

Abstraction and Architecture:

A steady descent into madness



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What you need to know about me

1. [@pseale](#) on twitter
2. You can make this talk better



This is a low-level, detail-oriented talk about

~~ **Architecture** ~~

Because I'm working with a specific example, I may forget to talk about the architecture itself. Remind me.



As with all architecture,
this talk contains

~ ~ **Assumptions** ~ ~

Long-term developer speed is my
priority. Ignore performance*.



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Today only, we are banning
the following

~~ Architecture swear words ~~

- Bad
- Good
- The right way
- Testable
- Maintainable
- Robust
- Extensible
- Cohesion/coupling
- SOLID
- DRY
- Spaghetti code
- “I can have you fired”

~ Each abstraction
must justify itself ~



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MACBETH

A architectural tragedy in five* acts

similar to Hamlet



Act 1: **Bliss**

Code is **exactly and only** what is
minimally necessary to make our
program work



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~ demo ~



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ACT I: Bliss

```
protected override void Update(GameTime gameTime) {  
    if (GamePad.GetState(PlayerIndex.One).Buttons.Back  
        == ButtonState.Pressed || Keyboard.GetState()  
        .IsKeyDown(Keys.Escape))  
        Exit();  
  
    var keyboardState = Keyboard.GetState();  
    _facingDirection = new Vector2(0f, 0f);  
  
    _moveDirection = new Point();  
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.Up))  
        _moveDirection.Y--;  
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.Down))  
        _moveDirection.Y++;  
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.Left))  
        _moveDirection.X--;  
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.Right))
```

ACT I: Bliss

```
_playerPosition = _playerPosition + _moveDirection;
```

```
var mouseState = Mouse.GetState();
```

```
_firing = mouseState.LeftButton == ButtonState.Pressed;
```

```
var x = Math.Max(Math.Min(mouseState.Position.X, Screen.Width), 0);
```

```
var y = Math.Max(Math.Min(mouseState.Position.Y, Screen.Height), 0);
```

```
_facingDirection = new Vector2(0f, 0f);
```

```
int xPositonOnScreen = (WidthMidpoint + (_playerPosition.X - WidthMidpoint));
```

```
int yPositonOnScreen = (HeightMidpoint + (_playerPosition.Y - HeightMidpoint));
```

```
_facingDirection.X = ((float)(x - xPositonOnScreen) / (float)Width);
```

```
_facingDirection.Y = ((float)(y - yPositonOnScreen) / (float)Height);
```

```
float div = 1f / ((float)Math.Sqrt(_facingDirection.X * _facingDirection.X +
```

```
_facingDirection.Y * _facingDirection.Y));
```

```
_facingDirection = new Vector2(_facingDirection.X * div, _facingDirection.Y * div);
```

```
_angle = (float)Math.Atan2(_facingDirection.Y, _facingDirection.X);
```

ACT I: Bliss

```
if (_cameraPosition.Y - _playerPosition.Y > NoFlexZc  
    y2 += _moveDirection.Y;
```

```
if (_cameraPosition.Y - _playerPosition.Y < -NoFlexZc  
    y2 += _moveDirection.Y;  
_cameraPosition = new Point(x2, y2);
```

```
UpdateEnemies();  
UpdateBullets();
```

```
DetectCollisions();  
KillEnemies();  
UpdateSplashes();  
UpdateLevel();  
UpdateExplosions();
```

```
base.Update(gameTime);
```



**CHEATING ALERT: This is
where I gave up and
started making methods**

ACT I: Bliss

SCORECARD:

Green: ok

Yellow: caution

Red: abort

✓ Easy to trace execution
(just read from top-to-bottom)

Θ Duplication, which
causes bugs

Θ Duplication also makes
deep restructuring
difficult

Θ Classic spaghetti code



Aside: **When is it okay** to write
“blissfully ignorant” code?



Questions?

Questions about how the application works?



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Act 2: Procedural Programming

Code is grouped into **procedures** until there is no duplication. Also, group cohesive logic



~~ Lightning-fast Monogame tutorial ~~

Update()
Draw()



