



# Web testing at Corporama

30 / 11 / 2012

Nicolas Thauvin  
<[nicolas@corporama.com](mailto:nicolas@corporama.com)>  
Corporama CTO  
<http://corporama.com>

## Agenda

1. Why GUI tests / the needs
2. Initial version
3. Current version
4. Demo
5. Conclusion / what's next

## Why GUI tests / The needs

- A lot of 'widgets'
- User specific
- External sources
- DB/CPU intensive
- A lot of Ajax
- Things behind the scene



The image displays three screenshots of the Corporama web application interface, illustrating various widgets and user-specific content.

**Infos légales Corporama:** This screenshot shows a page with filters for 'Actives par état', 'et/ou par activité', and 'et/ou par statut'. Below the filters, there is a section for 'CORPORAMA' with details such as '5 Cité GERMAIN PILON', '75 013 PARIS 13', and '1 à 2 M€ (2010)'. It also includes a map, contact information, and a list of 'Annonces légales' (legal notices) with dates and titles.

**Contacts Pros:** This screenshot shows a 'Contacts Pros' page with a search bar and a list of professional contacts. Each contact entry includes a name (e.g., 'Erio Bernet', 'Thomas Bassinet', 'Nicolas Theuvin'), a title, and a brief description of their role at Corporama. There are buttons for 'Rechercher un mail', 'Ajouter au CRM', 'Créer contact', and 'Suivre le profil'.

**Nuage de mots:** This screenshot shows a 'Nuage de mots' (word cloud) page with various business-related terms such as 'agrégateur', 'client', 'commerciaux', 'CRM', 'développé', 'extensions', 'saec', 'images', 'infos', 'logiciel', 'légales', 'matières', 'moteur', 'outil', 'prospection', 'veille', 'vtimer', and 'web'. Below the word cloud, there is a section for 'Actualités' (News) and 'Revue de presse avec Infomaxx' (Press review with Infomaxx), listing recent news articles with titles and dates.

## Features of our GUI tests system (version 1.Myriad)

- A GUI test = a set of actions in a browser, the automated way.
- We want to test Ajax, so we need to control browsers.
- We use Selenium and [https://github.com/charpi/erl\\_selenium](https://github.com/charpi/erl_selenium) (old RC API, not WebDriver).
- An erlang module per feature to be tested. Automated detection with \*\_gui suffix

## Features of our GUI tests system (version 1.Myriad)

What `gui_tests.sh "<tests to launch>"` does:

1. Define a few variables for the tests (to be read with `os:getenv/1`) : Host, Port, browser to be used...
2. Compile code, restart yaws test node
3. Start Selenium in a VNC instance or on display (Debug) using a custom profile
4. Fill database using our production import scripts
5. Create tests users (one per offer)
6. Start tests (sequentially) with subsystems (like fake SMTP server, `mock_internet`)

## Intercept external calls : data:api/2

- \* Intermediate layer between code and data (ie: external store)
- \* eunit tests declare their own data\_fun with expected clauses

```
api (http_request, {Method, URL, Headers, Body, Timeout, Options}) ->
...
{Host, Port, Path} =
  case application:get_env(www, http_proxy) of
    {ok, {Proxy_host, Proxy_port}} -> {Proxy_host, Proxy_port, URL};
    _ -> ...
  end,
lhttpc:request(Host, Port, ....).
```

## We mock the Internet

mock\_internet is a process that runs as a proxy and matches the longest URL prefix in an ETS table -> we can pass the tests without an internet access

the \*\_gui:mocks/1 Callback :

```
mocks () ->

[{"crm.zoho.com/crm", "<html><body>OK</body></html>"},
 {"crm.zoho.com/crm/WebToLeadForm##actionType=social_pro12345a",
  fun () ->
    someone ! got_zoho_request,
    mock:http_reply("../fxt/zoho_reply.html")
  end}}].
```

