

Coordinated Testing with a Test-Server

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Who are we?

- Carsten Härle, straightec GmbH
 - Experience in OO and Smalltalk since 1986
 - Products and Services
 - IT-Consulting, software development, Training and Coaching for OO, XP, Automated Testing
 - Specialized in Smalltalk
 - Product "beno" IT-Administration und Teaching Solution for Schools, Dolphin Smalltalk XP 5, Microsoft Certified Product
- Thorsten Seitz
 - Experience in Smalltalk since 1999



Automated Testing in an Ideal World

- Very fast test case execution
 - Before releasing code, all (relevant) test cases can be executed in a reasonable time (some minutes)
- Perfect distributed knowledge
 - Every developer can fix every failing test case introduced by code changes
- Repair of test cases can be done quickly
- For code published to repository, all tests pass at all times



Automated Testing in the Real World

- Execution time: Test Case execution can take several hours, especially when GUI tests, database or external resources are involved.
- Knowledge: The developer who can fix the test case best cannot do it immediately because of other tasks.
- Repair time: Reparing test cases can take a considerable time in large projects.
- Failing test cases in the repository are normal



Broken test cases in an XP process

- Broken code: Can be part of agreed XP process:
 - Write test cases first for new requirements and publish
 - Write test cases for detected defects and publish
 - New Test cases will fail first.
 - Task for next delivery of the system is to make all tests green.
- Need tool which keeps track of current state of test cases and assists in coordinating developers.

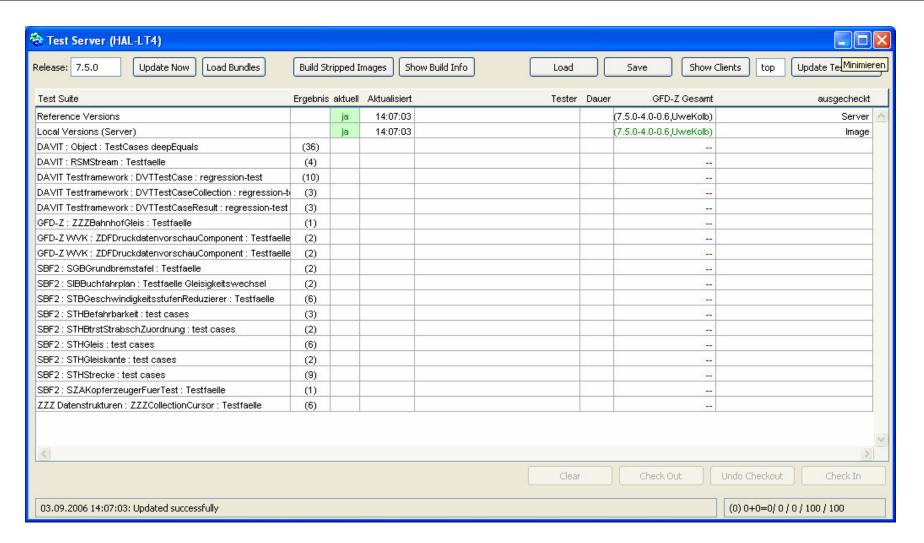


The Test Server Tool

- A central server which keeps track of all test cases, the test case results and code versions.
- Developers can dynamically register with the server.
- Developers execute test cases with a test client which delivers the results to the server.
- The global state of all test cases is distributed back to all developers
- Automatic reloading of the latest code and test cases.
- Keep track of the code versions for the executed test cases



Screen Shot: Test Server / Client



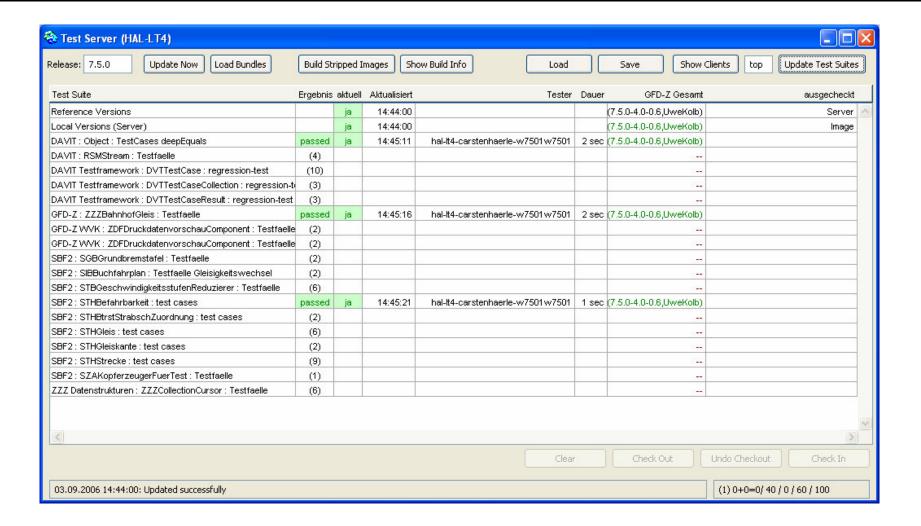


Demo

- Show Test Server
- Show Test Client
- Execute single test suite
- Modify code: Test server flags test cases not executed with latest code versions

