

# What's New in C# 6.0

By Daniel D'Agostino  
29th January 2015

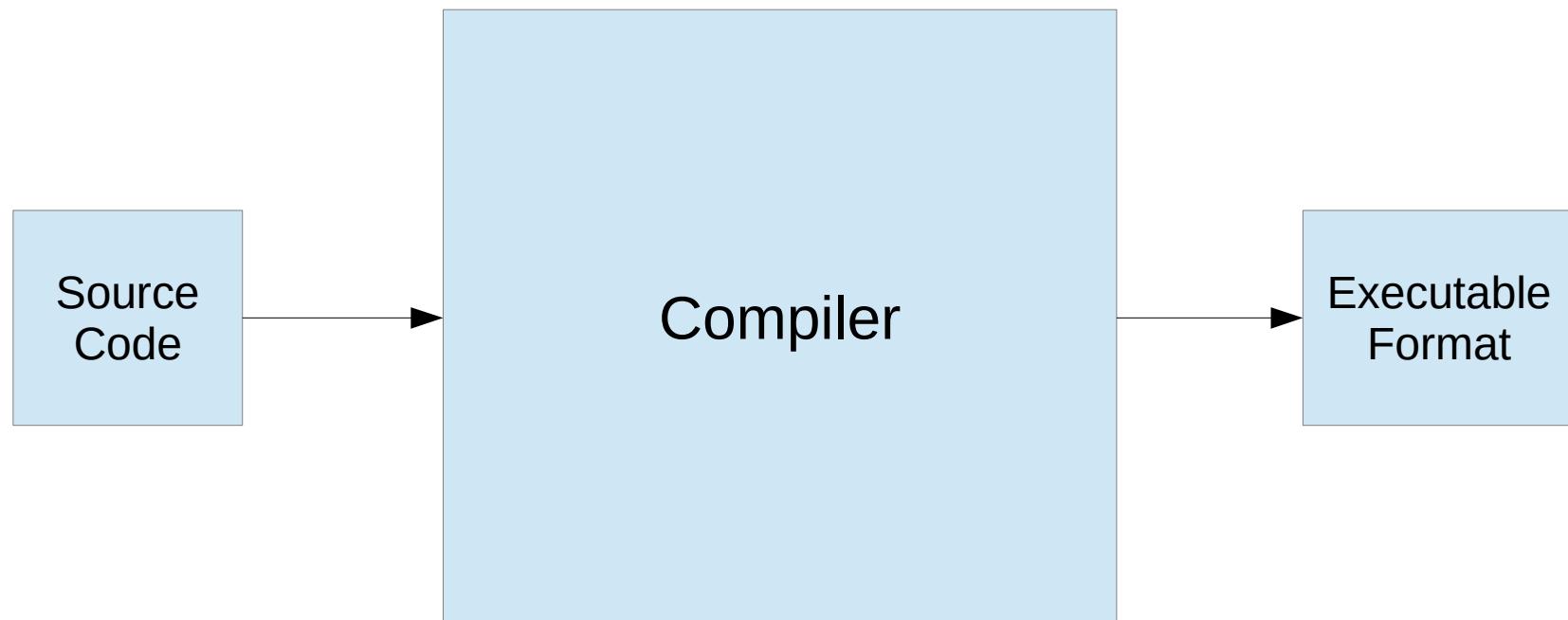


# Visual Studio 2015 Preview

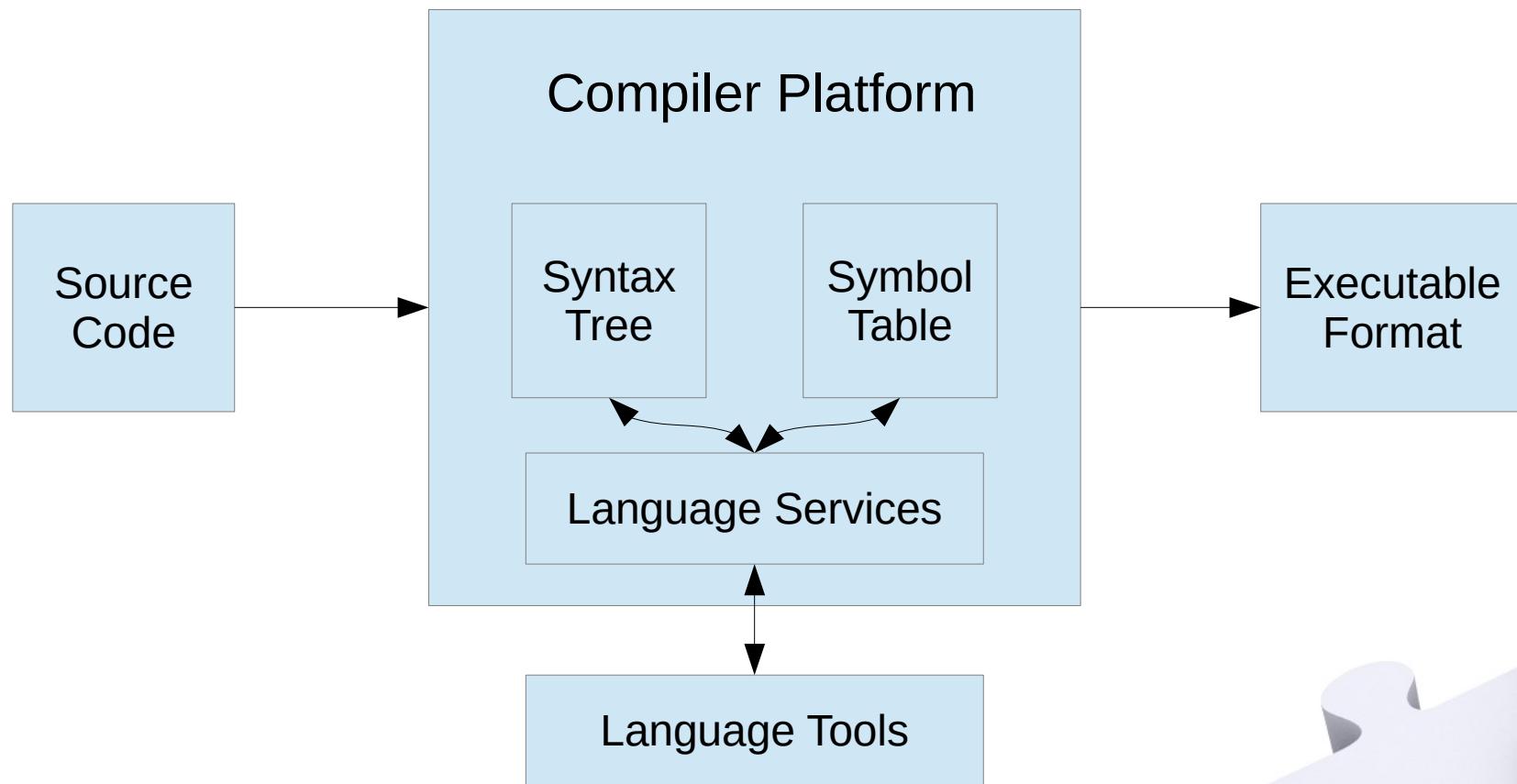
- Next version of .NET
- ASP .NET vNext
- C++ language and debugging improvements
- .NET Compiler Platform (“Roslyn”)
  - IDE enhancements
  - New VB .NET features
  - New C# features



# Traditional Compilers



# Roslyn – Compiler As A Service



# Roslyn Syntax Visualizer

The screenshot shows the Roslyn Syntax Visualizer interface. On the left, there's a tree view labeled "Syntax Tree" with a "Legend" button. The tree structure is as follows:

- CompilationUnit [0..58]
  - UsingDirective [0..13]
  - ClassDeclaration [17..58]
    - ClassKeyword [17..22]
    - IdentifierToken [23..30]
    - OpenBraceToken [32..33]
    - FieldDeclaration [39..55]
      - CloseBraceToken [57..58]
    - EndOfFileToken [58..58]

