

Design for Unit Testing



DEVELOPMENTMENTOR

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- Tight coupling
- Loose coupling with interfaces
- Dependency Injection
- Slicing
- Inversion of Control Containers

The Problem with Tight Coupling



- Tight coupling makes testing very difficult
 - How do I write a test that doesn't need the database?
 - **new** indicates a potential issue

```
public Account(int accountNumber)
{
    var repository = new AccountRepository();

    this.actualBalance =
repository.GetBalance(accountNumber);
}
```

Statics also Lead to Tight Coupling



- **Static members** couple types together

```
private int accountNumber;  
public Account(decimal initialBalance)  
{  
    this.accountNumber =  
    Account.GetNextAccountNumber();  
    this.initialBalance = initialBalance;  
}
```



- Using **abstract types** allows you to provide different implementations
 - Can vary implementation as required
 - Can provide an implementation that satisfies the test conditions

```
public Account(int accountNumber)
{
    IAccountRepository repository = ???

    this.actualBalance =
    repository.GetBalance(accountNumber);
}
```



- Where does the implementation of the abstraction come from?
 - Using new will tightly couple
- Need to “inject” the implementation
 - Allows implementation to vary at runtime
- Technique is called **Dependency Injection**



- Three different models for Dependency Injection
 - Parameter Injection
 - Property Injection
 - Constructor Injection



- Pass implementation as method parameter
 - Good for dependencies that vary over the lifetime of an object

```
public Credit(decimal amount, IAccountRepository  
repository )  
{  
    repository.CreditBalance(accountNumber, amount);  
}
```




- Assign property with dependency
 - Good for optional dependencies

```
public IAccountRepository Repository {get; set;}

public Account(int accountNumber)
{
    if(Repository != null)
    {
        this.actualBalance =
Repository.GetBalance(accountNumber);
    }
}
```



- Good for dependencies that are fixed for the lifetime of an object
 - Most common type of dependency injection

```
private IAccountRepository repository;

public Account(int accountNumber,
IAccountRepository repository)
{
    this.repository = repository;
    this.actualBalance =
this.repository.GetBalance(accountNumber);
}
```



- Interfaces and abstract base classes don't solve the static problem
 - Cannot override a static implementation
- Two mechanisms for dealing with statics
 - Wrap static in a service
 - Inject a delegate

Wrapping Statics in an Interface



- Create an interface that **models the static behavior**
 - Interface can be injected
- Create "real" version of interface that **hands off to static**

```
public interface IAccountService
{
    int GetNextAccountNumber();
}

public class RealAccountService :
IAccountService
{
    public int GetNextAccountNumber()
    {
        return Account.GetNextAccountNumber();
    }
}
```

Injecting a Delegate to Wrap a Static



- A lightweight way to abstract a static is to **wrap it in a delegate**
 - Means increasing the public “interface” of a class
 - Sometimes called “slicing”

```
public Account(decimal initialBalance)
    :this(initialBalance,
Account.GetNextAccountNumber)
{
}

public Account(decimal initialBalance, Func<int>
accountNumberProvider)
{
    accountNumber = accountNumberProvider();
    this.initialBalance = initialBalance;
}
```



- How do you inject dependencies?
 - What if the dependencies have dependencies?
- Need a reflection framework that knows how to resolve dependencies
 - Can walk a dependency tree
- Inversion of Control means external code creates dependencies
 - In effect Inversion of Control (IoC) = Dependency Injection
- An **IoC Container** is a tool to wire up dependencies
 - Used to construct application, not generally in testing

