

The Fundamentals of MSpec



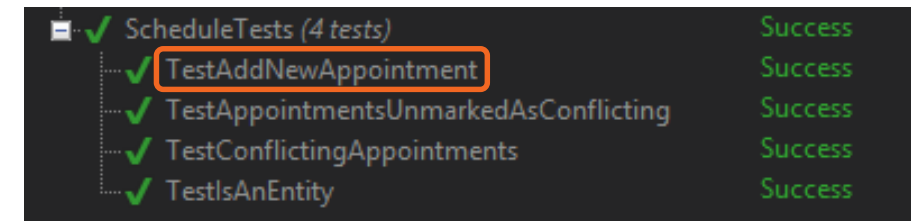
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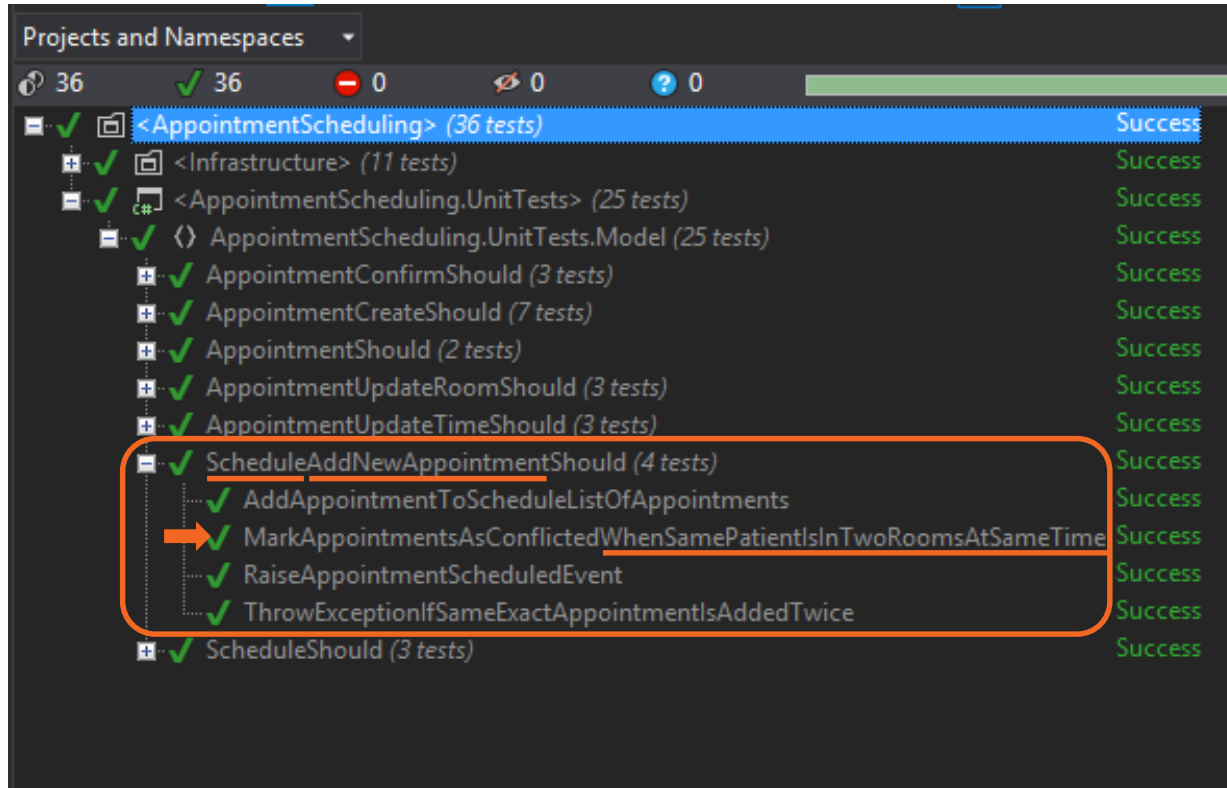
Testing Styles

Should style test names

Much better than generic tests



Still implementation specific



MSpec Basics

WhenTransferringMoneyBetweenTwoAccounts

public class When_transferring_money_between_two_accounts

{

It Should_debit_the_from_account_by_the_transfer_amount;

It Should_credit_the_to_account_by_the_transfer_amount;

}

- When transferring money between two accounts (2 tests)
 - Should credit the to account by the transfer amount
 - Should debit the from account by the transfer amount

What's This **It** Thing Anyway?

