

# Composer Best Practices



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# Dependency Management

- **Dependency Management vs Package Management**
- **System state vs installation/update instructions**
- Configuration Management
  - Tool to manage system state (puppet, salt, ansible, chef, ...)
  - Description of state (master.pp, top.sls, ...)

Working on “Libraries”

# Publishing Packages

- README.md
  - What is it?
  - How do I use it?
  - How do I contribute? (Code of Conduct)
- Pick a License
  - SPDX
  - MIT, BSD, GPL
  - “proprietary”

# Publishing Packages

- CHANGELOG.md
  - BC breaks  
If necessary create UPGRADE.md
  - changes
  - bugfixes
  - new features

## Semantic Versioning

**x.y.z**

(BC-break).(new functionality).(bug fix)

<http://semver.org/>

# Semantic Versioning

## Promise of Compatibility

**X.Y.Z**

- Must be used consistently
  - Dare to increment **X**!
- Only valuable if BC/Compatibility promise formalized
  - See <http://symfony.com/doc/current/contributing/code/bc.html>
  - Document in Changelog

# Continuous Integration for Libraries

- Multiple runs
  - `composer install` from lock file
  - `composer update` for latest deps
  - `composer update --prefer-lowest --prefer-stable` for oldest (stable) deps
- Potentially multiple composer.json files with different platform configurations
  - `COMPOSER=composer-customer1.json php composer.phar update`
  - `COMPOSER=composer-customer1.json php composer.phar install`
  - Don't use this except for testing



Working on “Applications”

# Simple Versioning

- There are no other packages depending on yours
- BC - for Composer consumption - doesn't matter
- Options:
  - Don't use versions at all, rely on your VCS
  - Increment a single integer
  - Use semver if you ship the application

# How to update?

- “composer update”
  - no isolation of problems unless run very frequently
- “composer update <package...>”
  - explicit conscious updates
- “composer update --dry-run [<package...>]”
  - Understanding and preparing effects of updates
  - Read CHANGELOGs
  - composer outdated

# Versions Constraints

|                                     |                         |                                  |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| - <b>Exact Match:</b>               | 1.0.0                   | 1.2.3-beta2                      | dev-master                       |
| - <b>Wildcard Range:</b>            | 1.0.*                   | 2.*                              |                                  |
| - <b>Hyphen Range:</b>              | 1.0-2.0<br>>=1.0.0 <2.1 | 1.0.0 - 2.1.0<br>>=1.0.0 <=2.1.0 |                                  |
| - <i>(Unbounded Range:<br/>Bad!</i> | >= 1.0)                 |                                  |                                  |
| - <b>Next Significant Release</b>   | ~1.2<br>>=1.2.0 <2.0.0  | ~1.2.3<br>>=1.2.3 <1.3.0         |                                  |
| - <b>Caret/Semver Operator</b>      | ^1.2<br>>=1.2.0 <2.0.0  | ^1.2.3<br>>=1.2.3 <2.0.0         | <b>Best Choice for Libraries</b> |

Operatoren: " " AND, "||" OR

- **Order** dev -> alpha -> beta -> RC -> stable
- **Automatically from tags**
  - 1.2.3 -> stable
  - 1.3.0-beta3 -> beta
- **Automatically from branches**
  - Branch -> Version (Stability)
  - 2.0 -> 2.0.x-dev (dev)
  - master -> dev-master (dev)
  - myfeature -> dev-myfeature (dev)
- **Choosing**
  - "foo/bar" : "1.3.\*@beta"
  - "foo/bar" : "2.0.x-dev"
  
  - "minimum-stability" : "alpha"

# In case of Errors

```
$ php composer.phar validate
```

```
./composer.json is valid for simple usage with composer but has  
strict errors that make it unable to be published as a package:
```

```
See https://getcomposer.org/doc/04-schema.md for details on the schema
```

```
name : The property name is required
```

```
description : The property description is required
```

```
require.composer/composer : unbound version constraints (dev-master) should be avoided
```

*Common: Version entry in composer.json conflicts with tag*

```
$ php composer.phar self-update
```

```
$ php composer.phar update -vvv
```

# Resolution Conflicts: Overly Strict Requirements

```
// composer.json
```

```
  "require": {  
    "cool/alice": "~1.3",  
    "lazy/bob": "~1.2"  
  }
```

```
// dependencies
```

```
  "name": "cool/alice",  
  "require": {  
    "monolog/monolog": "~1.6"  
  }
```

```
  "name": "lazy/bob",  
  "require": {  
    "monolog/monolog": "1.3.*"  
  }
```

# Resolution Conflicts: Overly Strict Requirements

Your requirements could not be resolved to an installable set of packages.

