

Smart Pip (spip) - Large-Scale Matrix Test Report & Fixes

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1 Executive Summary

I conducted a large-scale stress test of the `spip matrix` command, covering 16 popular packages and a random sample from the PyPI database. This test revealed several critical "weird errors" that were blocking reliable matrix testing. All identified issues have been addressed with architectural fixes.

2 Tested Packages

The following categories of packages were tested:

- **Popular Core:** `requests`, `urllib3`, `six`, `certifi`, `idna`, `chardet`, `python-dateutil`, `pytz`, `setuptools`, `wheel`, `pytest`.
- **Complex C-Extensions:** `numpy`, `pandas`, `lxml`, `cryptography`.
- **Web Frameworks:** `flask`, `django`.
- **Random Samples:** `zzarpdf`, `zyzz`, and 32 others from the full package list.

3 Identified Issues & Fixes

3.1 Architectural Mismatches (C-Extensions)

Issue: `numpy` and `lxml` installations failed or crashed because the system was blindly selecting the first available wheel, often resulting in Linux or Intel-Mac wheels being installed on an ARM64 Mac.

Fix: Implemented a `score_wheel` algorithm that prioritizes wheels matching the local architecture (`arm64`, `macosx`) and Python version (`cp312`). Verification with `lxml` and `numpy` now shows 100% success in loading C-extensions.

3.2 Legacy Collection Imports (Python 3.10+)

Issue: Many older packages (e.g., `soupsieve 1.0b1`) failed with `ImportError: cannot import name 'Mapping' from 'collections'`.

Fix: Added a "Self-Healing" layer that detects this specific error and automatically injects a `sitecustomize.py` compatibility shim into the test environment.

3.3 Robust Installation Verification

Issue: Packages like `python-dateutil` failed verification because they install into a directory (`dateutil`) different from their package name.

Fix: Enhanced the verification logic to scan for `.dist-info` directories and normalized package names, significantly reducing false negatives.

3.4 Self-Healing Custom Tests

Issue: Generated test scripts sometimes failed due to missing dependencies not captured in the primary resolution.

Fix: Wrapped custom test execution in a 3-attempt retry loop with automatic dependency resolution and patching, mimicking the robustness of the primary package tests.

4 Conclusion

The `spip matrix` command is now significantly more resilient. It handles complex binary dependencies correctly on Mac ARM64, automatically patches legacy code for modern Python versions, and utilizes more robust discovery for test suites.