

**Isn't it more  
about reading?**

Written **once** - read **many**  
times

*„(...) when you program, you have to **think about** how someone **will read your code**, not just how a computer will interpret it.“*

Kent Beck

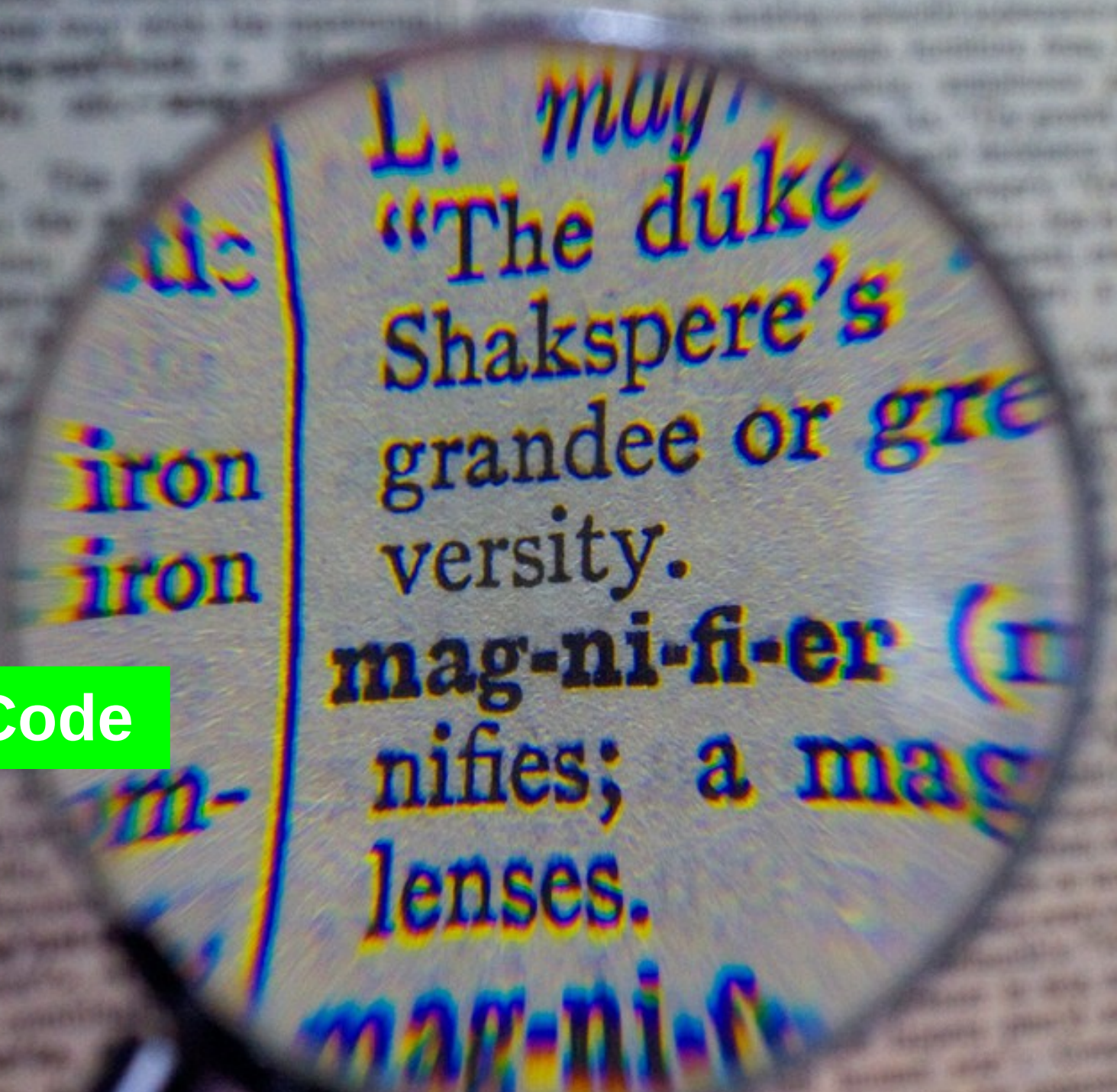
*„**Any fool** can write code that a **computer**  
**can understand**. **Good programmers** write  
code that **humans can understand**.“*

Martin Fowler

**Not about architecture**



Methods & Code



L. May  
"The duke  
Shakspeare's  
grandee or gre  
versity.

**mag-ni-fi-er** (T  
nifies; a mag  
lenses.

mag-ni-f

# Nurturing a code base



**Extra effort**



Save time!



