

Words of Wisdom

Tony Van Eerd

C++Now May 2018



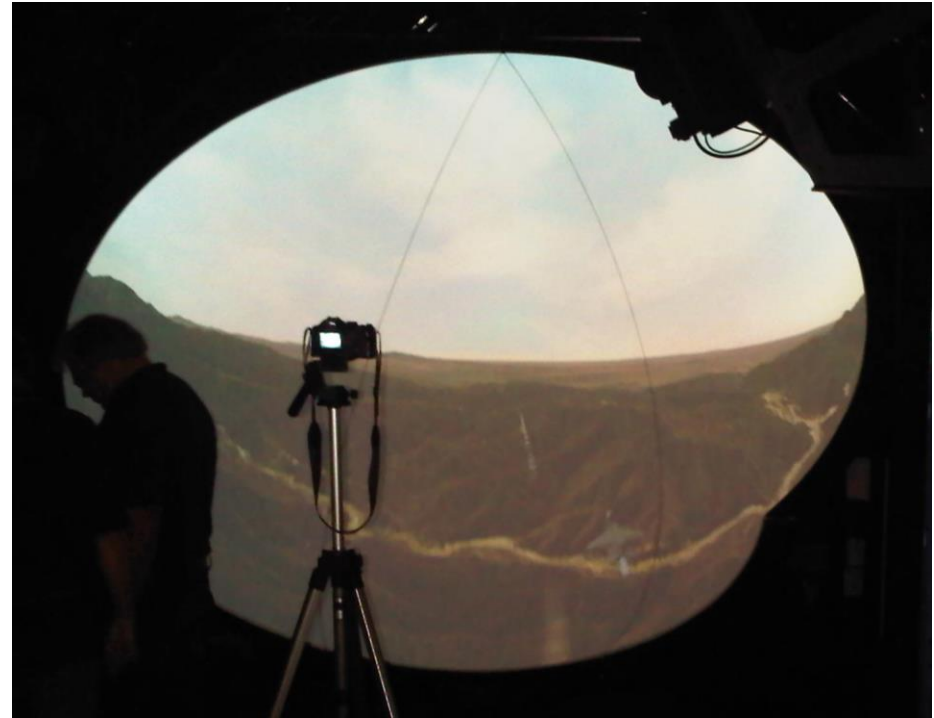
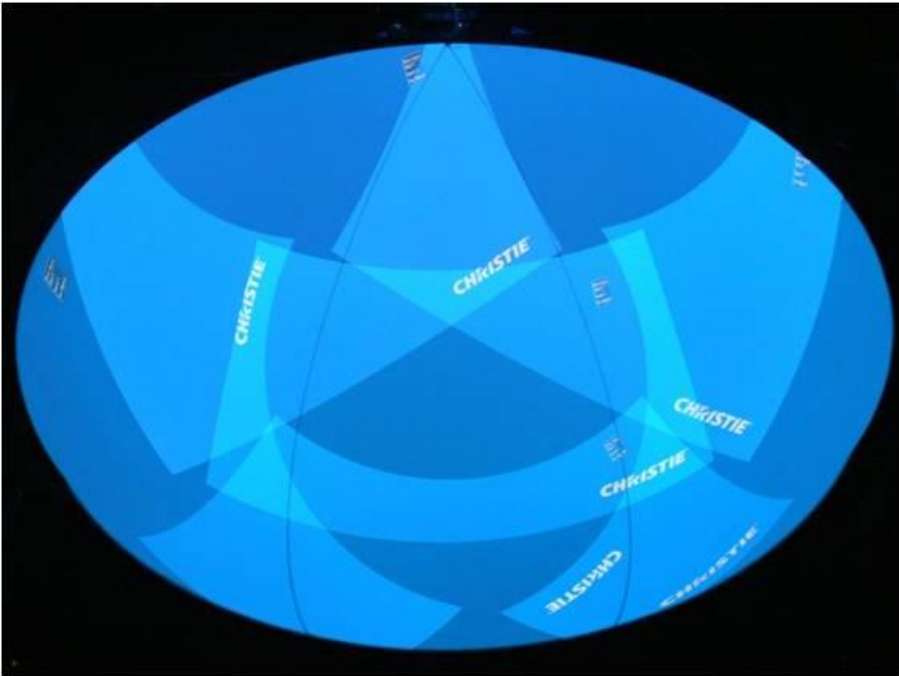
