

Modeling the Domain with Types



Zoran Horvat

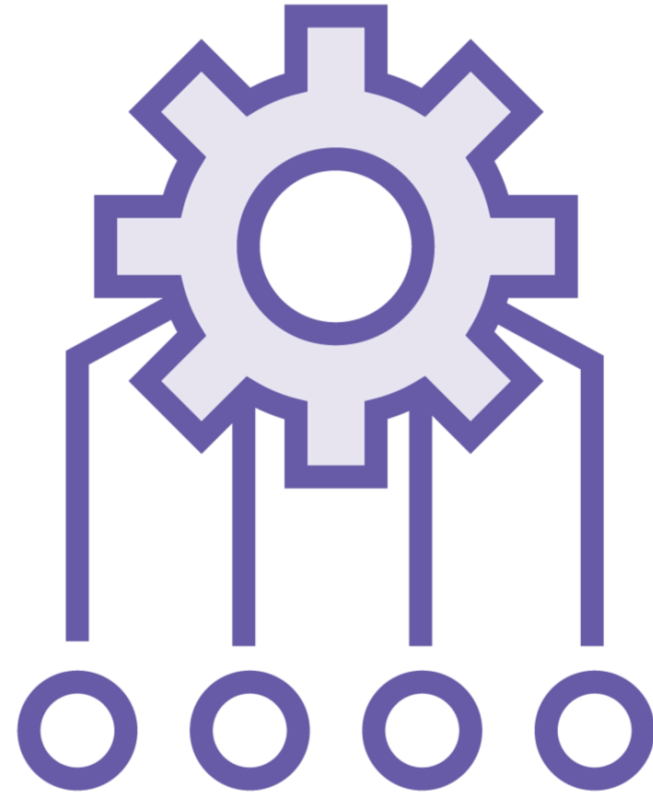
CEO at Coding Helmet

@zoranh75

<https://codinghelmet.com>

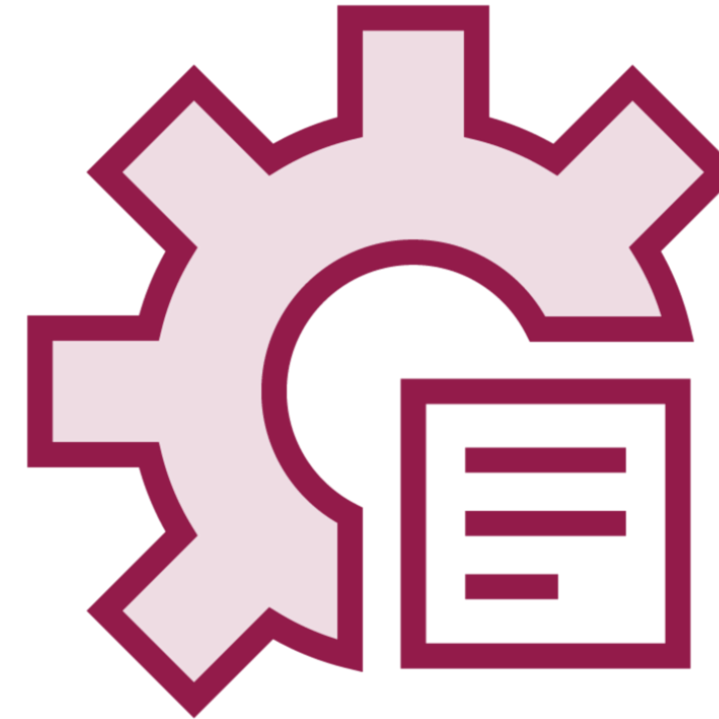


Functional vs. Object-oriented Design



Functional design

Separation of functions
and types



Object-oriented design

Functions defined on types



EXPLORER

...

Part.cs

Models > Types > Part.cs > {} Models.Types > Models.Types.StockKeepingUnit

1 namespace Models.Types;

2

3 public record Part(string Name, StockKeepingUnit Sku);

4 public record StockKeepingUnit(string Value);

DEMO

Models

Time

Types

Part.cs

Models.csproj

Web

Demo.sln

Some Part

Some string

Code 39 barcode

Code 128 barcode

QR code

> TIMELINE

0 0

Demo.sln

Ln 4, Col 46 Spaces: 4 UTF-8 CRLF C#

EXPLORER

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Some Part

Some string

Validator

Code 39 barcode

Code 128 barcode

QR code

> TIMELINE

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EXPLORER

▼ DEMO

▼ Models

> Time

▼ Types

C# Part.cs

Models.csproj

> Web

≡ Demo.sln

C# Part.cs

Models > Types > C# Part.cs > {} Models.Types > Models.Types.StockKeepingUnit

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3 public record Part(string Name, StockKeepingUnit Sku);