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ACT II: Procedural Programming

```
protected override void Update(gameTime gameTime)
{
    if (GamePad.GetState(PlayerIndex.One).Buttons.Back == ButtonState.Pressed || Keyboard.GetState().IsKeyDown(Keys.Escape))
        Exit();

    var keyboardState = Keyboard.GetState();
    _facingDirection = new Vector2(0f, 0f);

    _moveDirection = new Point();
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.Up))
    {
        _moveDirection.Y--;
    }
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.Down))
    {
        _moveDirection.Y++;
    }
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.Left))
    {
        _moveDirection.X--;
    }
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.Right))
    {
        _moveDirection.X++;
    }
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.W))
    {
        _moveDirection.Y--;
    }
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.A))
    {
        _moveDirection.X--;
    }
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.S))
    {
        _moveDirection.Y++;
    }
    if (keyboardState.IsKeyDown(Keys.D))
    {
        _moveDirection.X++;
    }

    _playerPosition = _playerPosition + _moveDirection;

    var mouseState = Mouse.GetState();
    _firing = mouseState.LeftButton == ButtonState.Pressed;

    var x = Math.Max(Math.Min(mouseState.Position.X, ScreenWidth), -ScreenWidth);
    var y = Math.Max(Math.Min(mouseState.Position.Y, ScreenHeight), -ScreenHeight);

    _facingDirection = new Vector2(0f, 0f);
    int x2 = positionOnScreen = (widthMidpoint + (playerPosition.X - cameraPosition.X));
    int y2 = cameraPosition.Y;
    _facingDirection.X = ((float)(x - x2) / positionOnScreen);
    _facingDirection.Y = ((float)(y - y2) / positionOnScreen);
    _facingDirection = new Vector2(facingDirection.X * facingDirection.X + facingDirection.Y * facingDirection.Y, 0);
    _angle = (float)Math.Atan2(facingDirection.Y, facingDirection.X);

    int x2 = cameraPosition.X;
    int y2 = cameraPosition.Y;
    if (cameraPosition.X - playerPosition.X > NoFlexZone)
    {
        x2 += _moveDirection.X;
    }
    if (cameraPosition.X - playerPosition.X < -NoFlexZone)
    {
        x2 -= _moveDirection.X;
    }
    if (cameraPosition.Y - playerPosition.Y > NoFlexZone)
    {
        y2 += _moveDirection.Y;
    }
    if (cameraPosition.Y - playerPosition.Y < -NoFlexZone)
    {
        y2 -= _moveDirection.Y;
    }
    _cameraPosition = new Point(x2, y2);

    foreach (var enemy in _enemies)
    {
        if (enemy.IsDoingNothing)
        {
            enemy.TicksUntilDoneDoingNothing--;
            if (enemy.TicksUntilDoneDoingNothing == 0)
            {
                enemy.IsDoingNothing = false;
                enemy.IsFiring = true;
                enemy.TicksUntilDoneMoving = 240;
            }
        }
        else if (enemy.IsMoving)
        {
            enemy.TicksUntilDoneMoving--;
            enemy.Position = enemy.Position + enemy.Direction;
            if (enemy.TicksUntilDoneMoving == 0)
            {
                enemy.IsMoving = false;
                enemy.IsTurning = true;
                enemy.TicksUntilDoneTurning = 90;
            }
        }
        else if (enemy.IsTurning)
        {
            enemy.TicksUntilDoneTurning--;
            enemy.Direction = enemy.Direction.Rotate(1);
            if (enemy.TicksUntilDoneTurning == 0)
            {
                enemy.IsTurning = false;
                enemy.IsDoingNothing = true;
                enemy.TicksUntilDoneDoingNothing = 60;
            }
        }
    }

    _bullets.ForEach(p => { p.Position = new Vector2(p.Position.X + p.Direction.X, p.Position.Y + p.Direction.Y); });

    var bulletsToDelete = _bullets.Where(x => Math.Abs(x1.Position.X) > GameBorder || Math.Abs(x1.Position.Y) > GameBorder)
        .ToArray();
    foreach (var bulletToDelete in bulletsToDelete)
        _bullets.Remove(bulletToDelete);

    if (_firing)
    {
        var xDelta = facingDirection.X * 10f;
        var yDelta = facingDirection.Y * 10f;
        foreach (var gunAngle in _gunAngles)
        {
            var angle = (int)Math.Sqrt(_random.Next(0, 2 * gunAngle * gunAngle)) - gunAngle;
            var direction = new Vector2(xDelta, yDelta).Rotate(angle);

            var bullet = new BulletStruct()
            {
                Position = new Vector2(playerPosition.X + 16 * facingDirection.X, playerPosition.Y + 16 * facingDirection.Y),
                Direction = direction
            }
        }
    }
}
```

```
protected override void Upda
var keyboardInput = Proces
var mouseInput = ProcessMo
_moveDirection = keyboardI
_firing = mouseInput.IsFir
_facingDirection = mouseIn
MovePlayer();
MoveCamera();
UpdateEnemies();
UpdateBullets();
DetectCollisions();
KillEnemies();
UpdateSplashes();
CheckLevel();
UpdateExplosions();
base.Update(gameTime);
}
```

ACT II: Procedural Programming

[illegible]

