

# Pacts to the rescue!

Making your microservices play nicely together  
with Consumer Driven Contracts

Beth Skurrie  
@bethesque / @pact\_up  
[bskurrie@dius.com.au](mailto:bskurrie@dius.com.au)



“Integrated tests are a scam.  
A self replicating virus  
that threatens  
the very health of your codebase,  
your sanity,  
and I'm not exaggerating when I  
say,  
your life.”

- *JB Rainsberger*

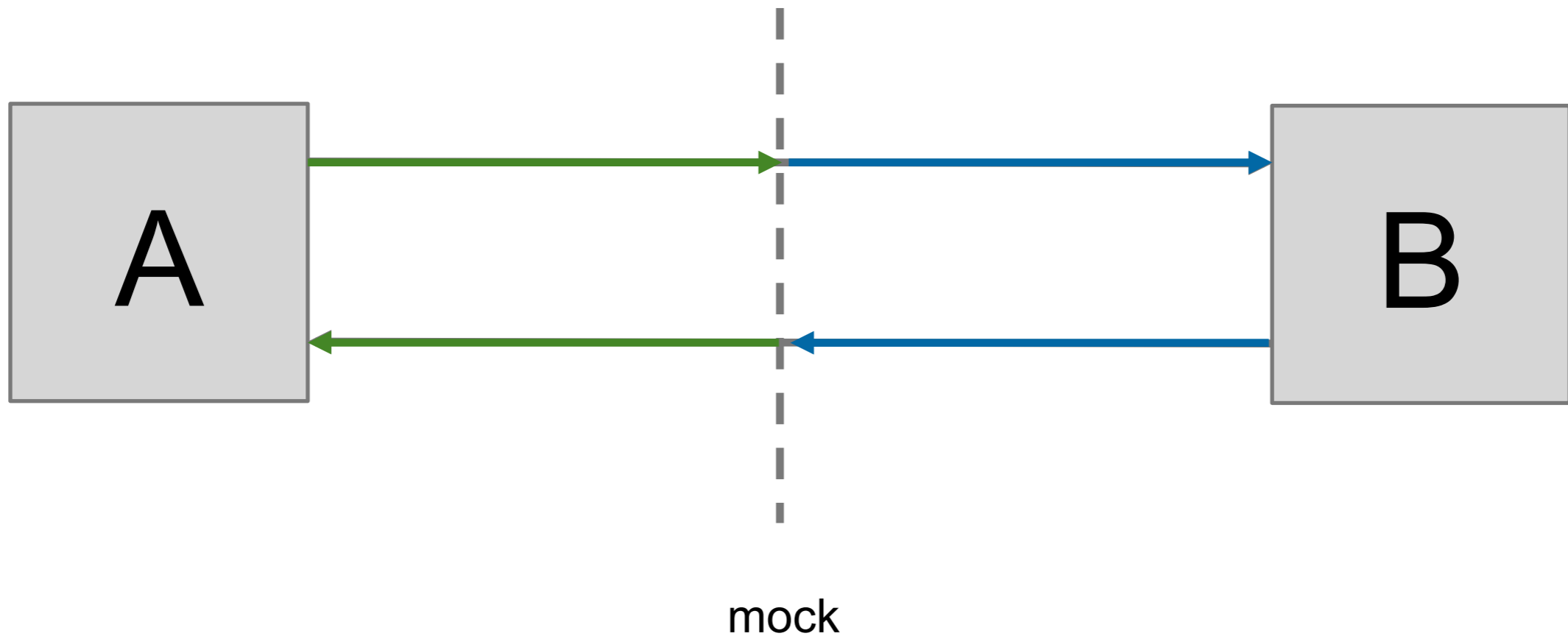
