

# Defining Function Domains as the Primary Line of Defense

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# Partial vs. Total Functions

```
public void Deposit(decimal amount)
{
}
```

## **Partial Function**

Function which is defined on a subset of all possible argument values.

## **Total Function**

Function which is defined for all possible argument values.



# Partial vs. Total Functions

```
public void Deposit(decimal amount)
{
    if (amount <= 0)
        throw new ArgumentException(
            "Only positive amounts can be deposited.",
            nameof(amount));
    // Keep going
}
```

## Guard Clause

Programmatic  
implementation  
of the partial function.  
(a.k.a. if-throw pattern)



# All Kinds of Guards

Null input

Zero value

Negative value

Empty string

Whitespace string

Incompatible values

Violated rules

**We are fine  
checking values**

**We could even live with  
checking structured values**

**We are definitely off the rails  
guarding complex rules**



```
class ExamApplicationBuilder
{
    ...
    public bool CanBuild() =>
        this.Administrator != null &&
        this.Subject != null &&
        this.Candidate != null &&
        this.Candidate.Enrolled ==
            this.Subject.TaughtDuring &&
        !this.Candidate
            .HasPassedExam(this.Subject) &&
        this.Subject.TaughtBy ==
            this.Administrator;
    ...
}
```

◀ **Guarding against null is fine**  
That defines the domain on  
which function is defined



```
class ExamApplicationBuilder
{
    ...
    public bool CanBuild() =>
        this.Administrator != null &&
        this.Subject != null &&
        this.Candidate != null &&
        this.Candidate.Enrolled ==
            this.Subject.TaughtDuring &&
        !this.Candidate
            .HasPassedExam(this.Subject) &&
        this.Subject.TaughtBy ==
            this.Administrator;
    ...
}
```

- ◀ **Guarding against null is fine**  
That defines the domain on which function is defined
- ◀ **Guarding against violating dynamic rules is not fine**  
That would be controlling execution flow with exceptions

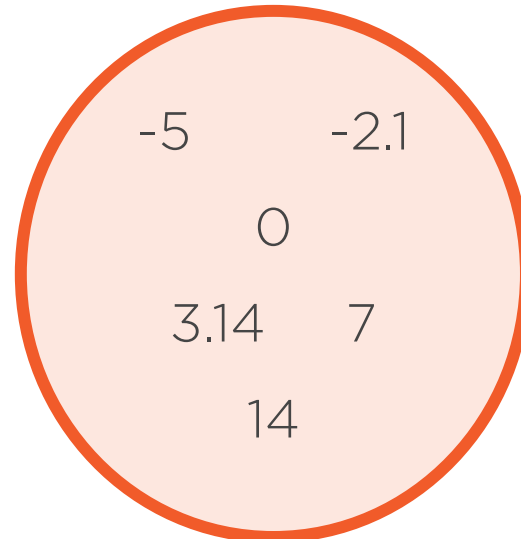


# Partial Functions Revisited

```
public void Deposit(decimal amount)
{
    if (amount <= 0)
        throw new ArgumentException(
            "Only positive amounts can be deposited.",
            nameof(amount));
    this.Balance += amount;
}
```

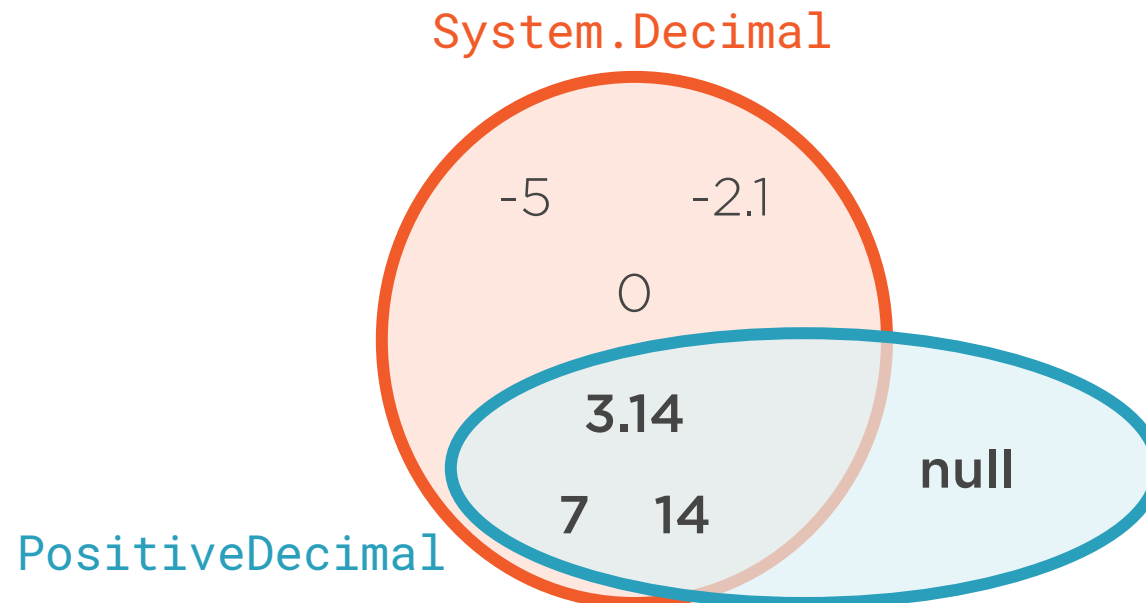
How long has this  
negative value been around?