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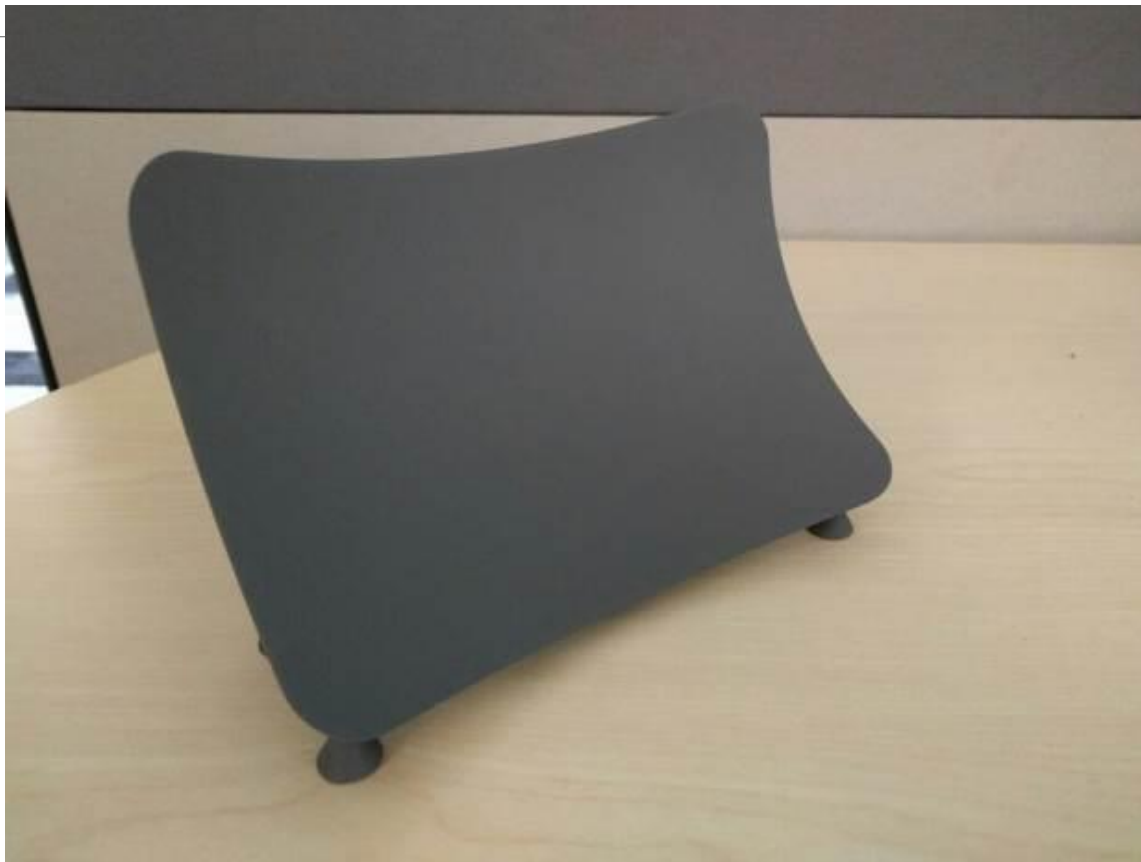


