# Integrated Tests: The Problems

- Slow
- Easy to break
- Hard to fix
- Scales combinatorially

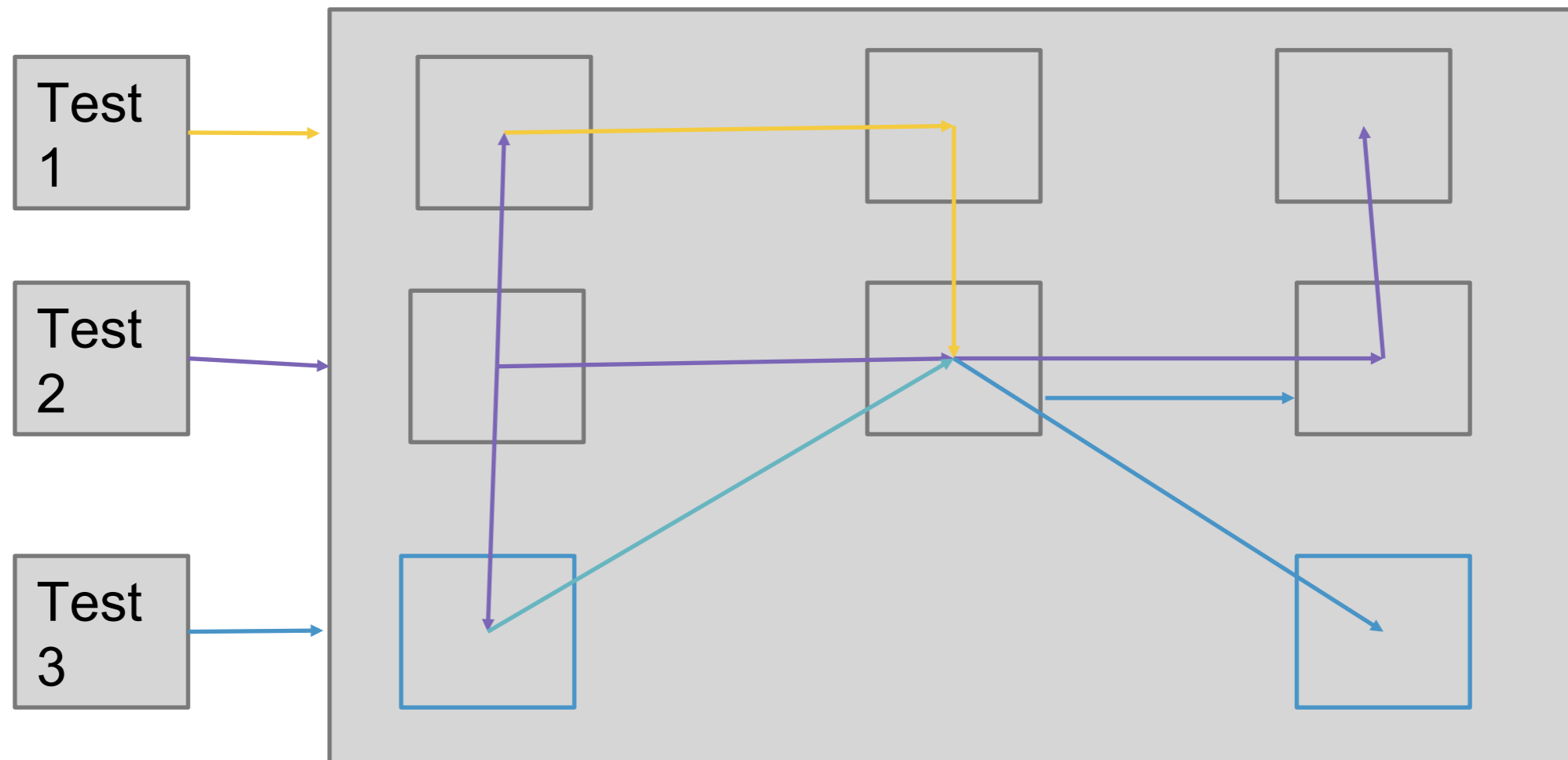
3 classes, 4 code paths each

$$4 * 4 * 4 = 64 \text{ tests}$$

# Test Symmetry... how it works



# Integrated tests





# Test Symmetry: The Problem

- Lack of automated tools
- Relies on developer eternal vigilance
- Does not scale

# Posed to Dius

Do we have the technology to achieve test symmetry?