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Some string

→

Validator

→

Code 39 barcode

Code 128 barcode

QR code

> TIMELINE

⊗ 0 ⚠ 0 🔥 Demo.sln

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EXPLORER

▼ DEMO

▼ Models

> Time

▼ Types

C# Part.cs

Models.csproj

> Web

Demo.sln

Part.cs

Models > Types > C# Part.cs > {} Models.Types > Models.Types.StockKeepingUnit

1 namespace Models.Types;

2

3 public record Part(string Name, StockKeepingUnit Sku);

4 public record StockKeepingUnit(string Value);

Some string

Validator

Valid Part

Valid SKU

Valid string

Code 39 barcode

Code 128 barcode

QR code

> TIMELINE

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Demo.sln

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Spaces: 4

UTF-8

CRLF

C#

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EXPLORER

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Part.cs

StockKeepingUnit.cs

DEMO

Models

Time

Types

Part.cs

StockKeepingUnit.cs

Models.csproj

Web

Demo.sln

Models > Types > StockKeepingUnit.cs > {} Models.Types > Models.Types.Vendor

1 namespace Models.Types;

2

3 public record StockKeepingUnit(string Value);

4 public record ExternalSku(StockKeepingUnit Sku, Vendor Vendor);

5 public record Vendor(Guid Id, string Name);

Guid

→

void Consume(Guid value)

What does this value represent?

> TIMELINE

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EXPLORER

...

Part.cs

StockKeepingUnit.cs

DEMO

Models

Time

Types

Part.cs

StockKeepingUnit.cs

Models.csproj

Web

Demo.sln

Models > Types > StockKeepingUnit.cs > {} Models.Types > Models.TypesVendor

1 namespace Models.Types;

2

3 public record StockKeepingUnit(string Value);

4 public record ExternalSku(StockKeepingUnit Sku, Vendor Vendor);

5 public record Vendor(Guid Id, string Name);

Guid

→

~~void Consume(Guid value)~~

Vendor

Guid Id

→

void Consume(Vendor vendor)

{

vendor.Id...

}

> TIMELINE

0 0

Demo.sln

Ln 5, Col 44

Spaces: 4

UTF-8

CRLF

C#

EXPLORER

...