A white plastic chair is positioned against a brick wall. The chair's seat is supported by a stack of approximately six bricks. A computer keyboard is placed on the chair's seat. To the right of the chair, on the ground, lies a crumpled plastic bag. The background consists of a brick wall and a cobblestone or brick-paved ground.

**Your code base?**



**It's about joy!**



# Optimizing for Readability

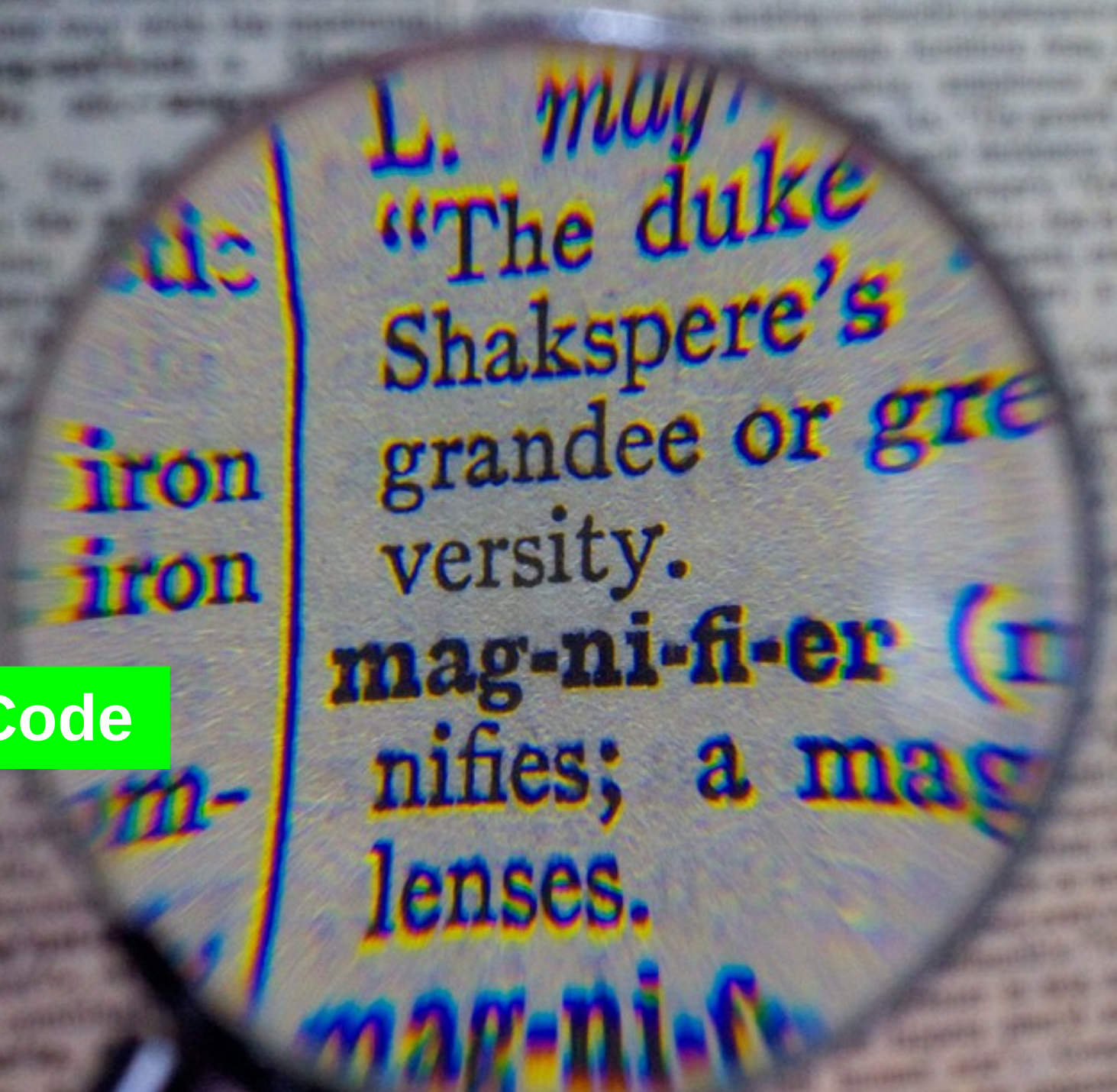
Tobias Pfeiffer  
[@PragTob](#)  
[pragtob.info](#)



Crazy?



