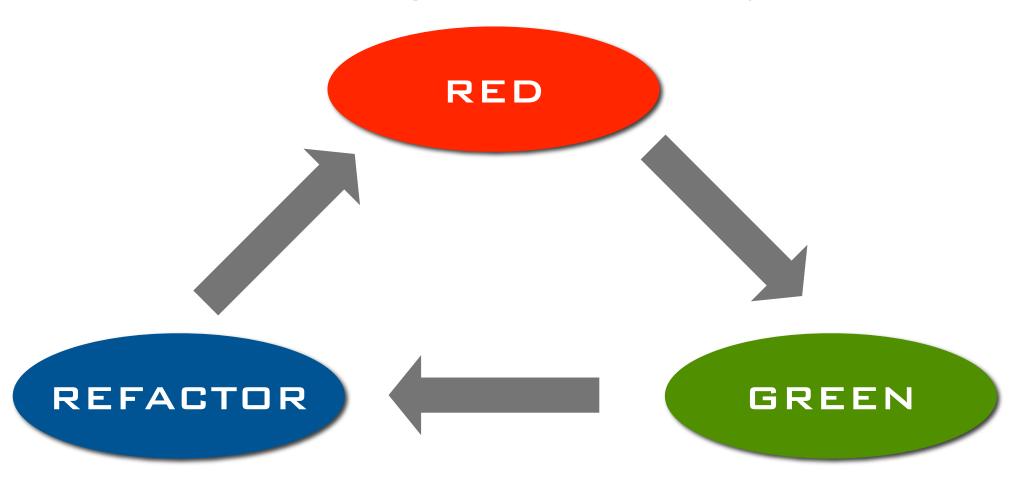
Drive your Development with Tests

- TDD creates a tight loop of development that cognitively engages us
- TDD gives us lightweight rigor by making development, goal-oriented with a clear goal setting, goal reaching and improvement stages
- The stages of TDD are commonly known as the Red-Green-Refactor loop

Test-Driven Development Drive your Development with Tests

The Red-Green-Refactor Loop:

Write a failing test for new functionality



Clean up & improve without adding functionality

Write the minimal code to pass the test

Evolve your Code with Tests



- Let's work through a simple TDD/BDD exercise using RSpec
- We'll design a simple shopping cart class
- We'll start by creating a new folder for our exercise and adding a .rvmrc file and a Gemfile

```
/>mkdir rspec-follow-along
/>cd rspec-follow-along
/>echo 'rvm use 1.9.3@rspec-follow-along' > .rvmrc
/>touch Gemfile
/>mkdir spec
/>mkdir lib

source 'https://rubygems.org'

group :test do
    gem 'rspec'
end
```



Evolve your Code with Tests

 With our project configure for RVM and a Gemfile in place we can reenter the directory to activate the Gemset and run the bundle command:

```
/>cd ..
/>cd rspec-follow-along/
Using /Users/user/.rvm/gems/ruby-1.9.3-p374 with gemset rspec-follow-along
bsb in ~/Courses/code/rspec-follow-along using ruby-1.9.3-p374@rspec-follow-along

/> bundle
Using diff-lcs (1.1.3)
Using rspec-core (2.12.2)
Using rspec-expectations (2.12.1)
Using rspec-mocks (2.12.2)
Using rspec (2.12.0)
Using bundler (1.2.3)
Your bundle is complete! Use `bundle show [gemname]` to see where a bundled gem is installed.
```



Evolve your Code with Tests

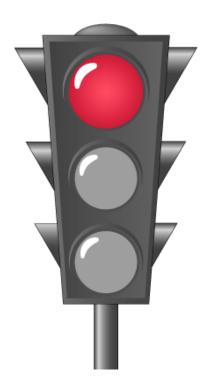
- We'll start the RGR loop with the simplest possible failure:
 "There is no Cart!"
- Create the file cart_spec.rb in the spec directory with the following contents:



Evolve your Code with Tests



- Let's run the specs using the rspec command and passing the spec directory as an argument
- Have we arrived at the RED state in our red-green-refactor cycle?



```
/>rspec spec
/Users/bsb/Courses/code/rspec-follow-along/spec/cart_spec.rb:1:in `<top (required)>':
uninitialized constant Cart (NameError)
```

Hint: if you have a failure with no tests it typically means that you need a test (but let's ignore that for a second...)