- **It** is a delegate type defined by MSpec
- Delegate: strongly-typed function pointer
- Defining a delegate is like defining a class with a single method

```
public delegate void DoSomething();  
  
public delegate int Add(int first, int second);
```

- Declare instances of delegate types

Using Delegates

```
public class MyFunkyDelegates
{
    Add myAdder;

    public MyFunkyDelegates()
    {
        DoSomething myDoSomething;
        Object myObject = new object();
    }
}
```

- Delegates can be:
 - Local variables
 - Instance variables
 - Parameters
 - etc.
- What do you assign to a delegate?
 - Named method
 - Anonymous method
 - Lambda expression

Using Delegates

```
public class MyFunkyDelegates
{
    Add myAdder;

    public MyFunkyDelegates()
    {
        DoSomething myDoSomething = DoIt;
    }

    private void DoIt()
    {
        //This method matches the DoSomething delegate type
    }
}

//This method matches the DoSomething delegate type
//This method matches the DoSomething delegate type
//This method matches the DoSomething delegate type
}
```

- Assign a delegate instance to:
 - Named method/function
 - Anonymous method/function
 - Lambda expression
- Invoking a delegate instance:
 - Invoke method
 - Normal function syntax

```
myAdder = (x, y) => { return x + y; };
myAdder = delegate(int x, int y) { return x + y; };
myAdder = delegate(int x, int y) { return x + y; };
```

Anatomy of a Specification

```
public class When_transferring_money_between_two_accounts  
{  
    It Should_debit_the_from_account_by_the_transfer_amount;  
}
```

No need for
[TestFixture]

No need for
[Test]

The MSpec runner will discover and invoke all of the It delegates in your class.

Anatomy of a Specification

```
public class When_transferring_money_between_two_accounts
{
    It Should_debit_the_from_account_by_the_transfer_amount = () =>
    {
        var fromAccount = new Account(1000);
        var toAccount = new Account(2000);
        var transferManager = new Transfer();
        transferManager.TransferFunds(fromAccount, toAccount, 250);
        fromAccount.Balance.ShouldEqual(750);
    }
}
```


Anatomy of a Specification

```
public class When_transferring_money_between_two_accounts
{
    It Should_debit_the_from_account_by_the_transfer_amount = () =>
    {
        //Arrange
        var fromAccount = new Account(1000);
        var toAccount = new Account(2000);
        var transferManager = new Transfer();
        //Act
        transferManager.TransferFunds(fromAccount, toAccount, 250);
        //Assert
        fromAccount.Balance.ShouldEqual(750);
    }
}
```

Anatomy of a Specification

```
public class When_transferring_money_between_two_accounts
{
    It Should_debit_the_from_account_by_the_transfer_amount = () =>
    {
        var fromAccount = new Account(1000);
        var toAccount = new Account(2000);
        var transferManager = new Transfer ();
        transferManager.TransferFunds(fromAccount, toAccount, 250);
        fromAccount.Balance.ShouldEqual(750);
    }
    It Should_credit_the_to_account_by_the_transfer_amount = () =>
    { //Same arrange and act steps }
}
```

Anatomy of a Specification

```
public class When_transferring_money_between_two_accounts
{
    static Account FromAccount;
    static Account ToAccount;
    static Transfer TransferManager;

    Establish context = () =>
    {
        FromAccount = new Account(1000);
        ToAccount = new Account(2000);
        TransferManager = new Transfer();
    };
}
```

Anatomy of a Specification

```
public class When_transferring_money_between_two_accounts
{
    static Account FromAccount;
    static Account ToAccount;
    static Transfer TransferManager;

    Establish context = () =>
    {
        FromAccount = new Account(1000);
        ToAccount = new Account(2000);
        TransferManager = new Transfer();
    };
}
```

Establish delegate like
[TestFixtureSetup]
attribute – invoked once
before any **It** delegates in
the class are invoked

Anatomy of a Specification

```
public class When_transferring_money_between_two_accounts
{
    static Account FromAccount;
    static Account ToAccount;
    static Transfer TransferManager;

    Establish context = () =>
    {
        FromAccount = new Account(1000);
        ToAccount = new Account(2000);
        TransferManager = new Transfer();
    };
}
```

Name of **Establish** delegate instance can be anything, but usually "context" by convention.

Anatomy of a Specification

```
public class When_transferring_money_between_two_accounts  
{
```

```
    → static Account FromAccount;  
    static Account ToAccount;  
    static Transfer TransferManager;
```

```
    Establish context = () =>
```

```
    {  
        FromAccount = new Account(1000);  
        ToAccount = new Account(2000);  
        TransferManager = new Transfer();  
    };  
}
```

Fields need to be **static** to be accessible from the lambda expressions.

Anatomy of a Specification

```
public class When_transferring_money_between_two_accounts  
{
```

```
    //Fields and Establish delegate ...
```

Aim for one line **Because** and **It** delegates (with some exceptions).

```
    Because of = () => TransferManager.TransferFunds(fromAccount,toAccount,250);
```

```
    It Should_debit_the_from_account_by_the_transfer_amount = () =>  
        FromAccount.Balance.ShouldEqual(750);
```

```
    It Should_credit_the_to_account_by_the_transfer_amount = () =>  
        ToAccount.Balance.ShouldEqual(2250);
```

```
}
```

Refactoring Specifications

- Two very similar contexts, mostly duplicated code
- How to stay DRY?
 - Don't Repeat Yourself
 - Does DRY matter?
- `<opinion>`
DRY is a fundamental principle and applies to test code as well as production code
`</opinion>`
- Two techniques for MSpec
 - Inheritance
 - Nested contexts

Summary

- Name elements according to intent and behavior of system, not specific code elements
- MSpec provides 3 delegate types for your specs
 - Establish
 - Because
 - It

Establishing the context

Actual specification/assertion
- Multiple It delegates for separate assertions about one context
- Keep your code DRY
 - Inheritance
 - Nested contexts

