

How Are Apps Made?

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BIOL/CMSI 367: Biological Databases

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Outline

- **Integrated Development Environments assemble different development tools which simplify and expedite software development.**
- **Software Development Kits compile and give developers access to different APIs which provide necessary data for the application.**
- **Frameworks hasten the development process by giving you a foundation of libraries which provide shortcuts around tedious code.**
- **Debugging is the process of running and examining your code to find and fix broken code.**
- **Version Control allows you to document all changes made to your code, giving transparency to all work done to your project.**

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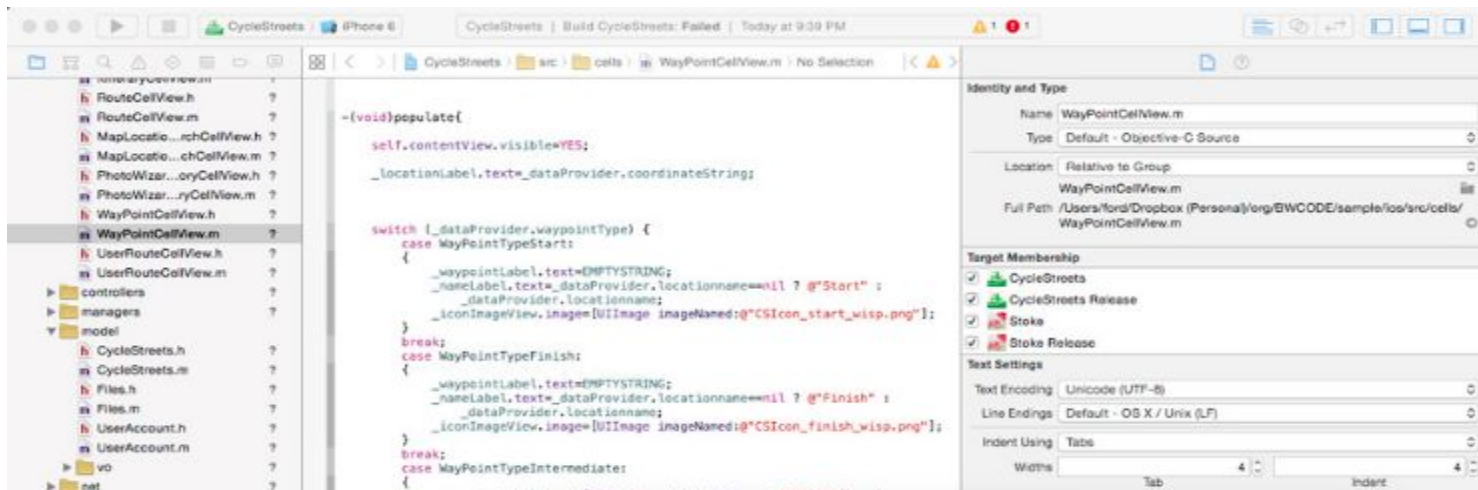
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Integrated Development Environments (IDE)

- **IDEs are application software, which provide helpful facilities for programmers when they are developing their own software.**
- **Usually, IDE's contain a source code editor, build automation tools, and a debugger.**
- **Xcode is Apple's IDE and is used for creating applications on the Mac, iPhone, and iPad.**

Xcode Environment

- Xcode is a huge download with more than two gigabytes of data. It's a user friendly place designed to help the programmer keep track of their files, code, and ultimately, their program.



<https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2015-paul-ford-what-is-code/#how-are-apps-made>

IDE Components

- **A source code editor allows you to edit the code for creating programs.**
- **Build automation tools allow for the process of automating the creation of a software build.**
- **A debugger is a program that sifts through your code, warning you of possible errors which could lead to a crash.**