Evolve your Code with Tests

Let's create the Cart class in a /lib folder and require it in our spec:

```
class Cart
end
```

```
require_relative '../lib/cart.rb'
describe Cart do
end
```

Now we have no failures but also we have no specs...

```
/> rspec spec
No examples found.

Finished in 0.00006 seconds
0 examples, 0 failures
```

Test-Driven Development Evolve your Code with Tests



- Let's craft our first real test to drive the development of the Cart
- The spec to tackle is: "An instance of Cart when new contains no items"

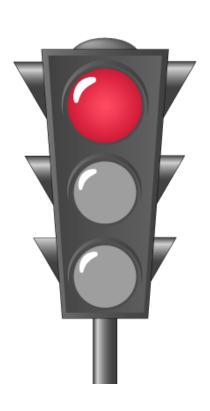
```
require_relative '../lib/cart.rb'

describe Cart do
   context "a new cart" do
     it "contains no items" do
        expect(@cart).to be_empty
     end
   end
end
```

Evolve your Code with Tests



• If we run the specs we can see a failure:



```
/> rspec spec

Failures:

1) Cart a new cart contains no items
    Failure/Error: expect(@cart).to be_empty
    NoMethodError:
        undefined method `empty?' for nil:NilClass
        # ./spec/cart_spec.rb:6:in `block (3 levels) in <top (required)>

Finished in 0.00243 seconds
1 example, 1 failure
```

Now we have our first "real" test-driven failure (and that is a good thing!)

FOLLOW

- Evolve your Code with Tests
 - One of the mantras of BDD is to "get the words right"
 - If you noticed on the last run the spec output read as "Cart a new cart contains no items"
 - RSpec is flexible enough to allow us to pass a string to be prefixed to the describe block to make tailor the output to our needs

```
require_relative '../lib/cart.rb'

describe "An instance of", Cart do
   context "when new" do
    it "contains no items" do
       expect(@cart).to be_empty
   end
   end
end
```



Evolve your Code with Tests

 If we run the specs we can see that the output now matches the desire spec wording

```
\Theta \cap \Theta
/> rspec spec
Failures:
  1) An instance of Cart when new contains no items
     Failure/Error: expect(@cart).to be_empty
     NoMethodError:
       undefined method `empty?' for nil:NilClass
     # ./spec/cart_spec.rb:6:in `block (3 levels) in <top (required)>'
Finished in 0.00154 seconds
1 example, 1 failure
Failed examples:
rspec ./spec/cart_spec.rb:5 # An instance of Cart when new contains no items
```

Evolve your Code with Tests



- The output shows that we have two failures, one implicit and one explicit
- Explicit Failure: We are assuming that a cart has an #empty? method
- Implicit Failure: The instance variable @cart has not been initialized

Evolve your Code with Tests



- We'll start by addressing the fact that our test fixture hasn't been setup
- Just adding the line @cart = Cart.new wouldn't be very TDDish
- What we should do is first make the failure explicit by writing a test for it!

```
require_relative '../lib/cart.rb'

describe "An instance of", Cart do

it "should be properly initialized" do
    expect(@cart).to be_a(Cart)

end

Remember our initial failure with no tests?
...
```

Evolve your Code with Tests



Now we have two valid failing tests to pass, let's get on with it!

```
\Theta \cap \Theta
  1) An instance of Cart should be properly initialized
     Failure/Error: expect(@cart).to be_a(Cart)
       expected nil to be a kind of Cart
     # ./spec/cart_spec.rb:6:in `block (2 levels) in <top (required)>'
  2) An instance of Cart when new contains no items
     Failure/Error: expect(@cart).to be_empty
     NoMethodError:
       undefined method `empty?' for nil:NilClass
     # ./spec/cart_spec.rb:11:in `block (3 levels) in <top (required)>'
Finished in 0.00233 seconds
2 examples, 2 failures
```



Evolve your Code with Tests

• We'll pass the test by adding the line @cart = Cart.new in a before-each block:

```
describe "An instance of", Cart do

before :each do
   @cart = Cart.new
end
```

```
1) An instance of Cart when new contains no items
Failure/Error: expect(@cart).to be_empty
NoMethodError:
undefined method `empty?' for #<Cart:0x007fc98316cb60>
...
```



