

# WEB API TESTING

SHOULD BE EASY

*Vilibald Wanča - wvi@apiary.io*



# ABOUT ME

- Double digit years of experience in the business
- Basic -> Pascal -> asm x86 -> C/C++ -> Python, Lisp, Go ...
- Dealing with Web APIs way too long (since early 2000s)

*Currently I am a Bee in Apiary ([apiary.io](http://apiary.io))*

# OUTLINE

- What this is not about
- API is a contract
- Verifying that nobody breaches the contract
- Here comes the API Judge Dredd
- Hooking stuff up
- Talk is cheap here comes the action

*Ask questions straight away, don't wait for Q&A*

# I AM NOT GOING TO TALK ABOUT

- RPC style APIs (ie. json-rpc)
- XML based APIs (long live SOAP)



# API IS A CONTRACT

*A promise to perform described action when  
asked in the correct manner*



# RULE NO. 1 WHEN DEALING WITH CONTRACTS?

*Get everything in writing before you commit to it!*

# HOW TO WRITE SUCH CONTRACT?

1. Choose your text editor.
2. Choose a proper format.
3. Write it down.
4. Verify.
5. Publish.
6. \$\$\$

# API BLUEPRINT



## ## Group Question

Resource related to questions in the API.

## ## Question [/questions/{question\_id}]

A Question object has the following attributes.

- question
- published\_at
- url
- choices (an array of Choice objects).

### + Parameters

- + question\_id: 1 (required, number)

### ### View a question detail [GET]



# SWAGGER / OPEN API SPEC.



```
properties:
  questions_url:
    type: string
  required:
    - questions_url
/questions/{question_id}:
  x-summary: Question
  x-description: >-
    A Question object has the following attributes.

    - question
    - published_at
    - url
    - choices (an array of Choice objects).
parameters:
  - name: question_id
    in: path
    required: true
```

**VERIFYING THE CONTRACT**

**HOW MANY OF YOU ACTUALLY DO IT?**

**WHY?**

# IT IS TEDIOUS AND ERROR PRONE!

Until suicidal do :

- 1: Perform request...
- 2: Assert status code...
- 3: Assert headers...
- 4: Assert body payload...
- 5: Go to 1



**PSYCHOTHERAPY WON'T HELP**

**SSRI WON'T HELP**

**DRINKING WON'T HELP**

**ANTIPSYCHOTICS WON'T HELP**

*It is not hopeless!*



# DREDD WILL!



## DREDD

No more outdated API Documentation



[dredd.readthedocs.org](http://dredd.readthedocs.org)

[github.com/apiaryio/dredd](https://github.com/apiaryio/dredd)



Dredd

About Dredd

Dredd – HTTP API Testing Framework

Supported API Description Formats

Supported Hooks Languages

Continuous Integration Support

Documentation Reference

Useful Links

Example Applications

Quickstart

How It Works

How-To Guides

Usage

Command-line Interface

As a JavaScript Library

Hooks

About Hooks

Go

JavaScript (Sandboxed)

Node.js

Perl

PHP

Python

Ruby

Other Languages

Data Structures

Contributing

Read the Docs

Docs » About Dredd

Edit on GitHub

Dredd – HTTP API Testing Framework

build

passing

dependencies

up to date

devDependencies


up to date

coverage

95%

gitter

join chat



DREDD

No more outdated API Documentation

node

php

Dredd is a language-agnostic command-line tool for validating API description document against backend implementation of the API.

Dredd reads your API description and step by step validates whether your API implementation replies with responses as they are described in the documentation.

Supported API Description Formats

- API Blueprint
- Swagger

Supported Hooks Languages

Dredd supports writing [hooks](#) – a glue code for each test setup and teardown. Following languages are supported:

- Go
- Node.js (JavaScript)
- Perl

OPEN SOURCE

# FEATURES YOU WANT

- validates headers, body etc.
- allows hooking into the tests
- easy to use in CI (Circle CI, Travis, Jenkins)
- many reporters
- hooks in many languages
  - JavaScript
  - Ruby
  - Python
  - PHP
  - Go

