C# for Java Developers

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Who am !?

- Patrick Linskey
- 13 years of Java experience, 11 professionally
- 2 years of professional C# experience

Who are you?

- Hopefully, Java developers who are interested in learning about C#
 - ... for client, server, or mobile deployment

Apology to Readers

Much of this talk happens in Visual Studio. Sorry about that.

I will make the code available at http://github.com/pcl -- the commit history provides some detail.



[Anders Hejlsberg]

Some Terminology

- Common Language Runtime, not JVM
- Intermediate Language, not Java bytecode
- Assembly, not JAR
- [Attribute], not @Annotation

[Syntax]

Coding Conventions

- All methods use InitialCaps
- Constants use InitialCaps instead of ALL_CAPS
- Namespaces are not as consistently-scoped as are packages in the Java world
 - Assembly names are first-class constructs

[Unit Testing]

MSTest vs. NUnit

- I use NUnit because it seems more familiar
- Without ReSharper, NUnit / Visual Studio integration is a bit weak

Visual Studio

- Most people seem to use it
- \$\$\$
- ReSharper (plugin from JetBrains) is a must
- #I awesome Visual Studio feature: program counter manipulation during debug sessions

[LINQ and Functions]

LINQ

- Can evaluate LINQ queries against database, XML, collections, etc.
 - Anything IEnumerable or IQueryable

Also: JOIN, GROUP BY, HAVING, ...

Function Objects

- We saw Func<int, int> in fib
- Generally: Func<TArg1,TArg2,TReturn>
 - Support for up to 16 arguments!

Action Objects

- Action<TArg1,TArg2,...>
 - Also supports 16 args!
- Equivalent to a void method return type

Tuples

- Tuple<T1,T2,T3,...>
 - Up to 8 items

Useful for easy multi-object returns, LINQ queries

Anonymous Types

Predate tuples

```
var ratio = new {
    Numerator = 2,
    Denominator = 3
};
Console.Out.WriteLine(
    ratio.Numerator / ratio.Denominator);
```

[Object-Orientation]

Virtual keyword

- By default, methods are resolved at compile time
- To get polymorphic method invocation, highlight the methods as 'virtual'

The Ecosystem

Third-Party is Weak

- Outside UI widgets, nowhere near as much activity as in the Java world
- Few open-source projects
- http://stackoverflow.com is your friend

Spring.NET is great

- Lags the Java Spring Framework a bit
- I've only used dependency injection and lifecycle management features

- WPF (and presumably Silverlight) have their own resource management
- It's possible to bridge the two

Yay!

- Generics are reified, and support covariance and contravariance
- Dynamic method invocation with the 'dynamic' pseudo-type (akin to ObjC's 'id')
- += syntax for all delegate fields / properties
 - Func, Action, raw Delegate

More Cool Stuff

- @ strings
- Indexers
- Partial classes (UI and codegen)
- Structs

Some Missing Features

- No anonymous inner classes (use closures / function objects instead)
- All inner classes are static
- Enums cannot have state or methods
 - Can emulate methods with extension methods

Questions?

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