

WG Software Developers Meetup

Clean code principles: What
Is Clean Code? How can I
write clean and maintainable
code?

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What is clean code and why do we need it?

- Clean code is code that is easy to understand and easy to change.
 - ❖ *“Any fool can write code that a computer can understand. Good programmers write code that humans can understand.”—Martin Fowler*
- Clean code always looks like it was written by someone who cares. You should care because code is (almost) never written just once and then forgotten.
- Most of the time you, or someone else, need to work on the code. And to be able to work on it efficiently you need to understand the code.





Characteristics of Clean code

Characteristics of Clean code

- ***Clean code is simple.*** Perhaps not simple in algorithmic complexity, but certainly simple in implementation. Overly clever tricks and hacks are only fun for the author.
- ***Clean code is readable.***
 - If the naming conventions, structure, and flow used in a program are not designed with the reader in mind, then that reader will almost certainly fail to understand the original author's intent.
 - Conventions about how to write readable code helps to make code communal.
- ***Clean code is considerate.*** Writing code that everyone understands, that the developer is confident is error-free and supported by clear documentation is being respectful of other team members.



Characteristics of Clean code

- *Clean code is tested.*
 - No one writes perfect, bug-free code on the first try. Even if it were possible to do so, there is no guarantee that perfect code won't break later.
 - Writing tested code means that future users can be confident they're interacting with something that works.
- *Clean code is relentlessly refactored.*
 - Clean code should be in a constant state of refactoring.
 - With a good test suite to back up your code, you can refactor it as much as you like and never worry about breakage.
- *Clean code is SOLID.* Good code is as much about good design as it is about cleanliness. Following the SOLID principles is one way to ensure that your code is acting the way it's supposed to, flexible, and maintainable.







SOLID Principles: Explanation and examples

What is clean code and why do we need it?

- SOLID is an acronym for 5 important design principles when doing OOP (Object Oriented Programming).
- Though they apply to any object-oriented design, the SOLID principles can also form a core philosophy for methodologies such as agile development.
- The theory of SOLID principles was introduced by Robert C. Martin (also known as “uncle Bob”) in his 2000 paper Design Principles and Design Patterns, although the SOLID acronym was introduced later by Michael Feathers.



SOLID Principles

- S - Single Responsibility Principle (SRP)
- O - Open/Closed Principle (OCP)
- L - Liskov Substitution Principle (LSP)
- I - Interface Segregation Principle (ISP)
- D - Dependency Inversion Principle (DIP)



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a horizontal line across the middle. To the left of this line, there are several vertical bars of varying heights and widths, some in a dark gray color and others in a light blue color. The background of the slide is a solid light gray.

S — Single responsibility principle (SRP)

S – Single responsibility principle (SRP)

- **State:** “Every module or class should have responsibility over a single part of the functionality provided by the software”.
- **Meaning:** Each software component (class, method or module) should be responsible for doing only one thing, and it should do that one thing really well.
- **Benefits:** Single responsibility components result in code that is easier to understand, maintain and unit test.
- **Violation by:** Writing software components with multiple responsibilities.
- **Problem:** More responsibilities make component changes more frequent, result in compatibility issues, components make harder to understand, increase the chance of introducing bugs.



S – Single responsibility principle (SRP)

Dirty code example

```
1 class User
2 {
3     void CreatePost(Database db, string postMessage)
4     {
5         try
6         {
7             db.Add(postMessage);
8         }
9         catch (Exception ex)
10        {
11            db.LogError("An error occurred: ", ex.ToString());
12            File.WriteAllText(@"\LocalErrors.txt", ex.ToString());
13        }
14    }
15 }
```

Clean code example

```
1 class Post
2 {
3     private ErrorLogger errorLogger = new ErrorLogger();
4
5     void CreatePost(Database db, string postMessage)
6     {
7         try
8         {
9             db.Add(postMessage);
10        }
11        catch (Exception ex)
12        {
13            errorLogger.log(ex.ToString())
14        }
15    }
16 }
17
18 class ErrorLogger
19 {
20     void log(string error)
21     {
22         db.LogError("An error occurred: ", error);
23         File.WriteAllText(@"\LocalErrors.txt", error);
24     }
25 }
```

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0 – Open/closed
principle (OCP)

O – Open/closed principle (OCP)

- **State:** “Software entities (classes, modules, functions, etc.) should be open for extension, but closed for modification.”
- **Meaning:** Design software entities in such a way that we then can easily add features, without having to modify, recompile and redeploy them.
- **Benefits:** This results in well-designed code and reduced risk of breaking code.
- **Violation by:** Writing software components that need to modify when we need to introduce a change or a new feature.
- **Problem:** Modifying existing components may result in different behavior not expected by clients of the components, need to recompile & redeploy code that wastes time, introduces high chance of new bugs.