Part.cs

StockKeepingUnit.cs

DEMO

Models

Time

Types

Part.cs

StockKeepingUnit.cs

Models.csproj

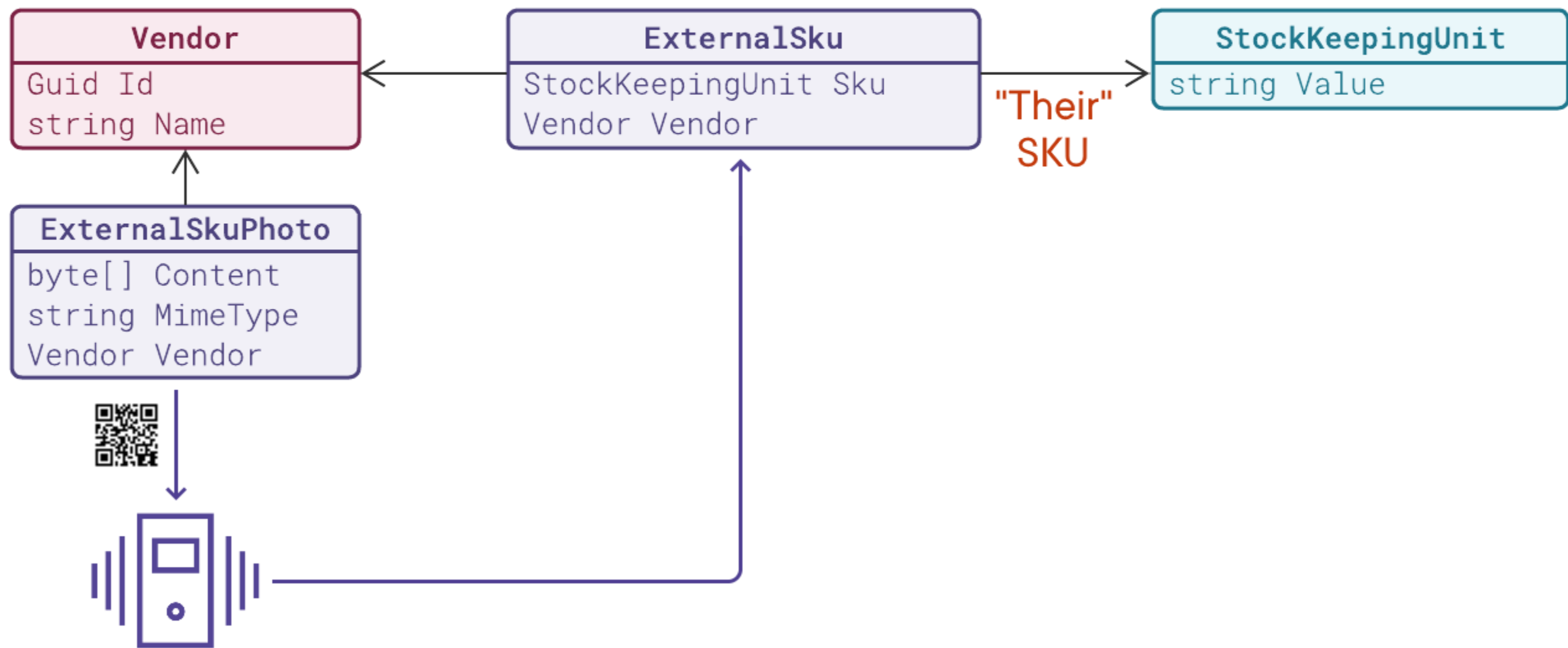
Web

Demo.sln

TIMELINE

Models > Types > StockKeepingUnit.cs > {} Models.Types > Models.Types.ExternalSkuPhoto

```
1 namespace Models.Types;
2
3 public record StockKeepingUnit(string Value);
4 public record ExternalSku(StockKeepingUnit Sku, Vendor Vendor);
5 public record Vendor(Guid Id, string Name);
6 public record ExternalPart(Part Part, ExternalSku ExternalSku);
7 public record ExternalSkuPhoto(byte[] Content, string MimeType, Vendor Vendor);
```



EXPLORER

...