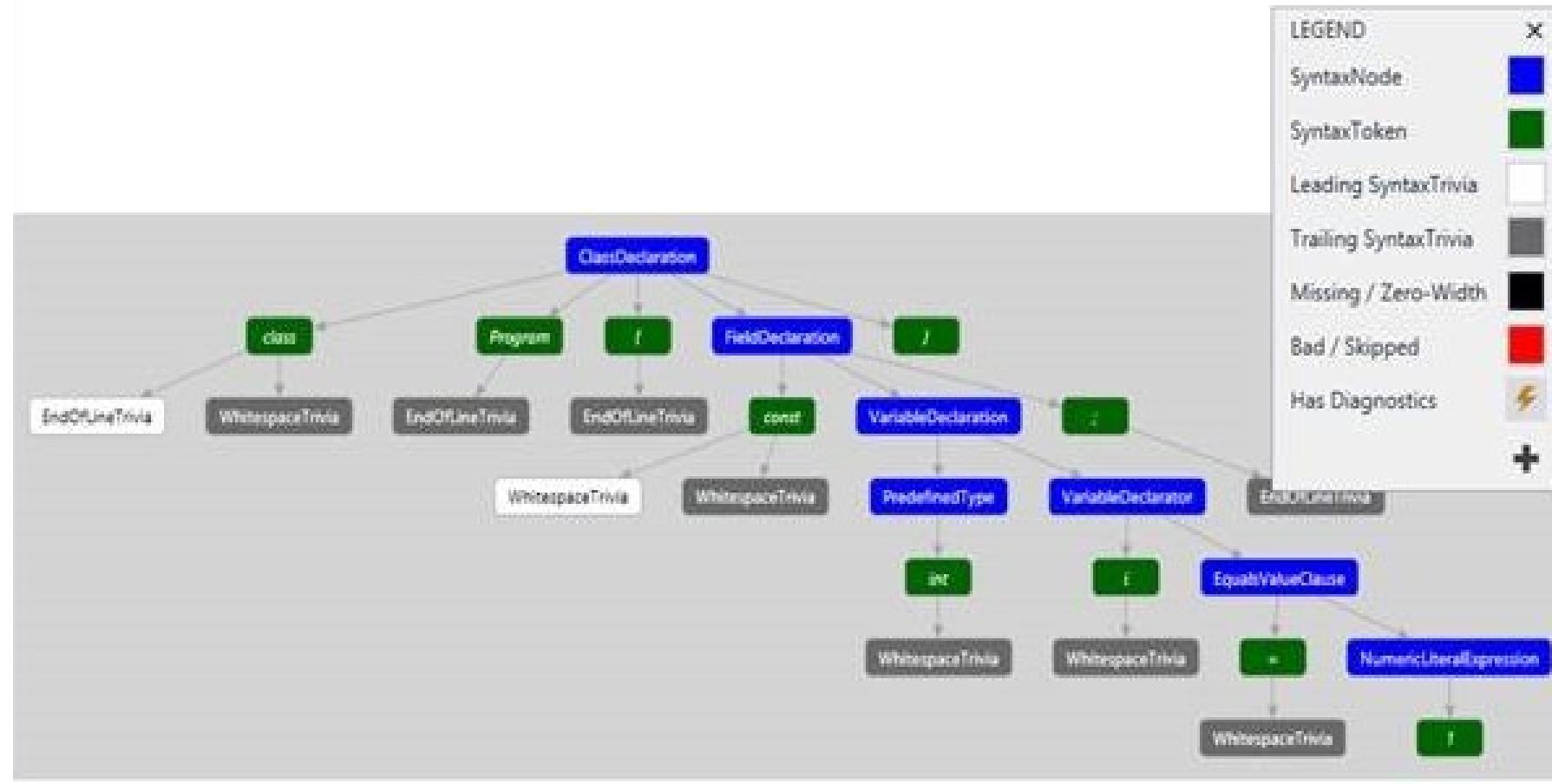
On the right, the code editor window titled "Program.cs" shows the following C# code:

```
c# CSApp
using System;

class Program
{
    const int i = 1;
}
```