Methods & Code

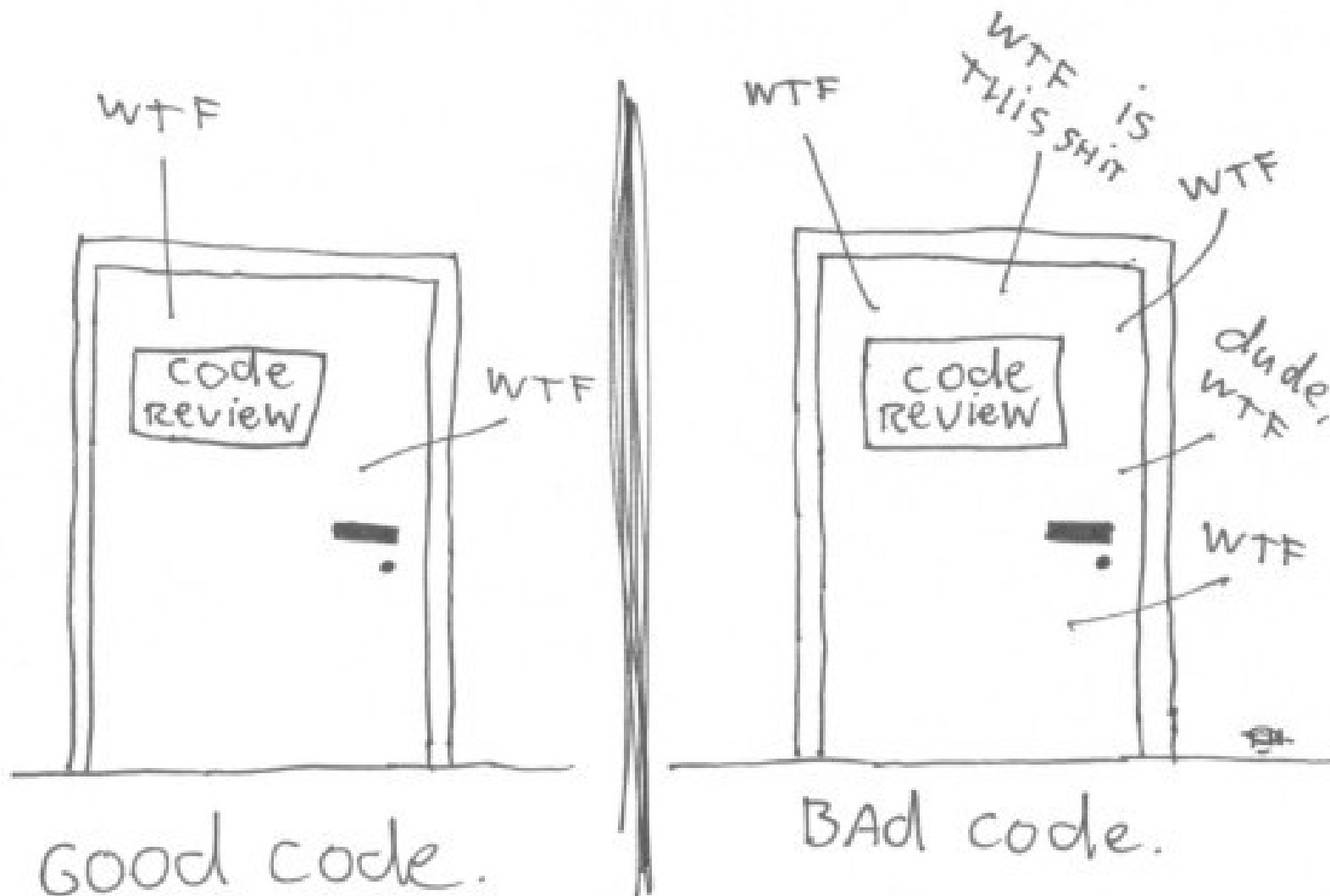


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The ONLY VALID MEASUREMENT  
OF Code QUALITY: WTFs/MINUTE



**K**ee**p** **I**t **S**imple **S**tupid

Are comments a **smell**?

Comments are an **excuse** of  
the code that it could not be  
**clearer.**

Outdated comments are the  
**worst**

The **why** not the **what**

```
def paint_control(event)
  # some painting code
rescue => e
  # Really important to rescue here.
  # Failures that escape this method
  # cause odd-ball hangs with no
  # backtraces. See #559 for an example.
  #
  puts "SWALLOWED PAINT EXCEPTION ON
#{@obj} - go take care of it: " + e.to_s
  puts 'Unfortunately we have to swallow
it because it causes odd failures :('
end
```