Evolve your Code with Tests

Let's add a skeleton empty? method to the Cart class:

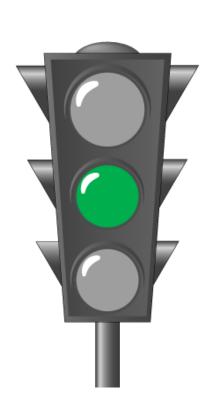
```
class Cart
  def empty?
    nil
  end
end
```

```
1) An instance of Cart when new contains no items
Failure/Error: expect(@cart).to be_empty
expected empty? to return true, got nil
# ./spec/cart_spec.rb:15:in `block (3 levels) in <top (required)>'
...
```

Evolve your Code with Tests



- Now we can comply with the spec by providing an implementation of our Cart
- In this case we are using a Hash to hold our items and delegating to the @items#empty? method



```
class Cart

def initialize
   @items = {}
end

def empty?
   @items.empty?
end
end
```

```
/> rspec spec
...

Finished in 0.00196 seconds
2 examples, 0 failures

We've reached the GREEN state
```

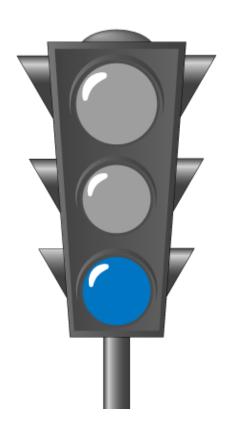
Drive your Development with Tests

- In the REFACTOR state we concentrate on making the current implementation better, cleaner and more robust
- It is very likely that early on in the development there won't be much to refactor
- The need for refactoring is a side-effect of increasing complexity and interaction between classes and subsystems
- Refactoring can also introduce implementation specific specs or reveal holes in your previous specs

Evolve your Code with Tests



Let's use Ruby's Forwardable module to simplify the delegation of the collection methods to the @items Hash:



```
class Cart
  extend Forwardable
  def_delegator :@items, :empty?
  def initialize
    @items = {}
  end
end
```

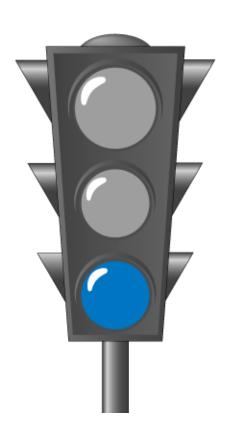
```
/>rspec spec
...

Finished in 0.00365 seconds
2 examples, 0 failures
```





- The RSpec command provides several arguments to tailor the run and output of your specifications
- For example to see the group and example names in the output use
 - --format documentation



```
/> rspec --format documentation

An instance of Cart
   should be properly initialized
   when new
      contains no items

Finished in 0.00224 seconds
2 examples, 0 failures
```





- Lab 1.0 consists of 4 specs to be implemented in a TDD fashion:
 - "An new and empty cart total value should be \$0.0"
 - "An empty cart should no longer be empty after adding an item"
 - "A cart with items should have a total value equal to the sum of each items' value times its quantity"
 - "Increasing the quantity of an item should not increase the Carts' unique items count"

BDD with Capybara Mini-Tutorial

Acceptance Testing

- Proper acceptance tests treat your application as a black box
- They should know as little as possible about what happens under the hood
- They're just there to interact with the interface and observe the results
- Jeff Casimir says...

"A great testing strategy is to extensively cover the data layer with unit tests then skip all the way up to acceptance tests. This approach gives great code coverage and builds a test suite that can flex with a changing codebase."

- Capybara is a lightweight alternative to Cucumber
- Capybara is a browser automation library
- Helps you test web applications by simulating how a real user would interact with your app
 - It is agnostic about the driver running your tests and comes with Rack::Test and Selenium support built in
 - WebKit is supported through an external gem

RSpec, Capybara, and Steak

Acceptance test framework for web applications

- Many developers don't want to bother with Cucumber
- They want outside-in testing without the translation step
- The **Steak** project **integrated RSpec** and **Capybara** directly
- Now we can **write acceptance tests** just **like** you write **unit tests**, greatly simplifying the process
- In late 2010 the Capybara absorbed the Steak syntax

Rack::Test Acceptance test framework for web applications

- Capybara uses Rack::Test by default
- Rack::Test interacts with your app at the Rack level
- It runs requests against your app, then provides the resulting HTML to Capybara and RSpec for examination.
- Rack::Test is completely headless (and therefore fast)
- The disadvantage is that it doesn't process JavaScript (or give you visual feedback)
- To test JavaScript in your acceptance tests you can use the selenium-webdriver or capybara-webkit driver.