O – Open/closed principle (OCP)

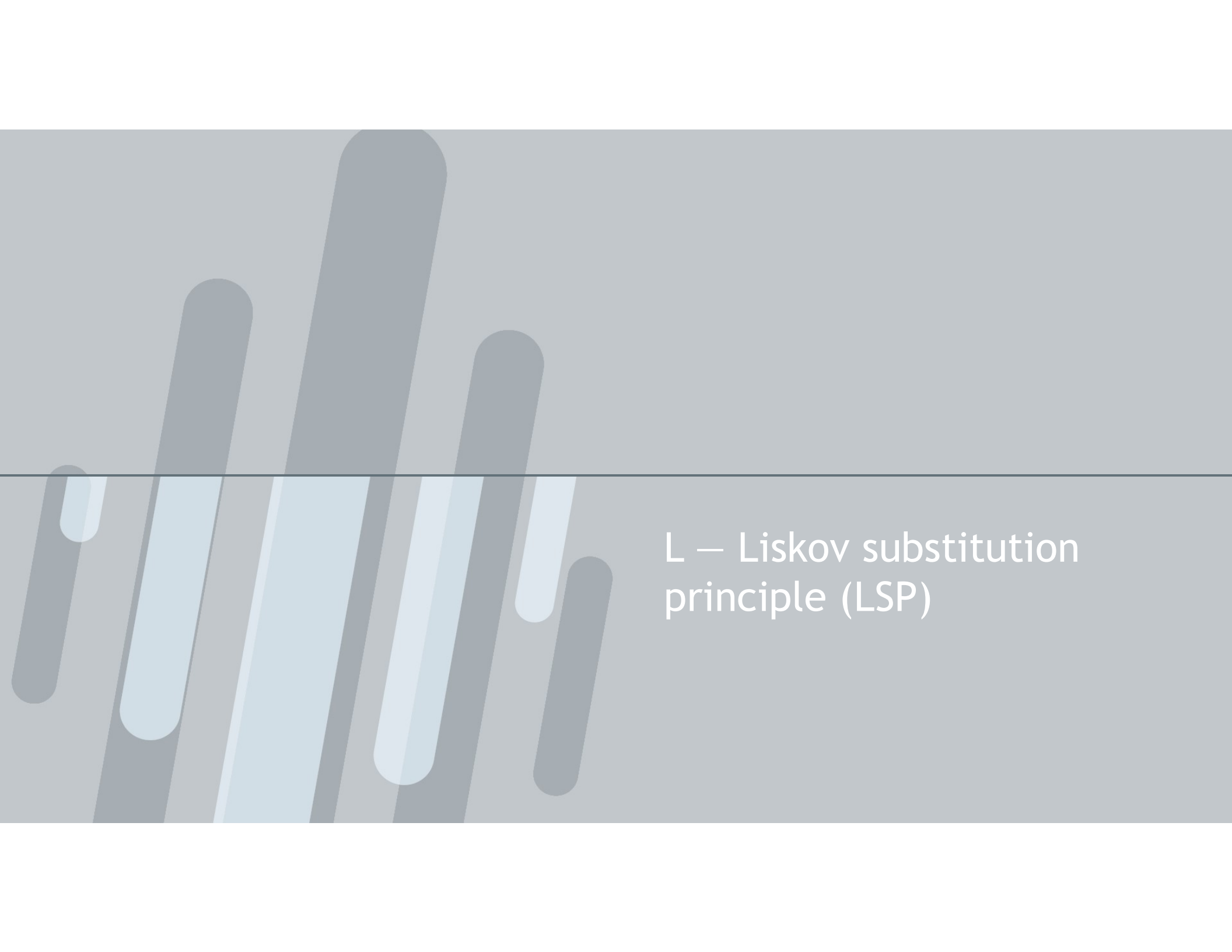
Dirty code example

```
1 class Post
2 {
3     void CreatePost(Database db, string postMessage)
4     {
5         if (postMessage.StartsWith("#"))
6         {
7             db.AddAsTag(postMessage);
8         }
9         else
10        {
11            db.Add(postMessage);
12        }
13    }
14 }
```