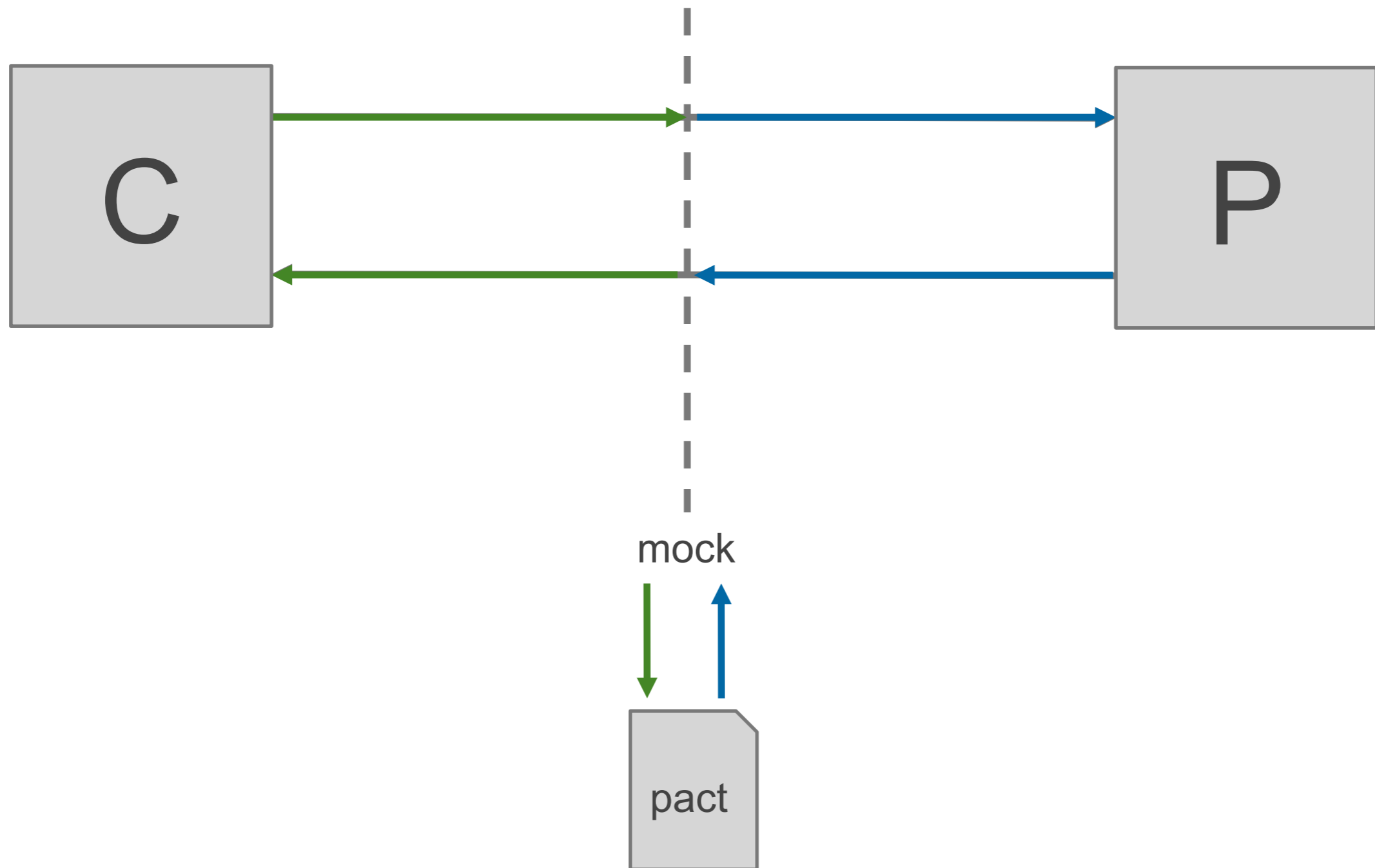
# System Integration Tests: The WORST

- Slower
- Easier to break
- Harder to fix
- Scales BADLY
- Lots of set up
- Flakey
- Extra infrastructure

Pact to the rescue!!!



# Pact... how it works



## ***Problems with...***

### ***Test symmetry***

- ***No automated tools***
- ***Relies on developer eternal vigilance - not sustainable***
- ***Does not scale***

### ***Integrated tests***

- ***Slow***
- ***Easy to break***
- ***Hard to fix***
- ***Scales combinatorially***

## ***Solved by Pact***

### ***Test symmetry***

- ***Automatically enforced***

### ***Integrated tests***

- ***Fast***
- ***Low set up***
- ***Reliable***
- ***Easier to debug***
- ***Standalone CI build***
- ***No extra infrastructure***
- ***Scales linearly***

**Better API design!**

## Arrange - set up mock server

```
Pact.service_consumer "Zoo App" do
  has_pact_with "Animal Service" do
    mock_service :animal_service do
      port 1234
    end
  end
end
end
```



## Arrange - set up expectations

```
animal_service.given("there is an alligator named Mary").  
  upon_receiving("a request for an alligator").with(  
    method: :get,  
    path: '/alligators/Mary',  
    headers: {'Accept' => 'application/json'} ).  
  will_respond_with(  
    status: 200,  
    headers: {'Content-Type' => 'application/json; charset=utf-8'},  
    body: {name: 'Mary'}  
  )
```