System.Decimal



# Partial Functions Revisited

```
public void Deposit(PositiveDecimal amount)
{
    if (amount <= 0)
    throw new ArgumentException(
        "Only positive amounts can be deposited.",
        nameof(amount));
    this.Balance += amount;
}
```



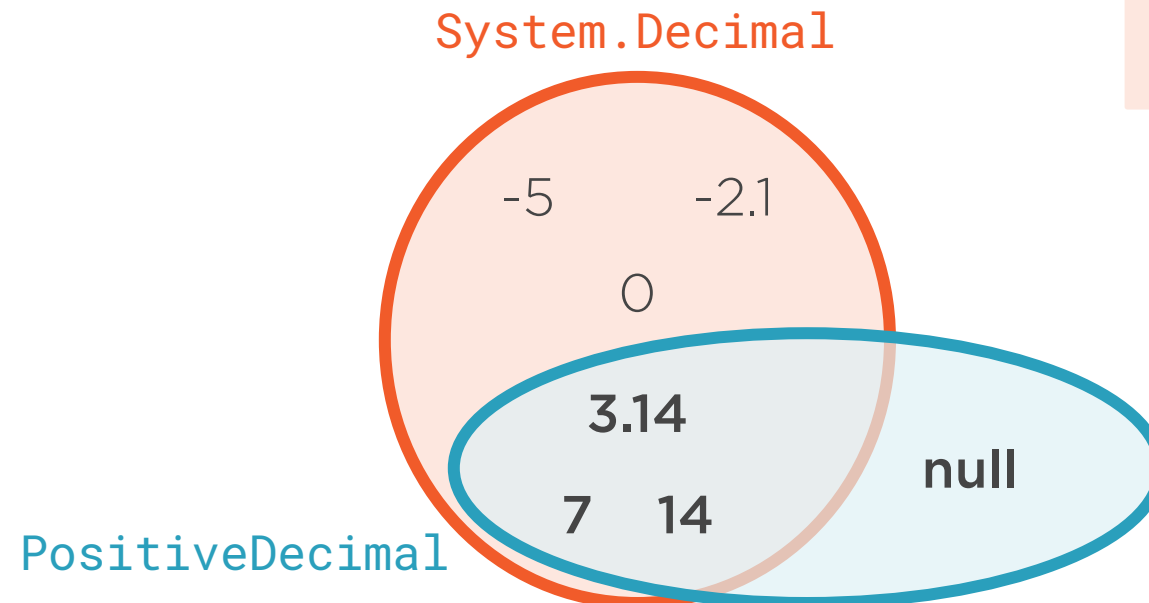


# Partial Functions Revisited

```
public void Deposit(PositiveDecimal amount)
{
    if (amount == null)
        throw new ArgumentNullException(nameof(amount));
    this.Balance += amount;
}
```

