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# CSE 403 Software Engineering

Build systems &  
Continuous Integration and Deployment

# Today's outline

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- **Build systems**
- **Continuous integration and deployment systems**
  - What are these
  - How do they relate
  - Best practices
  - Ideas to explore for your projects

# What does a developer do?

---

The code is written ... now what?

- Get the source code
- Install dependencies
- Run static analysis
- Compile the code
- Generate documentation
- Run tests
- Create artifacts for customers
- Ship!
- Operate, monitor, repeat

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Which of these tasks should be handled manually?

# What does a developer do?

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- ...
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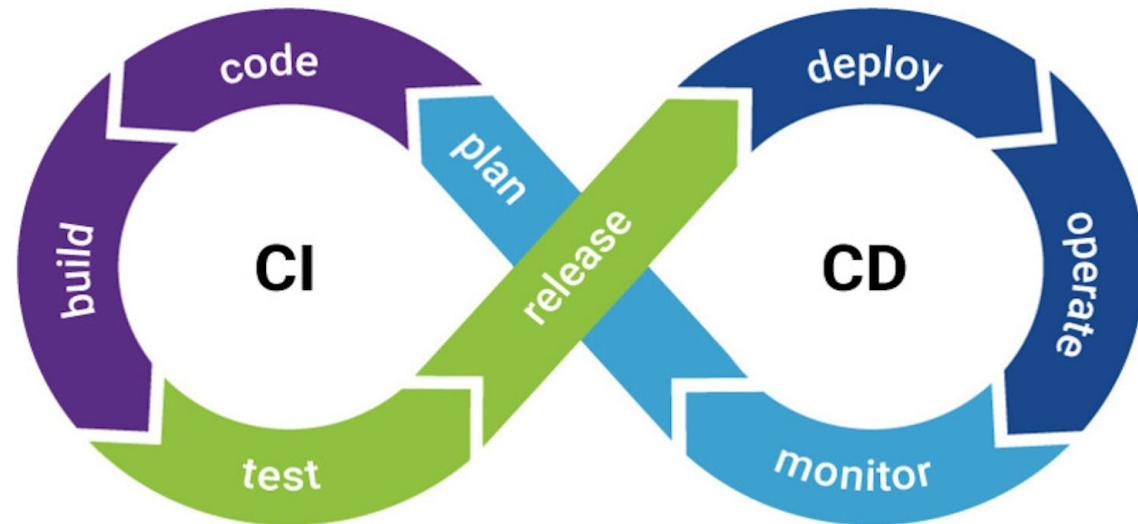
**NONE!**

# Instead, orchestrate with a tool

---

- **Build system:** a tool for automating compilation and other tasks
- Is a component of a **continuous integration/deployment system**

- ✓ Get the source code
- ✓ Install dependencies
- ✓ Run static analysis
- ✓ Compile the code
- ✓ Generate documentation
- ✓ Run tests
- ✓ Create artifacts for customers
- ✓ Ship!
- ✓ **Operate, Monitor, Repeat**

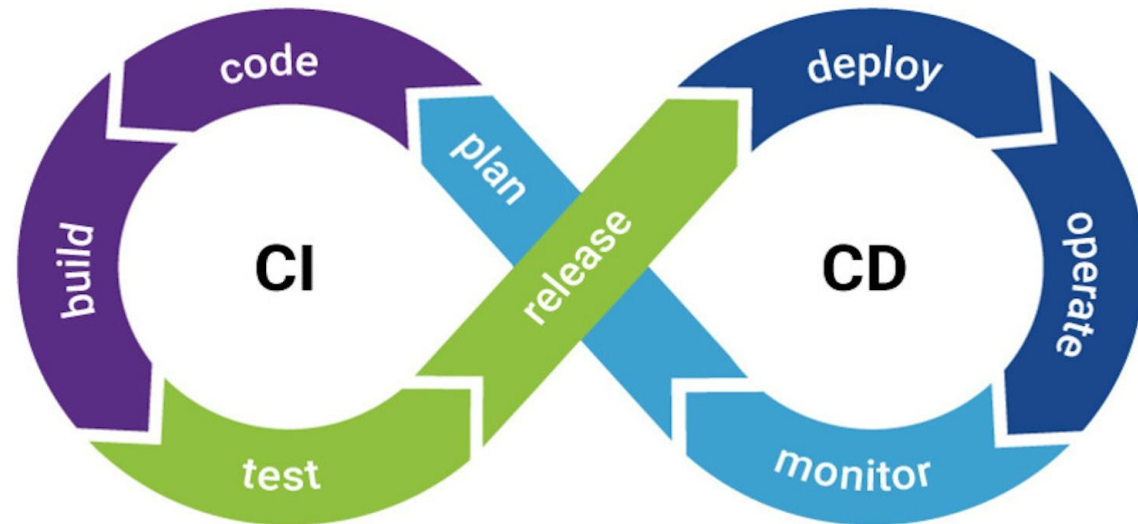


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- **Build system**: a tool for automating compilation and other **tasks**
- Is a component of a **continuous integration/deployment system**

- ✓ Get the source code
- ✓ Install dependencies
- ✓ Run static analysis
- ✓ Compile the code
- ✓ Generate documentation
- ✓ Run tests
- ✓ Create artifacts for customers
- ✓ Ship!
- ✓ Operate, Monitor, Repeat



All tasks!

# Build systems: tasks

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Tasks are code!

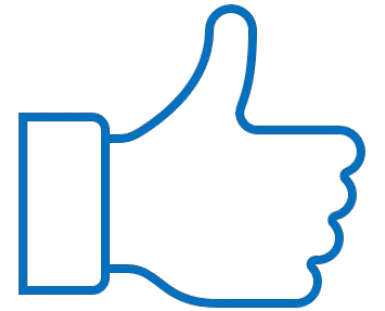
- Should be tested
- Should be code-reviewed
- Should be checked into version control



# Adding to our SE best practices list

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- Automate, automate, automate everything!
- Always use a build tool (one-step build) 😊
- Use a CI tool to build and test your code on every commit
- Don't depend on anything that's not in the build file
- Don't break the build!