Capybara DSL How to Drive the Browser

Navigation

> visit

visit navigates to a particular path. Pass a string or use one of Rails' path helpers.

```
visit "/blog"
visit blogs_path
```

> click_link

click_link will click an anchor tag. Pass a string containing the anchor text.

```
click_link "Sign in"
```

Page Interaction and Scoping

> within

within will scope interaction to within a particular selector. Useful if you're looking for content in a particular area.

```
within("footer") { page.should have_content("Copyright") }
```

> has content?

has_content? returns a boolean value reporting whether specific content is present on the page.

```
page.has_content?("Sign in")
```

> wait_until

wait_until executes a block until it returns true or raises a Timeout. This is the standard way to wait for Javascript interaction to complete. Works with Javascript drivers.

```
wait_until { page.has_content?("Data loaded!") }
```

Page Assertions

Note: All page assertions can be nested within 'within' any number of times.

> have_content

have_content asserts that certain text is present on the page.

```
page.should have_content("What are you looking for?")
```

> have_css

have_css asserts that a certain selector is present on the page. have_css accepts CSS3 and is incredibly powerful.

```
page.should have_css("header")
page.should have_css("table#records + .pagination a[rel='next']")
```

Node Interactions

> click

click triggers a click on a Capybara:: Element. Works with Javascript drivers.

```
find("article a.title").click
```

> trigger

trigger allows triggering of custom events. Works with Javascript drivers.

```
find("input[name='post[title]']").trigger("focus")
```

> visible?

visible? returns a boolean value reporting if the Capybara: : Element is visible. Works with Javascript drivers.

```
wait_until { find(".navigation").visible? }
```

 The folks at ThoughtBot put a nice Capybara Cheat Sheet

https://learn.thoughtbot.com/test-driven-rails-resources/capybara.pdf

Capybara DSL How to Drive the Browser

Form Interactions

> fill_in

fill_in fills in fields for you. Pass the label text or the name of the input.

```
fill_in "Title", :with => "I love Cucumber!"
fill_in "post[title]", :with => "I love Cucumber!"
```

> check

check checks a checkbox. Pass the label text.

```
check "I accept the terms of the site"
check "I am thirteen years of age or older"
```

> uncheck

uncheck unchecks a checkbox. Pass the label text.

```
uncheck "Admin access?"
```

> select

select selects an option from a select tag.

```
select "Moderate", :from => "Political Party"
select "MA", :from => "State"
```

> click_button

click_button will press a button or input[type='submit']

```
click_button "Create My Account"
click_button "Save Record"
```

Debugging

> save_and_open_page

save_and_open_page will save the current page (typically to Rails.root/tmp) and attempt to open the html the default web browser.

https://learn.thoughtbot.com/test-driven-rails-resources/capybara.pdf

Capybara DSL How to Drive the Browser

Form Interactions

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check checks a checkbox. Pass the label text.

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check "I accept the terms of the site"
check "I am thirteen years of age or older"
```

> uncheck

uncheck unchecks a checkbox. Pass the label text.

```
uncheck "Admin access?"
```

> select

select selects an option from a select tag.

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select "Moderate", :from => "Political Party"
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click_button will press a button or input[type='submit']

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https://learn.thoughtbot.com/test-driven-rails-resources/capybara.pdf





- We are going to mimic a user's interaction with a very simple Rails app
- The bulk of the functionality in the app will be provided by the devise (authentication) library and the high_voltage (static pages) gems
- To concentrate on the subtleties of Capybara we will test an existing application
- Let start by using git to clone the master branch of the repository at https://github.com/integrallis/learn-rspec-capybara

