Beat The Bugs, Before They Beat You

In case you haven't had a chance to read the abstract and want to know if this talk is for you we will cover...

Beginner / Intermediate level

Introduces concepts:

- Type hints
- Assertions
- Value Object

Learn how to:

- Reduce chance of introducing bugs
- Minimise costs of bugs
- Safety refactor code to make it more readable

Lots of take aways you can use next time you write code



Beat The Bugs Before They Beat You

Dave Liddament

@daveliddament

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Question 1: Who puts bugs in their code?

Question 2: When is the best time to find a bug?

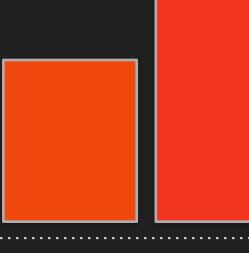
.....

......

Feature I is first used o



Feature is first used



Testing

Feature is first used



Testing

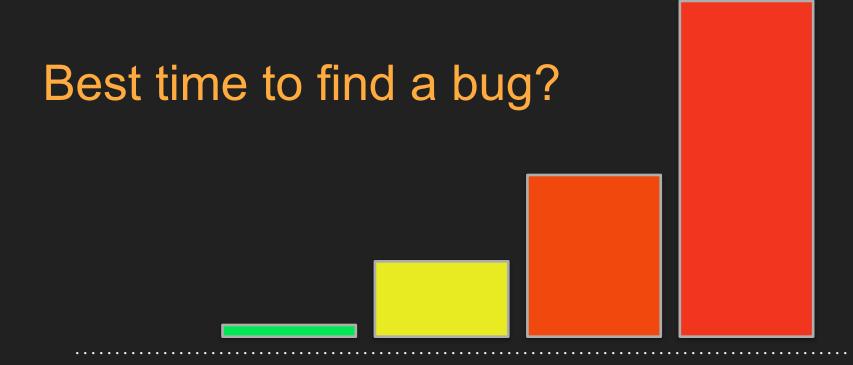
Feature is first used



Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used



Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used

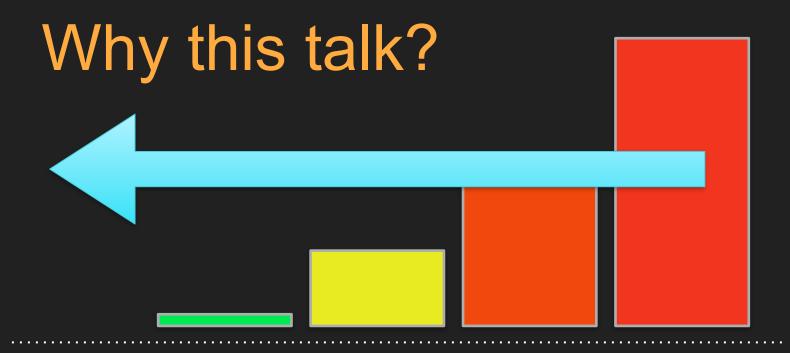


Before writing code

Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used



Before writing code

Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used

Why this talk: Reduce the cost of building and maintaining software by minimising bugs and the impact of bugs.



Dave Liddament @daveliddament Lamp Bristol 15+ years software development (PHP, Java, Python, C) **Dave Liddament**

@daveliddament

Lamp Bristol

15+ years software development (PHP, Java, Python, C)

Responsible for many thousands of bugs

Dave Liddament

@daveliddament

Lamp Bristol

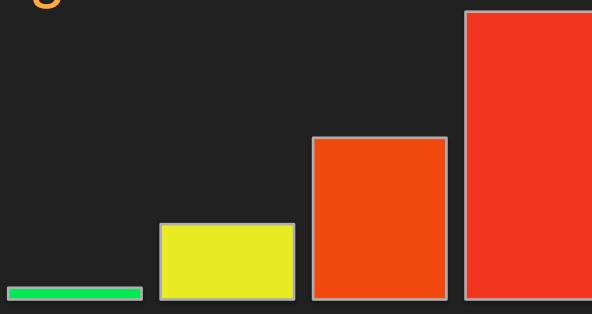
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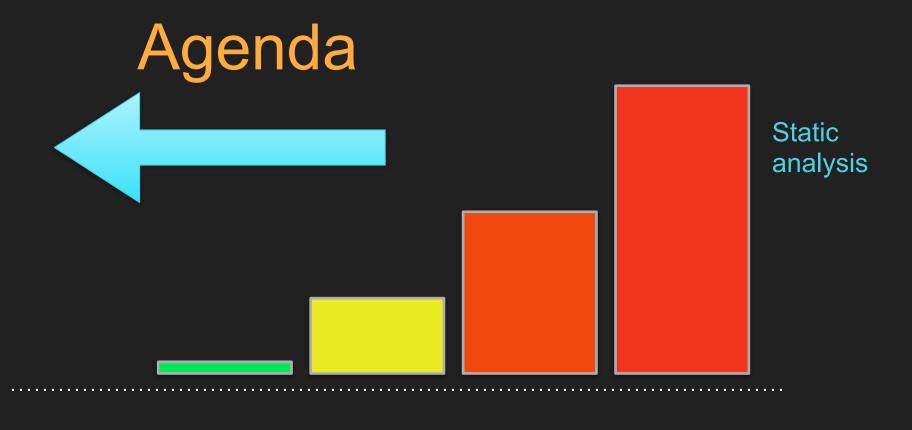
Organise PHP-SW user group and Bristol PHP Training

Agenda

Agenda



Before Writing Testing Feature Months writing code is first into code used operation