ACT II: Procedural Programming

```
_font = Content.Load<SpriteFont>("Font");  
_texture = Content.Load<Texture2D>("a.png");  
_enemyTexture = Content.Load<Texture2D>("b.png");
```

```
_bulletTexture = new Texture2D(GraphicsDevice, 4, 4);  
_collisionSplashTexture = new Texture2D(GraphicsDevice, 3, 3);  
_shrubbyTexture = Content.Load<Texture2D>("shrubby.png");  
var magenta = new Color(Color.Magenta, 1f);  
var yellow = new Color(Color.Yellow, 1f);  
var red = new Color(Color.Red, 1f);  
_bulletTexture.SetData(new Color[16] { magenta, magenta, magenta,  
_collisionSplashTexture.SetData(new Color[9] { red, red, red, red,  
_explosionTexture = new Texture2D(GraphicsDevice, 8, 8);  
_explosionTexture.SetData(new Color[64] { red, red, red, red, red,
```

LoadFont();

LoadTexturesFromFile();

LoadTexturesFromArray();

```
private void LoadFont() {  
    _font = LoadFontByName("Font");  
}
```

```
private void LoadTexturesFromFile() {  
    _texture = LoadTextureFromFile("a.png");  
    _enemyTexture = LoadTextureFromFile("b.png");  
    _shrubbyTexture = LoadTextureFromFile("shrubby.png");  
}
```

```
private void LoadTexturesFromArray() {  
    _bulletTexture = CreateSquareTexture(Color.Magenta, BulletSize);  
    _collisionSplashTexture = CreateSquareTexture(Color.Red, CollisionSplashSize);  
    _explosionTexture = CreateSquareTexture(Color.Red, ExplosionFragmentSize);  
}
```

ACT II: Procedural Programming

```
_bulletTexture = new Texture2D(GraphicsDevice, 4, 4);
_collisionSplashTexture = new Texture2D(GraphicsDevice, 3, 3);
var magenta = new Color(Color.Magenta, 1f);
var yellow = new Color(Color.Yellow, 1f);
var red = new Color(Color.Red, 1f);
_bulletTexture.SetData(new Color[16] { magenta, magenta, magenta,
_collisionSplashTexture.SetData(new Color[9] { red, red, red, red,
_explosionTexture = new Texture2D(GraphicsDevice, 8, 8);
_explosionTexture.SetData(new Color[64] { red, red, red, red, red,
```

```
private Texture2D CreateSquareTexture(Color color, int size) {
    var texture = new Texture2D(GraphicsDevice, size, size);

    texture.SetData(
        Enumerable.Range(0, size * size)
            .Select(cell => color)
            .ToArray());

    return texture;
}
```

ACT II: Procedural Programming

```
y = random.Next(0, 2);  
if (y == 0)  
    y = -1;
```



```
int GenerateRandomNegativeOrPositiveOne(Random random) {  
    return GetRandomBool(random) ? 1 : -1;  
}  
  
bool GetRandomBool(Random random) {  
    return NextRandomNumber(random, 1) == 1;  
}  
  
int NextRandomNumber(Random random, int maxValue) {  
    return NextRandomNumber(random, 0, maxValue);  
}  
  
int NextRandomNumber(Random random, int minValue, int maxValue) {  
    return random.Next(minValue, maxValue + 1);  
}
```

ACT II: Procedural Programming

In review:

- ✓ Easier to reason about code that is grouped by function (this means easier troubleshooting)
- ✓ Eliminates duplication, which means fewer bugs and fewer things to remember
- ✓ (limited) Encapsulation

⊖ Harder to read from top-to-bottom

⊖ Some friction moving the code for two reasons:

⊖ Mechanically difficult

⊖ Not sure where to put the abstracted code

SCORECARD:

Green: ok

Yellow: caution

Red: abort

Aside: if we all agree duplication is bad and **easy to fix**, why is there **so much duplication** in **my** codebase?
Can we solve this problem?



Questions?



Act 3: **Objects**

It is **impossible** to describe object-oriented programming in C#. With that said, we collect cohesive behavior into classes in order to promote **encapsulation and composability**



ACT III: Objects

```
public static class MathHelper {  
    public static Vector2 ShrinkVectorTo1Magnitude(Vector2 vector) {  
        var magnitude = 1f / (float)Math.Sqrt(vector.X * vector.X + vector.Y * vector.Y);  
        return vector * magnitude;  
    }  
  
    public static float ConvertToAngleInRadians(Vector2 direction) {  
        return (float)Math.Atan2(direction.Y, direction.X);  
    }  
  
    public static Vector2 Rotate(this Vector2 v, float degrees) {  
        float Deg2Rad = ((float)(2 * Math.PI)) / 360f;  
        float sin = (float)Math.Sin(degrees * Deg2Rad);  
        float cos = (float)Math.Cos(degrees * Deg2Rad);  
  
        float tx = v.X;  
        float ty = v.Y;  
        v.X = (cos * tx) - (sin * ty);  
        v.Y = (sin * tx) + (cos * ty);  
        return v;  
    }  
}
```