```
/>git clone git://github.com/integrallis/learn-rspec-capybara.git
```

Testing a Rails Application



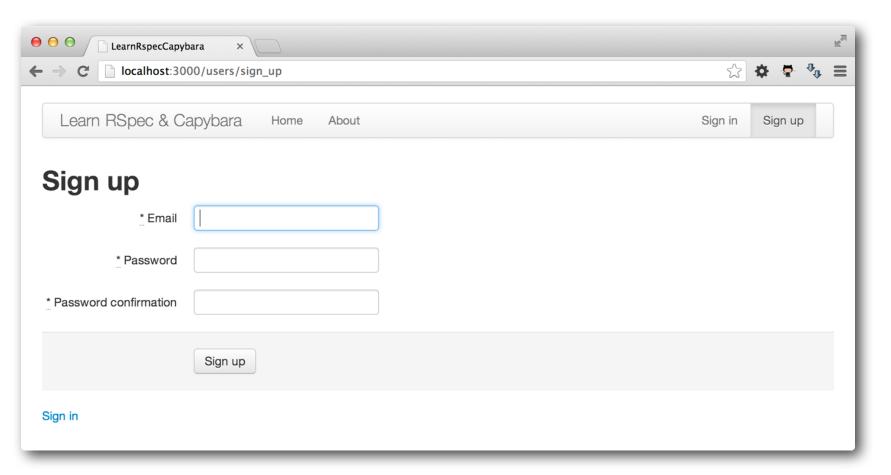
- CD in and out of the application to activate the RVM Gemset
- Bundle the application (bundle install), migrate it (rake db:migrate),
 prepare the test database (rake db:test:prepare) and launch it (rails s)

