# Testing the package distribution

### The past and future



Wilf Wilson of the University of St Andrews at GAP Days Winter 2022 on the 21st February 2022

### Outline

- Motivation for automated testing for GAP/packages
- General aims
- Survey of old/existing functionality
- GitHub Actions
- General directions for work this week (and beyond)

## What is automated testing all about?

- Why test?
  - Try to ensure GAP/packages work as intended:
    - Correctness is particularly important in computational maths!
- Why automate?
  - Increase:
    - Frequency
    - Regularity
    - Reliability
  - Reduce labour (beware pitfalls!)

## What might we want to test?

### Have...

- Changes to GAP broken GAP?
- Changes to GAP broken a (released/dev) package?
- Changes to one package broken another package?
- External changes caused trouble?
  - New compilers...
  - New operating systems (and 32/64-bit)...
  - New versions of dependencies...
  - All sorts of annoying stuff...

## Important principles for our testing setup

- Useful
- Robust
- Low-effort
- Maintainable
- Portable
  - Sustainable (money/resources)
- Understandable and visible

### • DOCUMENTED!

• Easy for package authors (+everyone) to see status

### **Quick summary of past/present/future tools**

### **Travis:** No longer usable (cautionary tale!)

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	Travis Cl A	bout Us Blog	Status Documentation He	lp	Sign in				
		Since June	15th, 2021, the building on travis-ci.	org is ceased. Please use travis-ci.com from now o	n.				
			He	elp make Open Source a better place and start buil	ding better software today!				
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### **AppVeyor:** Windows tests (retired)

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← → C O A https://ci.appveyor.com/project/	/gap-system/gap/history	120% 公	⊗ ⊻ ≡
📀 AppVeyor		Sign in	
gap			
Current build History			
Pull request #4389 - Automate creating Windows installer	s for GAP releases with GitHub Actions		
Create Cygwin installers in GitHub Actions		1.0.11000	
10 months ago by Wilf Wilson	<sup>2</sup> master ↔ cdf81e85 ← <sup>3</sup> / <sub>2</sub> stable-cygwin ↔ a3ea10fc	10 months ago in 19 min 54 sec	
Pull request #4392 - CI: remove AppVeyor integration			
CI: remove AppVeyor integration		1.0.10999	
10 months ago by Max Horn	$\$^{g}$ master $\diamond$ e052c477 $\leftarrow$ $\$^{g}$ mh/remove-appveyor $\diamond$ b9c1c00f	Failed 10 months ago in 38 sec	
Pull request #4386 - Restore some functionality of the `s	trict` option to the `bin/BuildPackages.sh` script		
Restore some ofstrict to BuildPackages script		1.0.10998	
10 months ago by Wilf Wilson	$\degree$ master $\diamond$ 5b72da1b $\leftarrow$ $\degree$ ww/BuildPackages $\diamond$ 2b11fa45	10 months ago in 30 min 24 sec	
Update config.guess and config.sub		1.0.10997	
10 months ago by Max Horn	<sup>89</sup> master ↔ c0037b82	10 months ago in 18 min 9 sec	
Pull request #4389 - Automation creating Windows installe	ers for GAP releases with GitHub Actions		
Create Cygwin installers in GitHub Actions		1.0.10996	
10 months ago by Wilf Wilson	$\%$ master $\diamond$ 32cc682f $\leftarrow$ $\%$ stable-cygwin $\diamond$ 368d9da1	10 months ago in 18 min 40 sec	
CI: do not install readline in the macOS job		1.0.10995	
10 months ago by Wilf Wilson	<sup>2</sup> master ↔ 78199ffb	10 months ago in 18 min 30 sec	
write matrices of orth. groups over smallest fields		1.0.10994	
10 months ago by ThomasBreuer (committed by Max Horn)	° master ⊙ fa5b91fe	10 months ago in 17 min 23 sec	
Pull request #4381 - Update config.guess and config.sub			
Update config.guess and config.sub		1.0.10993	
10 months ago by Max Horn	$\$^{\mathcal{G}}$ master $\diamond$ 62e5526c $\leftarrow$ $\$^{\mathcal{G}}$ mh/autoconf-updates $\diamond$ 9b335bc7	10 months ago in 17 min 32 sec	

