## Selenium Tests: WTF Even?



A technical talk // from michael

## Selenium Tests: WTF Even?

- who even
- what even
- when even
- where even
- why even
- (w)how even

#### I can't even

- what even is Selenium?
- when stuff is broken, how even do I find out?
- where even does it run?
- why even do we have these tests?
- how even does it all work?



The safe upper limit for selenium is 400 micrograms a day in adults. Anything above that is considered an overdose.

- WebMD

## what even is Selenium?

#### what even: Selenium itself

- Selenium is a browser automation tool
- used for automated testing
- simulates a real user clicking around and doing stuff

# Selenium automates browsers. That's it! What you do with that power is entirely up to you.

## Selenium automates browsers. That's it! What you do with that power is entirely up to you.



#### what even: Selenium itself

- an extremely powerful tool
- an extremely fiddly tool

#### what even: Selenium at Fastmail



#### how even: a history

- we used to have a full-time QA engineer
- started doing manual testing
- but then got into automated testing with Selenium

#### how even: a history

- Chris set up all the infrastructure, frameworks, etc.
- and consequently, it's all a bit weird
- but mostly, just kinda works!

#### how even: a history

- 06/2018: Topicbox tests rewritten from scratch
- 09/2018: Fastmail tests rewritten from scratch
- 12/2018: Chris leaves Fastmail
- 12/2018–09/2020: Michael tends the Selenium garden
- 10/2020-??: everyone tends the Selenium garden

### where even

#### where even: the map

- testnet: [git host]/fastmail/testnet
- Jenkins: [internal url]
- #qa-department
- @trob

#### where even: the tests

- selenium tests run against three environments:
  - beta
  - qa
  - www
- ask trob in slack: "test \$env"

#### where even: infrastructure

「、」(ツ)」/「

- mostly, in Docker containers running on a bladecenter
- Marc knows slightly more about this than I do

[internal network architecture diagram redacted]

#### when even: test runs

- on demand, via trob
- via cron

#### how even: "@trob test QA"

- trob kicks off a Jenkins job
- which you can see at [internal url]
- which pulls latest testnet code
- and runs the tests against the specified environment
- and reports the results into #qa-department (new failures also to #fastmail)

why even have these tests?

#### why even: these tests?

- Cassandane (Cyrus)
- cunit (Cyrus)
- newt (Perl)
- JS tests (Squire)
- Swift/Kotlin tests (apps)

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#### why even: Selenium tests

- end-to-end, real-world testing
- helps notice breakages before our users do
- the only tests we run regularly of new Fastmail-flavo[u]red Cyrus

- Q: Aren't Selenium tests flaky?
- A: No.\*

Q: Aren't Selenium tests flaky?

• A: No.\*

Selenium itself can be fragile, but the tests are not. Failures always indicate real breakages (but sometimes, the breakage is trivial).

- Q: Do our Selenium tests provide full coverage of our UI?
- A: No.

Q: Do our Selenium tests provide full coverage of our UI?

• A: No.

There's always room for more work.

But they are a useful last resort: "is this change I want to deploy to production totally broken?"

- Q: You really couldn't think of another question to put here?
- A: Nope.