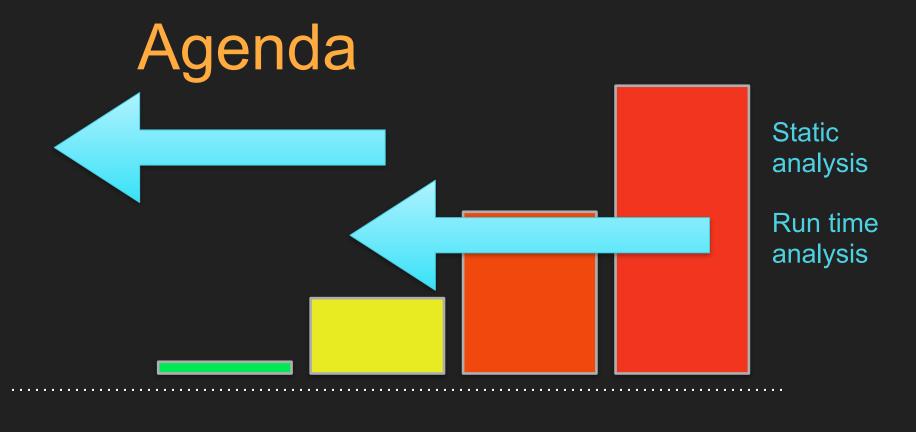


Before writing code

Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used

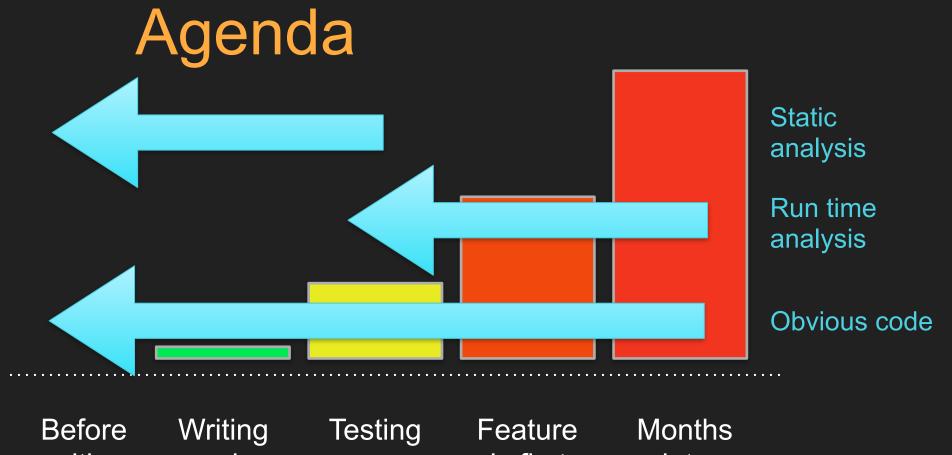


Before writing code

Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used



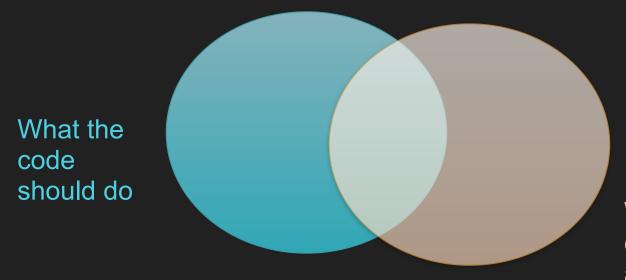
writing code

code

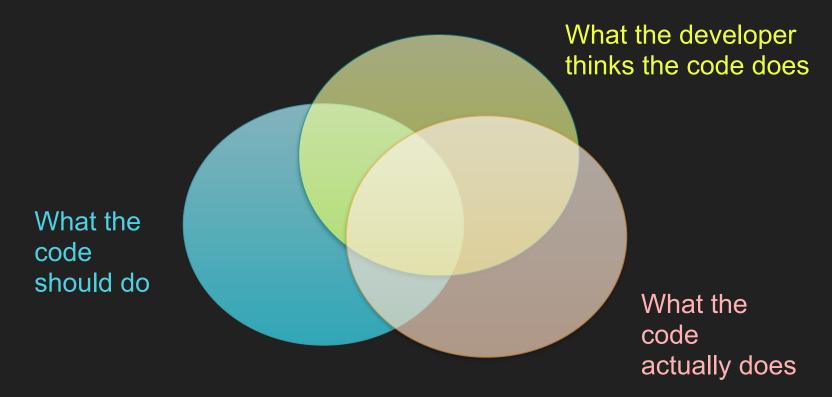
is first used

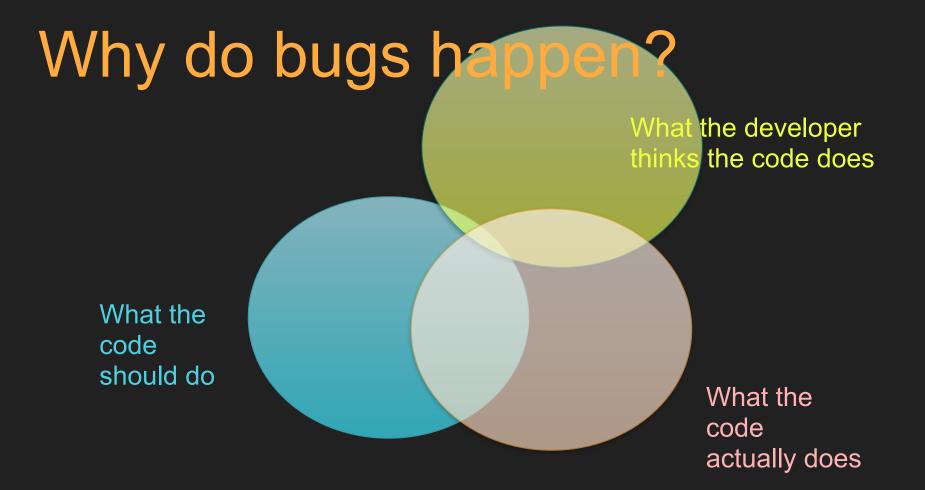
into operation





What the code actually does





Static analysis

```
function process($user) {
  // some implementation
}

$a = 1;
process($a);
```

```
function process($user) {
  // some implementation
}

$a = 1;
process($a);
```

```
function process($user) {
 // some implementation
$a = 1;
process($a);
```

```
function process($user) {
 // some implementation
$a = 1;
process($a);
```

```
function process(User $user) {
  // some implementation
}

$a = 1;
process($a);
```

```
function process(User $user) {
  // some implementation
}

$a = 1;
process($a);
```