### Jenkins: Powerful (but private)

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GAP-master-windows-test		$\odot$	xộx GAP-	okg-update-ma	ster-snapshot	1 day 1 hr	- #203	1 mo 6 days - <b>#186</b>	8 min 40 sec	
		$\odot$		okg-merge-mas	ster	1 day 2 hr	- #647	N/A	34 min	
Build Executor Status	^	$\odot$		okg-update-sta	ble-snapshot	1 day 2 hr	- #617	N/A	4 min 20 sec	
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gapw10-cygwin64		$\odot$	iội GAP-	major-release-v	vin-test	4 days 2 h	ır - <b>#250</b>	2 mo 7 days - <b>#241</b>	20 min	
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		$\oslash$	xộ: GAP-	minor-release-v	vin-noreadline-build	11 mo - <b>#2</b>	240	N/A	1 hr 41 min	

### GitHub Actions: Fancy new kid on the block

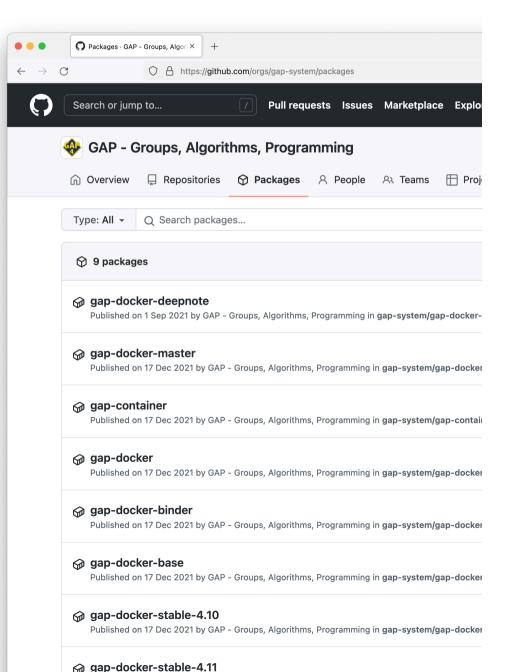
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### Want: GAP Docker containers

Pre-configured systems for quicker & consistent testing

• Zach Newbery will talk about this tomorrow morning

- Tasks:
  - Update or remove
     <u>https://hub.docker.com/u/gapsystem</u>
  - Clean up
     <u>https://github.com/orgs/gap-system/packages</u>



- Open source automation with lots of integrations
- GAP's installation is <u>https://gap-ci.cs.st-andrews.ac.uk</u>
  - Runs on St Andrews hardware: pros and cons
- Only available from within the St Andrews network!
  - Therefore currently of limited usefulness
- Vague goal:
  - Publicly replicate the desirable/feasible bits of Jenkins (i.e. in GitHub Actions). Retire old bits.