Clean code example

```
1 class Post
2 {
3     void CreatePost(Database db, string postMessage)
4     {
5         db.Add(postMessage);
6     }
7 }
8
9 class TagPost : Post
10 {
11     override void CreatePost(Database db, string postMessage)
12     {
13         db.AddAsTag(postMessage);
14     }
15 }
```



A decorative graphic consisting of several vertical bars of varying heights and shades of blue and grey, positioned on the left side of the slide. A thin horizontal line crosses the middle of the slide, passing behind the text.

L — Liskov substitution principle (LSP)

L – Liskov substitution principle (LSP)

- **State:** “If S is a subtype of T, then objects of type T may be replaced with objects of type S, without breaking the program.”
- **Meaning:** Objects in a program should be replaceable with instances of their subtypes without altering the correctness of that program.
- **Benefits:** This results in well-designed code that easily adopts new features and different implementations without affecting the existing code.
- **Violation by:** Applying OO techniques like Inheritance and Polymorphism in a way that derived classes break ‘contracts’ of their parent classes.
- **Problem:** Modifying existing components may result in different behavior not expected by clients of the components, need to recompile & redeploy code that wastes time, introduces high chance of new bugs.



L – Liskov substitution principle (LSP) | code example

Dirty code example

```
5 using System;
6
7 namespace LSP
8 {
9     #region Violating LSP
10     5 references
11     public interface IAnimal
12     {
13         3 references
14         void Eat();
15     }
16     3 references
17     public class Dog : IAnimal
18     {
19         3 references
20         public void Eat()
21         {
22             Console.WriteLine("Eating dog food...");
23         }
24
25         1 reference
26         public void Bark()
27         {
28             Console.WriteLine("Woof");
29         }
30     }
31     3 references
32     public class Cat : IAnimal
33     {
34         3 references
35         public void Eat()
36         {
37             Console.WriteLine("Eating cat food...");
38         }
39
40         1 reference
41         public void Meow()
42         {
43             Console.WriteLine("Meow");
44         }
45     }
46 }
```

contract common to all animals

specific to dog

specific to cat

```
39
40
41 0 references
42 class Program
43 {
44     0 references
45     static void Main(string[] args)
46     {
47         List<IAnimal> animals = new List<IAnimal>();
48         animals.Add(new Dog());
49         animals.Add(new Cat());
50
51         foreach (IAnimal animal in animals)
52         {
53             animal.Eat();
54
55             if (animal.GetType() == typeof(Dog))
56             {
57                 ((Dog)animal).Bark();
58             }
59             else if (animal.GetType() == typeof(Cat))
60             {
61                 ((Cat)animal).Meow();
62             }
63             else
64             {
65                 throw new Exception("Animal type not supported");
66             }
67         }
68     }
69 }
```

checking subtypes and down-casting is needed for the code to work

L – Liskov substitution principle (LSP) | code example

Clean code example

```
68 #region Applying LSP
69 5 references
70 public interface IAnimal
71 {
72     3 references
73     void Eat();
74     3 references
75     void MakeNoise();
76 }
77 1 reference
78 public class Dog : IAnimal
79 {
80     3 references
81     public void Eat()
82     {
83         Console.WriteLine("Eating dog food...");
84     }
85     3 references
86     public void MakeNoise()
87     {
88         Console.WriteLine("Woof");
89     }
90 }
91 1 reference
92 public class Cat : IAnimal
93 {
94     3 references
95     public void Eat()
96     {
97         Console.WriteLine("Eating cat food...");
98     }
99     3 references
100     public void MakeNoise()
101     {
102         Console.WriteLine("Meouw");
103     }
104 }
```

contract common to all animals

```
99 0 references
100 class Program
101 {
102     0 references
103     static void Main(string[] args)
104     {
105         List<IAnimal> animals = new List<IAnimal>();
106         animals.Add(new Dog());
107         animals.Add(new Cat());
108         foreach (IAnimal animal in animals)
109         {
110             animal.Eat();
111             animal.MakeNoise();
112         }
113     }
114 }
#endregion
```

no need for checking subtypes and sub-casting

An abstract graphic featuring several vertical bars of varying heights and shades of blue and grey. A thin horizontal line crosses the middle of the image. The text is positioned to the right of the bars.