Also known as the smell that  
**tries** to make other **smells**  
**seem ok**

*# do one thing*

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

*# do another thing*

• • •

• • •

• • •

• • •

*# do something more*

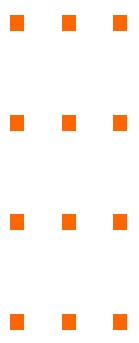
• • •

• • •

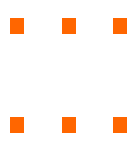
*# do one thing*



*# do another thing*



*# do something more*



***# do one thing***

- ■ ■
- ■ ■
- ■ ■
- ■ ■
- ■ ■

***# do another thing***

- ■ ■
- ■ ■
- ■ ■
- ■ ■

***# do something more***

- ■ ■
- ■ ■

**Cocepts**

**Method too long**

# Short Methods

**$\Delta = 8 \text{ LOC}$**

# Extract Methods

```
do_one_thing  
do_another_thing  
do_something_more
```

**Cocepts**

```
# context, outlet, times, time per  
step, state, data  
def pattern(c, o, t, l, s, d)  
  # ...  
end
```

**Incomprehensible names**

```
# context, outlet, times, time per  
step, state, data  
def pattern(c, o, t, l, s, d)  
  # ...  
end
```

```
# context, outlet, times, time per  
step, state, data  
def pattern(c, o, t, l, s, d)  
  # ...  
end
```

**Explanatory names**

Naming is **hard**

```
def pattern(context, outlet, time,  
            time_per_step, state,  
            data)  
    # ...  
end
```

Argument **order dependency**

Try to keep it to **2 parameters**



Example

```
# allowed to drink?
if customer.age >= 18
  say 'Okay'
  drink = prepare_drink requested_drink
  say 'here you go'
  hand_drink_over drink, customer
else
  say 'I am sorry you are not legally
      allowed rather to drink here'
  say "Would you rather have a
      #{['cola', 'mate'].sample}?"
end
```

```
# allowed to drink?  
if customer.age >= 18  
  say 'Okay'  
  drink = prepare_drink requested_drink  
  say 'here you go'  
  hand_drink_over drink, customer  
else  
  say 'I am sorry you are not legally  
    allowed rather to drink here'  
  say "Would you rather have a  
    #{ ['cola', 'mate'].sample }?"  
end
```

No **magic numbers**

```
NON_ALCOHOLIC_DRINKS = ['cola', 'mate']  
MIN_DRINKING_AGE = 18
```

```
# allowed to drink?  
if customer.age >= MIN_DRINKING_AGE  
  say 'Okay'  
  drink = prepare_drink requested_drink  
  say 'here you go'  
  hand_drink_over drink, customer  
else  
  say 'I am sorry you are not legally  
    allowed rather to drink here'  
  say "Would you rather have a  
    #{NON_ALCOHOLIC_DRINKS.sample}?"  
end
```

```
# allowed to drink?  
if customer.age >= MIN_DRINKING_AGE  
  say 'Okay'  
  drink = prepare_drink requested_drink  
  say 'here you go'  
  hand_drink_over drink, customer  
else  
  say 'I am sorry you are not legally  
    allowed rather to drink here'  
  say "Would you rather have a  
    #{NON_ALCOHOLIC_DRINKS.sample}?"  
end
```

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# allowed to drink?
if customer.age >= MIN_DRINKING_AGE
  say 'Okay'
  drink = prepare_drink requested_drink
  say 'here you go'
  hand_drink_over drink, customer
else
  say 'I am sorry you are not legally
      allowed rather to drink here'
  say "Would you rather have a
      #{NON_ALCOHOLIC_DRINKS.sample}?"
end
```

# Query method

**Intention revealing method**

```
# ...
```

```
text.color = red
```

```
# ...
```

```
# ...
```

```
text.color = red
```

```
# ...
```

```
# ...  
highlight(text)  
# ...
```

```
def highlight(text)  
    text.color = red  
end
```

```
def highlight(text)  
    text.color      = red  
    text.underline = true  
    update_highlights  
end
```

```
# ...  
text.color      = red  
text.underline = true  
update_highlights  
# ...
```

```
# ...  
highlight(text)  
# ...
```

```
# allowed to drink?
if customer.age >= MIN_DRINKING_AGE
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  drink = prepare_drink requested_drink
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  say "Would you rather have a  
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end
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  say "Would you rather have a  
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  say "Would you rather have a  
    #{NON_ALCOHOLIC_DRINKS.sample}?"  
end
```

```
# allowed to drink?  
if customer.age >= MIN_DRINKING_AGE  
  say 'Okay'  
  drink = prepare_drink requested_drink  
  say 'here you go'  
  hand_drink_over drink, customer  
else  
  say 'I am sorry you are not legally  
    allowed rather to drink here'  
  say "Would you rather have a  
    #{NON_ALCOHOLIC_DRINKS.sample}?"  
end
```