#### •••

🧕 Dashboard [Jenkins] × +

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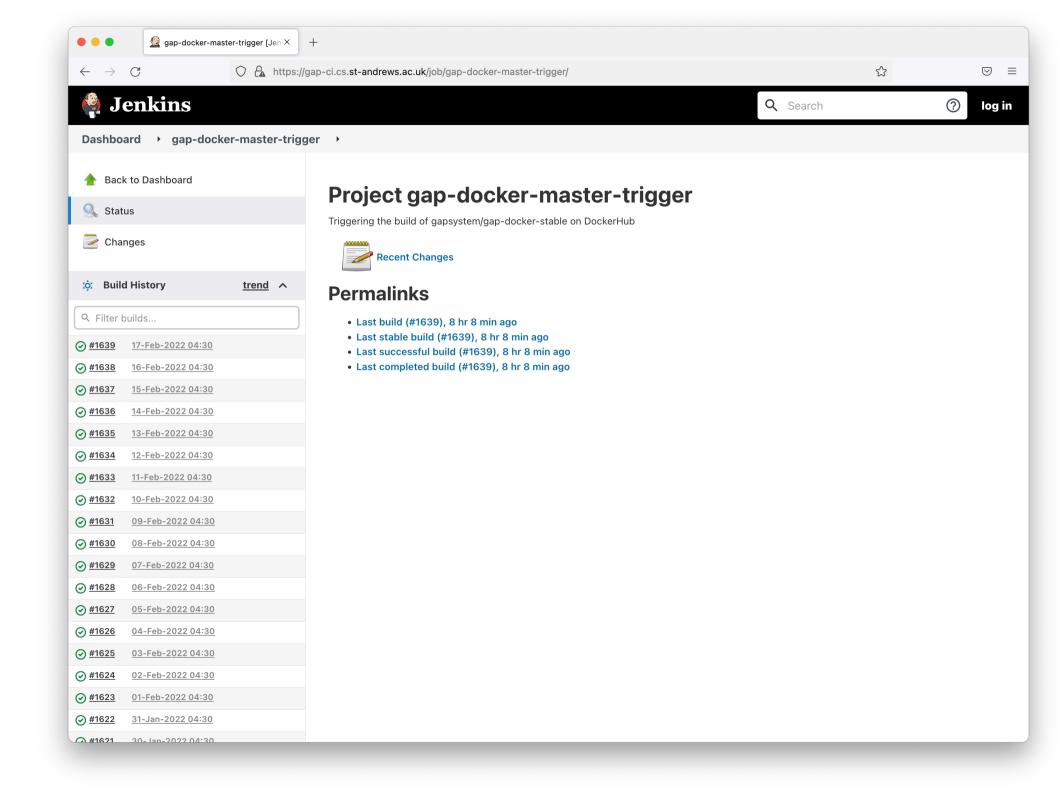
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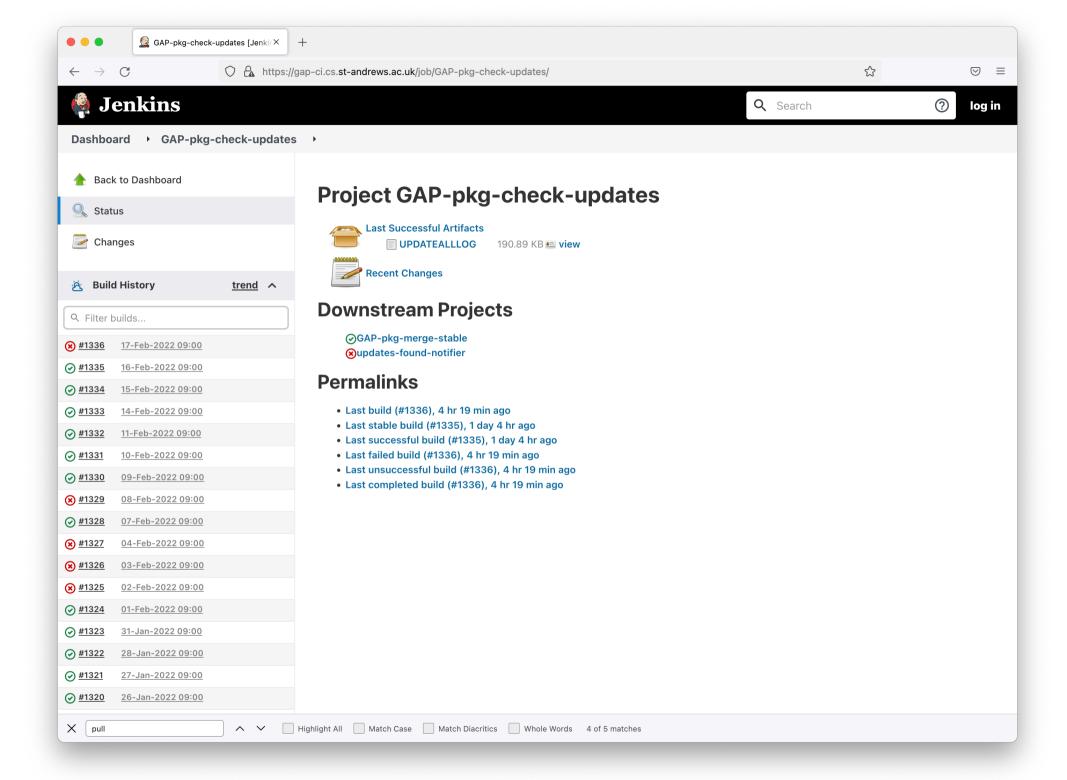
#### Dashboard