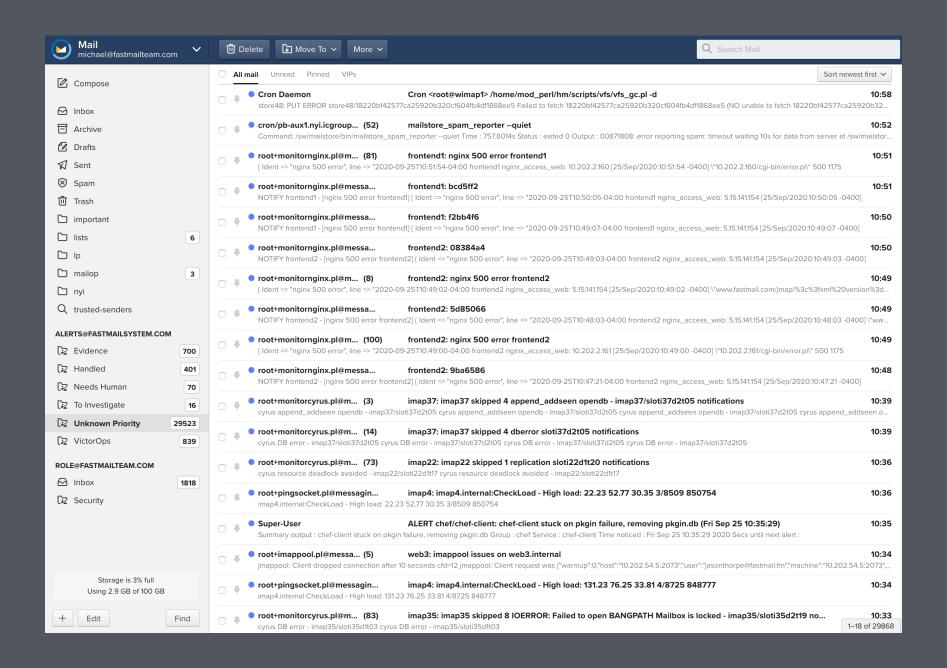


Jenkins APP 03:38

FastMailWWW - #4245 Failure after 8 min 21 sec and counting (Open)

- 1. find the build in Jenkins
- 2. look for the test logs
- 3. find the failure
- 4. read the test files

what even: the Jenkins UI



[this is the Fastmail UI; this is a hacky joke because the UI was designed by someone whose last name is Jenkins]

#### what even: the Jenkins UI

- but seriously, the Jenkins UI is a bit of a nightmare
- we can click through it live a bit later
- but for posterity, screenshotted here

- 1. find the build in Jenkins
- 2. look for the test logs
- 3. find the failure
- 4. read the test files

All	All FastMail Topicbox +				
S	W	Name ↓	Last Success	Last Failure	Last Duration
	ΧÔΧ	CyrusDocs	16 days - #16885	N/A	2 min 1 sec
	ΧÔΧ	FastMail	7 hr 25 min - #16189	3 days 7 hr - #16156	2 min 19 sec
	ΧÔΧ	FastMailBETA	7 hr 25 min - #7373	3 days 7 hr - #7363	2 min 19 sec
	ΧÔΧ	FastMailDev	1 yr 10 mo - #15	N/A	16 ms
	ΧÔΧ	FastMailQA	7 hr 25 min - #4070	3 days 2 hr - #4060	5 min 30 sec
	ΧÔΧ	FastMailTest	N/A	N/A	N/A
	XÔX	FastMailWWW	7 hr 25 min - #4260	3 days 2 hr - #4250	2 min 8 sec
		JMAP BETA timer build	1 yr 6 mo - #368	1 yr 6 mo - #367	4 min 8 sec
	XÔX	NotifySlackUser	7 hr 19 min - #15375	N/A	1.2 sec
T		Topicbox-Frontend	13 sec - log	N/A	4.4 sec

### what even: the Jenkins UI

- there are jobs defined for every environment
- but those jobs have no useful information
- so everything you want is in the job labeled "Fastmail"

#### Stage View

	Build Info	Git fetch latest tests	LinkChecker	Selenium
Average stage times:  (Average <u>full</u> run time: ~2min  43s)	712ms	3s	736ms	2min 34s
#16189 Sep 25 No Changes 03:30	736ms	3s	838ms	2min 10s
#16188 Sep 25 No Changes	696ms	3s	707ms	5min 21s
#16187 Sep 25 No Changes	706ms	3s	845ms	1min 59s
#16186 Sep 24 No Changes	739ms	3s	729ms	1min 53s
#16185 Sep 24 No Changes 18:30	697ms	3s	718ms	1min 57s
#16184 Sep 24 No Changes	696ms	3s	734ms	2min 3s
#16183 Sep 24 No Changes	717ms	3s	710ms	2min 8s