```
if allowed_to_drink_alcohol?(customer)  
  serve_drink requested_drink,  
              customer  
else  
  propose_non_alcoholic_drink  
end
```

*„If you have a **good name** for  
a method you **don't need to**  
**look at the body.**“*

Martin Fowler

*„The easiest code to  
**understand** is the code you  
**don't have to read** at all.“*

Tom Stuart (Berlin)

```
prepare_drink requested_drink
price = requested_drink.price
check = Check.new
check.add_price price
say 'That will be ' + check.total
```

```
prepare_drink requested_drink  
price = requested_drink.price  
check = Check.new  
check.add_price price  
say 'That will be ' + check.total
```

```
prepare drink requested drink  
price = requested_drink.price  
check = Check.new  
check.add_price price  
say 'That will be ' + check.total
```

Same **level of abstraction** in  
a method

prepare\_drink *requested\_drink*  
prepare\_check *requested\_drink*

Nice code **formatting**

<b>@left</b>			=	0
<b>@top</b>			=	0
<b>@width</b>			=	1.0
<b>@height</b>			=	0

```
double character: 'something weird',  
stateMask: CTRL | modifier,  
KeyCode: character.downcase.ord
```

# 80 character width limit

```

25 | def initialize(blk)
26 |   @block = blk
27 | end
28 |
29 | # implemented by subclasses
30 | def key_pressed(event)
31 | end
32 |
33 | def key_released(event)
34 | end
35 |
36 | private
37 |
38 | def handle_key_event(event)
39 |   modifiers = modifier_keys(event)
40 |   character = character_key(event)
41 |   key_string = modifiers + character
42 |   key_string = key_string.to_sym if should_be_symbol?(event, modifiers)
43 |   eval_block key_string unless character.empty?
44 | end
45 |
46 | def eval_block(key_string)
47 |   @block.call key_string
48 | end
49 |
50 | def modifier_keys(event)
51 |   modifier_keys = ''
52 |   modifier_keys += 'control_' if control?(event)
53 |   modifier_keys += 'shift_' if shift?(event) && special_key?(event)
54 |   modifier_keys += 'alt_' if alt?(event)
55 |   modifier_keys
56 | end
57 |
58 | def alt?(event)
59 |   is_this_modifier_key?(event, ::SwT::SWT::ALT)
60 | end
61 |
62 | # NOTE: state_mask and key_code error for me so the java version is used
63 | def is_this_modifier_key?(event, key)
64 |   (event.stateMask & key) == key
65 | end
66 |
67 | def shift?(event)
68 |   is_this_modifier_key?(event, ::SwT::SWT::SHIFT)
69 | end
70 |
71 | def control?(event)
72 |   is_this_modifier_key?(event, ::SwT::SWT::CTRL)
73 | end
74 |

```

```

70 | it ':alt_/' do
71 |   test_alt_character_press '/'
72 | end
73 |
74 | it 'works with what Macs seem to produce for opt + / (should be alt_/)' do
75 |   block.should_receive(:call).with(:'alt_/')
76 |   event = double character: '÷'.ord,
77 |                 stateMask: ALT,
78 |                 keyCode: '/'ord
79 |   subject.key_pressed(event)
80 | end
81 | end
82 |
83 | describe 'works with the ctrl key pressed such as' do
84 |   def test_ctrl_character_press(character, modifier = 0)
85 |     result_char = ('control_' + character).to_sym
86 |     block.should_receive(:call).with(result_char)
87 |     event = double character: 'something weird like \x00',
88 |                 stateMask: CTRL | modifier,
89 |                 keyCode: character.downcase.ord
90 |     subject.key_pressed(event)
91 |   end
92 |
93 |   it ':ctrl_a' do
94 |     test_ctrl_character_press 'a'
95 |   end
96 |
97 |   it 'ctrl_z' do
98 |     test_ctrl_character_press 'z'
99 |   end
100 |
101 |   describe 'and if we add the shift key' do
102 |     it ':ctrl_A' do
103 |       test_ctrl_character_press 'A', SHIFT
104 |     end
105 |
106 |     it ':ctrl_Z' do
107 |       test_ctrl_character_press 'Z', SHIFT
108 |     end
109 |   end
110 | end
111 |
112 | describe 'works with shift combined with alt yielding capital letters' do
113 |   def test_alt_shift_character_press(character)
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116 |
117 |   it ':alt_A' do
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119 |   end
120 |
121 |   it ':alt_Z' do
122 |     test_alt_shift_character_press 'Z'

```

# 80 character width limit

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43 |   eval_block key_string unless character.empty?
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89 |                   keyCode: character.downcase.ord
90 |     subject.key_pressed(event)
91 |   end
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93 | it ':ctrl_a' do
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97 | it 'ctrl_z' do
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101 | describe 'and if we add the shift key' do
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115 |   end
116 |
117 |   it ':alt_A' do
118 |     test_alt_shift_character_press 'A'
119 |   end
120 |
121 |   it ':alt_Z' do
122 |     test_alt_shift_character_press 'Z'

