

Software Engineering and Architecture

Writing Clean Code



Motivation

- Code is written to
 - Be compiled, deployed, and executed by users in order to serve their need
 - So we make money, get salaries and can buy presents for our spouses (or children, or cats, or whatever...)
 - Be maintained that is read and understood by humans so it can easily and correctly modified



Motivation

- Functionally correct code can be next to impossible to maintain...
 - The code below correctly reflect a well known text book example. Which?

```
public class X\{private\ int\ y;public\ X()\{y=0;\}public\ int\ z()\{return\ y;\}public\ void\ z1(int\ z0)\{y+=z0;\}public\ static\ void\ main(String[]\ args)\{X\ y=new\ X();y.z1(200);y.z1(3400);System.out.println("Result is "+ y.z());\}\}
```

Morale: Write Clean Code



Analyzability

Definition: Analyzability (ISO 9126)

The capability of the software product to be diagnosed for deficiencies or causes of failures in the software, or for the parts to be modified to be identified.

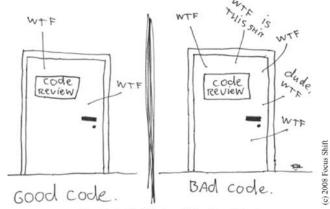
Basically:

- can I understand the code fast?
- Is my understanding correct?

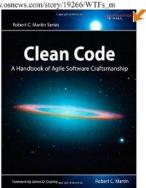


How to?

The ONLY VALID MEASUREMENT OF Code QUALITY: WTFS/minute



Reproduced with the kind permission of Thom Holwerda. http://www.osnews.com/story/19266/WTFs_m



Clean Code?

- Not an exact science !!!
 - Kent Beck: "Code smell"
 - WTF measure
- Certainly partly matter of taste!
 - Not invented here syndrome...
- · Our Take at it
 - Uncle Bob "Clean Code"
 - On Functions and Comments
 - Uncle Henrik
 - My own prejudices and tastes ☺



Exercise

- We will be looking at game.attackCard(p, aC, dC)
 - For AlphaStone
- My unclean impl:
 - Used own test cases
 - Developed attackCard (and other) methods from scratch
 - With inspiration from student's code ©





Context

- attackCard(Player attPlayer, Card attCard, Card defCard)
- (Weird) Choice of data structures in StandardGame
 - Battlefield is ARRAY with index 0 = findus and 1 = peddersen
 - Hand is Map with key = player and value = List<Card>

```
12 usages
private ArrayList<Card>[] field;
10 usages
private Map<Player, List<Card>> hand = new HashMap<>();
```

 The implementation ensures all Cards are instances of StandardCard, so casts are valid, to access mutators on cards ala

StandardCard atC = (StandardCard) attackingCard;

```
StandardCard att = (StandardCard) attackingcard,

StandardCard defender = (StandardCard) defendingCard;

// Findus attacks the card

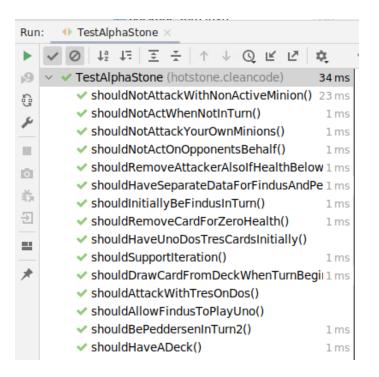
atC.lowerHealthBy(defender.getAttack());

defender.lowerHealthBy(atC.getAttack());
```



TDD TestList => Test Cases

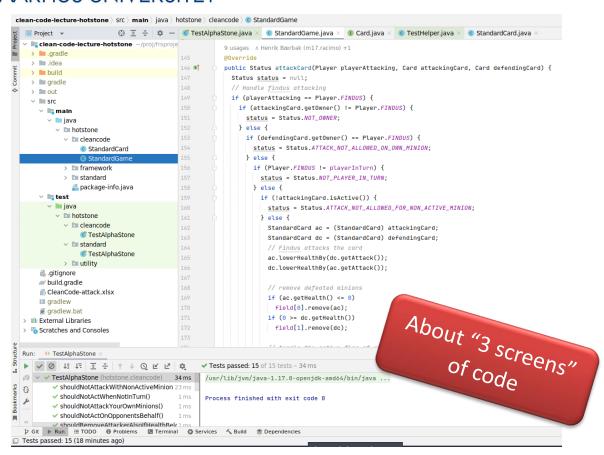
 My own test suite of AlphaStone, however, removed all 'non attack card' related stuff...



