



# Clean Cucumber

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Clean Code Days 21.06.2018

# Funkwerk

Passenger Information

Country wide

Customized

High Availability

High Reliability



12 nach Cottbus - weitc 14:51  
Erkner - Fürstentwale - Frankfurt (O) RE 1  
Eisenhüttenstadt ABCDEFG  
Folgebzge:  
15:14 RB 14 B-Schönefeld ↗  
15:21 RE 1 Frankfurt (O)



11  
15:10  
RB 21  
B Friedrichstraße  
Folgebzge:  
15:22 IC 143 von Amsterdam CS  
15:35 RE 2 Cottbus

Fahrkarten  
Tickets/Billets/Biglietti

Fahrkarten  
Tickets/Billets/Biglietti

**Clean Code**

Clean Test

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Clean Code

Clean Cucumber

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Clean Test

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Clean Code

What is Cucumber?

**Given**

**When**

**Then**

# What is Cucumber?

**Feature**

**Scenario /**

**Outline**

**Example**

**Given**

**When**

**Then**

# What is Cucumber?

**Feature**

**Scenario /**

**Outline**

**Example**

**Given**

**When**

**Then**

@skip, @wip

And / But

“””” ... “””” / Table



What is Cucumber?

~~Tests~~

Specification in the domain language of the  
stakeholder

# Adoption process



as blackbox  
tests

~1 year



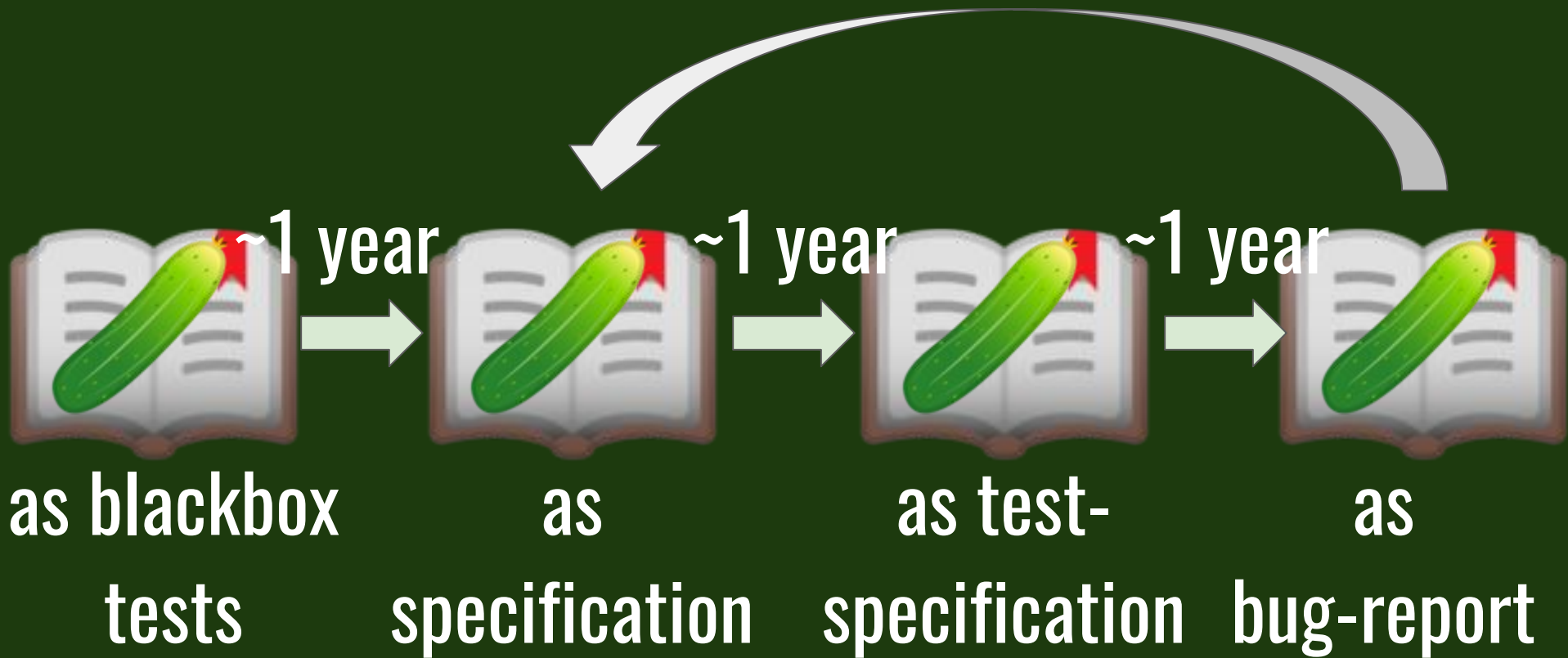
as  
specification

~1 year



as test-  
specification

# Adoption process





# History

Tools mixed with some Guidelines



# In General

All Clean Code guidelines apply as well to Cucumber

e.g.:

- Good names
- Concise
- DRY
- KISS
- ...