ACT III: Objects

```
public class RandomNumberService : IRandomNumberService {
    private readonly Random _random;
    public RandomNumberService() {
        _random = new Random();
    }
    public RandomNumberService(int seed) {
        _random = new Random(seed);
    }

    public int NextRandomNumberBetweenPositiveAndNegative(int value) {
        return NextRandomNumber(value);
    }
    public bool GetRandomBool() {
        return NextRandomNumber(1) == 1;
    }
    public double GenerateRandomNumberClusteredTowardZero(int max) {
        return Math.Sqrt(NextRandomNumber(max * max));
    }

    public int NextRandomNumber(int minValue, int maxValue) {
        return _random.Next(minValue, maxValue + 1);
    }
}
```

ACT III: Objects

```
public class DrawService : IDrawService {
    public DrawService(SpriteBatch spriteBatch, GraphicsDevice graphicsDev
        _spriteBatch = spriteBatch; _graphicsDevice = graphicsDevice;
    }

    public void DrawEntityWithRotation(Texture2D texture, Vector2 position
        _spriteBatch.Draw(texture, position, new Rectangle(0, 0, playerSize,
            new Color(Color.White, 1f), MathHelper.ConvertToAngleInRadians(dir
            new Vector2(playerSize/2, playerSize/2), 1.0f, SpriteEffects.None,
        }

    public void InitializeFrame(Point cameraPosition, int widthMidpoint, i
        _graphicsDevice.Clear(backgroundColor);

    //http://www.david-amador.com/2009/10/xna-camera-2d-with-zoom-and-ro
    var transform = Matrix.CreateTranslation(new Vector3(-cameraPosition
        Matrix.CreateRotationZ(0))*
        Matrix.CreateScale(new Vector3(1, 1, 1))*
        Matrix.CreateTranslation(new Vector3(widthMidpoint,
        _spriteBatch.Begin(SpriteSortMode.Deferred, null, null, null, null,
    }
}
```

ACT III: Objects

```
ice) {
```

```
, Vector2 direction, int playerSize) {  
    playerSize),  
    ection),  
    1);
```

```
heightMidpoint, Color backgroundColor) {
```

```
tation/  
.X, -cameraPosition.Y, 0))*
```

```
heightMidpoint, 0));  
null, transform);
```

ACT III: Objects

```
public class Bullet {  
    public Bullet(Vector2 position, Vector2 direction) {  
        Position = position;  
        Direction = direction;  
    }  
  
    public Vector2 Position { get; private set; }  
    public Vector2 Direction { get; private set; }  
  
    public bool ShouldBeDeleted(IBoundaryService boundaryService) {  
        return boundaryService.OutOfBounds(Position.X)  
            || boundaryService.OutOfBounds(Position.Y);  
    }  
  
    public void Move() {  
        Position = Position + Direction;  
    }  
}
```

ACT III: Objects

SCORECARD:

Green: ok

Yellow: caution

Red: abort

- ✓ Encapsulation
- ✓ Composability

Θ Wrongly-abstracted objects
are worse than spaghetti

Θ Object design is an art, and
requires practice and study
to become comfortable



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Aside: how do you know your design
is correct?

How long after do you feel your
object designs 'settle'?



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Questions?