I – Interface segregation principle (ISP)

I – Interface segregation principle (ISP)

- **State:** “No client should be forced to depend on methods it does not use.”
- **Meaning:** Interfaces should serve a well-defined purpose and expose only purpose related specific functions.
- **Benefits:** This results in well-designed code with clear separation of responsibilities.
- **Violation by:** Writing generic interfaces with multiple functions that do not need to be exposed to all clients.
- **Problem:** Clients need to implement functions they do not need, adding additional unnecessary complexity, risking the change to break compatibility with clients and to introduce new bugs.



I – Interface segregation principle (ISP) | code example

Dirty code example

```
9 #region Violating ISP
10 2 references
11 public interface IToy
12 {
13     2 references void SetPrice(int price);
14     2 references void Fly();
15     2 references void Talk();
16 }
17 0 references
18 public class Doll : IToy
19 {
20     int _price;
21     2 references public void SetPrice(int price)
22     {
23         this._price = price;
24     }
25     2 references public void Fly()
26     {
27         throw new Exception("Not allowed operation");
28     }
29     2 references public void Talk()
30     {
31         Console.WriteLine("Doll toy is talking...");
32     }
33 }
34 0 references
35 public class Plane : IToy
36 {
37     int _price;
38     2 references public void SetPrice(int price)
39     {
40         this._price = price;
41     }
42     2 references public void Fly()
43     {
44         Console.WriteLine("Plane toy is flying...");
45     }
46     2 references public void Talk()
47     {
48         throw new Exception("Not allowed operation");
49     }
50 }
```