```

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72  def control?(event)
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122  it ':alt_Z' do
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40 |   character = character_key(event)
41 |   key_string = modifiers + character
42 |   key_string = key_string.to_sym if should_be_symbol?(event, modifiers)
43 |   eval_block key_string unless character.empty?
44 | end
45 |
46 | def eval_block(key_string)
47 |   @block.call key_string
48 | end
49 |
50 | def modifier_keys(event)
51 |   modifier_keys = ''
52 |   modifier_keys += 'control_' if control?(event)
53 |   modifier_keys += 'shift_' if shift?(event) && special_key?(event)
54 |   modifier_keys += 'alt_' if alt?(event)
55 |   modifier_keys
56 | end
57 |
58 | def alt?(event)
59 |   is_this_modifier_key?(event, ::SwT::SWT::ALT)
60 | end
61 |
62 | # NOTE: state_mask and key_code error for me so the java version is used
63 | def is_this_modifier_key?(event, key)
64 |   (event.stateMask & key) == key
65 | end
66 |
67 | def shift?(event)
68 |   is_this_modifier_key?(event, ::SwT::SWT::SHIFT)
69 | end
70 |
71 | def control?(event)
72 |   is_this_modifier_key?(event, ::SwT::SWT::CTRL)
73 | end
74 |