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Christie Mystique
Spectacular experiences. Simple solutions.

Design

Install

Operate

ALASKA

BOEHME

Christie Soft
Superior color
warping and







youtu.be/sql1kD6_Uok





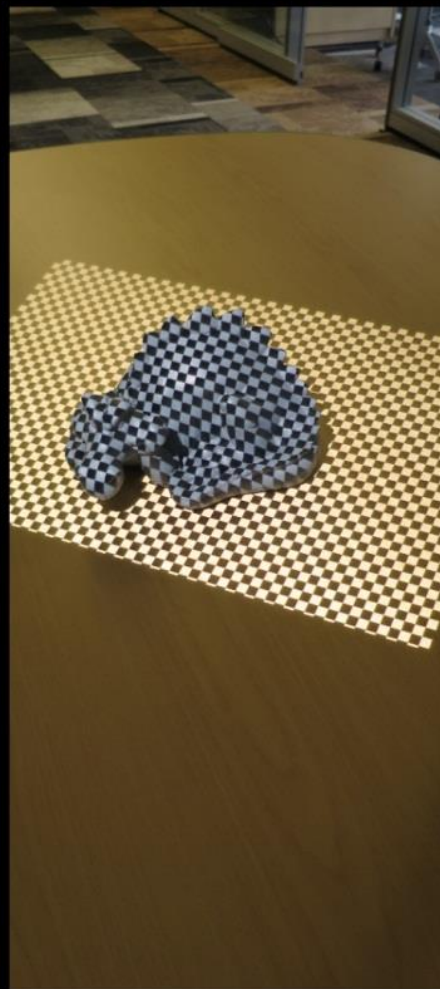
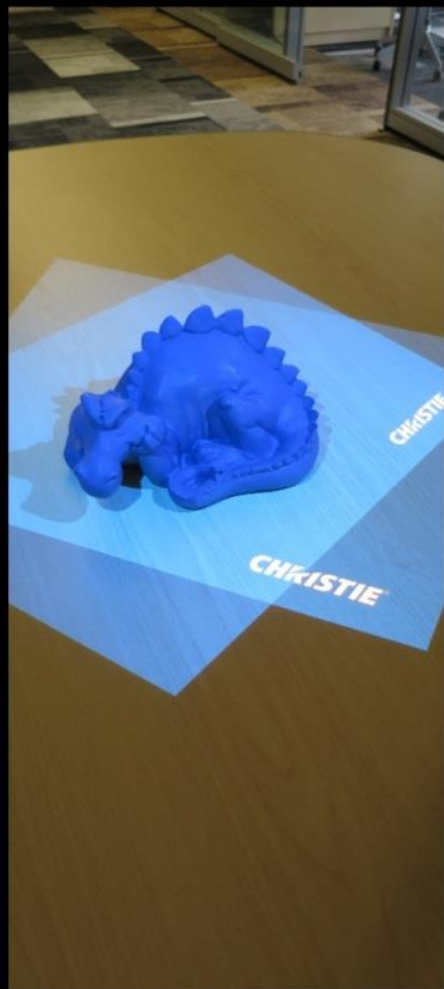












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Words of Wisdom

Tony Van Eerd

C++Now May 2018



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Credentials?



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Credentials

“Tony’s code is righteous”

- Herb Sutter



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Credentials?

From: Herb Sutter
Sent: Sunday, June 28, 2015 9:57 AM
To: C++ Library Evolution Working Group
Reply To: C++ Library Evolution Working Group
Subject: Re: [isocpp-lib-ext] std::variant N4542

...

Tony's code is righteous and any coding standard that bans it should be dragged through sewage and pilloried. But I'll stop there for politeness' sake, and hold back from expressing how I really feel about it. :)

... Okay, one more thought: Seriously, Tony's code follows several good practices that should be strongly encouraged, including:

- Declare your variables as locally as possible.
- Initialize your variables when you declare them.
- Prefer clarity and correctness first: All things being equal, simpler code is better code.
- Don't prematurely optimize: Which means making code more complex in the name of performance [which is one often-cited and wrong motivation for "single exit"] before there is any data that it is needed (or even that the more complex code is even faster).

The multiple returns are *necessary* to achieve these good practices – requiring a single return would actively prevent these good engineering points:

- It would require an extra variable with a longer life.
- That variable would not be initialized to a value that would ever be used or returned in this case. (Empty != uninitialized in general, but it would be equivalent for this example.)
- The code would have extra local control flow paths just to satisfy an arbitrary and misguided rule to merge at the end.
- The code is more complex with no justification.

... ugh, really, I must stop. "Single exit" leads to bad engineering in so many ways.