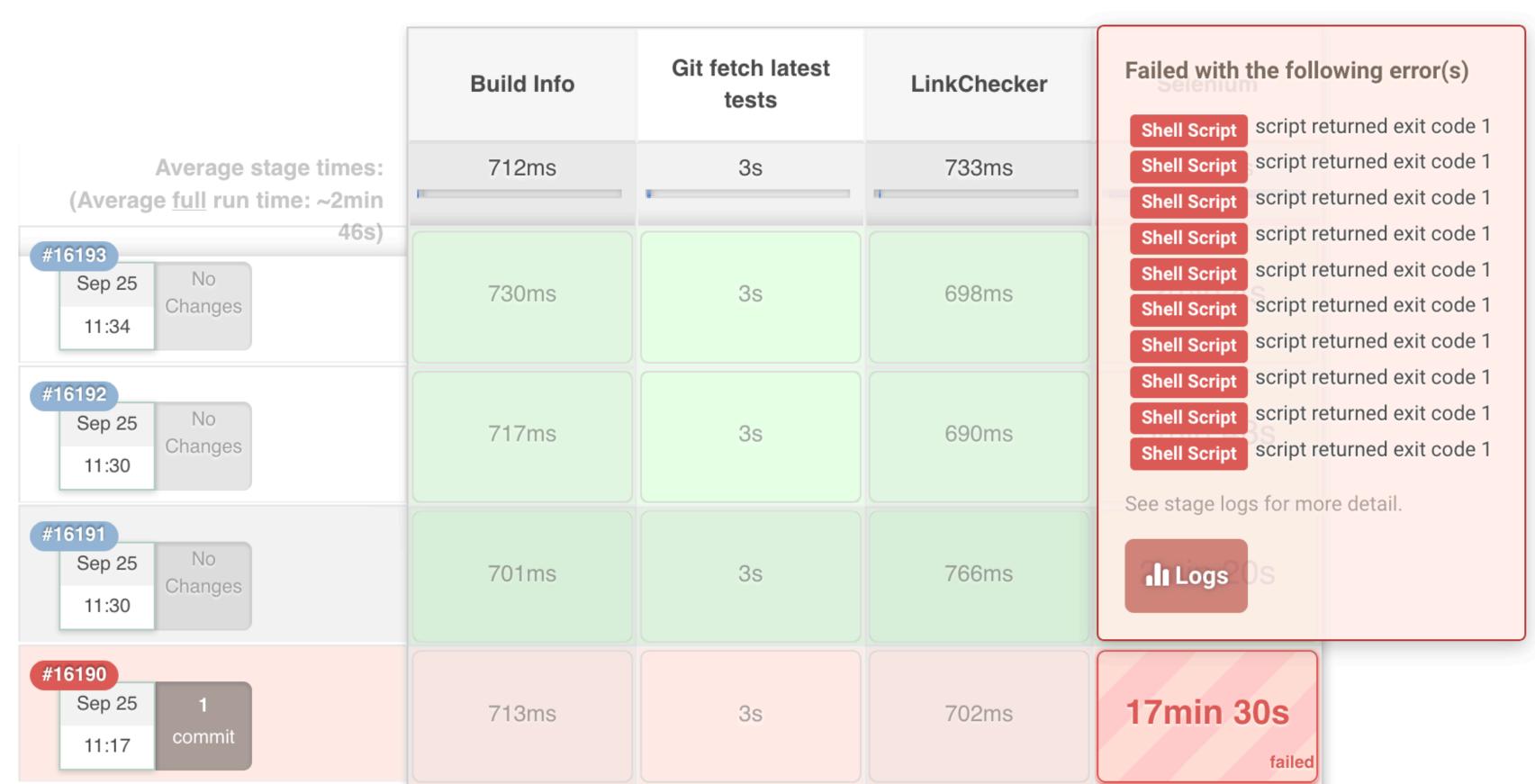
#### Stage View

	Build Info	Git fetch latest tests	LinkChecker	Selenium
Average stage times: (Average <u>full</u> run time: ~2min	712ms	3s	733ms	3min 42s
#16193 Sep 25 No Changes 11:34	730ms	3s	698ms	2min 4s
#16192 Sep 25 No Changes	717ms	3s	690ms	3min 48s
#16191 Sep 25 No Changes	701ms	3s	766ms	2min 20s
#16190 Sep 25 1 11:17 commit	713ms	3s	702ms	17min 30s
#16189 Sep 25 No Changes	736ms	3s	838ms	2min 10s
#16188 Sep 25 No Changes 03:30	696ms	3s	707ms	5min 21s

### how even: diagnosing problems

- 1. find the build in Jenkins
- 2. look for the test logs
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#### **Stage View**



### how even: diagnosing problems

- 1. find the build in Jenkins
- 2. look for the test logs
- 3. find the failure
- 4. read the test files