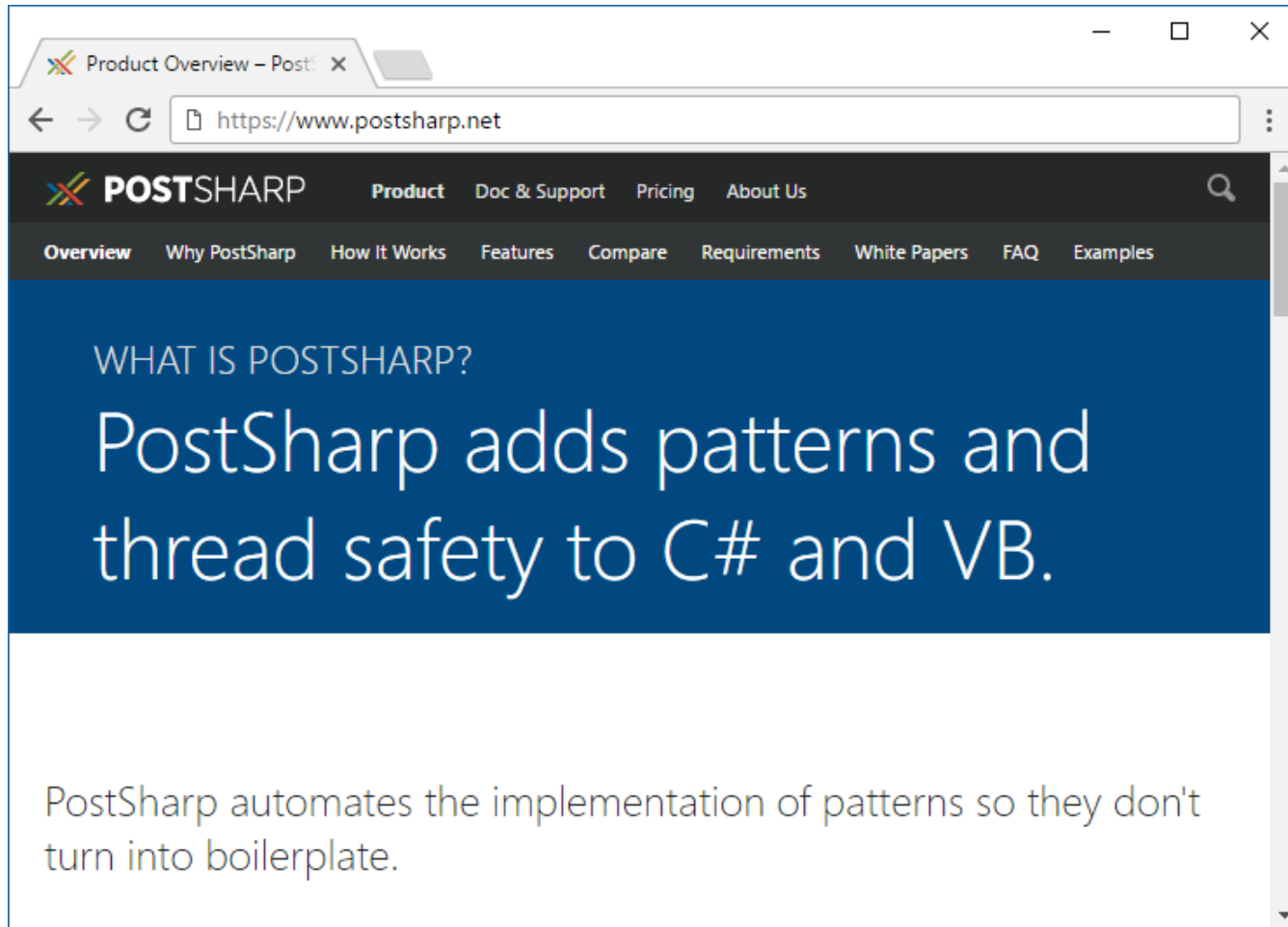
Null remains  
the only villain

Until we get  
the ability to  
forbid null  
syntactically



# Guarding with (Paid) Tools

<https://www.postsharp.net>



## Input Validation Attributes

NotNull  
NotEmpty  
Required  
CreditCard  
EmailAddress  
Phone  
RegularExpression  
StringLength  
EnumDataType  
GreaterThan  
LessThan  
Positive  
StrictlyPositive  
Range



# Guarding with (Paid) Tools

```
class Account
{
    private NonNegativeAmount Balance { get; set; }

    public void Deposit([NotNull] PositiveDecimal amount) =>
        this.Balance += amount;
}
```