# HOOKS IN PYTHON

```
import dredd_hooks as hooks

@hooks.before_all
def my_before_all_hook(transactions):
    print('before all')

@hooks.before_each
def my_before_each_hook(transaction):
    print('before each')

@hooks.before
def my_before_hook(transaction):
    print('before')

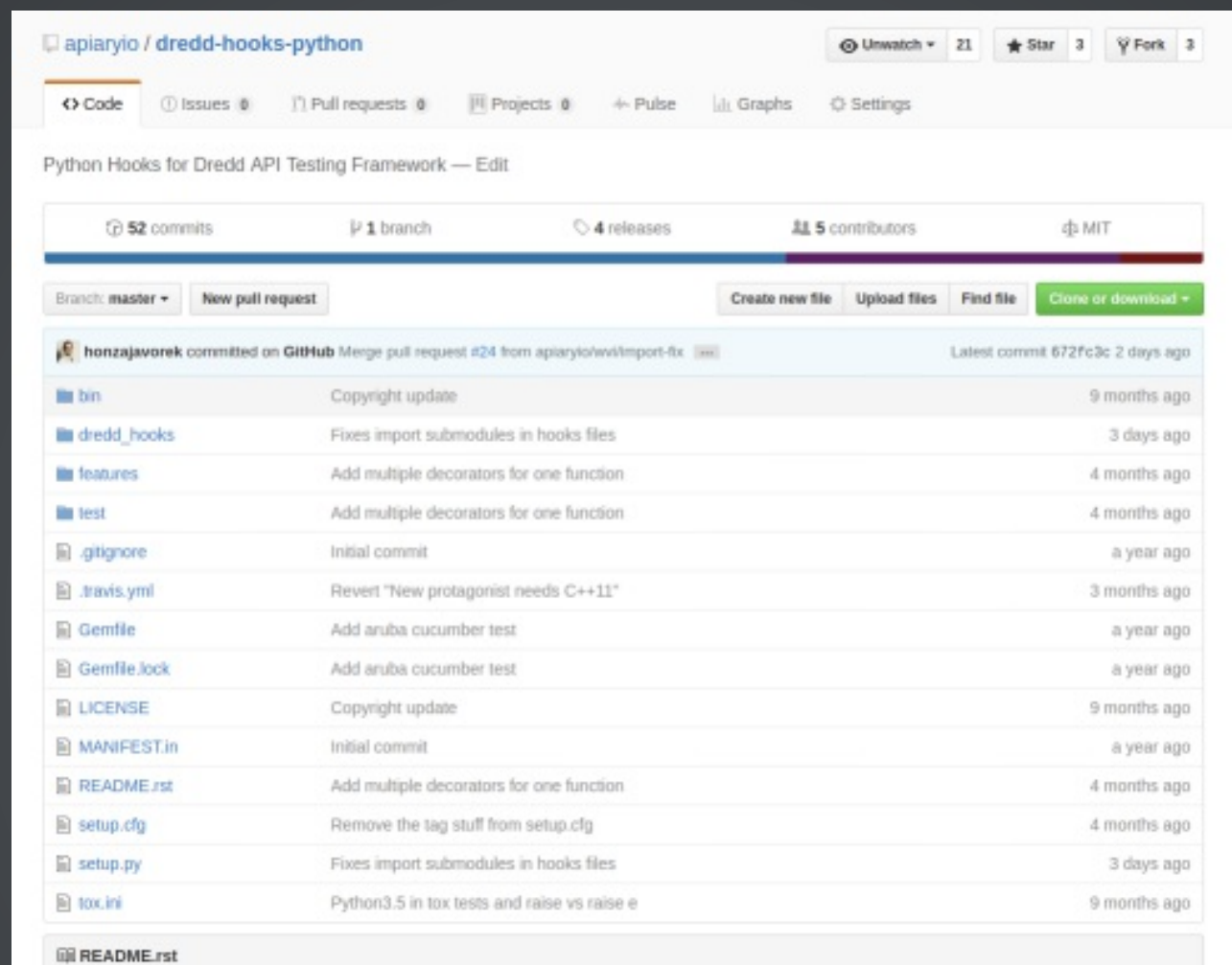
@hooks.before_each_validation
def my_before_each_validation_hook(transaction):
    print('before each validation')

@hooks.before_validation
def my_before_validation_hook(transaction):
    print('before validations')

@hooks.after
def my_after_hook(transaction):
    print('after')

@hooks.after_each
def my_after_each(transaction):
    print('after each')

@hooks.after_all
def my_after_all_hook(transactions):
    print('after all')
```



github.com/apiaryio/dredd-hooks-python



# IT'S SHOW TIME



# THANKS A LOT FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Vilibald Wanča

[wvi@apiary.io](mailto:wvi@apiary.io)