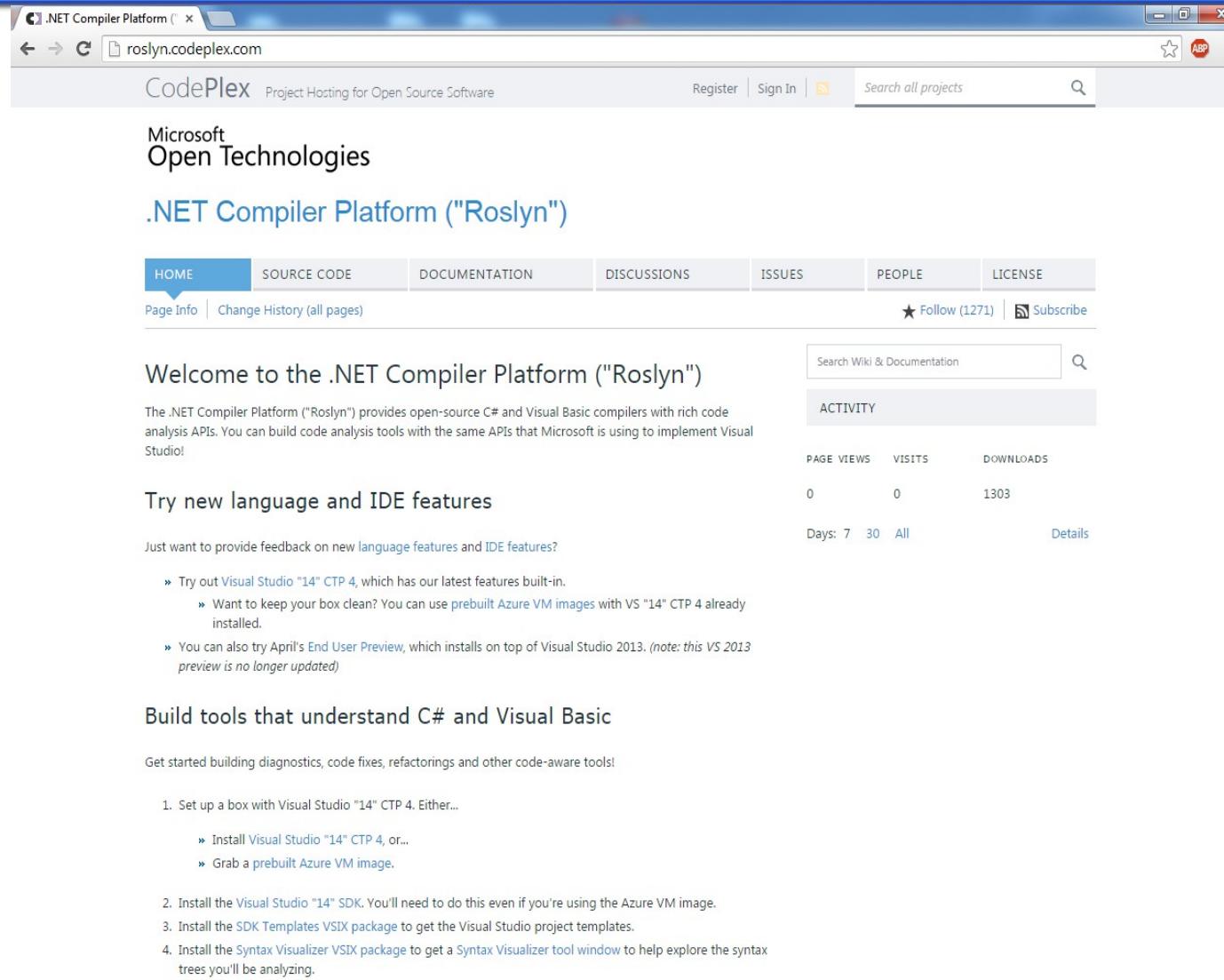
Source: <http://blogs.msdn.com/b/csharpfaq/archive/2014/04/17/visualizing-roslyn-syntax-trees.aspx>

# Roslyn Syntax Visualizer



Source: <http://blogs.msdn.com/b/csharpfaq/archive/2014/04/17/visualizing-roslyn-syntax-trees.aspx>

# Roslyn – The .NET Compiler Platform



The screenshot shows the Microsoft Open Technologies project page for the .NET Compiler Platform ("Roslyn") on CodePlex. The page features a navigation bar with links for HOME, SOURCE CODE, DOCUMENTATION, DISCUSSIONS, ISSUES, PEOPLE, and LICENSE. Below the navigation bar, there are links for Page Info and Change History (all pages), along with social sharing options for Follow (1271) and Subscribe.