## Problem 1

- Installation request for lazy/bob ~1.2 -> satisfiable by lazy/bob[1.4.0].
- Installation request for cool/alice ~1.3 -> satisfiable by cool/alice[1.3.0].
- lazy/bob 1.4.0 requires monolog/monolog 1.3.\* -> satisfiable by monolog/monolog[1.3.0, 1.3.1]
- cool/alice 1.3.0 requires monolog/monolog ~1.6 -> satisfiable by monolog/monolog[1.6.0, 1.7.0]
- Can only install one of: monolog/monolog[1.6.0, 1.3.0].
- Can only install one of: monolog/monolog[1.6.0, 1.3.1].
- Conclusion: don't install monolog/monolog 1.3.1
- Conclusion: don't install monolog/monolog 1.7.0
- Conclusion: don't install monolog/monolog 1.3.0
- Conclusion: don't install monolog/monolog 1.6.0



# Resolution Conflicts: Overly Strict Requirements

```
// composer.json
```

```
  "require": {  
    "cool/alice": "~1.3",  
    "lazy/bob": "~1.2"  
  }
```

```
// dependencies
```

```
  "name": "cool/alice",  
  "require": {  
    "monolog/monolog": "~1.6"  
  }  
  
  "name": "lazy/bob",  
  "require": {  
    "monolog/monolog": "1.3.*"  
  }
```

# Resolution Conflicts: Stabilities

```
// composer.json

    "minimum-stability": "beta",
    "require": {
        "monolog/monolog": "1.*",
        "symfony/symfony": "~2.4",
        "bad/package": "dev-master"
    }

// dependencies

    "name": "bad/package",
    "require": {
        "monolog/monolog": "dev-master",
    }
```

Your requirements could not be resolved to an installable set of packages.

## Problem 1

- Installation request for bad/package dev-master -> satisfiable by bad/package[dev-master].
- bad/package dev-master requires monolog/monolog dev-master -> no matching package found.

# Resolution Conflicts: Stabilities

```
// composer.json

    "minimum-stability": "beta",
    "require": {
        "monolog/monolog": "1.*",
        "symfony/symfony": "~2.4",
        "bad/package": "dev-master"
    }

// dependencies

    "name": "bad/package",
    "require": {
        "monolog/monolog": "dev-master",
    }
}
```

# Resolution Conflicts: Stabilities

```
// composer.json

"minimum-stability": "beta",
"require": {
    "monolog/monolog": "1.*@dev",
    "symfony/symfony": "~2.4",
    "bad/package": "dev-master"
}

// dependencies

"name": "bad/package",
"require": {
    "monolog/monolog": "dev-master",
}
```

# Resolution Conflicts: Stabilities

```
// monolog
  "name": "monolog/monolog",
  "extra": {
    "branch-alias": {
      "dev-master": "1.12.x-dev"
    }
  }
}
```

- Installing monolog/monolog (dev-master 5ad421d)  
Cloning 5ad421d6a1d5d7066a45b617e5164d309c4e2852

# Resolution Conflicts: Stabilities

```
// monolog
{
  "name": "monolog/monolog",
  "extra": {
    "branch-alias": {
      "dev-master": "2.0.x-dev"
    }
  }
}
```

# Resolution Conflicts: Stabilities

Your requirements could not be resolved to an installable set of packages.

## Problem 1

- Installation request for monolog/monolog 1.\*@dev -> satisfiable by monolog/monolog[1.12.0].
- Installation request for bad/package dev-master -> satisfiable by bad/package[dev-master].
- bad/package dev-master requires monolog/monolog dev-master -> satisfiable by monolog/monolog[dev-master].
- Can only install one of: monolog/monolog[1.12.0, dev-master].