# Simple Example

**Feature: Announcements**

**Scenario: Journey Arrival**

Given a journey is scheduled

When it arrives

Then I hear an arrival announcement

# Guideline: Use Narratives

in order to understand decisions it is important to know  
who wants what and why



As a ...

I want to ...

in order to ...

# Simple Example with Narrative

## Feature: Announcements

As a passenger,

I want to hear arrival announcements,

in order to know where to go after departing the train.

## **Scenario: Journey Arrival**

Given a journey is scheduled

...



# Version specification and code in same repository



usually:

`/src` contains source code

`/features` contains specification

Product Owner / Stakeholder usually do not use Source Code Version Control Systems

# Simple Example with Narrative and link to User Story

## Feature: Announcements

As a passenger, I want to hear arrival announcements, so that I know where to go after departing the train.

@DEFAS-123

### **Scenario: Journey Arrival**

Given a journey is scheduled

When it arrives

Then I hear an arrival announcement

# Involve Stakeholders

be as transparent as possible

ease access to specification

use specification wherever possible



# gherkin\_format

[github.com/funkwerk/gherkin\\_format/](https://github.com/funkwerk/gherkin_format/)

Formats feature files using custom templates

- convert to markdown for usage in github/gitlab, confluence/wiki, jira, ...
- extract tags
- word/html5/...
- test reports

implemented in ruby.

available as gem package or as docker image.



gherkin\_format - application



git



Jira



Confluence

# Multiple Scenarios

Feature: Announcements

**Scenario: Journey Arrival**

Given a journey is scheduled

...

**Scenario: Journey Delay**

Given a journey is scheduled

...

# Use Background

Do not repeat Given steps in Scenarios, use an background instead.



# Multiple Scenarios

Feature: Announcements

**Background: Setup**

Given a journey is scheduled

**Scenario: Journey Arrival**

...

**Scenario: Journey Delay**

...





GitHub

[github.com/funkwerk/gherkin\\_lint/](https://github.com/funkwerk/gherkin_lint/)

# gherkin\_lint

Tool to check Feature Files for static issues

- invalid step flow
- avoid scripting
- too long

~31 Guidelines implemented



# Spellings happen

Feature: Announcements

Scenario: Journey Arrival

Given a journey is scheduled

When it arrives

Then I hear an arrival announcement

# gherkin\_language

[github.com/funkwerk/gherkin\\_language/](https://github.com/funkwerk/gherkin_language/)

Tool to check for spelling and grammar issues

Specific for feature files. (Multiple Sentences starting with “Given” are good in Cucumber)

Allows usage of a glossary



# Write steps as a subject-predicate action phrase



Use “Given” like the German “Angenommen” and not like the German “Gegeben sei”.

Bad: Given a journey

Good: Given a journey has been scheduled

# Trend towards longer and longer specifications

**Feature: Announcements**

**Scenario: Journey Arrival**

Given a daily journey from Berlin to Munich over Frankfurt at 10:00 o'clock is scheduled

When it arrives

Then I hear an arrival announcement



# Be Concise

In order to be read, write as concise as possible.

Flesch Reading Ease Readability Formula (from <http://www.readabilityformulas.com>)

Readability Ease =  $206.835 - (1.015 * \text{Average Sentence Length}) - (84.6 * \text{Average number of Syllables})$

Scores between 90.0 and 100.0 are considered easily understandable by an average 5th grader.

Scores between 60.0 and 70.0 are considered easily understood by 8th and 9th graders.

Scores between 0.0 and 30.0 are considered easily understood by college graduates.

# gherkin\_readability

Tool to check Feature Files for static issues

- invalid step flow
- avoid scripting
- too long





**gherkin  
format**



**gherkin  
lint**



**gherkin  
language**



**gherkin  
readability**





# Guidelines

## Three Bonus Guidelines

# talk to the stakeholders

Involve stakeholders in discussions as early as possible

use domain language

establish Three-Amigo-workshops



# be declarative

Given I open <http://www.db.de>

And I enter 4711 in the search field

When I press the search button

Then I see it is operating on 01.04.2018

vs.

When I search train 4711

Then I see it is operating every monday

focuses on business  
requirements and  
implementation details

focuses on business  
requirements



# use established placeholders

trains 101, 102, ...

stations A, B, C

Avoid metasyntactic variable names “foo”, “bar”, “baz”, ...



Clean Cucumber

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Clean Test

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Clean Code