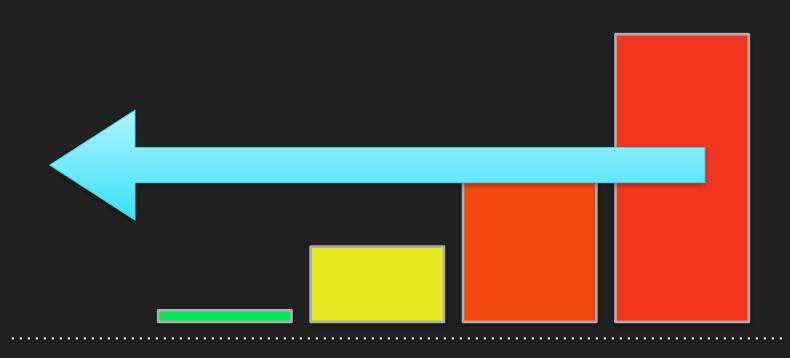
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 // some implementation
$a = 1;
process($a);
```

```
function process(User $user) {
 // some implementation
$a = 1;
process($a);
```

```
function process(User $user) {
    // some implementation
a = 1;
process($a);
```

Expected User, got int more... (%F1)

```
process();
          user:\User
```



Before writing code

Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used

Months into operation

Type hinting has helped

```
function process(User $user) {
 // some implementation
a = 1;
process($a);
```

Take away

Be explicit: Type hint everything

Take away

Use a modern IDE

More type hinting with PHP 7

```
function duplicateString (
    string $value,
    int $times) :string
```

More type hinting with PHP 7

```
function duplicateString (
    string $value,
    int $times) :string
```

More type hinting with PHP 7

```
function duplicateString (
    string $value,
    int $times) :string
```

```
function getUser(int $id): User {...}
function process(User $user): void {...}
$a = getUser(12);
process($a);
```

```
function getUser(int $id): User {...}

function process(User $user): void {...}

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function getUser(int $id): User {...}

function process(User $user): void {...}

$a = getUser(12);
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```

Language level validation

```
function getUser(int $id): User {...}
function process(User $user): void {...}
$a = getUser("dave");
process($a);
```

Language level validation

```
function getUser(int $id): User {...}
function process(User $user): void {...}
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Language level validation

```
function getUser(int $id): User {...}
function process(User $user): void {...}
$a = getUser("dave");
process($a);
```

```
function getUsers(): array
{
    ... get $user1, $user2, $user3 ...
    return [$user1, $user2, $user3];
}
```

```
function getUsers(): array
{
    ... get $user1, $user2, $user3 ...
    return [$user1, $user2, $user3];
}
```

```
function getUsers(): array
{
    ... get $user1, $user2, $user3 ...
    return [$user1, $user2, $user3];
}
```

```
function getUsers(): array <User>
{
    ... get $user1, $user2, $user3 ...
    return [$user1, $user2, $user3];
}
```

A very important PHP contribution...

```
class User {
  public function getAccountNumber() :string {...}
 * @return User[]
function getUsers(): array { ... }
$users = getUsers();
foreach($users as $user) {
  $accountNumber = $user->getAccountNumber();
```

```
class User {
  public function getAccountNumber() :string {...}
 * @return User[]
 * /
function getUsers(): array { ... }
$users = getUsers();
foreach($users as $user) {
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foreach($users as $user) {
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$users = getUsers();
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```

Static analysis can find errors

```
class User {
  public function getAccountNumber() :string {...}
 * @return User[]
function getUsers(): array { ... }
$users = getUsers();
foreach($users as $user) {
  $accountNumber = $user->getSomething();
```

Static analysis can find errors

```
class User {
  public function getAccountNumber() :string {...}
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Static analysis can find errors

```
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function getUsers(): array { ... }
$users = getUsers();
foreach($users as $user) {
  $accountNumber = $user->getSomething();
```

Static analysis helps developers

```
$users = [
    "jane" => $user1,
    "john" => $user2,
];
deactivate($users);
```

```
class User {
  public function deactivate(): void {...}
function deactivateUsers(array $users): void {
  / * *
   * @var string $name
   * @var User $user
  foreach($users as $name => $user) {
    echo "Deactivating [$name]";
    $user->deactivate();
```

```
class User {
  public function deactivate(): void {...}
function deactivateUsers(array $users): void {
  / * *
   * @var string $name
     @var User $user
  foreach($users as $name => $user) {
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  foreach($users as $name => $user) {
    echo "Deactivating [$name]";
    $user->deactivate();
```

Take away

Be explicit:
Use Docblock type
hints for generics

```
function deactivate(): void {...}

$foo = deactivate();
```

```
function deactivate(): void {...}

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```

```
function deactivate(): void {...}

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```

