C# 9.0: Source Generators

Basics and features

Shcherbakov Roman

@daredever

What is a Source Generator? Basics

```
[Generator]
public class MyGenerator : ISourceGenerator
{
    public void Initialize(GeneratorInitializationContext context)
    {
      }

    public void Execute(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
    {
      }
}
```

What is a Source Generator? Basics

What is a Source Generator? Basics

```
[Generator]
public class MyGenerator : ISourceGenerator
{
    public void Initialize(GeneratorInitializationContext context)
    {
        }
        public void Execute(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
        {
        }
    }
}
```

Project configuration

```
<Project Sdk="Microsoft.NET.Sdk">
    <PropertyGroup>
        <TargetFramework>netstandard2.0</TargetFramework>
        <LangVersion>9</LangVersion>
    </PropertyGroup>
    <ItemGroup>
        <PackageReference
          Include="Microsoft.CodeAnalysis.CSharp"
          Version="3.8.0"
          PrivateAssets="all" />
        <PackageReference
          Include="Microsoft.CodeAnalysis.Analyzers"
          Version="3.3.2"
          PrivateAssets="all" />
    </ItemGroup>
</Project>
```

Project configuration

```
<Project Sdk="Microsoft.NET.Sdk">
    <PropertyGroup>
        <TargetFramework>netstandard2.0</TargetFramework>
        <LangVersion>9</LangVersion>
    </PropertyGroup>
    <ItemGroup>
        <PackageReference
          Include="Microsoft.CodeAnalysis.CSharp"
          Version="3.8.0"
          PrivateAssets="all" />
        <PackageReference
          Include="Microsoft.CodeAnalysis.Analyzers"
          Version="3.3.2"
          PrivateAssets="all" />
    </ItemGroup>
</Project>
```

Project configuration

```
<Project Sdk="Microsoft.NET.Sdk">
    <PropertyGroup>
        <TargetFramework>netstandard2.0</TargetFramework>
        <LangVersion>9</LangVersion>
    </PropertyGroup>
    <ItemGroup>
        <PackageReference
          Include="Microsoft.CodeAnalysis.CSharp"
          Version="3.8.0"
          PrivateAssets="all" />
        <PackageReference
          Include="Microsoft.CodeAnalysis.Analyzers"
          Version="3.3.2"
          PrivateAssets="all" />
    </ItemGroup>
</Project>
```

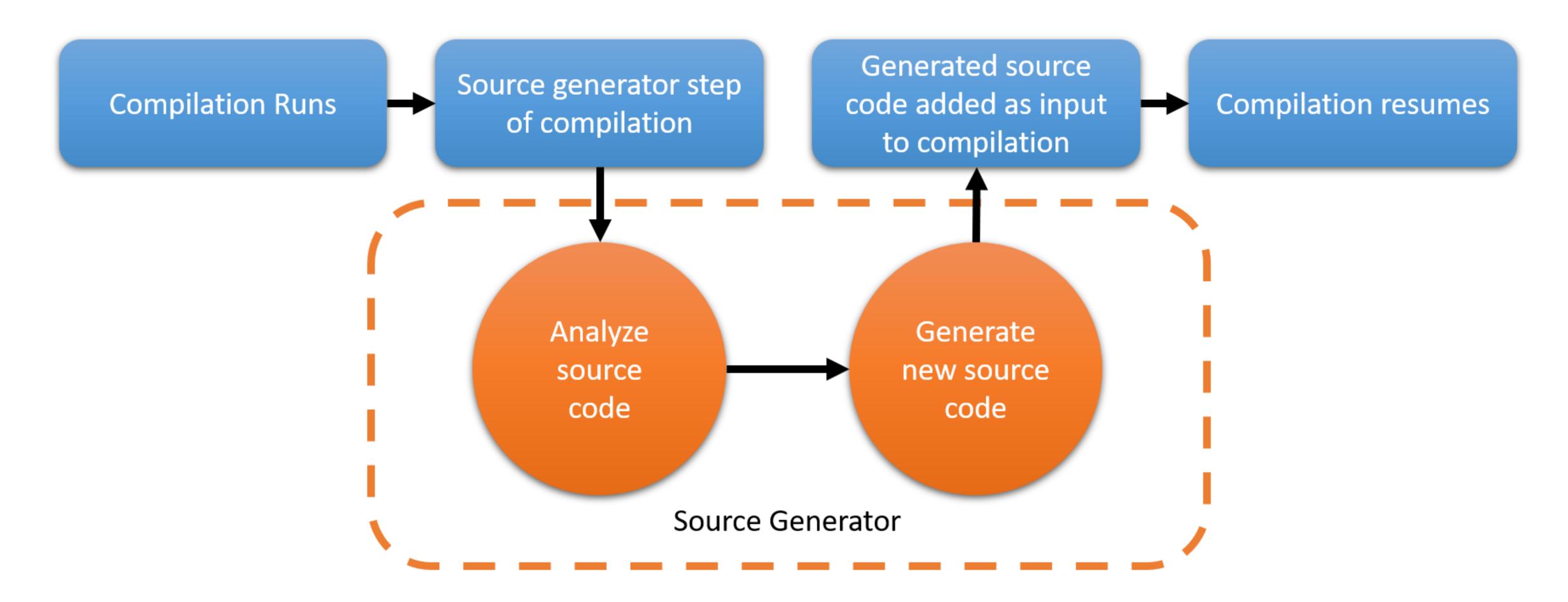
How to use

```
<Project Sdk="Microsoft.NET.Sdk">
  <ItemGroup>
    <ProjectReference Include="..\Generators\Generators.csproj">
        <OutputItemType>Analyzer/OutputItemType>
        <ReferenceOutputAssembly>False/ReferenceOutputAssembly>
    </ProjectReference>
  </ItemGroup>
</Project>
```

