

Effective and Clean Java Code? Tips and Tricks from the Real World

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"...computer programming is an art, because it applies accumulated knowledge to the world, because it requires skill and ingenuity, and especially because it produces objects of beauty"

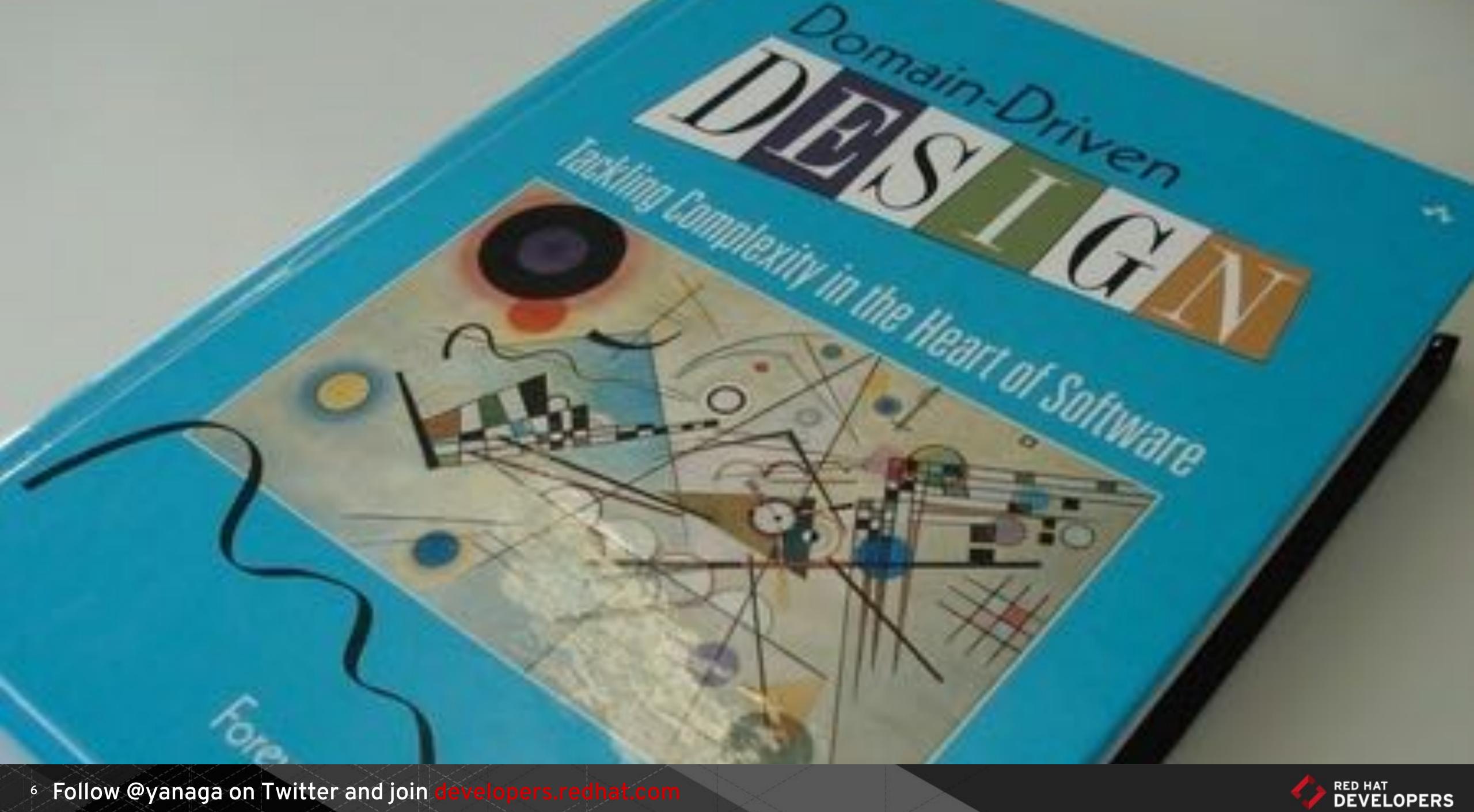
-Donald E. Knuth



"No matter what other methods you apply to achieve <u>competence</u> in a social system, in the end it all depends on whether people actually <u>care</u>."