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The Method

```
public Status attackCard(Player playerAttacking, Card attackingCard, Card defendingCard) {
  // Handle findus attacking
  if (playerAttacking == Player.FINDUS) {
   if (attackingCard.getOwner() != Player.FINDUS) {
    status = Status.NOT_OWNER;
   } else {
  if (defendingCard.getOwner() == Player.FINDUS) {
        status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_ON_OWN_MINION;
          status = Status.NOT_PLAYER_IN_TURN;
          if (!attackingCard.isActive()) {
            status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_FOR_NON_ACTIVE_MINION;
             StandardCard ac = (StandardCard) attackingCard;
             StandardCard dc = (StandardCard) defendingCard;
              / Findus attacks the card
             ac.lowerHealthBv(dc.getAttack()):
             dc.lowerHealthBy(ac.getAttack());
             // remove defeated minions
            if (ac.getHealth() <= 0)
  field[0].remove(ac);</pre>
             if (0 >= dc.getHealth())
               field[1].remove(dc);
             // toggle the active flag of attacker
             ac.setActive(false);
             status = Status.OK:
  } else { // ==== it is peddersen attacking
    if (attackingCard.getOwner() != Player.PEDDERSEN) {
      status = Status.NOT_OWNER;
      if (defendingCard.getOwner() == Player.PEDDERSEN) {
   status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_ON_OWN_MINION;
        if (Player, PEDDERSEN != playerInTurn) (
          status = Status.NOT_PLAYER_IN_TURN;
        } else {
  if (!attackingCard.isActive()) {
             status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_FOR_NON_ACTIVE_MINION;
             StandardCard atC = (StandardCard) attackingCard;
            StandardCard defender = (StandardCard) defendingCard;
// Findus attacks the card
             atC.lowerHealthBy(defender.getAttack());
             defender.lowerHealthBy(atC.getAttack());
             // remove defeated minions
             if (atC.getHealth() <= 0)
            field[1].remove(atC);
if (defender.getHealth() <= 0)</pre>
               field[0].remove(defender);
             // toggle the active flag of attacker
             atC.setActive(false);
             status - Status.OK:
```

Functionally correct
AlphaStone attack!
(Also on BS.)



Clean Code Properties

A Classification Template



Classification Scheme

An attempt at systematics...

Method Name:		
Wanted property	is OK	Example/argument
Small		
Do One Thing		
One Level of Abstraction		
Use Descriptive Names		
Keep Number of Arguments Low		
Avoid Flag Arguments		
Have No Side Effects		
Command Query Separation		
Prefer Exceptions to Error Codes		
Don't Repeat Yourself		
Do the Same Thing, the Same Way		
Name Boolean Expressions		
Bail out Fast		
Arguments in Argument Lists		

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Bob's Properties

- Small
 - Make it do 1-5 logical steps / 'functional nuggets'
- Do One Thing
 - Do one thing, do it well, do it only! Keep focus!
- One Level of Abstraction
 - The dean does not edit spelling errors in my slides!
- Use Descriptive Names
 - Tell the one thing it does! Do not tell anything else
- Keep Number of Arguments low
 - 0-1-2 maybe three arguments. No more. If more, your method does more than one thing!