- ☑ Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -llib ./t/backup-restore.t; -- (self time 862ms)
- ☑ Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -llib ./t/calendar-birthdays.t; perl -llib ./t/calendar-add\_update\_delete\_calendar.t; -- (self time 1min 44s)
- ☑ Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -llib ./t/calendar-birthdays.t; perl -llib ./t/calendar-add\_update\_delete\_calendar.t; -- (self time 1min 47s)
- Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-birthdays.t; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-add\_update\_delete\_calendar.t; -- (self time 1min 43s)
- ☑ Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -llib ./t/calendar-birthdays.t; perl -llib ./t/calendar-add\_update\_delete\_calendar.t; -- (self time 1min 42s)
- Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-birthdays.t; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-add\_update\_delete\_calendar.t; -- (self time 1min 41s)
- ☑ Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-birthdays.t; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-add\_update\_delete\_calendar.t; -- (self time 1min 45s)
- ☑ Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-birthdays.t; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-add\_update\_delete\_calendar.t; -- (self time 1min 40s)
- **⊙** Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-birthdays.t; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-add\_update\_delete\_calendar.t; -- (self time 1min 50s)
- ☑ Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-birthdays.t; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-add\_update\_delete\_calendar.t; -- (self time 1min 43s)
- ☑ Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -llib ./t/calendar-birthdays.t; perl -llib ./t/calendar-add\_update\_delete\_calendar.t; -- (self time 1min 47s)
- Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -Ilib ./t/compose-send.t; perl -Ilib t/compose-autocomplete.t; perl -Ilib ./t/compose-discard\_draft.t; perl -Ilib ./t/compose-discard\_new.t; perl -Ilib ./t/compose-save\_and\_send\_draft.t; perl -Ilib ./t/compose-warning\_feedback.t -- (self time 1min 53s)

A Shell Script -- cd /var/jenkins\_home/mock-agents/FastMail/workspace/FastMail/Tests/selenium-tests/; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-birthdays.t; perl -Ilib ./t/calendar-add\_update\_delete\_calendar.t; -- (self time 1min 40s)

```
# Subtest: create event
    ok 1 - Calendar tab clicked
    ok 2 - Calendar loaded
    ok 3 - no events shown
    ok 4 - New event clicked
    ok 5 - New event view visible
    ok 6 - New event saved
    # Sleeping for 2 seconds...network round-trip
    ok 7 - Event count increases
    not ok 8 - induced failure for tfcon demonstration
       Failed test 'induced failure for tfcon demonstration'
        at ./t/calendar-add_update_delete_calendar.t line 44.
    ok 9 - New event has default name
    ok 10 - Calendar refreshed
    ok 11 - Event count correct after refresh
    ok 12 - get the correct event
    1..12
    # Looks like you failed 1 test of 12.
not ok 1 - create event
    Failed test 'create event'
```

# how even: diagnosing problems

```
ok 6 - New event saved
# Sleeping for 2 seconds...network round-trip
ok 7 - Event count increases
not ok 8 - induced failure for tfcon demonstration
# Failed test 'induced failure for tfcon demonstration'
# at ./t/calendar-add_update_delete_calendar.t line 44.
ok 9 - New event has default name`
```

### how even: diagnosing problems

- 1. find the build in Jenkins
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how even does it all work?

### how even: the framework

- I rewrote from scratch in 2018 (twice)
- so I know a lot about it!
- and soon, you will too!

### how even: the framework

- [git host]/fastmail/testnet
- this repository is weird (has infra stuff too)
- cd Tests/selenium-tests, normal perl dir layout

```
[..s/selenium-tests on master*] $ tree
   config
       ajax-254-fm-beta.conf
      - ajax-254-fm-live.conf
     — ajax-254-fm-qa.confy
    lib
    └── FastMail
        └─ Selenium
               APIHelper.pm
                BrowserMap.pm
                Config.pm
                Driver.pm
                ElementFinder.pm
                JMAPTester.pm
                Tester
                L— Abort.pm
                Tester.pm
                WebElement.pm
       backup-restore.t
```