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Credentials

“+1”

- Bjarne Stroustrup

Credentials

“Nice rule of thumb”

- Bjarne Stroustrup



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#ClashOfTheClichés

“Better safe than Sorry”

*“A ship in harbour is safe, but
that’s not what ships are built for”*



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*Copy, or copy not;
there is no shallow.*

- Master Yoda

*Copy, or copy not;
there is no shallow.*

- Master Yoda

```
T a = b;  assert(a == b);
```

```
T a;  a = b;  // same as above
```

```
T a = c;
```

```
T b = c;
```

```
change(a);
```

```
assert(b == c && a != b);
```

- Master Stepanov

(<http://stepanovpapers.com/DeSt98.pdf>)

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State leads to objects
Objects lead to references
References lead to sharing
Sharing leads to entanglement
Entanglement leads to suffering

- Master Yoda

Object



Value

Object

- Button
- java / OOP
- *non-copyable*
- *changeable, observable, lifetime*
- Relationships

- OH NO!!! Pointers!!!



Value

- int
- string
- copyable
- *immutable, ephemerable, timeless*
- Math

- Oh, no pointers.

*“If you postulate a universe
composed of objects,
truth is eliminated.”*

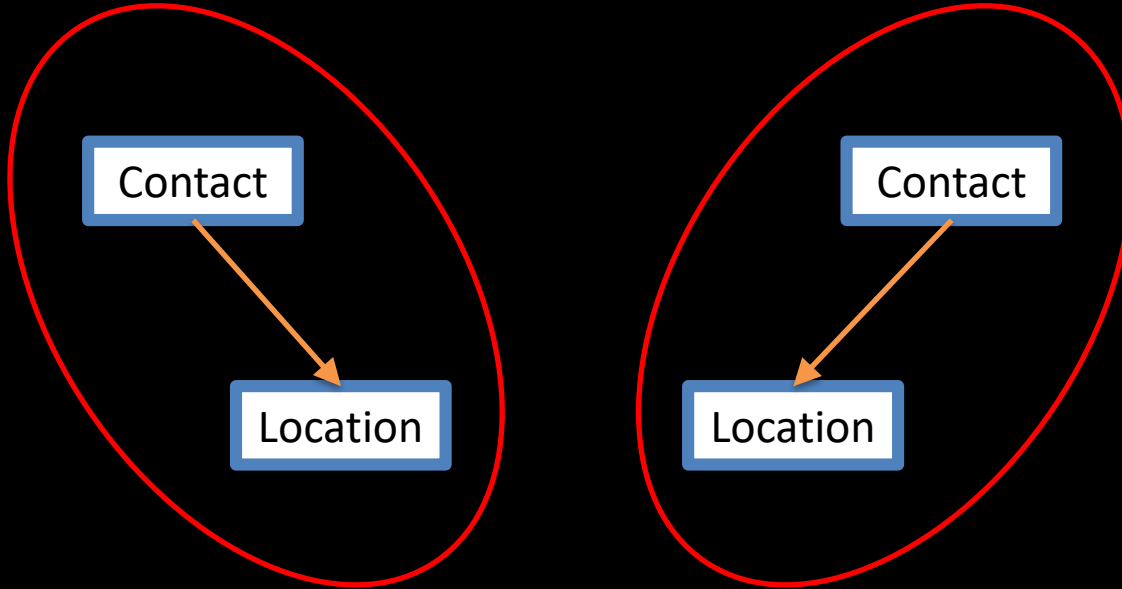
- Jean-Paul Sartre
(courtesy of Ben Deane)

“Incidental Data Structures”