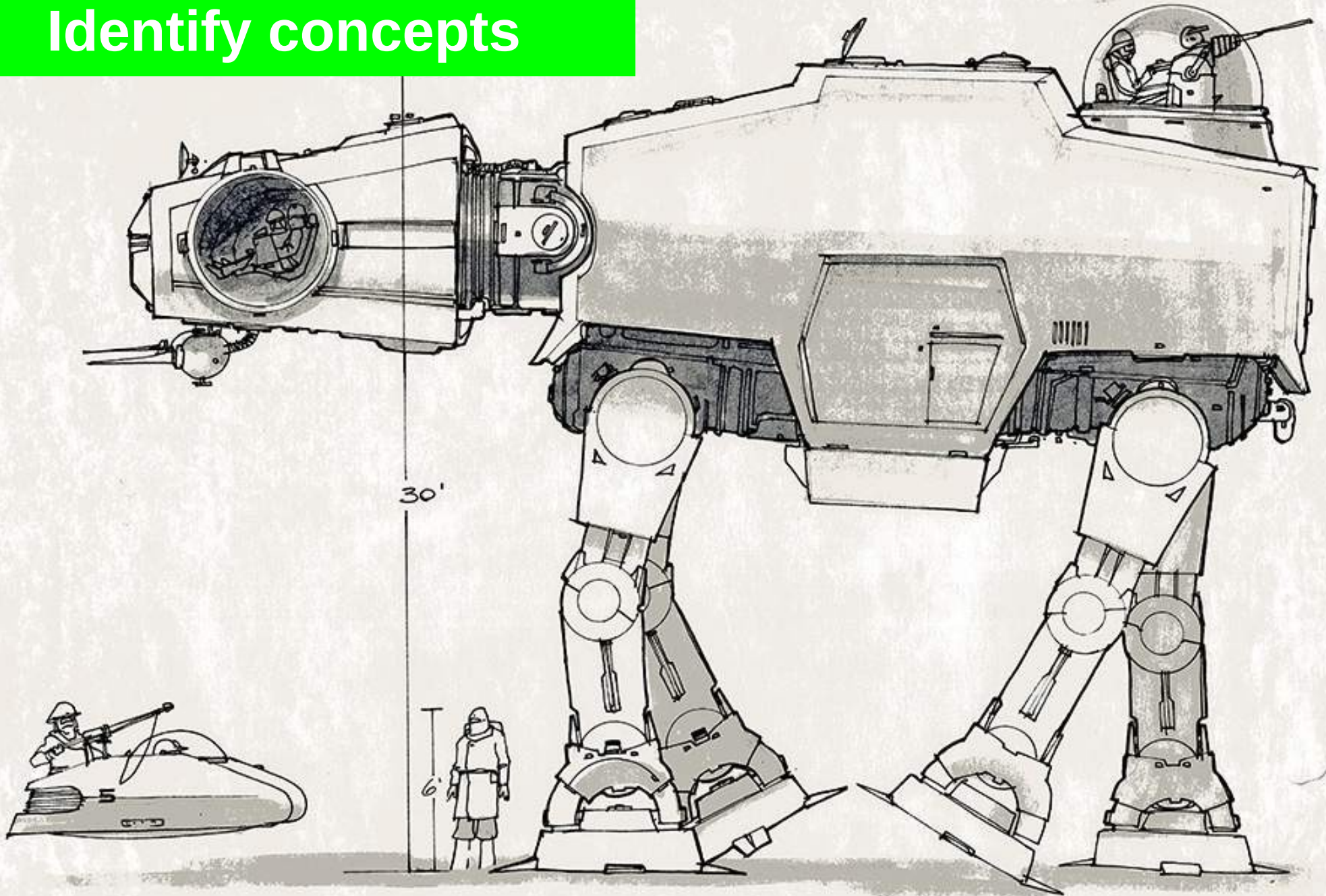
```

```

70 | it ':alt_/' do
71 |   test_alt_character_press '/'
72 | end
73 |
74 | it 'works with what Macs seem to produce for opt + / (should be alt_/)' do
75 |   block.should_receive(:call).with(:'alt_/')
76 |   event = double character: '÷'.ord,
77 |                 stateMask: ALT,
78 |                 keyCode: '/' .ord
79 |   subject.key_pressed(event)
80 | end
81 | end
82 |
83 | describe 'works with the ctrl key pressed such as' do
84 |   def test_ctrl_character_press(character, modifier = 0)
85 |     result_char = ('control_' + character).to_sym
86 |     block.should_receive(:call).with(result_char)
87 |     event = double character: 'something weird like \x00',
88 |                   stateMask: CTRL | modifier,
89 |                   keyCode: character.downcase.ord
90 |     subject.key_pressed(event)
91 |   end
92 |
93 | it ':ctrl_a' do
94 |   test_ctrl_character_press 'a'
95 | end
96 |
97 | it 'ctrl_z' do
98 |   test_ctrl_character_press 'z'
99 | end
100 |
101 | describe 'and if we add the shift key' do
102 |   it ':ctrl_A' do
103 |     test_ctrl_character_press 'A', SHIFT
104 |   end
105 |
106 |   it ':ctrl_Z' do
107 |     test_ctrl_character_press 'Z', SHIFT
108 |   end
109 | end
110 | end
111 |
112 | describe 'works with shift combined with alt yielding capital letters' do
113 |   def test_alt_shift_character_press(character)
114 |     test_alt_character_press(character, SHIFT)
115 |   end
116 |
117 |   it ':alt_A' do
118 |     test_alt_shift_character_press 'A'
119 |   end
120 |
121 |   it ':alt_Z' do
122 |     test_alt_shift_character_press 'Z'

```

# Identify concepts



Johnston 0135 1/79

FOR SCALE ONLY

WONDERFULI

**One** language

**D**on't **R**epeat **Y**ourself

# Nurturing a code base



Code bases **deteriorate**



**No broken windows!**

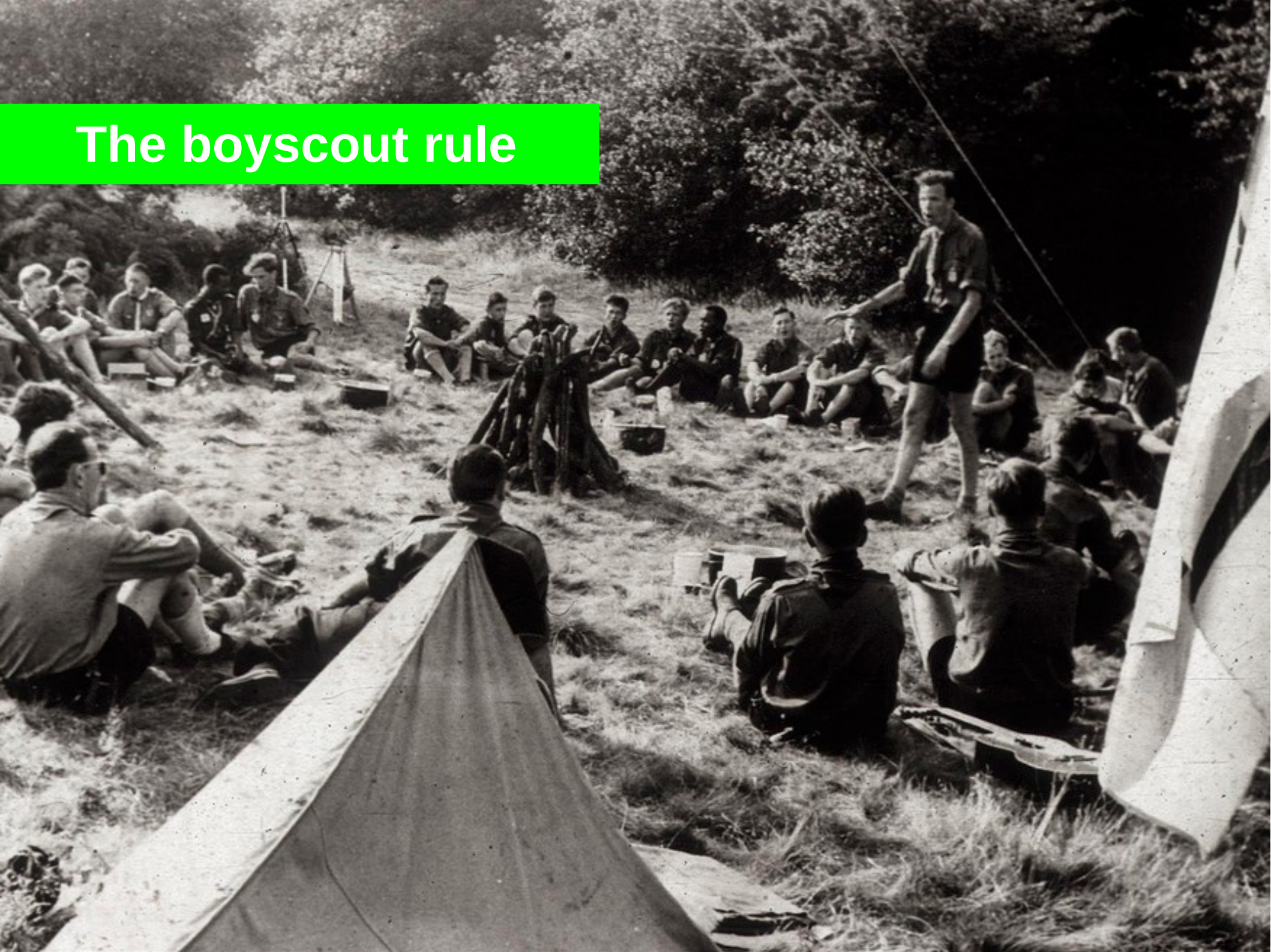






**Magical time?**

# The boyscout rule



**REFACTOR**



**ALL THE THINGS**

[quickmeme.com](http://quickmeme.com)

# **Opportunistic Refactoring**

**TDD**

**80%** Code Coverage

**20%** is never executed



Jason Clark commented on an outdated diff on Sep 29, 2014

