

# Backwards Is Forward: Making Better Games with Test-Driven Development

Noel Llopis and Sean Houghton  
High Moon Studios



1. What is TDD?
2. How We Use TDD
3. TDD and Games
4. Lessons Learned
5. Wrap Up

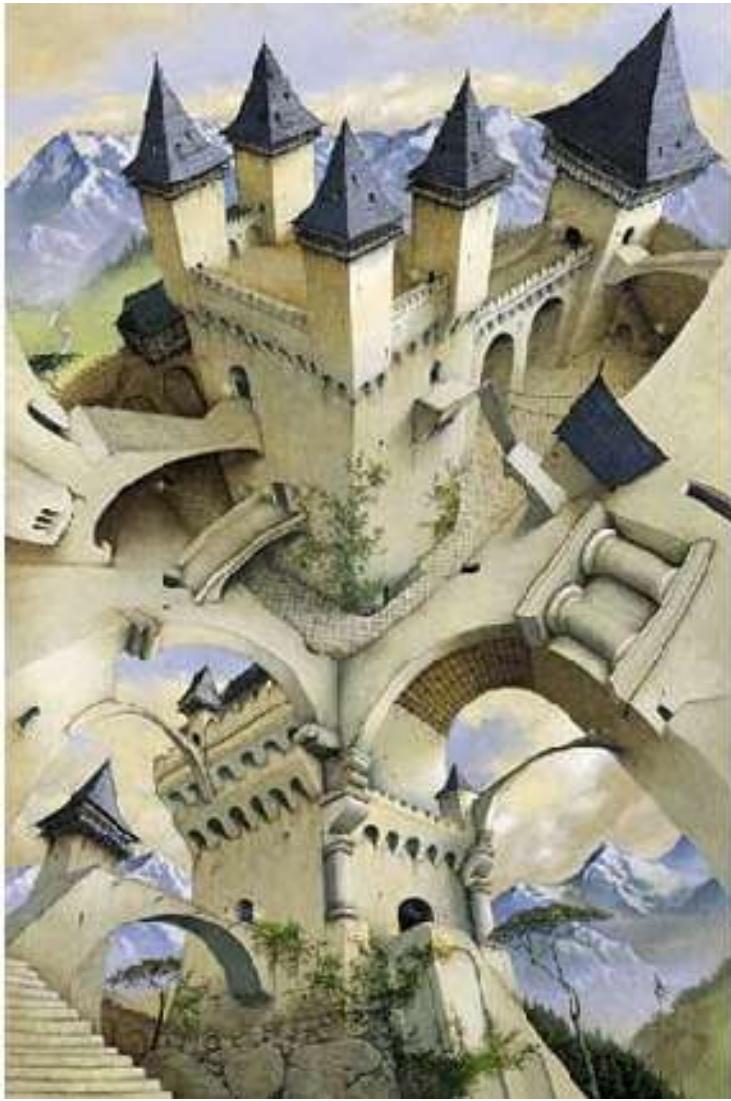


# 1. What is TDD?

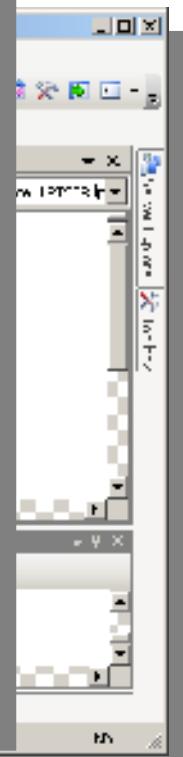
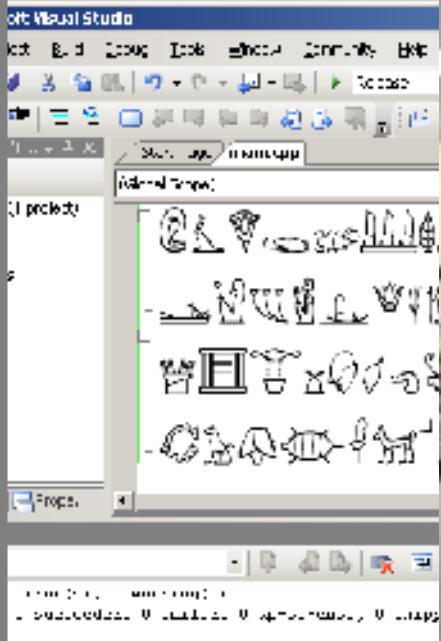
(and why would I ever want to use it)

2. How We Use TDD
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```
define G(n) int n(int t, int q, int d)
#define X(p,t,s) (p>=t&&p<(t+s) &&(p-(t)&1023)<(s&1023))
#define U(m) *((signed char *) (m))
#define F if(!--q){
#define I(s) (int)main-(int)s
#define P(s,c,k) for(h=0; h>>14==0;
h+=129)Y(16*c+h/1024+Y(V+36))&128>>(h&7)?U(s+(h&15367))=k:k
G (B)
{
    Z;
    F D = E (Y (V), C = E (Y (V), Y (t + 4) + 3, 4, 0), 2, 0);
    Y (t + 12) = Y (t + 20) = i;
    Y (t + 24) = 1;
    Y (t + 28) = t;
    Y (t + 16) = 442890;
    Y (t + 28) = d = E (Y (V), s = D * 8 + 1664, 1, 0);
    for (p = 0; j < s; j++, p++)
        U (d + j) = i == D | j < p ? p--, 0 : (n = U (C + 512 + i++))
        ? p |=
            n * 56 - 497, 0 : n;
    }
    n = Y (Y (t + 4)) & 1;
    F
    U (Y (t + 28) + 1536) |=
    62 & -n;
    M
    U (d + D) =
    X (D, Y (t + 12) + 26628, 412162) ? X (D, Y (t + 12) + 27653,
                                                410112) ? 31 : 0 : U (d + D)
    for (; j < 12800; j += 8)
        P (d + 27653 + Y (t + 12) + ' ' * (j & ~511) + j % 512,
            U (Y (t + 28) + j / 8 + 64 * Y (t + 20)), 0);
    F if (n)
    {
        D = Y (t + 28);
        if (d - 10)
            U (++Y (t + 24) + D + 1535) = d;
        else
        {
            for (i = D; i < D + 1600; i++)
                U (i) = U (i + 64);
            Y (t + 24) = 1;
            E (Y (V), i - 127, 3, 0);
        }
    }
    else
        Y (t + 20) |= ((d >> 4) ^ (d >> 5)) - 3;
```



# TDD addresses those problems



# TDD cycle

Failing tests

Only a few minutes long

Write test

Write code

Check in

Refactor

Passing tests

Passing tests