Part.cs

StockKeepingUnit.cs

DEMO

Models

Time

Types

Part.cs

StockKeepingUnit.cs

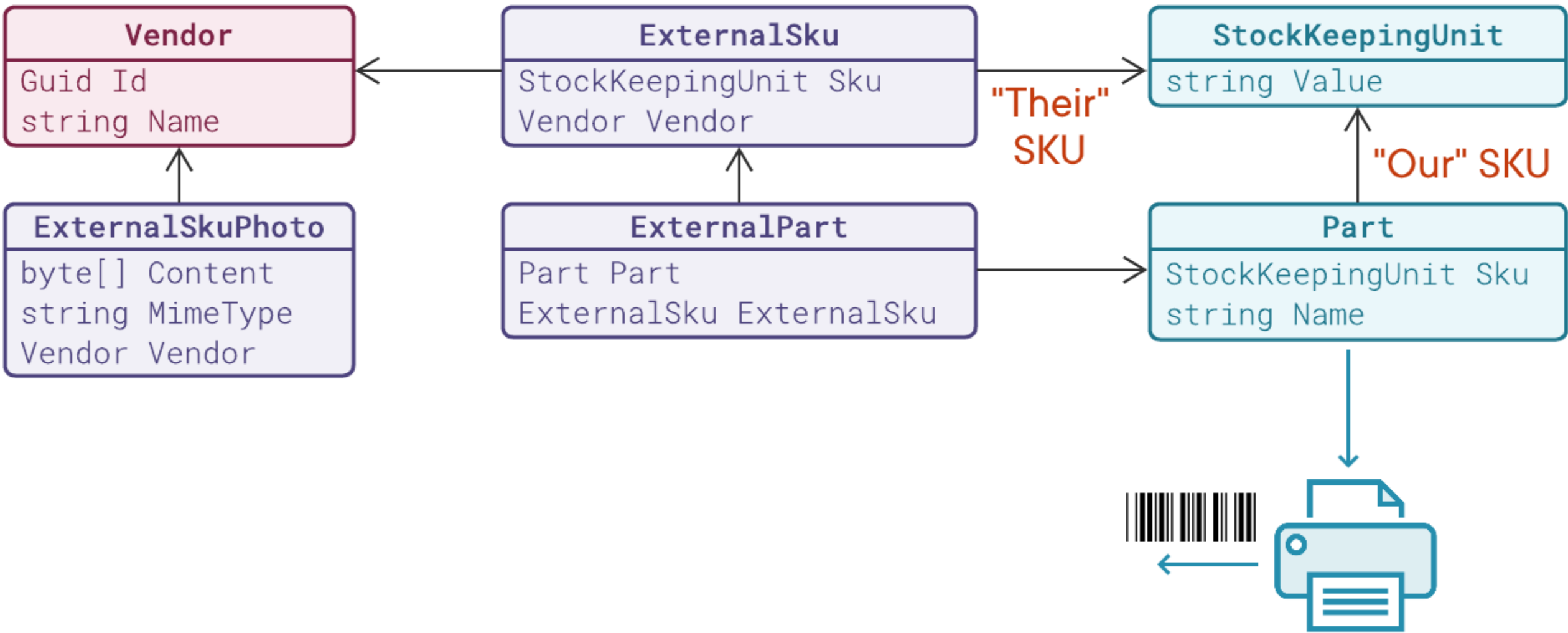
Models.csproj

Web

Demo.sln

Models > Types > StockKeepingUnit.cs > {} Models.Types > Models.Types.ExternalSkuPhoto

```
1 namespace Models.Types;
2
3 public record StockKeepingUnit(string Value);
4 public record ExternalSku(StockKeepingUnit Sku, Vendor Vendor);
5 public record Vendor(Guid Id, string Name);
6 public record ExternalPart(Part Part, ExternalSku ExternalSku);
7 public record ExternalSkuPhoto(byte[] Content, string MimeType, Vendor Vendor);
```