- Sean Parent

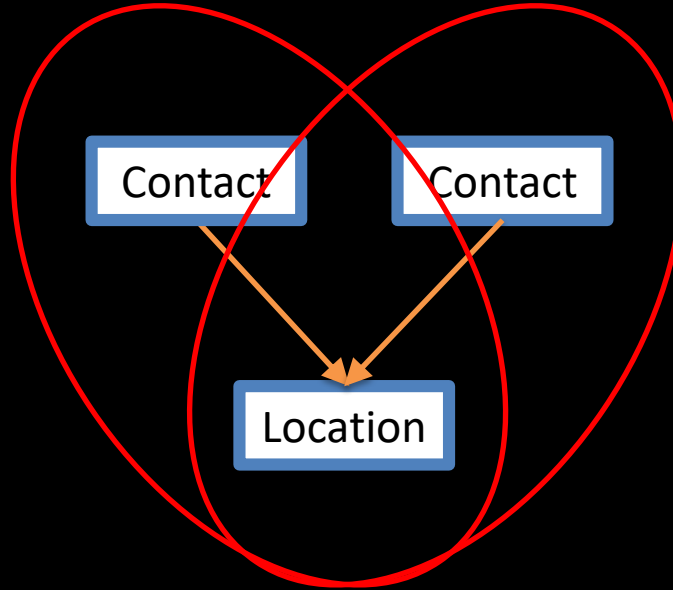
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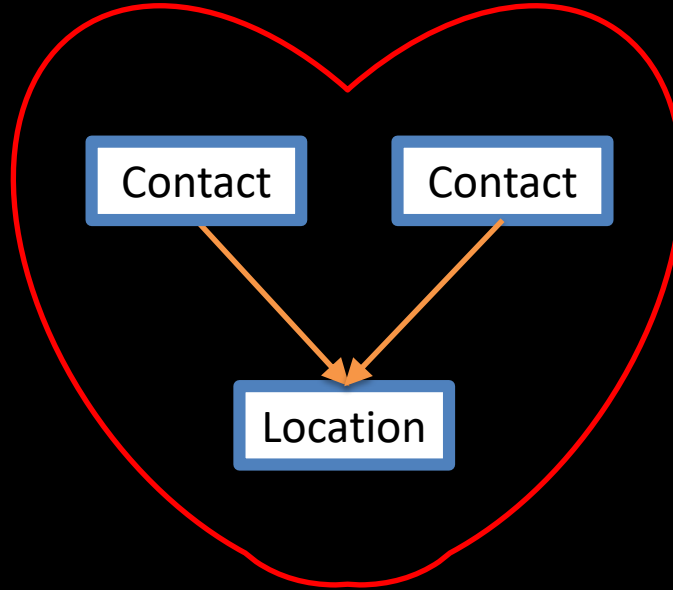
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*“A shared pointer is as good as
a global variable.”*

- Sean Parent

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“Neither a borrower nor a lender be”

- Shakespeare



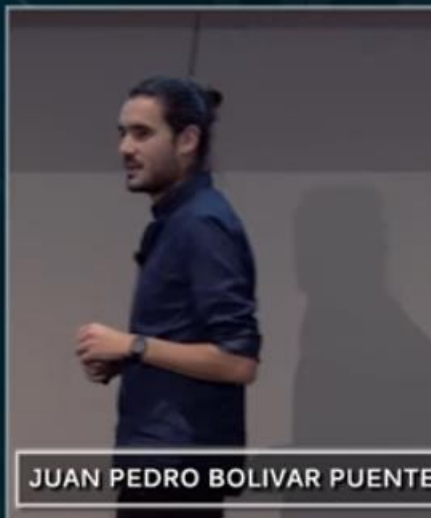
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```
// juanpe bolívar  
// https://sinusoid.al
```

POSTMODERN

IMMUTABLE

DATA STRUCTURES



JUAN PEDRO BOLIVAR PUENTE

Postmodern immutable
data structures

THE

MOST

VALUABLE

VALUES

by juanpe bolívar
<https://sinusoid.al>



0:26 / 1:02:56



#ClashOfTheClichés

“If at first you don't succeed, try try again.”

“Don't throw good money after bad.”





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“Only a Sith deals in Absolutes”

- Master Obi-Wan Kenobi
on signed vs unsigned

```
int sqrt(unsigned int)
{
    return 17;
}
```

```
int sqrt(unsigned int)
{
    return 17;
}

void test() // TDD
{
    assert(sqrt(289) == 17);
}
```

```
int sqrt(unsigned int)
{
    return 17;
}
```

```
int sqrt(unsigned int)
{
    return 17;
}
```

```
int x = sqrt(-23);
```

```
int sqrt(UnsignedInt)  
{  
    return 17;  
}
```

```
int x = sqrt(-23); // compiler error
```



```
template<typename T>
bool is_sorted(std::vector<T> const & v)
{
    for (std::size_t i = 0; i < v.size() - 1; i++)
        if (v[i+1] < v[i])
            return false;
    return true;
}
```

Going Native 2013

Ask us Anything

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Puio5dly9N8>

9:50

41:08

1:02:50

“Sorry”

- Stephan T. Lavavej, Andrei Alexandrescu, Bjarne Stroustrup, Scott Meyers, Michael Wong, Sean Parent, Chandler Carruth, and Herb Sutter, on unsigned in the STL