```
TEST (ShieldLevelStartsFull)
{
    Shield shield;
    Shield::Shield() : m_level (Shield::kMaxLevel)->level();
}
```

# Benefits: Simplicity, modularity



# Benefits: Safety net



# Benefits: Instant feedback

Milestone: ~2 months

Iteration: 2-4 weeks

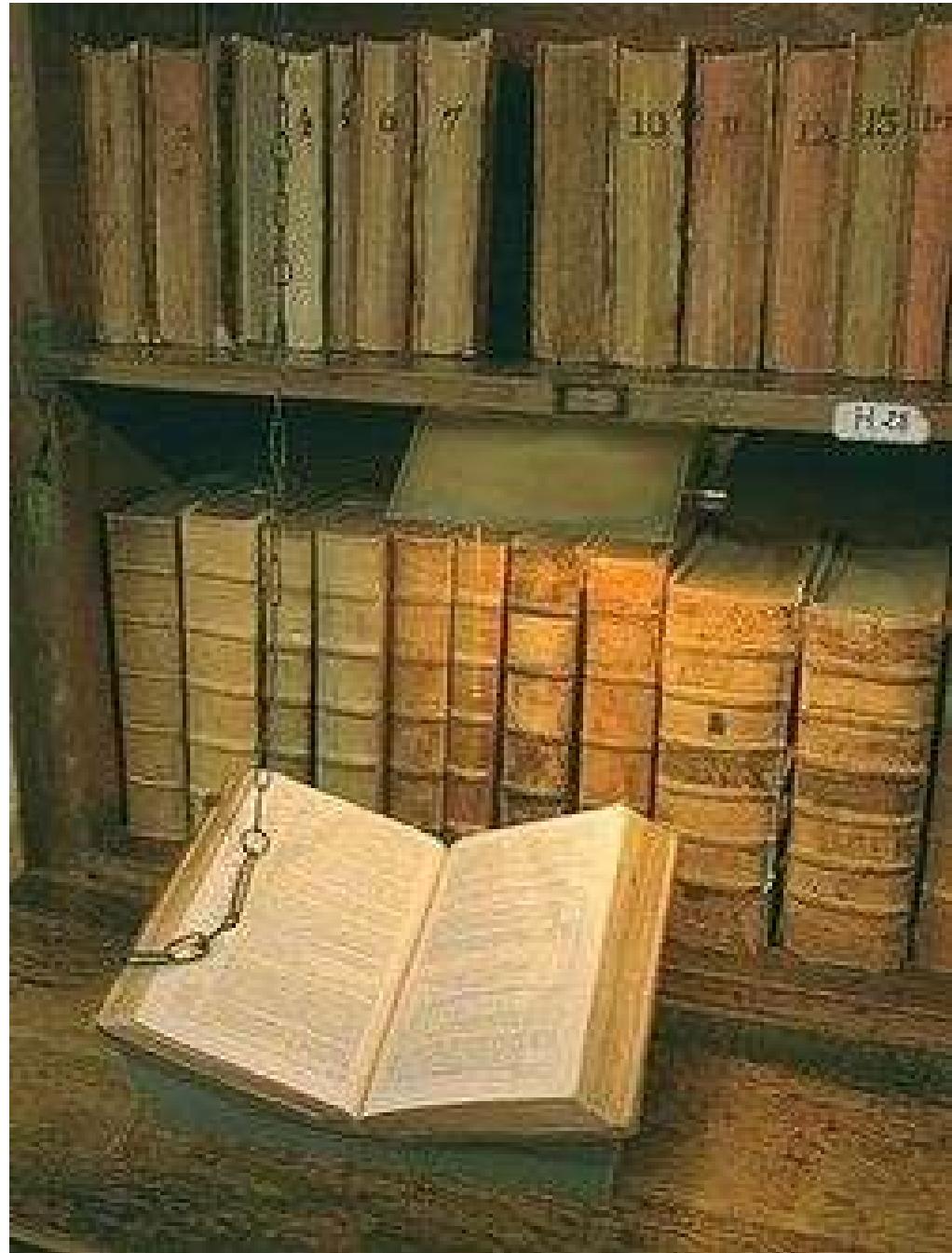
Nightly build: 1 day

Automated builds: ~1 hour

TDD: 30s to 3-4 minutes



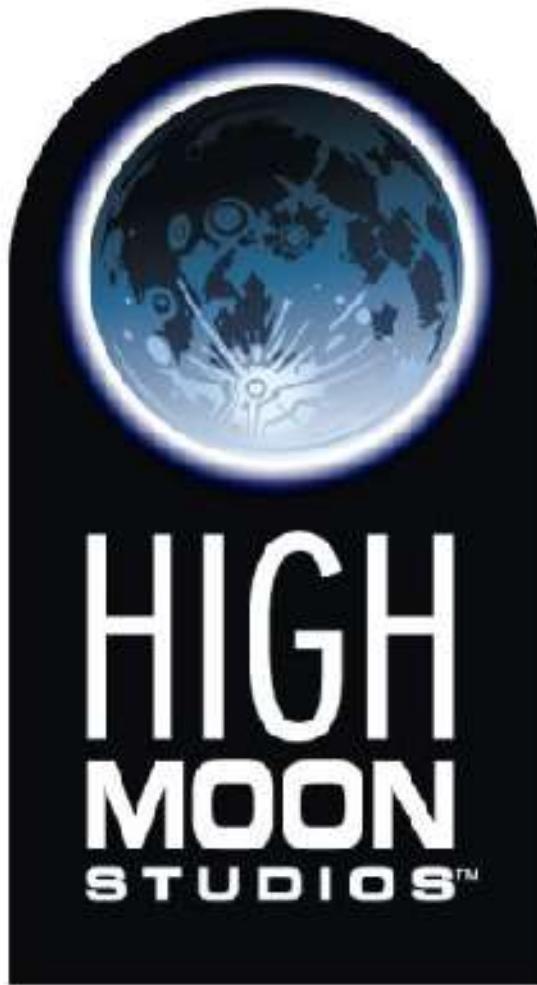
# Benefits: Documentation



**TDD != Unit tests**  
**TDD != Testing strategy**

**TDD == Development technique**

# Use of TDD in games



More? Let us know.

1. What is TDD?

## 2. How We Use TDD

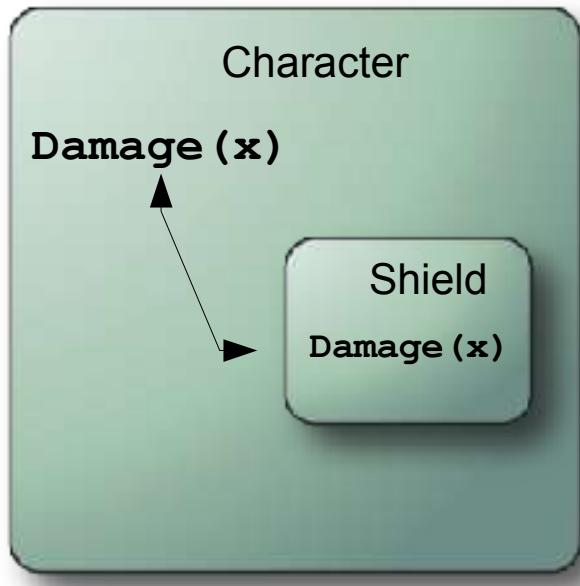
3. TDD and games

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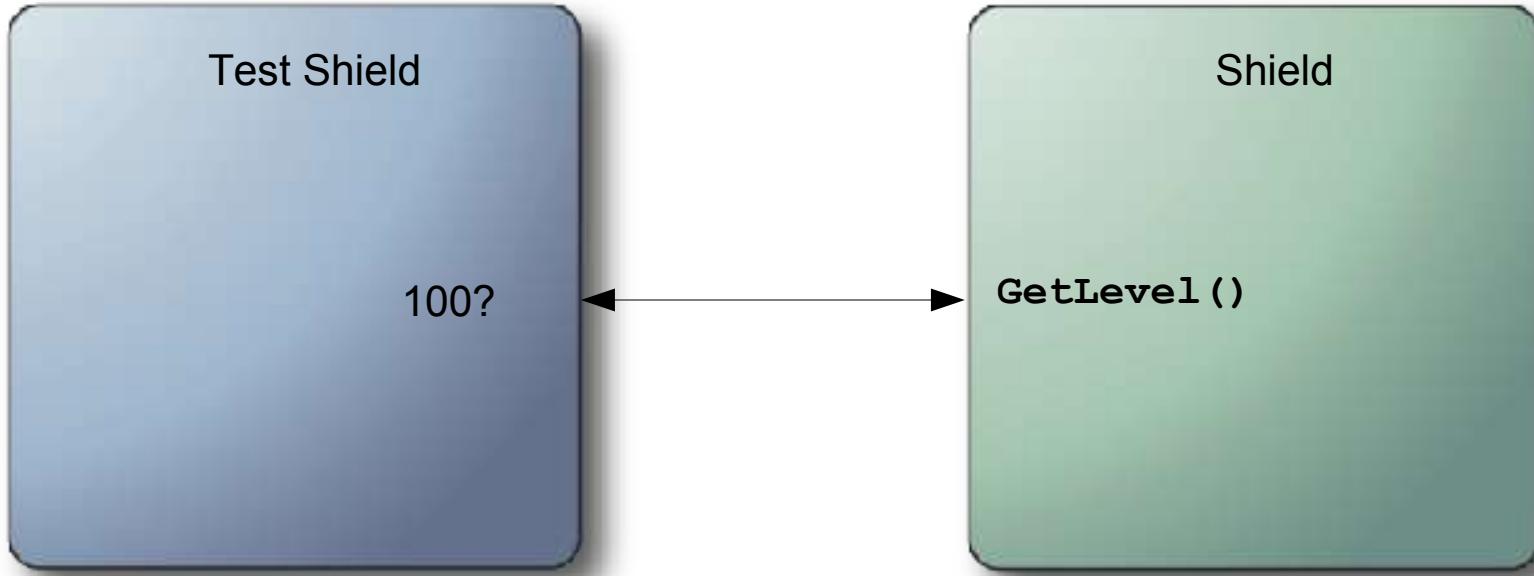


# Character + Shield