We require “2.\*@dev” instead

- Resolution works
- Project is probably broken:  
bad/package may not be compatible with 2.\*



# No error but unexpected result?

- **composer why [--tree] foo/bar**  
mydep/here 1.2.3 requires foo/bar (^1.0.3)
- **composer why-not [--tree] foo/bar ^1.2**  
foo/bar 1.2.3 requires php (>=7.1.0 but 5.6.3 is installed)

- **repo/projectA/composer.json**

```
"repositories": [  
    {"type": "path", "url": "../core"}  
],  
"require": {  
    "vendor/projectB": "dev-master"  
}
```

- **repo/projectB/composer.json**

```
"name": "vendor/projectB",  
"version": "dev-master"
```

# How do partial updates work?

```
{  "name": "zebra/zebra",  
  "require": {  
    "horse/horse": "^1.0"  }}
```

```
{  "name": "giraffe/giraffe",  
  "require": {  
    "duck/duck": "^1.0"  }}
```

# How do partial updates work?

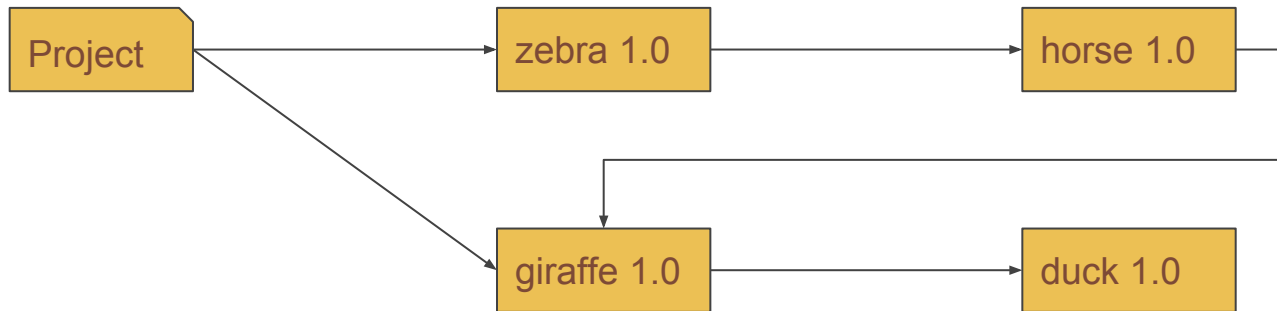
```
{  "name": "horse/horse",  
  "require": {  
    "giraffe/giraffe": "^1.0"  }}
```

```
{  "name": "duck/duck",  
  "require": {}}
```

# How do partial updates work?

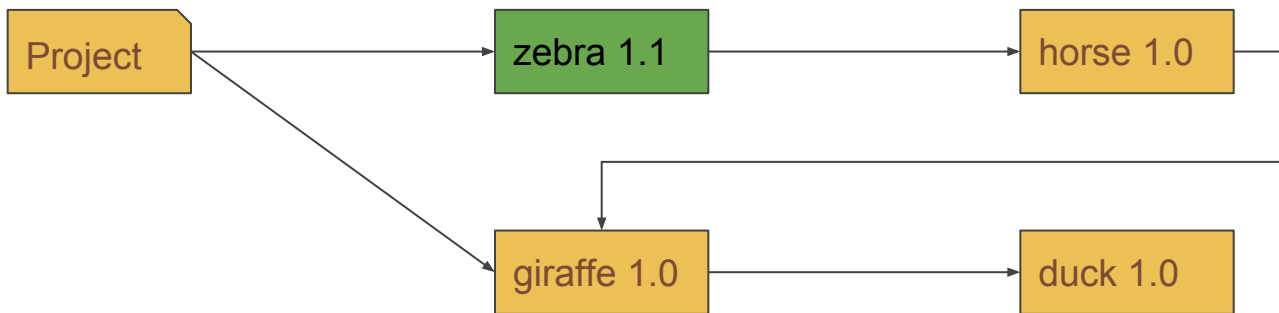
```
{  
  "name": "my-project",  
  "require": {  
    "zebra/zebra": "^1.0",  
    "giraffe/giraffe": "^1.0"  
  }  
}
```