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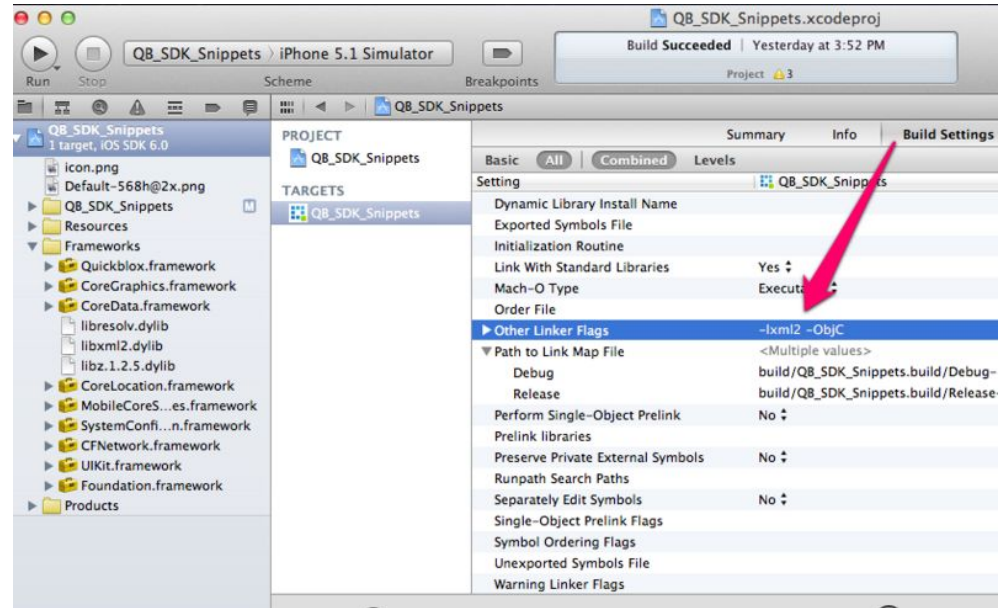
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Software Development Kit (SDK)

- **An SDK compiles and gives developers access to different APIs which provide necessary data for the application.**
- **These APIs give developers a selection of tools made for creating software.**
- **Software designed to create software is usually free because it stimulates the creation of more software.**
- **The iOS SDK is used for making iPhone and iPad apps and is made up of dozens and dozens of APIs.**

iOS Software Development Kit

- This environment helps programmers keep track of their many files which will ultimately become their application.



<http://www.writeopinions.com/ios-sdk>

Do I Have Everything?

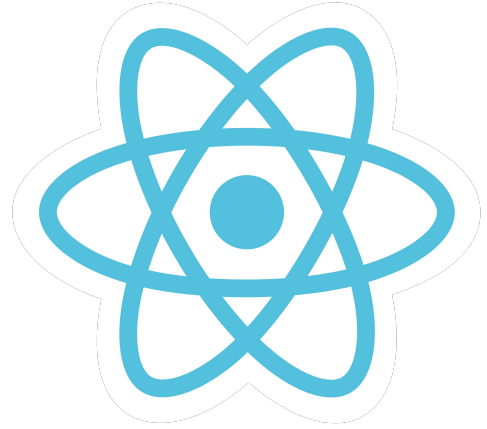
- StyleTap is another SDK that allows you to use apps written as iOS applications
- All of these things allow for the creation of applications



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Frameworks



There are hundreds of frameworks to choose from, each unique in their approach to simplifying your code process.

Handles the tedious parts of coding

- **Saves you time in your development.**
- **Avoids the pain of writing the same code over and over again- keep your code DRY.**
- **Just about every language has a framework**
- **Frameworks are usually specific to one type of application.**
 - **Graphics framework, web framework, network framework, etc.**

django, a Python Web framework

- **When you start a new project, you type “startproject”**
 - **Makes a project directory with some files and configurations, which give you access to libraries and services.**
- **Uses the idea of models:**

```
from django.db import models

class Book(models.Model):
    title = models.CharField(max_length=140)
    description = models.TextField()
    price = models.DecimalField(max_digits=6, decimal_places=2)
```

Models in django

Add book

Title:	<input type="text" value="The Little Schemer"/>
Description:	<input jelly="" stains.\""="" type="text" value="This is a very pleasant book about programming in Scheme. It includes room for \"/>
Price:	<input type="text" value="33.00"/>
<input type="button" value="Save and add another"/> <input type="button" value="Save and continue editing"/> <input type="button" value="Save"/>	

With just that model definition and few more lines of configuration, you can have this part of your website completely functional as shown above.

Downsides of Using Frameworks

- **They lock you into a way of thinking.**
 - **Some well-trained eyes are able to just look at a website and know exactly which framework it was built on.**
- **Some believe that frameworks make things too easy for the developer and become a crutch.**
- **Sometimes pay a price in speed and control for all of the convenience that is offered.**