```
class Character
{
    IShield* m_shield;
public:
    Character();
    void Damage(float amount);
    float GetHealth() const;
};
```

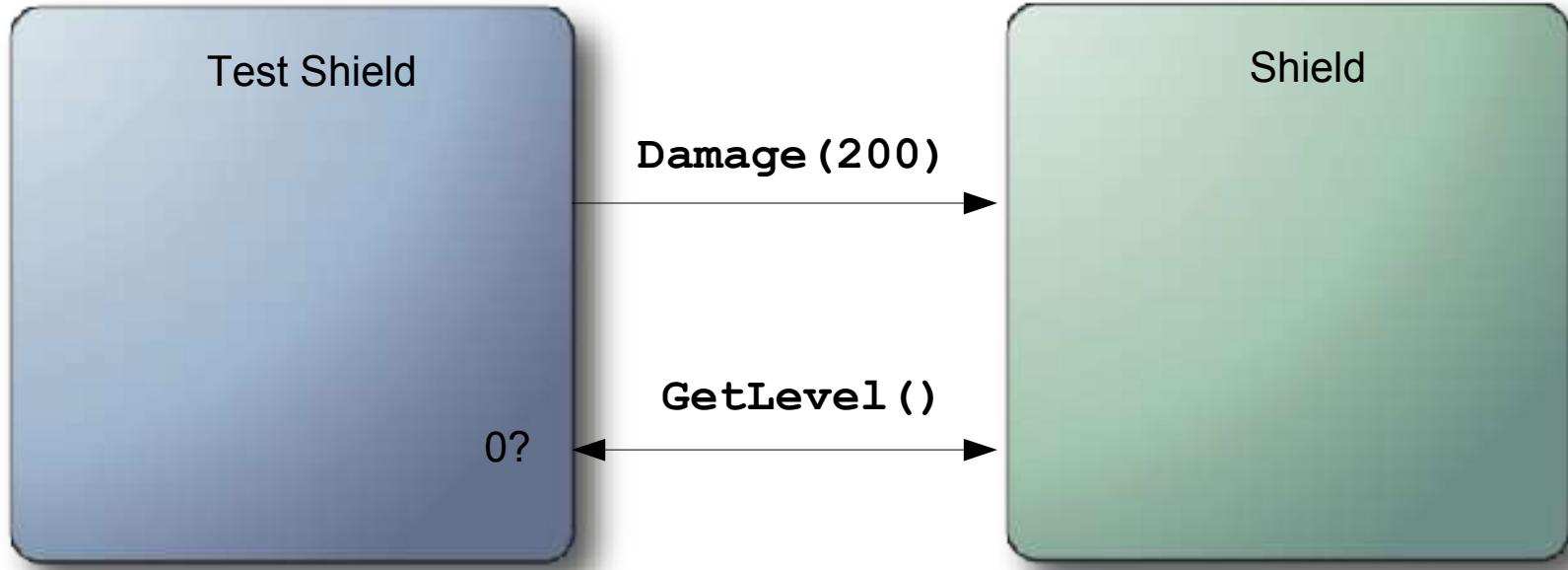
# Testing Return Values



```
TEST (ShieldLevelStartsFull)
{
    Shield shield;
    CHECK_EQUAL (100, shield.GetLevel());
}
```

"Failure in ShieldLevelStartsFull: Expected 100 but got 0"

# Testing State

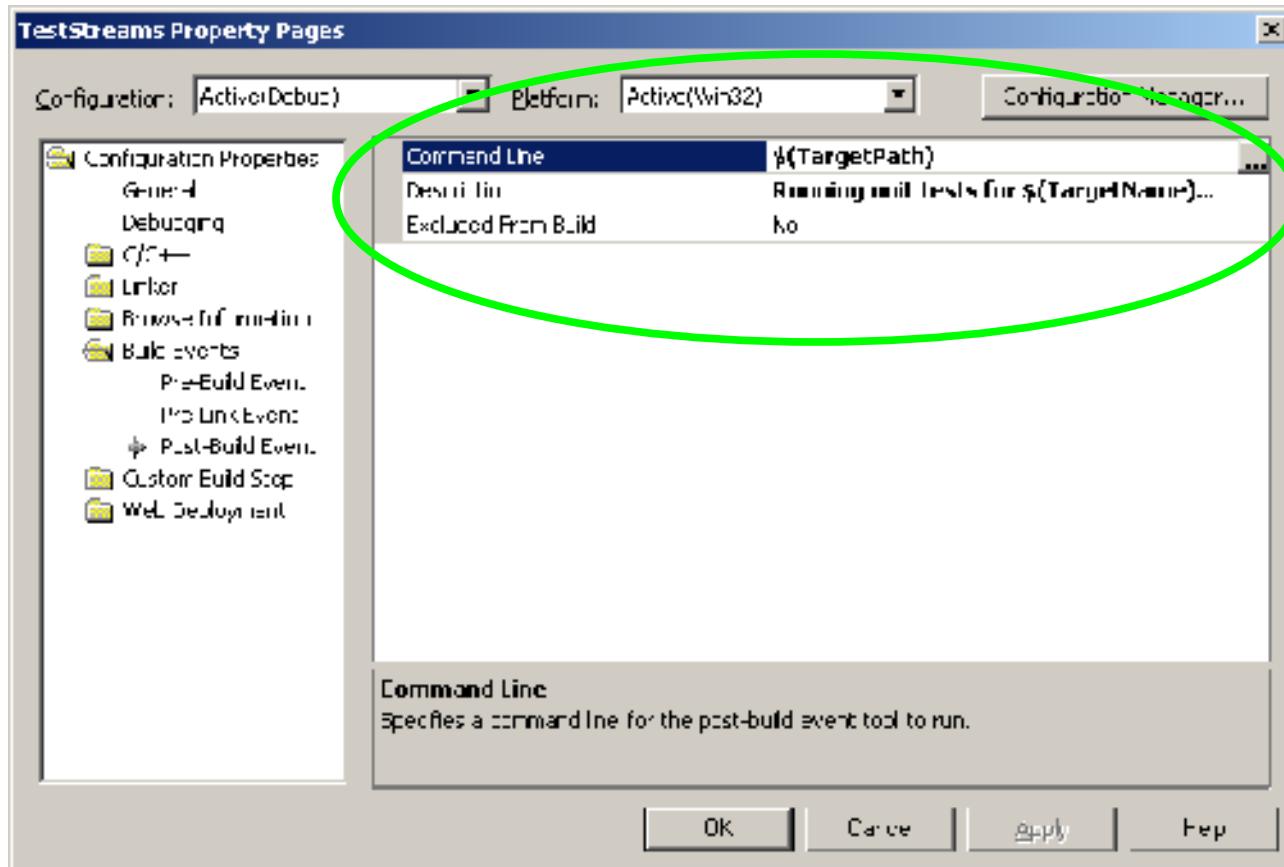


```
TEST (LevelCannotBeDamagedBelowZero)
{
    Shield shield;
    shield.Damage(200);
    CHECK_EQUAL (0, shield.GetLevel());
}
```

# Where do we put tests?

- TestGame.exe (links with Game.lib)
- #ifdef UNIT\_TESTS
- GameTests.DLL
- GameTests.upk

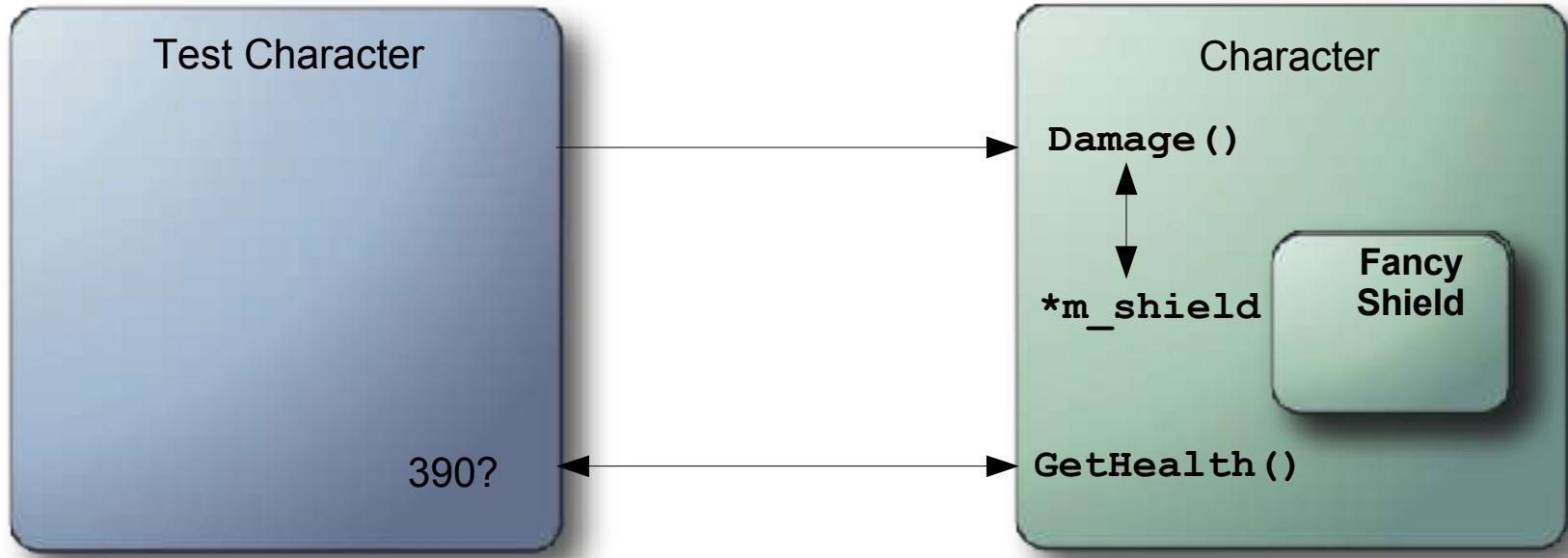
# Run Tests With Every Build



# TDD DEMO

# Testing Interaction

(Can Be A Problem Initially)