```
function deactivate(): void {...}

$foo = deactivate();
```

Recap:

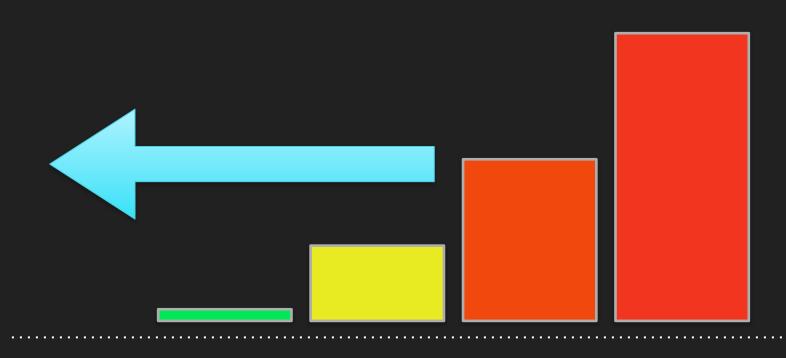
Reduce the cost of building and maintaining software by minimising bugs and the impact of bugs.

Analyse code without running it

- Analyse code without running it
- Prevent bugs even entering the code base

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- Type hinting and doc blocks comments help static analysis tools
 - which in turn help developers

- Analyse code without running it
- Prevent bugs even entering the code base
- Type hinting and doc blocks comments help static analysis tools
 - which in turn help developers
- Use an IDE that offers static analysis



Before writing code

Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used

Months into operation

Static Analysis take aways...

- Type hint everything
- Use Docblock type hints for generics
- Use void
- Use a modern IDE

Static analysis is no silver bullet

Run time analysis

Run time analysis

Testing

Run time analysis

- Testing
- Assertions

Run time analysis: Testing

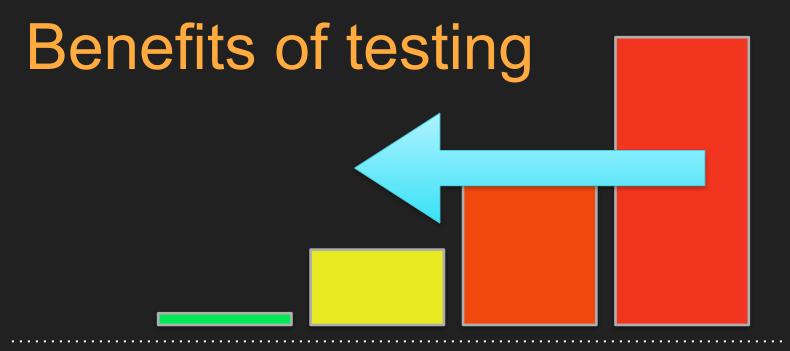
```
function foo(bool $bar): void
{
    if ($bar) {
        ... do something ...
    } else {
        ... code with a bug ...
    }
}
```

```
function foo(bool $bar): void
{
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function foo(bool $bar): void
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    if ($bar) {
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        ... code with a bug ...
    }
}
```

Higher our 'code coverage' the more bugs we'll find



Before writing code

Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used

Months into operation

Take away

Write tests

More run time analysis: Assertions

More run time analysis: Assertions

Statements that the developer believes should always be true

Can we improve this code

```
public function setStatus(string $status){
    $this->status = $status;
}
```

Improvement 1: Add constants

```
const REGISTERED = 'registered';
const STARTED = 'started';
const FINISHED = 'finished';
const QUIT = 'quit':
public function setStatus(string $status){
    $this->status = $status;
```

Improvement 1: Add constants

```
const REGISTERED = 'registered';
const STARTED = 'started';
const FINISHED = 'finished';
const QUIT = 'quit';
public function setStatus(string $status){
    $this->status = $status;
```

Improvement 2: Add assertion

```
public function setStatus(string $status){
 if (!in array($status,[self::REGISTERED,
        self::STARTED, self::FINISHED]) {
   throw new Exception("Invalid status");
 $this->status = $status;
```

Improvement 2: Add assertion

```
public function setStatus(string $status){
 if (!in array($status,[self::REGISTERED,
        self::STARTED, self::FINISHED])
   throw new Exception("Invalid status");
 $this->status = $status;
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Improvement 2: Add assertion

```
public function setStatus(string $status){
 if (!in array($status,[self::REGISTERED,
        self::STARTED, self::FINISHED]) {
   throw new Exception("Invalid status");
 $this->status = $status;
```

Create Assert class

```
class Assert {
public static function oneOf(
  $value,
  array $validValues,
  string $error) {
  if (!in_array($value, $validValues) {
    throw new Exception($error);
```

Create Assert class

```
class Assert {
```

```
public static function oneOf(
  $value,
  array $validValues,
  string $error) {
  if (!in array($value, $validValues) {
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```

Create Assert class

```
class Assert {
public static function oneOf(
  $value,
  array $validValues,
  string $error) {
  if (!in array($value, $validValues) {
    throw new Exception($error);
```

Improvement 3: Use Assert class

```
public function setStatus(string $status){
   Assert::oneOf(
   $status,
   [self::REGISTERED, self::STARTED, self::FINISHED],
   "Invalid status");

$this->status = $status;
}
```

Improvement 3: Use Assert class

```
public function setStatus(string $status){
 Assert::oneOf(
 $status,
  [self::REGISTERED, self::STARTED, self::FINISHED],
 "Invalid status");
 $this->status = $status;
```

Asserts

```
Assert::null
Assert::notNull
Assert::isEmpty
Assert::notEmpty
Assert::greaterThan
Assert::lessThan
...
```

@DaveLiddament

Assertion Packages

Write your own

webmozart/assert

beberlei/assert

Specify a contract

```
Returns Roman Numeral of $number.
  NOTE: $number must be between 1 and 5000
function asRomanNumeral(int $number): string {
 Assert::inRange($number, 1, 5000);
 ... some implementation ...
```

Specify a contract

```
Returns Roman Numeral of $number.
  NOTE: $number must be between 1 and 5000
function asRomanNumeral(int $number): string {
 Assert::inRange($number, 1, 5000);
 ... some implementation ...
```

Specify a contract

```
Returns Roman Numeral of $number.
  NOTE: $number must be between 1 and 5000
function asRomanNumeral(int $number): string {
 Assert::inRange($number, 1, 5000);
 ... some implementation ...
```

```
if ($type == 1) {
    $message = 'hello';
} elseif ($type == 2) {
    $message = 'goodbye';
}
```

```
sendMessage($message);
```

```
if ($type == 1) {
   $message = 'hello';
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if ($type == 1) {
    $message = 'hello';
} elseif ($type == 2) {
    $message = 'goodbye';
}
```

```
sendMessage($message);
```

Now I'm happier...

