

Git Bisect

Computing

Finding the commit that broke something, by binary search.

You need a known-good commit and a known-bad one.

Start

1

git bisect start, then git bisect bad, then git bisect good <sha>.

Test what it checks out

2

Git jumps to the midpoint. Run your test.

Report the result

3

git bisect good or git bisect bad. It halves the range each time.

Read the answer

4

Git names the first bad commit. Then git bisect reset.

AUTOMATE IT

```
git bisect run ./test.sh
```

Exit 0 = good, non-zero = bad

Git finds the commit unattended

$\log_2(n)$ steps: 1,000 commits is ten tests. The hard part is writing a reliable one-line test.