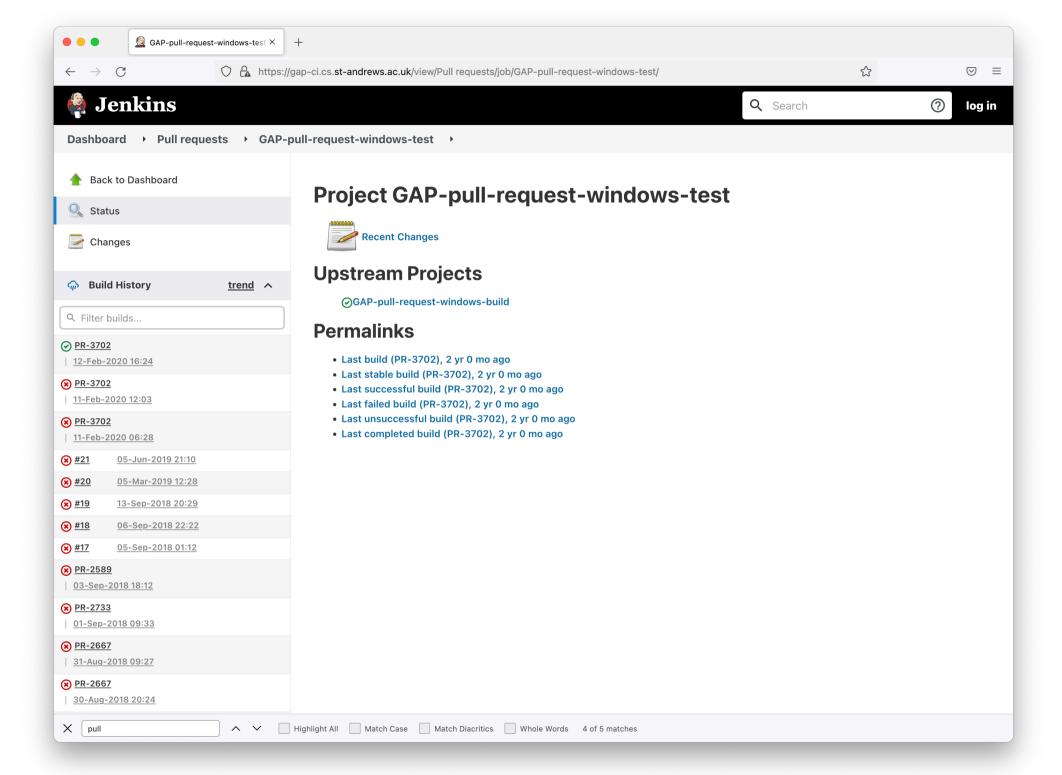
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	$\odot$	IÔI	GAP-pkg-merge-stable	1 day 3 hr - <b>#623</b>	1 mo 7 days - <b>#606</b>	42 min	
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	$\odot$	IÔI	GAP-pkg-update-master-snapshot	1 day 1 hr - <b>#203</b>	1 mo 6 days - <b>#186</b>	8 min 40 sec	
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	$\odot$	IÔI	GAP-pkg-update-stable-snapshot	1 day 2 hr - <b>#617</b>	N/A	4 min 20 sec	
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	$\odot$	IÔI	GAP-pull-request-snapshot	2 yr 0 mo - <b>PR-3702</b>	N/A	4 min 12 sec	
	Ø	ΧÔΙ	GAP-stable-snapshot	17 hr - <b>#1036</b>	1 mo 6 days - <b>#1009</b>	4 min 15 sec	





## **GitHub Actions: as powerful as Jenkins?**

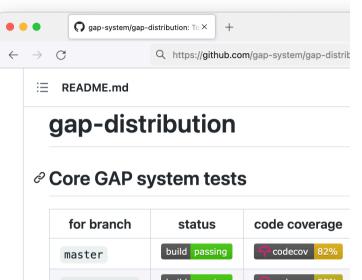
- GitHub's new-ish automation solution
  - Free for us (for now...). Open source.
  - Define tasks dynamically ('build matrix', up to 256 jobs)
- My slides from last GAP Days: <u>https://www.gapdays.de/gapdays2021-spring/program</u>
- We already use it for:
  - Tests on gap-system/gap (load each package; load all and test GAP)
  - Tests on GAP package developments repositories
  - Wrapping GAP releases
  - Building GAP docker images
  - Updating the GAP website

## The gap-distribution 'dashboard' (dead)

https://github.com/gap-system/gap-distribution

- Status of some GAP/package tests.
- Each status corresponds to a repository, mostly at github.com/gap-infra
  - Not ideal? (Lots of code duplication.)

- Vague goal:
  - Resurrect the best of the displayed functionality with GitHub Actions
    - Scavenge from the repositories!
    - (How to) combine with pkg-dist?