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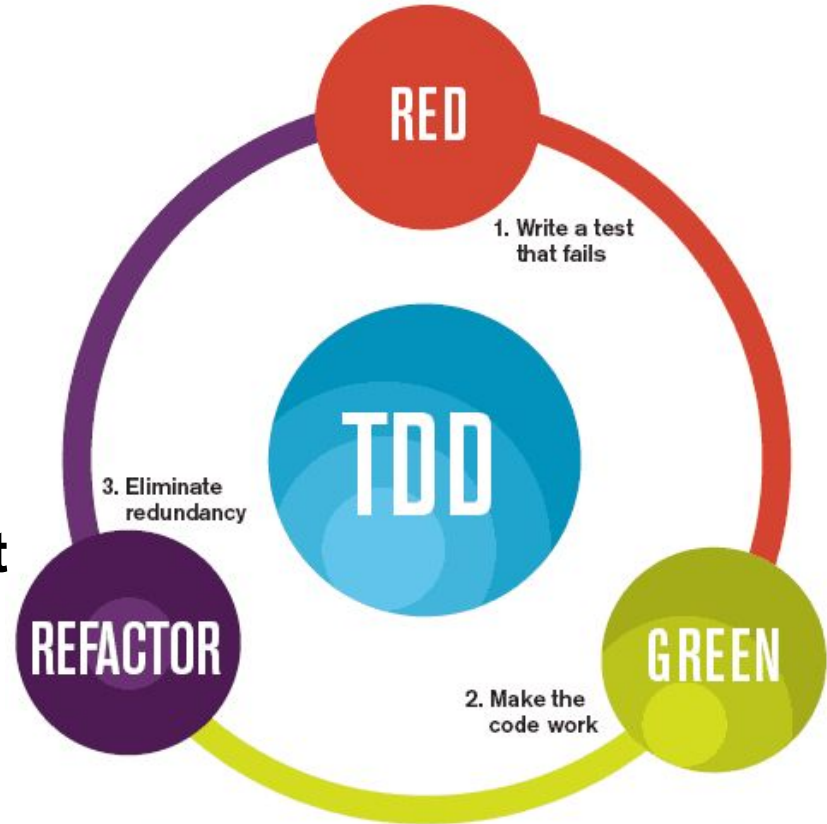
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Debugging

- **Debugging is the process of running and examining your code to find and fix the code that isn't working as intended.**
- **Many times this requires you to review your code line by line until you find what is causing the error.**
- **If you are a programmer, you will spend more time debugging than writing code. Even the article says “Programming is debugging” and that we should expect our code not to work.**

The World of Test Driven Development

- This ideal world consists of programmers writing tests before the code to be tested.
- Tests are just code snippets that check your other code.
- At the end of a coding session, you run tests so you can find out if your day's work broke anything.



The mantra of Test-Driven Development (TDD) is "red, green, refactor."

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Version Control is Beautiful

- Record every change made to every document in your codebase and record who made them—transparency.
- Make “branches” of the codebase without affecting the integrity of the master branch.
- Any progress made on a branch can be merged into the master branch at any point.
- It’s free!

Everyone is Excited about Github

- Github currently has a monopoly on the Version Control market.
- On Github you are able to look into any public repository and see how their code works.
- And if your heart desires, you may even download their code and change it however you like, without affecting their code.



GRNsight on Github

dondi / GRNsight

Unwatch 8

Star 10

Fork 6

Code

Issues 63

Pull requests 0

Projects 0

Wiki

Insights

Port GRNsight to D3.js version 4 #523

Edit

New issue

Open

kdahquist opened this issue on Sep 6 · 13 comments



kdahquist commented on Sep 6 · edited

Collaborator



Based on the conclusions from [#520](#), we will go ahead and transition to D3.js version 4.

- Switch underlying library to v4
- Make simple search-replace changes
- Adapt zooming work to v4
- Dive into deeper force simulation changes

(depending on the size of these subtasks, we might break them up into separate issues later)

Assignees

dondi

yshin4

eileenchoe

Labels

priority 0

refactor

For the repository that we will all be working on for the rest of the semester, anybody can go look at our code.

Why would I want to be that transparent?

- **Transparency allows for Open Source defined software.**
- **By having everything on Github be public, people are encouraged to report bugs that they find in software and maybe even aid in the fixing of those bugs.**
- **None of your code is at risk, you have to personally accept any changes that are requested for the codebase.**

Conclusion

- **There are many ways to aid programmers' development of software.**
- **These methods, practices, and tools allow for programmers to create programs faster and with higher quality.**

Acknowledgements

- Dr. Dahlquist and Dr. Dionisio
- LMU Biology Department
- LMU Computer Science Department
- Class of Biological Databases
- Paul Ford

References

- **LMU BioDB 2017. (2017). Week 11 Retrieved November 9, 2017, from https://xmlpipedb.cs.lmu.edu/biodb/fall2017/index.php/Week_11**
- **What Is Code? (2015). Retrieved November 13, 2017, from <https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2015-paul-ford-what-is-code/#how-are-apps-made>**
- **Web Application Framework. (2015). Retrieved November 13, 2017, from https://web.archive.org/web/20150723163302/http://docforge.com/wiki/Web_application_framework**