```
if (\$type == 1) {
   $message = 'hello';
} elseif ($type == 2) {
   $message = 'goodbye';
} else {
   throw new Exception("Invalid type");
sendMessage($message);
```

Now I'm happier...

```
if (\$type == 1) {
   $message = 'hello';
} elseif ($type == 2) {
   $message = 'goodbye';
 else {
   throw new Exception("Invalid type");
sendMessage($message);
```

Won't our code crash more?

Take away

Be explicit:
Use assertions to document assumptions or limitations

Invalid type

Invalid type

Invalid type [\$type]

Invalid type

Invalid type [\$type]

Invalid type [\$type] for user [\$userId]

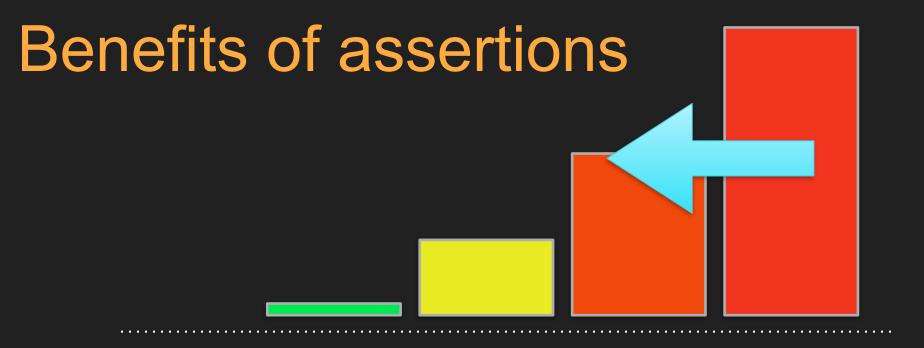
- Document assumptions / limitations
 - type example
 - roman numeral

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- NOT validation

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- Messages to other developers / future you

- Document assumptions / limitations
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- Can not be ignored

- Document assumptions / limitations
 - type example
 - roman numeral
- NOT validation
- Messages to other developers / future you
- Can not be ignored
- Sooner you fail the better



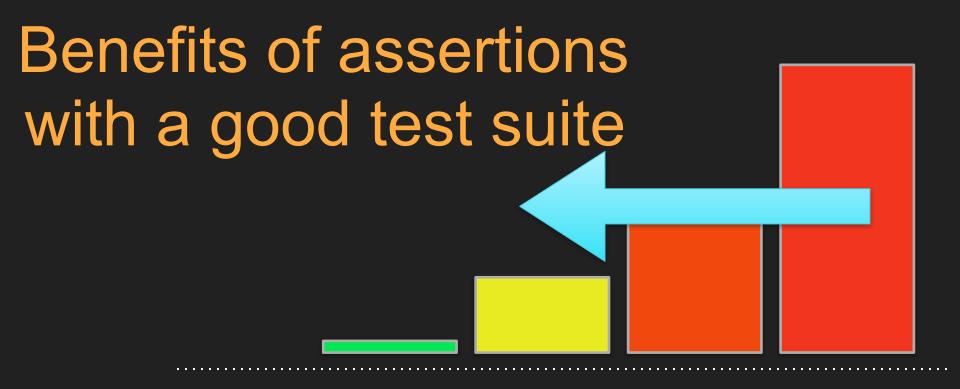
Before writing code

Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used

Months into operation



Before writing code

Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used

Months into operation

Assertions are great

Recap:

Reduce the cost of building and maintaining software by minimising bugs and the impact of bugs.

Code is executed

- Code is executed
- Only find bugs in code that is executed

- Code is executed
- Only find bugs in code that is executed
- Assertions document assumptions and limitations

Use objects rather than primitives

- Use objects rather than primitives
- Readable code

- Use objects rather than primitives
- Readable code
- Rename and refactor

Don't be so primitive

Can we improve this code?

```
class MarketingCampaign {
  ... some methods ...
  public function addAddress(string $address);
$campaign = new MarketingCampaign();
$campaign->addAddress("dave@phpsw.uk")
```

Can we improve this code?

```
class MarketingCampaign {
  ... some methods ...
  public function addAddress(string $address);
$campaign = new MarketingCampaign();
$campaign->addAddress("dave@phpsw.uk")
```

These are all strings...

dave@phpsw.uk

fredblogs.com

fred.blogs

fred@blogs.com

6 Lower Park Row, Bristol

These are all strings...

dave@phpsw.uk

fredblogs.com

fred.blogs

fred@blogs.com

6 Lower Park Row, Bristol

This is wrong (and our IDE can't spot mistake)

```
class MarketingCampaign {
  .. some methods ..
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This is wrong (and our IDE can't spot mistake)

```
class MarketingCampaign {
  .. some methods ..
  public function addAddress(string $address);
$campaign = new MarketingCampaign();
$campaign->addAddress("6 Lower Park Row, Bristol")
```

```
class EmailAddress {
  private $emailAddress;
  public function construct(string $emailAddress) {
    $this->emailAddress = $emailAddress;
  public function getEmailAddress(): string {
    return $this->emailAddress;
```

```
class EmailAddress {
  private $emailAddress;
  public function construct(string $emailAddress) {
    $this->emailAddress = $emailAddress;
  public function getEmailAddress(): string {
    return $this->emailAddress;
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```
class MarketingCampaign {
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  public function addAddress(EmailAddress $address);
$campaign = new MarketingCampaign();
$emailAddress = new EmailAddress("dave@phpsw.uk")
$campaign->addAddress($emailAddress)
```

