

The dangerous side of Kotlin

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Kotlin.amsterdam



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Ahold
Delhaize

bol.com 

The word "bol.com" is written in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font. A small circular logo containing a stylized lowercase "b" and "c" is placed to the right of the "m".





feestbeesten







Kotlin



DANGEROUS Kotlin

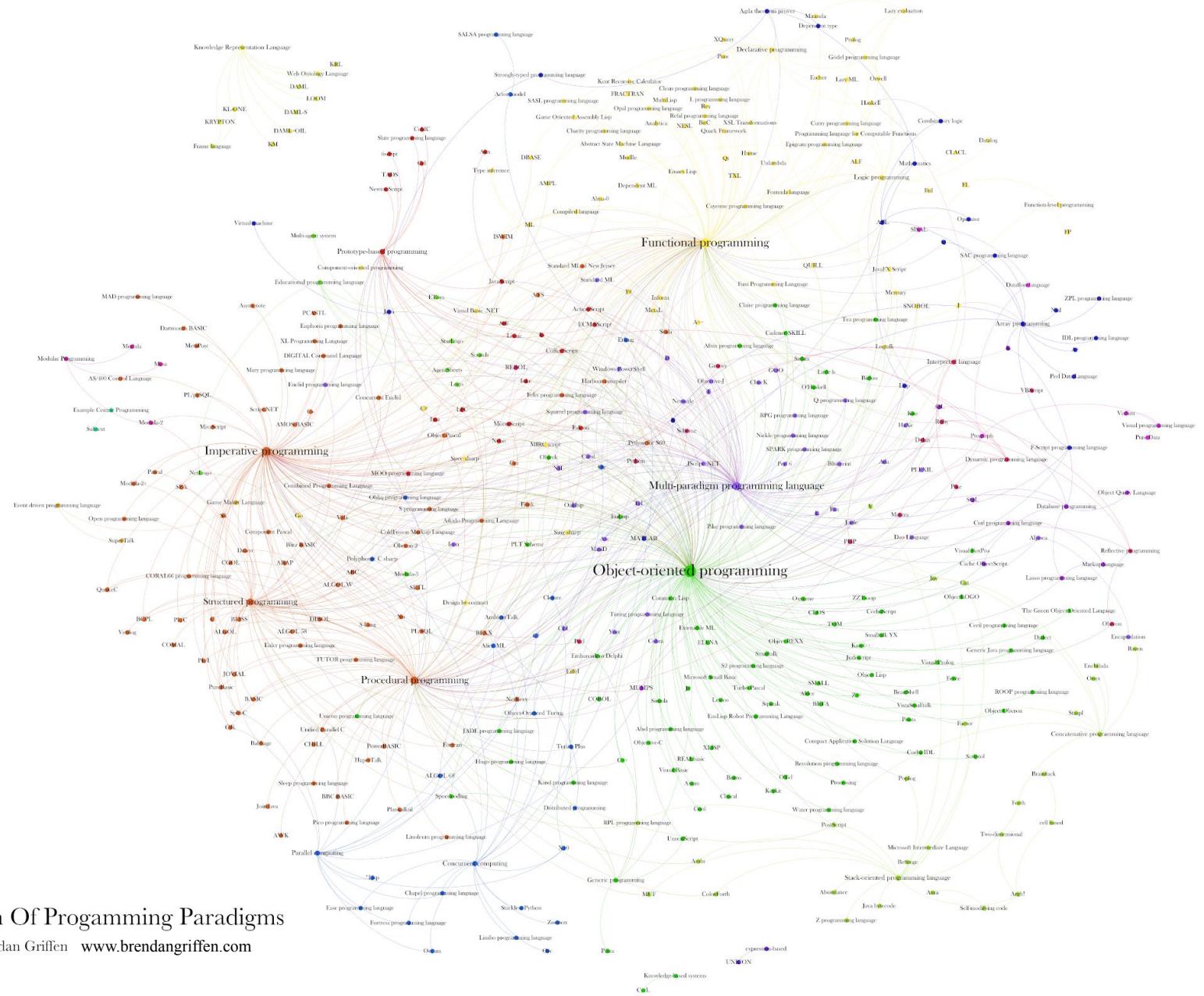






DANGEROUS Kotlin





- Fix our problem
- Easy to write
- Easy to read





I call it my
billion-dollar
mistake. It was
the invention of
the null reference
in 1965.