Every question welcome, **except from functional programmers**



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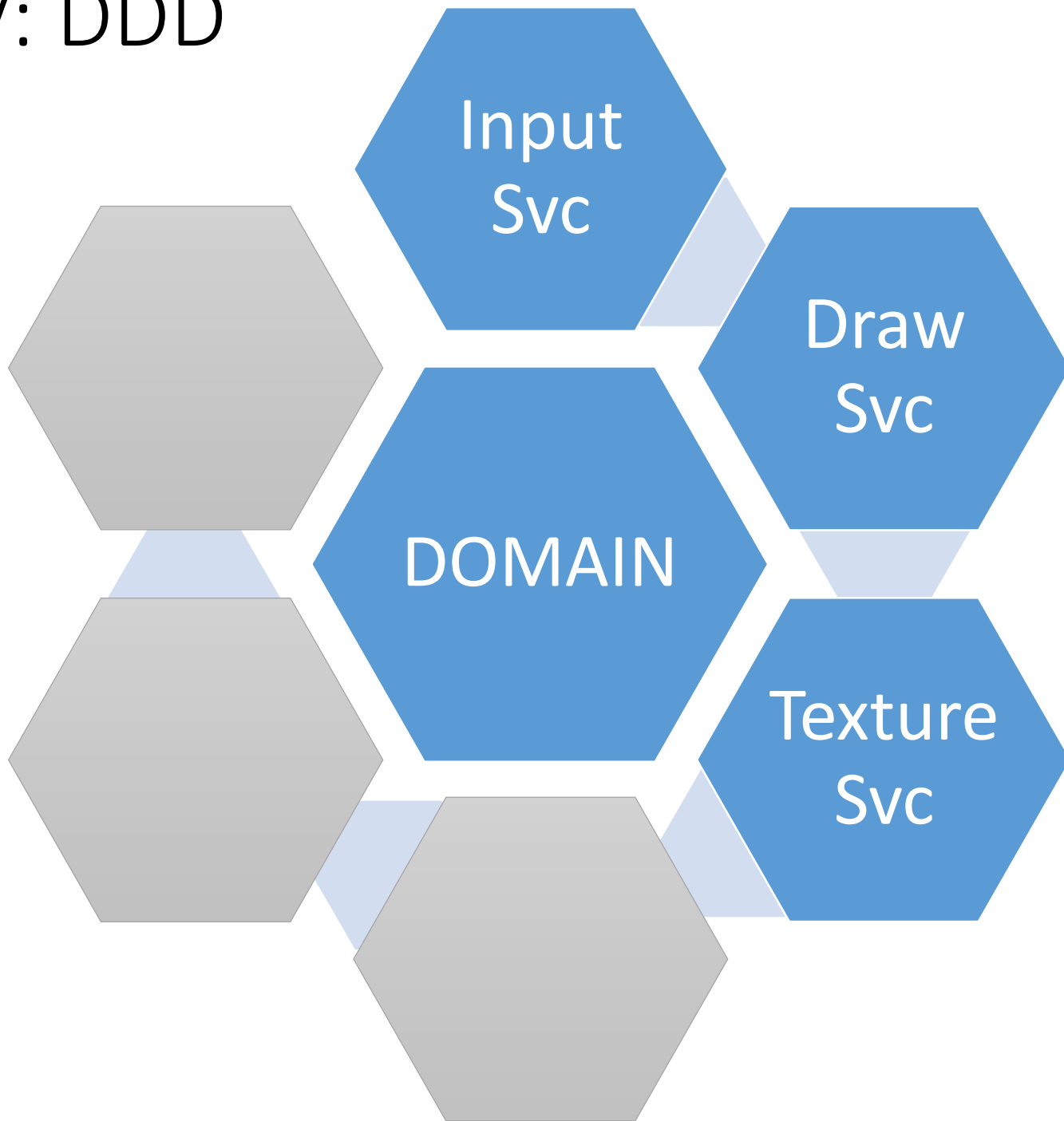
Act 4: DDD

Read the entire DDD book by Evans*,
plus a thousand blog posts, then **apply**
DDD principles to codebase.