## GUI test sample

Sample from social\_pro\_gui.erl:

```
test_not_logged(Session) ->
    ok = gui_tests:logout(Session),
    ok = gui_tests:search(Session, "Apple"),
    Xpath = "//div[@id='social_pro']/div/b/text()",
    Text = "Tous les profils Viadeo et LinkedIn"
          " de la société à filtrer et exporter",
    gui_tests:check_text(Session, Xpath, Text),
    Teaser_x = "//a[@id='social_pro-teaser']",
    {ok, none} = selenium:cmd(Session, click, [Teaser_x]),
    Teaser_png_x = "//img[@src='/images/social_pro_teaser.png']",
    {ok, none} = selenium:cmd(Session, waitForElementPresent, [Teaser_png_x]),
    ?assertEqual(1, gui_tests:close_dialog_boxes(Session)).
```



## What's wrong with version 1

- Selenium (old RC) is slow, as it relies on a JS interface.
- In some browsers, the JS *itself* is slow (Ajax in IE..., various initializations).
- Very long time to start a browser session
- Duration (**50 tests**): **20min**.
- Incompatible with a reactive continuous integration system and a growing test set.
- Order matters. Tests pass when user A is used in test 1 then in test 2. Not test 2 then test 1
- Things to optimize in the tests sequence
- Some random timeouts in Ajax calls. Use *waitForElementPresent*, *waitForTextPresent* & al.

## Version 2

- Make it distributed (Erlang's way !)

A new callback function: *index/0*

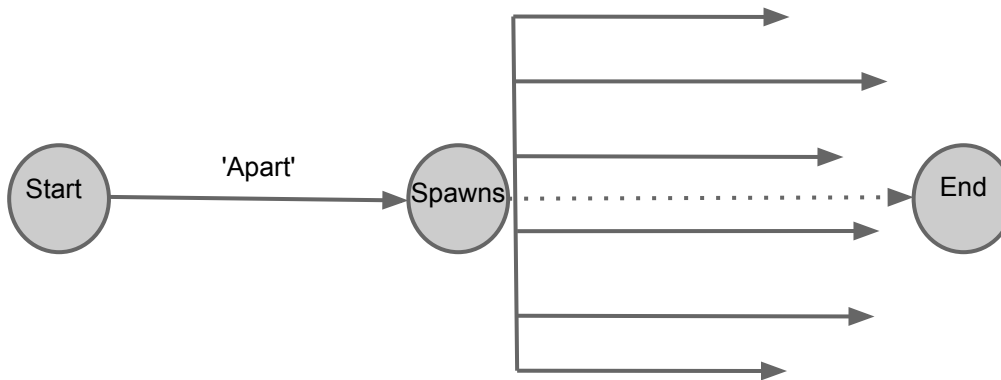
```
index () ->
    [{test_coupon_from_freemium_then_renew, [{user, "freemium"}]},
     {test_error, [{user, anonymous}, apart]},
     {test_offer_after_trial, [{user, anonymous}]},
     {test_defered, [{user, "freemium"}, {search, "Apple"}]}].
```

- One user per test (or anonymous).
- DB creation on GUI tests startup + automatic login at the beginning of test. Prevents bad profile reutilisation
- selenium\_pool to (re)allocate sessions (similar to Selenium Grid).
- selenium\_pool can also be used during development in an erlang Shell.

## Version 2 : queues

Test queues : A single "apart" then `$((`grep -c vendor_id /proc/cpuinfo`))` concurrent processes

- \* A browser instance per queue (one per visible processor)
- \* Record test durations in a DETS table. Used for next run distribution order



## Version 2 : debug

- \* Distributed tests often mean 'messy log files' or one log per test
- \* We use the messy one, tagged with the queue Pid (easier to spot interactions)
- \* When a test fails, it generates a screenshot of the browser view with the test name as file name
- \* export Debug=true :
  - Runs browsers on current X server
  - Keep mock\_internet running at the end

## Good enough ?



**Latest duration: 9min**

(including 164 GUI tests)

## Conclusion / What's next

- Good speed up and catches major regressions
- On our staging server, GUI tests act as a load tester (while running eunits in parallel)
- Selenium approach is ok for functional testing, but is not efficient to spot browser-specific bugs
  - \* bugs are likely to be caught by JS Lint or similar
  - \* CSS / layout issues are very hard to detect (screenshot comparison tend to result in false positives and easily misses real problems)
- We may release parts of our code on github... yet the system is built-in for Corporama use

**Merci !**

**Questions ?**