DOT + OLoA

- Think code as a military hierarchy
 - General: overall movement of armies
 - Major: executive of battalions
 - Private: wading through mud
- Example: A Point-of-Sales system / "Føtex kasse"
 - Goal:
 - Scan purchased items
 - Produce till receipt
 - Update warehouse inventory

```
Heegermühlerstr. 1
16225 Eberswalde
Mo-Sa 8-21 Uhr So geschlossen

EUR
Milchmischgetränk 0,49 A
Bio Haferdrink 1,19 B
Jacobs Krön. Kräftig 7,98 A
2 x 3,99
Mineralwasser still 0,38 B
2 x 0,19
Pfand 0,25 EM 0,50 B
2 x 0,25

ZU Zahlen 10,54
```

A Properly Leveled Implementation

```
Highest level of abstraction
public void processItem(BarCode scannedCode)
                                                             Overall Algorithm level
   Item itemScanned = barcodeSystem.lookup(scannedCode)
   addItemToReceipt(itemScanned);
                                                                      'General'
   updateRunningTotal(item.cost());
   decrementWarehouseInventory(item);
TillReceipt currentReceipt;
   Second level of abstraction
public void addItemToReceipt(Item itemToAdd) {
                                                            TillReceipt handling level
                                                                                                      16225 Eberswalde
  currentReceipt.addItem(itemToAdd);
                                                                                                  Mo-Sa 8-21 Uhr So geschlossen
  if (isBottleWithDeposit(itemToAdd)) {
                                                                       'Major'
                                                                                             Milchmischgetränk
    Item bottleDeposit = computeDepositFor(itemToAdd);
    currentReceipt.addItem(bottleDeposit);
                                                                                                                   0,38 B
                                                                                              neralwasser still
                                                                                                                   0,50 B
                                                                                             Pfand 0.25 EM
                                                                                                        0.25
   Third level of abstaction
Item computeDepositFor(Item bottleItem) {
                                                                                             zu zahlen
  if (bottleItem.getType() == BOTTLES.MineralWater) {
                                                            Low level computation
    return new Item("Pant", 0.50);
                                                                        level
  if (bottleItem.getType() == BOTTLES.Soda) {
                                                                      'Private'
```



Bob's Properties

- Avoid Flag Arguments
 - produceWebPage(true, true, false); Huh???
 - Boolean arguments says "do more than one thing!" Right?

- Have No Side Effects
 - Do not do hidden things / hidden state changes
 - It will fool the client; and will hide weird bugs
 - Ex: init a session; modify the object passed as argument
 - If it does, the **descriptive name**, should reflect it!



Bob's Properties

- Command Query Separation
 - Setters and Getters Accessors and Mutators
 - Query: no state change!!! Return a value.
 - Command: no return value(hm) Change the state
- Prefer Exceptions to Error Codes
 - Not 'int addPayment(int amount)' that returns error code 17 in case it is an illegal coin
 - Networking is an exception it cannot propagate exceptions
- Don't Repeat Yourself
 - Avoid Duplicated Code
 - To avoid multiple maintenance problem



Don't Repeat Yourself

That is

Avoid Duplication

- Why?
 - Multiple maintenance problem !!!
 - Root of (almost) all Evil





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In Detail

```
@Override
public Status attackCard(Player playerAttacking, Card attackingCard, Card defendingCard) {
  Status status = null;
 // Handle findus attacking
 if (playerAttacking == Player.FINDUS) {
   if (attackingCard.getOwner() != Player.FINDUS) {
      status = Status.NOT_OWNER;
    } else {
      if (defendingCard.getOwner() == Player.FINDUS) {
        status = Status.ATTACK NOT ALLOWED ON OWN MINION;
      } else {
       if (Player.FINDUS != playerInTurn) {
          status = Status.NOT_PLAYER_IN_TURN;
       } else {
          if (!attackingCard.isActive()) {
            status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_FOR_NON_ACTIVE_MINION;
            StandardCard ac = (StandardCard) attackingCard;
            StandardCard dc = (StandardCard) defendingCard;
            // Findus attacks the card
            ac.lowerHealthBy(dc.getAttack());
            dc.lowerHealthBy(ac.getAttack());
            // remove defeated minions
            if (ac.getHealth() <= 0)</pre>
              field[0].remove(ac);
           if (0 >= dc.getHealth())
             field[1].remove(dc);
            // toggle the active flag of attacker
            ac.setActive(false);
            status = Status.OK;
   else { // ===== it is peddersen attacking
   if (attackingCard.getOwner() != Player.PEDDERSEN) {
      status = Status.NOT_OWNER;
    } else {
      if (defendingCard.getOwner() == Player.PEDDERSEN) {
        status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_ON_OWN_MINION;
```