-Jurgen Appelo









Editor: Martin Fowler | ThoughtWorks | fowler@acm.org

When to Make a Type

Martin Fowler

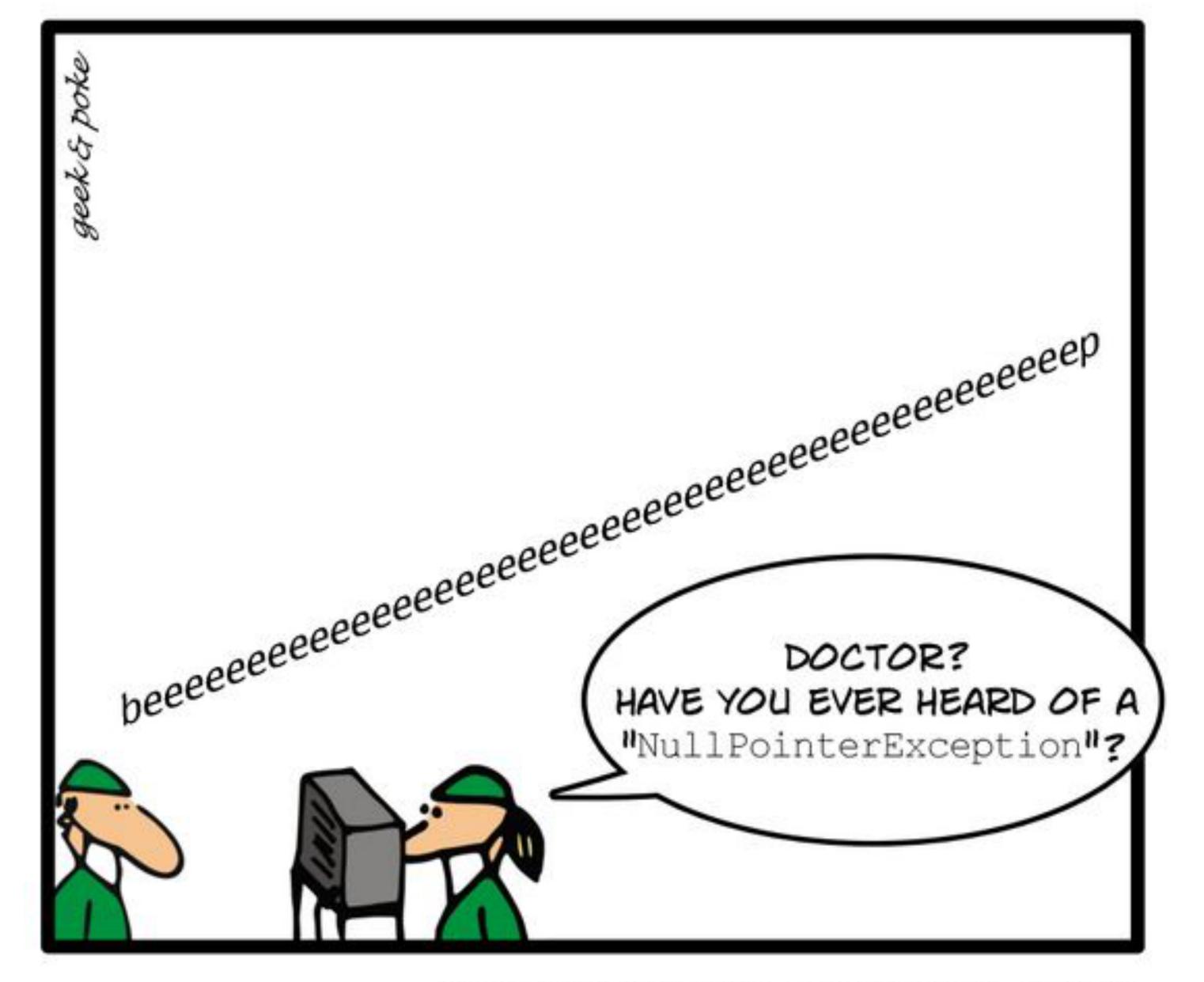
hen I started programming computers, I began with fairly primitive languages, such as Fortran 4 and various early flavors of Basic. One of the first things you learn using such languages-indeed, even using more up-to-date languages-is which types your language supports. Being oriented toward number crunching, Fortran supported



integer and real types, with the interesting rule that any variable whose name started with the letters I through N was an integer, and all other variables were floats. I'm glad that convention hasn't caught on, although Perl is close. your own types and in the best son-Wesley, 2002). languages, they act just as well as built-in ones.