EXPLORER

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Part.cs

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DEMO

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StockKeepingUnit.cs

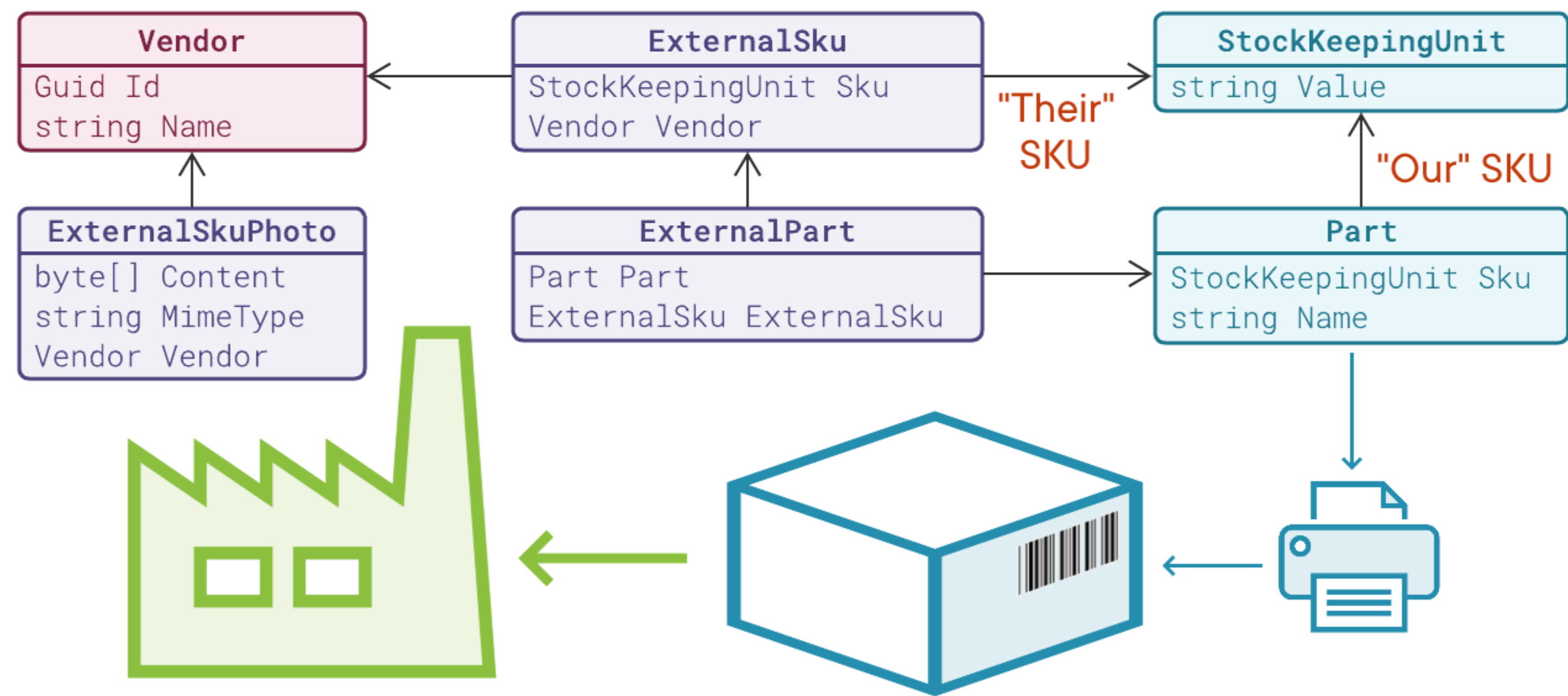
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3 public record StockKeepingUnit(string Value);
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5 public record Vendor(Guid Id, string Name);
6 public record ExternalPart(Part Part, ExternalSku ExternalSku);
7 public record ExternalSkuPhoto(byte[] Content, string MimeType, Vendor Vendor);
```



Principles of Functional Modeling



Separate types from functions

- There are types to describe elements of the business
- There are functions to describe business processes



The number of types is bounded in any business domain

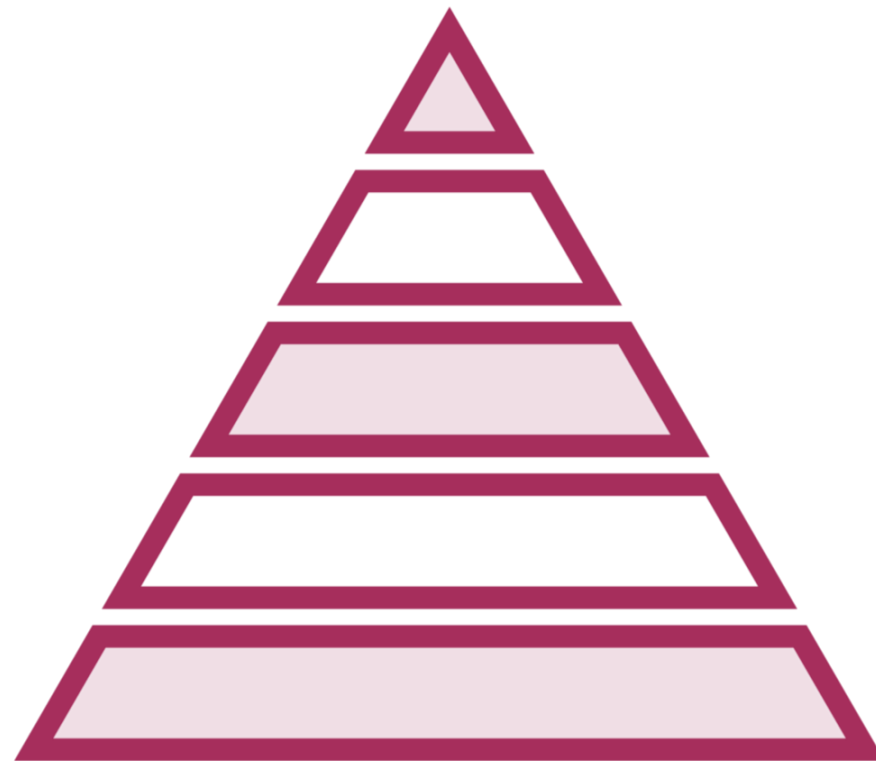