How to use

```
<Project Sdk="Microsoft.NET.Sdk">
  <ItemGroup>
    <ProjectReference Include="..\Generators\Generators.csproj">
        <OutputItemType>Analyzer/OutputItemType>
        <ReferenceOutputAssembly>False</ReferenceOutputAssembly>
    </ProjectReference>
  </ItemGroup>
</Project>
```

Lifetime



Hello world

```
[Generator]
public class CustomGenerator : ISourceGenerator
  public void Initialize(GeneratorInitializationContext context) {}
  public void Execute(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
    context.AddSource("GeneratedClass.cs", SourceText.From(@"
namespace GeneratedNamespace
    public class GeneratedClass
        public static void GeneratedMethod()
            System.Console.WriteLine(""Hello, generated, World!"");
}", Encoding.UTF8));
```

Hello world

```
[Generator]
public class CustomGenerator : ISourceGenerator
  public void Initialize(GeneratorInitializationContext context) {}
  public void Execute(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
    context.AddSource("GeneratedClass.cs", SourceText.From(@"
namespace GeneratedNamespace
    public class GeneratedClass
        public static void GeneratedMethod()
            System.Console.WriteLine(""Hello, generated, World!"");
    Encoding.UTF8));
```

Hello world

```
static void Main(string[] args)
{
    // call into a generated method
    GeneratedNamespace.GeneratedClass.GeneratedMethod();
}
```

```
Countries.xml (<u>https://www.artlebedev.ru/country-list/</u>)
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<country-list>
    <country>
        <name>Poccuя</name>
        <fullname>Российская Федерация</fullname>
        <english>Russian Federation</english>
        <alpha2>RU</alpha2>
        <alpha3>RUS</alpha3>
        <iso>643</iso>
        <location>Европа</location>
        <location-precise>Bосточная Европа</location-precise>
    </country>
</country-list>
```

```
Countries.xml (https://www.artlebedev.ru/country-list/)
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<country-list>
    <country>
        <name>Poccuя</name>
        <tullname>Россииская Федерация</fullname>
        <english>Russian Federation</english>
        <alpha2>RU</alpha2>
        <alpha3>RUS</alpha3>
        <iso>643</iso>
        <location>Европа</location>
        <location-precise>Boсточная Европа</location-precise>
    </country>
</country-list>
```

```
public partial class DirectoryOfCountries
{
    public static partial IReadOnlyList<Country> Europe();
}
```

```
public partial class DirectoryOfCountries
{
    public static partial IReadOnlyList<Country> Europe();
}
```

```
private class CustomSyntaxReceiver : ISyntaxReceiver
 public ClassDeclarationSyntax ClassToAugment { get; private set; }
 public void OnVisitSyntaxNode(SyntaxNode syntaxNode)
  // Business logic to decide what we're interested in goes here
   if (syntaxNode is ClassDeclarationSyntax cds &&
       cds.Identifier.ValueText == "DirectoryOfCountries")
    ClassToAugment = cds;
```

```
private class CustomSyntaxReceiver : ISyntaxReceiver
 public ClassDeclarationSyntax ClassToAugment { get; private set; }
 public void OnVisitSyntaxNode(SyntaxNode syntaxNode)
  // Business logic to decide what we're interested in goes here
   if (syntaxNode is ClassDeclarationSyntax cds &&
       cds.Identifier.ValueText == "DirectoryOfCountries")
    ClassToAugment = cds;
```

```
private class CustomSyntaxReceiver: ISyntaxReceiver
 public ClassDeclarationSyntax ClassToAugment { get; private set; }
 public void OnVisitSyntaxNode(SyntaxNode syntaxNode)
     Business logic to decide what we're interested in goes here
      (syntaxNode is ClassDeclarationSyntax cds &&
       cds.Identifier.ValueText == "DirectoryOfCountries")
    ClassToAugment = cds;
```

```
public void Initialize(GeneratorInitializationContext context)
{
    // Register a factory that can
    // create our custom syntax receiver