# So how can a build system help us?

---

## 1. Dependency management

1. Identifies dependencies between files (including externals)
2. Runs the compiles in the right order
3. Only runs the compiles needed due to dependency changes

## 2. Efficiency and reliability

1. Automates the build process, for any team member in any environment
2. Formalizes the build process (no tribal knowledge)
3. Eliminates the chance of errors
4. Speeds up the process

# Roles of a build system

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A build system:

- defines **tasks** (and external resources, such as libraries)
- defines **dependencies** among tasks (a graph)
- **executes** the tasks

# Simple example code for dependency mgmt

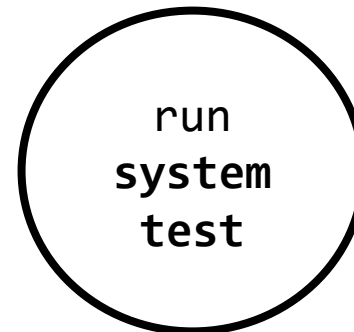
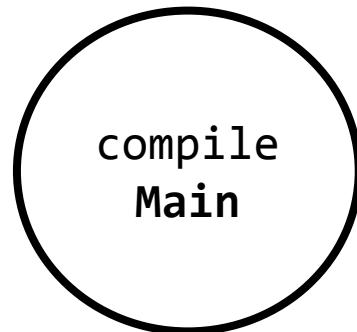
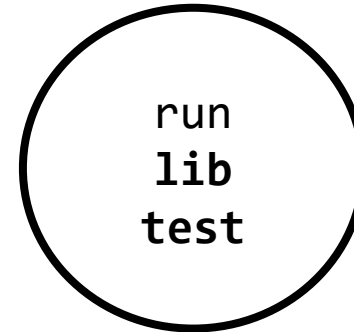
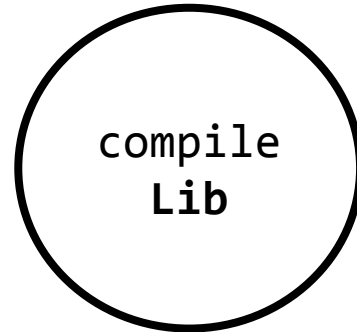
---

```
% ls src/  
  Lib.java  
  LibTest.java  
  Main.java  
  SystemTest.java
```

# Build systems: dependencies between tasks

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```
% ls src/  
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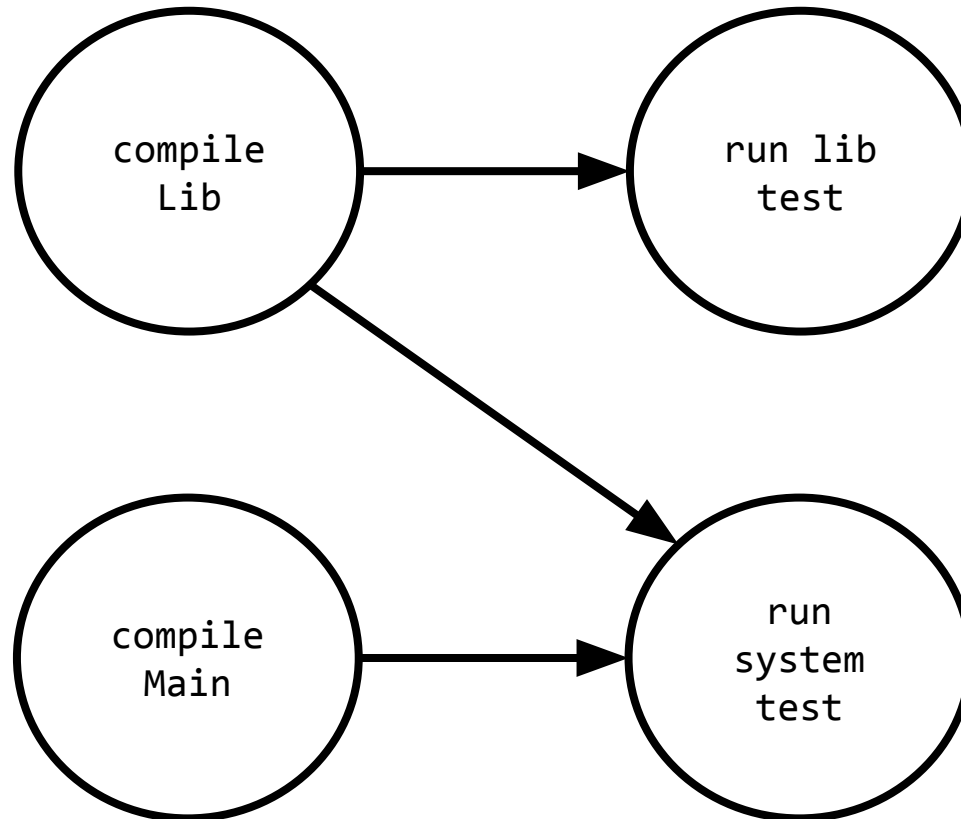


What are the dependencies between these tasks?

And why do I care?

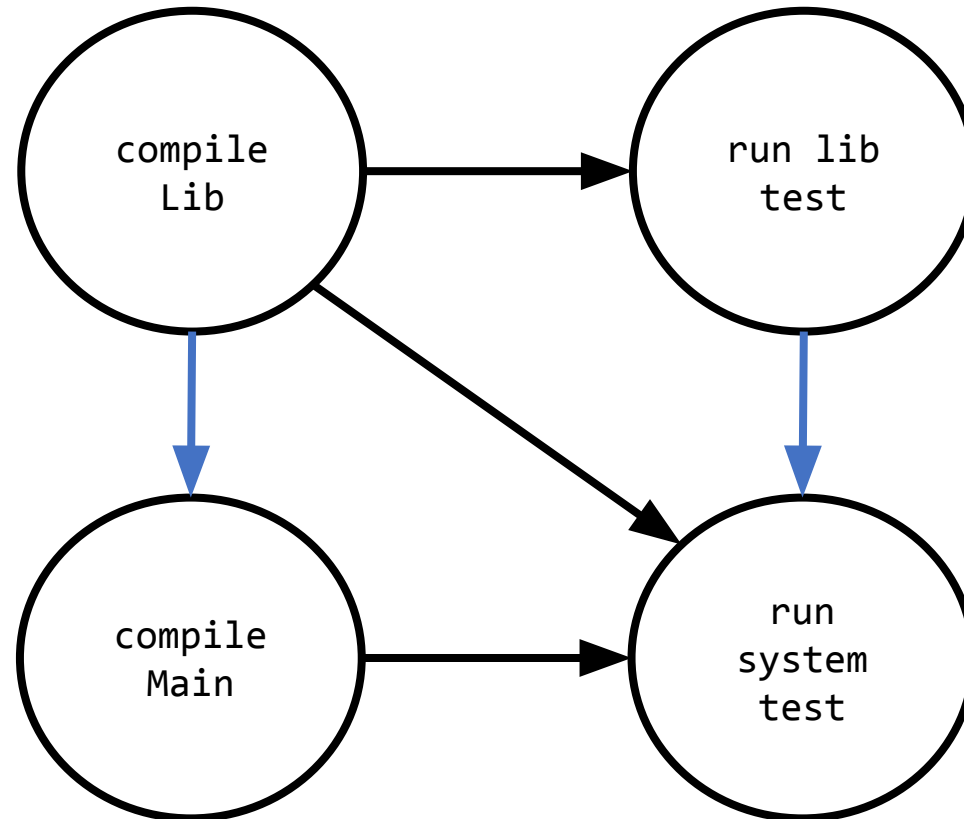
# Build systems: dependencies between tasks