The main content area includes a welcome message, a search bar for "Search Wiki & Documentation", and an activity feed showing 0 page views, 0 visits, and 1303 downloads over the last 7 days. The page also highlights new language and IDE features, build tools for C# and Visual Basic, and provides instructions for getting started with diagnostics, code fixes, and refactorings.

**Welcome to the .NET Compiler Platform ("Roslyn")**

The .NET Compiler Platform ("Roslyn") provides open-source C# and Visual Basic compilers with rich code analysis APIs. You can build code analysis tools with the same APIs that Microsoft is using to implement Visual Studio!

**Try new language and IDE features**

Just want to provide feedback on new language features and IDE features?

- » Try out Visual Studio "14" CTP 4, which has our latest features built-in.
  - » Want to keep your box clean? You can use prebuilt Azure VM images with VS "14" CTP 4 already installed.
  - » You can also try April's End User Preview, which installs on top of Visual Studio 2013. (note: this VS 2013 preview is no longer updated)

**Build tools that understand C# and Visual Basic**

Get started building diagnostics, code fixes, refactorings and other code-aware tools!

1. Set up a box with Visual Studio "14" CTP 4. Either...
  - » Install Visual Studio "14" CTP 4, or...
  - » Grab a prebuilt Azure VM image.
2. Install the Visual Studio "14" SDK. You'll need to do this even if you're using the Azure VM image.
3. Install the SDK Templates VSIX package to get the Visual Studio project templates.
4. Install the Syntax Visualizer VSIX package to get a Syntax Visualizer tool window to help explore the syntax trees you'll be analyzing.



# Roslyn – The .NET Compiler Platform

- Open Source
- Compiler as a Service
  - API for language tools such as ReSharper
  - New IDE features
- New compilers for C# and VB .NET
  - New language features



# What's New in C# 6.0?

- nameof() expressions
- using static
- await in catch/finally blocks
- Auto-property initializers
- Getter-only auto-properties
- Ctor assignment to getter-only autoprops



# What's New in C# 6.0?

- Safe Navigation Operator (?.)
- Exception filters
- Parameterless struct constructors
- Expression-bodied members
- Index initializers
- String interpolation



# nameof() expressions

- Demo: ArgumentNullException
- Demo: INotifyPropertyChanged



# using static

- Demo: Console
- Demo: Math



# await in catch/finally blocks

```
private async void Button_Click(object sender, RoutedEventArgs e)
{
    using (var logger = new Logger())
    {
        try
        {
            await logger.LogAsync("Executing operation...");
        }
        catch (Exception ex)
        {
            await logger.LogAsync(ex.ToString());
        }
        finally
        {
            await logger.FlushAsync();
        }
    }
}
```



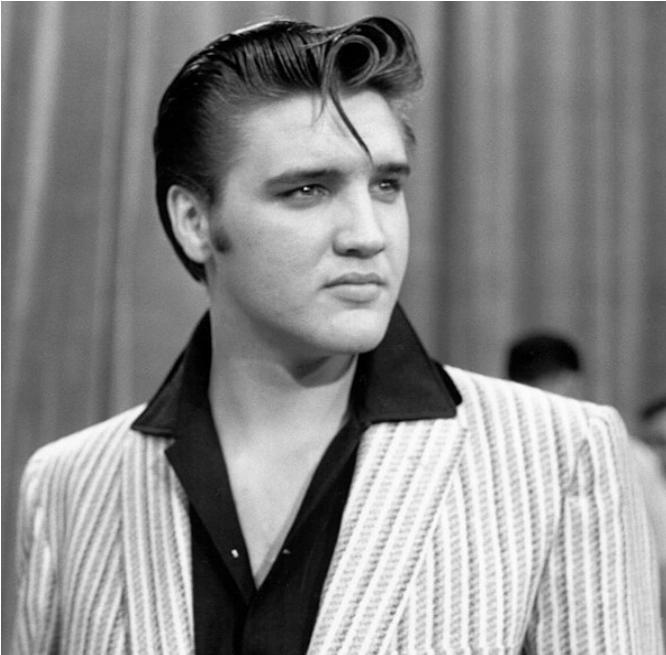
# Autoproperty enhancements

- Demo: Autoproperty enhancements
- Auto-property initializers
- Getter-only auto-properties
- Ctor assignment to getter-only autoprops