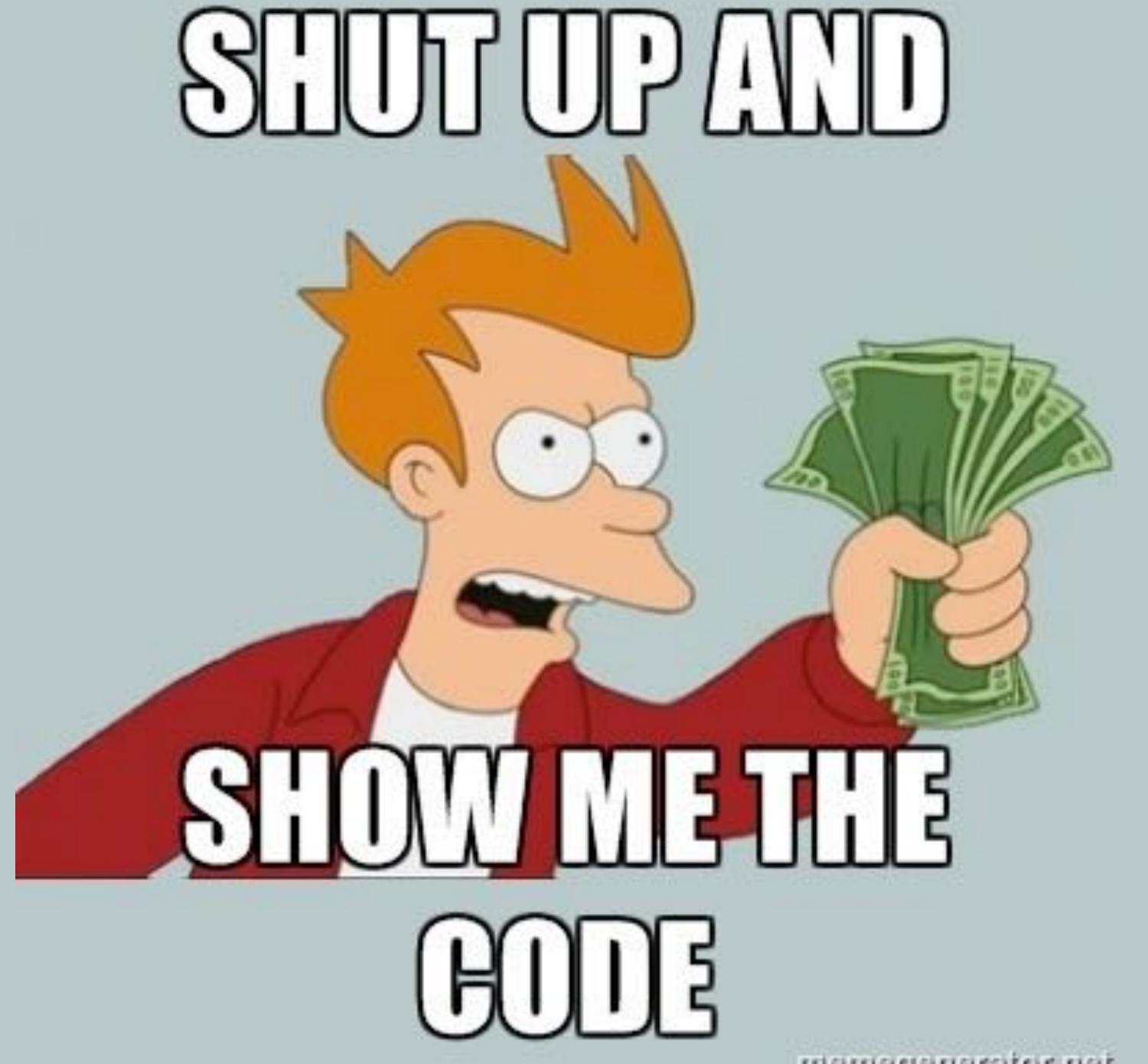
My favorite example is money. A lot of computer horsepower is dedicated to manipulating money, accounting, billing, trading, and so forth—few things burn more cycles. Despite all this attention, no mainstream language has a built-in type for money. Such a type could reduce errors by being currency aware, helping us, for example, avoid embarrassing moments of adding our dollars to our yen. It can also avoid more insidious rounding errors. It would not only remove the temptation to use floats for money (never, ever do that) but also help us deal with tricky problems such as how to split \$10 equally between three people. In addition, it could simplify a lot of printing and parsing code. For more on this (why write the Furthermore, using object-ori- column if I can't plug my books?), see Patterns ented languages, you can define of Enterprise Application Architecture (Addi-

> The nice thing about OO programs is that you can easily define a type like this if



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```
// Use generated immutable implementation
import org.immutables.value.Value;
                                                             ValueObject valueObject =
// Define abstract value type
@Value.Immutable
                                                                 ImmutableValueObject.builder()
public interface ValueObject {
                                                                     .name("My value")
  String name();
                                                                     .addCounts(1)
  List (Integer > counts();
                                                                     .addCounts(2)
  Optional < String > description();
                                                                     .build();
// Or you can configure different @Value.Style
                                                             // Use generated value object
@Value.Immutable
                                                             Item namelessItem = Item.builder()
                                                                 .setName("Nameless")
abstract class AbstractItem {
                                                                 .addTags("important", "relevant")
  abstract String getName();
  abstract Set<String> getTags();
                                                                 .setDescription("Description provided")
  abstract Optional (String) getDescription();
                                                                 .build();
                                                             Item namedValue = namelessItem.withName("Named");
```

Values and Builders

With Immutables you can generate state of the art immutable objects and

Easy to use

Just add jar to classpath and use. No required runtime dependencies! Guava

Feature packed

Lazy, derived and optional attributes. Comprehensive support for collections

Clean code

Immutables has much higher standards for code readability than other



Concept in Code

A new powerful collection library saves us from source.stream().really("?").collect(sink()) pipelines.

```
List<String> names = persons
   .filter(p -> p.age > 12)
   .map(Person::getName);
```

GO FUNCTIONAL



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