---



# Build systems: dependencies between tasks

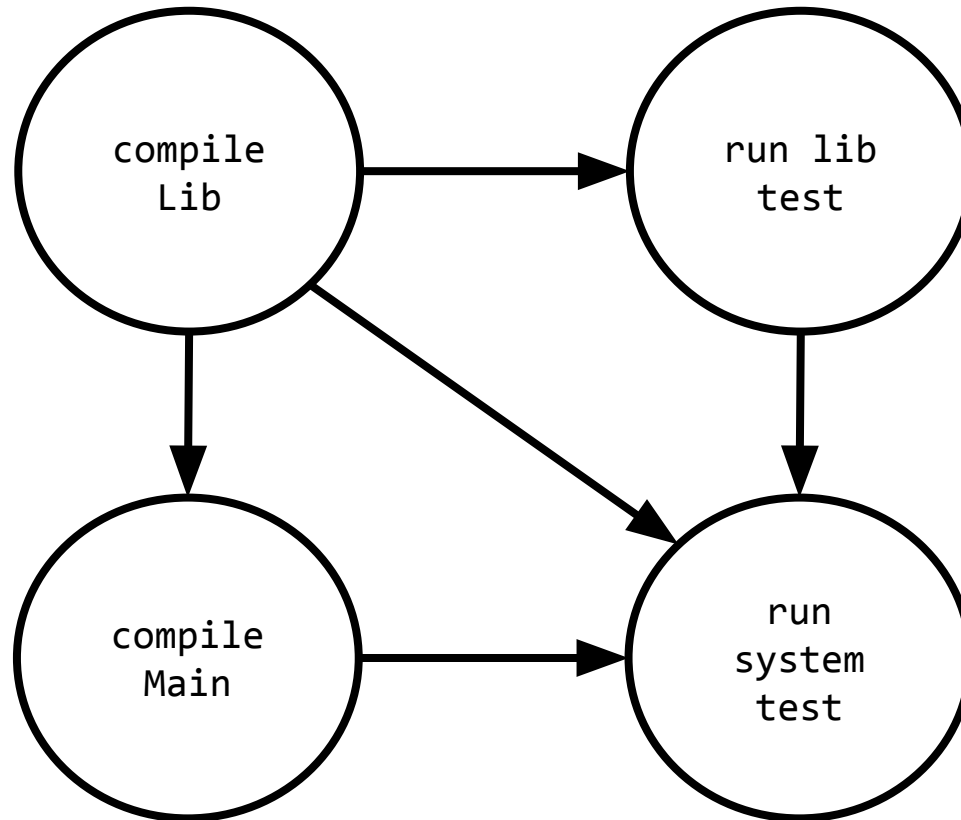
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# Build systems: dependencies between tasks

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In what order should we run these tasks?





# Build systems determine task order

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## Large projects have thousands of tasks

- Dependencies between tasks form a directed acyclic graph
- Use a [topological sort](#) to create an order for tasks
  - See Appendix for example

## External code (libraries) also can be complex

- List all dependencies for reproducibility
  - A *hermetic build* is “insensitive to the libraries and other software installed on the build machine”<sup>1</sup>
- Build systems can manage external dependencies as well!
- And/or use a dependency manager

<sup>1</sup><https://landing.google.com/sre/sre-book/chapters/release-engineering/>

# Dependency manager

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Unix: apt, yum

Java: Maven Central

JavaScript: NPM

Python: PIP

Ruby: RubyGems

# Roles of a build system

---

A build system:

- defines **tasks**
- defines **dependencies** among tasks (a graph)
- **executes** the tasks

# Example task: gradle

---

```
task reformat(type: Exec, dependsOn: getCodeFormatScripts, group: 'Format') {
    description 'Format the Java source code'
    // jdk8 and checker-qual have no source, so skip
    onlyIf { !project.name.is('jdk8') && !project.name.is('checker-qual') }
    executable 'python'
    doFirst {
        args += "${formatScriptsHome}/run-google-java-format.py"
        args += "--aosp" // 4 space indentation
        args += getJavaFilesToFormat(project.name)
    }
}
```

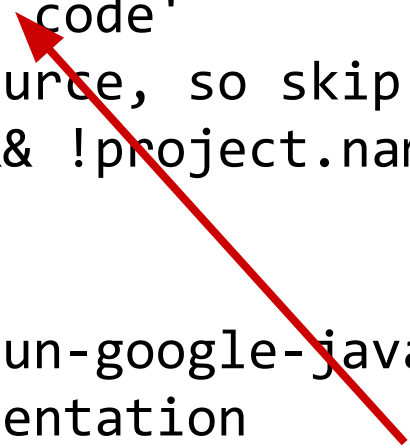
**kind of rule**

# Example task: gradle

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**explicitly specified dependencies**




# Example task: gradle

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    }  
}
```

**code!**  
(usually, following conventions is enough)



# Example task: bazel

---

```
java_binary(  
    name = "dux",  
    main_class = "org.dux.cli.DuxCLI",  
    deps = ["@google_options//:compile",  
           "@checker_qual//:compile",  
           "@google_cloud_storage//:compile",  
           "@slf4j//:compile",  
           "@logback_classic//:compile"],  
    srcs = glob(["src/org/dux/cli/*.java",  
                "src/org/dux/backingstore/*.java"]),  
)
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# Example task: bazel