```
TEST(CharacterUsesShieldToAbsorbDamage)
{
    Character character(400);
    character.Damage(100);
    CHECK_EQUAL(390, character.GetHealth());
}
```

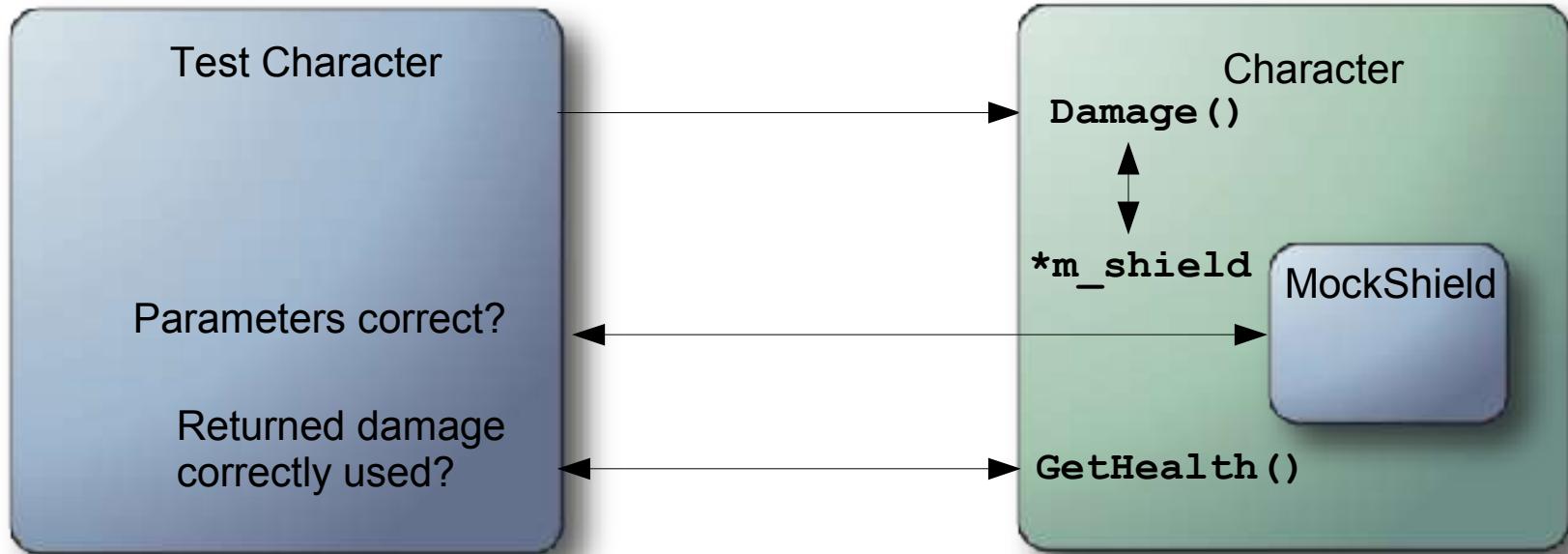
```
class IShield
{
public:
    float Damage(float amount) = 0;
}
```

A mock object stands in for an object  
outside the unit you're testing

```
class FancyShield : public IShield
{
public:
    float Damage(float amount) { ... };
}
```

```
class MockShield : public IShield
{
public:
    float damagePassedIn;
    float damageToReturn;
    float Damage(float amount)
    {
        damagePassedIn = amount;
        return damageToReturn;
    }
}
```

# Using a Mock in Your Test

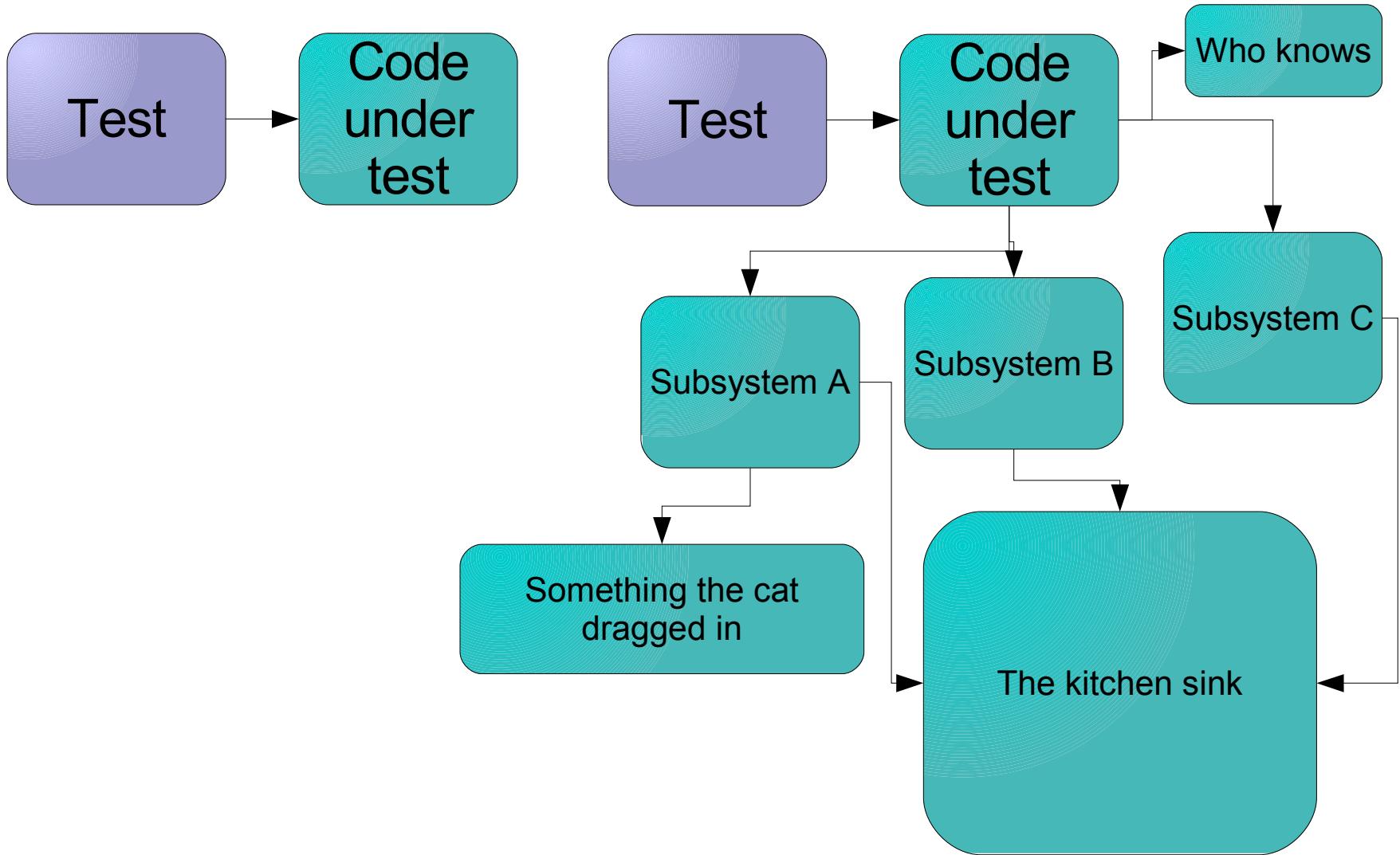