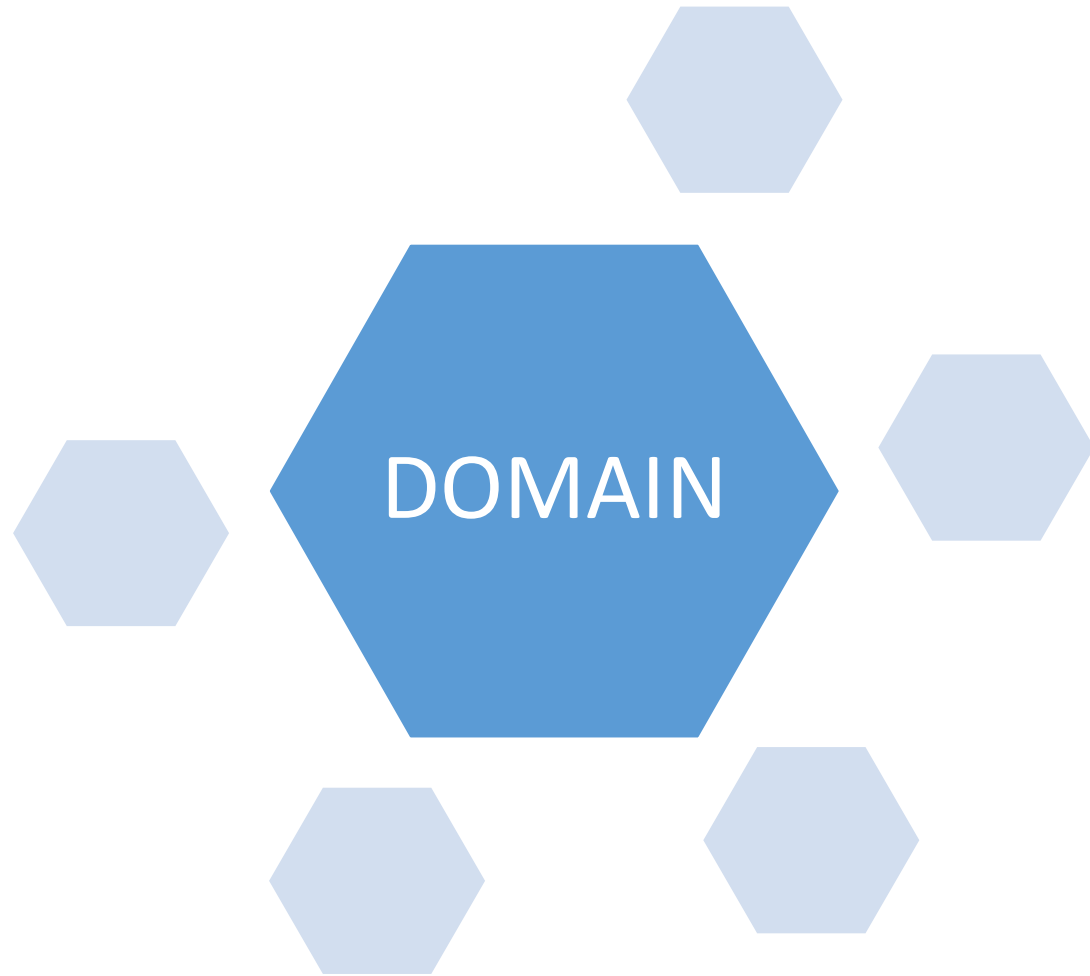


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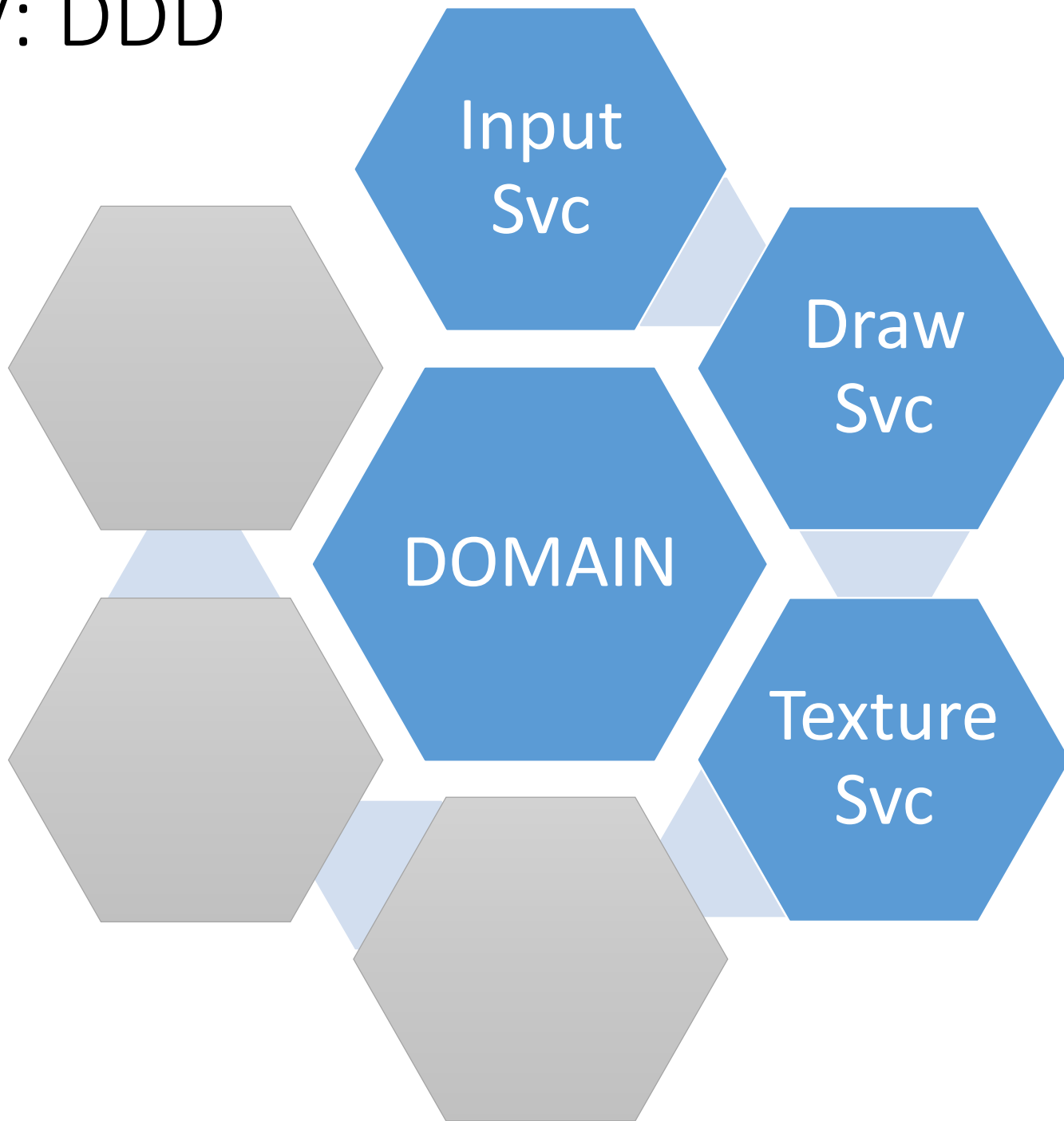
ACT IV: DDD