# Safe Navigation Operator (?.)

- Known as
  - Safe Navigation Operator
  - Null-Conditional Operator
  - Null Propagation Operator
  - Conditional Access Operator
  - Elvis Operator



# Safe Navigation Operator (?.)

- Demo: Safe Navigation Operator (Properties)
  - Session Id
  - Null-coalesce
  - Indexers
- Demo: Safe Navigation Operator (Events)



# Exception filters

```
try
{
    throw new InvalidOperationException("Invalid operation",
        new Exception("Something just exploded"));
}
catch (Exception ex) if (ex.InnerException != null)
{
    Console.WriteLine(ex.Message);
    Console.WriteLine(" -->{0}", ex.InnerException.Message);
}
catch (Exception ex)
{
    Console.WriteLine(ex);
}
```



# Exception filters

“

It is also a common and accepted form of “abuse” to use exception filters for side effects; e.g. logging. They can inspect an exception “flying by” without intercepting its course. In those cases, the filter will often be a call to a false-returning helper function which executes the side effects:

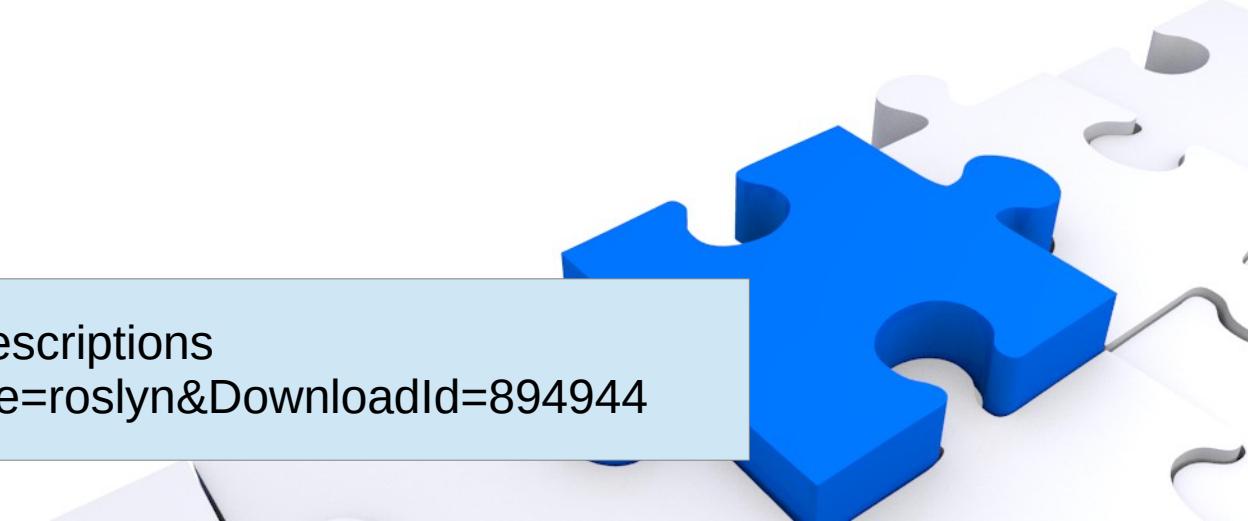
```
private static bool Log(Exception e) { /* log it */ ; return false; }

...
try { ... } catch (Exception e) if (Log(e)) {}
```

”

Source: official C# feature descriptions

<http://www.codeplex.com/Download?ProjectName=roslyn&DownloadId=894944>



# Parameterless struct constructors

- Demo: Point
- Still must initialize all members of the struct
- Must be public



# Expression-bodied members

- Single-statement methods/properties
- Demo: Person
- Demo: Singleton
- Demo: Inventory
- Getter-only properties
- Methods with return values
- void methods



# Index initializers

- Demo: Morse Code dictionary



# String interpolation

- Demo: String Interpolation
  - Simple interpolation
  - Format strings



# Resources

- C# 6 feature descriptions on my blog:
  - <http://gigi.nullneuron.net/gigilabs/tag/c-6/>
- Old Roslyn Codeplex homepage:
  - <http://roslyn.codeplex.com/>
- New Roslyn GitHub homepage:
  - <https://github.com/dotnet/roslyn>
- Visual Studio blog:
  - <http://blogs.msdn.com/b/visualstudio/>