```
/>rails s
=> Booting WEBrick
=> Rails 3.2.13 application starting in development on <a href="http://0.0.0.0:3000">http://0.0.0.0:3000</a>
=> Call with -d to detach
=> Ctrl-C to shutdown server
[2013-04-29 10:21:05] INFO WEBrick 1.3.1
[2013-04-29 10:21:05] INFO ruby 1.9.3 (2013-02-22) [x86_64-darwin12.2.1]
[2013-04-29 10:21:05] INFO WEBrick::HTTPServer#start: pid=87936 port=3000
```





- Let's examine the application by opening the URL http://localhost:3000 on a capable browser
- All pages are locked until we register on the Sign Up Page (provided by devise):

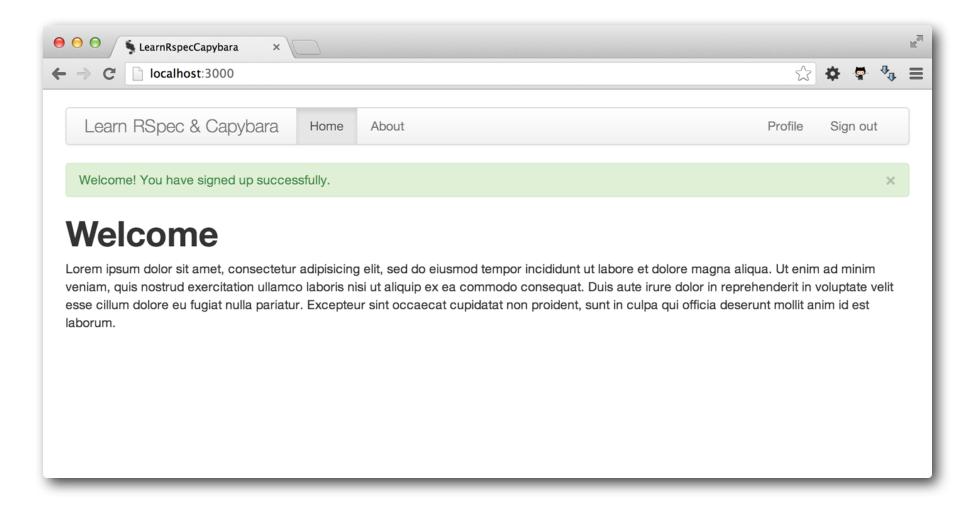


Sign Up Page - /users/sign_up



Testing a Rails Application

 Once you are signed up you are redirected to the home page and shown a flash message:

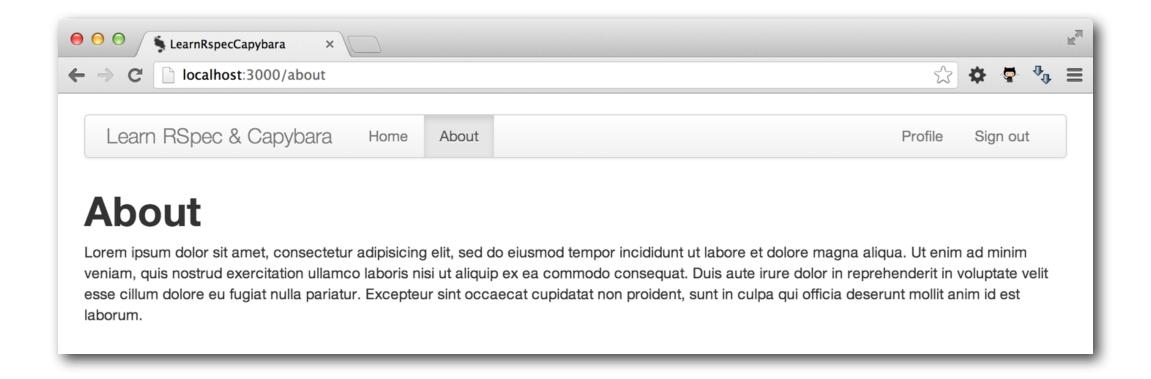


Home Page - /



Testing a Rails Application

About and home pages are ERB templates served by high_voltage:

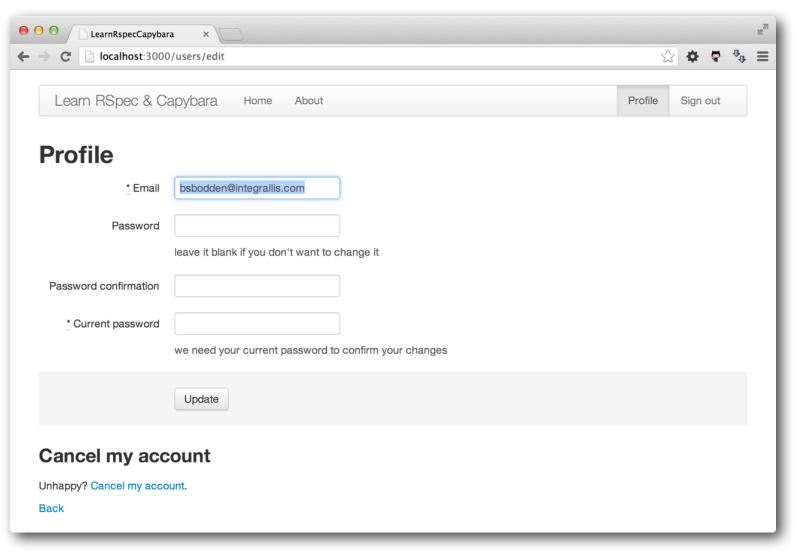


About Page - /about

Testing a Rails Application



• The user profile page (provided by devise):

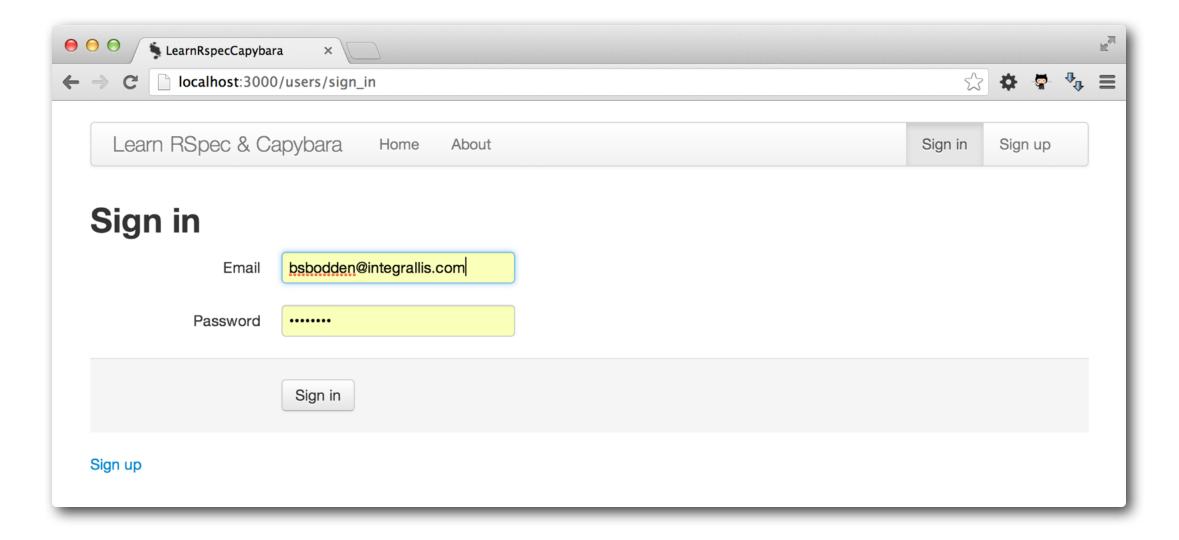


User Profile Page - /users/edit

Testing a Rails Application



• The Sign In Page (also provided by devise):



Sign In Page - /users/sign_in



Testing a Rails Application

• If we run the specs using rspec you'll see two passing specs and the rest as pending:

