An introduction to the CARGO package manager

Christophe Demarey, Pharo Days 2017



Motivations



- package dependencies as 1st class citizens
 - allow tools to take benefit of this data
- ease modularization
 - describe / review dependencies easily

Synthetic package descriptions

```
Package {
 #name : 'Seaside',
 #version : 3.1.0,
 #description : 'The framework for developing
   sophisticated web applications in Smalltalk.',
 #website : 'http://www.seaside.st',
 #dependencies : {
   'Grease' : 1.1,
   'Seaside-Core': 3.1.0,
   'Seaside-Canvas' : 3.1.0,
   'Seaside-Session': 3.1.0,
   'Seaside-Component': 3.1.0,
   'Seaside-RenderLoop' : 3.1.0,
   'Seaside-Tools-Core': 3.1.0,
   'Seaside-Flow': 3.1.0,
   'Seaside-Environment': 3.1.0,
   'Seaside-Widgets': 3.1.0
```

<u>Motivations</u>



- support update strategies through the use of semantic versioning
- reduce dependencies description time/size through better handling of platform-specific packages
- provide a central place to search for packages, project (or package) descriptions

Cargo features



- load packages from central package repository or any other package repository
- ease Git project development by allowing to load / save a project (and all its dependencies) directly to Git.



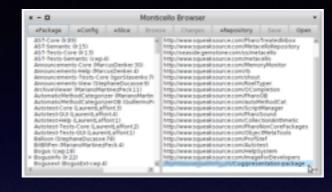
serializable load instructions (reproducible loadings)



package metadata managed by a STON file

Cargo features

VCS support:





- Monticello (publication, loading)
- Git (publication, metadata saving, loading)
- put focus on projects



 actions are defined on projects to save / publish a project at once

Model



Package Unit



Package Assembly



3 kind of packages

Management of platform-specific packages

pb: hard-coded package selection in the dependency description

ex:

```
spec
     group: 'Core'
     with: #('CoolBrowser-Core' 'CoolBrowser-Platform')
   spec
     for: #gemstone
     do: [ spec
             package: 'CoolBrowser-Platform'
             with: 'CoolBrowser-PlatformGemstone' ]
   spec
     for: #pharo
10
     do: [ spec
11
             package: 'CoolBrowser-Platform'
12
             with: 'CoolBrowser-PlatformPharo' ]
13
```

Management of platform-specific packages

Solution:

use Virtual packages and let the solver choose the right package



CoolBrowser-PlatformPharo



CoolBrowser-Platform



CoolBrowser-PlatformGemstone

Load a package

11 PT

Cargo new

package: 'MyProject@1.3';

install



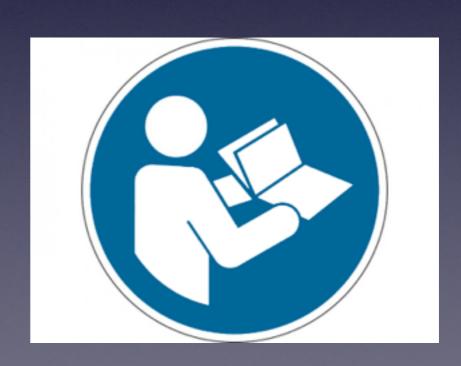


Load instructions

loadInstructions := Cargo new

package: 'MyProject@1.3';

