

Treating Sequences as Immutable Objects



Zoran Horvat

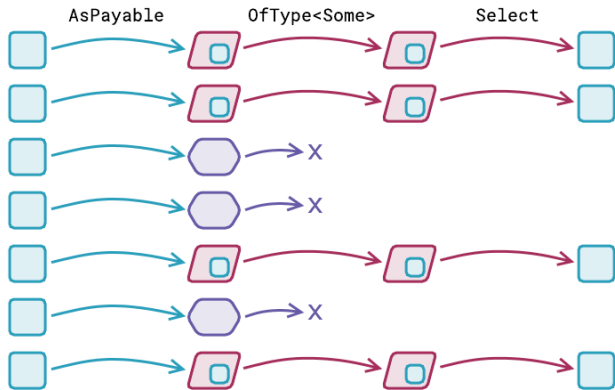
CEO AT CODING HELMET

@zoranh75

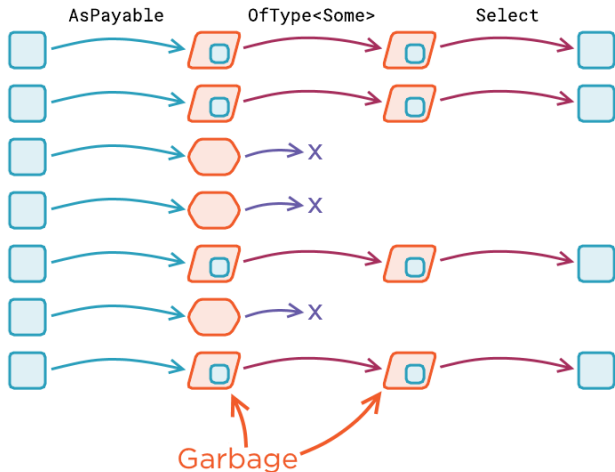
<http://csharpmentor.com>



Understanding Trade-off with Sequences



Understanding Trade-off with Sequences



Trick #1:

Check if there is anything to do

```
f(seq) =>
```

```
  NotGonnaChange(seq)
```

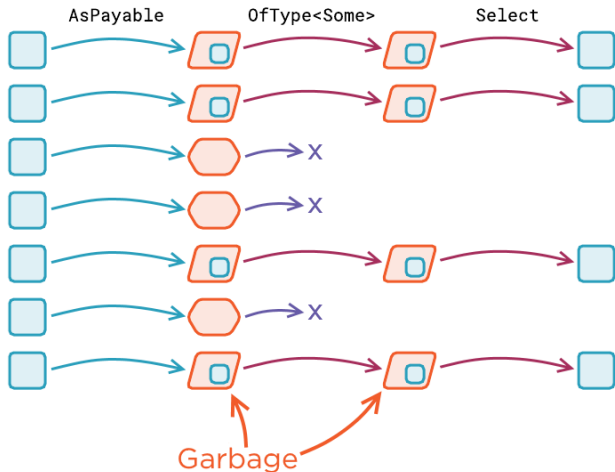
```
    ? seq
```

```
    : Work(seq);
```

Return same
reference
if possible

But checking
will cost, too!

Understanding Trade-off with Sequences



Trick #1:

Check if there is anything to do

```
f(seq) =>  
    NotGonnaChange(seq)  
    ? seq  
    : Work(seq);
```

Trick #2:

Do nothing

```
seq.Select(UsefulWork);
```

Short code

Intention-revealing

Readable Sequence Mapping

```
public static IEnumerable<IMoney> PayableAt(  
    this IEnumerable<IMoney> moneys, DateTime at) =>  
    moneys.SelectOptional(money => money.PayableAt(at));
```

The *sequence*



Readable Sequence Mapping

```
public static IEnumerable<IMoney> PayableAt(  
    this IEnumerable<IMoney> moneys, DateTime at) =>  
    moneys.SelectOptional(money => money.PayableAt(at));
```

The sequence of **money**



Readable Sequence Mapping

```
public static IEnumerable<IMoney> PayableAt(  
    this IEnumerable<IMoney> moneys, DateTime at) =>  
    moneys.SelectOptional(money => money.PayableAt(at));
```

The sequence of money objects payable at

Readable Sequence Mapping

```
public static IEnumerable<IMoney> PayableAt(  
    this IEnumerable<IMoney> moneys, DateTime at) =>  
    moneys.SelectOptional(money => money.PayableAt(at));
```

*The sequence of money objects payable at **specified time***

Readable Sequence Mapping

```
public static IEnumerable<IMoney> PayableAt(  
    this IEnumerable<IMoney> moneys, DateTime at) =>  
    moneys.SelectOptional(money => money.PayableAt(at));
```