```
Projector * getProjector(string projectorId);
```



```
Projector * getProjector(string projectorId);
```

```
Camera * getCamera(string cameraId);
```



```
using ProjectorId = StrongId<string, ProjectorIdTag>;  
Projector * getProjector(ProjectorId id);
```

```
using CameraId = StrongId<string, CameraIdTag>;  
Camera * getCamera(CameraId id);
```

```
using ProjectorId = StrongId<string, ProjectorIdTag>;  
Projector * getProjector(ProjectorId id);
```

```
using CameraId = StrongId<string, CameraIdTag>;  
Camera * getCamera(CameraId id);
```

```
auto cam = getCamera(projId);           // compiler error  
auto proj = getProjector("123-45"s);    // compiler error
```

- explicit

Consideration	Your Class?	Your Class?	Your Class?
same platonic thing?	yes	no[1]	-
info fidelity	no loss	some loss	more loss
performance penalty?	little/no	some	yes
throws?	noexcept?/rarely?/ same as copyctor?	yes	-
danger? (dangling, etc)	no	yes	-
code review?	no need	self-policed[2]	greppable / policeable
generic code?	strict	less strict	"extension point"
can modify class?	yes	yes	no
are you sure?	yes	no	-
Result	Implicit ctor/cast	Explicit cast/ctor	Named

<https://github.com/tvaneerd/isocpp/blob/master/conversions.md>

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```
struct Image {  
    explicit Image(char const * filename) { }  
};  
  
int main()  
{  
    Image x("asdf");  
    x = (Image)"other";  
}
```



```
using ProjectorId = StrongId<string, ProjectorIdTag>;  
Projector * getProjector(ProjectorId id);
```

```
using CameraId = StrongId<string, CameraIdTag>;  
Camera * getCamera(CameraId id);
```

<https://github.com/tvaneerd/code/blob/master/StrongId.h>

https://foonathan.net/doc/type_safe/

https://github.com/rollbear/strong_type

<https://www.fluentcpp.com/2016/12/08/strong-types-for-strong-interfaces/>

#ClashOfTheClichés

“There’s no such thing as a free lunch.”

“Don’t look a gift horse in the mouth .”



Student: “If you pass a value it copies, but if you pass a pointer it wraps; it is smart & adapts...”

Master hammered a screw into the desk.

- Ancient C++ Koan

World's best API...



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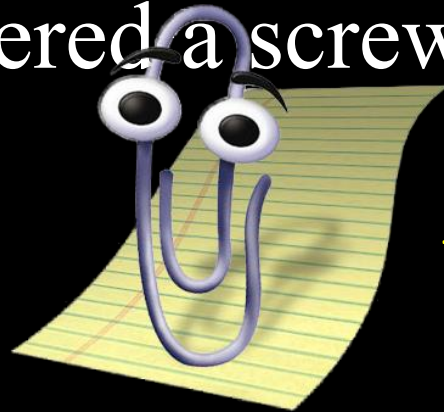
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← Feature Creep



#ClashOfTheClichés

“Absence makes the heart grow fonder.”

“Out of sight, out of mind.”

(Ben Deane)



*“What's in a name? That which we call a rose
By any other word would smell as sweet;”*

- Shakespeare

*“What's in a name? That which we call a rose
By any other word would smell as sweet;”*

- Shakespeare

Well, actually...

- Jelena Djordjevic, Johan N. Lundstrom, Francis Clément, Julie A. Boyle, Sandra Pouliot, and Marilyn Jones-Gotman
Journal of Neurophysiology, Vol 99, No. 1, January 2008

“Essence is the essence of naming”