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java_binary(← kind of rule
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)
```

explicitly specified  
dependencies  
(also bazel tasks)

# How to speed up a build

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- Incrementalize - only rebuild what you have to
  - Compute hash codes for inputs to each task
    - Watch out: there are more inputs than you think
  - Before executing a task, check input hashes
  - If they have not changed since the last time the task was executed, skip it!
- Execute many tasks in parallel
- Cache artifacts (in the cloud)

# Static analysis

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Can run before or after the compile step

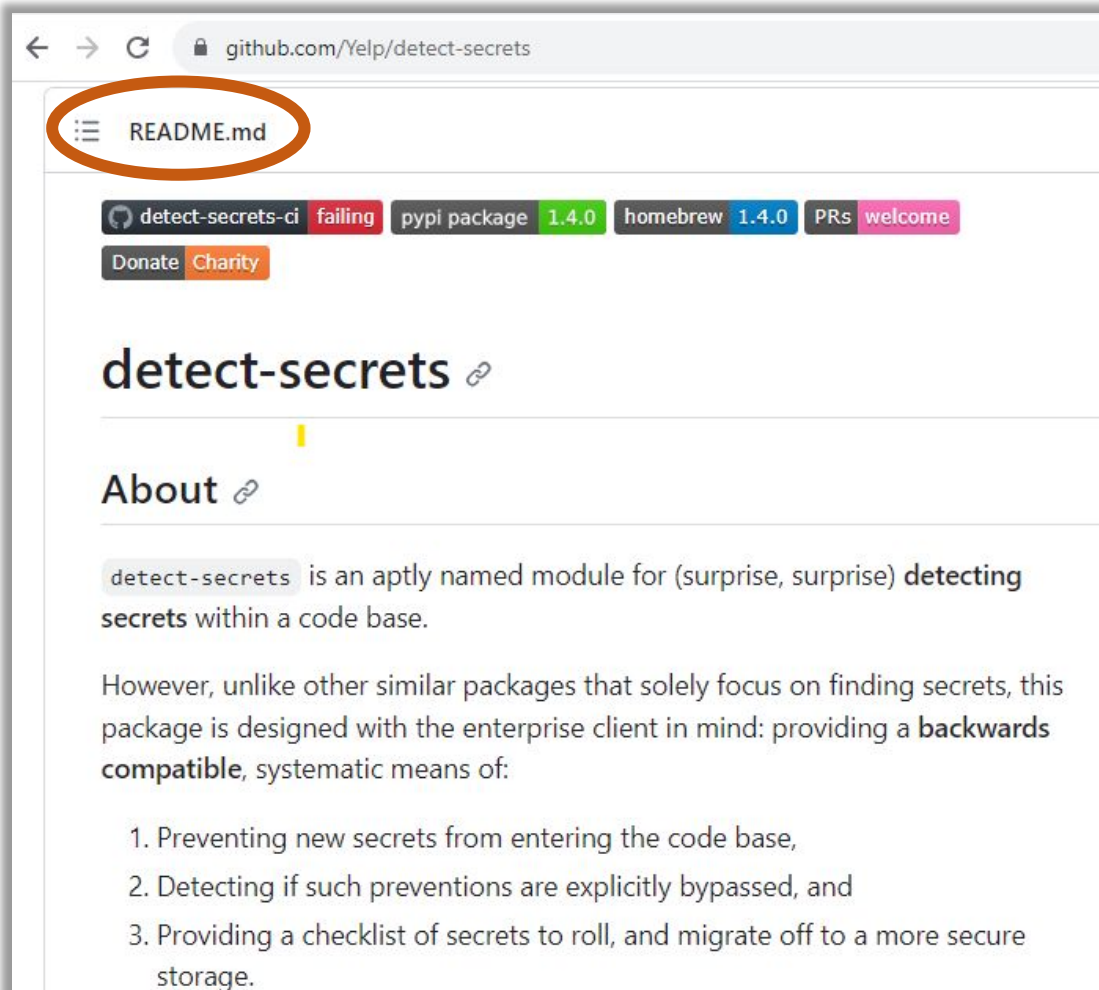
Examples:

- Credential scan
- Date scan
- Sensitive data scan

What might be  
others?

Is this  
worthwhile?

# Build systems: opportunity for static analysis



github.com/Yelp/detect-secrets

README.md

detect-secrets-ci failing pypi package 1.4.0 homebrew 1.4.0 PRs welcome

Donate Charity

## detect-secrets

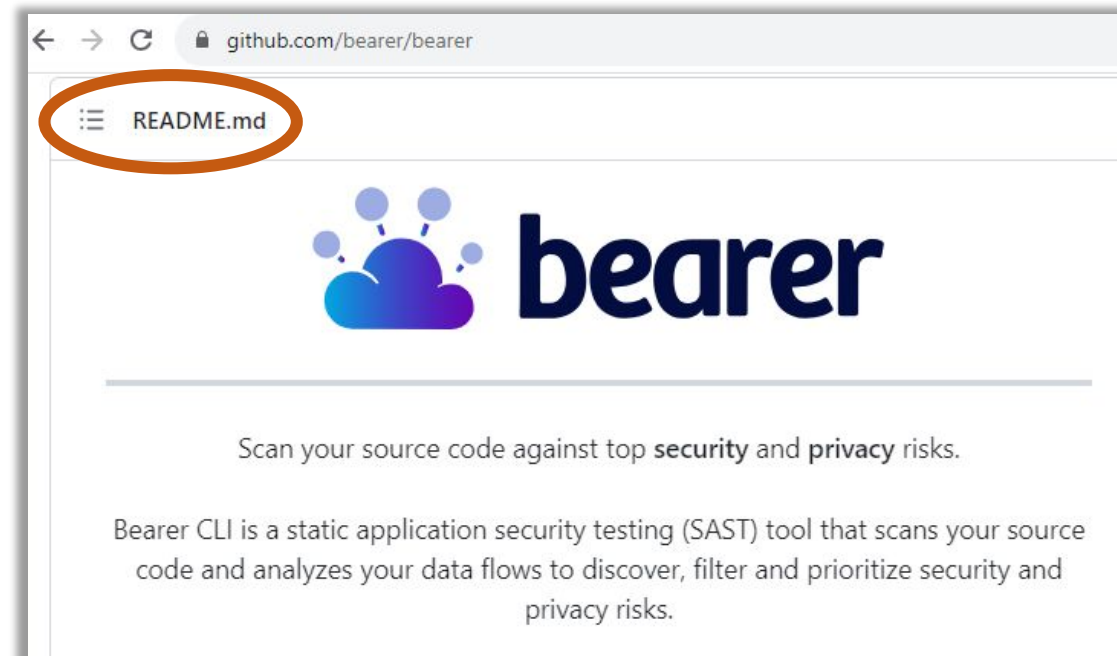
### About

detect-secrets is an aptly named module for (surprise, surprise) **detecting secrets** within a code base.

However, unlike other similar packages that solely focus on finding secrets, this package is designed with the enterprise client in mind: providing a **backwards compatible**, systematic means of:


1. Preventing new secrets from entering the code base,
2. Detecting if such preventions are explicitly bypassed, and
3. Providing a checklist of secrets to roll, and migrate off to a more secure storage.

Could these types of static analysis tools be run earlier than CI?



github.com/bearer/bearer

README.md



# bearer

Scan your source code against top **security** and **privacy** risks.

Bearer CLI is a static application security testing (SAST) tool that scans your source code and analyzes your data flows to discover, filter and prioritize security and privacy risks.

# There are a *lot* of build systems

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make

ant

maven

gradle

rake

SCons

sbt

blaze

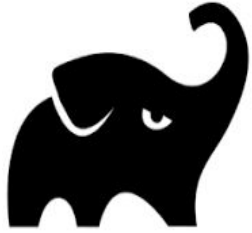
buck

A build system:

- defines **tasks**
- defines **dependencies** among tasks (a graph)
- **executes** the tasks

Build system code may run at graph construction time or at task execution time

# Assignment: evaluate and select a build system



Many  
other  
options!

Over to  
you to  
research



<b>Java+</b>		
	gradle	Open-source successor to <b>ant</b> and <b>maven</b>
	bazel	Open-source version of Google's internal build tool (blaze)
<b>Python</b>		
	hatch	Implements standards from the Python standard (uses TOML files, has PIP integration)
	poetry	Packaging and dependence manager
	tox	Automate and standardize testing
<b>JavaScript</b>		
	npm	Standard package/task manager for Node, "Largest software registry in the world."
	webpack	Module bundler for modern JavaScript applications
	gulp	Tries to improve dependency and packing

# Today's outline

---

- Build systems
- **Continuous integration and deployment systems** ← We are here
  - What are these and
  - How do they relate
  - Best practices
  - Ideas to explore for your projects



# CI/CD: What's the difference?

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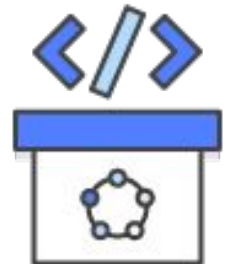
## Continuous Integration (CI)

- Devs regularly integrate code into a shared repository
- System builds/tests automatically with each update
- Complements local developer workflows (e.g., may run diff tests)
- **Goal:** to find/address bugs quicker, improve quality, reduce time to get to working code



## Continuous Deployment (CD) [Continuous Delivery]

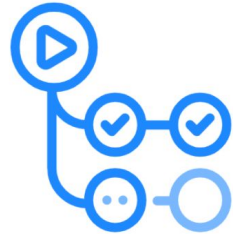
- Builds on top of CI
- Automatically pushes changes [to staging environment and then] to production