## Act and Assert

```
expect(  
  AnimalServiceClient.find_alligator_by_name("Mary")  
).to eq ZooApp::Animals::Alligator.new(name: 'Mary')
```



```
{
  "provider": {
    "name": "Animal Service"
  },
  "consumer": {
    "name": "Zoo App"
  },
  "interactions": [
    {
      "description": "a request for an alligator",
      "provider_state": "there is an alligator named Mary",
      "request": {
        "method": "get",
        "path": "/alligators/Mary",
        "headers": {
          "Accept": "application/json"
        }
      },
      "response": {
        "status": 200,
        "headers": {
          "Content-Type": "application/json; charset=utf-8"
        },
        "body": {
          "name": "Mary"
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

## Set up provider

```
Pact.service_provider 'Animal Service' do
  honours_pact_with "Zoo App" do
    pact_uri '../zoo-app/spec/pacts/zoo_app-animal_service.json'
  end
end
```

# Set up test data

Consumer assumed:

```
animal_service.given("there is an alligator named Mary").
```

Provider complies:

```
Pact.provider_states_for "Zoo App" do
  provider_state "there is an alligator named Mary" do
    set_up do
      AnimalService::DATABASE[:animals].insert(name: 'Mary', type: 'alligator')
    end
  end
end
end
```



# Verify: Success!

```
bethbook-home:animal-service Beth$ bundle exec rake pact:verify
Verifying a pact between Zoo App and Animal Service
  Given there is an alligator named Mary
    a request for an alligator
      returns a response which
        has status code 200
        has a matching body
        includes headers
          "Content-Type" with value "application/json;charset=utf-8"

Finished in 0.31829 seconds
3 examples, 0 failures
```

# Support

- JSON is language independent
- Ruby
- JVM (Java and Scala)
- Validate against any running provider using either library
- Pact specification
- JS library next - volunteers anyone?
- Janus
- Shokkenki

# “How is it working for you?”

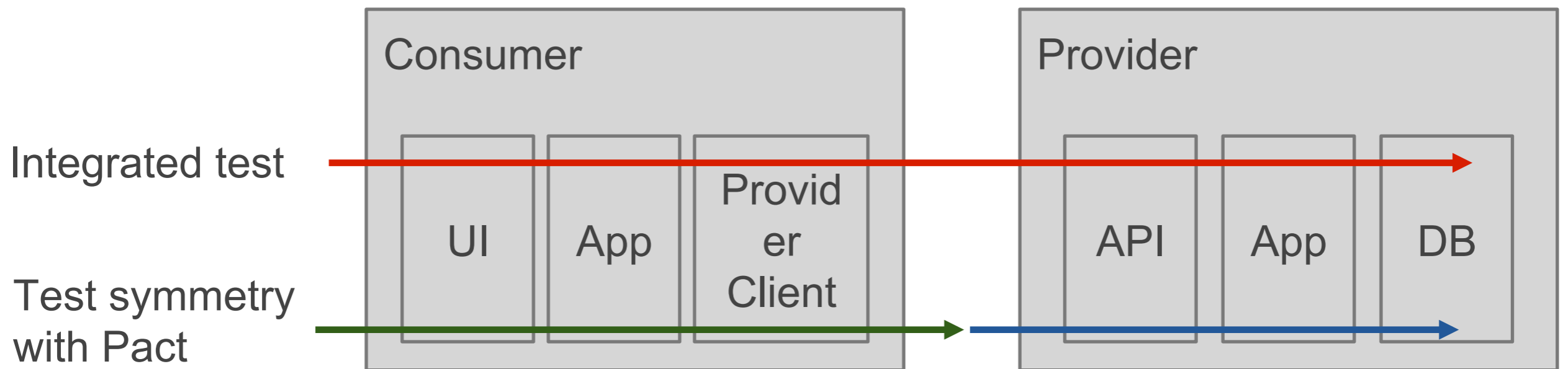
## Before Pact

- A “certification” environment that took 2 months to set up
- Deploy all the things => deploy new thing => integration tests => pass ? deploy to production : try again
- Does not scale

## With Pact

- 40+ microservices using Pact
- Green standalone CI builds ? deploy to production

# In summary...



## Pact allows you to:

- Combine the advantages of integrated tests and test symmetry
- Mitigates the shortcomings of each method
- Allows you to modify components with agility - quick feedback on potential breakages
- Have confidence that all the services in your system will work together
- Throw away your integration tests!!!



# Pact

Makes your microservices play nicely together  
with Consumer Driven Contracts

[github.com/realestate-com-au/pact](https://github.com/realestate-com-au/pact)

@pact\_up

Beth Skurrie

[bskurrie@dius.com.au](mailto:bskurrie@dius.com.au)

@bethesque