- Adding more types to the model at first
- No more types to add beyond certain point



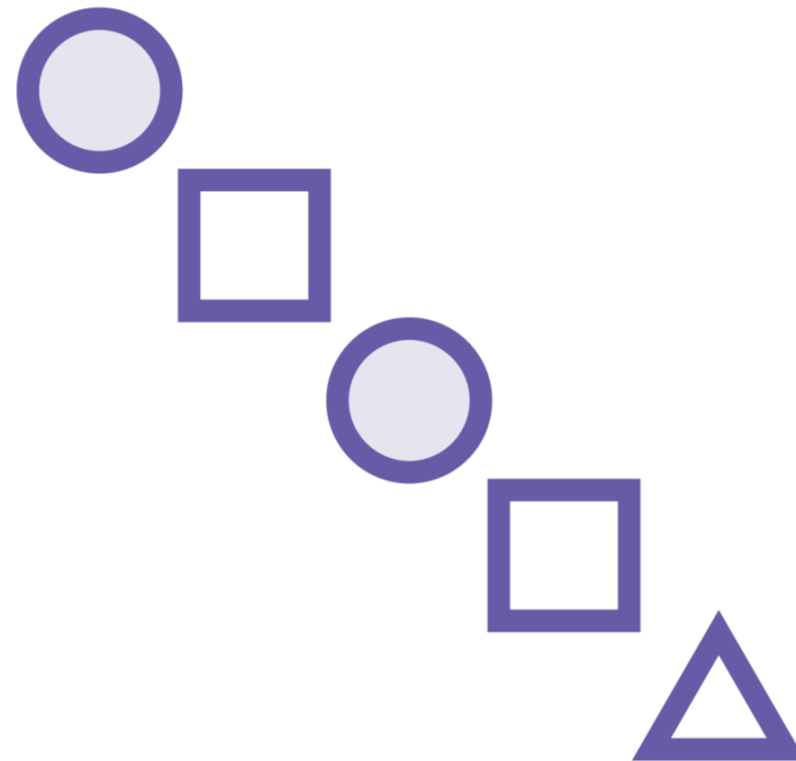
Modeling includes defining functions to model behavior

- Functions apply to instances of types, returning instances of types
- There will always be new behavior to add to the model

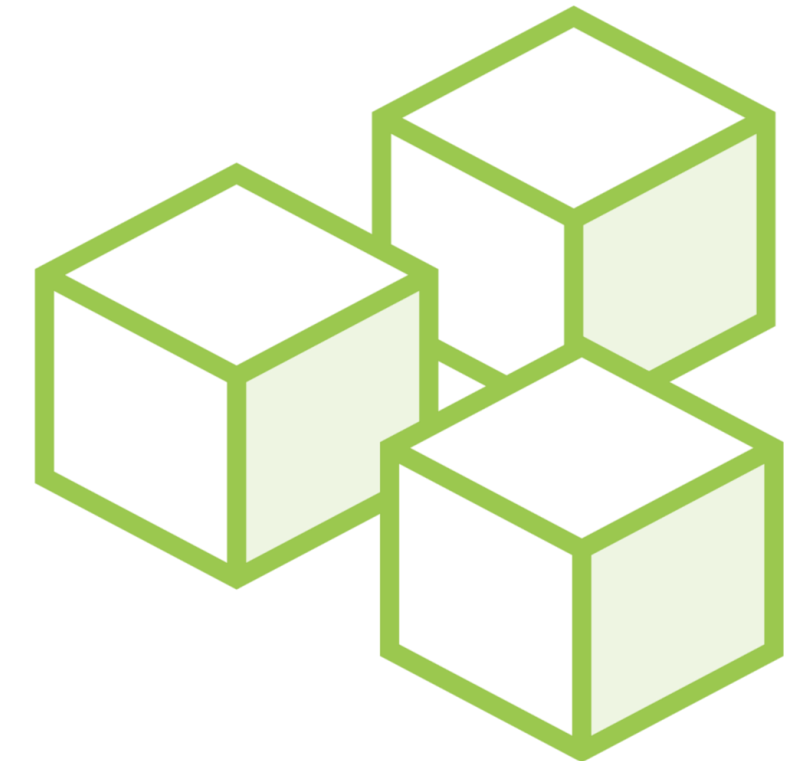
Object-oriented vs. Functional Modeling



**It is hard to add
a new method to a
hierarchy of classes**



**It is easy to add
a new function to
existing functions**



**Modern OOP favors
object composition
over inheritance**

An Example: Modeling a Manufacturing Business

**Type
system**

Materials

Parts, materials, elements...

Warehouse

Stockkeeping of parts, materials...

Assembly

Specifications, blueprints, assembly instructions...

Finance

Tracking money, costs, procurement...

Transport

...

Planning

Units



