







Core principles

WHOLENESS AND CENTERS AND LIFE



Centers

In a user interface, centers include the geometrical entities . . . graphical elements, textual design elements (titles, bullets, paragraphs, sidebars)

In the actual software it depends on what we consider to be the equivalent of geometry, space, and structure: text—the source code itself, the program run trace

James Coplien, "Space: The Final Frontier," C++ Report, March 1998

7

Alexander's 15 Properties of Things Which Have Life

- 1. Levels of scale
- 2. Strong centers
- 3. Boundaries
- 4. Alternating repetition
- 5. Positive space
- 6. Good shape
- 7. Local symmetries
- 8. Deep interlock and ambiguity

- 9. Contrast
- 10. Gradients
- 11.Roughness
- 12.Echoes
- 13.The void
- 14.Simplicity and Inner calm
- 15.Not-separateness





Levels of Scale relationships between centers (2:1, 3:1)

In software...

different areas of interest in a design and relationships between the areas

No class, object, method, or service too big

Assemblies of objects into components

Systems of software systems...







Additional Behaviors Implemented by template methods which use those building blocks		
addAll:	collect:	
remove:	detect: aBlock	
removeAll:	detect: ifNone:	
isEmpty	inject: into:	
includes:	reject:	
ocurrencesOf:	select:	

Levels of Scale

In your life...

Fearless Change Patterns

- Elevator Pitch High level summary
- Town Hall Meeting Interactive invite to share about the new idea and get feedback
- Personal Touch Custom message reaching out to them on a personal level

Music Patterns

- Concerts/Piece/Movement/Riff/Phrase/Beat
- Orchestra Strings, Brass, Woodwinds, Percussion
 Concert Violinist, Saxophonist, Conductor





- Well-defined roles and patterns of interactions
- Control Centers
- Domain models: A network of entities, values, aggregate roots. Domains and relationships between them
- Abstract classes and inheritance hierarchies
- Algorithms





RDD Role Stereotypes

knowing, doing, deciding

- Typical behaviors in an object-oriented design
- Information holder—knows and provides information.
- Structurer—maintains relationships between objects.
- Service provider—performs work on demand.
- **Coordinator**—reacts to events by delegating to others.
- Controller—makes decisions and directs others' actions.
- **Interfacer**—transforms information and requests between distinct parts of a software system.















How Quality Scenarios and Quality Testing Fit Into An Agile Process







Positive Space In Code

Every center has a coherent presence...not a fragment or a bad factoring

- Objects with a singular purpose
- Role stereotypes and good stereotype "blends"
- Public and private responsibilities
- Tests for expected and exceptional behavior
- DRY Principle
- Whole Objects / Complete Constructors
- Parameter Object













Good Shape

a shape that comprises recursive compact coherent centers, each exhibiting characteristic properties

- Roles and patterns of collaboration
- Adaptor, Decorator, Façade, Layers, Pipes, Filters, Services,
- Sub-assemblies, Modules
- Domains, Separation of Concerns

render() { var completed = Todos.completed().length; var remaining = Todos.remaining().length;	
if (Todos.length) { this.\$main.show(); this.\$footer.show();	
this.\$footer.html(this.statsTemplate({ completed, remaining }));	
<pre>this.\$('#filters li a') .removeClass('selected') .filter(`[href="#/\${TodoFilter ''}"]`) .addClass('selected'); } else { this.\$main.hide(); this.\$footer.hide(); }</pre>	
, this.allCheckbox.checked = !remaining; }	





Deep Interlock and Ambiguity centers hook into surroundings











Roughness in Software

- My programming differs from yours, even though we agree to the same "style guidelines".
- Hand-crafting means you don't blindly apply a pattern without thinking of how it should be adapted in *this* situation.
- We're always tweaking things...for performance, scalability, aesthetics...



Echoes in Programs

- We find and repeat:
 - Recursion
 - Interfaces
 - Intentional names
 - Relationships, complex and basic structures
 - Ways of decomposing responsibilities (helper methods, classes, components, services)
 - How we handle errors and exceptions





Simplicity and Inner Calm in Code

- refactored, clean code, easy to understand
- spare use of programming language frills
- lack of excessive features in a framework
- Fold out interfaces
- "Works out of the Box"







Relating

"The key thing about these many different wholes we see, is that each of them has a relation with us, me, you. Each shape is made in such a way that you can establish a relationship with it; indeed, you want to establish a relationship with it."

-Christopher Alexander, The Luminous Ground

51

<section-header>Living Structures...make us
comfortable...fit their
environment...are made by
hundreds of small
acts