- **Goal:** always have a deployment-ready build that has passed through a standardized testing process



# Just like build, there are many CI tool options



**Jenkins**



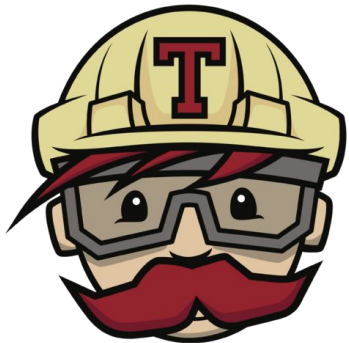
GitHub Actions



AWS  
CodePipeline



**Azure Pipelines**



Travis CI



**GitLab**



circleci



**Bitbucket Pipelines**

Assignment: Research, evaluate  
and choose a CI system

# Continuous integration basics

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- A CI **workflow** is **triggered** when an **event** occurs in your [shared] repo
  - Example events
    - Push
    - Pull request
    - Issue creation
- A workflow contains **jobs** that run in a defined order
  - A job is like a shell-script and can have multiple steps
  - Jobs run in their own vm/container called a **runner**
  - Example jobs
    - Run static analysis
    - Build, test
    - Deploy to test, deploy to prod



Using GitHub CI terminology but concepts span other CI systems

<https://docs.github.com/en/actions>

# Nice light starter tutorial

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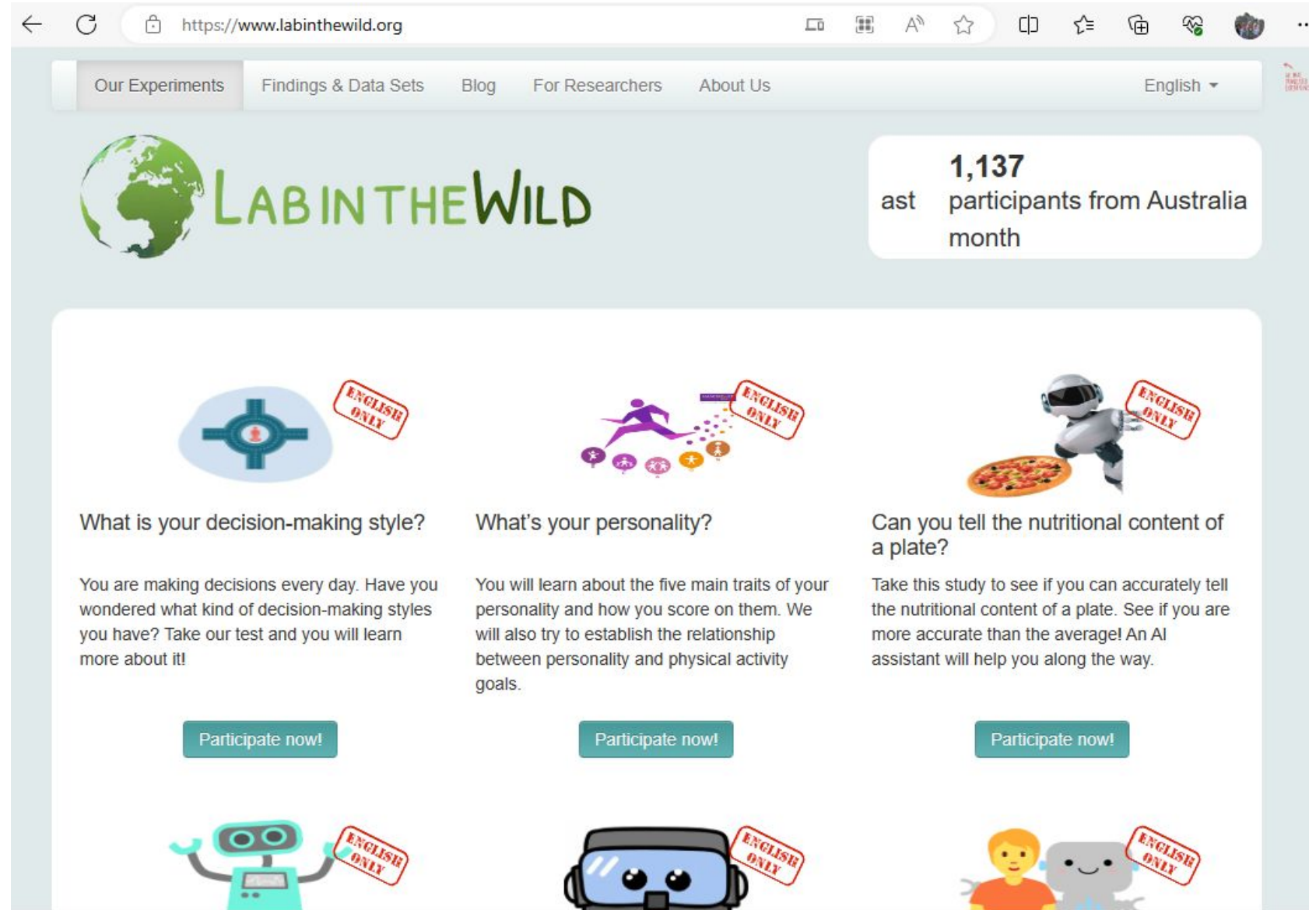
Automation Step by Step:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=yIEy4eLdhFs>

# Example: CI at work at UW

Lab In The Wild  
is a research  
project drawing  
survey input  
from diverse  
community

Nigini Oliveira  
(researcher and  
403 prof)  
provided this  
example



The screenshot shows the website <https://www.labinthewild.org>. The navigation bar includes "Our Experiments", "Findings & Data Sets", "Blog", "For Researchers", and "About Us". A language dropdown is set to "English". The main header features a globe icon and the text "LAB IN THE WILD". A white box on the right displays "1,137 ast participants from Australia month".

Three experiment cards are visible, each with an "ENGLISH ONLY" stamp:

- Card 1:** Icon of a crosshair with a red dot. Title: "What is your decision-making style?". Description: "You are making decisions every day. Have you wondered what kind of decision-making styles you have? Take our test and you will learn more about it!". Button: "Participate now!".
- Card 2:** Icon of a person running with colorful dots. Title: "What's your personality?". Description: "You will learn about the five main traits of your personality and how you score on them. We will also try to establish the relationship between personality and physical activity goals.". Button: "Participate now!".
- Card 3:** Icon of a robot holding a pizza. Title: "Can you tell the nutritional content of a plate?". Description: "Take this study to see if you can accurately tell the nutritional content of a plate. See if you are more accurate than the average! An AI assistant will help you along the way.". Button: "Participate now!".

At the bottom, there are three more "ENGLISH ONLY" stamps with icons of a robot, a car, and a person with a robot.

# Example: CI with Github actions

The screenshot shows the GitHub Actions interface for a repository named 'labinthewild / LITW-API'. The 'Actions' tab is selected, showing a workflow run titled 'CI Tests run only on push for now. PL + Push was duplicating runs. #15'. The run status is 'Success' and it took '1m 26s'. The workflow file is 'ci-test.yml' and it was triggered by a push. The matrix job 'test' is shown as completed.

labinthewild / LITW-API (Private)

Code Issues 3 Pull requests 1 **Actions** Projects 1 Security Insights Settings

← CI - UnitTesting

✓ CI Tests run only on push for now. PL + Push was duplicating runs. #15

Summary

Jobs	Triggered via push 1 minute ago	Status	Total duration	Arti
✓ test (3.11, 6.0)	nigini pushed → 0eaf405 ci_tests	Success	1m 26s	—

Run details

- Usage
- Workflow file

ci-test.yml

on: push

Matrix: test

- ✓ 1 job completed

Show all jobs

Unit tests are triggered on every push of new code

# Example: CI with Github actions