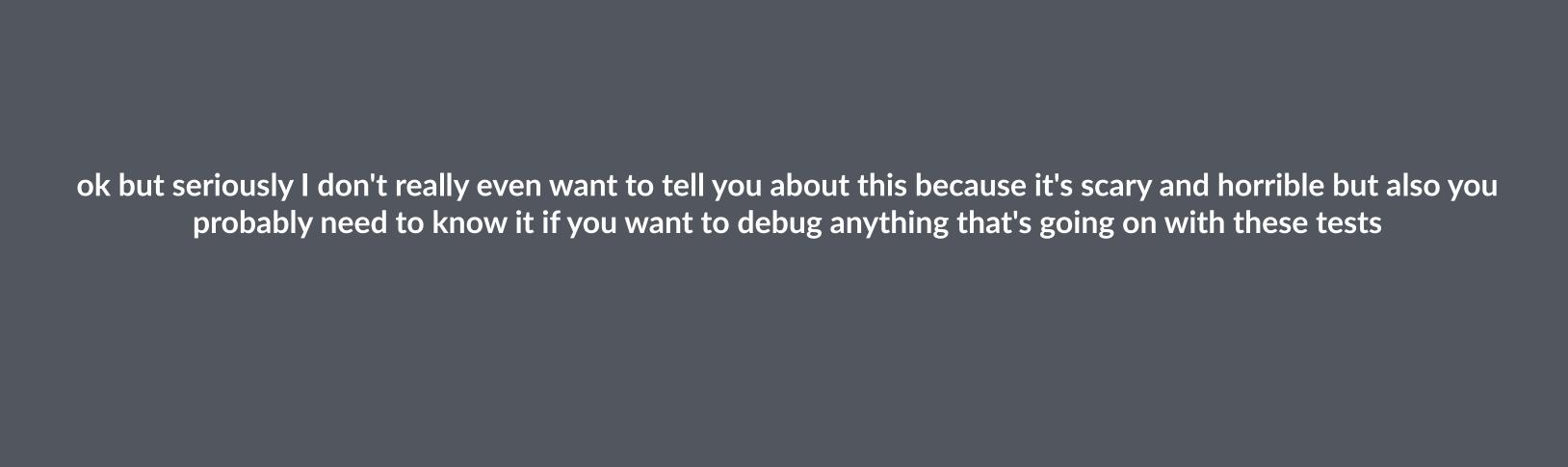
#### how even: the framework

```
use Test::Routine;
with 'FastMail::Selenium::Tester';
sub test realm { 'calendar' }
test 'calendar CRUD' => sub ($self) {
  my $driver = $self->driver;
  $self->reset account;
  $self->login or die "couldn't log in";
```

# reset\_account ###

# why even: reset\_account

- Selenium tests do not (and must not) create users
- But we still want to start fresh every time
- But these are just ordinary Fastmail users
- And if we want to test the UI, and the UI is broken, we can't use the UI to reset them



# how even: reset\_account

- makes an LWP request to [internal url]/action/resetaccount/
- winds up in ME::ActionURL (in hm)
- which does IP checks
- and then runs utils/ResetAccount.pl (via Runner)
- which is horrifying

```
$ grep -i delete utils/ResetAccount.pl
DELETE FROM Personalities
DELETE FROM PopLinks
DELETE FROM CalendarDAVLinks
DELETE FROM SecondFactors
DELETE FROM ApplicationPasswords
DELETE FROM VerificationCodes
$Mailbox->delete messages("1:*", 1);
$Folder->DeleteFolder($Mailbox);
DELETE FROM Rules
$Dbh->do("DELETE FROM ExternalCredentials WHERE UserId = ?", {}, $UserId);
$Dbh->do("DELETE FROM SavedSearches WHERE UserId = ?", {}, $UserId);
$User->VFS()->DeleteEntireVFS();
$User->CalDAV()->DeleteEntireCalDAV();
```

# how even: reset\_account

- different users per test realm (same user for all calendar tests)
- different users per environment (diff. users for calendar tests on beta/QA)
- defined in config files (in the repo)

# how even: test framework

```
[..s/selenium-tests on master*] $ tree lib
lib
L— FastMail
    L— Selenium
          - APIHelper.pm
          BrowserMap.pm
            Config.pm
            Driver.pm
          - ElementFinder.pm
           JMAPTester.pm
           Tester
            └─ Abort.pm
            Tester.pm
           WebElement.pm
```