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class MarketingCampaign {
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$campaign->addAddress($emailAddress)
```

This will fail (and your IDE will warn you)

```
class MarketingCampaign {
  .. some methods ..
  public function addAddress(EmailAddress $address);
$campaign = new MarketingCampaign();
$campaign->addAddress("6 Lower Park Row, Bristol")
```

This will fail (and your IDE will warn you)

```
class MarketingCampaign {
  .. some methods ..
  public function addAddress(EmailAddress $address);
$campaign = new MarketingCampaign();
$campaign->addAddress("6 Lower Park Row, Bristol")
```

But this is wrong

```
$emailAddress = new EmailAddress("6 Lower Park Row");
```

But this is wrong

```
$emailAddress = new EmailAddress("6 Lower Park Row");
```

Add validation

```
public function construct(string $emailAddress) {
  $isValidEmailAddress = ... check valid email ...
 Assert::true($isValidEmailAddress,
    "Invalid email address [$emailAddress]");
 $this->emailAddress = $emailAddress;
```

Add validation

```
public function construct(string $emailAddress) {
 $isValidEmailAddress = ... check valid email ...
 Assert::true($isValidEmailAddress,
    "Invalid email address [$emailAddress]");
 $this->emailAddress = $emailAddress;
```

Big win

We're guaranteed that EmailAddress represents a correctly formatted email address.

Take away

Be explicit:
Use objects rather than primitives if it makes sense to do so

More advantages of objects rather than primitives

Are these email addresses the same?

dave@phpsw.uk

DAVE@phpsw.uk

DAVE@phpsw.UK

dave@PHPSW.uk

Store canonical form

```
public function __construct(string $emailAddress) {
    ... validate email address ...
    $this->emailAddress = $this->asCanonical($emailAddress);
}
```

Store canonical form

```
public function __construct(string $emailAddress) {
    ... validate email address ...
    $this->emailAddress = $this->asCanonical($emailAddress);
}
```

Postcodes formats

Canonical: B1 1AB

No spaces: B11AB

Fixed width: B1 1AB

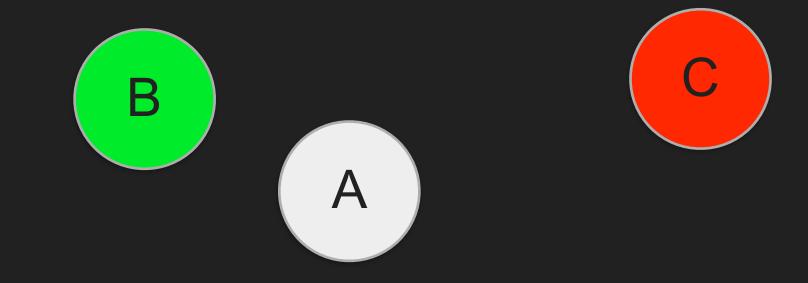
Add domain specific logic

```
public function getPostcode(): string {...}

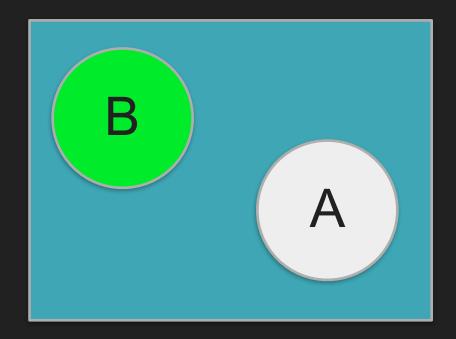
public function getNoSpacesPostcode(): string {...}

public function getFixedWidthPostcode(): string {...}
```

Are these positions equal?



Are these positions equal?





Add equals method

```
class Point
  const TOLERANCE = 10;
  ... Other methods ...
  public function equals(Point $other): bool
     $distance = calculateDistance($this, $other);
     return $distance < self::TOLERANCE;</pre>
```

Add equals method

```
class Point
  const TOLERANCE = 10;
  ... Other methods ...
  public function equals(Point $other): bool
     $distance = calculateDistance($this, $other);
     return $distance < self::TOLERANCE;</pre>
```

Be careful comparing objects...

```
if ($point1 == $point2) {
    ... some code ...
}

if ($point1->equals($point2)) {
    ... some code ...
}
```

Be careful comparing objects...

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if ($point1 == $point2) {
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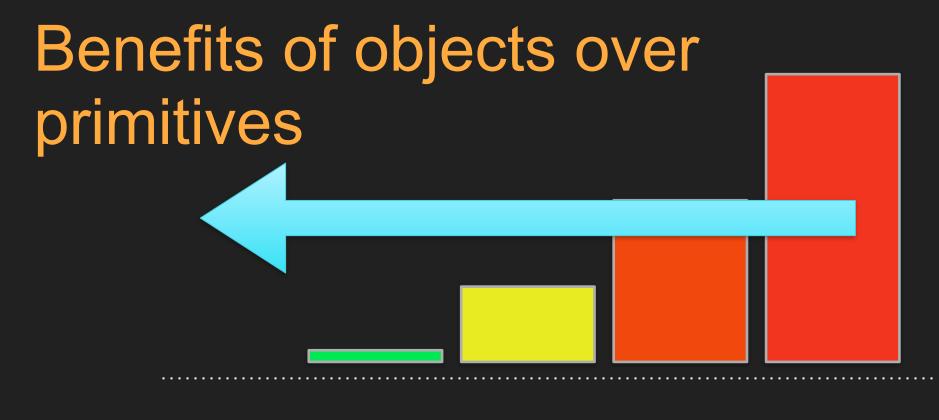
```
if ($point1->equals($point2)) {
    ... some code ...
}
```

```
class Person
  / * *
    @Column(type="string")
  private $emailAddress;
  public function setEmailAddress(EmailAddress $emailAddress) {
    $this->emailAddress = $emailAddress->asString();
  public function getEmailAddress(): EmailAddress {
     return new EmailAddress($emailAddress);
```