```
TEST(CharacterUsesShieldToAbsorbDamage)
{
    MockShield mockShield = new MockShield();
    mockShield->damageToReturn = 10;
    Character character(400, mockShield);

    character.Damage(200);

    CHECK_EQUAL(200, mockShield->damagePassedIn);
    CHECK_EQUAL(390, character.GetHealth());
}
```

# Best Practices: Test only the code at hand



```

TEST(ActorDoesntMoveIfPelvisBodyIsInSamePositionAsPelvisAnim)
{
    component = ConstructObject<UAmpPhysicallyDrivableSkeletalComponent>();
    component->physicalPelvisHandle = NULL;
    component->SetOwner(owner);
    component->SkeletalMesh = skelMesh;
    component->Animations = CreateReadable2BoneAnimSequenceForAmpRagdollGetup(component, skelMesh, 10.0f, 0.0f);
    component->PhysicsAsset = physicsAsset;
    component->SpaceBases.AddZeroed(2);
    component->InitComponentRBPhys(false);
    component->LocalToWorld = FMatrix::Identity;
    const FVector actorPos(100, 200, 300);
    const FVector pelvisBodyPositionWS(100, 200, 380);
    const FTranslationMatrix actorToWorld(actorPos);
    owner->Location = actorPos;
    component->ConditionalUpdateTransform(actorToWorld);
    INT pelvisIndex = physicsAsset->CreateNewBody(TEXT("Bone1"));
    URB_BodySetup* pelvisSetup = physicsAsset->BodySetup(pelvisIndex);
    FPhysAssetCreateParams params = GetGenericCreateParamsForAmpRagdollGetup();
    physicsAsset->CreateCollisionFromBone(pelvisSetup,
                                            skelMesh,
                                            1,
                                            params,
                                            boneThings);

    URB_BodyInstance* pelvisBody = component->PhysicsAssetInstance->Bodies(0);
    NxActor* pelvisNxActor = pelvisBody->GetNxActor();
    SetRigidBodyPositionWSForAmpRagdollGetup(*pelvisNxActor, pelvisBodyPositionWS);

    component->UpdateSkelPose(0.016f);
    component->RetransformActorToMatchCurrentRoot(TransformManipulator());

    const float kTolerance(0.002f);

    FMatrix expectedActorMatrix;
    expectedActorMatrix.SetIdentity();
    expectedActorMatrix.M[3][0] = actorPos.X;
    expectedActorMatrix.M[3][1] = actorPos.Y;
    expectedActorMatrix.M[3][2] = actorPos.Z;
    const FMatrix actorMatrix = owner->LocalToWorld();
    CHECK_ARRAY2D_CLOSE(expectedActorMatrix.M, actorMatrix.M, 4, 4, kTolerance);
}

```

# Best Practices: Keep Tests Fast

```
Slow Test(24 > 20 ms) : CheckSpotOverlapIsHandledCorrectly1Test
Slow Test(25 > 20 ms) : CheckSpotOverlapIsHandledCorrectly2Test
Slow Test(24 > 20 ms) : DeleteWaveEventFailsIfEventDoesntExistInCueTest
Slow Test(22 > 20 ms) : CanGetObjectsInBrowserListPackageTest
Slow Test(48 > 20 ms) : HmAddActorCallsCreateActorTest
Slow Test(74 > 20 ms) : HmReplaceActorDoesNothingIfEmptySelectionTest
Slow Test(57 > 20 ms) : HmReplaceActorWorksIfTwoActorsSelectedTest
Slow Test(26 > 20 ms) : ThrowExceptionWhenTrackIndexOutOfRangeTest
```

Total time spent in 1923 tests: 4.83 seconds.

Time spent in 26 slow tests: 2.54 seconds.

# Best Practices: Keep Tests Fast

```
Running unit tests TestDebugServer in Debug...
116 tests run
There were no test failures. Test time: 0.016 seconds.

Running unit tests for TestStreams in Debug...
138 tests run
There were no test failures. Test time: 0.015 seconds.

Running unit tests TestMath in Debug...
245 tests run
There were no test failures. Test time: 0.001 seconds.