```
name: CI - UnitTesting
on: [push]
jobs:
  test:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    strategy: <2 keys>

    steps:
      - uses: actions/checkout@v3
      - name: Set up Python ${{ matrix.python-version }}
        uses: actions/setup-python@v3
        with: <1 key>
      - name: Set up MongoDB ${{ matrix.mongodb-version }}
        uses: supercharge/mongodb-github-action@1.8.0
        with: <1 key>
      - name: Install dependencies
        run: python3 -m pip install hatch
      - name: Pre-fly setup
        run: cp $GITHUB...GITHUB_ENV
      - name: Test with hatch
        run: |
          hatch run test:test
```

Workflow name

Trigger

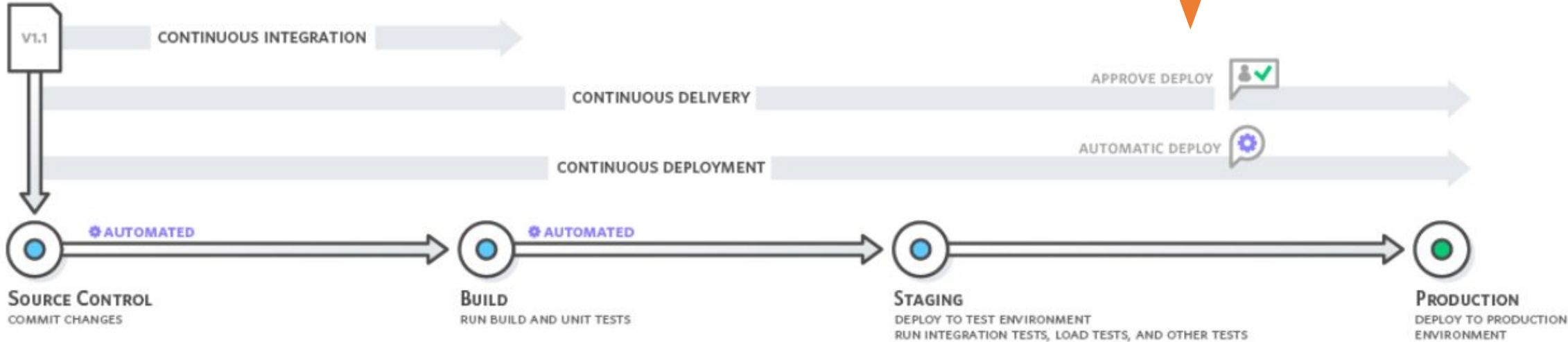
Linux OS environment

Code reuse with established "actions"

One command to run test suite

# Continuous delivery/deployment basics

Why would you not always automatically deploy?



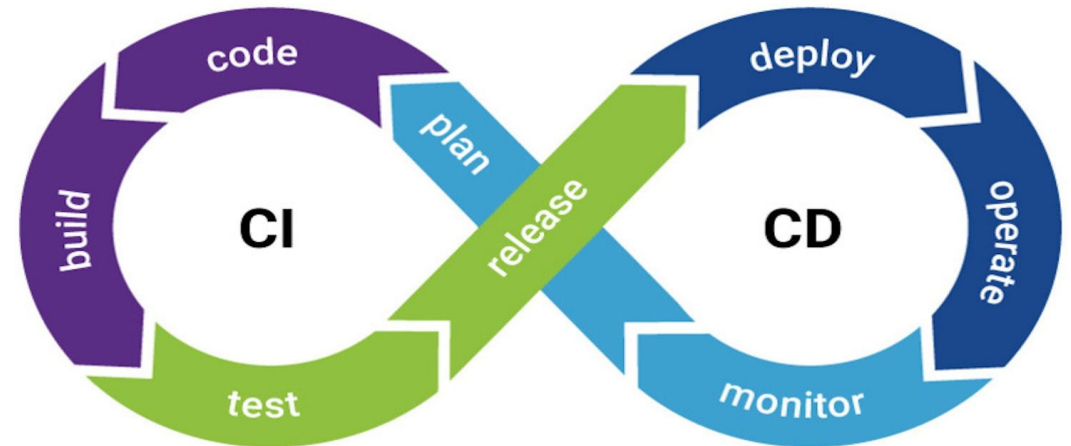