l alca /



Clean Code

Additions by Uncle Henrik

Arguments in Argument Lists AARHUS UNIVERSITET

- One symptom on duplicated code is the use of 'arguments' in the method/class names
 - addOneToX(int x); addTwoToX(int x); addThreeToX(int x); ???

```
@Override
public Status attackCard(Player playerAttacking, Card attackingCard, Card defendingCard) {
   Status status = null;
   // Handle findus attacking
   if (playerAttacking == Player.FINDUS) {
      return handleAttackForFindus(attackingCard, defendingCard);
   } else { // ===== it is leddersen attacking
      return peddersensAttacking(defendingCard, attackingCard);
   }
}
```

An argument appears as part of the method name

Important exception!
Test case methods often
hardcode values and
parameters in the method
names

Akin to Uncle Bob's Do One Thing but not quite...

Do the same thing, the same way

- Why?
 - Analyzability

- WarStory
 - DSE 'string copy'
 - Changed the ordering of arguments compared to standard !?!?!

```
@Override
public Status attackCard(Player playerAttacking, Card attackingCard, Card defendingCard) {
   Status status = null;
   // Hanace findus attacking
   if (playerAttacking == Clayer.FINDUS) {
      return handleAttackForFindus(attackingCard, defendingCard);
   } else { // ===== it is peddersen attacking
      return peddersensAttacking(defendingCard, attackingCard);
   }
}
```



Do the same thing, the same way

- Within classes you have the option to either
 - Use accessor method
 - Or direct data structure access
- Do same thing same way...
 - Use the access method
 - Allows changing datastructure!

```
private boolean moveRedUnit (Position from,
  📂 (unitMap.get(from) != null &&
          !world.get(to).getTypeString().eg
          unitMap.get(from).getOwner() == P
          !qetTileAt(to).qetTypeString().eq
          getUnitAt(from).getMoveCount() >=
          Math.abs(from.getColumn() - to.ge
          Math.abs(from.getRow() - to.getRo
          ! to.equals(from) ) {
    // System.out.println("--> "+ getUnitAt
    // if the to tile is free or its unit i
    if ( getUnitAt(to) == null ) {
      // move is allowed to proceed to move
```

unitMap.put(to. unitMap.get(from)):



Curiosum

- Do the same thing the same way...
 - Global consistency in all respects is difficult @

```
csdev@m33:~/proj/privatekata/gfxtestbed$ git pull
Already up to date.
csdev@m33:~/proj/privatekata/gfxtestbed$ git push
Everything up-to-date
```

- Do statements end in a dot or not?
- Is 'up-to-date' with or without dashes...



Name Boolean Expressions

Boolean expressions are difficult to read!

```
// System.out.println("--> move from " + from + " to "+to);
if (unitMap.get(from) != null &&
    !world.get(to).getTypeString().equals(GameConstants.OCEANS) &&
    unitMap.get(from).getOwner() == Player.RED &&
    !getTileAt(to).getTypeString().equals(GameConstants.MOUNTAINS) &&
    getUnitAt(from).getMoveCount() >= 1 &&
    Math.abs(from.getColumn() - to.getColumn()) <= 1 &&
    Math.abs(from.getRow() - to.getRow()) <= 1 &&
    ! to.equals(from) ) {

    // System.out.println("--> "+ getUnitAt(to) + " / " + getPlayerInTurn());

    // if the to tile is free or its unit is not my own (not stacking)
    if ( getUnitAt(to) == null ) {
```

One big ball of mud of && between boolean computations ☺



Name Boolean Expressions

Name each subexpression so we can read what it is!