- Tony Van Eerd



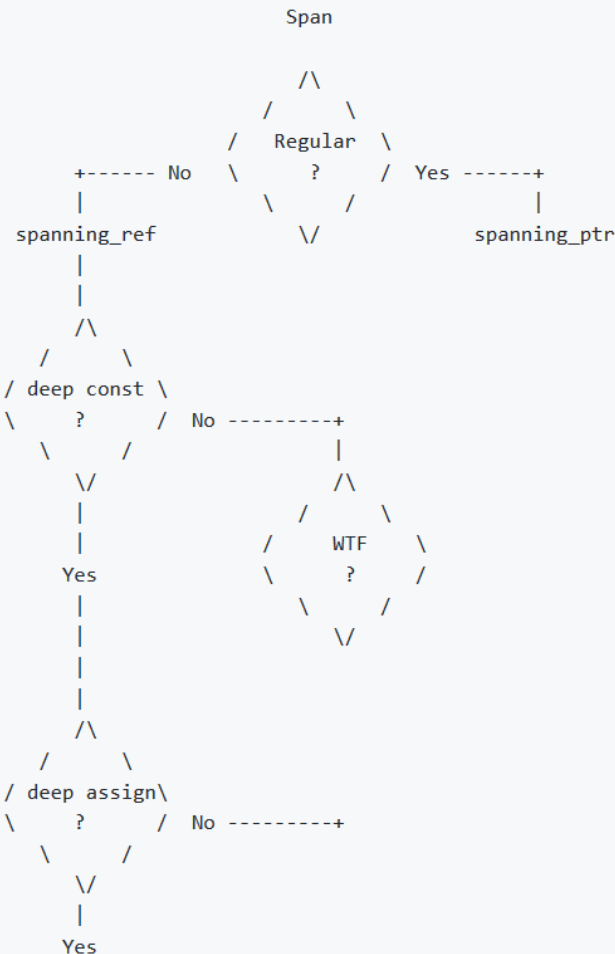
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- Describe the thing in detail – what words did you use?
- Determine Essence (and does your API agree)
- Be Consistent
- Consistent warning signs
- Be *Glaringly* Inconsistent
- NOT understanding is better than MISunderstanding
- Co-opt a term?
- Avoid negatives – thus avoiding double negatives
- Avoid spoken ambiguity (or learn to pronounce __, Capitals, etc)
- Avoid verb/noun ambiguity
- Be Concise – conceptually. Avoid sub-concepts.
- By use or by functionality

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etc)



Tony Van Eerd

@tvaneerd



If you can't name it, you probably don't know what it is.

If you don't know what it is, you don't know what it isn't.

If you don't know what it isn't, you don't know what code shouldn't be in it.

So much code shouldn't be in it.

3:36 AM - 14 Mar 2018

3 Retweets 7 Likes



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optional<float> op;  
expected<float> ex;  
any an;
```

```
op.has_value()  
ex.has_value()  
an.has_value()
```

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“Nice rule of thumb”

- Bjarne Stroustrup

#ClashOfTheClichés

“The early bird gets the worm.”

“Good things come to those who wait.”

“Patience is a virtue.”

“Strike while the iron is hot.”

*“In sooth, I know not why all code's so bad:
It wearies me; you say it wearies you;”*

*- Shakespeare, opening lines of **The Coder of Venice***



Tony Van Eerd

@tvaneerd



All my experience tells me that the main cause of unmaintainable code is that each piece of code is not kept independent. I don't care about OOP, the language you use, where the heck you put your brackets, whatever. Just keep your pieces of code isolated.

And name things well

4:07 PM - 27 Mar 2018

25 Retweets 68 Likes



- Describe the thing in detail – what words did you use?
- **Determine Essence (and does your API agree)**
- Be Consistent
- Consistent
- Be *Glaring*
- NOT under
- Co-opt a te
- Avoid nega
- Avoid spok
- Avoid verb
- Be Concise
- By use or b



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If you can't name it, you probably don't know what it is.

If you don't know what it is, you don't know what it isn't.

If you don't know what it isn't, you don't know what code shouldn't be in it.

So much code shouldn't be in it.



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Abstraction doesn't need to stop at the class border.

You can have abstraction even between the private functions of your class.
Don't reach directly for that member variable; consider instead a member function that would do what you need.

Your future-self will thank you later.

4:41 PM - 3 May 2018

1 Retweet 14 Likes



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Jonathan Boccara's blog



POPULAR

- ▶ How to split a string in C++
- ▶ Making code expressive with lambdas
- ▶ The Complete Guide to Building Strings In



Which One Is Better: Map of Vectors, or Multimap?

Published April 10, 2018 - 10 Comments

While advising on how to make code more expressive on the [SFME project](#), I came across an interesting case of choosing the right data structure, which I'll share with you with the permission of the authors of the projects.

We had to associate a key with several values, and perform various operations. Should we use a map of vectors, or is a multimap more appropriate? Let's see the case in more details, and compare the two solutions.

The case: an event mediator

- Jonathan Boccara

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```
void EventMediator::emit(Event const& event) const
{
    auto eventID = event.getID();
    auto receiversEntry = receiversRegistry_.find(eventID);
    if (receiversEntry != end(receiversRegistry_))
    {
        auto const& receivers = receiversEntry->second;
        for (auto const& receiver : receivers)
        {
            receiver->reactTo(event);
        }
    }
}
```