# How do partial updates work?



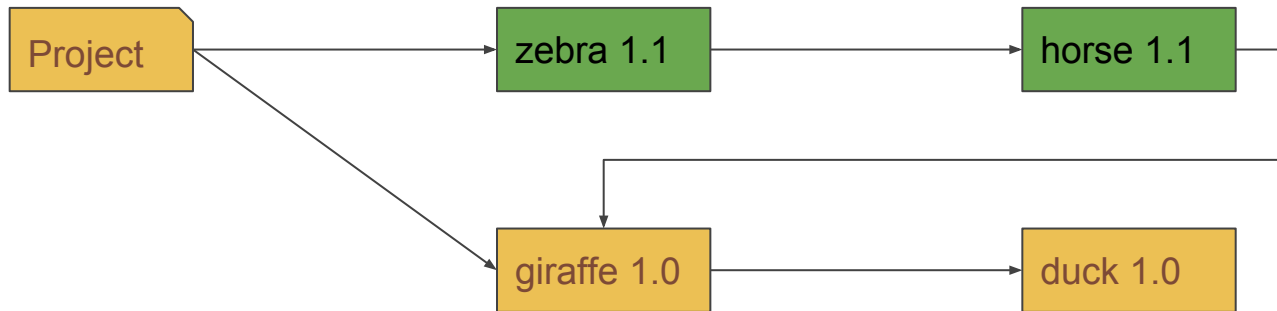
Now each package releases 1.1

# How do partial updates work?



```
$ composer update --dry-run zebra/zebra  
Updating zebra/zebra (1.0 -> 1.1)
```

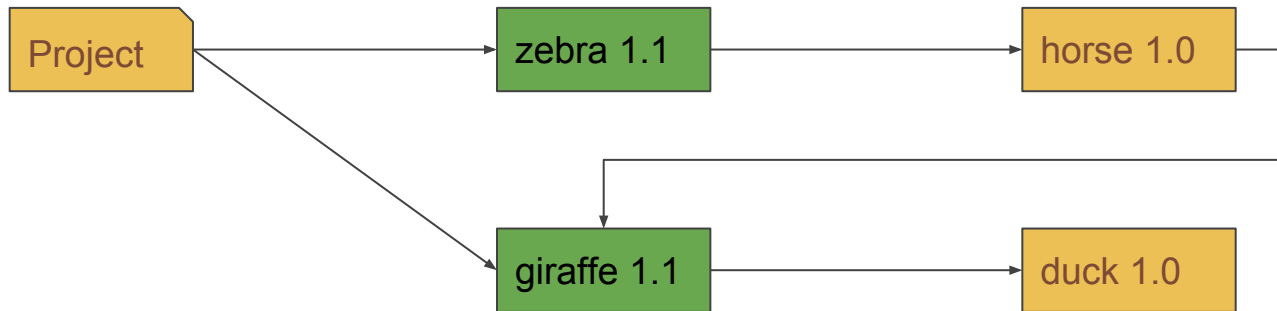
# How do partial updates work?



```
$ composer update --dry-run zebra/zebra --with-dependencies  
Updating horse/horse (1.0 -> 1.1)  
Updating zebra/zebra (1.0 -> 1.1)
```