    context.RegisterForSyntaxNotifications(
        () => new CustomSyntaxReceiver());
}
```

```
public void Execute(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
 var receiver = (CustomSyntaxReceiver)context.SyntaxReceiver;
 if (receiver.ClassToAugment is null) return;
 var xmlData = context.AdditionalFiles
              .SingleOrDefault(a => Path.GetFileName(a.Path) == "Countries.xml")
             ?.GetText(context.CancellationToken)?.ToString();
 if (xmlData is null)
    ReportDiagnostic(context);
    return;
 AddSource(context, xmlData);
```

```
public void Execute(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
 var receiver = (CustomSyntaxReceiver)context.SyntaxReceiver;
 if (receiver.ClassToAugment is null) return;
 var xmlData = context.AdditionalFiles
              .SingleOrDefault(a => Path.GetFileName(a.Path) == "Countries.xml")
             ?.GetText(context.CancellationToken)?.ToString();
 if (xmlData is null)
    ReportDiagnostic(context);
    return;
 AddSource(context, xmlData);
```

```
public void Execute(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
 var receiver = (CustomSyntaxReceiver)context.SyntaxReceiver;
 if (receiver.ClassToAugment is null) return;
 var xmlData = context.AdditionalFiles
              .SingleOrDefault(a => Path.GetFileName(a.Path) == "Countries.xml")
             ?.GetText(context.CancellationToken)?.ToString();
     (xmlData is null)
    ReportDiagnostic(context);
    return;
 AddSource(context, xmlData);
```

```
public void Execute(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
 var receiver = (CustomSyntaxReceiver)context.SyntaxReceiver;
 if (receiver.ClassToAugment is null) return;
 var xmlData = context.AdditionalFiles
              .SingleOrDefault(a => Path.GetFileName(a.Path) == "Countries.xml")
              ?.GetText(context.CancellationToken)?.ToString();
     (xmlData is null)
    ReportDiagnostic(context);
    return;
 AddSource(context, xmlData);
```

```
public void Execute(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
 var receiver = (CustomSyntaxReceiver)context.SyntaxReceiver;
 if (receiver.ClassToAugment is null) return;
 var xmlData = context.AdditionalFiles
              .SingleOrDefault(a => Path.GetFileName(a.Path) == "Countries.xml")
             ?.GetText(context.CancellationToken)?.ToString();
 if (xmlData is null)
    ReportDiagnostic(context);
    return;
 AddSource(context, xmlData);
```

```
private static void ReportDiagnostic(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
 var error = new DiagnosticDescriptor(
                id: "AGEN001",
                title: "Could find XML file",
                messageFormat: "Could find XML file '{0}'",
                category: "AugmentingGenerator",
                defaultSeverity: DiagnosticSeverity. Error,
                isEnabledByDefault: true);
 var diagnostic = Diagnostic.Create(
           error, Location.None, "Countries.xml");
 context.ReportDiagnostic(diagnostic);
```

```
private static void ReportDiagnostic(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
 var error = new DiagnosticDescriptor(
                id: "AGEN001",
                title: "Could find XML file",
                messageFormat: "Could find XML file '{0}'",
                category: "AugmentingGenerator",
                defaultSeverity: DiagnosticSeverity. Error,
                isEnabledByDefault: true);
 var diagnostic = Diagnostic.Create(
            error, Location.None, "Countries.xml");
 context.ReportDiagnostic(diagnostic);
```

```
private static void ReportDiagnostic(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
 var error = new DiagnosticDescriptor(
                id: "AGEN001",
                title: "Could find XML file",
                messageFormat: "Could find XML file '{0}'",
                category: "AugmentingGenerator",