loadInstructions



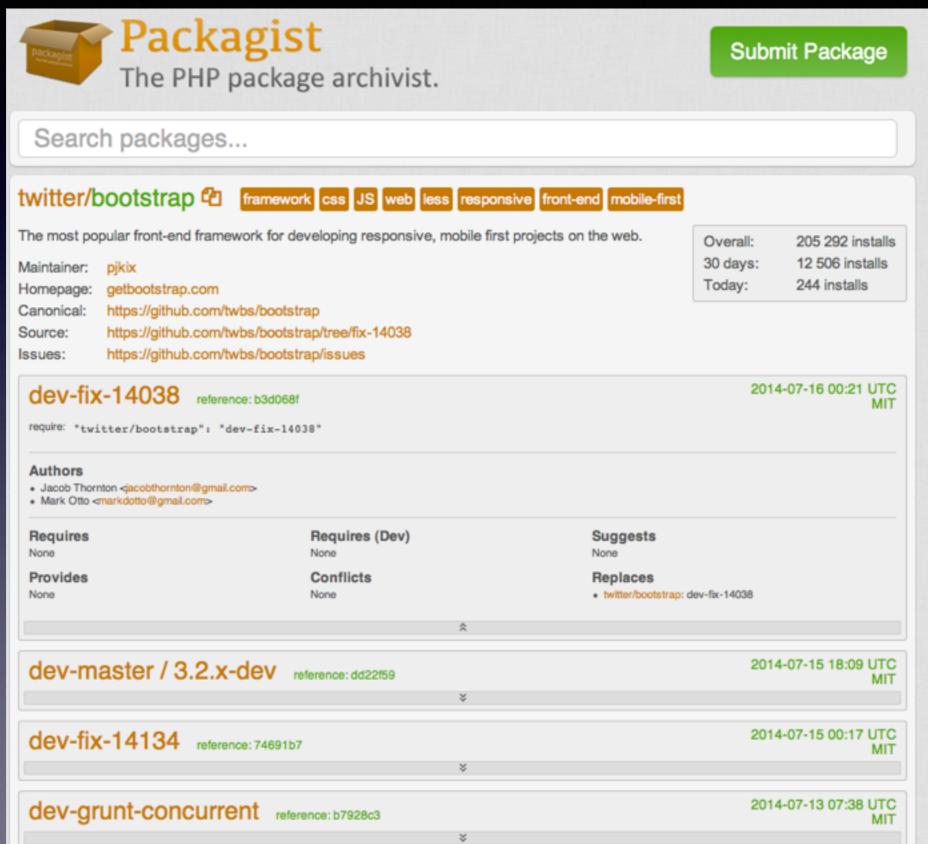
Load instructions

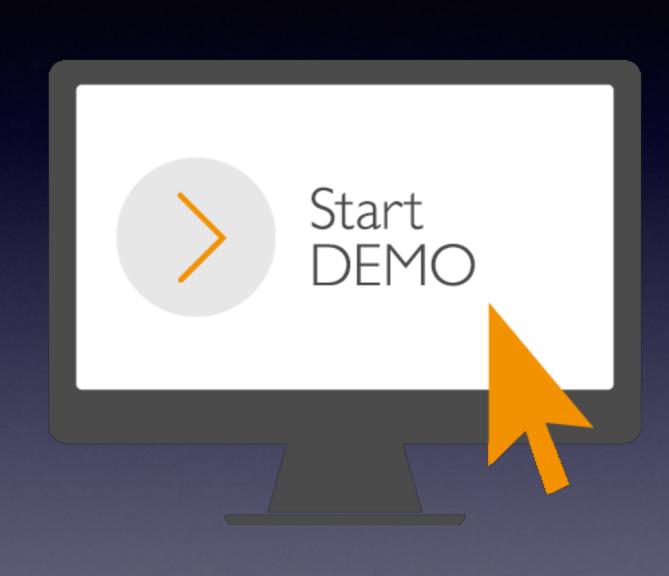
loadInstructions saveTo:

'MyProject-1.3-loadinstr.ston' asFileReference.

Cargo new installFromFile: 'MyProject-1.3-loadinstr.ston' asFileReference.

Central package repository





Conclusion



Cargo

- ease description of dependencies
- dependencies as 1st class citizens
- central repository to find packages
- gives focus on projects for developers

Conclusion

- Work in-progress
 - inclusion of Cargo in Pharo 7 early stages
- Future
 - central repository update
 - evolutions from community feedback



Questions?

code and tutorials on https://github.com/demarey/cargo

Why a central package repository?

 dependencies should refer to versionned packages, not source code artifacts

(ex: Versioner-Core-ChristopheDemarey.50 => Versioner-Core v0.8)

ease discovery of Pharo librairies