Give each boolean expression a name. Make name *positive!*

```
boolean isOwningAttackingCard =
    attackingCard.getOwner() == playerAttacking;
if (!isOwningAttackingCard) return Status.NOT_OWNER;

boolean isOwningDefendingCard =
    defendingCard.getOwner() == playerAttacking;
if (isOwningDefendingCard) return Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_ON_OWN_
boolean isItAttackersTurn =
    getPlayerInTurn() == playerAttacking;
if (!isItAttackersTurn) return Status.NOT_PLAYER_IN_TURN;
```

Do not put 'not' into the

Boolean name:

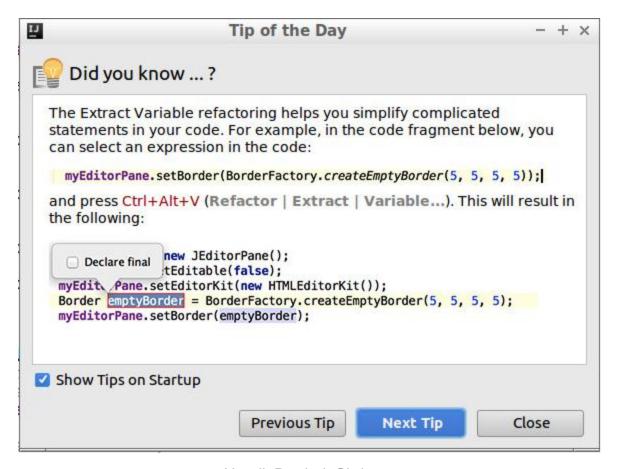
isNotMyCard

then what is

if (! isNotMyCard) ... ???



And Help from My Friends





Bail out fast

When lots of conditions must be checked, I often see

deep nesting of if

Empirical studies show that humans cannot cope well with nesting levels deeper than 1-2!

```
if (playerAttacking == Player.FINDUS) {
 if (attackingCard.getOwner() != Player.FINDUS) {
    status = Status.NOT_OWNER;
 } else {
    if (defendingCard.getOwner() == Player.FINDUS) {
      status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_ON_OWN_MINION;
    } else {
      if (Player.FINDUS != playerInTurn) {
        status = Status.NOT_PLAYER_IN_TURN;
        if (!attackingCard.isActive()) {
          status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_FOR_NON_ACTIVE_MINION;
          StandardCard ac = (StandardCard) attackingCard;
          StandardCard dc = (StandardCard) defendingCard;
          // Findus attacks the card
          ac.lowerHealthBy(dc.getAttack());
          dc.lowerHealthBv(ac.getAttack());
          // remove defeated minions
          if (ac.getHealth() <= 0)</pre>
            field[0].remove(ac);
          if (0 >= dc.getHealth())
            field[1].remove(dc);
          // toggle the active flag of attacker
          ac.setActive(false);
          status = Status.OK;
```

You can write it, but cannot maintain it



Bail out fast

Flatten it, by bailing out as soon as an answer can be computed





Agile Method Development

 Like any other creative process, you do not do it in one brilliant step!

- Kent Beck:
 - Clean code that works but not in that order
 - Make it work, then make it clean
 - Commit horrible sins, and then clean up the mess