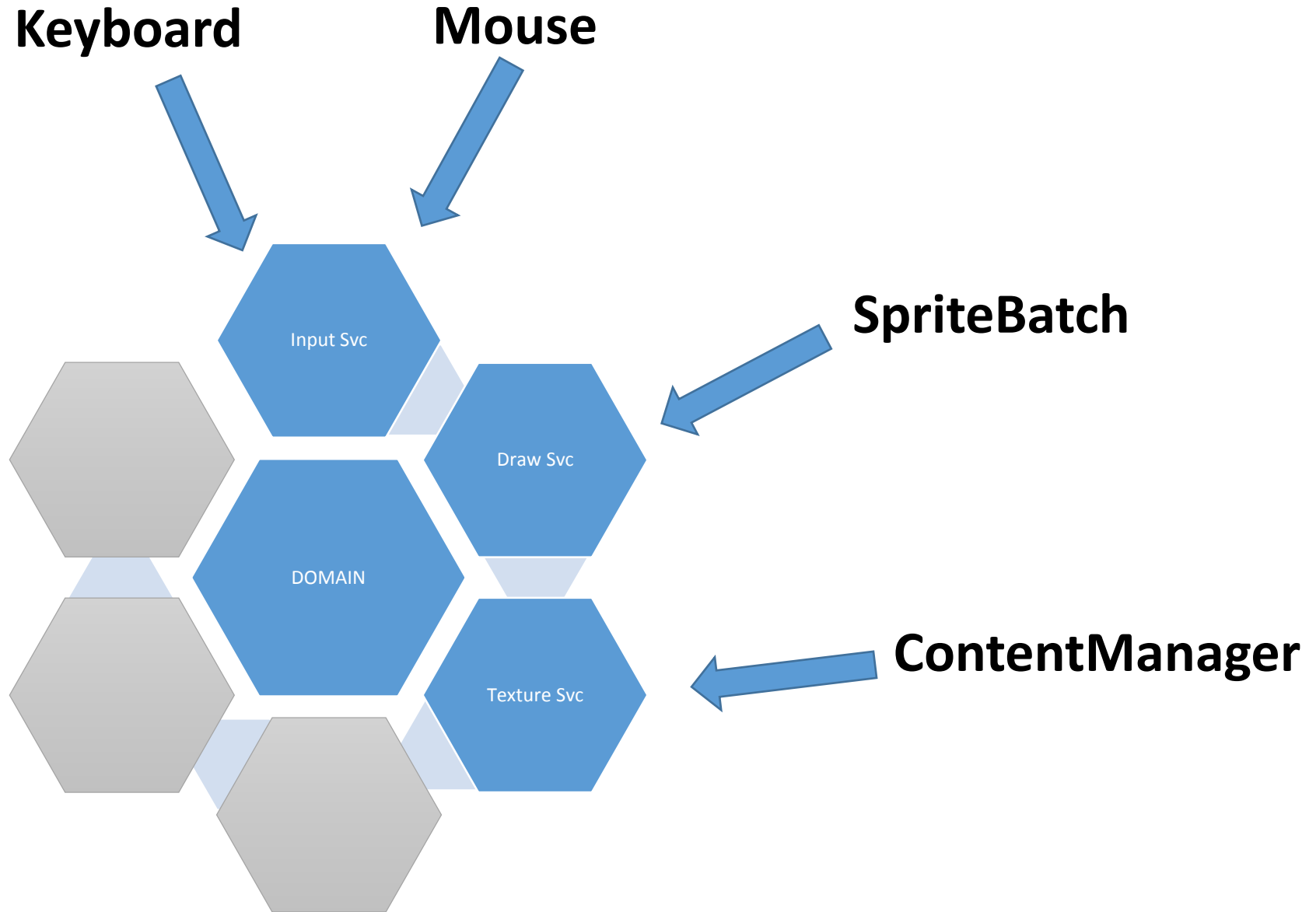
ACT IV: DDD



ACT IV: DDD



ACT IV: DDD



ACT IV: DDD

```
public class Game {  
  
    //called from Update()  
    void Update(InputStruct input)  
  
    //called from Draw()  
    Point GetCameraPosition()  
    Point GetPlayerPosition()  
    Vector2 GetPlayerFacingDirection()  
    IEnumerable<Bullet> GetBullets()  
    IEnumerable<Enemy> GetEnemies()  
    IEnumerable<Shrubbery> GetShrubbery()  
    IEnumerable<CollisionSplash> GetCollisionSplashes()  
    IEnumerable<ExplosionFragment> GetFragments()  
    bool ShouldTriggerPowerUpText()  
  
    //object design is hard – not sure where to put this  
    bool OutOfBounds(float position)  
}
```