Staging before Production is very typical of industry practices



# Build & CI - Remember these best practices

---

- Automate everything!
- Always use a build tool (one-step build)
- Use CI to build and test your code on every commit
- Don't depend on anything that's not in the build file (hermetic)
- Don't break the build!



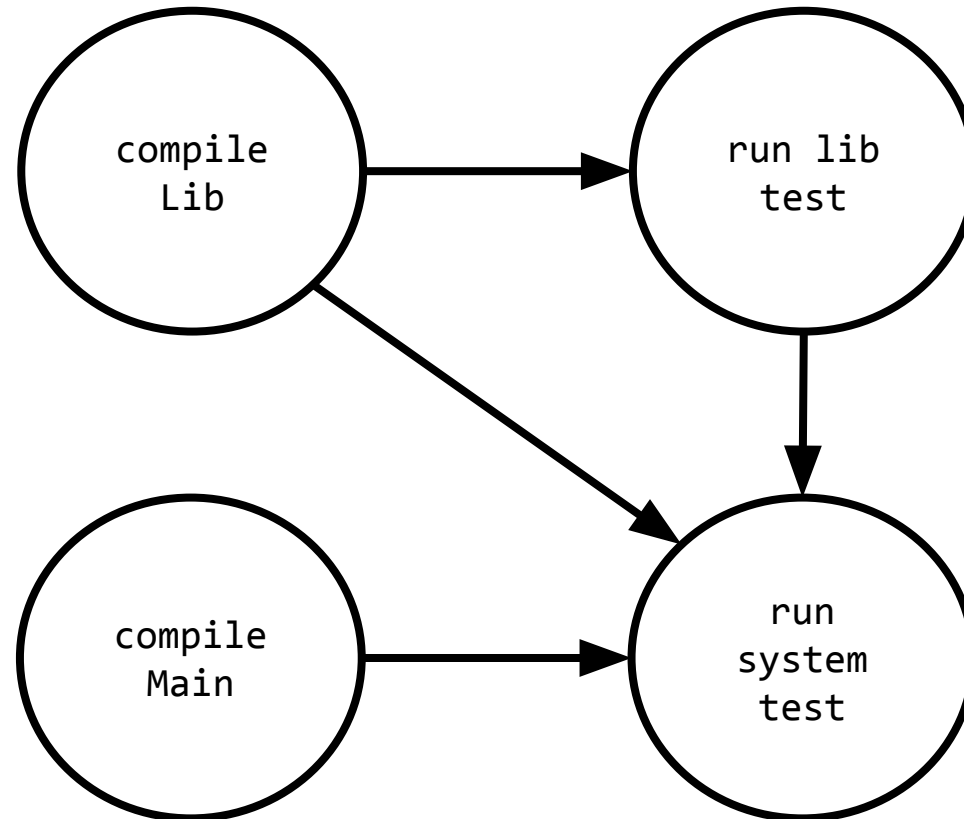
# Appendix – Topological sort example

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- Build tools use a **topological sort** to create an order to compile
  - Order nodes such that all dependencies are satisfied
  - Implemented by computing indegree (number of incoming edges) for each node
  - No dependencies go first and open door to the others

# Build systems: topological sort

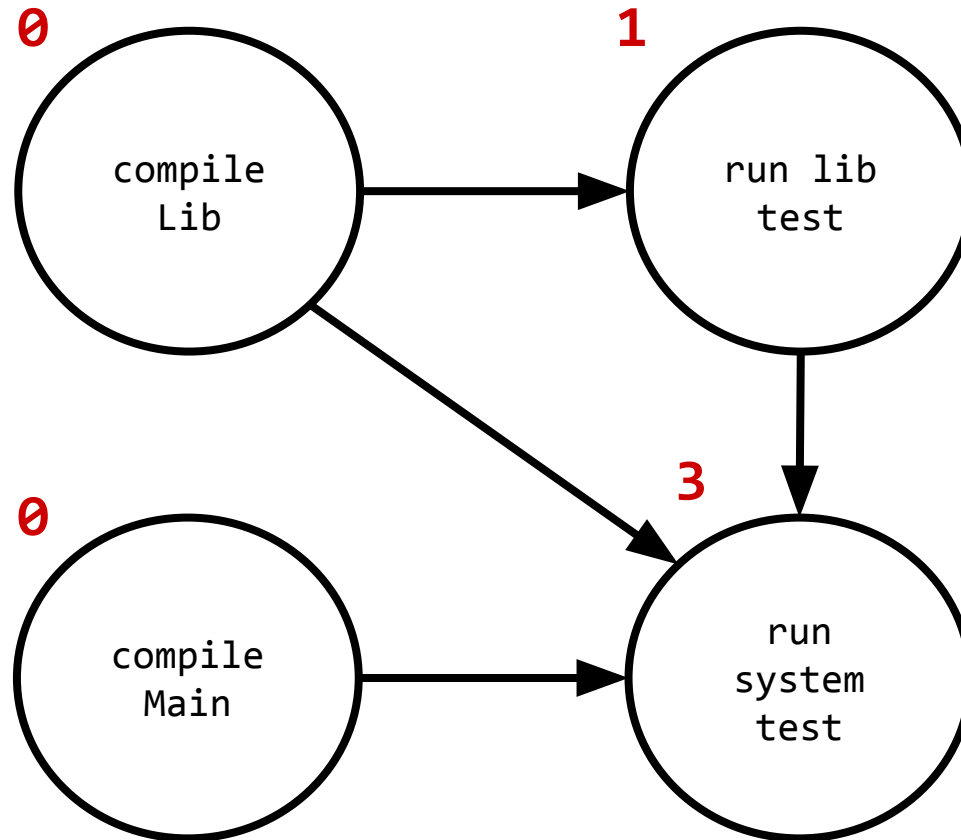
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What's the indegree of each node?

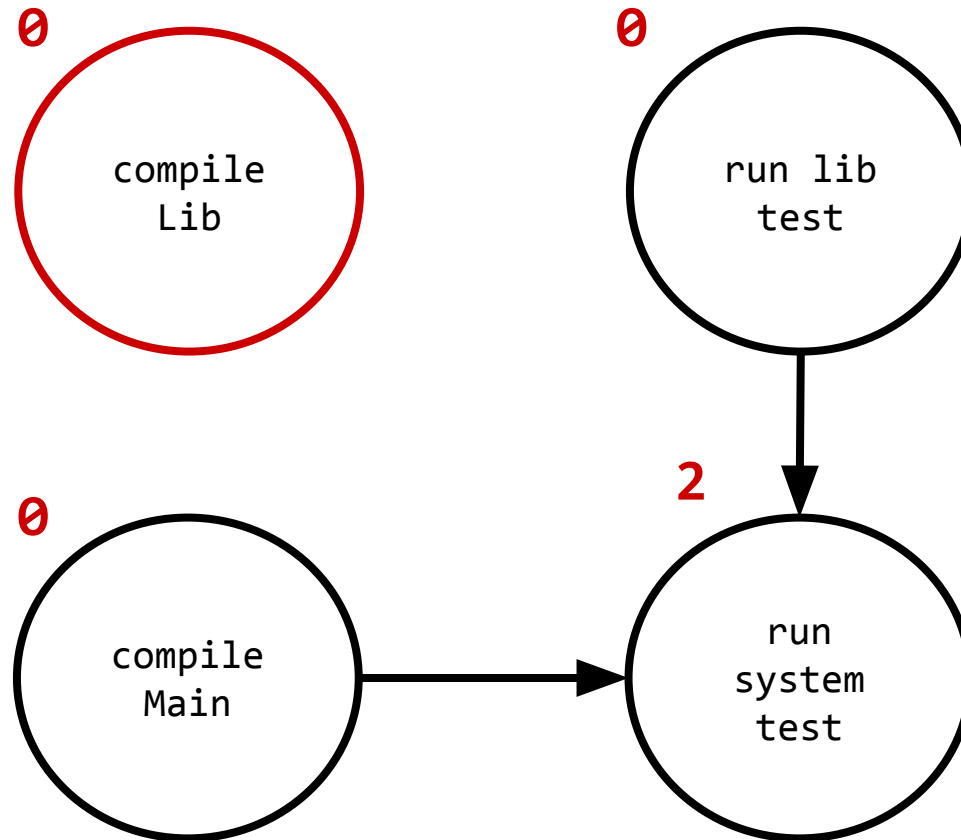