contract common to all toys

Doll toy does not need the Fly method

Plane toy does not need the Talk method

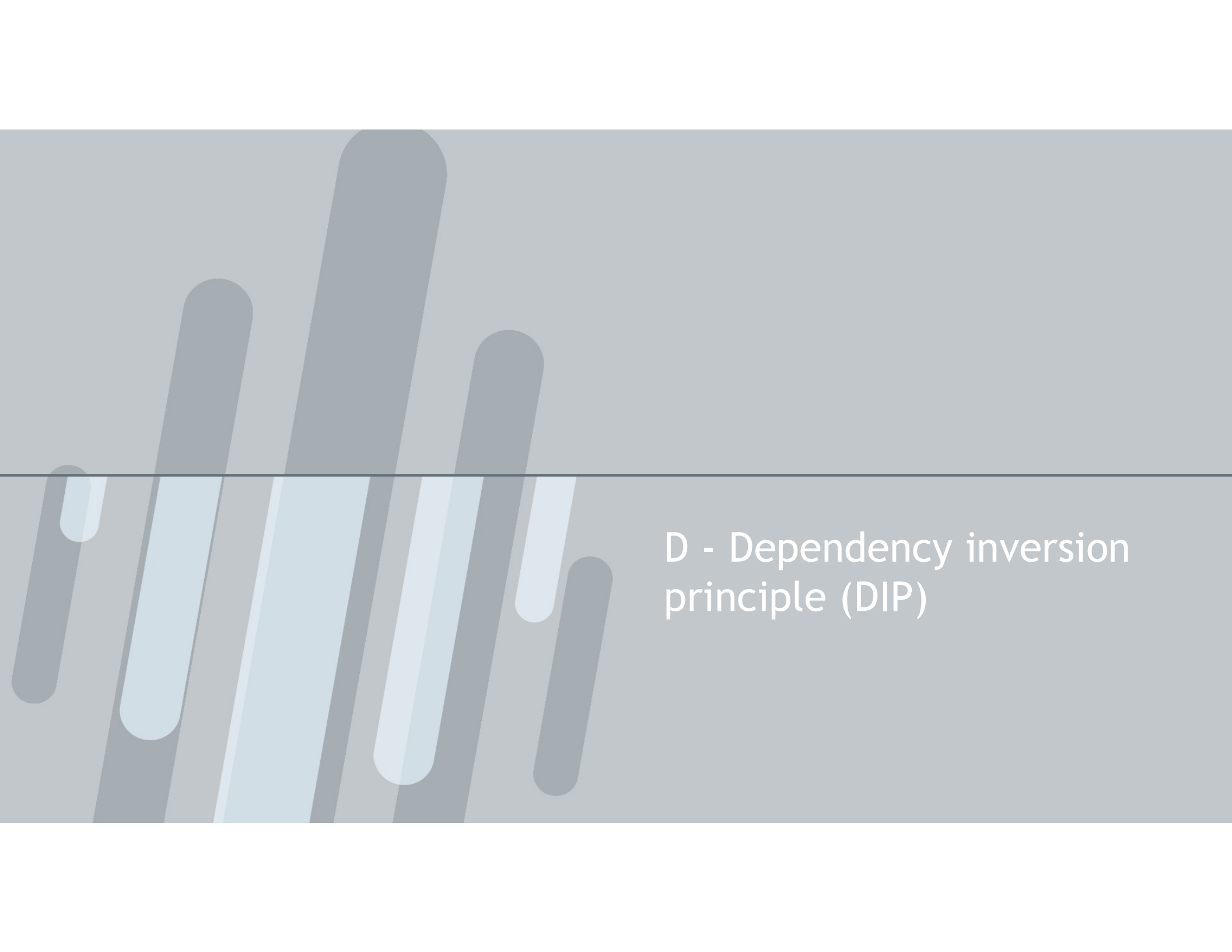
Clean code example

```
52 #region Applying ISP
53 1 reference
54 public interface IFly
55 {
56     1 reference void Fly();
57 }
58 1 reference
59 public interface ITalk
60 {
61     1 reference void Talk();
62 }
63 2 references
64 public interface IToy
65 {
66     2 references void SetPrice(int price);
67 }
68 0 references
69 public class Doll : IToy, ITalk
70 {
71     int _price;
72     String _color;
73     2 references public void SetPrice(int price)
74     {
75         this._price = price;
76     }
77     1 reference public void Talk()
78     {
79         Console.WriteLine("Doll toy is talking...");
80     }
81 }
82 0 references
83 public class Plane : IToy, IFly
84 {
85     int _price;
86     String _color;
87     2 references public void SetPrice(int price)
88     {
89         this._price = price;
90     }
91     1 reference public void Fly()
92     {
93         Console.WriteLine("Plane toy is flying...");
94     }
95 }
```

contracts splitted

Doll toy implements only the methods needed

Plane toy implements only the methods needed

The background features a solid light gray color. On the left side, there are several vertical bars of varying heights and widths, some in a medium blue and others in a darker gray. A thin, dark gray horizontal line runs across the middle of the image, passing behind the text.

D - Dependency inversion
principle (DIP)

D - Dependency inversion principle (DIP)

- **State:** “High-level modules should not depend on low-level modules. Both should depend on abstractions. Abstractions should not depend on details. Details should depend on abstractions.”
- **Meaning:** Components like classes should not depend on each other directly, they should rather depend on abstractions (like interfaces or abstract classes).
- **Benefits:** This results in well-designed code that supports the generic goals of high readability and maintainability.
- **Violation by:** Writing classes that contain other classes via composition.
- **Problem:** Tight coupling among classes results in more complex code, harder to understand and maintain.
- **Apply DIP:** use a design pattern known as a dependency inversion pattern, most often solved by using dependency injection. Typically, dependency injection is used simply by ‘injecting’ any dependencies of a class through the class constructor as an input parameter.