                defaultSeverity: DiagnosticSeverity. Error,
                isEnabledByDefault: true);
 var diagnostic = Diagnostic.Create(
           error. Location.None. "Countries.xml");
 context.ReportDiagnostic(diagnostic);
```

```
const string CountrySource = @"
namespace Countries { public record Country (string Name, string Code); }";
private static void AddSource(
 GeneratorExecutionContext context,
 string xmlData)
   context.AddSource(
       "Country.cs",
       SourceText.From(CountrySource, Encoding.UTF8));
   var generatedSource = GenerateSource(xmlData);
   context.AddSource(
       "DirectoryOfCountries.Generated.cs",
      SourceText.From(generatedSource, Encoding.UTF8));
```

```
const string CountrySource = @"
namespace Countries { public record Country (string Name, string Code); }";
private static void AddSource(
 GeneratorExecutionContext context,
 string xmlData)
   context.AddSource(
      "Country.cs",
      SourceText.From(CountrySource, Encoding.UTF8));
   var generatedSource = GenerateSource(xmlData);
   context.AddSource(
      "DirectoryOfCountries.Generated.cs",
      SourceText.From(generatedSource, Encoding.UTF8));
```

```
const string CountrySource = @"
namespace Countries { public record Country (string Name, string Code); }";
private static void AddSource(
 GeneratorExecutionContext context,
 string xmlData)
   context.AddSource(
       "Country.cs",
       SourceText.From(CountrySource, Encoding.UTF8));
   var generatedSource = GenerateSource(xmlData);
   context.AddSource(
       "DirectoryOfCountries.Generated.cs",
      SourceText.From(generatedSource, Encoding.UTF8));
```

```
var sb = new StringBuilder();
sb.AppendLine(@"
using System.Collections.Generic;
namespace Countries {
 public partial class DirectoryOfCountries {
   private static List<Country> _europe = new List<Country> {");
foreach (var country in countries.Where(c => c.Location == "Εβροπα"))
   sb.Append($"new Country (\"{country.Name}\", \"{country.Code}\"),");
sb.AppendLine(@"
   public static partial IReadOnlyList<Country> Europe() => _europe;
 }}");
```

```
var sb = new StringBuilder();
sb.AppendLine(@"
using System.Collections.Generic;
namespace Countries {
 public partial class DirectoryOfCountries {
   private static List<Country> _europe = new List<Country> {");
foreach (var country in countries.Where(c => c.Location == "Εвропа"))
   sb.Append($"new Country (\"{country.Name}\", \"{country.Code}\"),");
sb.AppendLine(@"
   public static partial IReadOnlyList<Country> Europe() => _europe;
 }}");
```

```
var sb = new StringBuilder();
sb.AppendLine(@"
using System.Collections.Generic;
namespace Countries {
 public partial class DirectoryOfCountries {
   private static List<Country> _europe = new List<Country> {");
foreach (var country in countries.Where(c => c.Location == "Εвропа"))
   sb.Append($"new Country (\"{country.Name}\", \"{country.Code}\"),");
sb.AppendLine(@"
   public static partial IReadOnlyList<Country> Europe() => _europe;
 }}");
```

```
var sb = new StringBuilder();
sb.AppendLine(@"
using System.Collections.Generic;
namespace Countries {
 public partial class DirectoryOfCountries {
   private static List<Country> _europe = new List<Country> {");
foreach (var country in countries.Where(c => c.Location == "Εвропа"))
   sb.Append($"new Country (\"{country.Name}\", \"{country.Code}\"),");
sb.AppendLine(@"
   public static partial IReadOnlyList<Country> Europe() => _europe;
 }}");
```

```
var sb = new StringBuilder();
sb.AppendLine(@"
using System.Collections.Generic;
namespace Countries {
 public partial class DirectoryOfCountries {
   private static List<Country> _europe = new List<Country> {");
foreach (var country in countries.Where(c => c.Location == "Εβροπα"))
   sb.Append($"new Country (\"{country.Name}\", \"{country.Code}\"),");
sb.AppendLine(@"
   public static partial IReadOnlyList<Country> Europe() => _europe;
```