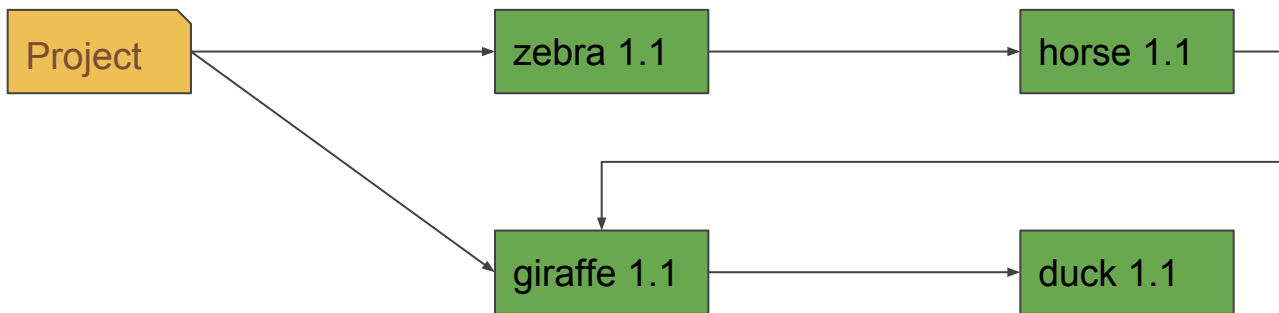


# How do partial updates work?



```
$ composer update --dry-run zebra/zebra giraffe/giraffe
Updating zebra/zebra (1.0 -> 1.1)
Updating giraffe/giraffe (1.0 -> 1.1)
```

# How do partial updates work?



```
$ composer update zebra/zebra giraffe/giraffe --with-dependencies
Updating duck/duck (1.0 -> 1.1)
Updating giraffe/giraffe (1.0 -> 1.1)
Updating horse/horse (1.0 -> 1.1)
Updating zebra/zebra (1.0 -> 1.1)
```

# The Lock File

- Contents
  - all dependencies including transitive dependencies
  - Exact version for every package
  - download URLs (source, dist, mirrors)
  - Hashes of files
- Purpose
  - Reproducibility across teams, users and servers
  - Isolation of bug reports to code vs. potential dependency breaks
  - Transparency through explicit updating process

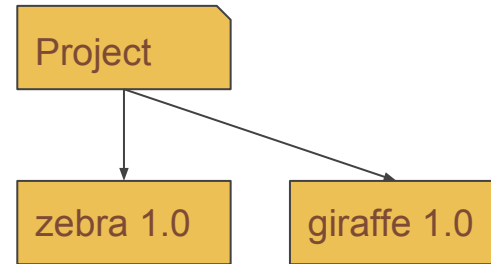
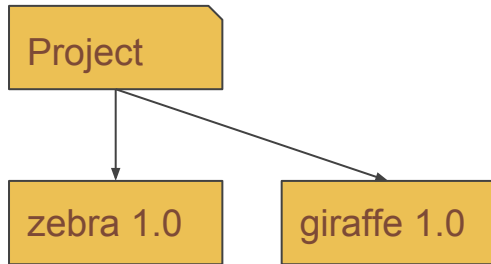
# Commit The Lock File

- If you don't
  - composer install without a lock file is a composer update
  - Conflict can randomly occur on install
  - You may not get the same code
  - You no longer manage change  
Change is managing you!
- The lock file exists to be committed!

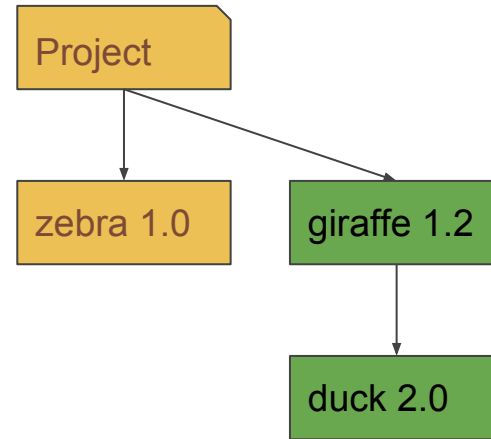
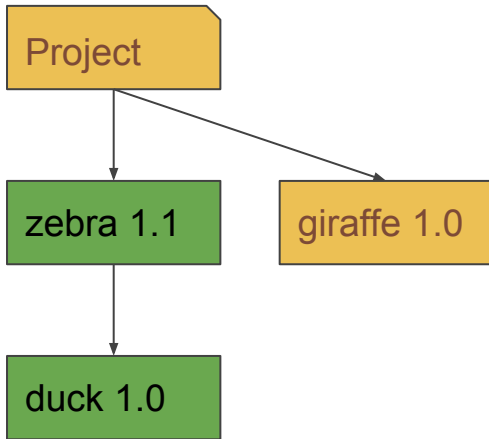
# How to resolve lock merge conflicts?