The sequence of money objects payable at specified time is obtained

Readable Sequence Mapping

```
public static IEnumerable<IMoney> PayableAt(  
    this IEnumerable<IMoney> moneys, DateTime at) =>  
    moneys.SelectOptional(money => money.PayableAt(at));
```

*The sequence of money objects payable at specified time is obtained
by selecting*

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public static IEnumerable<IMoney> PayableAt(  
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```

*The sequence of money objects payable at specified time is obtained by selecting **optional***

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```
public static IEnumerable<IMoney> PayableAt(  
    this IEnumerable<IMoney> moneys, DateTime at) =>  
    moneys.SelectOptional(money => money.PayableAt(at));
```

*The sequence of money objects payable at specified time is obtained by selecting optional **money***

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public static IEnumerable<IMoney> PayableAt(  
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The sequence of money objects payable at specified time is obtained by selecting optional money objects payable at

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public static IEnumerable<IMoney> PayableAt(  
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*The sequence of money objects payable at specified time is obtained by selecting optional money objects payable at **specified time***

Readable Sequence Mapping

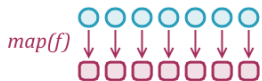
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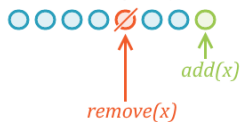
Mutating Collections Inside Objects

Working with sequences

1. Mapping



2. Modifying



State
mutating
call



An object



a collection



New object



*a modified
collection*

Introducing Immutable Collections

Common collections

`System.Collections.Generic` namespace

`List<T>`

`Dictionary<TKey, TValue>`

`HashSet<T>`

`LinkedList<T>`

`Queue<T>`

`Stack<T>`

`SortedSet<T>`



None supports efficient immutable manipulation

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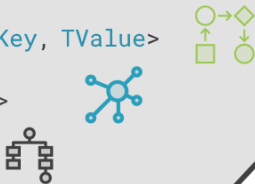
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Wallet implementation

```
Wallet newWallet =  
wallet.With(currency);
```



Existing wallet object
will not change

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Wallet implementation

`Wallet newWallet =
wallet.With(currency);`



Desired list implementation

`List newList = list.Add(element);`

Immutable implementation

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Wallet implementation

```
Wallet newWallet =  
    wallet.With(currency);
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Desired list implementation

```
List newList = list.Add(element);
```

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`ImmutableList<T> Add(T value);`
`ImmutableList<T> Clear();`
`ImmutableList<T> Remove(T value);`
...

All mutating methods
return a new collection
of the same kind

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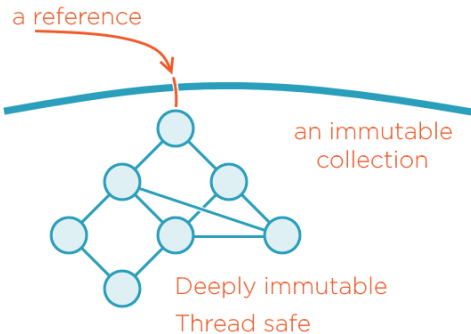
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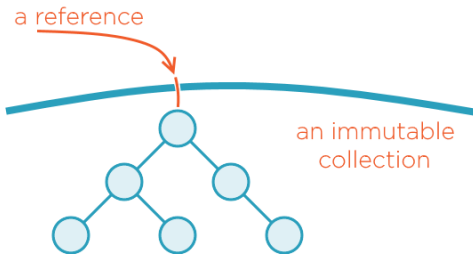
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Mostly based on AVL tree
(Adelson, Velsky, Landis)

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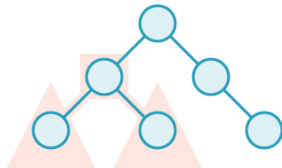
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AVL tree



Balanced tree

For any node in the tree,
size of its left and right
subtree must be balanced

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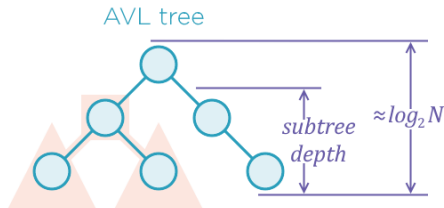
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AVL tree

For any node in the AVL tree, depths of its left and right subtree must not differ by more than one