View generated code

```
<Project Sdk="Microsoft.NET.Sdk">
 <PropertyGroup>
   <EmitCompilerGeneratedFiles>true/EmitCompilerGeneratedFiles>
   <CompilerGeneratedFilesOutputPath>
    $(BaseIntermediateOutputPath)\GeneratedFiles
   </CompilerGeneratedFilesOutputPath>
 </PropertyGroup>
</Project>
```

View generated code

```
<Project Sdk="Microsoft.NET.Sdk">
 <PropertyGroup>
   <EmitCompilerGeneratedFiles>true</EmitCompilerGeneratedFiles>
   <CompilerGeneratedFilesOutputPath>
    $(BaseIntermediateOutputPath)\GeneratedFiles
   </CompilerGeneratedFilesOutputPath>
 </PropertyGroup>
</Project>
```

View generated code

```
<Project Sdk="Microsoft.NET.Sdk">
 <PropertyGroup>
   <EmitCompilerGeneratedFiles>true/EmitCompilerGeneratedFiles>
  <CompilerGeneratedFilesOutputPath>
    $(BaseIntermediateOutputPath)\GeneratedFiles
  </CompilerGeneratedFilesOutputPath>
 </PropertyGroup>
</Project>
```

Debug generated code

```
GeneratedClass.cs [generated] → ×
This file is auto-generated by the generator 'Generators.CustomGenerator' and cannot be edited.
C# Miscellaneous Files
                                      GeneratedNamespace.GeneratedClass → Ø GeneratedMethod()
           namespace GeneratedNamespace
                  public class GeneratedClass
                      public static void GeneratedMethod()
      6
                           System.Console.WriteLine("Hello, generated, World!");
     10
```

Debug a source generator

```
CustomGenerator.cs + X
C# Generators

    Generators.CustomGenerator

           namespace Generators
      6
                  [Generator]
                 0 references
                 public class CustomGenerator : ISourceGenerator
      9
                      3 references
                      public void Initialize(GeneratorInitializationContext context)
     10
     11
     12
     13
                      3 references
                      public void Execute(GeneratorExecutionContext context)
     14
                          System.Diagnostics.Debugger.Launch();
```

Unit testing Prepare code model

```
private static Compilation CreateCompilation(string source)
     => CSharpCompilation.Create("compilation",
       new[] {CSharpSyntaxTree.ParseText(source)},
       new[] {MetadataReference.CreateFromFile(
               typeof(Binder).GetTypeInfo().Assembly.Location)},
               new CSharpCompilationOptions(OutputKind.ConsoleApplication));
var inputCompilation = CreateCompilation(@"
namespace MyCode
    public class Program
        public static void Main(string[] args)
```

Unit testing Compile

```
// Directly create an instance of the generator
var generator = new CustomGenerator();
// Create the driver that will control the
// generation, passing in our generator
GeneratorDriver driver = CSharpGeneratorDriver.Create(generator);
// Run the generation pass
driver = driver.RunGeneratorsAndUpdateCompilation(
            inputCompilation,
            out var outputCompilation,
            out var diagnostics);
```