- composer.lock cannot be merged without conflicts
  - contains hash over relevant composer.json values
- `git checkout <refspec> -- composer.lock`
  - `git checkout master -- composer.lock`
- Repeat: `composer update <list of deps>`
  - Store parameters in commit message
  - Separate commit for the lock file update

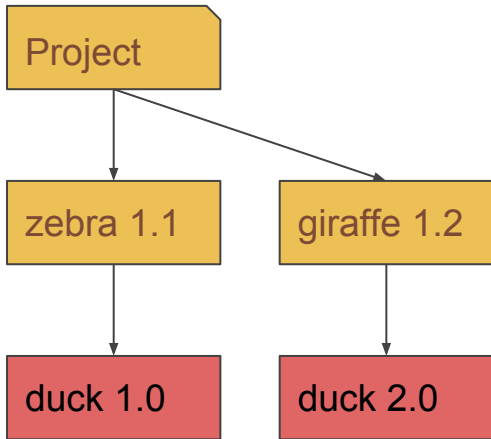
# How to resolve lock merge conflicts?



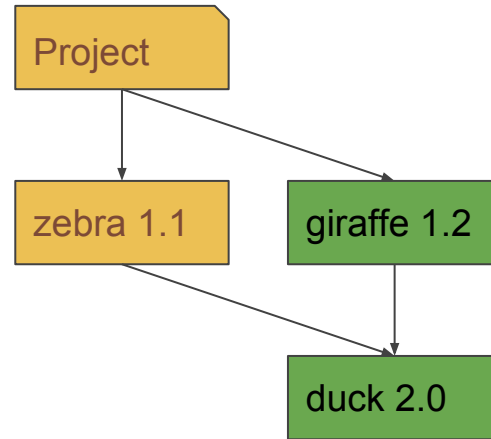
# How to resolve lock merge conflicts?



# How to resolve lock merge conflicts?



Merge results in invalid dependencies



Rerunning update is safe



# Autoloader Optimization

- `composer install --optimize-autoloader`
  - `composer dump-autoload --optimize`
- `composer install --optimize-autoloader --classmap-authoritative`
  - `composer dump-autoload --optimize --classmap-authoritative`
- `composer install --optimize-autoloader --apcu-autoloader`
  - `composer dump-autoload --optimize --apcu`

<https://getcomposer.org/doc/articles/autoloader-optimization.md>

**composer update --ignore-platform-reqs**

Better:

```
"config": {  
    "platform": {  
        "php": "5.6.4",  
        "ext-mongo": "1.0.0"  
    }  
}
```

## Custom repositories have priority:

```
"repositories": [  
  {  
    "type": "vcs",  
    "url": "https://github.com/naderman/symfony"  
  }  
],  
"require": {  
  "symfony/symfony": "dev-master"  
}
```

## Custom branches are available (composer show -v symfony/symfony)

```
"repositories": [  
  {  
    "type": "vcs",  
    "url": "https://github.com/naderman/symfony"  
  }  
],  
"require": {  
  "symfony/symfony": "dev-my-patch"  
}
```

**Aliases allow other dependencies to resolve against custom branches:**

```
"require": {  
  "symfony/symfony": "dev-my-patch as 3.1.0"  
  "other/package": "1.23"  
}
```

```
"name": "other/package"  
"require": {  
  "symfony/symfony": "^3.1"  
}
```

# Community Tools

- <http://packanalyst.com>
- <http://semver.mwl.be>
- <http://melody.sensiolabs.org>
- <http://packagist.graphstory.com>
- <https://github.com/ziadoz/awesome-php>

# Summary

- Library CI: composer update  
--prefer-lowest --prefer-stable
- composer update [--dry-run] <package>
- git checkout <branch> -- composer.lock
- composer dump-autoload --optimize  
--classmap-authoritative
- composer why/why-not
- Formalize BC promises for users of your libraries
- SemVer: Don't be afraid to increase the major version
- Document changes to dependencies

Commit the composer.lock file!

Thank you!

Questions / Feedback?

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