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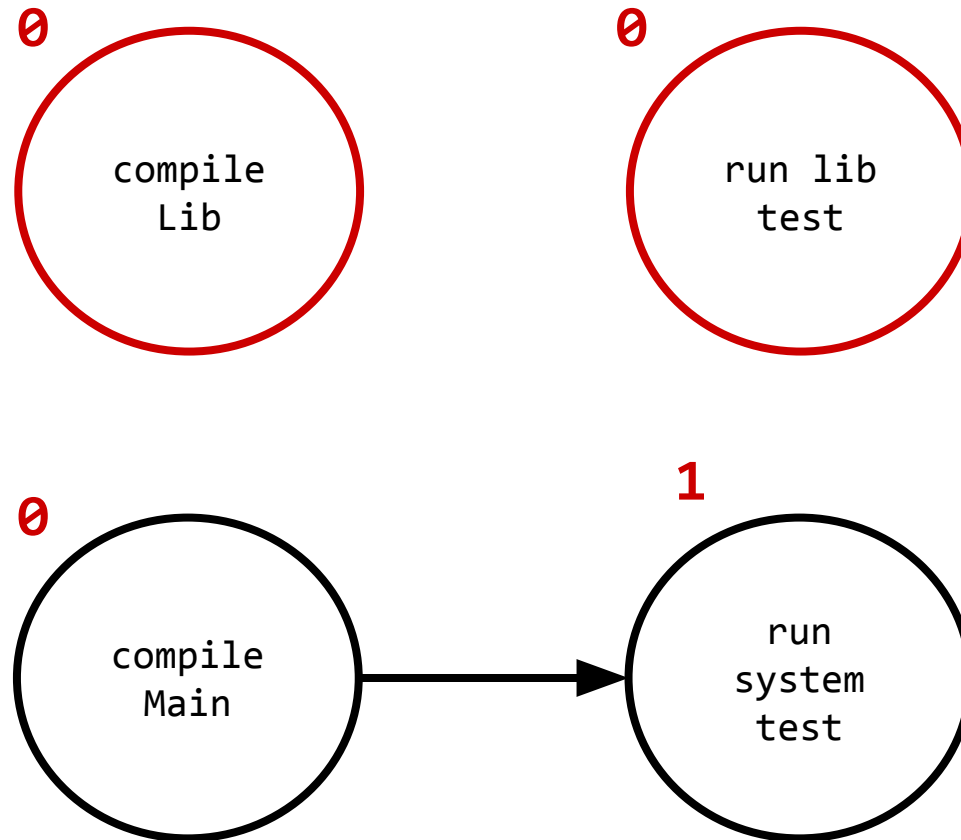
# Build systems: topological sort

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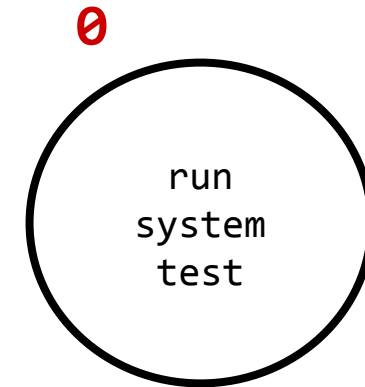
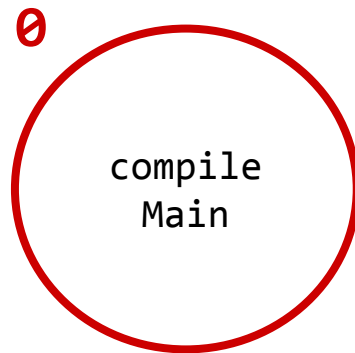
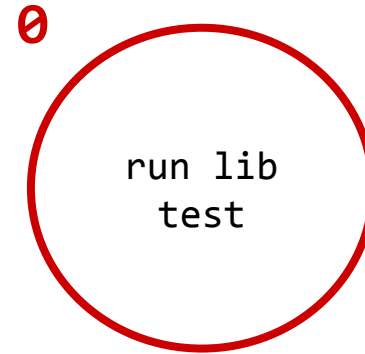
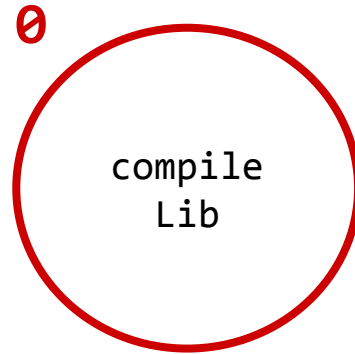
# Build systems: topological sort

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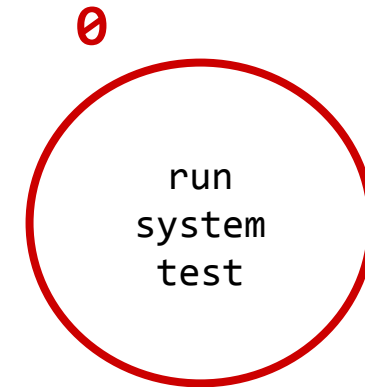
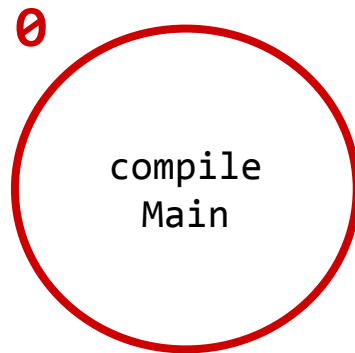
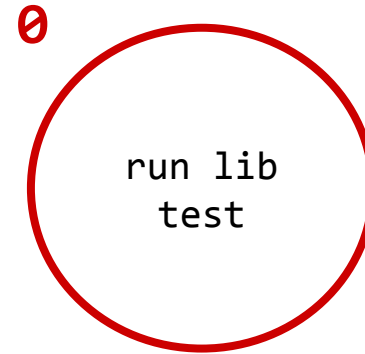
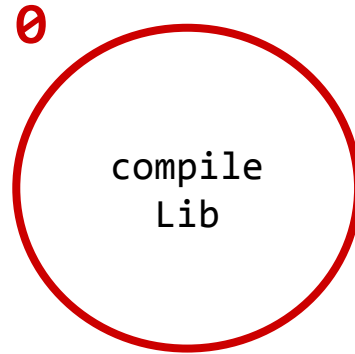
# Build systems: topological sort

---



# Build systems: topological sort

---





# Build systems: topological sort

---

Valid sorts:

1. compile Lib, run lib test,  
compile Main, run system test

2. compile Main, compile Lib,  
run lib test, run system test

3. compile Lib, compile Main,  
run lib test, run system test

Which is preferable?