Unit testing

Assert compilation results

```
// There were no diagnostics created by the generators
Assert.True(diagnostics.IsEmpty);

// We have two syntax trees, the original 'user'
// provided one, and the one added by the generator
Assert.True(outputCompilation.SyntaxTrees.Count() == 2);

// Verify the compilation with the added source has no diagnostics
Assert.True(outputCompilation.GetDiagnostics().IsEmpty);
```

Unit testing

Assert the compilation results directly

```
// Or we can look at the results directly:
var runResult = driver.GetRunResult();
// The runResult contains the combined results
// of all generators passed to the driver
Assert.True(runResult.GeneratedTrees.Length == 1);
Assert.True(runResult.Diagnostics.IsEmpty);
// Or you can access the individual results on a by-generator basis
var generatorResult = runResult.Results[0];
Assert.True(generatorResult.Generator == generator);
Assert.True(generatorResult.Diagnostics.IsEmpty);
Assert.True(generatorResult.GeneratedSources.Length == 1);
Assert.True(generatorResult.Exception is null);
```

Publishing as NuGet package

```
<Project Sdk="Microsoft.NET.Sdk">
 <ItemGroup>
     <None
         Include="$(OutputPath)\$(AssemblyName).dll"
         Pack="true"
         PackagePath="analyzers/dotnet/cs"
         Visible="false" />
 </ItemGroup>
</Project>
```

Publishing as NuGet package

```
<Project Sdk="Microsoft.NET.Sdk">
 <ItemGroup>
     <None
         Include="$(OutputPath)\$(AssemblyName).dll"
         Pack="true"
         PackagePath="analyzers/dotnet/cs"
         Visible="false" />
 </ItemGroup>
</Project>
```

Problems

- Not easy to work with Roslyn code model (AST)
- Performance affects compilation time
- Silent work and IDE support needed
- Security of third-party nuget packages

Docs

- https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/csharp/whats-new/csharp-9#support-for-codegenerator
- https://devblogs.microsoft.com/dotnet/introducing-c-source-generators/
- https://github.com/dotnet/roslyn/blob/master/docs/features/sourcegenerators.cookbook.md
- https://blog.jetbrains.com/dotnet/2020/11/12/source-generators-in-net-5-with-resharper/
- https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/csharp/language-reference/proposals/ csharp-9.0/extending-partial-methods
- https://khalidabuhakmeh.com/module-initializers-in-csharp-9

- https://github.com/daredever/SourceGenerators
- https://github.com/davidwengier/SourceGeneratorPlayground
- https://devblogs.microsoft.com/dotnet/new-c-source-generator-samples/
- https://github.com/trampster/JsonSrcGen
- https://github.com/devlooped/ThisAssembly
- https://github.com/ufcpp/StringLiteralGenerator

- https://github.com/daredever/SourceGenerators
- https://github.com/davidwengier/SourceGeneratorPlayground
- https://devblogs.microsoft.com/dotnet/new-c-source-generator-samples/
- https://github.com/trampster/JsonSrcGen
- https://github.com/devlooped/ThisAssembly
- https://github.com/ufcpp/StringLiteralGenerator

- https://github.com/daredever/SourceGenerators
- https://github.com/davidwengier/SourceGeneratorPlayground
- https://devblogs.microsoft.com/dotnet/new-c-source-generator-samples/
- https://github.com/trampster/JsonSrcGen
- https://github.com/devlooped/ThisAssembly
- https://github.com/ufcpp/StringLiteralGenerator

- https://github.com/daredever/SourceGenerators
- https://github.com/davidwengier/SourceGeneratorPlayground
- https://devblogs.microsoft.com/dotnet/new-c-source-generator-samples/
- https://github.com/trampster/JsonSrcGen
- https://github.com/devlooped/ThisAssembly
- https://github.com/ufcpp/StringLiteralGenerator

- https://github.com/daredever/SourceGenerators
- https://github.com/davidwengier/SourceGeneratorPlayground
- https://devblogs.microsoft.com/dotnet/new-c-source-generator-samples/
- https://github.com/trampster/JsonSrcGen
- https://github.com/devlooped/ThisAssembly
- https://github.com/ufcpp/StringLiteralGenerator

Thank you!