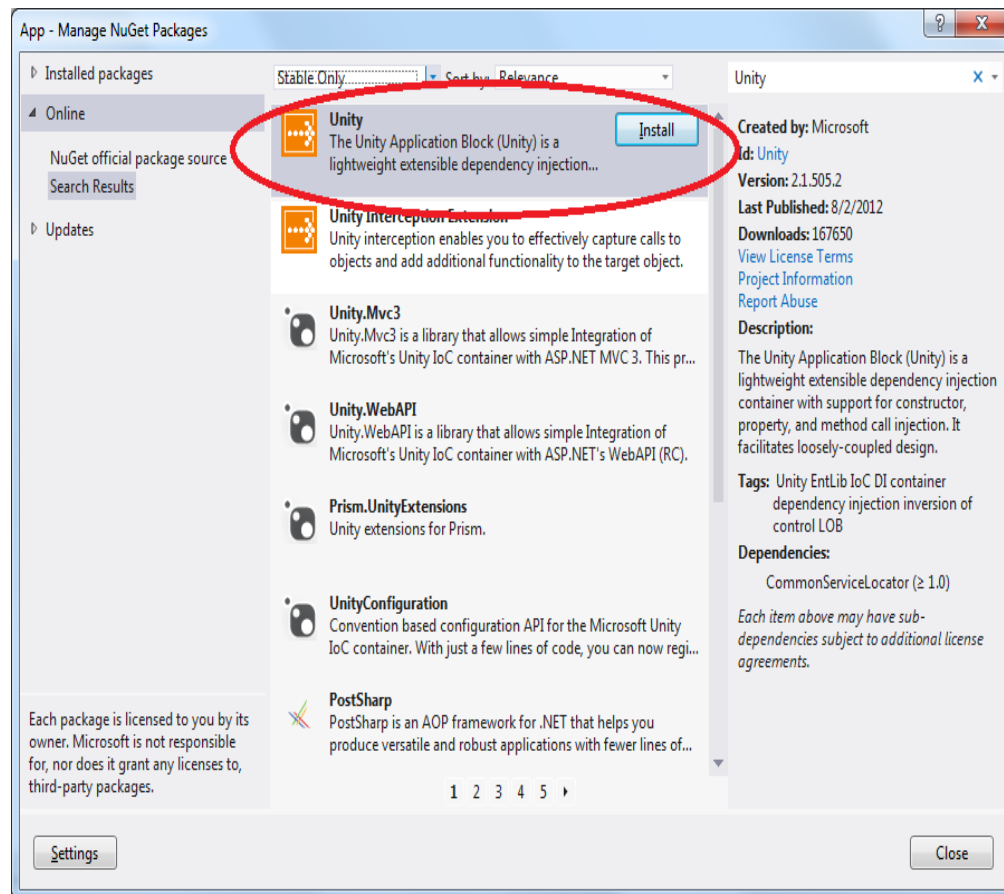


- There are many IoC containers for .NET
 - Unity
 - StructureMap
 - Ninject
 - Spring.NET
 - Autofac
 - Castle Windsor
 - ... many others
- All have similar basic functionality
 - Register mappings of concrete types to abstractions
 - Request implementation of abstraction
 - Container walks dependency tree creating instances from abstractions to wire up objects

Unity – an Example IoC Container



- Unity is an IoC Container from Microsoft Patterns and Practices
- Install as a Nuget Package





- You can map an abstraction to a concrete type with **RegisterType**
 - By default new instance created on demand

```
IUnityContainer container = new UnityContainer();  
  
container.RegisterType<IAccountRepository,  
EFAccountRepository>();
```



- You can map an abstraction to an instance with **RegisterInstance**
 - Reuses same instance by default

```
IUnityContainer container = new UnityContainer();  
  
var repository = new  
EFAccountRepository(connectionString, pageSize);  
  
container.RegisterInstance<IAccountRepository>(repository);
```



- You can map same abstraction to multiple concrete types
 - Must **name the mapping**

```
container.RegisterType<ILogger,  
EventLogLogger>("system");
```

```
container.RegisterType<ILogger,  
FileLogger>("tracing");
```



- You can request an instance of a mapped type using **Resolve**
 - Simply state the abstraction you need
- Can also request instance **via mapping name**

```
IAccountRepository repo =  
container.Resolve<IAccountRepository>();  
  
ILogger traceLogger =  
container.Resolve<ILogger>("tracing");
```

Using Config for Mappings



- Can declare mapping in config file
 - Unity has own configuration section
- Config allows mapping to vary without compilation
 - Extra flexibility
- Do you really want uncontrolled remapping?
 - Normally better to **register a map to a factory**
 - Allows flexibility with **greater control**

```
container.RegisterType<ILoggerFactory,  
FlexibleLoggerFactory>();
```

```
ILoggerFactory factory =  
container.Resolve<ILoggerFactory>();
```

```
ILogger logger = factory.Create(LogLevel.Fatal);
```



- Pass **LifetimeManager** when registering
 - Singleton (container)
 - Transient
 - PerResolve
 - PerThread
 - ...

```
container.RegisterType<IAccountRepository, EFAccountRepository>(
    new
    ContainerControlledLifetimeManager());
```



- Coding to abstraction decouples your code
- Dependencies injected into classes
- IoC containers can simplify application wireup