### what even: the boring bits

- FM::S::BrowserMap literally says "use chrome on linux"
- FM::S::Tester::Abort standard Test::Abortable copypasta
- FM::S::WebElement subclass to add ->blur to element objects

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- FM::S::BrowserMap literally says "use chrome on linux"
- FM::S::Tester::Abort standard Test::Abortable copypasta
- FM::S::WebElement subclass to add ->blur to element objects
- FM::S::JMAPTester -

```
package FastMail::Selenium::JMAPTester;
# This is shamefully copied directly from ME::Test::JMAPTester in hm.git, but
# with some code removed. -- michael, 2019-05-10
```

```
[..s/selenium-tests on master*] $ tree lib
lib
L— FastMail
    L— Selenium
          — APIHelper.pm
          Config.pm
          - Driver.pm
         — ElementFinder.pm
          - Tester.pm
```

### what even: FastMail::Selenium::APIHelper

- handles ->login
- talks to internal FM API
- which is *much* faster and less fragile than waiting for Selenium to click through the UI

### what even: FastMail::Selenium::Config

- reads a config file, provides methods to get at it
- also not super interesting, just an excuse
- I love config objects (see also: Topicbox, mint-tag, synergy)

#### # FastMail::Selenium::Config

```
sub username_for ($self, $what) { $self->_config->{ $what }->{username} }
sub password_for ($self, $what) { $self->_config->{ $what }->{password} }
sub remote_server_addr { $_[0]->_config->{selenium}->{remote_server_addr}
sub user_domain
                   { $_[0]->_config->{mail}->{user_domain}
                       { $_[0]->_config->{mail}->{ui}
sub ui
                      { $_[0]->_config->{mail}->{url}
sub service
                       { $_[0]->_config->{mail}->{business_url}
sub business url
sub password_reset { $_[0]->_config->{mail}->{password_reset}
sub cc_address
                  { $_[0]->_config->{compose}->{cc_address}
sub bcc address
                   { $_[0]->_config->{compose}->{bcc_address}
sub compose_account_name { $_[0]->_config->{compose}->{compose_account_name} }
```

### what even: the interesting bits

• FastMail::Selenium::Tester

FastMail::Selenium::Driver

FastMail::Selenium::ElementFinder

what even: Fastmail::Selenium::Tester

### what even: Tester.pm

- the Test::Routine class for these tests (like ME::Test::Routine)
- provides methods for common things
   (e.g., driver, reset\_account, login, populate\_mailbox)
- actually sets up Selenium to run

```
around run_test => sub ($orig, $self, $test){
  my $driver = eval { FastMail::Selenium::Driver->new($self->test_realm) };
  if ($@ && $@ =~ /did not return proper status/) {
    warn "Unable to run tests locally, will run on [internal url] instead: $a";
    local $ENV{USE LOCAL SELENIUM} = 0;
    $driver = FastMail::Selenium::Driver->new($test->name);
  } elsif ($a) {}
    # We got some other error from Selenium: just give up.
    die "Driver instantiation failed: $@";
  $self->driver($driver);
  $driver->set_implicit_wait_timeout(3000);
 $self->$orig($test);
 $self->driver->quit;
```