```
/>rspec
User
should require email to be set
should require case sensitive unique value for email

Flash Notices
can be dismissed by the user (PENDING: No reason given)

User Registration
failure
displays an error message (PENDING: No reason given)
shows the correct navigation links (PENDING: No reason given)
success
displays a welcome message (PENDING: No reason given)
```



Testing a Rails Application

Let's examine the two passing specs:

```
require 'spec_helper'

describe User do
   it { should validate_presence_of(:email) }
   it { should validate_uniqueness_of(:email) }
end
```

They're just simple validation messages via shoulda-matchers



Testing a Rails Application

Let's start by tacking the Sessions Spec, specifically a successful login:

```
context "success" do
  before do
    # sign in
  end
  it "displays a welcome message" do
    pending
  end
  it "shows the correct navigation links" do
    # should not see 'Sign in' and 'Sign up'
    # should see 'Profile' or 'Sign out'
    pending
  end
end
```

/spec/features/sessions_spec.rb



Testing a Rails Application

• In the before block we'll fill in the email and passwords field and click the sign in button:

```
context "success" do

before do

fill_in 'Email', with: email

fill_in 'Password', with: password

click_button 'Sign in'

end

Change and Run your specs!

end
```

/spec/features/sessions_spec.rb



Testing a Rails Application

 Capybara provides us with the "page" object which we can inspect, for example, with the have_content method:



Testing a Rails Application

• We can also check for certain links to be or not be present in the page:

```
it "shows the correct navigation links" do
   within('.navbar') do
    expect(page).to have_link('Profile')
   expect(page).to have_link('Sign out')
   expect(page).to_not have_link('Sign in')
   expect(page).to_not have_link('Sign up')
   end
end
Change and Run your specs!
```

/spec/features/sessions_spec.rb





 Next let's tackle the flash notices spec. Notice that in the before block we use the visit method with a Rails named route:

```
require 'spec_helper'
describe "Flash Notices", js: true do
  before do
    # When an unauthenticated user visit the edit_user_registration_path they
   # are redirected with a flash notice
   visit edit_user_registration_path
  end
  it "can be dismissed by the user" do
   # check that the flash message exists click to close the flash message
    # check that the flash message is gone
    pending
  end
end
```

/spec/features/flash_notices.rb

Acceptance Testing w/ Capybara Testing a Rails Application



 First, we'll check that the text of the flash message has appeared on the page:

```
it "can be dismissed by the user" do
  expect(page).to have_content("You need to sign in or sign up before continuing.")
end
```



Testing a Rails Application

- Next will, find the alert div using the class CSS selector
- Inside of the alert div will find the close HREF and click it

```
it "can be dismissed by the user" do
    expect(page).to have_content("You need to sign in or sign up before continuing.")
    within('.alert') do
        find('.close').click
    end
end
```

Acceptance Testing w/ Capybara Testing a Rails Application



Now, we check that the content of the flash alert is no longer on the page:

```
it "can be dismissed by the user" do
    expect(page).to have_content("You need to sign in or sign up before continuing.")
    within('.alert') do
        find('.close').click
    end
    expect(page).to_not have_content("You need to sign in or sign up before continuing.")
end
```





- In Lab 2.0, complete the remaining acceptance specs:
 - The Registrations Spec in /spec/features/registrations_spec.rb
 - The Cancel Registration Spec in /spec/features/cancel_registration.rb

Conclusions Practice, Practice

- Don't take TDD & BDD as dogma. Find ways to make it work for you!
- I don't always use TDD & BDD but when I do ...
- If you can TDD/BDD keep the code local until you can check it in with a corresponding test