## Advice:

If you don't use null in code,  
then null checks will never fail

Do not pass null as argument

Do not return null from a method

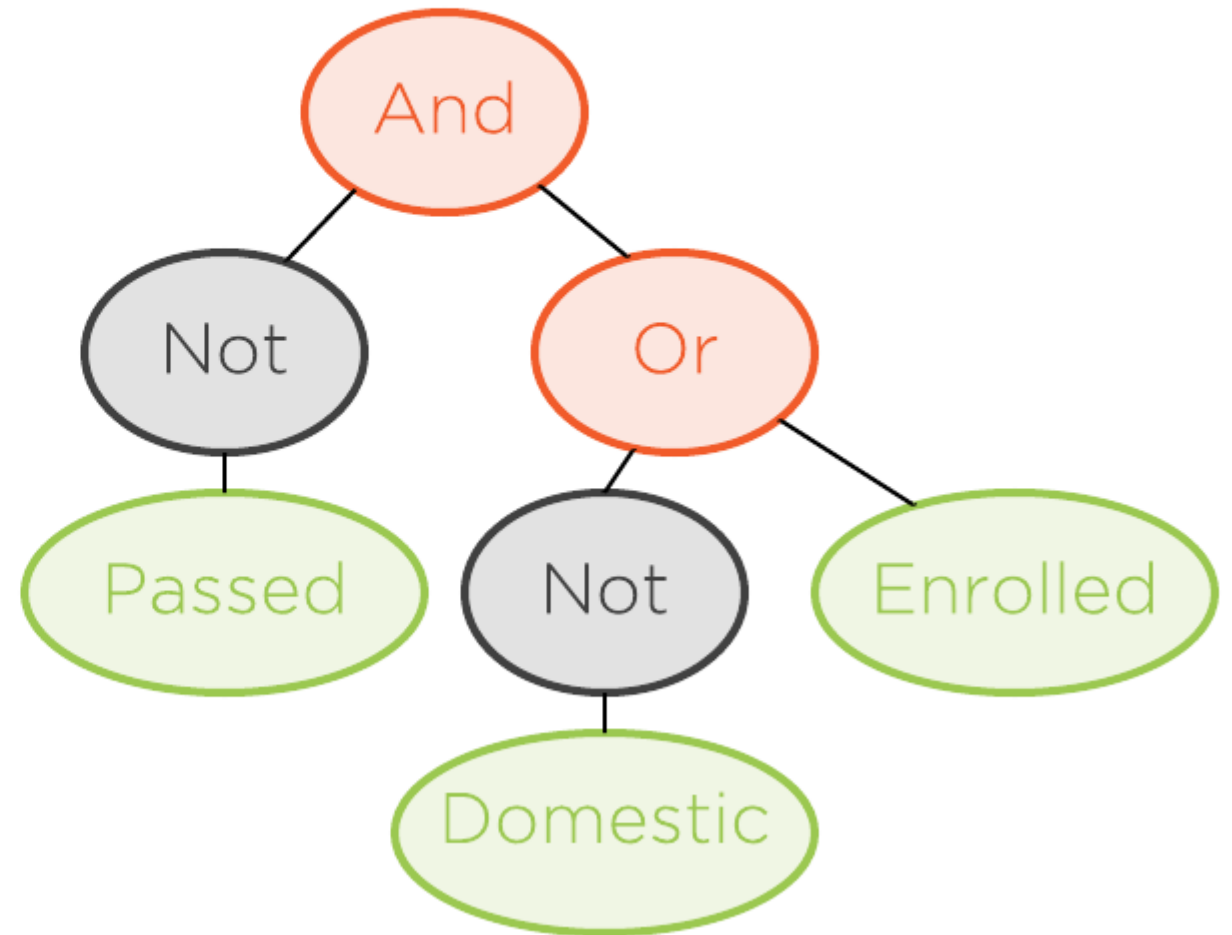
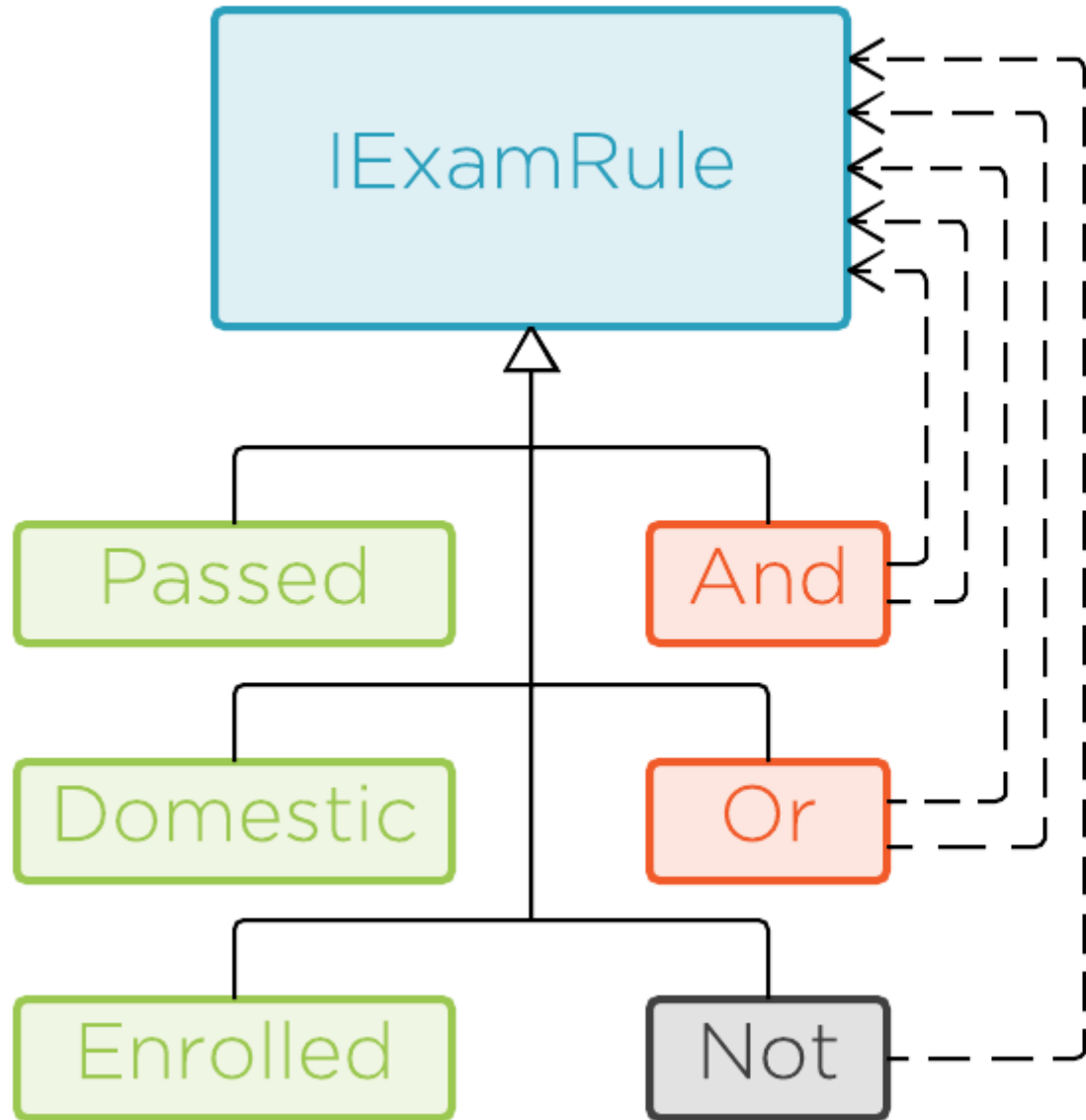
Do not set variables to null

Null check remains  
the last guard

PostSharp offers attributes,  
leaving implementation clean



# Expressions and Expression Builders



# Separating View and Domain Models

**Querying data**

**Bulk load  
flat data**

**Reconstructing  
domain objects**

**Load lots of  
related objects**



# Summary



## **Programmatic vs. Mathematical Functions**

- Both can be partial

## **Function fails if called outside its domain**

- Typically throws an exception



# Summary



## Techniques to make functions total

- Define custom argument types with specific domain
- Apply Callback pattern and execute only when possible
- Filter objects that belong to domain

## Later during this course

- `Option<T>` functional type
- `Either<TLeft, TRight>` functional type

## Null checks as the last barrier

- Possibility to turn them into an aspect



# Summary



## Persisting complex model

- Every model, complex or not, has to be persisted at some point

## Separation of models

- Domain layer defines separate Domain and View models
- Persistence layer defines its own Persistence model
- More details follow...

***Next module***

*Encapsulation and Domain Rules*