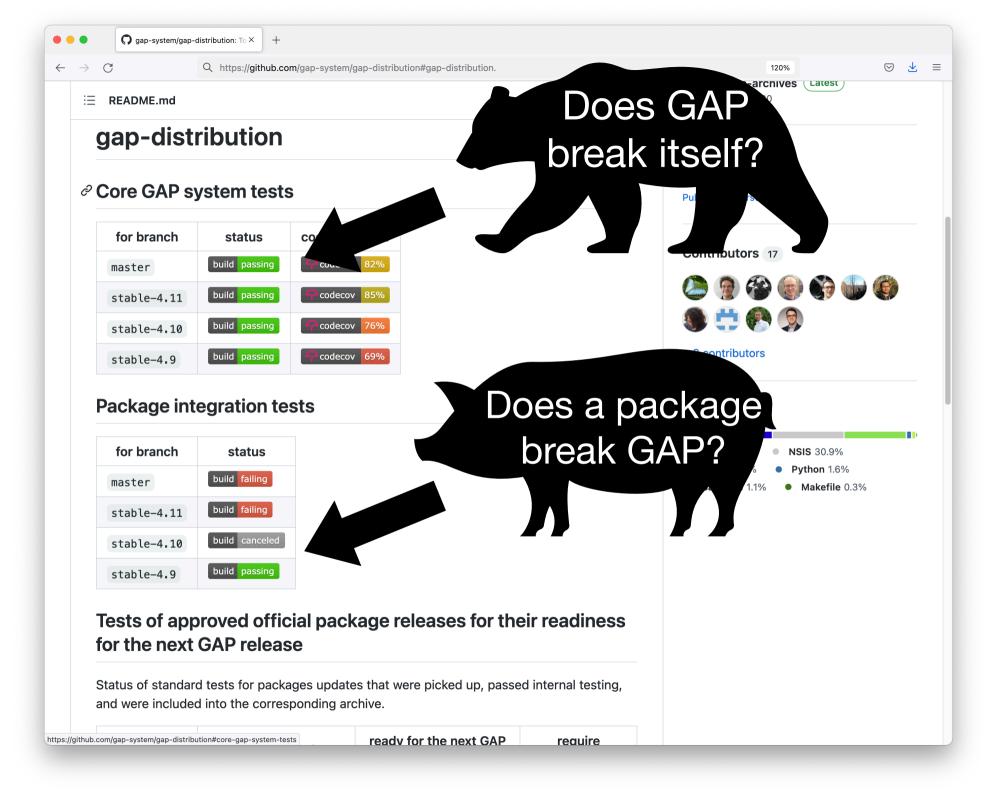


for branch	status	code coverage
master	build passing	Codecov 82%
stable-4.11	build passing	Codecov 85%
stable-4.10	build passing	Codecov 76%
stable-4.9	build passing	Codecov 69%

#### Package integration tests



Tests of approved official package I for the next GAP release



**O** gap-system/gap-distribution: To X

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A https://github.com/gap-system/gap-distribution

 $\equiv$  README.md

### Tests of approved official package releases for their readiness for the next GAP release

Status of standard tests for packages updates that were picked up, passed internal testing, and were included into the corresponding archive.

for branch	packages archive	ready for the next GAP release	inspection
master	packages-master.tar.gz	build error	build error
stable-4.11	packages-stable- 4.11.tar.gz	build error	build error
stable-4.10	packages-stable- 4.10.tar.gz	build passing	build canceled
stable-4.9	packages-stable- 4.9.tar.gz	build passing	build failing

### Tests of package development versions for their compatibility with the GAP development version

Status of standard tests for development versions of GAP packages having a public repository on GitHub.