```
class Person
    @Column(type="string")
  private $emailAddress;
  public function setEmailAddress(EmailAddress $emailAddress) {
    $this->emailAddress = $emailAddress->asString();
 public function getEmailAddress(): EmailAddress {
     return new EmailAddress($emailAddress);
```

```
class Person
  / * *
     @Column(type="string")
  private $emailAddress;
  public function setEmailAddress(EmailAddress $emailAddress)
    $this->emailAddress = $emailAddress->asString();
  public function getEmailAddress(): EmailAddress {
     return new EmailAddress($emailAddress);
```

```
class Person
  / * *
    @Column(type="string")
  private $emailAddress;
  public function setEmailAddress(EmailAddress $emailAddress) {
    $this->emailAddress = $emailAddress->asString();
  public function getEmailAddress(): EmailAddress {
     return new EmailAddress($emailAddress);
```



Before writing code

Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used

Months into operation

More obvious code

- More obvious code
- Type hinting

- More obvious code
- Type hinting
- Validation

- More obvious code
- Type hinting
- Validation
- Define what equals means

- More obvious code
- Type hinting
- Validation
- Define what equals means
- Add domain specific functionality

Readable code

```
function isCatA($a)
  if ($a == 18 || $a == 19) {
    return true;
  return false;
```

```
function isCategoryAdult($a)
 if ($a == 18 || $a == 19) {
    return true;
 return false;
```

```
function isCategoryAdult($age)
 if ($age == 18 || $age == 19) {
    return true;
 return false;
```

```
function isCategoryAdult(int $age): bool
 if ($age == 18 || $age == 19) {
    return true;
  return false;
```

```
* Return true if person is adult
* (age is 18 or over)
function isCategoryAdult(int $age): bool
if ($age == 18 || $age == 19) {
    return true;
  return false;
```

Test cases

Age	Expected output
17	false
18	true
19	true

Could we write more tests?

It's harder for bugs to hide in clean code

Take away

Be explicit:
Write really obvious,
really boring code.

Naming is hard

```
class User {
  public function getName() {...}
}

class Game {
  public function getName() {...}
}
```

```
class User {
  public function getName() {...}
}

class Game {
  public function getName() {...}
}
```

```
class User {
  public function getName() {...}
}

class Game {
  public function getQuest() {...}
}
```

```
class User {
  public function getName() {...}
}

class Game {
  public function getQuest() {...}
}
```

```
function getUser() {...}
function getGame() {...}
$user = getUser();
$game = getGame();
echo 'Hello ' . $user->getName();
echo 'You are playing ' . $game->getName();
```

```
function getUser() {...}
function getGame() {...}
$user = getUser();
$game = getGame();
echo 'Hello ' . $user->getName();
echo 'You are playing ' . $game->getName();
```

```
function getUser(): User {...}
function getGame(): Game {...}
$user = getUser();
$game = getGame();
echo'Hello' . $user->getName();
echo 'You are playing ' . $game->getQuest();
```

```
function getUser(): User {...}
function getGame(): Game {...}
$user = getUser();
$game = getGame();
echo'Hello' . $user->getName();
echo 'You are playing ' . $game->getQuest();
```

```
function getUser(): User {...}
function getGame(): Game {...}
$user = getUser();
$game = getGame();
echo 'Hello ' . $user->getName();
echo 'You are playing '. $game-\getQuest();
```

Win-Win: Rename and refactor

Take away

Use your IDE to rename code to be cleaner

Refactor

Assertions are good, but some could point to a code smell

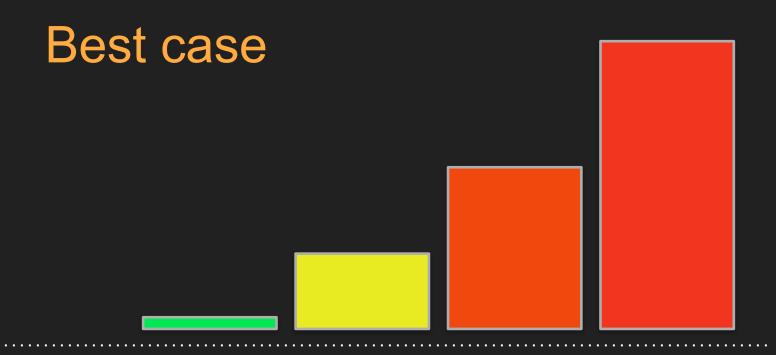
```
$shape = new Shape();
$shape->setType("square")
```

```
switch($shape->getType()) {
  case 'square':
    $area = ... calculate area of square ...
    break:
  case 'triangle':
    $area = ... calculate area of triangle ...
    break:
 ... more shapes ...
  default:
    throw new Exception("Invalid shape");
```

```
switch($shape->getType()) {
  case 'square':
    $area = ... calculate area of square ...
    break:
  case 'triangle':
    $area = ... calculate area of triangle ...
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switch($shape->getType()) {
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    $area = ... calculate area of triangle ...
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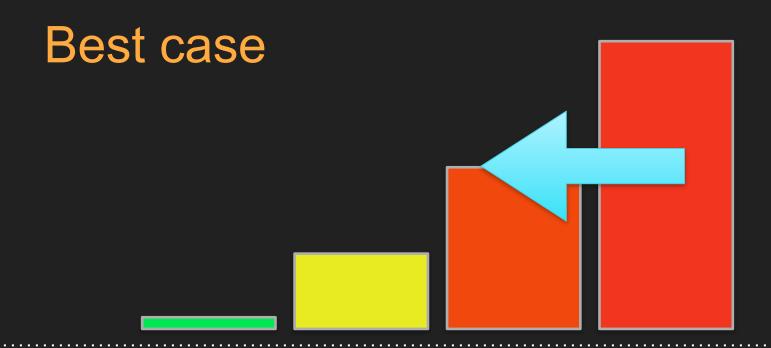
```
switch($shape->getType()) {
  case 'square':
    $area = ... calculate area of square ...
    break:
  case 'triangle':
    $area = ... calculate area of triangle ...
    break:
 ... more shapes ...
  default:
    throw new Exception("Invalid shape");
```



Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used



Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used



Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used

Improve the shape object

```
class Shape {
  public function getType() {...}
```

Improve the shape object

```
abstract class Shape {
         public function getType() {...}
```

Improve the shape object

```
abstract class Shape {
          public function getType() {...}
          abstract public function getArea();
```

```
class Square extends Shape {
  public function getArea() {
    ... calculate area of square ...
```

```
class Square extends Shape {
  public function getArea() {
    ... calculate area of square ...
```

```
class Square extends Shape {
  public function getArea() {
    ... calculate area of square ...
```

```
class Triangle extends Shape {
  public function getArea() {
    ... calculate area of triangle ...
```

We replace...

```
$shape = new Shape("square");
```

With...

```
$shape = new Square();
```

And replace...

```
switch($shape->getType()) {
  case 'square':
    $area = ... calculate area of square ...
    break:
  case 'triangle':
    $area = ... calculate area of triangle ...
    break:
 ... more shapes ...
  default:
    throw new Exception("Invalid shape");
```

With this...

```
$area = $shape->getArea();
```

Introduce a new shape

```
class Hexagon extends Shape {
  public function getArea() {
    ... calculate area of hexagon ...
```

Introduce a new shape

```
class Hexagon extends Shape {
  public function getArea() {
    ... calculate area of hexagon ...
```



Writing code

Testing

Feature is first used

Take away

Refactor code to be cleaner

Recap:

Reduce the cost of building and maintaining software by reducing bugs and the impact of bugs.

Obvious code recap

Obvious code recap

Clean code = hard for bugs to hide

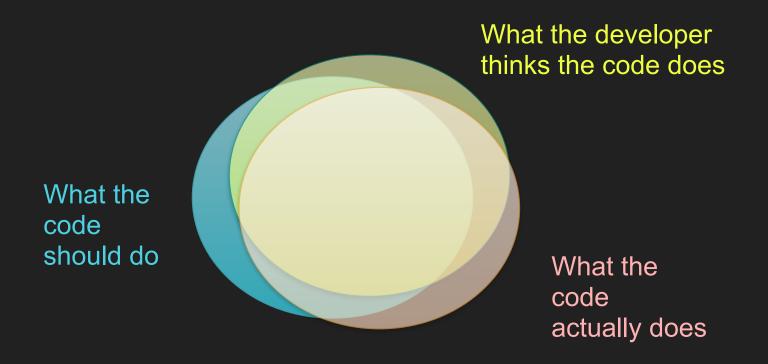
Obvious code recap

- Clean code = hard for bugs to hide
- Consider using objects rather than primitives.

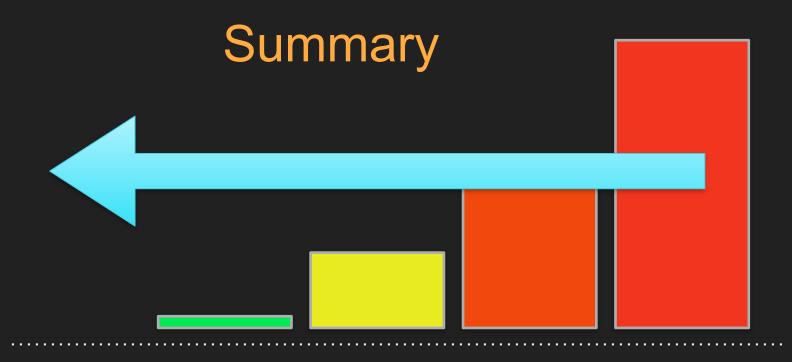
Obvious code recap

- Clean code = hard for bugs to hide
- Consider using objects rather than primitives.
- Rename and refactor to keep your code clean

Summary: Be more explicit



Upward Spiral



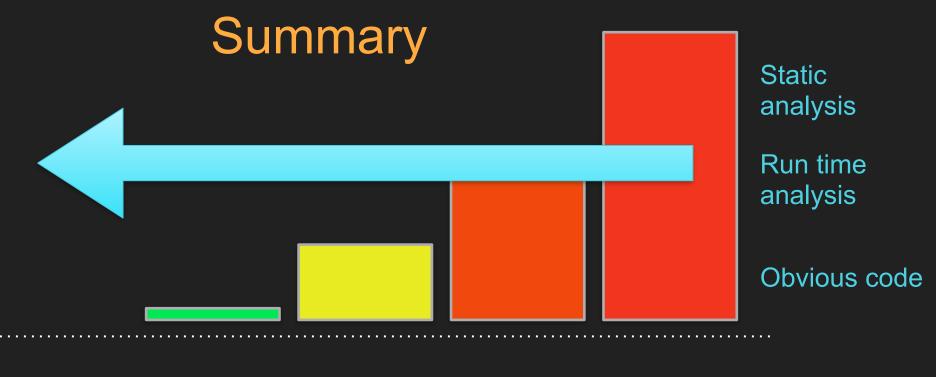
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Months into operation

Type hint everything you can

- Type hint everything you can
- Use docblock for language gaps

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- Type hint everything you can
- Use docblock for language gaps
- Write tests
- Add assertions
- Use objects over primitives
- Rename and refactor

Use a modern IDE

Questions

Beat The Bugs, Before They Beat You

Is this talk for you....

Beginner / Intermediate level

Introduces concepts:

- Type hints
- Assertions
- Value Object

Learn how to:

- Reduce chance of introducing bugs
- Minimise costs of bugs
- Safety refactor code to make it more readable

Lots of take aways you can use next time you code

Advice for improving?