Hide outdated diff

spec/shoes/app\_spec.rb

	@@	-389,6	+389,20	@@
389	389			expect(subject.instance_variable_get(:@_additional_context_)).to be_r
390	390			end
391	391			end
	392	+		
	393	+		describe '.new_dsl_method (for widget method notifications etc.)' do
	394	+		before :each do
	395	+		Shoes::App.new_dsl_method :widget_method do
	396	+		# noop
	397	+		end
	398	+		end
	399	+		
	400	+		[Shoes::App, Shoes::URL, Shoes::Widget].each do  klazz



Jason Clark added a note on Sep 29, 2014

Owner



If we add another class to METHOD\_SUBSCRIBER , we won't be running the tests on them unless someone remembers to update this. Is it too self-referential for this to use [Shoes::App] + METHOD\_SUBSCRIBERS as the basis for the each ?



PragTob added a note on Sep 29, 2014

Owner



It most likely is not - thanks for the input!  
Might as well stay like this if I add the subscription have the explicit list anywhere anymore).

# Code Review Culture

Add a line note



PragTob added some commits on Oct 1, 2014

- Mechanism to subscribe classes/modules to DSL methods ... f2d7fc7
- Moved DELEGATE\_METHODS specs down to form a logical unit ✓ 878109a
- Open class forward references no longer needed ✓ ffae2fd

A photograph of a single, upright brown paper lunch bag. The bag is made of textured, light brown paper and has a simple, rectangular shape with a folded top. It is standing on a dark, reflective surface. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. A bright green horizontal bar is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing white text.

**„Brown Bag“ lunches**

# Pair Programming



# Reaping the benefits





**Know when to break the rules**

*If you still like your code from  
**two years ago**,  
then you are not **learning** fast  
enough.*

# Enjoy writing readable code!

Tobias Pfeiffer  
[@PragTob](#)  
[pragtob.info](#)



# Sources

- [The Pragmatic Programmer](#)
- [Smalltalk Best Practice Patterns](#)
- [Clean Code](#)
- [Practical Object Oriented Design in Ruby](#)

# Photo Credit

- <http://officeimg.vo.msecnd.net/en-us/images/MP900439313.jpg>
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