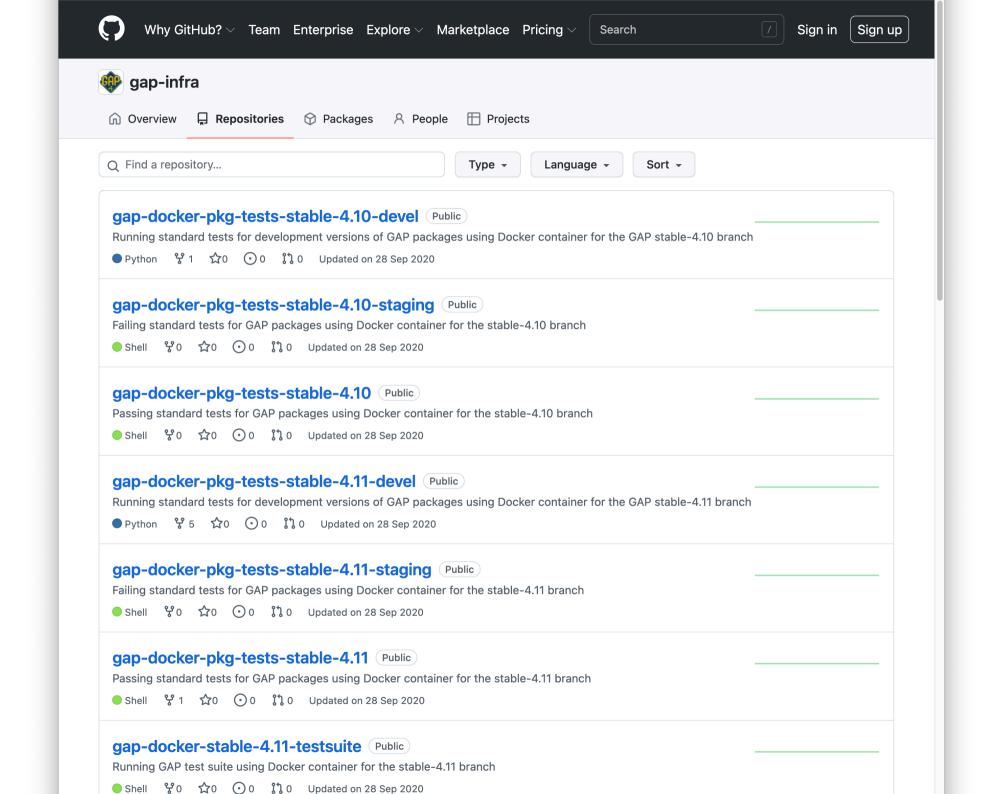
for branch	Click on the badge to see the status for each package	Development versions
master	build error	of packages
stable-4.11	build error	orpackages
stable-4.10	build canceled	
stable-4.9	build failing	

120%

Does GAP

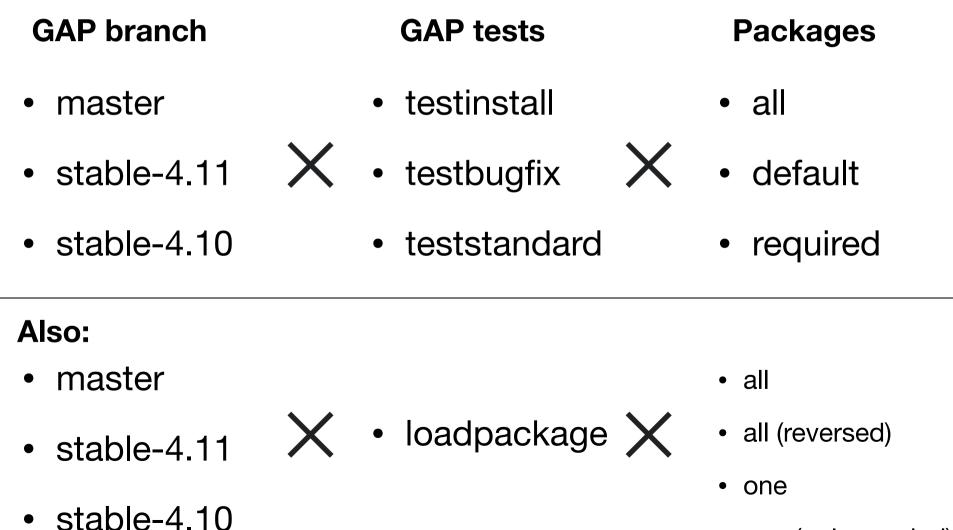
break a package?

 $\equiv$ 



## "Package integration tests": example

gap-infra/gap-docker-master-testsuite



• one (only needed)

### General directions for work in this area

- Assess what exists at Jenkins & gap-infra
- **Decide policy**: what do we want (and is feasible)
- Implement stuff in GitHub Actions
  - Which tests go on which repos? pkg-dist?
  - Take inspiration from existing GitHub Actions setups
  - Retire old things we don't want!
- **Document** everything transparently:
  - Collect the information somewhere obvious (website?!)
  - Correct out-of-date information in READMEs etc

### **Test parameters to decide**

- Frequency?
- Which versions of GAP?
- Which versions of packages?
- Which tests?
- Which other settings?

## **Systems to implement**

- Assemble tests to be run
- Code for running tests
  - Using Docker containers
- Notify (who? how?) about problems with tests

### More specific ideas/desires/questions

- Given a GAP pull request, does this break a package test?
- Do we really want/need LoadAllPackages?
- Have a way of "forgiving" broken package test results?
- Which tests should run on a PR to the pkg-dist repo?
- Include Windows tests as appropriate!
- Encourage "better" tests: avoid fragility w.r.t. ViewString

## Thank you!

### Further discussion and questions?