# Implementing maintainable software

By Bytecraft\_

# Agenda

- Introduction
- Agile
- Characteristics of maintainable code
- Techniques

## Who?

- Bytecraft\_
  - Software craftsmanship
    - Raising the bar
    - https://manifesto.softwarecraftsmanship.org/
  - https://www.bytecraft.fi/ (sorry finnish only)
- Antti Ahonen

## Some Agile Principles

- Satisfy the customer through early and continuous delivery of valuable software.
- Working software is the primary measure of progress.
- Deliver working software frequently, from a couple of weeks to a couple of months.
- Welcome changing requirements, even late in development.

- Business people and developers must work together daily throughout the project.
- Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design enhances agility.

#### Characteristic of maintainable software

- Can be changed easily
  - Malleable
- High software internal quality
- Built-in quality, by the developer
  - Constant work, in every decision
  - Professional pride
- Present at every abstraction level
  - Architecture, line of code
- Documents itself



https://www.shutterstock.com/fi/image-photo/colorful-children-building-bricks-1142522201

# Techniques

# High-level guide

- Extreme programming
  - Small Releases
  - Simple Design
  - Testing
  - Refactoring
  - Pair Programming
  - Collective Ownership
  - Continuous Integration
  - Coding Standard

=> Actually normal programming nowadays

https://www.agilealliance.org/glossary/xp

# Simple design

- YAGNI <a href="https://martinfowler.com/bliki/Yagni.html">https://martinfowler.com/bliki/Yagni.html</a>
  - Avoid generalization until you actually need it
  - Even if you know the whole product vision and the stories, only build the software around the current sprint stories
- KISS
  - → Both are there to remind you to avoid over-engineering

https://effectivesoftwaredesign.com/2013/ 08/05/simplicity-in-software-design-kiss-ya gni-and-occams-razor/

#### KISS

```
const conditionAction = () => console.log("condition")
const otherConditionAction = () => console.log("otherCondition");
const alwaysAction = () => console.log("conditions evalutuated");
```

# Naming

• Aim to **reveal intent** 

```
const d = 5; //days elapsed since beginning
//VS
const daysElapsedSinceBeginning = 5;
```

Name for concepts, not language types

```
const userList = []
//VS
const users = []
```

- Pick one word, use consistently for technical & domain concepts
  - Get, fetch, query, search
  - Client, customer, buyer, patron, consumer, shopper

#### Comments

- First and foremost, explain the **intent** with code
- Comments can help, but they are no substitute for good code
- Inherent problem of comments? → Going stale much easier than code
- Even though most of the time comments are a code smell, there do exist **good comments**
- Best comments are structured comments that generate living documentation:
  - $\circ$  Language mechanisms (annotations, decorators etc) used for commenting, that generate runnable documentation from code  $\rightarrow$  Swagger
    - Or documentation that can be used to generate code (OpenAPI)
  - $\circ$  Testing frameworks : Injecting comments as part of method names, structure  $\rightarrow$  reports
    - lacksquare Or test files that are text documentation, but can be run ightarrow Cucumber
  - With shared/public libraries, use with thought involved: *JavaDoc, JSDoc, PyDoc* etc...

## Examples of bad comments

Redundant

```
/**

* Fetch customer by customer identifier

* @param customerIdentifier identifier for customer

* @return customer for the identifier

* @see Customer

*/

@Override

Customer fetchCustomerBy(Customer.Identifier customerIdentifier)
```

Clearing intention, that could be done with code

```
//customer has wanted order template
if (!customer.orderTemplate.empty &&
   customer.orderTemplate.get().identifier.valueLong ==
templateId.valueLong)
//VS
if (customer.hasOrderTemplate(templateId))
```

• Intent pt2, magic numbers

```
//search for cat in animal category
search("cat", 1)
//search for bmw in vehicle category
search("bmw", 5)
//VS
const ANIMAL_CATEGORY = 1
const VEHICLE_CATEGORY = 5
search("cat", ANIMAL_CATEGORY)
search("bmw", VEHICLE_CATEGORY)
```

'Read more about bad / good comments:

https://blog.usejournal.com/stop-writing-code-comment s-28fef5272752

#### **Functions**

- Small
- Do only one thing
- Intention revealing naming
- Aim for single level of abstraction
  - → SLAP
     https://hackernoon.com/object-oriented-tricks-6-slap-your-functions-a13d25a7d9

     94
- DRY

- Try to avoid long list of arguments
- Aim for pure functions, avoid side-effects
- Design the (public) methods to be used with one way only
  - In general, prefer for example method overloading, multiple functions over boolean flags/other conditional arguments
  - Avoid primitives, use type system
- When calling, use named arguments if language supports

https://www.todaysoftmag.com/article/1071/clean-code-functions

# Refactoring

- You can and should first make code work
- Do not refactor without testing, automated tests help a lot with refactoring
- Work in small, single changes at a time → verify with tests everything works
- Refactoring doesn't add any new functionality or remove existing ones
- Refactoring != Restructuring