Analysis



Five minutes: Spot properties

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Method Name:			
Wethou Name.			
Wanted property	is OK	Example/argument	
Small			
Do One Thing			
One Level of Abstraction			
Use Descriptive Names			
Keep Number of Arguments Low			
Avoid Flag Arguments			
Have No Side Effects			
Command Query Separation			
Prefer Exceptions to Error Codes			
Don't Repeat Yourself			
Do the Same Thing, the Same Way			
Name Boolean Expressions			
Bail out Fast			
Arguments in Argument Lists			

```
@Override
public Status attackCard(Player playerAttacking, Card attackingCard, Card defendingCard) {
  Status status = null;
  // Handle findus attacking
 if (playerAttacking == Player.FINDUS) {
   if (attackingCard.getOwner() != Player.FINDUS) {
      status = Status.NOT_OWNER;
   } else {
      if (defendingCard.getOwner() == Player.FINDUS) {
        status = Status.ATTACK NOT ALLOWED ON OWN MINION;
      } else {
        if (Player.FINDUS != playerInTurn) {
          status = Status.NOT_PLAYER_IN_TURN;
        } else {
          if (!attackingCard.isActive()) {
            status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_FOR_NON_ACTIVE_MINION;
            StandardCard ac = (StandardCard) attackingCard;
            StandardCard dc = (StandardCard) defendingCard;
            // Findus attacks the card
            ac.lowerHealthBy(dc.getAttack());
            dc.lowerHealthBy(ac.getAttack());
            // remove defeated minions
            if (ac.getHealth() <= 0)</pre>
              field[0].remove(ac);
            if (0 >= dc.getHealth())
              field[1].remove(dc);
            // toggle the active flag of attacker
            ac.setActive(false):
            status = Status.OK;
  } else { // ===== it is peddersen attacking
   if (attackingCard.getOwner() != Player.PEDDERSEN) {
      status = Status.NOT_OWNER;
   } else {
     if (defendingCard.getOwner() == Player.PEDDERSEN) {
        status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_ON_OWN_MINION;
```

l alca /



My Analysis

Method Name: attackCard		
Wanted property	is OK	Example/argument
Small	No	About 3 full screens of code is quite a lot
Do One Thing	No (yes)	Does validation, attacks, minion removal (but supposed to!)
One Level of Abstraction	No	It does it all! Like data structure manipulations directly
Use Descriptive Names	No	ac and dc are short, undescriptive names, (currents?)
Keep Number of Arguments Low	Yes	
Avoid Flag Arguments	Yes	
Have No Side Effects	Yes	No side effect except given by specification, which is Ok
Command Query Separation	Yes (mutator)	Returns a value, but it is the outcome of the mutation
Prefer Exceptions to Error Codes	n/a	
Don't Repeat Yourself	No	A horrible src-code-copy of the full algorithm! Removal code duplicated
Do the Same Thing, the Same Way	No	
Name Boolean Expressions	No	No expression is named. Not soo bad here, as they are all one-liners
Bail out Fast	No	Deep nesting level lowers analyzability

```
@Override
public Status attackCard(Player playerAttacking,
 Status status = null;
 // Handle findus attacking
 if (playerAttacking == Player.FINDUS) {
   if (attackingCard.getOwner() != Player.FINDU
      status = Status.NOT_OWNER;
     if (defendingCard.getOwner() == Player.FIN
       status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_ON_OW
     } else {
       if (Player.FINDUS != playerInTurn) {
          status = Status.NOT_PLAYER_IN_TURN;
       } else {
         if (!attackingCard.isActive()) {
            status = Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_F
         } else {
            StandardCard ac = (StandardCard) att
            StandardCard dc = (StandardCard) def
            // Findus attacks the card
            ac.lowerHealthBy(dc.getAttack());
            dc.lowerHealthBy(ac.getAttack());
            // remove defeated minions
           if (ac.getHealth() <= 0)</pre>
             field[0].remove(ac);
           if (0 >= dc.getHealth())
             field[1].remove(dc);
            // toggle the active flag of attacke
            ac.setActive(false);
            status = Status.OK;
 } else { // ===== it is peddersen attacking
    if (attackingCard.getOwner() != Player.PEDDE
```

status = Status.NOT_OWNER;