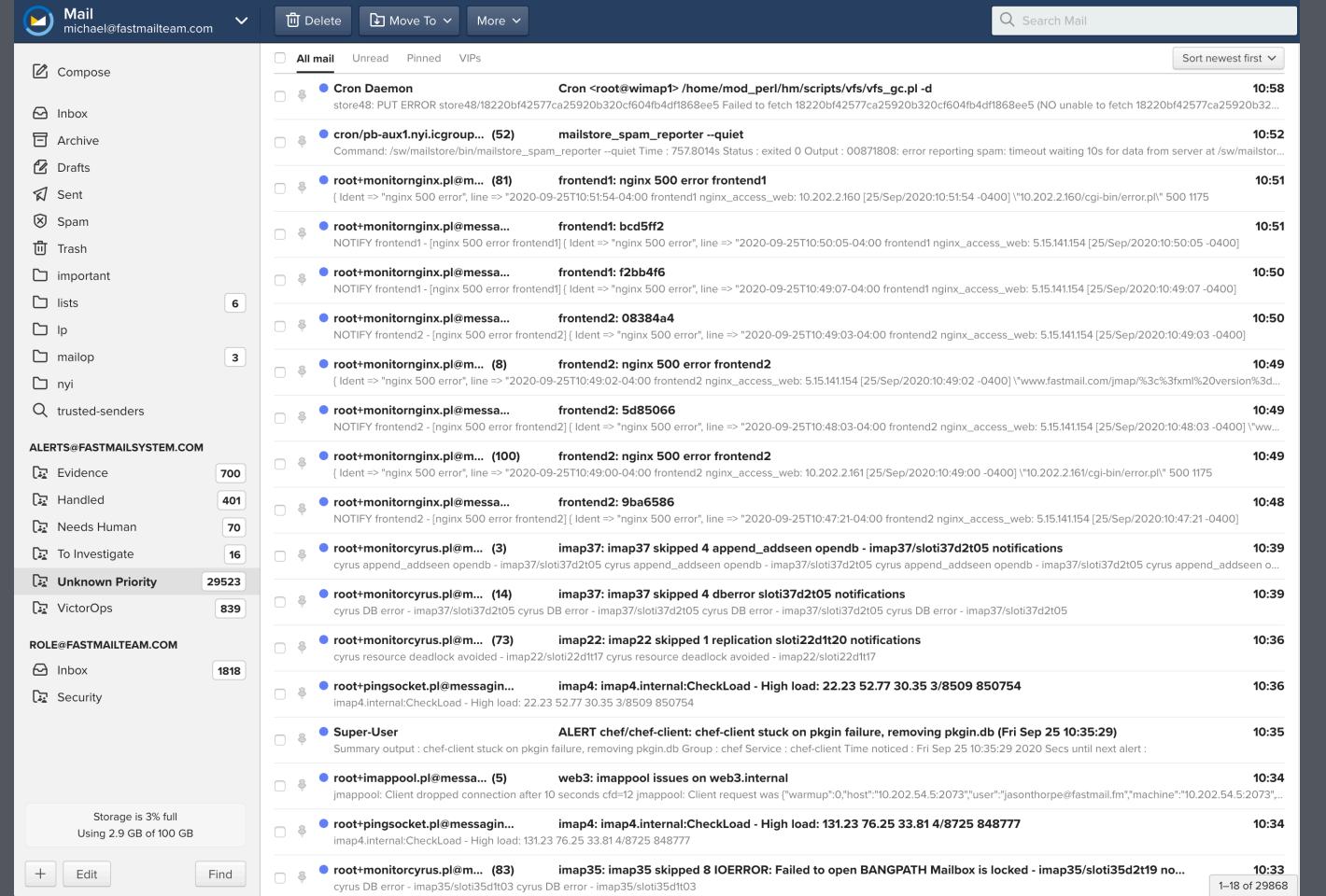
what even: Fastmail::Selenium::Driver

### what even: Fastmail::Selenium::Driver

- a subclass of Selenium::Remote::Driver (on CPAN)
- with a bunch of additional methods for doing things in the UI (clicking buttons by name, navigating around)
- it's great, except:
  - Selenium::Remote::Driver kinda sucks.
  - because Selenium kinda sucks.

### why even: does Selenium kinda suck

- we try to make it hard for robots to do things on the internet
- what is Selenium if not a robot on the internet?



# why even: does Selenium kinda suck

- we're talking to Selenium through Perl
- which is a crappy translation layer over Selenium's JSON API
- which is a crappy translation layer over Selenium's Java API
- and it's not well documented, to boot (and often breaks)

# how even: Selenium from above

- navigate to a URL
- find elements on the page
- do stuff with them

## how even: Selenium from above

- navigate to a URL
- find elements on the page !?
- do stuff with them

- configured with a bunch of poorly-named environment variables:
  - MAIL\_SELENIUM\_TESTS\_CONFIG or FMQA\_SERVICE\_UNDER\_TEST
  - USE\_LOCAL\_SELENIUM (optional)
  - JENKINS\_HOME (optional)
  - FMQA\_USE\_BROWSER (mostly unused)

- opens a connection to Selenium itself to control the browser
- and then drives it, mostly by clicking around through the UI

- whole bunch of convenience methods
- 63 methods in this file, but less than 1000 lines
- I won't tell you about all of them!
- but will tell you about *some* of them