- Sir Tony Hoare, FRS, FREng

```
data class Coffee(val amount: Milliliters) {  
    fun merge(that: Coffee) = this + that  
  
    private operator fun plus(extra: Coffee) = Coffee(amount: amount + extra)  
}
```

```
typealias Milliliters = Double  
typealias CoffeeMerge = (Coffee, Coffee) -> Coffee
```

```
private val merge: CoffeeMerge = Coffee::merge
```

```
fun Double.toOunces() = this / 29.574
```

```
inline fun <reified T> T?.getClassString() = T::class.java.toString()
```



21x24
12x17

Fond Bonne

Bla

Som

Extension functions

```
private fun String.asUrl() = URL(spec: this)
```

```
private fun String?.asUrl() = this?.let { URL(it) }
```

```
private fun String?.toUrl() =  
    try { this?.let { URL(it) } }  
    catch (e: MalformedURLException) { null }
```

```
data class PromotionReport(  
    val eans: Set<String>?,  
    val supplierId: String?,  
    val attribute: List<PromotedAttribute>?,  
    val promotedAttributesCount: Int?  
) : BeagleEntity
```

```
fun PromotionReport.getEans(): Set<String> = this.eans.orEmpty()
```

```
fun PromotionReport.getTraceId(): String? {  
    return this.attribute?.firstOrNull { it.id == AttributeId.TRACE_ID.value  
}
```

```
fun PromotionReport.getTraceIdOrThrow() = this.getTraceId() ?: throw Illega
```

```
val value = BigDecimal(val: "3.5")
```

```
val moreValue = value * 4
```

```
operator fun BigDecimal.times(int: Int) = this * BigDecimal(in
```

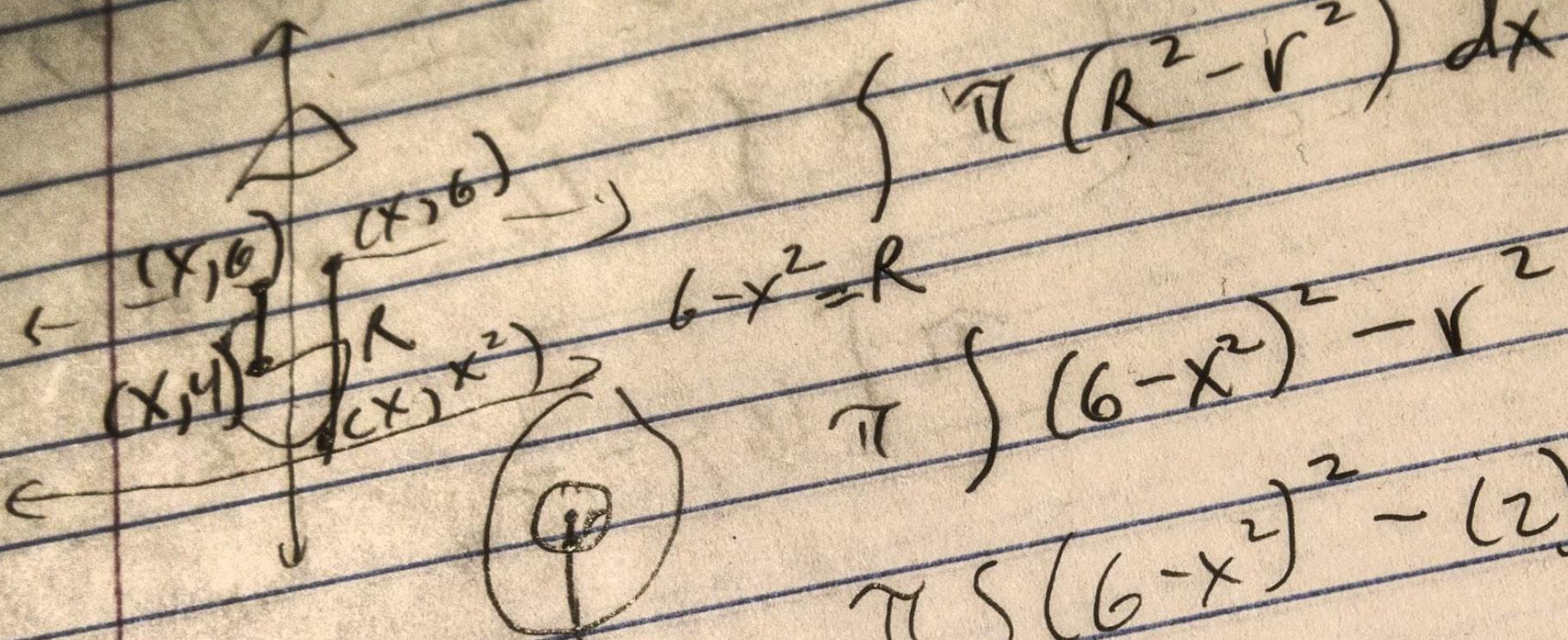
```
inline class Money(private val value: BigDecimal) {  
    constructor(value: Number) : this(BigDecimal(value.toString()))  
  
    fun toCurrency(type: CurrencyType) = Currency(money: this, type)  
  
    operator fun times(number: Number) = this * Money(number)  
    operator fun times(money: Money) = this * money.value  
    operator fun times(decimal: BigDecimal) = Money(value: value * decimal)  
}
```

Great DANGER

- Can introduce duplication
- Can break encapsulation
- Can interfere with OO principles