Running unit tests...
184 tests run
There were no test failures. Test time: 0.359 seconds.
```

# Best Practices: Keep Tests Independent

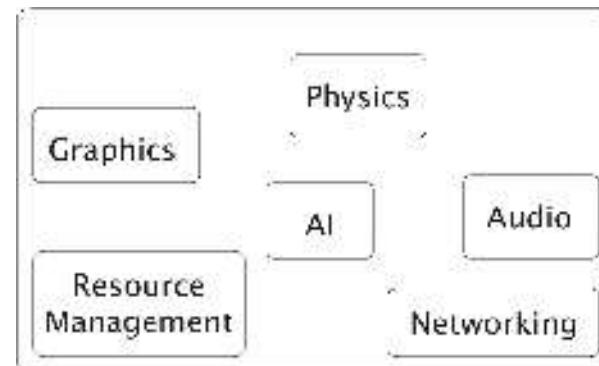
g\_CollisionWorldSingleton



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# Run the tests on consoles... less often



CruiseControl.NET - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Refresh

http://192.168.1.100:8080/cruisecontrolnet/testresults/CCnet-Ue3-PC-Dbg-1771

Code

TestResults[CCnet-Ue3-PC-Dbg-1771] CruiseControl.NET

CruiseControl.NET

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**BUILD FAILED**

**Project:** UE3 Incr. Build (PC-Debug)

**Date of build:** 3/17/2006 4:08:14 PM

**Running time:** 00:19:26

**Build condition:** Modifications Detected

**Last changed:** 2006-03-17 16:01:58

**Last log entry:** - Added discriminator for idle-to-walk left and right  
Added turn quadrant enum and selector  
  
[log file]

**Recent Builds**

2006-03-20 16:52:48  
(CCnet-Ue3-PC-Dbg-1771)

2006-03-20 16:34:35  
(CCnet-Ue3-PC-Dbg-1770)

2006-03-20 16:20:33  
(CCnet-Ue3-PC-Dbg-1769)

2006-03-20 15:36:11  
(Failed)

2006-03-20 15:15:06  
(Failed)

2006-03-20 15:07:07  
(Failed)

2006-03-20 14:58:35  
(Failed)

2006-03-20 14:34:58  
(CCnet-Ue3-PC-Dbg-1768)

2006-03-20 14:06:10

**Errors: (9)**

Skipped: Warnings occurred that are not considered unacceptable. Please look at the unit test failure in TestSkeletalFrameworkTests.cs for more detail. Point updated : < 1.00,0.00,0.00 > and < 0.50,0.12,0.00 > are not within 0.0001

External Program failed: C:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio .NET 10.0\Commands

**Warnings: (1)**

LINK : warning LNK4098: default\_is "MSVCRT" conflicts with use of other links; us

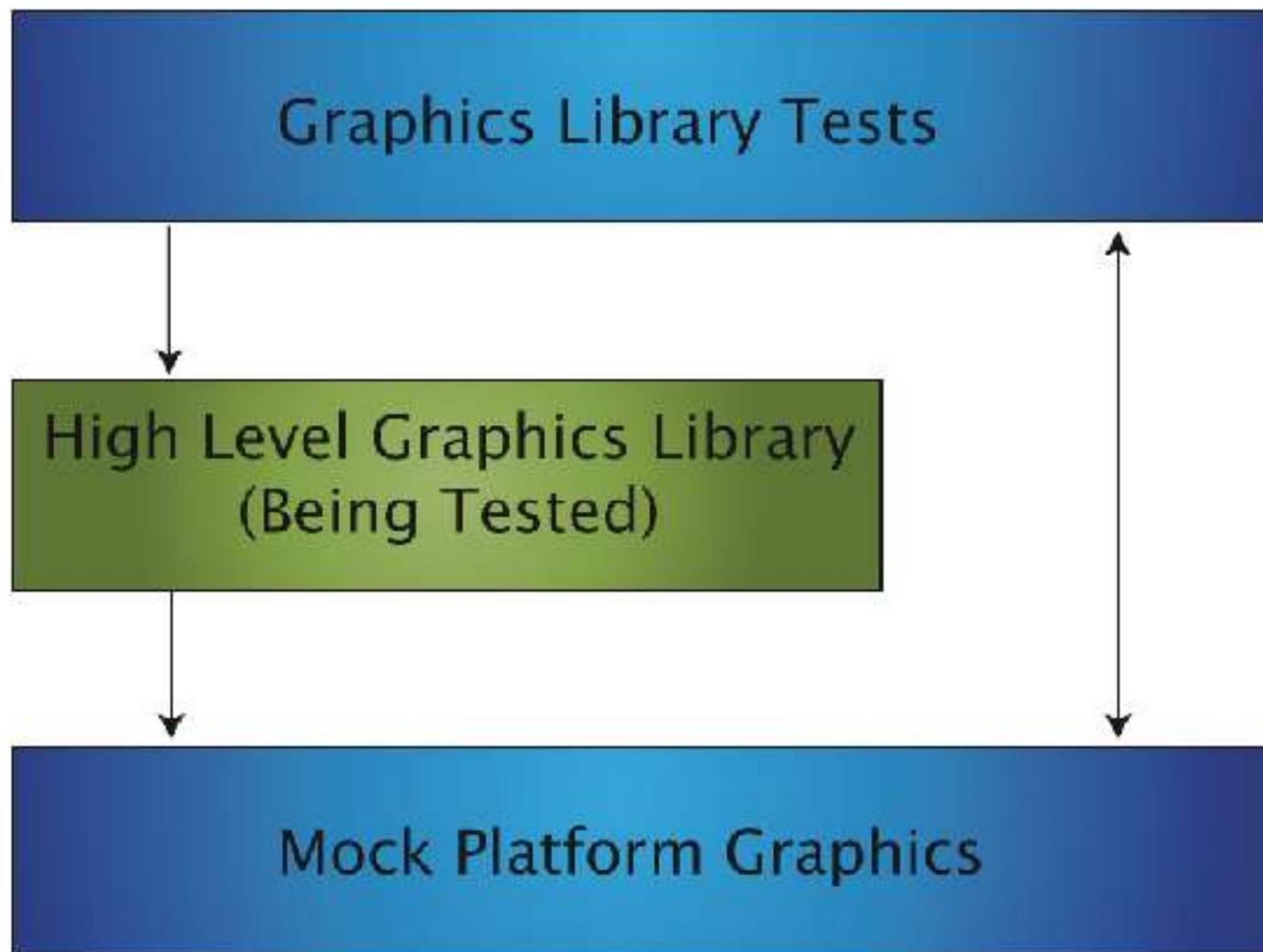
**Unit Test Summary (C++ and Script)**

**Tests Run:**

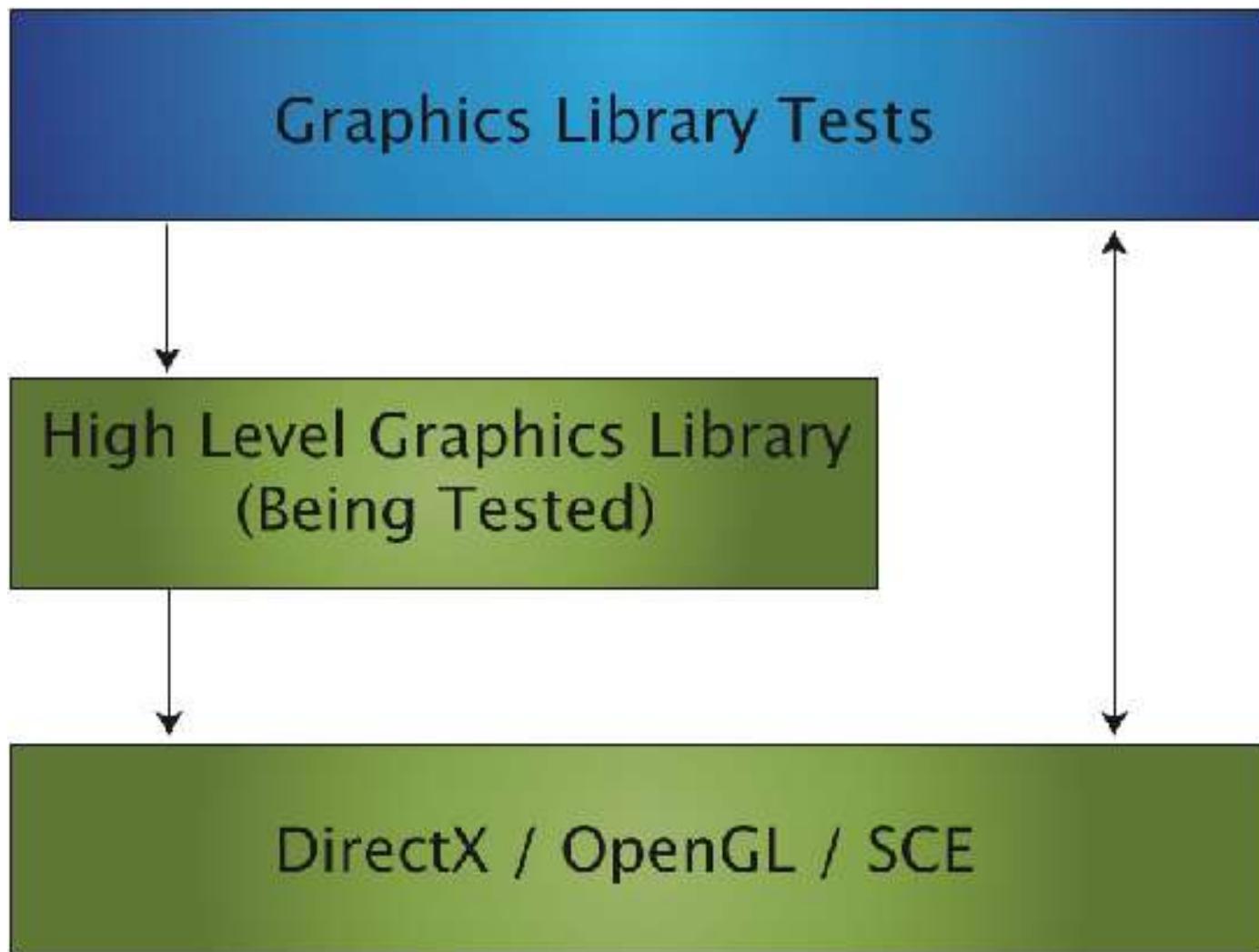
2055 test(s) run

ScriptLog: UnitTest: 2348 test(s) run

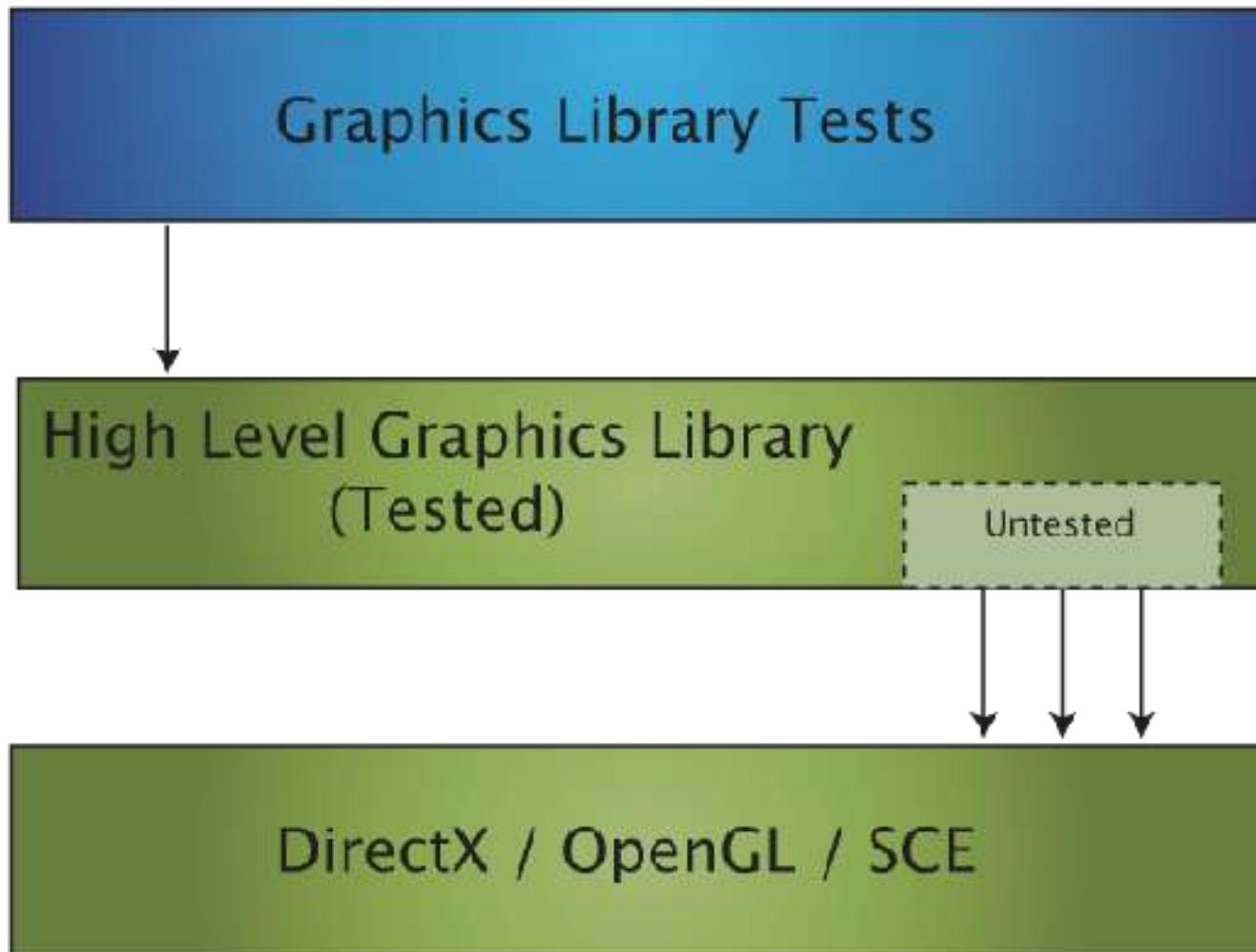
# Wrap full API



# Test API state directly



# Test all code except for API calls



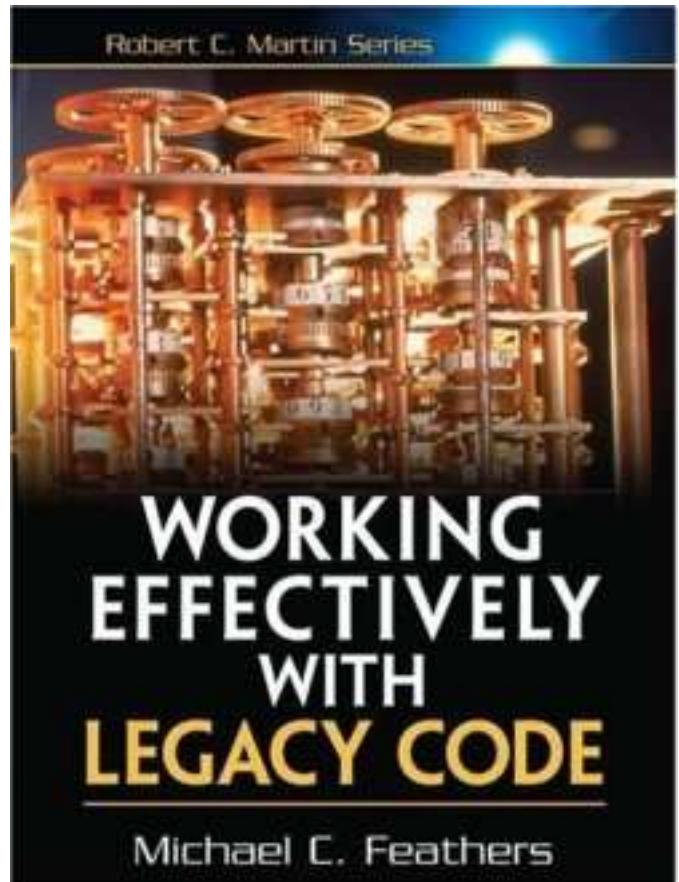
# Testing With Middleware

Havok  
RenderWare  
Unreal  
Novodex  
OpenGL  
DirectX

# TDD With An Existing Engine



# I'd like to use TDD but...



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# Lesson #1: TDD can be used for high-level game code



# Fighting AI example