if (defendingCard.getOwner() == Player.PED

} else {

Arguments in Argument Lists

Yes

No 'attackByFindus(...)' and 'attackByPeddersen(...)' methods



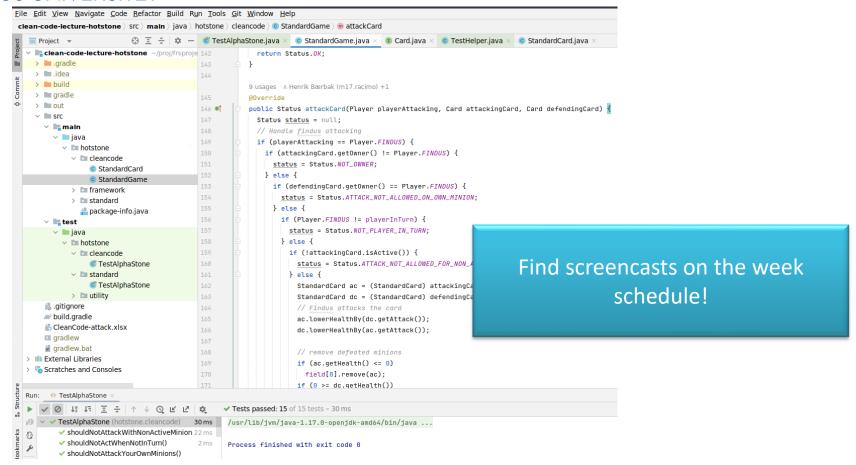
Refactoring Session

Screencasted Coding Session



Let us clean up...

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45-60 Minutes Later

```
@Override
public Status attackCard(Player playerAttacking, Card attackingCard, Card defendingCard) {
   Status status = isAttackPossible(playerAttacking, attackingCard, defendingCard);
   if (status != Status.0K) return status;
   executeAttack(attackingCard, defendingCard);
   return Status.0K;
}
```

Method Name:			
Wanted property	is OK	Example/argument	
Small			
Do One Thing			
One Level of Abstraction			
Use Descriptive Names			
Keep Number of Arguments Low			
Avoid Flag Arguments			
Have No Side Effects			
Command Query Separation			
Prefer Exceptions to Error Codes			
Don't Repeat Yourself			
Do the Same Thing, the Same Way			
Name Boolean Expressions			
Bail out Fast			
Arguments in Argument Lists			



Next level methods

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```
private Status isAttackPossible(Player playerAttacking, Card attackingCard, Card defendingCard) {
  boolean isOwningAttackingCard =
                                                         private void executeAttack(Card attackingCard, Card defendingCard) {
         attackingCard.getOwner() == playerAttacking;
                                                          reduceCardHealth(attackingCard, defendingCard.getAttack());
 if (!isOwningAttackingCard) {
                                                          reduceCardHealth(defendingCard, attackingCard.getAttack());
   return Status.NOT_OWNER;
                                                          removeCardIfDefeated(attackingCard);
                                                          removeCardIfDefeated(defendingCard);
 boolean isOwningDefendingCard =
         defendingCard.getOwner() == playerAttacking;
                                                          deactivateCard( attackingCard);
  if (isOwningDefendingCard) {
                                                             private void deactivateCard(Card attackingCard) {
   return Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_ON_OWN_MINION;
                                                                ((StandardCard)attackingCard).setActive(false);
  boolean isItAttackersTurn =
         getPlayerInTurn() == playerAttacking;
                                                         private void reduceCardHealth(Card card, int attackValue) {
  if (!isItAttackersTurn) {
                                                            StandardCard stdCard = (StandardCard) card;
   return Status.NOT_PLAYER_IN_TURN;
                                                            stdCard.lowerHealthBy(attackValue);
  boolean isAttackingCardActive =
         attackingCard.isActive();
                                                                  private void removeCardIfDefeated(Card card) {
 if (!isAttackingCardActive) {
                                                                     if (card.getHealth() <= 0) {
   return Status.ATTACK_NOT_ALLOWED_FOR_NON_ACTIVE_MINION;
                                                                       field[card.getOwner().ordinal()].remove(card);
  return Status.OK;
```



Afterthoughts



The Two Codebases

- TDD produce two large codebases
 - The production code
 - The test code

- The properties of clean code apply to both
 - You want to be able to read test code also! (Analyzability)
 - Except one property: Arguments in Argument Lists
 - In test code, you often 'hardwire parameters' / no abstraction
 - Example: "private void moveRedArcherToPosition45()"
 - Encapsulates the moves of particular unit to particular position in order to do testing!