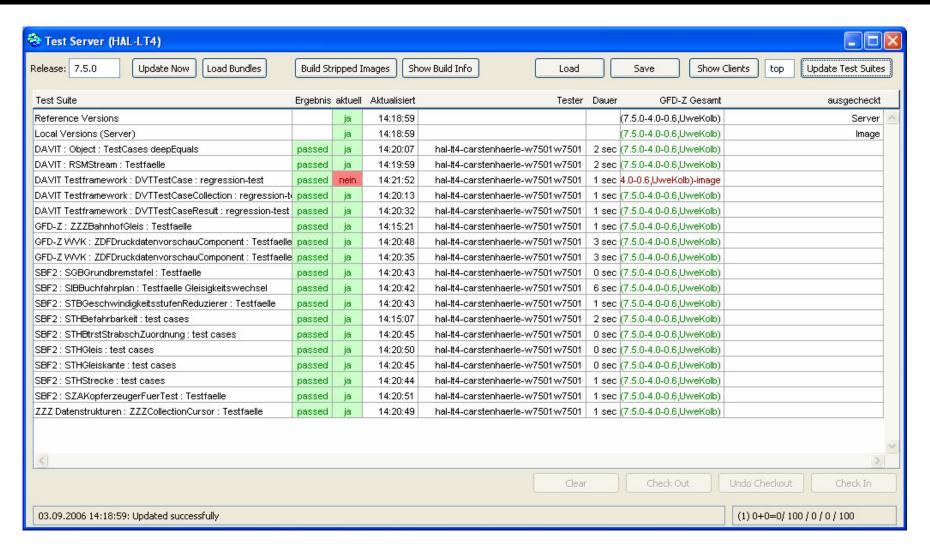


Screen Shot: Some executed tests





Screen Shot: One test suite not with recent code



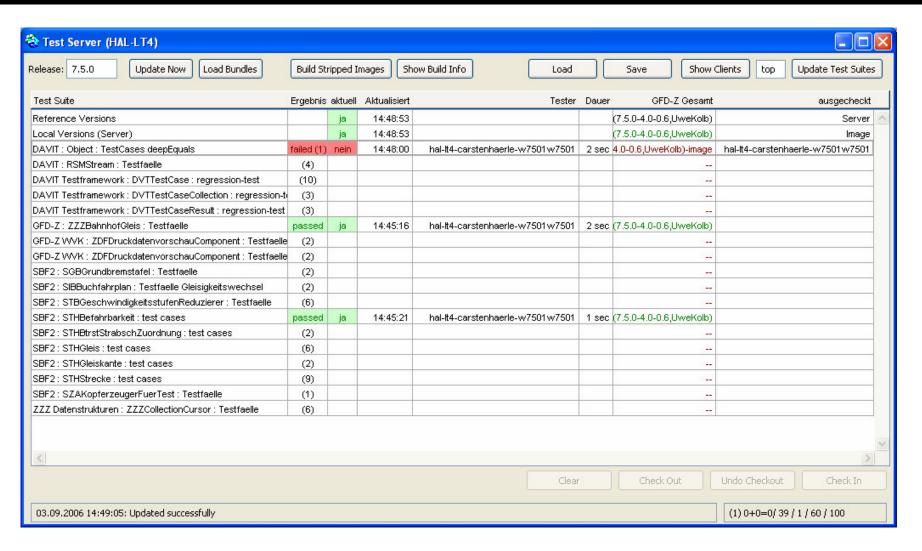


Coordinated Test Case Repair

- The Test Server stores test case results with failure causes. Every developer can easily retrieve results.
- Developers can exclusively check out test suites for repair. Checked out suites are not executed automatically.
- Demo
 - Change test case to fail and execute test
 - Retrieve results
 - Check out, Repair and execute again



Screen Shot: Failed and Checked out Suites





Automatic Parallized Test Execution

- Test clients can be put into an "automatic execution" mode:
 - Automatically retrieve test suites to be executed
 - Execute test cases and submits results to test server
 - Automatically check out suites, so that suites are not executed by more than one test client
- Demo
 - Automatically execute test cases from one client
 - Client "stand by" and automatic execution mode



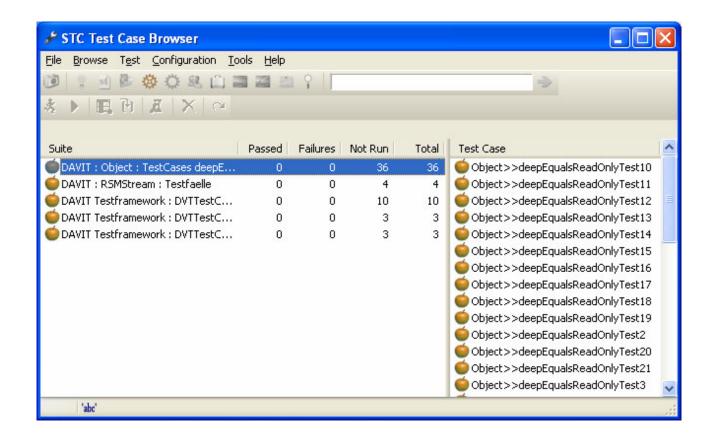
Current Tool status

- Internal customer project tool.
- Uses VisualWorks and OpenTalk
- Supports test cases of TestMentor (GUI) and internal test case framework



Work in Progress

New implementation for various platforms: Dolphin, SUnit





Work in progress and future ideas

- Independent server, higher interoperability
- Support for SUnit and other test frameworks
- Gather more statistic data like
 - Code coverage
 - Dependency detection between test suites and production code
 - Heuristics for optimized test suite execution sequence
 - History of execution results (when did the test last pass?)
 - Identifying non-deterministic test cases
- Clients for several Smalltalk platforms
- Clients for other IDEs (like Java, Eclipse, .NET)



Contact

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