- test utility methods
- login, logout, login\_url
- url\_for
- kill\_test, print\_session\_details, sort\_items

- waiting methods (avoid sleep littered about)
- sleep, sleep up to
- do\_when\_possible, refresh\_when\_possible
- with\_implicit\_wait\_timeout
- wait\_for\_X:
   X ∈ { contacts, conversations, notes, mailbox\_load, message sent, notification text }

- element retrieval convenience methods
- get\_element\_named, get\_child\_element\_named
- get\_app\_name
- get\_calendar\_events, get\_contacts, get\_messages, get\_notification

- click convenience methods
- click\_button, click\_link\_text, click\_checkbox\_in
- FM UI affordances
  - click\_main\_menu\_item
  - click\_sidebar\_item, click\_settings\_sidebar\_item
  - click event named

- Driver exists mainly to find elements on the page (!?)
- basically two methods to do this:
  - find\_element
  - get\_element\_named

# how even: finding elements

- find\_element by CSS selector, XPath, link text, [others]
- which is filine but:
   find\_element(
   '.v-EditEvent-part:nth-of-type(1) .v-TimeText
   input'
   )
- lots of work into making sure you never have to type that
- enter: ElementFinder.pm

#### what even: ElementFinder

```
# write this
$driver->click_element_named('calendar_birthday_toggle');

# instead of

my $elem = eval {
    $driver->find_element('.v-CalendarVisibility--birthdays .v-Icon.i-present');
};
abort($@) if $@;
```

# what even: ElementFinder

- very straightforward
- abstracts away all the selectors

```
sub beta_modal_close_button {
   my $self = shift;
   return with_abort { $self->find_element('button.v-BetaInfo-close') };
}

sub contact_list_items {
   my $self = shift;
   return with_abort { $self->find_elements('.v-ContactItem') };
}
```

```
sub with_abort (&) {
  my ($code) = @_;
  my @ret = eval { $code->() };
  abort($@) if $@;

return @ret if wantarray;
  return $ret[0];
}
```

## where even were we: an overview

- FM::S::Tester Test::Routine class
- FM::S::Driver Selenium::Remote::Driver subclass
- FM::S::ElementFinder selector abstractions

what even does a test look like

```
subtest 'read message detail' => sub {
  my ($message) = $driver->get messages;
  ok(
    $driver->find_child_element($message, 'Show details', 'link_text')->click,
    'Message details toggle clicked'
  );
  $self->sleep(∅.5, 'detail open animation');
  my $expect_addr = sprintf('%s <%s>',
    $self->config->compose_account_name,
   $self->address_for_test
  );
  my @details = map {; $_->get_text } $driver->get_message_details($message);
  is($details[0], $expect_addr, 'From address matches current account address');
  is($details[1], $self->address_for_test, 'To address is the same address as used on compose');
  is($details[2], $self->config->cc address, 'CC address is the same address as used on compose');
  my @cards = $driver->get_elements_named('message_items');
  my $text = $driver->get_message_plain_text($cards[0]);
  is($text, $body, 'Body text matches sent message text');
};
```

```
subtest 'read message detail' => sub {
  my ($message) = $driver->get_messages;

  ok(
        $driver->find_child_element($message, 'Show details', 'link_text')->click,
        'Message details toggle clicked'
  );

$self->sleep(0.5, 'detail open animation');
```

```
my @details = map {; $_->get_text } $driver->get_message_details($message);
is($details[0], $expect_addr, 'From address ok');
is($details[1], $self->address_for_test, 'To address is right');
is($details[2], $self->config->cc_address, 'CC address is right');

my @cards = $driver->get_elements_named('message_items');
my $text = $driver->get_message_plain_text($cards[0]);
is($text, $body, 'Body text matches sent message text');
};
```

# how even could we improve these tests?

- unbreak currently broken (skipped) tests
- new tests for new features
- test on more browsers/platforms (especially: mobile)
- require less arcane knowledge (especially: infrastructure)

#### what even have we learned?

- what even Selenium is
- where even the test code all lives
- how even the tests are all put together
- who even is the chief perpetrator of Selenium (me)
- why even we bother having these tests
- when (in the) even(t) something is broken, how to fix it

# ok 1 - 🥰 Selenium Tests: WTF Even? 🚧

the end