An Example: Modeling a Manufacturing Business

Type system

Materials

Warehouse

Assembly

Finance

Transport

Planning

Units

Part

StockKeepingUnit Sku
string Name

StockKeepingUnit

string Value

PhysicalPart

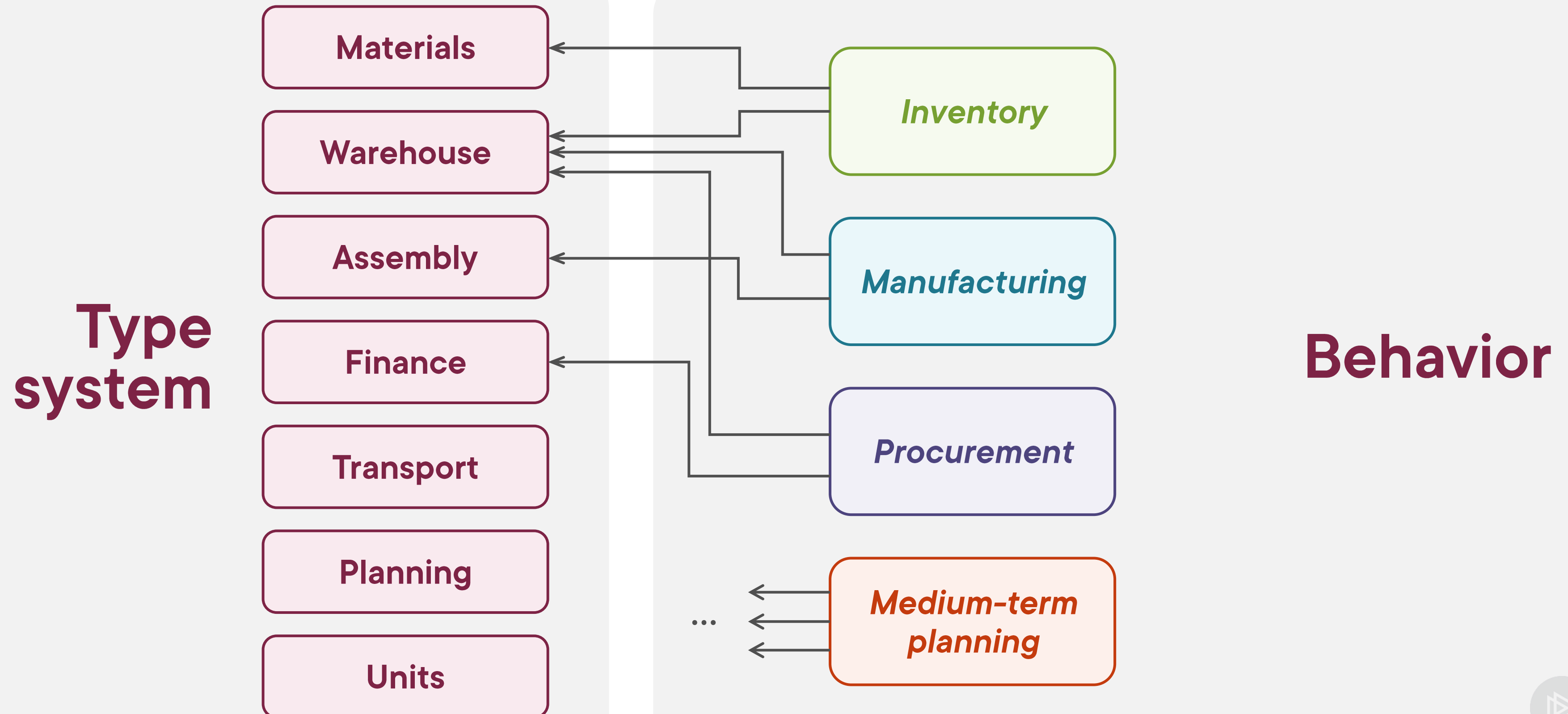
Part Part
Weight Weight
Volume Volume

Package

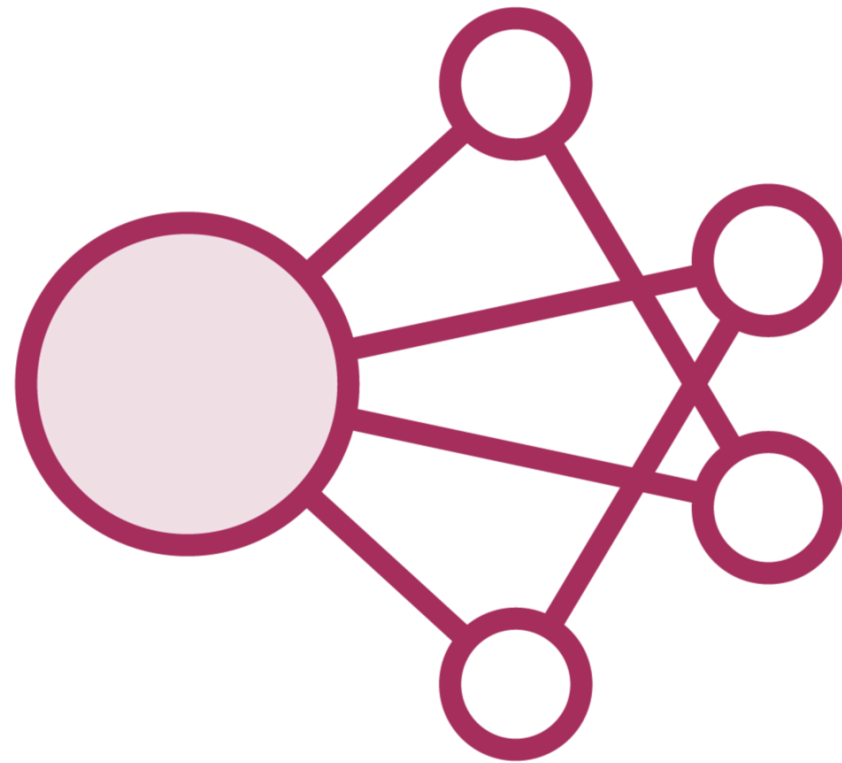
PhysicalPart Part
Amount Amount



An Example: Modeling a Manufacturing Business



Object-oriented vs. Functional Modeling



Object-oriented Design

Working actively to keep
the design maintainable

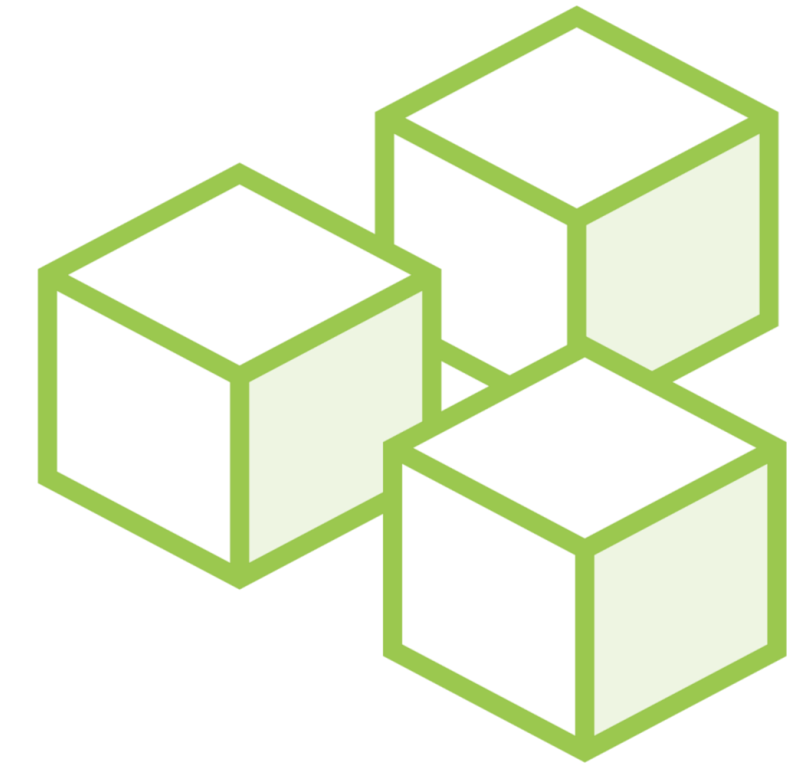
Requires knowledge



Functional Design

Forced to separate
concepts by design

Design starts off good!



Functional C#

Only use common
C# features

Attain functional design



EXPLORER

DEMO

Application

Persistence

IReadOnlyRepository.cs

Application.csproj

Models

TestPersistence

Web

Demo.sln

IReadOnlyRepository.cs

Application > Persistence > IReadOnlyRepository.cs > {} Application.Persistence

1 namespace Application.Persistence;

2

3 public interface IReadOnlyRepository<T>

4 {

5 IEnumerable<T> GetAll();

6 }

Imperative shell

Instantiate types

Apply functions

Functional core

Immutable types

Pure functions

Networking

Persistence

...

TIMELINE

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Demo.sln

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UTF-8

CRLF

C#

Summary



Modeling the domain using types

- Type contains other types, including primitive types
- Types expose no behavior

Modeling behavior with functions

- We can attach extension methods to types

Functional modeling process

- Add more types to the model
- Define more functions that apply to types
- Many types can be .NET records



Up Next: Designing Pure Functions