```
function TestEnemyChoosesLightAttack()
{
    FightingComp = new(self) class'FightingComponent';
    FightingComp.AddAttack(LightAttack);
    FightingComp.AddAttack(HeavyAttack);

    enemy.AttachComponent(FightingComp);
    enemy.FightingComponent = FightingComp;
    enemy.FindPlayerPawn = MockFindPlayerPawn;
    enemy.ShouldMeleeAttack = MockShouldAttack;
    ShouldMeleeAttackReturn = true;

    enemy.Tick(0.666);

    CheckObjectsEqual(LightAttack,
        FightingComp.GetCurrentAttack());
}
```

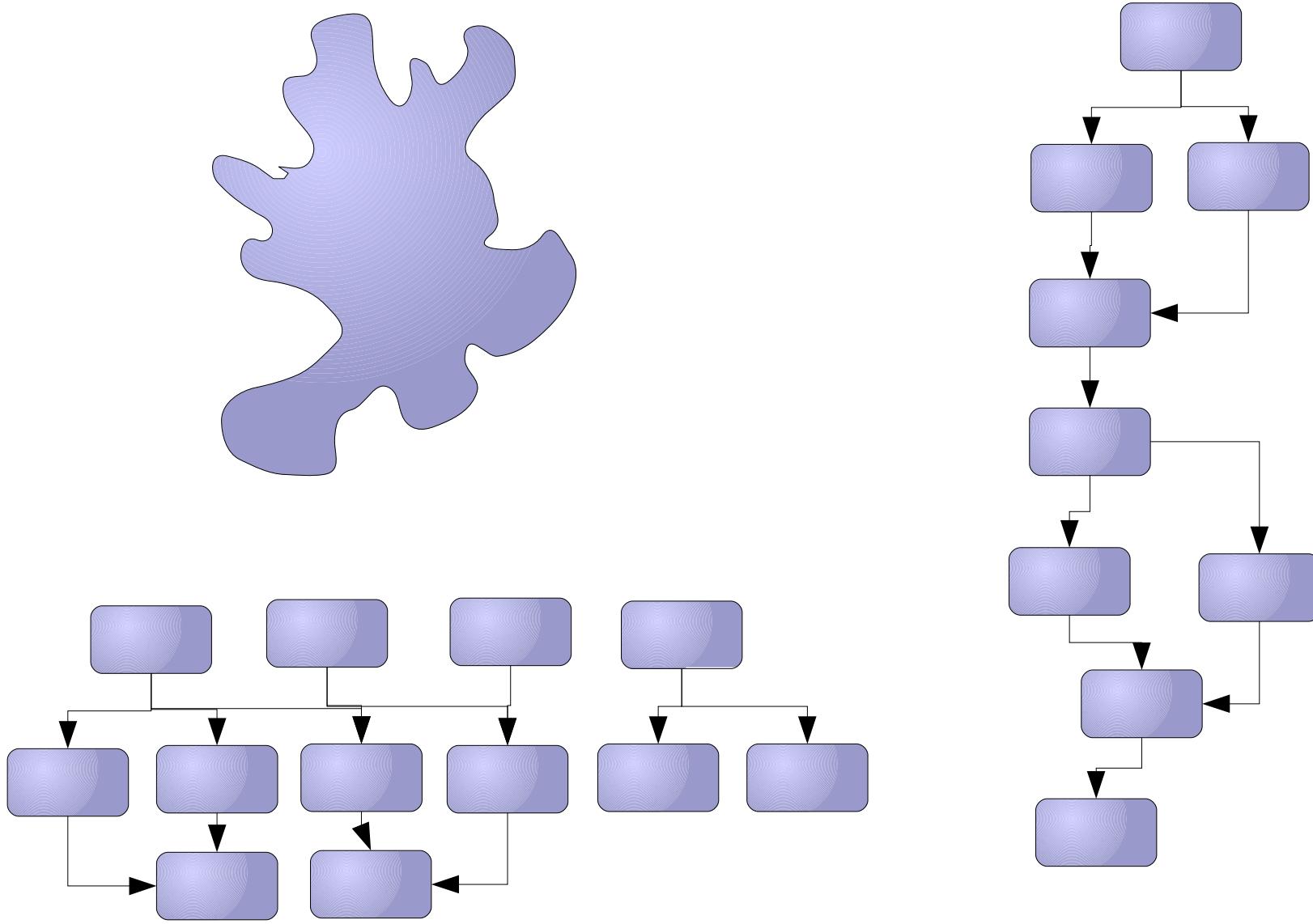
# Character behavior example