Operator overloading

```
inline class Money(private val value: BigDecimal) {  
    constructor(value: Number) : this(BigDecimal(value.toString()))  
  
    fun toCurrency(type: CurrencyType) = Currency(money: this, type)  
  
    operator fun times(number: Number) = this * Money(number)  
    operator fun times(money: Money) = this * money.value  
    operator fun times(decimal: BigDecimal) = Money(value: value * decimal)  
}
```



$$\pi \int_{(x,y)}^{(x+dx,y)} (6-x^2) dx$$

$$\pi \int_{(x,y)}^{(x+dx,y)} (6-x^2) - r^2 dx$$

$$\pi \int_{(x,y)}^{(x+dx,y)} (6-x^2) - (2)^2 dx$$

$$\pi \int_{-2}^2 (6-x^2) - 4 dx$$

$$\pi \int_{-2}^2 36 - 12x^2 +$$

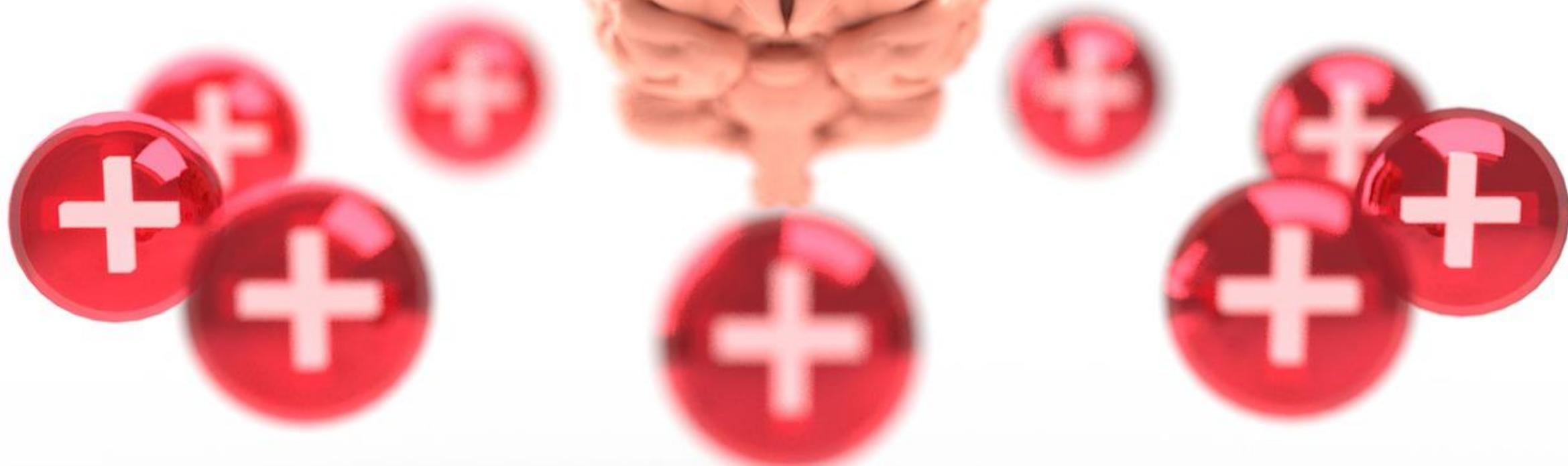
$$6-4$$

$$2=r$$

limits

$$x=4$$

$$x=x^2$$





• 100 euros

**StockTransactions
PriceTransactions**

StockValueTransactions

$$x\Delta S * y\Delta P = xy\Delta V$$

Great DANGER

- Only works if concept aligns
- Can surprise readers
- Risky for its seductive elegance

Lambdas
with
receiver

```
private fun configureTopicAndSubscription(topic: String, subscriptions: List<String>) {  
    pubSubAdmin.ignoringNotFound { deleteTopic(topic) }  
}  
  
}
```

Whenever I read JavaScript I want to shout
“this is shit!”, but I can never figure out what
“this” refers to...

- A tweet I once read who's author I've regrettably forgotten

```
private  
    a  
}  
} catch (e: NotFoundException) {  
    // ignore  
}
```

- 
- Great DANGER
- Obfuscates context scope
 - Doesn't pass “Smart code” test
 - Turns Kotlin into JavaScript







Thanks

Attributions

- “Dangerous pirate” by [Felix Lichtenfeld](#) via [Pixabay](#)
- “Danger stamp” by [Gerd Altmann](#) via [Pixabay](#)
- Math picture by Robert Couse-Baker from [Pxhere](#)
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<https://github.com/benkelaar/dangerous-kotlin>



Bonus

Main takeaway

**Don't blindly
apply techniques**

- Think!

Outline

- Intro
 - Don't blindly apply techniques - Think!
 - Kotlin is amazing
 - But be careful
- Quick recap of why Kotlin is awesome
 - All the power of the JVM
 - Null safety
 - Brevity
 - Modern language features
 - data classes
 - functional support
 - coroutines
 - type reification, tailrec
- Venture into the dark side - Features gone wrong
 - Extension functions
 - Operator overloading
 - Lambda with receivers
 - Deep optional chains
- Here be dragons, the real evil stuff
 - Java interop - Nullability, Function types
- Outro
 - All of these features can be used for good
 -
 - Don't blindly apply techniques - Think!