- Make it readable
  - Naming, only valuable comments
- DRY
  - Extract method
  - Extract variable
- Reduce complexity
  - KISS
  - Correct abstractions that relate to your domain concepts
- More knowledge about the domain → refactor it as clear concepts into your software

https://dzone.com/articles/code-refactoring-techniques

# Refactoring, functions example

```
void create(Order order, Customer customer, Boolean cust, Boolean ini) {
      e1 = new CustomerEntity(customer.identifier.valueLong, "Doe", "Doerson")
      e1 = entityManager.persist(e1)
  order.doStuff()
      order.products.each { product ->
  def o = new OrderEntity(order.identifier.valueLong, order.products, cust && !ini ? e1 : null)
   repository.save(o)
```

## Better methods?

```
private static Set<OrderProduct>
```

# More refactoring examples

What are the reasons to refactor here?

# Refactored example

```
@Override
                                                                         @Override
      Set<Receipt> receipts
  def plan = getPlan(customer, planIdentifier)
     throw new NotFoundException(errorMessage)
```



- SRP Single Responsibility Principle
- **OCP** Open/Closed Principle
- LSP Liskov Substitution Principle
- ISP Interface Segregation Principle
- **DIP** Dependency Inversion Principle

https://devig.com/solid/

## Classes, interfaces

- Like functions, classes and interfaces should be small
- Size measured by responsibilities
  - Classes:
    - Aim for single responsibility  $\rightarrow$  Single Responsibility Principle (SRP)  $\rightarrow$  only one reason to change:

https://medium.com/@severinperez/writing-flexible-code-with-the-single-responsibility-principle-b71c4f3f883f

Aim for **cohesion**: instance variables should be operated by maximal amount of class methods

- Interfaces (Interface Segregation Principle):
  - https://medium.com/@severinperez/avoiding-interface-pollution-with-the-interface-segregation-p rinciple-5d3859c21013
- The name of the class/interface should reveal the responsibility
  - Try to avoid general names like Processor, Handler

## SRP, Interface segregation with example

```
interface OrderHandler {
    void printOrder(Order order)
    long calculateOrderAmountWithTax(Orderorder, Tax taxRate)
    long calculateOrderAmount(Orderorder)
    Order persistOrder(Orderorder)
}
```

#### Too many responsibilities:

- Order presentation
- Order calculations
- Order persistence

```
interface OrderPresenter {
    void presentOrder(Order order)
}

class OrderCalculator {
    long calculateOrderAmountWithTax(Order order, Tax
taxRate)
    long calculateOrderAmount(Order order)
}

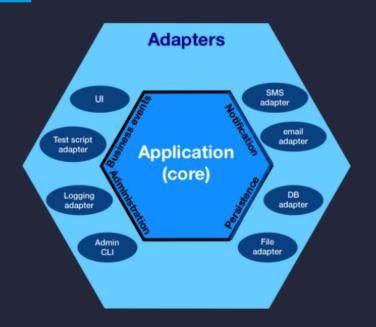
interface OrderPersistence {
    Order persistOrder(Order order)
}
```

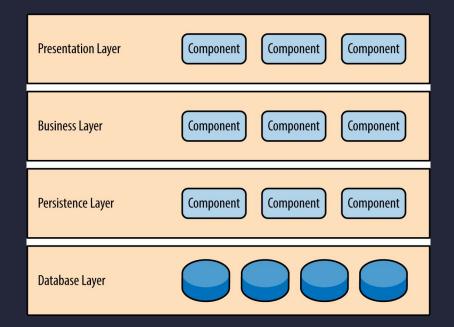
Better, each class / interface has single responsibility and single reason to change

#### Few words about architecture

- Simple design
  - In this course, or even in a lot of work projects, you probably won't need multiple separate (micro)services
- Use the PO, or optimally the end-users, to get domain understanding
  - Keep that understanding (terms) consistent in every part of your applications
  - But do the domain processing only in one place: the backend of your application
    - And only in one abstraction layer inside the backend
- End user needs drive the architecture

#### Architectures





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https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/software-architecture-patterns/978149197 1437/assets/sapr\_0101.png

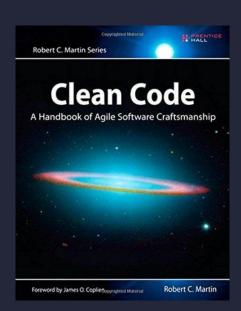
#### Clean Code

Book by Robert C. Martin

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3735293-clean-code

List of topics, a cheatsheet:

https://gist.github.com/wojteklu/73c6914cc446146b8b 533c0988cf8d29



#### Next week

Probably the most important part for maintainable code: automated testing

- Basics of unit and integration testing
- Backend test examples
- React test example