```
TEST_F( CharacterFixture,
        SupportedWhenLeapAnimationEndsTransitionsRunning )
{
    LandingState state(CharacterStateParameters(&character),
                       AnimationIndex::LeapLanding);

    state.Enter(input);
    input.deltaTime = character.GetAnimationDuration(
        AnimationIndex::LeapLanding ) + kEpsilon;

    character.supported = true;
    CharacterStateOutput output = state.Update( input );
    CHECK_EQUAL(std::string("TransitionState"),
                output.nextState->GetClassInfo().GetName());
    const TransitionState& transition = *output.nextState;
    CHECK_EQUAL(std::string("RunningState"),
                transition.endState->GetClassInfo().GetName());
}
```

# Choice of architecture

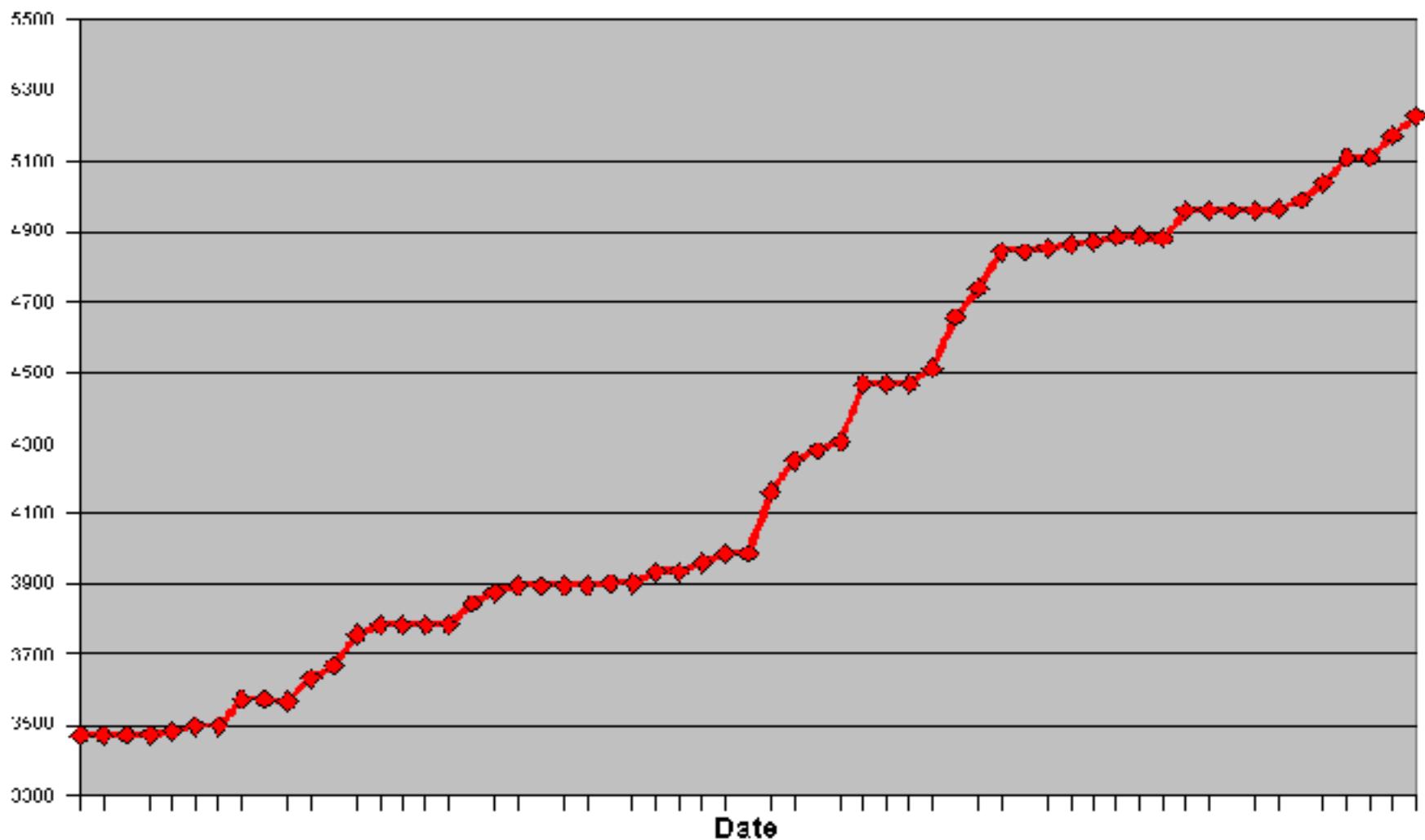


# Lesson #2: TDD and code design



# Lesson #3: Number of tests as a measure of progress

Unit Tests Run - Nightly Build (PC - Release)



# Lesson #4: TDD improves build stability



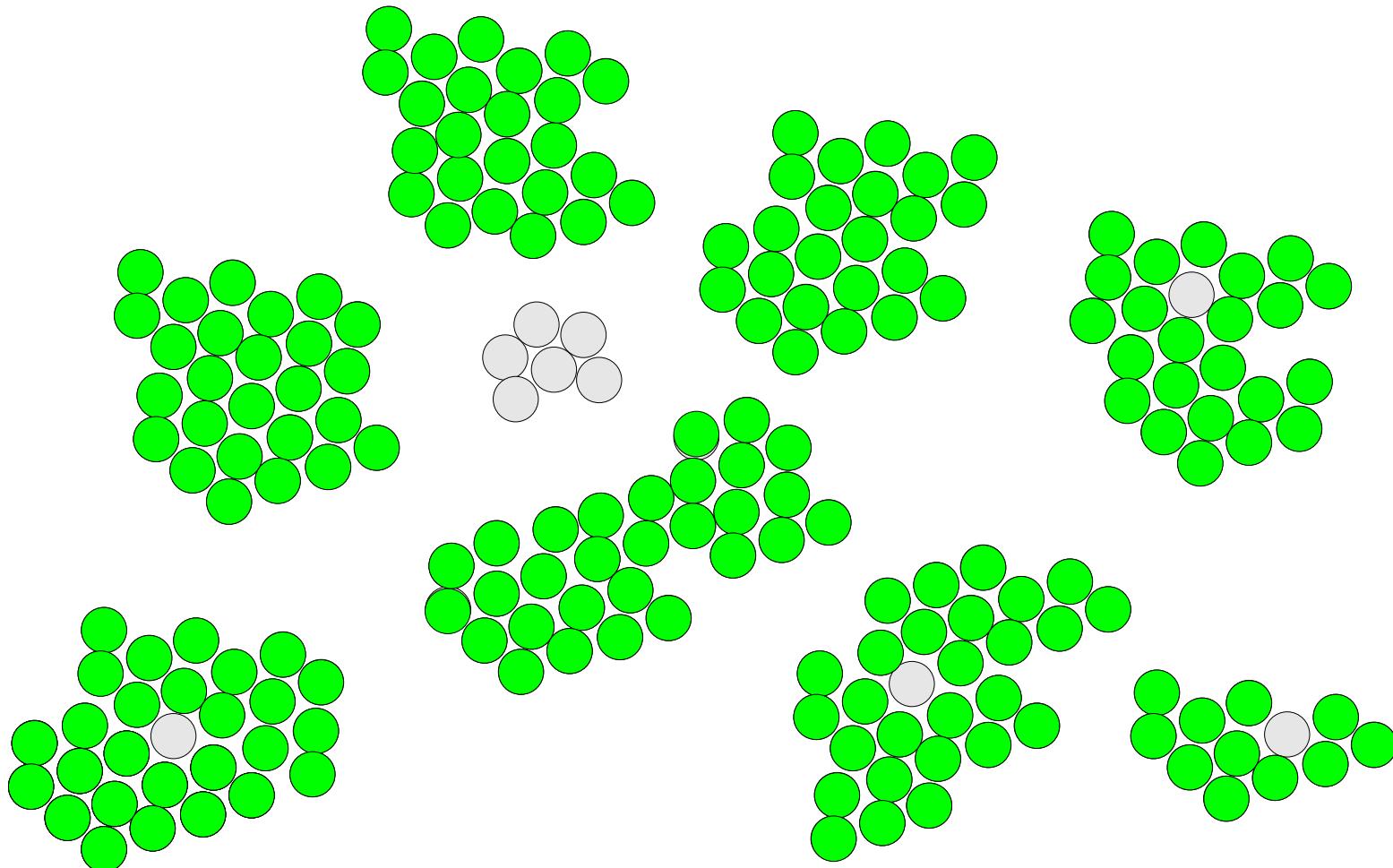
# Lesson #5: TDD creates more code



# Lesson #6: Development speed



# Lesson #7: Adopting TDD



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# Conclusion



# Resources

Games from Within <http://www.gamesfromwithin.com>

Includes paper for this presentation with more details and links to other TDD resources.

Noel Llopis - [llopis@convexhull.com](mailto:llopis@convexhull.com)

Sean Houghton - [sean.houghton@gmail.com](mailto:sean.houghton@gmail.com)

# Questions?