D - Dependency inversion principle (DIP) | code example

Dirty code example

```
1 class Post
2 {
3     private ErrorLogger errorLogger = new ErrorLogger();
4
5     void CreatePost(Database db, string postMessage)
6     {
7         try
8         {
9             db.Add(postMessage);
10        }
11        catch (Exception ex)
12        {
13            errorLogger.log(ex.ToString())
14        }
15    }
16 }
```

Clean code example

```
1 class Post
2 {
3     private Logger _logger;
4
5     public Post(Logger injectedLogger)
6     {
7         _logger = injectedLogger;
8     }
9
10    void CreatePost(Database db, string postMessage)
11    {
12        try
13        {
14            db.Add(postMessage);
15        }
16        catch (Exception ex)
17        {
18            _logger.log(ex.ToString())
19        }
20    }
21 }
```



An abstract graphic featuring a horizontal line across the middle of the frame. To the left of this line, there are several vertical bars of varying heights and shades of blue and grey. The background is a solid light grey.

DRY or “Don’t Repeat Yourself”

DRY or “Don’t Repeat Yourself”

- **State:** "Every piece of knowledge or logic must have a single, unambiguous representation within a system."
- **Meaning:** Software development aimed at reducing repetition of information.
- **Violation by:** Writing the same code or logic in many places.
- **Problem:** Makes code difficult to maintain, possible updates result in making multiple changes, increases the chance of bugs.
- **Apply DRY:** Divide your code and logic into smaller reusable units and use that code.
- **Benefits:** It saves time and effort, it is easy to maintain, and also reduces the chances of bugs.



An abstract graphic featuring a series of vertical bars of varying heights and shades of blue and grey, set against a light grey background. A thin horizontal line crosses the middle of the image. The text "KISS or 'Keep it Simple, Stupid'" is positioned to the right of the bars.

KISS or “Keep it Simple,
Stupid”

KISS or “Keep it Simple, Stupid”

- **State:** “A simple solution is better than a complex one, even if the solution look stupid.”
- **Meaning:** Keep the code simple and clear, making it easy to understand.
- **Violation by:** Writing complex and messy code.
- **Problem:** Makes code difficult to maintain and understand, increases the chance of bugs.
- **Apply KISS:** Try making the simplest implementation using the decomposition technique (breaking the code into simpler and cleaner parts).
- **Benefits:** It makes the code easier to understand, easier to maintain and also reduces the chances of bugs.





Tips On Clean Code

Tips On Clean Code

- Use meaningful names
- Use convention
- Try not to produce unused code
- Using libraries/APIs to not reinvent the wheel
- Do not write comments and variable names in your native language
- Do not write classes with too many lines of code
- Write unit tests
- Run test coverage to see how much of your code you're testing
- Do not use comments to comment out unused code
- Do not use magic numbers
- Avoid in-line comments, put comments in the method doc



Clean Code Examples

Dirty Code Example	Clean Code Example
<code>int d; // elapsed time in days</code>	<code>int elapsedTimeInDays;</code>
<code>apikey = 123456;</code>	<code>API_KEY = 123456;</code>
<code>if (today == 7) { return 'It is holiday'; }</code>	<code>const int SUNDAY = 7; if (today == SUNDAY) { return 'It is holiday'; }</code>
<code>class Model01(object){ get_ageiymd();//get age in year, month, days get_lmdiynd();//get last modified in year,month,days }</code>	<code>class Person (object){ get_age_year_month_days (); get_last_modified_year_month_days (); }</code>
<code>for (int j = 0; j < 34; j++) { s += (t[j] * 4) / 5; }</code>	<code>int realDaysPerIdealDay = 4; const int WORK_DAYS_PER_WEEK = 5; const int NUMBER_OF_TASKS = 34; int sum = 0; for (int = 0; j < NUMBER_OF_TASKS; j++) { int realTaskDays = taskEstimate[j] * realDaysPerIdealDay; int realTaskWeeks=(realTaskDays/WORK_DAYS_PER_WEEK); sum += realTaskWeeks; }</code>



The background of the slide is a dark blue gradient. On the left side, there are several vertical, rounded rectangular shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light to dark. A thin, horizontal light blue line runs across the middle of the slide, passing behind the text.

Conclusion

Conclusion

- It takes a lot of practice and effort to write clean code. However it is definitely worth the extra effort.
- Writing clean code is integral to the success of the project.
- Perfect code is not always feasible but it is important to try and write code as cleanly as possible. Programming is an art. Let other programmers enjoy your code.



Any questions?





Thank you for
your attention

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