- Jonathan Boccara

```
void EventMediator::emit(Event const& event) const
{
    auto eventID = event.getID();
    auto receiversEntries = receiversRegistry_.equal_range(eventID);
    for (auto receiverEntry = receiversEntries.first; receiverEntry != receiversEntries.second; ++receiverEntry)
    {
        auto const& receiver = receiverEntry->second;
        receiver->reactTo(event);
    }
}
```

- Jonathan Boccara

```
void Mediator::notifyListeners(Event const & ev)
{
    auto const & listeners = getListeners(ev);
    for (auto listener : listeners)
        listener->nonBlockingNotify(ev);
}
```

- Tony Van Eerd


```

bool push(int val)
{
    int prev = 0;
    geni ent;
    geni tmp;
    geni old = tmp = tail; // laxtomic load
    do {
        ent = buffer[tmp].load(relaxed);
        while( ! is_zero(ent, tmp.gen) ) {
            if (ent.gen < prev) {
                while(!tail.CAS(old,tmp) && old < tmp) { }
                return false; // full
            } else tmp.incr();
            if (ent.data) prev = ent.gen;
        }
        geni newg{val, tmp.gen};
    } while ( ! buffer[tmp].CAS(ent, newg, release));
    tmp.incr(); // go to next
    // update if no one else has gone as far:
    while (!tail.CAS(old, tmp) && old < tmp) { }
    return true;
}

```

```

void push(int val) {
    geni pos = tailish; // relaxed load
    do {
        pos = find_tail(pos);
    } while (!try_write_value(pos, val));
    tailish = pos+1; // thanks Sebastian
}

geni find_tail(geni pos) { // precondition: pos <= tail
    while(!maybe_tail(buff[pos.val].load(relaxed), pos.gen))
        pos++;
    return pos;
}

bool maybe_tail(entry e, int gen) {
    return e.data == 0 && e.gen == gen
        || e.data != 0 && e.gen < gen;
}

bool try_write_value(geni pos, int val) {
    entry old{0, pos.gen};
    entry nu{val, pos.gen};
    return buffer[pos].c_e_weak(old, nu, release, relaxed);
}

```

#ClashOfTheClichés

“Never give up on your dreams.”

“Be careful what you wish for.”

(Phil Nash)

We're smarter than this



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We're smarter than this



Apparently not

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Apparently not

- Time crunch
- Instant gratification
- 80 / 20 – *“it’s not a sprint, it’s a marathon”*
- Uncertainty? (know this is wrong, don't know what is right)



We're smarter than this

- Pair programming
- It's not a sprint, it's a marathon - *Make it a relay*
- Positive feedback (from self, others) ie in code reviews
- Write tests – gratification
- Praise publically
- Gamify? Prizes for lines removed? Bugs fixed?
- Visualization – like athletes; imagine the codebase you want



*“A goal is not always meant to be reached,
it often serves simply as something to aim at.”*

- Bruce Lee



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#ClashOfTheClichés

“If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.”

“Don't throw good money after bad.”

“There's no such thing as a free lunch.”

“Don't look a gift horse in the mouth.”

“The early bird gets the worm.”

“Good things come to those who wait.”

“Patience is a virtue.”

“Strike while the iron is hot.”

“Better safe than Sorry”

*“A ship in harbour is safe, but
that's not what ships are built for”*

“Never give up on your dreams.”

“Be careful what you wish for.”

“Absence makes the heart grow fonder.”

“Out of sight, out of mind.”

The End



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