ACT IV: DDD

```
public class MonogameDemoGame : Game {  
  
    protected override void Update(GameTime gameTime) {  
        var input = _inputService.ProcessInput();  
        _lob.Update(input);  
    }  
  
    protected override void Draw(GameTime gameTime) {  
        var vm = ViewModelMapper.CreateViewModel(_lob);  
        _drawService.InitializeFrame(vm.CameraPosition);  
        foreach (var entity in vm.Entities)  
            if (entity.HasRotation)  
                _drawService.DrawEntityWithRotation(...);  
            else  
                _drawService.DrawEntity(...);  
    }  
}
```

ACT IV: DDD

SCORECARD:

Green: ok

Yellow: caution

Red: abort

In review:

✓ DDD provides better guiding principles than “naked” OO, which means your abstractions are better, which means you can think in the abstract “ubiquitous language”

⊖ Large learning curve, which means that in a large endeavor, your team will create many bad domain models

⊖ Bad domain models are a tragedy – you get none of the benefits, but mental overhead and N+1s



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Aside: Is F# the “pit of success” we need?

(No.)

(Maybe a little, but basically no.)



Questions?

Questions about how the application works?



Act 5: DSLs

Domain-specific language

A specialized language designed to match your solution space.



ACT V: Domain-specific languages

Entity Player

color < Cyan

> Mouse1

fire

> Keyboard.W

move -1 0

> Keyboard.A

move 0 -1

> Keyboard.S

move 1 0

> Keyboard.D

move 0 1

> level_up

#todo implement

ACT V: Domain-specific languages

```
DefineEntity("Player")
    .Color(@cyan)
    .On(@mouse1, () => Fire())
    .On(@w, () => Move(-1, 0))
    .On(@a, () => Move(0, -1))
    .On(@s, () => Move(1, 0))
    .On(@d, () => Move(0, 1))
    .On(@level_up, () =>
    {
        /* todo implement */
    });
```

ACT V: Domain-specific languages

Implementing an external DSL requires one of the following:

1. Irony
2. M Lang (Oslo)
3. JetBrains MPS
4. ANTLR
5. Sending your ASTs to Roslyn

Aside: if DSLs are so scary to implement, are they **ever** needed?



```
@model WebApplication1.Models.ChangePasswordViewModel
```

```
@{
```

```
    ViewBag.Title = "Change Password";
```

```
}
```

```
<h2>@ViewBag.Title.</h2>
```

```
@using (Html.BeginForm("ChangePassword", "Manage", FormMethod.Post, new {
```

```
    @Html.AntiForgeryToken()
```

```
    <h4>Change Password Form</h4>
```

```
    <hr />
```

```
    @Html.ValidationSummary("", new { @class = "text-danger" })
```

```
    <div class="form-group">
```

```
        @Html.LabelFor(m => m.OldPassword, new { @class = "col-md-2 control-label" })
```

```
        <div class="col-md-10">
```

```
            @Html.PasswordFor(m => m.OldPassword, new { @class = "form-control" })
```

```
        </div>
```

```
    </div>
```

```
}
```

```
@section Scripts {
```

```
    @Scripts.Render("~/bundles/jqueryval")
```

```
}
```

```
<UserControl x:Class="MonogameDemoGame.DslInAction"
  xmlns="http://schemas.microsoft.com/winfx/2006/xaml/presentation"
  xmlns:x="http://schemas.microsoft.com/winfx/2006/xaml"
  xmlns:mc="http://schemas.openxmlformats.org/markup-compatibility/2006"
  xmlns:d="http://schemas.microsoft.com/expression/blend/2008"
  mc:Ignorable="d"
  d:DesignHeight="300" d:DesignWidth="300">
  <Grid>

  </Grid>
</UserControl>
```



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Aside: Workflow Foundation is a DSL
(or at its core, a platform to help
you build a DSL). **Does it suffer the
same problems** as other DSLs?



ACT V: Domain-specific languages

In review:

✓ With the correct
abstractions, DSLs
change the way you
think about a problem

⊖ With incorrect
abstractions, DSLs are
crippling

⊖ You are bad at making
DSLs



Questions?



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Epilogue: Takeaways

Improve your build & deployment process. Your current setup is **terrible**.

(I'll explain why)



Epilogue: **Takeaways**

Agile plateaus without better engineering practices (i.e. architecture)



Epilogue: **Takeaways**

Make the smallest change possible
(c.f. “Clean Code”)



Epilogue: **Takeaways**

Choose the simplest abstraction that
works



Epilogue:

Takeaways

When in doubt, make a <Thing>Helper.

Move it later.

Maybe never move it.



Epilogue: **Takeaways**

Unspoken rule that must now be
spoken:

YAGNI – You Ain't Gonna Need It



Epilogue: **Takeaways**

Don't feel rushed



Epilogue: **Takeaways**

Use your “unit” test projects as
practice working with abstractions



Epilogue: **Takeaways**

Every time you are modifying code,
Find Usages



~ ~ Thank you ~ ~

github.com/pseale/presentation-architecture-madness

Full refunds available at the box office