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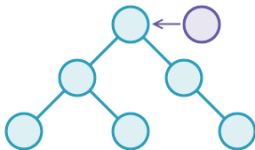
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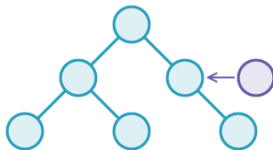
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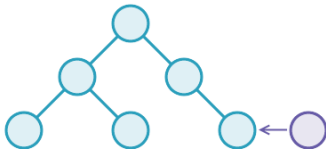
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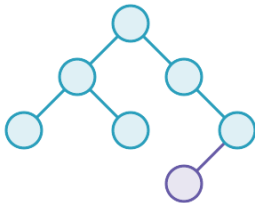
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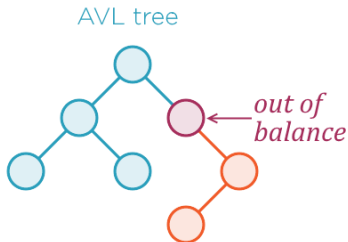
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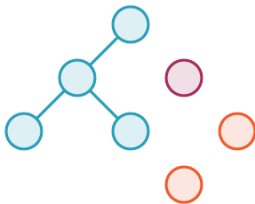
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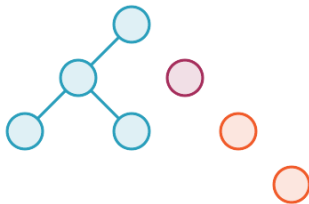
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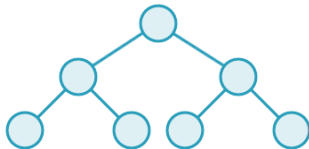
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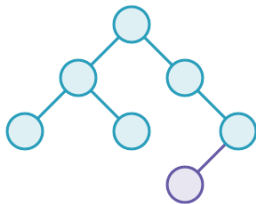
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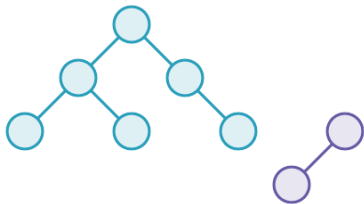
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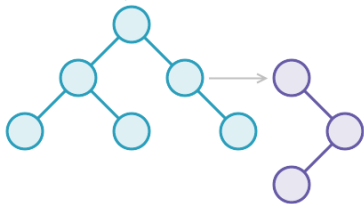
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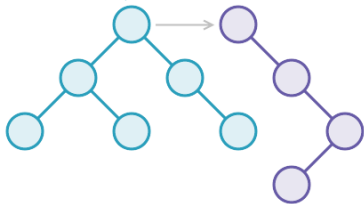
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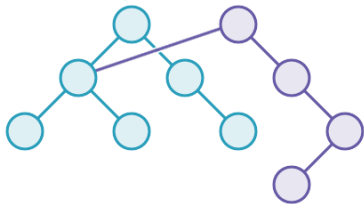
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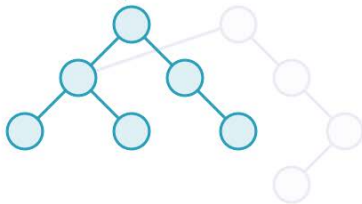
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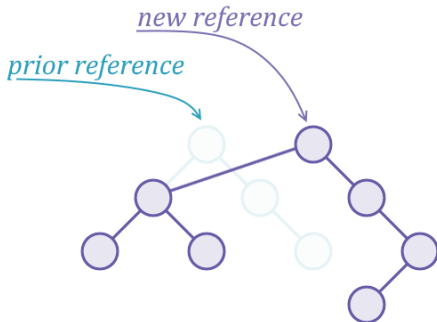
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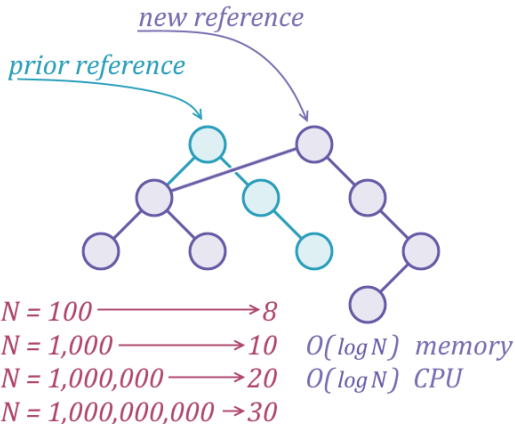
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Summary



Working with collections of objects

- Often reduced to a sequence
- `IEnumerable<T>` usually sufficient

Immutable collections

- `ImmutableList<T>` is most useful
- Corresponds to `IEnumerable<T>`



Summary



Principles of simple design

- Stick to linear sequences: `IEnumerable<T>` and `ImmutableList<T>`
- That leads to simple design

Cost of using immutable collections

- $O(\log N)$ time and space complexity in most of them
- Implementation based on AVL tree
- Stack and queue don't need a tree

Next module:

Composing Functions
into Larger Behavior

